

A photograph of two white swans on a body of water. Their long necks are curved towards each other, forming a heart shape. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue-grey water with some reeds visible in the distance. The overall mood is peaceful and romantic.

Developing like a swan

Chris Mercer

About me

- Early 40's
- Developer for 20 or so years
- Programming since I was 5
- Worked many dev jobs
- A few words of wisdom

"....wisdom..."



Confidence

- Confidence takes time to develop
- This is a **good** thing
- It took me **years** to develop my confidence



Imposter Syndrome

This is **GOOD** and **NORMAL**

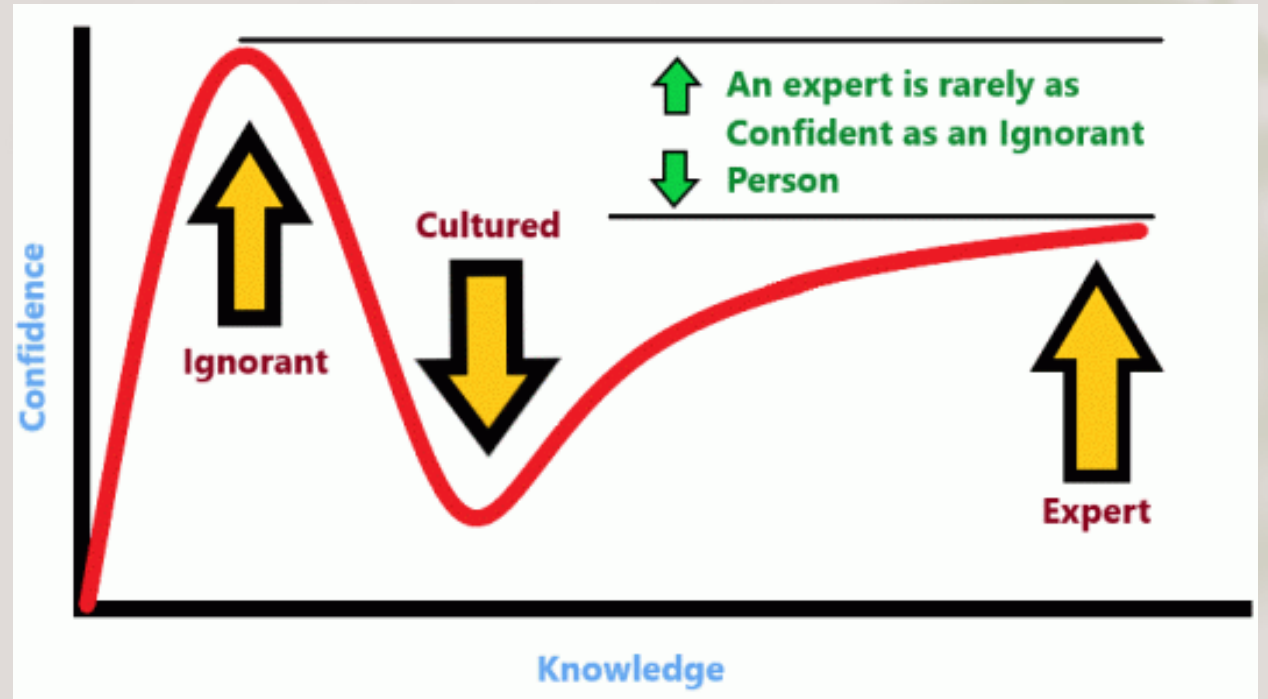
Why?



The Mountain of Ignorance

- The Dunning-Kruger Effect
- An expert is **less** confident
- Imposter syndrome is **real**
and **GOOD**

Why?



These fears are industry-wide

- I have worked with:
 - Facebook developers
 - Microsoft trainers
 - UK Government developers
 - University PhDs
 - Microsoft MVPs



They were considered experts

And guess what?

THEY ALL HAD THE SAME FEELINGS AND WORRIES

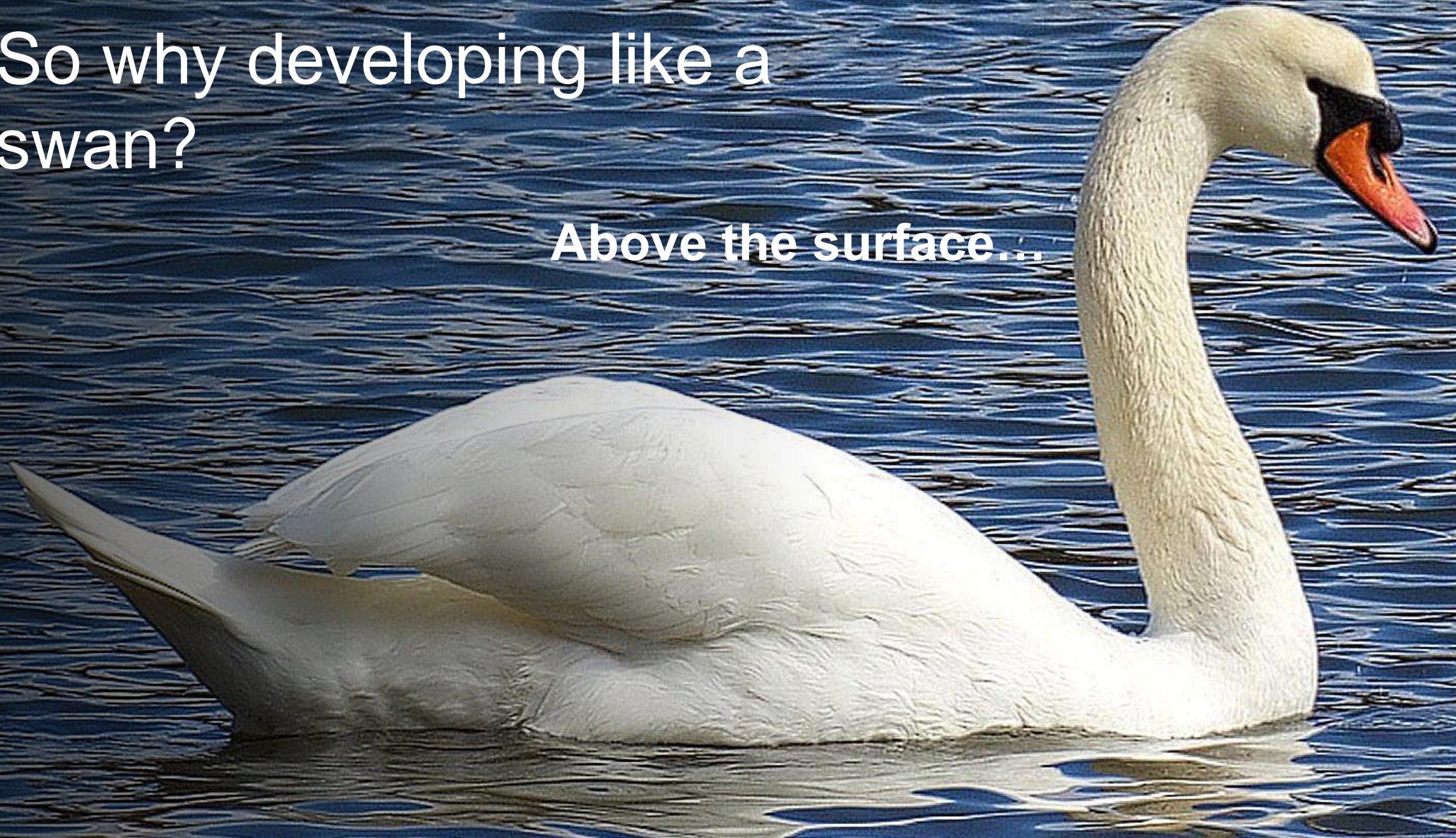
Being a Software Developer

- Is **difficult**
- Is **demanding**
- Is **complex**
- Is **a vocation**
- Is **incredibly important**



So why developing like a
swan?

Above the surface...



But below the
surface...

It looks ridiculous and a little silly





Questions?

Thank you

Contact me!

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