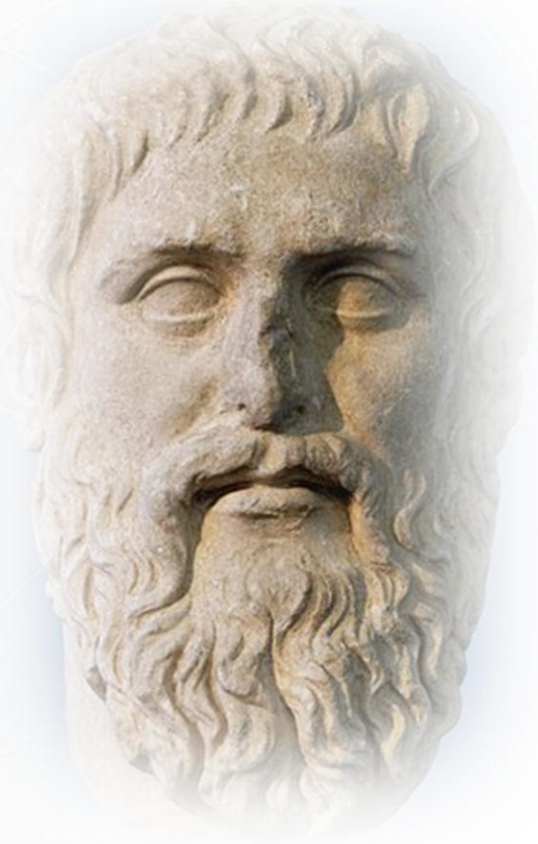
King's Digital Lab

Creating digital tools to explore academic research in new ways.

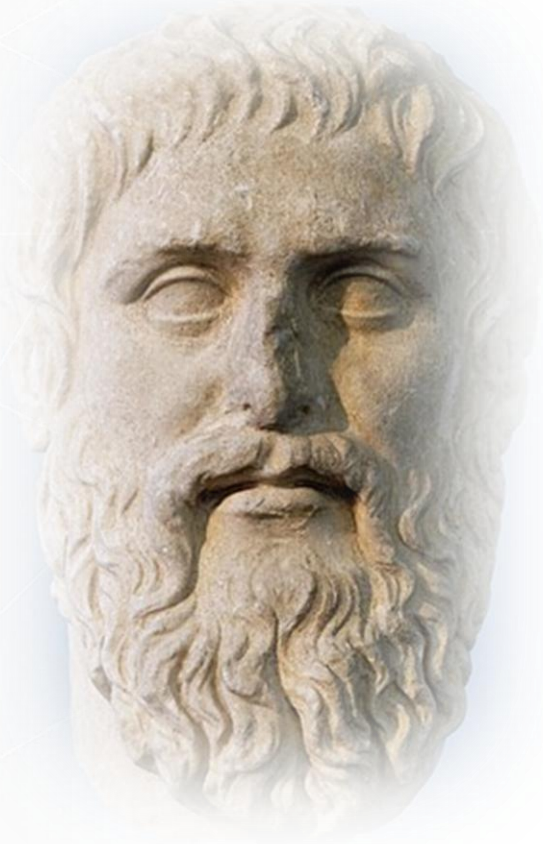
kdl.kcl.ac.uk

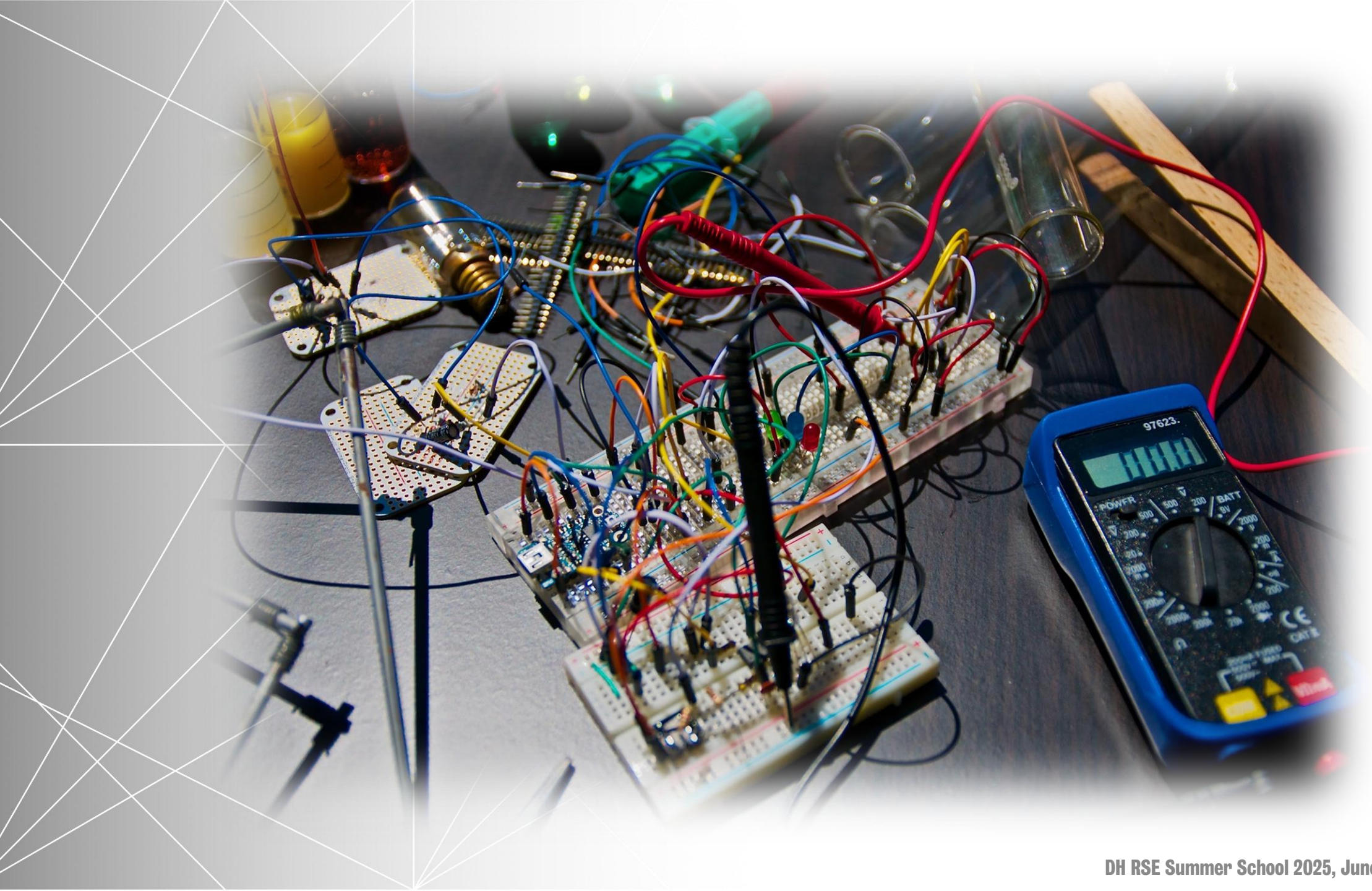
 @kingsdigtallab 

Why are we here?



Why are *you* here?




97623.
POWER
BATT

Minimum Viable Product (MVP)

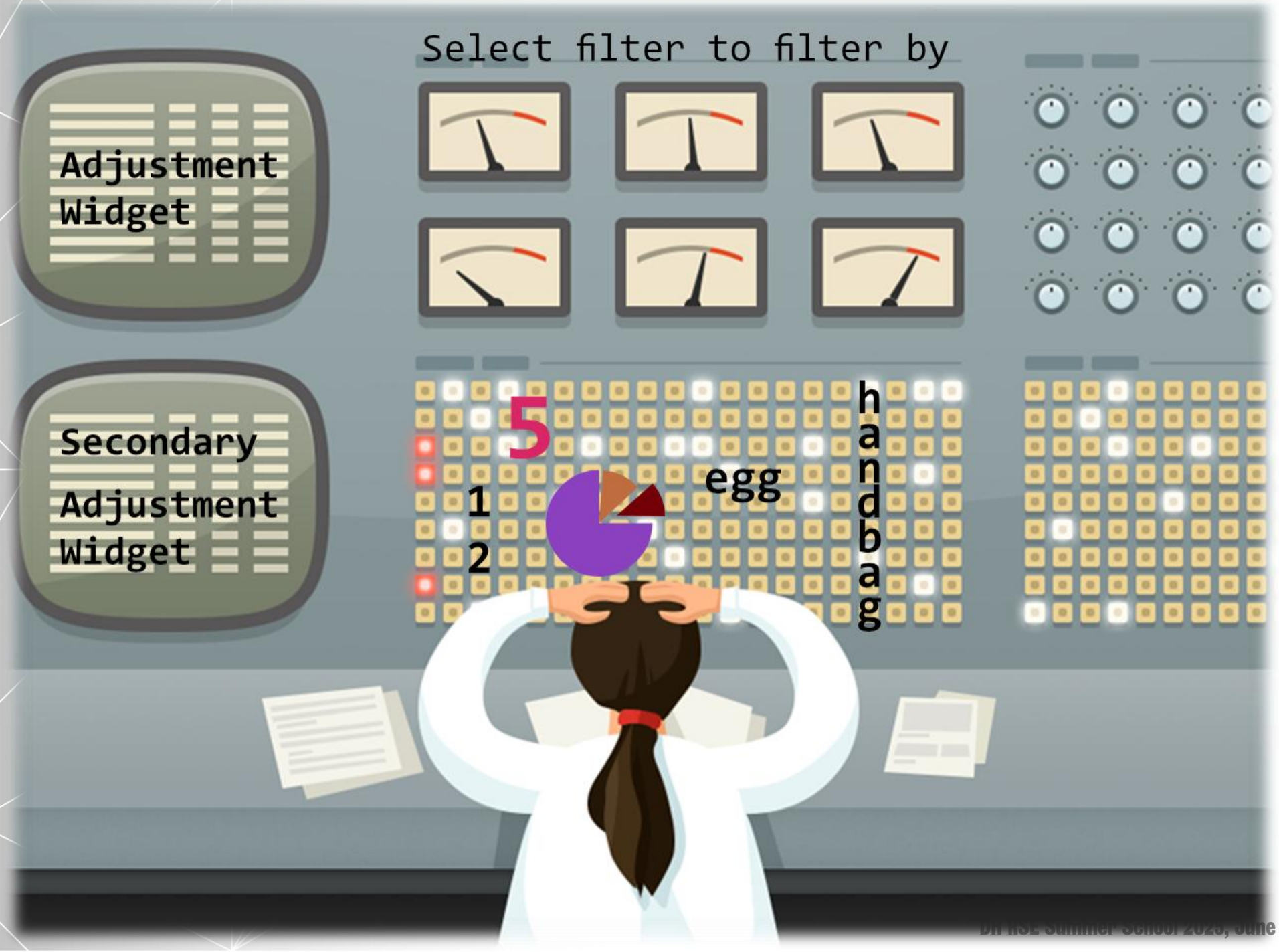
"An output which meets the essential needs of the research project and thus doesn't compromise the rationale of commencing the project in the first place"

Neil Jakeman, 30/07/2025 (approx. 10:45am)

https://onepagelove.com/prevent-feature-creep-and-bad-product-requests


That bloke's diaries
Something about French
Image Library
History project
Egyptian stuff
KDL
Research Software


The Iceberg Illusion
Success is an iceberg
WHAT PEOPLE SEE
SUCCESS!
WHAT PEOPLE DON'T SEE
Persistence
Failure
FAIL
Sacrifice
THINGS I HAVE TO GIVE UP
1.
2.
3.
Disappointment
Dedication
GOAL
Hard work
Good habits
@sylviaduckworth


Select filter to filter by
Adjustment Widget
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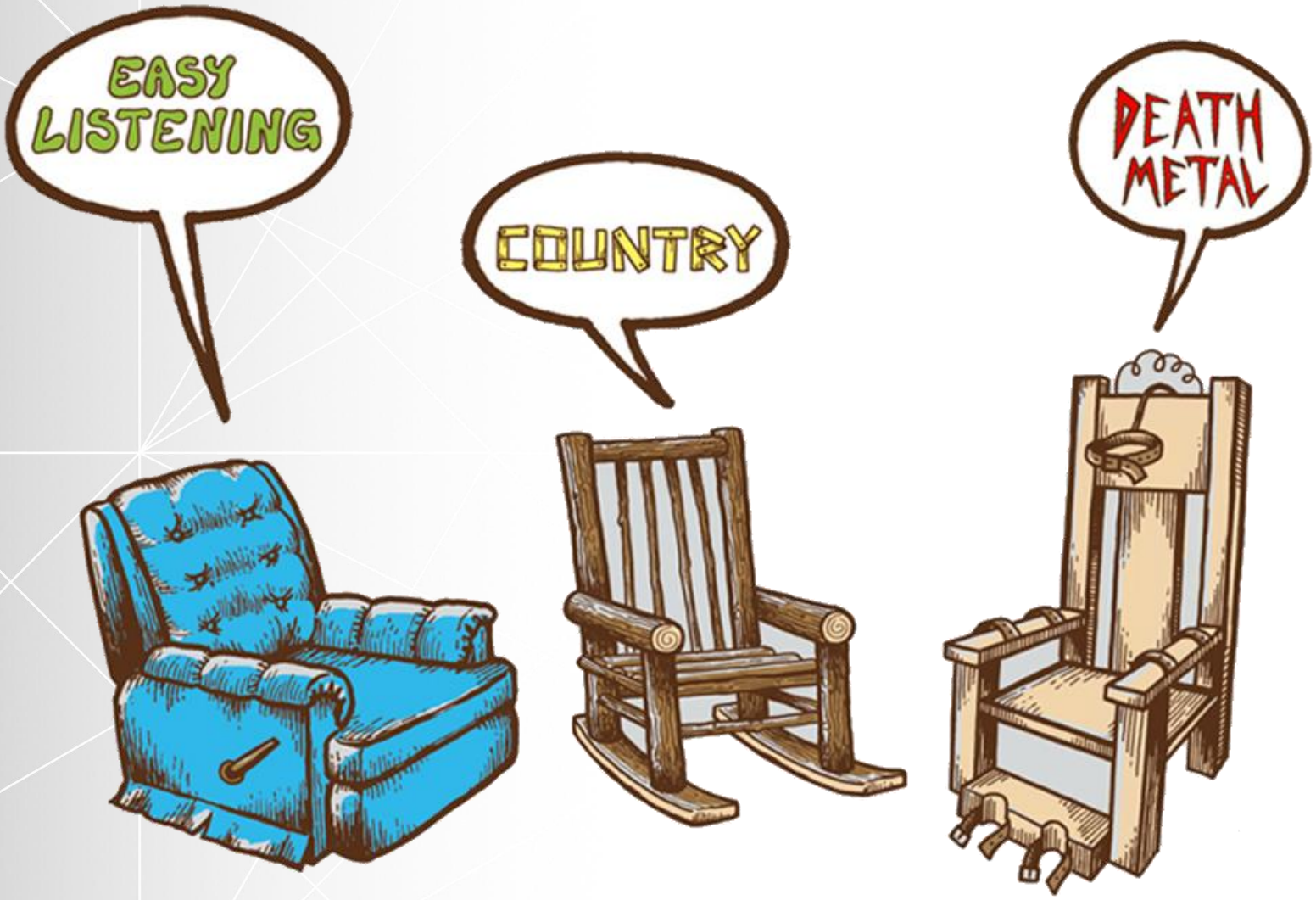
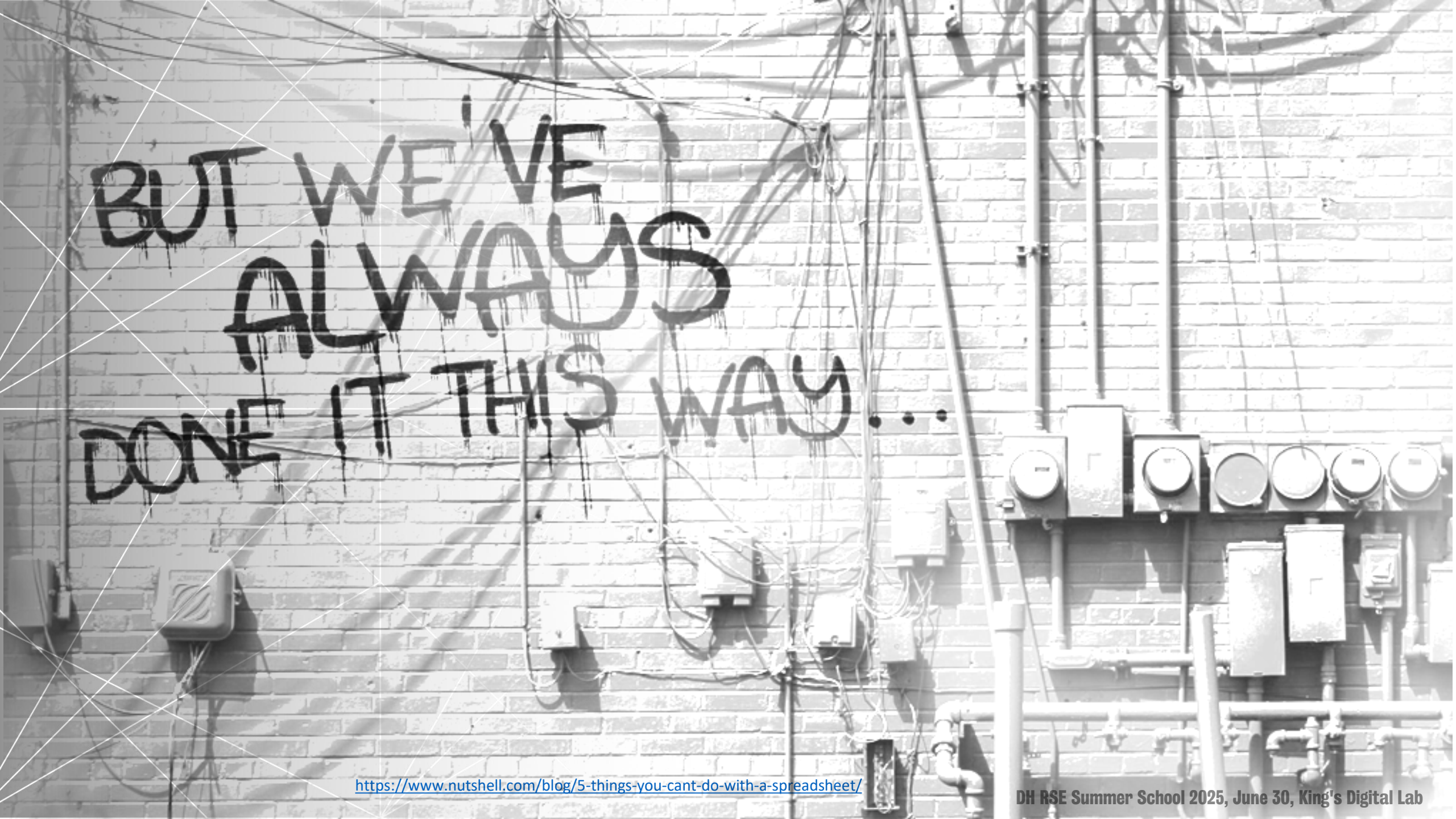
5
1
2
egg
handbag

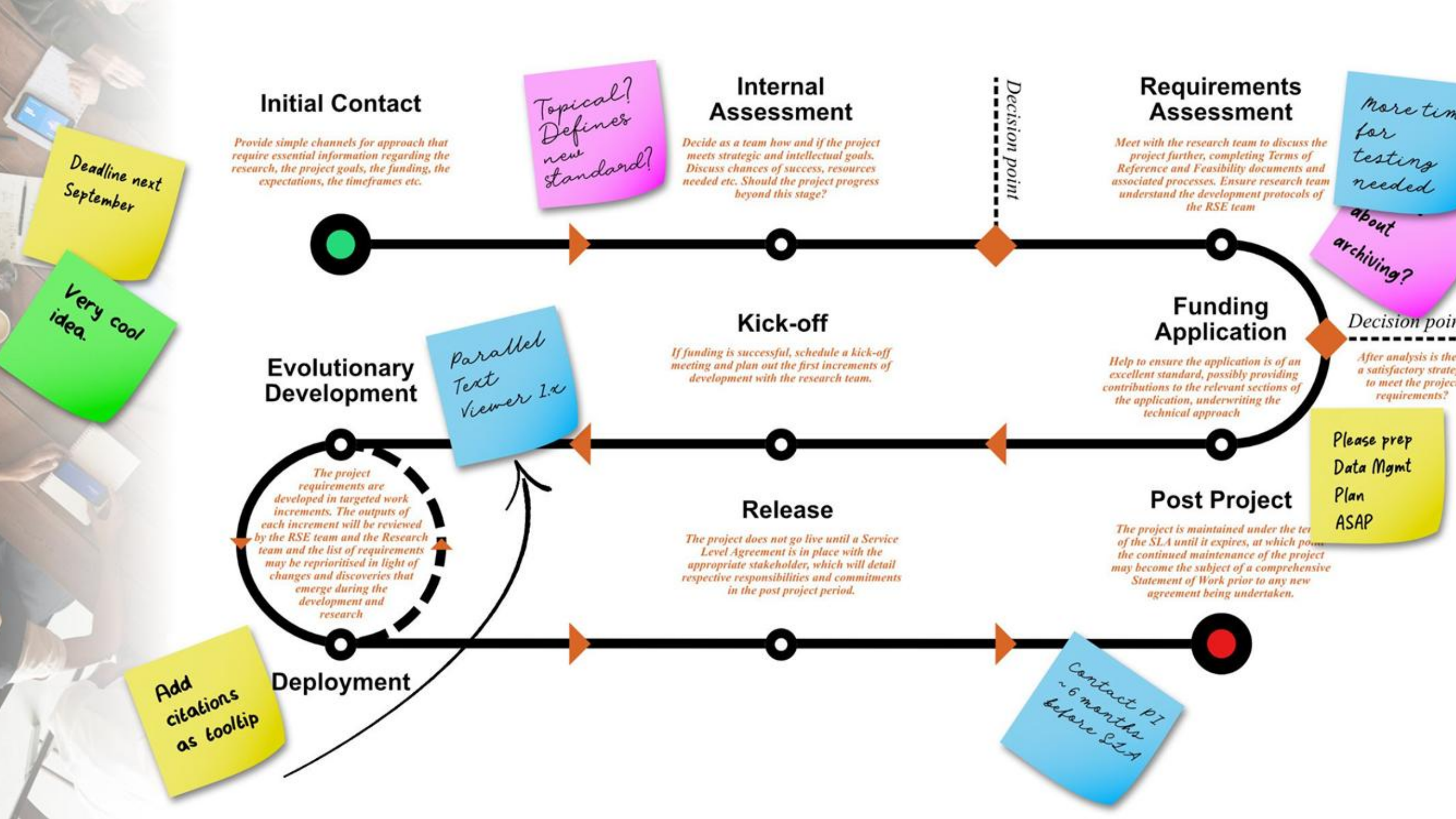

EASY LISTENING
COUNTRY
DEATH METAL

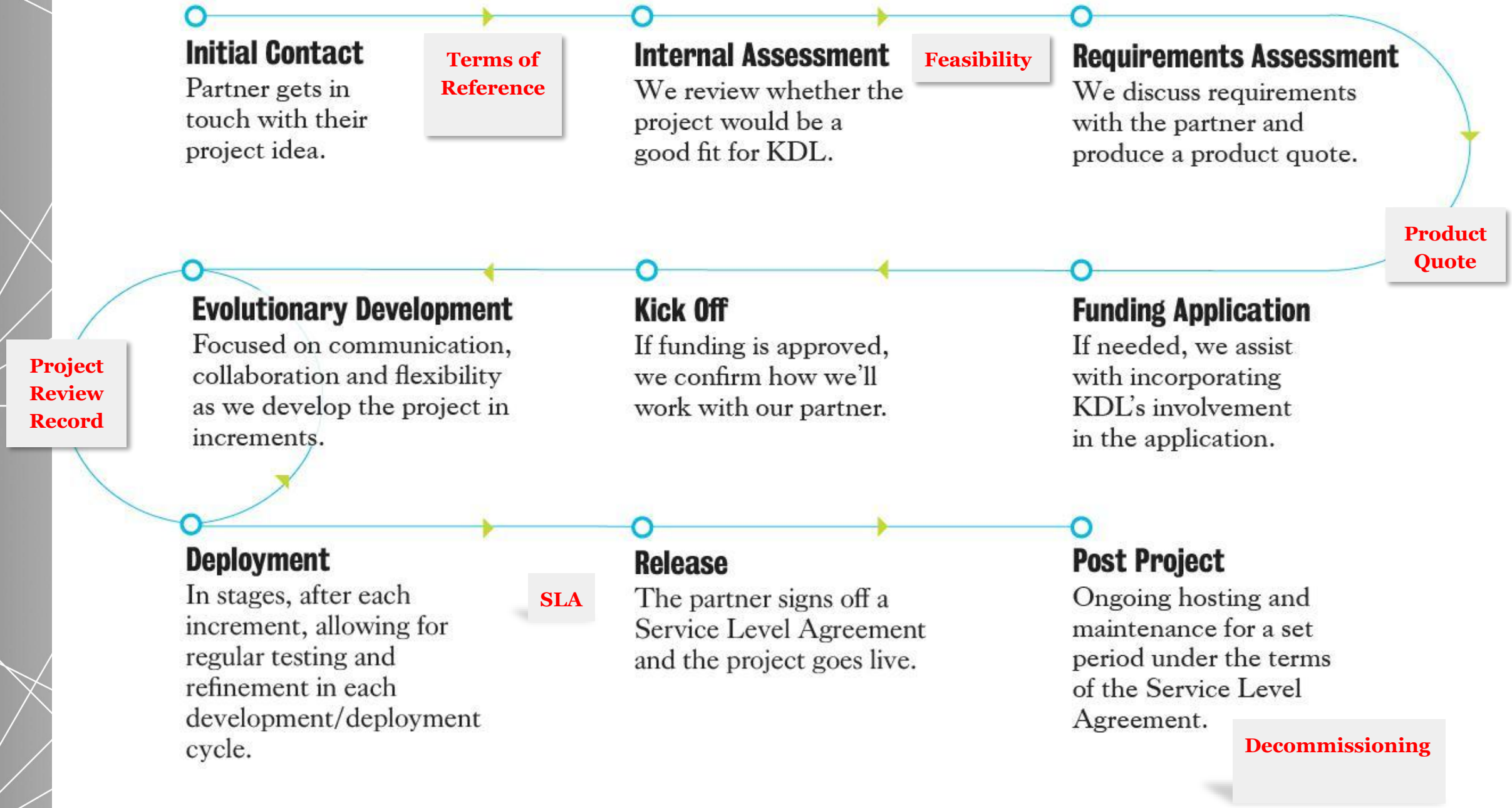


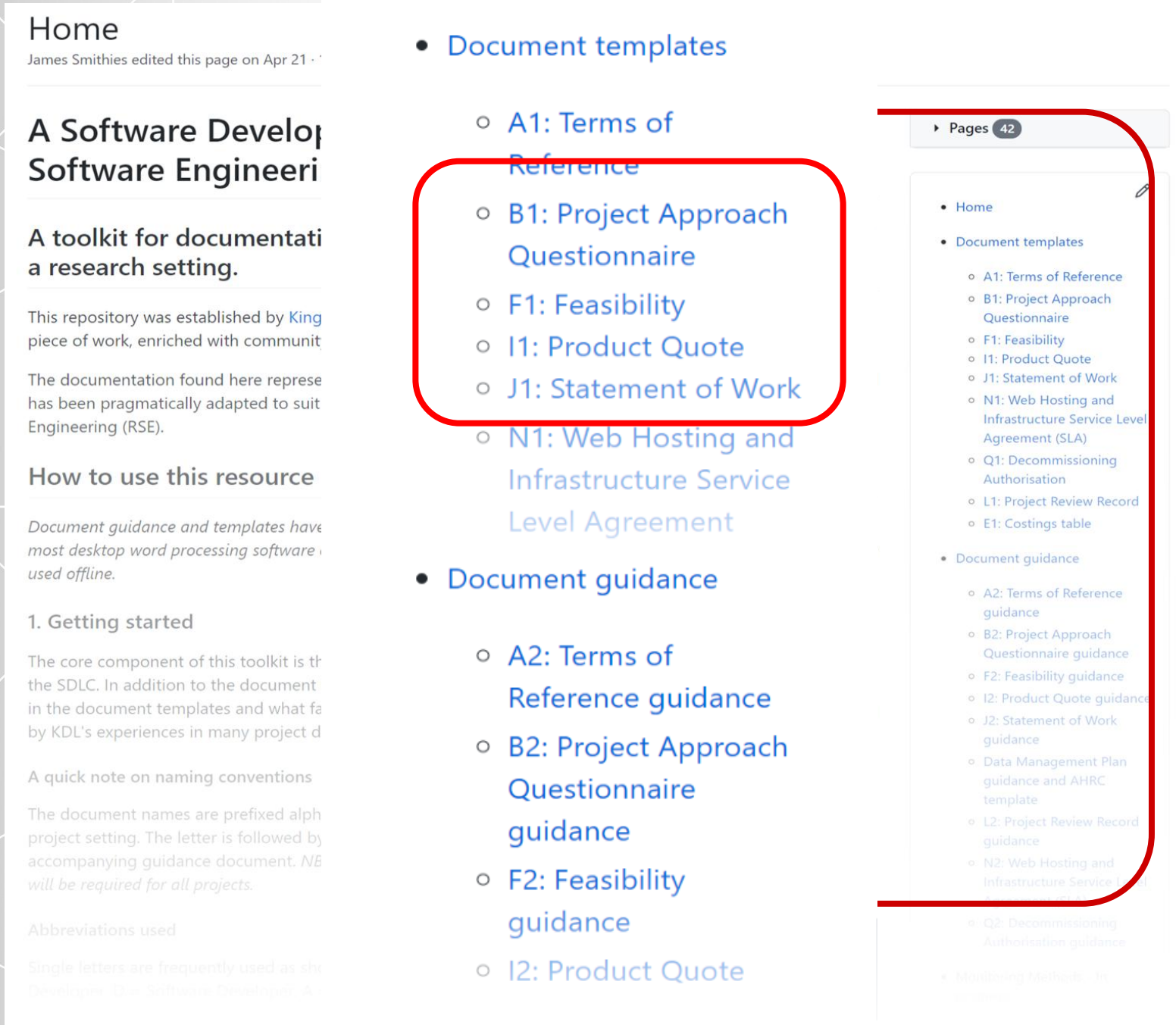
https://www.nutshell.com/blog/5-things-you-cant-do-with-a-spreadsheet/

The SDLC evolved to:

- Ensure a rigorous project feasibility evaluation is undertaken
- Provide a clear product quote in which the prioritised requirements of the project are listed
- Manage the development period to ensure that changing priorities can be accommodated
- Validate the requirements defined both at the outset of the project, and to iteratively review requirements over the development period
- Make sure that a functioning Minimum Viable Product is delivered
- Provide a Service Level Agreement that defines how the output will be sustained for a defined period
- Provides options for graceful retirement and archiving of a digital resource
- Define RSE skills and roles in a way that can be used to promote a career path and staff continuity and development


Initial Contact
Provide simple channels for approach that require essential information regarding the research, the project goals, the funding, the expectations, the timeframes etc.
Topical? Defines new standard?
Internal Assessment
Decide as a team how and if the project meets strategic and intellectual goals. Discuss chances of success, resources needed etc. Should the project progress beyond this stage?
Decision point
Requirements Assessment
Meet with the research team to discuss the project further, completing Terms of Reference and Feasibility documents and associated processes. Ensure research team understand the development protocols of the RSE team
more tim for testing needed
about archiving?
Deadline next September
Very cool idea.
Funding Application
Help to ensure the application is of an excellent standard, possibly providing contributions to the relevant sections of the application, underwriting the technical approach
Decision poi
After analysis is the a satisfactory strate to meet the projec requirements?
Please prep Data Mgmt Plan ASAP
Kick-off
If funding is successful, schedule a kick-off meeting and plan out the first increments of development with the research team.
Evolutionary Development
Parallel Text Viewer 1.x
The project requirements are developed in targeted work increments. The outputs of each increment will be reviewed by the RSE team and the Research team and the list of requirements may be reprioritised in light of changes and discoveries that emerge during the development and research
Release
The project does not go live until a Service Level Agreement is in place with the appropriate stakeholder, which will detail respective responsibilities and commitments in the post project period.
Post Project
The project is maintained under the te of the SLA until it expires, at which po the continued maintenance of the project may become the subject of a comprehensive Statement of Work prior to any new agreement being undertaken.
Add citations as tooltip
Deployment
Contact PI ~6 months before SLA


Initial Contact
Partner gets in touch with their project idea.
Terms of Reference
Internal Assessment
We review whether the project would be a good fit for KDL.
Feasibility
Requirements Assessment
We discuss requirements with the partner and produce a product quote.
Product Quote
Funding Application
If needed, we assist with incorporating KDL's involvement in the application.
Kick Off
If funding is approved, we confirm how we'll work with our partner.
Evolutionary Development
Focused on communication, collaboration and flexibility as we develop the project in increments.
Project Review Record
Deployment
In stages, after each increment, allowing for regular testing and refinement in each development/deployment cycle.
SLA
Release
The partner signs off a Service Level Agreement and the project goes live.
Post Project
Ongoing hosting and maintenance for a set period under the terms of the Service Level Agreement.
Decommissioning


Home
James Smithies edited this page on Apr 21
A Software Develop
Software Engineeri
A toolkit for documentati
a research setting.
This repository was established by King
piece of work, enriched with communit
The documentation found here represe
has been pragmatically adapted to suit
Engineering (RSE).
How to use this resource
Document guidance and templates have
most desktop word processing software
used offline.
1. Getting started
The core component of this toolkit is th
the SDLC. In addition to the document
in the document templates and what fa
by KDL's experiences in many project d
A quick note on naming conventions
The document names are prefixed alph
project setting. The letter is followed by
accompanying guidance document. NB
will be required for all projects.
Abbreviations used
Single letters are frequently used as sh
Document templates
A1: Terms of Reference
B1: Project Approach Questionnaire
F1: Feasibility
I1: Product Quote
J1: Statement of Work
N1: Web Hosting and Infrastructure Service Level Agreement
Document guidance
A2: Terms of Reference guidance
B2: Project Approach Questionnaire guidance
F2: Feasibility guidance
I2: Product Quote
Pages 42
Home
Document templates
A1: Terms of Reference
B1: Project Approach Questionnaire
F1: Feasibility
I1: Product Quote
J1: Statement of Work
N1: Web Hosting and Infrastructure Service Level Agreement (SLA)
Q1: Decommissioning Authorisation
L1: Project Review Record
E1: Costings table
Document guidance
A2: Terms of Reference guidance
B2: Project Approach Questionnaire guidance
F2: Feasibility guidance
I2: Product Quote guidance
J2: Statement of Work guidance
Data Management Plan guidance and AHRC template
L2: Project Review Record guidance
N2: Web Hosting and Infrastructure Service
Q2: Decommissioning Authorisation guidance

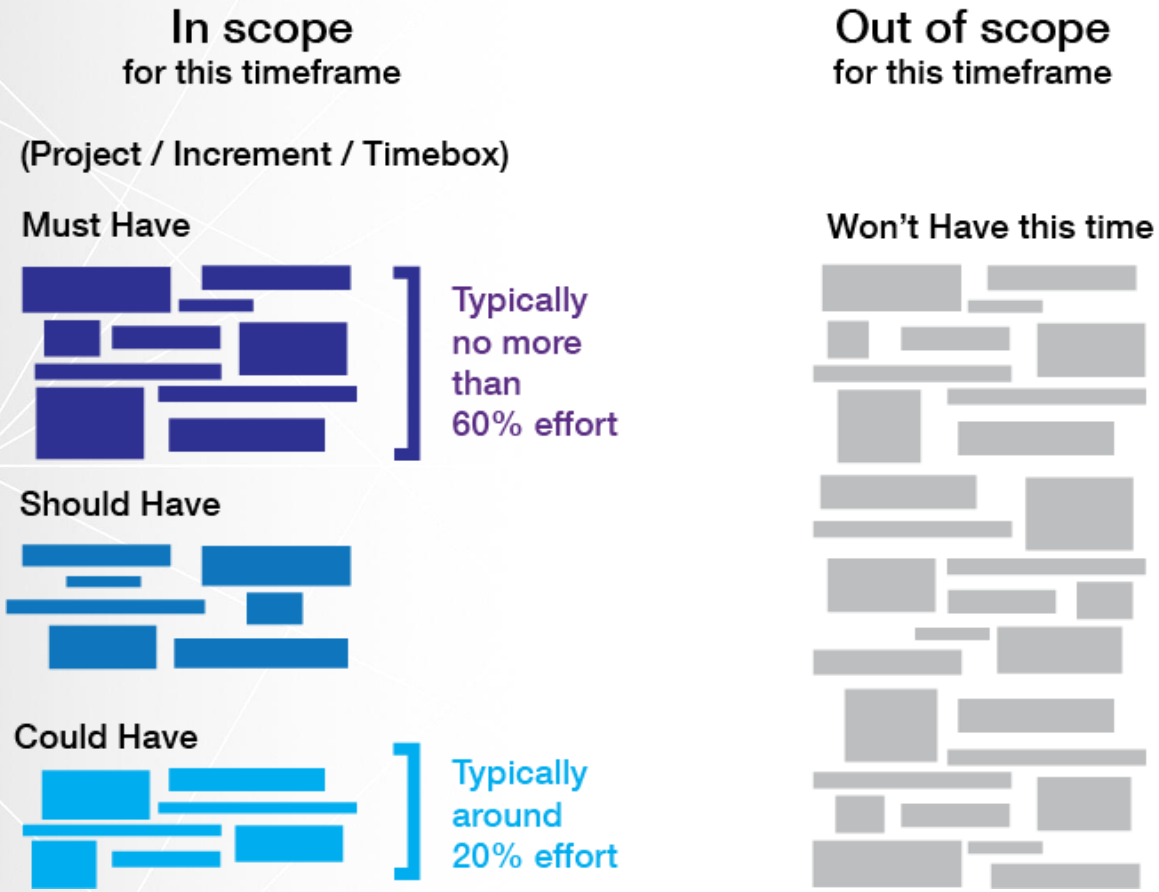
Typical MoSCoW prioritisation

M = must have; S = should have; C = could have; W = won't have (this time)

Priority	Requirement
M	Taxonomic data model for Shakespeare-related items in the Royal Collections and Royal Archives
M	Metadata schema that facilitates multiple associations among records
M	Site that can store, search across, and display a set of digital objects representing those items (likely to be approx 2500 objects)
M	Site that can store, search across, and display a set of metadata records associated with the digital objects
S	Admin interface that allows direct metadata record creation on site
S	Map functionality showing location of items by royal residences
S	Timelines placing items in historical context
C	Integration of 3D visualizations of key rooms at Windsor Castle (creation of 3D images would be by 3rd party)
W	Public interaction with/contributions to site

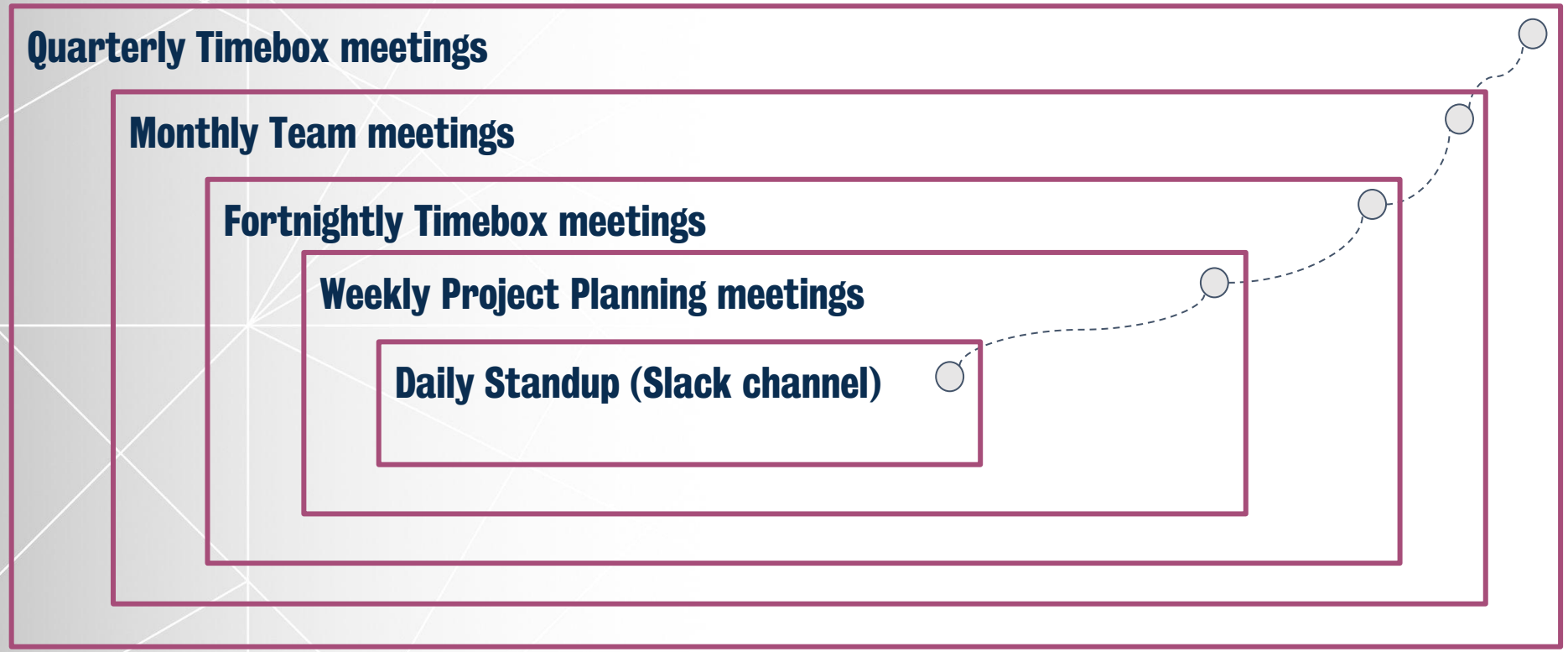
Paul Caton (KDL), *SHARC project*, KDL Product Quote

Typical MoSCoW ratios



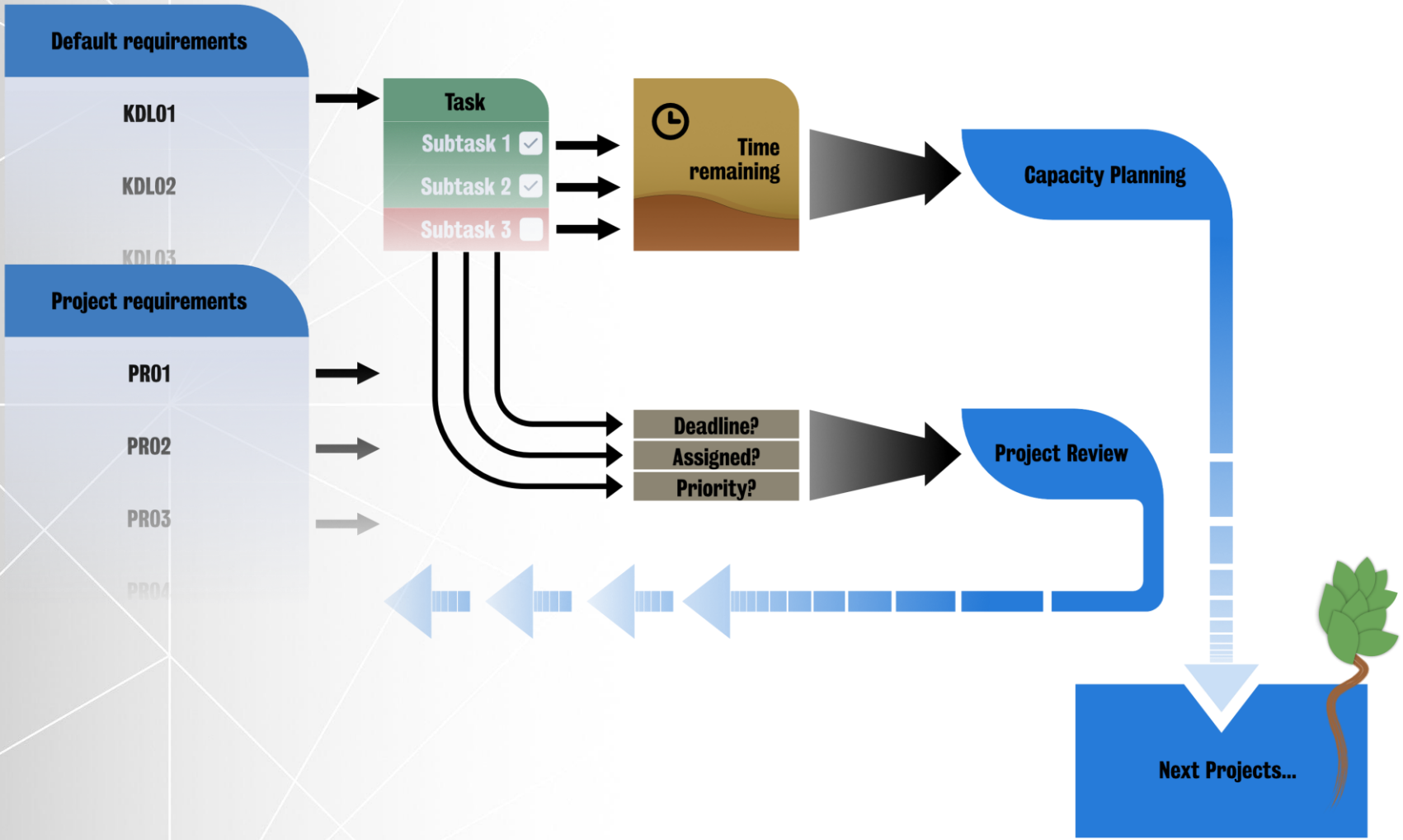
MoScoW technique >> https://www.agilebusiness.org/content/moscow-prioritisation

Project Management & Communication



PRE-PROJECT	FEASIBILITY	FOUNDATIONS	EVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT	DEPLOYMENT	POST-PROJECT
Understand the research questions and context Discuss with Project Partners Produce a "Term of Reference" document GO ▶	Outline solution architecture development and delivery plan Prioritise Requirements List Produce a summary for the final go/no-go decision Quote GO ▶	High-level schedule of work increments	Timebox planning Daily stand-up meetings Project review record Evolving solution document(s) and artefacts	Assemble Review Deploy	Assess if the expected benefits have been met

Requirements, Tasks and Capacity



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