Game On!

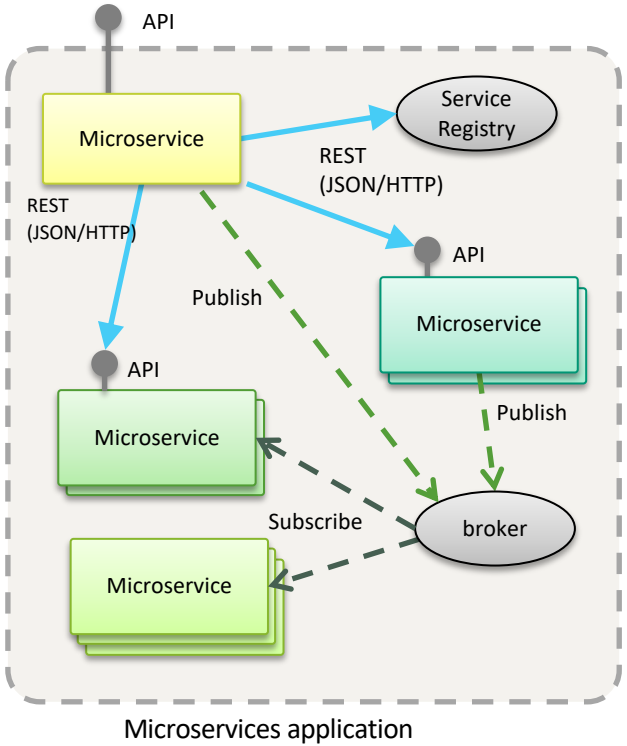
Exploring Microservices with a Text-Based Adventure

Erin Schnabel @ebullientworks
September 2016

Microservices are used to…

- compose a complex application using
  - “small”
  - independent (autonomous)
  - replaceable
  - processes

- that communicate via
  - language-agnostic APIs

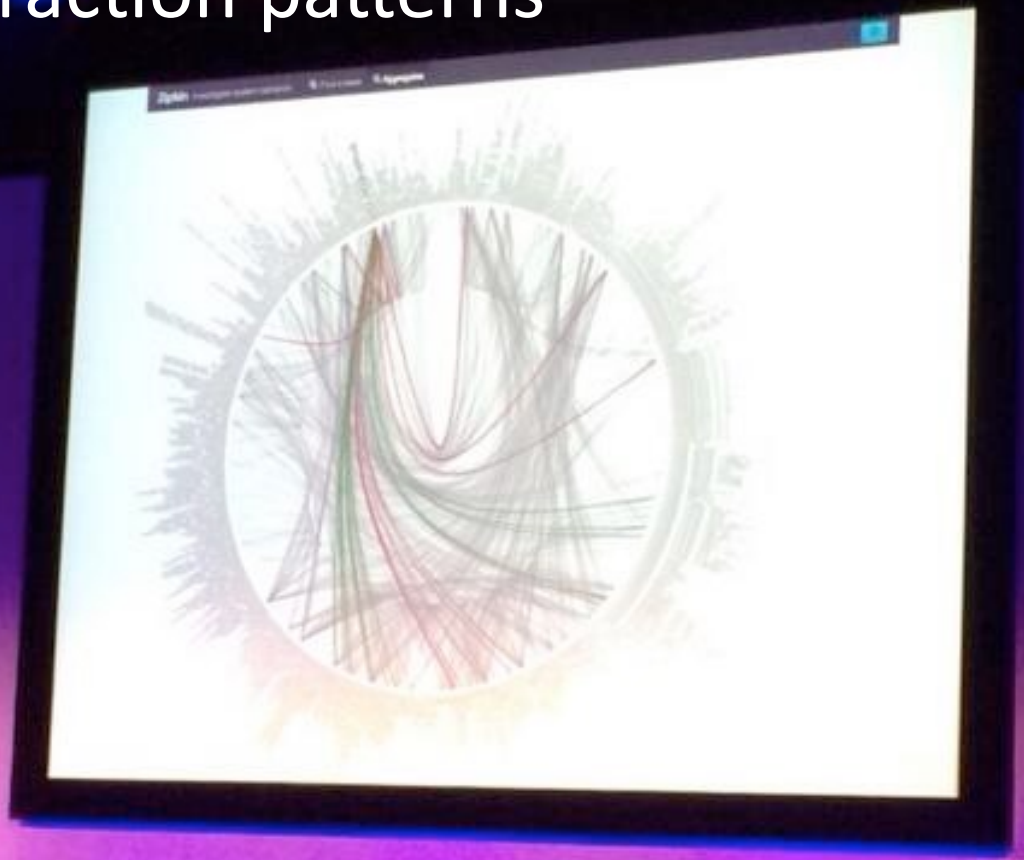


Why?

- Accommodate differences
  - SQL, NoSQL, Graph…
  - Change cycles
  - Scaling profiles
  - Security zoning
- Facilitate growth
  - Polyglot explosion

- Agility!
  - Bounded context (code + data)
  - Faster iteration cycles
- Reduce risk → try new things
  - Isolate legacy vs. unknown

Interaction patterns



"Twitter microservices map looks just like the Netflix one. We called this the 'Death Star' diagram"

— Adrian Cockcroft
via twitter

https://twitter.com/adrianco/status/441883572618948608

Fallacies of distributed computing

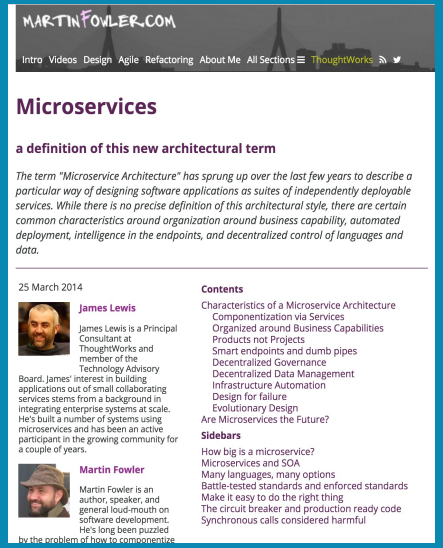
- The network is reliable
- Latency is zero
- Bandwidth is infinite
- The network is secure
- Topology doesn’t change
- There is one administrator
- Transport cost is zero
- The network is homogenous

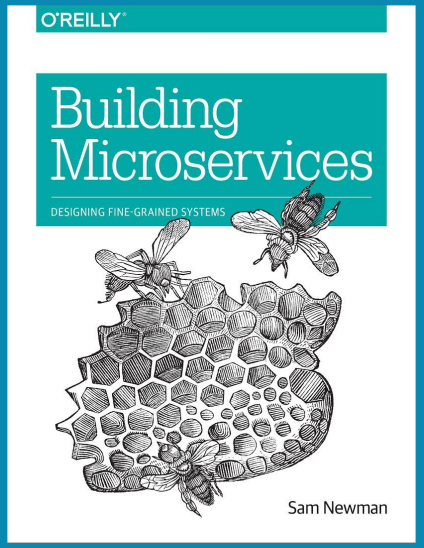
-- L Peter Deutsch, 1994

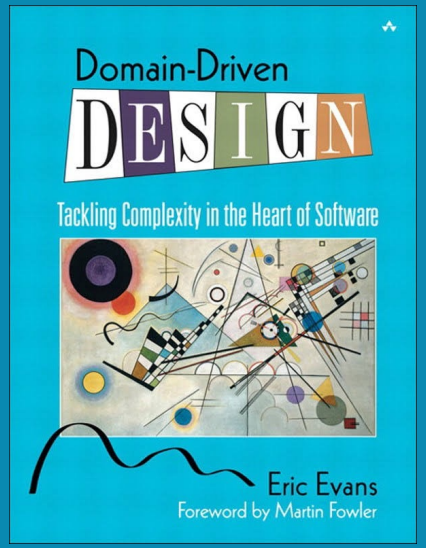
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fallacies_of_distributed_computing

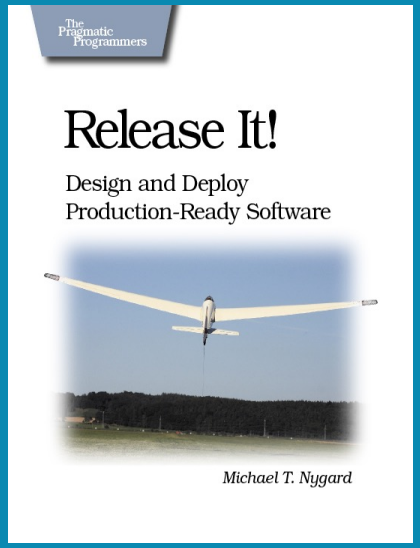
Conway’s law

Bounded Contexts









Eventual consistency

DevOps

Automation

Testing?

Microservices Sample Apps…

- Create a si…

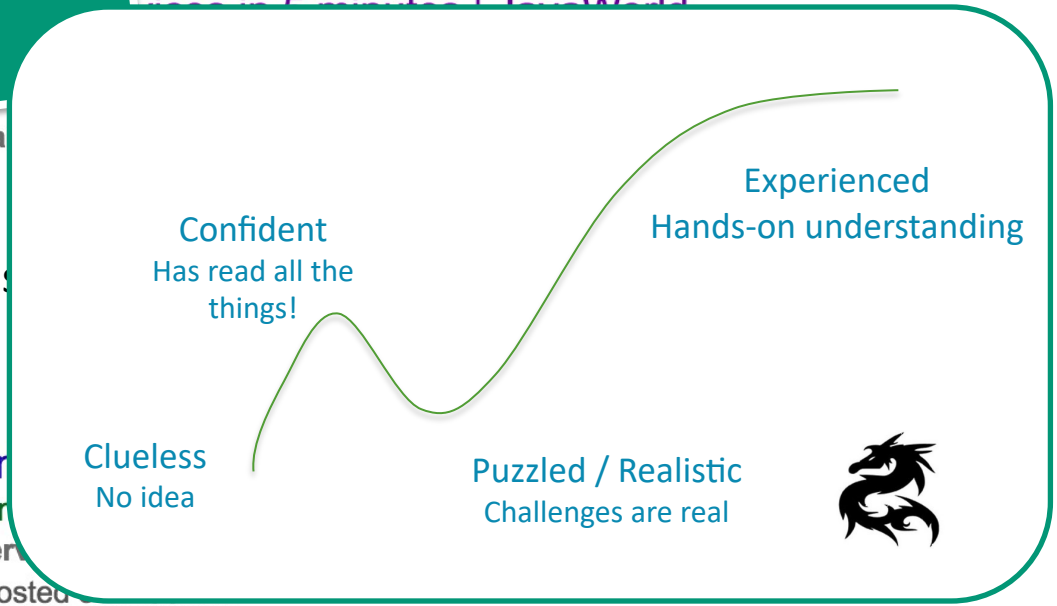
Microservices are so easy!

…ices in 5 minutes | JavaWorld

…ve not imported the sa…

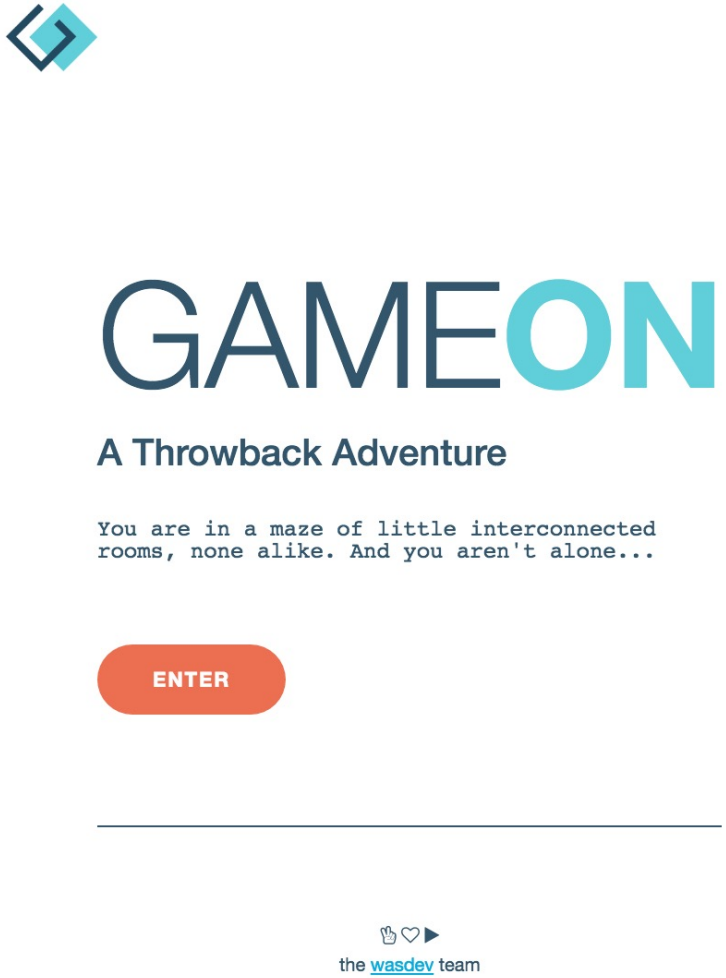
- Rebuild a pre-baked micros…

Microservices Onlin…
https://developer.ibm.cor…
Mar 16, 2015 - A microser…
Java JAX-RS, PHP and hosted …



The premise …

- Hands on with microservices
- Stick with ’Hello World’ simplicity
- Choose your own adventure
- Fast path to the hard stuff
- Build something cool (to you!)
- Learn as you go



connected: validating JWT
enter The First Room

Welcome to The First Room

Status updates

The First Room

You've entered a vaguely squarish room, with walls of an indeterminate color.

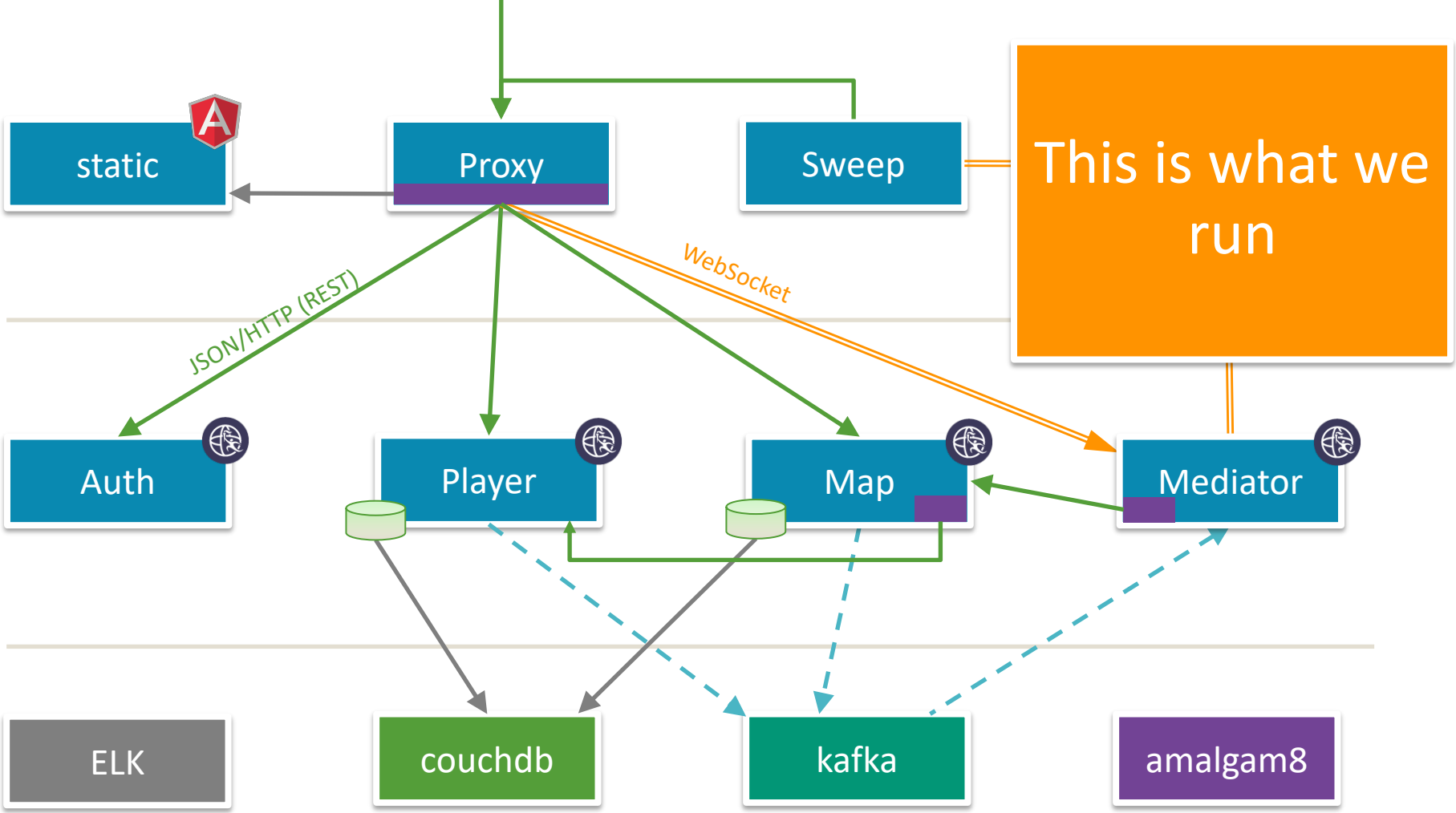
TL;DR README (The extended edition is here):

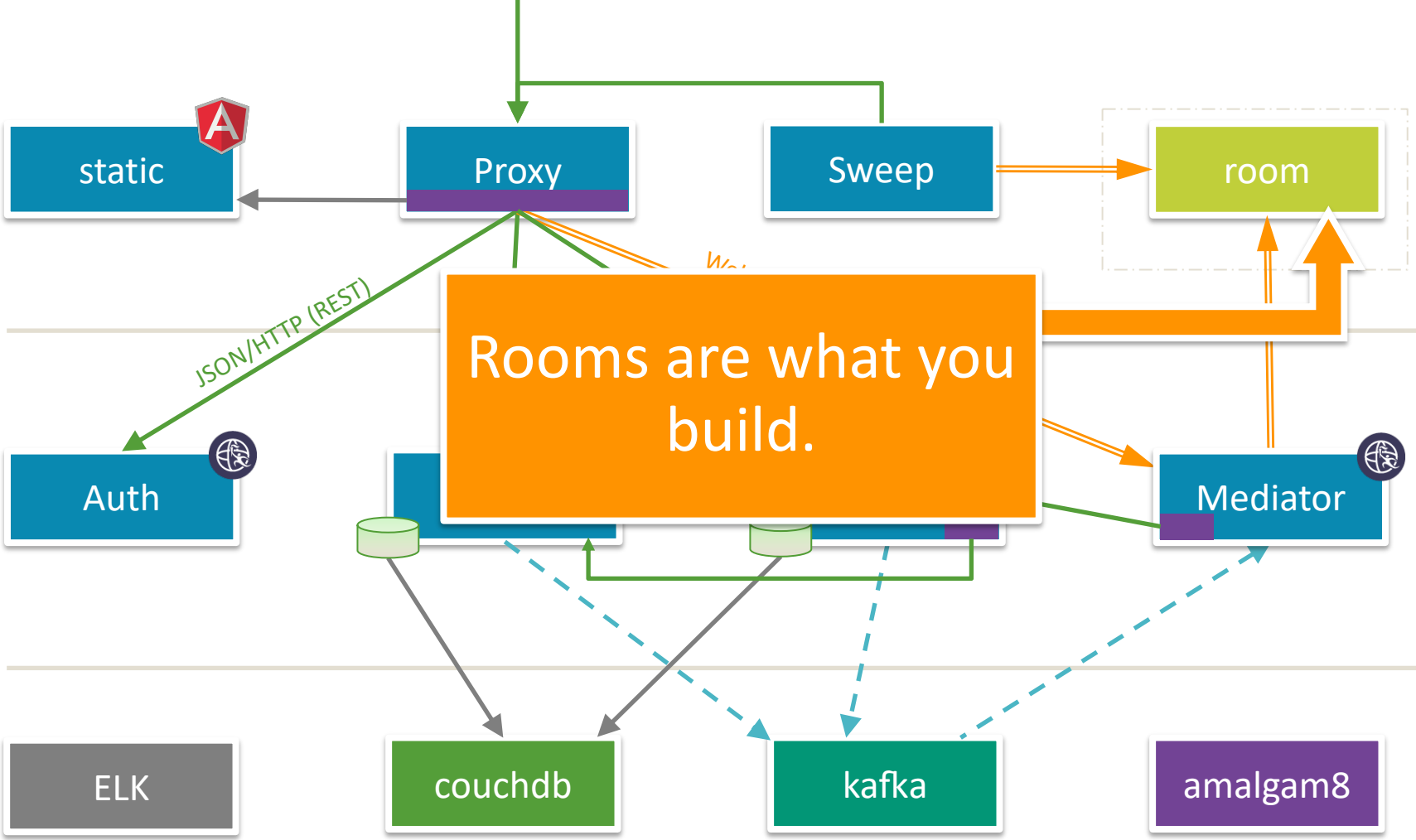
- Commands start with '/'.
- Use `/help` to list all available commands. The lis
- Use `/exits` to list all available exits.
- Use `/sos` to return to First Room if you're stuck.
- Rooms might try to fool you, but these three commands will always work.

Retro, text-only interface

Simple text commands

</> /go N


static
Proxy
Sweep
This is what we run
JSON/HTTP (REST)
WebSocket
Auth
Player
Map
Mediator
ELK
couchdb
kafka
amalgam8


static
Proxy
Sweep
room
JSON/HTTP (REST)
Rooms are what you build.
Auth
Mediator
ELK
couchdb
kafka
amalgam8

What happens when…

1. Build a basic room

2. Scale that room (multiple instances)
   - Where are players?
   - What about items or shared state?
   - Latency, managing calls to additional services

Exploration of solutions for caching, circuit breakers, service interaction patterns

Twelve Factors

Twelve factor applications

- "a methodology for building software-as-a-service applications"
  - Created by developers at Heroku

- Factors are independent of
  - programming language,
  - backing services,
  - cloud provider

- http://12factor.net/

The Twelve Factors

I. Codebase
One codebase tracked in revision control, many deploys

II. Dependencies
Explicitly declare and isolate dependencies

III. Config
Store config in the environment

IV. Backing Services
Treat backing services as attached resources

V. Build, release, run
Strictly separate build and run stages

VI. Processes
Execute the app as one or more stateless processes

VII. Port binding
Export services via port binding

VIII. Concurrency
Scale out via the process model

IX. Disposability
Maximize robustness with fast startup and graceful shutdown

X. Dev/prod parity
Keep development, staging, and production as similar as possible

XI. Logs
Treat logs as event streams

XII. Admin processes
Run admin/management tasks as one-off processes

Git + Submodules (Factor 1: codebase)

- Root repository: https://github.com/gameontext/gameon
  - Optional use of submodules

- Key: Only builds update submodule commit levels
  - Prevents conflicts and confusion caused by humans

Containers (Factor 2: dependencies, 5: build/release/run, 6: Processes, 8: concurrency, 10: dev/prod parity)

- Encapsulation of all dependencies
- Parity: dev -> test -> prod
- Configuration passed in via environment

- Local: Docker Compose or Vagrant
  - Pre-built images in dockerhub (this came later..)
  - Overlays for local editing

- Independent build pipelines per service to deploy containers

Liberty (Factor 2, 10, 3: config, 4: backing services, 7: port binding, 9: disposability)

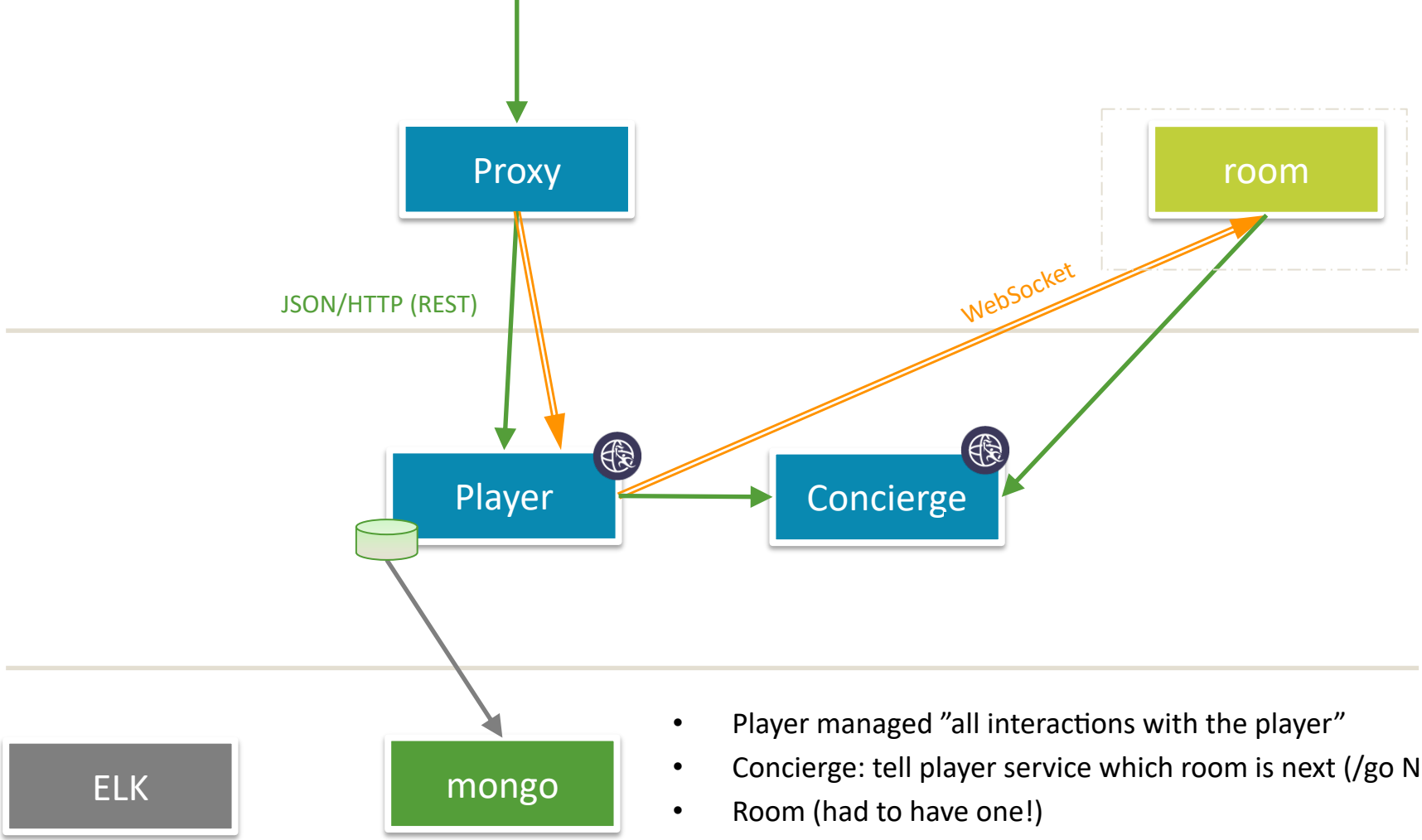
- Java services are Liberty-based
- Customizable features: Cachable Docker Layers
  - Explicit app server dependencies
  - Self-contained immutable artifact
  - Smaller war (smaller delta)

- Environment variables in server config
  - Common configuration across environments
  - Config munging not necessary
  - Composable configuration w/ dropins if required

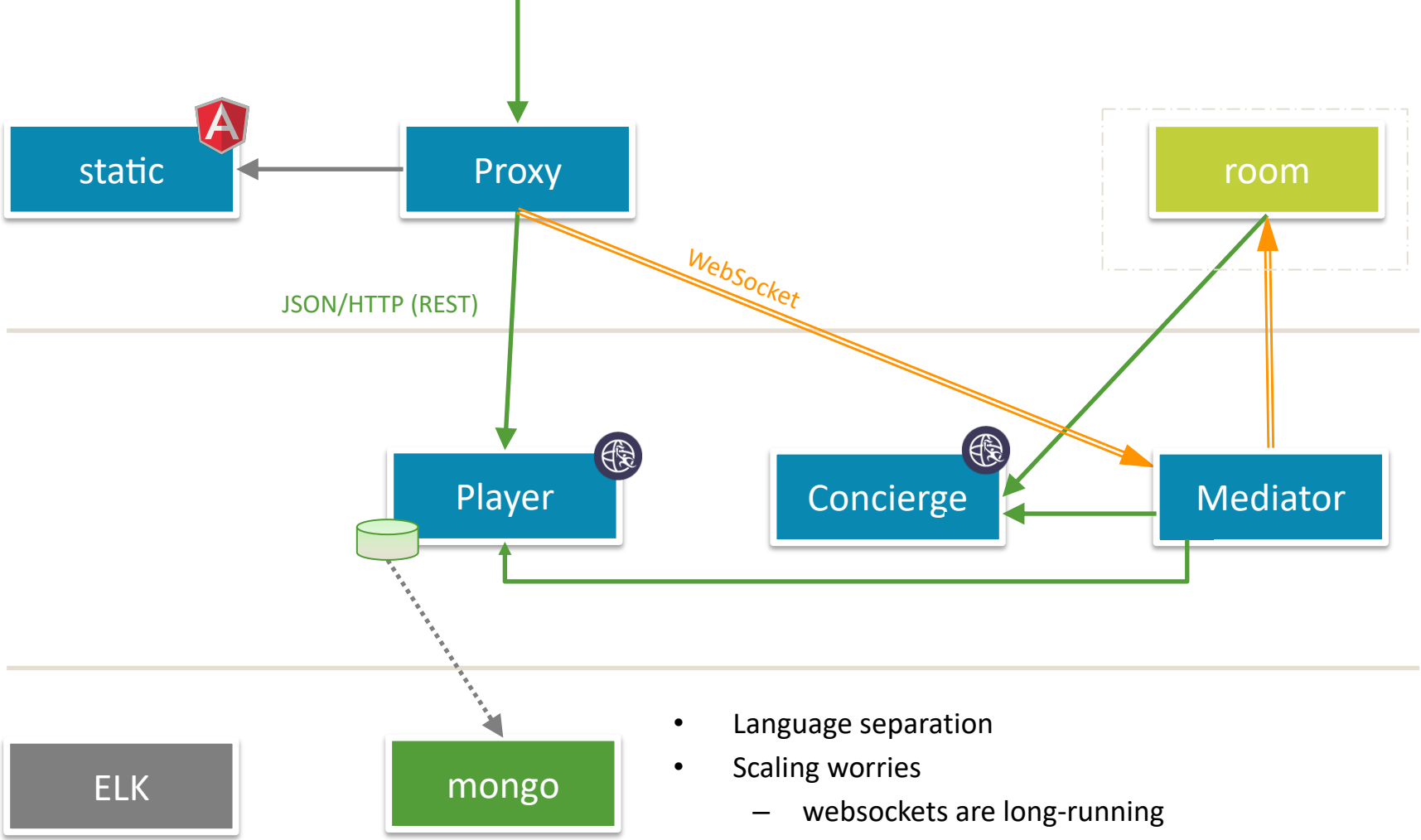
```
# Install required features
RUN /opt/ibm/wlp/bin/installUtility install \
    apiDiscovery-1.0 \
    bluemixLogCollector-1.1 \
    cdi-1.2 \
    concurrent-1.0 \
    couchdb-1.0 \
    localConnector-1.0 \
    jaxrs-2.0 \
    jndi-1.0 \
    jsonp-1.0 \
    ssl-1.0 \
    websocket-1.1
```

```
<couchdb id="couchdb"
         jndiName="couchdb/connector"
         libraryRef="couchdb-lib"
         password="${env.COUCHDB_PASSWORD}"
         url="${env.COUCHDB_SERVICE_URL}"
         username="${env.COUCHDB_USER}"/>
```

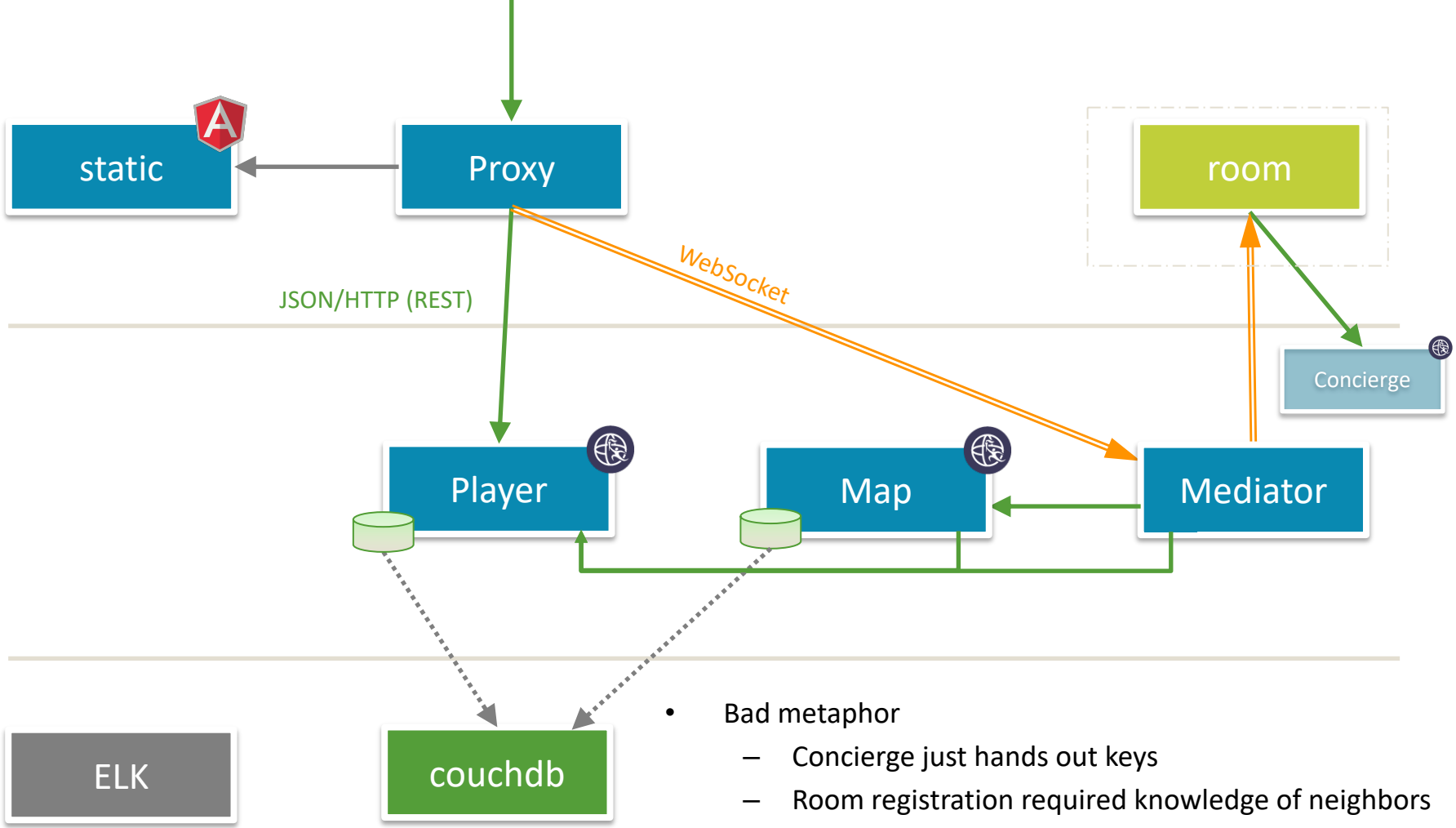
Service composition



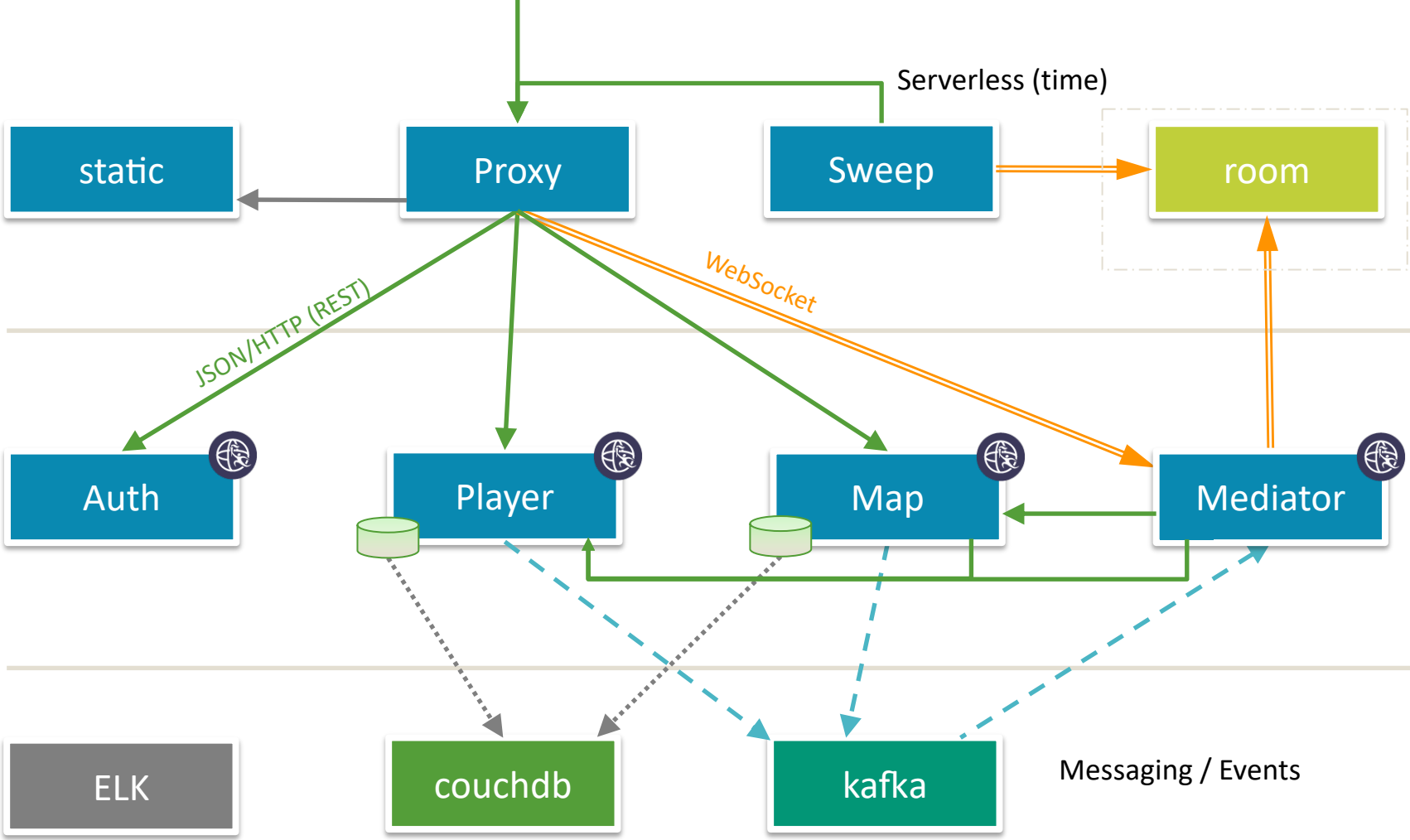
- Player managed ”all interactions with the player”
- Concierge: tell player service which room is next (/go N)
- Room (had to have one!)



- Language separation
- Scaling worries
  - websockets are long-running
  - Simple CRUD operations



- Bad metaphor
  - Concierge just hands out keys
  - Room registration required knowledge of neighbors

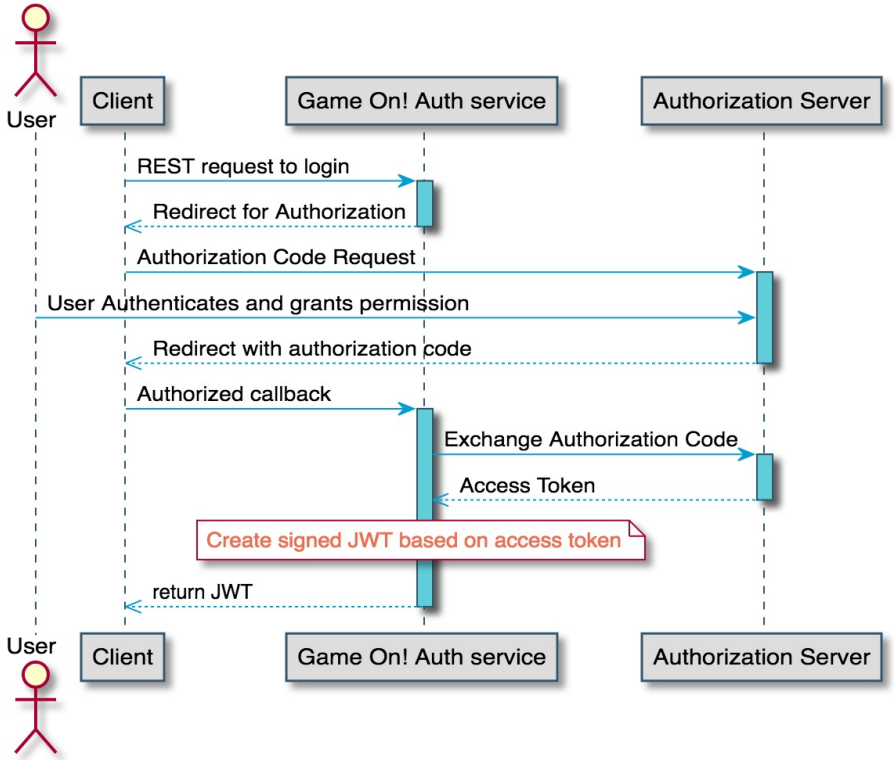

Serverless (time)
static
Proxy
Sweep
room
JSON/HTTP (REST)
WebSocket
Auth
Player
Map
Mediator
ELK
couchdb
kafka
Messaging / Events

Security

OAuth & JWTs

- OAuth proxy
  - Application id w/ different front-end
  - Could be a gateway instead

- Access token converted into signed JWT
- System services deal only with JWT
  - game-on.org SSL certificate
  - Well-known public key



Hashed message authentication codes (HMACs)

- Shared secrets
  - Credentials not sent on the wire
  - Used to verify identity of sender

- Map operations
  - Mutable operations require HMAC signature
  - Hashed signature used to prevent replays

- Room handshake for WebSocket
  - It is the game calling the room
  - Room answering the game

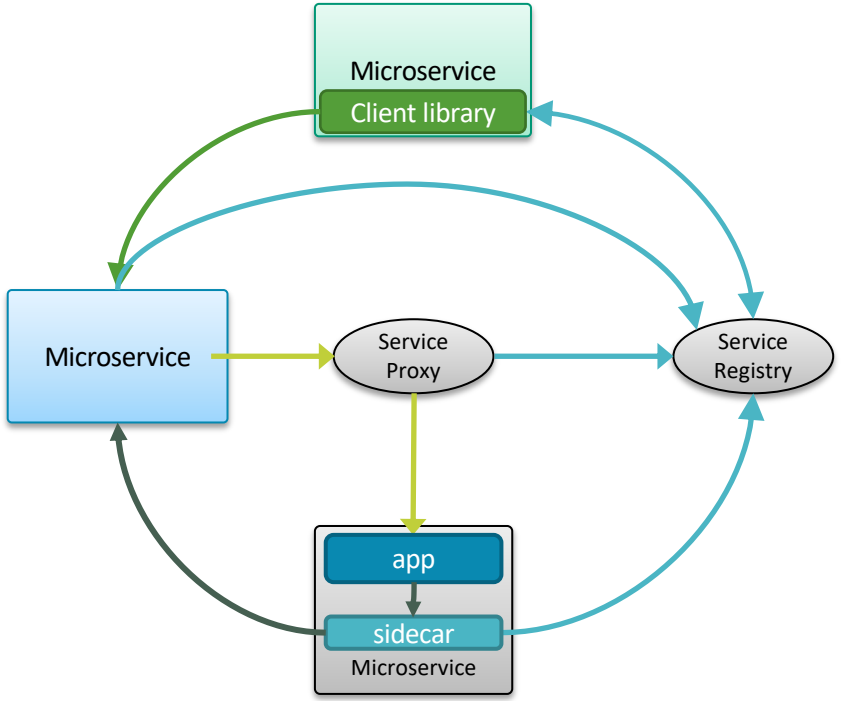
- https://book.game-on.org/microservices/ApplicationSecurity.html

Service discovery

Service registration and discovery

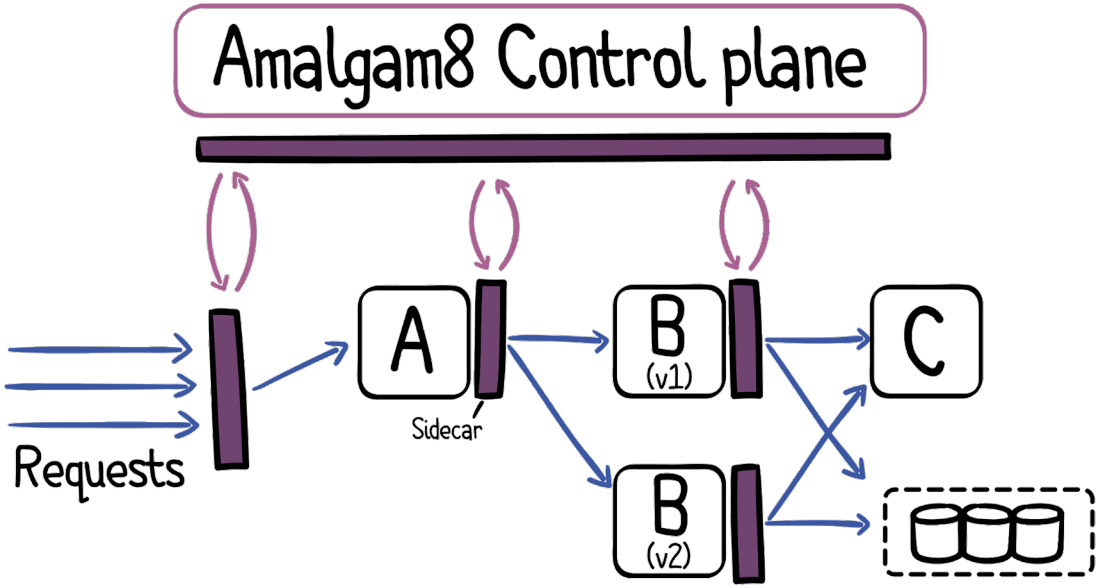
- Required for load balancing and scaling
- Services need to find each other
- Environment changes constantly

- Client-side or server-side?
- Client library, sidecar, or proxy?



Amalgam8

- Basics
  - Service registration
  - Service discovery
  - Client-side load balancing



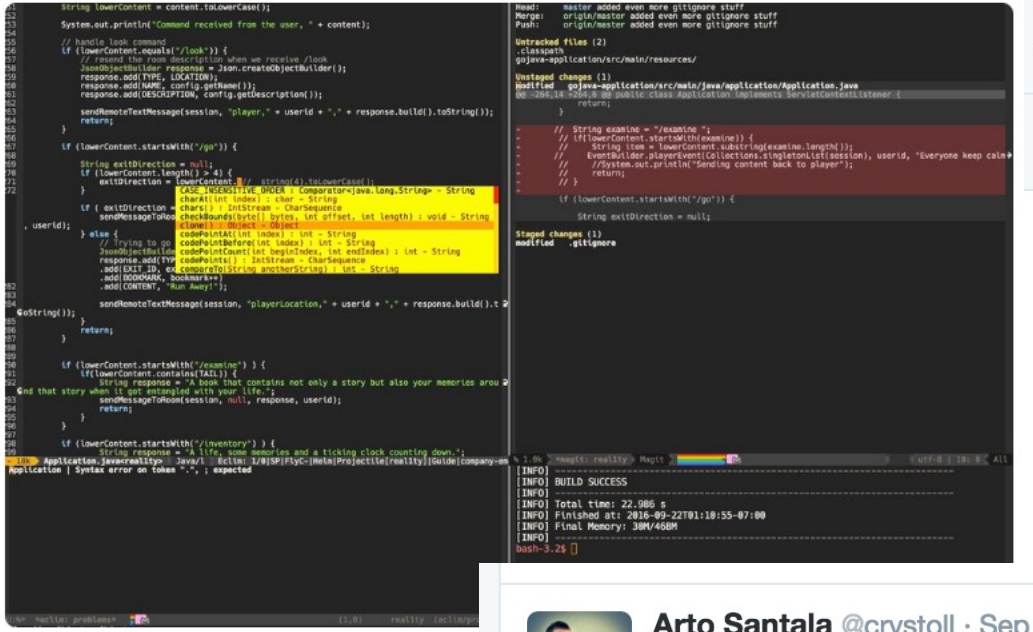
- How
  - Sidecar model. 2 options:
    - An independent process running in the same container as the app
    - An independent container running in the same pod as the app container

Successful?

swardley @swardley · Aug 2

One I want to try -> Learning microservices in the open with GameOn! by **@ebullientworks** conferences.oreilly.com/oscon/open-sou… #oscon

ha! got it working in emacs so I dont have to much around in those ides that drive me up the wall! Now I can go to sleep.



4h

Learning microservices in the open with GameOn! -...

There are plenty of talks out there about how to get started with microservices, but in reality you learn by doing. Erin Schnabel and Katherine Stanley explore l...

conferences.oreilly.com

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Arto Santala @crystoll · Sep 19

@ebullientworks @Dev_Events @gameontext Cool, looking forward to try it!

1 1

Questions?

Thank You!

Play – http://game-on.org

Learn more – http://book.game-on.org

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