

WEB DAY

27 MARZO 2024

7A EDIZIONE

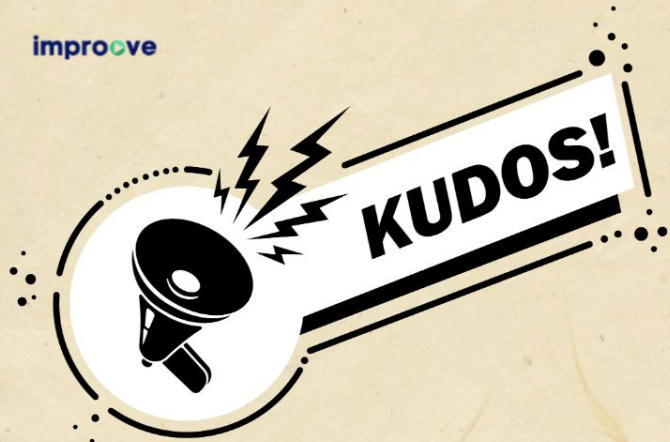
**BREAKING FREE FROM MONOLITHS: REVOLUTIONIZING
DEVELOPMENT WITH LIVEWIRE AND SERVERLESS**

SIMONE D'AMICO

TECH LEAD
SPREAKER



improove



WEB DAY

27 MARZO 2024

7A EDIZIONE





Agenda



What?

We leveraged the powerful combination of Laravel, Livewire, and Serverless to build a **modern web-application in PHP** currently named Spreaker Next



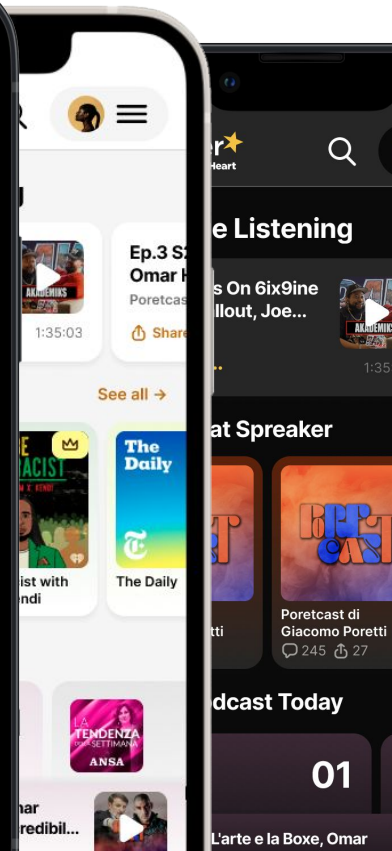
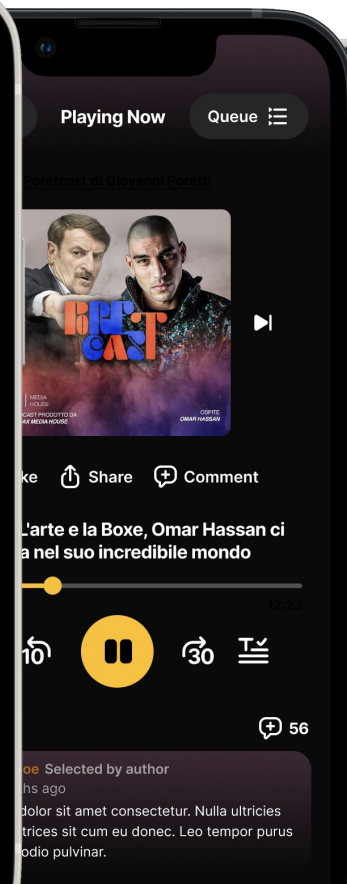
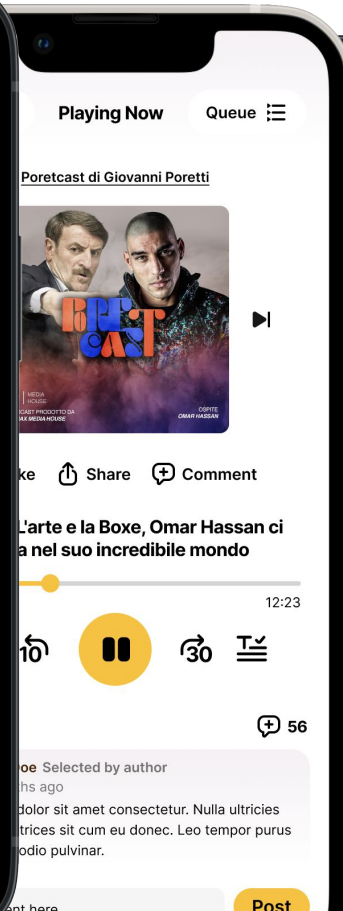
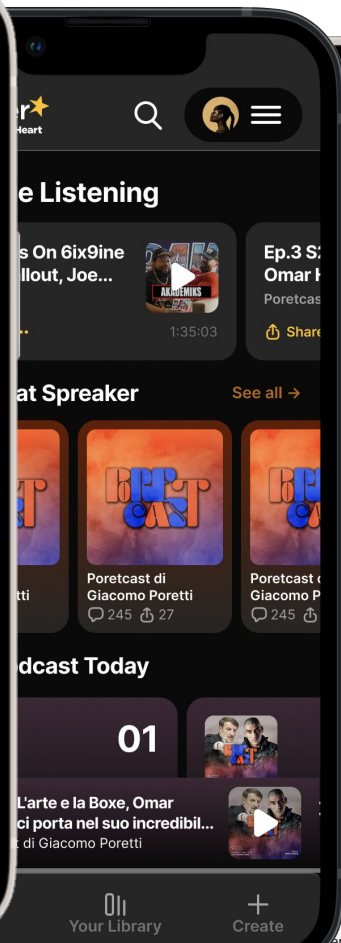
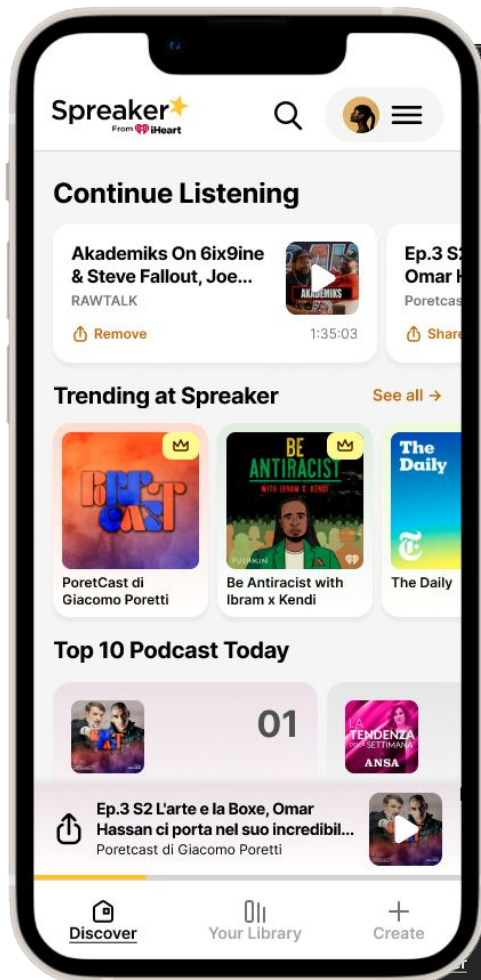
Why?

The need to **push the boundaries of our web listening and interaction experience**, that was stuck on a 15 years old monolith



How?

The process, technical choices, challenges we faced, and the results achieved.



WHO I AM

Simone D'Amico



Technical Leader, Platform Team at Spreaker

Full-time dad of two, Lego addict and occasional speaker

✕ @dymissy

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/simonedamico/>

 simone.damico@spreaker.com



Spreaker is a podcast platform that offers a comprehensive solution for podcast enthusiasts.

Spreaker is an all-in-one podcast platform for:

- Hosting
- Distributing
- Monetize
- Discover and Listen to podcasts

We serve 100M+ requests per day on spreaker.com only

Technologies adopted

AWS Services

- **AWS Cloudfront:** Content Delivery Network
- **AWS API Gateway:** Create, manage, and monitor scalable, secure APIs
- **AWS Lambda:** Run serverless code in response to events

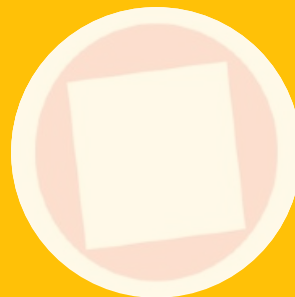
- In addition to them, we used **Serverless Framework** to manage and deploy the application infrastructure



AWS Services



Bref



Octane



Laravel Livewire

Technologies adopted **Bref**

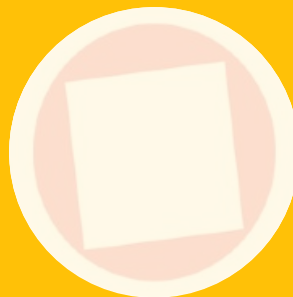
Bref is a framework to write, deploy, and run serverless PHP applications on AWS Lambda.



AWS Services



Bref



Octane



Laravel Livewire

Technologies adopted **Laravel Octane**

Laravel Octane: High-performance, concurrent request handling for Laravel applications



AWS Services



Bref



Octane



Laravel Livewire

Technologies adopted

Laravel + Livewire

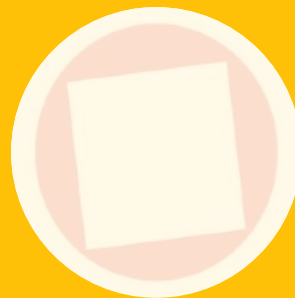
- **Laravel:** PHP framework
- **Livewire:** Full-stack framework for Laravel, enabling reactive, dynamic interfaces without JavaScript



AWS Services



Bref



Octane



Laravel Livewire

The challenge

THE CHALLENGE

A new product direction



Encourage **listeners**
engagement and interaction



Decoupling business logic
from **listening experience**



Appealing UI and mobile-first
approach



Build a **strong and scalable**
frontend foundation

THE CHALLENGE

Technical Constraints



Over a **decade-old monolith** hindering product evolution



Persistent mini-player across pages navigation



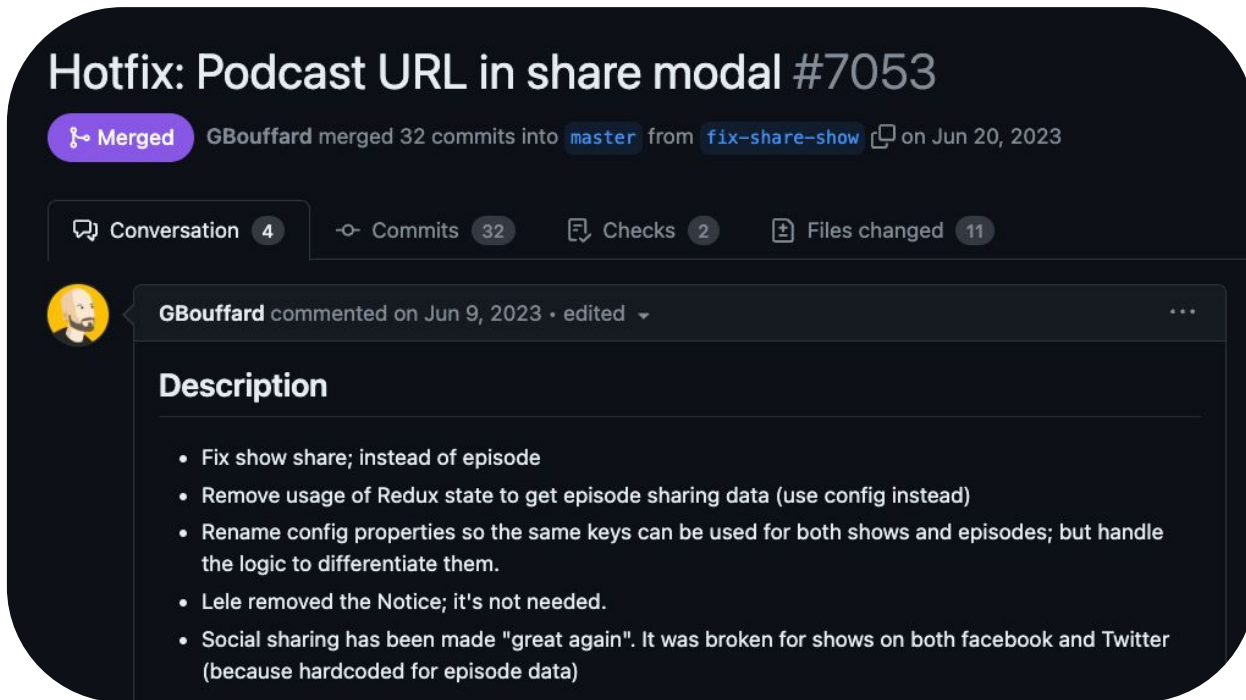
Team primarily skilled in **PHP**



Product with heavily indexed contents

THE CHALLENGE

🗿 Monolith hard to evolve



Hotfix: Podcast URL in share modal #7053

Merged GBouffard merged 32 commits into `master` from `fix-share-show` on Jun 20, 2023

Conversation 4 Commits 32 Checks 2 Files changed 11

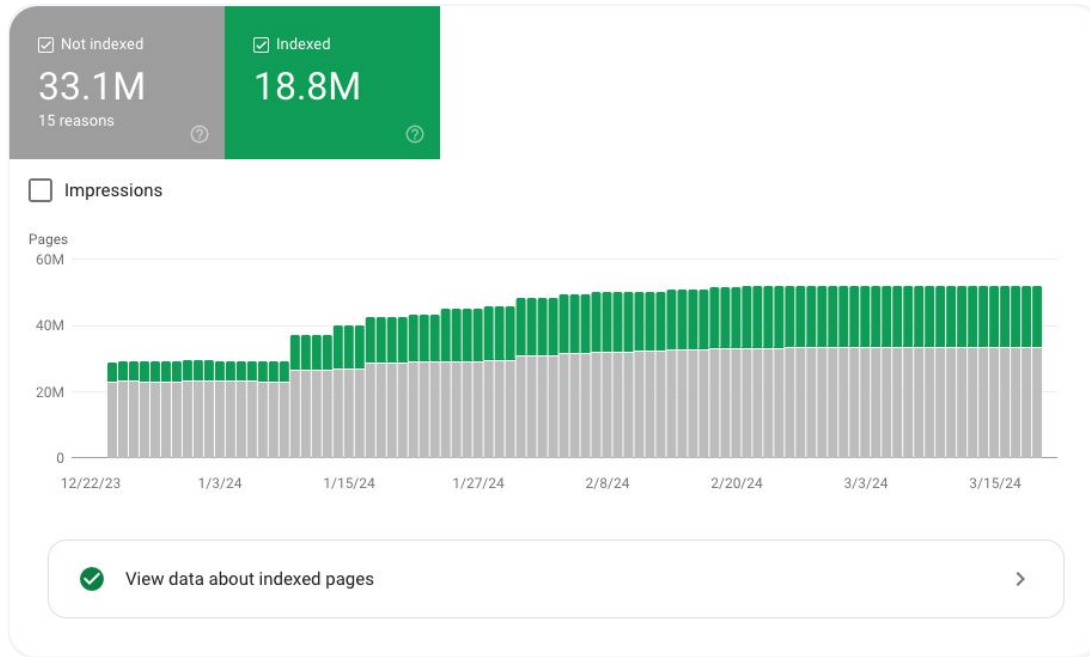
GBouffard commented on Jun 9, 2023 · edited

Description

- Fix show share; instead of episode
- Remove usage of Redux state to get episode sharing data (use config instead)
- Rename config properties so the same keys can be used for both shows and episodes; but handle the logic to differentiate them.
- Lele removed the Notice; it's not needed.
- Social sharing has been made "great again". It was broken for shows on both facebook and Twitter (because hardcoded for episode data)

THE CHALLENGE

🔍 Heavily indexed contents



THE CHALLENGE

▼ Functional Requirements



Makes all the full-stack engineers comfortable in working E2E



Design

New design centered on listeners
and their interactivity

Strong component model

Styleguide



Deployment and Infrastructure

Serverless based

Observability

Deployed through Jenkins



Tech Stack

One main language (no duplication
of state/templates)



Flexibility, Maintenance and Evolution

Pages / Features easy to add

The solution

... and how we got there

THE SOLUTION

Proof of Concepts

The screenshot shows the Remix website homepage. At the top left is the 'Remix' logo. To the right are navigation links: 'Docs', 'Blog', 'Showcase', and 'Resources'. The main heading reads: 'Focused on **web standards** and **modern web app UX**, you're simply going to **build better websites**'. Below this is a paragraph: 'Remix is a full stack web framework that lets you focus on the user interface and work back through web standards to deliver a fast, slick, and resilient user experience. People are gonna love using your stuff.' At the bottom left are two buttons: 'Read the Docs' and 'Get Started'. On the right side, there is a code editor showing JavaScript code for a loader and action function, and a default function for Projects. The code is highlighted with a pink and purple gradient background.

Remix

Docs Blog Showcase Resources

Focused on **web standards** and **modern web app UX**, you're simply going to **build better websites**

Remix is a full stack web framework that lets you focus on the user interface and work back through web standards to deliver a fast, slick, and resilient user experience. People are gonna love using your stuff.

Read the Docs Get Started

```
export async function loader({ request }) {
  return getProjects();
}

export async function action({ request }) {
  const form = await request.formData();
  return createProject({ title: form.get('title') });
}

export default function Projects() {
  const projects = useLoaderData();
  const [ state, { mutate } ] = useForm();
  const busy = state === 'submitting';

  return (
    <div>
      <projects.map (project) => (
        <div> <span>{project.slug}</span> <span>{project.title}</span> </div>
      )}
      <form method='post'>
        <input name='title' />
        <button type='submit' disabled={busy}>
          {busy ? 'creating...' : 'Create New Project'}
        </button>
      </form>
    </div>
  );
}
```

Jenna Smith

PROs: SSR, fast, JS-based

CONs: steep learning curve, HTTP requests needed to change page's state, team with PHP-oriented skills

The screenshot shows the LiveWire website homepage. At the top left is the 'LIVEWIRE' logo. To the right are navigation links: 'Documentation', 'Screenshots', and 'Premium Support'. There is also a search bar and a 'Log in' link. The main heading reads: 'The most productive way to build your next web app'. Below this is a sub-heading: 'Powerful, dynamic, front-end UIs without leaving PHP.' A 'START HERE' button is visible. The main content area shows a search bar with the text 'Search users' and a list of users: Nicholas North, Cameron Watson, Jane Lambert, Gabrielle Mills, and Luke Arnold. To the right of the list is a code snippet for a search component. At the bottom, there is a quote: 'IMO LiveWire takes Blade to the'.

LIVEWIRE

Documentation Screenshots Premium Support

Log in

The most productive way to build your next web app

Powerful, dynamic, front-end UIs without leaving PHP.

START HERE

Search users

Nicholas North

Cameron Watson

Jane Lambert

Gabrielle Mills

Luke Arnold

```
<input wire:model='user' search>
</input>
@foreach ($this->users as $user)
  <div> <span>{ $user->name }</div>
</foreach>

class SearchUsers extends Component
{
  public $search = '';

  public function render()
  {
    return view('search.users', [
      'users' => $this->search($this->search),
    ]);
  }
}
```

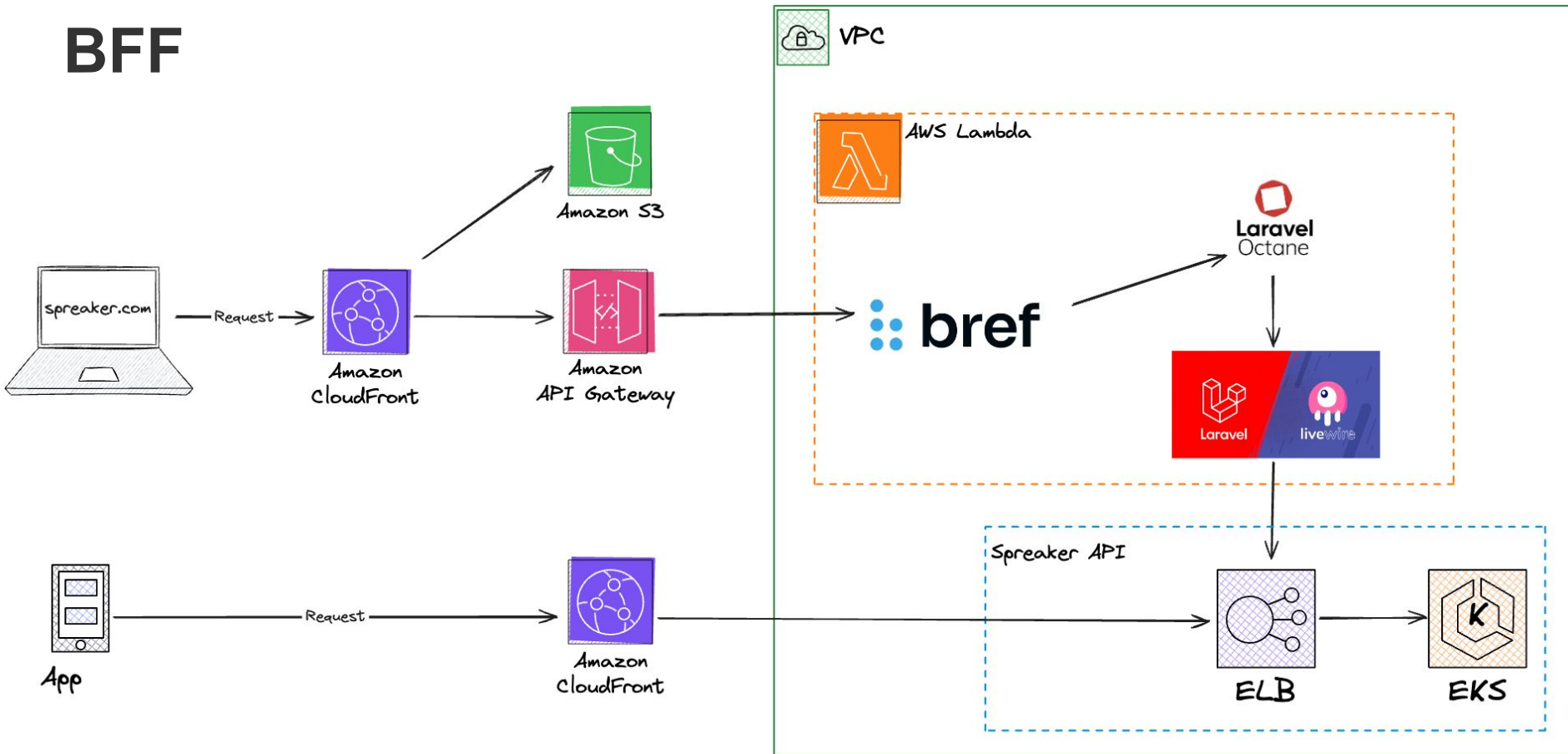
“IMO LiveWire takes Blade to the

PROs: SSR, huge community, frontend “PHP” based

CONs: HTTP requests needed to change page's state

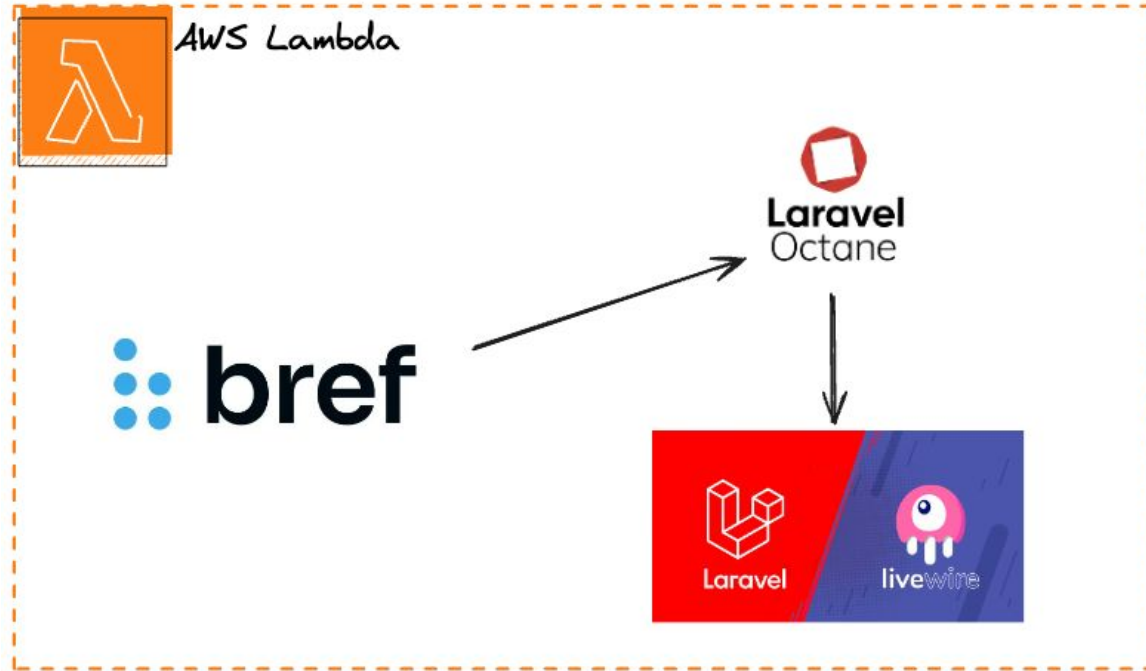
THE SOLUTION

BFF



THE SOLUTION

The application






Why Bref + Octane?




Bref

To deploy PHP applications and setup the infrastructure on Lambda



Octane vs PHP-FPM

Octane caches the Laravel application in RAM instead of reading the files from the hard drive and restarting the framework with each subsequent request



Network opt.

We consume our internal APIs via HTTPS using curl/curl multi, and we aim to avoid incurring costs associated with TLS handshake

<https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/ssl/what-happens-in-a-tls-handshake/>

THE SOLUTION

Parallel cUrl with Connection Keep-Alive

With persistent connections, there's no need to repeatedly establish new connections for each request, resulting in reduced overhead and faster response times.

Parallel cURL with Keep-Alive maximizes network utilization, reducing latency and speeding up data retrieval.

Internal Api Benchmark

In this page we perform a series of API calls to benchmark the performance of the application.

Warm up call

This call is done to make sure the subsequent ones will hit the same connection. The time of this call will be in the 25-50ms range if invocation across lambdas does not incur in a cold start.

GET /v2/shows/89513/episodes 124 ms

Parallel calls

This call is done to make sure that parallel connection will take less than serial one. This will never incur in the cold start problem since we performed already a warm up call.

GET /v2/shows/89513/episodes (5 times parallel) 29 ms

Serial calls

This call is done to make sure that parallel connection will take less than serial one. This will never incur in the cold start problem since we performed already a warm up call.

GET /v2/shows/89513/episodes (5 times serial) 109 ms




Why Livewire?



Frontend with PHP

Write interactive web interfaces using only PHP, eliminating the need for complex JavaScript frameworks



Real-Time Updates

It leverages the power of Laravel's server-side logic to handle user interactions and update the UI dynamically, providing a seamless user experience.

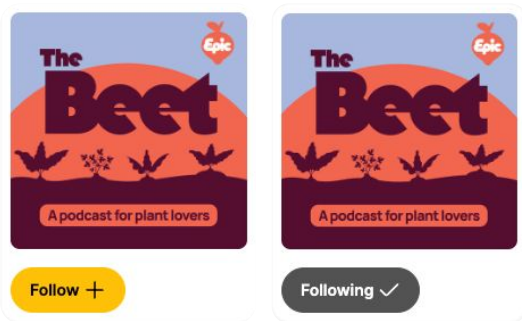


Integration with Laravel

This ensures consistency and coherence throughout your application, while also benefiting from Laravel's robust ecosystem and community support.

THE SOLUTION

Why Livewire?



```
<div>
  @auth
    <x-common.button
      ...
      wire:loading.attr="disabled"
      wire:click="follow">
      {{ $isFollowing
        ? __('app.podcast.following')
        : __('app.podcast.follow') }}
    </x-common.button>
  @endauth
</div>
```

```
class Follow extends Component
{
    public int $podcastId;

    #[Reactive]
    public bool $isFollowing;

    public function mount(
        int $podcastId,
        bool $isFollowing
    ): void {
        $this->podcastId = $podcastId;
        $this->isFollowing = $isFollowing;
    }

    public function follow(): void
    {
        try {
            $gateway->podcast->follow($user->getAuthIdentifier(), $this->podcastId);
            $this->dispatch('podcast-follow-updated', isFollowing: true);
        } catch (SpreakerApiException) {
        }
    }

    public function render(Request $request, SymfonyUrlGenerator $symfonyRoute): View
    {
        return view('livewire.podcast.common.follow');
    }
}
```

THE SOLUTION

Spreaker Next

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `next.spreaker.com/podcast/the-beet-a-podcast-for-plant-lovers--6105048`. The page features a left-hand navigation menu with options like 'Discover', 'Your Library', 'Search', 'For Creators', 'Your Podcasts', 'Product News', 'Our Platform', 'For Developers', 'Styleguide', and 'Dev Tools'. The main content area displays the podcast 'The Beet' with a cover image and a 'Follow' button. Below this, there are sections for 'Contacts' and 'Info'. The 'Info' section describes the podcast's origin and content. The right side of the page lists several podcast episodes with their titles, dates, and descriptions, each accompanied by 'Play' and 'Add to queue' buttons and a duration. The bottom of the browser window shows a taskbar with a video player for 'Palace Intrigue' and a system tray with a clock and a notification icon.

The Beet: A Podcast For Plant Lovers

Search over 10M podcast episodes

Discover

Your Library

Search

For Creators

Your Podcasts

Product News

Our Platform

For Developers

Styleguide

Dev Tools

← Back to Discover

The Beet
A podcast for plant lovers

Follow +

Contacts

Info

The Beet started as the Epic Gardening Podcast, but has grown into a one-stop shop for plant lovers. Five days a week, we explore topics ranging from beginner gardening tips... [show more](#)

The Beet: A Podcast For Plant Lovers

Growing MASSIVE Houseplants

21 MAR 2024 · How do you get those really large leaves on your houseplants? Aside from the obvious foundation of proper conditions, you can water slightly more frequently, and provide a...

Play Add to queue 9m 5s

Pots, Soil, & Watering for Houseplants

20 MAR 2024 · When it comes to basic houseplant care, Jan suggests you skip the store bought potting mixes, and develop your own. Water your moss poles frequently, and provide containers...

Play Add to queue 11m 8s

Why You Keep Killing Houseplants

19 MAR 2024 · Sometimes conditions in your home are ideal and your care regimen causes problems. Sometimes you should adjust your care to create better conditions. If a houseplant di...

Play Add to queue 11m 22s

Why You Need To Build a Moss Pole

18 MAR 2024 · Moss poles are not just a way to support vertical houseplant growth; they are also an extension of the container in which the plant grows. Here, Jan outlines the many ways...

Play Add to queue 11m

Houseplant Conditions vs. Care

17 MAR 2024 · According to Jan Gettmann, the Sydney Plant Guy, houseplants have certain conditions they need to thrive, and proper care aligns with those conditions. Incorporating prop...

Play Add to queue 11m 53s

Palace Intrigue
Maybe Montecito isn't safe for Prince Harry and Meghan Markle?
Palace Intrigue · Prince Harry, Meghan Markle, Kate Middleton - Royal Family news & gossip

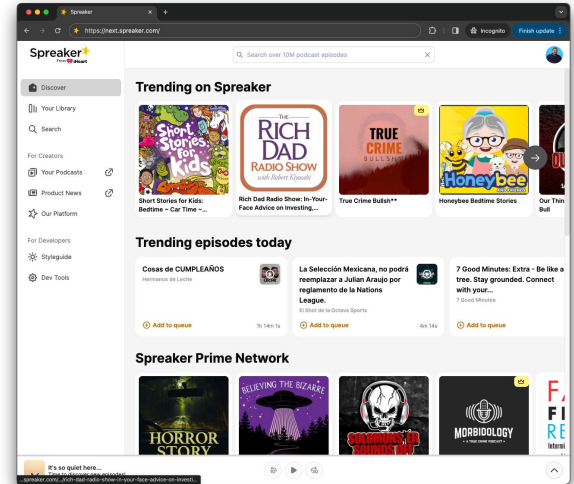
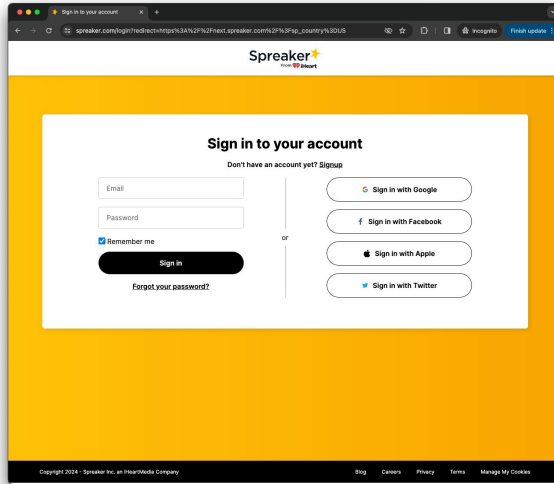
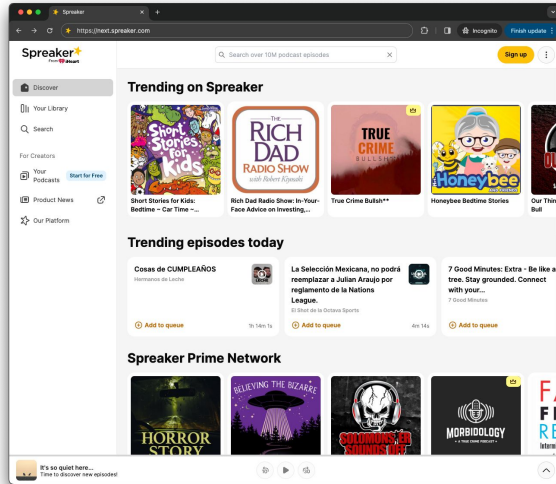
00:00 / 07:53

Did everything go smoothly?

Of course it didn't!

CHALLENGES FACED

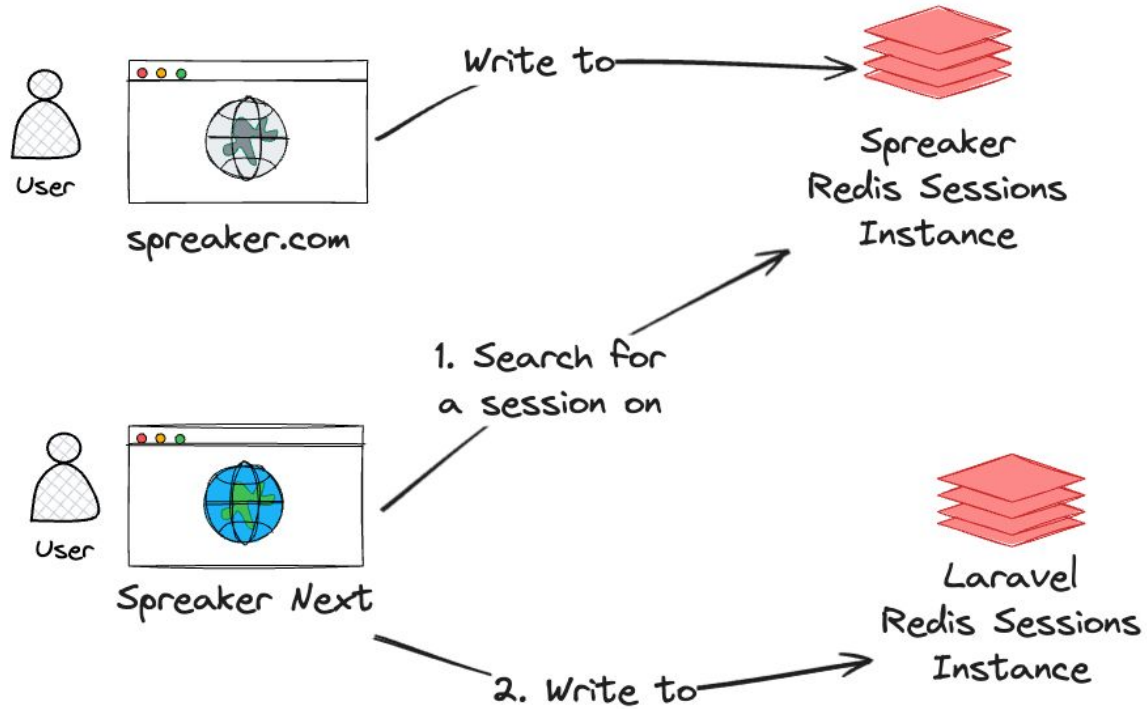
Coexistence current and new website



CHALLENGES FACED

Shared Sessions

Although OAuth2 authentication is available through the Spreaker API, we aimed to reduce networking costs.



CHALLENGES FACED

Octane Memory Leaks

Octane keeps the application in memory between requests; therefore, adding data to a statically variables may result in a memory leak.

It is the intended behaviour for certain services (eg. the Redis client or the client that performs requests to Spreaker API)

```
readonly class SetUserTokenInSpreakerApiClient
{
    public function handle(Request $request, \Closure $next): Response
    {
        /** @var ?SymfonyUser $user */
        $user = \auth()->user();

        // if the user is not logged in we reset the token
        $this->apiClient->withAccessToken($user?->getAccessToken());

        return $next($request);
    }
}
```

CHALLENGES FACED

Contents routing revamped

Aa Route	☰ Note	☰ Example	☰ Traffic	☰ Action
/best-podcasts	List of curated lists	https://www.spreaker.com/best-podcasts		
/explore	Redirect to best podcasts	https://www.spreaker.com/explore		Check if there's still traffic
/explore/location/:void	Redirect to best podcasts	https://www.spreaker.com/explore/location/whatsoever		Check if there's still traffic
/listen	Redirect to best podcasts	https://www.spreaker.com/listen		Check if there's still traffic
/listen/:path	Redirect to live	https://www.spreaker.com/listen/onair		Check if there's still traffic
/listen/:path	Redirect to best podcasts	https://www.spreaker.com/listen/popular		Check if there's still traffic
/listen/:path	Redirect to category (if exists)	https://www.spreaker.com/listen/popular/music https://www.spreaker.com/listen/popular/music		Check if there's still traffic
/live	Curated List of live streaming	https://www.spreaker.com/live		Delete
/tender/login /tender/login/redirect /tender/login	Old routes - Redirect to Intercom			Dismantle
/tags/:tag_name	List of episodes for a given tag	https://www.spreaker.com/tags/black+womanist		Do Nothing
/your-library	Your library page	https://www.spreaker.com/your-library		Do nothing
/following	List of followed shows	https://www.spreaker.com/following		Do nothing
/our-platform	Our platform page	https://www.spreaker.com/our-platform		Keep on the old one
/prime	Prime page			
- spreaker.com/comeceagora - spreaker.com/comeceagora				Dismantle
/search/category/:category	Redirects to category page	https://www.spreaker.com/search/category/arts		Dismantle
/user/:user_id/episodes/feed	User feed redirects permanent to a certain show	https://www.spreaker.com/user/10653829/episodes/feed		Leave as it is. According to Athena, In
/user/:permalink	Public user page	https://www.spreaker.com/user/theslangpodcast		Apply User Permalink logic
/user/:permalink/follower	Useless route	https://www.spreaker.com/user/theslangpodcast/follower		Dismantle
/user/:permalink/following	Useless route	https://www.spreaker.com/user/theslangpodcast/following		Dismantle
/user/:permalink/debug	User Debug Info	https://www.spreaker.com/user/theslangpodcast/debug		Apply User Permalink logic

**Is there anything else worth
sharing?**

THE SOLUTION

Serverless deploy

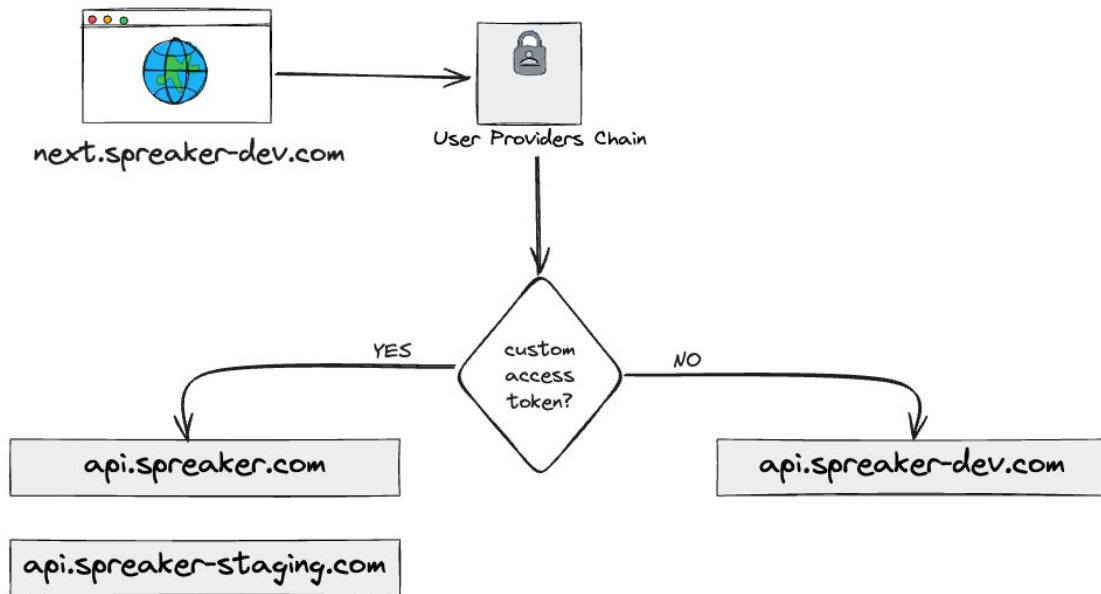
✓ www-site-frontend < 335	Pipeline	Changes	Tests	Artifacts	↺	✎	⚙️	📄	Logout	✕
Branch: master	🕒 2m 28s	No changes								
Commit: -	🕒 1 hour ago	Started by user emanuele.rampichini@spreaker.com								
✓ www-site < 2179 >	Pipeline	Changes	Tests	Artifacts	↺	✎	⚙️	📄	Logout	✕
Branch: master 🔗	🕒 9m 12s	No changes								
Commit: 069df6c	🕒 5 hours ago	Started by user imran.berisha@spreaker.com								



THE SOLUTION

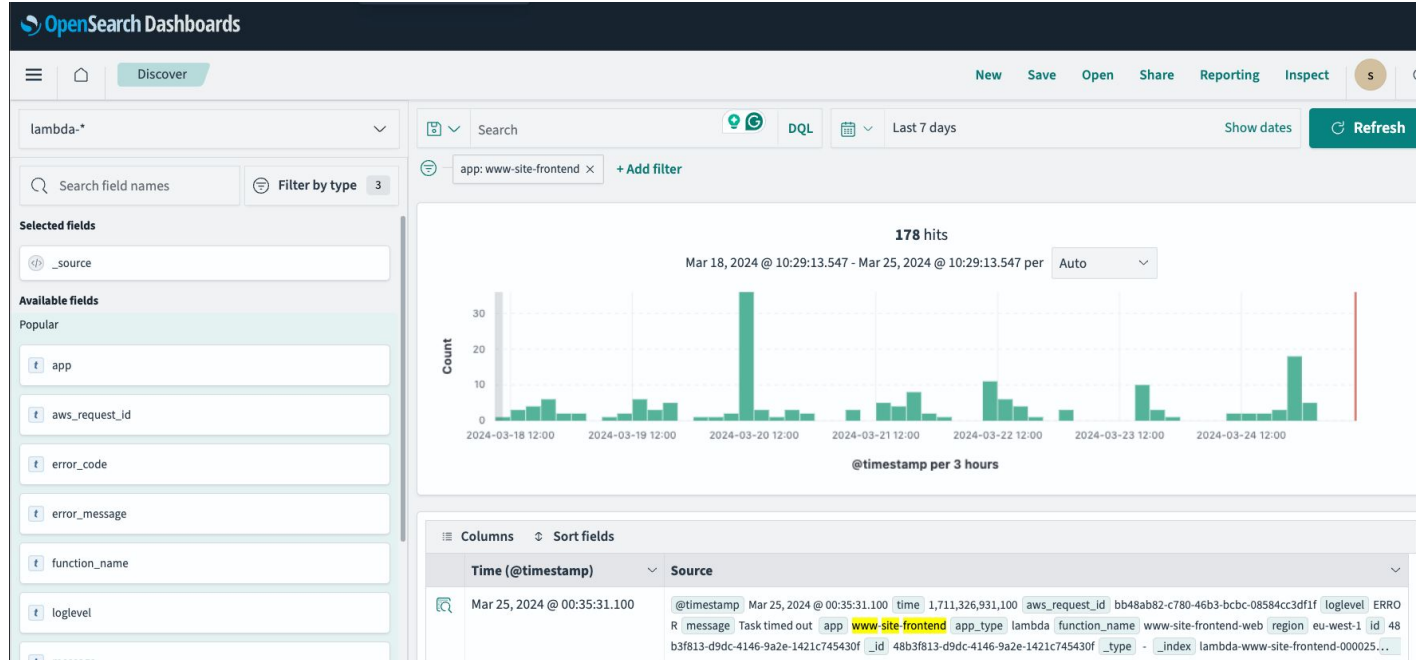
Local env against staging and prod data

To speed up local development and debugging, we built a user provider able to make requests against staging and production environments given a proper authentication token



THE SOLUTION

Observability layer



THE SOLUTION

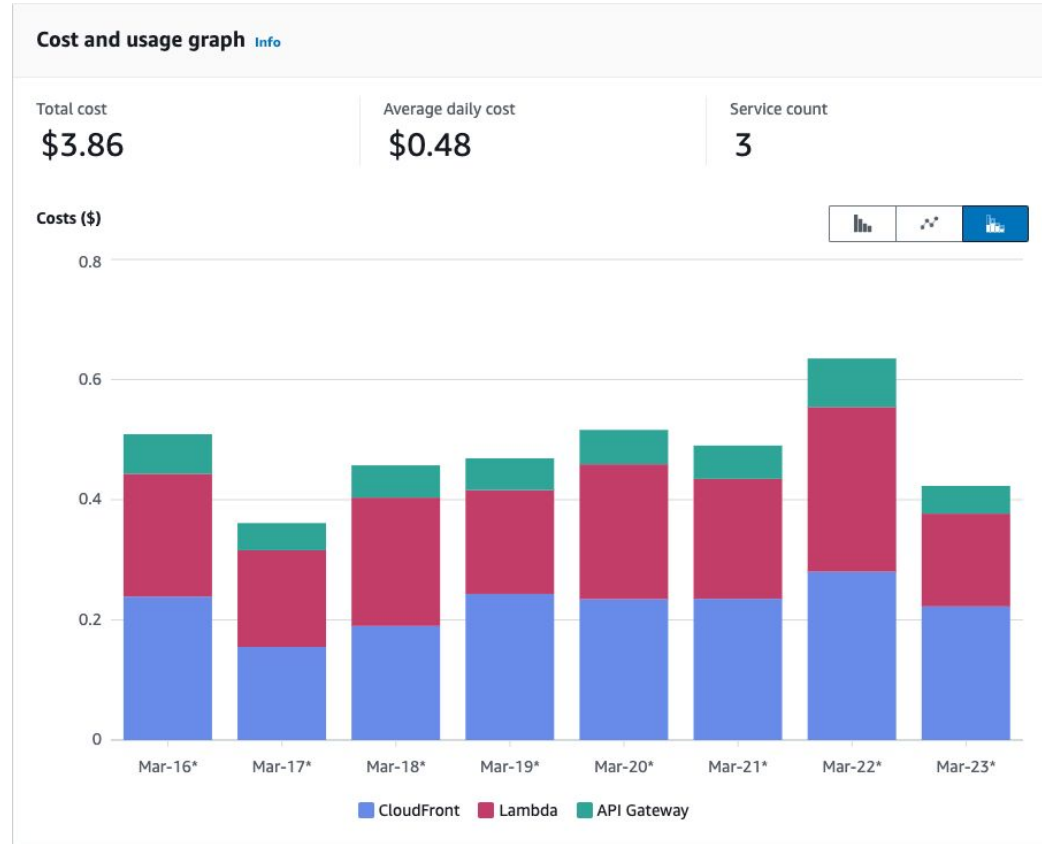
Metrics



THE SOLUTION

Cost Forecasts

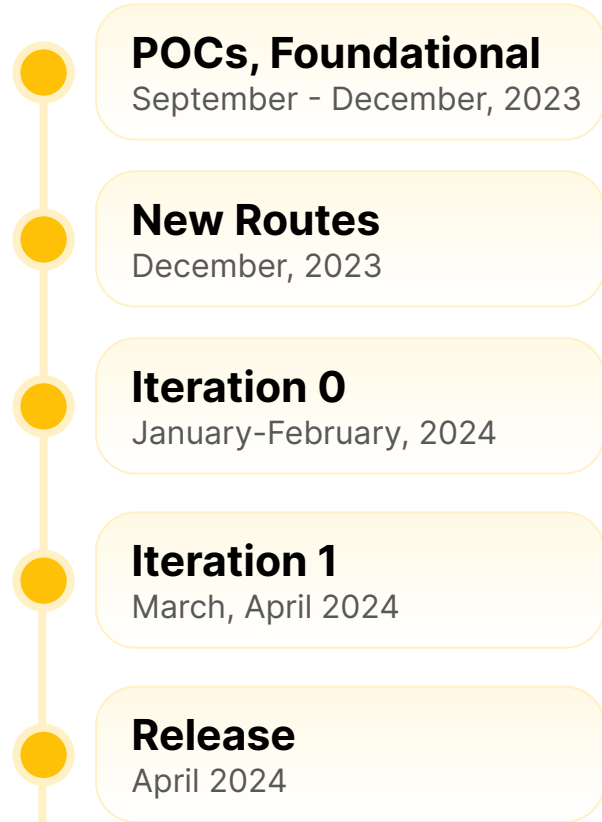
Based on the current traffic-generated costs, we anticipate an average daily cost of around \$21, with a projected annual cost of approximately \$5k.



THE SOLUTION

Timeline

Originally scheduled for early Q4 2024, we moved up the switch date to early Q2 as soon as we observed encouraging development speed and stickiness metrics.

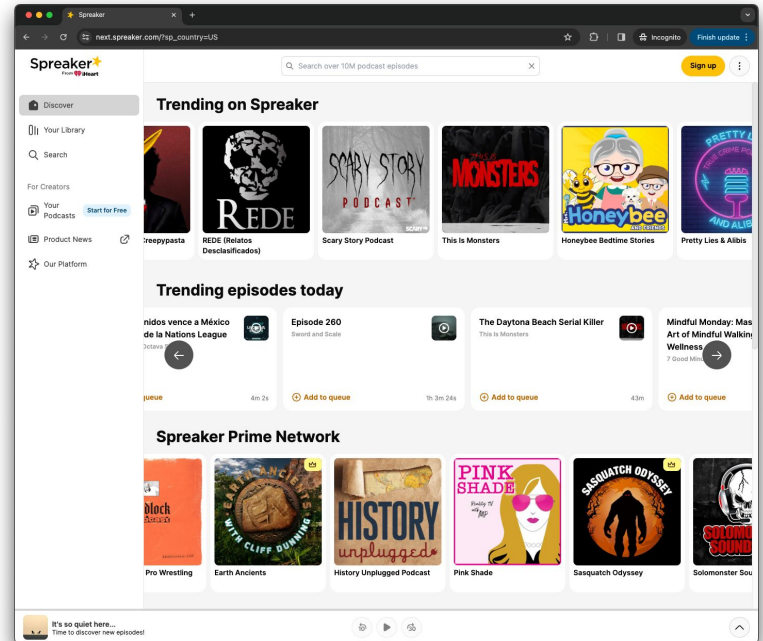


KEY TAKEAWAYS

Is it possible to build modern and scalable apps with PHP in 2024?

We think so, but try it out and let us know your POV!

next.speaker.com



WEB DAY

27 MARZO 2024

7A EDIZIONE



SLIDE + VIDEO

[HTTPS://WWW.IMPROOVE.TECH/APP](https://www.improove.tech/app)