

Lessons learned after 18 months of Micro Frontends adoption in a large scale application

Eder Ignatowicz

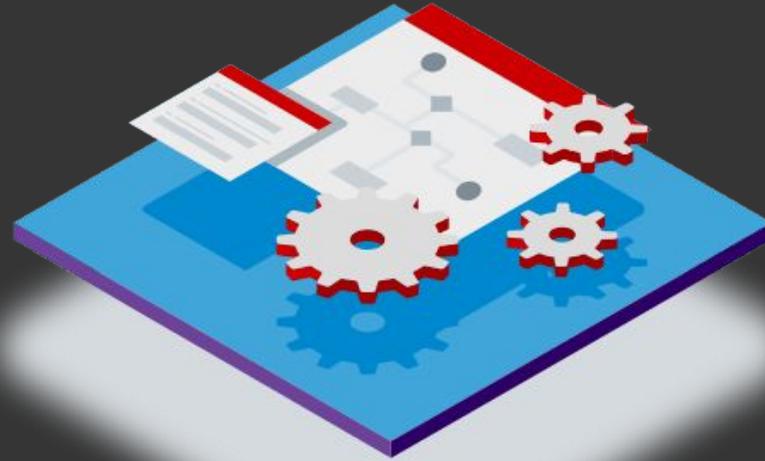
Principal Software Engineer

@ederign

Alex Porcelli

Senior Principal Software Engineer

@porcelli



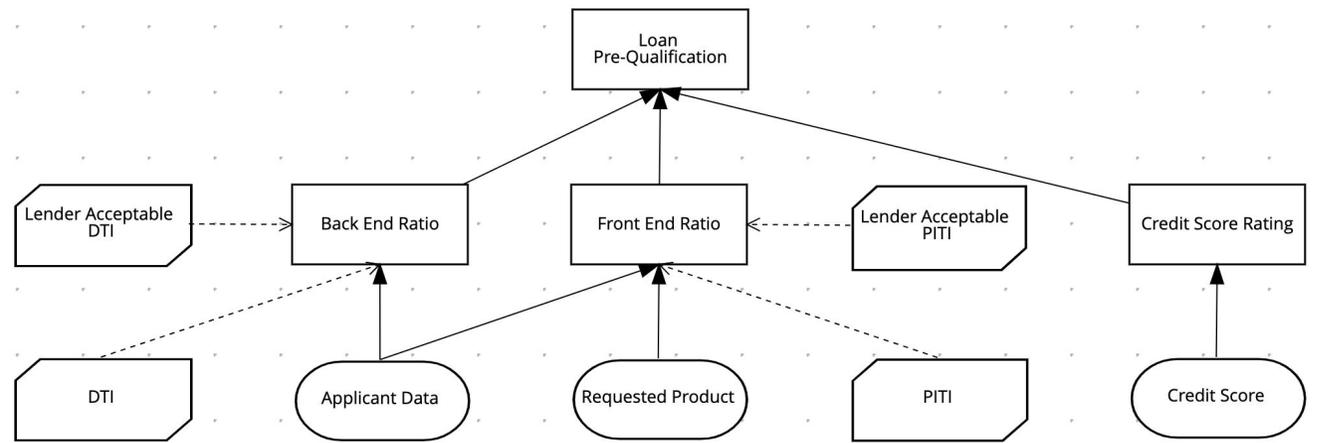
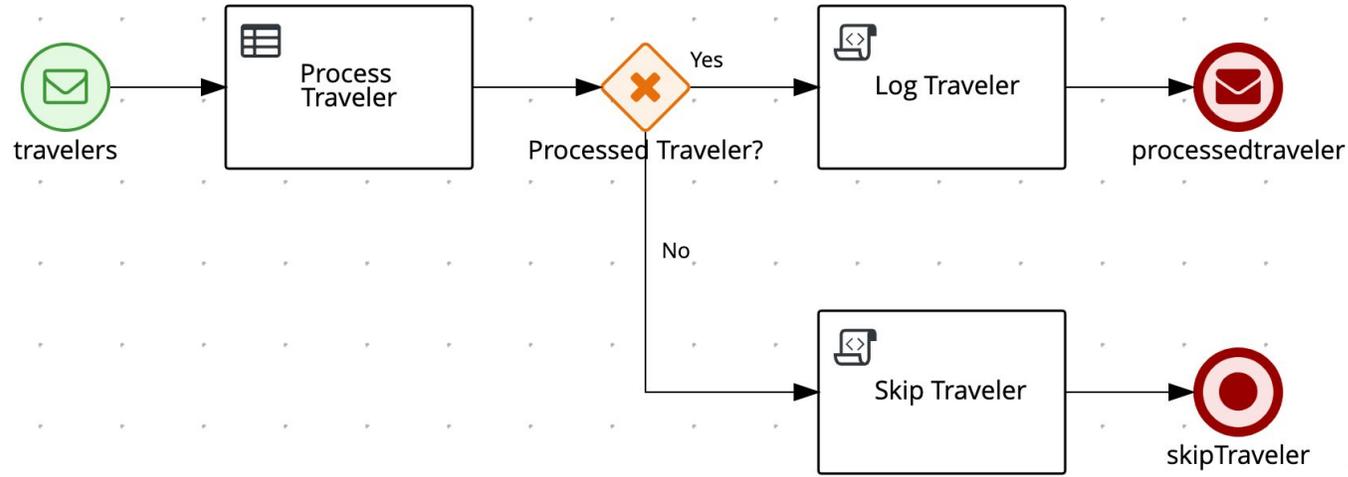
localhost:8080/business-central/kie-wb.jsp#HomePerspective%7Corg.kie.workbench.common.screens.home.client.HomePresenter

Business Central Menu krisv

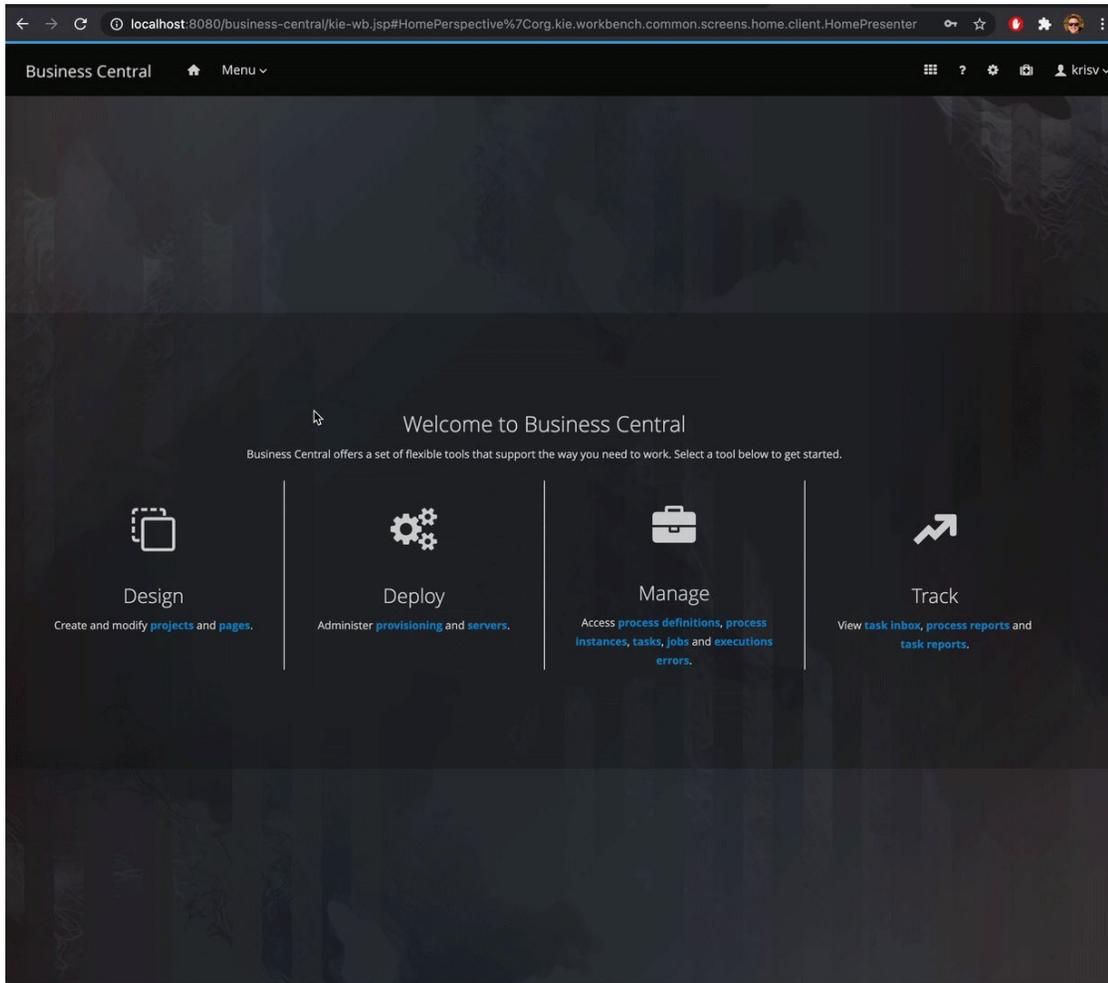
Welcome to Business Central

Business Central offers a set of flexible tools that support the way you need to work. Select a tool below to get started.

- 
Design
Create and modify **projects** and **pages**.
- 
Deploy
Administer **provisioning** and **servers**.
- 
Manage
Access **process definitions**, **process instances**, **tasks**, **jobs** and **executions errors**.
- 
Track
View **task inbox**, **process reports** and **task reports**.







Kogito ergo automate

CLOUD-NATIVE BUSINESS AUTOMATION FOR BUILDING INTELLIGENT
APPLICATIONS, BACKED BY BATTLE-TESTED CAPABILITIES.

How to adapt a 10 years old legacy
to modern web development?

From a handful of engineers to
6 different fullstack teams working
independently on different fronts
on this new initiative?

How to breakup my frontend monolith into many smaller manageable pieces?

Micro frontends

"An architectural style where independently deliverable frontend applications are composed into a greater whole"

—

Cam Jackson

<https://martinfowler.com/articles/micro-frontends.html>

Incremental upgrades

Simple, decoupled codebases

Each micro frontend can run as standalone

Independent deployment and releases

Autonomous Teams

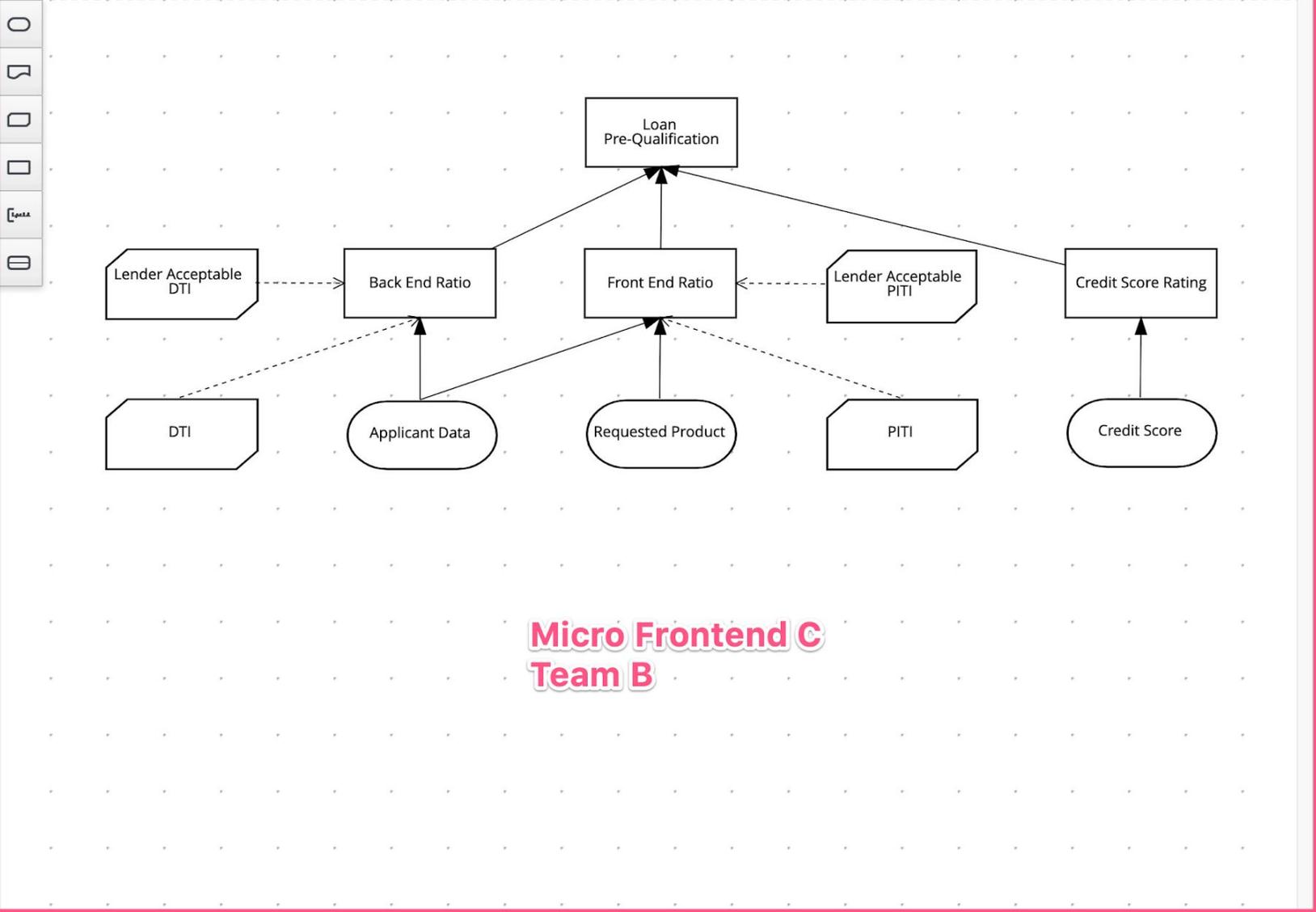
Decision Navigator

Editor Documentation Data Types

Decision Graphs

- loan_pre_qualification
 - Applicant Data
 - Back End Ratio
 - Context
 - Credit Score Rating
 - Decision Table
 - Credit Score
 - DTI
 - f() Function
 - Front End Ratio
 - Context
 - Lender Acceptable DTI
 - f() Function
 - Lender Acceptable PITI
 - f() Function
 - Loan Pre-Qualification
 - Decision Table
 - PITI
 - f() Function
 - Requested Product

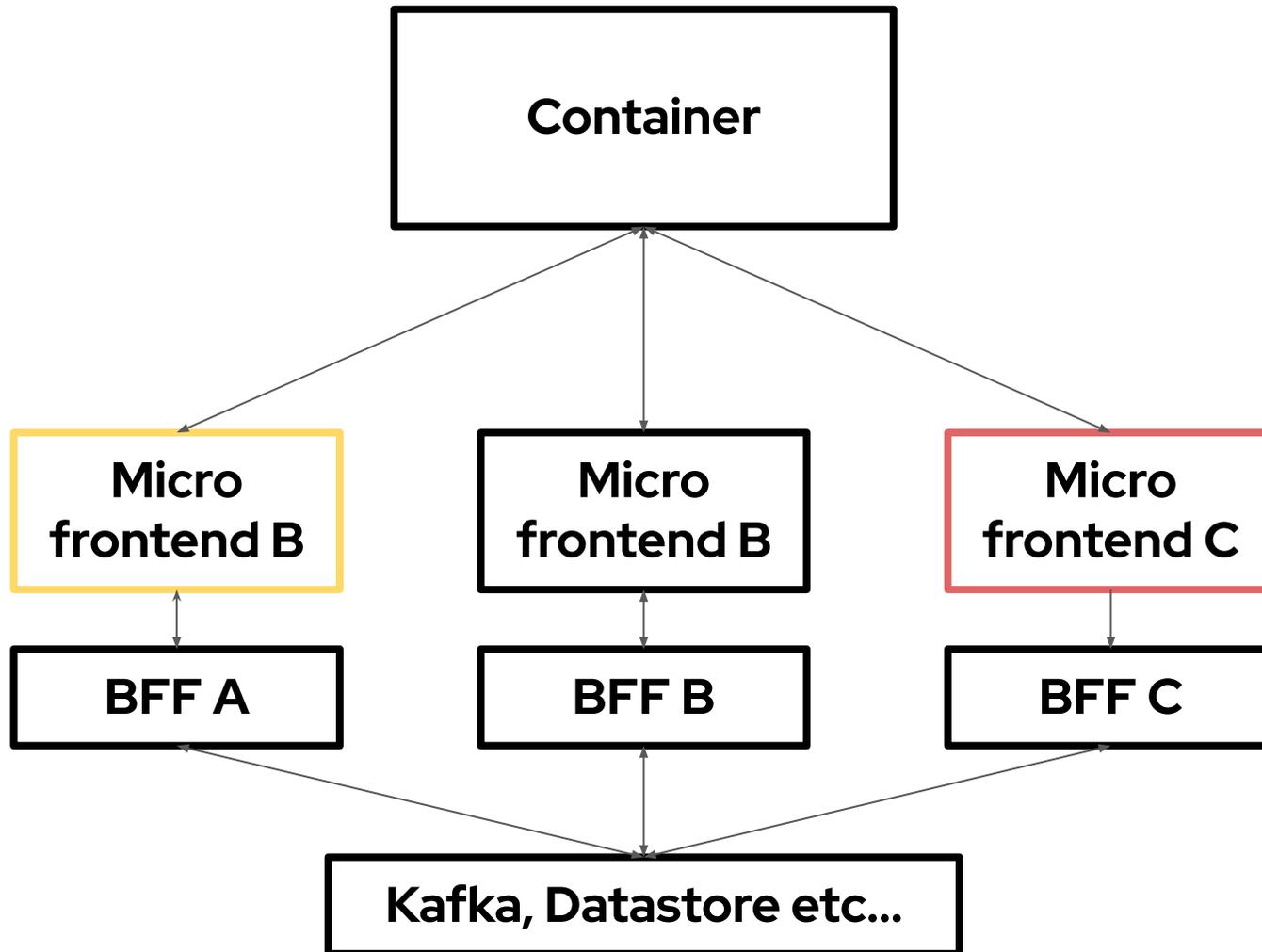
Micro Frontend B
Team B



Micro Frontend C
Team B

Container App

Decides when/where to show
each Micro frontend



No Micro frontend
communicate
directly to each other

Types of Integration

Run-Time integration

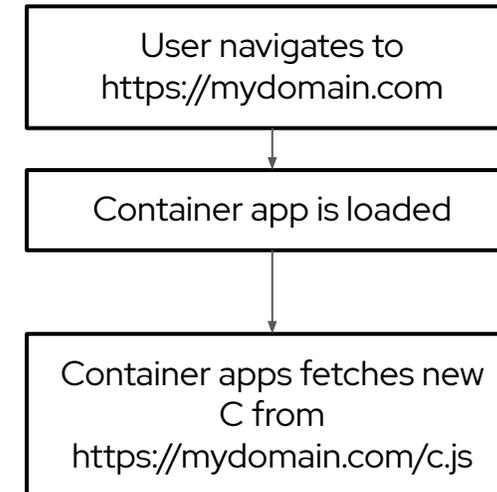
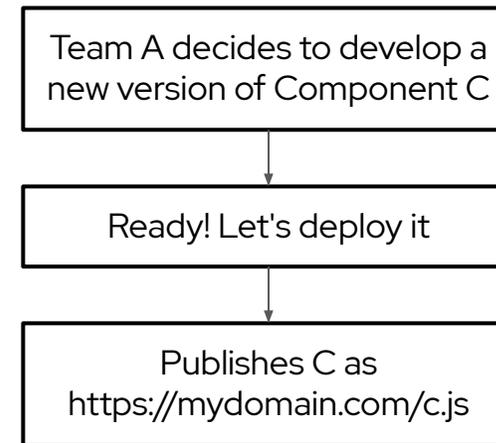
aka client-side integration:

After the container gets loaded in the browser, it gets access to micro front end source code

Pros: A can be deployed independently at any time and can deploy different versions of it, and Container can decide which one to use

Cons: tooling + setup is far more complicated

Independent deployment makes it challenging to test/verify (build a good test suite for it)



Types of Integration

Build-time integration

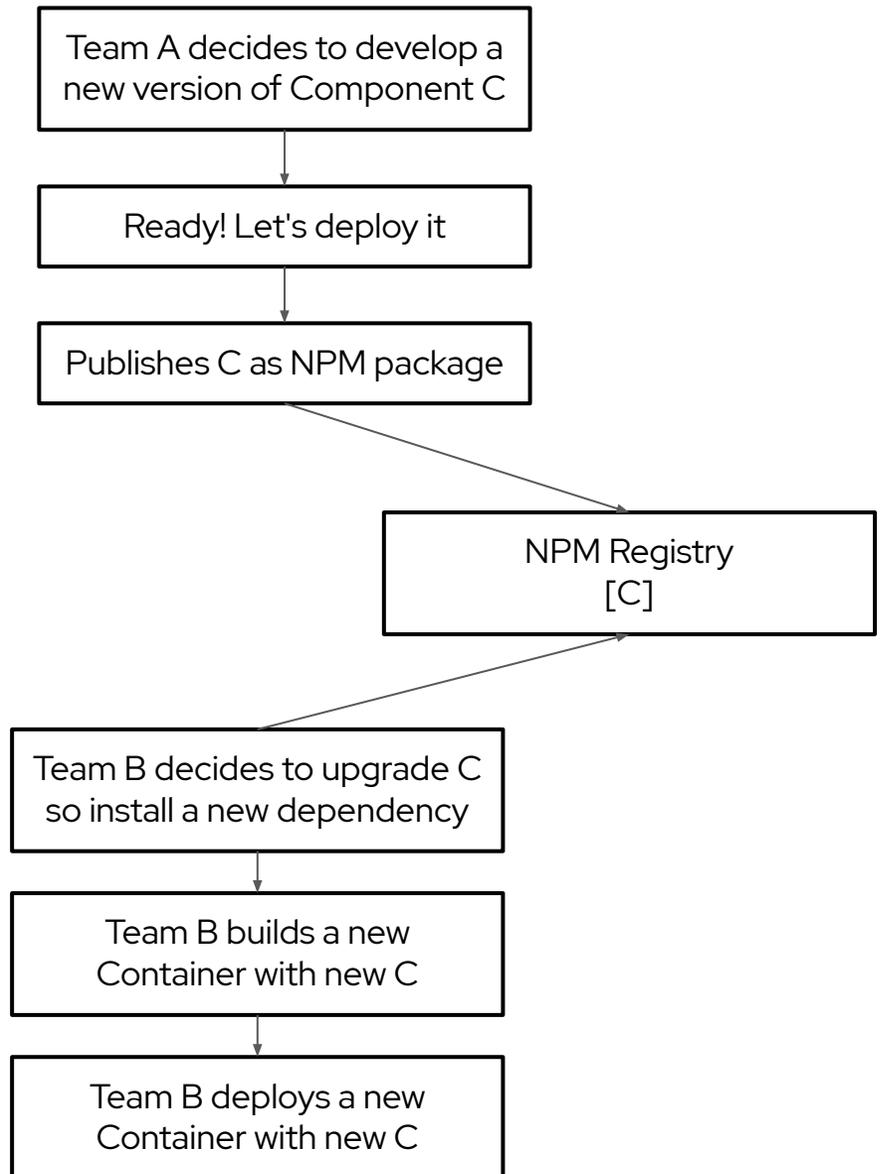
aka compile-time integration:

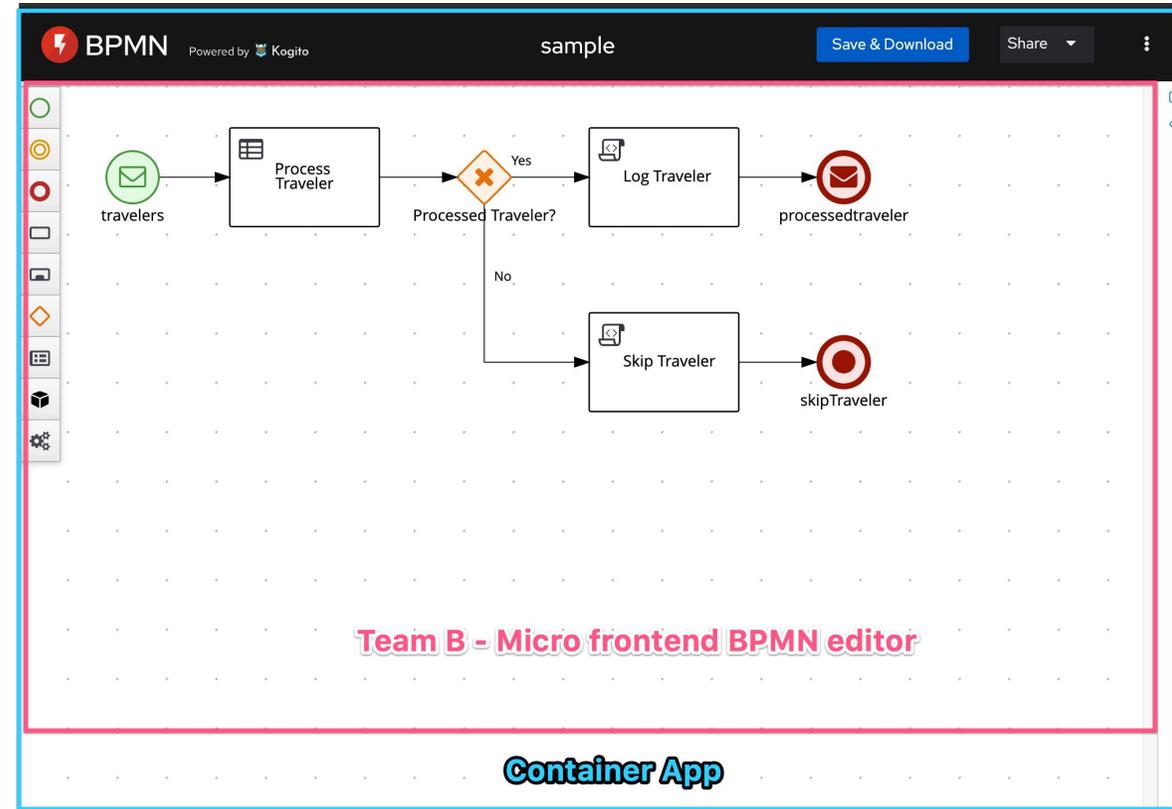
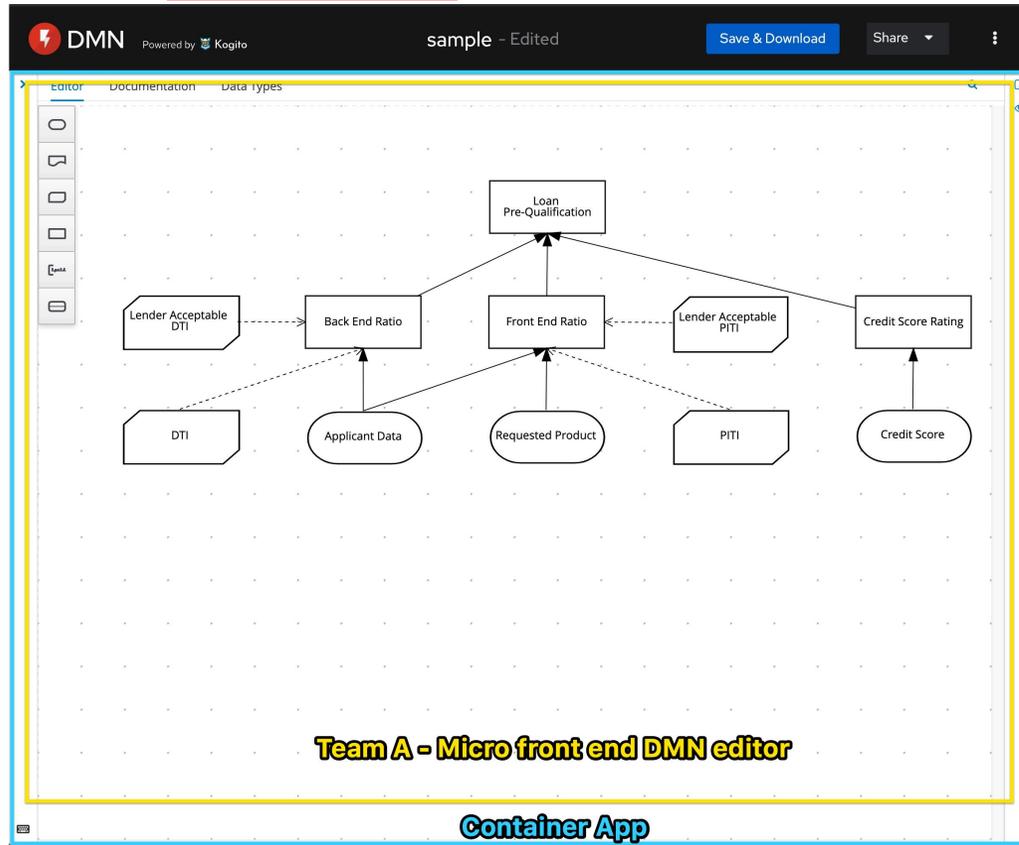
Before the container gets loaded in the browser, it gets access to micro frontend source code;

Foreign modules are accessible during build

Pros: Easy to setup and understand

Cons: Container has to be re-deployed every time child has updated and tempting to tightly coupled Container + child together;





Another concerns - Autonomous Teams

Autonomous teams

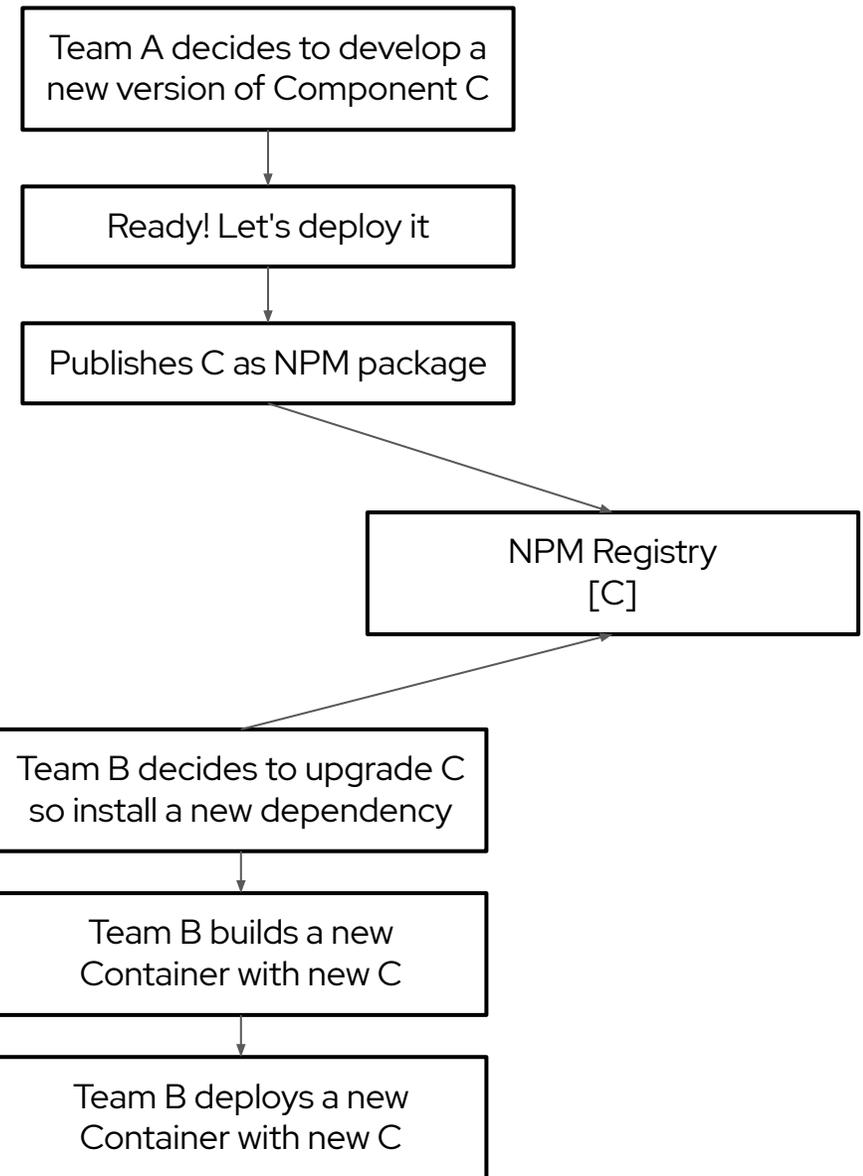
- Each team can run it's micro frontend in isolation

Pros

- Smaller/quicker build;
- Focus just on the problem;
- Less distraction, noise

Cons

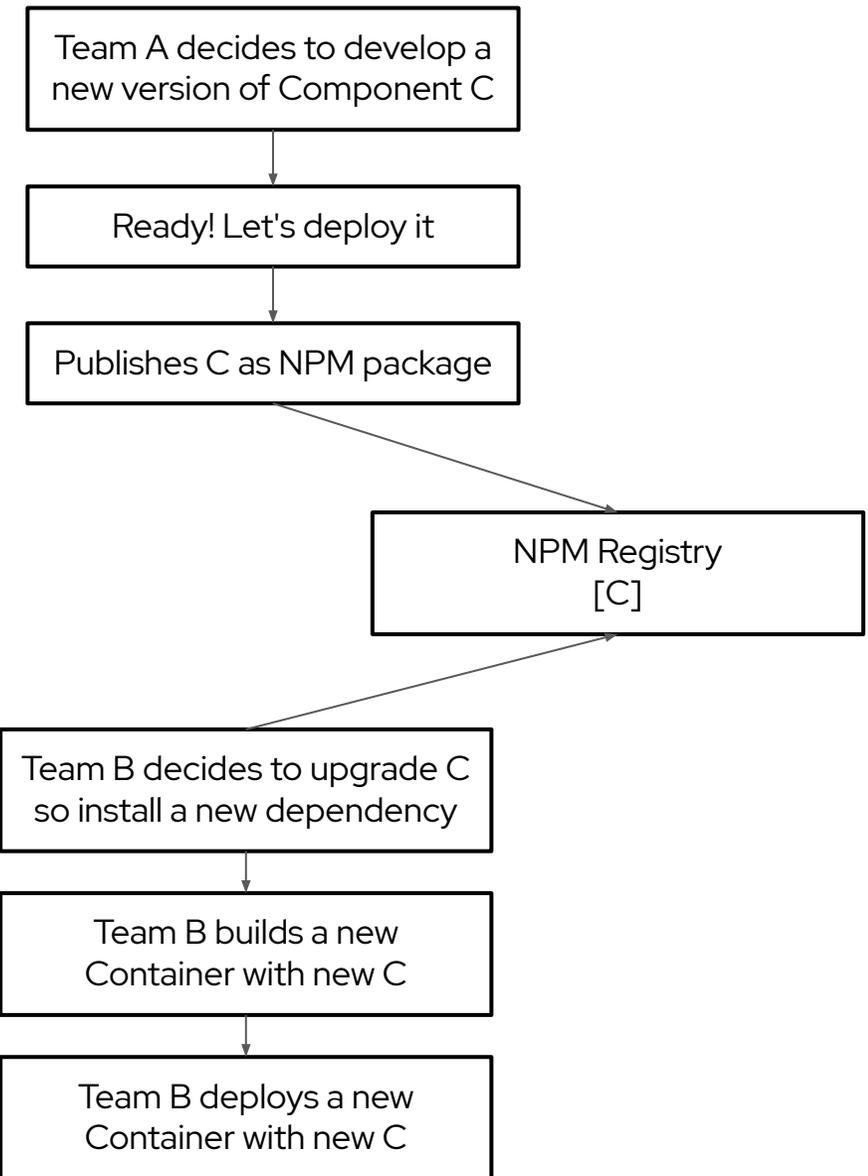
- Bugs can appear just on container app
- Hard to run the complete experience;
- Hard to debug problems across entire system;
- Incoherent experiences;
- Our project:
 - Tricky issues can appears only on production



Another concerns - Styling

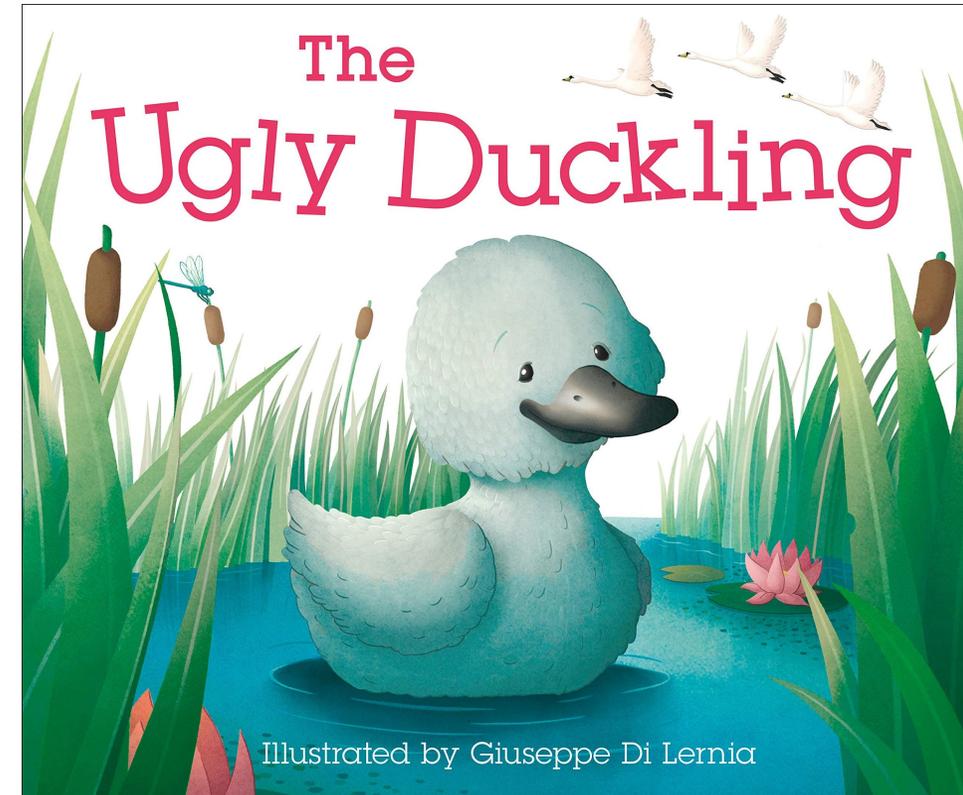
What you should do:

- *Custom CSS from your project:*
 - Use CSS-in-JS library
 - Use frameworks built-in component style scoping
 - Vue's and Angular has good ones
 - "Namespace" all your CSS
- *CSS coming from other libraries*
 - Use a component library that does css-in-js
 - Manually build the css library and apply namespacing techniques to it
 - Scope-it
 - Shadow DOM or **iframes!**



Context Isolation via iframes

- Nothing new, exciting, even a bit of 'yuck'
- **Pros**
 - Great degree of isolation;
 - Styling
 - Global variables
 - Shadow DOM was not a option in 2019
- Some libraries play directly with body of the page
- We only use it when necessary
- **Cons:**
 - Makes your app feel 'old'
 - Less flexible than other options
 - Hard to integrate routing, history;
 - Challenging to make the app responsive
 - Not Content-Security-Policy friendly
 - Harder to make apps communicate



`<>` index.html

Raw

```
1 <html>
2   <head>
3     <title>Feed me!</title>
4   </head>
5   <body>
6     <h1>Welcome to Feed me!</h1>
7
8     <iframe id="micro-frontend-container"></iframe>
9
10    <script type="text/javascript">
11      const microFrontendsByRoute = {
12        '/': 'https://browse.example.com/index.html',
13        '/order-food': 'https://order.example.com/index.html',
14        '/user-profile': 'https://profile.example.com/index.html',
15      };
16
17      const iframe = document.getElementById('micro-frontend-container');
18      iframe.src = microFrontendsByRoute[window.location.pathname];
19    </script>
20  </body>
21 </html>
```


The image shows a Gmail interface on the left, a Hangouts chat window in the center, and Chrome DevTools on the right. The Gmail interface includes a search bar with "is:starred", a left sidebar with folders like "Compose", "Inbox", "Starred", "Snoozed", "Sent", "Drafts", and "More", and a "Meet" section with "New meeting" and "Join a meeting" options. The Hangouts chat window shows a conversation with "ignatowicz@gmail.com" containing messages like "Hello there!" and "Let's chat on Hangouts!". The Chrome DevTools "Elements" panel shows the DOM tree for the chat window, highlighting an `iframe` element with the following styles:

```
border-top-left-radius: 8px;
border-top-right-radius: 8px;
display: block;
border-top-width: 0px;
border-right-width: 0px;
border-bottom-width: 0px;
border-left-width: 0px;
width: 262px;
height: 380px;
```

The "Styles" panel also shows the `display: block;` style for the `iframe` element. The "Console" panel shows "What's New" highlights from the Chrome 89 update, including "Debugging support for Trusted Type violations" and "Capture node screenshot beyond viewport".

Kogito ergo automate

CLOUD-NATIVE BUSINESS AUTOMATION FOR BUILDING INTELLIGENT
APPLICATIONS, BACKED BY BATTLE-TESTED CAPABILITIES.

Asset Editor for Kogito and Process Automation

Welcome to Business Modeler! These simple BPMN and DMN editors are here to allow you to collaborate quickly and to help introduce you to the new tools and capabilities of Process Automation. Feel free to get in touch in the forum or review the documentation for more information.

Powered by Kogito

Workflow (.BPMN)

BPMN files are used to generate business processes.

[Try Sample](#)

Create new workflow

Decision model (.DMN)

DMN files are used to generate decision models

[Try Sample](#)

Create new decision model

Edit existing file

Upload your BPMN or DMN file here to start making new edits!

Drag a file or browse for it.

Upload a .bpmn, .bpmn2 or .dmn file

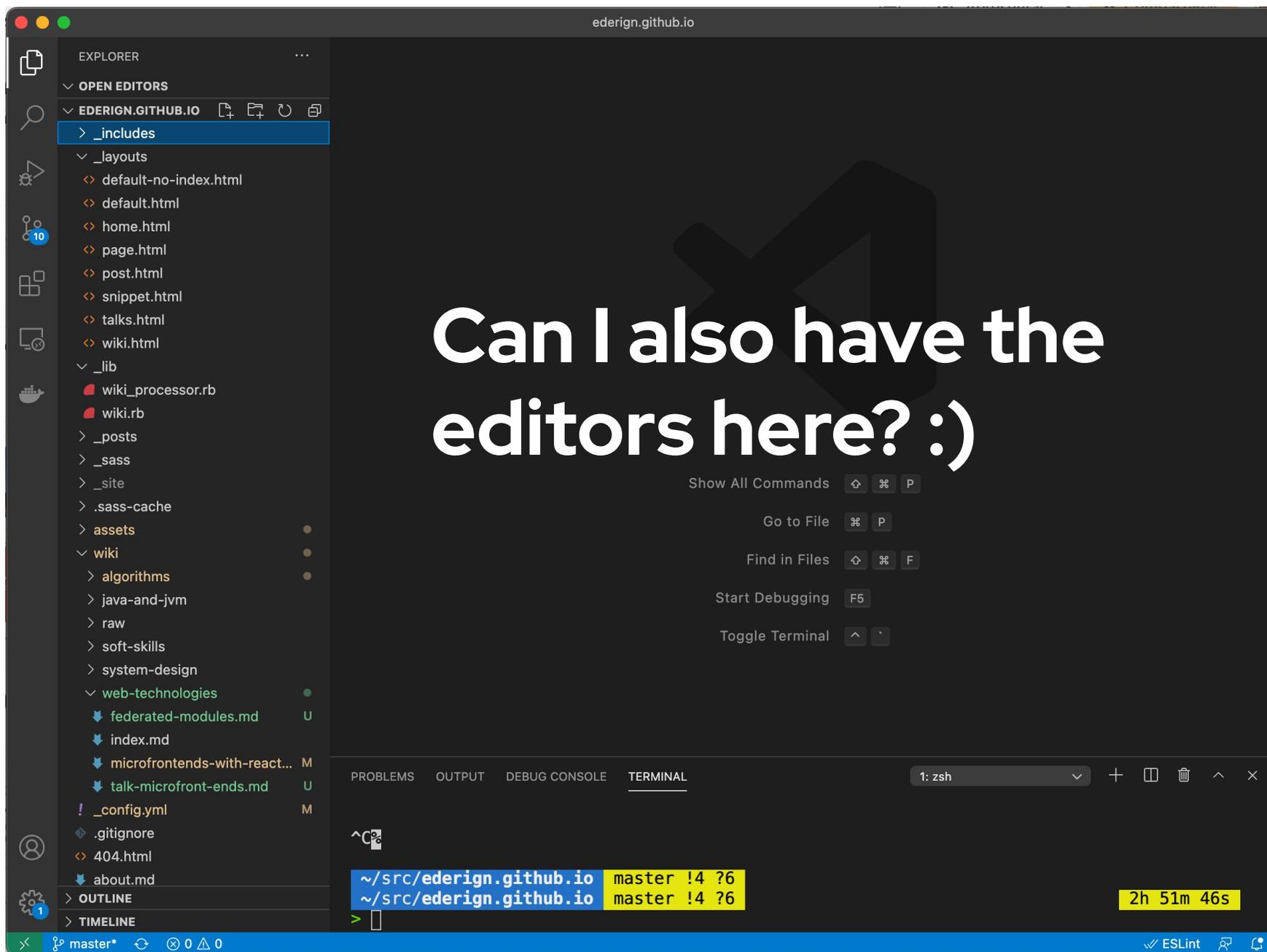
Open from source

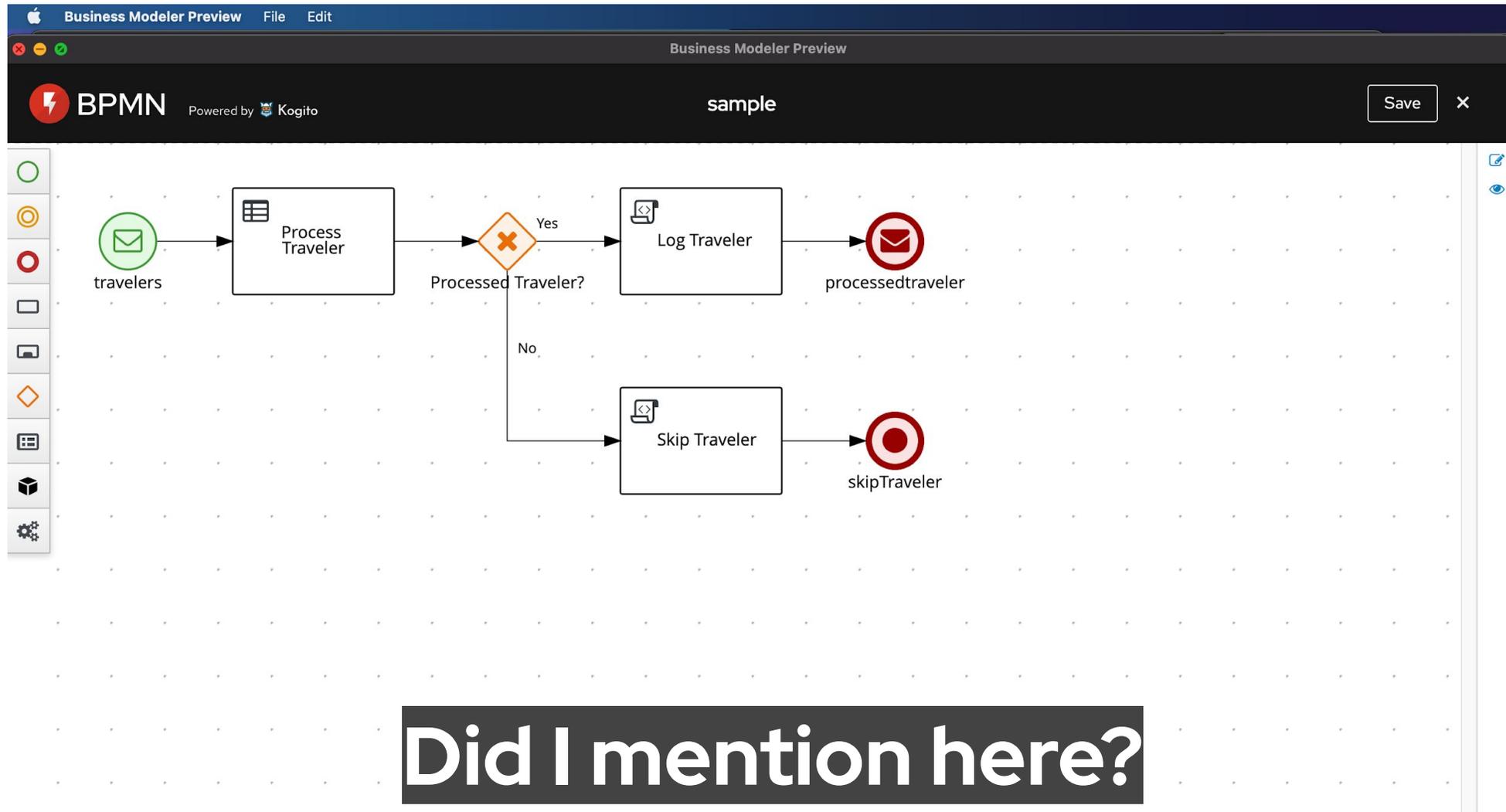
Paste a URL to a source code link (GitHub, Dropbox, etc.)

URL

Open from source

Can I've my editor here?





github.com/ederign/KieDora/blob/master/persons.bpmn

<> Code ! Issues Pull requests 3 Actions Projects Wiki Security 2 Insights Settings

master KieDora / persons.bpmn Go to file ...

ederign Update persons.bpmn Latest commit a2606cf on Mar 25, 2020 History

2 contributors

⚠ We found potential security vulnerabilities in your dependencies. Only the owner of this repository can see this message. See Dependabot alerts

◆ This is a readonly visualization See as source Open in Online Editor Copy link to Online Editor Full Screen

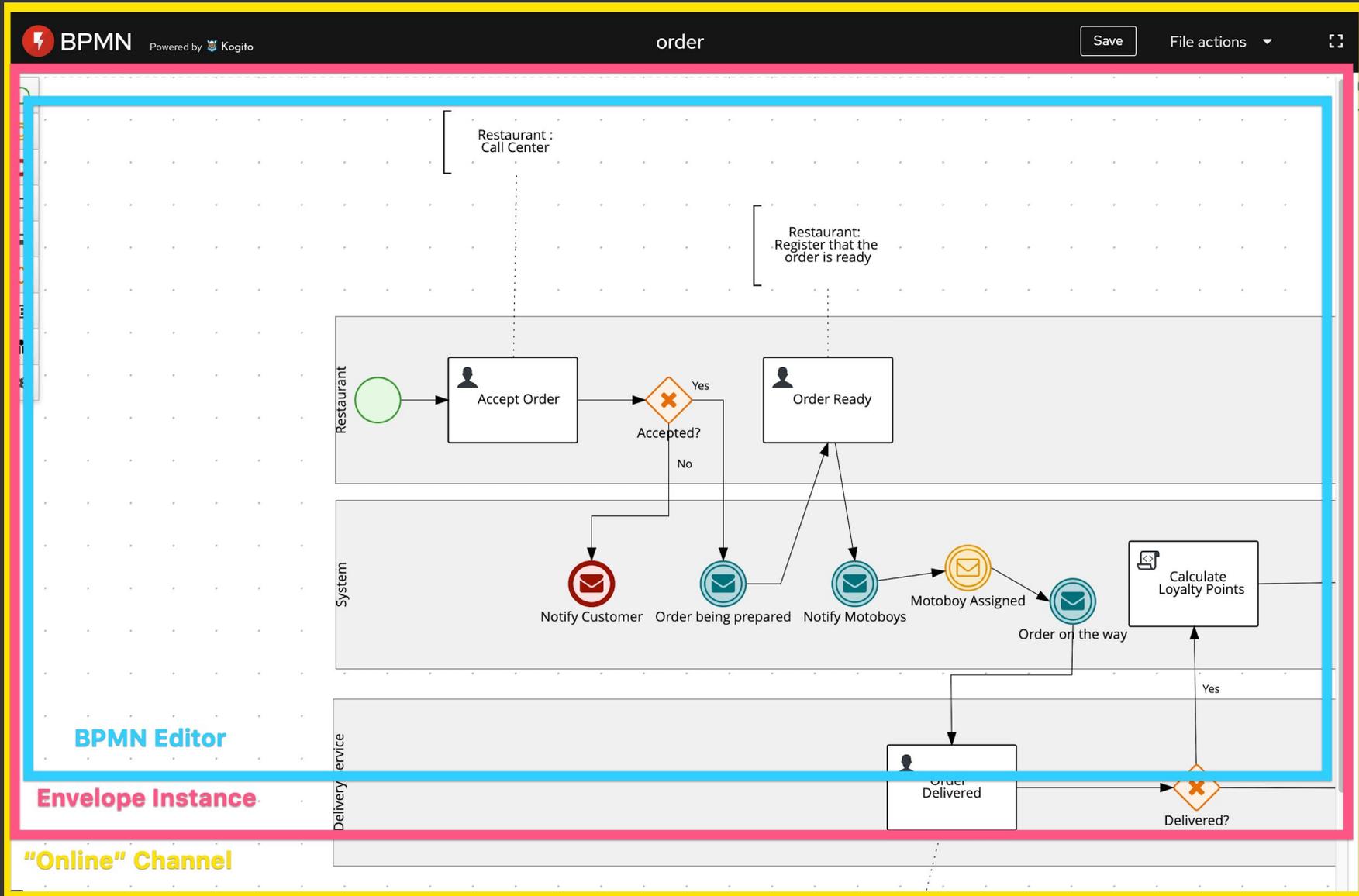
240 lines (240 sloc) 16.5 KB Raw Blame

```
graph LR; Start(( )) --> Evaluate[Evaluate person]; Evaluate --> Decision{ }; Decision --> Special[Special handling for children]; Special --> End1(( )); Decision --> End2(( ))
```

And here :)

100%

Introducing Multiplying Architecture



github.com/ederign/demo/blob/master/order.bpmn2

Search or jump to... Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

ederign / demo Unwatch 1 Star 0 Fork 1

<> Code Issues Pull requests 1 Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

master demo / order.bpmn2 Go to file

ederign adding some samples Latest commit e2b4bea 2 days ago History

1 contributor

This is a readonly visualization See as source Open in Online Editor Copy link to Online Editor Full Screen

754 lines (754 sloc) 50.3 KB Raw Blame

```
graph LR; Start((Restaurant)) --> Accept[Accept Order]; Accept --> Decision{Accepted?}; Decision -- Yes --> Ready[Order Ready]; Decision -- No --> End(( )); subgraph Restaurant; Accept; Decision; Ready; end; subgraph CallCenter; Start; end; subgraph Register; Ready; end;
```

BPMN Editor

Envelope Instance

Chrome Extension Channel

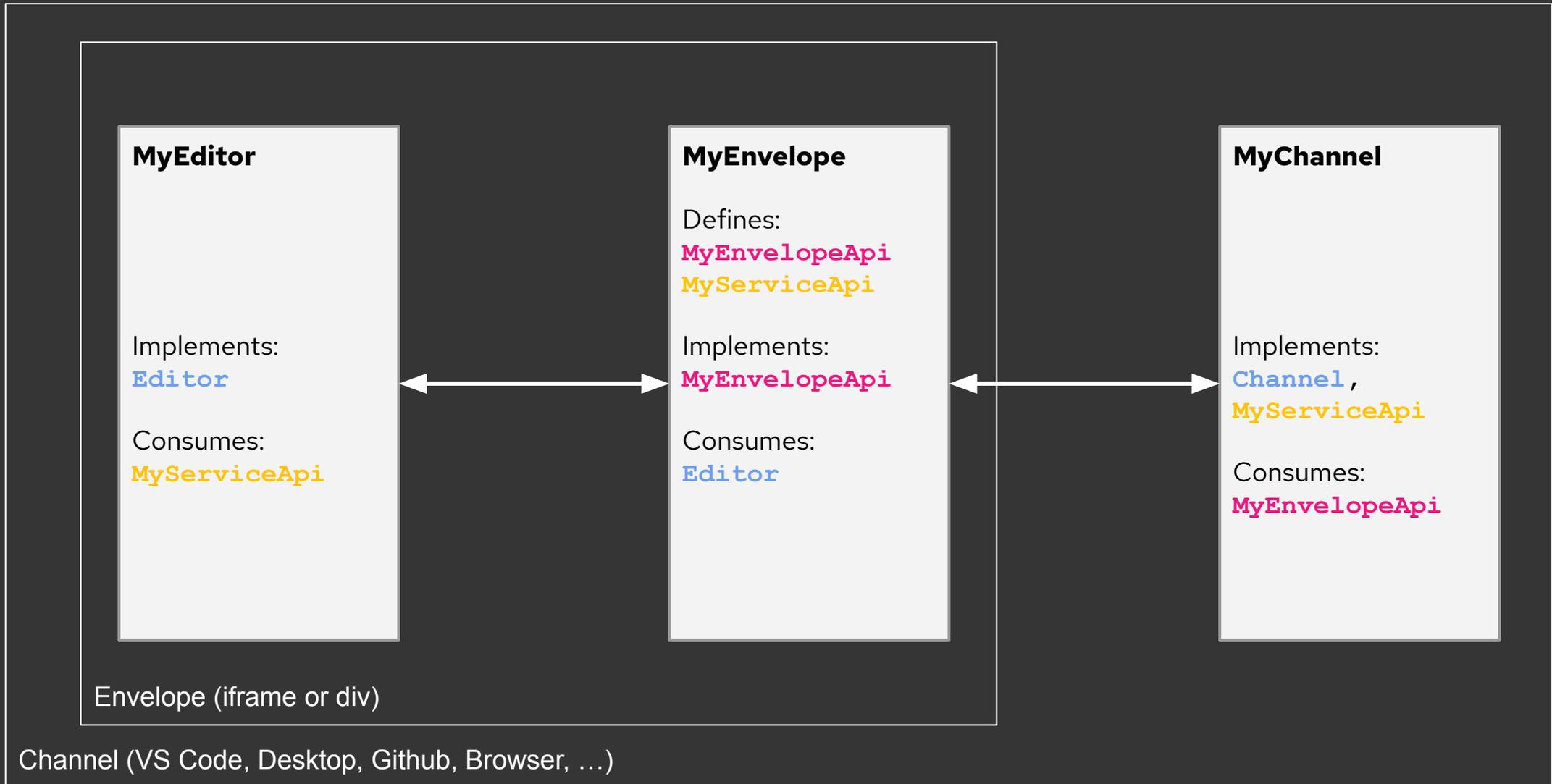
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The image shows a VS Code window with two editor instances side-by-side. The left editor, titled 'a.dmn', displays a DMN diagram with a single element labeled 'BusinessKnowl edgeModel-2'. The right editor, titled 'eder.bpmn', displays a BPMN diagram with a single element labeled 'Task'. The VS Code interface includes an Explorer sidebar on the left showing a project structure with files 'a.dmn', 'eder.bpmn', 'order.bpmn2', and 'test.bpmn'. The top of the window shows the file names 'a.dmn' and 'eder.bpmn'. The entire VS Code window is highlighted with a yellow border. The two editor instances are highlighted with blue borders, and each has a pink label at the bottom: 'DMN Editor' and 'BPMN Editor' respectively. Below these labels are the terms 'Envelope Instance'.

DMN Editor
Envelope Instance

BPMN Editor
Envelope Instance

VS Code Channel



Micro frontend Spectrum

Total independence



- Each team chooses tech stack
- Each micro frontend makes it's own API calls
- App is composed of fully functional micro apps
- Each micro frontend has it's own CI/CD

Strategic collaboration



- Agrees on tech stack
- Container handles all API calls
- Share 'dumb' components
- Shared CI/CD

<https://twitter.com/housecor/status/1139504822930092033/photo/1>

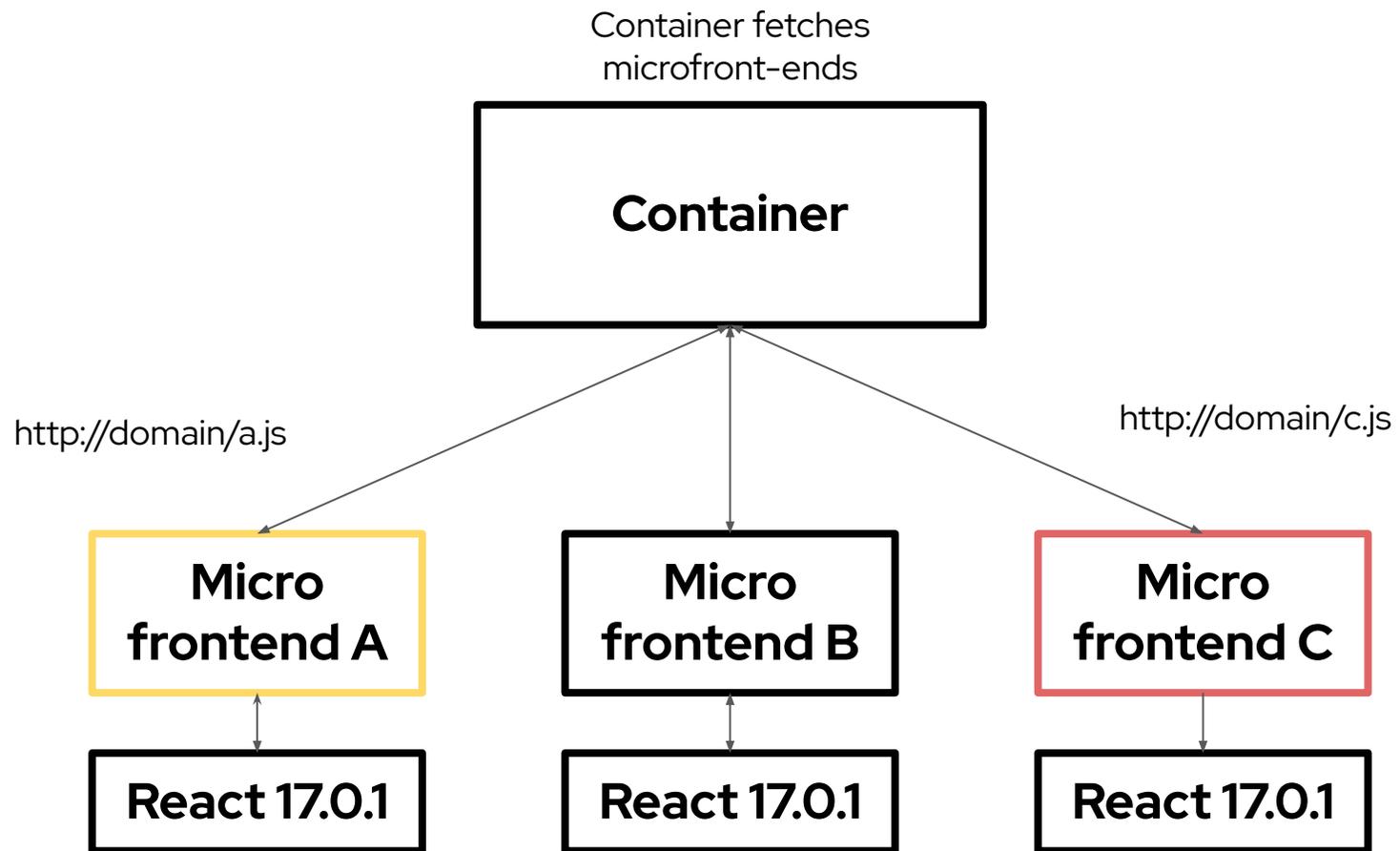
Where we are going?

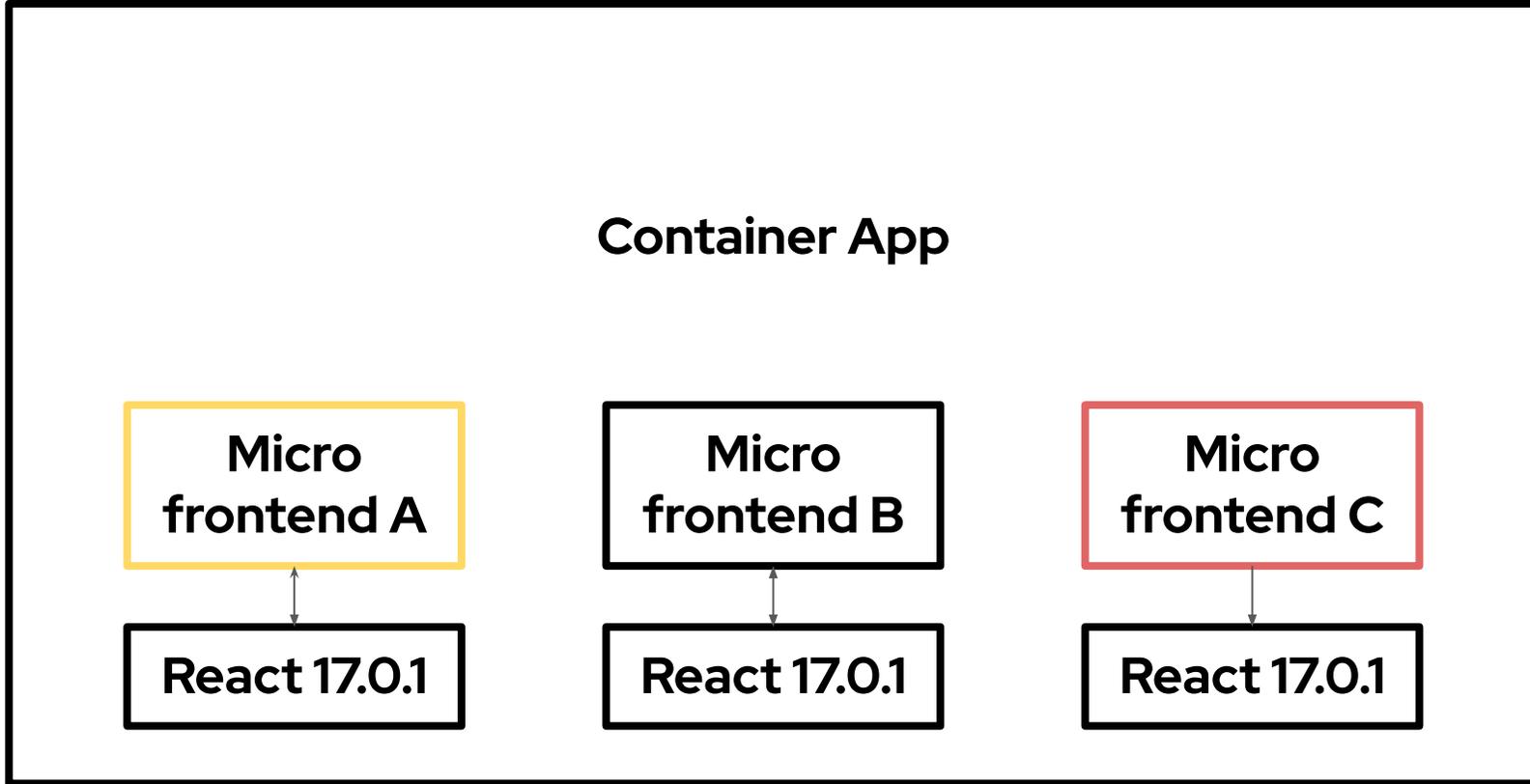
Built time x Runtime Integration

Build-time issues

- Foreign modules are accessible during build
- Container has to be **re-deployed** every time child has updated and tempting to tightly coupled Container + child together;
- One single change to prod. requires full a long rebuild
- Dependency versions alignment
- No clear app/team isolation
- **Duplication of library loading**

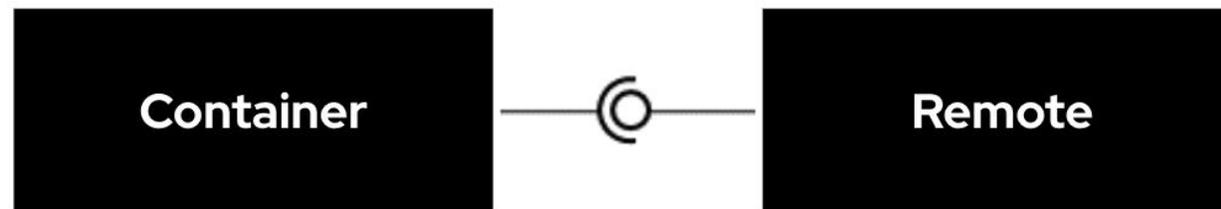
The screenshot shows a web interface for Dashbuilder Heatmaps. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Dashbuilder' and 'Dashboards'. The main heading is 'Heatmaps'. Below it, a paragraph states: 'This is a generic dashboard with heatmaps that can connect to any Kie Server installation. The requirements are:'. This is followed by three bullet points: '* Kie Server support the Image extension. Heatmaps need to retrieve the process SVG, so make sure the target Kie Server supports it;', '* The process has a generated SVG. The process SVG can be generated if you open the process in Business Central or manually generated using Kogito editors (check bpmn.new);', and '* Configure the access to Kie Server using system properties. Set the following system properties and replace the values according to your installation.' Below the requirements, there are four lines of system property configurations: `dashbuilder.kieserver.serverTemplate.sample-server.location=http://jbpm-server:8080/kie-server/services/rest/server`, `dashbuilder.kieserver.serverTemplate.sample-server.user=kieserver`, `dashbuilder.kieserver.serverTemplate.sample-server.password=kieserver!`, and `dashbuilder.kieserver.serverTemplate.sample-server.replace_query=true`. Further down, it says 'In this dashboard you will find two pages:' followed by two bullet points: '* Execution Time: Measure the execution of each node in a business process.' and '* Total Hits: Total hits of each node in a process.' The bottom part of the screenshot shows a process diagram titled 'Nodes Average Execution Time'. It includes a 'Process Selector' with 'Container' and 'Process' dropdowns. The diagram shows a flow starting from 'EndNode', through 'HumanTaskNode', 'Join', 'Split', and 'StartNode', leading to a central node labeled 'HR Evaluation' which has a heatmap overlay. There are also other nodes and connections visible in the background.



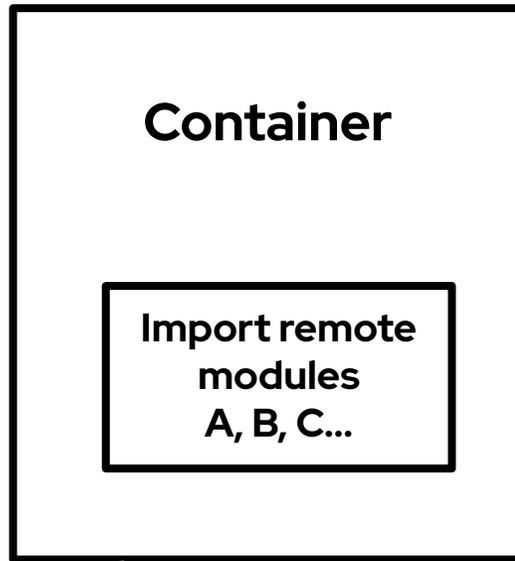


Federated Modules to the Rescue!

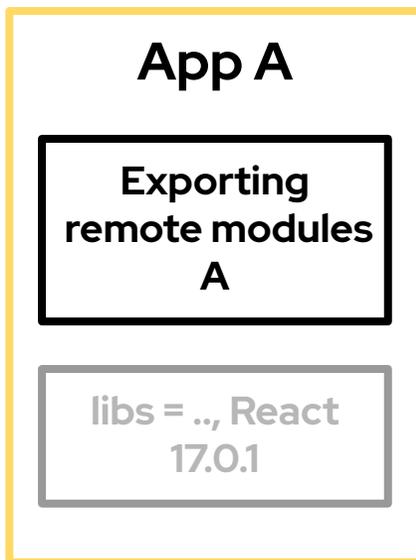
-
- Part of Webpack 5
 - Allows loading separately compiled programs parts
 - Solution for runtime integration of Micro frontends?
 - Allow referencing program parts that are not yet known at compile time.
 - Each micro frontend can run in isolation



Exposing @ domain/8000

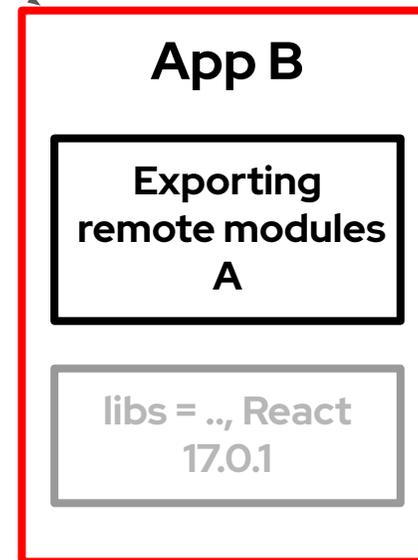


Exposing @ domain/8000



RUNTIME IMPORTS!

Exposing @ domain/8002



App

LOGIN

Home Page 123

Something short and leading about the collection below—its contents, the creator, etc. Make it short and sweet, but not too short so folks don't simply skip over it entirely.

PRICING

DASHBOARD



Heading

This is a media card. You can use this section to describe the content.

[VIEW](#) [EDIT](#)



Heading

This is a media card. You can use this section to describe the content.

[VIEW](#) [EDIT](#)



Heading



Heading



Sign in

SIGN IN

Home Page 123

Something short and leading about the collection below—its contents, the creator, etc. Make it short and sweet, but not too short so folks don't simply skip over it entirely.

PRICING

DASHBOARD



Heading

This is a media card. You can use this section to describe the content.

[VIEW](#) [EDIT](#)



Heading

This is a media card. You can use this section to describe the content.

[VIEW](#) [EDIT](#)

```

1 import React, { lazy, Suspense, useState, useEffect } from "react";
2 import { Router, Route, Switch, Redirect } from "react-router-dom";
3 ...
4 const MarketingLazy = lazy(() => import("./components/MarketingApp"));
5 const AuthLazy = lazy(() => import("./components/AuthApp"));
6 const DashboardLazy = lazy(() => import("./components/DashboardApp"));
7 ...
8
9 return (
10   <Router history={history}>
11     <StylesProvider generateClassName={generateClassName}>
12       <div>
13         <Header
14           isSignedIn={isSignedIn}
15           onSignOut={() => setIsSignedIn(false)}
16         />
17         <Suspense fallback={<Progress />}>
18           <Switch>
19             <Route path="/auth">
20               <AuthLazy onSignIn={() => setIsSignedIn(true)} />
21             </Route>
22             <Route path="/dashboard">
23               {!isSignedIn && <Redirect to="/" />}
24               <DashboardLazy />
25             </Route>
26             <Route path="/" component={MarketingLazy} />
27           </Switch>
28         </Suspense>
29       </div>
30     </StylesProvider>
31   </Router>
32 );
33 };

```

-> Import of Federated Modules

-> Lazy loading via Route

```

1  const { merge } = require("webpack-merge");
2  const HtmlWebpackPlugin = require("html-webpack-plugin");
3  const ModuleFederationPlugin = require("webpack/lib/container/ModuleFederationPlugin");
4  const commonConfig = require("../webpack.common");
5  const packageJson = require("../package.json");
6
7  const domain = process.env.PRODUCTION_DOMAIN;
8
9  const prodConfig = {
10   mode: "production",
11   output: {
12     filename: "[name].[contenthash].js",
13     publicPath: "/container/latest/",
14   },
15   plugins: [
16     new ModuleFederationPlugin({
17       name: "container",
18       remotes: {
19         marketing: `marketing@${domain}/marketing/latest/remoteEntry.js`,
20         auth: `auth@${domain}/auth/latest/remoteEntry.js`,
21         dashboard: `dashboard@${domain}/dashboard/latest/remoteEntry.js`,
22       },
23       shared: packageJson.dependencies,
24     }),
25   ],
26 };
27
28 module.exports = merge(commonConfig, prodConfig);
29

```

-> ModuleFederation Plugin

-> Remote Routes



Sign in

Email Address*

Password*

Remember me

SIGN IN

[Don't have an account? Sign Up](#)

Copyright © Your Website 2021.

```
1  const { merge } = require("webpack-merge");
2  const ModuleFederationPlugin = require("webpack/lib/container/ModuleFederationPlugin");
3  const packageJson = require("../package.json");
4  const commonConfig = require("../webpack.common");
5
6  const prodConfig = {
7    mode: "production",
8    output: {
9      filename: "[name].[contenthash].js",
10     publicPath: "/auth/latest/",
11   },
12   plugins: [
13     new ModuleFederationPlugin({
14       name: "auth",
15       filename: "remoteEntry.js",
16       exposes: {
17         "./AuthApp": "./src/bootstrap",
18       },
19       shared: packageJson.dependencies,
20     }),
21   ],
22 };
23
24 module.exports = merge(commonConfig, prodConfig);
25
```

-> ModuleFederation Plugin

-> Exposed routes
(used by Container)

App

LOGIN

Home Page 122

Elements Console Sources **Network** Performance Memory Application >> 1

Filter Hide data URLs All XHR JS CSS Img Media Font Doc WS Manifest Other

Has blocked cookies Blocked Requests

50 ms 100 ms 150 ms 200 ms 250 ms 300 ms 350 ms 400 ms 450 ms 500 ms

Name	Status	Type	Initiator	Size	Time	Waterfall
main.js	304	script	(index)	203 B	2 ms	
vendors-node_modules_babel_runtime...	304	script	main.js:559	203 B	3 ms	
vendors-node_modules_material-ui_co...	304	script	main.js:559	203 B	5 ms	
remoteEntry.js	200	script	main.js:559	202 B	2 ms	
remoteEntry.js	200	script	main.js:559	202 B	3 ms	
remoteEntry.js	200	script	main.js:559	234 B	3 ms	
src_bootstrap_js.js	304	script	main.js:559	202 B	3 ms	
vendors-node_modules_react_index_js.js	200	script	remoteEntry.js:158	203 B	2 ms	
node_modules_object-assign_index_js...	200	script	remoteEntry.js:158	201 B	4 ms	
vendors-node_modules_react-dom_ind...	200	script	remoteEntry.js:158	203 B	8 ms	

16 / 21 requests 3.3 kB / 71.0 kB transferred 2.8 MB / 2.9 MB resources Finish: 418 ms DOMContentLoaded: 53 ms Load: 420 ms



localhost:8080/auth/signin

Sign in

Email Address*

Password*

Elements Console Sources **Network** Performance Memory Application >> 1

Preserve log Disable cache No throttling

Filter Hide data URLs All XHR JS CSS Img Media Font Doc WS Manifest Other

Has blocked cookies Blocked Requests

Name	Status	Type	Initiator	Size	Time	Waterfall
src_components_AuthApp_js.js	304	script	main.js:559	201 B	3 ms	
vendors-node_modules_babel_runtime...	200	script	remoteEntry.js:160	203 B	3 ms	
vendors-node_modules_material-ui_co...	200	script	remoteEntry.js:160	203 B	14 ms	
src_bootstrap_js.js	200	script	remoteEntry.js:160	202 B	7 ms	

http://localhost:8082/src_bootstrap_js.js ←

4 requests 809 B transferred 1.1 MB resources

localhost:8080/auth/signin

Sign in

Email Address*

Password*

Elements Console Sources **Network** Performance Memory Application

Filter Hide data URLs All XHR JS CSS Img Media Font Doc WS

Has blocked cookies Blocked Requests

Auth micro front-end running as fed. module (8080)

Name	Status	Type	Initiator	Size
src_components_AuthApp_js.js	304	script	main.js:559	20
vendors-node_modules_babel_runtime...	200	script	remoteEntry.js:160	20
vendors-node_modules_material-ui_co...	200	script	remoteEntry.js:160	20
src_bootstrap_js.js	200	script	remoteEntry.js:160	20

http://localhost:8082/src_bootstrap_js.js

Where is react?

4 requests 809 B transferred 1.1 MB resources

localhost:8082/auth/signin

Sign in

Email Address*

Password*

Elements Console Sources **Network** Performance Memory Application

Filter Hide data URLs All XHR JS CSS Img Media Font Doc WS Manifest Other

Has blocked cookies Blocked Requests

Auth micro front-end running isolated (8082)

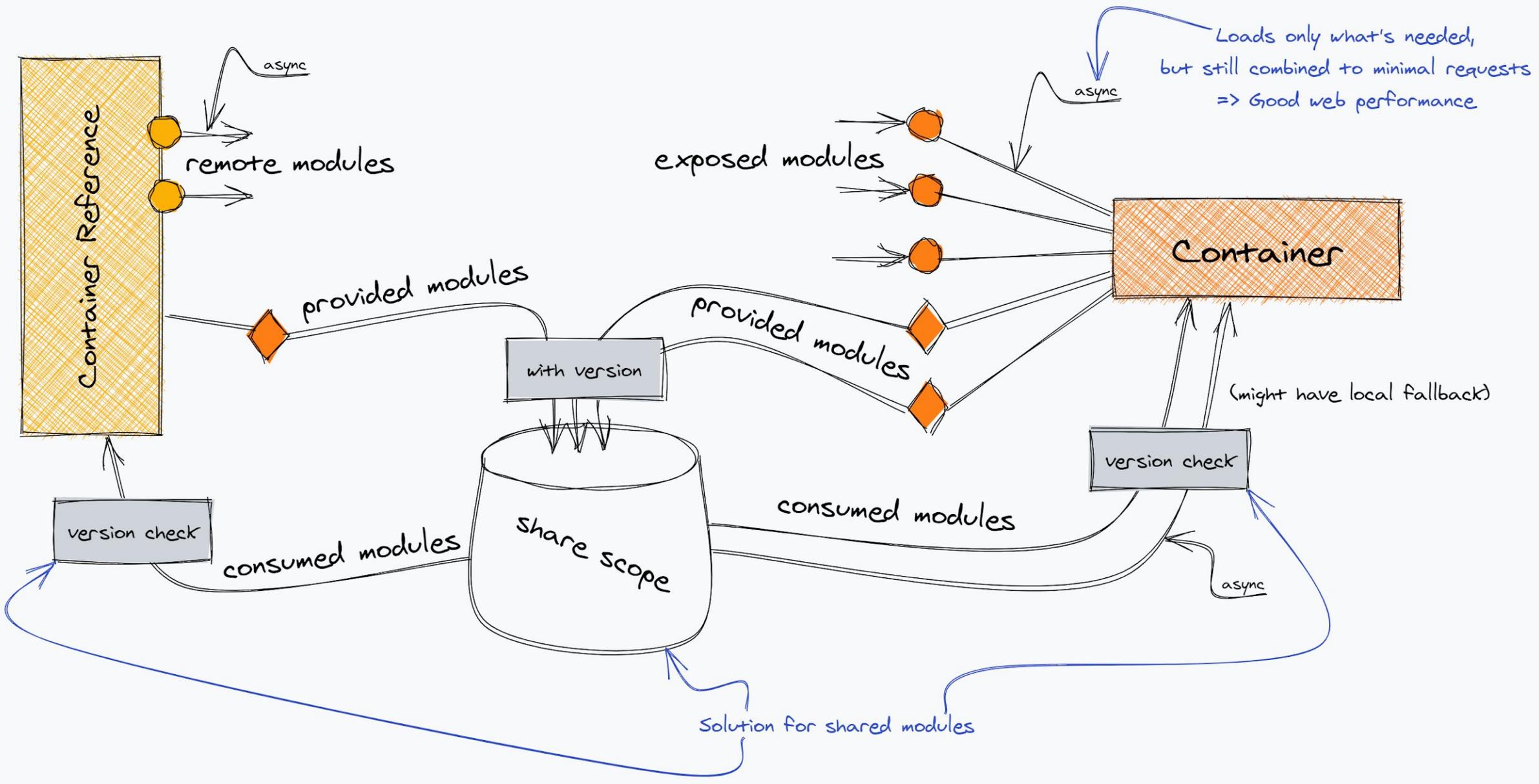
Name	Status	Type	Initiator	Size	Time	Waterfall
main.js	200	script	signin	203 B	4 ms	
remoteEntry.js	200	script	signin	202 B	5 ms	
vendors-node_modules_babel_runtime...	200	script	main.js:559	203 B	12 ms	
vendors-node_modules_material-ui_co...	200	script	main.js:559	203 B	27 ms	
vendors-node_modules_react_index_js.js	200	script	main.js:559	203 B	17 ms	
node_modules_object-assign_index_js...	200	script	main.js:559	201 B	18 ms	
vendors-node_modules_react-dom_m...	200	script	main.js:559	203 B	40 ms	
node_modules_object-assign_index_js...	200	script	main.js:559	201 B	15 ms	
vendors-node_modules_react-router-d...	200	script	main.js:559	203 B	18 ms	
src_bootstrap_js.js	200	script	main.js:559	202 B	9 ms	

http://localhost:8082/vendors-node_modules_react_index_js.js

10 / 13 requests 2.0 kB / 2.6 kB transferred 2.6 MB / 2.6 MB resources Finish: 107 ms DOMContentLoaded: 81 ms Load: 232 ms

```
1  const { merge } = require("webpack-merge");
2  const ModuleFederationPlugin = require("webpack/lib/container/Modu
3  const packageJson = require("../package.json");
4  const commonConfig = require("./webpack.common");
5
6  const prodConfig = {
7    mode: "production",
8    output: {
9      filename: "[name].[contenthash].js",
10     publicPath: "/auth/latest/",
11   },
12   plugins: [
13     new ModuleFederationPlugin({
14       name: "auth",
15       filename: "remoteEntry.js",
16       exposes: {
17         "./AuthApp": "./src/bootstrap",
18       },
19       shared: packageJson.dependencies,
20     }),
21   ],
22 };
23
24 module.exports = merge(commonConfig, prodConfig);
25
```

-> shared dependencies



Federated Modules

Pros in our case

- **Microservices architecture**
- Able to finally take advantage of runtime integration
- Each team can build/deploy their own micro frontend
- No duplication of library loading
- Ability to deploy multiple pieces of your application to different servers without iframes
- Have a portion of an application getting too big and wants a dedicated team? Split it out.
- That split you just made was a bad idea? Merge it back together.
- Finally we are able to real decoupling.
- Be able to evolve tech stack independently

Federated Modules

Possible Con's for us

- **Microservices architecture**
- Distributed systems are hard
- Bleeding edge technology
- Complexity of deployment
 - If you don't have a pretty solid CI/CD this will probably be a foot-gun for you
- Requires unbreakable API boundary that everyone agrees

Good frontend development is
hard.

React will not be here forever

Micro frontend Spectrum

Total independence



- Each team chooses tech stack
- Each micro frontend makes it's own API calls
- App is composed of fully functional micro apps
- Each micro frontend has it's own CI/CD

Strategic collaboration



- Agrees on tech stack
- Container handles all API calls
- Share 'dumb' components
- Shared CI/CD

<https://twitter.com/housecor/status/1139504822930092033/photo/1>

Thank you

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