

MICROSERVICES: THE ORGANISATIONAL AND PEOPLE IMPACT

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@SPECTOLABS

TL;DR

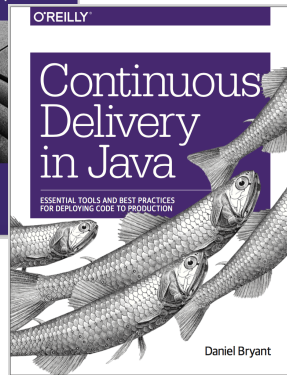
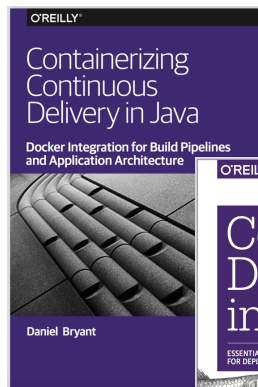
MOST OF THE CURRENT PROBLEMS WE SEE WITH
IMPLEMENTING MICROSERVICES ARE CONNECTED WITH
PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONAL SYSTEMS

THIS IS **GOOD NEWS**, AS WE ALREADY HAVE EXISTING SOLUTIONS!

@DANIELBRYANTUK



- **TECHNICAL CONSULTANT, CTO AT SPECTOLABS**
 - ARCHITECTURE, CI/CD, PROGRAMMABLE INFRASTRUCTURE
 - JAVA, GO, JS, MICROSERVICES, CLOUD, CONTAINERS
 - **CONTINUOUS DELIVERY OF VALUE THROUGH EFFECTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND TEAMS**

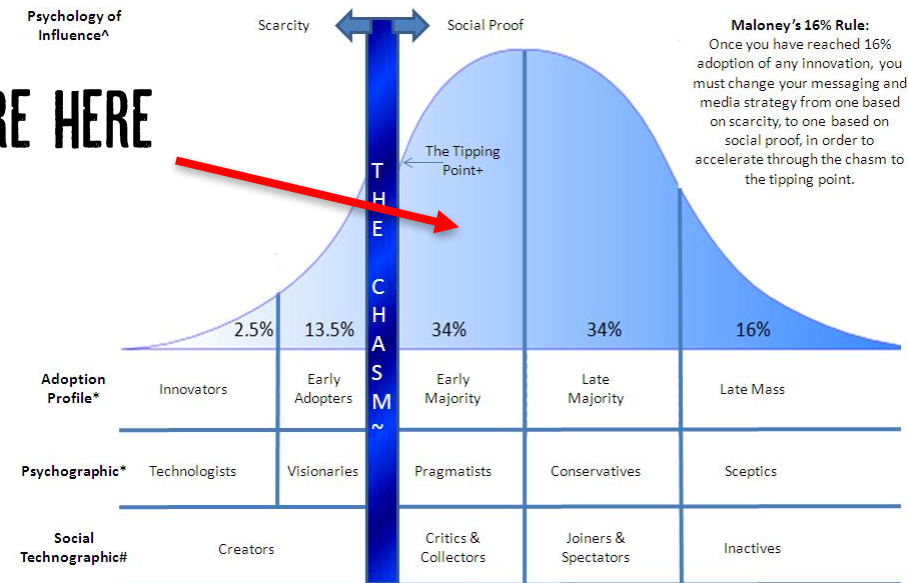


bit.ly/2jWDSF7

PREAMBLE: MICROSERVICES ADOPTION

Accelerating Diffusion of Innovation: Maloney's 16% Rule[©]

MICROSERVICES ARE HERE



[^] Robert Cialdini ^{*} Everett Rogers [#] Forresters [~] Geoffrey Moore + Malcolm Gladwell

innovateordie.com.au/2010/05/10/the-secret-to-accelerating-diffusion-of-innovation-the-16-rule-explained/

TODAY...

CREATE AND SHARE **STRATEGY/TACTICS**

OPTIMISE FOR **FEEDBACK**

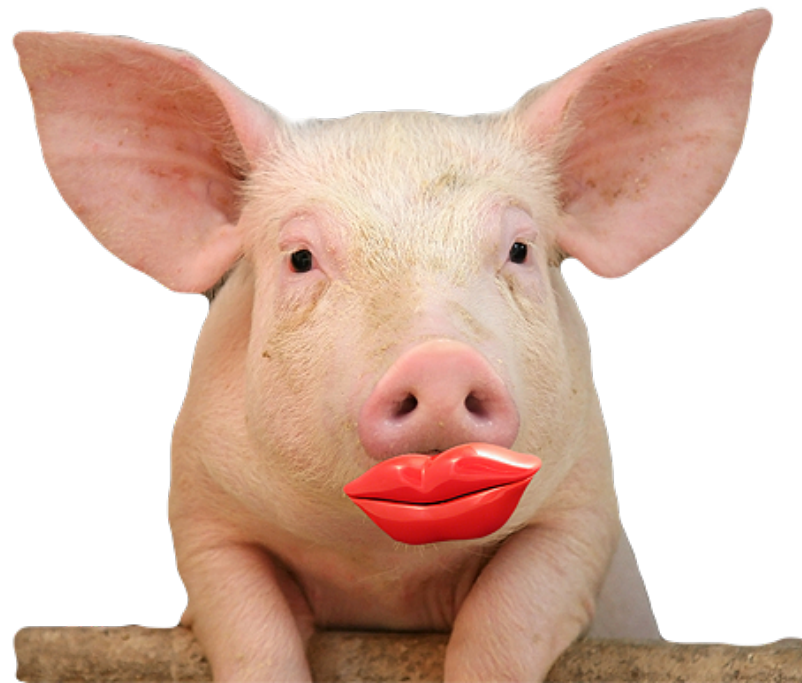
DEFINE **RESPONSIBILITIES**



1. **STRATEGY** – SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, VISION & EVALUATION

STRATEGY: ARE MICROSERVICES A **GOOD FIT?**

- “OUR ‘MODE TWO’ APPS ARE **MICROSERVICES**”
 - MIDDLE-MANAGEMENT LATCH ON TO BUZZWORD
 - LIPSTICK ON THE PIG
- NOT UNDERSTANDING ARCHITECTURE **PRINCIPLES**
 - NOT BUILDING AROUND BUSINESS FUNCTIONALITY
 - CREATING MINI-MONOLITHS (NO TWELVE FACTORS)
- NO WELL-DEFINED **DEVOPS / SRE / OPS**
 - DEPLOYMENT/OPERATIONAL FREE-FOR-ALL



ANTIPATTERN: (MICRO) SILVER BULLETS

ANTIPATTERN

- NO WELL-DEFINED GOALS/STRATEGY
- BUT...
 - MICROSERVICES IS THE SOLUTION?
- DETERMINE BUSINESS GOALS, CREATE HYPOTHESIS, (CHOOSE TECH?), AND VALIDATE



WHAT ARE OUR GOALS?

- DELIVERY OF **VALUE** TO END USERS (CUSTOMERS)
- BUSINESS **AGILITY**
- **SAFER, MORE RAPID CHANGES** TO SOFTWARE SYSTEMS
 - BUT CONSIDER CI/CD, DEVOPS, AND VALUE STREAM BEFORE MICROSERVICES

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Speaker Deck

Published on Jun 9, 2016

Wardley Map

Value

Genesis Custom Built Off the shelf Commodity

Velocity

DevOps Culture

OODA Loop

Policy

Data Agility

App Ops

Microservices

Ops Tools

CI/CD

Registry

Orchestration

Container Runtime

IaaS

Adrian Colyer
8 Presentations

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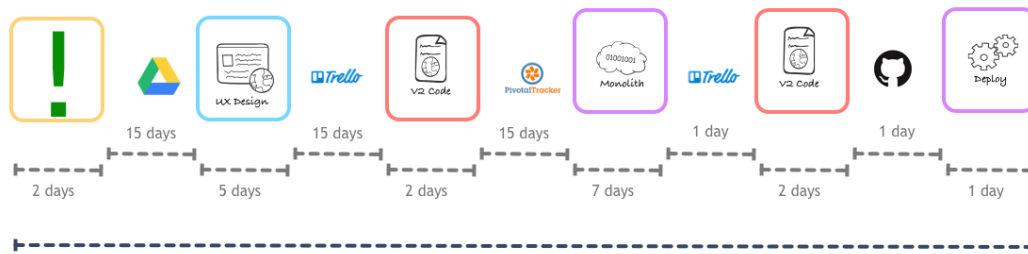
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Making Sense of it All by Adrian Colyer

Published June 9, 2016 in Technology

speakerdeck.com/acolyer/making-sense-of-it-all

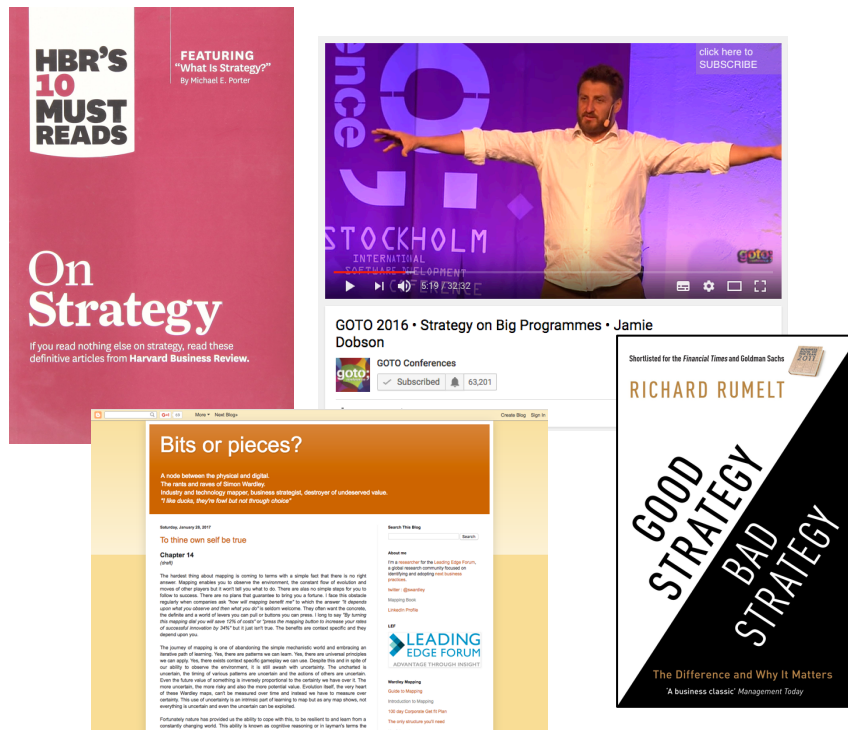


66 days

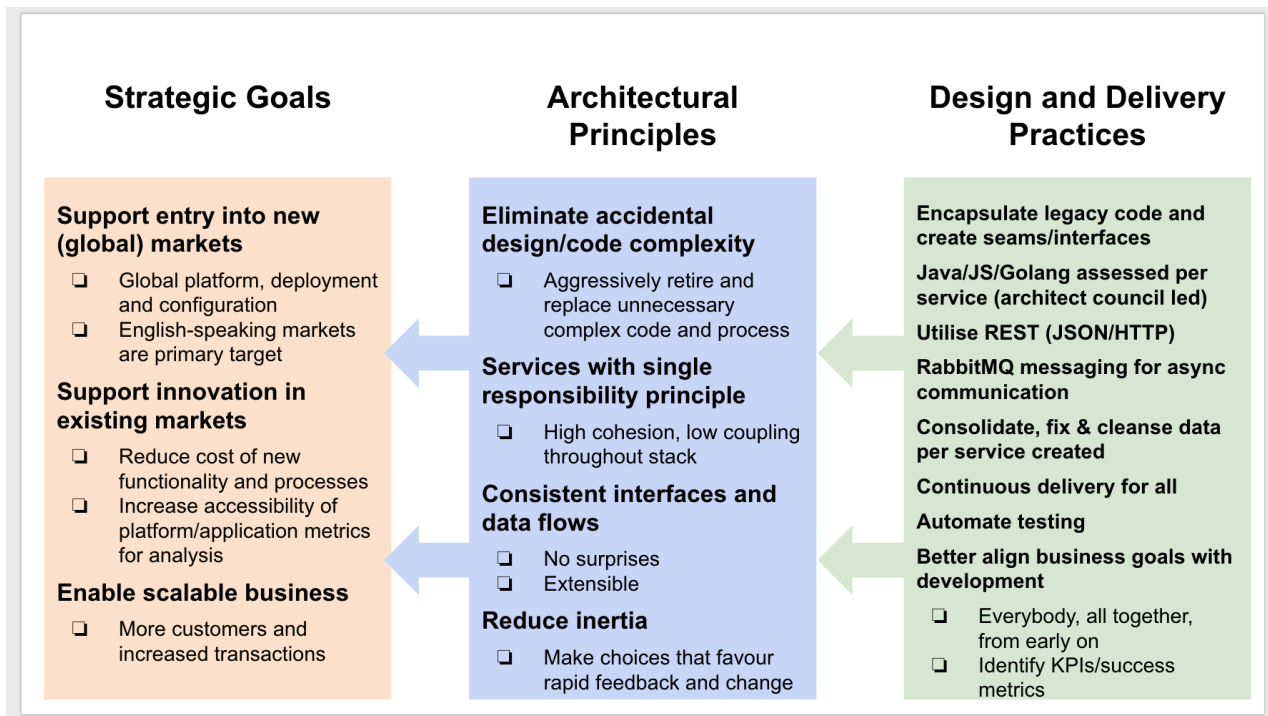
philcalcado.com/2015/09/08/how_we_ended_up_with_microservices.html

DEFINE GOALS AND STRATEGY

- CREATE **S.M.A.R.T. GOALS**
— WITH **ALL** STAKEHOLDERS
- PICK YOUR **(STRATEGIC)** POISON
- **SHARE** THE OUTCOMES...

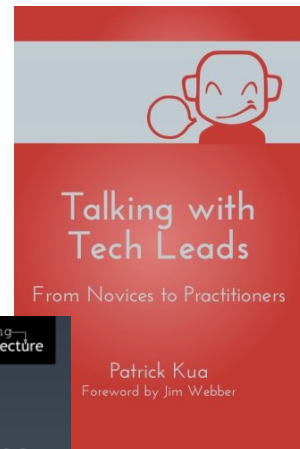
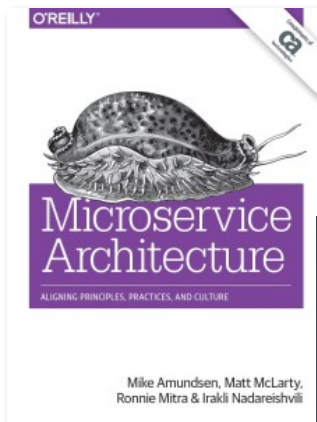


COMMUNICATE THE VISION



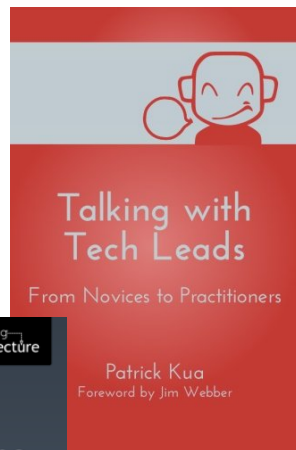
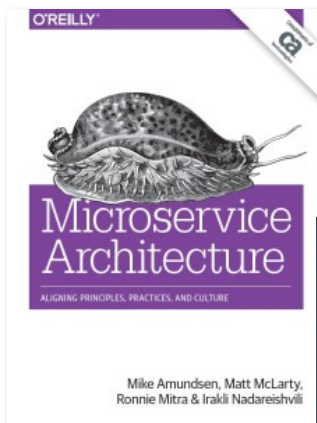
TACTICS: TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP IS VITAL

- PROMOTE SHARED UNDERSTANDING
 - COMMUNICATION ([BIT.LY/1IA3U80](https://bit.ly/1IA3U80))
- RISK MANAGEMENT
- 'JUST ENOUGH' UP-FRONT DESIGN
 - MICROSERVICE BOUNDARIES AND 'GLUE'



TACTICS: TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP IS VITAL

- CONWAY'S LAW IS WELL ACCEPTED
 - ALIGN TEAMS WITH SERVICE (VICE VERSA)
- NOT SO CLEAR WHERE 'ARCHITECTS' SIT
 - OVERARCHING, CONSULTING, OR PER TEAM?
- HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO PAIR PRODUCT MANAGERS WITH TECH LEADS PER TEAM



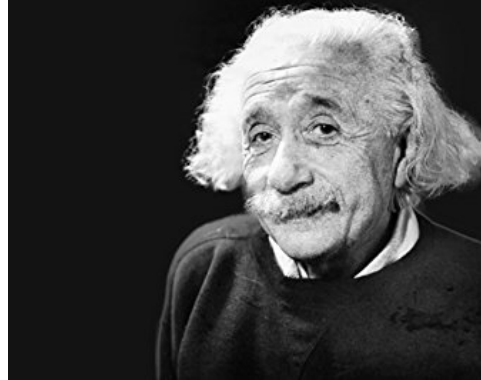
ANTIPATTERN: TECHNICAL INSANITY

ANTIPATTERN

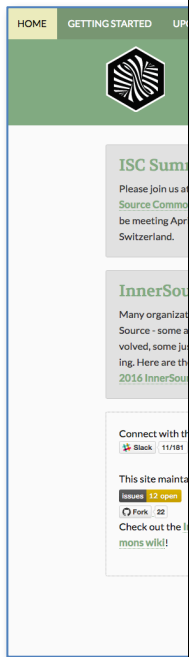
- WE CREATED A TECHNICAL MESS WITH A MONOLITH...
- BUT NO CHANGE REQUIRED WITH OUR APPROACH TO ARCHITECTURE WHEN IMPLEMENTING MICROSERVICES???
- WE NEED STRONG TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP

Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.

ALBERT EINSTEIN



TEAMS AND TECHNOLOGY: **INNERSOURCE**



[paypa](#)

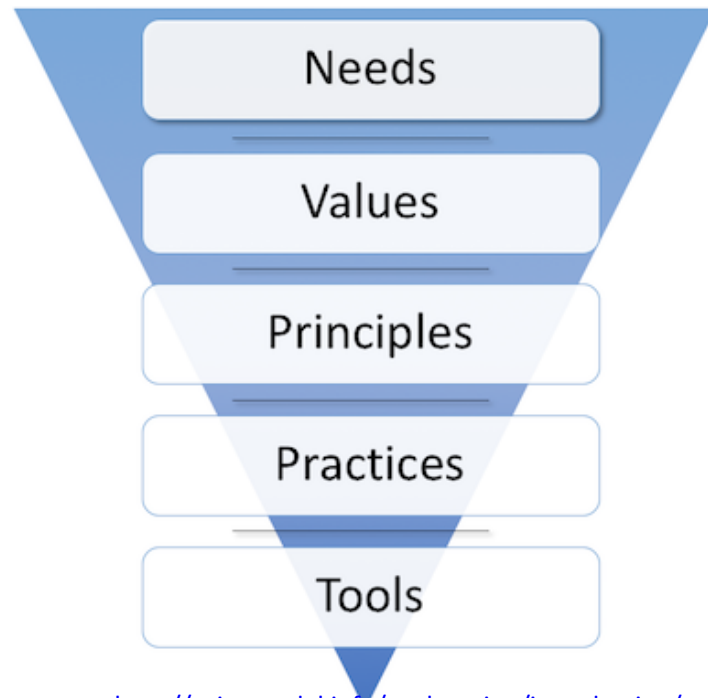
- Programmers share their work with a wide audience, instead of just with a manager or team. In most open source projects, anyone in the world is free to view the code, comment on it, learn new skills by examining it, and submit changes that they think will improve it or customize it to their needs.
- New code repositories (branches) based on the project can be made freely, so that sites with unanticipated uses for the code can adapt it. There are usually rules and technical support for re-merging different branches into the original master branch.
- People at large geographical distances, at separate times, can work on the same code or contribute different files of code to the same project.
- Communication tends to be written and posted to public sites instead of shared informally by word of mouth, which provides a history of the project as well as learning opportunities for new project members.
- Writing unit tests becomes a key programming task. a "unit test" is a small test that checks for a particular, isolated behavior such as rejecting incorrect input or taking the proper branch under certain conditions. In open source and inner source, testing is done constantly as changes are checked in, to protect against failures during production runs.



[nersource.csp](#)

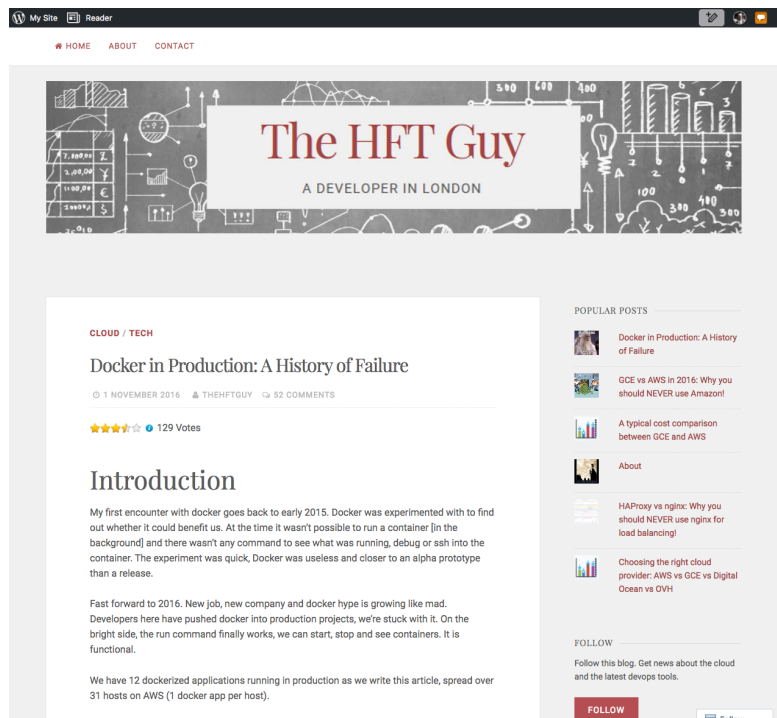
EVALUATING TOOLING – THE SPINE MODEL

- EFFECTIVE **CONVERSATIONS** MAKE FOR EFFECTIVE **COLLABORATION** WITHIN A TEAM
 - KEVIN TRETHEWEY & DANIE ROUX, AGILE 2015
- **IT'S A TOOL PROBLEM**
 - AS A SPECIES, WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN TOOL USERS AND MAKERS.
 - WE USE _____ TO GET OUR WORK DONE
- PEOPLE GET STUCK IN A DILEMMA WHERE EQUALLY PLAUSIBLE OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE
 - “GOING UP THE SPINE” **BREAKS DEADLOCK**



<http://spinemodel.info/explanation/introduction/>

CHOICES: BEWARE OF CONFIRMATION BIAS



<https://thehftguy.wordpress.com/2016/11/01/docker-in-production-an-history-of-failure/>



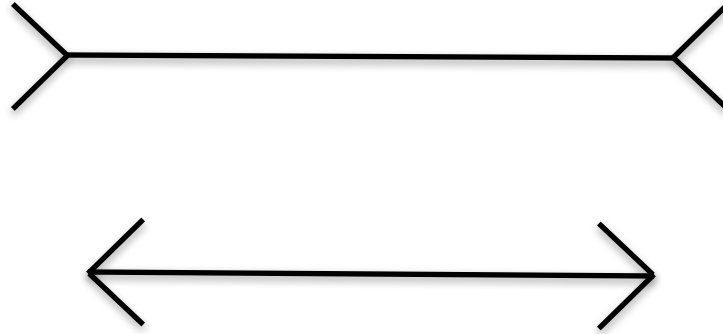
<http://patrobinson.github.io/2016/11/05/docker-in-production/>

02/10/2017

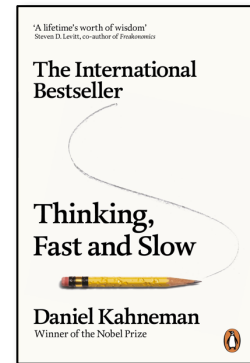
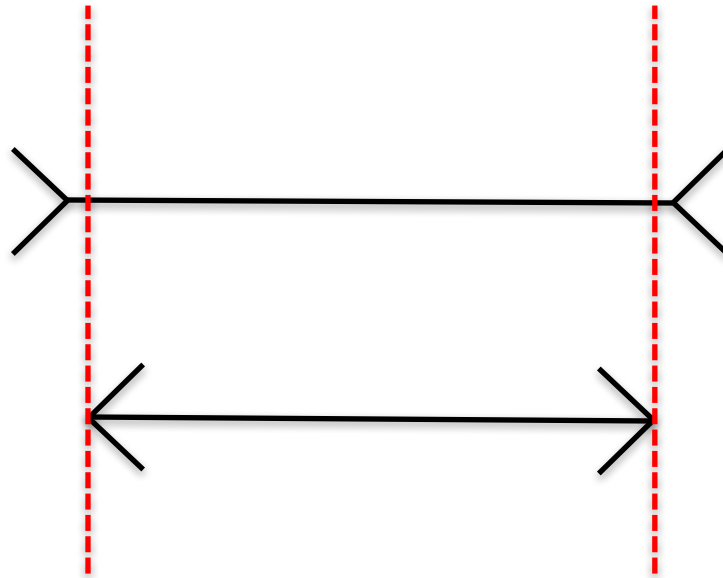
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SpectoLabs

EVALUATION - IT'S EASY TO BE TRICKED



EVALUATION - BEWARE OF BIAS AND HEURISTICS

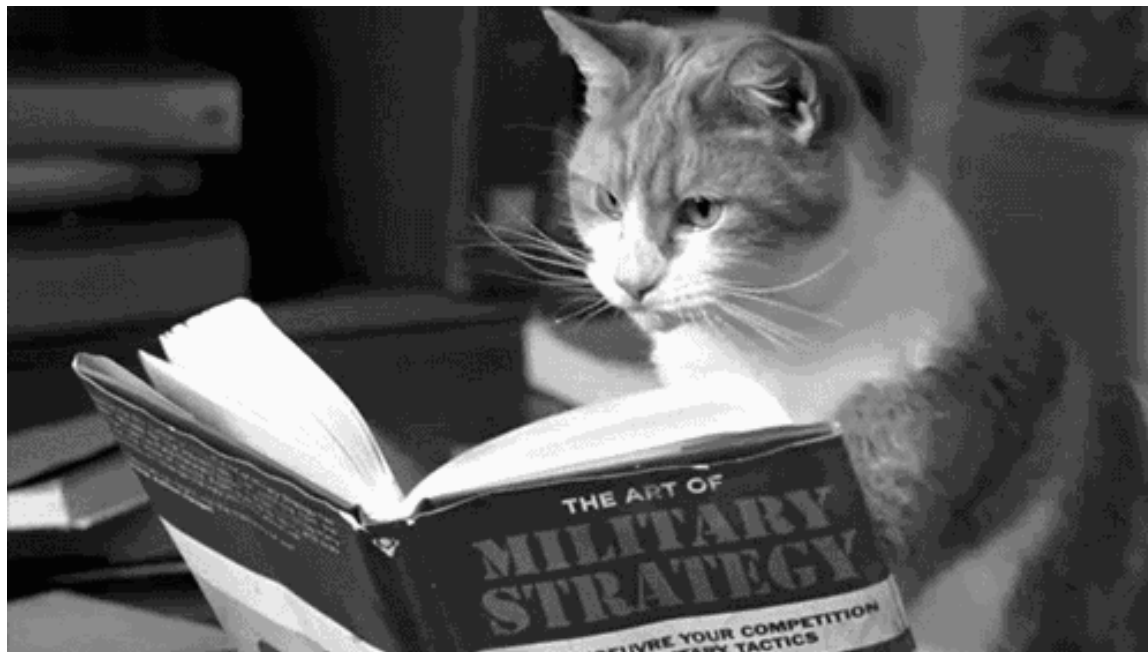


ANTIPATTERN: NETFLIX* (TECHNICAL) ENVY

ANTIPATTERN

- BLINDLY COPYING TECH FROM
*NETFLIX/GOOGLE/AMAZON/TWITTER
- LEARN ABOUT THE PRINCIPLES,
PRACTICES AND CULTURE AS WELL





2. **FEEDBACK** – VISIBILITY AND CONSTANT LEARNING

FEEDBACK IS VITAL

- BUSINESS
- ARCHITECTURE
- OPERATIONS

We assert that the Three Ways describe the values and philosophies that frame the processes, procedures, practices of DevOps, as well as the prescriptive steps.

Gene Kim

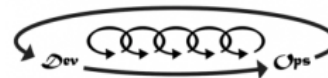
The First Way:
Systems Thinking



The Second Way:
Amplify Feedback Loops



The Third Way:
Culture Of Continual Experimentation And Learning

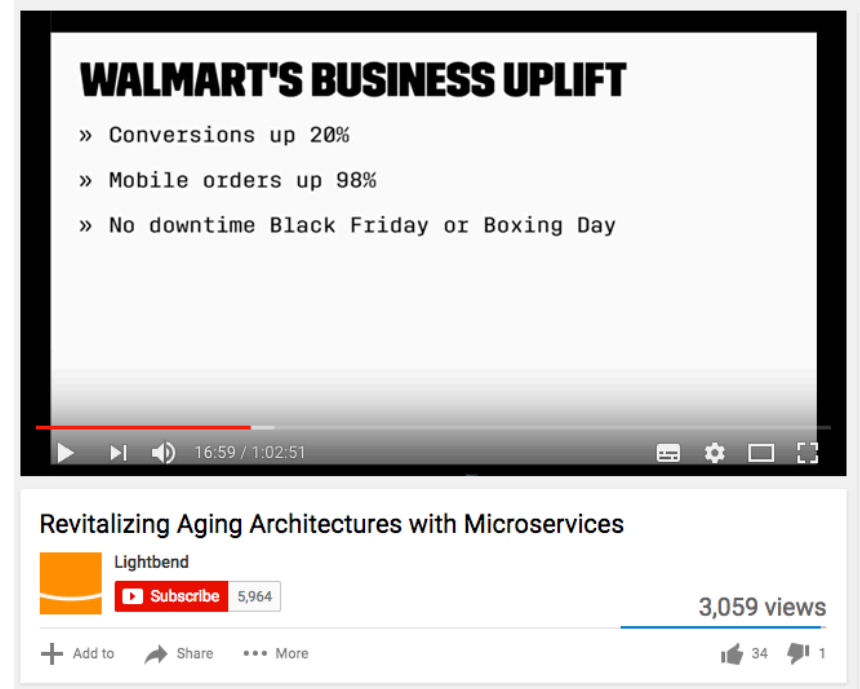


VISIBILITY FOR THE BUSINESS



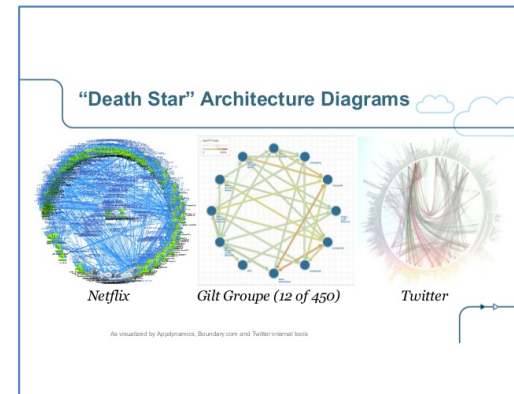
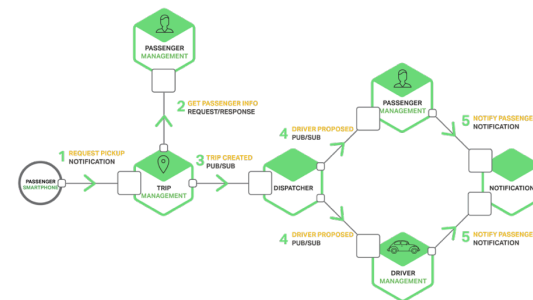
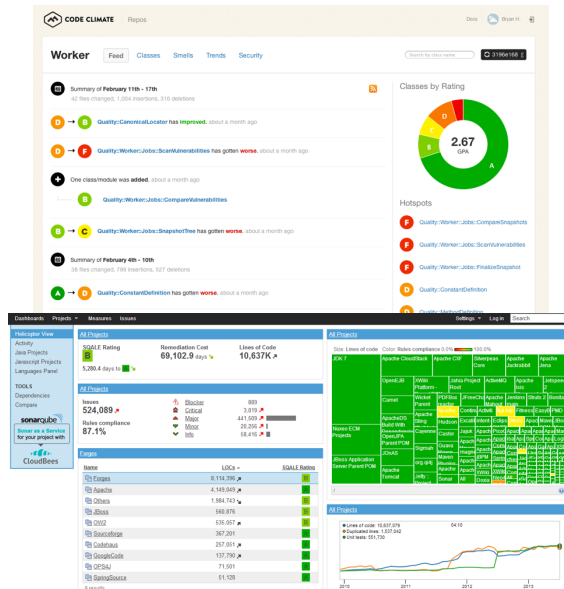
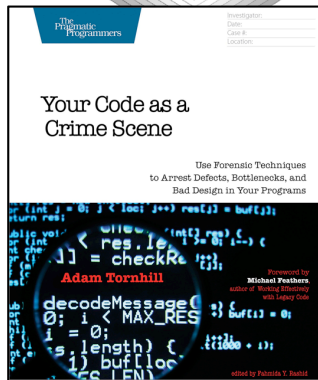
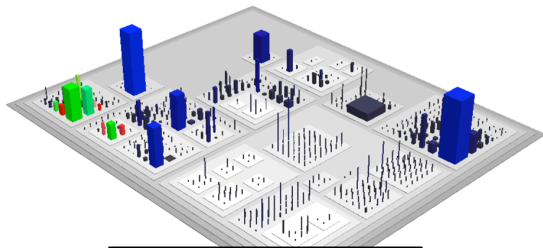
MICROSERVICES SHOULD BE BUSINESS-DRIVEN

- BAKE-IN METRICS AND SIGNALS WITHIN SERVICES AND PLATFORM
- ALLOWS VALIDATION OF HYPOTHESES
- SHARE REGULARLY THROUGHOUT ORG



www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPGCdziXIHU

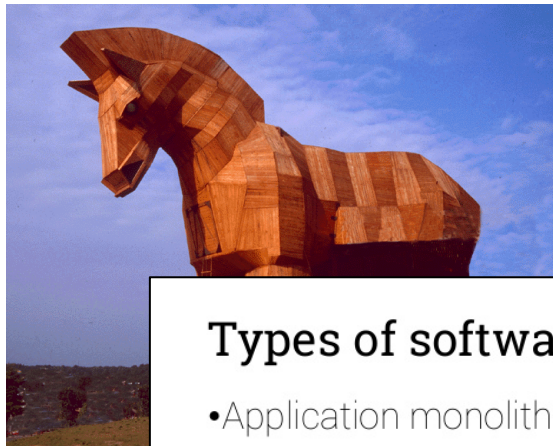
ARCHITECTURAL FEEDBACK



ANTIPATTERN: TROJAN MONOSERVICES

ANTIPATTERN

- ITS ALL TOO EASY FOR THE MONOLITH TO CREEP BACK IN (SOMEWHERE)...
- H/T MATTHEW SKELTON
- CONTINUALLY RETROSPECT ON TECHNICAL WORK USING SUPPORTING METRICS



Types of software monoliths

- Application monolith
- Joined at the DB
- Monolithic releases (coupled)
- Monolithic thinking (standardisation)

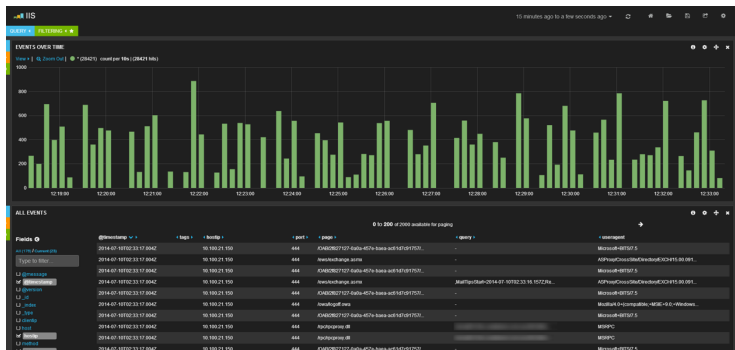
...

www.slideshare.net/SkeltonThatcher/teams-and-monoliths-matthew-skelton-londoncd-2016

OPERATIONAL VISIBILITY

- LOGGING

- THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF LOGGING
- THE LOG: WHAT EVERY SOFTWARE ENGINEER SHOULD KNOW



- MONITORING AND ALERTING

- ROB EWASCHUK'S PHILOSOPHY ON ALERTING
- BRENDAN GREGG'S USE METHOD



WHEN **BAD THINGS** HAPPEN, **PEOPLE** ARE ALWAYS INVOLVED

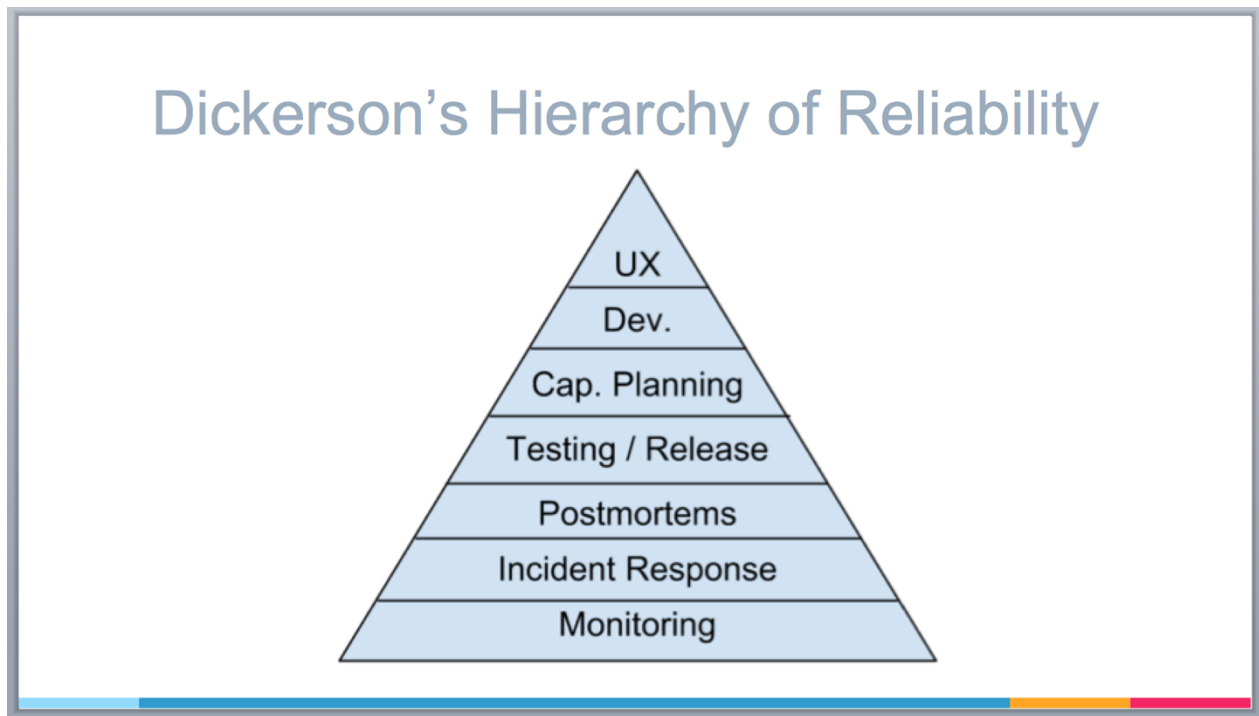


02/10/2017

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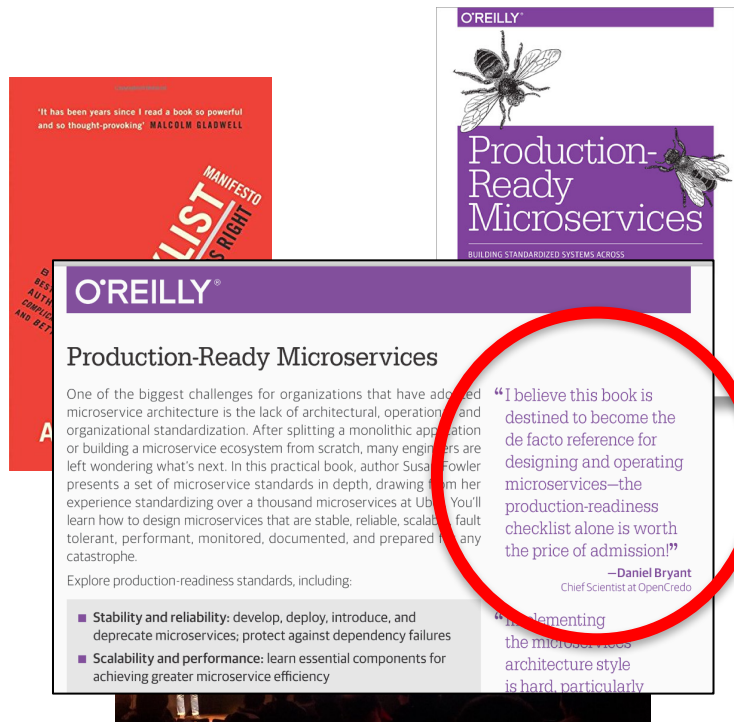
MIKEY DICKERSON'S HIERARCHY OF RELIABILITY



www.infoq.com/news/2015/06/too-big-to-fail

A LITTLE BIT OF STANDARDISATION GOES A LONG WAY

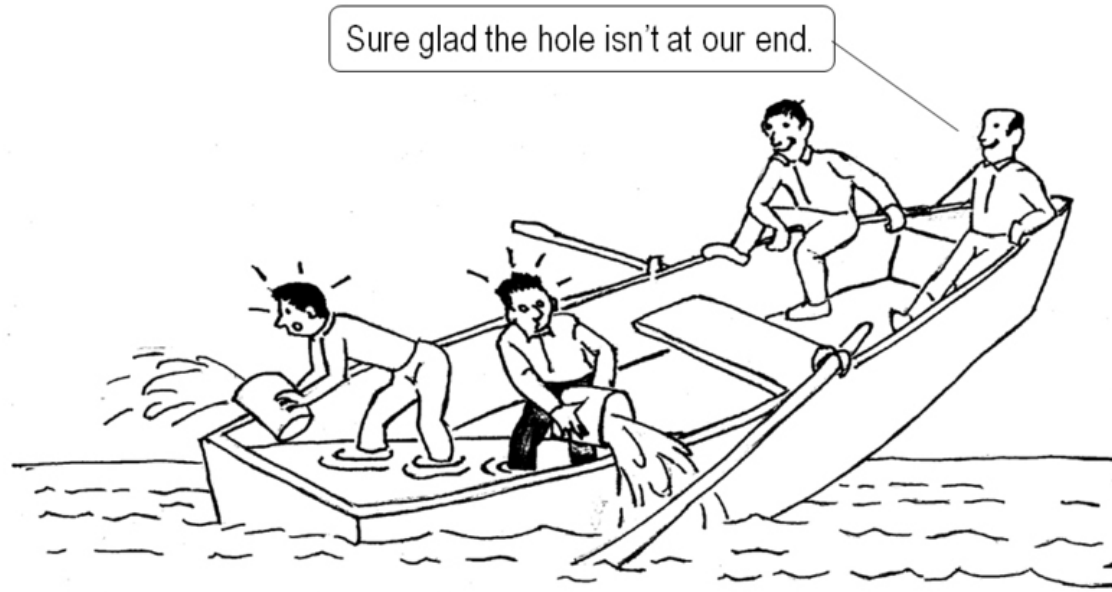
- **AUTOMATION** IS THE GOAL
 - ESSENTIAL AT SCALE WITH MICROSERVICES
- BUT WE HAVE TO **UNDERSTAND** PROBLEMS
 - RESPONSE, POSTMORTEMS & ROOT CAUSE
- CHECKLISTS PROVIDE **STRUCTURE**



www.microservices.com/talks/microservices-standardization-susan-fowler/

MICROSERVICES ENABLE AGILITY

- WHEN DONE WELL...
- BUILD, MEASURE, LEARN
 - BUILD-IN SIGNALS AND METRICS
 - CREATE A CULTURE OF EXPERIMENTATION AND FAILING FAST
- IF YOU DON'T COLLECT THE DATA AND TAKE ACTION TO ADAPT...
 - THERE IS LIMITED BENEFIT WITH MICROSERVICES

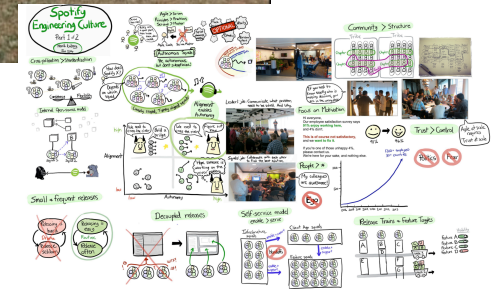


3. RESPONSIBILITIES – THE BUCK ALWAYS STOPS SOMEWHERE

WE HEAR THIS A LOT...

“WE’VE DECIDED TO REFORM OUR TEAMS AROUND SQUADS, CHAPTERS AND GUILDS”

- BEWARE OF **CARGO-CULTING**
— REPEAT THREE TIMES “WE ARE NOT SPOTIFY”
 - UNDERSTAND THE **PRACTICES, PRINCIPLES, VALUES** ETC
- 

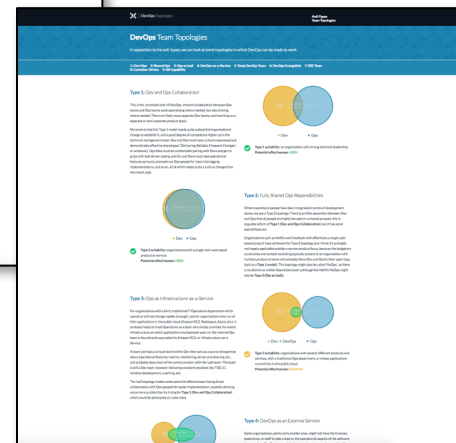
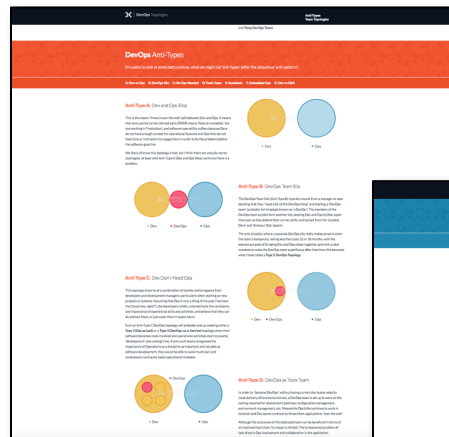


PEOPLE PAIN POINT – HOW DOES DEVOPS FIT INTO THIS?

- DEVOPS TOPOLOGIES

- [HTTP://WEB.DEVOPSTOPOLOGIES.COM/](http://web.devopstopologies.com/)

- @MATTHEWPSKELTON



KUDOS TO GITLAB FOR THEIR POSTMORTEM



On January 31st 2017, we experienced a major service outage for one of our products, the online service GitLab.com. The outage was caused by an accidental removal of data from our primary database server.

This incident caused the GitLab.com service to be unavailable for many hours. We also lost some production data that we were eventually unable to recover. Specifically, we lost modifications to database data such as projects, comments, user accounts, issues and snippets, that took place between 17:20 and 00:00 UTC on January 31. Our best estimate is that it affected roughly 5,000 projects, 5,000 comments and 700 new user accounts. Code repositories or wikis hosted on GitLab.com were unavailable during the outage, but were not affected by the data loss. GitLab Enterprise customers, GitHub customers, and self-hosted GitLab CE users were not affected by the outage, or the data loss.

5. **Why did the backup procedure fail silently?** - Notifications were sent upon failure, but because of the Emails being rejected there was no indication of failure. The sender was an automated process with no other means to report any errors.
6. **Why were the Emails rejected?** - Emails were rejected by the receiving mail server due to the Emails not being signed using DMARC.
7. **Why were Azure disk snapshots not enabled?** - We assumed our other backup procedures were sufficient. Furthermore, restoring these snapshots can take days.
8. **Why was the backup procedure not tested on a regular basis?** - Because there was no ownership, as a result nobody was responsible for testing this procedure.

Improving Recovery Procedures

We are currently working on fixing and improving our various recovery procedures. Work is split across the following issues:

1. Update PS1 across all hosts to more clearly differentiate between hosts and environments (#1094)
2. Prometheus monitoring for backups (#1095)
3. Set PostgreSQL's max_connections to a sane value (#1096)
4. Investigate Point in time recovery & continuous archiving for PostgreSQL (#1097)
5. Hourly LVM snapshots of the production databases (#1098)
6. Azure disk snapshots of production databases (#1099)
7. Move staging to the ARM environment (#1100)
8. Recover production replica(s) (#1101)
9. Automated testing of recovering PostgreSQL database backups (#1102)
10. Improve PostgreSQL replication documentation/runbooks (#1103)
11. Investigate pgbarman for creating PostgreSQL backups (#1105)
12. Investigate using WAL-E as a means of Database Backup and Realtime Replication (#494)
13. Investigate Streaming Database Restore
14. Assign an owner for data durability

DEVOPS - RESPONSIBILITIES

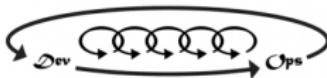
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Gene Kim

“Outage Start Up” RACI Chart

Task/Positions	Maint. Technician	Maint. Supervisor	Prod Supervisor	Reliability Engineer	Safety	PdM Tech.
Verify Safety on all equipment	C	A	C	I	R	
Verify Equipment Reliability	C	A	I	R		C
Verify Equipment Functions	R	A	R	C	I	C
Clean Up	R	A	I			
Inspect and Return Tools	R	A				
Meeting on Lessons Learned From Outage	C	R	I	C	C	C

Responsibility
Accountable
Consulted
Informed

“the Doer”
“the Buck stops here”
“in the Loop”
“kept in the picture”

DEVOPS - DEFINE RESPONSIBILITIES

- FOCUS ON **WHAT MATTERS**

- CI/CD
- MECHANICAL SYMPATHY
- LOGGING
- MONITORING
- NFRS / CFRS
- CHANGE MANAGEMENT
- INCIDENT RESOLUTION



HOW MUCH **VALUE** DOES NON-DEPLOYED CODE PROVIDE TO USERS?

0*

(*Universal Unit of Value)

ANTIPATTERN: WATER-MICRO-FALL

ANTIPATTERN

- CRAFTING PERFECT MICROSERVICE PLATFORMS / CHASSIS / DOCS
- BUILDING CONTINUALLY ON UNDEPLOYED (AND UNTESTED) ASSUMPTIONS
- CHANGE MINDSET TO CONTINUOUSLY DELIVER INCREMENTAL CHANGES TO PRODUCTION ASAP





IN CONCLUSION: MICROSERVICES WILL CREATE CHANGE...

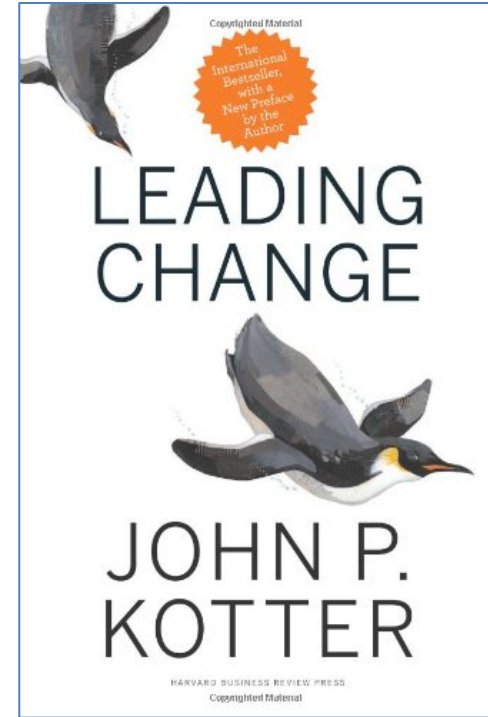
CHANGE MANAGEMENT IS ESSENTIAL

- **FAIR PROCESS** (THREE 'E'S')
 - ENGAGEMENT
 - EXPLANATION
 - EXPECTATION
- **LEADING CHANGE**
 - TRANSFORMATION IS A **PROCESS**
 - **COMMUNICATE**, PLAN, EVALUATE, LEARN, EMPOWER
 - OBTAIN BUY-IN FROM THE TOP



LEADING CHANGE

1. ESTABLISH SENSE OF URGENCY
2. CREATE THE GUIDING COALITION
3. DEVELOP A VISION AND STRATEGY
4. COMMUNICATE THE VISION
5. EMPOWER EMPLOYEES FOR BROAD-BASED ACTION
6. GENERATE SHORT-TERM WINS
7. CONSOLIDATE GAINS AND PRODUCE MORE CHANGE
8. ANCHOR NEW APPROACHES IN THE CULTURE



WRAPPING UP – CONCLUSION

- STRATEGY / TACTICS
 - ENSURE SMART GOALS AND ACCOMPANYING STRATEGY ARE DEFINED AND **COMMUNICATED**
 - TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP (**ARCHITECTURE**) SKILLS ARE VITAL
 - CHOOSE **TOOLING** TO SUPPORT YOUR APPROACH (NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND)
- FEEDBACK
 - **OPTIMISE FOR VISIBILITY AND LEARNING** (THROUGHOUT THE ORGANISATIONAL STACK)
- RESPONSIBILITIES
 - LEARN FROM CONWAY, NETFLIX AND SPOTIFY ET AL, BUT DO NOT **CARGO CULT** BLINDLY
 - **DEVOPS (DONE RIGHT)** IS A PREREQUISITE FOR MICROSERVICES

THANKS...

@DANIELBRYANTUK

DANIEL.BRYANT@SPECTO.IO

(CREDIT TO THE ENTIRE OPENCREDO & SPECTO TEAMS FOR INSPIRATION/GUIDANCE)

BEDTIME READING

