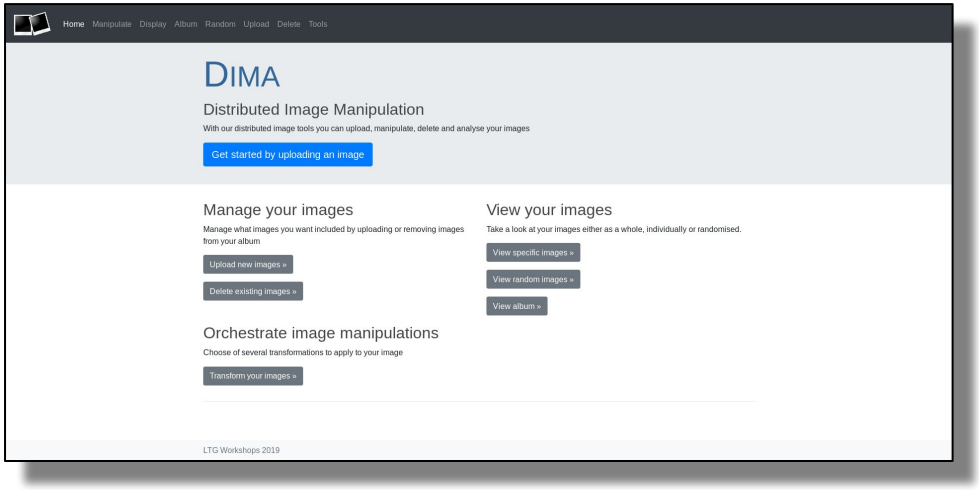
Observability to Understand your Distributed Systems

With Abby Bangser and Jon Barber
Supported by Benny Hofmann
and Ben Kelly

Welcome

- Join https://tlk.io/ltg-o11y
- Open DIMA website from link in chat (http://18.130.35.48)
- Upload an image you think represents yourself
- Paste the name of the image into the chat



Say hello! 

What are your goals for today?

What fears do you have for today? 

Our day today

Goal:

To introduce the current monitoring tools and how to leverage them to explore a distributed environment

Takeaways:

- ➔ Experience with 3 different types of telemetry data
- ➔ Understanding "normal" for an application
- ➔ Differentiate between monitoring and observability

- ☑ Welcome
- ❑ Understanding our business domain
- ❑ Identifying questions and risks we have
- ❑ Learning and differentiating types telemetry
- ❑ Answering questions with:
  - ❑ Metrics
  - ❑ Logs
  - ❑ Traces
- ❑ Answering questions across all telemetry types
- ❑ Dreaming up a better way…
- ❑ Wrap up and retro

Understanding our domain

Create a model of the application which can help you design tests and identify risks

Sharing your domain models

As you share, let’s collect and group all the questions and risks that we have about the system

How can we investigate these questions?

How about
without executing
UI or API test cases?

Our day today

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Coffee break

Three common data types...

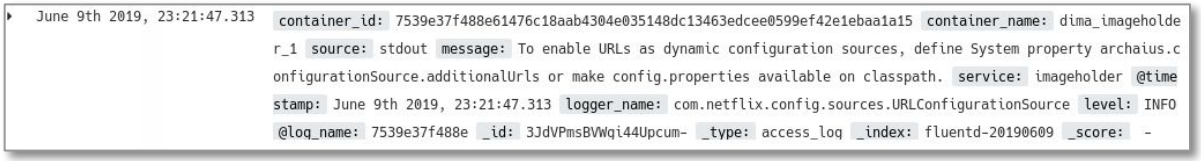
Logs

Metrics

Traces

Three common data types...

Logs

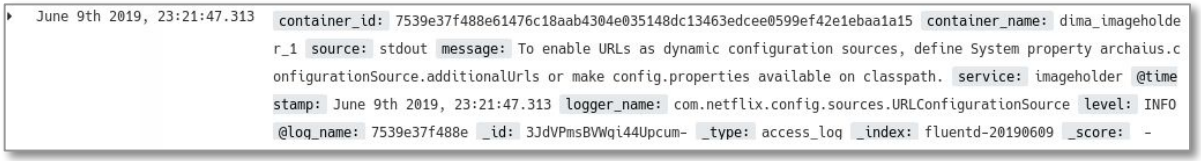


Metrics

Traces

Three common data types...

Logs: An immutable, timestamped record of discrete events that happened.



Metrics

Traces

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Metrics

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# TYPE application_images_uploaded_total counter
application_images_uploaded_total{type="image/png",} 371.0
application_images_uploaded_total{type="image/jpeg",} 162.0
application_images_uploaded_total{type="image/tiff",} 333.0
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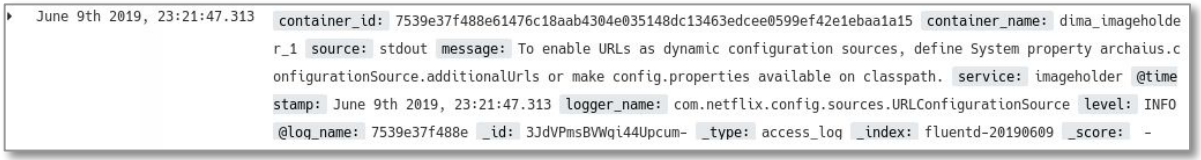

Metrics: a numeric representation of data measured over time as either a counter or a gauge (point in time value)

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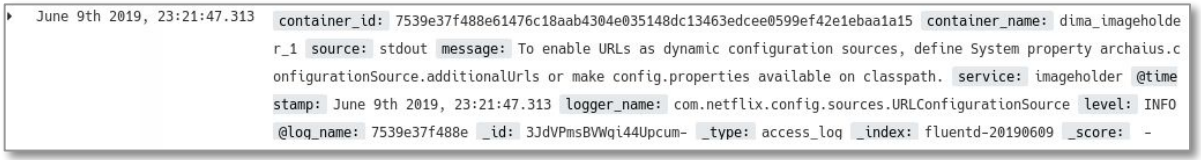

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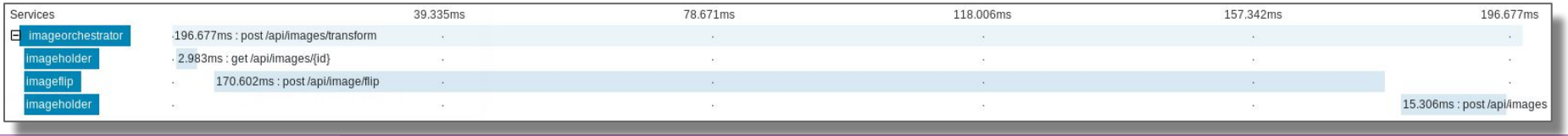

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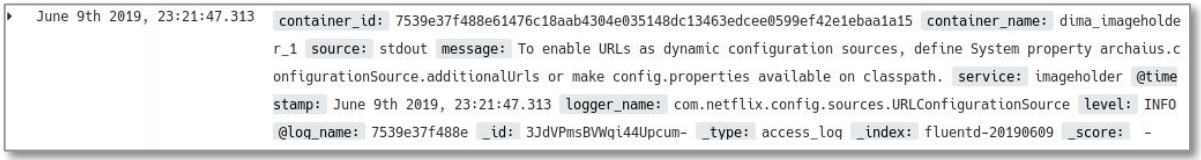

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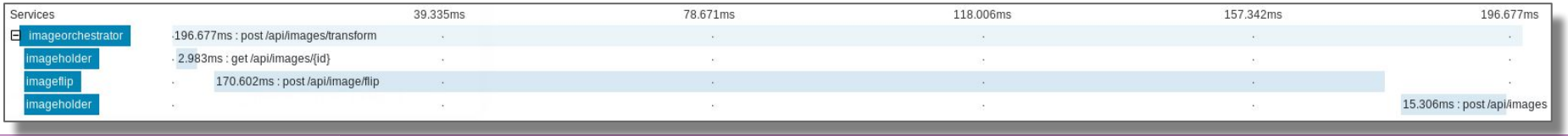
```

Traces: a representation of a series events that describe the end-to-end request



Let’s revisit our risks
and group them by the
best data type to explore with

Answer a **metrics** based question by using **Prometheus**:

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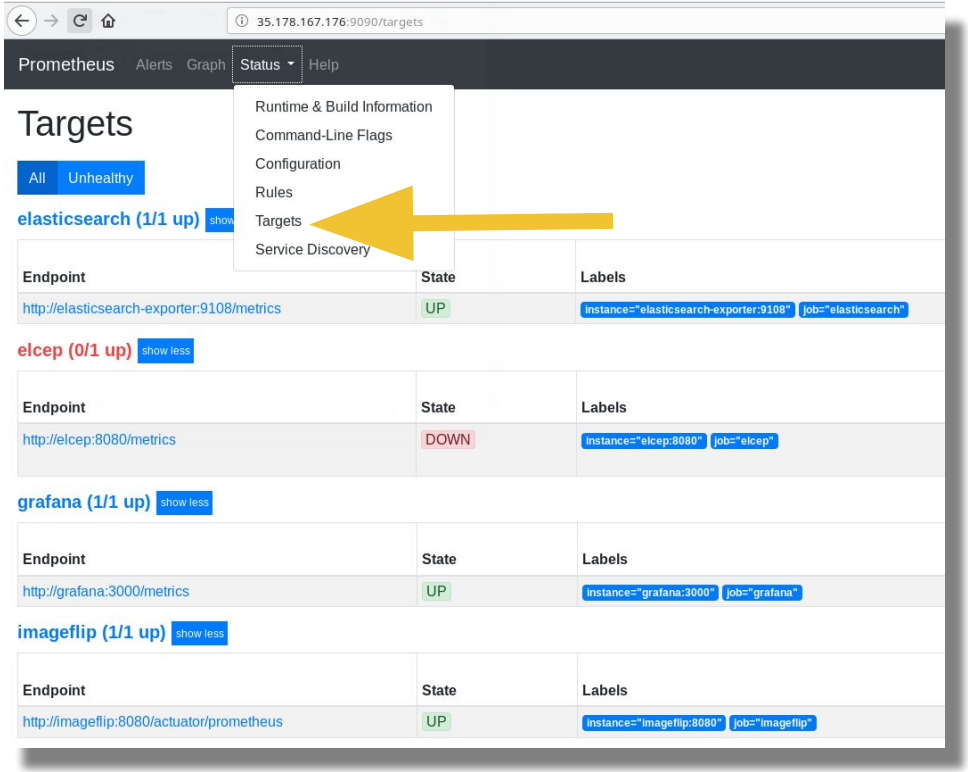
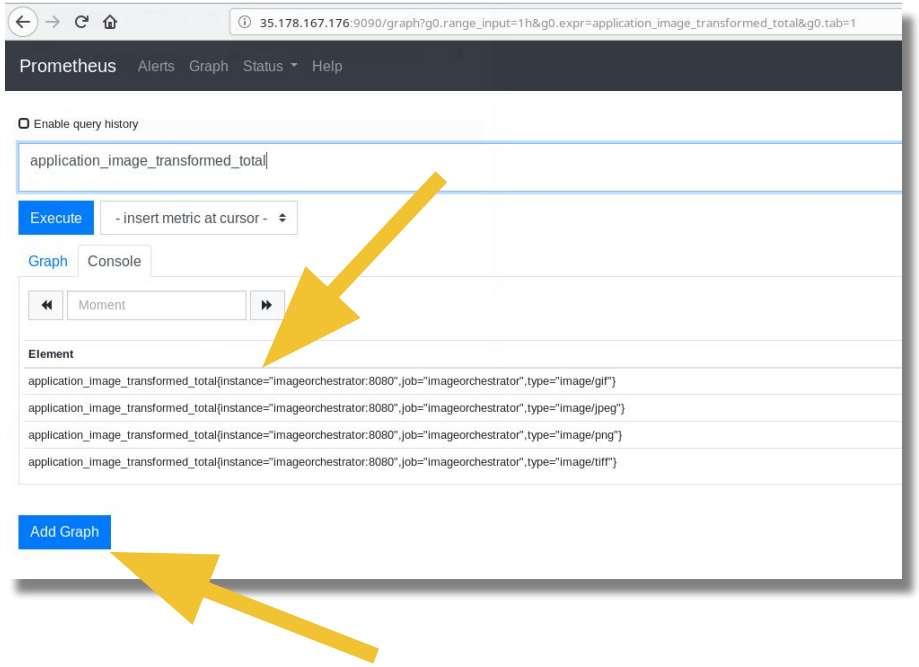
Some Prometheus tips and tricks





Exploring with metrics...

- ➔ How did that feel?
- ➔ What do you want to ask next?
- ➔ What tool would best answer that question?

Answer a **logging** based question by using **Kibana** (ELK):

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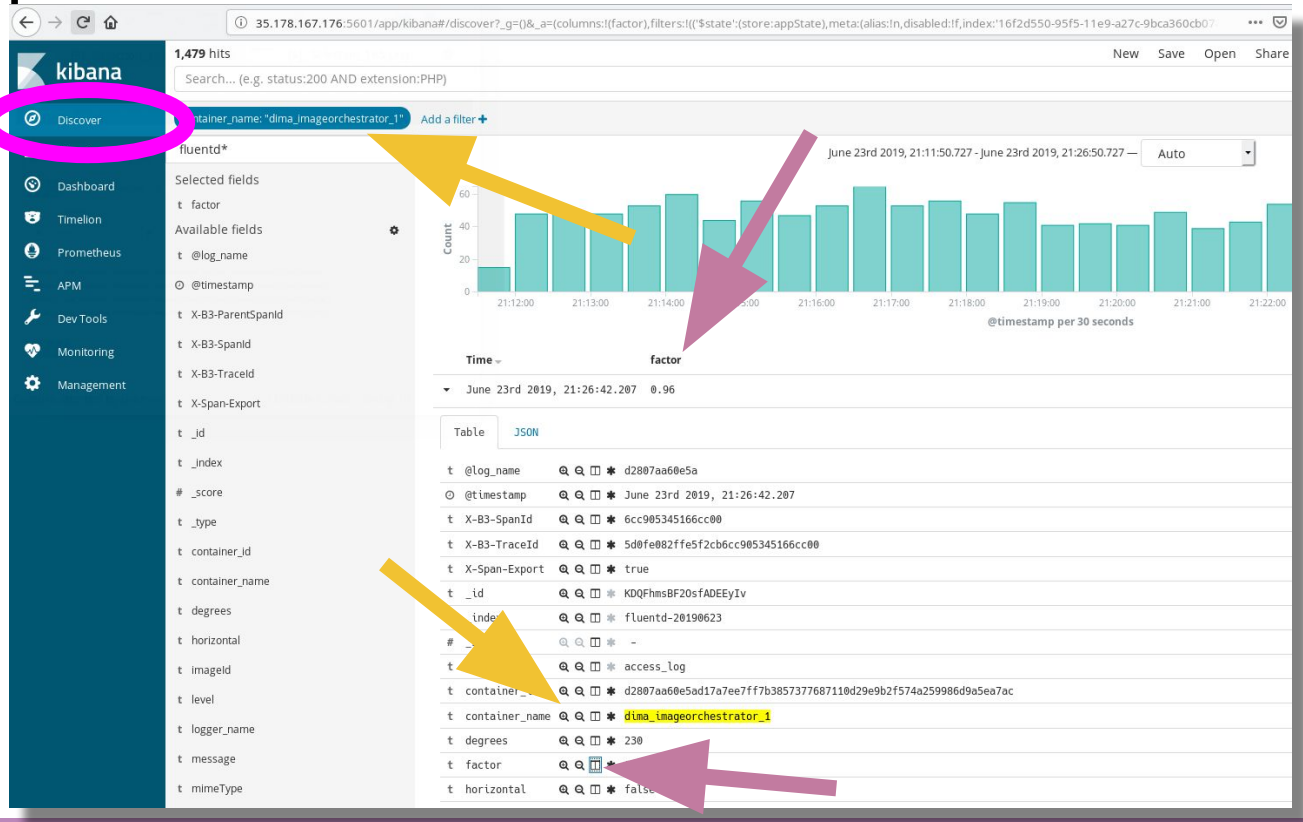
Some Kibana tips and tricks



Exploring with logs...

- ➔ How did that feel?
- ➔ What similarities and differences did you feel from metrics?
- ➔ What do you want to ask next?
- ➔ What tool would best answer that question?

Answer a **tracing** based question by using **OpenZipkin**:

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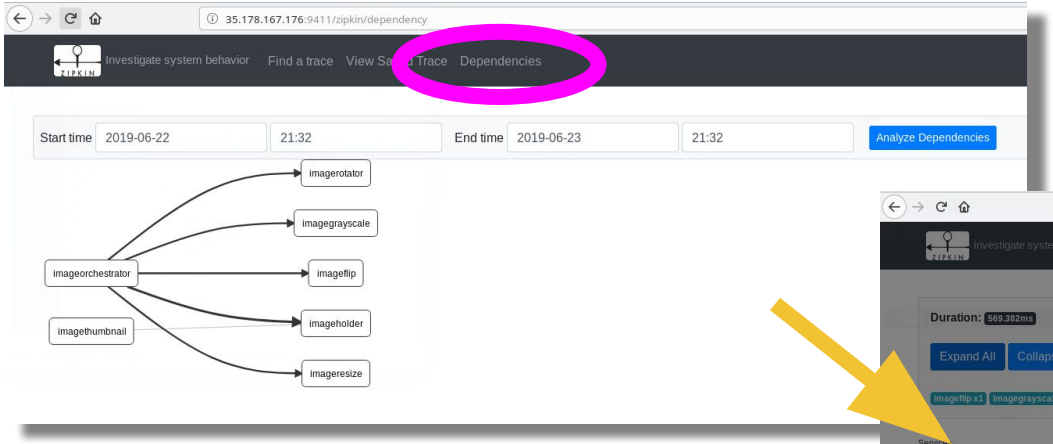
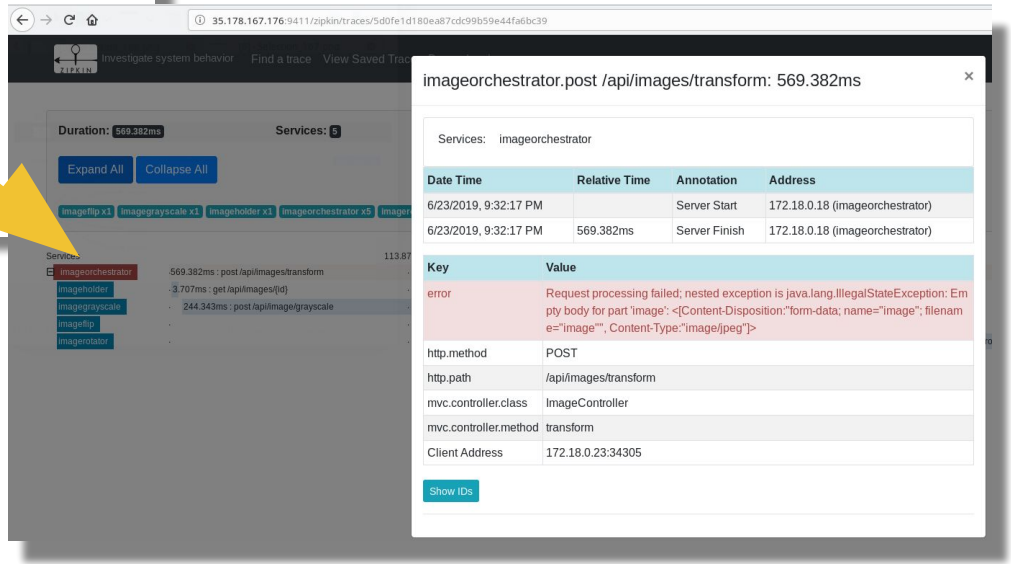
Some Open Zipkin tips and tricks





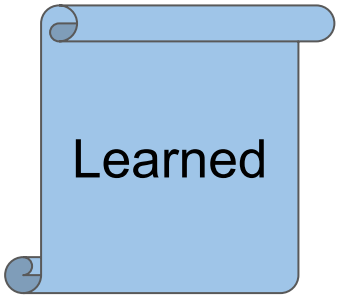
Exploring with traces...

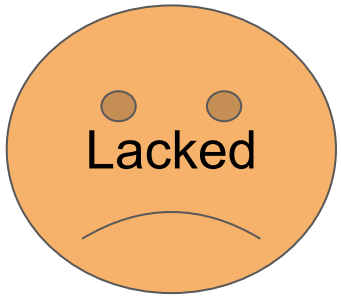
- ➔ How did that feel?
- ➔ What similarities and differences did you feel from metrics and logs?
- ➔ What do you want to ask next?
- ➔ What tool would best answer that question?

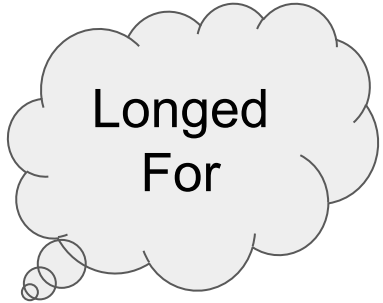
Lunch break

Morning recap

(focus on the workshop and activities)

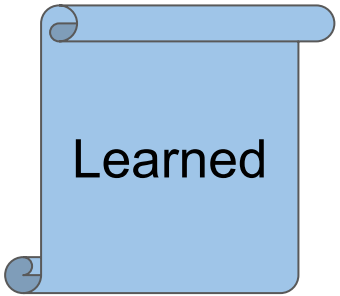


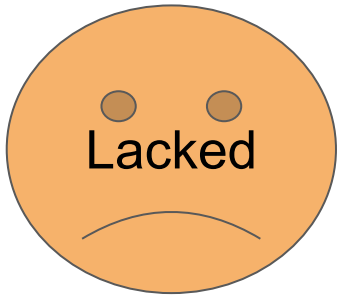


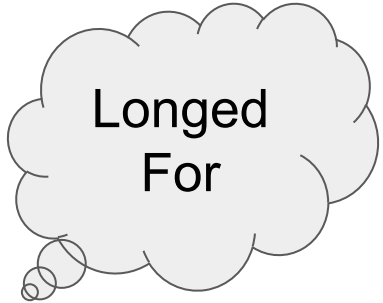


Morning recap

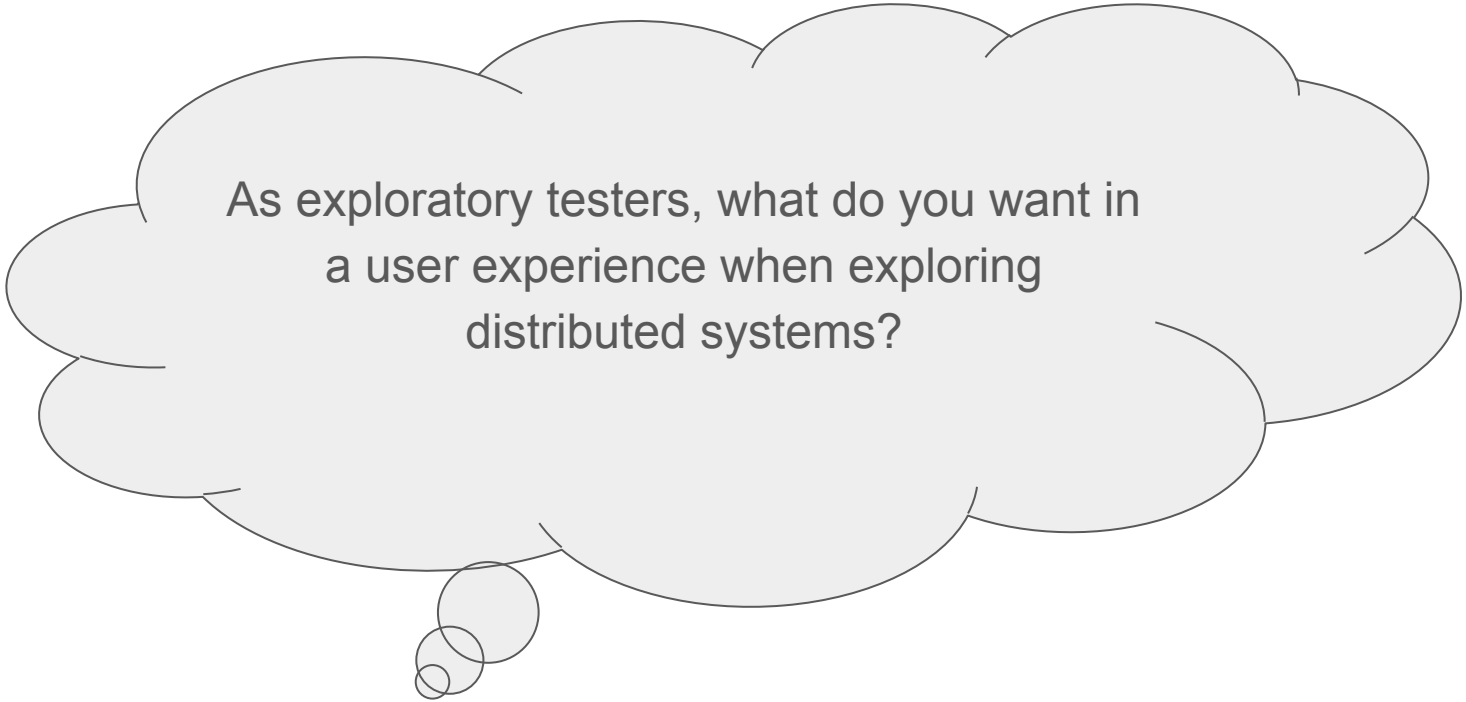
(focus on the tools and the process)







Dreaming of better



Join our Honeycomb team:

https://ui.honeycomb.io/join_team/feature-creeps

Coffee break

Answer a **metrics** based question by using **events with Honeycomb**:

https://ui.honeycomb.io/feature-creeps/home/ltg-workshop

Answer a **log** based question by using **events with Honeycomb**

Answer a **trace** based question by using **events with Honeycomb**

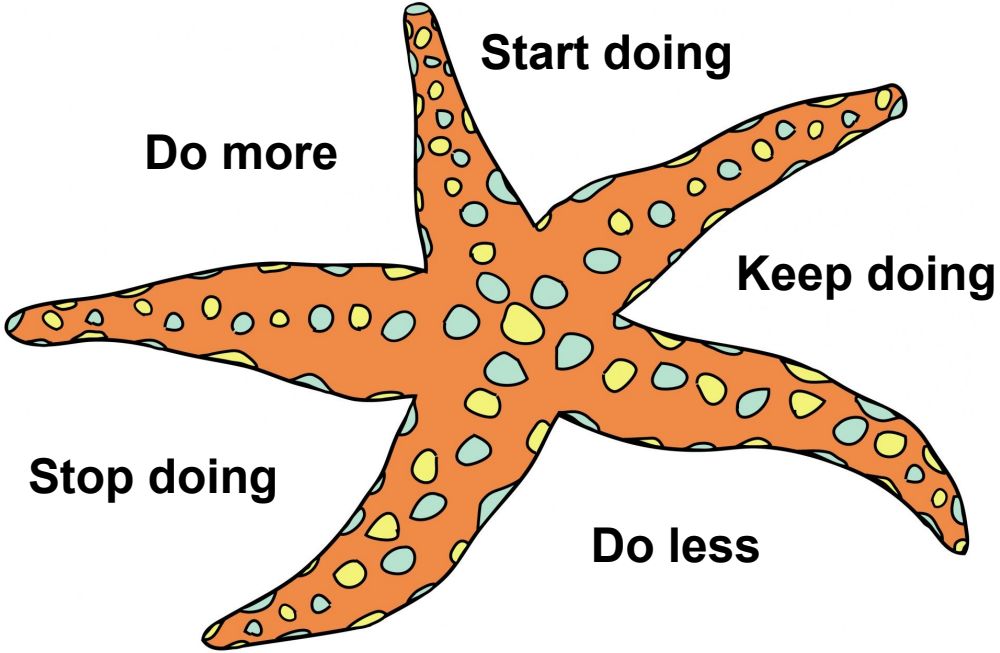
What makes something observable vs monitored

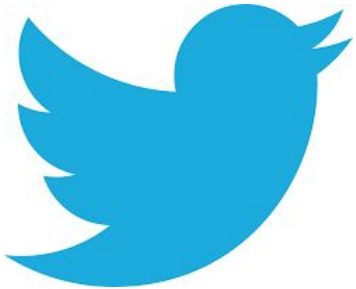
- ➔ High cardinality
- ➔ No pre-aggregation
- ➔ Easy exploratory testing

Next, let’s try and answer an “exploratory” question

(if we have time…)

What can you do to bring this back to your projects?





@a_bangser

@sneakybeaky

Thank you and keep the conversation going!