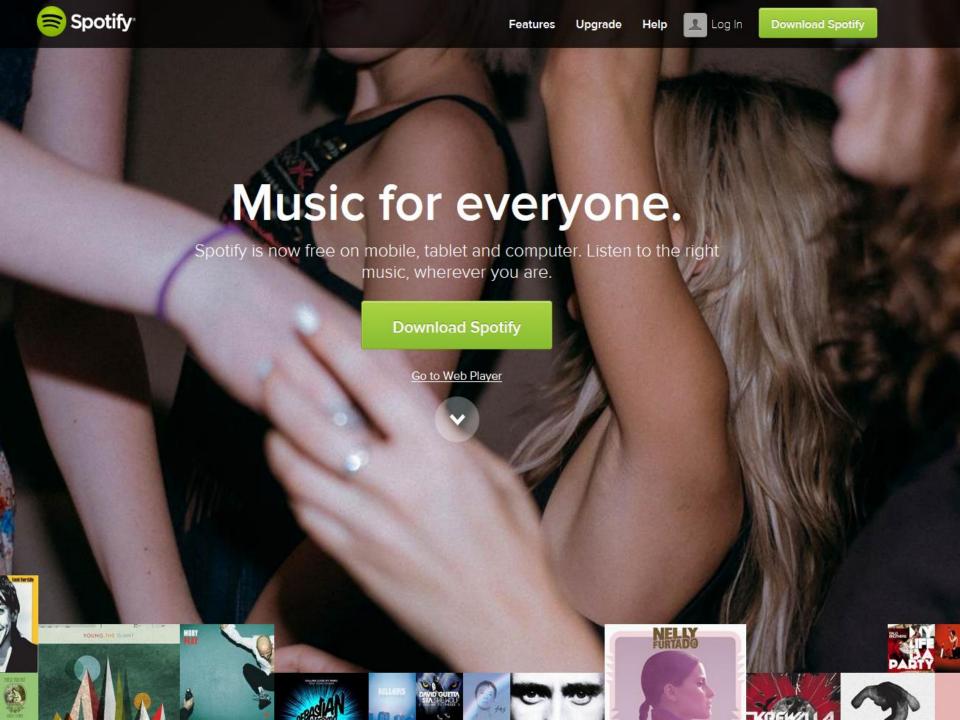
IPM 15/16 — T1.3 How Spotify Builds Products

Mestrado em Informática Médica

Miguel Tavares Coimbra





Some fast figures

- Paying subscribers: Over 6 million
- Active users: Over 24 million*
- Ratio of paying subscribers to active free users:
 Over 20%
- Revenue paid to rights holders since launch: \$1bn
- Number of songs: Over 20 million**
- Number of songs added per day: Over 20,000
- Number of playlists: Over 1.5 billion created so far
- Available in 56 markets

Source: http://press.spotify.com/pt/information/ [May 2014]



Paradox

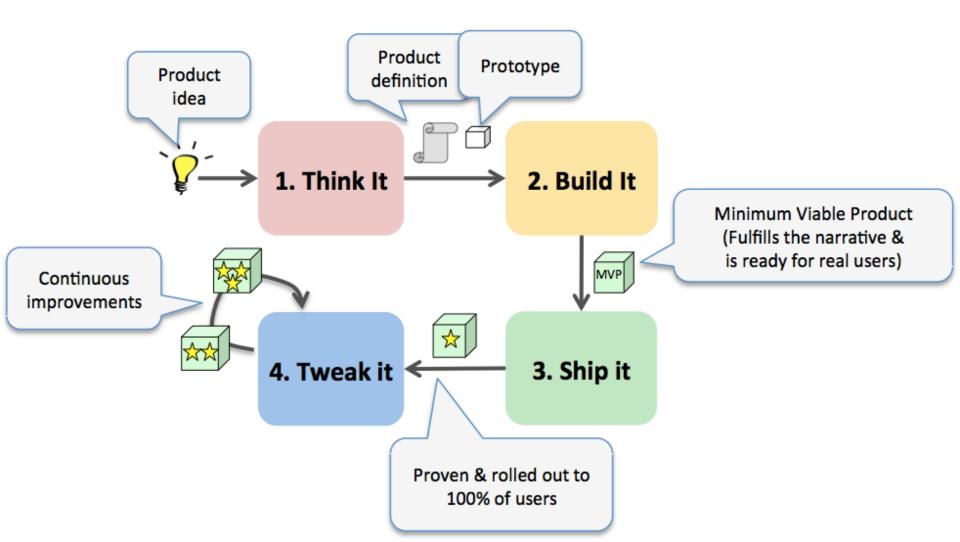
- "Successful companies like Spotify only want to deliver products that people love. But they don't know if people love it until they've delivered it.
- So how do they do it?"

Henrik Kniberg, "How Spotify builds products", Jan 2013

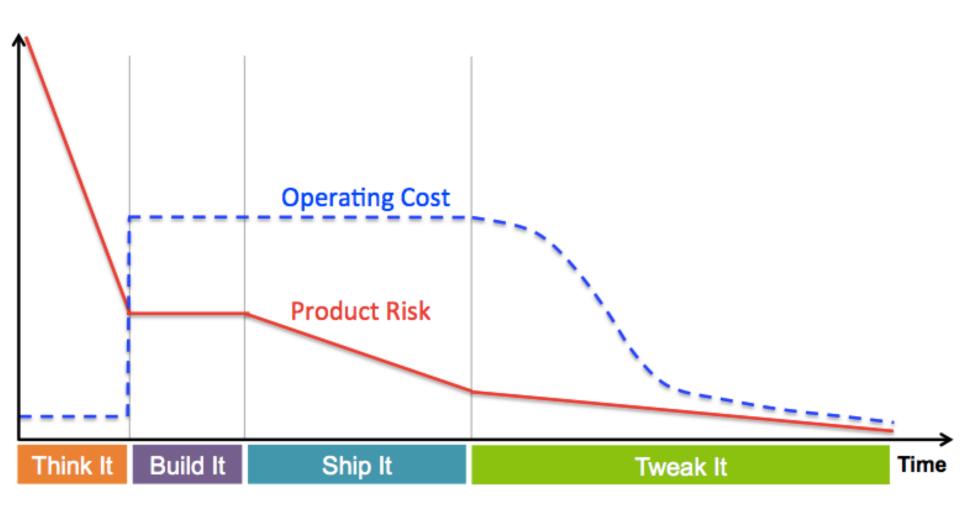
Spotify: Core Philosophy

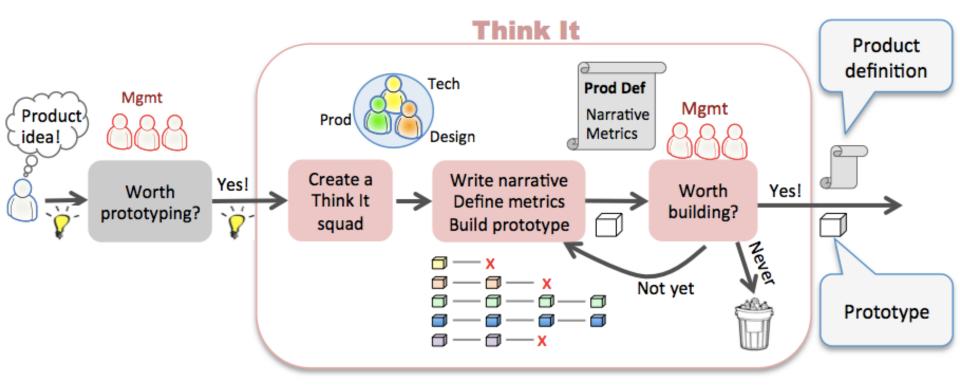
- We create innovative products while managing risk by prototyping early and cheaply
- We don't launch on date, we launch on quality
- We ensure that our products go from being great at launch to becoming amazing, by relentlessly tweaking after launch

- **Think It** = figure out what type of product we are building and why.
- Build It = create a minimum viable product that is ready for real users.
- Ship It = gradually roll out to 100% of all users, while measuring and improving.
- Tweak It = Continuously improve the product. This is really an end state; the product stays in Tweak It until it is shut down or reimagined (= back to Think It).



Why 4 stages?





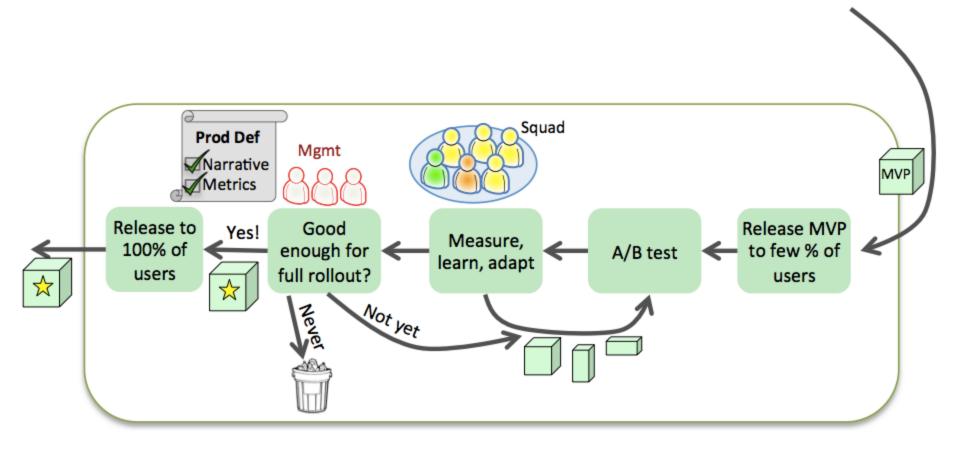
Build it Squad **Prod Def** Mgmt Minimum Viable Product Narrative (Fulfills the narrative & Metrics is ready for real users) Expand to a MVP good Internal **Build It** enough for releases real users? squad Not yet Unusable product Minimum Viable Product Complete product

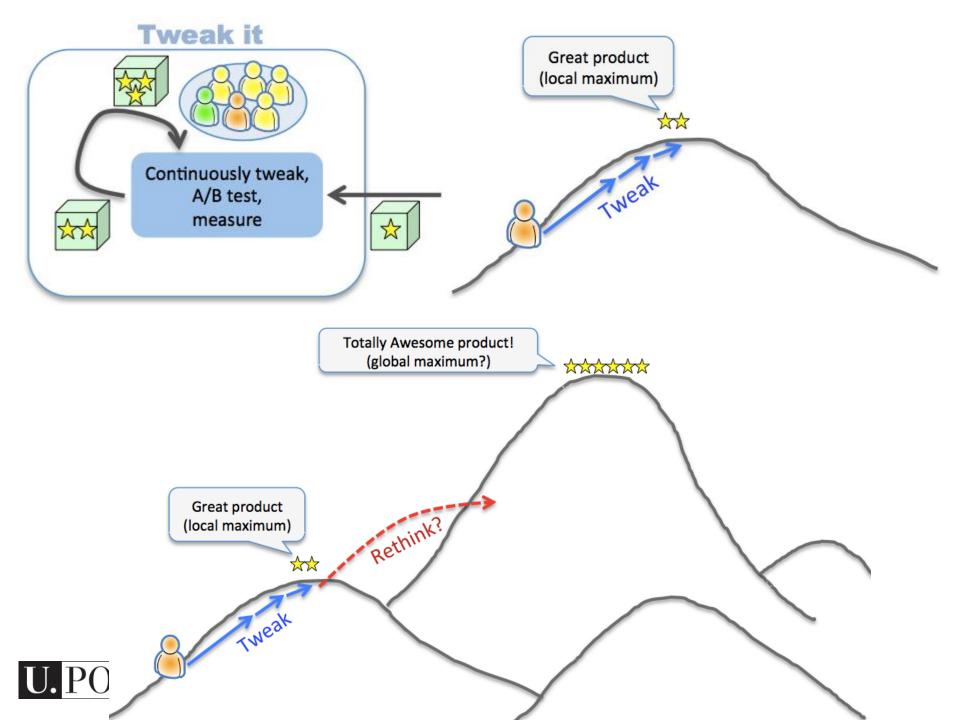
(loveable but limited)

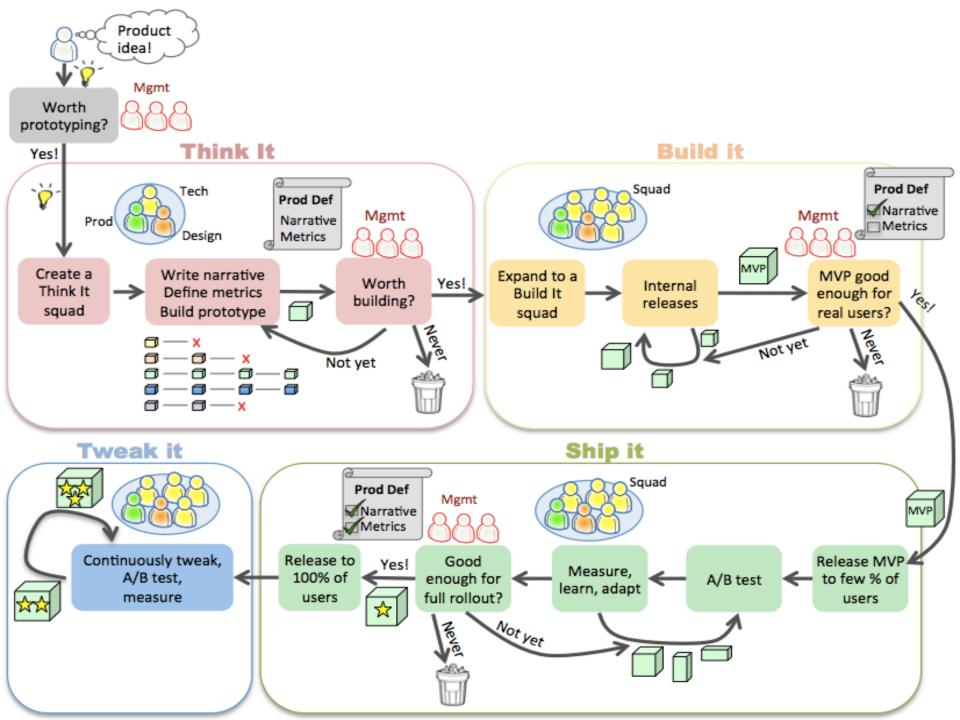
(expensive)

(embarrassing)

Ship It







Acknowledgements

- Henrik Kniberg
- henrik.kniberg@spotify.com
- http://www.crisp.se/henrik.kniberg