



**POWER UP**

NAYGN CAROLINAS  
REGIONAL CONFERENCE

# Plenary #3:

## Decision Sprint Workshop



A blue-tinted photograph of a large group of people sitting at long tables in a workshop, focused on their work. In the background, a circular logo with the word 'Wily' is on the wall, and a projection screen displays text about writing ideas.

# Welcome!

The 'Wily' logo, consisting of the word 'Wily' in a bold, italicized sans-serif font, enclosed within a white circle that has a blue border.

***Wily***

## Decision Sprint Workshop

NGYN • July 25 • Duke Energy

***Wily***

We unleash your life's  
best work.



***Wily***

Innovate faster with  
less risk.

***Wily***

We run strategy sprints and design sprints + train teams on how to run their own.



**Eric Gorman**  
Owner



**Julia Jackson**  
Strategy

# Wily's Past Clients and Trainees...





# CAMP NORTH END

Our Studio









# Overview

Our plan for today

***Wily***

**How we'll roll...**

# How We'll Roll

- Work alone, together (teams of 4-5 at your table)
- Make room for everyone
- Assume positive intent
- Be brave

# Our Plan for Today

- If you feel rushed...
- Or like you didn't have enough time...

# Our Plan for Today

- ...it's because you were rushed
- ...and weren't given enough time

# Why Decision Sprints?

Because meetings...

- Are unproductive
- Create false clarity
- Breed like bunnies
- Waste our brains



# When should you use them?

- Need to drive consensus
- Make a team decision
- Solve a challenge
- Generate ideas
- Time crunch

**What else makes them special?**

Default:  
**Everything at  
once**

Sprint:  
**One key  
moment**

Default:  
**Group  
brainstorm**

Sprint:  
**Work alone,  
together**

Default:  
**Endless  
discussion**

Sprint:  
**Fast and  
decisive**

**Decision Sprints** separate challenges, ideas, and evaluation of ideas into distinct steps.





# Our Challenge

What we hope to achieve + what we're up against



**Wily**

## Our Challenge (5 min)

Identify challenges/ barriers to your physical work environment.

- Keep it concise and legible
- Consider sketching
- One idea per sticky note
- Work silently

## Quick Groupings (2 min)

- Stack duplicates on top of each other
- Organize into categories

**Time to Vote**

## CHALLENGES

Smoothing ~~\*\*\*~~  
Revenue peaks  
+ valleys



~~\*\*\*~~  
\*\*\* Spreading the  
Word



Getting  
~~Making~~ small

Wins



Breaking big  
goals into small  
Tasks



# Vote on most important challenge

- Three votes per person
- 1 on many, or many on 1
- If there's a tie, designate a tie-breaker
- No talking

**Reframe as Opportunity**



# How Might We...

- Turn your challenge into possibility
- Not too broad or too narrow
- Skip the discussion

HMW

improve  
purchasing  
experience?

HMW

change from  
product to  
experience?

HMW

define  
personal  
wellness?

HMW

understand  
technical  
awareness?

# How Might We...

- Post
- Review silently
- Vote
- One vote per person

HMW

improve  
purchasing  
experience?

HMW

change from  
product to  
experience?

HMW

define  
personal  
wellness?

HMW

understand  
technical  
awareness?



# Generate Ideas


***Wily***

How might we solve our challenge?

# Ideation

- Individually, generate ideas that address your team's How Might We Statement
  - Generate 3 ideas
  - Reserve judgement
  - Zip the lips
- Write each idea on a separate sticky note

**Time to Vote**

★★★★  
★ Spreading the  
Word  


HOW  
Spread the  
Word?

10-15 mins  
OPPORTUNITIES  
→

★★  
Deep Dive  
Multi-Day  
Training

★★★  
Content  
Marketing  
→ Blog

★★★★  
How to  
YouTube  
Videos

★★  
Short Talks  
@ Co-working  
Offices

★★★★  
Social  
Media  
Posts

Traditional  
  
Media

Partner w/ ~~the~~  
People + org's  
who have big  
networks

★★  
Ask people  
to spread the  
word

# Vote on best idea

- Choose your best idea + share it aloud
- 2 votes per person
- 1 on many, or many on 1
- Silence is still golden



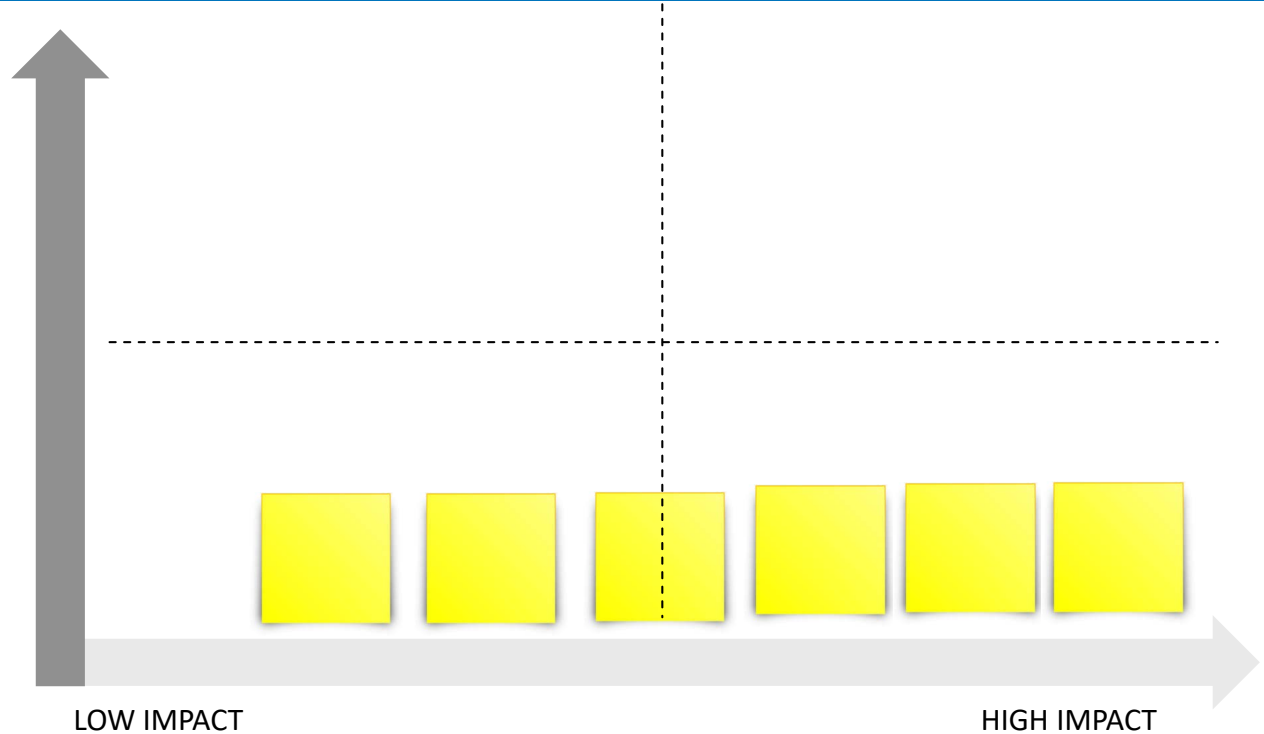


# Evaluate Ideas

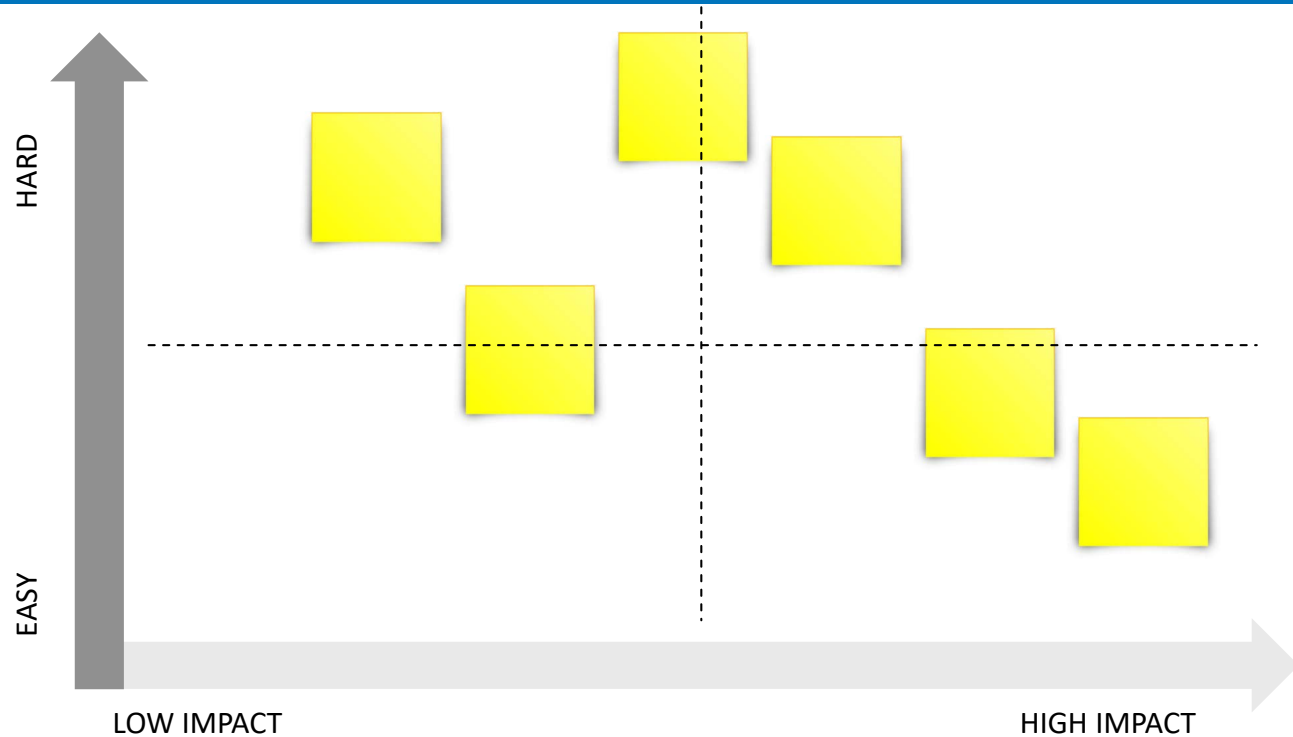
Priority Mapping

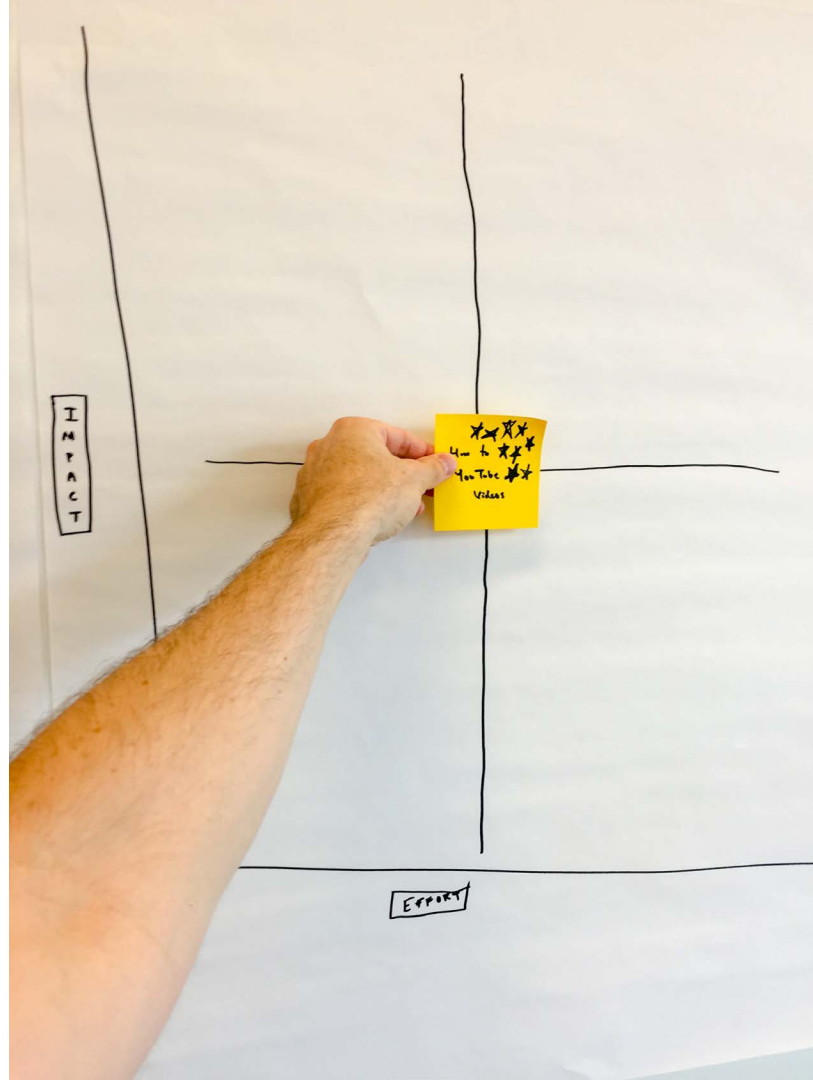
**Wily**

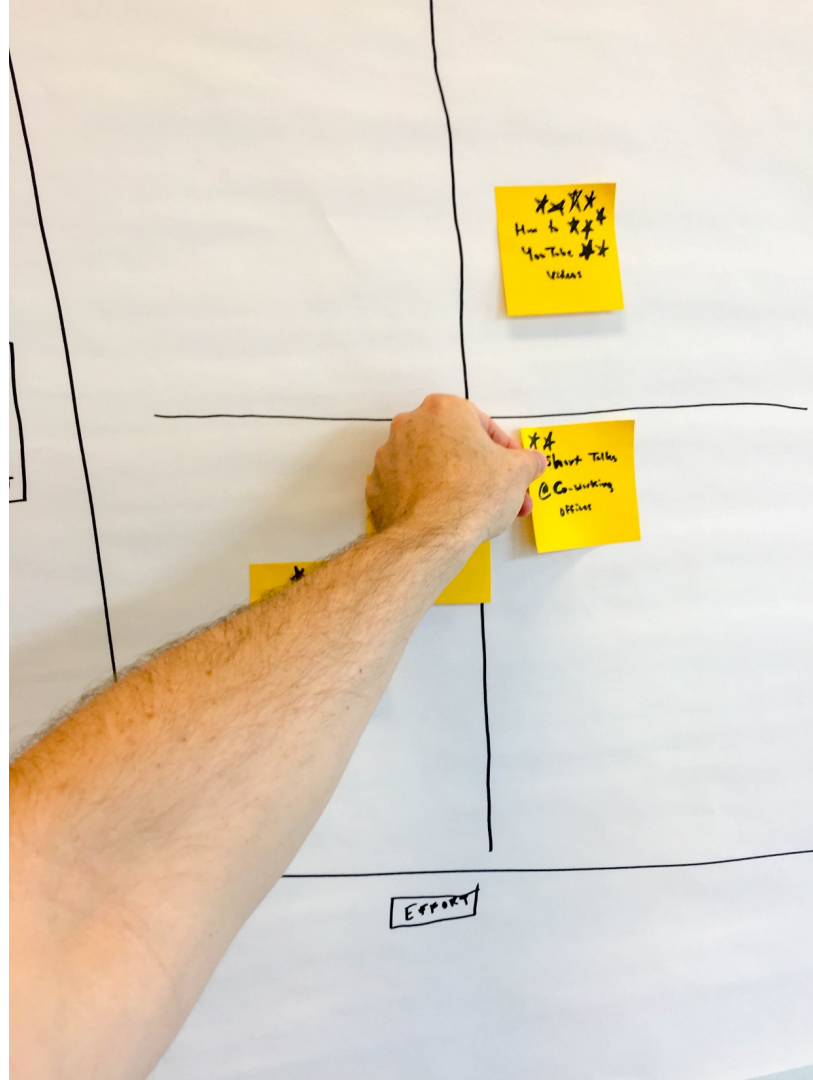
# Ideation: Priority Mapping

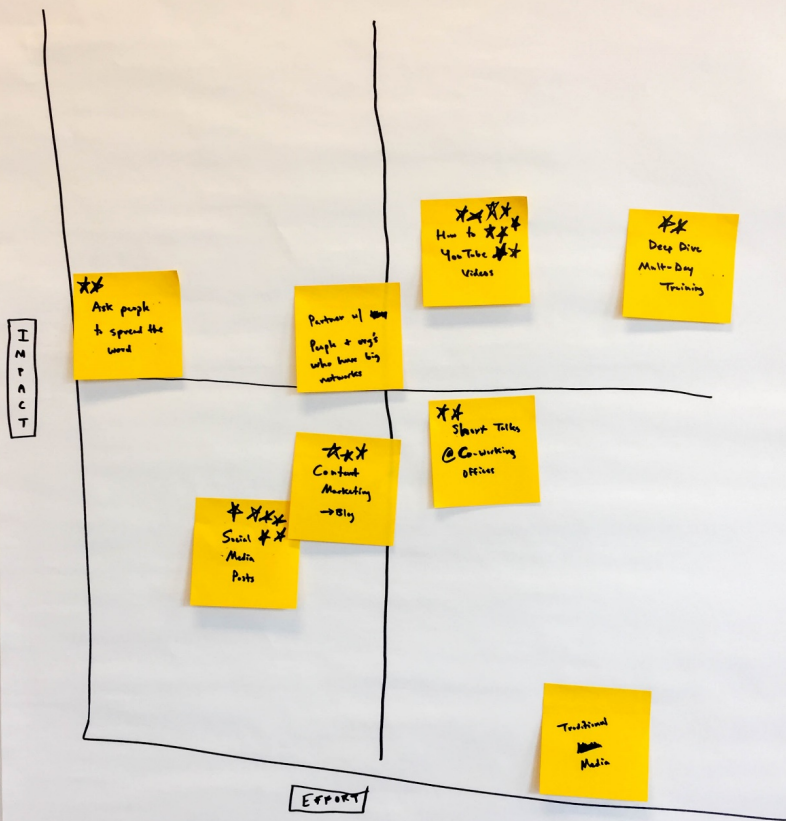


# Ideation: Priority Mapping









# Evaluate Ideas

- 2x2 matrix: impact—left, effort—bottom
- Take ideas with 2 or more votes
- Start in the middle
- “Higher” or “lower,” then “left” or “right”
- Get general consensus on placement



**Select Top Idea**

I  
M  
P  
A  
C  
T

☆☆  
Ask people  
to spread the  
word

Partner w/  
People & org  
who have big  
networks

☆☆☆  
Content  
Marketing

☆☆  
Social  
Media  
Posts

E  
F  
F  
O  
R  
T

# Select Top Idea

- Pick best idea from the sweet spot
- If no “sweet spot” ideas, consider:
  - Picking from the remaining ideas, or
  - Going back to idea generation
- If there’s a tie, just pick one
- No debating



# Build Solution

3-Part Sketch

***Wily***

# Solution Sketch

- Review top idea
- Develop detailed solution
- Illustrate solution in 3 scenes
  - Self explanatory
  - Catchy title
  - Ugly is okay
  - Okay to use margins





# Implement

Build the steps to take idea to reality

**Wily**



## Ask People to Spread the Word :

- Create list of friends + fans
- Identify 2-3 ways they can help spread the word. Make it easy.
- Send personal note asking for help.



**Divvy up tasks, set deadlines, etc.**



# Congratulations!

You did it! You are now ready to run your  
very own Decision Sprint.

**Wily**

# Key Take-Aways

- Meetings are inefficient
- Try Decision Sprints as an alternative
- They help you avoid mixing:
  - Challenges
  - Idea Generation
  - Idea Evaluation

**Decision Sprints** are great for driving consensus and making team decisions.

But what about big challenges?

Or new product or service innovations?

Or building and testing ideas with customers?

**Design Sprints** are a proven, repeatable, hands-on way to validate your idea in weeks, not months.

**Design Sprints** help you tackle big challenges, make ideas tangible (via prototypes), and test your ideas with real customers.

**Design Sprints** help learn what works  
without spending the time or \$ to build  
the real thing.





Why Design Sprints are best for exploring the unknown.

Default:  
**Build MVP**

Sprint:  
**Fake it**

Default:

**Wait for perfect  
data**

Sprint:

**Quick & dirty  
data now**

# When to use Design Sprints

- High stakes
- Just plain stuck
- Not enough time

## When not to use them

- The answer is clear
- Squeeze out efficiency

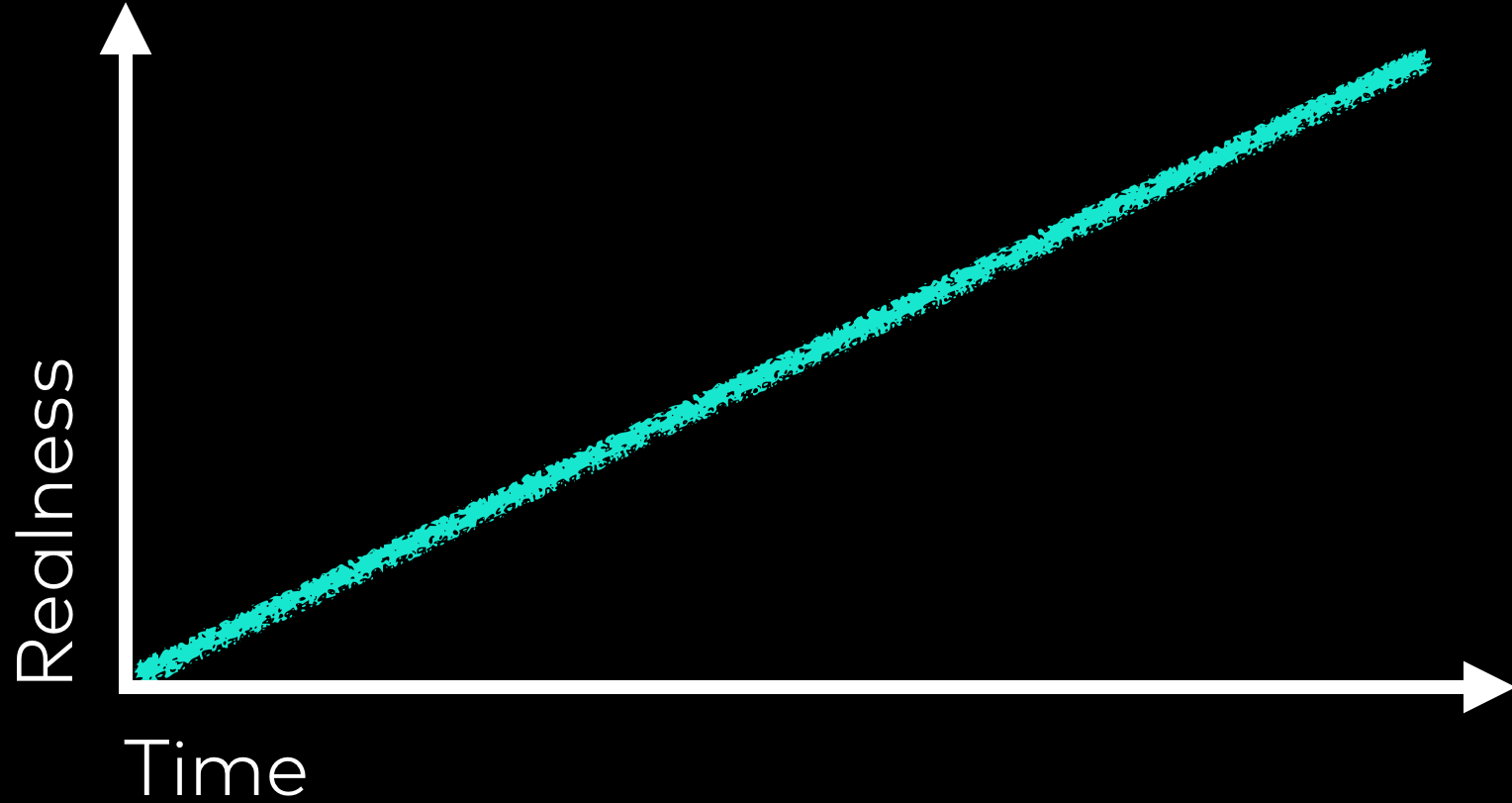


# Prototype

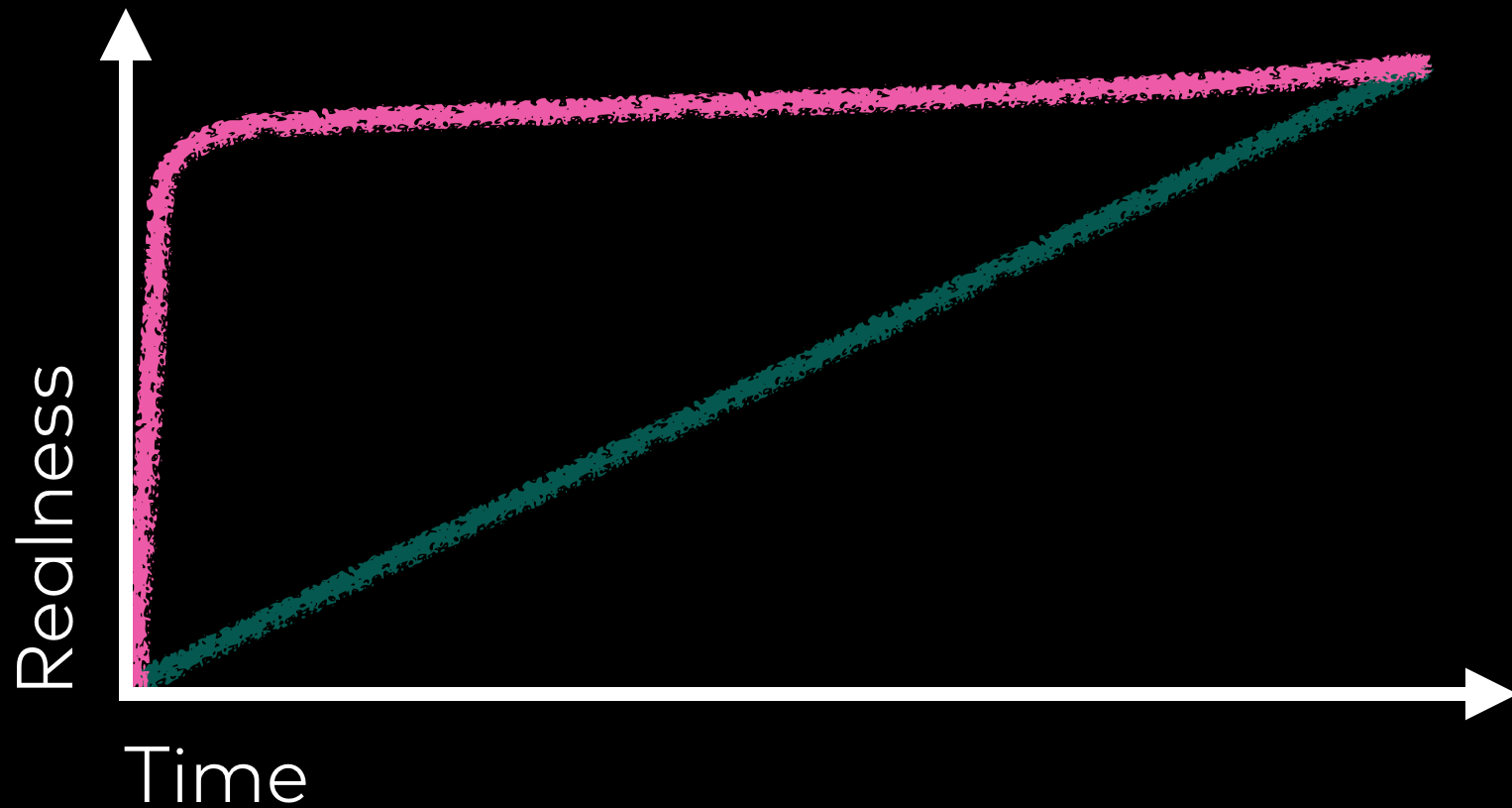
Build A Realistic Façade.

***Wily***

# Building A Real Product

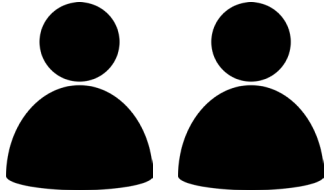


# Simulating A Product





# Divide & Conquer



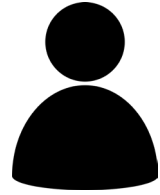
makers



asset  
collector

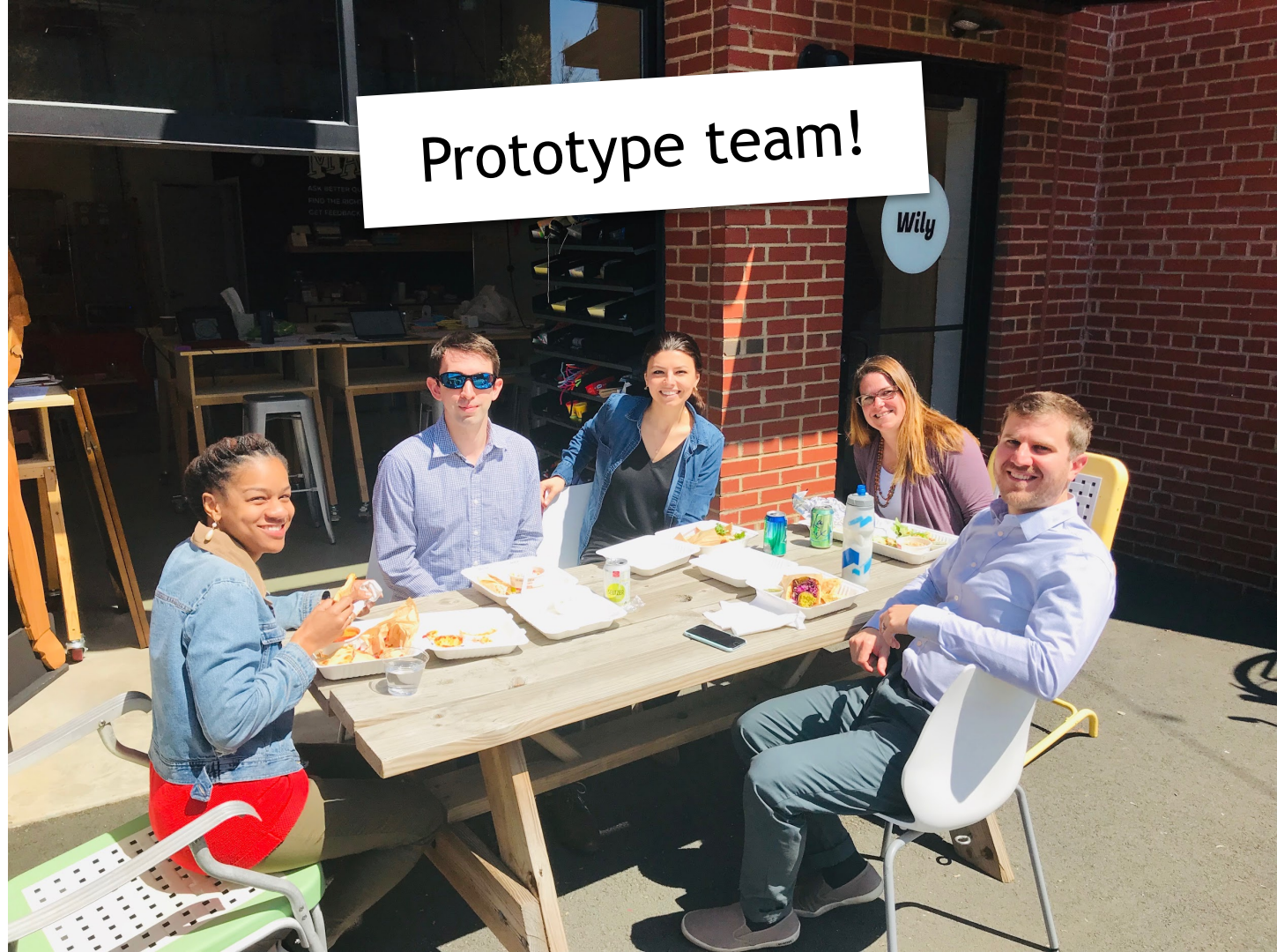


stitcher

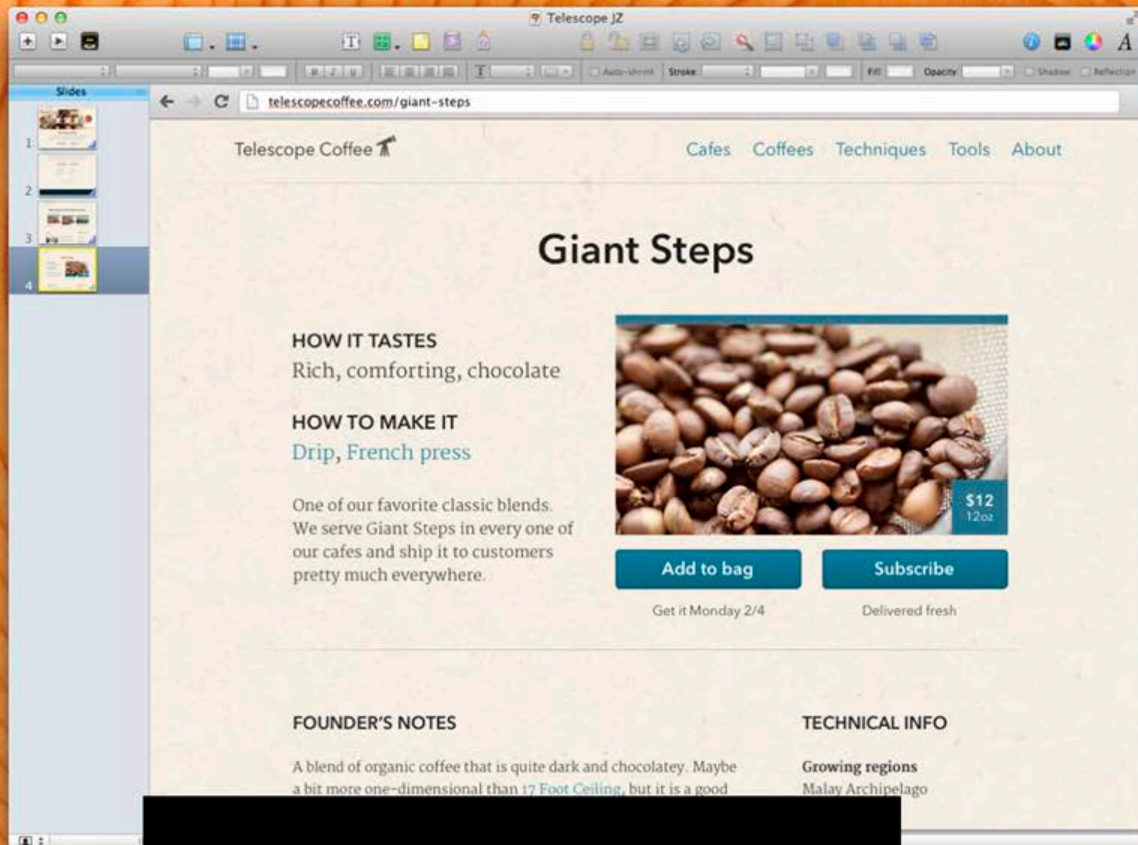


interviewer

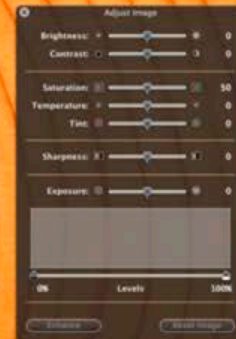
Prototype team!







# Fake website



**Fake app**





A close-up photograph of a person's hand swiping across the screen of a white iPad. The iPad is lying on a light-colored surface, and a green folder is visible behind it. The screen displays a grid of app icons, including 'Outside' (with a 'BEST TOWNS' feature), 'FitStar: Tony Gonsales', 'Gorilla Workout', 'Jillian Michaels', 'Men's Health', 'DailyBurn - Video...', 'Workout Trainer', 'Bodyweight Training: Yo...', 'Yoga Studio', and 'Bantastic Push-Ups...'. The hand is in motion, with the index finger touching the screen.

# Fake marketing



**Fake packaging**



Orbital Insight

Platform Solutions About Us Blog Login

# A Macroscopic for Understanding Earth

Satellite Image Spots Baku Azerbaijan

Solving equations to tell stories



Geospatial data



Machine vision



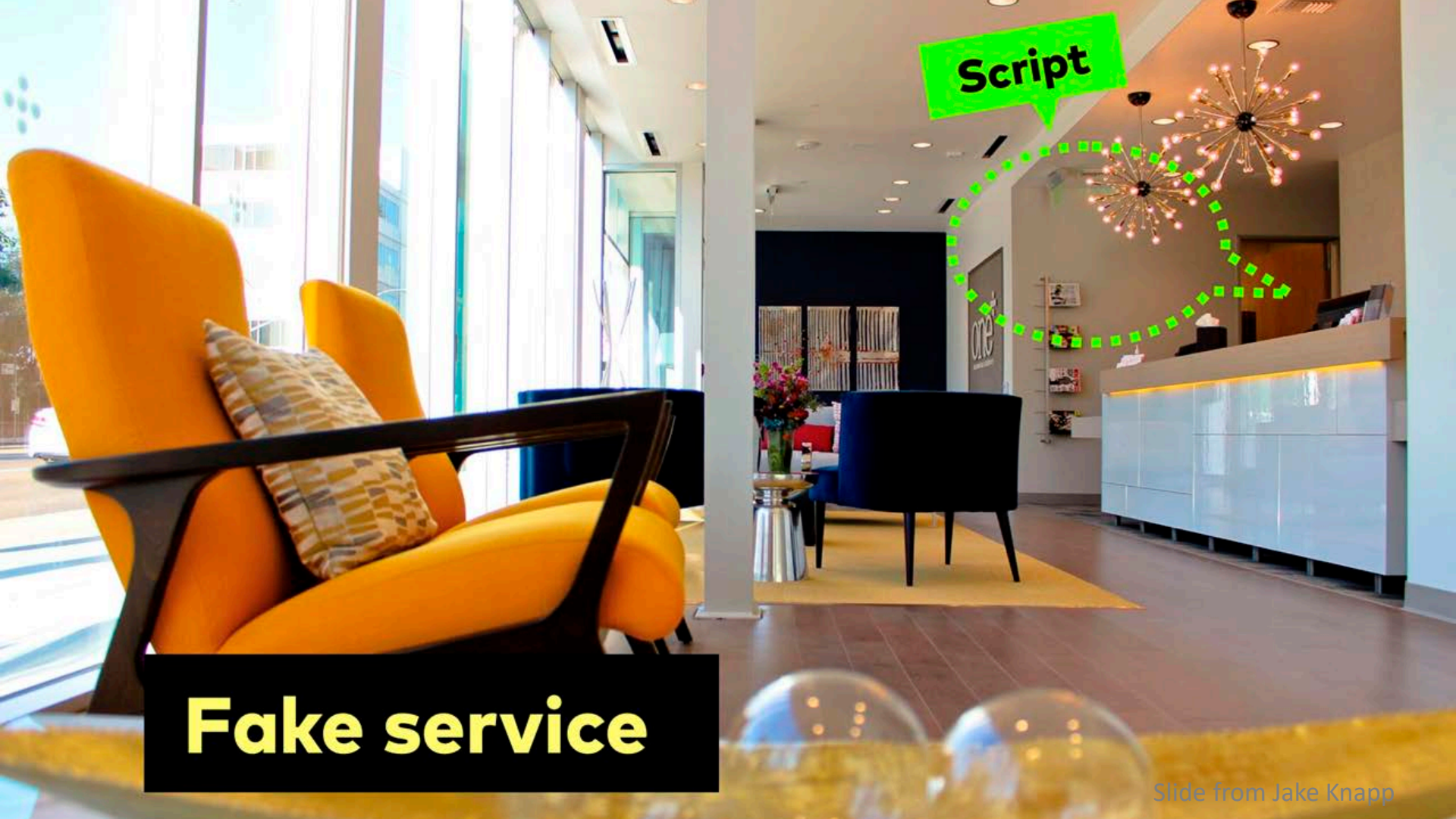
Parallel computing  
moves to the cloud



Actionable  
intelligence for the  
world

## Fake sales deck





**Script**

**Fake service**














# Fake the Solution


 Search


 Janelle


Home


Create












 Janelle Davis

News Feed

Messenger

Watch

Marketplace

Shortcuts

Trivia Crack

Explore

Groups


Pages


Events


Friend Lists

Games

See More...

 Write a comment...

 Fake Company Name Goes Here




Sponsored · 

This looks like a real ad you'd see on your feed, right?  
Imagine that this is all done from overlaying rectangles and text boxes over a screenshot. In less than ten minutes!

FAKEWEBSITE.HA

**Super catchy tag line that entices you to click**

See how much time that saved?


 1.3K

133 Comments 121 Shares

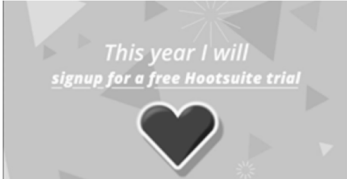
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Comment

Share




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# Fake the Solution


 Search


 Janelle


Home


Create












 Janelle Davis

News Feed

Messenger

Watch

Marketplace

Shortcuts

Trivia Crack

Explore

Groups


Pages


Events


Friend Lists

Games

See More...


 Write a comment...

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   1.3K

133 Comments 121 Shares

 Like

 Comment

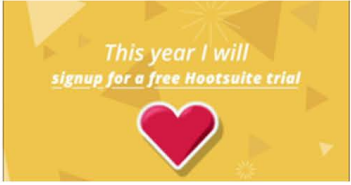
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# Test

Learn What Real Customers Think About  
Your Solutions.

**Wily**

# Test

You can test anything

# Test

There are a lot of ways to test





# Test

There are multiple ways to test something.

- Interviews
- Observation
- Diary Studies
- Questionnaire

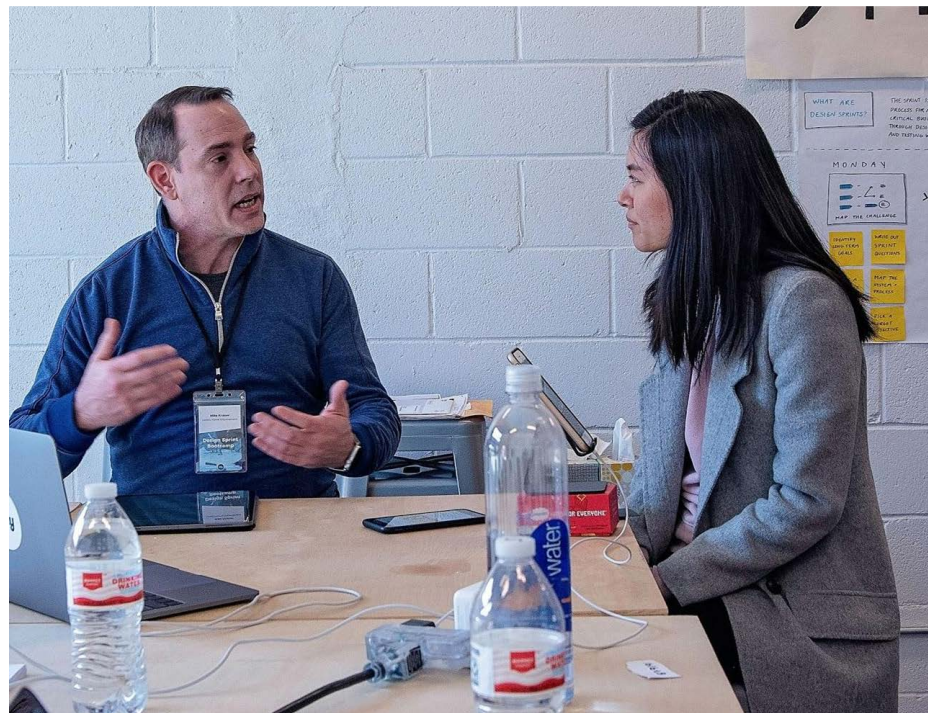
# Test

There are multiple ways to test something.

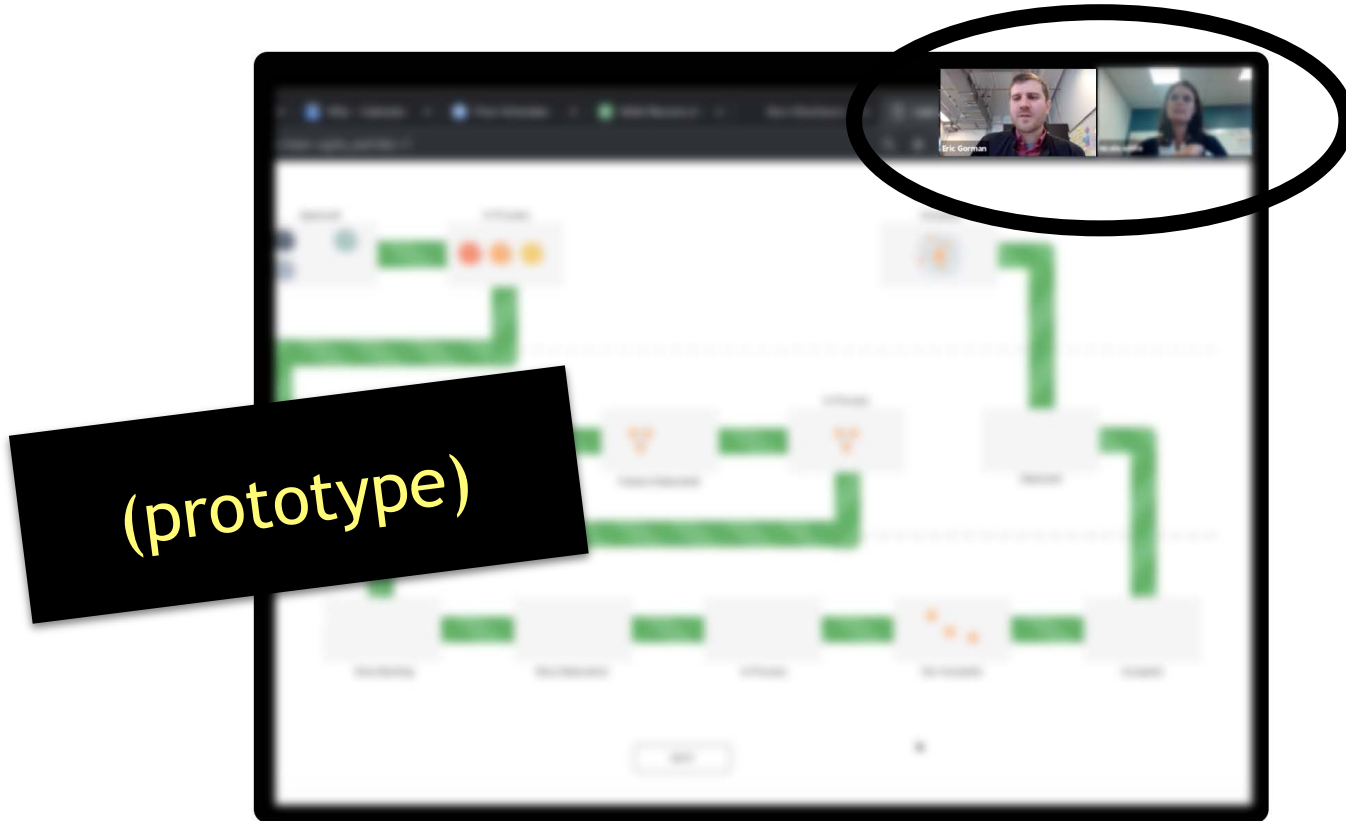
- Interviews      <<Design Sprints
- Observation      <<Design Sprints
- Diary Studies
- Questionnaire

# Test Sessions

1. No more than 5
2. Avoid “bless your heart feedback”
3. Reactions = gold



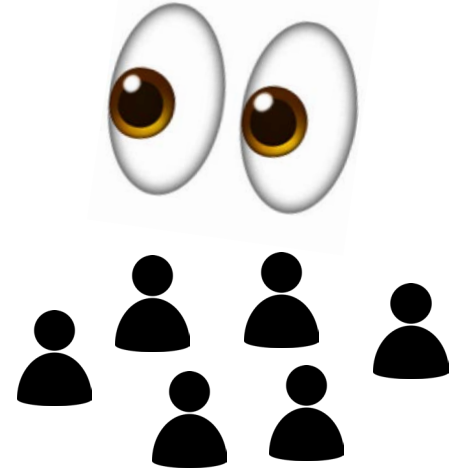
# Test Sessions



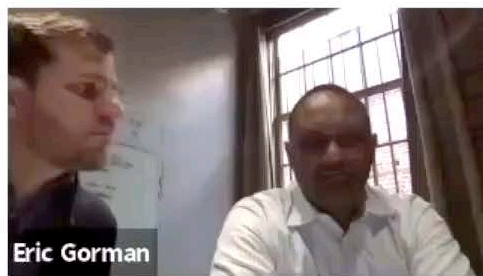
# Test Sessions



(prototype)

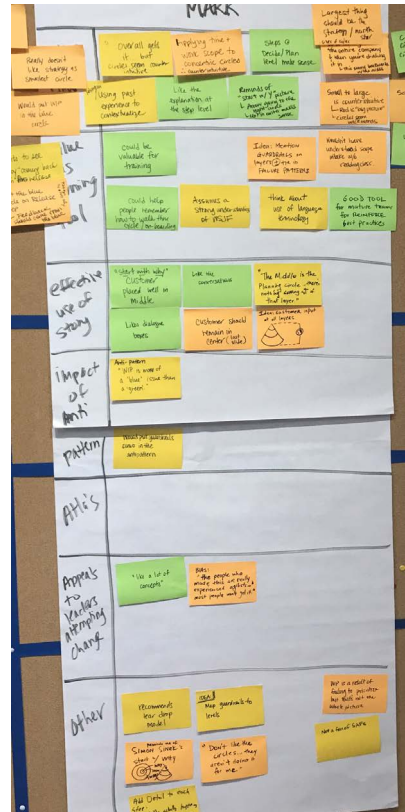
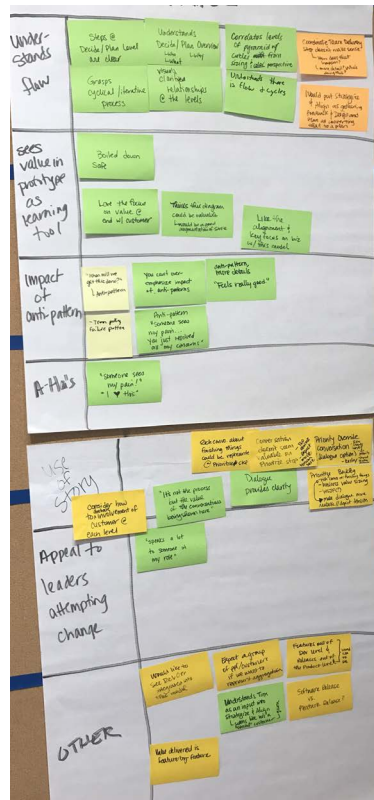
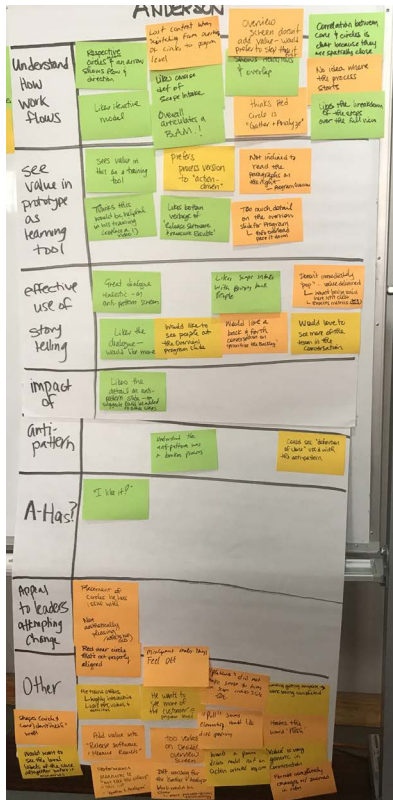
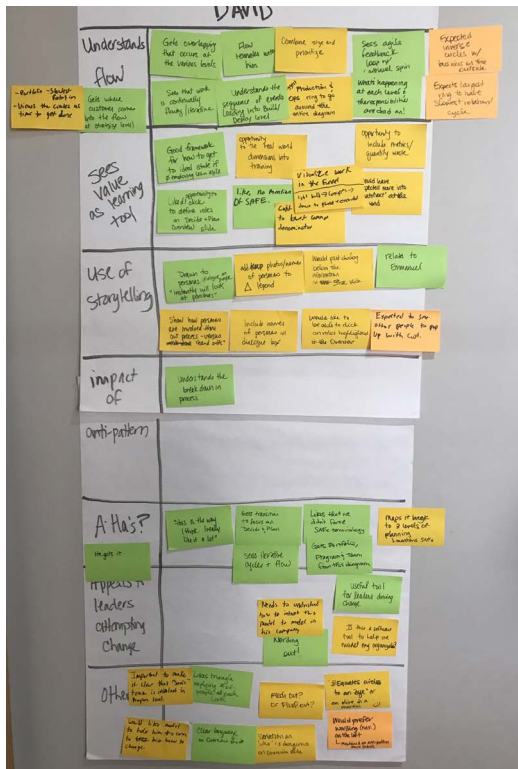


Behind the scenes  
observation





# Test Sessions







# Validate Concepts

- Group and theme feedback
- Use feedback to inform next steps

# Validate concepts

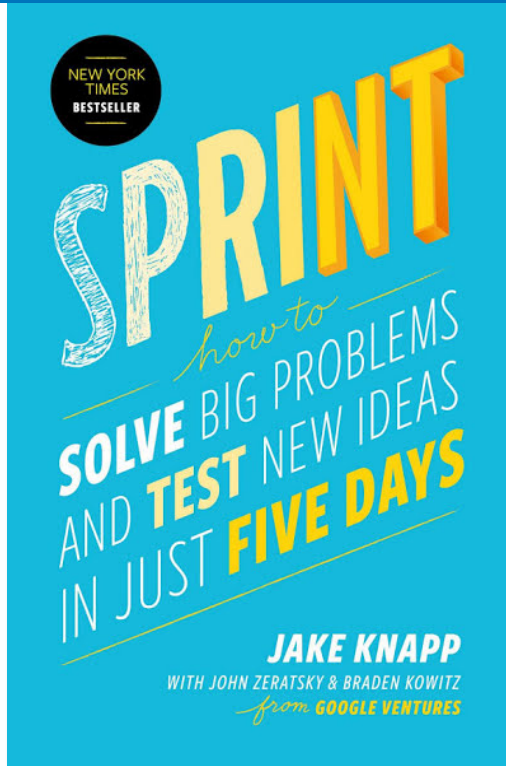
						
Does the user understand how the work flows?	Positive	<p>He understood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The different phases of each cycle with quick descriptions of what each does (slide when yellow nodes are introduced)</li> <li>- The arrows that represent the direction of flow</li> <li>- overall articulates a BAM!</li> <li>- correlation between cone &amp; circles is clear because they are spatially close</li> </ul>	<p>He understood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- that work is iterative at several levels</li> <li>- sees the feedback loop</li> <li>- understands the sequence of events leading into build/deploy level</li> </ul>	<p>He understood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- decide/plan overview slide flow of work</li> <li>- gets the mapping of our levels to port/program/team</li> <li>- satisfied his appetite with full view of steps at end</li> <li>- notice/understands arrows showing flow</li> </ul>	<p>He understood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- steps at decide and plan level are clear</li> <li>- grasps cyclical/iterative process</li> <li>- visuals clarified relationships at the levels</li> <li>- correlates levels of pyramid circles from sizing &amp; color perspective</li> <li>- understands iterative flow of cycles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- liked the explanation at the step level</li> <li>- steps at decide and plan level made sense</li> <li>- reminds of "start with why" picture (arrow going to the right circle in center makes sense)</li> <li>- customer in circle makes sense, circle does not</li> <li>- likes the pyramid</li> </ul>
	Neutral	<p>He didn't quite understand/ suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reduce the amount of yellow dots and use only 2 paragraphs in overview</li> </ul>	<p>He didn't quite understand/ suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- combine size and prioritize</li> <li>- production and ops ring to go around the entire diagram</li> <li>- portfolio slowest rotation, views the circles as time to get done</li> </ul>	<p>He didn't quite understand/ suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- prefers seeing the progression</li> </ul>	<p>He didn't quite understand/ suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> </ul>	<p>He didn't quite understand/ suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- he was relying on using past experience to contextualize</li> <li>- overall gets it... but circles seem counter intuitive</li> </ul>
	Negative	<p>He had no understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The relationship of the circles (cone and all circles lit up slide)</li> <li>- losing context when outer circles get lighter</li> <li>- how the zoomed in view correlated to the previous view (didn't know it was a zoomed in view and lost context)</li> <li>- thinks red circle is gather + analyze</li> <li>- no idea where the process starts</li> </ul>	<p>He had no understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- why the circles were sized the way they were</li> <li>- expects largest ring to have slowest rotation/cycle</li> </ul>	<p>He had no understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- elaborate features should overlap with build and deploy level</li> <li>- interprets Tim sees the feature before feedback loop happens</li> <li>- reinterprets circles as work through the system w/ the antipattern</li> <li>- expects yellow dot for release on build + deploy (blue)</li> <li>- expected scope intake at team level</li> </ul>	<p>He had no understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- coordinating team delivery step doesn't make sense, how does that happen? more detail? who's doing this?</li> <li>- would put strategize and align as gathering feedback &amp; design and plan as converting that to a plan</li> </ul>	<p>He had no understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- scope = big picture</li> <li>- small to large is counter intuitive, circles seem backwards</li> <li>- largest thing should be the strategy/ north star</li> <li>- really doesn't like strategy as smallest circle</li> </ul>
Does the user see value in the prototype as a learning tool?	Positive	<p>He saw value in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- using the characters with real photos to tell the story</li> <li>- likes bottom verbiage of "release software &amp; measure results"</li> <li>- thinks this would be helpful in his training (replaces a video!)</li> </ul>	<p>He saw value in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- good framework for how to get to ideal state if employing lean agile</li> <li>- like opportunity to click to define roles on Decide &amp; Plan overview slide</li> <li>- likes it, no mention of Safe</li> </ul>	<p>He saw value in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- loved the visual depictions, would love to have presentation supports desire for top-down approach</li> </ul>	<div data-bbox="1085 646 1889 853"> <h2>Real results, quick</h2> </div>	
	Neutral	<p>He saw potential for value in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> </ul>	<p>He saw potential for value in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- opportunity to tie real world dimensions into training</li> <li>- visualize work in the funnel, light bulb &gt; concepts &gt; down to phases &gt; executed</li> <li>- would have expected more into what's next at the end</li> </ul>	<p>He saw potential for value in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- also show bottom-up (closed loop feedback)</li> </ul>		
	Negative	<p>There was no correlation of value because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> </ul>	<p>There was no correlation of value because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> </ul>	<p>There was no correlation of value because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- looking for overview of each level (like decide)</li> </ul>		
Does the use of story effect the user's understanding?	Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- great dialogue realistic on angri-pattern</li> <li>- likes the dialogue - would like more</li> <li>- likes scope intake with bringing back people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- drawn to personas dialogue on page "instantly will look at personas"</li> <li>- relates to Emmanuel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- continually references story line and personas</li> <li>- conversation clued him into where he was on the map (what point and level)</li> <li>- he remembers the story when we introduce the model w/ customer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "It's not the process but the value of the conversations being shown here"</li> <li>- dialogue provides clarity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "start with why" customer placed well in middle</li> <li>- liked the conversations</li> <li>- likes dialogue boxes</li> </ul>
	Neutral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- would like to see people at the overview program slide</li> <li>- would love to see more of the team in the conversation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- show how personas are involved throughout the process - versus "hand off"</li> <li>- add photos/names of personas to legend</li> <li>- include names of personas in dialogue box</li> <li>- would put dialog below the information on 3rd slide</li> <li>- would like to be able to click on roles highlighted in the overview</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- include Jo on "gather and analyze" slide</li> <li>- he remembers the story when we introduce the model w/ customer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consider how to illustrate involvement of customer at each level</li> <li>- rich come about finishing things could be representative at prioritize step</li> <li>- conversation doesn't seem valuable on prioritize step - too obvious, expects more tension</li> <li>- priority override conversation (dialogue option) - kelley</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "The middle is the planning circle there's nothing coming out of that layer"</li> </ul>

# Test

## Key takeaways:

- You can test anything
- 90% preparation, 10% execution
- 5 tests can uncover 85% of challenges

# Further Reading



**Sprint**  
Jake Knapp



# Design Sprint Bootcamp With Jake Knapp September 10-11

Details +  
Registration:

[wearewily.com/training](http://wearewily.com/training)

Use promo code  
NAYGN at checkout  
for a \$250 discount





# Thanks!

Let us know if we can help and let's keep in touch.  
[hello@wearewily.com](mailto:hello@wearewily.com) and [wearewily.com](http://wearewily.com)



***Wily***