

Hospitality of Chatbot Building Platforms

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What lies ahead?

- Motivation
 - Chatbots
 - Chatbot building Platforms
 - Quality Attributes and Architectural Tactics
- The Hospitality Framework
 - Phases of the framework
 - The Hospitality Metric
 - Results
- Discussion

Introduction to Chatbots and Quality Attributes

Part 1

Chatbots – What are they?

- It is a *colloquial* term used to refer to a class of software components, which can interact with users using Natural Languages
- The communication medium can be *text* or *speech*
- The communication could be *flexible* or *constrained*
- The bot (shortened term for "chatbot") could be an *independent* component or *part* of a larger application
- A chatbot can itself be divided in multiple sub-components
 - In the present work, when we say "chatbot", we actually mean "chatbot core"
- Examples – Google Assistant, FB Messenger Bots, E-commerce Bots



Please choose one of the following options.



Check my booking

Check booking status and get help with flight irregularities

Check my booking

Flight was canceled

Missed my connection

Baggage

Get answers to



Check my booking ✓

Alright. Please enter your booking code or ticket number so that I can have a look.



Booking code

Ticket number



Booking code ✓



Please choose one of the following options.



Check my booking

Check booking status and get help with flight irregularities

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Flight was canceled

Missed my connection



Baggage

Get answers to...



Check my booking ✓

Alright. Please enter your booking code or ticket number so that I can have a look.



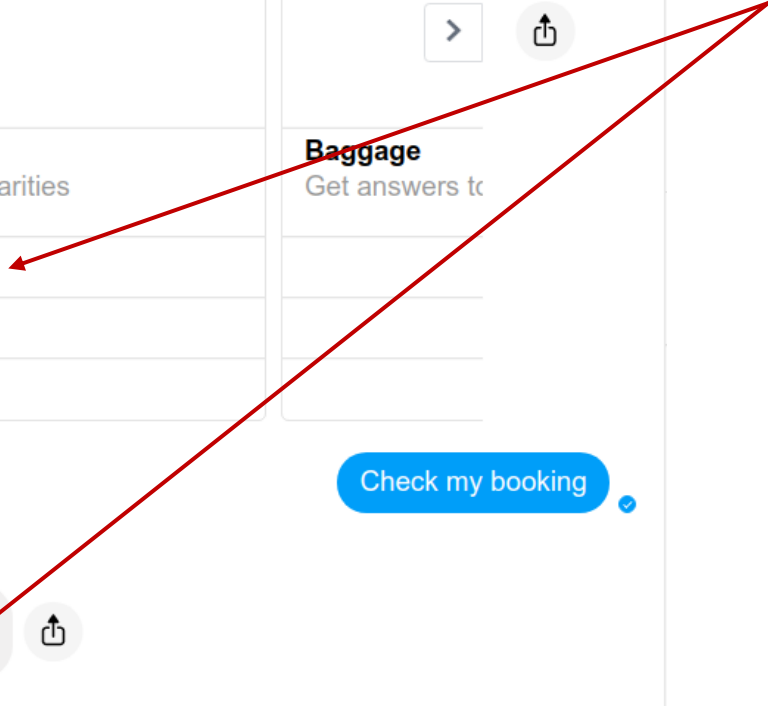
Booking code

Ticket number



Booking code ✓

Examples of a *constrained* interface





Lufthansa Chatbot



Please enter your booking code, e.g. AB3CDE or Ab25aj.

Thank you, I'm checking your booking now.



Please enter the last name used in the booking (e.g. Smith).

Sorry, I can't find your booking. Please try again and select booking code or ticket number for identification.



Booking code
Ticket number



I'm sorry, but stick with me. I'm getting better all the time.



Type a message...





Lufthansa Chatbot



Please enter your booking code, e.g. AB3CDE or Ab25aj.

Thank you, I'm checking your booking now.



Please enter the last name used in the booking (e.g. Smith).

Sorry, I can't find your booking. Please try again and select booking code or ticket number for identification.



Booking code

Ticket number

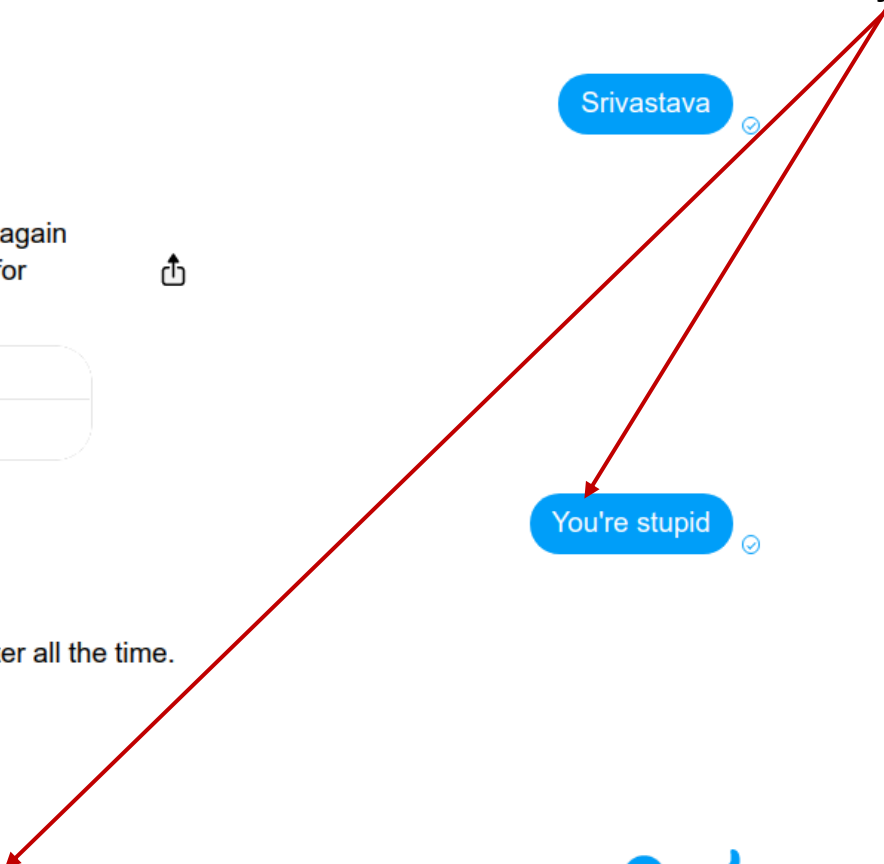


I'm sorry, but stick with me. I'm getting better all the time.

Example of a *flexible* interface



Type a message...



Chatbot building Platforms – How do they help?

- There are a number of commercial platforms available today, which can aid in development and deployment of chatbots
- These platforms provide a set of features which are useful in
 - Defining the types of queries the bot will cater to (aka Intents)
 - Providing details of each type, including specific pieces of information that the user will supply (often called Entities or Parameters)
 - Supplying response templates or callbacks (usually known as Fulfilments)
 - Orchestrating conversational flow, as close as possible, to a conversation between two human beings (we refer to it as Flow Management)
- Examples – Google Dialogflow, IBM Watson Assistant, Amazon Lex

Intents

CREATE INTENT

Search intents

- Default Fallback Intent
- Default Welcome Intent
- enquiry
- purchase

Try it now

See how it works in Google Assistant.

Agent

USER SAYS [COPY CURL](#)

Show me the price list

DEFAULT RESPONSE
Fruits: Apple - ₹80, Orange - ₹60, Guava - ₹40
(Prices per Kg)

INTENT

enquiry

ACTION

Not available

DIAGNOSTIC INFO

Name of the Chatbot

List of defined and "added" intents

Definitions for *Intents*, *Entities*, *Fulfilments* etc.

Test Console to check responses for a given query

Dialogflow

Fruit-Seller

en

- Intents
- Entities
- Knowledge ^[beta]
- Fulfillment
- Integrations
- Training
- History
- Analytics
- Prebuilt Agents
- Small Talk
- Docs
- Standard Free [Upgrade](#)
- Support
- Account
- Logout

Intents

CREATE INTENT

Search intents

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DEFAULT RESPONSE

Fruits: Apple - ₹80, Orange - ₹60, Guava - ₹40 (Prices per Kg)

INTENT

enquiry

ACTION

Not available

DIAGNOSTIC INFO

Details of an Intent



Fruit-Seller

en

Intents

Entities

Knowledge [beta]

Fulfillment

Integrations

Training

History

Analytics

Prebuilt Agents

Small Talk

> Docs

Standard Free [Upgrade](#)

Support

Account

Logout

enquiry

SAVE

Try it now



Training phrases

Search training phrases



” Add user expression



” What fruits do you sell?

” What's the price of guava?

” How costly are apples?

” What fruits do you have?

” What products do you sell?

Action and parameters



Responses



DEFAULT +

Text Response



1 Fruits: Apple - ₹80, Orange - ₹60, Guava - ₹40
(Prices per Kg)

2 Enter a text response variant

ADD RESPONSES


ⓘ Please use test console above to try a sentence.

👤 See how it works in [Google Assistant](#).


Details of an Entity

productName

SAVE

Fruit-Seller 

en 

Intents 

Entities 

Knowledge ^[beta]

Fulfillment

Integrations

Training

History

Analytics

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> Docs

Standard
Free [Upgrade](#)

Support

Account

Logout


- Define synonyms 
- Allow automated expansion


apple	apple, apples
guava	guava, guavas
orange	kinnow, kinnows, orange, oranges
Click here to edit entry	

[+ Add a row](#)

Try it now



 Please use test console above to try a sentence.

 See how it works in [Google Assistant](#).



- Fruit-Seller en +
- Intents +
- Entities +
- Knowledge ^[beta]
- ⚡ Fulfillment**
- Integrations
- Training
- History
- Analytics
- Prebuilt Agents
- Small Talk
- Docs
- Standard Free [Upgrade](#)
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Webhook

ENABLED

Your web service will receive a POST request from Dialogflow in the form of the response to a user query matched by intents with webhook enabled. Be sure that your web service meets all the [webhook requirements](#) specific to the API version enabled in this agent.

URL*

BASIC AUTH

HEADERS

[+ Add header](#)

SMALL TALK Disable webhook for Smalltalk

Inline Editor (Powered by Cloud Functions for Firebase)

DISABLED

Build and manage fulfillment directly in Dialogflow via Cloud Functions for Firebase. [Docs](#)

```
index.js package.json
1 // See https://github.com/dialogflow/dialogflow-fulfillment-nodejs
2 // for Dialogflow fulfillment library docs, samples, and to report issues
3 'use strict';
4
5 const functions = require('firebase-functions');
6 const {WebhookClient} = require('dialogflow-fulfillment');
7 const {Card, Suggestion} = require('dialogflow-fulfillment');
8
9 process.env.DEBUG = 'dialogflow:debug'; // enables lib debugging statements
```

Configuring an external URL to process some queries

ⓘ Please use test console above to try a sentence.

See how it works in Google Assistant. [↗](#)

Detailed Diagnostic Information for a sample query

The screenshot shows the Dialogflow console interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with options like Fruit-Seller, Intents, Entities, Knowledge, Fulfillment, Integrations, Training, History, Analytics, Prebuilt Agents, Small Talk, Docs, Standard Free, Support, Account, and Logout. The main area is titled 'Intents' and shows a list of intents including 'Default Fallback Intent', 'Default Welcome Intent', 'enquiry', and 'purchase'. A modal window titled 'Diagnostic info' is open, displaying the 'RAW API RESPONSE' for a query. The response is a JSON object with the following structure:

```
1 {
2   "responseId": "eaac6d99-b813-40b7-94d8-19ded320250f-712767ed",
3   "queryResult": {
4     "queryText": "Show me the price list",
5     "parameters": {},
6     "allRequiredParamsPresent": true,
7     "fulfillmentText": "Fruits: Apple - ₹80, Orange - ₹60, Guava - ₹40\n(Prices per
8 Kg)",
9     "fulfillmentMessages": [
10      {
11        "text": {
12          "text": [
13            "Fruits: Apple - ₹80, Orange - ₹60, Guava - ₹40\n(Prices per Kg)"
14          ]
15        }
16      },
17      "intent": {
18        "name": "projects/fruit-seller-byaaga/agent/intents/bc81652d-a56c-4d62-83b8-
19 a1307603b774",
20        "displayName": "enquiry"
21      },
22      "intentDetectionConfidence": 0.48040628,
23      "diagnosticInfo": {
24        "end_conversation": true
25      },
26      "languageCode": "en"
27    }
28  }
```

At the bottom of the modal, there are 'CLOSE' and 'COPY RAW RESPONSE' buttons. In the background, the console shows a user saying 'Show me the price list' and the agent responding with the price list. The detected intent is 'enquiry' with a confidence of 0.48040628. The action is 'Not available'.

[Add node](#)
[Add child node](#)
[Add folder](#)

Fruit Selling Skill

- Welcome**
 welcome
 1 Responses / 0 Context Set / Does not return
- enquiry-node**
 #enquiry
 1 Responses / 0 Context Set / Does not return
- purchase-node** (Selected)
 #purchase
 1 Responses / 3 Context Set / 3 Slots / Skip user input / Does not r...
 Skip user input and evaluate child nodes
- clear-contexts**
 true
 0 Responses / 3 Context Set / Return allowed
- Anything else**
 anything_else
 1 Responses / 0 Context Set / Does not return

Example of Flow Management – IBM Watson Assistant's *Dialog Tree*

Definition of a "node" In the Dialog Tree

If assistant recognizes:

#purchase

Then check for:

	CHECK FOR	SAVE IT AS	IF NOT PRESENT, ASK	TYPE
1	@productName	\$productName	What fruit would you	Required
2	@productQty	\$productQty	How many Kgs?	Required
3	@address	\$address	Where should we ser	Required

Then respond with

Text

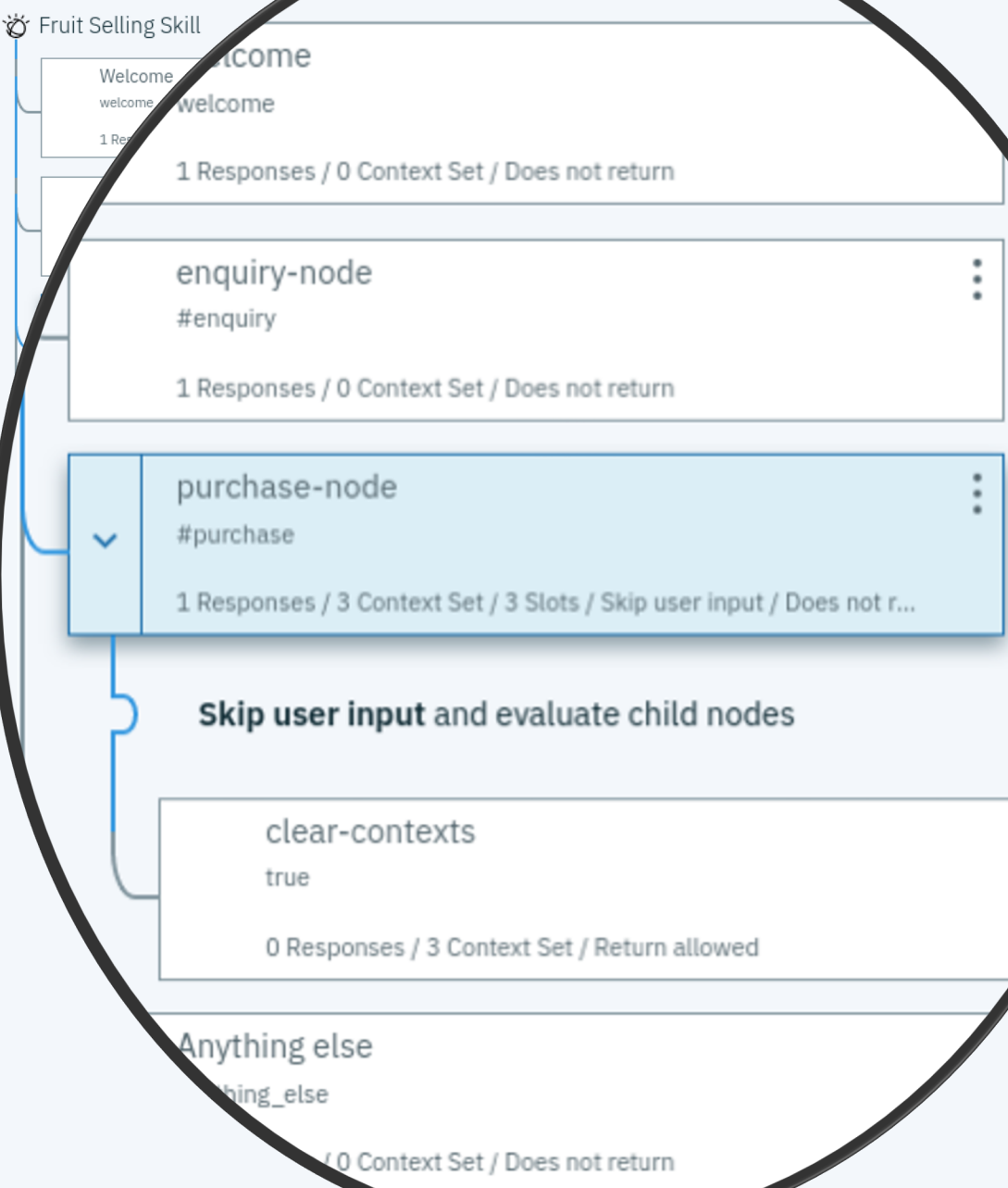
Your order for \$productName (\$productQty Kg) is on it's way to \$address !!

Response variations are set to **sequential**. Set to [random](#) [Learn more](#)

And finally:

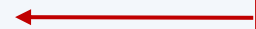
Skip user input and evaluate child nodes

Add node Add child node



Management –
as Dialog Tree

node"



If assistant recognizes:

#purchase

Then check for:

Manage handlers

	CHECK FOR	SAVE IT AS	IF NOT PRESENT, ASK	TYPE
1	@productName	\$productName	What fruit would you	Required
2	@productQty	\$productQty	How many Kgs?	Required
3	@address	\$address	Where should we ser	Required

Add slot

Then respond with

Text

Your order for \$productName (\$productQty Kg) is on it's way to \$address !!

Response variations are set to **sequential**. Set to [random](#)

Add response type

And finally:

Skip user input and evaluate child nodes



Add node Add

1

If assistant recognizes:

#purchase

Fruit Selling Skill

- Welcome
welcome
1 Responses / 0 Context
- enquiry-node
#enquiry
1 Responses / 0 Context Set / Does not return
- purchase-node**
#purchase
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2

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Example of IBM Watson

Defin In the

3

And finally:

Skip user input and evaluate child nodes

Then respond with

Text

Your order for \$productName (\$productQty Kg) is on it's way to \$address !!

Response variations are set to sequential. Set to random Learn more

Quality Attributes – Definition

- **Len Bass, Paul Clements** and **Rick Kazman**, in their book titled Software Architecture in Practice, 3rd Edition, Chapter 4, define
 - *A quality attribute (QA) is a measurable or testable property of a system that is used to indicate how well the system satisfies the needs of its stakeholders.*
- They go on to say
 - *You can think of a quality attribute as measuring the “goodness” of a product along some dimension of interest to a stakeholder.*
- Some examples of QAs are ***Reliability, Performance, Interoperability, Availability, Modifiability, Usability*** etc.

Architectural Tactics – Definition

- In the same chapter, the authors later explain
 - *We now turn to the techniques an architect can use to achieve the required quality attributes. We call these techniques architectural tactics.*
- They continue as
 - *A tactic is a design decision that influences the achievement of a quality attribute response – tactics directly affect the system's response to some stimulus.*
- Tactics are usually associated with the QA(s) which are dominantly affected by their application
- Example: *Reduce Coupling* and *Increase Cohesion* are common architectural tactics for **Modifiability**

The Hospitality Framework

Part 2

Achieving quality in (chatbot) applications

- For any software system, achieving quality involves meeting SLAs, keeping up with competition, providing a great user experience etc.
- An independent chatbot, or an application with a chatbot component also have similar concerns
- The architect of the application needs to pen down the non-functional requirements of the application, and relate them to QAs
- However, realising these QAs in an application is not a trivial task, because any efforts to incorporate one, may hamper some other QAs
- There are therefore, critical design trade-offs, that must be evaluated

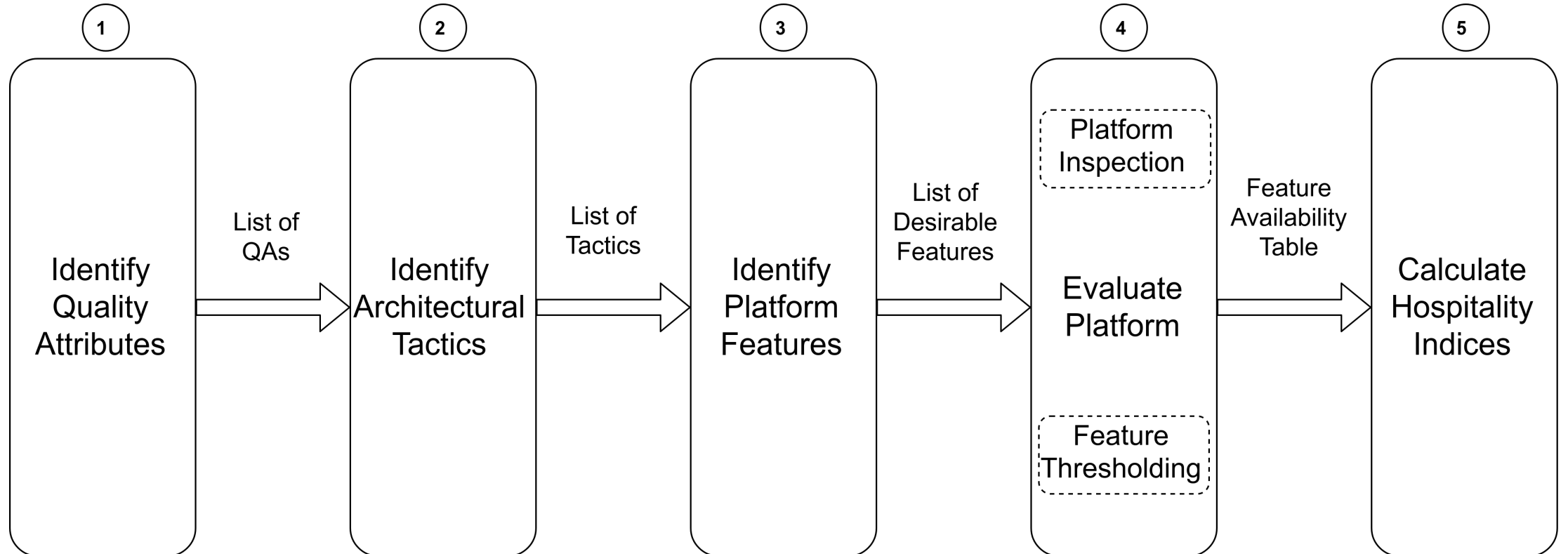
Trade-offs between QAs

- The process of achieving quality in applications may involve understanding the impact of various architectural tactics, for example:
 1. Application of the *Encrypt Data* tactic for **Security**, would result in additional computation, affecting **Performance** negatively
 2. Application of the *Maintain Multiple Copies of Data* tactic for **Performance**, would result in a partitioned database, making **Availability** hard to achieve
- One or more attributes may have to be “prioritised” over others, in case achieving “all” of them is not feasible (usually the case)
- Exactly which attributes are to be prioritised, depends on the given use case and the user requirements

Hospitality Framework

- The *Hospitality Framework* attempts to tackle one part of the problem of achieving quality trade-offs – the role of a *Platform*
- From analysis to development to deployment, software practitioners use a number of commercially available platforms
- The Hospitality Framework attempts to evaluate the usefulness of a platform towards realisation of some “quality goal”
- The goals here could be achieving a quality attribute in general, or incorporation of a particular architectural tactic
- Hospitality framework evaluates a platform's support for achieving them

Phases in application of Hospitality Framework



1. Identify Quality Attributes



The Fruit-selling bot – a simple use case

- In order to show the application of the framework, we'll pick the simple use case of an application to be built for a fruit selling shop
- The shop wants a chatbot to be deployed on their website, as well as their app, which can interact with (potential) customers
- It should be able to answer common user queries – like available fruits, their prices, directions to the physical store etc.
- It should also be able to contact the shop's *backend* servers to place orders, generate shipping labels, assign delivery boys etc.
- While the website could be "*text-only*", the app should also have a "*voice*" interface to receive audio inputs and provide audio responses

Requirements – Functional vs Non-functional

Functional Requirements	Non-functional Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need an app as well as a website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep chat transcripts onsite (privacy concerns)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• User could browse through fruits available in the inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chatbot component needs access from multiple locations (app/website)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Answer user queries about fruit prices, availability, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will have access to inventory, require some authentication
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the user needs directions to the store, provide guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need voice-to-text/text-to-voice capability, if the chatbot cannot handle it implicitly
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allow typed text/spoken queries on the app	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep the bot simple; don't attempt to answer queries with low confidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add counter-examples to avoid responding to queries like "How's the weather"?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Validate the bot before deployment, check behaviour for common user utterances
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response strings and prompts might change/customised

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allow typed text/spoken queries on the app	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep the bot simple; don't attempt to answer queries with low confidence
<p>We will be focusing here for the rest of the phases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add counter-examples to avoid responding to queries like "How's the weather"?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Validate the bot before deployment, check behaviour for common user utterances
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response strings and prompts might change/customised

Quality Attributes for the sample use case

- ***Modifiability***

- The shop may wish to customize or update the responses that they show to the user, e.g. "Your fruits are shipped" \Rightarrow "You'll have your apples soon !!"

- ***Security & Privacy***

- Usually the tactics for these two attributes are often intertwined
- Since the bot will interact with user data, keeping it secure as well as away from prying eyes should be a concern

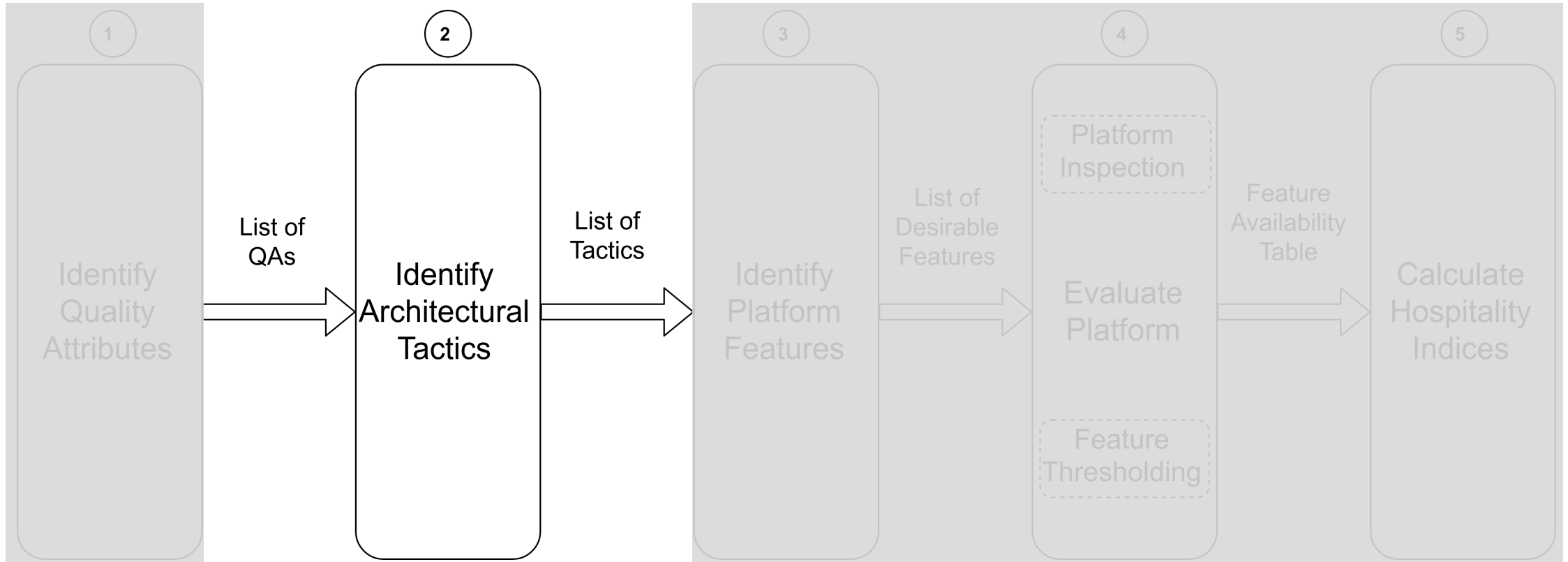
- ***Interoperability***

- We have two different platforms for deployment, with different I/O needs

- ***Reliability***

- It is better to cater to less functionality well, than more functionality poorly

2. Identify Architectural Tactics



Tactics for Modifiability

Tactic	Reason behind choosing this tactic
Abstract Common Services	Keeping intents, parameters and flow logic separate allows adding or modifying them independently.
Defer Binding	Allows tailored responses based on user inputs.
Split Module	Separates the intent matching from business logic.

Tactics for Security & Privacy

Tactic	Reason behind choosing this tactic
Authenticate Communication	Prevents the chatbot from unauthorized access (superfluous calls to platform may incur additional cost).
Protect Data at Rest	Keeps the conversations between users and the store private.
Protect Data in Motion	Prevents breaches due to eavesdropping (e.g. Man-in-the-middle attacks).

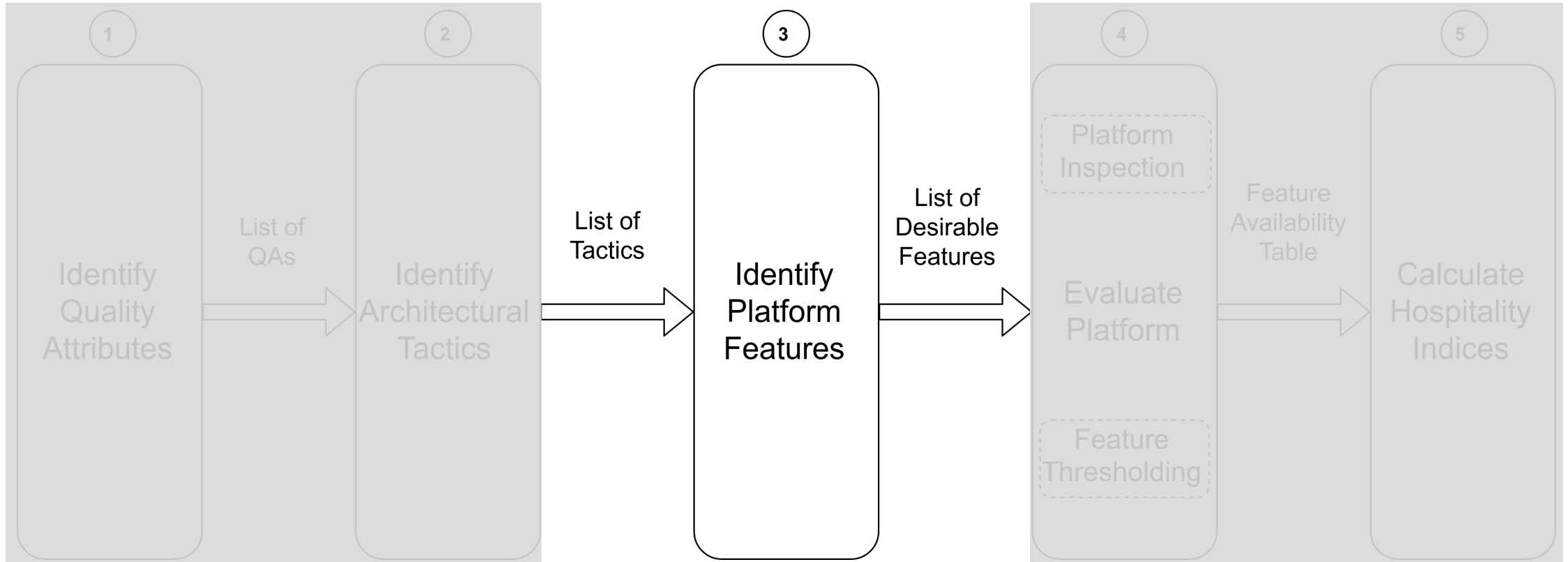
Tactics for Interoperability

Tactic	Reason behind choosing this tactic
Manage Interfaces	Require both ingress and egress capabilities, to and from the chatbot (e.g. API access).
Support multiple Data Formats	Chatbot needs to take queries (and send responses) in both text and audio formats.

Tactics for Reliability

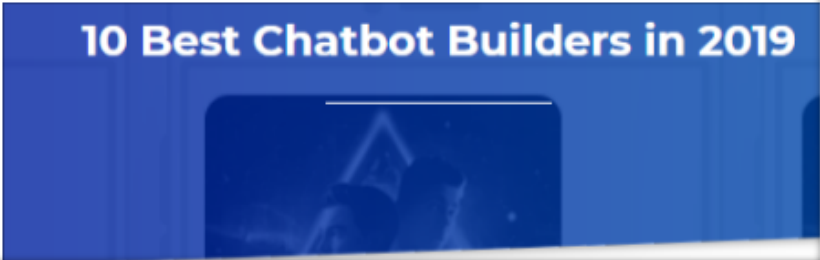
Tactic	Reason behind choosing this tactic
Validate common use cases	Verifies that expected user utterances are properly processed by the chatbot.
Prevent Failures	Restricts the chatbot from responding with low confidence.
Recover from Failures	Handles known nuances of common conversation (e.g. assuming defaults for missing information).

3. Identify Platform Features



Finding features of a given platform

- This phase involves some "reading"
 - Not in-depth, but good enough to get an idea
- For Chatbot platforms, the best place to read are the numerous blogging websites, which put up articles about latest news
- The Chatbot platforms are still evolving (and documenting changes is usually not a priority), making these articles an even better source
- Reading recent articles that compare two or more platforms may provide a good idea about their offerings
- However, most of the articles do have **biases** (they tend to favour one platform more than the others)



Dialogflow vs Lex vs LUIS vs Watson vs Chatfuel

Octo

I get this question a lot.

"How does Watson compare to Dialogflow?"

An Analysis of the Best NLP Tool to Build a Conversational Bot

ions in this article.

'Chatbots'—a term which is familiar for the layman. We could see and experience the usage of chatbot in our daily life. With the advent of technology, changes in consumer's

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Chatbot RC
8 Ways C (and Roc

Platform Features for Modifiability

Tactic	Desired Platform Features
Abstract Common Services	Ability to create intents independently
	Ability to create parameters independently
	Ability to manage conversation flow independently
Defer Binding	Ability to externalise response generation
	Allow placeholders in response to fill parameter values
	Allow conditional responses
Split Module	Ability to externalise parameter validation
	Ability to externalise response generation

Platform Features for Security & Privacy

Tactic	Desired Platform Features
Authenticate Communication	Ability to create and verify credentials for accessing the chatbot
	Ability to supply credentials to an external source
Protect Data at Rest	Ability to create and verify credentials for accessing chat data
	Ability to keep chat transcripts onsite
Protect Data in Motion	Use secured channels only for communication (e.g. allow <code>https</code> and block <code>http</code>)

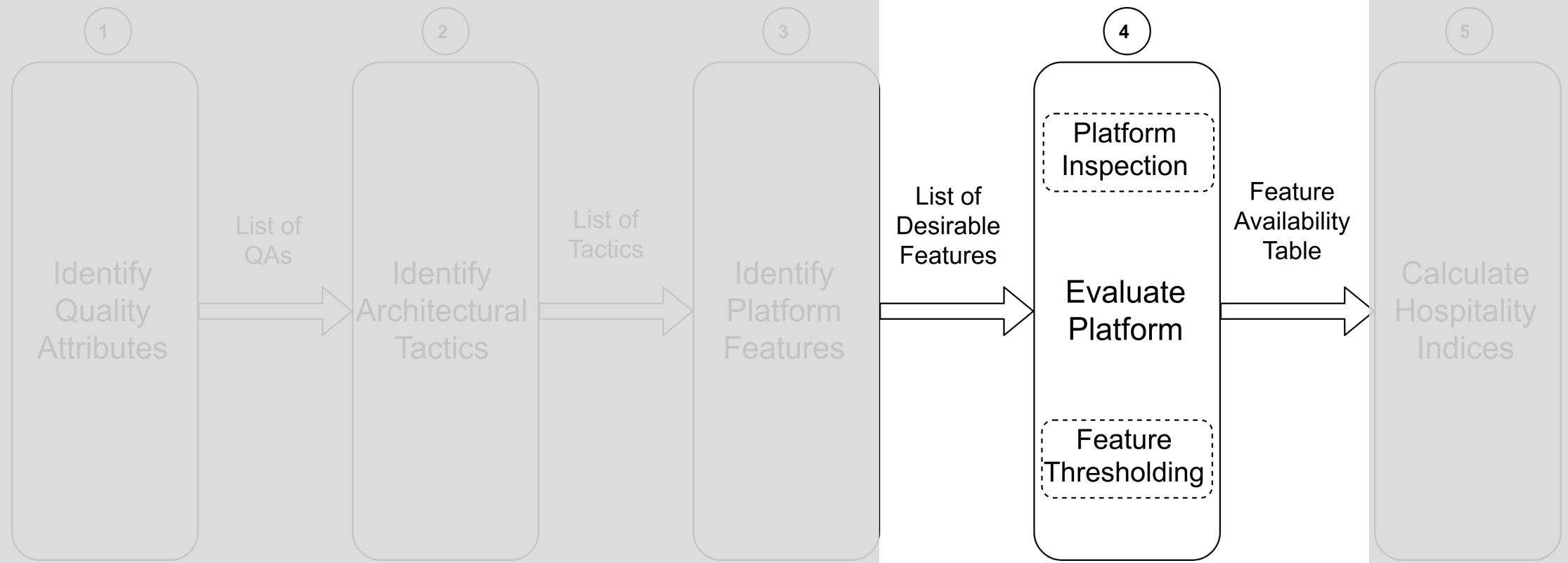
Platform Features for Interoperability

Tactic	Desired Platform Features
Manage Interfaces	Allow API access for intent classification
	Allow API access for slot filling
	Ability to trigger external events
Support multiple Data Formats	Ability to receive voice input
	Provide transcribed text from speech
	Ability to send voice output

Platform Features for Reliability

Tactic	Desired Platform Features
Validate common use-cases	Provide Test Console to observe chatbot response for specific inputs
	Provide Test Console to observe the debug information for specific inputs
Prevent Failures	Ability to set confidence threshold for intent classification
	Ability to provide counter-examples
	Ability to digress and return
Recover from Failures	Ability to provide default conversation flow
	Ability to provide default values for slots

4. Evaluate Platform



Platform Inspection

- At this stage, the task of inspecting a platform becomes crucial
- This involves searching for particular keywords on the web
 - For example: "dialogflow set confidence" or "lex provide speech input"
 - The results for these searches will usually provide a quick answer to questions like "Can I set a minimum confidence threshold for intent firing in dialogflow?"
- It also involves looking at specific pages in the documentation archives of the particular platform
 - For example: [Test the Bot Using Speech Input \(AWS CLI\)](#)
- While in some cases, you may get a straight Yes/No answer to the question, sometimes, the decision may be more complex

Feature Thresholding

- There can be cases where a feature may only be "partially" supported by a platform
- In such cases, we need to perform what we have termed here as *Feature Thresholding*
- The idea of feature thresholding is that in case a feature is only partially supported, some additional effort will be required
 - The question is – how much work the developer has to do here? If the work is substantial, I count it as a **Nay**, otherwise I term it as **Yay**
- To do so, the architect can create *Feature Cards*, and distribute them among the stakeholders (developers, testers, integrators etc.)

Feature Cards

- Feature Cards can be made on a "per feature, per platform" basis, where the architect is in two minds
- The Feature Cards should mention the platform name, required feature description, and the related offering by the platform
- The stakeholders can opine whether they consider this feature "good enough" (meaning that the custom efforts will be minimal) or not
- Each stakeholder provides a decision – Yes or No – as well as reasons for the decision
- The architect can use these cards before taking a final call

Examples of Feature Cards

Feature	Ability to externalise response generation
Platform	Watson Assistant
Status	Limited to IBM Cloud Functions [6]
Criteria	The platform should allow direct invocation of business logic present at a remote location, accessible via a webhook.
Decision	“X” (Not available)
Reason	An external webhook can be invoked via an HTTP call from a Cloud function (e.g. using cURL [8]), however, it cannot be called directly. This implies additional, undesirable overhead.

Feature	Ability to provide default values for slots
Platform	Watson Assistant
Status	Cannot be set at either Parameter, or Intent level
Criteria	The platform should allow setting of default values for certain parameters, and use them for response generation instead of prompting the user.
Decision	“✓” (Available)
Reason	Watson Assistant provides a tree-like flow graph to process custom business logic. Default values for certain parameters can be set in ancestor nodes, and response can be processed in descendant nodes.

Feature Table (1/3)

Desired Platform Feature	Watson Assistant	Dialogflow	Lex
Ability to create intents independently			
Ability to create parameters independently			
Ability to manage conversation flow independently		X	X
Ability to externalise response generation	X		X
Allow placeholders in response to fill parameter values			
Allow conditional responses		X	X
Ability to externalise parameter validation	X		X
Ability to externalise response generation	X		X

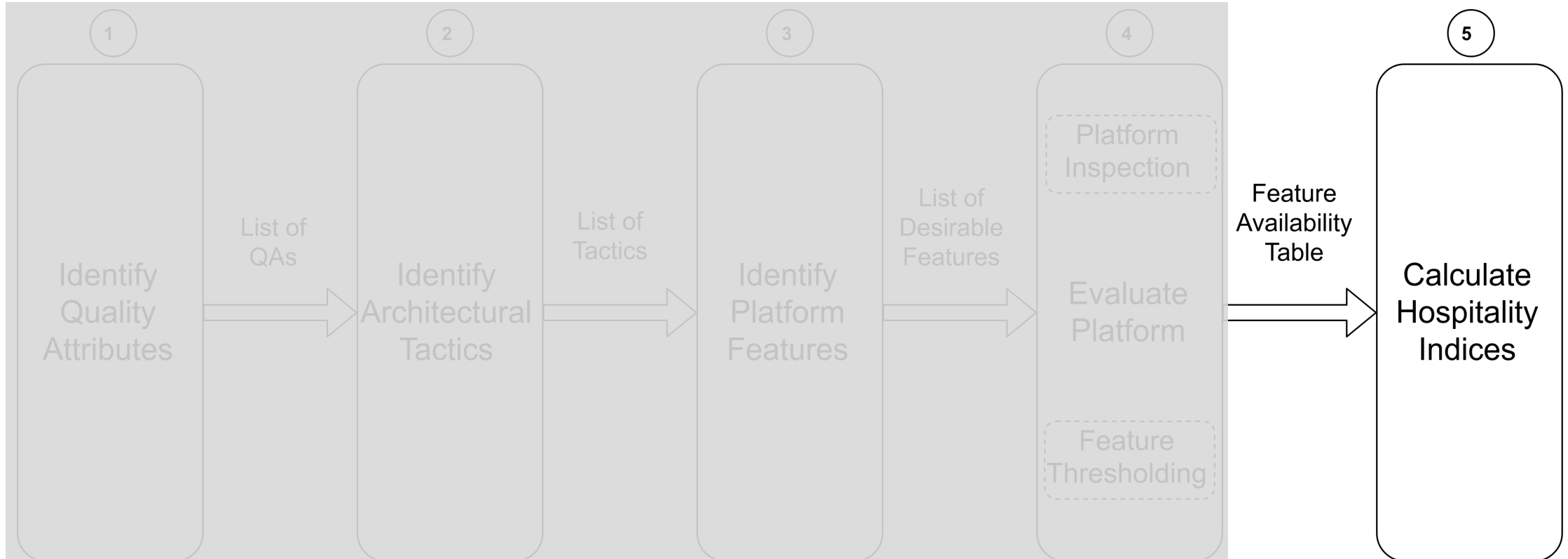
Feature Table (2/3)

Desired Platform Feature	Watson Assistant	Dialogflow	Lex
Ability to create and verify credentials for accessing the chatbot			
Ability to supply credentials to an external source	X		X
Ability to create and verify credentials for accessing chat data			
Ability to keep chat transcripts onsite		X	X
Use secured channels only for communication (e.g. allow <code>https</code> and block <code>http</code>)			
Allow API access for intent classification			
Allow API access for slot filling			
Ability to trigger external events	X		X
Ability to receive voice input	X		

Feature Table (3/3)

Desired Platform Feature	Watson Assistant	Dialogflow	Lex
Provide transcribed text from speech			
Ability to send voice output			
Provide Test Console to observe chatbot response for specific inputs			
Provide Test Console to observe the debug information for specific inputs			
Ability to set confidence threshold for intent classification			X
Ability to provide counter-examples			X
Ability to digress and return		X	X
Ability to provide default conversation flow			
Ability to provide default values for slots			X

5. Calculate Hospitality Indices



Hospitality Indices

- The idea behind application of this framework is to be able to "quantify" the "goodness" of a platform for a given use case
- This means, we need a metric to compare the platforms
- Hospitality Index is a measure that provides a number between 0 and 1 (0 being "bad" and 1 being "good")
- The idea is based on a *weighted-sum analysis* – provide a weight to a given feature or a given tactic, and compute a bottom-up score
- Hospitality Index can be computed at two levels – Tactic or QA
 - Hospitality Index at QA level, uses respective Hospitality Indices at Tactic level

Hospitality Indices at Tactic Level (1/2)

QA	Tactics	Useful Platform Features	Features Availability			Hospitality Index (Tactic)		
			Watson	Dialog-flow	Lex	Watson	Dialog-flow	Lex
Modifiability	Abstract Common Services	Ability to create intents independently	✓	✓	✓	1	0.66	0.66
		Ability to create parameters independently	✓	✓	✓			
		Ability to manage conversation flow independently	✓	✗	✗			
	Defer Binding	Ability to externalise response generation	✗	✓	✗	0.66	0.66	0.33
		Allow placeholders in response to fill parameter values	✓	✓	✓			
		Allow conditional responses	✓	✗	✗			
	Split Module	Ability to externalise parameter validation	✗	✓	✗	0	1	0
		Ability to externalise response generation	✗	✓	✗			
Security & Privacy	Authenticate Communication	Ability to create and verify credentials for accessing the chatbot	✓	✓	✓	0.5	1	0.5
		Ability to supply credentials to an external source	✗	✓	✗			
	Protect Data at Rest	Ability to create and verify credentials for accessing chat data	✓	✓	✓	1	0.5	0.5
		Ability to keep chat transcripts onsite	✓	✗	✗			
	Protect Data in Motion	Use secured channels only for communication (e.g. allow https and block http)	✓	✓	✓	1	1	1

Snapshot from the paper – **Hospitality of Chatbot building Platforms**, Saurabh Srivastava and T.V. Prabhakar, SQUADE, Tallinn, Aug 26, 2019

Hospitality Indices at Tactic Level (2/2)

QA	Tactics	Useful Platform Features	Features Availability			Hospitality Index (Tactic)		
			Watson	Dialog-flow	Lex	Watson	Dialog-flow	Lex
Interoperability	Manage Interfaces	Allow API access for intent classification	✓	✓	✓	0.66	1	0.66
		Allow API access for slot filling	✓	✓	✓			
		Ability to trigger external events	✗	✓	✗			
	Support multiple Data Formats	Ability to receive voice input	✗	✓	✓	0	1	1
		Provide transcribed text from speech	✗	✓	✓			
		Ability to send voice output	✗	✓	✓			
Reliability	Validate common use-cases	Provide Test Console to observe chatbot response for specific inputs	✓	✓	✓	1	1	1
		Provide Test Console to observe the debug information for specific inputs	✓	✓	✓			
	Prevent Failures	Ability to set confidence threshold for intent classification	✓	✓	✗	1	0.66	0
		Ability to provide counter-examples	✓	✓	✗			
		Ability to digress and return	✓	✗	✗			
	Recover from Failures	Ability to provide default conversation flow	✓	✓	✓	1	1	0.5
		Ability to provide default values for slots	✓	✓	✗			

Snapshot from the paper – **Hospitality of Chatbot building Platforms**, Saurabh Srivastava and T.V. Prabhakar, SQUADE, Tallinn, Aug 26, 2019

Hospitality Indices at Quality Attribute Level

Quality Attribute	Hospitality Index		
	Watson Assistant	Dialogflow	Lex
Modifiability	0.553	0.773	0.330
Security & Privacy	0.833	0.833	0.667
Interoperability	0.330	1.000	0.830
Reliability	1.000	0.887	0.500

Sample Computation of Hospitality Index

- Hospitality Index at the *Defer Binding* tactic
 - Assuming equal weights to all features, we have:
 - Watson Assistant – $(0 + 1 + 1) / 3 = \underline{0.66}$
 - Dialogflow – $(0 + 1 + 1) / 3 = \underline{0.66}$
 - Lex - $(0 + 1 + 1) / 3 = \underline{0.33}$
- Hospitality Index at the ***Modifiability*** QA
 - Assuming equal weights to all tactics, we have:
 - Watson Assistant – $(1 + 0.66 + 0) / 3 = \underline{0.553}$
 - Dialogflow – $(0.66 + 0.66 + 1) = \underline{0.773}$
 - Lex - $(0.66 + 0.33 + 0) = \underline{0.33}$

Discussion

Part-3

Uses of the framework

- Selecting a platform
 - We can calculate Hospitality Indices at the QA level for each QA of interest
 - We can then use methods like *Multi-criteria Decision Analysis* to come up with a ranking of the platforms for use
- Selecting other architectural components
 - The analysis provides a great insight into the capabilities and features exposed by the platform
 - This can provide architectural hints for architecting other parts of the system
 - For example, **Watson Assistant** doesn't provide an audio interface, however, by composing solutions using **Watson Speech-to-Text** and **Watson Text-to-Speech**, an application can still provide the "speech" interface

Thank You

That'll be all from my side. Over to you !!