Ubiquitous Language

Mark Reed

Introduction

Background to the concept

Why it matters?

Why it is hard?

Examples of challenges

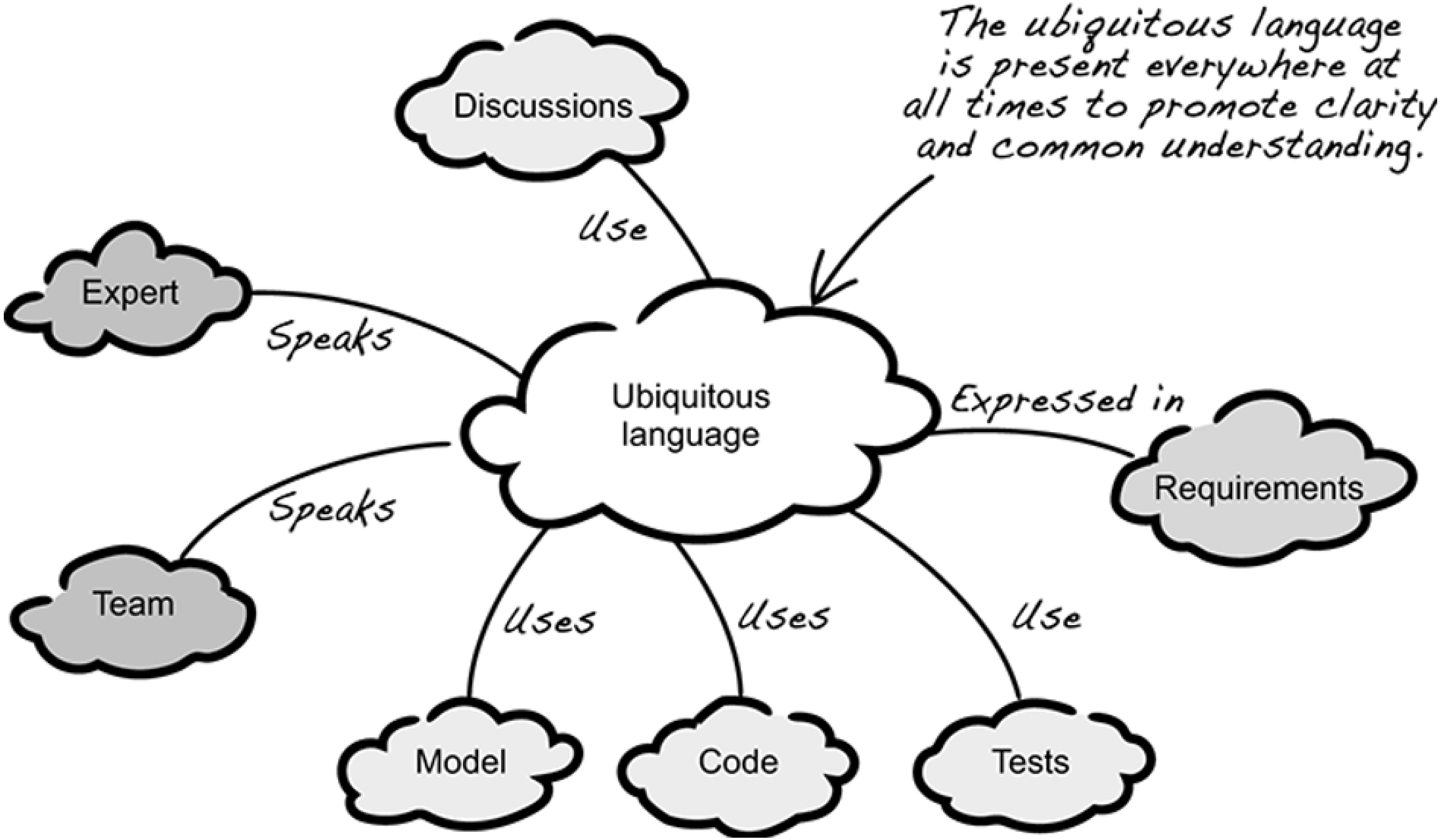
Summary

> There are only two hard things in Computer Science: cache invalidation and naming things.

Phil Karlton

Background

What to we mean by Ubiquitous Language


The ubiquitous language is present everywhere at all times to promote clarity and common understanding.
Discussions
Use
Expert
Speaks
Ubiquitous language
Expressed in
Requirements
Speaks
Team
Uses
Uses
Use
Model
Code
Tests

Why?

Why it matters

Why it matters?

THE FIRST RULE OF
CHINESE WHISPERS CLUB IS;
DON'T TALK ABOUT TINY WHISKERS GRUB...
imgflip.com

Why?

Why it is hard

An example – Rx Authoring Rule

Start

Formulary
- Simple
- Complex

Trending

Algorithm

Message

Rule
A set of criteria used to identify a patient in a specific state

Stop

Information Only

View

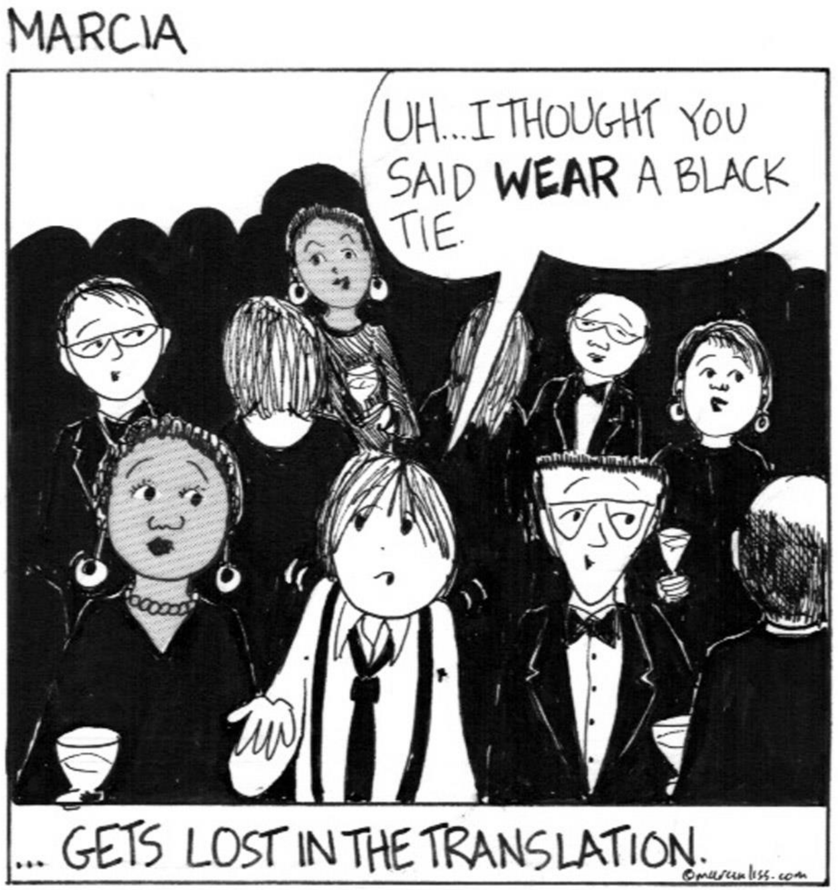
Switch

Counting

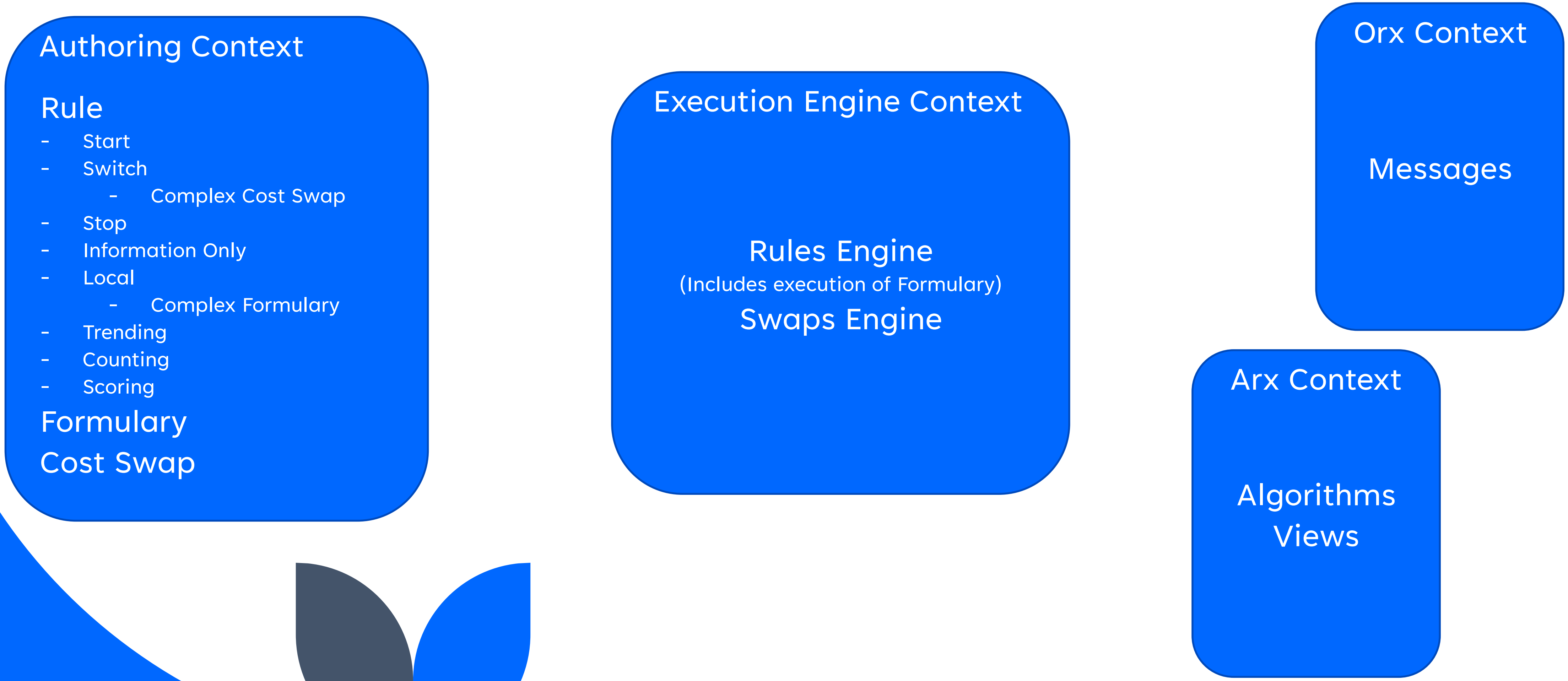
Cost Swap
- Simple
- Complex

Scoring

Lost in Translation


MARCIA
UH...I THOUGHT YOU SAID **WEAR** A BLACK TIE.
... GETS LOST IN THE TRANSLATION.
©marcialiss.com

Bounded Contexts



Authoring Context

Rule

- Start
- Switch
    - Complex Cost Swap
- Stop
- Information Only
- Local
    - Complex Formulary
- Trending
- Counting
- Scoring

Formulary

Cost Swap

Execution Engine Context

Rules Engine

(Includes execution of Formulary)

Swaps Engine

Orx Context

Messages

Arx Context

Algorithms

Views

Summary

It is easy to be casual about language

It may seem awkward to be particular and pedantic, insisting on consistent and precise terms in conversions with colleagues

But agreeing on a language and using it ubiquitously is incredibly powerful

It can make all communication clearer and more efficient

Including the story you are telling through the code you write to a developer you may never meet

Questions?

Thank you

Mark Reed

mark.reed@fdbhealth.co.uk

References:

Domain-Driven Design: Tackling Complexity in the Heart of Software – Eric Evans 2003

https://martinfowler.com/bliki/UbiquitousLanguage.html

https://www.sankalp0o.com/ubiquitous-language-for-product-teams/

https://www.myretrospect.com/stories/lost-in-translation/