How do we work with Agile across organizational borders?

Digitalization drives the rate of technological change, and organizations need to adapt faster and faster – and nowadays many organizations implement agile methodology to achieve that. At the same time, digitalization drives the “connectedness” of technology, so systems grow bigger, and technologies are increasingly integrated, engaging more and more organizations that need to collaborate to develop systems.

These two trends do not easily combine, though. Agile means short iterations and frequent feedback, while most collaborations between companies depend on the execution of rather detailed and preset agreements and plans. So, the strive to be more agile seems to be challenged when it comes to development work over organizational borders. This is an important problem for many companies to understand better:

This thesis project will focus on understanding how companies can become better at working with agile principles also when they collaborate with other companies.

The master thesis will be associated to a research project including Chalmers, Halmstad University, RISE Research Institutes of Sweden and two automotive companies. The research project is called “Interorganizational agility – mutual adjustment in digital ecosystems” and is funded by Vinnova. This Master thesis project will benefit from and feed into the research project.

The pair of students are expected to identify and contact suitable/relevant case companies themself.

Timing:
Spring 2023

Supervisor, Chalmers:
Lars Trygg, Associate Professor