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by Daniel S VacantiActionable Agile Metrics for Predictability represents the definitive guide to using the metrics of flow for predictable Lean-Agile processes. Never before has such a comprehensive manual been published that defines the metrics and their corresponding analytics nee	
expect. About Daniel S VacantiDaniel S Vacanti has been involved with Lean and Agile methods for the last 20 years, and helped develop the Kanban method. Daniel has a Masters in Business Administration and regularly teaches a class on lean principles. "When will it be done?" That is	
working on something for them. Think about how many times you have been asked that question. How many times have you ever actually been right? We can debate all we want whether this is a fair question to ask given the tremendous amount of uncertainty in knowledge work, but the bound to make us ill-equipped to provide accurate answers to reasonable customer questions. Until an accurate way to answer them. The problem is that the forecasting tools that we currently utilize have made us ill-equipped to provide accurate answers to reasonable customer questions.	
FOR PREDICTABILITY Chapter 1 - Flow, Flow Metrics, and Predictability Chapter 2 - The Basic Metrics of Flow Chapter 3 - Introduction to Little's Law PART TWO - CUMULATIVE FLOW DIAGRAMS FOR PREDICTABILITY Chapter 4 - Introduction to CFDs Chapter 5 - Flow Metrics and	CFDs Chapter 6 - Interpreting CFDs Chapter 7 - Conservation of
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T ALL TOGETHER FOR PREDICTABILITY Chapter 13 - Pull Policies Chapter 14 - Introduction to Forecasting Chapter 15 - Monte Carlo Method Introduction Chapter 16 - Getting Started PART FIVE - A CASE STUDY FOR PREDICTABILITY Chapter 17 - Actionable Agile Metrics at Sieme 60 days of purchase you can get a 100% refund on any Leanpub purchase, in two clicks. See full terms #1A first of its kind crowdsourced DFIR book written on GitHub by the members of the Digital Forensics Discord Server to share knowledge! #2A complete foundation for Statistics, also	
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allow you to create stunning OPCUA Servers or Clients.#4This book supplements the DM for CS Specialization at Coursera and contains many interactive puzzles, autograded quizzes, and code snippets. They are intended to help you to discover important ideas in discrete mathematics	on your own. By purchasing the book, you will get all updates of
the book free of charge when they are released. #5This book brings the fundamentals of R programming to you, using the same material developed as part of the industry-leading Johns Hopkins Data Science Specialization. The skills taught in this book will lay the foundation for you to be	
book are available through Lulu.#6Toute la puissance d'Apache JMeter expliquée par ses commiteurs et utilisateurs experts. De l'intégration continue en passant par le Cloud, vous découvrirez comment intégrer JMeter à vos processus "Agile" et Devops.If you're looking for the newer exeting to DevOps#7Ansible is a simple, but powerful, server and configuration management tool. Learn to use Ansible effectively, whether you manage one server—or thousands.#8The demand for skilled data science practitioners in industry, academia, and government is rapidly grow	
nference, linear regression and machine learning and R programming skills. Throughout the book we demonstrate how to automatically and continuously upgrade and improve your PHP code base#10The deep	
the inventor, by Daniel S. Vacanti Actionable Agile Metrics for Predictability represents the definitive guide to using the metrics of flow for predictable Lean-Agile processes. Never before has such a comprehensive manual been published that defines the metrics and their corresponding	
customers expect. Download an excerpt that includes both a free chapter and the Table of Contents for the whole book: Chapter 13 - Pull Policies Topics Include: Why managing flow is the best strategy for predictability An introduction to and definition of the basic metrics of flow An in Visualization and analysis of flow using a Cumulative Flow Diagram How a Cumulative Flow Diagram can drive predictability How to visualize Cycle Time data in a Scatterplot Can drive predictability How to use Service Level Agreements to improve predictability How to visualize Cycle Time Scatterplot can drive predictability How to use Service Level Agreements to improve predictability How to visualize Cycle Time Scatterplot can drive predictability How to visualize Cycle Time Scatterplot Cycle Time Scatterplot Can drive predictability How to visualize Cycle Time Scatterplot Cycle	
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ask once work is started. Your predictability is judged by the accuracy of your answer. Think about how many times you've been wrong. That you've been wrong more times than right is not necessarily your fault. You have been taug	tht to collect and analyze the wrong metrics. Until now. About
Daniel Vacanti Daniel Vacanti is a 20+ year software industry veteran who has spent most of his career focusing on Lean and Agile practices. In 2007, he helped to develop the Kanban Method for knowledge work and managed the world's first project implementation of Kanban that year	
consulting ever since. In 2011 he founded ActionableAgile (previously Corporate Kanban) which provides industry-leading predictive analytics tools and services. In 2015 he published his book, "Actionable Agile Metrics for Predictability", value of the California Berkeley. Daniel Vacanti has more than 20 years focusing on Lean and Agile practices. In 2007, he helped to develop the Kanban Method for knowledge work	
that year, and has been conducting Kanban training, coaching, and consulting ever since-including extensive work for several Fortune 100 companies. Most recently, Daniel founded ActionableAgile(TM) which provides industry leading predictive analytics tools and services to any flow-	
on lean principles for software management at the University of California Berkeley. Authors note: The examples in this post are from a client who is using a mix of Scrum, XP, and Kanban in SAFe. You can apply any of these concepts to any framework, it's framework agnostic! Also sha	
ncluding Applying Professional Kanban and Applying Metrics For Predictability. If you are interested you can find me at ProKanbantraining.com and Agile Uprising readers can use "AU200" for 200 off of any class. Ok now onto the post! What metrics should we use and why? Good metrics to a business strategy. They also are within the team's control and not linked to individuals. Lastly, good metrics are not easily gamed. For delivery, there is a set of metrics that meet the criteria for what makes a "good metric." They are often referred to as "flow metrics." They in	
Progress. Linked to a business strategy Time to Market and Responsiveness Most companies wants to decrease the speed of time to market. The advantage of this is the ability to get ROI faster and learn faster. As large enterprise utilize a lean startup methodology, the ability to learn q	
earn what our customers really need. This strategy will enable companies to out learn the competition, in turn leading to better business outcomes. To measure two things: The time it takes for an idea to get from commitment to realized valueThe time.	me it takes for an idea when it starts in progress to when it is
cotentially shippable. (Both are referred to as "cycle time," depending on where you choose your start and end points.) Each level of a company should measure this to improve time to market. The cycle times of each agile teams user stories not only impact the TTM for the story itself (
mpact the cycle times of features and ultimately epics. (Convert to whatever terminology your company uses) Predictability and Quality Most companies would like a more predictabile delivery. Using velocity for this purpose is not ideal as velocity is easily gamed and represents a collectermine capacity or if an item is too large, but not very useful as a predictability metric as velocity itself is not a metric. We can measure our predictability by utilizing the throughput metric and specifically the variability of throughput. We can do this at any level, always starting with	
nstead a planning timebox to achieve small goals; we can deliver whenever we want throughout the sprint. At the team level, we should focus on how many items a team finishes each week to achieve as little variability as possible. This will naturally help our cycle time metrics because	e we will focus less on batching work and deliver earlier. It will
also help teams become MUCH more predictable and will help teams meet sprint commitments with ease when focusing on weekly throughput. If a team has 10 stories in a sprint, ideally, we would like to see 5 completed a week during the sprint. Another benefit of this approach is that	
reduces the risk of delaying delivery and the risk of decreased quality due to "rushing" at the end of a sprint to complete all the stories or having to work overtime and preventing burn out. At the program level, it's good to focus on throughput of features month over month (or every 2 reducing variability to improve predictability and forecasting. Of course, to work this way you must focus on reducing your Work in Progress. According to Little's Law, higher WIP equals longer cycle times and leads to more batch work. Higher WIP not only increases wait time but also	
you must focus on the flow of work instead of individual utilization. Prioritizing how work flows through your system over "keeping people busy." Here is a great video demonstrating this point. This can only work if team members are not skill silos and skill bottlenecks. It's why building	
guide says but actually an extremely viable solution to achieving business outcomes. The more cross-functional a team is, the less WIP they can have at any given time leading to faster cycle times, more predictability, and higher quality. Cycle Time Scatterplot A cycle time scatterplot	
Axis is amount of time it took from when an item started to when it finished. Also, on the right side of the Y-Axis are percentile lines. This will show you the percentage of items finished in a given cycle time or less. Looking at this example data, we can see that 95% of all items delivered estimates. It is just a realistic view of what items have been finished, how long they took, and what percentage of the total items are done in a given time period. This is useful for a few reasons. It lets us see the reality of finished work and the time to market and responsiveness of our t	
percentile line of cycle times. For example: How do we get our 95% line from 22 days to 13? This way when we take on a new story we can finish it in a sprint. What will we have to change about the way we work? About our process? A	
ook at outliers and have discussions about how to prevent this going forward. Ex: Why did story "x" take 29 days? Was it way too big? Could we have done a better job in backlog refinement splitting it? Were there impediments that caused this and what can we do to avoid them in the f	future? What might we have to change, or does the organization
have to change to avoid these impediments? It can also help you create Service Level Expectations. Using this real data, you can create SLE's that will be realistic and also actionable for improvement. Cycle Time Histogram Similar to the scatterplot, a cycle time histogram shows the it took from start to finish. As you can see in this example, two items were completed in 20 days, one item was completed in 30, and so on. It also easily shows us our	
lays or less. This should lead to conversations such as How do we improve that from 85 to 95%? What would it take to get the guestions will be up to the team and program, but the important factor is actually havin	
experiment with. Throughput Run Chart A throughput run chart shows the number of given items completed in a given time period. On the Y-Axis are the number of items, and on the X-Axis is the chosen time period. As you can see in this example, this team has a very high variability	of throughput. High variability makes us less predictable. The
week of April 7th, the team delivered 8 items yet the week before delivered only 2. A common scenario for this is the team carried over two items in the first week of the next sprint, and 8 more by the end of the sprint. This is what we call "be a second of the sprint in the first week of the next sprint, and 8 more by the end of the sprint. This is what we call "be a second of the sprint in the first week of the next sprint, and 8 more by the end of the sprint. This is what we call "be a second of the sprint in the first week of the next sprint, and 8 more by the end of the sprint. This is what we call "be a second of the sprint in the first week of the next sprint, and 8 more by the end of the sprint. This is what we call "be a second of the sprint in the first week of the next sprint, and 8 more by the end of the sprint. This is what we call "be a second of the sprint in the first week of the next sprint, and 8 more by the end of the sprint. This is what we call "be a second of the next sprint in the first week of the next sprint in the next sprint in the first week of the next sprint in the first week of the next sprint in the first week of the next sprint in the next sprint i	
on completing roughly the same amount of stories each week. This will help the team become much more predictable and lead to faster cycle times and likely higher quality. Some questions we can ask from this chart How can we reduce the variability of the delivery week over week soutlenecks in our flow that are causing delays? Work Item Age An aging work-in-progress chart shows how long items that haven't yet been finished have been active. On the X-Axis are the workflow states of your Scrum or Kanban board. On the Y-Axis are the number of days since the	
tem that is currently in testing was started 17 days ago. This company used two-week sprints here, we can tell immediately that the item is clearly from a previous sprint. Another insight we can gather from this chart are details about any specific item. Above we can see that this item	has spent 13 days in testing. This can lead to very useful and
actionable conversations. Some questions we can ask for this chart Why are items still aging and why are they stuck in a certain workflow state for so long? How can we prevent this from happening in the future? What changes should we make to decrease our bottlenecks? Flow Efficiency	ciency Flow Efficiency examines the two basic components that
make up your cycle time: working time and waiting time. Unless you are working on one thing at a time, and you never get interrupted, cycle time has both of these components. Waiting time can be encountered for many reasons: dependencies, priority changes, too much work-in-progractually in progress. Flow efficiency tells us how often that is true. Measuring flow efficiency can be done for a single request, but it's much more likely that you want to measure the flow efficiency of all items completed in a specific time period. So, for the items completed in that time	
work + wait time) Active Work time (do not include time spent waiting) You then calculate the flow efficiency by dividing the active work time by the overall lead time. Multiply the result of that equation by 100% and the result is your flow efficiency for the given time window. This char	
you select. On the X-Axis is your actual flow efficiency and on the Y-Axis are the number of items that have the same flow efficiency. You can also select any of the bars and see the items specifically. The higher the flow efficiency the less time those items spent in wait states. A flow efficiency and on the Y-Axis are the number of items that have the same flow efficiency.	
be in active states is unrealistic. That is something to look out for when viewing this chart. Some questions to ask How do we get more items spending the most time waiting? What processes could we change to increase our flow efficiency? What skil neat map shows the cumulative time items spend in workflow states. Above we have a rolled-up view of all the teams in an Agile Release Train (use your specific context if not using SAFe). From a coaching perspective, this gives us quick insight into where flow efficiency is being most in a spending the most increase our flow efficiency.	
they need help. On the Y-Axis is whatever attribute you select. Above we have the "team" attribute selected. On the X-Axis we have the workflow starting on their Scrum/Kanban boards. This can also be used for individual teams. Above I've selected the attribute type of "user story." Yo	
etc. It will show a team where stories are spent the majority of the time. As you can see, they are spent in non-value-add wait states, impacting flow efficiency. Some questions we can ask from this chart Where are teams bottlenecked? How can we help these teams improve their flow	v efficiency? Why do items spend so much time in wait states?
What might we have to change to improve that? Do we need help? What skills do we need to improve? WIP Run Chart A WIP Run chart shows the total "Work In Progress" of a team or group of teams selected. If an item has started but is not yet finished, it will appear as a data point on	
progress each day. On the X-Axis is time. The green line shows a trend over time, the interval can be changed in this chart's control panel on the right. Since higher WIP on average will lead to higher cycle times on average, this is an extremely important chart to visit often. In fact, I we take sense. Looking at WIP can be very useful for the daily scrum. A simple suggestion is to review your burn-down chart to open up the daily scrum and contrast it with your WIP for the day. Is our burn-down chart flat lined or behind? If so, what's our WIP? What can we do today to	ould suggest looking at it every single retro as well as dally when hat will lower our WIP so we can finish items instead of starting
new ones? Some more questions we can ask How can we work on less things at a time? What might our cycle times be if we reduced our WIP to "x". How could we work differently to achieve this? What's the impact that too much WIP is having on us? Monte Carlo "How Many?" A Monte Carlo "How Many?" A Monte Carlo "How Many"	nte Carlo chart is a computer simulation that looks at throughput
data for a selected amount of time and runs 10k to 1 Million simulations based on historical data to answer two questions "How many items can we get done by a certain date?" And "When will something be done?" You can use this for forecasting stories, features, etc. You can also us	
not opinion. It can also be used to create Service Level Agreements. For the "how many" chart, on the Y-Axis is throughput and number of occurrences. That is, out of all the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of trials. In the above expands and the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of the trials run how many times did a certain scenario occur. On the X-Axis is the percentage of the trials run how man	
the trials button to run 1 million. According to this data, this team can forecast 39 stories to be completed by August 31st with a probability of 95%. That's because out of 1 million trials 95% of them show that a minimum of 39 stories would be completed. The 85% probability is a minimum of 39 stories would be completed.	
Forecasting and also to help make priority decisions ahead of time and not at the end. Monte Carlo "When?" This chart is very similar to the one above except it focuses on a date rather than the number of items. Again, you can select any type of item you want and any number of teams.	
the same team, I am trying to answer the question "When can we finish 60 stories?" For example, let's say this team was working on a feature to be released before school starts on September 6thand there are roughly 60 stories in the feature. According to the Monte Carlo simulation, to complete on October 3rd. The 85% probability is September 24th. It's clearly not realistic to expect the entire feature by September 6th. In fact, it's only a 50% probability they can finish it by September 9th. This could lead to a few questions "Can another team help this team to	
n order for us to finish by the 6th?" "In the future, how can we get more predictable at our throughput and reduce our cycle times?" Cumulative Flow Diagram This chart really requires a FAQ of its own as you can do an incredible amount of things with it but for a basic overview: A cu	mulative flow diagram tracks the total number of work items that
are in the columns of the In-Progress section on your scrum/Kanban board each day. The horizontal axis of the CFD represents the time frame for which the chart is visualizing data. The vertical axis shows the cumulative number of items that are in the workflow at various points in time	
low are the different stages of your workflow as they appear on the Kanban board itself. The bands always go up or sideways in accordance with the number of assignments that go through your process. The top line of each band on the cumulative flow chart represents the entry point one shows when it leaves it. If a line becomes flat, that means nothing is arriving in the corresponding stage or nothing is leaving it. Looking at the chart above for one team we can tell a few things: Over the given period of time, they are starting more items than they are finishing, lead	
one shows when it leaves it. If a line becomes flat, that means nothing is arriving in the corresponding stage or nothing is leaving it. Looking at the chart above for one team we can tell a few things: Over the given period of time, they are starting more items than they are finishing, lead ines tell us this. Those are the "arrival vs departure" rates. Wide or "bulging bands" immediately show us where WIP is stacking up. The first ¼ of this chart shows nothing in analysis done. Then a lot of WIP is represented by bulging bands in analysis done for almost the rest of the chart shows nothing in analysis done.	
a lot of work stacked up in Analysis done, leading to poor flow efficiency. Also, in the first ¼ of this chart, there is no active development. We can see this team did prior dev work as it's heavily stacked in dev done yet no testing is being done in the beginning. It isn't until approx. 60% of	f the chart when any dev work even begins and then there is a
stretch of time when no testing is being done. If you can imagine what the sprints are like for this team, they are likely doing batch work. First, a lot of analysis work and testing potentially because they didn't finish the testing work last sprint and carried over the stories and are doing a sprint and carried over the stories and a sprint	
sprint getting some time for dev work but since no dev has been completed the testing is choked and there is no testing happening, leading to poor flow efficiency. We also can see the cycle times and WIP for each workflow state. For more in-depth information on CFD's check out Dan Dashboard The dashboard provides a quick look at cycle time, WIP, Monte Carlo, and stability. Without needing to look through charts, it shows 85% of cycle time, the total amount of WIP currently in progress. How many items can be completed in a month with what certainty and how	
now many items per week are started vs finished and how many items per month. The closer the numbers are, the more predictable you will become. How to use with teams and program practically and where to start Teams Agile teams can use this tool for continuous improvement of or	
predictability. Three key attributes of a high-performing team when all three are improving. Note, always measure quality along with these outcomes as only focusing on delivery can impact quality. For Agile teams I would suggest starting with Cycle Time, Throughput, Aging work in pact quality.	
and ScatterplotThroughput: Throughput Run ChartWIP: Wip Run ChartAging: Aging Work In Progress Chart. Daily It's a good practice to review the aging and WIP charts at every standup along with your scrum burn-down chart (if you are using scrum.) Refer to the questions in the sechet are great practices that can drive improvement ideas during the divergent portion of your retrospectives. It's	
the past quarter and discussing where we want to be next quarter. This can help with the bigger picture and not only focusing on the next two weeks. Goal Setting At the team level you can use these flow metrics to set short- and long-term goals and review progress toward achieving the cycle rime, rimoughput, and wire chartes to define the differences that can have daily. Retrospectives in you are using two-week cadenices, then review in procure in procure in portion of your retrospectives. It is	
you could set a short-term goal of improving throughput variability and cycle time by 20% from the previous quarter. A long-term goal might be that throughput variability has a standard deviation of "x" and the team's 85% cycle time is 3 days or less. Program At the program level, I w	rould suggest starting with Heat Maps, Feature Cycle Time, Aging,
Throughput, and WIP. Cycle Time: Histogram and Scatterplot of FeaturesThroughput: Throughput Run Chart of FeaturesAging: Aging Work In Progress Chart of FeaturesHeat Map: Heat map of team rollup at the story level ART Sync (Or use and ART Sync is around the program Kanban board focusing on moving features to production. This meeting should be opened with a review of flow metrics including WIP and Aging. Every couple of weeks it's a good idea to include cycle time and throughput metrics. Quarterly ART Sync	
established reviewing all of the flow metrics mentioned above to start the retro. Unlike the other events, I would START with the other metrics but with the leadership group in attendance, reviewing all of the flow metrics but with the leadership group in attendance, reviewing to review after a team is familiar with the other metrics but with the leadership group in attendance, reviewing the flow metrics are the retro. Unlike the other events, I would START with the other metrics but with the leadership group in attendance, reviewing the flow metrics are the retro.	
netrics above. Using these as input to improvement ideas is very actionable and drives the right conversations. Goal Setting At the program, you can use these flow metrics to set short- and long-term goals and review progress toward achieving those goals daily, weekly, monthly, quart	terly, etc. For example, you could set a short-term goal of
mproving monthly throughput variability and cycle time by 20% from the previous quarter. A long-term goal might be throughput variability has a standard deviation of "x" and the ART's 85% cycle time for features is 4 weeks or less. Where to Find Me: You can reach me at [email prot Free! Link here:	tected) for any questions or discussion or join our AU discord. It's
Too. Link note.	

