

Escaping Legacy

Bringing a legacy system under test

Who are we?



Wouter Lagerweij

@wouterla



Karel Boekhout

@karelboekhout

Agenda

- Introduction
- Sprint 1: The Heat Map
- Sprint 2: The spine of a Story Map
 - **Break**
- Sprint 3: Story Map and slices into key journies
- Sprint 4: Example Mapping: uncovering the details
 - **Break**
- Sprint 5: Priorities: value and complexity, slices and stories
- Sprint 6: Validation: testing with low and high resolution
- Closing

You know this one...



[Source: Jeff Patton](#)

Let's create this one!



- Usually not greenfields, but a big ball of legacy application
- No tests available
- Practical: you can start today

What do we have?

Do you care?

**Let's start with a
Mental Breakdown**

Will it keep
working?

What does it do?

**What
does this
%^)#\$
application do?**

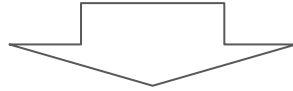
Does it do
what you
think it
does?

Agenda

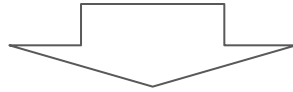
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Start a 'Heatmap'

The Functional Breakdown



Colour coded for the testing we have available



The Heatmap

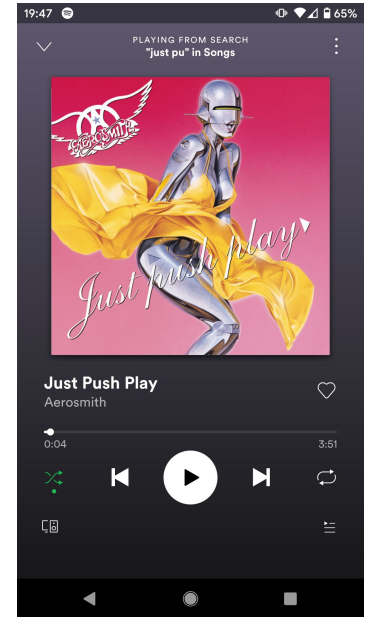
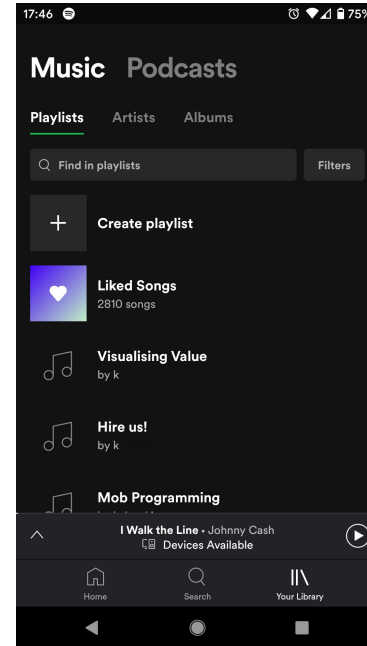
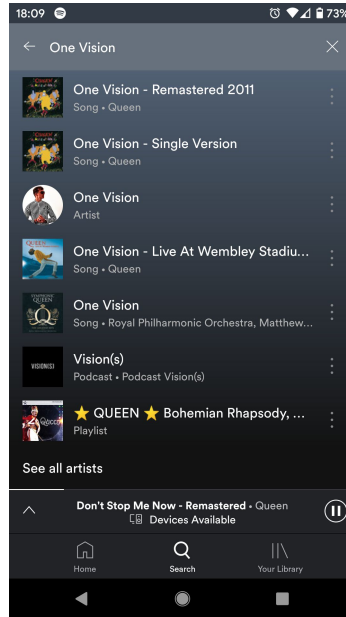
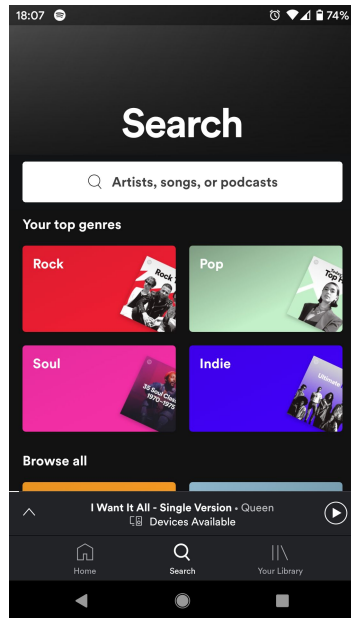
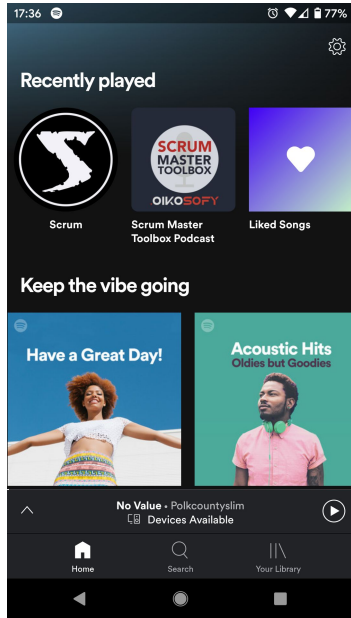
- Our overview for the level of control over our system:
 - What are we testing?
 - How are we testing it?

Our example

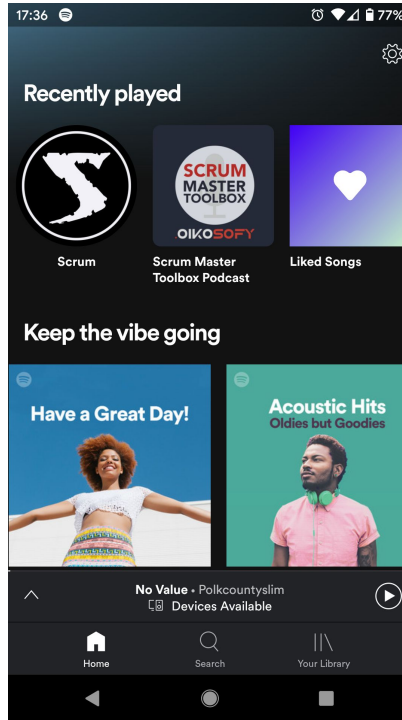


**Let's start with a
Functional Breakdown**

Spotify



Spotify: Home



Home screen

Your heavy rotation

Mood

Recently played

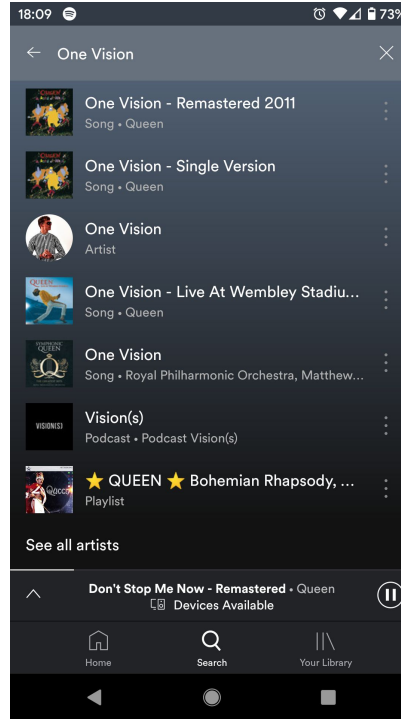
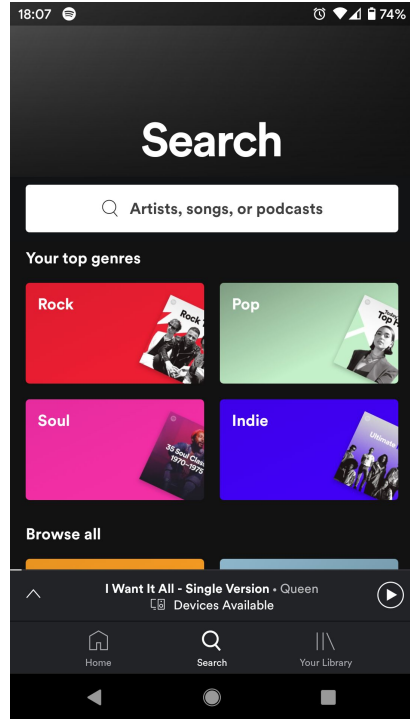
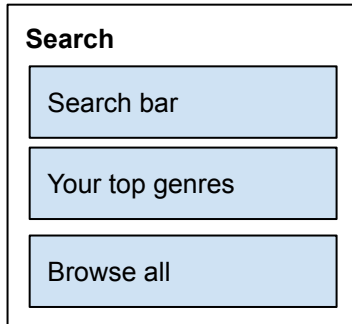
Keep the vibe going

Made for

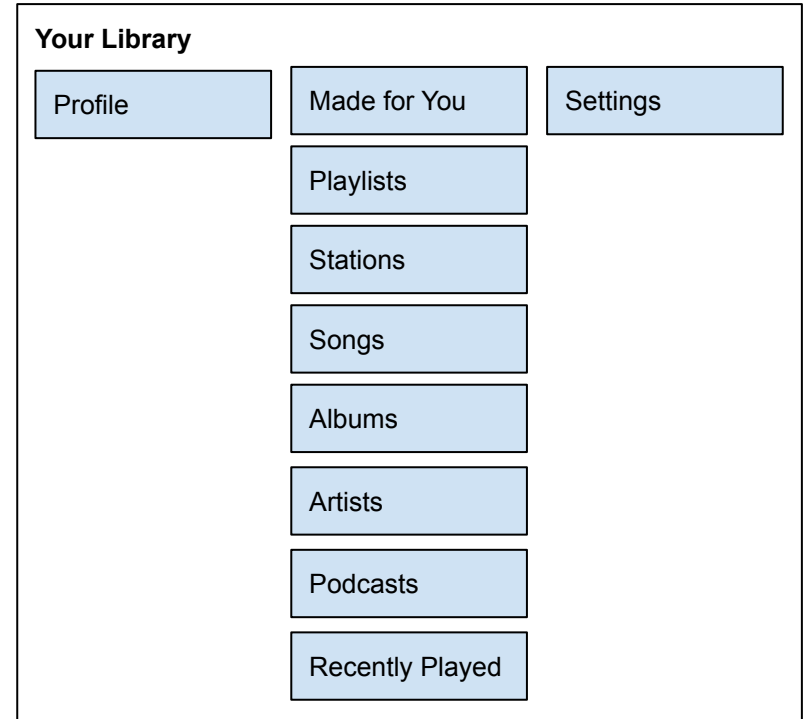
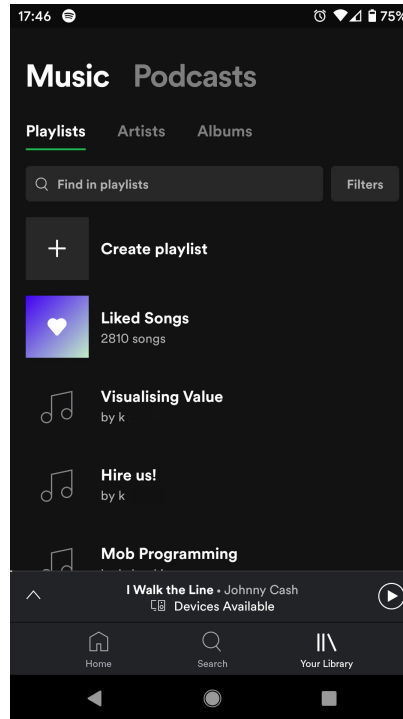
More of what you like

<suggestions>

Spotify: Search



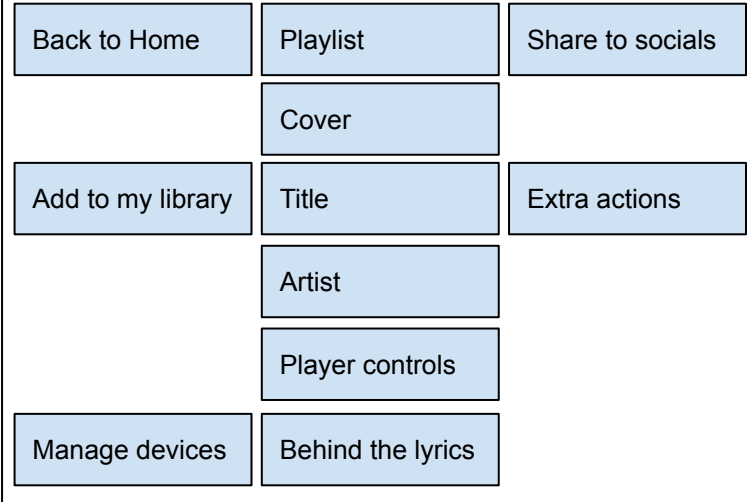
Spotify: Library



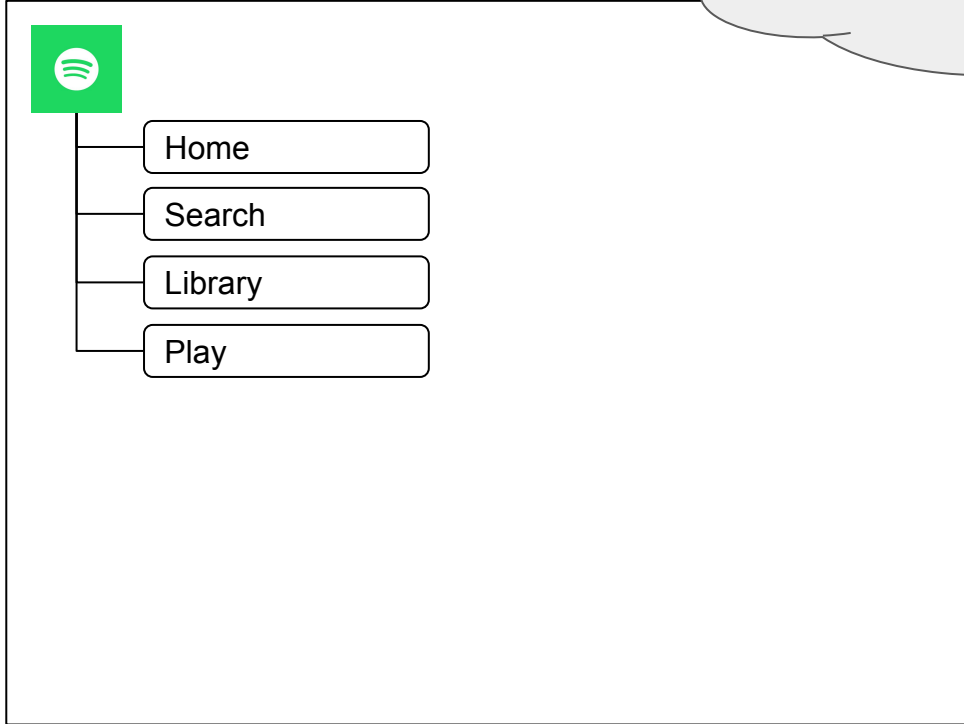
Spotify: Play



Player



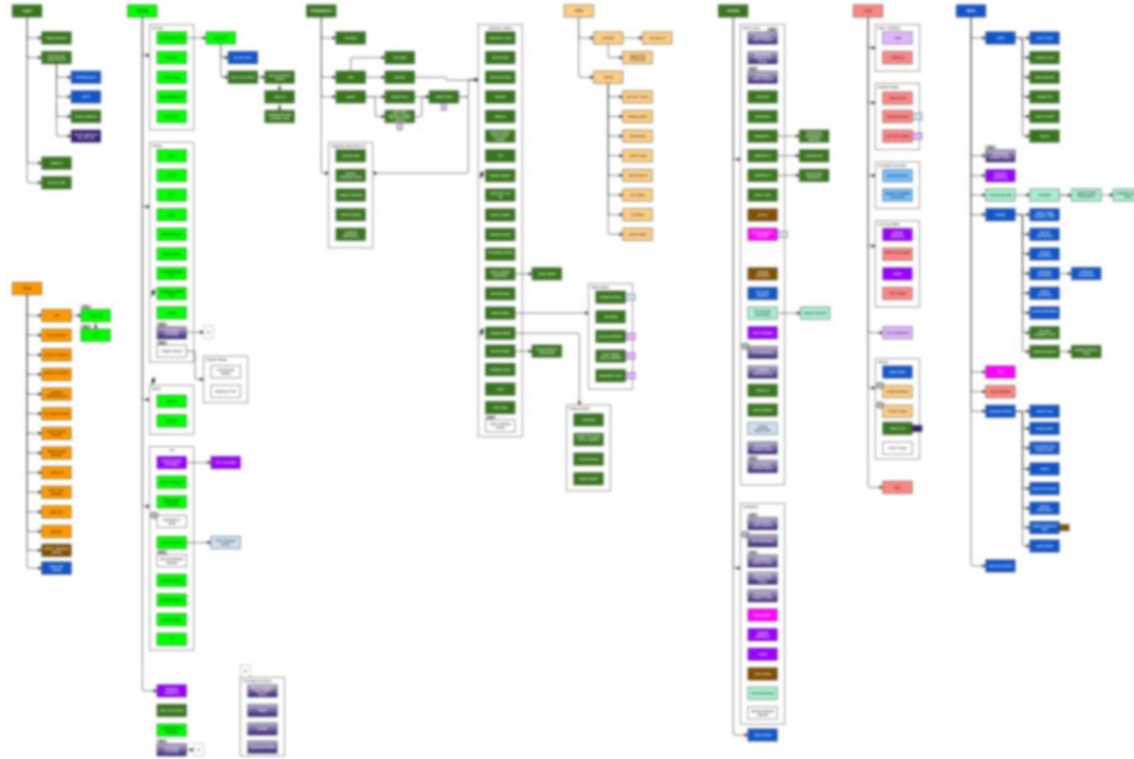
Heatmap



THESE ARE THE EXISTING TESTS.

WE TRUST THEY ARE WELL EXECUTED. 😇

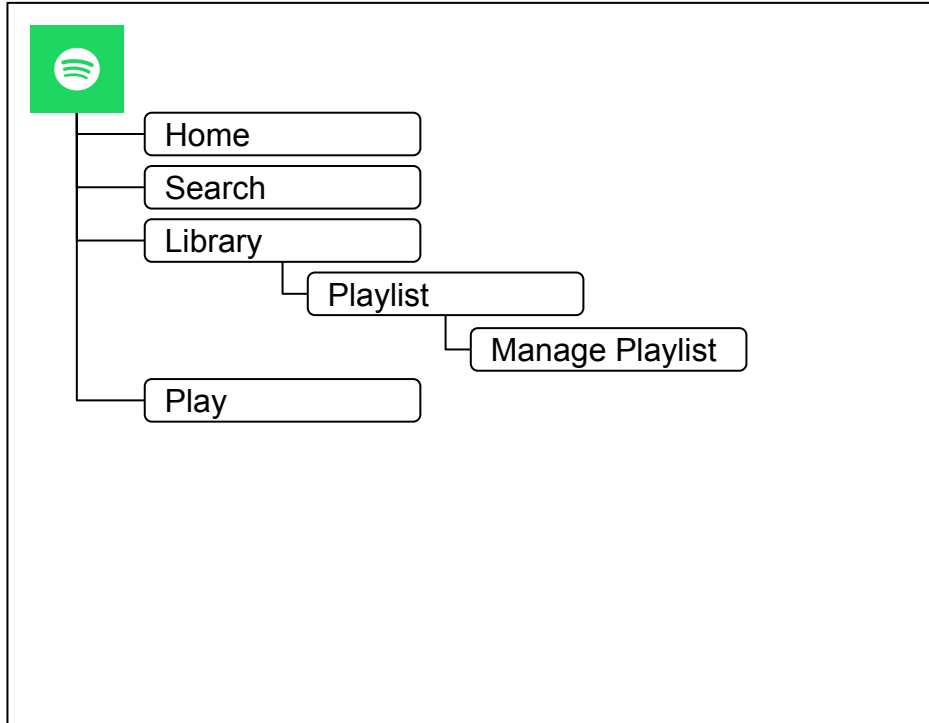
Example of advanced Heatmap



Agenda

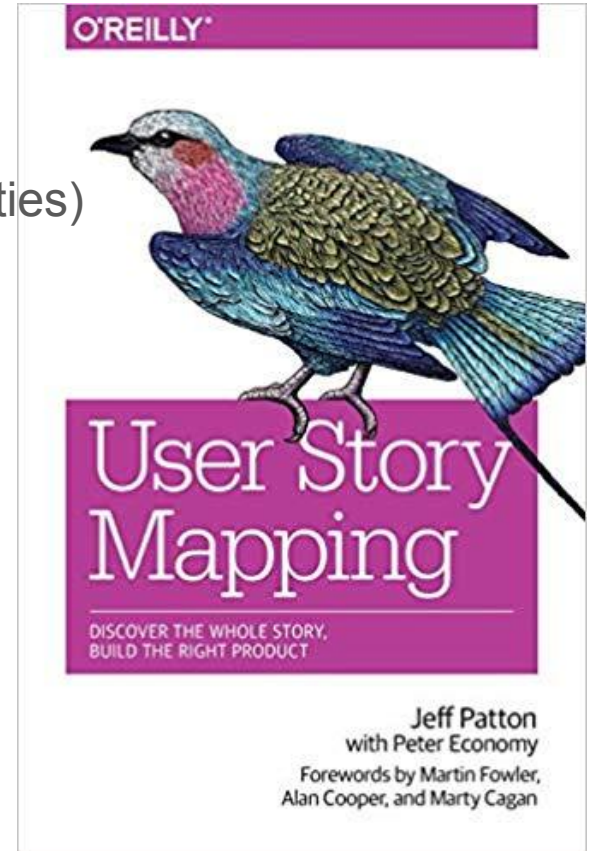
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Back to the Heatmap



What is a Story Map?

- Follow the flow through the application (user activities)
- Specific User Stories in that flow (detailed actions)
- Slices (things that go well together)
- Priority (what do we do/test first?)
- Difference with building new functionality:
 - Priorities
 - Testing effort instead of implementation effort
 - Dependencies
 - Granularity
 - We know more!



[User Story Mapping by Jeff Patton](#)

Elements of a Story Map



Manage
Playlist

Create

Add
Song

Find

View

Edit

Delete

Create
Playlist

Add song
to new
playlist

List
playlists

Lists
songs in
playlist

Play!

Create and play

Add from
song
context
menu

Find in
playlists

Rename
playlist

Delete
playlist

Find and edit

Find
song in
playlist

Sort
playlist

Sort

Make
playlist
public

Share
playlist

Make playlist
collaborative

Share

Liked
Songs

Add song
from
playlist
view

Sort on
name

Sort on
recently
added

Sort on
relevance

Sort on
recently
played

download

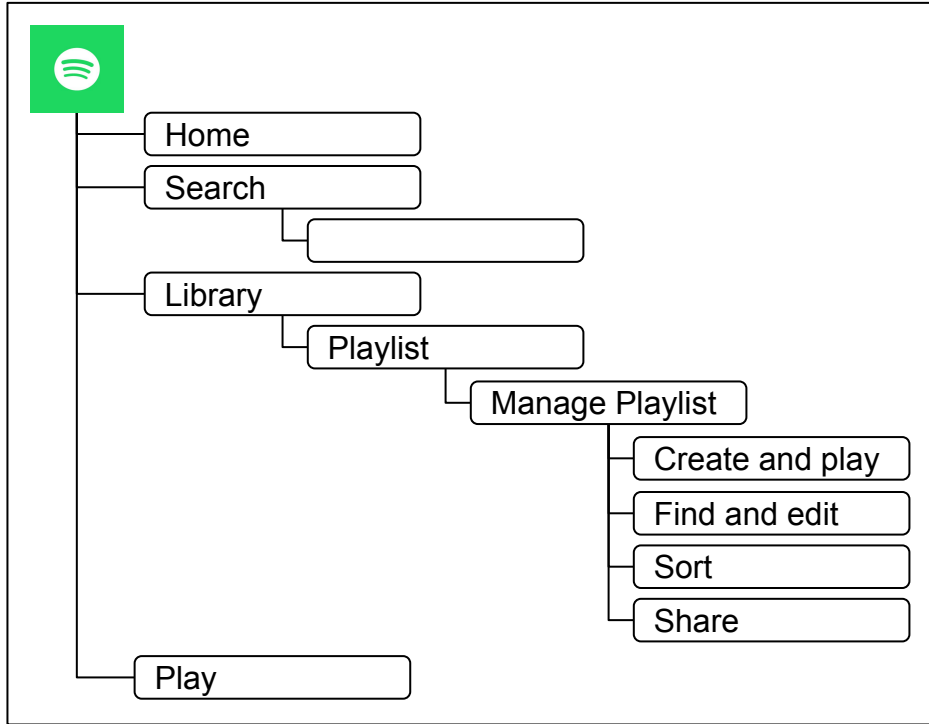
Filter
downloaded

Recommend
songs

Playlist
radio

Later

Back to the Heatmap



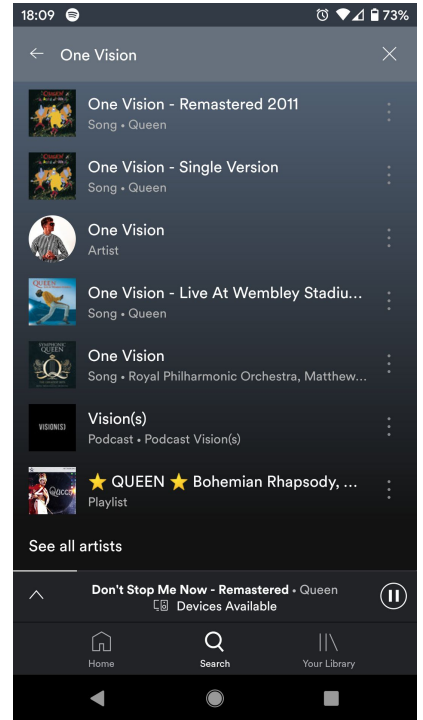
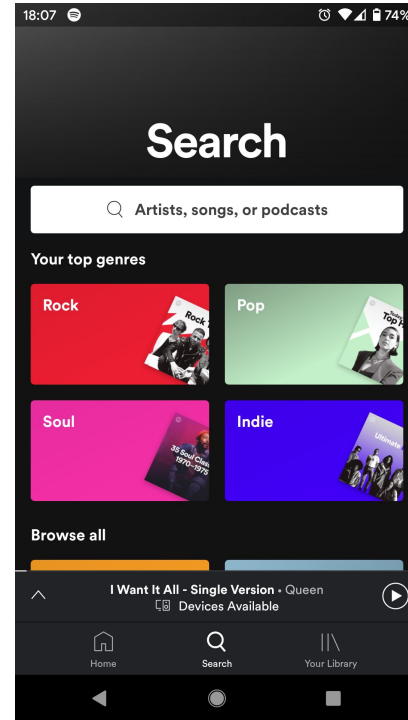
How to make a Story Map

- We start with flow horizontally (orange)
 - Each step in the flow can have multiple stories (yellow)
 - Use the vertical to create different levels of priority (slices) (pink)
 - Make each horizontal 'slice' something you can give a name to
-
- We do this together (three amigos)

Story Mapping of Spotify Search - Part 1

Now you try!

- Put the Spine cards (orange) in the right order



Using old requirements

We have some acceptance criteria from when the system was originally built.

Can you cluster them?

How do they relate to the Story Map's spine?

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Manage
Playlist

Create

Add
Song

Find

View

Edit

Delete

Create
Playlist

Add song
to new
playlist

List
playlists

Lists
songs in
playlist

Play!

Create and play

Add from
song
context
menu

Find in
playlists

Rename
playlist

Delete
playlist

Find and edit

Find
song in
playlist

Sort
playlist

Sort

Make
playlist
public

Share
playlist

Make playlist
collaborative

Share

Liked
Songs

Add song
from
playlist
view

Sort on
name

Sort on
recently
added

Sort on
relevance

Sort on
recently
played

download

Filter
downloaded

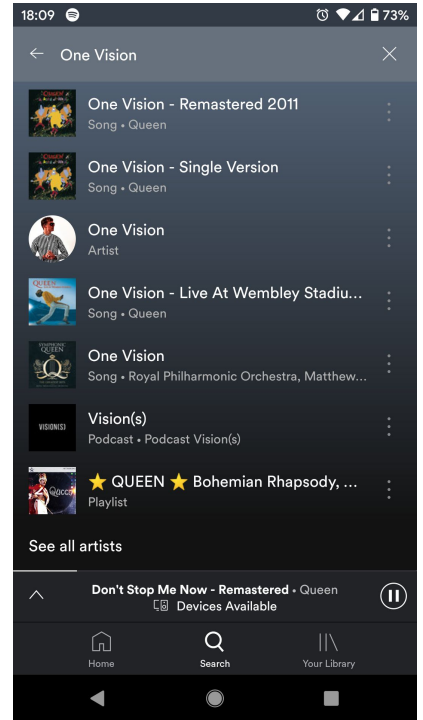
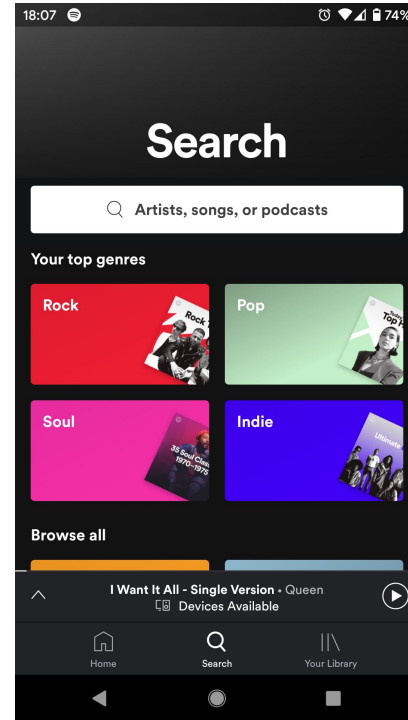
Recommend
songs

Playlist
radio

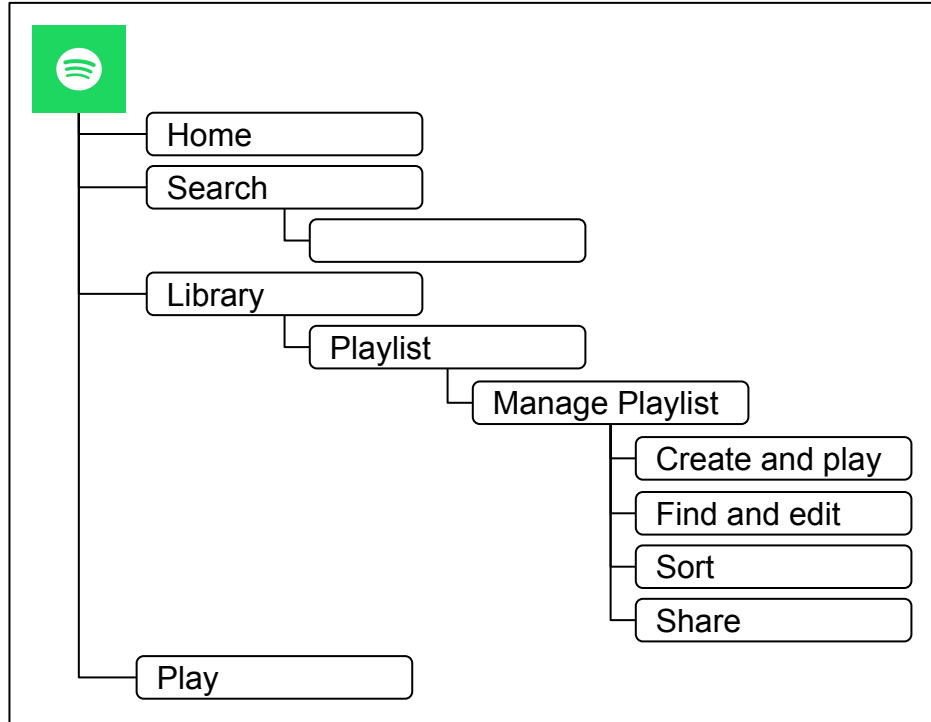
Later

Story Mapping of Spotify Search - Part 2

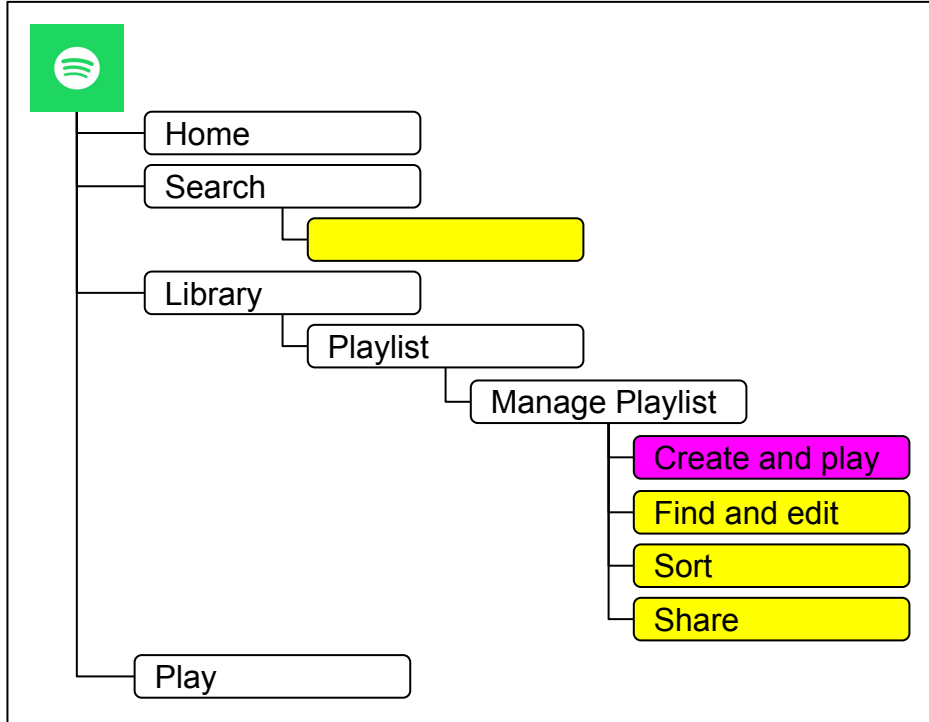
- Use the Story Cards (yellow) and create your Story Map
- Find paths through the spine using the Stories, creating horizontal grouping
- Give each group a name describing the key flow it represents



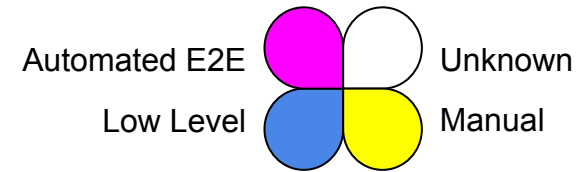
Back to the Heatmap



Back to the Heatmap



Validation

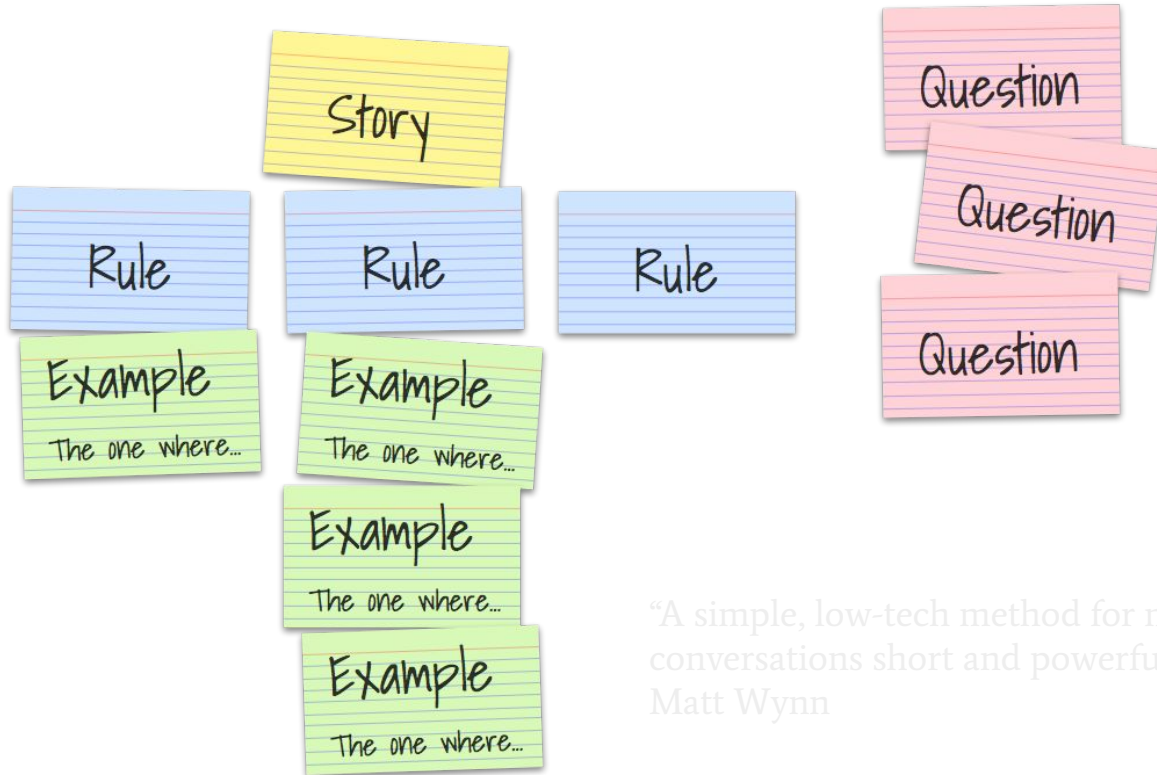


- Put each named Slice on the Heat Map

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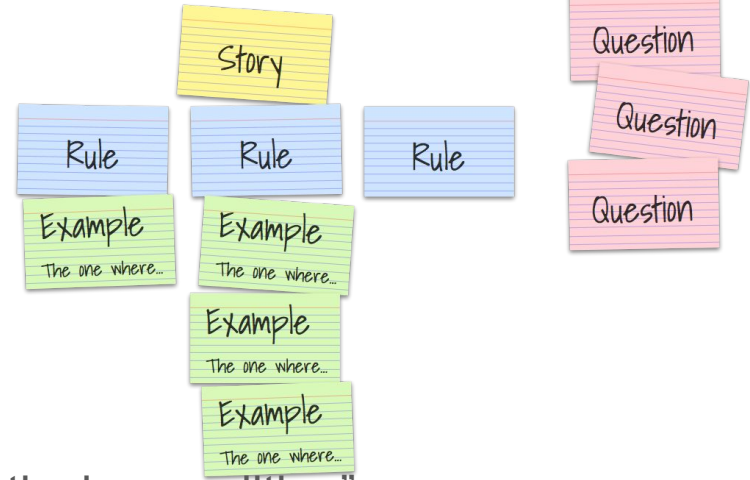
Example Mapping



“A simple, low-tech method for making conversations short and powerfully productive” -- Matt Wynn

Example Mapping

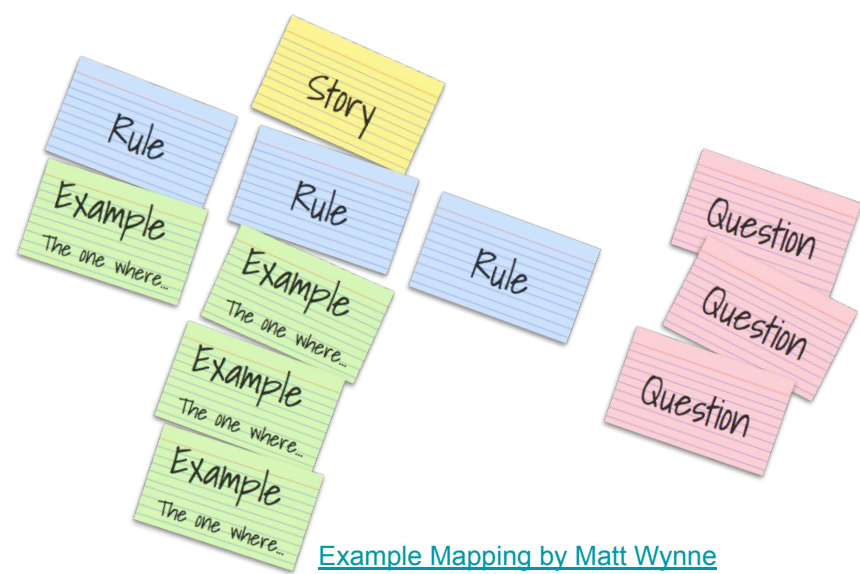
- Examples on GREEN cards
“Illustrate concrete behaviour of the system”
- Rules on BLUE cards
“Logical groupings of examples around a particular condition”
Often: acceptance criteria, business rules, requirements
- Questions or Assumptions on RED cards
“Topics that would block the discussion”
- User Stories on YELLOW cards
“We often split off separate stories to discuss at a later stage”



Validation: Example Mapping

For a story:

- List the business rules
- Provide examples that illustrate the rule
- Capture open questions



Centered around business rules

Examples can be formalised (in Gherkin, or otherwise) in the form of a test:

Input -> Action -> Outcome (Given/When/Then, Arrange/Act/Assert)

Examples of Examples

Playlist name is shorter than 144 characters

A name of 144 characters can be added

A name of 145 characters can not be added

What about non-western characters?

When no name given, one is generated

Unnamed playlist gets name 'My Playlist #1'

Generated name gets first empty slot

'My Playlist #1' and 'My Playlist #2' exist, so new one is 'My Playlist #3'

'My Playlist #1' and 'My Playlist #3' exist, so new one is 'My Playlist #2'

Example Mapping

Story	Search on song title					
Rules	Single character only matches first character of title	Ignore 'the', 'a', 'an'	Search returns match anywhere in title	Return albums containing a song that matches	Return artists that have a song that matches	Return playlists that have a song that matches
Examples	First character matches <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'w'- 'Who wants to live forever' matches	Leaving out 'the' still matches <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'one'- 'The one that I want' matches	a match at the start <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'lay'- 'Lay down sally' matches	a match returning album <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'who'- 'Who wants to live forever' matches- 'A king of magic' album is also a match	a match returning artist <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'who'- 'Who wants to live forever' matches- 'The artist: Queen' is also a match	a match returning playlist <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'wild horses'- 'Wild horses' matches- 'The playlist: 60s rock' is also a match
Examples	Character later in title does not match <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'w'- 'The man who sold the world' does not match	Including 'the' in search also matches <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'the one'- 'The one that I want' matches	a match later in the title matches <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Type: 'lay'- 'Play the game' matches			
Questions	How to deal with internation characters? (ß = ss?)	Should numbers match written form? (1 = one?)	Should albums and playlists be returned for each matching song?			

Example Mapping

Now you try!

- Pick one story from your Story Map
- Write as many of the Rules as you can think of

What's a good example?

- Concrete
- All the necessary information
- Illustrates the rule
- Agreed

Example Mapping

Now you try!

- For two rules - Write examples

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Choose or lose: Priorities

Recent: new features, new areas of code are more vulnerable

Core: essential functions must continue to work

Risk: some areas of an application pose more risk

Configuration sensitive: code dependent on settings can be vulnerable

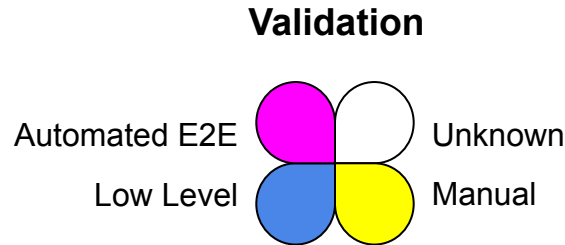
Repaired: bug fixes can introduce new issues

Chronic: some areas in an application may be perpetually sensitive to breaking

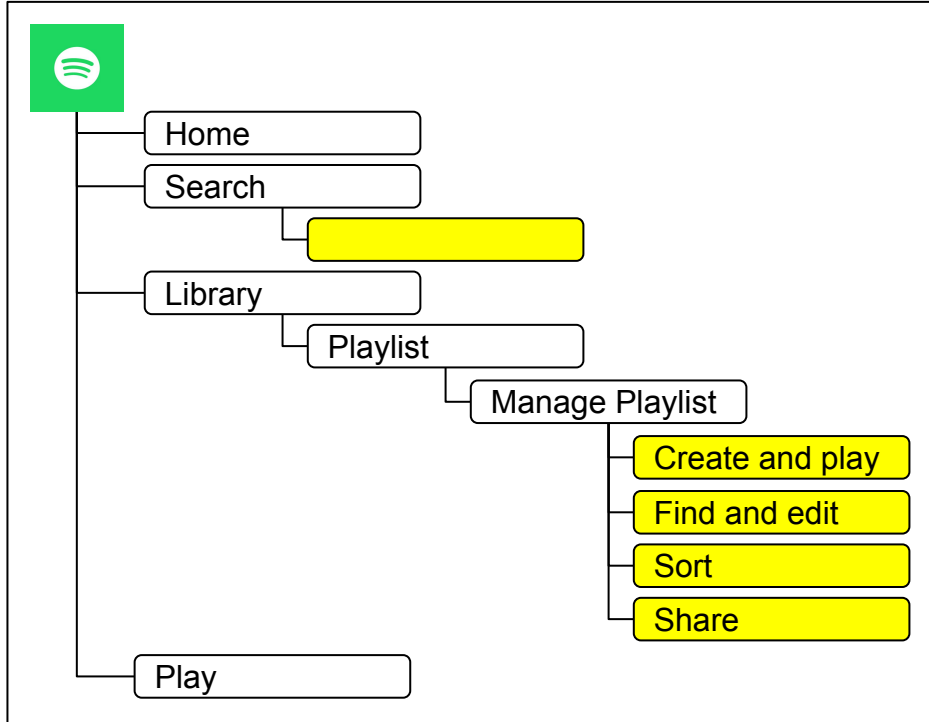
RCRCRC by [Karen Johnson](#), via [Matt Heusser](#)

Using the outcomes of Story Map

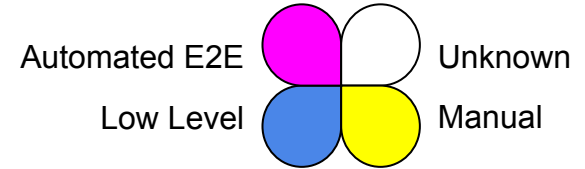
- Each slice can be named as a separate box in the functional overview
- Each separate box can be an end-to-end test
- Actually creating those tests turns the heatmap yellow
- Stories generated can be starting points for more detailed exploration



Back to the Heatmap



Validation



The devil is in the stories

Stories hold the details

Which of the stories on your story map do you think are the most complex?

Which of the stories are more important than others in the story map? Why?

How difficult will these stories be to test comprehensively? If it's done manually?
Automated end-to-end? Unit tested?

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Validation

Each slice from the Story Map can be a test

Search for a Song

<assumes app opened, user logged in>

Go to Search

Search for (part of) a Song's name

Tap the Song to start it playing

Validation

Each slice from the Story Map can be a test

Recent Searches

Go to Search

Search for any term

Go back to Home

Go back to Search

See term appear on top of Recent Searches

Delete term from Recent Searches

Check by restarting Search

Delete all items from Recent Searches

Check by restarting Search

Automate?

Wait.

We're finding out what functionality there is to be tested

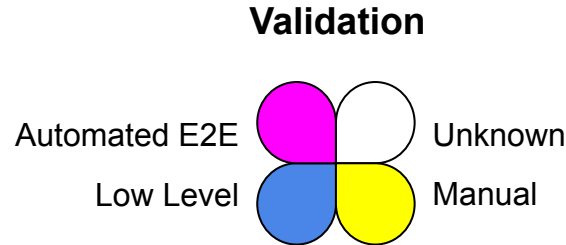
Let **humans** test, don't restrict them more than necessary

Once you've discovered what is interesting about the functionality, *maybe*,
automate

Or, **better**, go into detail with an example map to get more high resolution tests

Validation

- High-level, low resolution, *human* end-to-end testing
- High-level, low resolution, automated end-to-end testing
- Low-level, high resolution, automated **example based** tests



Examples can be formalised into Scenarios

Scenario: Playlist without name is auto-numbered

Given existing Playlists

| My Playlist #1 |

| My Playlist #2 |

When a new playlist without name is added

Then that new playlist is given the name 'My Playlist #3'

Scenario: Playlist without name gets next available slot

Given existing Playlists

| My Playlist #1 |

| My Playlist #3 |

When a new playlist without name is added

Then that new playlist is given the name 'My Playlist #2'

'My Playlist #1'
and 'My
Playlist #2'
exist, so new
one is 'My
Playlist #3'

'My Playlist #1'
and 'My
Playlist #3'
exist, so new
one is 'My
Playlist #2'

Scenarios are implemented at same level the functionality lives

Scenario: Playlist without name is auto-numbered

Given existing Playlists

| My Playlist #1 |

| My Playlist #2 |

When a new playlist without name is added

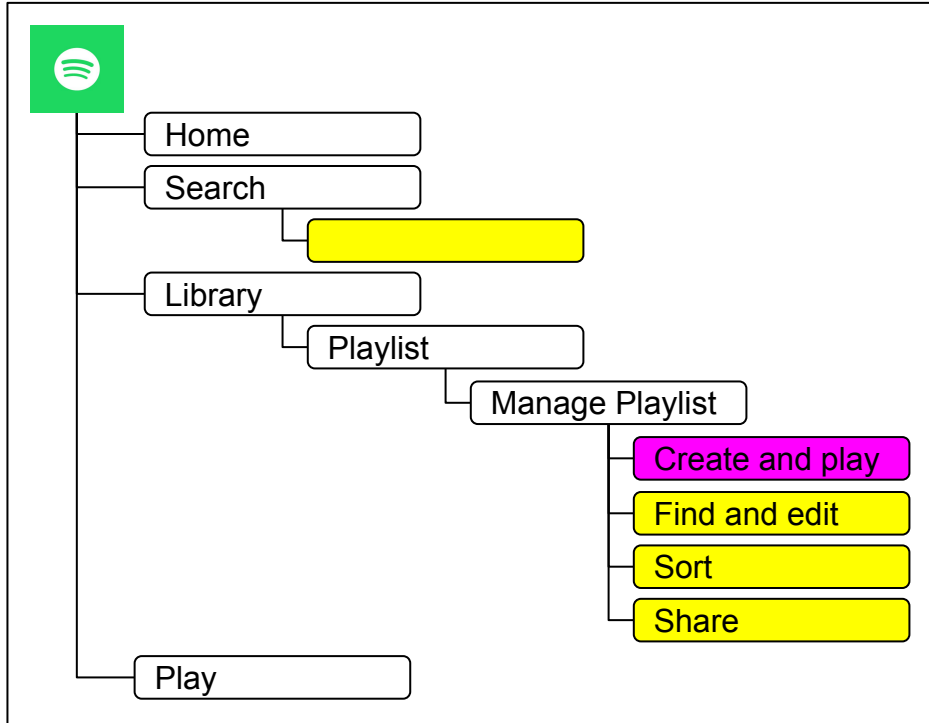
Then that new playlist is given the name 'My Playlist #3'

```
function testPlaylistNameAutoNumber() {  
  playlists.addAll('My Playlist #1', 'My Playlists #2')  
  playlists.add('')  
  expect(playlists.getAll()).toContain('My Playlist #3')  
}
```



'My Playlist #1'
and 'My
Playlist #2'
exist, so new
one is 'My
Playlist #3'

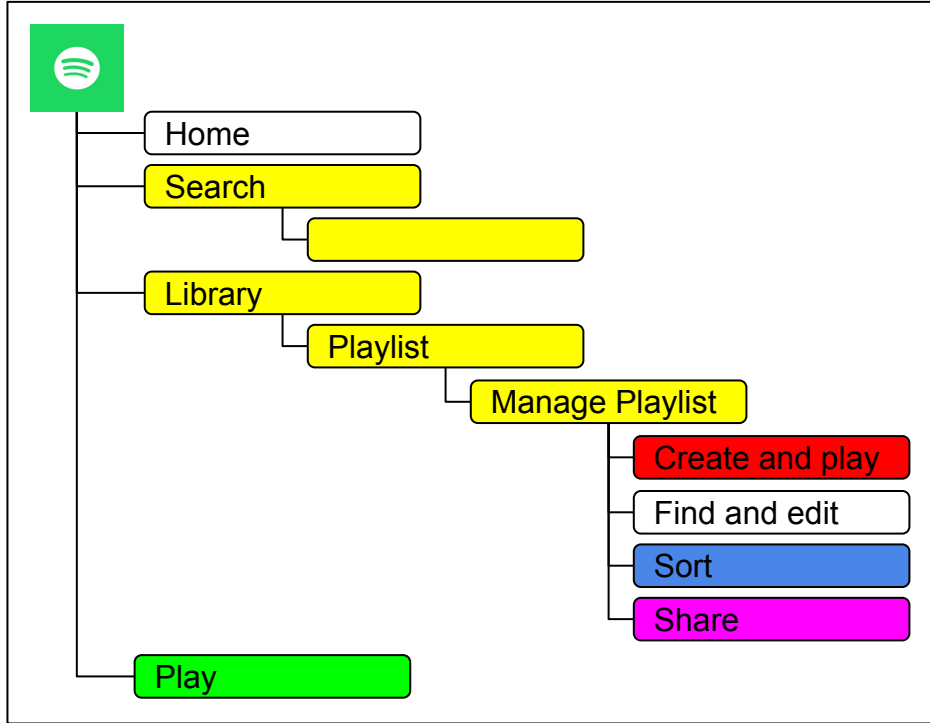
Back to the Heatmap



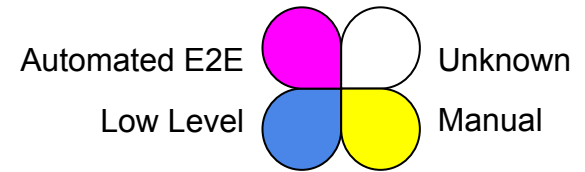
Validation



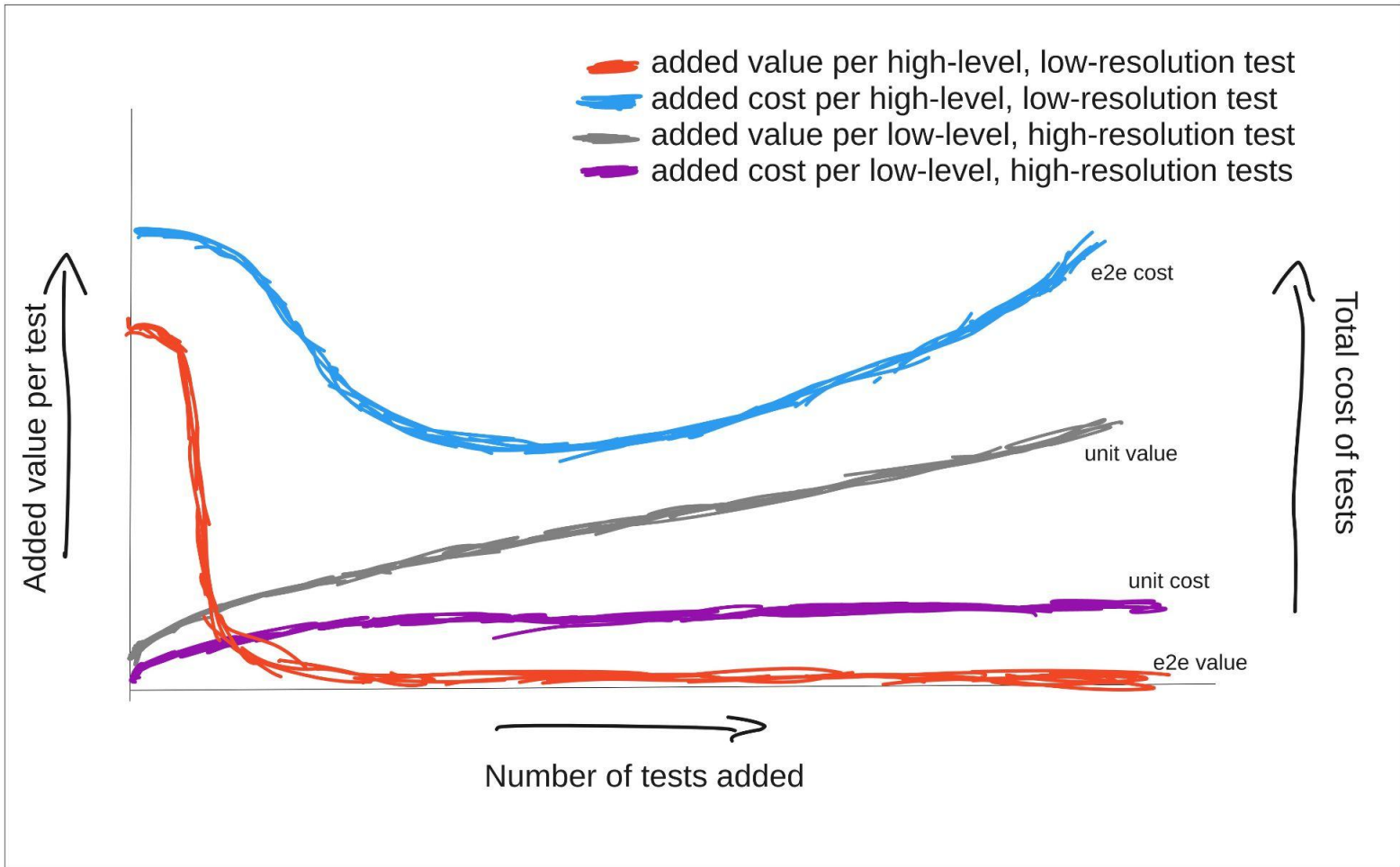
Future?



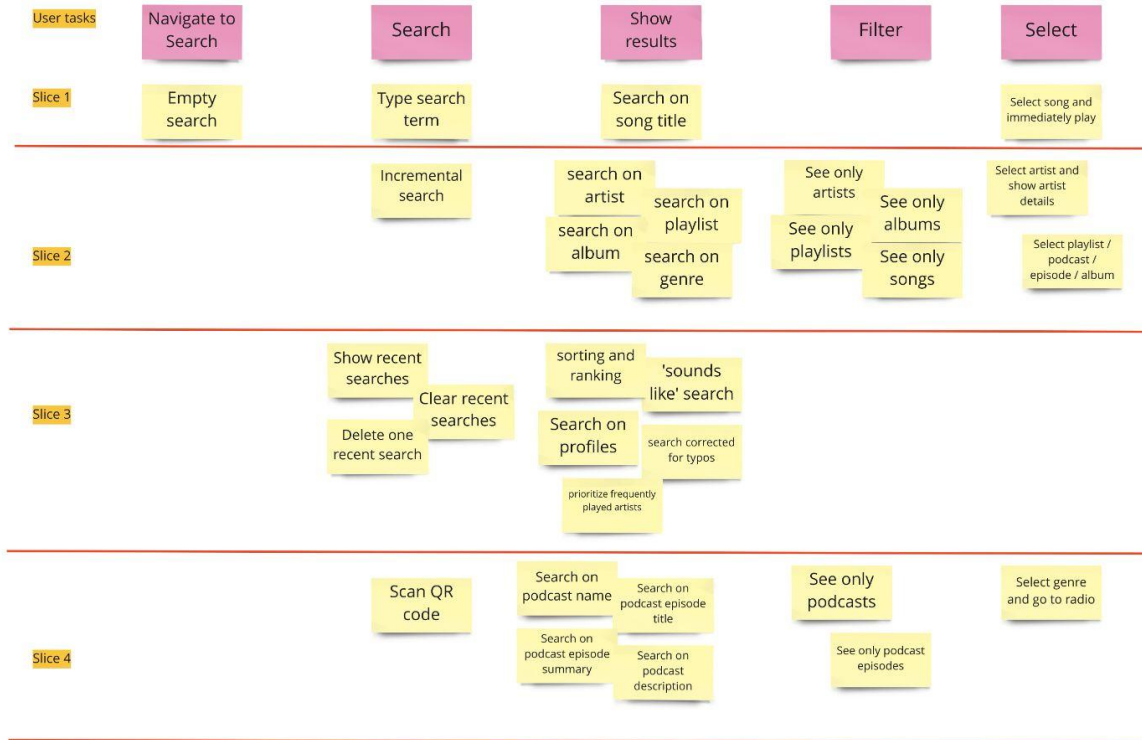
Validation



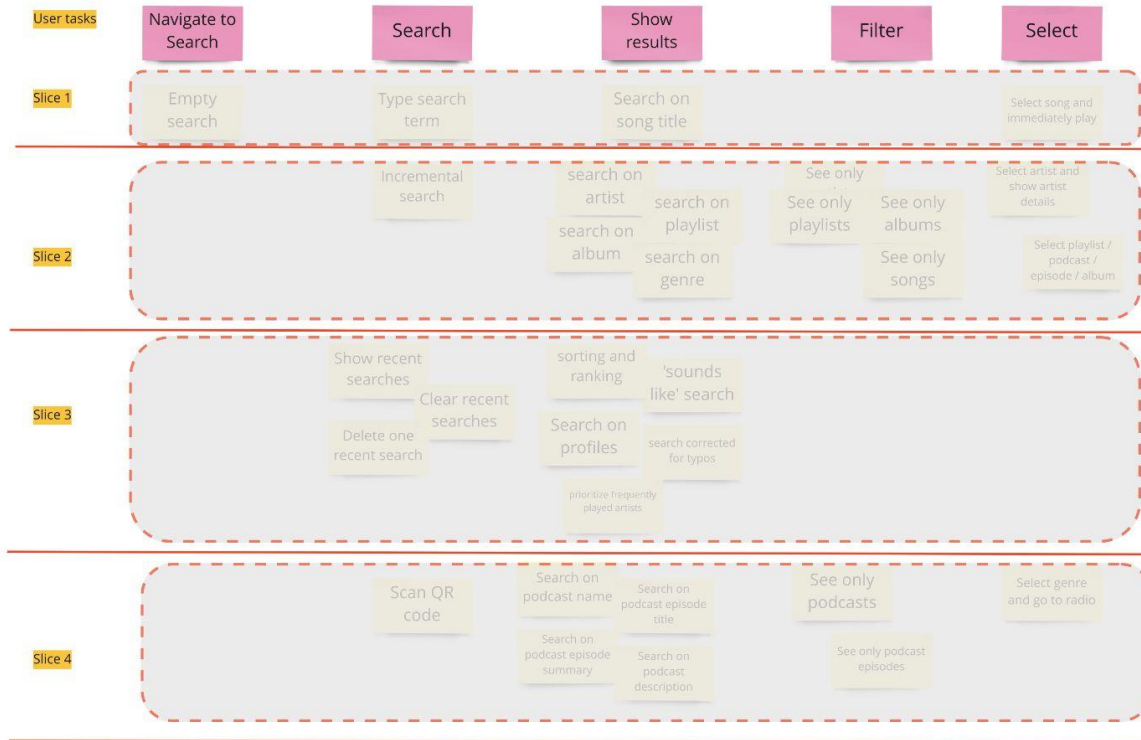
Test Result	
Failed	Failed
Attention	Attention
Success	😊



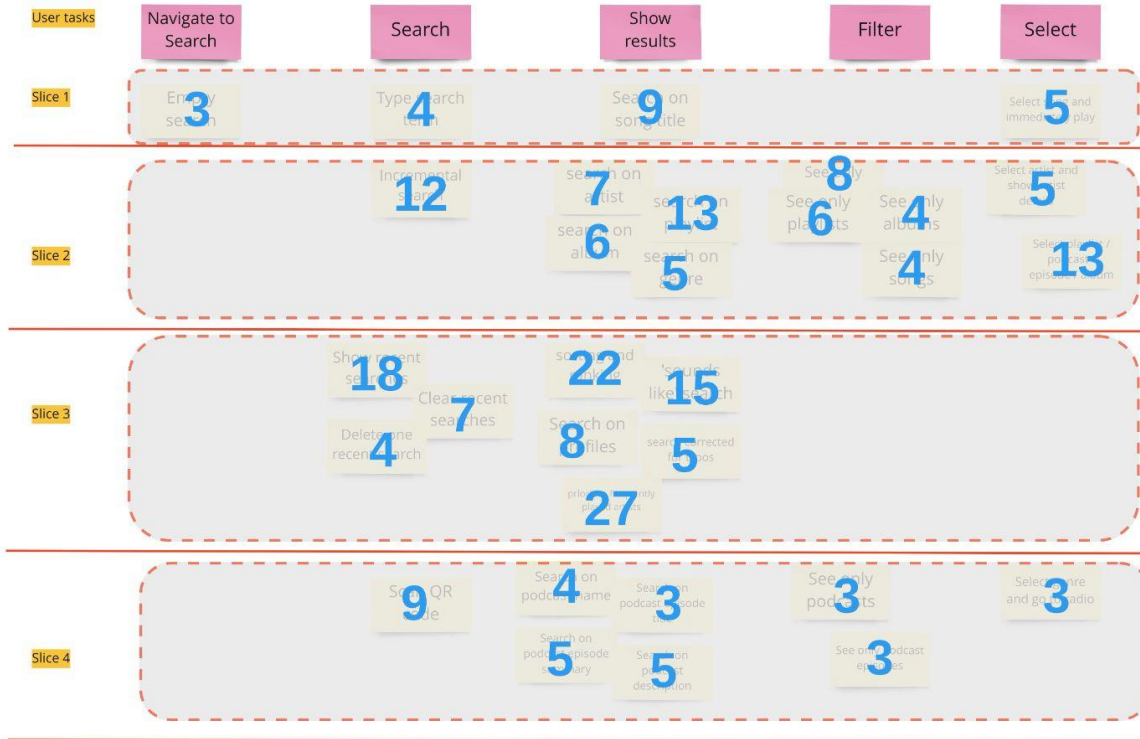
Search



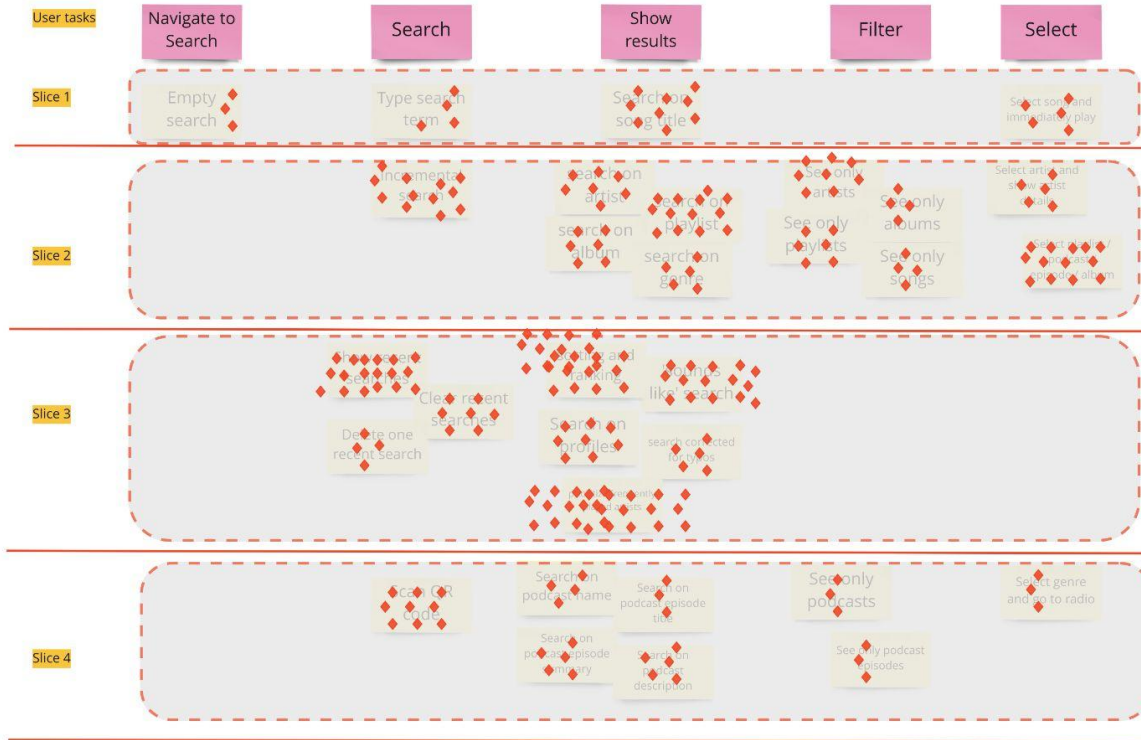
Search



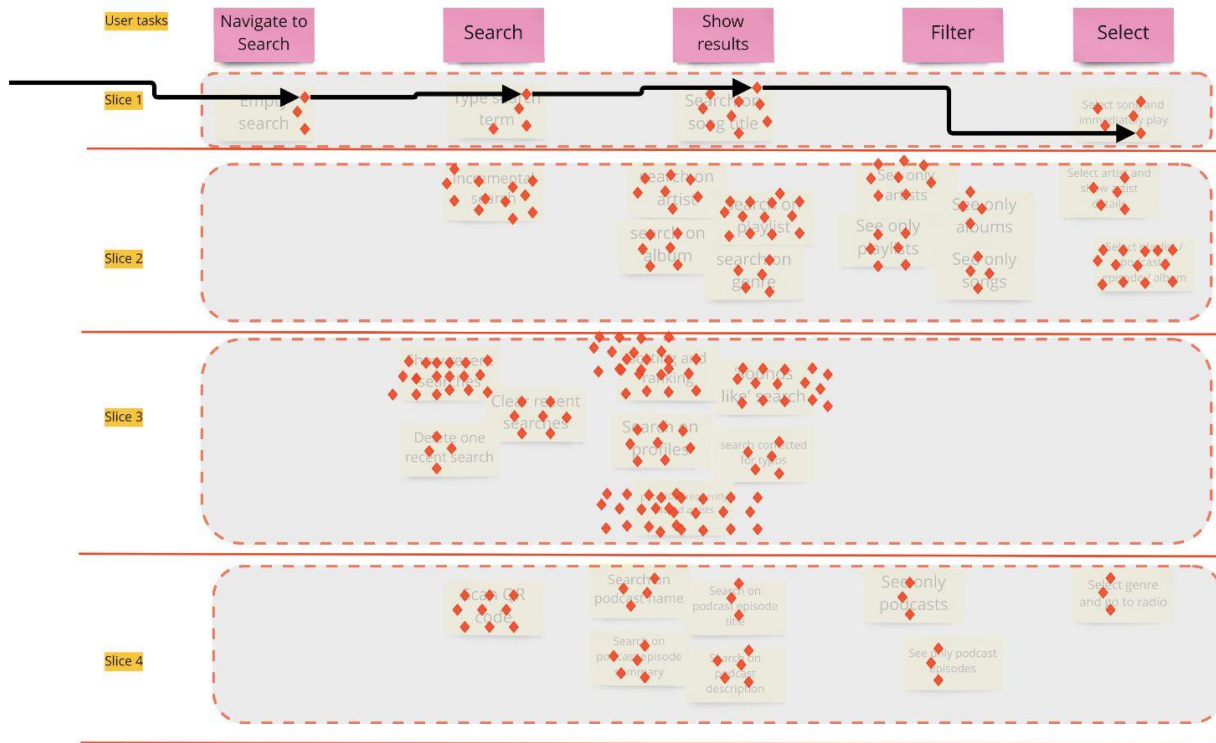
Search



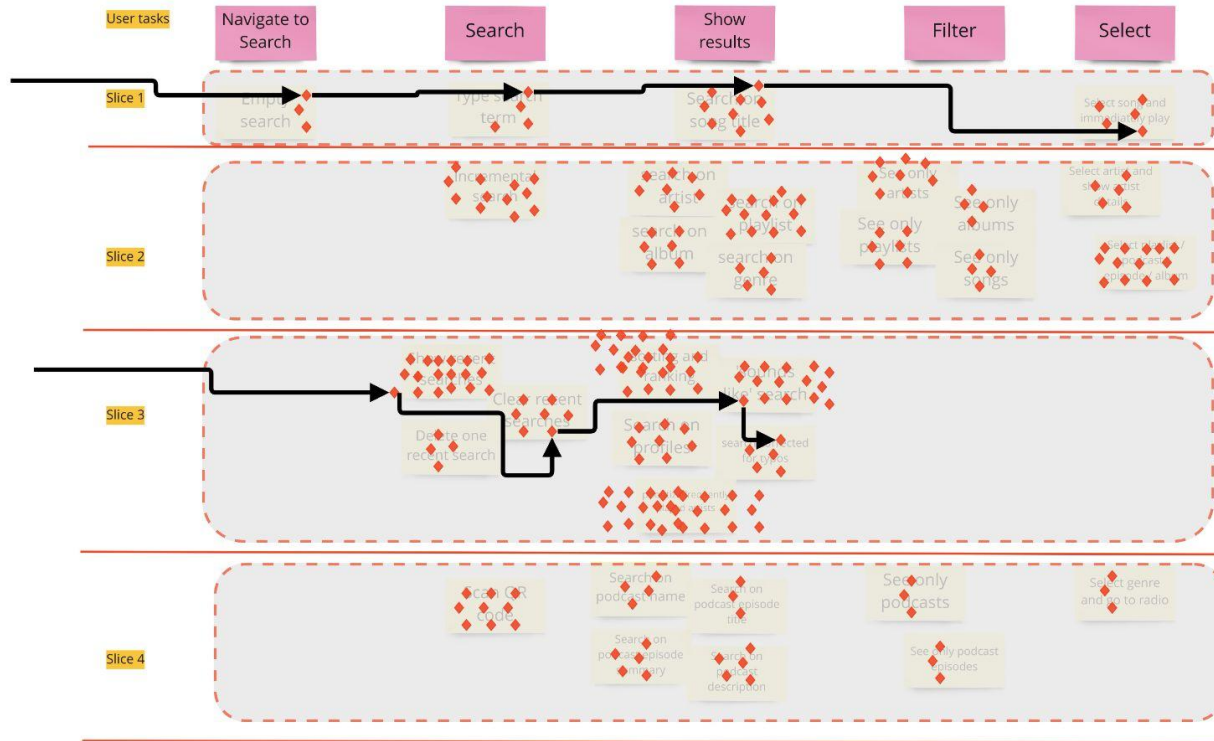
Search



Search



Search



Another look at priorities

- Which slices would you automate as end-to-end tests? Why those?
- Which stories would you prioritize for unit/acceptance tests? Why those?

Takeaways: Get back in control

- **What does it do?** (functional breakdown)
- **Is it tested?** (heatmap)
- **Go broad for overview** (Story Map, manual/e2e tests)
- **Dive deep where necessary** (Example Map, detailed tests)
- **Iterate!**

Thank you!

And...

If you have a problem

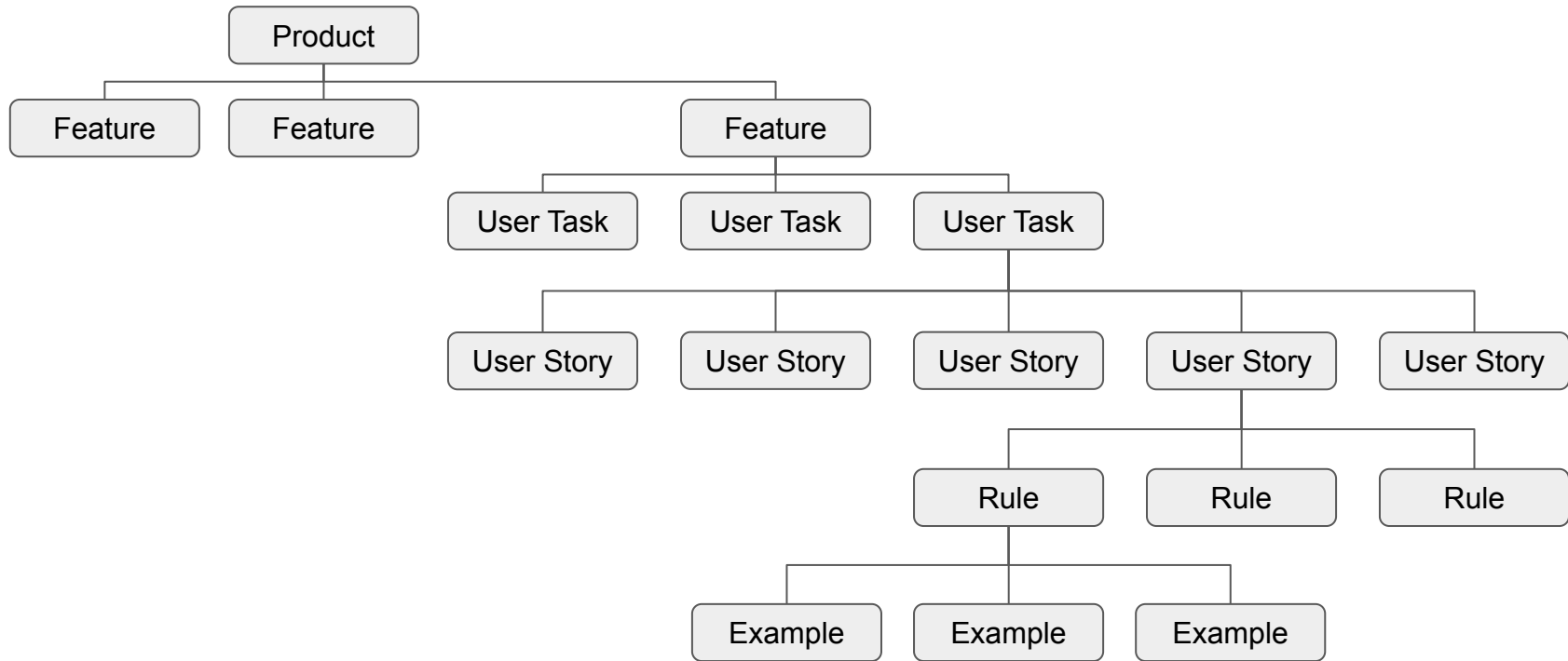
If no one else can help

This is how you find us:

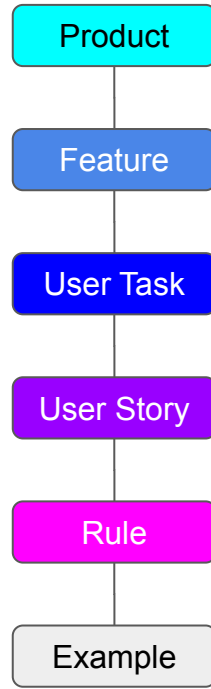
wouter@lagerweij.com

karel@hedgefields.com

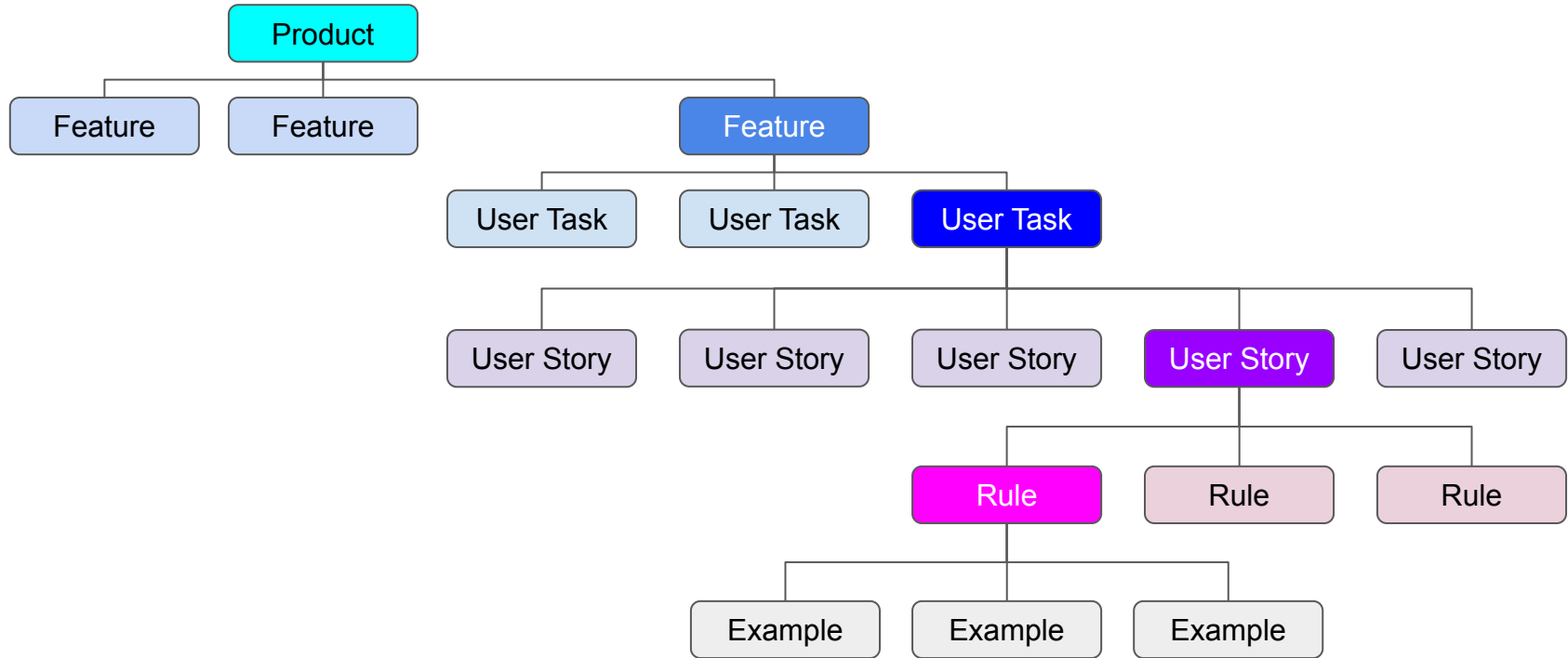
<<deze niet gebruiken, maar dupliceren>>



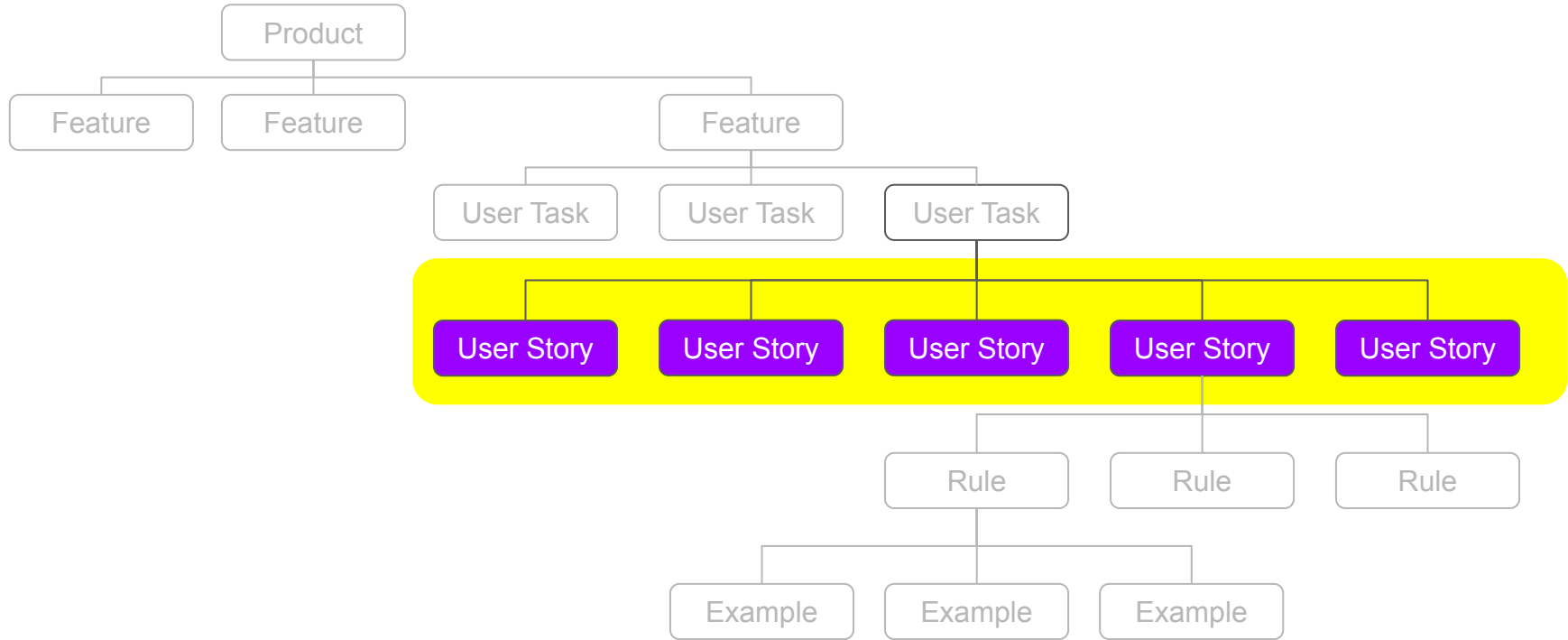
How the elements relate



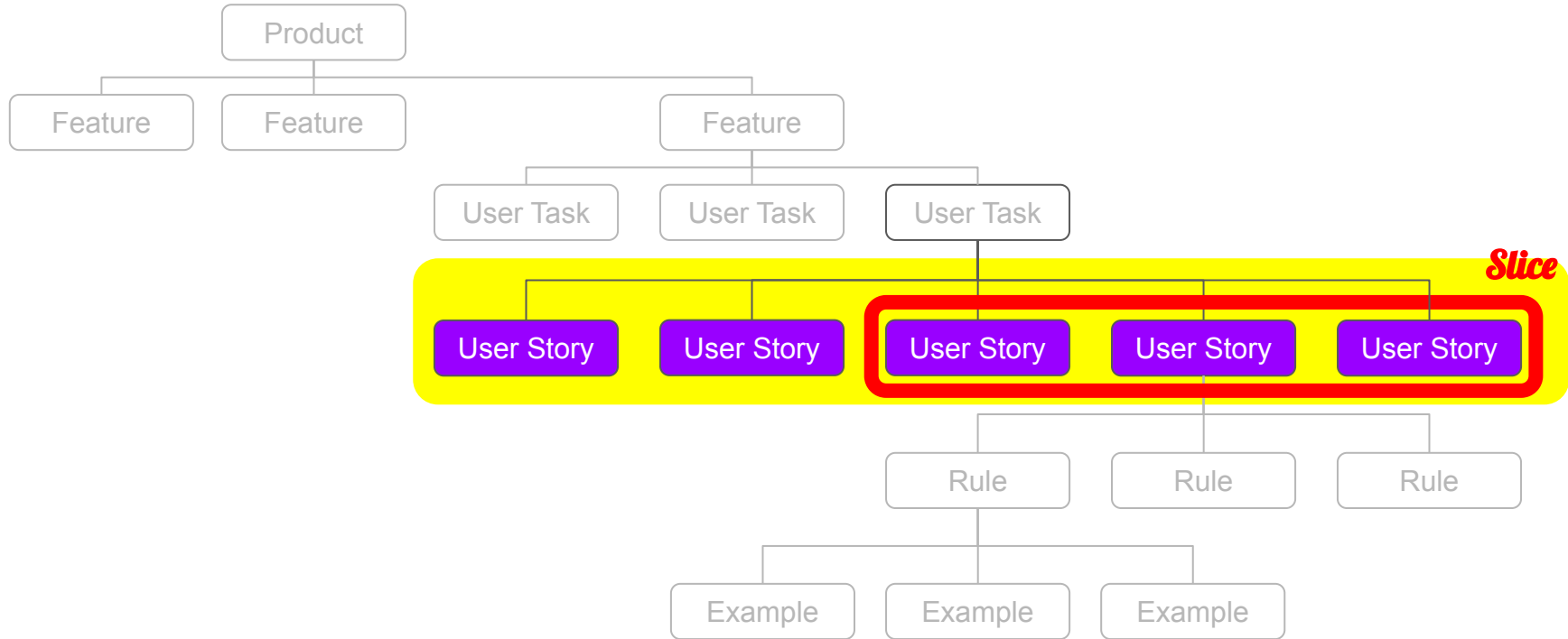
Visual Complexity



Story Map



Story Map + Slice



Example Map

