Axon Training

Module 6 – Preparing for production



Agenda

Week 1

- 1. DDD and CQRS Fundamentals
- 2. Command Model
- 3. Event Handling & Projections
- 4. Sagas and Deadlines

Week 2

- 1. Snapshotting and Event Processors
- 2. Preparing for Production
- 3. CQRS and Distributed Systems
- 4. Monitoring, Tracing, Advanced Tuning



Cross cutting concerns

Message Interceptors



Dispatch Interceptor

- Invoked in the thread that dispatches the Message
- Active Unit of Work is that of incoming message (if any)
- Allows transformation of Message or force failure



Handler Interceptor

- Invoked in thread that handles Message
- Active Unit of Work is that of intercepted message
- Can force early return / failure



Message Intercepting - Use cases

- Dispatch Interceptors
 - Structural validation
 - Attach node-id for distributed tracing
 - Attach security meta-data
- Handler Interceptors
 - Attach (database) transaction
 - Validate security meta-data



Dispatch Interceptor - API

```
public interface MessageDispatchInterceptor<T extends Message<?>> {
    BiFunction<Integer, T, T> handle(List<? extends T> messages);
}
```



Handler Interceptor - API



Registering Interceptors

```
// Once the configuration has been build from the Configurer
Configuration configuration = ...

// and the interceptors defined,
CustomHandlerInterceptor myCustomHandlerInterceptor = ...
CustomDispatchInterceptor myCustomDispatchInterceptor = ...

// they can be registered to the right message dispatching and handling components
CommandBus commandBus = configuration.commandBus();
commandBus.registerDispatchInterceptor(myCustomDispatchInterceptor);
commandBus.registerHandlerInterceptor(myCustomHandlerInterceptor);
```



Registering Interceptors - Spring

```
// With Spring, you can auto wire the bean to register the interceptor for
@Autowired
public void configureInterceptorFor(EventBus eventBus,
                              CustomDispatchInterceptor myCustomDispatchInterceptor) {
    eventBus.registerDispatchInterceptor(myCustomDispatchInterceptor);
@Autowired
public void configureInterceptorFor(EventProcessingConfigurer eventProcessingConfigurer,
                                    CustomHandlerInterceptor myCustomHandlerInterceptor) {
    eventProcessingConfigurer.registerDefaultHandlerInterceptor(
         (config, processorName) -> myCustomHandlerInterceptor
    );
```



Mind the contract...

Serializers



XStream Serializer

- Serializes to/from XML
- Default serializer in Axon
 - Can serialize everything
- Aliases
 - Package aliases
 - Class name aliased
 - Etc.
- Lenient serialization
 - XStream.ignoreUnknownElements()
 - XStreamSerializer.builder().lenientDeserialization().build()



Jackson Serializer

- Serializes to/from JSON
- Cleaner output
- Has requirements on objects to serialize
 - Annotations
 - Getters/Setters
- Mainly suitable for commands, events and queries
- Lenient serialization
 - @JsonIgnoreProperties(ignoreUnknown = true)
 - objectMapper.disable(DeserializationFeature.FAIL_ON_UNKNOWN_PROPERTIES);
 - JacksonSerializer.builder().lenientDeserialization().build()



Tuning Serialization

- Content type converters
 - Serializer-specific
 - Generic
- Serializer levels
 - Generic → used for everything, unless...
 - Message → used for all types of messages, unless...
 - Event → only used for events
- Custom serializer
 - Wrapper to serialize specific events



Configuring Serializers

```
// When the Configurer is still in process,
Configurer configurer = ...;

// you can create your desired serializer
XStreamSerializer genericSerializer = XStreamSerializer.defaultSerializer();
JacksonSerializer messageSerializer = JacksonSerializer.defaultSerializer();

// and configure it at the right levels.
configurer.configureSerializer(configuration -> genericSerializer);
configurer.configureMessageSerializer(configuration -> messageSerializer);
configurer.configureEventSerializer(configuration -> messageSerializer);
```



Configuring Serializers - Spring

```
// With Spring, provide a bean with a qualifier to automatically configure it at the right level.
@Bean
@Qualifier("messageSerializer")
public Serializer messageSerializer() {
    return JacksonSerializer.defaultSerializer();
}

// In absence of a qualifier, it is expected to be the generic instance
@Bean
public Serializer genericSerializer() {
    return XStreamSerializer.defaultSerializer();
}
```



Beyond the 1.0

Application Evolution



Schemas and Message Versioning

- Your Command, Event and Query format are a contract
 - Implicit vs explicit schema
- Axon supports "schema revisions"
 - Maven version
 - Sequential revision
 - Any arbitrary (String) value with @Revision(...)



Naïve approach - class per version

```
class FlightDelayedEvent_v0 {
   private String flightId;
   private Instant arrivalTime;
   private String start;
   private String destination;
}
```



```
class FlightDelayedEvent_v1 {
    private String flightId;
    private Instant arrivalTime;
    private Leg leg;
}

class Leg {
    private String from;
    private String to;
}
```



Last representation only

```
class FlightDelayedEvent {
   private String flightId;
   private Instant arrivalTime;
   private String start;
   private String destination;
}

class FlightDelayedEvent {
   private String flightId;
   private Instant arrivalTime;
   private Leg leg;
}

class Leg {
   private String from;
   private String to;
}
```



Upcasters

- Upcasters transform old event representations to the newer format
 - One format, one revision per upcaster
 - Chain upcasters into an "Upcaster Chain"
- Upcasters work on an intermediate representation
 - e.g. xml, json



Last representation only – Upcasters

```
FlightDelayedEvent, revision '0'
{
   "flightId": "123",
   "start": "AMS",
   "destination": "LAX",
   "arrivalTime": "10:30"
}
```



```
FlightDelayedEvent, revision '1'
{
    "flightId": "123",
    "leg": {
        "from": "AMS",
        "to": "LAX"
    },
    "arrivalTime": "10:30"
}
```



Upcaster - API

```
@FunctionalInterface
public interface Upcaster<T> {
        Stream<T> upcast(Stream<T> intermediateRepresentations);
}

@FunctionalInterface
public interface EventUpcaster extends Upcaster<IntermediateEventRepresentation> {
}
```



Upcaster - API



Upcaster - Example

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```
class FlightDelayedEvent1_to_2Upcaster extends SingleEventUpcaster {
     @Override
    protected boolean canUpcast(IntermediateEventRepresentation intermediateRep) {
          SerializedType type = intermediateRep.getType();
         return type.getName().equals("com.example.FlightDelayedEvent") && type.getRevision().equals("1");
                                                                          Allows to return an instance that
                                                                          lazily upcasts to the new version
    @Override
    protected IntermediateEventRepresentation intermediateRep) {
         return intermediateRep.upcastPayload(
               new SimpleSerializedType("com.example.FlightDelayedEvent", "2"),
               JsonNode.class,
               event -> {
                                                                          The type of representation to work
                    ((ObjectNode) event).put("reason", "unknown");
                                                                          with
                    return event:
                                                                          The actual modification of the
                                                                          intermediate representation
```

Deployment strategy - Big Bang

- Easiest approach
- No need for concurrent versions
- Deploy upcaster with new application

But...

- Not a feasible solution for distributed systems
- Requires downtime



Deployment strategy - Blue-Green

- Bring new version "up to speed" in parallel
- No need for concurrent versions
- Deploy upcaster with new application

But...

Not a feasible solution for large-scale distributed systems



Deployment strategy - Rolling upgrade

- Both versions run side-by-side for a 'while'
- Old version needs to be able to understand new events.
 - Forward and backward compatibility

But...

Don't publish both 'old' and 'new' events separately



Message Schema – Forward Compatibility

```
FlightDelayedEvent, revision '0'
{
   "flightId": "123",
   "start": "AMS",
   "destination": "LAX",
   "arrivalTime": "10:30"
}
```



```
FlightDelayedEvent, revision '2'
{
    "flightId": "123",
    "leg": {
        "from": "AMS",
        "to": "LAX"
    },
    "arrivalTime": "10:30"
}
```



Message Schema – Compatibility Recommendations

- Never change semantic meaning of an event
 - That would mean it's a new event.
- Never remove or change attributes
 - Deprecate attributes instead
- Only add (optional) attributes
- Use lenient deserialization
 - Use sensible defaults for missing attributes
 - Ignore unknown attributes



Message Schema – Forward Compatibility

```
FlightDelayedEvent, revision '0'
{
   "flightId": "123",
   "start": "AMS",
   "destination": "LAX",
   "arrivalTime": "10:30"
}
```



```
FlightDelayedEvent, revision '1'
{
    "flightId": "123",
    "start": "AMS",
    "destination": "LAX",
    "leg": {
        "from": "AMS",
        "to": "LAX"
    },
    "arrivalTime": "10:30"
}
```



```
FlightDelayedEvent, revision '2'
{
    "flightId": "123",
    "leg": {
        "from": "AMS",
        "to": "LAX"
    },
    "arrivalTime": "10:30"
}
```



Whatever else you wanted to know...

Questions

