

***PEOPLE LOVE TO DEBATE ABOUT THINGS.  
PROBLEM IS: IN SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE,  
WE NEED DECISIONS AFTER THE DEBATE.***

"Either Have Taste or Have a Software  
Architecture – Not Both!"

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# LET'S COLLECT SOME TOPICS OF DEBATE

What opinions did you have debates about?

Put stickies here (use cmd-D or ctrl-D to duplicate):

- Green: your proposal
- Red: "their" proposal

Double-click on a word to edit it

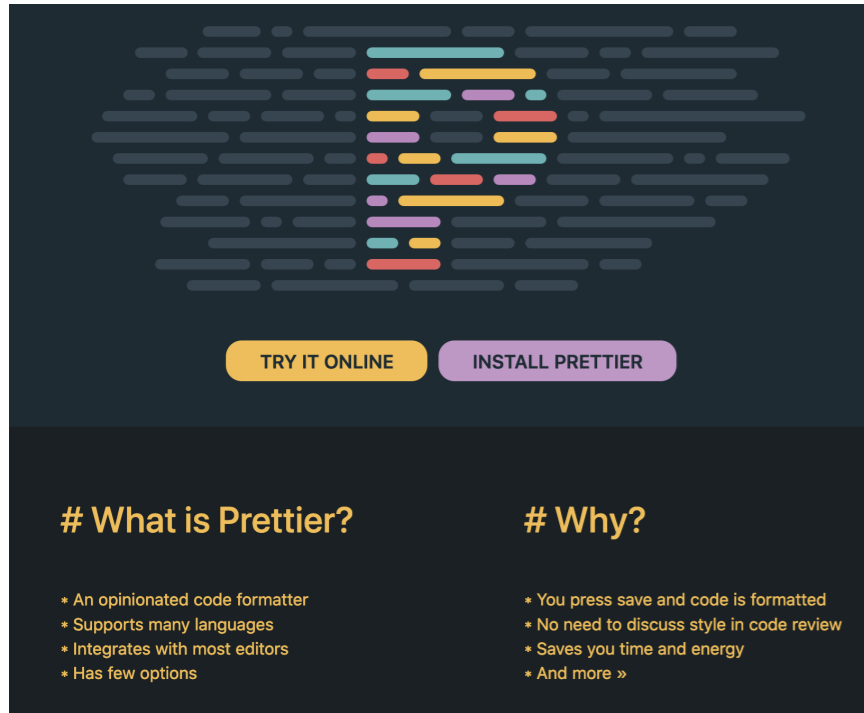
Zoom in or out with your mouse wheel (or with two fingers on a touchpad)



# WHY DO PEOPLE HAVE DEBATES?

## Example: Code formatting

How long did you discuss these questions?



Should a single lambda parameter have parentheses around it?

```
const putMarketingDocument = useMutation<MarketingDocument, unknown, MarketingDocument>(
  mutationFn: async (md : MarketingDocument) =>
    axios
      .put<MarketingDocument>( url: `${apis.server}/marketing-docs/${edgeNodePair.link.id}`, md)
      .then((response : AxiosResponse<T> ) => response.data),
);
```



Should the keyword "else" better be on the next line?

```
if (result === undefined && this._undefinedResult) {
  this._undefinedResult();
} else if (result !== undefined && this._normalBehaviour) {
  this._normalBehaviour(result);
}
```



<https://prettier.io/> makes most of these choices **non-configurable**, ending the debates about this.

**PEOPLE DEBATE B/C  
THEY OPTIMIZE FOR  
DIFFERENT GOALS**

Architecture is not  
as easy to decide as  
code formatting.

Architectural  
debates might take  
10x longer!

I want  
performance.

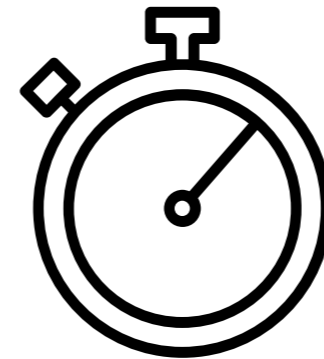


"Let's add a  
cache."

I want a system  
that's easy to  
maintain.

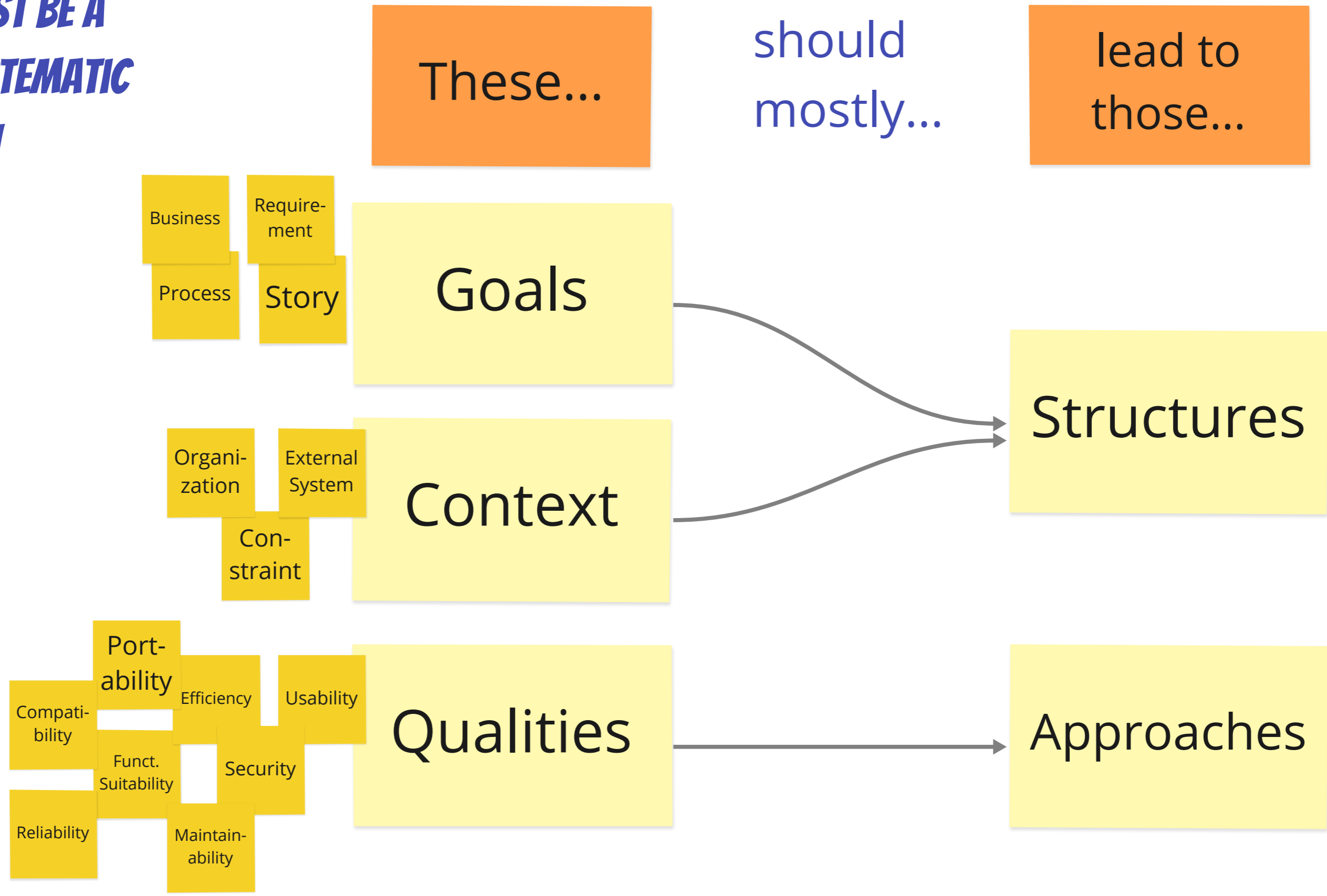


"Let's avoid  
a cache."



Do we have time for this?

***THERE MUST BE A  
MORE SYSTEMATIC  
APPROACH***

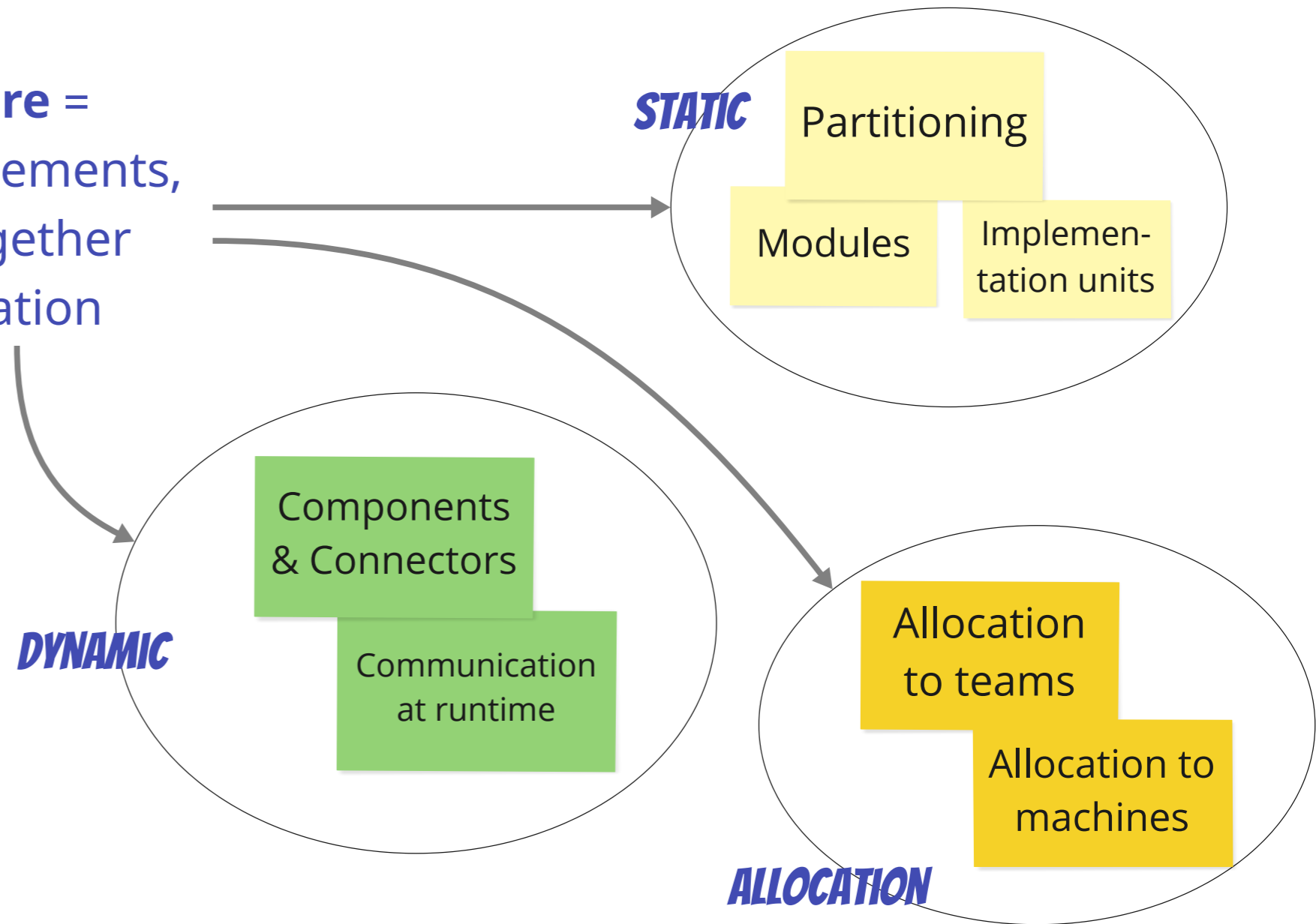


# SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE IS...

the set of **structures** needed to **reason** about the system which comprise software elements, **relations** among them, and **properties** of both.

*Bass, Clements, Kazman:  
Software architecture in practice,  
3rd edition, page 4*

**Structure =**  
set of elements,  
held together  
by a relation

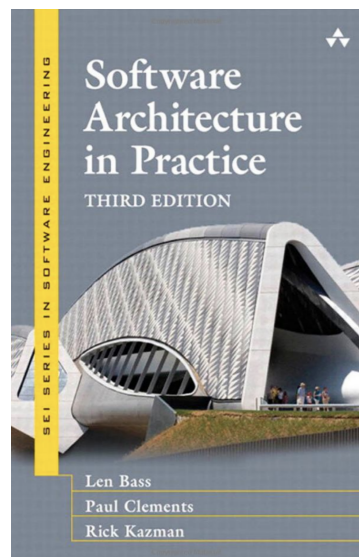


## Reasoning

about an attribute of the system that is important to some stakeholder

## Approach =

a way in which patterns and tactics affect particular quality attributes



# ***WHAT PATTERNS AND TACTICS DO WE USE TO ACHIEVE QUALITIES?***

availability

Active redundancy

availability, scalability

Peer-to-Peer

portability, maintainability

Layers

at expense of performance

performance

Caching

at expense of maintainability

Publish/subscribe

scalability, maintainability

usability, modularity

MVC

## ***SOME EXAMPLES:***

Pipes and filters

reuse, loose coupling

Client / Server

modifiability, ease of deployment

# WHAT APPROACHES DO YOU USE IN YOUR ARCHITECTURE?

Put stickies here (use cmd-D or ctrl-D to duplicate)

Double-click on a word to edit it

Write it as "A for Q", i.e. "approach A to reach quality Q"

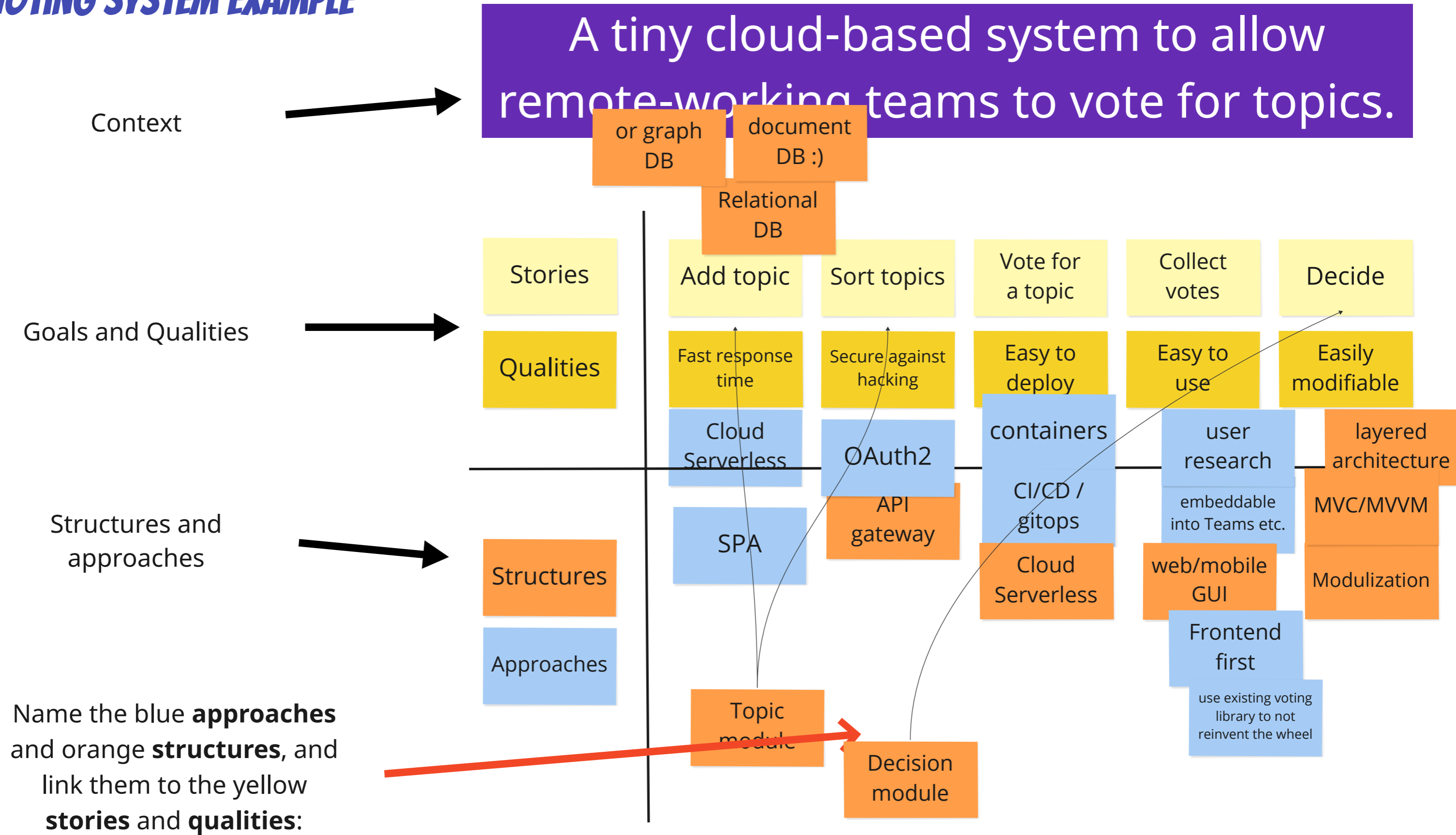
Zoom in or out with your mouse wheel (or with two fingers on a touchpad)



Duplicate these and change the name



# THE TINY VOTING SYSTEM EXAMPLE



# STANDARDIZE YOUR ARCHITECTURE VOCABULARY

Whenever these come in...

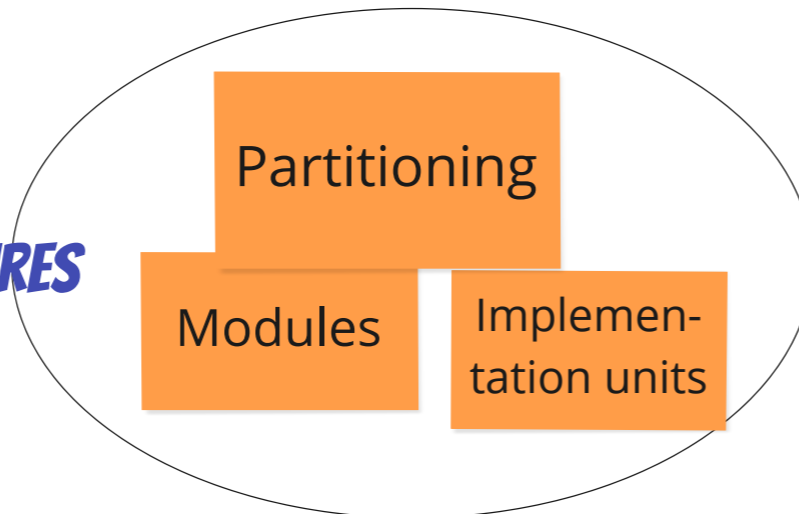
Context

Goal

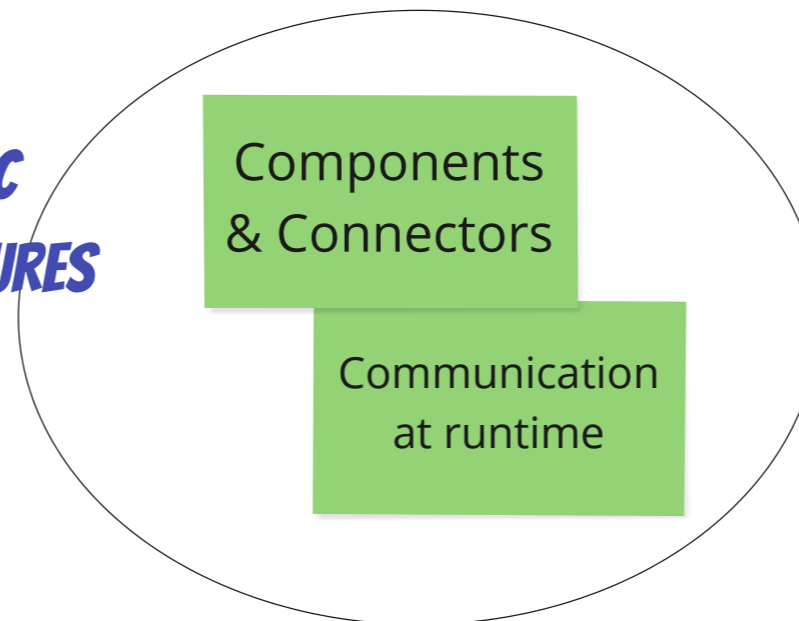
Quality

Those need to be created / modified:

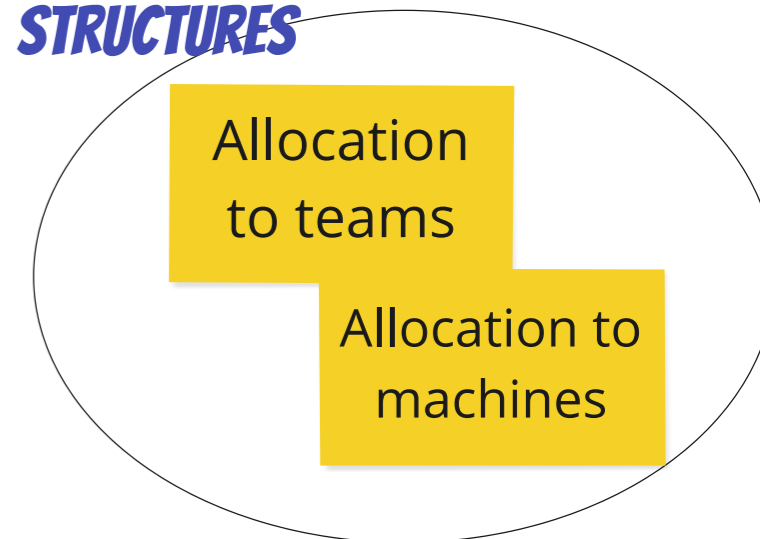
## STATIC STRUCTURES



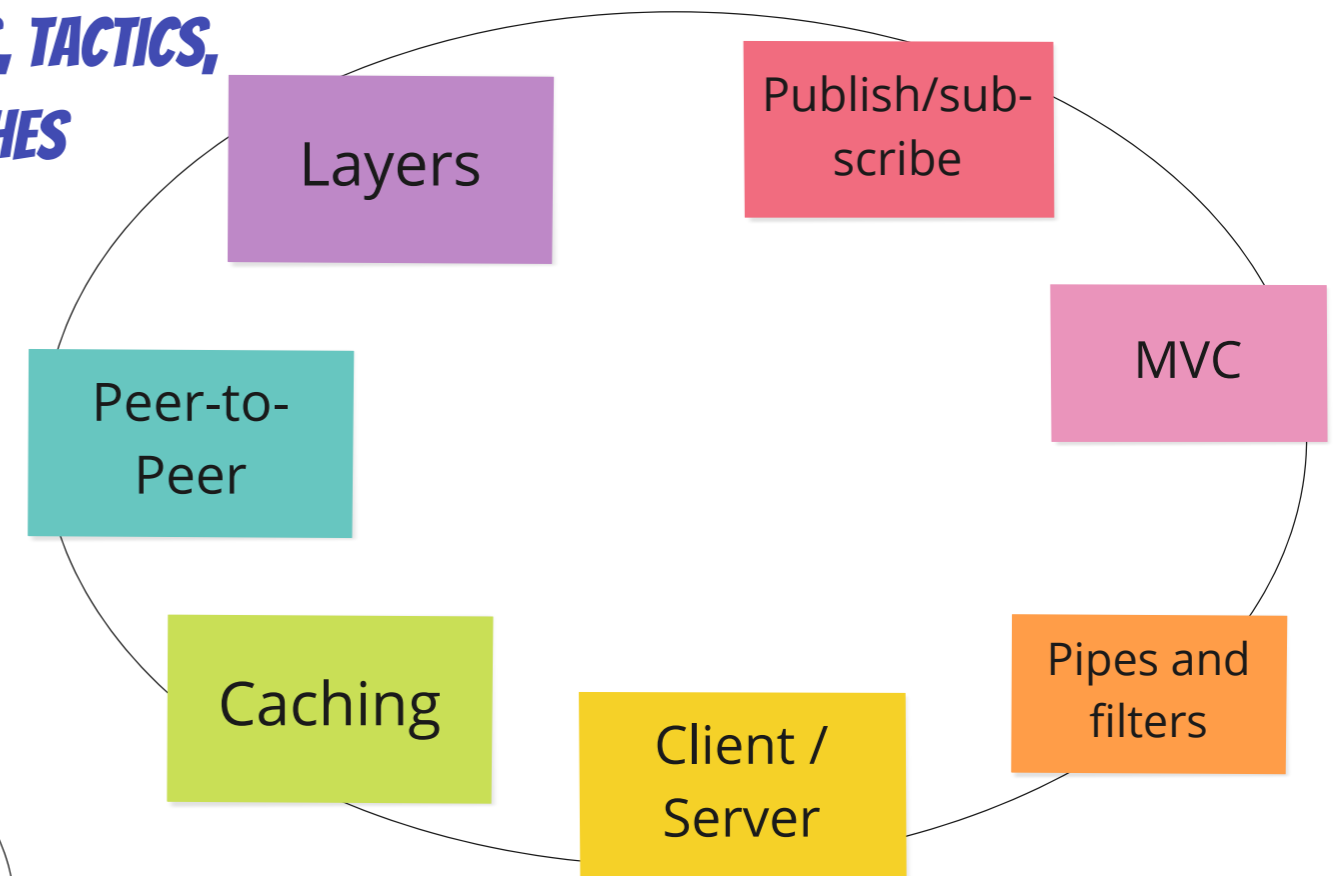
## DYNAMIC STRUCTURES



## ALLOCATION STRUCTURES



## PATTERNS, TACTICS, APPROACHES



# REPEATABLE DECISIONS (ARCHITECTURAL POLICIES)

Some stakeholder wants...

- a function
- a report
- another kind of "story"

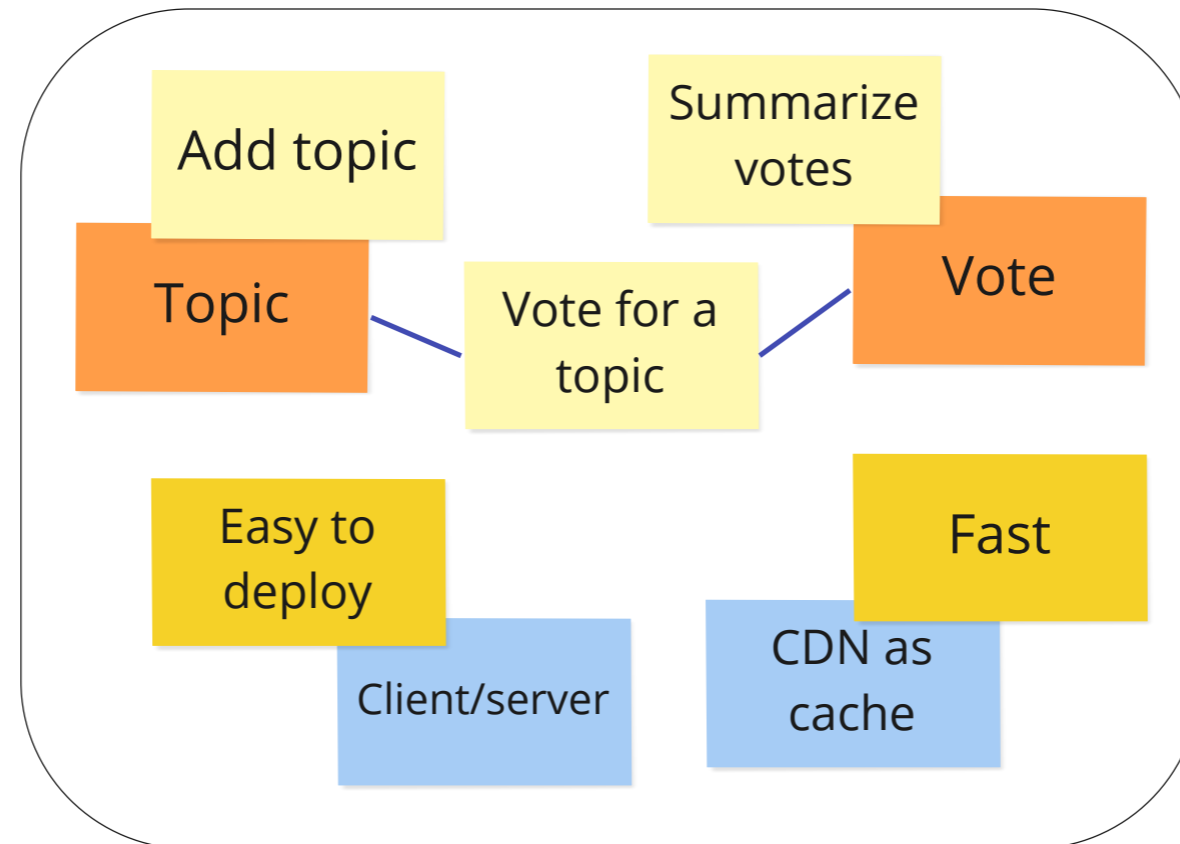
goal

To make stories run, we need to make

- a module
- a component
- a communication mechanism

structure

"When we need another quality, we look for a known approach for that."



"When we get a goal (e.g. a story), we look for structure(s) that can support it."

quality

- Attributes like
- performance
  - security
  - usability...
  - (ISO 25010 has 5 more!)

approach

pattern

tactic

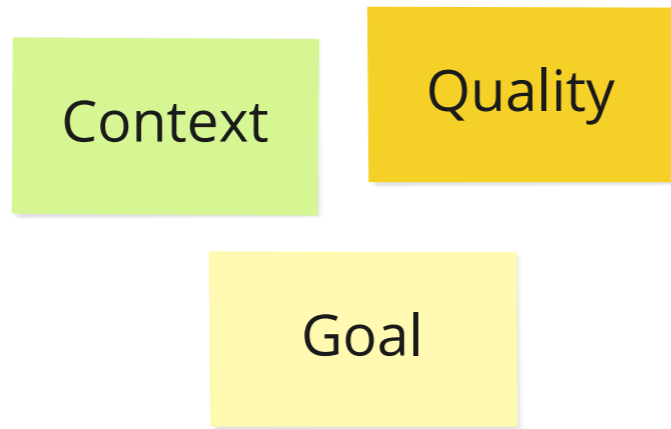
Ways to affect a quality attribute

- tactic = to-do
- pattern = known solution for a problem
- approach = larger concept that uses tactics and patterns

# PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Don't forget to get feedback and iterate!

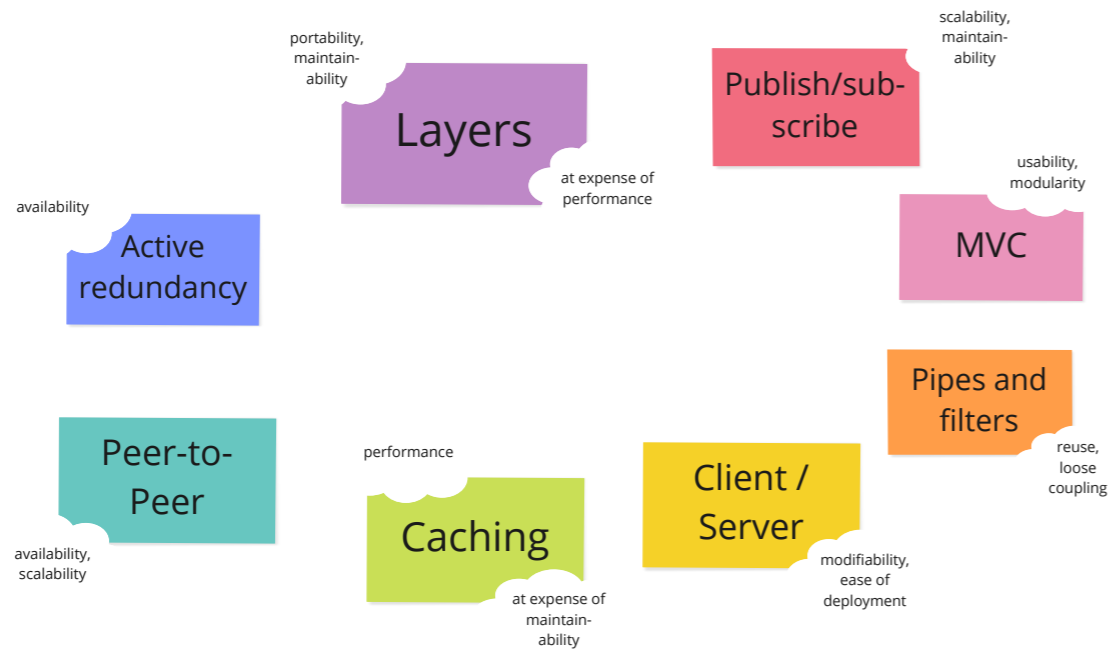
## Incoming architectural forces



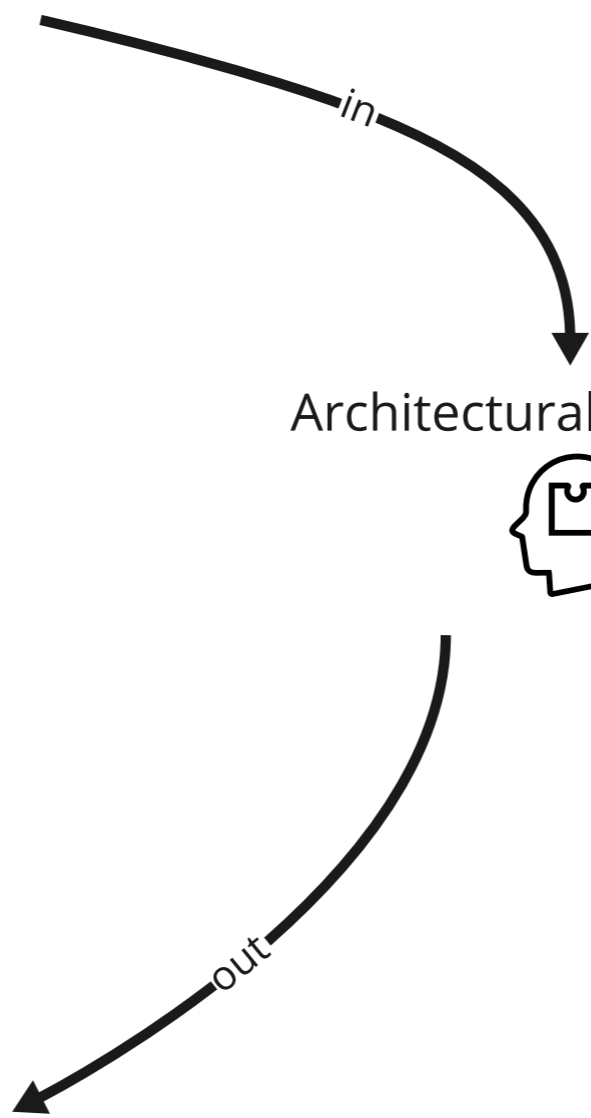
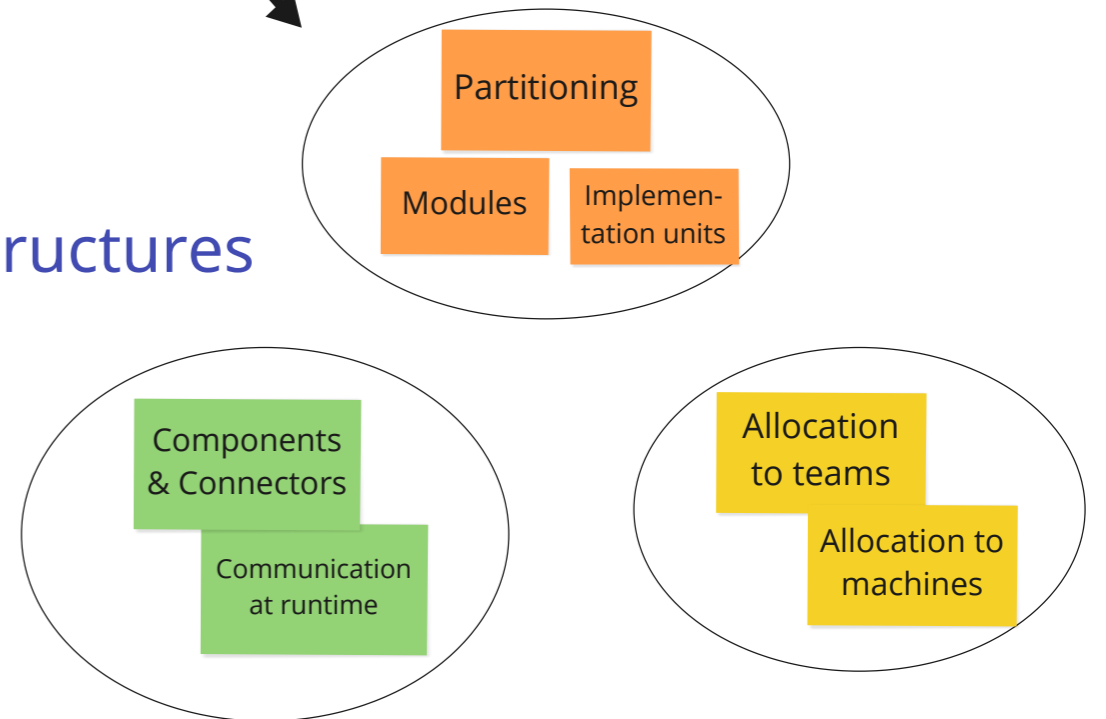
## Architectural reasoning



## Approaches



## Structures



# TO-DOS FOR MONDAY

Run an "architectural vocabulary" workshop with your team

1

Show the TVS example

Brainstorm existing vocabulary

Collect, write, use, improve!

2

Collect context & goals

Collect qualities

Collect existing structures

3

Identify element types

Identify relation types

**Structure** = set of **elements**, held together by a **relation**

5

Name all the stuff you found

Put vocabulary and policies into your team's Wiki

Brainstorm existing tactics

Brainstorm existing patterns

Bundle them as approaches

4

**IF YOU NEED HELP**

**WITH THIS OR WITH**

**DOMAIN-DRIVEN DESIGN...**

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