

# DOMAIN-DRIVEN DESIGN

## HIDDEN LESSONS FROM THE BIG BLUE BOOK



ntcoding



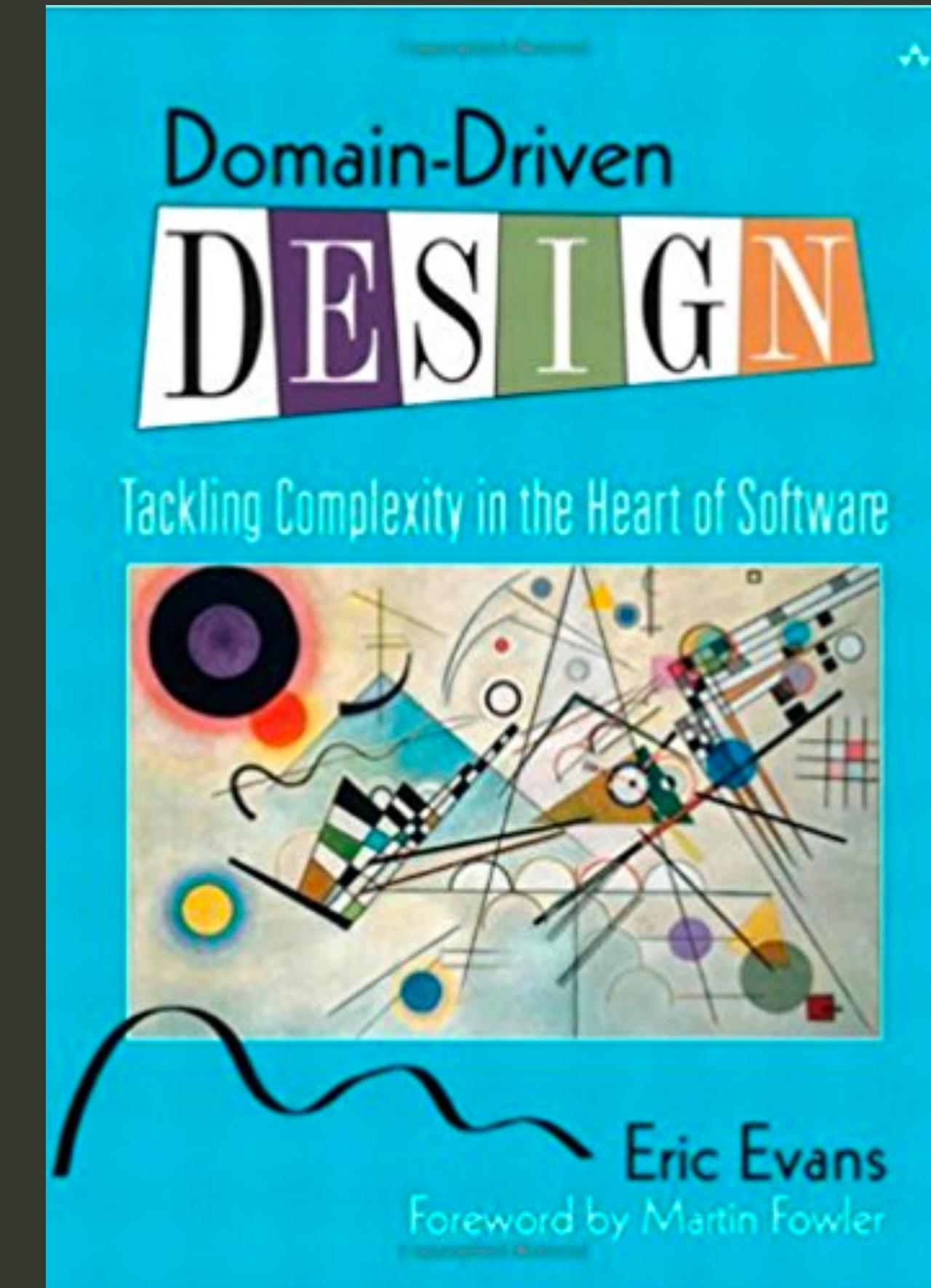






~10 years later





*How can the DDD book be  
more relevant now than when  
it was published 15 years  
ago?*

#1

# KEY TECHNOLOGY TRENDS



Serverless and cloud free-up  
developers to focus on  
higher-level activities.

# TOP SOURCES OF PRODUCT IDEAS

DIRECT CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

58%

TEAM BRAINSTORMING

57%

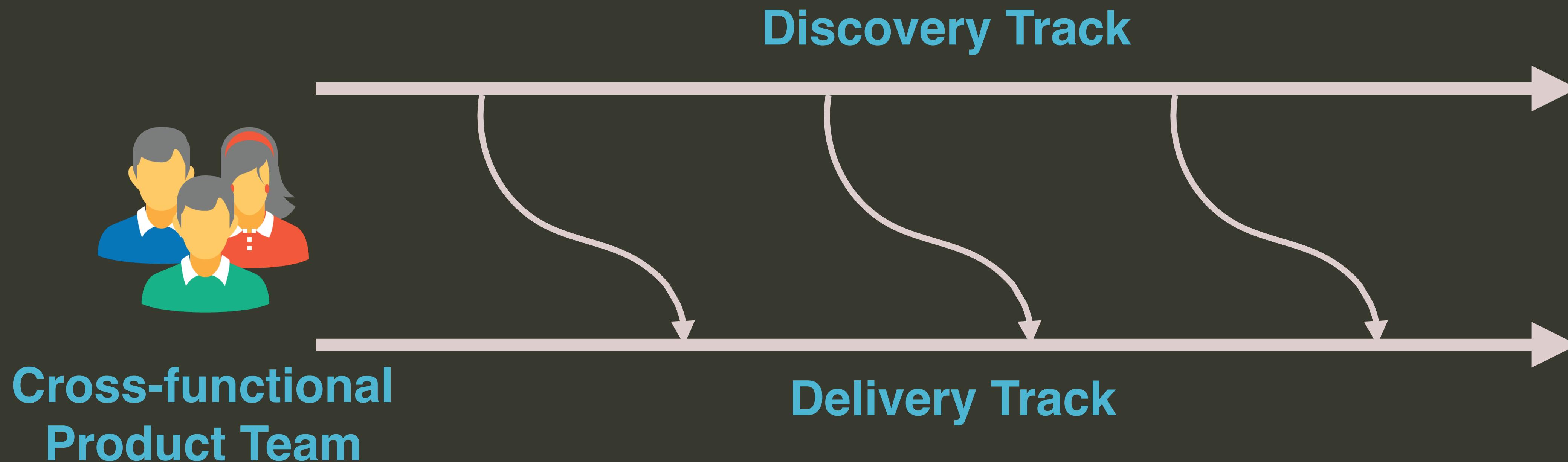
COMPETITOR PRODUCTS 22%

SALES TEAM

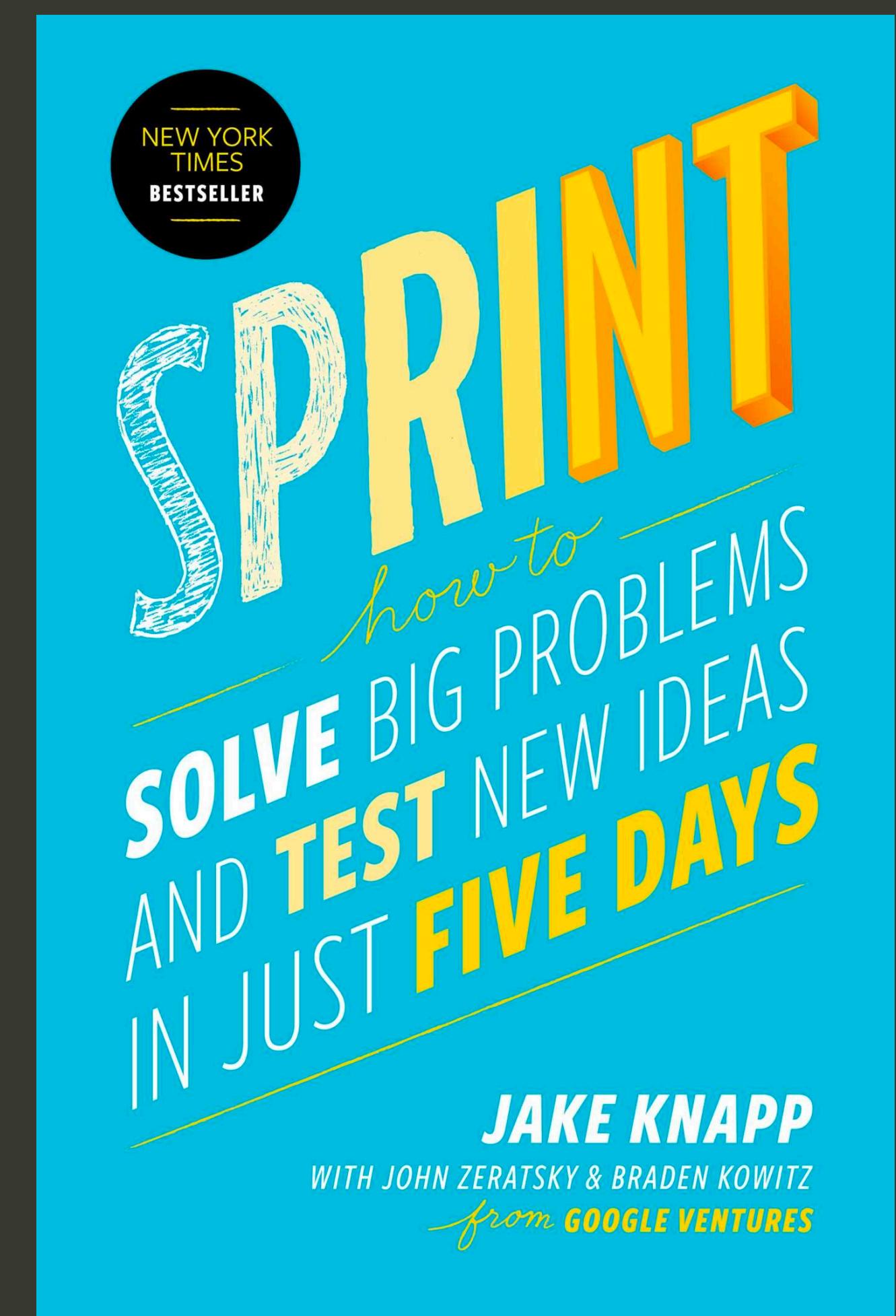
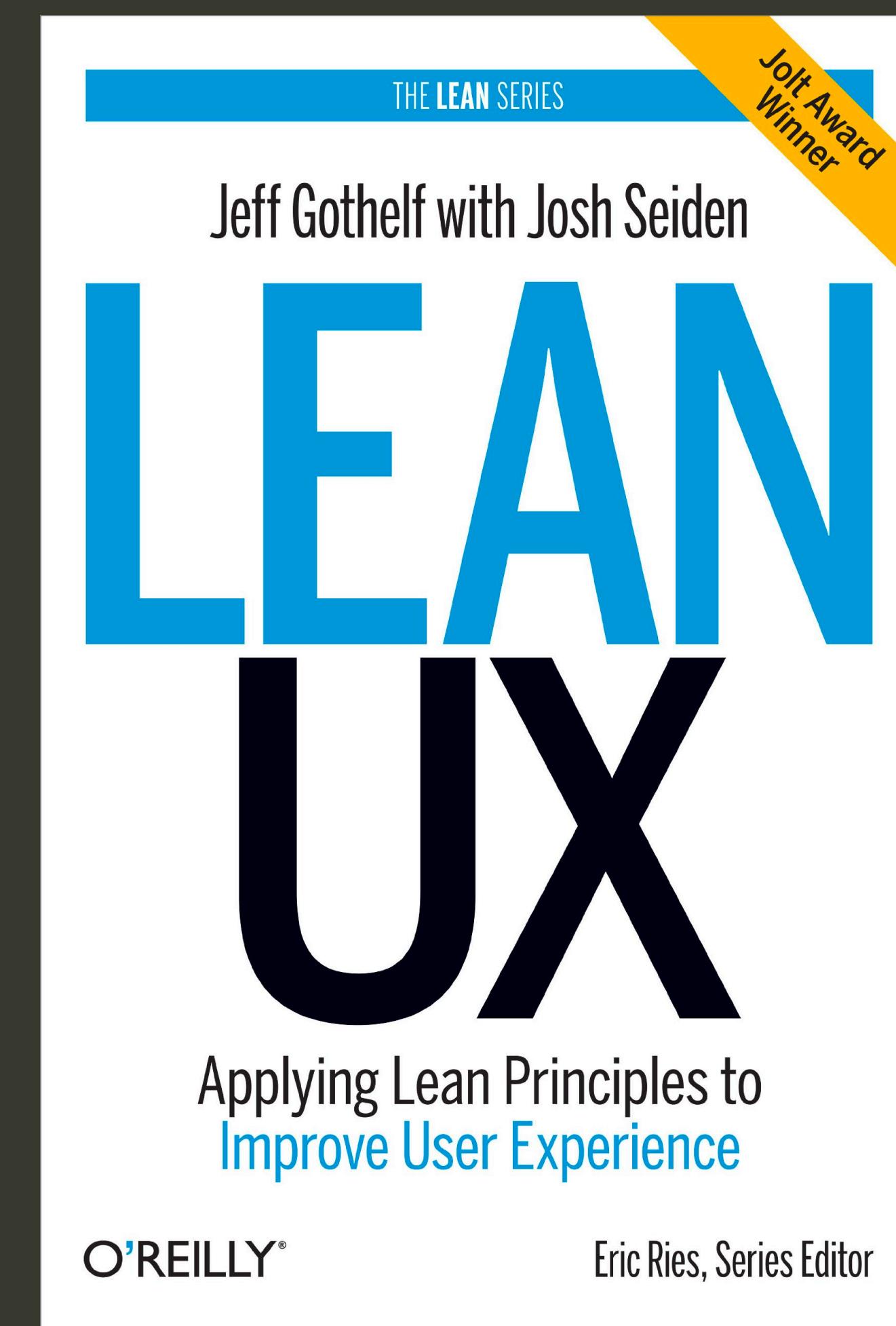
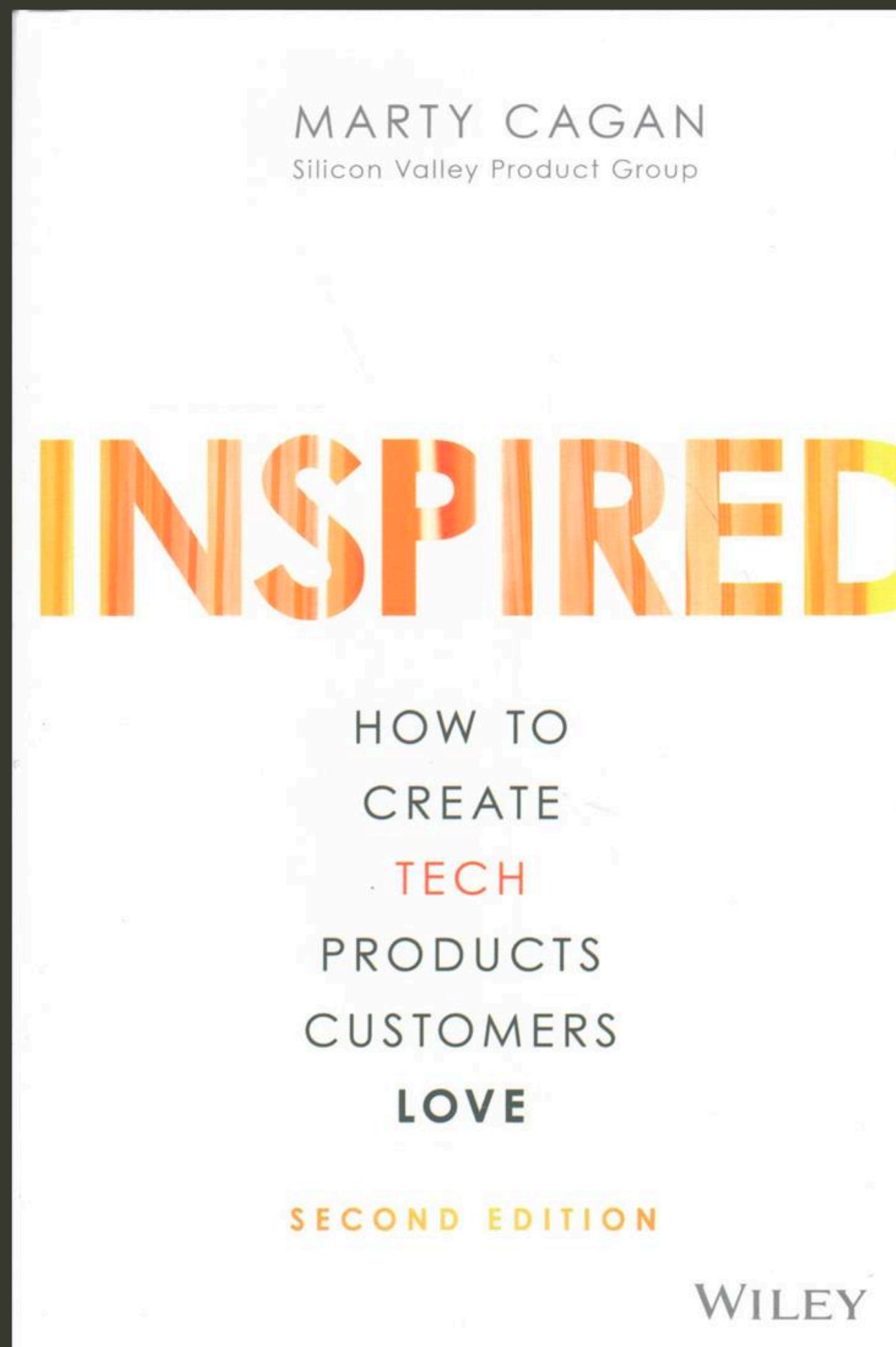
16%

Source: Alpha UX Product Management Insights 2018

# CONTINUOUS DISCOVERY & DELIVERY

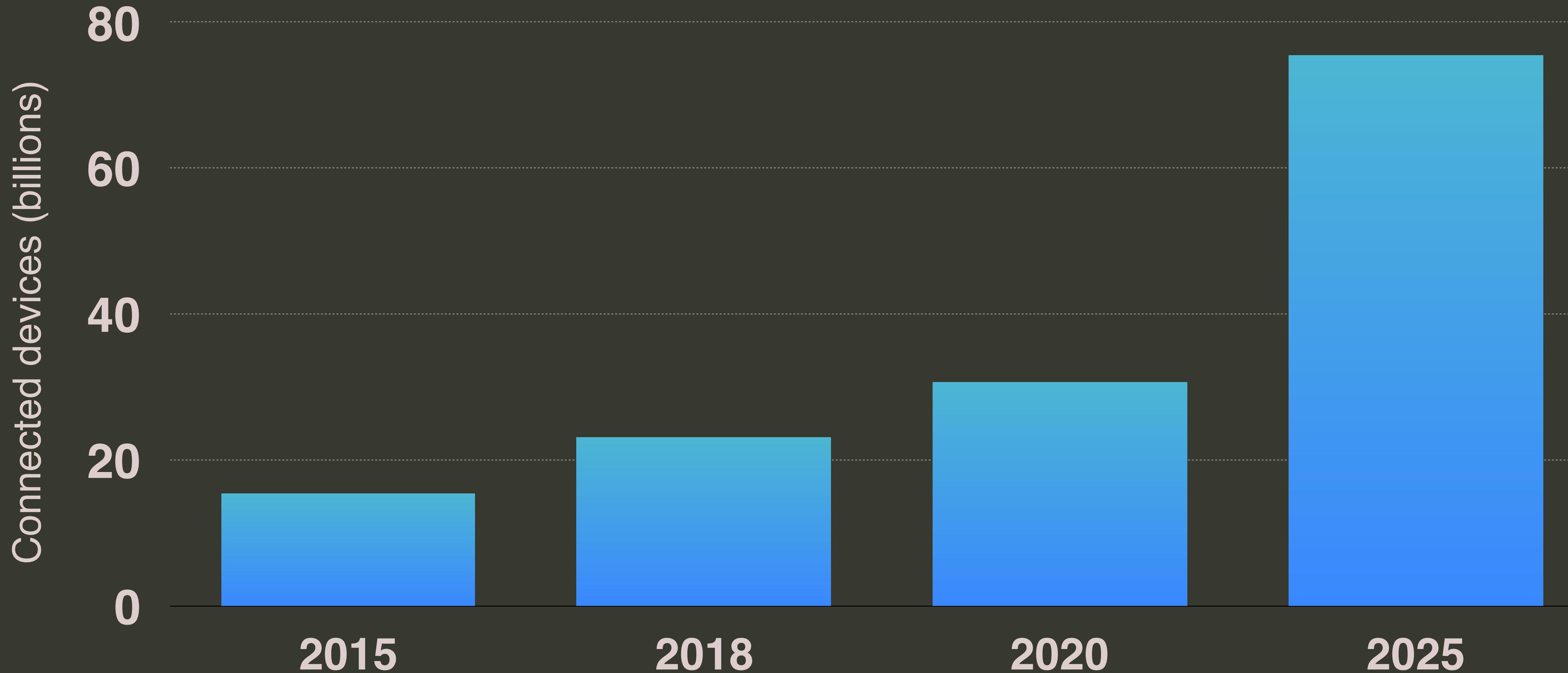


# HIGHLY RECOMMENDED READING



Systems are growing more  
fragmented and **disparate**:  
Microservices, IoT, etc...

# 30 BILLION ‘THINGS’ BY 2020



There are **hidden insights** in  
the DDD book that teach us  
how to thrive in these  
conditions.

#2

# EXPLORATION

# SUSTAINABLE EVOLUTION

Build systems that can  
continuously be evolved to deliver  
what the market wants... at a  
competitive pace.

“  
*Our codebase is so rotten we can't compete - we're killing the product (even though we have a substantially bigger engineering workforce)*

– A True Enterprise Love Story

# HOW TO CREATE EVOLVABLE SYSTEMS

- SOLID?
- High-quality, high-coverage test suite?
- Modular code?

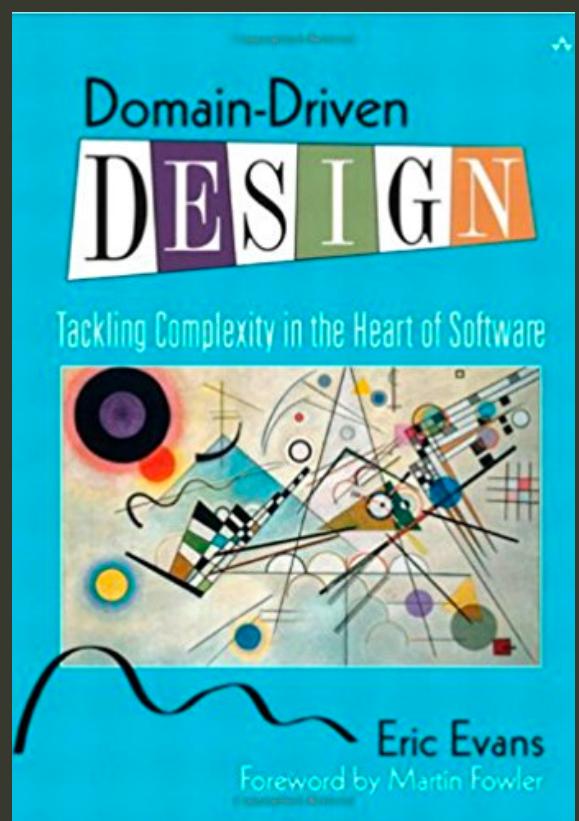
# HOW TO CREATE EVOLVABLE SYSTEMS

- SOLID?
- High-quality, high-coverage test suite?
- Modular code?

Not  
Enough

To minimise accidental complexity & create evolvable systems, we need to uncover **essential** domain complexity.

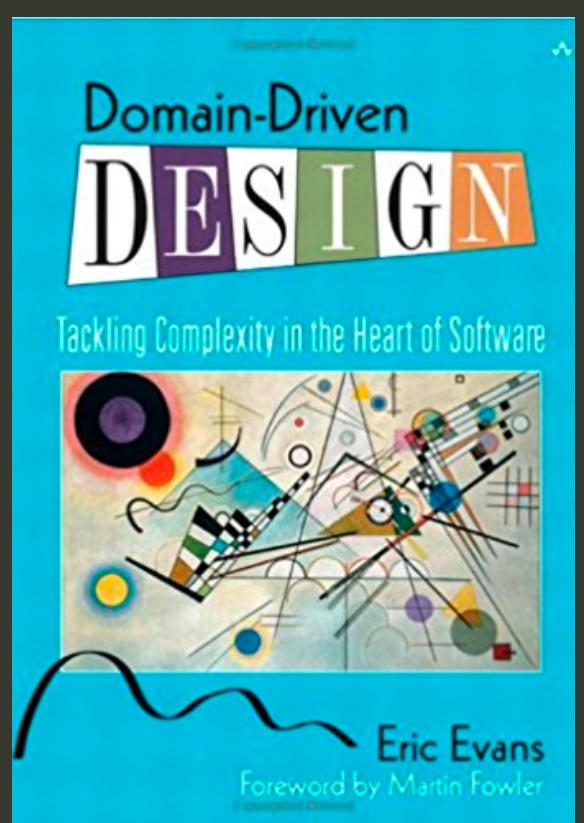
“  
*initial models usually are naive and superficial, based on shallow knowledge.*



— Eric Evans (@ericevans0)

“

*The refactorings that have the greatest impact on the viability of the system are those motivated by new insights into the domain*



— Eric Evans (@ericevans0)

Many developers skip the  
discovery element of DDD  
because there are no simple  
domain discovery recipes.



He tried **UML**  
with domain  
experts!



ntcoding

# Alberto Brandolini

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THE SAVIOUR  
OF DDD



# EVENT STORMING



# MODEL DOMAIN AS TIMELINE

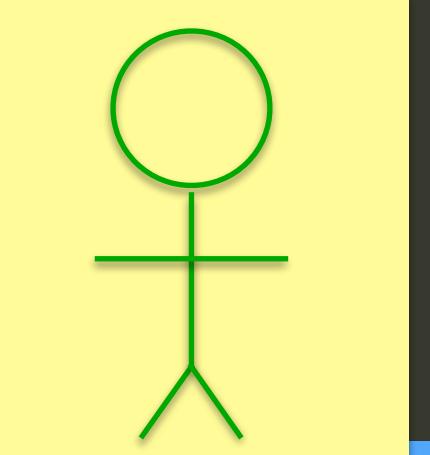
CFP  
Opened

Talk  
proposal  
submitted

CFP Closed

Talk  
Accepted

# ADD COMMANDS, USERS, POLICIES



Submit  
Proposal

Speaker

Talk  
proposal  
submitted

Proposal  
Limit Policy

Talk  
Proposal  
Rejected

# EXTERNAL SYSTEMS, MONEY, UX



Ticket sold

Tickets  
downloaded



Speaker  
dropped out

Event booking  
service

After 10 years of DDD,  
Brandolini hit gold and made  
collaborative domain  
modelling accessible to all of  
us. No more excuses.

Event Storming gives us the power to eliminate huge swathes of complexity and build evolvable systems.

# PERSONAL ES TRIUMPHS

- Uniting my teams and ‘the business’
- Modelling entire domains
- Engaging many domain experts for hours
- Properly understanding domains like I never have before

# HIDDEN LESSONS

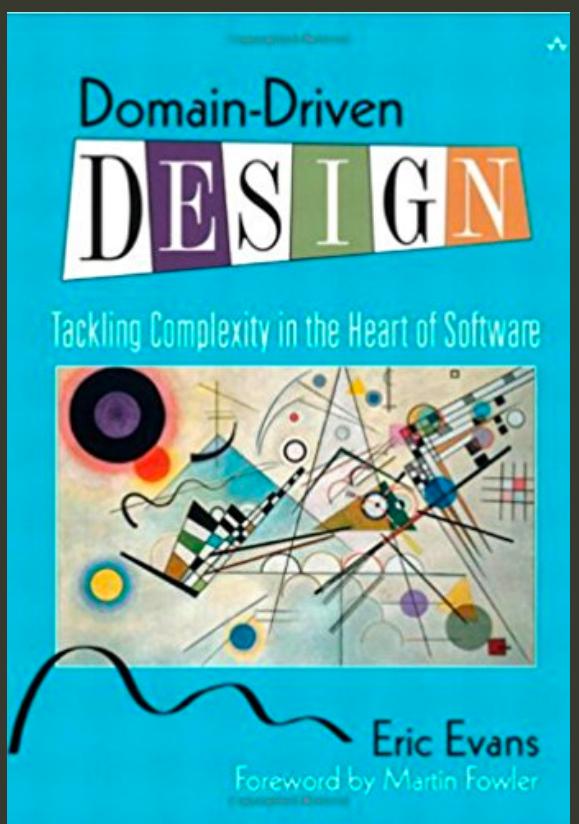
- Domain discovery is fundamental to DDD?
- Discovery enables us to build evolvable software systems?
- We should all be doing event storming?

# HIDDEN LESSONS

- Domain discovery is fundamental to DDD?
- Discovery enables us to build evolvable software systems?
- We should all be doing incident storming?

Not Hidden  
Lessons

“*model-based communication is not limited to diagrams in UML. To make most effective use of a model, it needs to pervade every medium of communication*



— Eric Evans (@ericevans0)

# HIDDEN LESSON

We all need to be passionate about discovery and finding better domain discovery techniques.

“

*EventStorming is my pizza.  
Add your own topping.*

– Alberto Brandolini (@ziobrando)

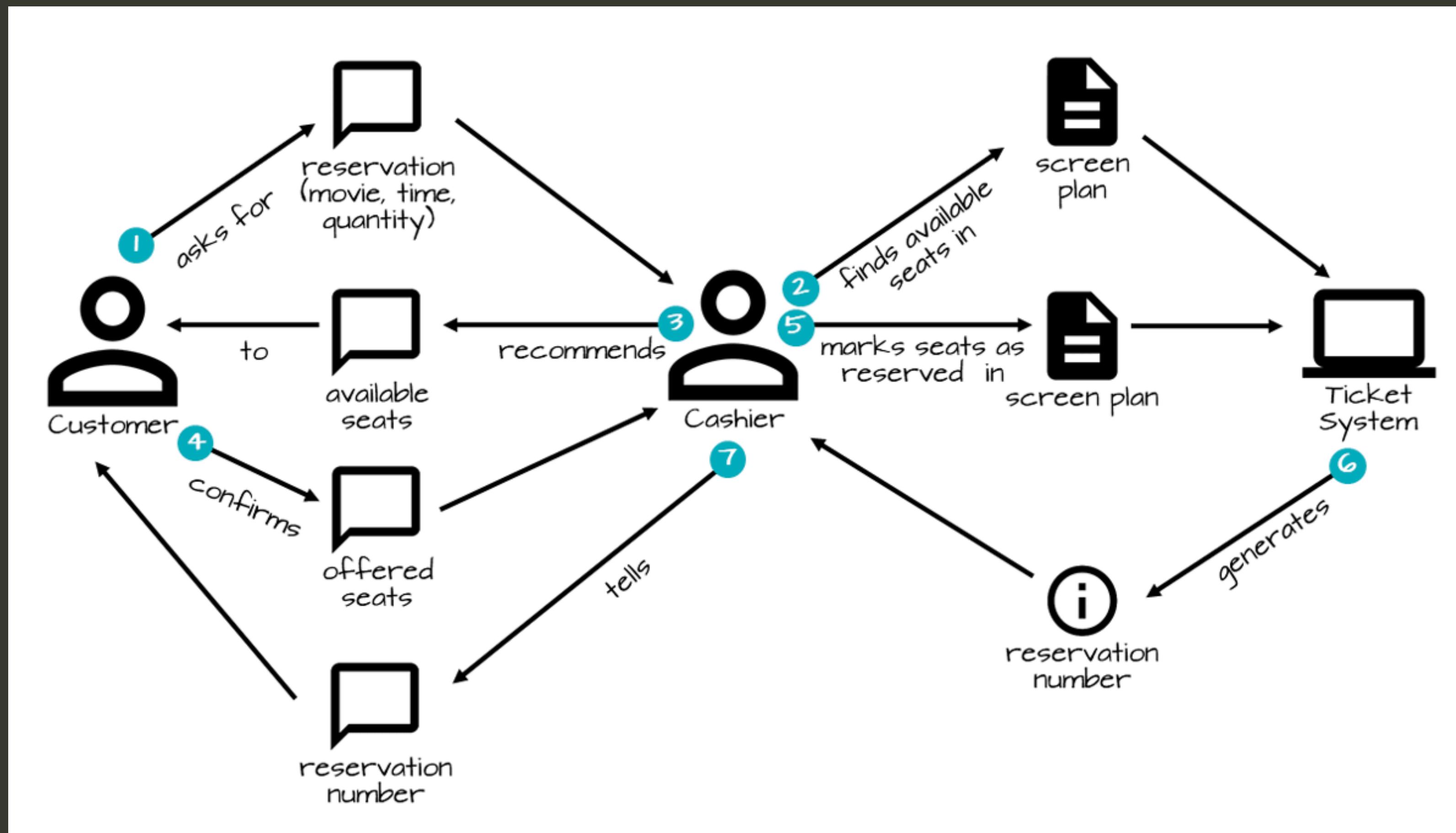


[leanpub.com/introducing\\_eventstorming](https://leanpub.com/introducing_eventstorming)

[eventstorming.com](http://eventstorming.com)

[github.com/mariuszgil/awesome-eventstorming](https://github.com/mariuszgil/awesome-eventstorming)

# DOMAINSTORYTELLING.ORG



#3

# DESIGN

# ANTI-CORRUPTION LAYER



# ANTI-CORRUPTION LAYER



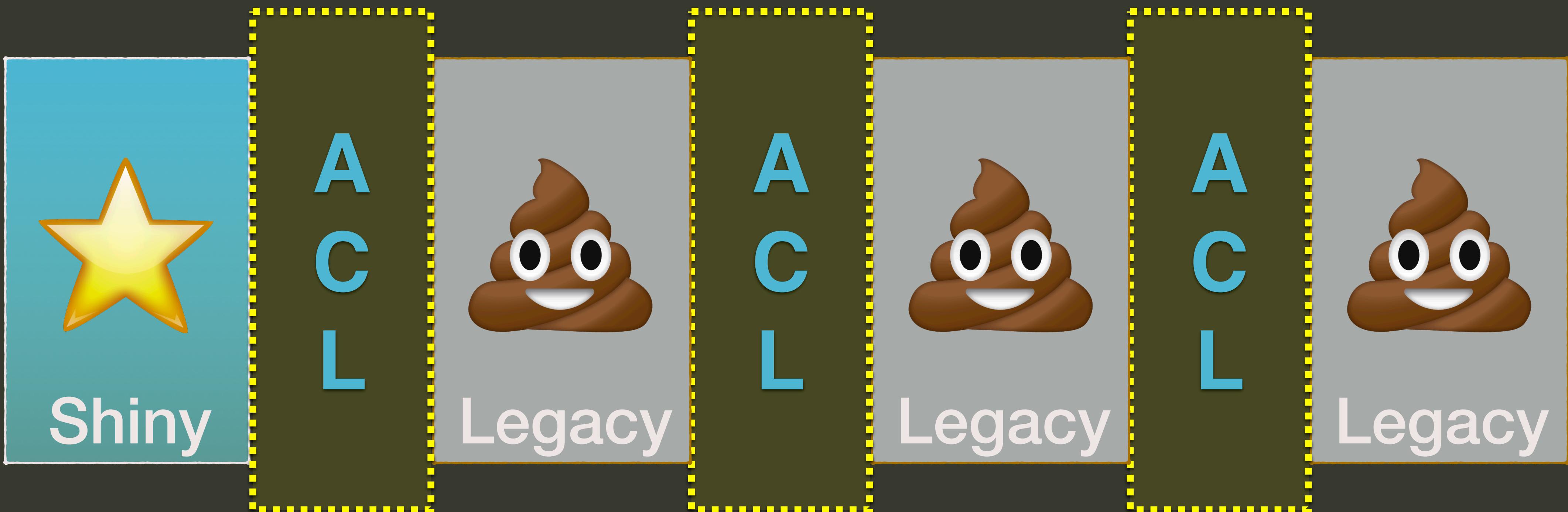


A photograph of a large, sprawling landfill. In the center-left, a yellow bulldozer is positioned on a mound of trash, its bucket raised. The ground is covered in a thick layer of discarded plastic bags, bottles, and other waste. Numerous seagulls are flying overhead and perched on the piles of trash, particularly on the right side where they form small groups. The sky is overcast and grey.

Not time  
for an ACL

Sometimes it's better to  
clean up the mess rather  
than throwing another layer  
of junk on top of it.

# LEGACY LASAGNE





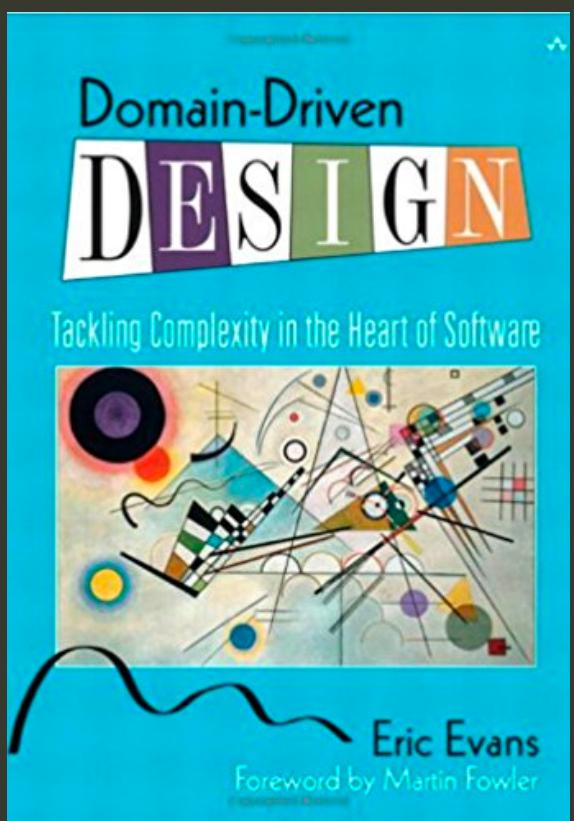
# LAVA LAYER ANTI-PATTERN

<http://mikehadlow.blogspot.co.uk/2014/12/the-lava-layer-anti-pattern.html>

*How do expert software  
designers make good  
decisions and not become  
attached to certain  
principles?*

“  
*Effective domain modelers take a torrent of information searching for the simple view that makes sense of the mass. Many models are tried and rejected or transformed.*

— Eric Evans (@ericevans0)



# HIDDEN LESSON

Expert software designers cultivate  
a toolbox of design heuristics.

There is never a heuristic that is  
always correct.

“  
*Look for heuristics that challenge your assumption or disprove your theory... that's when you learn something*

— **Mathias Verraes** (@mathiasverraes)

# HEURISTICS FROM THE BOOK

- Use language to identify boundaries
- Look for same thing with different names (duplicate concepts)
- Look for different things hidden under the same name (false cognates)
- Make the implicit explicit (find missing concepts)

# MORE HEURISTICS

- Money heuristic (isolate high ROI)
- Marry-me heuristic (if two modules know a lot about each others internals they should get married)
- T-1000 heuristic (find distributed cohesion)
- Erlang heuristic (isolate from failure)

# GAME OF THRONES HEURISTIC



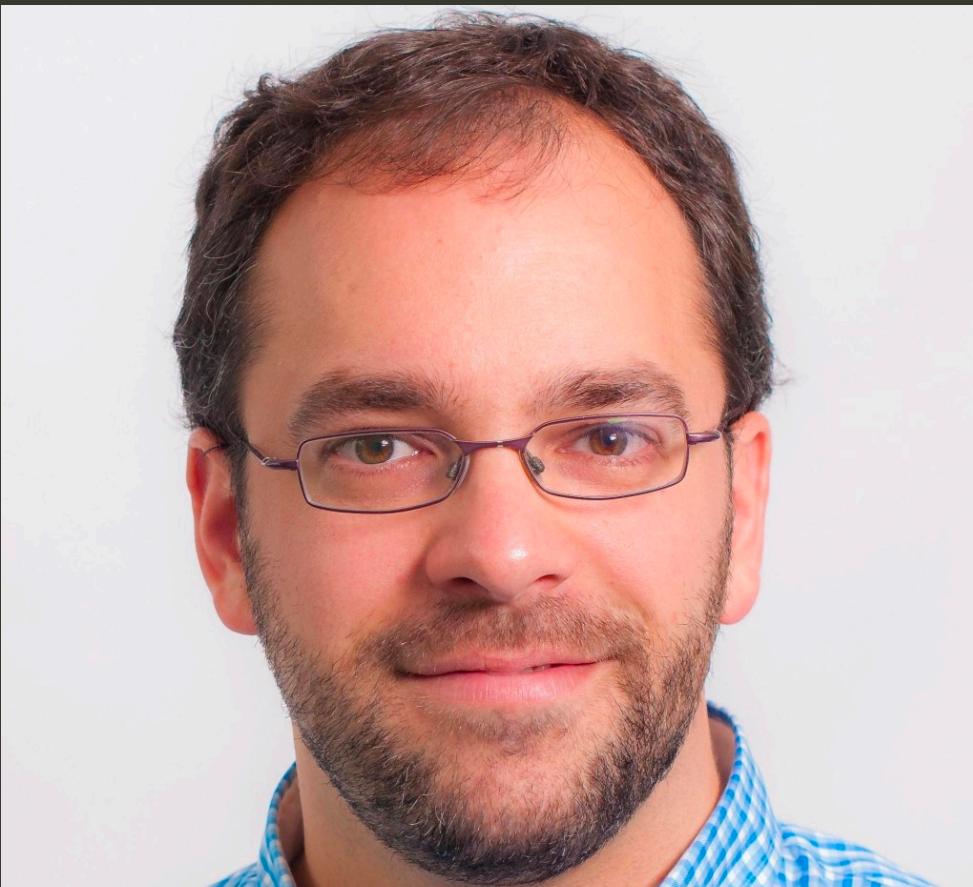
# HEURISTICS MASTERS



**Rebecca Wirfs-Brock (@rebeccawb)**

Cultivating Your Design Heuristics -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWCr5KwfTuo>



**Mathias Verraes (@mathiasverraes)**

Design Heuristics -

<https://bit.ly/2kpqMmh>

“

*I'm not a genius consultant....  
I just have better heuristics*

— **Mathias Verraes** (@mathiasverraes)

#4

# ORGANISATION



**Sooooo many  
meeeetings!**

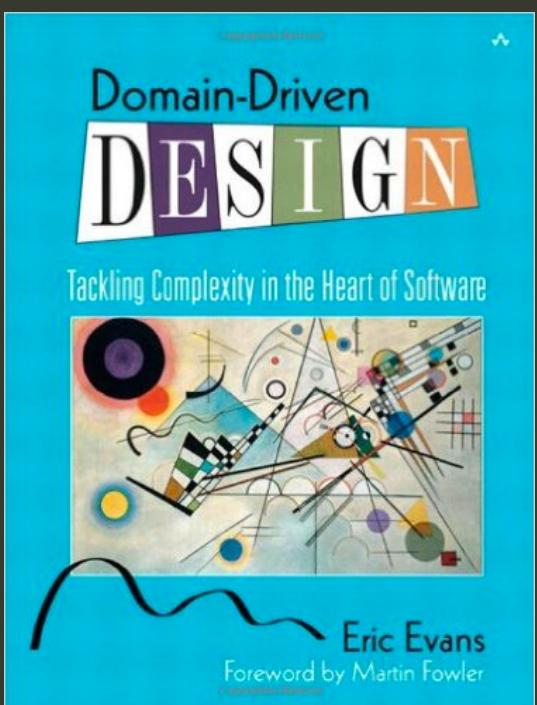
“

*Generally speaking, there is a correspondence of one team per BOUNDED CONTEXT...*

*[BCs] must guide design decisions to reduce the interdependence of parts...*

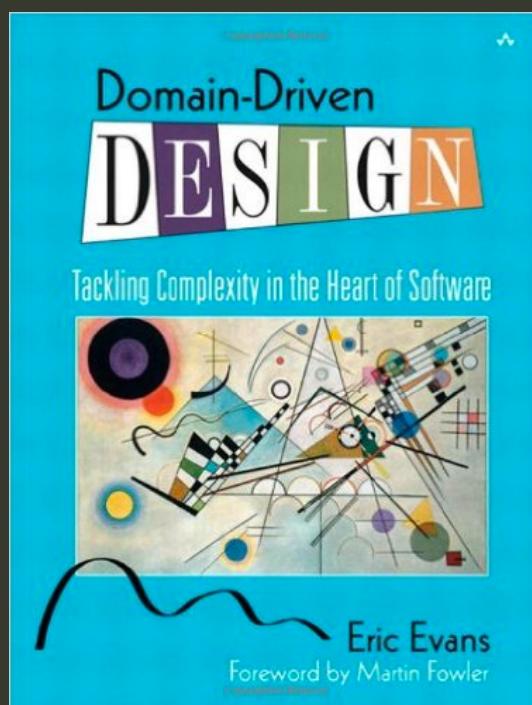
– Eric Evans (@ericevans0)

”



“  
...these two groups had different models, but they did not realize it

– Eric Evans (@ericevans0)



# MULTIPLE HIDDEN CONTEXTS

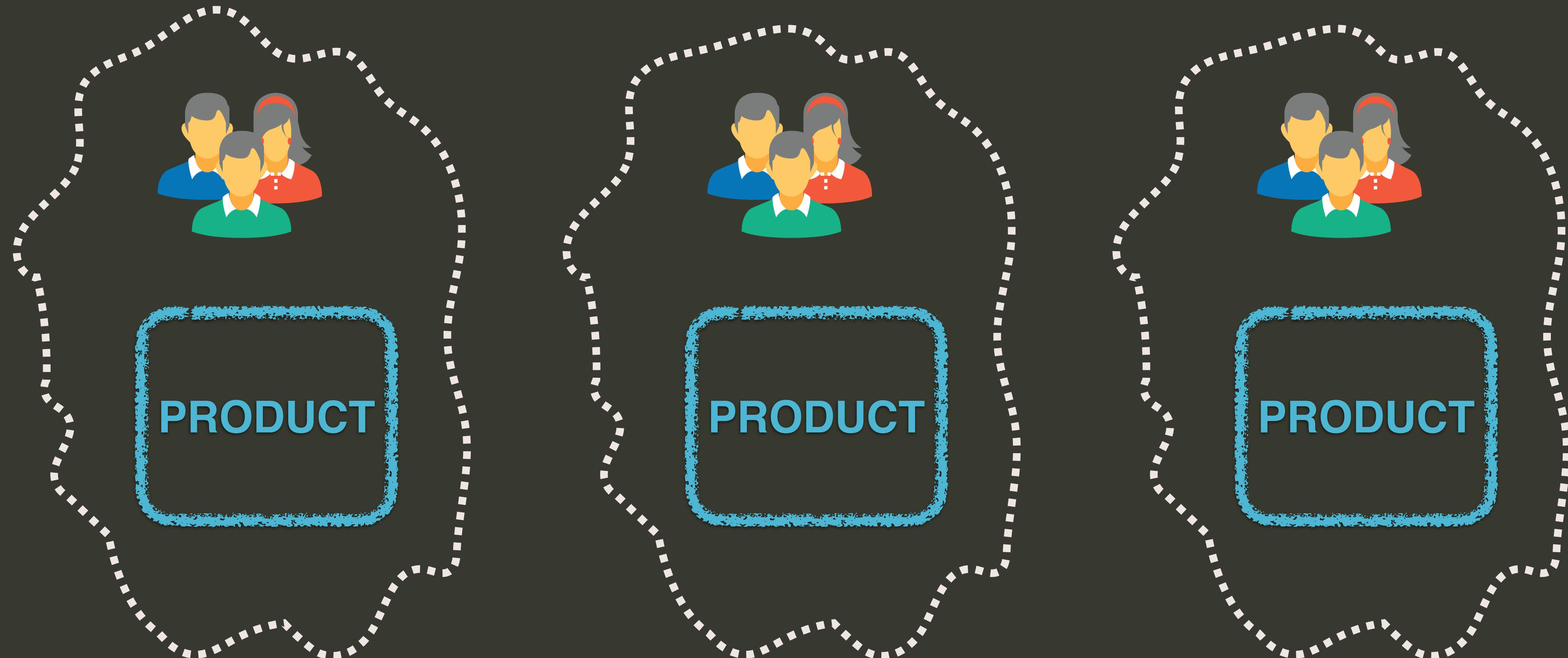


# MULTIPLE HIDDEN CONTEXTS

**NOT**  
**bounded**  
**contexts**



# MULTIPLE BOUNDED CONTEXTS



A photograph of a man in a blue striped shirt and tie shouting at a woman with blonde hair. He is leaning forward with his mouth wide open. A speech bubble is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

**How dare  
you question my  
beautiful data  
model!**

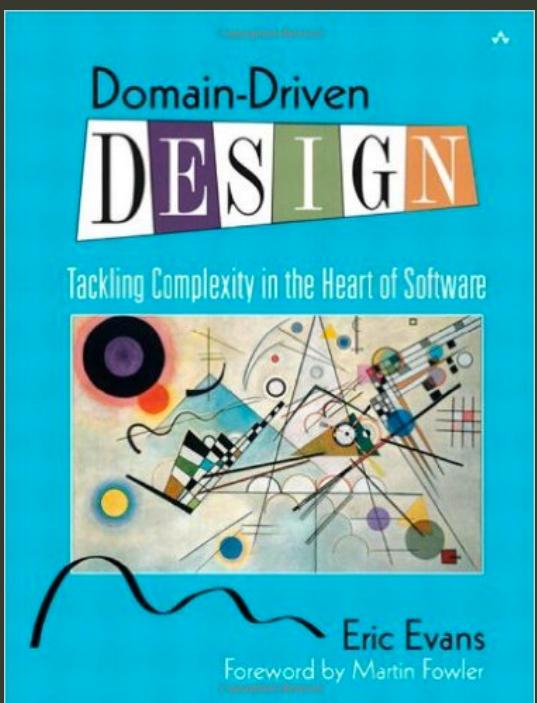


# HIDDEN LESSONS

Bounded contexts decouple  
**PARTS.** Parts are code and teams.

Bounded contexts are about  
enabling team autonomy.

“ teams have to make decisions about where to define **BOUNDED CONTEXTS** and what sort of relationships to have between them. Teams have to make these decisions ”

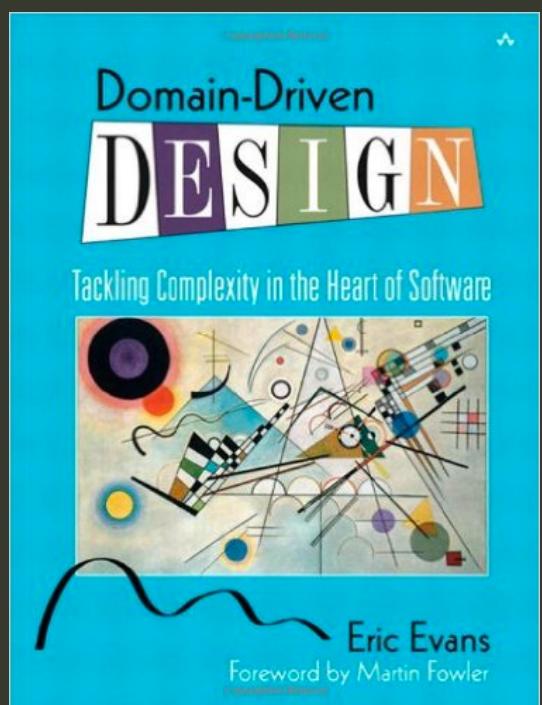


— Eric Evans (@ericevans0)

“

*This definition has to be  
reconciled with the team  
organization.*

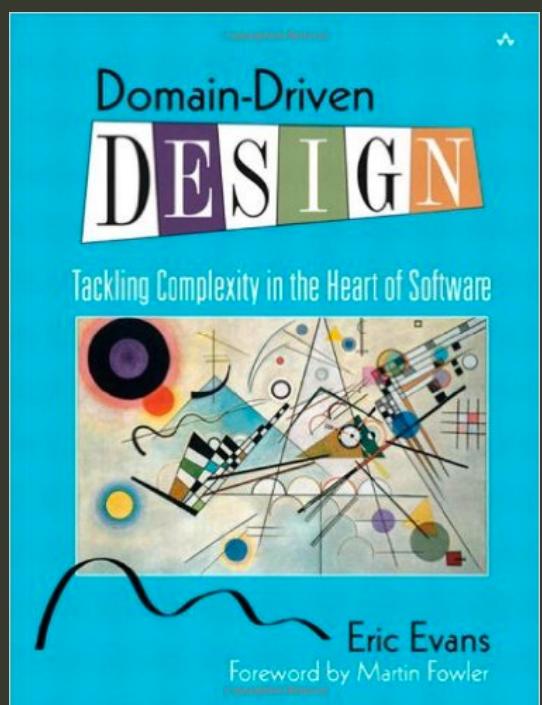
— Eric Evans (@ericevans0)



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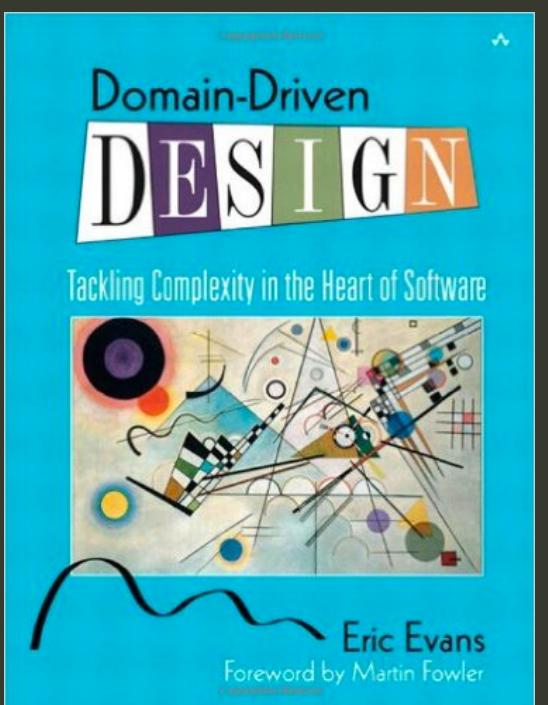
“  
*the problem starts in the way  
teams are organized and the way  
people interact.*

– Eric Evans (@ericevans0)



“  
*And the emergence of different  
models can be a result of team  
organization and development  
process.*

– Eric Evans (@ericevans0)



# HIDDEN LESSONS

Software architecture is really  
sociotechnical architecture.

We can't ignore teams when  
shaping the software.

# HOW TO FIND BOUNDARIES

1. EventStorm
2. Context map
3. Apply design heuristics
4. Try lots of models
5. Repeat regularly

O'REILLY®

Designing  
Autonomous Teams  
and Services

Deliver Continuous Business Value  
through Organizational Alignment



Nick Tune & Scott Millett



Nick! What  
have you done!

#5

# THE HIDDEN SECRETS

# CONTINUOUS DISCOVERY & DELIVERY

EventStorming brings development teams closer to the business, enabling teams to use customer insights to contribute to the product roadmap.

# DESIGNING COMPLEX SYSTEMS

Cultivating a toolbox of design heuristics equips you to manage complexity in unique, changing and novel environments.

# EVOLVING SYSTEMS

Aligning teams and software systems for high autonomy and motivation is fundamental to sustainably evolving systems.



**Developers** of the future will  
be product-focused  
sociotechnical thinkers...

What will **you** be?

# SPEAK TO YOU SOON?

[ntcoding.co.uk/workshops](http://ntcoding.co.uk/workshops)

[ntcoding.co.uk/blog](http://ntcoding.co.uk/blog)

[ntcoding.co.uk/speaking](http://ntcoding.co.uk/speaking)



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