

# MONITORING 101: POSTGRESQL

JASON YEE, DATADOG

@gitbisect



@gitbisect  
Technical Writer/Evangelist  
"Docs & Talks"  
Travel Hacker & Whiskey Hunter

@datadoghq  
SaaS-based monitoring  
Trillions of data points per day  
<http://jobs.datadoghq.com>



**Honest Status Page** @honest\_update · Jul 22

Our new monitoring product just watches Twitter and IRC for our name + "down".

COLLECTING DATA IS CHEAP;  
NOT HAVING IT WHEN YOU  
NEED IT CAN BE EXPENSIVE

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SO INSTRUMENT ALL THE THINGS!



## British Airways Union Blames Massive IT Failure On Outsourcing IT Jobs To India

The carrier cancelled hundreds of flights from London yesterday.

© 28/05/2017 12:57 MDT Updated 28/05/2017 12:59 PM IST

ANI  
WAT?!



NEIL HALL / REUTERS

LONDON -- British Airways GMB union has blamed the airline's 2016 decision of outsourcing IT jobs to India as the reason behind cancelling all Saturday flights from London to North America and Australia.

# 4 QUALITIES OF GOOD METRICS

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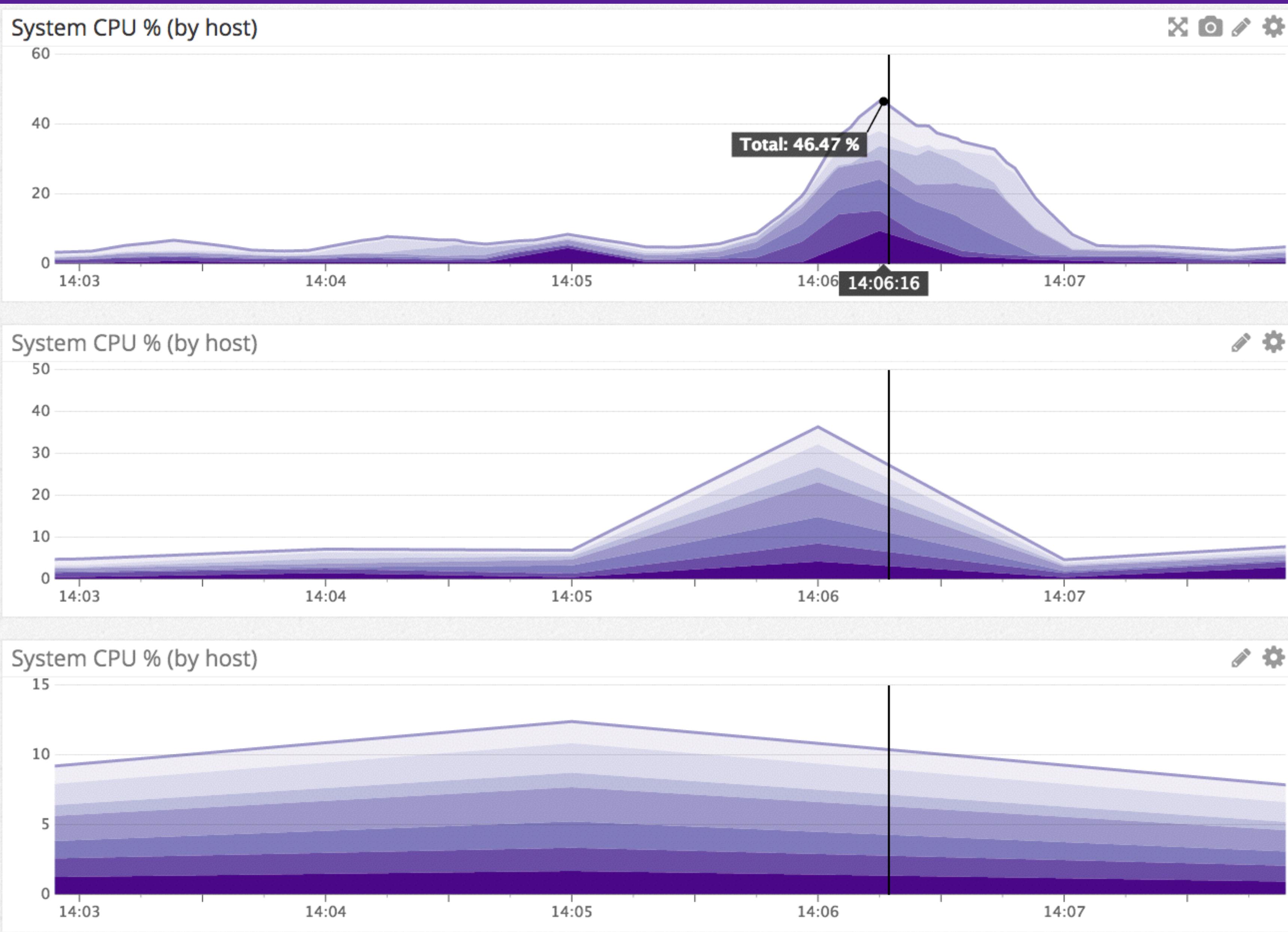
NOT ALL METRICS ARE EQUAL

# 1. MUST BE WELL UNDERSTOOD



## 2. SUFFICIENT GRANULARITY

RANK	PARTICIPANT	RESULT
G	Anthony ERVIN USA	21.40
S	Florent MANAUDOU FRA	21.41
B	Nathan ADRIAN USA	21.49
4.	Ben PROUD GBR	21.68
5.	Andrii GOVOROV UKR	21.74
6.	Bruno FRATUS BRA	21.79
6.	Bradley Edward TANDY RSA	21.79
8.	Simonas BILIS LTU	22.08



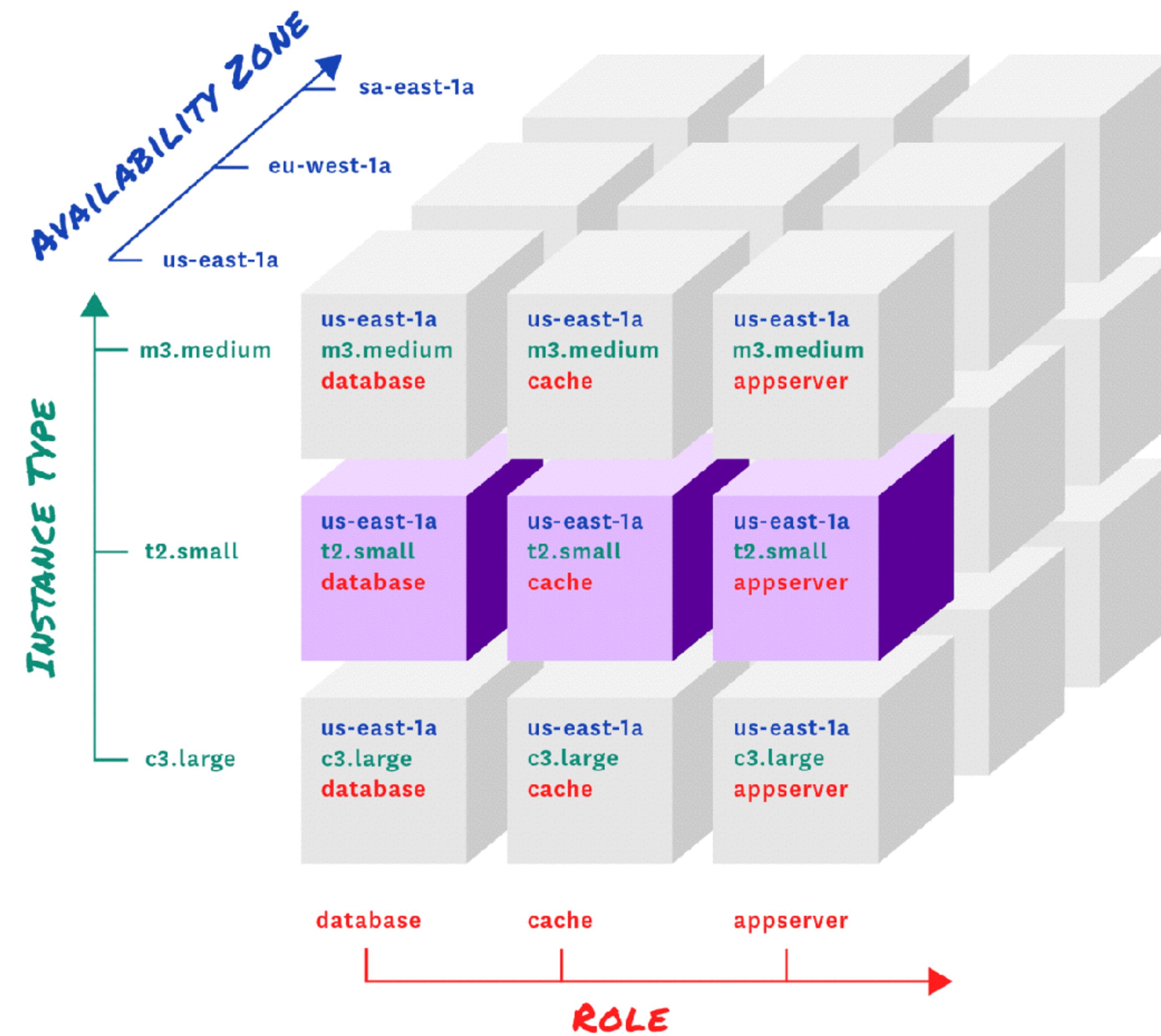
1 second  
Peak 46%

1 minute  
Peak 36%

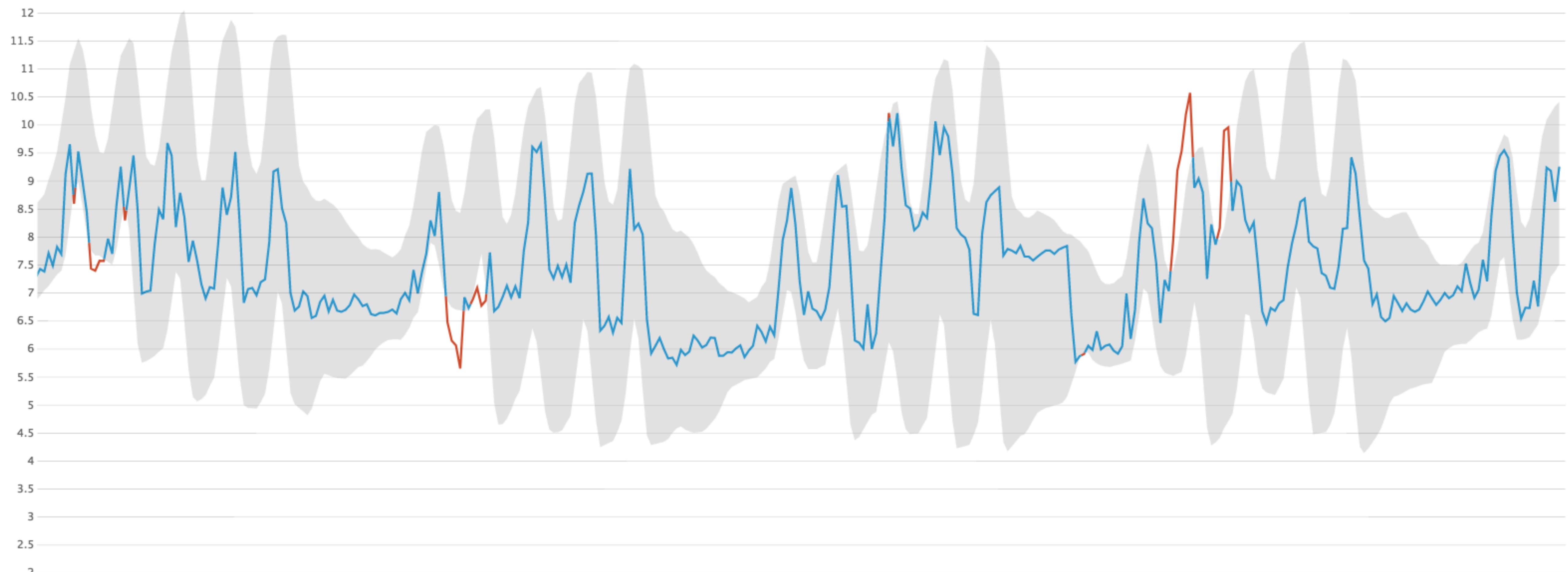
5 minutes  
Peak 12%



### 3. TAGGED & FILTERABLE



# 4. LONG-LIVED



**WORK METRICS**

**RESOURCE METRICS**

**EVENTS**



## WORK METRICS

THROUGHPUT

SUCCESS

ERROR

PERFORMANCE



## RESOURCE METRICS

UTILIZATION

SATURATION

ERROR

AVAILABILITY





**Adrian Cole**  
@adrianfcole



Following

Q: Are we losing money?

A: Can't answer that, but I can tell you what average CPU usage was 5ish mins ago..

# WHAT TO PAGE ON?

PAGE ON

INVESTIGATE USING

SYMPTOMS:

DIAGNOSTICS:

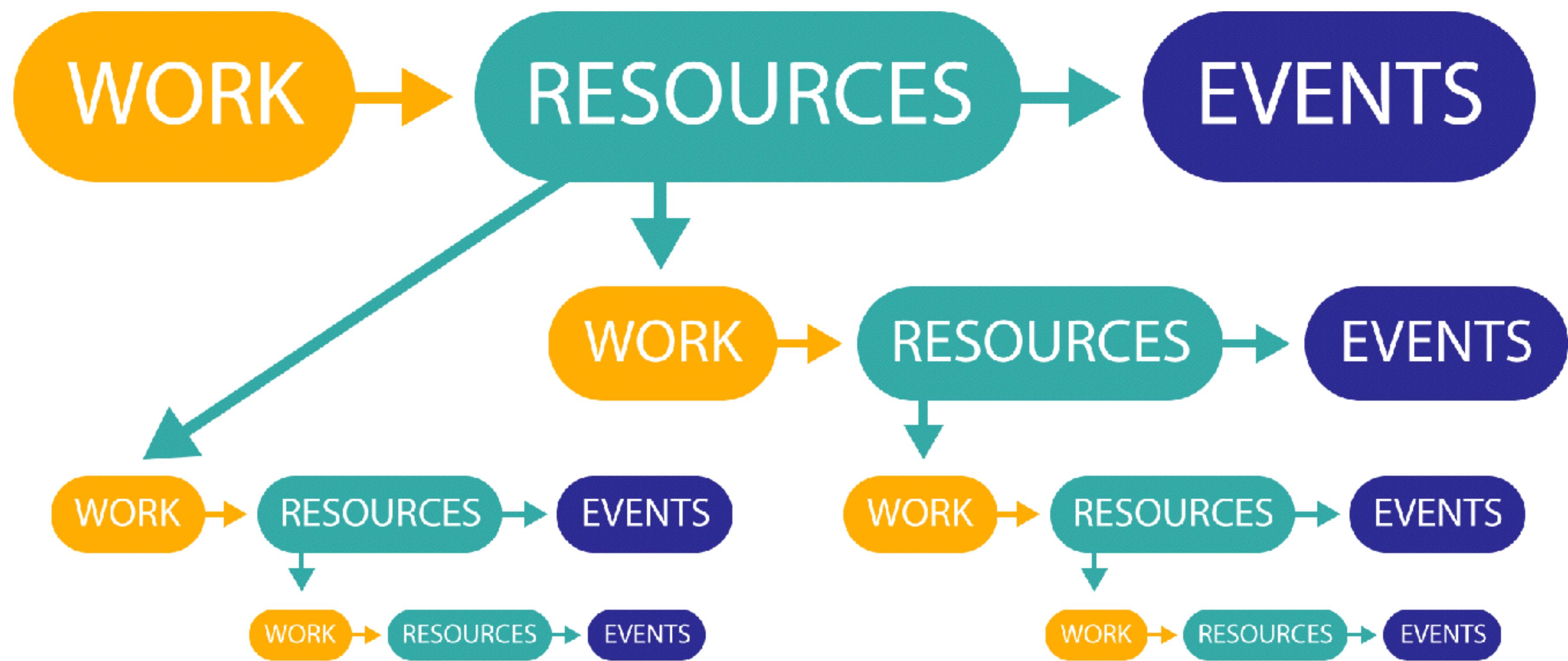
WORK METRICS

WORK METRICS

RESOURCE METRICS

EVENTS

# RECURSE UNTIL YOU FIND THE TECHNICAL CAUSES



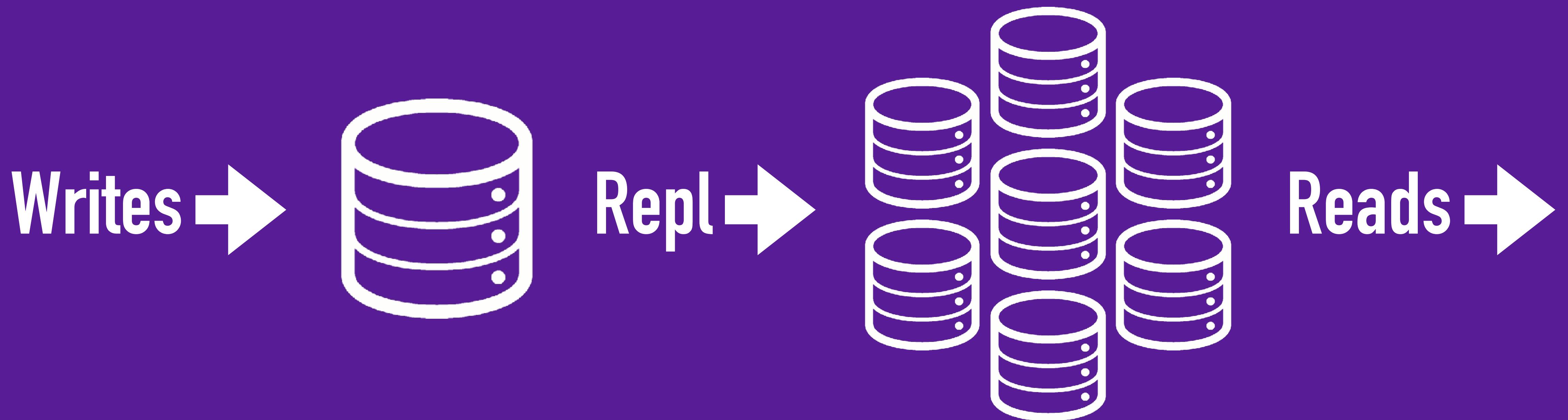


# SCALING & MONITORING POSTGRESQL AT DATADOG



**MOAR RESOURCES!**





## HOW WE DO IT

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# REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Write master is writeable, read replicas are readable!

## HOW WE DO IT

---

# REQUIREMENTS

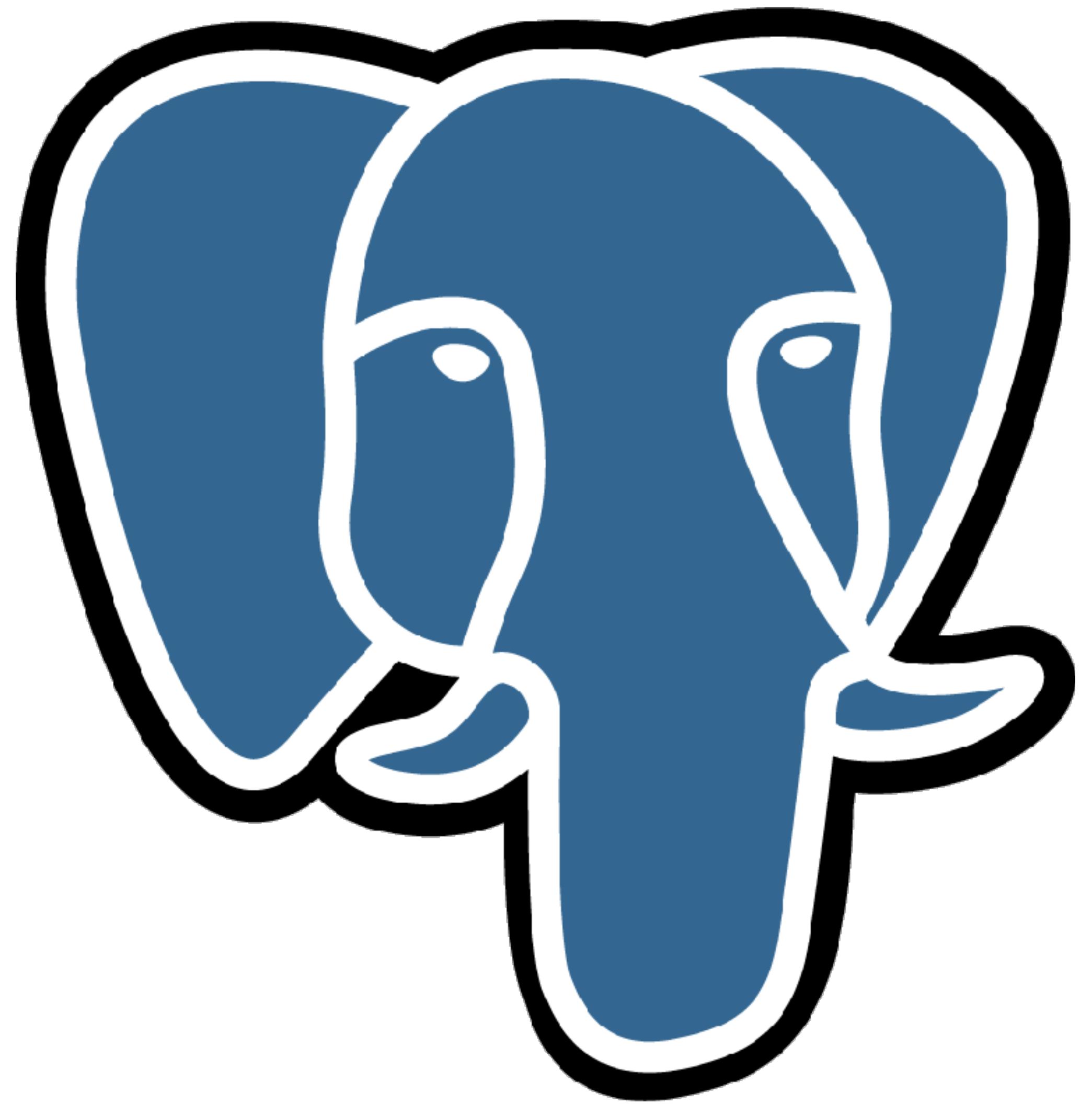
- ▶ Write master is writeable, read replicas are readable!
- ▶ Read replicas are up to date and don't lag

## HOW WE DO IT

---

# REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Write master is writeable, read replicas are readable!
- ▶ Read replicas are up to date and don't lag
- ▶ Additional read replicas can be provisioned quickly

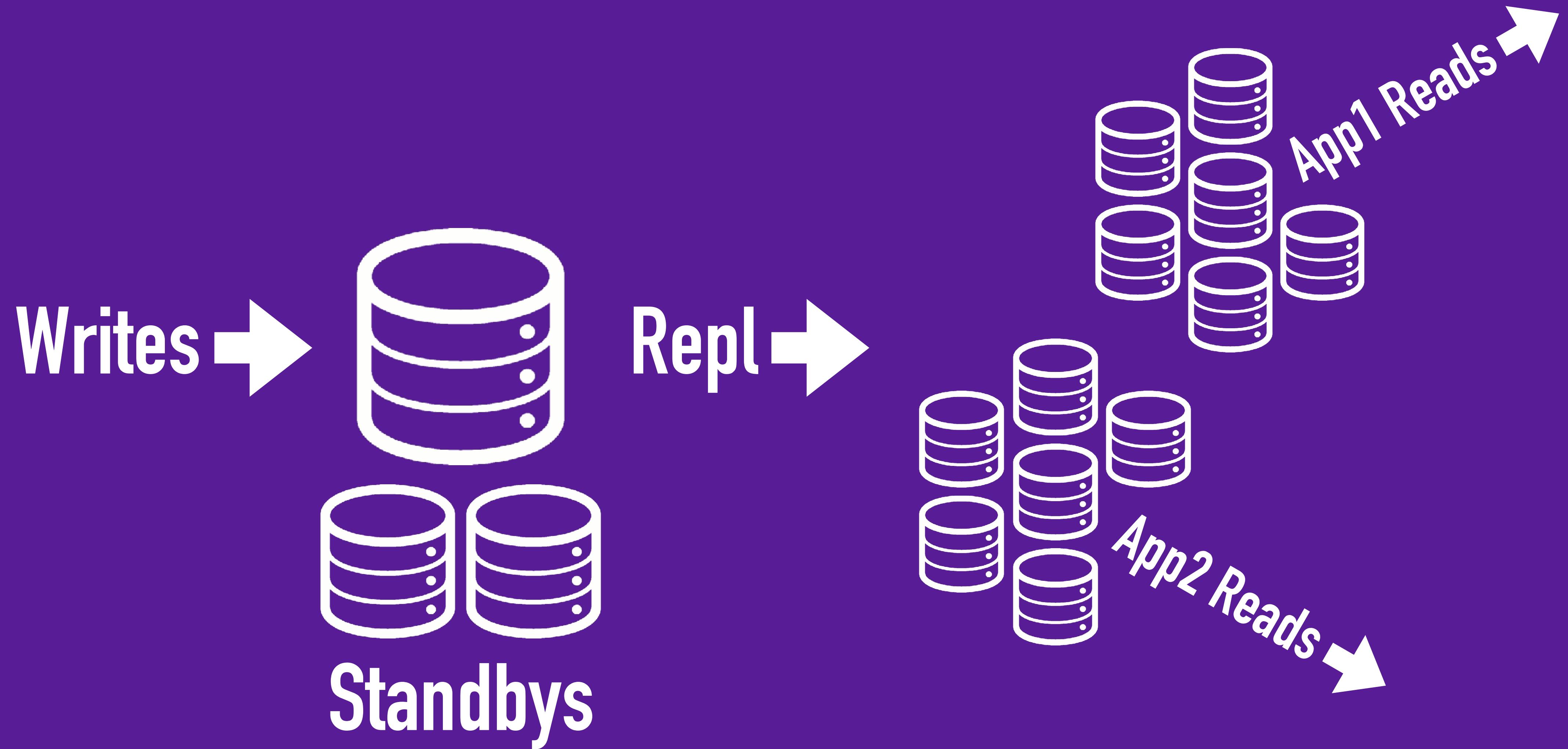


## HOW WE DO IT

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# SOLUTIONS

- ▶ PostgreSQL!
- ▶ <http://bit.ly/pg-repl-docs>
- ▶ WAL-E
- ▶ <https://github.com/wal-e/wal-e>





# WHAT DO WE MONITOR AT DATADOG?

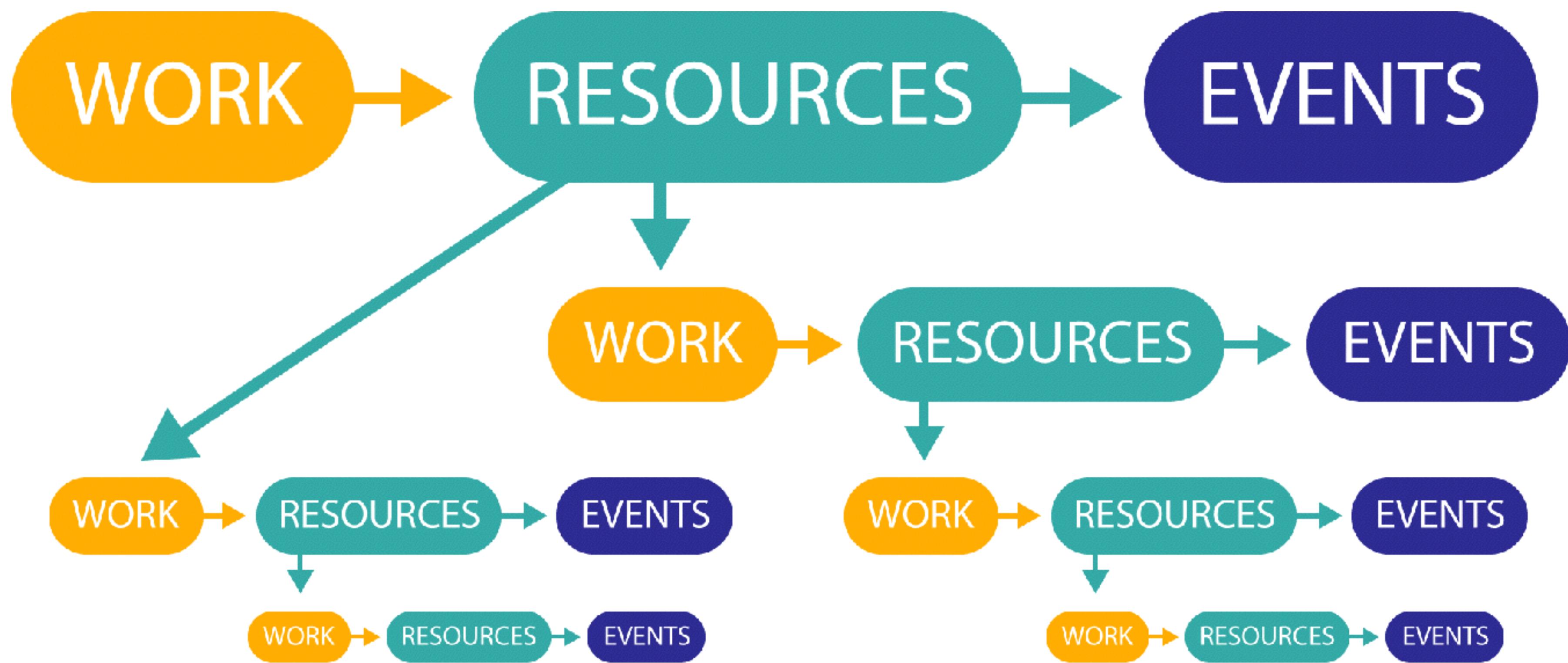
## METRICS

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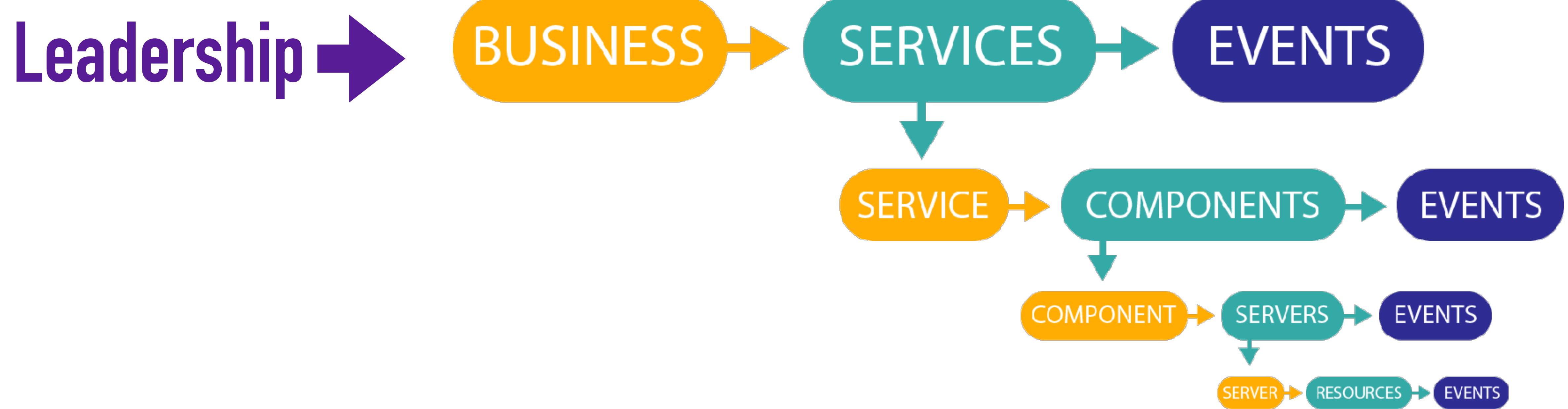
# WHAT METRICS DO WE GATHER?

connections	temp_files	seq_rows_read	replication_delay
commits	bgwriter.checkpoints_timed	index_scans	replication_delay_bytes
rollbacks	bgwriter.checkpoints_requested	index_rows_fetched	heap_blocks_read
disk_read	bgwriter.buffers_checkpoint	rows_hot_updated	heap_blocks_hit
buffer_hit	bgwriter.buffers_clean	live_rows	index_blocks_read
rows_returned	bgwriter.maxwritten_clean	dead_rows	index_blocks_hit
rows_fetched	bgwriter.buffers_backend	index_rows_read	toast_blocks_read
rows_inserted	bgwriter.buffers_alloc	table_size	toast_blocks_hit
rows_updated	bgwriter.buffers_backend_fsync	index_size	toast_index_blocks_read
rows_deleted	bgwriter.write_time	total_size	toast_index_blocks_hit
database_size	bgwriter.sync_time	table.count	
deadlocks	locks	max_connections	
temp_bytes	seq_scans	percent_usage_connections	

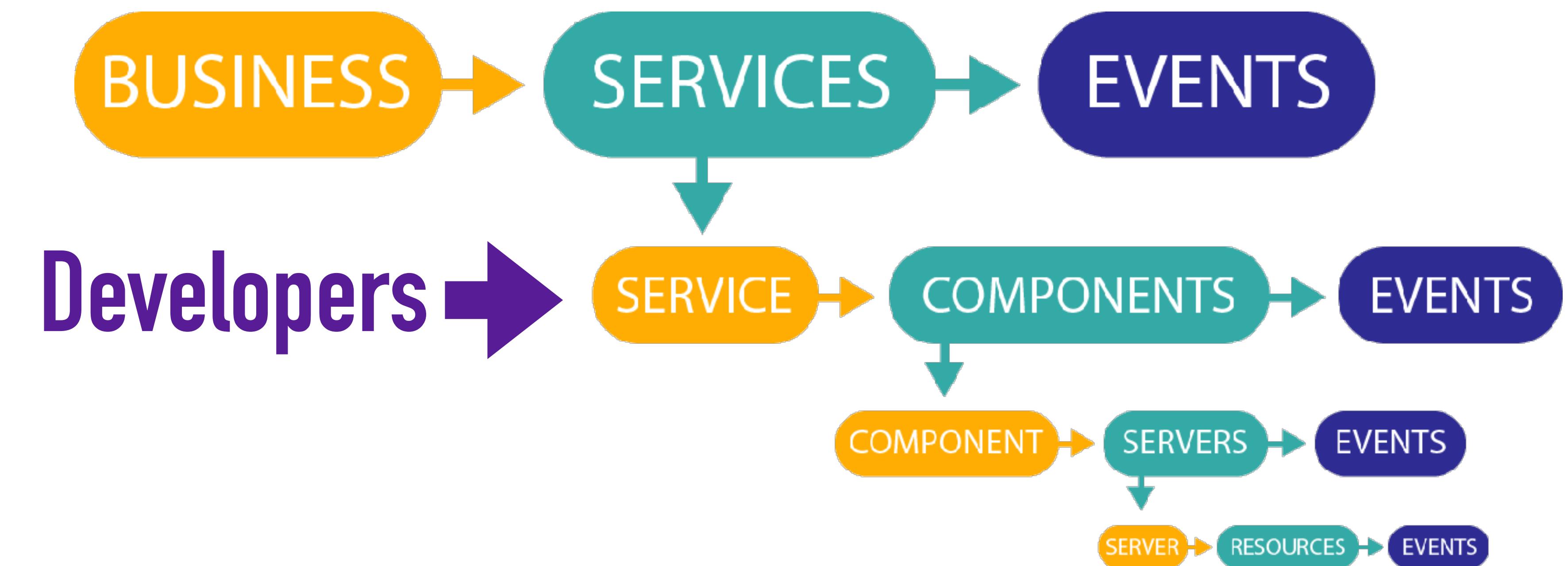
# ALERT ON WORK METRICS, BUT RESOURCE METRICS BECOME WORK METRICS? ALERT ON EVERYTHING?



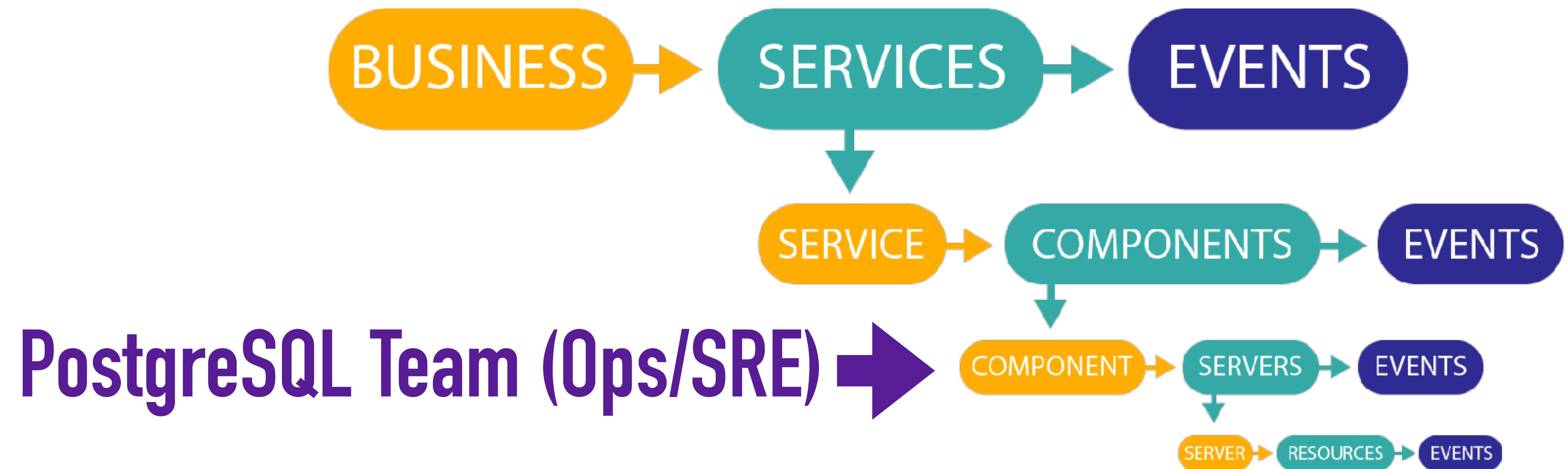
# WHO TO ALERT?



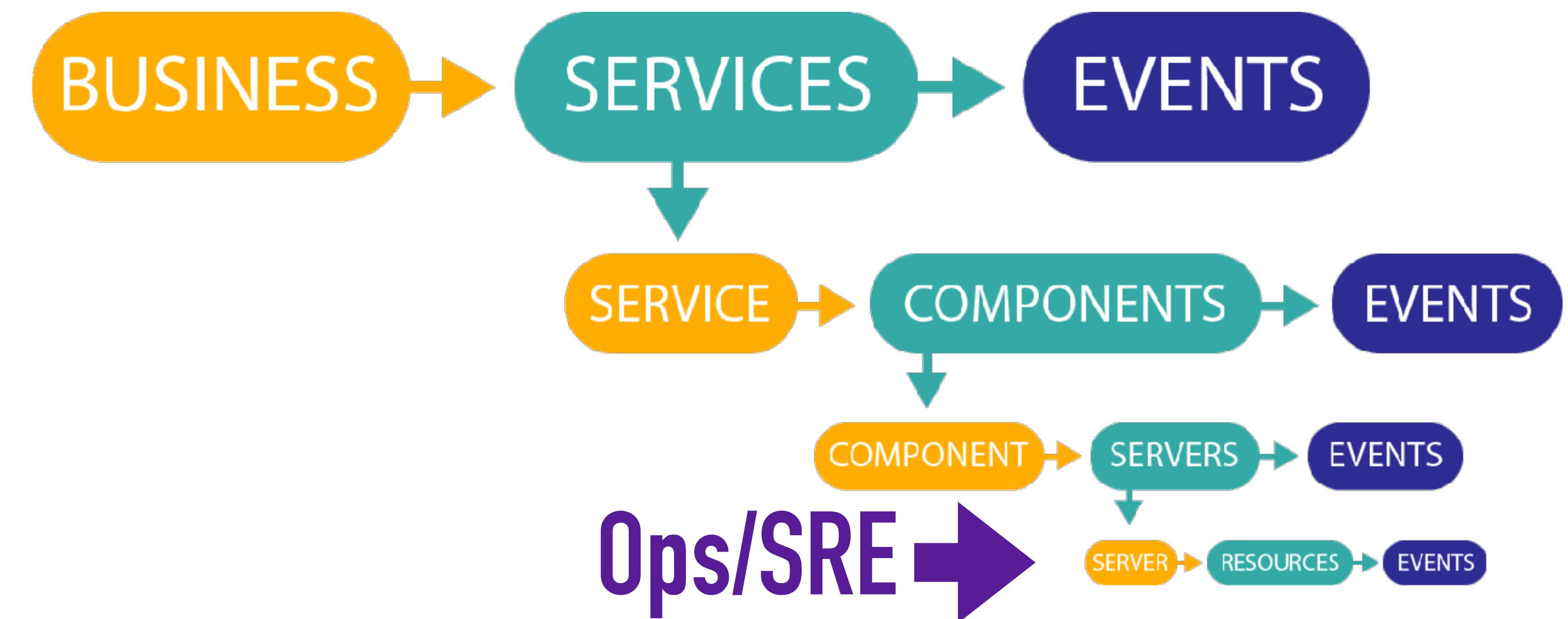
# WHO TO ALERT?



# WHO TO ALERT?



# WHO TO ALERT?





# POSTGRESQL WORK METRICS (AVAILABILITY)

## ALERT ON WORK METRICS

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# WHAT ARE WE ALERTING ON?

- ▶ Base backup is too old
- ▶ Standby is missing
- ▶ Replication lag is too high

# POSTGRESQL RESOURCE METRICS = OPS WORK METRICS (CAPACITY)

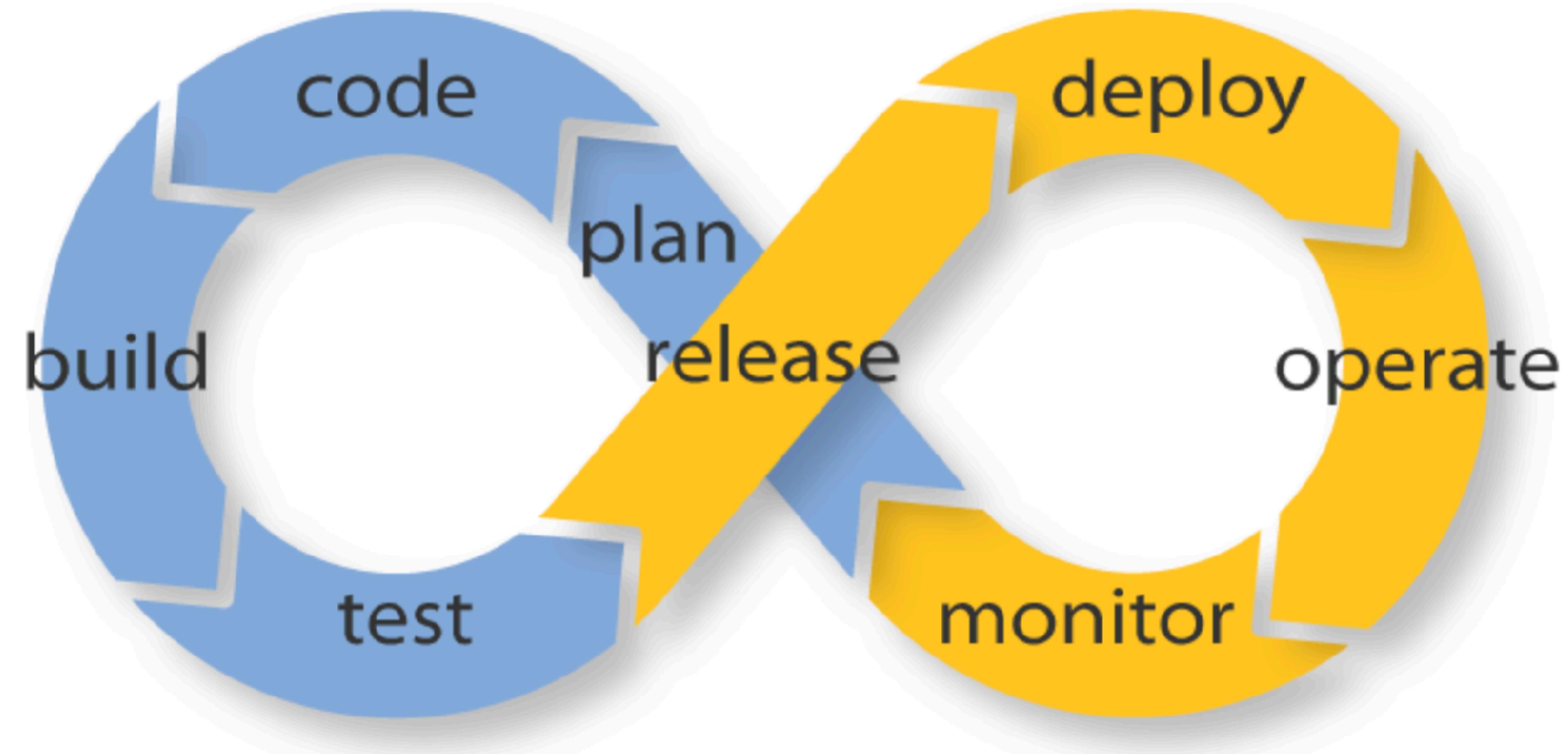


## ALERT ON WORK METRICS

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# WHAT ARE WE ALERTING ON?

- ▶ Connection limit
- ▶ Disk
- ▶ Memory
- ▶ CPU





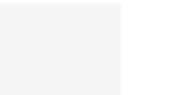
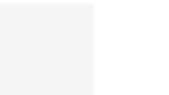
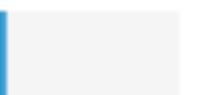
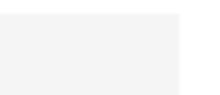
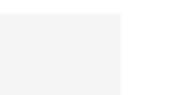
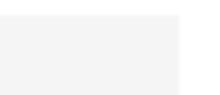
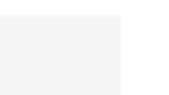
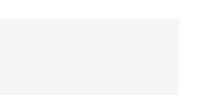
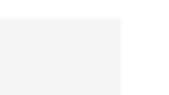
# MONITORING TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE

# WHERE TO GET THE MOST PERFORMANCE GAINS?

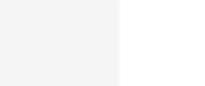
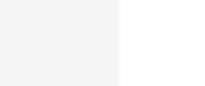
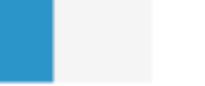
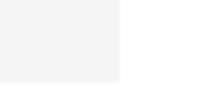
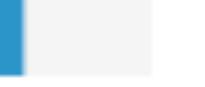
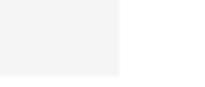
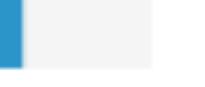
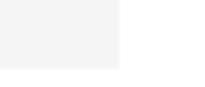
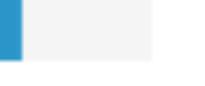
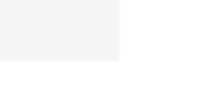
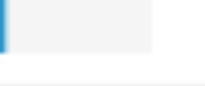
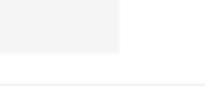
<http://bit.ly/pg-perf-15m>

1. Cut Activity
2. Slow Queries
3. Scale Stack
4. Fix Hardware
5. Postgresql.conf

# CUT ACTIVITY

Name	Hits ↓	Avg Latency	Total time
★ SELECT key, org_id, source_typ...	6.70M 	2.32 ms 	4h 18min 
★ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	6.30M 	127 ms 	9.3d 
★ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	746k 	38.9 ms 	8h 4min 
★ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	700k 	15.8 ms 	3h 3min 
★ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	296k 	130 ms 	10h 38min 
★ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	226k 	42.6 ms 	2h 40min 
★ SELECT t.oid, typarray FROM pg...	159k 	23.0 ms 	1h 1min 

# SLOW QUERIES

Name	Hits	Avg Latency ↓	Total time
☆ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	90	2.17 s 	196 s 
☆ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	58	1.49 s 	86.7 s 
☆ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	49	1.09 s 	53.2 s 
☆ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	194	759 ms 	147 s 
☆ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	45	750 ms 	33.7 s 
☆ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	22	740 ms 	16.3 s 
☆ WITH sub_contexts SELECT key,...	70	559 ms 	39.1 s 

# PERFORMANCE: LATENCY VS POTENTIAL

LATENCY VS POTENTIAL

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# HOW DO YOU DEFINE PERFORMANCE?

```
SELECT * FROM table_x  
WHERE nonindexed_col=1
```

```
SELECT * FROM table_x  
JOIN table_y ON  
table_x.foo=table_y.bar  
WHERE table_y.indexed_col=1
```

# PERFORMANCE: RAM VS DISK

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"Aside from `shared_buffers`, the most important memory-allocation parameter is `work_mem`... Raising this value can dramatically improve the performance of certain queries..."

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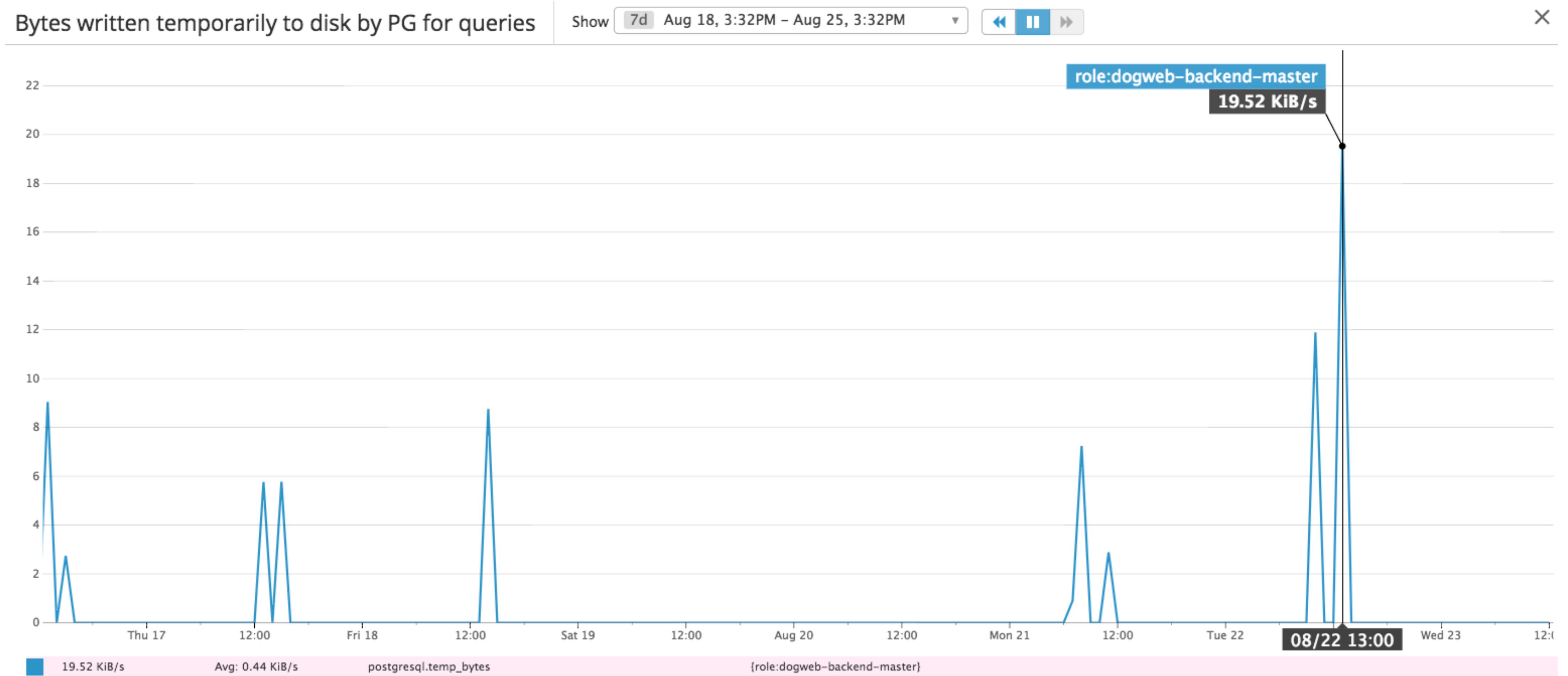
ROBERT HAAS

"Aside from `shared_buffers`, the most important memory-allocation parameter is `work_mem`... Raising this value can dramatically improve the performance of certain queries, **but it's important not to overdo it.**"

---

ROBERT HAAS

# FINDING \*\*INEFFICIENT\*\* QUERIES



LATENCY VS POTENTIAL

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# EXPLAIN ANALYZE

<http://bit.ly/pg-explain>

- ▶ Explain displays the execution plan

LATENCY VS POTENTIAL

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# EXPLAIN ANALYZE

<http://bit.ly/pg-explain>

- ▶ Explain displays the execution plan
- ▶ Analyze runs it and gathers stats

LATENCY VS POTENTIAL

---

# EXPLAIN ANALYZE

Merge Right Join (cost=25870.55..31017.51 rows=229367 width=92) (actual time=2884.501..5147.047 rows=354834 loops=1)

Merge Cond: (a.uid = b.uid)

-> Index Scan using foo on bar a (cost=0.00..537.29 rows=9246 width=27) (actual time=0.049..41.782 rows=9246 loops=1)

-> Materialize (cost=25870.49..27204.80 rows=106745 width=81) (actual time=2884.413..3804.537 rows=354834 loops=1)

-> Sort (cost=25870.49..26137.35 rows=106745 width=81) (actual time=2884.406..3099.732 rows=111878 loops=1)

Sort Key: b.uid

Sort Method: external merge Disk: 8928kB

...

Total runtime: 5588.105 ms

(14 rows)

<http://bit.ly/pg-auto-explain>

# SUMMARY

1. Remember the 4 qualities of good metrics
  1. Well understood
  2. Sufficiently granular
  3. Tagged & filterable
  4. Long-lived

# SUMMARY

2. Understand the difference between work metrics, resource metrics & events
3. Alert on the appropriate work metrics

# QUESTIONS?

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