

# Motivation for Loosely Coupled Software Systems

Or (1): Life is just a bakery

Or (2): This is what this course is about

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# Agenda

- *Scenario 1:* It works (somehow)
- *Scenario 2:* The Orchestrator Pattern
- *Scenario 3:*  
Loosely Coupled and Event-driven
- DDD as a software specification & development approach

# Scenario 1

It works (somehow)



1

I need a large birthday cake.  
Cream, three stacks, with fruit.  
Can you make it Thursday?





Yes, that works.

2





3

Julia, we need a  
3-stack with fruit  
for Mrs. Gulbins.  
Please prepare the  
cream and tell Alfred.





4

Mrs. Gulbins, any  
food intolerances?





5

Alfred, a 3-stack with  
fruit for Mrs. Gulbins.  
Here is the cream.







6

Mrs. Gulbins, a chocolate base layer is always nice in a 3-stack. You want that?



7 Yes please!





8

Julia, I need chocolate  
whipped cream, too.





9

Martha, you need to add the chocolote base layer to the bill.





10

Julia, Alfred, what is your status with Mrs. Gulbins cake?



11

Done. You can send the  
the bill. I'll tell Juan.

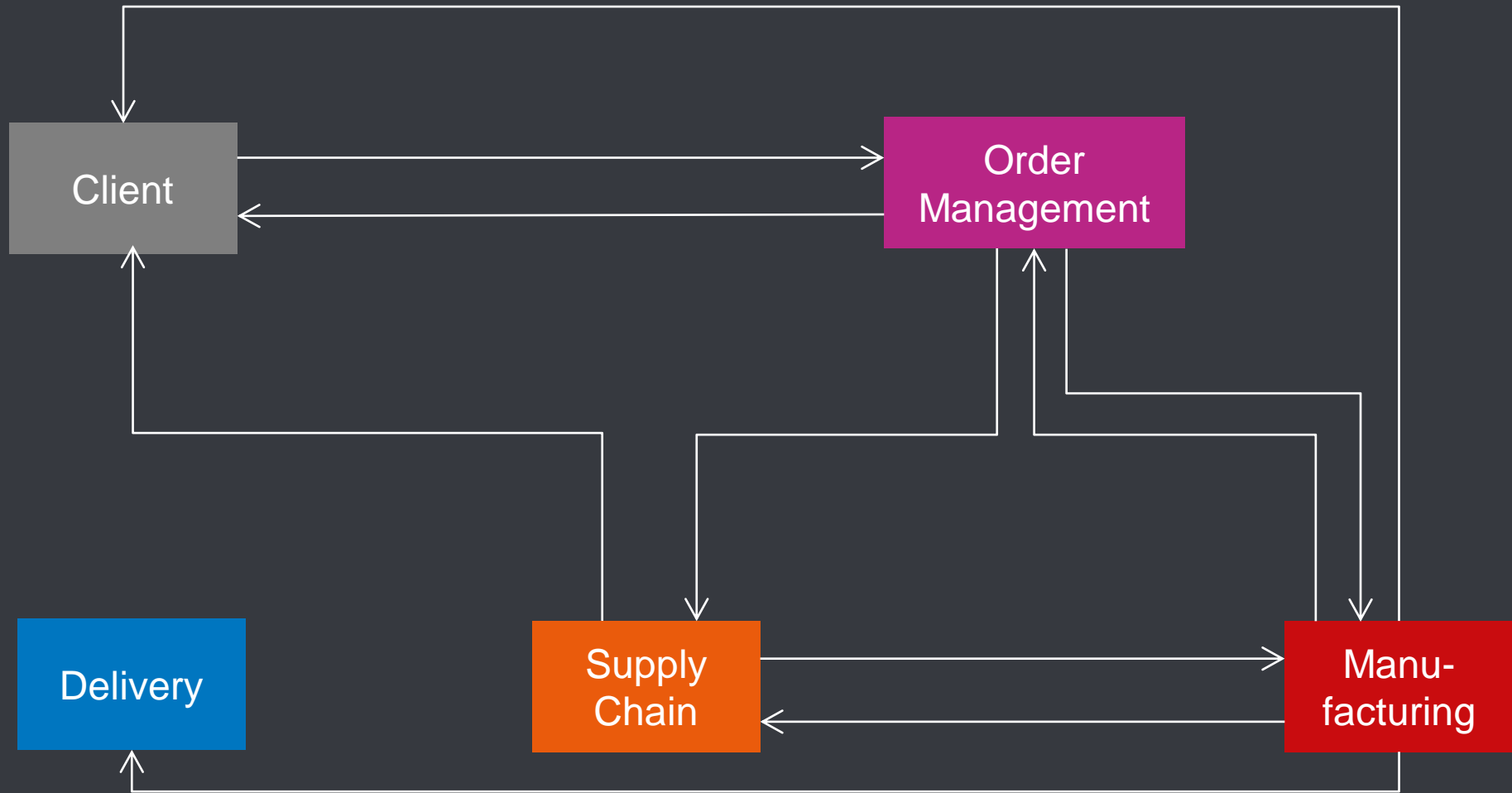




12

Juan, can you please deliver this cake to Mrs. Gulbins?







# Observation

- Each subsystem manages its own business logic
- **BUT:** Process knowledge distributed
  - Many subsystems know more than they they should
- (Wildly) cyclic dependencies

# Scenario 2

## The Orchestrator Pattern



1

I need a large birthday cake.  
Cream, three stacks, with fruit.  
Can you make it Thursday?





Yes, that works.

Food intolerances?  
Chocolate base layer?  
...?

2





3

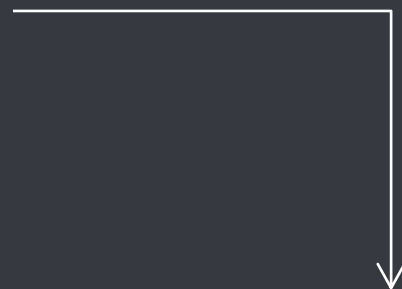
Julia, we need  
whipped cream.





4

Alfred, start with three layers.





5

Julia, now also  
chocolate cream.





6

Alfred, please a chocolate base layer.







7

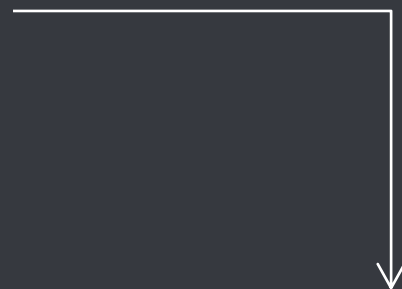
And now some fruit  
as decoration.





8

When ready, bring me the cake.

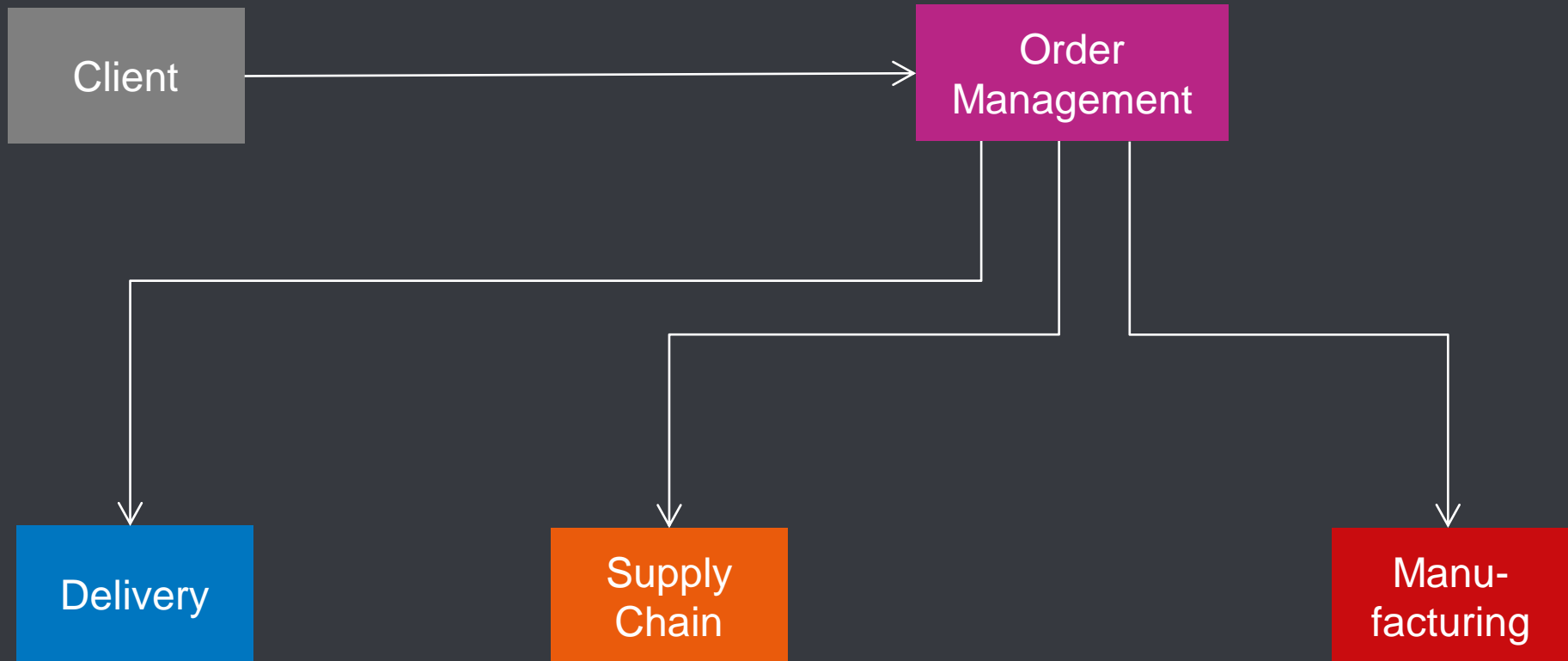




9

Juan, please deliver this cake to Mrs. Gulbins.





# Observation

- Process knowledge nicely centralized
- No cycles
- **BUT:** Subsystems become anemic
  - (not the master of their own business logic)
- Orchestrator (Order Management) prone to become a „God System“
  - VERY hard to maintain

# Scenario 3

Loosely Coupled and  
Event-driven



1

I need a large birthday cake.  
Cream, three stacks, with fruit.  
Can you make it Thursday?





Yes, that works.

Food intolerances?  
Chocolate base layer?  
...?

2





3

3-Stack, fruit,  
no food intolerances,  
chocolate base layer

*I'll prepare the bill.  
The team knows  
what to do 😊*

*OK, I need to prepare  
whipped cream and  
chocolate cream ...*

*OK, I need to prepare the stacks ...*





4

Whipped cream  
ready!

*OK, I can mount  
the stacks ...*





5

Cholcolate  
cream ready!

*... and now the  
base layer  
and the fruit ...*





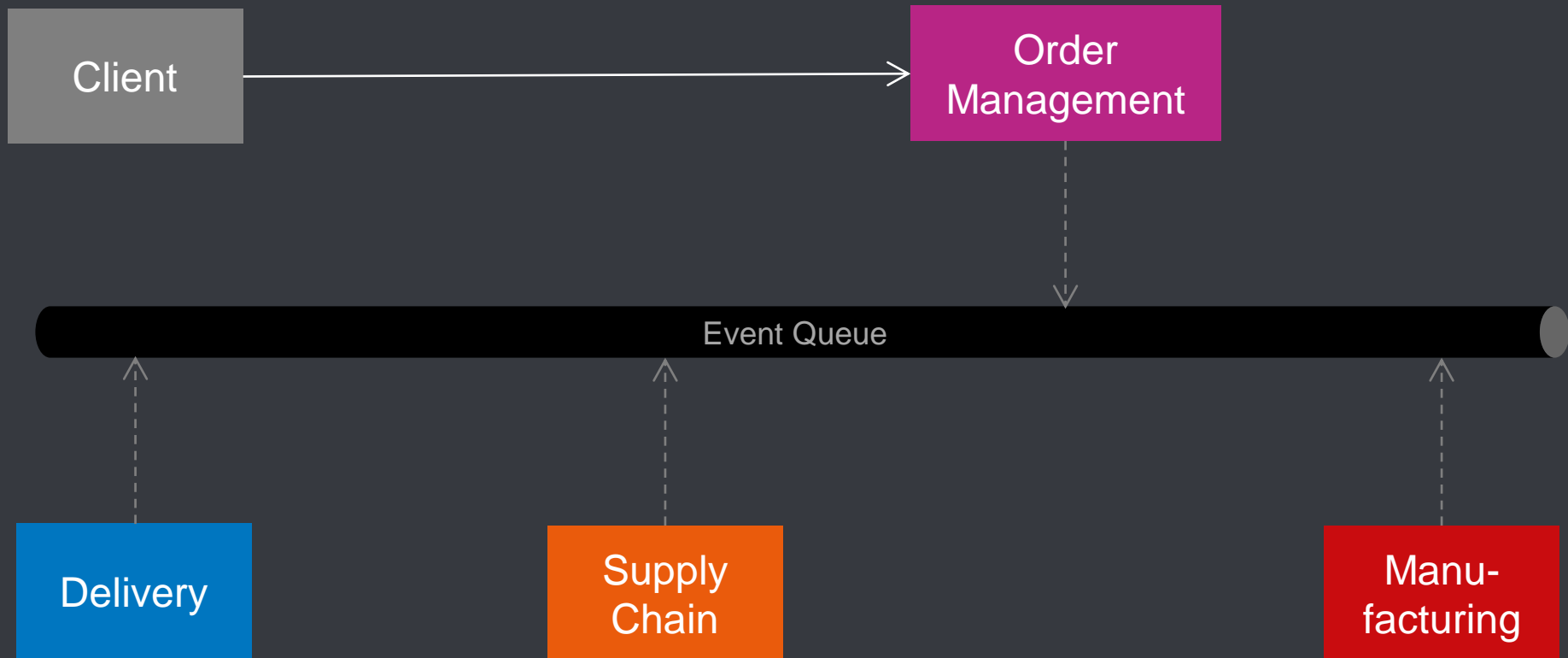
*OK, so I can deliver it.*



Cake for Mrs  
Gulbins is ready.

6





# Observation

- „Empowered“ yet loosely coupled subsystems - no cycles
- **BUT:** Harder to design
  - Thinking in events doesn't come natural
- More technical effort
  - No / very little synchronous calls
  - Asynchronous communication & data redundancy

# DDD as a software specification & development approach

# Requirements on Spec & Impl

## 1. Domain exploration focusing on ...

- clear boundaries between subdomains
- business events as main source of domain knowledge

## 2. Modelling the message flow

- in an expressive, yet not „overformalized“ way

## 3. Modelling high-level system structure

- focusing on deployment and high-level dependencies

## 4. Implementation in a industry-standard language

- with a framework that allows to explicitly express DDD building blocks



# Solutions *(in this course, but aligned with industry practice ...)*

1. Event Storming
2. Domain-Driven Design Starter Modelling Process
3. C4 Model (level 1 + 2)
4. Spring Modulith + Java



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