## Practical Messaging

A 101 guide to messaging

lan Cooper

X, BlueSky and Hachyderm: ICooper

### Who are you?

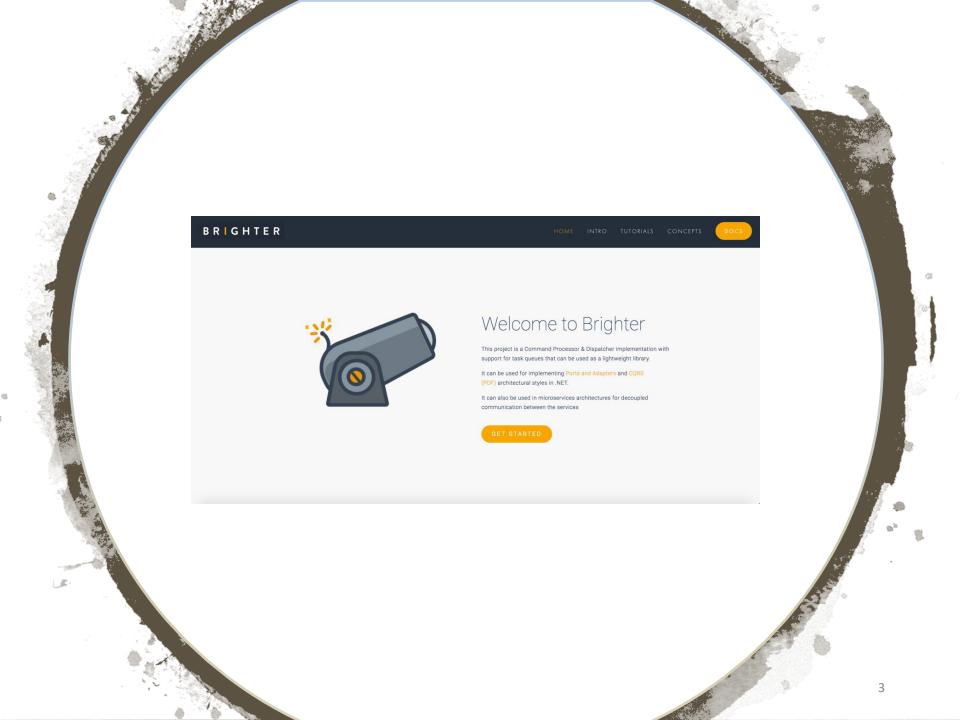
www.linkedin.com/in/ia n-cooper-2b059b

I am a polyglot coding architect with over 20 years of experience delivering solutions in government, healthcare, and finance and ecommerce. During that time I have worked for the DTI, Reuters, Sungard, Misys, Beazley, Huddle and Just Eat Takeaway delivering everything from bespoke enterprise solutions, 'shrink-wrapped' products for thousands of customers, to SaaS applications for hundreds of thousands of customers.

I am an experienced systems architect with a strong knowledge of OO, TDD/BDD, DDD, EDA, CQRS/ES, REST, Messaging, Design Patterns, Architectural Styles, ATAM, and Agile Engineering Practices

I am frequent contributor to OSS, and I am the owner of: https://github.com/BrighterCommand. I speak regularly at user groups and conferences around the world on architecture and software craftsmanship. I run public workshops teaching messaging, event-driven and reactive architectures.

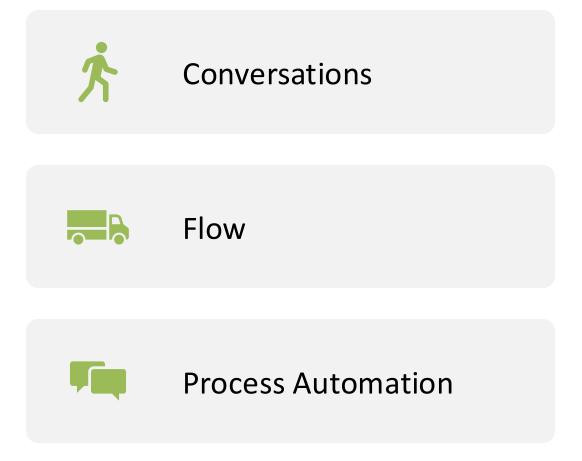
I have a strong background in C#. I spent years in the C++ trenches. I dabble in Go, Java, JavaScript and Python.



## Day One Messaging



## **Day Two Conversations**



### Prerequisites

We will use Rabbit MQ and Kafka for examples. You should have Docker (or an equivalent) installed on your machine, as exercises provide a Docker Compose file to spin up RMQ and Kafka.



You will need to be able to write code with an editor/IDE of your choice.



You can choose from: C#; Java; Python; Go; JavaScript

#### **Course Content**

https://github.com/iancooper/practical-messaging

#### **Exercise Code**

https://github.com/iancooper/Practical-Messaging-Sharp

https://github.com/iancooper/Practical-Messaging-Python

https://github.com/iancooper/Practical-Messaging-JavaScript

https://github.com/iancooper/Practical-Messaging-Go

https://github.com/iancooper/Practical-Messaging-Java

## Day One

## DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS

What is driving messaging

## Why Distribute?

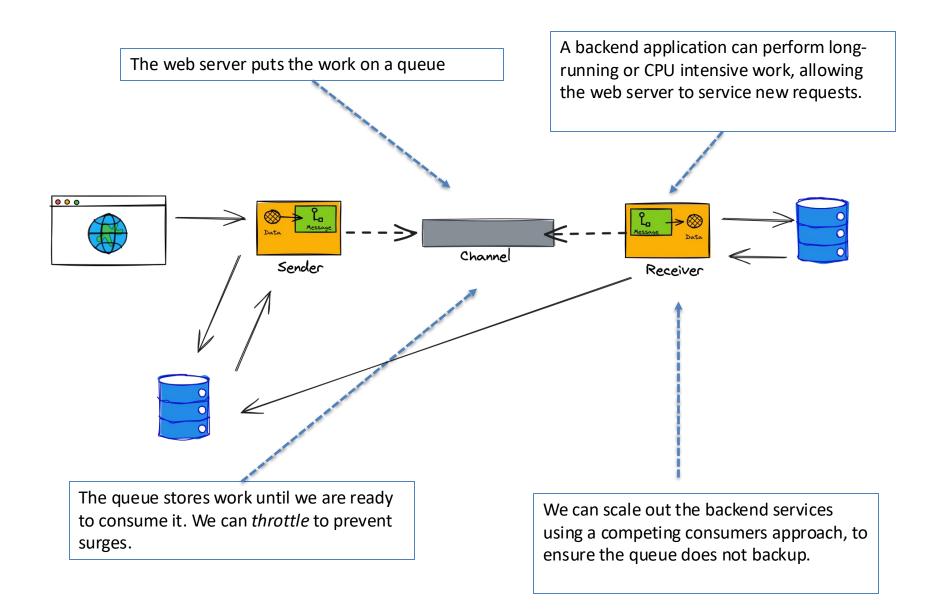
#### Performance and Scalability

**Availability** 

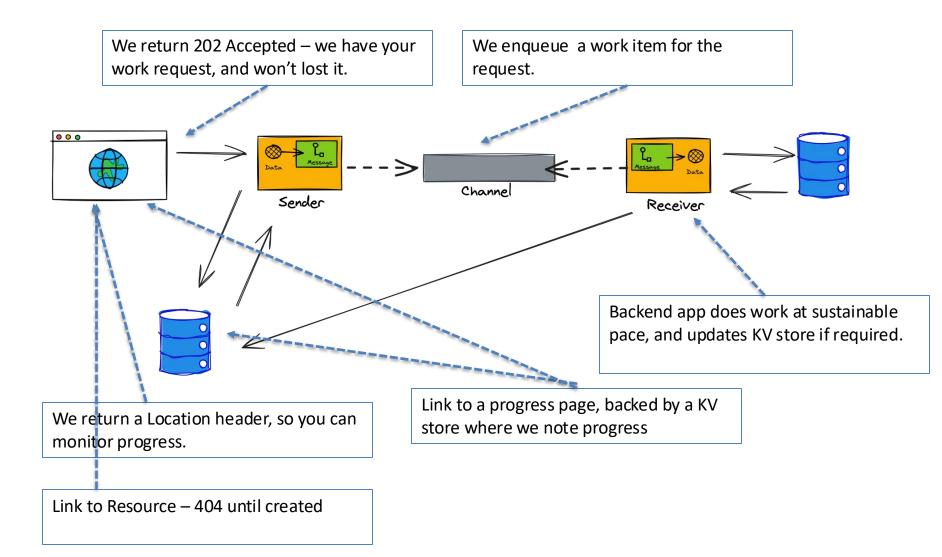
Maintainability

Inherent Distribution

## Example: Task Queues



#### Task Queue

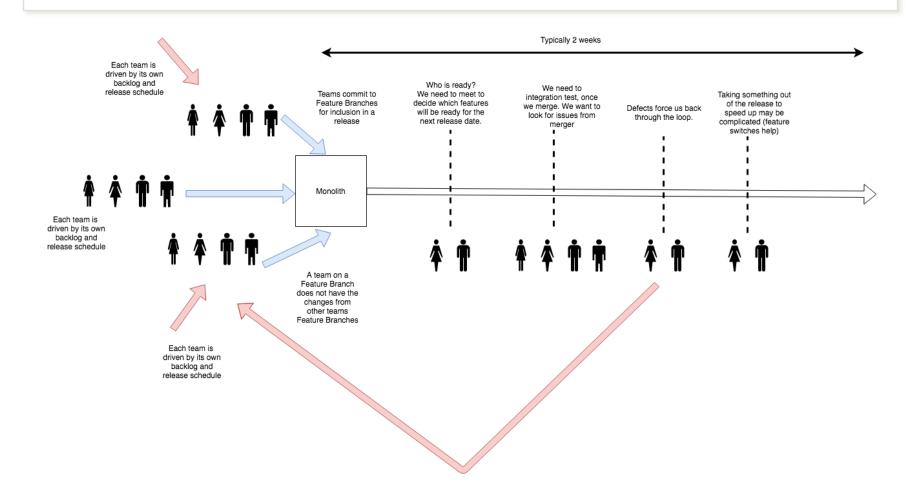


# Example: Microservices

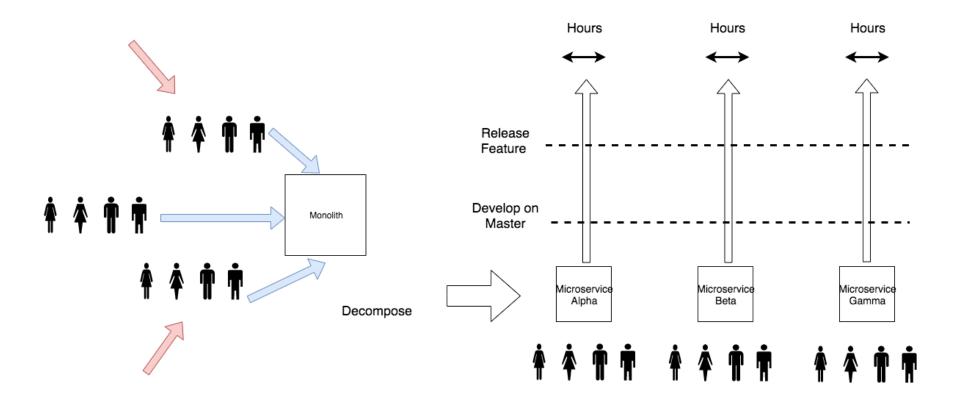
### It's all about velocity!!!

- "Speed wins in the marketplace"
  - Adrian Cockcroft, former lead architect at Netflix

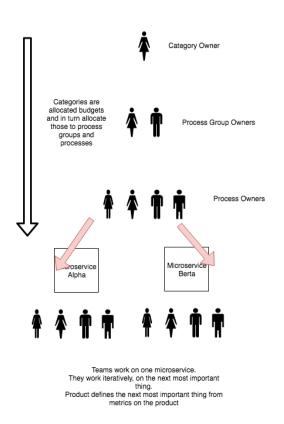
# Monoliths Do Not Scale To Many Teams!

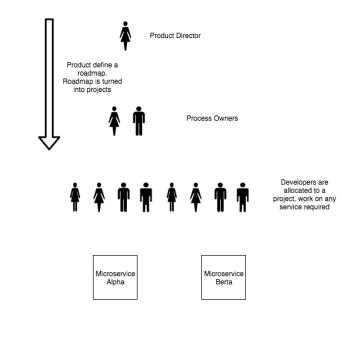


# Microservices let us scale an organisation



#### **Product Mode**

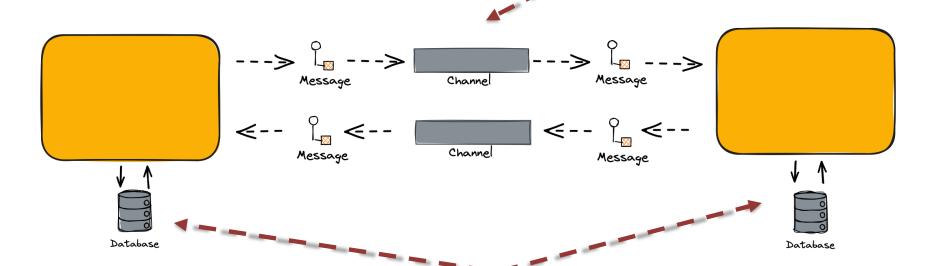




Product Mode Projects

#### Microservice

The only way to complete tasks within a service is by sending a message. Each service has its own accepted message types and specific data requirements for partners submitting work.

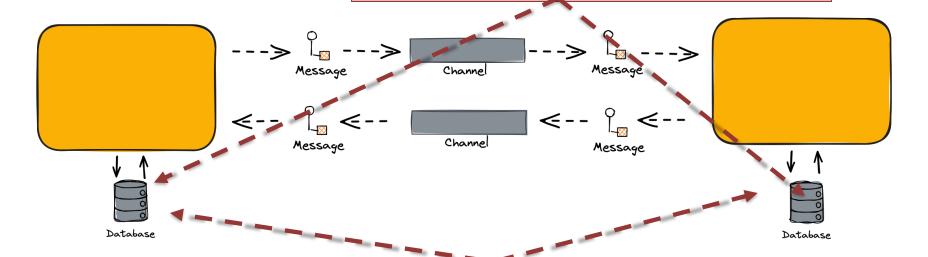


Encapsulated within the service is private data.

Requests to the service do not describe the shape of internal data

#### Microservice

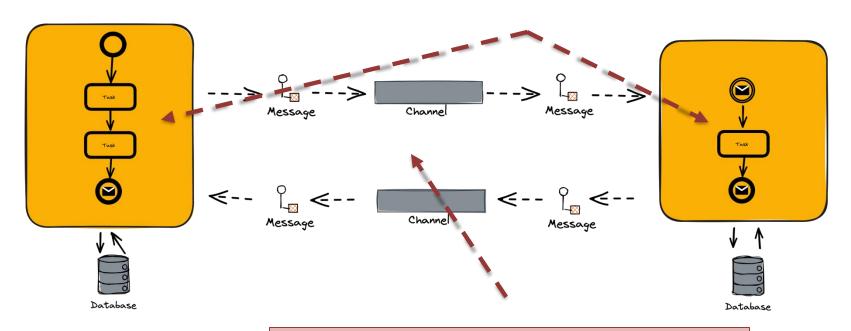
Transactions cannot occur between different services. If you operate independently from your business partners, you won't exchange transactions with them. Cross-organizational transactions are avoided to prevent potential lockup of YOUR database if the OTHER organization makes a mistake. Without transactions, you need to communicate through multiple messages over time.



Transactions, including 2PC, may occur within fiefdoms

#### Collaboration

As services are independent of each other, a collaboration comprises orchestrations (handlers, sagas, or workflows) within the services



A collaboration is also the flow of messages, the choreography, between our services

# The Price of Distribution

#### Fallacies of Distributed Computing

The network is reliable.

Latency is zero.

Bandwidth is infinite.

The network is secure.

Topology doesn't change.

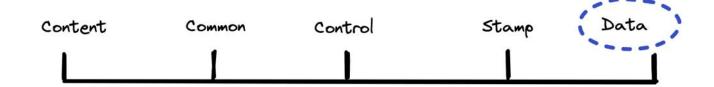
There is one administrator.

Transport cost is zero.

The network is homogeneous.

## **COUPLING**

What architectural risks do we face from interoperability?



#### Tight

More Interdependency

More Coordination

More Information Flow

#### Loose

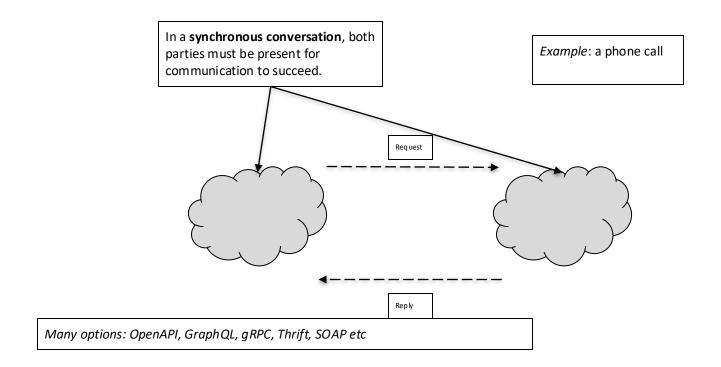
Less Interdependency

Less Coordination

Less Information Flow

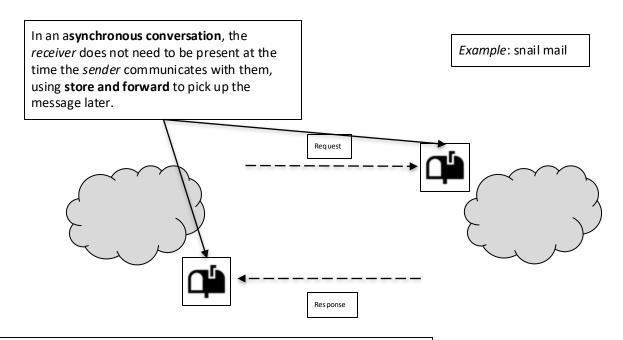
#### **Temporal Coupling**

**Synchronous Conversation** 



#### **Temporal Coupling**

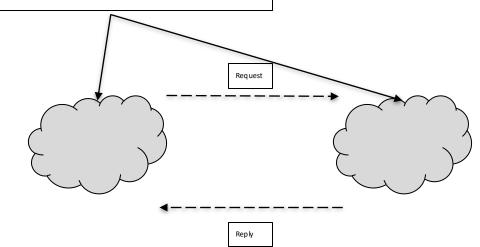
#### **Asynchronous Conversation**



Many options: SQS, Kafka, AMQP 0-9-1 (RMQ), AMQP 1-0, MQTT, S3

### **Temporal Coupling**

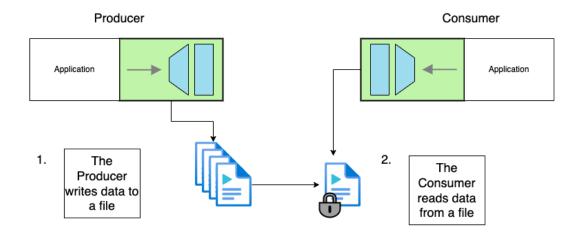
If both parties must be present to succeed, we say they are *temporally coupled*. The availability of one has an impact on the availability of another.



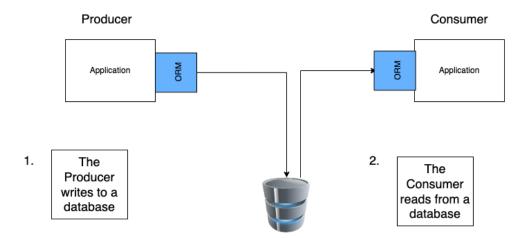
# INTEGRATION STYLES

How do we communicate between microservices?

#### File Transfer



#### **Shared Database**

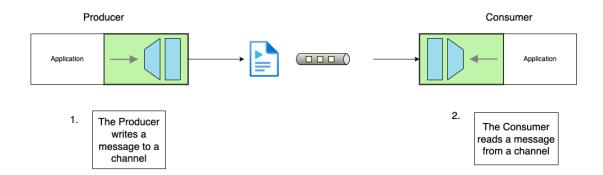


#### Remote Procedure Call



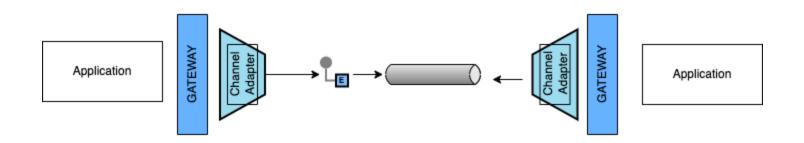
1. The Client calls a remote procedure on the Server on the Server 2. The Server listens for calls, actions them, and returns results

#### Messaging



# MESSAGING PATTERNS

Integrating using events



# **A MESSAGE**

What is a message?

## Message Construction

A message has a header and body

The body contains data for the consumer

The header contains metadata for any *filter* in the pipeline.

The header should indicate the format of the body

Break a large message into pieces as a Message Sequence or use a Claim Check

# MESSAGING AND EVENTS

## **Message Types**

#### Messaging

Has Intent

Request An Answer (Query) Transfer of Control (Command) Transfer of Value

Part of a Workflow Part of a Conversation

Concerned with the Future

#### **Eventing**

**Provides Facts** 

Things you Report On

No Expectations

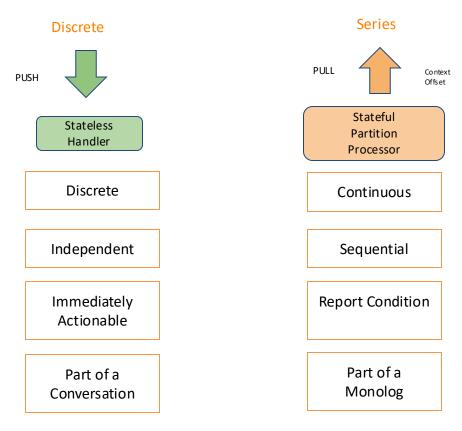
History

Context

Concerned with the Past

After Clemens Vasters https://youtu.be/ITrlLErsqzY

## **Eventing Types**



After Clemens Vasters: https://skillsmatter.com/skillscasts/10191-keynote-events-data-points-jobs-and-commands-the-rise-of-messaging

See also: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Discrete\_time\_and\_continuous\_time

## **Message Types**

Messaging

**Eventing** 

Command

Event (Notification)

Document

See Gregor Hohpe: https://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/Message.html

### **Command Message**

Use a Command Message to reliably invoke a procedure in another application

Uses the well-established pattern for encapsulating a request as an object. The Command pattern [GoF] turns a request into an object that can be stored and passed around.

#### **Document Message**

Use a Document Message to reliably transfer a data structure between applications.

The receiver decides what, if anything, to do with the data

#### **Event Message**

Use an Event Message for reliable, asynchronous event notification between applications.

The difference between an Event Message and a Document Message is a matter of timing and content. An event's contents are typically less important.

# **EXERCISES**

Self-paced material

### **EXERCISE MATERIAL**

#### Introduction to Exercises

- Readme
- Videos
- Scripts & Slides

Introduction to RMQ



# **CHANNELS**

#### Channels

A virtual pipe that connects producer and consumer

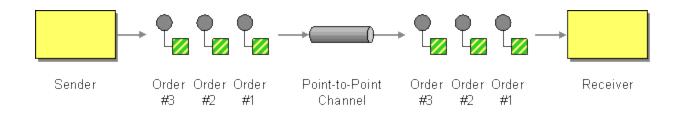
Logical Address (Topic or Routing Key)

Unidirectional

One-to-One or One-to-Many

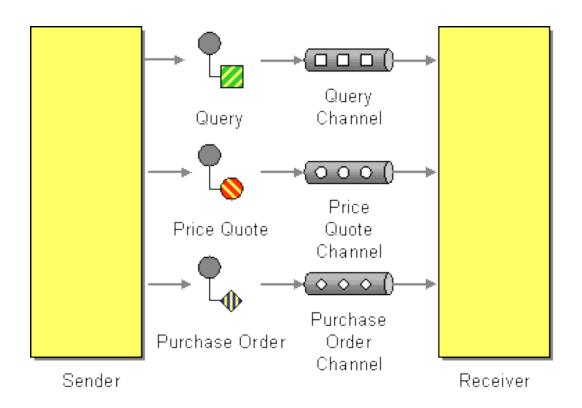
Messaging is a 'pipe' not a 'bucket'.

## Point-to-Point Channel



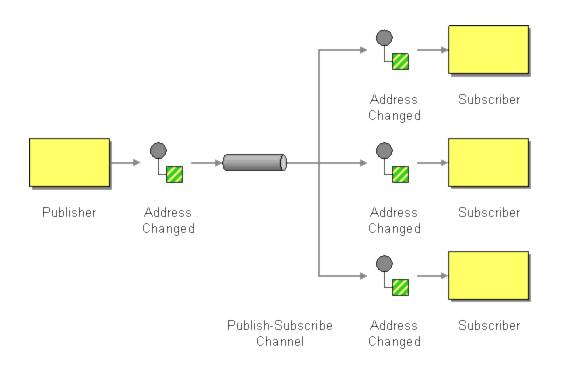
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PointToPointChannel.html

# **Datatype Channel**



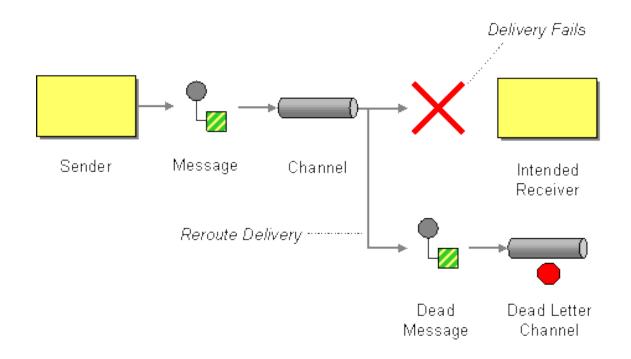
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/DatatypeChannel.html

## Publish-Subscribe Channel



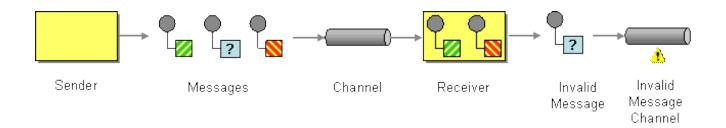
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PublishSubscribeChannel.html

## Dead Letter Channel



http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/DeadLetterChannel.html

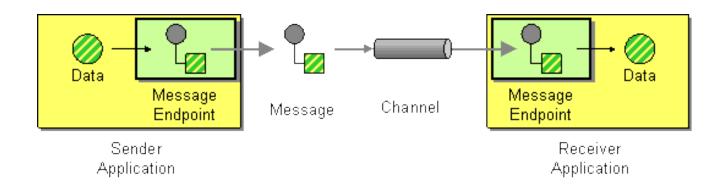
# **Invalid Message Channel**



http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/InvalidMessageChannel.html

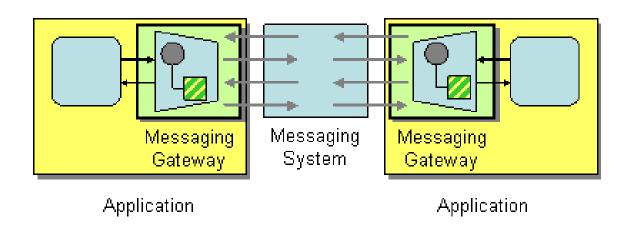
# **ENDPOINTS**

# Message Endpoint



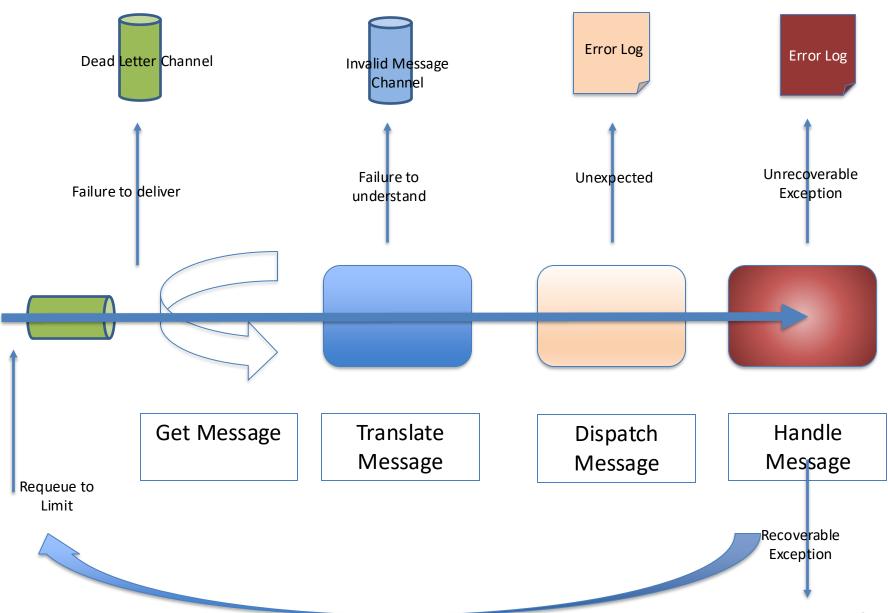
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/MessageEndpoint.html

# Messaging Gateway

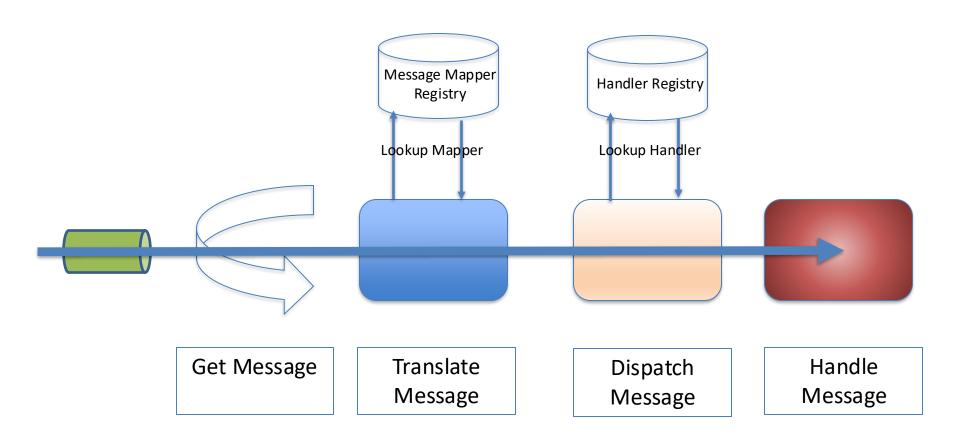


http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/MessagingGateway.html

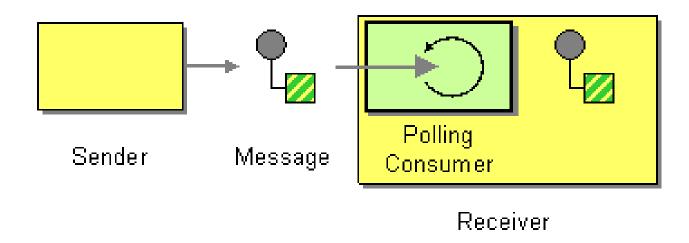
# THE MESSAGE PUMP



# Translate and Dispatch

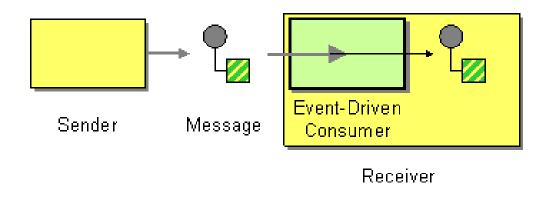


# Polling Consumer



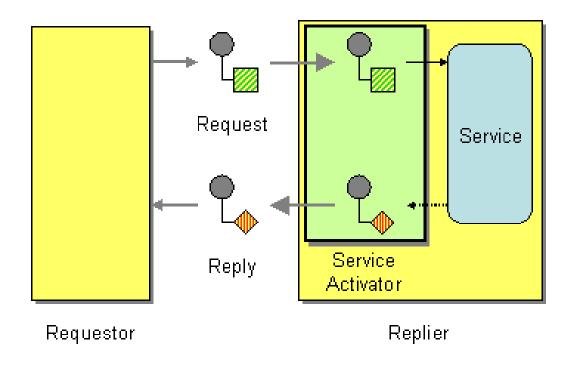
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PollingConsumer.html

## **Event Driven Consumer**



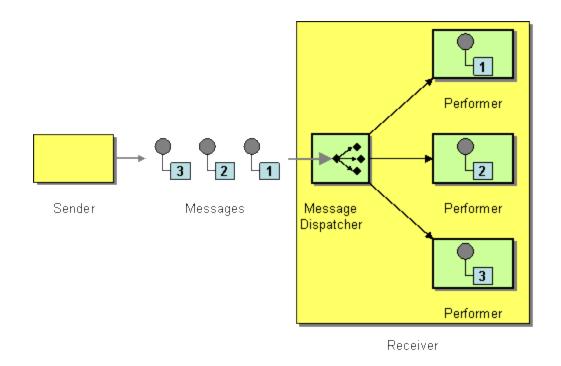
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/EventDrivenConsumer.html

## Service Activator



http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/MessagingAdapter.html

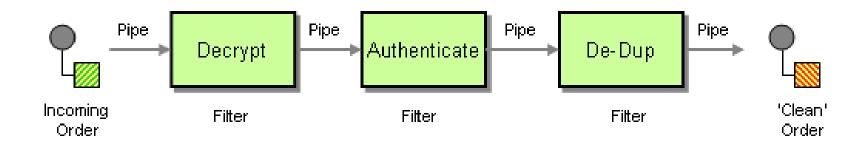
## **Competing Consumers**



http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/MessageDispatcher.html

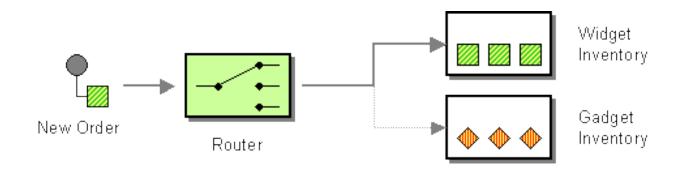
# **PIPELINES**

# Pipes and Filters



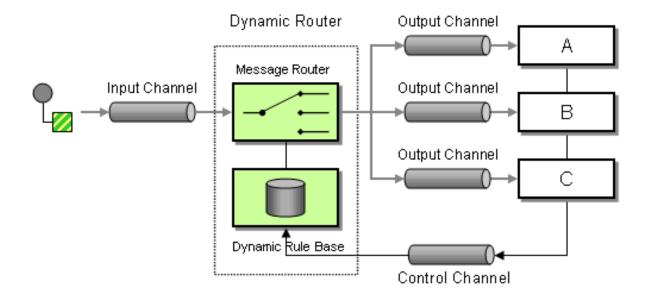
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PipesAndFilters.html

## **Content Based Router**



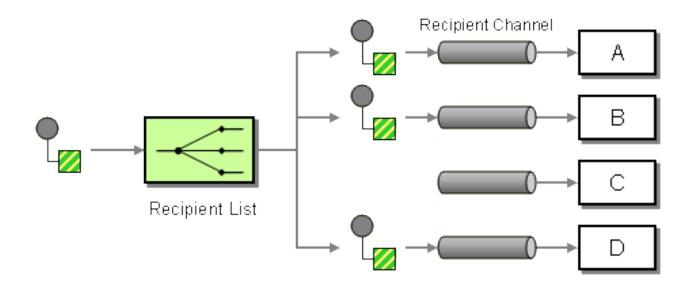
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/ContentBasedRouter.html

# **Dynamic Router**



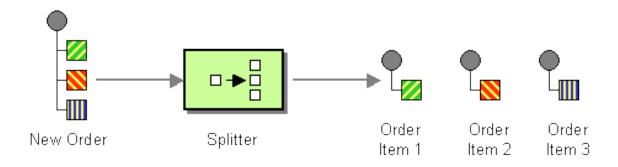
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/DynamicRouter.html

# **Recipient List**



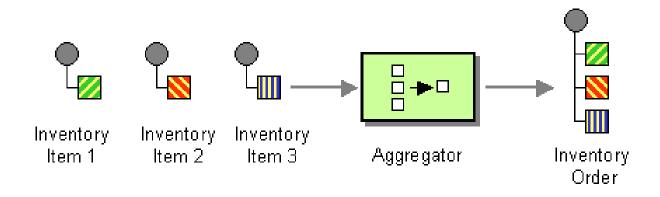
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/RecipientList.html

# Splitter



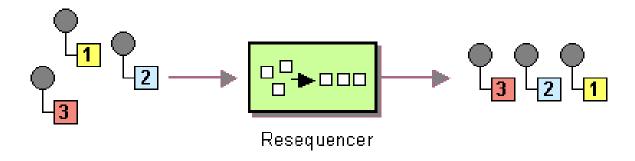
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/Sequencer.html

## Aggregator



http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/Aggregator.html

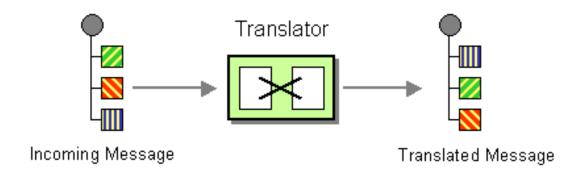
# Resequencer



http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/Resequencer.html

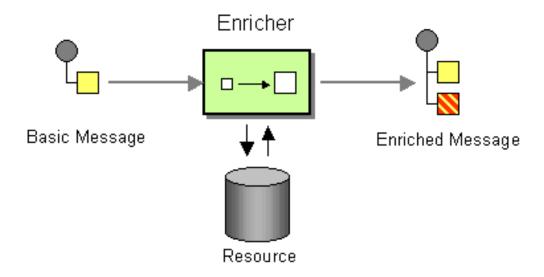
# **TRANSFORMATION**

# Message Translator



http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/MessageTranslator.html

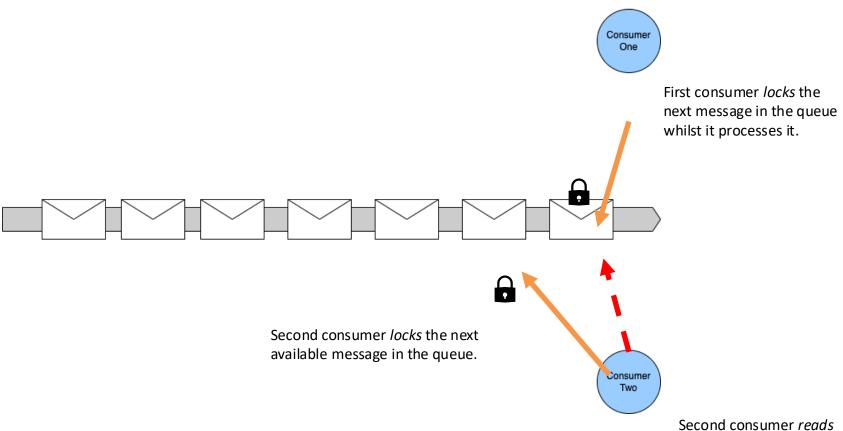
# **Content Enricher**



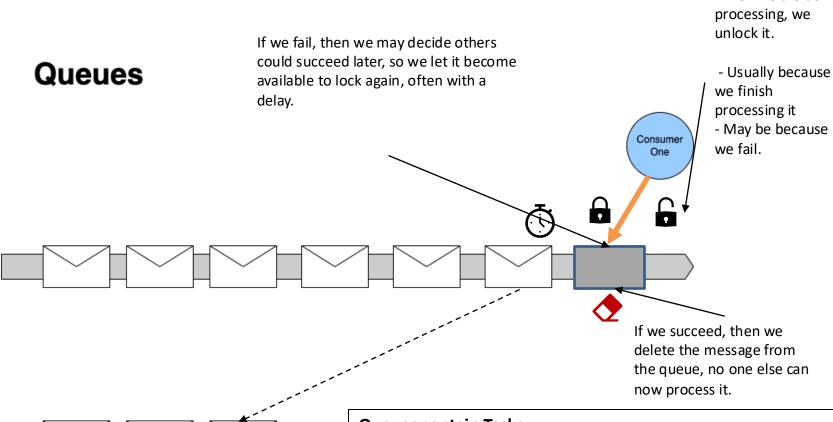
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/DataEnricher.html

# **QUEUES AND STREAMS**

#### **Queues**



Second consumer reads past any locked message in the queue.



After a certain number of re-queues we may move the message to a dead-letter channel, it turns out that no one action the request within in a reasonable time frame

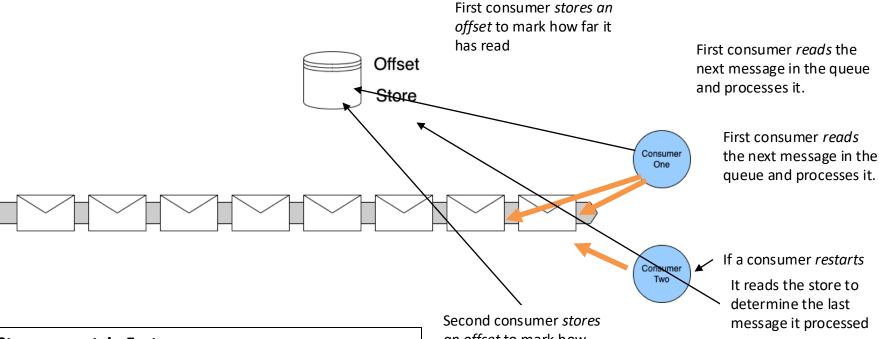
#### **Queues contain Tasks**

With queues we can think of the messages on a queue as tasks - they are a request for us to carry out an action. Once the action is done, we can delete the task.

When we are done

- We don't anyone else to action it, it's already been done.
- Someone receiving a done task will have to discard it.
- If we can't action it, someone else will need to action it.

#### **Streams**



#### **Streams contain Facts**

With streams we can think of the records on the stream as facts - they are records that indicate there has been a change in state.

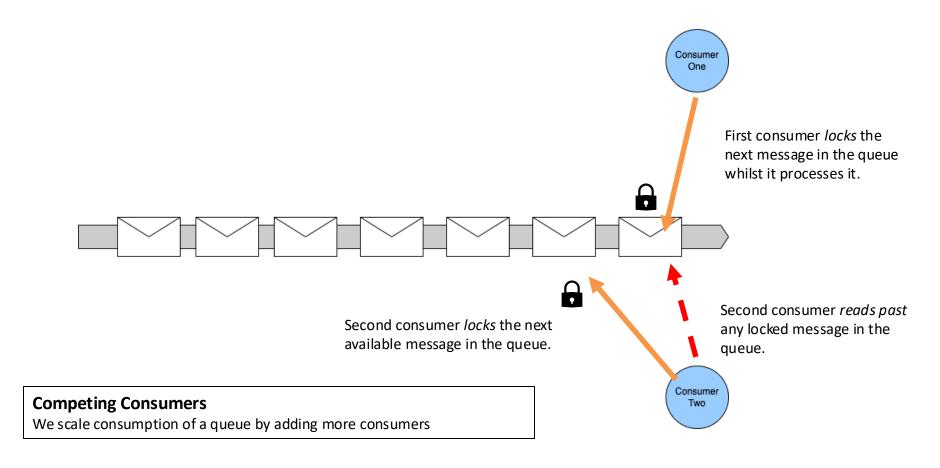
- We can view facts as an 'inverse database' they represent how current stat is arrived at
- We can navigate offsets to calculate a position at a 'point in time'
- We don't consume facts by reading them, they persist

Second consumer stores an offset to mark how far it has read

Second consumer *reads* the next message in the queue and processes it.

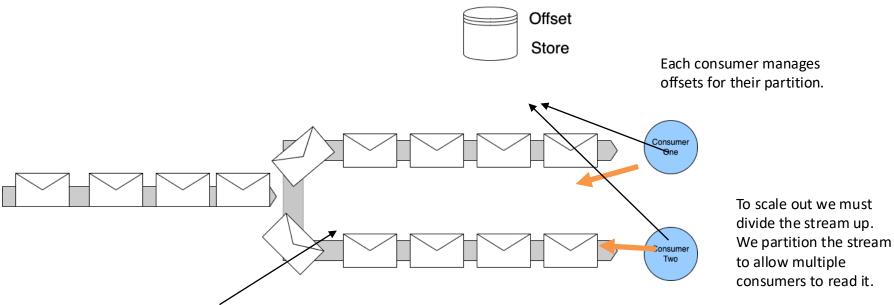
# Scaling Queues and Streams

#### Queues



#### **Streams**

#### **Partitions**



For any set of events that must be processed sequentially - all changes to one entity for example - we use consistent hashing to push messages with the same identifier to the same partition. This allows us to scale, whilst preserving our ordering.

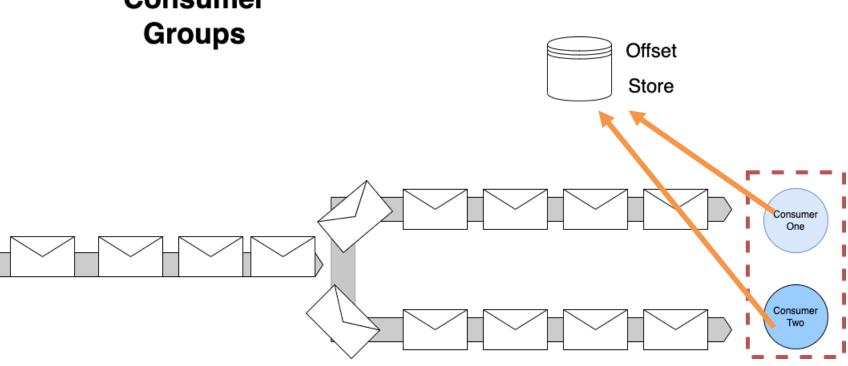
### **Streams**

can read from a partition at a time – but a consumer in a group may read from more than one of the partitions owned by that group

Consumer

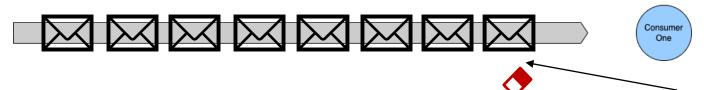
Groups

To provide availability – only one consumer in a group



# **Archive and Replay**

#### **Queues**

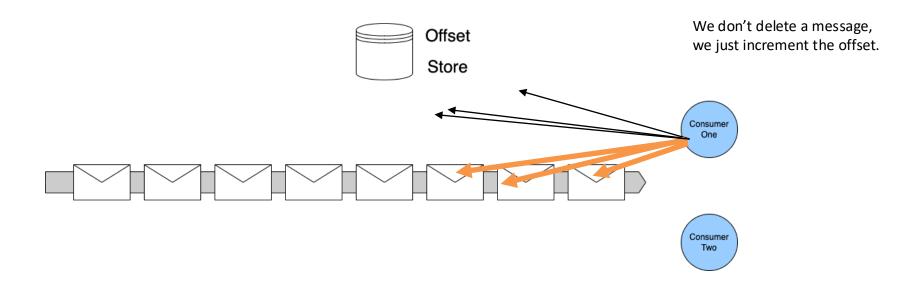


If we succeed, then we delete the message from the queue, no one else can now process it.

#### **No Archive and Replay**

With queues we delete a message once we have completed the associated action. That means we have no way to replay the request for work. Our only option is to ask the producer to resend their request.

#### **Streams**



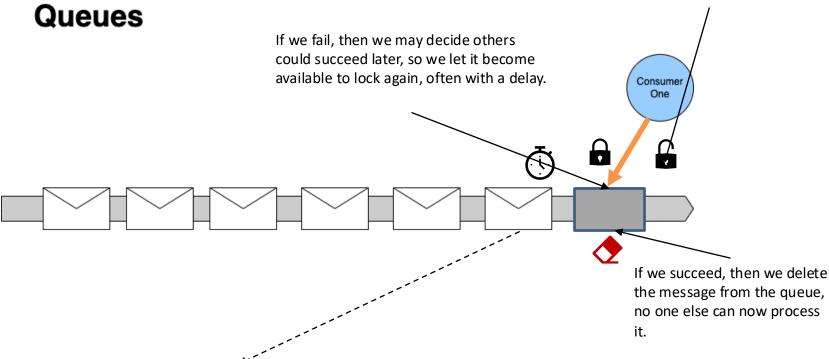
#### **Archive and Replay**

Archive and Replay is straightforward as nothing is deleted. We simply reset the consumer's offset to re-read the stream

# Requeue and Delay (Backpressure)

When we are done processing, we unlock it.

- Usually because we finish processing it
- May be because we fail.



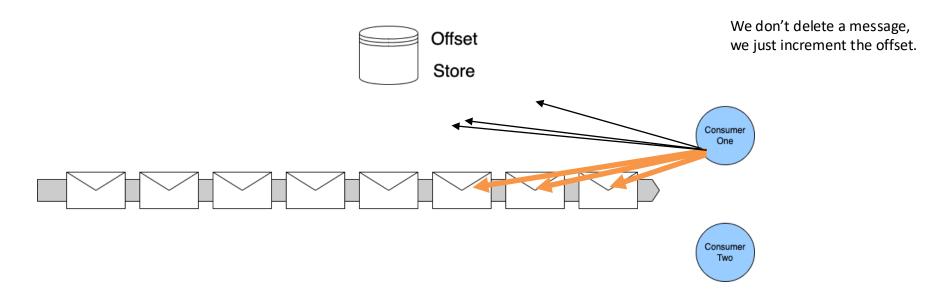
After a certain number of re-queues we may move the message to a dead-letter channel, it turns out that no one action the request within in a reasonable time frame

#### Requeue and Delay (Backpressure)

A queue supports re-queue (with delay)

- If the work is not done/acked, just make it available again to the next consumer
- If the work could not be done because of a transient issue, delay to let is pass

#### **Streams**



#### No Requeue or DLQ

Because we do not lock items, we do not requeue items, including requeue with delay. Your strategy is:

- Ignore and Continue (Load Shedding)
- Retry (Backpressure)
- Copy to another stream (a delay or DLQ stream)

	Messaging	Discrete Event	Series Event
Queue	<b>~</b>	<b>V</b>	X
Stream	×	<b>~</b>	<b>/</b>

	Ordering	Archive and Replay	Requeue with Delay
Queue	✓×	X	<b>~</b>
Stream	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	X

### **EXERCISE MATERIAL**

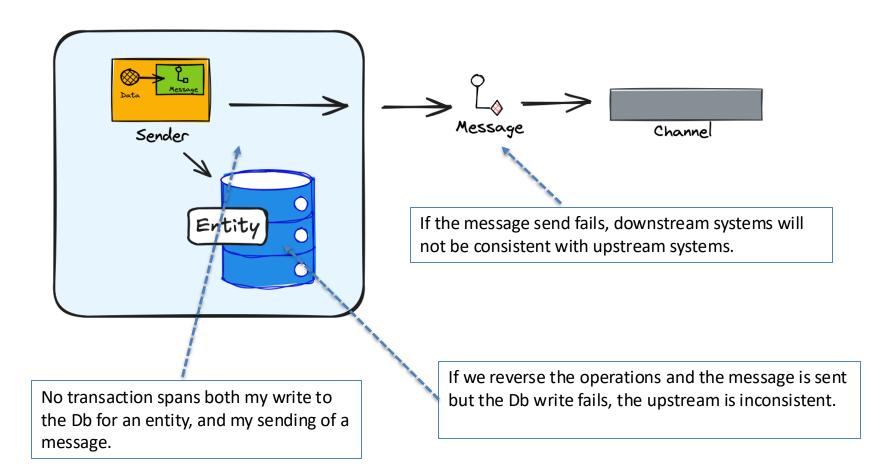
#### Introduction to Kafka

- Readme
- Slides



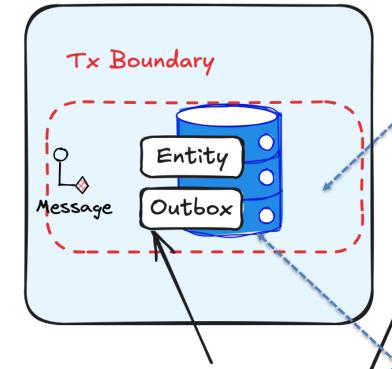
# **Transactional Messaging**

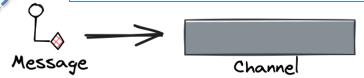
## Transactional Messaging





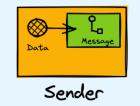
Instead of writing directly to the channel, we open a transaction, update our entity, and write the message we want to send to an Outbox table as Pending.





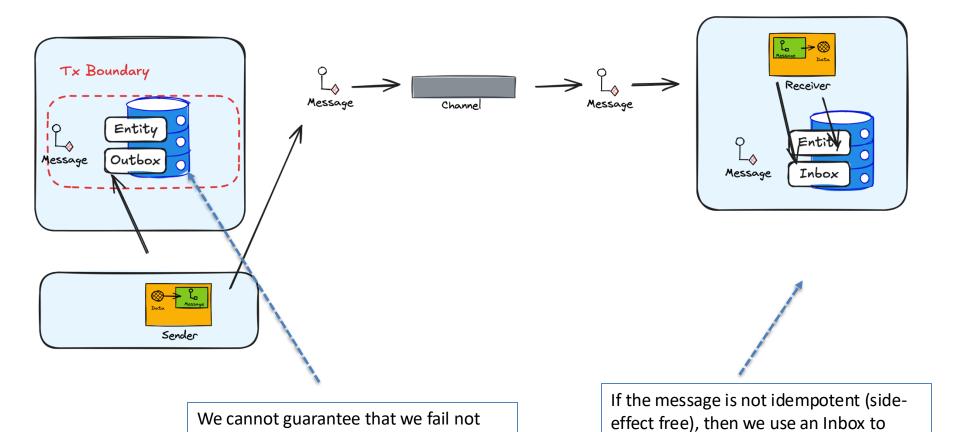
A background "sweeper" process can then run at an interval to flush any Pending items (over an age) from the Outbox table

To reduce latency, we can send from the application, after writing as well, with the sweeper just a backup



Once we have sent, we mark the message as Sent in the Outbox table

## Inbox



mark dispatched after a send, so we may

send the same message twice

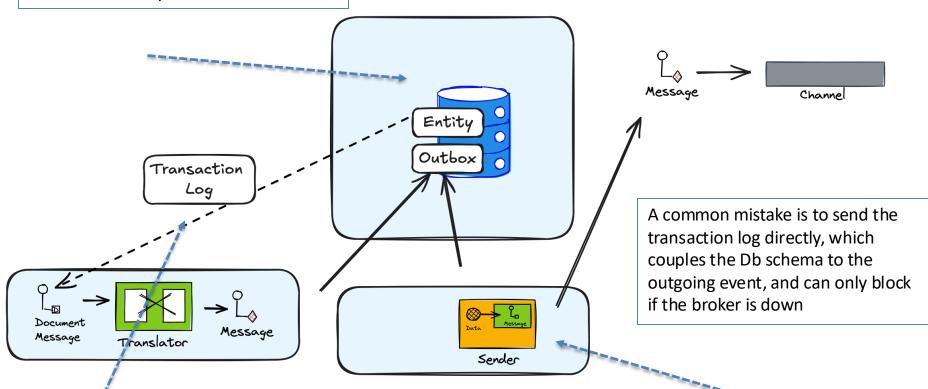
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record messages seen (working on) and

processed (might fail)

## Log Tailing

We may not be using a database that supports ACID transactions, across Outbox and Entity tables

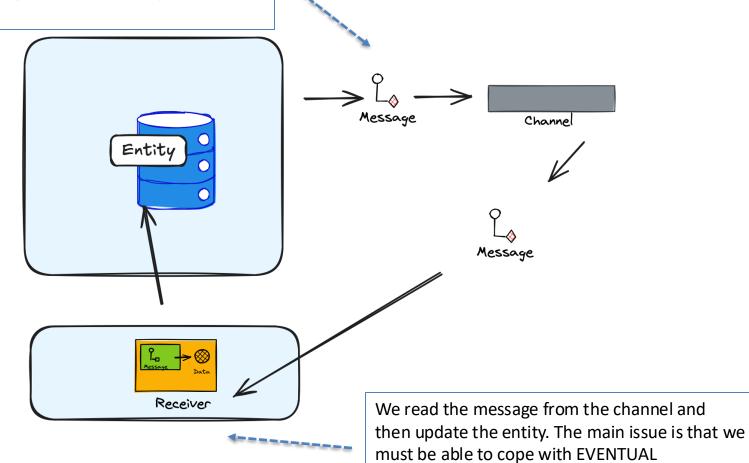


In this case we can tail the transaction log, translate the log (via domain code) into a message and store in the Outbox

Again, our sender, sends the outstanding Outbox entries and marks them as sent in the Outbox

## State Change Capture

A low-cost alternative is to send the message before we write to the entity. If the message sends, we have guaranteed delivery.



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CONSISTENCY, which is not always simple.

# MANAGING ASYNCHRONOUS APIS

# Versioning

Be strict when sending and tolerant when receiving. Implementations must follow specifications precisely when sending to the network, and tolerate faulty input from the network.

Robustness Principal or Postel's Law – Jon Postel RFC 1958

#### **Tolerant Reader**

```
"$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
 "type": "object",
 "properties": {
   "orderid": {
     "type": "string"
    "customerName": {
     "type": "string"
    "addressLineOne": {
     "type": "string"
    "postCode": {
     "type": "string"
    "pinCode": {
     "type": "string",
     "pattern": "^[0-9]+$"
 "required": ["orderid", "customerName", "addressLineOne",
"postCode", "pinCode"],
 "additionalProperties": false
```

## **Ignore New Fields**

```
"$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
  "type": "object",
 "properties": {
    "orderid": {
      "type": "string"
    "customerName": {
      "type": "string"
    "addressLineOne": {
      "type": "string"
    "postCode": {
      "type": "string"
    "pinCode": {
      "type": "string",
      "pattern": "^[0-9]+$"
    "latitude": {
      "type": "number",
      "minimum": -90,
      "maximum": 90
    "longitude": {
      "type": "number",
      "minimum": -180,
      "maximum": 180
 "required": ["orderid", "customerName", "addressLineOne",
"postCode", "pinCode"],
 "additionalProperties": false
```

#### **Tolerant Reader**

```
"$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
 "type": "object",
 "properties": {
    "orderid": {
      "type": "string"
    "customerName": {
      "type": "string"
    "addressLineOne": {
      "type": "string"
    "postCode": {
      "type": "string"
    "pinCode": {
      "type": "string",
      "pattern": "^[0-9]+$"
    "latitude": {
     "type": "number",
     "minimum": -90,
      "maximum": 90
    "longitude": {
     "type": "number",
      "minimum": -180,
      "maximum": 180
 "required": ["orderid", "customerwame", "addressLineOne",
"postCode", "pinCode"],
 "additionalProperties": false
```

Default Latitude: 0
Default Longitude: 0

Note: not required

## **Default Missing Fields**

## **Breaking Change**

```
"$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
  "type": "object",
  "properties": {
    "orderid": {
      "type": "string"
    "firstName": {
      "type": "string"
    "surName": {
      "type": "string"
    "addressLineOne": {
      "type": "string"
    "pinCode": {
      "type": "string",
      "pattern": "^[0-9]+$"
    "latitude": {
      "type": "number",
      "minimum": -90,
      "maximum": 90
    "longitude": {
      "type": "number",
      "minimum": -180,
      "maximum": 180
 "required": ["orderid", "firstName", "surName",
"addressLineOne", "pinCode", "latitude", "longitude"],
  "additionalProperties": false
```

We might be able to write code to deal with this change, but we have to know that a required field is missing and we have new fields instead

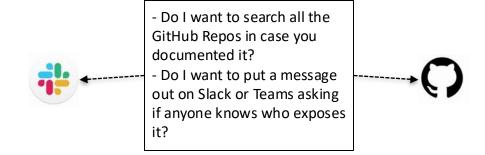
For this we need to rely on a version in the header, and the ability to process messages with this new version, alongside old ones to allow us to run out the old until new replaces it.

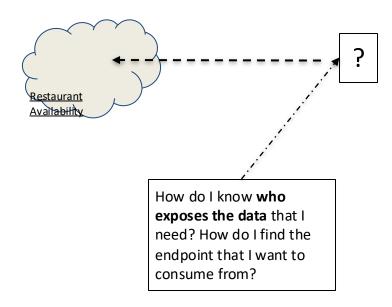
# Documentation

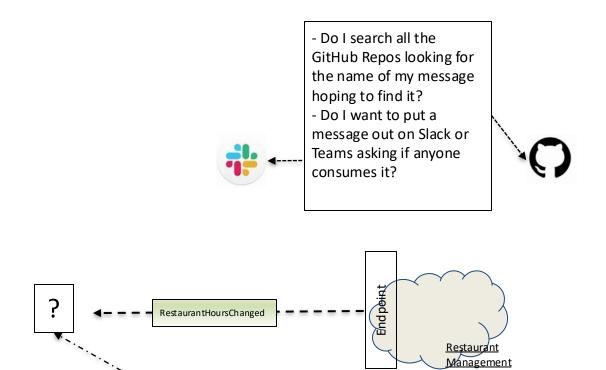
Endpoints are places where messages are sent or received (or both), and they define all the information required for the message exchange.

An *endpoint* describes in a standard-based way **where messages should be sent, how they should be sent, and what the messages should look like**.

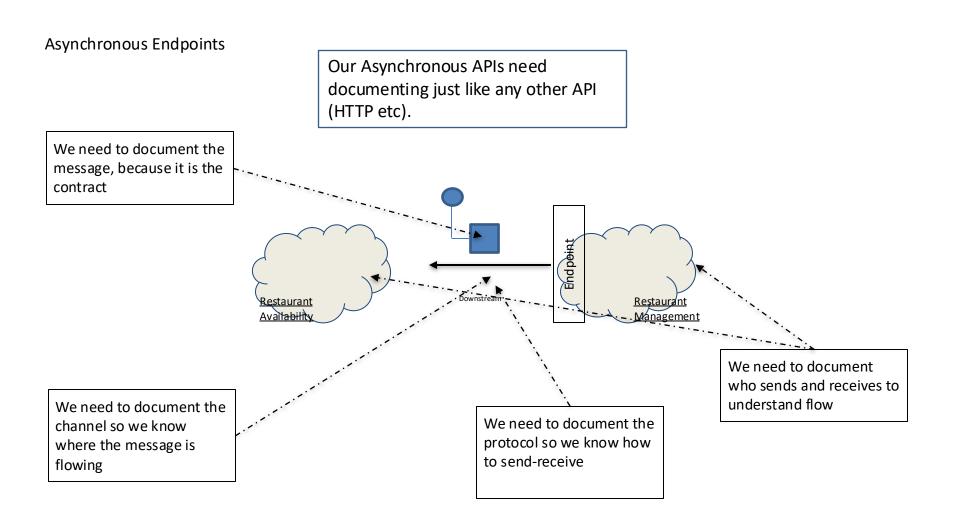
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/framework/wcf/fundamental-concepts

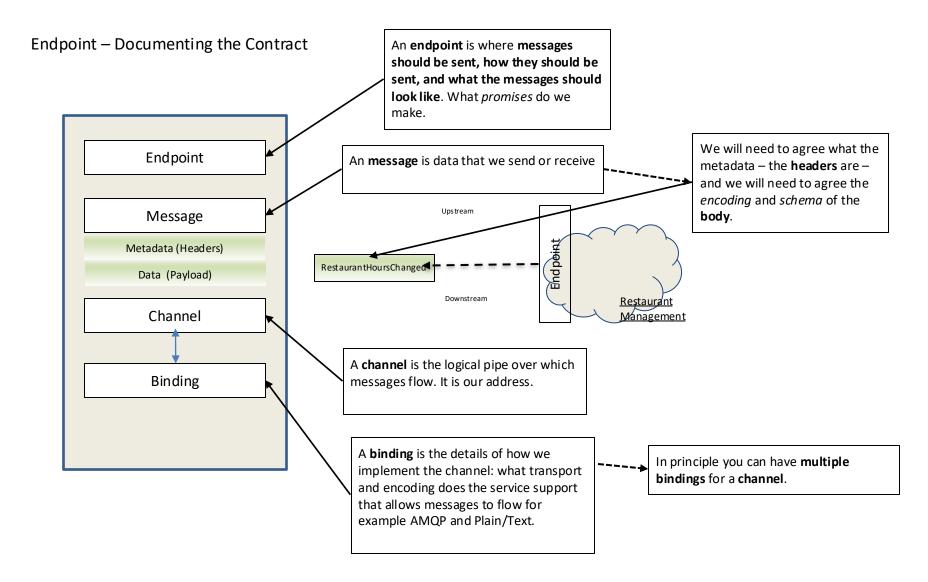






Who consumes the messages I send? Whom do I have a contract with?





# Why AsyncAPI?

Improving the current state of Event-Driven Architectures (EDA)

#### Specification

Allows you to define the interfaces of asynchronous APIs and is protocol agnostic.

Documentation

#### **Document APIs**

Use our tools to generate documentation at the build level, on a server, and on a client.

**HTML Template** 

React Component

#### **Code Generation**

Generate documentation, Code (TypeScript, Java, C#, etc), and more out of your AsyncAPI files.

Generator

Modelina

#### Community

We're a community of great people who are passionate about AsyncAPI and event-driven architectures.

Join our Slack

#### Open Governance

Our Open-Source project is part of Linux Foundation and works under an Open Governance model.

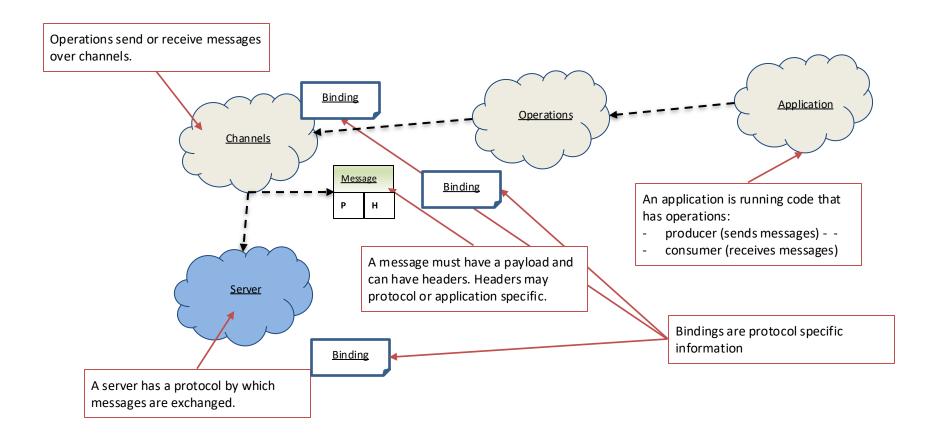
Read more about Open Governance TSC Members

#### And much more...

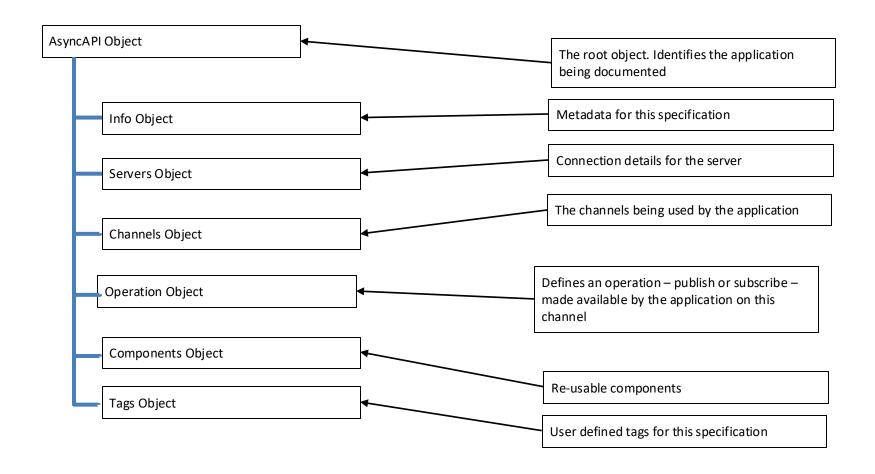
We have many different tools and welcome you to explore our ideas and propose new ideas to AsyncAPI.

View GitHub Discussions

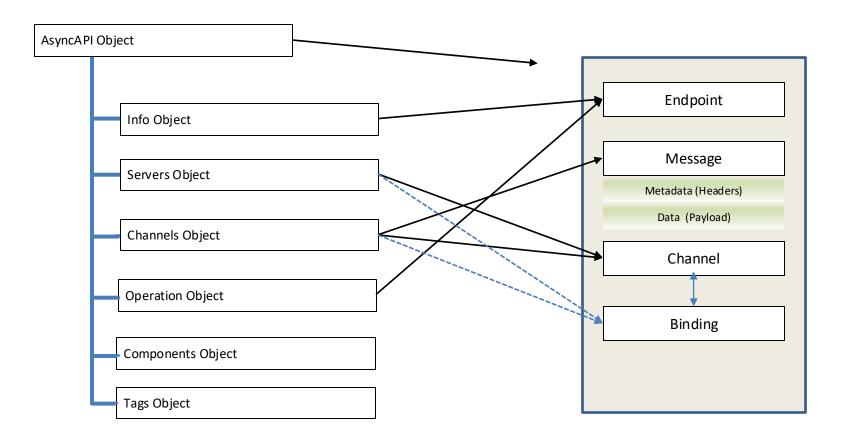
# AsyncAPI Elements (V3)



## Document Structure (V3)



# AsyncAPI (V3) and Endpoint ABCs



## Info Object

```
info:
 contact:
  name: Paramore Brighter
  url: https://goparamore.io/support
  email: support@goparamore.io
 license:
  name: Apache 2.0
  url: https://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0.html
 description: Demonstrates sending a greeting over a messaging
transport.
 title: Brighter Sample App
 version: 1.0.0
tags:
 - name: brighter examples
```

# Servers Object

# development:

description: A Kafka broker for local development

url: localhost:9092

protocol: kafka

## Channels (V3)

```
greeting:
 address: 'goparamore.io.greeting'
  summary: For sending greetings
  description: This channel contains greeting messages
  servers:
   - $ref: '#/servers/development'
  messages:
     greeting:
       $ref: "#/components/messages/greeting"
  bindings:
    kafka:
      partitions: 20
      replicas: 3
```

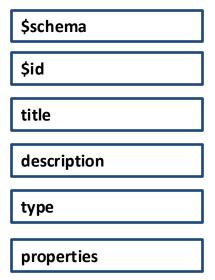
## Operations (V3)

```
sendGreeting:
    action: send
    summary: sends a greeting
    description: The application sends a greeting to a consumer.
    channel:
        $ref: "#/channels/greeting"
    bindings:
        kafka:
        partitions: 20
        replicas: 3
```

#### Components

```
components:
messages:
 greeting:
   name: greeting
   title: A salutation
   summary: This is how we send you a salutation
   contentType: application/json
   traits:
   - $ref: '#/components/messageTraits/commonHeaders'
   payload:
    $ref: "#/components/schemas/greetingContent"
schemas:
 greetingContent:
   type: object
   properties:
    greeting:
     type: string
     description: The salutation you want to send
```

## JSON Schema (AsyncAPI Schema Object)



```
"$schema": "https://json-schema.org/draft/2020-12/schema",
"$id": "https://goparamore.io/greeting.schema.json",
"title": "greeting",
"description": "A greeting message",
"type": "object",
"properties": {
    "greeting": {
        "description": "the salutation"
        "type": string
     }
}
```

# Avro

Complex Types:		records	enums	arrays	maps	unions	fixed
Records:	name						
	names	space					
	doc						
	alias						
	fields						
	na	ame	doc	type	default		

#### Avro

```
{
  "type": "record",
  "name": "greeting,"
  "title": "greeting",
  "fields": [
      {"name": "greeting", "type": "string"}
  ]
}
```

## Avro

Encodings: JSON Languages: C

C++

Java

Perl

Python

Ruby

Others...

## Protobuf

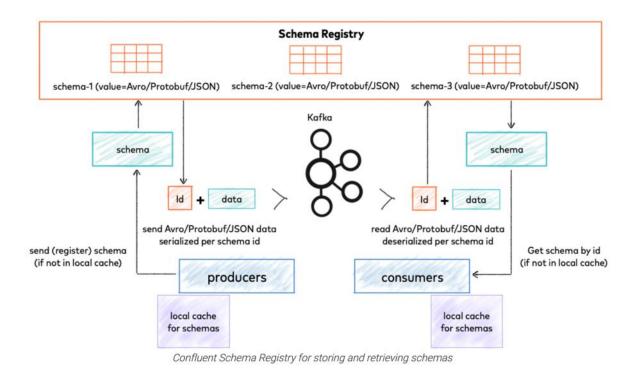
```
syntax = "proto3";

message Greeting {
    string greeting = 1;
}
```

# Protobuf

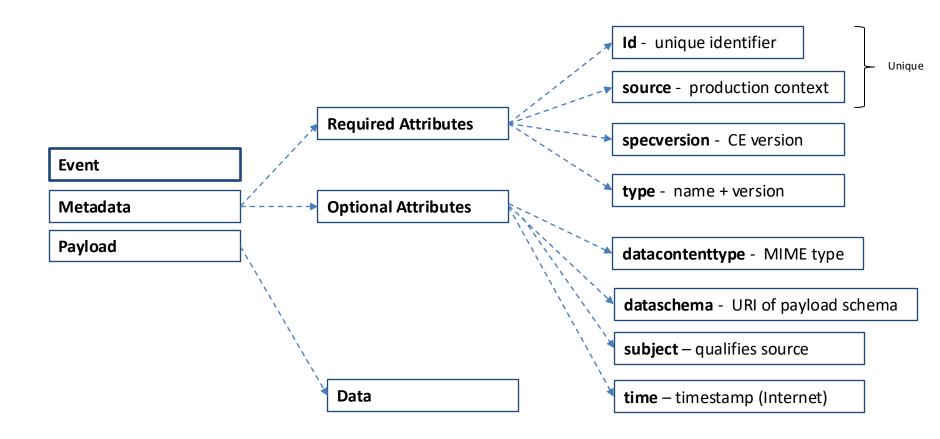
Encodings: **Binary** C++ Languages: C# Dart Go Kotlin Java **Objective-C** Python Ruby Others...

## Schema Registry

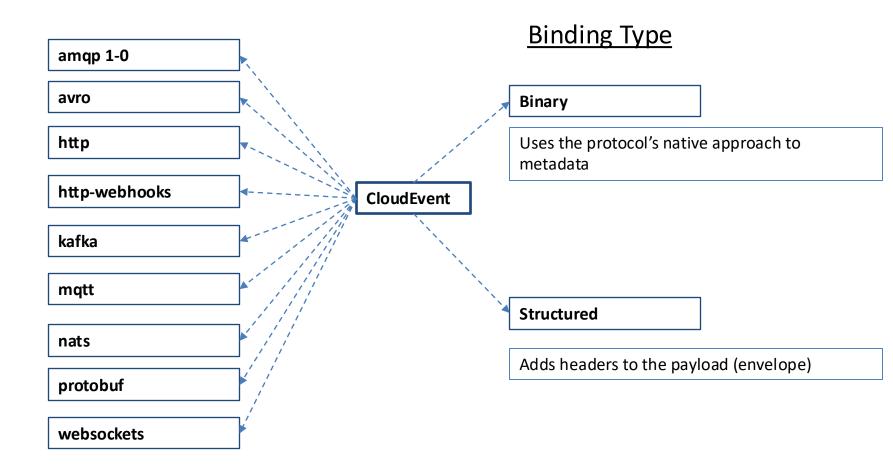


https://docs.confluent.io/platform/current/schema-registry/index.html

#### **Cloud Events**



# **Protocol Binding**



#### **Protocol Binding**

#### **Binary**

#### Structured

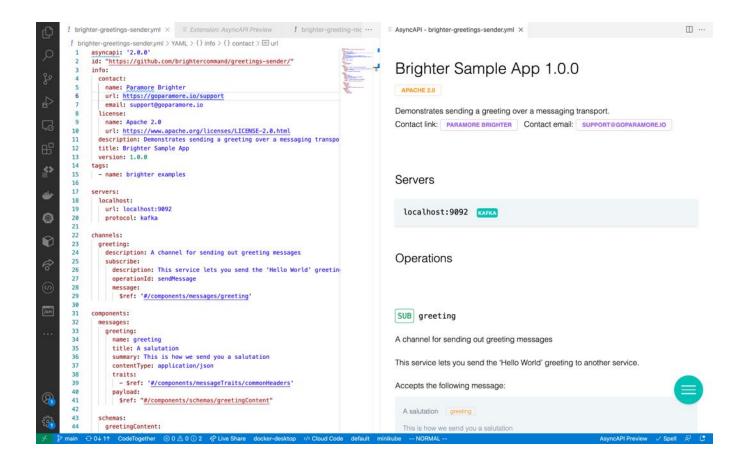
```
----- Message -----
Topic Name: mytopic
----- key -----
Key: mykey
------ headers -----
content-type: application/cloudevents+json; charset=UTF-8
----- value -----
{
      "specversion": "1.0",
      "type": "com.example.someevent",
      "source": "/mycontext/subcontext",
      "id": "1234-1234-1234",
      "time": "2018-04-05T03:56:24Z",
      "datacontenttype": "application/json",
      "data":
            ... application data encoded in JSON ...
```

# AsyncAPI Object

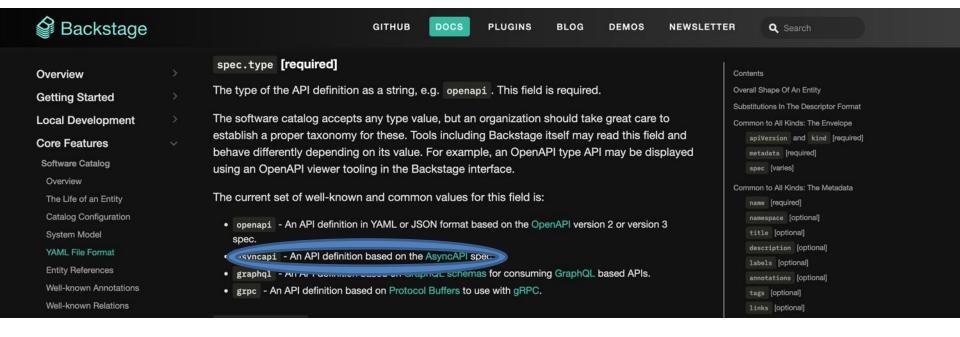
id: https://github.com/brightercommand/greetings/

We use a specification file for an app, which is a producer or consumer, and identify them by id

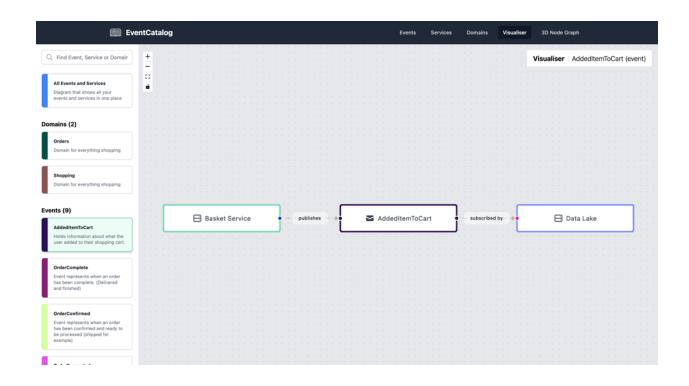
#### **VS** Code



#### Backstage

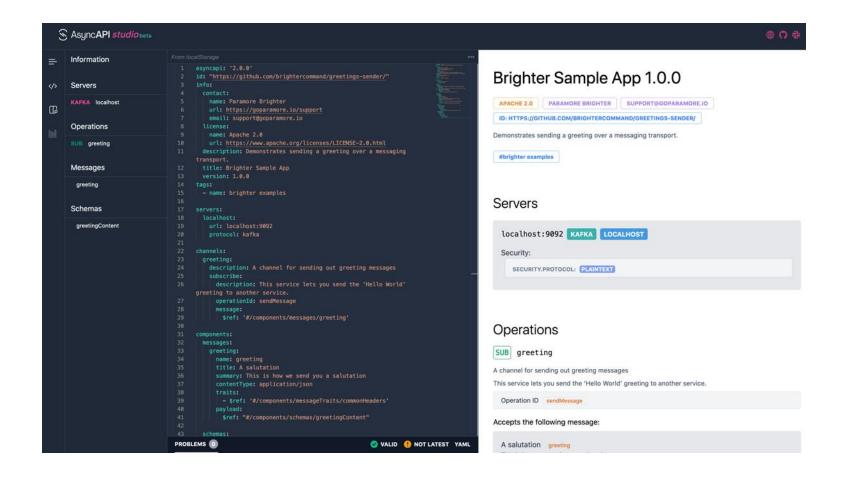


# **Event Catalog**

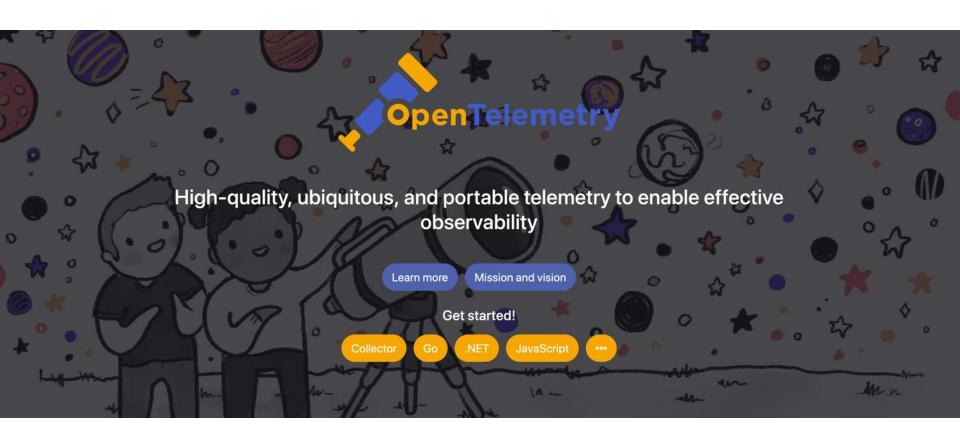


https://github.com/boyney123/eventcatalog

#### AsyncAPI Studio

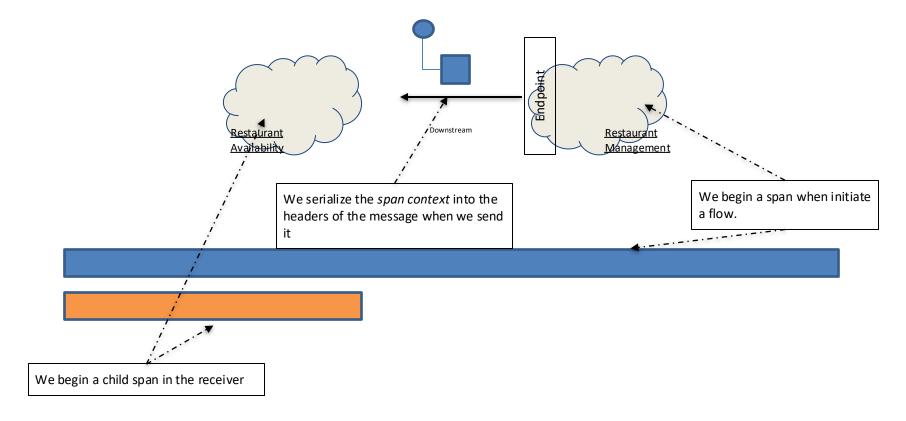


# **OBSERVABILITY**

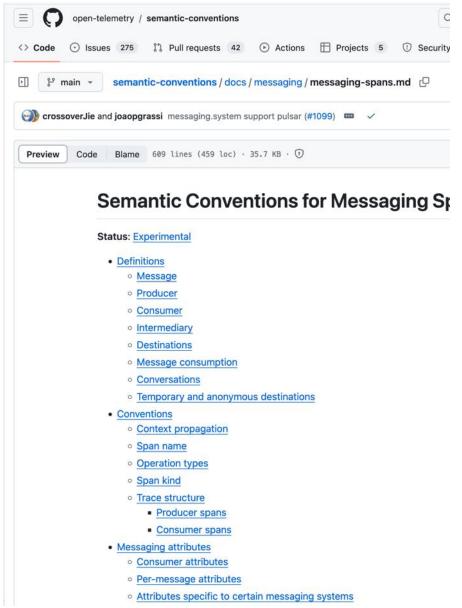


@ICooper 134

#### OpenTelemetry Tracing



@ICooper 135



name SHOULD only be used for the span name if it is known to be of low cardinality (cf. ge med if it is statically derived from application code or configuration. Wherever possible, the or aliased names SHOULD be used. If the destination name is dynamic, such as a conversa der, it SHOULD NOT be used for the span name. In these cases, an artificial destination na generic, static fallback like "(anonymous)" for anonymous destinations SHOULD be used

- s publish
- s subscribe
- s settle

publish

nack

spaces process

tionRequest-Conversations settle

) send ((anonymous) being a stable identifier for an unnamed destination)

m specific adaptions to span naming MUST be documented in semantic conventions for sp

#### es

eration types related to messages are defined for these semantic conventions:

#### Description

A message is created or passed to a client library for publishing. "Create" spans always are used to provide a unique creation context for messages in batch publishing scenario:

One or more messages are provided for publishing to an intermediary. If a single messag the "Publish" span can be used as the creation context and no "Create" span needs to b

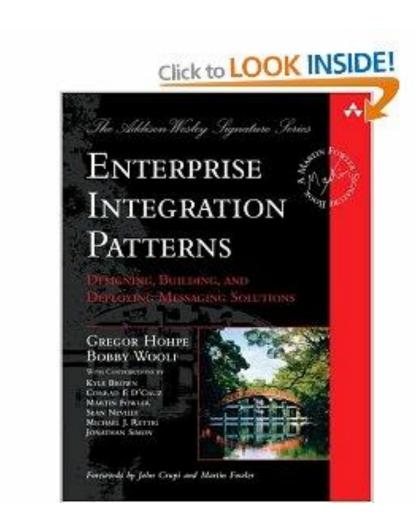
One or more messages are requested by a consumer. This operation refers to pull-based explicitly call methods of messaging SDKs to receive messages.

One or more messages are delivered to or processed by a consumer.

One or more messages are settled.

@ICooper 136

# **Further Reading**



# Q&A