Automating Processes in Modern Architectures

@berndruecker

Some time ago...

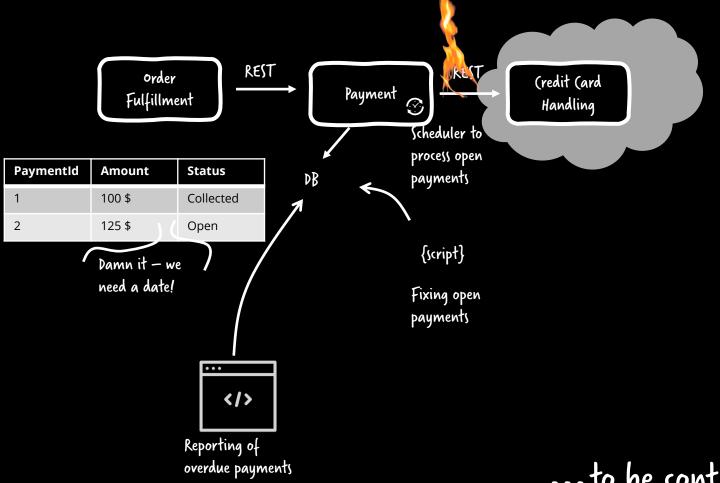Now!

> " Software is eating the world.
>
> *Marc Andreessen,*
> *Entrepreneur &*
> *Investor*
> *2011 in „The Wall*
> *Street Journal"*

Change is the only constant

-> Agility

> We don't know what we will need tomorrow.
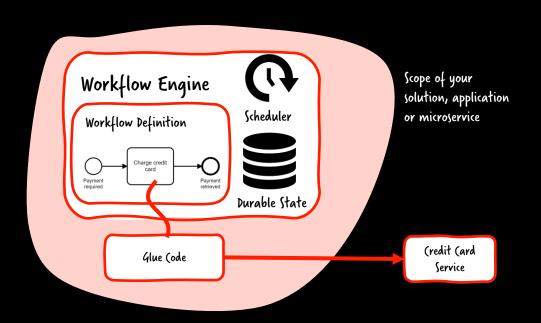> But we do know that we will need something.
> We have to be able to move quickly!
>
> CIO of a German insurance company in 2019

And you?

Order Fulfillment —REST→ **Payment** —REST→ **Credit Card Handling**

Scheduler to process open payments

PaymentId	Amount	Status
1	100 $	Collected
2	125 $	Open

Damn it — we need a date!

DB

{script}

Fixing open payments

Reporting of overdue payments

...to be continued...

Using a workflow engine instead

Scope of your
solution, application
or microservice

Workflow Engine:

Is stateful
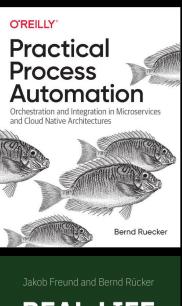
Can wait
Can retry
Can escalate
Can compensate

Provides visibility

Warning:
Contains Opinion

Bernd Ruecker

Co-founder and
Chief Technologist of
Camunda

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@berndruecker
http://berndruecker.io/

Live hacking

Microservices

Service
A

Service
B

Service
C

Monolith

A

B

C

D
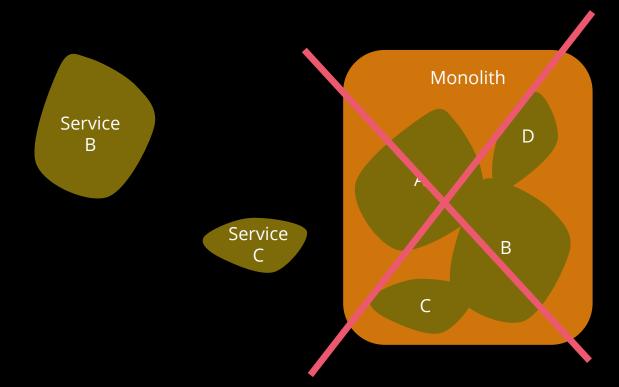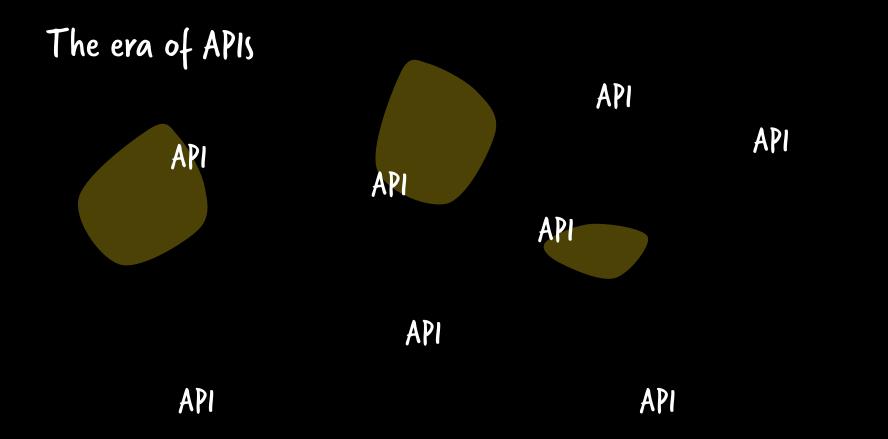
Autonomous Microservices

Service
A

Service
B

Service
C

The era of APIs

API

API

API

API

API

API

API

API

API

The era of APIs

API

API

API
Functions

API

API

API

Standard Software

API

API
External Services

API

Connecting the dots...

API

API

API

API

Functions

API

API

Microservices

API
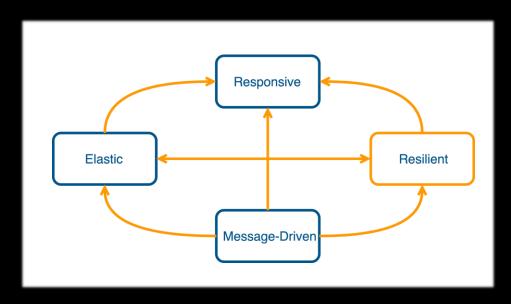
Standard Software

API

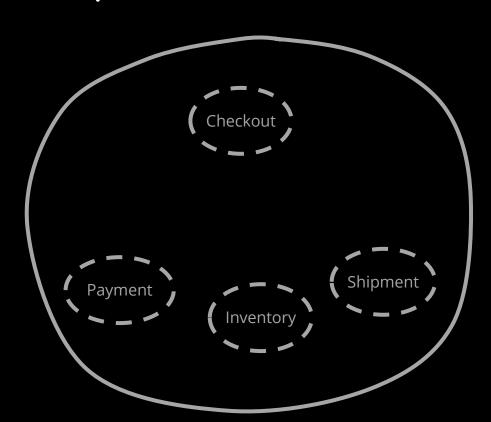API

API

External Services

API

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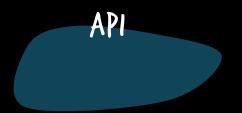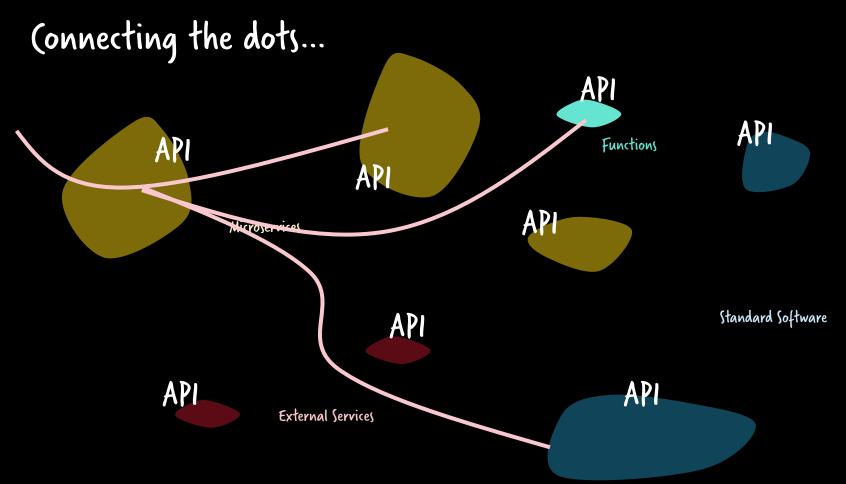
Going hipster!
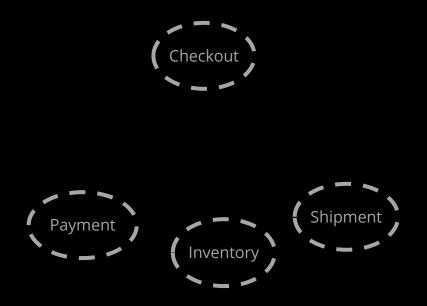
https://www.reactivemanifesto.org/

Example

Event-driven architecture

Checkout

Order Placed

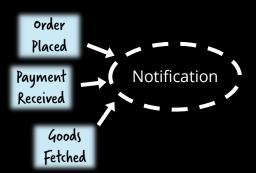Payment Received

Goods Fetched

Notification

Payment

Inventory

Shipment

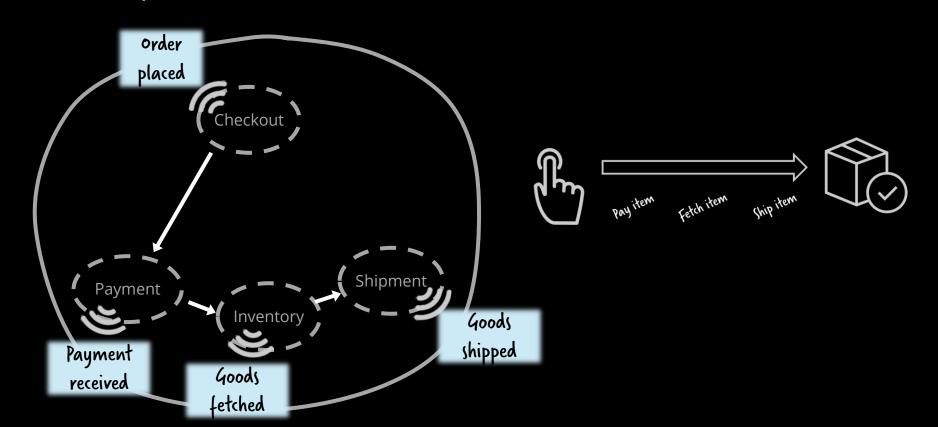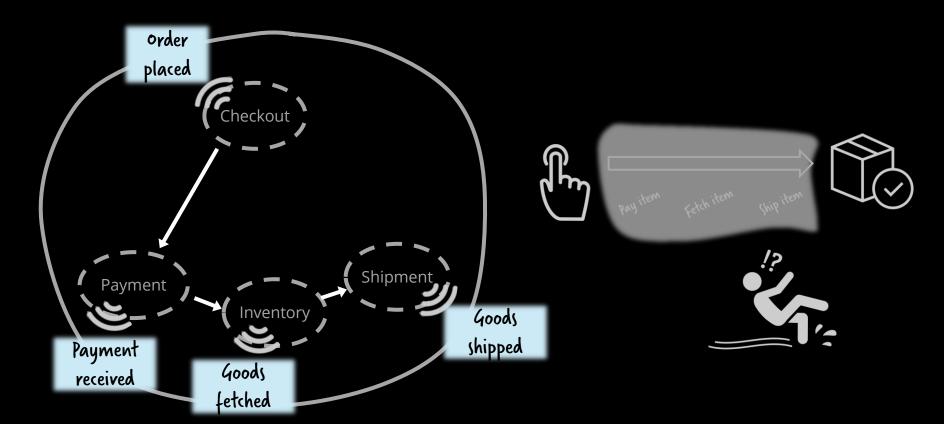@berndruecker

Peer-to-peer event chains

Peer-to-peer event chains

The danger is that it's very easy to make nicely decoupled systems with event notification, without realizing that you're losing sight of that larger-scale flow, and thus set yourself up for trouble in future years.

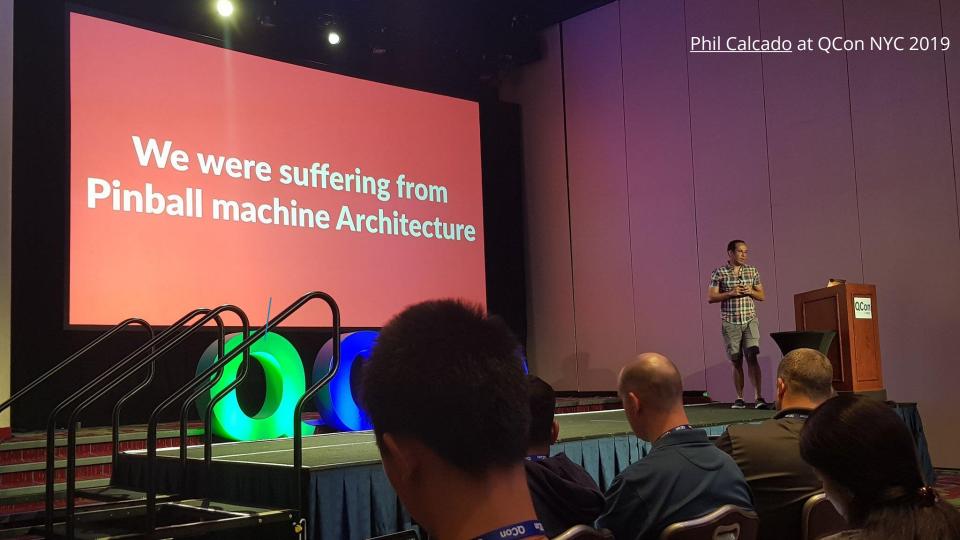https://martinfowler.com/articles/201701-event-driven.html

The danger is that it's very easy to make nicely decoupled systems with event notification, **without realizing that you're losing sight of that larger-scale flow,** and thus set yourself up for trouble in future years.

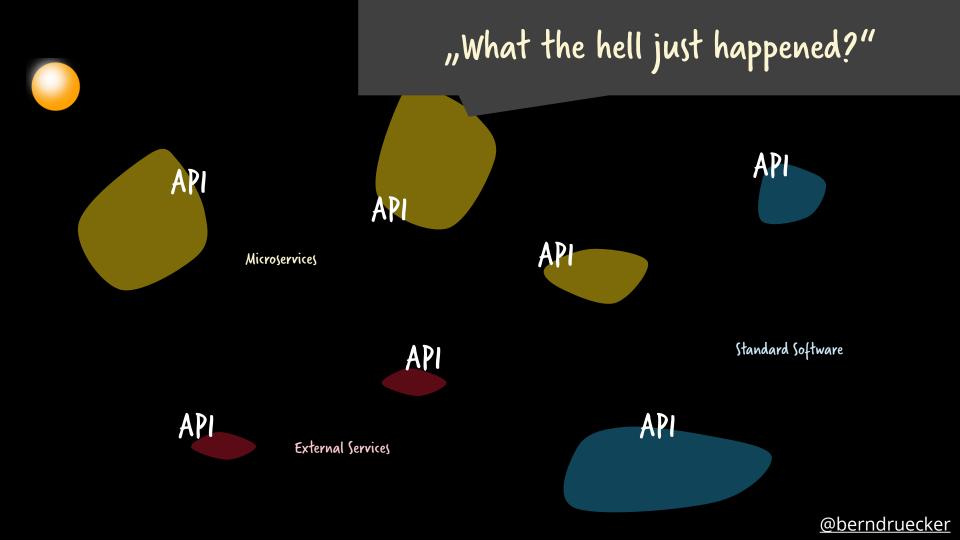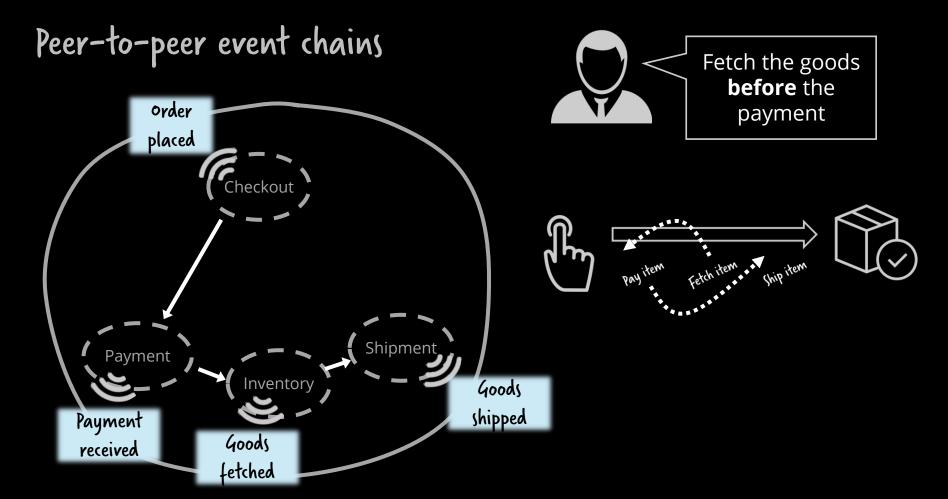https://martinfowler.com/articles/201701-event-driven.html

The danger is that it's very easy to make nicely decoupled systems with event notification, without realizing that you're losing sight of that larger-scale flow, and thus **set yourself up for trouble in future years**.
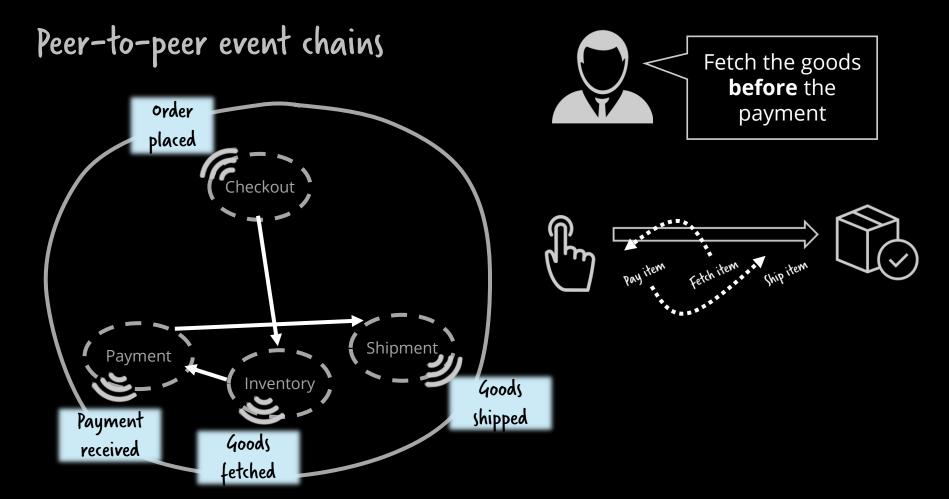
We were suffering from
Pinball machine Architecture
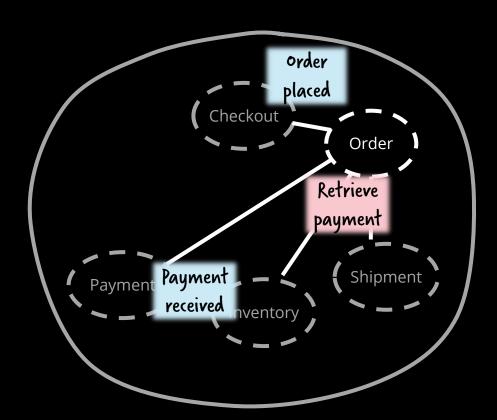
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Choreography

What we wanted

vs. what we got
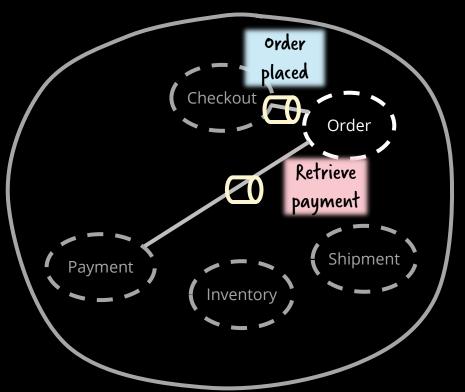
Photo by Lijian Zhang, under Creative Commons SA 2.0 License and Wikimedia Commons / CC BY-SA 4.0

Extract the end-to-end responsibility

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Order placed

Checkout

Order

Retrieve payment

Payment

Payment received

Inventory

Shipment
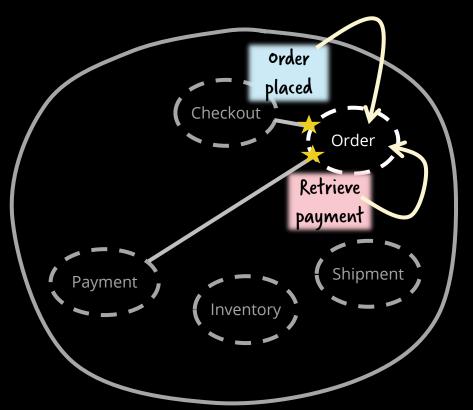
Commands have an intent about what needs to happen in the future

It is about where to decide about the coupling!

It can still be messaging!

Order placed

Checkout

Order

Retrieve payment

Payment

Inventory

Shipment

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It is about where to decide about the coupling!

Order placed

Checkout

Order

Retrieve payment

Payment

Inventory

Shipment
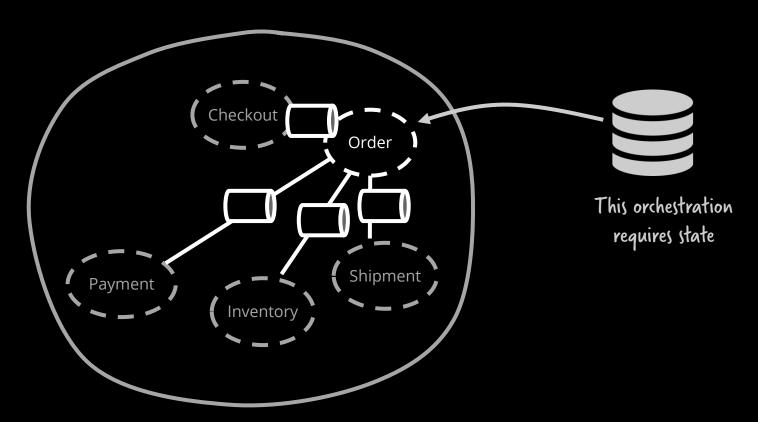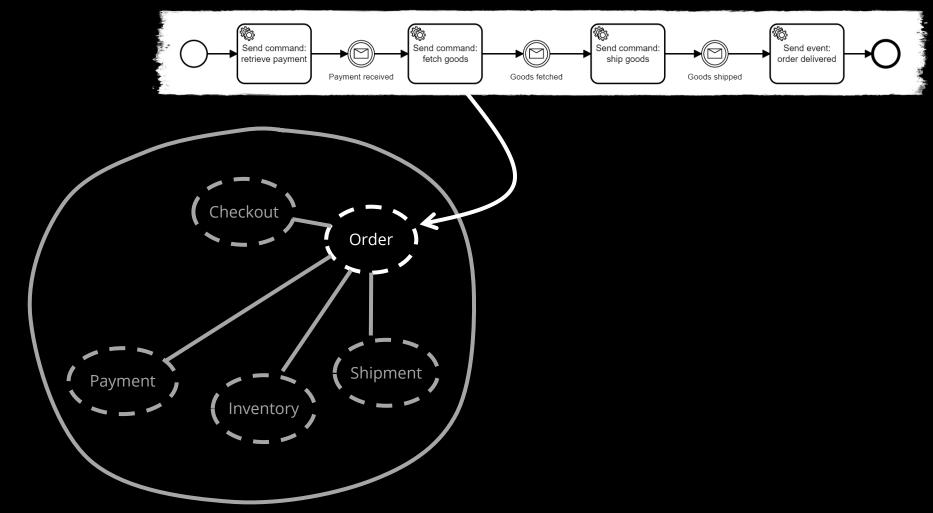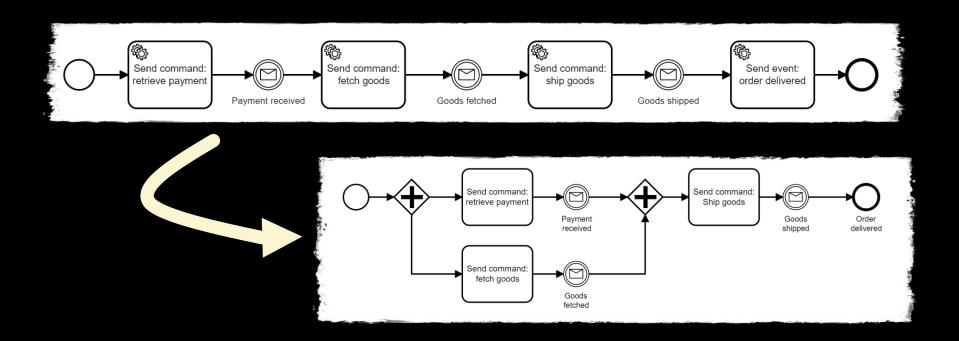
Order decides
. to listen to the event
. to issue the command

Stateful orchestration

Checkout

Order

Payment

Inventory

Shipment

This orchestration
requires state

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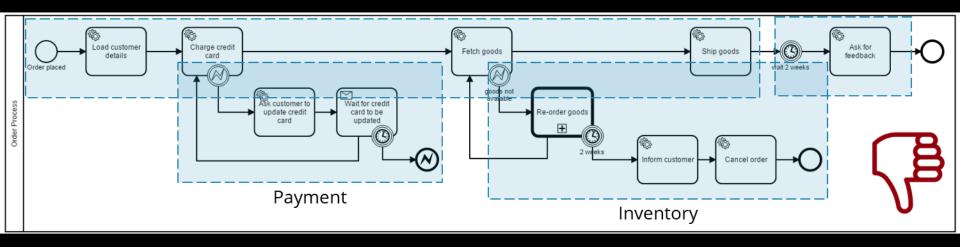
Now it is easy to change the flow

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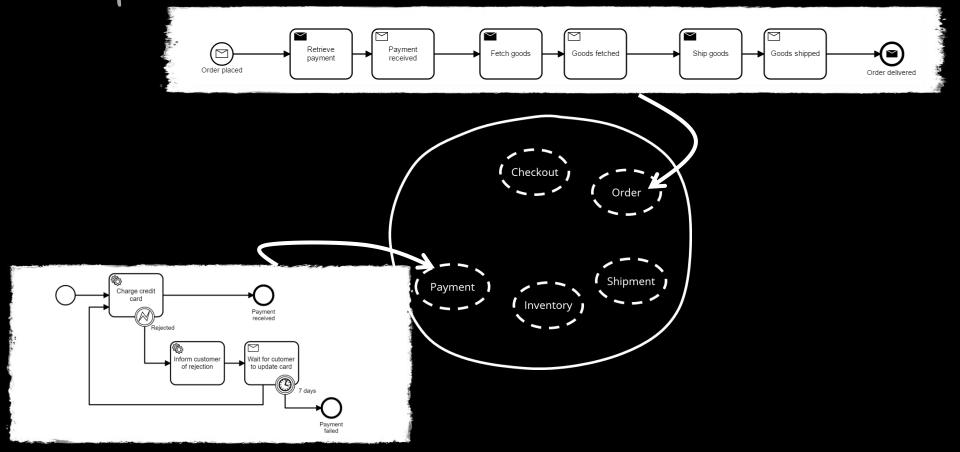
No BPM(N) monoliths

https://blog.bernd-ruecker.com/avoiding-the-bpm-monolith-when-using-bounded-contexts-d86be6308d8
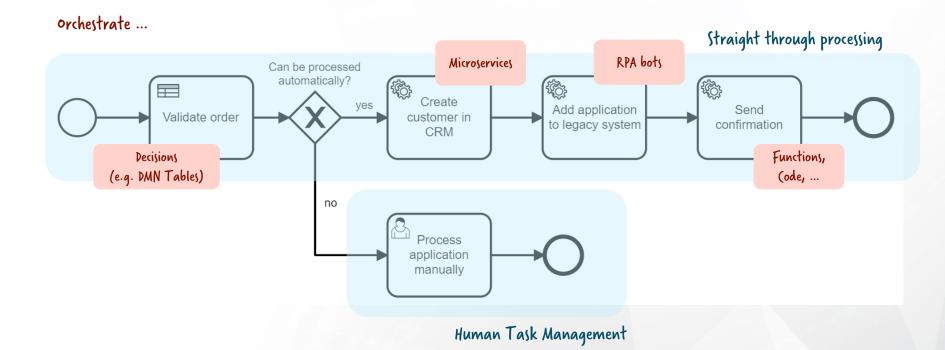
Workflows live inside service boundaries
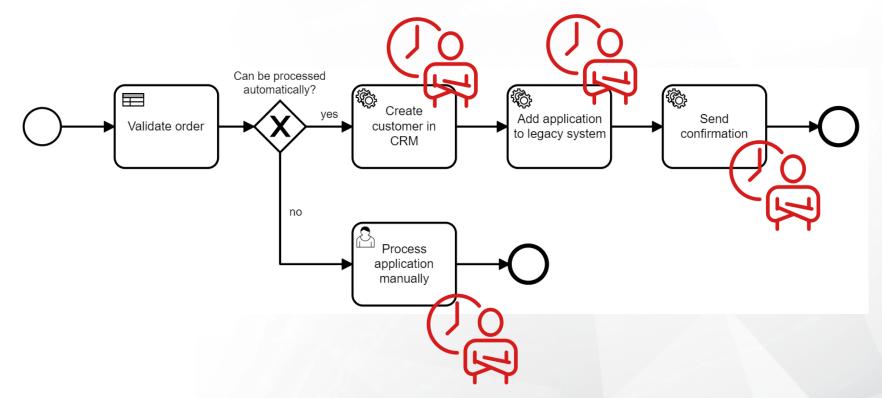
Summary

- Use a **workflow engine** to automate **long running processes**
- Visibility is vital for **business agility**
- Event-driven choreography is **not a magic cure**
- **orchestration**
  - Helps to avoid chaos
  - Can be handled within one service (decentral)
  - Does **not** mean synchronous communication
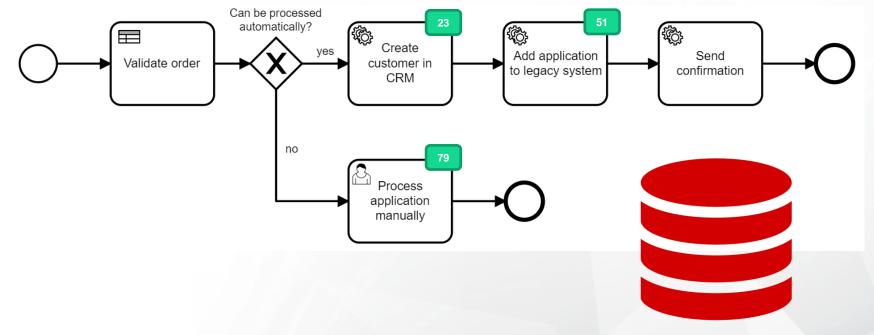
Recap: Workflow engines orchestrate anything

Orchestrate ...

Straight through processing

Microservices

RPA bots

Can be processed automatically?

Validate order

Decisions (e.g. DMN Tables)

yes

Create customer in CRM

Add application to legacy system

Send confirmation

Functions, Code, ...

no

Process application manually

Human Task Management

CAMUNDA

Recap: The challenge are long running tasks = waiting

Recap: A workflow engine persists state

CAMUNDA

Recap: A workflow engine can be operated decentralized

CAMUNDA

Many use cases (real-life examples)
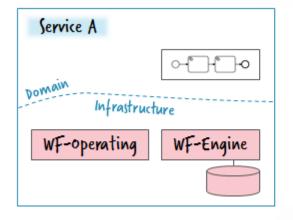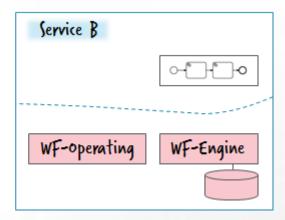
Industry	Pilot	Lighthouse	Broadscale	Sample Clients
Cross-Industry	Approvals Employee Onboarding Credit Check	Microservices Orchestration Centralized Workflow Platform High Throughput	E2E Process Automation Legacy BPM Replacement Cloud Native Applications IT Service Orchestration	Red Bull, 24 Fitness, Ministry of Justice
Banking & Finance	Asset Management	Customer Onboarding Loan Origination & Decisioning ATM Provisioning	Enterprise Platform Development Trading Risk Management / Fraud Detection	Santander, DAB BNP Paribas, NatWest, BlueStep Bank
Insurance	Audit	Customer Onboarding Claim Service & Settlement Policy Underwriting & Contracts	Integrated KYC Core System Automation Risk Management / Fraud Detection	Generali, AXA, Transamerica, ING, Allianz
Telecommunication	Online Systems Integration	New Product Delivery Cell Tower Provisioning Order Management	Contracting, Upgrading, Termination OSS & BSS Open Network Automation Platform (ONAP)	AT&T, T-Mobile, Orange, amdocs, O2
Media & Entertainment	Website Content Delivery System Process Fallout	Subscription Management Licensing Content Distribution	Digital Supply Chain New Product Development Fraud Management	Warner Music, Universal Music Group, The Telegraph, Viacom
Manufacturing & High Tech	Application prototype	Order Execution Payments Servicing Research & Development	Embedded Workflow Automation Customer Service Supply Chain	Lufthansa Technik, Fujitsu, Autodesk, Intuit

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And now?

- Visit the virtual camunda booth
- Discuss with us in slack (#camunda)
- More:
  - https://docs.camunda.org/get-started/
  - http://berndruecker.io/

Thank you!

Contact: mail@berndruecker.io
             @berndruecker

Slides: https://berndruecker.io

Blog: https://medium.com/berndruecker

Code: https://github.com/berndruecker

InfoWorld
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3-common-pitfalls-of-microservices-
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InfoQ

https://www.infoq.com/articles/events-
workflow-automation

THENEWSTACK

https://thenewstack.io/5-workflow-automation-
use-cases-you-might-not-have-considered/