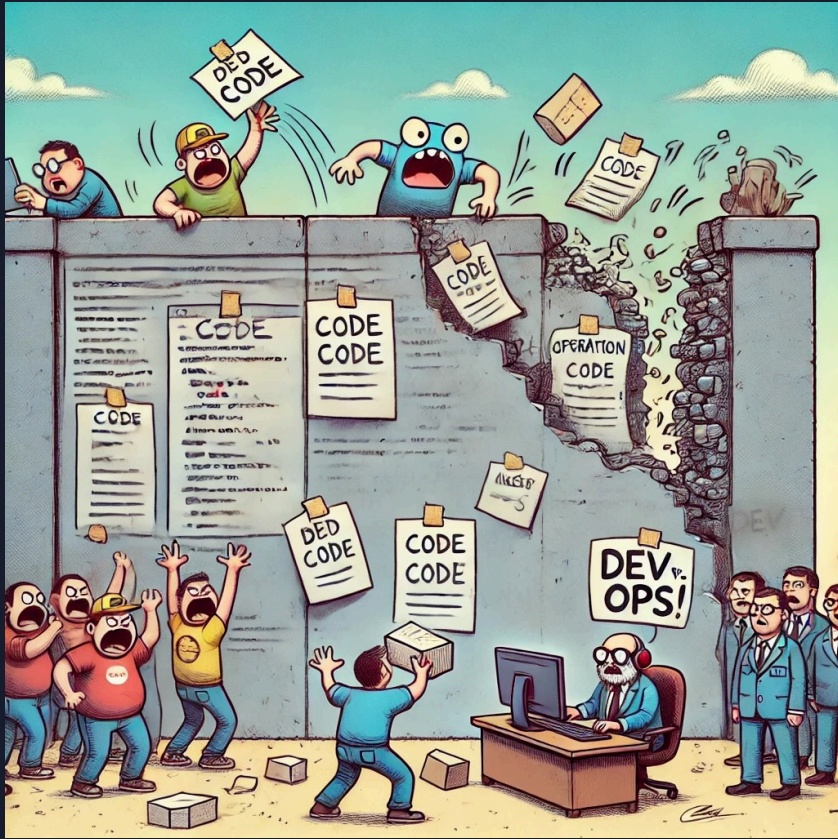
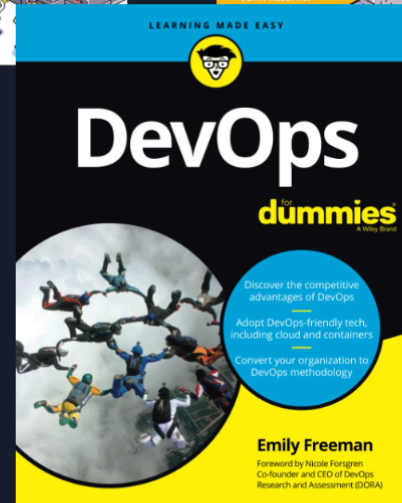
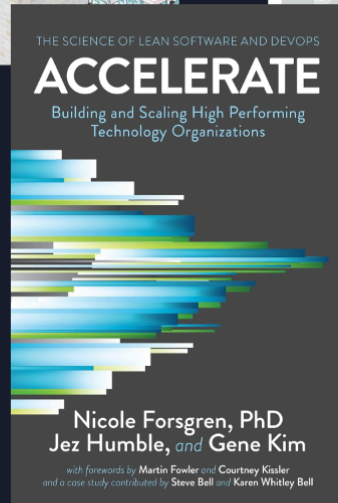
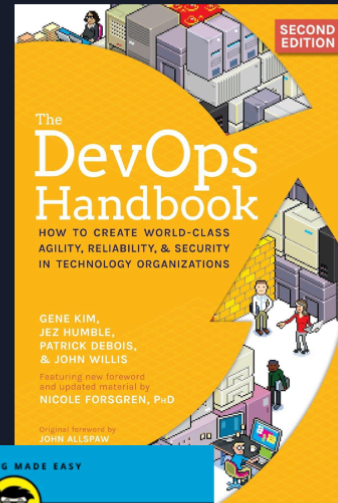
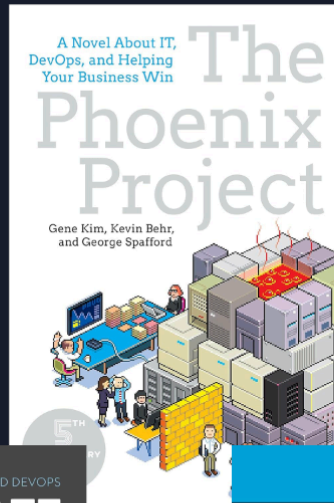
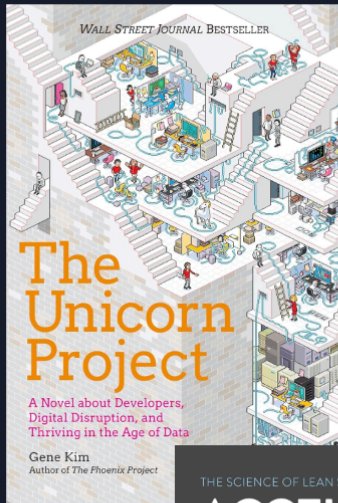


The Human Factor in DevOps...

Because Even 🤖 Need Good Teammates (Almost)









DevOps is more than tools... It's about people

Jeremy Meiss

Director, DevEx & DevRel

OneStream Software

DevOpsDays KC Organizer



The Human Factor in DevOps

It starts with people...

The Human Factor in DevOps

Communication & Teamwork breakdowns

Common Causes of *Communication Breakdowns*

- Conflicting Ideas and Poor Collaboration
- Barriers to Cross-Cultural and Linguistic Communication
- Ineffective Organizational Structures and Communication Processes
- Ambiguous Project Requirements and Technical Miscommunication





Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology

Source: JPL, NASA

Mars Climate Orbiter

Mars Climate Orbiter

Designed to study Mars from orbit and serve as a communications relay for the Mars Polar Lander and Deep Space probes, the Mars Climate Orbiter was unsuccessful due to a navigation error caused by a failure to translate English units to metric.

"The 'root cause' of the loss of the spacecraft was the failed translation of English units into metric units in a segment of ground-based, navigation-related mission software..."

Arthur Stephenson, chairman of the Mars Climate Orbiter Mission Failure Investigation Board

Common Causes of *Communication Breakdowns*

- Conflicting Ideas and Poor Collaboration
- Barriers to Cross-Cultural and Linguistic Communication
- Ineffective Organizational Structures and Communication Processes
- Ambiguous Project Requirements and Technical Miscommunication
- Communication Skill Deficiencies and Overload





Common Causes of *Teamwork* Breakdowns

- Lack of shared understanding and commitment
- Team size and dynamics

The Ringlemann Effect

Ringelmann effect

[Article](#) [Talk](#)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Ringelmann effect** is the tendency for individual members of a group to become increasingly less productive as the size of their group increases.^[1] This effect, discovered by French agricultural engineer [Maximilien Ringelmann](#) (1861–1931), illustrates the inverse relationship that exists between the size of a group and the magnitude of group members' individual contribution to the completion of a task. While studying the relationship between process loss (i.e., reductions in performance [effectiveness](#) or [efficiency](#)) and group [productivity](#), Ringelmann (1913) found that having group members work together on a task (e.g., pulling a rope) actually results in significantly less effort than when individual members are acting alone. Ringelmann discovered that as more and more people are added to a group, the group often becomes increasingly inefficient, ultimately violating the notion that group effort and team participation reliably leads to increased effort on behalf of the members.^{[1][2]}

Source: [Wikipedia](#)





Common Causes of *Teamwork* Breakdowns

- Lack of shared understanding and commitment
- Team size and dynamics
- Lack of trust
- Insufficient resources
- Unclear goals and expectations

Communication & Teamwork breakdowns?

Improve the Human Factor.



Improving the Human Factor in DevOps

Fostering Open and Honest Communication

Fostering Open and Honest Communication

Establish Clear Communication Guidelines

- Appropriate communication channels
- Expected response times
- Meeting etiquette
- Concise and solution-oriented communication

Communication Guidelines



Fostering Open and Honest Communication

Break Down Information Barriers

- Encourage Documentation
- Use Knowledge Sharing Platforms
- Promote Cross-Team Communication
- Simplify Technical Talk





Fostering Open and Honest Communication

Use the Right Tools

- Choose Tools that Meet Team Needs
- Integrate Tools for Seamless Workflow
- Provide Training and Support

Fostering Open and Honest Communication

Promote Critical Thinking

- Encourage Questioning and Analysis
- Provide Opportunities for Collaborative Problem-Solving
- Emphasize Continuous Improvement





FOSTERING A CULTURE OF OPEN COMMUNICATION AND ACTIVE LISTENING

Fostering Open and Honest Communication

Practice Open Communication and Active Listening

- Encourage Feedback and Open Dialogue
- Value Diverse Perspectives
- Provide Training on Active Listening Techniques
- Address Conflicts Constructively

About Constructive Conflict Resolution...

- Focus on Shared Goals
- Empathy and Perspective-Taking
- Collaborative Problem-Solving
- Mediation and Facilitation





The Human Factor in DevOps

Building a Culture of Value and Recognition

- Regular Appreciation
- Growth Opportunities
- Inclusive Environment
- Celebrate Successes

The *Human* Factor in DevOps

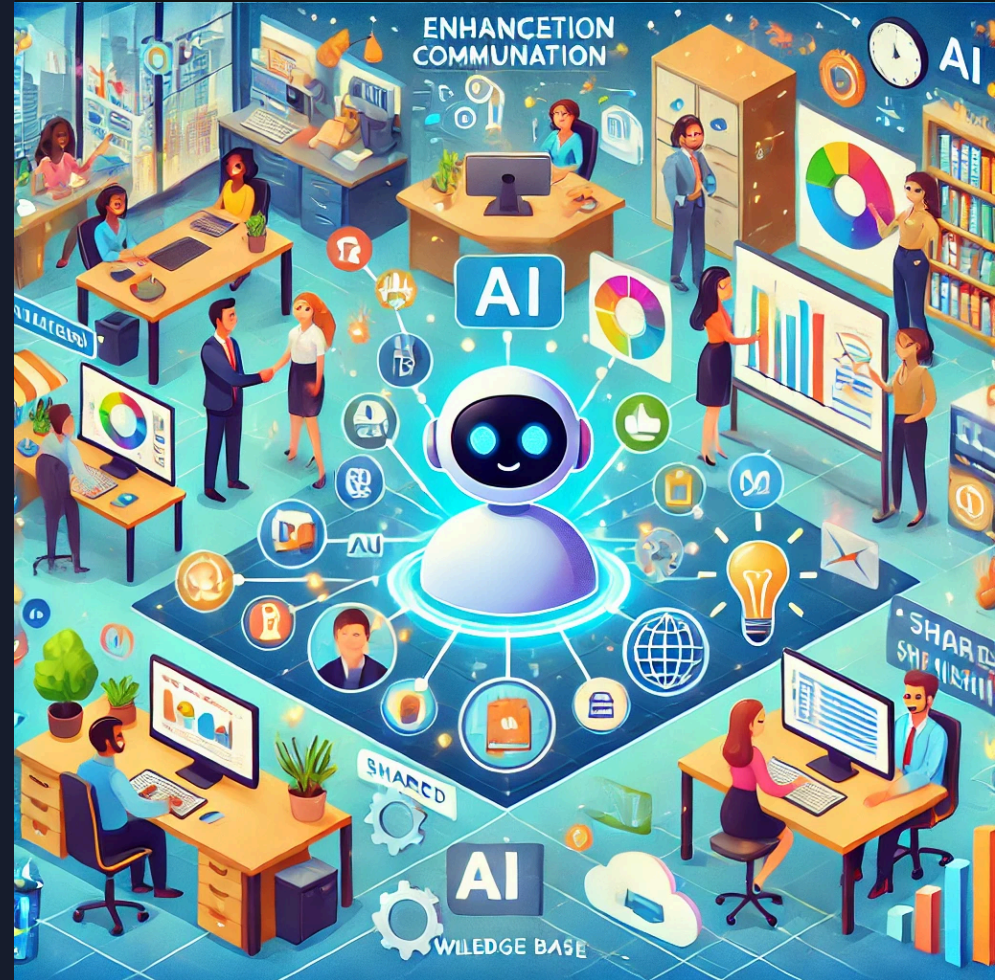
Even 🤖's Can be a Good Teammate (Mostly)

AI's impact on teams

AI's impact on teams

Positive Impacts

- Enhanced communication
- Automated scheduling and coordination
- Shared knowledge bases
- Improved collaboration and efficiency
- Data-driven decision-making and innovation





AI's impact on teams

Negative Impacts

- Reduced casual interactions
- Over-reliance on technology
- Potential job displacement
- Bias and discrimination
- Distrust of AI

"...even in a task where AI outperforms humans, the replacement of a human player by an automated videogame agent decreases team performance. While automation may improve performance in tasks suited to machine learning, we posit that their introduction presents a larger trade-off by disrupting these routines."

Dell'Acqua, Fabrizio and Kogut, Bruce and Perkowski, Patryk (December 21, 2022).

Super Mario Meets AI: Experimental Effects of Automation and Skills on Team Performance and Coordination.
Review of Economics and Statistics, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3746564>



The rapid rise in artificial intelligence (AI) has created many opportunities globally, from facilitating healthcare diagnoses to enabling human connections through social media and creating labour efficiencies through automated tasks.

However, these rapid changes also raise profound ethical concerns. These arise from the potential AI systems have to embed biases, contribute to climate degradation, threaten human rights and more. Such risks associated with AI have already begun to compound on top of existing inequalities, resulting in further harm to already marginalised groups.

Source: UNESCO



Ethical considerations for AI in team communication

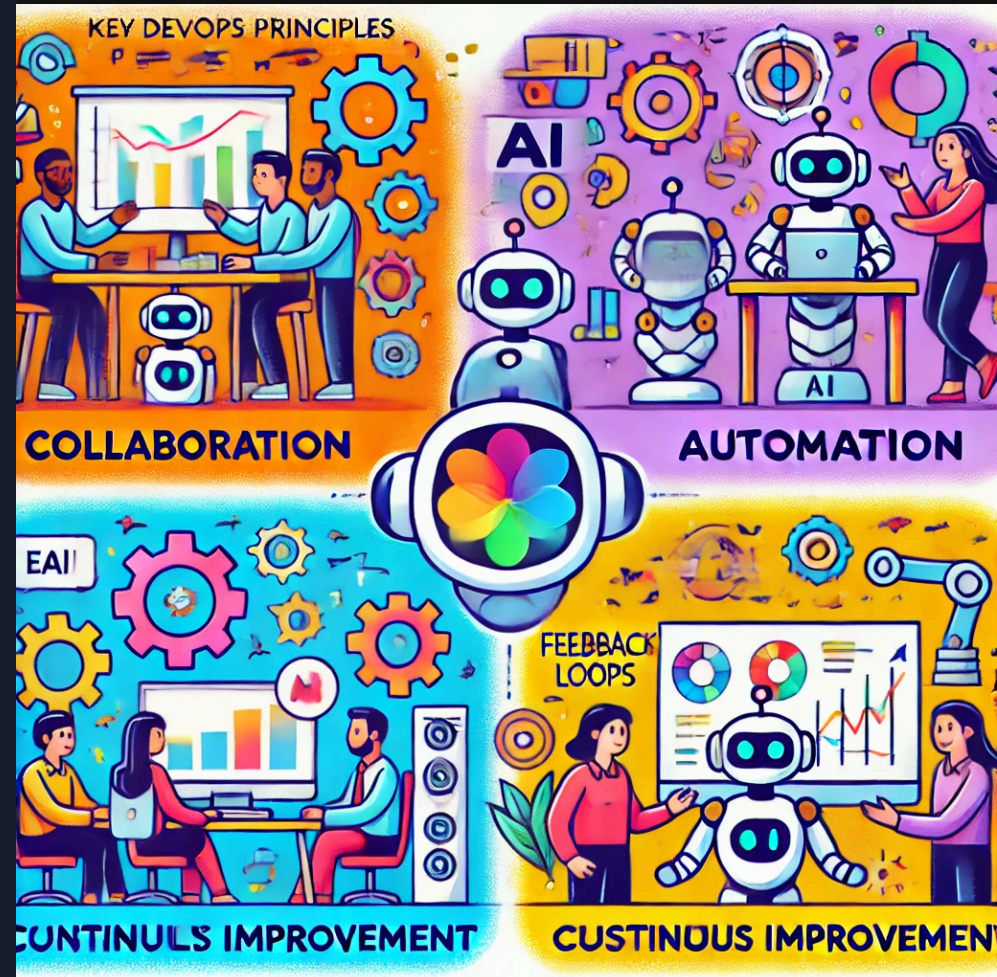
- Data privacy and security
- Transparency
- Fairness and bias
- Accountability
- Employee involvement




The *Human* in DevOps

Applying DevOps Principles to AI

- **Collaboration:** Break down silos, foster teamwork to ensure AI success.
- **Automation:** Streamline workflows by automating tasks to boost productivity.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Iteratively refine AI tools through constant monitoring & feedback.
- **Feedback Loops:** Gather & implement customer feedback to enhance user experience via AI.



The *Human* in DevOps...

Can also apply to your  teammate

Thank you!



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@IAmJerdog

END