Understanding Context Using Causal Loop Diagramming with James Carpenter
% of total (product) items a team knows well (requirements & design)

#backlogs/lists

Adaptiveness of teams to change direction at global level

% of items worked on each Sprint that are highest value at global level

opportunity cost

- Together: Clarify variable set
- Breakout Groups: Draw causal relationships
- Together: Debrief model
Notation Basics

- system variable
- feature velocity
- delayed effect
- opposite effect
- code quality
- # defects
- causal link

More detail at: https://less.works/less/principles/systems-thinking
• 3 to 5 people per breakout

• Expect to struggle at first. I’m intentionally throwing you in the deep end of the pool.

• I plan to visit each breakout room to help when you get stuck.
Breakout Group Facilitators
• Sathpal Singh
• David Crowe
• Martin Jewiss
• Amaad Qureshi

Additional Facilitators If Needed:
• David Stackleather
• Madeline Terry
What to expect of your facilitator

- Clarify intent
- Clarify variable definitions
- Clarify syntax
- Clarify tool usage
- Let you struggle and learn
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- Together: Clarify variable set
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• Breakout rooms now
• Miro timer for 15 minutes
• Each group needs a Miro experienced person
• see system dynamics
• see mental models
• see local optimization
• identify root causes
Thinking deeply and clearly takes time
Small groups are best
Starting from scratch takes time
Insights limited by participant experience
In-person > Zoom/Miro
Requires Practice