

Tales from the DevOps Transformation Trenches

yes, you (still) need to start
with culture, not containers



Holly Cummins
IBM Garage
@holly_cummins



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Getting Your Presentation Submission Accepted For DevOps Enterprise Summit In 2017

February 1, 2017 by [Gene Kim](#) — [11 Comments](#)



Since 2013, we've reviewed nearly one thousand submissions for our Call for Presenters for [DevOps Enterprise Summit](#). In this post, I wanted to share my top advice and tips to maximize your chance of submitting a presentation proposal that gets accepted.

IF YOU'RE A VENDOR OR CONSULTANT

Rest assured, as we joke in the CFP, we have absolutely nothing against vendors or consultants — it's not an exaggeration to say that some of our best friends are vendors and consultants. But in almost all cases, consultants and vendors should submit with their clients. Over the years, we've had some intriguing submissions come in from consultants, and for the most promising ones, I've emailed the submitter, asking to re-submit with their client. Many were not able to do so, and we had to reject the submission.

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LAST ADVICE: SUBMISSIONS THAT ARE ALMOST ALWAYS REJECTED

- “Why DevOps Is Important,” “Why DevOps Is Needed In The Modern Digital Economy,” “Why Culture Is Important For DevOps”: these are “why” talks that try to convince people that DevOps is important. However, rest assured that DevOps Enterprise Summit is a conference where everyone is already convinced DevOps is important. We’re all at the conference to learn from people who are pioneering the

LAST ADVICE: SUBMISSIONS THAT ARE
ALMOST ALWAYS REJECTED

- “Why DevOps Is Important,” “Why DevOps Is Important For DevOps”: the
However, rest assured that DevOps is important. However, rest assured

ALMOST ALWAYS REJECTED

- “Why DevOps Is Important,” “Why DevOps Is Important For DevOps”: the
“Why Culture Is Important For DevOps”: the
that DevOps is important. However, rest assured

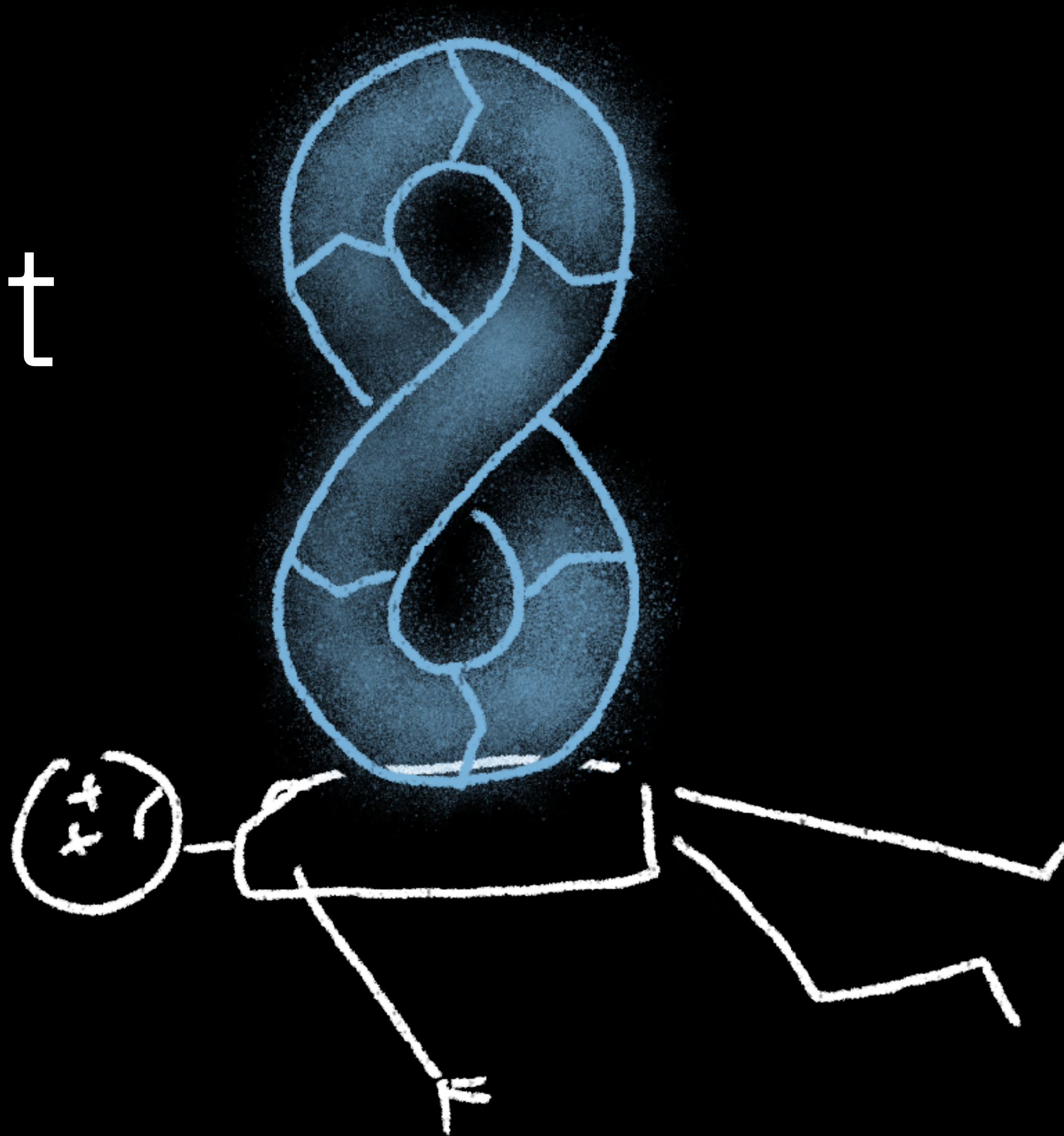
hi.

i'm a consultant.

these are my
scary stories



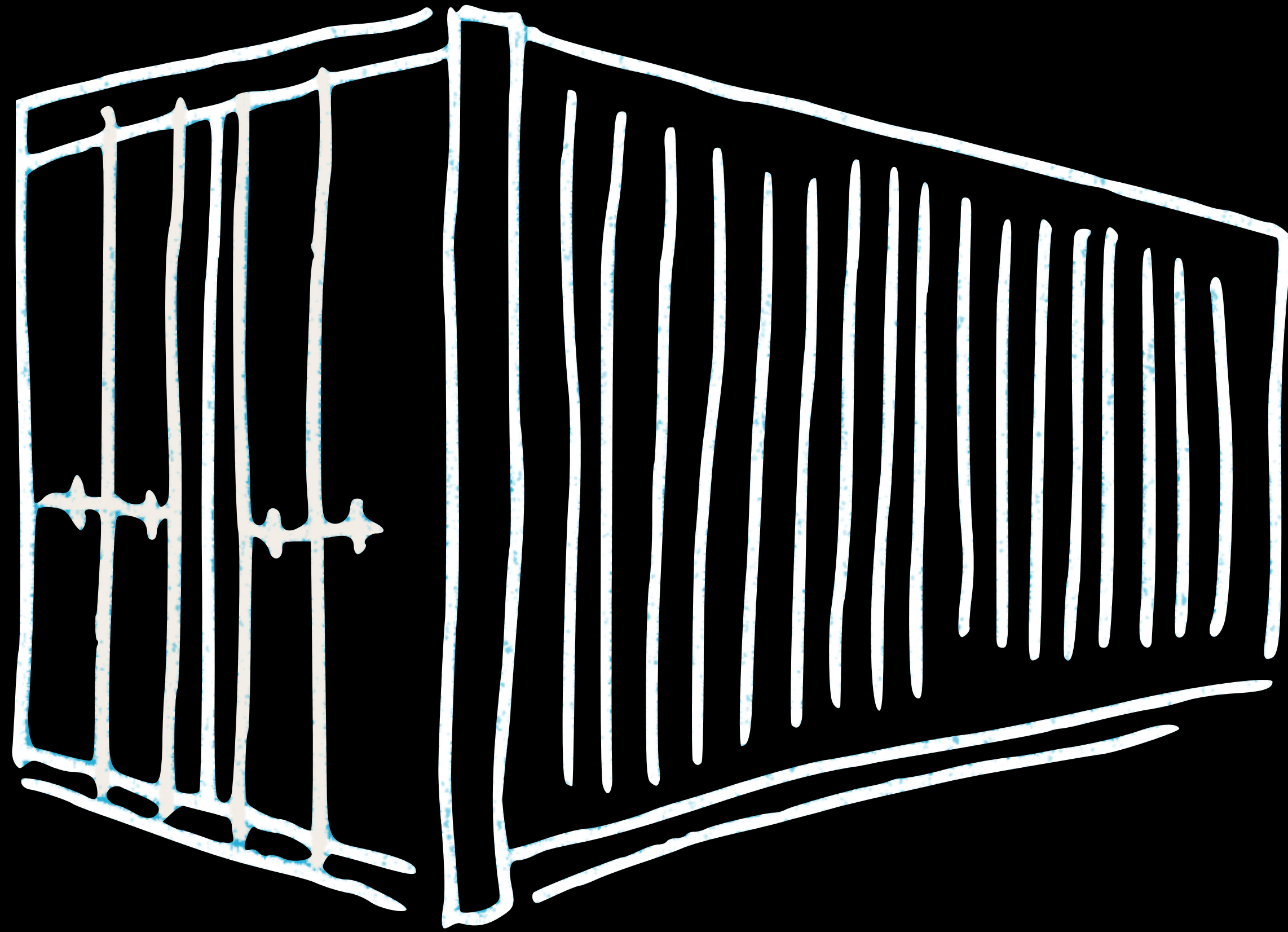
how to fail at devops



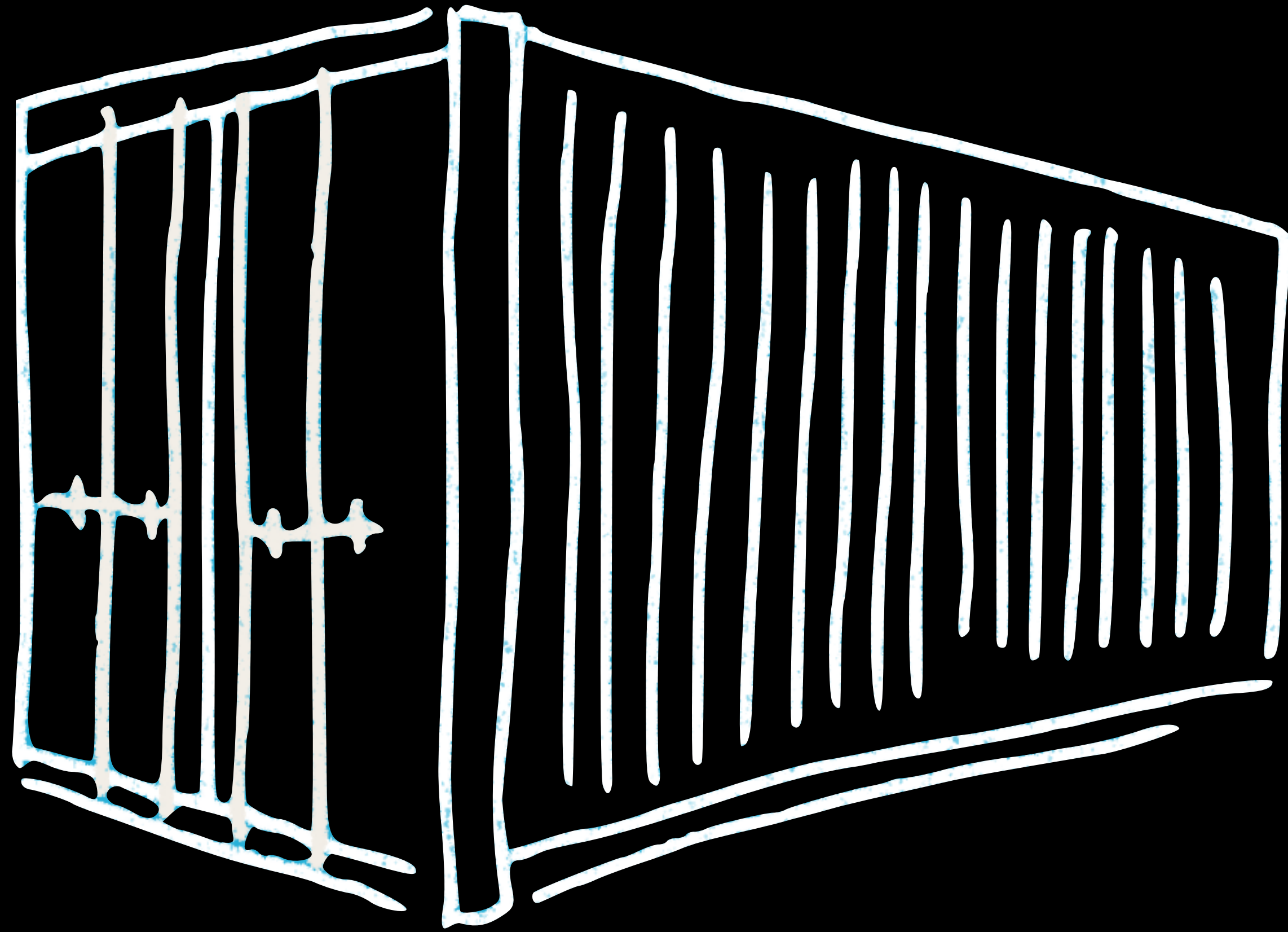
“this is our devops team”

“this is our devops team”

“... last year we called them the build team.”



containers will not fix
your broken devops culture

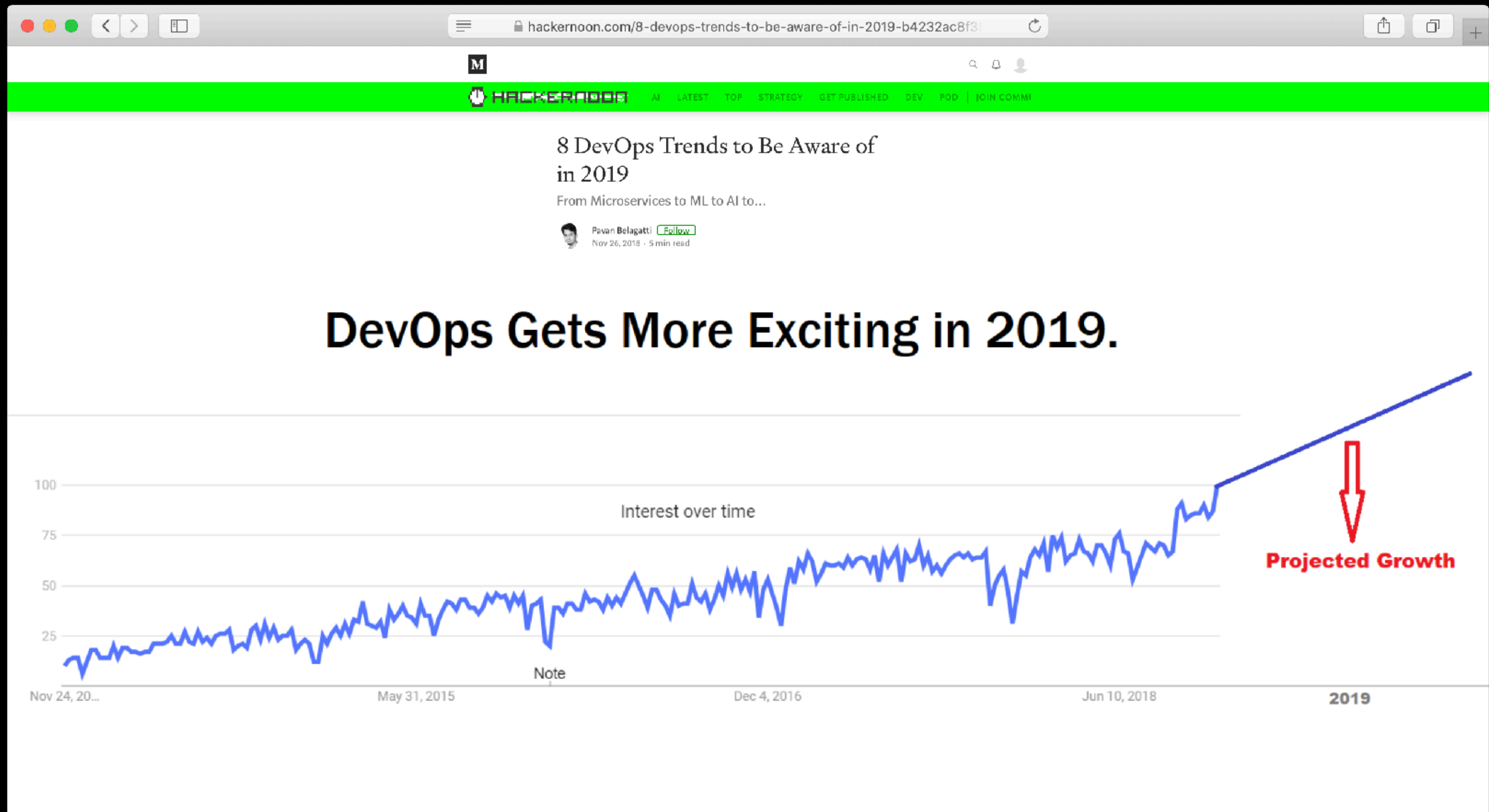


even kubernetes will not fix
your broken devops culture

“we’re going too slowly.
we need to get rid of COBOL
and make microservices!”

“we’re going too slowly.
we need to get rid of COBOL
and make microservices!”

“... but our release board
only meets twice a year.”



<https://hackernoon.com/8-devops-trends-to-be-aware-of-in-2019-b4232ac8f351>

hackernoon.com/8-devops-trends-to-be-aware-of-in-2019-b4232ac8f351

M HACKERNOON AI LATEST TOP STRATEGY GET PUBLISHED DEV POD JOIN COMM

8 DevOps Trends to Be Aware of in 2019

From Microservices to ML to AI to...

Pavan Belagatti [Follow](#)
Nov 26, 2018 · 5 min read

DevOps Gets More Exciting in 2019.

DevOps and microservices lately are going hand in hand. Microservices are independent entities and hence doesn't create any dependencies and break other systems when something goes wrong. Microservices architecture helps

Nov 24, 20... May 31, 2015 Note Dec 4, 2016 Jun 10, 2018 2019

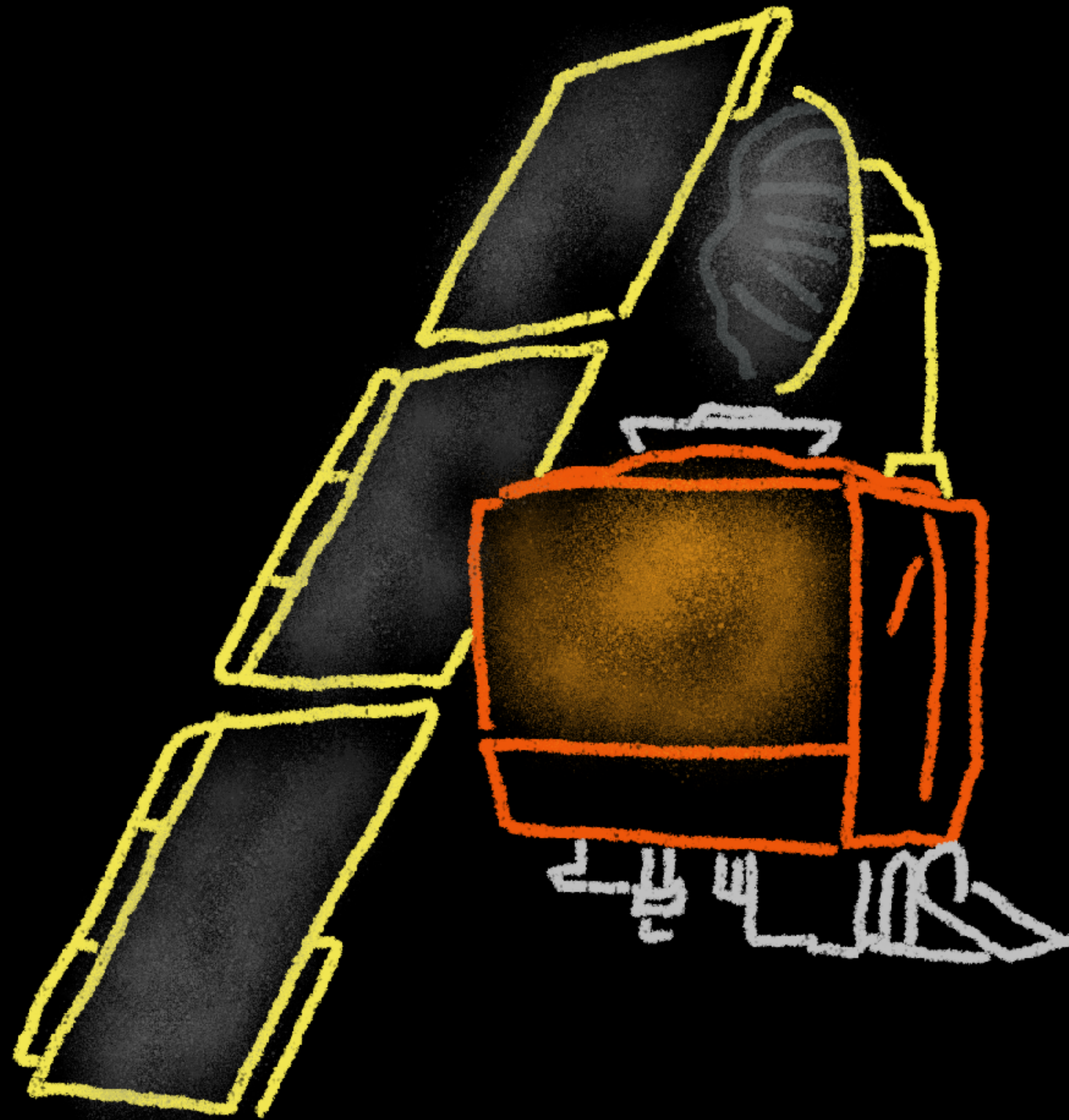
<https://hackernoon.com/8-devops-trends-to-be-aware-of-in-2019-b4232ac8f351>

“every time we change
code, something breaks”

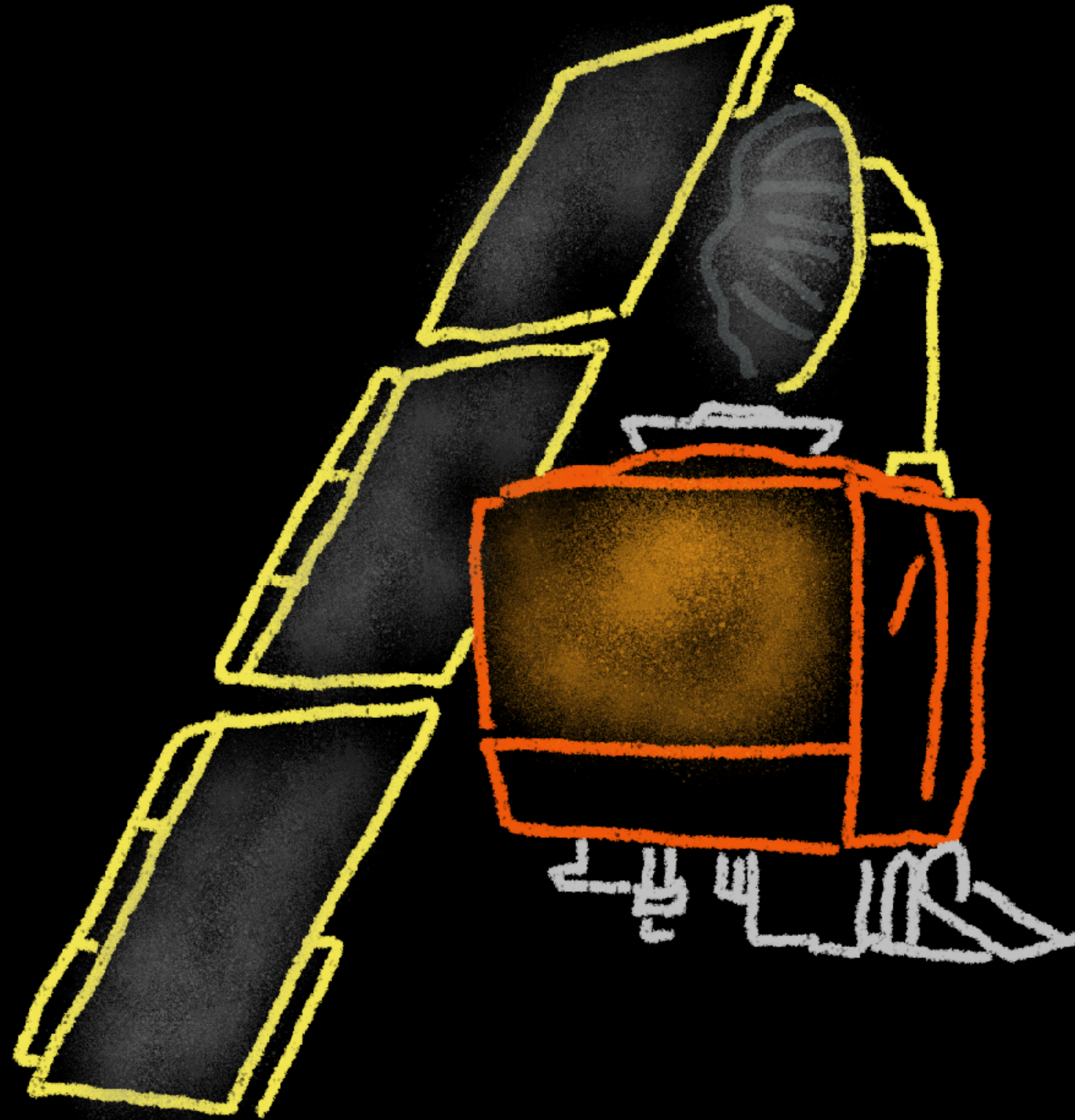
distributed monolith

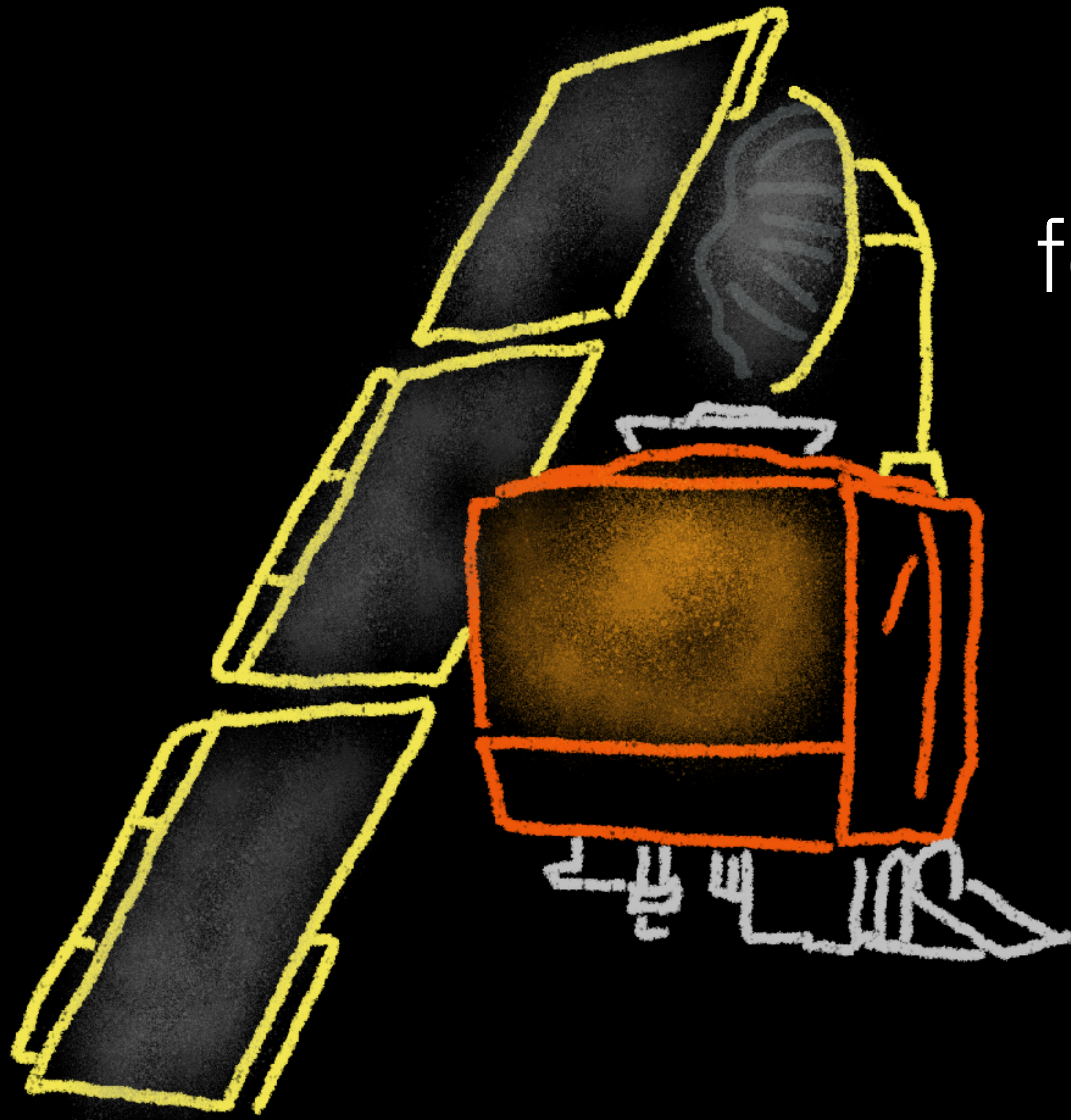
distributed monolith
but without compile-time checking

just because a system runs
across 6 containers doesn't
mean it's decoupled



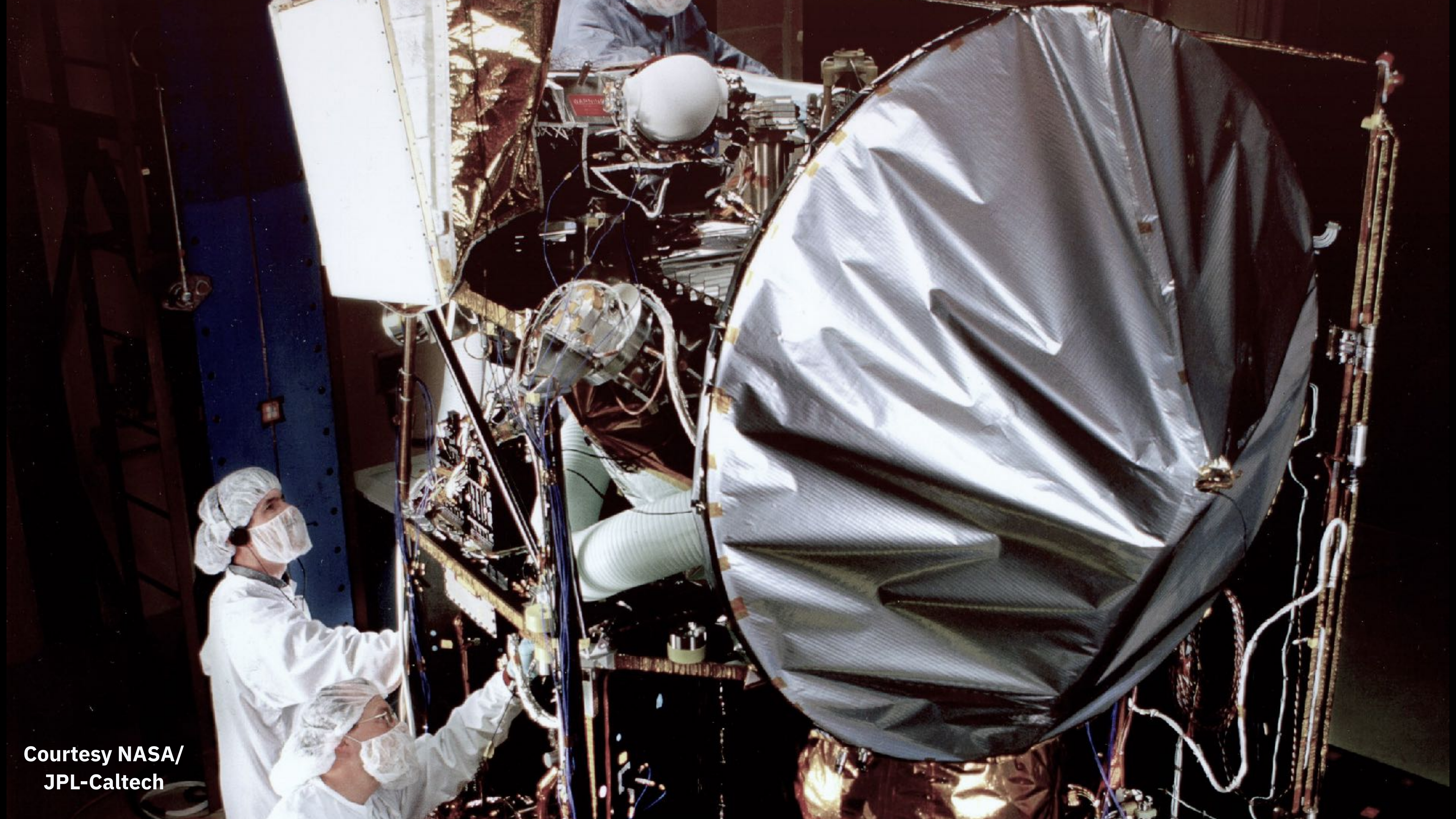
mars climate explorer



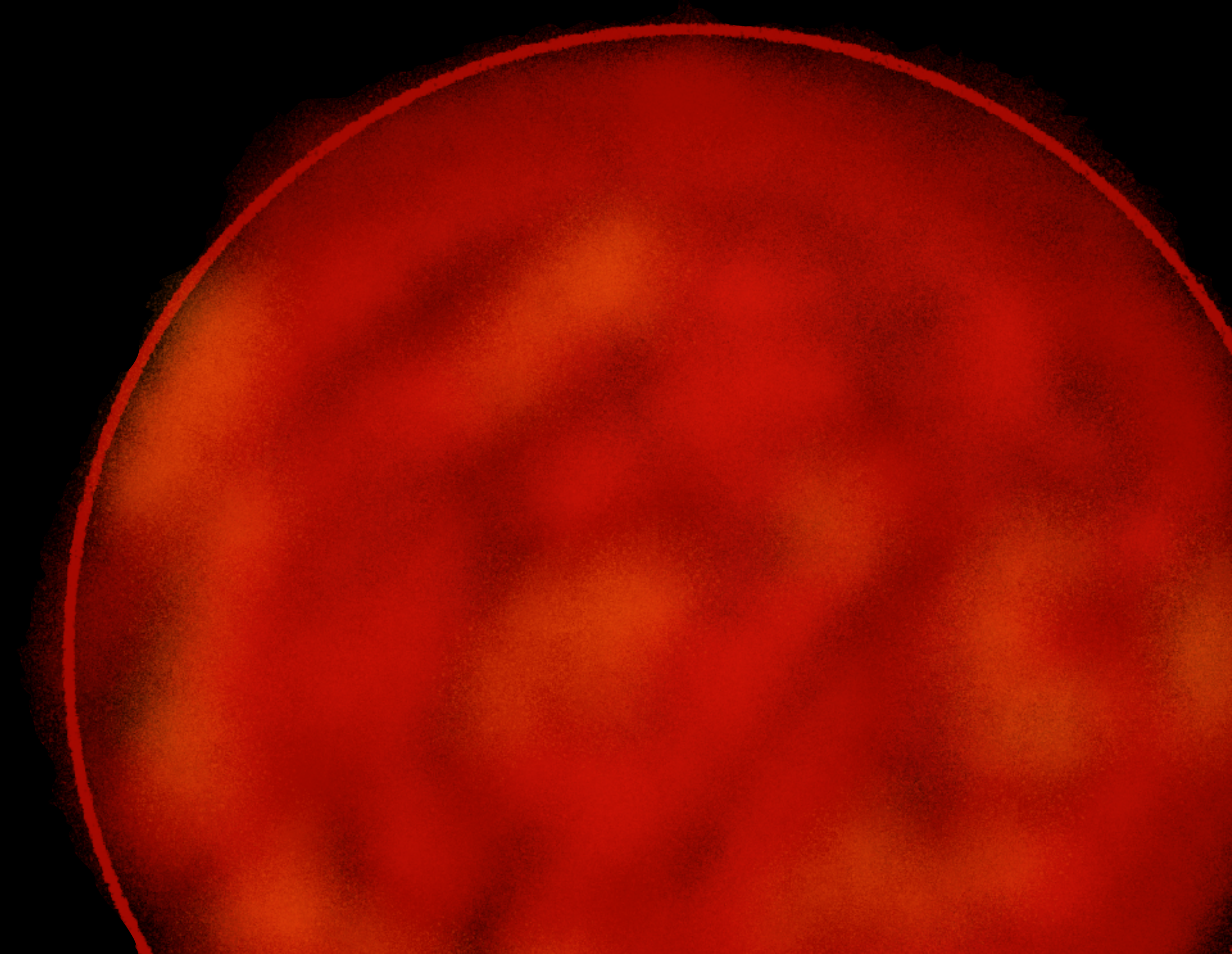


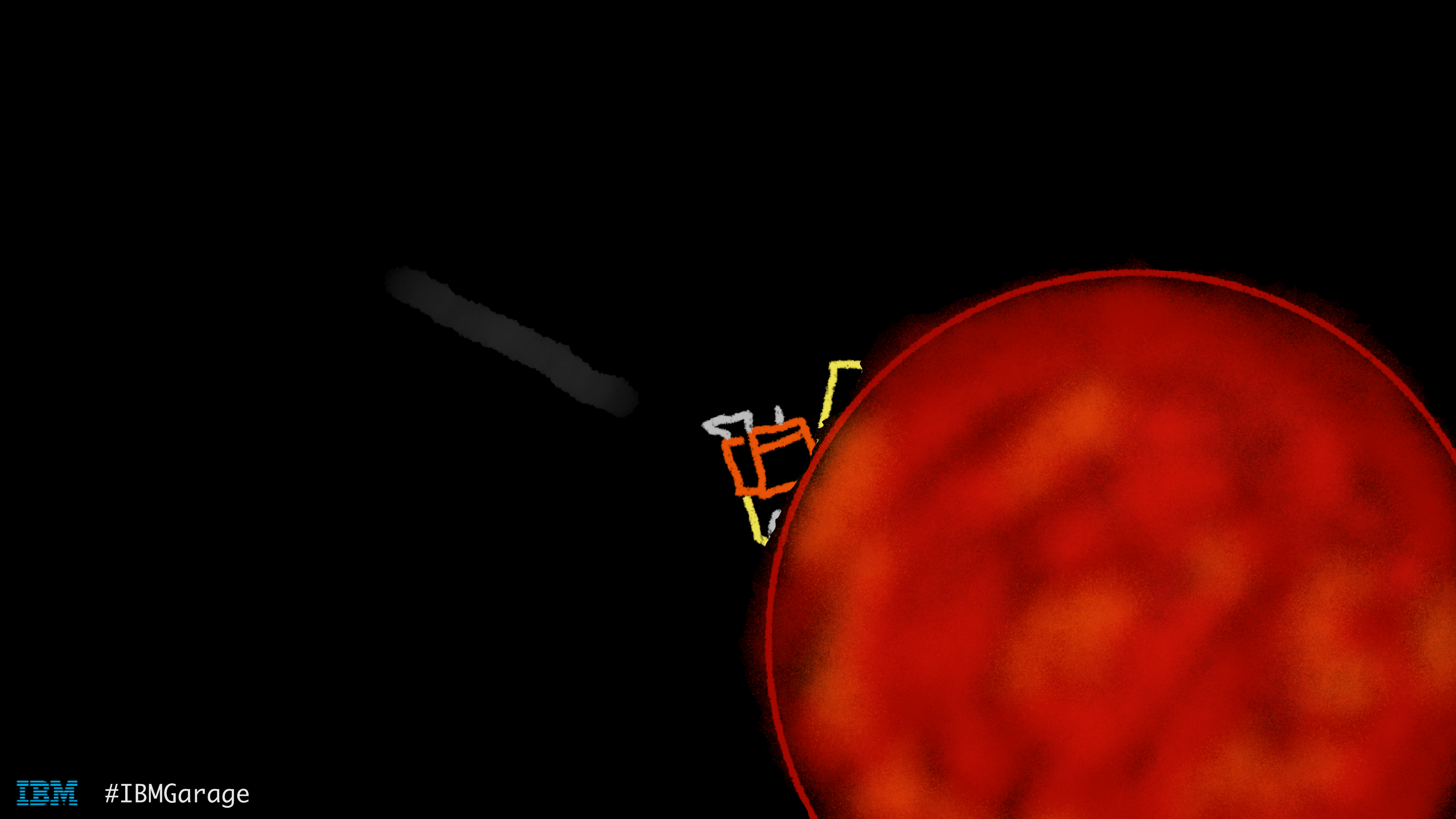
for clarity: this wasn't a
client of mine.

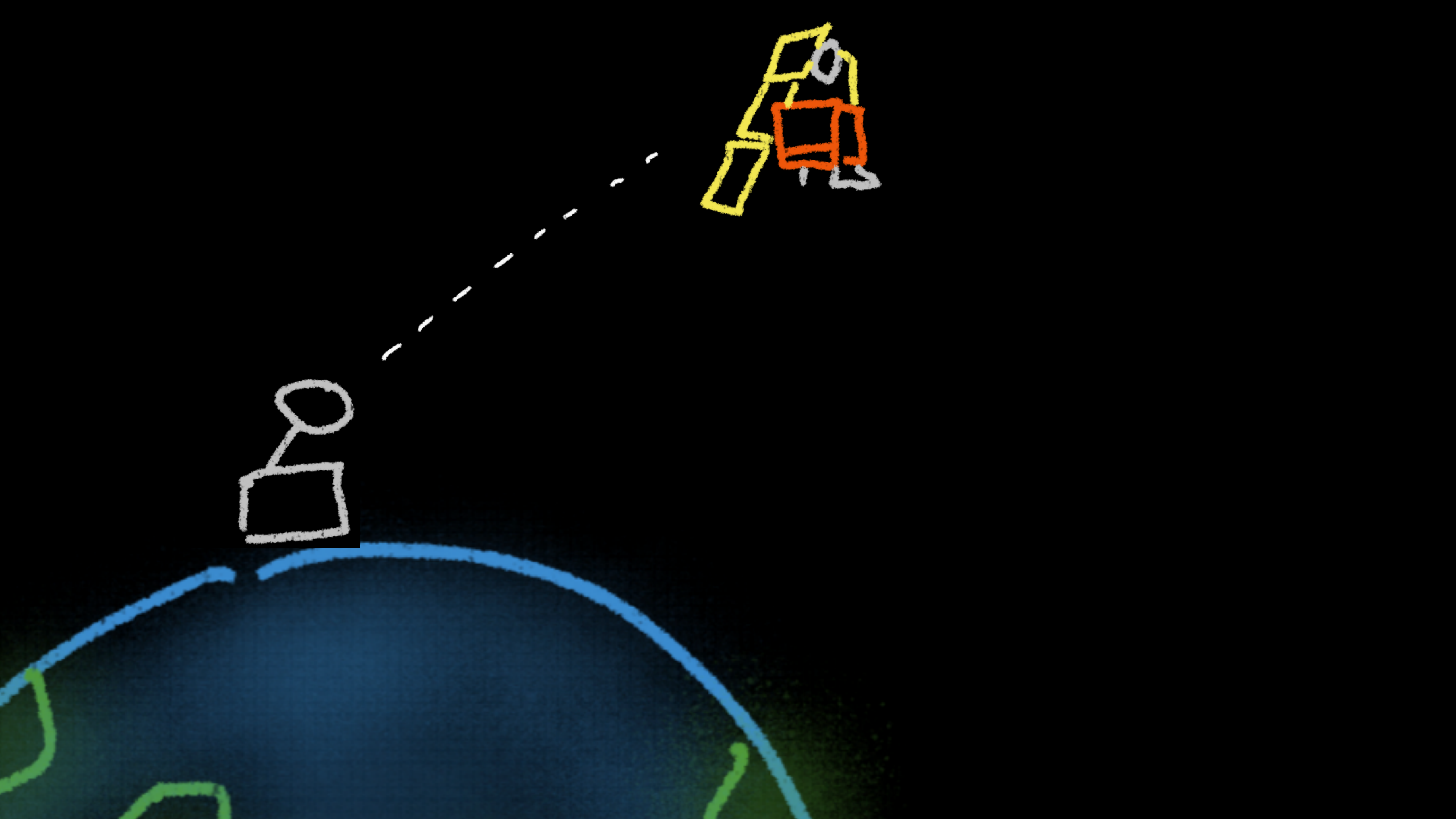
other people's
trenches

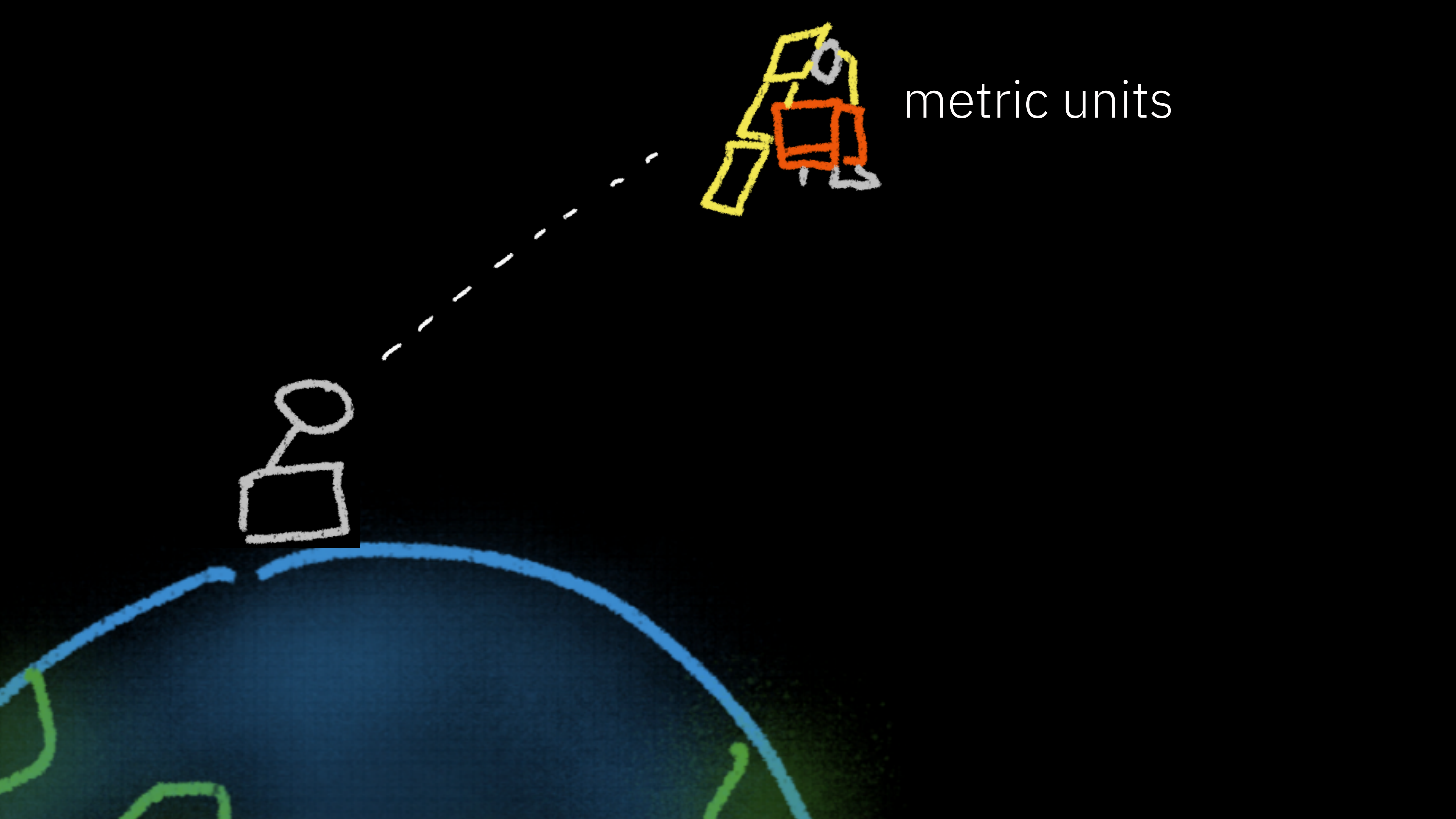


Courtesy NASA/
JPL-Caltech

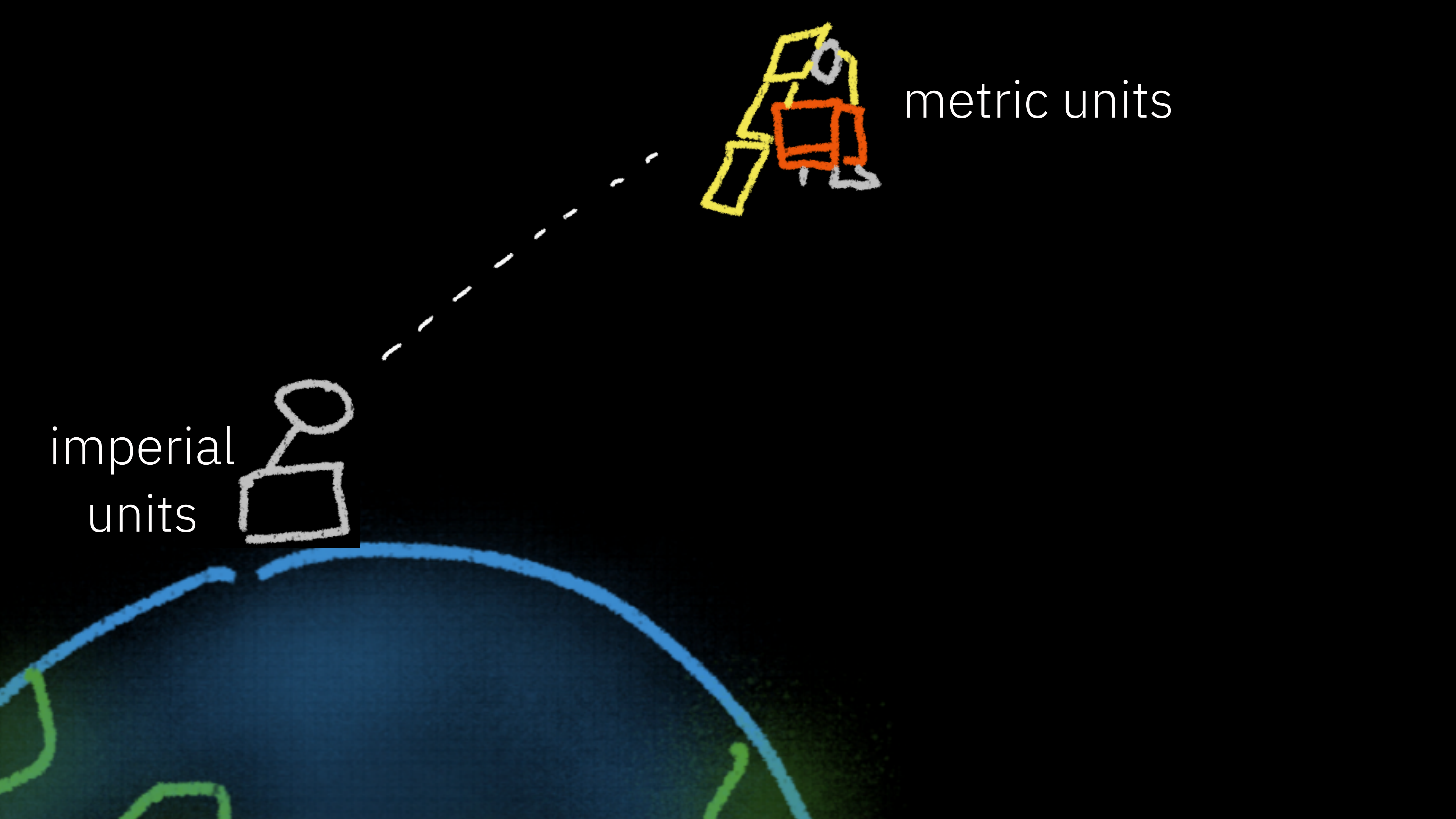








metric units



imperial
units

metric units



imperial
units

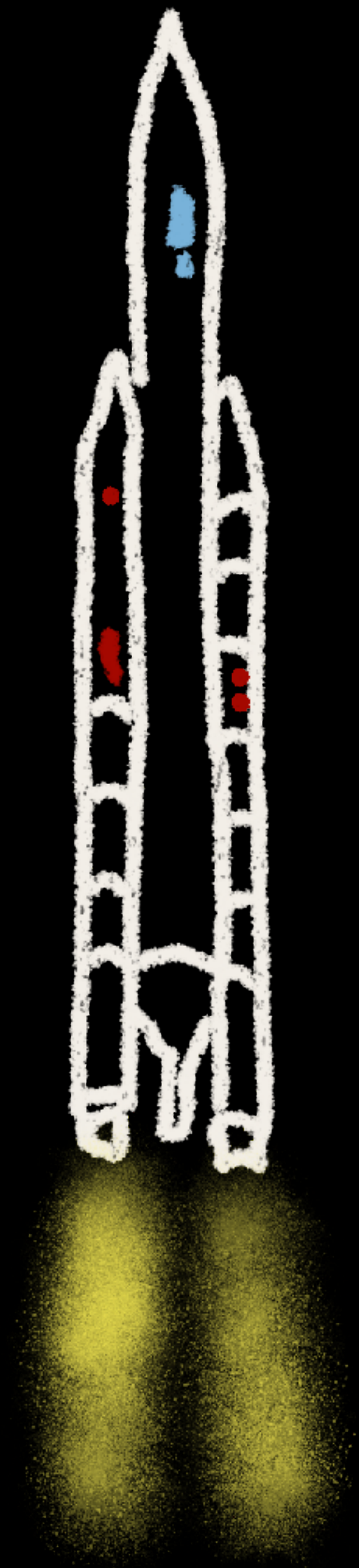


metric units

distributing
did not help

microservices **need**
consumer-driven contract tests

Cluster + Ariane 5



\$370 million loss

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cluster_\(spacecraft\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cluster_(spacecraft))



#IBMGarage

@holly_cummins

Cluster + Ariane 5

\$370 million loss

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cluster_\(spacecraft\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cluster_(spacecraft))

they tested it ...

they tested it ...

but stubbed out one component.

they tested it ...

but stubbed out one component.

that component was the one that broke.

“Had we done end-to-end testing,
we believe this error would have
been caught.”

Arthur Stephenson
Chief Investigator



microservices **need**
automated integration tests

“we have a CI/CD”

CI/CD is something
you **do**, it's not a
tool you buy

“i’ll merge my branch
into our CI next week”

“CI/CD ... CI/CD ... CI/CD ...
we release every six months ...
CI/CD”

continuous.

I don't think that word means
what you think it means.

how often should you push to master?

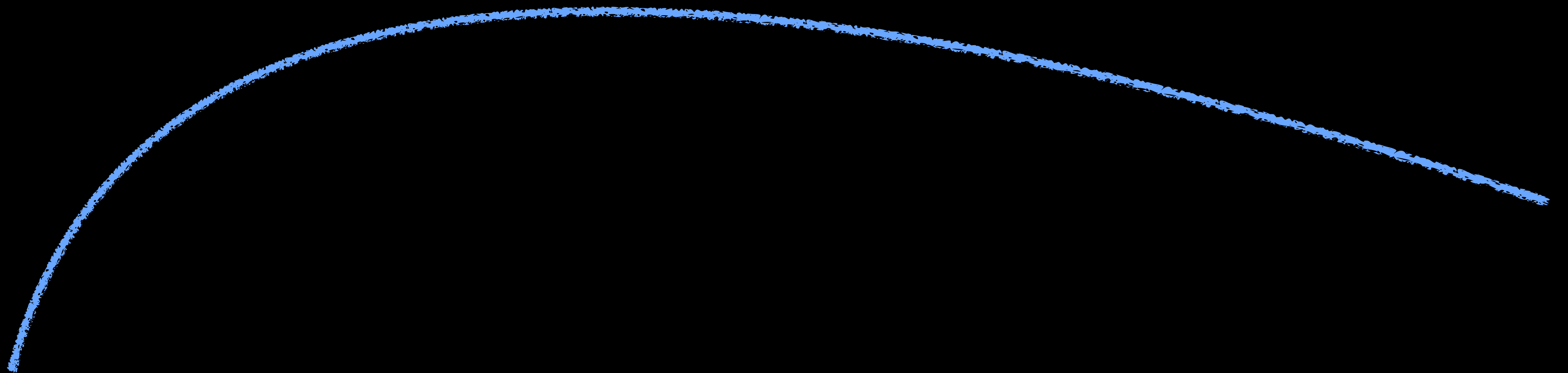


how often should you integrate?



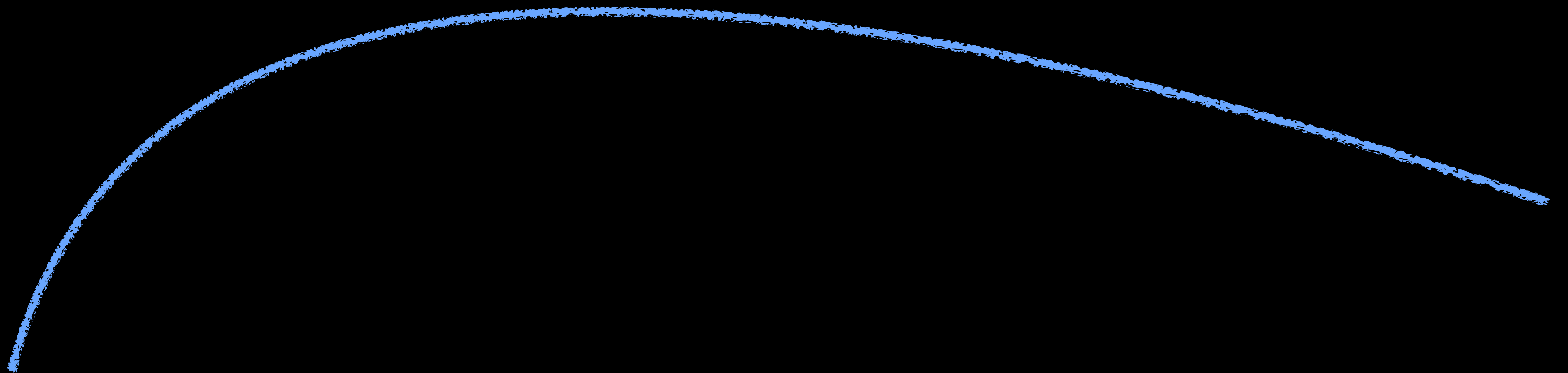
how often should you integrate?

every character



how often should you integrate?

every character



actually continuous
... but stupid

how often should you integrate?

every character

every commit
(several times an hour)



actually continuous
... but stupid

how often should you integrate?

every character

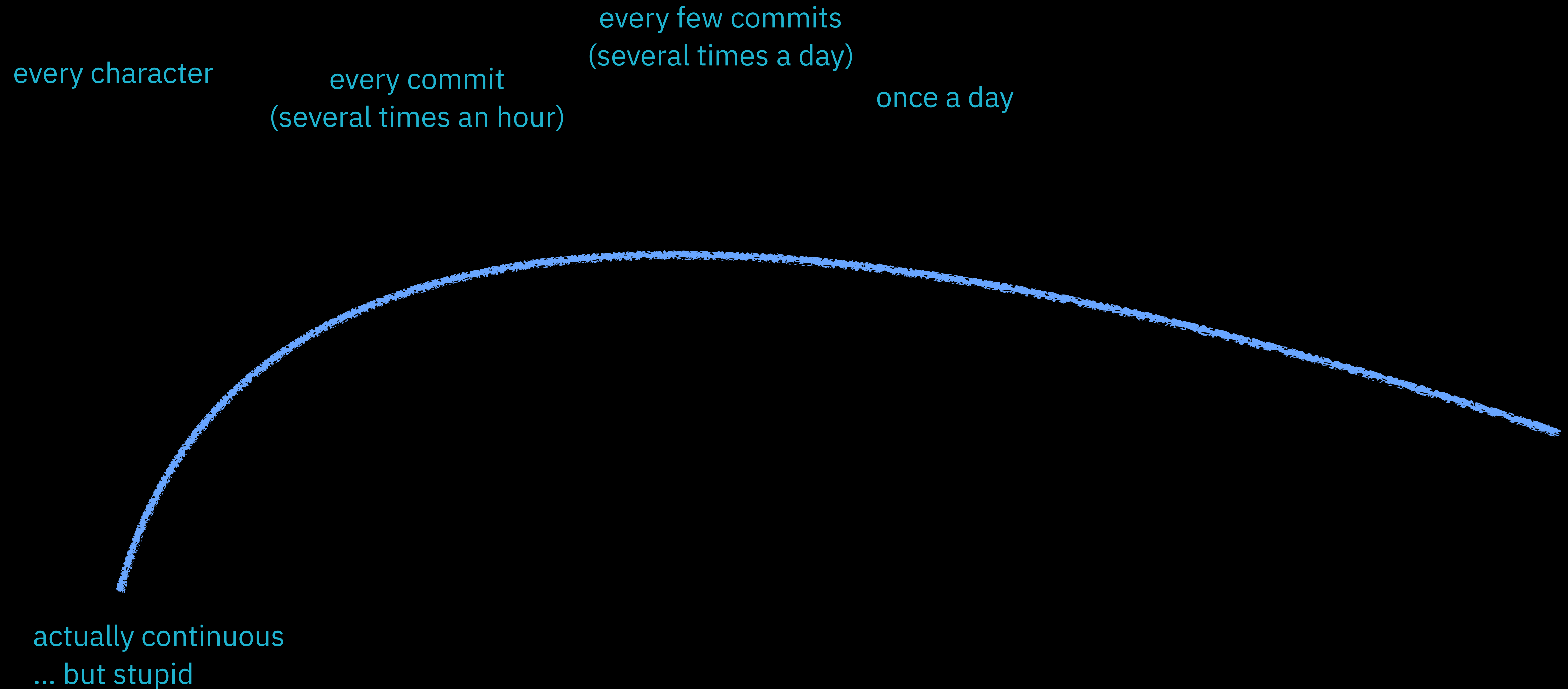
every commit
(several times an hour)

every few commits
(several times a day)

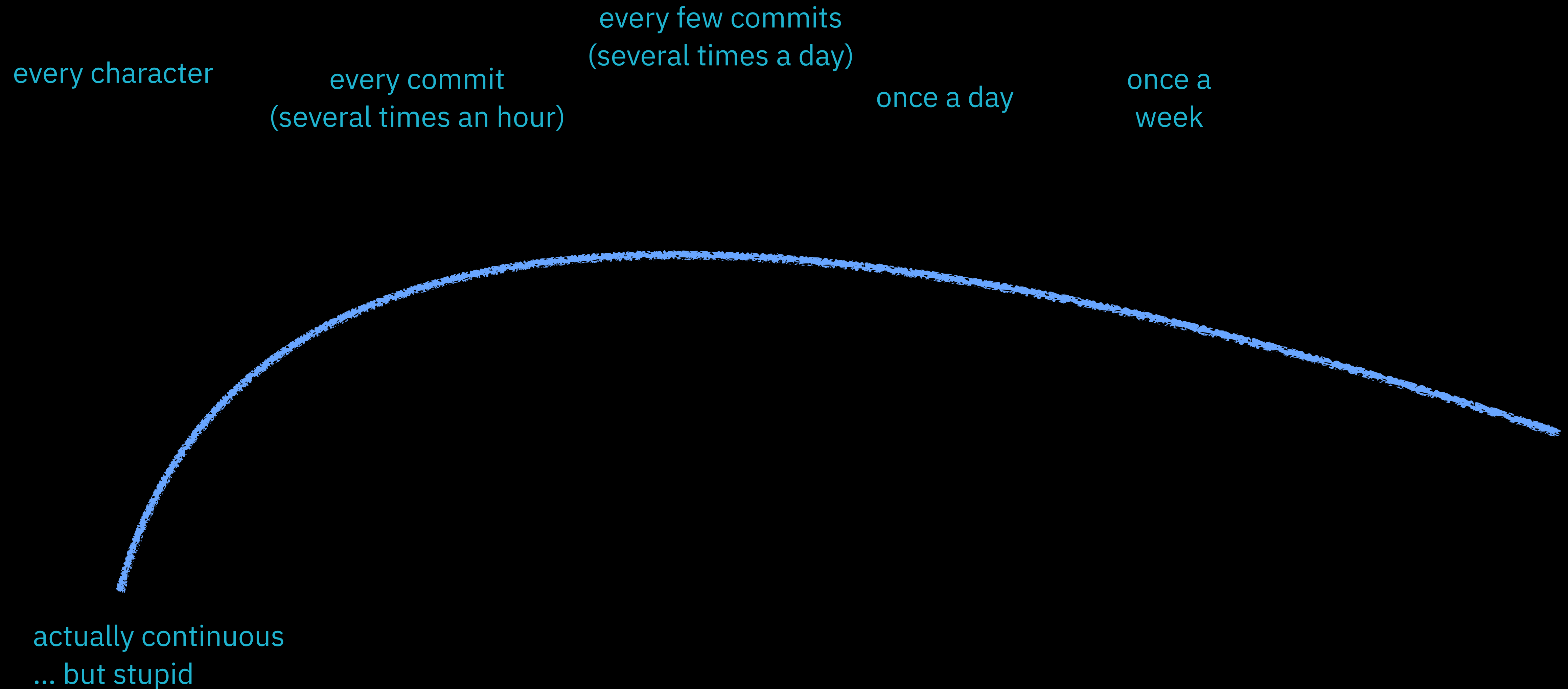


actually continuous
... but stupid

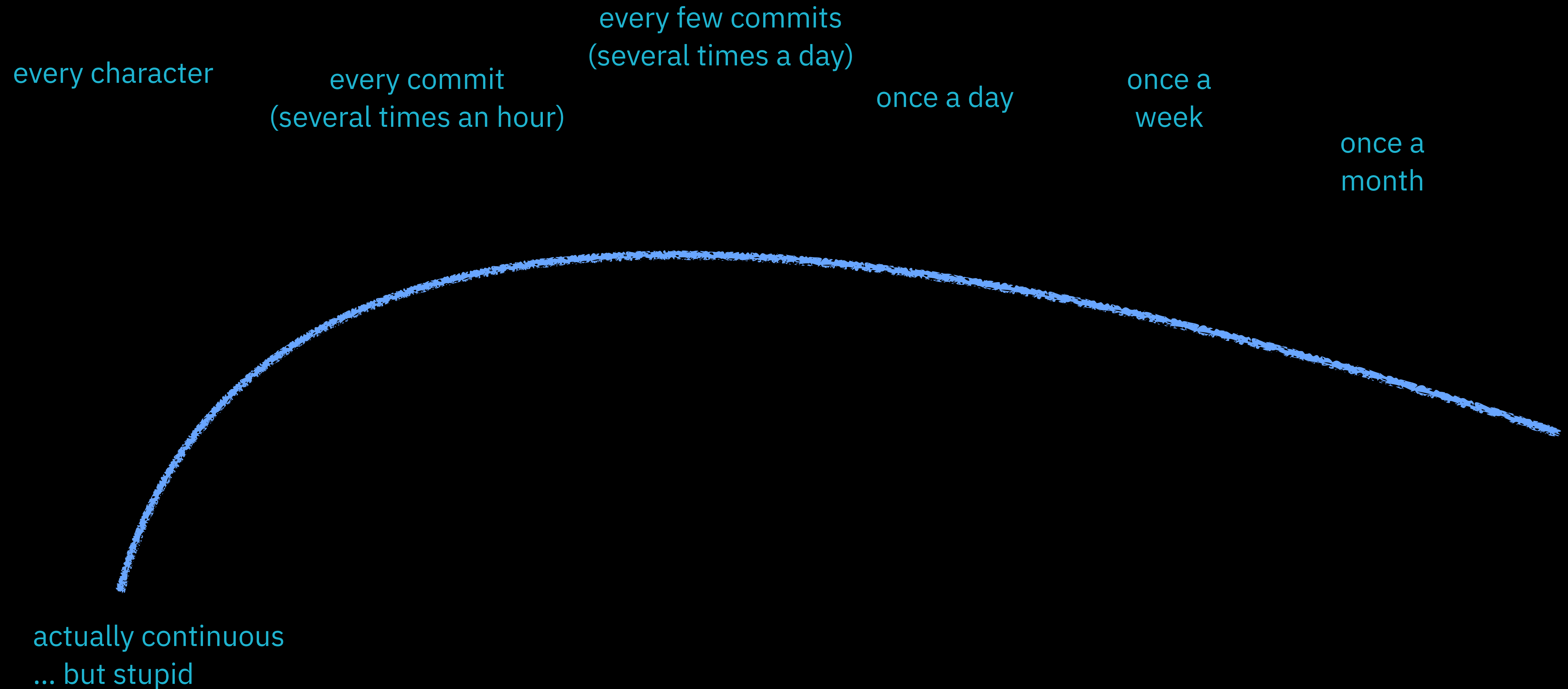
how often should you integrate?



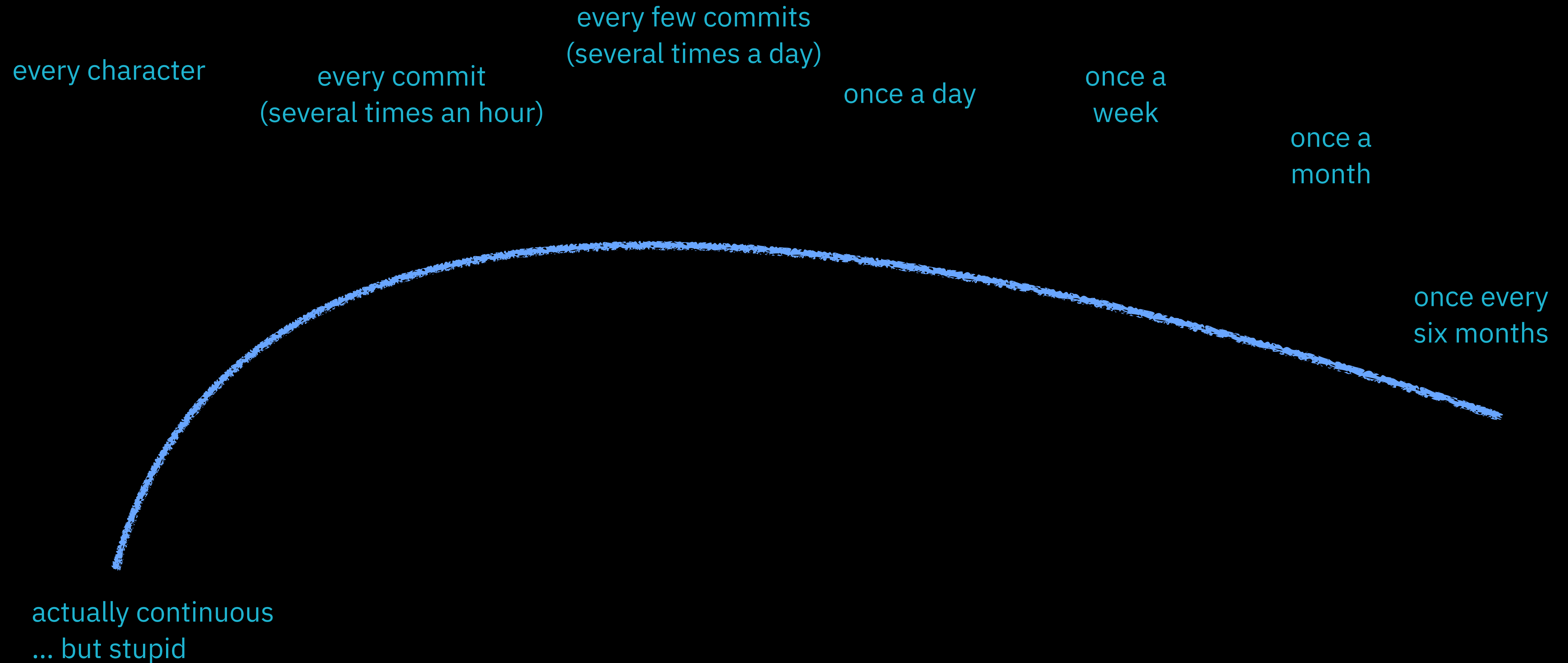
how often should you integrate?



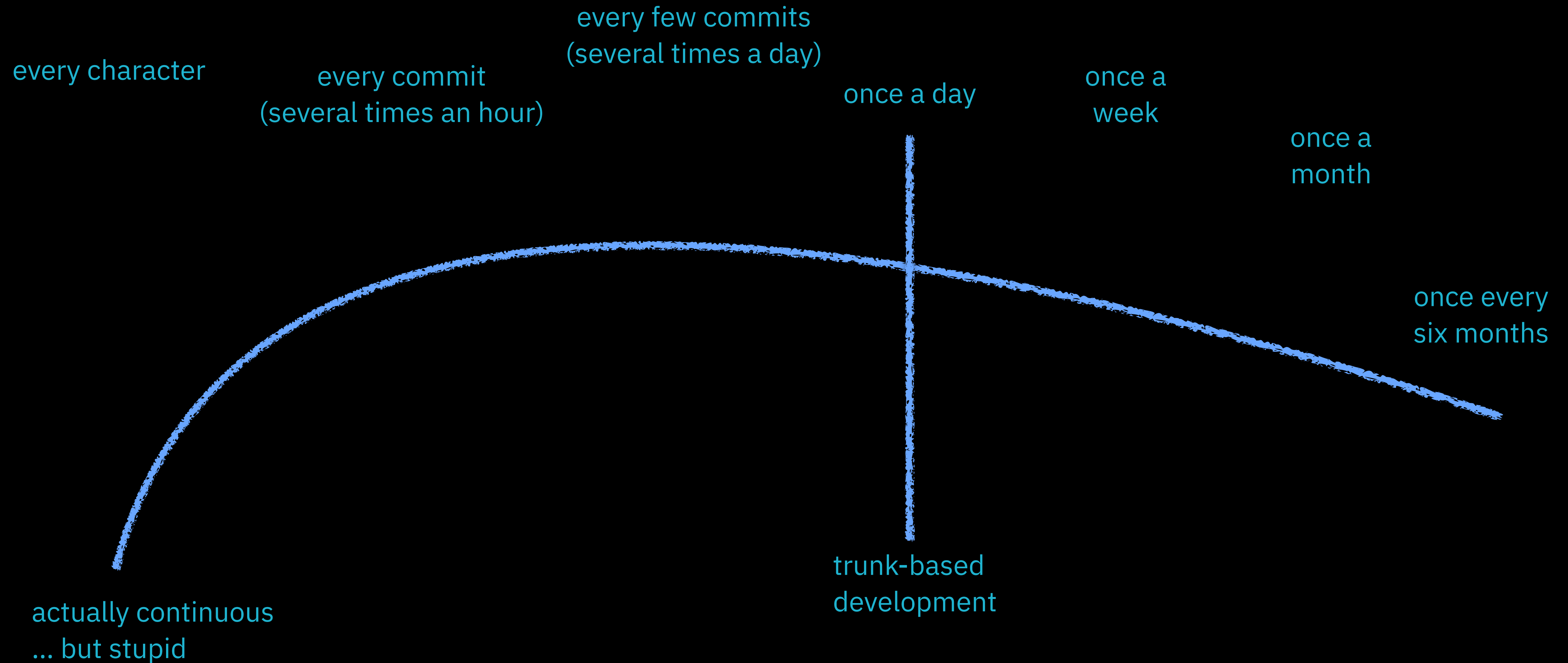
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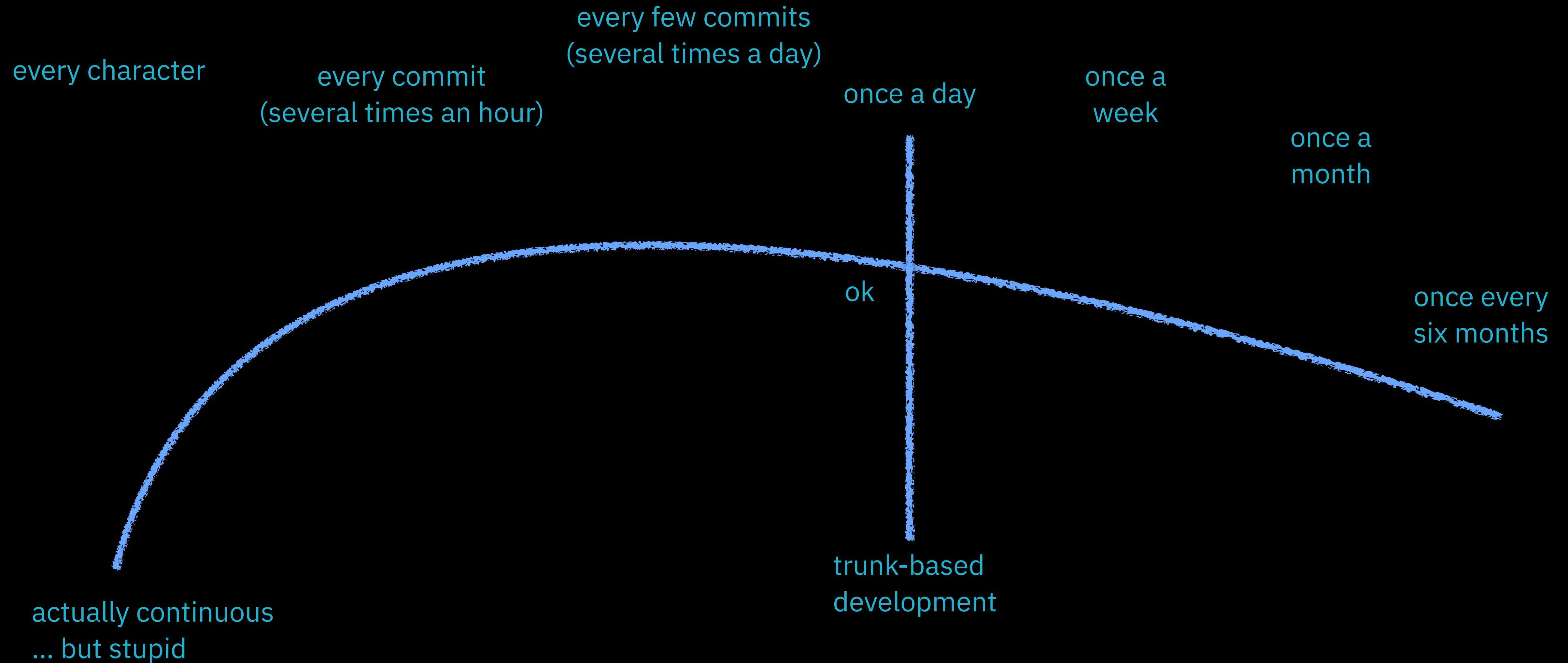
how often should you integrate?



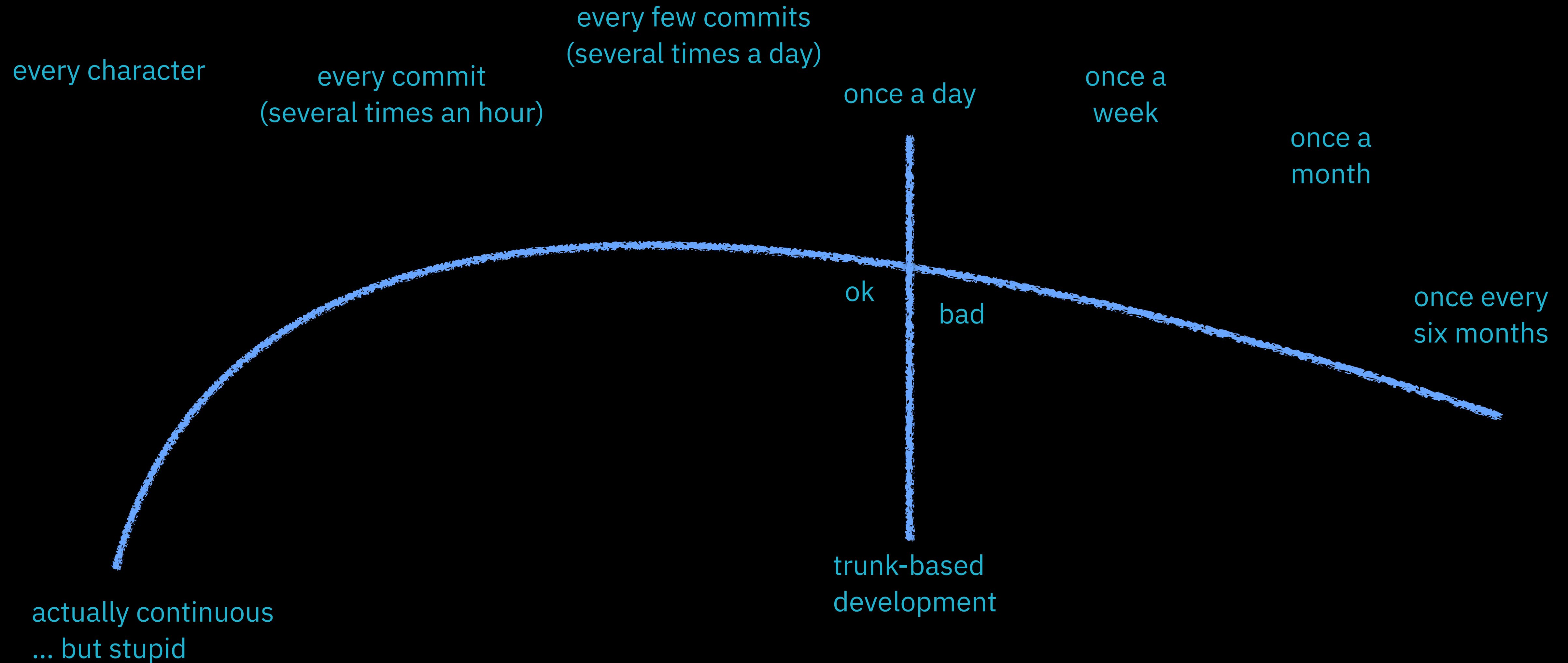
how often should you integrate?



how often should you integrate?



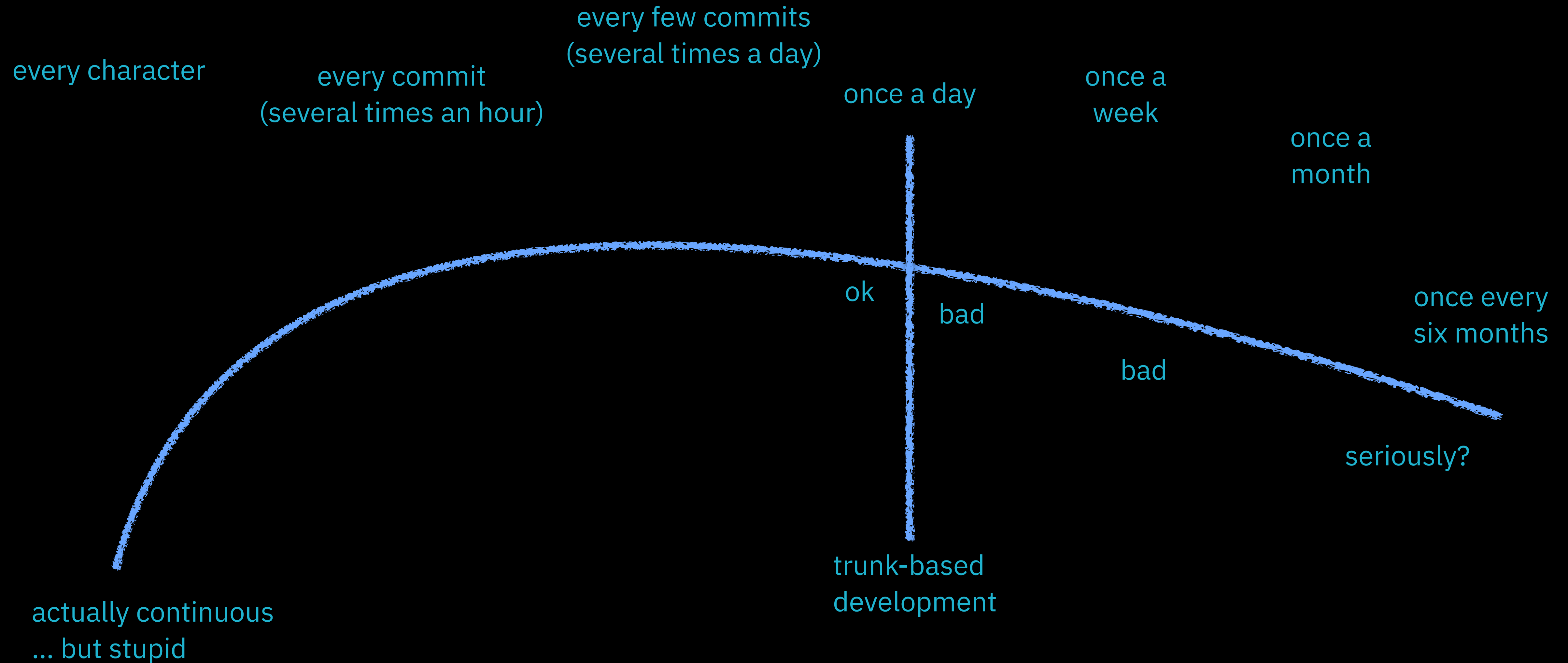
how often should you integrate?



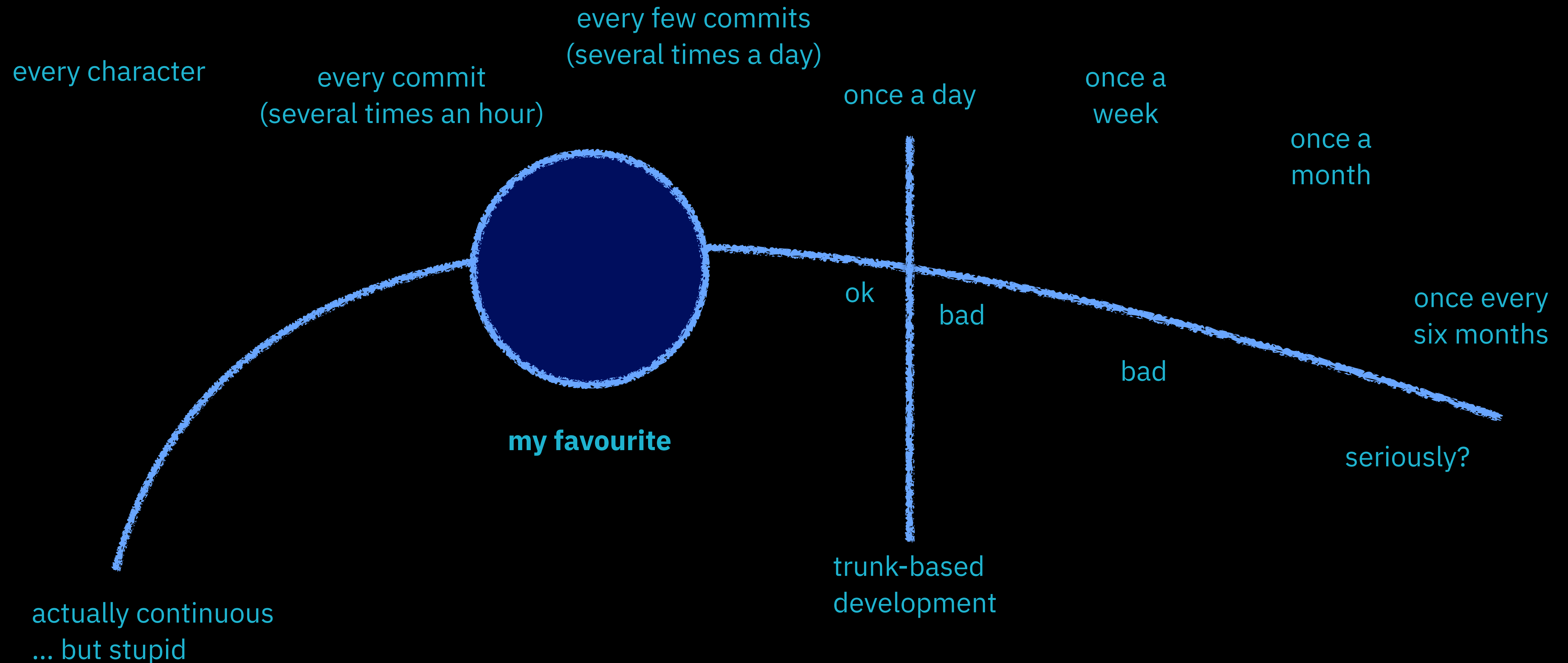
how often should you integrate?



how often should you integrate?



how often should you integrate?



how often should you release?

every push
(many times a day)

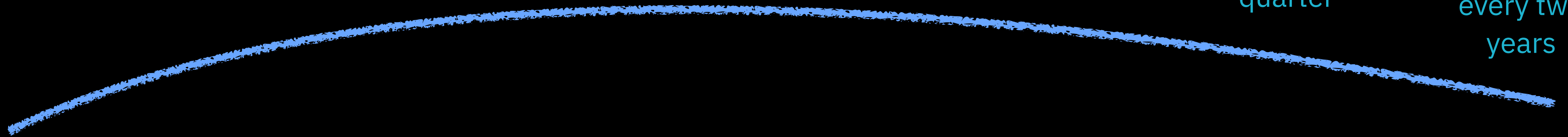
every user story

every epic

once a sprint

once a
quarter

once
every two
years



how often should you deploy?

every push
(many times a day)

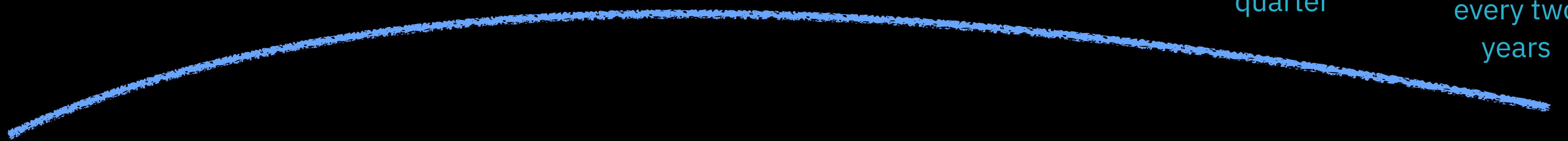
every user story

every epic

once a sprint

once a
quarter

once
every two
years



how often should you deploy?

every push
(many times a day)

every user story

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once a sprint

once a
quarter

once
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years

(need a good handle on
feature flags)

how often should you deploy?

every push
(many times a day)

every user story

every epic

once a sprint

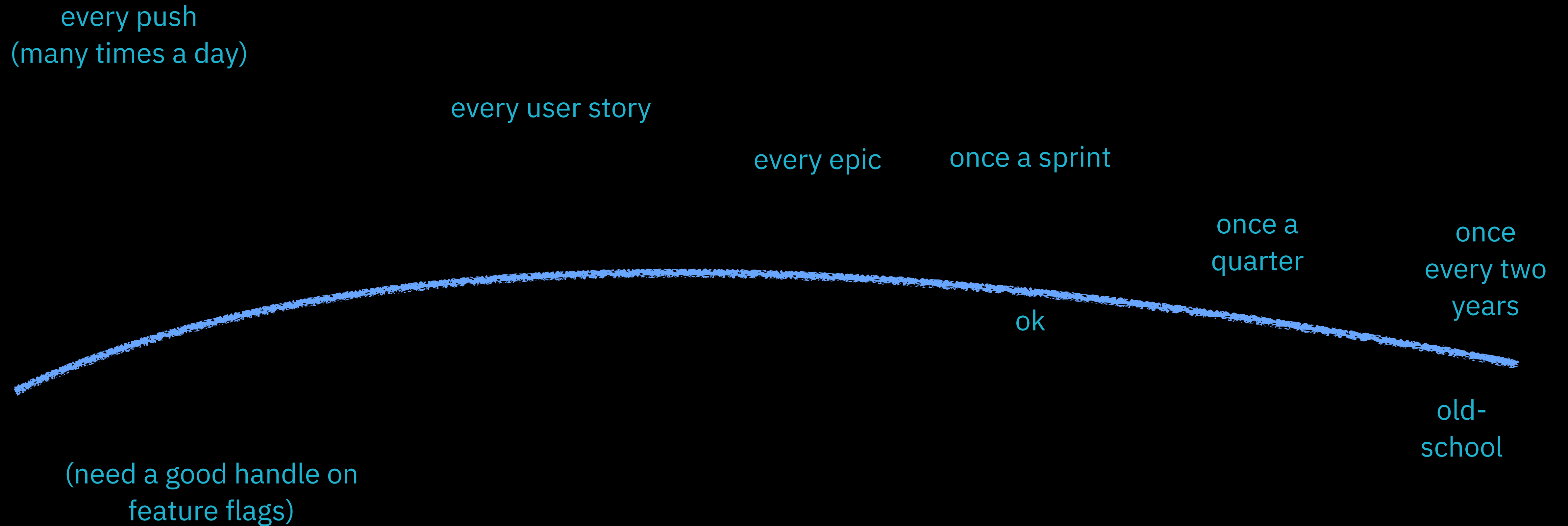
once a
quarter

once
every two
years

ok

(need a good handle on
feature flags)

how often should you deploy?



how often should you deploy?

every push
(many times a day)

every user story

every epic

once a sprint

once a
quarter

once
every two
years

ok

sigh

old-
school

(need a good handle on
feature flags)

how often should you deploy?

every push
(many times a day)

every user story

every epic

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once a
quarter

once
every two
years

ok

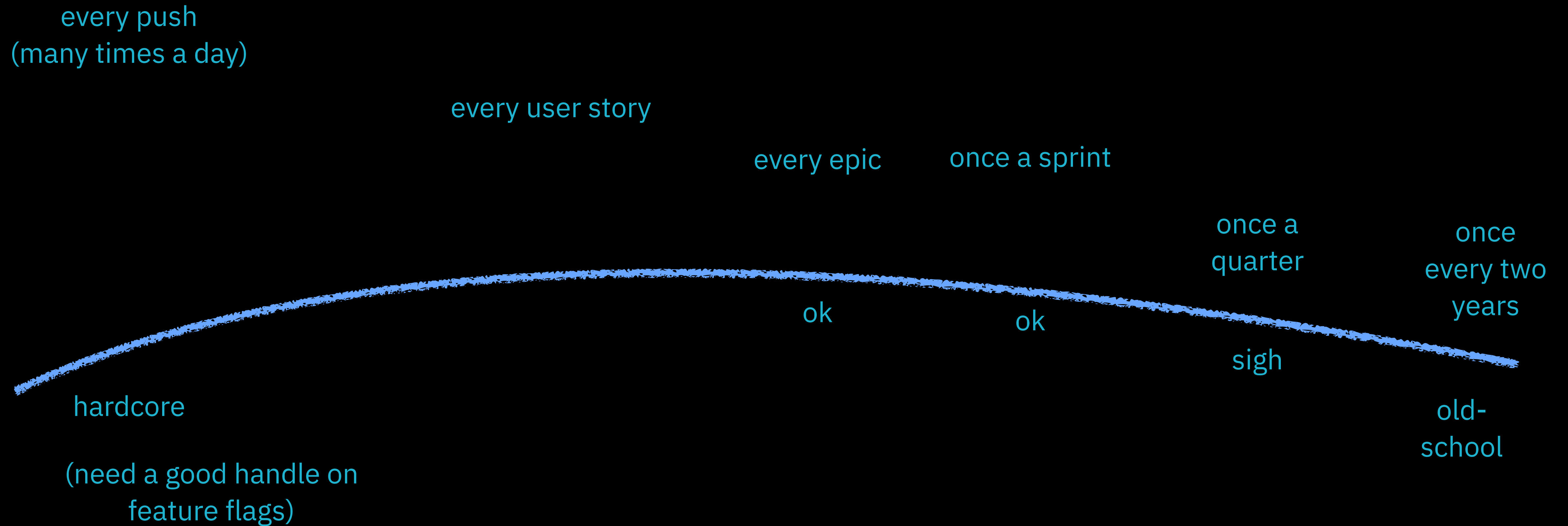
ok

sigh

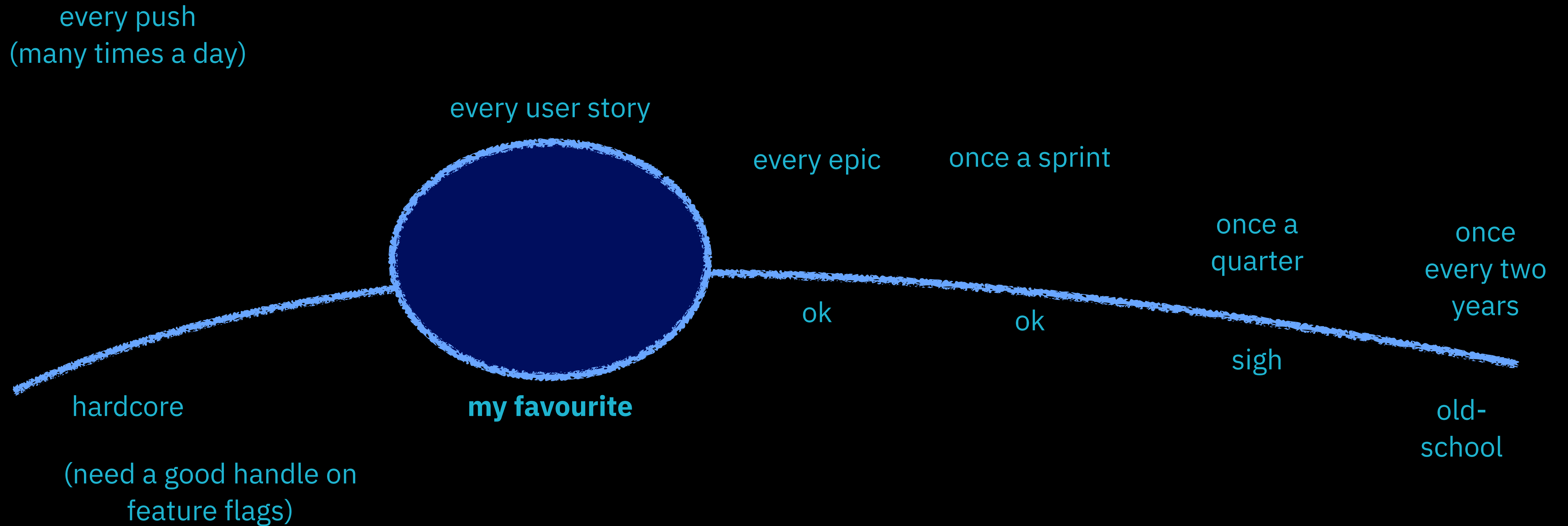
old-
school

(need a good handle on
feature flags)

how often should you deploy?



how often should you deploy?

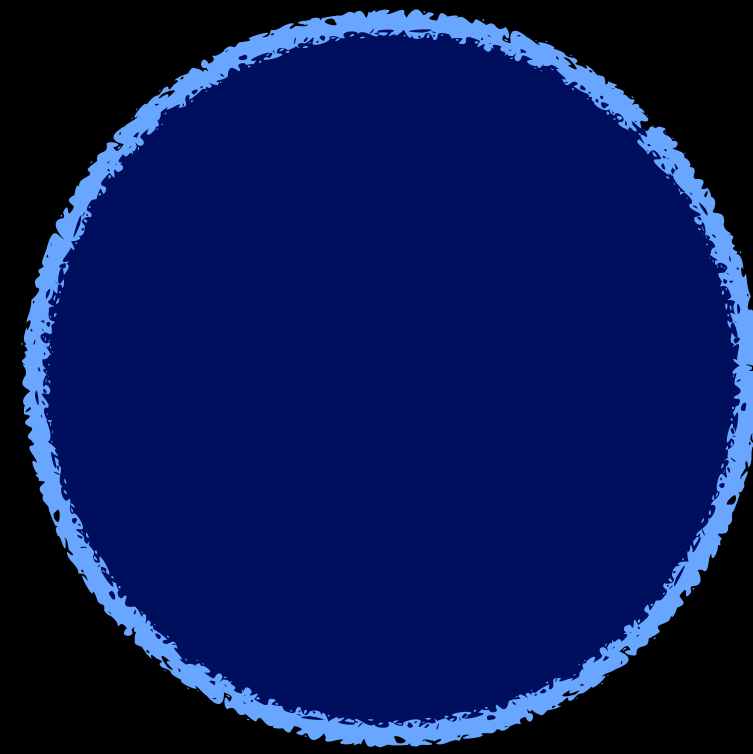


how often should you test in staging?

how often should you deliver?

how often should you deliver?

every push



my favourite

“we can’t actually **release** this.”



why?

what's stopping more
frequent deploys?

“we can’t release this microservice...
we deploy all our microservices at
the same time.”

“it **looks** like it’s complete ... but
nothing works if you click on it.”

front-end

integration layer

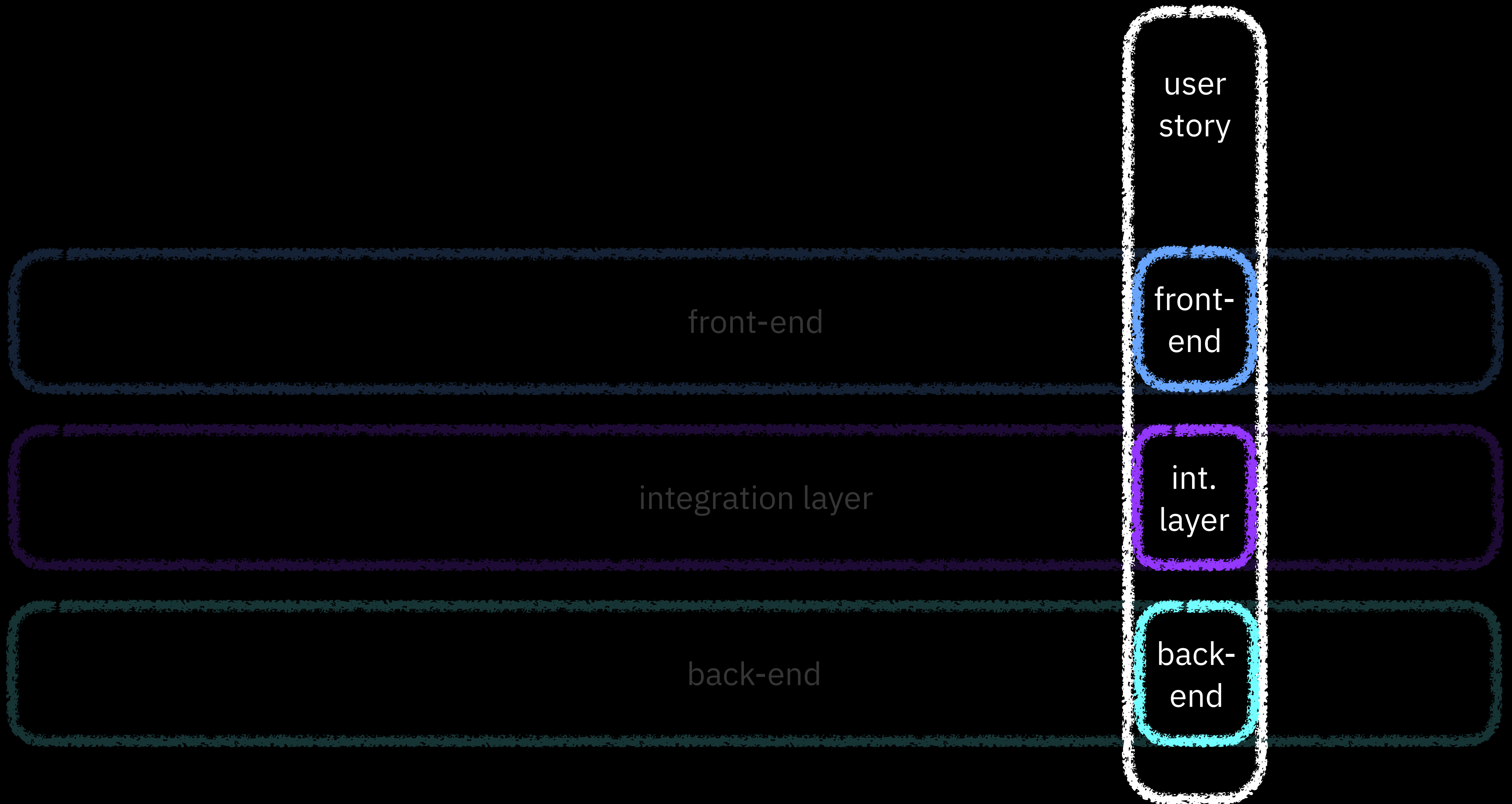
back-end

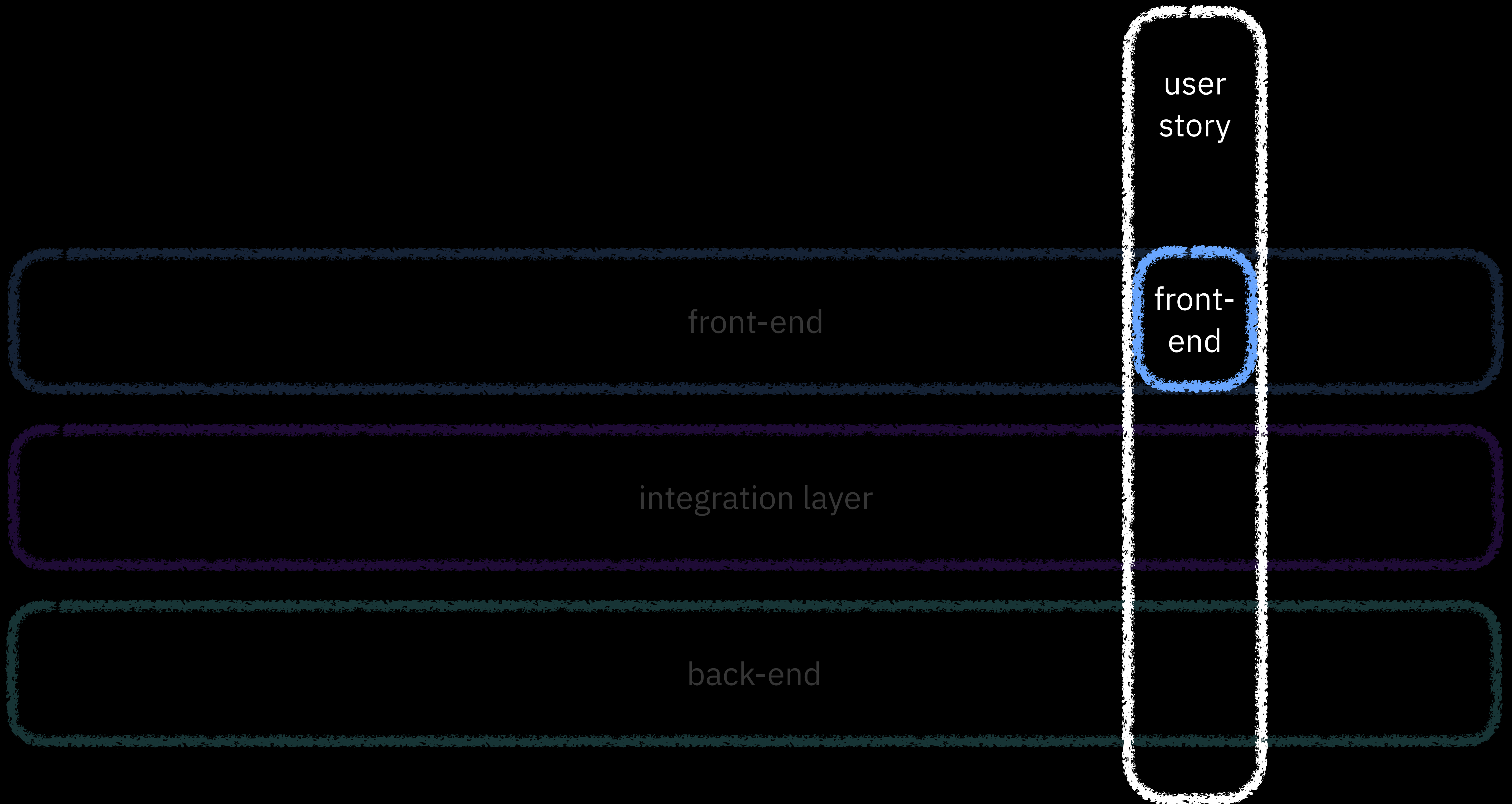
user
story

front-end

integration layer

back-end





user
story

front-end

integration layer

back-end

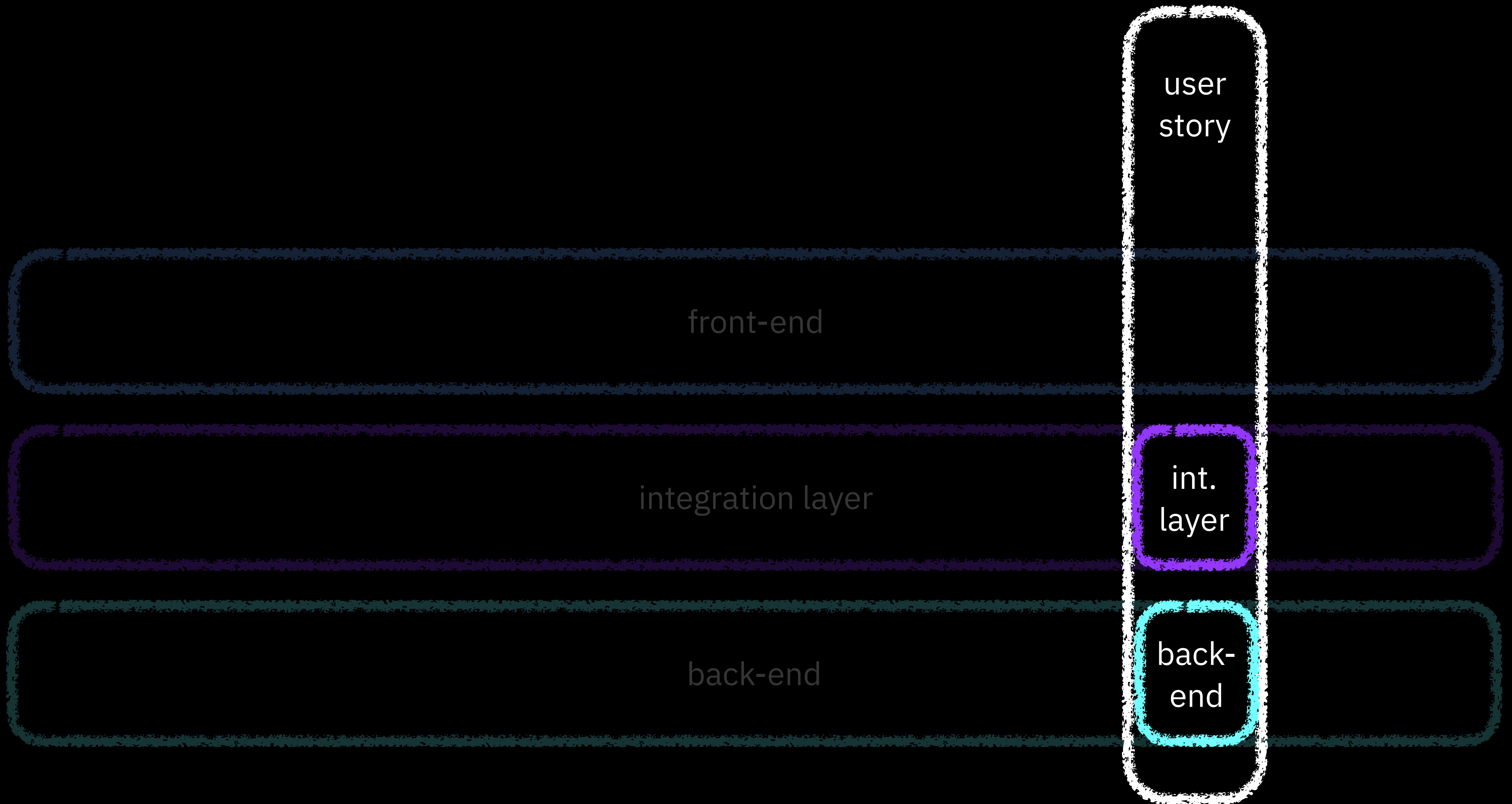
user
story

front-end

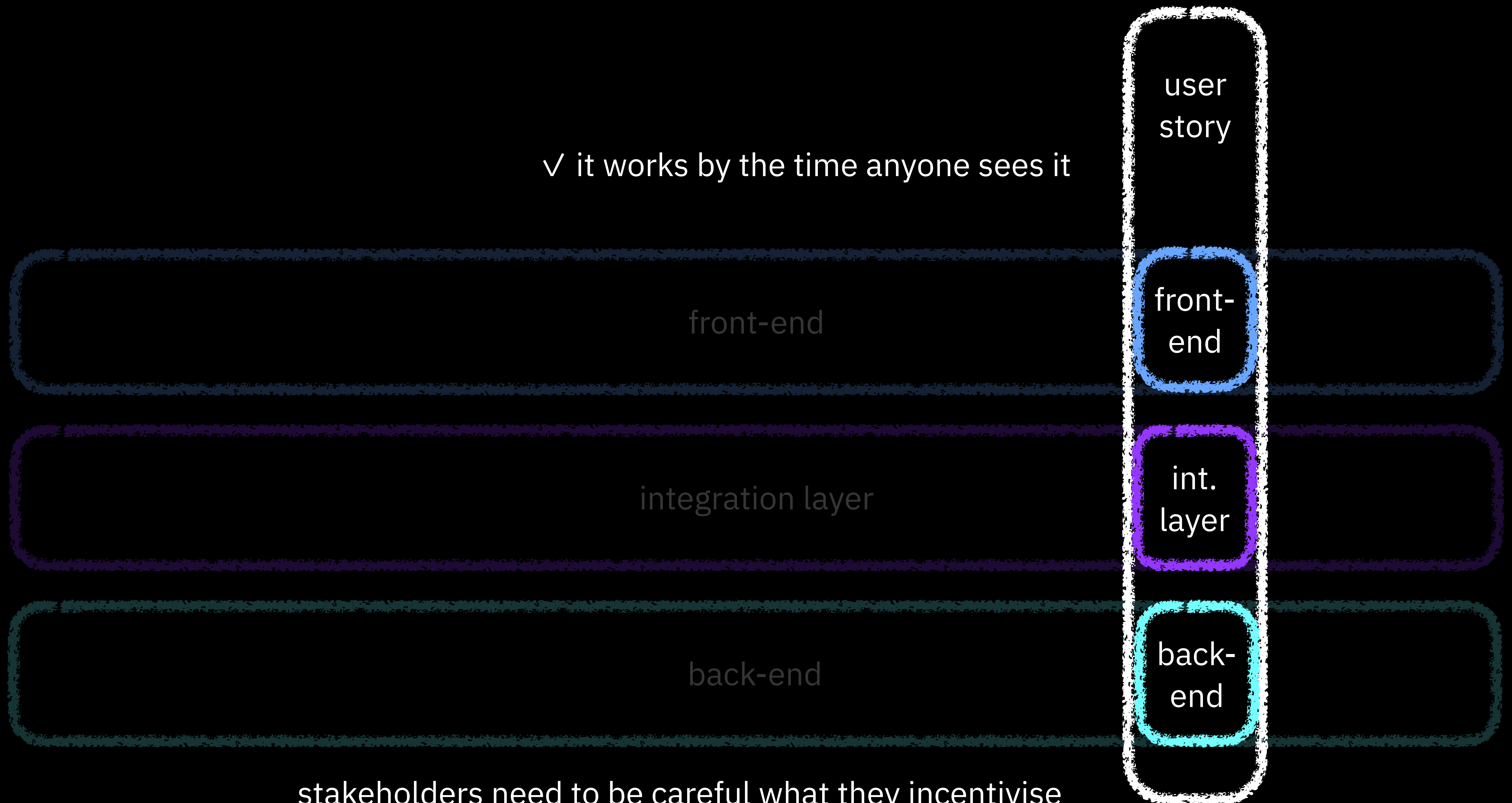
integration layer

back-end

back-
end



✓ it works by the time anyone sees it



stakeholders need to be careful what they incentivise

vertical slices

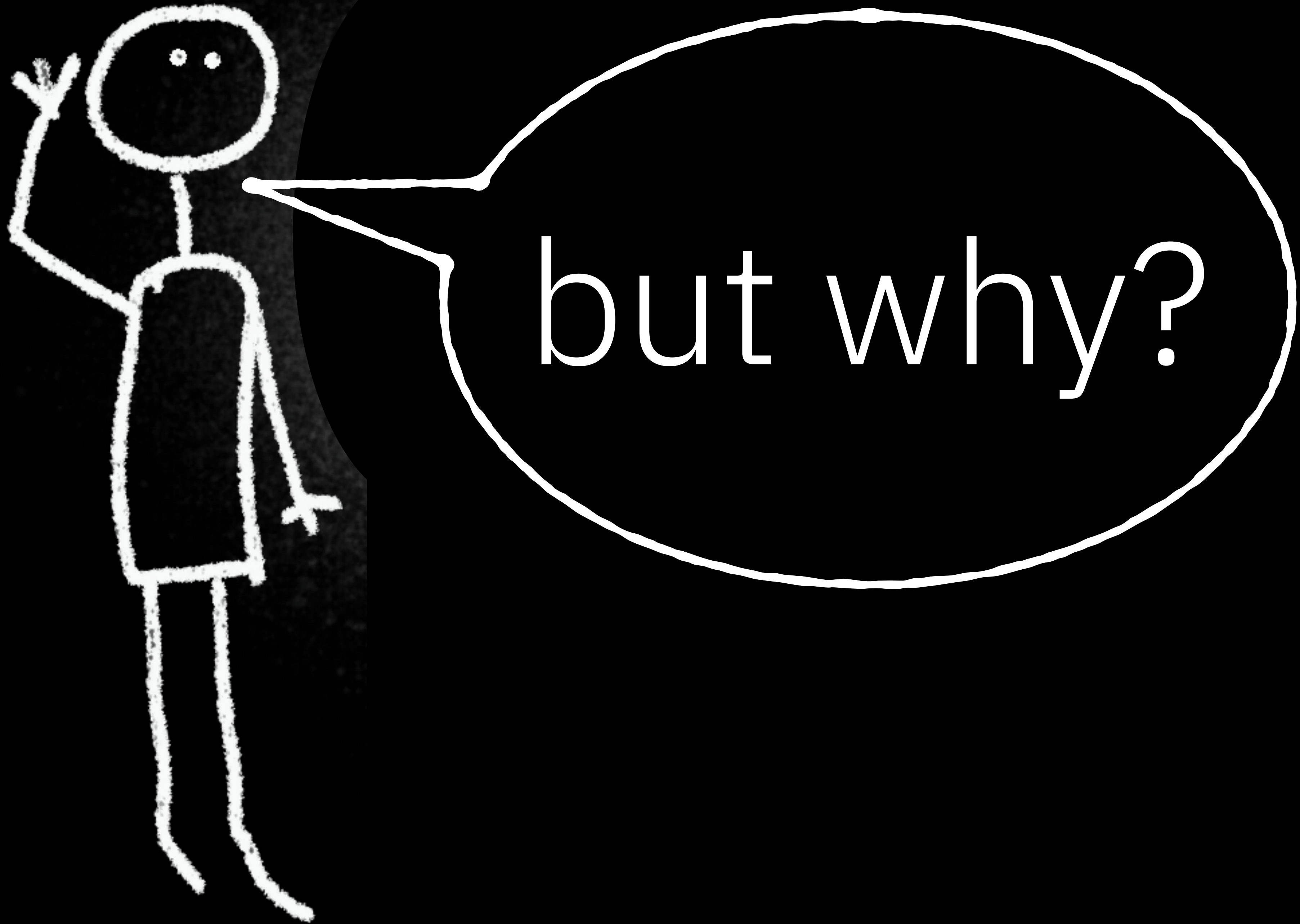
back-out development

back-first development development

deferred wiring

feature flags

“we can’t ship until every
feature is complete”



“users won’t find it compelling
enough if we release now”

if you're not embarrassed by
your first release it was too late

- Reid Hoffman

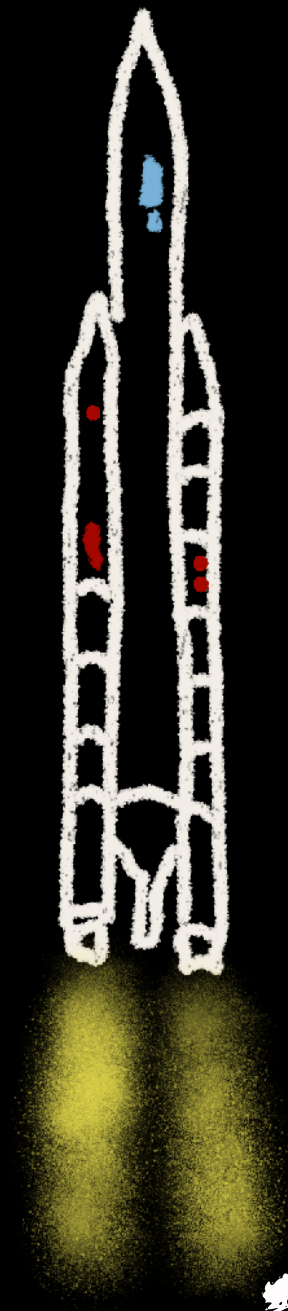
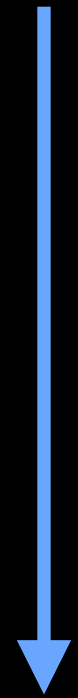
lean

“we only get one chance
to get it right”

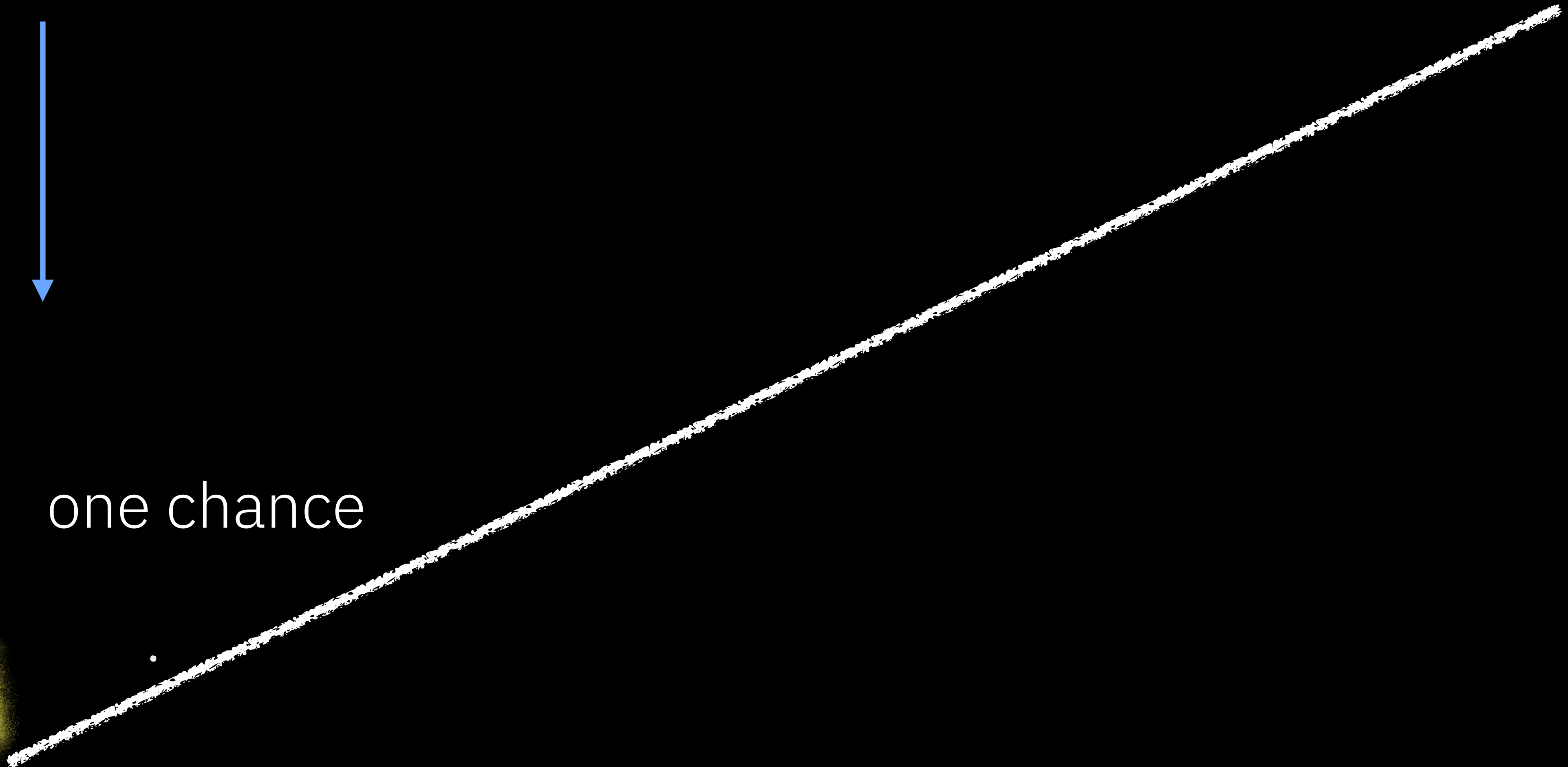
the ariadne failed in 36 seconds

you can't a/b test a
\$370 million rocket

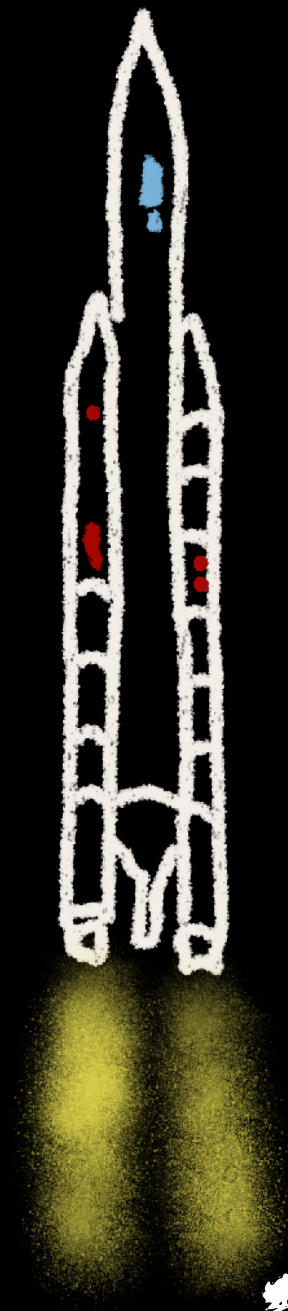
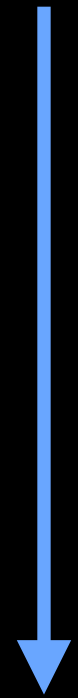
we think
we're here



one chance



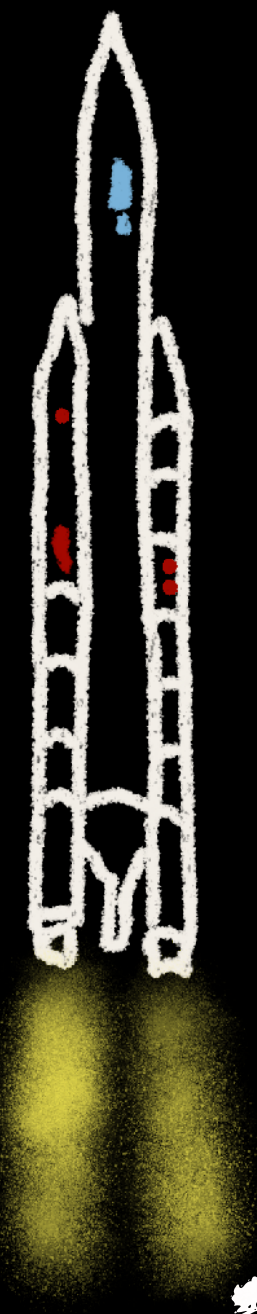
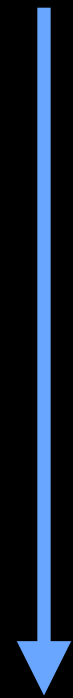
we think
we're here



one chance

brand damage

we think
we're here

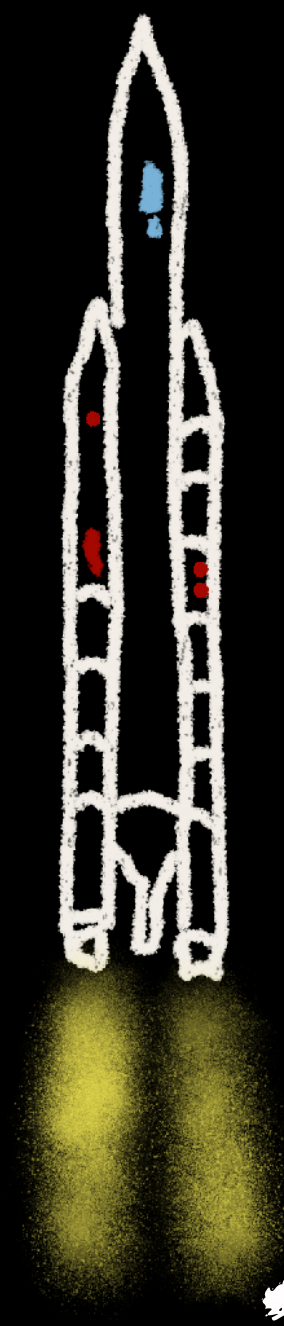
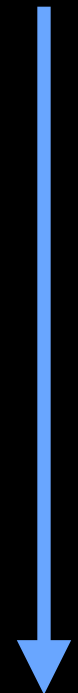


one chance

market failure
(indifference)

brand damage

we think
we're here



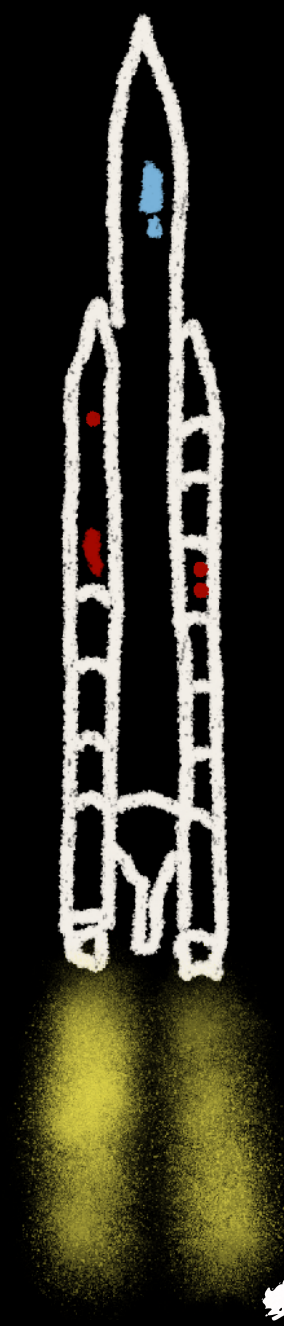
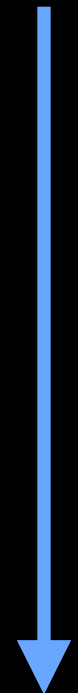
one chance

market failure
(indifference)

brand damage

continuous
improvement delights
growing user base

we think
we're here



one chance

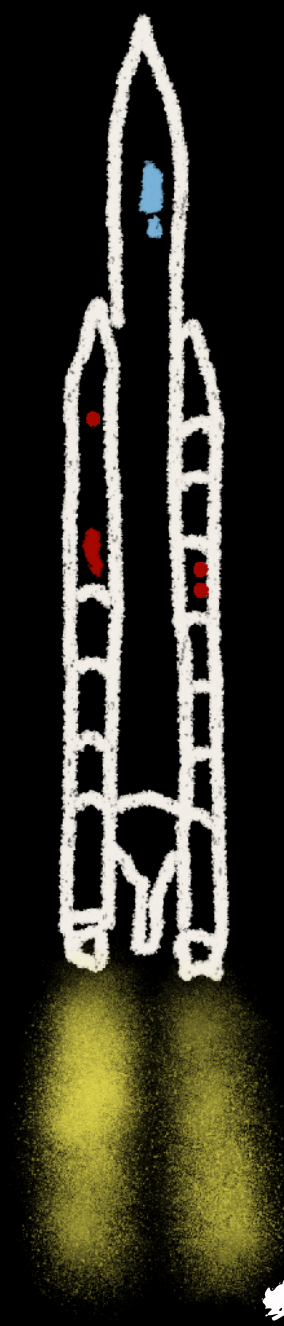
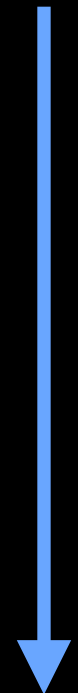
market failure
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improvement delights
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a/b testing

we think
we're here



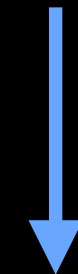
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market failure
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continuous
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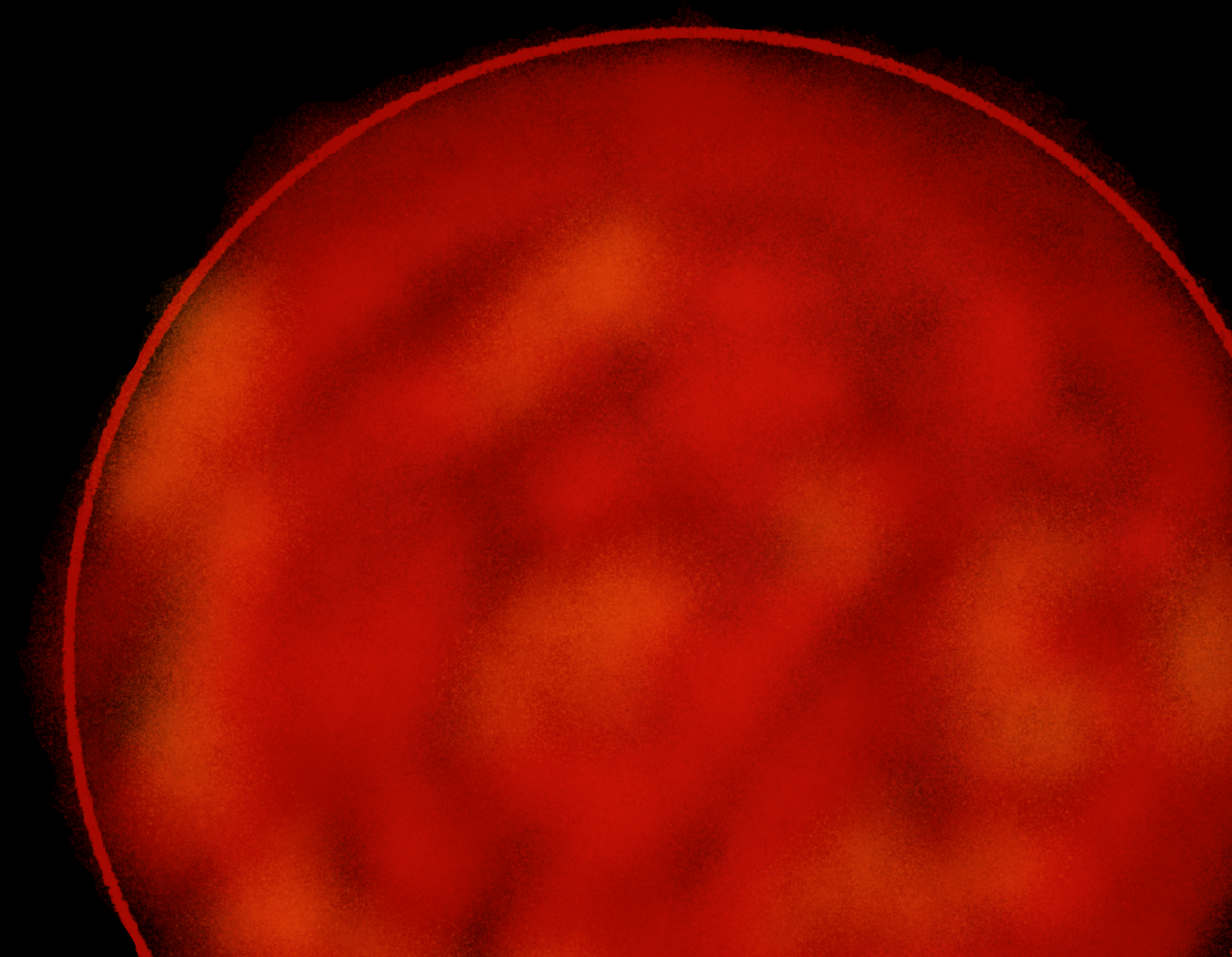
could we be
here?

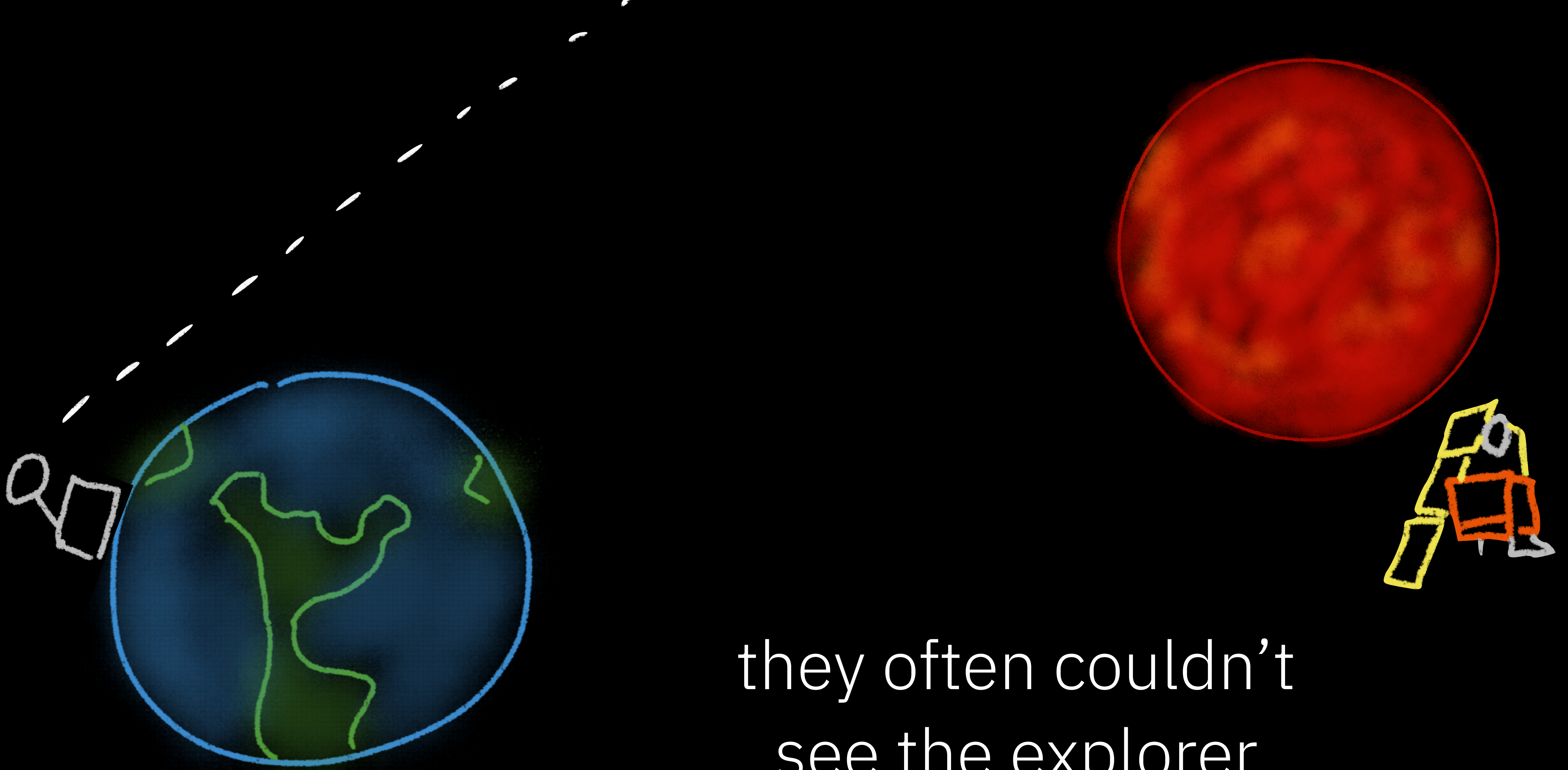


a/b testing



feedback is good
engineering

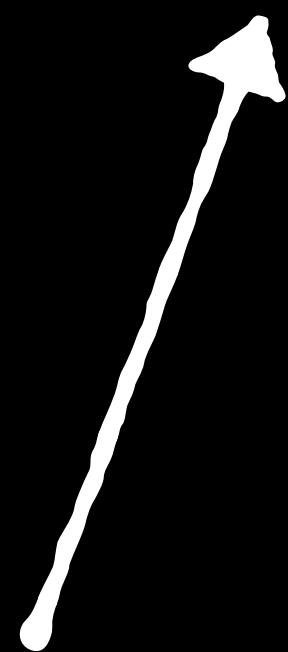
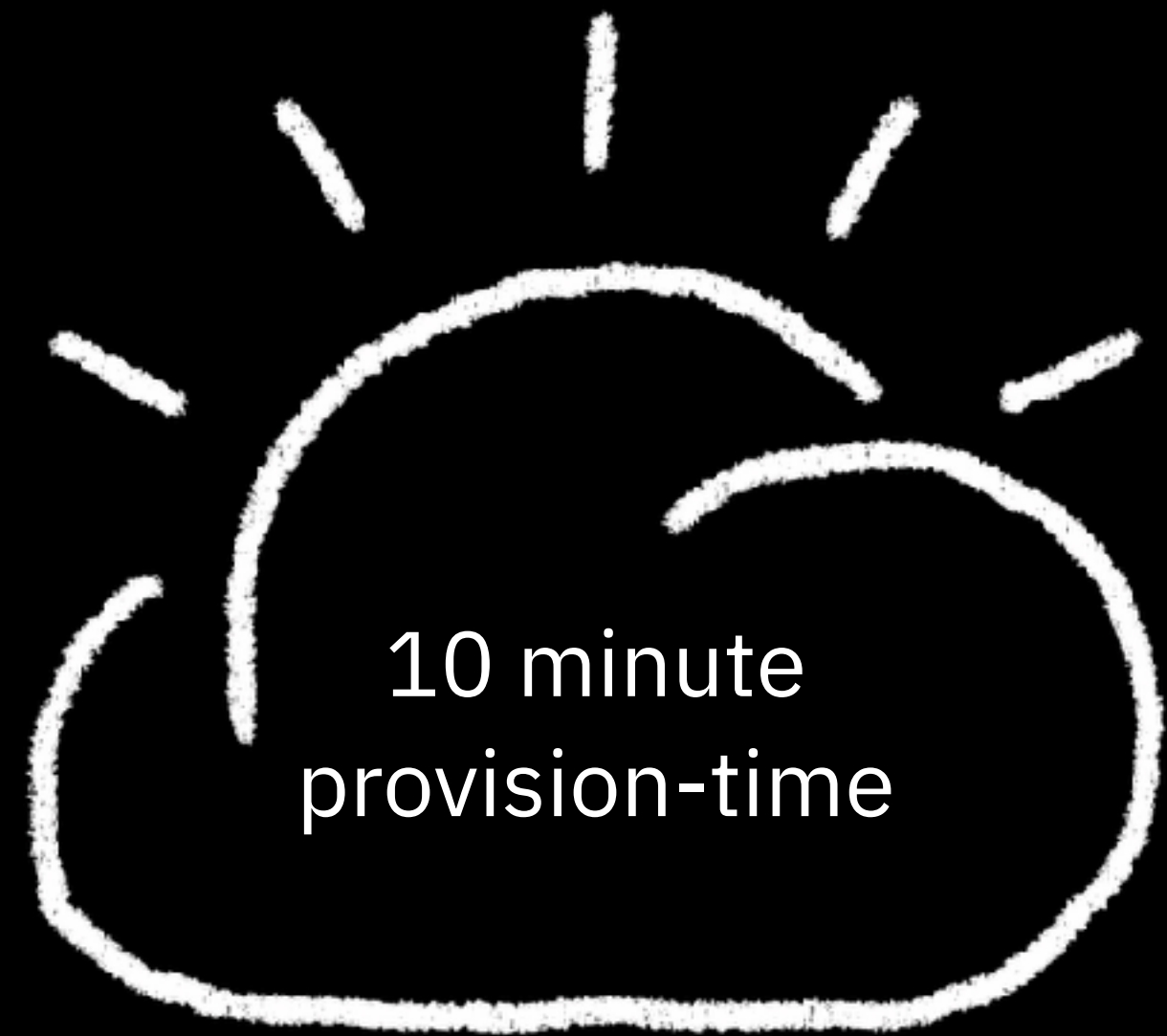




they often couldn't
see the explorer

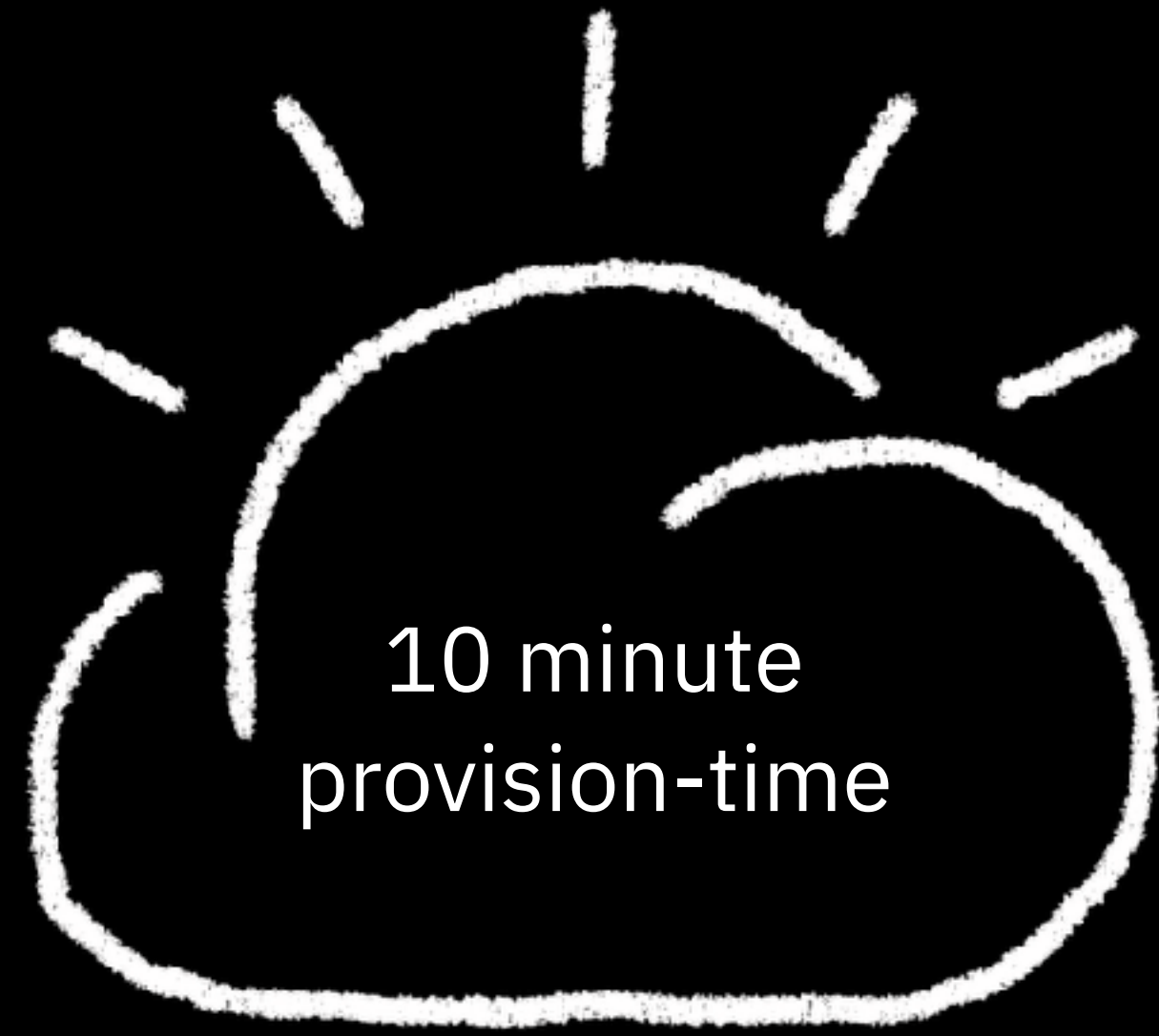
“but our change
control process ...”

“this provisioning
software is broken”

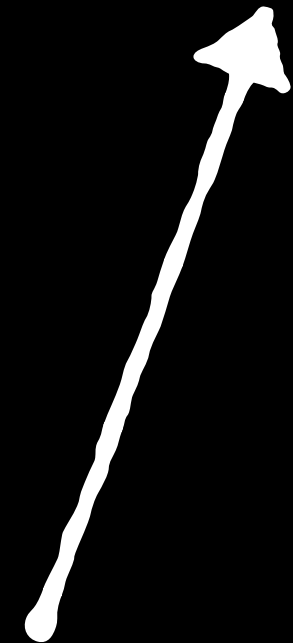
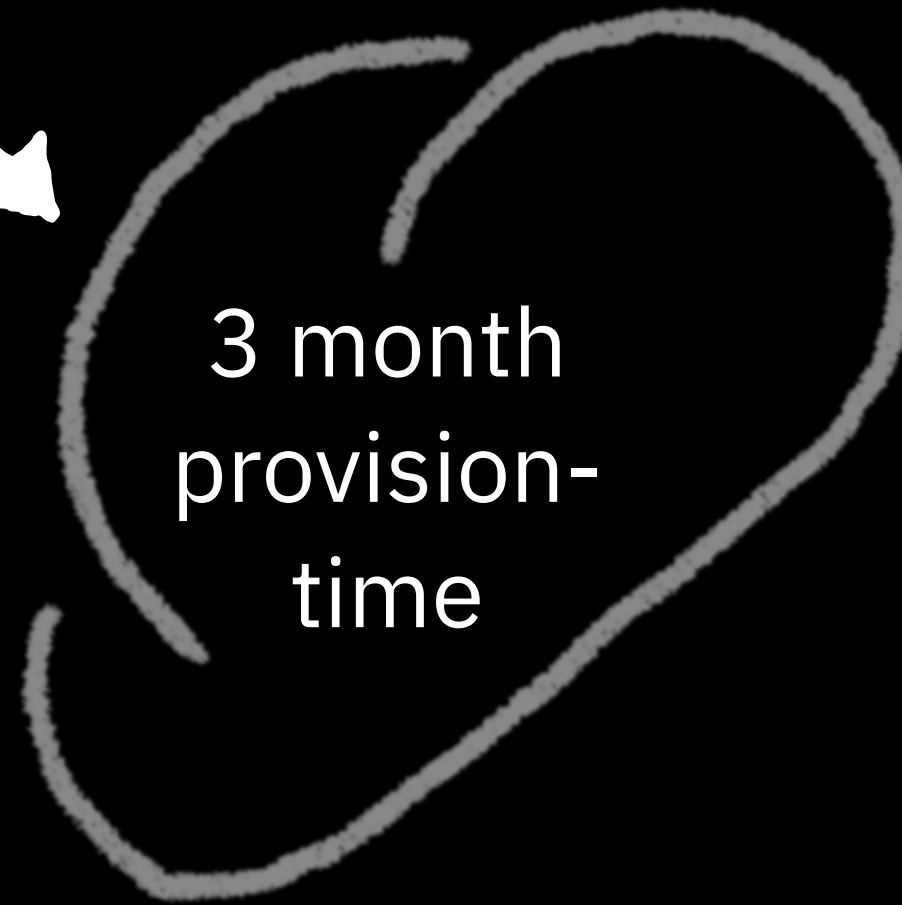
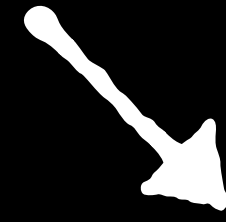


what we sold

“this provisioning
software is broken”

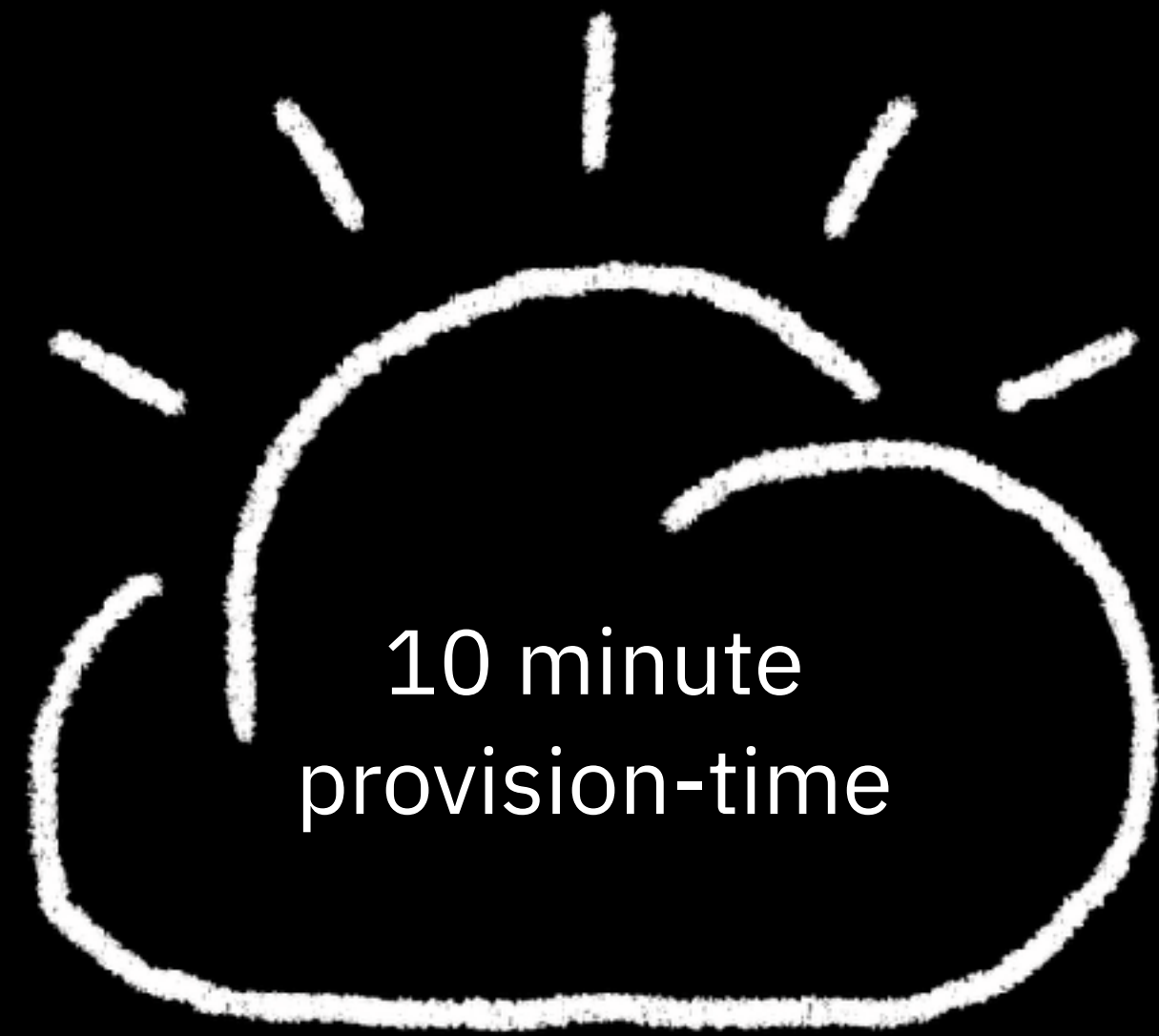


what the
client
thought
they'd got

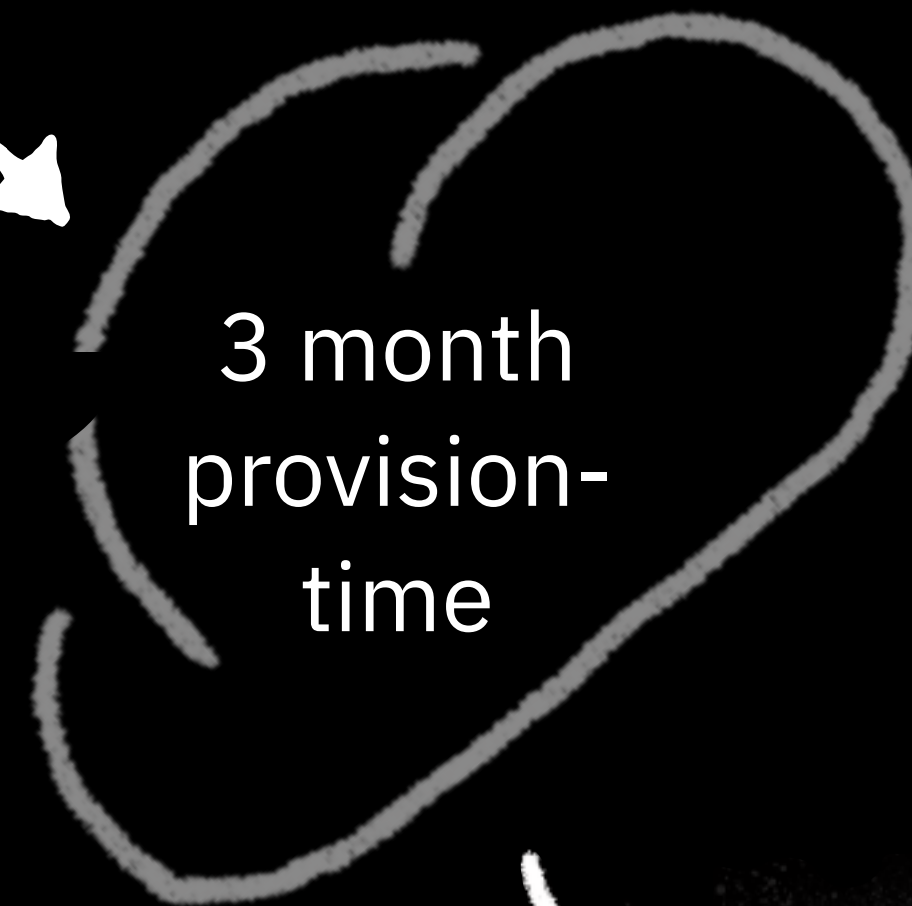


what we sold

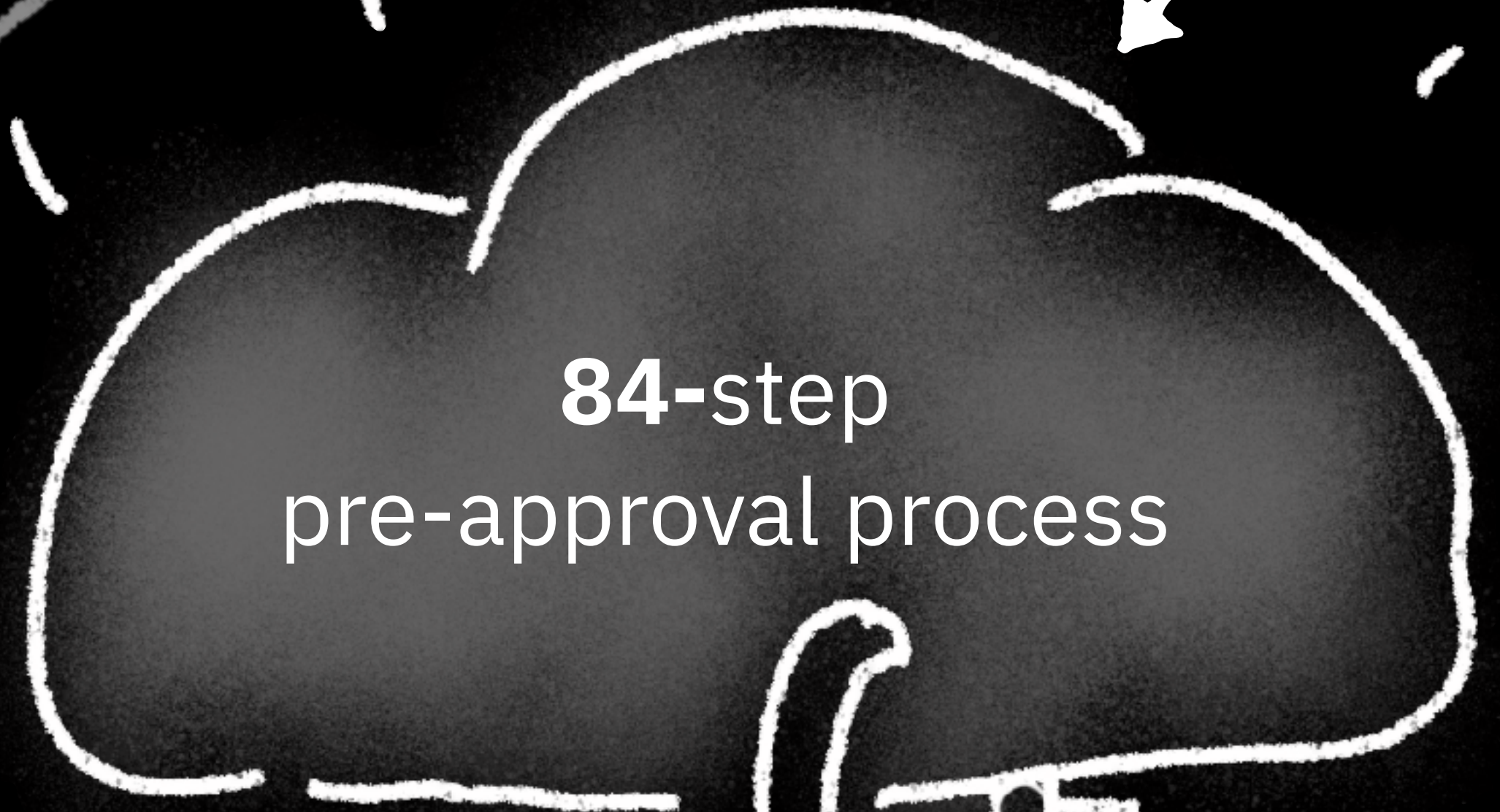
“this provisioning
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client
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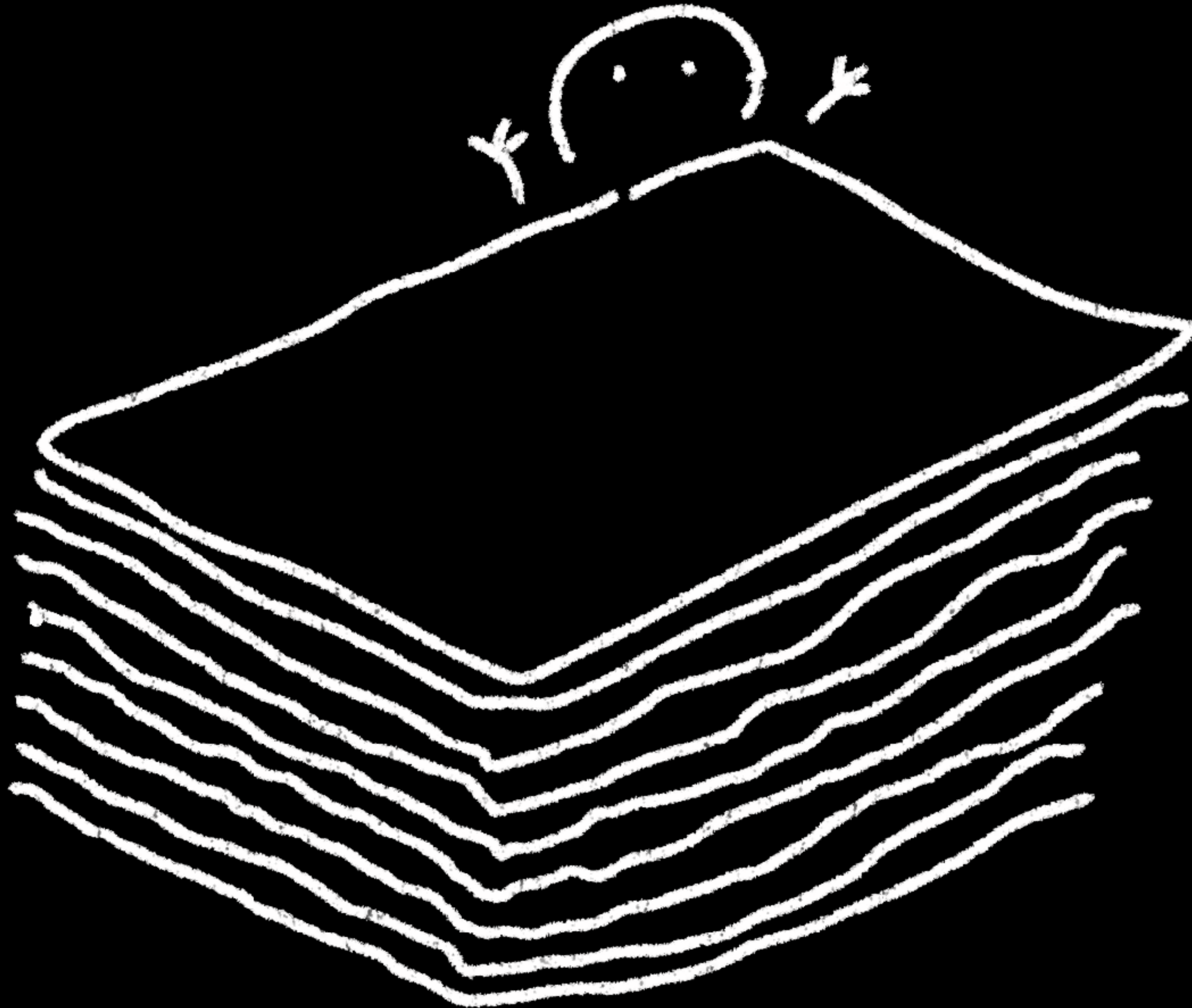


the reason



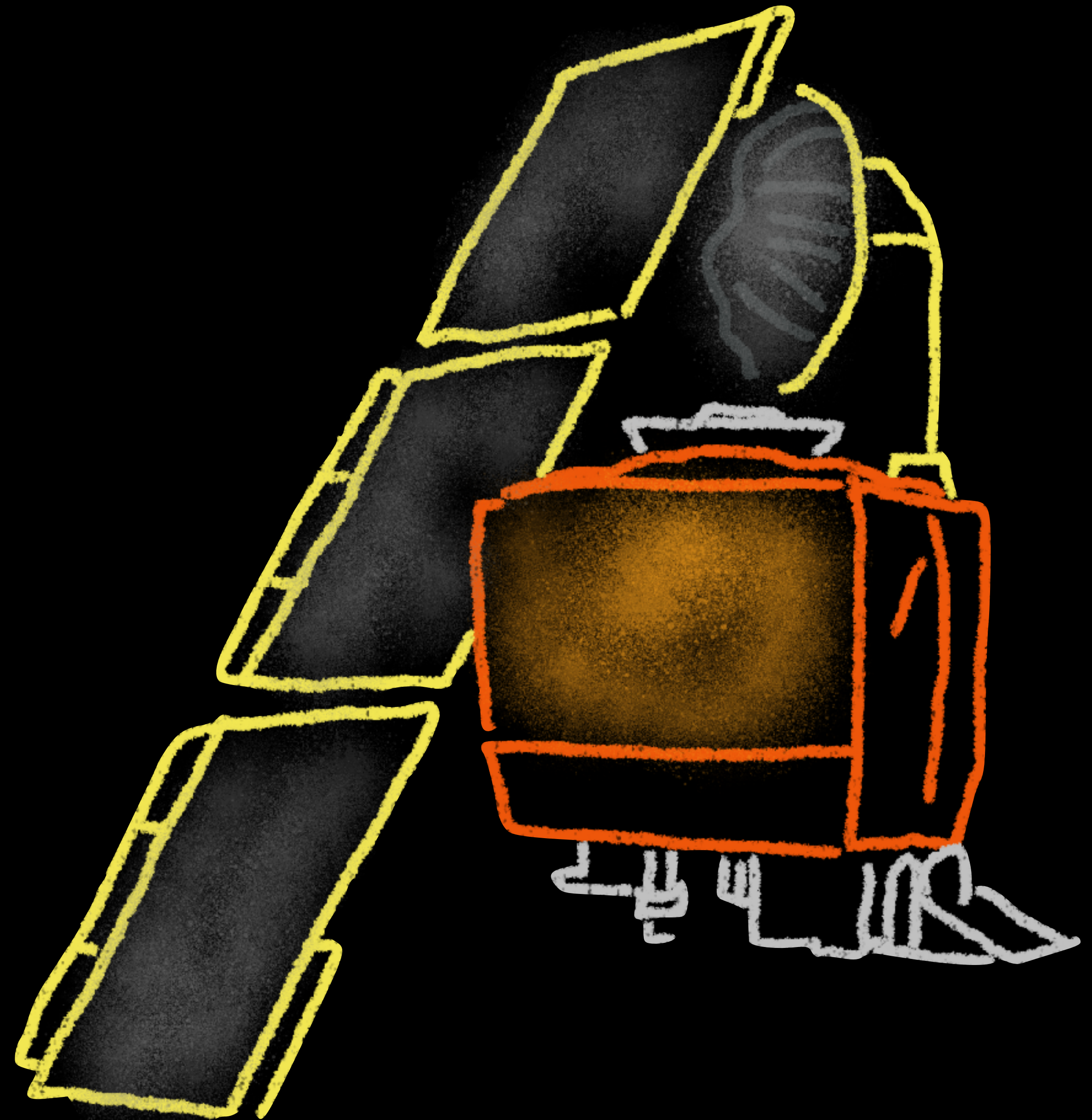
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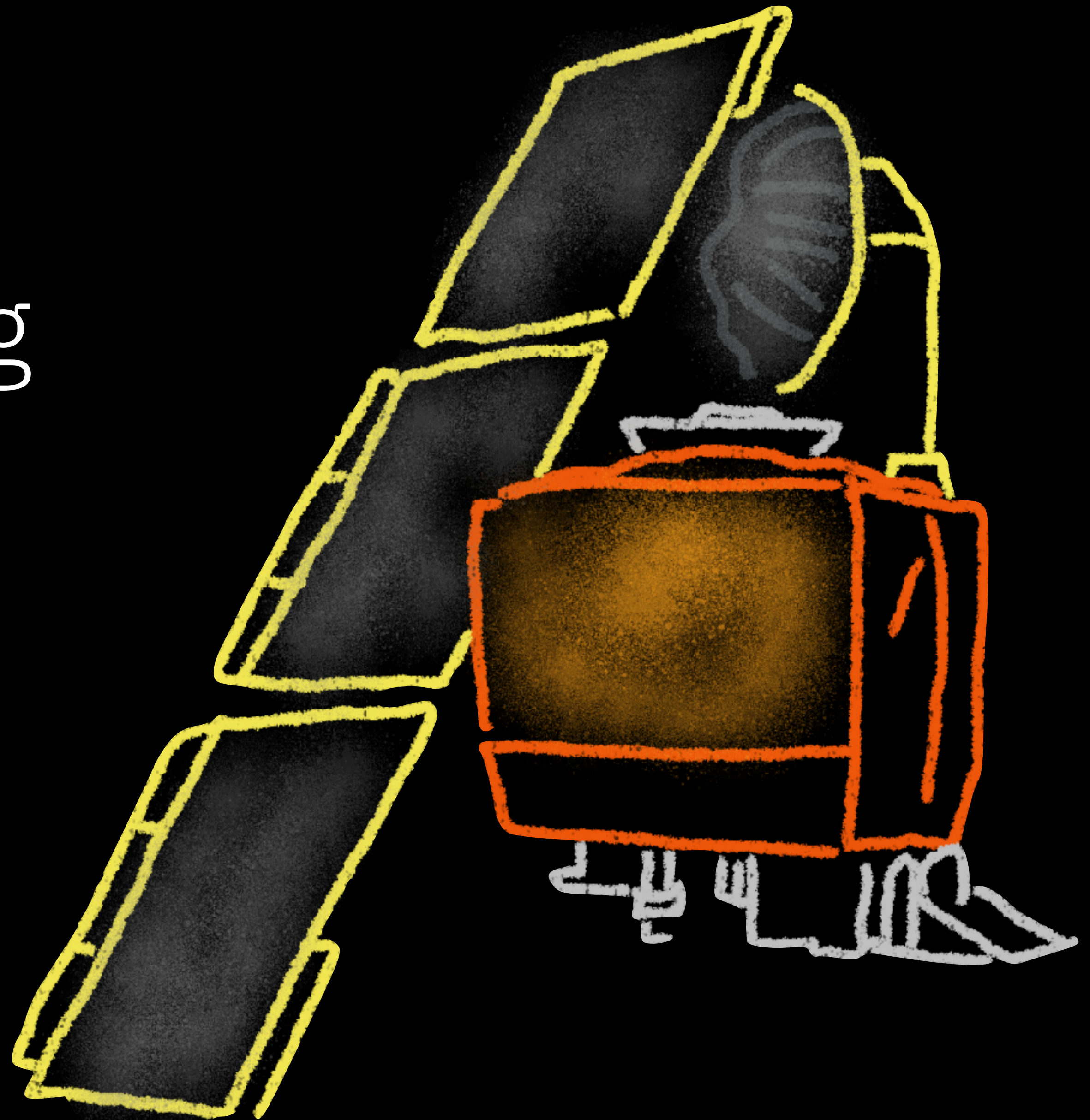


“we’ve scheduled
the architecture
board review for a
month after the
project ships”

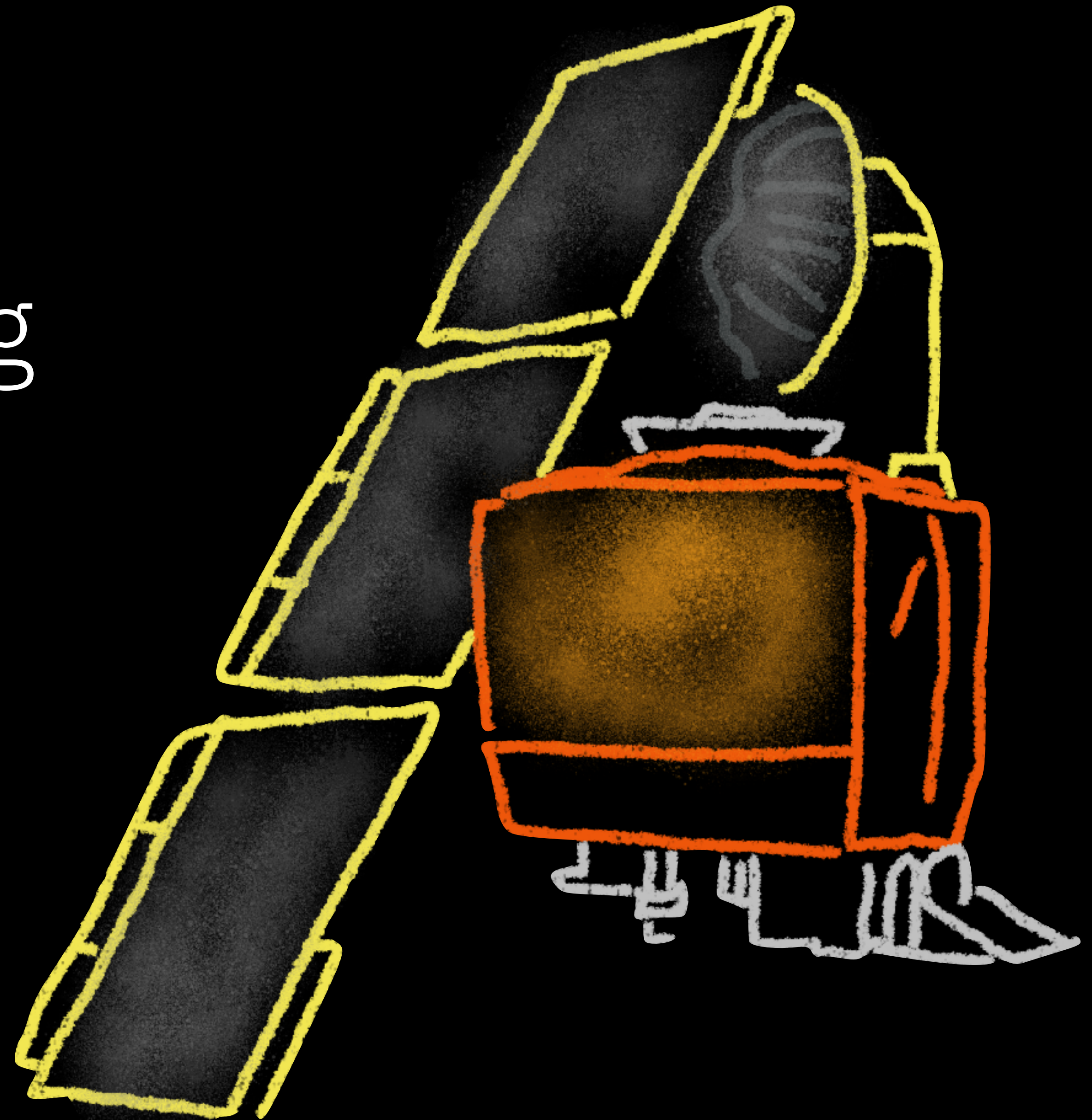
does the process
add **value**?



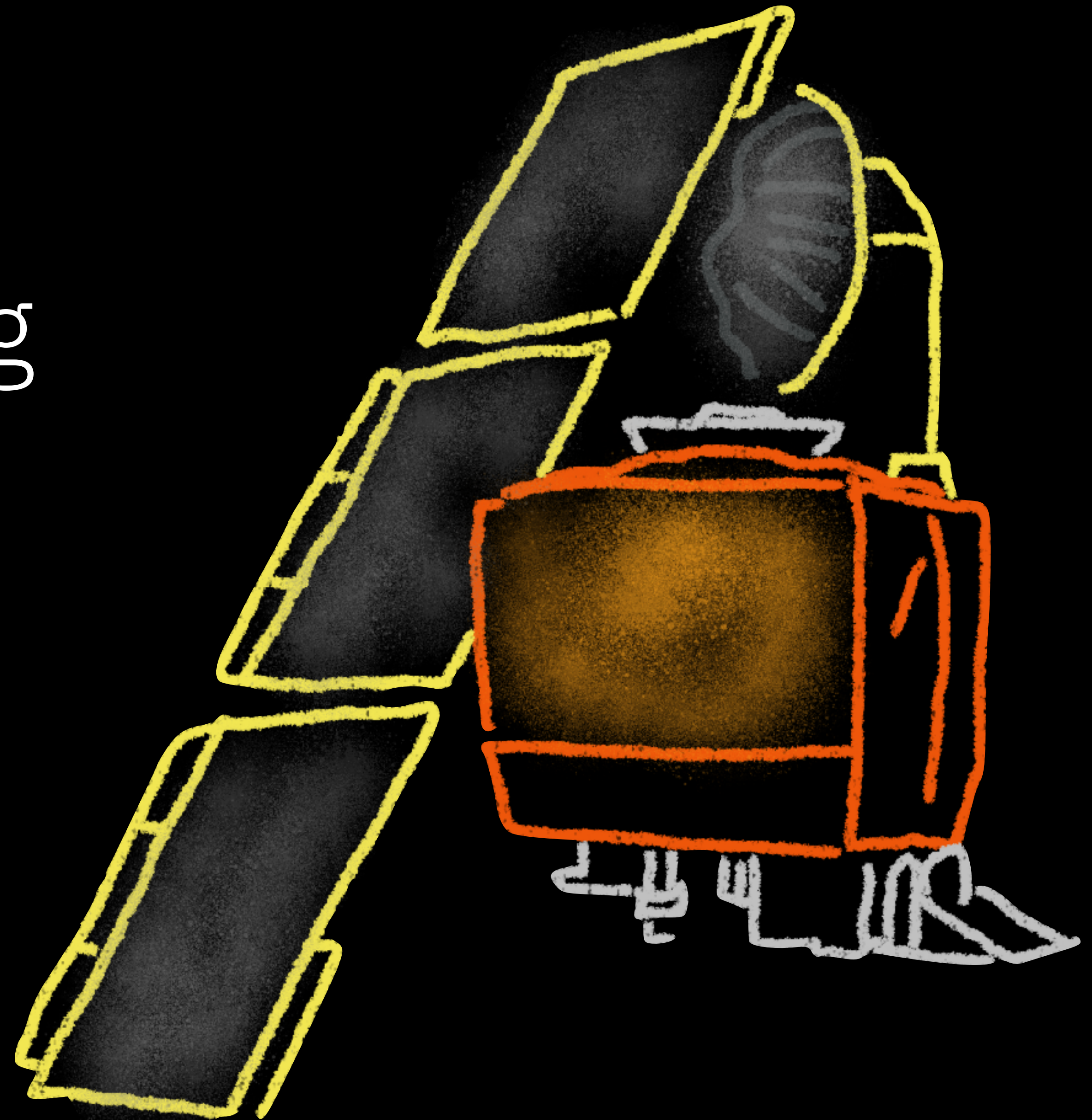
navigators warned
something was wrong



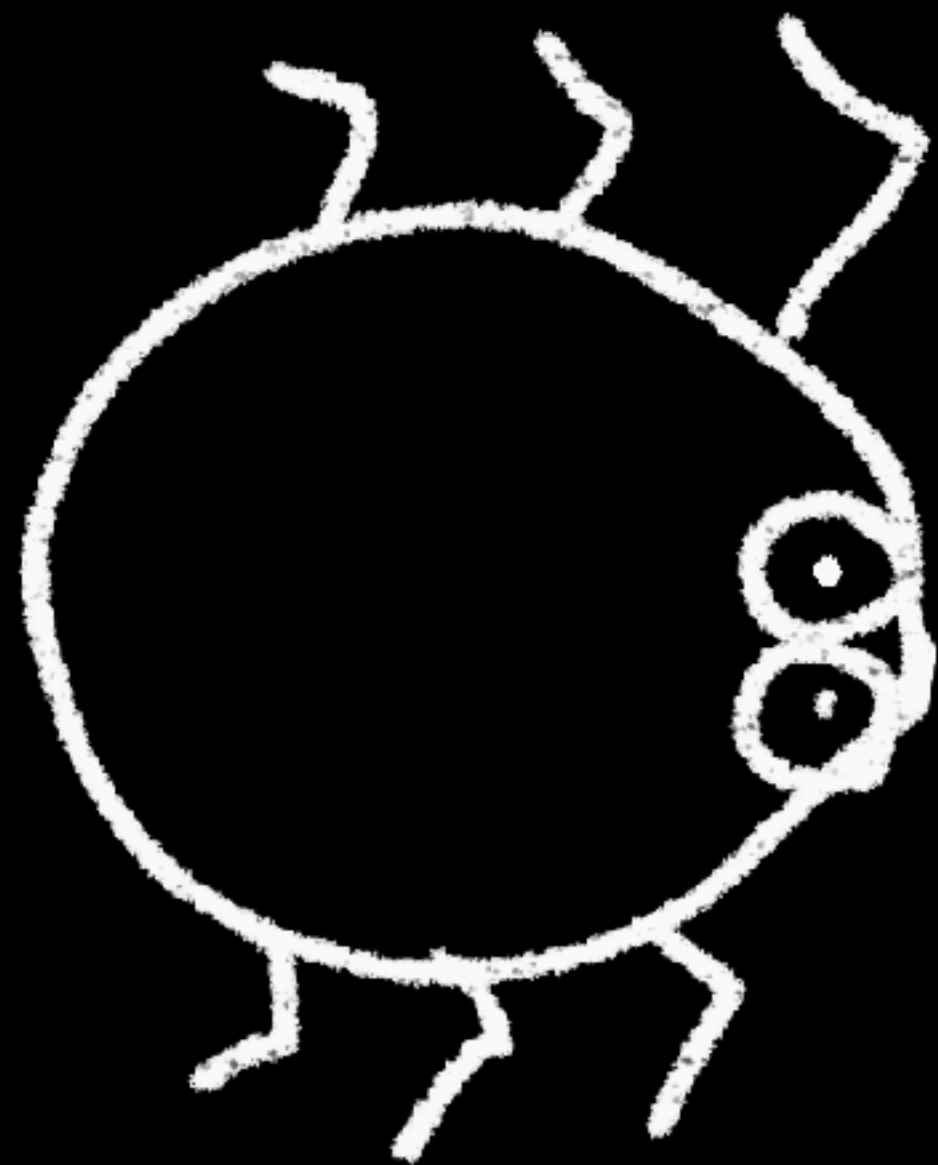
navigators warned
something was wrong
they didn't fill in the
right form



navigators warned
something was wrong
they didn't fill in the
right form
so nothing was done

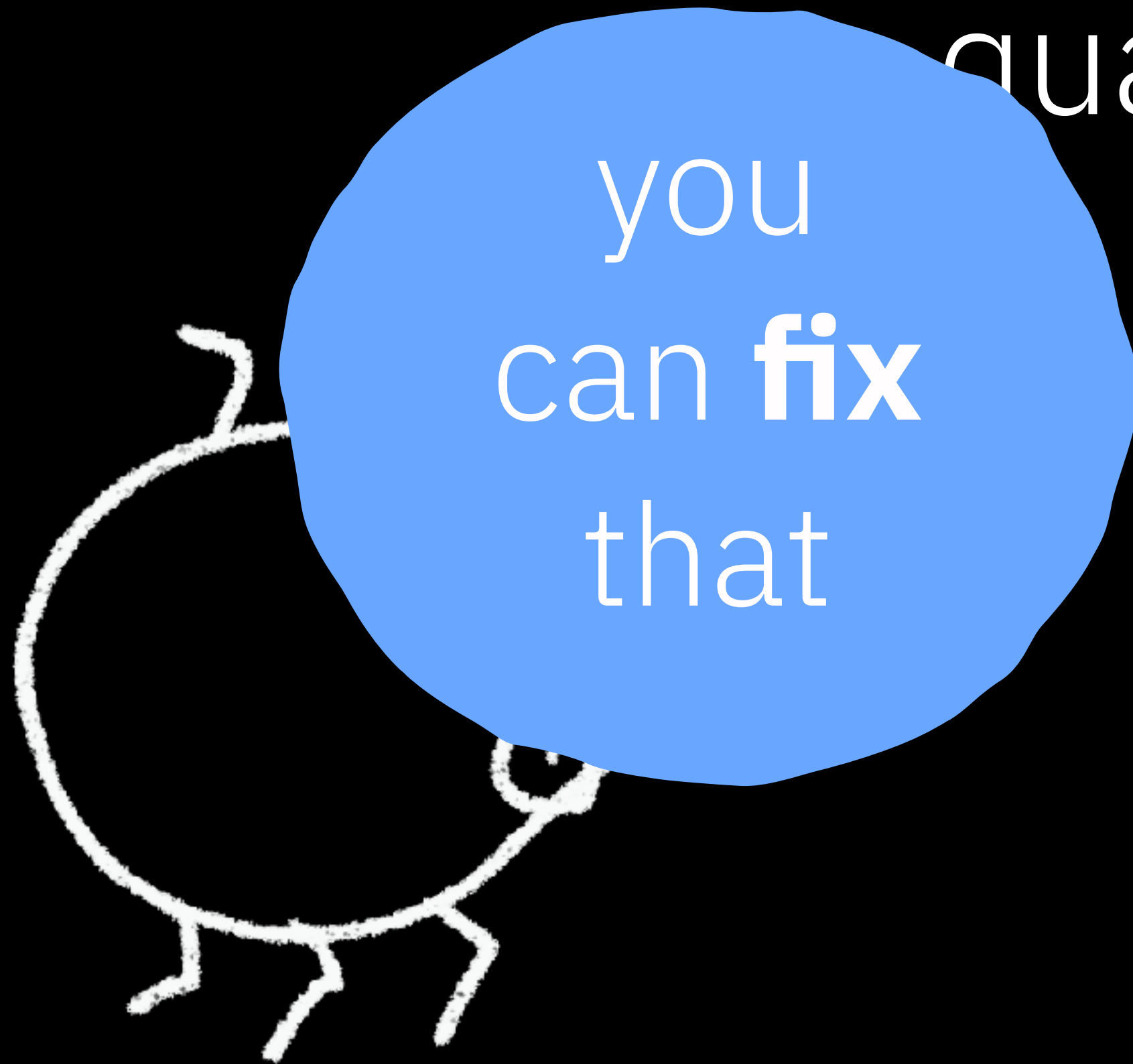


“we can’t ship until we have
more confidence in the
quality”



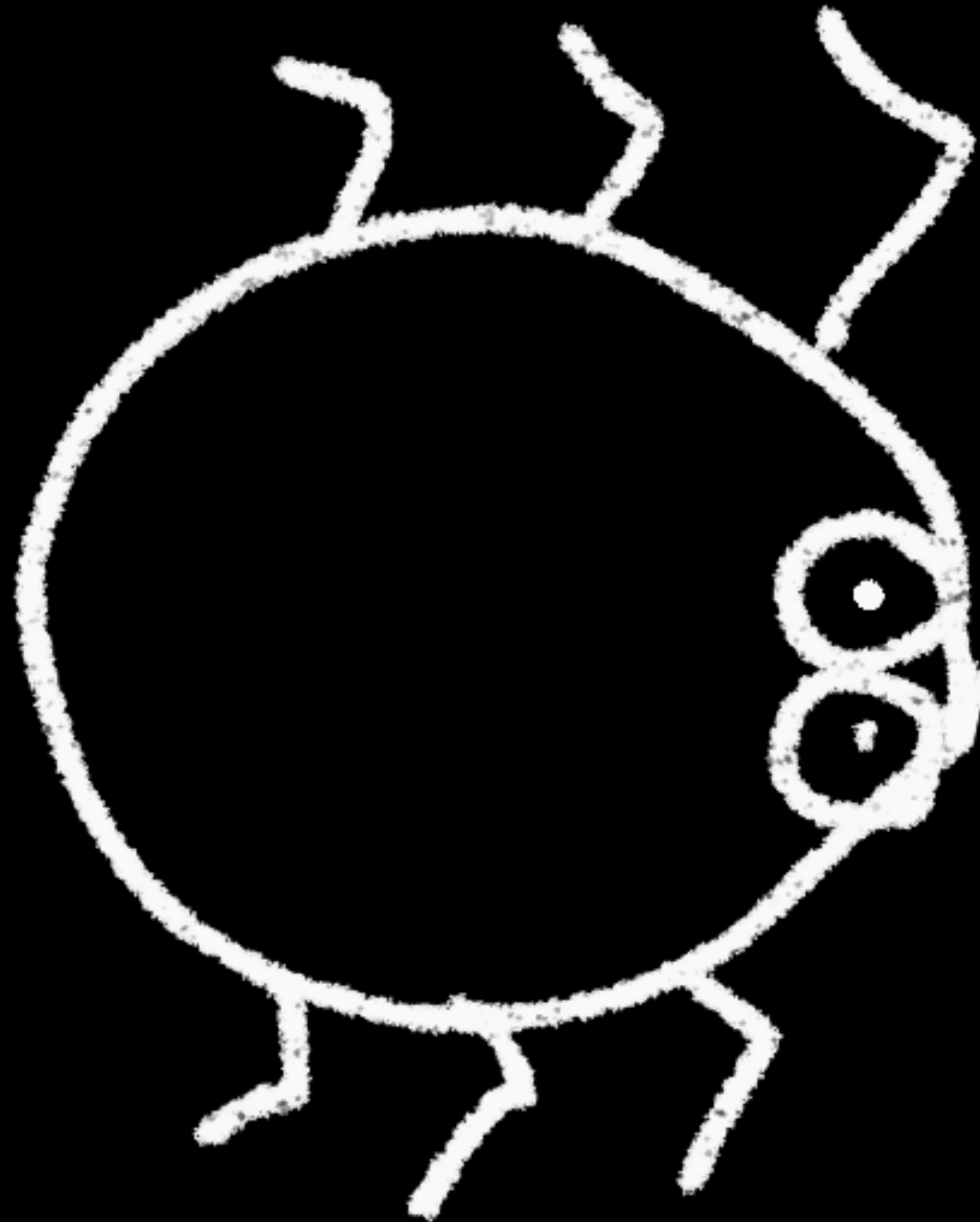
“we can’t ship until we have
more confidence in the
quality”

you
can **fix**
that



“this is the test team ... who
don't have the skills to
automate their tests.”

‘



“our tests aren’t
automated”

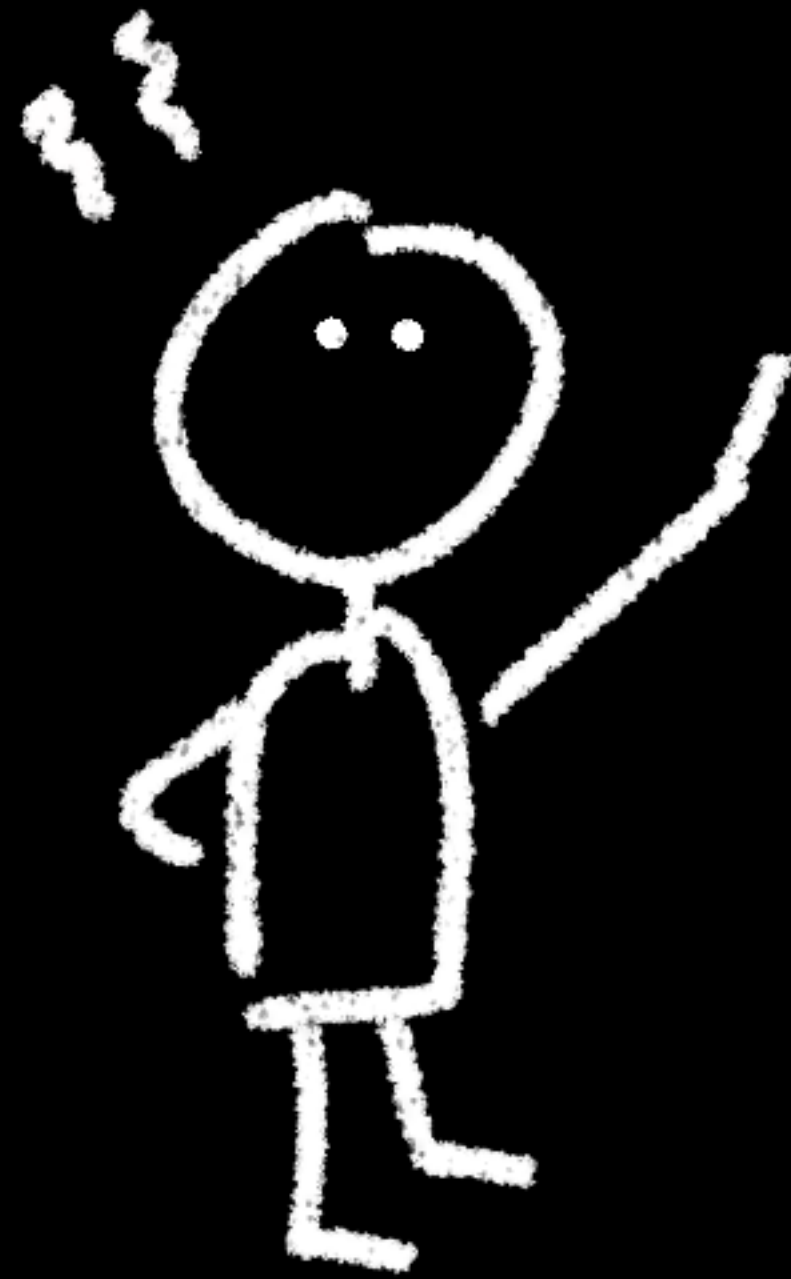
“we don’t know if our
code currently works”

“we don’t know if our
code currently works”

“it costs too much
to release”

“it costs too much
to release”

you
can **fix**
that



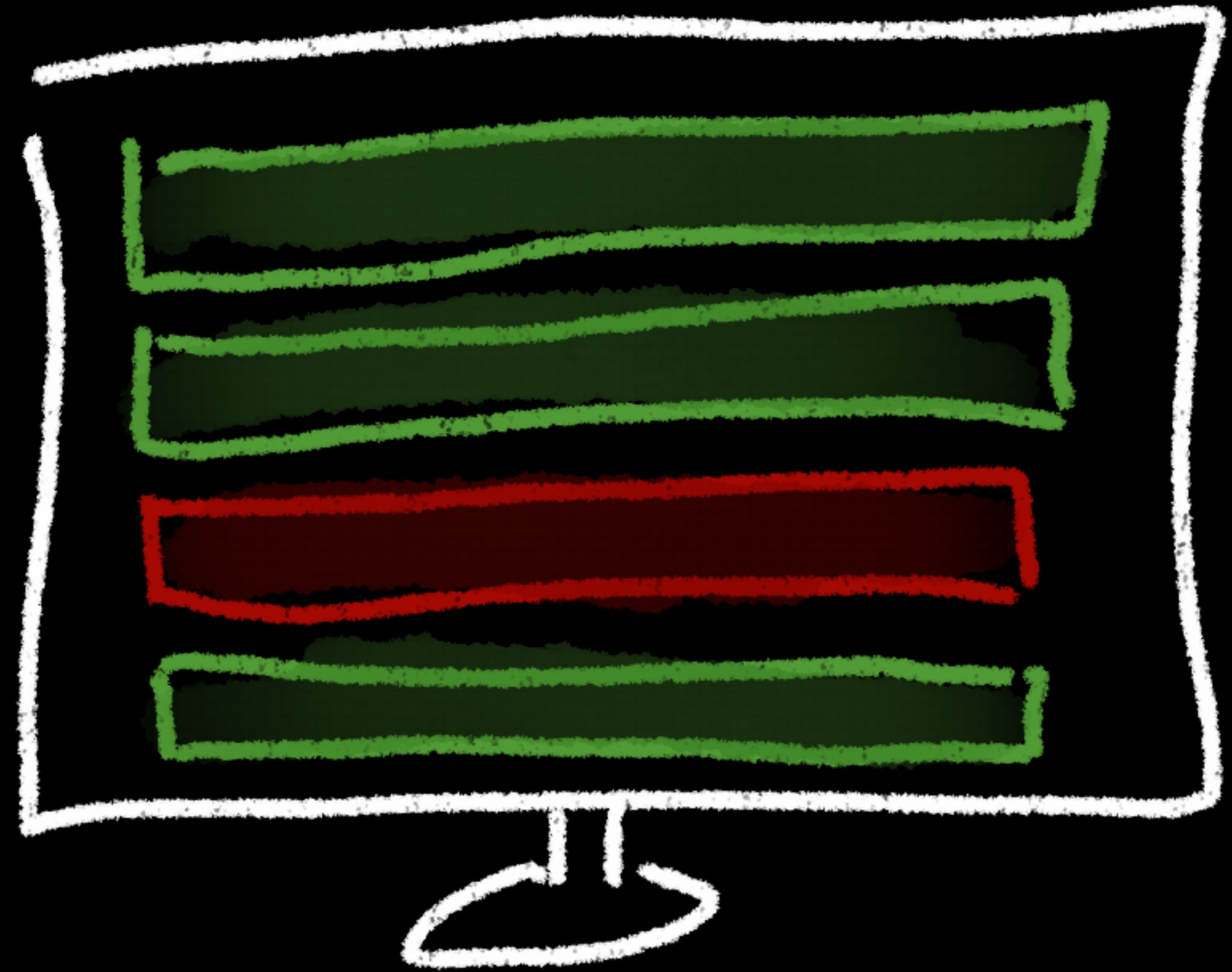
not a good CI/CD indicator



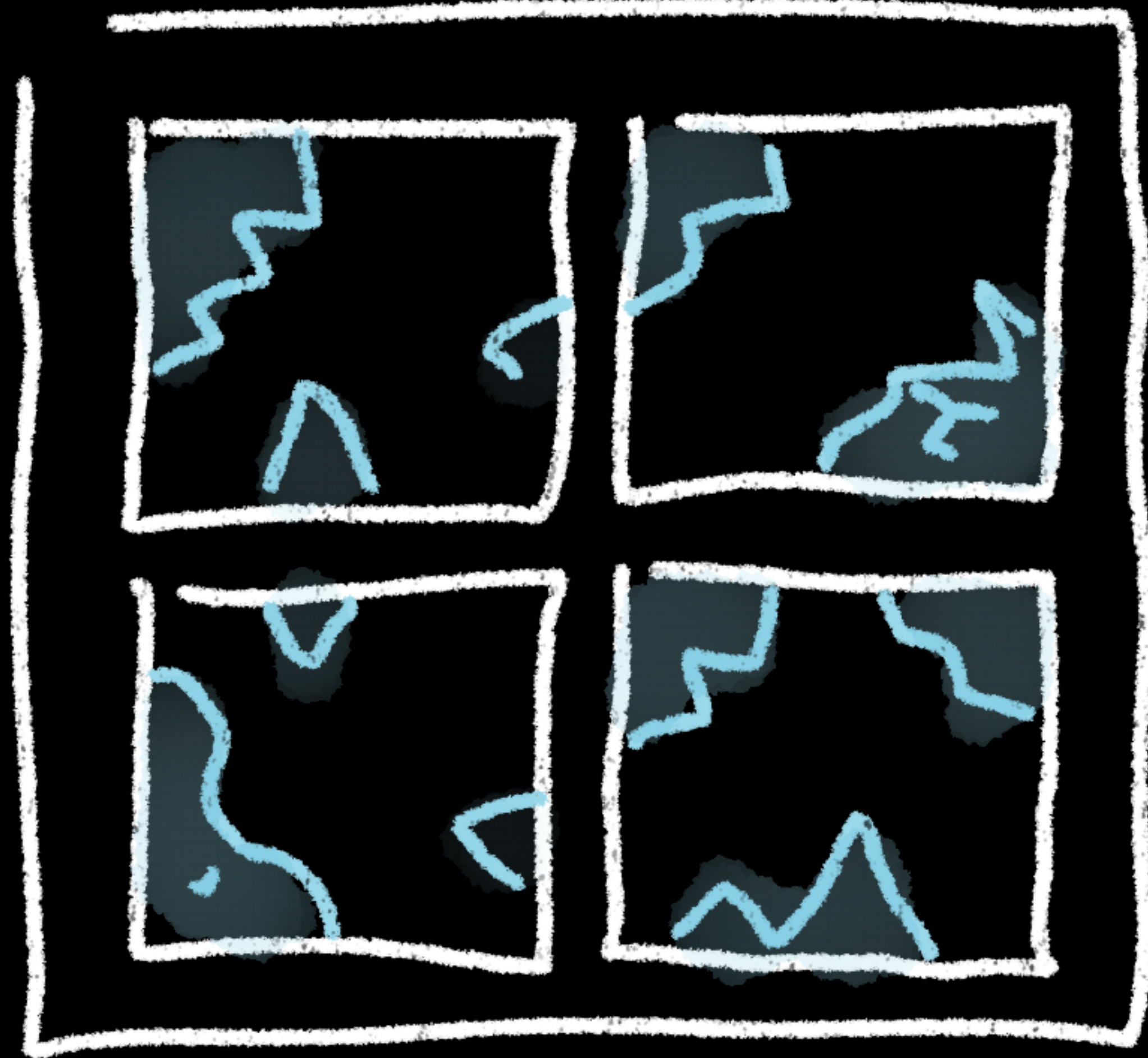
a good CI/CD indicator

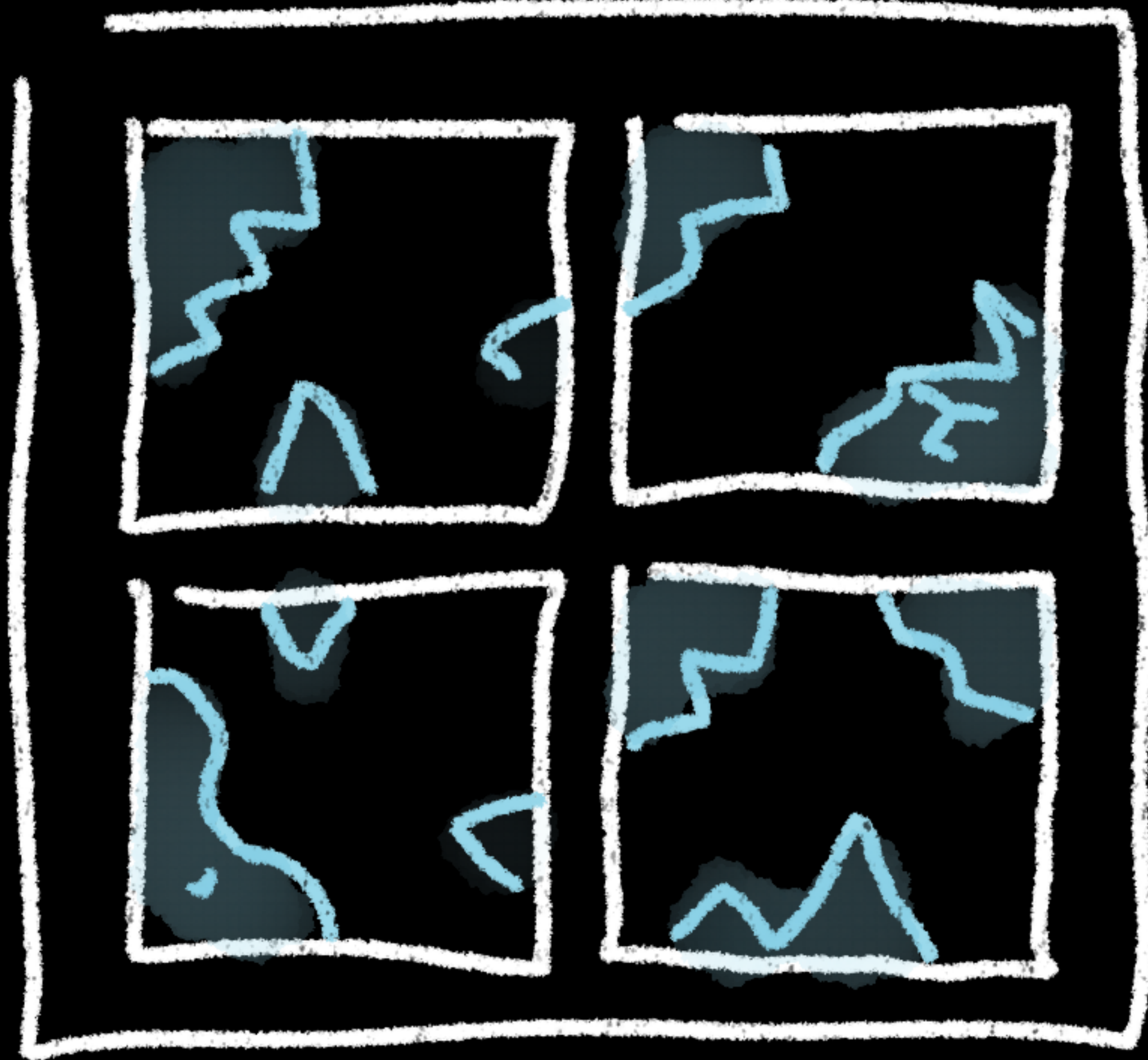
“we don’t know when
the build is broken”

get the pipeline status
into the physical
spaces



“only Bob can
change Jenkins”





“oh yes, that build
has been broken
for a few weeks...”

judge judge
judge



modern devops

toolchains and processes reflect
cloud native apps and cultural transformation

many, single-tenant
toolchains

hybrid and multi-
cloud toolchains and
deployments

toolchains support
lean delivery
processes and
business agility

heritage devops

toolchains and processes reflect
heritage apps and cultural inertia

shared, multi-tenant
toolchain “backbone”

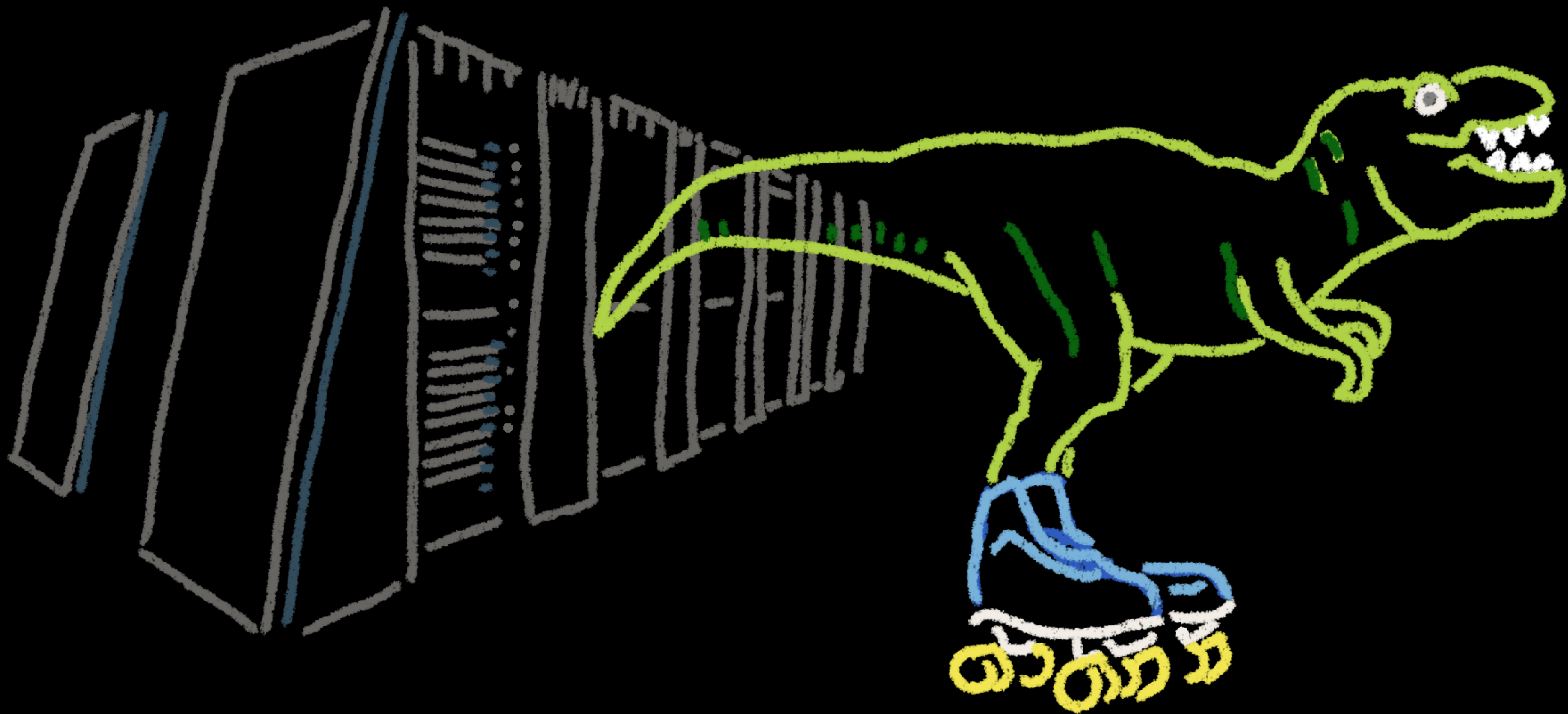
on-premise
automation tools

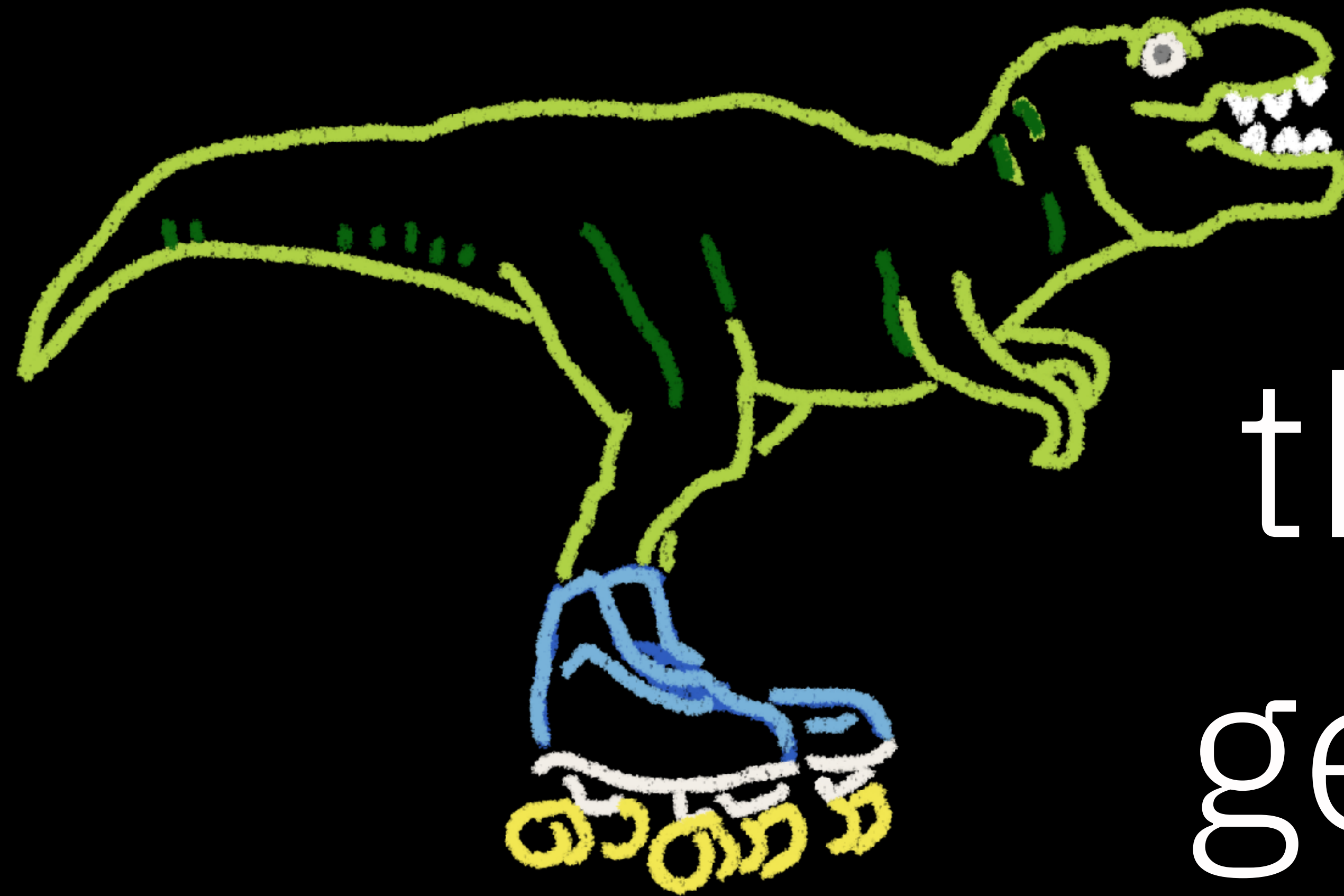
release management
and dependency
coordination are hard



“you’ll be coding
on the mainframe”







this can
get tiring

transformation
endurance

remember
the **why**



@holly_cummins

IBM Cloud Garage