How I learned to stop worrying and love the monolith

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Why monolith?

- Well known to developers
- Supported by vendors
- IDE-friendly
- Easy to develop / debug / test / deploy / operate
- Low technical complexity
 - In-process communication
 - Transactions and consistency

Why microservices?

- Individually deployable / upgradeable / replaceable / scalable
- Availability / design for failure
- Polyglot programming / heterogeneous technology stack

Monolith-first vs. microservices-first



Why monolith-first

- YAGNI You Aren't Gonna Need It
- Service boundaries are hard to get at the beginning refactoring is more expensive
- Microservices require DevOps:
 - Continuous delivery
 - Rapid provisioning
 - Rapid application deployment
 - Central logging
 - Monitoring
 - etc.



Why microservices-first?

It's hard to cut up a large (BBOM) monolith into microservices



Code entropy

As a system is modified with the inclusion of new functionality, its disorder, or entropy, tends to increase.

- Monolith: new code added to existing codebase
- Microservices: new code added as new service

Productivity



Bookstore

Monolith - hope



Monolith - reality



The model-code gap

The architecture models include concepts such as component, services, modules, etc. but the code doesn't reflect this - the implementation often happens to be a bunch of classes sitting inside a traditional layered architecture.



Bookstore monolith



Bookstore monolith restructured



Context map



Deployment as monolith



Deployment as microservices



Monolith to microservices



Monolith to microservices



- + Individually replaceable
- + Individually scalable

Microservices architectural prerequisites

- Package structure depicting functional components rather than layers
- Domain model per component (DDD's bounded context, ubiquitous language and context map)
- Data store per component
- Domain events to propagate business-meaningful events in asynchronous manner
- Ports and adapters architecture to isolate components during synchronous calls

To conclude



I'll keep saying this ... if people can't build monoliths properly, microservices won't help. #qconlondon #DesignThinking #Modularity





Thank You