

Chaos Engineering to Continuous Verification

@CaseyRosenthal



VERICA

CONTINUOUS VERIFICATION

@CaseyRosenthal



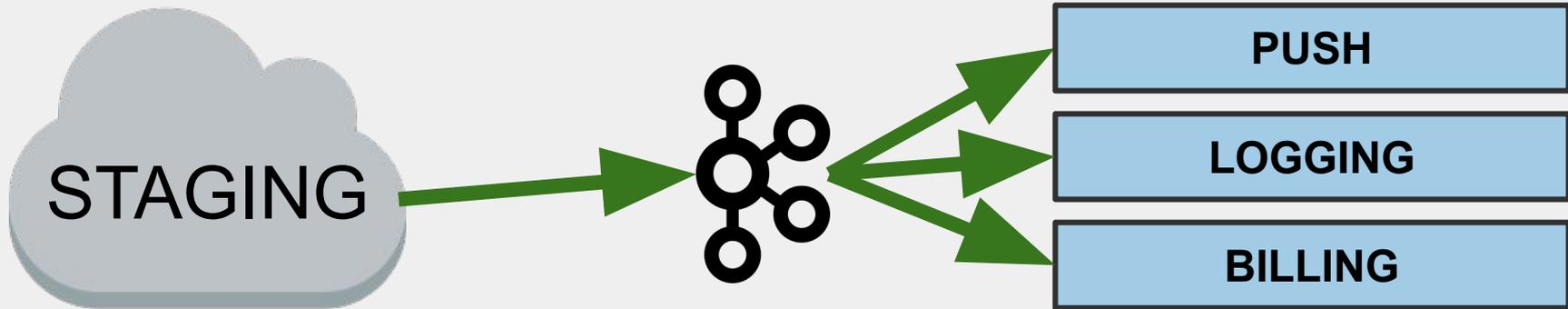


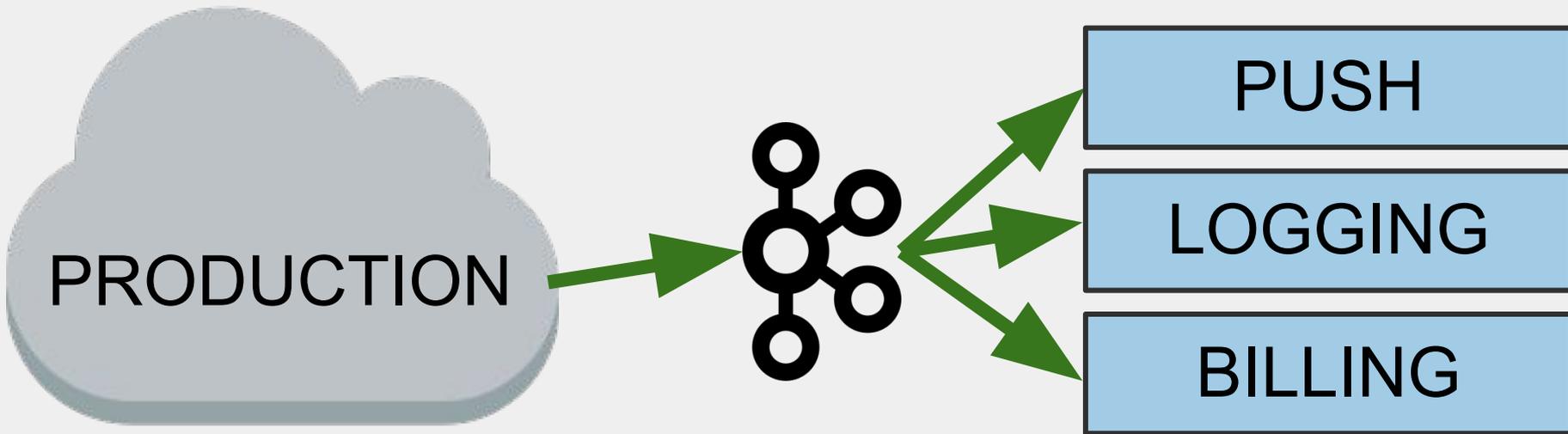
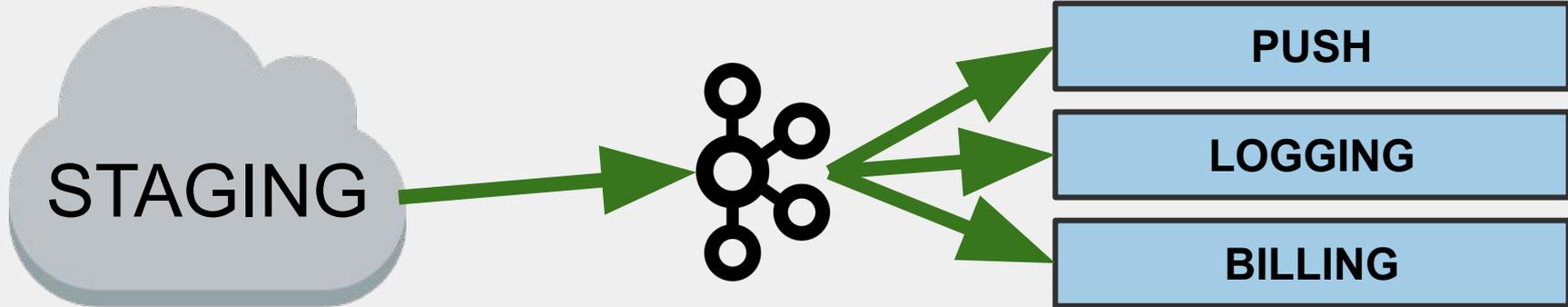


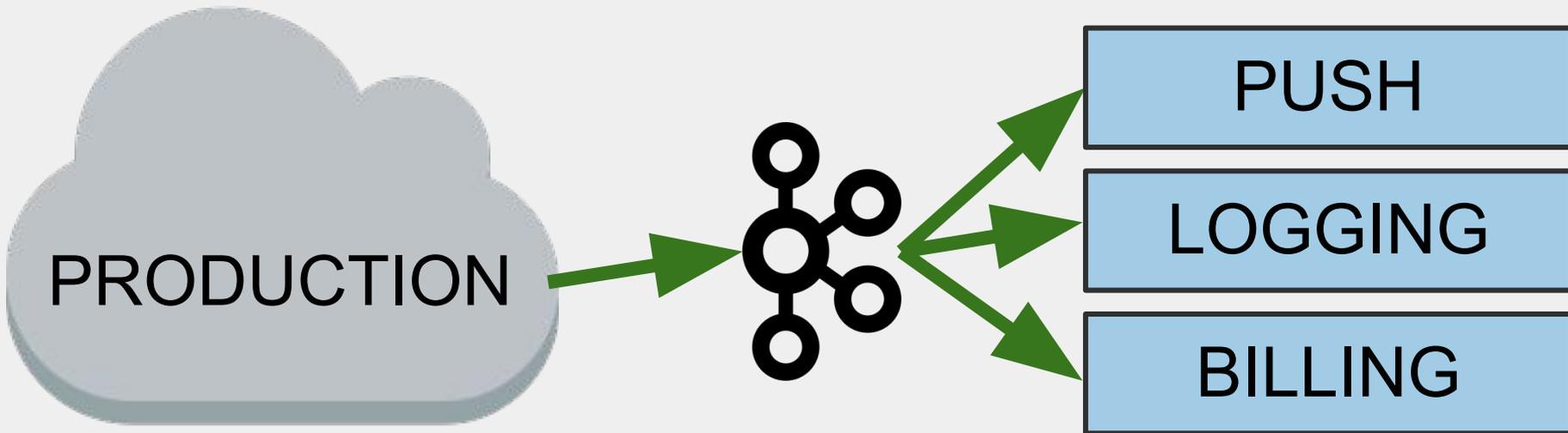
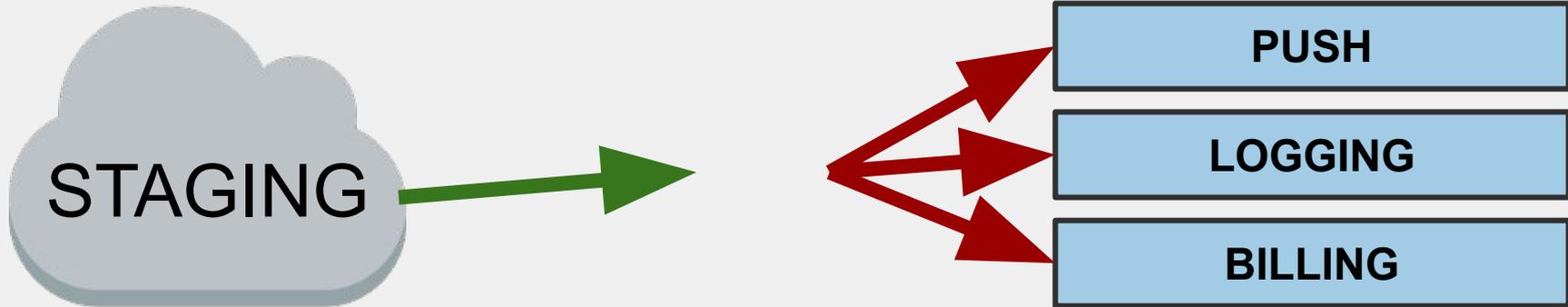


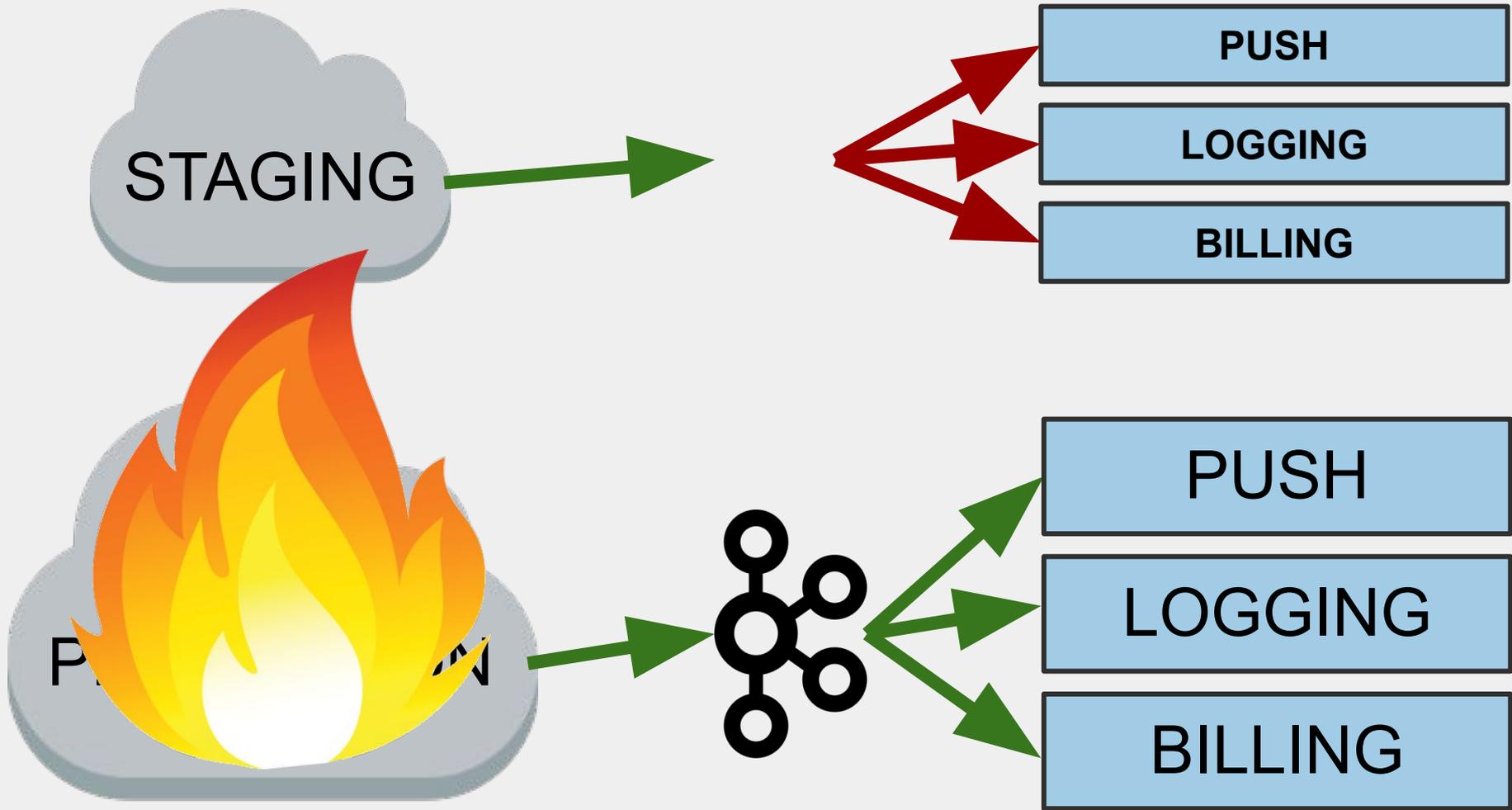
*What could go wrong in a
complex system?*

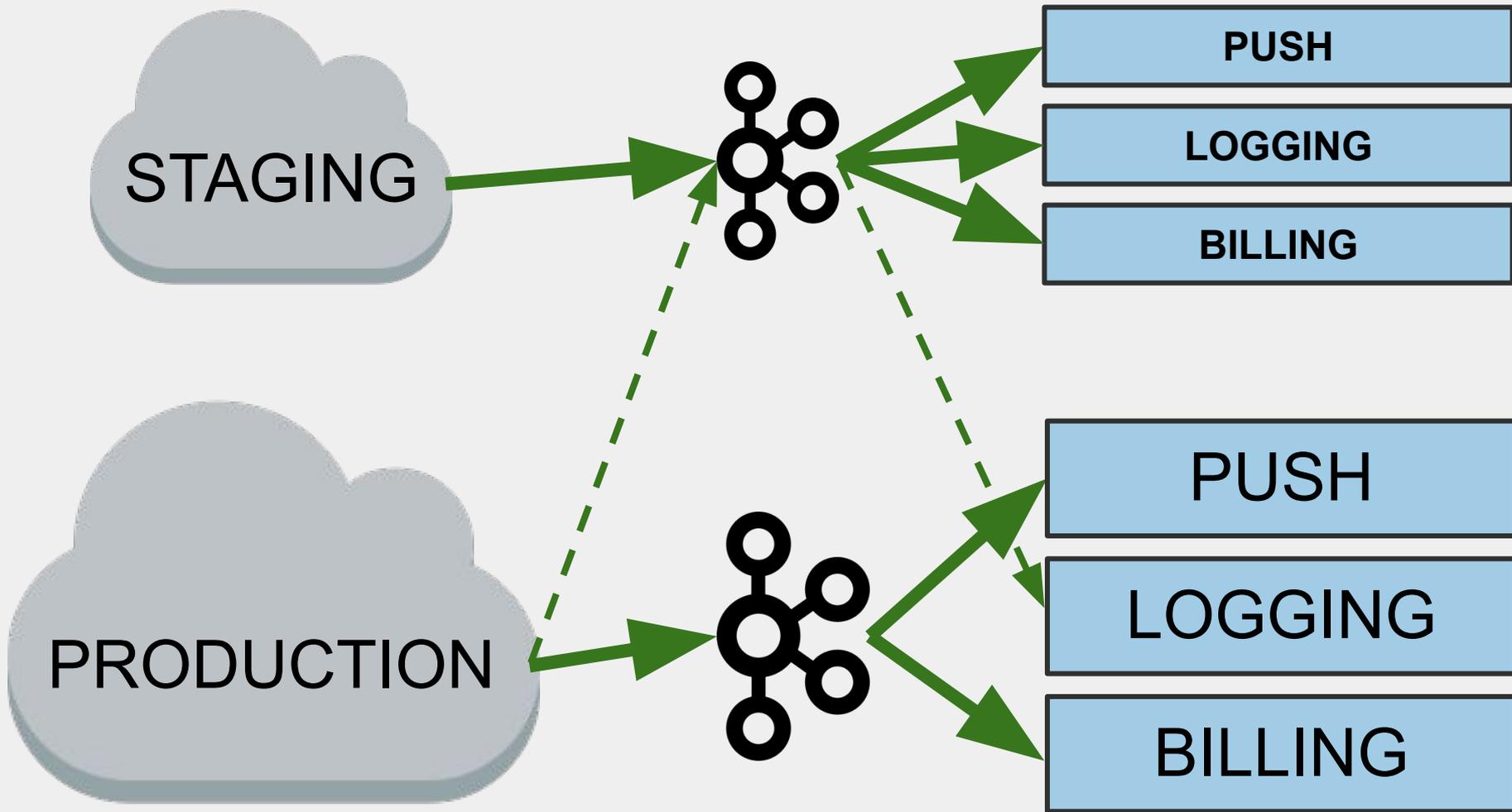
@CaseyRosenthal



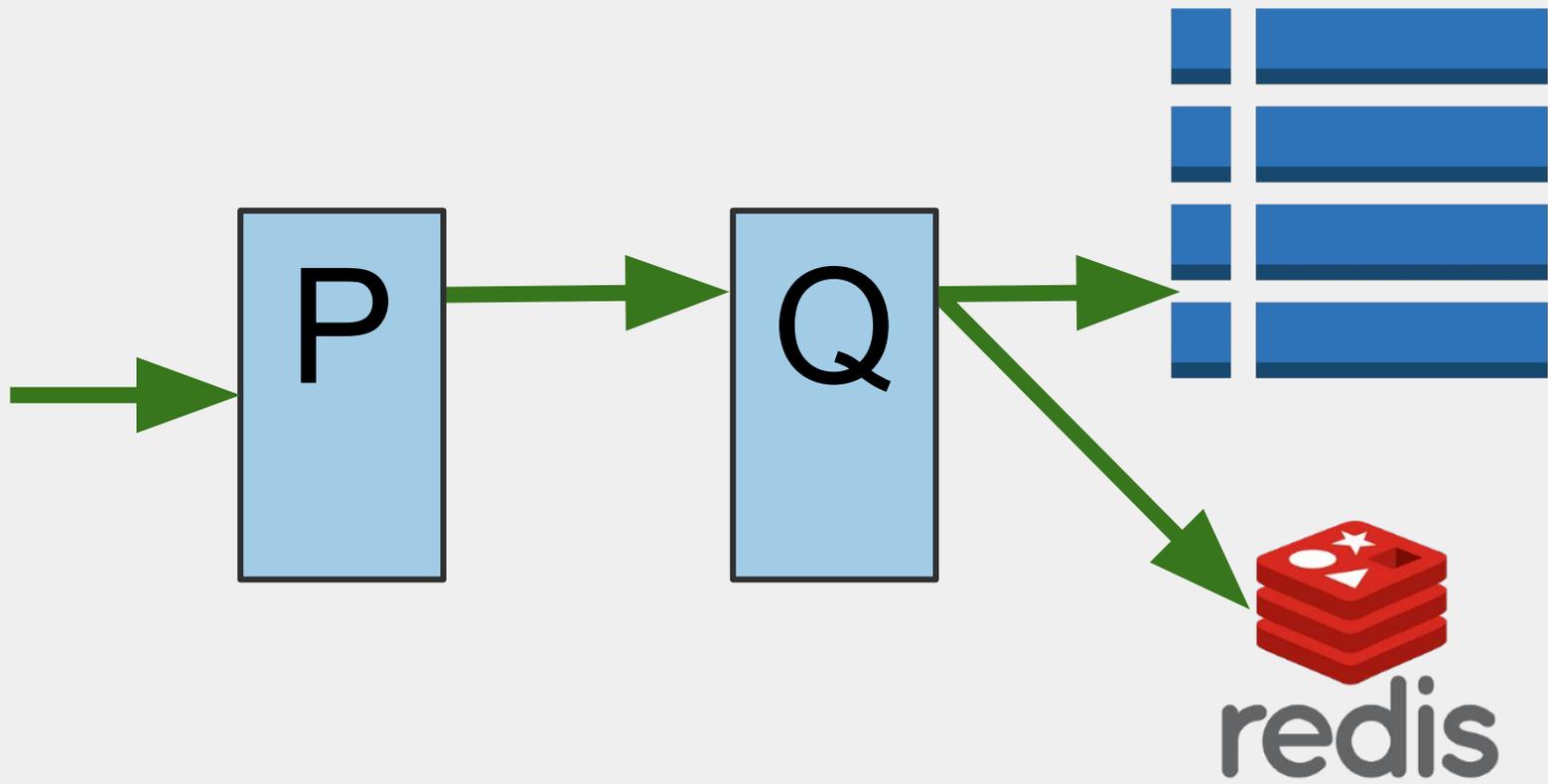


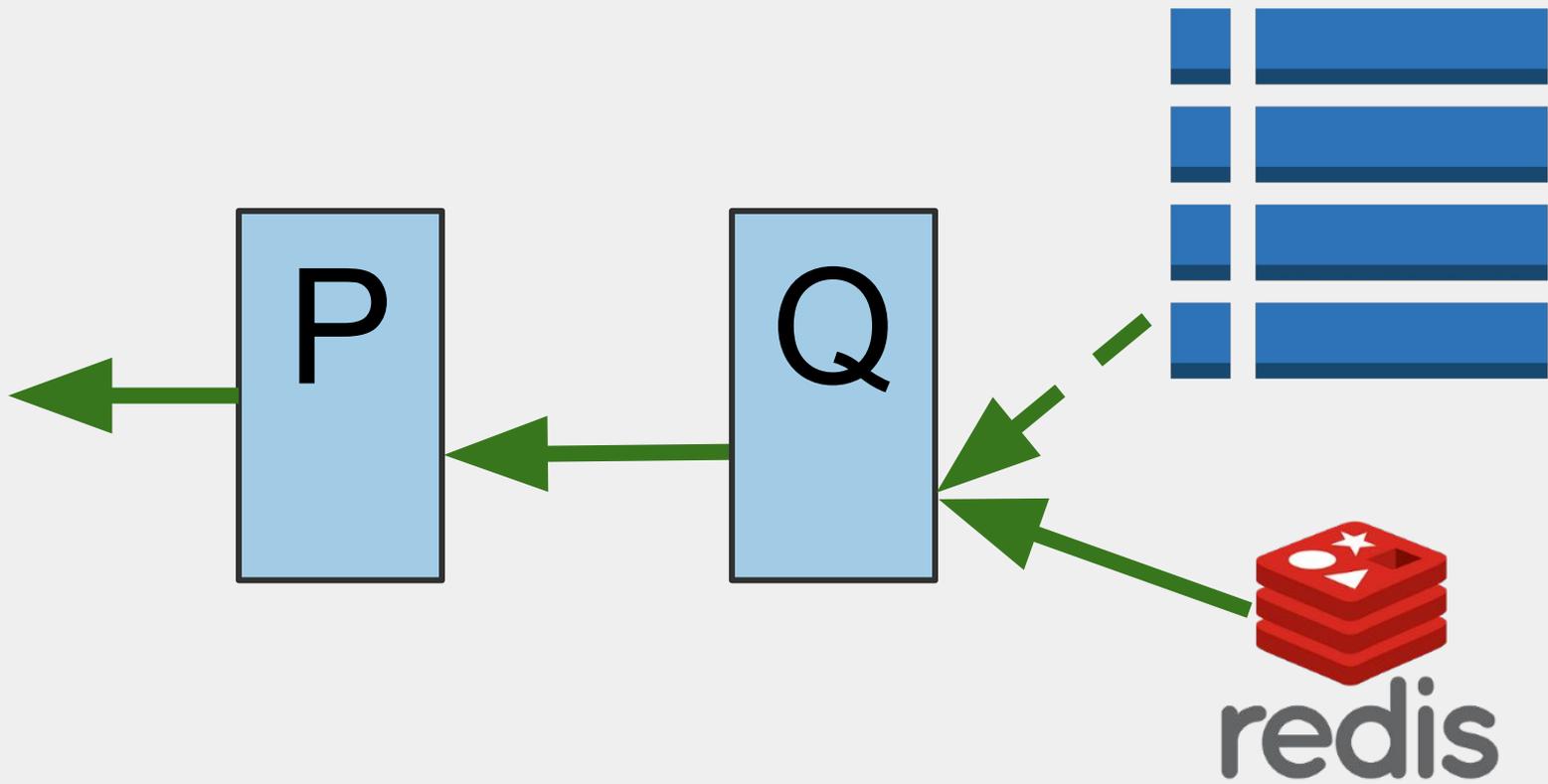


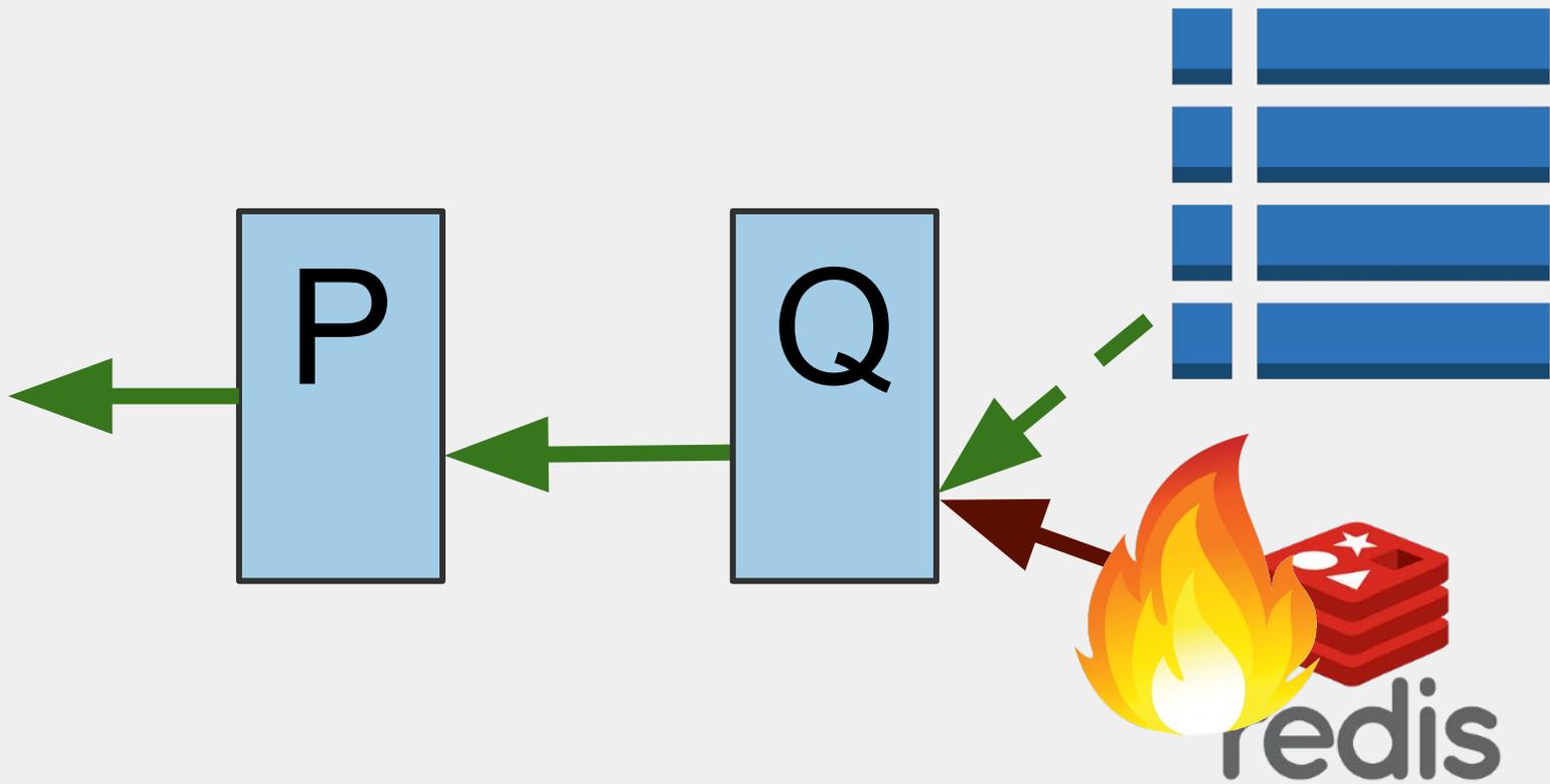


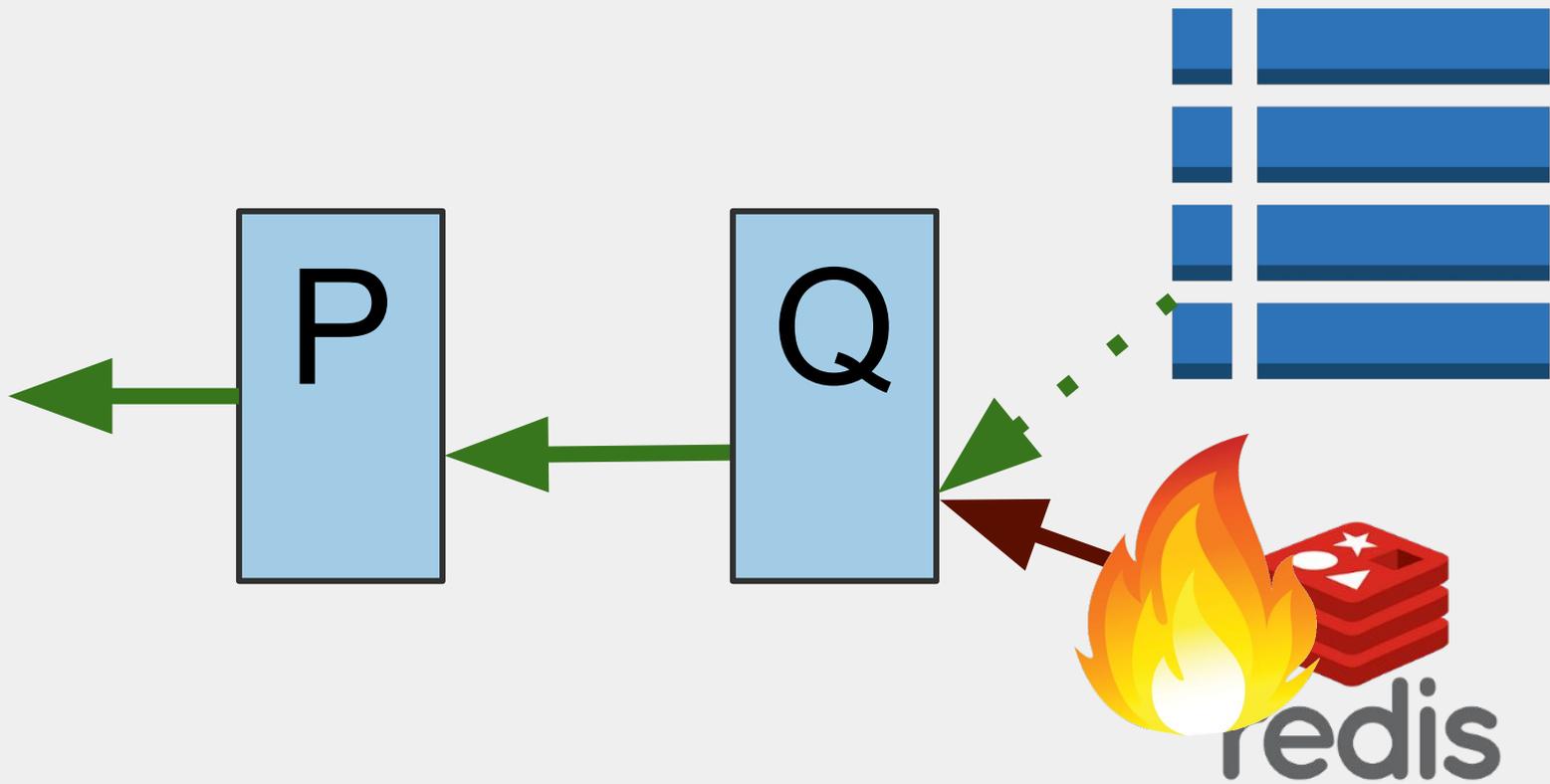


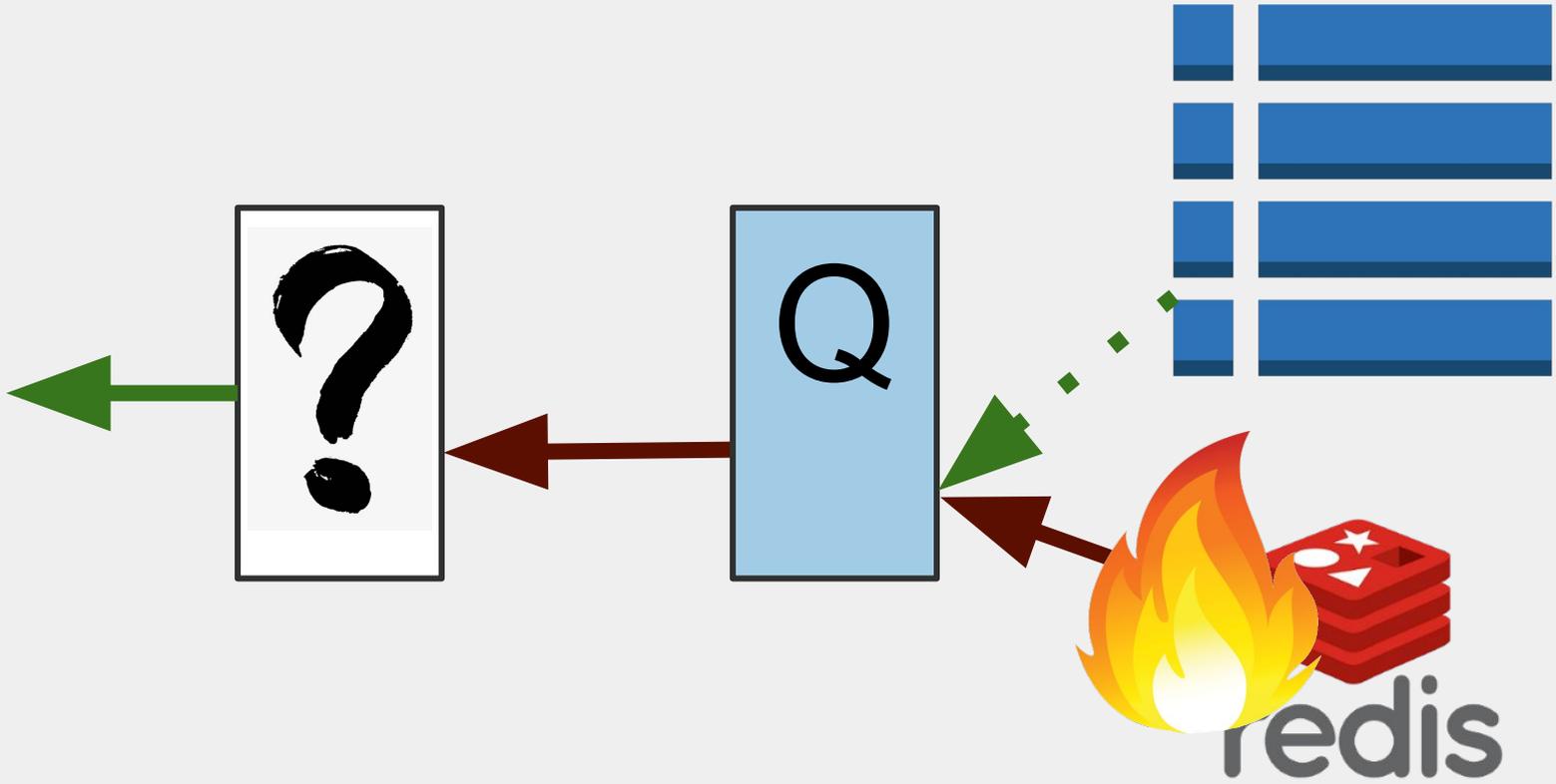
@CaseyRosenthal

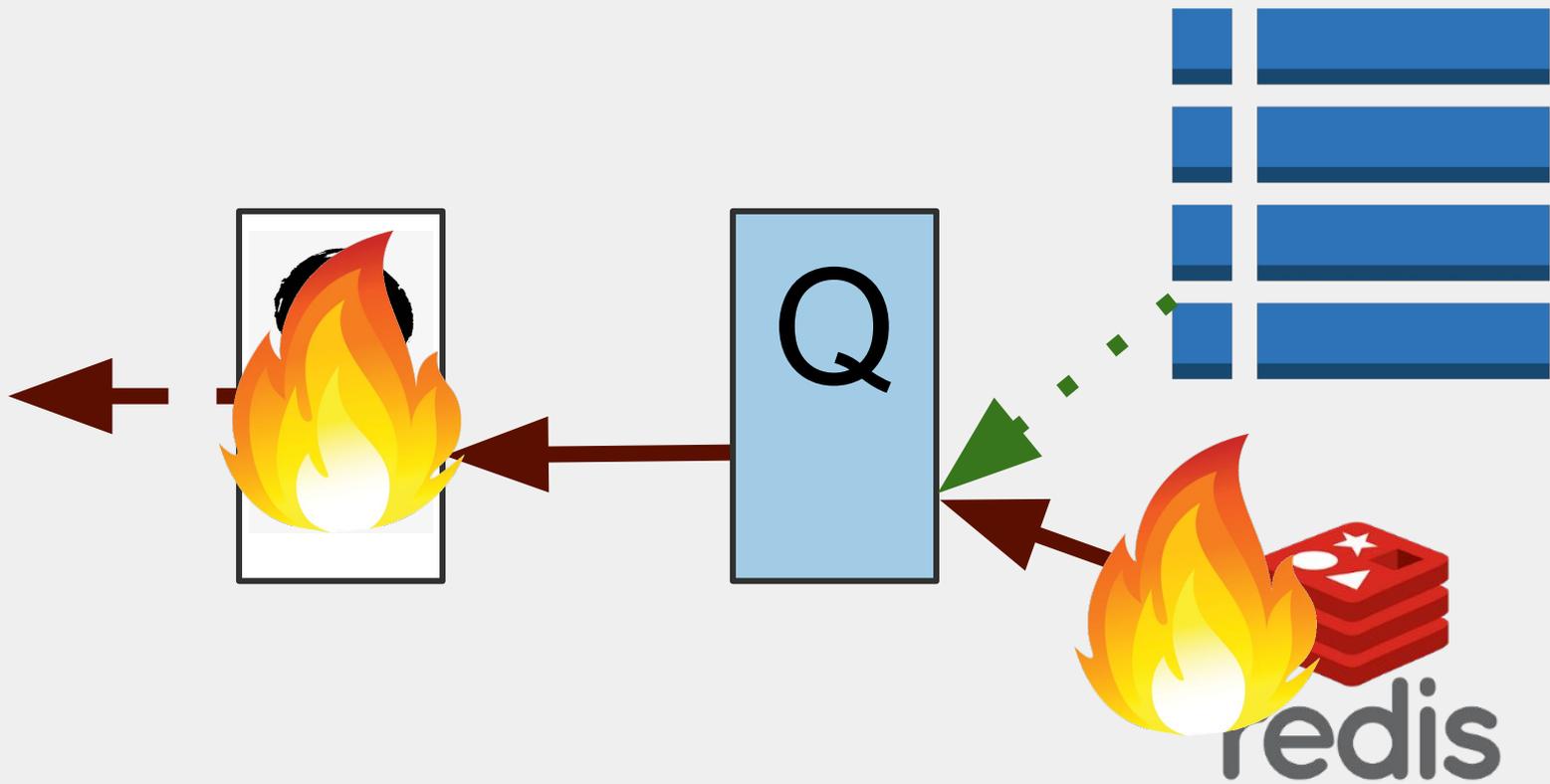




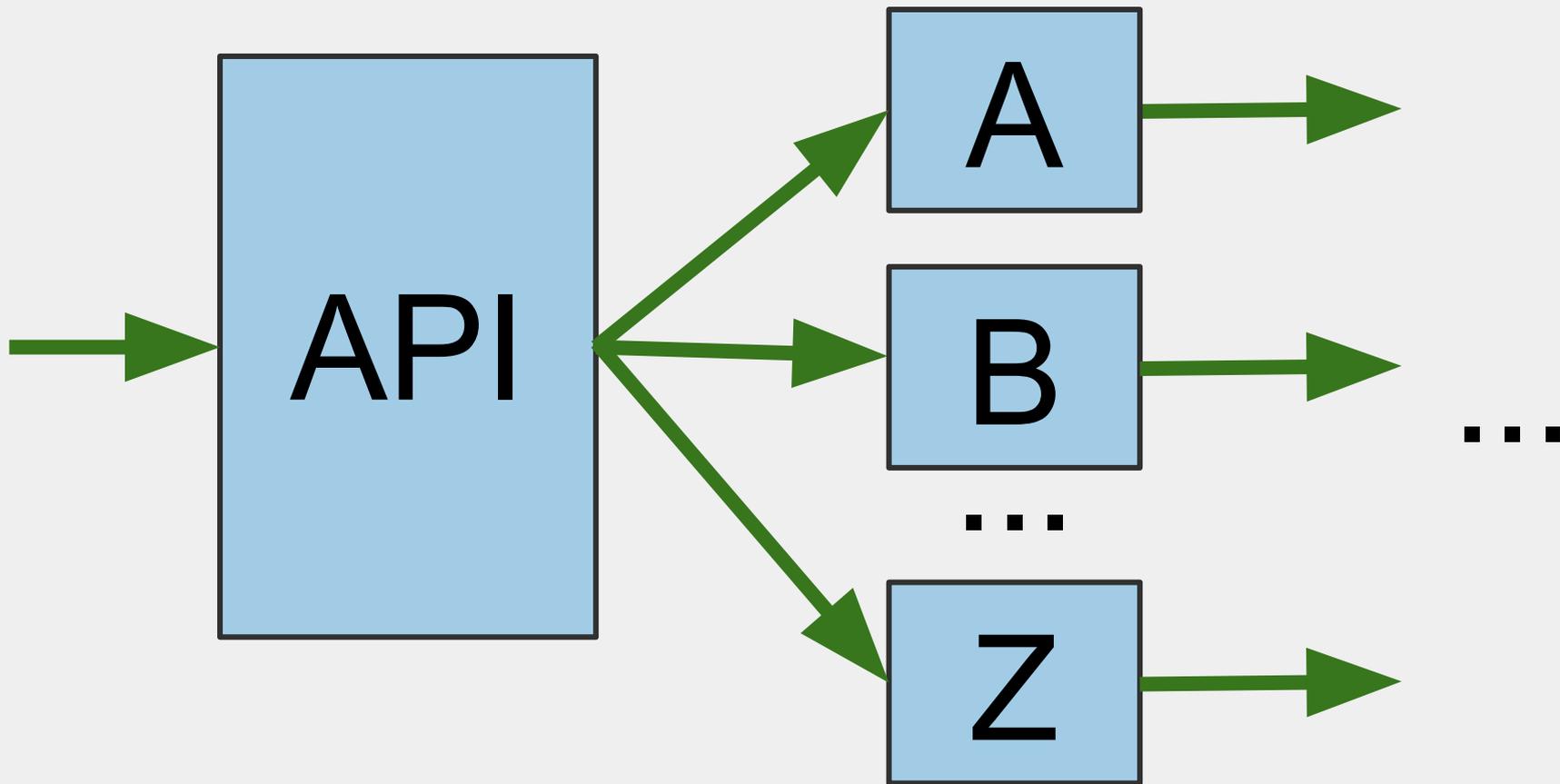




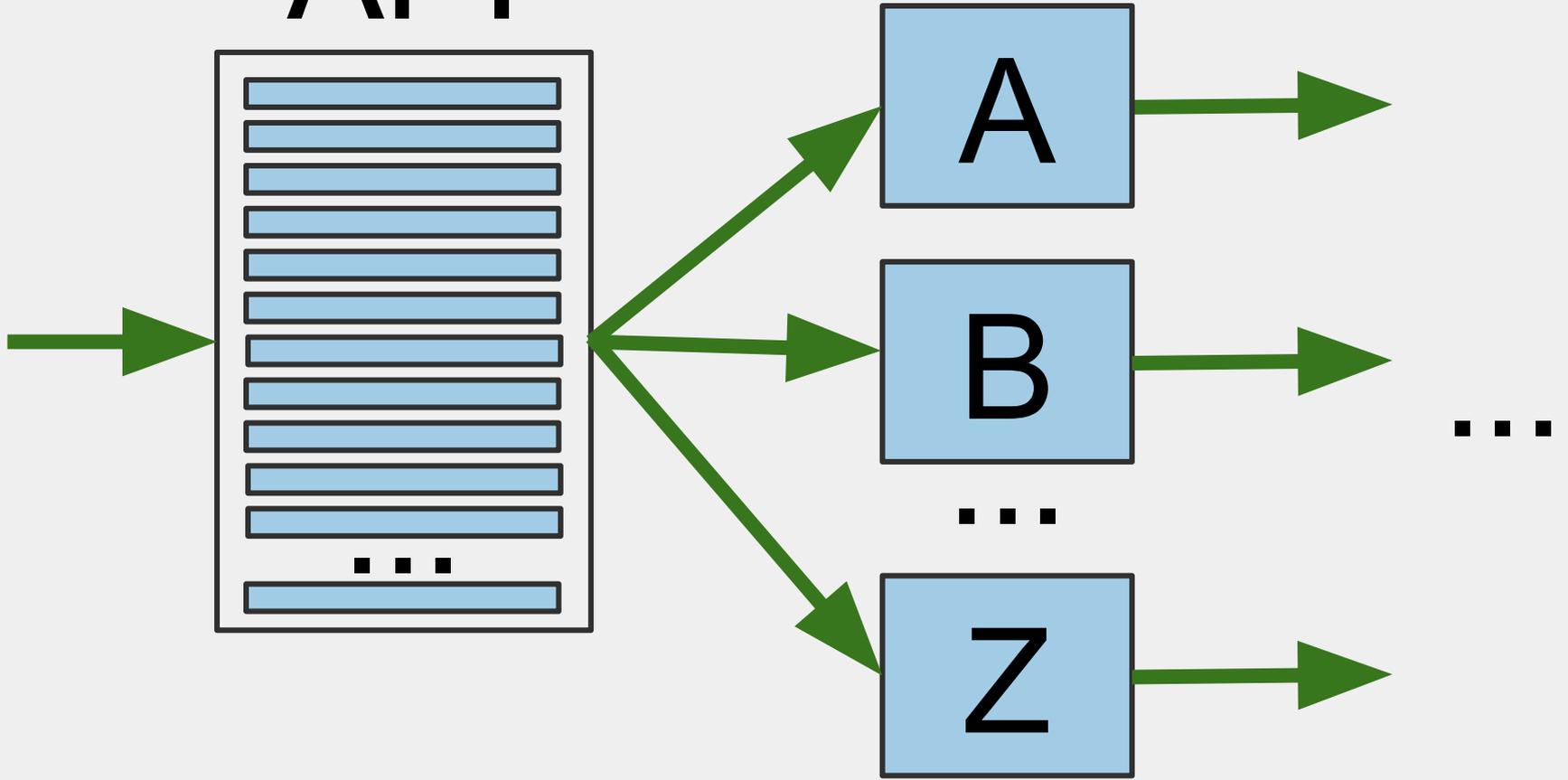




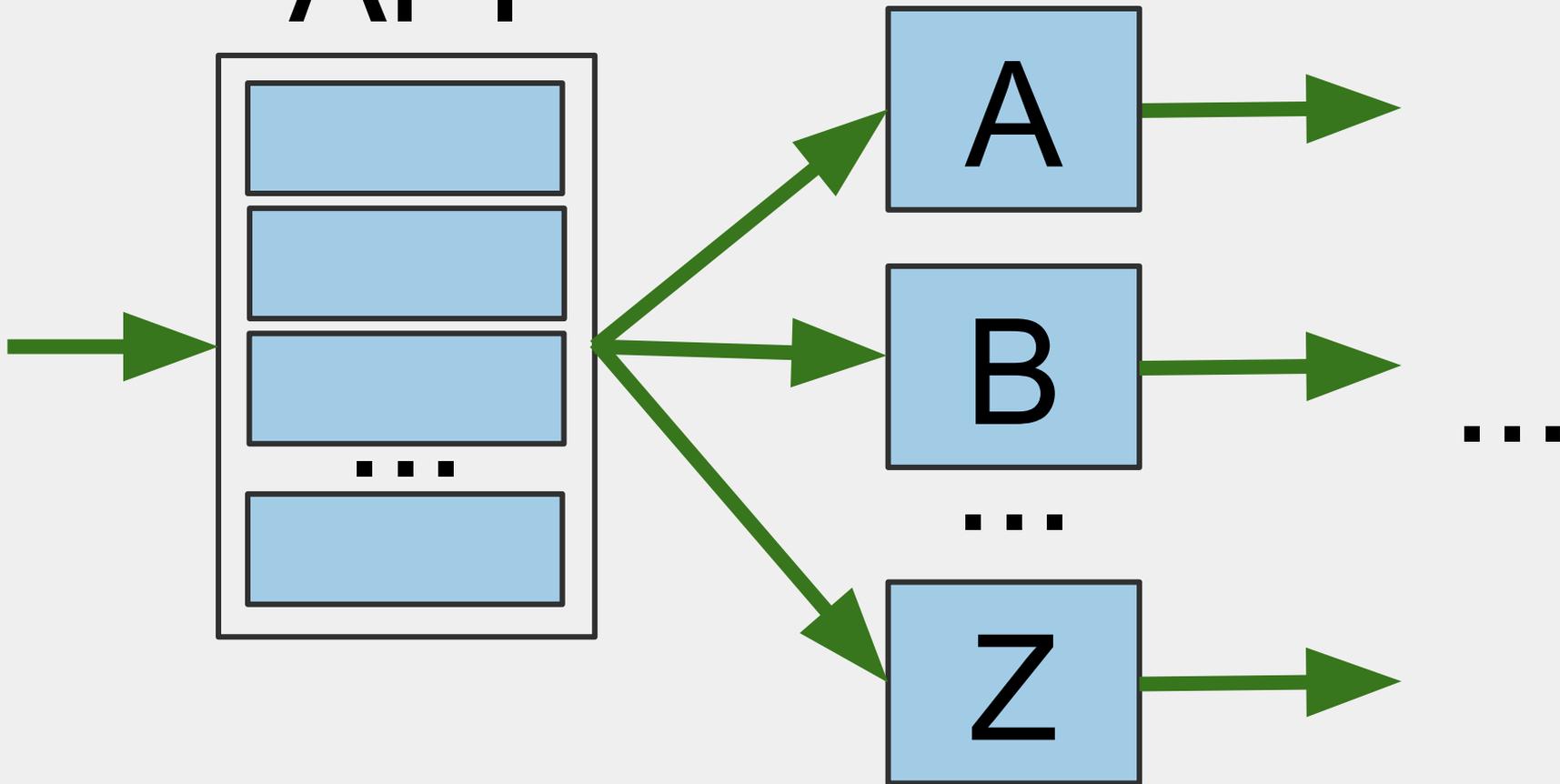
@CaseyRosenthal



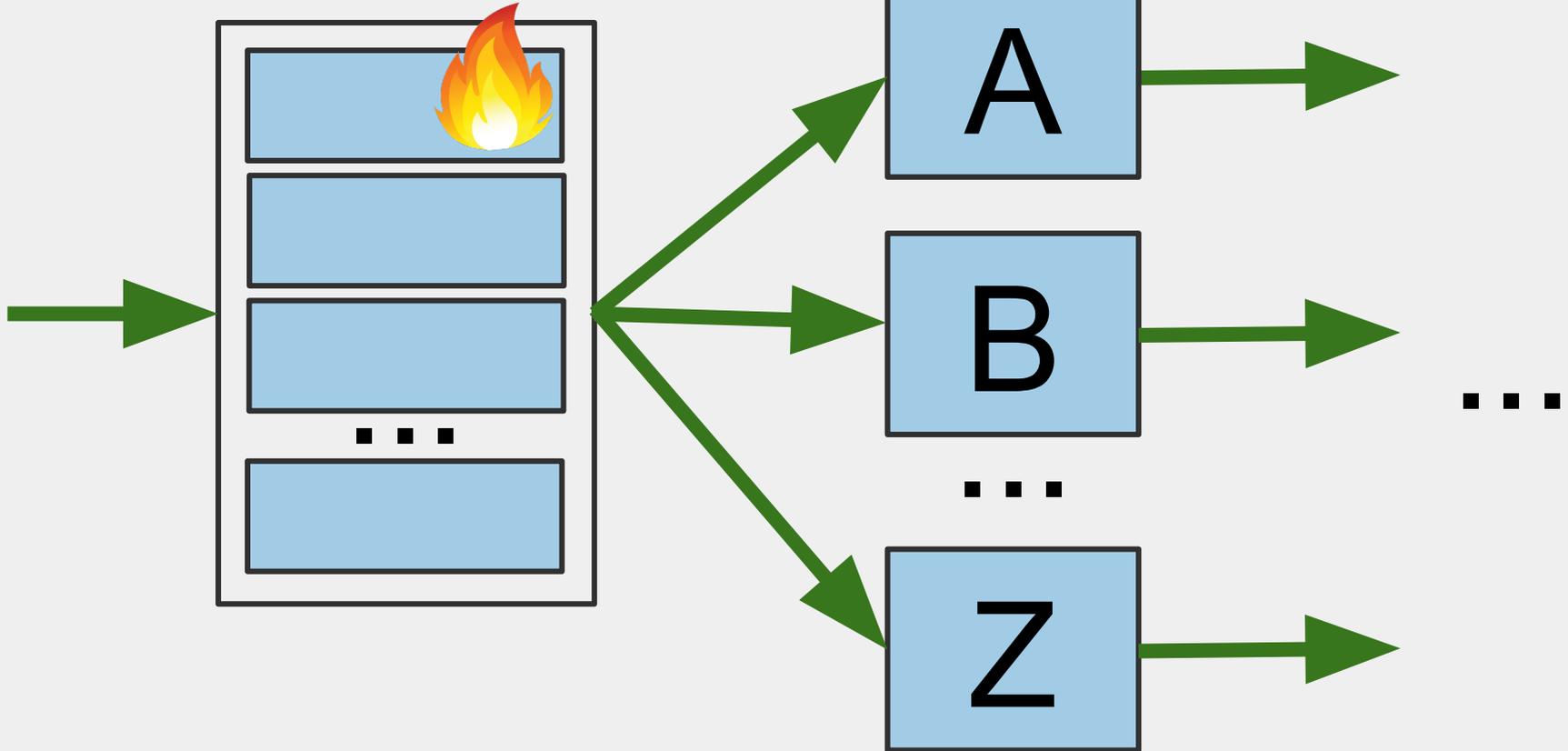
API



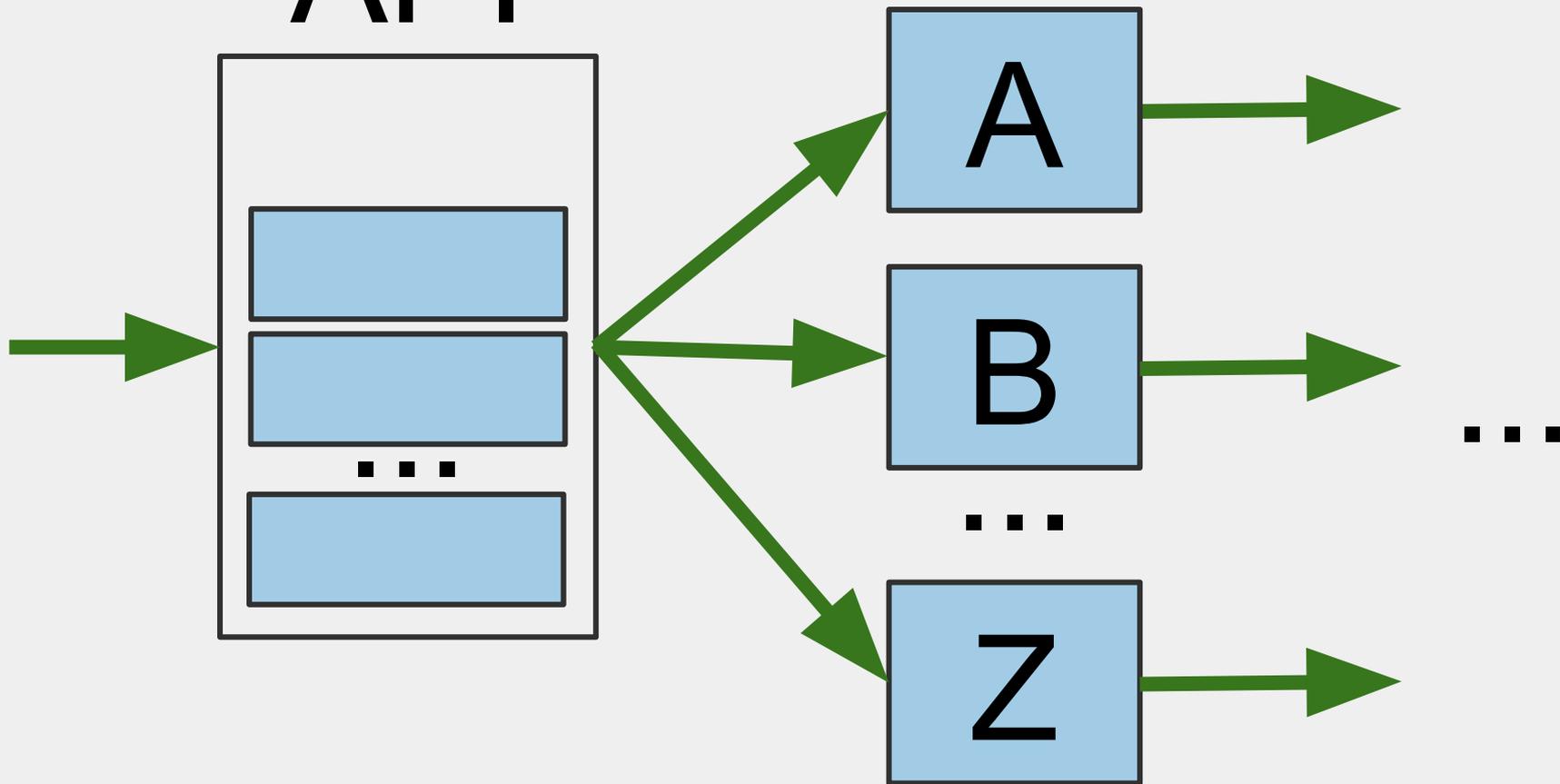
API



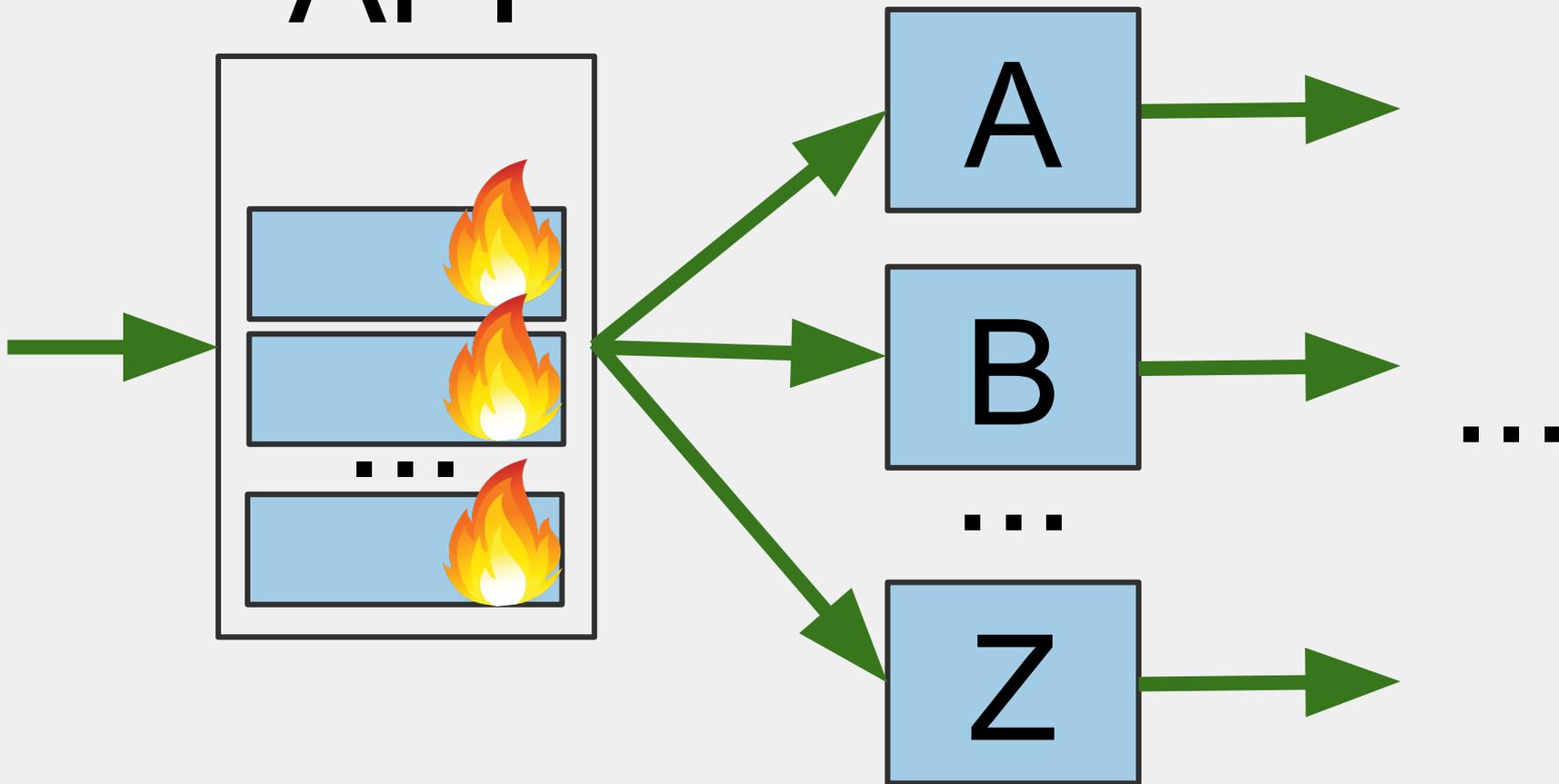
API



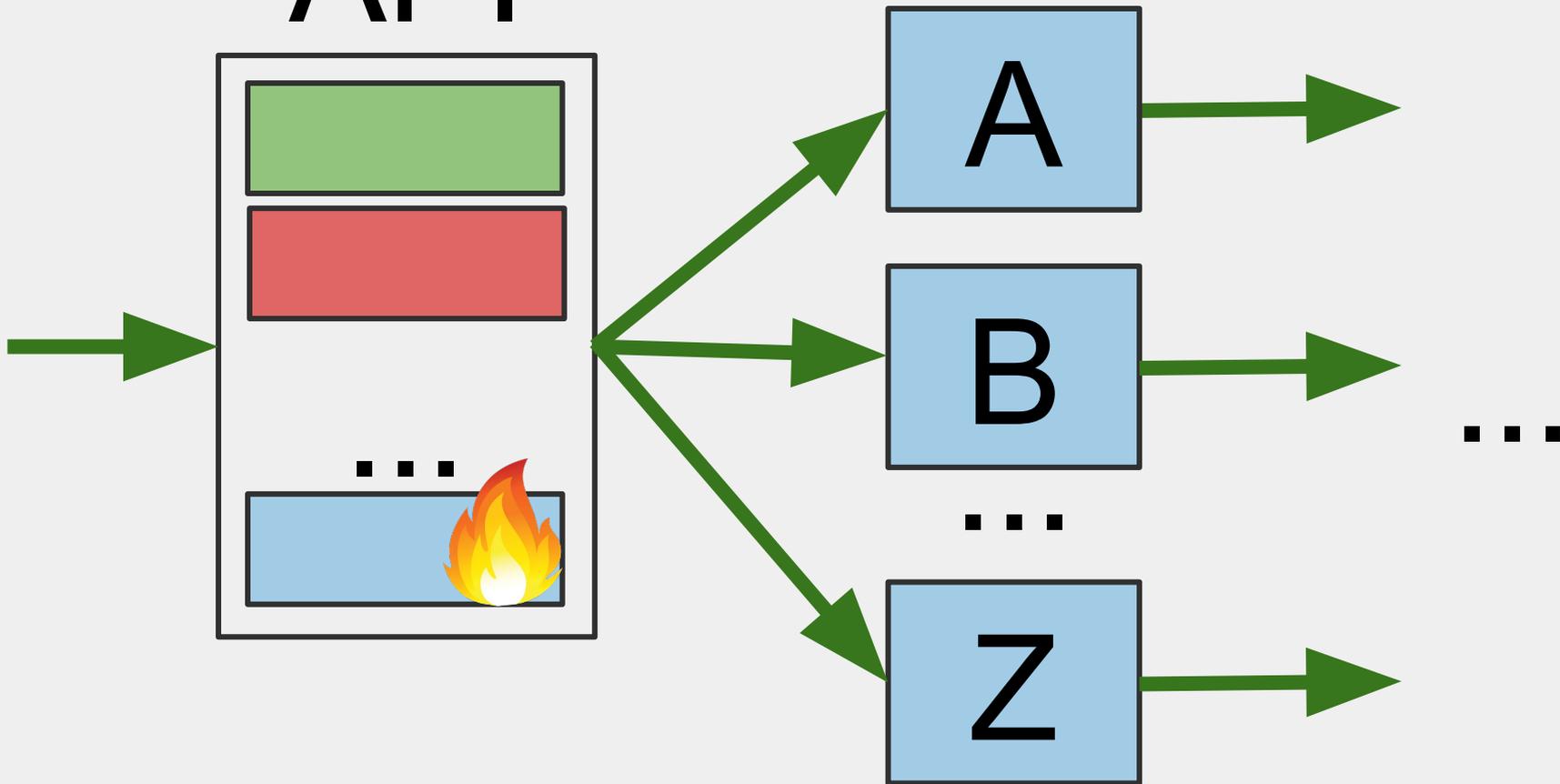
API



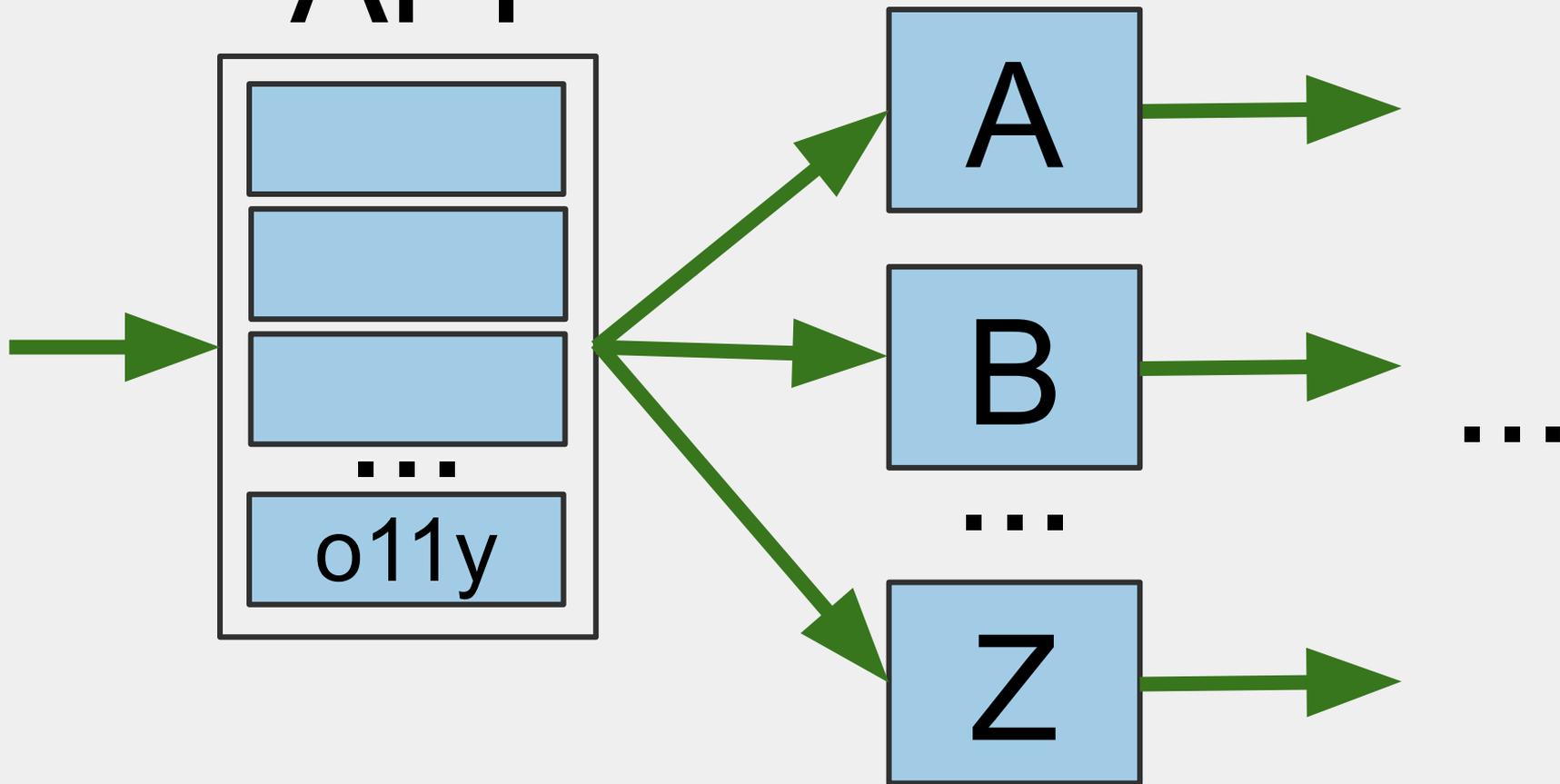
API



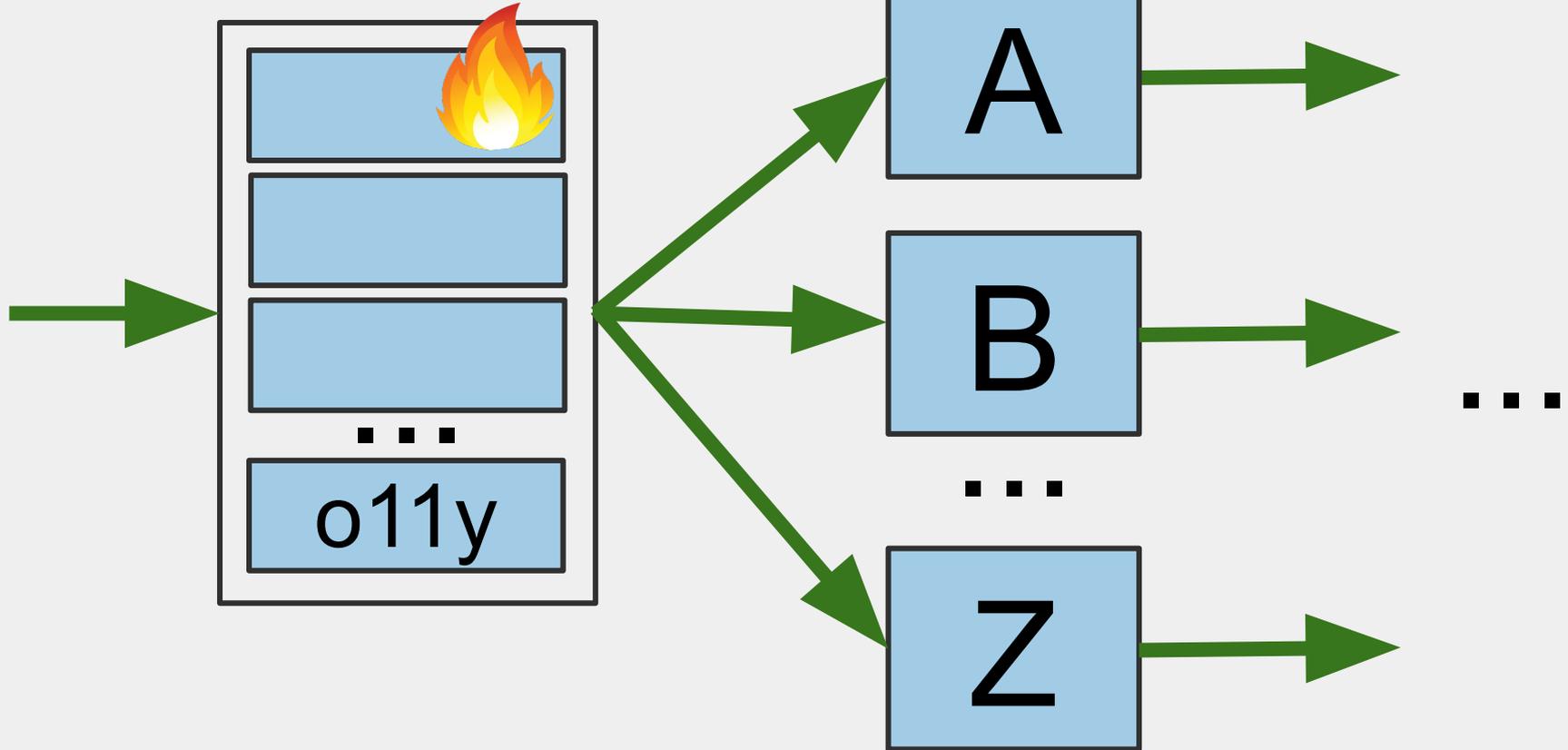
API



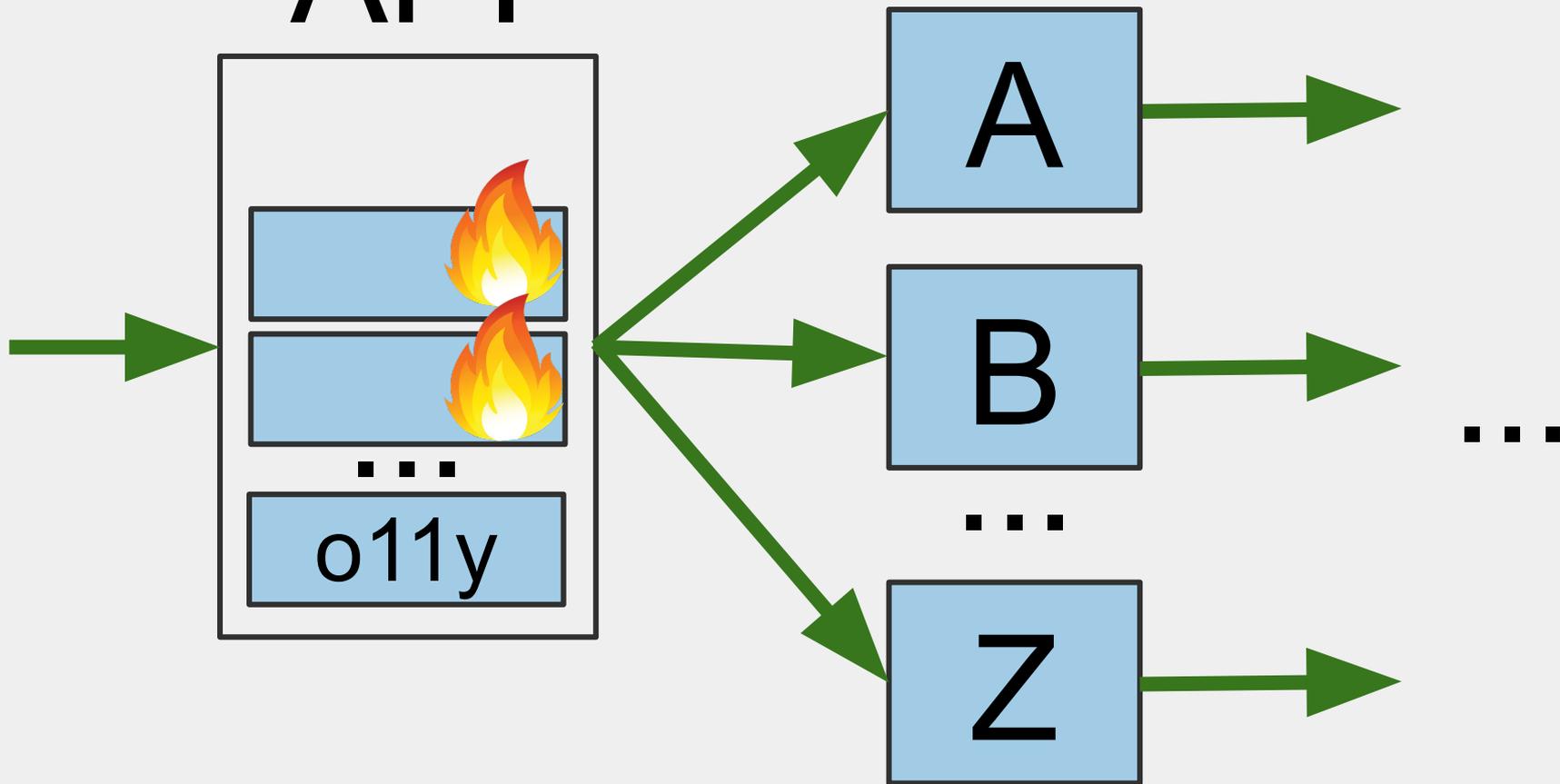
API



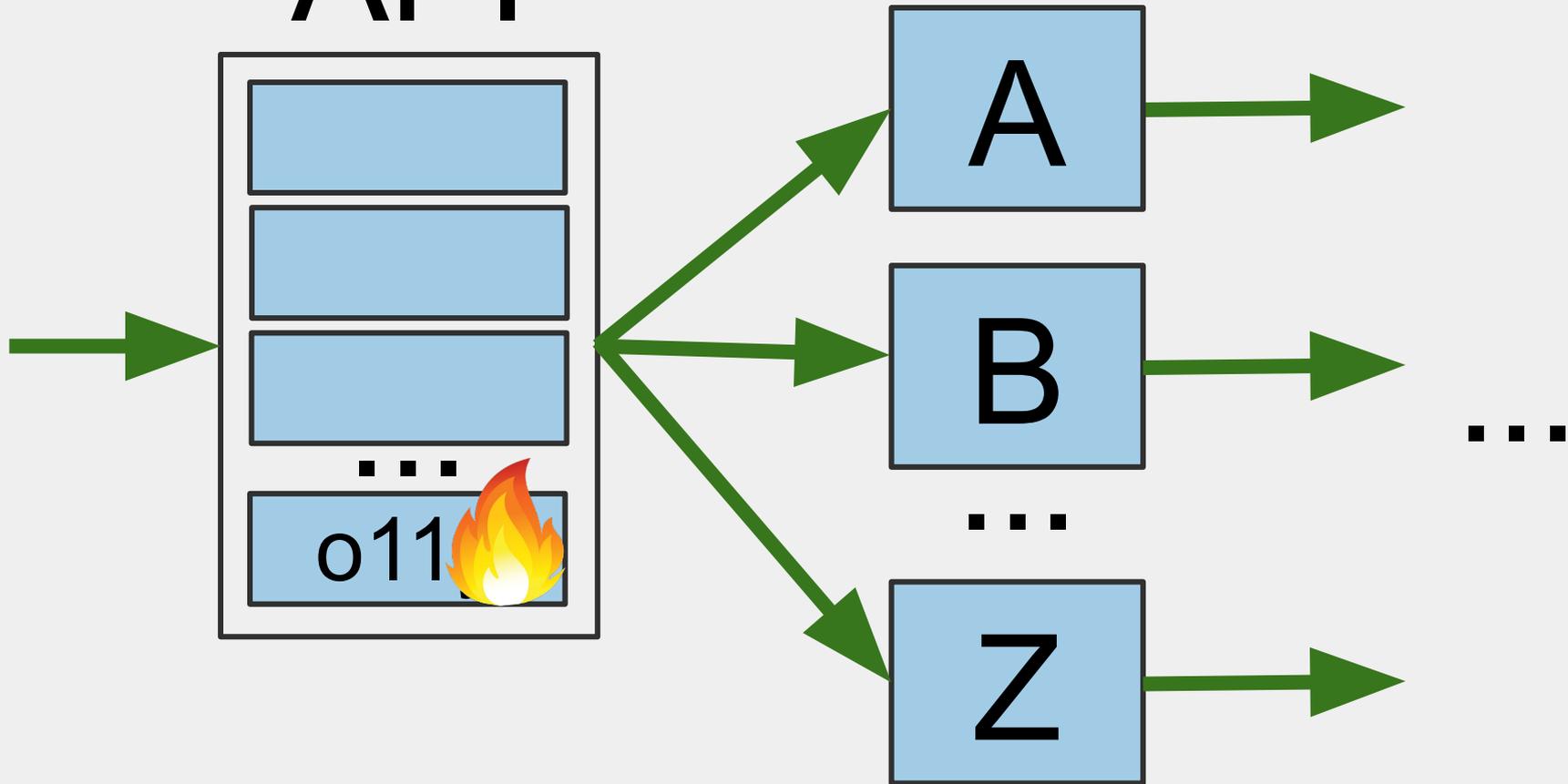
API



API



API



@CaseyRosenthal

*All components could be
100% correct,
and yet the system exhibits
undesirable behavior.*

@CaseyRosenthal

@CaseyRosenthal

The Verica Open Incident Database

thevoid.community

VOID Search Submit an incident report About Partners Newsletter Podcast Get the 2022 VOID Report

Welcome to the Verica Open Incident Database

The VOID is a community-contributed collection of software-related incident reports. Together we can make the internet a safer and more resilient place.

Learn more

Search 9,575 incident reports for 590 organizations:

Search by organization name or technology

Filter by:

- Has expert commentary
- Featured on podcast

Impact tag:

 Here's what led to today's FAA ground stoppage
January 11, 2023
FAA

@CaseyRosenthal



About the VOID

The Verica Open Incident Database (VOID) makes public software-related incident reports available to everyone, raising awareness and increasing understanding of software-based failures in order to make the internet a more resilient and safe place.

<https://www.thevoid.community>





@CaseyRosenthal

@CaseyRosenthal

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents

@CaseyRosenthal

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks

@CaseyRosenthal

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes

@CaseyRosenthal

Verica - Inhumanity of Root Cause Analysis

verica.io/blog/inhumanity-of-root-cause-analysis/ Update

VERICA Approach Resources About Blog Careers

Request a demo

Inhumanity of Root Cause Analysis

By Casey Rosenthal | July 21, 2019

f in | 12 minute read



Root Cause Analysis (RCA), a common practice throughout the software industry, does not provide any value in preventing future incidents in complex software systems. Instead, it reinforces hierarchical structures that confer blame, and this inhibits learning, creativity, and psychological safety. In short, RCA is an inhumane practice.

@CaseyRosenthal

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes

@CaseyRosenthal

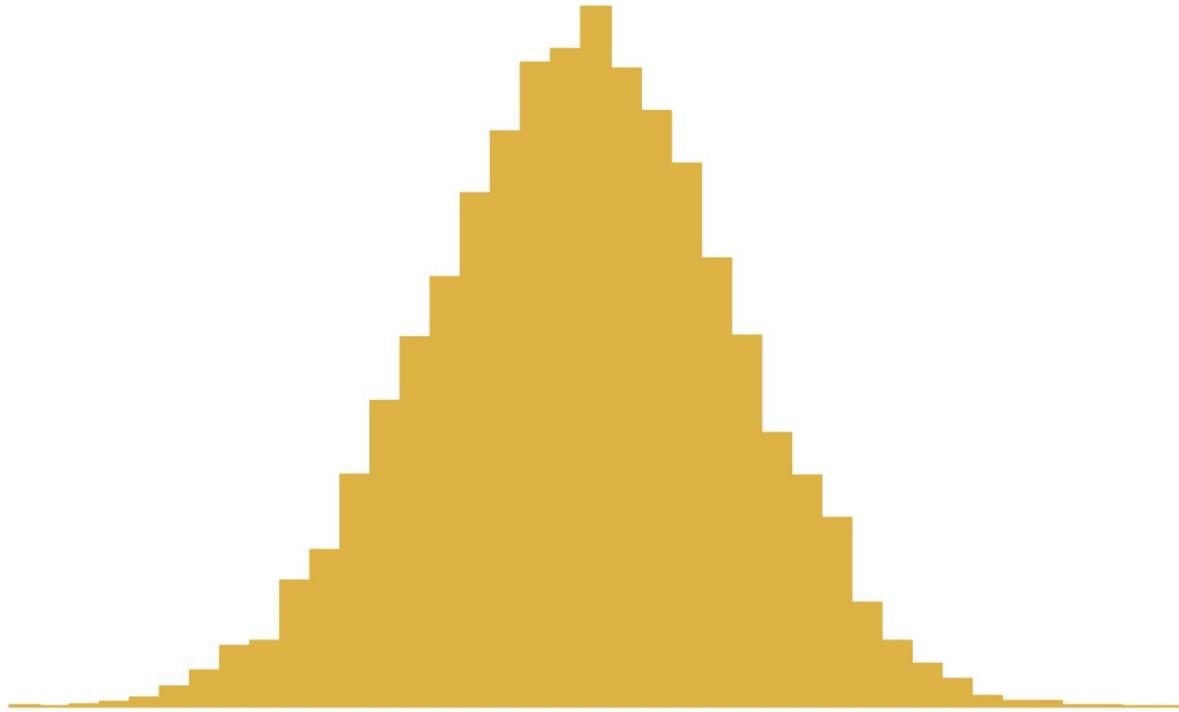
- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes
- Myth 4: Measure Reliability Quantitatively

@CaseyRosenthal

Mean Time to Resolution

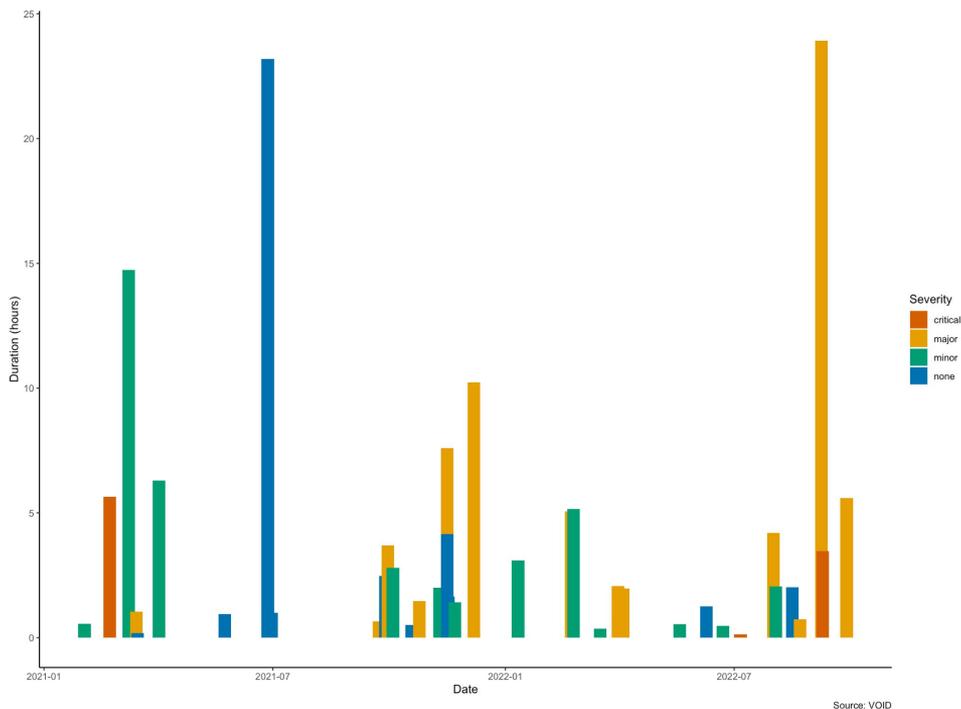
MTTR

The Distribution Matters



Source: VOID





THEY'RE NOT RELATED!

We analyzed status page data across almost 7K incidents from 10 different companies.

- Only 2 of them showed *very* weak correlations between duration and severity.
- $R = -.18$ and $-.17$, respectively ($p < .05$)

MTTR Fatal Flaws

- Provably wrong statistic
- Statistically insignificant data sample
- Duration doesn't correlate with severity
- Measurement errors
- Unactionable analysis

MTTR Can't Tell You

- How reliable your software or systems are
- How agile/effective your team or organization is
- If you're getting better at responding to incidents
- Whether the next one will be longer or shorter
- How "bad" any given incident is

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes
- Myth 4: Measure Reliability Quantitatively

@CaseyRosenthal

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes
- Myth 4: Measure Reliability Quantitatively
- Myth 5: Avoid Risk

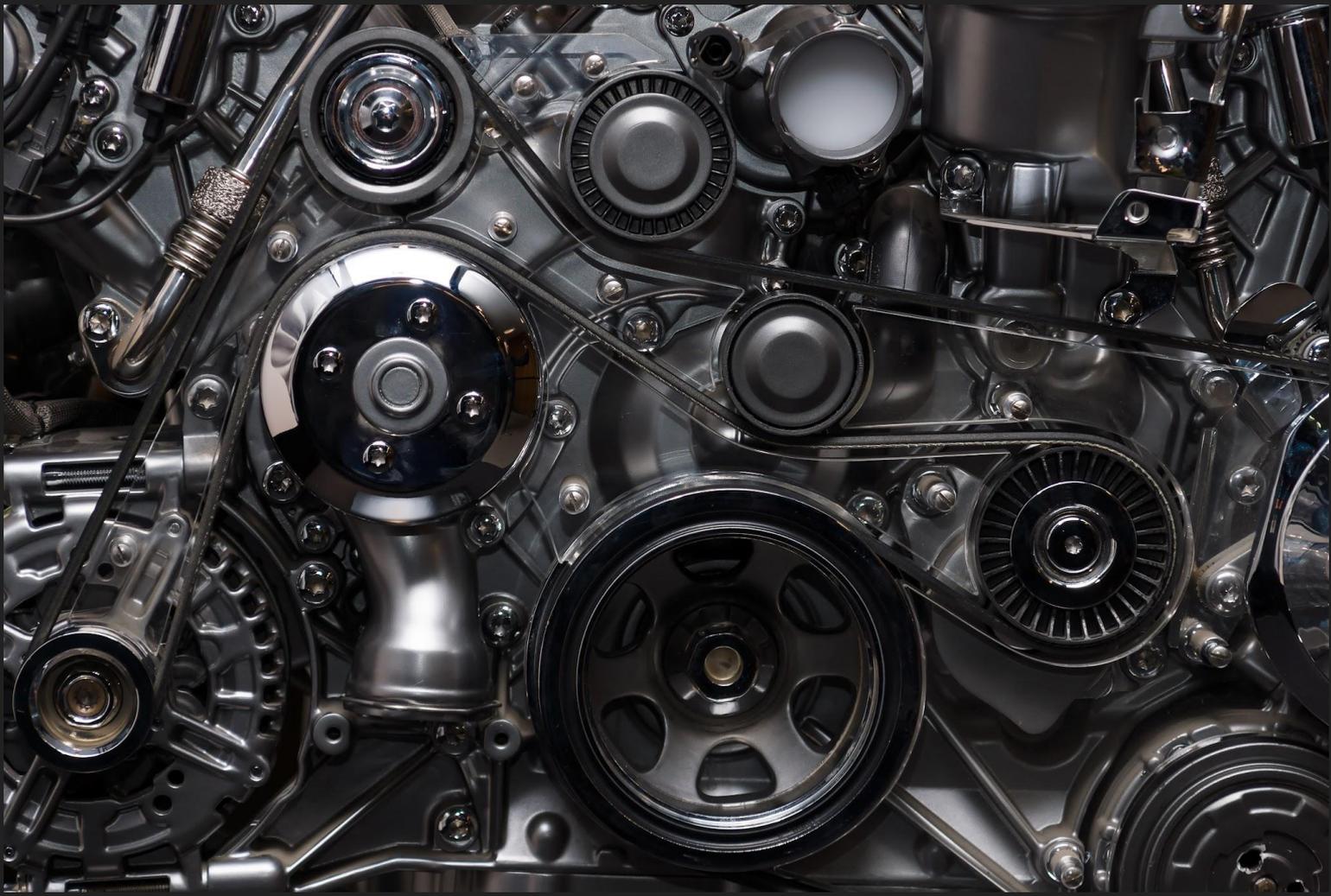
@CaseyRosenthal

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes
- Myth 4: Measure Reliability Quantitatively
- Myth 5: Avoid Risk
- Myth 6: Simplify

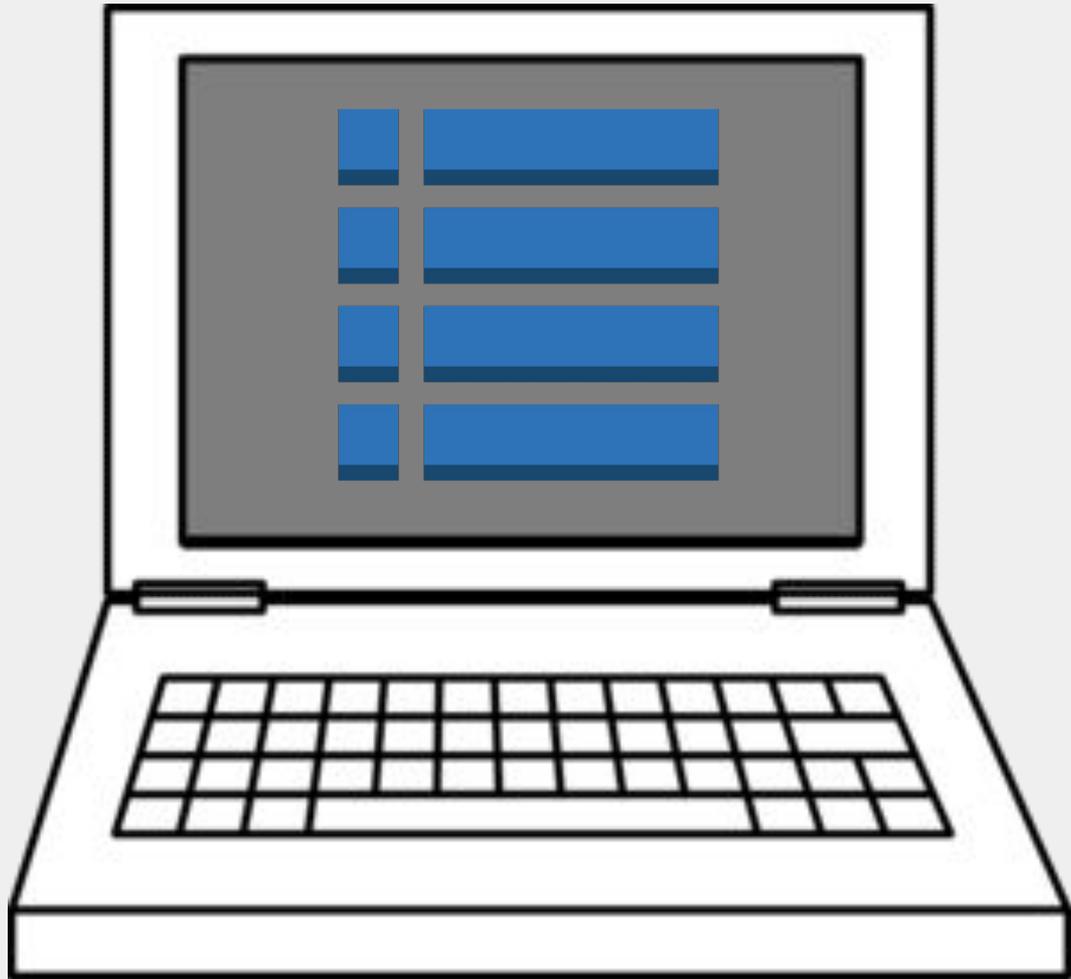
@CaseyRosenthal



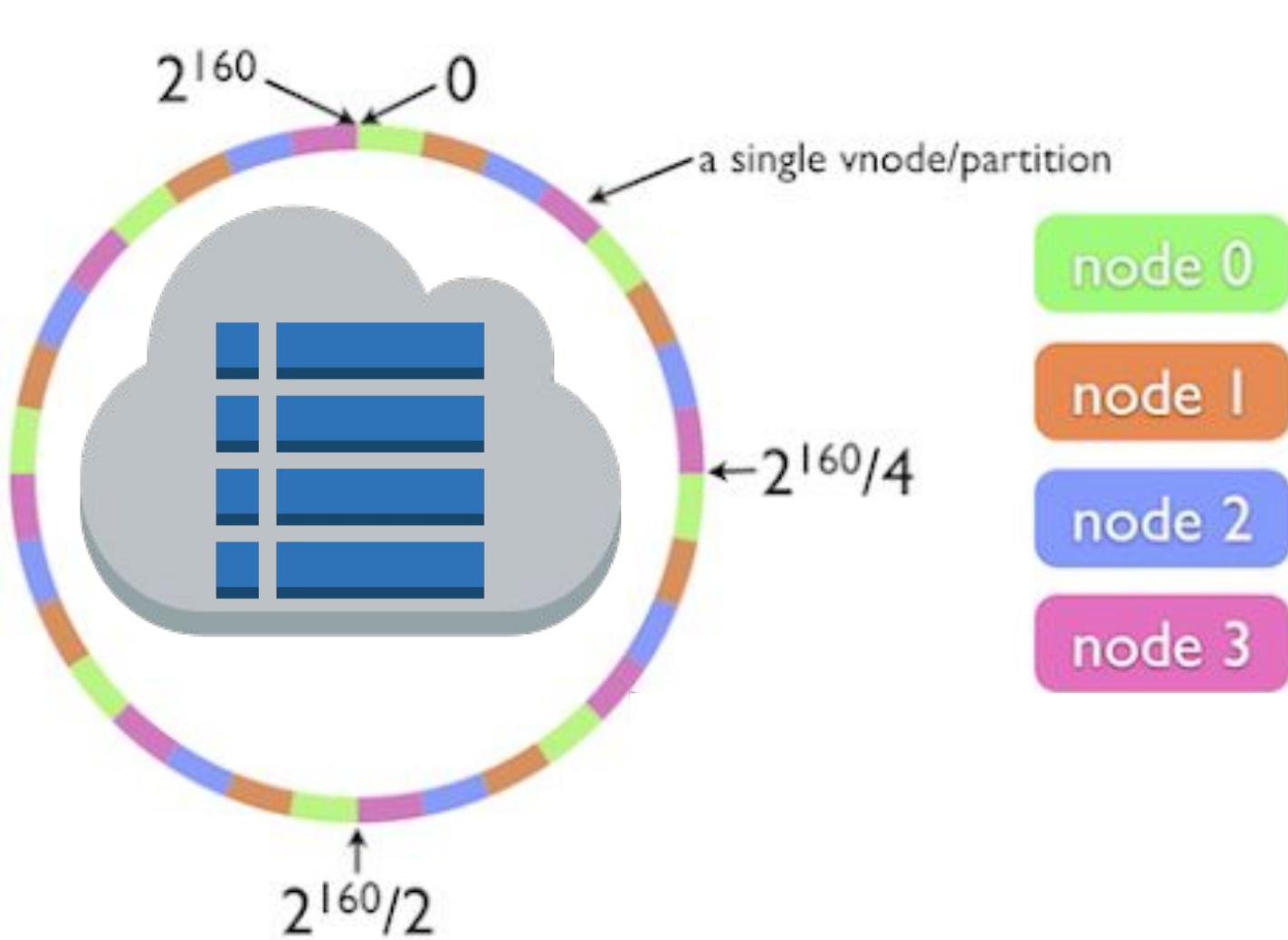
ACCIDENTAL

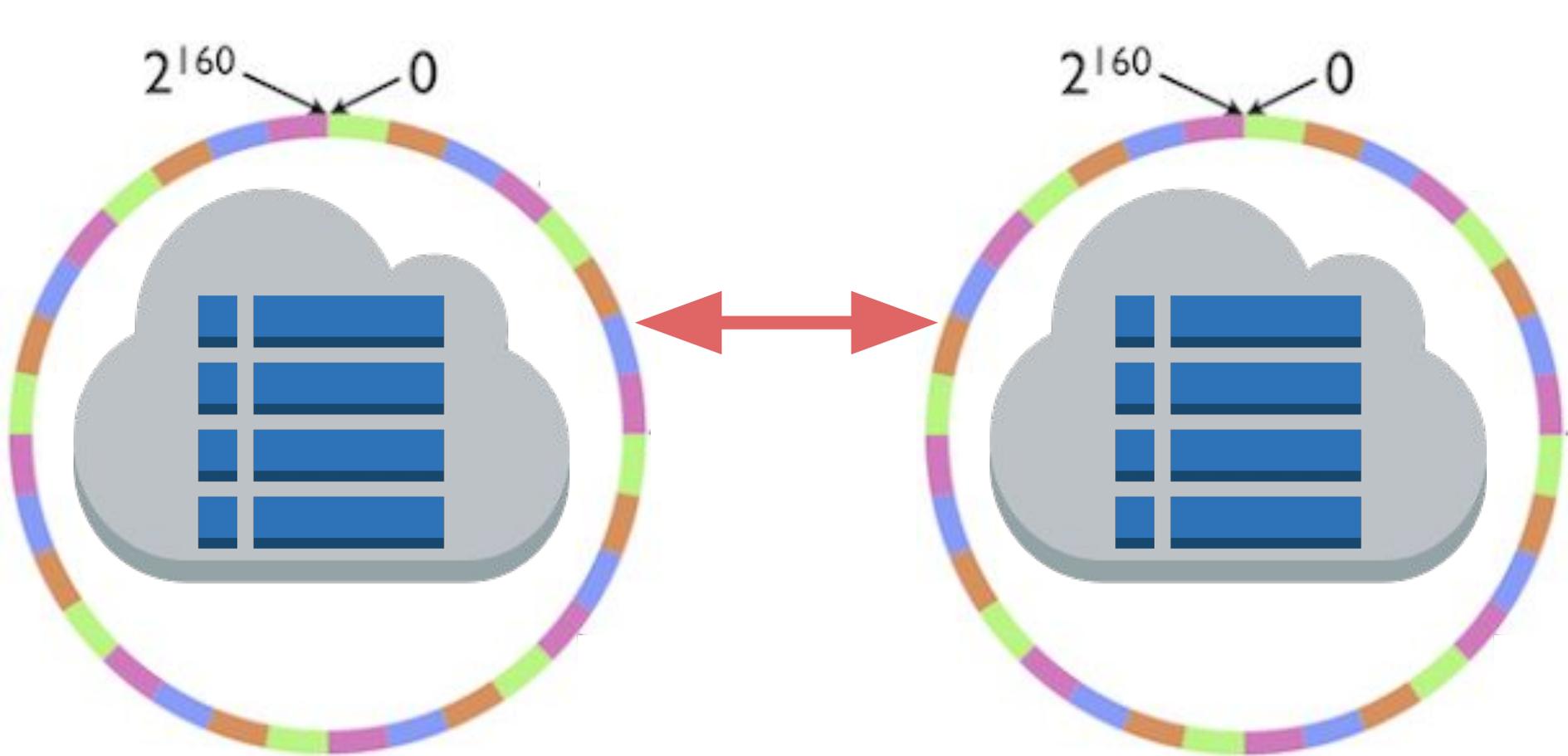


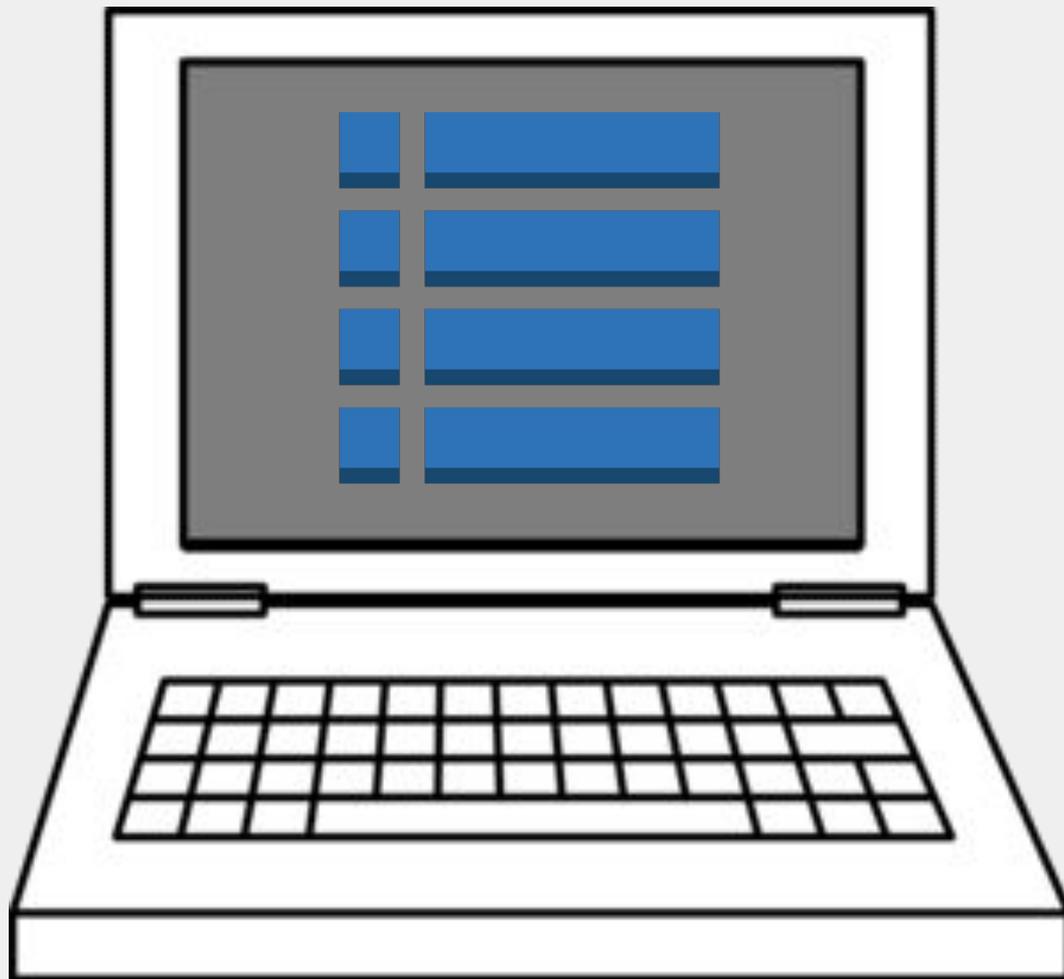
ESSENTIAL











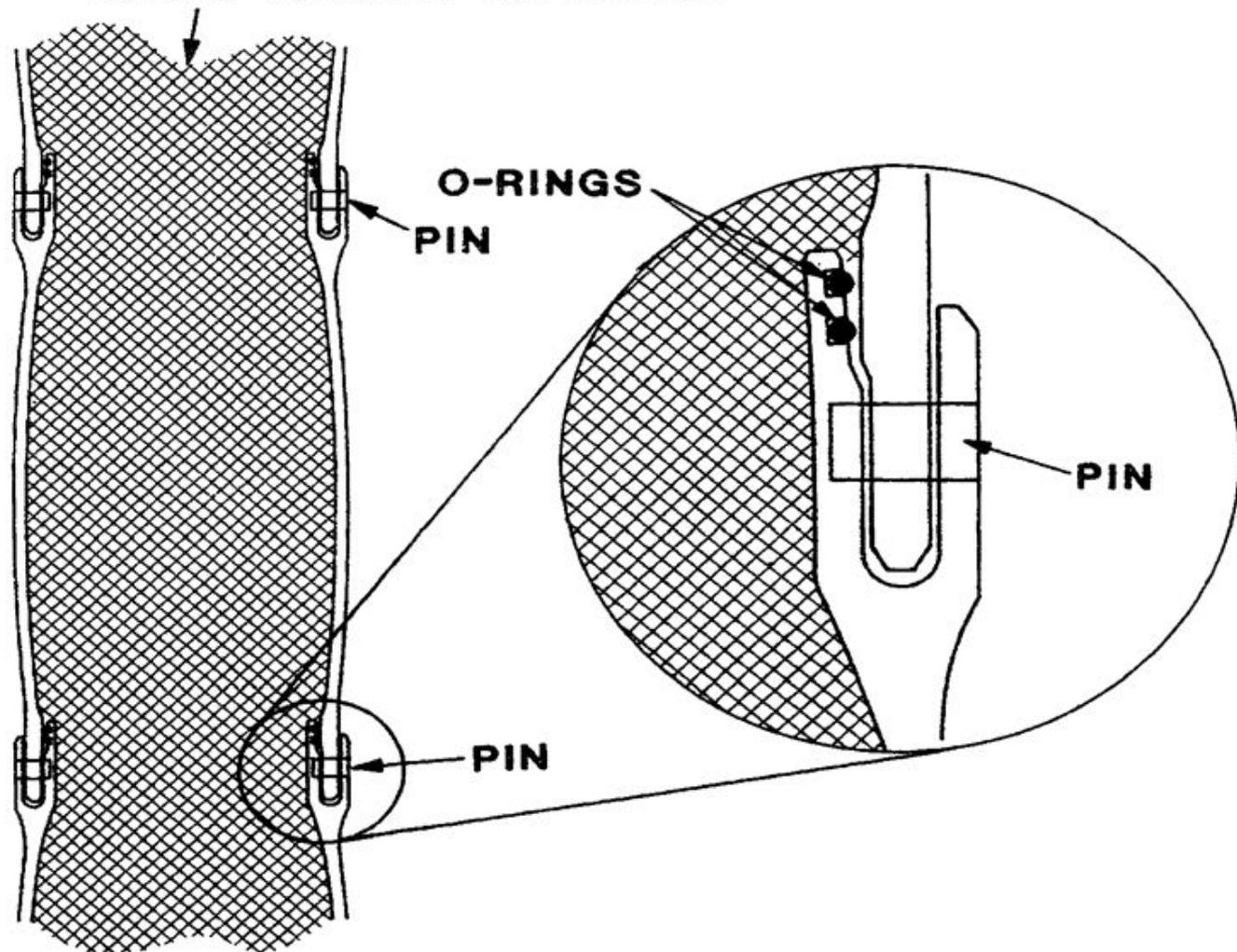
- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes
- Myth 4: Measure Reliability Quantitatively
- Myth 5: Avoid Risk
- Myth 6: Simplify
- Myth 7: Add Redundancy

@CaseyRosenthal





SOLID ROCKET BOOSTER





- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes
- Myth 4: Measure Reliability Quantitatively
- Myth 5: Avoid Risk
- Myth 6: Simplify
- Myth 7: Add Redundancy

@CaseyRosenthal

*How do we survive
the undesirable effects
of complex systems?*

@CaseyRosenthal

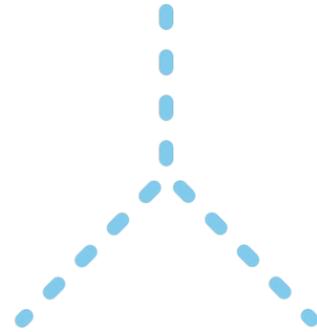
*How do we
make systems reliable?*

@CaseyRosenthal

@CaseyRosenthal



ECONOMICS



WORKLOAD



SAFETY



PRINCIPLES OF CHAOS ENGINEERING

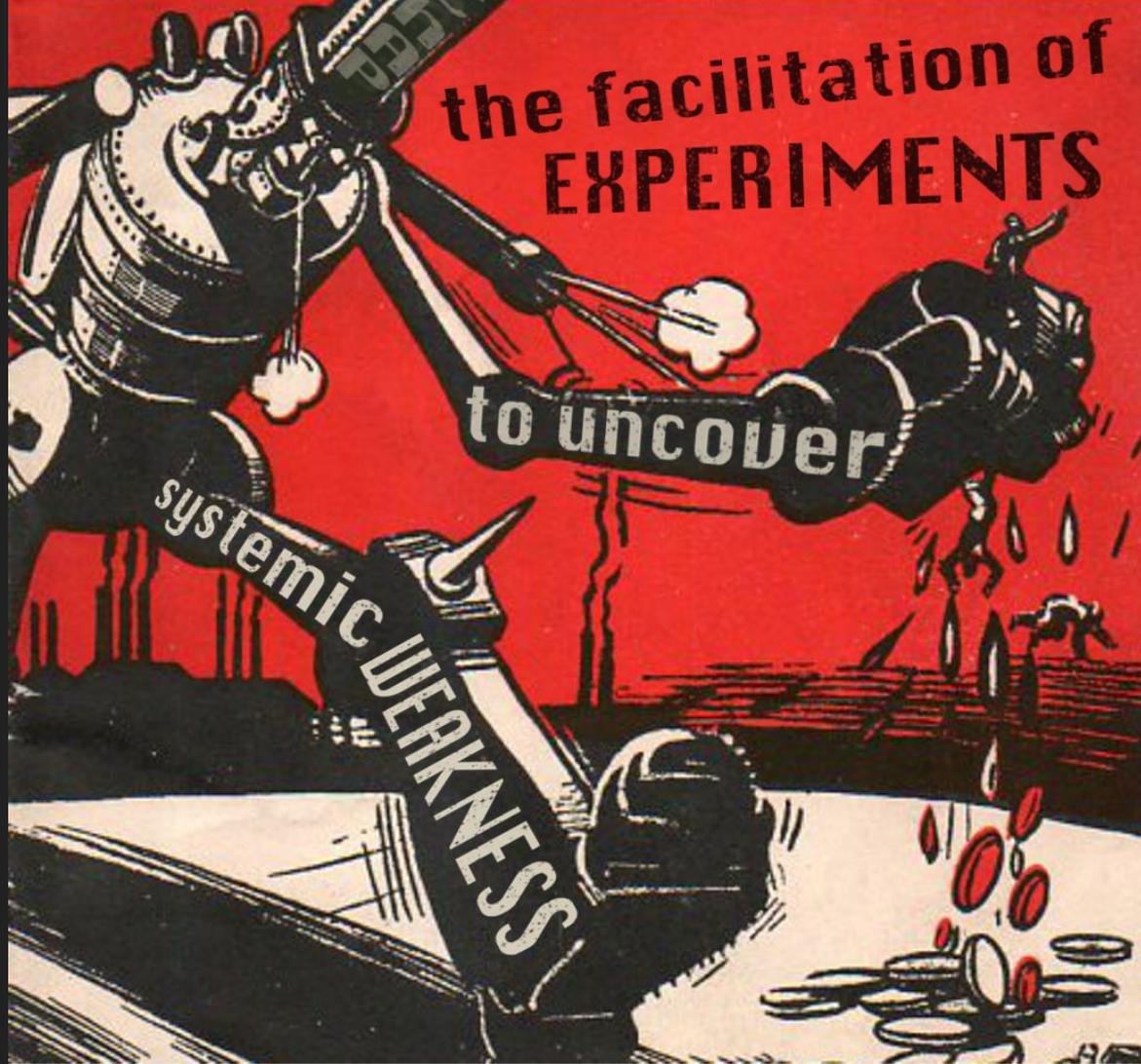
Last Update: 2017 April

Chaos Engineering is the discipline of experimenting on a distributed system in order to build confidence in the system's capability to withstand turbulent conditions in production.

the facilitation of
EXPERIMENTS

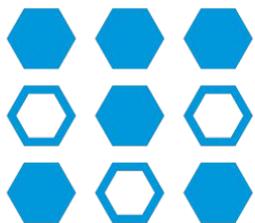
to uncover

systemic WEAKNESS

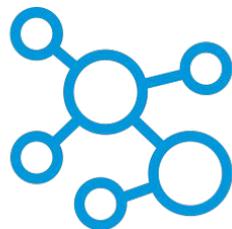


@CaseyRosenthal

Economic Pillars of Complexity



STATES



RELATIONSHIPS



ENVIRONMENT

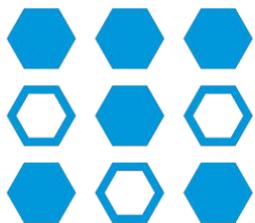


REVERSIBILITY

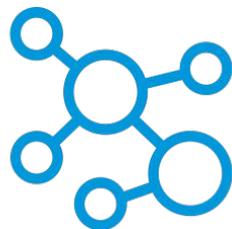
@CaseyRosenthal



Economic Pillars of Complexity



STATES



RELATIONSHIPS



ENVIRONMENT

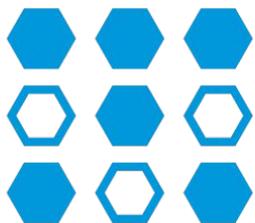


REVERSIBILITY

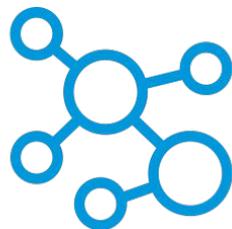
@CaseyRosenthal



Economic Pillars of Complexity



STATES



RELATIONSHIPS



ENVIRONMENT



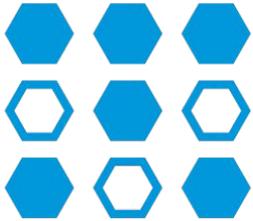
REVERSIBILITY

@CaseyRosenthal

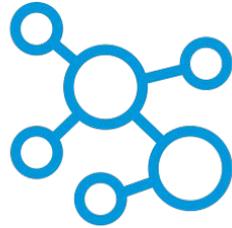


THE BOSSES OF THE SENATE.

Economic Pillars of Complexity



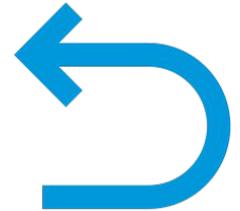
STATES



RELATIONSHIPS

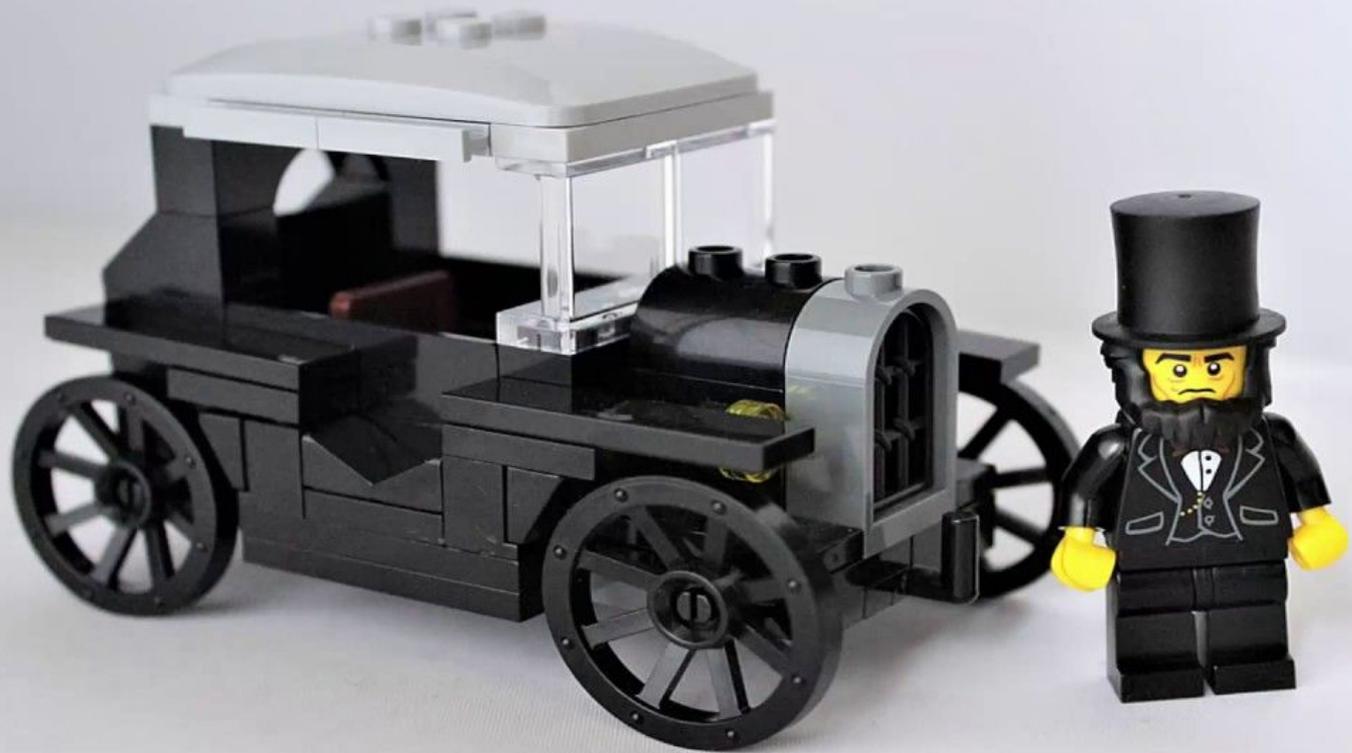


ENVIRONMENT

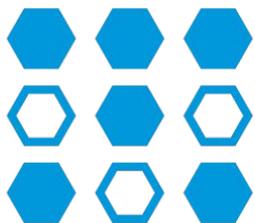


REVERSIBILITY

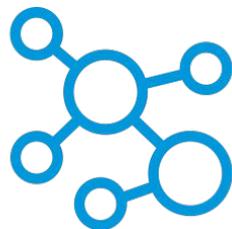
@CaseyRosenthal



Economic Pillars of Complexity



STATES



RELATIONSHIPS



ENVIRONMENT



REVERSIBILITY

@CaseyRosenthal

*Software Engineering:
the Reversibility Profession*

@CaseyRosenthal

“The chief merit of **[software engineering]** is its technical efficiency, with a premium placed on precision, speed, expert control, continuity, discretion, and optimal returns on input.”

-Merton

@CaseyRosenthal

s/bureaucracy/software engineering/

@CaseyRosenthal

“The chief merit of **bureaucracy is its technical efficiency, with a premium placed on precision, speed, expert control, continuity, discretion, and optimal returns on input.”**

-Merton

@CaseyRosenthal

*Software Engineering:
the Bureaucratic Profession*

@CaseyRosenthal

*Software Engineering:
doing it WRONG since 1913*

@CaseyRosenthal

@CaseyRosenthal

Evolution of complex system operations.

A light blue circle containing the letters 'CI' in a dark blue, sans-serif font.

CI

One of the most efficient methods for uncovering misalignments in software is to put the code together and run it. **Continuous Integration** was promoted heavily as part of XP methodology as a way to achieve this and is now a common industry norm.

A light blue circle containing the letters 'CD' in a dark blue, sans-serif font.

CD

Continuous Delivery builds on the success of CI by automated the steps of preparing code and deploying it to an environment. CD tools allow engineers to choose a build that passed the CI stage and promote that through the pipeline to run in production.

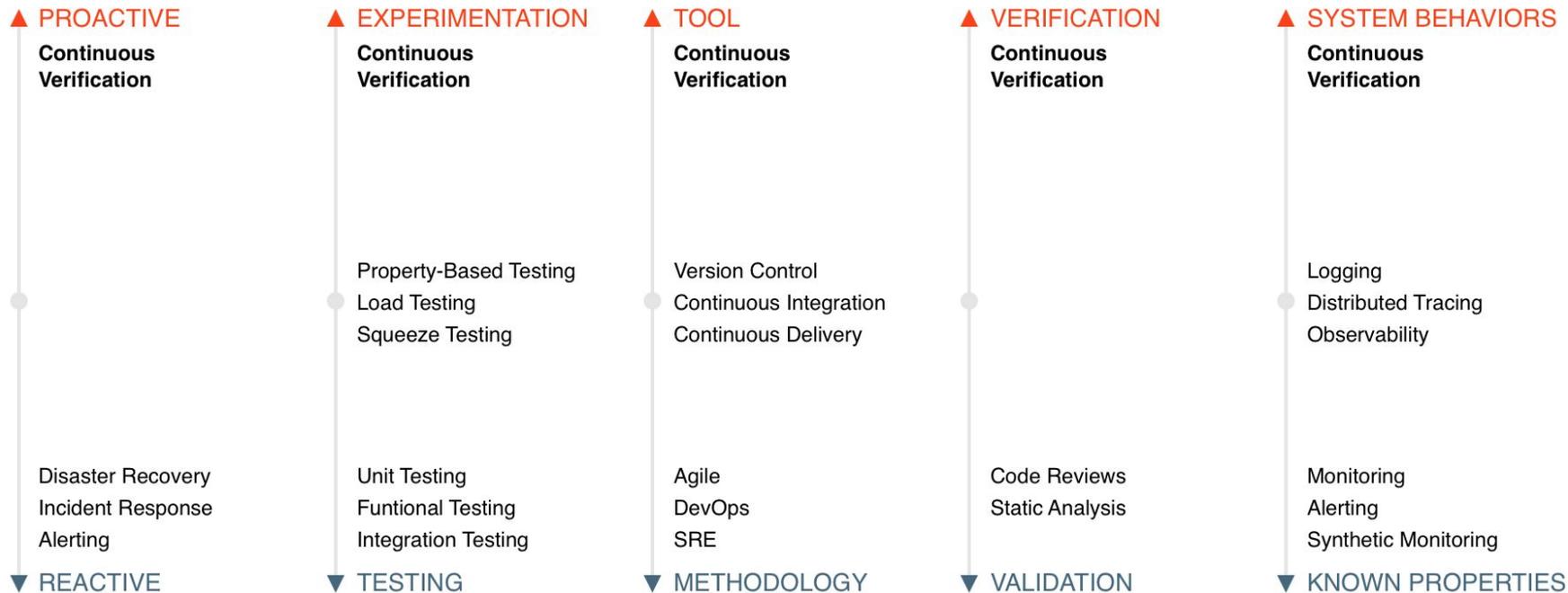
A light orange circle containing the letters 'CV' in a dark orange, sans-serif font.

CV

Like CI/CD, **Continuous Verification** is born out of a need to navigate increasingly complex systems. Modern organizations can't validate that the internal machinations of the system work as intended, so instead they verify that the output of the system matches expectations.

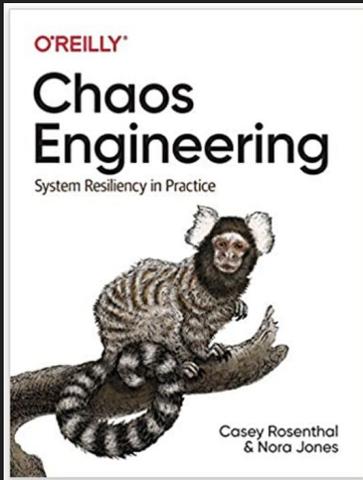
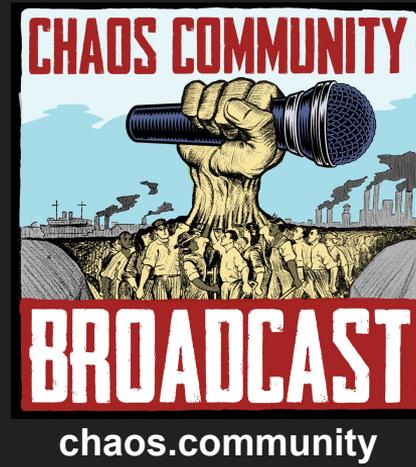
Continuous Verification is a proactive, experimentation tool for verifying system behavior.

How do other things compare?



*Don't fight complexity.
Navigate it.*

@CaseyRosenthal



@CaseyRosenthal

- Myth 1: Remove the People Who Cause Accidents
- Myth 2: Document Best Practices and Runbooks
- Myth 3: Defend against Prior Root Causes
- Myth 4: Measure Reliability Quantitatively
- Myth 5: Avoid Risk
- Myth 6: Simplify
- Myth 7: Add Redundancy

@CaseyRosenthal



@caseyroenthal

@CaseyRosenthal