47006- ANÁLISE E MODELAÇÃO DE SISTEMAS

Agile methods: the role of user stories

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Learning objectives for this lecture

Characterize the principles of backlog management in agile projects

Define and write stories for a given product.

Distinguish use story estimation and prioritization.

Write the acceptance criteria part of a user story.

Compare user stories and use cases with respect to commonalities and differences.

Describe the PivotalTracker story-based development workflow.

Scrum framework activities

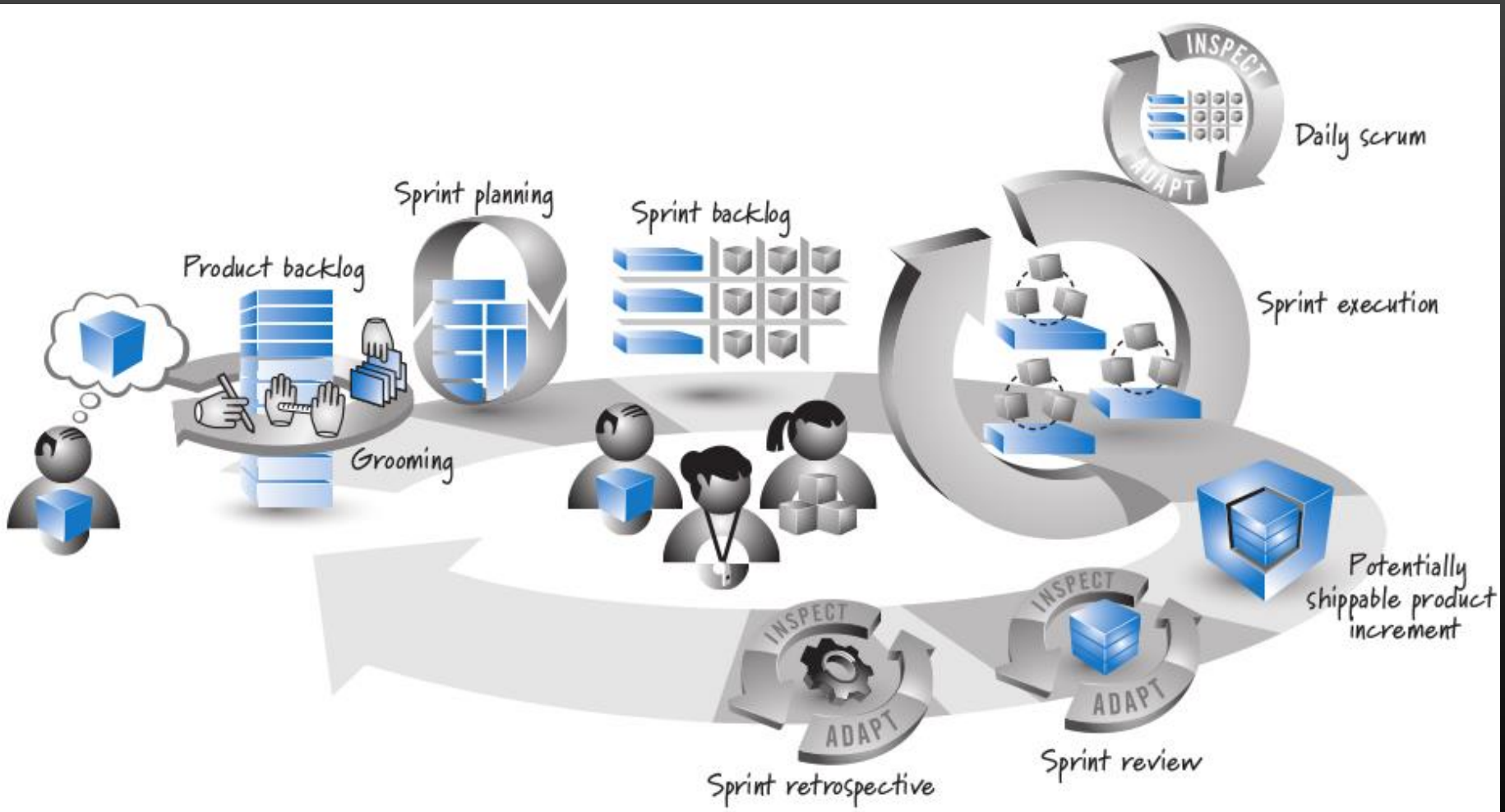
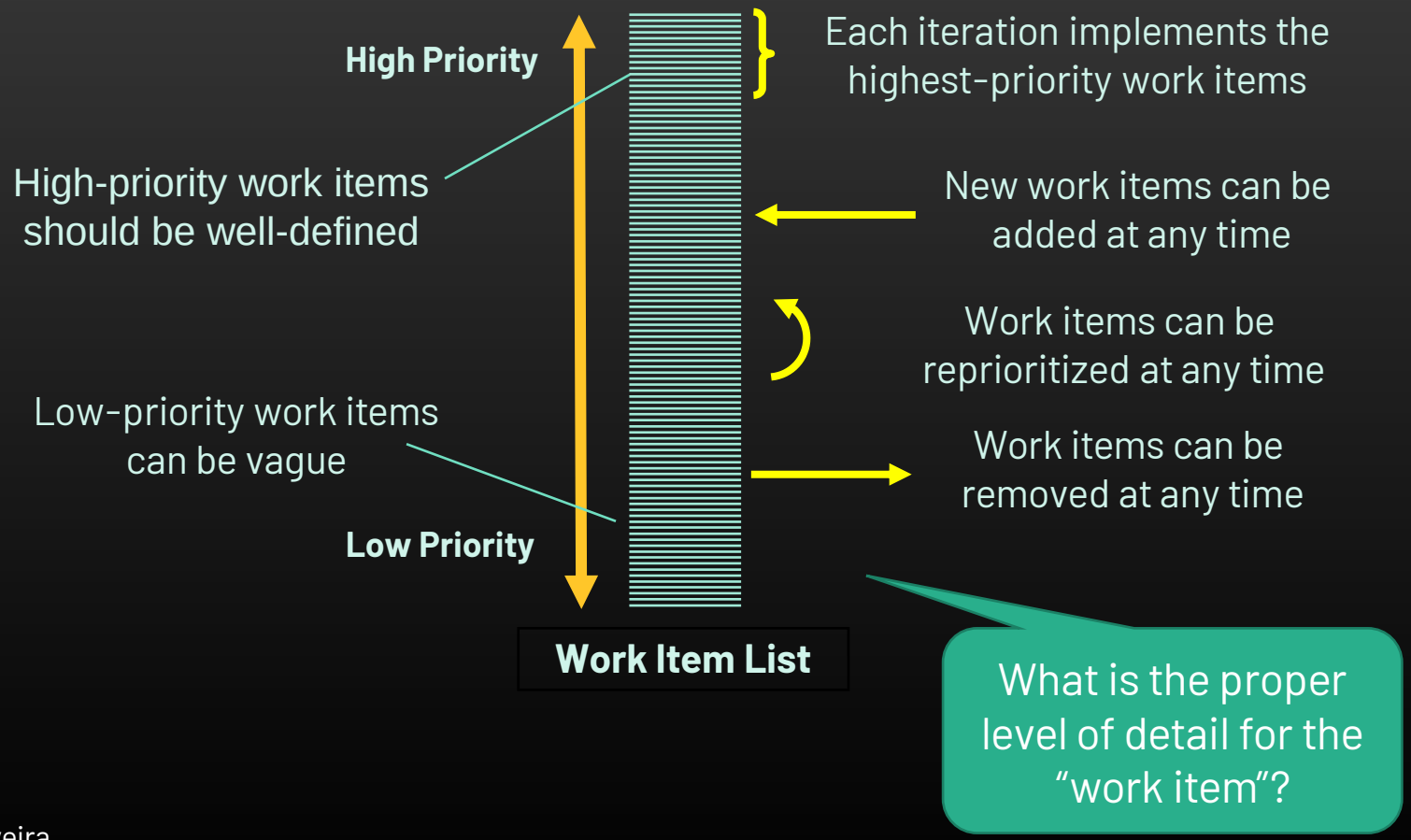
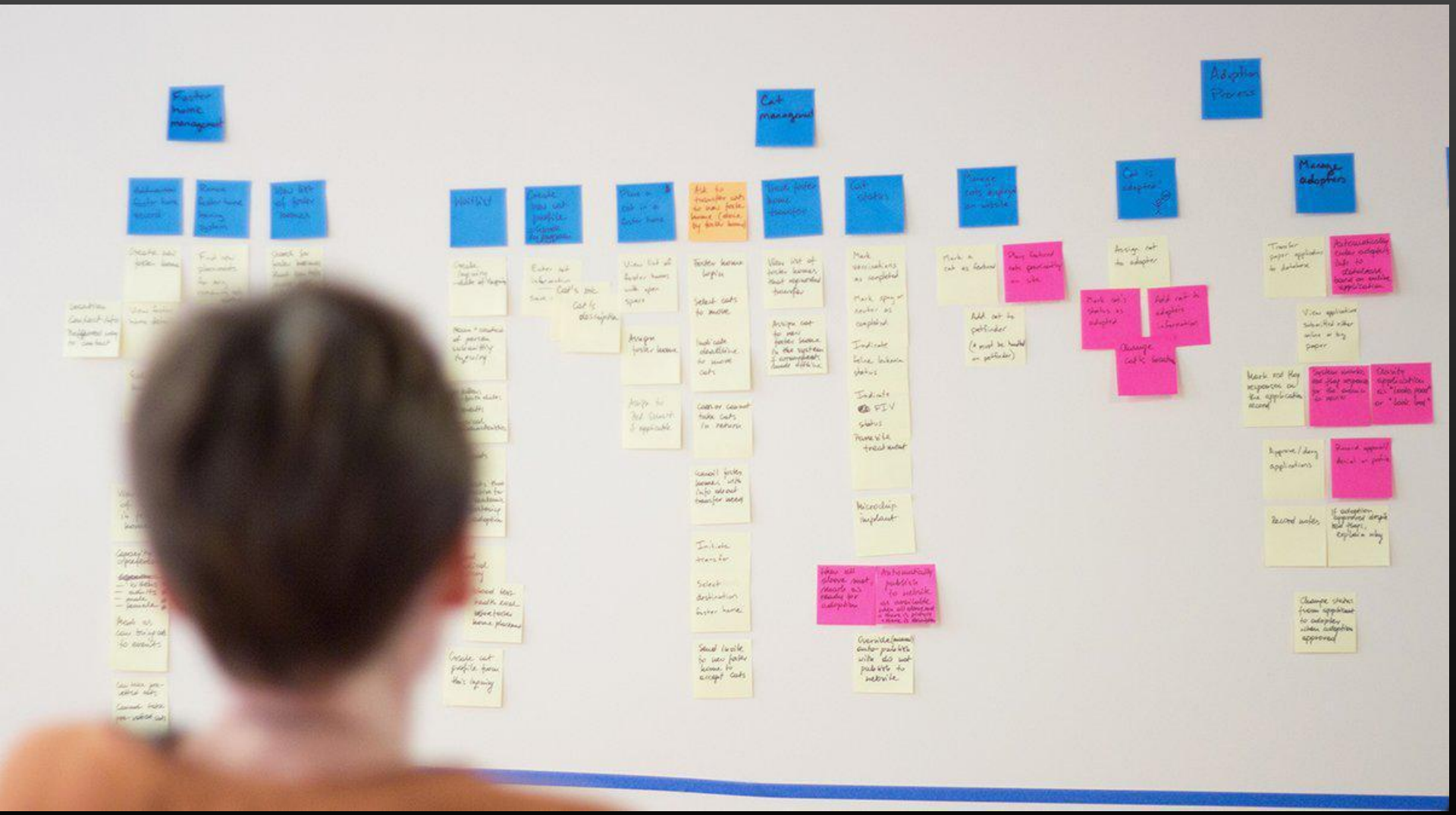


FIGURE 2.3 Scrum framework

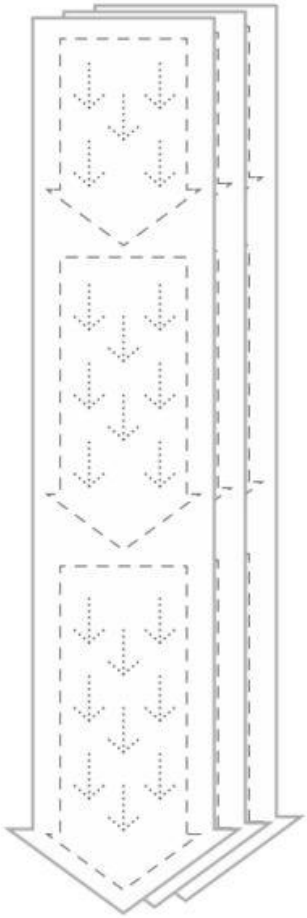
Managing the work items list (*backlog*)



Sticky note metaphor



The story should clarify how to check if it is working



Who is this user?
What makes them tick?
Who's an example of such a person?

"As a [persona],
I want to [do something]
so that I can [realize a reward]"

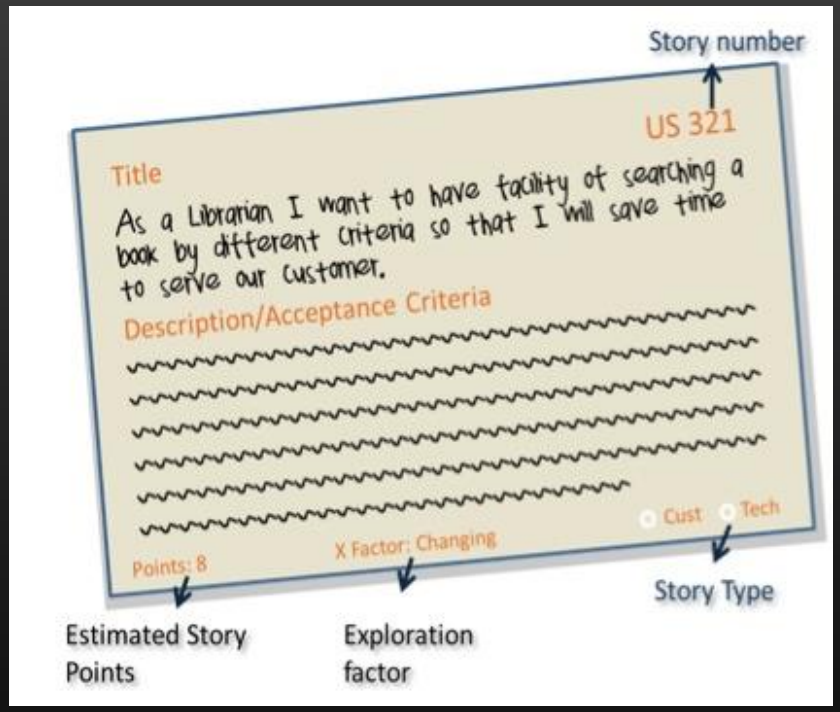
Why do they want to do this?
What's the benefit/reward?
How will we know of it's working?

User stories in agile methods

The *backlog* is the prioritized list of user stories —requirements— for the product and their allocation to upcoming iterations (called sprints in the agile development method called Scrum.)

User story: a "short, simple description of a feature told from the perspective of the person who desires the new capability, usually a user or customer of the system" (Cohn 2010)

User story != use case



→ See examples

Backlog granularity: **user stories**

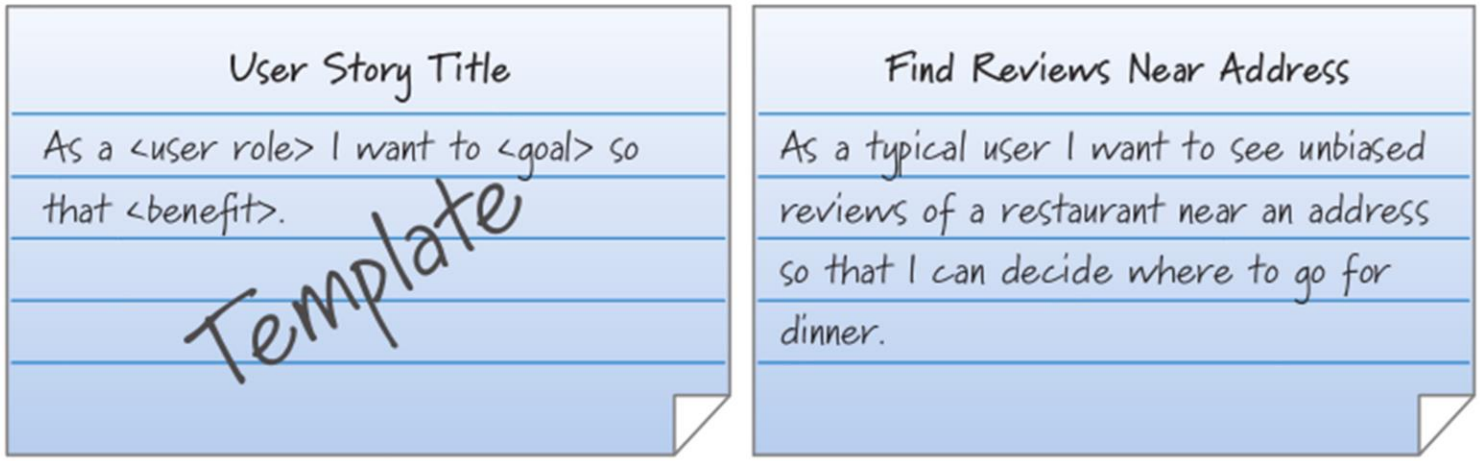
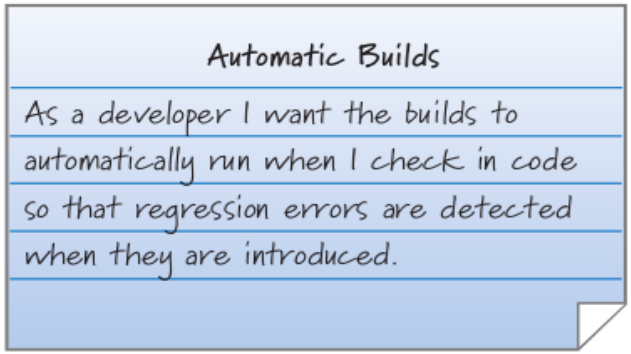
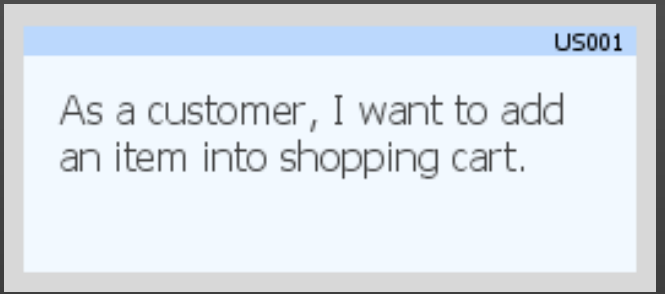


FIGURE 5.2 A user story template and card



Undesirable technical story

The user story



A "short, simple description of a feature told from the perspective of the person who desires the new capability, usually a user or customer of the system" (Cohn 2010).

User stories often are written according to the following structure (other styles also are used):

As a <type of user>, I want <some goal> so that <some reason>.

→ Advantages of the "As a user, I want" user story template.

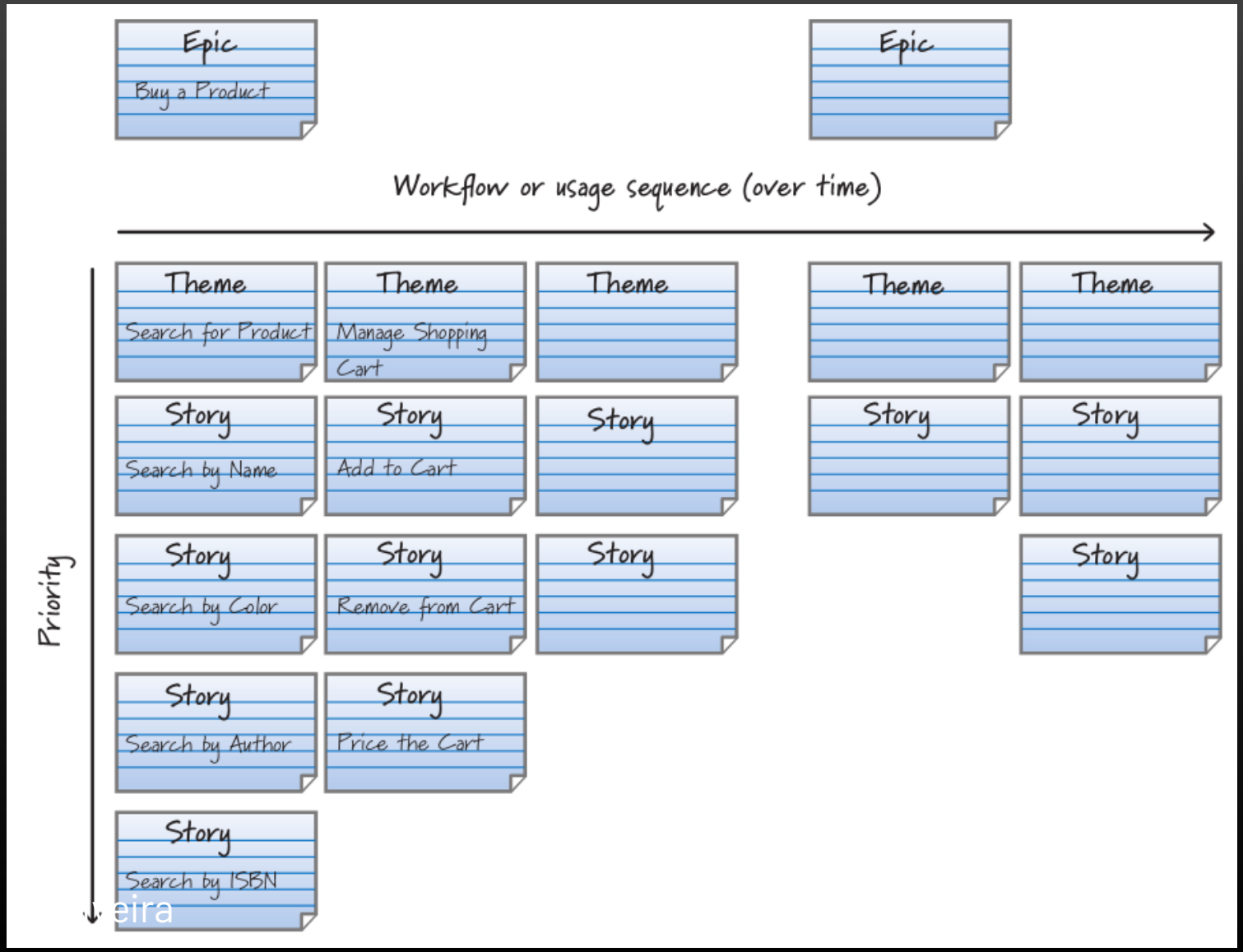
E.g. *As a customer, I want to receive an SMS when the item is arrived so that I can go pick it up.*

<role> represents the person, system, subsystem or any entity else who will interact with the system to be implemented to achieve a goal. He or she will gain values by interacting with the system.

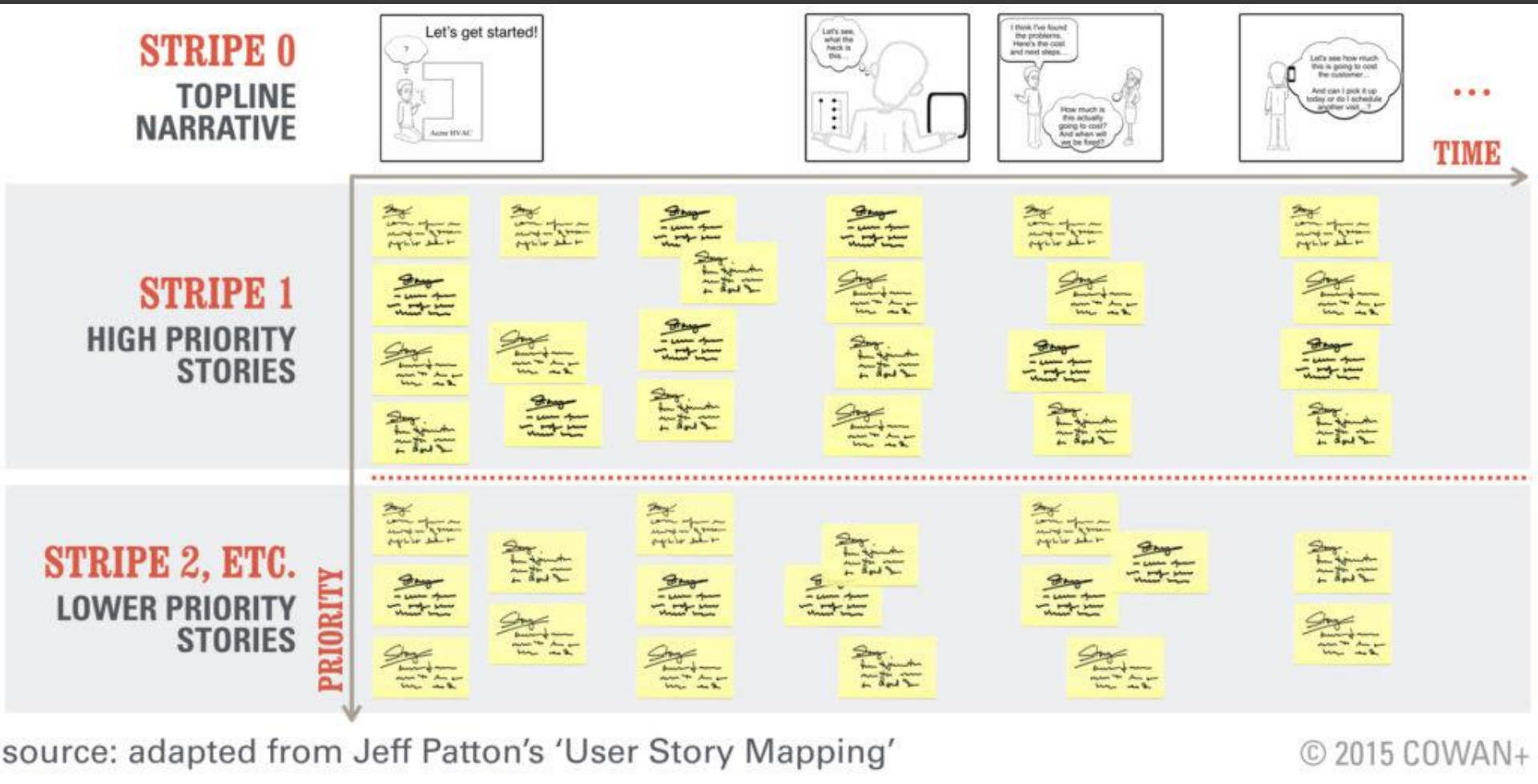
<business objective> represents a user's expectation that can be accomplished through interacting with the system.

<business value> represents the value behind the interaction with the system. May be omitted, if obvious from the business objective.

Finding good stories

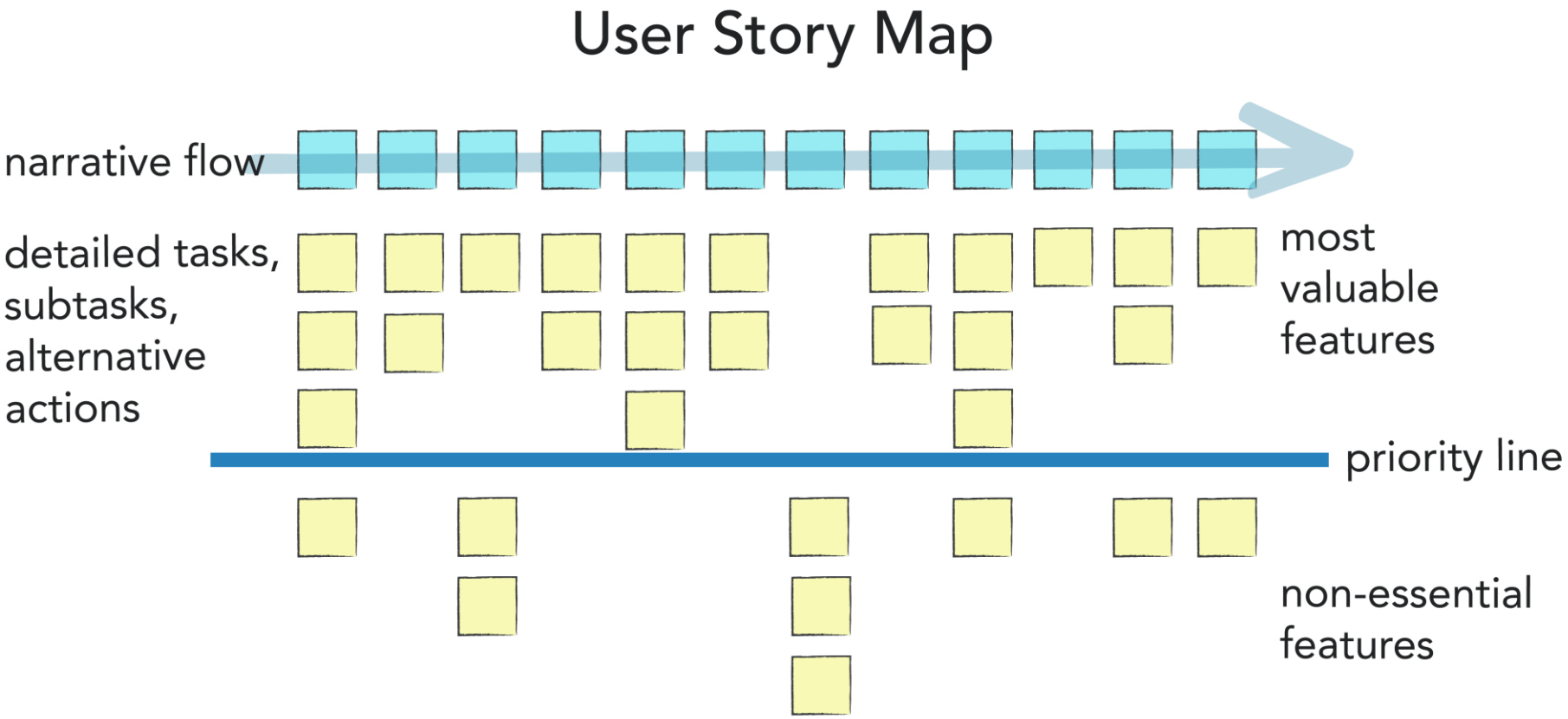


Organizing the stories in priority stripes



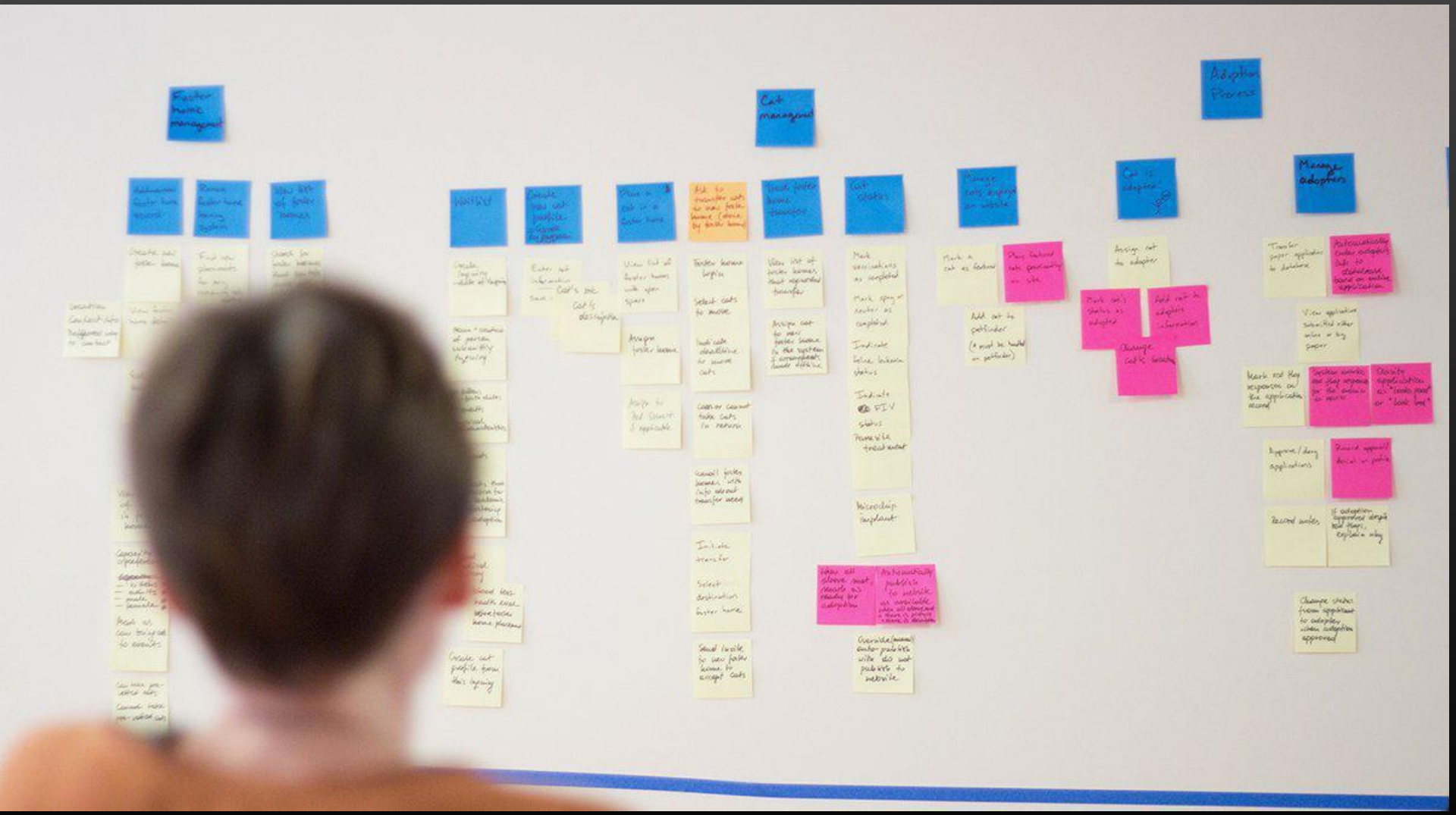
source: adapted from Jeff Patton's 'User Story Mapping'

The user story map



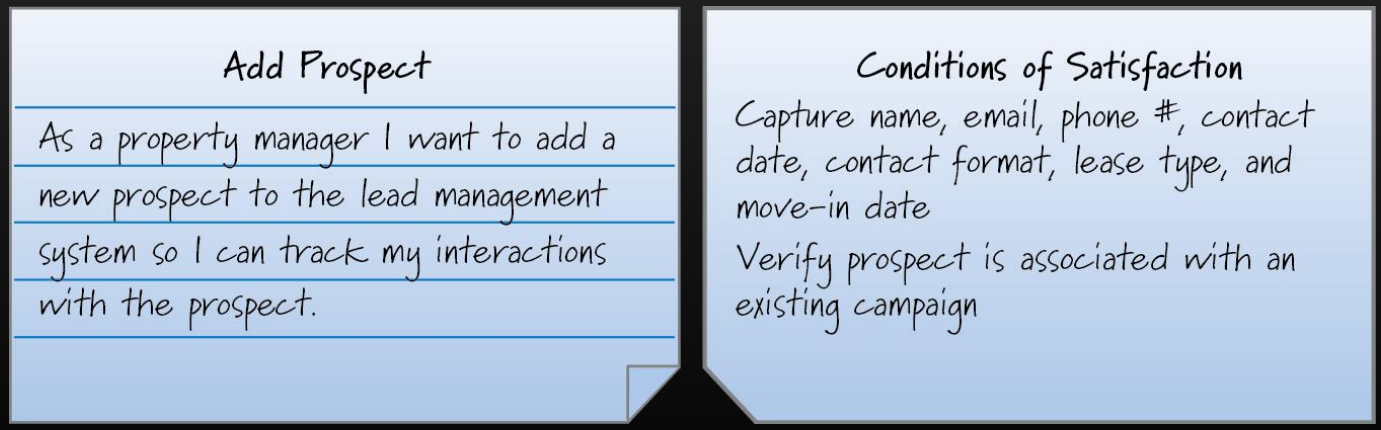
https://www.caktusgroup.com/blog/2017/07/31/user-story-mapping-high-level-release-plan/

Physical boards or in software tools...



Acceptance criteria

Rather than specifying functional requirements, agile teams typically elaborate a refined user story into a set of acceptance tests that collectively describe the story's "conditions of satisfaction."



→ See examples

A structured language for writing the acceptance criteria

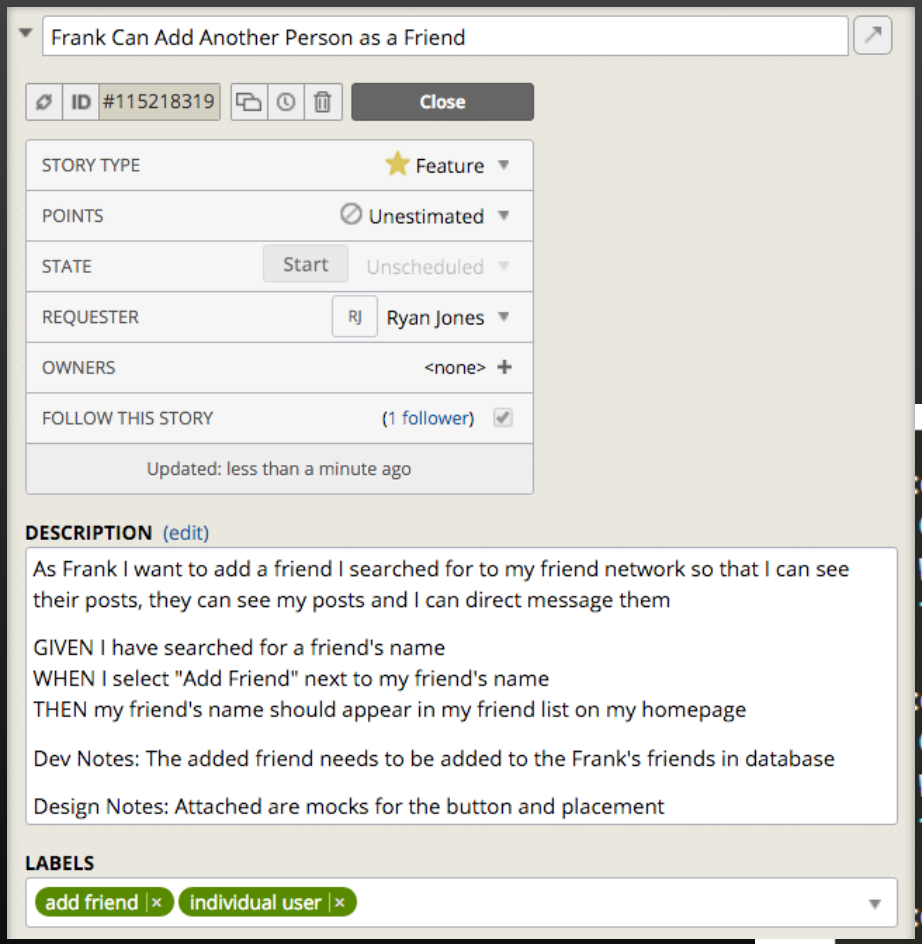
GIVEN [necessary context] WHEN [action] THEN [reaction].

→ Gerkin DSL.

→ Used to create AC that are meant to be automatize (feed the tests)

```
Title (one line describing the story)

Narrative:
As a [role]
I want [feature]
So that [benefit]

Acceptance Criteria: (presented as Scenarios)

Scenario 1: Title
Given [context]
  And [some more context]...
When  [event]
Then  [outcome]
  And [another outcome]...

Scenario 2: ...
```

User story as a colaboration context




```
enario: Wilson posts to his own blog
 Given I am logged in as Wilson
 When I try to post to "Expensive Therapy"
 Then I should see "Your article was published."

enario: Wilson fails to post to somebody else's blog
 Given I am logged in as Wilson
 When I try to post to "Greg's anti-tax rants"
 Then I should see "Hey! That's not your blog!"

enario: Greg posts to a client's blog
 Given I am logged in as Greg
 When I try to post to "Expensive Therapy"
 Then I should see "Your article was published."
```

PivotalTracker

Stories define your project

Every project starts with a story, no matter what you're building. Tracker helps your team better develop and keep track of them while they progress from start to delivered.

Start with a good story

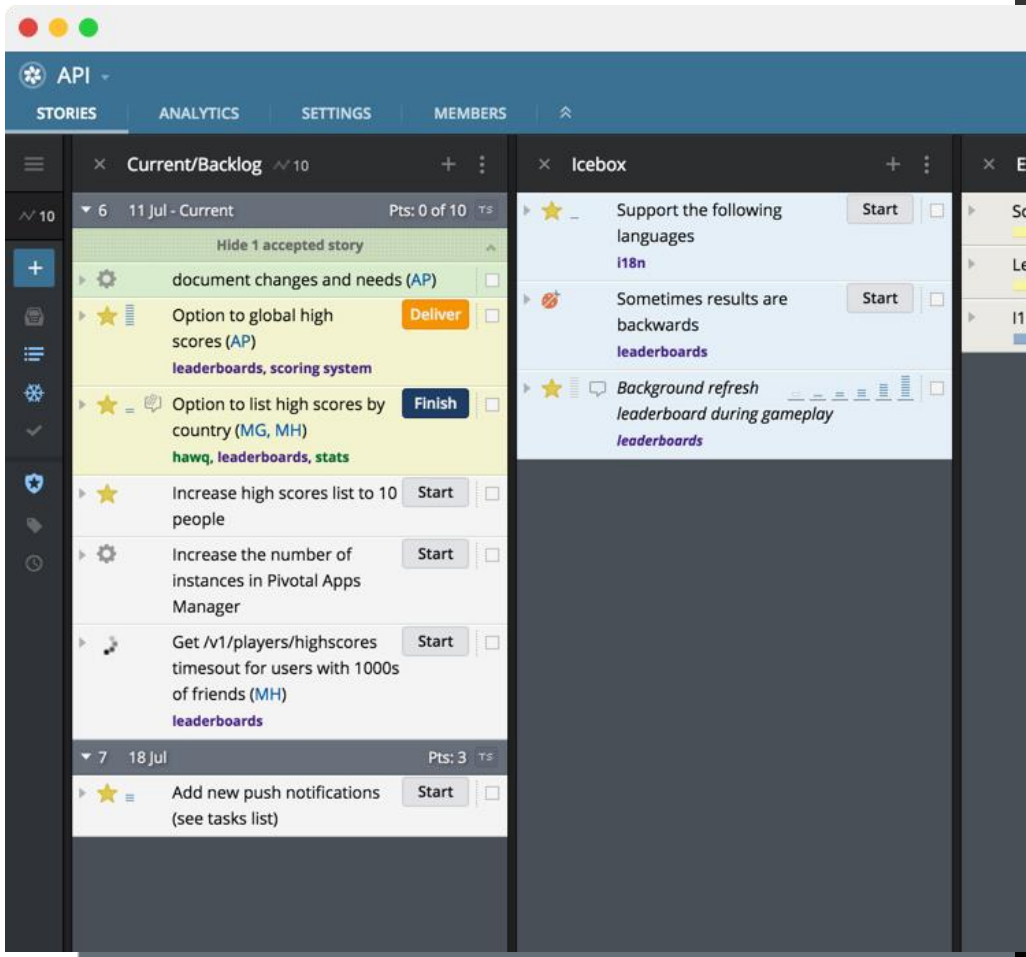
A story is a small, actionable bit of work that's either a placeholder for a future conversation or a reflection of one that already happened. Outlining what a user needs helps you focus on the what, not the how.

Define the story

Select among features, bugs, and chores to strike a healthy balance between building new features, staying ahead of technical debt, and keeping the bugs from piling up.

Estimate, then prioritize

Writing the story is just the beginning—now you get to rap about it. Estimate as a team to uncover the story's complexity. Choose among several point scales, then drag-and-drop to prioritize by iteration.



Pivotal**Tracker** **style**

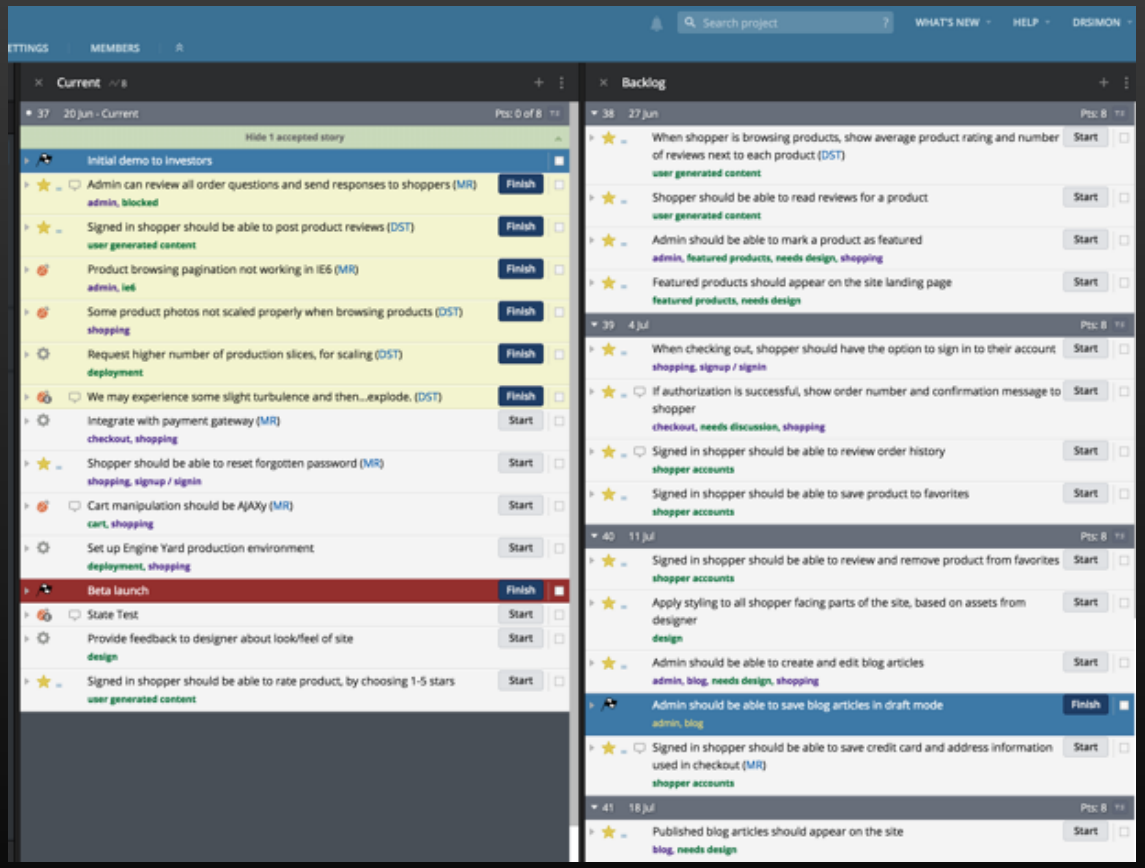
Tracker lists stories in a project's Current and Backlog panels in priority order.

Dragging a story to the top of your Backlog makes it the top priority

Tracker is a "pull" scheduling system — it pulls in stories to fill the team's WIP limit, based on velocity.

Tracker automatically moves stories from the top of your project's Backlog into the current iteration according to the current velocity. (depending on the individual story estimates).

Tracker projects use a linear point scale (i.e., 0, 1, 2, 3). You can change



Story Points

Funcionalidades (encomenda de comida online):

- F1: Inicio de sessão do utilizador (login)
- F2: Registo de novo utilizador na plataforma
- F3: Listar promoções em destaque do dia.
- F4: Colocar a encomenda (inclui pagamento)

Escala:

1pt: muito fácil. Direto de se implementar e âmbito reduzido.

2pts: acessível; não oferece grande dificuldade.

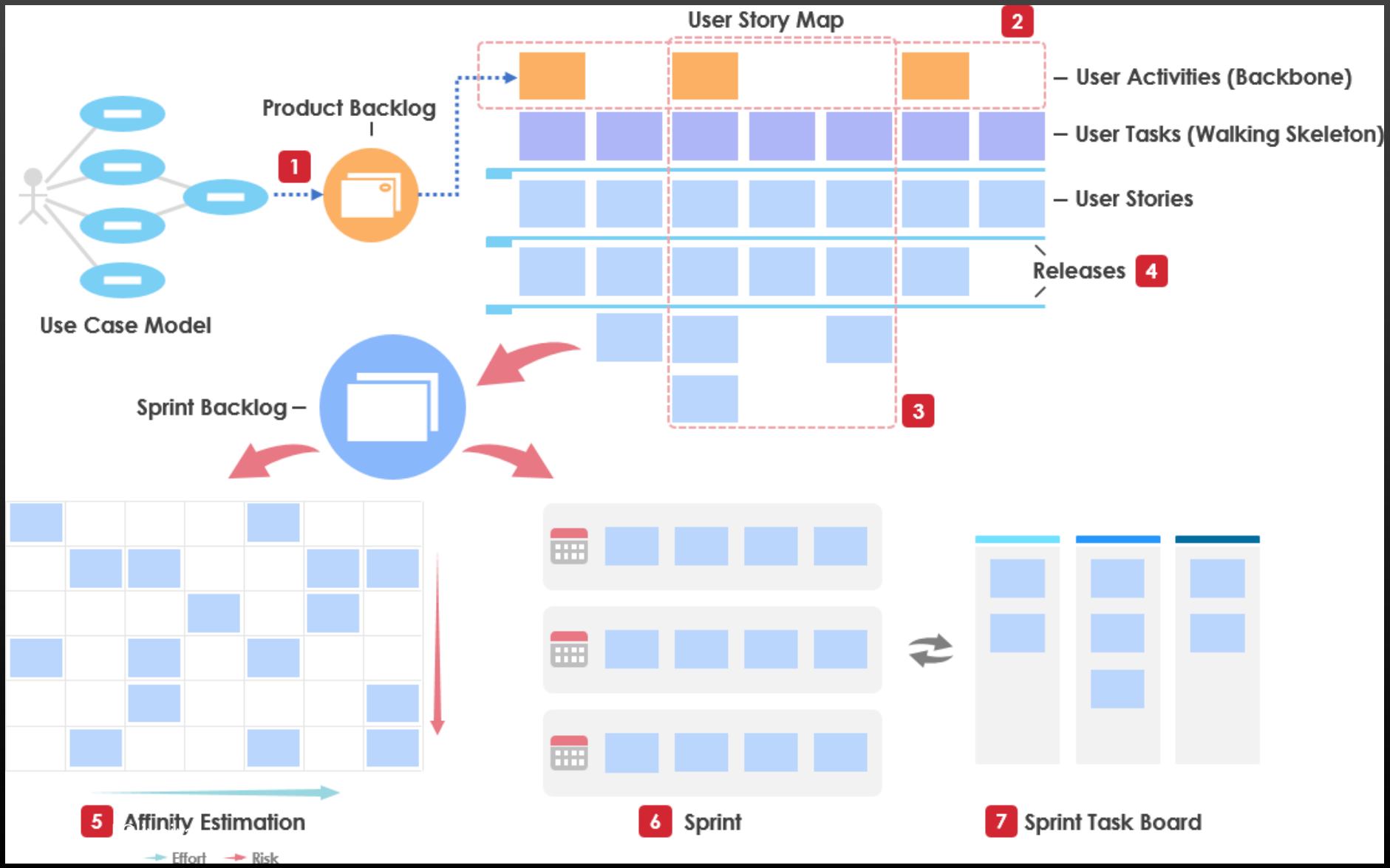
4pts: complexo; tem várias interdependências (de outros módulos/serviços) ou um fluxo elaborado

8pts: muito complexo; requer integrações, tecnologias ou conhecimentos que não são completamente dominados

→ http://bit.ly/2IUrnMn

PivotalTracker pannels

Agile in VisualParadigm



Requirements elicitation by exploring user-centered scenarios

A) Use cases

B) User stories

C) User-centered design (UCD)

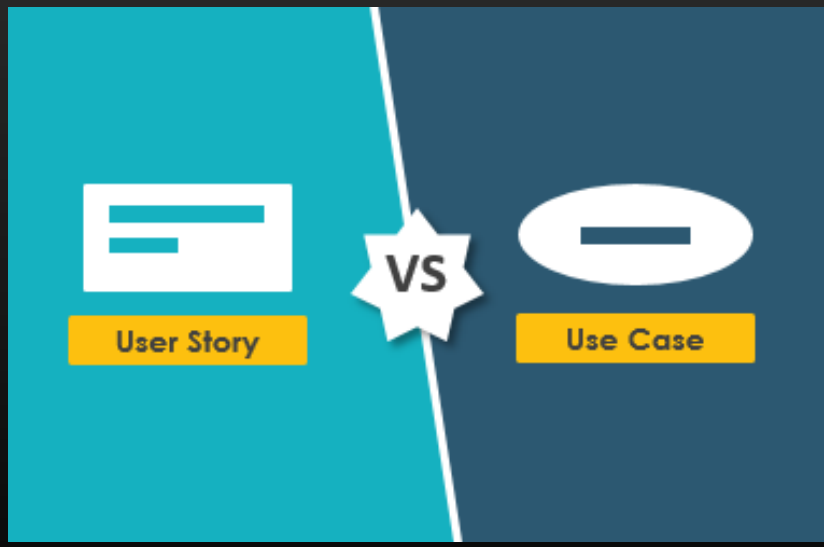
D) Customer Journey Map (Experience maps)

Recall: use cases and related assets

A *use case* describes a sequence of interactions between a system and an external actor that results in the actor being able to achieve some outcome of value.

The names of use cases are always written in
the form of a verb followed by an object.

The use case is supplemented with a detailed description (following a template)



ID and Name:	UC-4 Request a Chemical		
Created By:	Lori	Date Created:	8/22/13
Primary Actor:	Requester	Secondary Actors:	Buyer, Chemical Stockroom, Training Database
Description:	The Requester specifies the desired chemical to request by entering its name or chemical ID number or by importing its structure from a chemical drawing tool. The system either offers the Requester a container of the chemical from the chemical stockroom or lets the Requester order one from a vendor.		
Trigger:	Requester indicates that he wants to request a chemical.		
Preconditions:	PRE-1. User's identity has been authenticated. PRE-2. User is authorized to request chemicals. PRE-3. Chemical inventory database is online.		
Postconditions:	POST-1. Request is stored in the CTS. POST-2. Request was sent to the Chemical Stockroom or to a Buyer.		
Normal Flow:	**4.0 Request a Chemical from the Chemical Stockroom** 1. Requester specifies the desired chemical. 2. System lists containers of the desired chemical that are in the chemical stockroom, if any. 3. System gives Requester the option to View Container History for any container. 4. Requester selects a specific container or asks to place a vendor order (see 4.1). 5. Requester enters other information to complete the request. 6. System stores the request and notifies the Chemical Stockroom.		
Alternative Flows:	**4.1 Request a Chemical from a Vendor** 1. Requester searches vendor catalogs for the chemical (see 4.1.E1). 2. System displays a list of vendors for the chemical with available container sizes, grades, and prices. 3. Requester selects a vendor, container size, grade, and number of containers. 4. Requester enters other information to complete the request. 5. System stores the request and notifies the Buyer.		
Exceptions:	**4.1.E1 Chemical Is Not Commercially Available** 1. System displays message: No vendors for that chemical. 2. System asks Requester if he wants to request another chemical (3a) or to exit (4a). 3a. Requester asks to request another chemical. 3b. System starts normal flow over. 4a. Requester asks to exit. 4b. System terminates use case.		
Priority:	High		
Frequency of Use:	Approximately 5 times per week by each chemist, 200 times per week by chemical stockroom staff		

Use cases and similar user stories

TABLE 8-2 Some sample use cases and corresponding user stories

Application	Sample use case	Corresponding user story
Chemical tracking system	Request a Chemical	As a chemist, I want to request a chemical so that I can perform experiments.
Airport check-in kiosk	Check in for a Flight	As a traveler, I want to check in for a flight so that I can fly to my destination.
Accounting system	Create an Invoice	As a small business owner, I want to create an invoice so that I can bill a customer.
Online bookstore	Update Customer Profile	As a customer, I want to update my customer profile so that future purchases are billed to a new credit card number.

More often: user story ⊂ use case

Recall that user stories are concise statements of user needs, in contrast to the richer description that a use case provides. In the agile world, a user story sometimes covers the same scope as an entire use case, but in other cases a user story represents just a single scenario or alternative flow. If an agile development team were discussing requirements for the CTS, they might come up with user stories such as the following:

> *As a chemist, I want to request a chemical so that I can perform experiments.*
>
> *As a chemist, I want to request a chemical from the Chemical Stockroom so that I can use it immediately.*
>
> *As a chemist, I want to request a chemical from a vendor because I don't trust the purity of any of the samples available in the Chemical Stockroom.*

The first of these three stories corresponds to the use case as a whole. The second and third user stories represent the normal flow of the use case and the first alternative flow, from Figure 8-3.

At this level, use cases look much like user stories. Both are focused on understanding what different types of users need to accomplish through interactions with a software system. However, the two processes move in different directions from these similar starting points, as illustrated in Figure 8-1. Both approaches can also produce other deliverables, such as visual analysis models, but Figure 8-1 illustrates the core distinction.

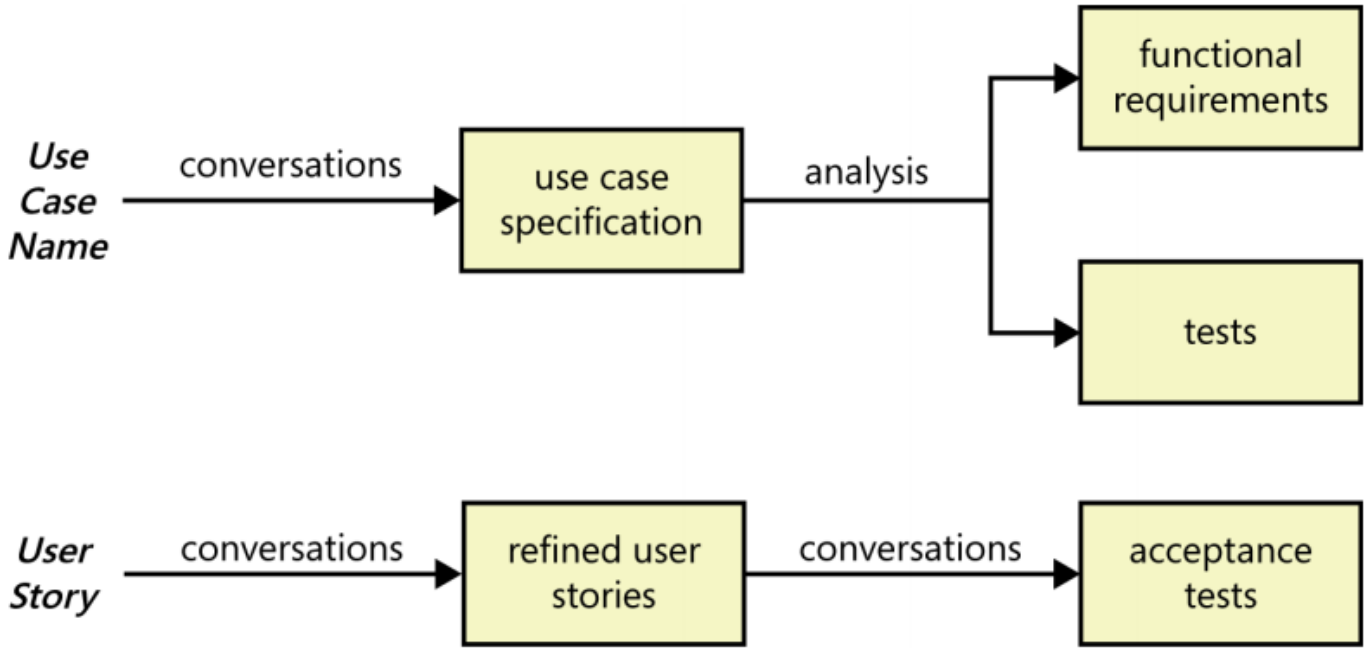


FIGURE 8-1 How user requirements lead to functional requirements and tests with the use case approach and the user story approach.

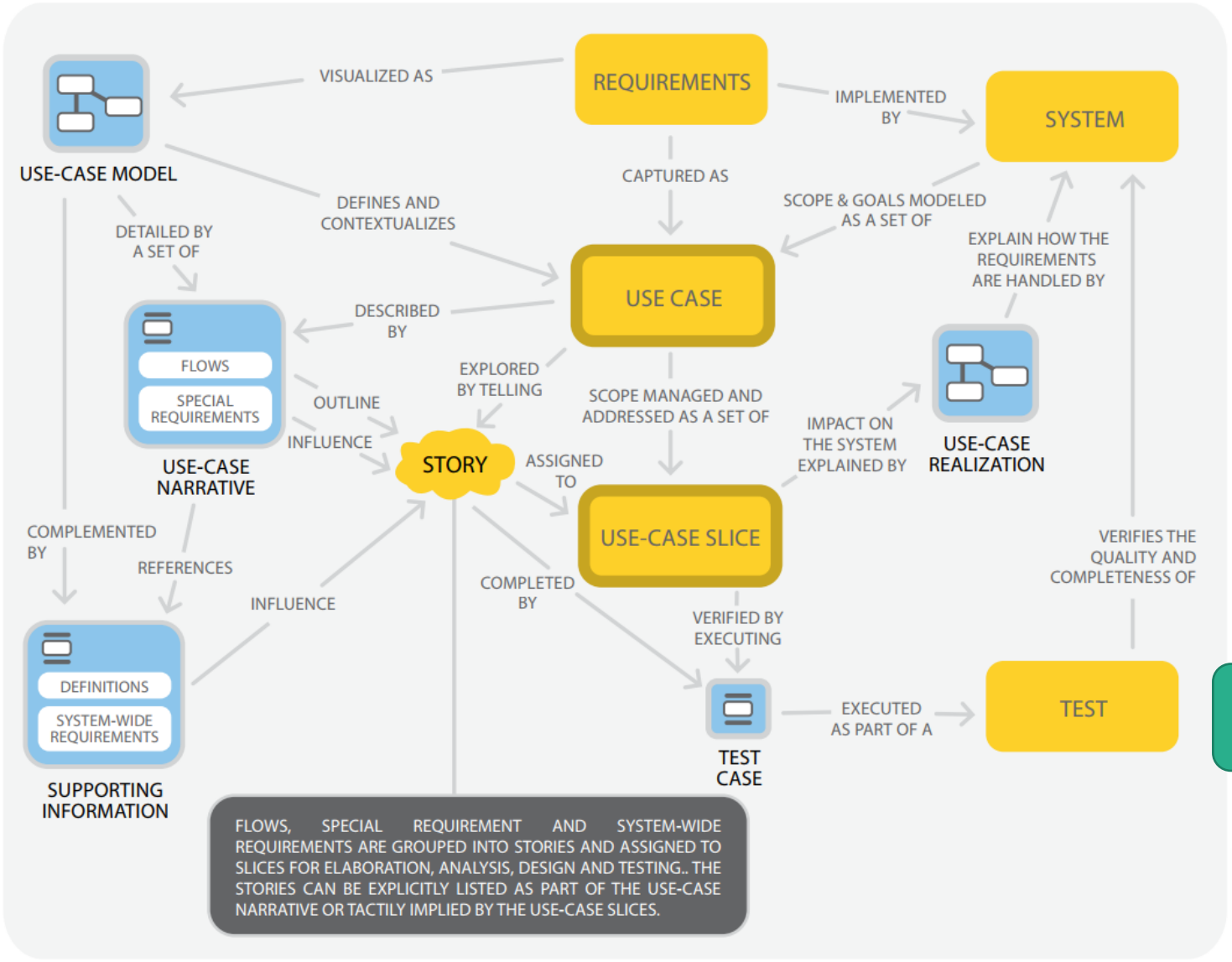
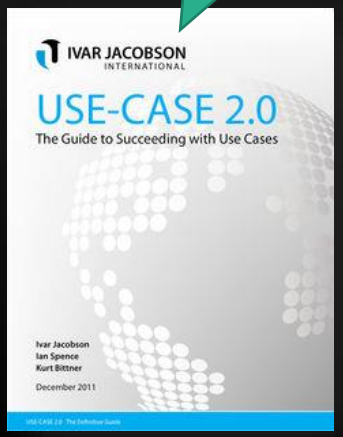


FIGURE 9: THE USE-CASE 2.0 WORK PRODUCTS

Copy in Moodle (TP-08 Resources)



Jacobson: flows in a use case match stories

A story is described by part of the use-case narrative, one or more flows and special requirements, and one or more test cases. The key to finding effective stories is to understand the structure of the use-case narrative. The network of flows can be thought of as a map that summarizes all the stories needed to describe the use case. **Figure 8** illustrates the relationship between the flows of a use-case narrative and the stories it describes.

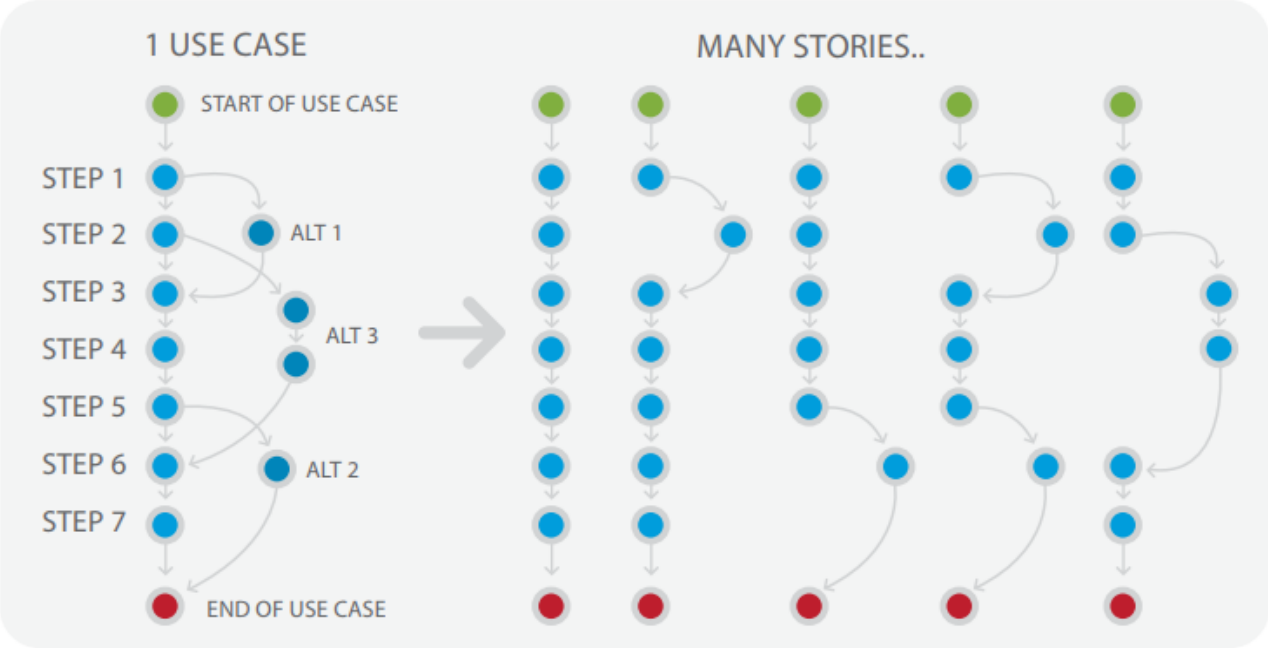
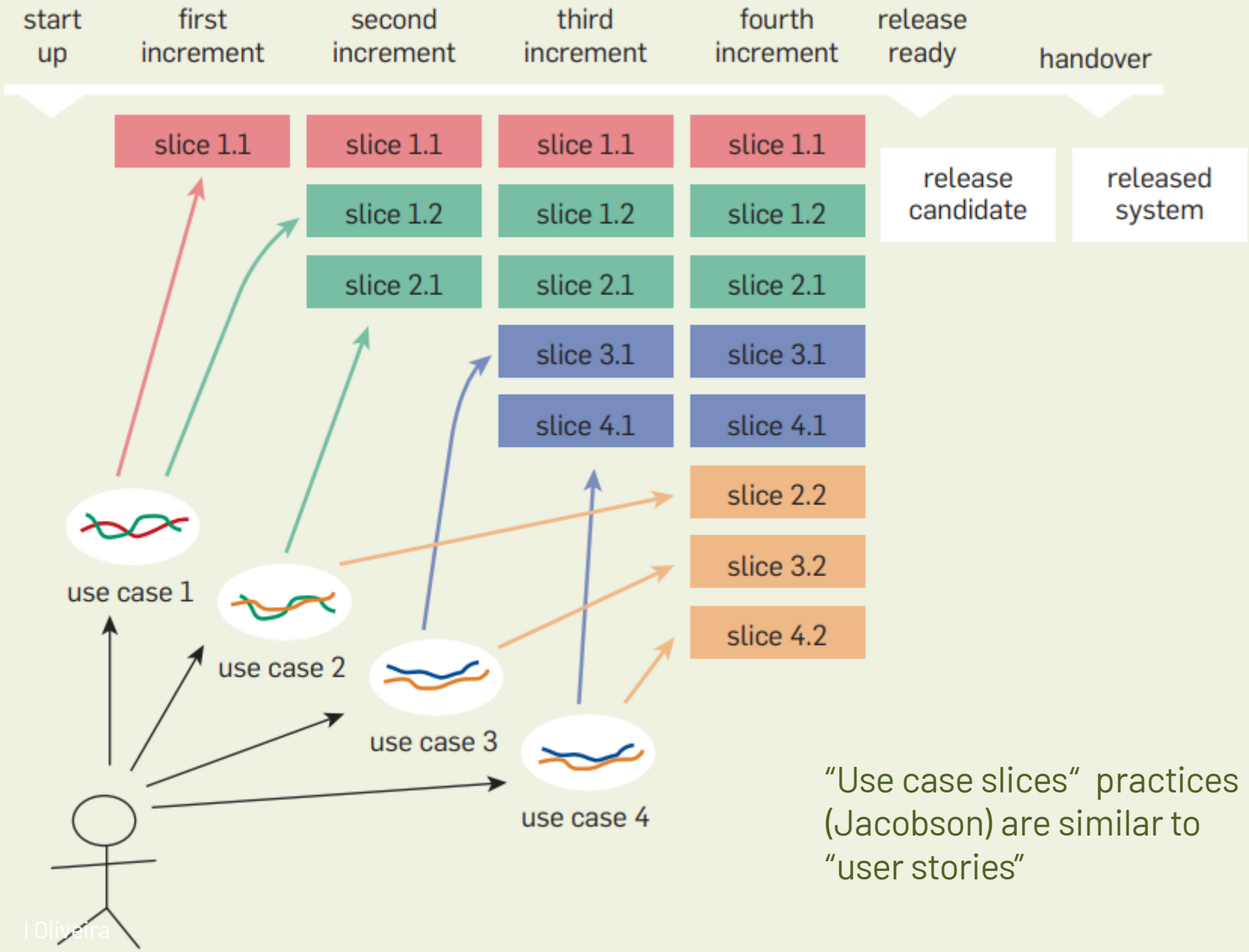


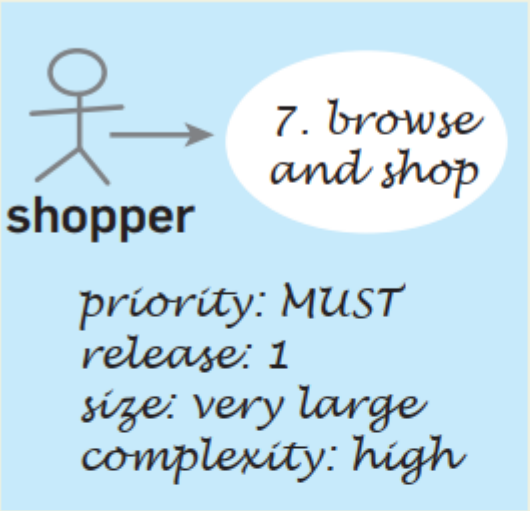
FIGURE 8:
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FLOWS AND THE STORIES

Figure 4. Use cases, use-case slices, increments, and releases.

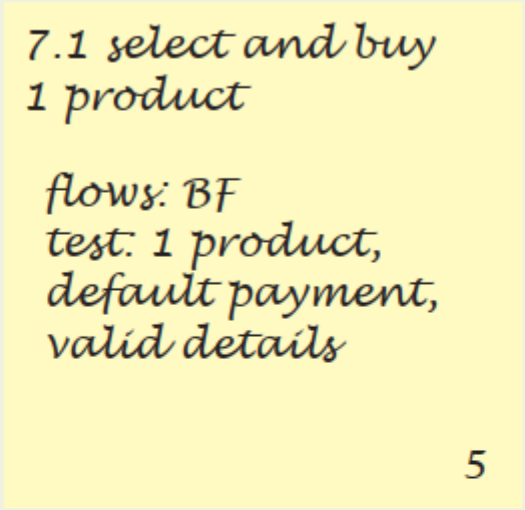


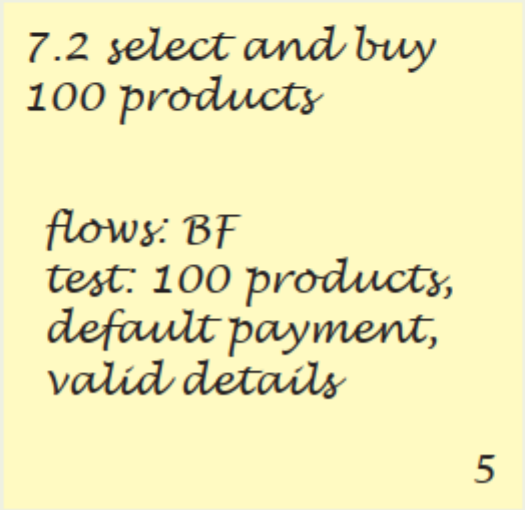
"Use case slices" practices (Jacobson) are similar to "user stories"

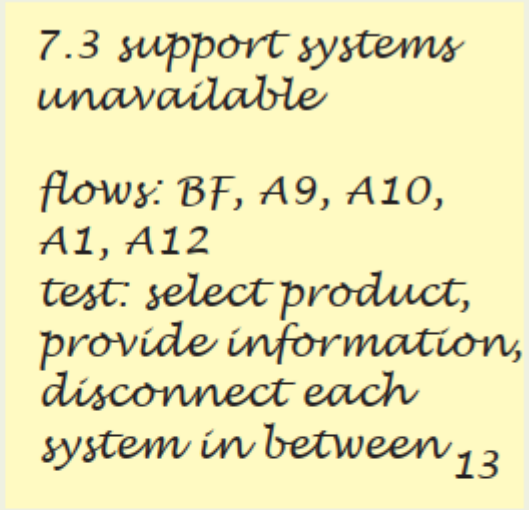
Figure 5. Capturing the properties of a use case and its slices using sticky notes.



a use case and its properties captured on a sticky note



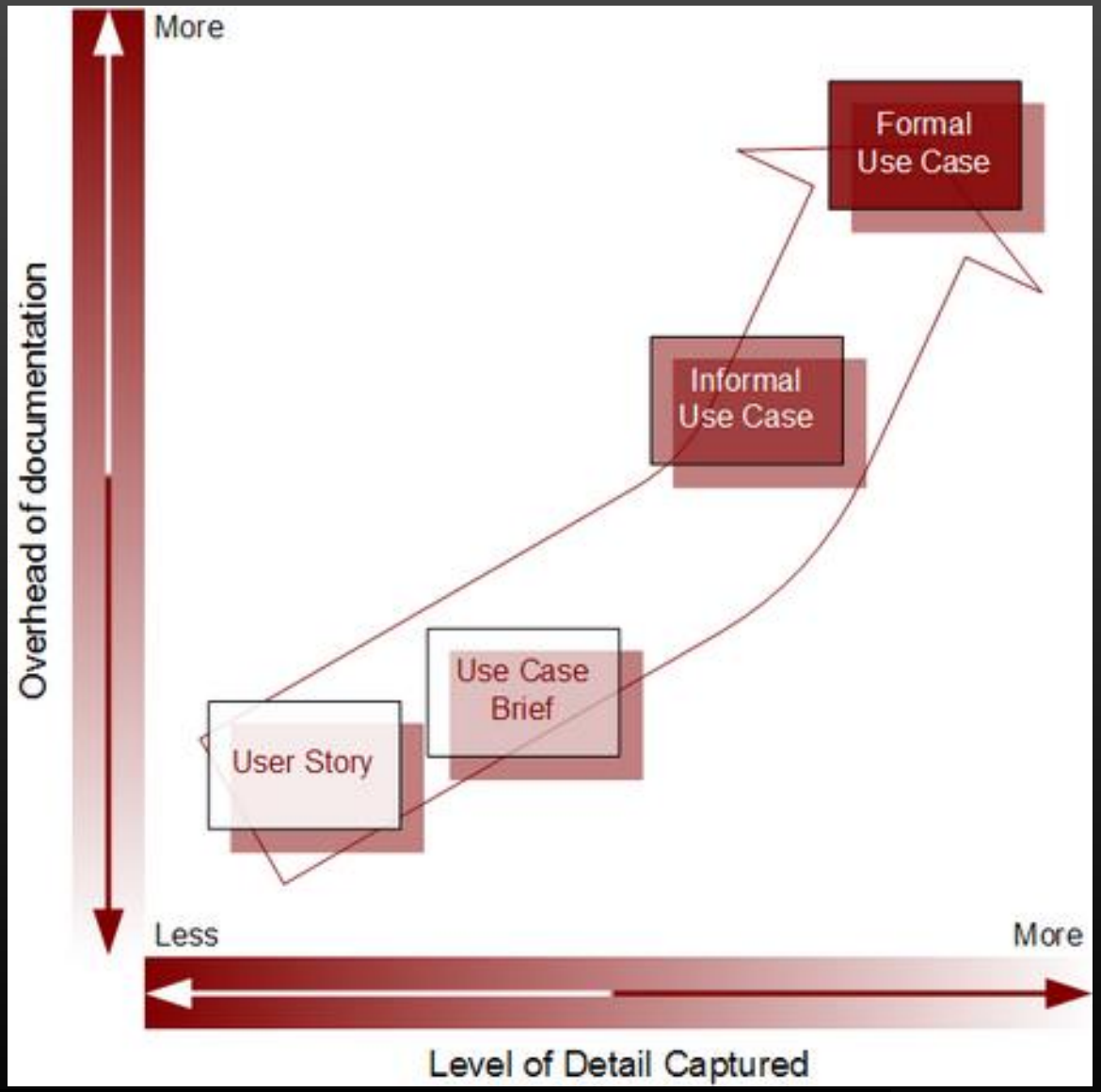


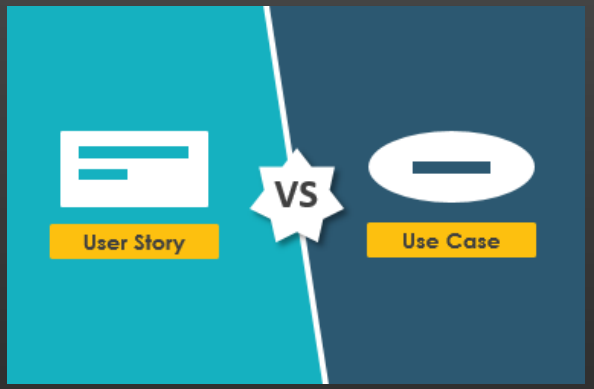


some slices from the use case captured on their own sticky notes

User stories and use cases: what is the difference?

Common	Use-Cases	User-story
• Both take a usage-centric approach • Both are placeholders for a conversation • Both result in test cases that represent the acceptance criteria • Both can be estimated	• Big picture to help people understand the extent of the system and its value • Dive further into describing how the user imagines interacting with the system to accomplish his objective. • Provide project participants with a structure and context that a collection of user stories lacks • You can examine each element of a use case (flows, preconditions, postconditions, and so on) to look for pertinent functional and nonfunctional requirements and to derive tests. This helps you avoid overlooking any requirements • Active scope management	• Concise statement of a user's needs • Easy access to domain experts available (refine the story as needed) • More suited to act as a backlog item for daily activities (Scrum, Kanban, specification by example) • Explicit acceptance criteria


More
Overhead of documentation
Formal Use Case
Informal Use Case
Use Case Brief
User Story
Less
More
Level of Detail Captured


User Story
VS
Use Case

Requirements elicitation by exploring user-centered scenarios

A) Use cases

B) User stories

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D) Customer Journey Map (Experience maps)

Use cases way

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Created By:	Lori	Date Created:	8/22/13
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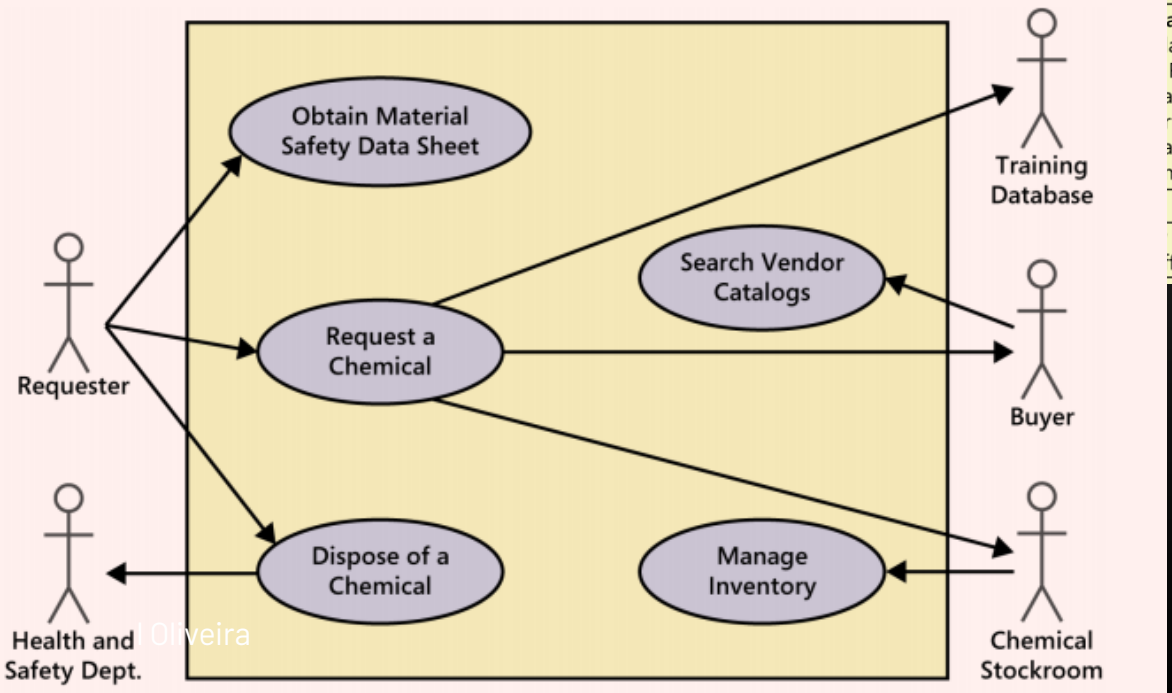
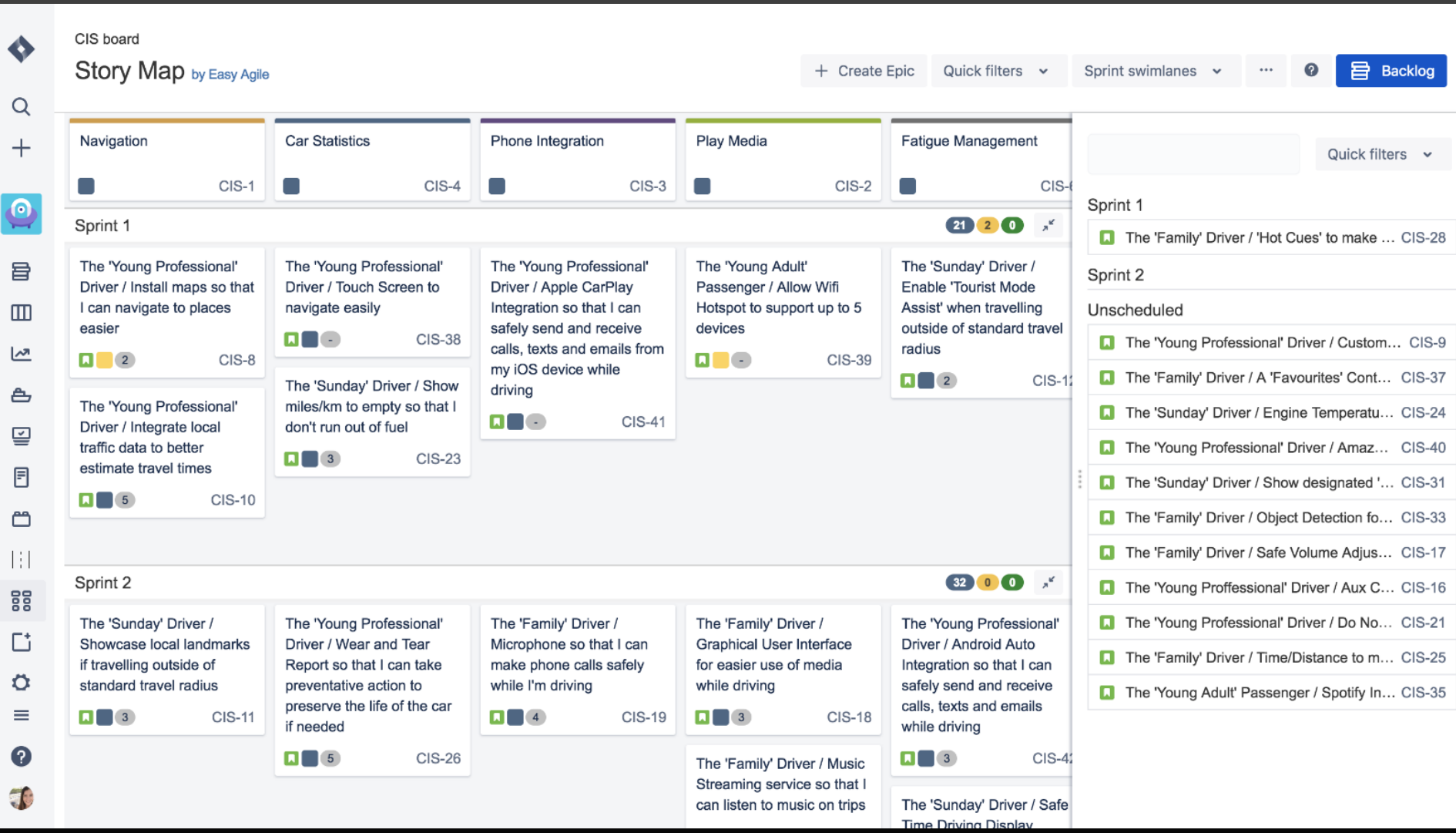
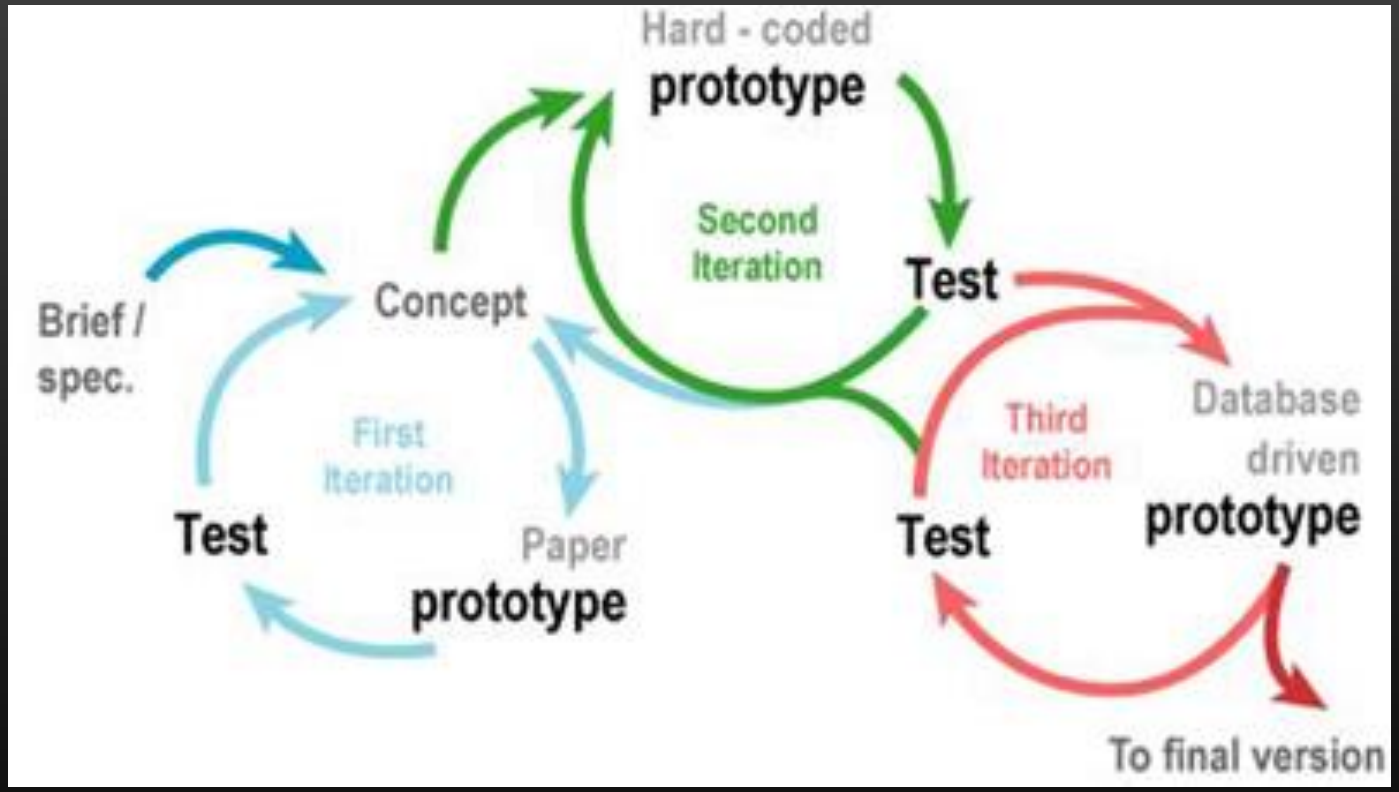
Trigger:	Requester indicates that he wants to request a chemical.		
Preconditions:	PRE-1. User's identity has been authenticated. PRE-2. User is authorized to request chemicals. PRE-3. Chemical inventory database is online.		
Postconditions:	POST-1. Request is stored in the CTS. POST-2. Request was sent to the Chemical Stockroom or to a Buyer.		
Normal Flow:	**4.0 Request a Chemical from the Chemical Stockroom** 1. Requester specifies the desired chemical. 2. System lists containers of the desired chemical that are in the chemical stockroom, if any. 3. System gives Requester the option to View Container History for any container. 4. Requester selects a specific container or asks to place a vendor order (see 4.1). 5. Requester enters other information to complete the request. 6. System stores the request and notifies the Chemical Stockroom.		
Alternative Flows:	**4.1 Request a Chemical from a Vendor** 1. Requester searches vendor catalogs for the chemical (see 4.1.E1). 2. System displays a list of vendors for the chemical with available container sizes, grades, and prices. 3. Requester selects a vendor, container size, grade, and number of containers. 4. Requester enters other information to complete the request. …s the request and notifies the Buyer. **…al Is Not Commercially Available** …ays message: No vendors for that chemical. …Requester if he wants to request another chemical (3a) or to exit (4a). …asks to request another chemical. …rts normal flow over. …asks to exit. …minates use case.		
	…5 times per week by each chemist, 200 times per week by chemical …f		



User stories



UCD: prototyping & acceptance



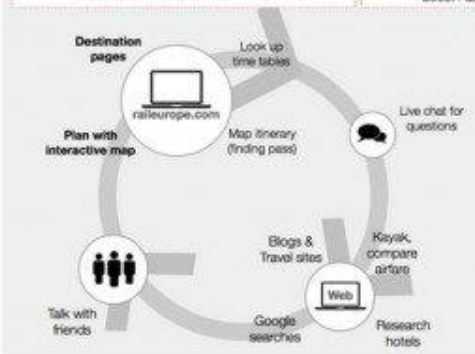
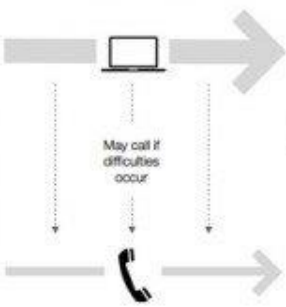
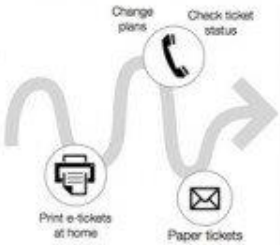
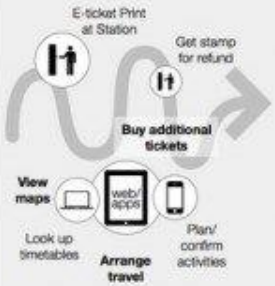
https://www.museumsandtheweb.com/mw2007/papers/brown/brown.html

Rail Europe Experience Map

Guiding Principles

People choose rail travel because it is convenient, easy, and flexible.	Rail booking is only one part of people's larger travel process.	People build their travel plans over time.	People value service that is respectful, effective and personable.

Customer Journey

STAGES	Research & Planning	Shopping	Booking	Post-Booking, Pre-Travel	Travel	Post Travel
RAIL EUROPE	Research destinations, routes and products; Enter trips; Review fares; Select Pass(es)		Confirm itinerary; Delivery options; Payment options; Review & Confirm	Wait for paper tickets to arrive	Activities, unexpected changes	Share experience; Follow-up on refunds for booking changes
DOING						
THINKING	• What is the easiest way to get around Europe? • Where do I want to go? • How much time should I/we spend in each place for site seeing and activities?	• I want to get the best price, but I'm willing to pay a little more for first class. • How much will my whole trip cost me? What are my trade-offs? • Are there other activities I can add to my plan?	• Do I have all the tickets, passes and reservations I need in this booking so I don't pay more shipping? • Rail Europe is not answering the phone. How else can I get my question answered?	• Do I have everything I need? • Rail Europe website was easy and friendly, but when an issue came up, I couldn't get help. • What will I do if my tickets don't arrive in time?	• I just figured we could grab a train but there are not more trains. What can we do now? • Am I on the right train? If not, what next? • I want to make more travel plans. How do I do that?	• Trying to return ticket I was not able to use. Not sure if I'll get a refund or not. • People are going to love these photos! • Next time, we will explore routes and availability more carefully.
FEELING	• I'm excited to go to Europe! • Will I be able to see everything I can? • What if I can't afford this? • I don't want to make the wrong choice.	• It's hard to trust Trip Advisor. Everyone is so negative. • Keeping track of all the different products is confusing. • Am I sure this is the trip I want to take?	• Website experience is easy and friendly! • Frustrated to not know sooner about which tickets are eTickets and which are paper tickets. Not sure my tickets will arrive in time.	• Stressed that I'm about to leave the country and Rail Europe won't answer the phone. • Frustrated that Rail Europe won't ship tickets to Europe. • Happy to receive my tickets in the mail!	• I am feeling vulnerable to be in an unknown place in the middle of the night. • Stressed that the train won't arrive on time for my connection. • Meeting people who want to show us around is fun, serendipitous, and special.	• Excited to share my vacation story with my friends. • A bit annoyed to be dealing with ticket refund issues when I just got home.
EXPERIENCE	Enjoyability; Relevance of Rail Europe; Helpfulness of Rail Europe	Enjoyability; Relevance of Rail Europe; Helpfulness of Rail Europe	Enjoyability; Relevance of Rail Europe; Helpfulness of Rail Europe	Enjoyability; Relevance of Rail Europe; Helpfulness of Rail Europe	Enjoyability; Relevance of Rail Europe; Helpfulness of Rail Europe	Enjoyability; Relevance of Rail Europe; Helpfulness of Rail Europe

Opportunities

GLOBAL

Communicate a clear value proposition. STAGE: Initial visit	**Help people get the help they need.** STAGES: Global
Make your customers into better, more savvy travelers. STAGES: Global	**Engage in social media with explicit purposes.** STAGES: Global

Support people in creating their own solutions.
STAGES: Global

PLANNING, SHOPPING, BOOKING

Enable people to plan over time. STAGES: Planning, Shopping	**Visualize the trip for planning and booking.** STAGES: Planning, Shopping	**Arm customers with information for making decisions.** STAGES: Shopping, Booking
Connect planning, shopping and booking on the web. STAGES: Planning, Shopping, Booking	**Aggregate shipping with a reasonable timeline.** STAGE: Booking	

POST-BOOK, TRAVEL, POST-TRAVEL

Improve the paper ticket experience. STAGES: Post-Booking, Travel, Post-Travel	**Accommodate planning and booking in Europe too.** STAGE: Traveling
Proactively help people deal with change. STAGES: Post-Booking, Traveling	**Communicate status clearly at all times.** STAGES: Post-Booking, Post Travel

Information sources: Stakeholder interviews; Cognitive walkthroughs; Customer Experience Survey; Existing Rail Europe Documentation

Ongoing, non-linear → Linear process ⇝ Non-linear, but time based

Benefits of usage-centric requirements

The power of both use cases and user stories comes from their user-centric and usage-centric perspective. The users will have clearer expectations of what the new system will let them do than if you take a feature-centric approach. The customer representatives on several Internet development projects found that use cases clarified their notions of what visitors to their websites should be able to do. Use cases help BAs and developers understand the user's business. Thinking through the actor-system dialogs reveals ambiguity and vagueness early in the development process, as does generating tests from the use cases.

Overspecifying the requirements up front and trying to include every conceivable function can lead to implementing unnecessary requirements. The usage-centric approach leads to functionality that will allow the user to perform certain known tasks. This helps prevent "orphan functionality" that seems like a good idea but that no one uses because it doesn't relate directly to user goals.

Usage-centric approaches to requirements: benefits and limitations

Both use cases and user stories shift from the product-centric perspective of requirements elicitation to discussing what *users* need to accomplish, in contrast to asking users what they want the *system* to do.

The intent of this approach is to describe tasks that users will need to perform with the system, or user-system interactions that will result in a valuable outcome for some stakeholder.

Use cases and user stories work well for exploring the requirements for business applications, websites, kiosks, and systems that let a user control a piece of hardware.

However: they are inadequate for understanding the requirements of certain types of applications. Applications such as batch processes, computationally intensive systems, business analytics, and data warehousing might have just a few use cases. The complexity of these applications lies in the computations performed, the data found and compiled, or the reports generated, not in the user-system interactions.

Nor are use cases and user stories sufficient for specifying many embedded and other real-time systems.

Take away messages

- Agile projects (especially Scrum ones) use a product backlog, which is a prioritized list of the functionality to be developed.
- Product backlog items can be whatever the team desires, but user stories have emerged as the best and most popular form of product backlog items.
- Both use cases and user stories focus on conversations and system usage by people.
- Use cases provide more structure and a way to document details collected in analysis.
- User stories are refined as needed; focus on giving an example for a small feature.

References

Core readings	Suggested readings
• Jacobson, I., Spence, I., & Kerr, B. (2016). Use-case 2.0. *Communications of the ACM*, *59*(5), 61–69. • "User Story vs Use Case for Agile Software Development", Visual Paradigm	• Jacobson, I., Spence, I., & Bittner, K. (2011). *Use-Case 2.0 The Guide o Succeeding with Use Cases*. [e-Book] • User story (VisualParadigm handbook)