

1



2

Definition: something that somebody has done ***successfully*** and that has ***positive effects*** even after they retire or die

3



4

Definition: a ***situation*** that exists now because of events, actions, etc. that took place in the ***past***

5



Source: <https://architectuul.com/architecture/monolith>

6

## Leaving a Legacy

- Onboarding
- “Situations” we leave behind
- Legacy, beyond a project

7

## Leaving a Legacy

- Onboarding
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8





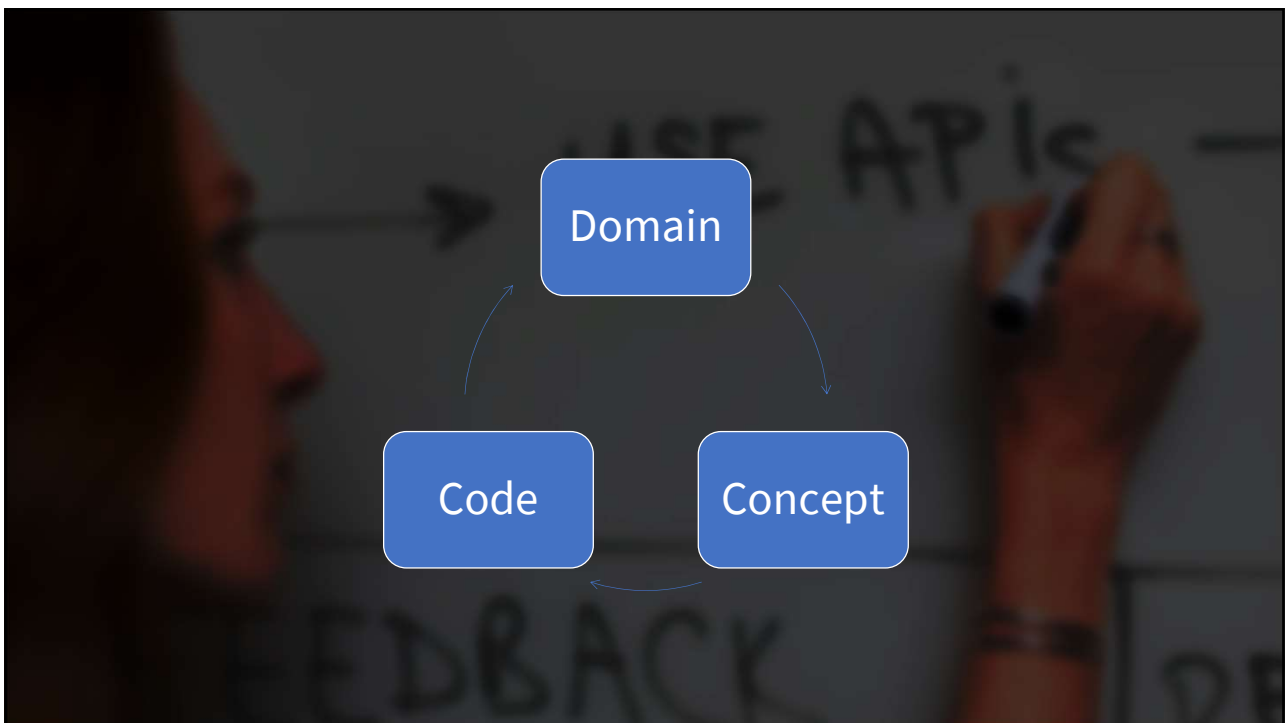
9



10



11

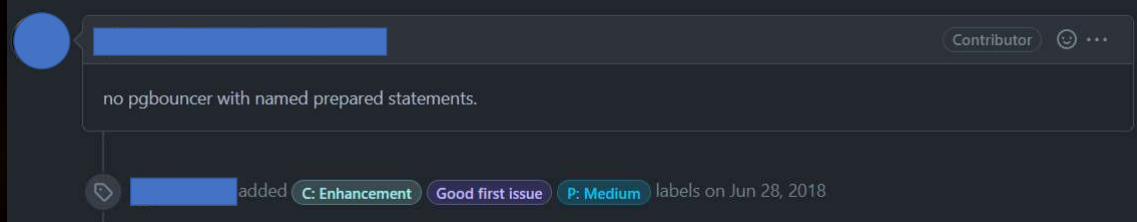


12



good first issue

13



Contributor

no pgbouncer with named prepared statements.

added C: Enhancement Good first issue P: Medium labels on Jun 28, 2018



**Andres Almiray**  
@aalmiray

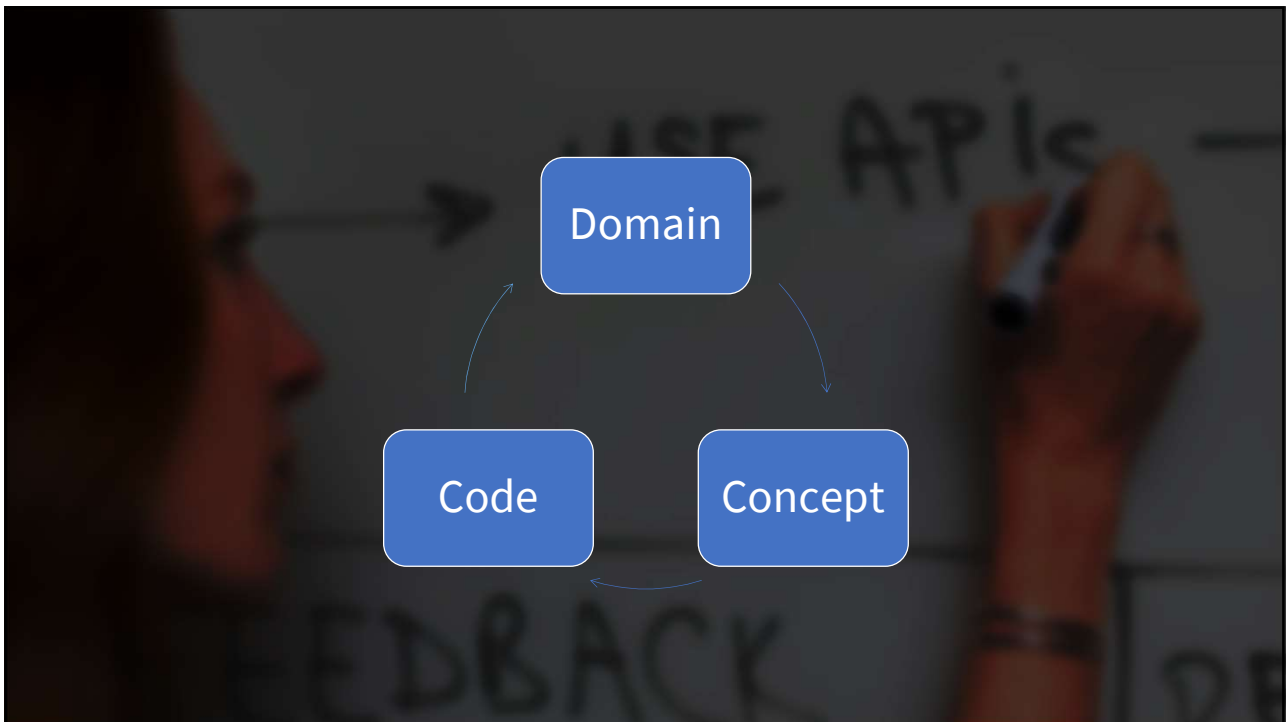
“PRs welcomed” is my latest trigger phrase.

If I knew how to fix it I'd not only file a ticket but also ask for guidance/feedback before sending the PR

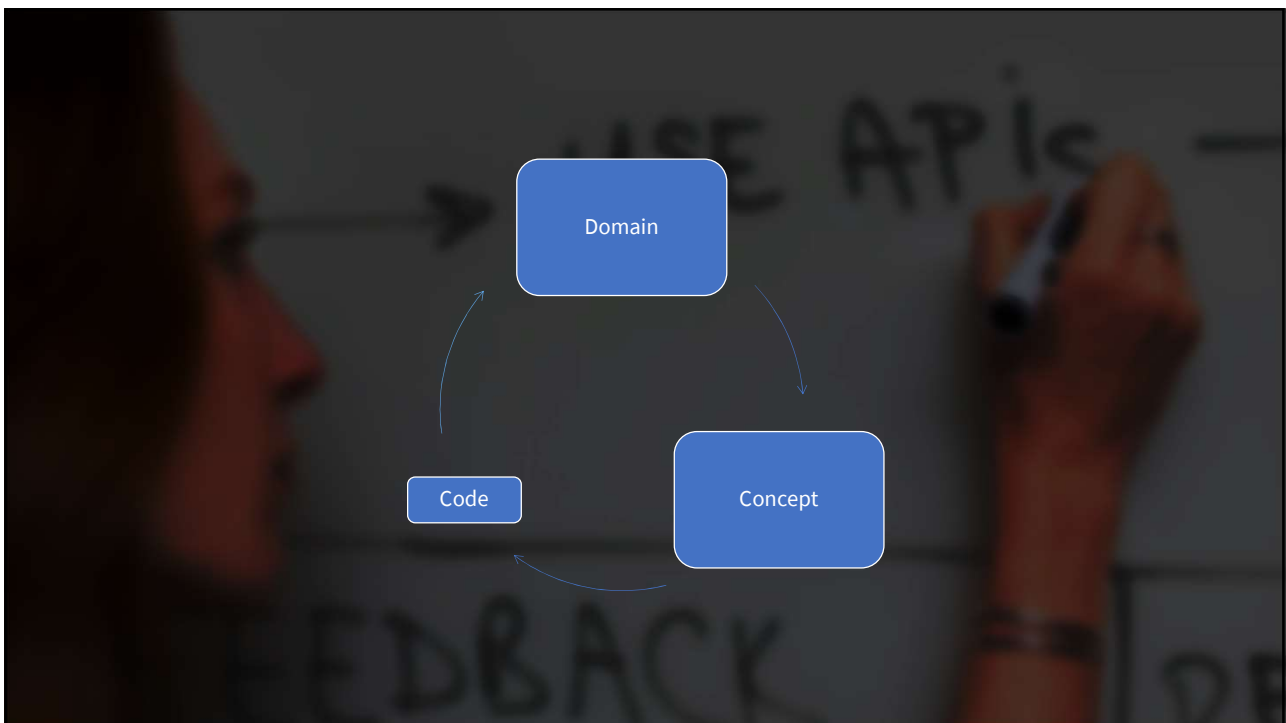
11:16 AM · Aug 19, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

14





15

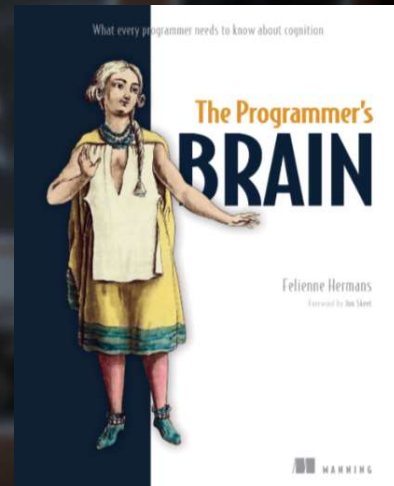


16



## Felienne Hermans : The Programmer's Brain

- Exploration  
*e.g. Browsing the codebase*
- Searching  
*e.g. Finding an implementation of a class*
- Transcription  
*e.g. Write pseudocode to implement a method*
- Comprehension  
*e.g. Summarize a specific method in natural language*
- Incrementation  
*e.g. Adding a feature to an existing class*



17

## Open Source: “Real” Good First Issue

- Lists prerequisite knowledge
- Clear path to the solution
  - Pseudocode
  - Copy / Paste
- Contributor could do this in ~10 minutes

18

## Leaving a Legacy

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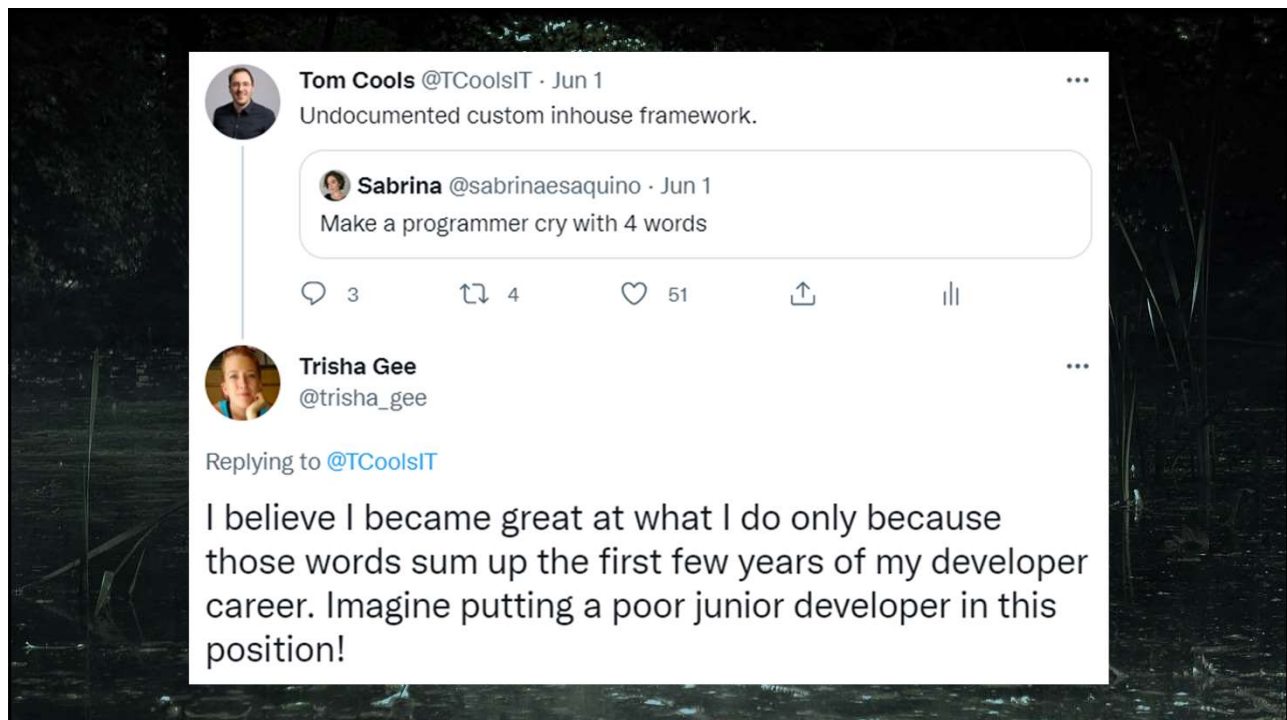
19



20

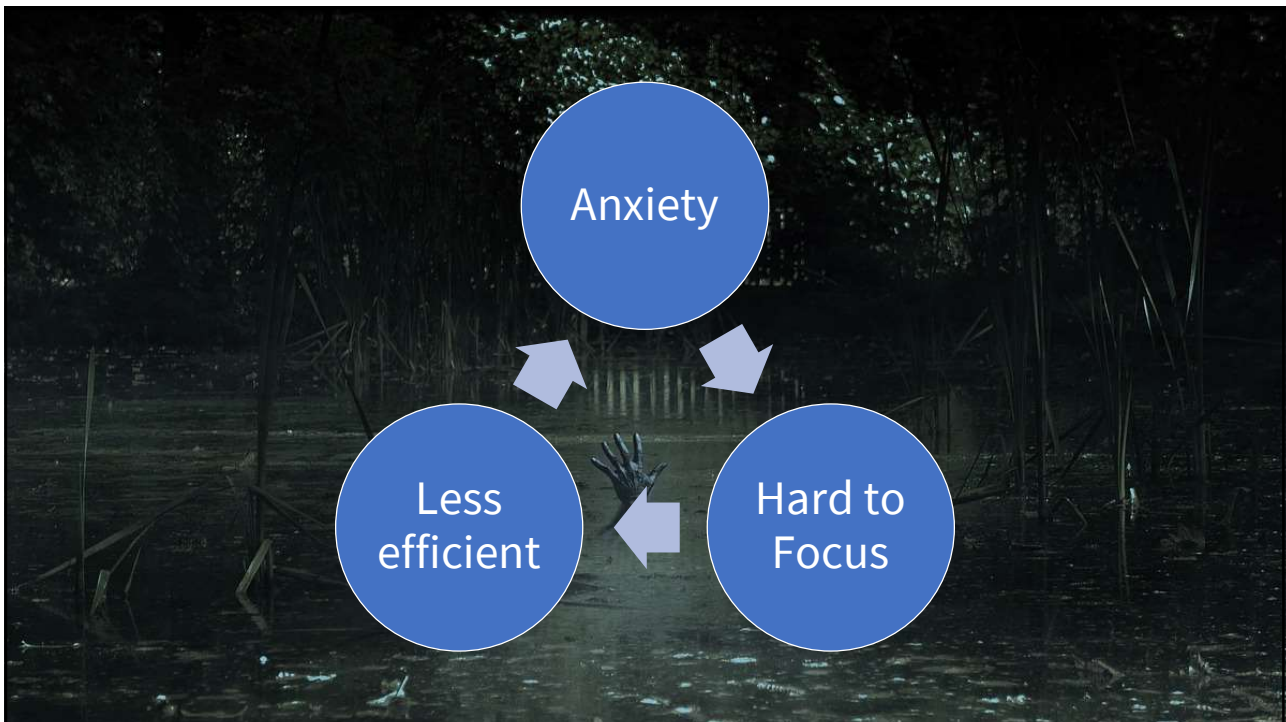
## “Undocumented Custom Inhouse Framework”

21



22





23

## Thoughts and remarks...


- Why didn't they just leave? I would have!
- Didn't they escalate this?
- Maybe they were just lacking self confidence?

24

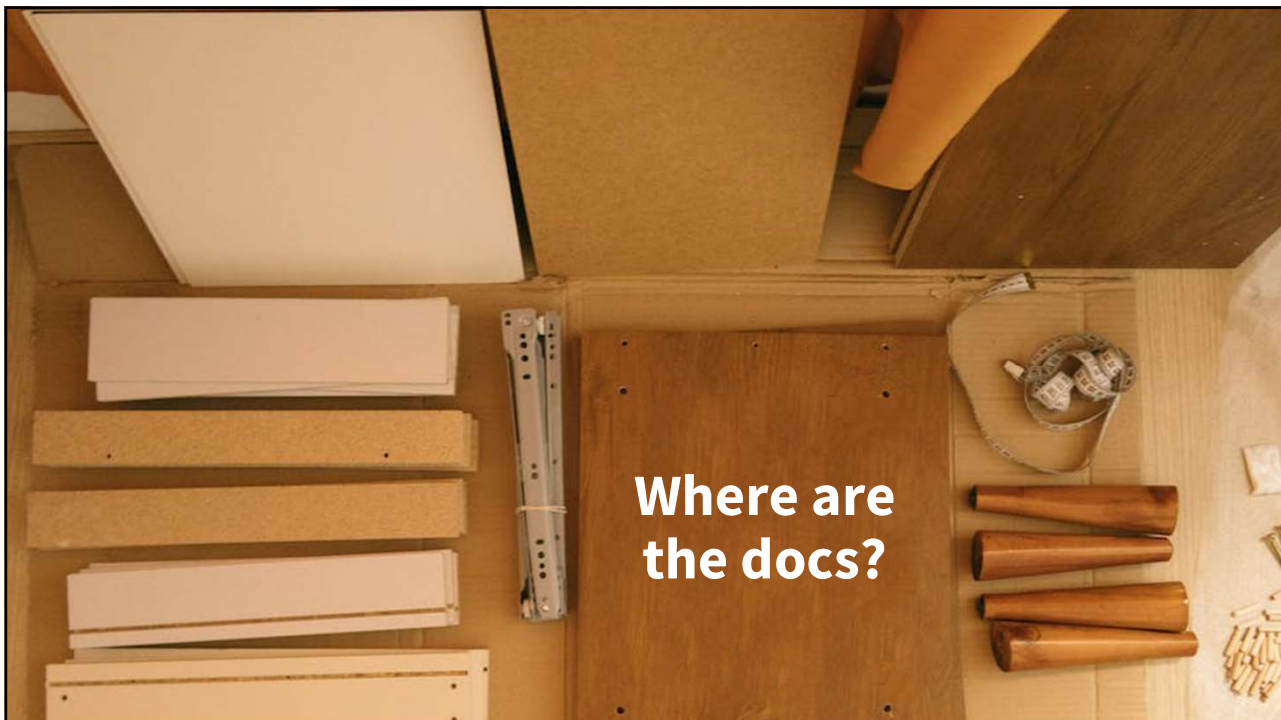
## Thoughts and remarks...

- Why didn't **they** just leave? I would have!
- Didn't **they** escalate this?
- Maybe **they** were just lacking self confidence?

25

A photograph of two small, light-colored wooden blocks with the letters 'W' and 'E' on them, placed side-by-side on a dark brown, textured surface. The blocks are slightly raised from the surface.

26



27

## Do

- Put your docs in your repository
  - Versioning
  - Pull requests
  - Markdown / AsciiDoc for editing, generated website for reading
- Not just WHAT, but also WHY!



28



## Architecture Decision Record

Status

Context

Decision

Rationale / Consequences

Discussed and Discarded Alternatives

29

## Frameworks

30

## KISS

Keep it stupid simple

I'll just hack it in...

## YAGNI

You ain't gonna need it

Sunken Cost Fallacy

31

## Do

- Use established libraries/frameworks
- Appropriate Complexity
- Limit the knowledge-stack



32



33



34



## Do

- Keep Technical Debt/Bugs out in the open
- Monitor and improve code quality
- Use **renovate** to keep dependencies updated

35



36

## Do

- Use Mutation Testing to validate test efficiency
- Make tests as realistic as possible
  - Wiremock
  - Contract Testing
  - Test Containers

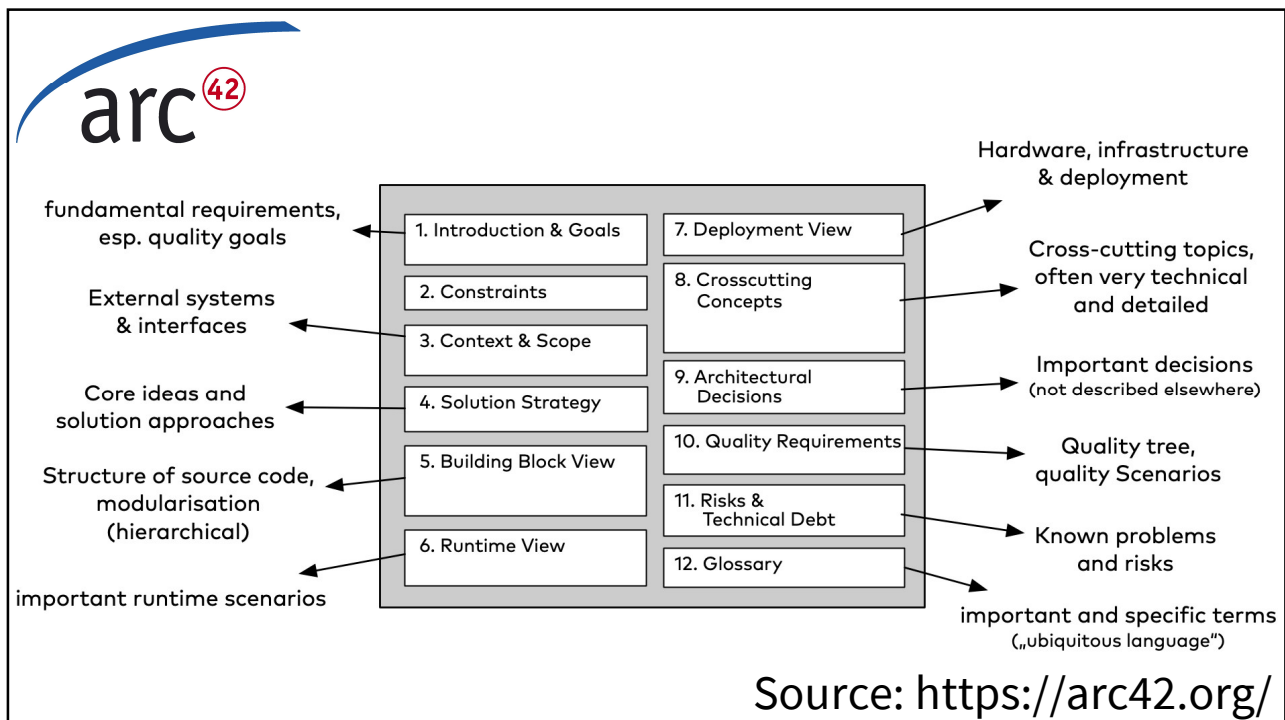
37

## How can I help maintenance succeed?

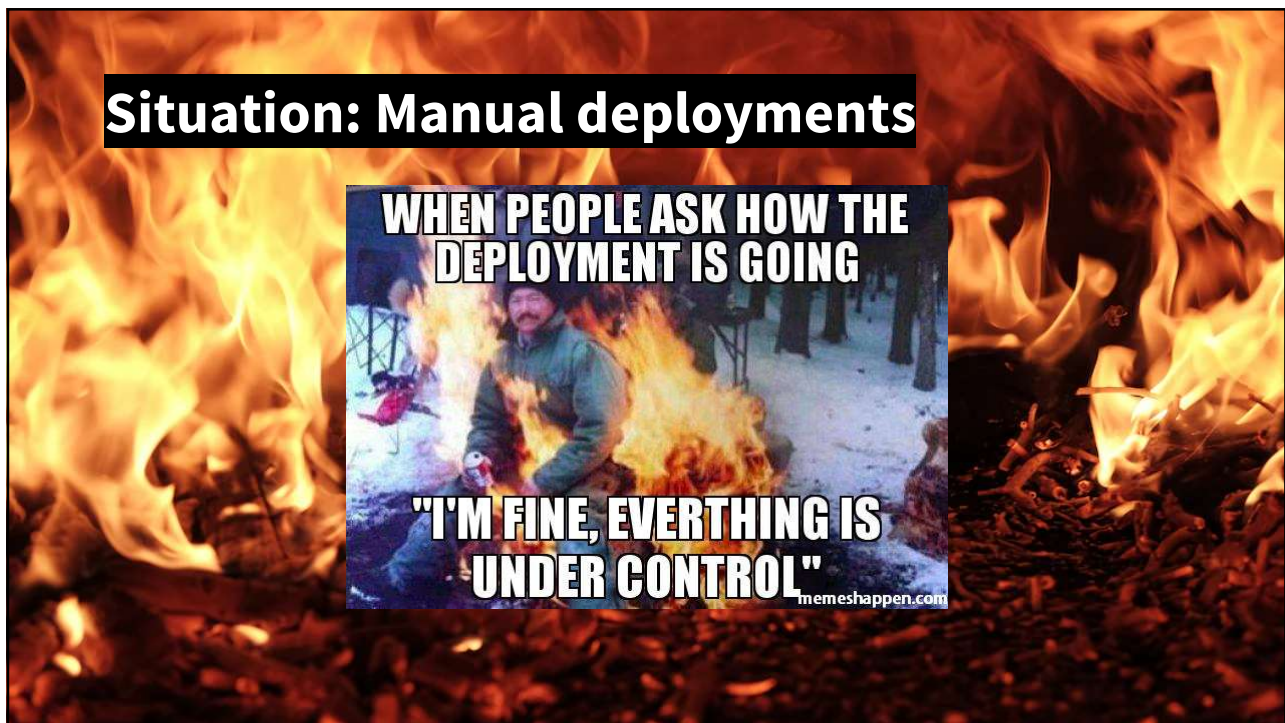
- Use ubiquitous language
- Add documentation
- Provide a stakeholder list
- Add logging
- Add monitor alerts



38



39

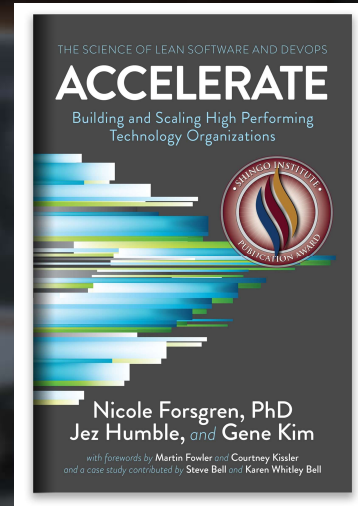


40



## Do

- Automate everything
- Good for your team:  
less burnout and  
higher job satisfaction



41

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42



43



44

# Build Helpful tools



jqno/equalsverifier

EqualsVerifier can be used in Java unit tests to verify whether the contract for the equals and hashCode methods is...



30

Contributors

4k

Used by

3

Discussions

594

Stars

77

Forks

45

# Lift up others



Be 'Mr. Miyagi' or find one! A talk about the power of mentoring.

Kelly Jille

Mi, 22.03.2023 | 16:00 - 16:40

Rotunde

200

61



46



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47

**Isn't all this just “professionalism”?**

48



49



50



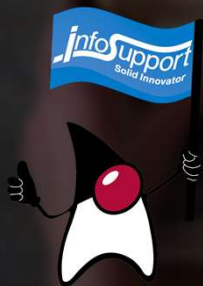


51

# Leaving a Legacy

A guide to being kind to those who come after

Slides and additional content at:  
<https://tomcools.be/talks/javaland2023>



Tom Cools (@TCoolsIT) – Elien Callens (@Elien\_Callens)  
 Info Support

52