



Do we still need architects?

Bert Jan Schrijver
bertjan@openvalue.eu





DALL·E 2: "a software architect questioning whether we still need architects, photo realistic"



Do we still need architects?



What is software architecture?

A man with a shaved head, looking thoughtful, with his hand on his head. The image is dimmed and serves as a background for the text.

Why do we “do” architecture?

A photograph of two skateboarders on a paved road. One skateboarder, wearing a yellow t-shirt and blue jeans, is in mid-air, having fallen off their skateboard. The other skateboarder, wearing a pink t-shirt and dark pants, is standing on their skateboard, looking back towards the fallen person. The background shows a hilly, arid landscape under a clear sky.

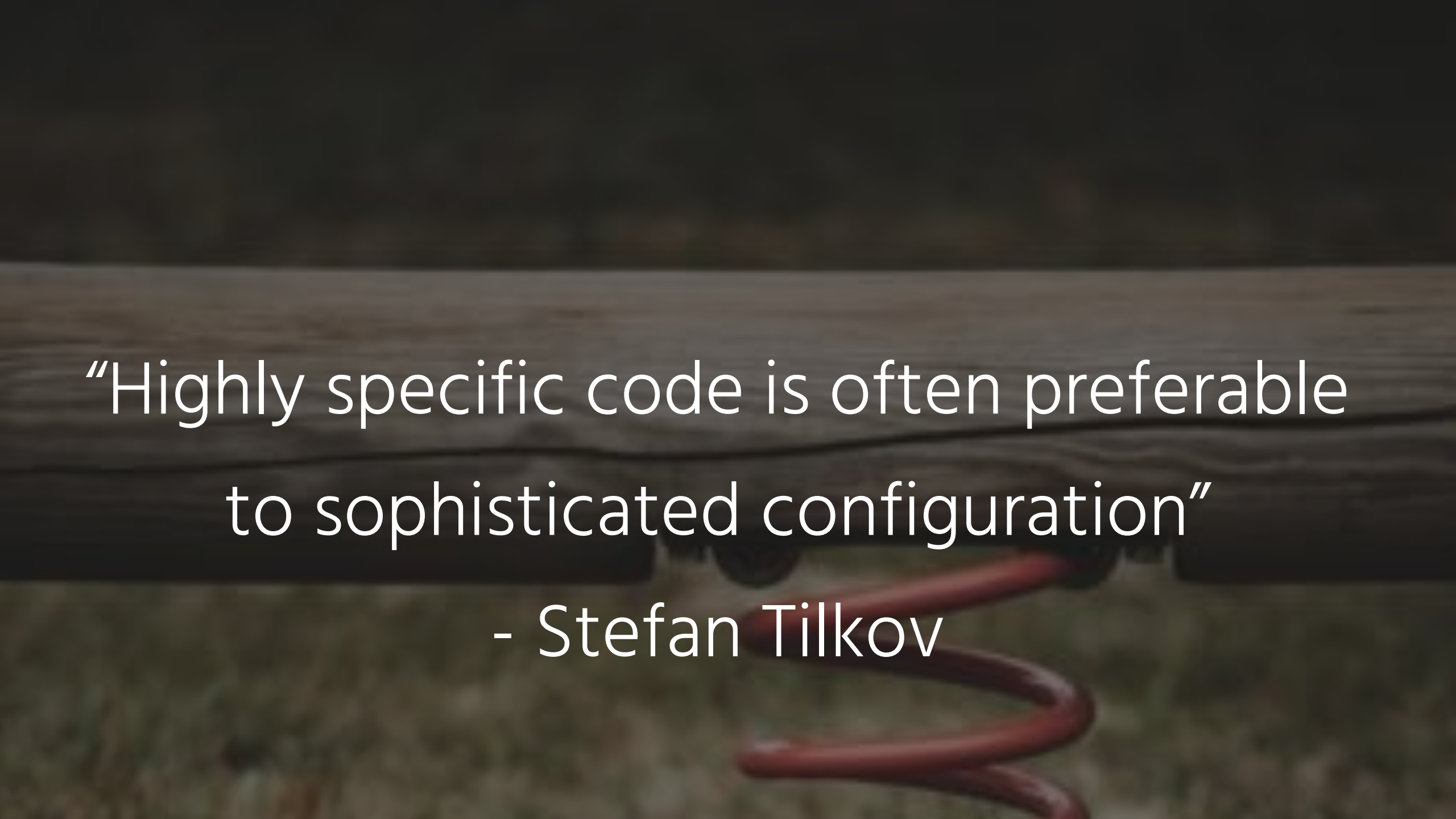
The impact of making the wrong decision



Source: <https://twitter.com/changelog/status/1586882941963091969>

About flexibility in software...



A red metal spring is positioned vertically on a wooden surface. The spring is coiled and appears to be under tension, as it is stretched upwards. The wooden surface is composed of horizontal planks with a natural wood grain. The background is dark and out of focus.

“Highly specific code is often preferable
to sophisticated configuration”

- Stefan Tilkov



Software architecture 15 years ago...



What changed in the past 15 years?

BACKLOG

TO DO

DOING








DONE

Agile software development

A dimly lit control room with several operators at computer workstations. The room is filled with rows of desks, each equipped with multiple computer monitors displaying various data and charts. The operators are focused on their work, and the overall atmosphere is professional and technical. The text "DevOps" is overlaid in the center of the image.

DevOps

Principles of DevOps

-  Gradual changes
-  Customer oriented
-  Automation
-  Ownership
-  Collaboration
-  Experimentation
-  Continuous improvement





Continuous Delivery

A photograph of two skateboarders on a paved road in a desert landscape. The skateboarder on the left is standing on their board, wearing a pink t-shirt and dark pants. The skateboarder on the right is falling off their board, wearing a yellow t-shirt and blue jeans. The background shows a vast, arid landscape with rolling hills and sparse vegetation under a clear sky.

“Continuous Delivery & DevOps
sound great, but it won’t work here...”

“CD & DevOps won't work here”

- Stated reasons:
 - we're regulated
 - we're not building websites
 - too much legacy
 - our people are too stupid
- Actual reasons:
 - our culture stinks
 - our architecture stinks

Source: talk by Jez Humble

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=837Z_oehhRg



Cloud

**THERE IS NO CLOUD
IT'S JUST SOMEONE ELSE'S COMPUTER**

Source: <http://www.matrixfans.net/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/spoon-boy.jpg>

A close-up photograph of a terrarium containing several different types of succulent plants. The plants are arranged in a circular glass container. The central focus is a large, light-colored succulent with thick, rounded leaves. To its left is a darker green, spiky succulent. In the foreground, there are smaller, more delicate green succulents. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color. The word "Microservices" is overlaid in white text in the center of the image.

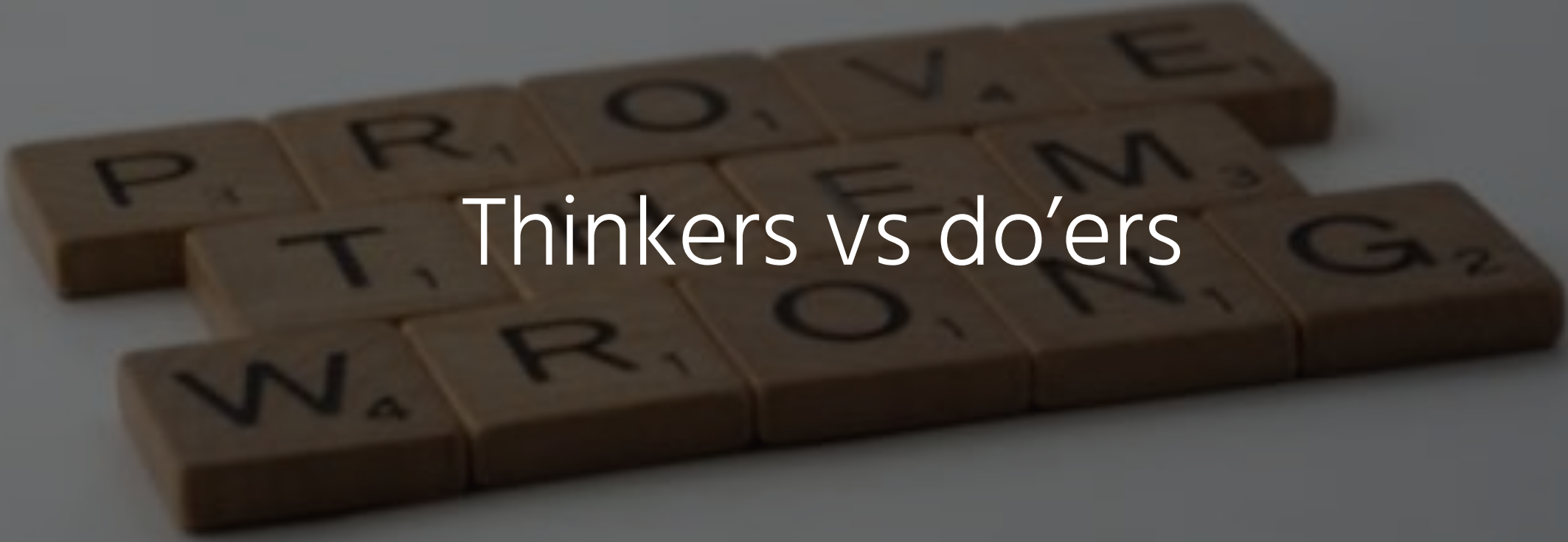
Microservices

Anatomy of a microservice

- Small in size, single responsibility
- Runs in its own process
- Independently develop, deploy, upgrade, scale
- Has its own data store
- Distributed by default
- Potentially heterogeneous/polyglot
- Light-weight communication

AI & ML

W
AC



Thinkers vs do'ers

A grayscale architectural drawing of a dome's interior, showing a grid of structural ribs and a central opening. The drawing is centered on the page, and the text is overlaid on it.

Software architecture in the current age



Generic vs specific



Where does an architecture live?



Should architects code?



What if you're a non-coding architect?

...here.



A software architect is **not**
a retired developer

How do you become a better architect?

**ASK MORE
QUESTIONS**



Are architects still relevant?

Success Ln

Summary

Failure Dr



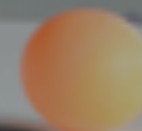
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Questions?

Thanks for your time.

Got feedback? Tweet it!



All pictures belong to their respective authors

