## NUCLEON



THE MISSING FORMULA THAT MEASURES YOUR IT DEVELOPMENT TEAM'S PERFORMANCE

JEPPE HEDAA

# Determining IT team performance

Estimation and uncertainty drivers

When making estimations we are primarily looking for two metrics

## SIZE = TIME/COST CAPACITY

When making estimations we are primarily looking for two metrics



## Typically the capacity of a team is based on two techniques



## Let's look at an example with the variance in historical performance



## Let's look at an example with the variance in historical performance



There can be several reasons for this spread...

[ N ]

**Bad PM's Changing teams** No standards **No comparison foundation** No transparency **Changes in context** 

#### And therefore our best option... is often our best guess..



## The question is... with IT being so central to our business

Ν

- is this an adequate measure?





...resulting in increasing investment loss



Source: Standish CHAOS "Decision Latency Theory" report; Project Management Institute "Improve Business Results" infographic

## I saw this a the "black box" problem



## ...and the problem was that we were lacking causal thinking



[N]















## [N]



## We arrived at the factors mostly influencing performance



## Which could be expressed in a formula



#### People – 1-100x effect



#### Effect

• The quality of your team members

- Harvard Business Review
- Internal studies from Google, Facebook, and Apple

[N]

#### In 7N we use the 5-layer model described in Nucleon



## And use the SFIA framework to map the context



## Team Size (up to -48% effect)



#### Effect

- The number of people on your team
- More members reduce productivity

- Cognitive Load Theory
- *The Mythical Man-Month* Frederick Brooks

## Team dynamics (-66% to +300% effect)



PRODUCTIVITY FACTOR

#### 3,5 0 2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

COMPOUND TEAM EFFECT

#### Effect

The amount that high performers ٠ lift, and poor performers drag, your team

#### Source

"Sitting Near a High Performer can ۲ Make you Better at Your Job" -Housman and Minor (2017)

## Decision Maker Proximity (up to -32% effect)





#### Effect

 The ease with which your team can interact with its decision maker and make fast and precise decisions

- Harvard Business Review
- Standish CHAOS "Decision Latency Theory" report

## Bureaucracy (up to -20% effect)



#### Effect

• The amount of time spent not working on production tasks

- "Team mental models and team performance" – Lim and Klein (2006)
- "Relationships among team ability composition, team mental models, and team performance" – Edwards and Day (2006)

## Architecture (up to -26% effect)



#### Effect

 How well you company's enterprise architecture is documented and understood to support ease of change/ implementation and re-use.

- "The Relationship between Enterprise Complexity, Business Complexity and Business Performance" – Roest (2014)
- "Familiar Metric Management" Putnam and Myers (1995)

## Legacy (up to -18% effect)





#### Effect

 How many hidden resources you invest in maintenance of obsolete systems

- Beyond Legacy Code: Nine Practices to Extend the Life (and Value) of Your Software – David Scott Bernstein
- QSM databases

## Culture (up to -32% effect)

9

10



Effect

 To which degree your team's culture accelerates or decelerates productivity

- Primed to Perform: How to Build the Highest Performing Cultures – Doshi and McGregor (2015)
- "The Relationship between Corporate Culture and Performance" – Dizik (2016)

### Methods Maturity (up to -51% effect)



#### Effect

• The length of time your team has been working together

- "Managing the Development of Large Software Systems" – Royce (1970)
- "Agile & Waterfall Methodologies A Side-By-Side Comparison" – Base36





#### Effect

77% increase in effectivity equivalent to a potential 195 million Euro saving



#### Effect

25,5% increase in effectivity equivalent to a potential 91 million Euro saving



#### Effect

14,2% increase in effectivity equivalent to a potential 55 million Euro saving



So based on the Nucleon analysis one of the largest Scandinavian banks could look at a total saving of 341 million Euros

- With a prioritized roadmap suggested for the implementation
- And an ability to get detailed, realtime performance knowledge and better estimation and simulation capabilities

## Thanks for your time

"In fact, it is not just a formula – that is the summary – it is a complex family of measurements and analysis that are compared against best practices in a structured way to reveal all of the major, minor and micro fractures and defects in your IT organizational crystal"

*Jim Ditmore, COO Danske Bank* 

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