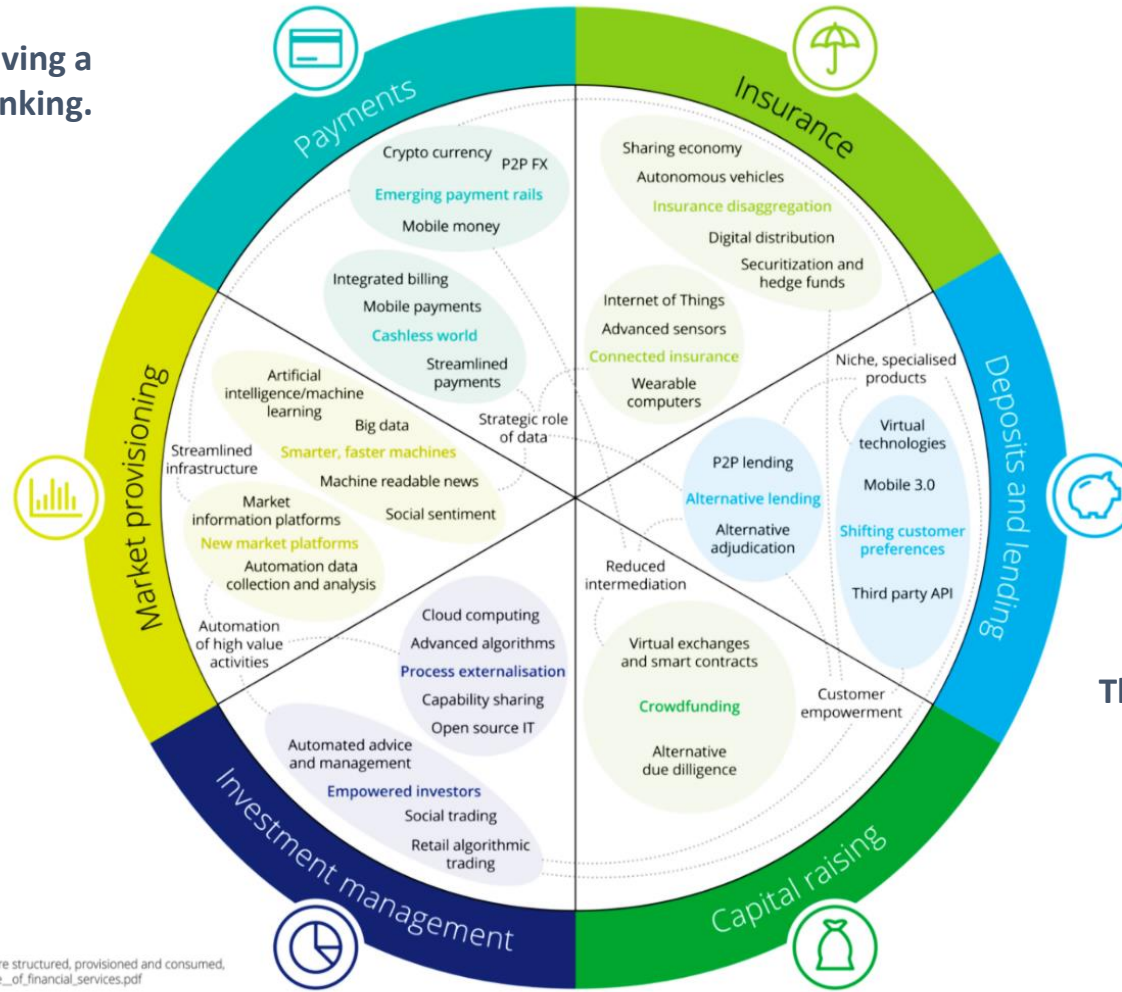

Building the Optimal Architecture for Open Banking

Presented @ DRIE Symposium
Toronto, Ontario, Canada / June 18th, 2019

Banking Evolved | Banks are quickly becoming technology companies.

Advances in new technologies are having a dramatic impact on every facet of banking.



There are three main pressures driving this:

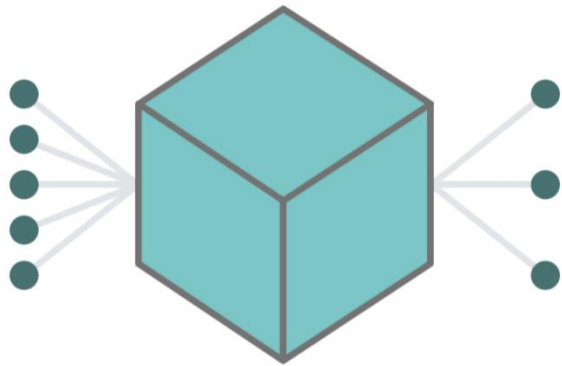
- **Rising Customer Expectations**
- **Competition from FinTechs**
- **Regulatory Environment**

Source: The Future of Financial Services – How disruptive innovations are reshaping the way financial services are structured, provisioned and consumed, World Economic Forum and Deloitte, June 2015, p.12. See also: http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_The_future_of_financial_services.pdf

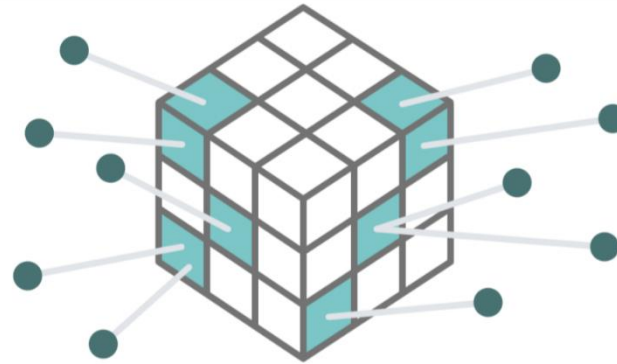
To drive *innovation*, banks have to learn all about Agile, Dev-Ops, Cloud & (of course) APIs.

The Rise of the API | APIs are the pipelines that power Open Banking

In response to the three main pressures, banks are rapidly adopting APIs, in an attempt to decompose their business into re-usable chunks.

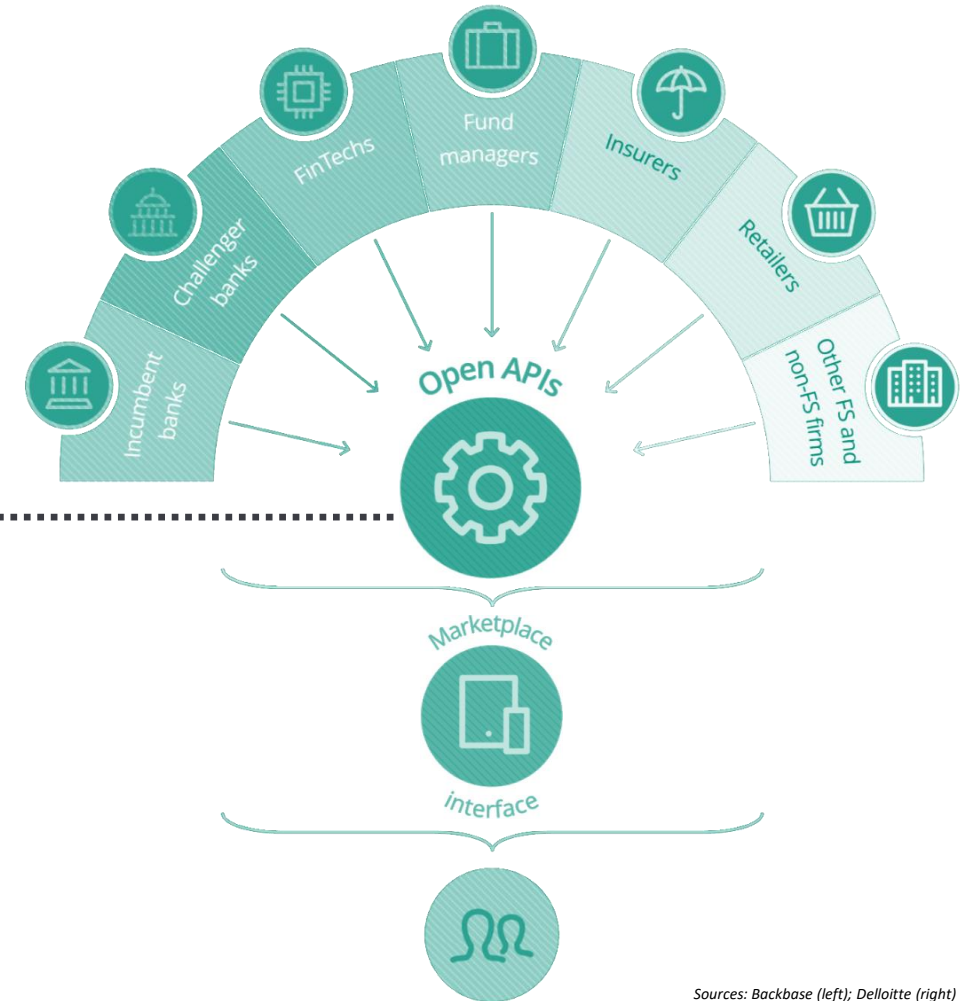


Closed Banking



Open Banking

These chunks of functionality can be shared inside the bank, but can also be shared beyond the bank, which is what has come to be called Open Banking.

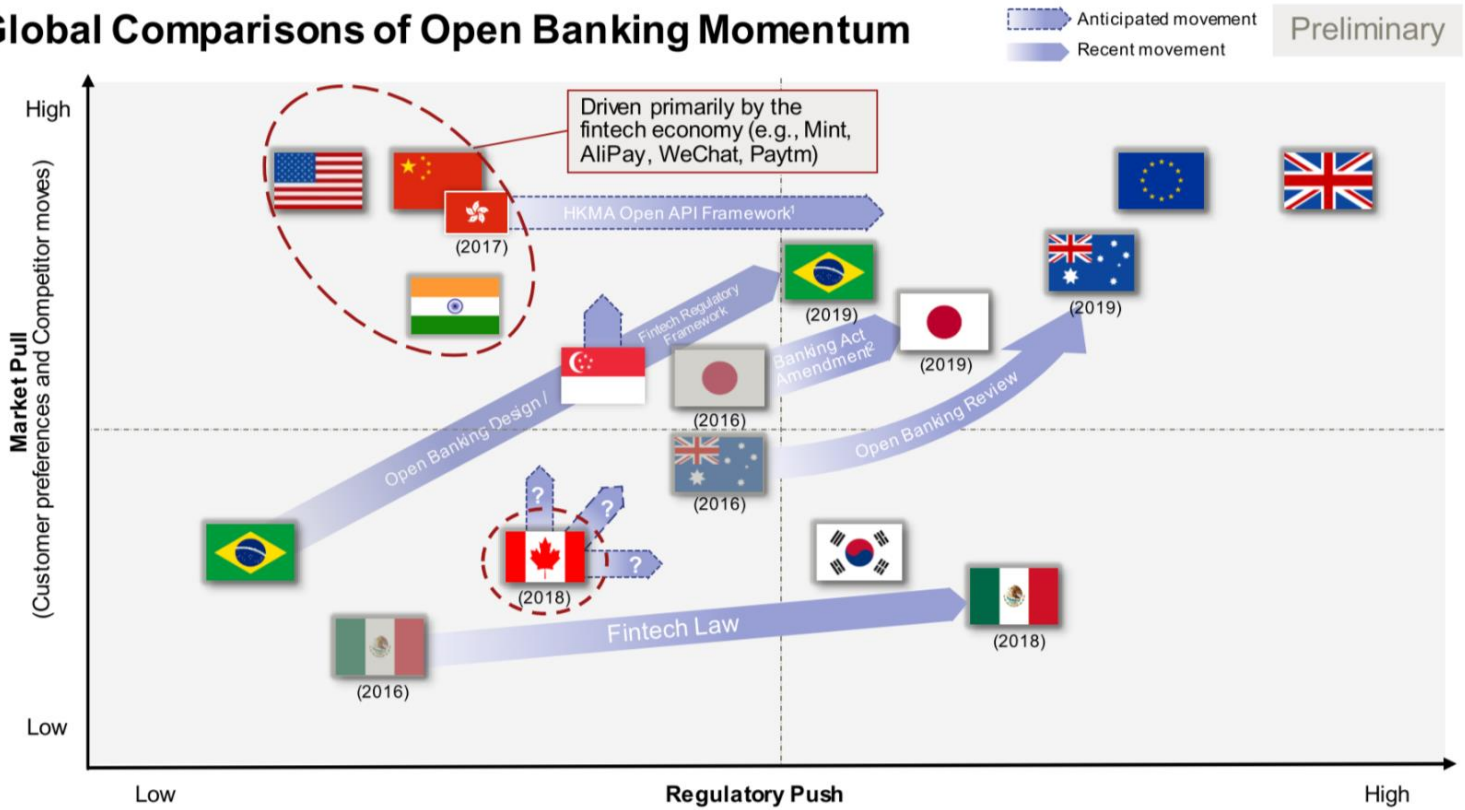


Sources: Backbase (left); Deloitte (right)

However, Open Banking means different things to different people in different places.

Global Landscape | Some regions regulate and some are market-driven.

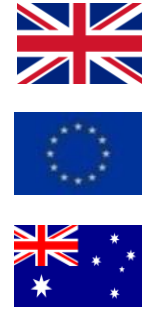
Global Comparisons of Open Banking Momentum



1. Hong Kong Monetary Authority issued a public consultation on Open API framework modeled after PSD2 and CMA Open Banking Regulation. It will only target the largest retail banks
 2. The 2017 amendments to the Banking Act in Japan will require financial institutions to make efforts to enable Open API within two years from the date of enforcement; the amendments are to come into effect on June 2017

Source: AT Kearney

Regulation-Driven (Push)



Market-Driven (Pull)



While different in key ways, note that both approaches have the same goals:

- Competition
- Innovation
- Transparency

These two approaches end up greatly affecting the focus of the solution architecture.

Architecture Focus | Regulations drive APIs, but markets drive speed.

Regulatory mandates force banks to publish Open APIs and support an ecosystem of TPPs, demanding strong capabilities around API management...

... However, nothing in the regulations forces them to modernize their legacy systems, drastically slowing down delivery.

By contrast, market-driven solutions, unencumbered by regulation, have focused more on accelerating delivery speed.



DEVELOPER EXPERIENCE
Presentation Layer

BUSINESS CAPABILITIES
Logic Layer

OBJECTS & MODELS
Data Layer

ENVIRONMENTS
Infrastructure Layer

Architectural Concerns (Full Stack)

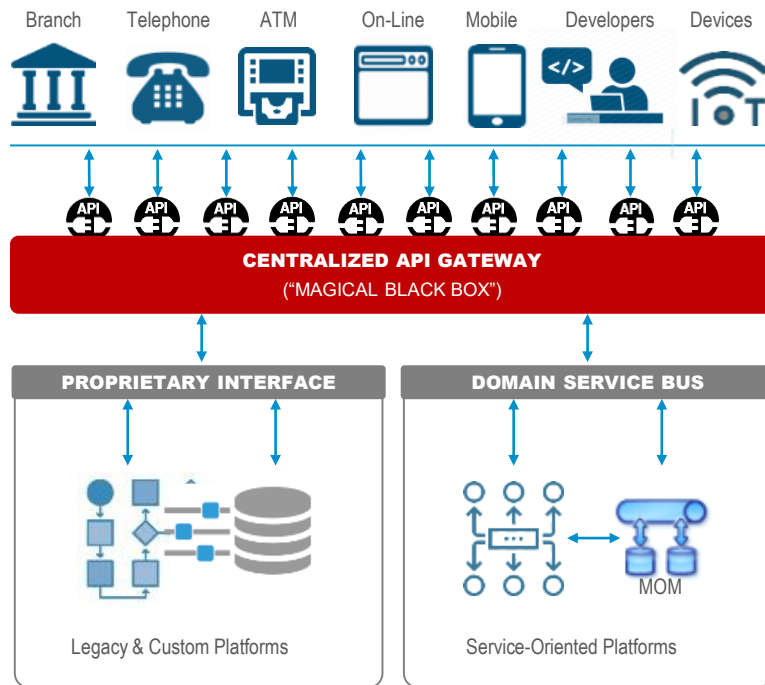
- Open APIs & Open Data
- Developer Experience
- Common Standards
- Agile Requirements Definition
- Consumer-Driven Contracts
- Precise scaling and enhancement
- Distributed Data using Events
- Unstructured “Big” Data Lakes
- Automated DevOps deployment
- Public cloud native (containers)
- Continuous Improvement (CI/CD)

To truly support Open Banking, a bank needs both API management *and* delivery speed.

The Role of API Gateways | Beware the “Magical Black Box” approach.

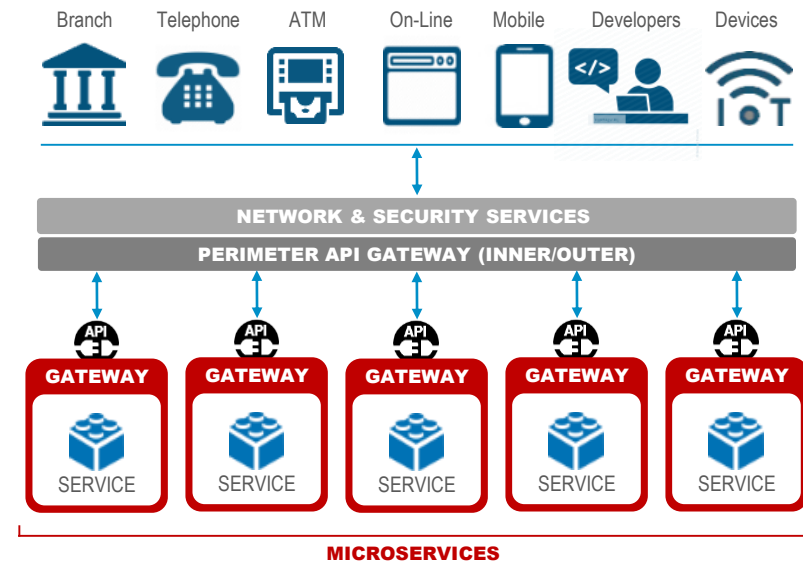
Centralized Gateway

All cross-cutting concerns and isolation are in a single, “smart” layer.



Distributed Gateway

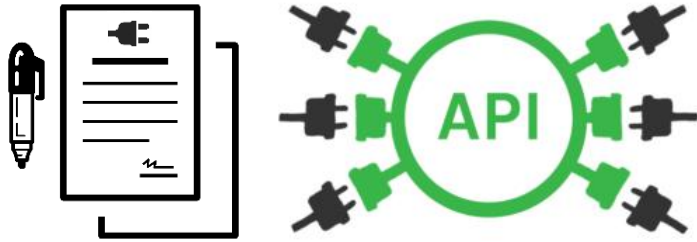
Cross-cutting concerns are distributed to the individual end-points.



A distributed approach pushes all gateway functions down to each individual *microservice*.

Microservices Explained | APIs & microservices are *not* the same thing.

APIs are the contract



Good contracts based on modern standards (i.e. REST, JSON, etc.) make integration easier & drastically improve the Developer experience on the Consumer side...



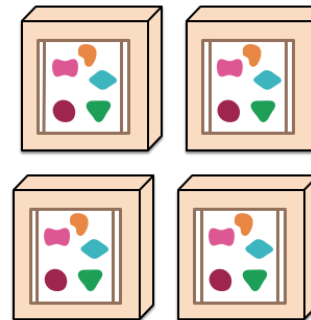
... However, the same API could be implemented on *any* back-end, and the wrong one (i.e. legacy systems) will greatly hamper agility & speed, and therefore innovation.

Microservices are the implementation

A monolithic application puts all its functionality into a single process...



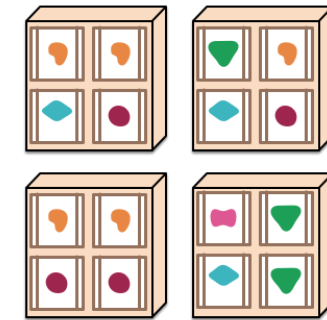
... and scales by replicating the monolith on multiple servers



A microservices architecture puts each element of functionality into a separate service...



... and scales by distributing these services across servers, replicating as needed.



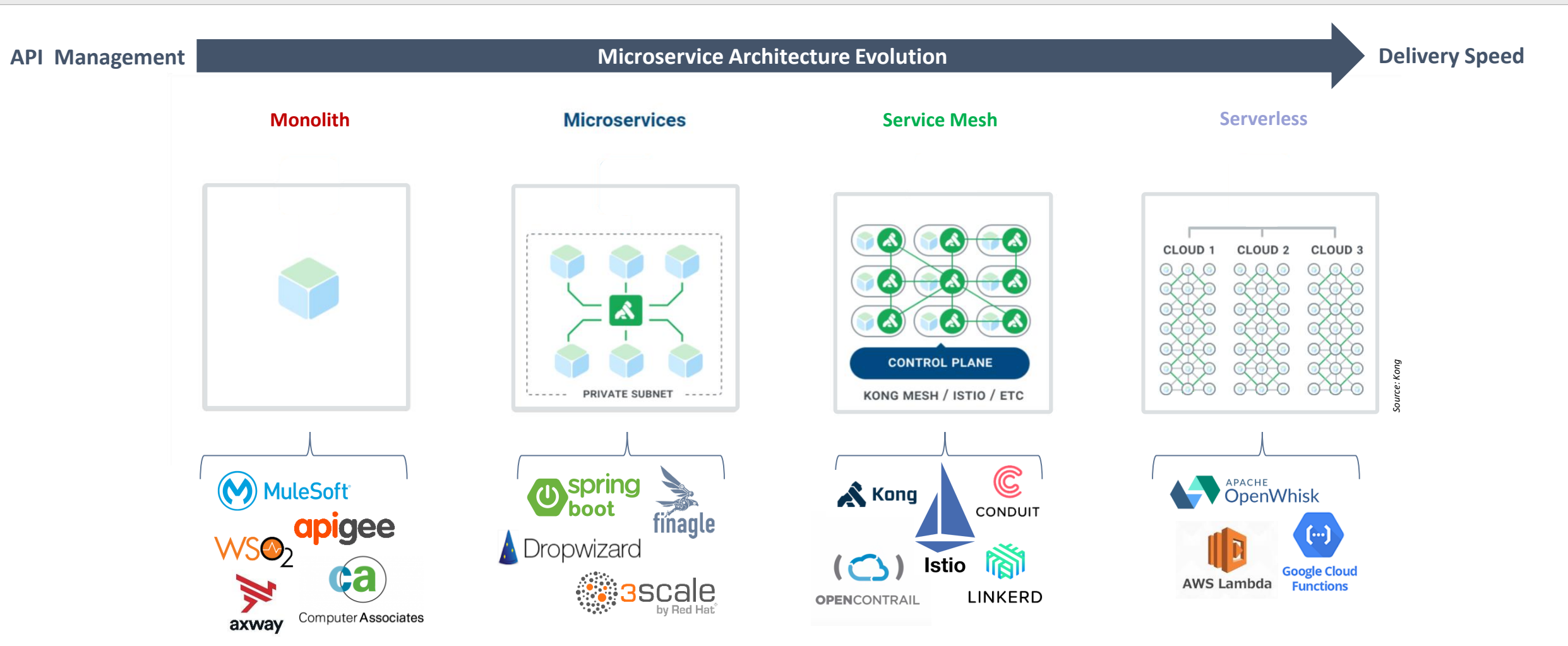
Source: martinowler.com

Microservices allow you to decompose monolithic applications and enable delivery speed because they are...

- Independently Upgradeable
- Precisely Scalable
- Completely Portable

APIs make integration easier, but *only* microservices lead to high-speed release cycles.

MSA Roadmap | Microservices Architecture (MSA) is evolving rapidly.



The rise of *service mesh* will increase market volatility, and early adopters will gain a lead.

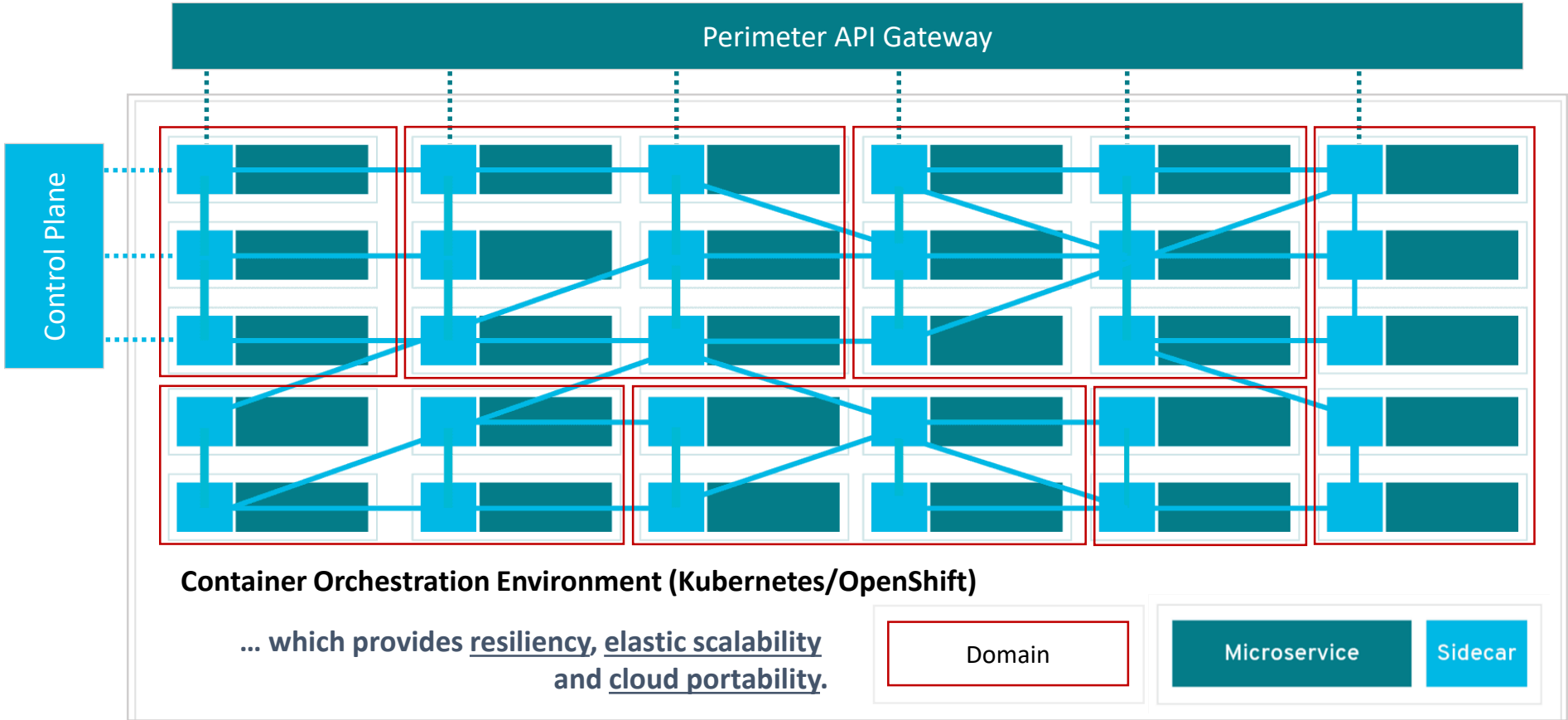
Optimal Architecture | The service mesh is perfect for Open Banking.

The service mesh acts as a uniform infrastructure for direct service-to-service communication (via APIs).

It utilizes lightweight proxies deployed side-by-side or together with the services known as sidecars.

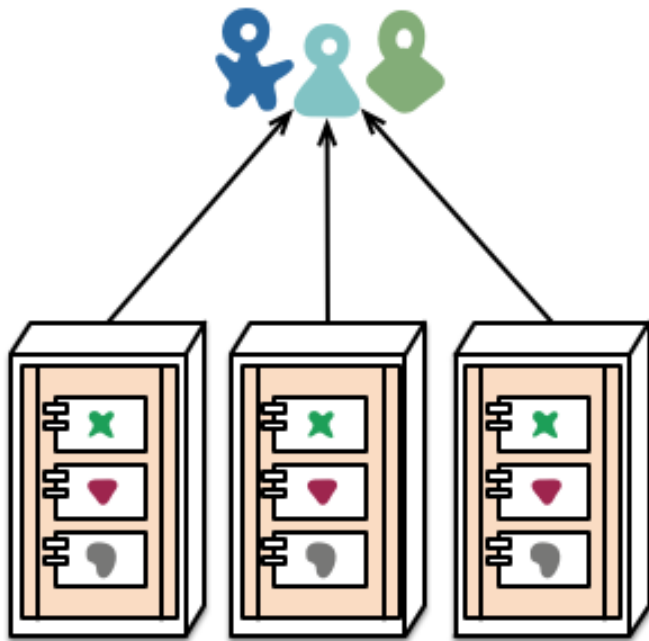
It ensures consistent handling of cross-cutting concerns in a fully distributed manner, using a control plane:

- Consistent Routing
- Security
- Logging
- Monitoring

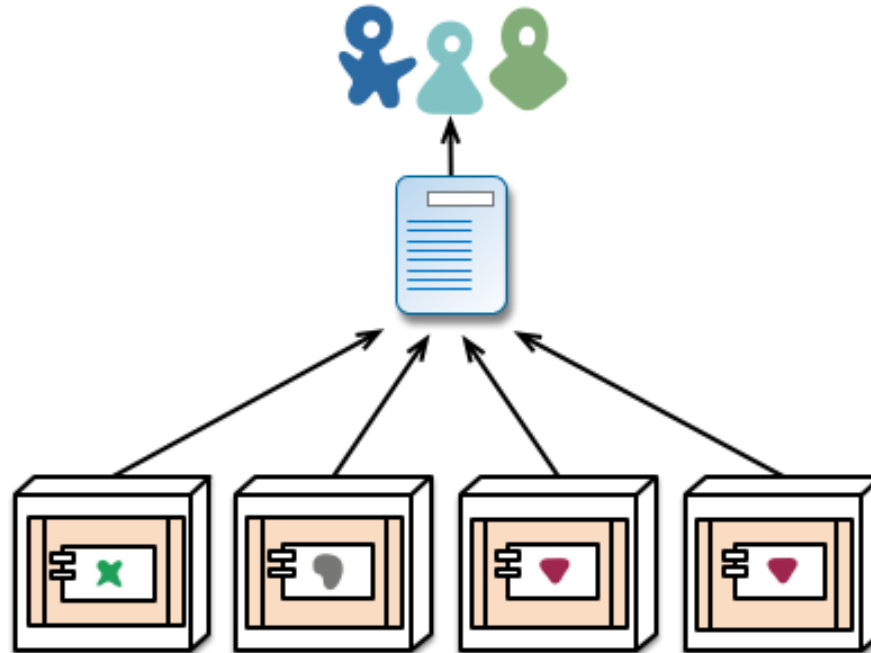


The service mesh offers precise control & visibility, while supporting speed & innovation.

Ideal for Disaster Recovery | Microservices are built for resiliency.



monolith - multiple modules in the same process



microservices - modules running in different processes

From a DR/BCM perspective, microservices running on a Container Orchestrator like Kubernetes/OpenShift are a vast improvement over J2EE.

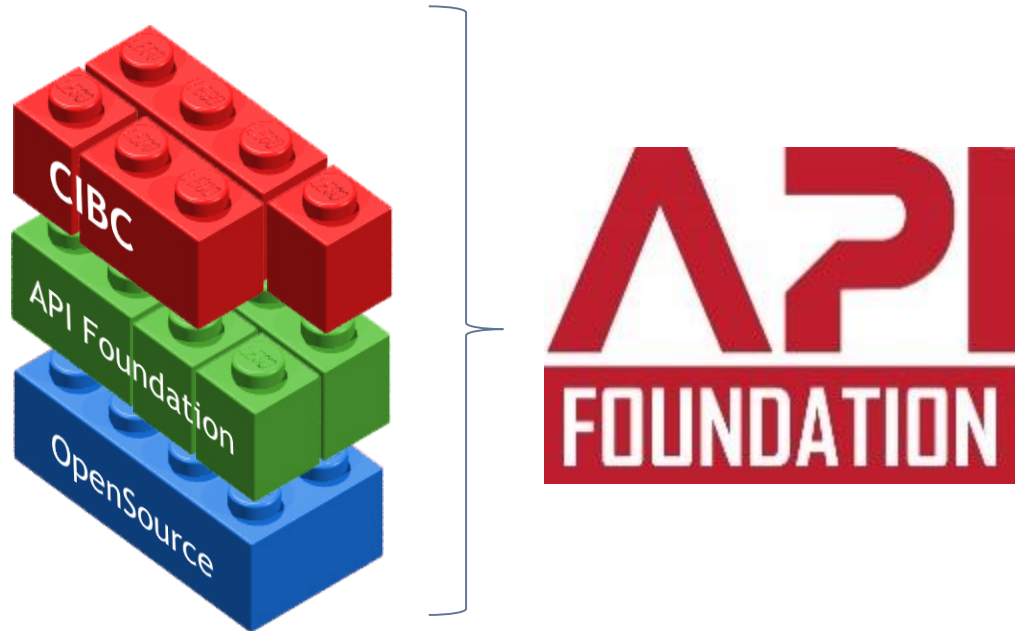
J2EE/legacy applications are monolithic, so they are scaled and managed by replicating copies on multiple servers.

Microservices break down the monolith and distribute the functions across servers, scaling replicas up and down dynamically based on load. They are so resilient that some actively attack their own Production environment (Netflix's Simian Army).

Microservices are self-contained, auto-managed & cloud-native, greatly easing DR/BCM.

CIBC Case Study | Building a service mesh API platform for a bank.

Instead of gambling on one of many vendor platforms in a highly volatile market, CIBC built our in-house platform, the API Foundation on open-source, cloud native technology.



We then subjected our API platform to intense, independent 3rd party evaluation. So far the evaluations have been very positive.



Then we took our framework to Europe...



There are three main reasons we took a build posture:

- Hedge against a volatile market
- Steer the technology to suite our needs
- Develop critical internal skills

The award-winning API Foundation is the first service mesh built specifically for banks.

Real Results | The API Foundation is now in full swing across the bank.

We have taken great strides forward over the last several months, achieving several declared milestones.

Although we have only deployed a few microservices, we are already projecting **significant savings (50-70%)** in both cost and time per integration.

The core pieces are all in place and we are busily onboarding our Development Teams.



API Foundation Core Being Used Across Delivery Teams



API Governance Council in Place & APIs are Mandated



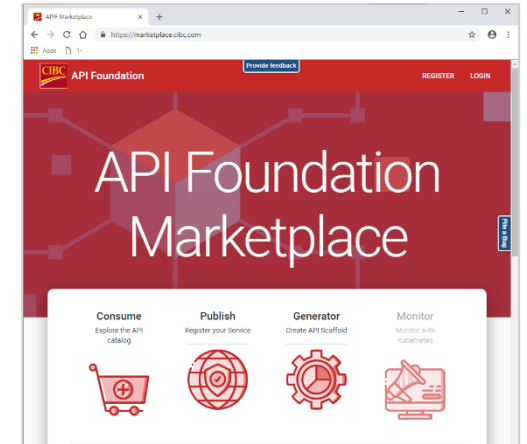
Managed Container Environment (CaaS) Fully Operational



Ongoing Developer Training for APIs & Microservices



Pilot of internal API Marketplace is Available Today



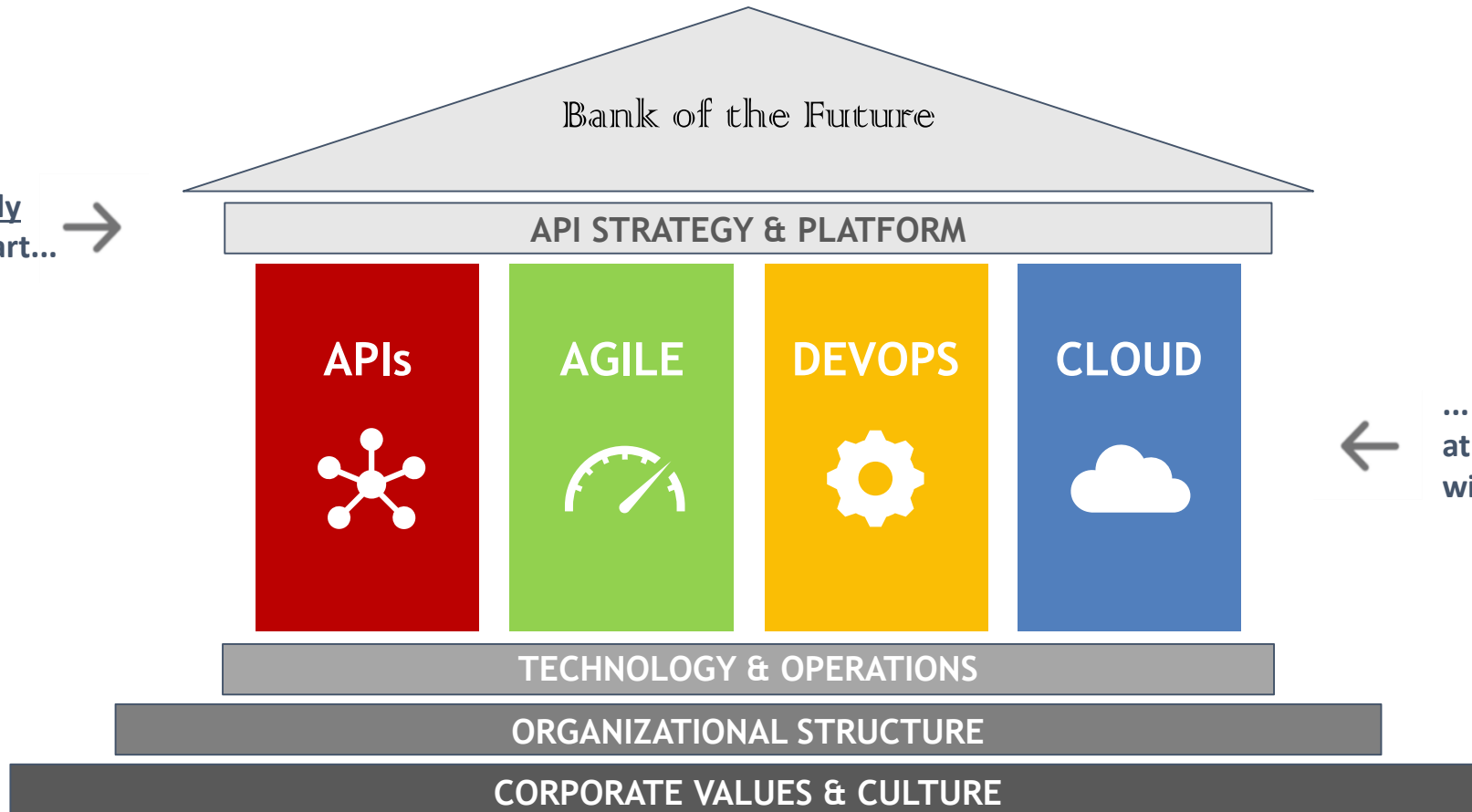
Did the API Foundation really win awards? Yes!

- Recognized by Nordic APIs as a leader in MSA
- 2018 EA Award from Forrester & InfoWorld
- 2019 Celent Model Bank Award for Integration

While we have made progress towards a clear vision, there is still a long way to go.

Bank of the Future | Success demands a technological balancing act.

Open Banking only focuses on this part... →



← ... but to be successful at Open Banking, you will need all of these...

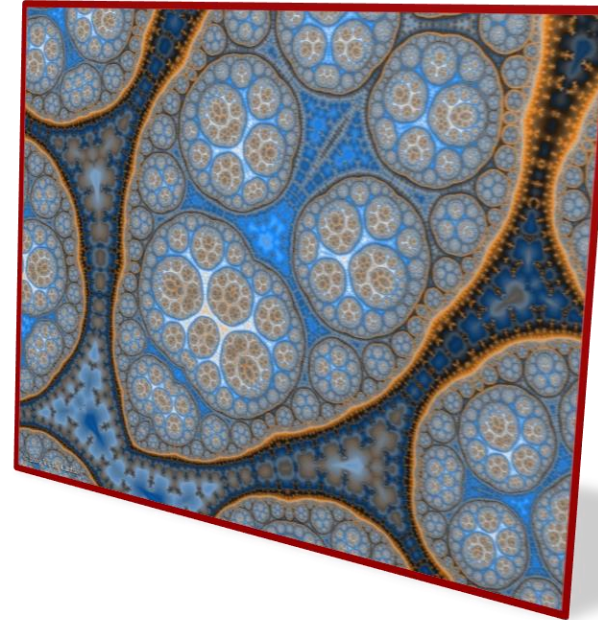
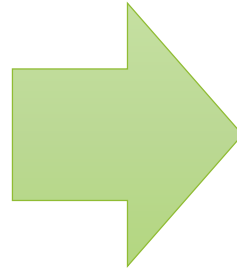
... and, crucially, you will have to tackle structural & cultural challenges as well.

The pillars give you speed, but only a culture that *embraces change* drives true innovation.

Build for Change | The metaphors used for IT systems are changing.

Industrial Metaphors

- Bridges
- Buildings
- Cities



Biological Metaphors

- Cells
- Molecules
- Organisms

“There is no design at the beginning. You begin by coding a small amount of functionality, adding more functionality, and letting the design shift & shape.”

Martin Fowler, Software Design Guru, Thoughtworks

Systems that can *evolve* quickly are critical to the delivery of Open Banking technology.

Thank you.

QUESTION & ANSWER

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Banking that fits your life.

