

# how to design innovative software

Daniel Jackson · Technion · March 27, 2024

# some questions

what does innovation in software **look like**?  
what makes a software product **successful**?

*scenarios  
of success*

story #1:  
TBL's Web  
(1989)

# what was novel about the web?

## World Wide Web

The WorldWideWeb (W3) is a wide-area [hypermedia](#) information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a large universe of documents.

Everything there is online about W3 is linked directly or indirectly to this document, including an [executive summary](#) of the project, [Mailing lists](#) , [Policy](#) , November's [W3 news](#) , [Frequently Asked Questions](#) .

### [What's out there?](#)

Pointers to the world's online information, [subjects](#) , [W3 servers](#), etc.

### [Help](#)

on the browser you are using

### [Software Products](#)

A list of W3 project components and their current state. (e.g. [Line Mode](#) ,X11 [Viola](#) , [NeXTStep](#) , [Servers](#) , [Tools](#) , [Mail robot](#) , [Library](#) )

### [Technical](#)

Details of protocols, formats, program internals etc

### [Bibliography](#)

Paper documentation on W3 and references.

### [People](#)

A list of some people involved in the project.

### [History](#)

A summary of the history of the project.

### [How can I help ?](#)

If you would like to support the web..

### [Getting code](#)

Getting the code by [anonymous FTP](#) , etc.

<http://info.cern.ch/hypertext/WWW/TheProject.html>

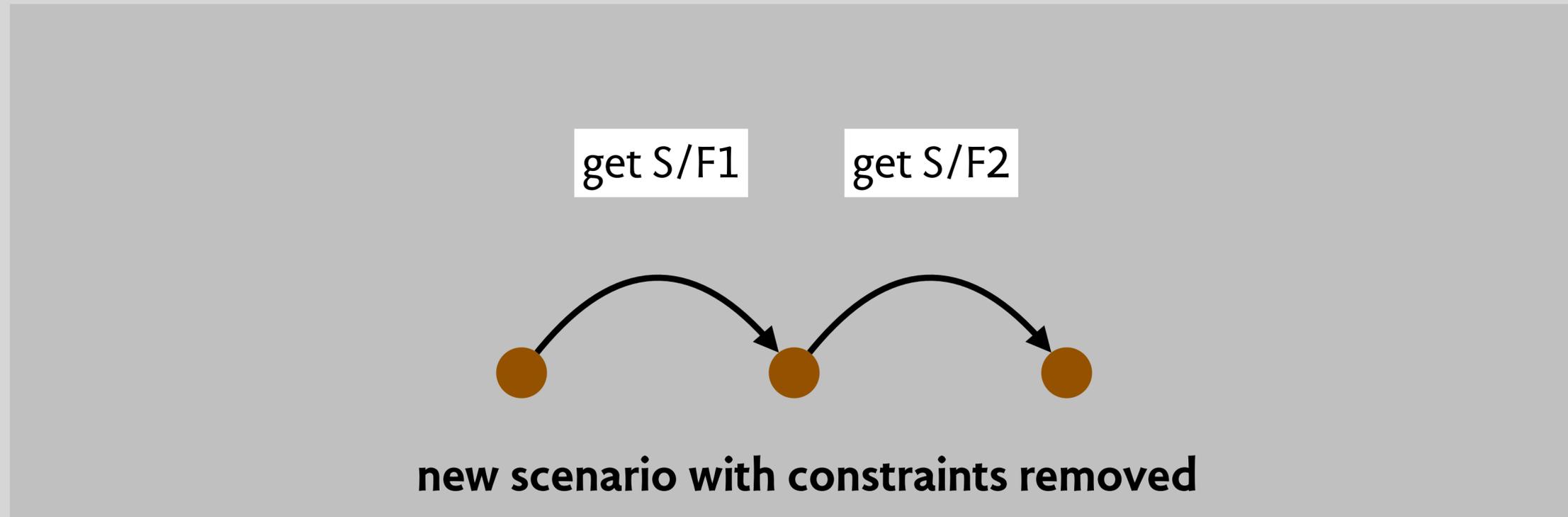
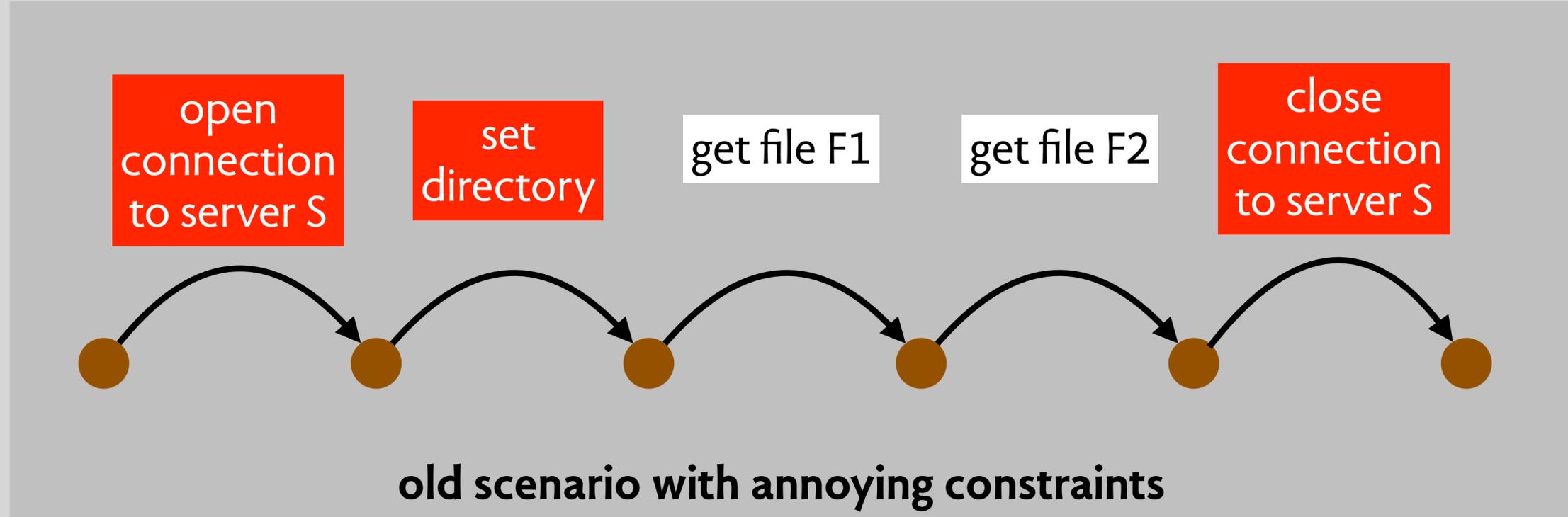
the technology?



NeXT computer  
660MB hard disk  
Motorola 68030, 25MHz  
17" monitor with Display Postscript  
built in ethernet connectivity



# a new way to get content



this new scenario is embodied in the concept of the URL

## World Wide Web

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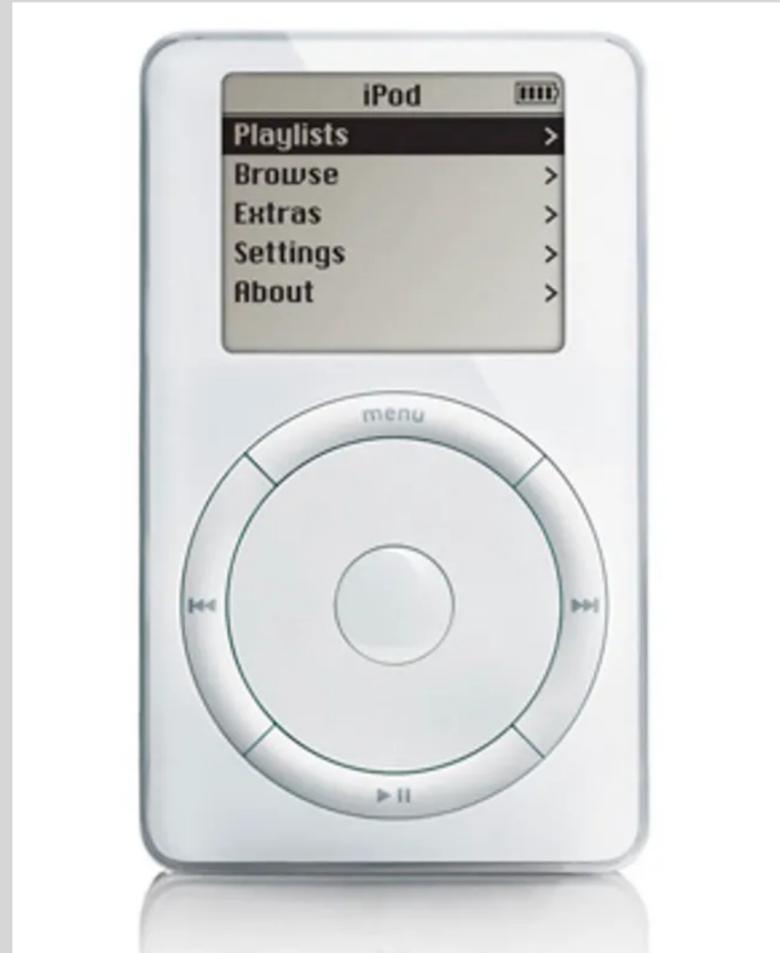
*story #2:*  
iPod (2001)

what was novel about the iPod?



Apple iPod  
(2001)

# a new industrial design?



**Apple iPod**  
(Jony Ive, 2001)



**Braun Pocket Radio T3**  
(Dieter Rams, 1958)

# a technology breakthrough?



iPod 5GB drive  
(Toshiba, 2001)

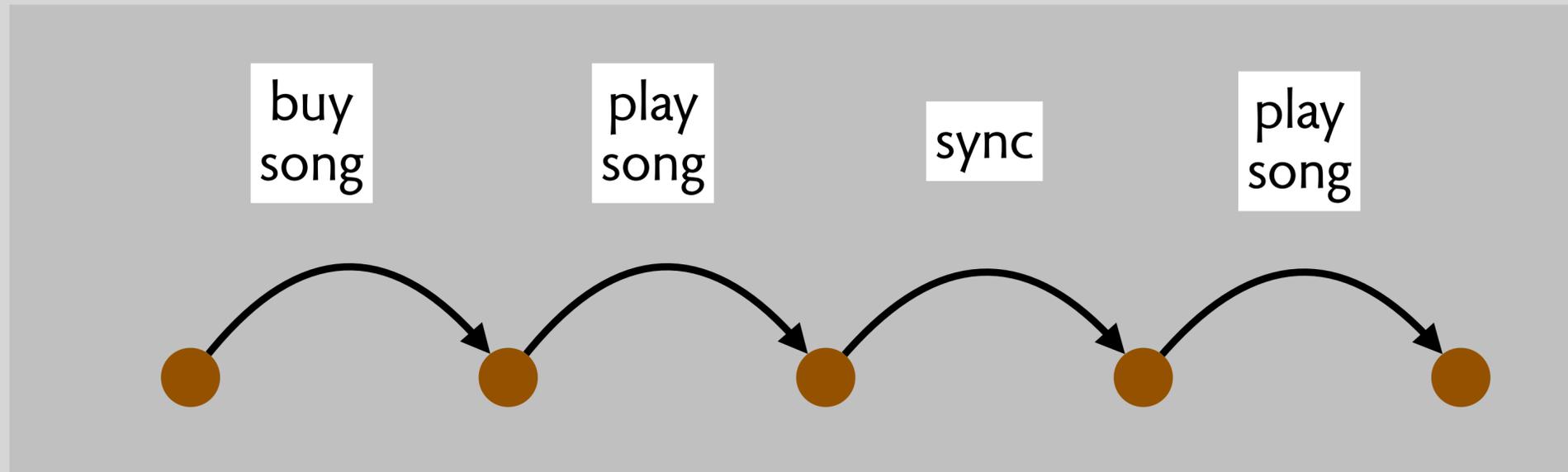
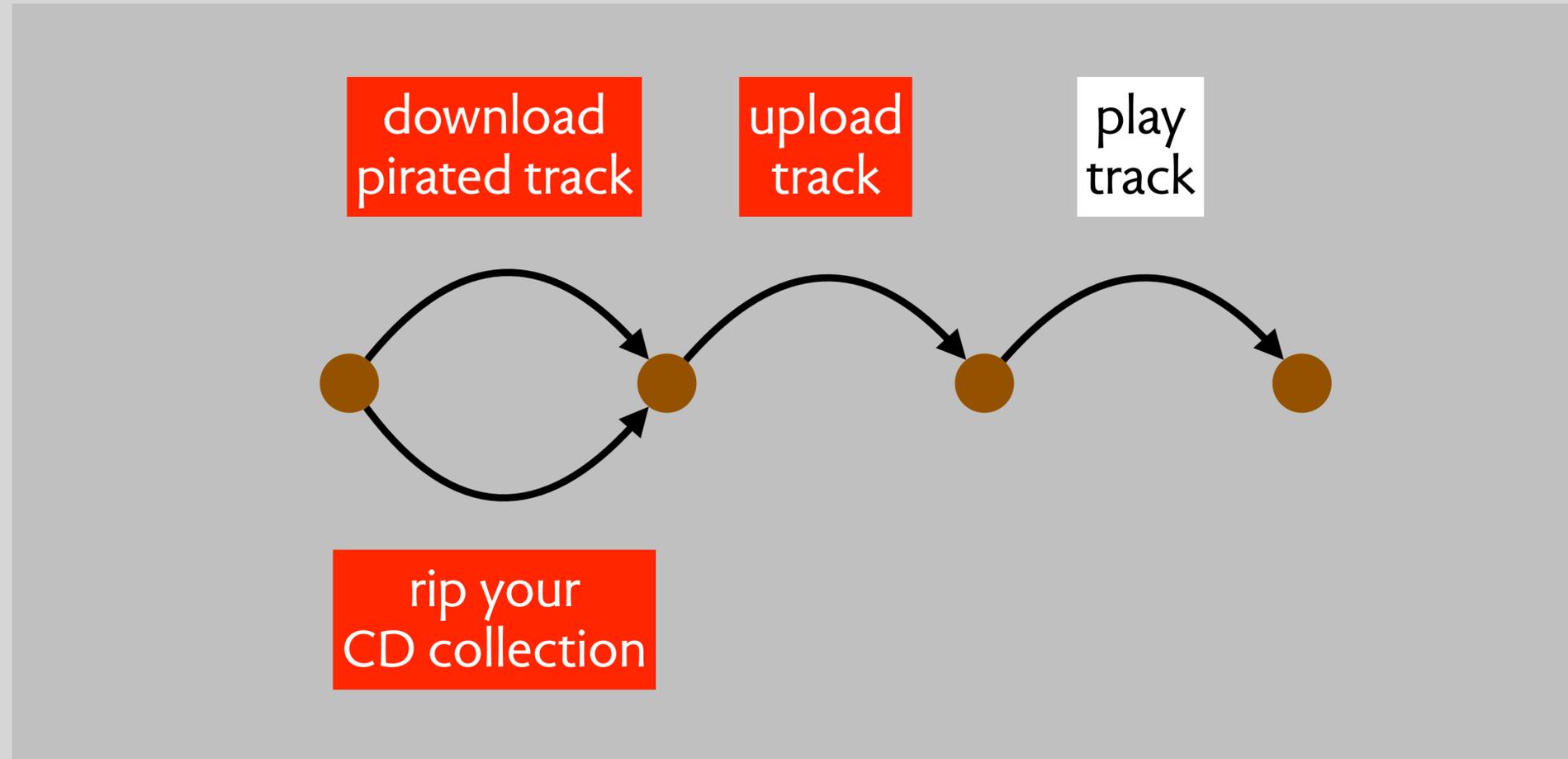


FireWire serial bus  
(Apple, 1995)

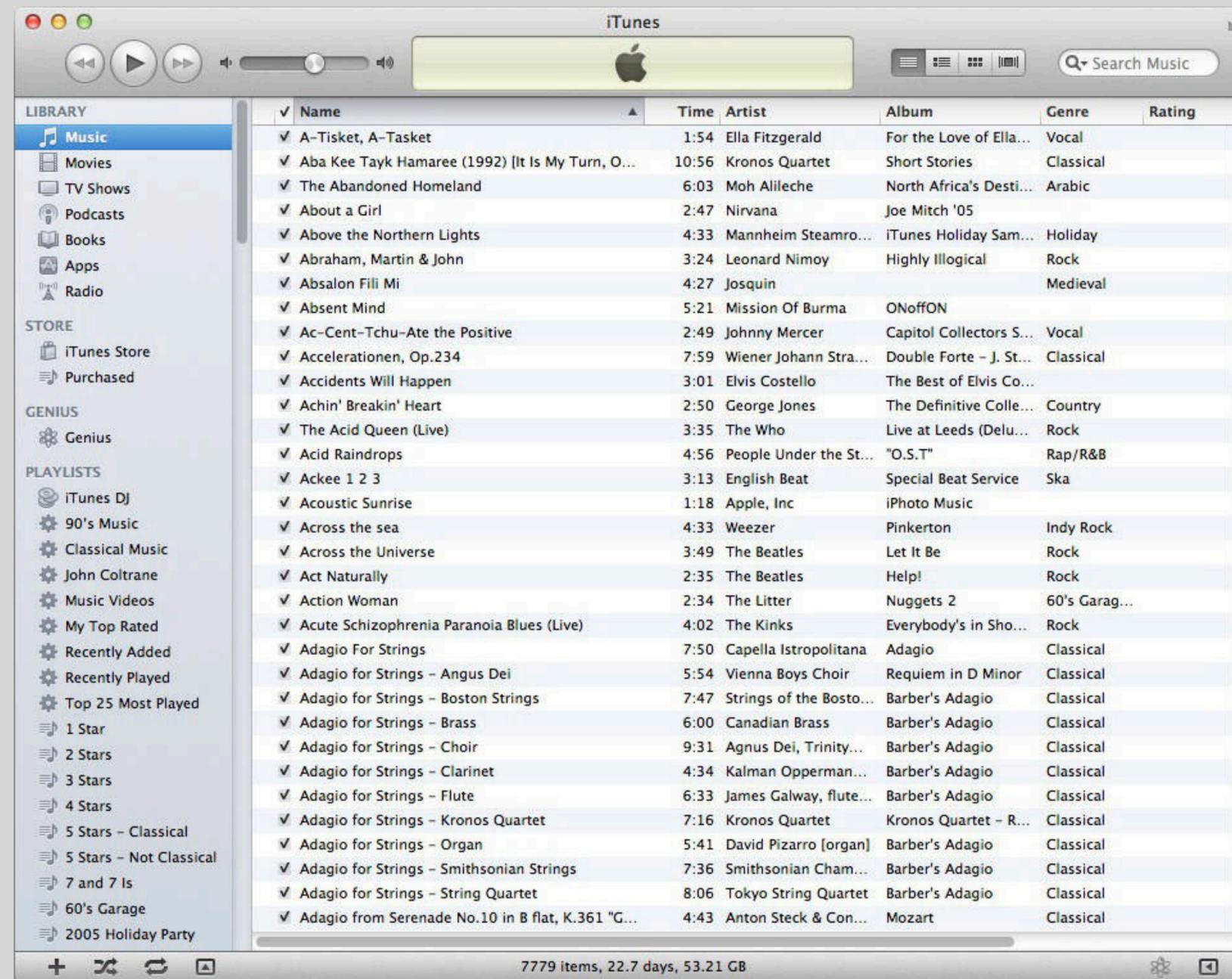


Personal Jukebox 5GB drive  
(DEC, 1999)

# the ipod scenario



# supporting cast: iTunes



iTunes Media Player (2001); iTunes Music Store (2003)

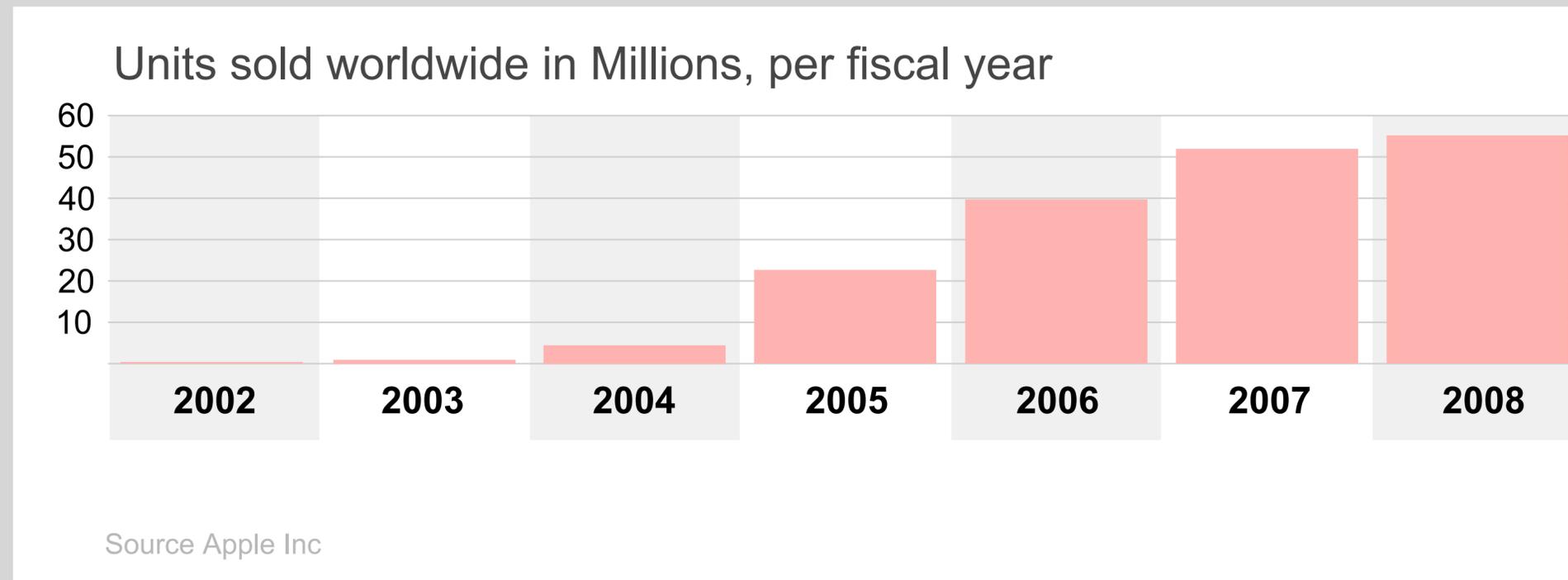
# explosion in sales came after iTunes took off

iPod  
appears

iTunes  
store

100m  
songs sold

iPod  
dominates



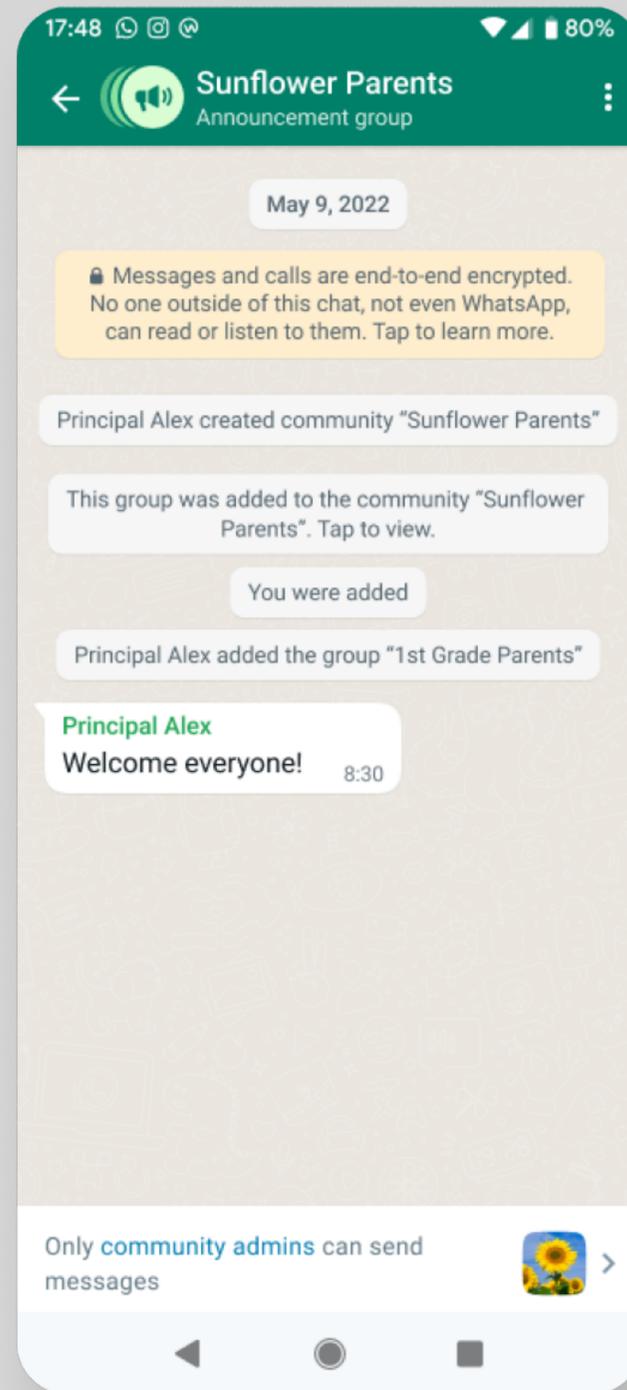


RIP 2d gen iPod Shuffle

Put some music on.  
Built-in clip. 240 songs. Up to 12-hour battery. Just \$79. One size fits all.  iPod shuffle

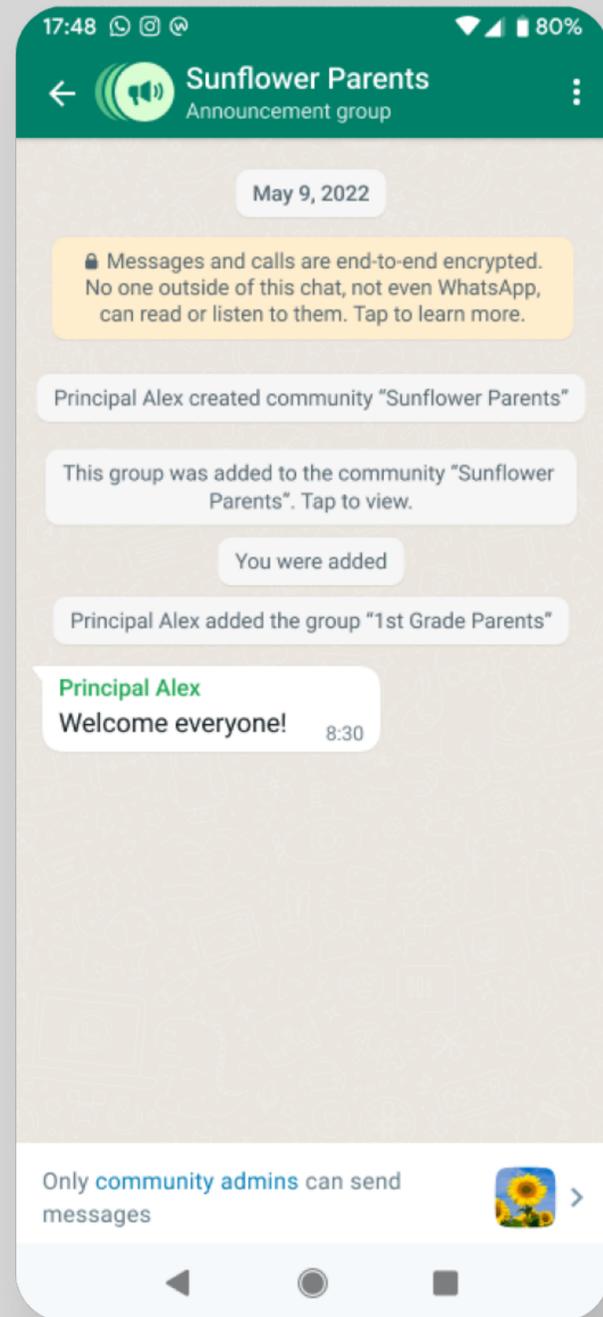
story #3  
WhatsApp  
(2009)

# what was novel about WhatsApp?



WhatsApp (2009)

# was it free texting?



WhatsApp (2009)



**first free-texting app**  
TextFree/Pinger (2006)

# whatsapp's big moment

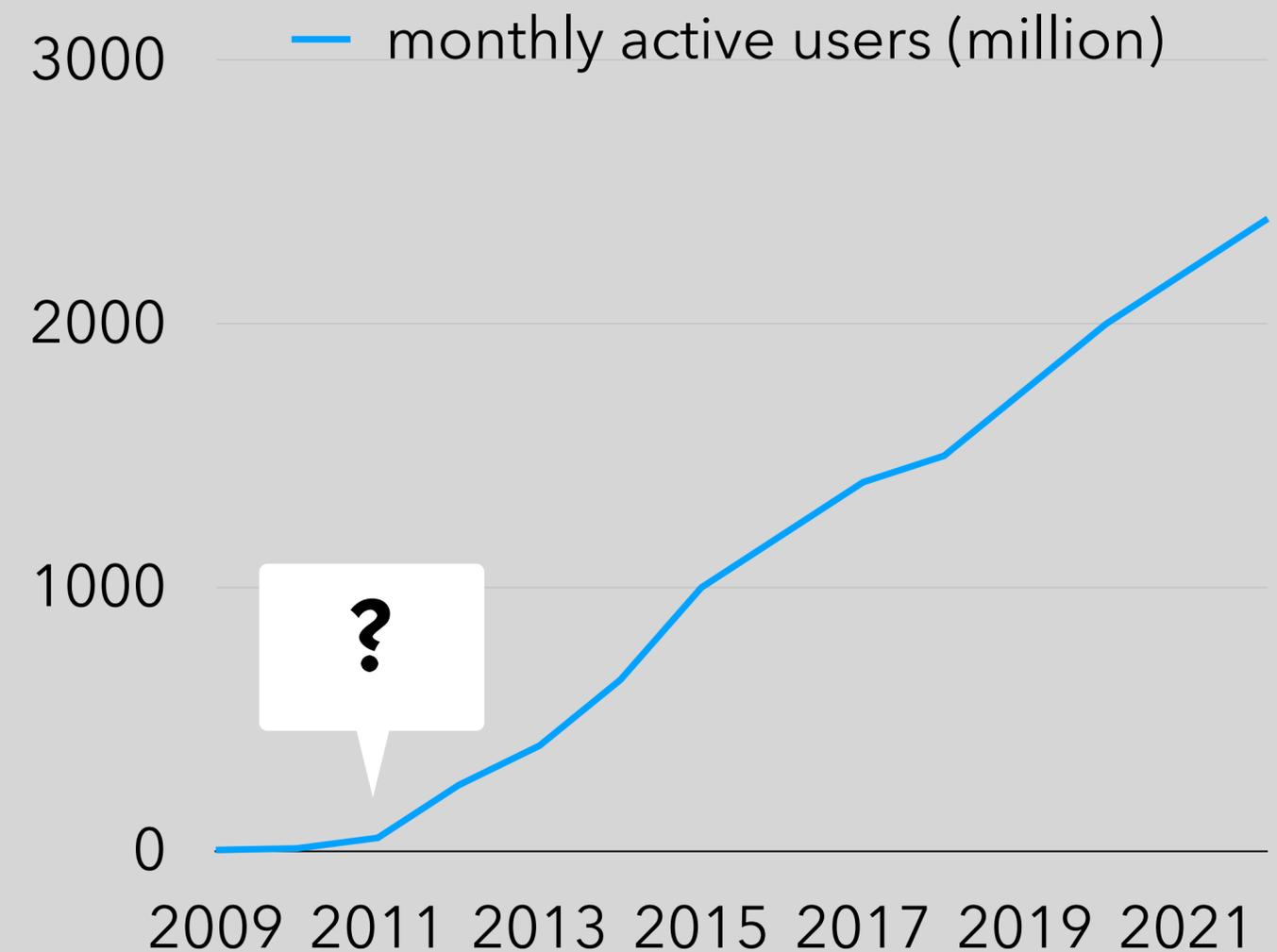
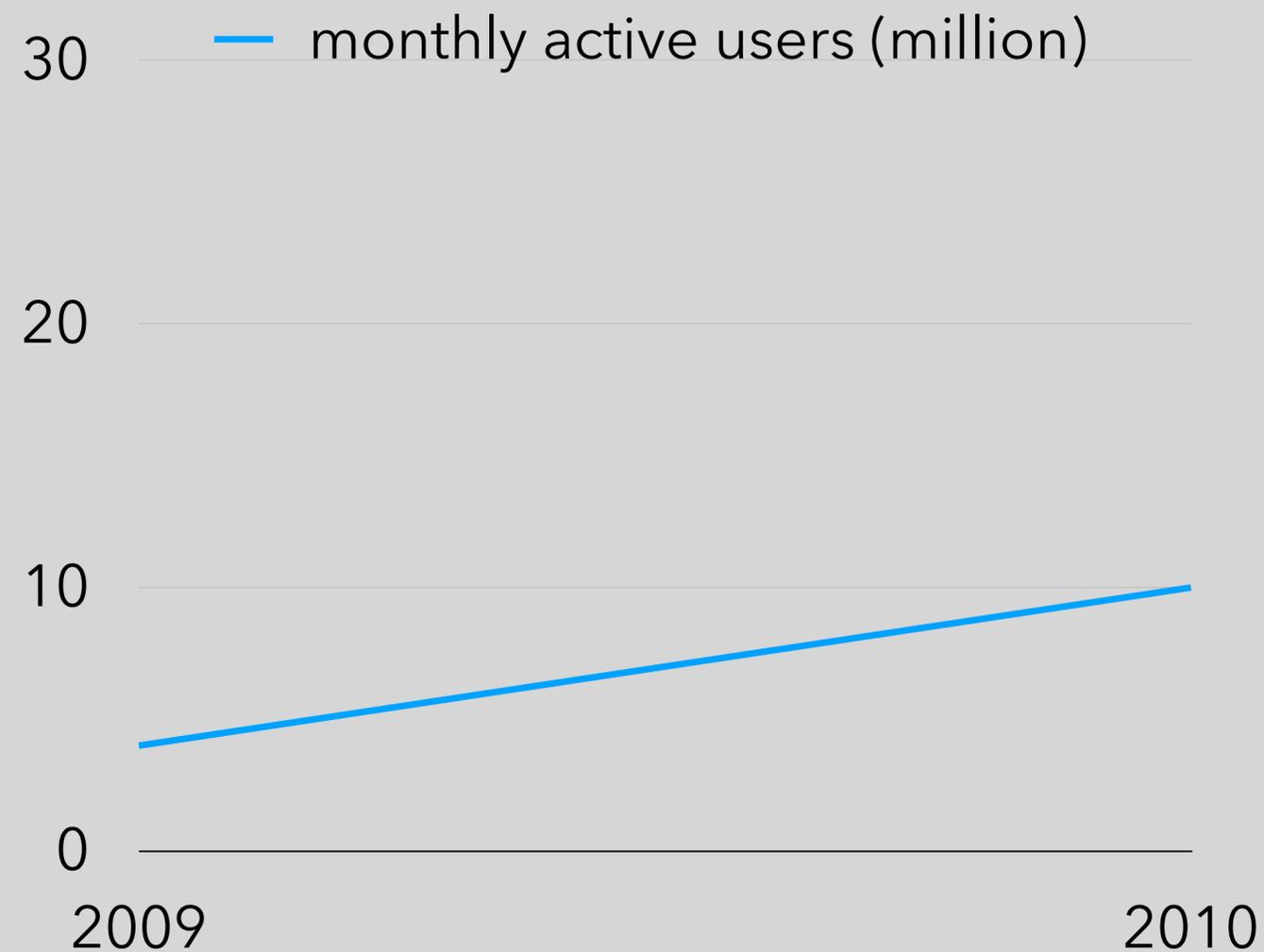


WhatsApp

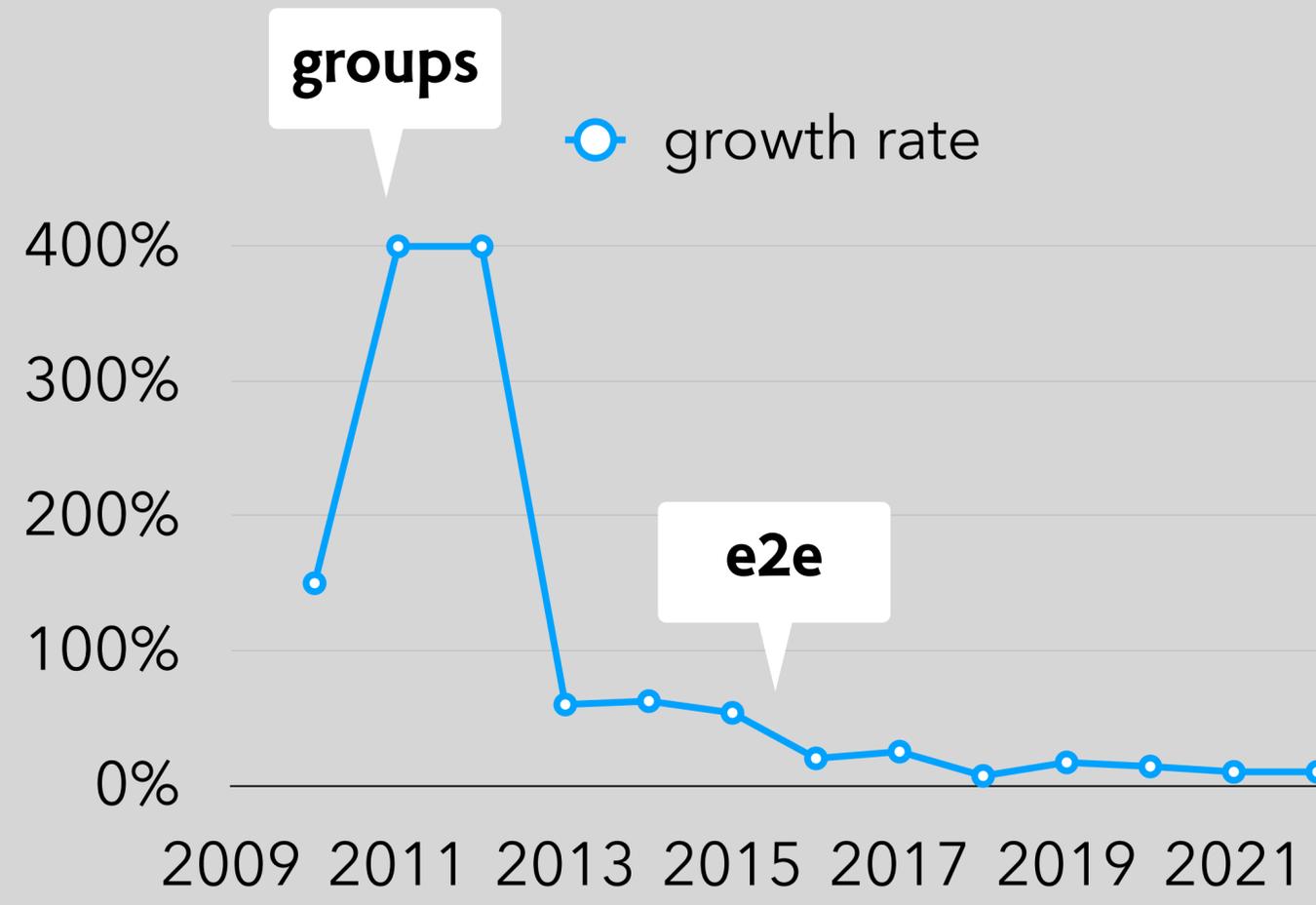
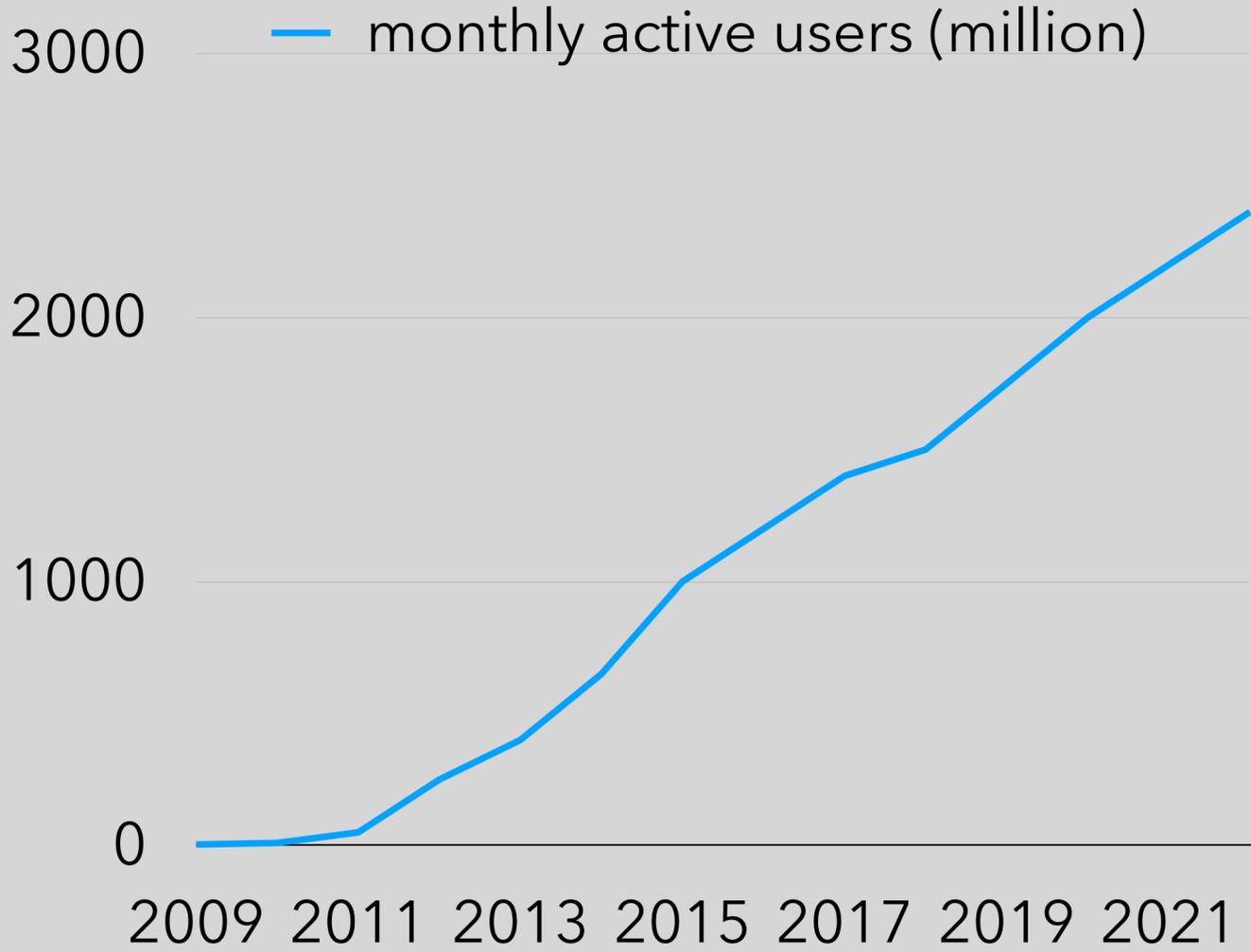
@WhatsApp

Group chat is now live for iPhone and BlackBerry in versions 2.6 (our Android client update with group chat is coming in 12 hours)

1:08 AM · Feb 10, 2011



# growing with groups



# what was happening in 2011

## *Start-Ups Are in a Rush to Bring the Chat Room to the Smartphone*

Share full article



Caleb Elston, left, and David Kasper, co-founders of the social messaging site Yobongo, in the company's offices in San Francisco. Jim Wilson/The New York Times

By Jenna Wortham

March 10, 2011



GroupMe

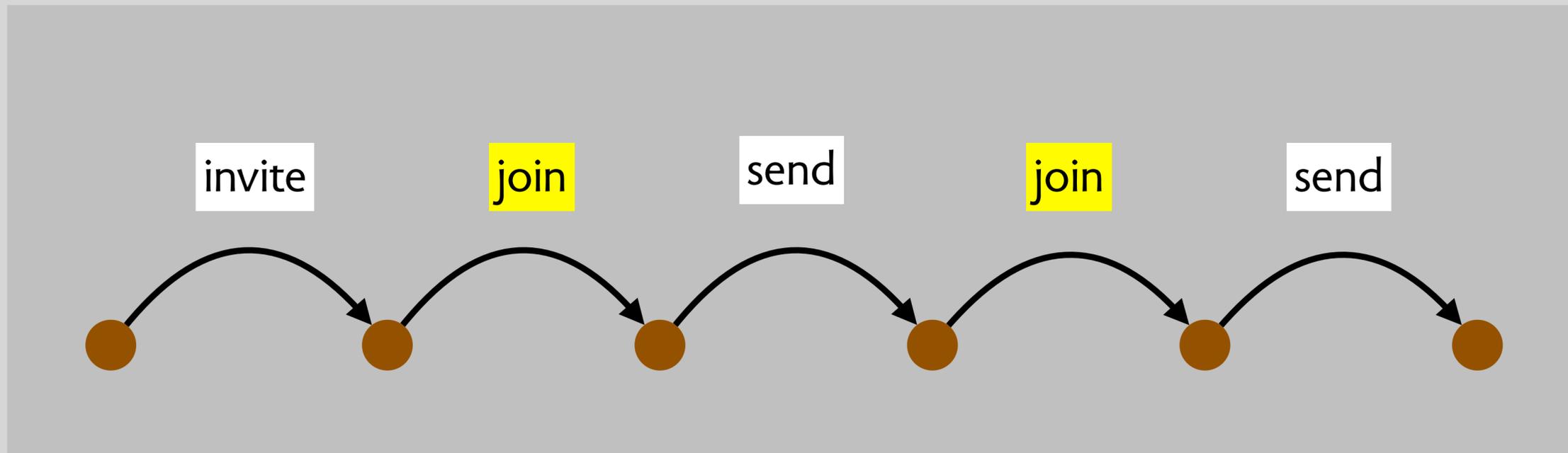
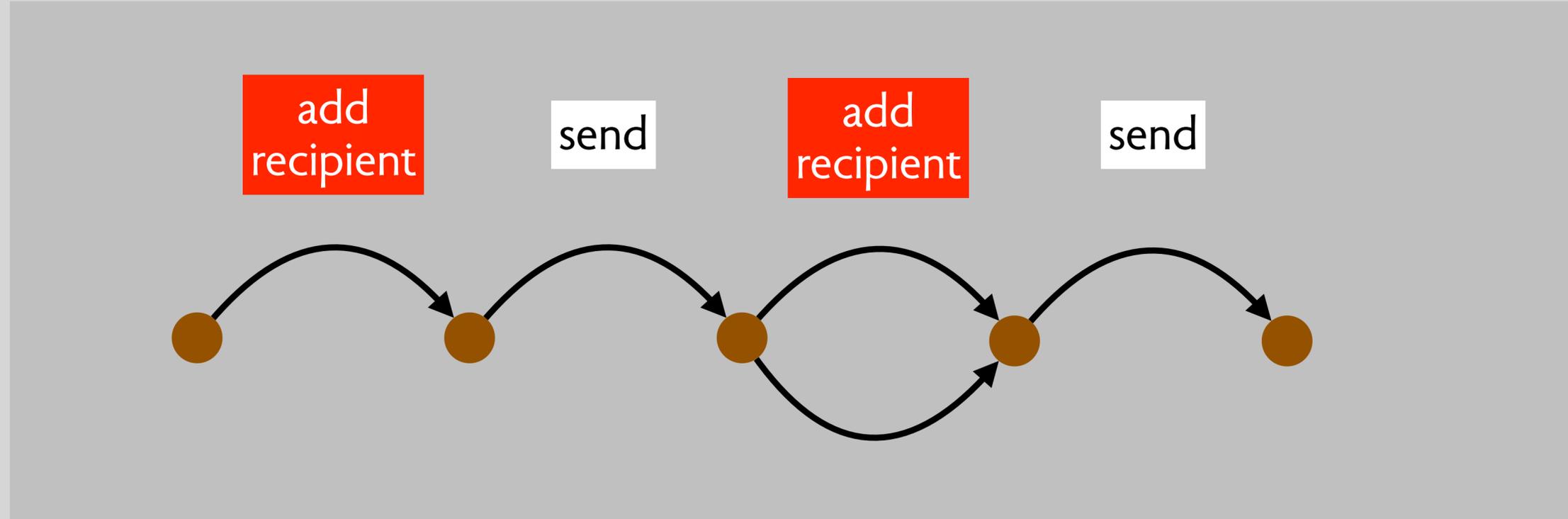


Beluga



Yobongo

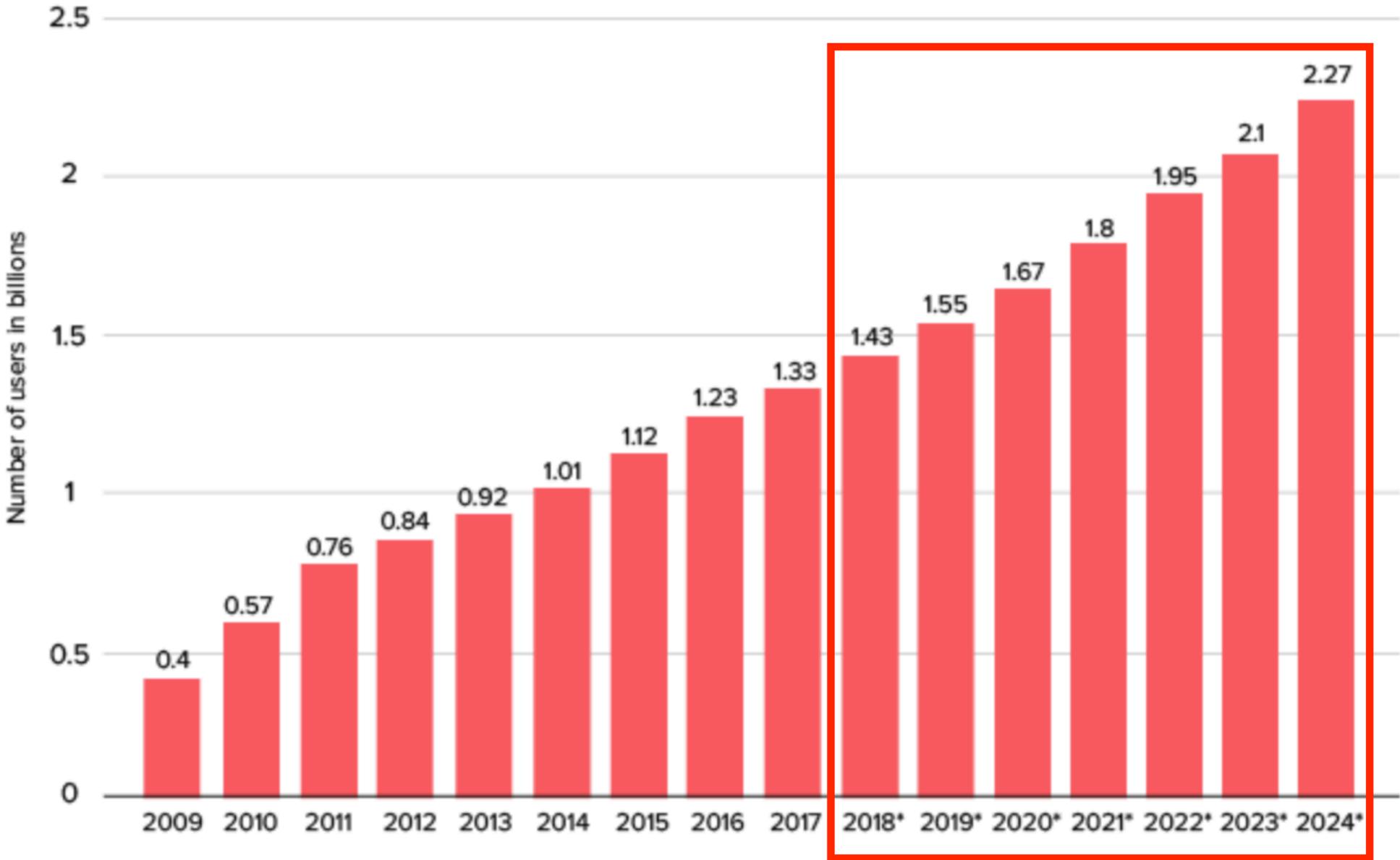
# the group scenario



story #4

Zoom (2013)

### Number of estimated Skype users registered worldwide from 2009 to 2024 (in billions)

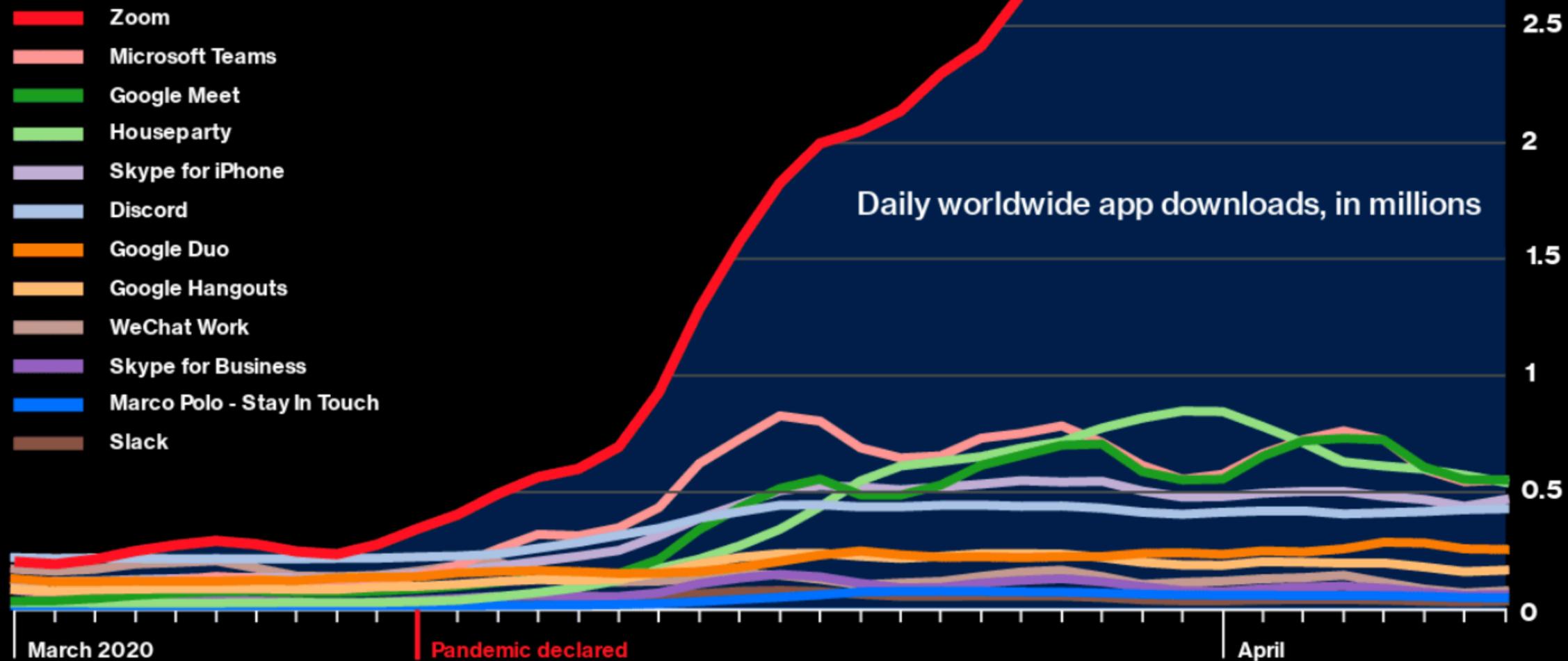


from Statistica: 2018-2024 estimated

# Covid-19 / Zoom-a-Zoom-Zoom

BBOViz  
Covid-19

There's only one winner in the  
work-from-home meeting app wars



Source: Apptopia

BEN SCHOTT

# what was novel about Zoom?



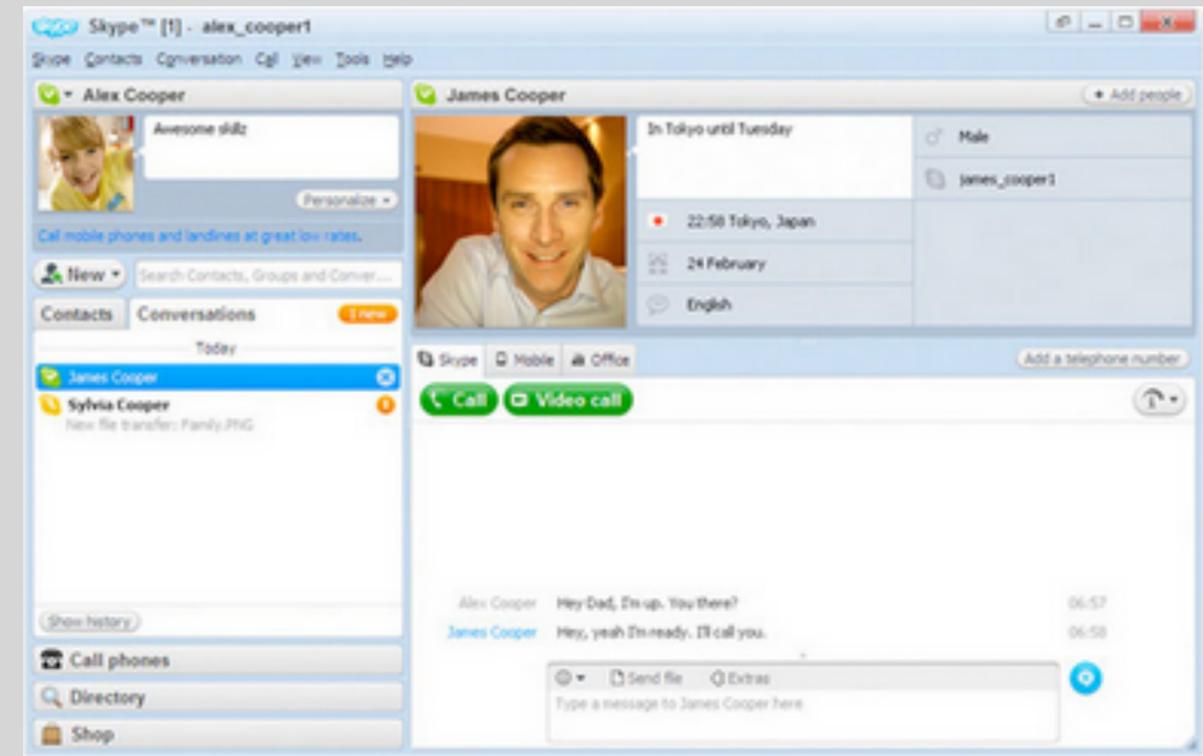
shares meeting id!

March 31, 2020

# were video calls new?



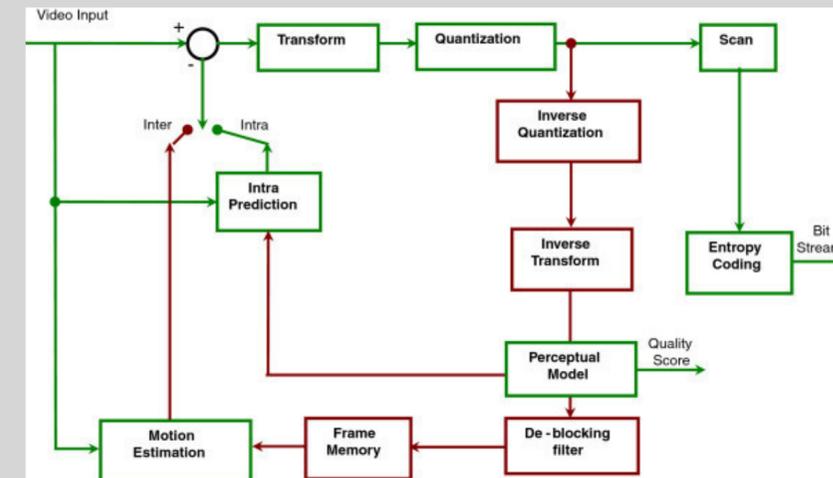
Picturephone (1964)



Skype (2009)

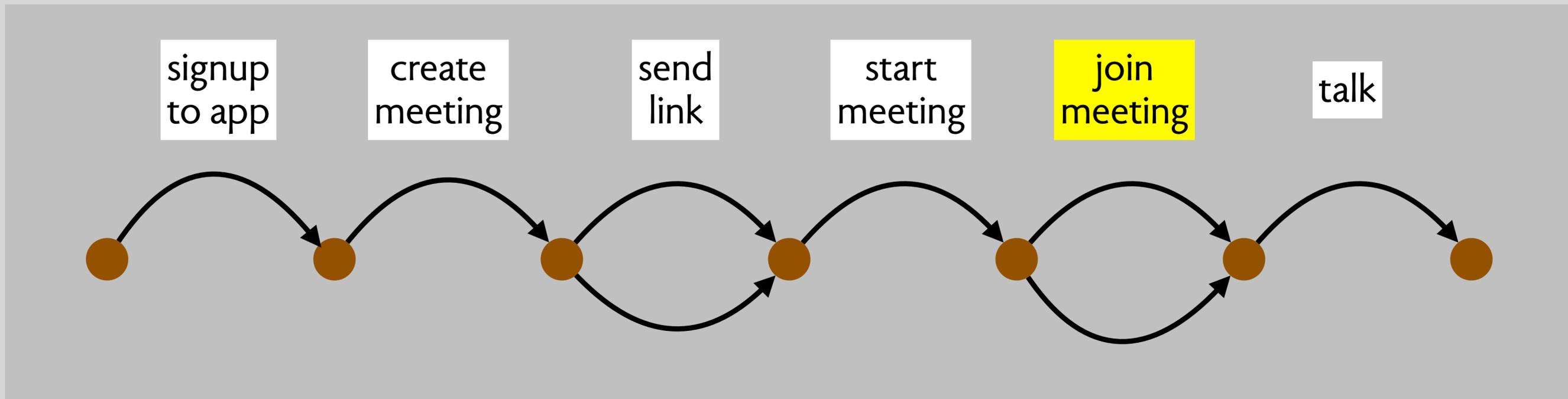
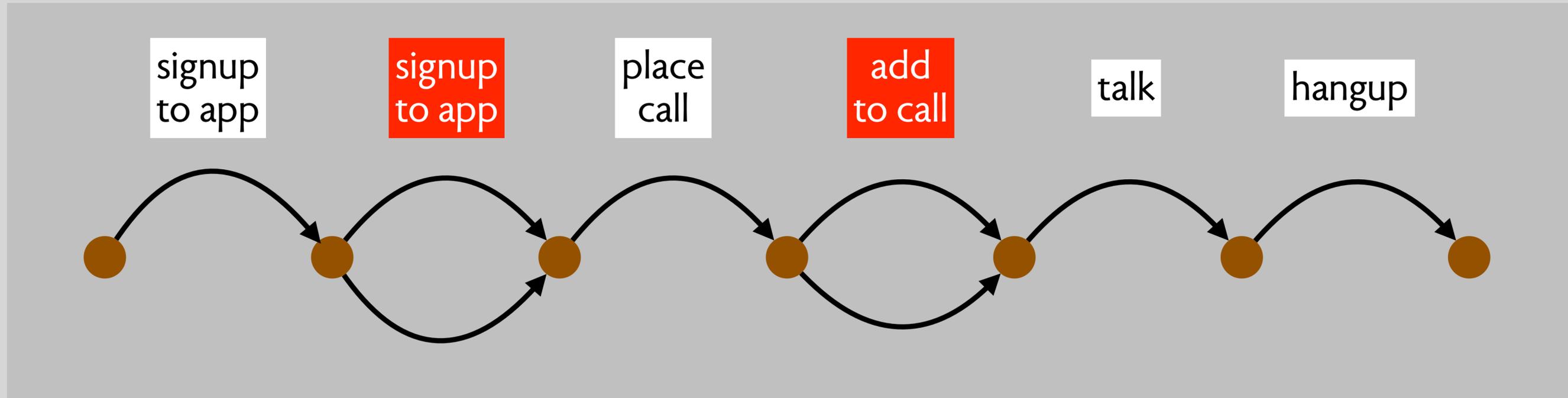


QuickCam (1994)  
first commercial webcam



H.264 Video Codec (2003)

# the meeting scenario



# tracing zoom's meeting concept



**Skype**  
initially P2P (2003)  
Microsoft (2013)



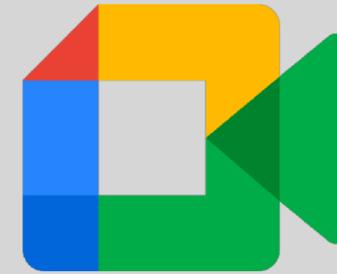
**FaceTime**  
Apple (2010)



**Google Hangouts**  
in Google+ (2011)  
own product (2013)  
Duo replaces (2016)



**Zoom**  
Eric Yuan (2013)

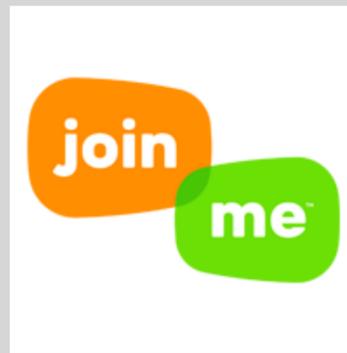


**Google Meet**  
launched (2017)  
absorbs Duo (2022)



**Microsoft Teams**  
launched (2017)

meeting concept  
added to Skype  
April 2020



**Join.me**  
LogMeIn (2010)

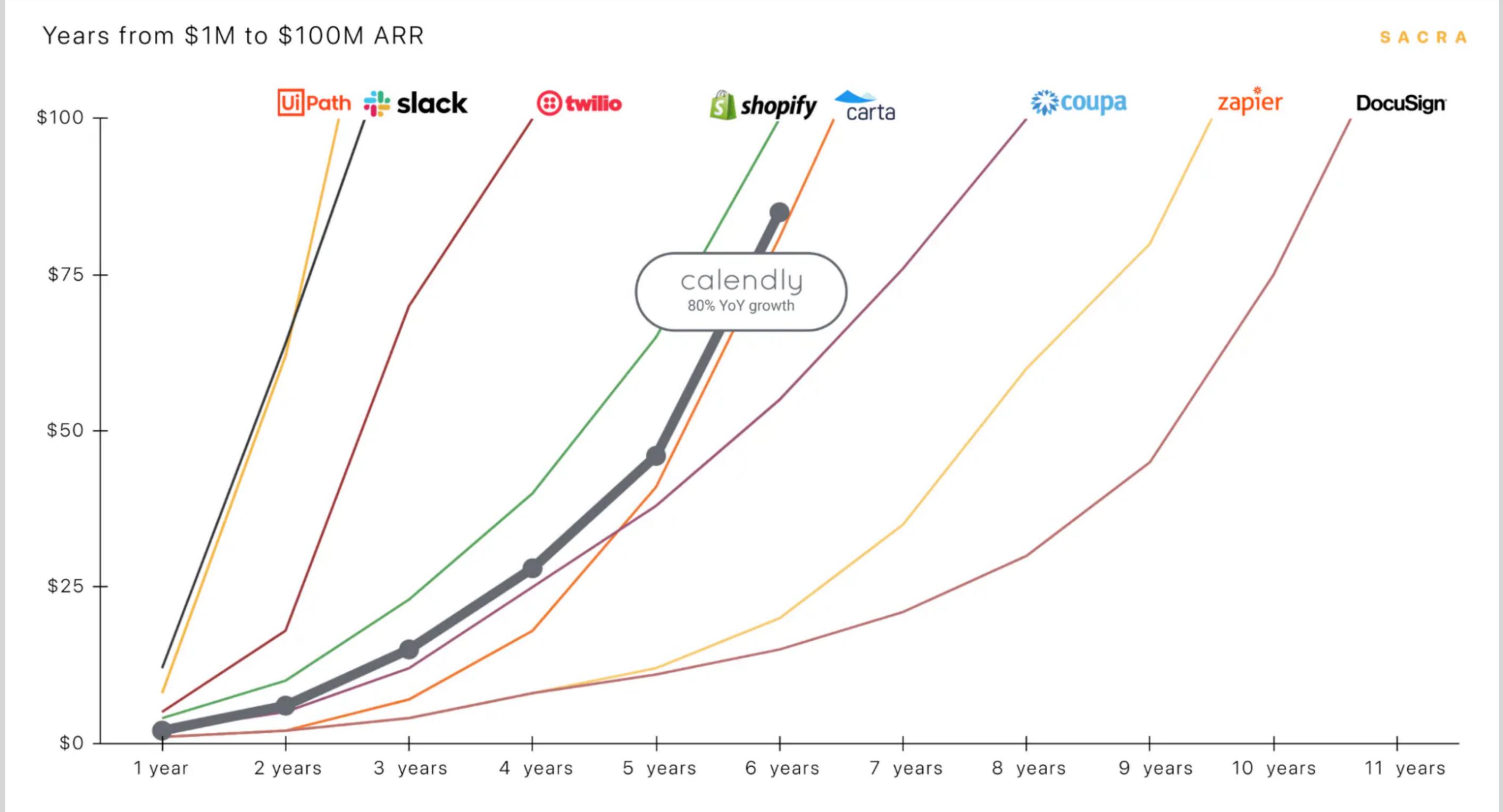
meeting scenario

meeting scenario  
added to Teams  
June 2022?

story #5

Calendly (2013)

# "the \$4b Docusign of scheduling"



# scheduling yourself



## 30 Minute Meeting

 30 min

 Web conferencing details provided upon confirmation.

[Cookie settings](#)

**Select a Date & Time**

May 2022 < >

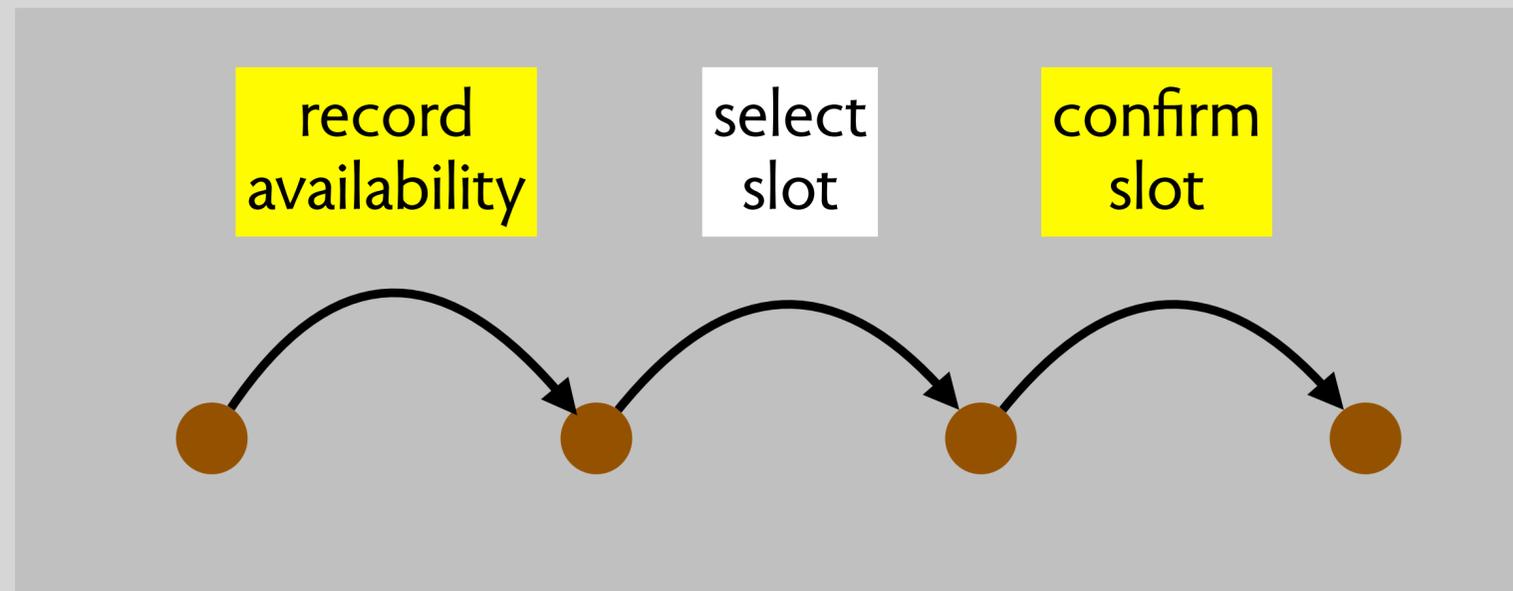
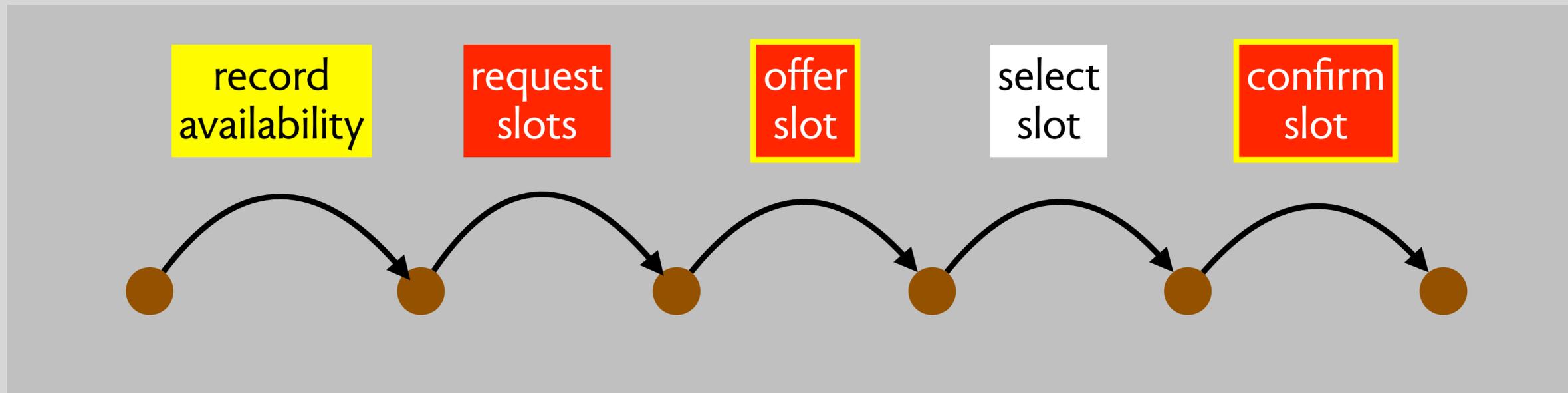
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

 Pacific Time - US & Canada (4:24pm) ▾

 Troubleshoot

POWERED BY  
Calendly

# fixing the scenario: scheduling a slot



# tracing self scheduling



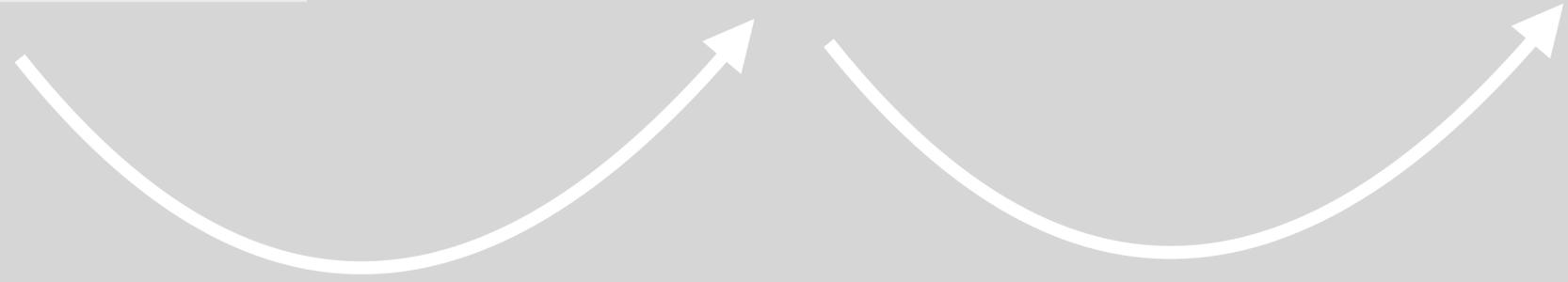
**Acuity (2006)**  
small business focus  
to Squarespace (2018)



**Calendly (2013)**  
sole proprietor focus



**Google Calendar**  
"slots" (2011)  
"schedules" (2022?)



self-scheduling scenario

# lessons so far

## **archetypal scenarios define innovations**

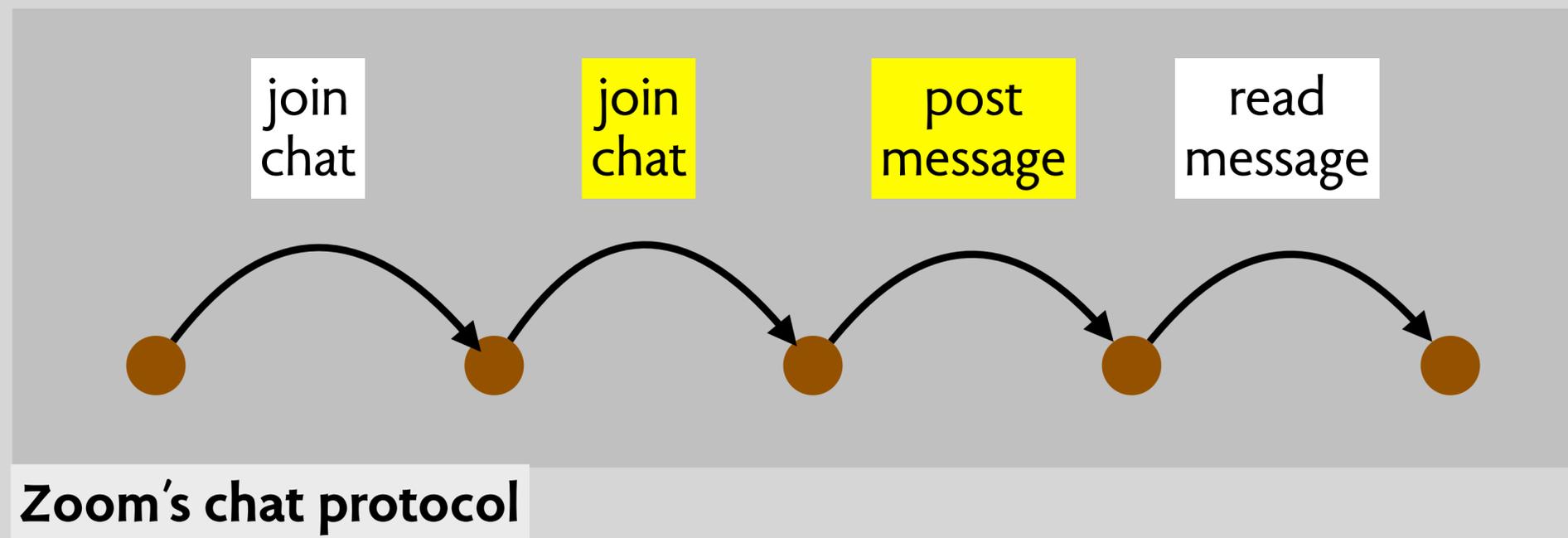
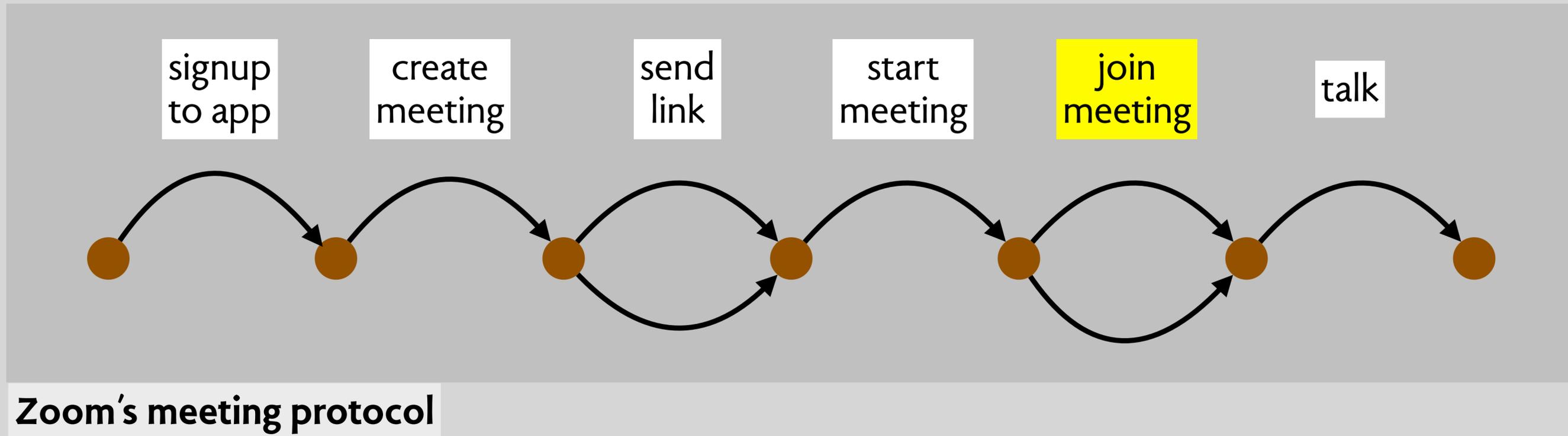
a compelling story of how to use an innovation  
and why it fulfills the user's purpose

## **innovations (almost) never enable new things**

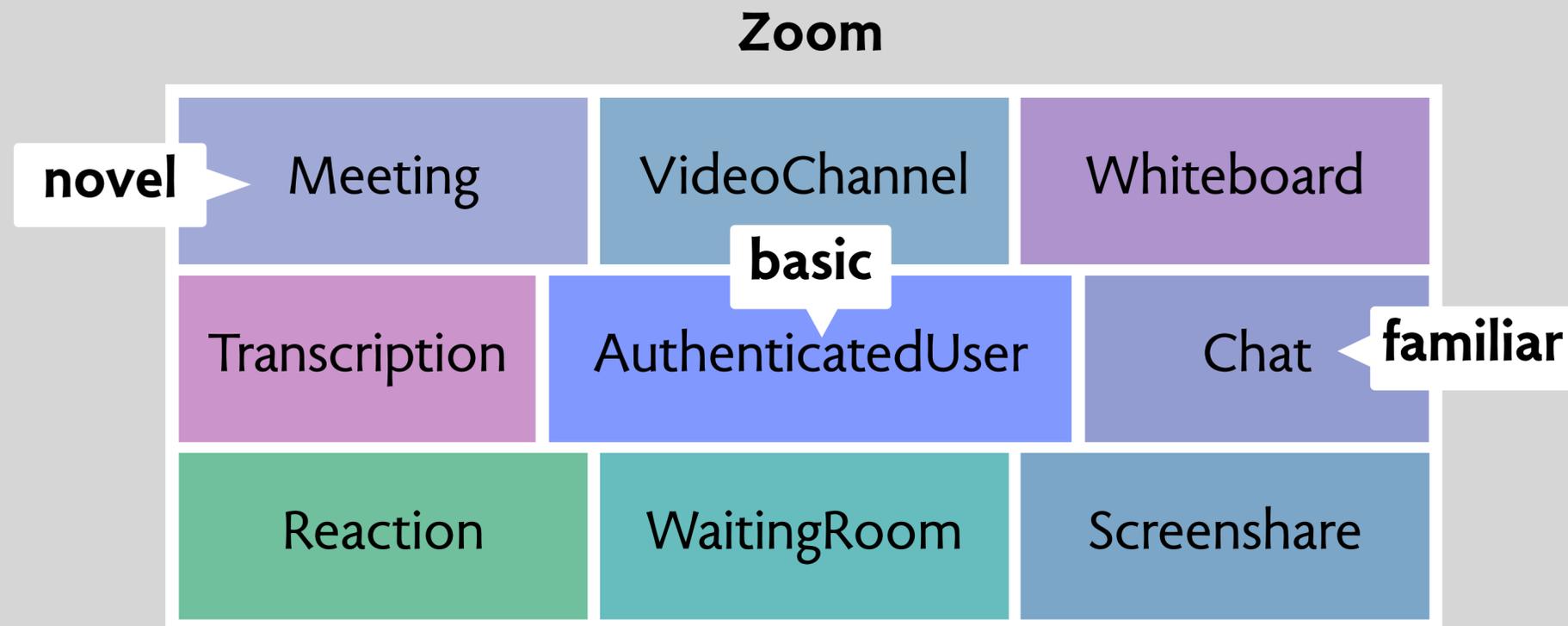
they just make them easier to do  
an old scenario with pain points is replaced by new one

*from scenarios  
to concepts*

# zoom isn't just the meeting protocol



# software = concepts



## concepts aren't features

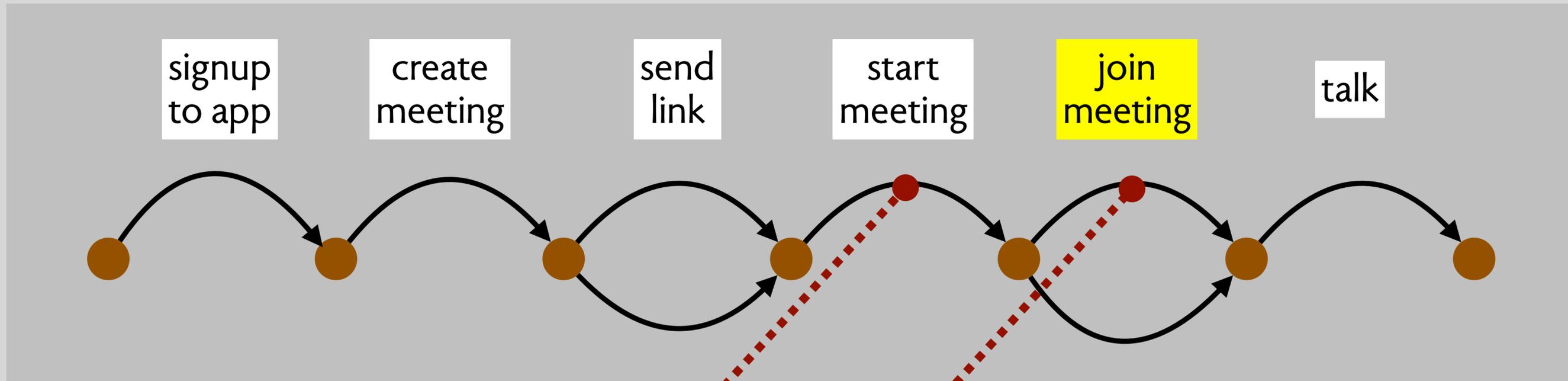
### complete function, not parts

not aspects (encryption)  
not actions (reassign host)  
not user interface (shortcuts)

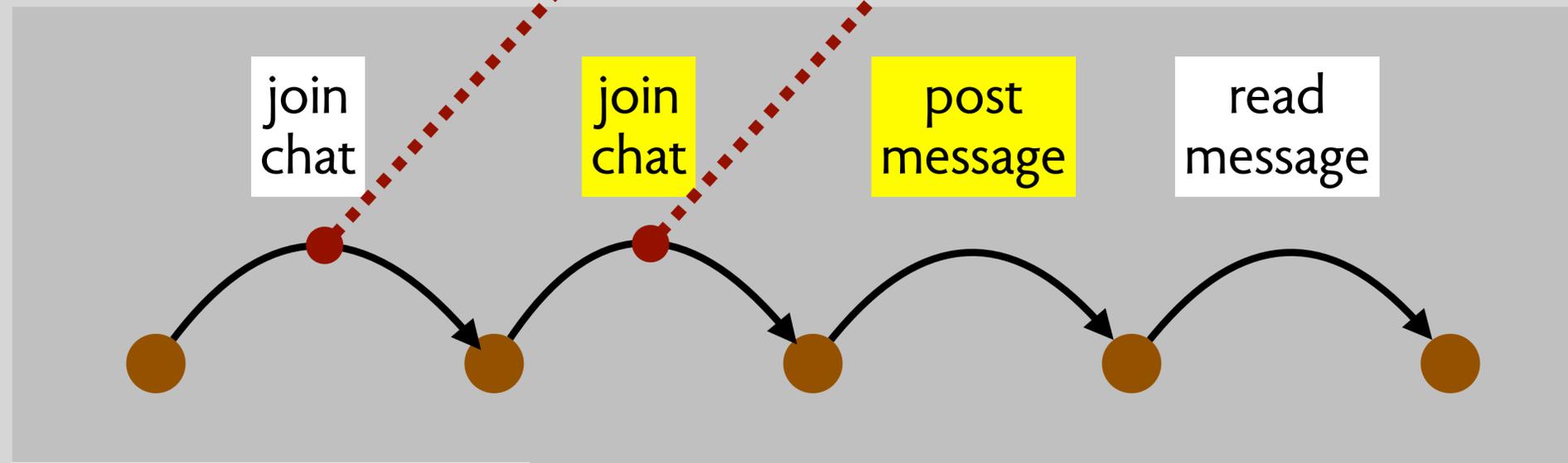
### composable services

no base functionality  
no layering  
no dependencies

# how are concepts composed? by synchronization



Zoom's meeting protocol



Zoom's chat protocol

# designing a concept

**concept** Chat

**purpose** share short messages in group

**principle** after two users join, if one posts a message, the other can read it

**state**

msgs: set Msg

content: Msg -> one String

posted: Msg -> one Date

joined: User -> one Date

**actions**

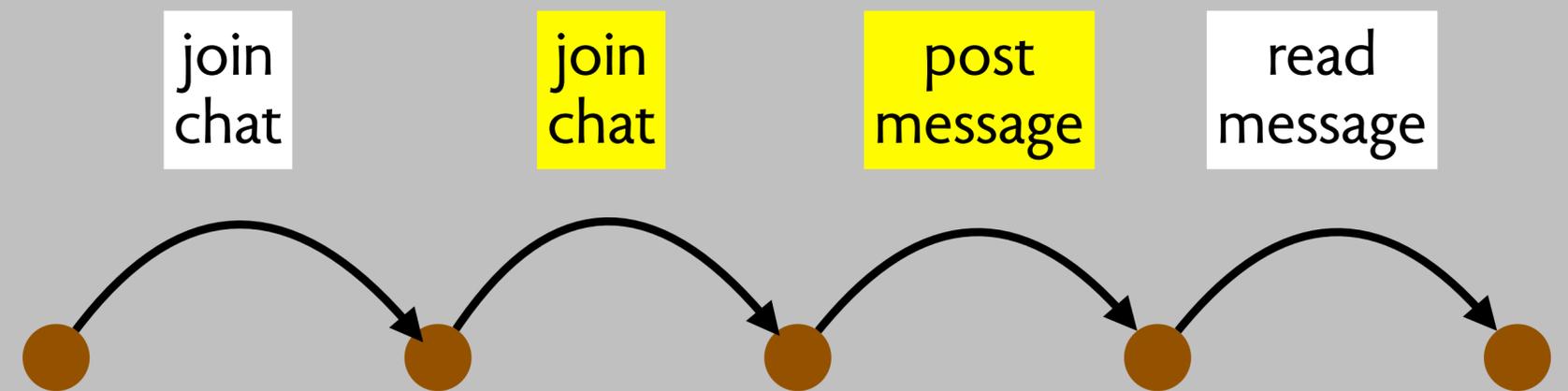
join (u: User)

post (u: User, s: String, out m: Msg)

view (u: User, out msgs: set Msg)

// returns all messages posted after

// u's joining date



**The operational principle of Zoom's chat concept**

the principle is **just a sketch** & doesn't address behavioral details  
eg, **which messages** can a user actually read?

actually a serious  
design flaw

# how many “differentiator” concepts?



Gmail: email + search



Zoom: meeting



Photoshop: pixel array,  
layer, mask, channel, ...



Arc: tabs as bookmarks



WhatsApp: group



Quark: flow, kerning,  
bezier curves, ...

**no new concepts**  
combinational creativity

**one new concept**  
a better way to work

**many new concepts**  
a new paradigm

▲ Jackson structured programming (wikipedia.org)

106 points by haakonhr 63 days ago | hide | past | favorite | 69 comments

Post

Session

Upvote

Favorite

▲ danielnicholas 63 days ago [-]

user: danielnicholas

created: 63 days ago

karma: 11

Comment

Karma

you might find helpful an annotated version [0] of Hoare's explanation of JSP that I edited for a Michael Jackson festschrift

I'd point to these ideas as worth knowing:

ing problem that involves traversing structures can be solved very systematically. HTDP addresses this class, but bases code structure only on input structure; JSP synthesized it.

- The archetypal problems that, however you code, can't be pushed under the rug—most notably structure clashes—and just recognizing them
- Coroutines (or code transformation) let you structure code more cleanly when you need to read or write more than one structure. It's why real iterators (with yield), which offer a limited form of this, are (in my view) better than Java-style iterators with a next method.
- The idea of viewing a system as a collection of asynchronous processes (Ch. 11 in the JSP book, which later became JSD) with a long-running process for each real-world entity. This was a notable contrast to OOP, and led to a strategy (seeing a resurgence with event storming for DDD) that began with events rather than objects.

[0] <https://groups.csail.mit.edu/sdg/pubs/2009/hoare-jsp-3-29-09...>

▲ ob-nix 63 days ago [-]

... this brings back memories! In the late eighties I, as a teenager, found a Jackson Struct. Pr. book at the town library. I remember I was amazed at the text and wondered why I hadn't heard about the method before.

If I remember correctly did the book clearly point out backtracking as a standard method, while mentioning that most languages lacked that, so it had to be implemented manually.

▲ CraigJPerry 63 days ago [-]

This is referenced(1) as a core inspiration in the preface to "How to Design Programs" but i never researched it further because i've found the "design recipes" approach in htdp to be pretty solid in real life problems

applying  
concept design

clarify

your concepts



**Andy Ostroy** ✓

@AndyOstroy



Seems the only #Wall @realDonaldTrump's built is the one between him and @FLOTUS #Melania #trump



♥ 8,221 8:15 PM - May 2, 2017

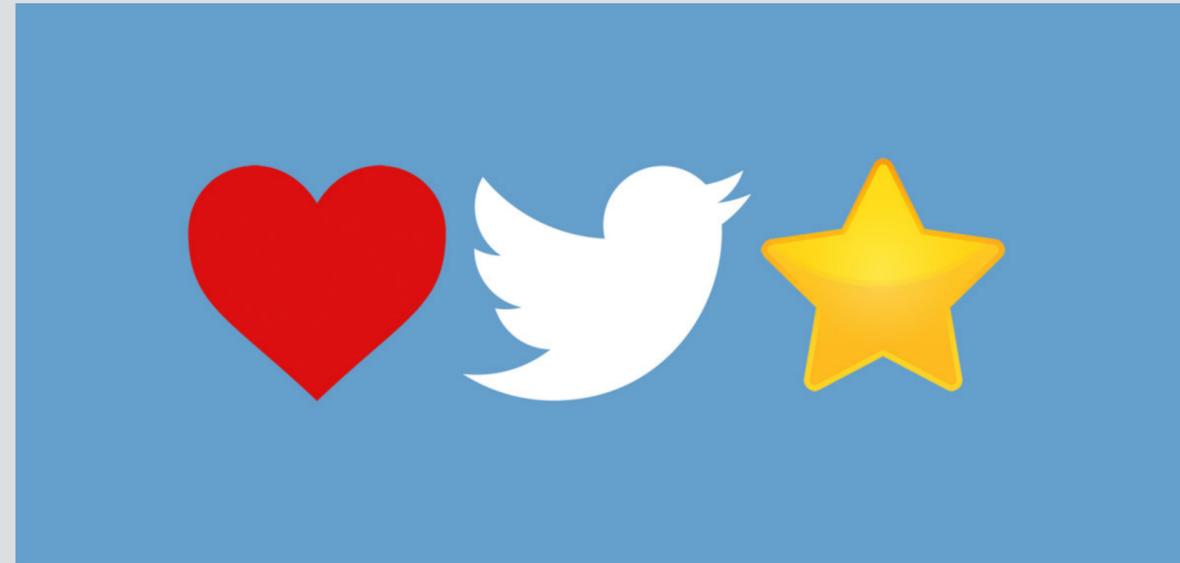


💬 4,022 people are talking about this



**MELANIA TRUMP** liked your Tweet

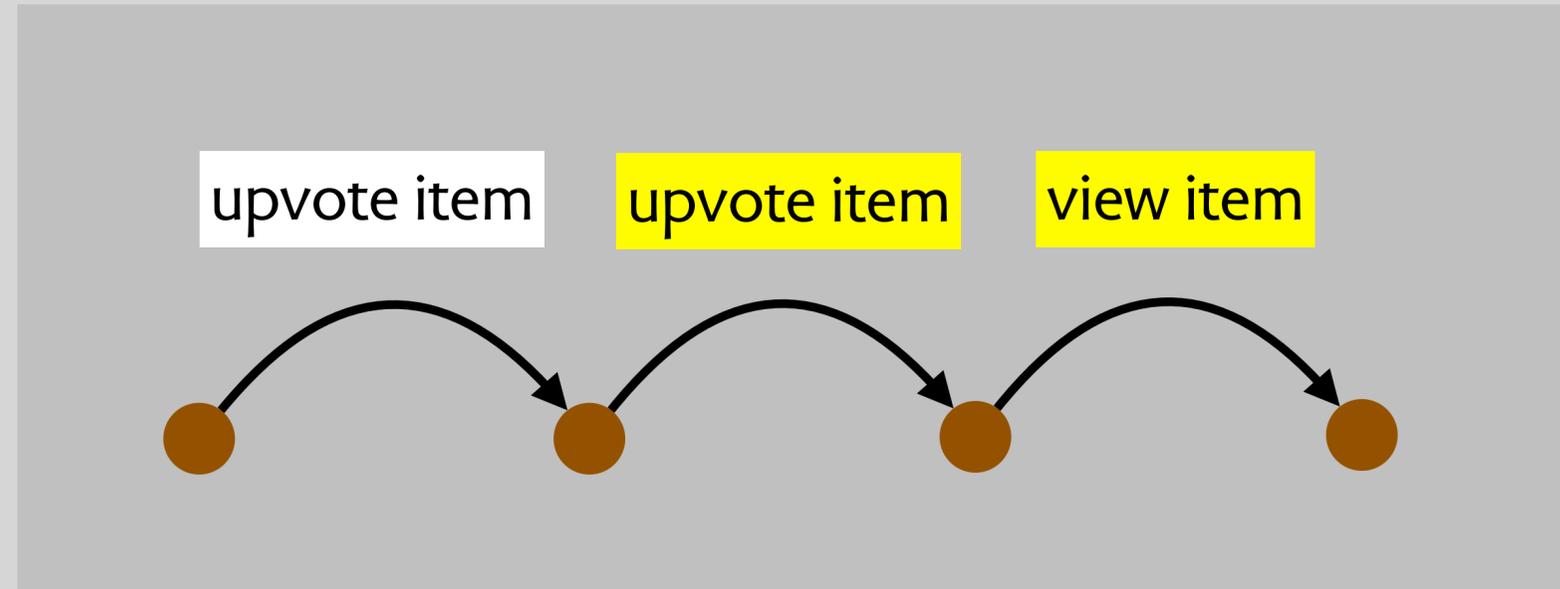
Seems the only #Wall @realDonaldTrump's built is the one between him and @FLOTUS #Melania #trump [pic.twitter.com/XiNd2jiLUF](https://pic.twitter.com/XiNd2jiLUF)



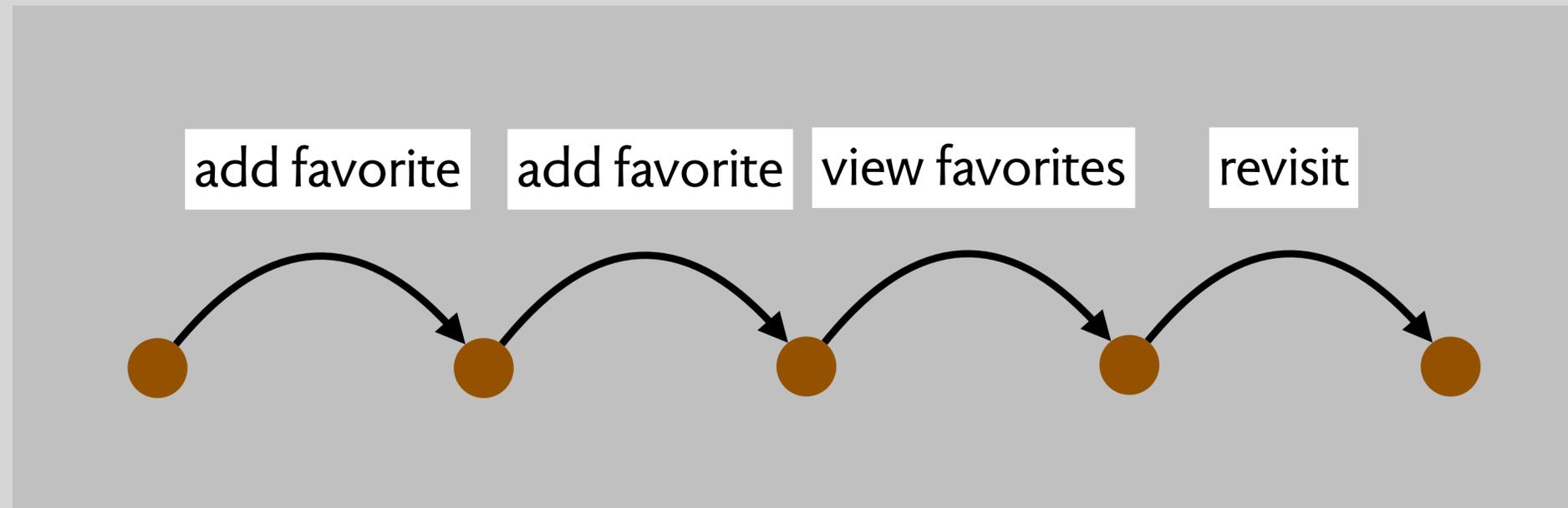
Nov 2, 2015: Twitter changes Favorite (Star) to Like (Heart)

We are changing our star icon for favorites to a heart and we'll be calling them likes... **We know that at times the star could be confusing, especially to newcomers.** You might like a lot of things, but not everything can be your favorite. *Twitter press release*

# two different scenarios



**Upvote concept:** purpose is to crowdsource popularity



**Favorite concept:** purpose is to save items for later



The Boston Globe @BostonGlobe · 21h

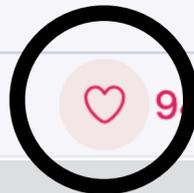
Andrew Yang would fine gunmakers for deaths caused by their products.



Yang would fine gunmakers for deaths caused by their products - Th...  
You probably know Andrew Yang wants to give every American \$1,000 a month. Something you might not know: He wants to fine gun ...  
[bostonglobe.com](https://www.bostonglobe.com)

29

9

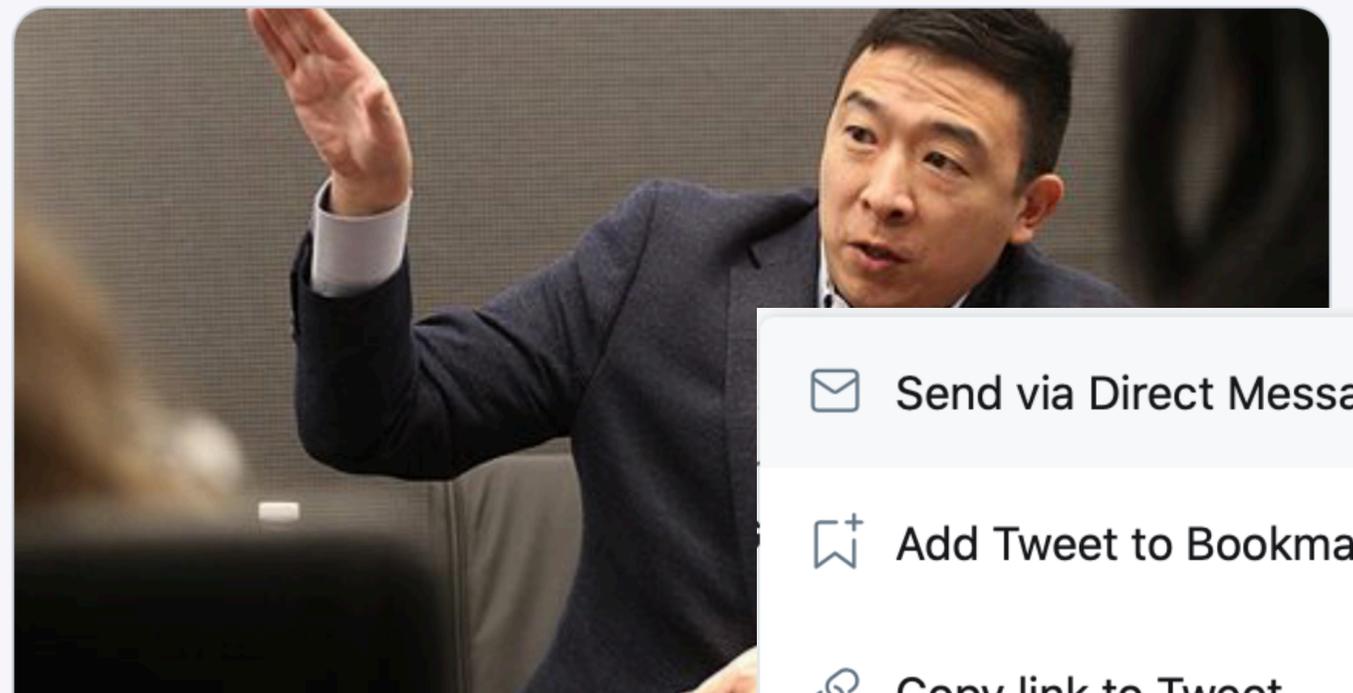


**concept** Upvote



The Boston Globe @BostonGlobe · 21h

Andrew Yang would fine gunmakers for deaths caused by their products.

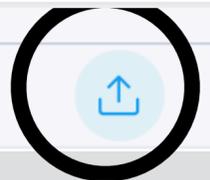


Yang would fine gunmakers for deaths ca...  
You probably know Andrew Yang wants to...  
a month. Something you might not know...  
[bostonglobe.com](https://www.bostonglobe.com)

29

9

94



- Send via Direct Message
- Add Tweet to Bookmarks
- Copy link to Tweet
- Share Tweet via ...



**concept** Favorite

fix broken  
concepts

Quora

Search



Dropbox: [Edit](#)

**Someone accidentally deleted thousands of files in my company Dropbox: how can I quickly undelete them?** [Edit](#)

[Add Question Details](#)

[Comment](#) · [Share](#) · [Report](#) · [Options](#)

### **Sharing files with Dropbox (2021)**

A family member of mine wanted to clear space on her drive  
Listed very large files, and deleted ones she didn't recognize  
Panicked message from colleague: where's our data?!



Ava is a party planner

Search

Dropbox

Overview [Show](#) ...

Name ↑ Members ▾ ☰ ▾

Bella Party ☆ 2 members ...

does the name change for Ava too?

answer: no, Ava sees no change



Bella is having a party

Search

Dropbox

Overview [Show](#) ...

Name ↑ Members ▾ ☰ ▾

My Party ☆ 2 members ...

- Share
- Download
- Send with Transfer
- Request files
- Star
- Rewind
- Rename



Ava is a party planner

Search [Search] [AA]

Dropbox > Bella Party

Overview [Show](#) ...

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name ↑	Members ▾	⋮ ▾
<input type="checkbox"/>	Party Plan ☆	2 members	...



Bella is having a party

Search [Search] [BB]

Dropbox > Bella Party

Overview [Show](#) ...

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name ↑	Members ▾	⋮ ▾
<input type="checkbox"/>	Party Plan ☆	2 members	...

what about this case? folder inside shared folder

answer: yes, name changes for Ava too

- Share
- Download
- Send with Transfer
- Request files
- Star
- Rewind
- Rename**

Bella deletes  
shared folder  
Bella Party

## Remove shared folder?



Are you sure you want to remove the shared folder **Bella Party** from your Dropbox? This folder will stay shared with any existing members. You can re-add it later.

Cancel

Remove

Bella deletes  
Bella Plan from  
shared folder  
Bella Party

## Delete folder?

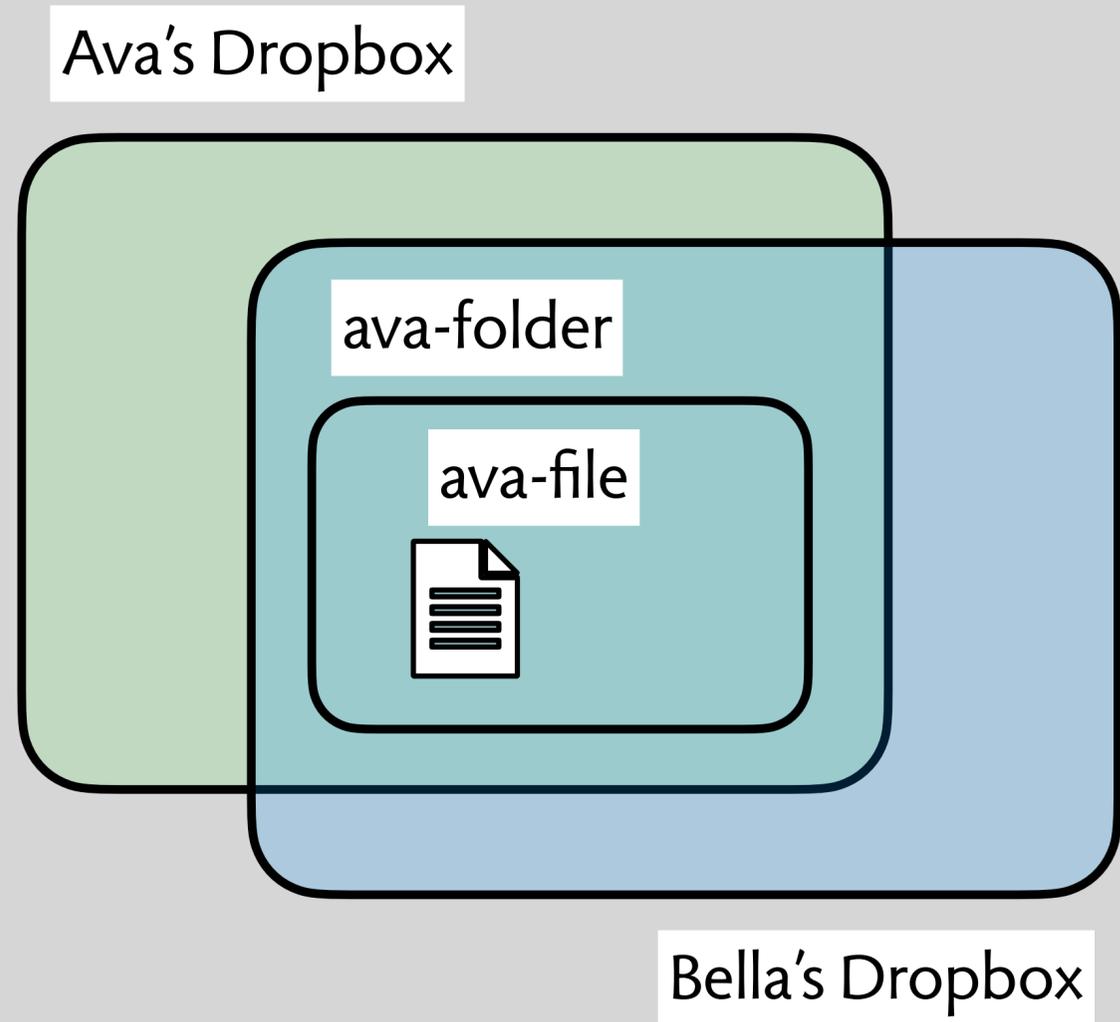


Are you sure you want to delete **Bella Plan** from the shared folder 'Bella Party'?

Cancel

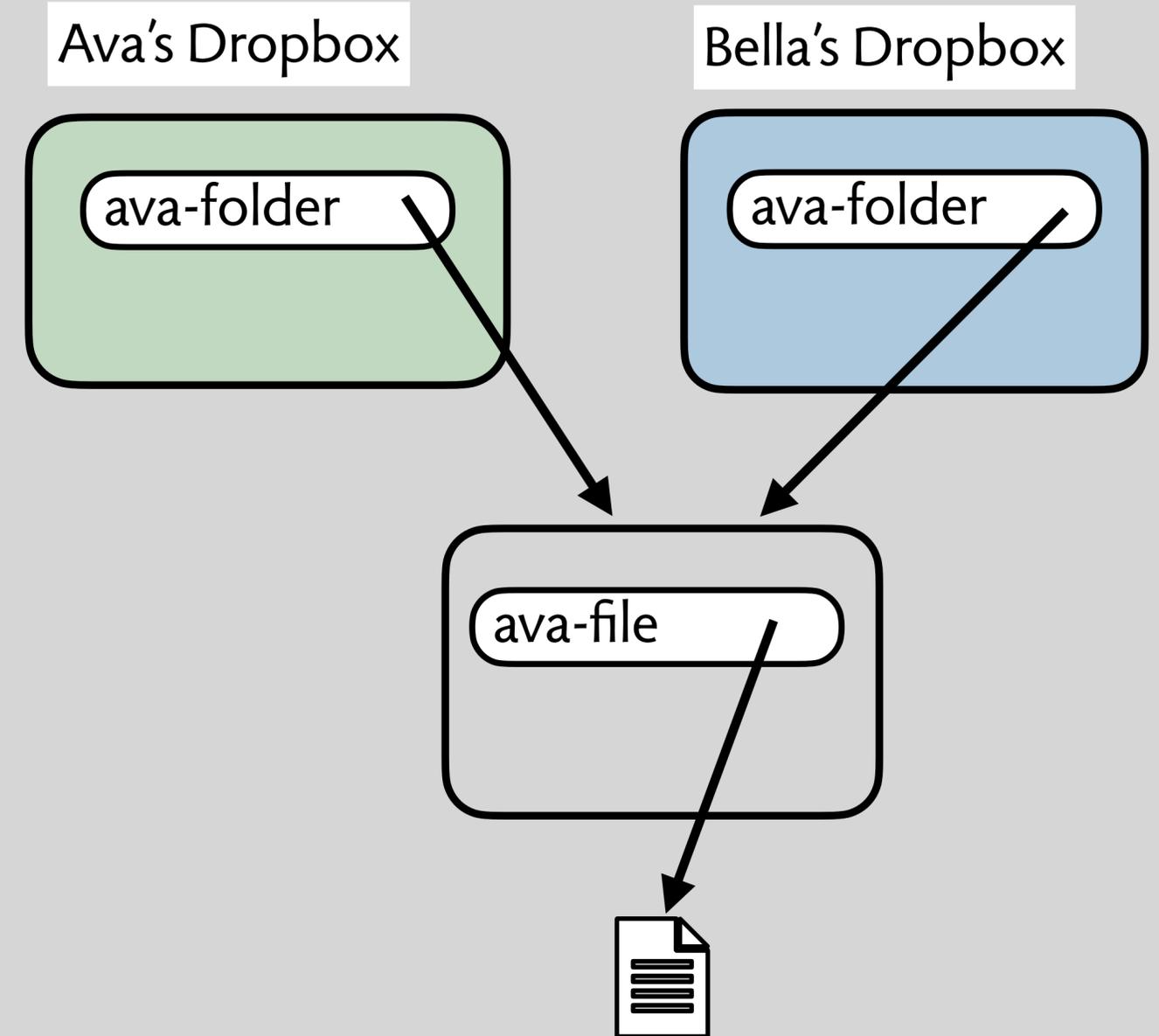
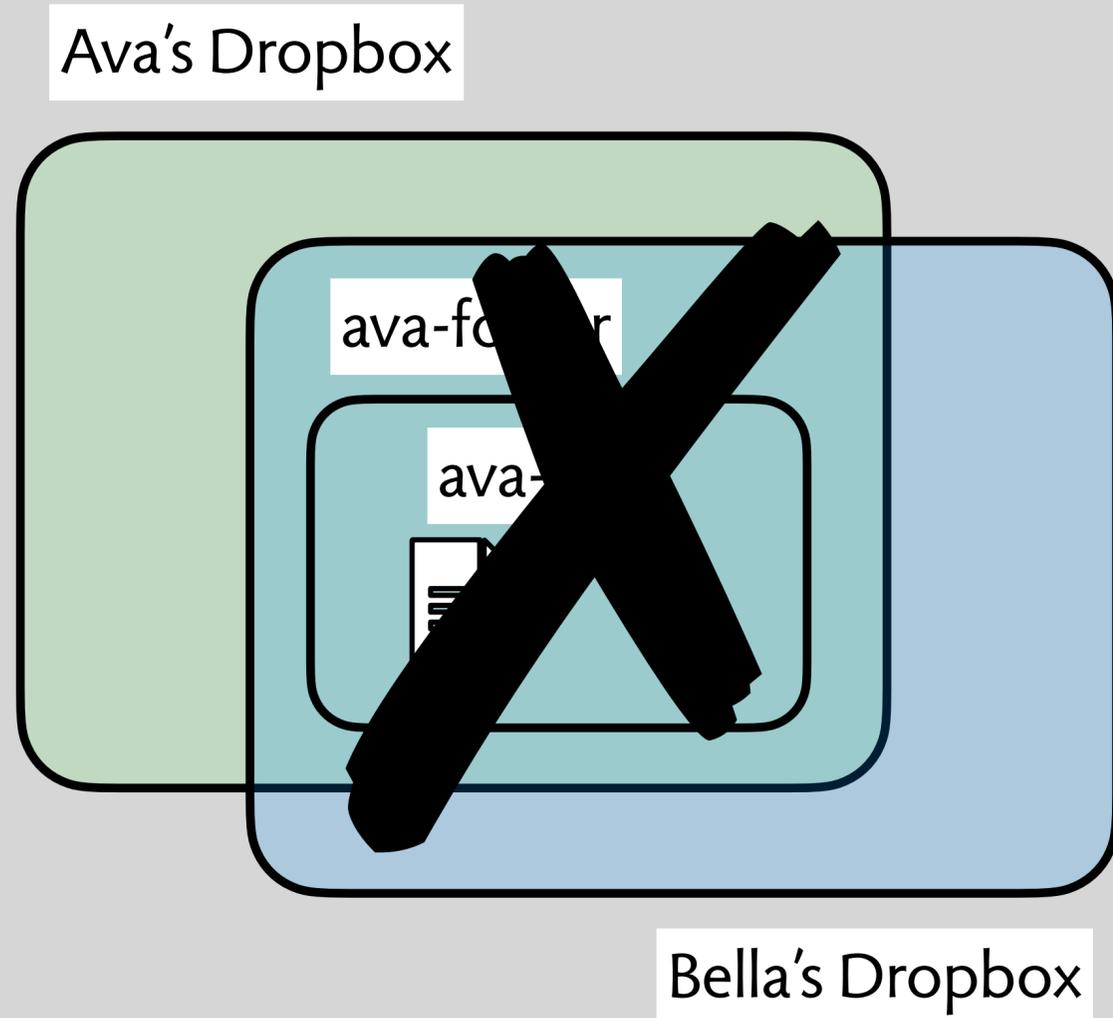
Delete

# understanding dropbox

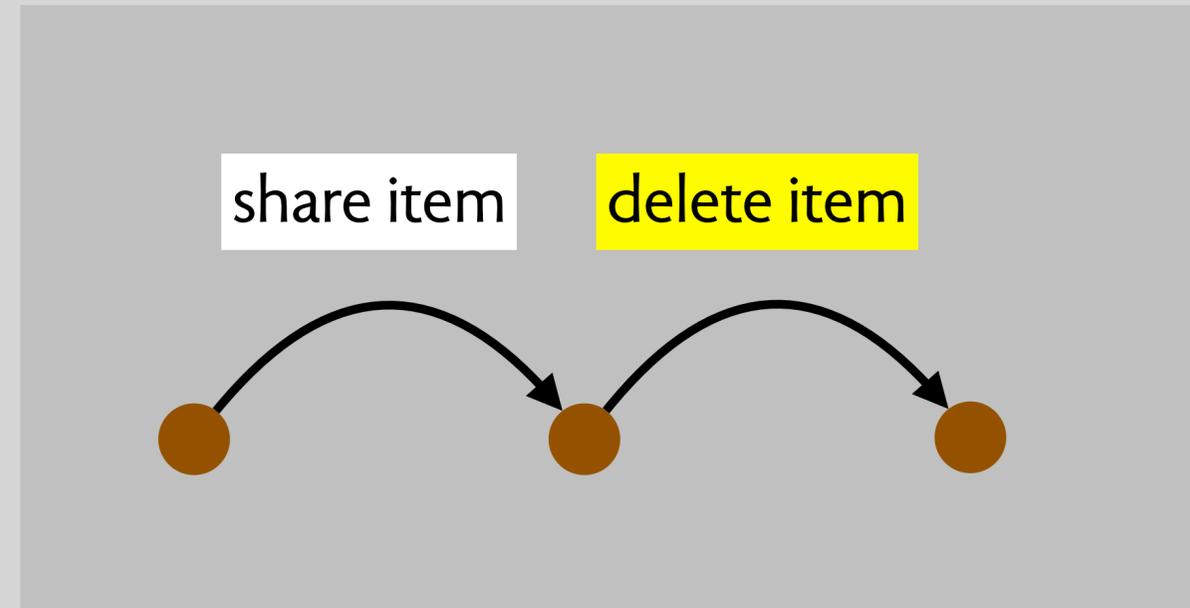


what if Bella deletes  
the shared file?  
or the shared folder?

# correcting the picture



# one scenario, two consequences



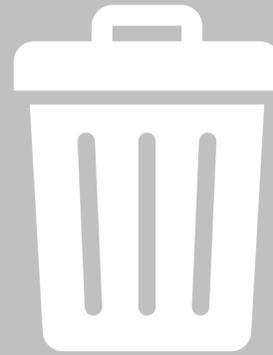
**Item is shared directly:** deletion removes item only for recipient

**Item is shared indirectly:** deletion removes item for owner too

# why Dropbox deletions rarely matter that much



**Shared Folder**  
concept



**Trash**  
concept



**AccessControl**  
concept

exploit  
concept reuse

# section: a tricky concept

in Powerpoint

▶ overloading (7)  
▶ uniformity (5)  
▼ **generics (4)**

27  
generic concepts

28 ☆  
how concepts get applied

29 ☆  
why reuse a concept?

30  
reuse and not

Powerpoint commands

New Slide    Layout    Section

- + Add Section
- ✎ Rename Section
- ✕ Remove Section
- ✕ Remove Section and Slides
- ✕ Remove All Sections

in Keynote

▼ generic concepts

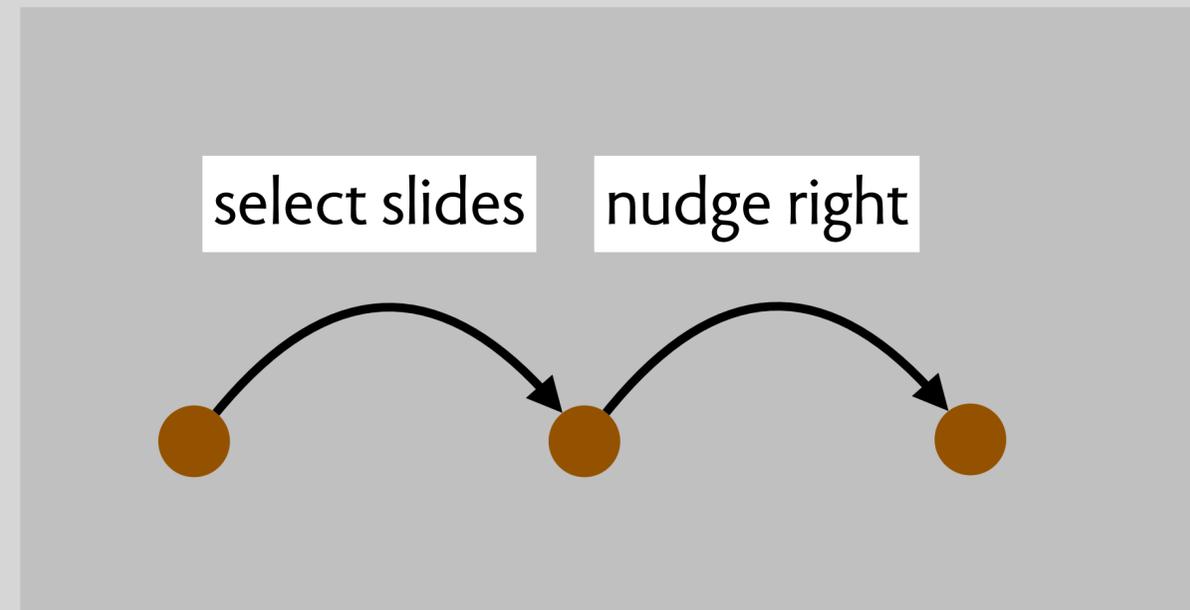
27

28 ○○○  
how concepts get applied

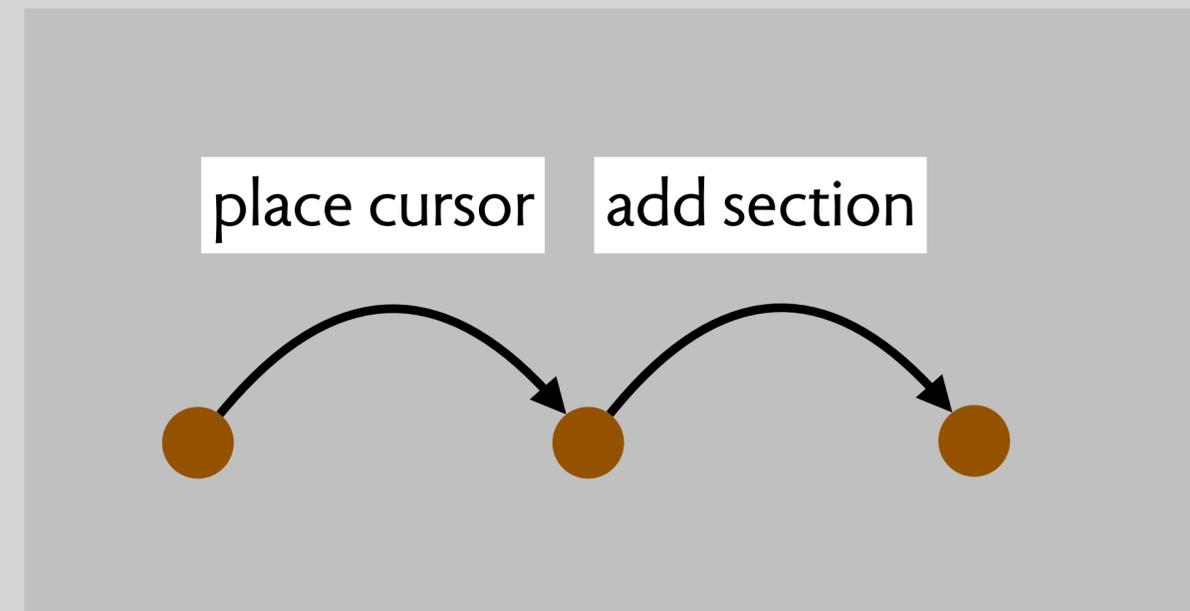
29 ○○○  
why reuse a concept?

30 ○○○  
reuse and not

# scenario effects that depend subtly on state



**Keynote:** nudged slides become children of preceding slide

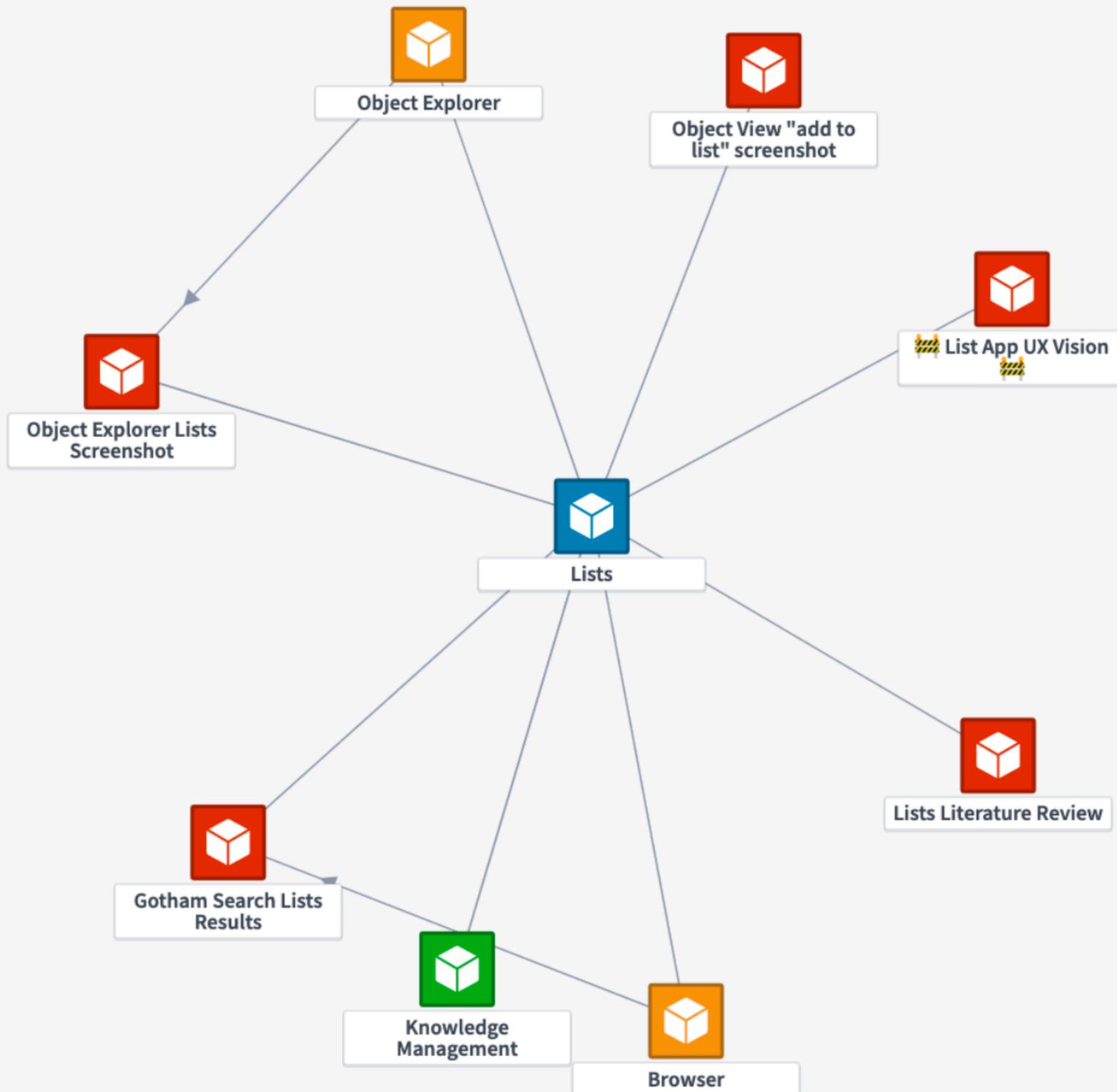


**Powerpoint:** section in which cursor is placed (?) is broken into two sections, containing all slides from cursor to next section

make a  
concept catalog

# concepts at Palantir (2023)

Wilczynski et al, [arxiv.org/abs/2304.14975](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.14975)



## challenges they were facing

issues not attributable to modules or even products  
inconsistent UX across products for similar functions  
“conceptual entropy”: growing complexity

## what they did

integrated concepts into company knowledge base  
leaders bootstrapped by writing initial concepts  
exploiting existing documents  
now 200 concepts recorded, 280 regular users

## concepts go beyond engineering

concepts used in marketing; IP lawyers interested too

## concepts empower PMs

new career path: PMs given ownership of concepts

## anticipated impacts

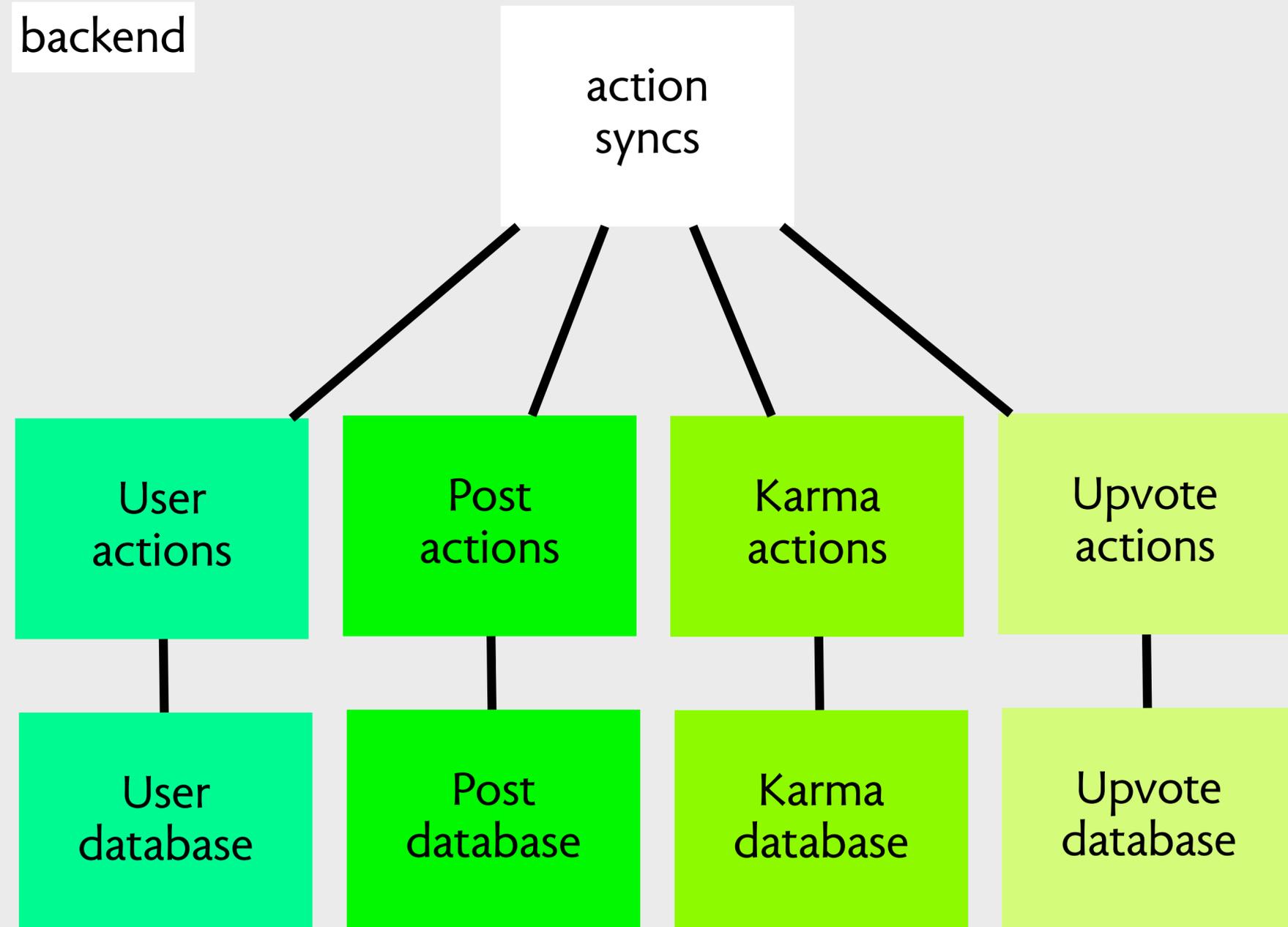
cataloging key assets & avoiding rework  
aligning concepts across products, reuse  
aligning marketing/design/engineering

# modularize your code

*with Abutalib Namazov*

# concepts as modules

backend



## 6.1040 Software Studio

Vue + Node + Mongo

concepts are backend modules

concept architecture reduces student code

lets us provide concepts for user auth etc

## Deja Vu (Perez De Rosso, 2019)

concept is full stack

app assembled from library of prebuilt concepts

## new projects

weaving concepts (with Sullivan)

using LLMs to generate concepts & syncs

▲ Jackson structured programming (wikipedia.org)

106 points by haakonhr 63 days ago | hide | past | favorite | 69 comments

Post

Session

Upvote

Favorite

▲ danielnicholas 63 days ago [-]

user: danielnicholas

created: 63 days ago

karma: 11

Comment

Karma

you might find helpful an annotated version [0] of Hoare's explanation of JSP that I edited for a Michael Jackson festschrift

I'd point to these ideas as worth knowing:

ing problem that involves traversing structures can be solved very systematically. HTDP addresses this class, but bases code structure only on input structure; JSP synthesized it.

- The archetypal problems that, however you code, can't be pushed under the rug—most notably structure clashes—and just recognizing them
- Coroutines (or code transformation) let you structure code more cleanly when you need to read or write more than one structure. It's why real iterators (with yield), which offer a limited form of this, are (in my view) better than Java-style iterators with a next method.
- The idea of viewing a system as a collection of asynchronous processes (Ch. 11 in the JSP book, which later became JSD) with a long-running process for each real-world entity. This was a notable contrast to OOP, and led to a strategy (seeing a resurgence with event storming for DDD) that began with events rather than objects.

[0] <https://groups.csail.mit.edu/sdg/pubs/2009/hoare-jsp-3-29-09...>

▲ ob-nix 63 days ago [-]

... this brings back memories! In the late eighties I, as a teenager, found a Jackson Struct. Pr. book at the town library. I remember I was amazed at the text and wondered why I hadn't heard about the method before.

If I remember correctly did the book clearly point out backtracking as a standard method, while mentioning that most languages lacked that, so it had to be implemented manually.

▲ CraigJPerry 63 days ago [-]

This is referenced(1) as a core inspiration in the preface to "How to Design Programs" but i never researched it further because i've found the "design recipes" approach in htdp to be pretty solid in real life problems

- 1. ▲ Monolith -- CLI tool for saving web pages as a single HTML file (crates.io)  
1 point by rust 28 minutes ago | hide | discuss
- 2. ▲ Software = concepts (essenceofsoftware.com)  
5 points by dnj 8 hours ago | hide | 2 comments
- 3. ★ Show HN: Kodless -- make websites with AI (github.com)  
3 points by kodless 8 hours ago | hide | discuss
- 4. Show HN: Fuiz -- free, open-source and privacy-friendly alternative to Kahoot (fuiz.us)  
3 points by best\_dev 20 hours ago | unvote | hide | 7 comments
- 5. ▲ Jobs HN: I am hiring a wine expert  
1 point by recruiter 19 hours ago | hide | discuss
- 6. ▲ Ask HN: How many bugs do you have per line of code?  
1 point by big\_asker 20 hours ago | hide | discuss
- 7. ▲ Github -- Use this website to share your code (github.com)  
1 point by barish2 21 hours ago | hide | discuss

Search:

# how hackednews was built: the GPT prompts

## **list concepts**

User, Post, Comment, Vote, Karma, Favorite

## **list the concept's state components**

Each post should have author (generic), title (string), optional url (string), optional text (string)

## **list the concept's actions**

- create, update, delete
- getByAuthor, getById
- getByIds, mapping from id to post
- get(options?: {dateStart?, dateEnd?, page?, count?, titlePrefix?}) where default page=1, count=30
- isUserAuthor

## **add any additional specification**

Update and delete can only happen within 2 hours of creation. All get actions should return sorted results based on creation date.

## **list backend routes (synchronizations)**

DELETE /posts/<id> – Delete a post, but not allowed if it has comments under it.

# what the UI of the builder looks like

Delete dependencies Delete the project

! Project Status  
Project is stopped.

Start running

> Environment Variables

> File Directory

## Concepts

⚙ Create a new concept

Bulk create  
Enter descriptions, separated by 'concept: <ConceptName>.' lines

```
concept: *Post*.
Each post should have author (generic), title (string), optional url (string), optional text (string). Actions should be
- create
- update
- delete
- getByAuthor
- get(options?: {dateStart?, dateEnd?, page?, count?, titlePrefix?}) where default page=1, count=30
- getById
- getByIds, mapping from id to post
- isUserAuthor

Update and delete can only happen within 2 hours of creation. All get actions should return sorted results based on creation date.
```

Create

# the good, the bad & the ugly

**spec** of HackedNews is < 1,000 words  
**covers** all of HackerNews functionality  
this **includes** specifications of all concepts  
**runs the first time**, only minor tweaks needed  
**recursive comments** coded from mention of "comment tree"

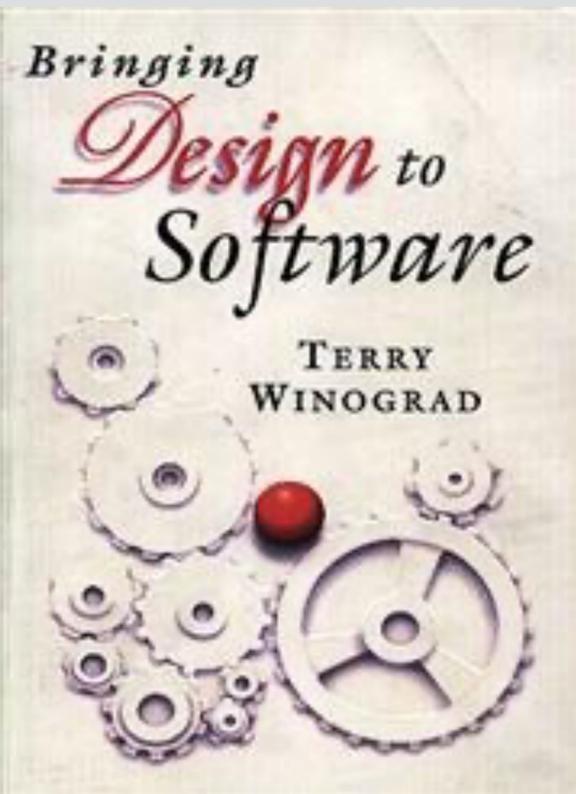
**frontend** is not yet built automatically, but we're close  
sometimes **code quality** of routes isn't great (but they work)  
sometimes generated code contains **type errors** but still works  
some **routes are complicated** to describe

GET /posts/sort?count=<count>&page=<page>&prefix=<prefix> – For this query, only consider posts from last 4 days. Sort them by:  $(p-1)/(hours\_since\_creation)^{1.8-5f}$  formula where p is points of this post and f is the number of times it got flagged. Returns posts with their points, number of comments, author's user profile, and if the currently logged in user voted (if no logged in user, skip that). Do not include hidden posts. Use default of count 30 and page 1, no prefix. All query params are optional.

some major  
influences



**Mitchell Kapor**  
entrepreneur, 1950–



When you go to design a house you talk to an architect first, not an engineer. Why is this?

Because the criteria for what makes a good building fall outside the domain of engineering.

Similarly, in computer programs, the selection of the **various components** must be driven by the conditions of use.

How is this to be done? By software designers.

Mitchell Kapor, *A Software Design Manifesto* (1996)



**Michael Polanyi**  
scientist & philosopher, 1891-1976

We have seen that a tool, a machine or a technical process is characterised by an **operational principle**, which differs altogether from an observational statement...

Engineering includes the operational principles of machines and some knowledge of physics bearing on those principles.

Physics and chemistry, on the other hand, include no knowledge of the operational principles of machines. Hence a complete physical and chemical topography of an object would not tell us whether it is a machine, and if so, how it works, and for what purpose.

Michael Polanyi, *Personal Knowledge* (1974)



**Bruno Latour**  
sociologist, 1947–2022

Walls are a nice invention, but if there were no holes in them there would be no way to get in or out... The problem is that if you make holes in the walls, anything and anyone can get in and out (cows, visitors, dust, rats, noise...) So architects invented this hybrid: a wall hole, often called a door, which although common enough has always struck me as a miracle of technology.

The **cleverness of the invention hinges upon the hinge pin**: instead of driving a hole through walls with a sledgehammer or a pick, you **simply gently push the door...**; furthermore—and here is the real trick—once you have passed through the door, you do not have to find **trowel and cement to rebuild the wall** you have just destroyed: you simply push the door gently back...



**Christopher Alexander**  
architect, 1936–2022

Such a list of requirements is **potentially endless**... But if we think of the requirements from a negative point of view, as potential **misfits**, there is a simple way of picking a finite set...

We take just those relations between form and context which obtrude most strongly, which demand attention most clearly, which seem most likely to go wrong. We cannot do better than this.

Christopher Alexander, *Notes on the Synthesis of Form* (1964)



Mont Saint Michel (1450–1521)



MIT (Bosworth, 1916)



Stata Center (Gehry, 2004)

## A Pattern Language

Towns · Buildings · Construction



Christopher Alexander

Sara Ishikawa · Murray Silverstein

WITH

Max Jacobson · Ingrid Fiksdahl-King

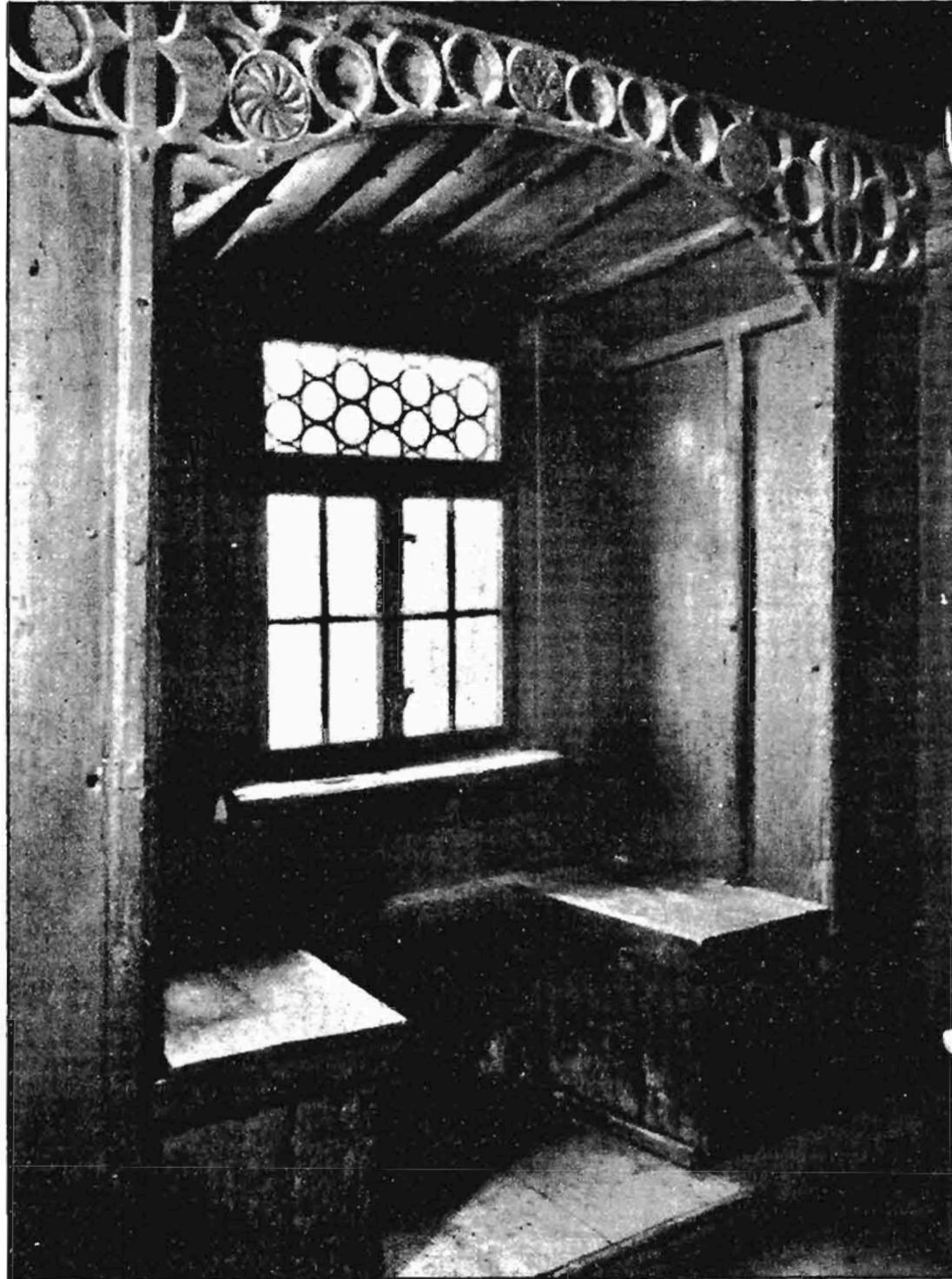
Shlomo Angel

## The Timeless Way of Building



Christopher Alexander

## 180 WINDOW PLACE\*\*



. . . this pattern helps complete the arrangement of the windows given by ENTRANCE ROOM (130), ZEN VIEW (134), LIGHT ON TWO SIDES OF EVERY ROOM (159), STREET WINDOWS (164). According to the pattern, at least one of the windows in each room needs to be shaped in such a way as to increase its usefulness as a space.

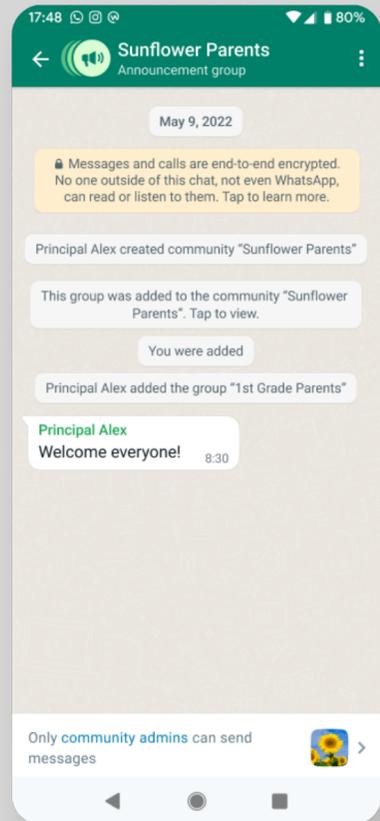


Everybody loves window seats, bay windows, and big windows with low sills and comfortable chairs drawn up to them.

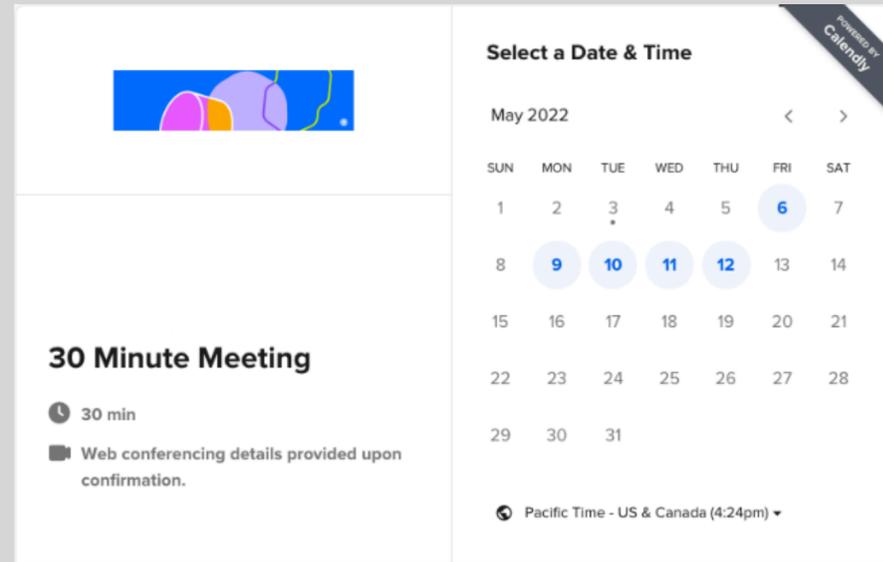
Christopher Alexander et al, *A Pattern Language* (1977)

*takeaways*

# apps are defined by their concepts, sometimes just one



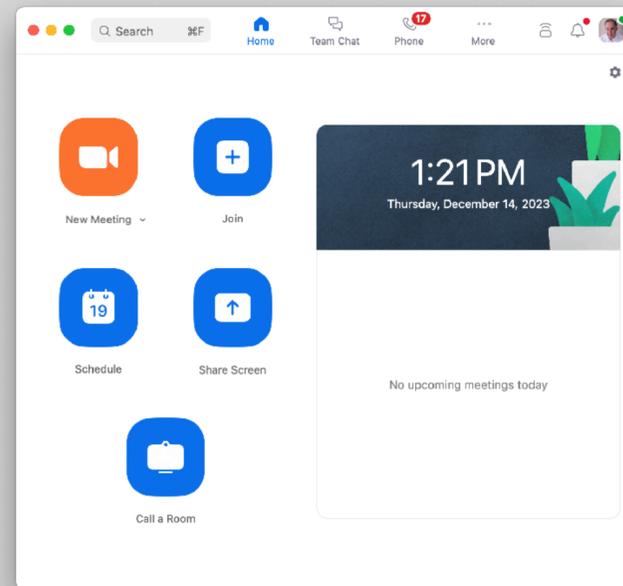
Group



Self-schedule



Song



Meeting

## World Wide Web

The WorldWideWeb (W3) is a wide-area [hypermedia](#) information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a large universe of documents.

Everything there is online about W3 is linked directly or indirectly to this document, including an [executive summary](#) of the project, [Mailing lists](#), [Policy](#), November's [W3 news](#), [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

### [What's out there?](#)

Pointers to the world's online information, [subjects](#), [W3 servers](#), etc.

### [Help](#)

on the browser you are using

### [Software Products](#)

A list of W3 project components and their current state. (e.g. [Line Mode](#), [X11 Viola](#), [NeXTStep](#), [Servers](#), [Tools](#), [Mail robot](#), [Library](#))

### [Technical](#)

Details of protocols, formats, program internals etc

### [Bibliography](#)

Paper documentation on W3 and references.

### [People](#)

A list of some people involved in the project.

### [History](#)

A summary of the history of the project.

### [How can I help?](#)

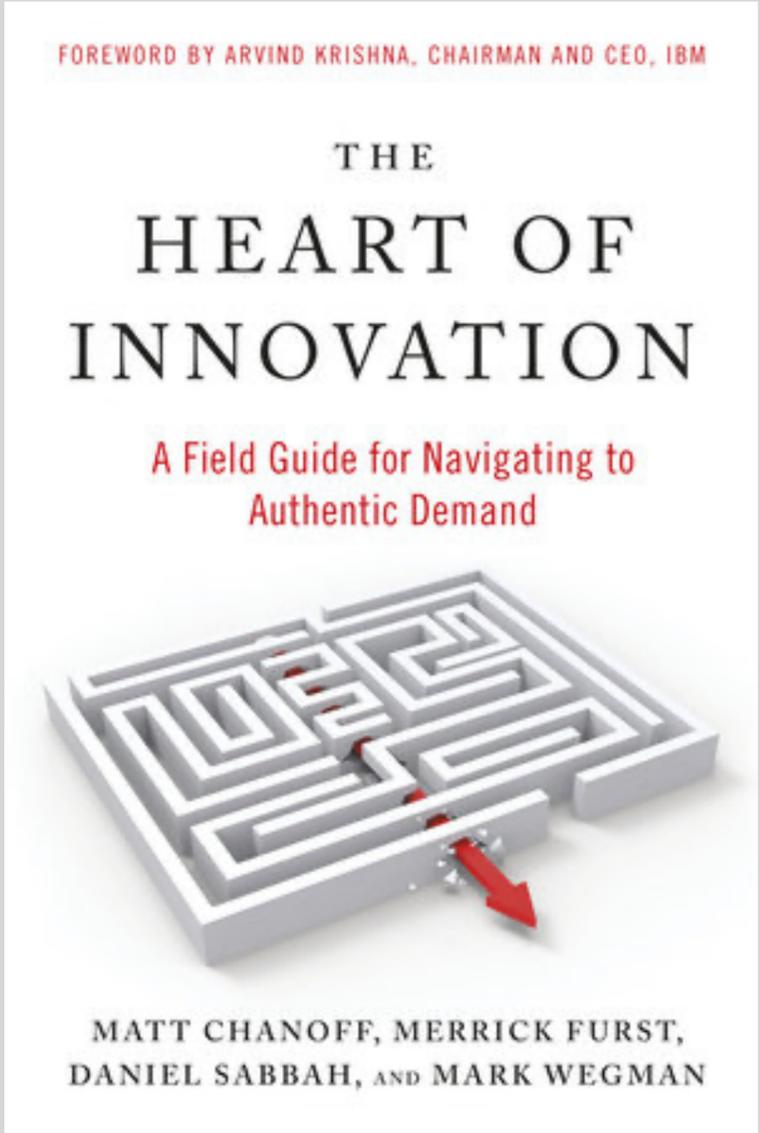
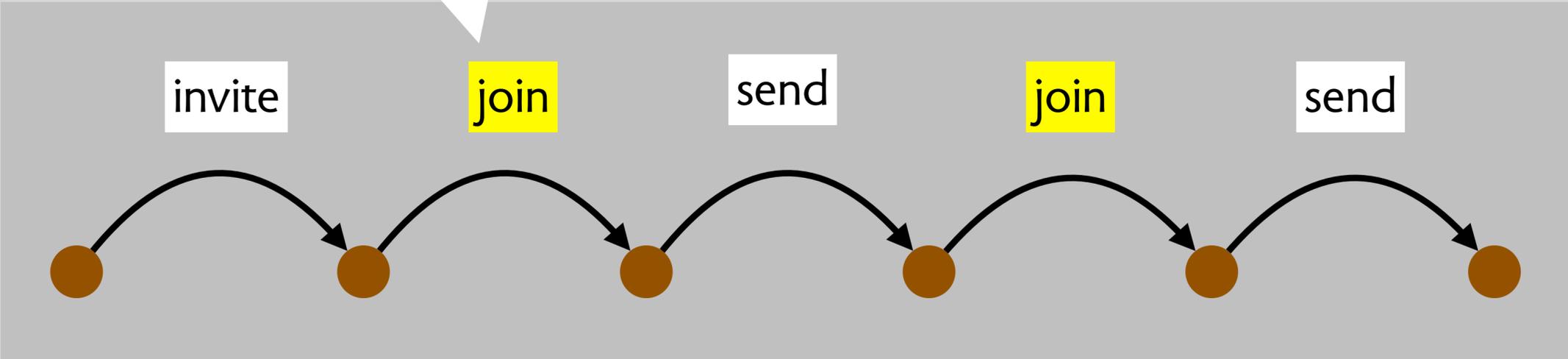
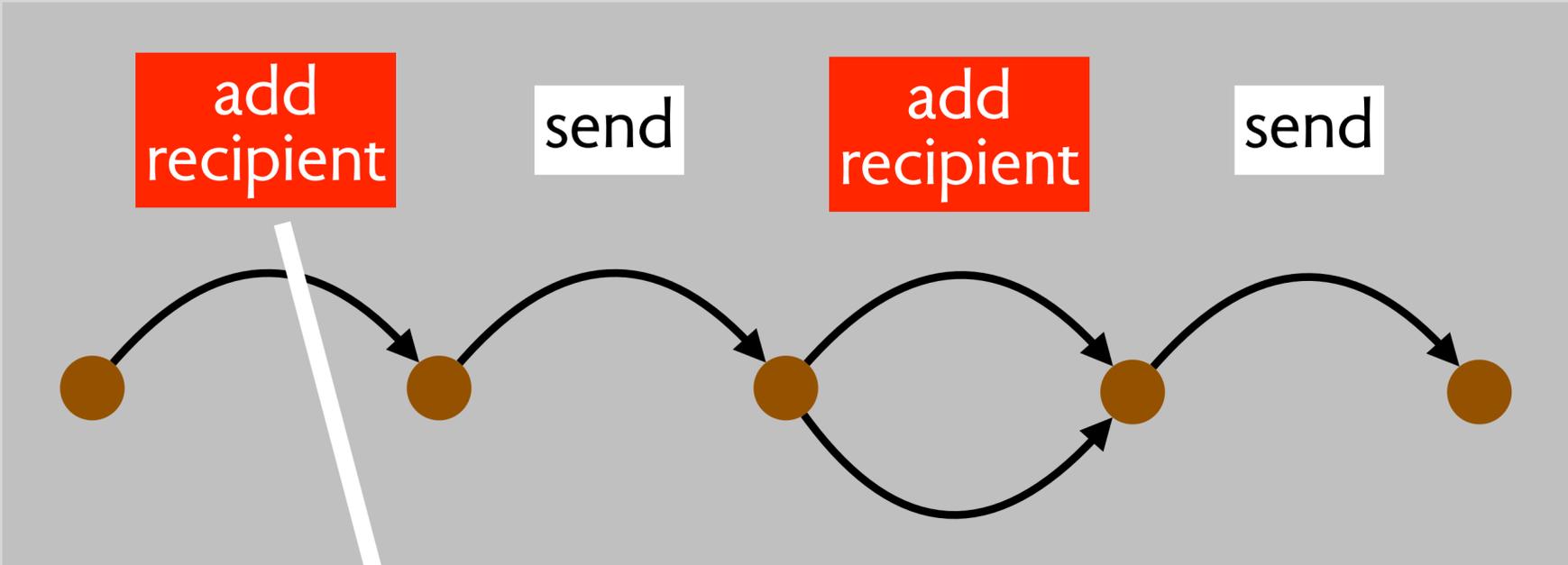
If you would like to support the web..

### [Getting code](#)

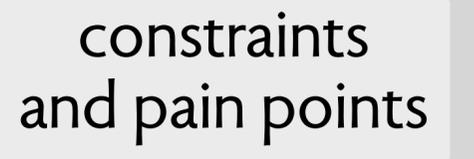
Getting the code by [anonymous FTP](#), etc.

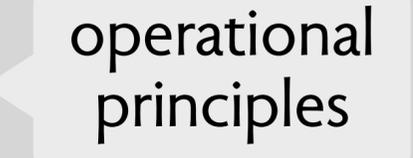
URL

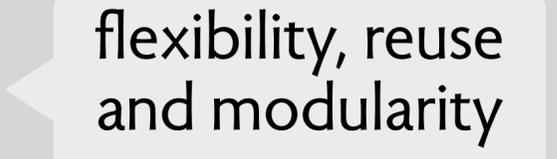
# concept innovations undo constraints



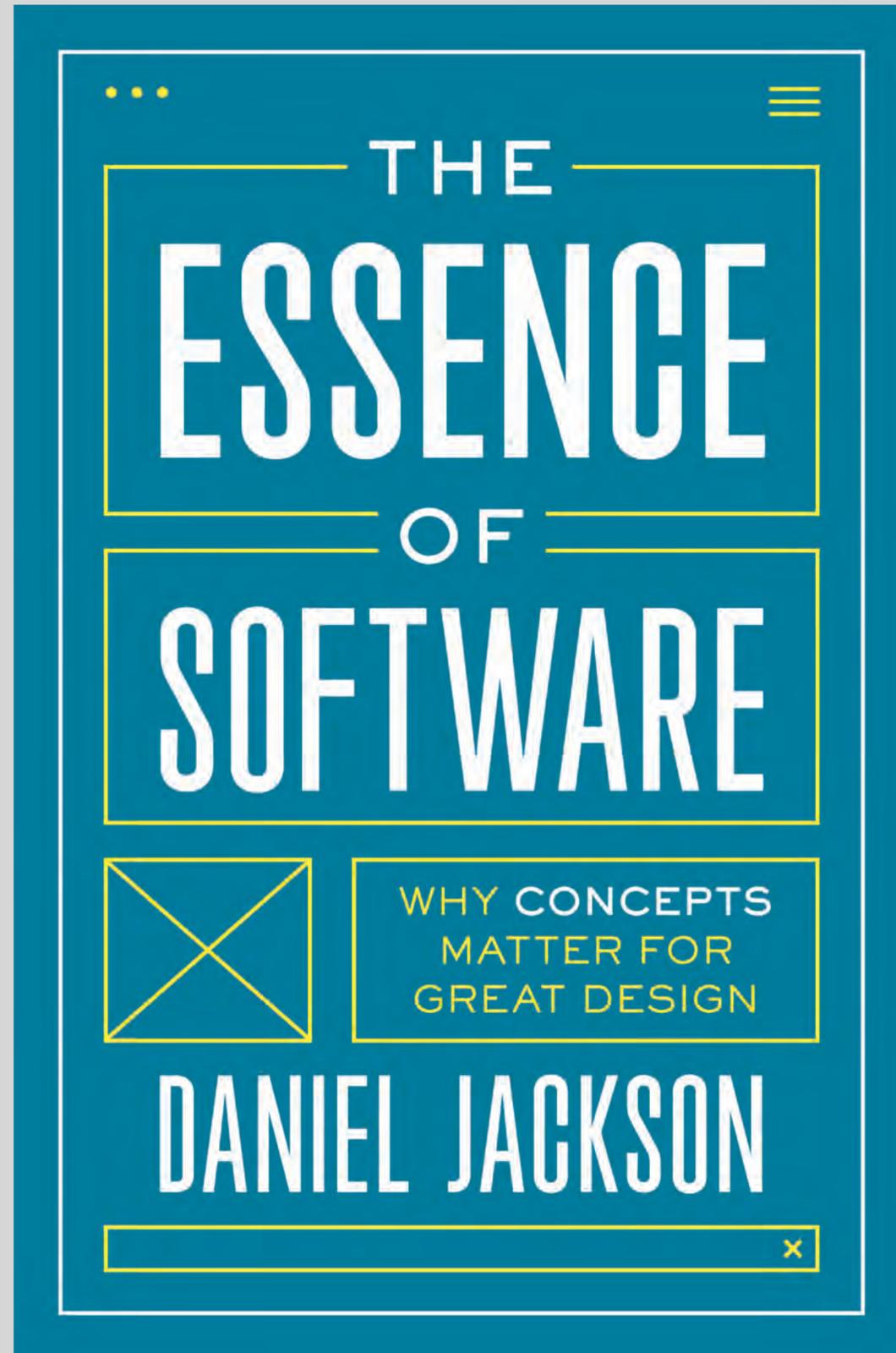
“not nots”:  
it's **not** OK to **not** have  
group functionality

**scenarios point to authentic demand**  constraints and pain points

**+ scenarios characterize concepts**  operational principles

**+ apps are concept compositions**  flexibility, reuse and modularity

much more in book & website



<https://essenceofsoftware.com>

why Zoom is broken after all

dark concepts: going rogue

what conceptual models missed

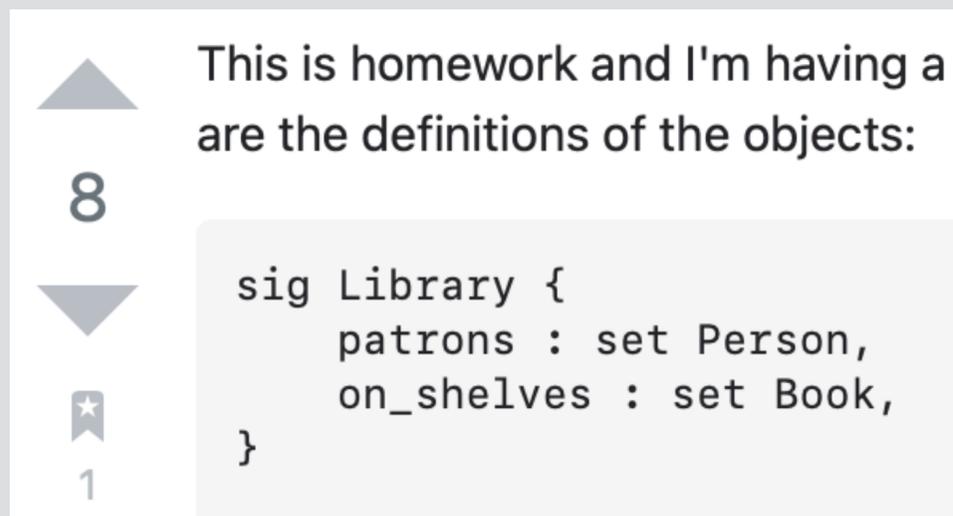
*unused slides*

# concepts are deeper than UIs

## concept Upvote

**purpose** rank items by popularity

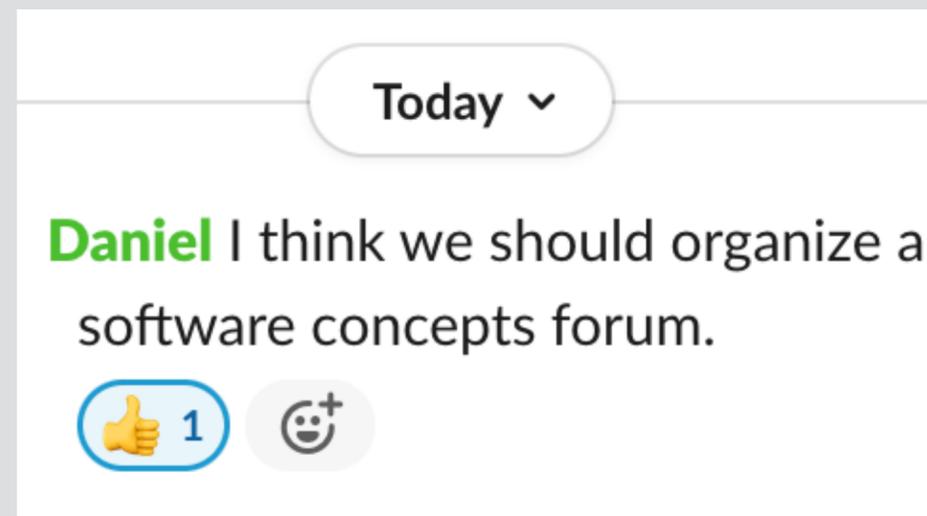
**principle** after series of upvotes of items, the items are ranked by their number of upvotes



## concept Reaction

**purpose** send reactions to author

**principle** when user selects reaction, it's shown to the author (often in aggregated form)



## concept Recommendation

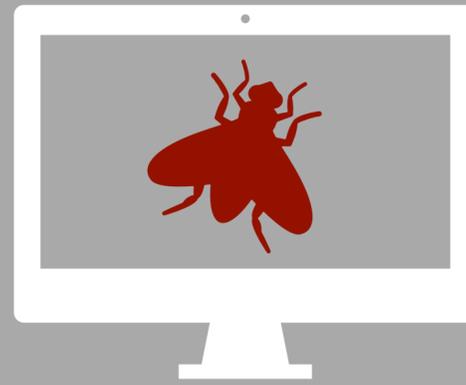
**purpose** use prior likes to recommend

**principle** user's likes lead to ranking of kinds of items, determining which items are recommended



# a traditional view of software failure

**computer**



a systems view that explains failures better

**human user**



**computer**



**real world**



confused user

issues wrong commands