



Breaking Illusions with Testing

Maaret Pyhäjärvi



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A Few Years Ago...

But not in a galaxy far far away. ☺



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ApprovalTests



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She's like "I want to exploratory test your ApprovalTests" and I'm like "Yeah, go for it", cause it's all written test first and its code I'm very proud of. And she destroyed it in like an hour and a half.

<http://visible-quality.blogspot.fi/2017/03/from-appreciation-of-shallow-testing.html>



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Testers don't break
the code, they break
your **illusions** about
the code.

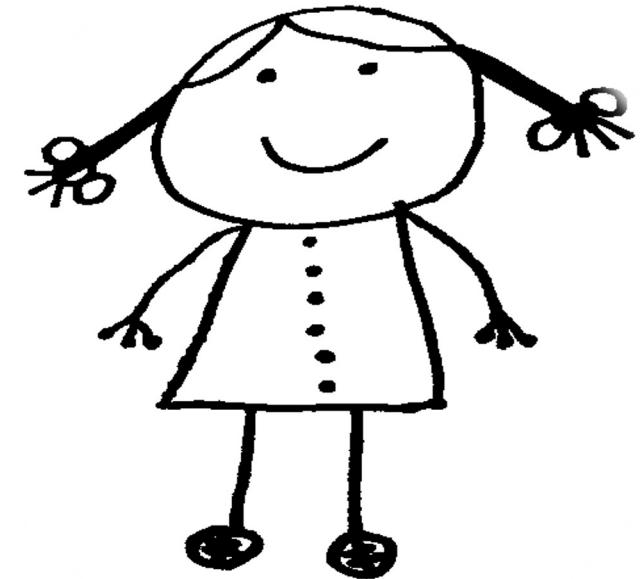
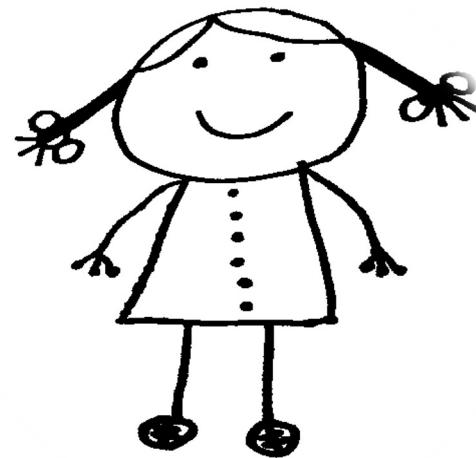
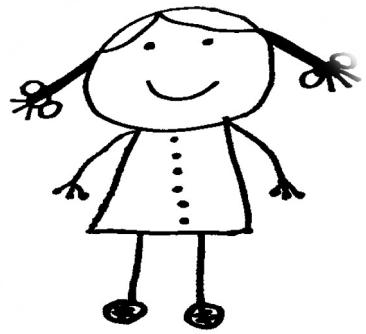
- Adapted from James Bach



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Basic Illusions: Code Making a Product

Code doing what it's supposed to.

Product doing what it would need to.

Product doing *only* what it is supposed to do.

Other Illusions: Ideas Leading to Code

Process being able to deliver with a change in mind

People having skills to deliver well.

Business model driving the selection of right focus.

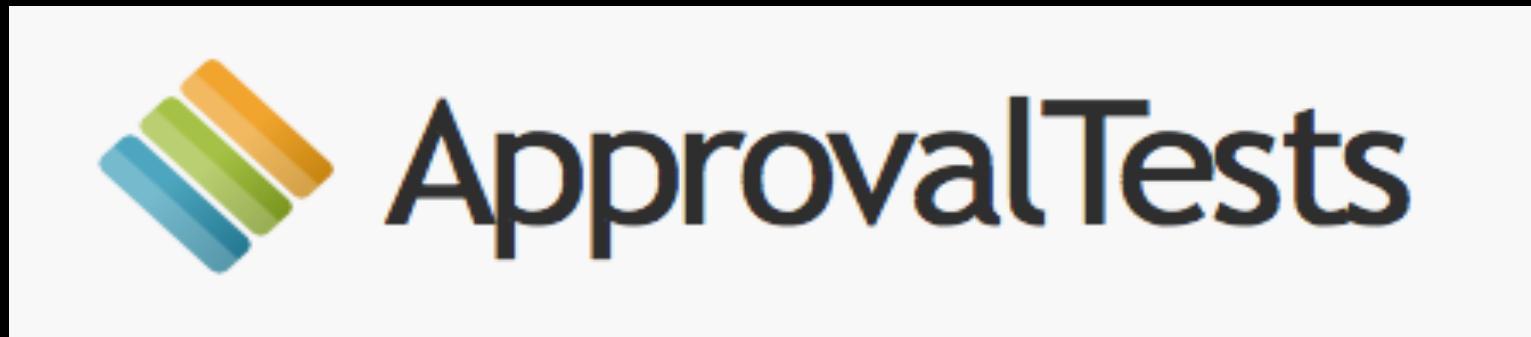


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How?

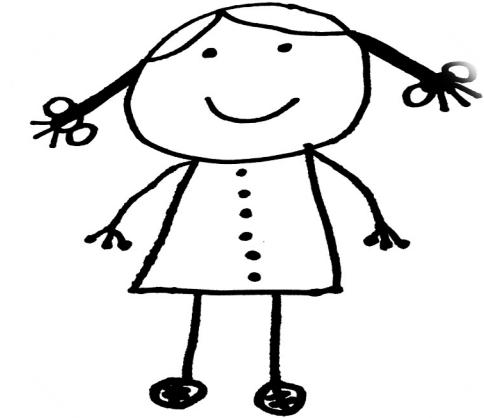


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Product is my
external
imagination



(Exploratory)
Tester



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Heuristics

Never be bored.



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Heuristics

In the beginning, you
know the least.



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Heuristics

Poke it until it pops

Variable recognition and persistency heuristics from Alexandra Schladebeck



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HEURISTIC TABLE OF TESTING

www.testinsane.com

F	Feature tour	C	Capability
C	Complexity tour	R	Reliability
C	Claims tour	F	Scouting Obsessively
F	Functional	I	Usability
A	Appropriate	L	Log
I	Impact	U	UI
B	Log	R	Recovery
L	UI	E	Emotions
O	Recovery	S	Scouting Obsessively
T	Emotions	S	Usability
S	Scouting Obsessively	U	Log
M	Usability	F	UI
H	Log	I	Recovery
C	UI	L	Emotions
E	Recovery	O	Scouting Obsessively
S	Emotions	T	Usability
P	Scouting Obsessively	S	Log
D	Usability	F	UI
R	Log	I	Recovery
C	UI	L	Emotions
A	Recovery	O	Scouting Obsessively
V	Emotions	T	Usability
S	Scouting Obsessively	S	Log
I	Usability	F	UI
T	Log	I	Recovery
D	UI	L	Emotions
E	Recovery	O	Scouting Obsessively
S	Emotions	T	Usability
R	Scouting Obsessively	S	Log
		1	2
		5	4
		3	2
		1	

Michael D Kelly

- 1 Touring Heuristics
- 2 Test Reporting Heuristics

Adam Goucher

Ordering of Testing Tasks heuristics

Ben Simo

Error handling Heuristics

Scott Barber

Performance Testing heuristics

James Bach

- 1 Quality Criteria heuristics
- 2 Learning Heuristics
- 3 Test Oracles
- 4 Test Techniques Heuristics
- 5 Project Environment Heuristics
- 6 Test Strategy Heuristic

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Structure
Function
Data
Platform
Operations
Time



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Approvers do

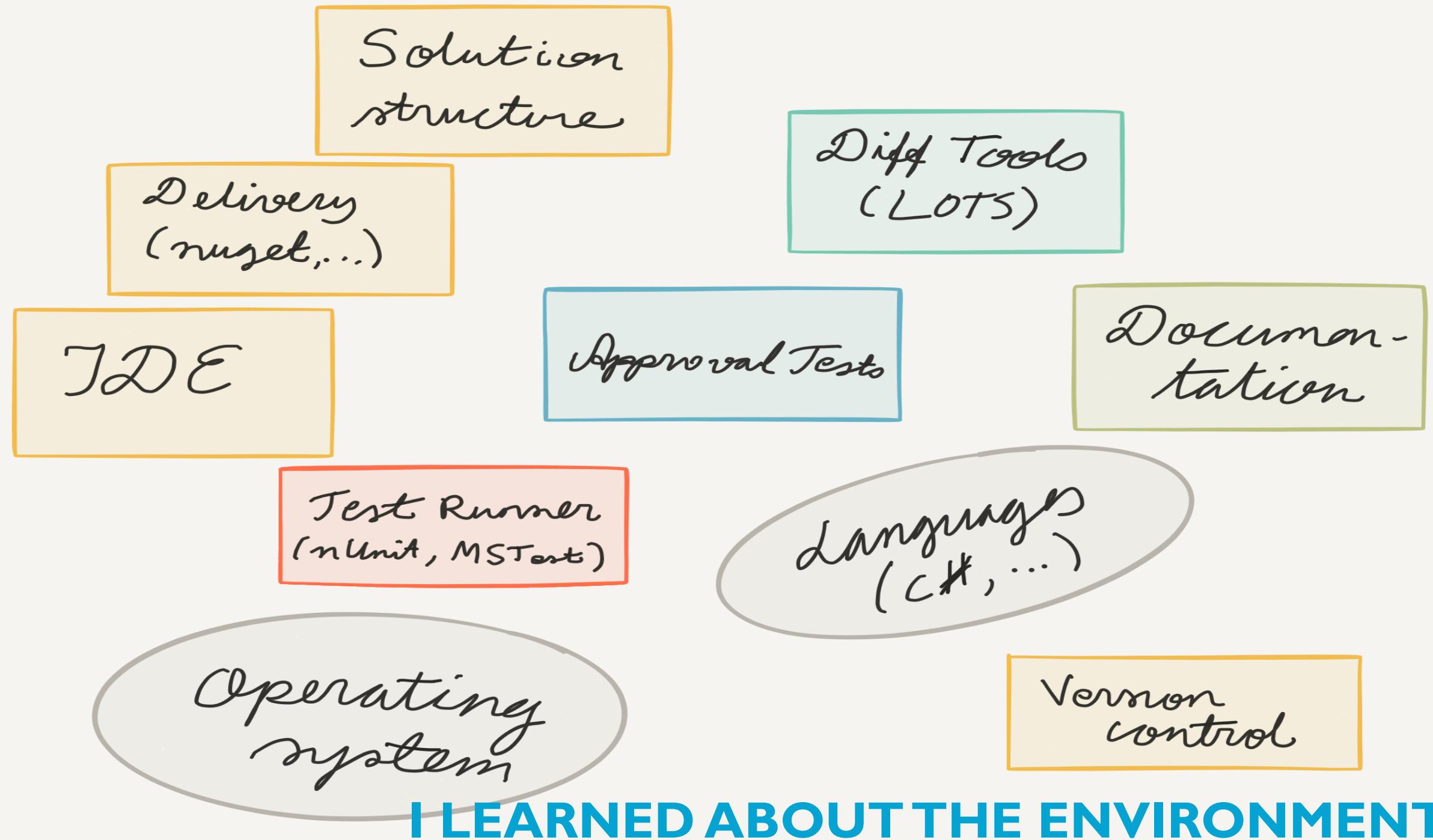
I LEARNED ABOUT FUNCTIONS

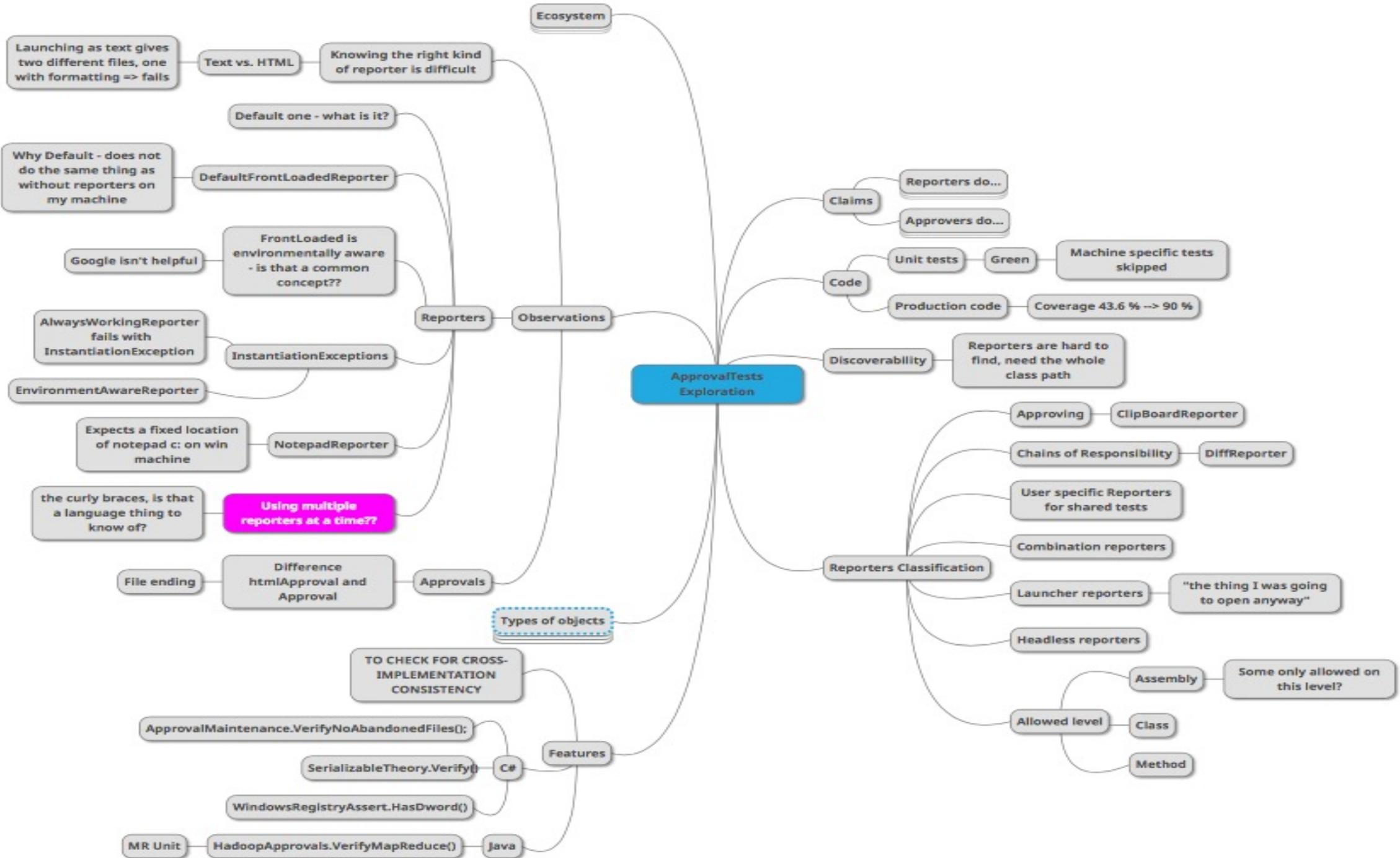
- Formatting
- Sorting
- File Extensions
- Scrubbing (removing common inconsistencies)
- Serialization(saving to a file)
- Mocking
- Proxying
- Rendering
- Execution (e.g. retrieve the URL)
- Aggregating test cases
- File naming
- PRINCIPLE: "Every time you handle this type of object, you do these things to it."

Reporters do

I LEARNED ABOUT FUNCTIONS

- Waiting
- Scrubbing (removing common inconsistencies)
- Execution
- Launching
- Serialization
- Decompilation
- Chain of responsibility
- Creating Approved file
- Environmental awareness





Code doing what it's supposed to.

Product doing what it would need to.

Product doing *only* what it is supposed
to do.



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Bonus Illusion: Test Coverage

Testing being done.



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Three Other Illusions

The Ideas Leading into Code



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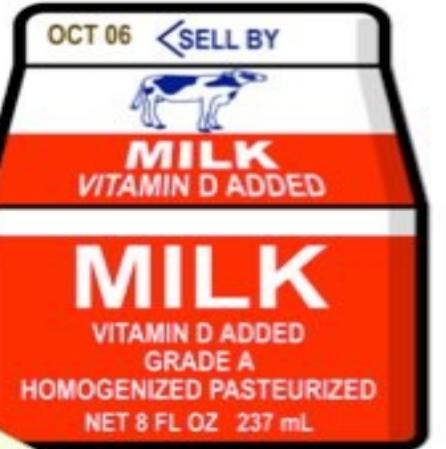
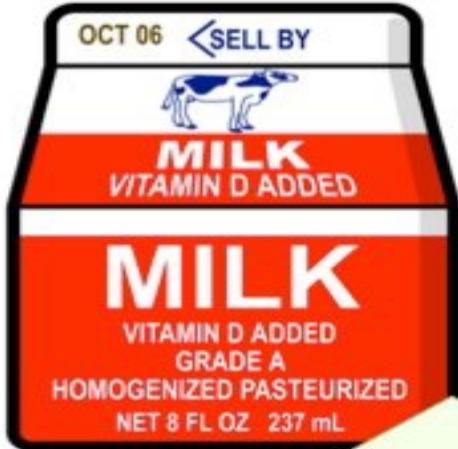
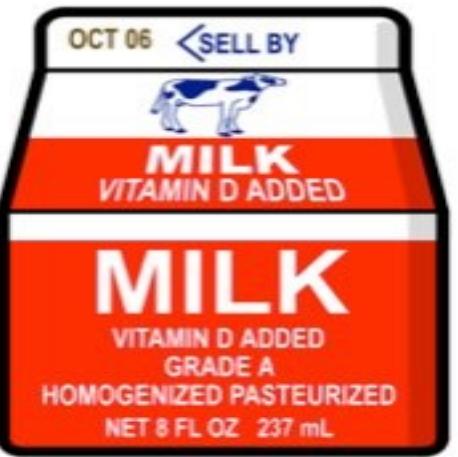
Illusion type VI: Business model driving the selection of right focus.



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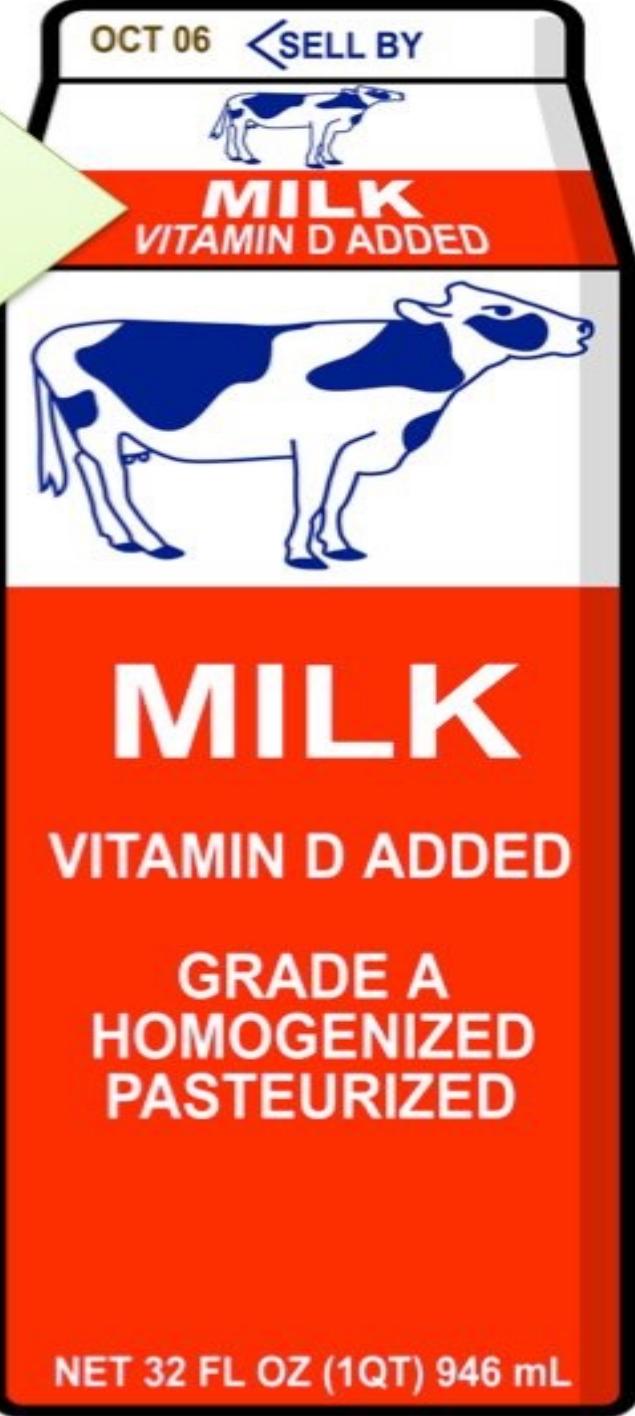
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**Software is
cheapest in
lots of small
cartons**

**Milk is cheapest
in BIG cartons**

**And small cartons
of software
reduce risk**



Illusion type V:
People having skills to
deliver well.



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Illusion type IV:
Process being able to
deliver with change in
mind.



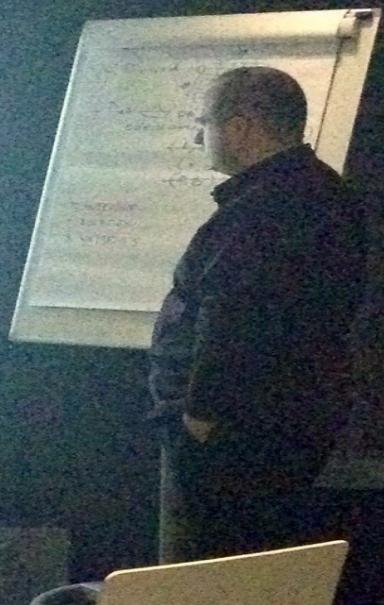
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Cognitive Dissonanc

e



Continuous Delivery

No Jira

No Estimates

No Product Owner

No Projects

No Scrum



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Learning Superpower and core of exploring

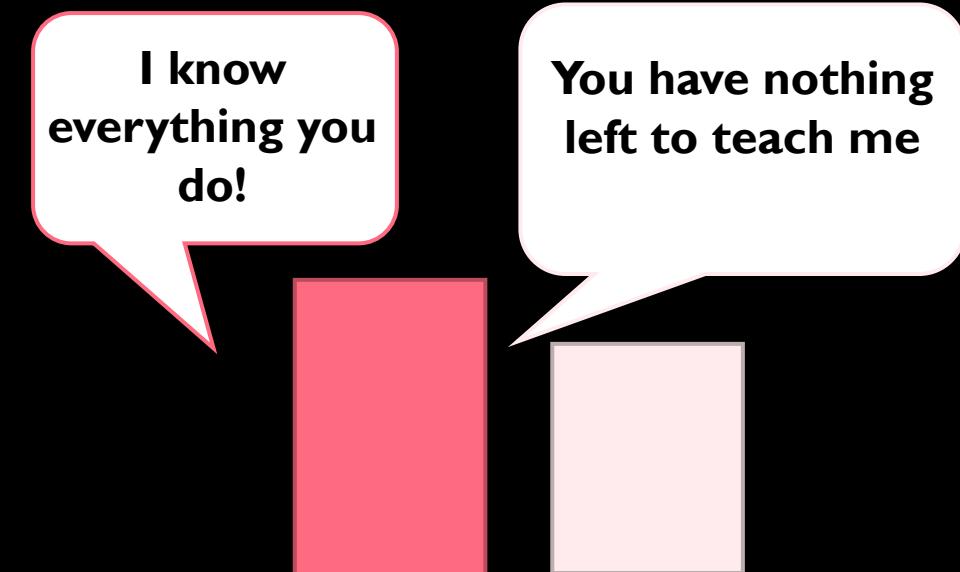


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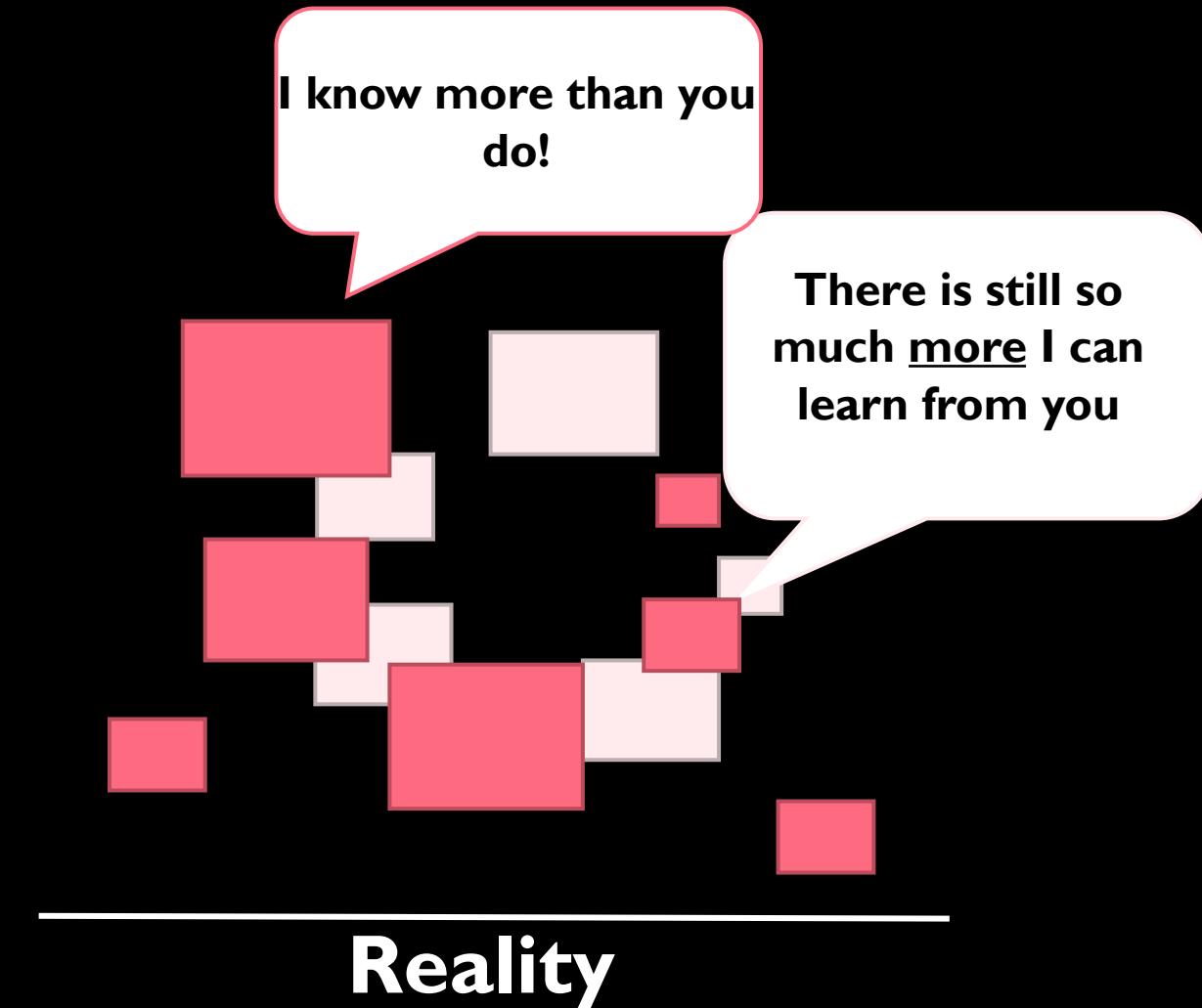
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Learning



Linear Viewpoint

vs.



Reality

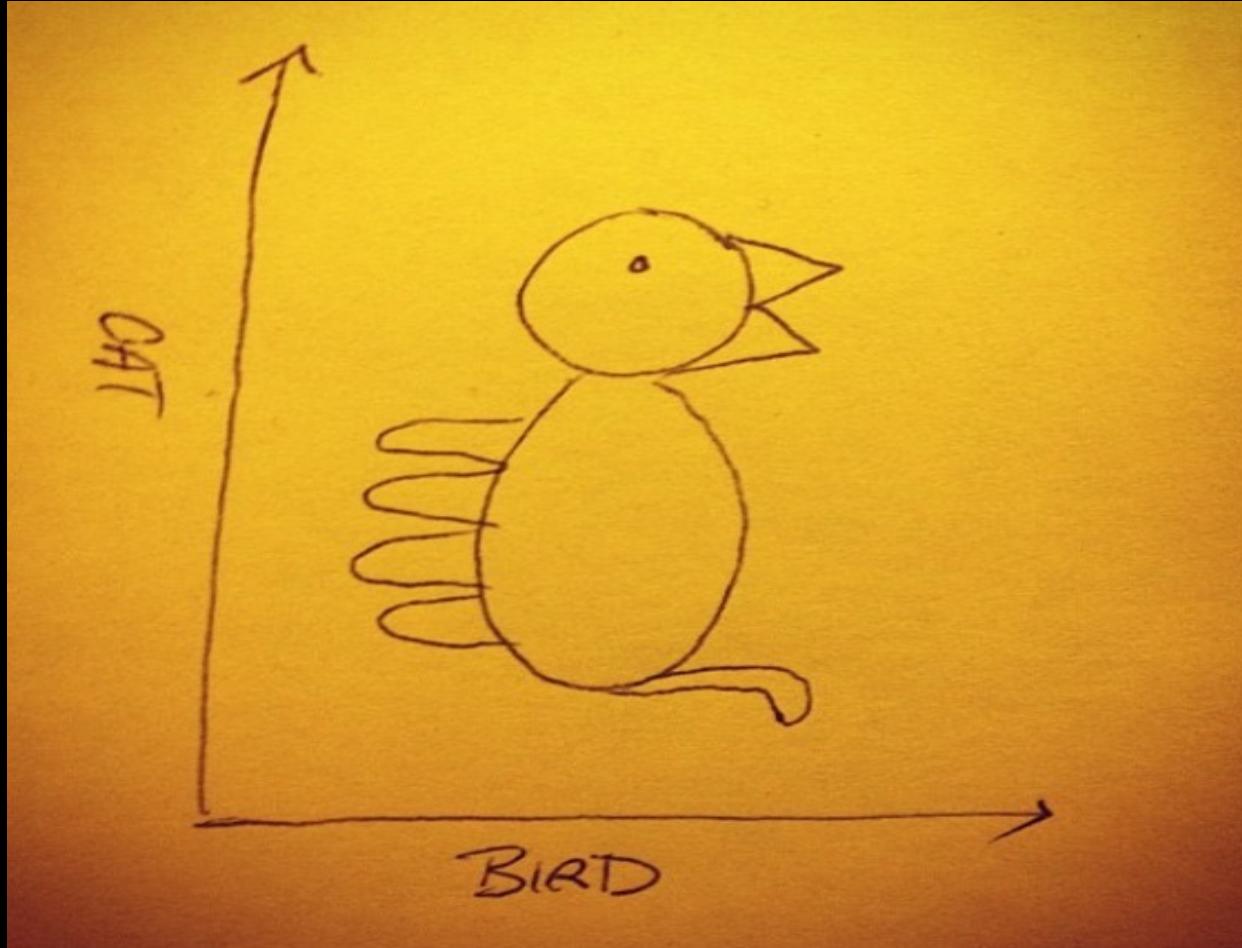


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Things Can Look Different from Different Perspectives



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us time
ore : PSR
ore : MAX
ne selection
guage selection
ability
ntioning
mentation
+
ng on/off



Lesson I. Testing is not using the system. You need to be more driven to information and understanding. More intentional.



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Lesson 2. Intent is not enough.

Serendipity happens through elements of play and making unplanned connections. Awareness of what you know and how you know it becomes essential.



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Lesson 3. You are in control.

When system gives you a hard constraint, there are still ways you can work through that constraint.

If you can simplify or isolate, do that. **Complex** can happen later.



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**Lesson 4. Testability. When
something is hard to do, remember
there's a developer somewhere
who needs to share the pain to
build smarter next time.**



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Lesson 5. You got tools. Find them. You pull in what you need, not rely on just what you're given.



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Lesson 6. Yes, that automation of permutations integrated with vocabulary would come in handy.
What you can't find but want, you can build.



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Lesson 7. It really does not calculate scores right. But does that matter - what is quality for this game? What creates emotions relevant enough to impact user's behavior?



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Serendipity and Perseverance



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The more I practice, the
luckier I get
– Arnold Palmer



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It's not that I'm so smart,
just stay with the problems
longer.

– Albert Einstein



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Deliberate Discovery

Skills

| 2 3 4 5

| 2 : 4 5



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Maaret Pyhäjärvi (from Finland)



2020



Most Influential Agile Testing Professional Person

2016



2019 - 2023

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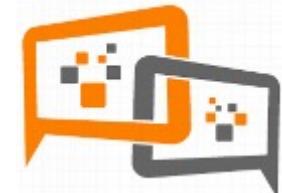
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Mastodon or LinkedIn)

#PayToSpeak #TechVoices
#EnsembleTesting #EnsembleProgramming #StrongStylePairing
#ExploratoryTesting #TestAutomation
#ModernAgile
#ContemporaryExploratoryTesting

Legacy
maaretp



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Ohjelmistotestaus ry



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