

# Fully Integrating Performance Testing: *Into Agile Development*

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Created for:



Agile  
**TESTING DAYS**

By:

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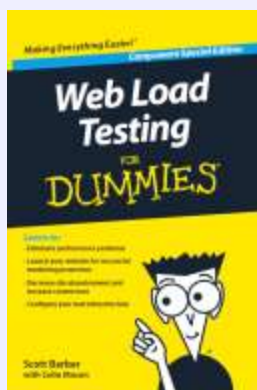
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About me: [about.me/scott.barber](http://about.me/scott.barber)

# ***Notes***

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**This tutorial is a sub-set of 7 days of instruction**  
**(about the same as a 1 semester university course)**

**I do not believe in “Best Practices” (I believe in**  
**problem solving via experience, experiment & education)**

**Everything in this tutorial is based on personal**  
**experience in \*some\* context (but not yours)**

**Do adapt concepts to your situation/context**

**I \*like\* questions! (and challenges)**

**Do follow-up with me (what works for you... or doesn't)**

# ***To Get The Most From This Class***

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**Ask questions** (helping you understand is very important to me)

**Do not be shy** (did I mention that I \*like\* to be challenged and interact with you?)

**Don't worry about what "the boss" will or won't allow** (at least not before you I finish explaining)

**Do laugh at my jokes** (or groan – so I know if it didn't translate well)

**Do network with others who are here** (I bet they have great ideas too)

# ***WARNING***

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**I speak 1 language** (not very “naturally”)

**I speak quickly** (especially when I’m telling stories)

**I choose words very carefully** (that may or may not  
translate well)

**Some suggestions are harsh** (use at your own risk)

# <Background>

# What is Performance?

## System or application characteristics related to:

### Speed:

- responsiveness
- user experience



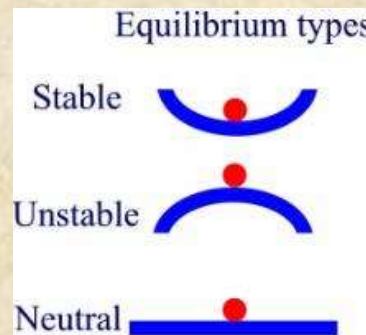
### Scalability:

- capacity
- load
- volume



### Stability

- consistency
- reliability
- stress



# What is Performance Testing?

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## What mom tells people:

I help people make websites go fast.

## What I tell people:

I help and/or teach individuals and organizations to *optimize software systems* by balancing:

- Cost
- Time to market
- Capacity

while remaining focused on the *quality of service to system users*.

# Performance vs. Load Testing?

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**Performance is to Load**

**as**

**Rectangle is to Square**

# **</Background>**

*Who is Responsible?*

**Everyone**

*Where Does it Fit?*

**Everywhere**

**Allow me to  
explain...**

# *To Prevent Poor Performance...*



*... don't just react when it happens.*

# *An Ounce of Prevention...*

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www.glasbergen.com

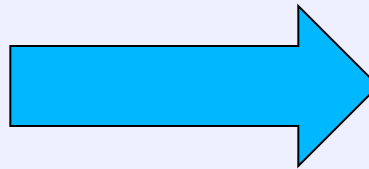


**"What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?"**

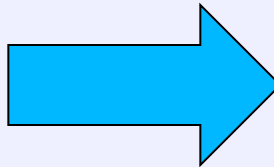
**Which implies  
that...**

# *The Performance Lifecycle is:*

## *Conception to Headstone*



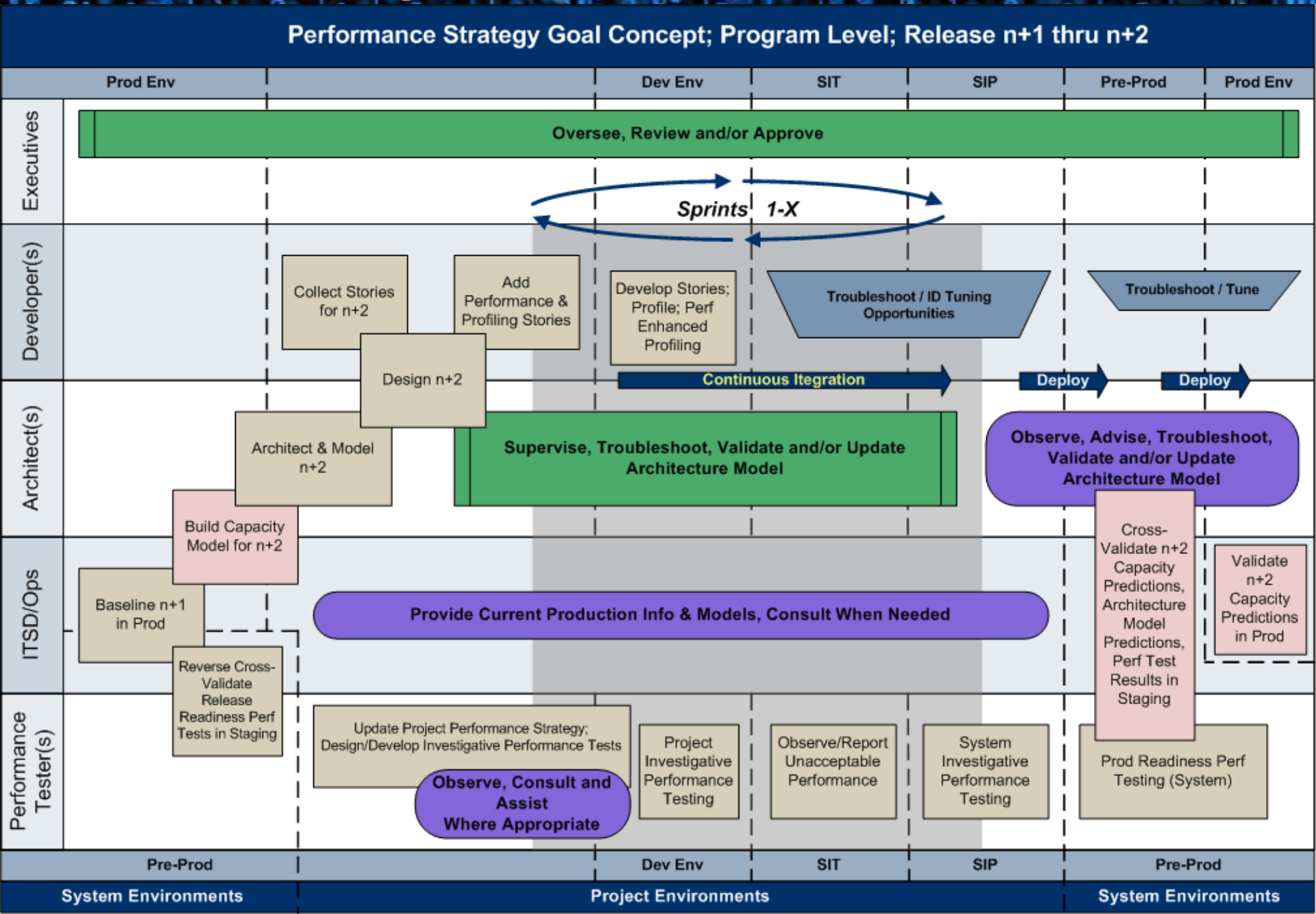
***Not***



## *Cradle to Grave*

But what does  
that *mean* ?!?

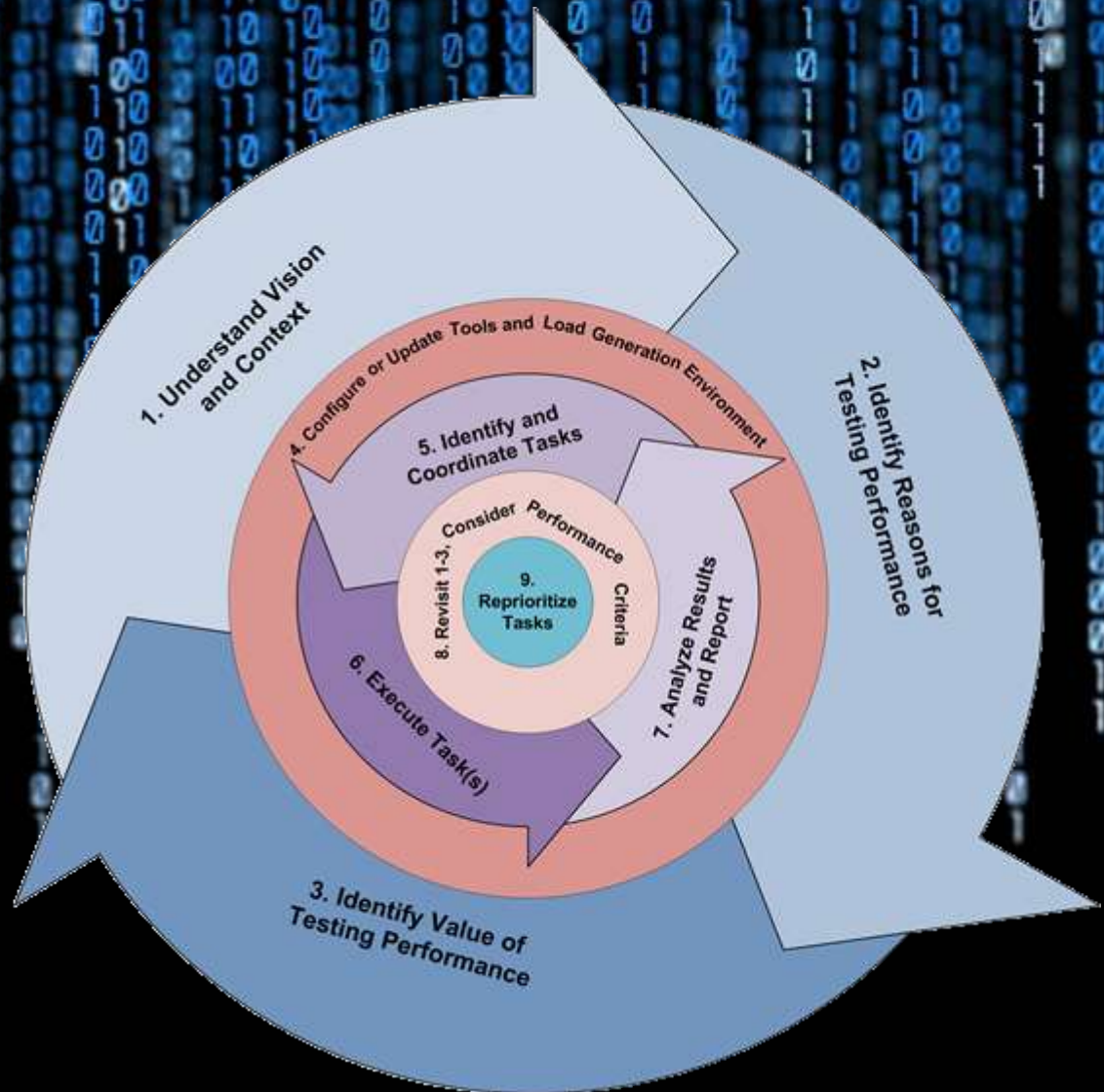
# ... Do you like Swim Lanes?



# ...Or maybe Circles?

## Agile Performance Testing Activities

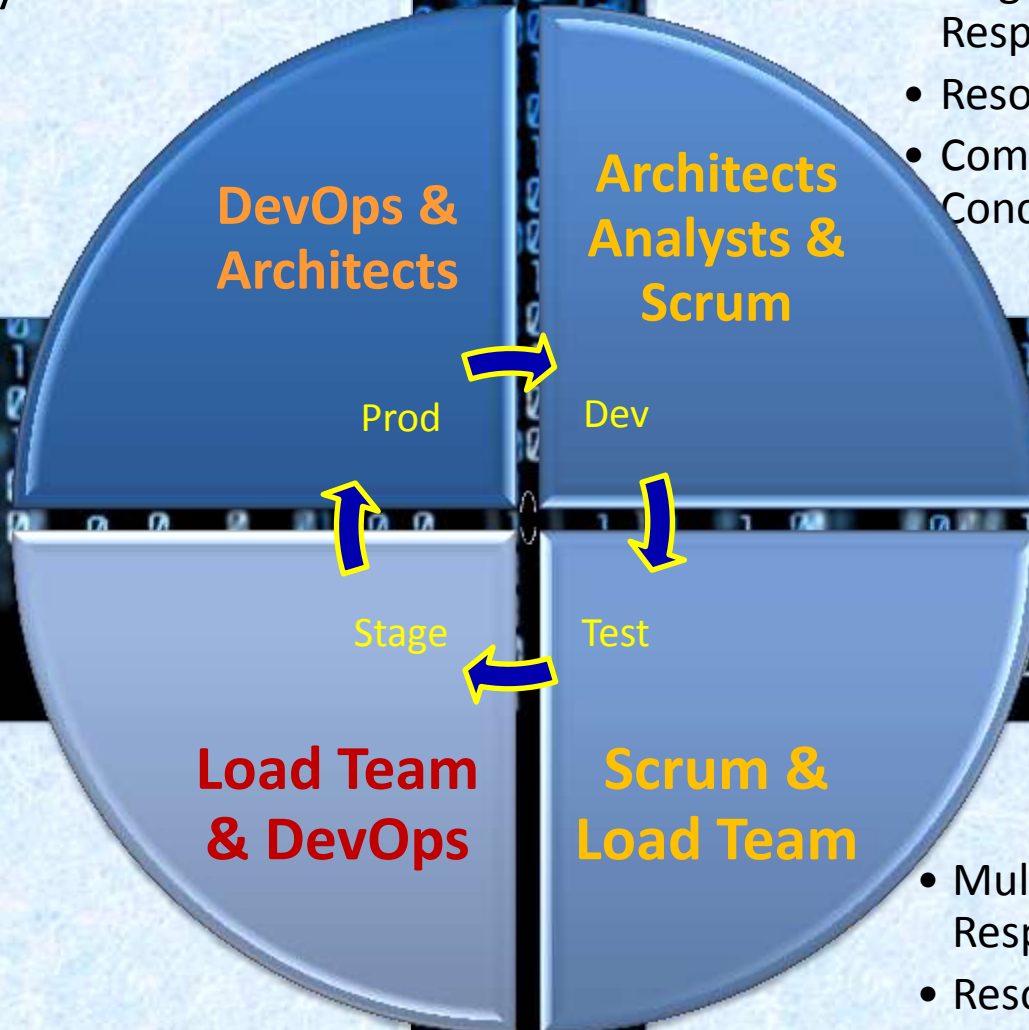
1. Understand Project Vision and Context
2. Identify Reasons for Testing Performance
3. Identify Value of Testing Performance
4. Configure or Update Tools and Load Generation Environment
5. Identify and Coordinate Tasks
6. Execute Task(s)
7. Analyze Results and Report
8. Revisit 1-3, Consider Performance Criteria
9. Reprioritize Tasks



# ...Or Annotated Pie Charts?

- Current Capacity
- Projections
- Scalability Plan
- Reliability

- Single User Responsiveness
- Resource Management
- Component-Level Concurrency

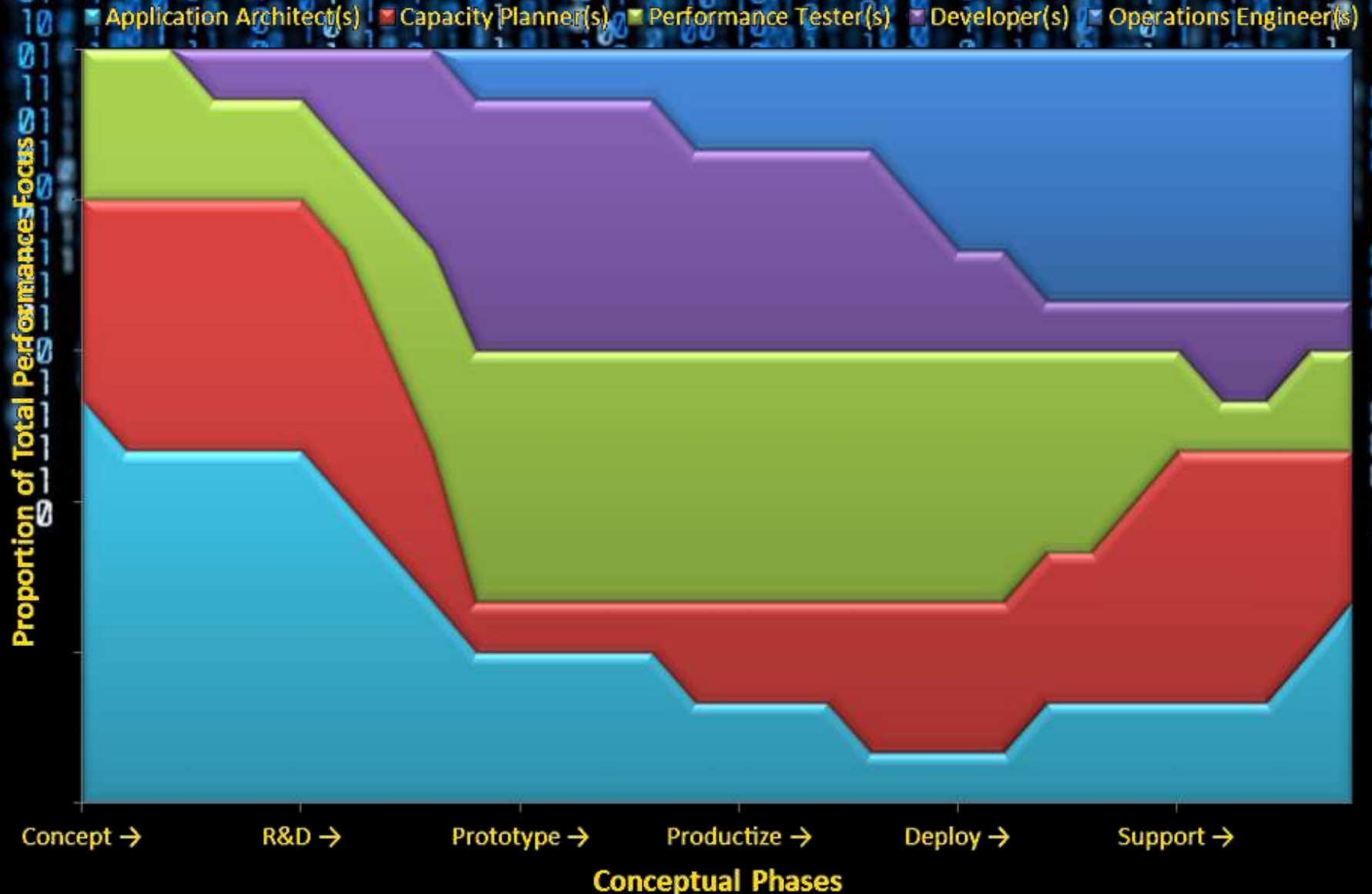


- Prepare for Prod
- Tune/Optimize
- Predict
- Early Warning Identification

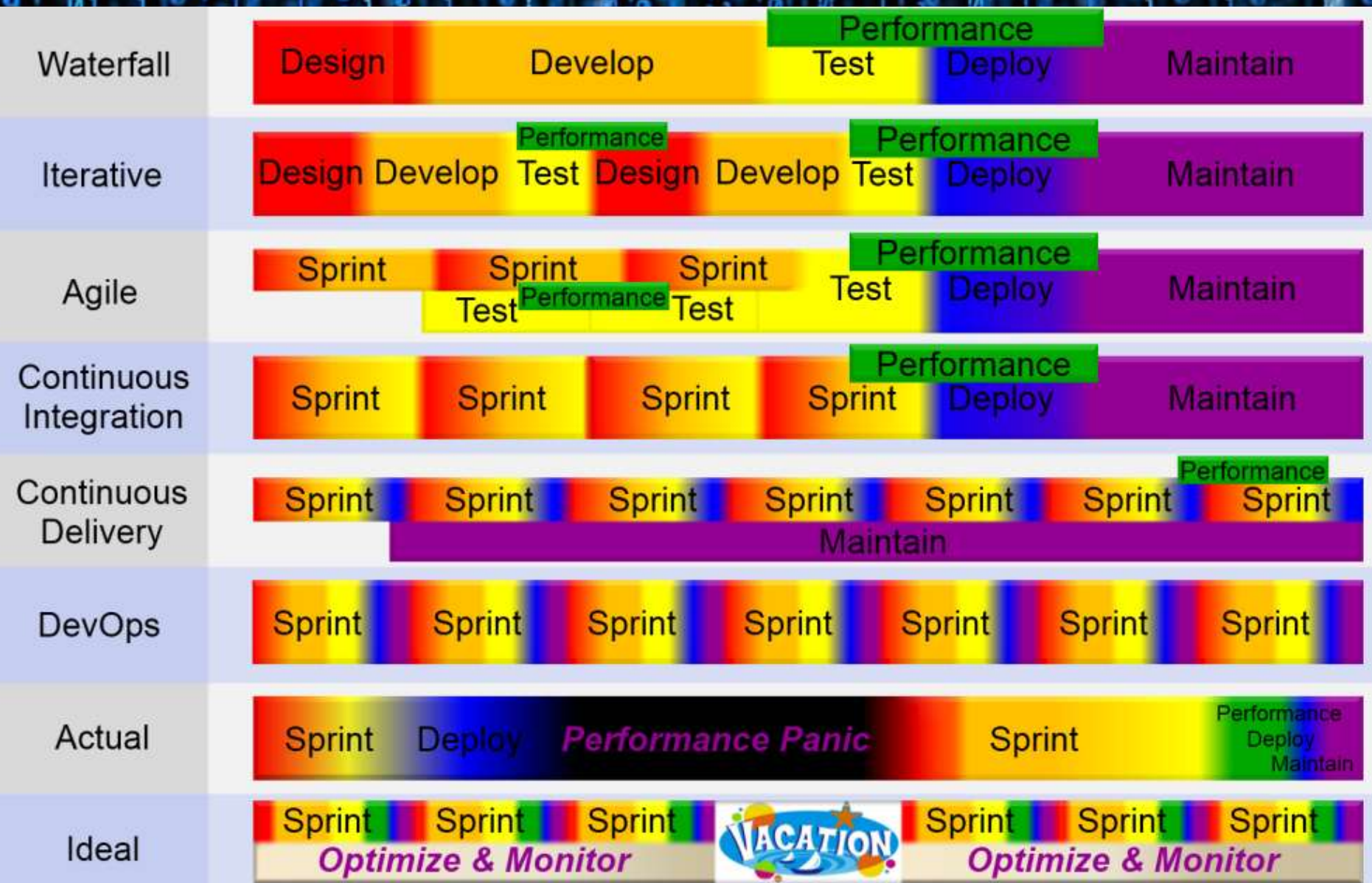
- Multi-User Responsiveness
- Resource Trending
- Limit Identification

# ...Relativistic Comparisons?

## Distribution of Responsibility for System Performance



# ...How about Colors?



**I've tried all  
of those...**

... But now  
*I* prefer...

**...the Puzzle.**

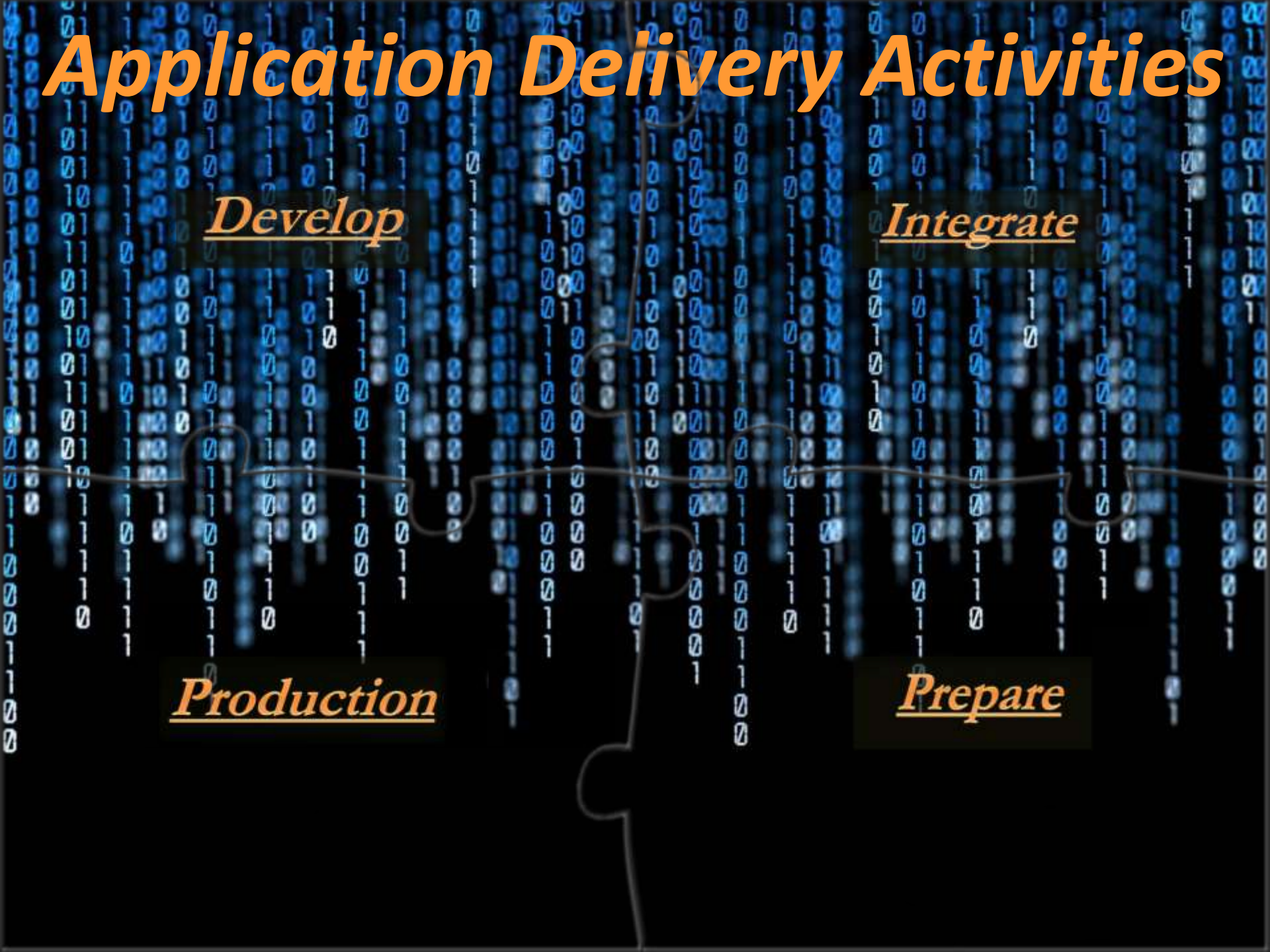
# *Application Delivery Activities*

*Develop*

*Integrate*

*Production*

*Prepare*





**To simple?**  
**I agree...**  
**How 'bout...**

## Develop

*(Sprint, Iteration, etc.)*

Goals/Budgets

Unit Tests/Trends

Story Acceptance

Build Validation/Regression

## Production

Deployments

Maintenance

Rapid Response

Data Forward

## Integrate

*(Build, Merge, Promote, etc.)*

Features

Target Load Profiles

Peak Load Profiles

Weakness Identification

## Prepare

*(Major Release, Configure, Certify, etc.)*

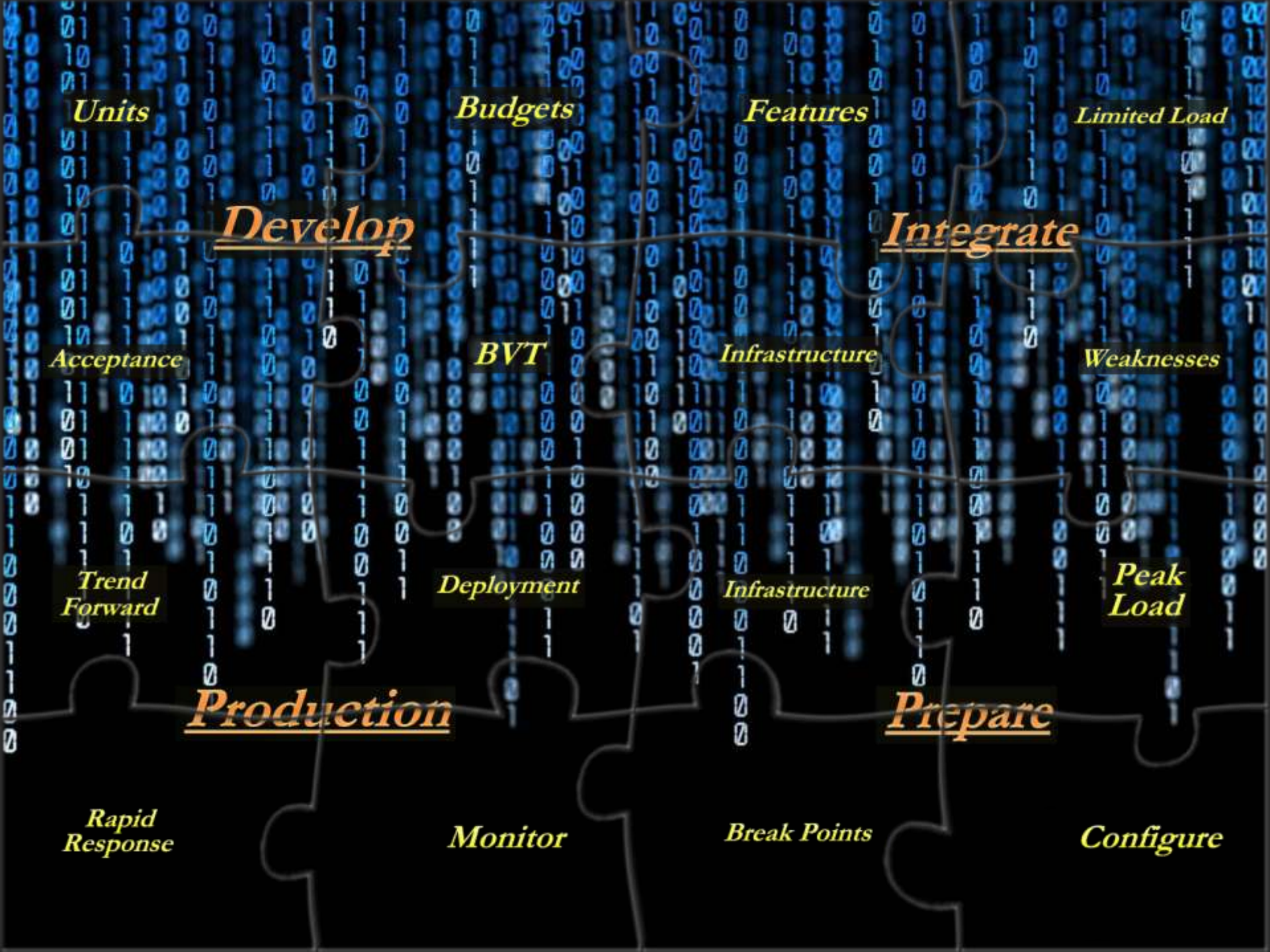
External Integrations

Infrastructure/Tuning

Break Point Identification

Capacity Planning

**Better, but I  
like the puzzle  
analogy!**



*Units*

*Budgets*

*Features*

*Limited Load*

*Develop*

*Integrate*

*Acceptance*

*BVT*

*Infrastructure*

*Weaknesses*

*Trend  
Forward*

*Deployment*

*Infrastructure*

*Peak  
Load*

*Production*

*Prepare*

*Rapid  
Response*

*Monitor*

*Break Points*

*Configure*

**...and your team  
can improve  
performance  
on each puzzle  
piece!**

... with just  
a *little* work...  
*every* day...  
from *every* one.



**Want to  
know how?**

With:



A ***“Test-Driven”*** Application  
Performance Management Model

**Huh?**  
**What's that,**  
**you ask?**

# *The four T's stand for...*

Proactive  
Micro & Macro  
Establish Goals  
Update Targets

Units  
Stories  
Tiers  
Resources  
Goals

Dev & Prod  
Times  
Resources  
Sizes  
Frequencies  
*Dashboard!*

Assess  
Compare  
Investigate  
Accept  
Answer



... and you can  
apply them  
like...

Target

Develop

Integrate

Turn

T4

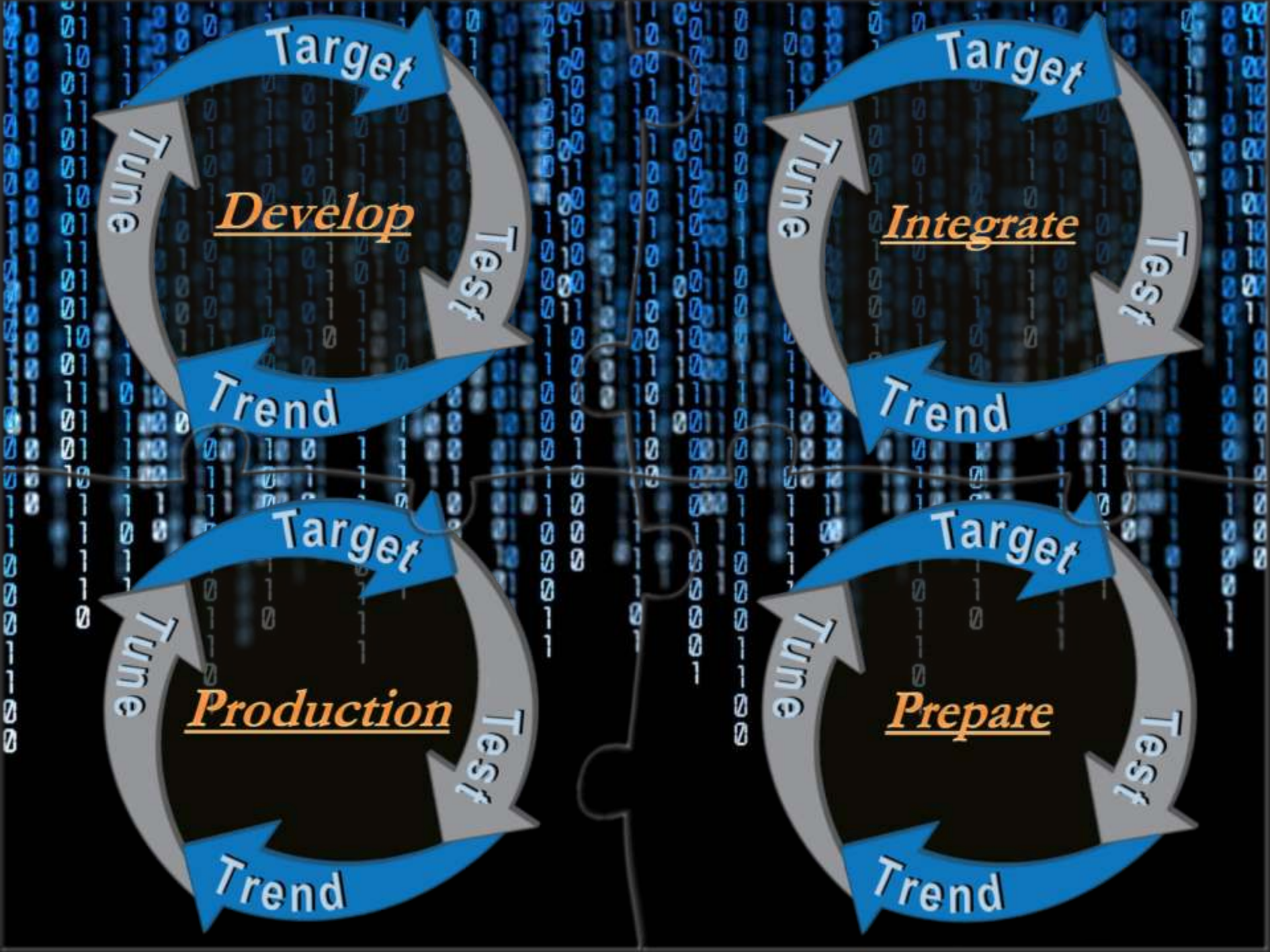
Test

Production

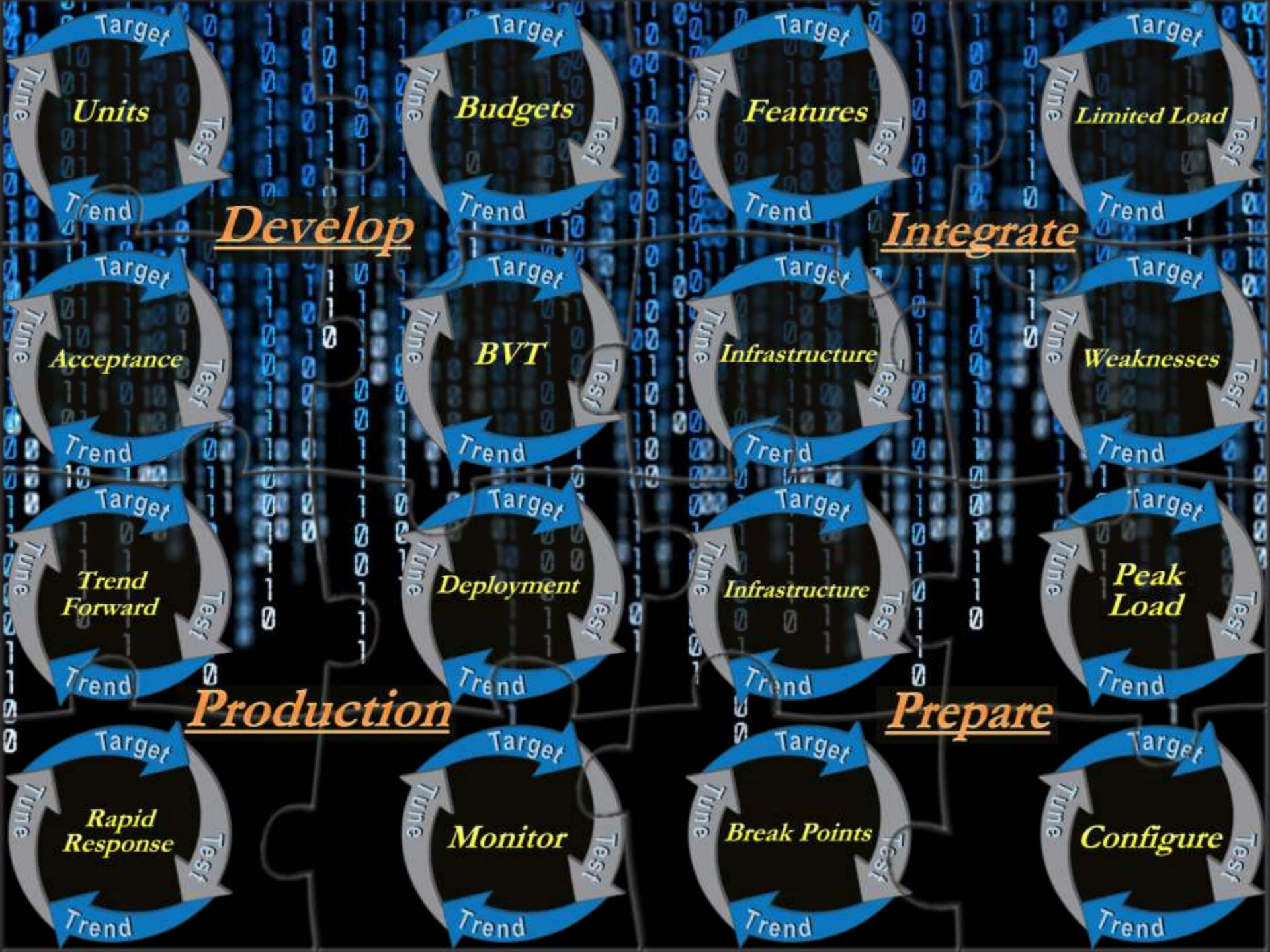
Prepare

Trend

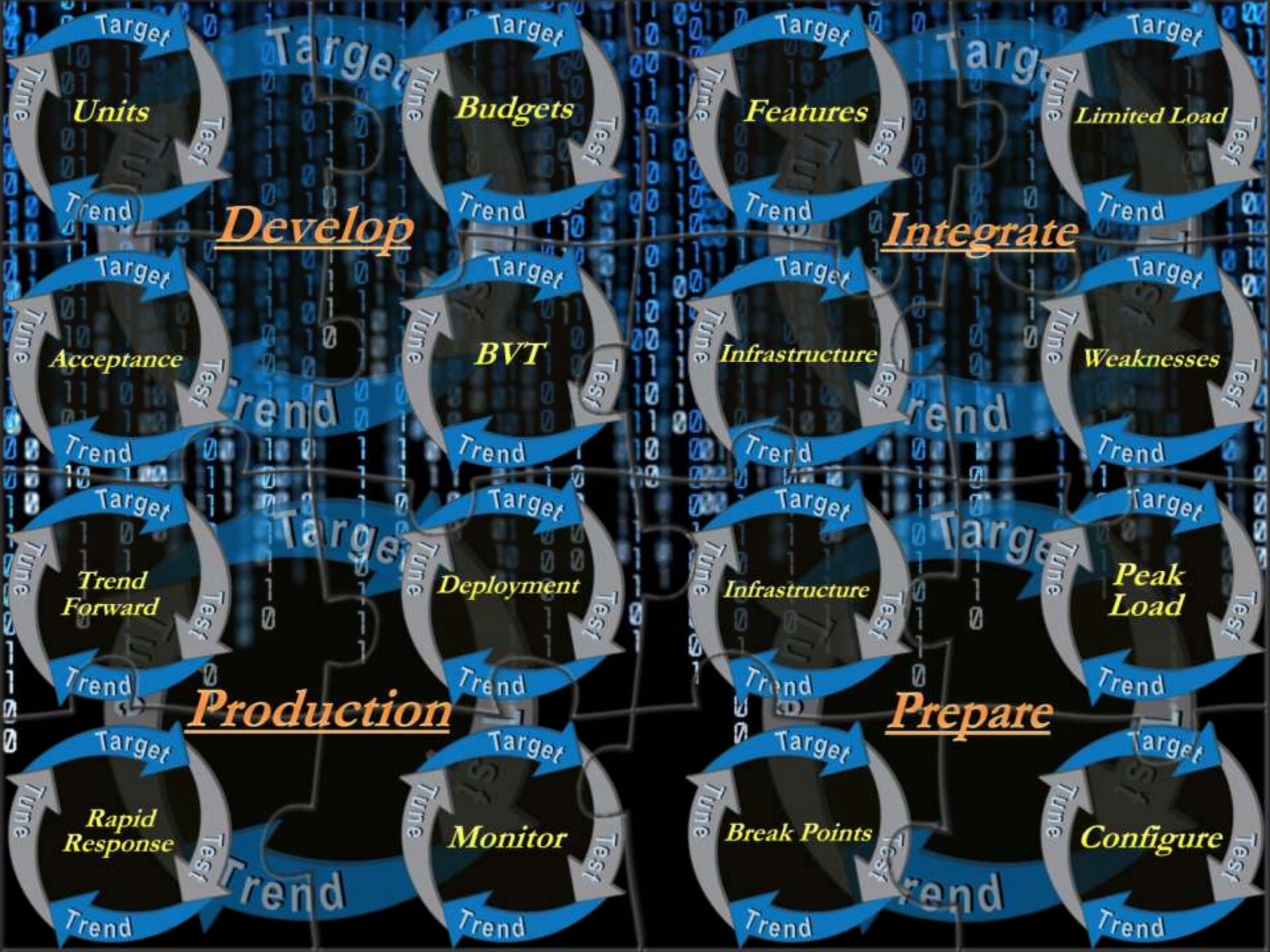
... or ...



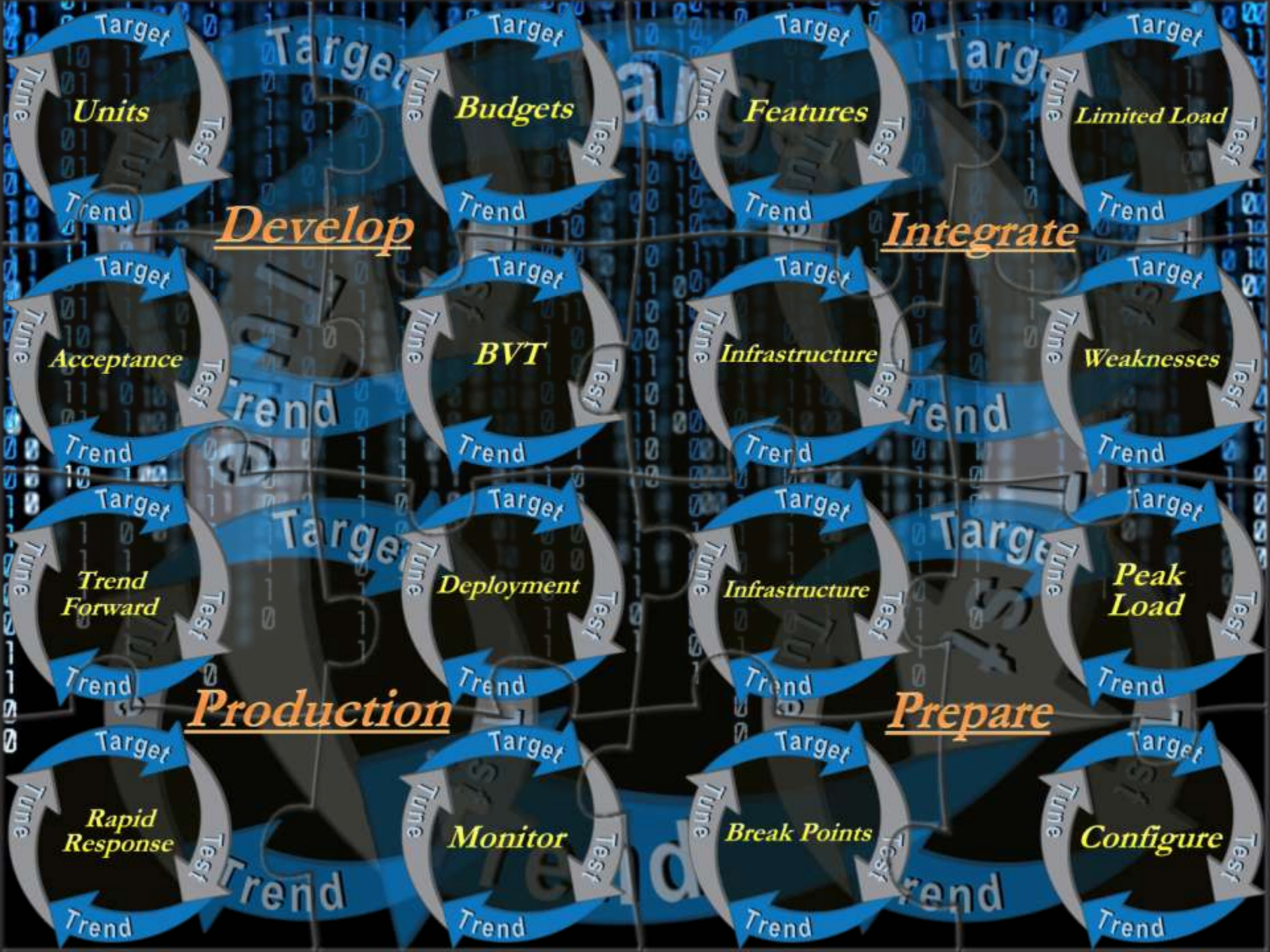
... or ...




... but *and*  
is better ...



... and more  
*ands* are  
even better!





**Let me help  
you convince  
the others...**

# ***Value Proposition***

***A Few Minutes,  
Every Day***

***Minimizes  
Surprises***

***Methodology /  
Tool Agnostic***

***Adapts to  
Current  
Priority or  
Risk***

***Big Visible  
Dashboards***

***No Purchase  
Necessary***

***Simplifies  
Root-Cause  
Analysis***

***Collaborative***



# Challenges

*Some  
Education  
Required*

*Demands  
Discipline*



*Culture  
Change  
is Hard*

*Several  
Cycles  
to Full  
Value*

**For best results  
I recommend  
bundling with...**

# **Rapid Performance Testing**

# Attribution

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***RPT is:***

*Inspired by **Rapid Software Testing***

***Consistent with Rapid Software Testing themes***

***Sanctioned by James Bach, Michael Bolton & the RST instructors to as a specific implementation of the Rapid Testing Methodology***

***For more information about RST, visit:***

***[http://www.satisfice.com/info\\_rst.shtml](http://www.satisfice.com/info_rst.shtml)***



# Evolved from:

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*“What have we **got**?  
What do we **want**?  
**How** do we get there...?”*

*--Bob Barber (Scott's dad)*

*... as **quickly, simply, and**  
**cheaply** as possible?*

*--Addendum added by: Scott Barber*



# Which is...

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*...a common man's way of expressing the **problem solving approach** that classical engineers employ.*

- **Given:** *“What have we got?”*
- **Find:** *“What do we want?”*
- **Solve:** *“How do we get there?”*

# Premise

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## *Value Begins with Clear Objectives*

What **value** do we hope to gain?

*RPT questions are often **not** known requirements, goals, thresholds, or constraints*

Value should be the **main driver** behind performance test design and planning

*RPT questions often indicate the true **priorities** of stakeholders*

*RPT answers will frequently **override requirements** in “go-live” decisions*

# What is it?

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*An approach to respond to a specific performance-related question after 4 or fewer hours of team effort with 1 or more of:*

*A) The answer*

*B) A partial answer*

- To determine the value of additional effort*
- The level of effort to provide the answer*

*C) Better questions to address the underlying concern*

# Conceptual Approach

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## 1. *Receive Question*

- *Clarify the question*
- *Understand the driver(s) behind the question*

## 2. *Generate Test Coverage Outline (TCO) (~20 min)*

- *Simplest path to (partial) answer(s)*
- *Comprehensive path to (partial) answer(s)*

## 3. *Transform TCO into Rapid Strategy (~20 min)*

- *Only tasks that fit in time box*
- *Stick to tasks requiring available resources*

# Conceptual Approach

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## 1. *Execute Strategy (~2.5 hrs)*

- *Snapshots are your friends*
- *Anecdotal is sufficient*

## 2. *Consolidate/Analyze Data (~30 min)*

- *Identify patterns*
- *Confirm patterns (time permitting)*

## 3. *Report Results (~20 min)*

- *Answer(s)*
- *Time/Effort to answer(s)*
- *Follow-on questions of interest*

... and with...



# *Heuristic Load Testing*



# Load Testing Principles

## Context

Project context is central to successful testing.

## Criteria

Business, project, system, & user success criteria.

## Design

Identify system usage, and key metrics; plan and design tests.

## Instrument

Install and prepare environment, tools, & resource monitors.

## Script

Script the tests as designed.

## Execute

Run and monitor tests. Validate tests, test data, and results.

## Analyze

Analyze the data individually and as a cross-functional team.

## Report

Consolidate and share results, customized by audience.

## Iterate

"Lather, rinse, repeat" as necessary.



**In other words...**



APM<sup>TM</sup>



+



=>

***A Practical & Holistic  
Approach for Achieving  
Fast & Scalable Systems***

# ***Footnote:***

**These slides have  
been posted at.**

# Questions?





Preventing Poor Performance with  
a *little* work...  
*every* day...  
from *every* one.

**[http://wiki.perftestplus.com/  
dokuwiki/doku.php?id=atd:atd2012](http://wiki.perftestplus.com/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=atd:atd2012)**

# Contact Info

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# Review & Questions

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Did we learn anything?



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Please evaluate my  
presentation by using the  
evaluation booklets which  
you can find in your  
conference bag.

Thank you!