Practical Messaging

A 101 guide to messaging lan Cooper

X/Hachyderm: ICooper

Who are you?

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.

www.linkedin.com/in/ian-cooper-2b059b

BRIGHTER HOME IN

PTS DOCS



Welcome to Brighter

This project is a Command Processor & Dispatcher implementation with support for task queues that can be used as a lightweight library.

It can be used for implementing Ports and Adapters and CQRS (PDF) architectural styles in .NET.

It can also be used in microservices architectures for decoupled communication between the services

GET STARTED

Day One Messaging

- Distribution
- Integration Styles
- Messaging Patterns
- Queues and Streams
- Managing Asynchronous Architectures

Day Two Conversations

Conversation Patterns

- Activity and Correlation
- Repair and Clarification
- Reliable Messaging
- Fat and Skinny
- Conversations

Reactive Architectures

- Message Passing
- Paper Based Flows
- Flow Based Programming
- Next Steps

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

What is driving messaging

DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS

Why Distribute?

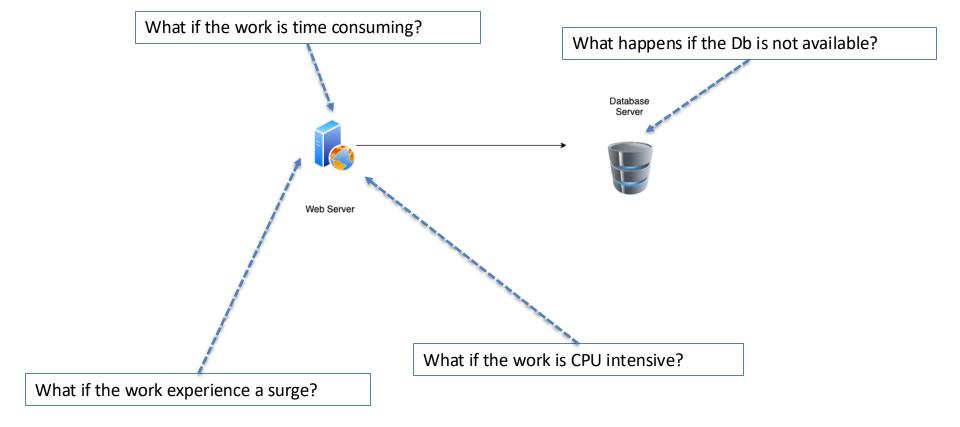
Performance and Scalability

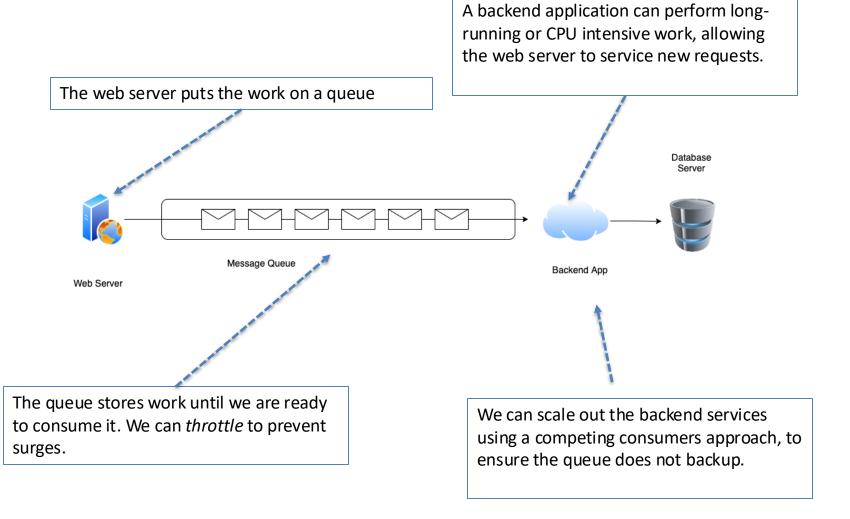
Availability

Maintainability

Inherent Distribution

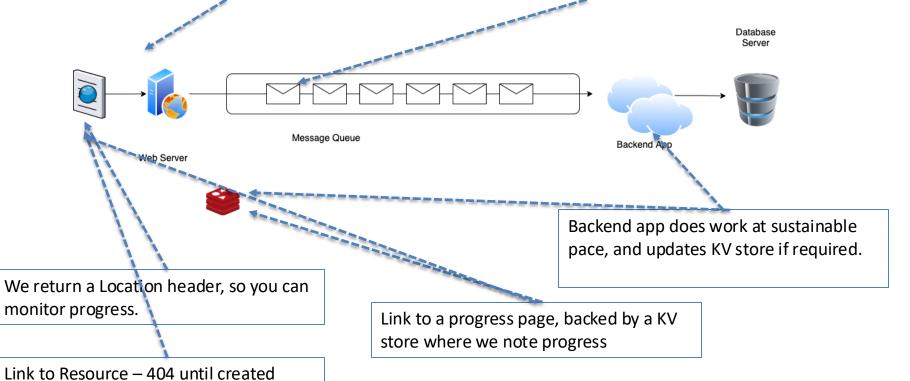
Example: Task Queues



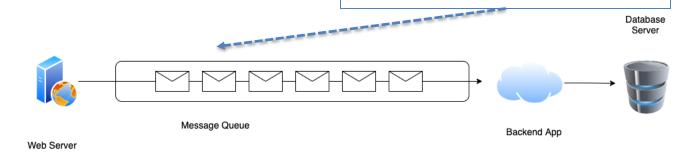


We return 202 Accepted – we have your work request, and won't lost it.

We enqueue a work item for the request.



This general technique is known as Decoupled Invocation – we separate building the command from executing it.



Decoupled Invocation Pattern

Use Decoupled Invocation. A producer puts a message onto a queue at the service endpoint. A consumer reads messages from the queue.

The queue stores messages for eventual processing.

If the rate of arrival at the endpoint is unpredictable, the queue acts as a buffer that makes it possible to predict the rate of consumption.

This makes it simpler to do capacity planning because peaks of requests are smoothed out by the queue.

The consumer must be able to control the rate of processing, otherwise a spike is simply passed down the wire.

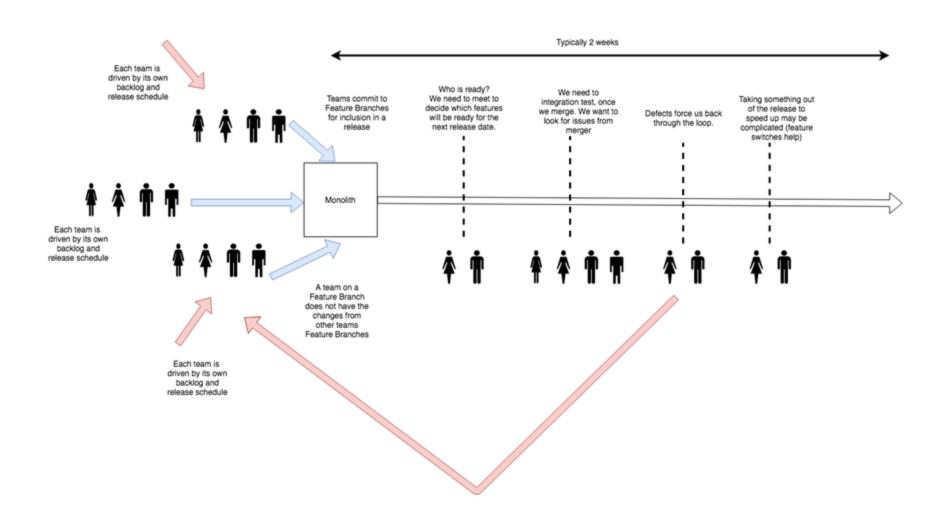
Example: Microservices

It's all about velocity!!!

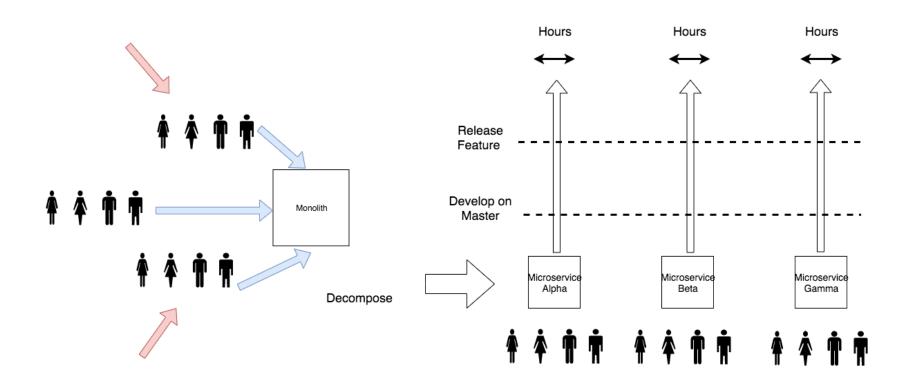
"Speed wins in the marketplace"

Adrian Cockcroft, former lead architect at Netflix

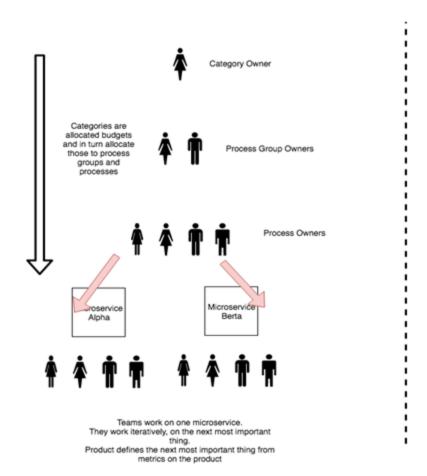
Monoliths Do Not Scale To Many Teams!

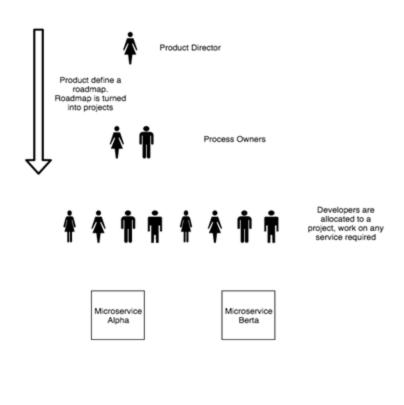


Microservices let us scale an organisation



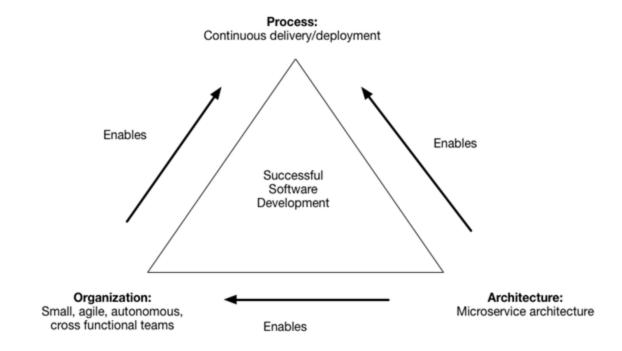
Product Mode





Product Mode Projects

Microservices Enable Agility



https://microservices.io/patterns/decomposition/decompose-by-business-capability.html

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.

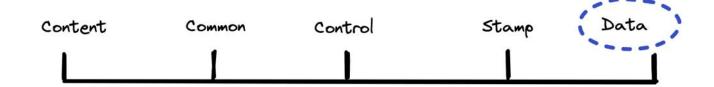
There is one administrator.

Transport cost is zero.

The network is homogeneous.

How do we communicate between microservices?

INTEGRATION STYLES



Tight

More Interdependency

More Coordination

More Information Flow

Loose

Less Interdependency

Less Coordination

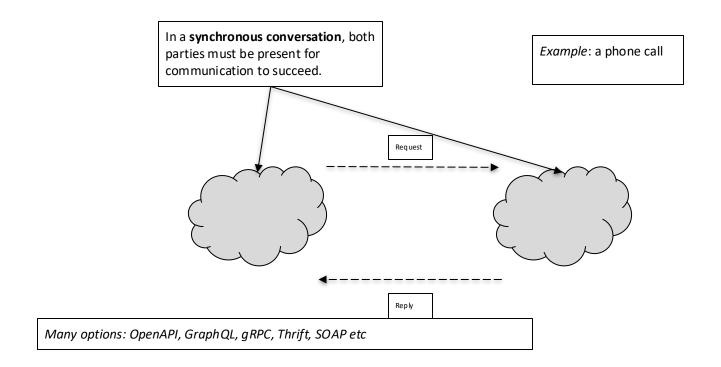
Less Information Flow

Behavioral Coupling: a form of control coupling where we exchange a sequence of calls to complete work

Behavioral Coupling

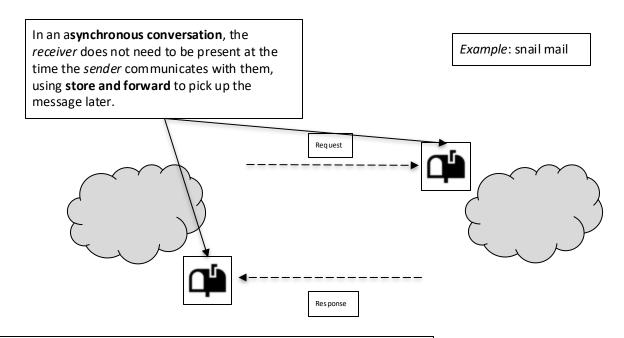
Temporal Coupling

Synchronous Conversation



Temporal Coupling

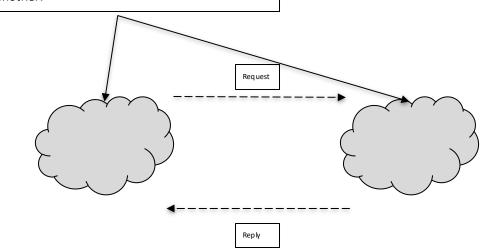
Asynchronous Conversation



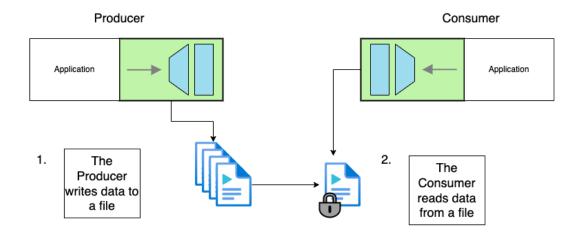
Many options: SQS, Kafka, AMQP 0-9-1 (RMQ), AMQP 1-0, MQTT, S3

Temporal Coupling

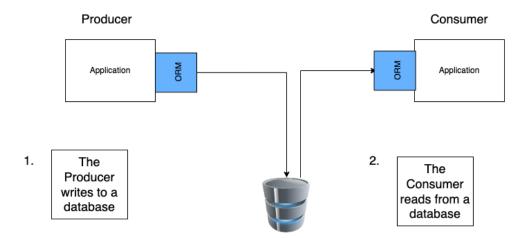
If both parties must be present to succeed, we say they are *temporally coupled*. The availability of one has an impact on the availability of another.



File Transfer



Shared Database

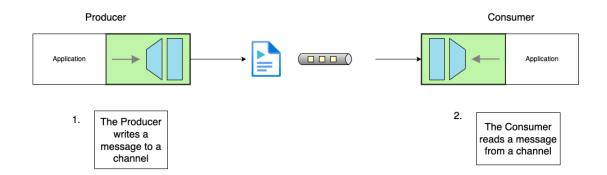


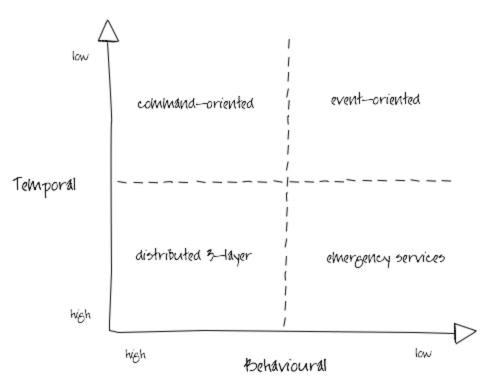
Remote Procedure Call



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

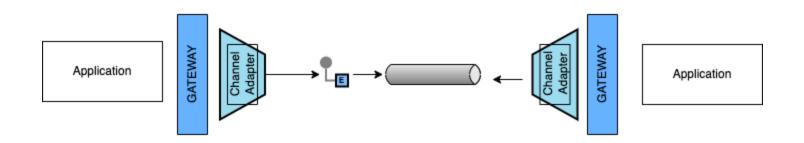




Ian Robinson: http://iansrobinson.com/2009/04/27/temporal-and-behavioural-coupling/

Integrating using events

MESSAGING PATTERNS



What is a message?

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

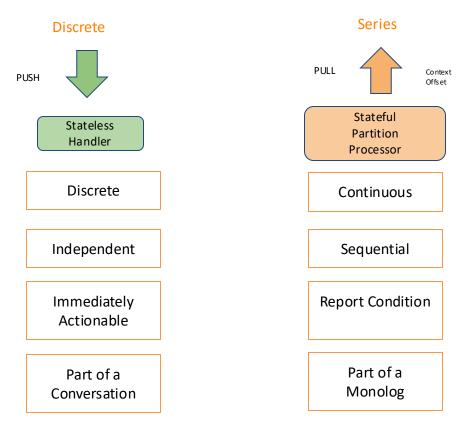
History

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.

Self-paced material

EXERCISES

EXERCISE MATERIAL

Introduction to Exercises

- Readme
- Videos
- Scripts & Slides

Introduction to RMQ



CHANNELS

Channels

A virtual pipe that connects producer and consumer

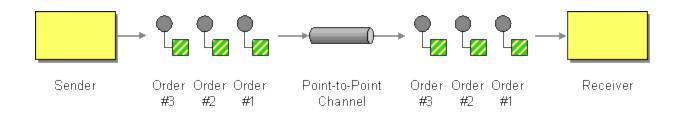
Logical Address (Topic or Routing Key)

Unidirectional

One-to-One or One-to-Many

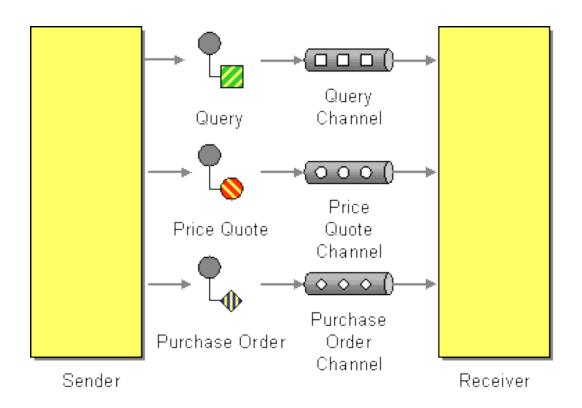
Messaging is a 'pipe' not a 'bucket'.

Point-to-Point Channel



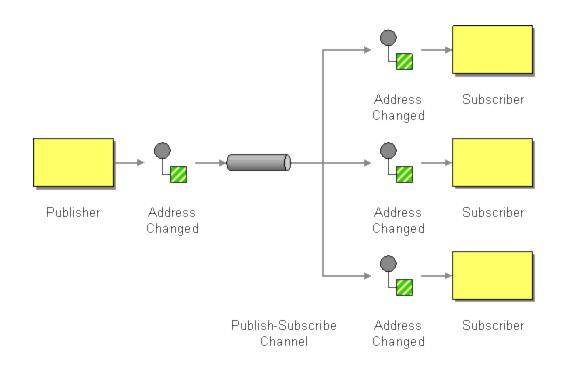
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PointToPointChannel.html

Datatype Channel



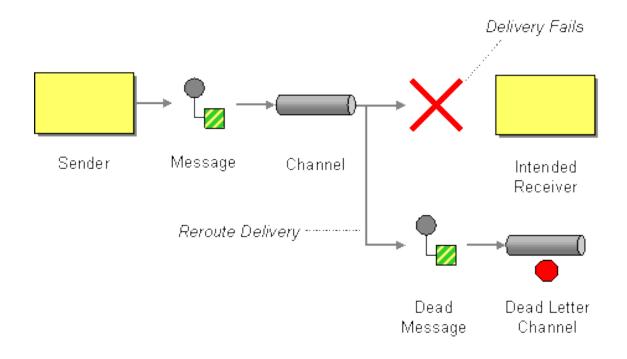
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/DatatypeChannel.html

Publish-Subscribe Channel



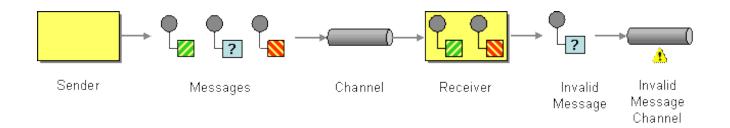
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PublishSubscribeChannel.html

Dead Letter Channel



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

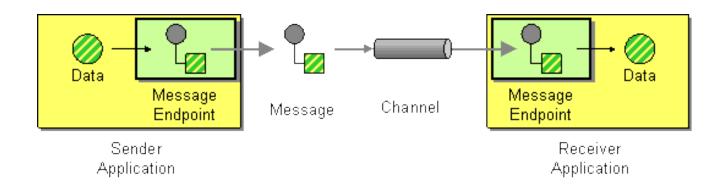
Invalid Message Channel



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

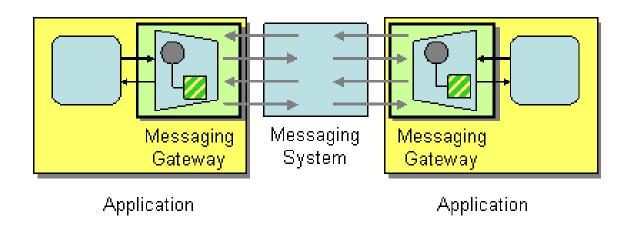
ENDPOINTS

Message Endpoint



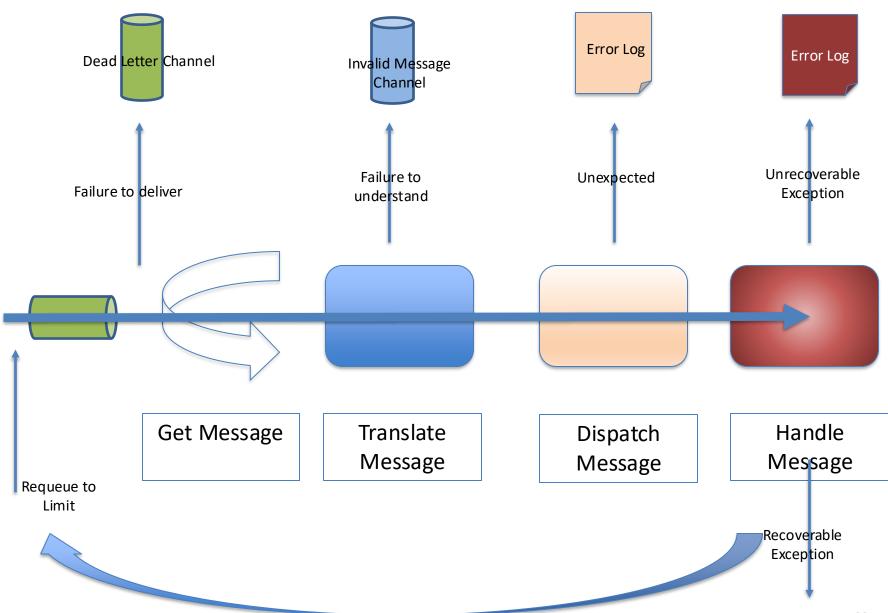
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/MessageEndpoint.html

Messaging Gateway

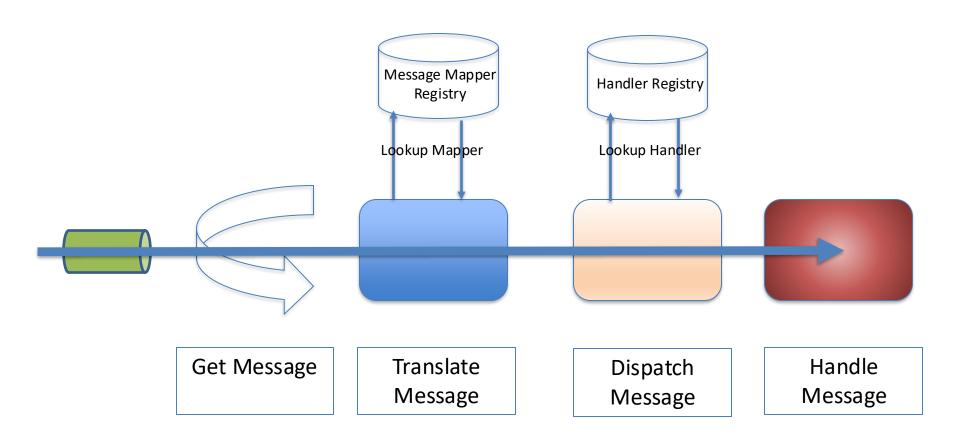


http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/MessagingGateway.html

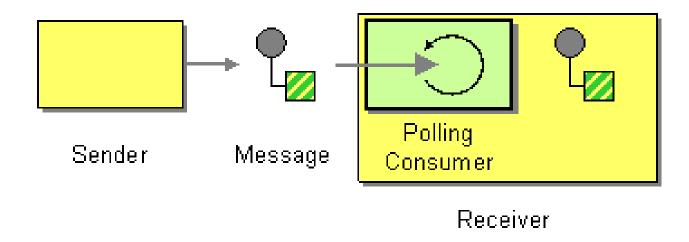
THE MESSAGE PUMP



Translate and Dispatch

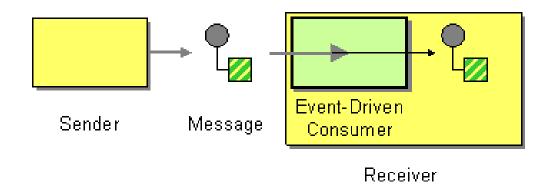


Polling Consumer



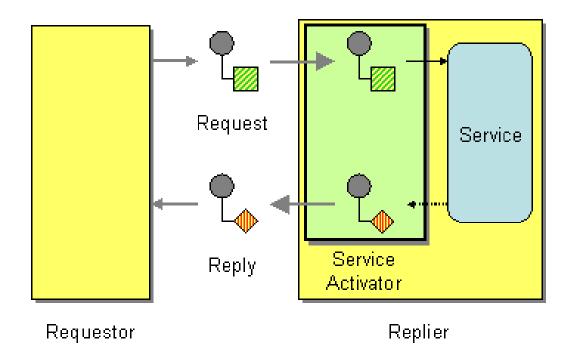
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PollingConsumer.html

Event Driven Consumer



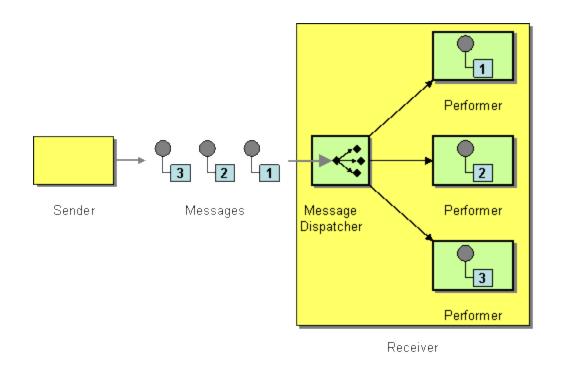
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/EventDrivenConsumer.html

Service Activator



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

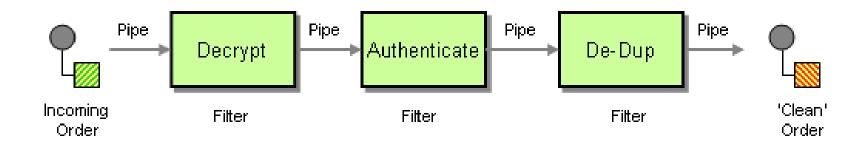
Competing Consumers



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

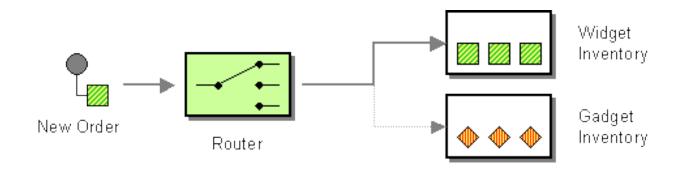
PIPELINES

Pipes and Filters



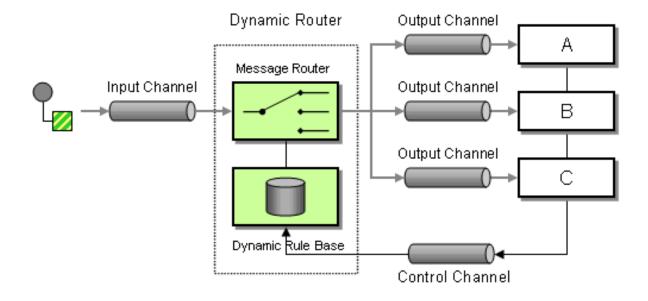
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/PipesAndFilters.html

Content Based Router



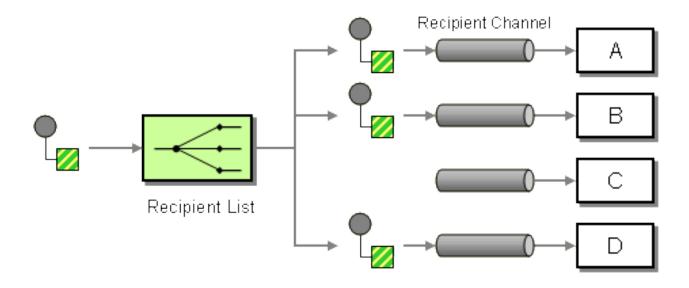
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/ContentBasedRouter.html

Dynamic Router



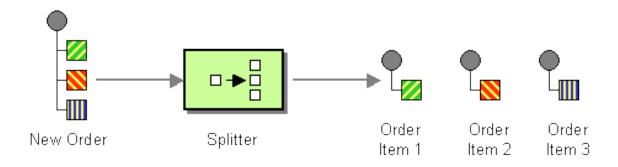
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/DynamicRouter.html

Recipient List



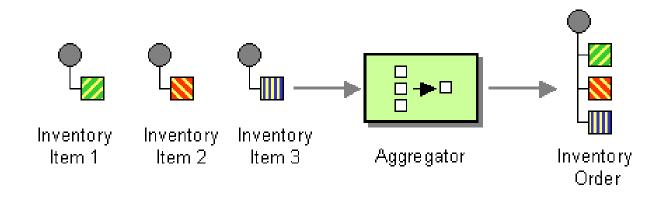
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/RecipientList.html

Splitter



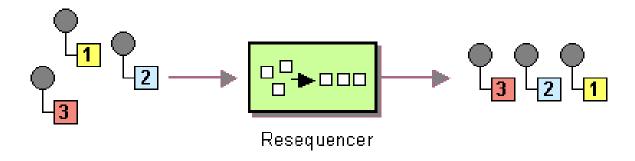
http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/Sequencer.html

Aggregator



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

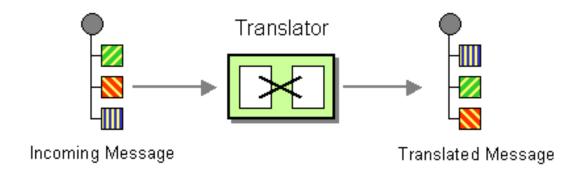
Resequencer



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

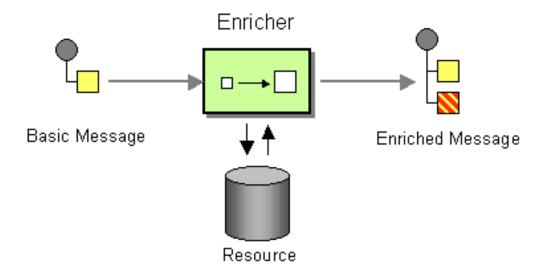
TRANSFORMATION

Message Translator



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

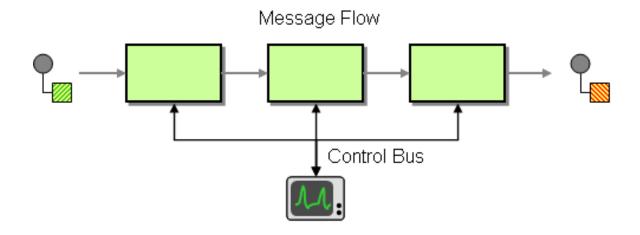
Content Enricher



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

MANAGEMENT

Control Bus

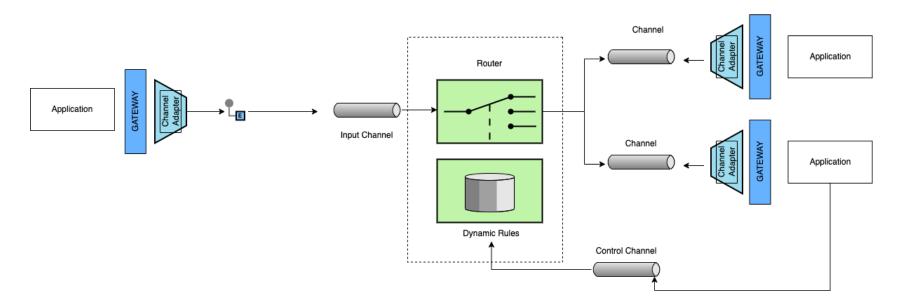


http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/ControlBus.html

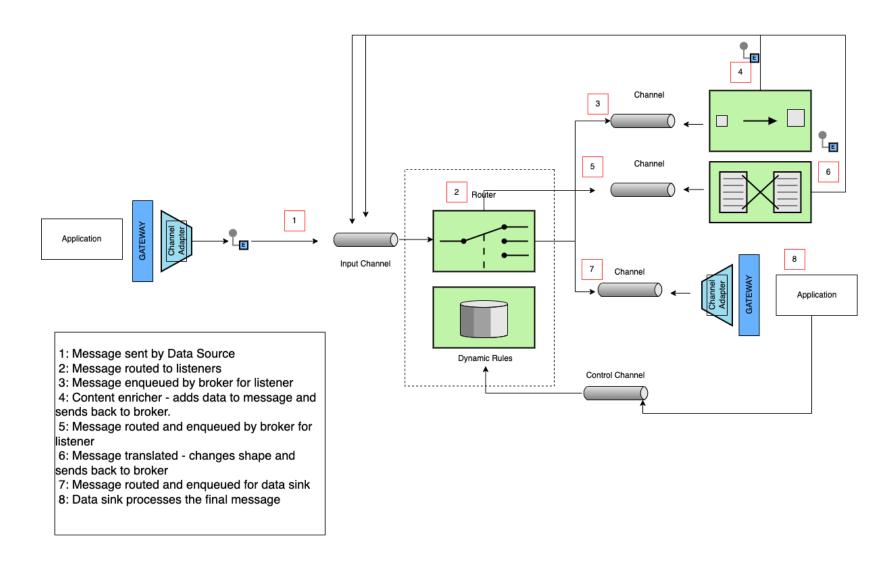
Integrating using events

BROKERS AND PIPELINES

Messaging with A Broker

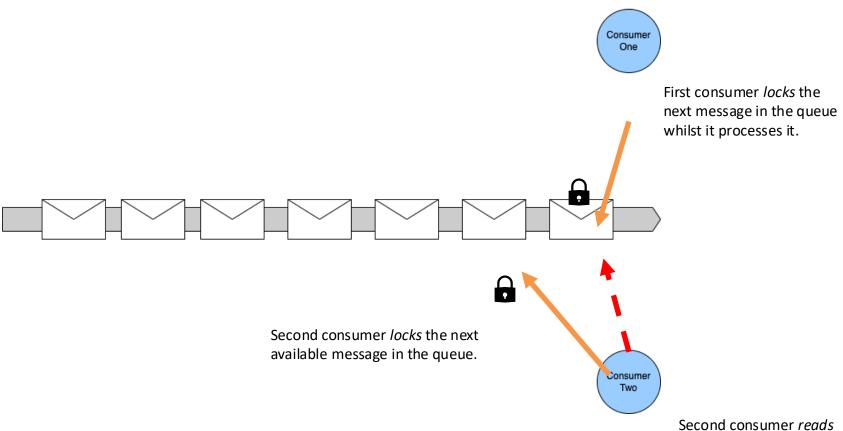


Pipes and Filters

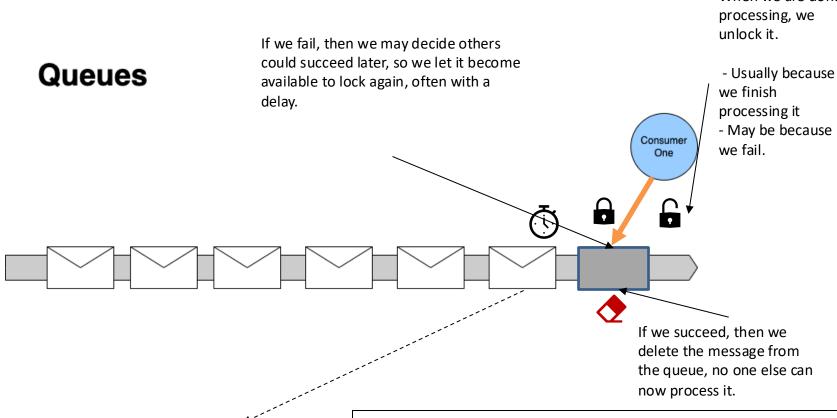


QUEUES AND STREAMS

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

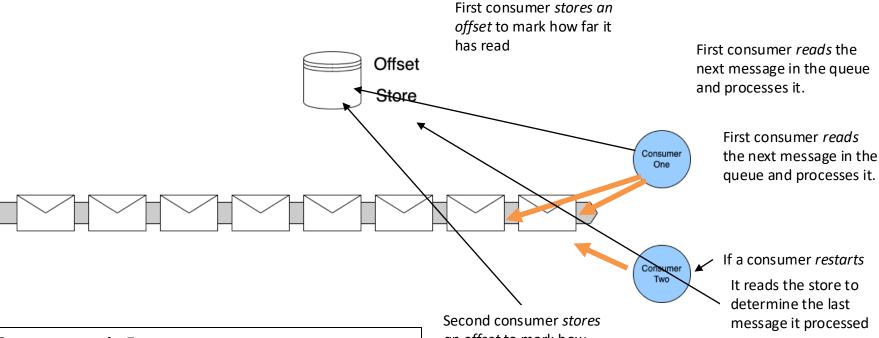
Queues contain Tasks

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

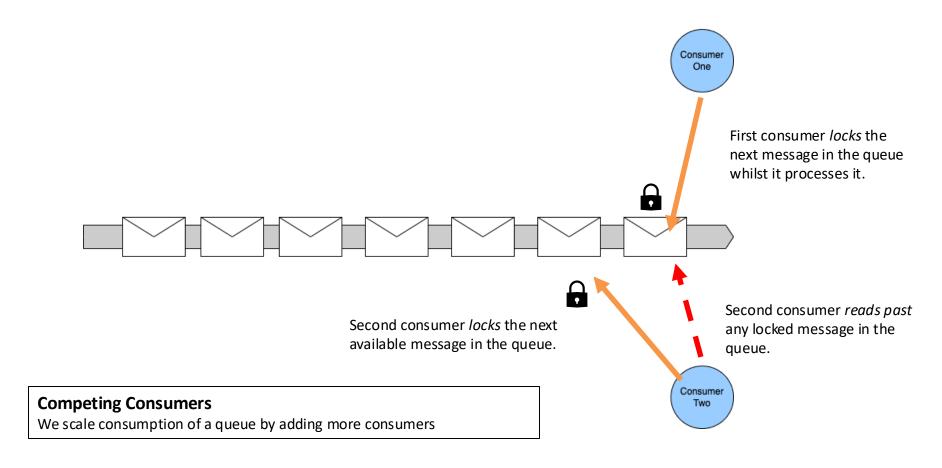
an offset to mark how far it has read

Second

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

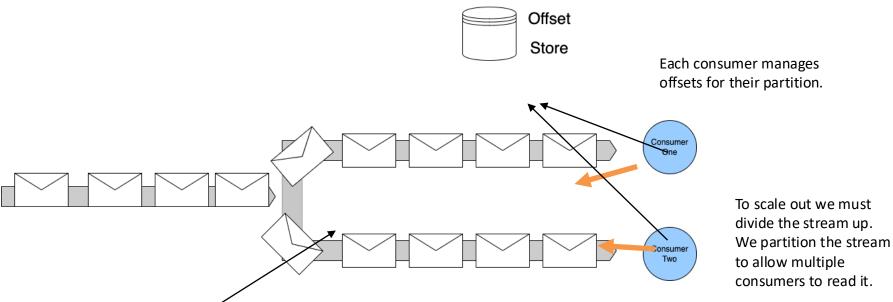
Scaling Queues and Streams

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.

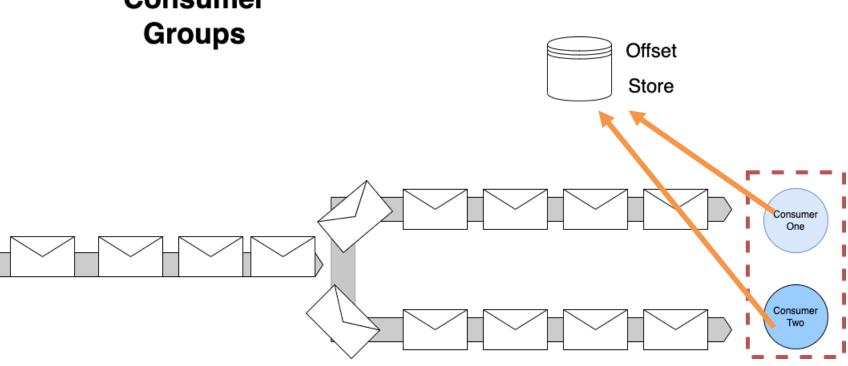
Streams

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

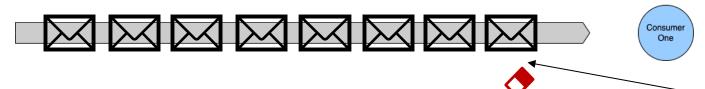
Groups

To provide availability – only one consumer in a group



Archive and Replay

Queues

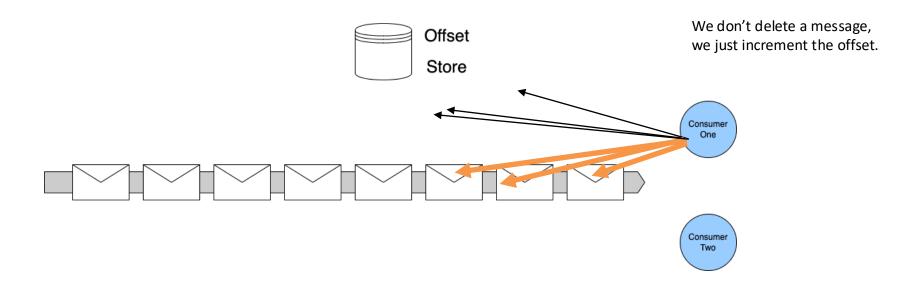


If we succeed, then we delete the message from the queue, no one else can now process it.

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

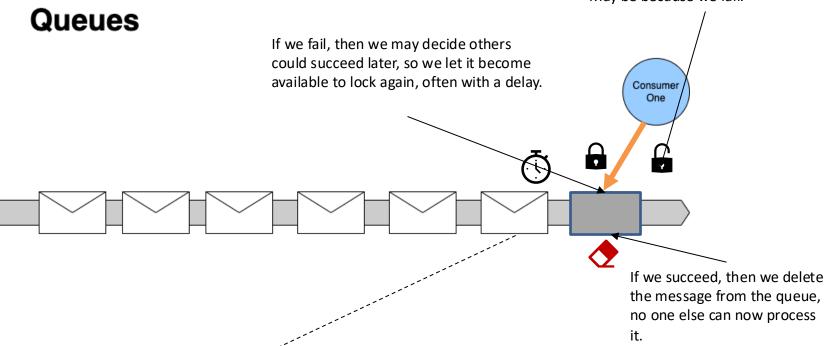
Archive and Replay is straightforward as nothing is deleted. We simply reset the consumer's offset to re-read the stream

Requeue and Delay (Backpressure)

When we are done processing, we unlock it.

- Usually because we finish processing it

- May be because we fail.



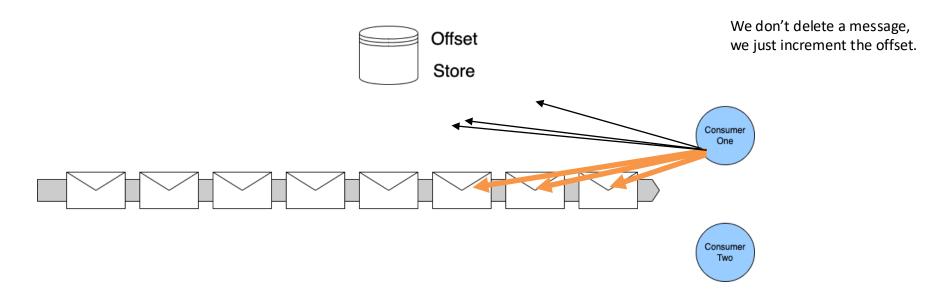
After a certain number of re-queues we may move the message to a dead-letter channel, it turns out that no one action the request within in a reasonable time frame

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	~	V	X
Stream	×	~	/

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

EXERCISE MATERIAL

Introduction to Kafka

- Readme
- Slides



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.

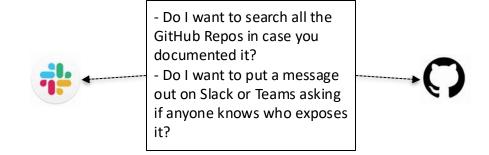
Documentation

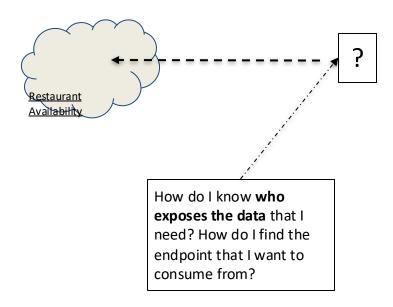
Endpoints are places where messages are sent or received (or both), and they define all the information required for the message exchange.

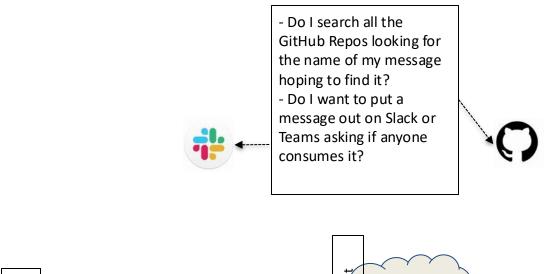
An *endpoint* describes in a standard-based way **where** messages should be sent, how they should be sent, and what the messages should look like.

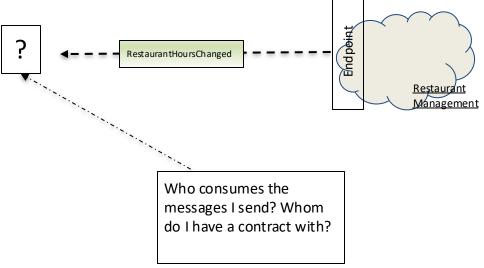
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/framework/wcf/fundamental-concepts

@ICooper 105

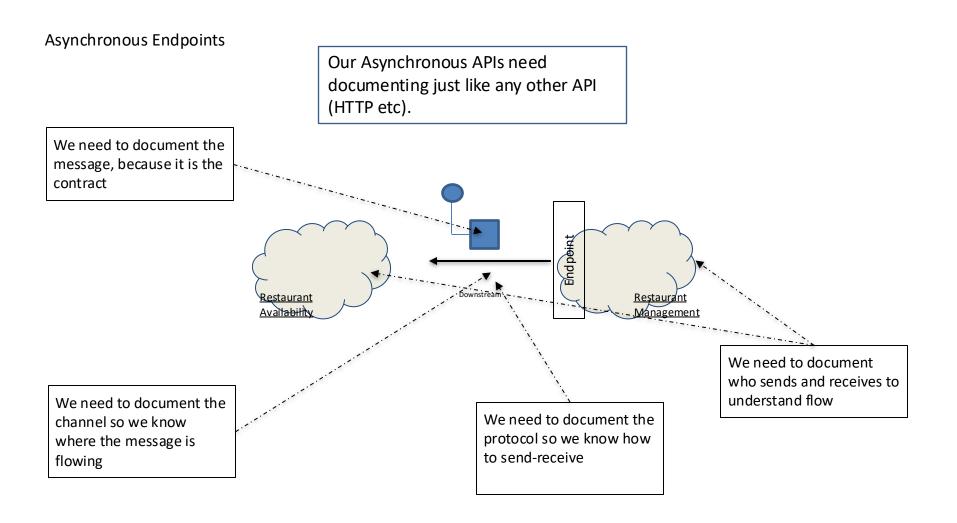




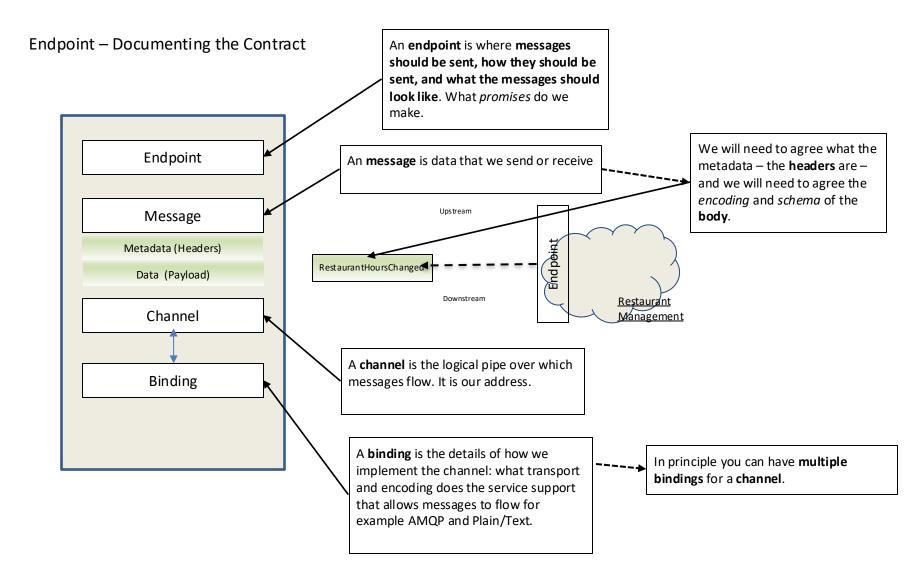




@ICooper 107



@ICooper 108



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

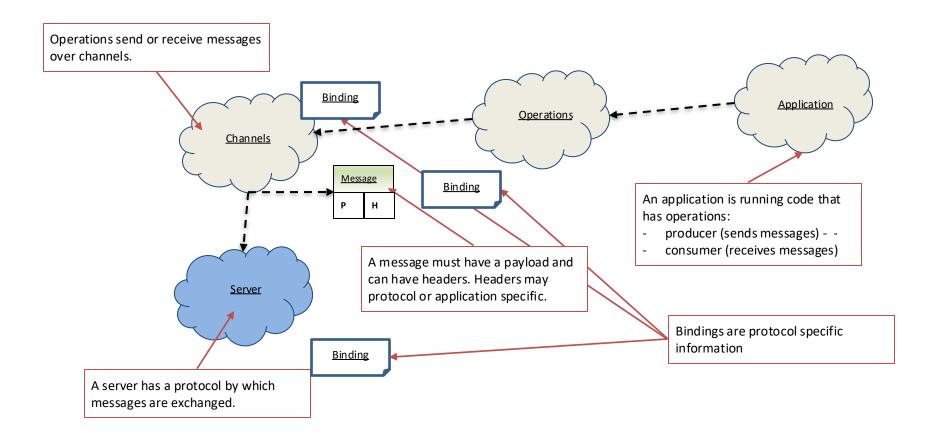
TSC Members

And much more...

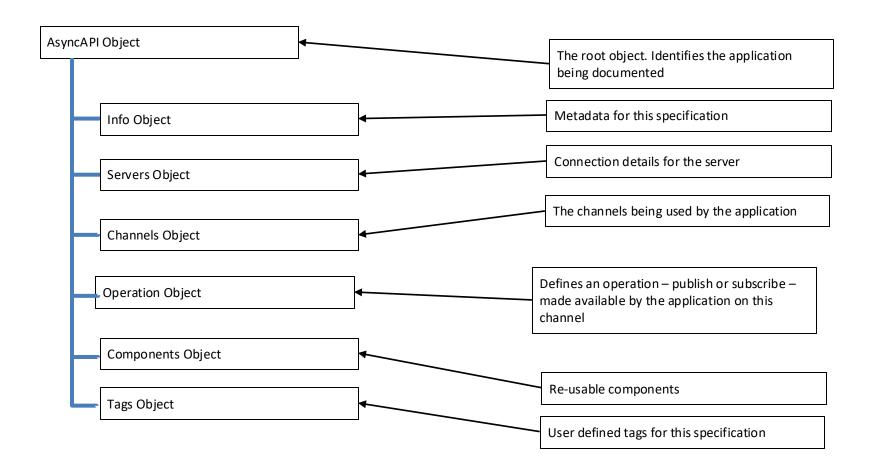
We have many different tools and welcome you to explore our ideas and propose new ideas to AsyncAPI.

View GitHub Discussions

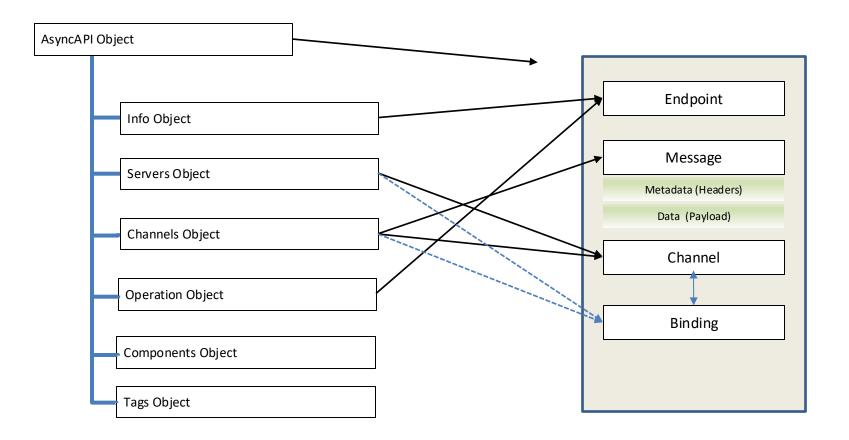
AsyncAPI Elements (V3)



Document Structure (V3)



AsyncAPI (V3) and Endpoint ABCs



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

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

\$id

title

description

type

properties

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

Avro

Complex Typ	es:	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

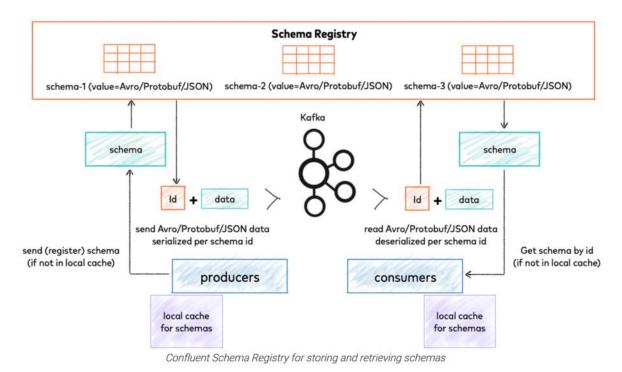
```
syntax = "proto3";

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

Protobuf

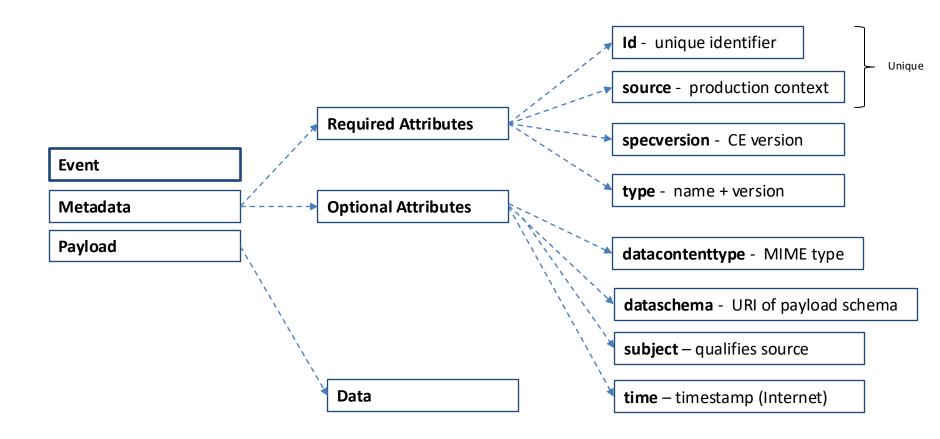
Encodings: **Binary** C++ Languages: C# Dart Go Kotlin Java **Objective-C** Python Ruby Others...

Schema Registry

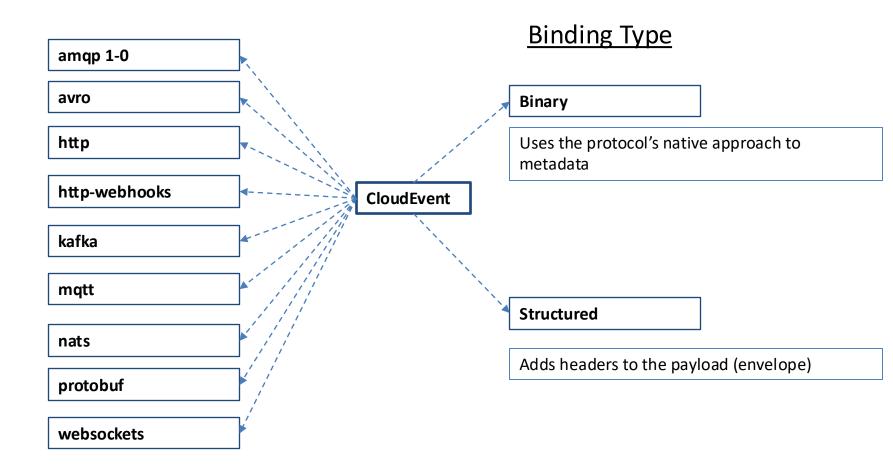


https://docs.confluent.io/platform/current/schema-registry/index.html

Cloud Events



Protocol Binding



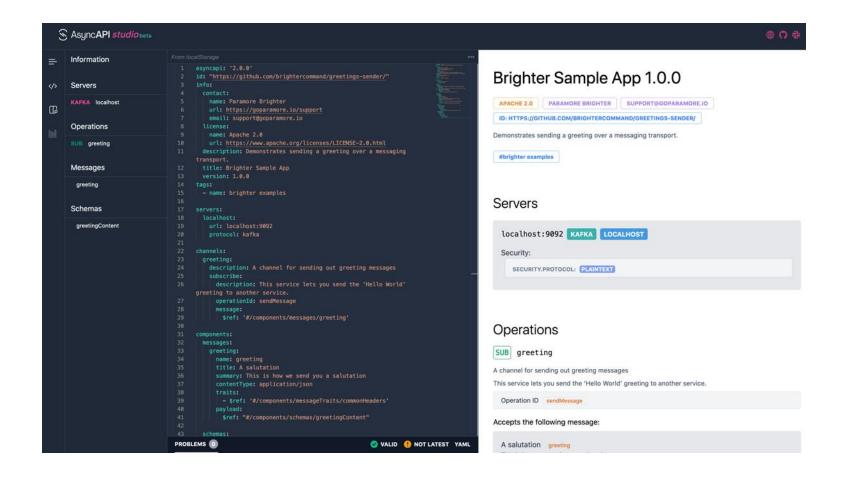
Protocol Binding

Binary

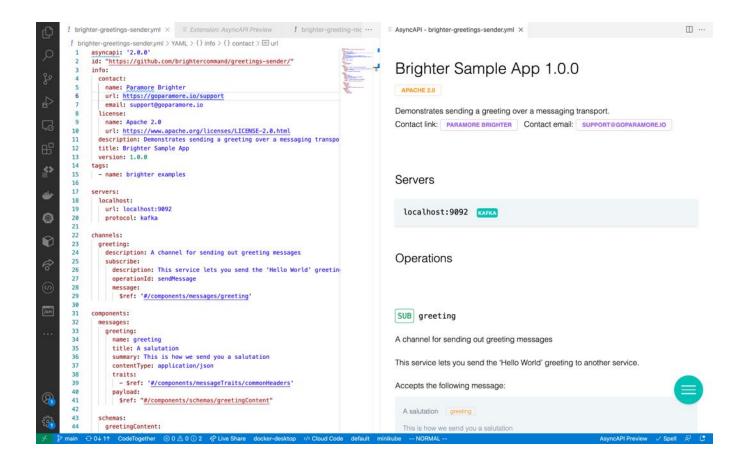
Structured

```
----- 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 ...
```

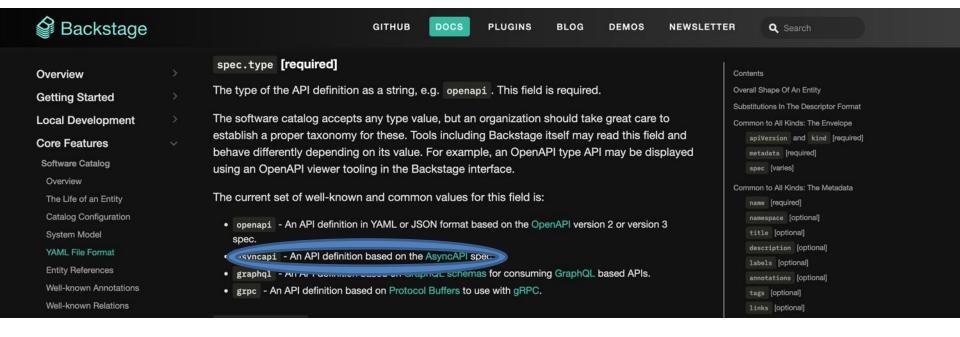
AsyncAPI Studio



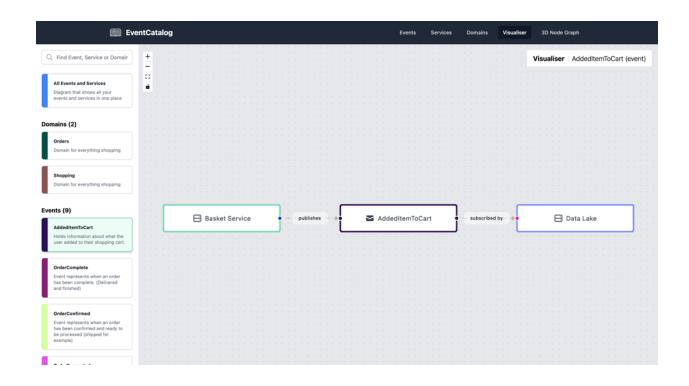
VS Code



Backstage

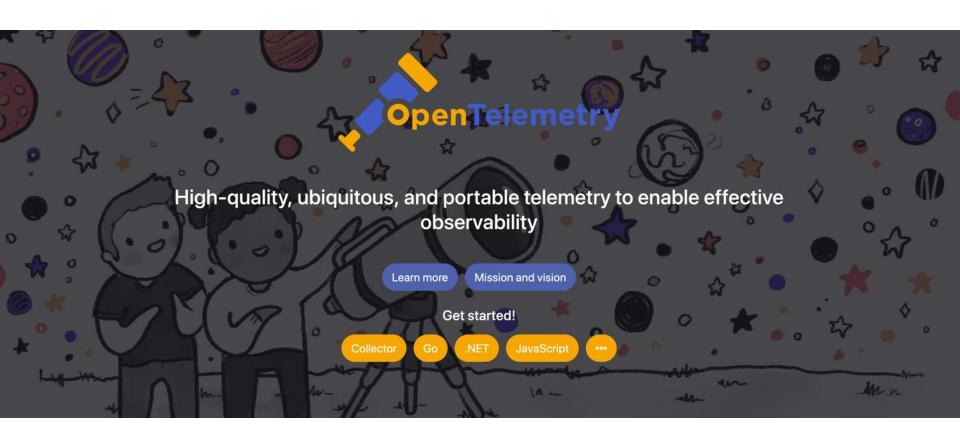


Event Catalog

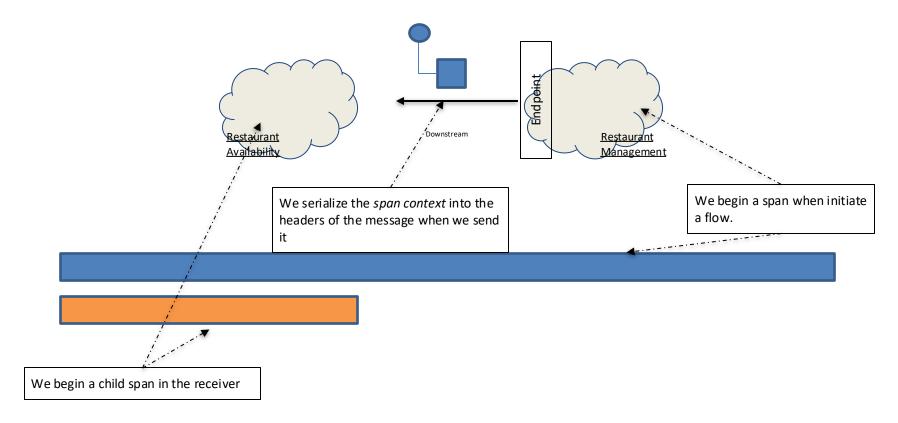


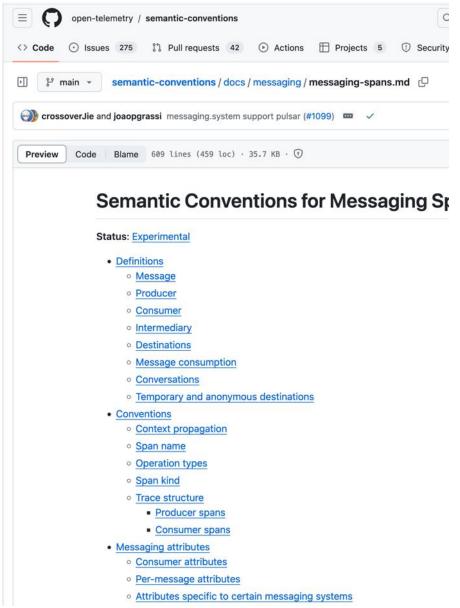
https://github.com/boyney123/eventcatalog

Observability



OpenTelemetry Tracing





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:

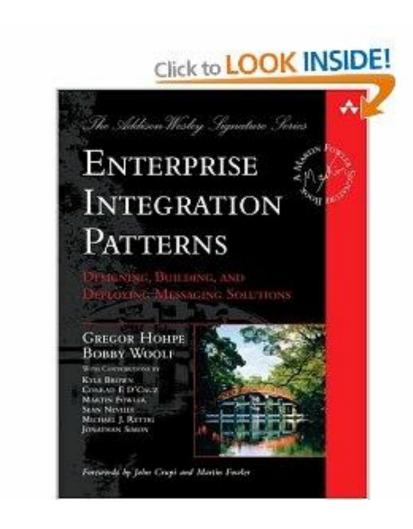
One or more messages are provided for publishing to an intermediary. If a single messag the "Publish" span can be used as the creation context and no "Create" span needs to b

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.

Further Reading



Q&A