

# Loosely or Lousily Coupled?

Understanding  
Communication Patterns in  
Microservices Architectures

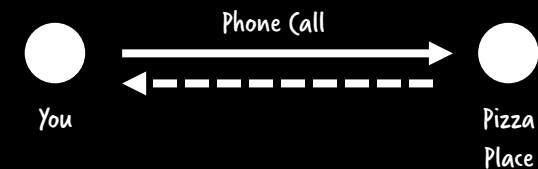
@berndruecker



Let's talk about food



# How does ordering Pizza work?



Synchronous blocking communication  
Feedback loop (ack, confirmation or rejection)  
Temporal coupling (e.g. busy, not answering)

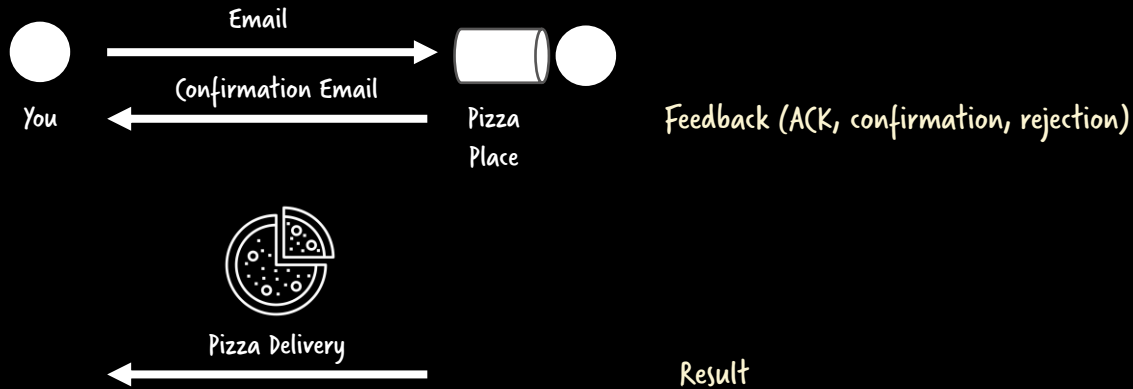


Asynchronous non-blocking communication  
No temporal coupling



A feedback loop might make sense  
(ack, confirmation or rejection)

# Feedback loop $\neq$ result



# Synchronous blocking behavior for the result?



Bad user experience  
Does not scale well





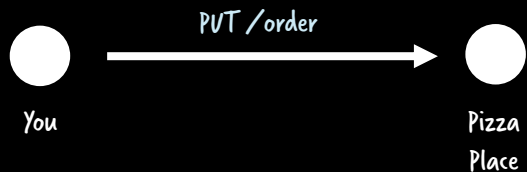


# Scalable Coffee Making

[https://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/ramblings/18\\_starbucks.html](https://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/ramblings/18_starbucks.html)

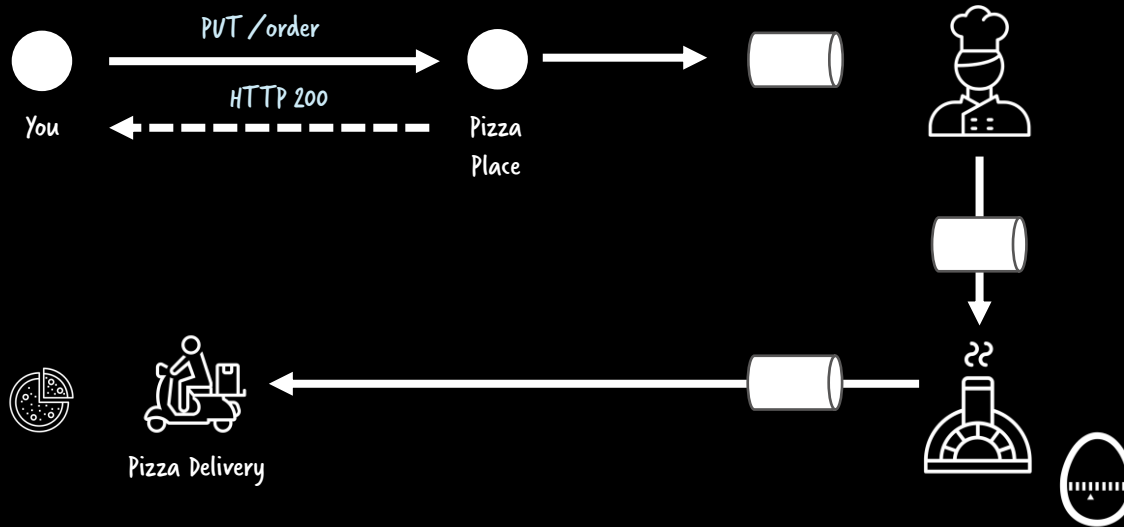
Photo by John Ingle

# Synchronous results?



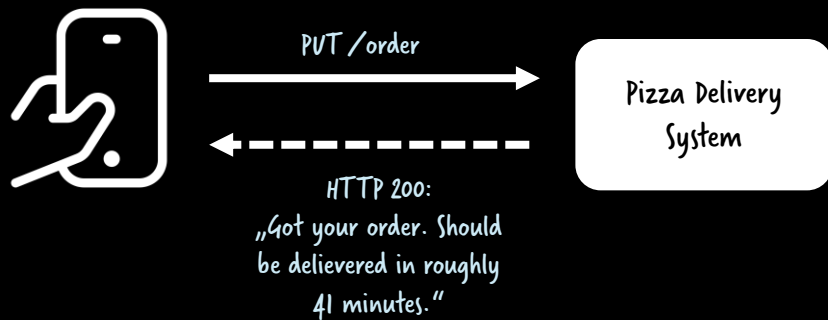
The task of  
Pizza making is  
long running

# only the first communication step is synchronous

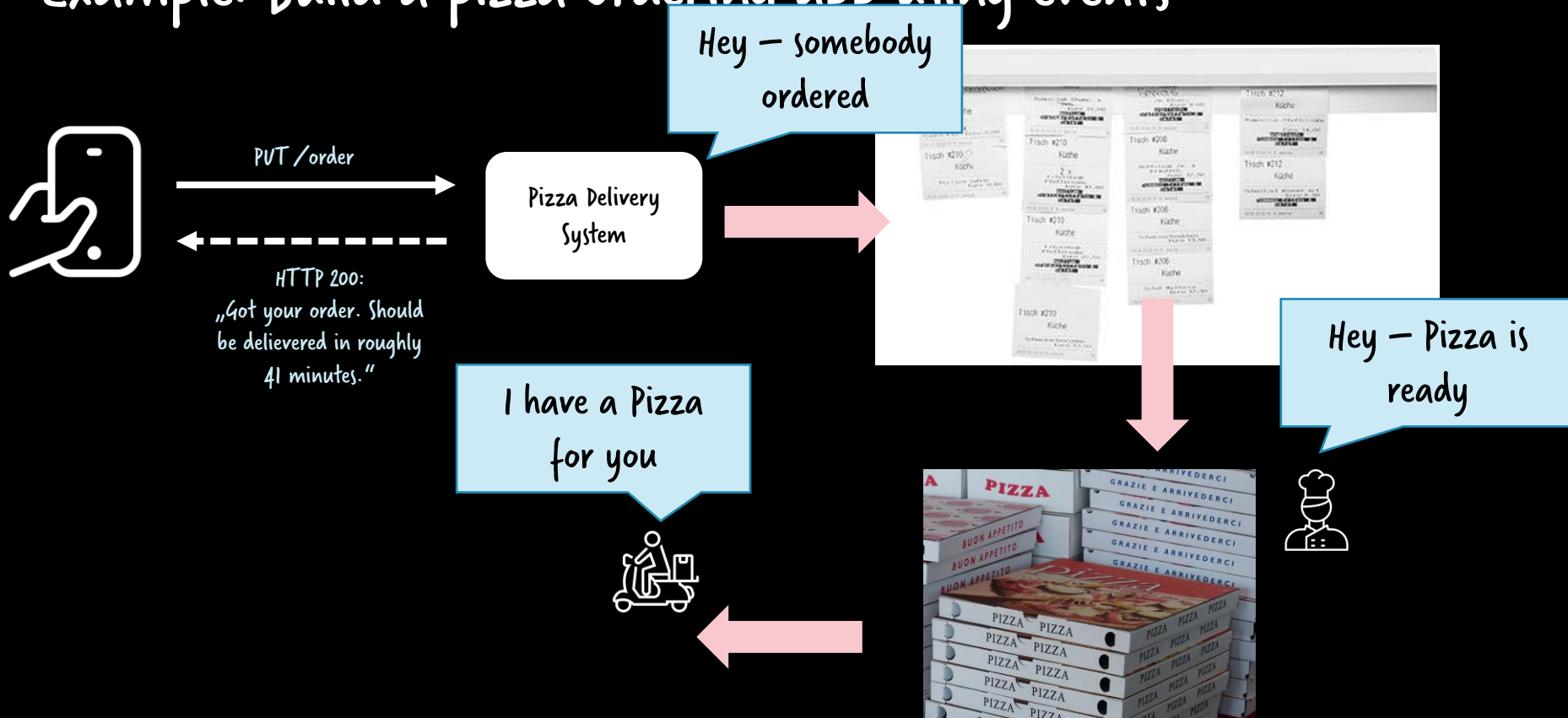




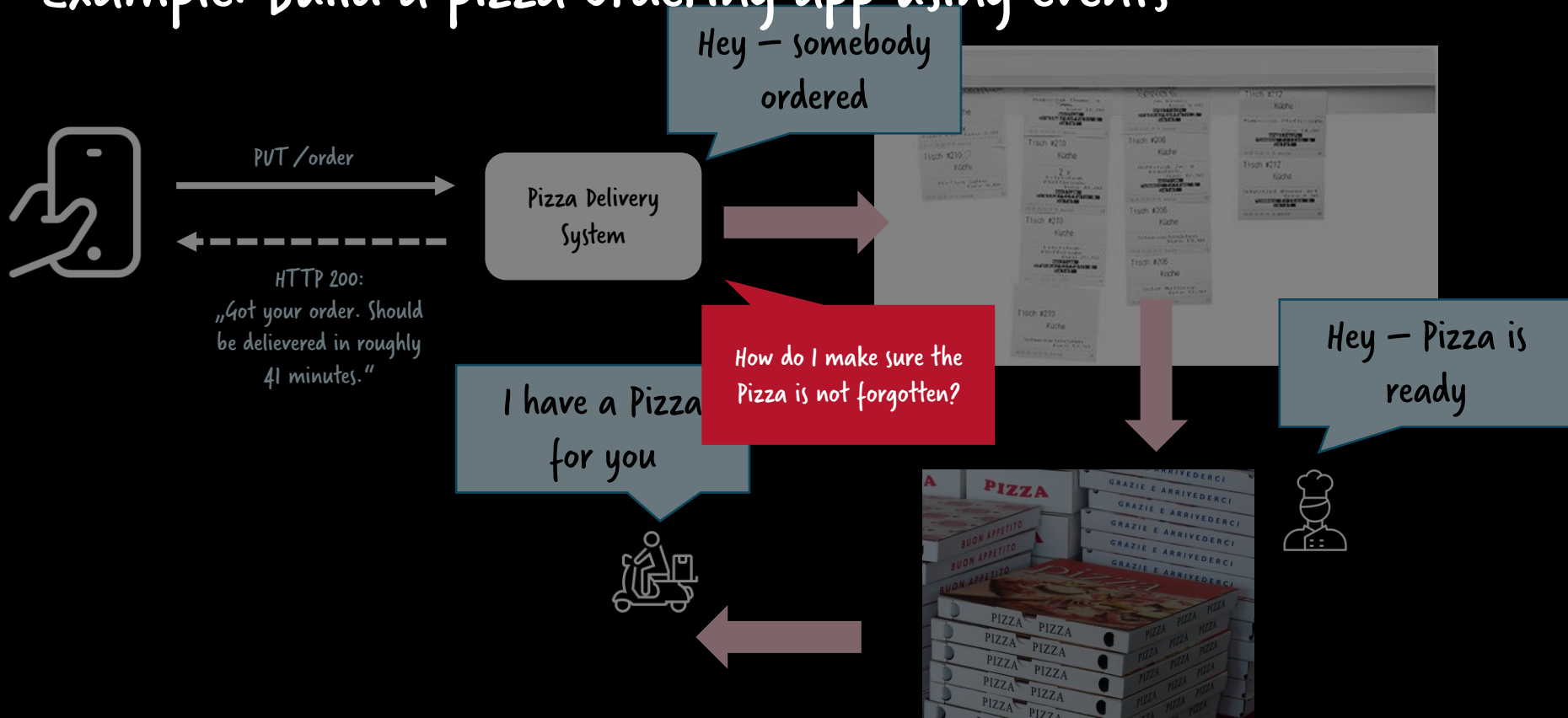
# Example: Build a pizza ordering app



# Example: Build a pizza ordering app using events



# Example: Build a pizza ordering app using events



# Command vs. event-based communication



Command = Intent  
Cannot be ignored  
Independent of communication channel



Event = Fact  
Sender can't control what happens

# Definitions

Event = Something happened in the past. It is a fact.  
Sender does not know who picks up the event.

Command = Sender wants s.th. to happen. It has an intent.  
Recipient does not know who issued the command.



## Events vs. Commands

„Pizza Salmon  
is ready!“

I baked this pizza for Andrea.  
Please package it immediately and  
deliver it while it's hot!



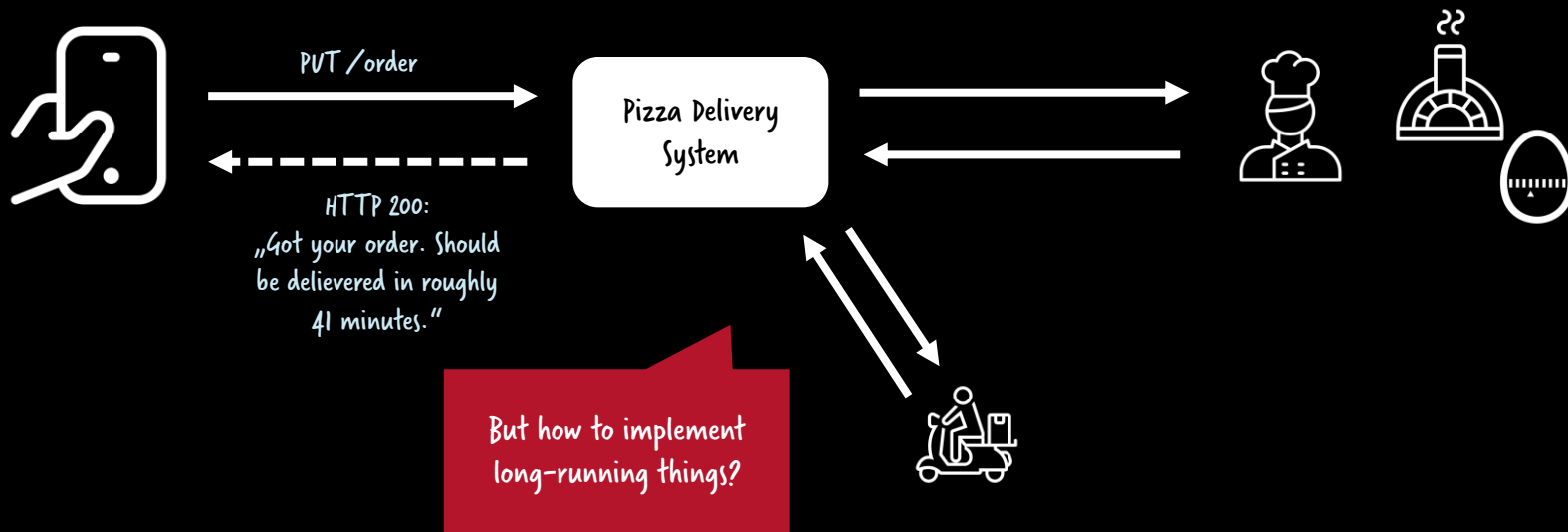
**Orchestrator**

**Command**





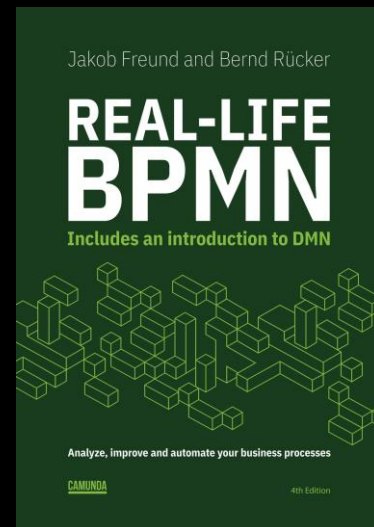
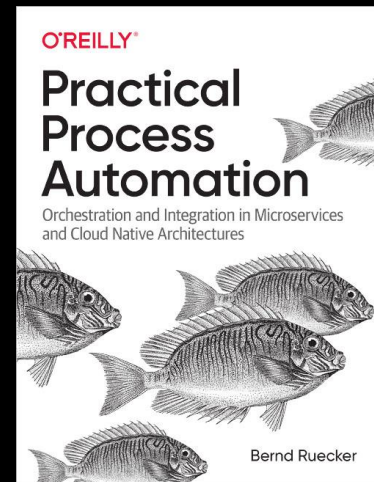
# Example: Build a pizza ordering app via orchestration



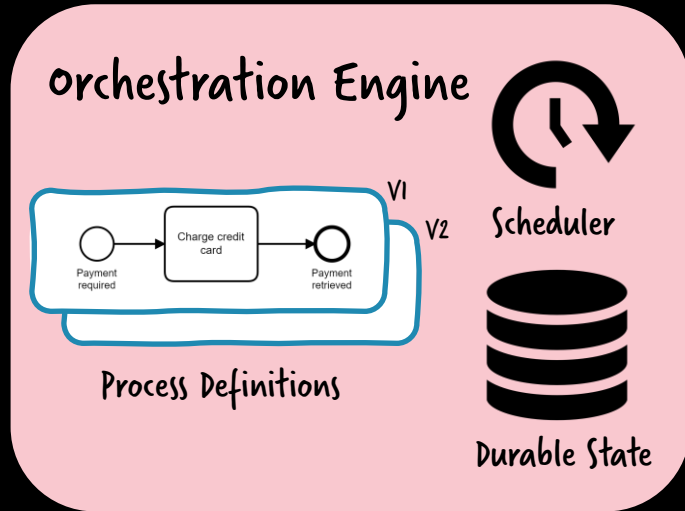


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Co-founder and  
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Camunda

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[@berndruecker](https://berndruecker)  
<http://berndruecker.io/>



# An orchestration engine provides long running capabilities



Orchestration Engine:

Is stateful

Can wait

Can retry

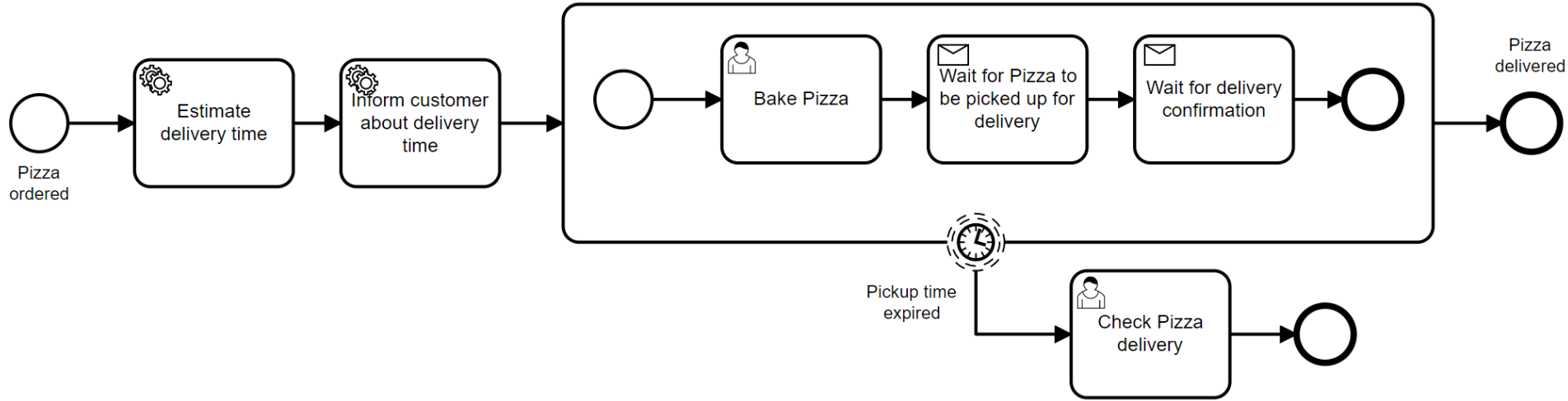
Can escalate

Can compensate

Provides visibility



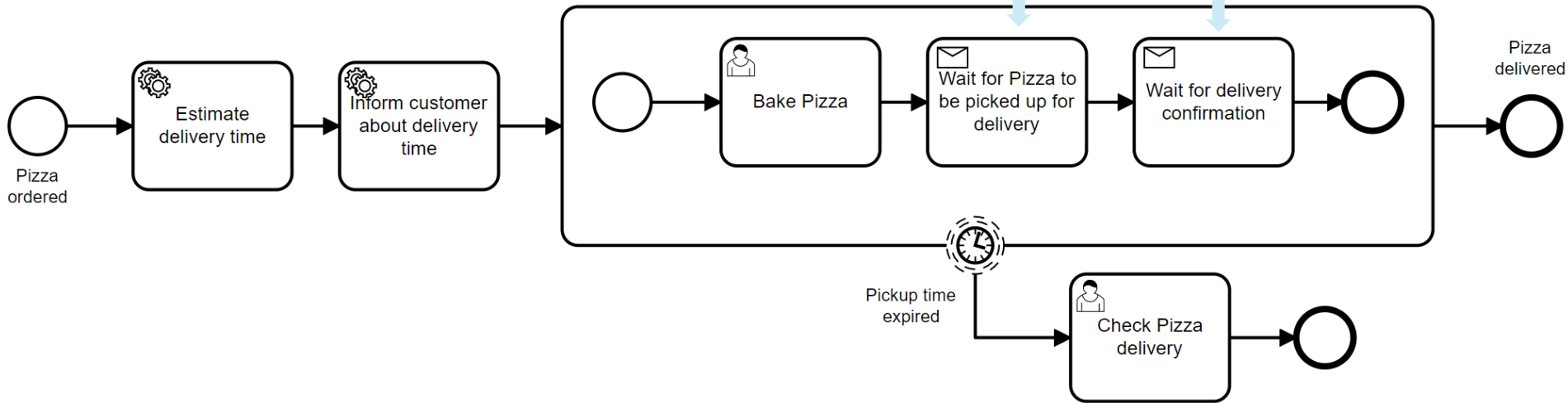
# A possible process for the Pizza ordering system



# You can still work with events

Pizza xy was picked up by driver z

Driver z handed over Pizza successfully



# Developer-friendly orchestration engines

## Your code to provide a REST endpoint

```
@PostMapping("/pizza-order")
public ResponseEntity<PizzaOrderResponse> pizzaOrderReceived(...) {
    HashMap<String, Object> variables = new HashMap<String, Object>();
    variables.put("orderId", orderId);

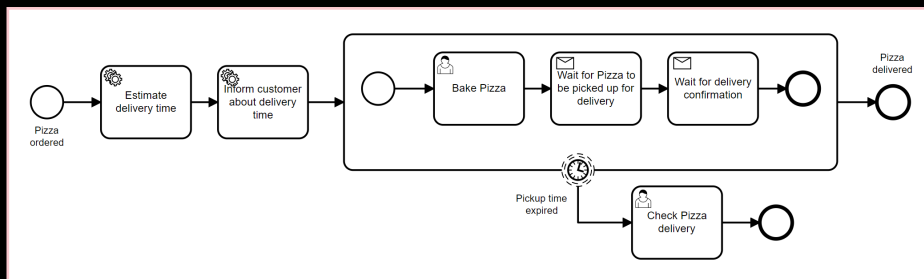
    ProcessInstanceEvent processInstance = camunda.newCreateInstanceCommand()
        .bpmnProcessId("pizza-order")
        .latestVersion()
        .variables(variables)
        .send().join();

    return ResponseEntity.status(HttpStatus.ACCEPTED).build();
}
```

Developers



Process Automation



# orchestration vs. Choreography



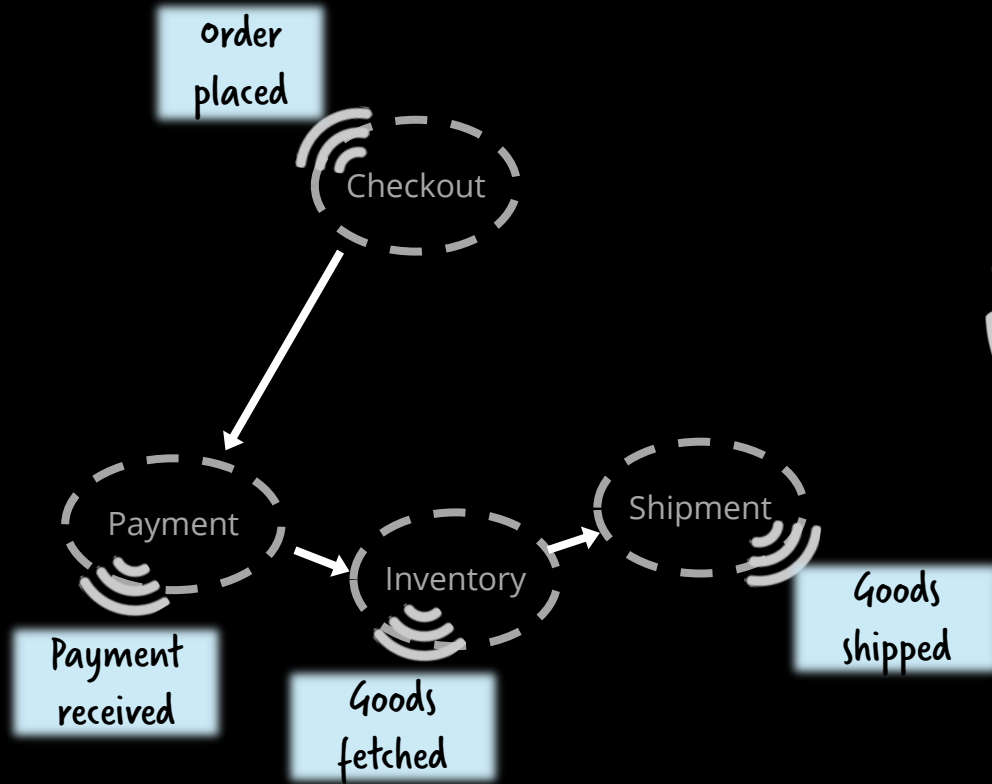
# Definition

orchestration = command-driven communication

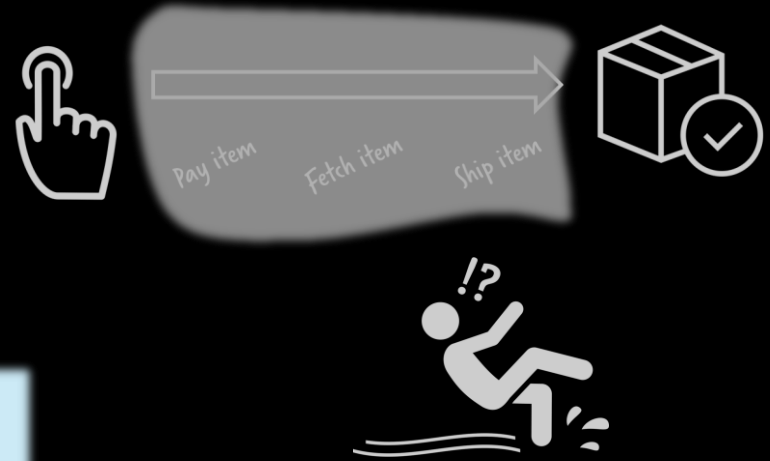
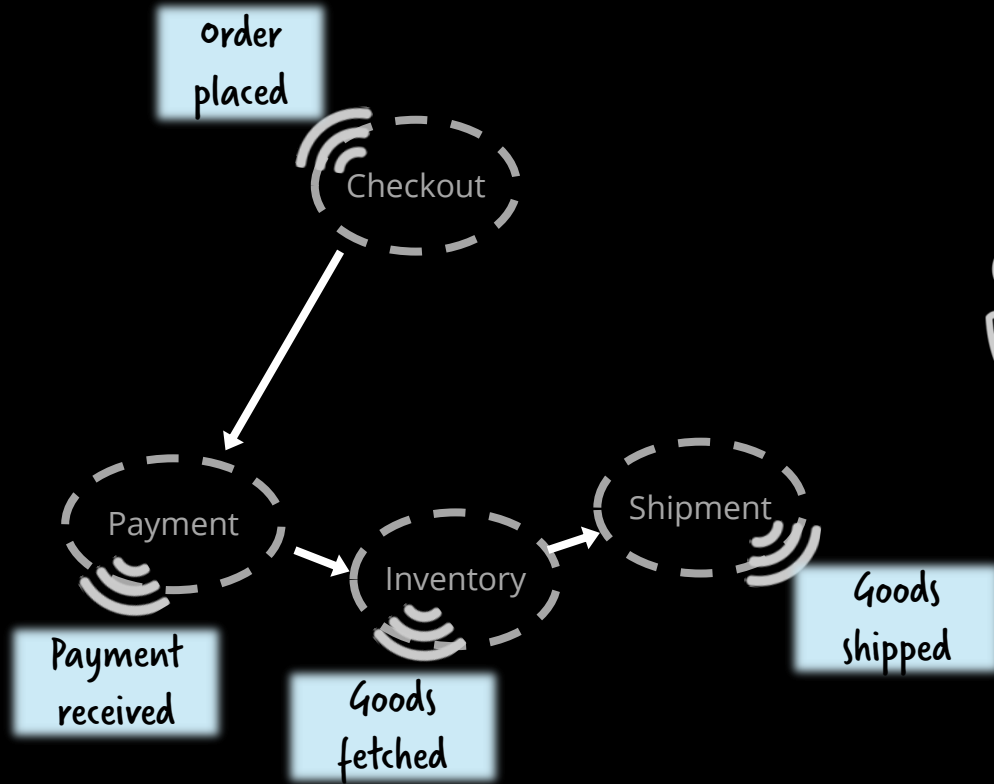
choreography = event-driven communication



# Let's switch examples: order fulfillment



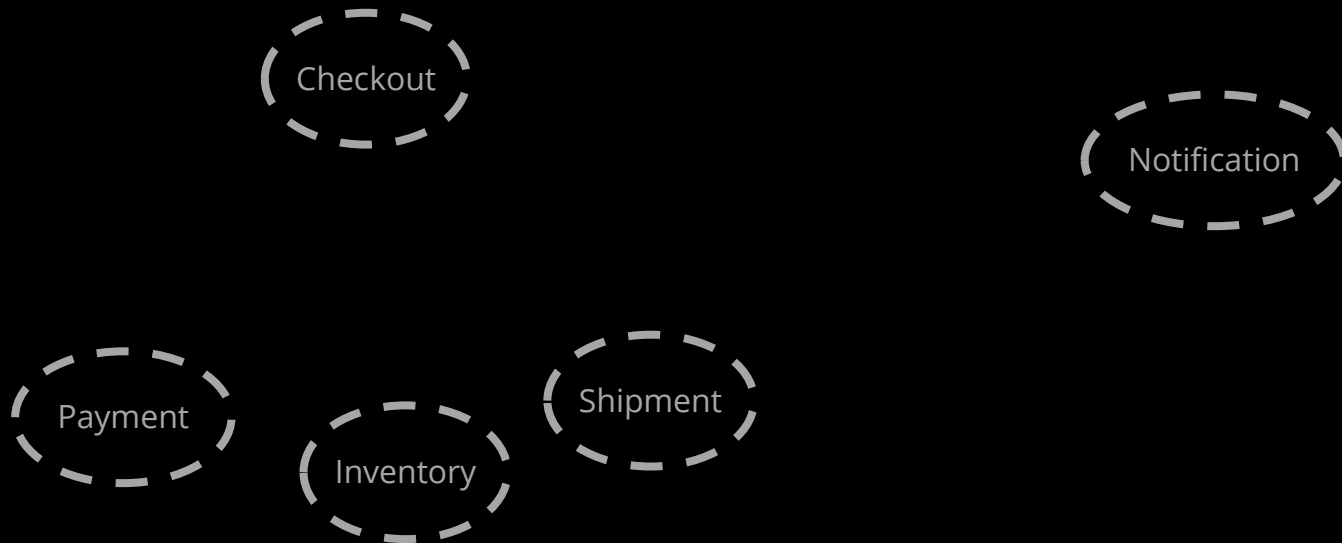
# Event chains



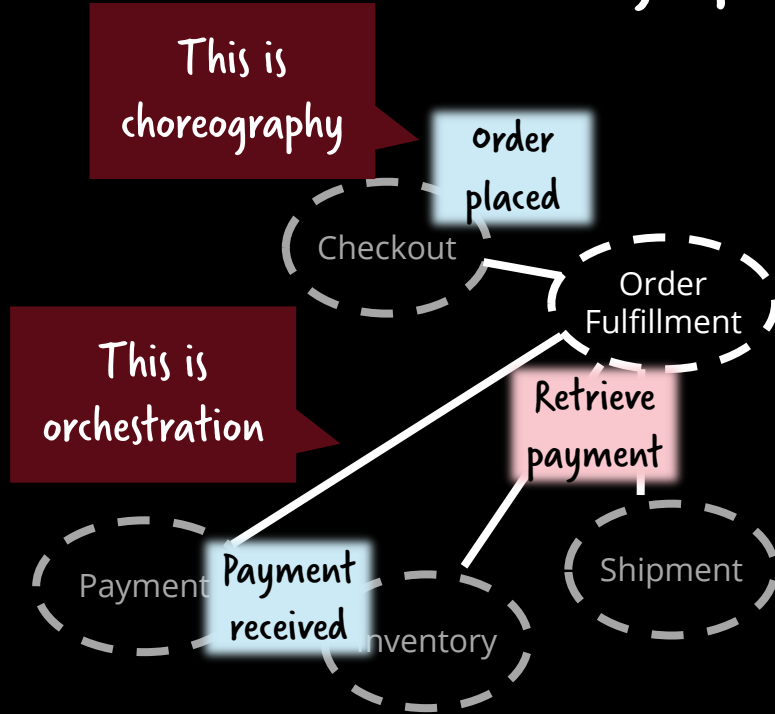
We were suffering from  
Pinball machine Architecture



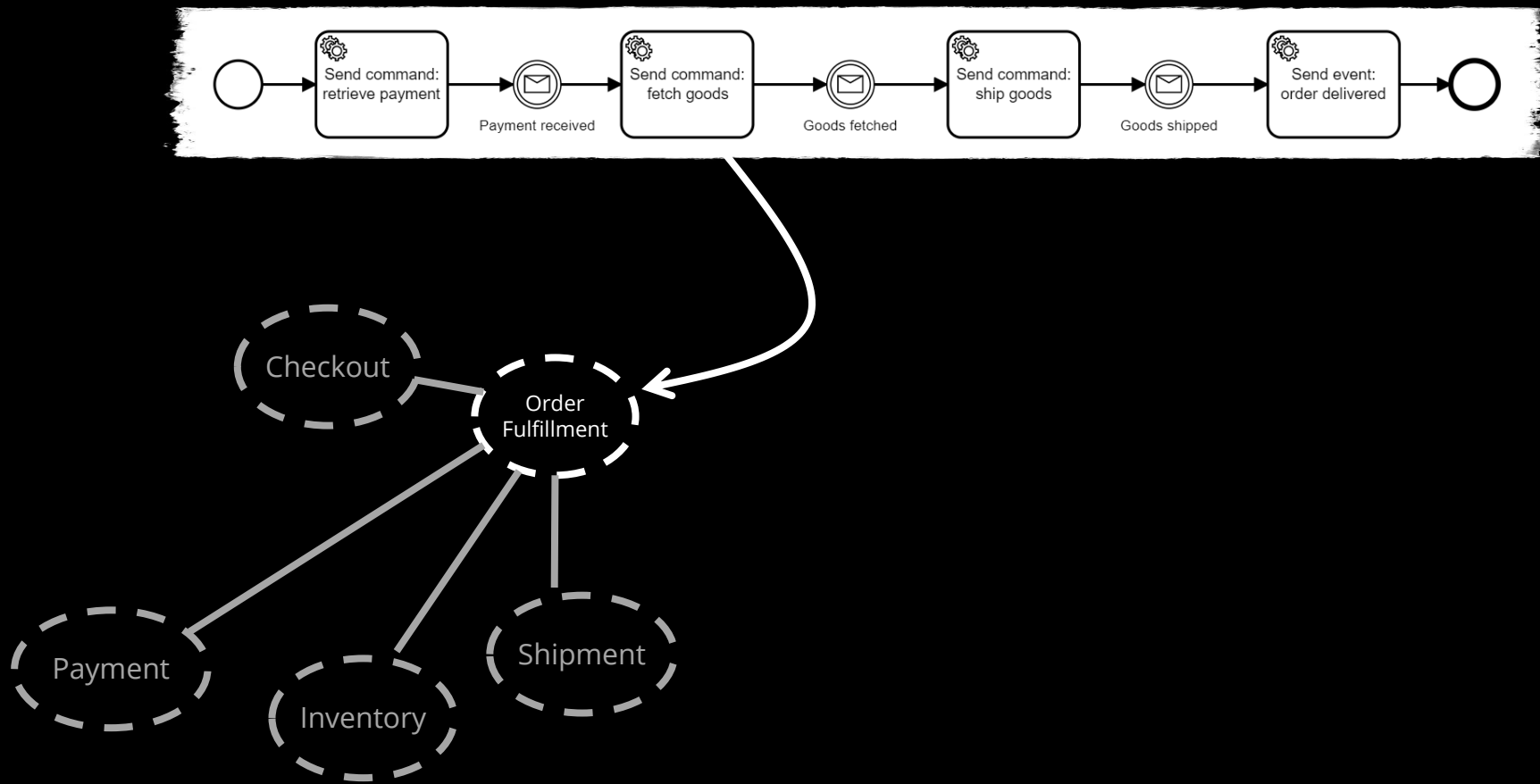
# Pinball Machine Architecture



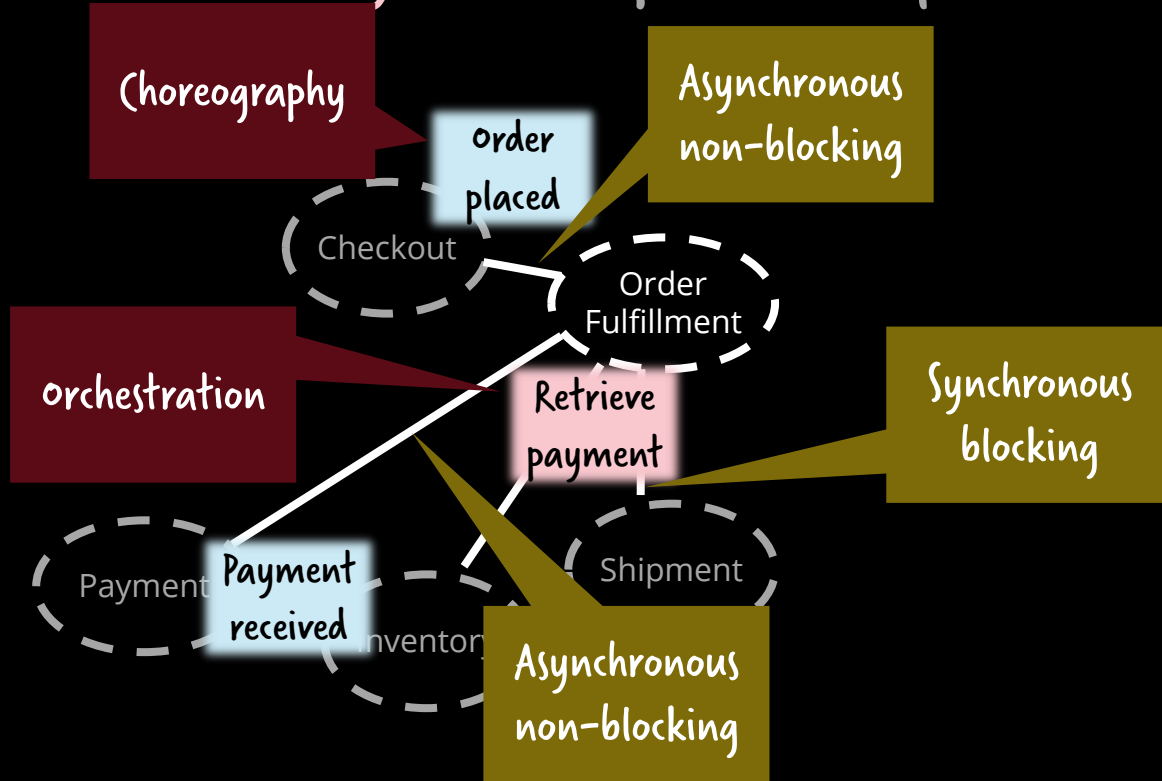
# orchestration and choreography







# Collaboration style is independant of communication style



# Some code?

berndruecker / flowing-retail

<> Code 6 Issues 14 Pull requests 14 Actions Projects Wiki Security 20 Insights Settings

master flowing-retail / kafka /

berndruecker Updated to Zeebe 1.0-rc3 def5495 on 11 May History

..

java Updated to Zeebe 1.0-rc3 2 months ago

README.md adjusted build correctly to Java >= 8 16 months ago

README.md

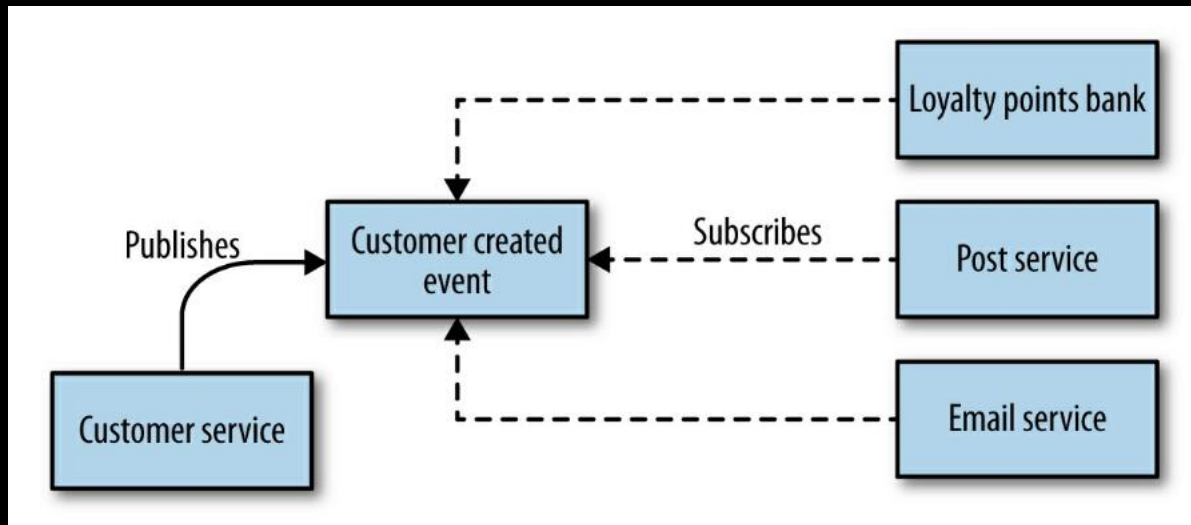
## Flowing Retail / Apache Kafka

This folder contains services that connect to Apache Kafka as means of communication between the services.

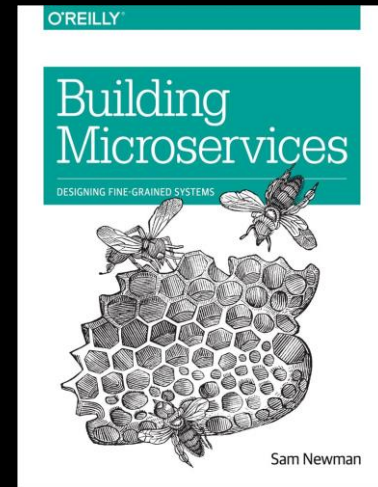
Checkout	Order	Payment	Inventory	Shipping	Monitor	Human Tasks
Available: - Java	Available: - Java + Camunda - Java + Zeebe	Available: - Java + Camunda	Available: - Java	Available: - Java	Available: - Java	

kafka

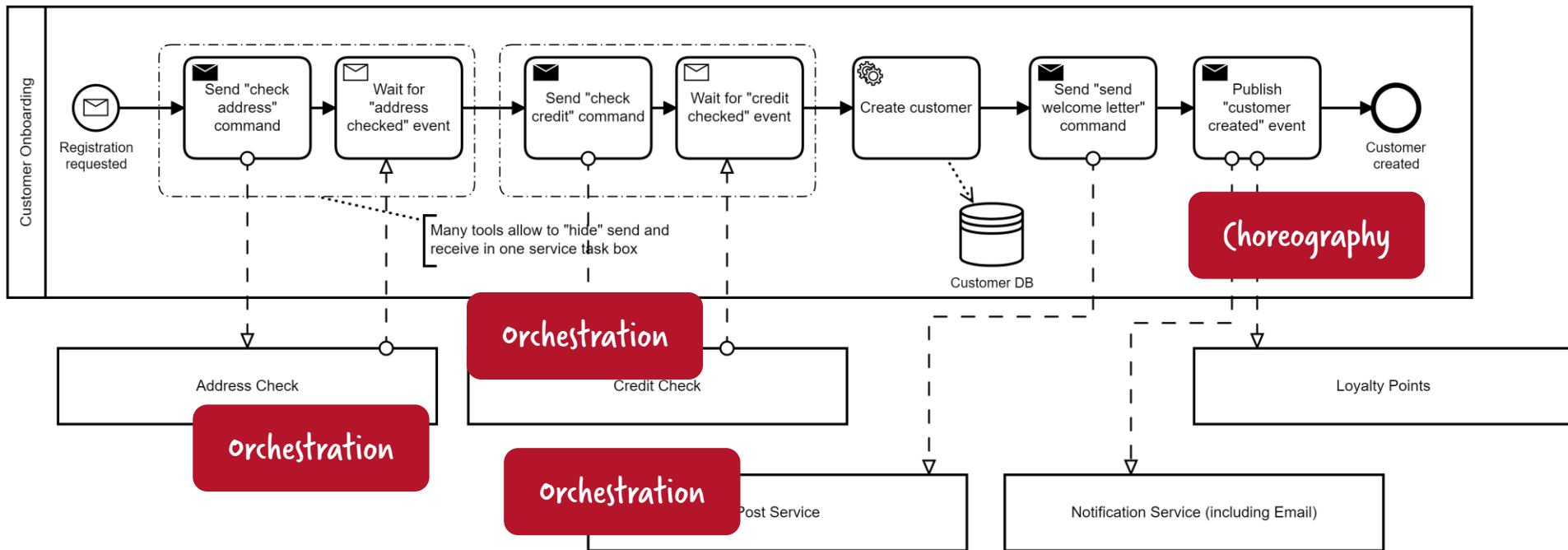
<https://github.com/berndruecker/flowing-retail/tree/master/kafka>



Sam Newman: Building Microservices

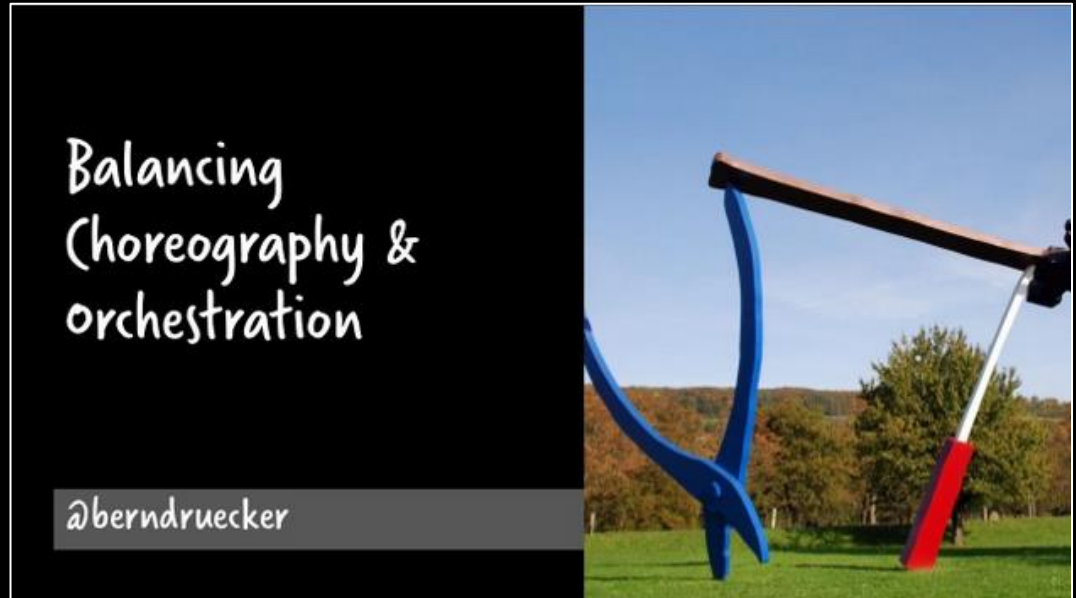
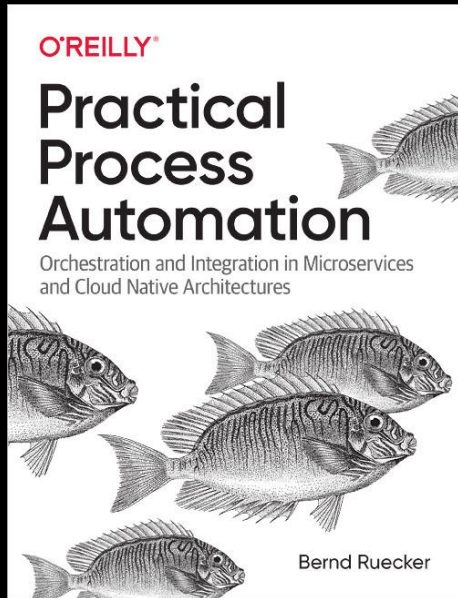


# Mix orchestration and choreography



# Want to learn more about choreography vs. orchestration?

Recording from QCon: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IRWoQCX-gTPs7RVP5VrXaF1JozYWVbjv/view?usp=sharing>  
Slides: <https://www.slideshare.net/BerndRuecker/gotopia-2020-balancing-choreography-and-orchestration>



<https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/practical-process-automation/9781492061441/>  
30 days trial: <https://learning.oreilly.com/get-learning/?code=PPAER20>

# Communication options – Quick Summary

Communication Style	Synchronous Blocking	Asynchronous Non-Blocking	
Collaboration Style	Command-Driven		Event-Driven
Example	REST	Messaging (Queues)	Messaging (Topics)
Feedback Loop	HTTP Response	Response Message	-
Pizza Ordering via	Phone Call	E-Mail	Twitter



*This is not the same!*



Coupling





# Types of Coupling

Type of coupling	Description	Example	Recommendation
<b>Implementation</b> Coupling	Service knows internals of other services	Joined database	

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<b>Temporal</b> Coupling	Service depends on availability of other services	Synchronous blocking communication	

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<b>Deployment</b> Coupling	Multiple services can only be deployed together	Release train	

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<b>Domain</b> Coupling	Business capabilities require multiple services	Order fulfillment requires payment, inventory and shipping	

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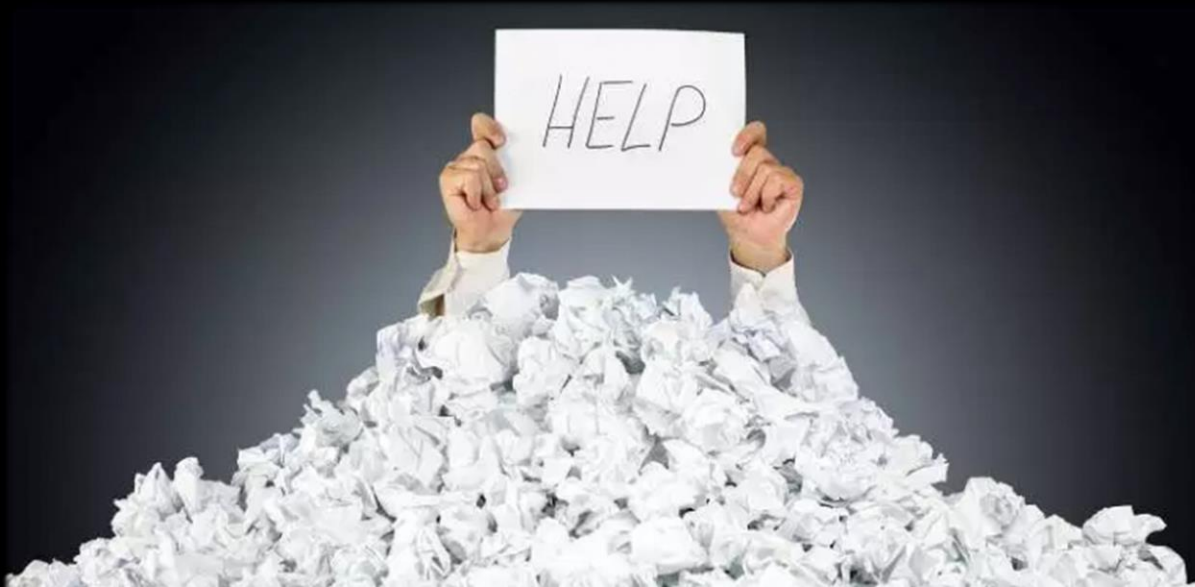
This is influenced with the communication or collaboration style



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<b>Implementation</b> Coupling	Service knows internals of other services	Joined database	<b>Avoid</b>
<b>Temporal</b> Coupling	Service depends on availability of other services	Synchronous blocking communication	<b>Reduce or manage</b>
<b>Deployment</b> Coupling	Multiple services can only be deployed together	Release train	Typically <b>avoid</b> , but depends
<b>Domain</b> Coupling	Business capabilities require multiple services	Order fulfillment requires payment, inventory and shipping	<b>Unavoidable</b> unless you change business requirements or service boundaries



# Messaging?



# Patterns To Survive Remote Communication

Service Consumer	Pattern/Concept	Use With	Service Provider
X	Service Discovery	Sync	(X)
X	Circuit Breaker	Sync	
X	Bulkhead	Sync	
(X)	Load Balancing	Sync	X
X	Retry	Sync / Async	
X	Idempotency	Sync / Async	X
	De-duplication	Async	X
(X)	Back Pressure & Rate Limiting	Sync / (Async)	X
X	Await feedback	Async	
X	Sagas	Sync / Async	(X)

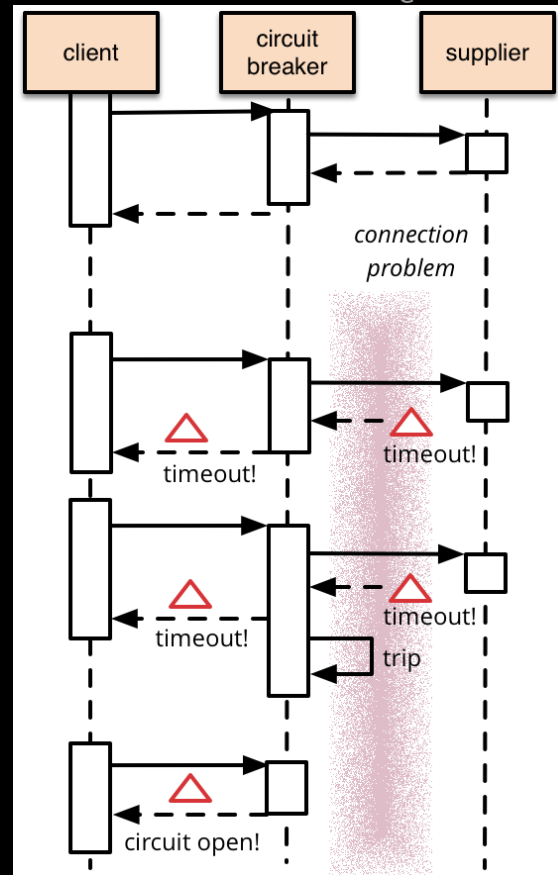
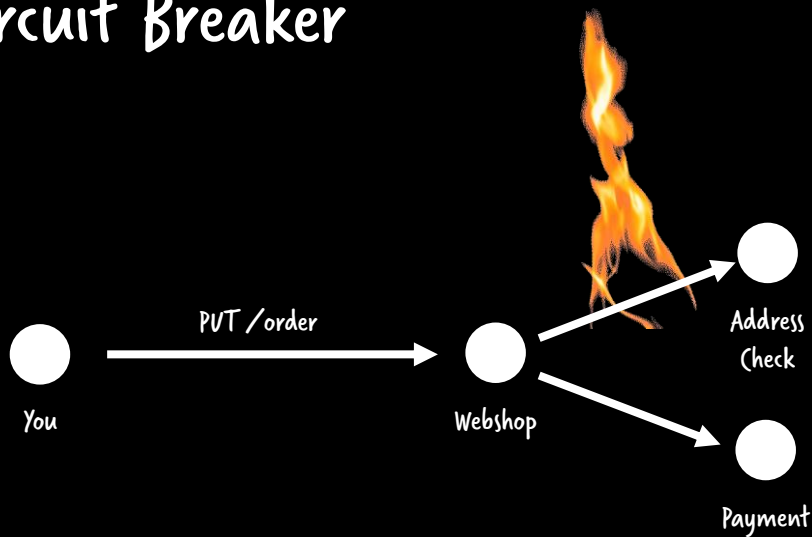
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# Circuit Breaker



Photo by CITYEDV, available under [Creative Commons CC0 1.0 license](#).

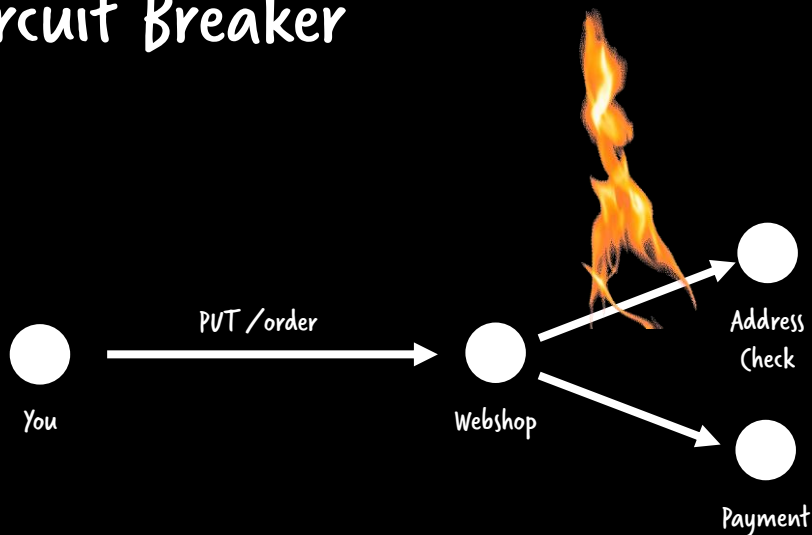
# Circuit Breaker



@berndruecker

from <https://martinfowler.com/bliki/CircuitBreaker.html>

# Circuit Breaker



e.g. Resilience4j:

```
@CircuitBreaker(name = BACKEND, fallbackMethod = "fallback")
public boolean addressValid(Address a) {
    return httpEndpoint.GET(...);
}

private boolean fallback(Address a) {
    return true;
}
```

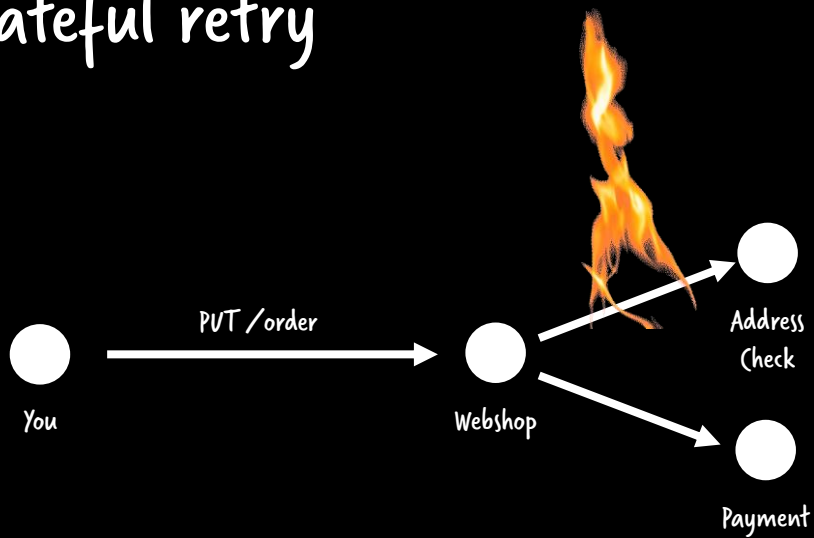
```
resilience4j.circuitbreaker:
  instances:
    BACKEND:
      registerHealthIndicator: true
      slidingWindowSize: 100
      permittedNumberOfCallsInHalfOpenState: 3
      minimumNumberOfCalls: 20
      waitDurationInOpenState: 50s
      failureRateThreshold: 50
```



<https://www.infoworld.com/article/3254777/application-development/3-common-pitfalls-of-microservices-integrationand-how-to-avoid-them.html>



# Stateful retry



orchestration  
Engine



Scheduler



Durable State

# Patterns To Survive Remote Communication

Service Consumer	Pattern/Concept	Use With	Service Provider
X	Service Discovery	Sync	(X)
X	Circuit Breaker	Sync	
X	Bulkhead	Sync	
(X)	Load Balancing	Sync	X
X	Retry	Sync / Async	
X	Idempotency	Sync / Async	X
	De-duplication	Async	X
(X)	Back Pressure & Rate Limiting	Sync / (Async)	X
X	Await feedback	Async	
X	Sagas	Sync / Async	(X)

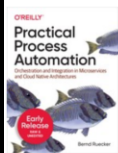
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# Summary

- Know
  - communication styles (sync/async)
  - collaboration styles (command/event)
- You can get rid of temporal coupling with asynchronous communication
  - Make sure you or your team can handle it
  - You will need long running capabilities (you might need it anyway)
  - Synchronous communication + correct patterns might also be OK
- Domain coupling does not go away!

Want to learn more...

<https://ProcessAutomationBook.com/>



What To Expect From This Book

About The Author

Code Examples

Customer Onboarding Example

Order Fulfillment Example

Other Examples

Additional Resources

Curated List of Tools

Blog, Talks And Articles

## The Architect Always Implements

Discussing concepts is only half the fun if you cannot point to concrete code examples. Runnable code forces you to be precise, to think about details you can leave out on the conceptual level and, most importantly, it often explains things best. I am personally a big fan of the motto "the architect always implements".

This is why there is source code belonging to this book, which you can find in this part of the website. These examples will not only help you better understand the concepts described in this book - they also give you a great opportunity to play with technology whenever you are bored from reading.

## Examples Overview

- **Customer Onboarding Example:** A process solution used in Chapter 2 of the book to introduce executable process models. It contains a process to onboard new mobile phone customers in a telecommunication company.
- **Order Fulfillment Example:** Example using microservices implementing an end-to-end order fulfillment process that involves multiple microservices and various local process models. While mentioned at multiple places in the book, it the core example in Chapter 7 and Chapter 8.
- **Other Example:** Curated list of interesting links to more executable examples, typically demonstrating specific concepts.

O'REILLY®

# Practical Process Automation

Orchestration and Integration in Microservices and Cloud Native Architectures

Bernd Ruecker

Thank you!

