

An Introduction to Behaviour Driven Development with Cucumber for Java

Seb Rose

seb@cucumber.io



Agenda

- What is BDD?
- What is Cucumber?
- Demo *Cucumber for Java*
- Cucumber variants
- Putting it all together



What is BDD?

Behaviour Driven Development



BDD defined

BDD is a second-generation, outside-in, pull-based, multiple-stakeholder, multiple-scale, high-automation, agile methodology.

It describes a cycle of interactions with well-defined outputs, resulting in the delivery of working, tested software that matters.

Dan North

<http://skillsmatter.com/podcast/java-jee/how-to-sell-bdd-to-the-business>



The power of “*should*”

- Diverts developers from their distaste for testing
- Encourages people to ask “Should it really?”



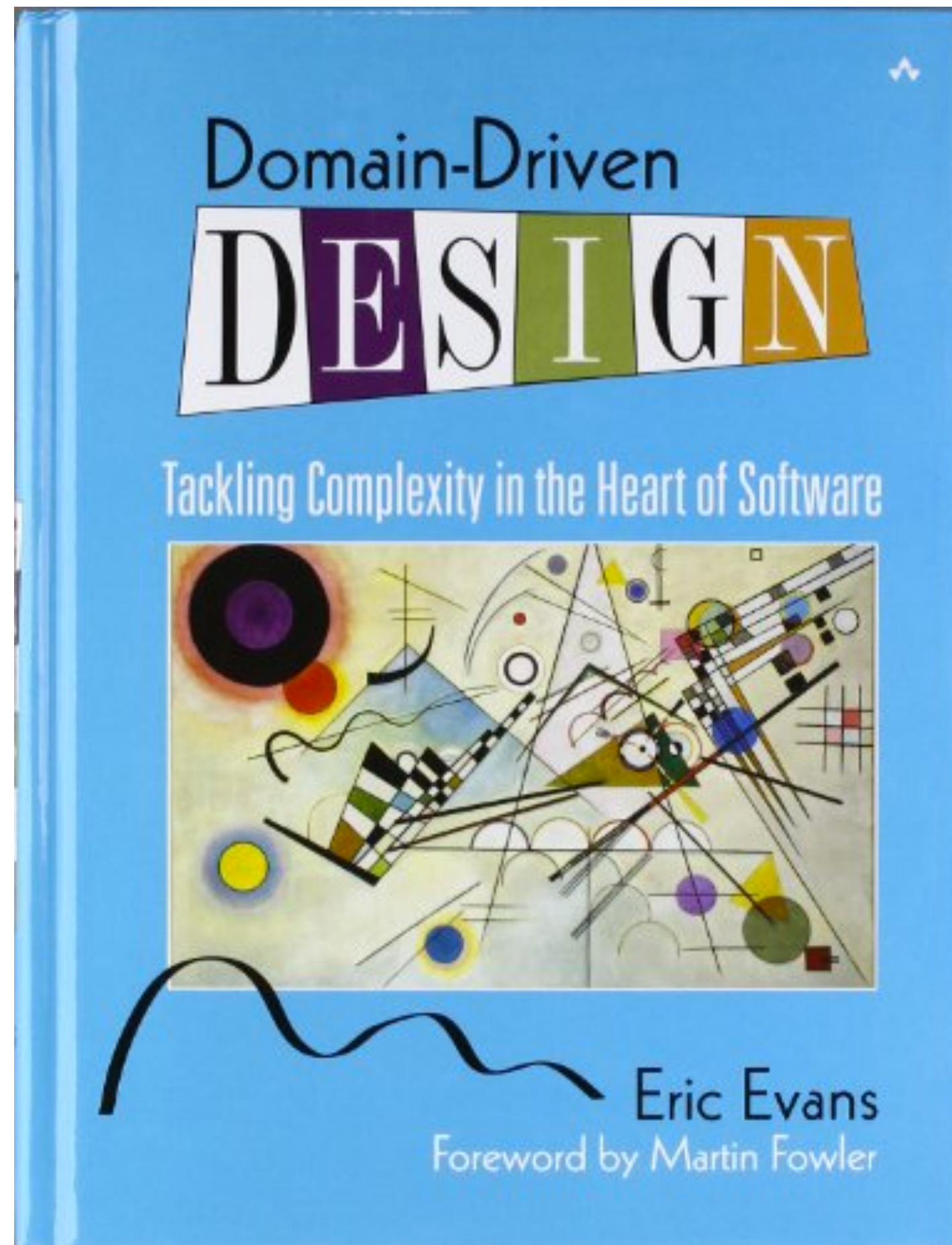
Deliberate discovery

“... during an inception, when we are most ignorant about most aspects of the project, the best use we can possibly make of the time available is to attempt to identify and reduce our ignorance ...”

Dan North



Ubiquitous language

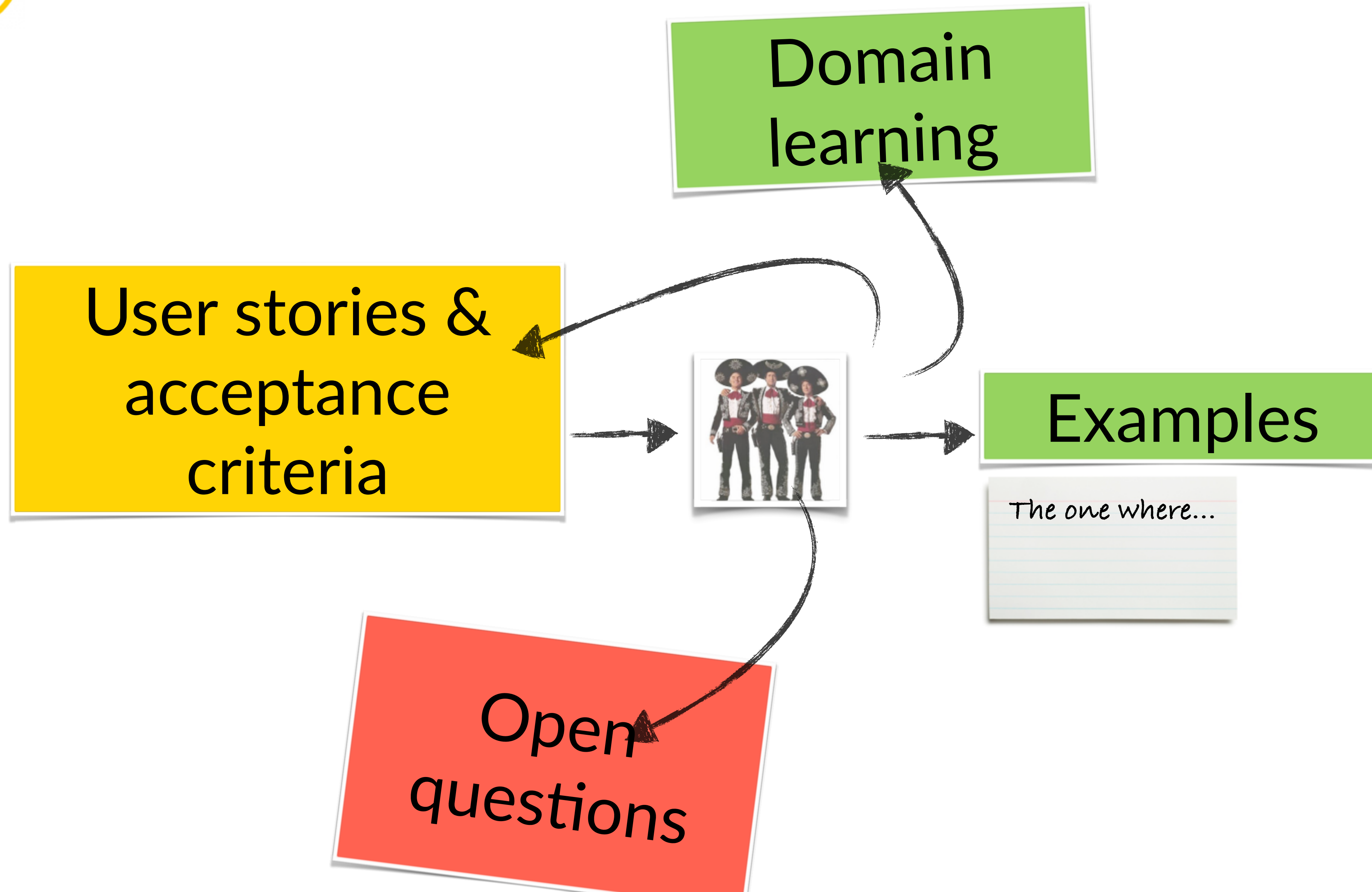


“The practice of building up a common, rigorous language between developers and users”

Martin Fowler

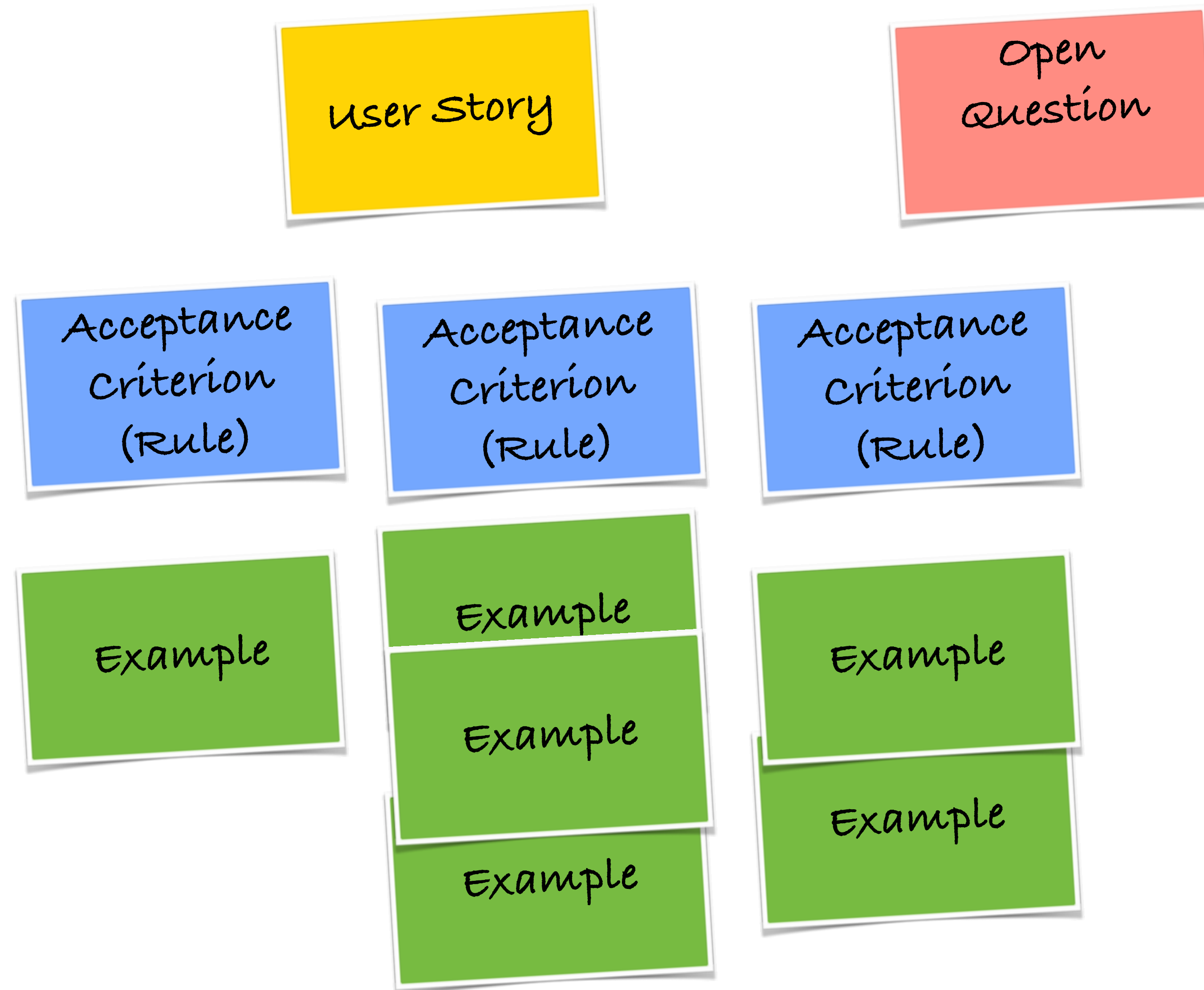


The 3 Amigos





Example mapping





Important conversations

having conversations
is more important than
capturing conversations
is more important than
automating conversations

Liz Keogh

<http://lizkeogh.com/2014/01/22/using-bdd-with-legacy-systems/>



Living documentation

a.k.a Executable specification

Living documentation is a reliable and authoritative source of information on system functionality, which anyone can easily access.

It is as reliable as the code, but much easier to read and understand.

Gojko Adzic

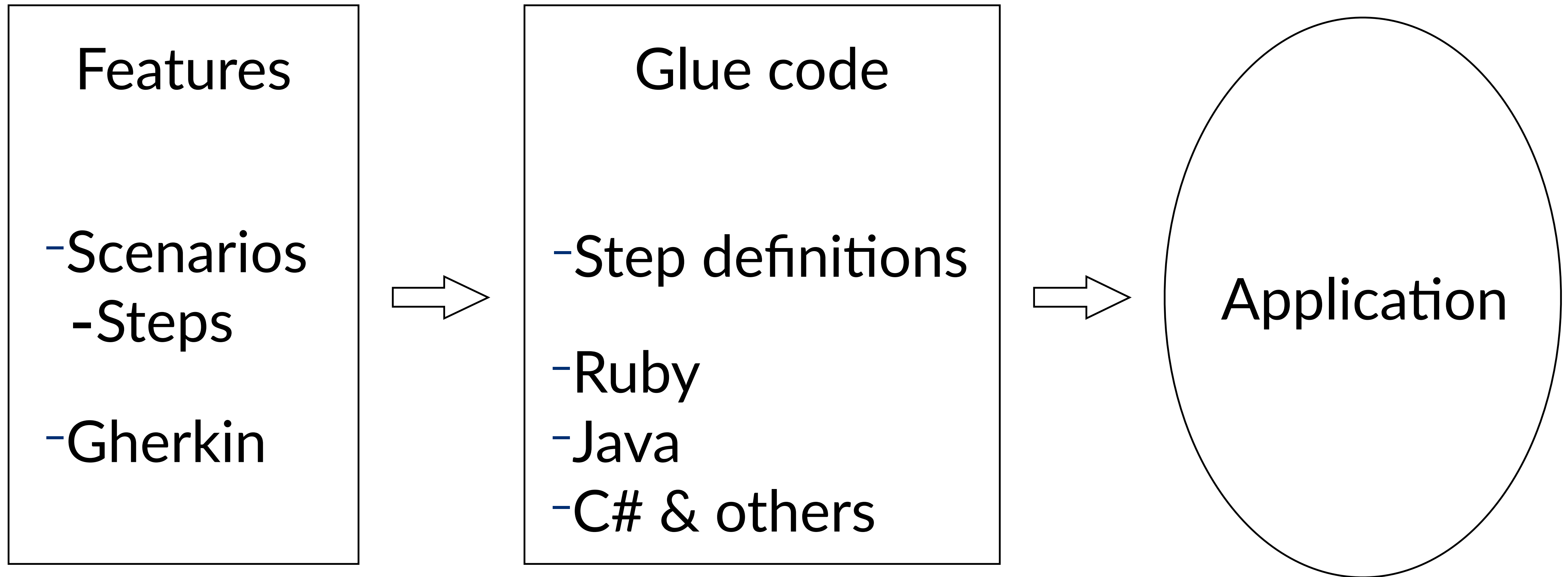


What BDD is not....

- Using “Given/When/Then”
- The responsibility of testers
- An alternative to manual testing



What is Cucumber?





Feature: Team Scoring

Teams start with zero score.

Correct answer gets points depending on how difficult it is.

Scenario: New teams should not have scored yet

Given I register a team

Then my score is 0

Scenario: Correctly answering a question scores points

Given I register a team

When I submit a correct answer

Then my score is 10



Gherkin fundamentals

Feature: *Feature name*

Description of feature goes here

Scenario: *Scenario name*

Description of scenario goes here

Given *a certain context*

When *something happens*

Then *an outcome*

And *something else*

But *not this though*

Scenario: *Another scenario name*

...



Ruby

```
Given(/^I register a team$/) do
  # Glue code goes here
end
```



Java

```
import cucumber.api.java.en.*;

public class MyStepDefinitions {

    @Given("^I register a team$")
    public void iRegisterATeam() throws Throwable {
        // Glue code goes here
    }
}
```

DEMO



Cucumber variants

- Ruby
- C# (Specflow)
- Java (& other JVM languages)
- Javascript
- PHP
- Python
- C++



Given/When/Then namespaces



Global namespace

- Given/When/Then interchangeable



Separate namespaces

- Given/When/Then distinct
- And/But bind to preceding namespace
- [StepDefinition] for compatibility



Binding & test frameworks



Behind the scenes

- may need to specify paths
- select required plugin(s)



Some magic code generation

- NUnit by default
- configuration changes for others
- several output options



Sharing data between steps



Varies by implementation

- Ruby, Javascript: World object
- Java: Dependency Injection



Context object(s)

- Injected
- Scenario
- Feature



Hooks



Before & After
Ruby: Around, AfterStep



Before & After
BeforeStep & AfterStep
BeforeFeature & AfterFeature
BeforeTestRun & AfterTestRun
BeforeScenarioBlock &
AfterScenarioBlock



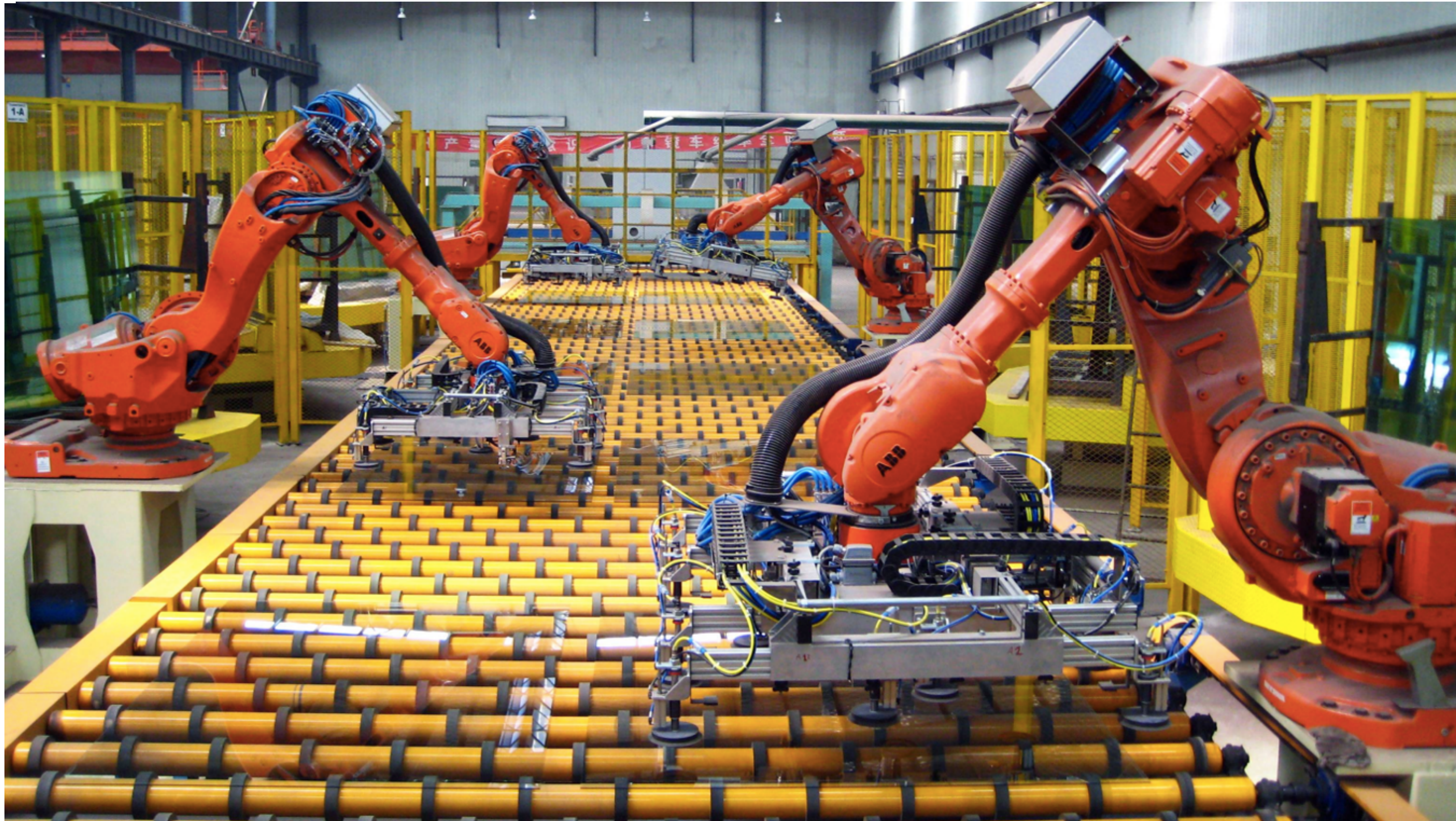
Putting it all together

Software development is hard.

Understanding what your
methods and tools
are good for
can make it easier.



Tools are not essential





BDD redefined

BDD is a second-generation, outside-in, pull-based, multiple-stakeholder, multiple-scale, **high-automation**, agile methodology.

It describes a cycle of interactions with well-defined outputs, resulting in the delivery of working, tested software that matters.

Dan North

<http://skillsmatter.com/podcast/java-jee/how-to-sell-bdd-to-the-business>



It's about collaboration

When you do BDD/Specification by Example and Outside-in, regression tests fall out at the other end. They are a by-product of those activities. Testing isn't the activity itself.

Cucumber is first and foremost a collaboration tool that aims to bring a common understanding to software teams - across roles.

Aslak Helleøy

<https://cucumber.pro/blog/2014/03/03/the-worlds-most-misunderstood-collaboration-tool.html>

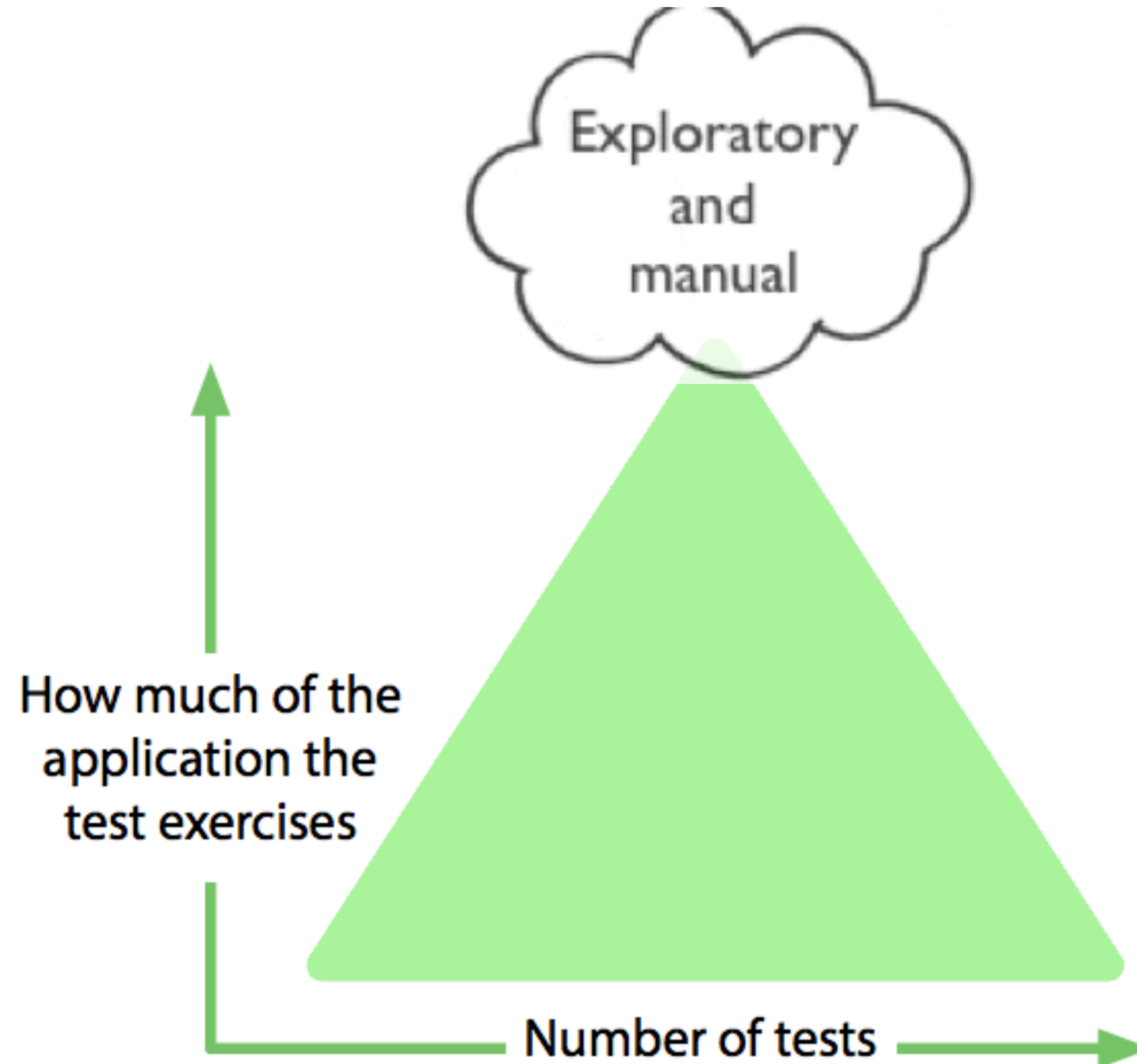


We still need testers





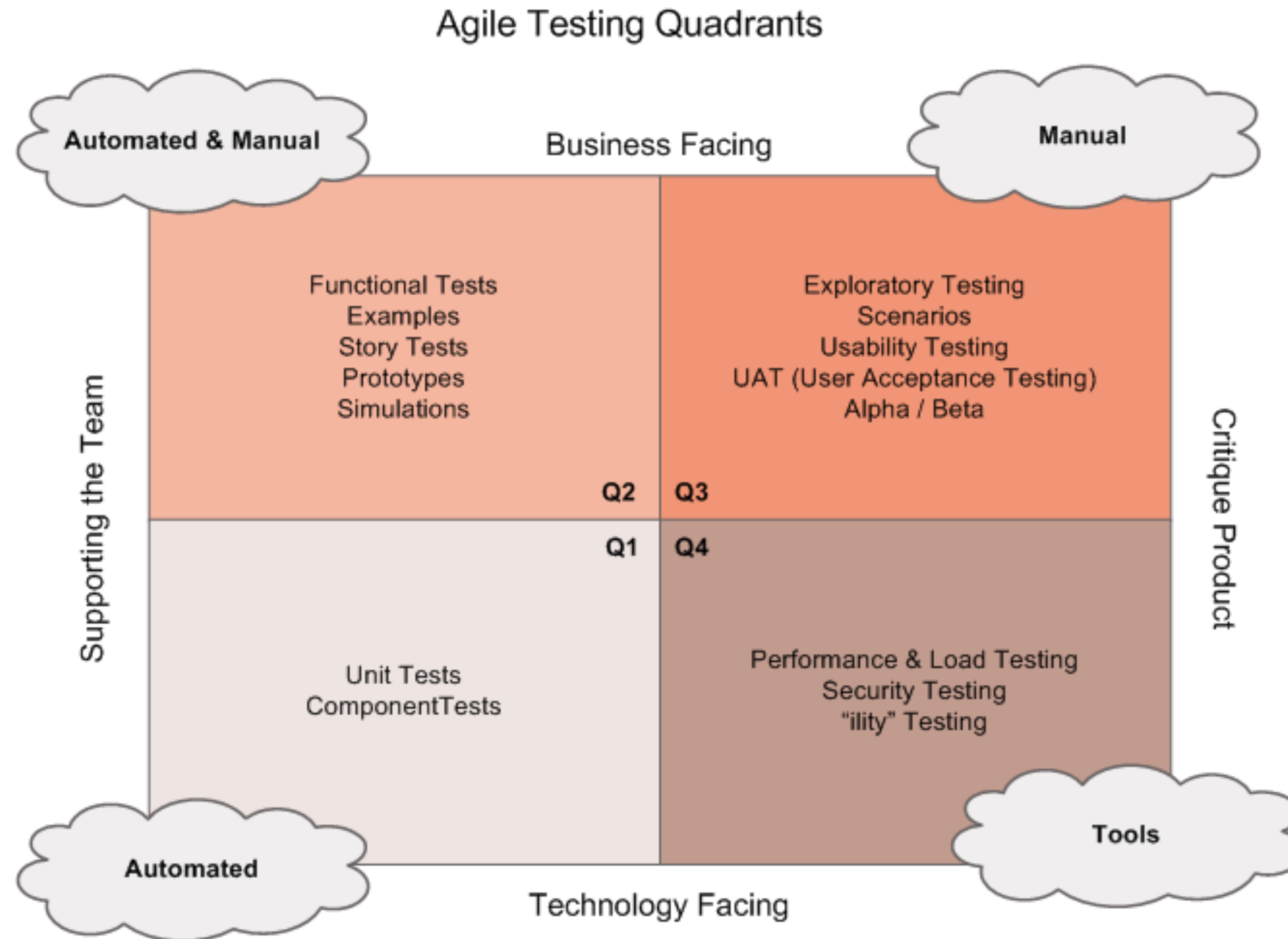
Test = check + explore



<http://claysnow.co.uk/architectural-alignment-and-test-induced-design-damage-fallacy/>



So much can go wrong!





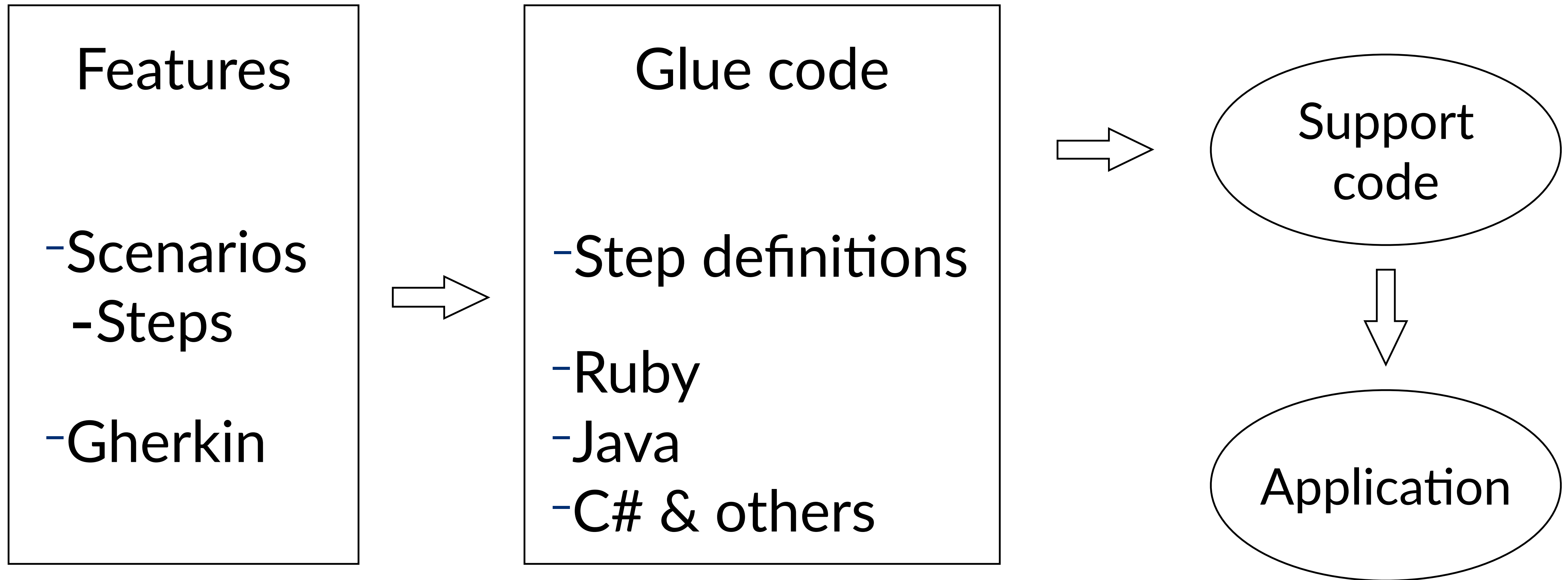
Automation is development



http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_YzKCMr-tcMM/TFLIGeqTJfI/AAAAAAAAARQ/AhNW62KX5EA/s1600/cartoon6.jpg



Understand designs





<role> will write scenarios

This page intentionally blank.



More does not mean better





It's about confidence

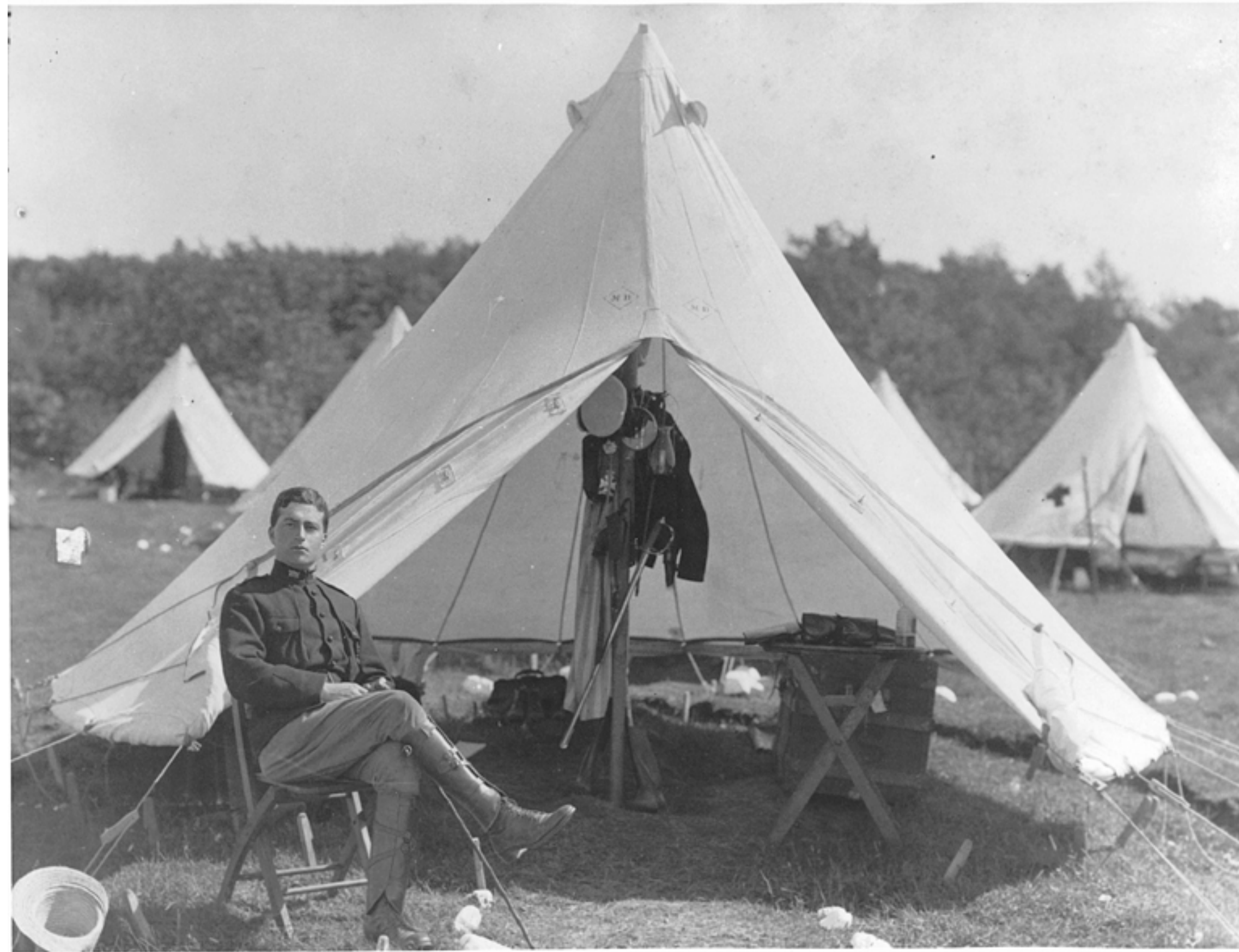
“I get paid for code that works, not for tests, so my philosophy is to test as little as possible to reach a given level of confidence ...

“I suspect this level of confidence is high compared to industry standards”

Kent Beck



How many guy ropes?





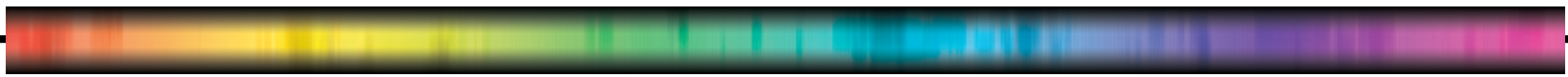
Clarity over detail





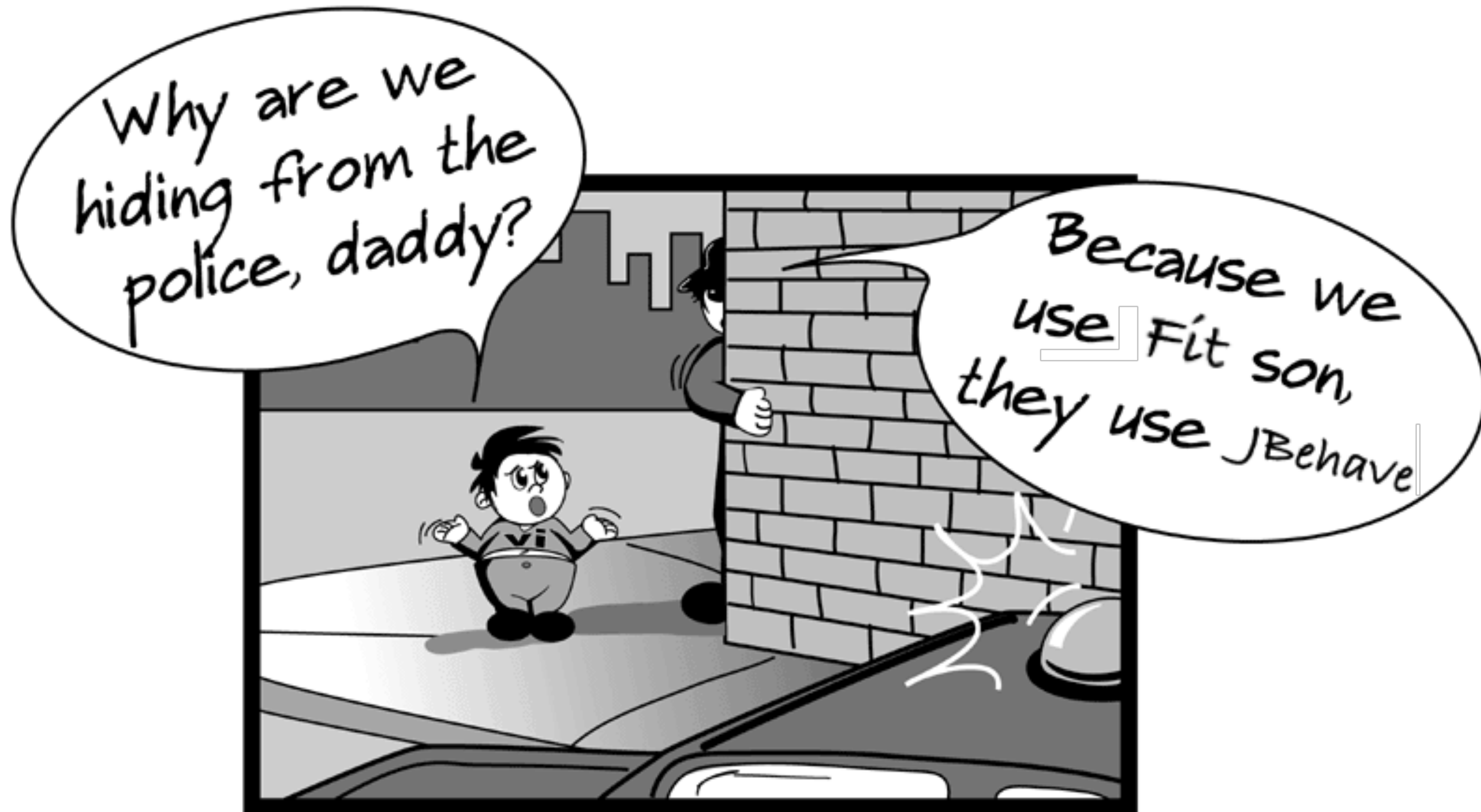
Keep it focussed

Avoid incidental details

Imperative ⇐  ⇐ Declarative



TDD, ATDD, BDD, SBE ...



A close-up photograph of a woman with long, wavy red hair. She is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a gentle, enigmatic smile. The lighting is soft and warm, highlighting her features. The background is blurred, showing indistinct shapes and colors.

What's the
difference
between TDD,
ATDD, BDD
and SbE?

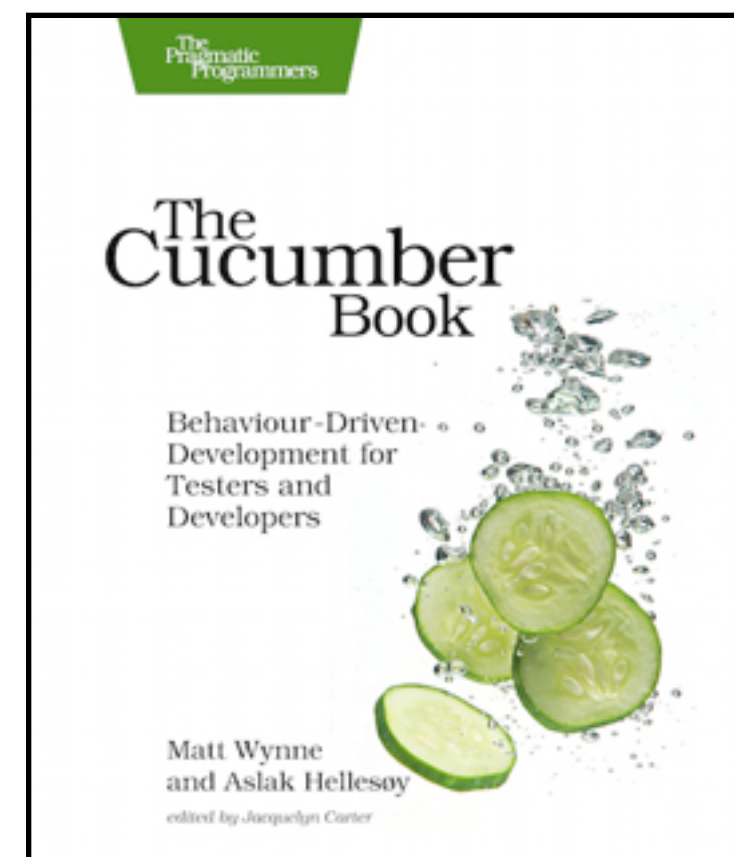
They're
called
different
things



The best TDD practitioners...

- Work from the outside-in, *i.e. test-first*
- Use examples to clarify their requirements
- Develop and use a ubiquitous language

cucumber[💬] Ltd

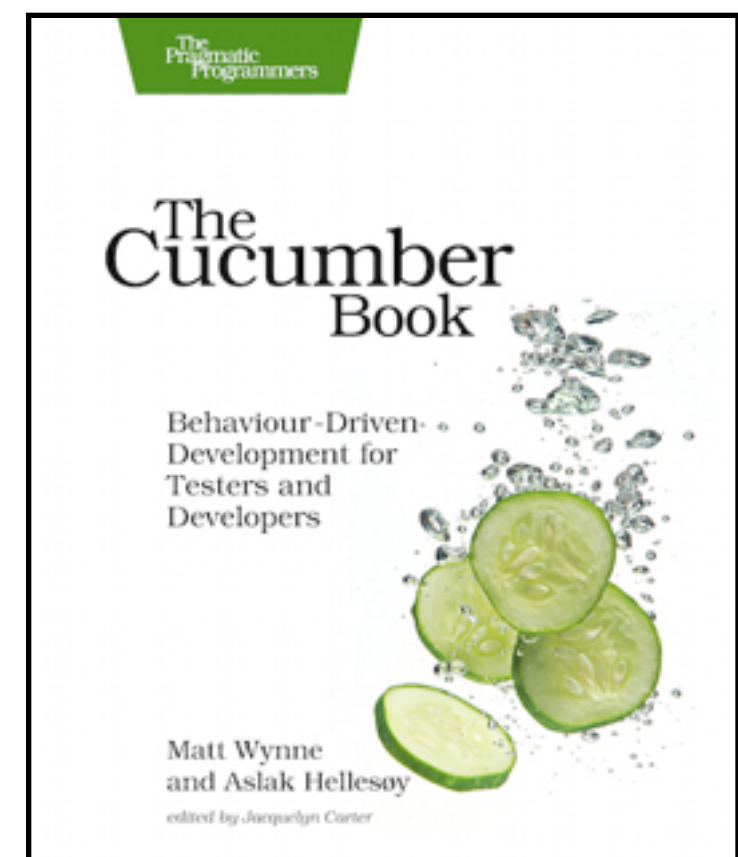




The best BDD practitioners...

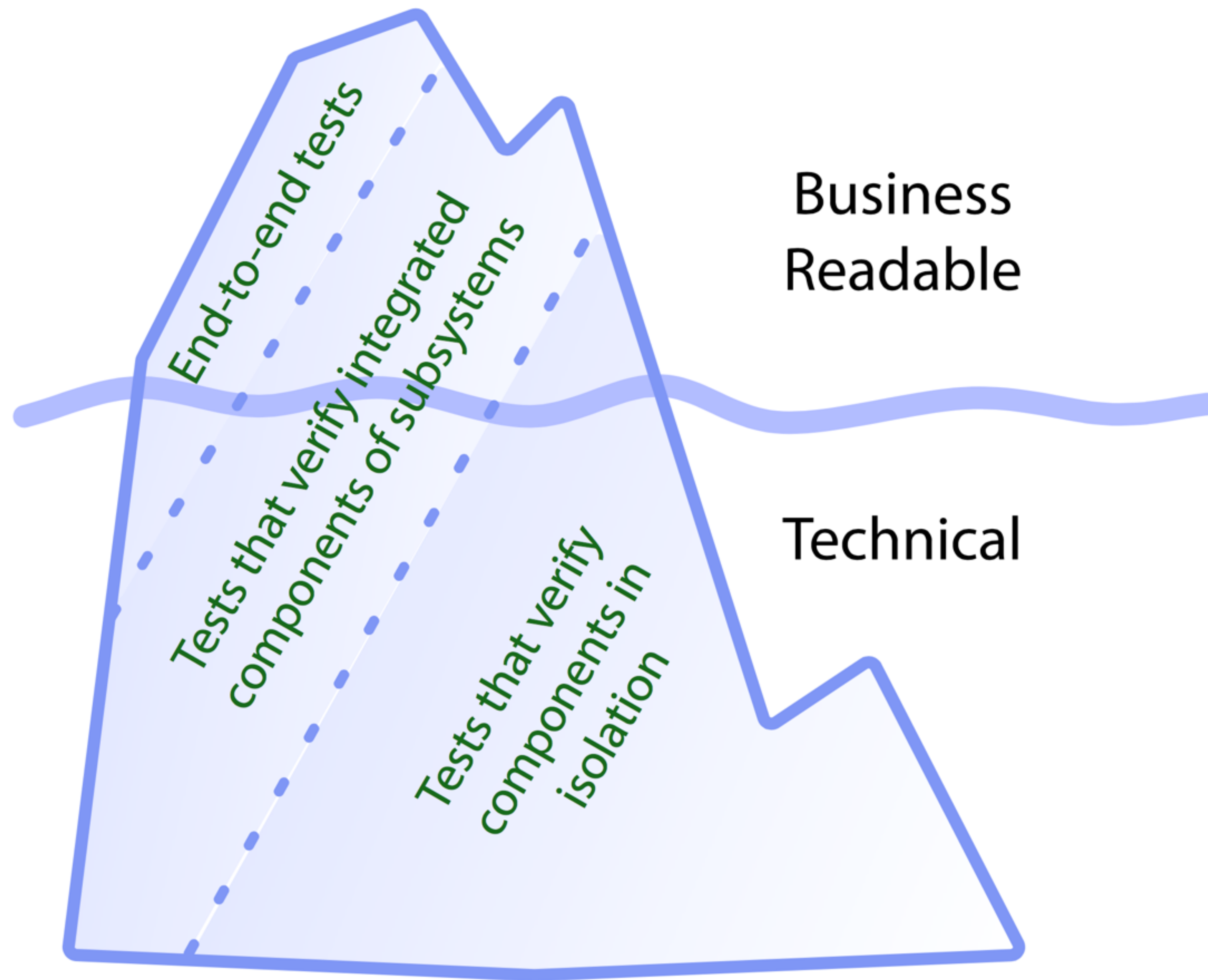
- Focus on value
- Discover examples collaboratively
- Create living documentation

cucumber[®] Ltd





JUnit or Cucumber?





Take aways

- BDD is about collaboration
- You need a ubiquitous language
- Cucumber can power conversation
 - and produce living documentation
 - but it's no substitute for testing!



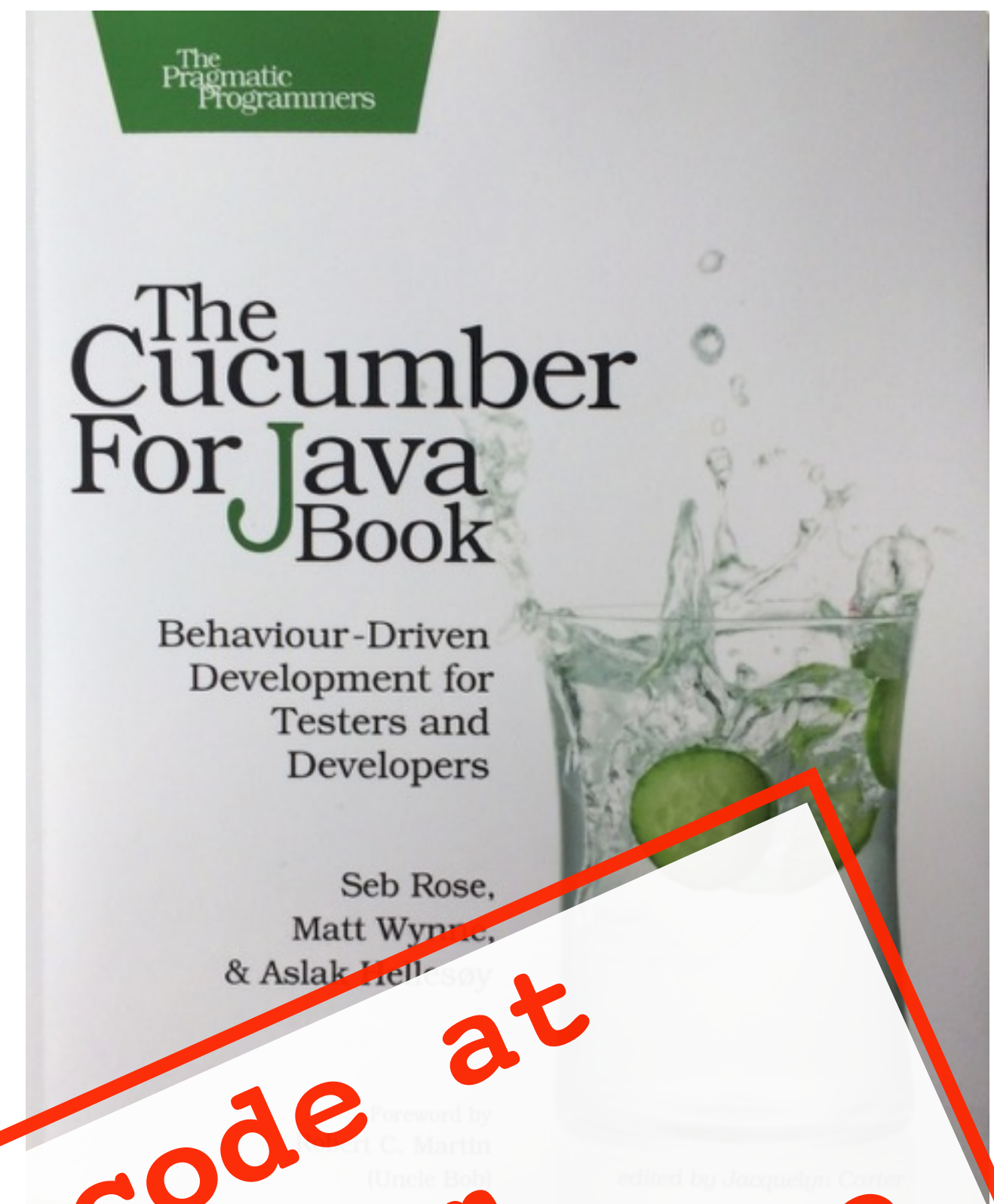
Questions?

Seb Rose

Twitter: @sebrose

Blog: www.claysnow.co.uk

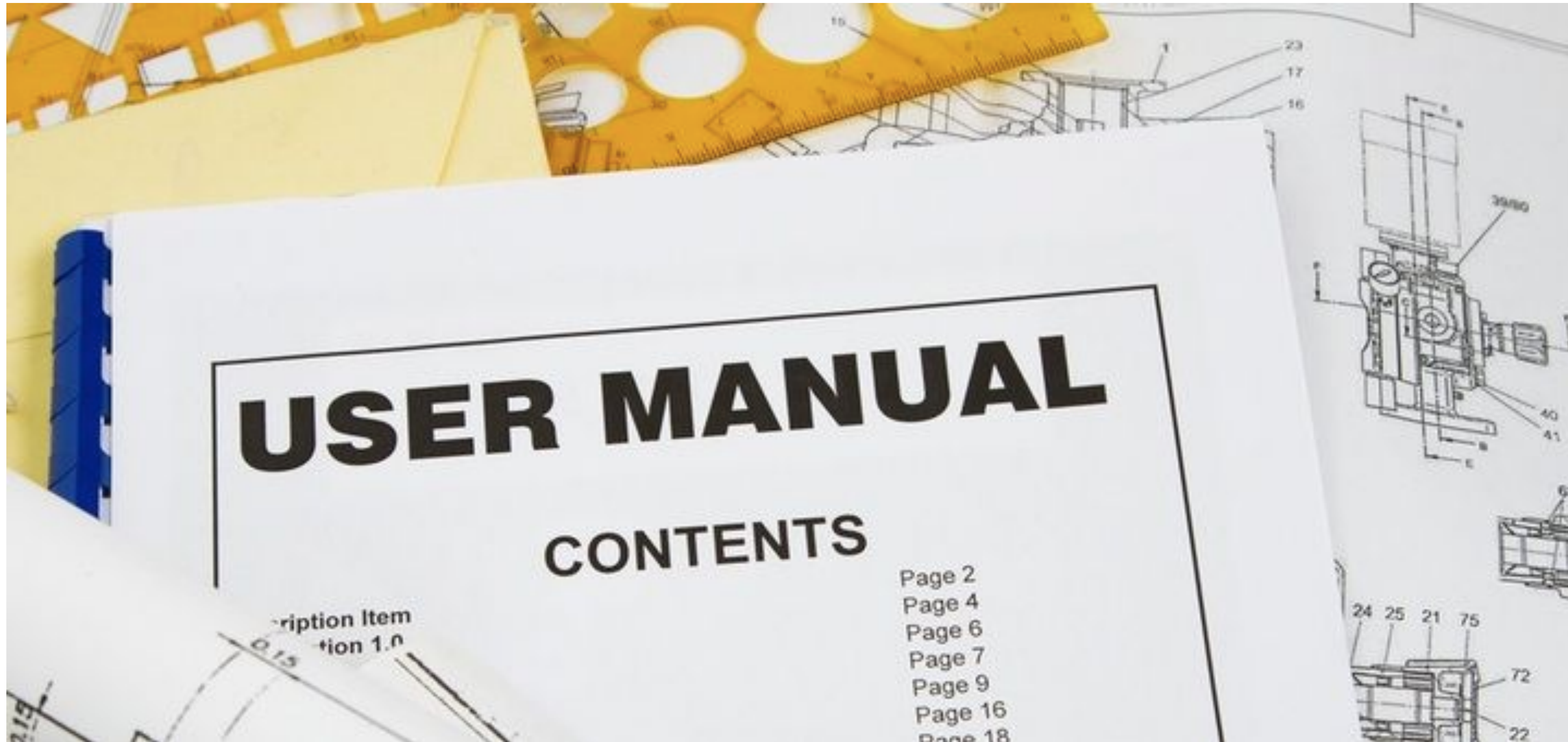
E-mail: seb@cucumber.io



Discount code at
pragprog.com
java_one_25%_off_cuke
valid for 1 month



Documentation



https://cemarking.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/User-Manual_featured.jpg

Feature: Team Scoring

Teams start with zero score.

Correct answer gets points depending on how difficult it is.

Scenario: Score starts at 0

Given I register a team

Then my score is 0

Scenario: Correct easy answer scores 10

Given I register a team

When I submit a correct easy answer

Then my score is 10

Scenario: Correct hard answer scores 50

Given I register a team

When I submit a correct hard answer

Then my score is 50

User Story

Acceptance
criteria





Step outcome

- **Passed**
 - No exception thrown
- **Pending**
 - Pending exception thrown
- **Undefined**
 - No matching step definition found
- **Failed**
 - Any other exception thrown
- **Skipped**
 - Steps that follow a Pending, Undefined or Failed step
- **Duplicate**
 - Step matches more than one step definition



Scenario outcome

- **Passed**
 - All steps passed
- **Failed**
 - Any step failed
- **Undefined**
 - No failed steps
 - At least one undefined step
- **Pending**
 - No failed or undefined steps
 - At least one pending step