

EPIC

Always Right

"From the errors of others, a wise man corrects his own."

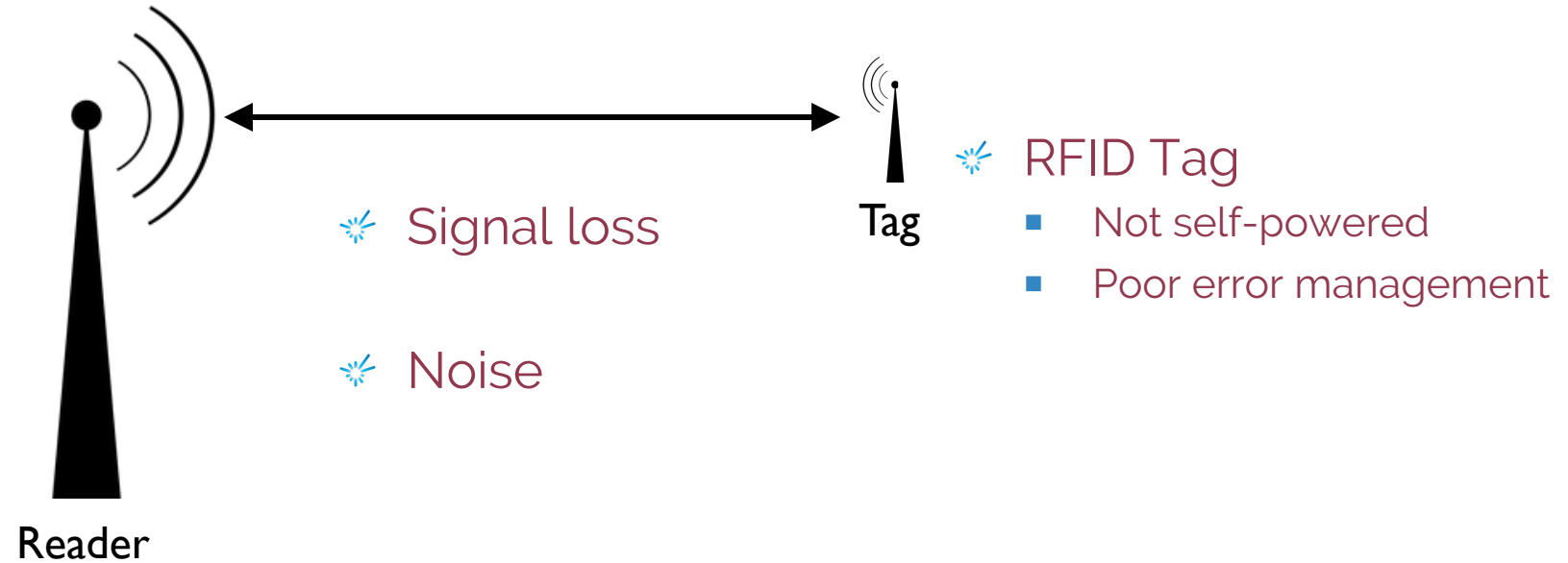
Publilius Syrus (85 -43 BC)

AGENDA



- ✦ Introduction
- ✦ The problem of errors
- ✦ When errors matter
- ✦ EPIC
- ✦ Acknowledgements

RFID



- ❁ No error correction
- ❁ No channel correction
- ❁ No data authentication

TRAITS OF RFID

- ✦ **No** tag corruption detection
→ **Corruption straight to customer**
- ✦ **No** transmission error correction
→ **Poor RFID system performance**
- ✦ **No** error correction
→ **Single error = failure**

PRACTICAL RFID



- ✦ Tag corruption is known
 - "bit-flips" and "ghost tags" are slang
- ✦ Extensive direct testing minimizes issue
 - Tags are 100% tested several times prior to deployment
 - Typically have 3-6 months when errors are rare
- ✦ Key point – in many applications this works fine

LIMITS OF RFID



- ✦ Error rates < 1000 DPPM
- ✦ Multi-year tag lifetimes
- ✦ Large capacity tags
- ✦ When a mistake really matters
- ✦ No human backup

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- A man in a black shirt and khaki pants stands in a large, empty warehouse aisle, looking at a shelf filled with boxes labeled "Box 83" and "Box 84". The boxes are stacked on metal shelving units, and the floor is polished concrete. The man is looking towards the right side of the frame, where the shelving units are filled with boxes. The boxes are white with blue and red accents, and some have yellow labels. The man is standing in the center of the aisle, looking at the boxes on the right. The background shows more empty shelving units and a bright, well-lit interior.

FOOD LOGISTICS



- ❖ Produce tracked in RPC
 - (Reusable Plastic Containers)
- ❖ ~20M deployed tags
- ❖ ~4% *b-process failure*



PHARMA



- ❖ A corrupted tag
 - Weird input into software programs
 - Tag "disappears" from system
 - Gives the SKU of another product
- ❖ Pharmacist detects errors



OPPORTUNITIES



- ✦ Large format tags
 - Increases data corruption rate
 - Aircraft or automotive maintenance records

- ✦ Long life tags
 - The practical limitation to tag life is not function, it is corruption

- ✦ No access to the cloud
 - Significant data on tag without backup

EPIC

Always Right

- ✦ Error management system
- ✦ Implementation
- ✦ Standards compliant
- ✦ Backwards compatible