



# DISMANTLING THE MONOLITH

BY: BARRY TARLTON WITH MUCH SUPPORT FROM HIS FRIEND JEFF CAIN



**What you will learn:**

**I hope 😊**

## AGENDA

- History of Building Monoliths
- Problems that come with Monoliths
- How Microservices help overcome monolithic challenges
- How Cloud Technologies enable a Microservices approach
- What are API's and why are they so important
- How do we dissect the Monolithic problems into more manageable pieces
- How do Business Analyst play a key role in all of this



Let me introduce  
Myself



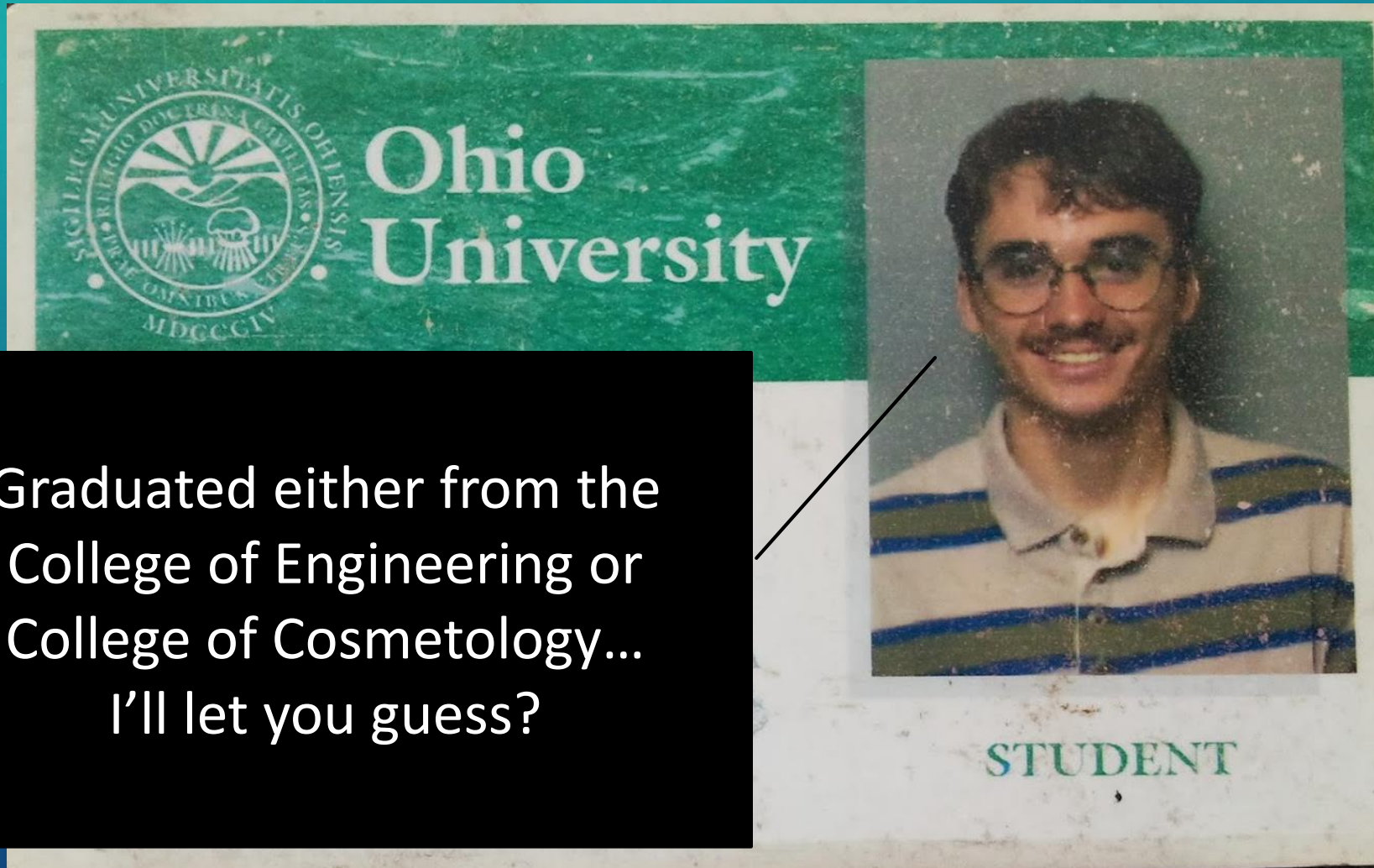


# EDUCATION

- Elementary & High School:
  - Basic Programming on Apple IIe



# HIGHER EDUCATION



Graduated either from the  
College of Engineering or  
College of Cosmetology...  
I'll let you guess?



- 6 Years
- Retirement Applications for Public Sector



Covansys®

NATIONWIDE 12+ YEARS



# In the Beginning...

# Was the computer...





# In the Beginning...

## Was the computer...



**And ever since there were computers...  
there were Programmers...**





That wrote code...

That no one cared about...

**I ARE PROGRAMMER**



**I MAKE COMPUTER BEEP BOOP  
BEEP BEEP BOOP**

[quickmeme.com](http://quickmeme.com)

**P O N G**

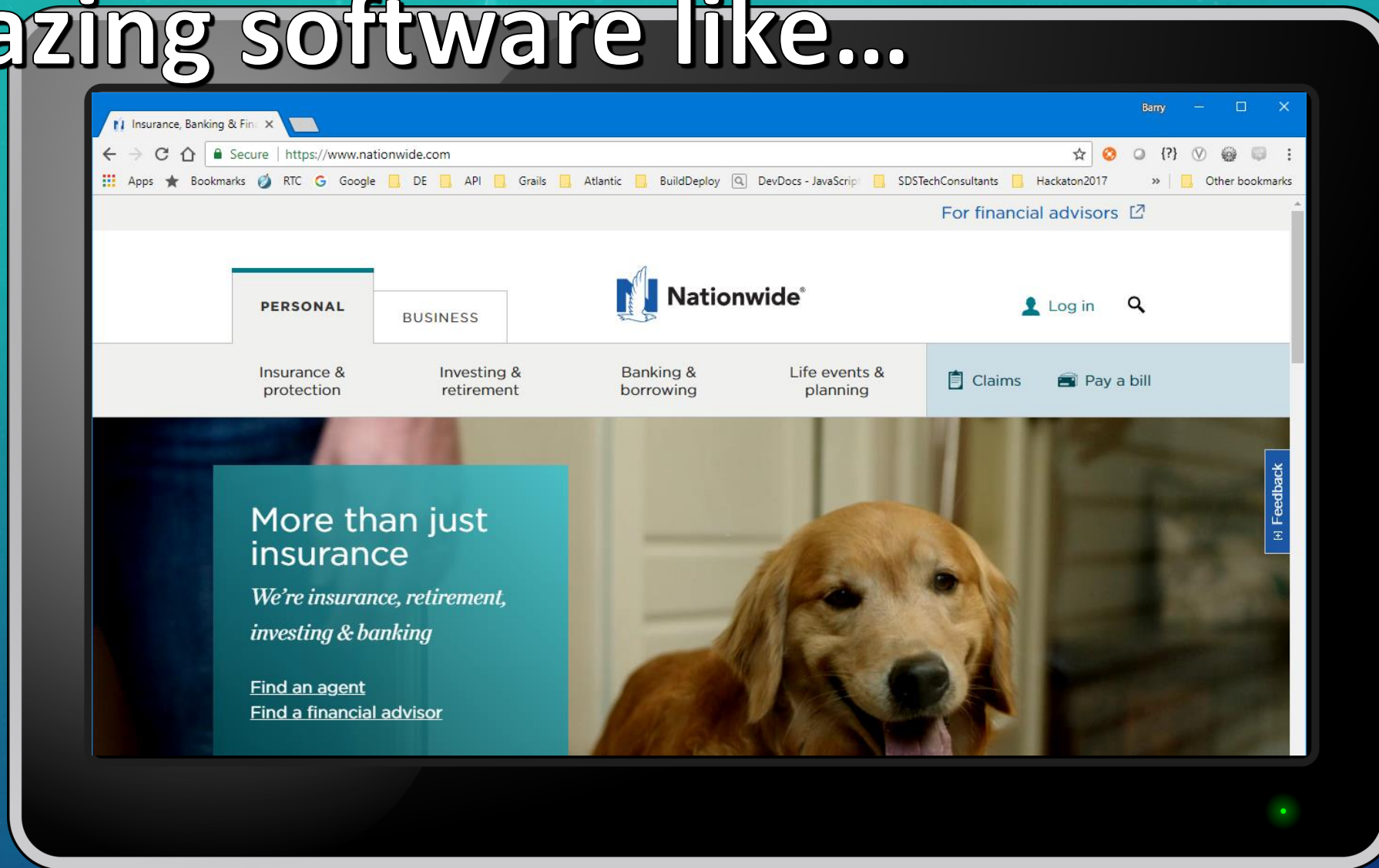
**PLAY**

**Then came the Business Analysts  
To ensure software did something useful!**





# Amazing software like...



# Shameless plug...

**And software developers rejoiced!**

They like our software!





# MY FIRST MONOLITHIC APPLICATION – RELEASE 1

## Retirement App

- Retiree Data
- Dependent's data
- Employment History
- Calculate Years of Service
- Employee Contributions

# SECOND RELEASE

## Retirement App

- Retiree Data
- Dependent's data
- Employment History
- Calculate Years of Service
- Employee Contributions
- Employer Contributions
- Calculate Interest
- Retirement Plans



# THIRD RELEASE

## Retirement App

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Retiree Data               | • Address History               |
| • Dependent's data           | • Document History              |
| • Employment History         | • Non-contributory work history |
| • Calculate Years of Service | • Calculate Years of Service    |
| • Employee Contributions     |                                 |
| • Employer Contributions     |                                 |
| • Calculate Interest         |                                 |
| • Retirement Plans           |                                 |

# FOURTH RELEASE

## Retirement App

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Retiree Data               | • Address History               |
| • Dependent's data           | • Document History              |
| • Employment History         | • Non-contributory work history |
| • Calculate Years of Service | • Calculate Years of Service    |
| • Employee Contributions     | • Benefits Estimates            |
| • Employer Contributions     | • Retirement Options            |
| • Calculate Interest         | • Benefit Calculations          |
| • Retirement Plans           | • Beneficiary Management        |



# FIFTH RELEASE

## Retirement App

|                              |                                 |                                |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Retiree Data               | • Address History               | • Self Service Member Data     |
| • Dependent's data           | • Document History              | • Self Service Employment Hist |
| • Employment History         | • Non-contributory work history | • Retirement Planning          |
| • Calculate Years of Service | • Calculate Years of Service    | • Pension Summary              |
| • Employee Contributions     | • Benefits Estimates            | • Credit Summary               |
| • Employer Contributions     | • Retirement Options            | • Banked Hours                 |
| • Calculate Interest         | • Benefit Calculations          | • Email Notifications          |
| • Retirement Plans           | • Beneficiary Management        | • Eligibility Calculations     |

# WHAT IS A MONOLITH?

a  
monolithic  
application  
describes a  
software  
application  
which is  
designed  
without  
modularity

-Wikipedia

## Monolith App

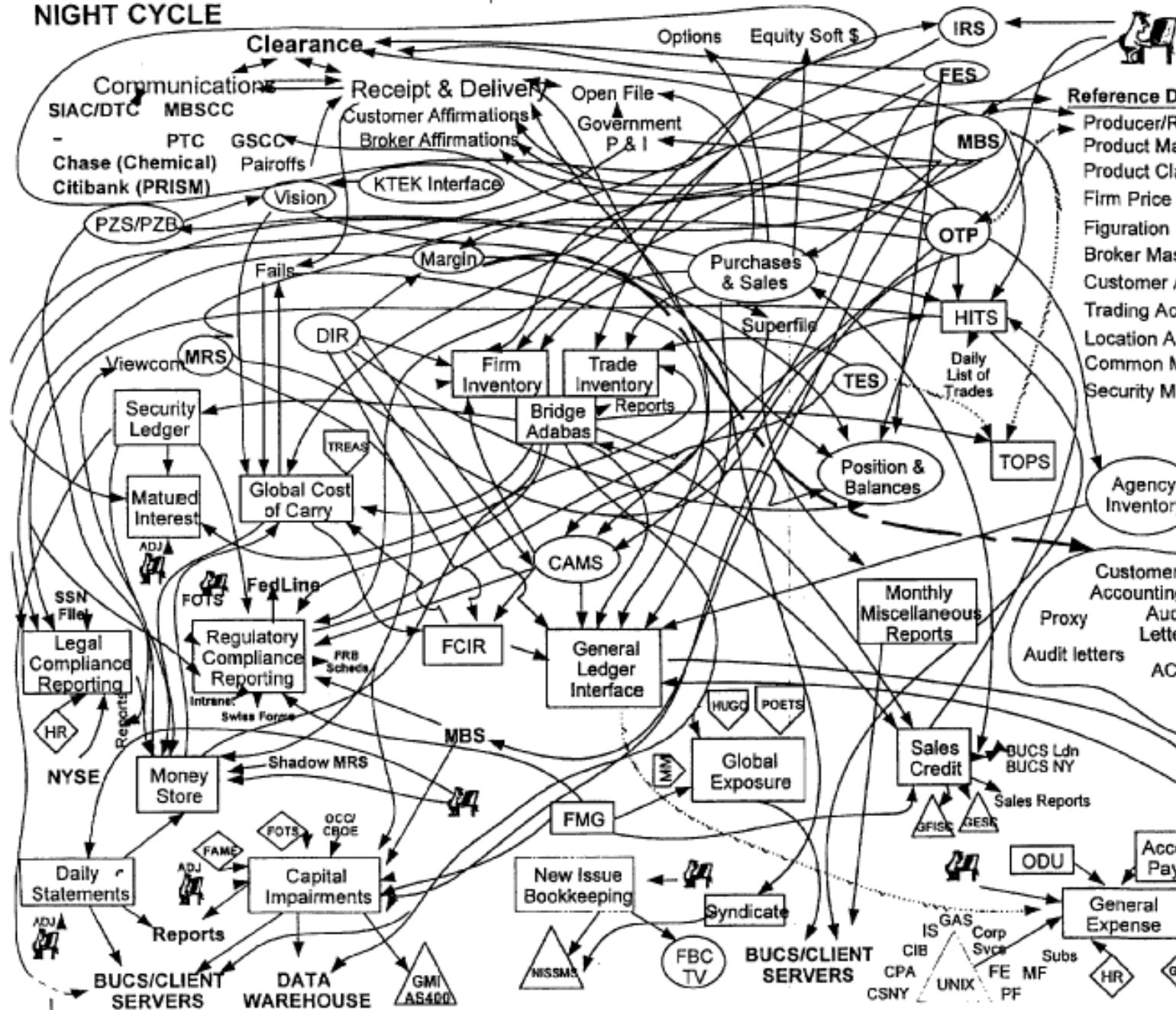
- Retiree Data
  - Employment History
    - Employee Contributions
  - Employer Contributions
    - Calculate Interest
  - Retirement Plans
    - Address History
  - Document History
    - Non-contributory work history
  - Calculate Years of Service
    - Benefits Estimates
  - Retirement Options
    - Benefit Calculations
  - Beneficiary Management
    - Self Service Member Data
  - Self Service Employment History
    - Retirement Planning
    - Credit Summary
  - Pension Summary
    - Banked Hours
    - Email Notifications
  - Eligibility Calculations



# what's the Problem?



## NIGHT CYCLE



# JUST TOO MUCH TO TAKE IN



# DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN

My App

Capability A

Capability B

Capability C

Capability D

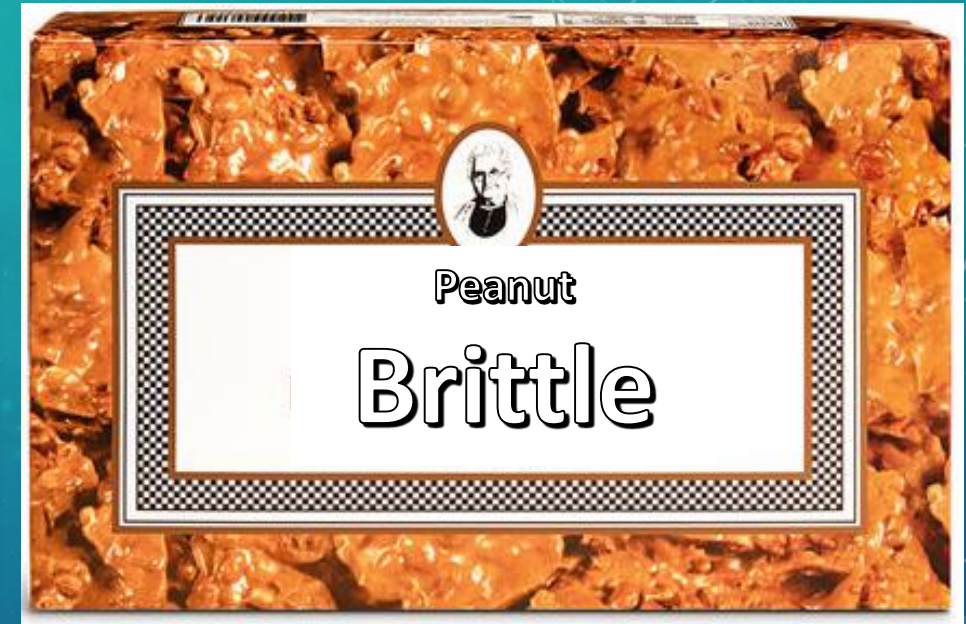
Capability E



# DANGER

## DO NOT TOUCH

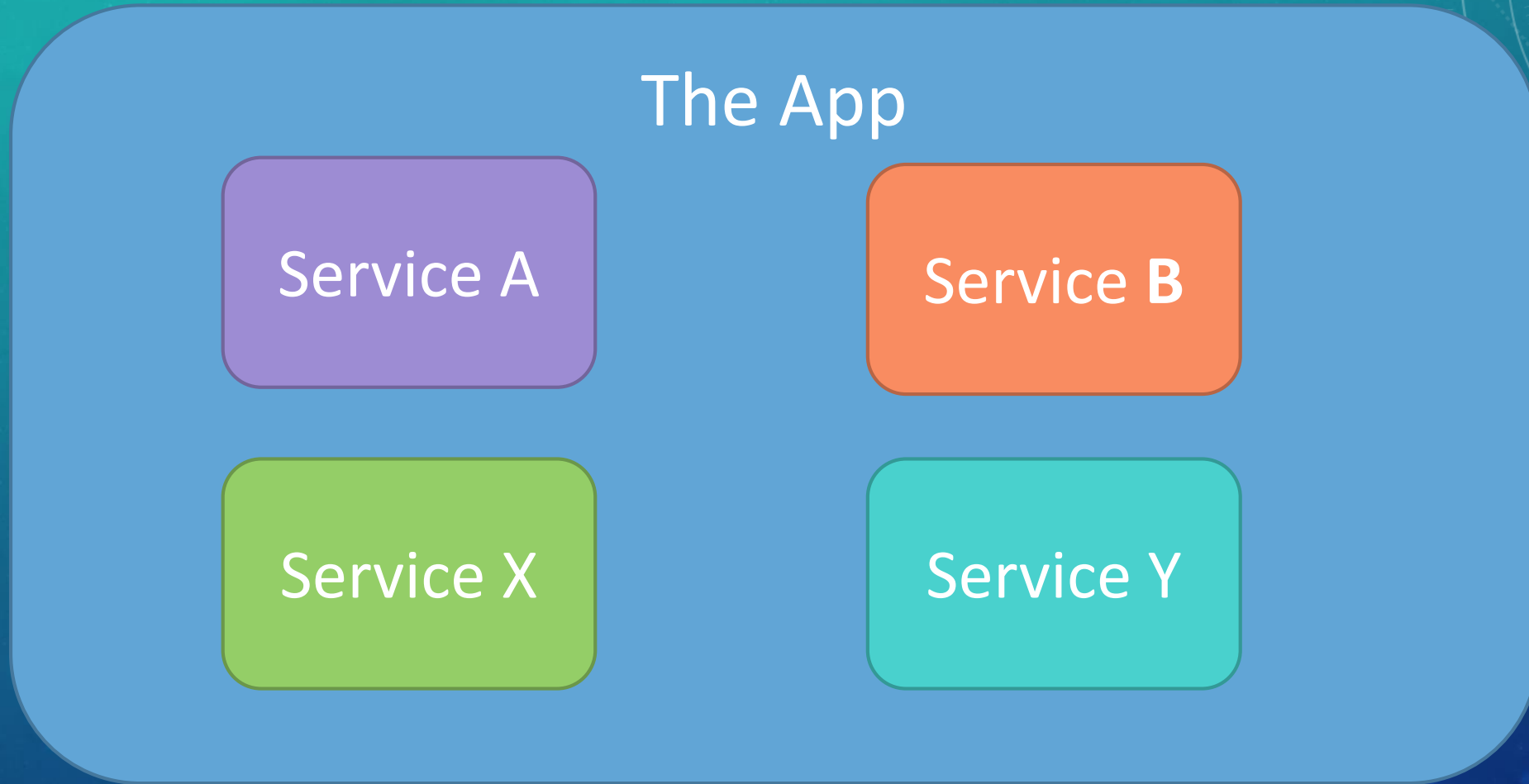
Not only will this kill you  
it will hurt while you die



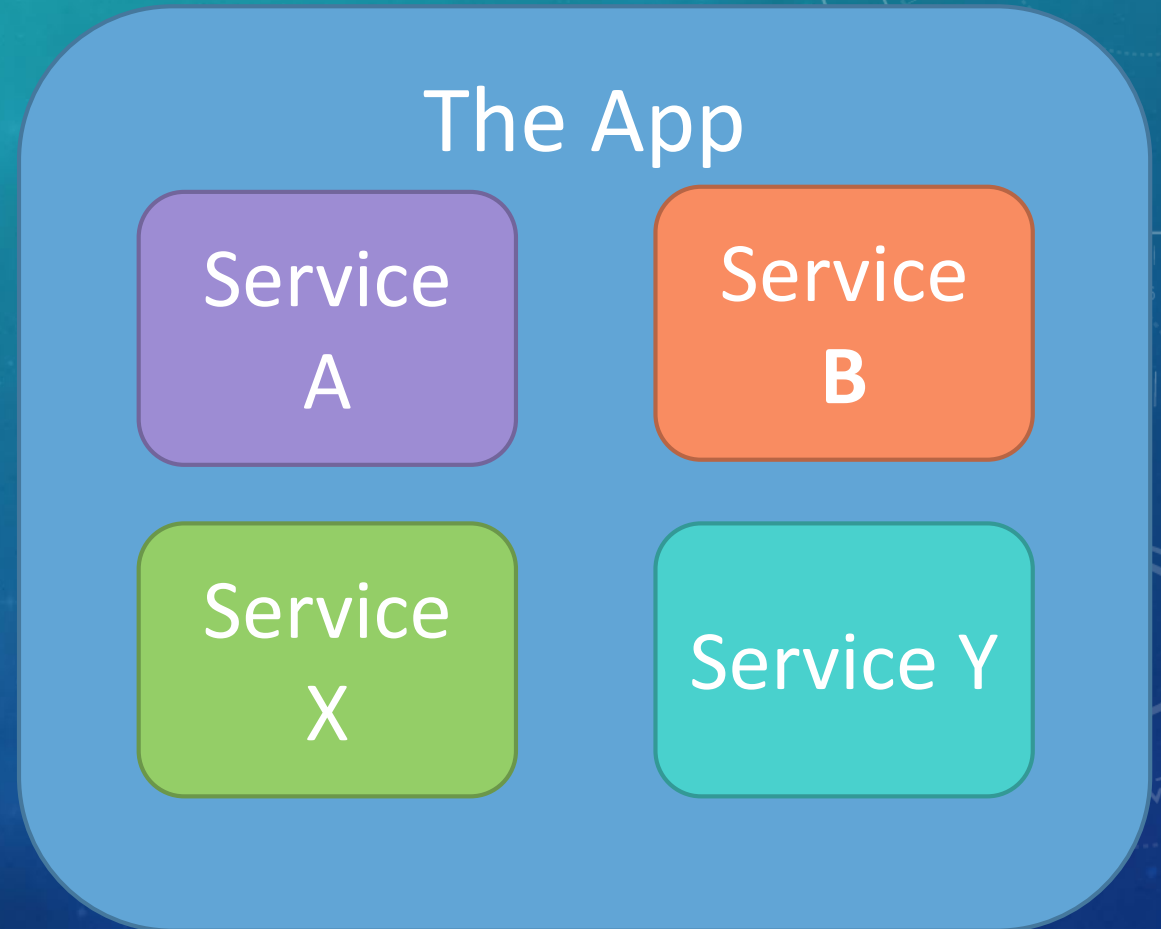
- Adding new features are difficult.
- Achieving Reliability Becomes Extremely Challenging



# MONOLITHS ARE DIFFICULT TO SCALE



# DIFFICULT TO SCALE





# DIFFICULT TO SCALE

## The App

Service  
A

Service  
B

Service  
X

Service Y

## The App

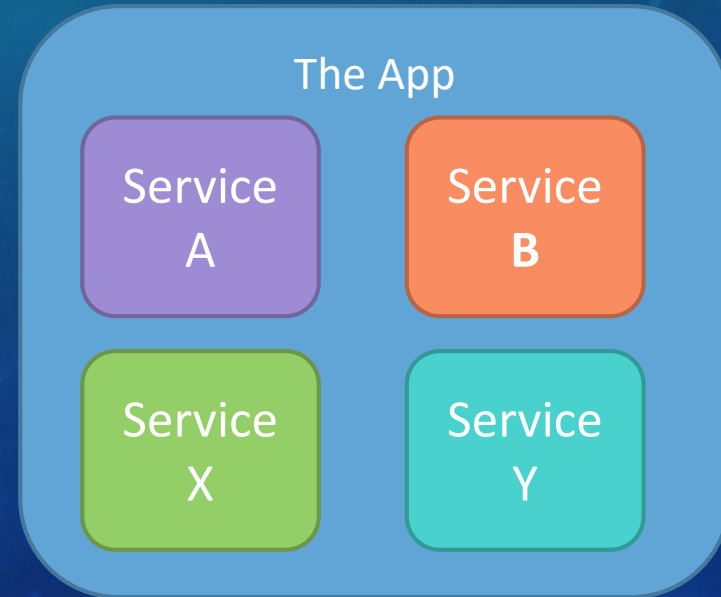
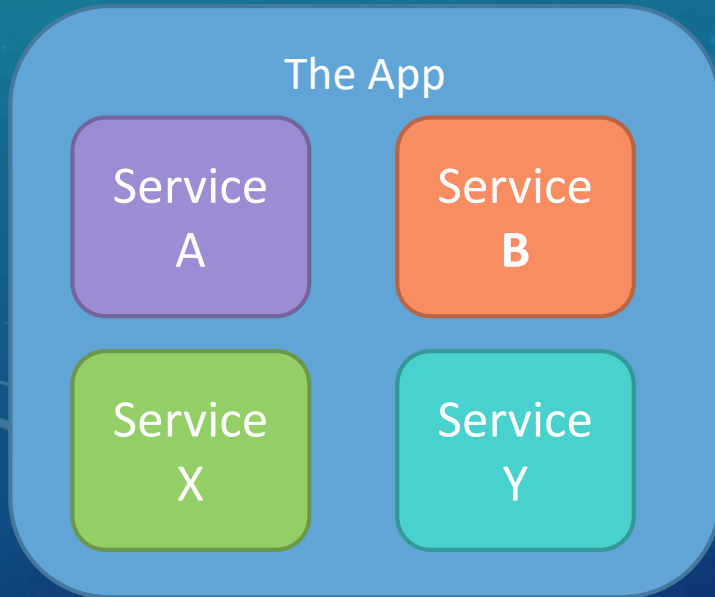
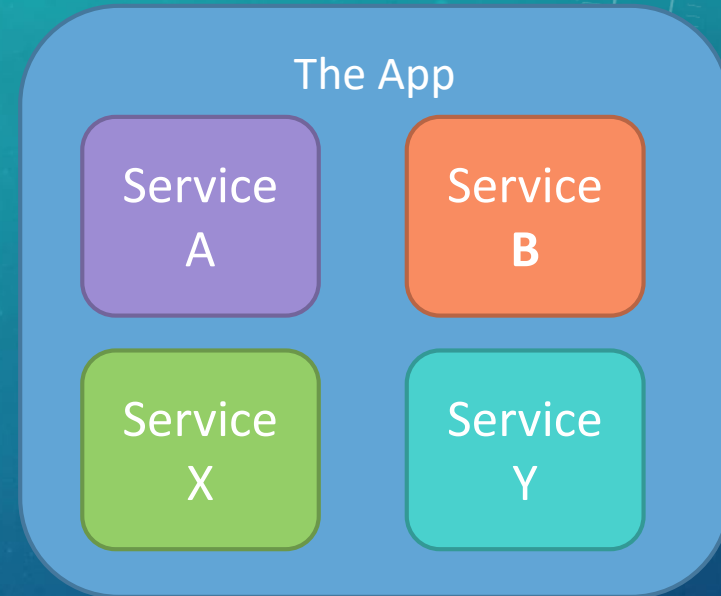
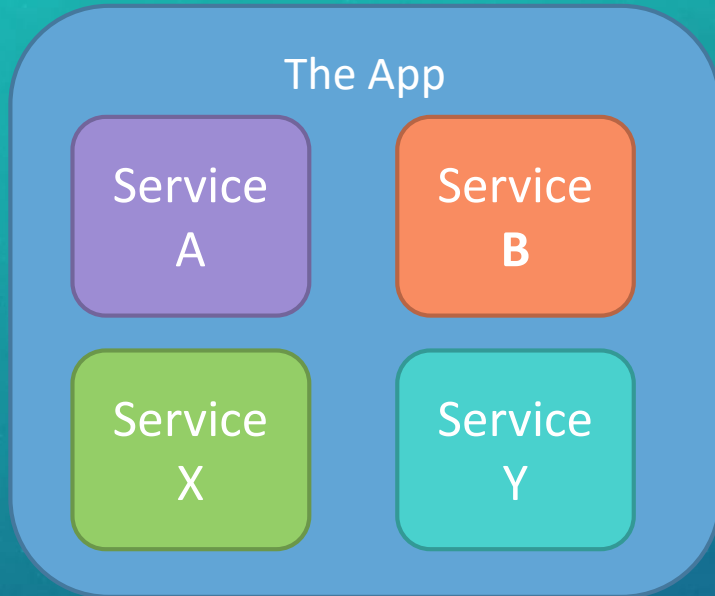
Service  
A

Service  
B

Service  
X

Service Y

# DIFFICULT TO SCALE



# DEPLOYING A MONOLITH





- “Once your application has become a large, complex monolith, your development organization is probably in a world of pain. Any attempts at agile development and delivery will flounder. One major problem is that the application is overwhelmingly complex. It’s simply too large for any single developer to fully understand. As a result, fixing bugs and implementing new features correctly becomes difficult and time consuming. What’s more, this tends to be a downwards spiral. If the codebase is difficult to understand, then changes won’t be made correctly. You will end up with a monstrous, incomprehensible big ball of mud.”

- - Chris Richardson –founder Cloud Foundry (<https://www.nginx.com/blog/introduction-to-microservices/>)

# Slow Speed to Market





EXAMPLE OF  
CHANGING MARKET  
DEMAND



## Branch proximity no longer considered number one determinant of convenience

Q: What factors make a bank most convenient?

Rank Change  
(2014-2016)

Factor

A Leading Online/Mobile App

2 to 1



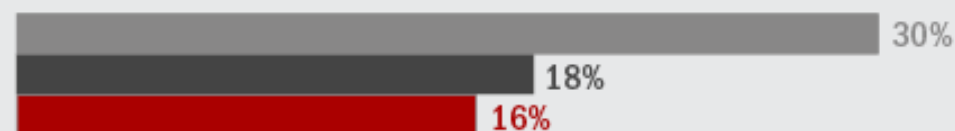
No Foreign ATM Fees

3 to 2



Branches Near Me

1 to 3



Lots of Branches and ATMs

4



## MOST CONVENIENT FEATURE?



## Banking models of the past and future



SOURCE: Deloitte © December 2017 The Financial Brand

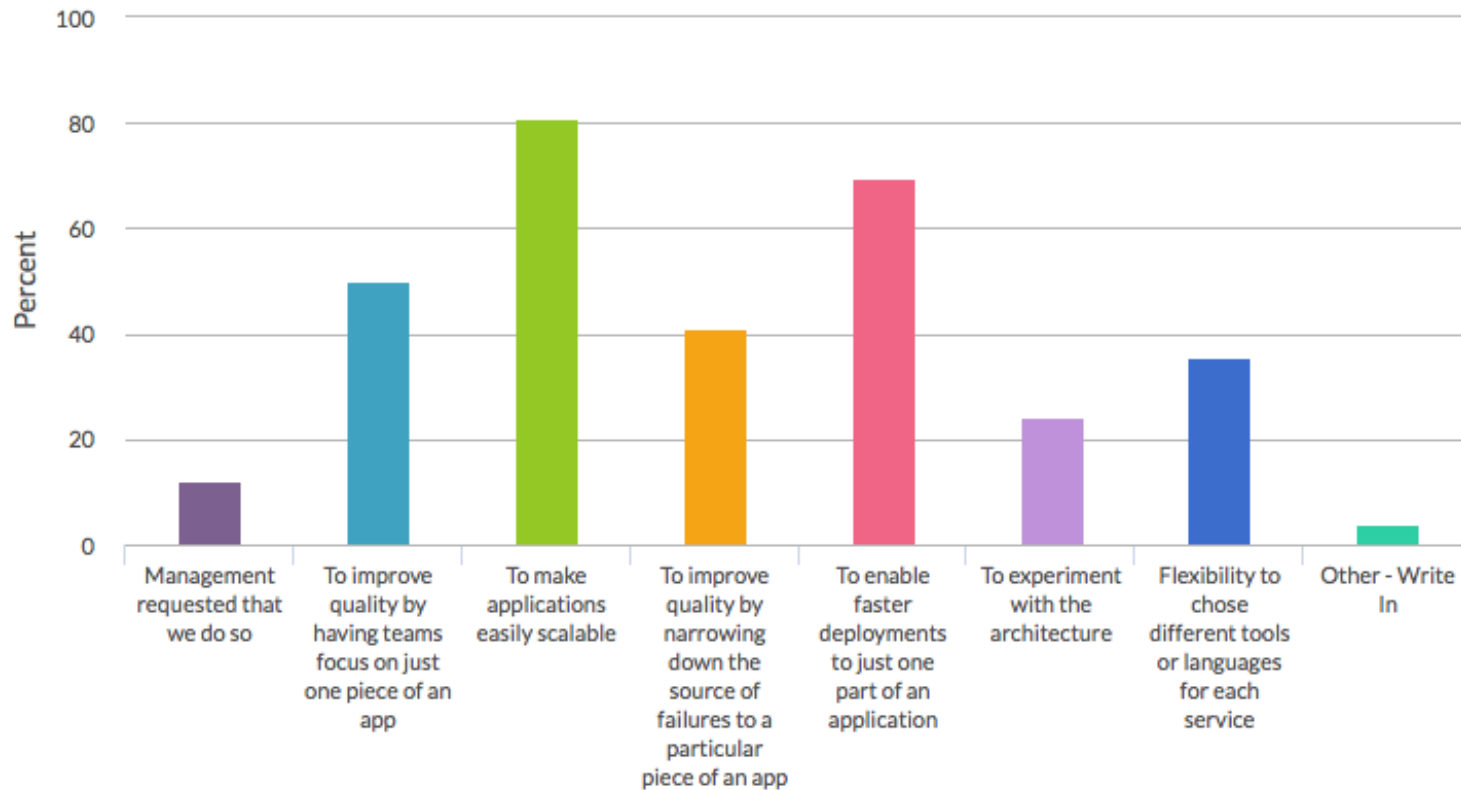
- “2018 will see banks getting much more serious about **digitizing** their current analog processes with a particular focus on their commercial customers and on mobile. Loan processing, account opening, service subscriptions, problem resolution and one-to-many payments are all examples of current processes that are ripe to be **reimagined** in order to **gain speed, efficiency, and scale.**”
- – **Chris Nichols**, Chief Strategy Officer at **CenterState Bank**
- Source: <https://thefinancialbrand.com/69180/2018-top-banking-trends-predictions-outlook-digital-fintech-data-ai-cx-payments-tech/all/>

# Tackling the Problem of the Giant Monolith





## 2. Why are you using microservices?



# Why Microservices?

- “Those who were using microservices listed **scalability** and **faster deployments** as the leading factors, followed by the ability to **improve quality** by having teams **focusing on smaller parts** of the app.”
- - Source: [DZone Research: Microservices Priorities and Trends](#)



## WHAT IS A MICROSERVICE?

- The microservice architecture uses services as the unit of modularity.

# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

## My Monolith Application

Business  
Capability ONE

Business  
Capability TWO

Business  
Capability THREE



# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

## My Monolith Application

Business  
Capability ONE

Business  
Capability TWO

Business  
Capability THREE

Business  
Capability THREE

# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

## My Monolith Application

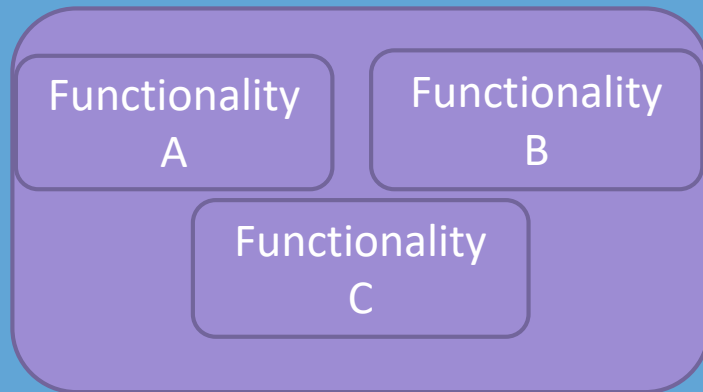
Business  
Capability ONE

Business  
Capability TWO

Business  
Capability THREE

# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

## My Monolith Application



Business  
Capability TWO

Business  
Capability THREE



# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

## My Monolith Application



# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

## My Monolith Application

Business  
Capability ONE

Business  
Capability TWO

Business  
Capability THREE

MicroService  
A

MicroService  
B

MicroService  
C

# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

MicroService  
A

MicroService  
B

MicroService  
D

MicroService  
C

MicroService  
X

MicroService  
Y

MicroService  
Z



# MICROSERVICES A PLENTY

MicroService  
A

MicroService  
B

MicroService  
D

MicroService  
C

MicroService  
X

MicroService  
Y

MicroService  
Z

# MICROSERVICES A PLENTY

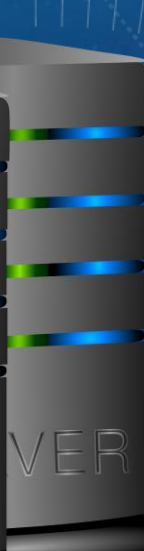
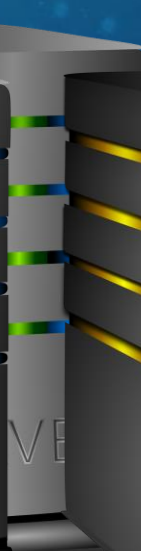
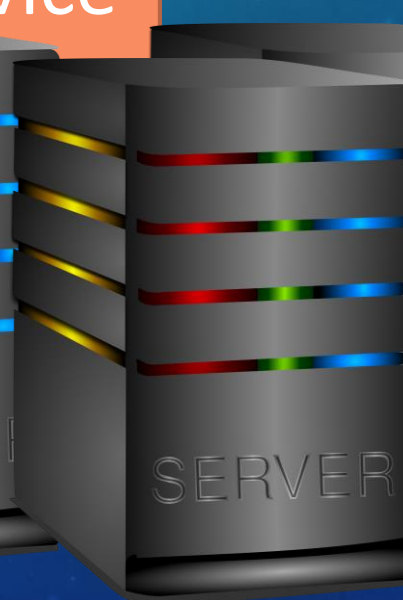
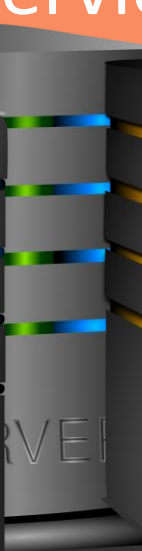
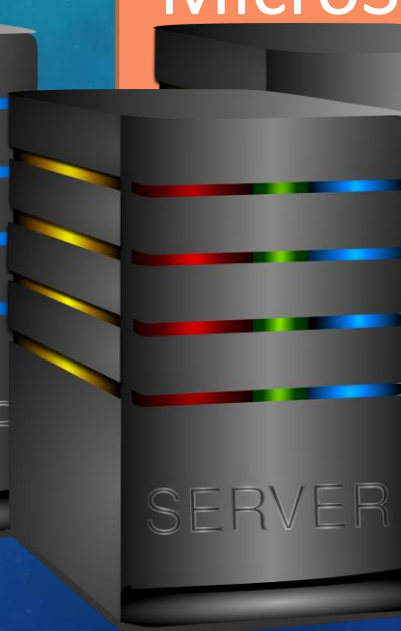
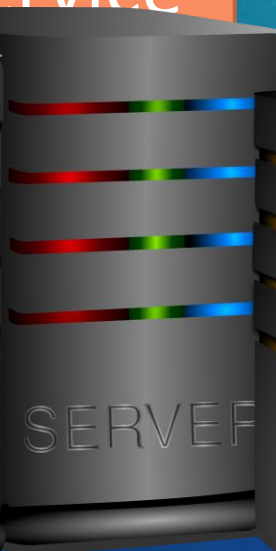
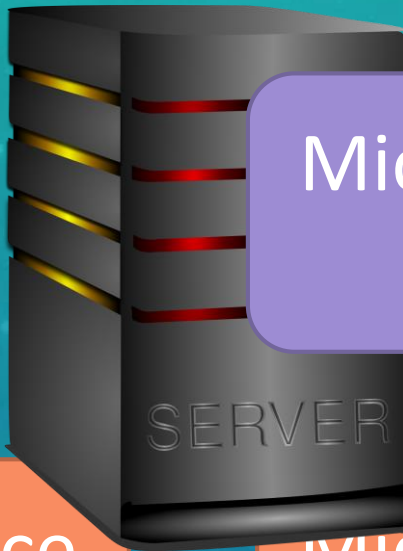
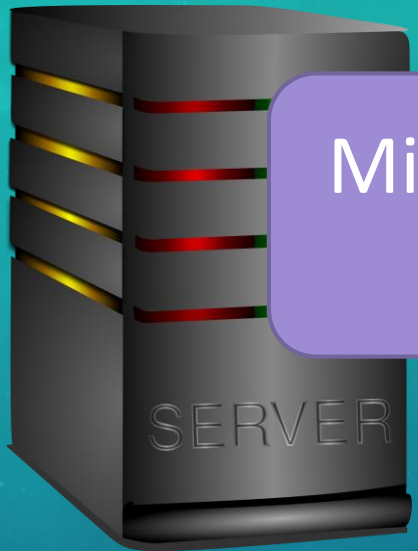
MicroService  
A

MicroService  
B

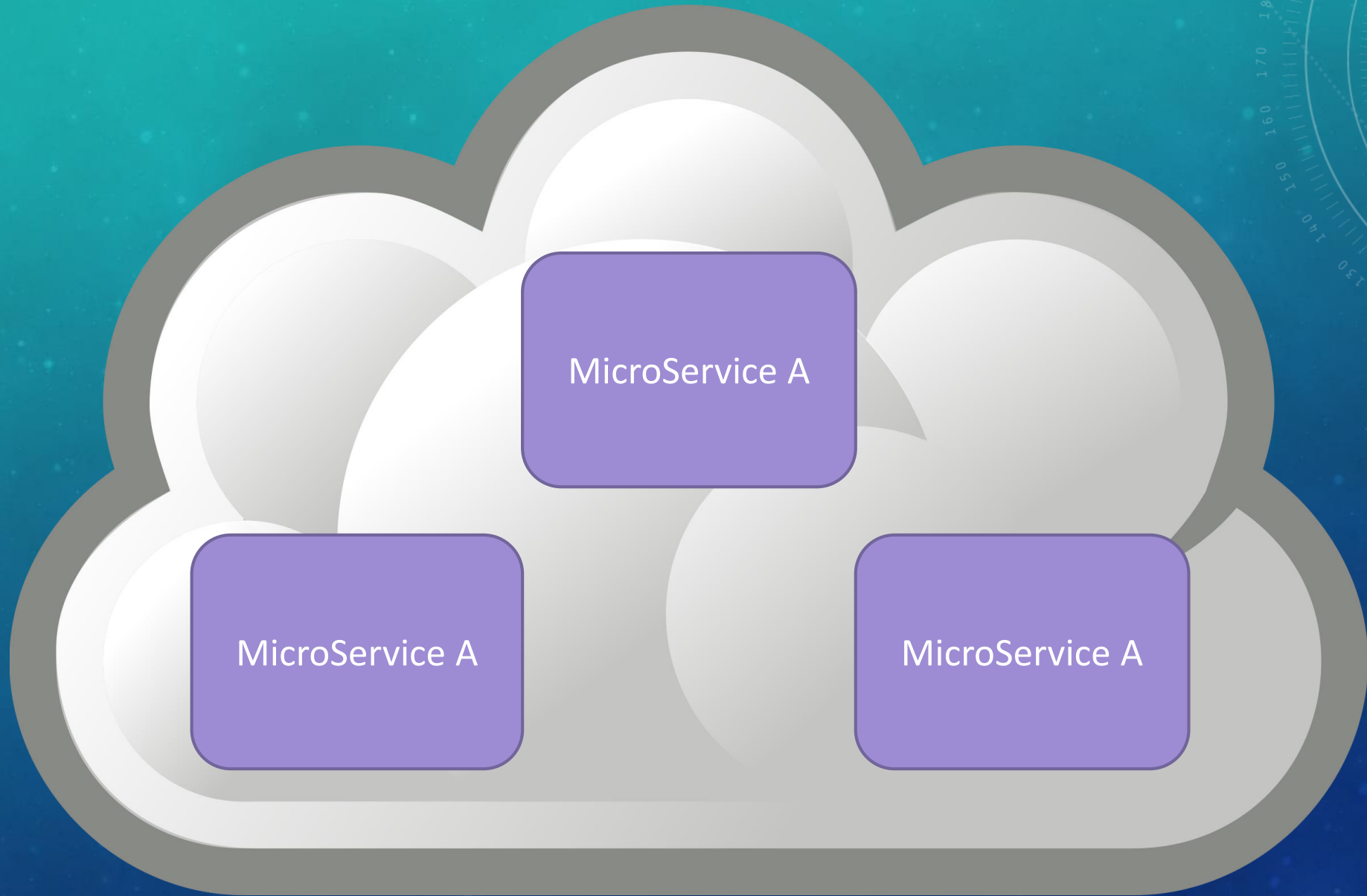
MicroService  
D

MicroService

MicroService



# NEEDS INFRASTRUCTURE

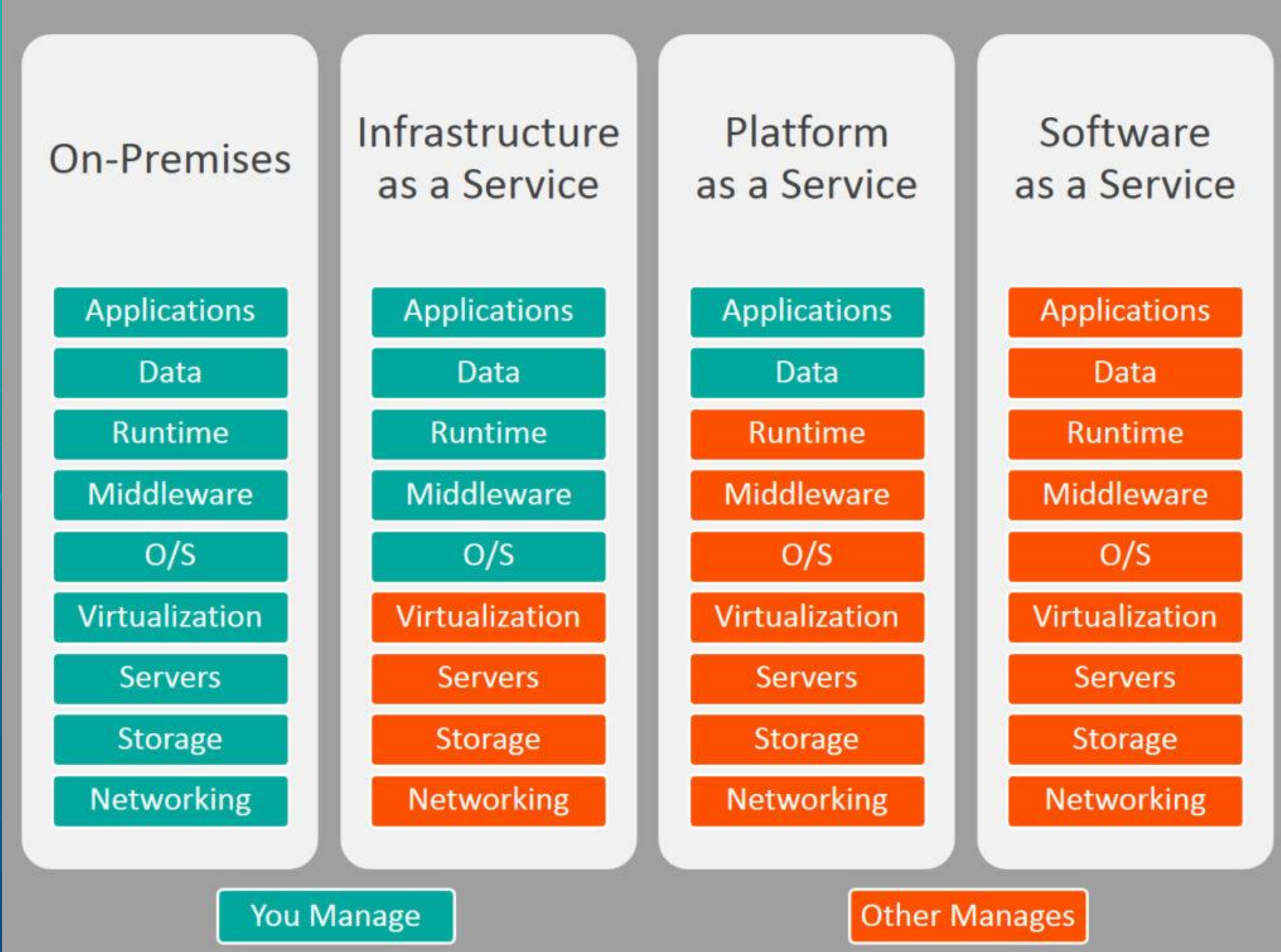






**There is no cloud**

it's just someone else's computer



Source: <https://www.bmc.com/blogs/saas-vs-paas-vs-iaas-whats-the-difference-and-how-to-choose/>



# CLOUD SERVICE ENABLE MICROSERVICES

You can have it all when you want it!

- Infrastructure
- Application servers
- Databases
- Scalability
- Fail/Over
- Etc...





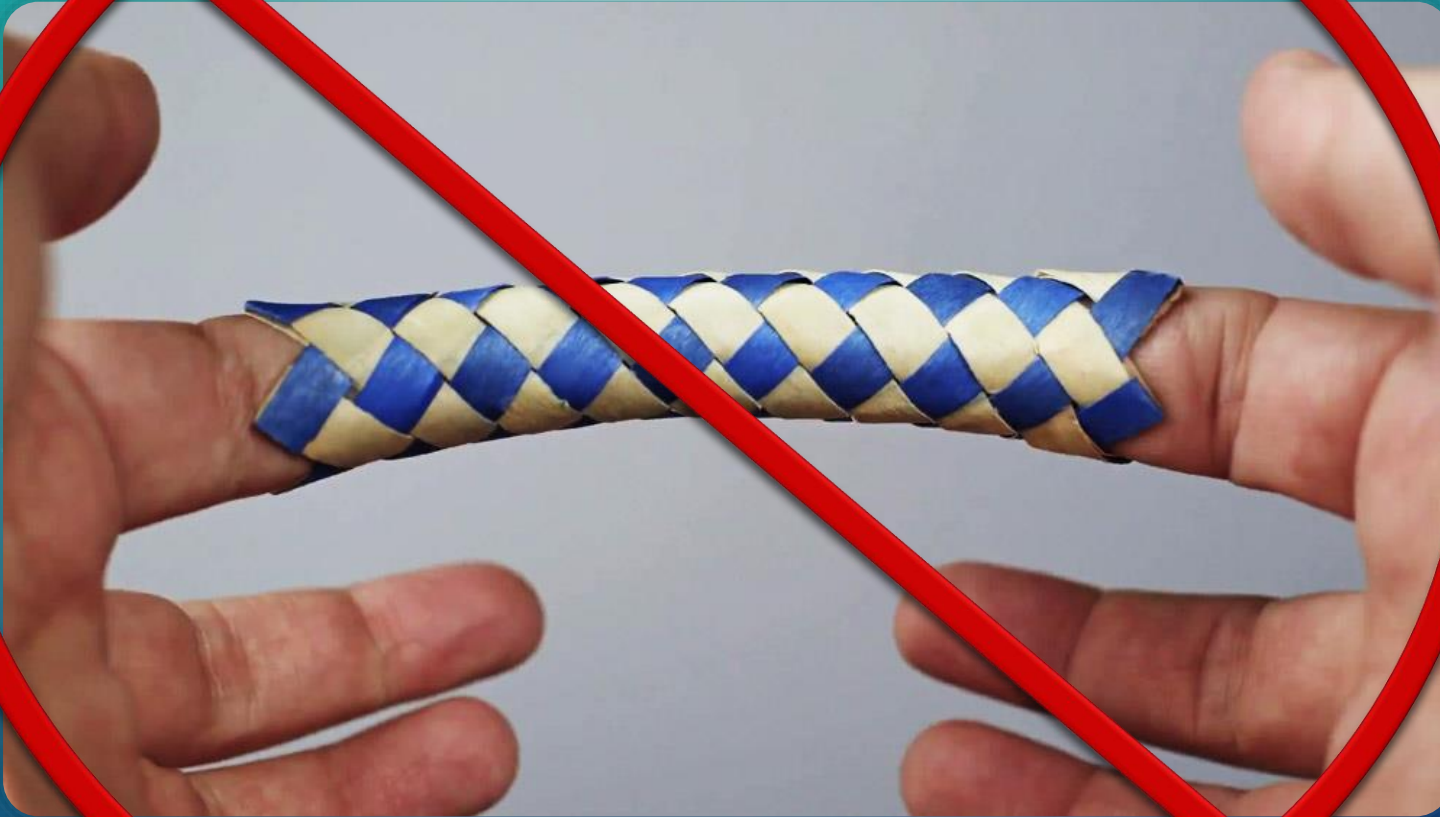


## MICROSERVICE STRONG BOUNDARY

- A service has an impermeable boundary that is difficult to violate. As a result, the modularity of the application is much easier to preserve over time.
- Microservices represent the business capabilities which is why the Analyst is key in helping to identify them.



# MICROSERVICES NOT TIGHTLY COUPLED



- A key characteristic of the microservice architecture is that the services are loosely coupled. Not highly dependent on the internals of each other.

# TALKING TO MICROSERVICES VIA APIS



- “Many companies are using microservices to encapsulate key capabilities within the organization in a way that is scalable and reliable. Microservices represent the important functional elements of your company’s IT. But that is just part of the story. You also need the ability to expose these capabilities in a way that makes it easy to solve current business challenges. And that is where APIs come in.”

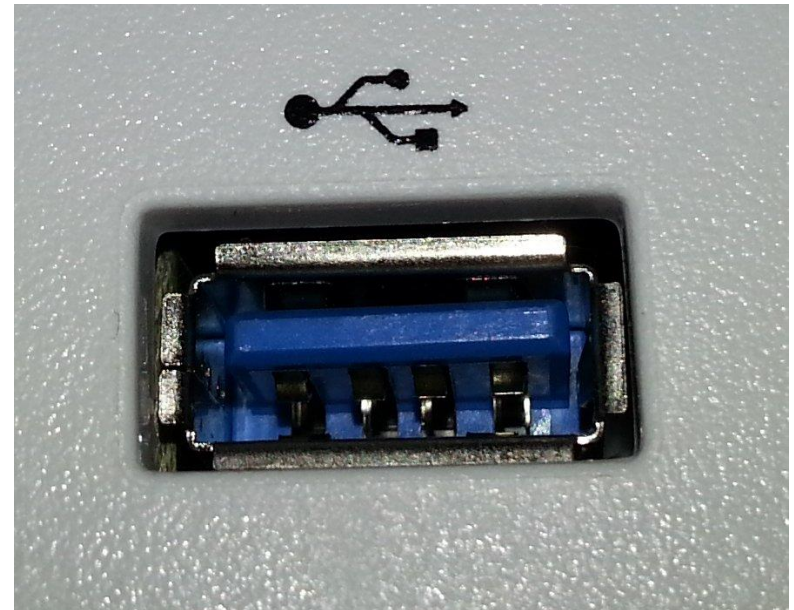
- - Mike Amundsen from “Microservices, APIs and Innovation: The Power of APIs”
- Source: <https://thenewstack.io/microservices-apis-and-innovation-the-power-of-apis/>





# WHAT IS AN API

APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE



## SO WHAT IS A AN API REALLY?

- Just a way to send information between applications
- Typically using HTTP and the message format is usually JSON

The text 'http://' is displayed in a white, sans-serif font on a dark blue rectangular background. The background is framed by a white border with a subtle drop shadow, giving it a 3D appearance. The background of the slide features faint, light blue circular patterns and a grid of small dots.The text '{JSON}' is displayed in a large, bold, blue font, with the opening and closing curly braces in a purple color. Below this, the text 'JavaScript Object Notation' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a white rectangular background with a subtle drop shadow. The background of the slide features faint, light blue circular patterns and a grid of small dots.

# XML VS JSON

## XML

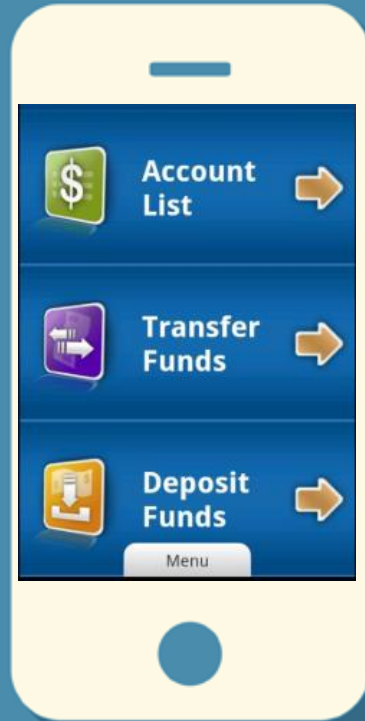
```
<empinfo>
  <employees>
    <employee>
      <name>James Kirk</name>
      <age>40</age>
    </employee>
    <employee>
      <name>Jean-Luc Picard</name>
      <age>45</age>
    </employee>
    <employee>
      <name>Wesley Crusher</name>
      <age>27</age>
    </employee>
  </employees>
</empinfo>
```

## JSON

```
{  "empinfo" :
  {
    "employees" : [
      {
        "name" : "James Kirk",
        "age" : 40,
      },
      {
        "name" : "Jean-Luc Picard",
        "age" : 45,
      },
      {
        "name" : "Wesley Crusher",
        "age" : 27,
      }
    ]
  }
}
```



# API'S IN ACTION



HTTP Request to  
[http://mybank.com/  
apis/accounts](http://mybank.com/apis/accounts)

Request to Get Accounts

A  
P  
I

Bank Account  
Microservice

```
{  
  "AccountList": [  
    {  
      "id": 123,  
      "name": "Checking",  
      "total": 1500.00  
    },  
    {  
      "id": 456,  
      "name": "Saving",  
      "total": 2989.68  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

API Definition is  
Crucial

How do we define this?

GET YOUR SWAGGER ON!



**SWAGGER**

OPEN  
{API}  
INITIATIVE



Specification backed  
Documentation  
For Your API

# EXAMPLE SWAGGER / OAS DOCUMENT

## Grocery Store API

1.0.0

### inventory Dealing with the inventory of the store

GET

/inventory/items get all inventory items

POST

/inventory/items Add a new item to the inventory

PUT

/inventory/items Update an existing item

### shopping Cart Shopping with our virtual shopping cart api.

POST

/shoppingcart/items Add a Item to the Shopping cart

GET

/shoppingcart/total Total of Items in Shopping cart

DELETE

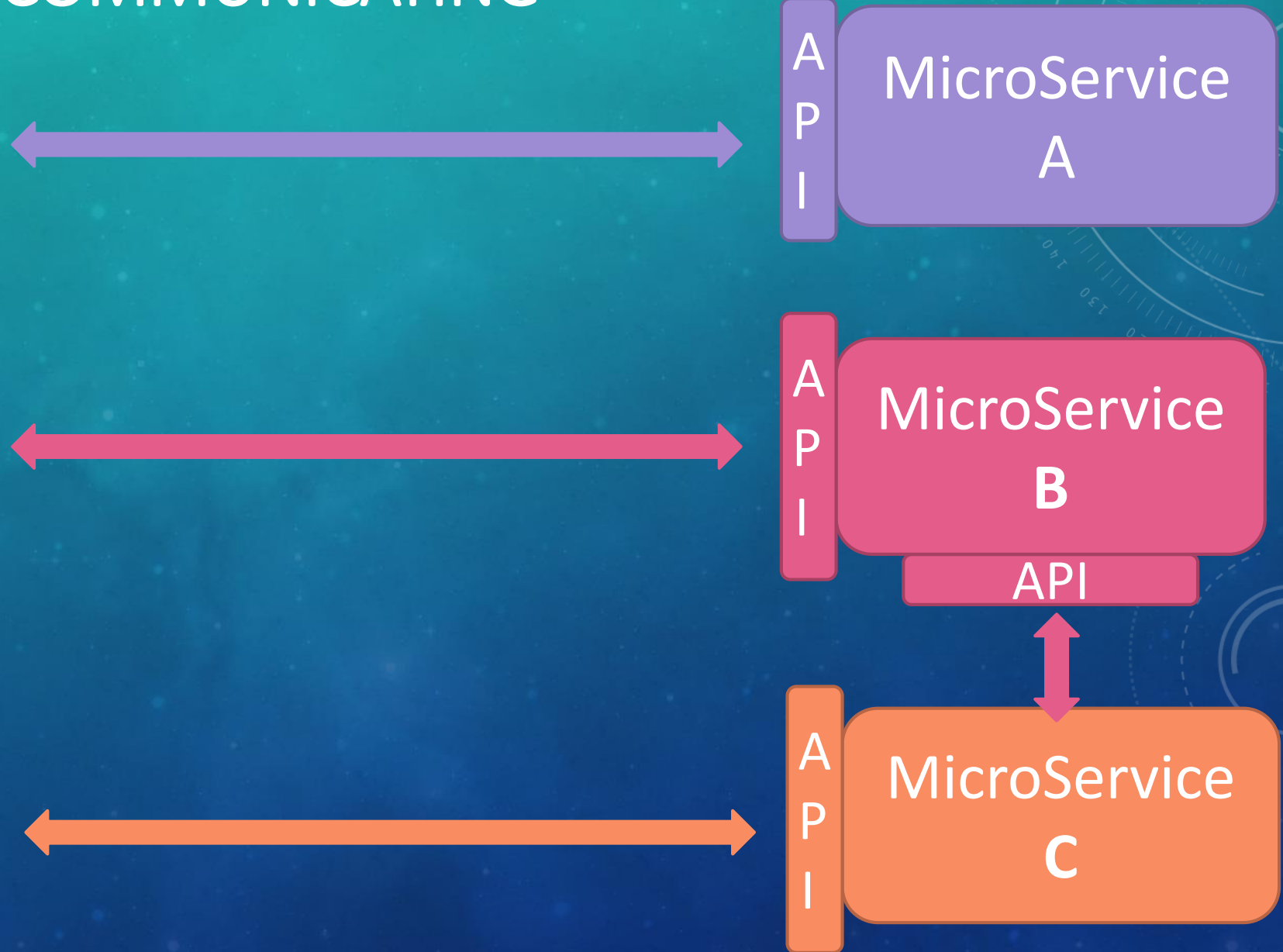
/shoppingcart/items/{itemName} Remove specified item from shopping cart



# MICROSERVICES COMMUNICATING



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## BREAKING IT DOWN?

- An architectural style that functionally decomposes an application into a set of services.
- What matters is that each service has a focused, cohesive set of responsibilities



©2013 Chari Pere [www.playinggrownups.com](http://www.playinggrownups.com)

BREAK IT DOWN



# BREAKING APART THE MONOLITH

## My Monolith Application

Business  
Capability ONE

Business  
Capability THREE

Business  
Capability TWO

Business  
Capability FOUR

Business  
Capability FIVE

# MONOLITH VS MICROSERVICE

MicroService  
A

MicroService  
B

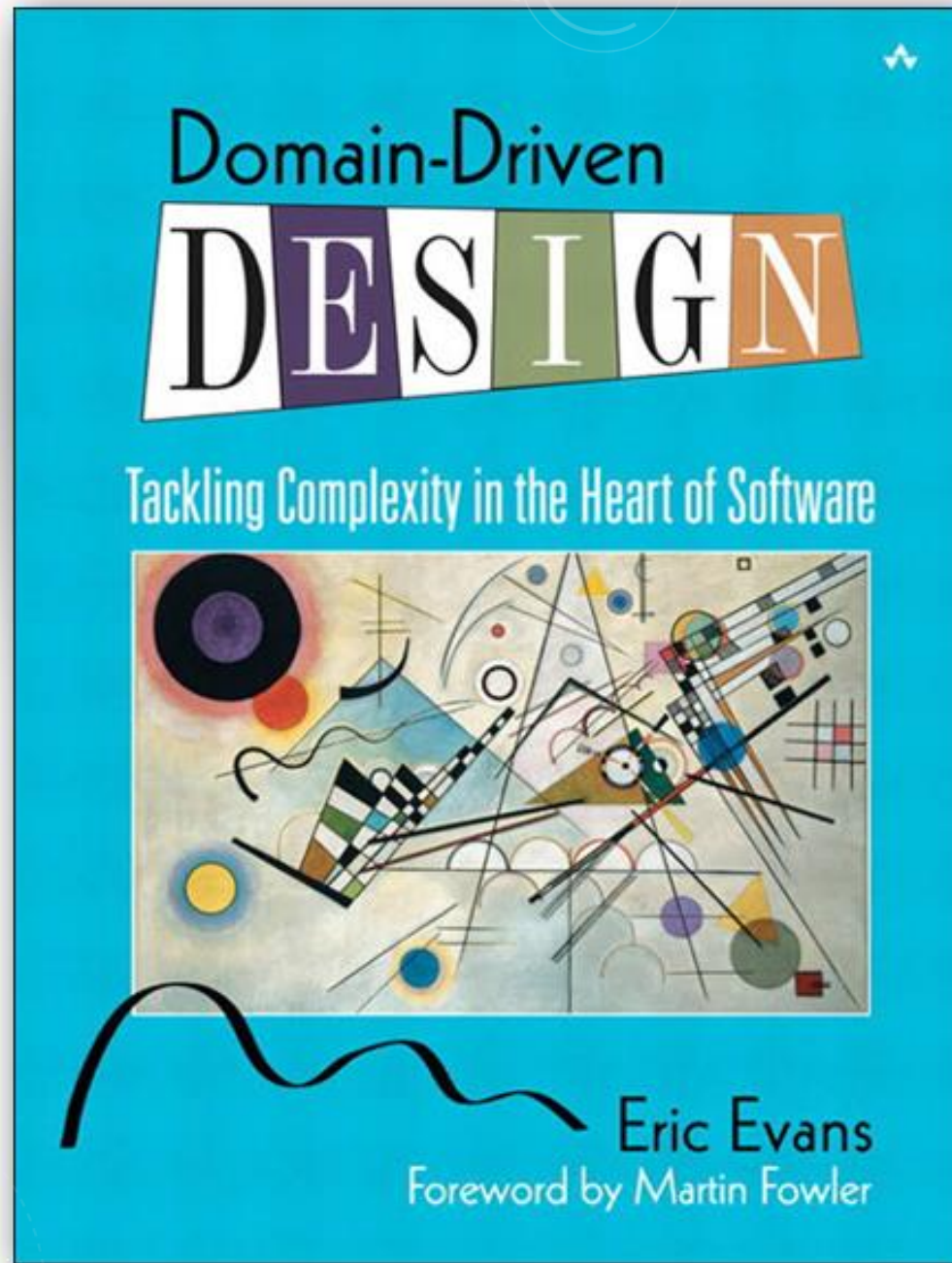
MicroService  
D

MicroService  
C

MicroService  
X

MicroService  
Y

MicroService  
Z



# HOW DO WE BREAK IT OUT?

LEARN FROM DOMAIN  
DRIVEN DESIGN



Domain Driven Design (DDD) is focused around the idea of solving business problems through software and ensuring the essential complexity of the problem is understood when building the solution

- DDD outputs a domain model that is used to break apart a business problem into its core components in order to build **software** oriented around the business solution
- DDD Key Tenets
  - Understanding the **Core Domain**
  - Properly Identifying **Sub Domains**
  - Using a **Ubiquitous Language**
  - Creating **Bounded Contexts**

# BREAKING INTO DOMAINS

The screenshot shows the Amazon.com homepage for a user named Barry. The browser's address bar displays the URL <https://www.amazon.com>. The page features a top navigation bar with the Amazon logo, a search bar, and various links. Below this, there's a section for "NEW & INTERESTING FINDS ON AMAZON" with an "EXPLORE" button. The main banner area promotes a Kindle E-reader trade-in offer, stating "Get up to \$40 toward a new Kindle E-reader" and "amazontrade-in". Below the banner, there are three personalized sections: "Hi, Barry" with a profile icon and "Top links for you", "Continue watching" with a video thumbnail, and "Recently viewed" with a product thumbnail. The footer contains a long URL.

Amazon.com: Online Sho X

Secure | <https://www.amazon.com>

Apps ★ Bookmarks RTC Google DE API Grails Atlantic BuildDeploy DevDocs - JavaScript Other bookmarks

NEW & INTERESTING FINDS ON AMAZON EXPLORE

amazon prime All Q

Deliver to Barry Waverly 45690 Departments Browsing History EN Hello, Barry Account & Lists Orders Prime Cart

Get up to \$40 toward a new Kindle E-reader

amazontrade-in

Based on average trade-in value. Trade-in amounts may vary.

CHAPTER 1

LATE SUMMER BREEZE wafted through the open kitchen window, making the twenty tiny flames upon Ceony's cake dance back and forth on their candlewicks. Ceony hadn't made the cake, of course, as one should never bake her own birthday cake, but her mother was a good cook and a better baker, so Ceony had no doubts that the confection, complete with pink cherry frosting and jelly filling, would be delicious.

But as her parents and three siblings sang her birthday wishes, Ceony's mind wandered from the dessert and the celebration at hand. Her thoughts

Hi, Barry

Top links for you

Continue watching

Recently viewed

[https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=gw\\_bb\\_erd\\_ti\\_eg?ie=UTF8&node=10825010011&pf\\_rd\\_p=a3599297-0ec1-4db2-9d61-cefebab0c919&pf\\_rd\\_r=C24GJJGNF8AYMR9BVD9](https://www.amazon.com/b/ref=gw_bb_erd_ti_eg?ie=UTF8&node=10825010011&pf_rd_p=a3599297-0ec1-4db2-9d61-cefebab0c919&pf_rd_r=C24GJJGNF8AYMR9BVD9)



# DOMAINS IN AMAZON





# EXISTING ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE CAN DEFINE DOMAINS

Customer Relationship  
Management

Customer Assistance

Policy Management

Billing And Collections

Claims Processing

Loan Management

# SUB DOMAINS IN SHOPPING SERVICE

Product Catalog  
Management

Order / Shopping  
Cart Management

Payment  
Processing

Delivery /  
Shipping services

Inventory  
Management



# IDENTIFYING SUB-DOMAINS INVOLVED IN PROBLEM

- The Business Domain Model starts by identifying the key Sub-Domain to be used as the anchor point defining the Problem space
- Through the course of exploring the problem, additional Sub-Domains will be identified as being involved in the Problem space
- These Sub-Domains are then added to the Domain Model to provide a comprehensive high-level view of the Problem space

**PL Policy Management**

**CL Policy Management**

**Life Policy Management**

**Finance Management**

**Billing &  
Collections**

**Customer Relationship  
Management**

**Channel & Distribution  
Partner Management**

**<Sub-Domain>**



# SUMMARIZING DOMAINS

## Business Domain ← - - - - - →

- The Domain is the world of the business being supported, their ideas, knowledge and information
- The Domain is the problem area being addressed
- A Domain can be decomposed into sub-domains which typically reflect the organizational structure

## Business Solution

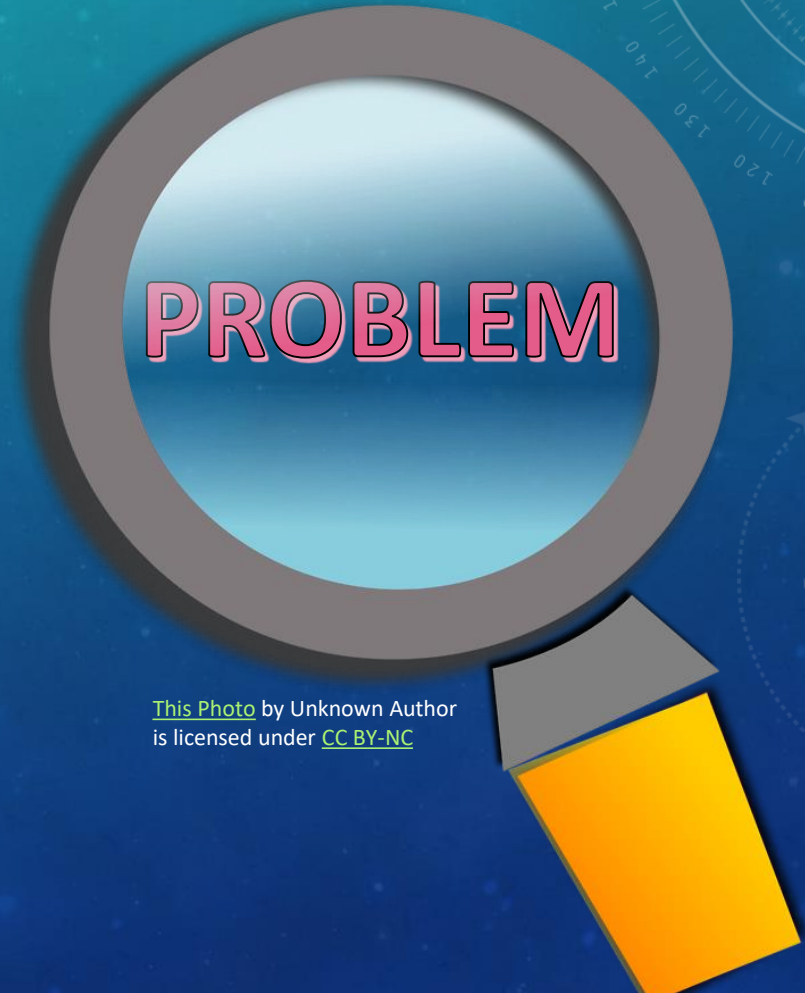
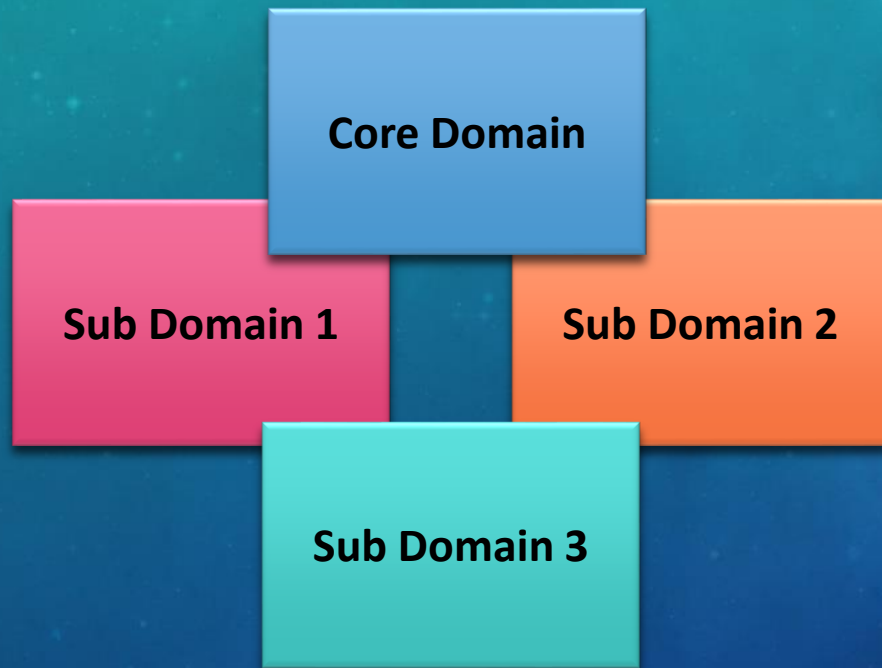
- The Model is an abstraction of the Domain articulating what is necessary to satisfy the requirements
- The Model is your solution to the problem
- The Model is a simplification of the bigger picture with the important aspects of the solution being concentrated on while ignoring everything else

BA's may not be directly responsible for building this domain model, but the information they gather will be critical in the proper creation of it.

...which design systems are constrained to  
...the designs which are copies of the communication  
...of these organizations."

*Way How Do Committees Invent? (1968)*

# Focus on what's important to solve the problem

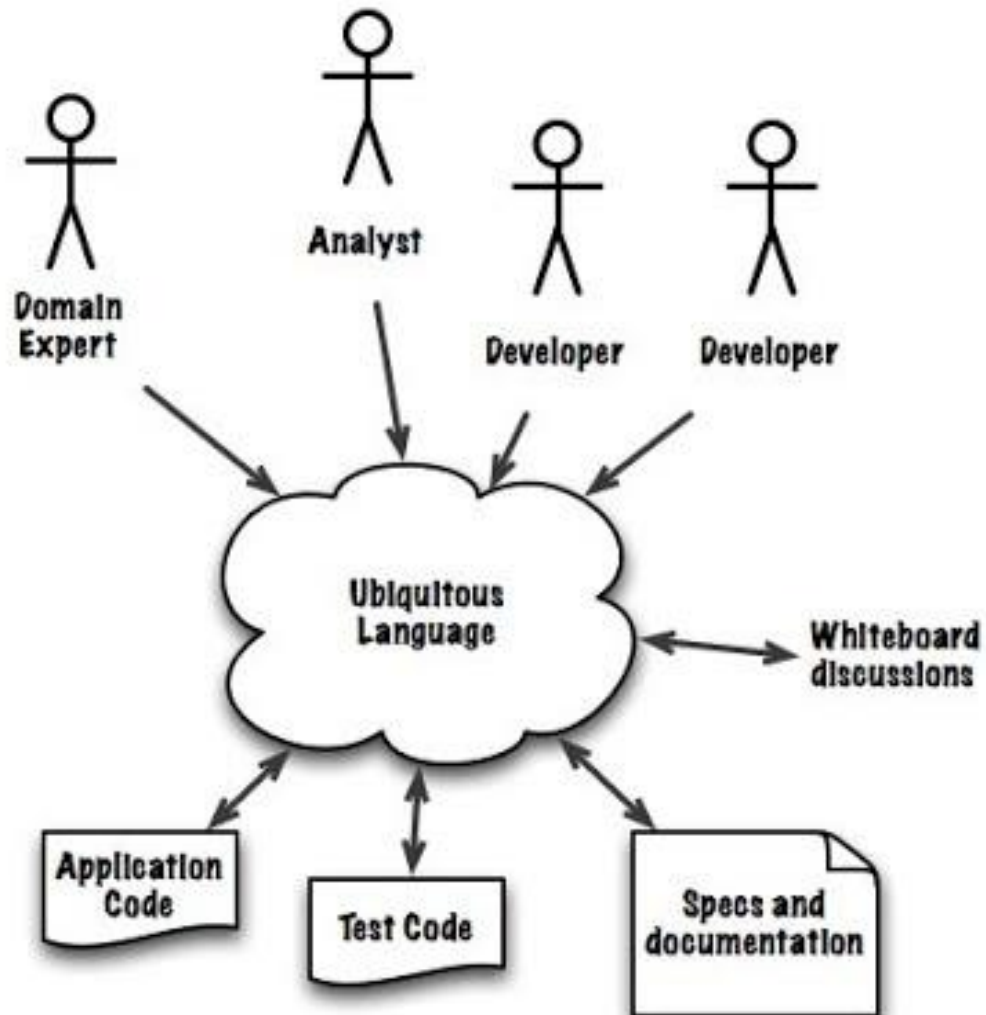


[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author  
is licensed under [CC BY-NC](#)

# Ubiquitous Language







# UBIQUITOUS LANGUAGE: SPEAKING CLEARLY

- The Business Domain experts, the Developers, and the Analyst all use the same language when discussing the domain.
- When someone says something about the domain, others should understand precisely what they mean
- Ex: A “Product” is referred to always as a “Product” within that Sub Domain. In discussions with the business as well as with the developers. Developers won’t call a “Product” an “Item” in the code or anywhere else, so that the communication is always clear and focused around the business problem.

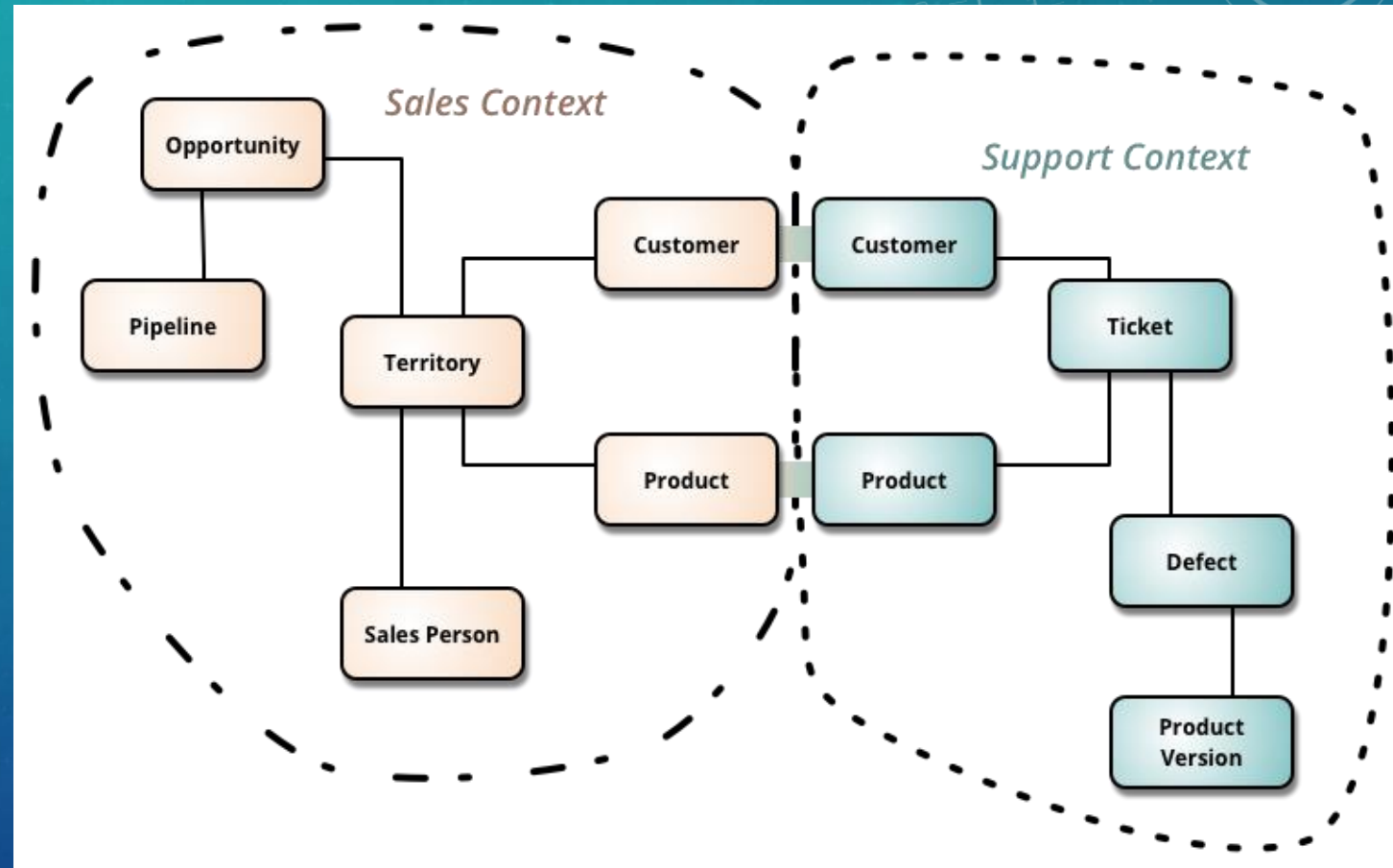
# BUSINESS ANALYSTS ARE KEY

- Identifying the Ubiquitous language within a sub domain helps identify the context.
- If you are using the same words for different things, you may have jumped contexts.
- The identification of terms within the Sub Domain help you identify the boundaries of different context or what we call “Bounded Context”.
- The Bounded Context is what architects and Developers can use to effectively model the solution.



# BOUNDED CONTEXTS HELP IDENTIFY BOUNDARIES AROUND CAPABILITIES

- As you try to model a larger domain, it gets progressively harder to build a single unified model. Different groups of people will use subtly different vocabularies in different parts of a large organization.
- A Bounded Context is the boundary around a model that uses a single context to define the language used for the design components
- Bounded Contexts have both unique concepts (such as a support ticket only existing in a customer support context) but also shared concepts (such as products and customers)
- Different contexts may have completely different models of shared concepts with mechanisms to map between these concepts for integration





- Monoliths hinder flexibility, speed to market, continuous delivery, and scalability.
- A well designed MicroServices approach can alleviate many of these problems.
- However, this requires a proper dissection of the Problem Domain into Sub Domains.
- This requires BA's to help define a Ubiquitous Language to help create a Bounded Context for the proper solution of the business problem.
- Whether you are dismantling an existing Monolith or trying to avoid building a new one, understanding Bounded Contexts are key.



**Adventure is out there!**

**The END... or is it the Beginning?**

