

Thinking about Systems

with

Bytesize Architecture Sessions

.....
Yow Australia

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Andrea Magnorsky
www.roundcrisis.com



About Andrea

Programmer and Creator of Bytesize Architecture Sessions

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- Programming professionally since 2001
 - Co-founded PC & Console Games Company in Ireland
 - Contractor and Consulting since 2018
 - E-Commerce
 - Broadcasting media
 - Finance
 - Recently moved to NZ and working with Atlassian

Andrea Magnorsky
www.roundcrisis.com





Agenda

- Why sharing knowledge about systems is hard?
- How do we share this knowledge?
- Bytesize Architecture Sessions
- Overview
- Industry example: first session
- Industry example: Inter team collaboration
- Questions



You ship what is in your programmers' brains.

.....

Andrea Magnorsky - 2021



**It's not the domain experts knowledge
that goes into production, it's the
assumption of the developers that goes
into production.**

.....

Alberto Brandolini - 2019*

***or before**

**Andrea Magnorsky
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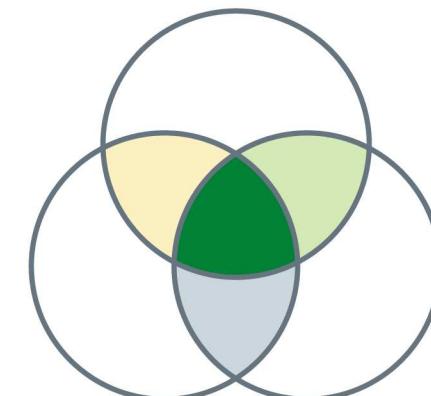
Added difficulty

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- Changing teams
- Coordination between teams
- Conflicting long term plans



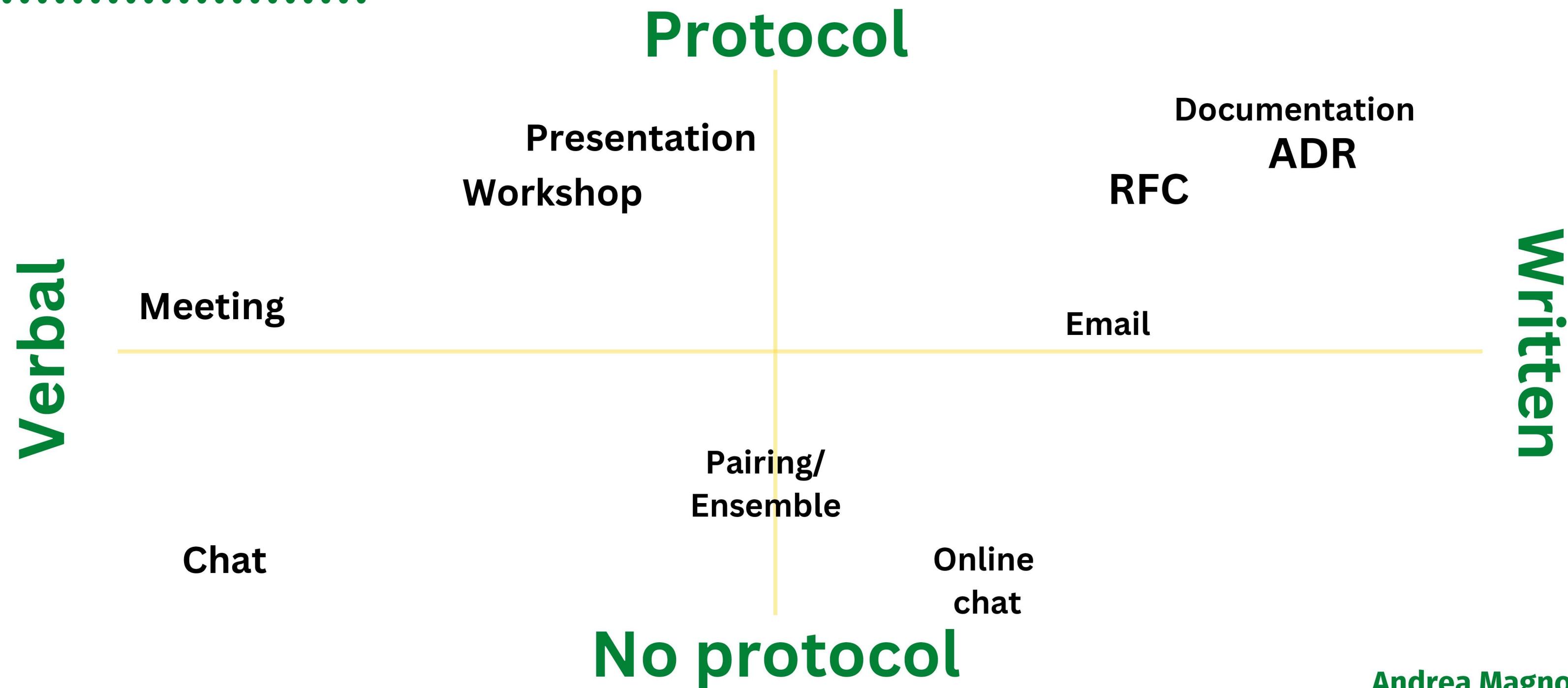
Role dependent
information
variance





Knowledge sharing methods

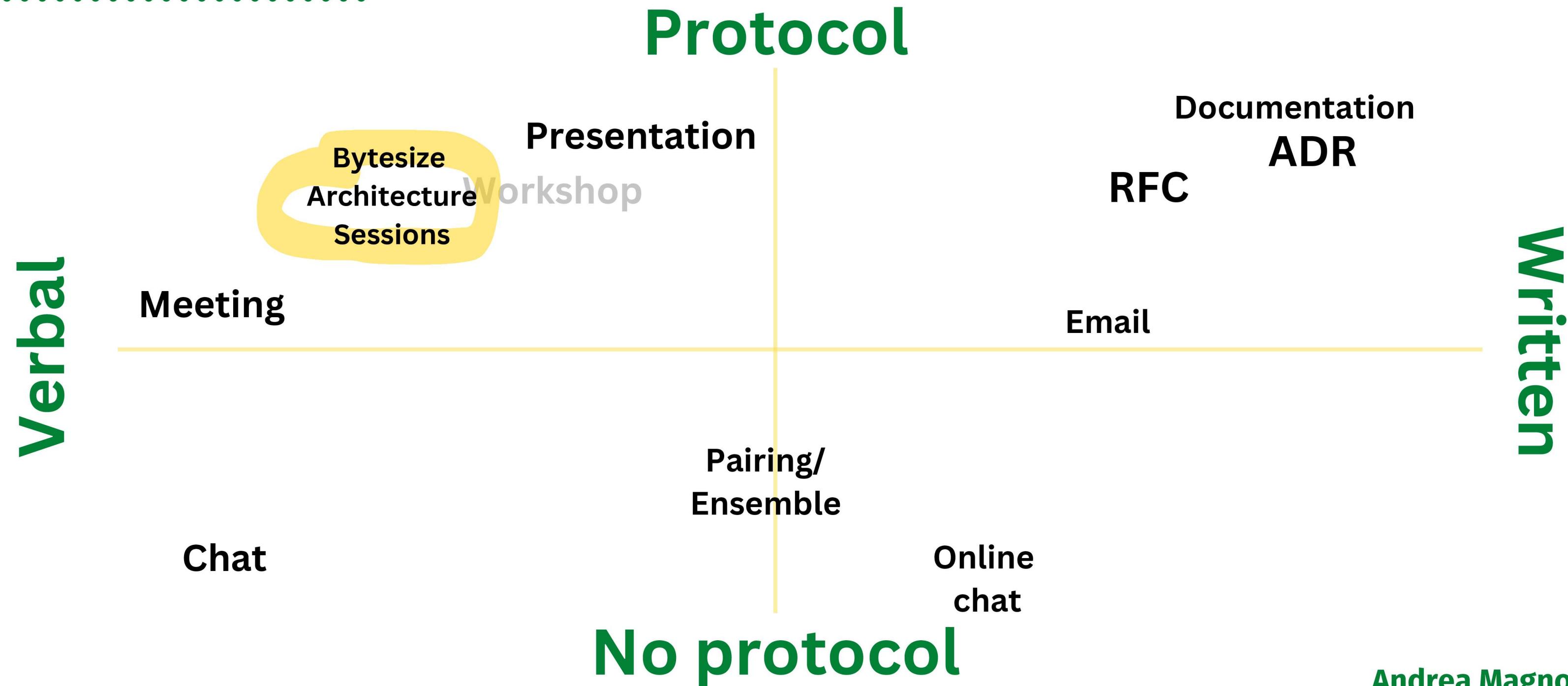
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Knowledge sharing methods

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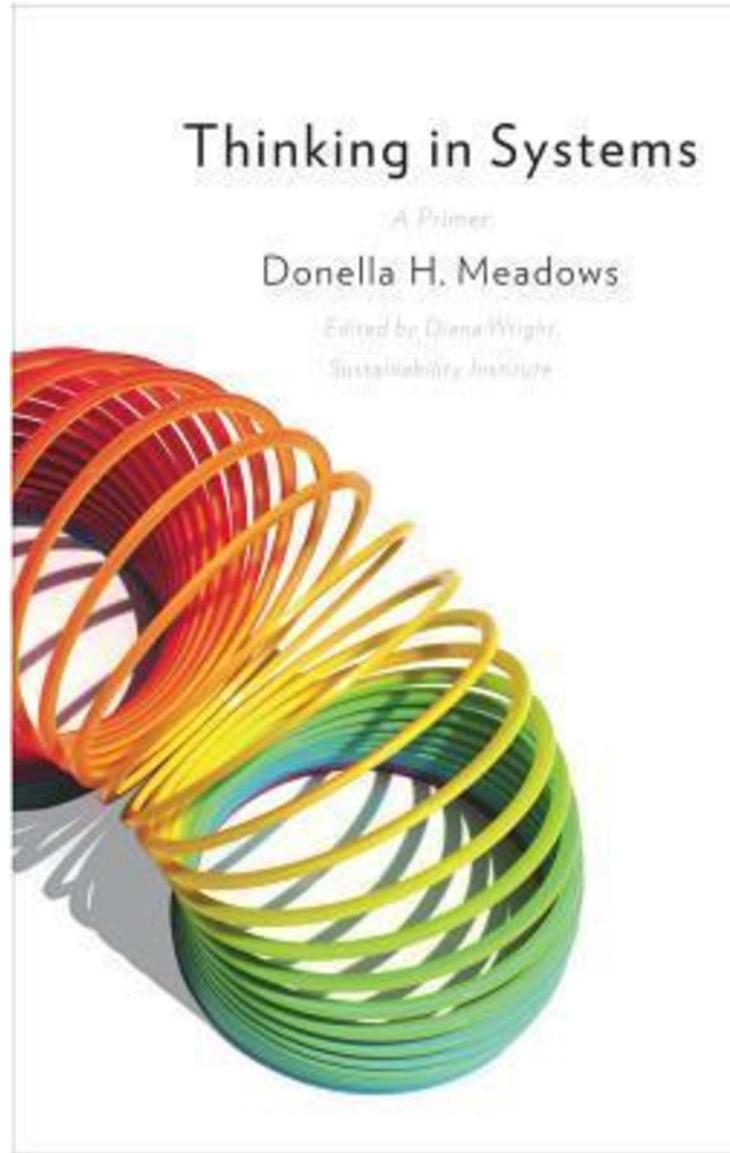




Bytesize Architecture

Sessions[T] is a workshop format

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“Words and sentences must, by necessity, come only one at a time in linear, logical order. **Systems happen all at once.** They are connected not just in one direction, but in many directions simultaneously.”



Thinking in Systems: A Primer by Donella H. Meadows

Why do we share Knowledge?

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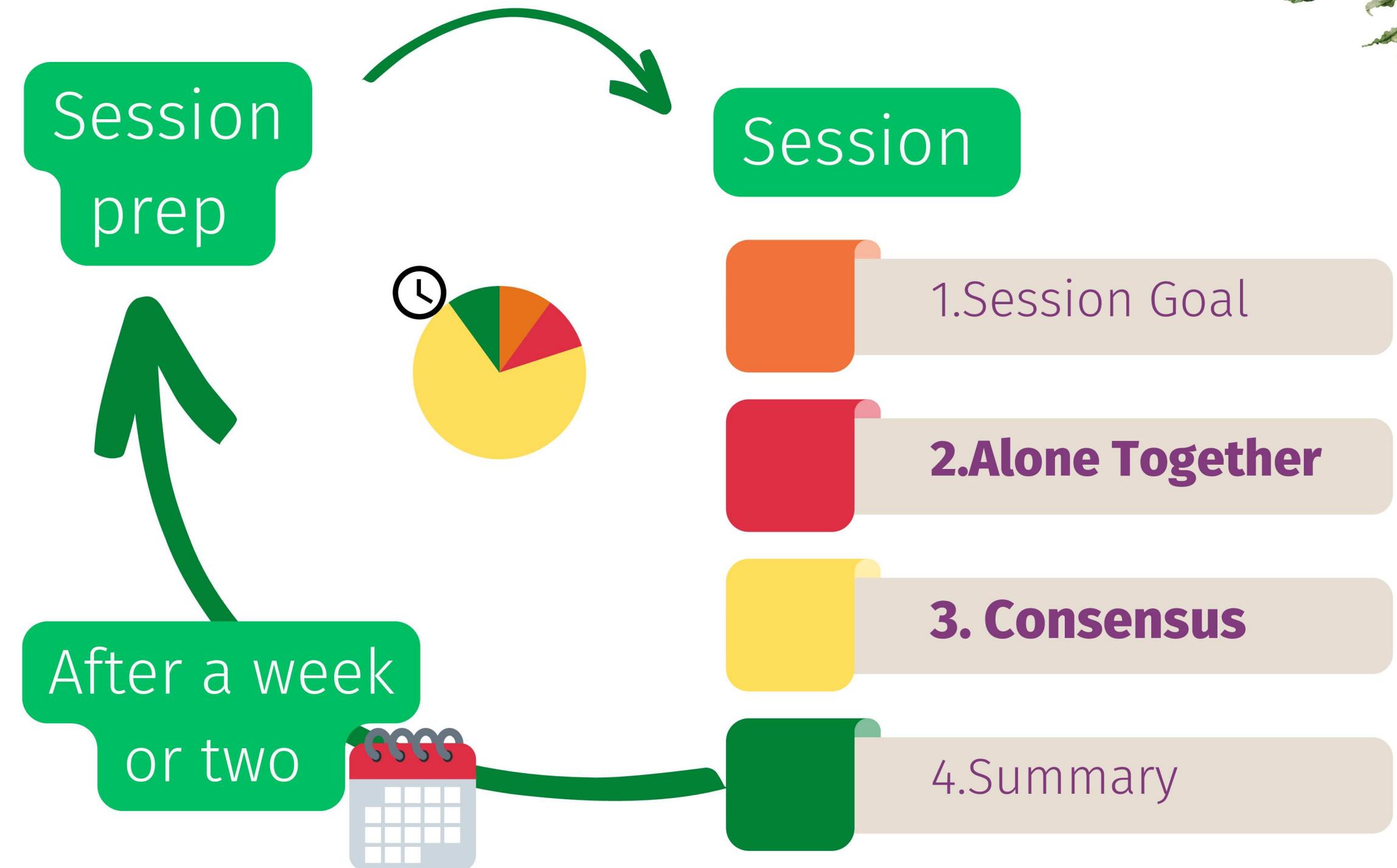
Knowledge Sharing

is

Systems Building

Format

.....





In their words

.....

The main thing I took from today is
that everyone brought their own
perspective and that enabled us **all**
to learn something



Jim Taylor
Senior Product Manager
ITV



Why run Bytesize Sessions?

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1

**Toward
homogeneous
understanding of
your System**

2

Enabling format

3

**Creates design
tools**



**Build an architecture
practice in a safe way**

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Industry example: the first Bytesize Architecture Session



Before the Session

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- 1. Invited the team. Active participants of the stand up**
- 2. Taught the team about C4 Model**

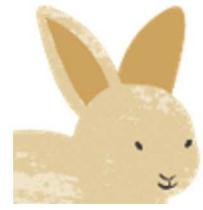
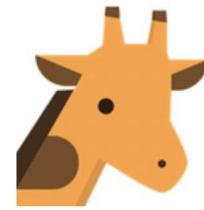


Session starts

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1. Goal

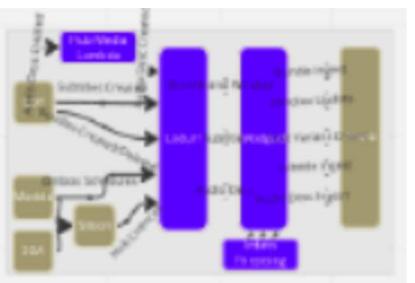
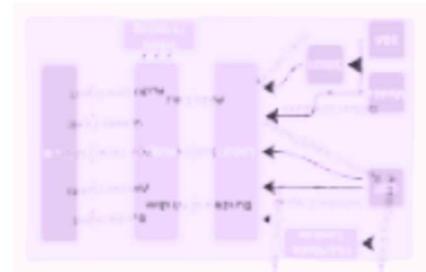
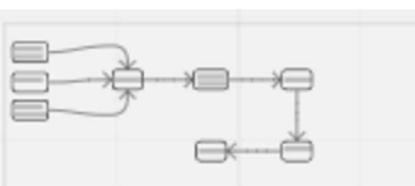
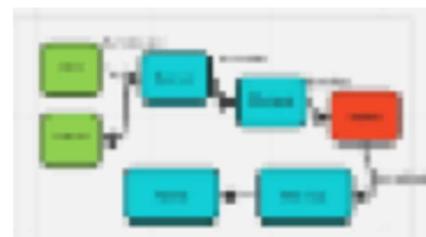
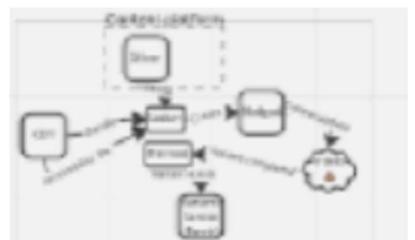
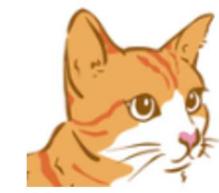
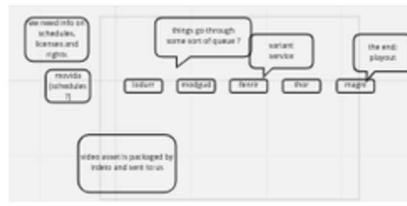
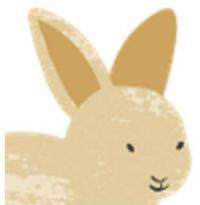
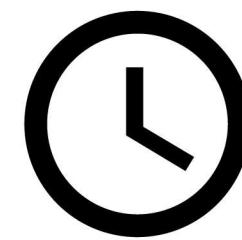
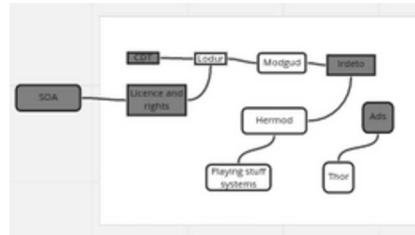
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**Set the goal:
Create a context
diagram of the
system as it is.**

2. Alone Together

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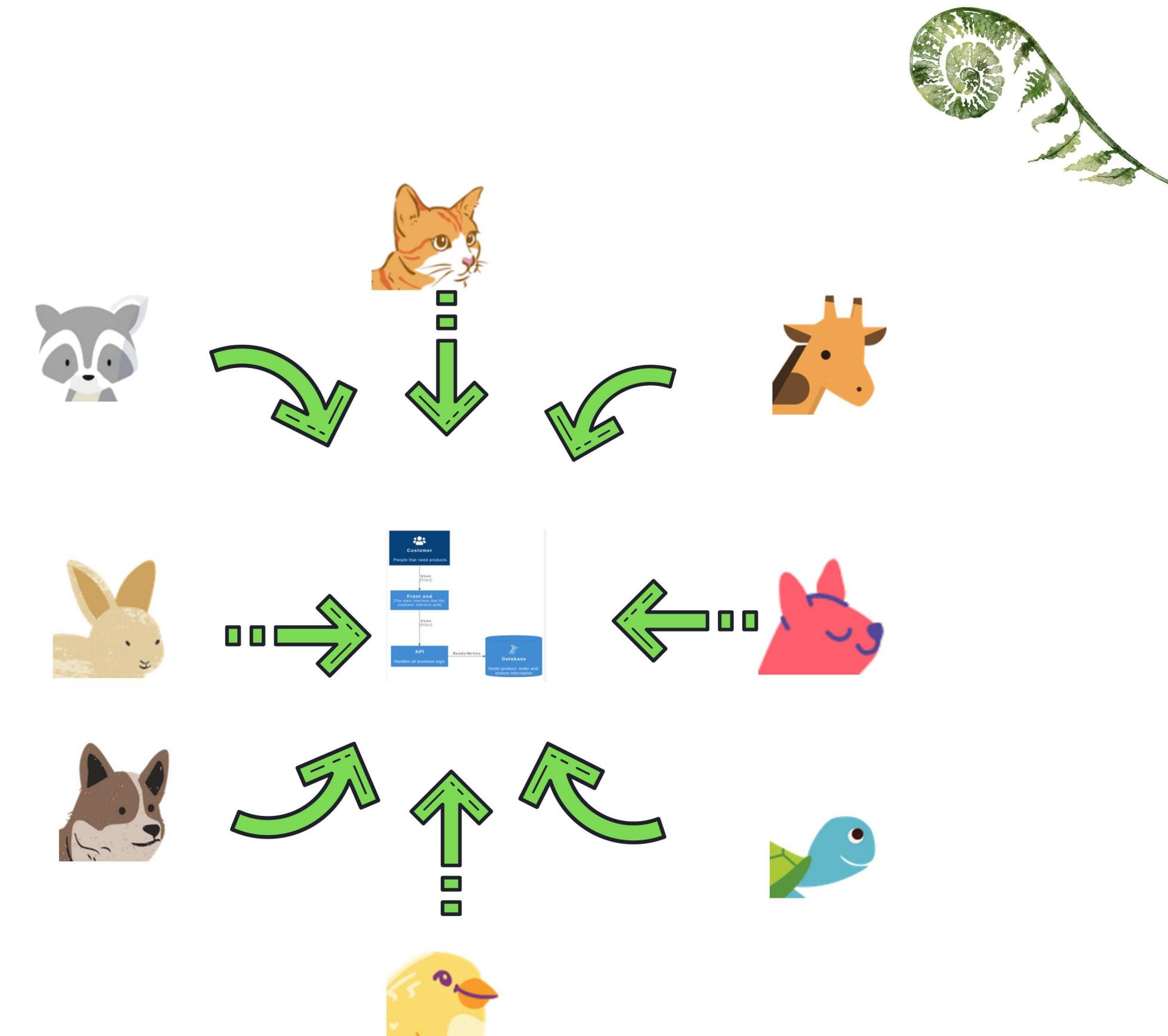


When the 3min timer elapsed each attendee explained their model.

3. Consensus

.....

The team drew part
of the system.
End session before
they were done.



4. Summary

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The team summarised that they:

- Learned a lot
- Were very happy with the format and,
- Wanted to do it again soon.



Detail

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Andrea Magnorsky
www.roundcrisis.com

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Industry example: Inter team collaboration

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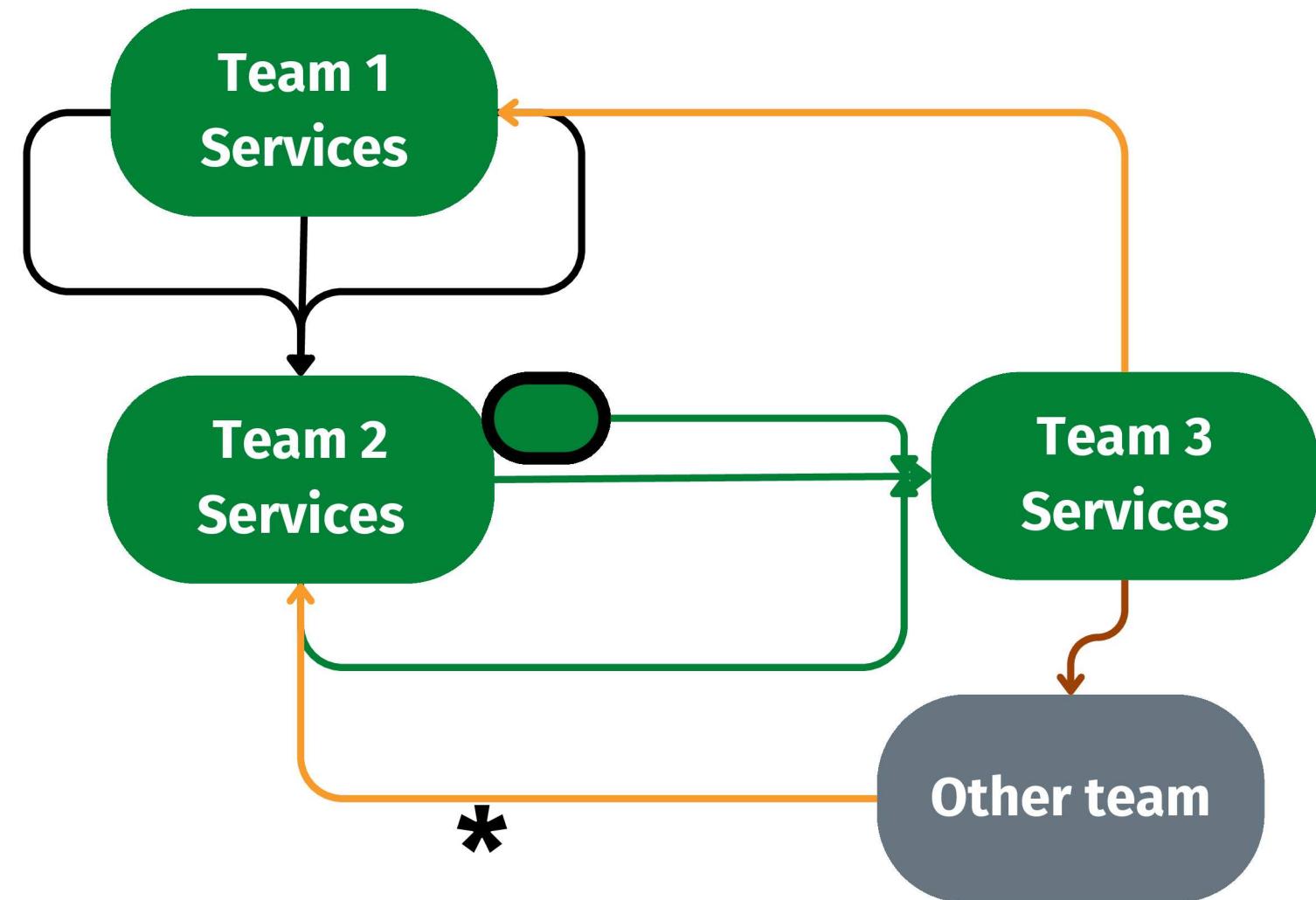


1st Bytesize Architecture Session:

Current state

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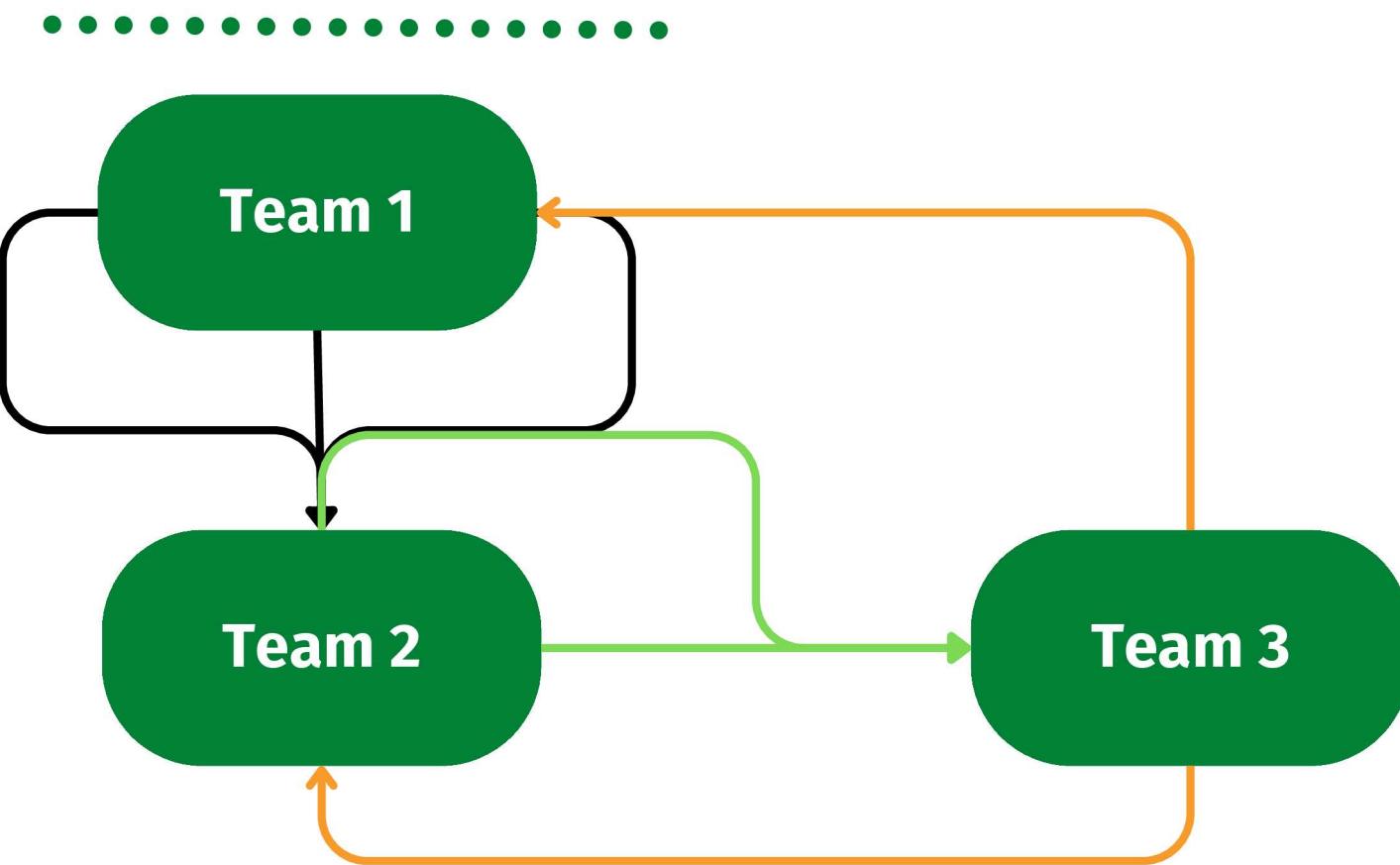
- Start with current state
- Key learnings around myth busting



*Not all information Team 2 needed



2nd Bytesize Architecture Session: Ideal solution

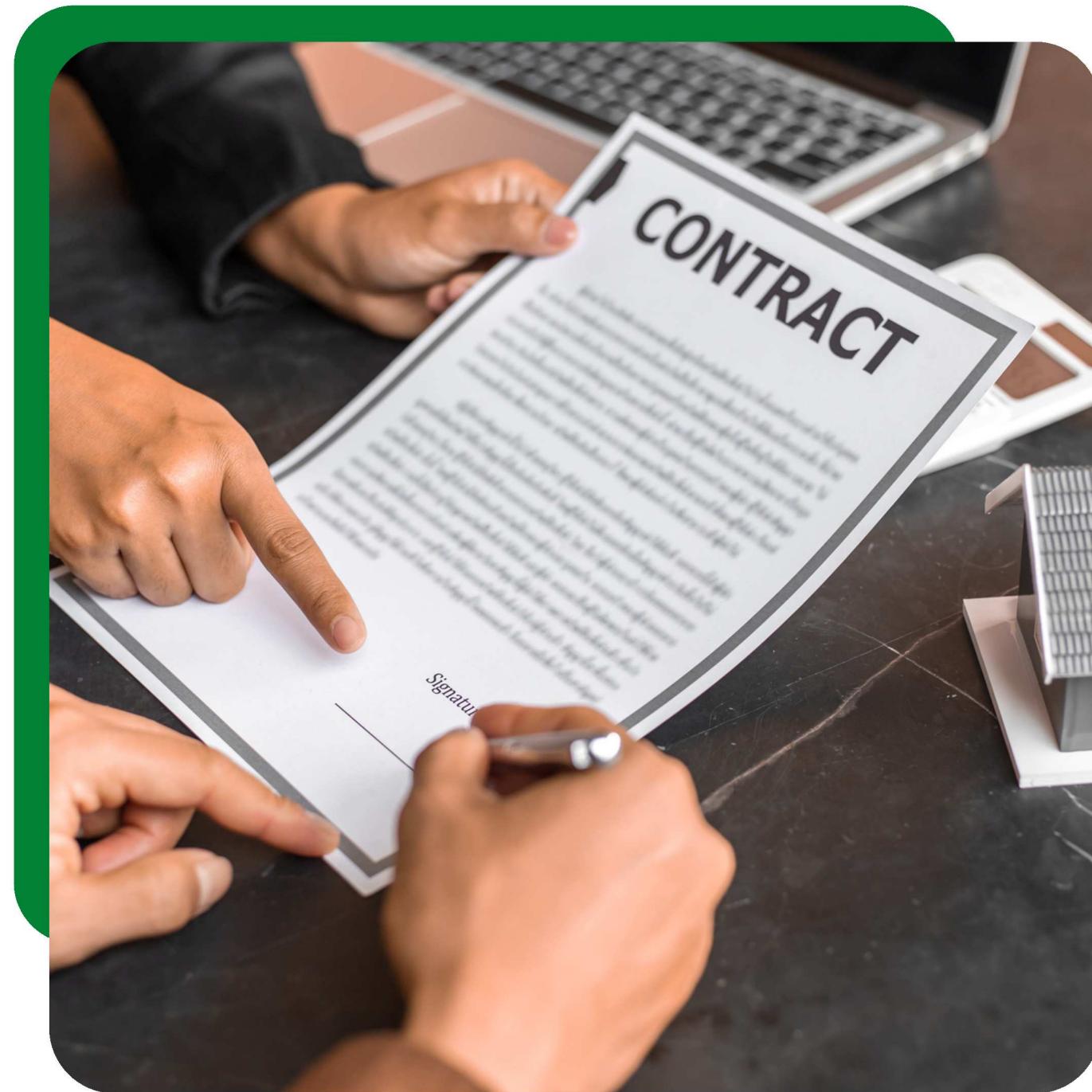


- Find ideal solution
 - Real ideal too far from current.
- Compromise**
- Still happy with outcome, we all understand it



Offline: Firm up the new contracts

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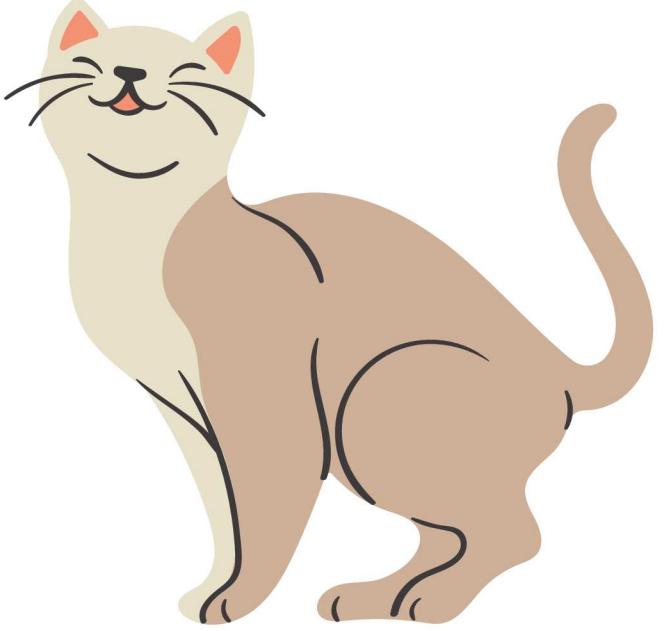
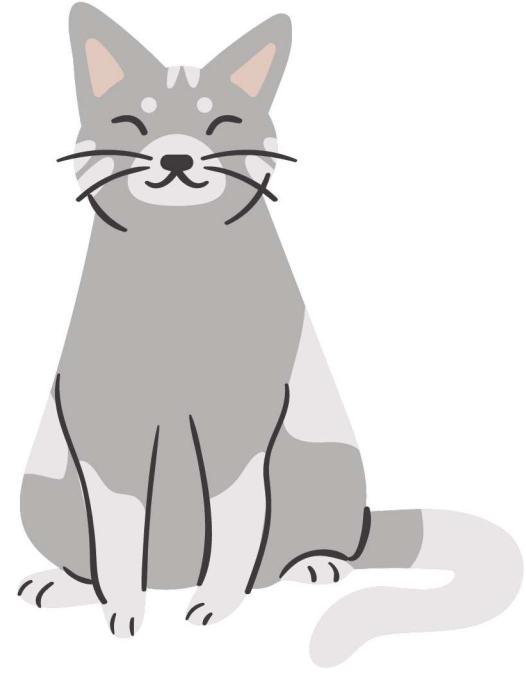
Extended case study: Inter-team collaboration

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- Cohesive understanding
- Well documented
- More in Chapter 17 ...



Architecture Modernization
Nick Tune



Foundational pieces





**“A system is not the sum
of its parts, it's their
interactions”**

Russ Ackoff

Source: youtube.com/watch?v=OqEeIG8aPPk

Andrea Magnorsky
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Take aways

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- Knowledge sharing is essential to building systems.
- Use a diverse set of tools to enable effective and efficient knowledge sharing.
- Try Bytesize Architecture Sessions!



bytesizeArchitecturesessions.com



Andrea Magnorsky
www.roundcrisis.com

Thank You!





Questions?

