



Tiny Web Apps

Google App Engine

Matt Messinger · @BoiseMatt · matthew.messinger@gmail.com

What are “tiny web apps”?

The Lean Startup by Eric Ries

“A core component of Lean Startup methodology is the build-measure-learn feedback loop. The first step is figuring out the problem that needs to be solved and then **developing a minimum viable product (MVP) to begin the process of learning as quickly as possible.** Once the MVP is established, a startup can work on tuning the engine. This will involve measurement and learning and must include actionable metrics that can demonstrate cause and effect question.”



In the web world, I call this MVP a “tiny web app”

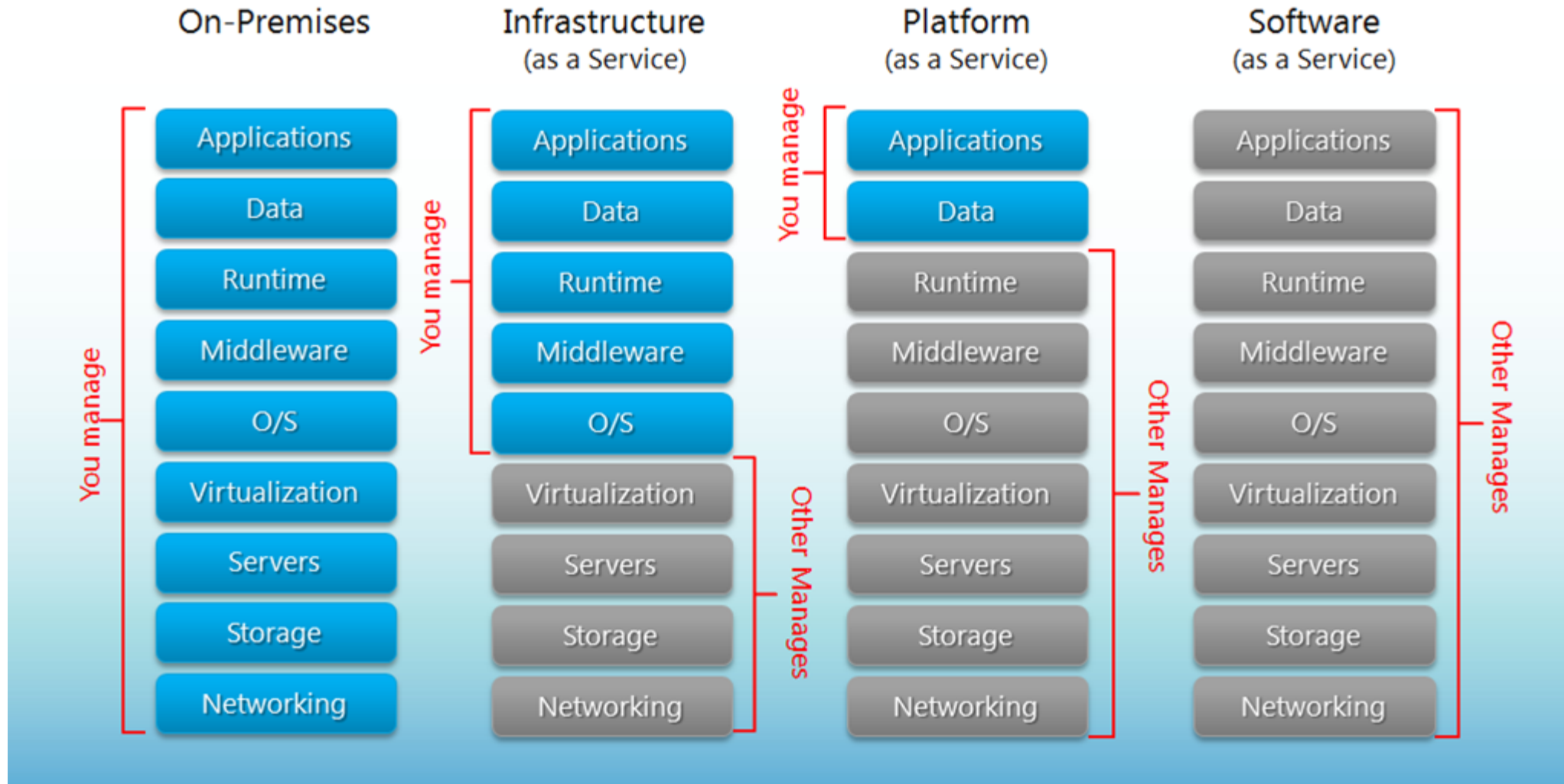
or - just because it's fun



Goals

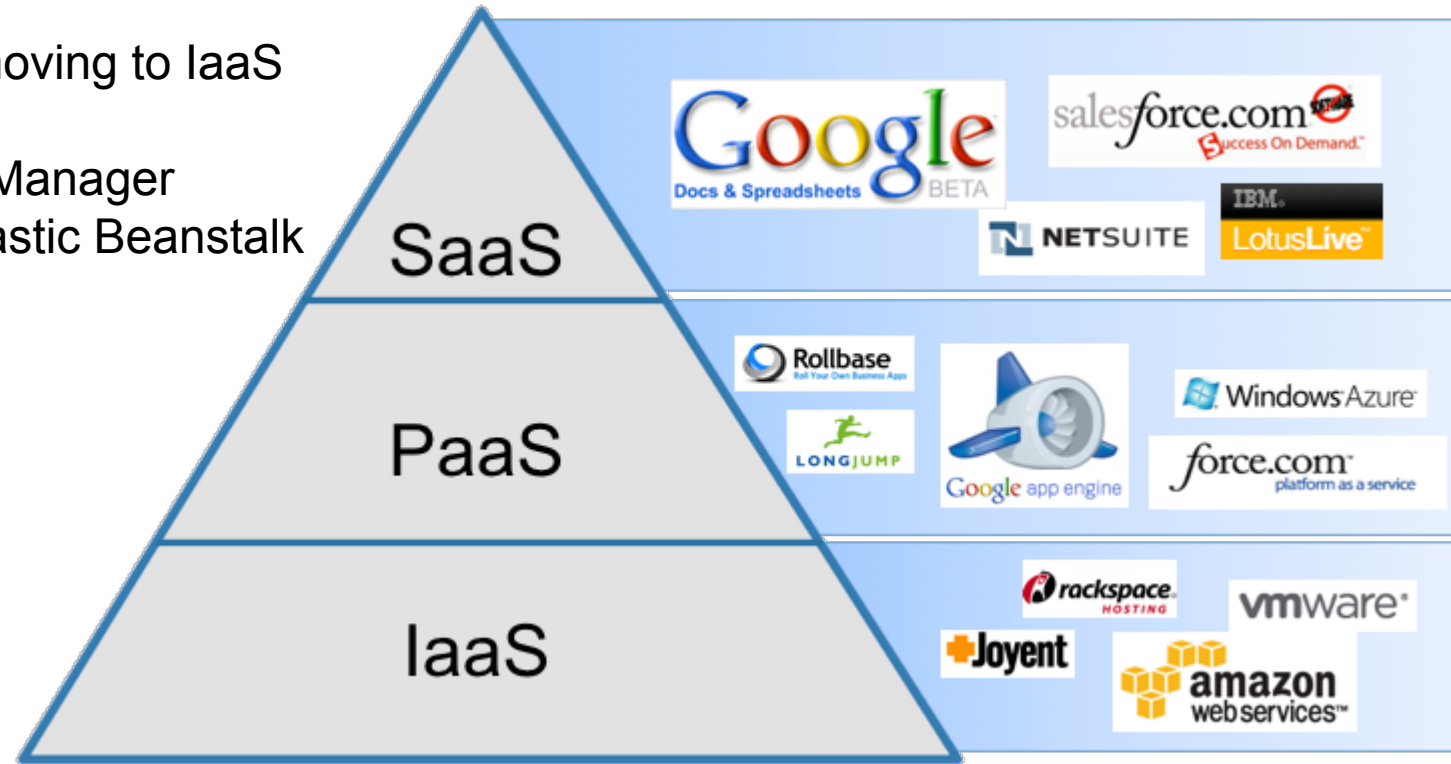
- Build something quickly
- Minimize development and hosting costs
- Minimize issues that would hinder early adoption
- Be able to scale with demand quickly

Separation of Responsibilities



*aaS?

- Google started in PaaS and is moving to IaaS
 - Google Compute Engine
 - Google Cloud Deployment Manager
- AWS has PaaS offerings like Elastic Beanstalk
- Heroku, Salesforce, Azure, etc



Google App Engine



- Fully managed platform
- Web Management Console
- Supports Python, Java, PHP, Go and has language specific SDK's
- SDK to run local development just like production
- Command line utility to upload app to production
- Multiple storage options:
 - Cloud Datastore - NoSQL
 - Cloud SQL - fully managed MySQL database
 - Cloud Storage - object storage

Google App Engine



- Built in services:
 - Channel - bidirectional channel with client
 - Images - manipulate image data
 - Mail - send and receive
 - Memcache - explicit and automatic
 - Task Queues
 - Users - google accounts, google apps, OpenID
 - XMPP
- Scheduled tasks, DoS protection, Auto-indexing

dailysegment.com

dailysegment
trails · usage · leaderboards

```
app.yaml
application: XXX-XXX-XXX
version: 1
runtime: python27
threadsafe: true
api_version: 1

handlers:
# api handler
- url: /api/*
  script: api.app.application
  secure: always

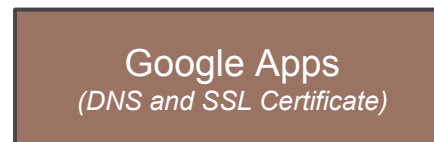
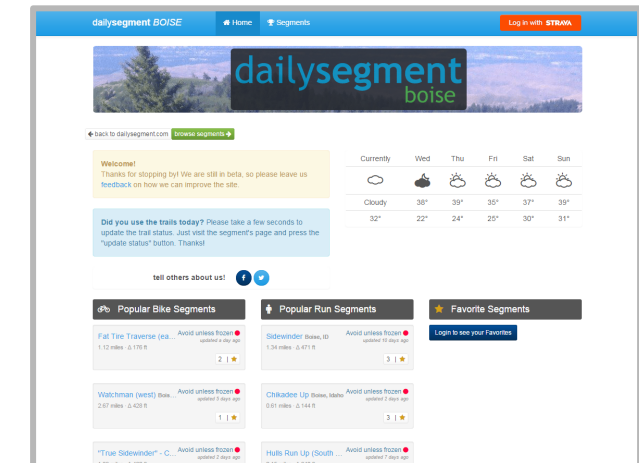
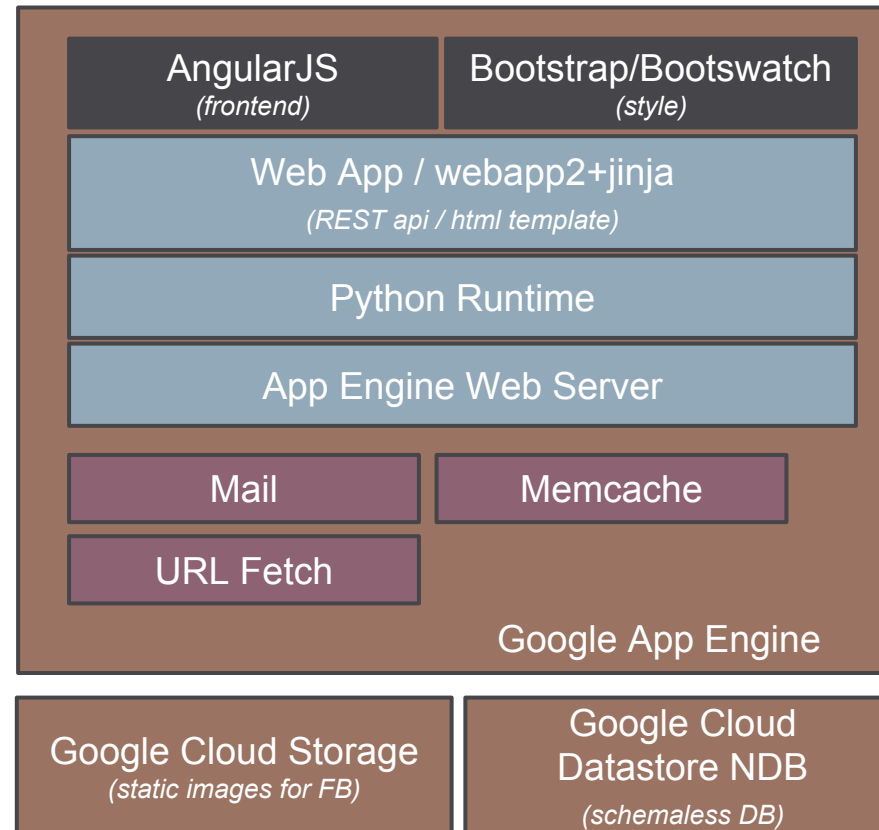
# admin handler
- url: /admin/*
  script: admin.app.application
  login: admin
  secure: always

# static handler
- url: /styles
  static_dir: web/dist/styles
- url: /fonts
  static_dir: web/dist/fonts
- url: /scripts
  static_dir: web/dist/scripts
- url: /bower_components
  static_dir: web/dist/bower_components
- url: /images
  static_dir: web/dist/images
- url: /favicon.ico
  static_files: web/dist/favicon.ico
  upload: web/dist/favicon.ico

# Auth handler
- url: /auth/*
  script: web.auth.application
  secure: always

# Web handler
- url: /*
  script: web.app.application
  secure: always

libraries:
- name: jinja2
  version: latest
```



Demo



- Simple Python Web App
 - Angular js/css served statically out of app
 - Bootstrap “self” with template & grunt-replace-string
- Leverages GAE User, Email, Memcache, NDB services

<https://github.com/mattmessinger/boise-angularjs-gae-demo>