

LDX3 - JUNE 17, 2025

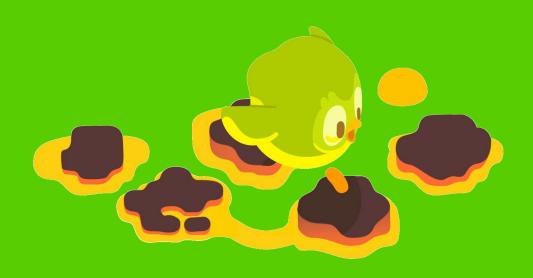
# effortless execution: designing processes that don't need babysitting

ANTONIA SCHEIDEL

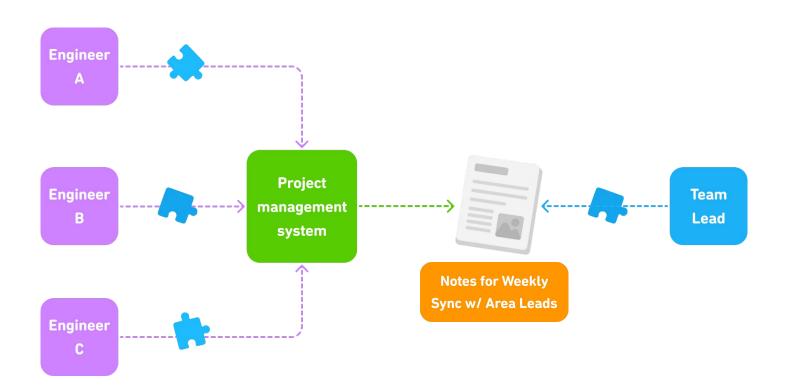
# what you'll get from this talk

- Five elements of self-sustaining processes:
  - 1. minimally invasive
  - 2. transparent
  - 3. self-healing
  - 4. socially reinforcing
  - 5. worth the investment
- Which processes are worth investing in

# case study

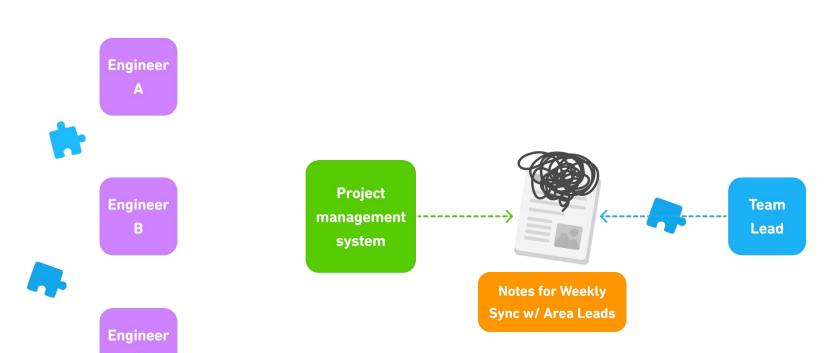


# the promise





# the promise is broken





# two bad options





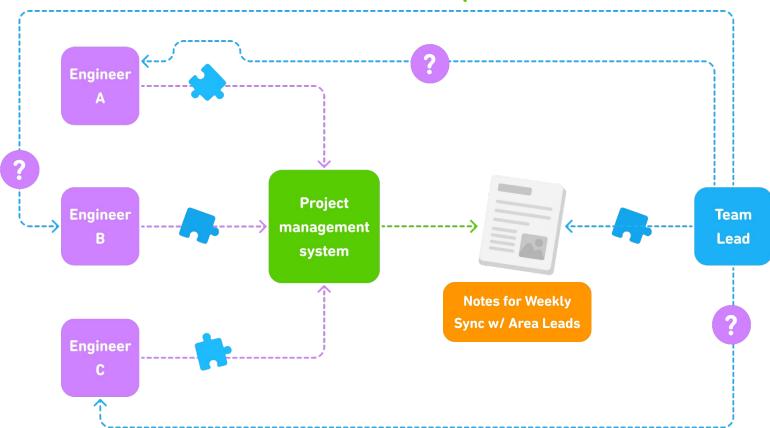
**Engineer** В



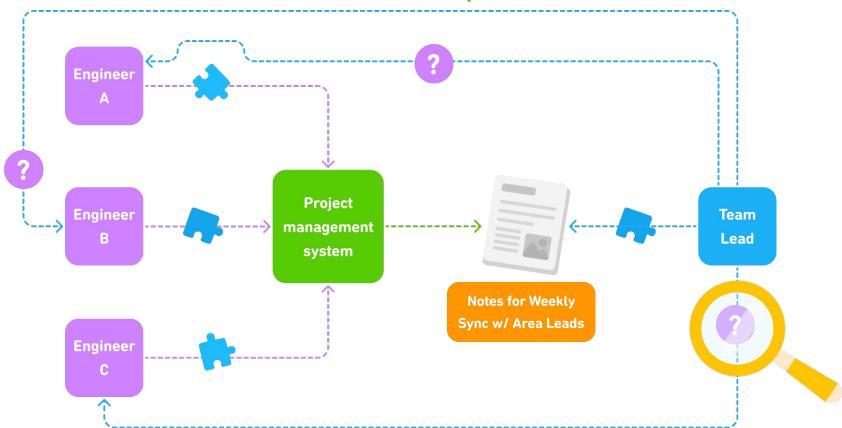
Engineer



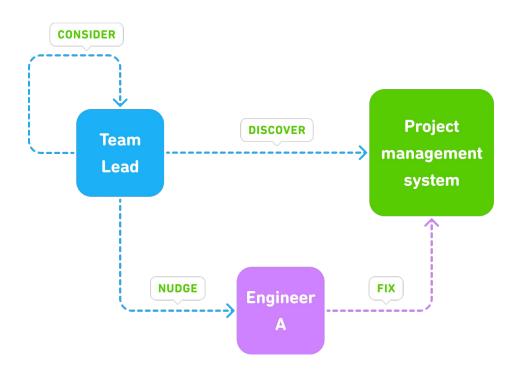
# two bad options



# two bad options

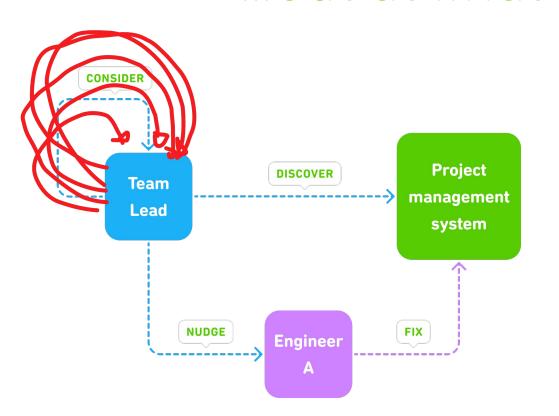


# ...but at what cost?



Your Bill	
Discover	\$
Consider	\$
Nudge	\$
Fix	\$
Total	\$

# ...but at what cost?



Your Bill	
Discover	\$
Consider	\$
Nudge	\$
Fix	\$
Explain	\$
Nag	\$
Doubt self	\$
Feel guilty	\$
Total	\$\$\$

# something had to change

Sabbatical Prep

Ø cheek-pagerduty-rot

☑ Leave-cheetah-tertian

Mand-off-Growth-Aread

Hand-off-Ukraine-freezer

M Hand-off-one-off-freezegu

☑ Hand-off-eng-shadowing-to

A Identify who will take on whe

& Set the time &

& Sat

anything else your

### Antonia Sabbatical Plan

### Sabbatical timeline

I am going on sabbatical (and PTO) from 2023-09-25 to 2023-12 My first week back is the last week before winter break. I will for that week and will primarily use the time to catch up with people cycle with as much information as possible in how things went in Q

### Primary points of contact

PRODUCT LIFECYCLE

**DESIGN & SPEC** 

**PLANNING** 

**DEVELOPMENT** 

**EXPERIMENTATION** 

**ANALYSIS** 

LAUNCH/SHUTDO WN

**ITERATION** 

PROJECT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

**CONTRIBUTORS** 

STATUS

TARGET DELIVERY DATE

**NEXT STEPS** 

**PRODUCT** LIFECYCLE **DESIGN & SPEC PLANNING DEVELOPMENT EXPERIMENTATION ANALYSIS** LAUNCH/SHUTDO WN **ITERATION** 

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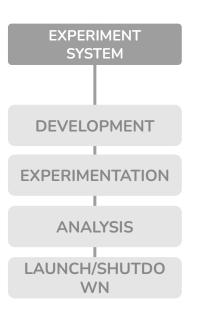
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# decluttering



# five elements of selfsustainin 9 processes

### minimally invasive

Lean on tooling to minimize cognitive load and disruption

### transparent

Make systems show their work to help the team understand cause & effect

### self-healing

Borrow from coding tools to flag process violations as soon as they happen

### socially reinforcing

Help the team share responsibility for the system with a touch of social pressure

### worth the investment

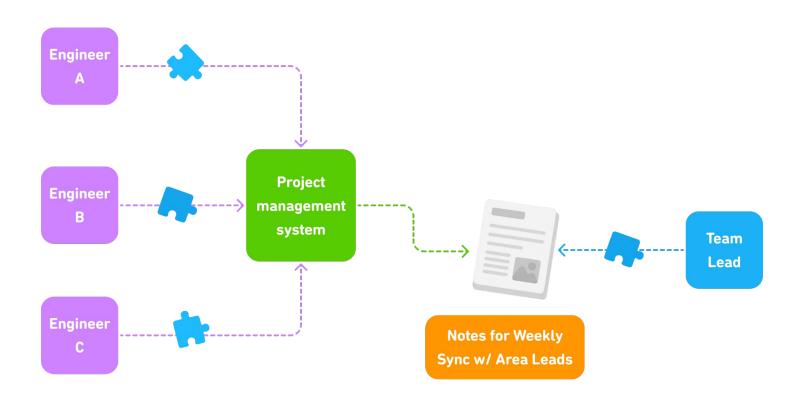
Demonstrate the value you create with the time and energy you save

# invisible work...

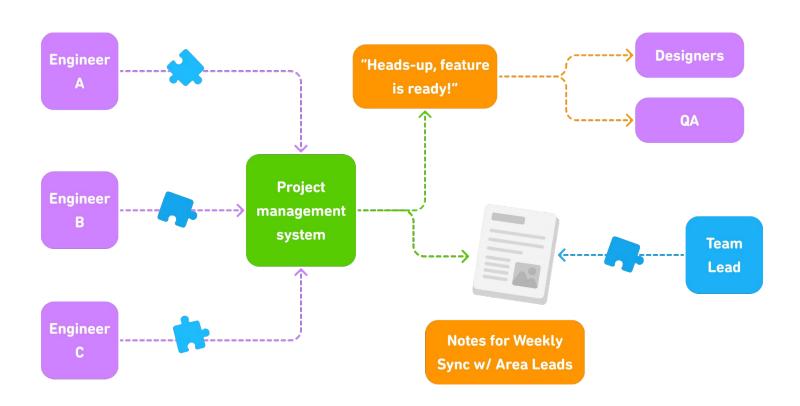
— engineer makes update

- —— ensure correct format
- update timelines
- supplement information
- intercept follow-up automations

# ...made visible



# ...made visible



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# coding conventions don't need (much) babysitting

# a process linter

Hi @antonia, the epic you just assigned (More urgent copy on streak repair offer on SE) will be flagged as delinquent tomorrow morning! BAD BHVR

Please double-check that component, product review date, initiative, etc. are set.

Thanks! \_\_\_\_





1 epics don't have a parent indicating which OKR they contribute to:

- \* More urgent copy on streak repair offer on SE (@antonia)
- Add the no-initiative label if the epic does not map to one of our OKRs







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# how does your process show up?

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Please double-check that component, product review date, initiative, etc. are set.

Thanks! \_\_\_\_





team channel (next day)



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# show receipts

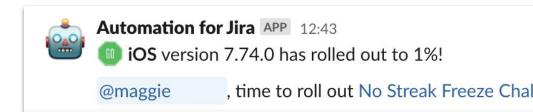
Team benefits

- velocity
- visibility
- feedback loops

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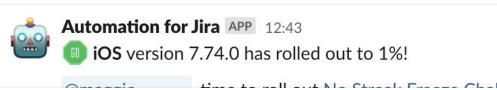
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#### Team benefits

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#### Clean up: Streak Freeze Used Toast (Shut Down)

Done ~

Your experiment (Streak Freeze Used Toast) was just Shut Down!

What's next?

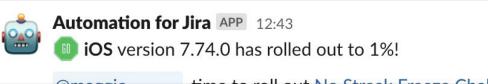
- 1) Assign some story points to this task.
- 2) You may choose to <u>split</u> this story in case there is some work to do right now (ex: clean up the experiment to stay out of jail) and some work to tackle before you start your next project (refactors, paying down tech debt, etc.) that you can move to an upcoming sprint.

Happy cleaning, and thanks for leaving our code base better than you found it!

Created June 9, 2025 at 10:32 A Resolved June 10, 2025 at 9:56

#### Team benefits

- velocity
- visibility
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#### Estimation Reflection

- Original plan: 2025-04-09 → 2025-04-23 (2 weeks)
- Actual implementation: 2025-04-09 → 2025-05-07 (4 weeks)
- → Took 2 weeks longer than planned

Team benefits

- velocity
- visibility
- feedback loops

Team lead benefits

- velocity
- feedback loops



Team lead benefits

- velocity
- feedback loops

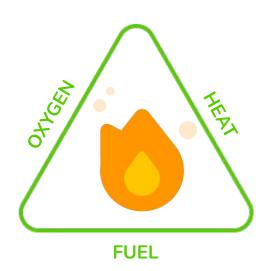
area lead benefits

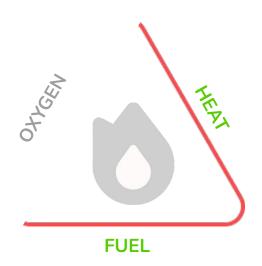


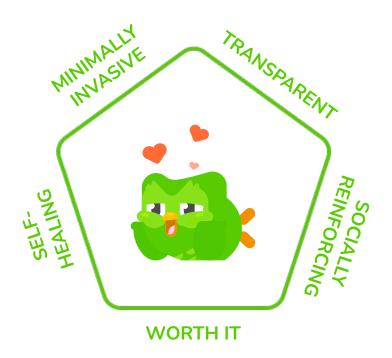
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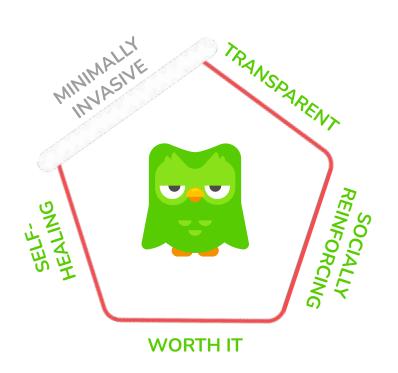
team lead benefits

## reflections





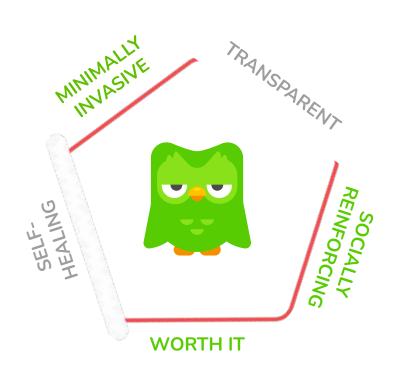




"Just too much work"



"Bus factor: 1"



"The gods are angry?"



"The gods are angry?"

# which processes are worth investing in?

## what keeps you from

investing?

- "I'll spend more time automating than I would have spent doing it myself"
- "I'm not lazy"
- "I have more important work to do"

- "I'll spend more time automating have spent doing it myself"
- "I'm not lazy"
- "I have more important work to do"

- "I'll spend more time automating have spent d what if you were?
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#### is it worth fixing?

Does it sabotage **your** highest leverage work?

What is **your** highest leverage work?

What do you need to do it well?

→ Protect that resource

### is it worth fixing?

# Does it sabotage **your** highest leverage work?

What is **your** highest leverage work?

What do you need to do it well?

→ Protect that resource

### Are you a victim of the IKEA effect?

a cognitive bias in which
 people place a
 disproportionately high value on
 products they partially created
 themselves

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## thank you!

