

decisions, decisions

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# every decision is a trade-off

team composition

development style

architecture

deployment

# trade-offs: team composition

co-located or distributed

feature teams or layer teams

experienced or inexperienced

small teams or big team

*“how complicated do you want?”*

# a pattern: **shallow silos**

balances **pair rotation** with **context switching**

the team makes *ad hoc* team decisions

technical stand-up plans the day

stakeholder stand-up reports progress

# trade-offs: **development style**

automated or manual build

automated or manual testing

test-first, test-driven

test-after

test-whenever!

# a pattern: **spike and stabilise**

why do we write automated tests?

what is the opportunity cost of tdd?

feedback from defects or feedback from users

*invest in code based on evidence*

# trade-offs: architecture

monolith or components

resources or messages (or events or commands)

synchronous or asynchronous

single event loop or multiple threads

# a pattern: **short software half-life**

small expendable co-operating components

each component fit for purpose

hard shell, soft centre

the message is the api

identifiable boundaries for experimenting

# sidebar: **evolvable architecture**

**dry** or **decoupled**

evolution is anything but dry!

*dna doesn't refactor*

a pattern: **ginger cake**

# chocolate cake

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1.5 cups flour

3 tablespoons cocoa

1 teaspoon baking soda

1 cup sugar

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon white vinegar

1 tablespoon vanilla

4 tablespoons melted butter

1 cup cold water

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Mix dry ingredients together. Make three wells in the mixture. In the first well, pour vinegar, in the second vanilla, and in the third, the liquid fat. Pour cold water over the whole thing and mix together well. Pour batter into a 9x9 pan, ungreased, and bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes.

ginger cake

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like chocolate cake

(but with ginger)

# trade-offs: **deployment**

automated or manual deployment

vertical or horizontal scaling

hosted or in house

bespoke or commodity

# a pattern: **dancing skeleton**

get something into production

full-stack, with a repl

fire, aim, ready

*theory is only like practise in theory*

when you know what you are  
trading off  
you can make  
informed decisions

thank you

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