

May The Odds Be Ever In Your Favour

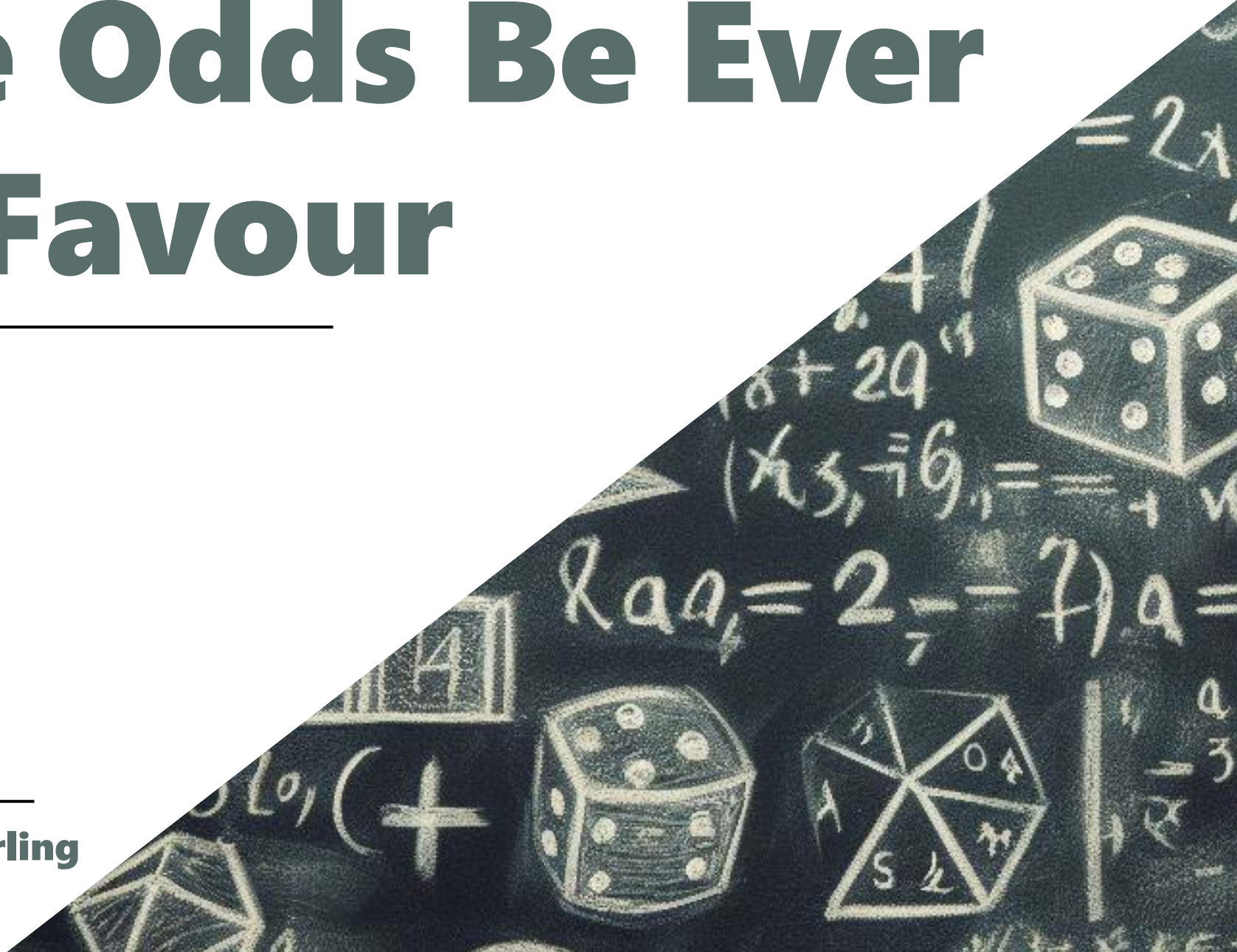
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May 2024

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HARRY POTTER FANS: I WANNA GO TO HOGWARTS!
NARNIA FANS: I WANNA GO TO NARNIA!

HUNGER GAMES FANS: I'M GOOD

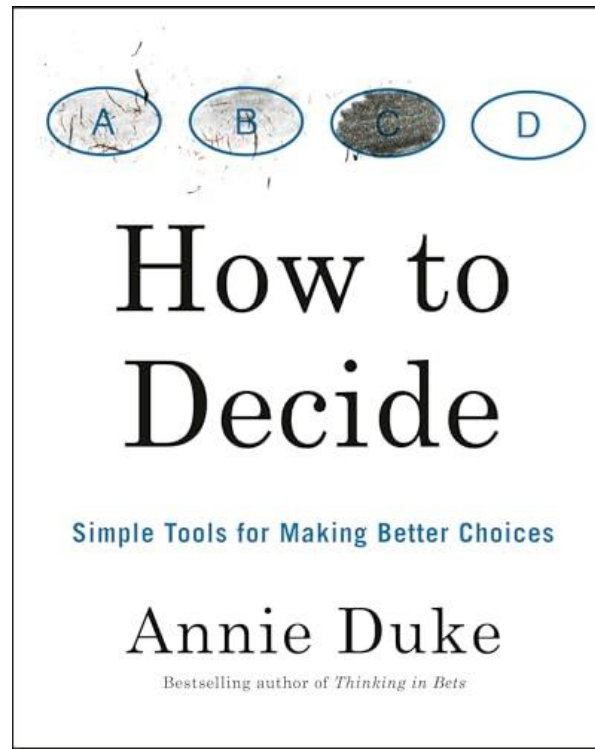




“There are only two things that determine how your life turns out: luck and the quality of your decisions.

You have control over only one of those two things.”

Annie Duke



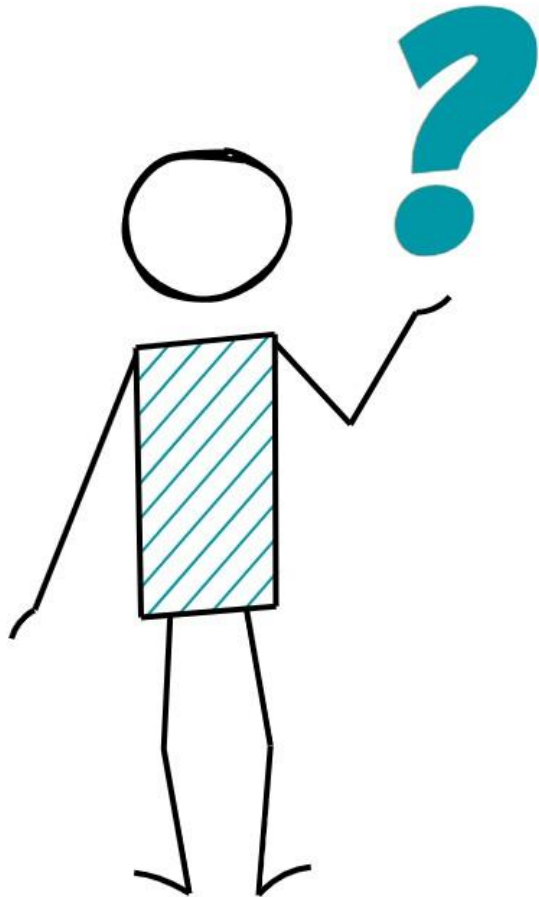


Constantly Forking

“I refuse to answer that question on the grounds that I don't know the answer.”

Douglas Adams

How Do We Start to Stack The Odds In Our Favour?



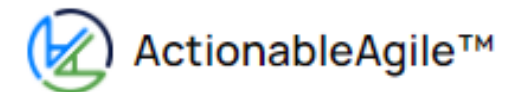
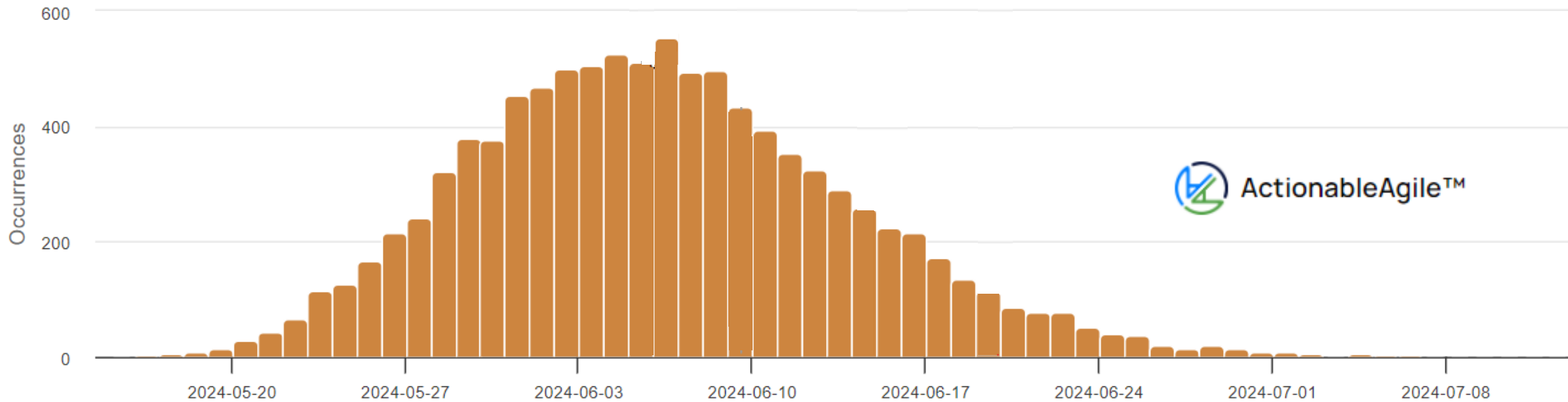
- Software Delivery is not just one decision
- New information = new opportunity
- Probabilistic > Deterministic

Thinking Probabilistically

Monte Carlo Simulations give us the ability to run thousands simulations over our past data to collate a series of possible futures based on what we know today.

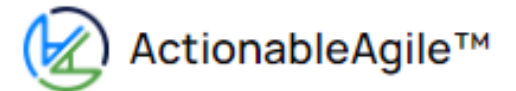
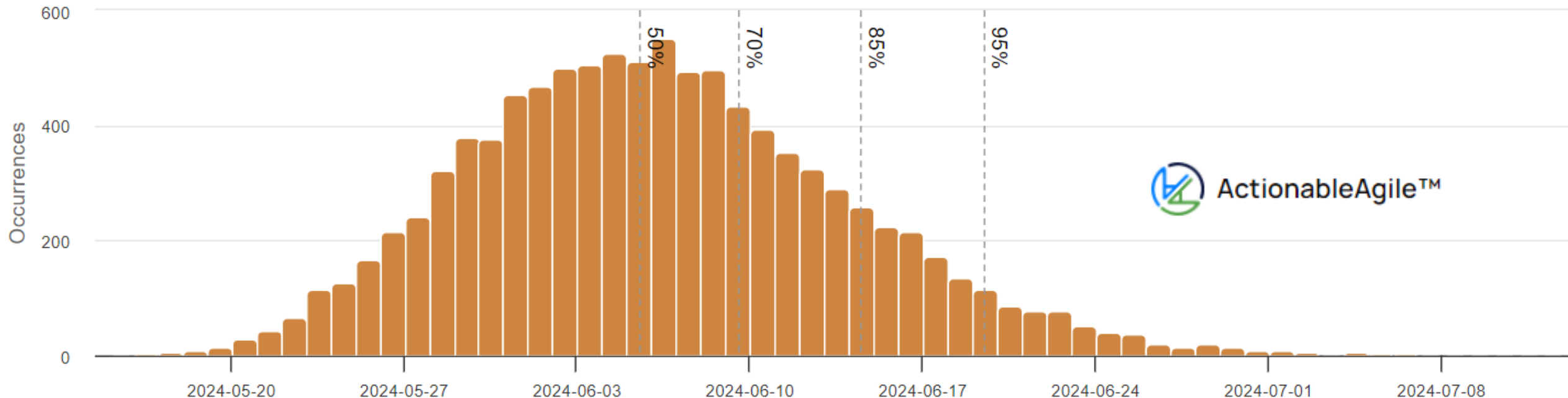
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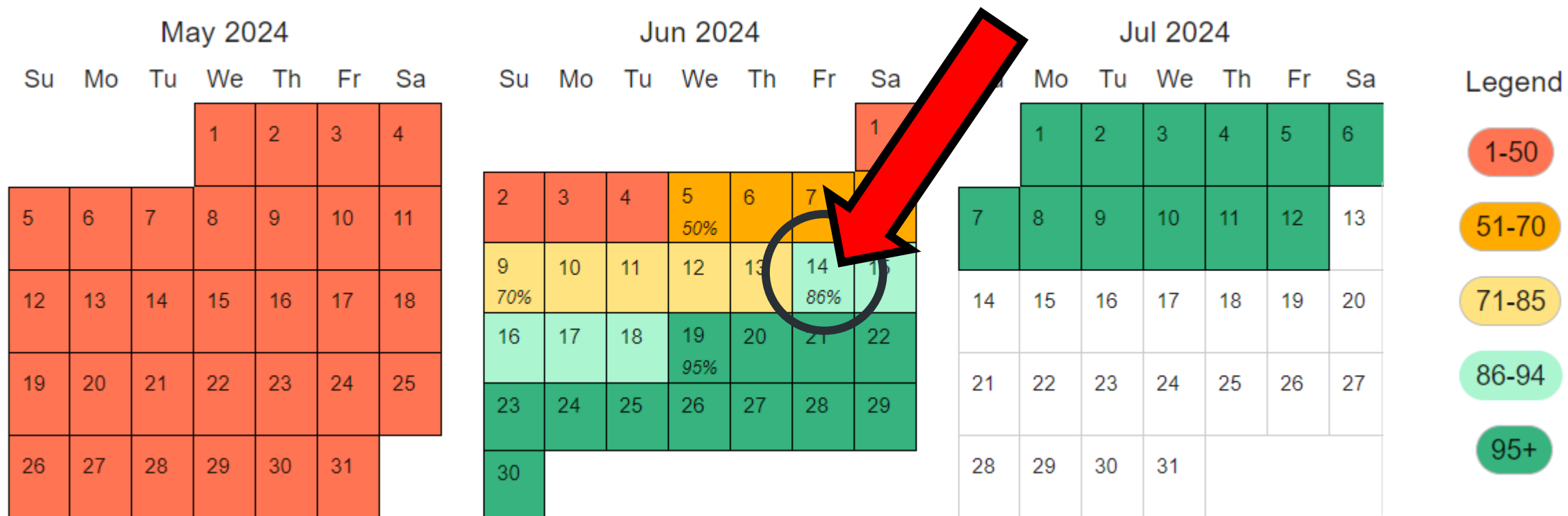


Thinking Probabilistically

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Probability & Range

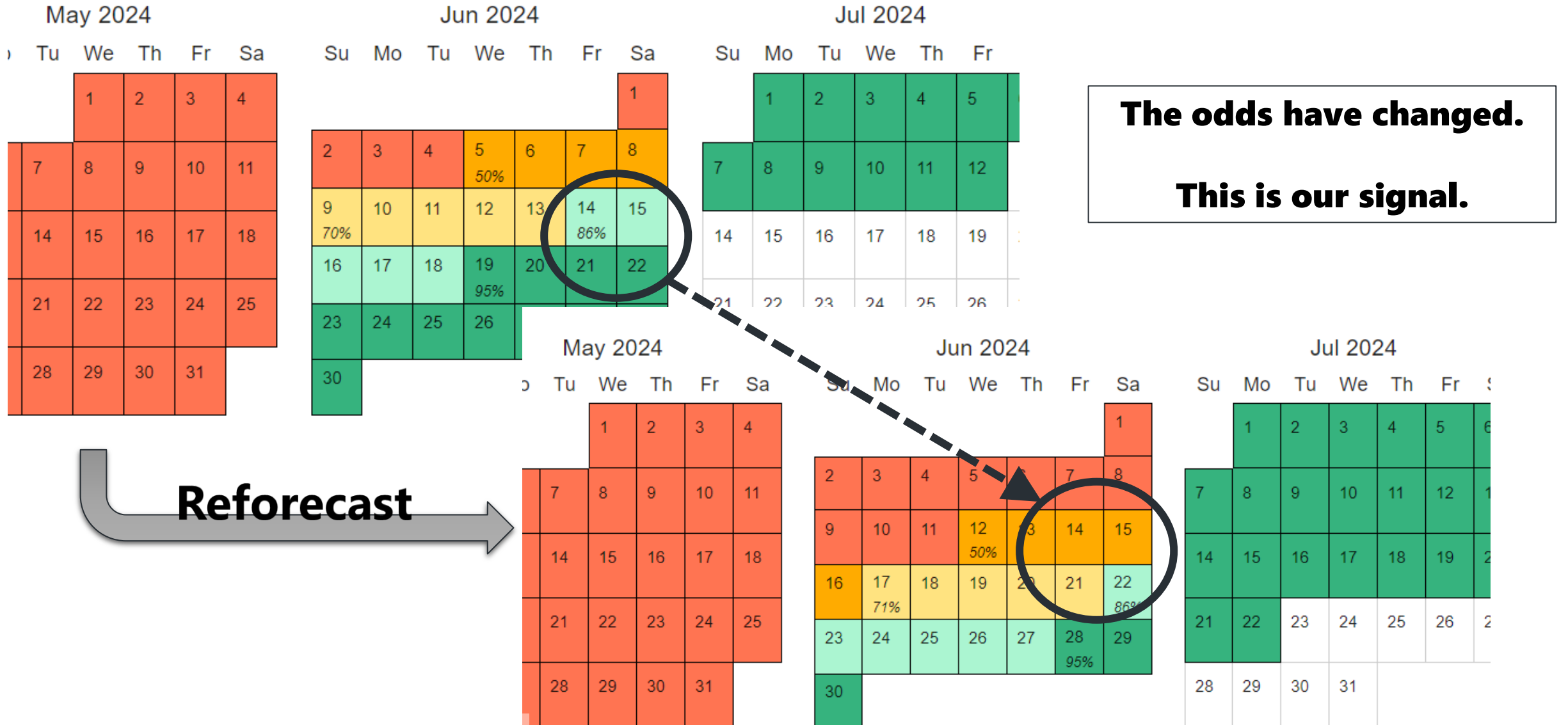


% chance ON OR BEFORE a date



Improbable
≠
Impossible

Continuous Forecasting





“Holding onto comforting lies only helps us sink”

Fluke, Brian Klaas



Let's Go Shopping...



Hit 3 red lights in a row

Traffic

Slow checkout staff

Unexpected Road Block

Queues at the checkout

Traffic Accident

Forgotten Wallet

Pulled over for speeding

Go off-list as distracted by bargains!

Wobbly Trolley

Flat Tyre

An item you want is not in stock

Card Declined

Bump into someone you know

Forgotten ID

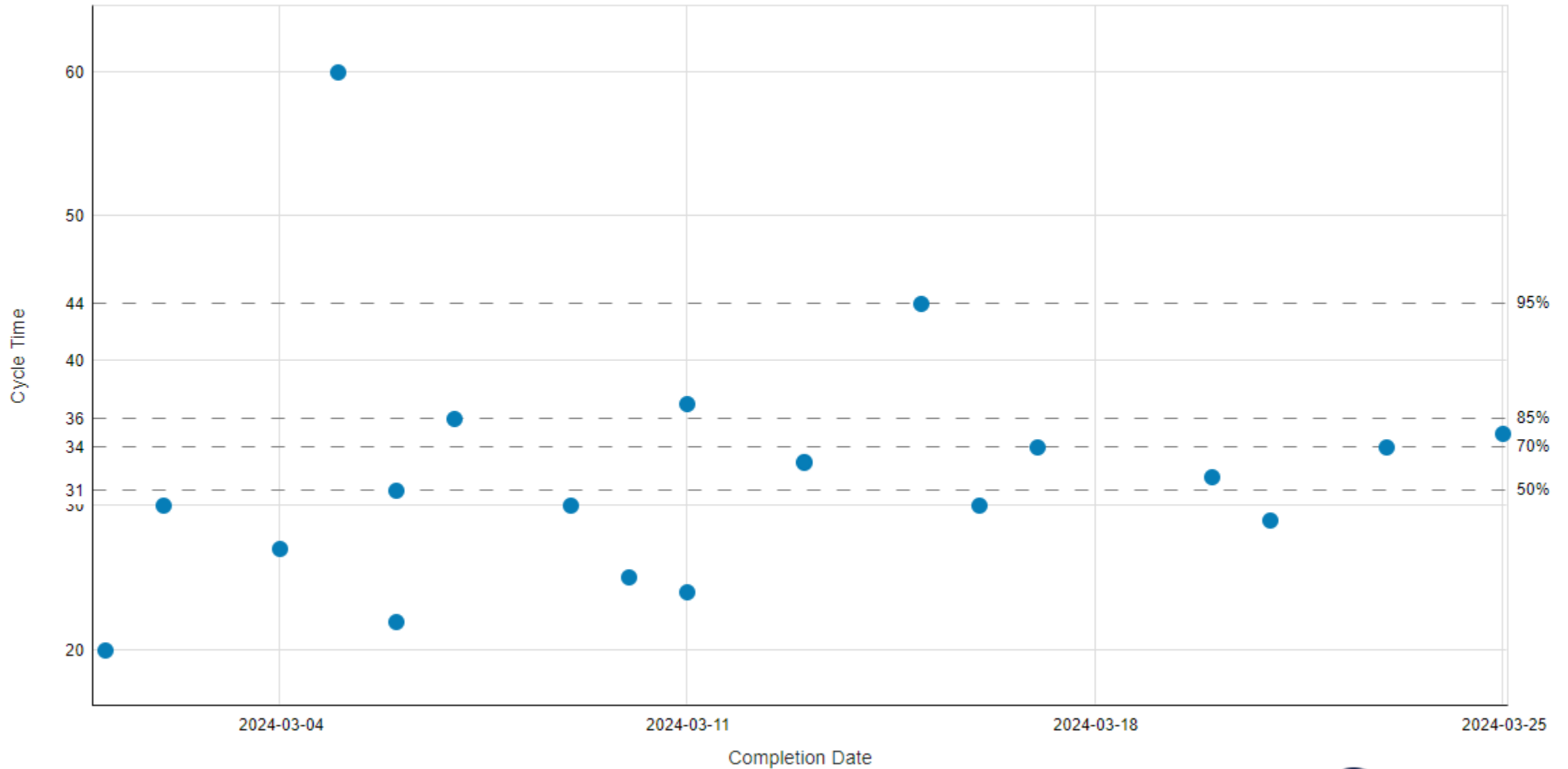
Changed layout in supermarket

Number of other customers in the shop

Forget an important item and need to go back after checking out once

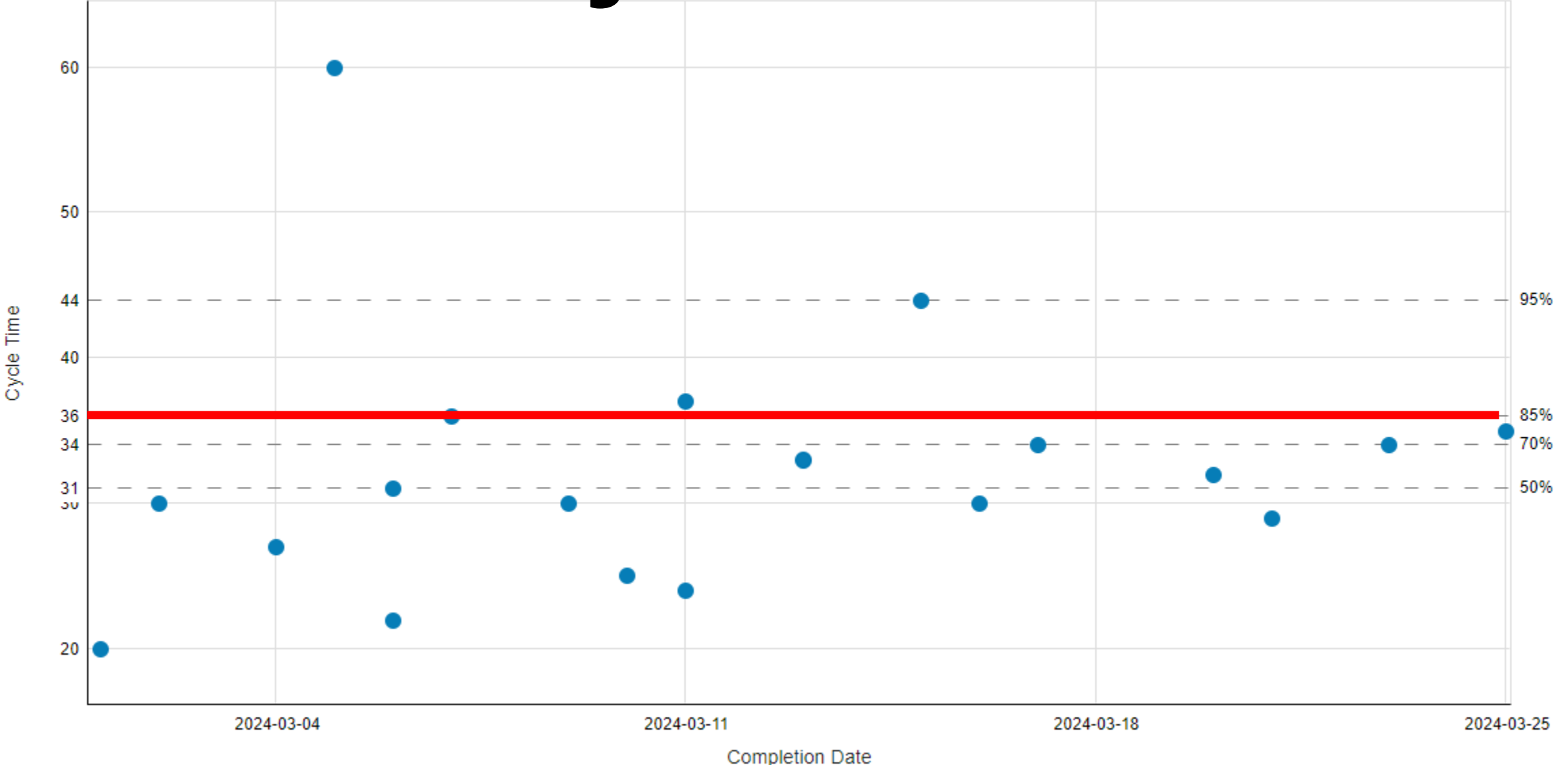
Bag holding goods splits in car park

Last 20 Shopping Trips

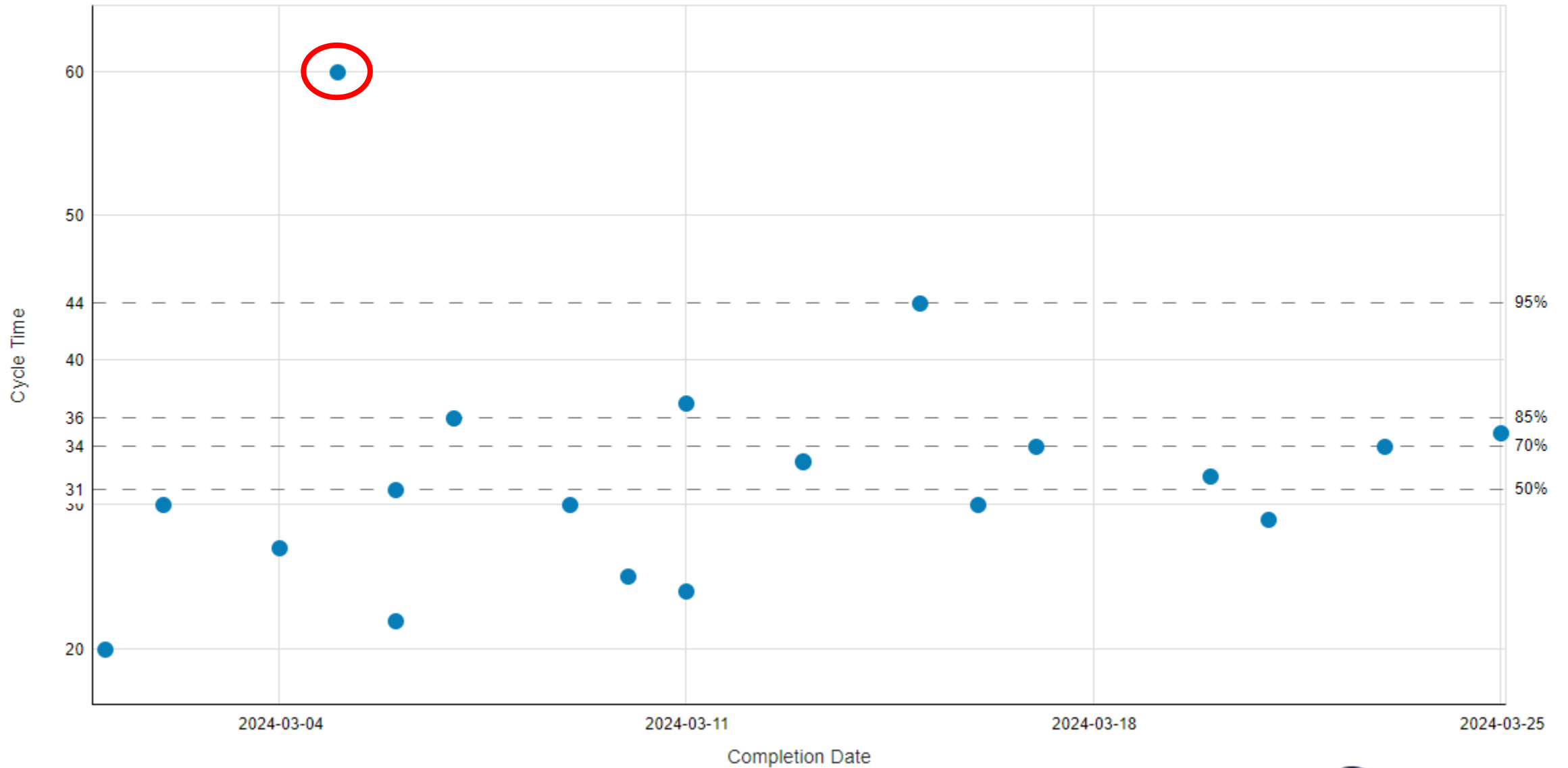


85% Chance of a Trip taking 36 mins or less

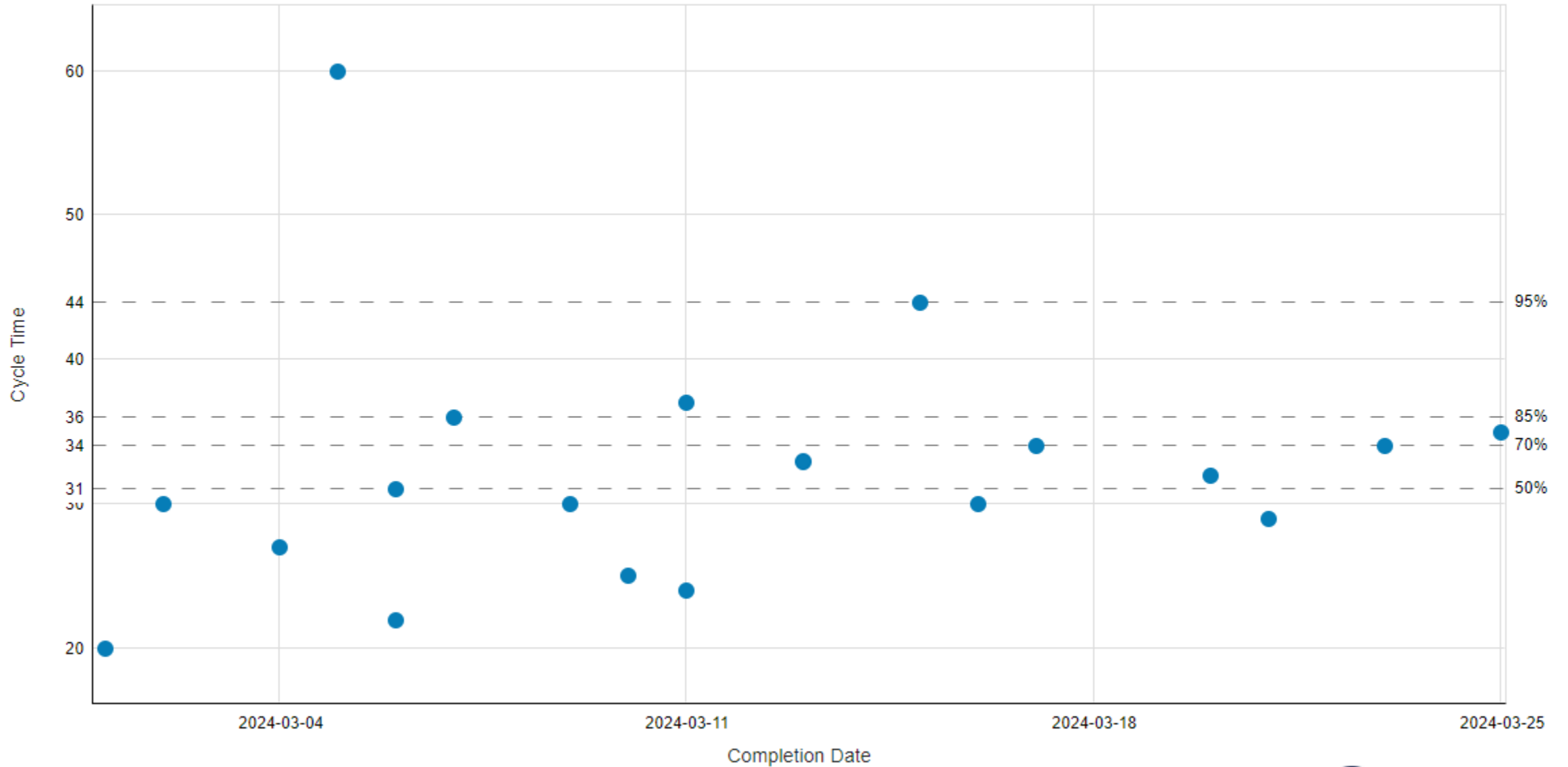
Single Item Forecast



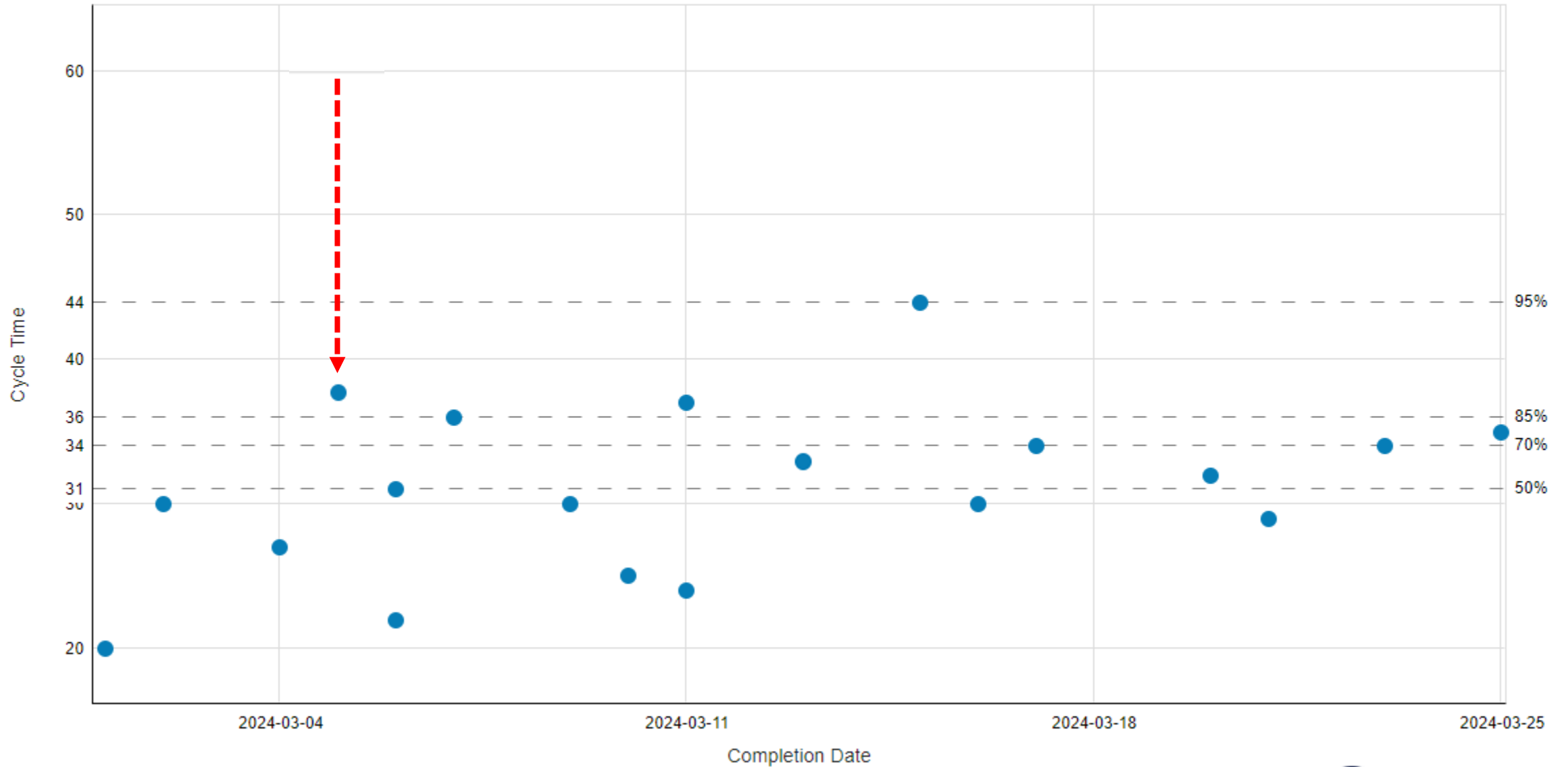
"The data has outliers..."



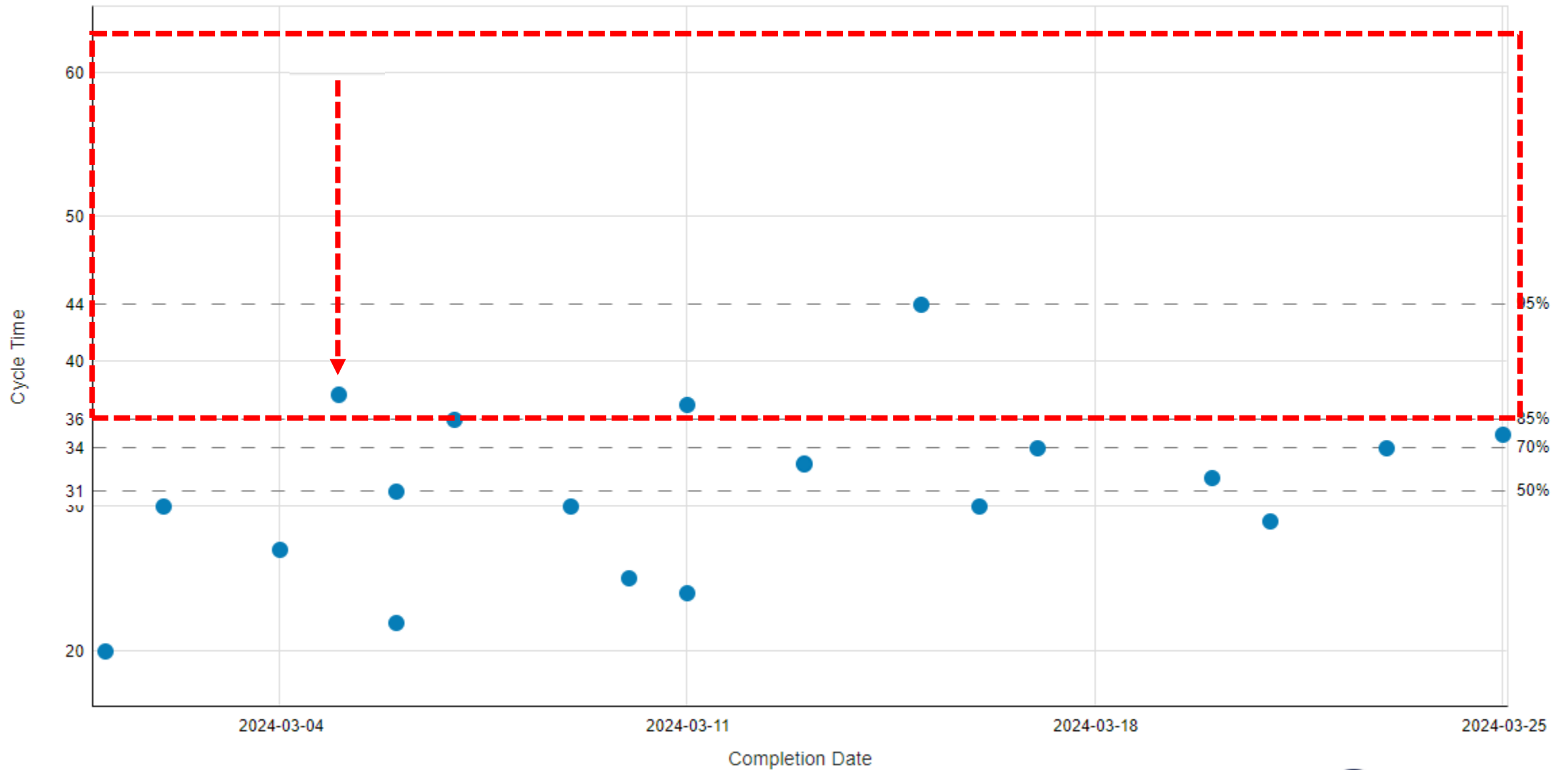
It Doesn't Make Our Data Invalid



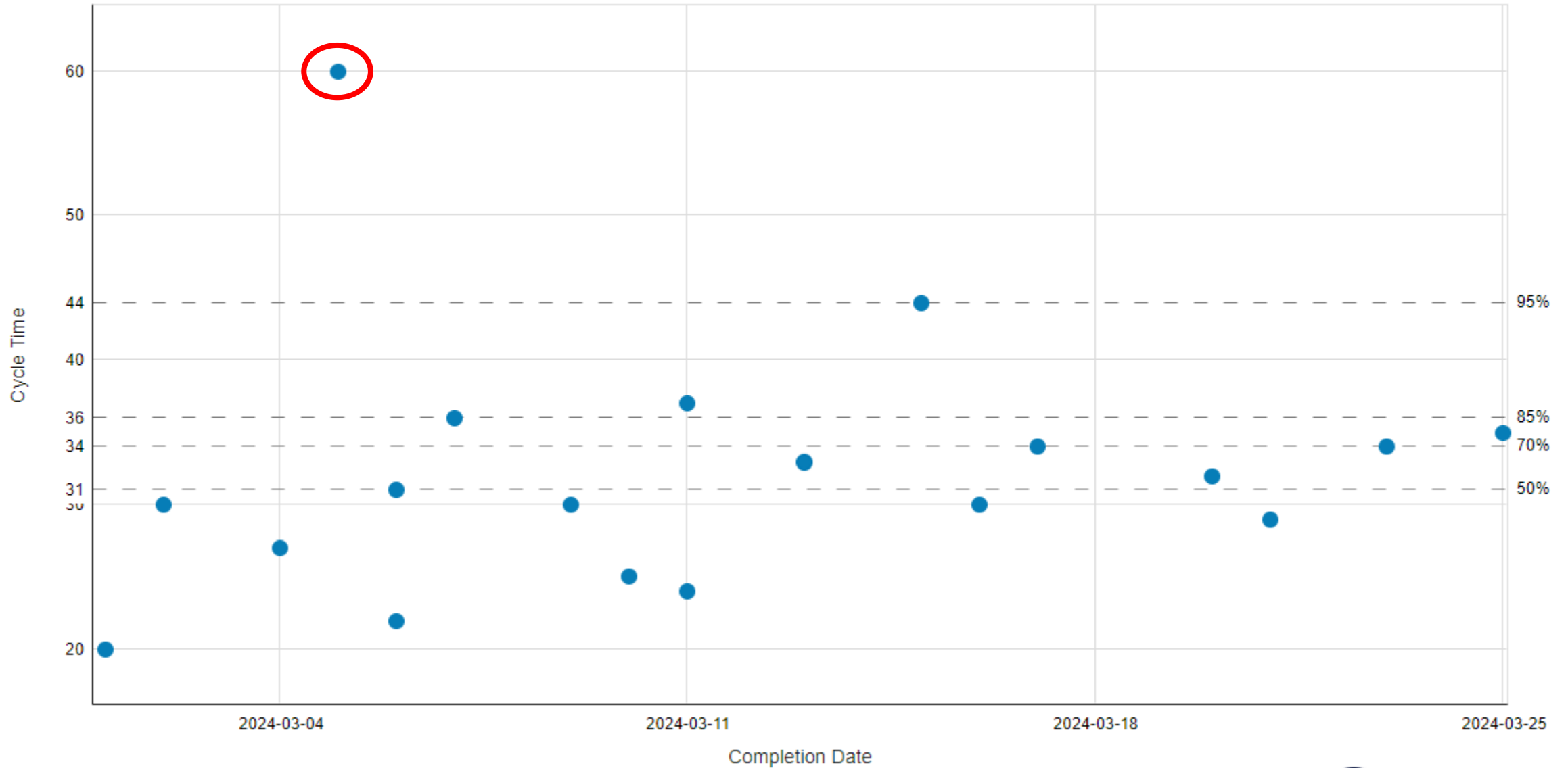
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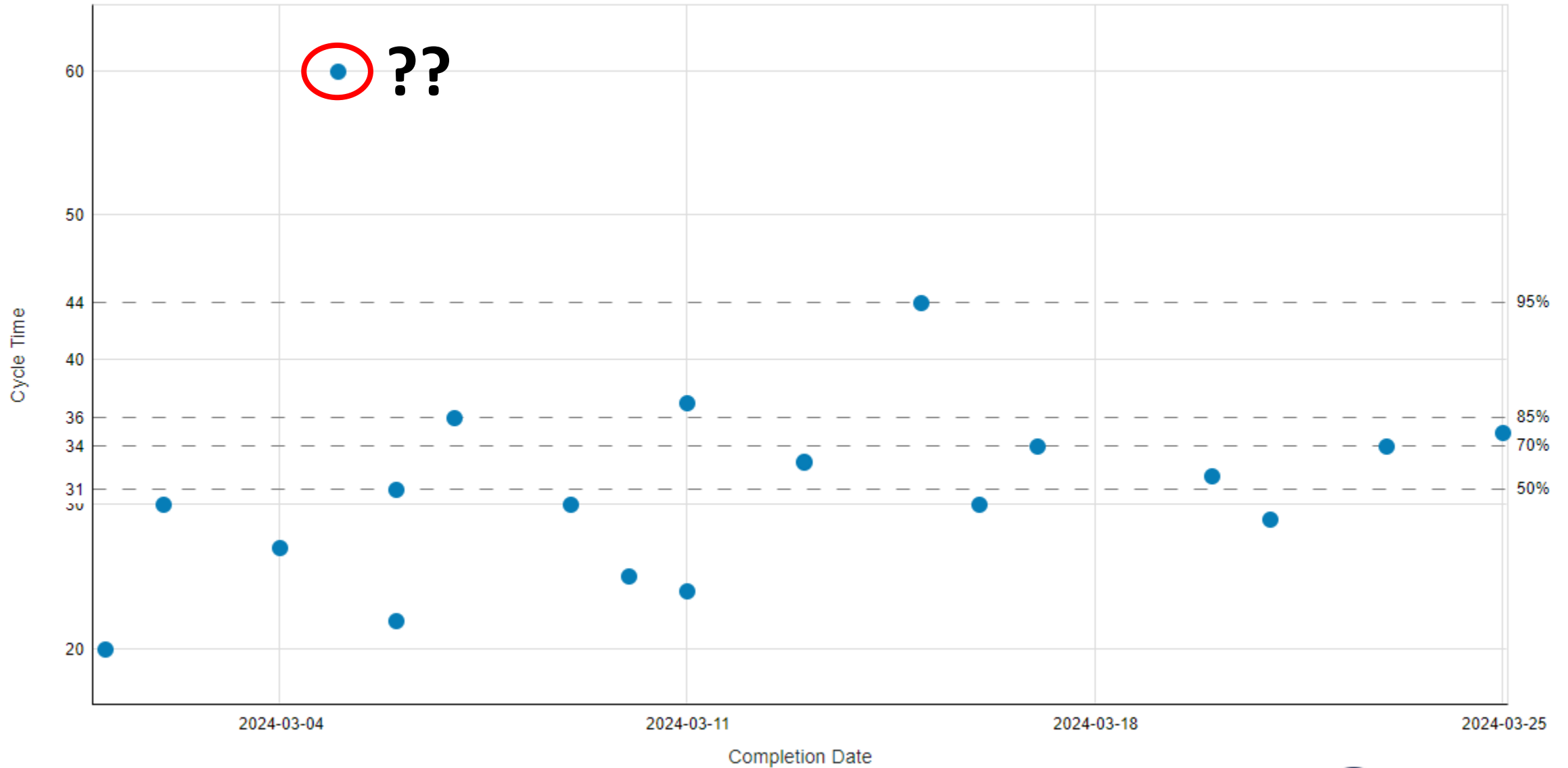
It Doesn't Make Our Data Invalid



It Gives Us a Signal



Understand the Cause



Why Is It Important?



Schrodinger's Work Item

An active item in our system represents both
potential value and **waste**
...until we deliver it, we do not know



****no cats were injured in the creation of this slide****

Stick, Twist or Fold?

Keep delivering as planned

Pivot based to more value

Stop due to lack of value

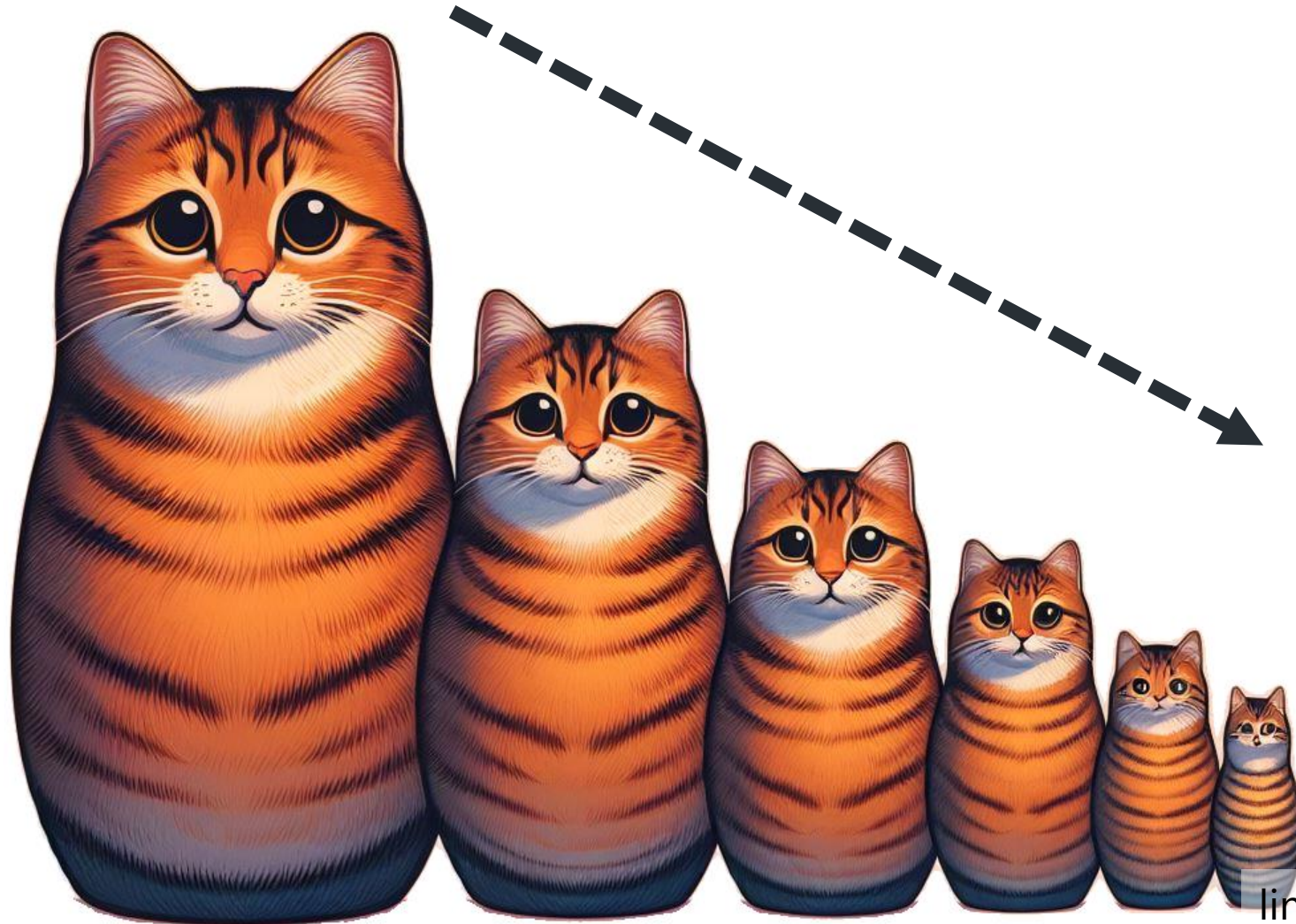


How Do We Stop Unnecessary Aging?

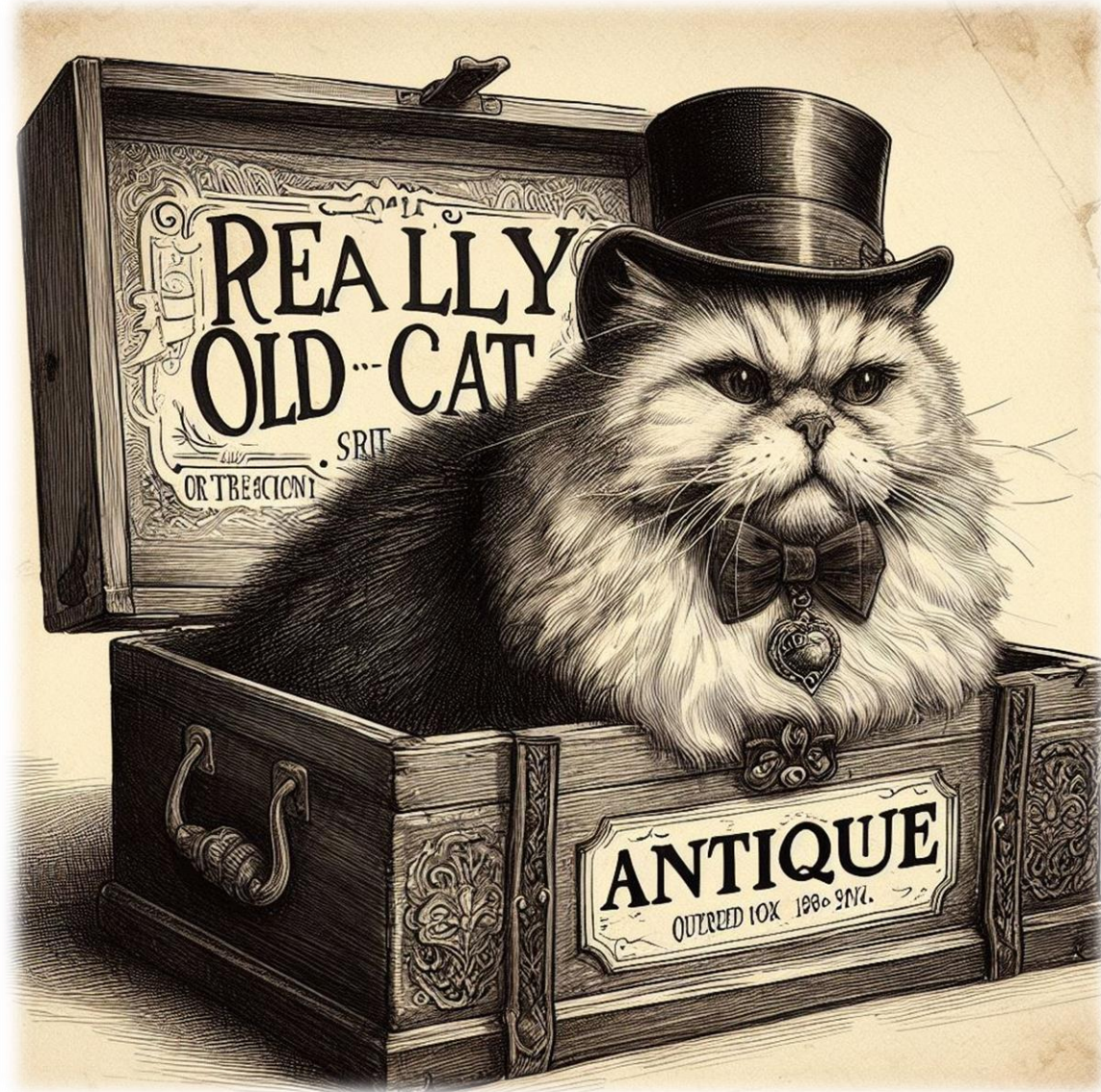
Control Your Work In Progress



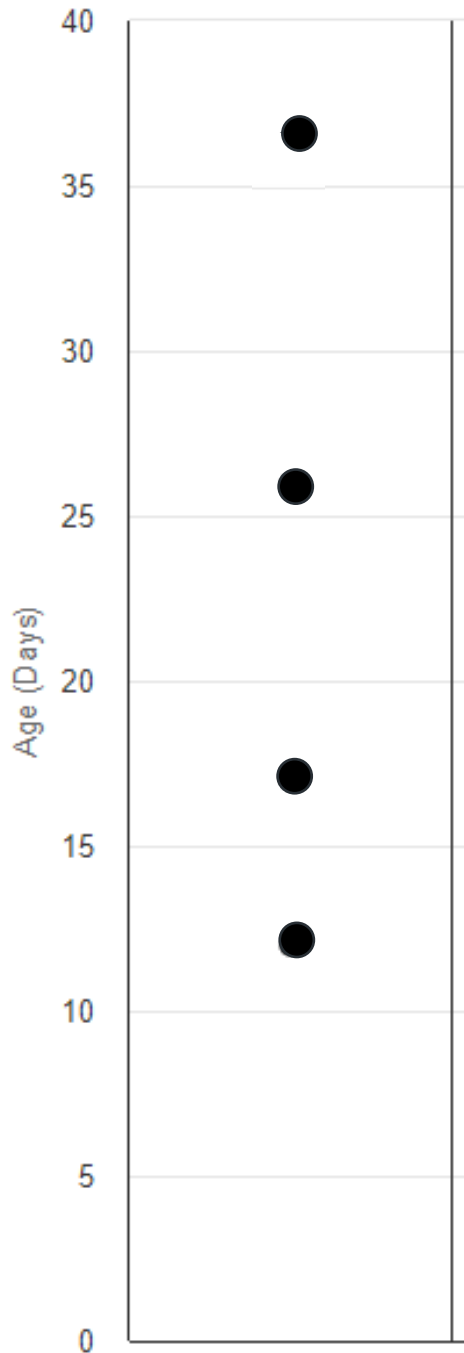
Make Your Work Items Small



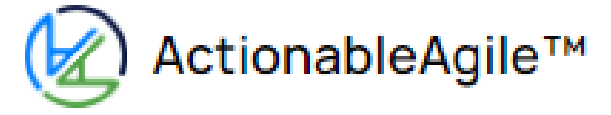
Take Action On Your Aging Items



WIP: 6

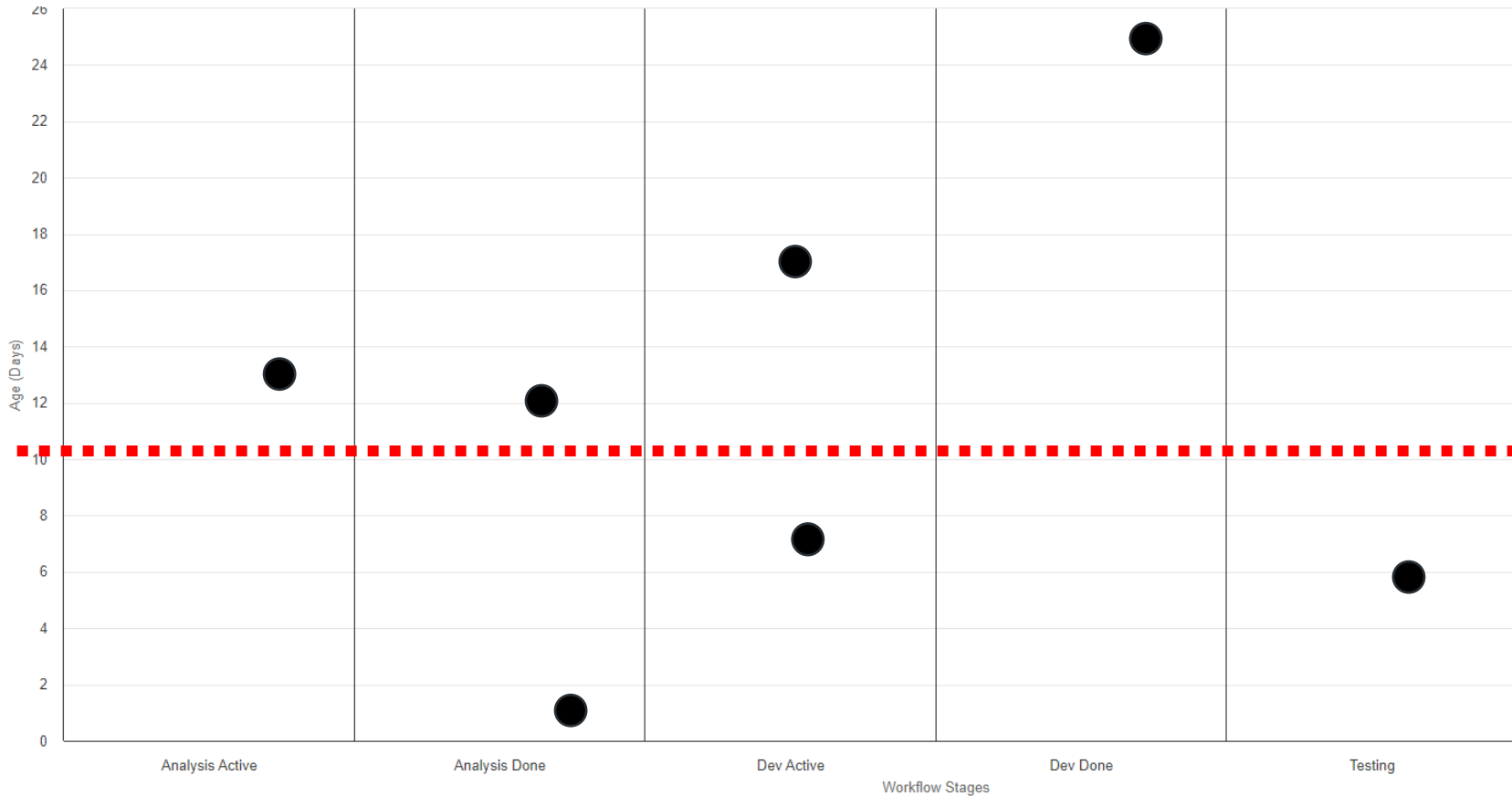


Aging Chart

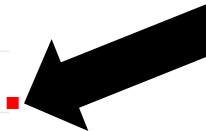


- Work Items that are started but not finished
- How old each work item is
- Can be done at multiple levels of work item

Aging Chart

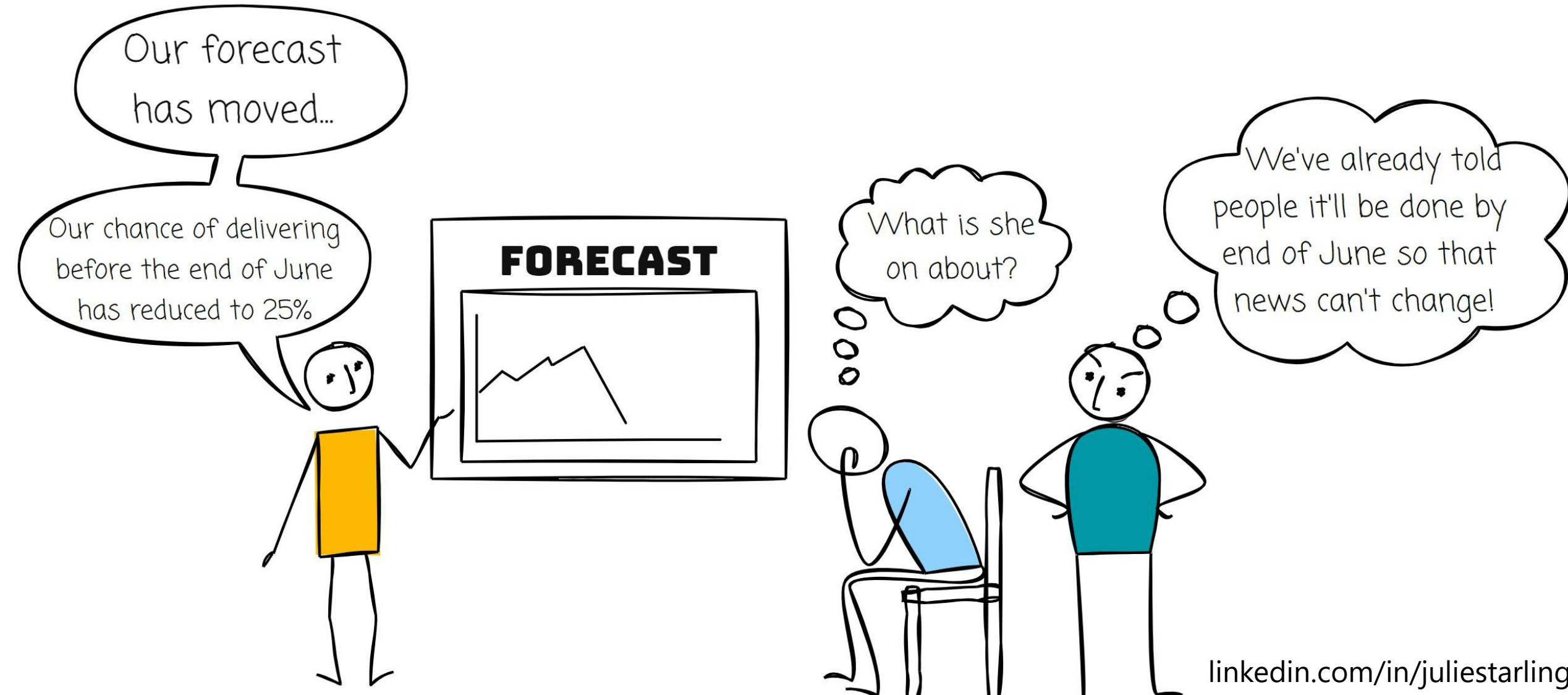


Service Level
Expectation
overlayed helps us
know when to take
action



“The single biggest problem with communication is the illusion that it has taken place”

George Bernard Shaw



“Our desire to reach into the future will always exceed our grasp”

Superforecasting (Philip Tetlock & Dan Gardner)



<https://eu.wickedlocal.com/story/cohasset-mariner/2016/12/15/massive-raccoon-threatens-couple-in/64688965007/>

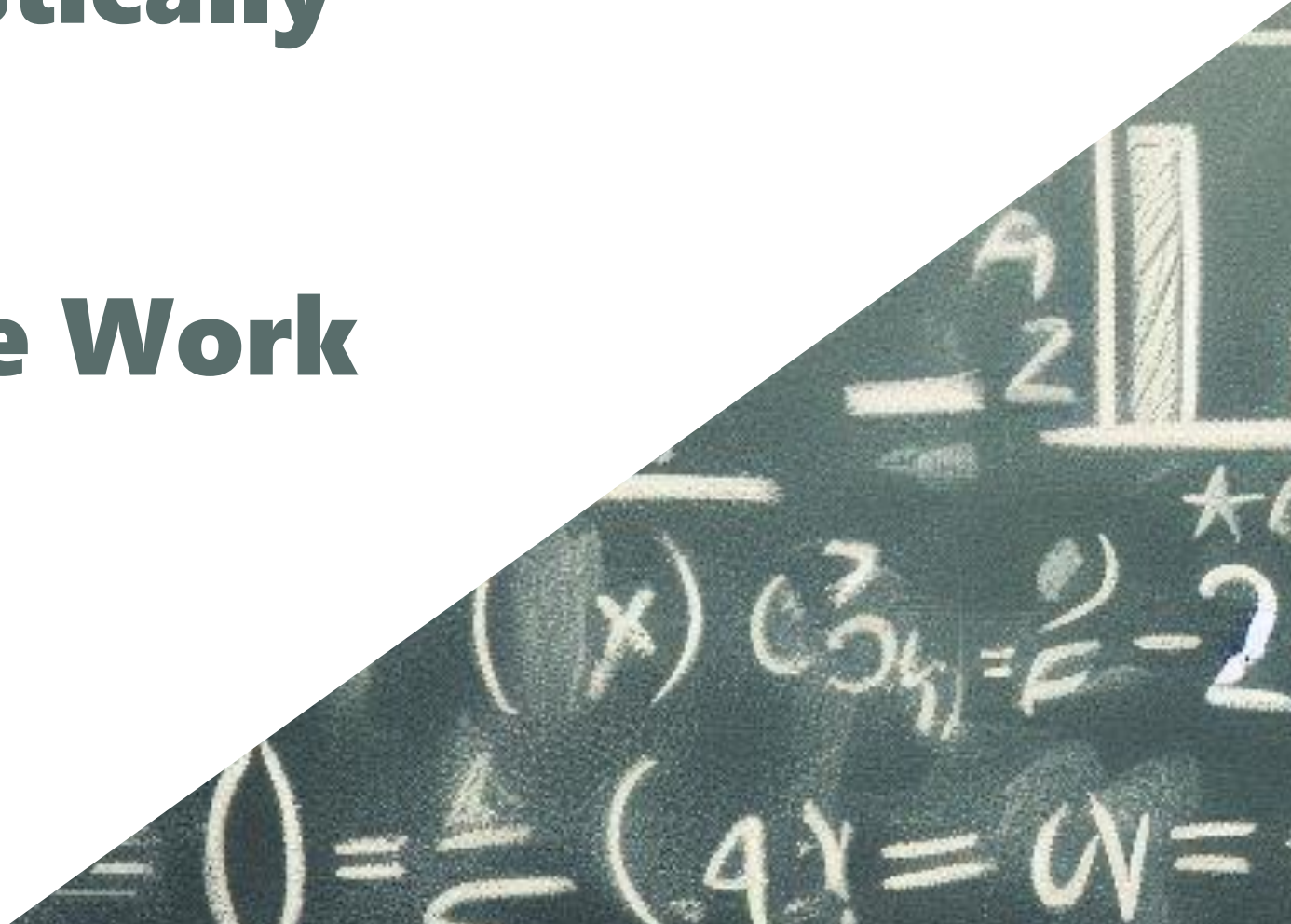
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Be Part of the Revolution Against Deterministic Thinking!



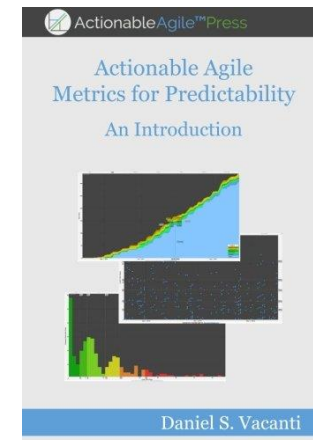
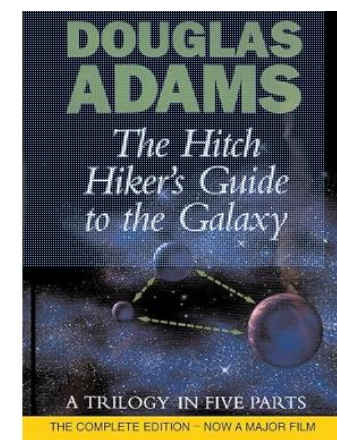
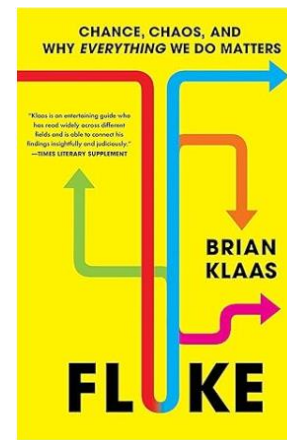
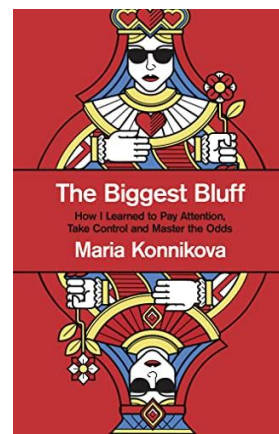
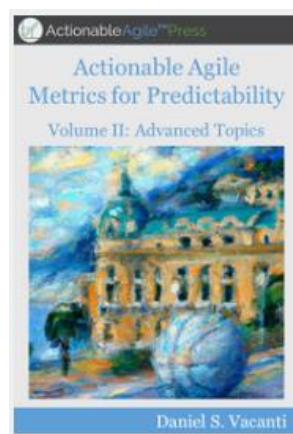
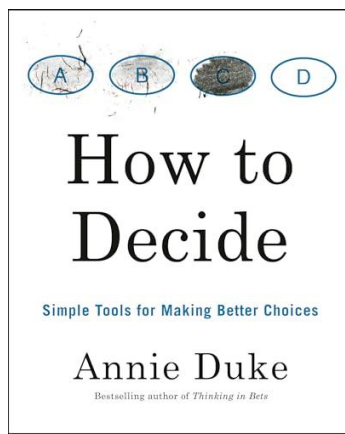
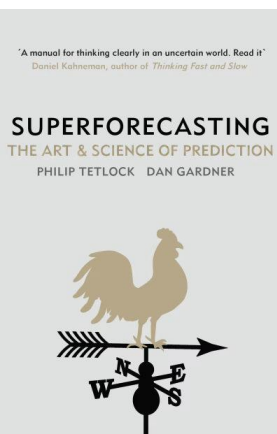
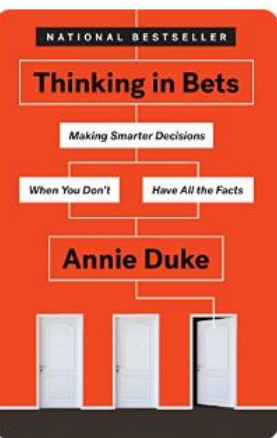
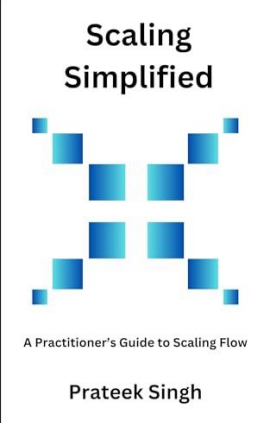
Stack the Odds In Your Favour

- **Think Probabilistically**
- **Signal Driven**
- **Actively Manage Work**
- **Communicate**



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Thank You!

Julie Starling Lean Agile London May 2024

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