

# eBay Architecture

Tony Ng

Director, Systems Architecture

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# About Me

DRAFT

- eBay – Systems Architecture and Engineering
- Yahoo! – Social, Developer Platforms, YQL
- Sun Microsystems – J2EE, GlassFish, JSRs
- Author of books on J2EE, SOA

# eBay Stats

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- 94 million active users
- 200 million items for sale in 50,000 categories
- A cell phone is sold every 5 seconds in US
- An iPad sold every 2.2 minutes in US
- A pair of shoes sold every 9 seconds in US
- A passenger vehicle sold every 2 minutes
- A motorcycle sold every 6 minutes

<http://www.ebayinc.com/factsheets>

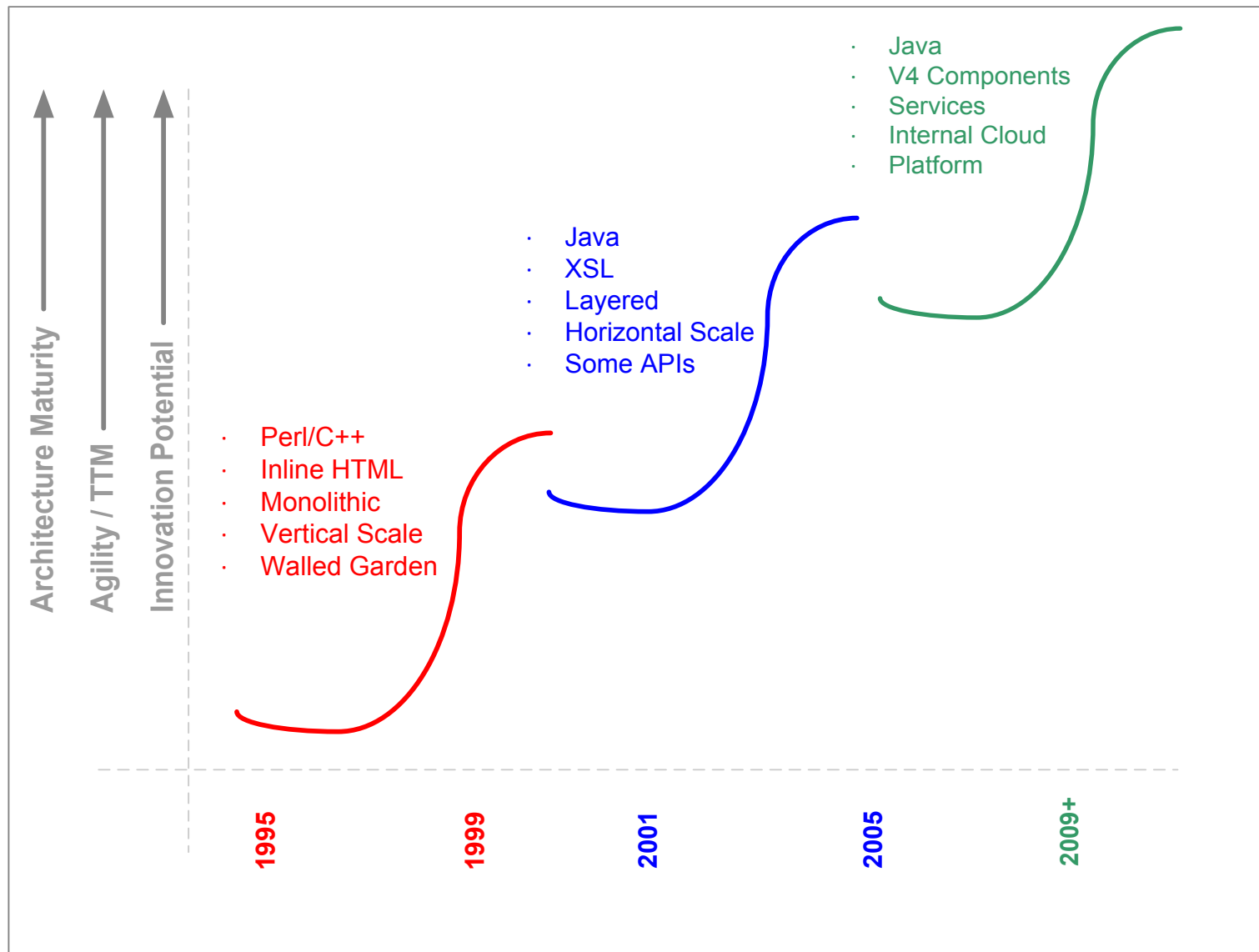
# eBay Scale

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- 9 Petabytes of data storage
- 10,000 application servers
- 44 million lines of code
- 2 billion pictures
- 99.94% site availability
- A typical day
  - 75B database calls
  - 4B page views
  - 250B search queries
  - Billions of service calls
  - 100s of millions of internal asynchronous events

# History of Technology

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# Qualities Attributes Concerns

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- Scalability
- Availability
- Latency
- Security
- Manageability
- Cost

# eBay Scalable Architecture

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- Partition everything
  - Databases, application tier, search engine
- Stateless preference
  - No session state in app tier
- Asynchronous processing
  - Event streams, batch
- Manage failures
  - Central application logging
  - Mark downs

# Next Challenges

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- Maintain site stability but deliver quality features and innovations at accelerating paces
- Complexity as our codebase grows
- Build on our architecture maturity to enable faster time-to-market
- Developer productivity



# Scalability with Agility

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- Strategy 1: Automation with Cloud
- Strategy 2: Next Gen Service orientation
- Strategy 3: Modularity
- ... and more ...

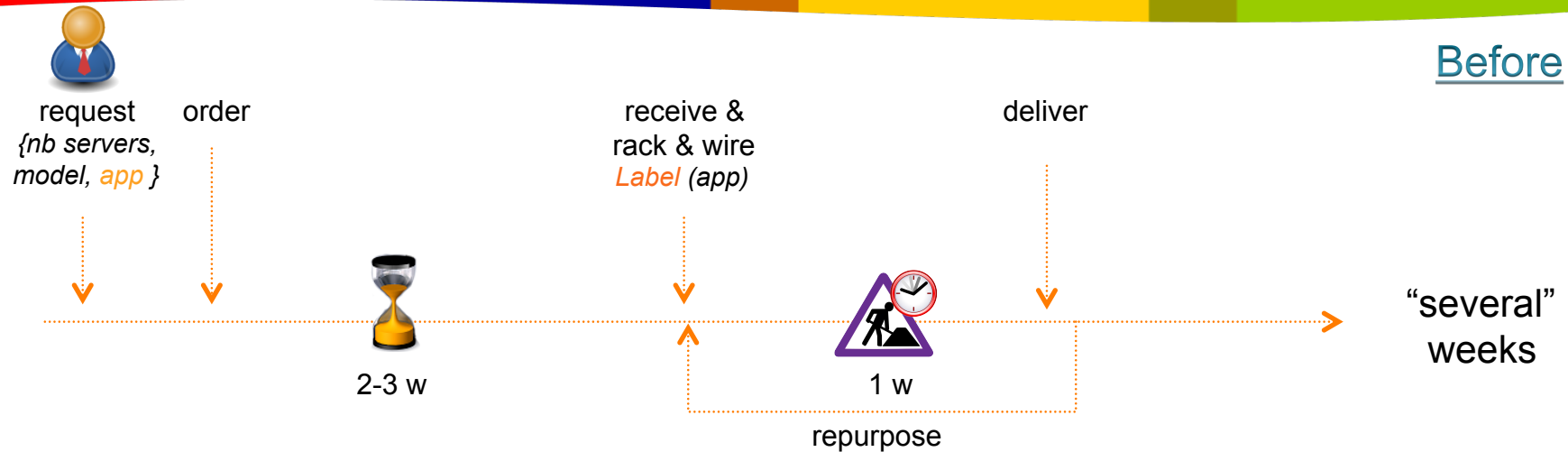
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# Automation with Cloud

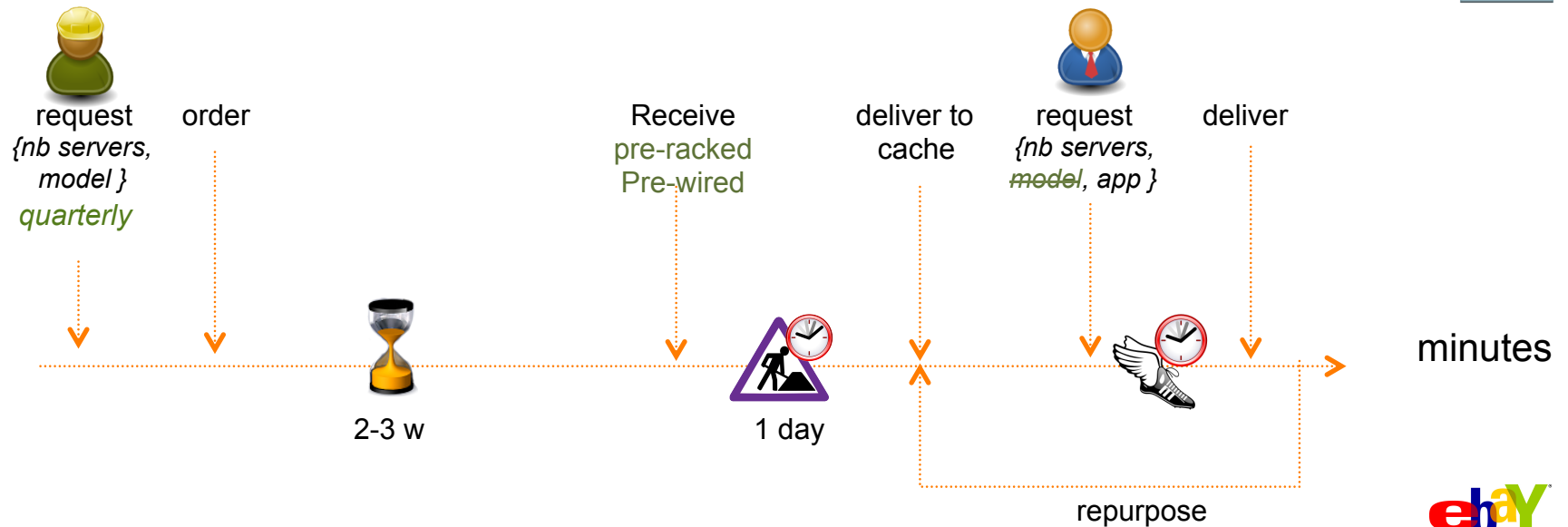
# Improving Automation

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Before

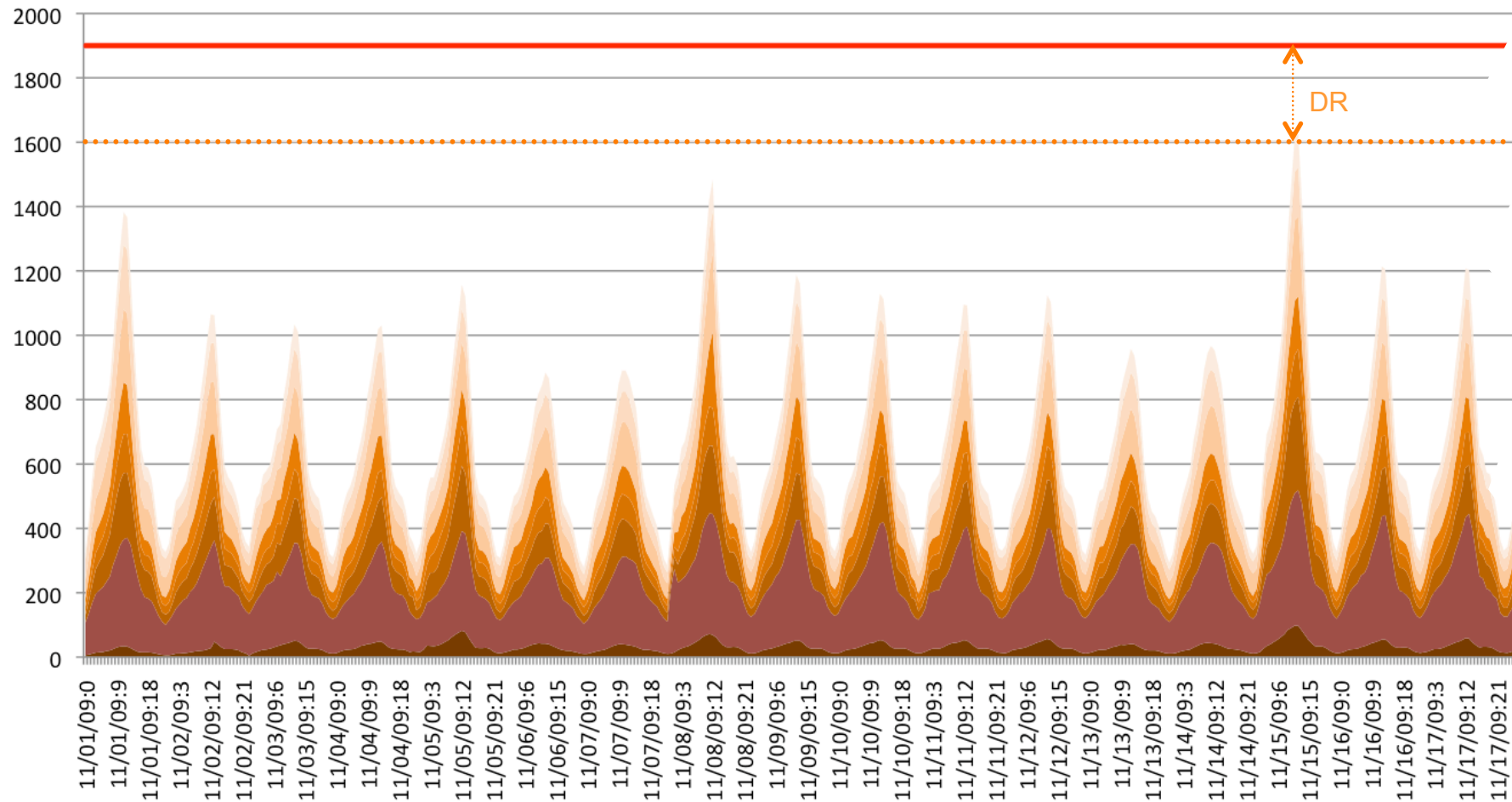


After



# Improving Utilization

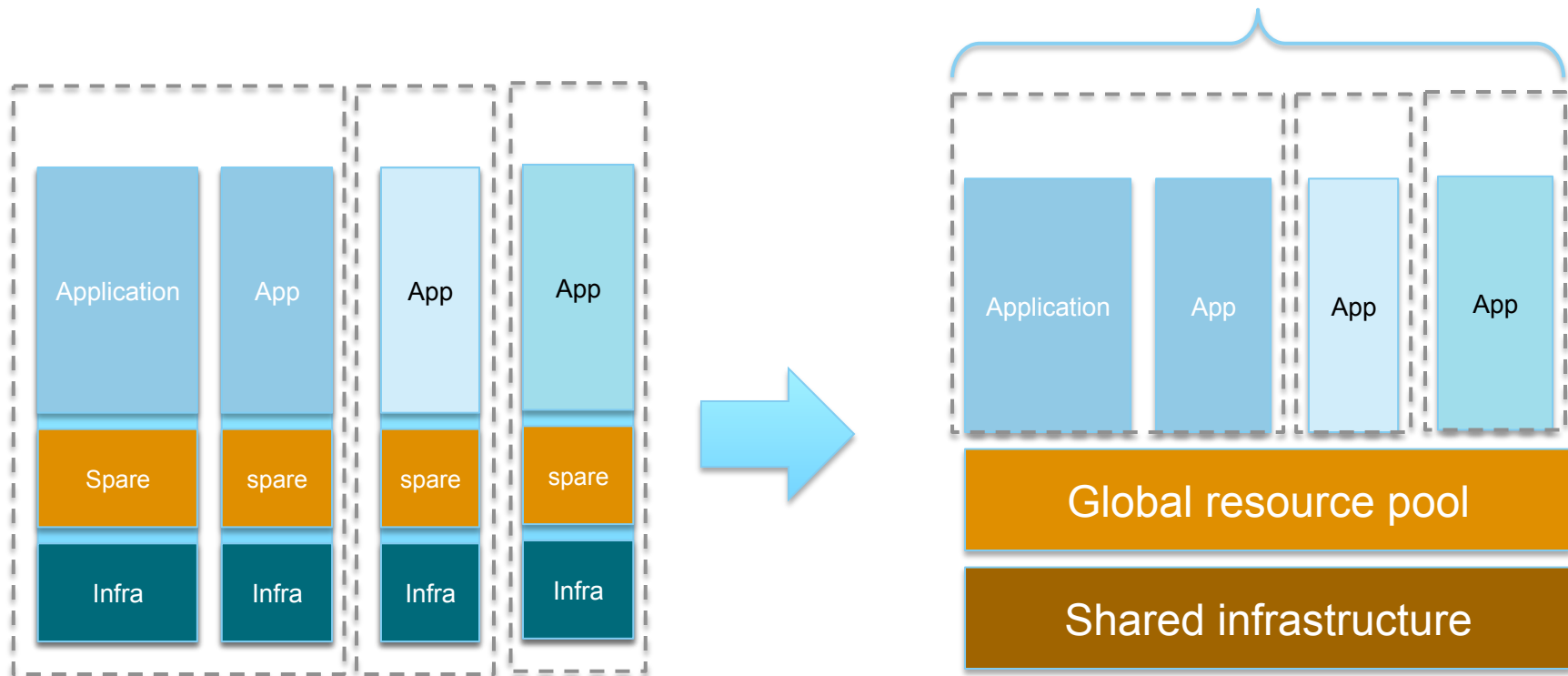
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*Number of servers required based on utilization for 8 pools*

# Infrastructure Virtualization

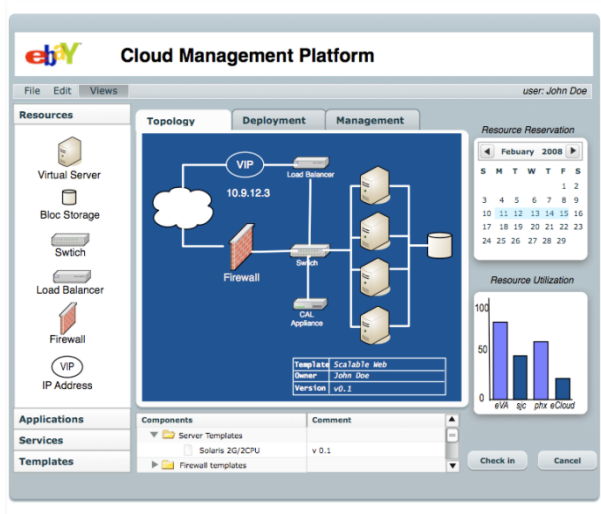
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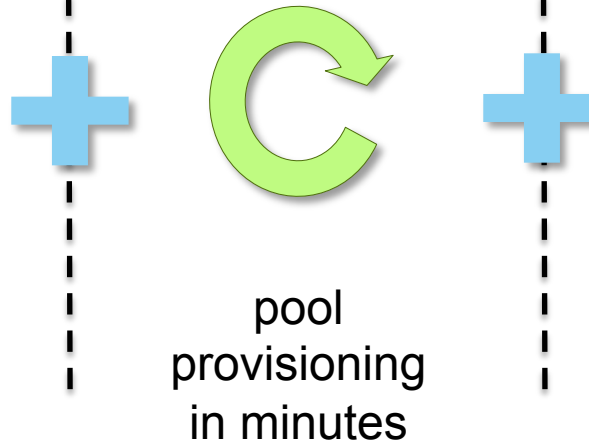
# eBay Cloud

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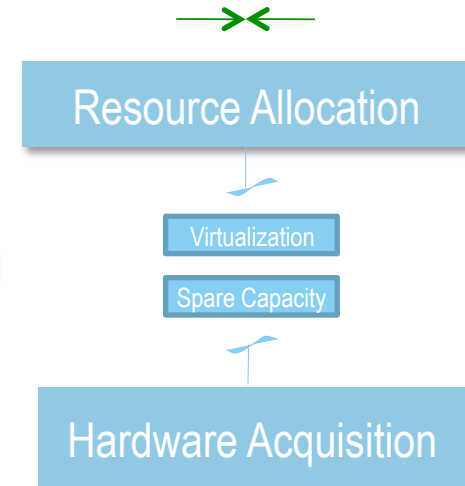
## Self Service Portal



## Automation



## Capacity Management



**= Improved Time to Market**

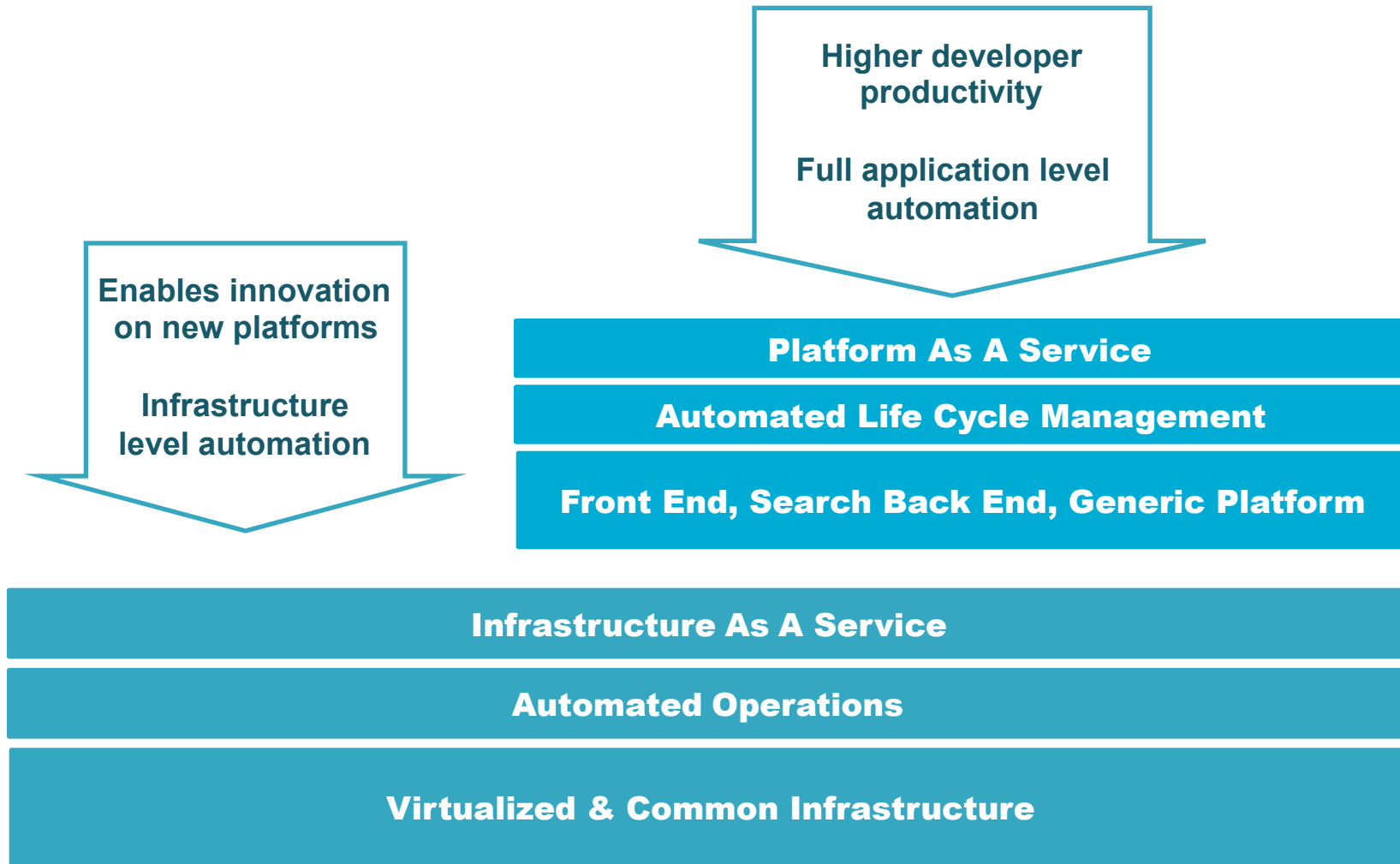
# Design Principles

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- Network isolation to enable mobility and isolation at scale
- Capability to automate reliably
- Standardization
- Private vs. Public
  - Start with Private, option to go Hybrid
- Buy vs. Build
  - Build + OSS

# Infrastructure & Platform as a service

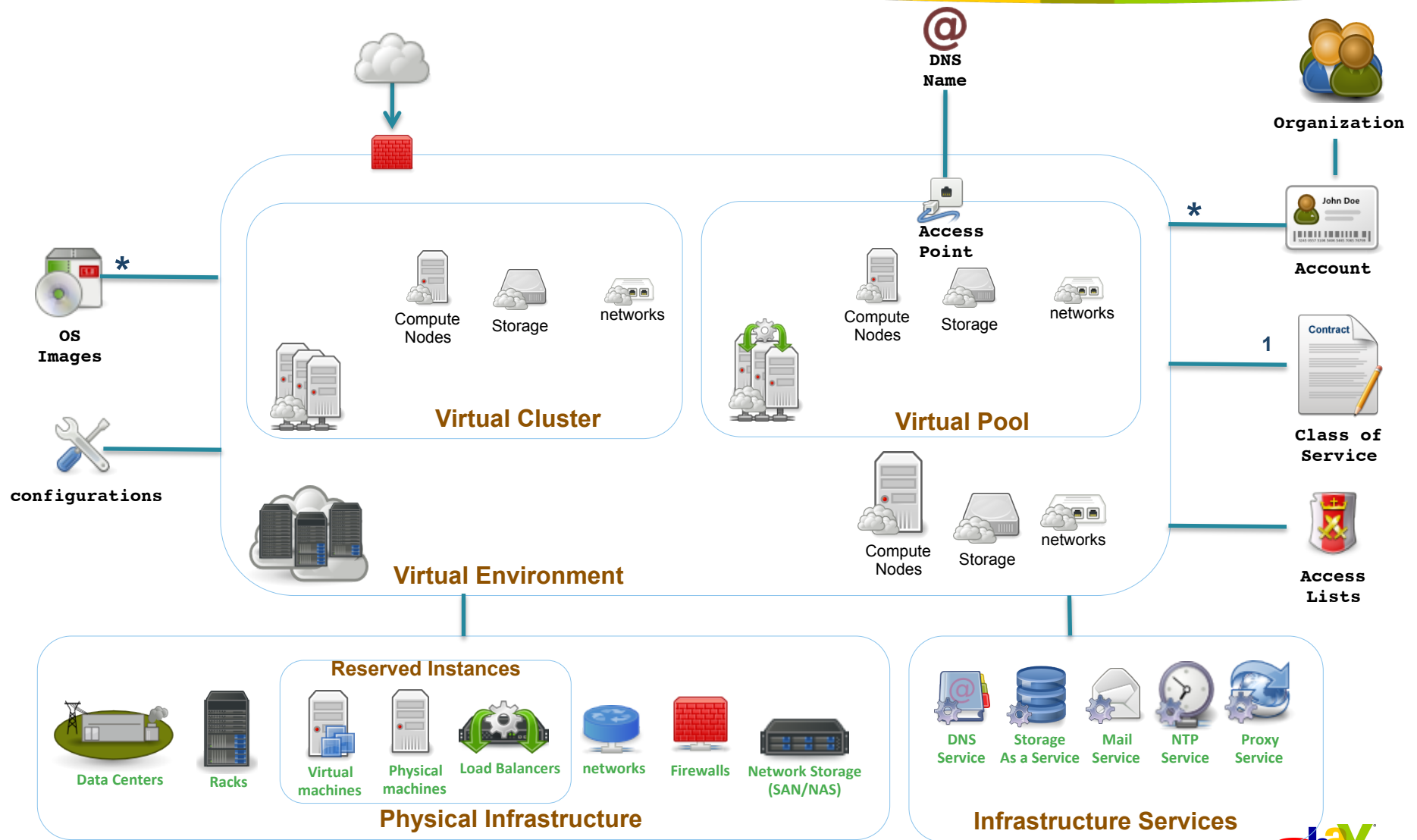
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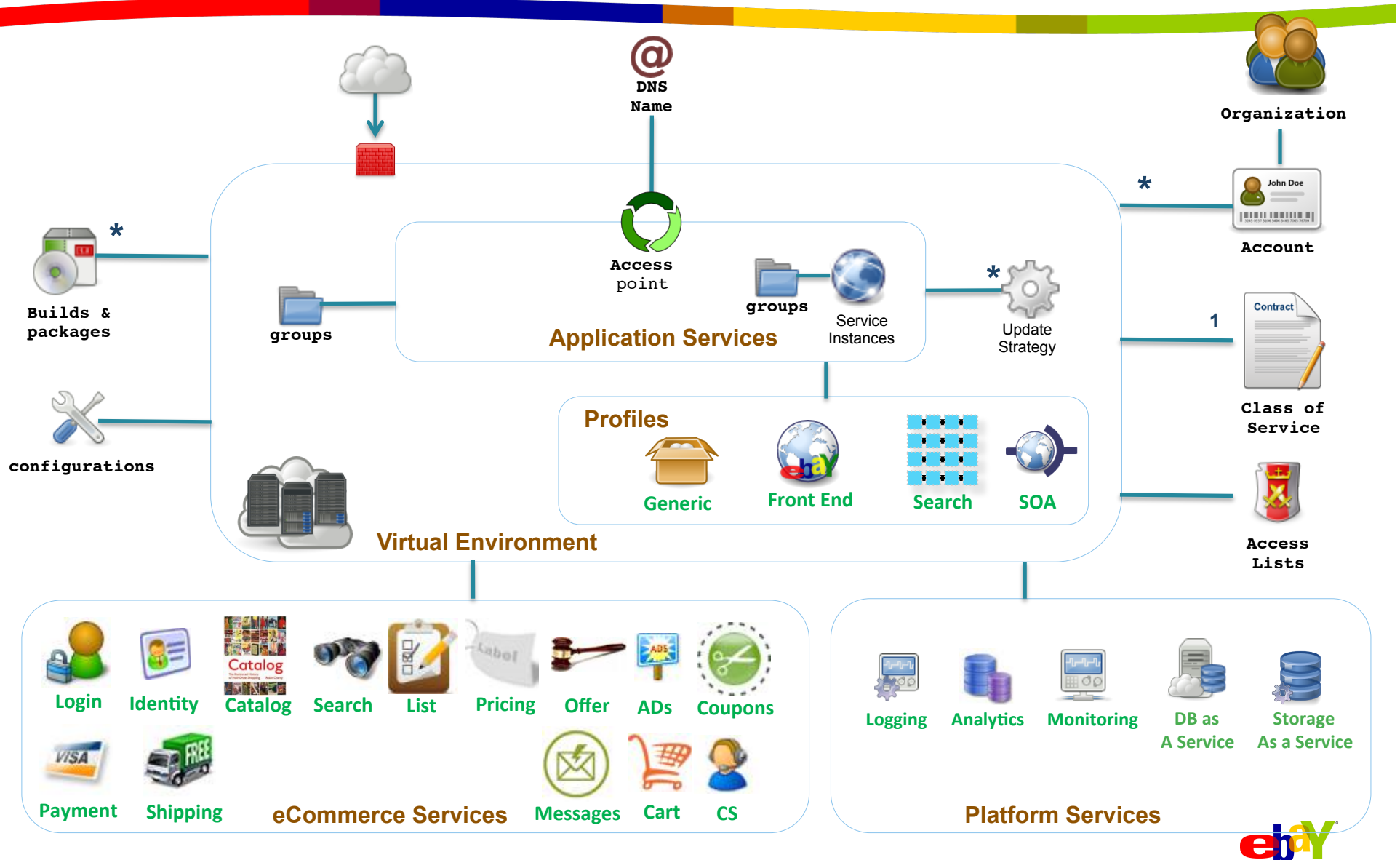
# IaaS

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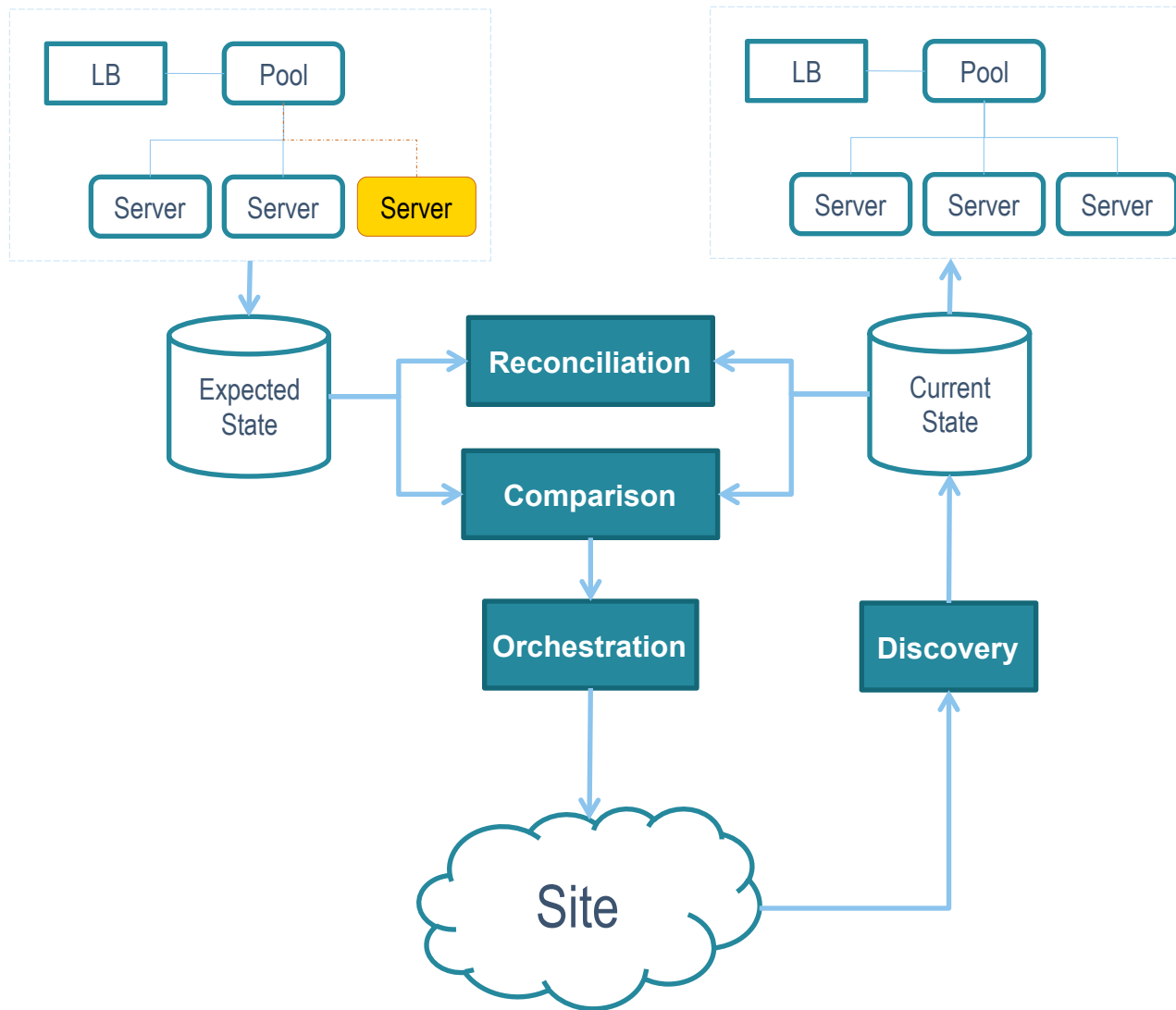


# PaaS

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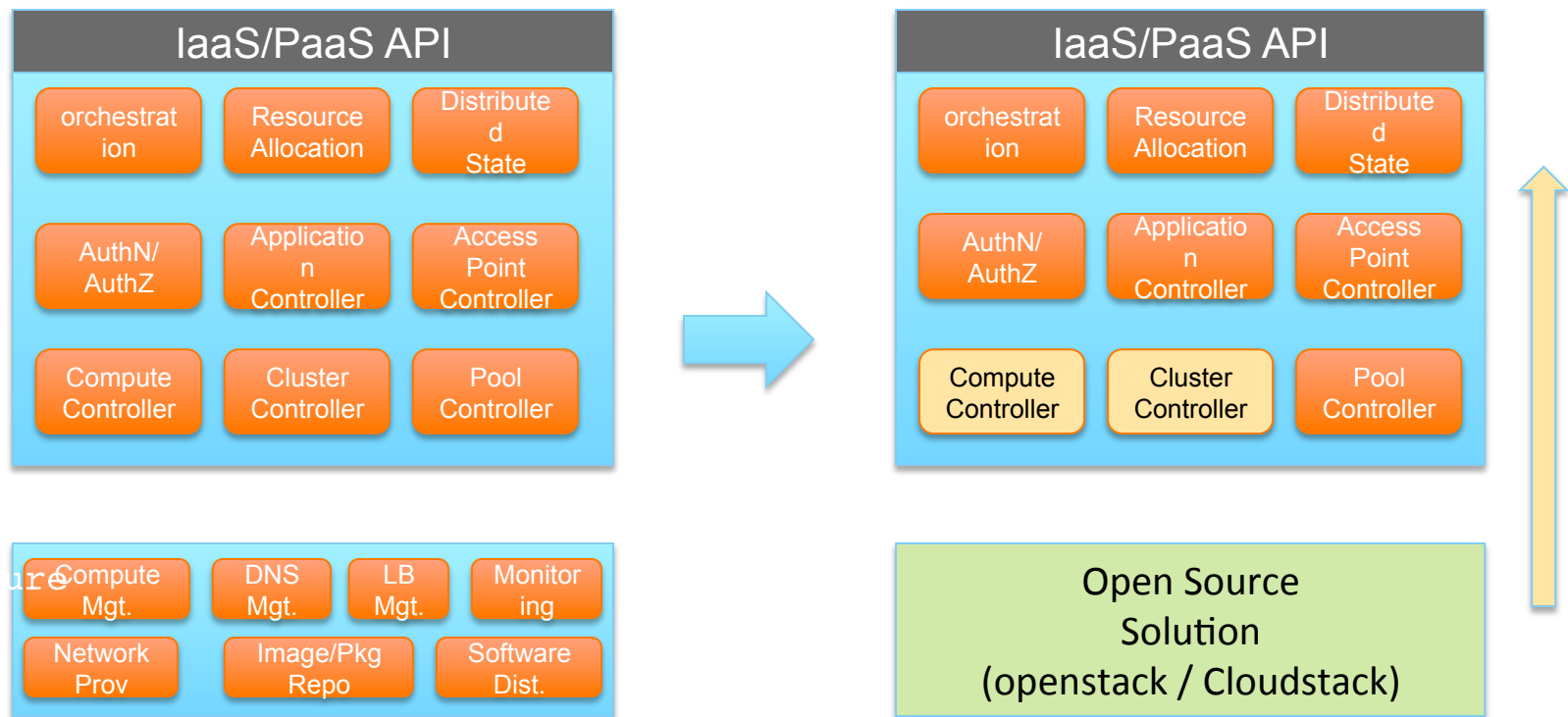
# Model Driven Automation for Reliability DRAFT



- Desired configuration is specified in the expected state and persisted in CMS
- Upon approval, the orchestration will configure the site to reflect the desired configuration.
- Updated site configuration is discovered based on detection of configuration events
- Reconciliation between the expected and current state allows to verify the proper configuration.
- On going validation allows the detection of out of band changes.

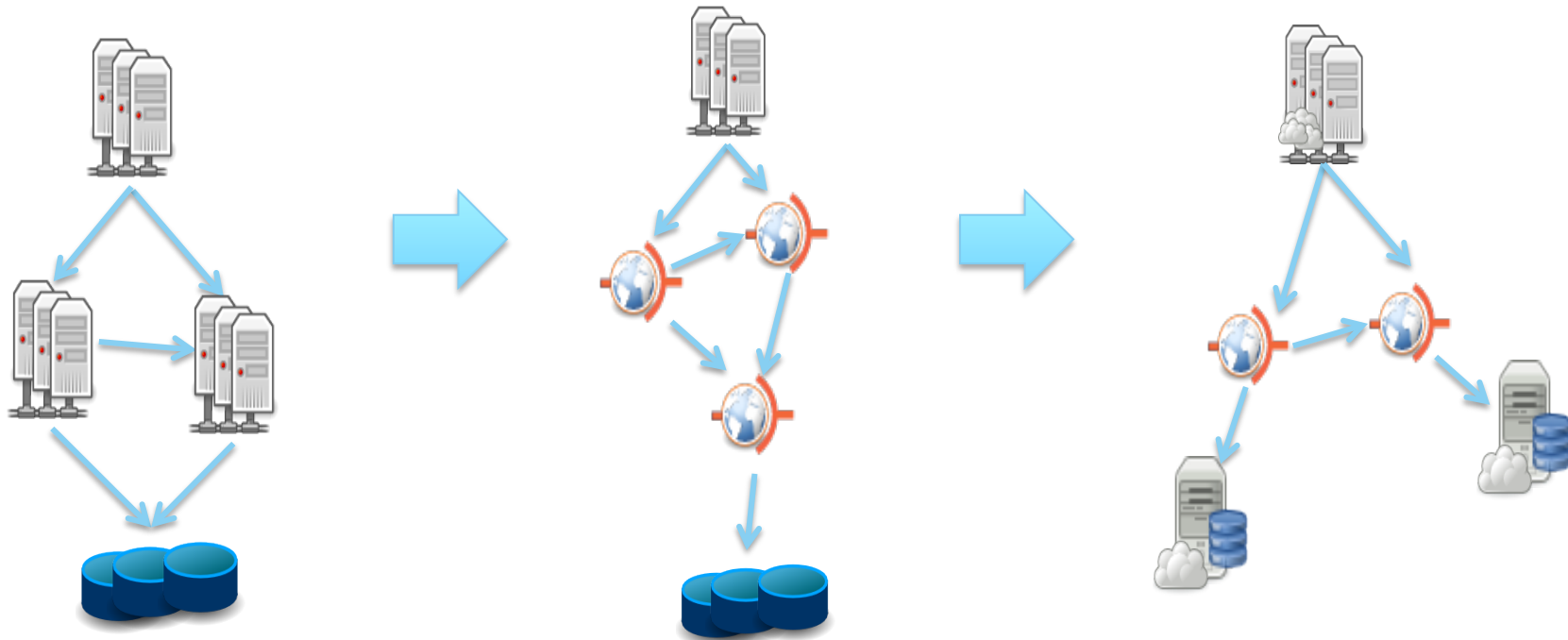
# Open Source Integration

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# Application Architecture

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Before

Ongoing  
"Cloud  
Friendly"

Future  
'Cloud  
ready'



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# Next Gen Service Orientation

# Services @ eBay

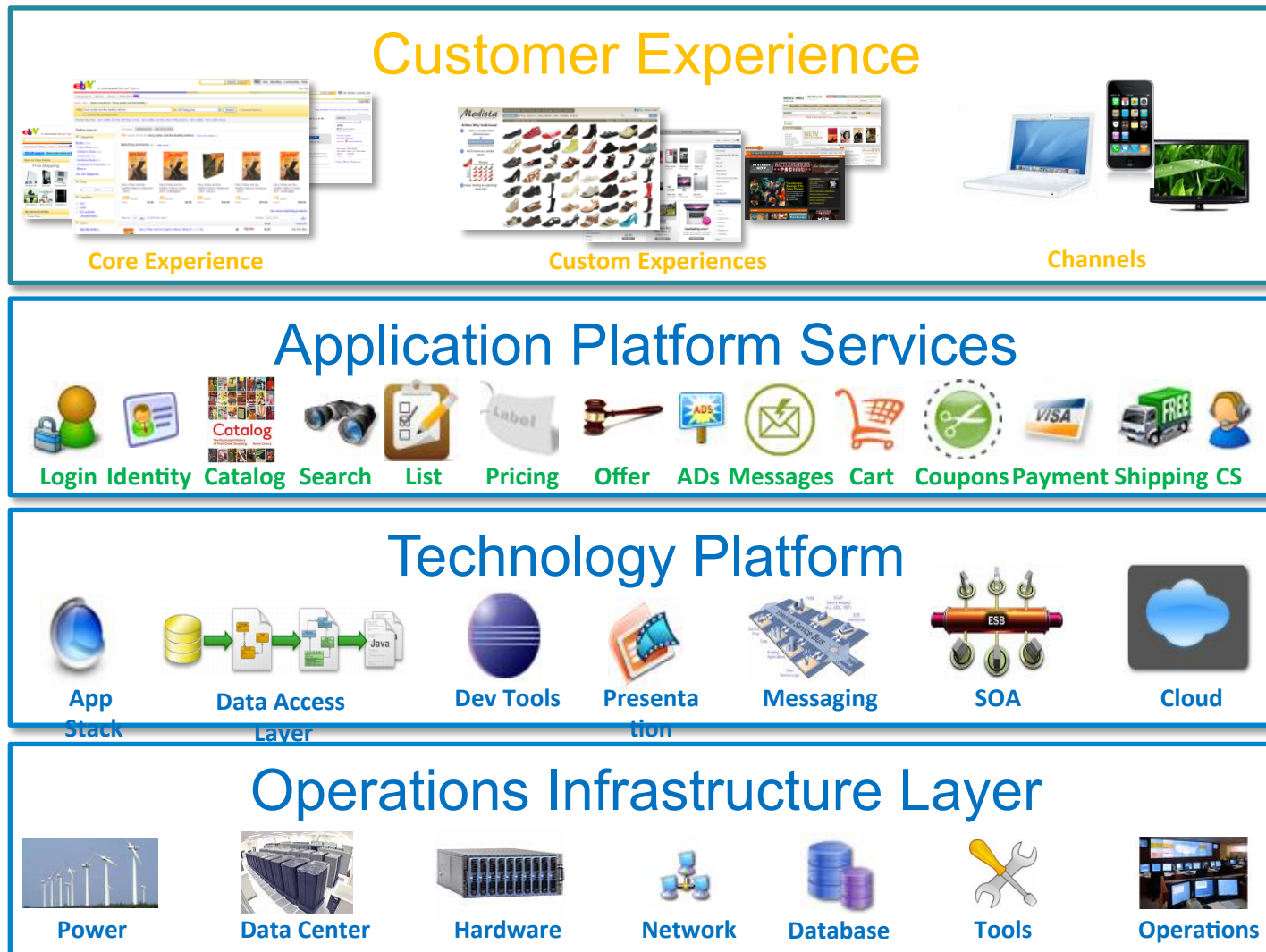
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- It's a journey !
- History
  - One of the first to expose APIs /Services
  - In early 2007, embarked on service orienting our entire ecommerce platform, whether the functionality is internal or external
  - Support REST style as well as SOA style
  - Have close to 300 services now and more on the way
  - Early adopters of SOA governance automation (Discovery focus rather than control)



# Architecture Vision

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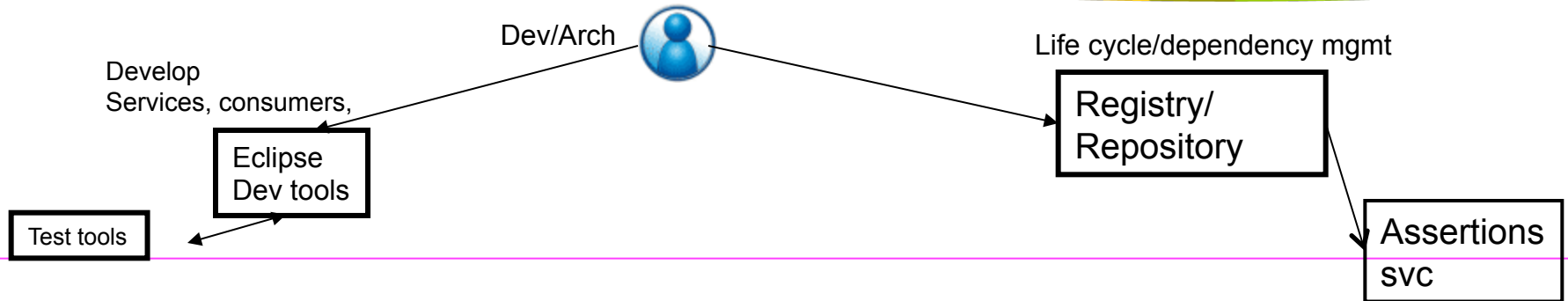




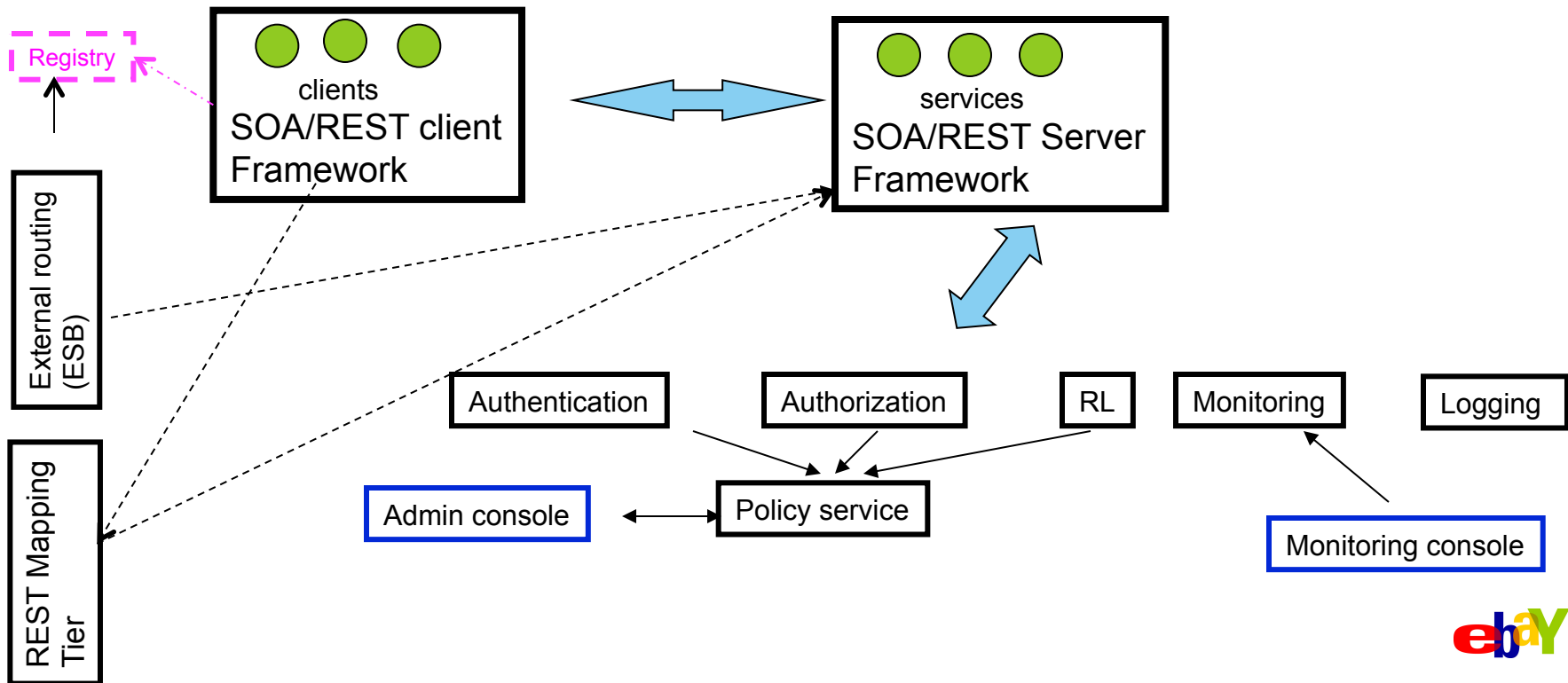
# eBay SOA Stack Overview

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**Design/Dev**



**Runtime**

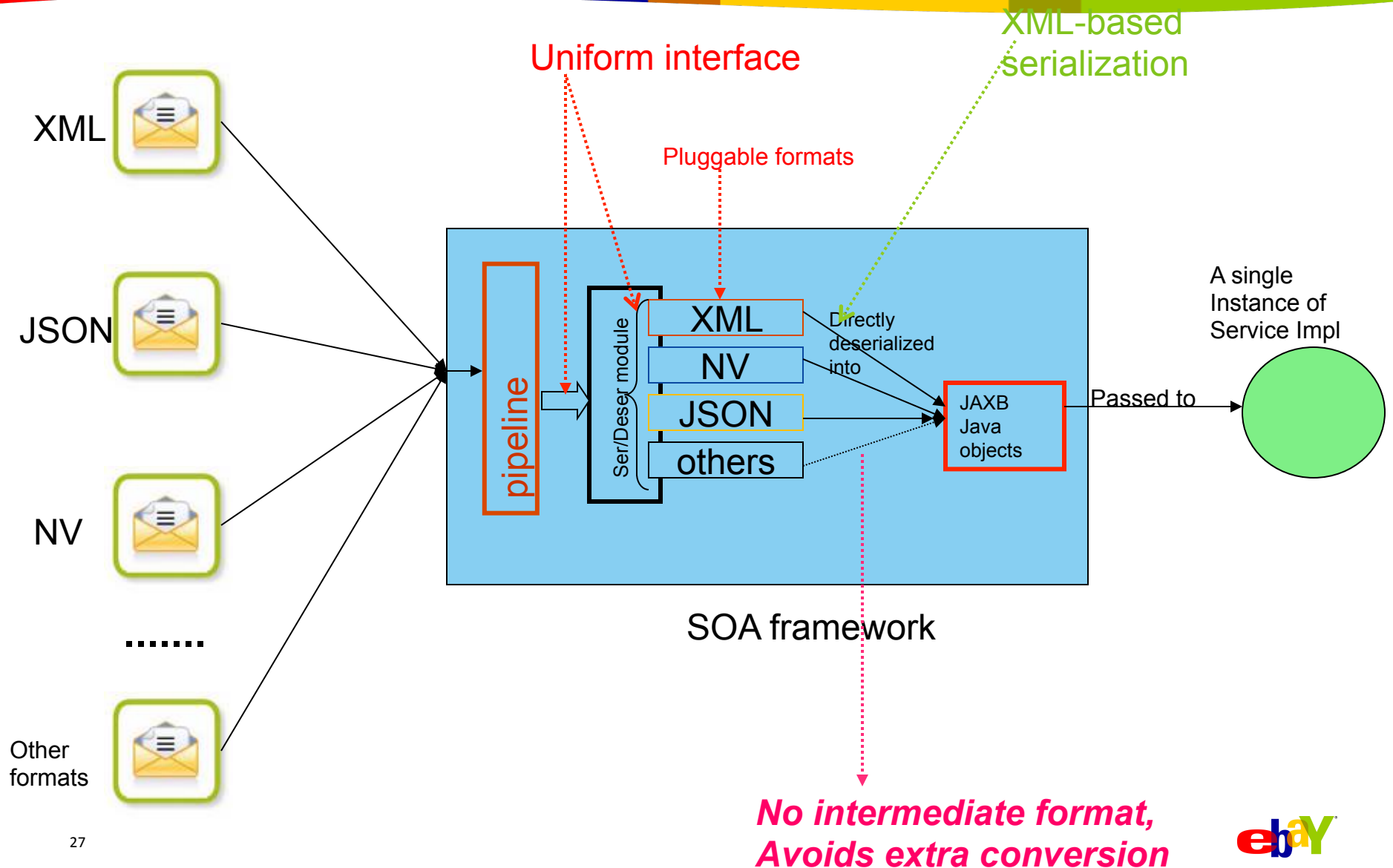


# Challenge 1: Multiple Data Formats DRAFT

- 2005: Mix of user preferences
  - SOAP
  - REST-like: HTTP GET with all request information in the URI
  - Plain Old XML (POX): HTTP POST with XML data but no SOAP envelope
  - JSON
- Shopping API was our first “XML Unified Field” web service
  - Input formats: Name-value encoded in URI; XML; JSON; SOAP
  - Output formats: XML, JSON, SOAP
- Key concepts:
  - Users ask for whatever data format they want.
  - When using our frameworks, developers don’t have to change **any** code to get a different data format.
  - **Anything you can express in XML, you can express in other formats**
  - **Complete mapping from XML structures to NV and JSON**
- Service developers **don’t want to write extra code to do conversions**; too much maintenance impact

# Solution: Pluggable Data Formats Using JAXB

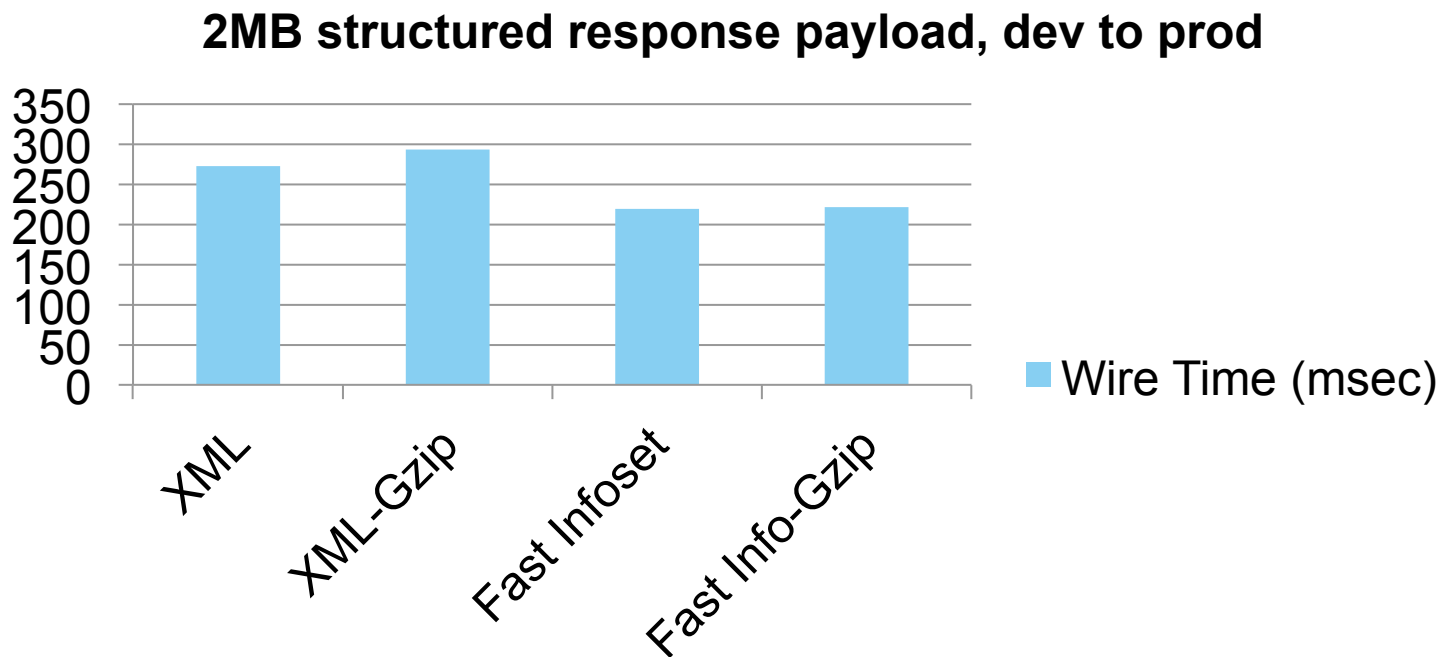
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# Challenge 2: Latency

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- JAXB unification of XML, JSON, Name-Value, and Fast Infoset works well!
- BUT: for large datasets, there can be nasty latencies.
  - **Not** fixed by compressing or using Fast Infoset



# Solution: Binary Formats

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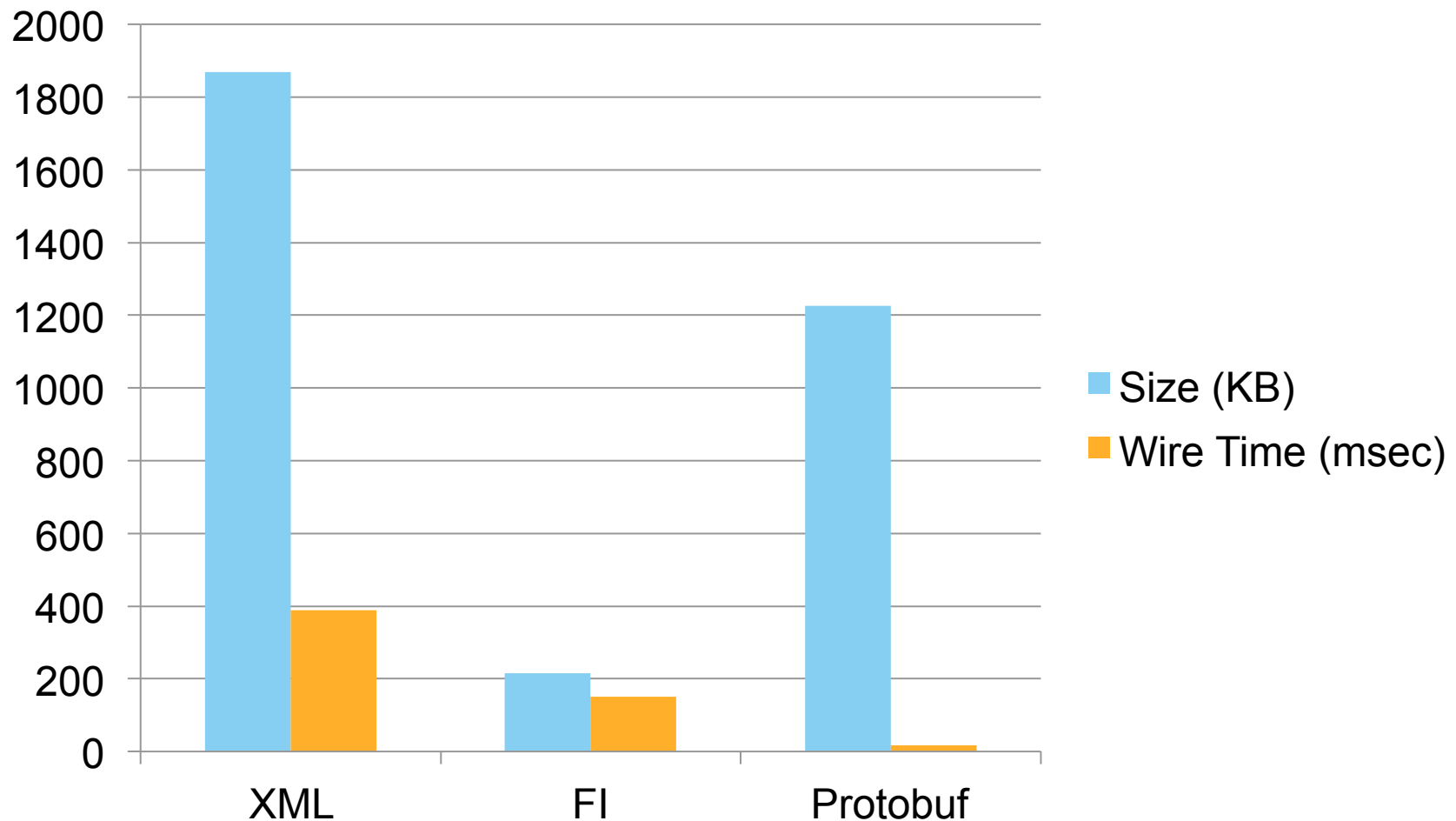
- What about using:
  - Binary formats: **Google Protocol Buffers, Avro, Thrift**, etc.?
- Numbers look promising (serialization, deserialization)
- New challenges with these:
  - Each has its own **schema** (type definition language) to model types and messages
  - Each has its own **code generation** for language bindings
    - NOT directly compatible with JAXB beans
  - Turmeric SOA platform uses **WSDL/XML Schema (XSD)** data modeling, and **JAXB** language bindings

# Compare Popular non-XML Formats **DRAFT**

Protobuf			Avro			Thrift	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Own IDL/schema</li><li>• <b>Sequence numbers</b> for each element</li><li>• Compact <b>binary representation</b> on the wire</li><li>• Most XML schema elements are <b>mappable</b> to equivalents, except polymorphic constructs</li><li>• Versioning is similar to XML, a bit more complex in implementing due to sequence numbers</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>JSON based</b> Schema</li><li>• Schema prepended to the message on the wire</li><li>• Compact <b>binary representation</b> on the wire</li><li>• Most XML schema elements are <b>mappable</b> to equivalent, except polymorphic constructs</li><li>• Versioning is easier</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Own IDL/schema</li><li>• <b>Sequence numbers</b> for each element</li><li>• Compact <b>binary representation</b> on the wire</li><li>• Most XML schema elements are <b>mappable</b> to equivalents, except polymorphic constructs</li><li>• Versioning is similar to XML, a bit more complex in implementing due to sequence numbers</li></ul>	
	Complex Types	Unions (Choice Type)	Self-References (Trees)	Enums	Inheritance / Polymorphism	Inline Attachment	
Protobuf	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Avro	Yes	Yes	Yes (with workaround)	Yes	No	No	
Thrift	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
XML	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (MIME-TYPE)	

# Early In-JVM Test, 80 percentile **DRAFT**

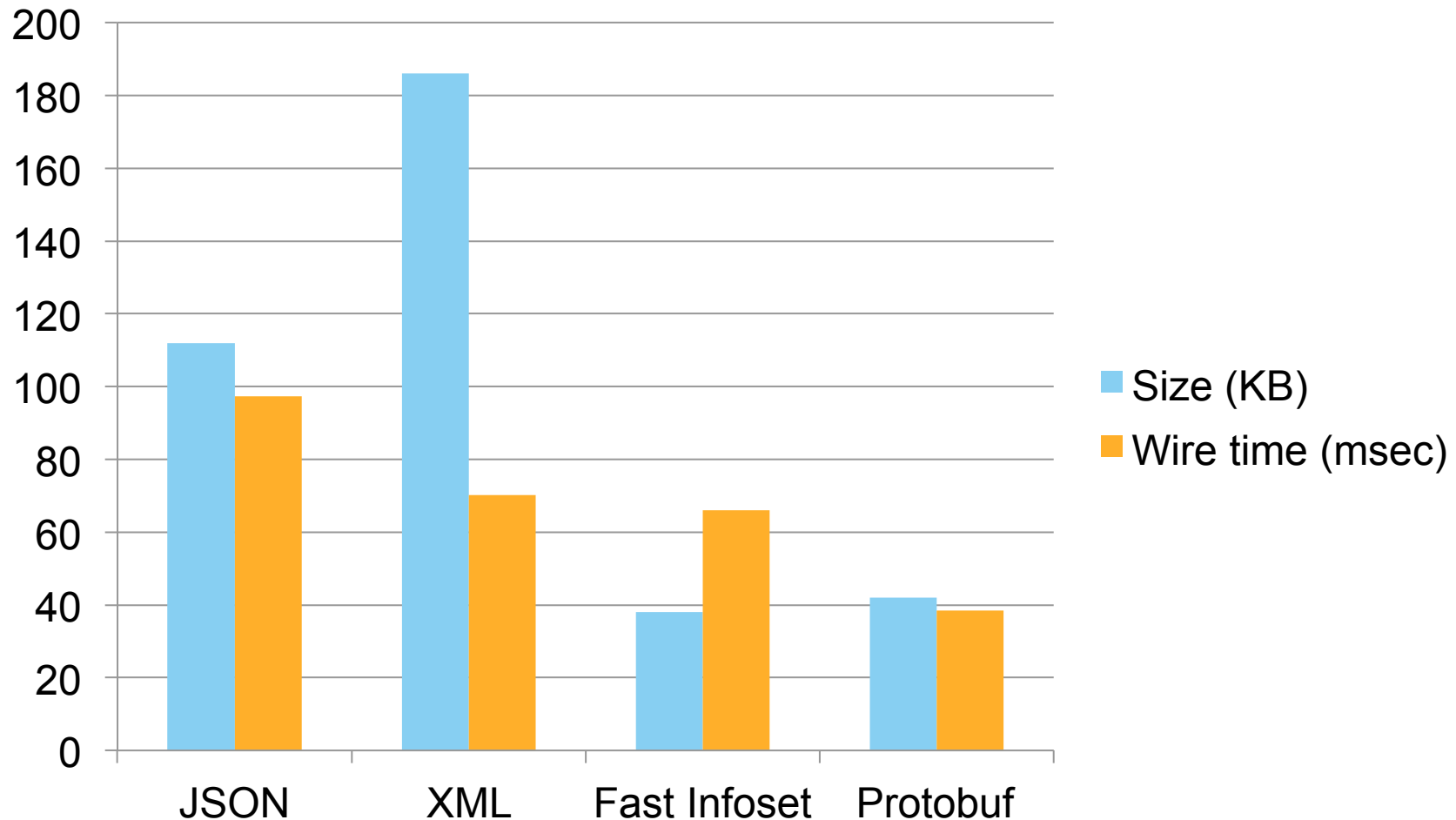
Response data: 500 items x 75 fields



# QA network test, 90% timings

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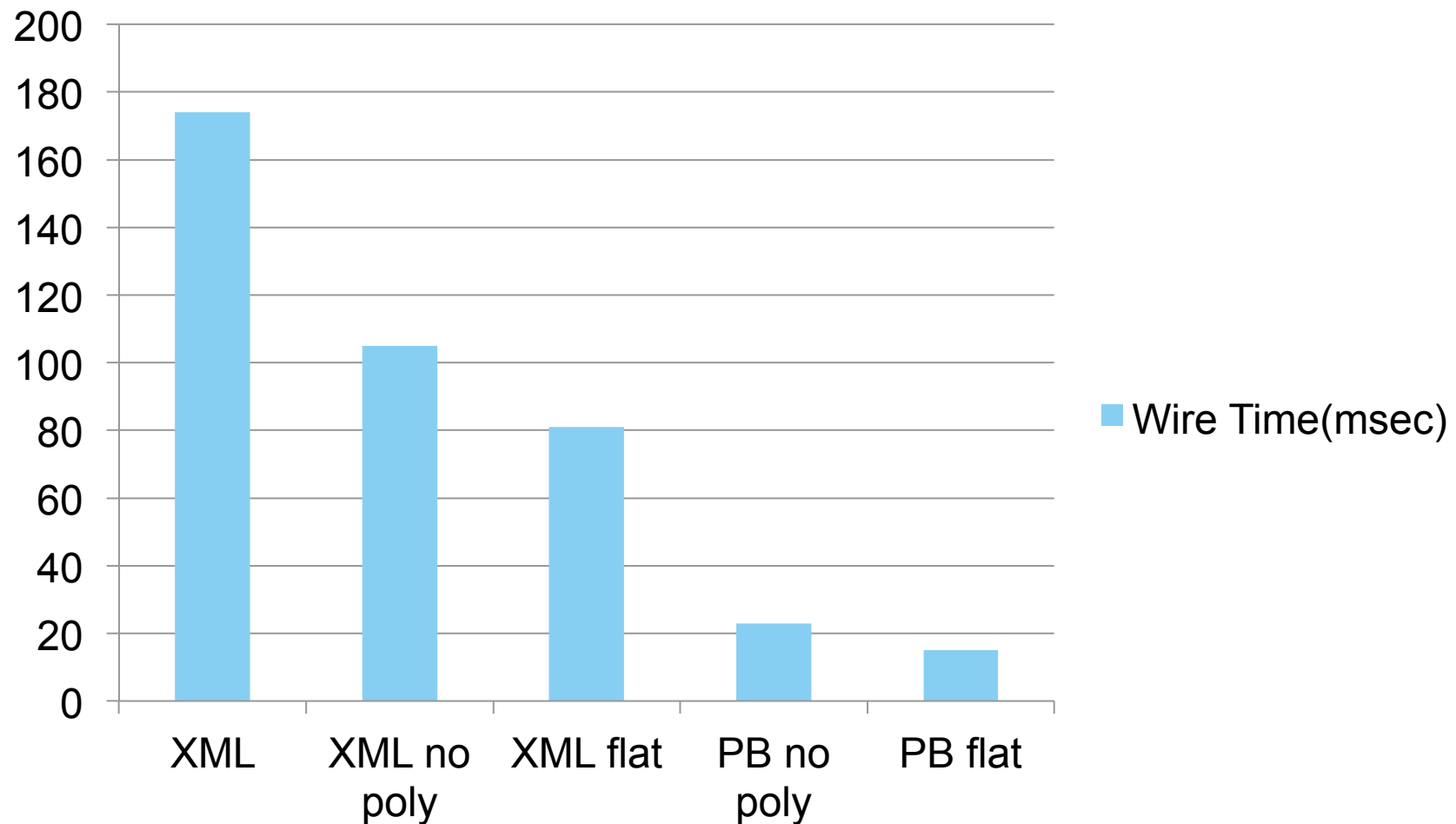
Response data: 50 items x 75 fields (about 8000 objects)





# Production tests – progressive improvements

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# Challenge 3: Service Consumer Productivity DRAFT

- Large, complex requests and responses
- Get exactly what they want in data returned from services
- Lack of consistency in service interface conventions and data access patterns
- Real client applications make calls to multiple services at a time
  - Serial calls increase latency. Managing parallel calls is complex
- Impedance mismatch between service interface and client needs
  - Too much data is returned
  - 1 + n calls to get detailed data

# Sneak Preview: ql.io

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- New technology from eBay
- Plan to open source soon
- SQL + JSON based scripting language for aggregation and orchestration of service calls
- Filtering and projections of responses
- Async orchestration engine
  - Automatic parallelization, fork / join

# What ql.io Enables

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- **Create consumer-controlled interfaces**
  - fix/patch APIs on the fly
- **Filter and project responses**
  - use a declarative language
- **Bring in consistency**
  - offer RESTful shims with simpler syntax
- **Aggregate multiple APIs**
  - such as batching
- **Orchestrate requests**
  - without worrying about async forks and joins

# ql.io Demo

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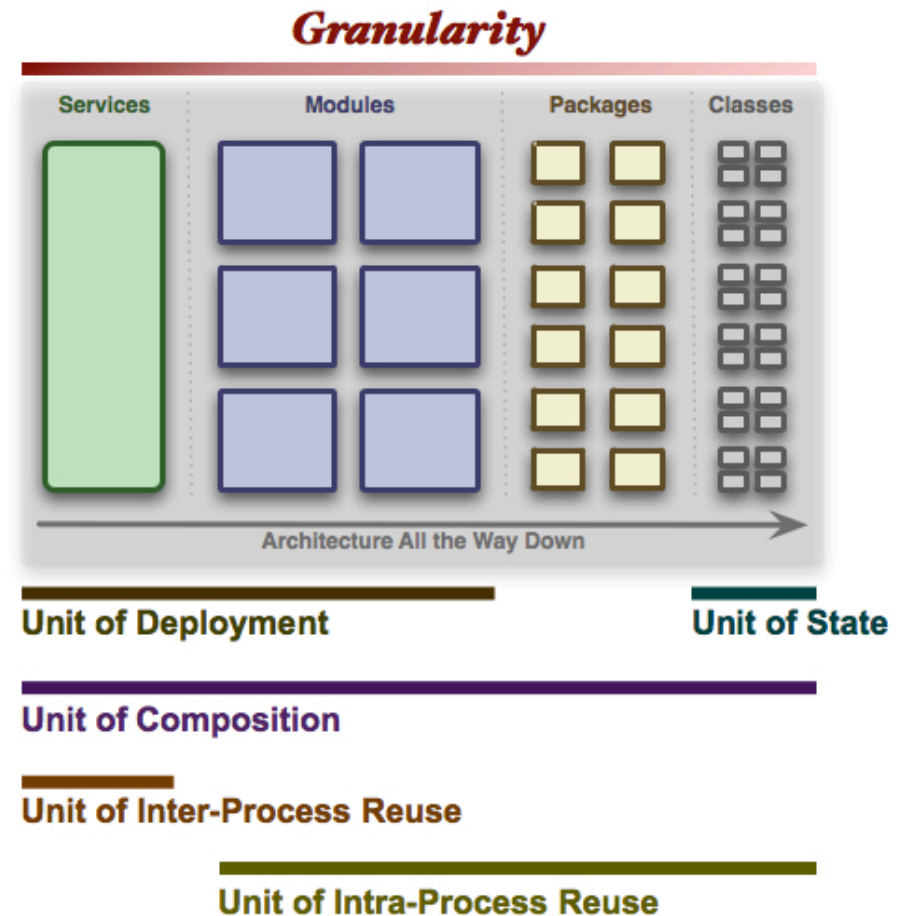


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# Modularity

# Key modularity concepts for software

- Building blocks
- Re-use
- Granularity
- Dependencies
- Encapsulation
- Composition
- Versioning



Source: <http://techdistrict.kirkk.com/2010/04/22/granularity-architectures-nemesis/>  
Author: Kirk Knoernschild

# Challenges for Large Enterprises **DRAFT**



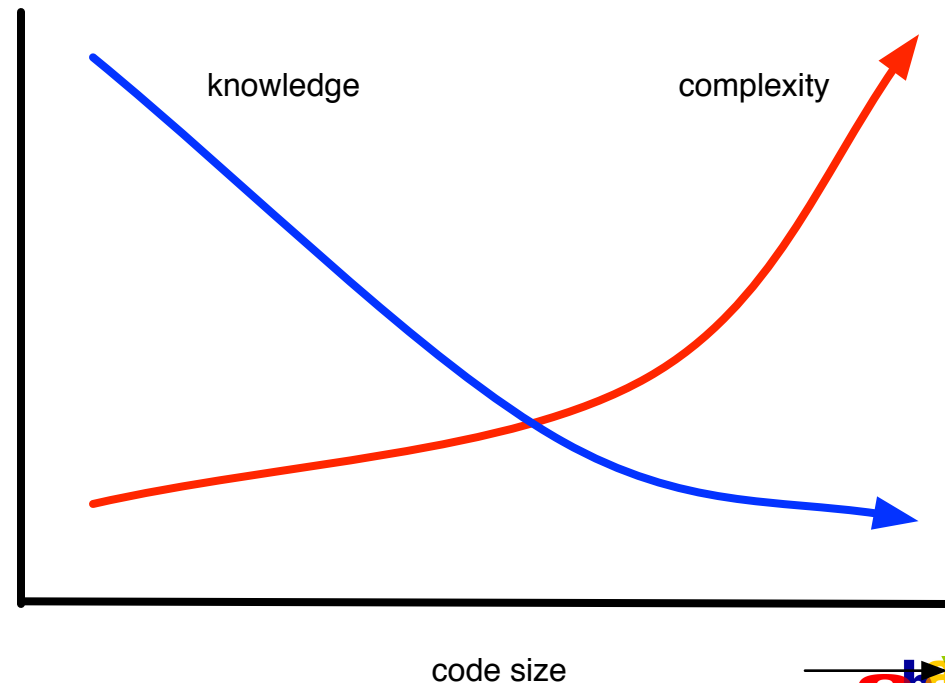
- Some stats on the eBay code base
  - ~ 44 million of lines of code and growing
  - Hundreds of thousands of classes
  - Tens of thousands of packages
  - ~ 4,000+ jars
- We have too many dependencies and tight coupling in our code
  - Everyone sees everyone else
  - Everyone affects everyone else



# Challenges for Large Enterprises

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- Developer productivity/agility suffers as the knowledge goes down
  - Changes ripple throughout the system
  - Fallouts from changes/features are difficult to resolve
  - Developers slow down and become risk averse



# Our Goals with Modularity Efforts **DRAFT**



- Tame complexity
- Organize our code base in loose coupling fashion
  - Coarse-grained modules: number matters!
  - Declarative coupling contract
  - Ability to hide internals
- Establish clear code ownership, boundaries and dependencies
- Allow different components (and teams) evolve at different speeds
- Increase development agility

# Considerations on Modularity Solutions **DRAFT**

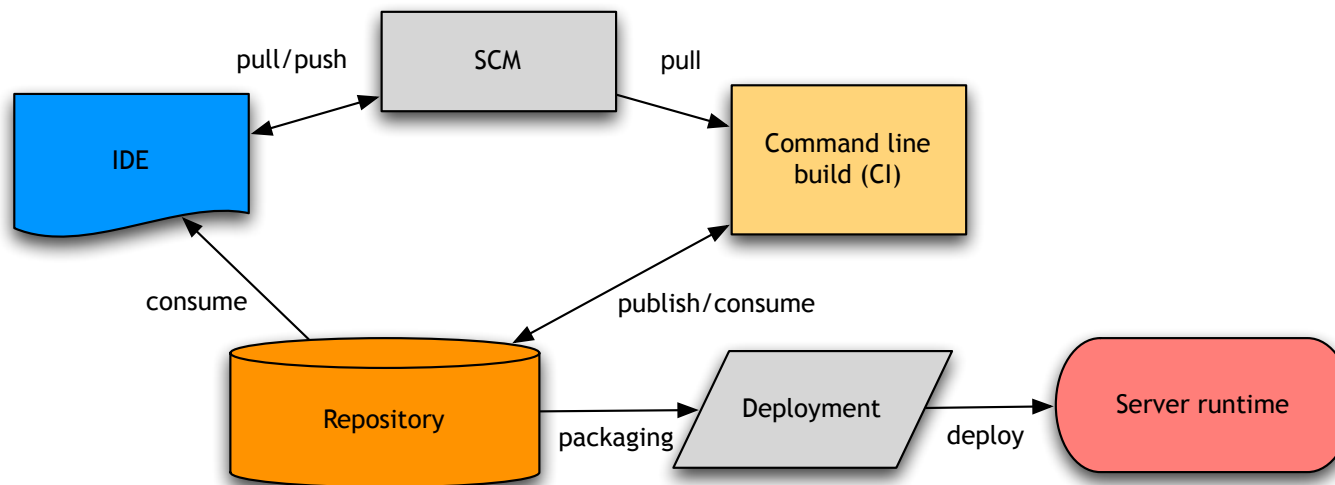


- Scalability: enterprise software tends to be large scale
- We need to consider a large group of developers with varying skill levels
- End-to-end development lifecycle is crucial
- Conversion/migration of existing code base is crucial
  - We rarely start from vacuum
  - We want to move over and modularize bulk of existing code
  - It is imperative that we chart a realistic migration course that can be achieved within a reasonable amount of time
  - We cannot afford disruption to business meanwhile: “change parts while the car is running”

# End-to-End Development

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- IDE, command line build, repository, server runtime, etc.
  - Complete and mature tooling
  - Integration and fidelity of tools across phases



# Modularity Solution Evaluation **DRAFT**



- Evaluated OSGi, Maven, Jigsaw and JBoss Module
- Criteria include:
  - Modularity enforcement
  - End-to-end development
  - Migration concerns
  - Adoption
  - Maturity
- Selected OSGi

## META-INF/MANIFEST.MF:

```
Bundle-ManifestVersion: 2
Bundle-SymbolicName: org.foo.bar
Bundle-Version: 1.2.1
Import-Package: org.foo.other;version="[1.1,2.0)",
    javax.xml.parsers
Export-Package: org.foo.bar;version="1.2.3",
    org.foo.bar.sub;uses="org.foo.bar";version="1.2.1"
```

# OSGi Pros

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- Enforces modularity strongly: it will let you know if you violate it
- Mature and comprehensive: covers pretty much all use cases regarding modularity
- Open standard
- Services: the ultimate decoupling force
- Can run two versions of the same class easily

# OSGi Cons

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- Can run two versions of the same class easily, and run into trouble
- Some problems are nasty to troubleshoot (uses conflict anyone?)
- Still not many well-integrated tools across all phases: impedance mismatches
- Compared to strong runtime model, build side story is weak
- Migration can be quite painful
- Learning curve is still fairly steep



# eBay Open Source Initiative



- eBay has been a strong supporter of Open Source model and community
- Check out <http://eBayOpenSource.org>
  - Mission is to open source some of the best of breed technologies that were developed originally within eBay Inc.
  - For the benefit of the community
  - Under a liberal open source license.
  - These projects are generic technology projects and several years of development effort has gone into them to mature them.
  - Most parts of our services platform, code named Turmeric, is open sourced on this site.



# Summary

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- Systems quality & architecture as key foundation
- Complexity management becomes important over time
- Strike balance between agility and stability

ebay

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