

# Cracking the Nut

## Defining the Problem

- Statement of the problem
- Scope – what's in and out
- Axioms, principles, assumptions
- Constraints
  - Resources, won't do/can't do, decisions/strategies/tactics we must align with
- Goals, definition of success
- Ranked/weighted criteria for evaluating candidate solutions

## Context

- Things we need to know that are knowable
  - Research, interviews, homework, analysis
- What is blocking us from deciding, executing, succeeding in this domain
  - How to eliminate those blocks
  - How to mitigate being blocked

## Meta

- Stakeholders and their roles
- Insightful people to consult with different perspectives
- Deliverables
- Workback/milestones
- Workstreams, owners, scope
- Key open issues to drive, how to land
- Next actions

## Evaluating Solutions

- List of possible solutions
  - Pros/cons
  - What you have to believe
  - Which is recommended
- Decision table, assessing solutions against criteria (numerically if appropriate)