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AN
EVENT
STORYING
TALE

ORANGE STICKIES

LATER

@ziobrando

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AN
EVENT
STORYING
TALE

ORANGE STICKIES

LATER

GOTO Berlin 2018

@ziobrando

About me

- ❑ Very hard to explain my job to my mother
- ❑ running www.avanscoperta.it
- ❑ Modelling (almost) everything with sticky notes, markers and a paper roll.
- ❑ Calling this stuff The logo for 'EVENT STORMING' is positioned to the right of the text 'Calling this stuff'. It consists of the word 'EVENT' in orange, blocky, uppercase letters with a black outline, and the word 'STORMING' in blue, blocky, uppercase letters with a black outline, stacked directly below 'EVENT'.
- ❑ Questions are welcome ...through the app!



Show me your
aggregates!!!

2013

- First Blog Post About EventStorming
- One single path from business to aggregate discovery
- The beginning of a long journey

2018

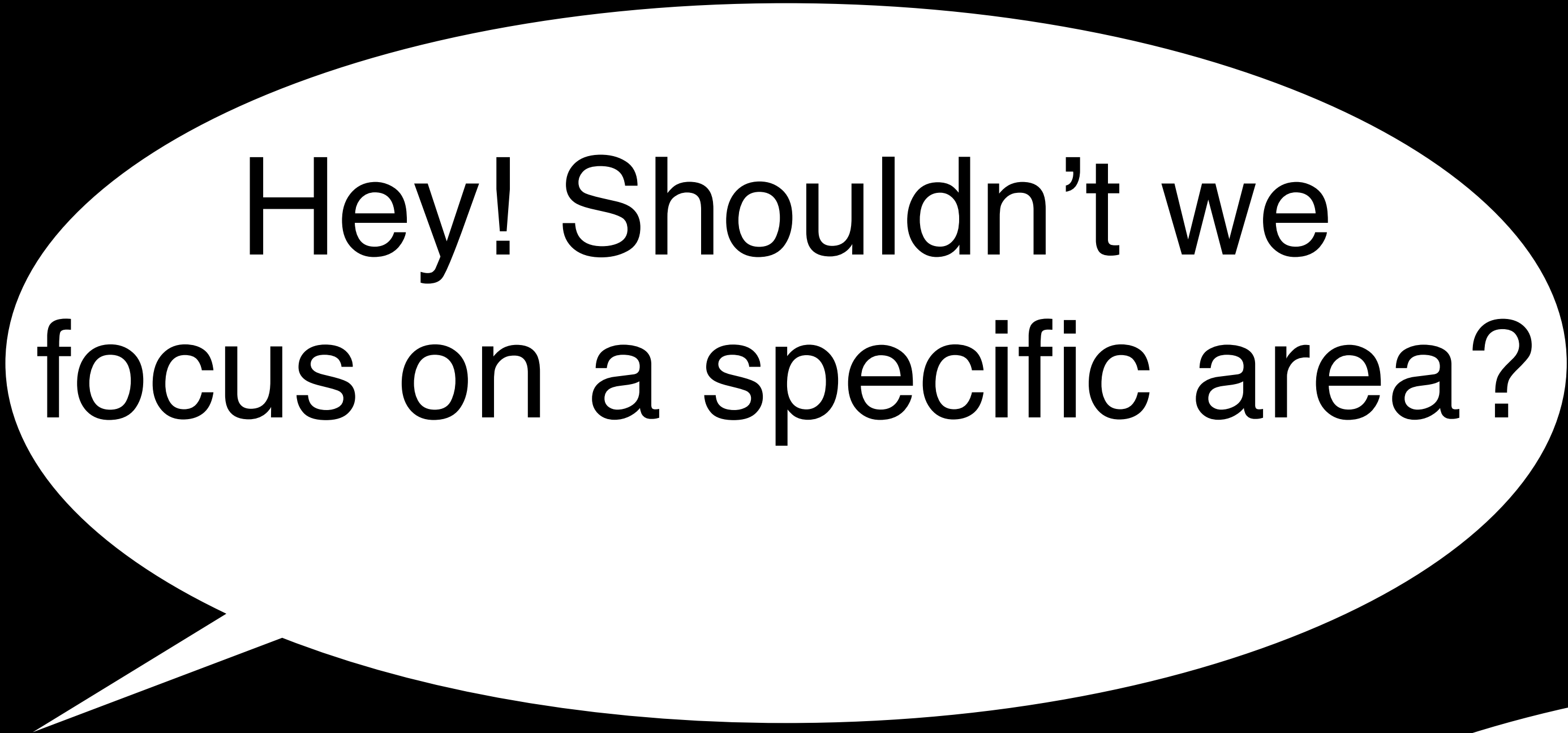
- Growing Momentum
- Many practitioners -> Many Ideas
- Many different formats:
 - Big Picture / Process Modelling / Software Design
 - Retrospective / Induction / More...
- Running out of Orange and Lilac post-it worldwide.

Big Picture EventStorming

Making sense of a huge mess

Big Picture Workshop

- ❑ Invite the right people -> Business, IT, UX
- ❑ Provide unlimited modelling space
 - ❑ Surface, Markers, stickies
- ❑ Model **a whole business line** with Domain Events

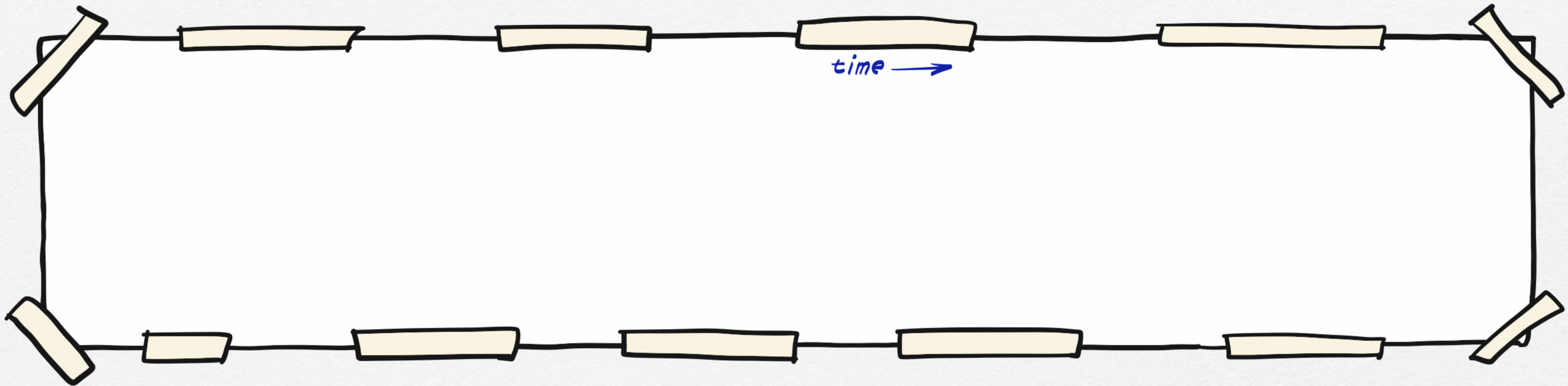


Hey! Shouldn't we
focus on a specific area?



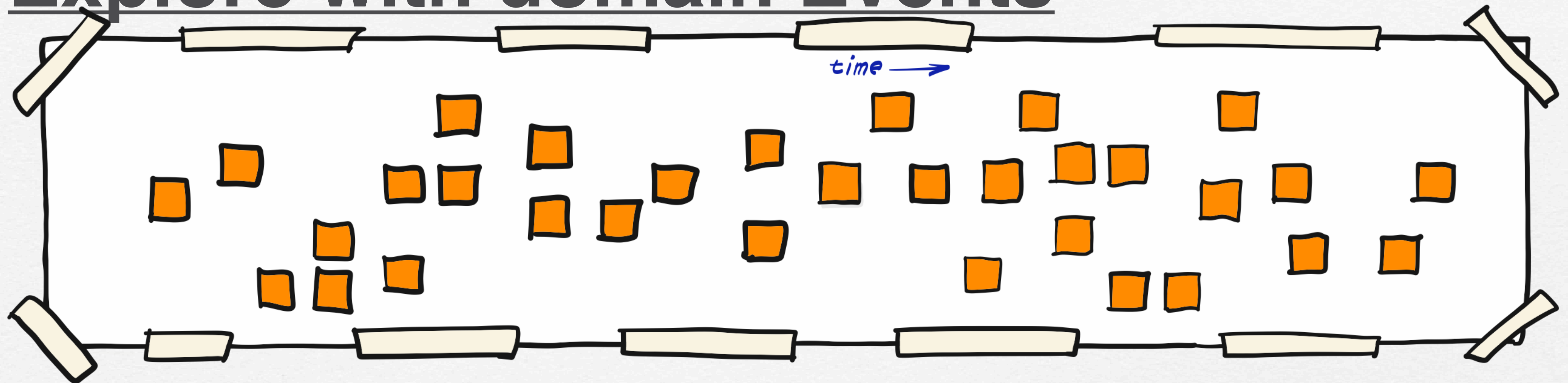
nope!

Establish a timeline



- **Some facilitator tricks will kickstart the discussion quickly**

Explore with domain Events

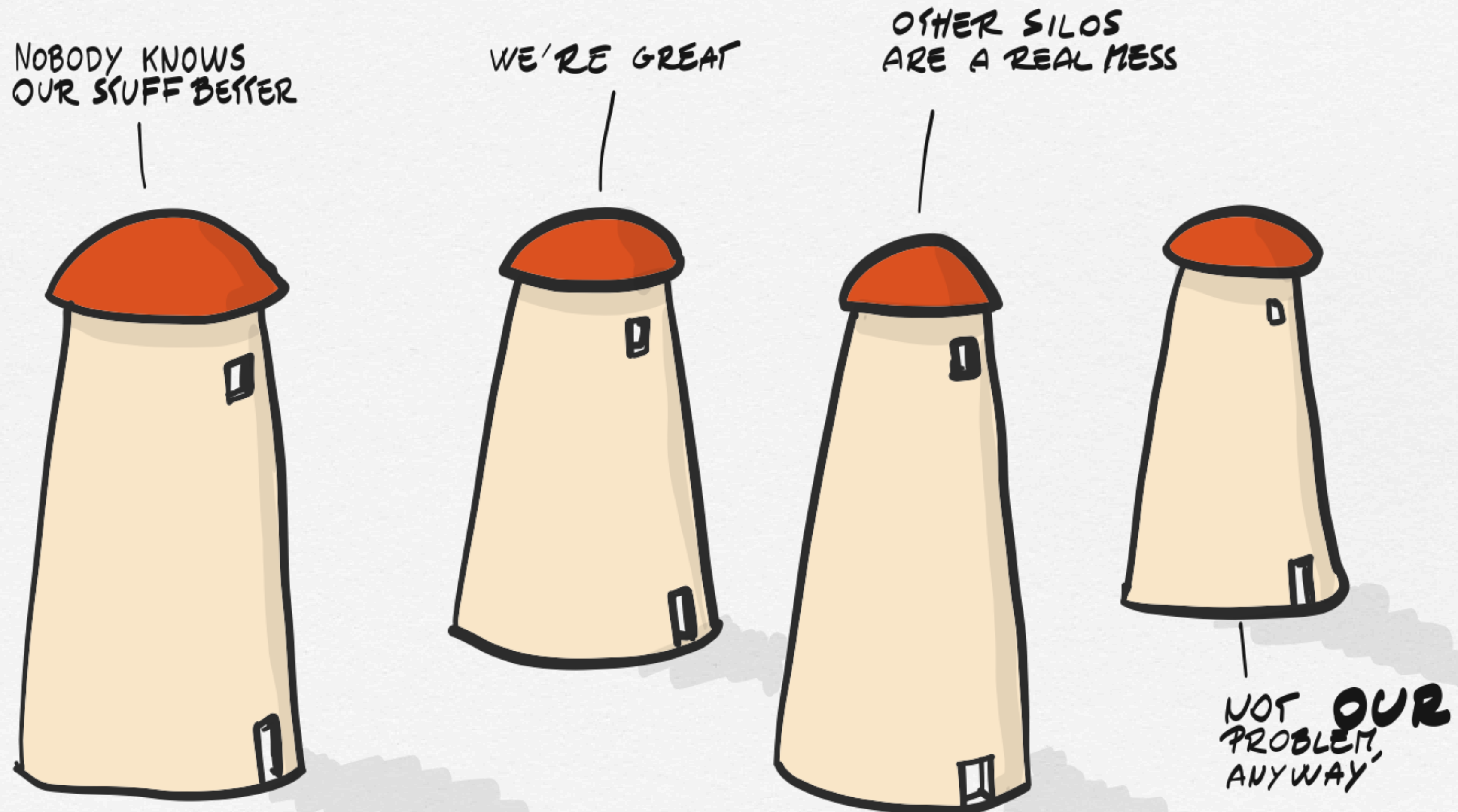


ITEM
ADDED TO
CART

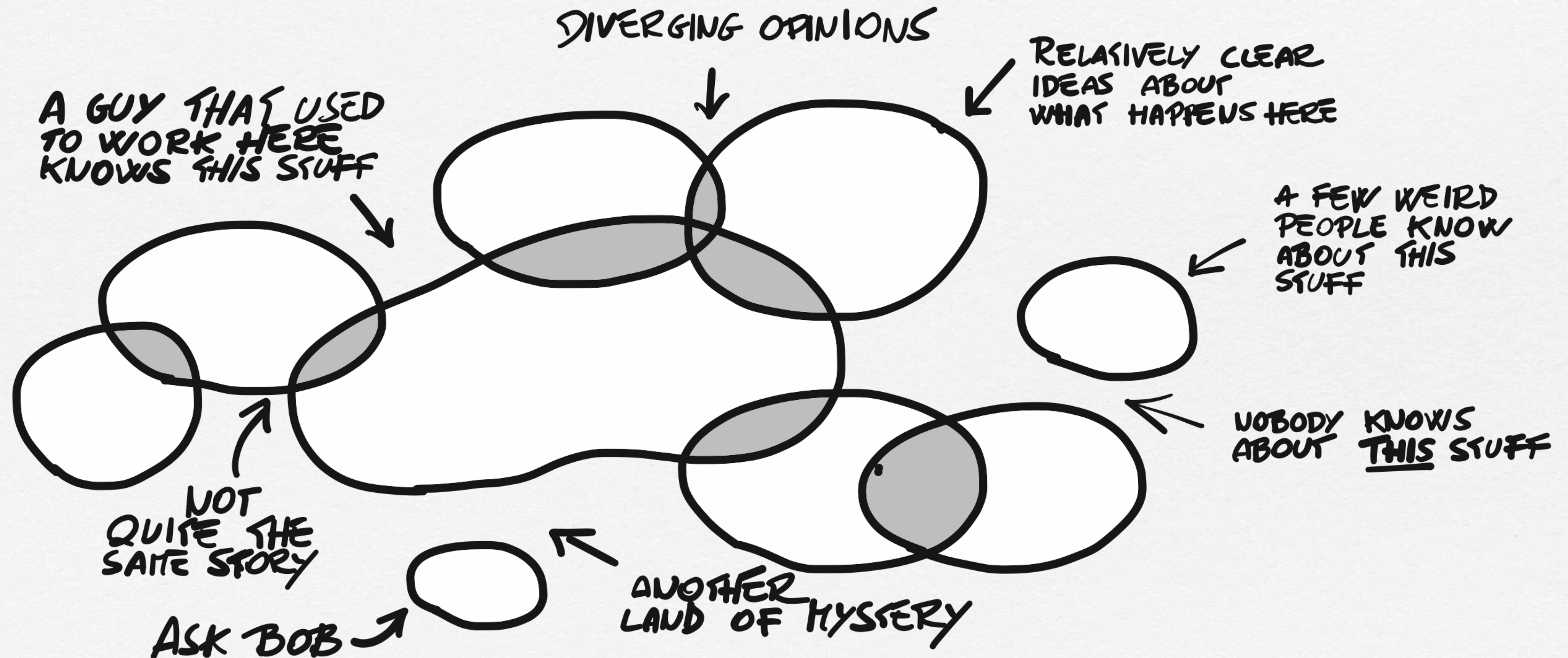
THIS IS A DOMAIN EVENT

- **ORANGE** STICKY NOTE
- VERB AT **PAST TENSE**
- **RELEVANT** FOR DOMAIN EXPERTS

The shape of the organization



The knowledge distribution



Enforcing the timeline

- ❑ Experts will usually post a locally ordered sequence of events
- ❑ But enforcing a shared timeline then triggers long awaited conversations

END OF
MONTH
31

BILLABLE
AMOUNT
CALCULATED

BILLABLE
AMOUNT
VERIFIED

INVOICE
PREPARED

OMG
IT TAKES
AGES!!

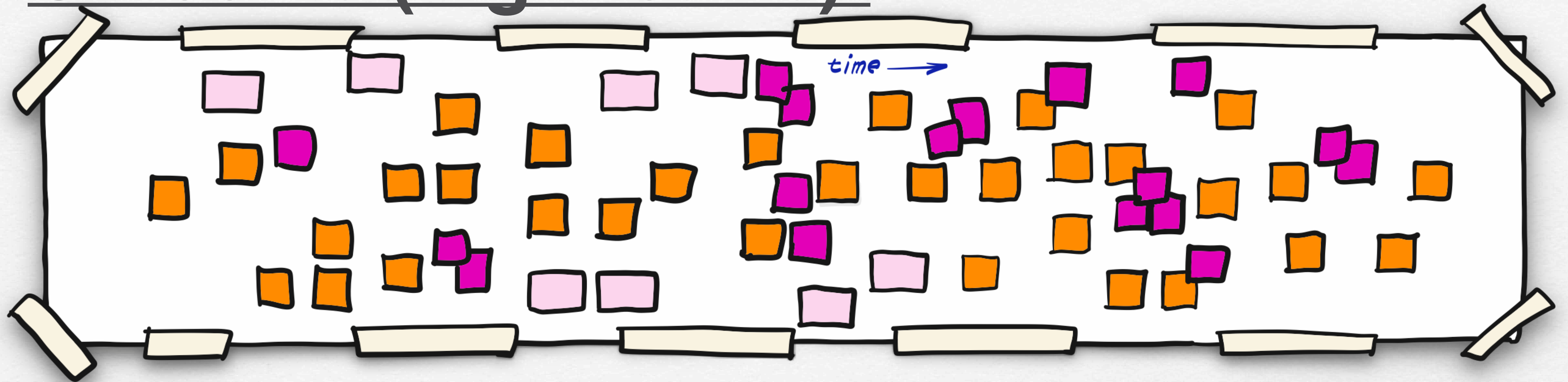
THIS IS
WHERE
EVERYTHING
IS STUCK!!

ERRORS
ERRORS
ERRORS!!

Following steps

- ❑ **Structure will emerge**
- ❑ **People and Systems will be displayed**
- ❑ **... Problems and Opportunities, Values, you choose!**
- ❑ **Every layer sparkles a new type of conversation**
- ❑ **Key questions and insights with pop up**

Outcome (big Picture):



- ❑ The whole process is visible
- ❑ Massive learning (crossing silo boundaries)
- ❑ consensus around the core problem

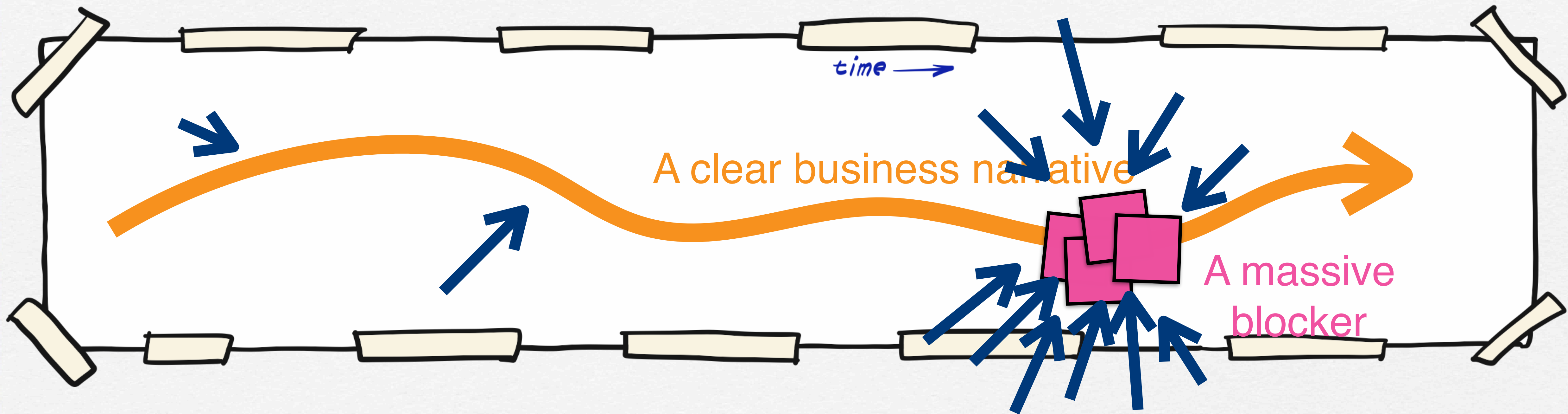
More specifically...

- ❑ No scope limitation (paper roll)
- ❑ Exploration of boundaries (External Systems & People)
- ❑ -> The **BOTTLENECK** is in the picture.
- ❑ -> The **CORE DOMAIN** is in the picture

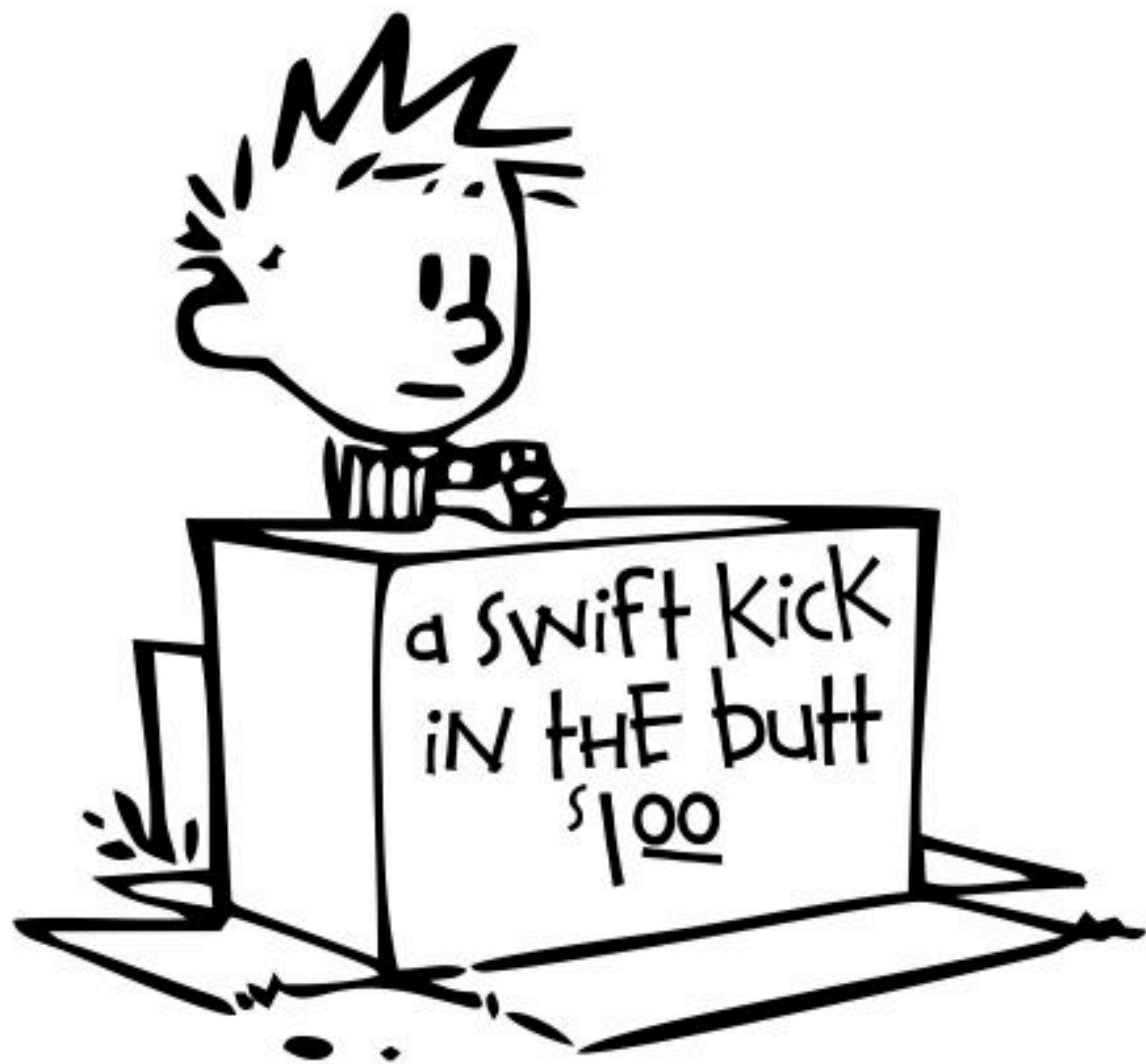


CLARITY

Arrow Voting



- ❑ You already achieved consensus...



Working around the bottleneck

- Highest priority -> #No Backlog
- Hard to solve -> #NoEstimates
- Requires Experiments -> #DDDDesign
#LeanStartup

Big Picture In a Startup

- ❑ **Invitations are a piece of cake**
- ❑ **Great attitude**
- ❑ **No past to compare with :-)**

Big picture in a mature company...



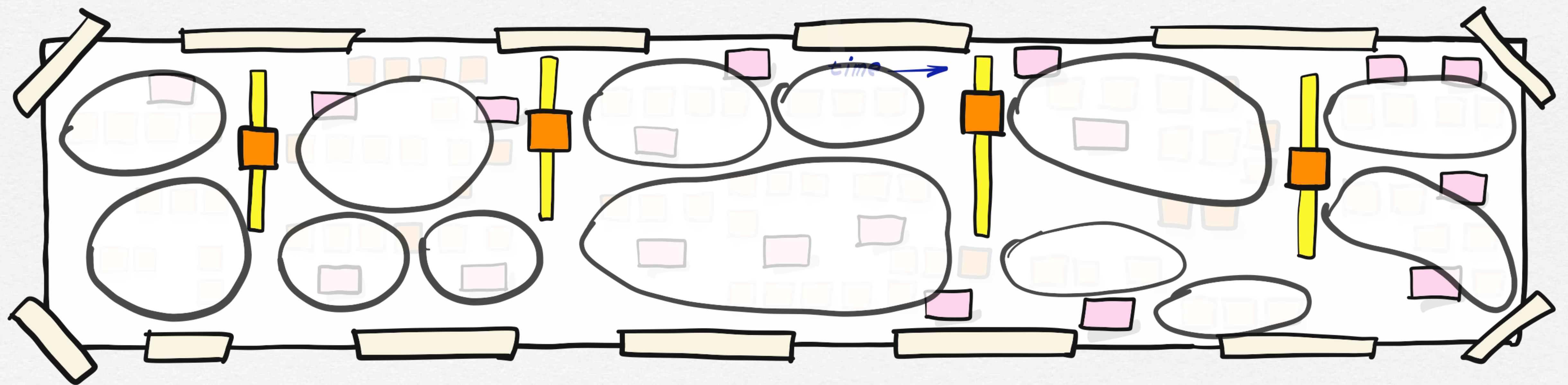
Big picture in a mature company

- ❑ Hard invitation process -> already telling us something
- ❑ Underlying conflicts
- ❑ Corporate Dysfunctions
- ❑ Legacy implementation
- ❑ Dungeon Masters

Please, do
something about
**INDIVIDUAL
CONFLICTING
BONUSES**
right now!

Special outcomes

Emerging context boundaries





An Item needs
to have an
approved description
and a high quality
image before being
added to the
catalog

Just give me a
valid URL and I'll start
tweeting about it

Under our eyes.

6'6"

6'6"

6'0"

6'0"

5'6"

5'6"

5'0"

5'0"

4'6"

4'6"

4'0"

4'0"

3'6"

3'6"


3'0"

3'0"



What about microservices?

Are they the same thing as bounded Contexts?

A man in a light blue police uniform with a dark tie and a white star badge is shown from the chest up. He is wearing a black hat and has a serious expression. A speech bubble is positioned to his right, containing text. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a building.

Microservices are
just like SOA

We screwed up
SOA, we'll screw up
microservices in the
very same way!!!

Not the same thing:



BOUNDED CONTEXT

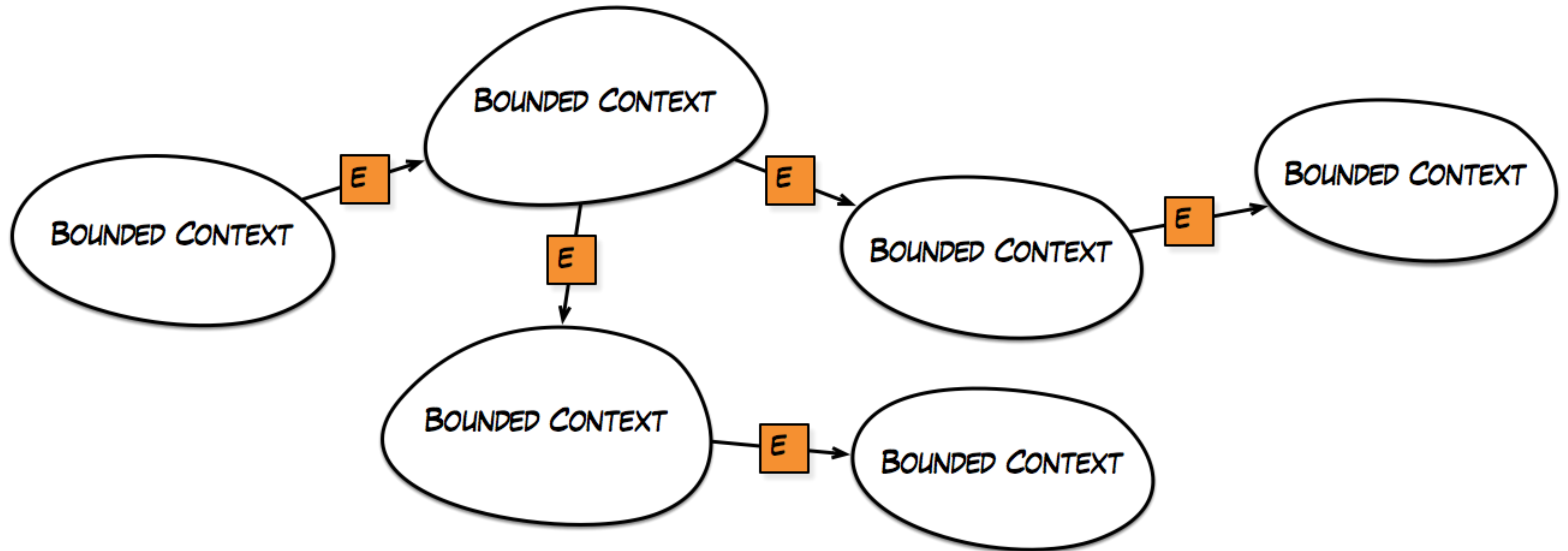


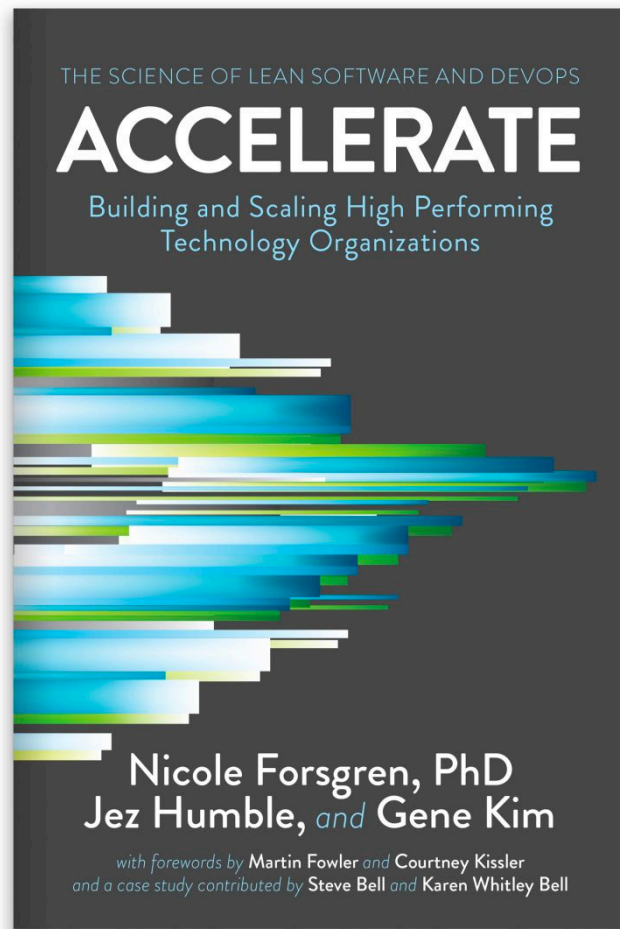
Microservice

- **A unit of language consistency**
 - **-> Single team**
 - **-> Few stakeholders**
- **An independent model tailored around a specific purpose**
- **A unit of deployment**
 - **-> Single team**
- **(Unit of responsibility)**

However

If you want a recipe...





Technology Relevance

- Not as much as we'd like :-)
- The main differentiating factor is... Loose coupling!!

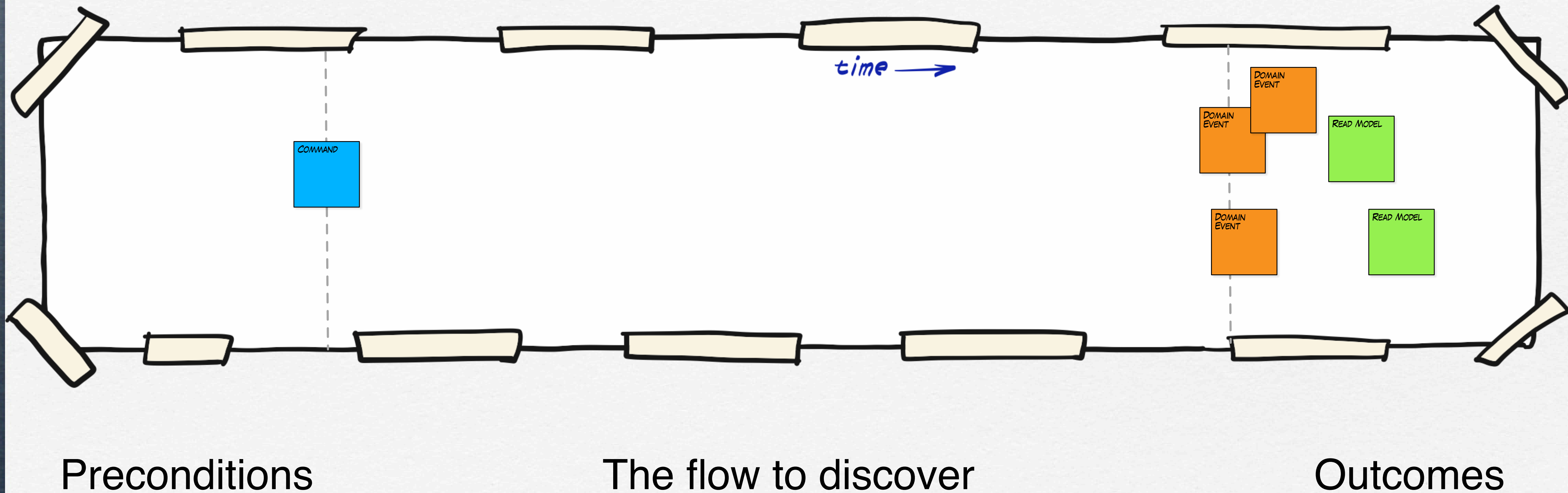
BOUNDED CONTEXT

BOUNDED CONTEXT

Process Modelling

Making sure we're doing the right thing

Scope: Epic or set of features

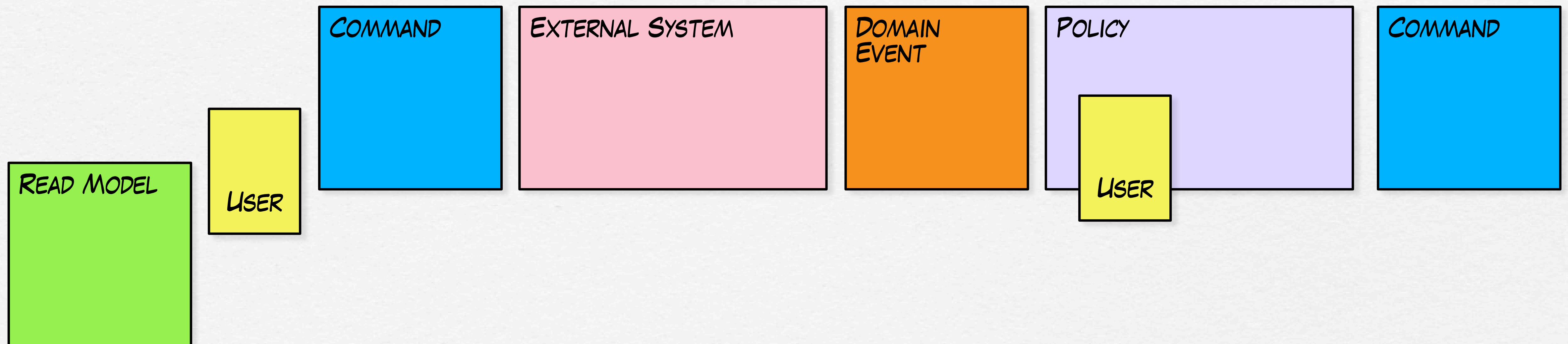


What about User stories?

A placeholder for future conversation...

This is a good conversation!

Colour-puzzle Thinking



Commands / Decisions

COMMAND

- ❑ **Command** is not yet a software artefact
- ❑ It's a decision taken by a user (or a piece of software)
- ❑ Outside-in vs Inside-Out thinking

Investigate Policies

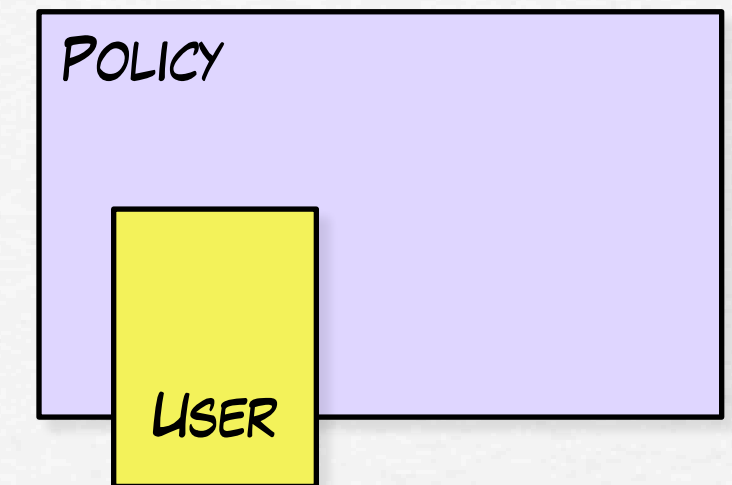
POLICY

- ❑ How is our system supposed to react to given events?
- ❑ Whenever [Event] then [Command]
- ❑ “We need a lilac between the orange and the blue”

This is where everybody lies

Ambiguity does not compile

Policies spectrum

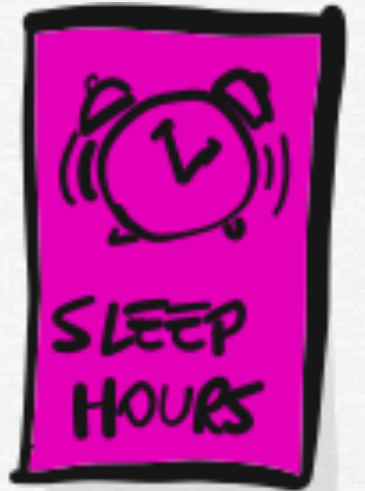


- ❑ **IMPLICIT POLICIES:** without an explicit agreement
- ❑ **EXPLICIT POLICIES:** assuming everyone is following them
- ❑ **AUTOMATION:**
 - ❑ **Listeners, Sagas, Process managers**



Challenging value

Challenging value



- ❑ **Every step can create or destroy value for given users**
 - ❑ **Discovering multiple currencies**
 - ❑ **Discovering new opportunities**
 - ❑ **Discovering inconsistencies**

EVENT STORMING

Enables **cross-perspective**
conversation

Software design, User Experience, Business Modelling, Lean etc.

**Just Model
Together!**

I never said it's easy

A different job

- ❑ **Big picture is for discovery -> Disagreements are OK**
- ❑ **Here we are reaching an agreement -> Consensus is HARD**

Software design

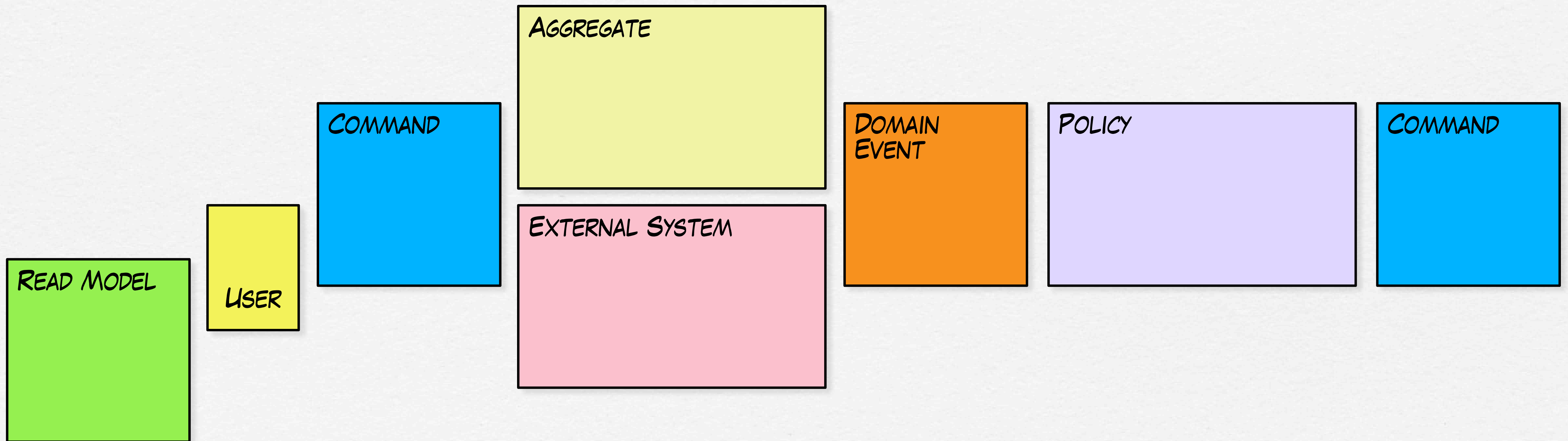
AKA: Corporate Bull***t does not compile.



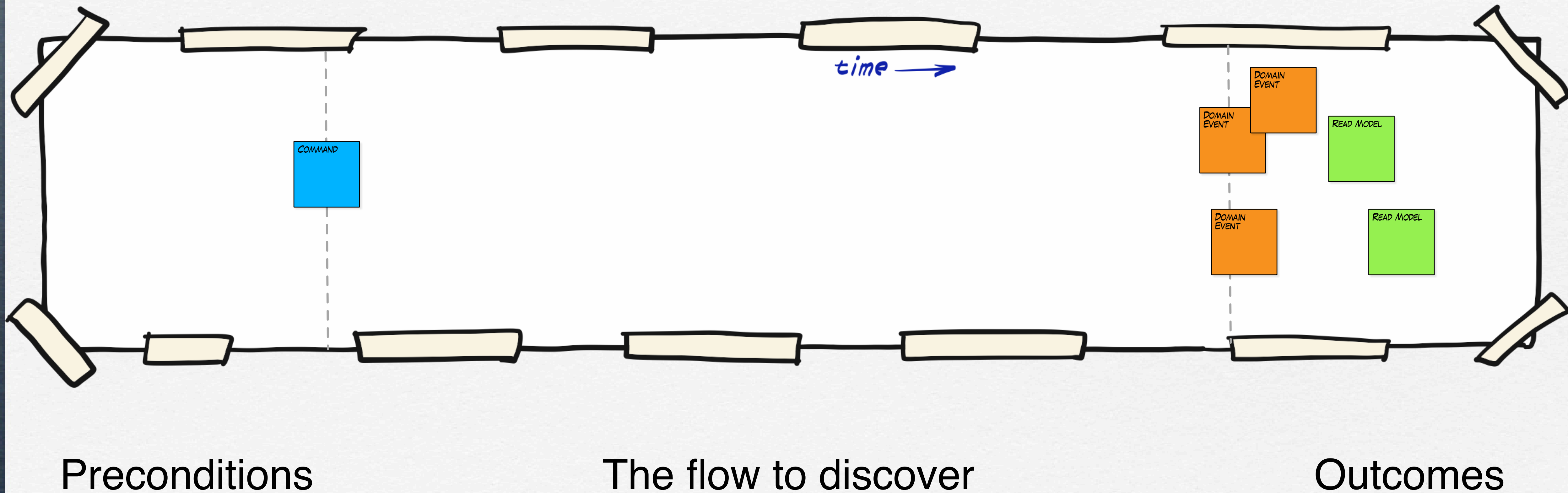
**Another little
problem...**

The moment someone
pronounces the word
“**aggregate**” suddenly
everybody from the business
have something urgent to do

Colour-puzzle thinking - again



Scope: Epic or set of features



Investigating Aggregates

AGGREGATE

- ❑ **State Machine Logic**
- ❑ **Focus on BEHAVIOUR, not DATA**
- ❑ **Postpone NAMING**
- ❑ **Don't fall in love with your intuition**

Ubiquitous Language(s)

- ❑ **SLOWLY** introduce consistency
- ❑ **...I said SLOWLY**
- ❑ **SYMMETRIES** are telling you something
- ❑ **...but also the lack of them.**
- ❑ **BRUTE FORCE** does not work!



Rewriting Events

DOMAIN
EVENT

- ❑ **Pedantic Semantic Precision**
- ❑ **... we started from chaos, remember?**
- ❑ **Multi-layered -> Emerging Bounded Contexts**
- ❑ **Key information becomes visible**



Hard Problems don't have an
Obvious solution

Discovering Read Models

READ MODEL

- ❑ **They're not "Just Data"**
- ❑ **They're Decision Making tools**
- ❑ **Don't let "reuse" get in the way**

Discovering Read Models

READ MODEL

1. Understand the decision

- Not so easy [#DirtyLittleSecrets](#)
- Rational & Emotional

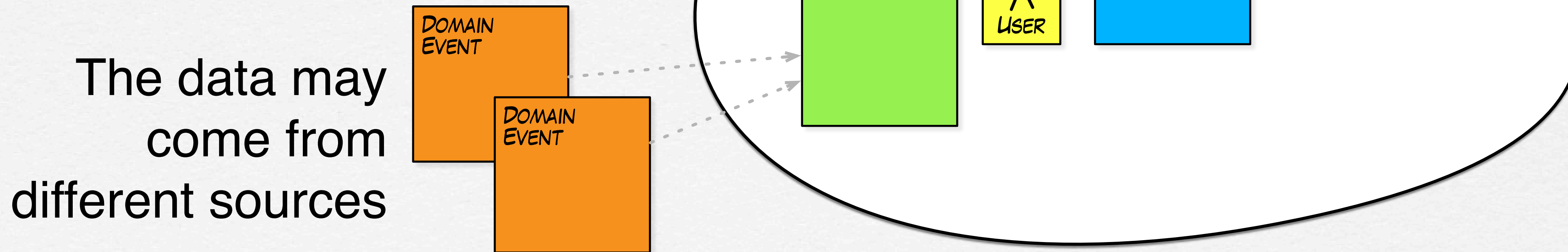
2. Define the necessary data

- Data Set
- Page Layout

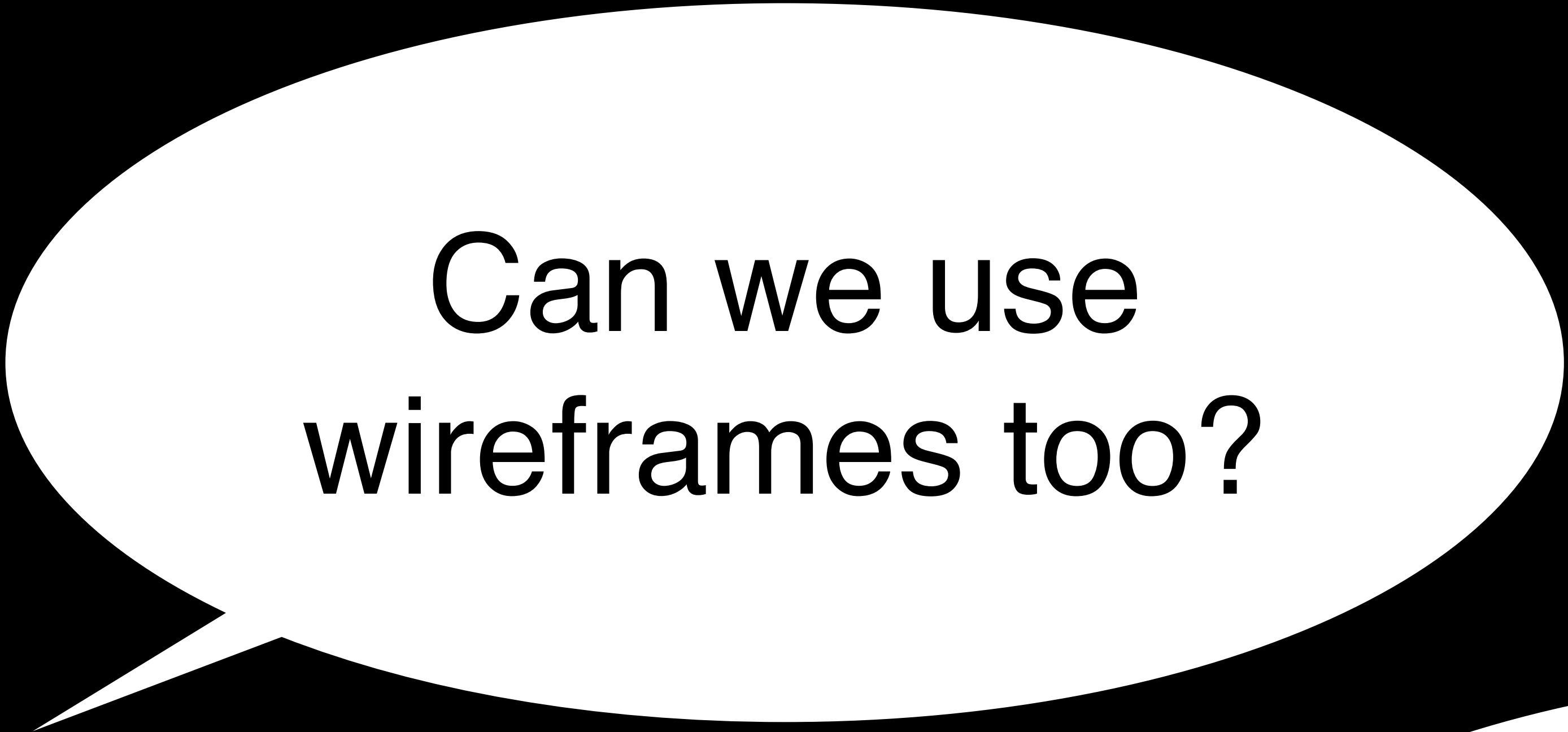
3. Make it happen

- Projections, Composite UI, Mashups, Good Old Queries, Views and stored

Where does it belong?



But the read model is tailored around the local decision



Can we use
wireframes too?



Sure!

Need Product Owner Badly

- ❑ **Exploration is needed in order to challenge the model**
- ❑ **Product Owner is needed in order to bring reality in**
- ❑ **KNOWING WITHOUT IMPLEMENTING IS FINE ...as long as it's cheap.**

Who are we making happy?

- ❑ **Outcomes and value generated can be visualised and discussed**
- ❑ **Easier to see units of value delivery**
- ❑ **Small increments matter**

Design Style

- ❑ Our fuzzy definitions will get progressively rewritten
- ❑ There is no over-design: **WE'RE ON THE CORE!**
- ❑ Expect a lot of healthy thrashing
- ❑ A single solution won't be enough
 - ❑ Split & Merge
 - ❑ Collect conversational terms



Takeaways



EVENT STORMING

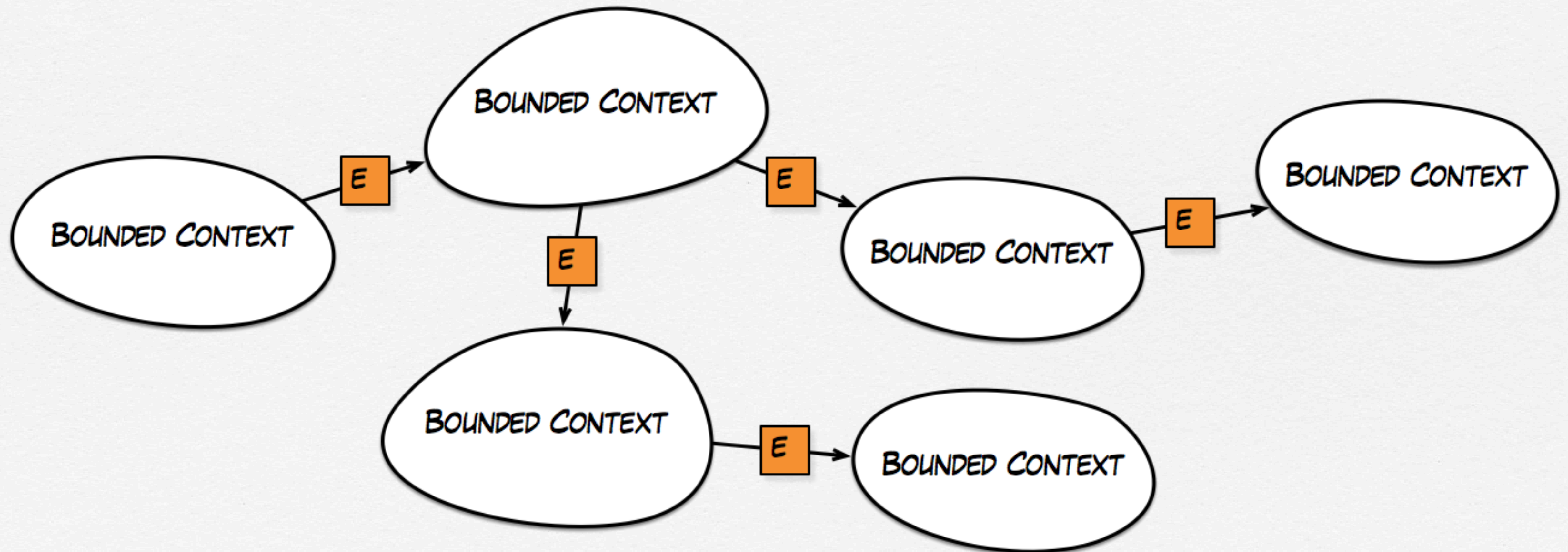
is my pizza:
You can add your
toppings

With the notable exception of database tables and pineapple

Domain Events as lingua franca

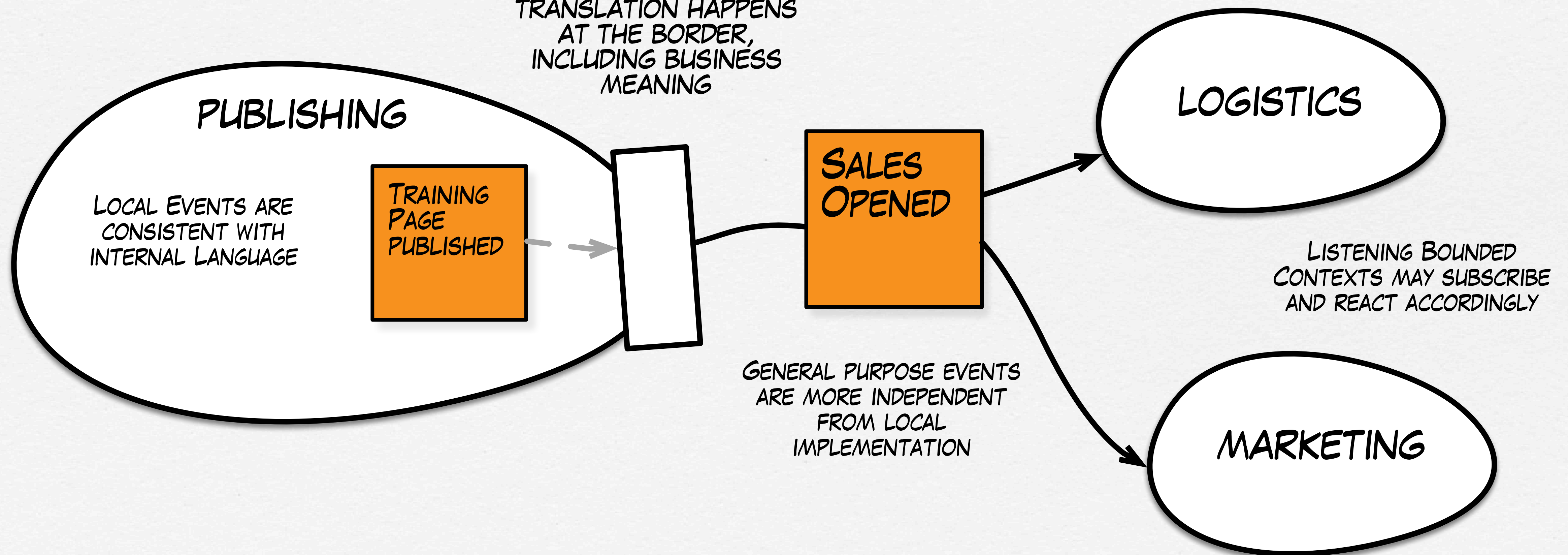
- **Domain Events** are a better choice for...
 - ...describing the business
 - ...implementing the supporting software

Events are way better to prevent it



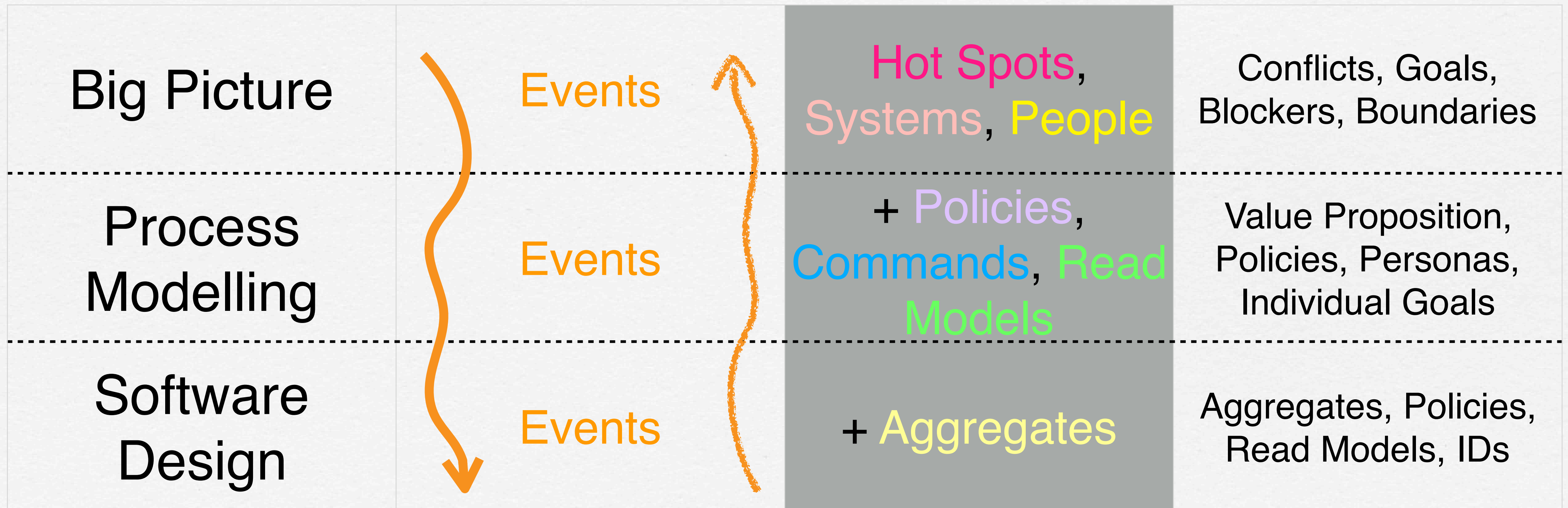
Events as Published language

TRANSLATION HAPPENS
AT THE BORDER,
INCLUDING BUSINESS
MEANING



They allow **ZOOMING!**

From vision to detail (and back)



Merge the People

Split the software

Around **Events**, not Data

if I can choose one...

A tool for a purpose-driven organization

Who are we making happy?



Thank You!

References

- www.eventstorming.com
- EventStormers on Google+
 - <https://plus.google.com/u/0/communities/113258571348605620818>
- LeanPub book in progress:
 - http://leanpub.com/introducing_eventstorming
- Blog:
 - <https://medium.com/@ziobrando>
 - <http://ziobrando.blogspot.com>
- Twitter: [@ziobrando](https://twitter.com/ziobrando)
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 - <http://www.avanscoperta.it>

**EVENT
STORMING**

