

PROCESS

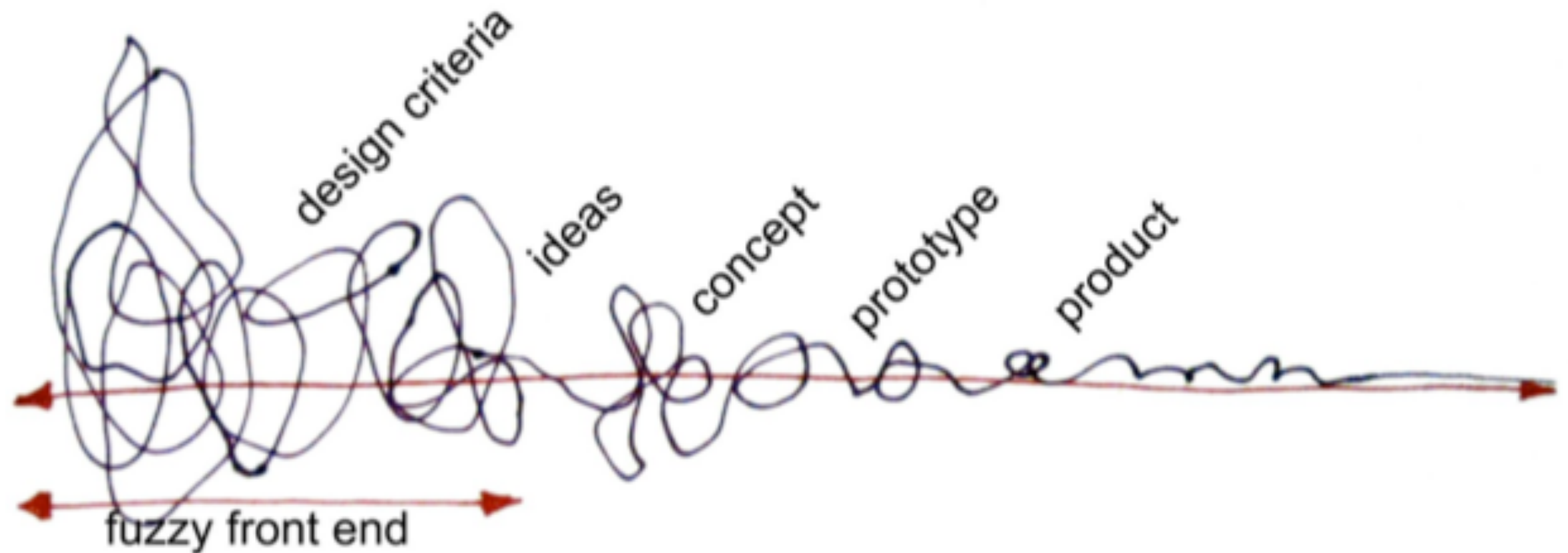
CART 416

RILLA KHALED

A THEORETICAL DESIGN PROCESS

- ① Establishing requirements
- ② Designing alternatives
- ③ Prototyping
- ④ Evaluating

A REALISTIC DESIGN PROCESS



WHAT IS A PROTOTYPE?

- any representation of a design idea, regardless of medium (Houde and Hill, 1997)
- materials to reflect and evaluate design ideas for future artifacts (Hennipman et al., 2008)
- one manifestation of a design that allows stakeholders to interact with it and explore its suitability (Sharp, Preece, and Rogers, 2011)
- tools for traversing a design space where all possible design alternatives and their rationales can be explored (Lim et al., 2008)

WHY DO WE PROTOTYPE?

- to answer questions (experiment)
- to discover questions and problems (explore)
- to help ourselves think (externalise)
- to help ourselves learn (evolve)
- to save time and money (economise)
- so that the “world can speak back to us” (engage)
 - to test out ideas with players / users
 - to communicate with other designers

THE DESIGN PROBLEM SPACE

- a bounded space
- a conceptual space
- multidimensional
- prototypes are points in the space
- the solution exists within the space



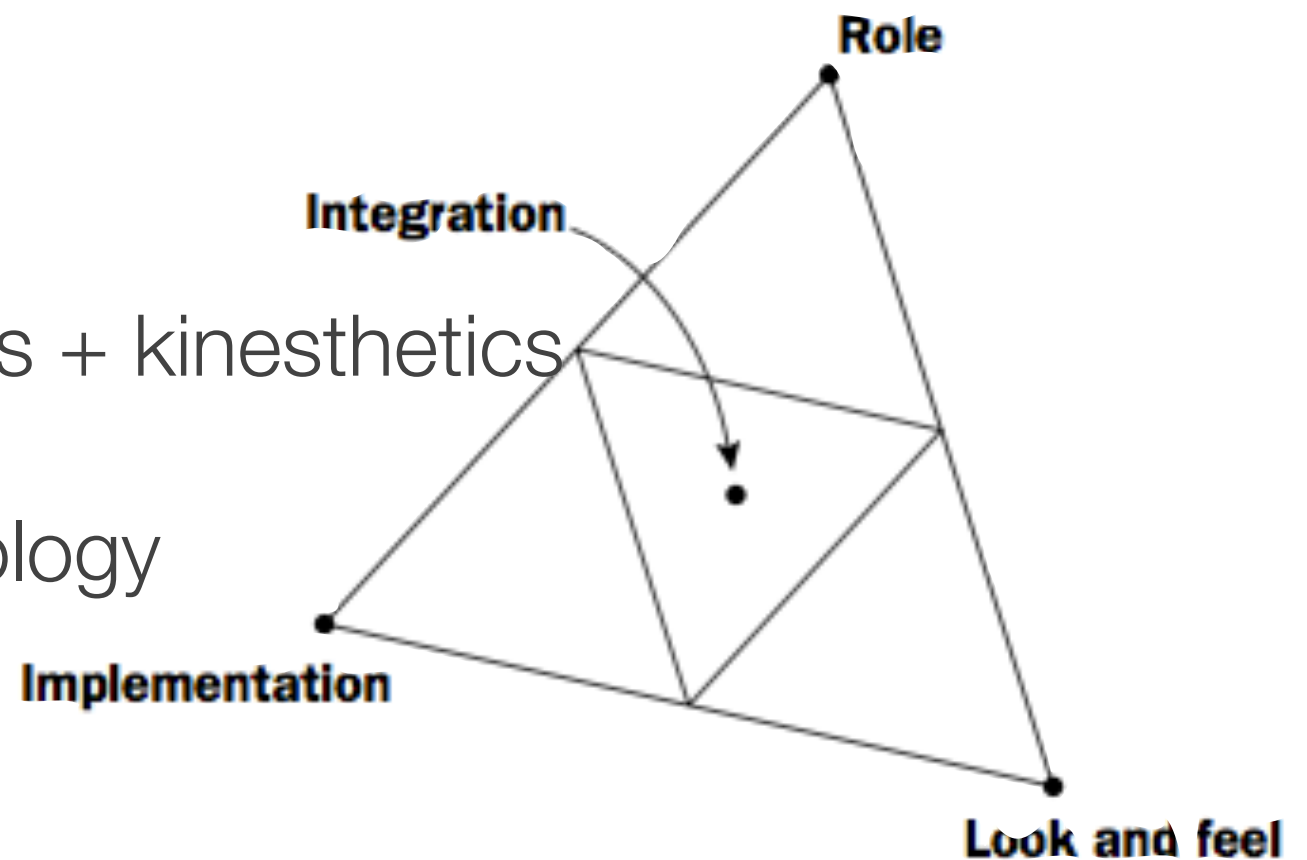
LOW-FIDELITY VS. HIGH-FIDELITY



Adding a Cat and Setting Up Catometer™

CATEGORISING PROTOTYPES

- focusing on purpose of prototype:
 - role / game experience
 - look and feel / aesthetics + kinesthetics
 - implementation / technology
 - integration



ECONOMIC PRINCIPLE OF PROTOTYPING

“ the best prototype is one that, in the simplest and most efficient way, makes the possibilities and limitations of a design idea visible and measurable ”

PROTOTYPING STRATEGY: ONE OR MANY?

- should you prototype one idea and keep refining it serially?
- should you prototype several ideas at the same time?



PROTOTYPING STRATEGY: KEEP TO YOURSELF OR SHARE?

- should you keep refining the ideas on your own?
- should you share the ideas with others?



RESEARCH ON PROTOTYPING CONFIRMS:

- Creating and viewing multiple prototypes leads to more individual design exploration
- Sharing multiple prototypes with a group leads to more productive dialogue and better group rapport
- Sharing multiple prototypes leads to more effective conceptual blending.
- **Sharing multiple prototypes produces better design results.**

Dow, S., Fortuna, J., Schwartz, D., Altringer, B., Schwartz, D., and Klemmer, S. (2011). Prototyping dynamics: sharing multiple designs improves exploration, group rapport, and results. In Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '11).

WHY MIGHT WE NOT WANT TO SHARE?



DESIGN + VALUES



GIANT JOYSTICK
MARY FLANAGAN

VALUES?



INSIDE
PLAYDEAD

VAP METHOD

- games should be developed in a way that they could include ethical ideals – or human values
- what if we were to intentionally embed values?
- VAP (values in play) method conceived of for activist games
- also insightful for any type of game - analytically and in terms of design

privacy

altruism

inclusivity

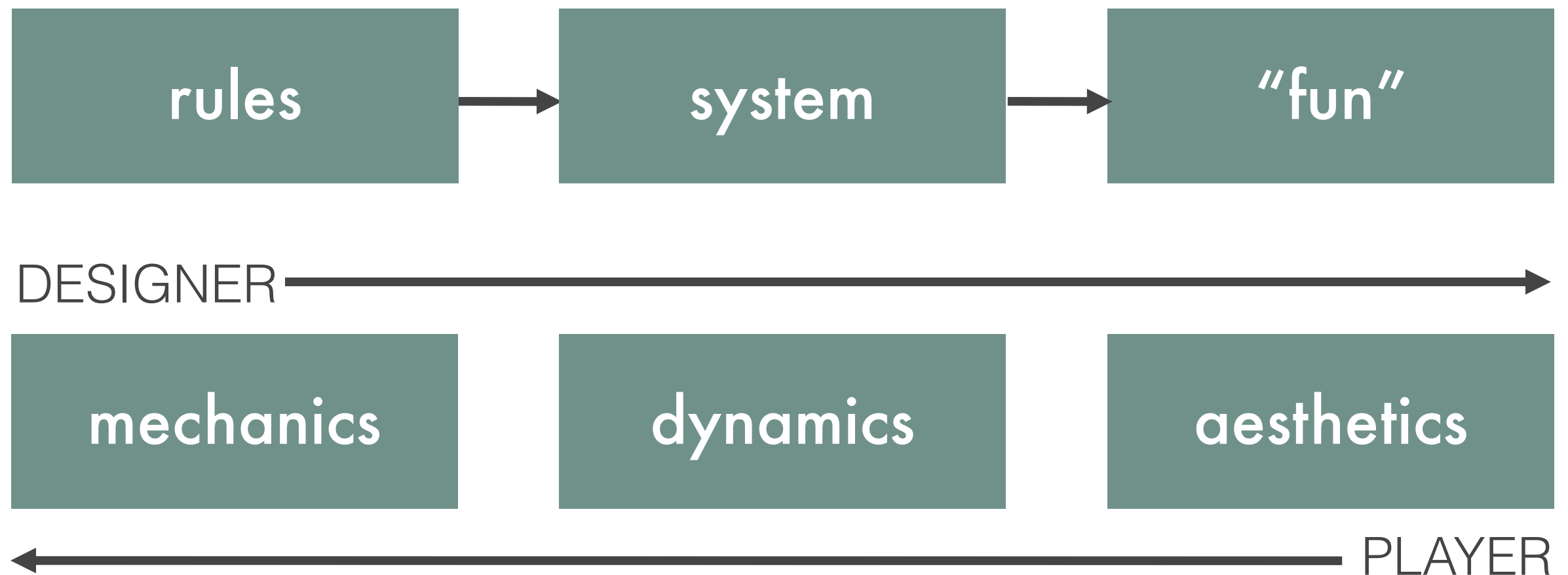
VAP STEPS

1. **Discovery:** designers "discover" and identify the shared values relevant to their project
2. **Translation:** designers "translate" value considerations into architecture and features into game iterations
3. **Verification:** designers verify that the values outcomes they sought have been realized in the game

MDA: MECHANICS, DYNAMICS, AESTHETICS

- **mechanics:** “particular components of the game, at the level of data representation and algorithms”
- **dynamics:** “the run-time behavior of the mechanics acting on player inputs and each others’ outputs over time”
- **aesthetics:** “the desirable emotional responses evoked in the player, when she interacts with the game system”

MDA: MECHANICS, DYNAMICS, AESTHETICS



DPE: DESIGN, PLAY, EXPERIENCE

- serious game design is a hard communication problem
- how do we coordinate between **theory** (best practice on how to teach particular material), **content** (the material itself), and **game design**?

DPE EXTENDS THE MDA



THE LEARNING LAYER



THE STORYTELLING LAYER

DESIGN

PLAY

EXPERIENCE

STORYTELLING

character, setting,
narrative

storytelling

story

THE GAMEPLAY LAYER

DESIGN

PLAY

EXPERIENCE

GAMEPLAY

mechanics

dynamics

affect

THE USER EXPERIENCE LAYER

DESIGN

PLAY

EXPERIENCE

USER EXPERIENCE

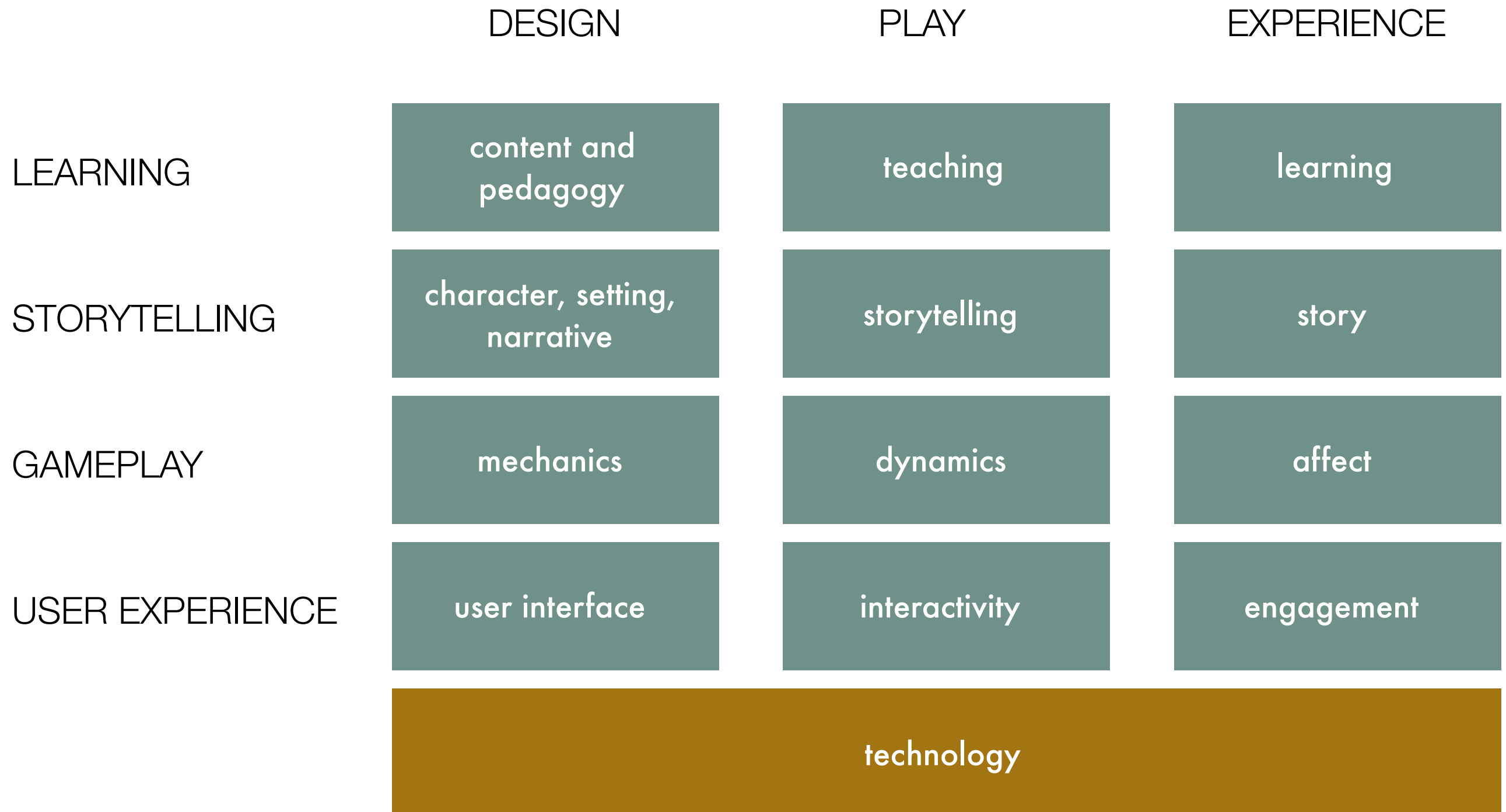
user interface

interactivity

engagement

INFLUENCE BETWEEN LAYERS?

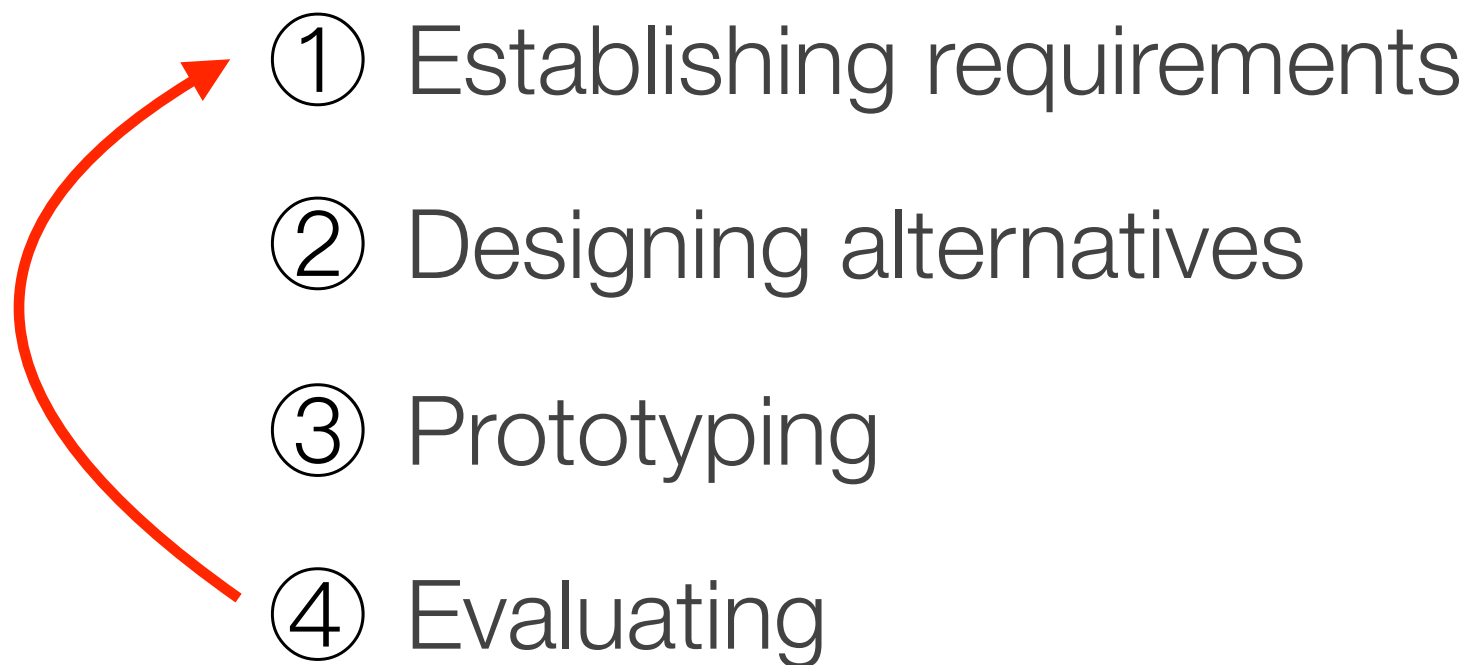
ORDER?



MEDIATING IT ALL

technology

ITERATE, ITERATE, ITERATE



WHO IS YOUR TARGET PLAYER?

