



# How Program Managers can exploit DevSecOps Pipeline of Pipelines to Inform Data Driven Decisions

**NDIA**

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Bill Nichols  
Julie Cohen

Software Engineering Institute  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213



# Make Program Decisions!

Your SOCOM commander has learned that an adversary has unexpected capabilities.

You must **reprioritize** your **capabilities**.

Whiz-Bang Software for Sensor Fusion, which was added to the roadmap 18 months ago, is now **top** priority with a need of within the next 6 months.

Two capabilities that were to be the next priority, due in 3 and 9 months, are critical and must be completed as close to the original due dates as feasible.

You need to know the following:

- How can the two next-priority capabilities and the new, highest priority capability be delivered without affecting the staffing?
- To deliver the Whiz-Bang capability within six months while maintaining the other two capabilities' schedules, **will more teams be required? How many? At what cost?**

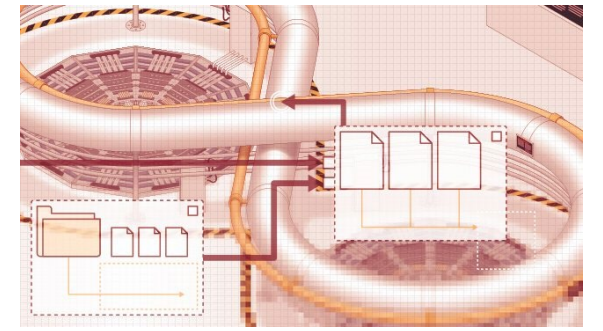


# What Do You Do?

How do you make informed, defensible decisions?

# Agenda

- Making defensible decisions with data**
- Automating data and analysis with ACE/PoPs**
- Indicators for Program Managers**
- Observations and Lessons**
- Call to Action**

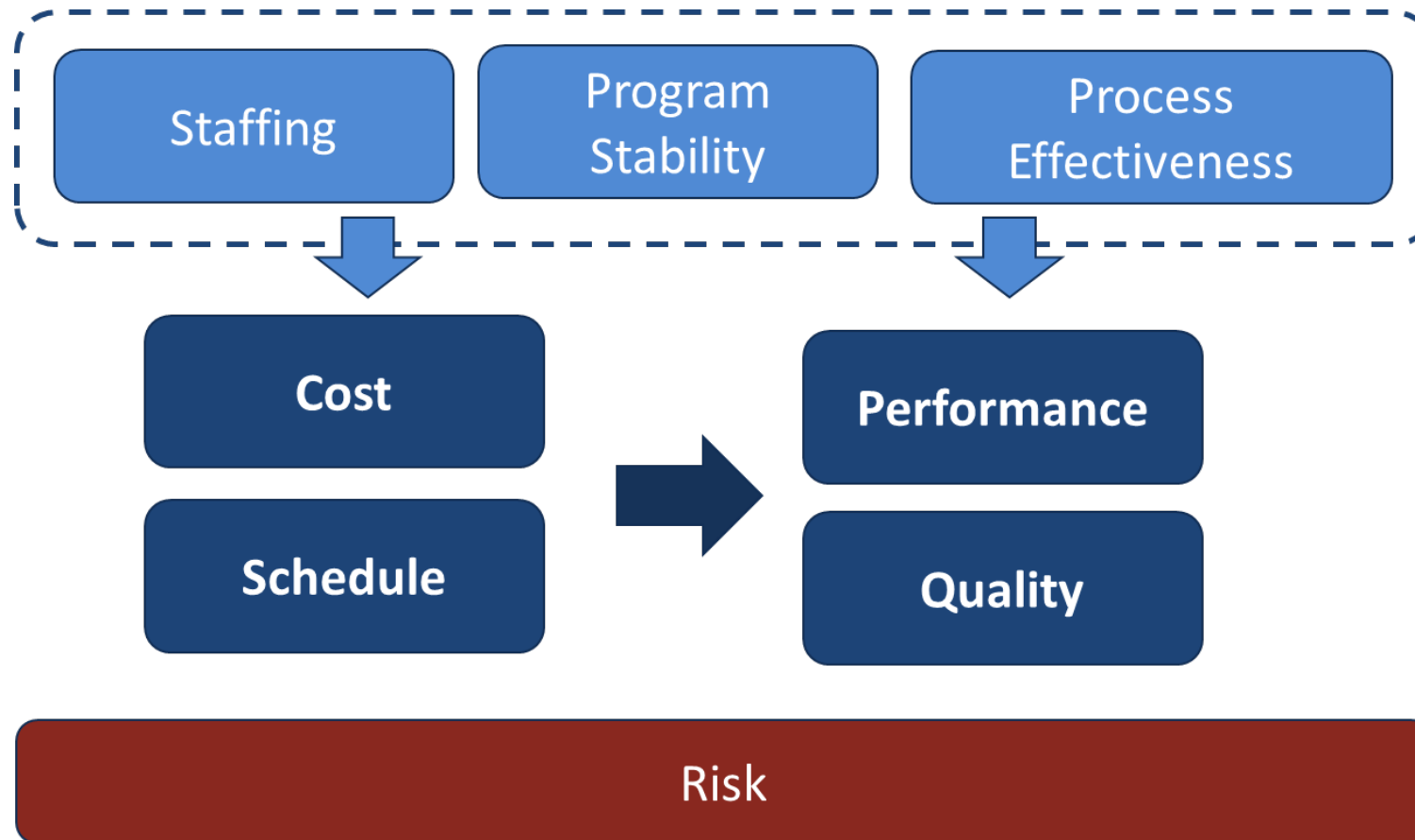


# ACE/PoPs Overview

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# Start by getting the information you need

Information needs: What are your **targets**? What can you **manage**?





# Automated Continuous Estimation for Pipelines of Pipelines

**Automation** drives continuous integration and delivery of software, but outpaces program control

To solve this problem:  
Automate data collection  
Model DSO systems with **Monte Carlo**, and provide continuous reporting.

- Determine status
- Project future events
- Provide evidence for corrective actions

**Goal:** Programs using DSO(DevSecOps) have constant access to information needed to monitor and control schedule and cost commitments.

Status and projection models should be available in real time.

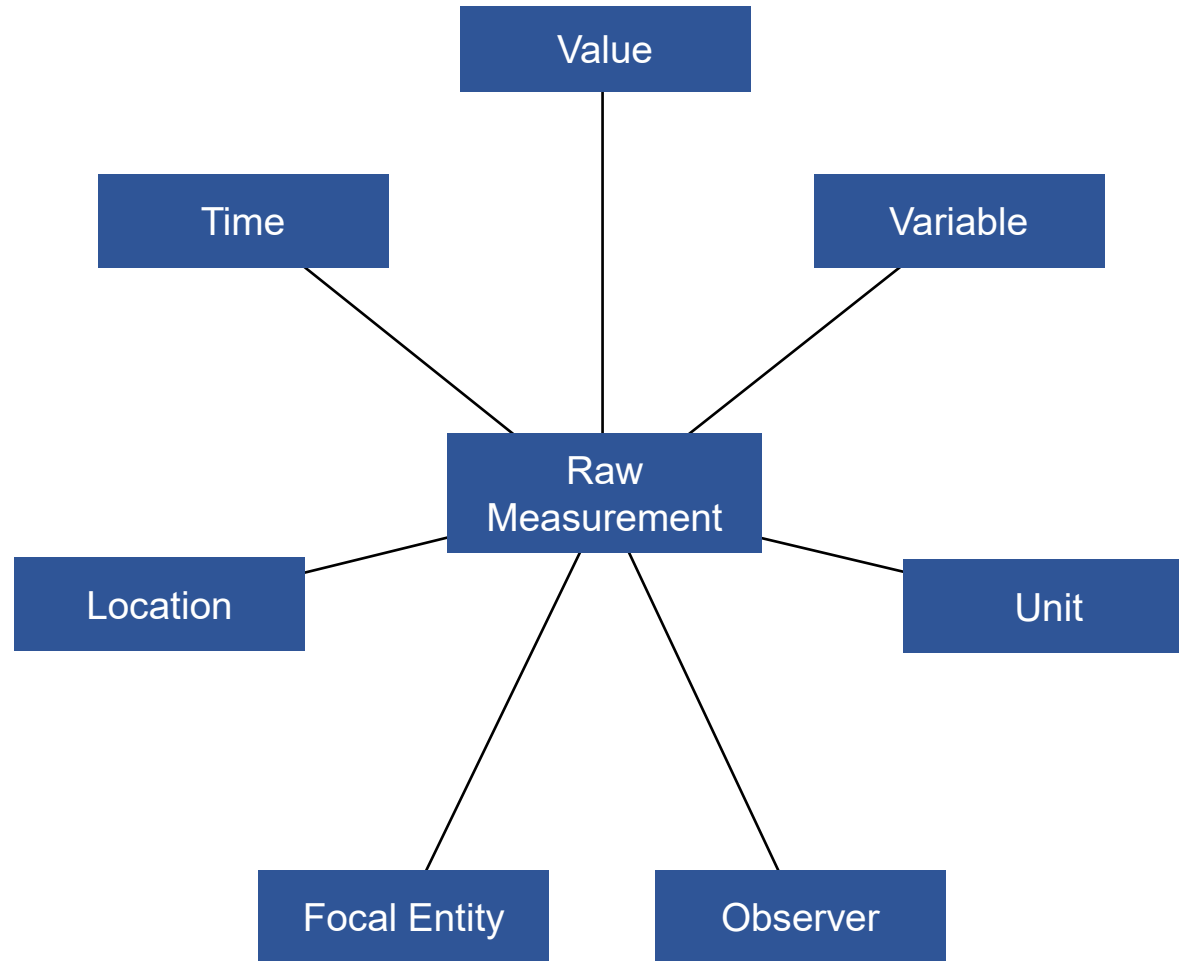
Model pipeline and pipeline-of-pipeline systems.

Automate data collection and Program Management Status Reporting for DevSecOps pipelines.

Directly collect data from DevSecOps pipeline tools

- Automate data collection, storage, and reporting
- Correlate data to project outcomes
- Present completion to-date and milestone predictions to Program Management in smart dashboards

# Prototype DSO Measurement



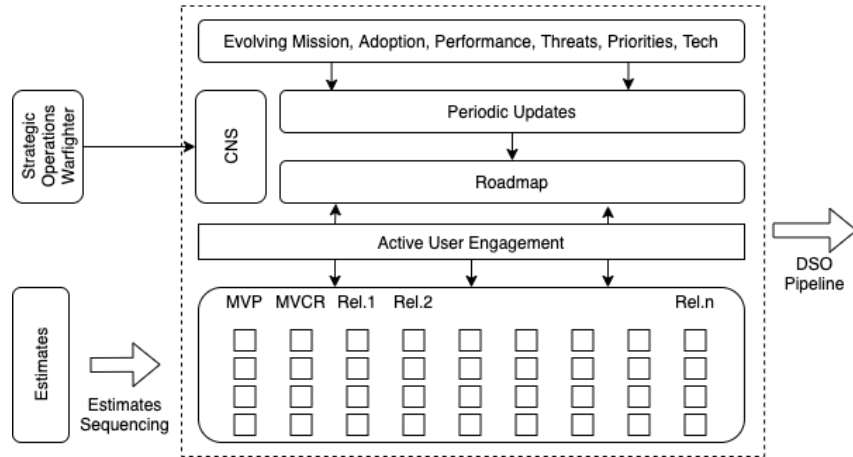
- Measurement: *"A set of observations that reduce uncertainty where the result is expressed as a quantity."* - Douglas Hubbard



# ACE/PoPs Model: Data Collection Context

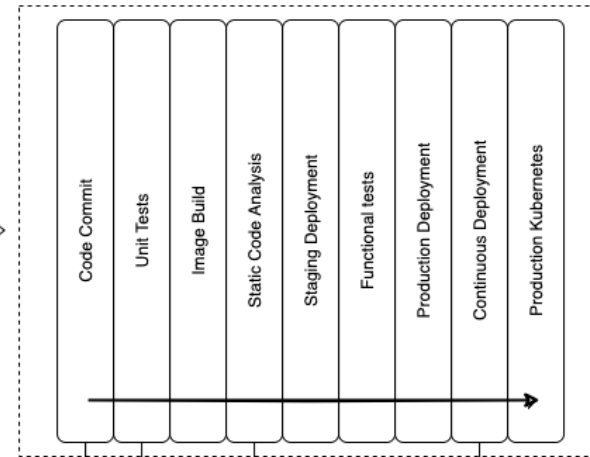
## Managed with Jira, Gitlab, Rally

Planned Program Work



## Factory Pipelines

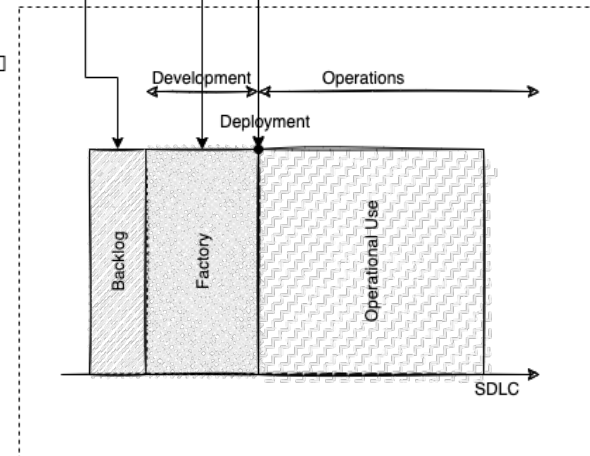
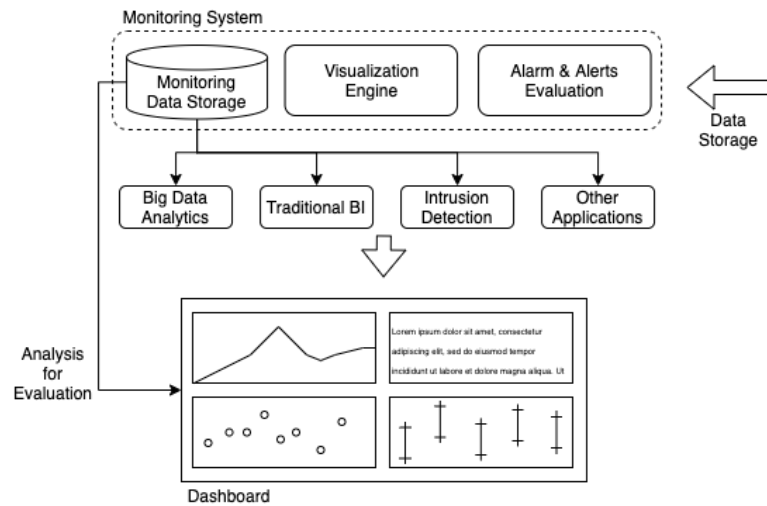
Execution of the Plan and Response to Incidents



**Planned work** includes the WBS, work packages, work sequencing, and estimates. Work packages **execute** plan development stages. Tools trigger events (time stamps, package labels).

Data is collected and **transformed** for storage.

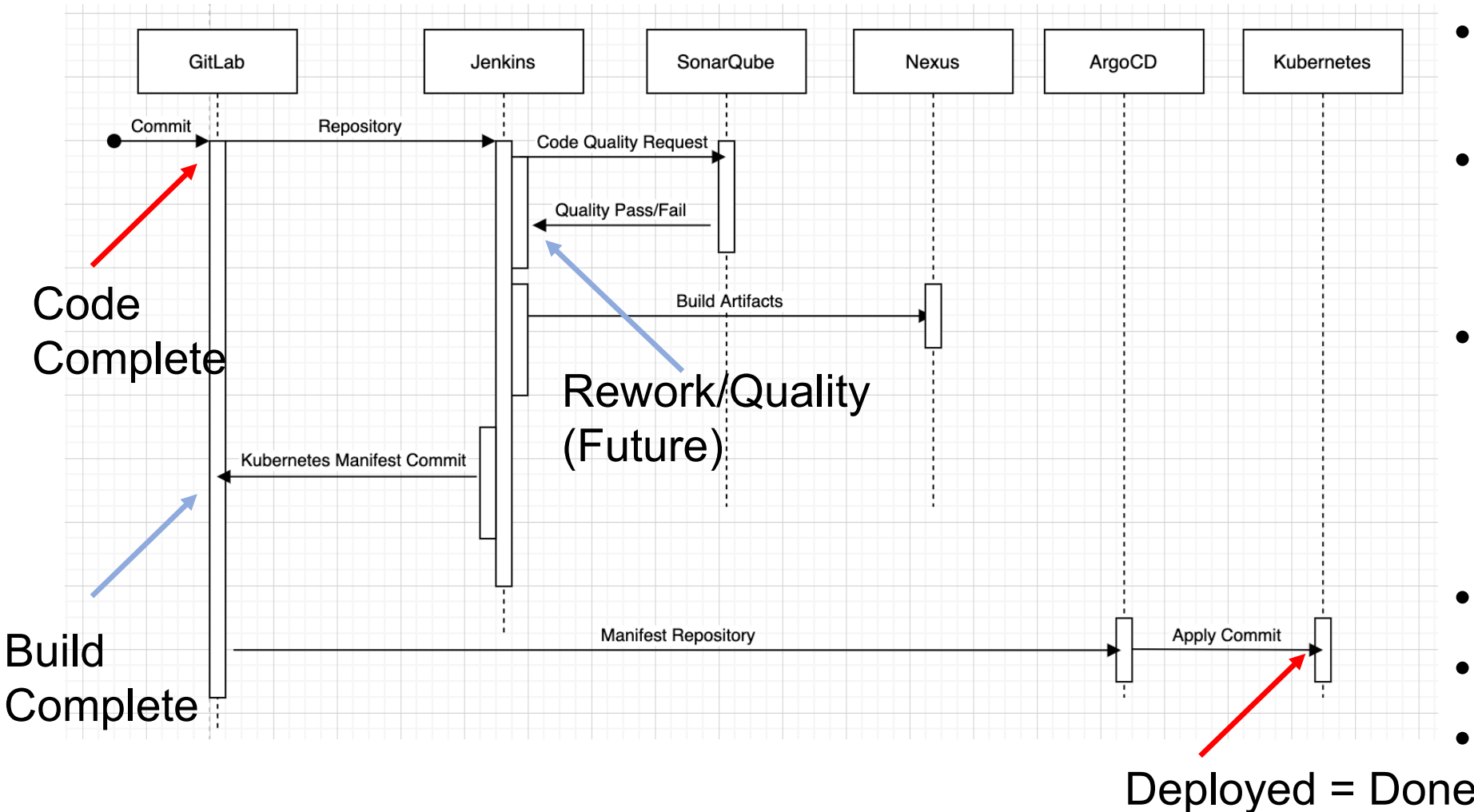
The **warehouse** loads the data and provides the interface for analysis and dashboards.



PSM Context of Data Collection

# Track events through the Pipelines

Extracting metrics <https://youtu.be/u96OFTXgr0g>



- Date is collected from key events.
- The data specification is on the following slide.
- Use Labels to connect WBS, RoadMap, and Backlog to work packages.
- Lead Times
- Estimated Dates
- Actual Times

# Track From the Roadmap Through the Pipeline

Work Completion <https://youtu.be/X-R1mIZ3sPk>

ace-devsecops > Rust Project > Milestones > Feature - Additional Display Function

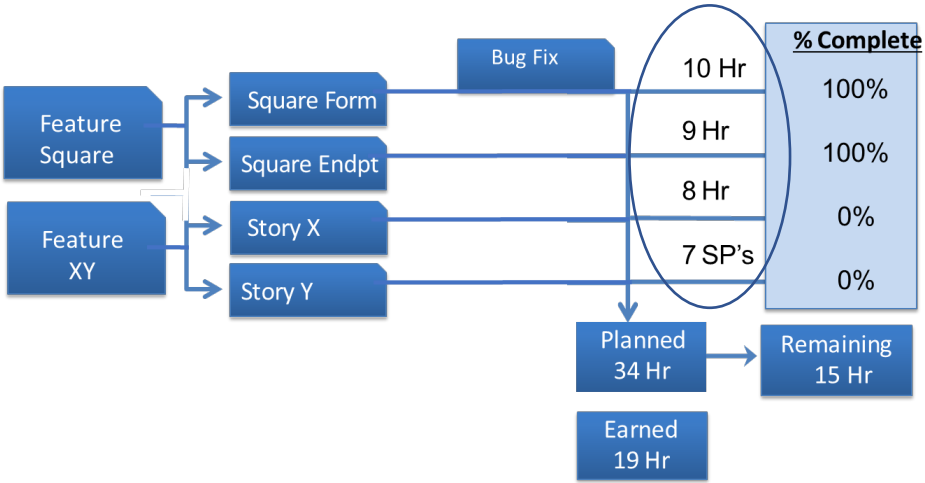
**Closed** Milestone May 17, 2021–Jun 7, 2021 Edit Promote Reopen milestone Delete

## Feature - Additional Display Function

This function should provide the capability for a user of the web service to provide a value, and have the value of its square returned.

Issues 5 Merge Requests 4 Participants 1 Labels 0

Unstarted Issues (open and unassigned) 0 Ongoing Issues (open and assigned) 0 Completed Issues (closed) 5



100% complete >>

Start date May 17, 2021 Edit

Due date Jun 7, 2021 (Past due) Edit

Issues 5 New issue  
Open: 0 Closed: 5

Time tracking ?  
No estimate or time spent

Merge requests 4  
Open: 0 Closed: 0 Merged: 4

Releases  
None

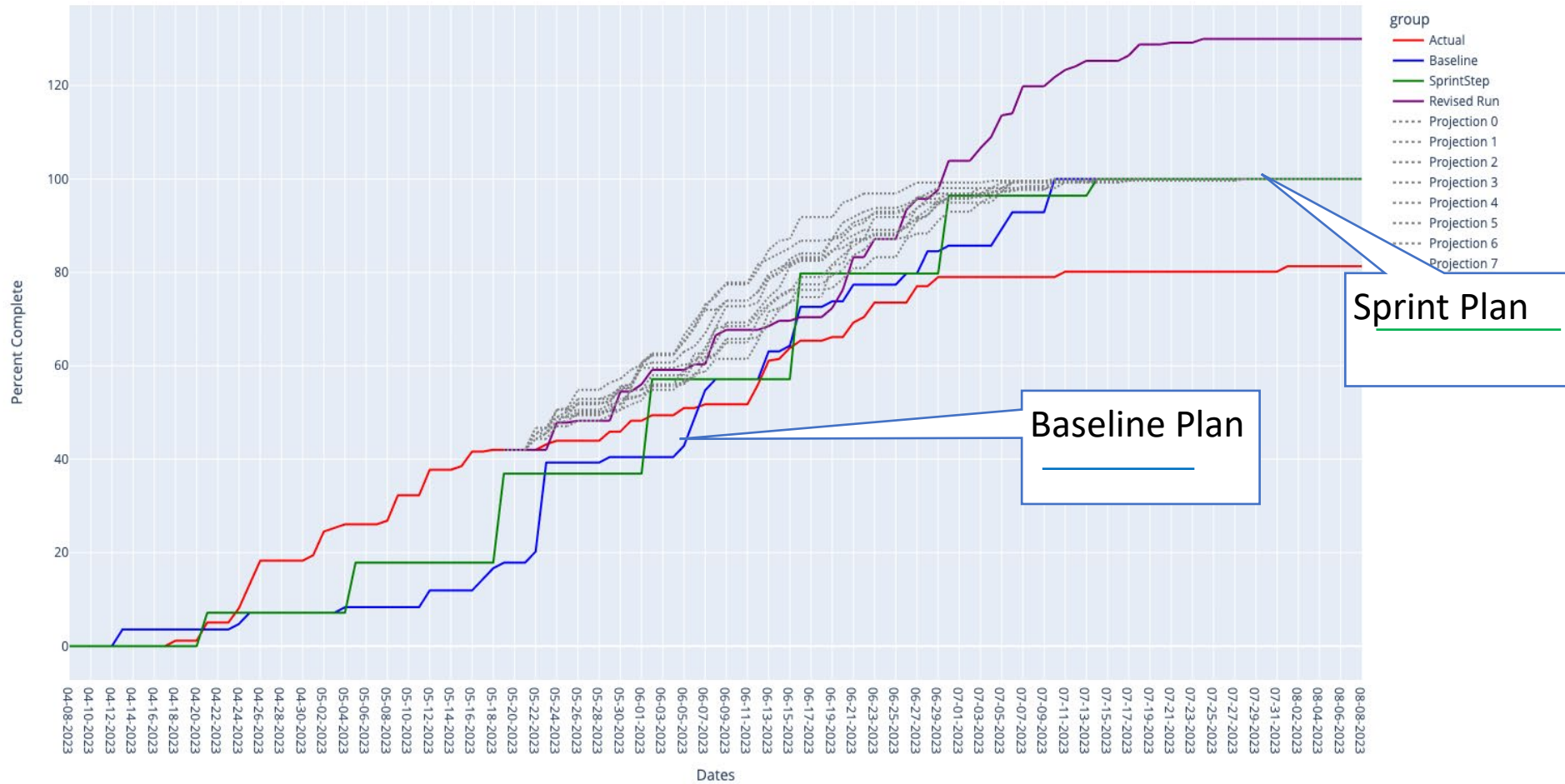
Reference: ace-devsecops/rus... 📄

# Indicators

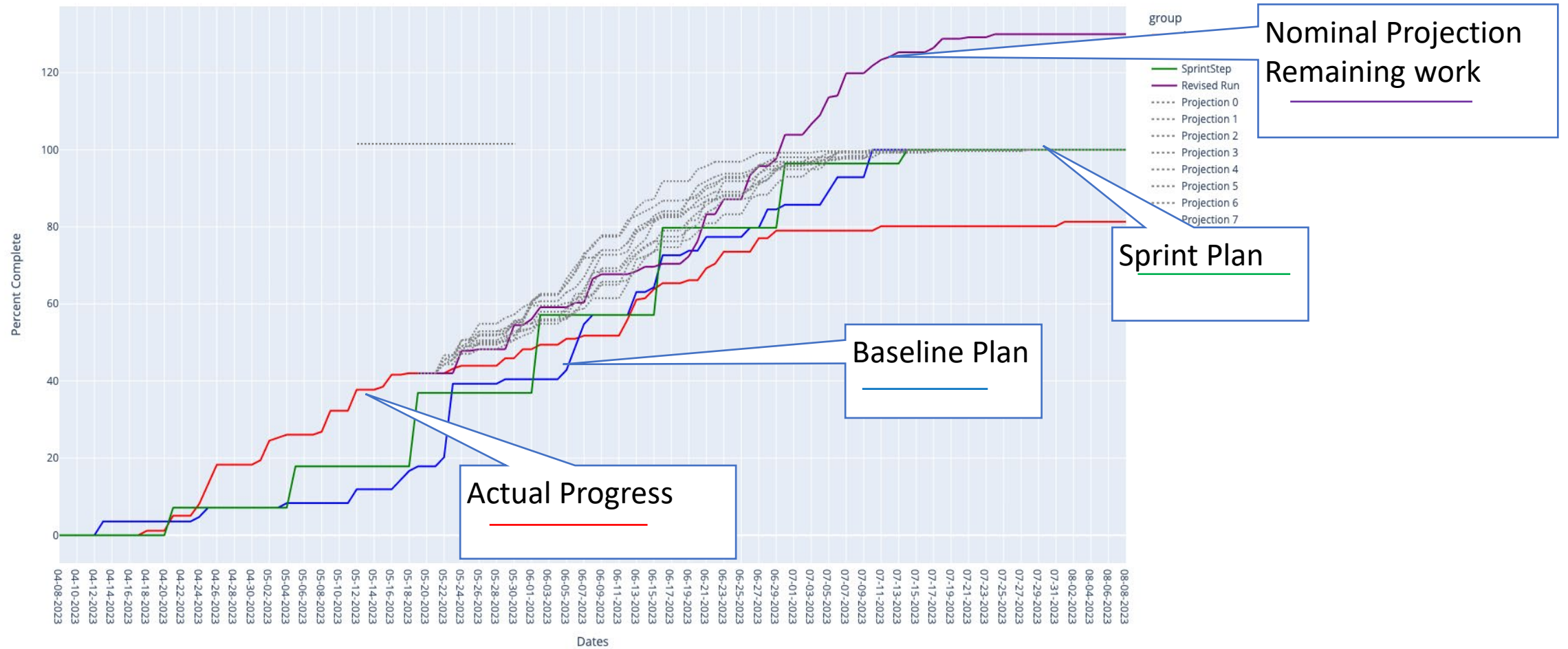
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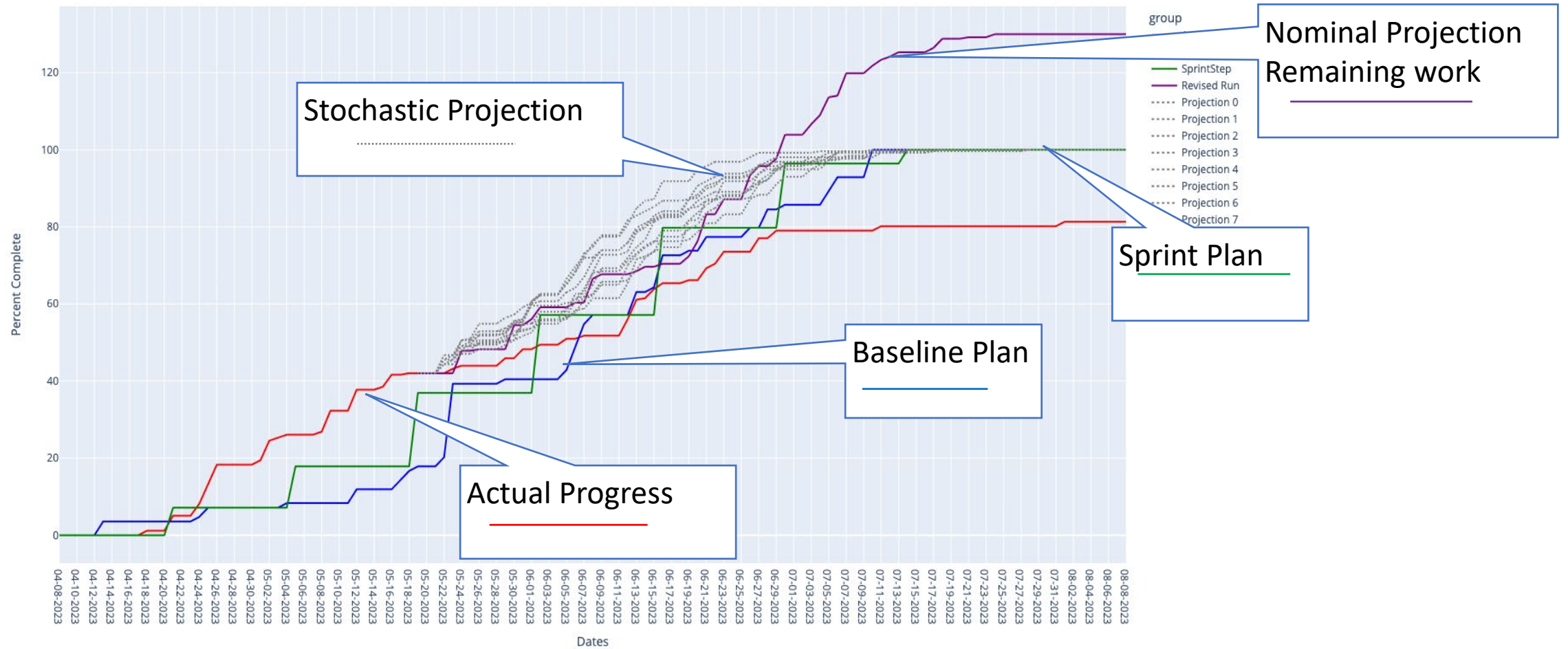
# Analysis: What is % Completion, When will we Finish?



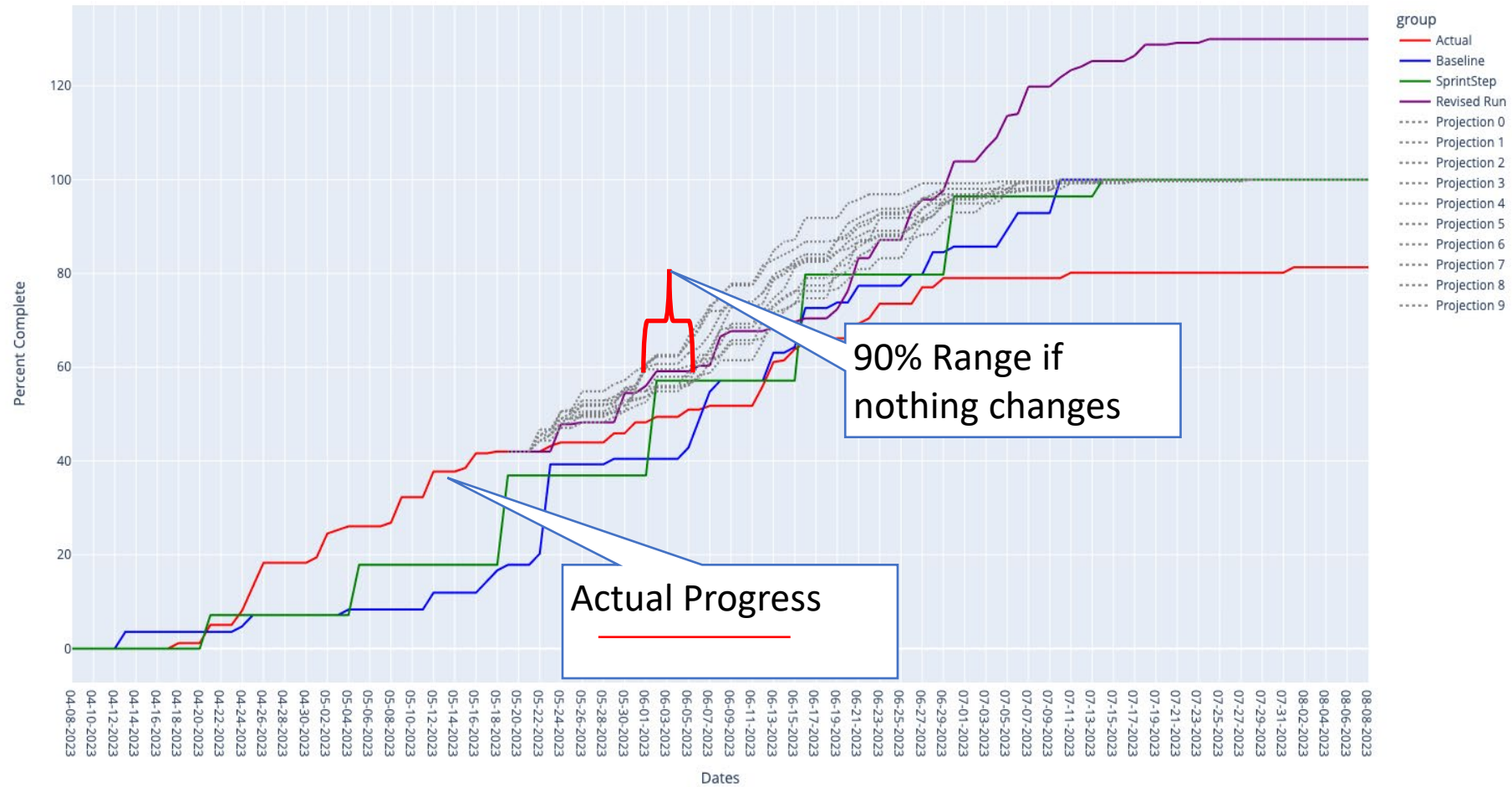
# Analysis: What is % Completion, When will we Finish?



# Analysis: What is % Completion, When will we Finish?



# Analysis: Did Something Change?



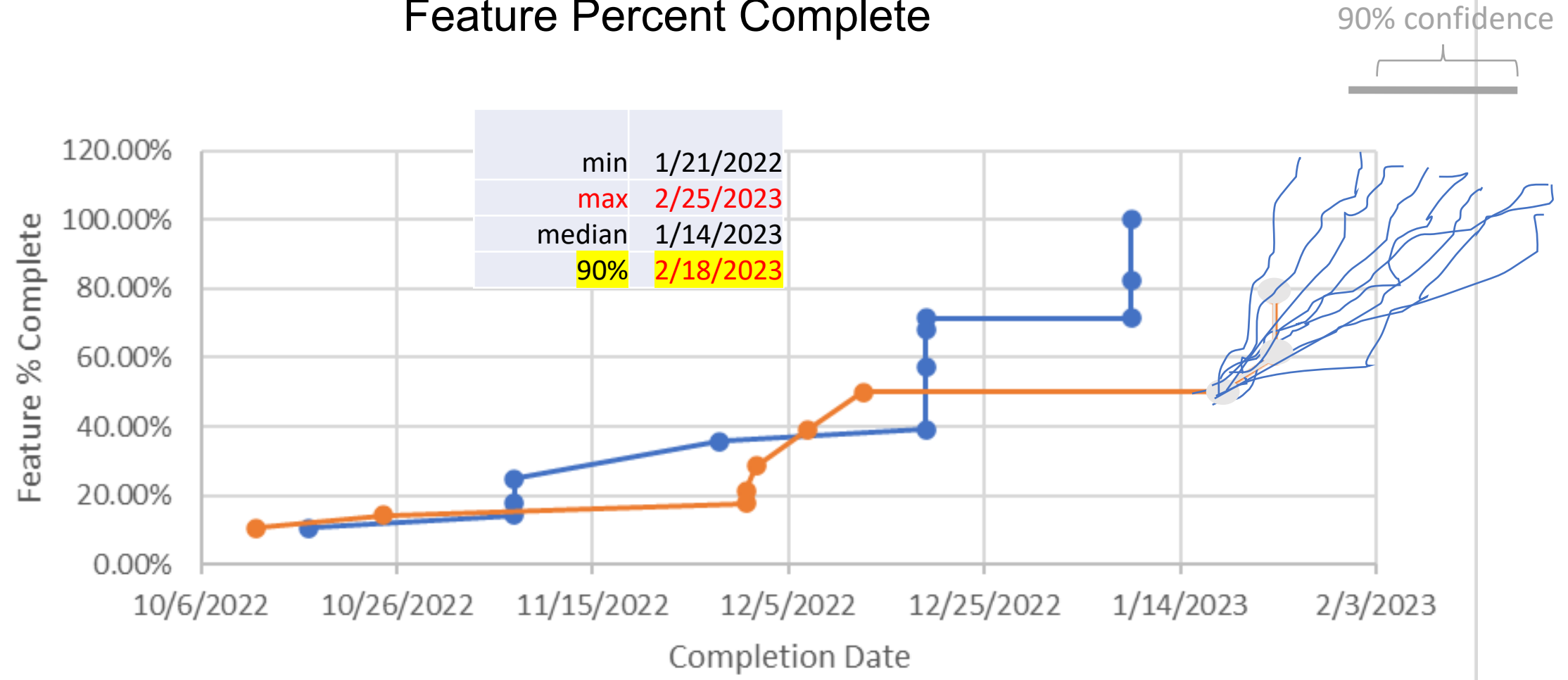




# Feature Completion

● baseline % Complete      ● % Actual Feature\_Complete  
● Current plan\_complete

## Feature Percent Complete



# Measure Estimation Accuracy and Precision

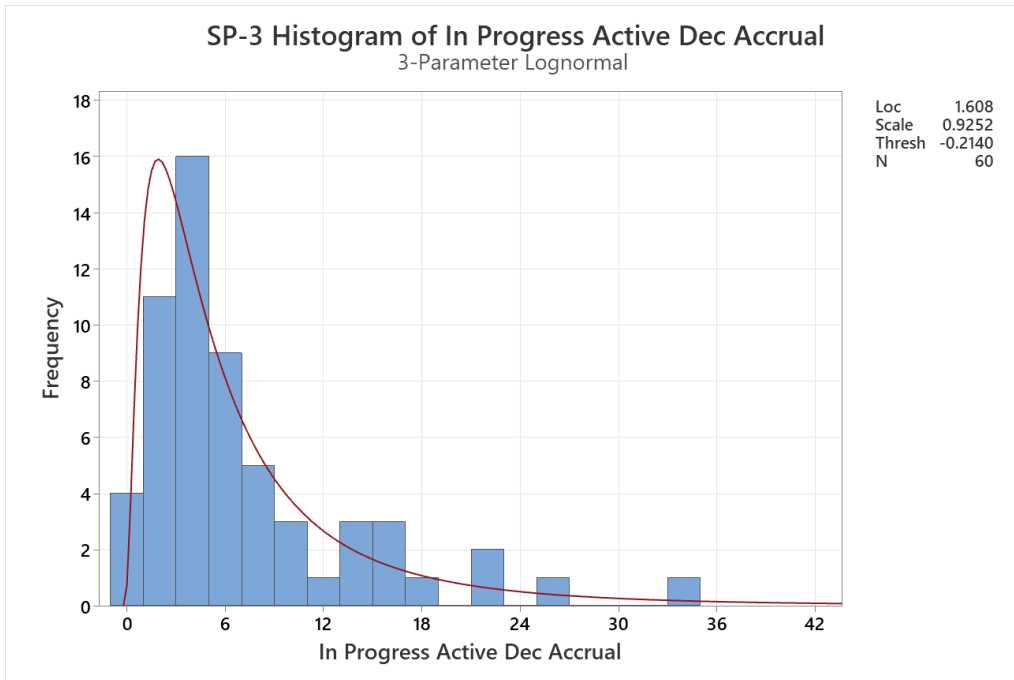
Calibrate for each pipeline.

Determine that work is predictable **within a range**.

Estimate all work: program planning, road mapping, program increments, sprints.

Measure the work as it passes through the planning, backlog and pipeline.

Compare estimates with actuals.

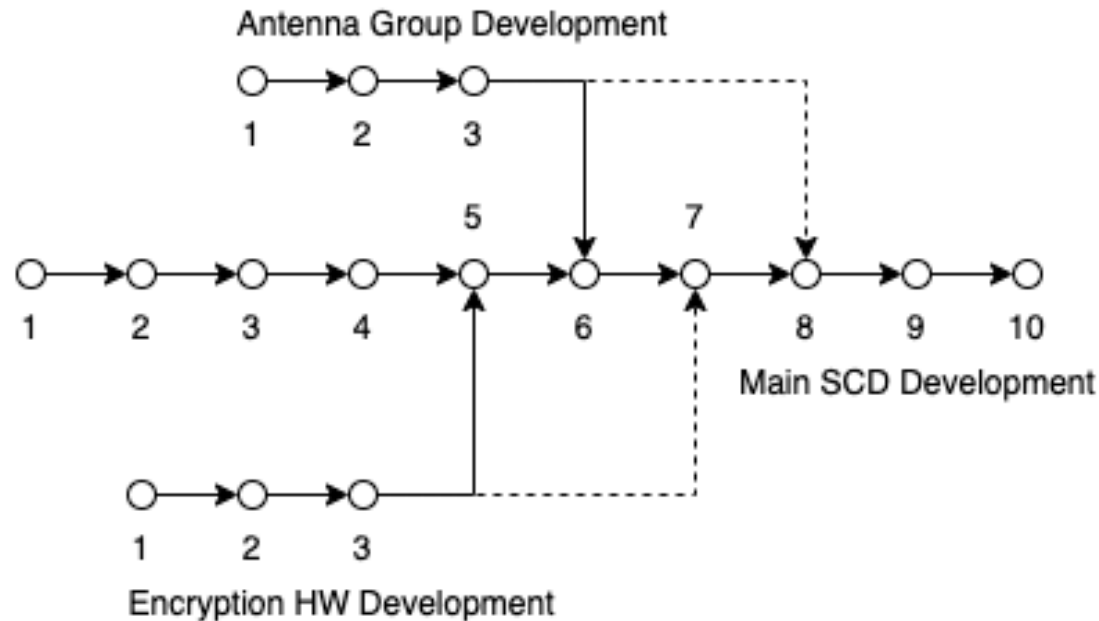


While the estimation is stable, use the ranges to make future predictions.

## Statistics

Total Count	Mean	SE Mean	StDev	
60	7.185	0.883	6.839	
Minimum	Q1	Median	Q3	Maximum
0.335	2.583	4.599	8.965	33.44
Mode	IQR			
8	6.382			

# Pipeline of Pipelines PoPs Workflow Network Example



Model a fictitious device that captures characteristics of a real project dependencies between hardware and software capabilities.

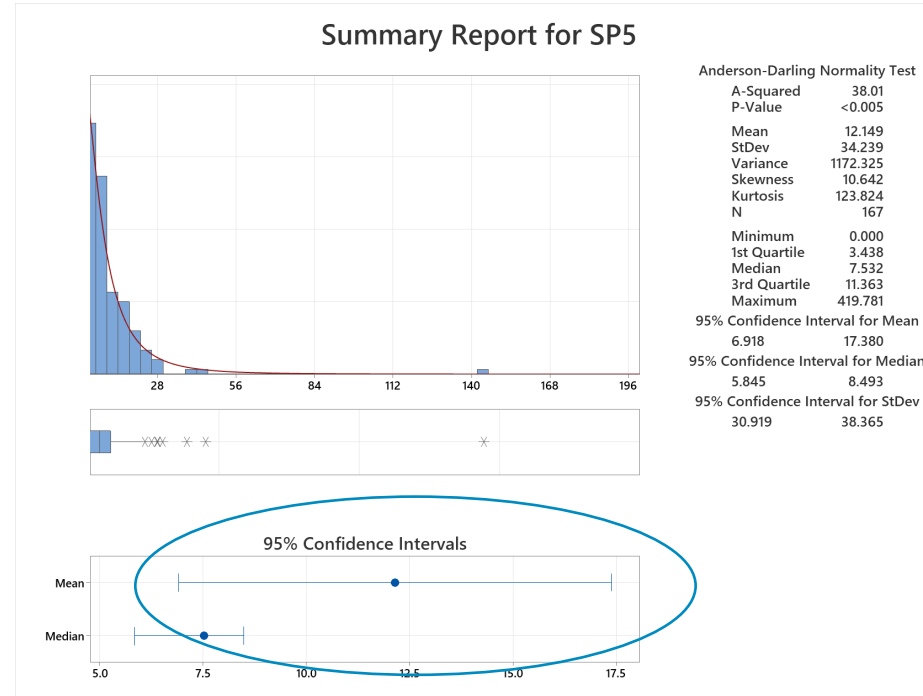
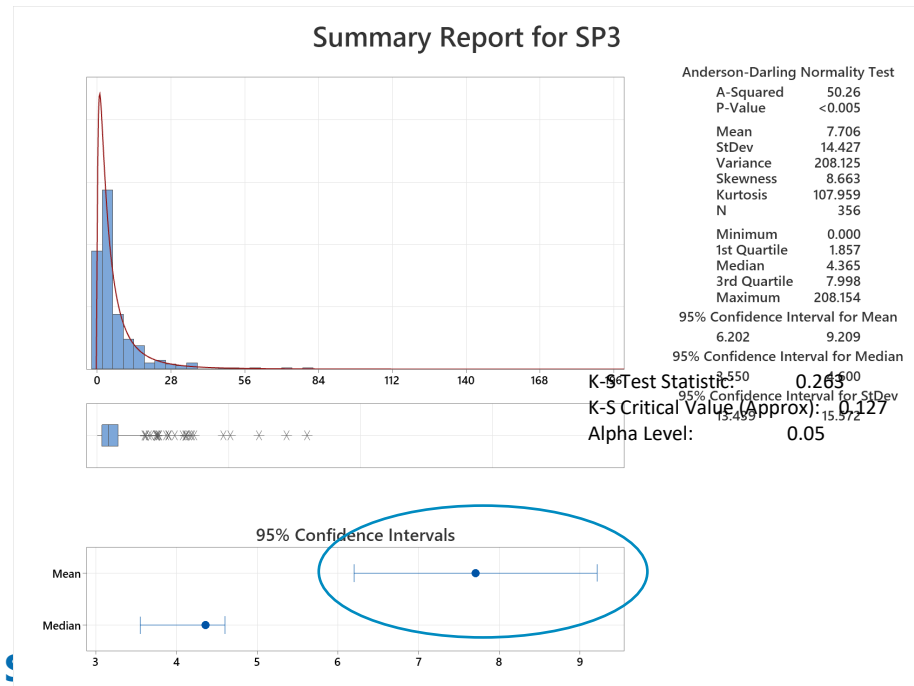
Each pipeline produces **dependencies** used to model schedule, cost, and technical performance risks resulting from production variation, accumulated variance, and rework.

Each pipeline has its own personality and parameters.

Each category of work item has distinct parameters.

Report dependencies in **range of days**.

# Stories are known unknowns, with predictable distributions



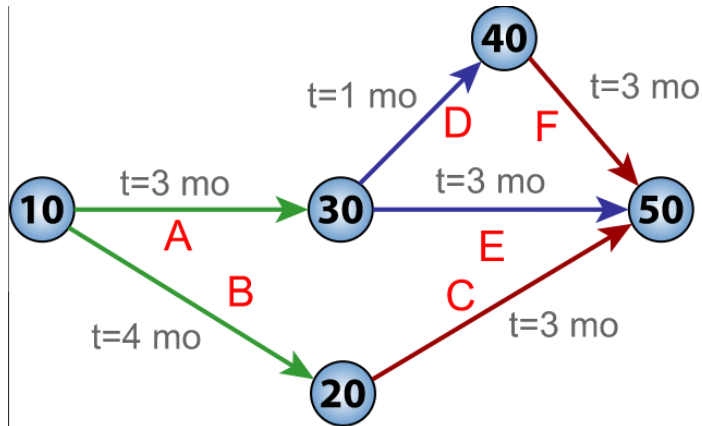
Variable	Count	Mean	SE Mean	StDev	Min	Q1	Median	Q3	Max	IQR
SP3	356	7.70	0.765	14.427	0.000	1.857	4.365	7.998	208.2	6.1
SP5	176	12.15	2.65	34.24	0	3.44	7.53	11.36	419.8	9.92

Different Distributions, but  
Overlapping confidence intervals  
On the Mean,  
Distinct on Median

Q: Why are some outliers?

Q: Can we parameterize the distribution?

# Extend Multi-Pipelines with Networks

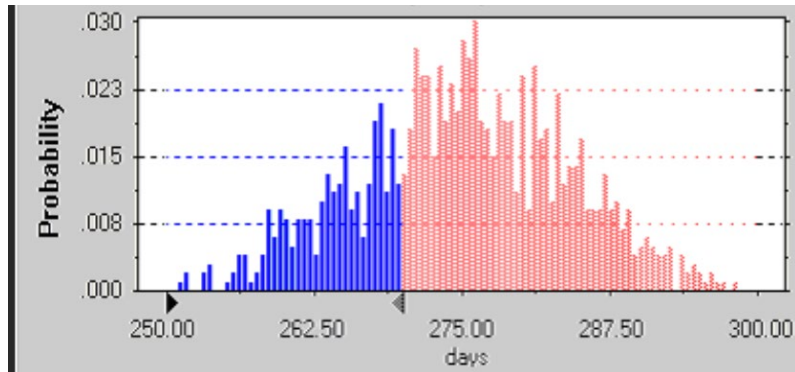


## Approach

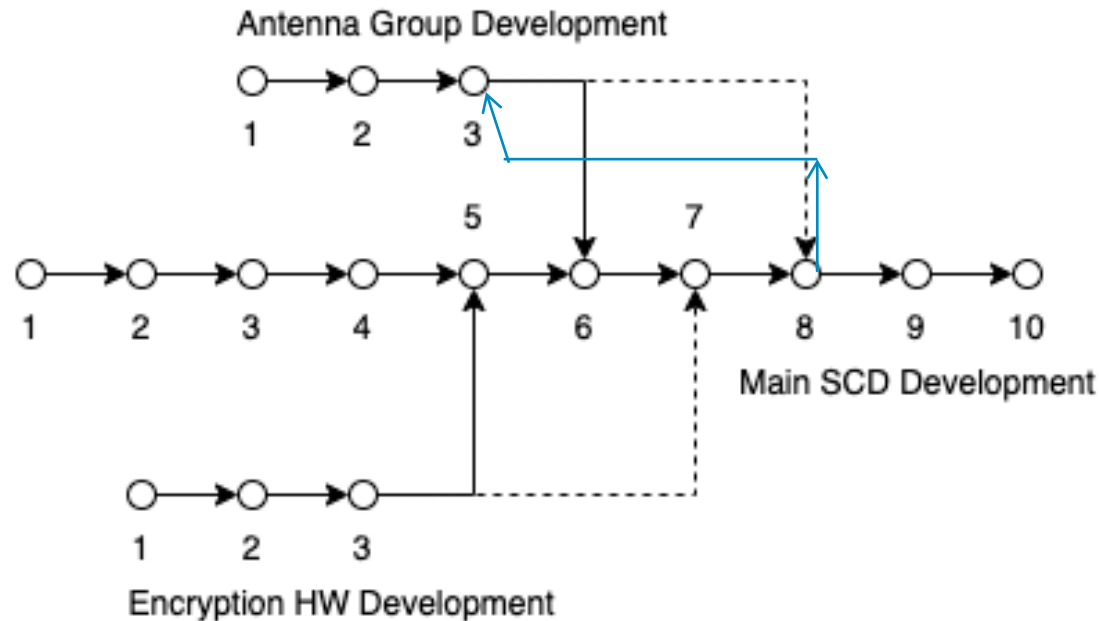
- Trace work item through development steps
- Identify blockers and integration points
- Probability of completion date

## Data from DSO pipeline and other sources

- Product state node structure (capability based WBS, product dependencies, workflow)
- For each Pipeline obtain empirical data for
  - **Effort Rate** and **variation** (by skill?)
  - **Production Rate** and **variation** by work type
  - **Primary work** and **Rework** by activity
  - **Defect Rates** and fix latencies (build, test)



# Pipeline of Pipelines PoPs Workflow Network Example



Each produce dependencies used to model schedule, cost, and technical performance risks resulting from production variation, accumulated variance, and rework.

Pipelines have backward loops. Sometimes with themselves.

We model likelihood and latency in these loops.

Little's Law assumptions are strongly violated except for **some** linear pipeline segments.

Typical Flow Metrics do not accommodate rework, merges, or multiple entry points

# Observations and Lessons

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# Lessons Learned

Measurement tools are siloed, making it hard to work together.

Different types of work need to be accounted for (product, bugs, research ...). They have different characteristics, estimation accuracy, and outputs.

Averages alone don't support information needs high priority changes or statistical modeling. We need distributions.

We need more specific lead time measures for process steps and baselines for zero rework lead times. (total time until test completes is a candidate quality proxy).

Typical flow metrics don't appear to apply to the pipeline-of-pipelines because of branching and other assumptions violations.

Measuring staff availability remains unresolved.



# ACE/PoPs Links for Program Managers

## **Program Managers—The DevSecOps Pipeline Can Provide Actionable Data**

<https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=890538>

<https://insights.sei.cmu.edu/blog/actionable-data-from-the-devsecops-pipeline/>

## **Why Your Software Cost Estimates Change Over Time and How DevSecOps Data Can Help Reduce Cost Risk**

<https://insights.sei.cmu.edu/library/why-your-software-cost-estimates-change-over-time-and-how-devsecops-data-can-help-reduce-cost-risk/>

<https://insights.sei.cmu.edu/library/actionable-data-in-the-devsecops-pipeline/>

How to get started

## **Getting Started with ACE/PoPs**

<https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=890665>

Coming  
Starter packs

# Next Steps

Increase number of GQIM indicator Templates

Improve projection precision

Experience Package

## Reports

- Life Cycle Measurement Gap
- Non-Functional Requirement
- Capability Based Estimation Literature Review

Prepare for a Transition, search for transition partners

# Stay out of the **SWAMP** (SoftWare Analysis Metrics Pool)

**Automation requires precise definitions.**

**Every measurement has precise meaning in a known context.**

**Every metric supports an information need.**

Disciplined work decomposition (WBS) connected to product deliverables

Categorize and estimate work items

Automation support for workflow (e.g. Jira/GitLab) and technical implementation (DevSecOps)

Consistent workflow with start and finish

Minimize humans in the loop for data collection

# Call to Action

Would you benefit from continuous updates to status and projections?

Are you using DevSecOps tool chains, issue trackers, and workflow management?

Can you share process data and discuss results?

Will you participate in our quarterly research review?

We can help!

- Share our Program Management Measurement White Paper
- Specify information, data, and displays for your program management
- Recommend approaches and tools to get started
- Evaluate your results for effectiveness

# ACE/PoPs Team



**William Nichols**  
Principal Engineer  
Telephone: +1 412.268.1727



**Brent Clausner**  
DevOps Engineer



**Luiz Antunes**  
DevOps Engineer



**Julie Cohen**  
Senior Engineer

Email: [info@sei.cmu.edu](mailto:info@sei.cmu.edu)

# ACE/PoPs Team



**Brigid O'Hearn**  
Senior Engineer



**Chris Miller**  
Senior Researcher



**Anandi Hira**  
Senior Researcher



**Michael Bandor**  
Senior Engineer