



# Resilient Routing and Discovery

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**@Sirupsen**





# Shopify

Docker in Production serving the below for 1+ year

**165,000+**

ACTIVE SHOPIFY MERCHANTS

**200+**

DEVELOPERS

**2**

DATACENTERS

**3000+**

CONTAINERS RUNNING AT ANY TIME

**12+**

DEPLOYS PER DAY

**10,000+**

MAX CHECKOUTS PER MINUTE

**\$8 BILLION+**

CUMULATIVE GMV

**500+**

SERVERS

**Ruby on Rails**

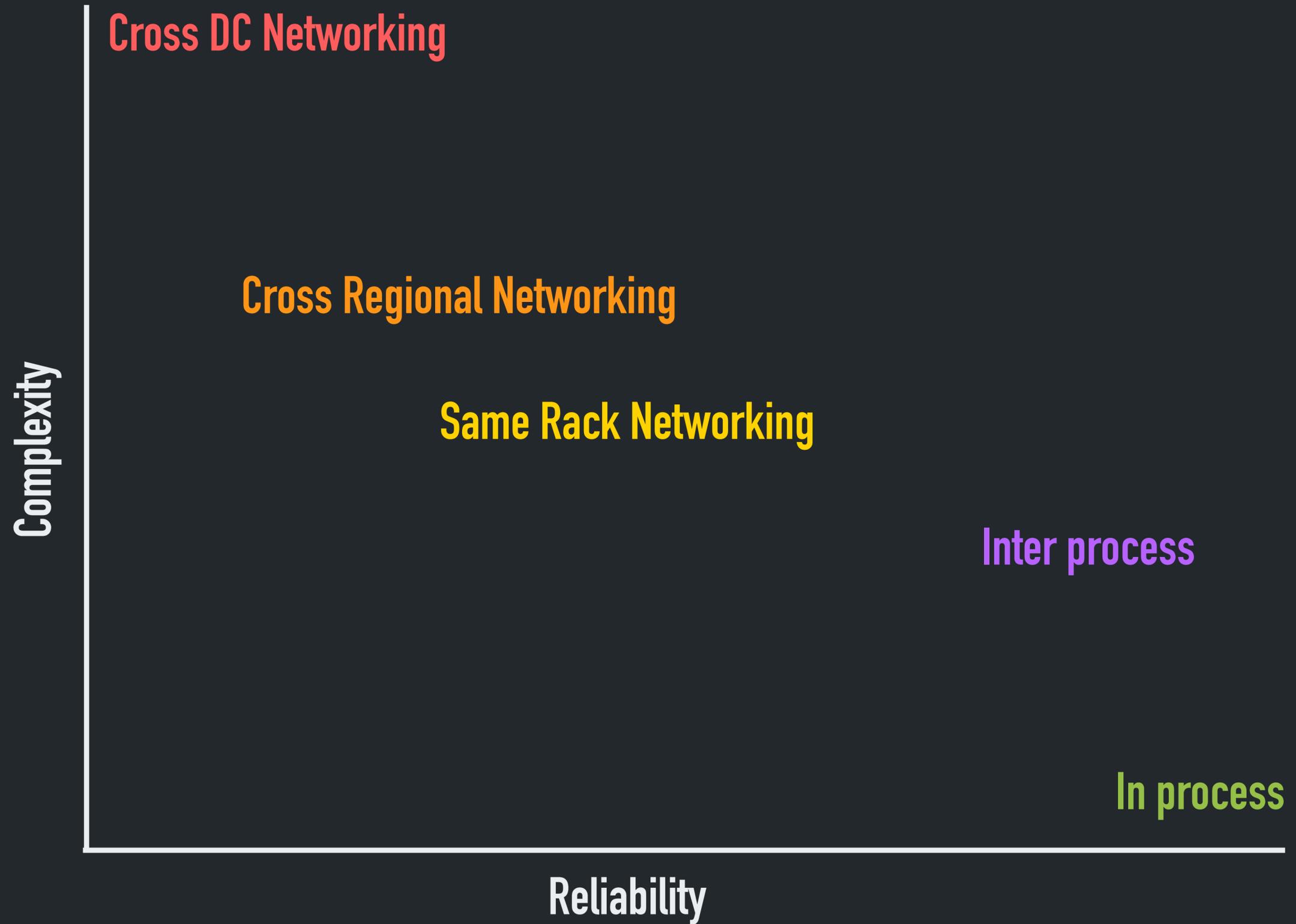
10+ years old

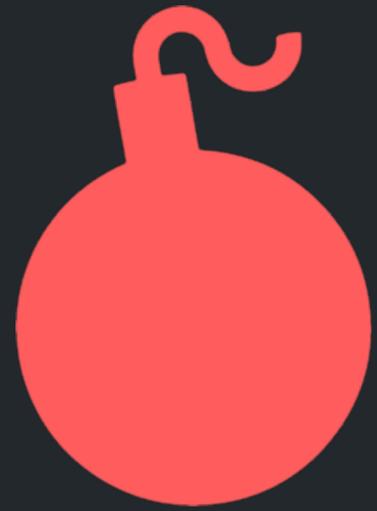
**300M unique visits/month**

LEAGUE OF APPLE, EBAY AND AMAZON

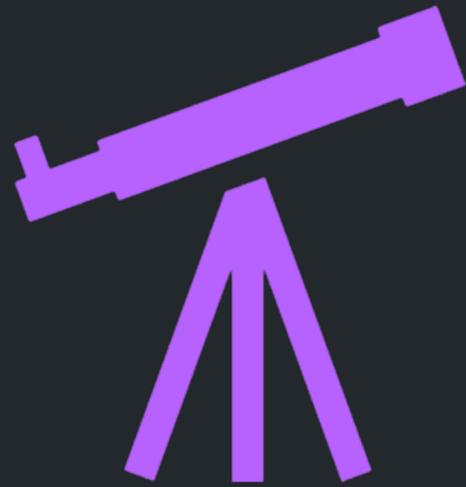


**Building **reliable bridges** in large distributed systems**





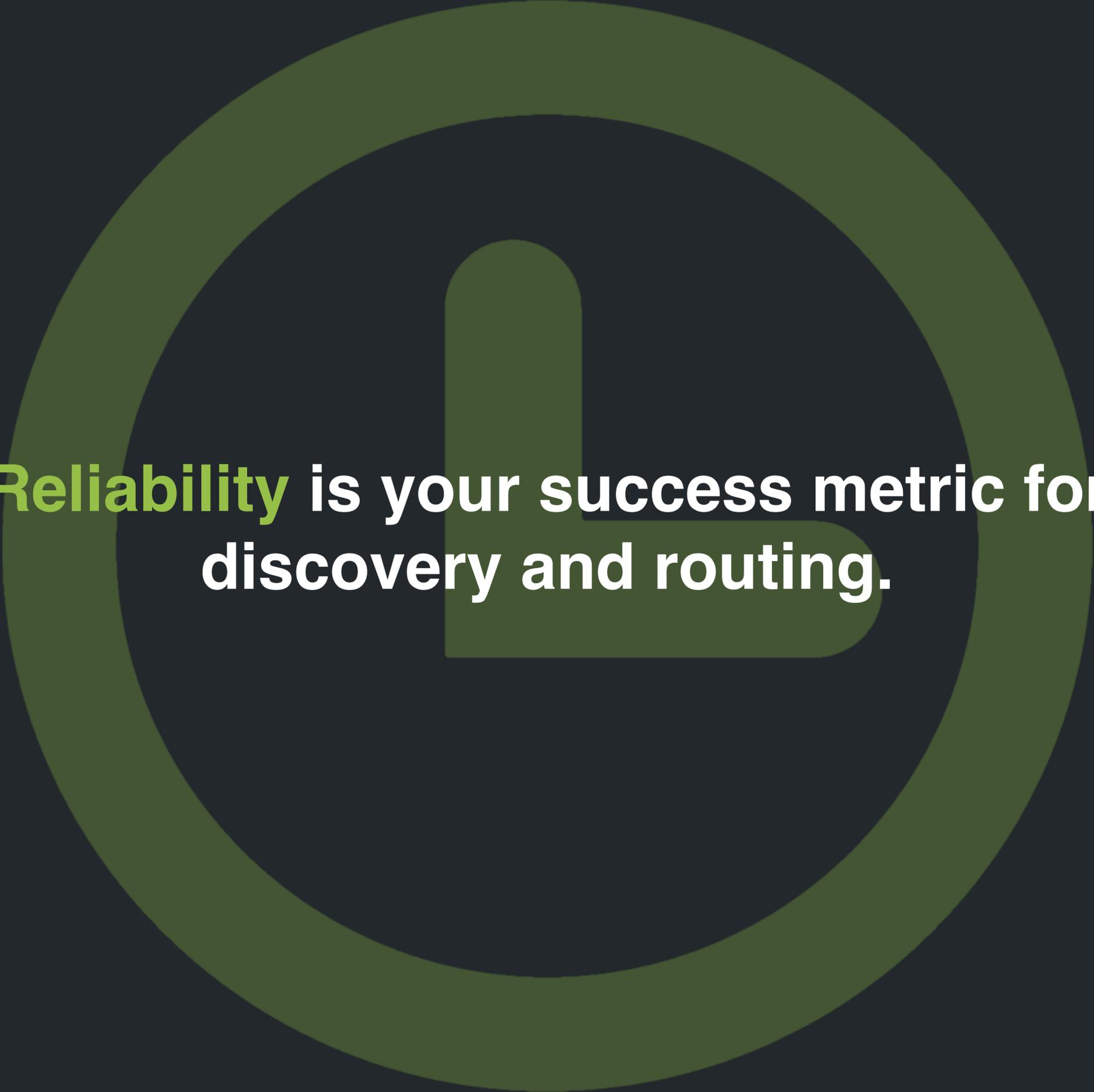
**Resiliency**



**Discovery**



**Routing**



**Reliability** is your success metric for  
discovery and routing.



**Shopify started this journey in the fall of 2014**



# Resiliency

Building a reliable system from unreliable components

# (Micro)service equation

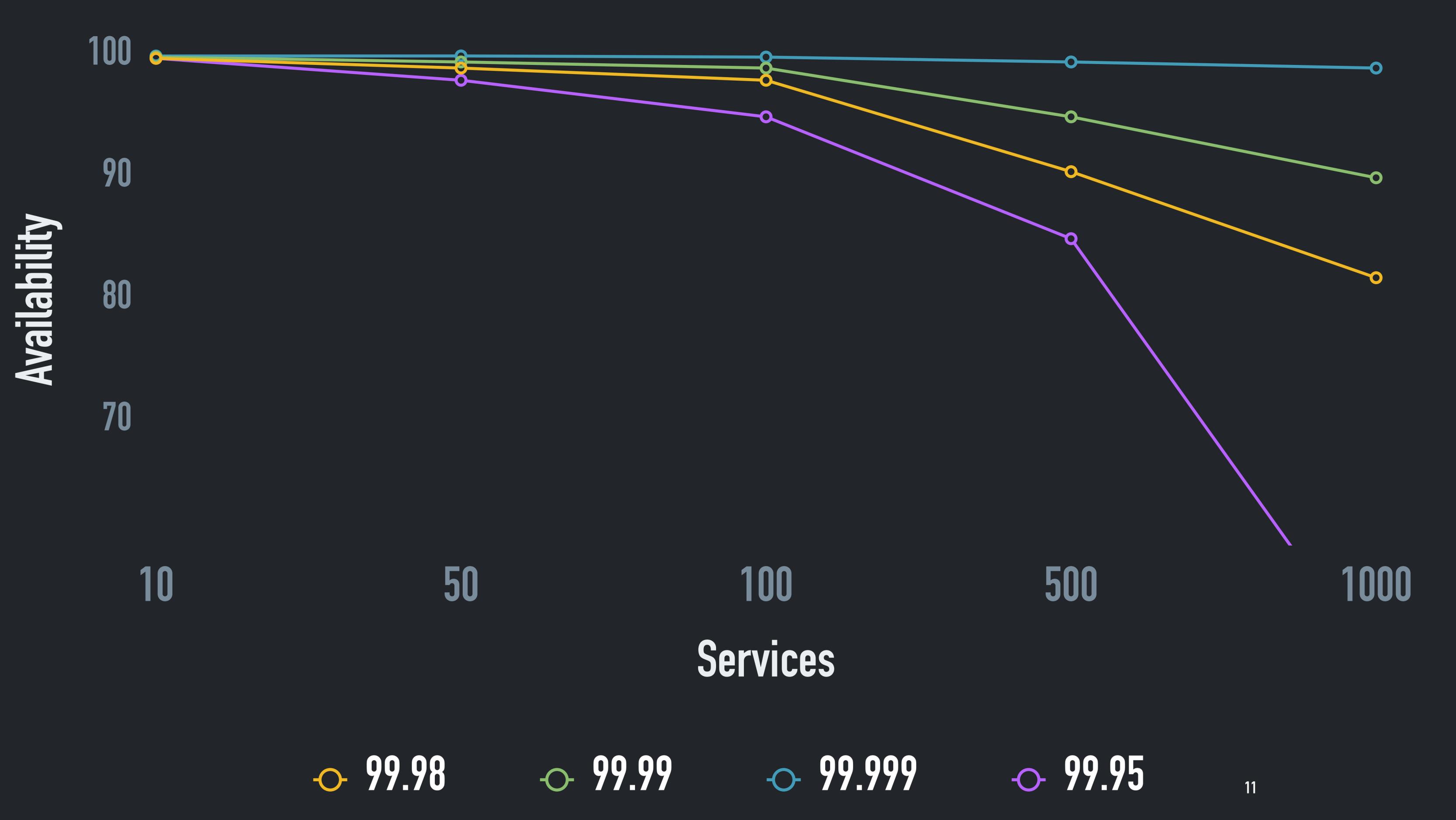
$$\text{Uptime} = A^N$$

**Uptime** = **A**<sup>**N**</sup>

Number of services

Availability per service

Total availability



○ 99.98

○ 99.99

○ 99.999

○ 99.95

# Resiliency Matrix

	Checkout	Admin	Storefront
MySQL Shard	Unavailable	Unavailable	Degraded
MySQL Master	Available	Unavailable	Available
Kafka	Available	Degraded	Available
External HTTP API	Degraded	Available	Unavailable
redis-sessions	Unavailable	Unavailable	Degraded

# Objectives for large distributed systems



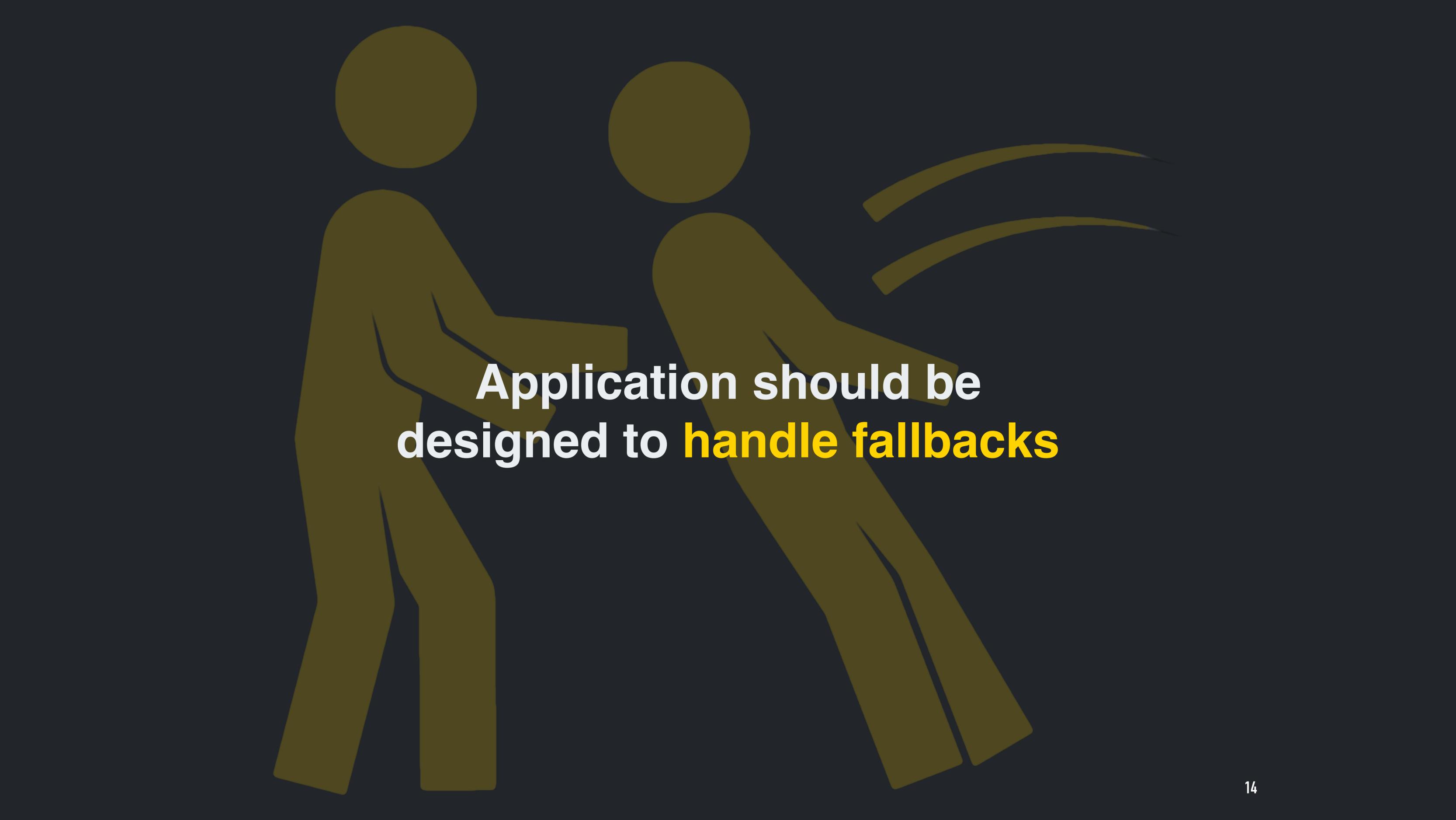
Building reliable systems from unreliable components



Explore resiliency, service discovery, routing, orchestration and the relationship between them



Recognizing and avoiding premature optimizations and overcompensation



Application should be  
designed to **handle fallbacks**



ALL

SNEAKERS

BOOTS

SHOES

SANDALS

NEWEST TO OLDEST **▼**



PUMA X HOUSE OF HACKNEY  
BECKER - WHITE / GREEN  
FLORAL

PUMA

\$160.00



PUMA X HOUSE OF HACKNEY  
BASKET - TOTAL ECLIPSE /  
GREEN PALM

PUMA

\$125.00



NEW BALANCE M998  
"MONTAUK" - GREY / BLUE /  
GREEN

NEW BALANCE

\$170.00



NEW BALANCE M997  
"DISTINCT" - OLIVE / BROWN

NEW BALANCE

\$260.00



search

carts

sessions

View Account (Logged in as Simon) | Logout X

SHOP v

BRANDS v

BLOG

LOOKBOOKS

ABOUT

LOCATIONS

SUBSCRIBE

SUPPORT v

CART (1)

ALL

SNEAKERS

BOOTS

SHOES

SANDALS

NEWEST TO OLDEST v



PUMA X HOUSE OF HACKNEY  
BECKER - WHITE / GREEN  
FLORAL

PUMA

\$100.00

cdn



PUMA X HOUSE OF HACKNEY  
BASKET - TOTAL ECLIPSE /  
GREEN PALM

PUMA

\$125.00

mysql



NEW BALANCE M998  
"MONTAUK" - GREY / BLUE /  
GREEN

NEW BALANCE

\$170.00



NEW BALANCE M997  
"DISTINCT" - OLIVE / BROWN

NEW BALANCE

\$260.00

# Avoid **HTTP 500** for single service failing

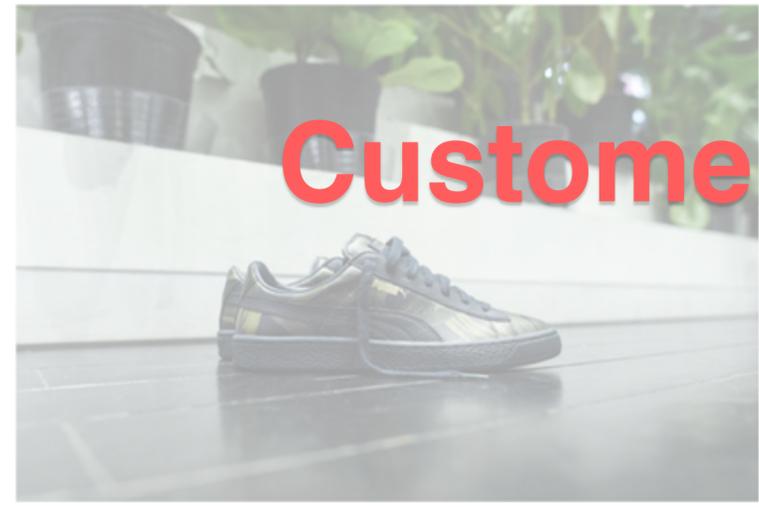
.. or suffer the faith of the (micro)service equation



Due to an unexpected technical problem, [kithnyc.com](https://kithnyc.com) is temporarily unavailable. Please check back in a few minutes – we'll be up and running in no time!



PUMA X HOUSE OF HACKNEY  
BECKER - WHITE / GREEN  
FLORAL  
PUMA  
\$160.00



PUMA X HOUSE OF HACKNEY  
BASKET - TOTAL ECLIPSE /  
GREEN PALM  
PUMA  
\$125.00

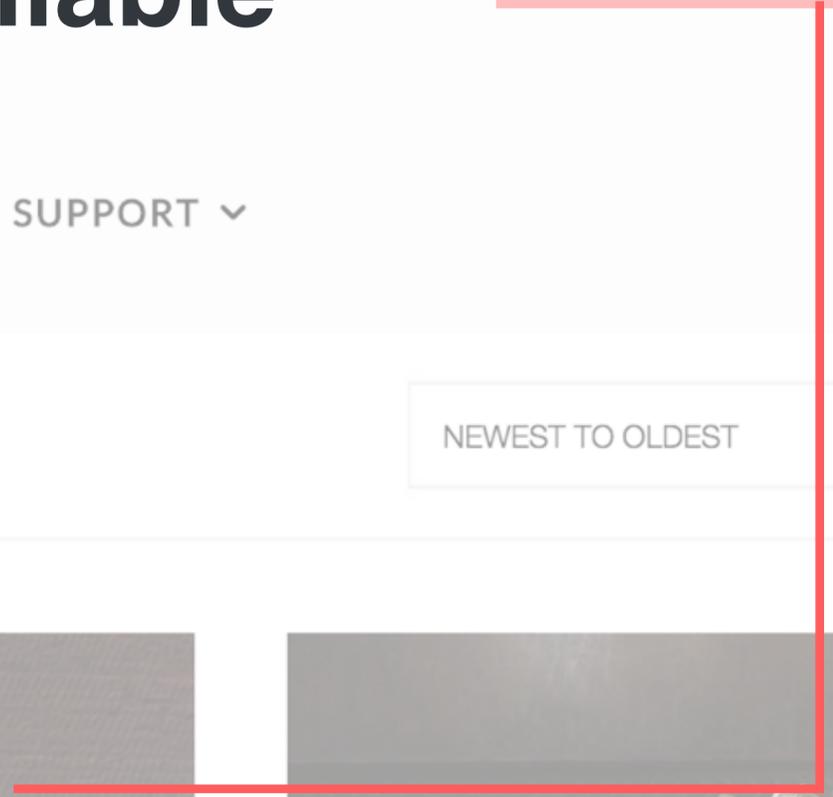


NEW BALANCE M998  
"MONTAUK" - GREY / BLUE /  
GREEN  
NEW BALANCE  
\$170.00



NEW BALANCE M997  
"DISTINCT" - OLIVE / BROWN  
NEW BALANCE  
\$260.00

Customer signed out



# Simulate TCP conditions with Toxiproxy

```
curl -i -d '{"enabled":true, "latency":1000}' \  
localhost:8474/proxies/redis/downstream/toxics/latency
```

```
curl -i -X DELETE localhost:8474/proxies/redis
```

```
Toxiproxy[:mysql_master].downstream(:latency, latency: 1000).apply do  
  Shop.first # this takes at least 1s  
end
```

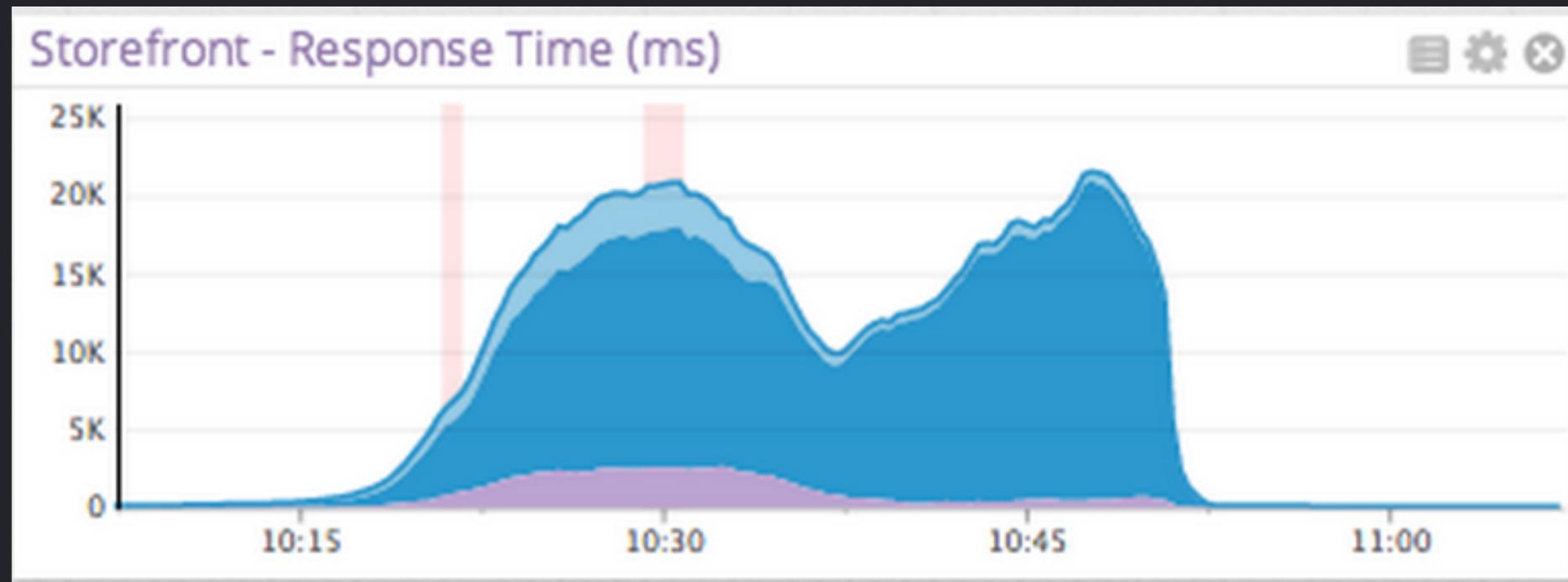
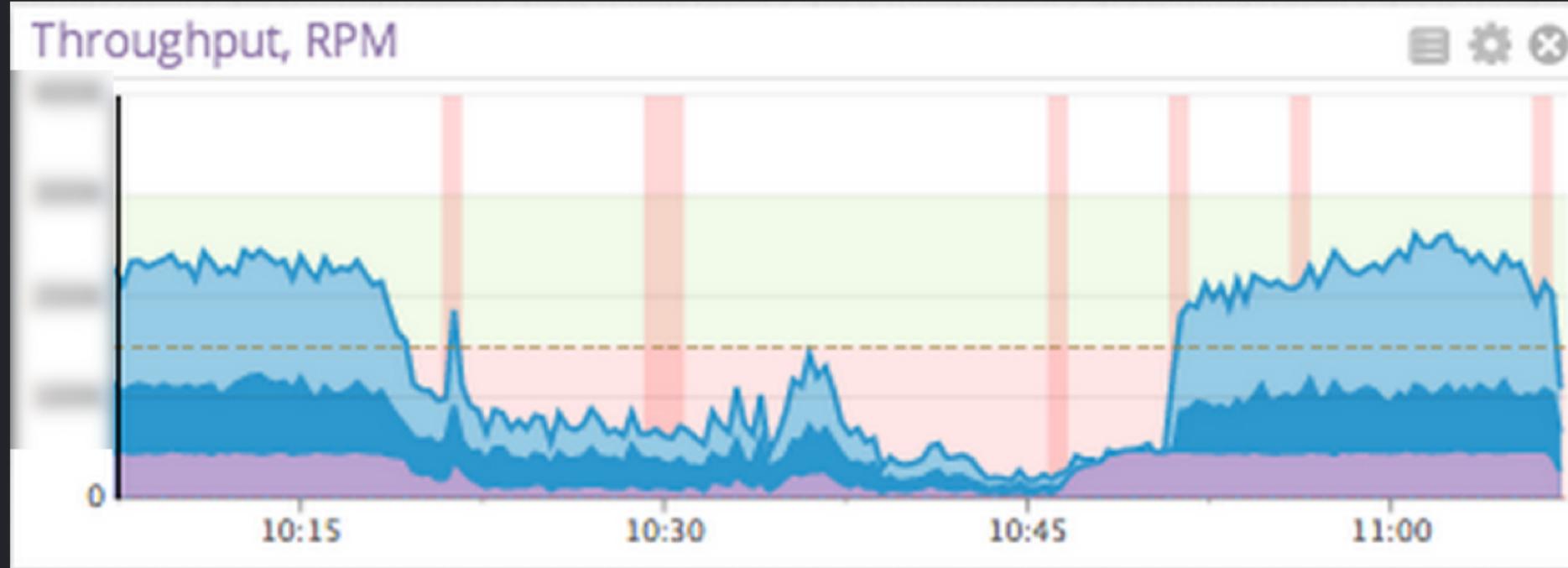
```
Toxiproxy[/redis/].down do  
  session[:user_id] # this will throw an exception  
end
```

<https://github.com/shopify/toxiproxy>

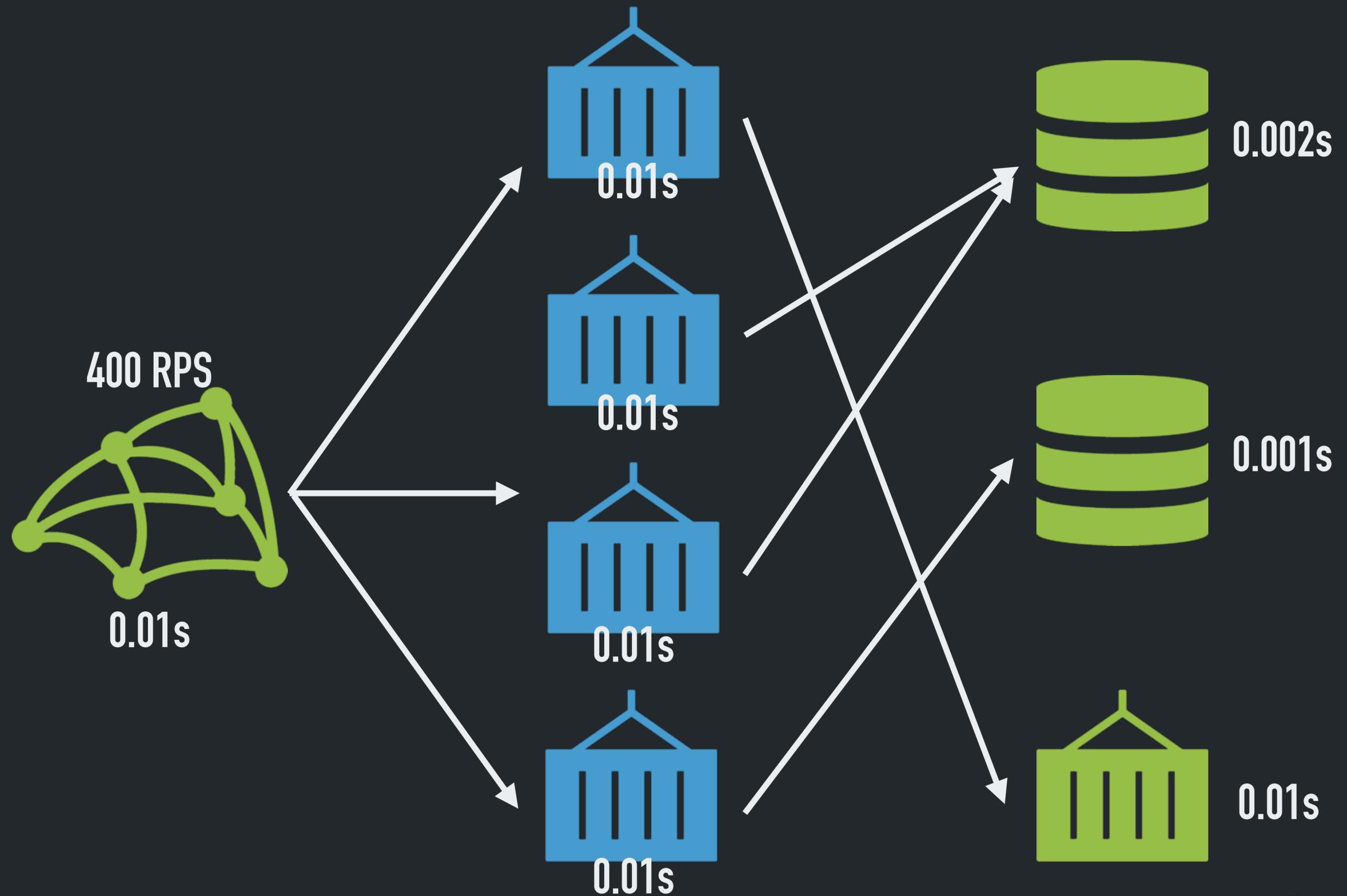
**With fallbacks the system is still  
vulnerable to slowness.  
ECONNREFUSED is a luxury, slowness  
is the killer.**



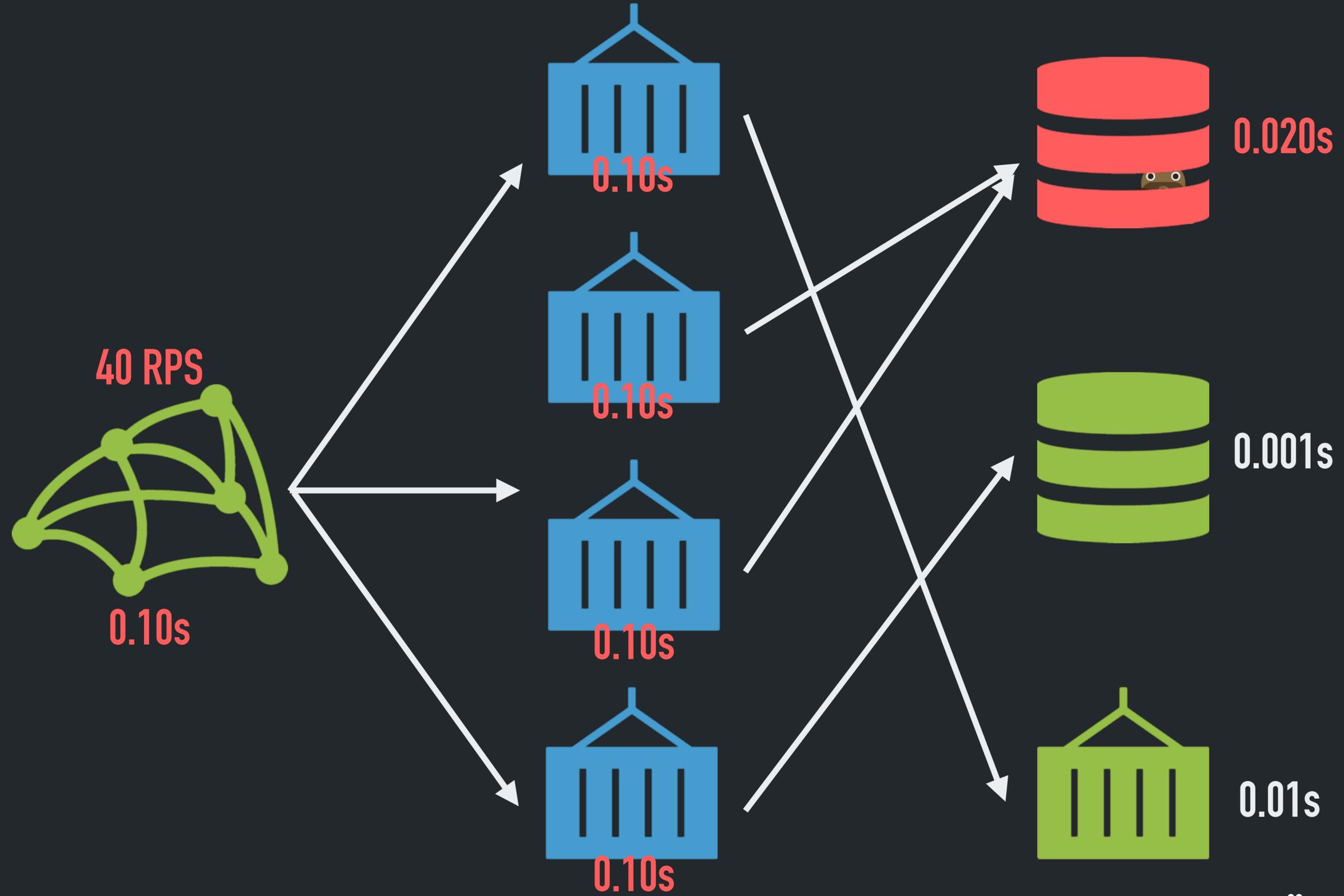
# Little's law



# Infrastructure operating normally



# Database latency increases by 10x, throughput drops 10x



**Beating Little's law is your first priority  
as you add services**

# Resiliency Toolkits

Bulk Heads, Circuit Breakers, ..



finagle

twitter/finagle



Release It book



shopify/semian



**HYSTRIX**  
DEFEND YOUR APP

netflix/hystrix

NETFLIX



# Resiliency Maturity Pyramid



Region Gorilla



Latency Monkey

Kill Nodes (Chaos Monkey)

Production Practise Days (Games)



Resiliency Patterns



Application-Specific Fallbacks



Toxiproxy tests and matrix



Testing with mocks

No resiliency effort



# Discovery

# Infrastructure source of truth



## Services

Instances of services



## Metadata

Deployed revision, leader, ..



## Orchestration

Aid to make things happen across components

# Location



## Global

Geo-replicated discovery



## Regional

Single datacenter

# Discovery Backbone Properties



No single point of failure



Stale reads better than no reads:  $A > C$



Reads order of magnitude larger than writes



Fast convergence

# New and Old School

Consul

DNS

Zookeeper

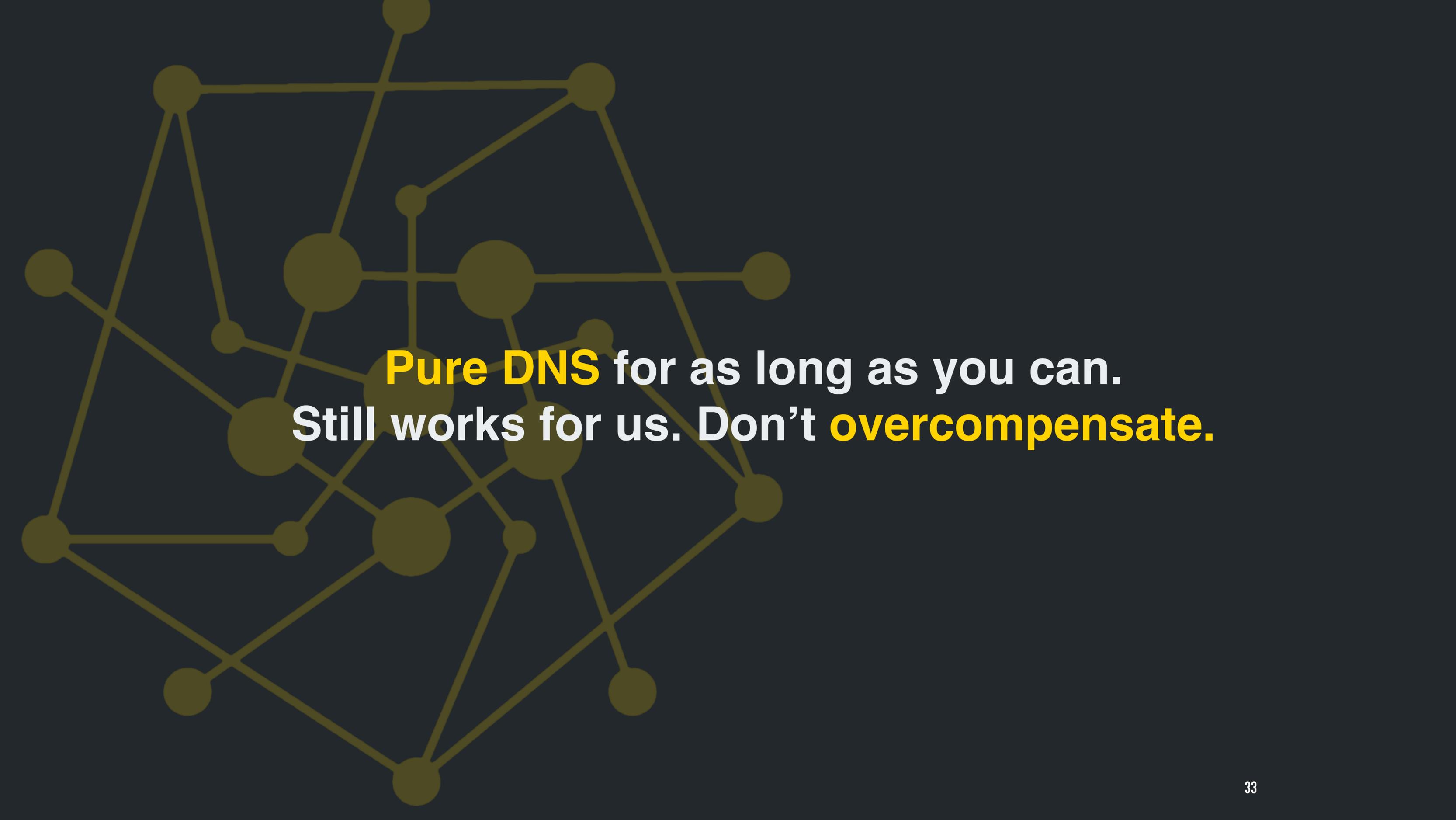
Chef, Puppet, ..

Eureka

Network

Etc

Hardcoded values



**Pure DNS** for as long as you can.  
Still works for us. Don't **overcompensate**.

# Pure DNS

Resilient

Simple

API

Supported

Failovers?

Slow convergence

Not a data store

Not for orchestration



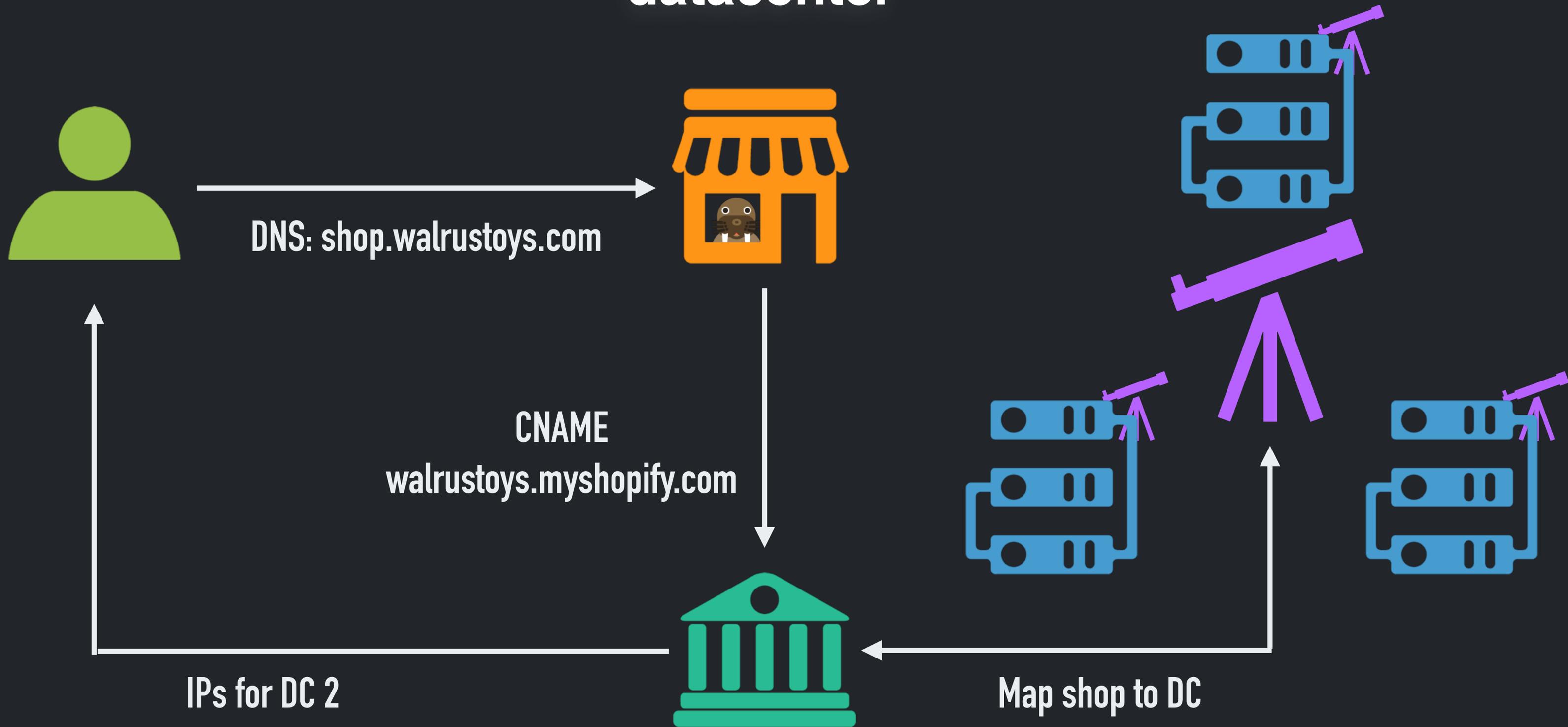
**Global discovery** and **orchestration** most  
pressing issue for Shopify

# Orchestration of datacenter failovers

Too many Sources of Truth

Component	Source of Truth
Network	NetEng?
MySQL	DBAs?
Application	Cookbooks
Redis	Cookbooks
Load Balancers	Hardcode value in config file

# Routing shops to the right datacenter



# DNS problematic when..



Multiple owners of data

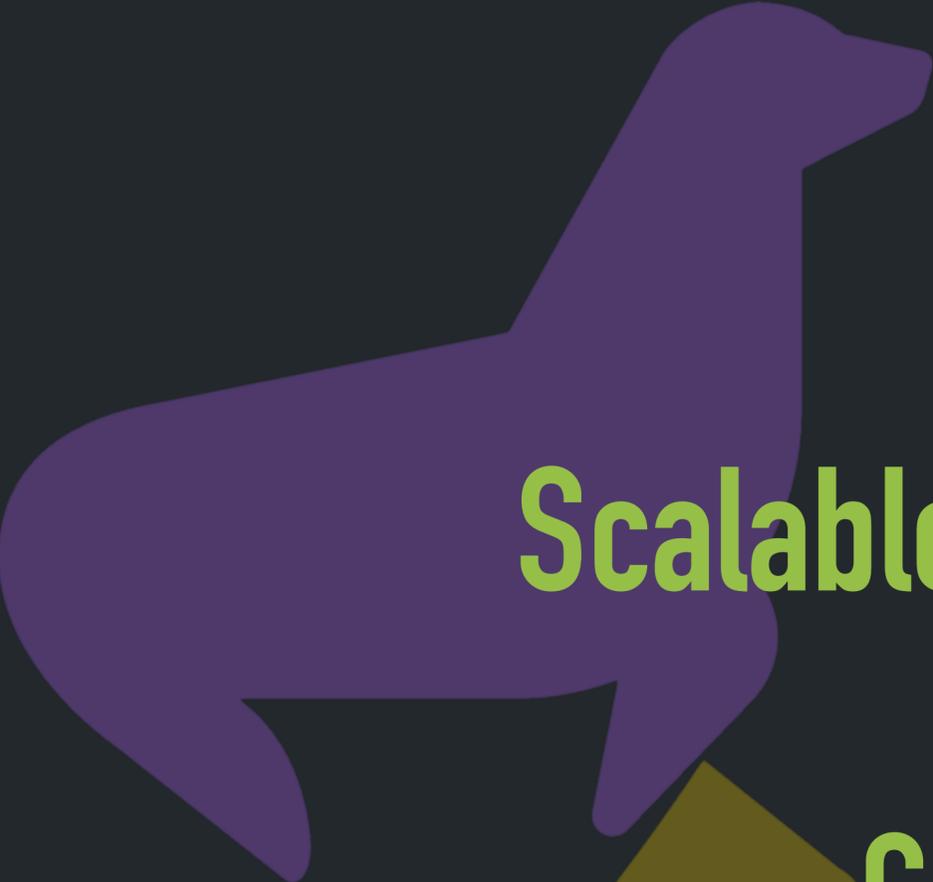


Fast converge



Lots of change in instances

# Zookeeper



Scalable stale reads



Consistent

Orchestration

Trusted



Not complete discovery

Complex clients



Operational burden

Shoehorn

# Complex client problem



Connecting directly risky



Proxy pattern



Dumping to files



Stale reads



# Routing

# Routing responsibilities



Load balance

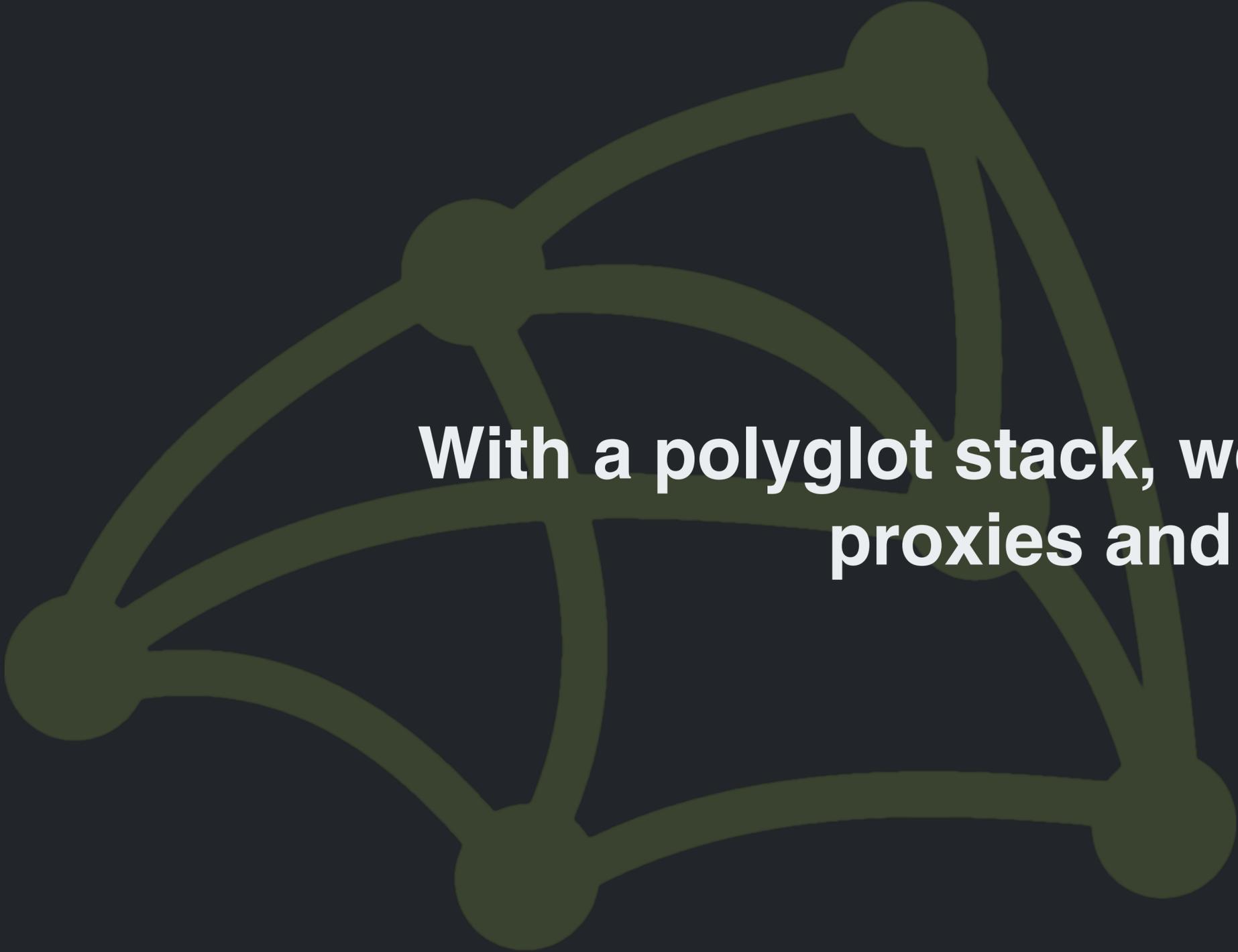


Protect applications against unhealthy resources:  
circuit breaker, bulk heads, rate limiting, ...



Receive upstreams from discovery layer

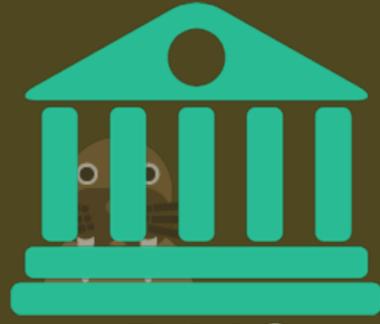
	Trusted	Scriptable	Resiliency	Dynamic upstreams	Discovery built in	TCP	Library/Proxy
<b>yours</b>	Don't do this	Of course	It's perfect	I got it	Easy	Obviously, it's Go	
<b>OS nginx</b>	YES	3rd party (ngx-lua). Not complete (no TCP support).	Possible for HTTP via ngx-lua. No TCP yet	Sidekick for new upstreams. Manipulate existing via ngx-lua	No, try via sidekick/ngx-lua	Landed in 1.9.0, stabilized in nginx+	Proxy
<b>haproxy</b>	YES	Lua support in master	Not scriptable, only rate limiting built-in	Sidekick and reloads (with iptables wizardry), manipulate existing admin socket	No, try via sidekick	Built as L4	Proxy
<b>vulcand</b>	Maybe?	middlewares, requires forking	SOME, only circuit breaker	Beautiful HTTP API	etcd support	No, only supports HTTP currently (not in ROADMAP.md)	Proxy
<b>finagle</b>	YES	YES, completely centered around plugins	YES, sophisticated FailFast module	YES	Zookeeper support	Application-level	Library, requires JVM
<b>smartstack</b>	Somewhat	However much HAProxy is, adapters	NO, same as HAProxy	YES	Zookeeper support	Yes, uses HAProxy	Proxy + discovery



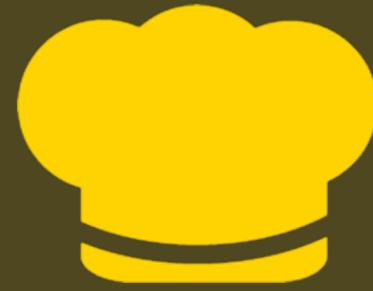
**With a polyglot stack, we just use simple proxies and DNS**

# Current Stack

## Discovery



DNS

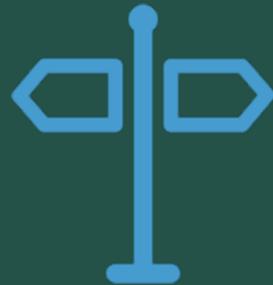


Chef



Zookeeper

## Server



ZK Proxy



## Discoverable



## Through proxy



# Future Stack

## Discovery



DNS



Zookeeper

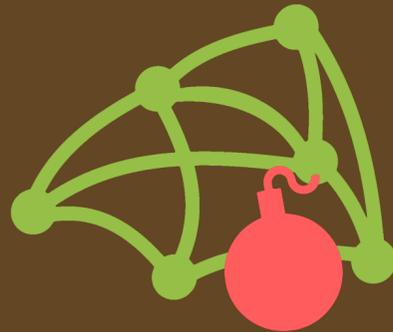
## Server



ZK Proxy

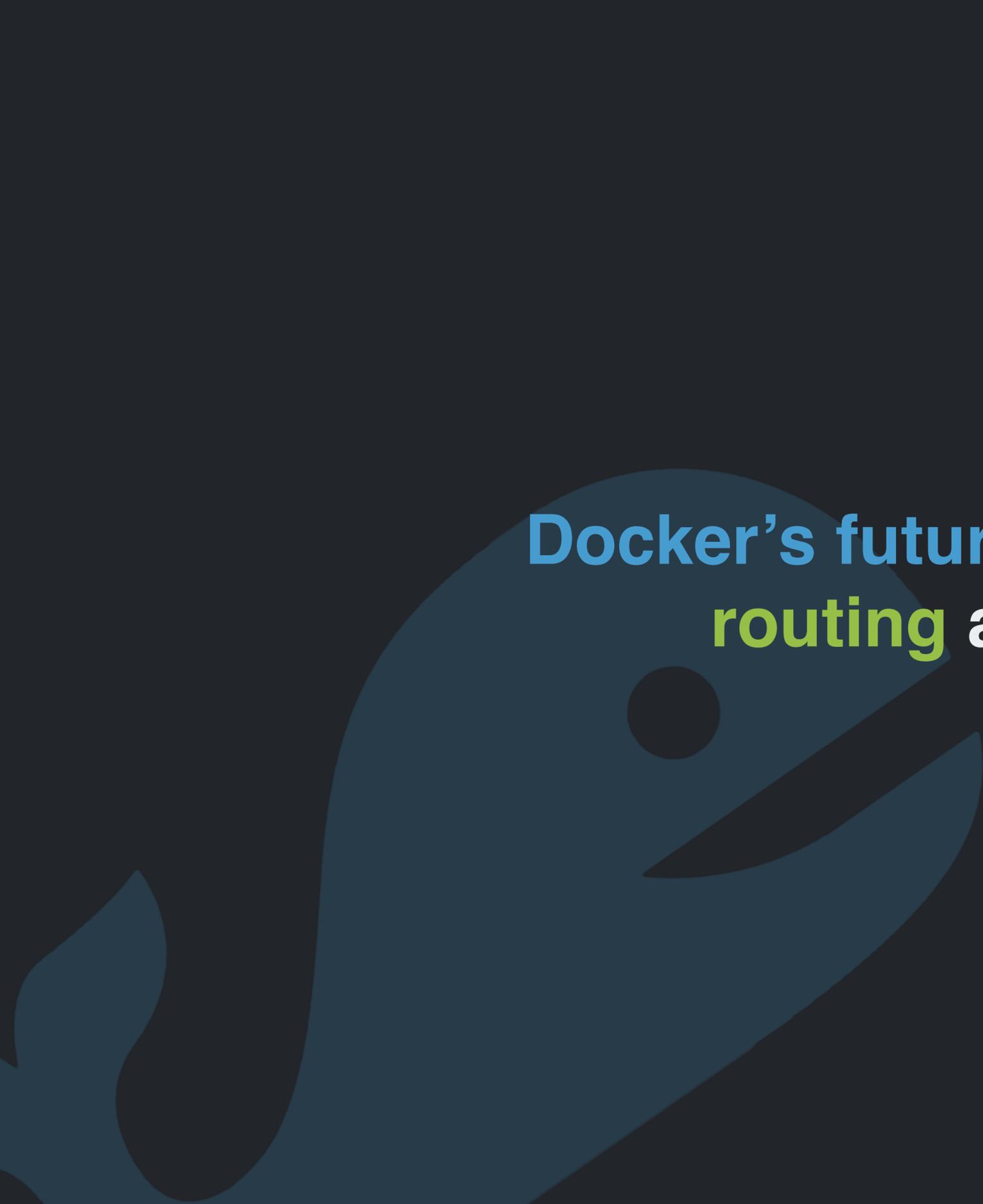


## Discoverable



## Through proxy





**Docker's future role in discovery,  
routing and resiliency**



# Final remarks



Figure out service discovery value for your company, don't overcompensate—your metric is reliability



Infrastructure teams own integration points, don't leave it up to everyone to jump in



Build resiliency into the system, don't make it opt in, be able to reason about entire system's state and test



# Thank you

Simon Eskildsen, Shopify

@Sirupsen



dockercon

15

**Server by Konstantin Velichko from the Noun Project**

**basket by Ben Rex Furneaux from the Noun Project**

**container by Creative Stall from the Noun Project**

**people by Wilson Joseph from the Noun Project**

**mesh network by Lance Weisser from the Noun Project**

**Conductor by Luis Prado from the Noun Project**

**Jar by Yazmin Alanix from the Noun Project**

**Broken Chain by Simon Martin from the Noun Project**

**Book by Ben Rex Furneaux from the Noun Project**

**network by Jessica Coccimiglio from the Noun Project**

**server by Creative Stall from the Noun Project**

**components by icons.design from the Noun Project**

**switch button by Marco Olgio from the Noun Project**

**Pile of leaves (autumn) by Aarthi Ramamurthy**

**Bridge by Toreham Sharman from the Noun Project**

**collaboration by Alex Kwa from the Noun Project**

**converge by Creative Stall from the Noun Project**

**change by Jorge Mateo from the Noun Project**

**tag by Rohith M S from the Noun Project**

**whale by Christopher T. Howlett from the Noun Project**

**file by Marlou Latourre from the Noun Project**

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**Arrow by Zlatko Najdenovski from the Noun Project**

**Chef by Ross Sokolovski from the Noun Project**