

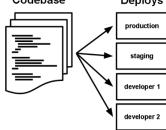
12-Factor Applications

• Methodology for SaaS applications

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Factor 1: Codebase

- Have one codebase tracked in revision control, many deploys
 Codebase
 Deploys
 - One repo for all code
 - Multiple deploys (instances, environments)
 - IncludesInfrastructure as Code (IaC)



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Factor 2: Dependencies

- Explicitly declare and isolate dependencies
 - 3rd party libraries (Maven)
 - Runtime, operating system (Docker)
 - Don't use Docker "latest" tag
- Reproducibility
- Compatibility

Factor 3: Config

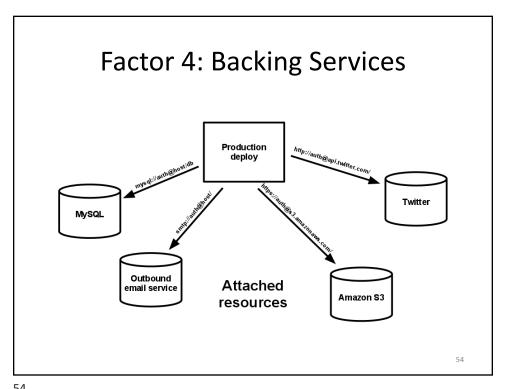
- Store config in the environment
 - Application configuration (databases, credentials, external systems)
 - Specify outside source code
 - "Environment configs" considered harmful
 - Ex: Kubernetes config maps
 - Secret storage for sensitive (passwords, keys)

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Factor 4: Backing Services

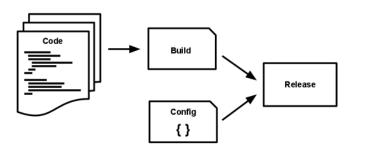
- Treat backing services as attached resources
 - Databases, external systems
 - Attached to app in loosely coupled way
 - Ex: HTTP, JDBC
 - JAX-RS, JPA: App couples to its contract



J4

Factor 5: Build, Release, Run

- Strictly separate build, deploy and run stages
 - Deployment combines binaries and config
 - Orchestrate stages in Continuous Integration
 Server



Factor 6: Processes

- Execute the app as one or more stateless processes
 - Store state in attached resource (database)
 - Avoid session state in server
 - Docker copy-on-write file system
 - Stateless session beans

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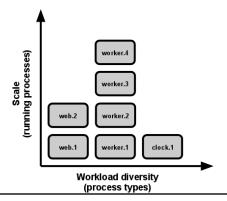
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Factor 7: Port binding

- Export services via port binding
 - Least coupling
 - Ex: Jetty Web server in Java app

Factor 8: Concurrency

- Scale out via the process model
 - Horizontal rather than vertical scaling
 - Self-contained *share-nothing* processes



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Factor 9: Disposability

- Maximize robustness with fast startup and graceful shutdown
 - Fast startup for scalability
 - Graceful shutdown (Unix signals)
 @ApplicationScoped
 public class CoffeePurchaser {
 private Client client;
 ...
 @PreDestroy
 public void closeClient() {
 client.close();
 }
 }

Factor 10: Dev/Prod Parity

- Keep development, staging, and production as similar as possible
 - Development workstations vs server clusters
 - Development team vs production team
 - Containers, orchestration frameworks for uniform environments
 - Continuous Delivery (min time to production) to remove differences between teams
 - DevOps

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Factor 10: Dev/Prod Parity

Traditional app Twelve-factor app

 Time between deploys
 Weeks
 Hours

 Code authors vs code deployers
 Different people
 Same people

Dev vs production environments Divergent As similar as possible

Factor 11: Logs

- Treat Logs as Event Streams
 - Useful for app monitoring
 - Write to output (avoid logging dependencies)

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Factor 12: Admin Processes

- Run admin/management tasks as one-off processes
 - Debugging, trouble-shooting
 - Containers: can open remote shell into container

Cloud Native

- Includes 12-Factor
- Provide scalable, stateless, resilient apps manageable in orchestration framework
- Additional aspects:
 - Telemetry (monitoring application health)
 - Health checks
 - Log event streams
 - API Security
 - Authenticate to other services

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