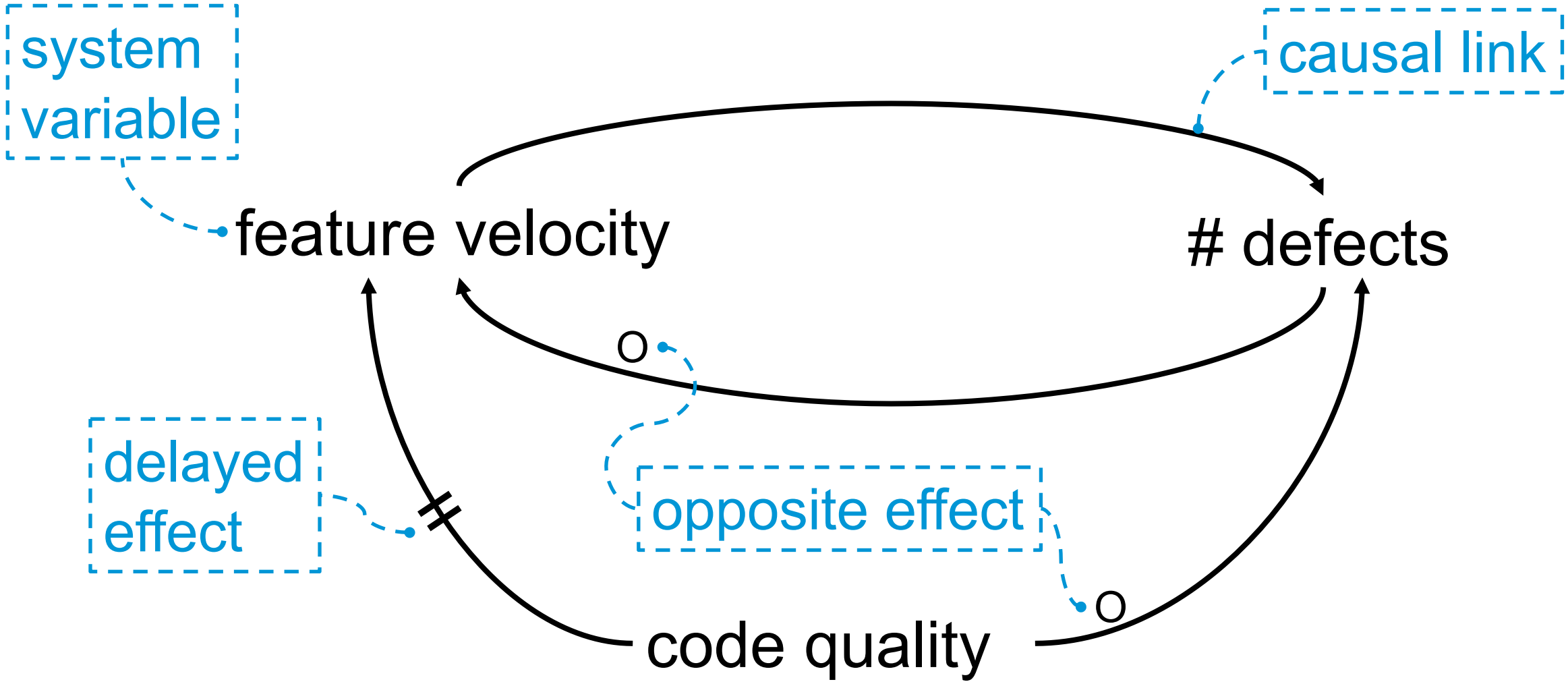
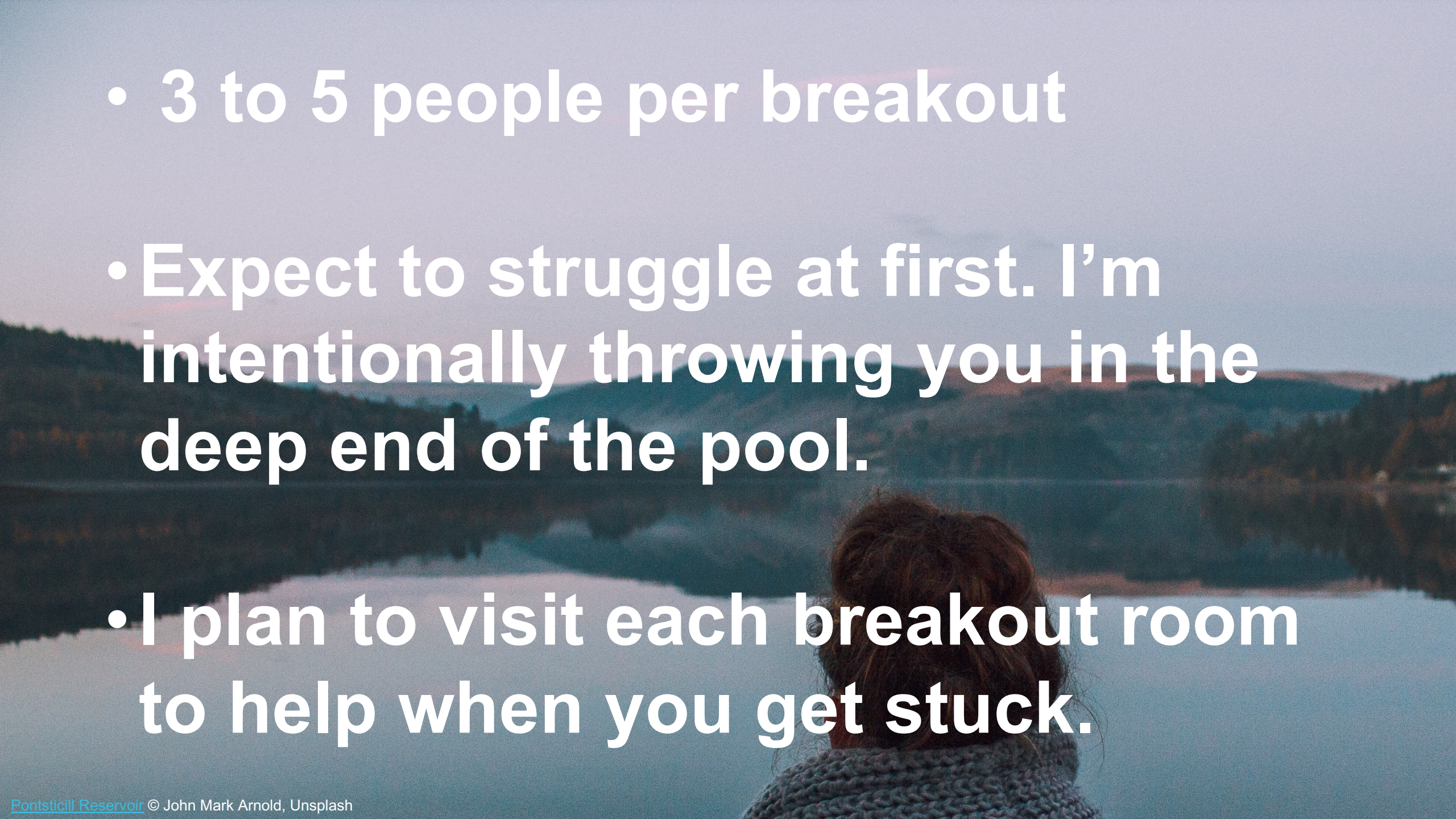
Understanding Context Using Causal Loop Diagramming

with James Carpenter

Notation Basics



More detail at: https://less.works/less/principles/systems-thinking



- 3 to 5 people per breakout
- Expect to struggle at first. I’m intentionally throwing you in the deep end of the pool.
- I plan to visit each breakout room to help when you get stuck.

Pontsticill Reservoir © John Mark Arnold, Unsplash

% of total (product) items
a team knows well
(requirements & design)

#backlogs/lists

Adaptiveness of
teams to change
direction at global
level

% of items worked
on each Sprint that
are highest value
at global level

opportunity cost

- Together: Clarify variable set
- Breakout Groups: Draw causal relationships
- Together: Debrief model

- Breakout rooms now
- Miro timer for 15 minutes
- Each group needs a Miro experienced person

- see system dynamics
- see mental models
- see local optimization
- identify root causes

Thinking deeply and clearly takes time

Small groups are best

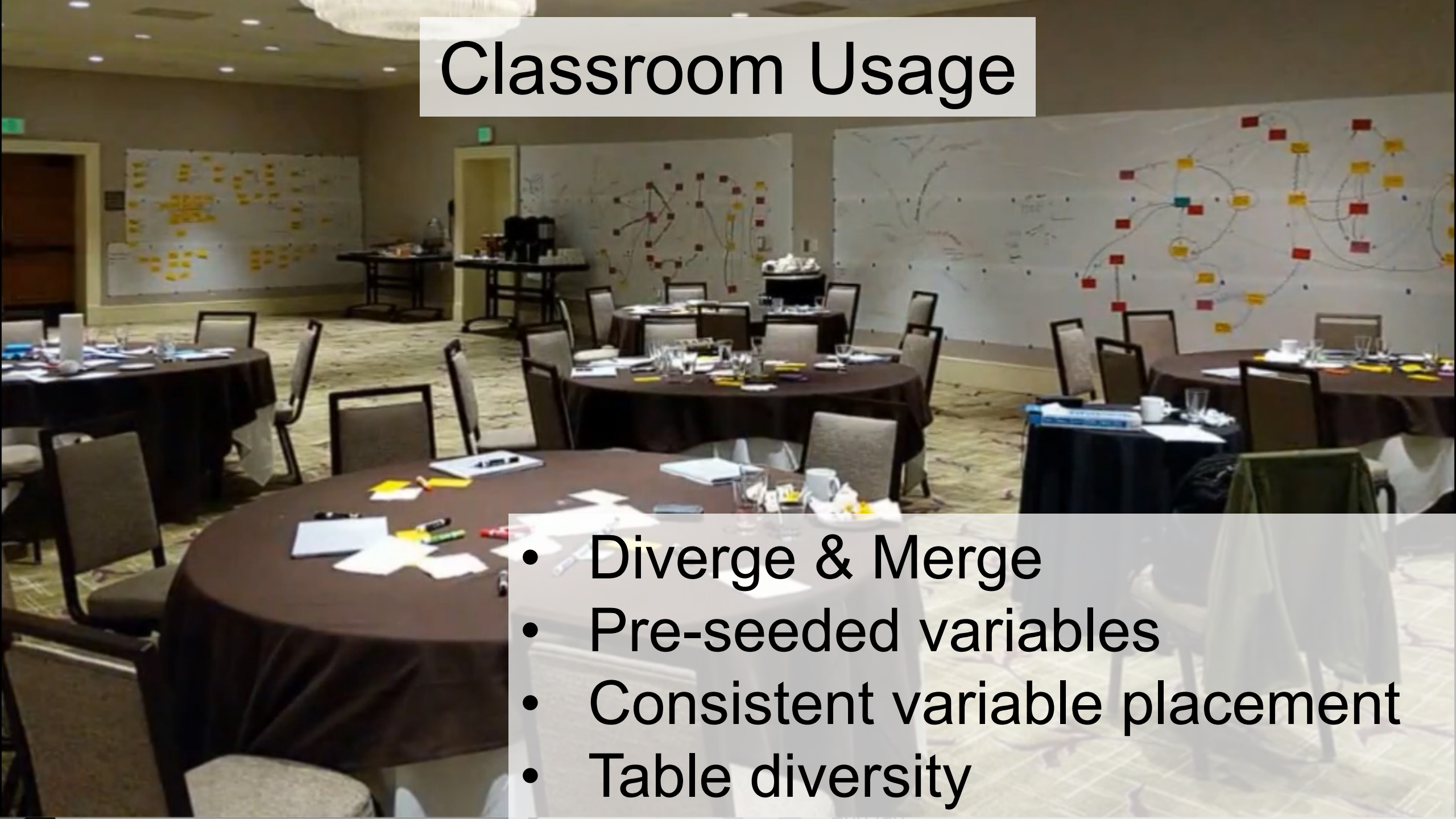
Starting from scratch takes time

Insights limited by participant experience


In-person > Zoom/Miro

Requires Practice

Classroom Usage



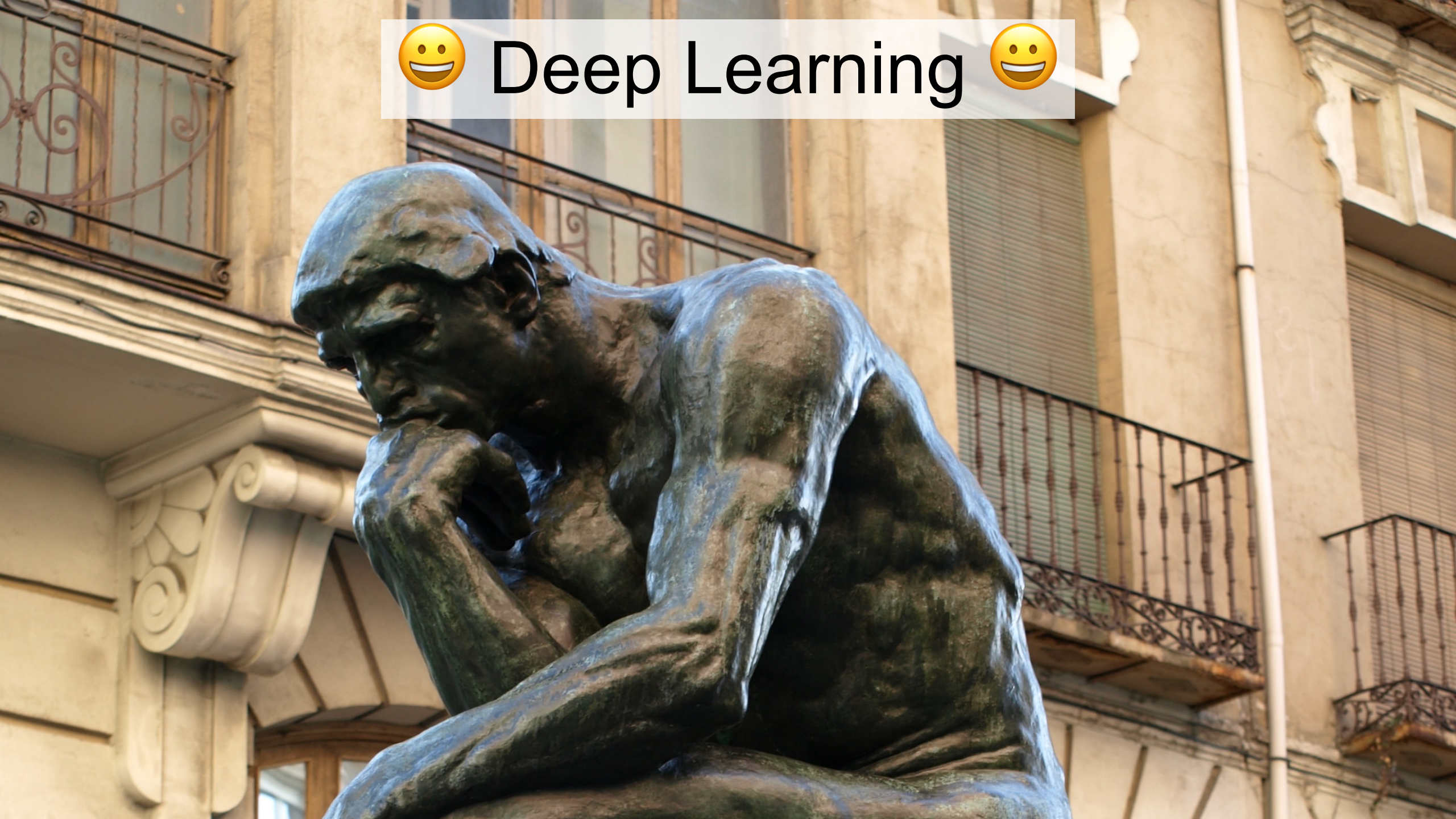
- Diverge & Merge
- Pre-seeded variables
- Consistent variable placement
- Table diversity


🤔Discovering for themselves — sort of 🤔

🤔 Little time for ad-hoc variables 🤔

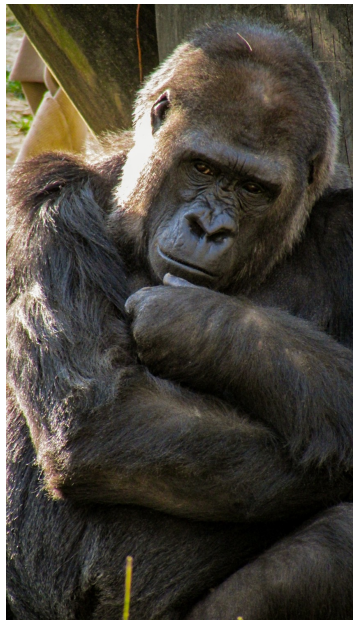

🤔 Heavy logistical footprint 🤔


😀 Visual Language 😀


😀 Deep Learning 😀


😀 Alignment 😀

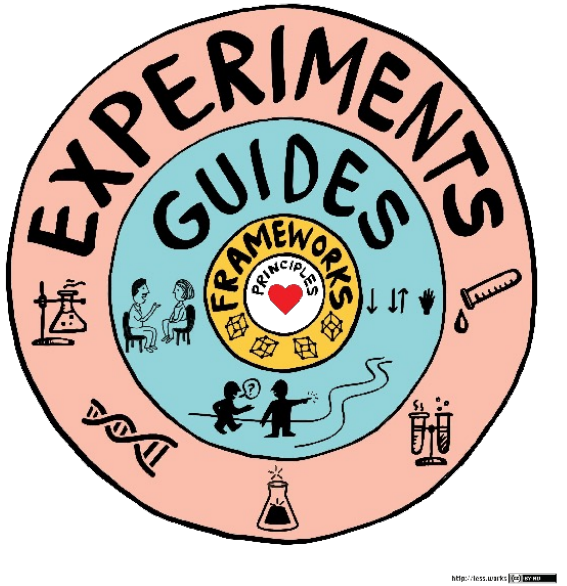
CLP Instructional Design Pattern



Thinking Gorilla
© Joshua J. Cotten, Unsplash

System Modeling

Agnostic of any specific framework, just the “physics” of the work.



LeSS Specifics

More concrete potential implementation specifics to help ground abstract theory.

highest-level adaptiveness in the service of learning & delivering highest-level “value”


Antarctica | Advisors
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
BASE
SITA
MTS
Alcatel·Lucent
FINDEX
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
ING
CISCO
solarwinds
DODO PIZZA
United Healthcare
Nokia Networks
UBS
ITALTEL
JOHN DEERE
HUAWEI
MERKUR
RBS
ERICSSON
Port of Rotterdam
THALES
Scanbuy
Thomas Cook
SAP
AGFA HealthCare
Allianz
State


CERTIFIED
LeSS
PRACTITIONER
In-Person
Anywhere!
Take the survey
My LinkedIn is
here too
https://agilecarpentry.com/clp/global/

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Extra

Pick any topic, start from nothing.

Example Topic: How do compensation structures, an engineering organization's ability to change direction at a global level, shareholder profit, personal incentives for individual employees, degree of company ownership by employees, and remote work relate to and influence each other?