BDD [BEHAVIOUR-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT]
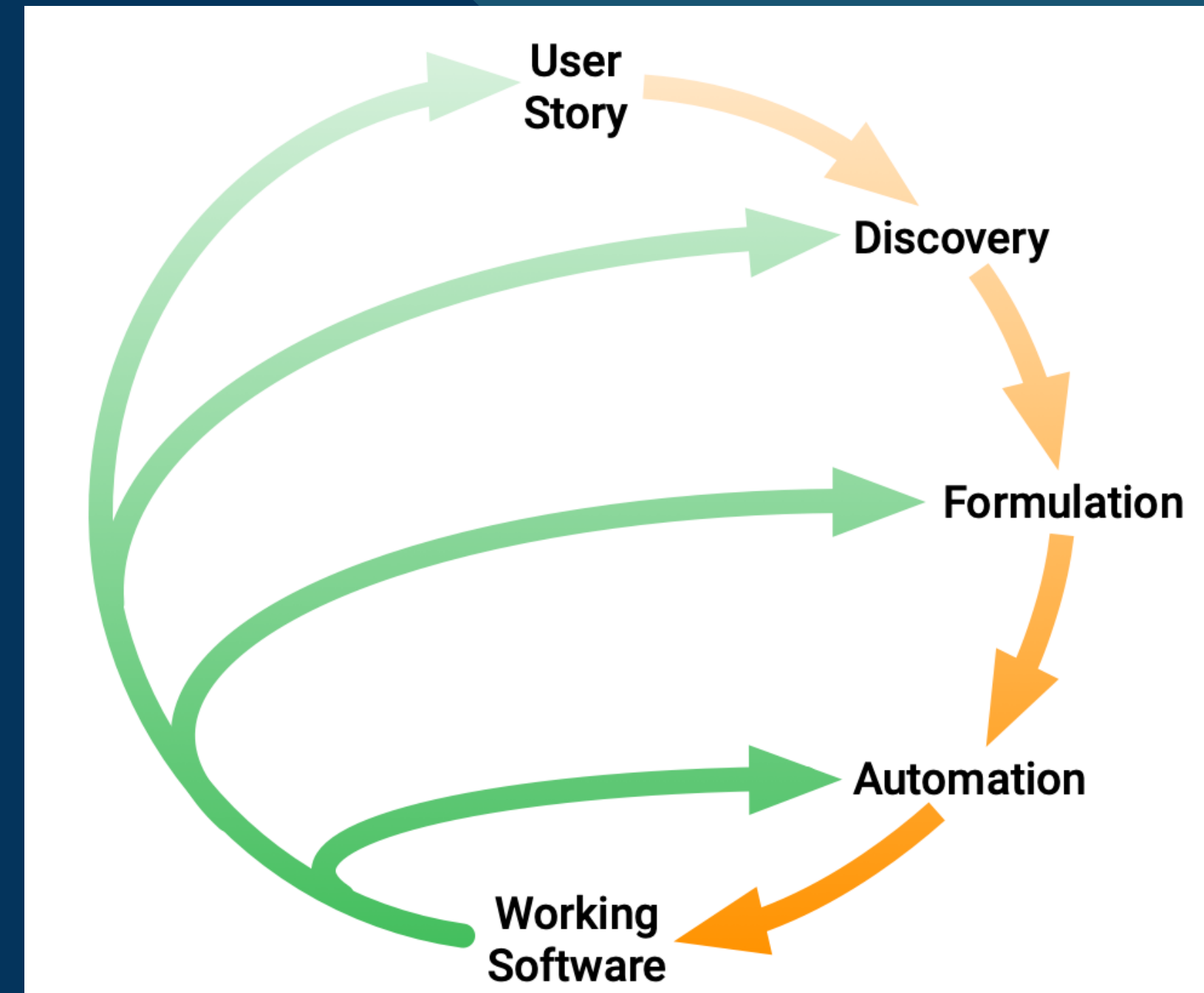
TDD BASICS

WHAT IS BDD?

BDD IS A WAY FOR SOFTWARE TEAMS TO WORK THAT CLOSES THE GAP BETWEEN BUSINESS PEOPLE AND TECHNICAL PEOPLE BY:

- ENCOURAGING COLLABORATION ACROSS ROLES TO BUILD SHARED UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED

- WORKING IN RAPID, SMALL ITERATIONS TO INCREASE FEEDBACK AND THE FLOW OF VALUE

- PRODUCING SYSTEM DOCUMENTATION THAT IS AUTOMATICALLY CHECKED AGAINST THE SYSTEM'S BEHAVIOUR

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Essentially, day-to-day BDD activity is a three-step, iterative process:

1. First, take a small upcoming change to the system – a User Story – and talk about concrete examples of the new functionality to explore, discover and agree on the details of what's expected to be done.
2. Next, document those examples in a way that can be automated, and check for agreement.
3. Finally, implement the behaviour described by each documented example, starting with an automated test to guide the development of the code.

WHAT IS CUCUMBER?

CUCUMBER READS EXECUTABLE SPECIFICATIONS WRITTEN IN PLAIN TEXT AND VALIDATES THAT THE SOFTWARE DOES WHAT THOSE SPECIFICATIONS SAY. THE SPECIFICATIONS CONSISTS OF MULTIPLE EXAMPLES, OR SCENARIOS. FOR EXAMPLE:

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Scenario: Breaker guesses a word
    Given the Maker has chosen a word
    When the Breaker makes a guess
    Then the Maker is asked to score
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EACH SCENARIO IS A LIST OF STEPS FOR CUCUMBER TO WORK THROUGH. CUCUMBER VERIFIES THAT THE SOFTWARE CONFORMS WITH THE SPECIFICATION AND GENERATES A REPORT INDICATING ✔ SUCCESS OR ✖ FAILURE FOR EACH SCENARIO.