

# Evolution of a Microservice Infrastructure

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OSAD 2019, Munich

**REWE** digital

# What do we actually run?

The screenshot displays the REWE website's online ordering interface. At the top, the REWE logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Dein REWE Markt', 'Online bestellen', and 'REWE Deine Küche' are in the center. A search bar is on the left, and links for 'Liefertermin wählen', 'Favoriten 0 Artikel', and 'Warenkorb 0,00 €' are on the right. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'Alle Produkte', 'Meine Produkte', 'Angebote', and 'Themenwelten'. A breadcrumb trail shows the current selection: 'Wein, Spirituosen & Tabak' > 'Spirituosen & -mischgetränke' > 'Gin, Genever & Wacholder'. A filter bar indicates '13 Artikel in Gin, Genever & Wacholder' and allows sorting by 'Preis absteigend'. A category list on the left includes 'Wein, Spirituosen & Tabak (707)', 'Spirituosen & -mischgetränke (152)', and 'Gin, Genever & Wacholder (13)'. The main product grid shows three items: 'Ferdinand's Saar Dry Gin 0,5l' for 34,99€, 'Hendrick's Gin 0,7l' for 34,90€, and 'The Duke Munich Dry Gin 0,7l' for 29,99€. Each item has a heart icon, a quantity selector (set to 1), and a shopping cart icon.



A large container ship is docked at a port. The ship's hull is dark blue with the letters 'UASC' visible. Several large cranes are positioned along the ship's length, and more cranes are visible in the background. The sky is clear and blue. The text 'Current Setup' is overlaid in white on a blue rectangular background.

# Current Setup

# Recap

The state of 2018

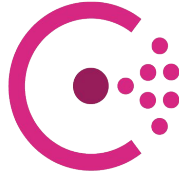
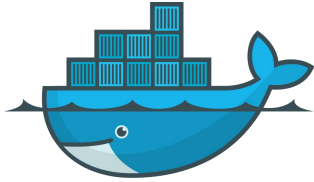
We're operating a custom Docker-Environment consisting of:



# Recap

The state of 2018

We're operating a custom Docker-Environment consisting of:



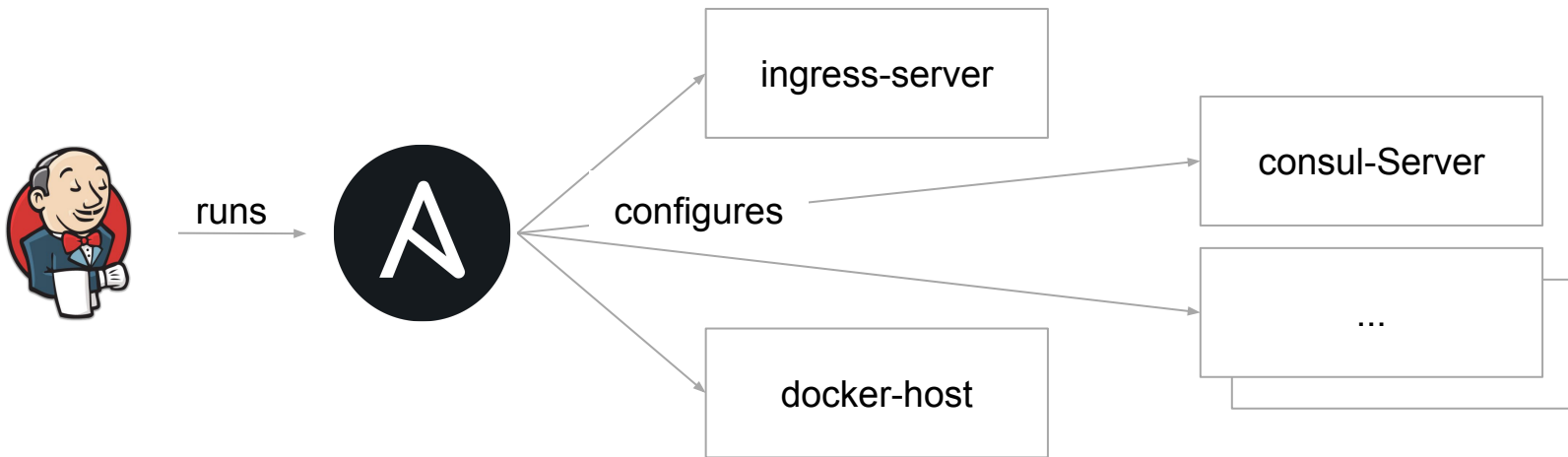
Everything was cool. Developers can bring Code live. All is well.

# ... and looks like this

for infrastructure provisioning

One repository for infrastructure-configuration

Ansible, Vagrant, Terraform, ... executed via Jenkins.



# ... and works like this

for deployment of services

One central repository for service-deployments

- Used on every Team-Jenkins as external resource
- Teams provide a "service-descriptor.yaml" for each service
- "service-descriptor.yaml" gets updated with environment-specific variables
- containers get started with environment of "service-descriptor.yaml"
- standardised deployment is ensured

# Example

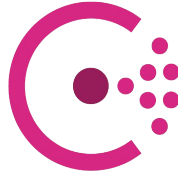
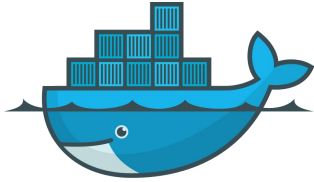
```
---
service_name: "example"
service_version: "1.2.1"
squad: "Example-Squad"
team: "Example-Team"
num_instances: 3
prometheus_enabled: "true"
prometheus_path: "/metrics/prometheus"
service_memory: 1536
service_configuration:
  JAVA_META_SIZE_TO_HEAP_QUOTA: 40
  # Example DB
  DATASOURCES_SHOP_JDBCURL: "jdbc:postgresql://{ psql_cluster_master }:5432/{ db_name_example }"
  DATASOURCES_SHOP_USERNAME: "{ db_user_example }"
  DATASOURCES_SHOP_PASSWORD: "{ db_password_example }"
  ...
```



# Recap

The state of 2018

We're operating a custom Docker-Environment consisting of:



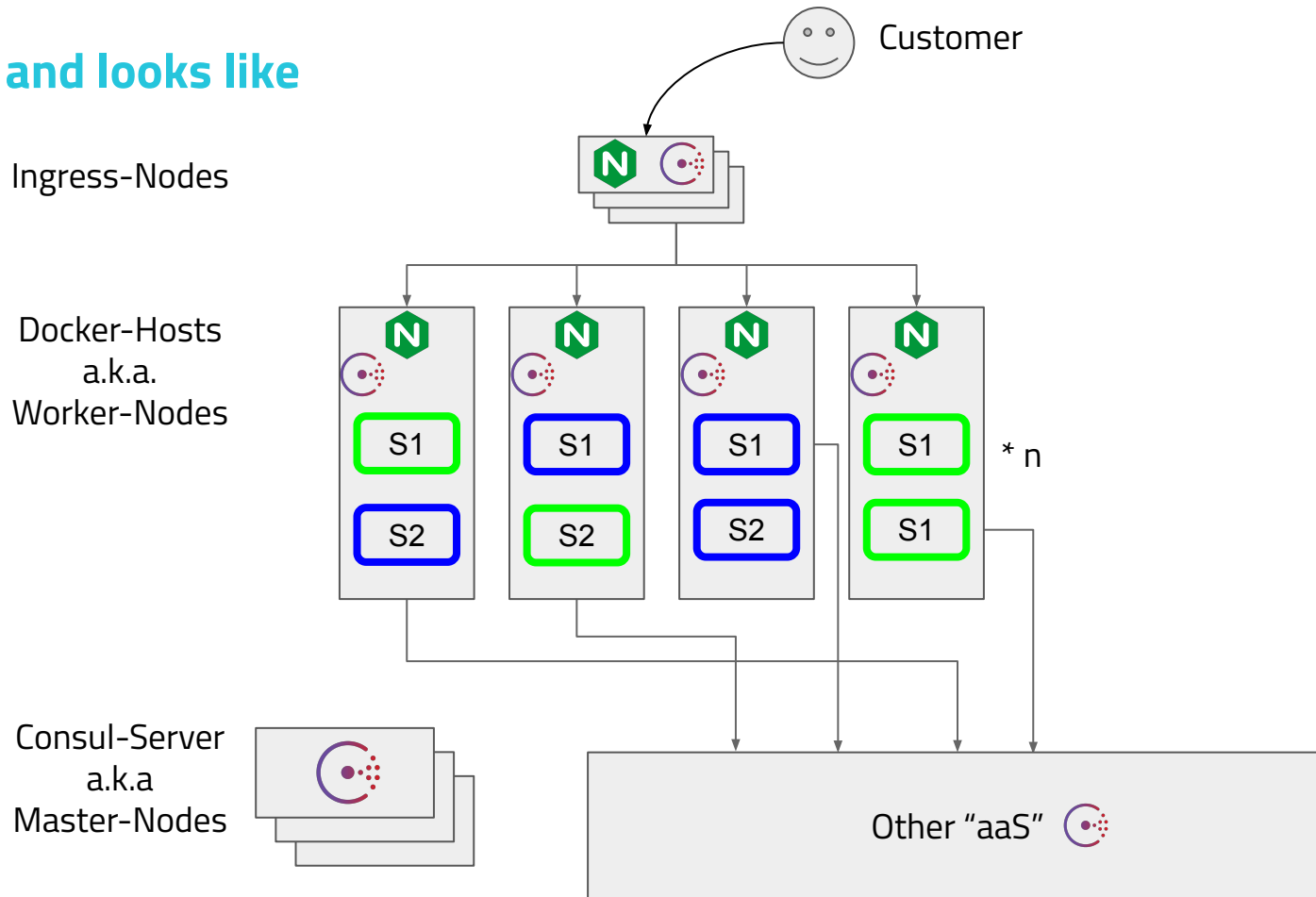
Everything was cool. Developers can bring Code live. All is well.

A top-down view of various summer accessories arranged on a dark, textured surface. A large, light-colored straw hat with a wide brim is positioned on the right. To its left, a pair of dark sunglasses rests on a vibrant orange and yellow tropical print shirt. Below the shirt, a teal-colored towel is partially visible. In the foreground, a grey tablet displays a French quote. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text 'All is fine' in white.

# All is fine

Photo by Perfecto Capucine from Pexels

... and looks like

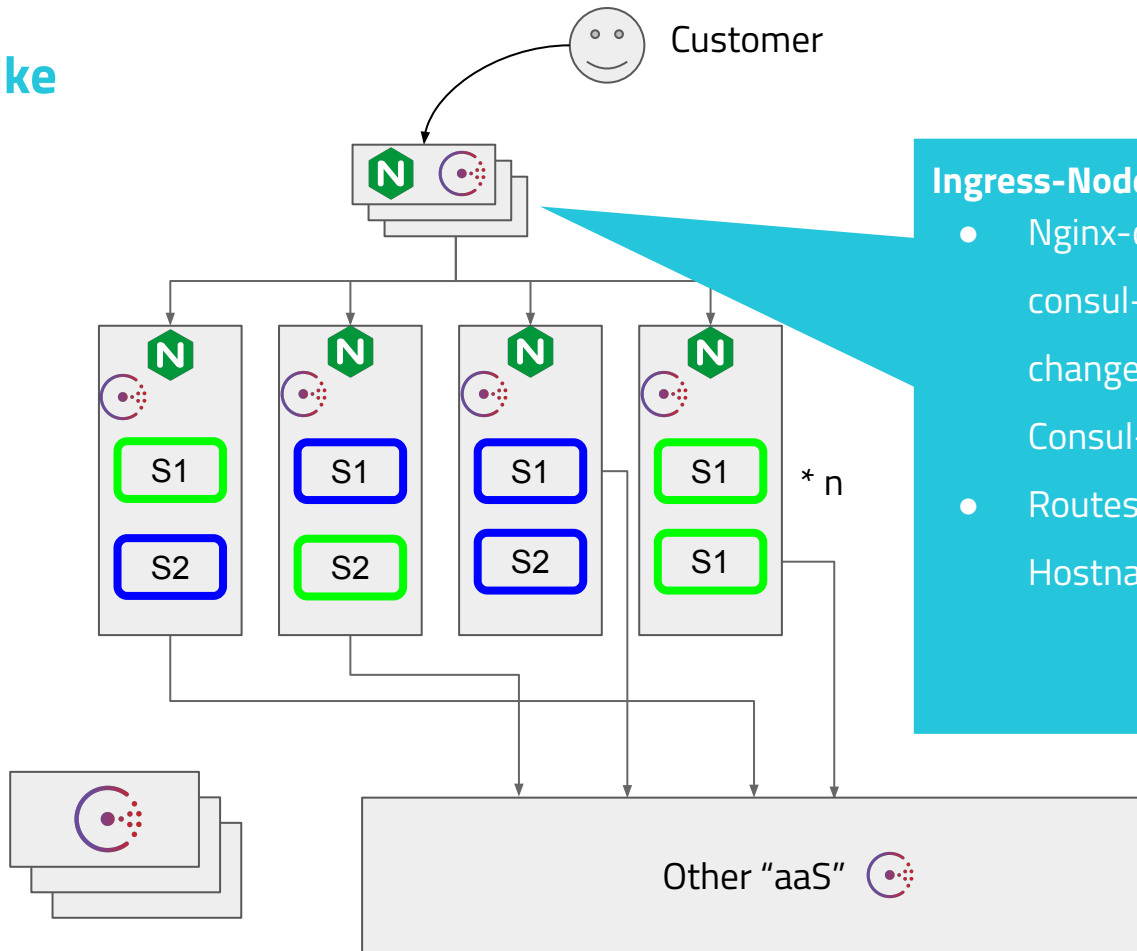


## ... and looks like

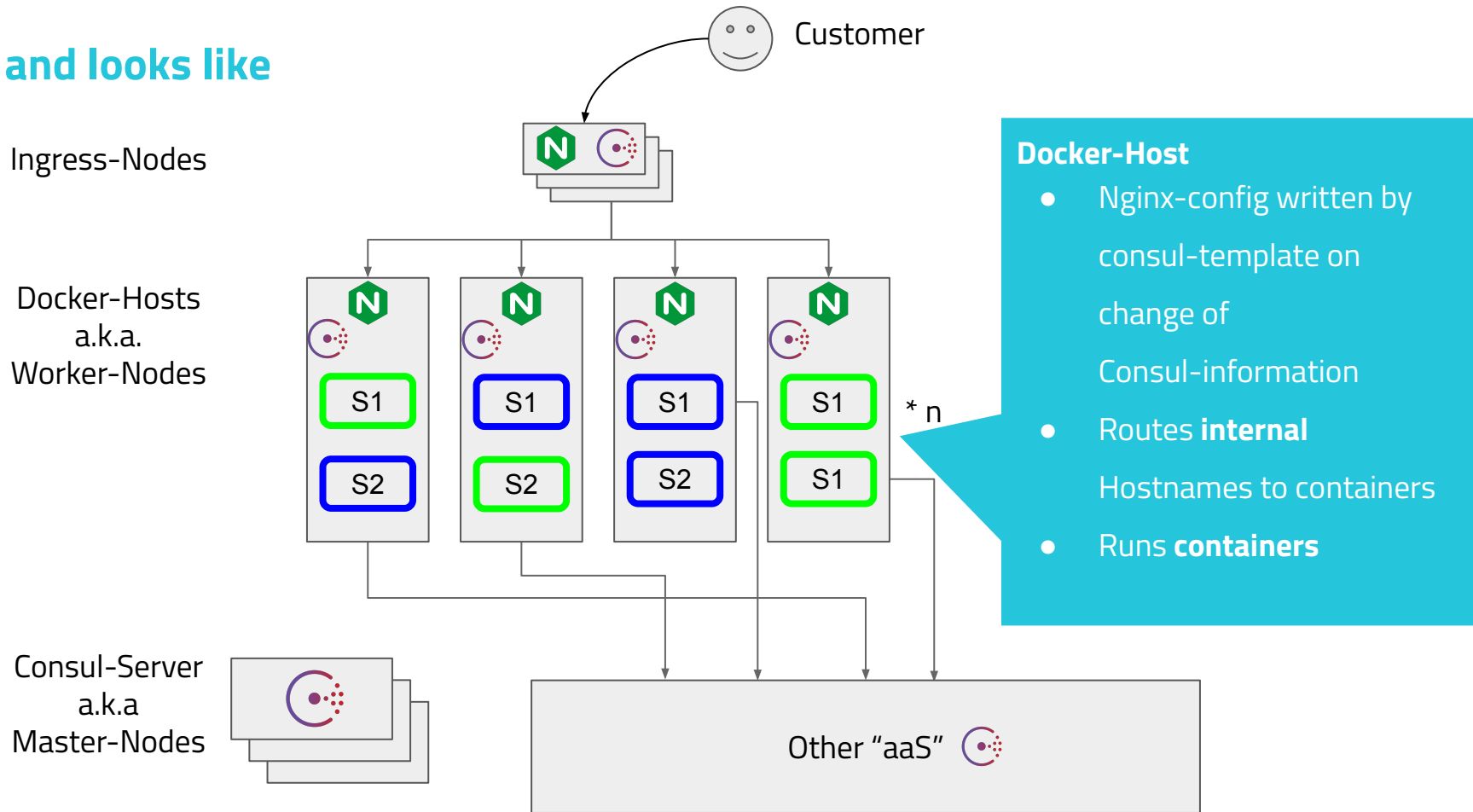
Ingress-Nodes

Docker-Hosts  
a.k.a.  
Worker-Nodes

Consul-Server  
a.k.a.  
Master-Nodes



## ... and looks like

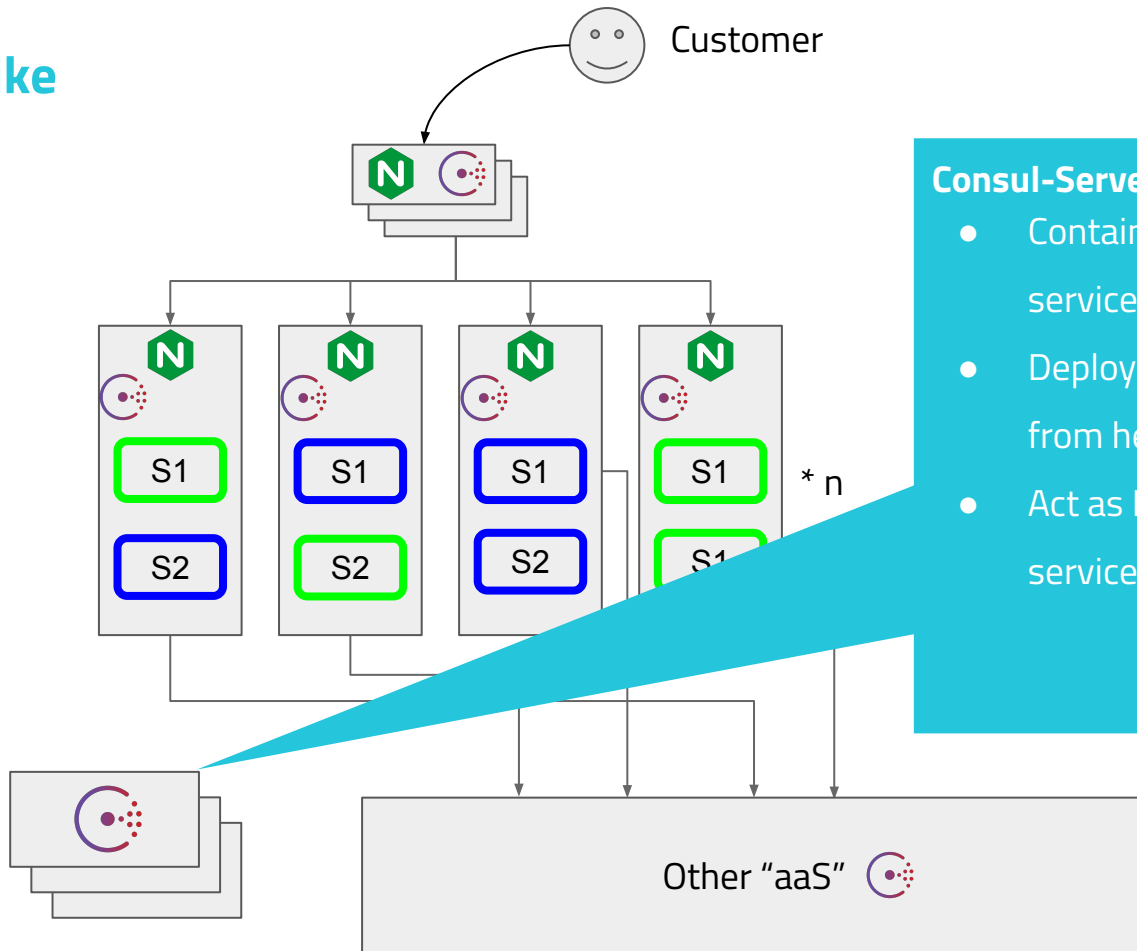


## ... and looks like

Ingress-Nodes

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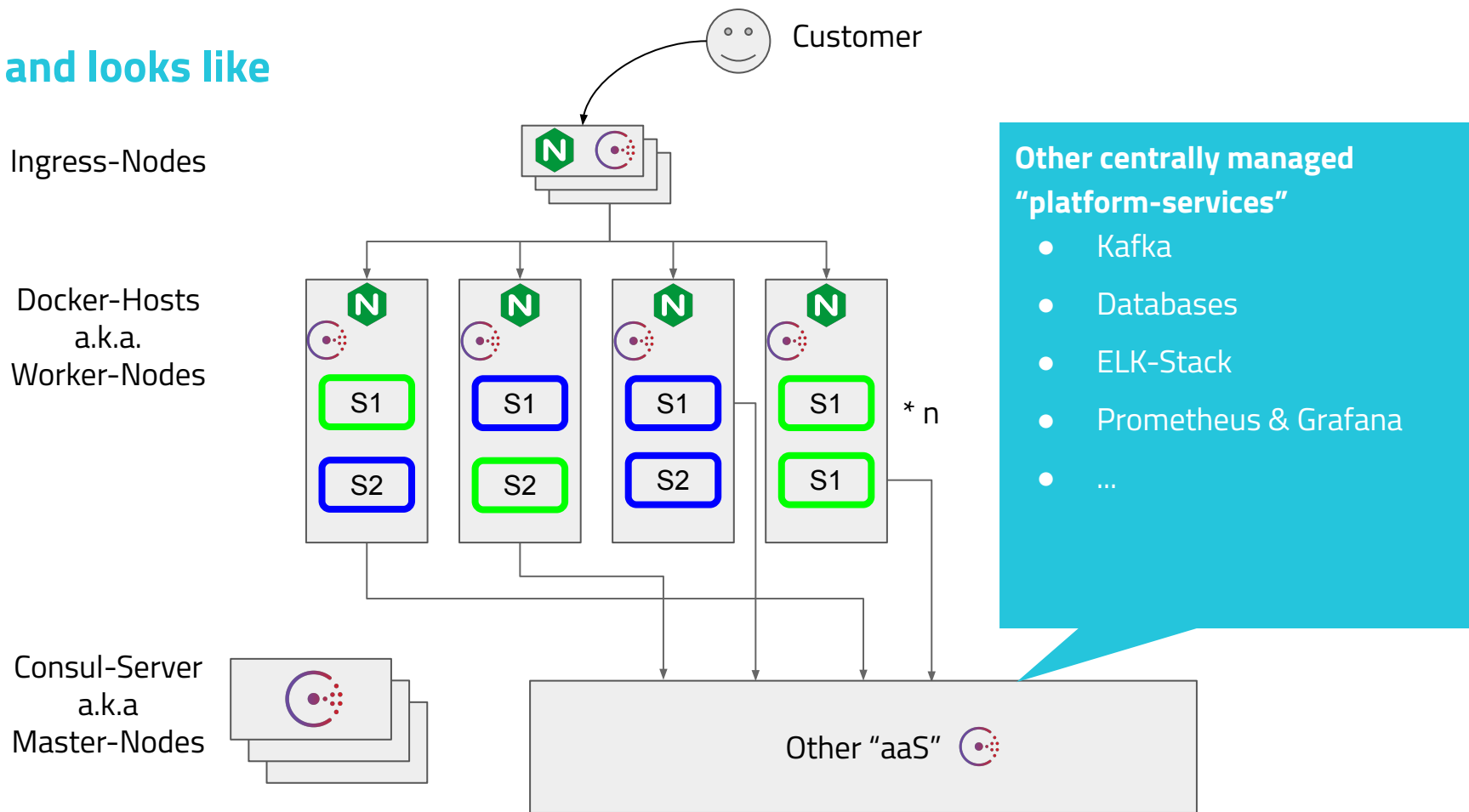


### Consul-Server & Swarm-Master

- Contain knowledge of all services
- Deployments are started from here
- Act as DNS-Servers for service-discovery



## ... and looks like



# Request routing

how can services be addressed

- Both colors have the same DNS record
  - Consul will return IPs for all hosts where the Service is running
- Nginx running on each Worker Node
  - routes to colour depending on used port





# Routing Problems

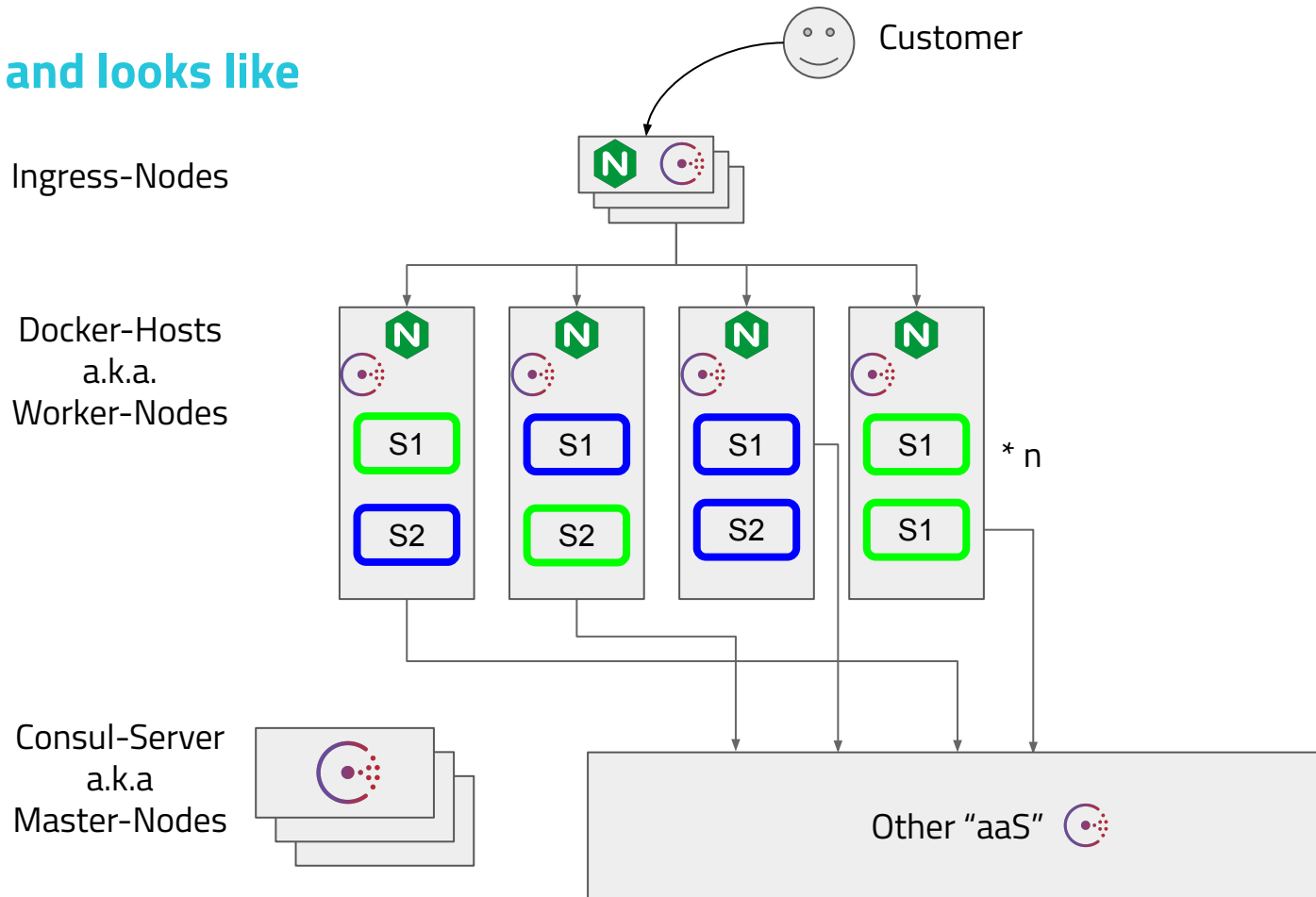
# Problems with Nginx

increased with the size of the environment

- There are requests which never reached their destination

➡ Always happened at the time of deployments

... and looks like



# Problems with Nginx

increased with the size of the environment

- There are requests which never reached their destination
- Always happened at the time of deployments
- Consul-template would **reload all** Nginx instances  
**at the same time**
- What happens at a reload?

# Problems with Nginx

looking for solutions

Look for different reverse proxy

- No reload on config change (optional)
- Dynamic configuration (optional)
- Robust connections to the client

# Problems with Nginx

possible replacements



envoy



Fabio



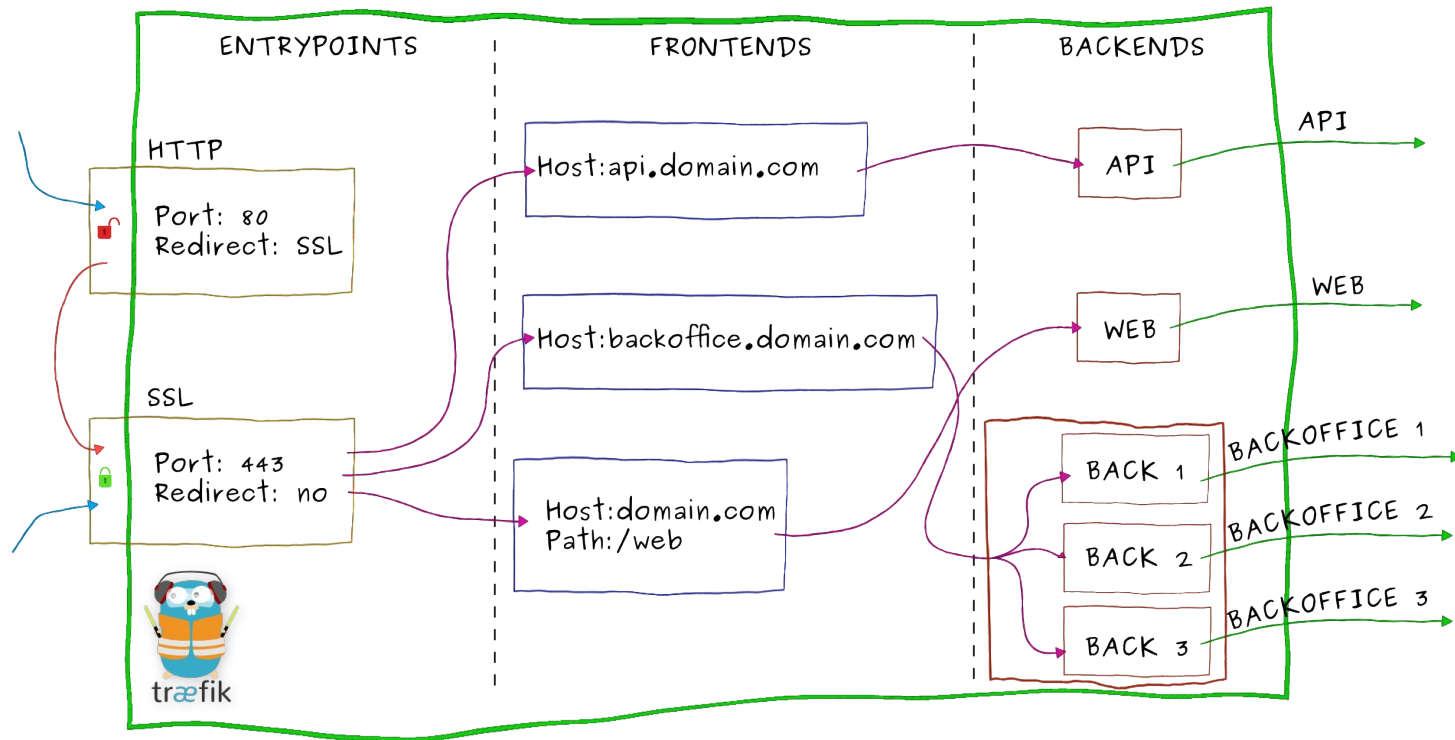
# Traefik

- Dynamically configurable
- Live reloading of configuration
- Lots of metrics
- Nice web ui
- Single Go binary

Since Traefik 2.x:

- independent configuration of frontend & backend
  - mix consul service-discovery with file-based configuration

# Traefik





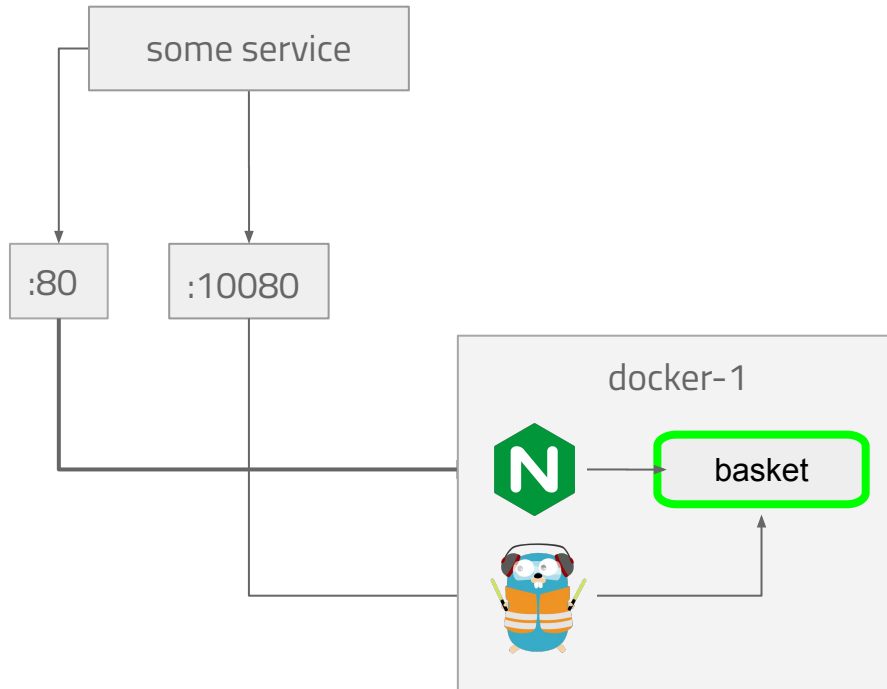
# Traefik

how to migrate

1. Install alongside Nginx on Worker and Ingress Nodes
  - listen on different ports
2. Check that configured routes are correct and work
3. Change port mapping host by host -> Traefik is active
4. Remove Nginx

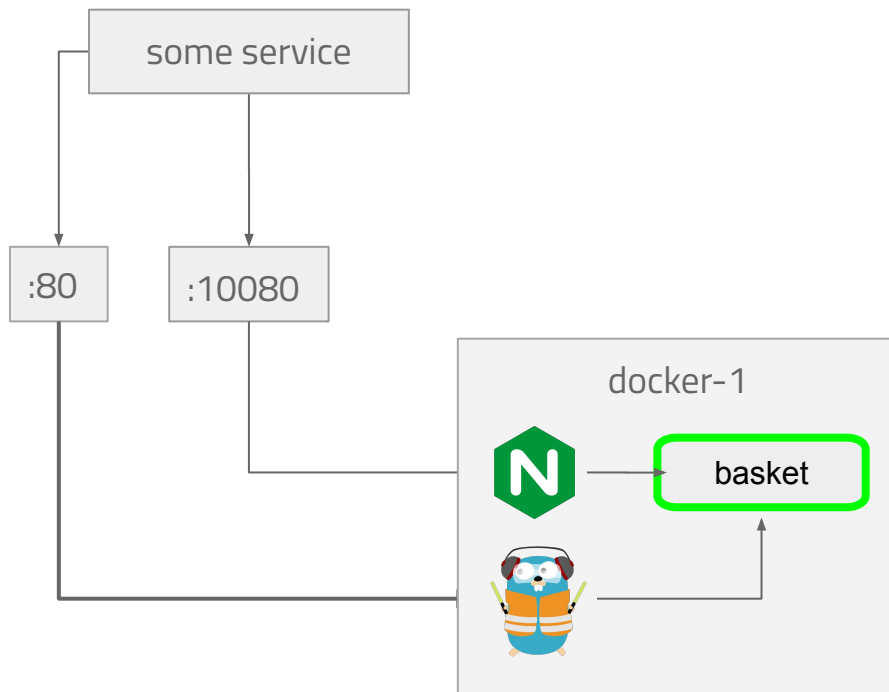
# Traefik

how to migrate



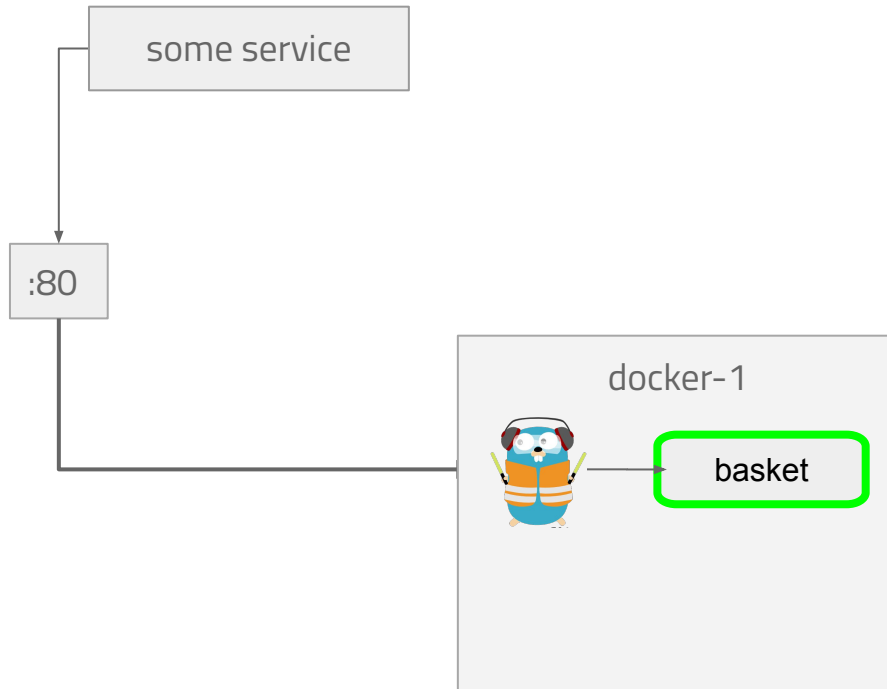
# Traefik

how to migrate



# Traefik

how to migrate



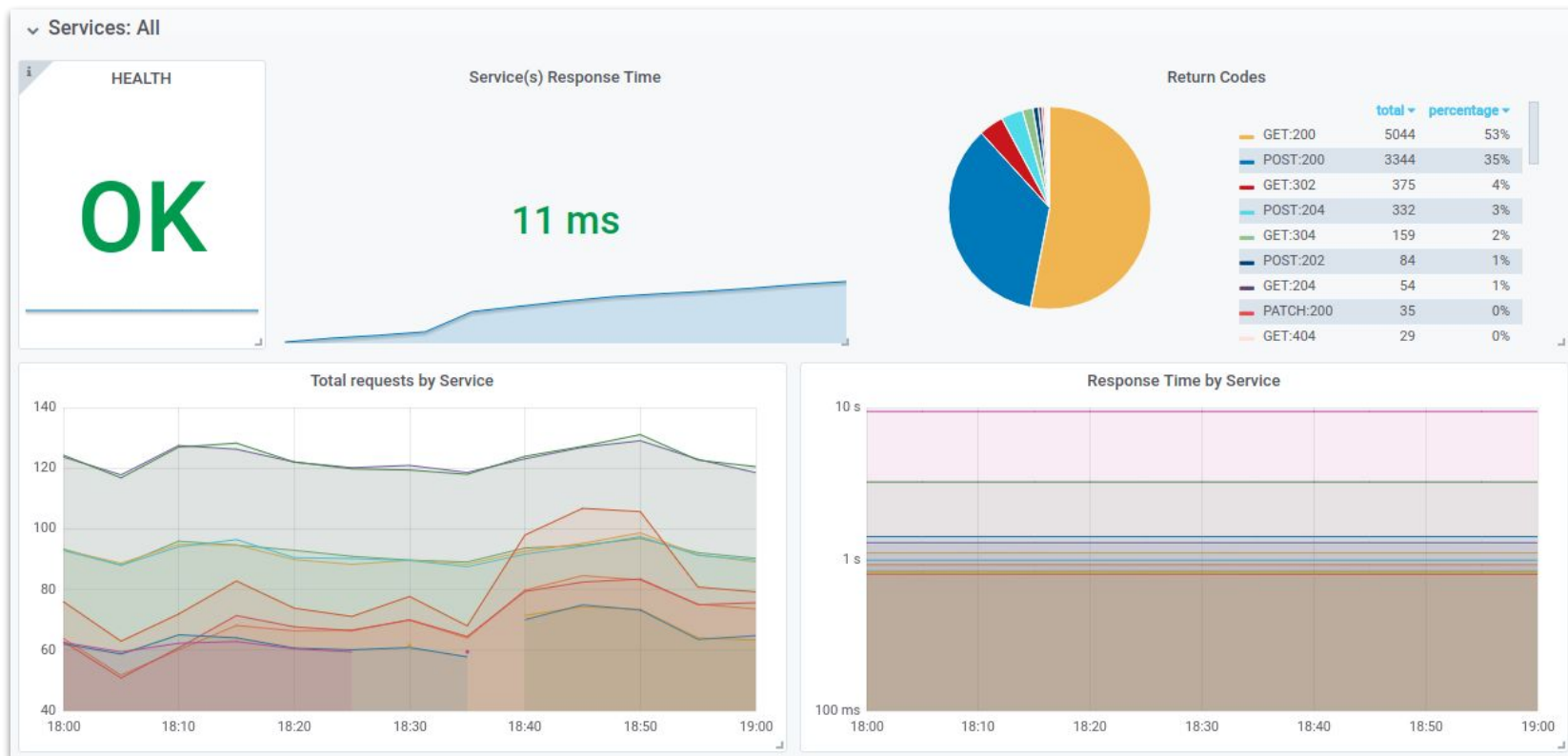
# Traefik

## Benefits

- Keepalive and connection problems immediately went away
- Almost real time data about service response time
- Web UI to check routes
- Rich access logs

# Traefik

## Benefits



# Traefik

## Benefits

The screenshot displays the Traefik dashboard interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the Traefik logo, 'PROVIDERS', 'HEALTH', and a status bar showing '14.7.1789 / KIRI' and a 'DOCUMENTATION' link. Below the navigation bar is a search bar labeled 'Filter by name or id ...'. The main content area is divided into two columns: 'FRONTENDS' and 'BACKENDS'.

**FRONTENDS**

- frontend-potato**: Shows a 'Main' tab with a 'Route Rule' section containing 'Host: potato.docker.local'. Below this are 'Entry Points' (http, https) and a 'Backend' (backend-potato).
- frontend-tomato**: Shows a 'Main' tab with 'Misc.' (Priority 1, Host Header true), 'Redirect' (Permanent to https), 'Basic Authentication' (test:Saprl5H6uskkkWSlgXLP6ewTtSuBkTrqE8wj/ test2:Saprl5d9hr9HBB54HxwgUir3HP4EsggP/QNo0), 'Error Pages' (Backend, Query, Status table), 'Whitelist' (10.42.0.0/16, 152.89.1.33/32, afedbe44:/16), and 'Headers' (Custom Request Headers).

**BACKENDS**

- backend-potato**: Shows a 'Main' tab with a table of servers and weights.
- backend-tomato**: Shows a 'Main' tab with 'Load Balancer' (Method wrr, Stickiness true, Cookie Name my\_cookie), 'Max Connections' (Amount 42, Extractor Function client-ip), 'Circuit Breaker' (Expression NetworkErrorRatio() > 0.5), 'Health Check' (Path /health, Port 80, Interval 10s, Hostname tomato.foo.bar.com), and 'Buffering' (Request Body Bytes, Response Body Bytes, Retry Expression).
- backend-lettuce**: Shows a 'Main' tab.

Server	Weight
https://172.16.1.2:80	4
https://172.16.1.3:80	2

Backend	Query	Status
errorhandler	/(status).html	500 502-504 404
errorhandler2	/(status).html	403 405-407

A large container ship is docked at a port, with several cranes visible in the background. The ship's hull is dark blue with the letters 'UASC' visible. A stack of colorful shipping containers (blue, orange, and white) is on the deck. A bright blue rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the word 'Problems' in white. The word 'Container' is written in white text to the left of the blue box. The background shows a clear sky and the silhouettes of port infrastructure.

# Container Problems

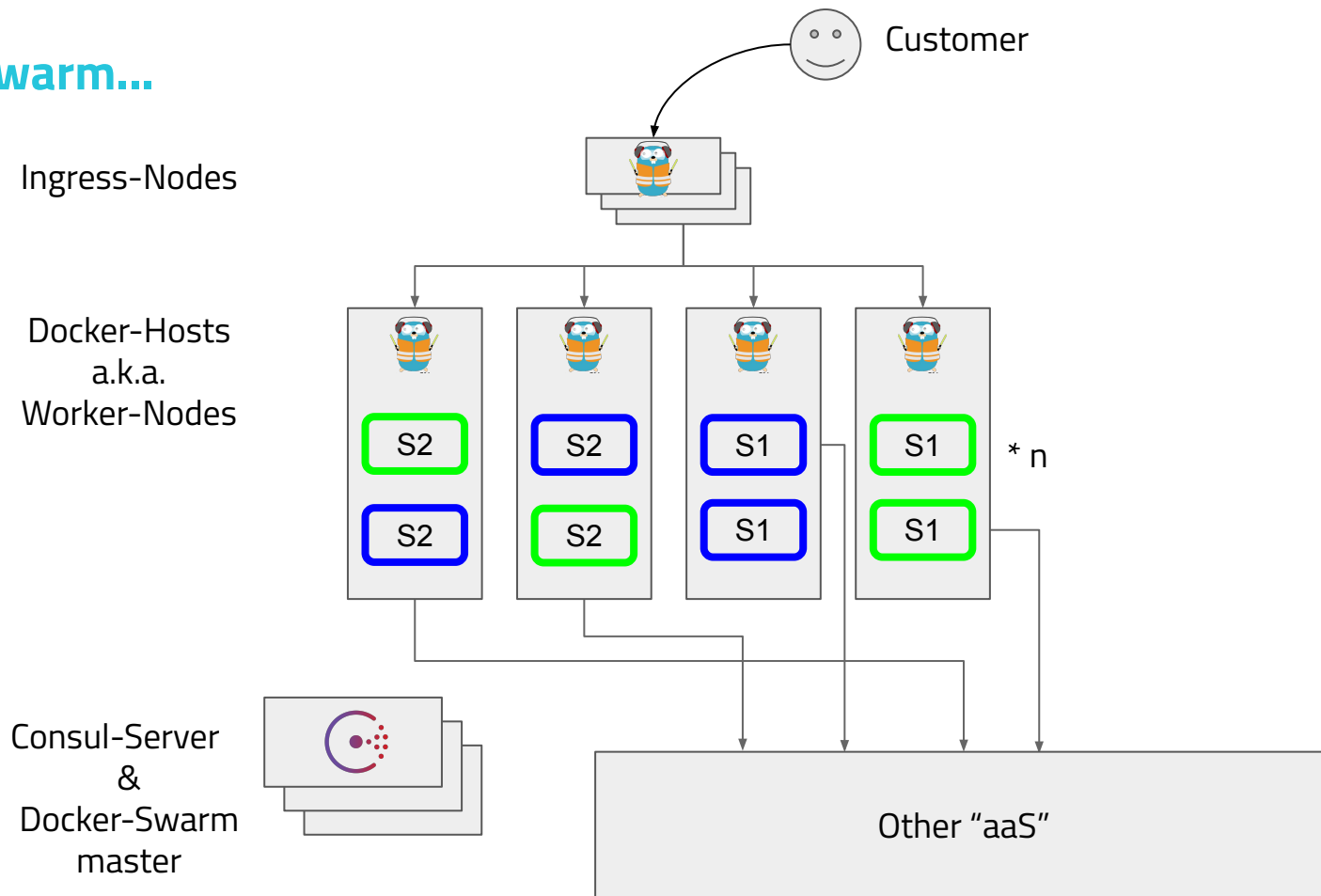


# Problems with standalone Swarm

also increased increased with increasing workload

- Poor container spread
  - all service instances running on one host
- No self healing
- Manual node draining (e.g. for maintenance)
  - we're still dependent on docker-compose files
- Only few metrics

## Swarm...



# We want this

- self healing
- proper container spread
- metrics
- resource limits (optional)
- stateless docker-host

# Possible replacements



HashiCorp

**Nomad**



**kubernetes**

# Nomad

- Seamless Consul integration
  - almost no setup needed
- Self healing
- Bin packing
- Single Go binary
- Nice Web UI
- (Memory) Limits enforced by default
- Token-based ACL



HashiCorp

# Nomad

# Nomad

## Benefits

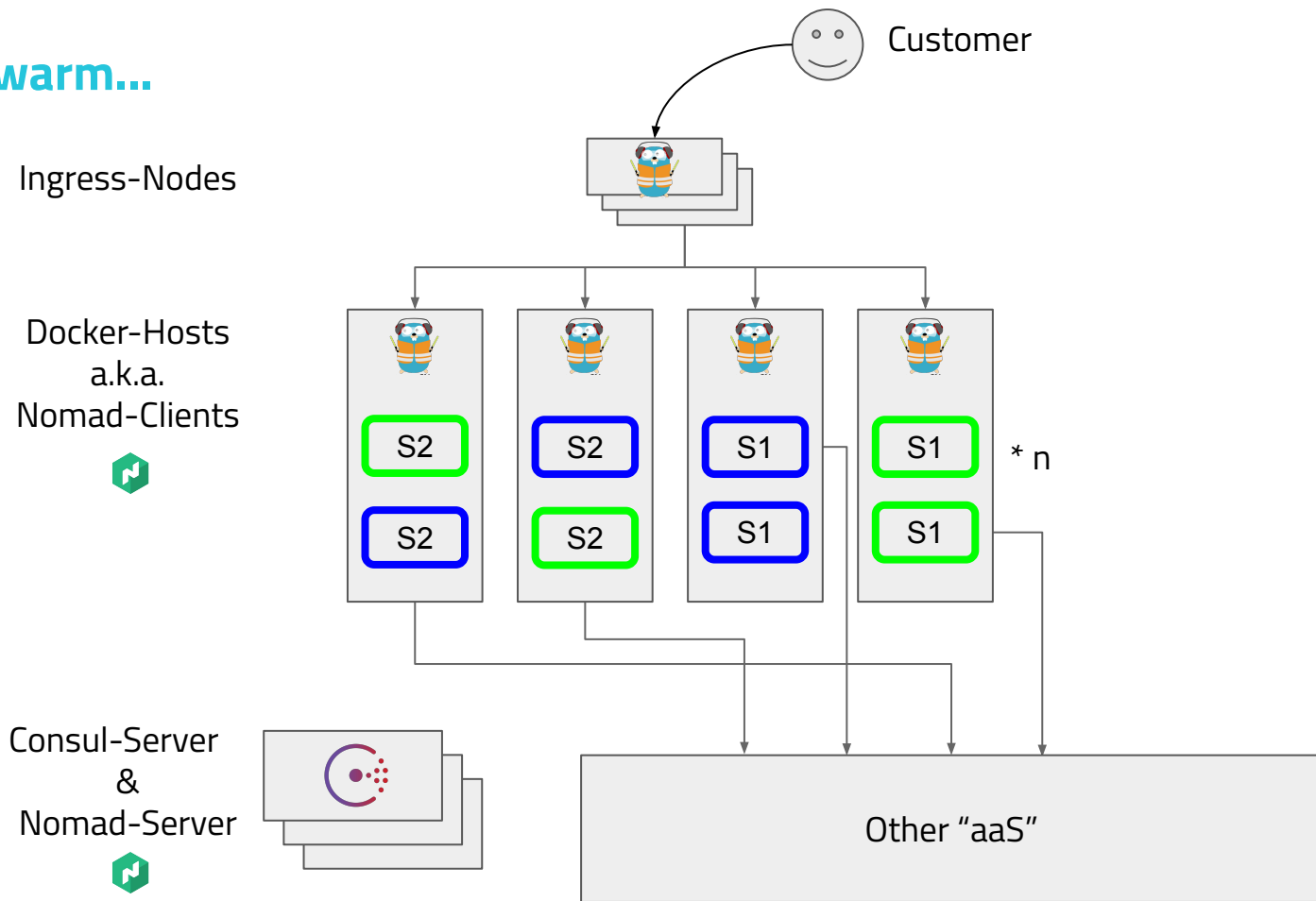
- Not limited to Docker
  - Rkt and LXC
- Not limited to Containers
  - Jar files
  - Binaries
  - VMs



HashiCorp

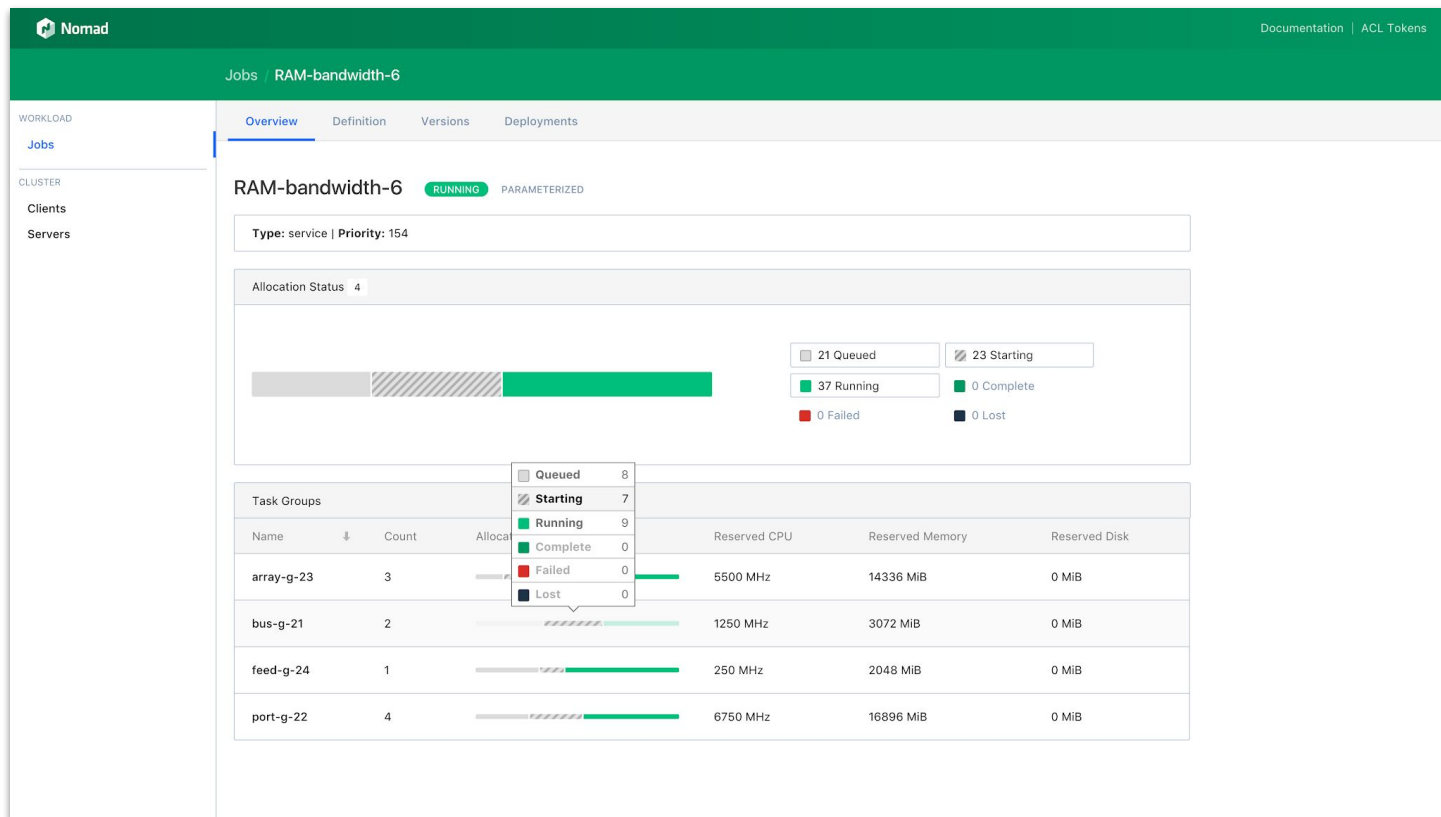
# Nomad

# Swarm...



# Nomad

## Benefits

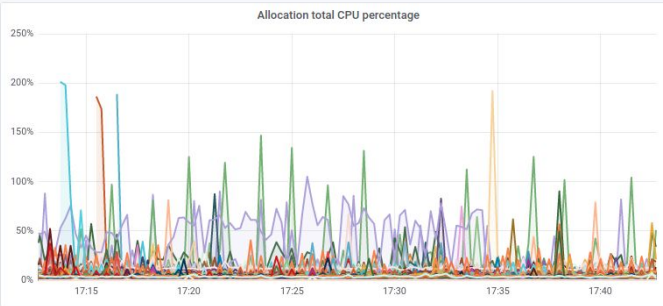




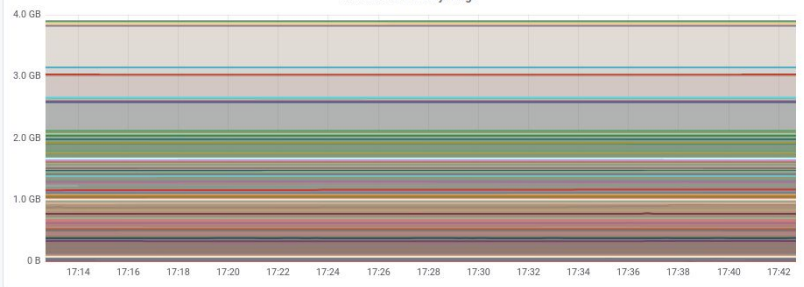
# Nomad

## Benefits - Cluster Level

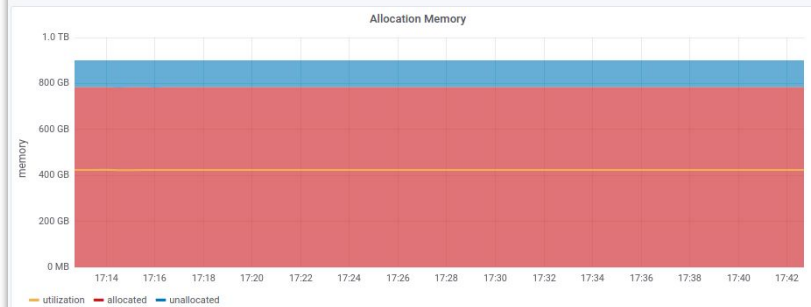
### ✓ Allocations



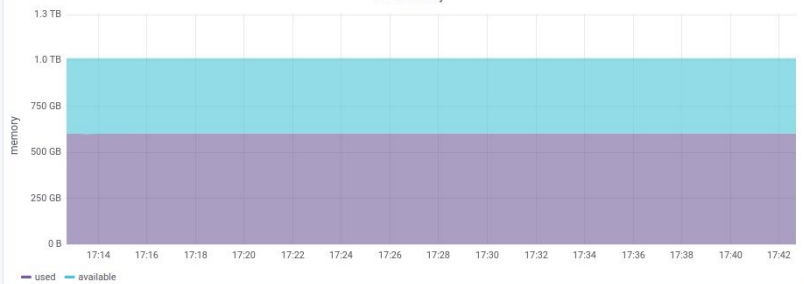
Allocations memory usage



### ✓ Memory

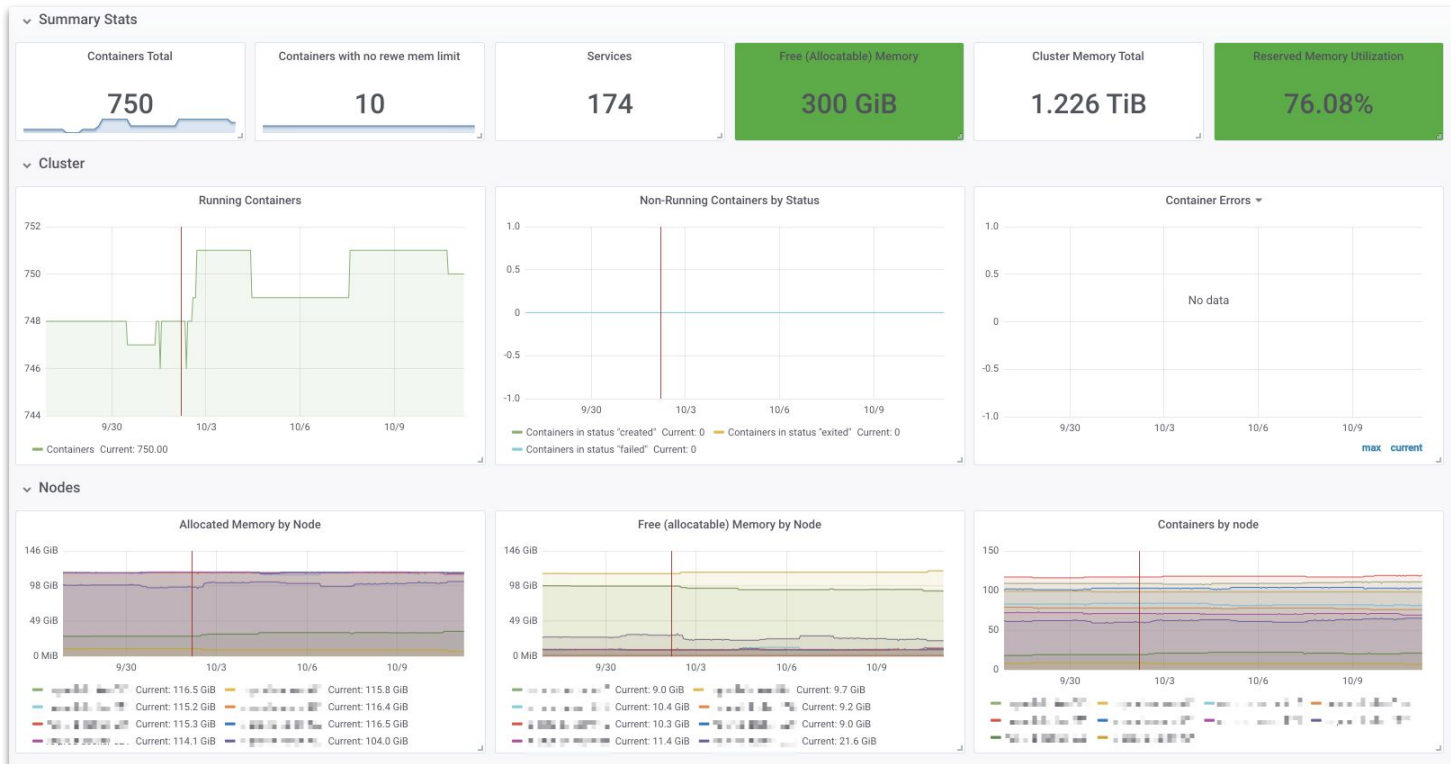


Host Memory



# Nomad

## Benefits - Cluster Level



# Nomad

## Benefits - Service Level



# Nomad

## Benefits

[Slash](#) [Services](#) [API Docs](#) [Install CLI](#) [Grafana](#) [Kibana5](#) [Zabbix](#) [More](#)

[Home](#) / [Services](#) / slash

[Slash](#) [Access Logs](#) [Service Events](#) [Health Checks](#)

### Containers - Blue

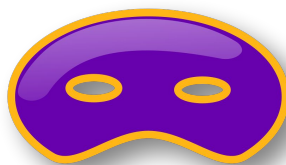
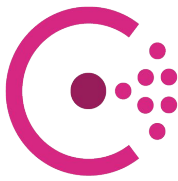
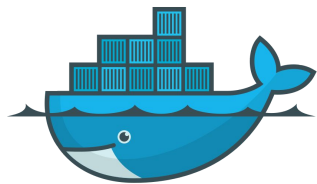
Team	ACME	ID	Started	Server	Image	State
<b>Squad</b>	platform	72eded7b	2019-04-29 13:48:45	server-001	blue_blue_12	Running
<b>Service Version</b>	blue_12					
<b>Routing</b>	Inactive					
<b>Routing Zone</b>	e-commerce					
<b>Healthy instances</b>	2 / 2					
<b>Logs</b>	Kibana5					
<b>Metrics</b>	Grafana					
<b>Url</b>			http://171.31.732			
<b>Task Allocation</b>	Kibana5					
<b>Logs by Name</b>	Kibana5					
<b>Metrics</b>	Grafana					
<b>Environment</b>	Show					
<b>Memory Allowance</b>	512 MB			Memory	CPU	
<b>Disk Allowance</b>	110 MB					
		d24dc586	2019-04-29 13:48:45	server-001	blue_blue_12	Running

### Containers - Green

Team	ACME	ID	Started	Server	Image	State
<b>Squad</b>	platform	3a3fdc3d	2019-04-29 16:58:18	server-001	green_green_13	Running
<b>Service Version</b>	green_13					
<b>Routing</b>	Active					
<b>Routing Zone</b>	e-commerce					
<b>Healthy instances</b>	2 / 2					
<b>Logs</b>	Kibana5					
<b>Metrics</b>	Grafana					
		650d2a5f	2019-04-29 16:58:13	server-001	green_green_13	Running

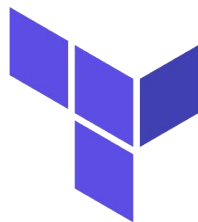
# State of 2019

We're operating a custom Docker-Environment consisting of:



# State of 2019

And we're also using



HashiCorp

# Terraform





A nighttime photograph of the Cologne Cathedral, a large Gothic church, illuminated and reflected in the Rhine river. In the foreground, the Hohenzollern Bridge, a large steel arch bridge, is also illuminated. The bridge's structure is a complex network of steel beams and arches. The river is calm, reflecting the lights from the bridge and the cathedral. The sky is dark, and the overall scene is a classic night view of Cologne.

# What we Learned

# What helped us most?

- Having a centralised deployment-toolset
  - perform all changes for all teams / developers at the same time
- Do Canary-like changes on our infrastructure
  - fully interoperable changes
  - Nginx <-> Traefik



# What did we learn?

- Distributed systems can be hard
- Keeping your architecture pluggable helps a lot
- Computing resources can be finite
  - Enforcing resource limits can be interesting
- You might not need Kubernetes...

# Evolution of a Microservice Infrastructure

OSAD 2019, Munich

## Thank You!

Paul Puschmann @ppuschmann

[www.rewe-digital.com](http://www.rewe-digital.com) @rewedigitaltech