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Building Cloud Native Applications: Best Practices in Action

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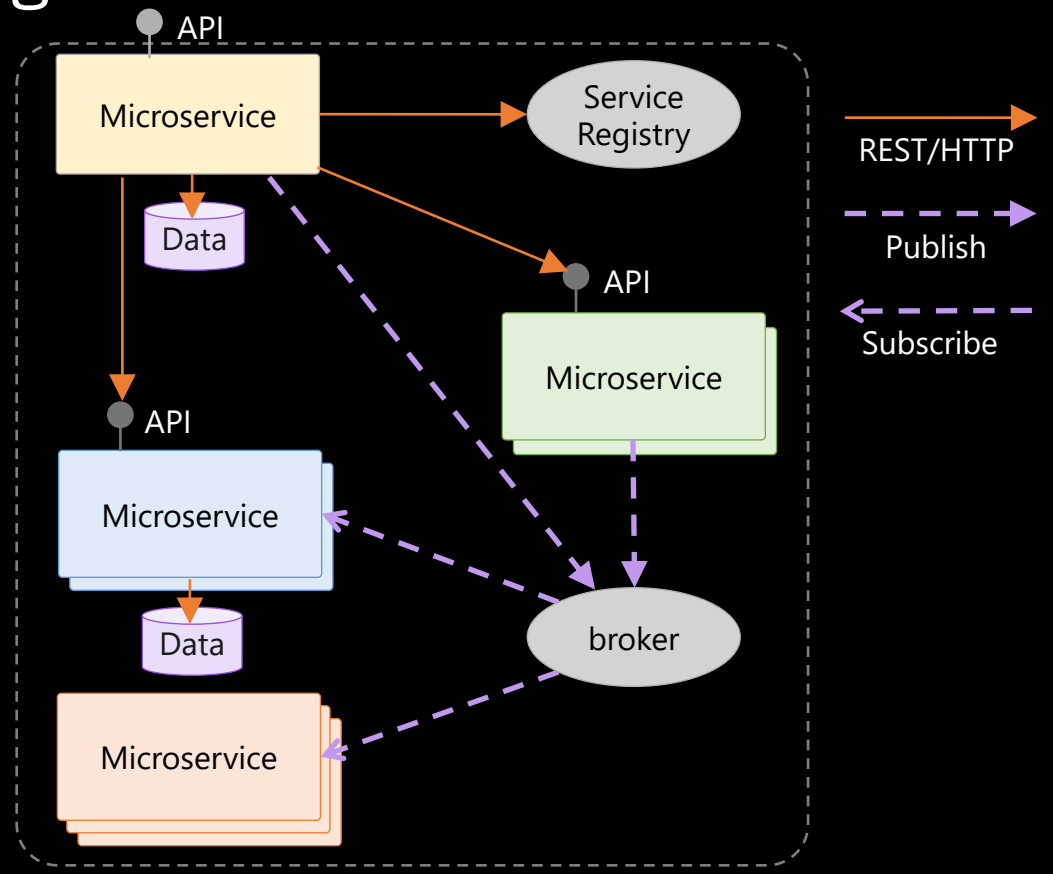
Cloud Native

An **application architecture** designed to leverage the **strengths** and accommodate the **challenges** of a **standardized** cloud environment, including concepts such as **elastic** scaling, **immutable** deployment, **disposable** instances, and **less predictable infrastructure**.

Microservices are used to...

- compose a complex application using
  - “small”
  - independent (autonomous)
  - replaceable
  - processes
- that communicate via
  - language-agnostic APIs



All the words ..

This workshop will review the **best practices in building Microservices** using **popular cloud-native programming models**. It will address questions such as:

- **Where do we start?** How big is a Microservice?
- Should every Microservice **own its own data**?
- How much ... belongs in **the application vs. the environment**?
- How can we leverage ... **Kubernetes and Istio**?

In this workshop we will address the above questions, outline some best practices and share our **experience gained building Game On!**, an open source Microservices application built to help people explore cloud-native environments.

Join us on Slack!

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Book

What is this game, and what does it have to do with microservices? Read on!

Blog

Extra! Extra! Get the latest on our adventures, whether they be at events or just in code.

Swagger APIs

Our callable REST APIs. Cleanly documented with Swagger. Ready to be poked with sticks.

GitHub Projects

Game On! is open source. All the code. All the words.

Docker Images

Game On! has pre-built images on Docker Hub to make local development easier.

Contributors

Lots of people helped to build this game. We hope you will, too.

GAMEON

A Throwback Adventure in Cloud Native Development

You are in a maze of little interconnected rooms,
none alike. And you aren't alone...

ENTER

By entering this site you are agreeing to our terms

https://gameontext.org

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User Profile

Username	Favorite color
GlutenFreePastrySlice	Fuschia
GENERATE A USERNAME	GENERATE A COLOR
GlutenFreePastrySlice moves the chair.	GlutenFreePastrySlice loves the color Fuschia

DONE!

connected: validating JWT

enter The First Room

Welcome to The First Room

The First Room

You've entered a vaguely squarish room, with walls of an indeterminate color. A note is pinned to the wall.

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

- Commands start with '/'.
- Use `/help` to list all available commands. The list will change from room to room.
- 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.

You notice:

- Note

The First Room

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You notice:

- Note

</>

Things to try

- /go <direction: E|W|N|S>
- /help – Rooms provide additional/custom commands
- /sos – Emergency return to First Room

- From First Room:
  - /go W to ”Junky Place” – written by an 8 year old
  - /go E to “Rec Room” – this room is a puzzle

Pause and think ...

- How would you build this?

- **Where do we start?**
- **How big** is a Microservice?
- Should every Microservice **own its own data**?

2 minutes ... GO!

Let’s start some background tasks

- Start the path for Local room development:
  - https://github.com/gameontext/gameon/

- Choose your own adventure:
  1. Docker Compose ←
  2. *Kubernetes*
     - *Kubernetes + Helm*

TL;DR

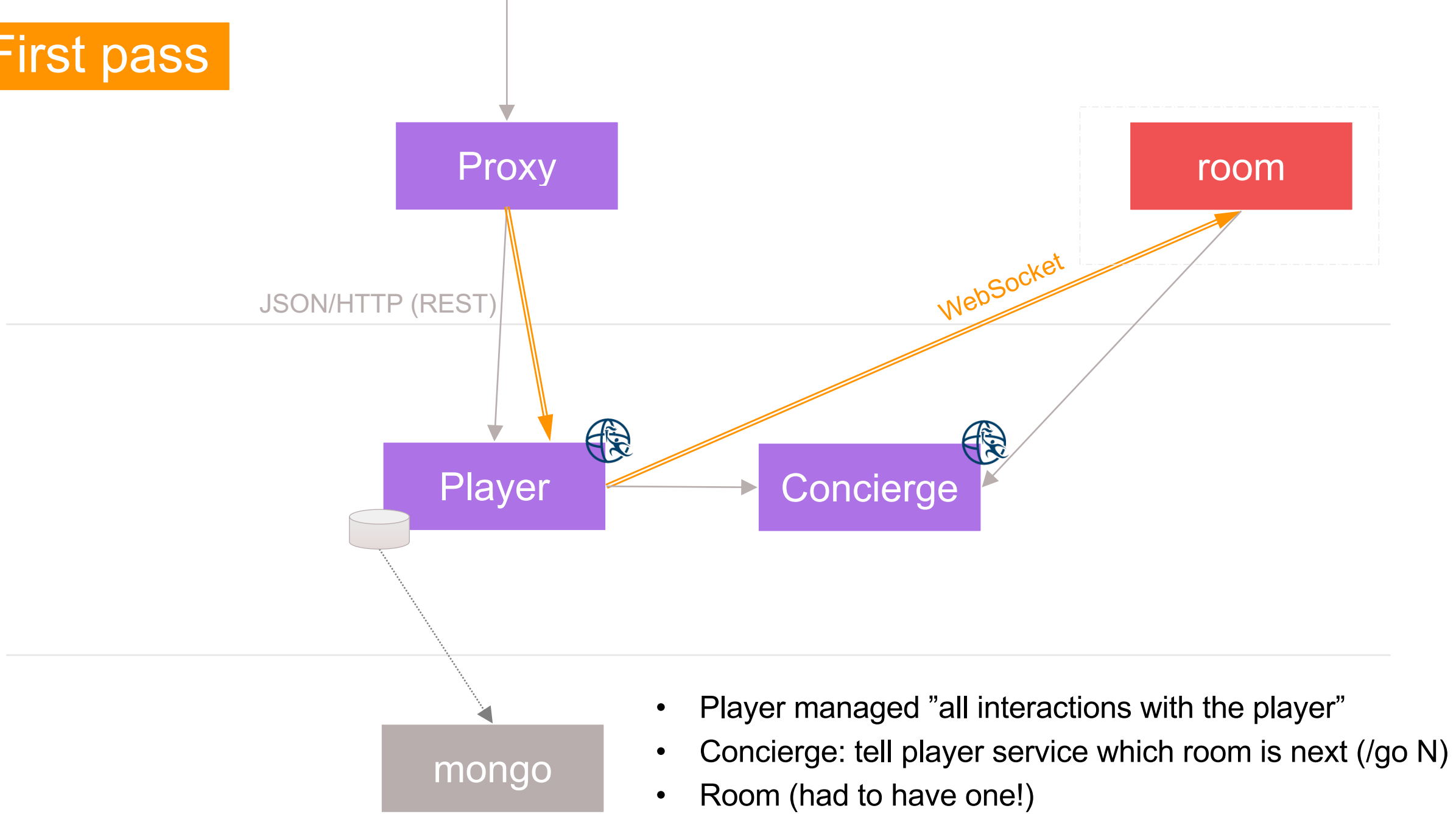
```
$ git clone https://github.com/gameontext/gameon.git
$ cd gameon                          # cd into the project directory
$ ./go-admin.sh choose               # choose Docker Compose (1)
$ eval $(./go-admin.sh env)          # set aliases for admin scripts
$ alias go-run                       # confirm path (docker)
$ go-run setup
$ go-run up
$ go-run wait                      # make sure things are good to go
```

Pause and think ...

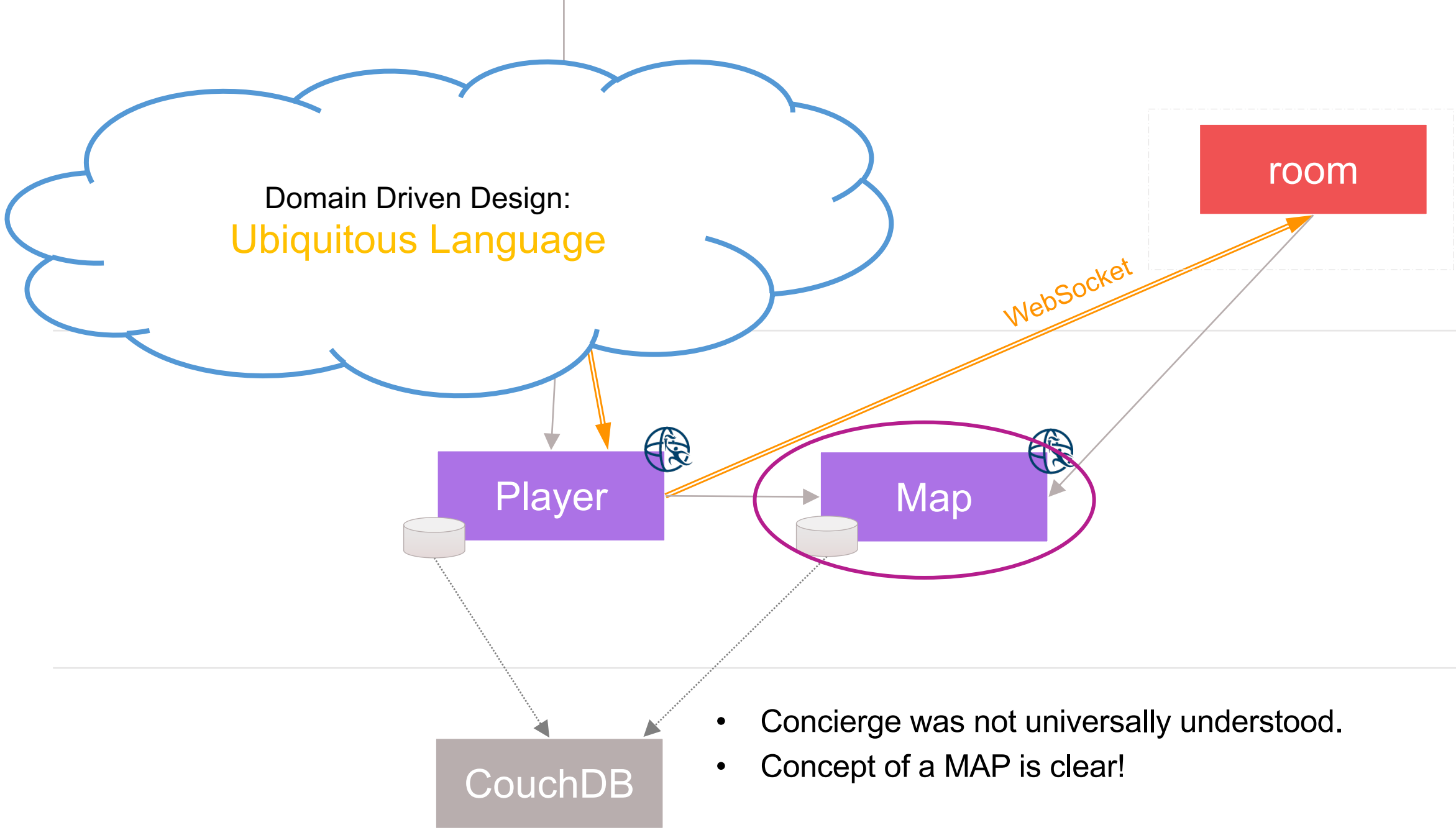
- How would you build this?

How many services did you guess?

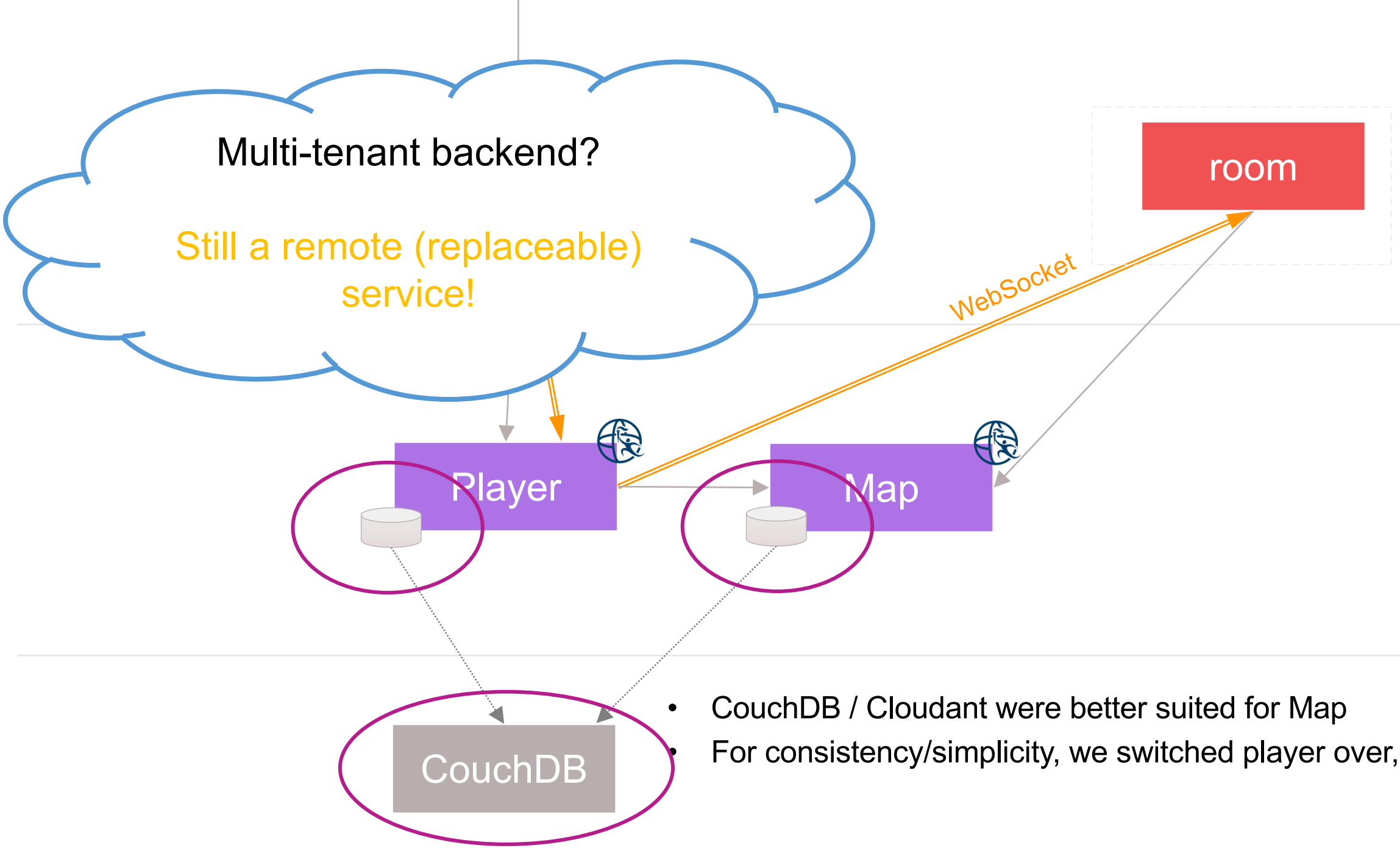
First pass



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



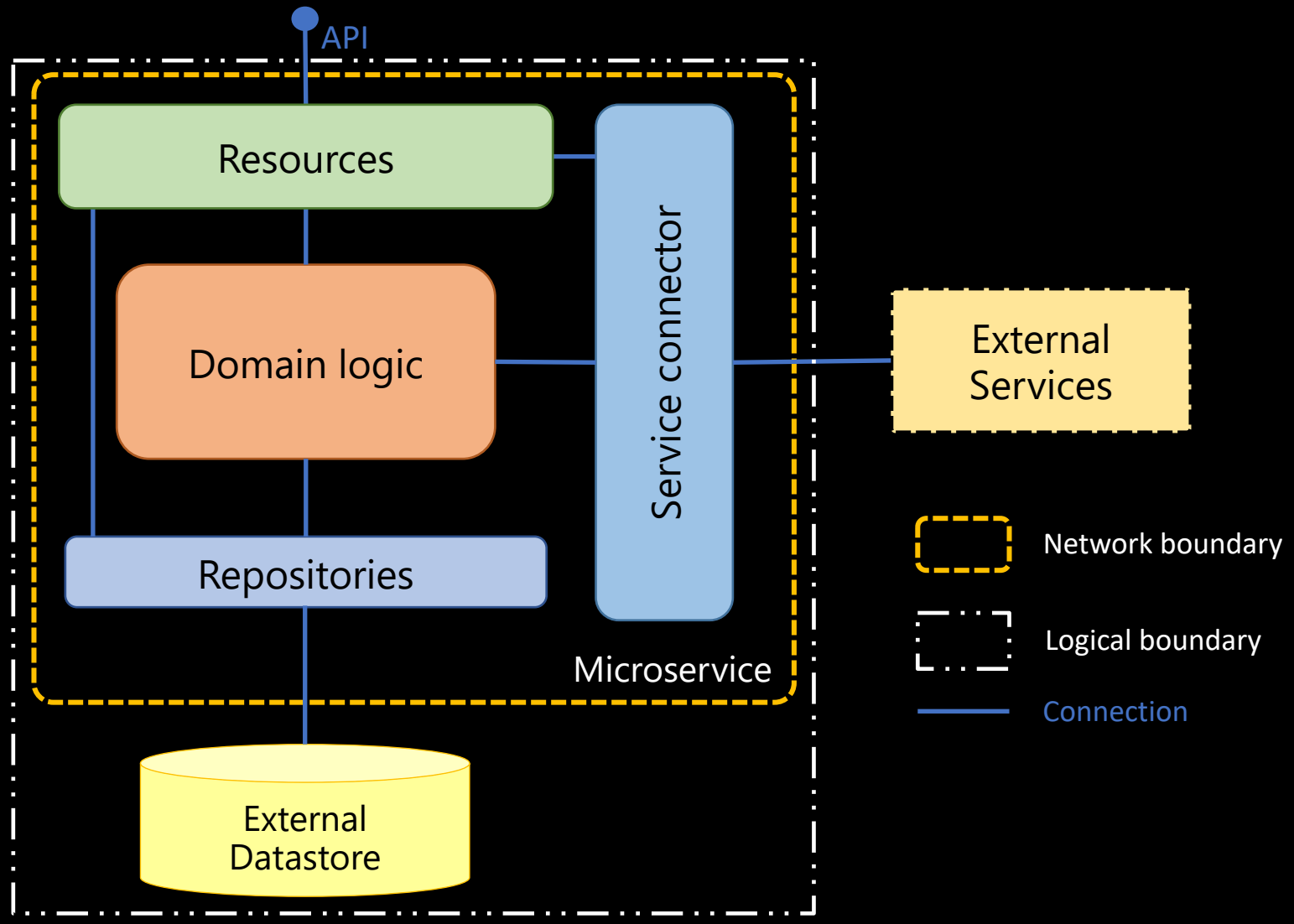
- Concierge was not universally understood.
- Concept of a MAP is clear!

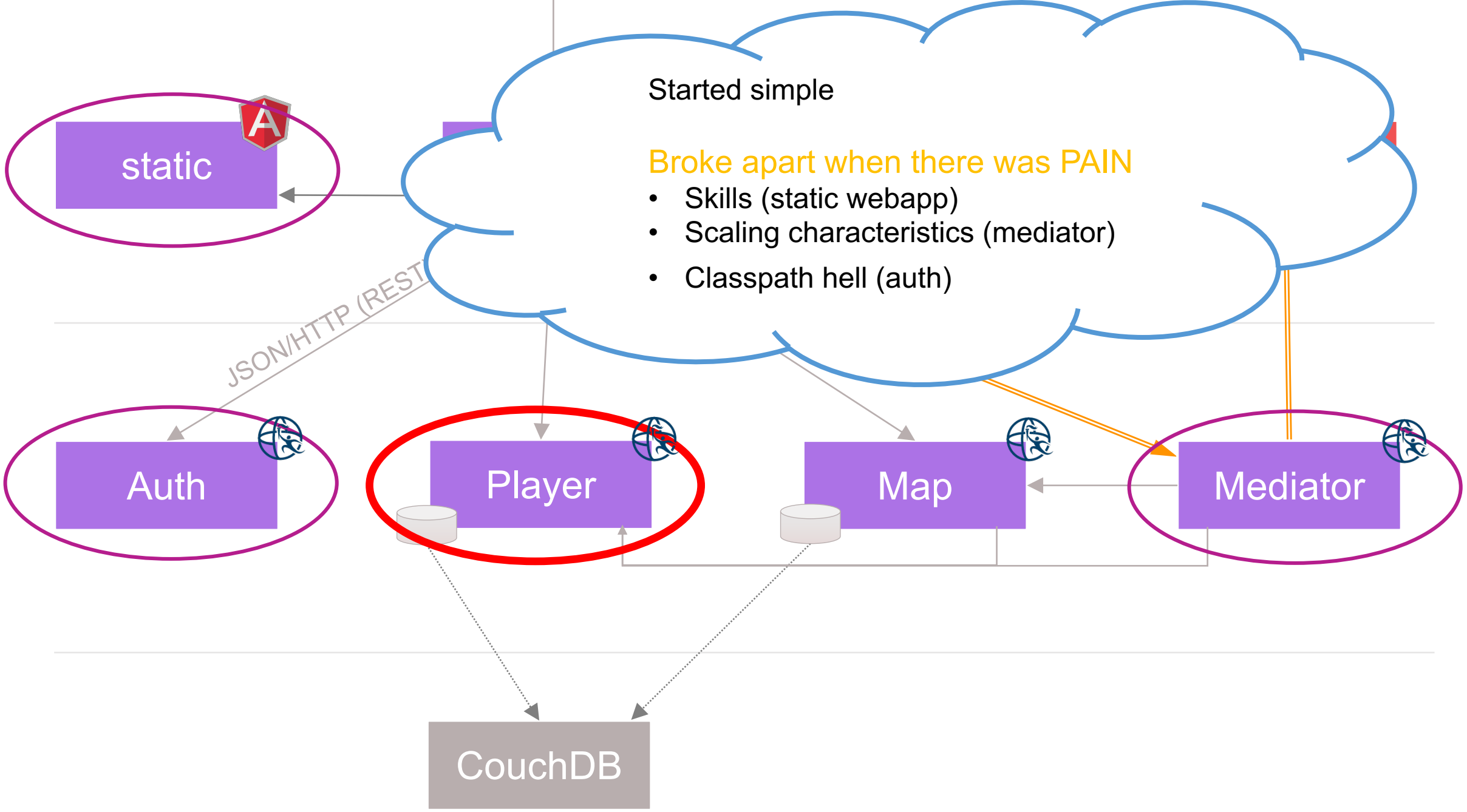


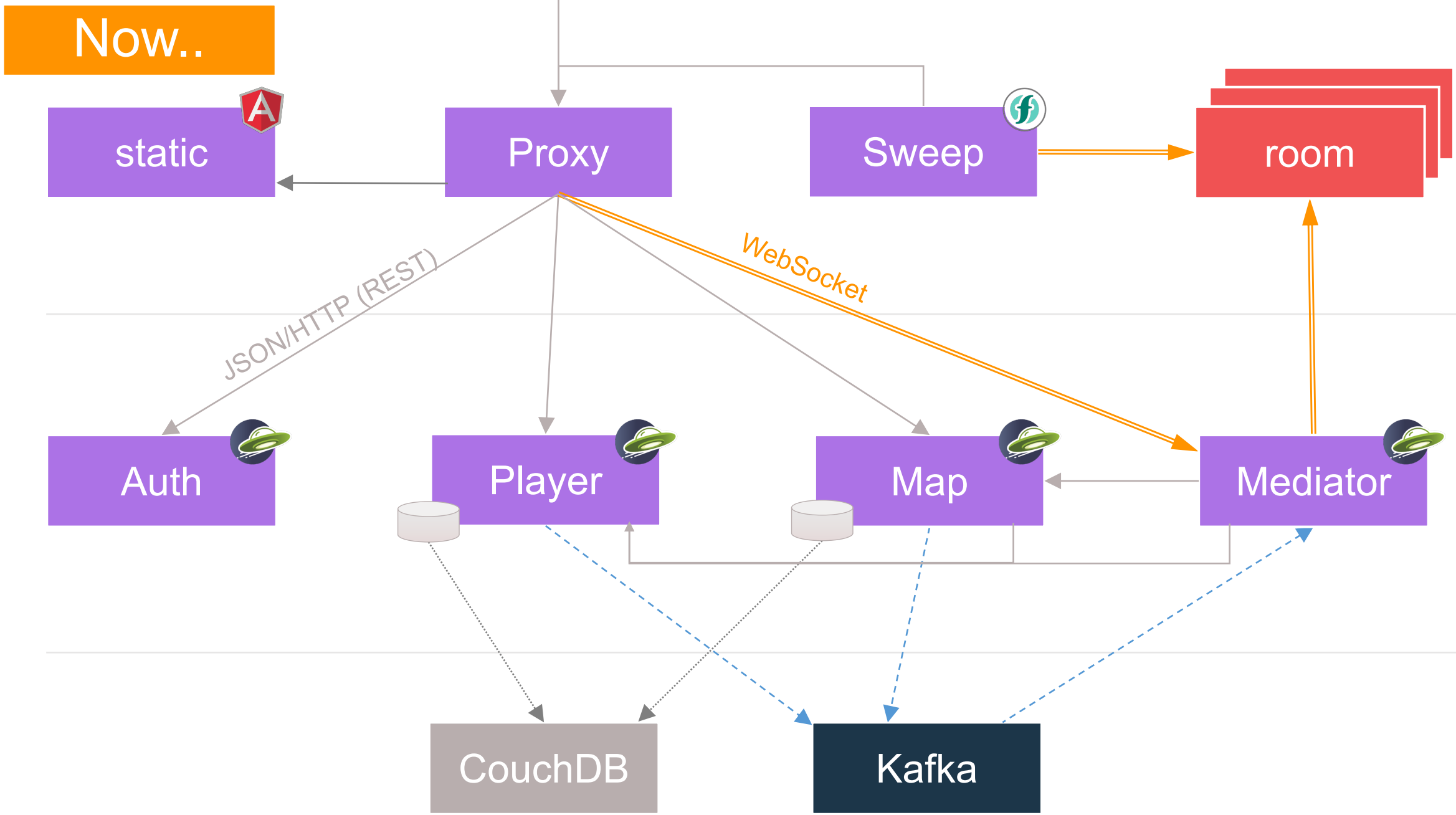
- CouchDB / Cloudant were better suited for Map
- For consistency/simplicity, we switched player over, too

The anatomy of a microservice

- Robustness principle
  - Be stingy in what you share
  - Be generous in what you accept
- Anti-corruption layers




Started simple
Broke apart when there was PAIN
• Skills (static webapp)
• Scaling characteristics (mediator)
• Classpath hell (auth)
static
JSON/HTTP (REST
Auth
Player
Map
Mediator
CouchDB


Now..
static
Proxy
Sweep
room
JSON/HTTP (REST)
WebSocket
Auth
Player
Map
Mediator
CouchDB
Kafka

Let’s make sure things are running..

```
$ go-run up       # if you haven’t already

$ go-run wait     # make sure things are good to go
  Game On! You're ready to play:  https://127.0.0.1


$ git clone https://github.com/stefanprodan/dockprom

$ cd dockprom

$ ADMIN_USER=admin ADMIN_PASSWORD=admin docker-compose up -d
```

Application vs. Environment

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

Local development

- Root /umbrella project for running core services locally
  - Scripts (go-admin.sh, go-run.sh)
- Local overrides for fast iteration
  - docker-compose.override.xml
  - Volume mounts
- Common base container for liberty image
  - Caching / Patching vulnerabilities

Let’s fix the web front end (1/2)

Click on the terms link: https://127.0.0.1

```
$ git submodule update --init webapp

$ cd webapp

$ ./build.sh
```

Using a container for build

- In gameon/webapp:
  - Dockerfile-node
  - docker/docker-build.sh (npm & gulp)
  - build.sh

- Key elements:
  - Specified user & group to avoid file permission issues
  - Specific volume for installed node modules
    - Avoid fighting over binaries between host and container

Let’s fix the web front end (2/2)

- In gameon/webapp directory:
  1. Open app/templates/default.html
  2. Around line 27, remove “templates/” before “terms.html”
- In gameon/docker directory:
  1. Copy docker-compose.override.yml.example → **docker-compose.override.yml**
  2. Open docker-compose.override.yml in editor of choice
  3. Uncomment webapp section

$ go-run rebuild webapp

→ Refresh browser!

Continuous Integration with Travis

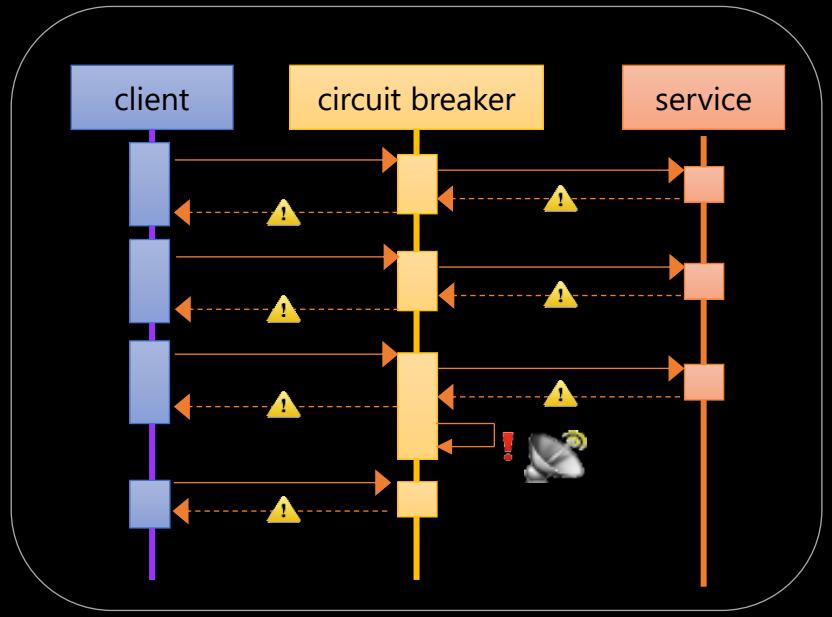
- Git submodules
  - Bridge between monolithic system and microservice
  - RULE: only CI/CD pipeline updates submodule versions

- Similar services use common build scripts
  - Common scripts stored in gameon/root repository
    - https://github.com/gameontext/gameon/tree/master/build
  - Simplifies maintenance
  - Git Ops – Everything for CI/CD is checked into and/or triggered by git

Fault Tolerance

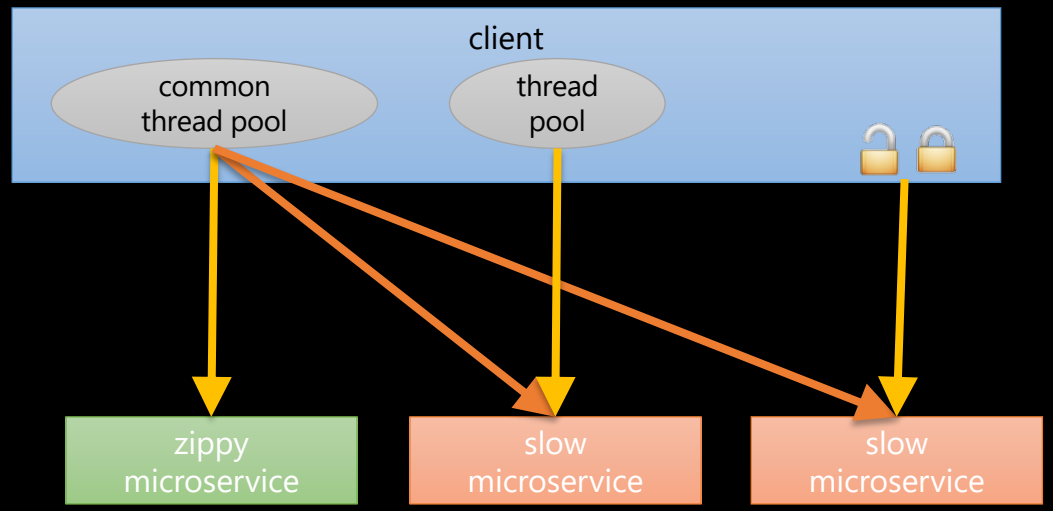
Circuit Breakers

- Wrap remote calls
- Monitor for failures
- Notify when circuit is tripped
- Retry or Fallback?
- When is circuit reset?



Bulkheads

- Ensure at most ‘n’ threads waiting for a slow resource
  - Thread isolation
    - With or without a queue
    - Timeout / fallback
  - Semaphore isolation
    - Request sent if lock obtained



Example of a fallback

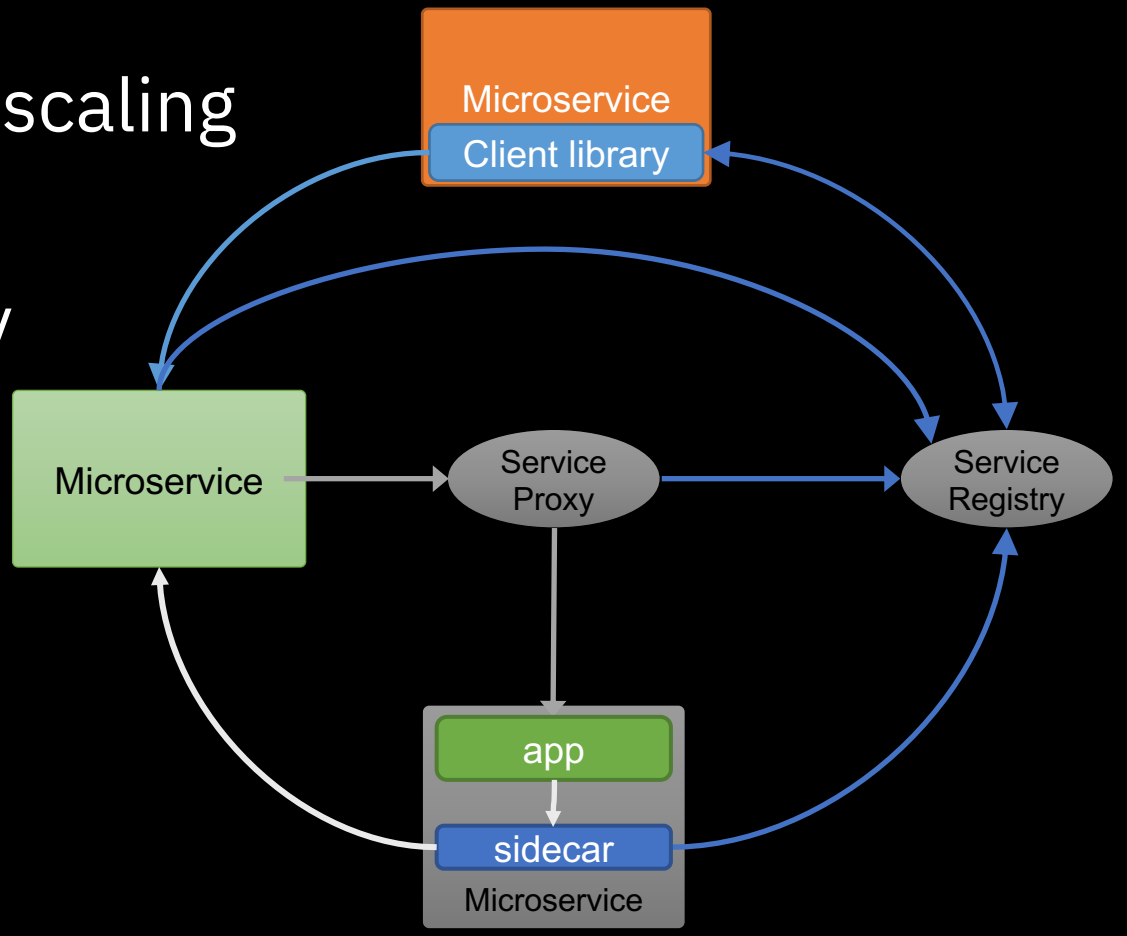
- /go <direction: E|W|N|S>
  - Repeat until you reach a “sick room”

- Examine things in the room:
  - What is the Mediator doing?
  - Would something in the infrastructure be able to do this?

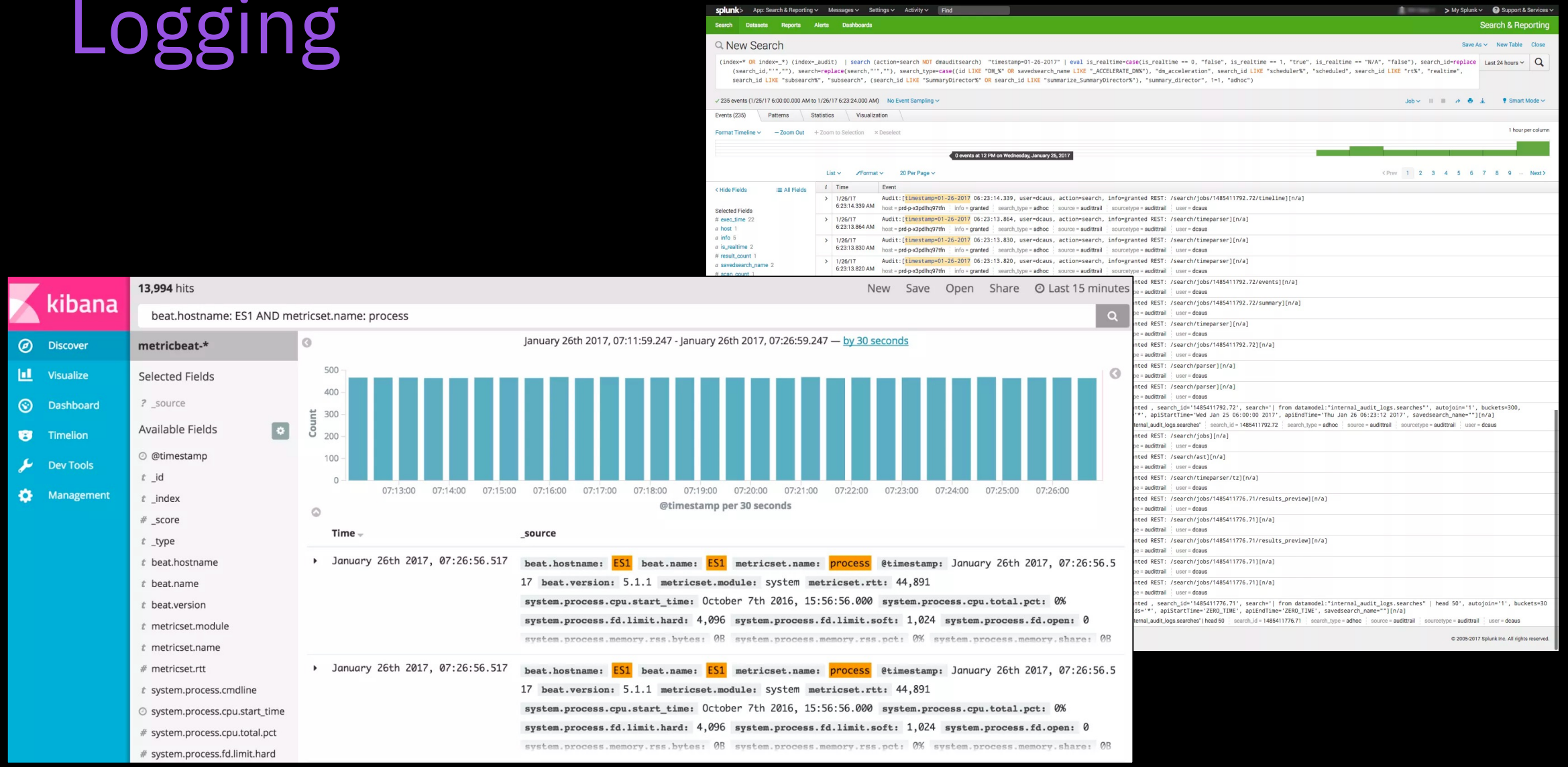
Service registration and discovery

- 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?



Logging


splunk>
App: Search & Reporting
Messages
Settings
Activity
Find
My Splunk
Support & Services
Search
Datasets
Reports
Alerts
Dashboards
Search & Reporting
New Search
Save As
New Table
Close
Last 24 hours
Events (235)
Patterns
Statistics
Visualization
Format Timeline
Zoom Out
Zoom to Selection
Deselect
1 hour per column
List
Format
20 Per Page
Hide Fields
All Fields
Selected Fields
Time
Event
kibana
13,994 hits
New
Save
Open
Share
Last 15 minutes
beat.hostname: ES1 AND metricset.name: process
Discover
Visualize
Dashboard
Timelion
Dev Tools
Management
metricbeat-*
Selected Fields
_source
Available Fields
@timestamp
_id
_index
_score
_type
beat.hostname
beat.name
beat.version
metricset.module
metricset.name
metricset.rtt
system.process.cmdline
system.process.cpu.start_time
system.process.cpu.total.pct
system.process.fd.limit.hard
January 26th 2017, 07:11:59.247 - January 26th 2017, 07:26:59.247 — by 30 seconds
Count
@timestamp per 30 seconds
Time
_source
January 26th 2017, 07:26:56.517
beat.hostname: ES1 beat.name: ES1 metricset.name: process @timestamp: January 26th 2017, 07:26:56.517 beat.version: 5.1.1 metricset.module: system metricset.rtt: 44,891
system.process.cpu.start_time: October 7th 2016, 15:56:56.000 system.process.cpu.total.pct: 0%
system.process.fd.limit.hard: 4,096 system.process.fd.limit.soft: 1,024 system.process.fd.open: 0
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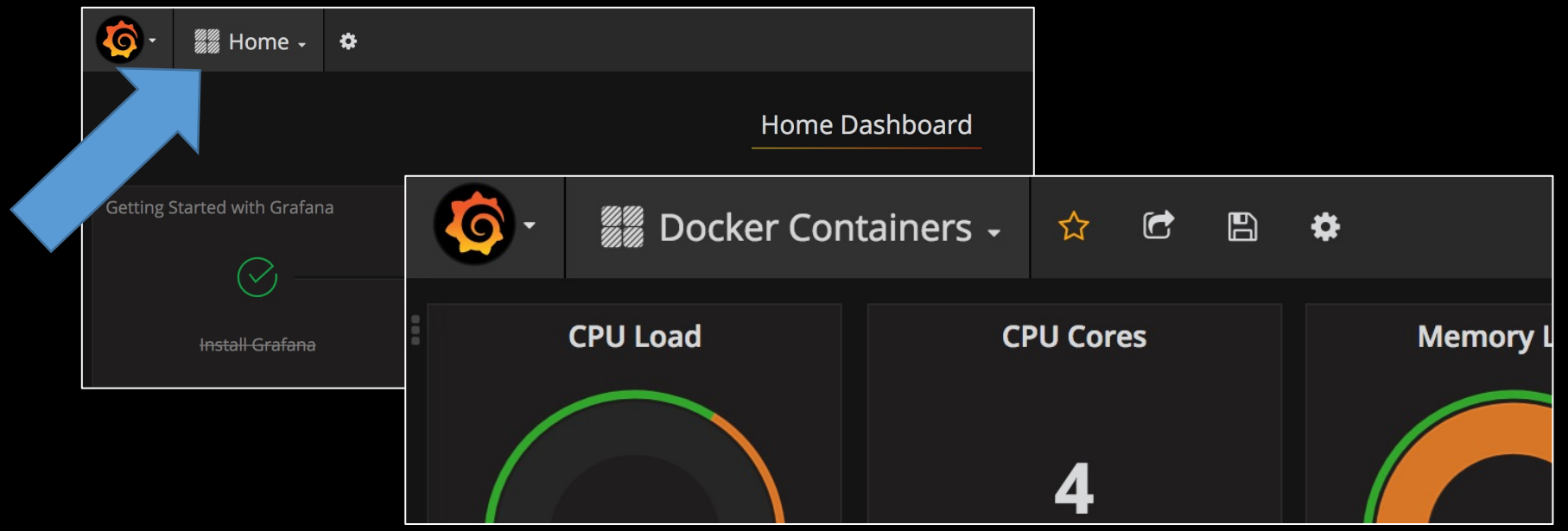
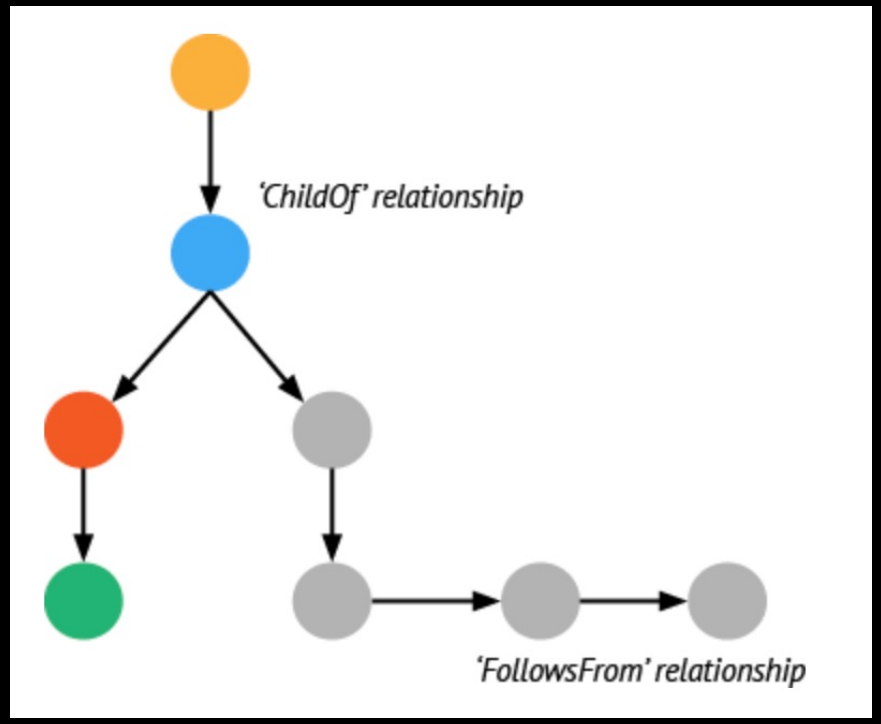
Metrics

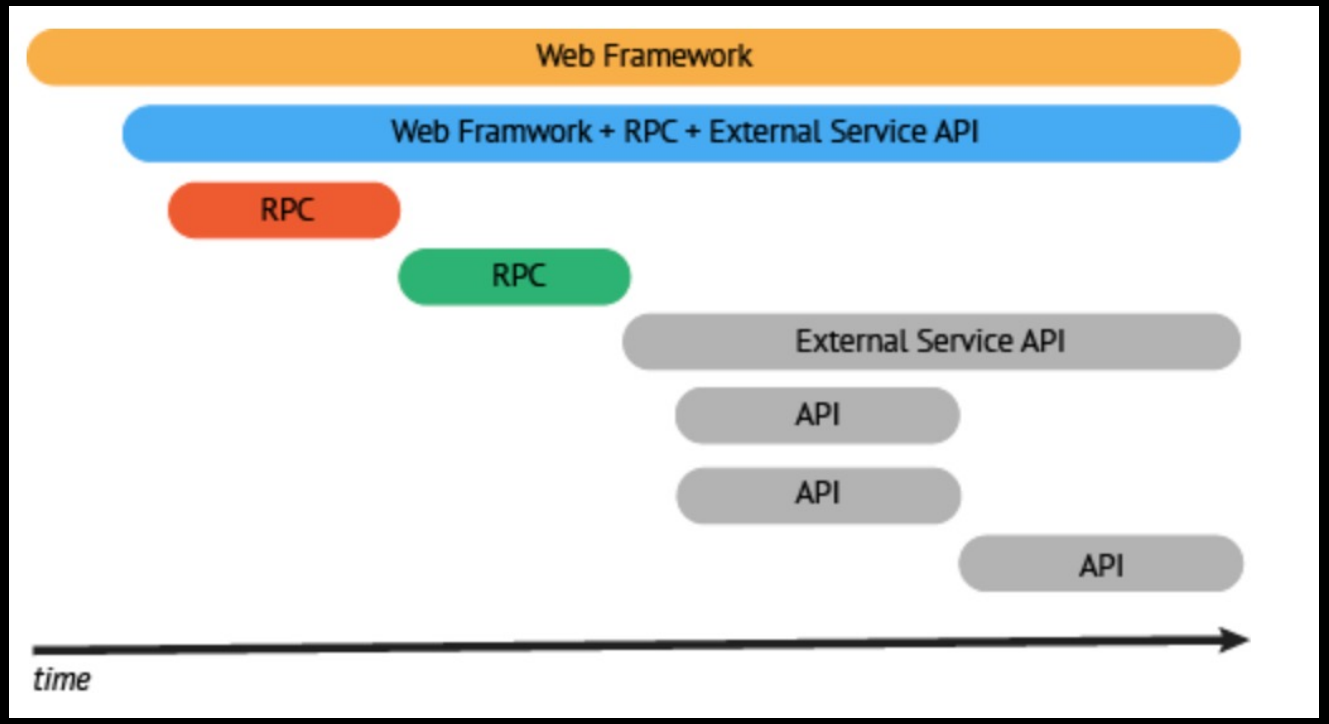
Go to: http://127.0.0.1:3000

Log in with admin / admin



Open Tracing





References

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- Toby Clemson: Testing Strategies in a Microservice Architecture https://martinfowler.com/articles/microservice-testing/#anatomy-modules
- Istio: https://istio.io/
  - Istio Distributed Tracing: https://istio.io/docs/tasks/telemetry/distributed-tracing.html
- Kubernetes: https://kubernetes.io/
  - https://brancz.com/2018/01/05/prometheus-vs-heapster-vs-kubernetes-metrics-apis/

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