



EVENTSTORMING

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING FOR COMPLEX DOMAINS

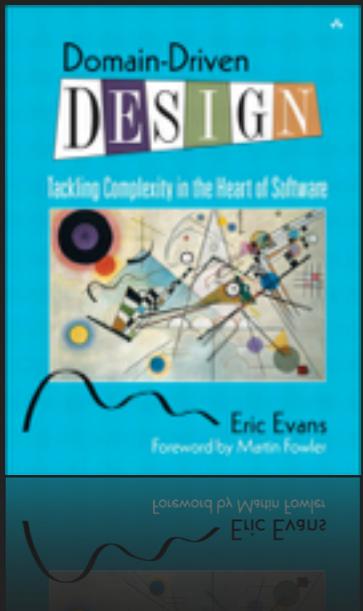
Paul Rayner
 @thepaulrayner



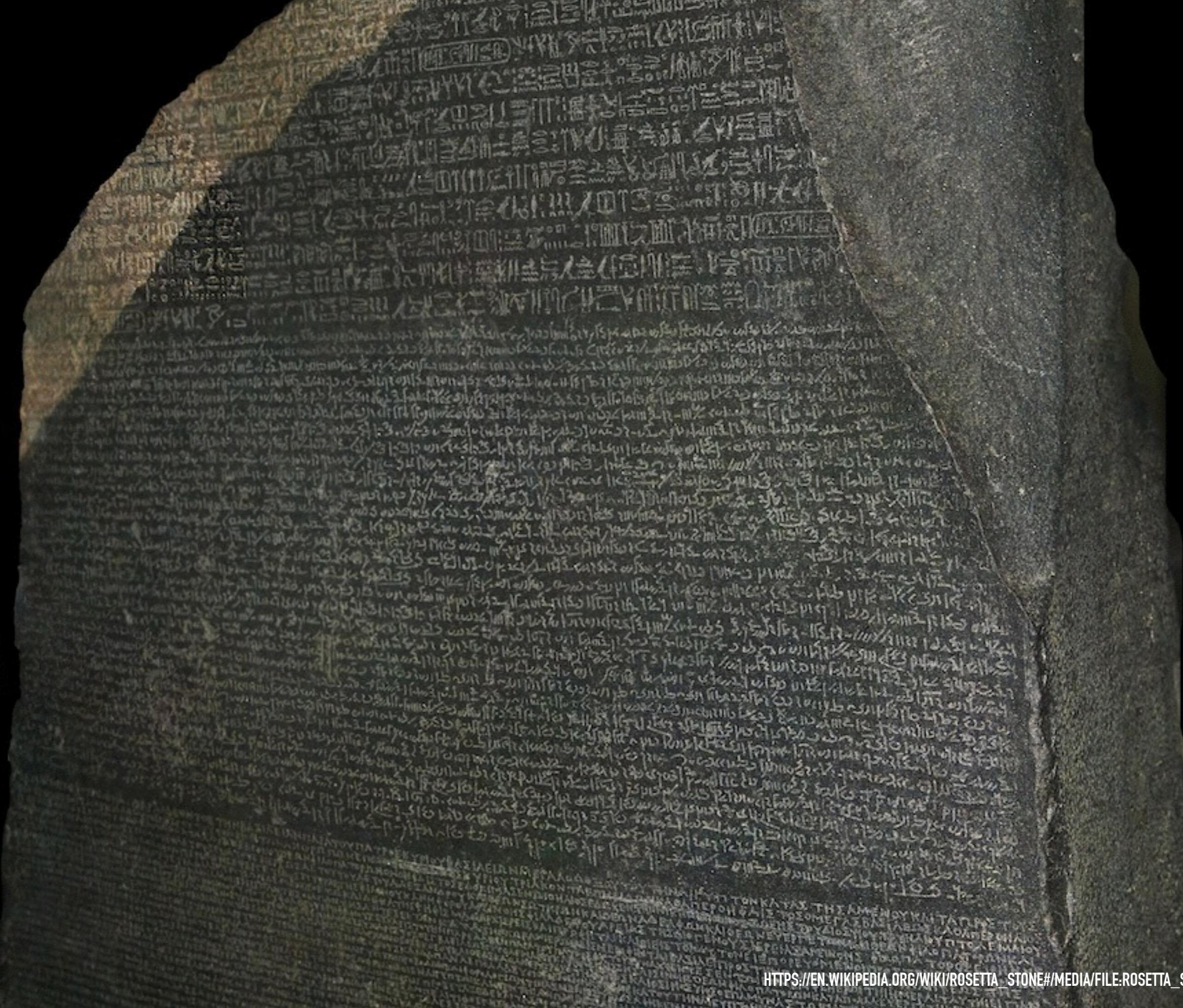
THE LANDSCAPE

- ✓ Complex business rules & processes
- ✓ Knowledge silos
- ✓ Numerous diverse (& often legacy) system interactions

THE CRITICAL COMPLEXITY OF MOST
SOFTWARE PROJECTS IS IN
UNDERSTANDING THE DOMAIN
ITSELF



Eric Evans



**OPTIMIZE FOR
SHARED LEARNING**

**OPTIMIZE FOR
DISCOVERY**

**OPTIMIZE FOR
DESIGN**

**FOCUS ON
BEHAVIOR**

EVENT STORMING

Alberto Brandolini



**PLACE EVENTS ON
A TIMELINE**

ITEM
ADDED TO
CART

THIS IS A **DOMAIN EVENT**

- **ORANGE** STICKY NOTE
- VERB AT **PAST TENSE**
- RELEVANT FOR DOMAIN EXPERTS

WHAT IS A DOMAIN EVENT?

Something that happened
in the business
that your domain experts
care about



SPECIES OF DOMAIN EVENTS

- **A step in a business process**

e.g. *customer order submitted, customer paid \$100, order completed, item shipped.*

- **Something that happens on a scheduled basis**

e.g. *nightly account reconciliation completed, end of month.*

- **Something meaningful that occurs as a result of something else happening**

e.g. *customer account locked after invalid password entered 3 times*

**VISUALIZE
LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES**

WHAT IS
THE
PRICING
STRATEGY?

CAPTURE

- QUESTIONS
- RISKS / WARNINGS
- ASSUMPTIONS
- CONVERSATION POINTS

END OF
MONTH

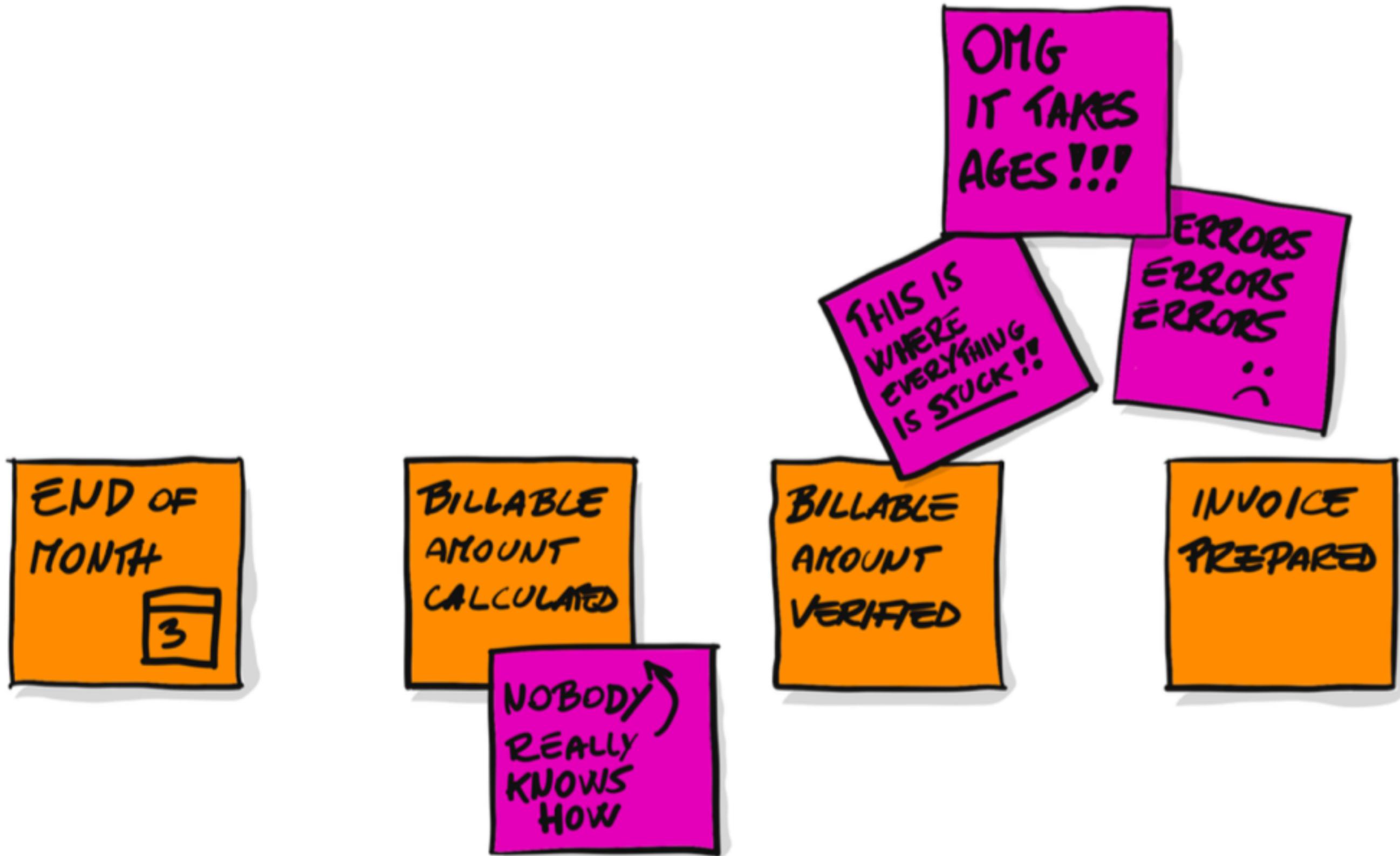
3

BILLABLE
AMOUNT
CALCULATED

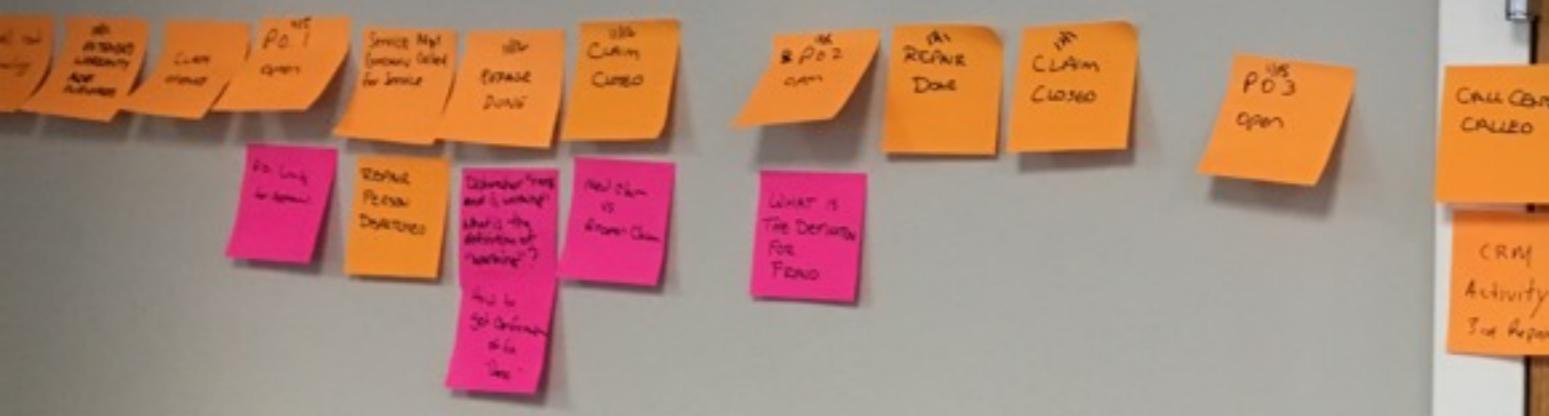
NOBODY
REALLY
KNOWS
HOW

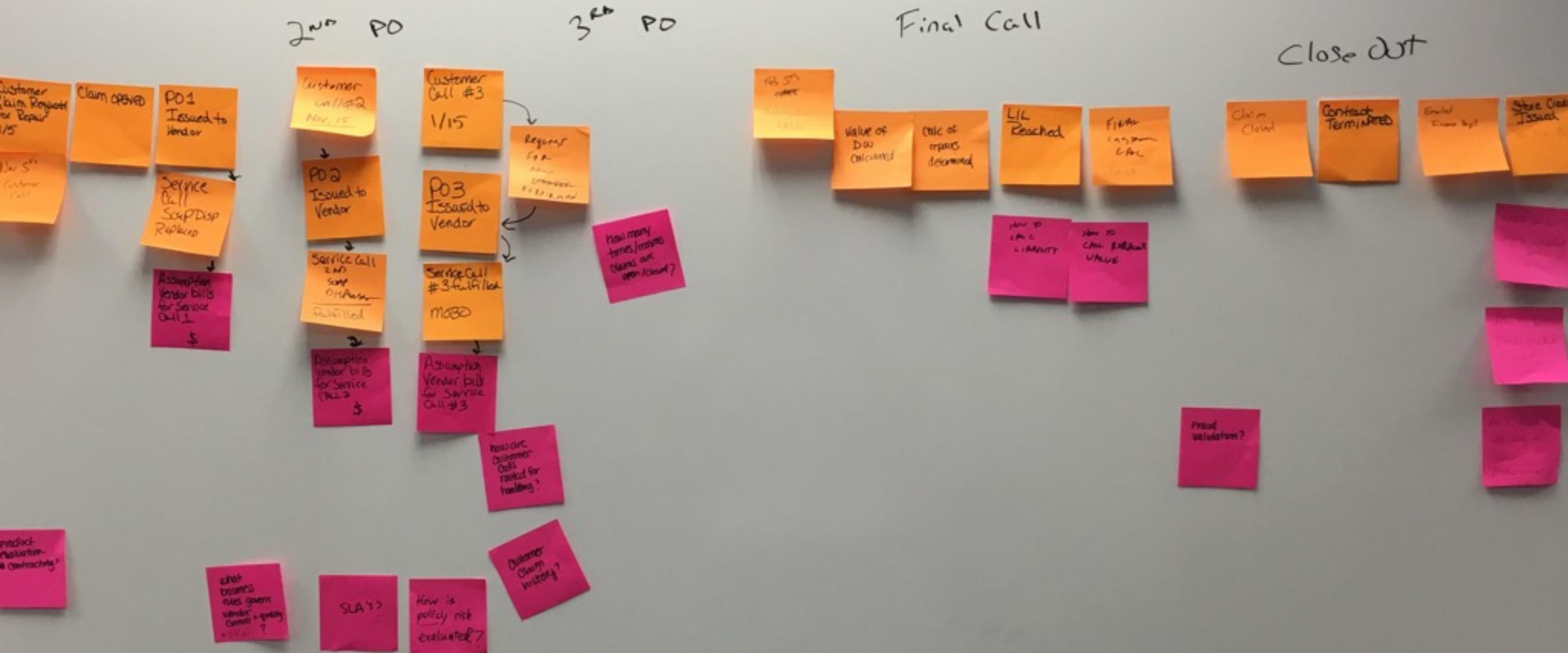
BILLABLE
AMOUNT
VERIFIED

INVOICE
PREPARED



**EVENTS &
QUESTIONS FIRST**





**INVITE THE RIGHT
PEOPLE**

Development team members and business people gather in a room and *together* we create a visual map of the flow of events



EVENTSTORMING

IN ACTION



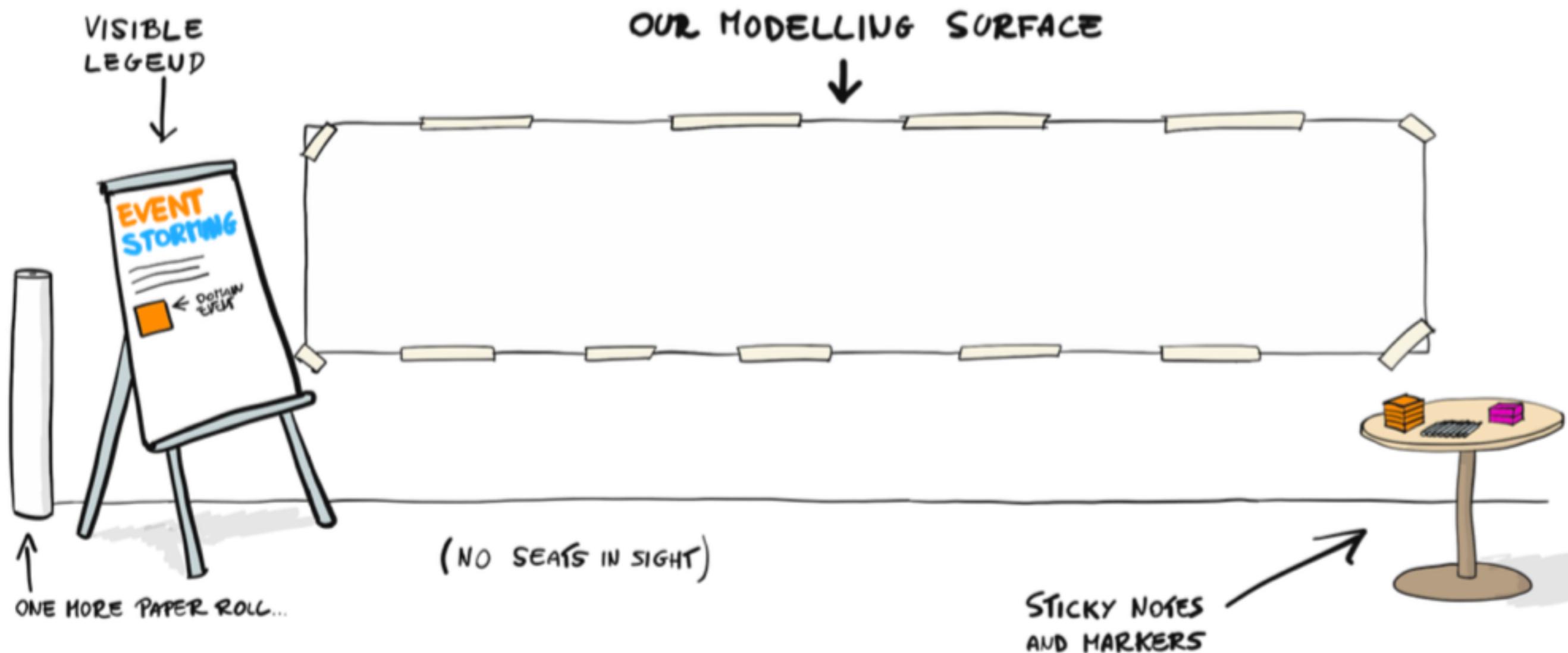


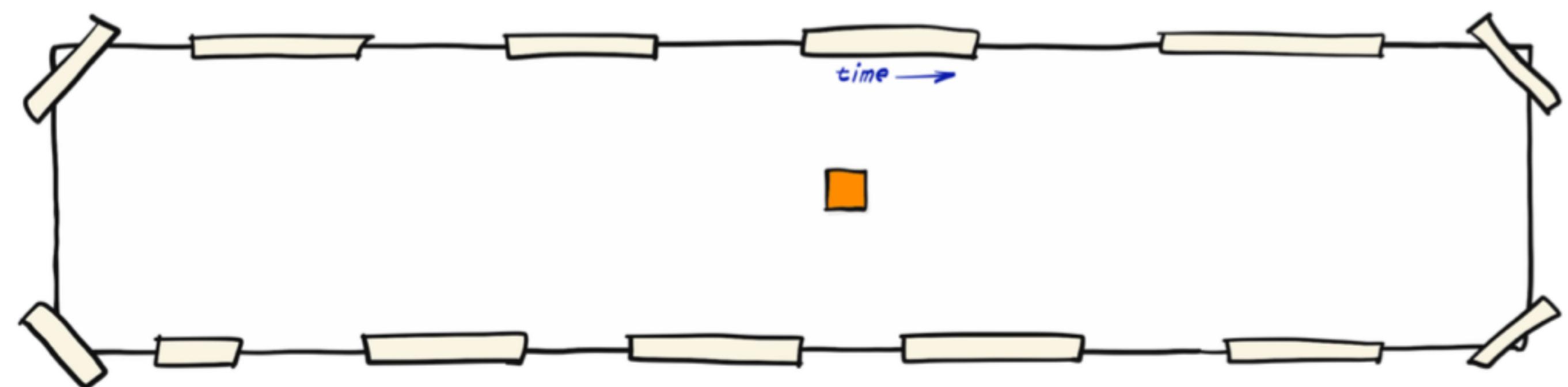


**PROVIDE UNLIMITED
MODELING SPACE**







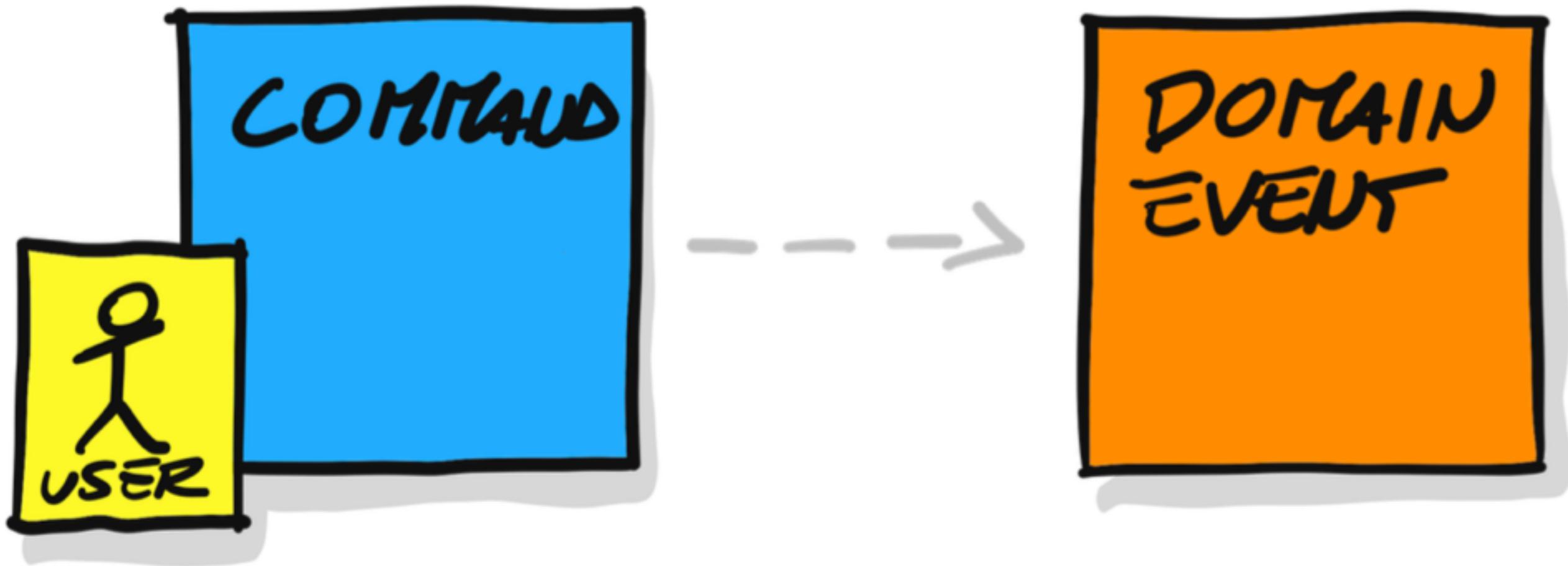


Once
upon a
time...

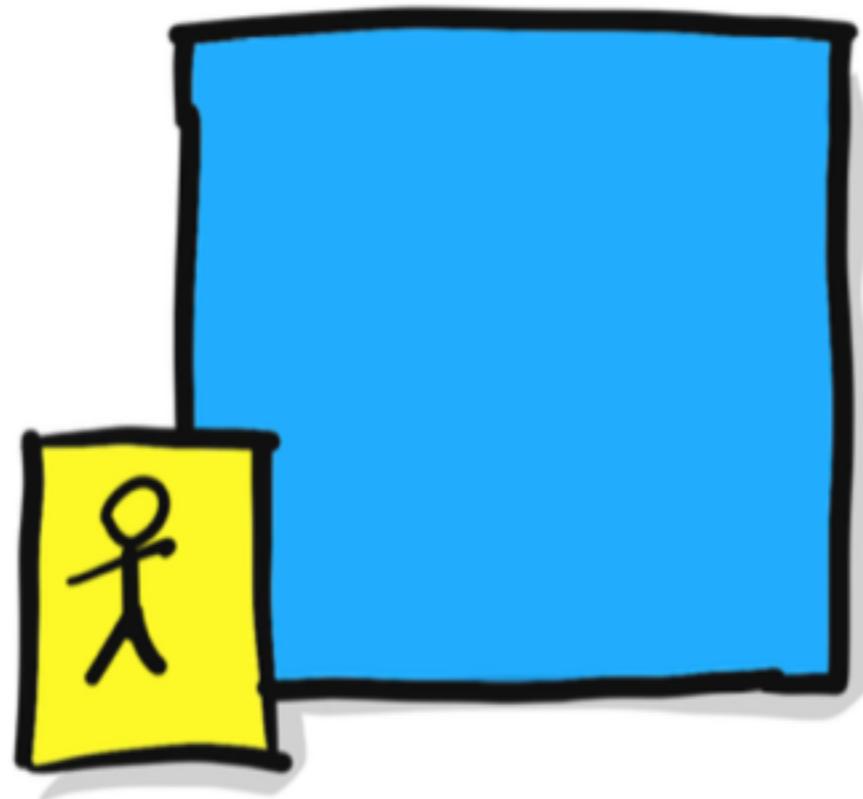
They lived
happily ever
after

More modeling space than you expect

**VISUALIZE
INTERACTIONS**



USER INITIATED ACTION



← THE DECISION



← THE DATA NEEDED
IN ORDER TO
MAKE THAT DECISION

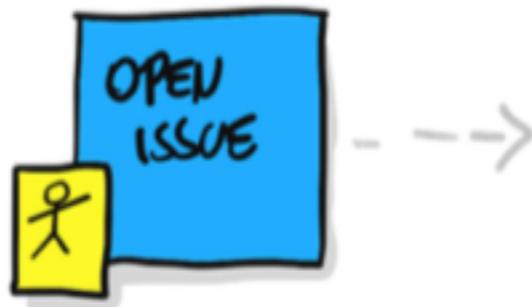
**VISUALIZE
BUSINESS RULES**

"WHENEVER"

THIS IS OUR
POLICY
SOMETIMES IT'S
AUTOMATED,
SOMETIMES
PEOPLE JUST
HAVE TO REMEMBER

WHERE ARE DOMAIN EVENTS COMING FROM?

MAYBE AN ACTION
STARTED BY A USER



EVENTSTORMING

A LEGACY APPLICATION





**PROVIDE A
VISIBLE LEGEND**

EVENT STORMING

DOMAIN
EVENT

- past tense
- "something that happened that the domain expert cares about"
- Immutable

?
- Assumption
- Don't know?

Actor/
persona

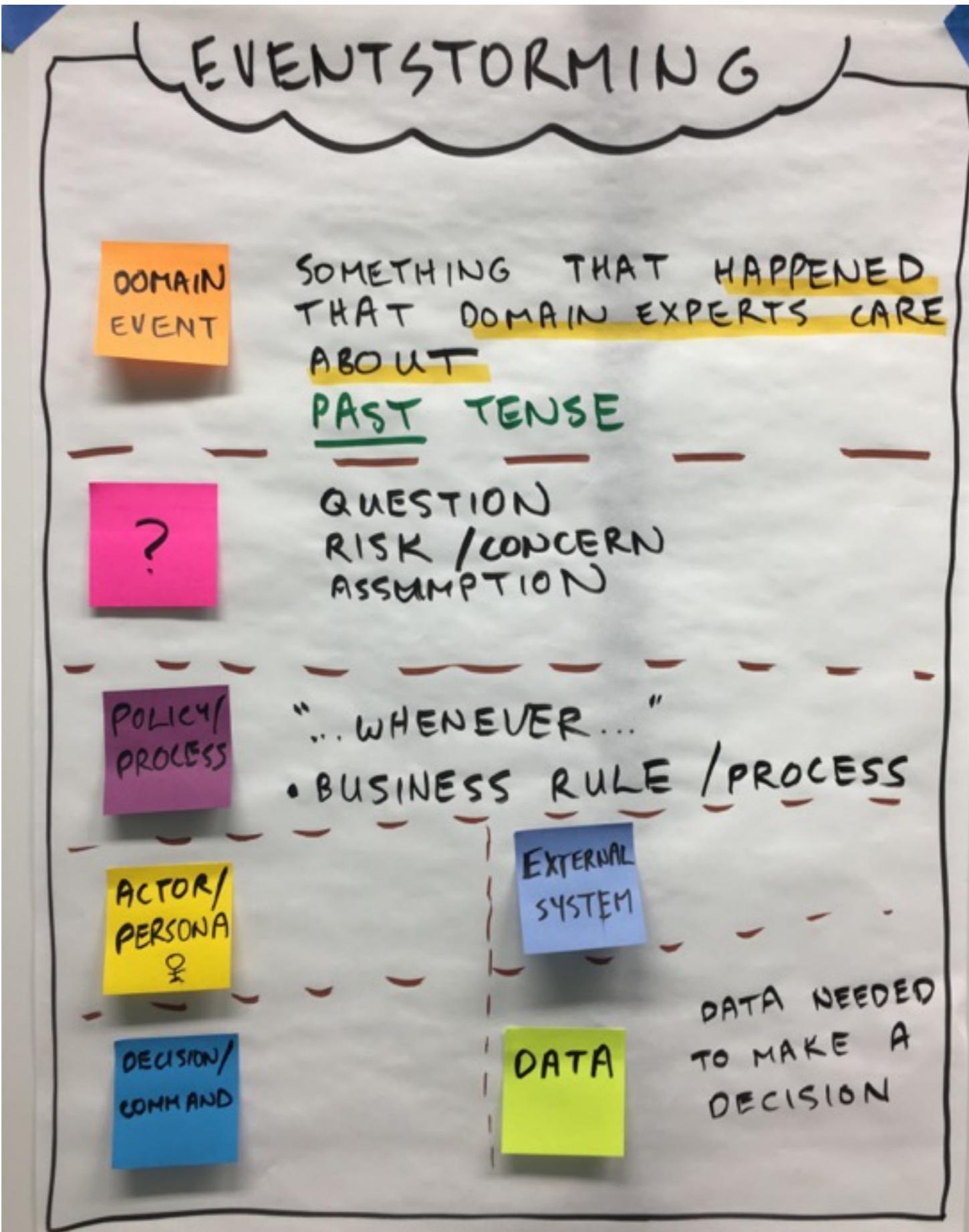
External
System

Decision
Command

Read
Model
UI, file

Sources

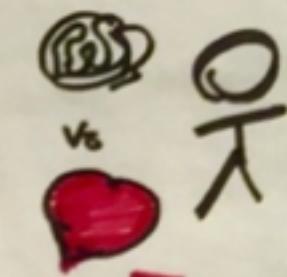




THE PICTURE THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING

ALMOST

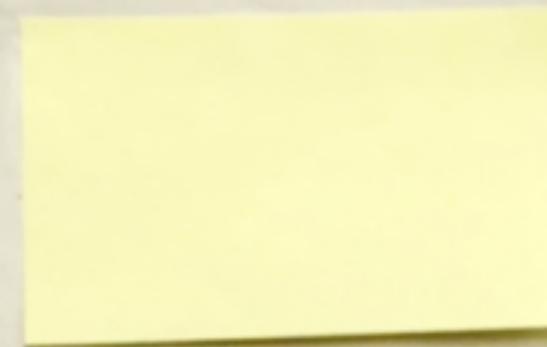
UX



DECISION
MADE BY
A USER

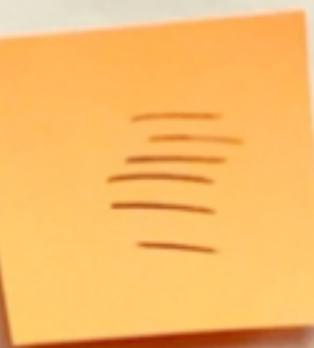
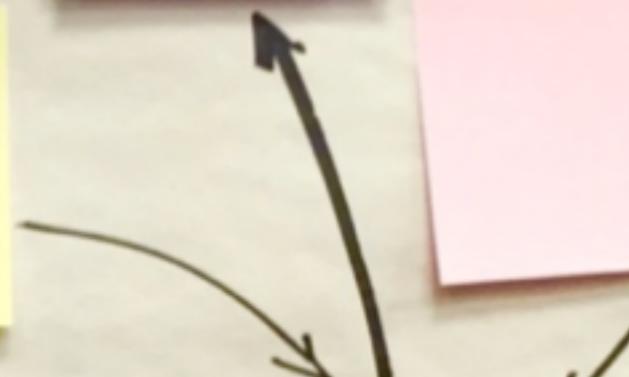


READ
MODEL

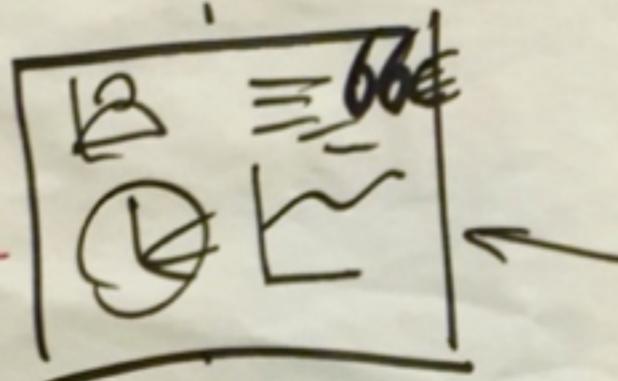


↑ THE INFORMATION NEEDED
IN ORDER TO MAKE
SYSTEM DECISION

PROCESS
"WHENEVER"

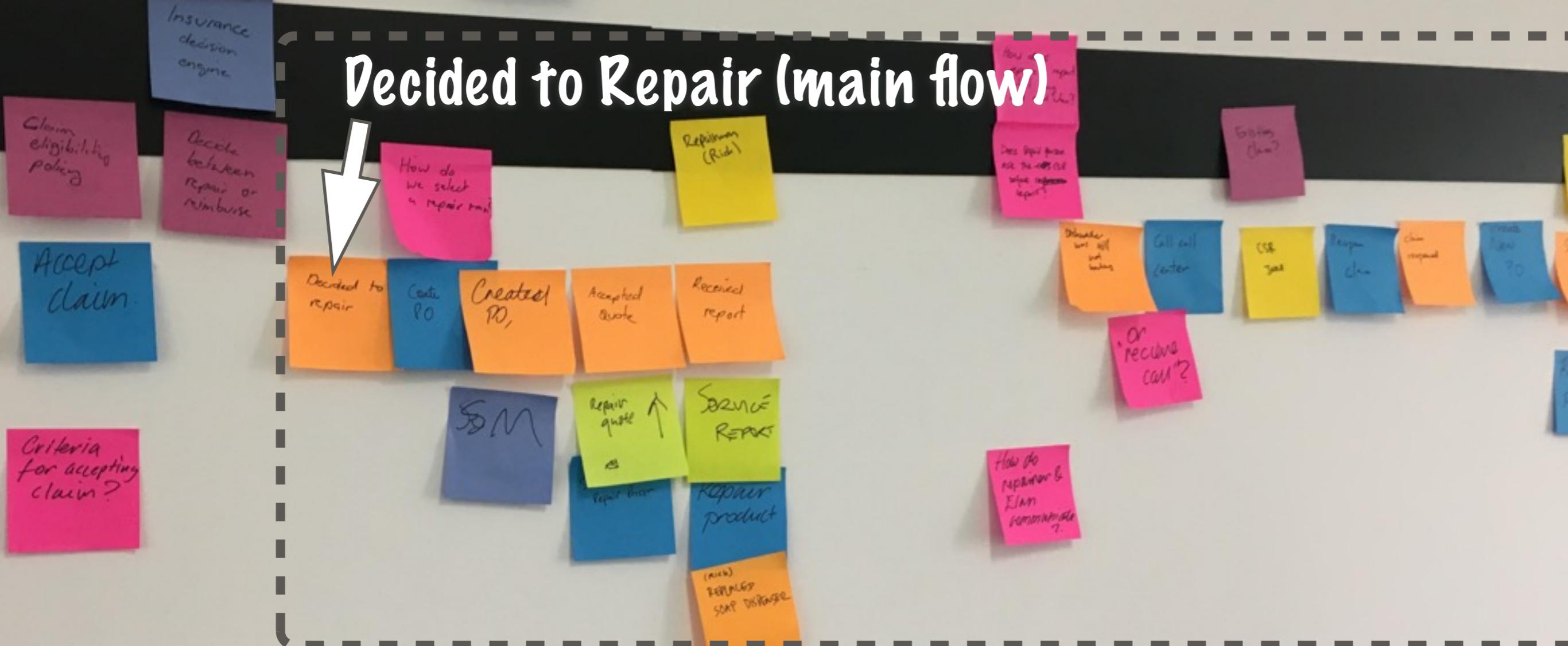


A STATE TRANSITION
HAPPENED
SOMEWHERE

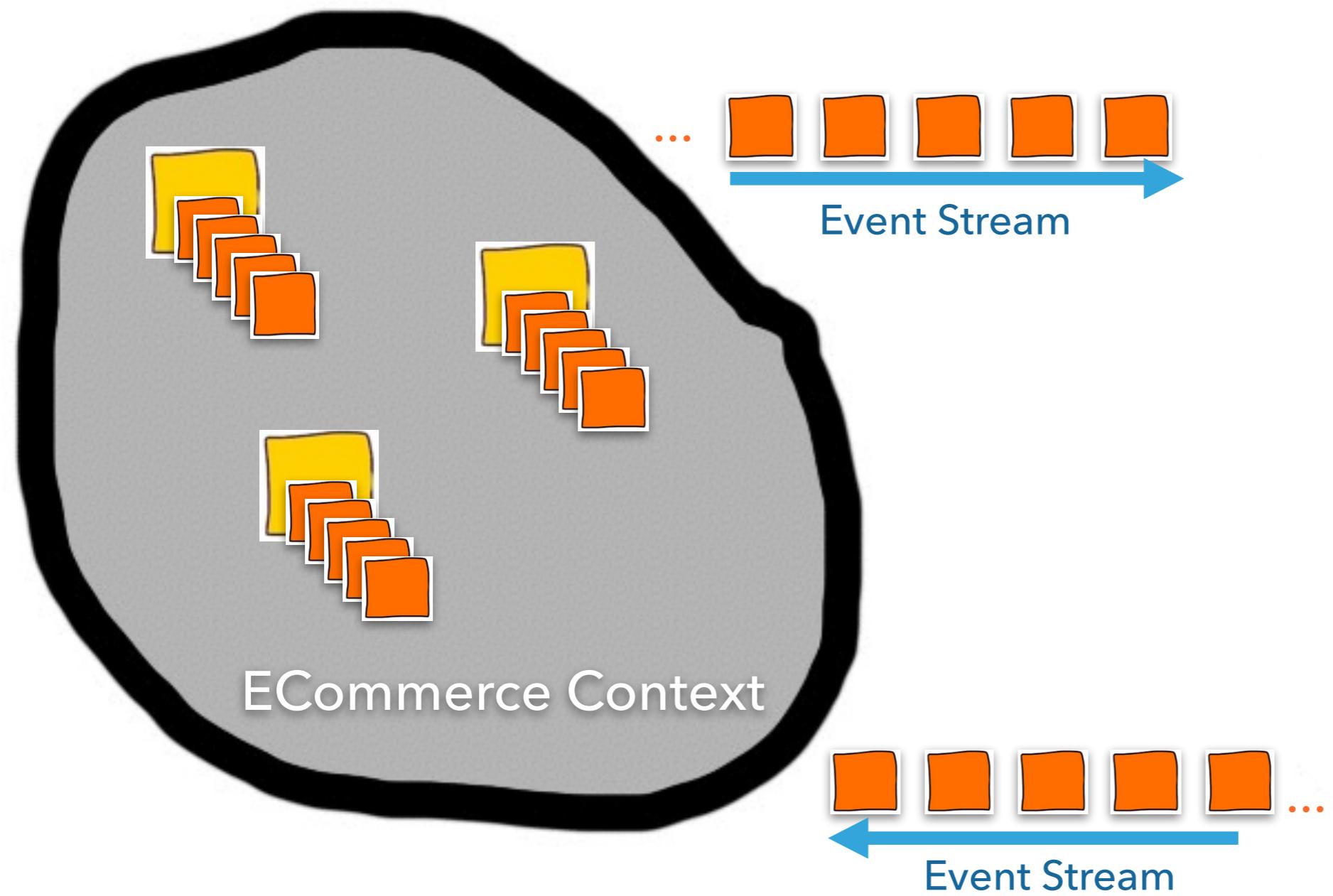


**VISUALIZE
ALTERNATE FLOWS**

Decided to Repair (main flow)



**NATURAL TRANSITION TO
DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS**



FACILITATION TIPS

EVENTSTORMING FACILITATION TIP #1

Focus first on
learning and
understanding

CLARIFYING QUESTIONS

- ▶ “What circumstances would cause ... to happen?”
- ▶ “What was the path that led us here?”
- ▶ “What is a good example of ...?”

CLARIFYING QUESTIONS

- ▶ "What do you mean by ...?"
- ▶ "What might lead someone to do/need ...?"
- ▶ "What else might happen...?"

EVENTSTORMING FACILITATION TIP #2

Anchor to a
concrete business
example

Clarify fuzzy
concepts and
language

nty
#

ased
aled
ty
Oct.

DISHWASHER
FAILED
#1-4

MFR
WARR'TY
EXPIRED

CSR
(JANE)

how to
ID the
customer?

OPEN
CLAIM

Customer
called
call center

Claim
~~opened~~
opened

Is
claim
always
created?

CUSTOMER
SEARCH
- Policy #?
- Name, postcode

Claim
Management
Scrn

Command is "Open Claim"

What should associated
event be called?

EVENTSTORMING FACILITATION TIP #5

A photograph showing a group of people in what appears to be a workshop or office setting. In the foreground, a woman with blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark t-shirt, is smiling and holding a white coffee cup with a green logo. Behind her, several other people are visible, some looking towards the camera and others in profile. The background features a whiteboard or wall covered with numerous colorful sticky notes of various colors (yellow, green, blue) and some handwritten text. The overall atmosphere is professional and collaborative.

Conversations
and examples are
primary

EVENTSTORMING FACILITATION TIP #6

Post first,
Ask questions
later

CUSTOMER
PURCHASED
ITEM
ELIGIBLE
FOR COVERAGE

CUSTOMER
OFFERED
WARRANTY

CUSTOMER
BOUGHT
WARRANTY

FINANCE
NOTIFIED
BY
WARRANTY
ADMIN

Automate?

CONTRACT
AMOUNT

Fi
Clien
ASSOCIAT
CONTRAC
TRACK
FINANC

Re Recored.
Re Record.

EVENTSTORMING FACILITATION TIP #4

Timebox

"Everybody knows the problem: We need to be more innovative. Now we've got the solution: *Gamestorming*. This smart, fun, hands-on book will energize your brain and mobilize your creativity—and do it using stuff you already have in your supply closet!"

—Daniel H. Pink, author of *Drive* and *A Whole New Mind*

Game storming

A Playbook for Innovators,
Rulebreakers, and Changemakers



Dave Gray
Sunni Brown
James Macanufo

O'REILLY®

O'REILLY®

סםאי מכאנווּדוּ
סunny brown
דָּבָרְגָּל

POSSIBLE LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Simple business domains (e.g. CRUD) and/or systems
- ▶ Distributed teams
- ▶ Larger group/greater complexity = better facilitation
- ▶ ???

**WHY
EVENTSTORMING?**



every one
gets to
understand

encourages
complexity
seeking

visualize
business
process

Imagery
details

encourages
asking
questions

visual
cues for
different
parts of the
systems

over (idea)

faster than
drawing

A
GET DE BETTER
UNDERSTANDING
OF THE PROCESS

Exploration,
communication

WHY EVENTSTORMING?

Collaborative learning

*Cultivate mutual shared
understanding*

*Uncover misunderstandings & missing
concepts*

Avoid rework

WHY EVENTSTORMING?

Model & explore complex domains

Visual, tactile representation of system behaviour & outcomes

Smoother transition to a rich domain model, design and coding

QUESTIONS?

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THANKS!

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EXPLORE DDD

CONFERENCE

September 19 – 22, 2017
Denver, Colorado, USA

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