

# Joel Biffin

## Backend Engineer (Payments & Risk)

### Cleo AI

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# LLGems

Re-Using Code the Ruby Way



# AGENDA

01

How Cleo's Rails app runs in production

02

What some of the trade-offs are in the chosen design

03

How we're trying to overcome one of the trade-offs using LLGems

01

# Cleo in Production

An overview of our Rails monolith



```
meetcleo (main)
$ tree -L 1 -d
.
├── app
├── bin
├── config
├── db
├── event_publishing
├── lib
├── log
├── node_modules
├── packages
├── patches
├── payments_platform
├── public
├── serviceMocks
├── sig
├── system_test
├── test
├── tmp
├── vendor
└── webhooks

20 directories
```

```
meetcleo (main)
[ $ tree -L 1 -d app
app
├── assets
├── cleo_bot
├── controllers
├── events
├── helpers
├── javascript
├── lib
├── mailers
├── models
├── presenters
├── queries
├── serializers
├── services
├── validators
├── views
└── workers

17 directories
```

```
meetcleo (main)
$ tree -L 1 -d
.
├── app
├── bin
├── config
├── db
├── event_publishing
├── lib
├── log
├── node_modules
├── packages
├── patches
└── payments_platform
├── public
├── serviceMocks
├── sig
├── system_test
├── test
├── tmp
└── vendor
└── webhooks

20 directories
```

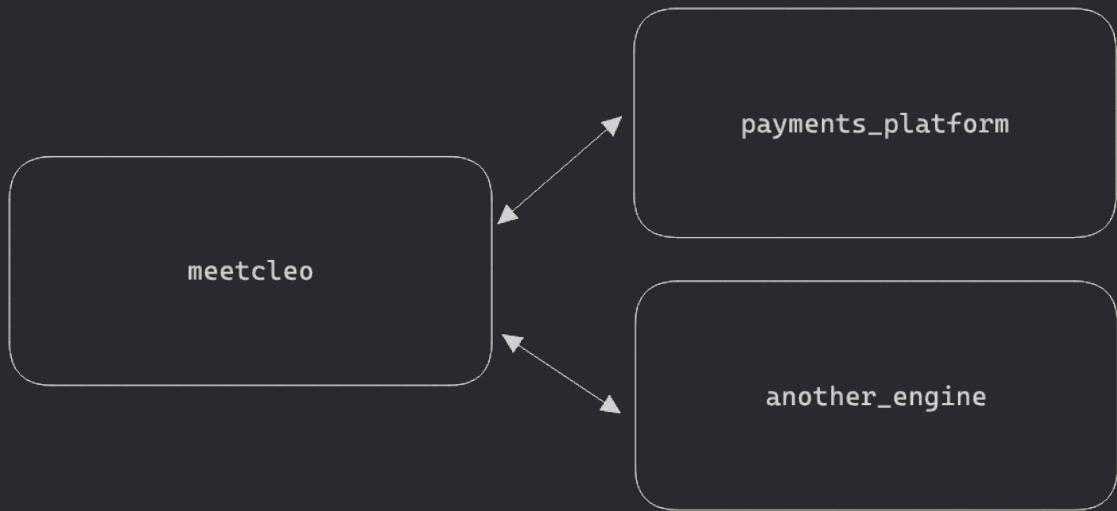
```
meetcleo (main)
| $ tree -L 1 -d payments_platform
payments_platform
├── app
├── bin
├── config
├── db
├── lib
└── test
```

7 directories

```
meetcleo (main)
| $ tree -L 1 -d payments_platform/app
payments_platform/app
├── apis
├── controllers
├── decorators
├── events
├── lib
├── models
├── services
├── webhook_subscribers
└── workers
```

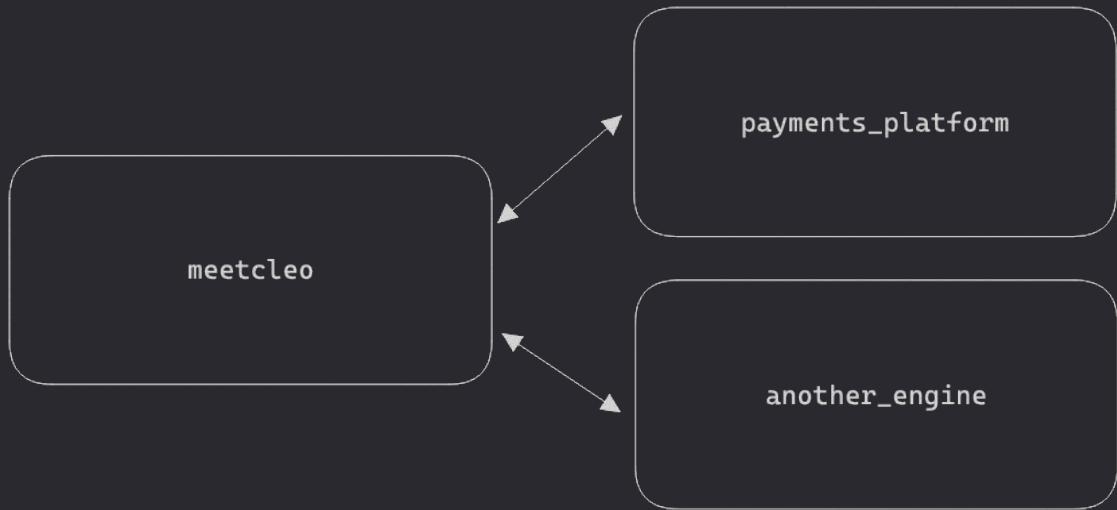
10 directories

# A Rails Engine is just a Rails app





```
module PaymentsPlatform
  class SomeClassNestedUnderPaymentsPlatform
    # ...
  end
end
```





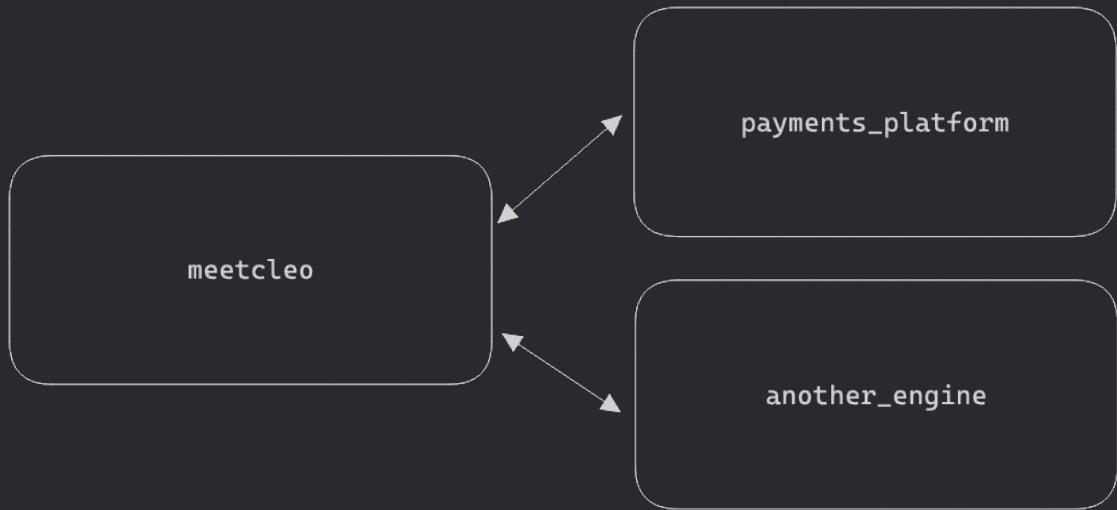
```
class UserController < ApplicationController
  def show
    PaymentsPlatform::SomeClassNestedUnderPaymentsPlatform.find(params[:user_id])
  end
end
```

02

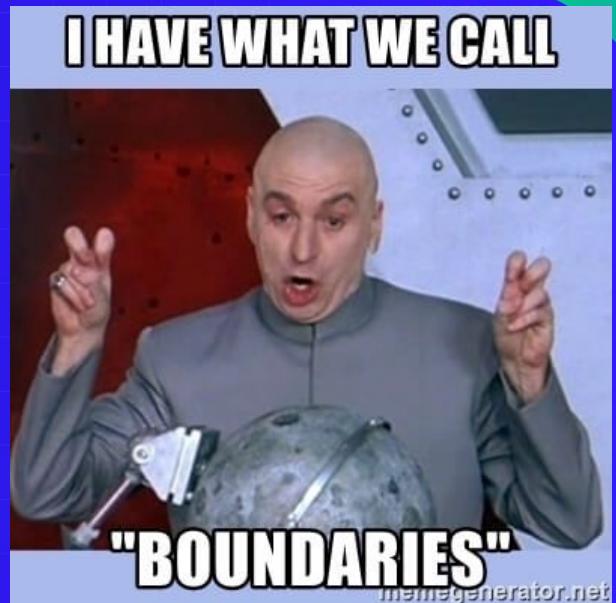
# Boundaries are Hard

Some design challenges when using Rails engines

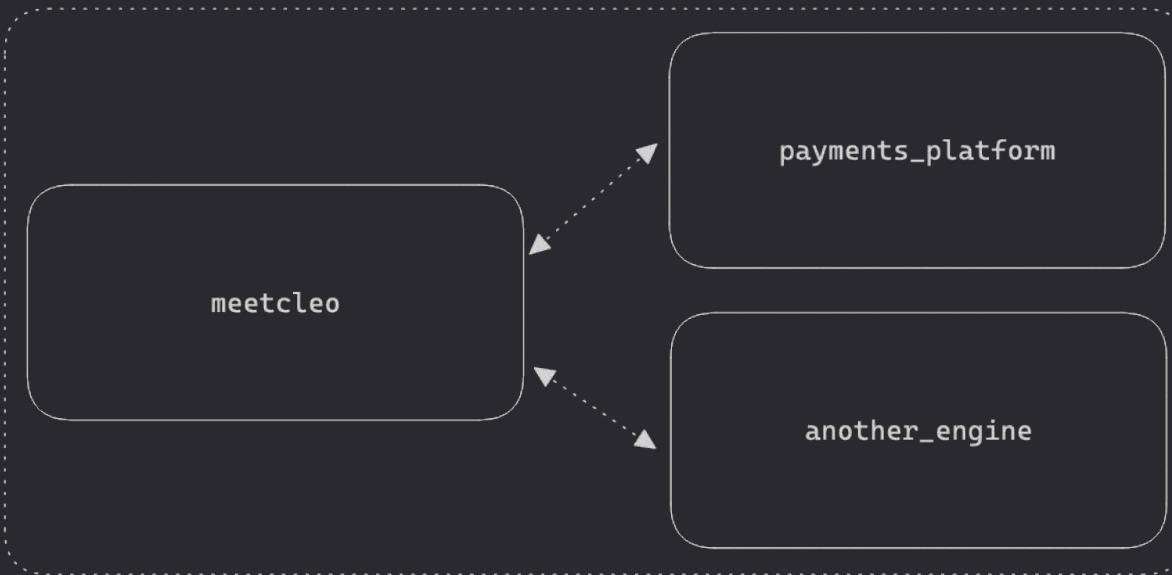




# These boundaries are a lie



Single Process running in Production





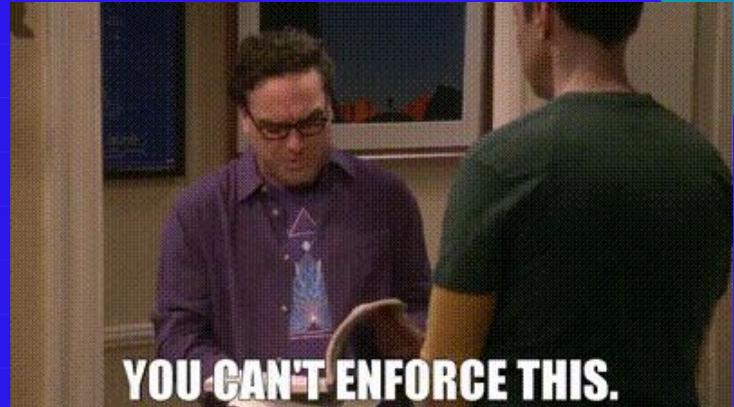
```
class UserController < ApplicationController
  def show
    PaymentsPlatform::Do::Some::Very::Deeply::NestedThing.call
  end
end
# ...
module PaymentsPlatform
  class Do::Some::Very::Deeply::NestedThing
    def call
      user = ::User.find(me)
      user.destroy!
    end
  end
end
```

```
● ● ●
```

```
class UserController < ApplicationController
  def show
    PaymentsPlatform::Do::Some::Very::Deeply::NestedThing.call
  end
end
# ...
module PaymentsPlatform
  class Do::Some::Very::Deeply::NestedThing
    def call
      user = ::User.find(me)
      user.destroy!
    end
  end
end
```

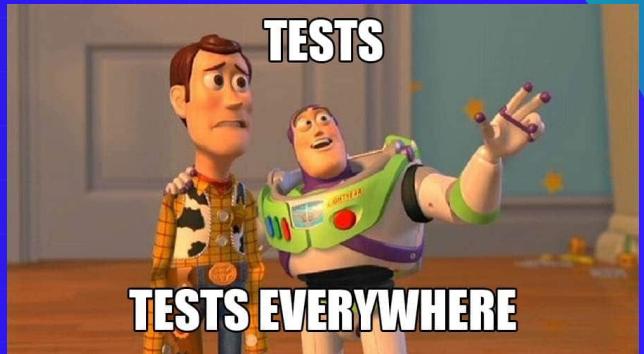
## Feature Envy

# How can we ensure we respect the boundaries?

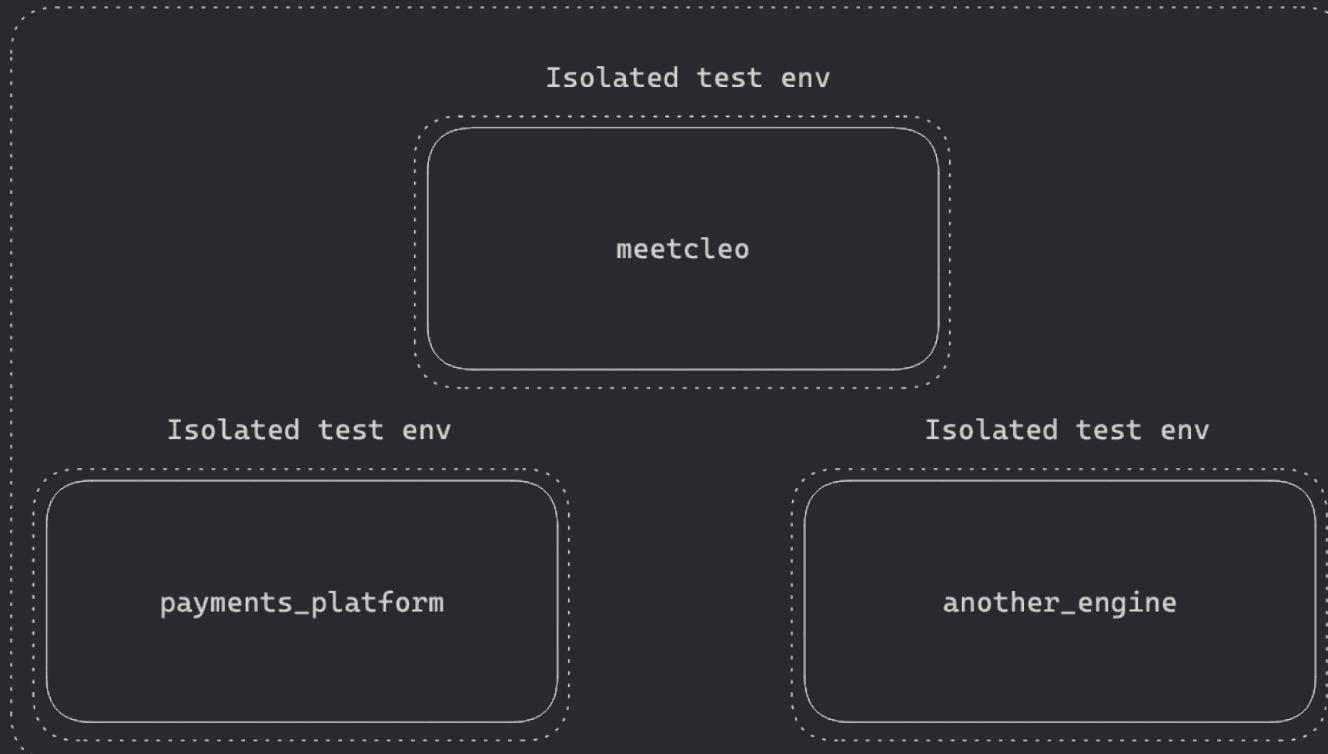


**YOU CAN'T ENFORCE THIS.**

# Your tests are your friend



## Continuous Integration



```
module PaymentsPlatform
  class Do::Some::Very::Deeply::NestedThing
    def call
      user = ::User.find(me)
      user.destroy!
    end
  end
end
```

```
module PaymentsPlatform
  class Do::Some::Very::Deeply::Name
    def call
      user = ::User.find(1)
      user.destroy!
    end
  end
end
```

NameError: uninitialized constant User

# Dependencies are tough.



# Engines impact our ability to share dependencies

1

We cannot  
co-depend on  
Constant  
references

2

We cannot  
co-depend on Ruby  
gems

3

We cannot  
leverage useful  
test helpers

03

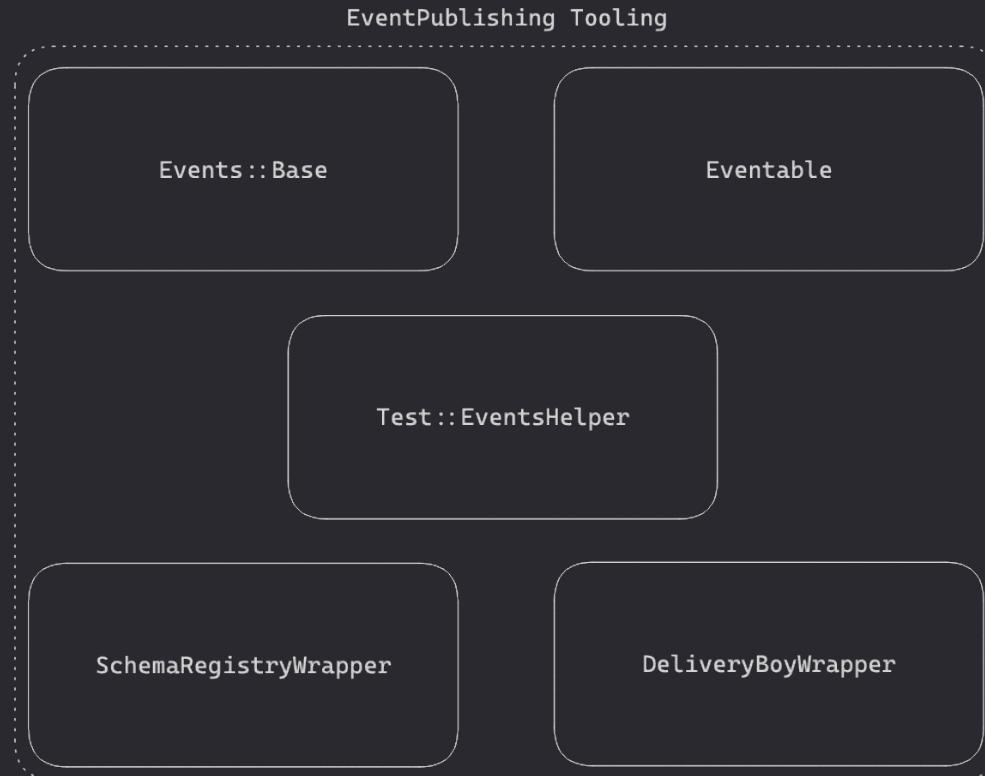
# Leveraging Localised Gems

CLEO

# Case Study: EventPublishing

# Publishing Kafka Events from Rails

- We **live and breath** data
- We **love publishing events** to better understand the inner-workings of the system
- The Platforms team have created some great infrastructure to make publishing events easy, using **3rd party tools**:
  - Apache Kafka
  - DeliveryBoy
  - AvroTurf





```
module EventsHelper
  def assert_publishes(...); end
  def assert_multiple_publishes(...); end
  def assert_no_publishes(...); end
end
```

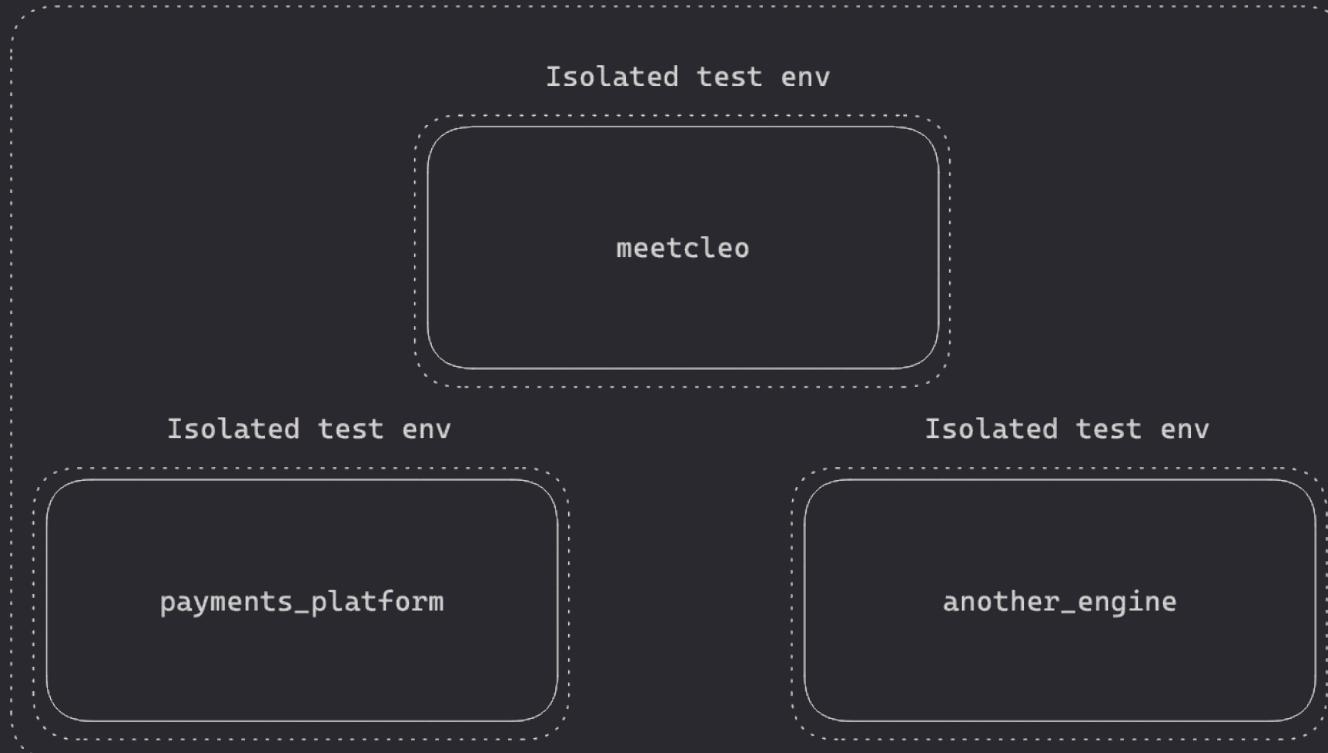


```
class ExampleTest < ActiveSupport::TestCase
  test 'the method publishes 1 "foo" event' do
    assert_publishes 'events.foo' do
      Example.new.publish_foo
    end
  end
end
```

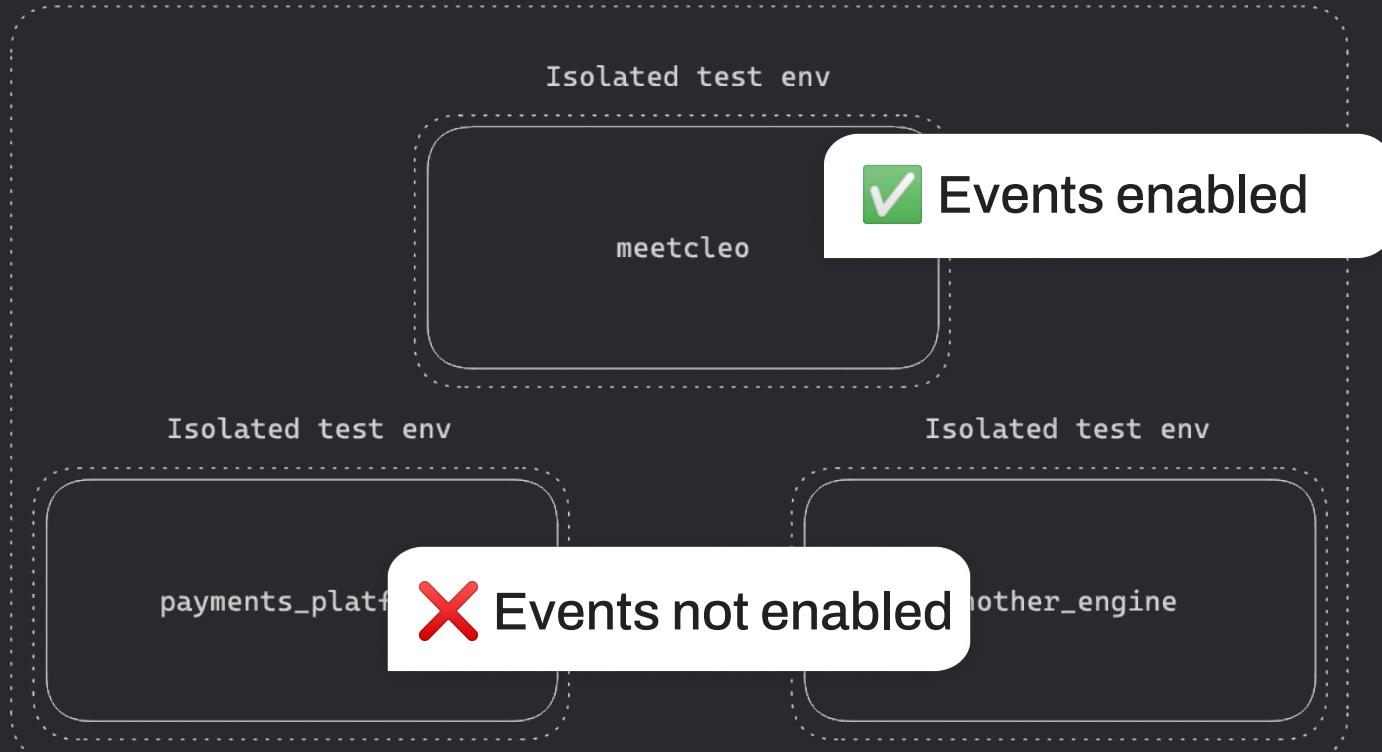


```
module EventsHelper
  def assert_publishes(...); end
  def assert_multiple_publishes(...); end
  def assert_no_publishes(...); end
end
```

## Continuous Integration



## Continuous Integration



# How can we share the code with our Engines?

# Ideation



1

Copy + Paste all of  
the code.

Because... why the  
heck not

2

Move the code  
under some /lib  
module

3

Make a gem that's  
inside our  
repository so we  
can use a local  
install

# Do the simple thing



# Easier said than done

Pain 2399 shared events library 2 #26207

**Closed** joelbiffin wants to merge 3 commits into `PAIN-2399-shared-events-library` from `PAIN-2399-shared-events-library-2`

Conversation 0 Commits 8 Checks 5 Files changed 21

joelbiffin commented on May 2 · edited

### So Far

- Made constants from shared library accessible in Payments Platform via `require_relative` (temporary)
- Copied more test helper code into `payments_platform/test/_helpers/events_helper.rb`
- Moved `EventConfiguration` into shared library
- Installed Avro turf gem in payments platform (temp)
- Tested `assert_no_publishes` passes for positive case
- Generate new event schema and run `rake events:register_schema`

### To Do (no specific order)

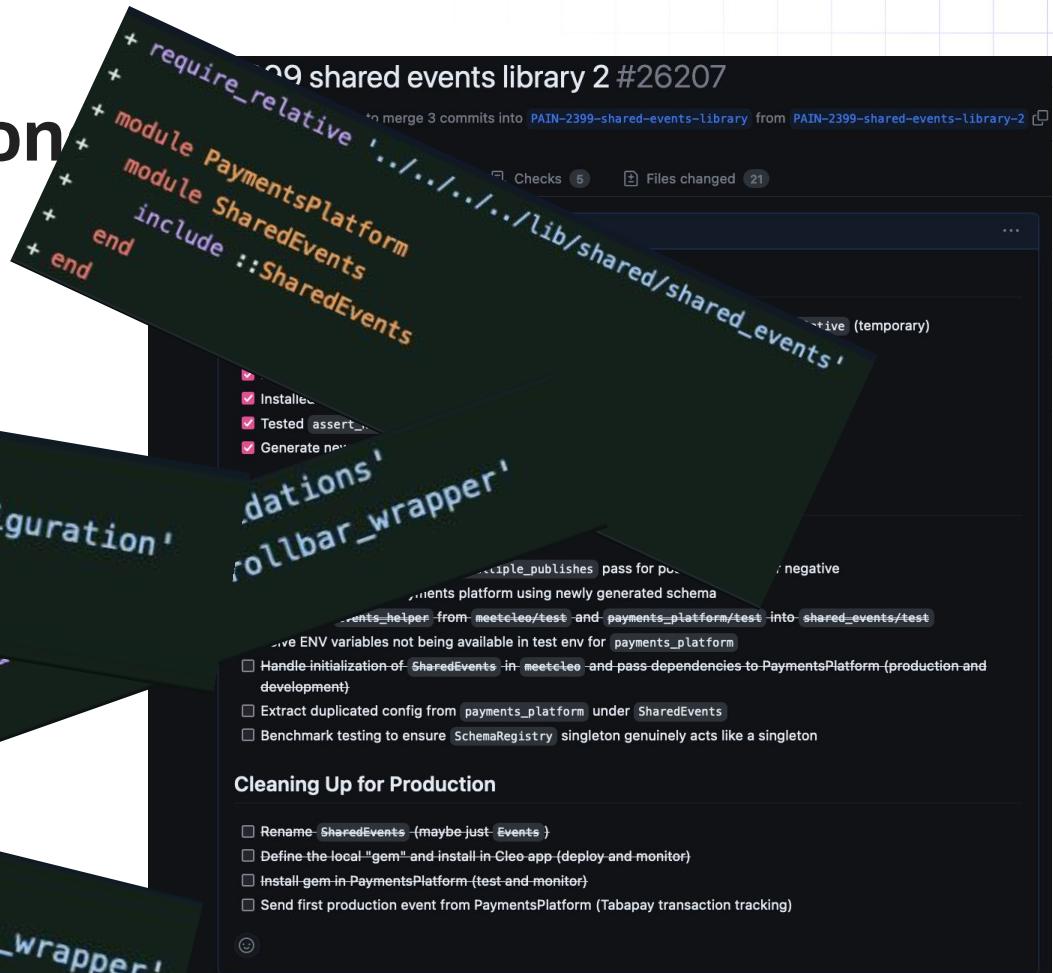
- `assert_no_publishes` fails for negative case
- `assert_publishes` and `assert_multiple_publishes` pass for positive and fail for negative
- Publish events from payments platform using newly generated schema
- Generalise `events_helper` from `meetcleo/test` and `payments_platform/test` into `shared_events/test`
- Solve ENV variables not being available in test env for `payments_platform`
- Handle initialization of `SharedEvents` in `meetcleo` and pass dependencies to `PaymentsPlatform` (production and development)
- Extract duplicated config from `payments_platform` under `SharedEvents`
- Benchmark testing to ensure `SchemaRegistry` singleton genuinely acts like a singleton

### Cleaning Up for Production

- Rename `SharedEvents` (maybe just `Events`)
- Define the local "gem" and install in Cleo app (deploy and monitor)
- Install gem in `PaymentsPlatform` (test and monitor)
- Send first production event from `PaymentsPlatform` (Tabapay transaction tracking)

# Easier said than done

```
require_relative 'shared_events/base'  
require_relative 'shared_events/event_configuration'  
require_relative 'shared_events/eventable'  
  
+ require 'avro_turf'  
+ require_relative '../schema_registry_wrapper'
```





# Ever said that?

```
+ def in_sandbox(in_sandbox = true) # rubocop:disable Style/OptionalBooleanParameter
+   sandbox_value = in_sandbox ? 'true' : nil
+   ClimateControl.modify(
+     SANDBOX: sandbox_value,
+   ) do
+     PaymentsPlatform.remove_instance_variable(: @_sandbox) if PaymentsPlatform.instance_variable_defined?(: @_sandbox)
+     yield
+     PaymentsPlatform.remove_instance_variable(: @_sandbox) unless
+       PaymentsPlatform.instance_variable_get(: @_sandbox).nil?
+   end
+ end
```

Clearing Up for Production

- Rename Shared
- Define

+ # Test helpers for event behaviour  
require\_relative '../../../../../schema\_registry\_wrapper.rb'  
transaction tracking)



03 (part 2)

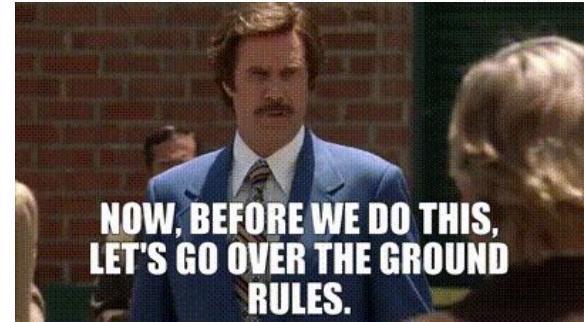
# Gems, Gems, Gems



2nd time lucky

CLEO

# The ground rules



1

No huge checklists  
on PRs lying about  
the progress I was  
making

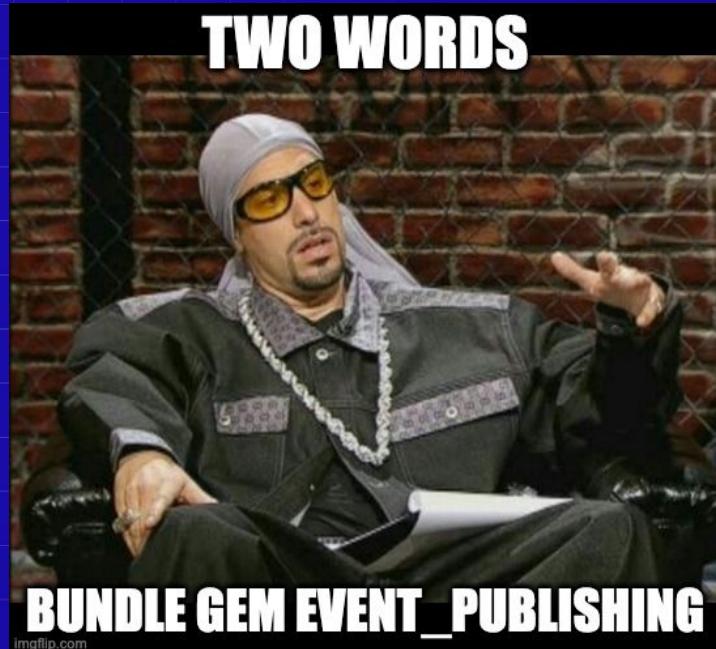
2

Incrementally  
deployable code to  
avoid the big-bang  
disaster

3

Refrain from  
solving problem  
using copious  
require\_relative  
statements

# Step 1: Gem init



```
meetcleo (main)
| $ bundle gem event_publishing
Creating gem 'event_publishing'...
```

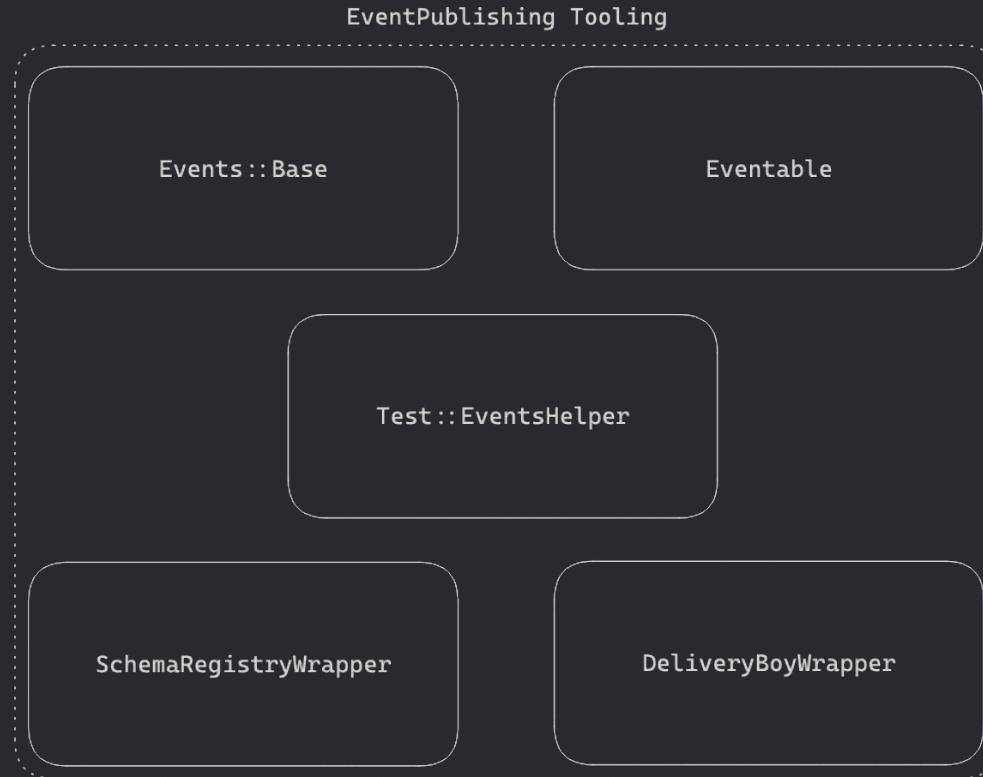
```
meetcleo (main)
| $ tree -L 1 event_publishing
event_publishing
├── Gemfile
├── Gemfile.lock
├── LICENSE.txt
├── README.md
├── Rakefile
└── bin
    └── event_publishing.gemspec
└── lib
└── test
```

```
4 directories, 6 files
```



```
# Gemfile
gem 'event_publishing', path: 'event_publishing'
```

# Step 2: Moving code into the gem



# The Squint Test

As described by Sandi Metz in [All The Little Things](#)

The slide features a large title "Squint Test" in bold black font. To the left of the title is a screenshot of a terminal window showing a Ruby script. The script contains several if statements and equality checks, likely related to the squint test concept. At the bottom of the terminal window, it says "@sandimetz". To the right of the title is a photograph of Sandi Metz, a woman with dark hair, wearing a black t-shirt, standing on a stage and smiling. She is positioned in front of a backdrop that includes the "railsconf" logo and a stylized yellow sun or moon graphic. The overall theme of the slide is software development and testing.

```
def tick
  if @name == 'Aged Brie' || @name == 'Backstage passes to a TAFKAL80ETC concert'
    if @quality >= 4
      if @name == 'Sulfuras, Hand of Ragnaros'
        @quality -= 1
      end
    else
      if @quality <= 2
        if @name == 'Aged Brie' || @name == 'Backstage passes to a TAFKAL80ETC concert'
          @quality += 1
        else
          @quality -= 1
        end
      end
    end
  end
  if @name == 'Sulfuras, Hand of Ragnaros'
    @days_remaining -= 1
  end
end

if @days_remaining < 0
  if @name == "Aged Brie"
    if @quality < 10
      if @name == "Sulfuras, Hand of Ragnaros"
        @quality += 1
      end
    else
      @quality = @quality - @quality
    end
  else
    if @quality < 50
      @quality += 1
    end
  end
end
```

You squint your eyes, you lean back,  
APR 2014

```

module Events
  class Base
    include ActiveModel::Validations

    NAMESPACES = %w[cleo events].freeze
    NAMESPACE = NAMESPACES.join('.')
    PLACEHOLDER = '?'.freeze
    SANDBOX = 'sandbox.'.freeze
    KEY_ID_FIELD_NAMES = %i[subject_id object_id complement_id].freeze

    validates :object, :verb, :version, :id, :triggered_at, presence: true
    validates_each :object, :subject, :complement do |record, attr, value|
      next if value.nil?

      if value.is_a?(Eventable)
        record.errors.add(attr, 'must have an `eventable_type_name`') unless
        else
          record.errors.add(attr, 'must be an instance of Eventable')
        end
      end
    validate :does_not_use_reserved_fields
    validate :key_contains_an_id
    validate :key_is_a_string

    def initialize(object:, verb:, subject:, version: 'latest', preposition:
      @object = object
      @verb = verb
      @subject = subject
      @version = version
      @preposition = preposition
      @complement = complement
    end
  end
end

```

## Events::Base

```

module Eventable
  extend ActiveSupport::Concern

  included do
    class_attribute :eventable_type_name
    class_attribute :complement_state_column_name, default: :state

    def eventable_id
      self[:id]
    end

    def complement_state
      self[self.class.complement_state_column_name]
    end

    class_methods do
      def eventable_source_name
        table_name&.sub('.', '_')
      end
    end
  end
end

```

## Eventable

```

require 'avro_turf/test/fake_confluent_schema_registry_server'

module EventsHelper
  class SchemaDefinitionNotFound < StandardError
    def self.message(event_type)
      "You're expecting to publish an event of type `#{raw_event_type_name}` but it's not defined"
    end

    def self.raw_event_type_name(event_type)
      event_type.delete_prefix("#{Events::Base.namespace}.")
    end

    def setup_event_publishing
      ClimateControl.modify(EVENT_PUBLISHING_ENABLED: 'true', RAISE_ROLLBAR_WARNINGS: true) do
        in_sandbox do
          stub_request(:any, '/schema-registry/').to_rack(FakeConfluentSchemaRegistry)
          register_schemas
        end
        yield
      end
    end

    def assert_publishes(event_type, expected_fields: {}, expected_key_fields: {})
      setup_event_publishing do
        DeliveryBoyWrapper.expects(:deliver_async).with do |encoded_data, args|
          assert_equal event_type, args[:topic]
          data = SchemaRegistryWrapper.instance.decode(encoded_data).with_inferred_type
          assert_equal expected_fields, data.value
          assert_equal expected_key_fields, data.key
        end
      end
    end
  end
end

```

## EventsHelper

# Repeatable extraction process

CARRP



CLEO



# Eventable



CLEO

```

module Events
  class Base
    include ActiveModel::Validations

    NAMESPACES = %w[cleo events].freeze
    NAMESPACE = NAMESPACES.join('.')
    PLACEHOLDER = '?'.freeze
    SANDBOX = 'sandbox.'.freeze
    KEY_ID_FIELD_NAMES = %i[subject_id object_id complement_id].freeze

    validates :object, :verb, :version, :id, :triggered_at, presence: true
    validates_each :object, :subject, :complement do |record, attr, value|
      next if value.nil?

      if value.is_a?(Eventable)
        record.errors.add(attr, 'must have an `eventable_type_name`') unless
        else
          record.errors.add(attr, 'must be an instance of Eventable')
        end
      end
    end
    validate :does_not_use_reserved_fields
    validate :key_contains_an_id

    def initialize(object:, verb:, subject:, version: 'latest', preposition:
      @object = object
      @verb = verb
      @subject = subject
      @version = version
      @preposition = preposition
      @complement = complement
    end
  end
end

```

## Events::Base

```

require 'avro_turf/test/fake_confluent_schema_registry_server'

module EventsHelper
  class SchemaDefinitionNotFound < StandardError
    def self.message(event_type)
      "You're expecting to publish an event of type `#{raw_event_type_name(
      end

    def self.raw_event_type_name(event_type)
      event_type.delete_prefix("#{Events::Base.namespace}.")
    end
    end

    def setup_event_publishing
      ClimateControl.modify(EVENT_PUBLISHING_ENABLED: 'true', RAISE_ROLLBAR_W
      in_sandbox do
        stub_request(:any, '/schema-registry/').to_rack(FakeConfluentSchemaRe
        register_schemas

        yield
      end
    end
    end

    def assert_publishes(event_type, expected_fields: {}, expected_key_fields
      setup_event_publishing do
        DeliveryBoyWrapper.expects(:deliver_async).with do |encoded_data, arg
          assert_equal event_type, args[:topic]

          data = SchemaRegistryWrapper.instance.decode(encoded_data).with_in
        end
      end
    end
  end
end

```

## EventsHelper

# Events::Base dependencies

1

DeliveryBoy  
Wrapper

2

SchemaRegistry  
Wrapper

3

Event  
Configuration

# Repeatable extraction process

CARRP



CLEO



# Events::Base



CLEO

# Where are we up to?



We've installed the local gem in [meetcleo](#)



All production code & dependencies are under new gem



We've moved the test helper under the gem



We're publishing events from our Rails engines

# Step 3: Moving test helper into the gem

```
require 'avro_turf/test/fake_confluent_schema_registry_server'

module EventsHelper
  class SchemaDefinitionNotFound < StandardError
    def self.message(event_type)
      "You're expecting to publish an event of type `#{raw_event_type_name(
        end

      def self.raw_event_type_name(event_type)
        event_type.delete_prefix("#{Events::Base.namespace}.")

      end
    end

    def setup_event_publishing
      ClimateControl.modify(EVENT_PUBLISHING_ENABLED: 'true', RAISE_ROLLBAR_W
      in_sandbox do
        stub_request(:any, /schema-registry/).to_rack(FakeConfluentSchemaRe
        register_schemas

        yield
      end
    end
  end

  def assert_publishes(event_type, expected_fields: {}, expected_key_fields
    setup_event_publishing do
      DeliveryBoyWrapper.expects(:deliver_async).with do |encoded_data, arg
        assert_equal event_type, args[:topic]

        data = SchemaRegistryWrapper.instance.decode(encoded_data).with_in
    end
  end
end
```

## EventsHelper



```
# test/test_helper.rb
# or payments_platform/test/test_helper.rb
require 'event_publishing'
EventPublishing.testing
```

# Where are we up to?



We've installed the local gem in [meetcleo](#)



All production code & dependencies are under new gem

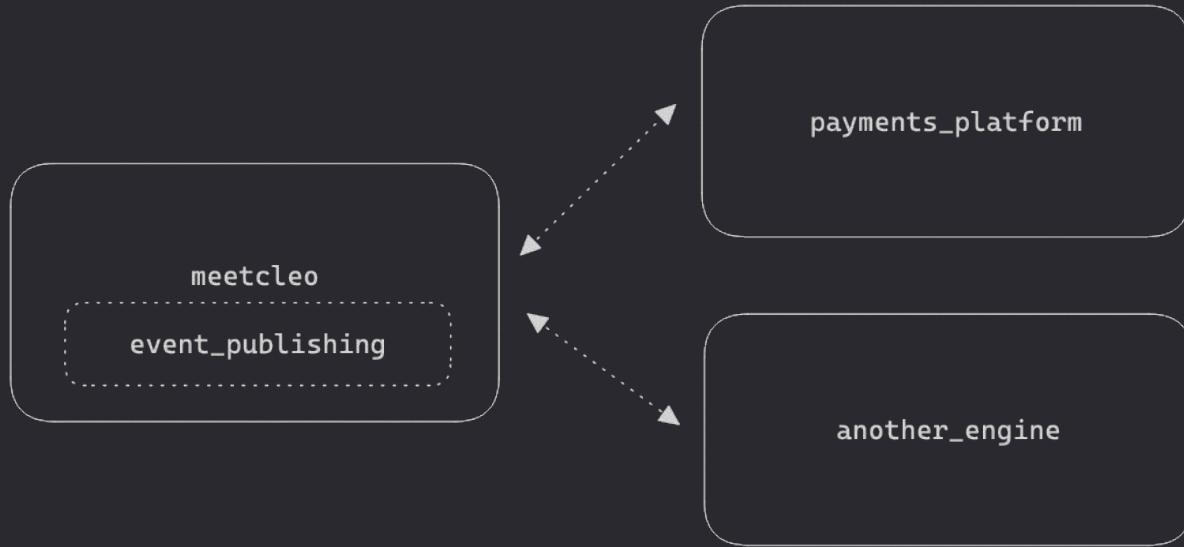


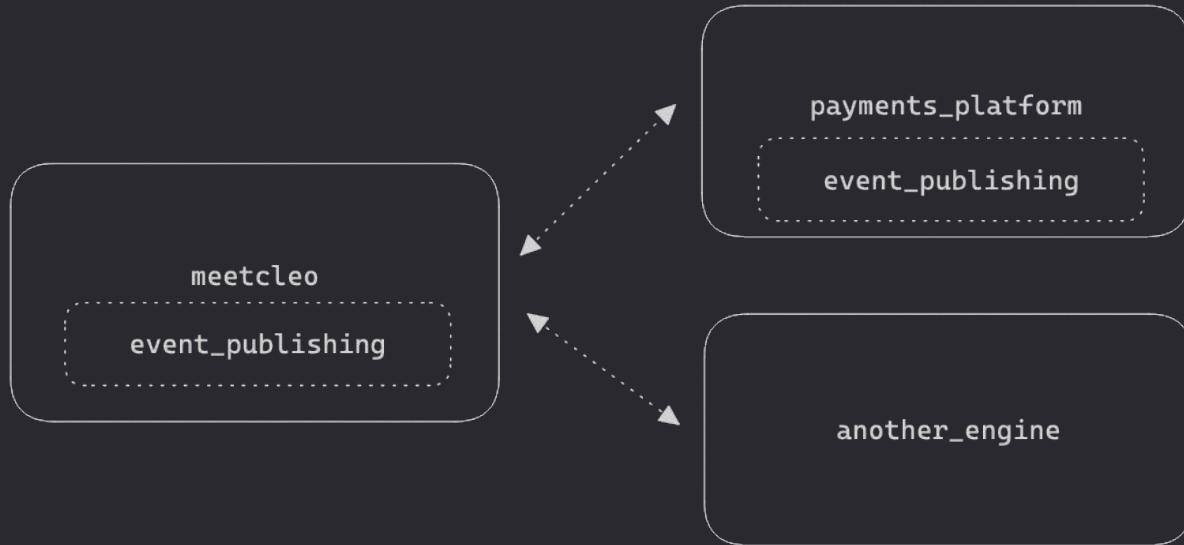
We've moved the test helper under the gem



We're publishing events from our Rails engines

# Step 4: Sharing gem with Rails Engines





# Where are we up to?



We've installed the local gem in [meetcleo](#)



All production code & dependencies are under new gem



We've moved the test helper under the gem



We're publishing events from our Rails engines

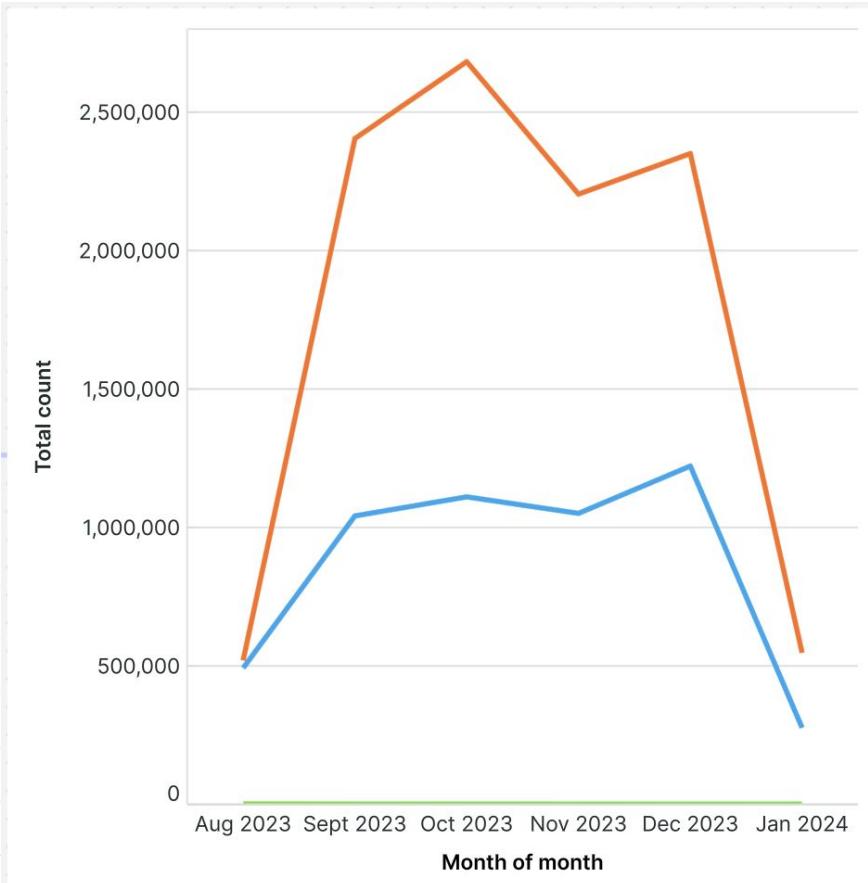
04

# Evaluating the Solution

Was the refactor successful for engineering?

Was it successful for our stakeholders?





event

payments\_event\_0

payments\_event\_1

payments\_event\_2

**15,904,943**

```
meetcleo (main)
[ $ git log "3a2d60b28b9..HEAD" --oneline event_publishing/ | wc -l
 40
```

```
meetcleo (main)
[ $ git log "3a2d60b28b9..HEAD" --oneline event_publishing/ | wc -l
 40
```

40 Changes in Gem

0 Downtime

# Key Takeaways

01

- Don't be too quick to divide up your Rails app, in-process calls are a super-power

02

- Boundaries are useful but remember that, in Ruby, nothing is really private so look to use tools to help you not create the big ball of mud

03

- Making a gem is not as hard as you think, making a local gem is easier still and often a great place to start

04

- Incremental deployments are **well** worth the effort

CLEO

# THANK YOU

X [twitter.com/meetcleo](https://twitter.com/meetcleo)

f [facebook.com/MeetCleo](https://facebook.com/MeetCleo)

o [instagram.com/meetcleo](https://instagram.com/meetcleo)

in [linkedin.com/company/cleo-ai](https://linkedin.com/company/cleo-ai)

t [tiktok.com/@meetcleo](https://tiktok.com/@meetcleo)