

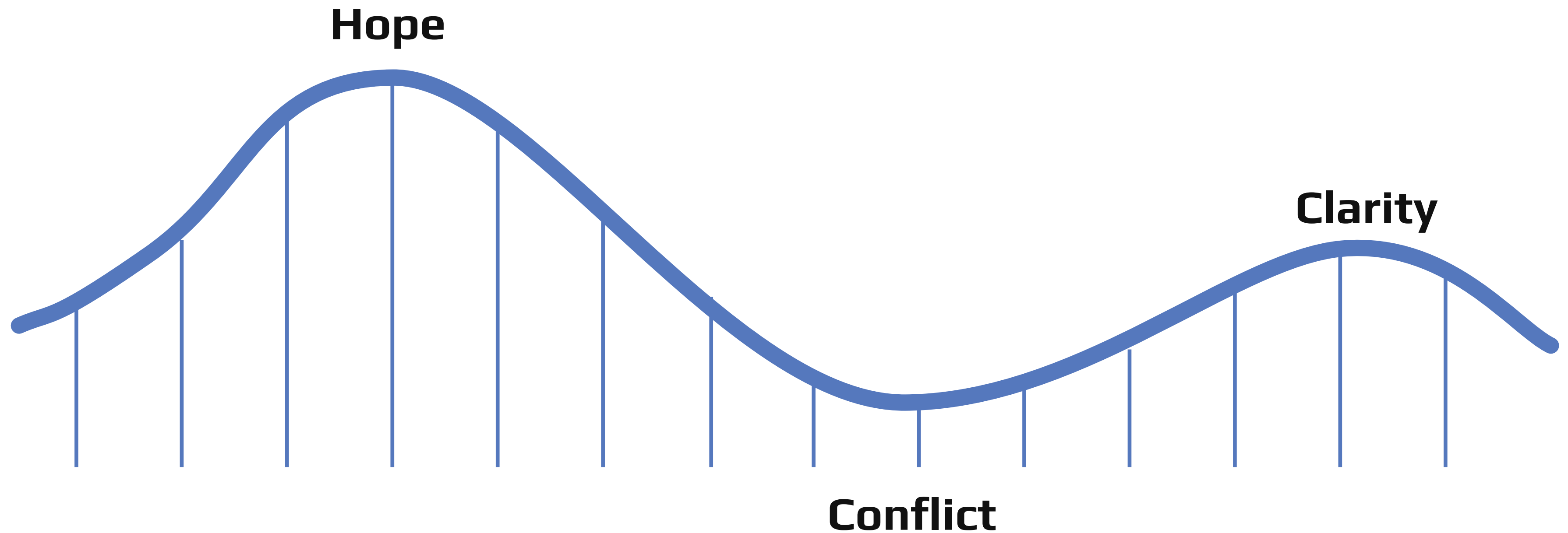
Are we arguing

Or are we architecting

The architecture meeting.



The architect's rollercoaster.



What if arguing isn't our problem?

Origin and history of *argue*

argue (v.)

c. 1300, "to make reasoned statements to prove or refute a proposition," from Old French *arguer* "maintain an opinion or view; harry, reproach, accuse, blame" (12c.), ultimately from Latin *arguere* "make clear, make known, prove, declare, demonstrate" (from a suffixed form of PIE root ***arg-** "to shine; white"). The transmission to French might be via *arguere* in a Medieval Latin sense of "to argue," or from Latin *argutare* "to prattle, prate," frequentative of *arguere*.

3 barriers to clarity.

-  **Misaligned Incentives**
-  **The Parking Lot**
-  **Influence Without Authority**



3 Habits to Healthy Conflict



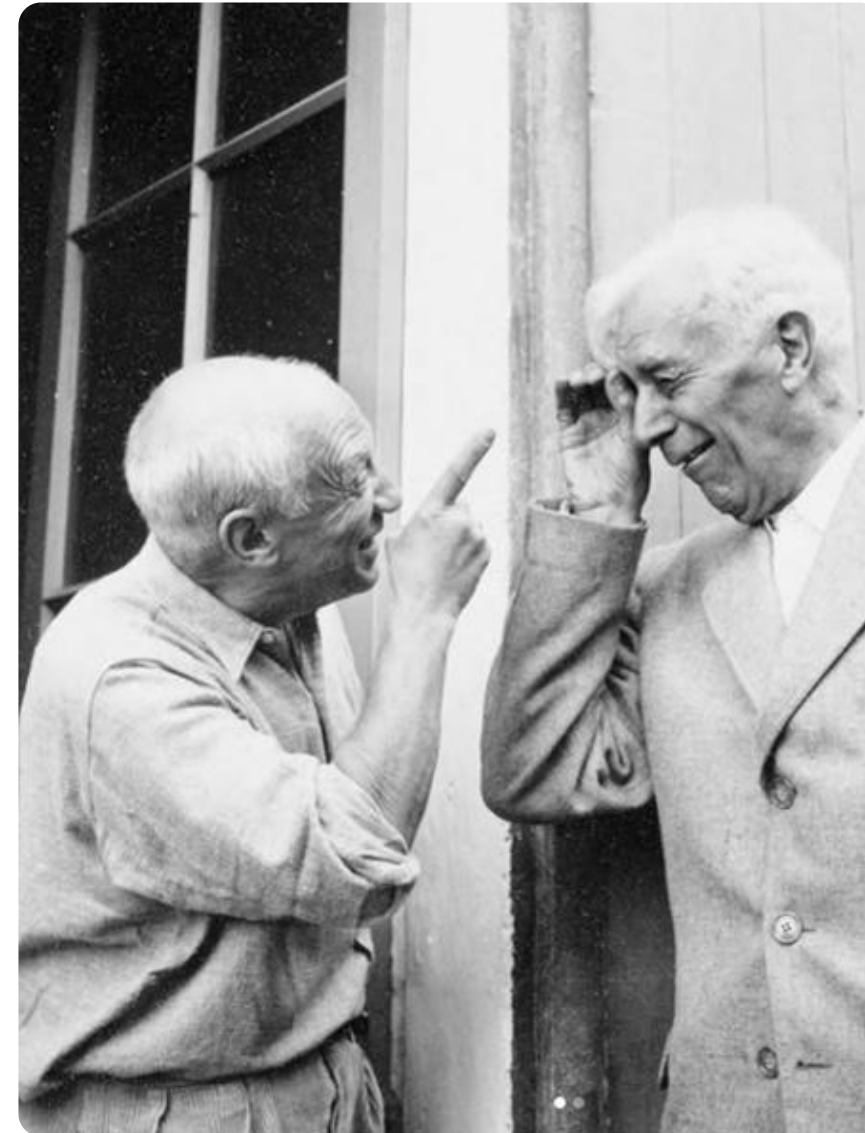
Timing Matters. Meet Early. Once the decision's baked, influence is gone.



Good Natured Sparring Partners, Not Adversaries.



Let's Parking Lot the Parking Lot. Silence isn't alignment—it's avoidance.



5 Microservice Patterns for Better Human Collaboration

Timeouts	Expect results within a specified time, else assume your guidance didn't succeed.
Retries	Repeat yourself, with exponential backoff—don't flood the room; let your point breathe.
Circuit Breaker	Trip the breaker when debate proves unproductive and energy drains — pause & regroup.
Bulkhead	Contain the conflict. Limit the scope and blast radius of each meeting. Limit the invites to essential voices.
Control Plane	Act as the Kubernetes control plane for your team decisions: Declare desired state, detect drift, and self-heal.

This isn't about soft skills

These are the hardest skills!

- Conflict Resolution
- Aligning Teams & Strategy
- Influencing without Authority

Are we arguing or are we architecting?

Both!

01

Reframe
conflict as
a catalyst
for clarity.

02

If agreement
comes too
easy,
someone's
not paying
attention.

03

Be sparring
partners, not
adversaries.

04

Engage early,
before
decisions
bake.

05

Offer choices,
not single
solutions.

06

Apply System
Patterns to
People.

Thank you

**For inquiries about this
document, please contact:**

danielbykat@rocketmortgage.com

1050 Woodward Ave
Detroit, MI 48226