

Agile Methodologies in a Large Tech Company: The Bloomberg Way

Engineering

Bloomberg

Università degli Studi di Milano
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Software Engineer

TechAtBloomberg.com

Outline

- Bloomberg
- BloombergNEF
- How we do Agile
 - Workflow before Agile
 - Key roles
 - Key meetings
 - Process
- We're hiring!
- Q & A

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- ~ 20.000 employees in 167 locations
- ~ 6.000 software engineers
- ~ 325.000 Terminal subscriptions sold
- ~ 100B market data messages processed daily
- ~ 800M email messages daily
- ~ 20M daily chat messages delivered
- More than 57M unique monthly visitors on Bloomberg.com and our mobile apps

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Bloomberg Philanthropies





BloombergNEF

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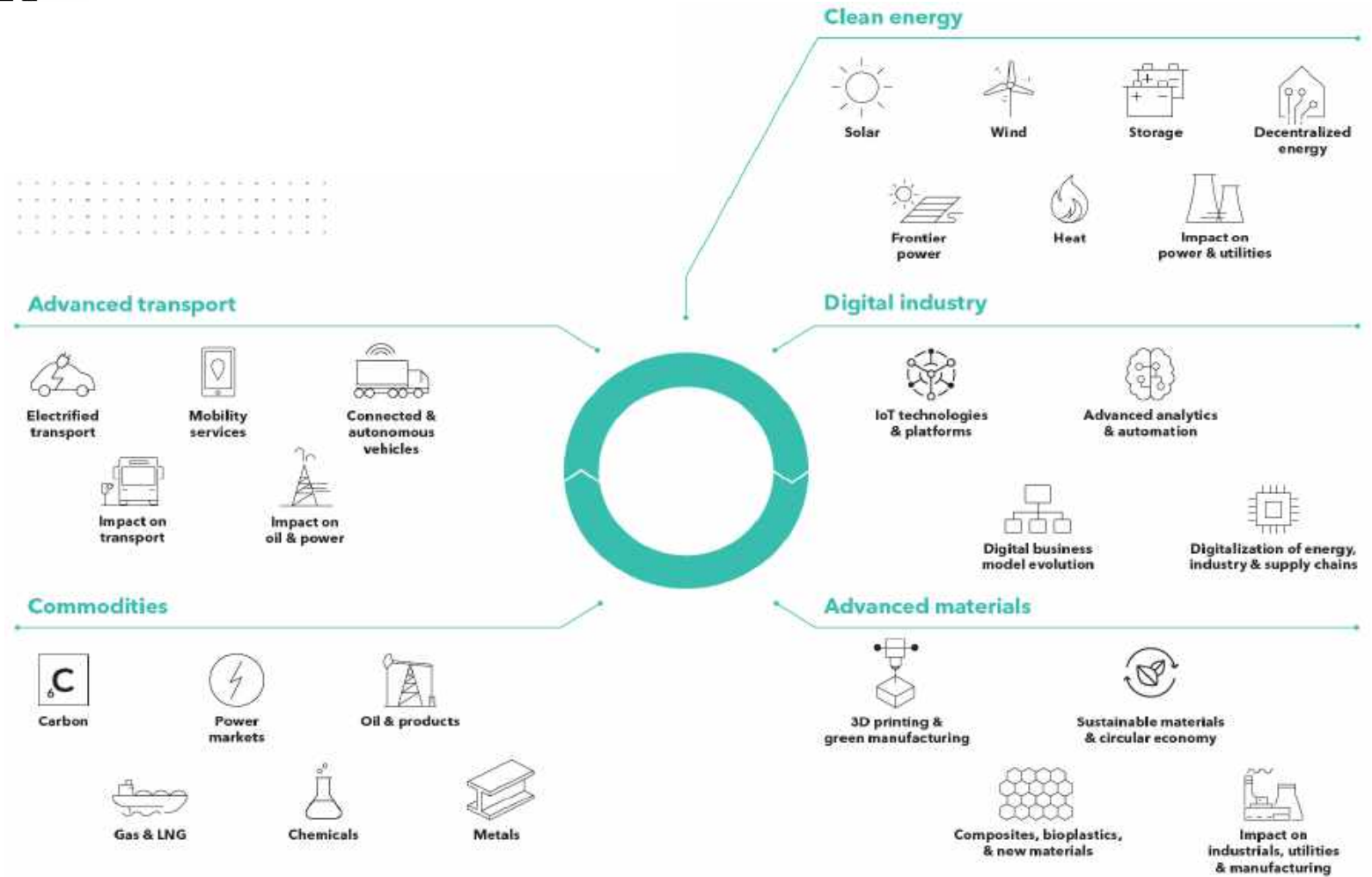
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BloombergNEF

BloombergNEF provides independent analysis and insights on disruptive technologies enabling decision-makers to navigate change in a rapidly evolving economy



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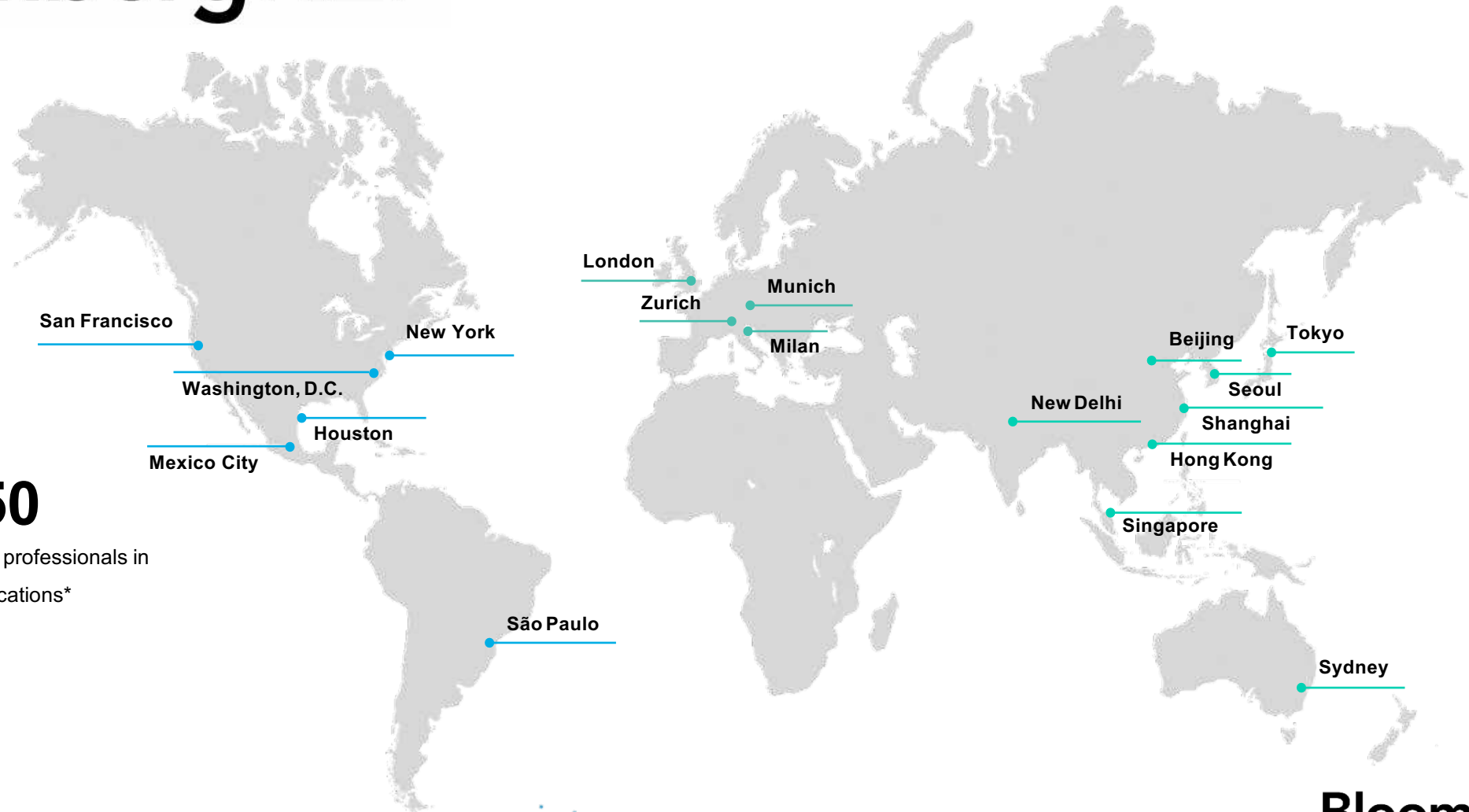
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BloombergNEF

250

BNEF professionals in
18 locations*

* Part of the Bloomberg LP network of
20,000 employees in 167 locations



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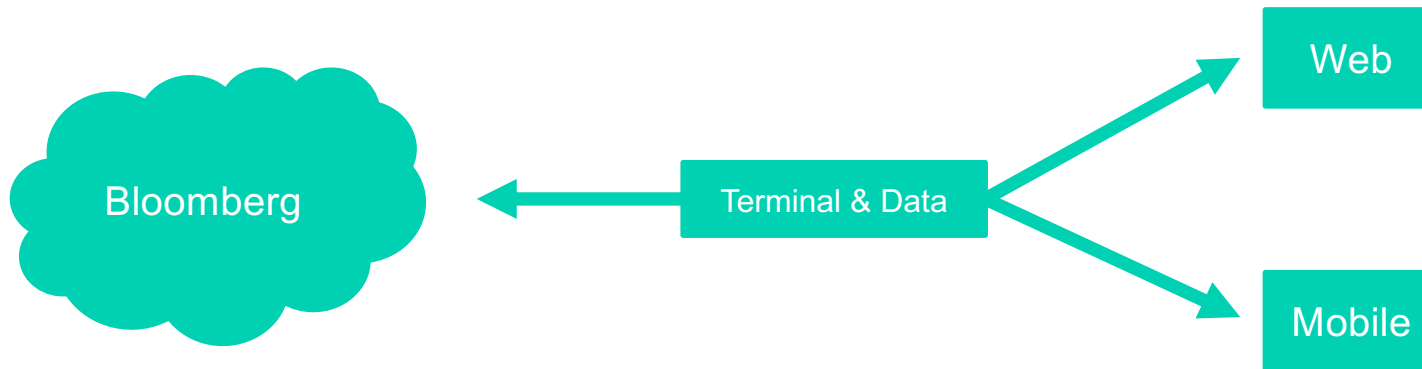
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Our Technologies



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BloombergNEF



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How we used to work before Agile

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How we work today

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Key roles

The Team



Product Owner



Scrum Master



Key roles

The Team



Product Owner



Scrum Master



Key roles

The Team



Product Owner



Scrum Master



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Key roles

The Team



Product Owner



Scrum Master





What a sprint looks like

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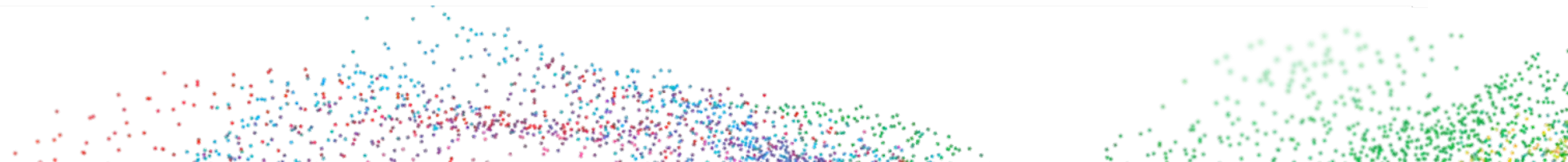
Our development process

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🕒 9 days remaining Complete Sprint

Agile Cards ▾

Board ▼

To Do

In Review

Done


ENG1BNEFT-597


D&T19 BCOS/BBDS ...

ENG1BNEFT-701


D&T19 compnydb C...


ENG1BNEFT-694


 BNEF Terminal & Data

23 

🕒 9 days remaining [Complete Sprint](#)

 Agile Cards ▾

 Board ▾



Blocked	To Do	In Progress	In Review	Being Deployed	Done
<div>ENG1BNEFT-705 ↓ D&T19 New orgs mi... 8</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-706 ↓ D&T19 New orgs mi... 5</div>	<div>ENG1BNEFT-670 ↓ D&T19 Moving inter... 1</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-690 ↓ D&T19 Moving inter... 1</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-703 ↓ D&T19 Work for oth... 2</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-709 ↓ D&T19 Search 3.0 3</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-712 ↓ D&T19 Work for oth... 5</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-701 ↓ D&T19 compnydb C... 5</div>	<div>ENG1BNEFT-708 ↓ D&T19 Search 3.0 8</div>	<div>ENG1BNEFT-597 ↓ D&T19 BCOS/BBDS ... 3</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-633 ↓ D&T19 BCC FML mi... 3</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-676 ↓ D&T19 BCC FML mi... 8</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-693 ↓</div> <div>ENG1BNEFT-694 ↓</div>		



Definition of *ready*

- Tasks that come out of a grooming meeting should be *ready* to be worked on
- For us, a story is ready when:
 - It is assigned to an epic
 - It describes who is requesting it and why
 - **It is understood by the team**
 - **It has been sized - max 8 points**
 - 8 pointers need subtasks added during planning
 - **It is startable within the sprint (it can be blocked at the start of the sprint)**
 - **The acceptance criteria accurately describe the success of the story**
 - For a spike, the desired output should be listed
 - The description should:
 - contain points of contact (both stakeholders and dependencies)
 - contain links to relevant documentation
 - list dependencies
 - have a numbers discussion (e.g., how many records are affected)
 - list steps to reproduce bugs

Jira Software

Trading & Analytics

Dashboards

Projects

Issues

Boards

Structure

Links

Create

Search

BNEF Terminal & Data

23

9 days remaining

Complete Sprint

Agile Cards

Board

Blocked

ENG1BNEFT-705

D&T19 New orgs mi...

8

ENG1BNEFT-706

D&T19 New orgs mi...

5

To Do

ENG1BNEFT-670

D&T19 Moving inter...

1

ENG1BNEFT-690

D&T19 Moving inter...

1

ENG1BNEFT-703

D&T19 Work for oth...

2

ENG1BNEFT-709

D&T19 Search 3.0

3

ENG1BNEFT-712

D&T19 Work for oth...

5

ENG1BNEFT-701

D&T19 compnydb C...

5

In Progress

ENG1BNEFT-708

D&T19 Search 3.0

8

In Review

ENG1BNEFT-597

D&T19 BCOS/BBDS ...

3

ENG1BNEFT-633

D&T19 BCC FML mi...

3

ENG1BNEFT-676

D&T19 BCC FML mi...


8

ENG1BNEFT-693

ENG1BNEFT-694

Being Deployed

Done


 BNEF Terminal & Data

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9 days remaining Complete Sprint

Agile Cards ▾

Board ▾



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D&T19 BCO5/B8DS ...

3

ENG1BNEFT-633

D&T19 BCC FML mi...

3

ENG1BNEFT-676

D&T19 BCC FML mi...

8

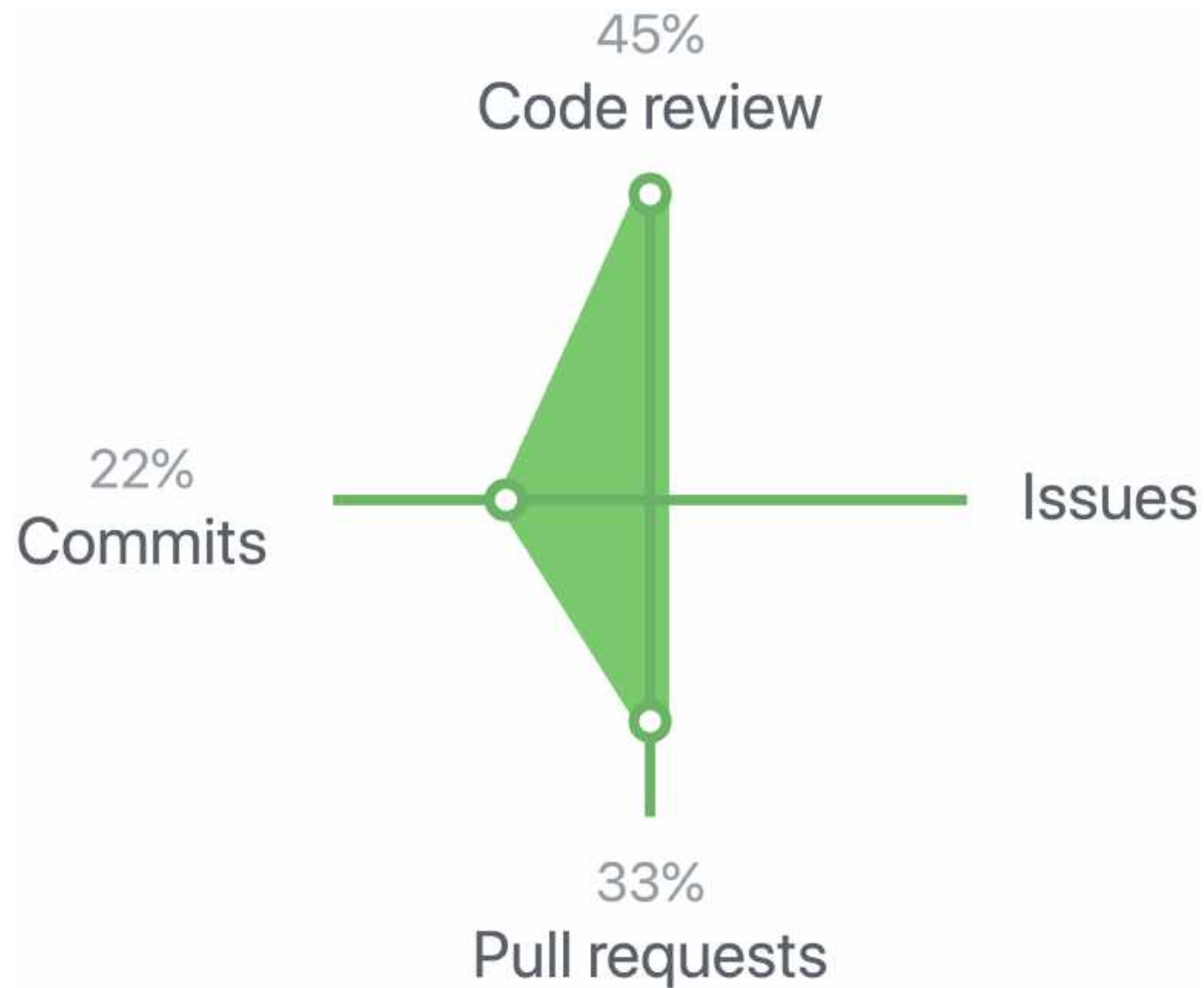
ENG1BNEFT-693

ENG1BNEFT-694

Being Deployed

Done






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23

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Complete Sprint

Agile Cards ▾

Board ▾



Blocked

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ENG1BNEFT-693

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ENG1BNEFT-694

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Being Deployed

Done



Definition of *done*

- **Its acceptance criteria has been met**
- **It has been reviewed by at least 2 people**
- The following have been completed, if required:
 - **Tests have been added**
 - **Documentation has been added/updated**
 - Follow-up stories added to JIRA
 - **Lightning talk scheduled**
 - Monitoring is added/updated
- **The responsible party (PO, TL, etc.) has signed off**
- It has been deployed to PROD (if appropriate)
 - Feature is checked on PROD and is working as intended



What if we need a urgent bugfix?

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We're hiring!

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- Internships (10-14 weeks July to September)
- Placements (14 weeks – 1 year)
- Graduate program

The process:

- Phone interview
- In-house (or on-campus) interviews

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Questions?

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Suggested reading:

- <https://www.bloomberg.com/company/engineering/>
- <https://www.TechAtBloomberg.com/>
- <https://www.bloomberg.com/london>
- <https://google.github.io/eng-practices/review/>
- <https://neilkakkar.com/things-I-learnt-from-a-senior-dev.html>

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