Agile project management (APM) has recently emerged as a new way of managing complex projects. Some experts believe that APM will become the project management of the 21st century. However, so far project management agility has not been widely investigated. In the recent past, the concept of agility was mainly applied to software development projects. The literature on agility is still in its early stages, and more research needs to be done in new project management domains.

This study aims to determine the impact of APM on the project success as perceived by project managers. The investigation is performed irrespective of the project domain. Also, the influencing effects of project complexity on the results of the project are analyzed. Based on the existing literature, critical success factors and success criteria are identified to develop a model that assesses current APM practice.

The research questions are answered through an empirical study that collected data using an online survey distributed to project managers located in the United States. Confirmatory factor analysis and structural equation modeling are performed to determine the validity of the proposed research model.

The study results showed a significant positive relationship between APM and project success. Further, a weak negative association was identified between project complexity and project success suggesting the need for further research and refinement of the project complexity construct. Finally, the results revealed an apparent need for more education and certification in the field of project management, which is expected to increase the usage of an agile approach to project management in the future.