

Building next generation websites with serverless and micro-frontend architecture

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Serverless

- AWS Lambda
- Google Cloud Functions
- Azure Functions
- CloudFlare Workers
- IBM OpenWhisk
- Alibaba Function Compute
- OpenFaas, kubeless
- etc...

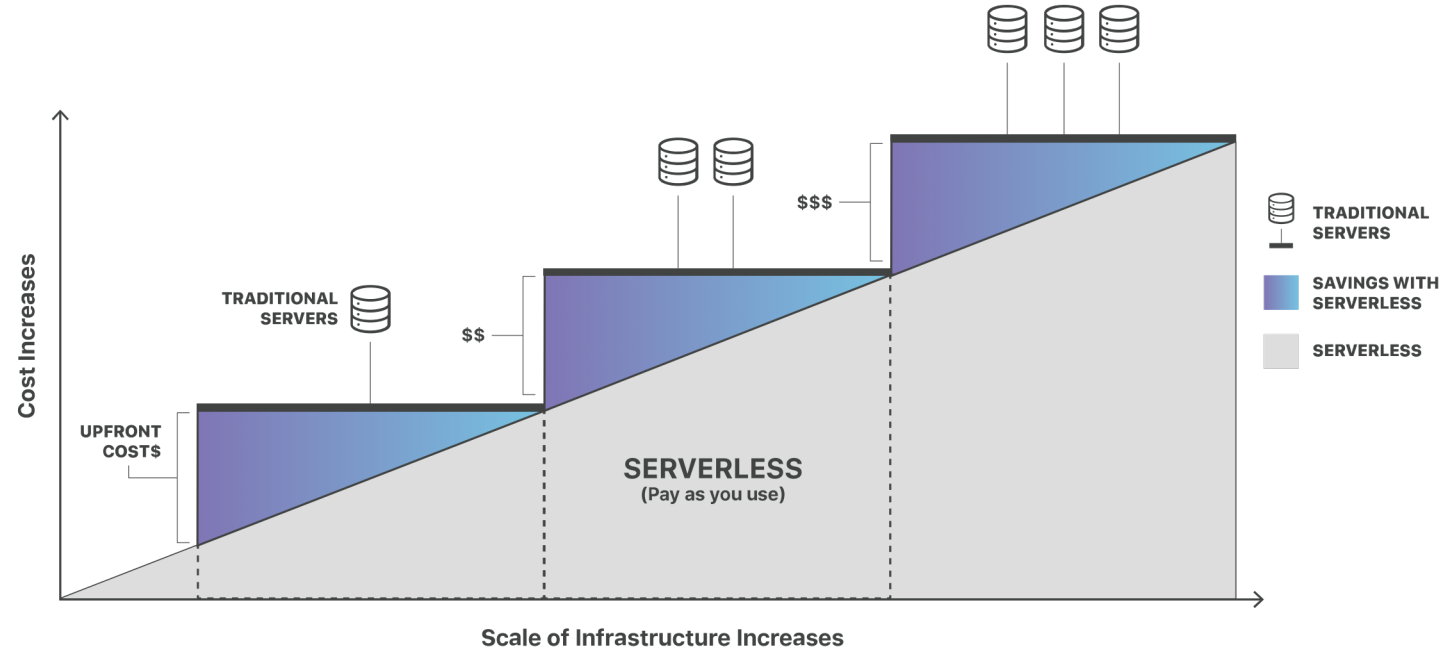


What is serverless exactly?

- An infrastructure / backend / function service on an as-used basis.
- **Promise** of allowing user to write+deploy code without worrying about underlying infrastructure.
 - Not worrying about physical servers.
 - Not worrying about scaling.
 - Not worrying about calculating #. of servers required.
 - Cost saving
 - etc..

Cost saving benefits

Cost Benefits of Serverless



Credit: CloudFlare

Other benefits

- Simplified scalability
- Simplified backend code
- Quicker turnaround

Micro-frontend architecture

- Microservice?
- Breaking monolith frontend to micro-frontend

Benefits of micro-frontend

- Smaller, more maintainable codebases.
- More scalable organizations with decoupled and autonomous team.
- Development velocity: update/upgrade/rewrite part of frontend in more incremental fashion.

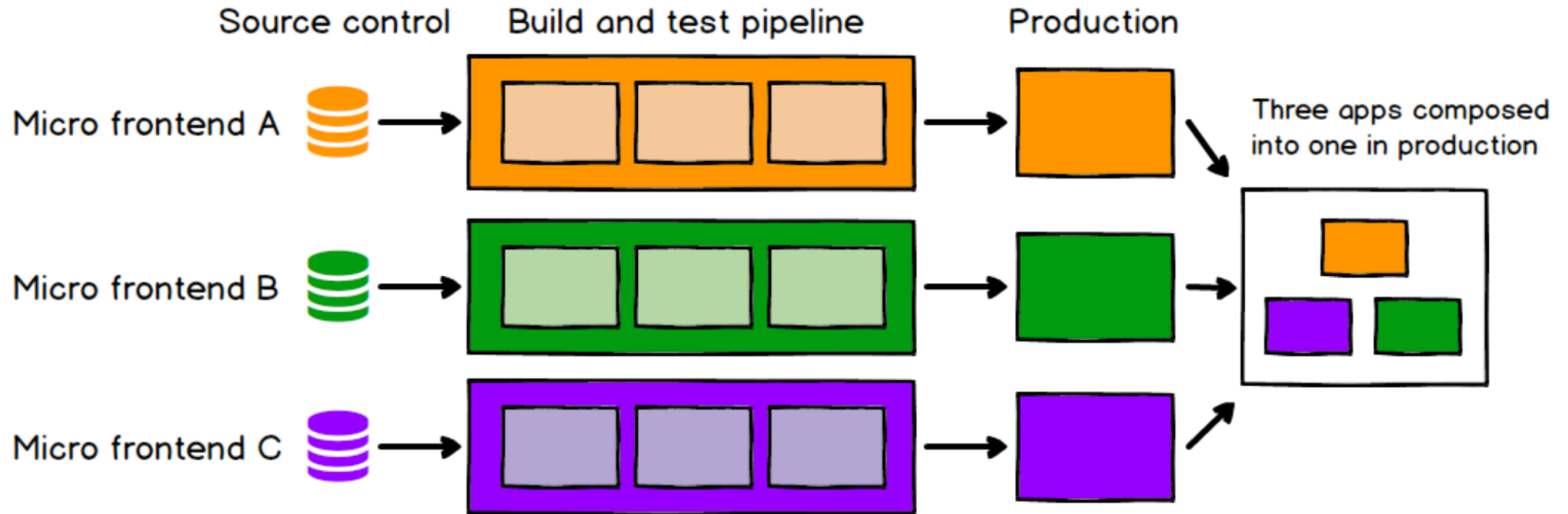
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Benefits of micro-service

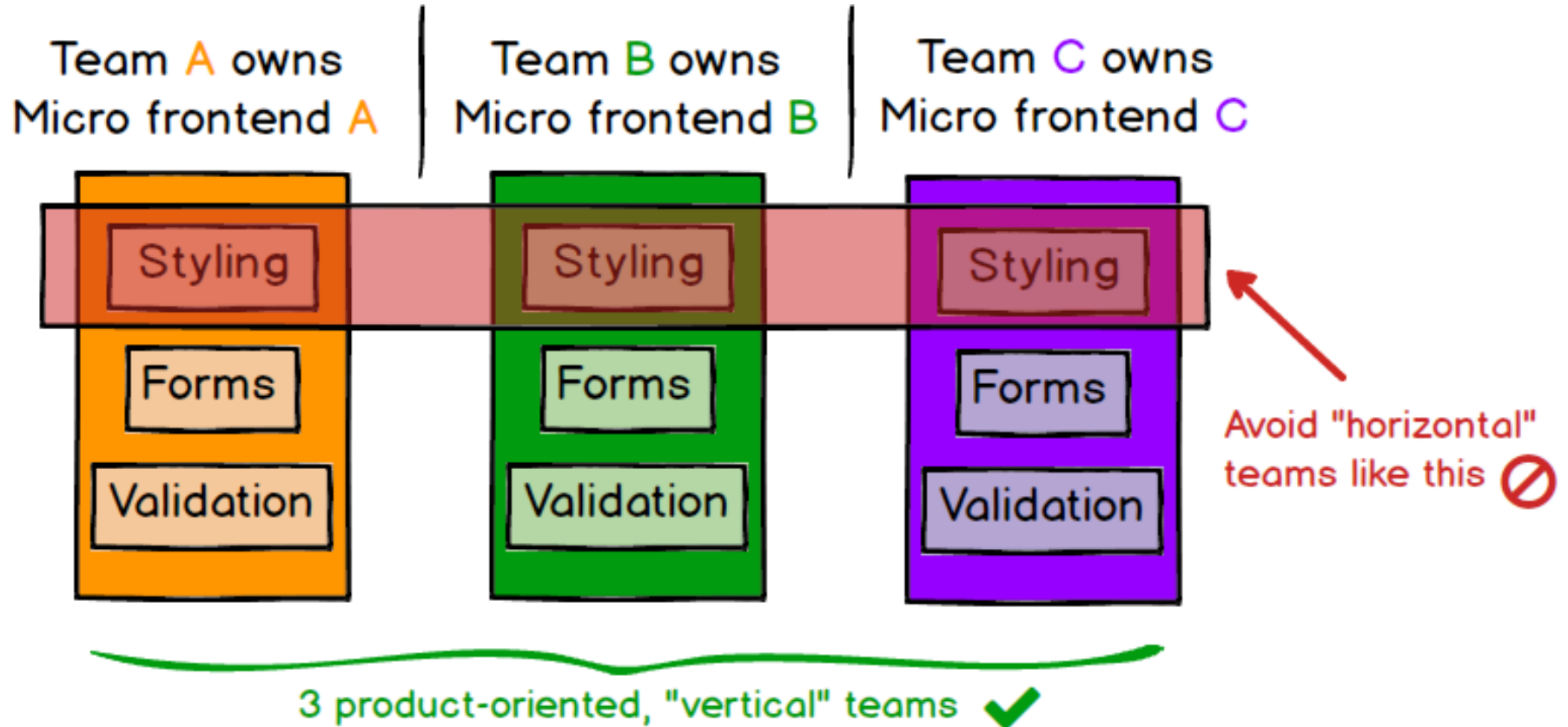
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Benefits of micro-frontend (2)





Credit: Martin Fowler's blog

Benefits of micro-frontend (3)

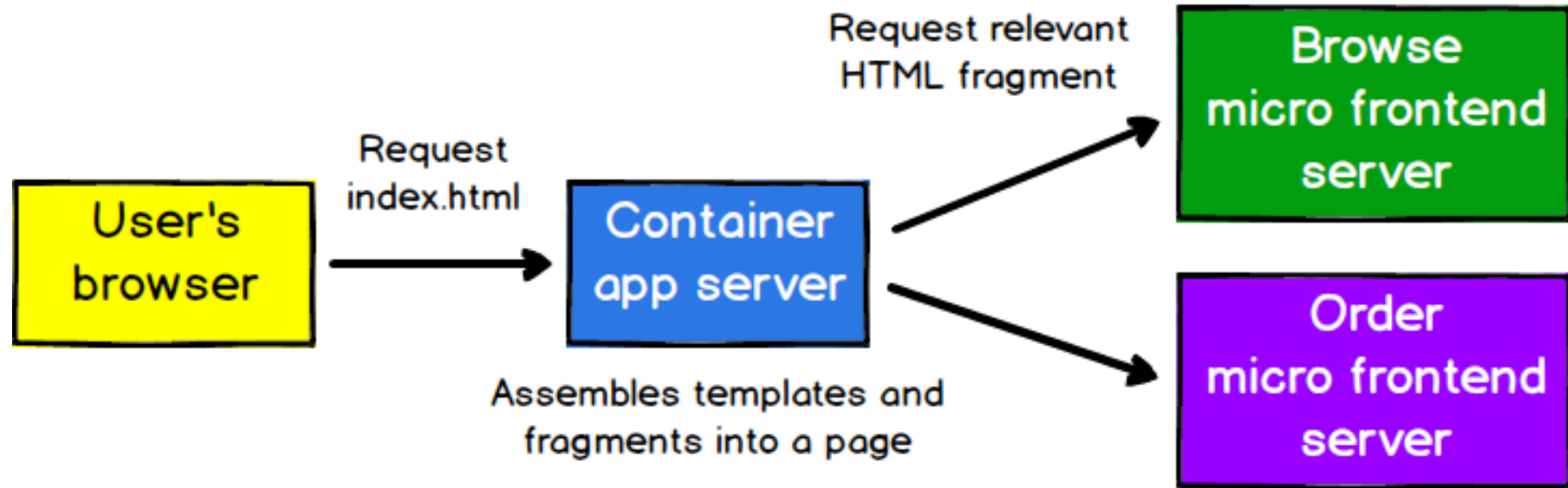


Credit: Martin Fowler's blog

Integration Approachs

1. Server-side template composition
2. Build time integration 
3. Iframes 
4. Runtime integration via JavaScript or WebComponent

Server-side template composition



Credit: Martin Fowler's blog

Build time integration

- Publish each micro-frontend component as package.
- Container app will include them as dependencies.
- => We need to trigger rebuild on every release 🤖

Iframes

- Easy isolation 💪
- Responsive nightmare 😭
- Less flexible: routing, history, deep linking

Runtime integration via JavaScript

- Most flexible and widely adopted approach.
- Independent deploy, unlike build time integration.
- Pretty good isolation (style isolation via css-in-js)

Style isolation

- Comes in default with iframe
- For other approach, we have CSS-in-JS or ShadowDOM.
- It's an already solved problem.

Conclusion

- Embrace microservice concept on frontend side.
- Micro-frontend can speed up development velocity a lot.
- Simplify the tech stack if you're already using serverless tech in production.
- Start by building non-critical services first and gradually increase.

Questions?