



# Organization: A Tool for Architecture

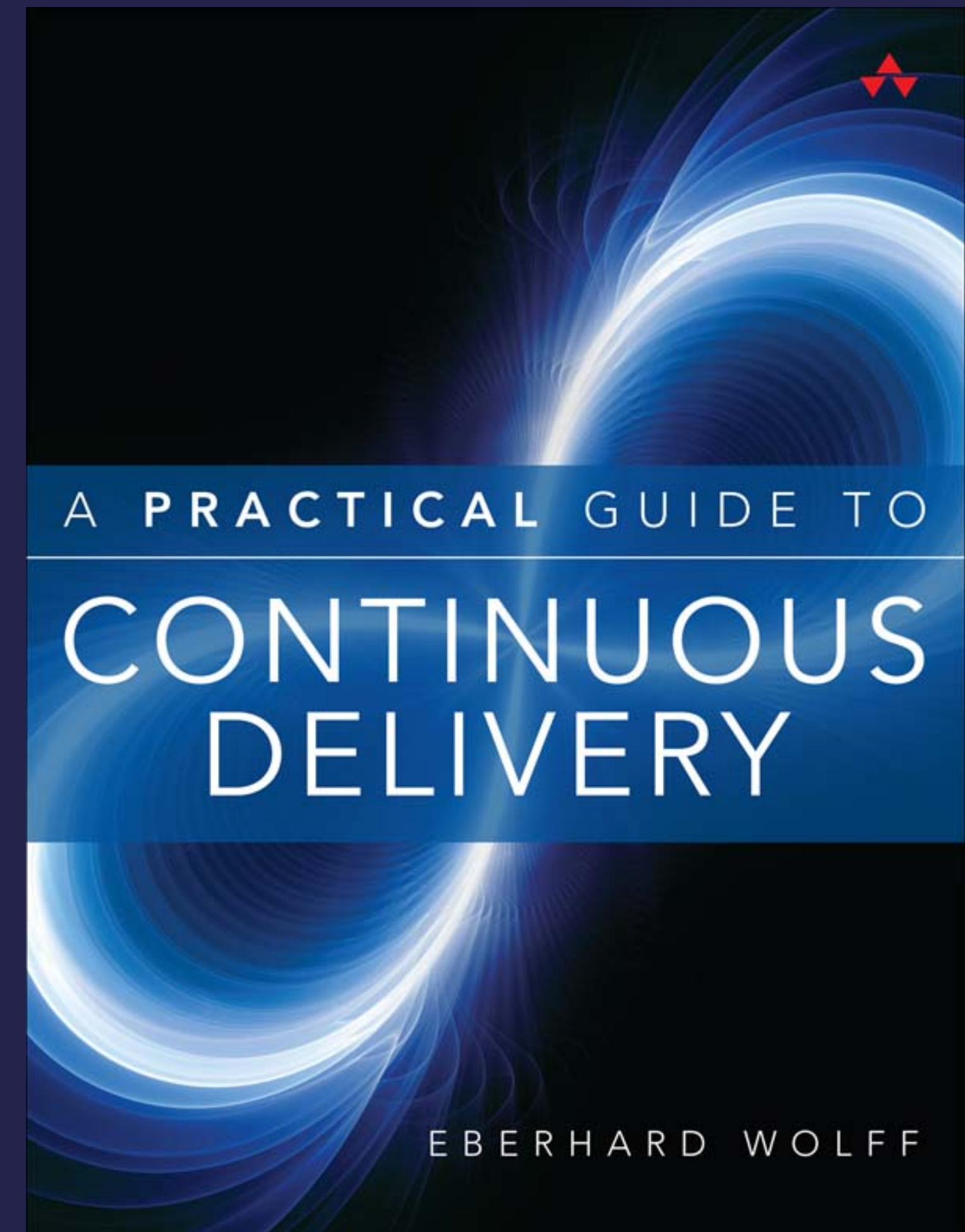
**INNOQ**

**Eberhard Wolff**  
Fellow





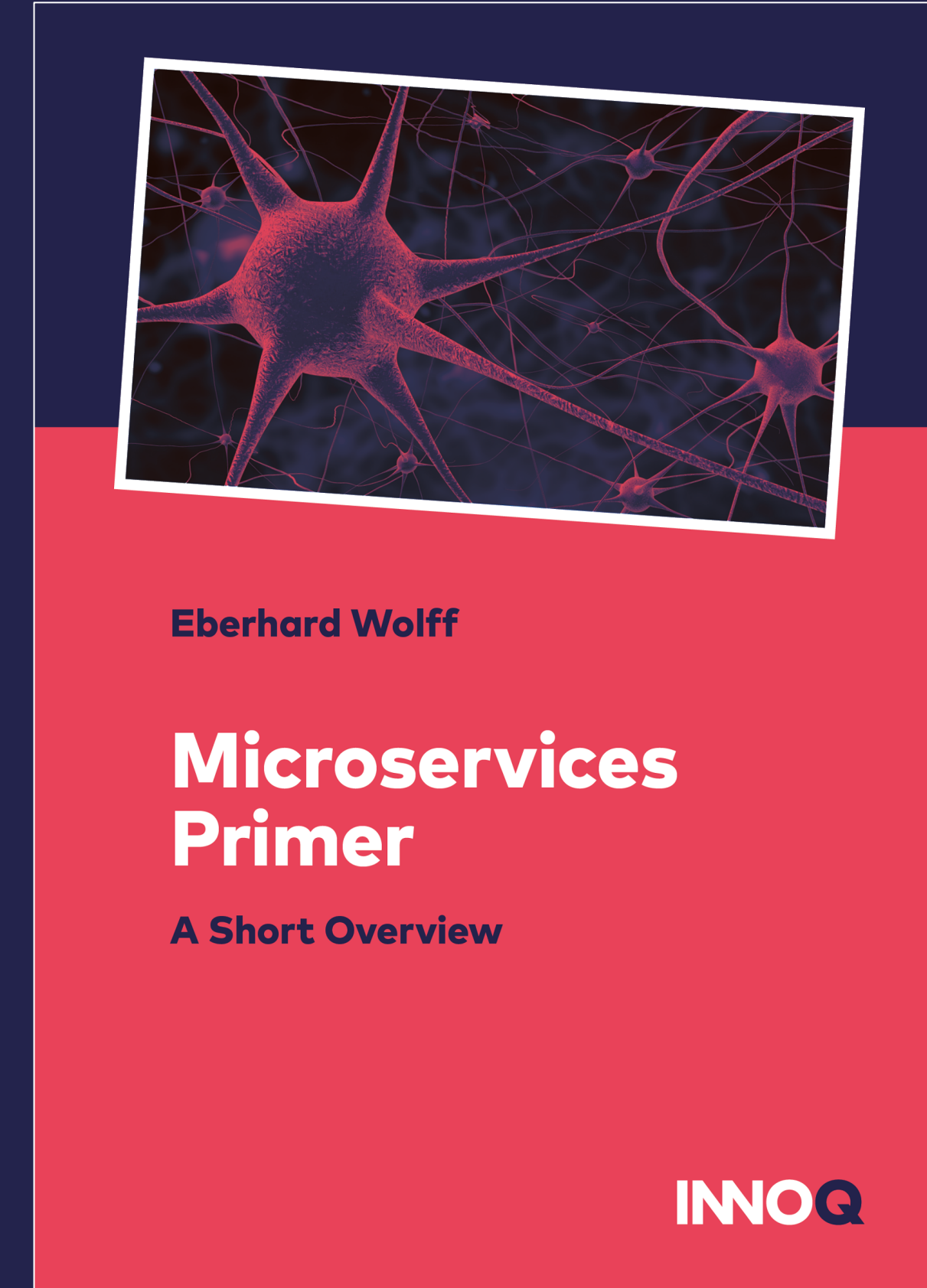
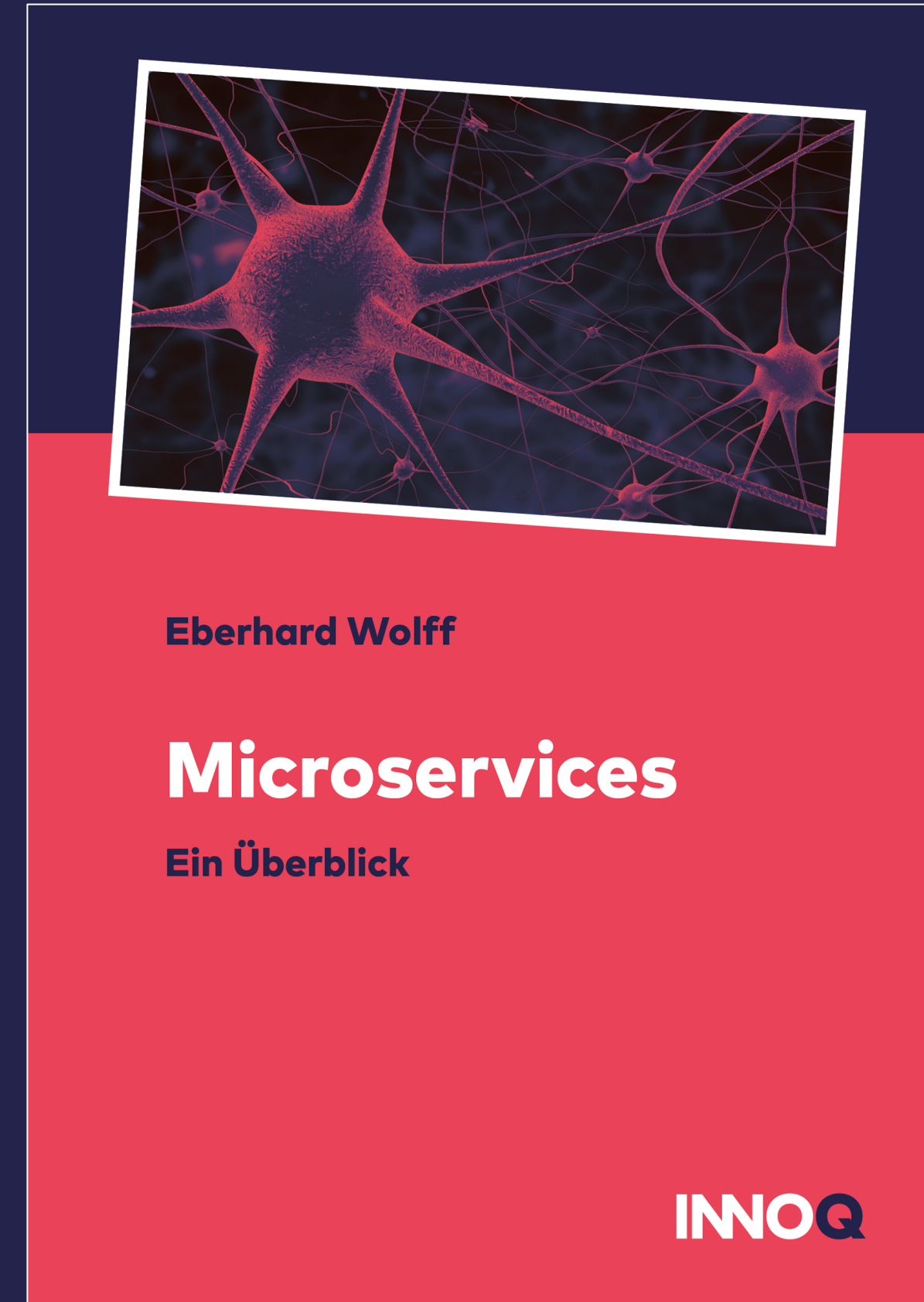
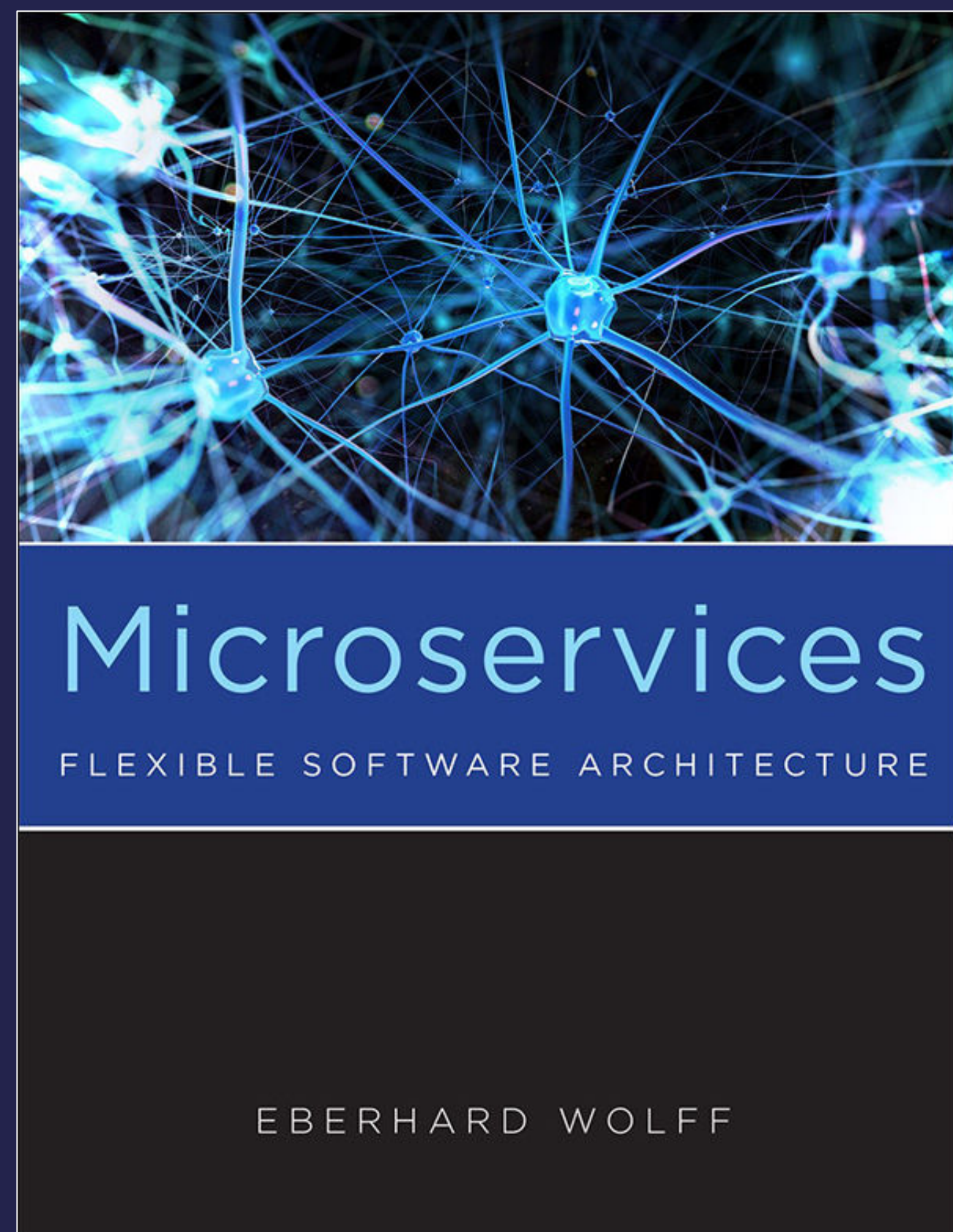
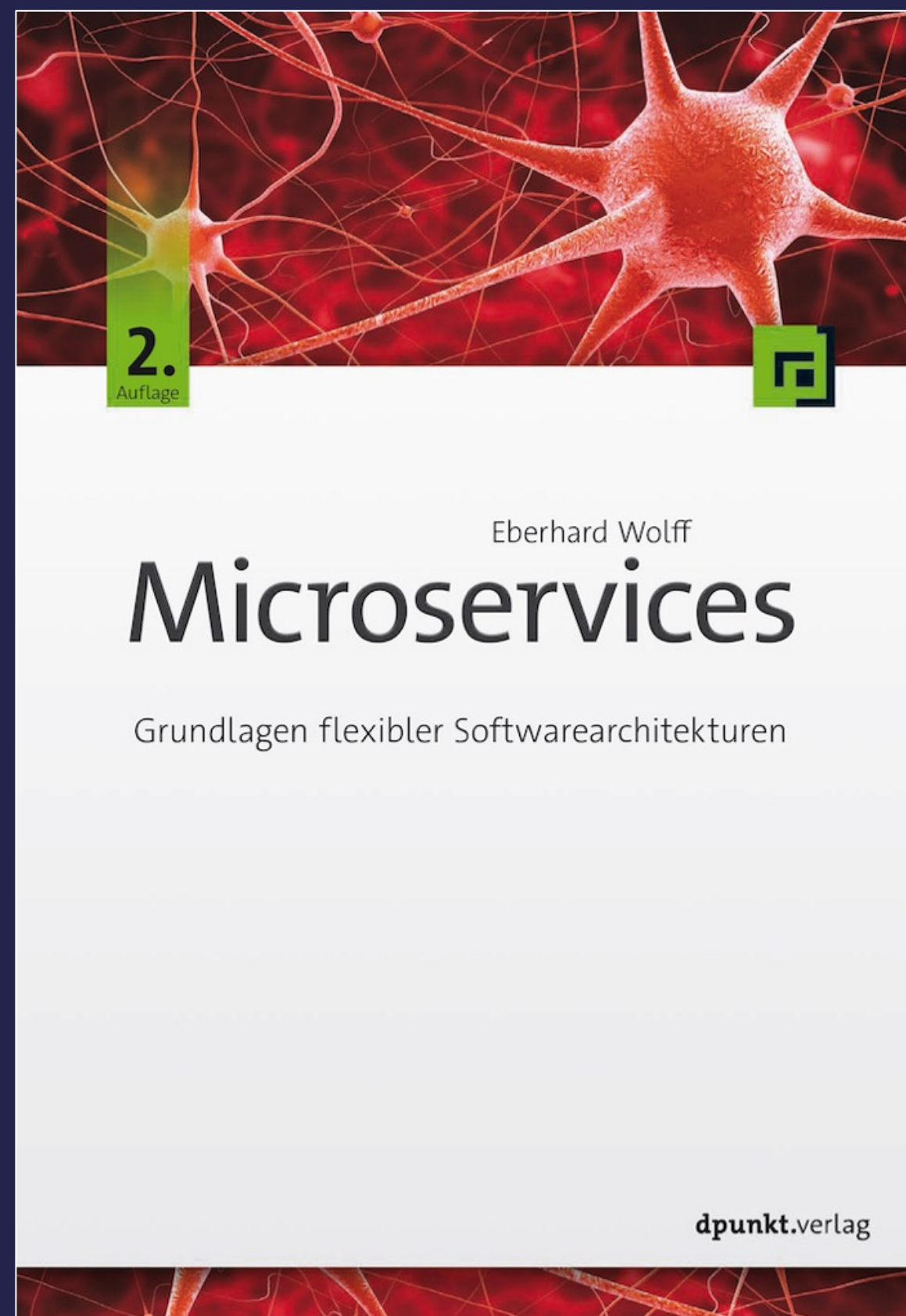
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# FREE



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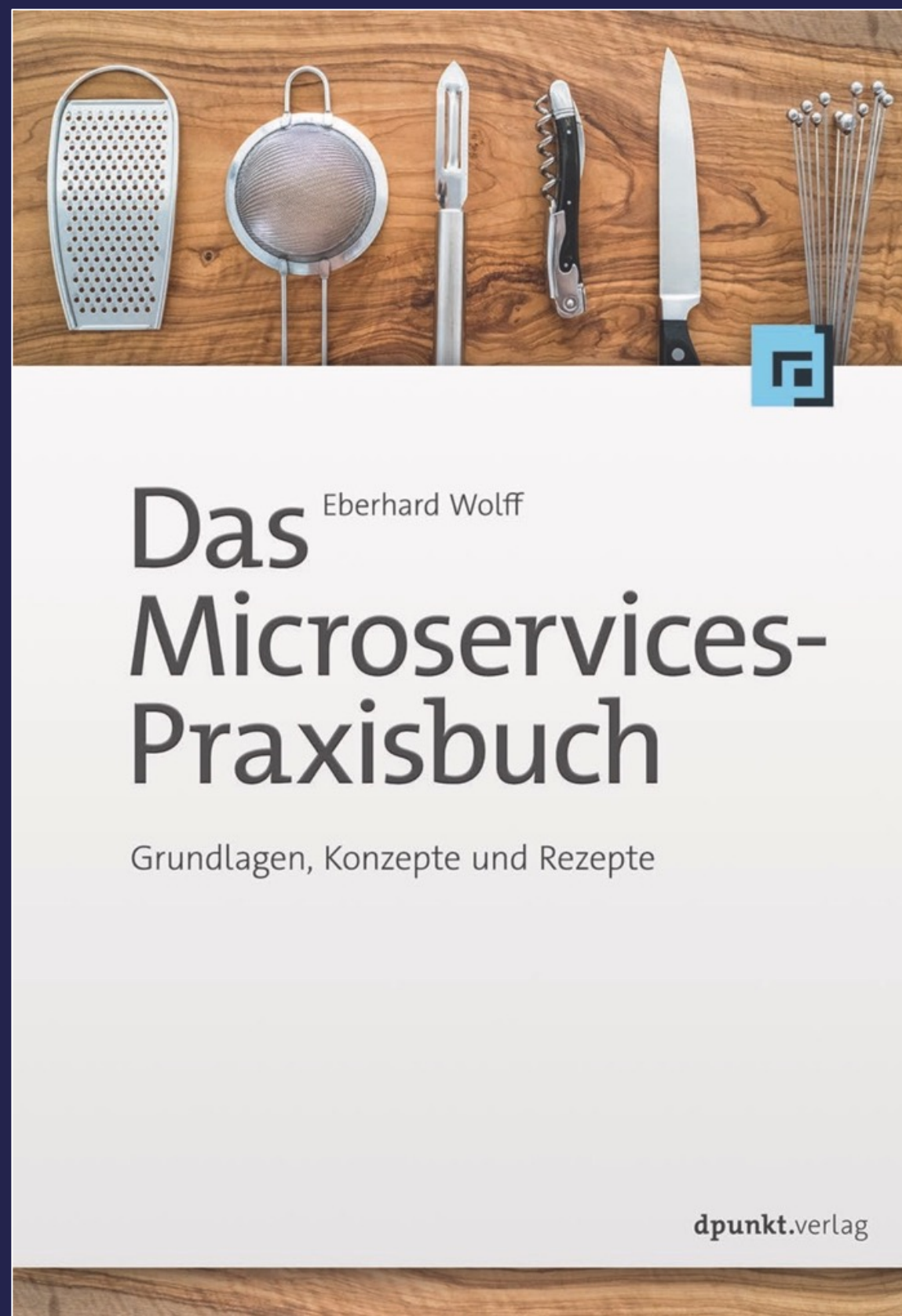
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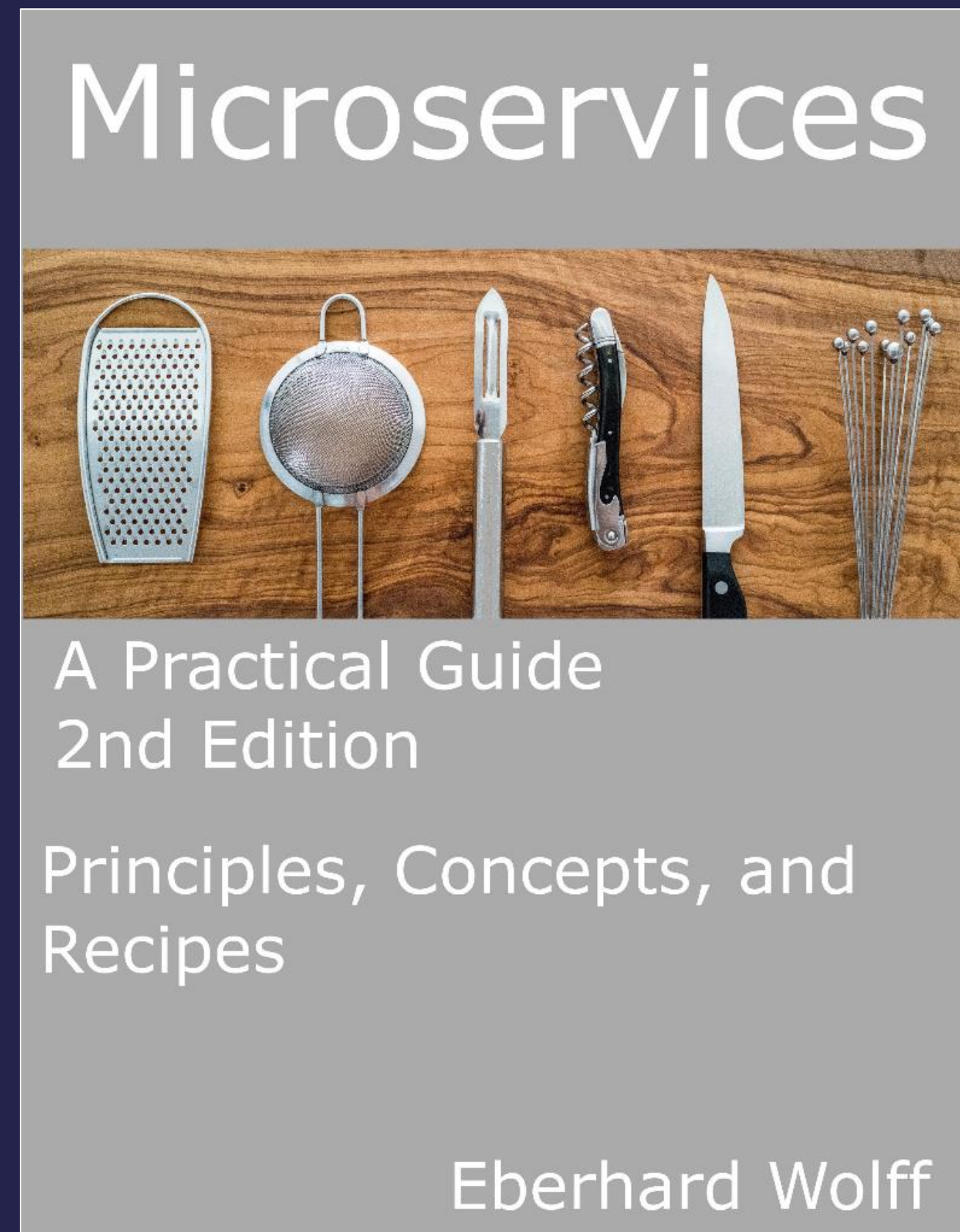
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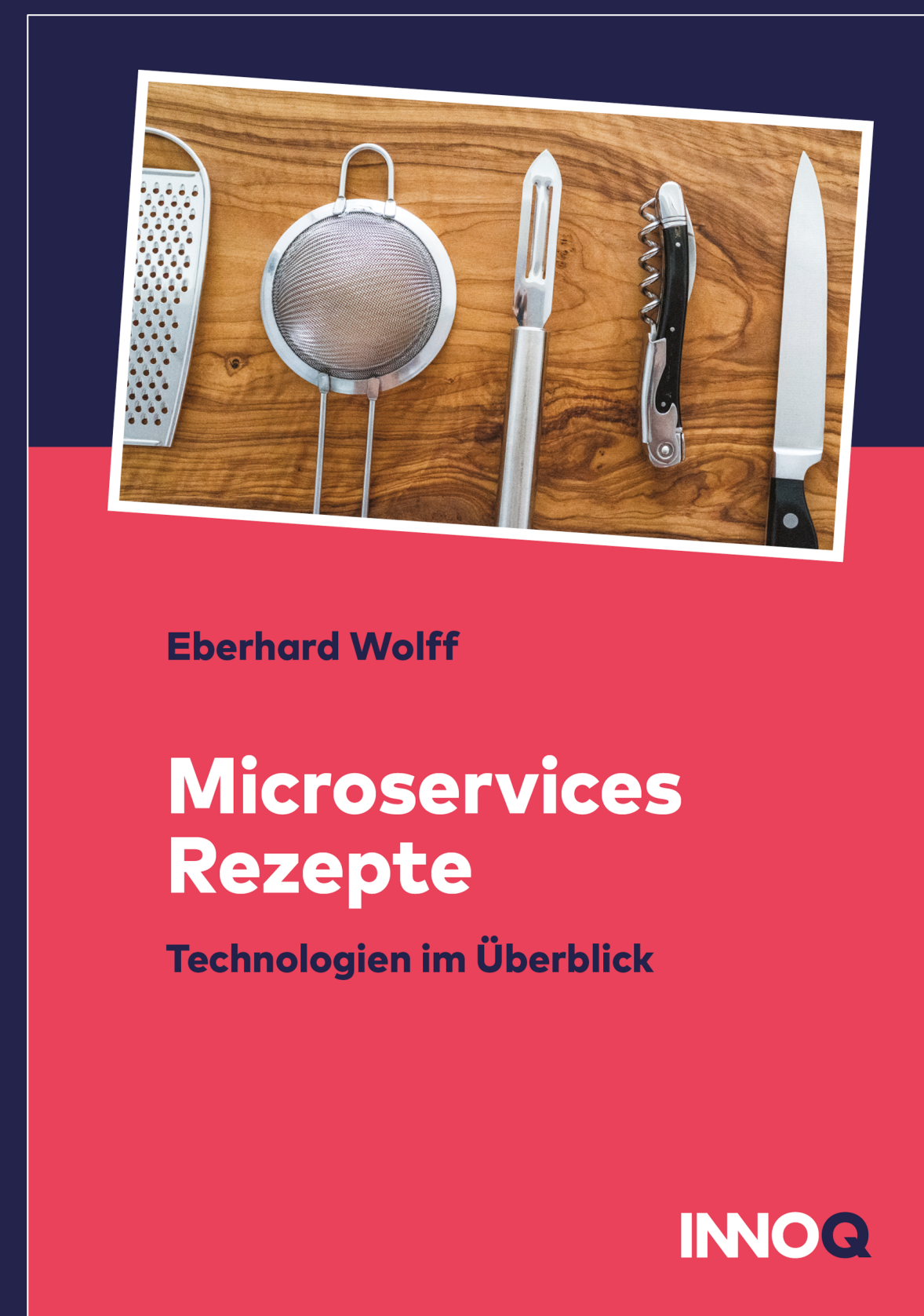
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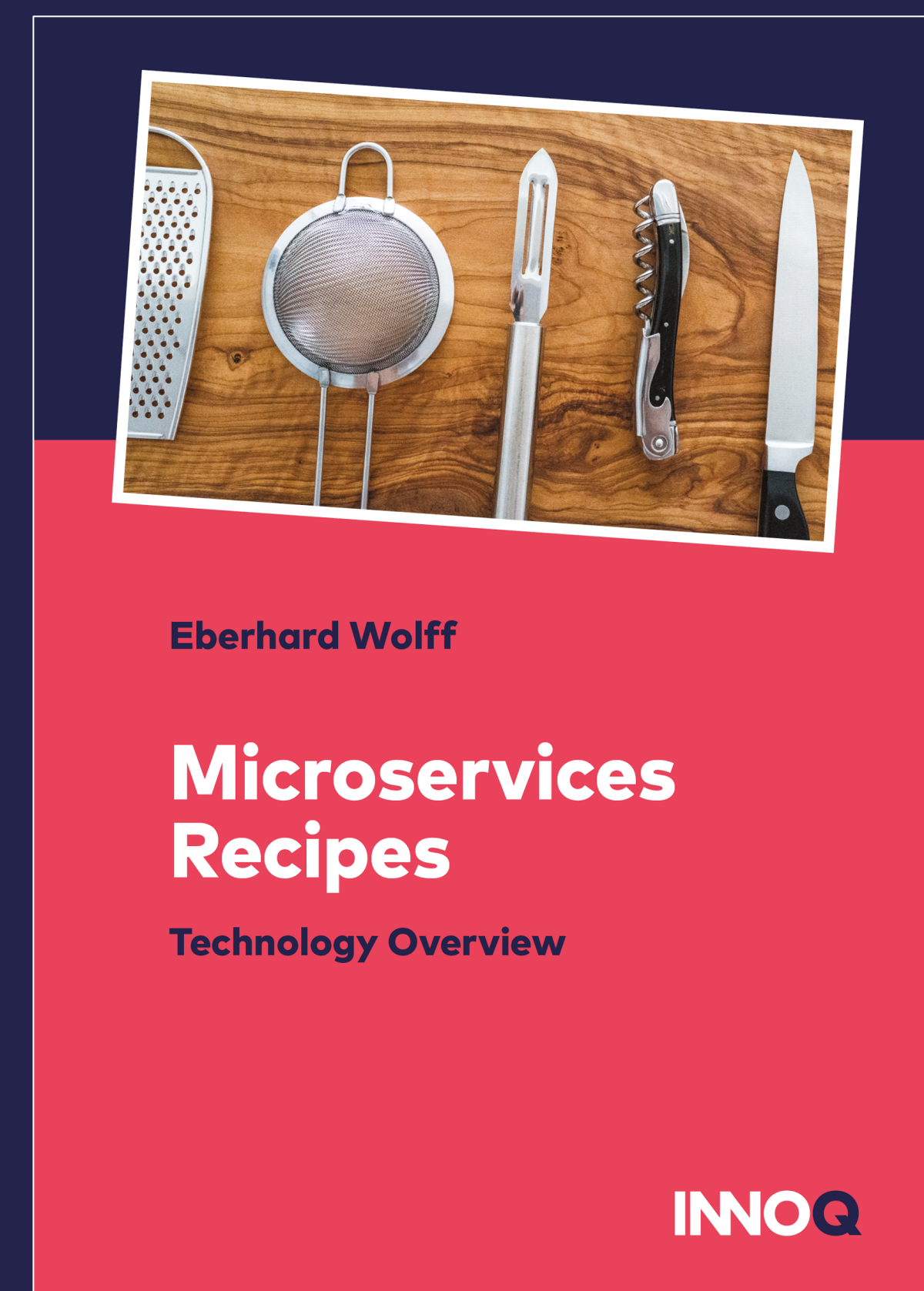
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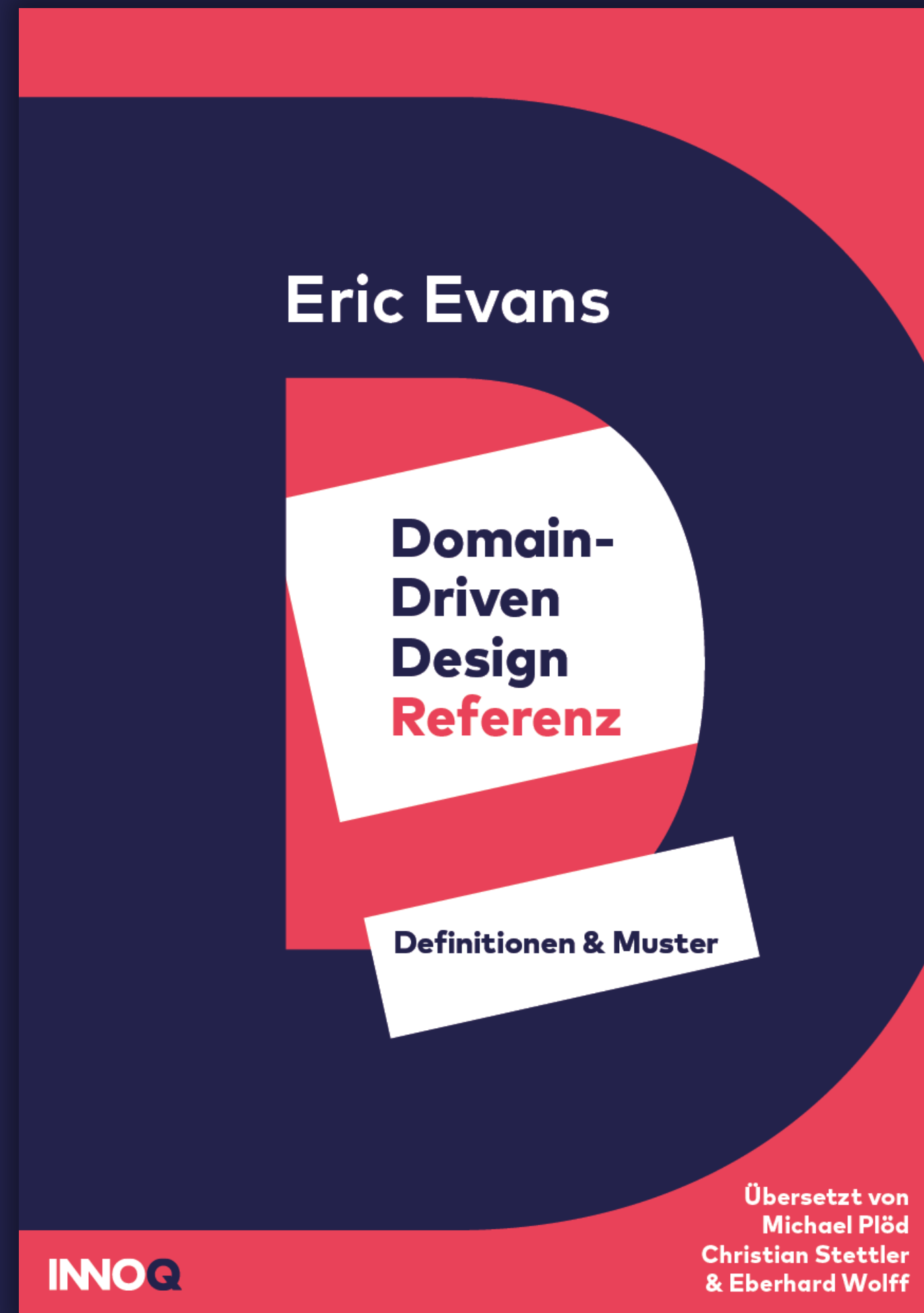
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Architects do architecture  
& technology!

Organization? 🙄



# Conway's Law

Architecture

copies

communication structures

of the organization



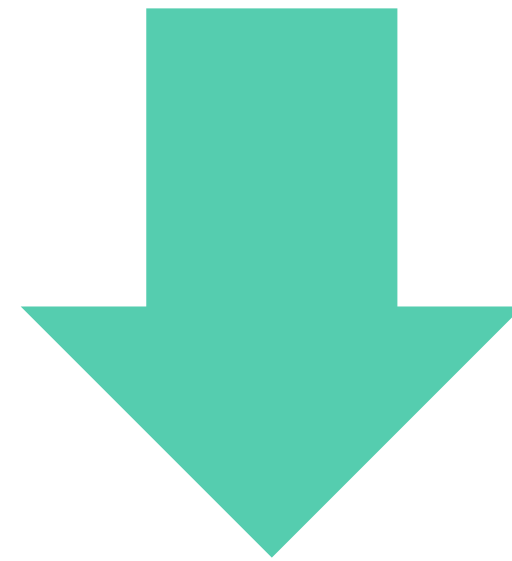
**Organization**



**Architecture**



# **Organization**

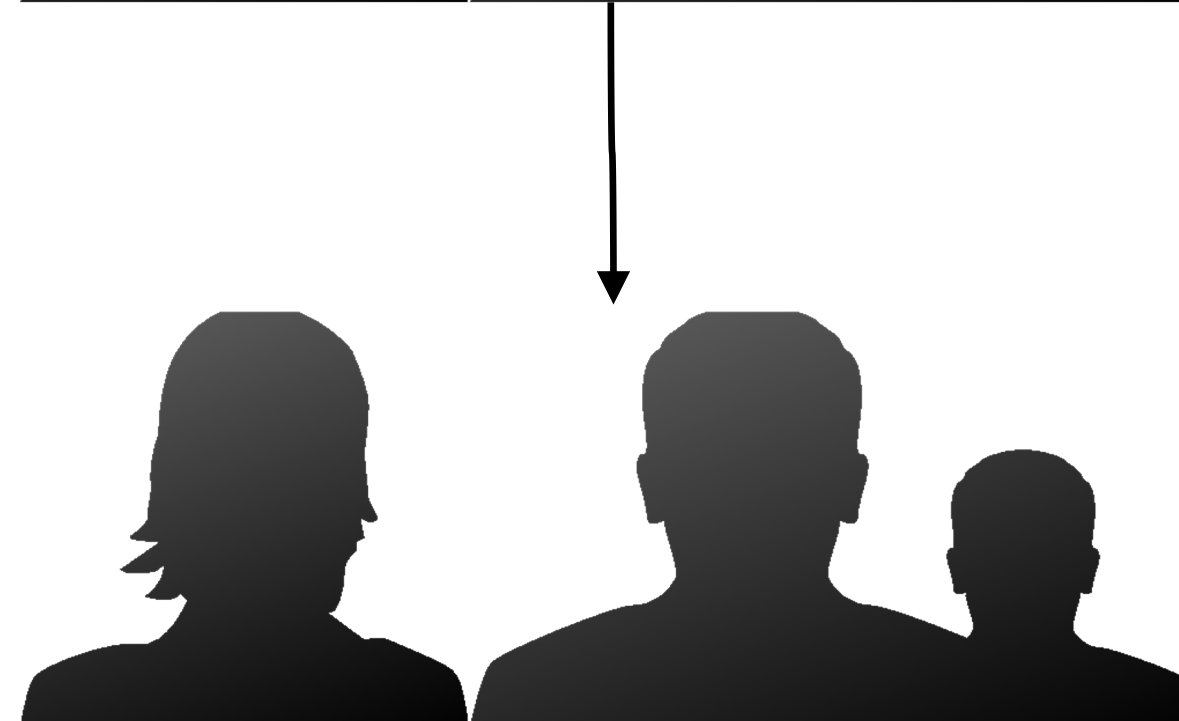
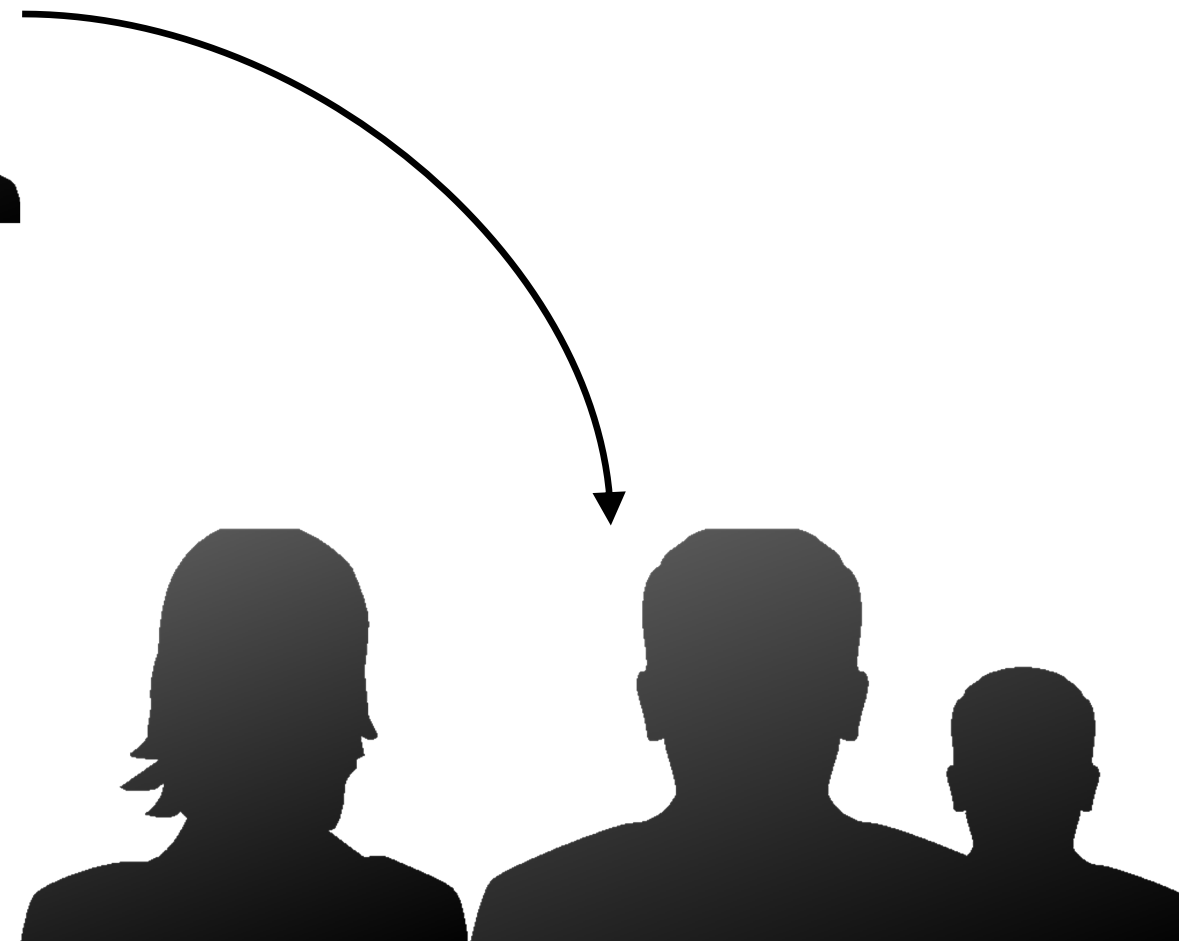
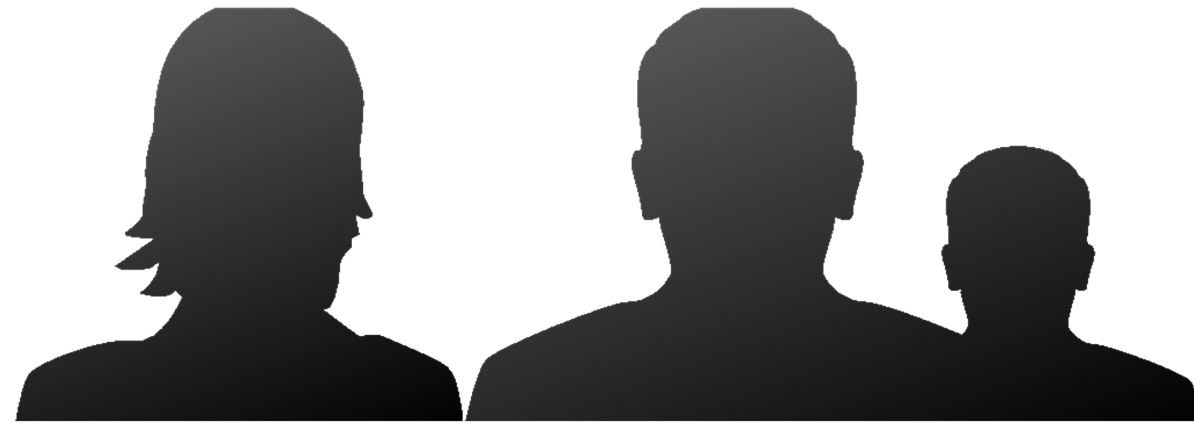


# **Architecture**



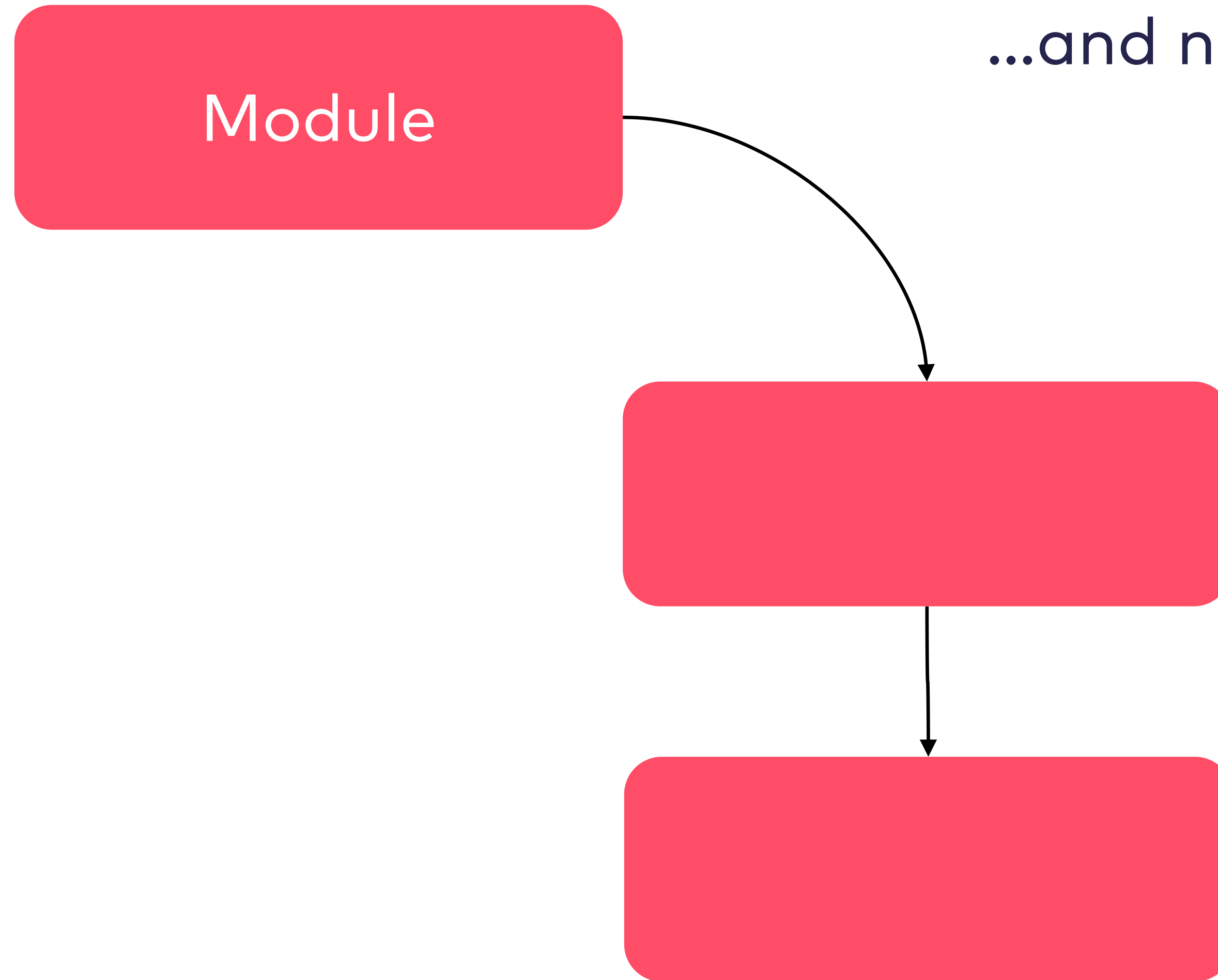
# Organization

Teams will build modules  
...and negotiate interfaces



# Architecture

Teams will build modules  
...and negotiate interfaces





**Organization**



**Architecture**

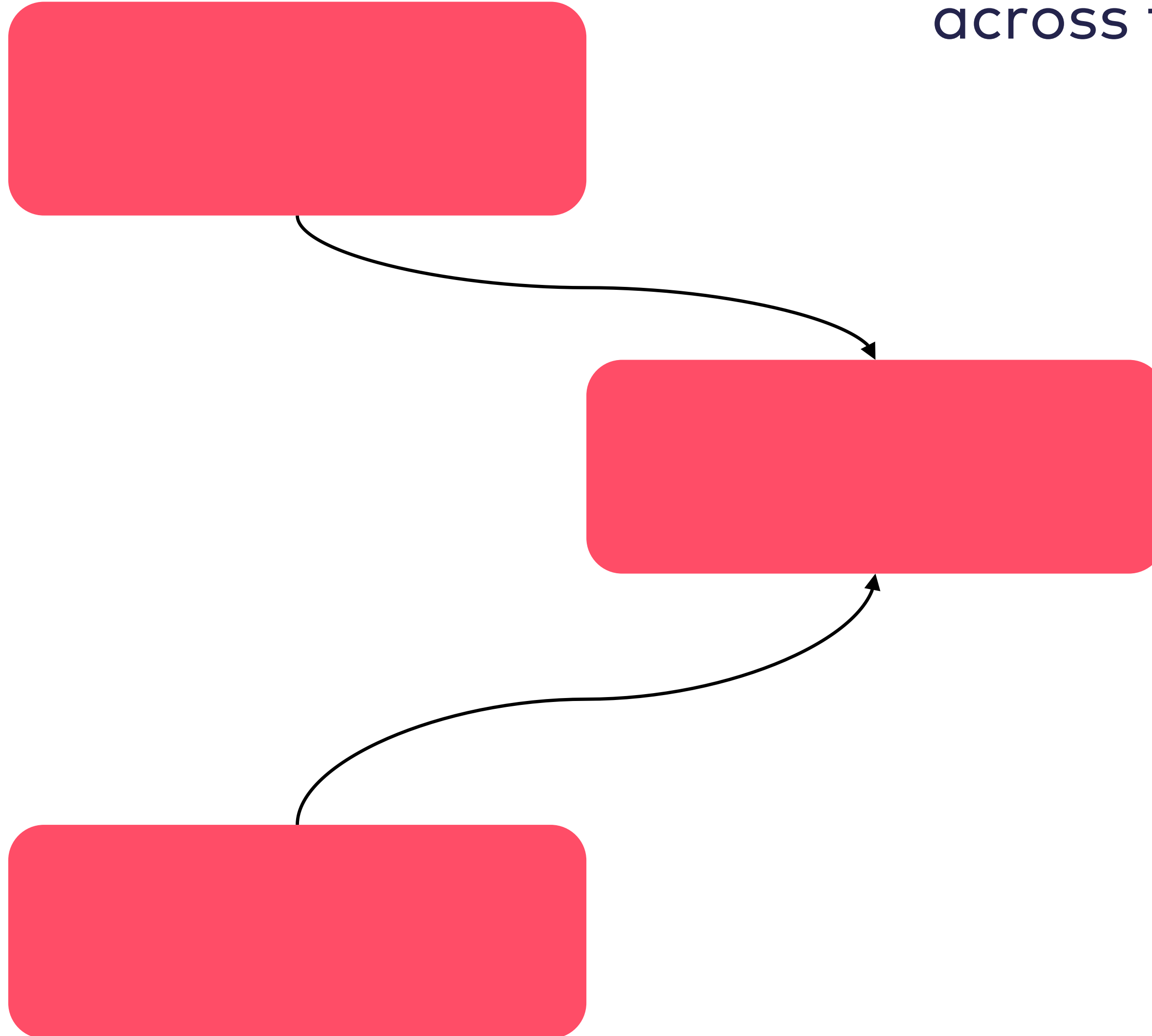
# Inverse Conway Maneuver

## Microservices



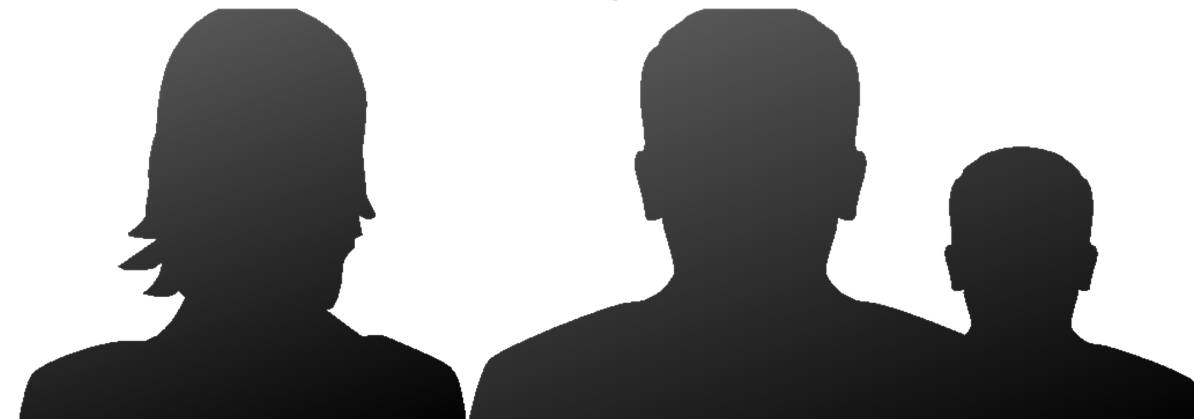
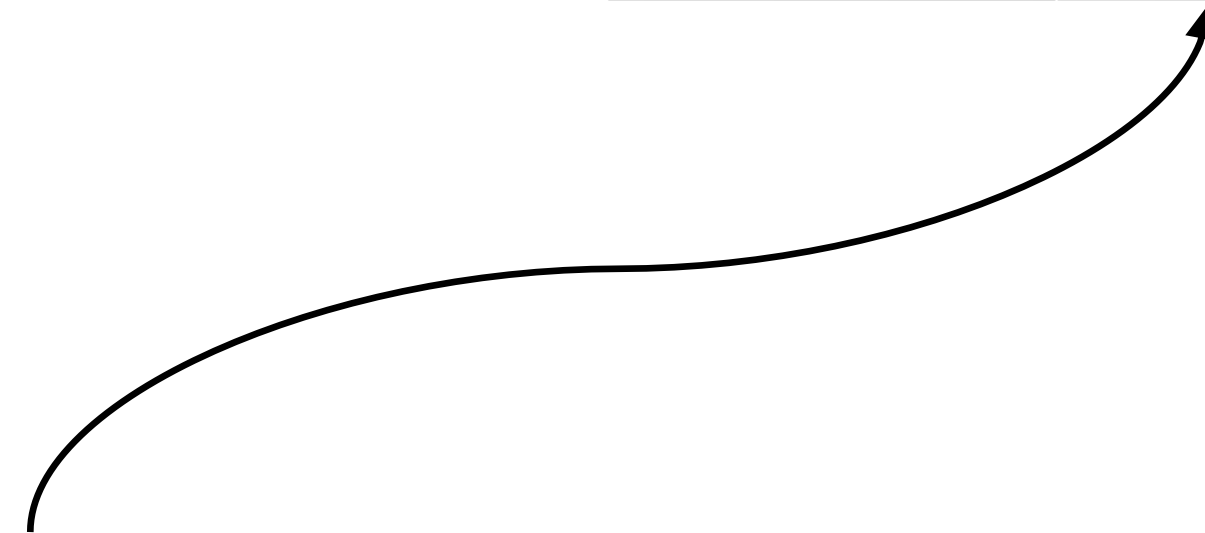
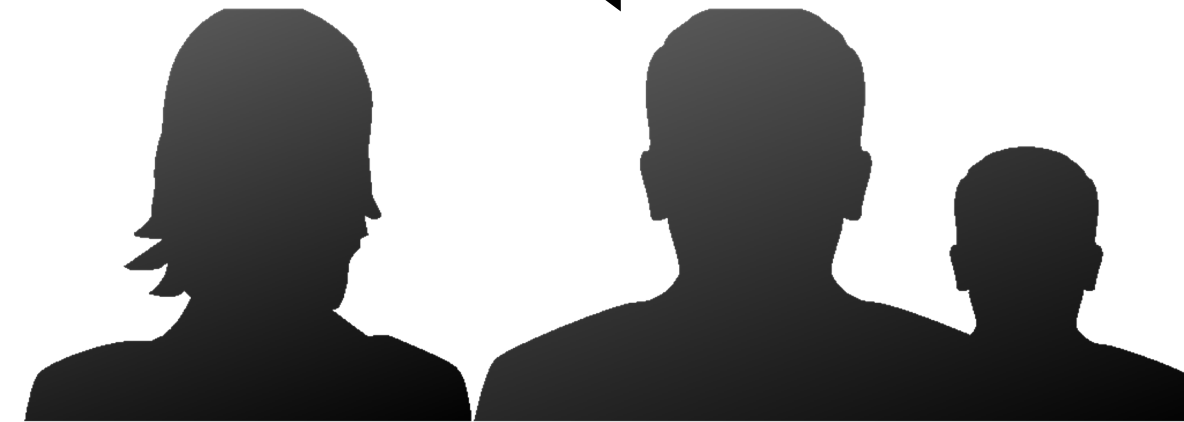
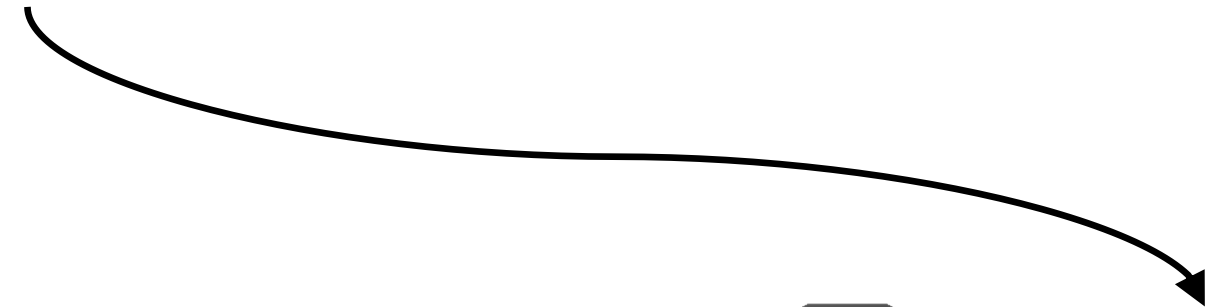
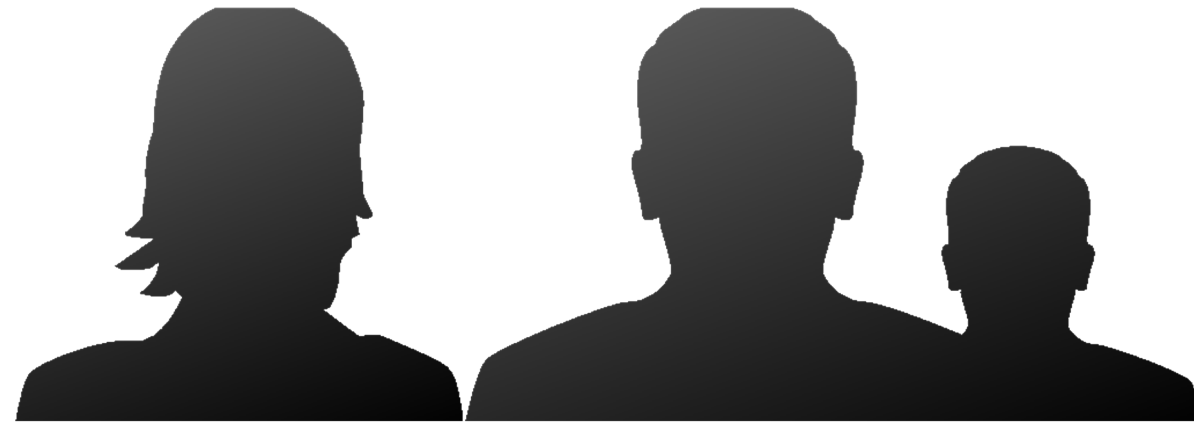
# Architecture

Distribute modules  
across teams



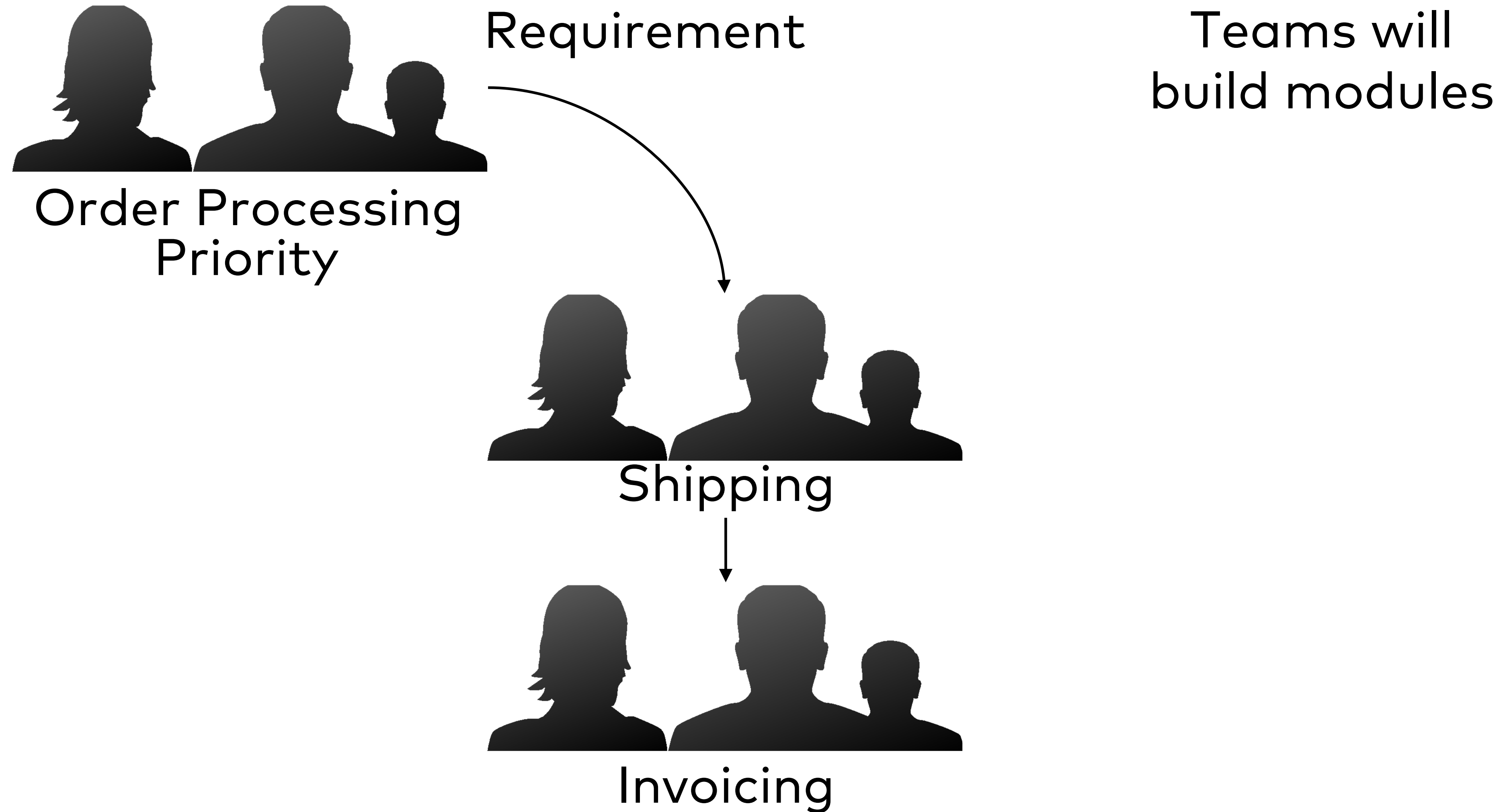
# Organization

Distribute modules  
across teams

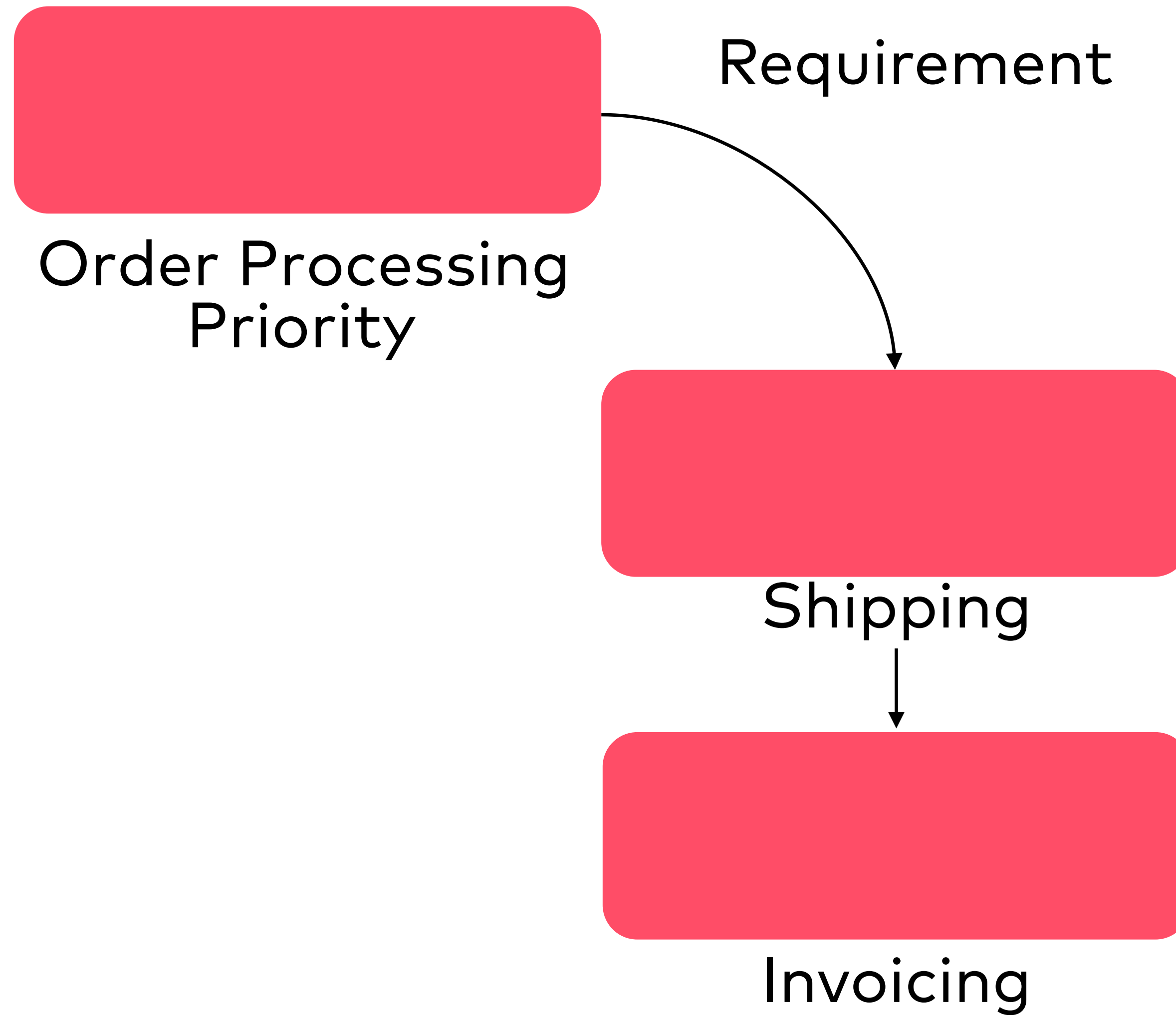




# Organization: A Tool for Architecture

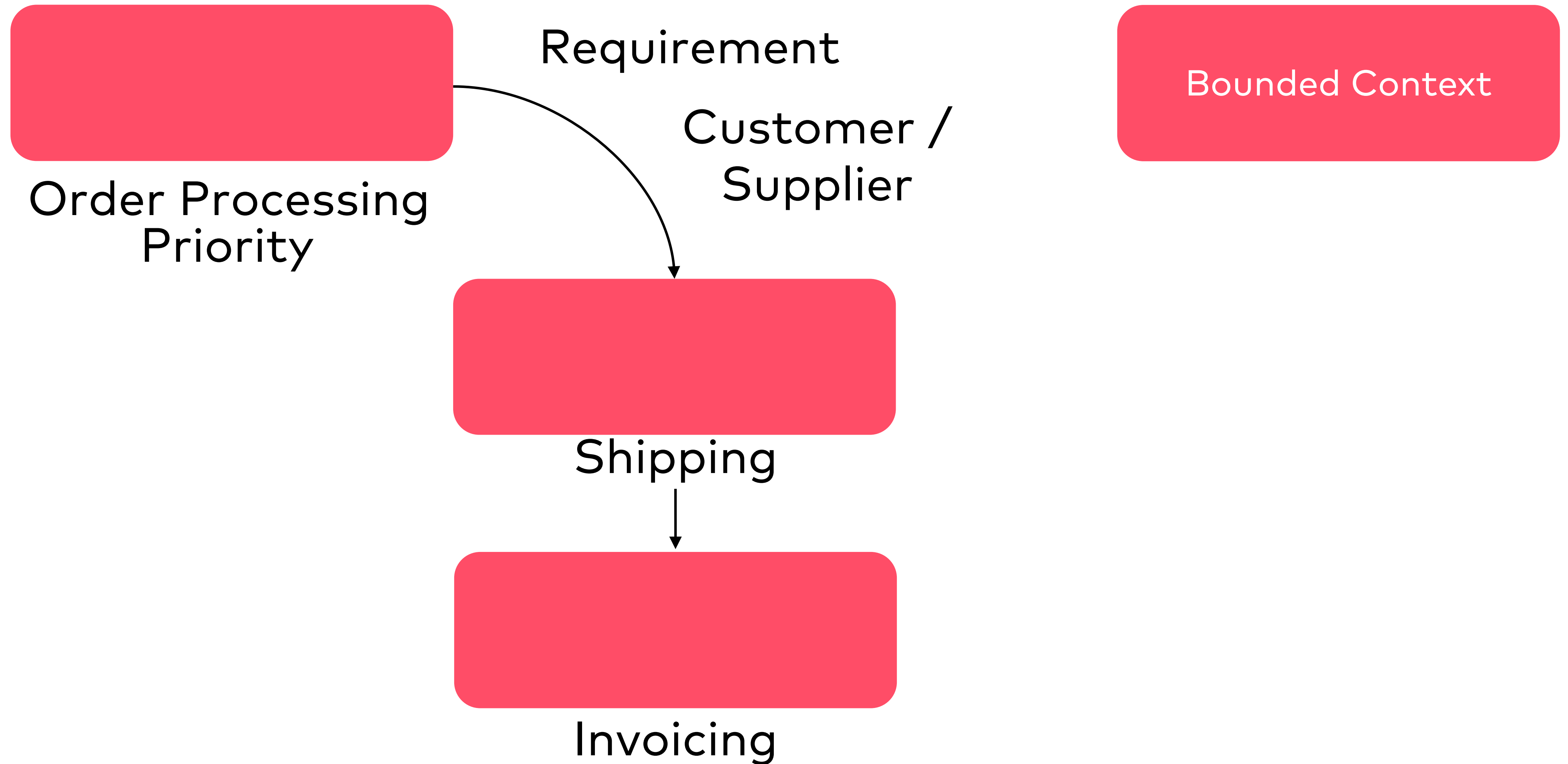


# Organization: A Tool for Architecture





# Organization: Domain-driven Design



**Organization = Architecture**

Conway's Law (1967)

Inverse Conway Maneuver

(Microservices 2012)

Domain-driven Design (2004)

Organization must be defined.

=coarse-grained architecture.



Managers work on organization.

Organization = architecture

Architects = managers?

# Conway's Law

Architecture

copies

communication structures

of the organization

Actually, architecture = communication

Not necessarily manager's organization



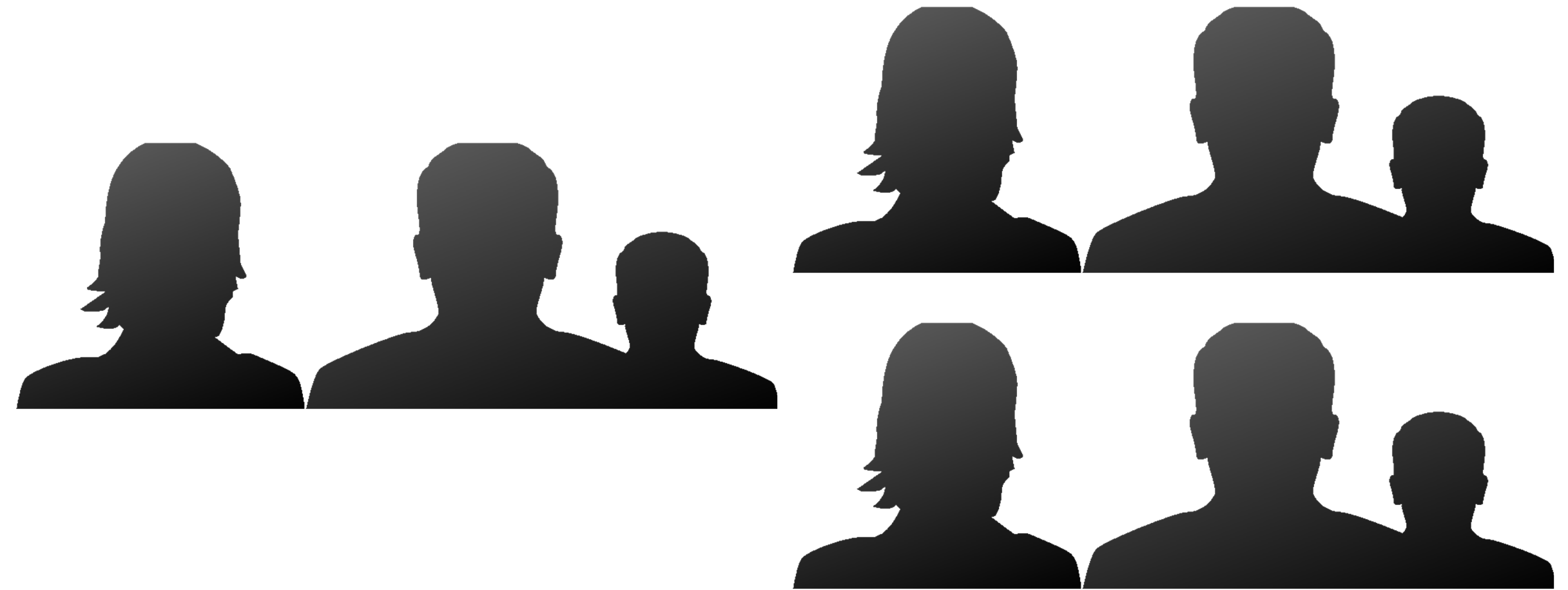
# Communication: A Tool for Architecture

Make sure the right people talk to each other

e.g. about interfaces

...or other decisions

=architecture



Start or support CoPs (Community of Practice)

e.g. for frontend, architecture etc

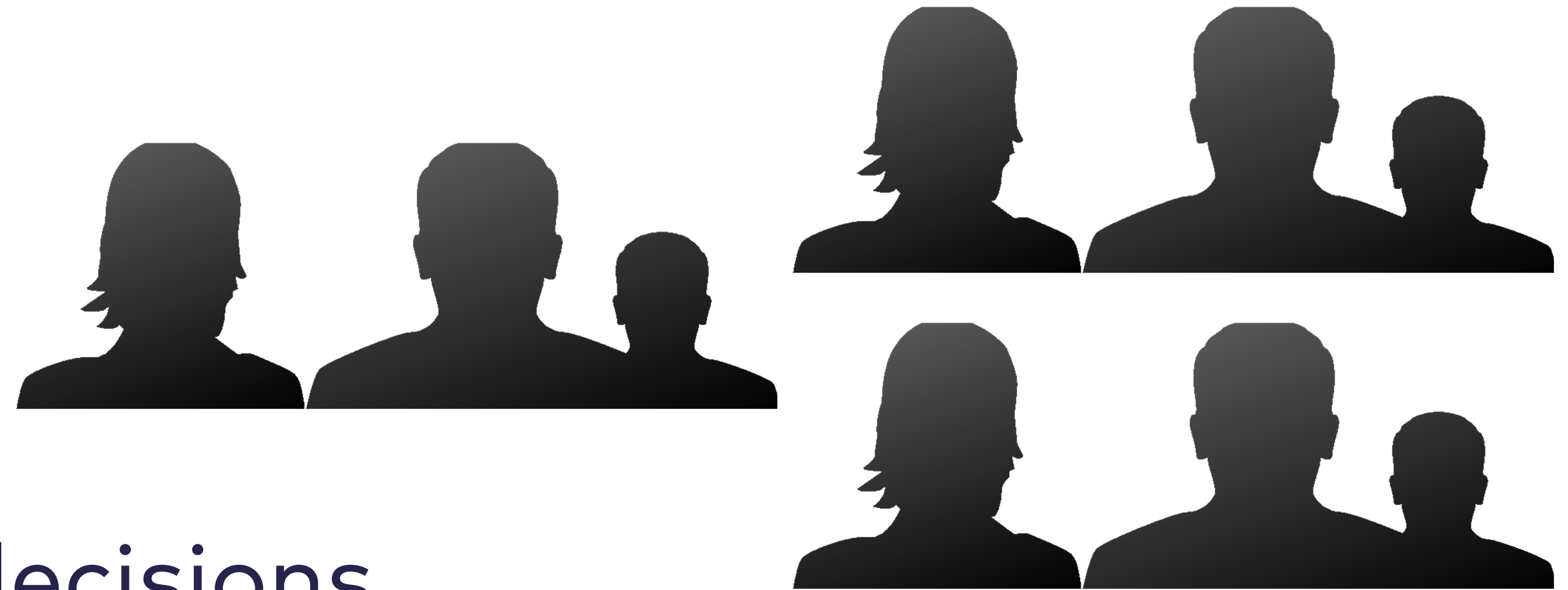
No need to be a manager for that....

# Communication: A Tool for Architecture

Not necessarily content

...but communication

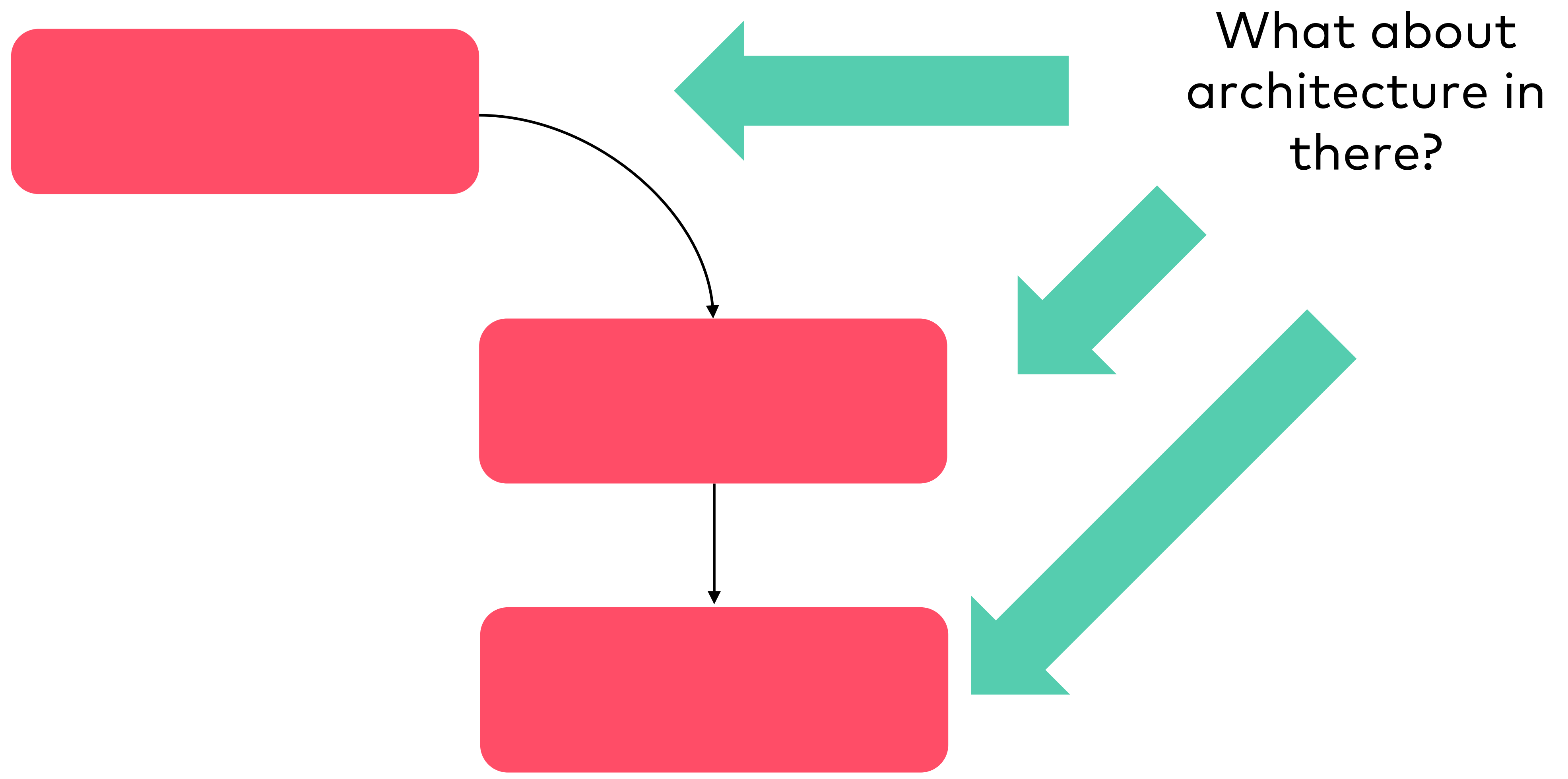
Content will follow



Architecture = coarse-grained decisions

Communication helps to understand details

...and communicate architecture decisions and challenges

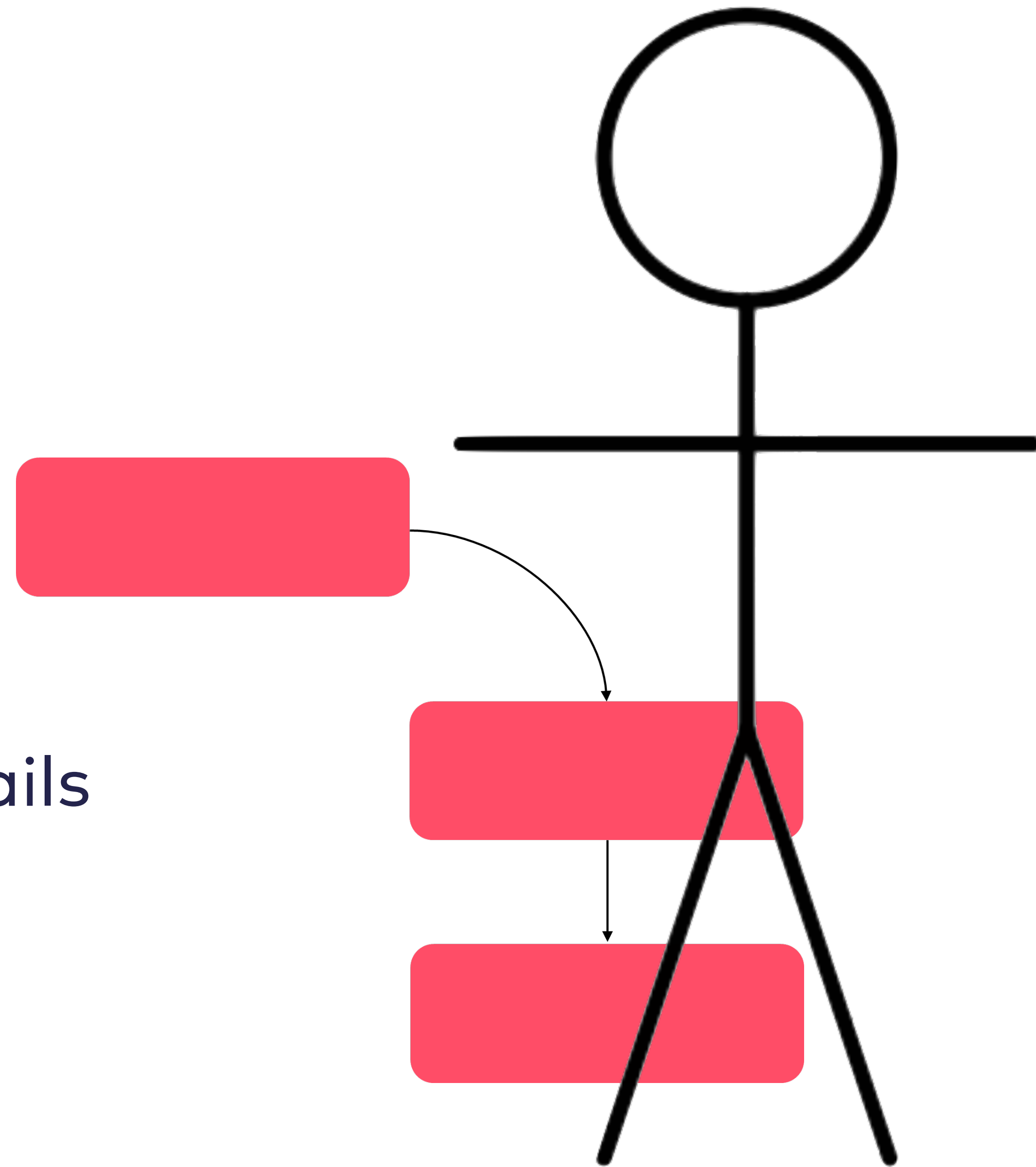


# Fine-grained Architecture

Let the architect decide everything!

Architect will be overloaded

Architect cannot possibly know all details





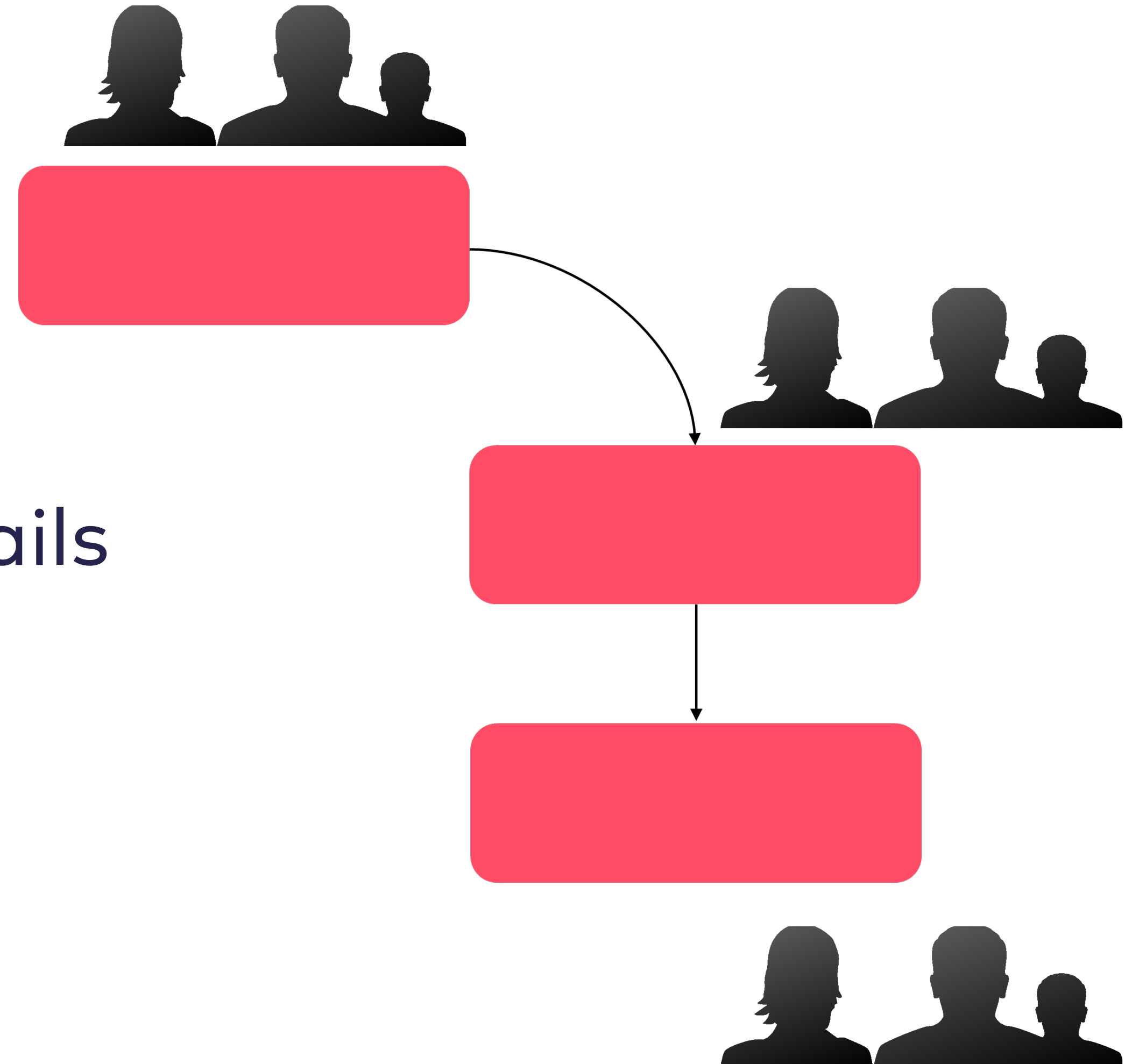
# Fine-grained Architecture

Let the architect decide everything!

Architect will be overloaded

Architect cannot possibly know all details

Delegate decisions to scale!

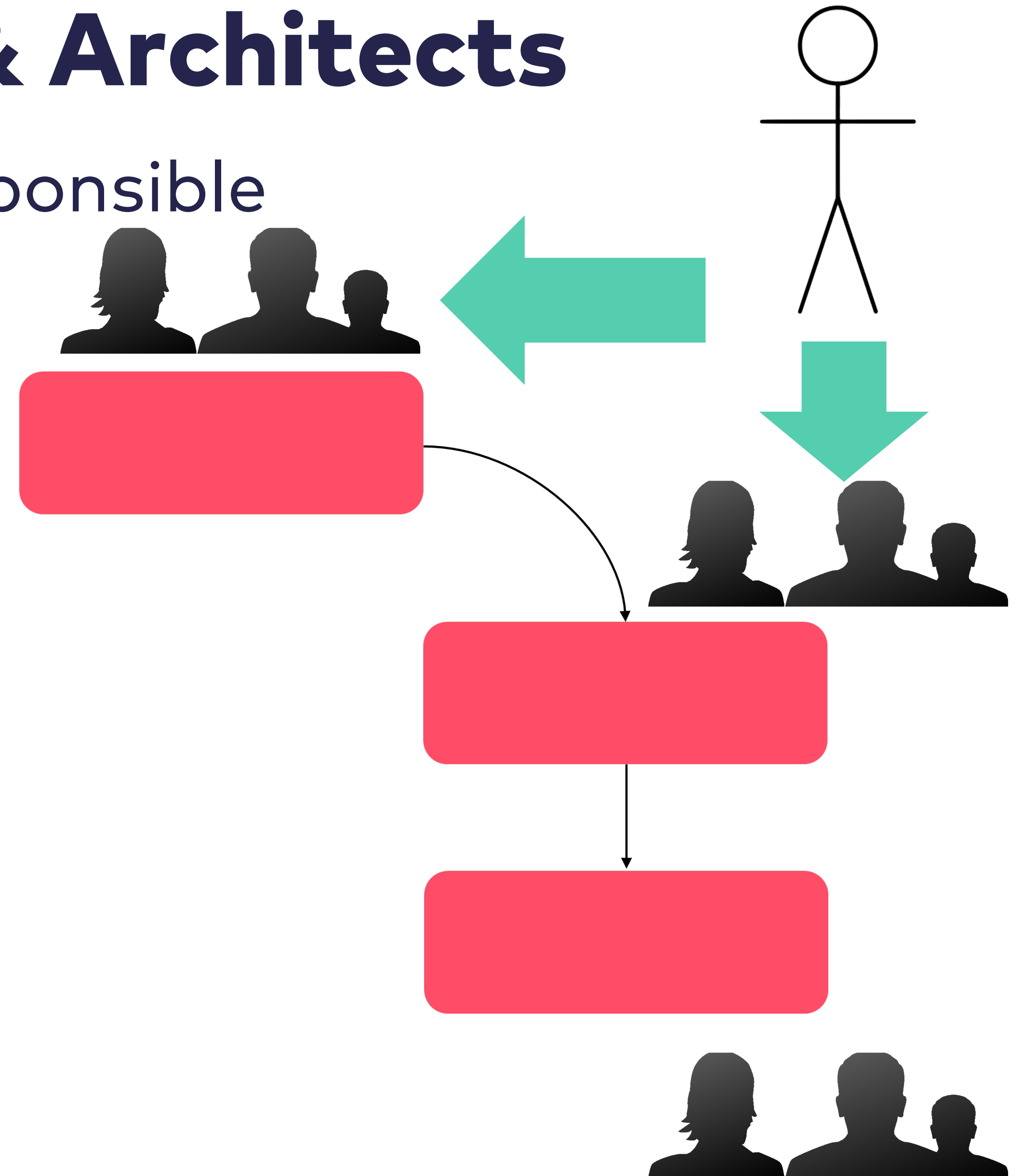


# Fine-grained Architecture & Architects

Somehow, architect should still be responsible

Despite self-organization  
...and delegation.

Rules make teams think less  
...even rules of thumb

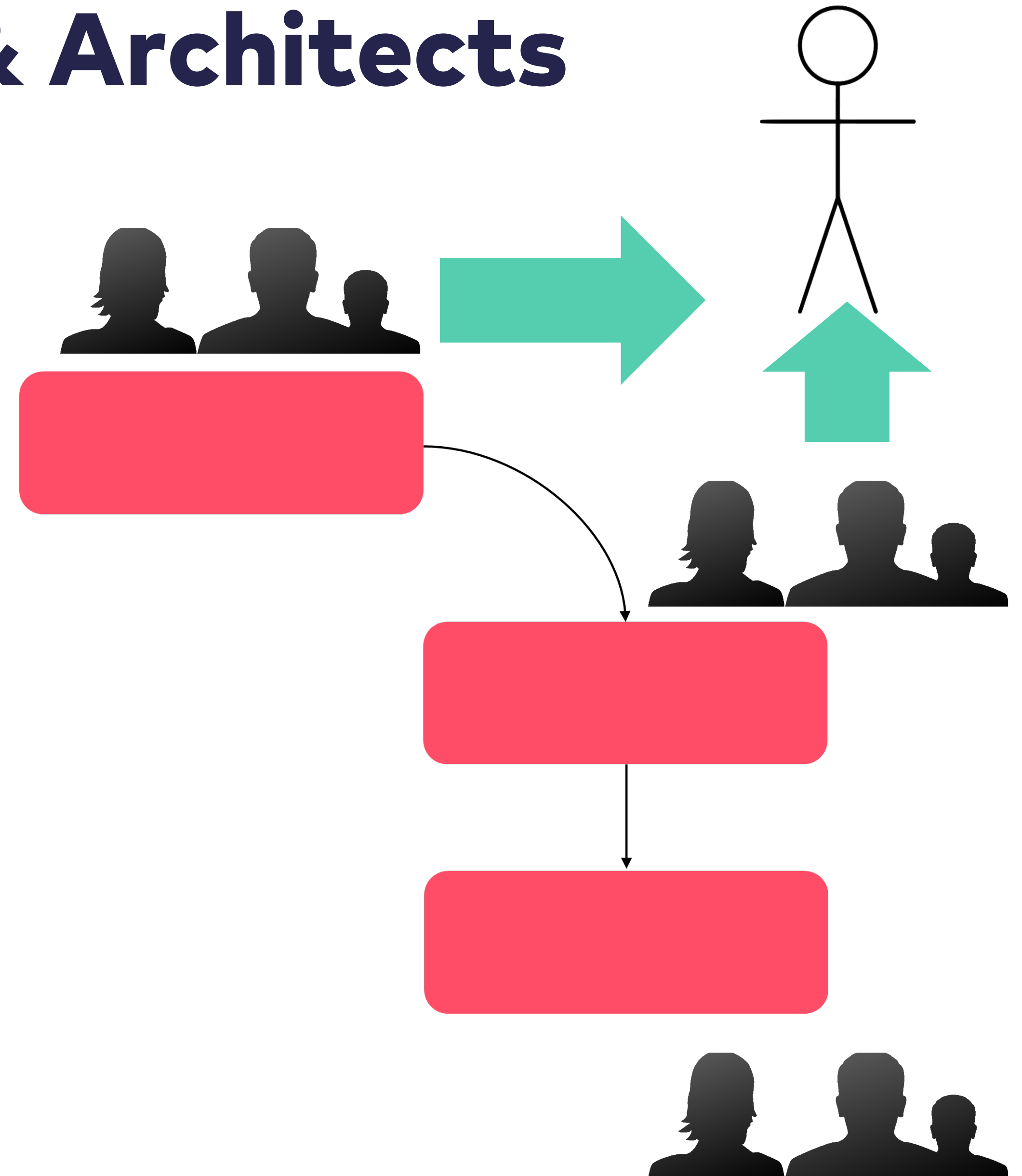


# Fine-grained Architecture & Architects

Architect should influence fine-grained architecture.

i.e. behavior of the teams should be changed.

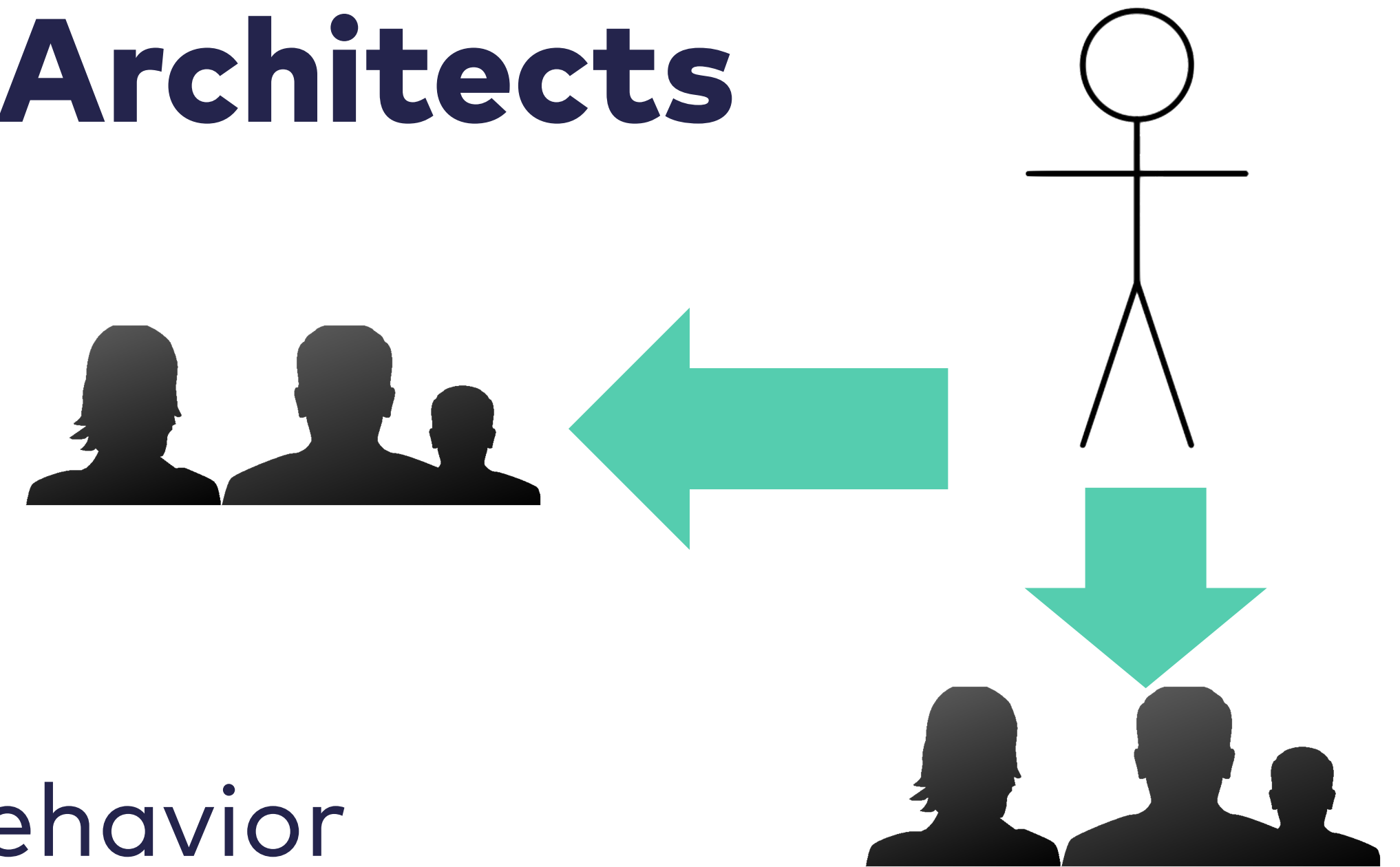
Offer consulting to teams!



# Fine-grained Architecture & Architects

Customized training

For specific subjects (e.g. DDD)



Remember: Result should be changed behavior

...not knowledge

So: prioritize hands-on over theory / slides

Indirect effect: Work with people, not architecture



# Conclusion

Defining teams =  
Defining the architecture

Establishing communication =  
Supporting architecture

Training + consulting =  
Fine-grained architecture



**Eberhard Wolff** ✓

@ewolff

"We are uncovering better ways of [#developing](#)  
[#software](#) by doing it and helping others do it."  
The first sentence of the [#agile](#) manifesto.  
Should be something like a "[#categorical](#)  
imperative" for software engineering.

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