

An introduction to **Go** for **Python** developers
and the significance of **codebase diversity**



An introduction to **Go** for **Python** developers
and the significance of **codebase diversity**

About me



Electrical Engineering
Computer Science



since 2015
Build- and Infrastructure-
Automation Engineer
at **Demonware**



Drummer



Cook



Craft Beer Enthusiast



@__FrontSide__



@frontside



__Frontside__

The evolution of Python



The evolution of Python



1989



Start of Implementation

The evolution of Python



1989



Start of Implementation



Taylor Swift was born



The evolution of Python

1989



Start of Implementation

1991

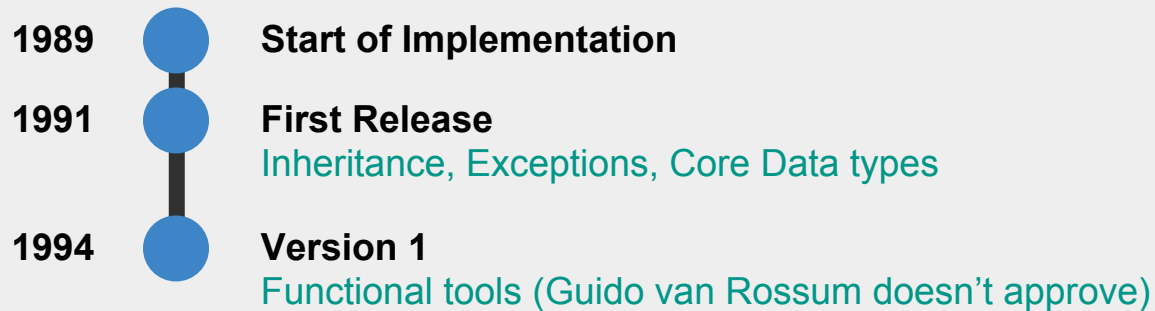


First Release

Inheritance, Exceptions, Core Data types

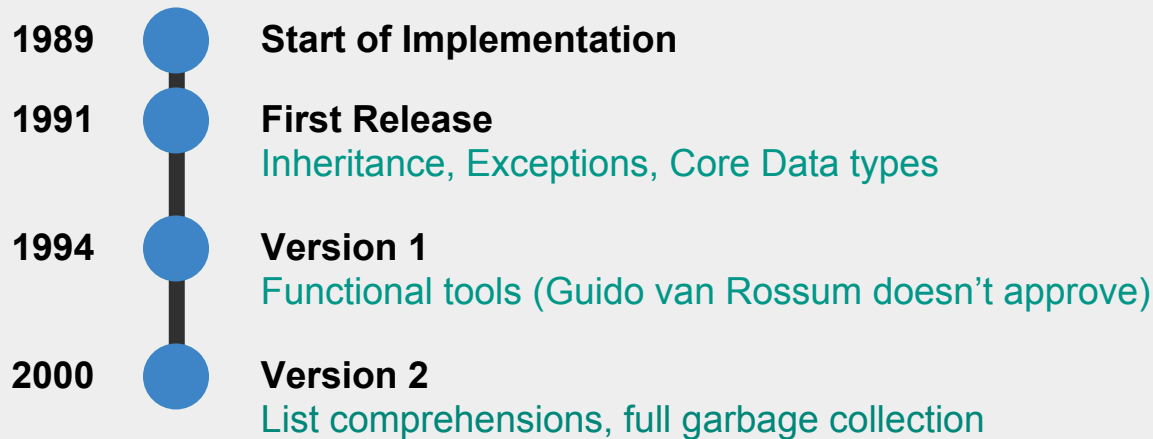


The evolution of Python



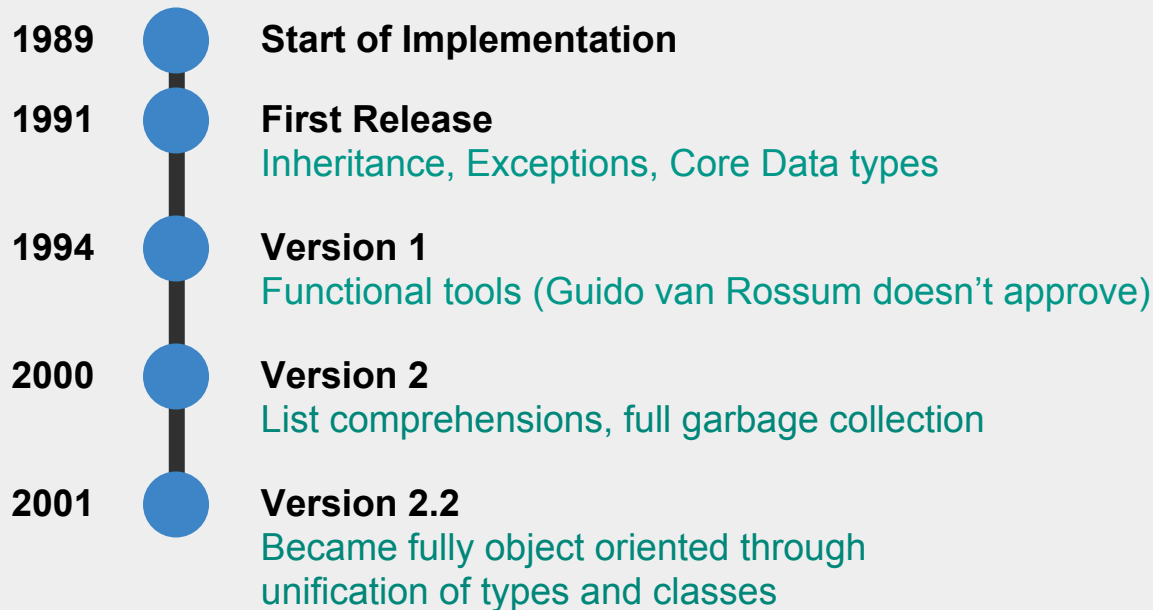


The evolution of Python



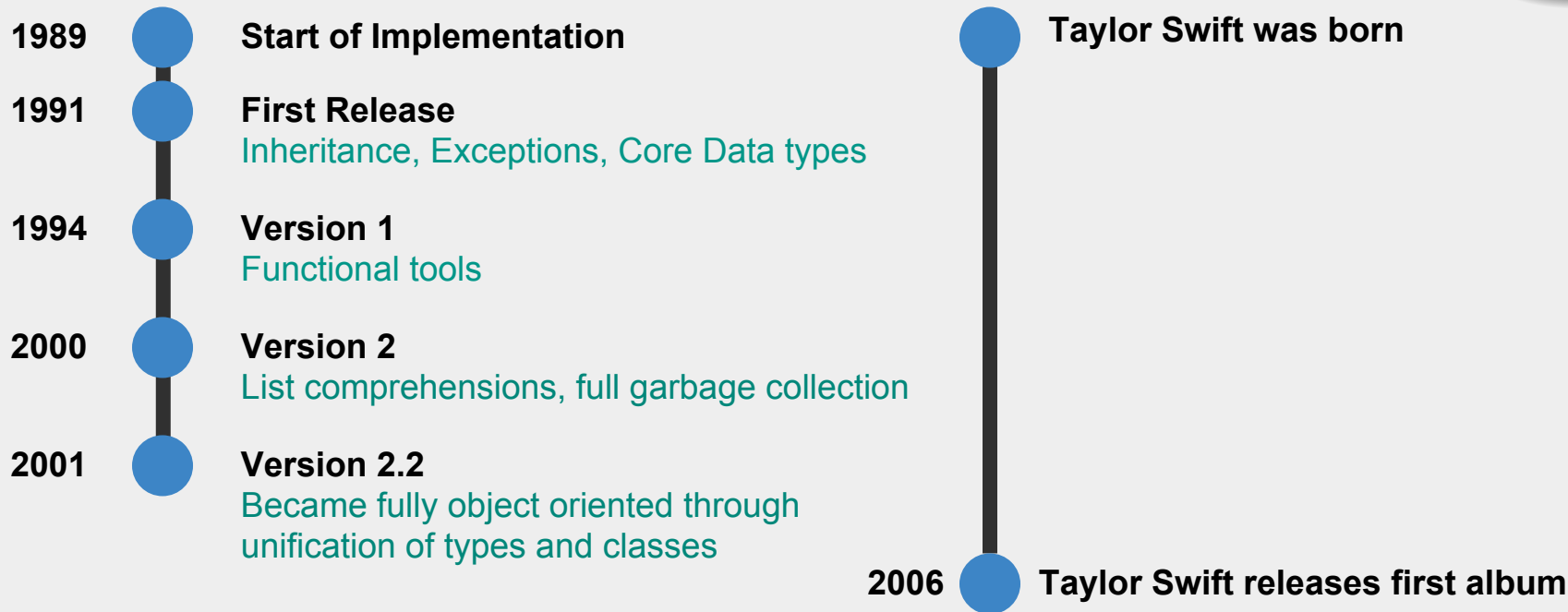


The evolution of Python



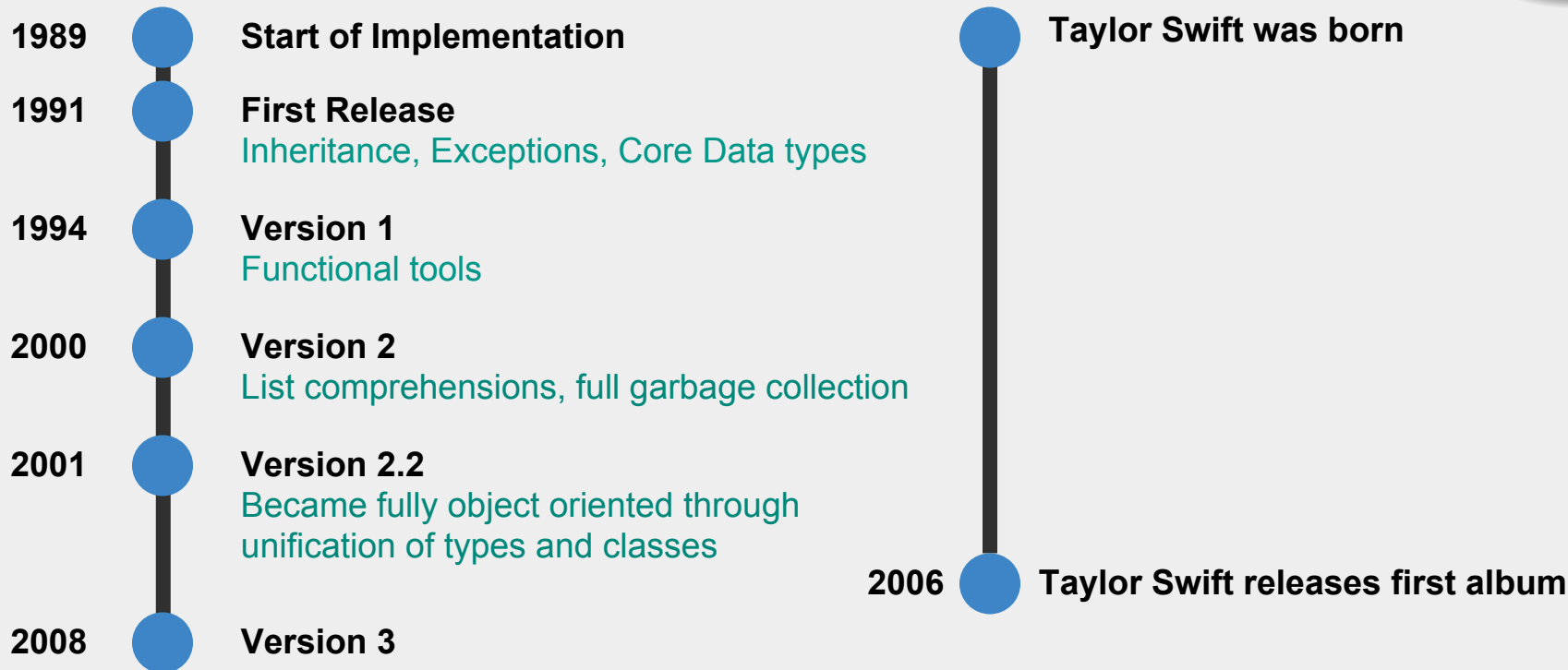


The evolution of Python

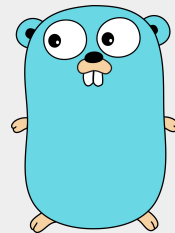




The evolution of Python



The evolution of Go



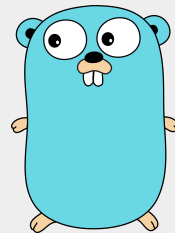
The evolution of Go

2009

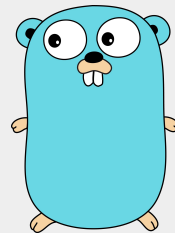


First public appearance

Used in some Google prod systems



The evolution of Go



2009



First public appearance

Used in some Google prod systems

2012



Version 1

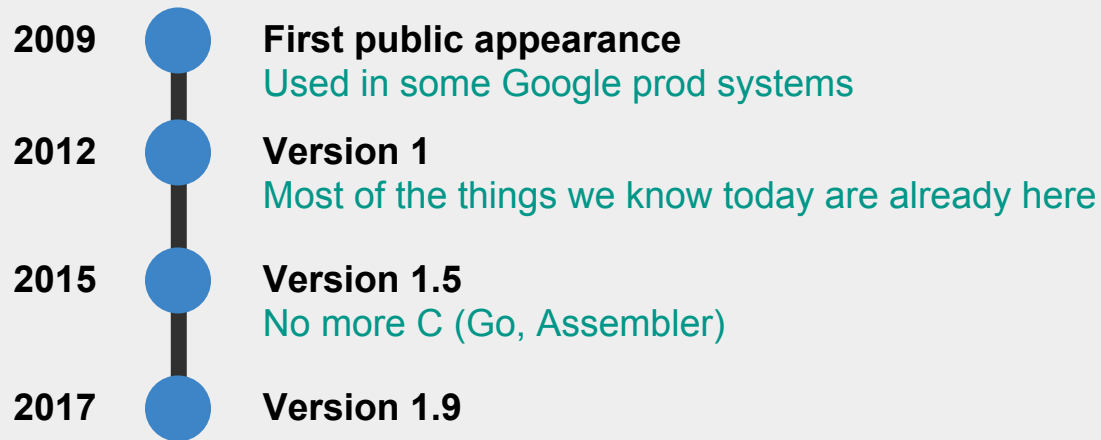
Most of the things we know today are already here

The evolution of Go



- 2009** ● **First public appearance**
Used in some Google prod systems
- 2012** ● **Version 1**
Most of the things we know today are already here
- 2015** ● **Version 1.5**
No more C (Go, Assembler)

The evolution of Go



Slide Style



Python

Shell



Go

Shell



Object-oriented
(amongst other paradigms)



**Concurrency-
Oriented**
(but offers tools to implement
object-oriented concepts)

Hello World

```
print("Hello World")
```

```
$ python3 hello.py  
Hello World
```

```
package main
```

```
import "fmt"
```

```
func main() {  
    fmt.Println("Hello World")  
}
```

```
$ go run hello.go  
Hello World
```

Compilation

- Compile into python bytecode
- Needs python interpreter
- Small files

```
$ python3 -m py_compile hello.py
```

```
$ ls
```

```
__pycache__      hello.py
```

```
$ ls -lh __pycache__/*
```

```
116B hello.cpython-36.pyc
```

Compilation

- Compile into python bytecode
- Needs python interpreter
- Small files

```
$ python3 -m py_compile hello.py
```

```
$ ls
__pycache__  hello.py
```

```
$ ls -lh __pycache__/*
116B hello.cpython-36.pyc
```

- Compile into machine code
- Large Binaries
- Build for target architecture

```
$ go build hello.go
```

```
$ ls -lh
72B  hello.go
1.6M hello
```

Compilation

- Compile into python bytecode
- Needs python interpreter
- Small files

```
$ python3 -m py_compile hello.py
```

```
$ ls
__pycache__      hello.py
```

```
$ ls -lh __pycache__/*
116B hello.cpython-36.pyc
```

- Compile into machine code
- Large Binaries
- Build for target architecture

```
$ go build hello.go
```

```
$ ls -lh
72B  hello.go
1.6M hello
```

Question: Why are go binaries so large?

Compilation

- Compile into python bytecode
- Needs python interpreter
- Small files

```
$ python3 -m py_compile hello.py
```

```
$ ls  
__pycache__      hello.py
```

```
$ ls -lh __pycache__/*  
116B hello.cpython-36.pyc
```

- Compile into machine code
- Large Binaries
- Build for target architecture

```
$ go build hello.go
```

```
$ ls -lh  
72B  hello.go  
1.6M hello
```

Question: Why are go binaries so large?

- Fully self-contained
- Includes runtime with garbage collector, reflection and other things
- Includes dependency code (here: fmt)

Manipulating an array

```
def increase(nums):  
    for idx in range(nums):  
        nums[idx] += 1
```

```
nums = [1, 2, 3]  
increase(nums)  
print(nums)
```

```
$ python3 array.py  
[2, 3, 4]
```

Manipulating an array

```
def increase(nums):  
    for idx in range(nums):  
        nums[idx] += 1
```

```
nums = [1, 2, 3]  
increase(nums)  
print(nums)
```

```
$ python3 array.py  
[2, 3, 4]
```

```
func Increase(nums []int) {  
    for id, n in := nums {  
        nums[id] = n + 1  
    }  
}
```

```
func main() {  
    nums := []int{1, 2, 3}  
    Increase(nums)  
    fmt.Println(nums)  
}
```

```
$ go run array.go  
[2 3 4]
```

Manipulating an array

```
func Increase(nums []int) {  
    for id, n in := nums {  
        nums[id] = n + 1  
    }  
}  
  
func main() {  
    nums := []int{1, 2, 3}  
    Increase(nums)  
    fmt.Println(nums)  
}
```

```
$ go run array.go  
[2 3 4]
```

```
func Increase(nums [3]int) {  
    for id, n in := nums {  
        nums[id] = n + 1  
    }  
}  
  
func main() {  
    nums := [3]int{1, 2, 3}  
    Increase(nums)  
    fmt.Println(nums)  
}
```

```
$ go run array.go  
[1 2 3]
```

Slice

`[]int{1, 2, 3}`
pass-by-reference
Extendable

Array

`[3]int{1, 2, 3}`
pass-by-value
fixed-size

Slice

`[]int{1, 2, 3}`
pass-by-reference
Extendable



Array

`[3]int{1, 2, 3}`
pass-by-value
fixed-size



Identifying semantic inconsistencies

```
def get_item_name(iid):  
    try:  
        return get_item_by_id(iid).name  
    except:  
        raise("No item with id %d" % iid)  
  
print(get_item_name(123))
```

```
func GetItemName(iid int) (int, error) {  
    item, err := getItemById(iid)  
  
    if err != nil {  
        fmt.Errorf("No item w. id %d", iid)  
        return "", err  
    }  
  
    return item.name, nil  
}  
  
func main() {  
    name, _ := GetItemName(123)  
    fmt.Println(name)  
}
```

Identifying semantic inconsistencies

```
def get_item_name(iid):  
    try:  
        return get_item_by_id(iid).name  
    except:  
        raise("No item with id %d" % iid)  
  
print(get_item_name(123))
```

```
$ python3 name.py  
Rashers
```

```
func GetItemName(iid int) (int, error) {  
    item, err := getItemById(iid)  
  
    if err != nil {  
        fmt.Errorf("No item w. id %d", iid)  
        return "", err  
    }  
  
    return item.name, nil  
}  
  
func main() {  
    name, _ := GetItemName(123)  
    fmt.Println(name)  
}
```

```
$ go run name.go  
./name.go:22: undefined: id
```


Identifying semantic inconsistencies

I have to work towards 100% code coverage to ensure semantic correctness of all flow paths.



I still need to write tests. But I can focus them on my business logic's semantic correctness.





“But we should always strive for high code coverage. So what’s the problem ?”

*“Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but **never** to show their absence!”*

- Edsger W. Dijkstra
Notes On Structured Programming

$$p(\textit{fly in room} \mid \textit{no evidence for fly in room}) > 0$$

Tests can show presence of bugs, and not their absence?

2010, Blog Post

tonyxzt.blogspot.ie/2010/01/tests-can-show-presence-of-bugs-not.html



Encapsulation

```
class Person:
    age = 41
    _ppsn = "1234567AB"

print(Person.age)
print(Person._ppsn)
```

```
$ python3 age.py
41
'1234567AB'
```

Official convention; doesn't actually do anything.

Encapsulation

```
class Person:
    age = 41
    __ppsn = "1234567AB"

print(Person.age)
print(Person.__ppsn)
```

```
$ python3 age.py
41
AttributeError: type object 'Person'
has no attribute '__ppsn'
```

Not the official convention for encapsulation,
but it works.

Encapsulation

```
class Person:

    age = 41
    __ppsn = "1234567AB"

print(Person.age)
print(Person.__ppsn)
```

```
$ python3 age.py
41
AttributeError: type object 'Person'
has no attribute '__ppsn'
```

Not the official convention for encapsulation,
but it works.

package **person**

```
type Person struct {
    Age int,
    ppsn string,
}
```

package **main**

```
func main() {

    p := Person{41, "12345678AB"}
    fmt.Println(p.Age)
    fmt.Println(p.ppsn)

}
```

```
$ go run age.go
.ppsn undefined (cannot refer to
unexported field or method ppsn)
```

Interfaces

```
interface Storage {  
    AddItem()  
}  
  
type MySQLStorage struct {}  
  
func (m MySQLStorage) AddItem() {  
    // algorithm to add Item to MySQL DB  
}
```

Structs implement interfaces implicitly if they implement all methods defined in the interface

Here: **MySQLStorage** implements **Storage**

Error handling

```
class NotOfAgeException(Exception):  
    pass
```

Every class inheriting from “Exception”
can be raised

Error handling

```
class NotOfAgeException(Exception):  
    pass
```

Every class inheriting from “Exception”
can be raised

builtin

```
type error interface {  
    Error() string  
}
```

Every struct with an Error() method is an
error type

package person

```
type NotOfAgeError struct {  
    msg string  
}  
  
func (e *NotOfAgeError) Error() string {  
    return e.msg  
}
```

Error handling

```
def add_to_cart(customer, product):  
  
    if product.restr_age > customer.age:  
        raise NotOfAgeException()  
  
    # ... add to cart logic ...
```

```
def main():  
  
    # ... some shopping logic ...  
  
    try:  
        add_to_cart(customer, product)  
    except NotOfAgeException:  
        # handle in some way  
    except OtherException:  
        # handle in a different way
```

Error handling

```
def add_to_cart(customer, product):  
  
    if product.restr_age > customer.age:  
        raise NotOfAgeException()  
  
    # ... add to cart logic ...
```

```
def main():  
  
    # ... some shopping logic ...  
  
    try:  
        add_to_cart(customer, product)  
    except NotOfAgeException:  
        # handle some way  
    except OtherException:  
        # handle in a different way
```

```
func AddToCart(c Custom, p Prod) error {  
  
    if p.restricted_age > c.age {  
        return NotOfAgeError{}  
    }  
  
    // ... add to cart logic ...  
  
    return nil  
}
```

```
func main() {  
  
    // ... some shopping logic ...  
  
    err := AddToCart(customer, product)  
  
    if e,ok := err.(*NotOfAgeError); ok {  
        // handle some way  
    }  
  
}
```

Concurrency

```
import threading

class Compute(threading.Thread):

    def __init__(self):
        threading.Thread.__init__(self)

    def run(self):
        // some algorithm

Compute().start()
Compute().start()
```

Concurrency

```
import threading
```

```
class Compute(threading.Thread):
```

```
    def __init__(self):  
        threading.Thread.__init__(self)
```

```
    def run(self):  
        // some algorithm
```

```
Compute().start()  
Compute().start()
```

```
func Compute() {  
    // some algorithm  
}  
  
func main() {  
    go Compute()  
    Compute()  
}
```

Cross-routine communication

```
func main() {  
  
    numberChannel := make(chan int)  
    go Producer(numberChannel)  
    Printer(numberChannel)  
  
}  
  
func Producer(ch chan int) {  
    for {  
        ch <- SlowAlgorithmToGetNumber()  
    }  
}  
  
func Printer(ch chan int) {  
    for {  
        Print(<-ch)  
    }  
}
```

Cross-routine communication

```
func main() {  
  
    numberChannel := make(chan int)  
    go Producer(numberChannel)  
    Printer(numberChannel)  
  
}  
  
func Producer(ch chan int) {  
    for {  
        ch <- SlowAlgorithmToGetNumber()  
    }  
}  
  
func Printer(ch chan int) {  
    for {  
        Print(<-ch)  
    }  
}
```

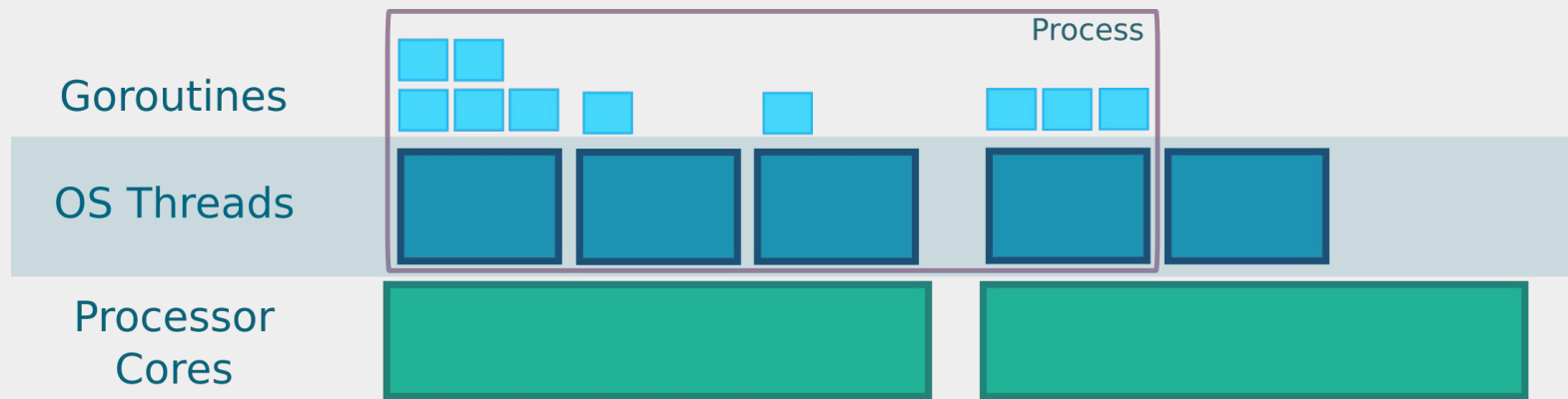
You do not need to worry about synchronization.

No explicit locking required.

Blocks if channel occupied

Blocks until value available

If `GOMAXPROCS > 1`
goroutines may be executed at the same
time i.e. in parallel



As of Go 1.5 `GOMAXPROCS` defaults to your
machine's number of processor cores

*“Parallelism is not the goal of concurrency.
Concurrency’s goal is structure.”*

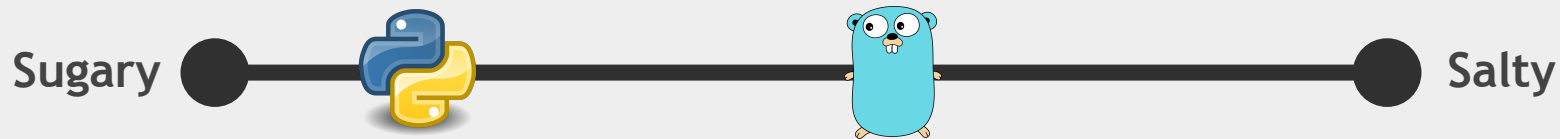
- Rob Pike

2013, Concurrency is not parallelism

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cN_DpYBzKso



Syntactic Flavour



Syntactic Salt

Enforced indentation

```
if 1 > 2:  
    print("Wat?")
```

```
$ python3 indentation.py  
IndentationError: expected an  
indented block
```

Enforced use of imports and variables

```
package main  
  
import "fmt"  
  
func main() {  
  
    a := 1  
  
}
```

```
$ go run unused.go  
Imported and not used: "fmt"
```

Syntactic Salt

Enforced indentation

```
if 1 > 2:  
    print("Wat?")
```

```
$ python3 indentation.py  
IndentationError: expected an  
indented block
```

Enforced use of imports and variables

```
package main  
  
func main() {  
  
    a := 1  
  
}
```

```
$ go run unused.go  
a declared and not used
```

Formatting

PEP 8

- spaces
- 79 chars per line
- CamelCase for Classes
- snake_case for functions
- etc ...

go fmt

- tabs
- no max. line length
- CamelCase everywhere
- etc ...

Non negotiable (if used)

Tabs vs Spaces:
It's not up to you

Dependency Management

pypi repository; e.g.

```
$ pip install docker
```

```
import docker
```

No pypi equivalent

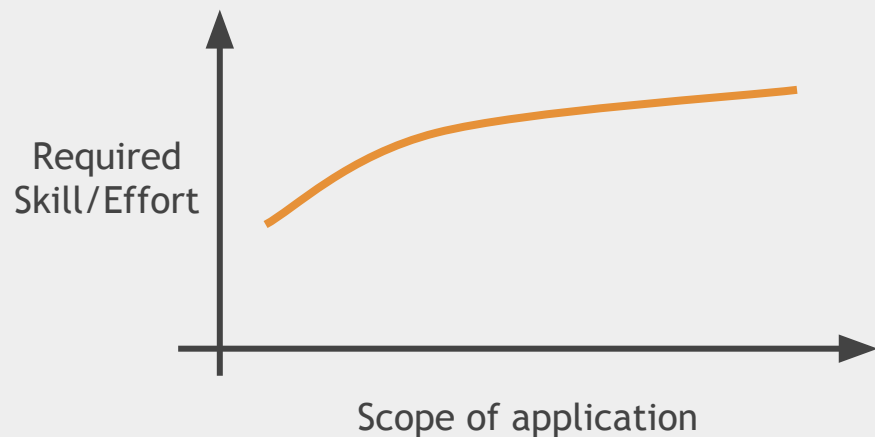
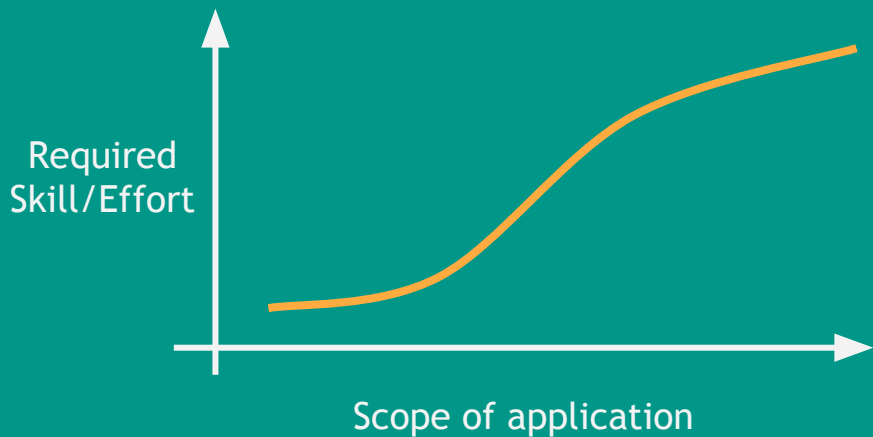
By default go pulls dependencies from the tip of the repository's master branch

e.g.

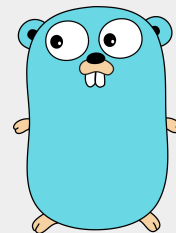
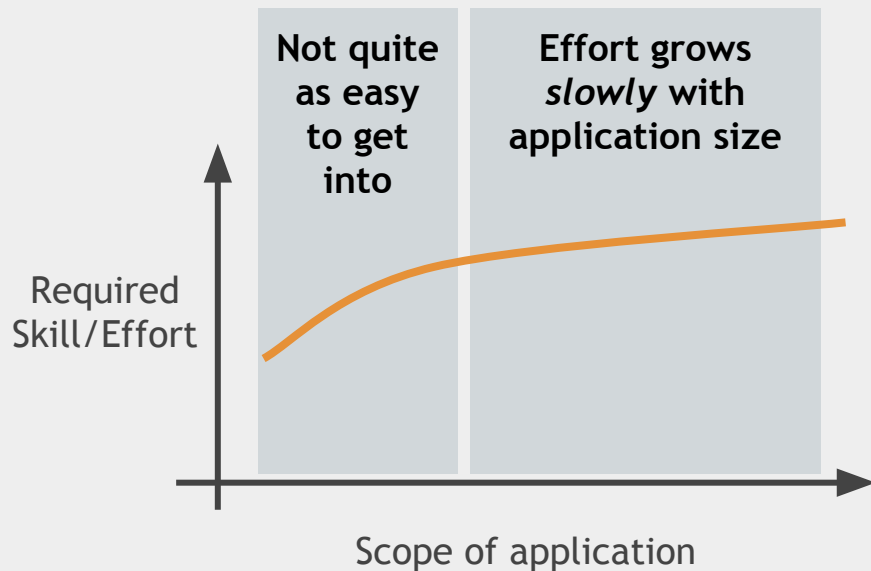
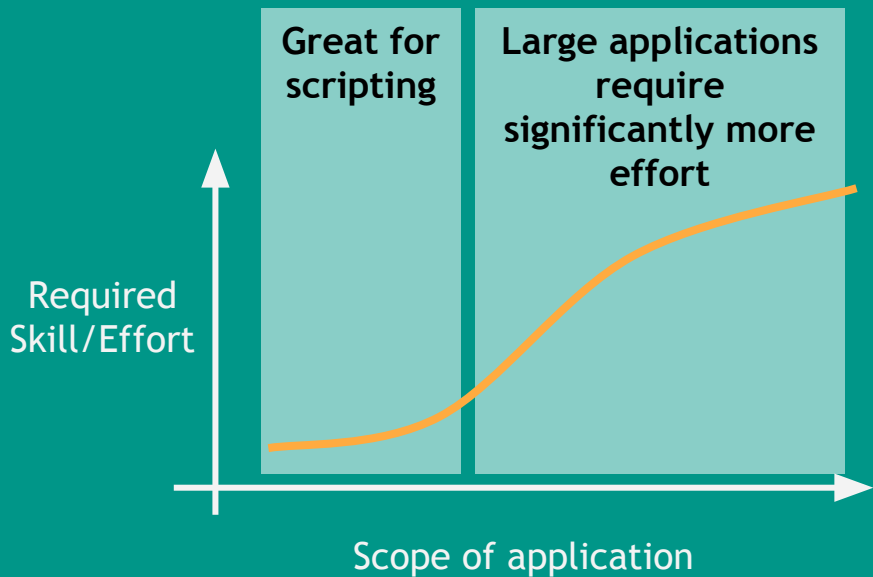
```
$ go get
```

```
import "github.com/moby/moby/client"
```

Effort = $f(\text{Scope})$
from my experience



Effort = f(Scope)



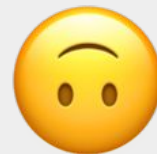


“Ok great, but why bother learning a new language?”



“Ok great, but why bother learning a new language?”

“Because, Science!”



“Both theory and observation indicate that genetic heterogeneity [amongst crop] provides greater disease suppression...”

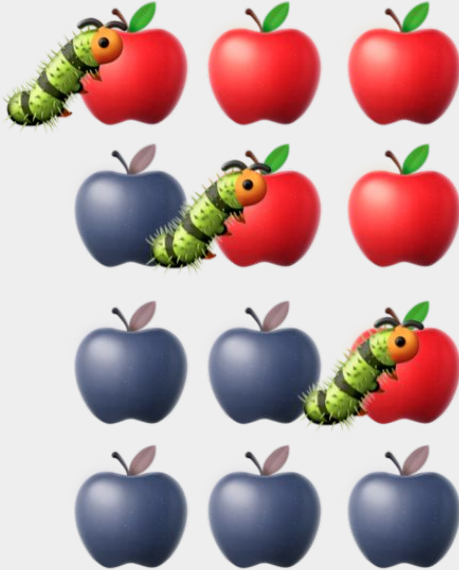
Genetic diversity and disease control in rice

2000, Academic Article in Nature Science Journal

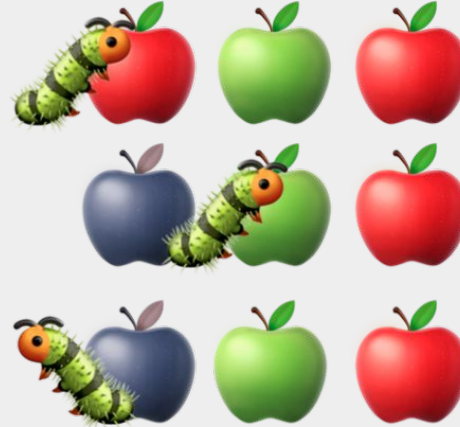
<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v406/n6797/abs/406718a0.html>



Monoculture



Polyculture



Using the same language everywhere leads to repeating the same mistakes.

A bad coding practice can easily spread across all your applications.



OPINION



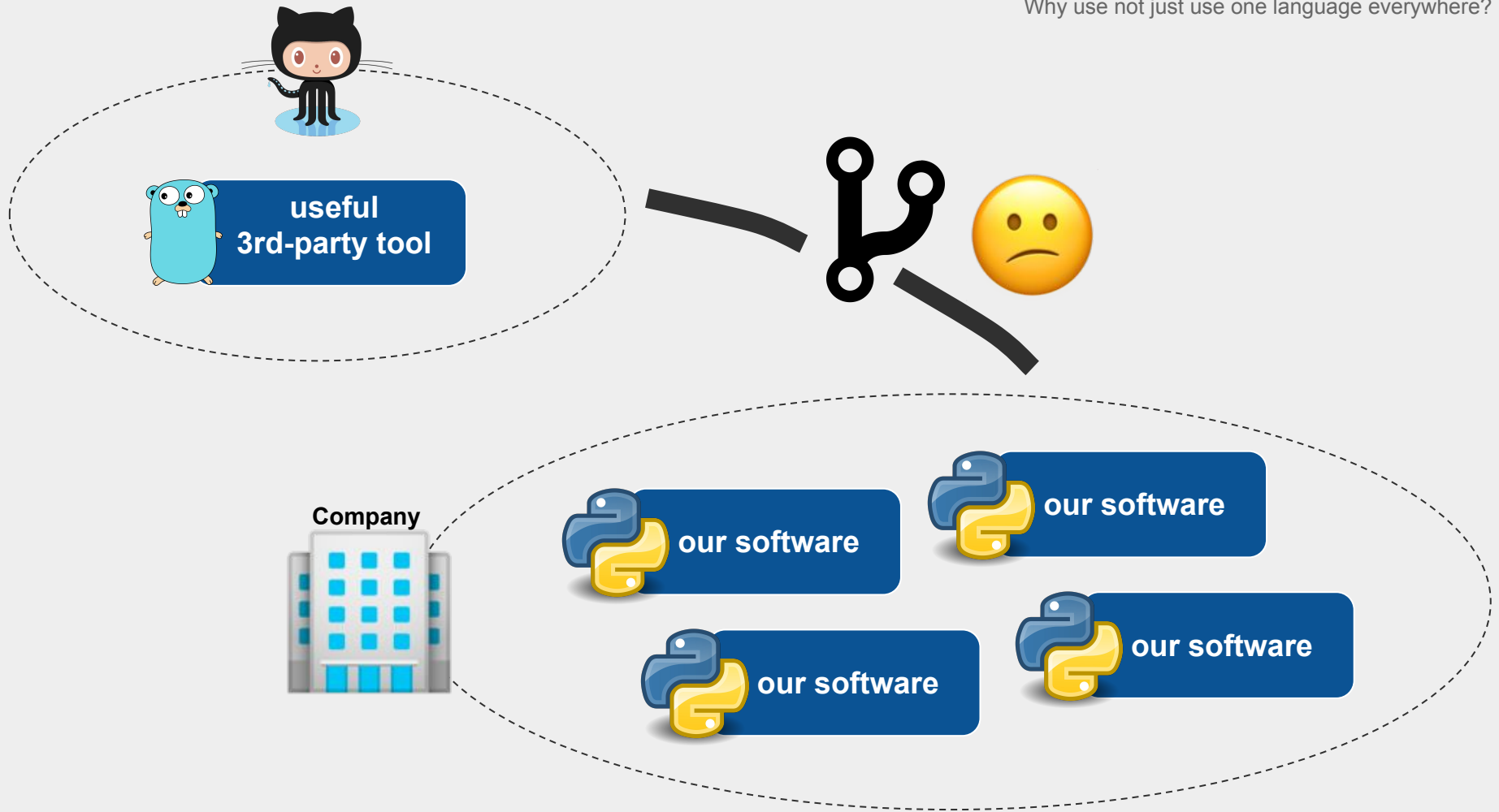
“What if this isn’t true?”



“What if this isn’t true?”

*“Then there are plenty of
other reasons”*

Why use not just use one language everywhere?



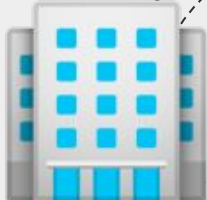
Why use not just use one language everywhere?



useful
3rd-party tool



Company



our software



our software

JS



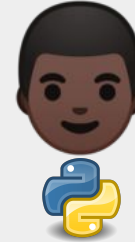
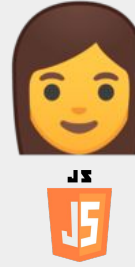
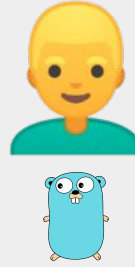
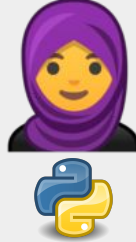
our software



our software

Why use not just use one language everywhere?

Employee Market



Company



our software



our software



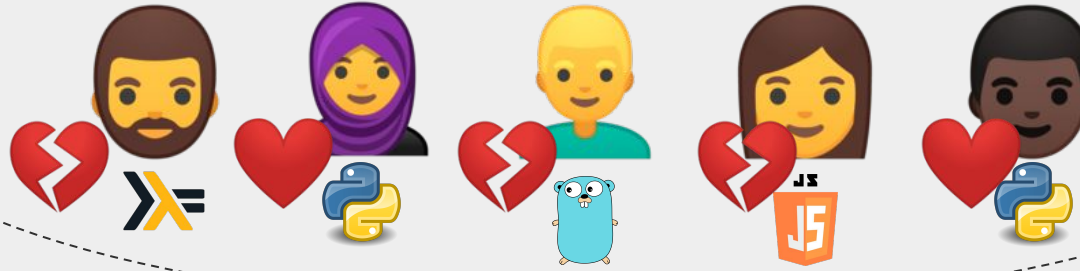
our software



our software

Why use not just use one language everywhere?

Employee Market

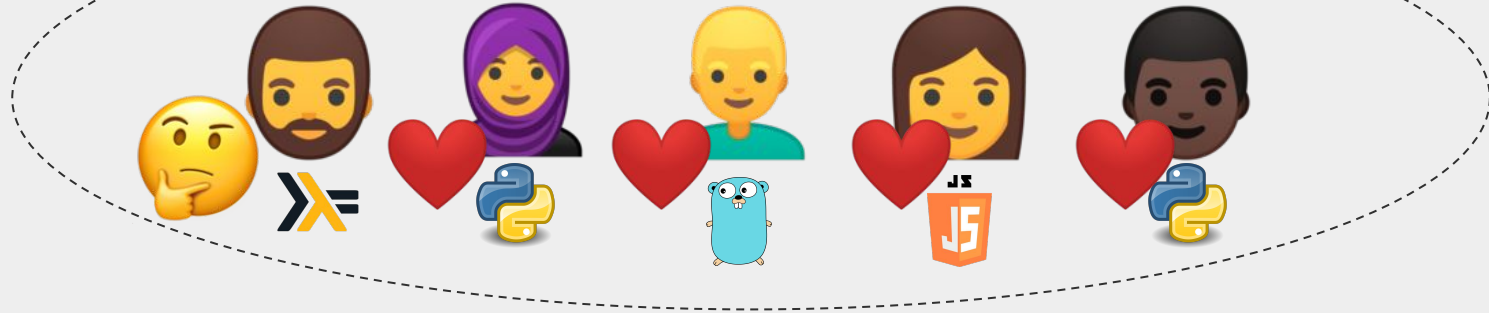


Company



Why use not just use one language everywhere?

Employee Market



Company



Perspective



*New challenges
for employees
and the company*



Drives innovation

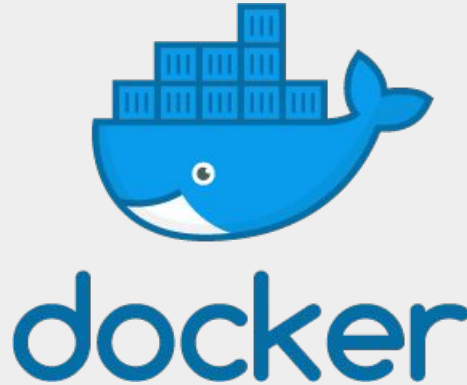
*It all comes down to
using the right tools*



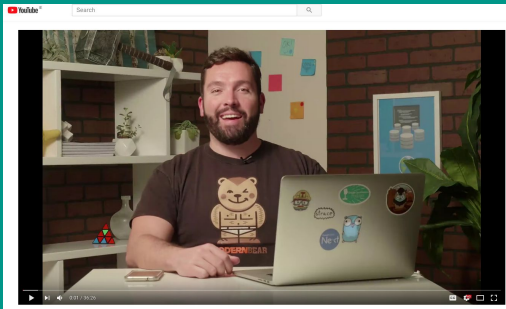


*“Each language may require
different environments.
This makes deployment harder.”*

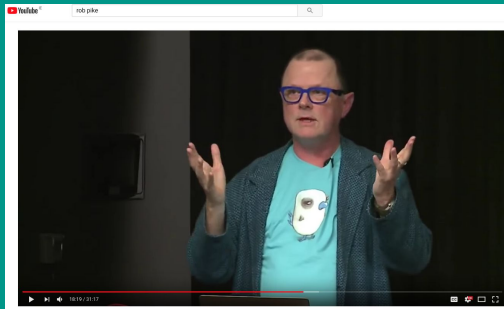
Containers provide an abstraction layer and help with deployment



More...



Francisc Campoy
Just for func



Rob Pike
Talk on **Concurrency** and
others



Hahicorp
Talks and Code

