

Kusion: Intent-driven Platform Orchestrator

Dayuan Li, Forest Chen
Ant Group

About us



Forest Chen, Ant Group



Dayuan Li, Ant Group

Table of Contents

- 1. Challenges**
- 2. Vision & Value**
- 3. Design**
- 4. Demo**
- 5. Community**
- 6. Comparison**

Challenges



Developers during application delivery:

- How many internal systems are involved?
- How many cloud products?
- How many people do I have to ping?
- How long does it take?

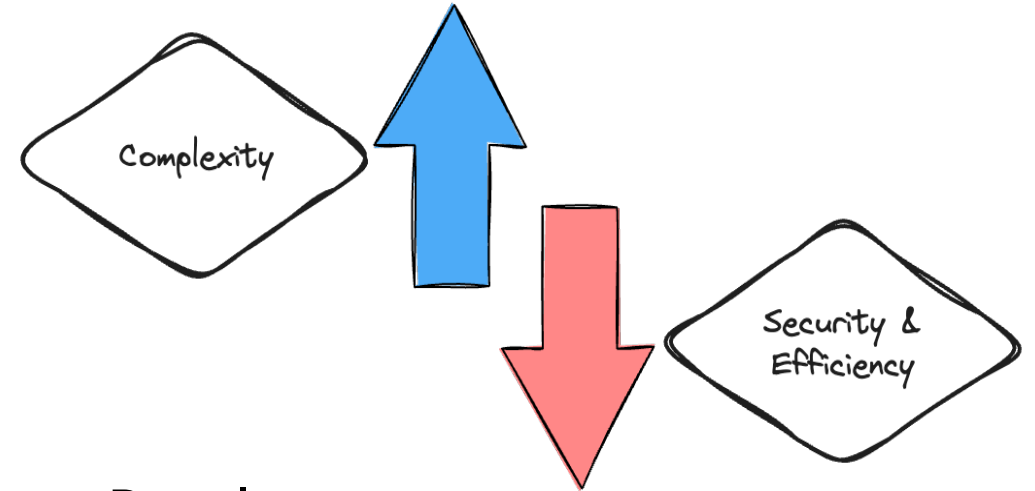
Cloud-native applications are more than Kubernetes...

Source: [David Bell](#)

It's slowing down Innovation



Source: [the awesomer](#)



Developer

- Overloaded with (unnecessary) infrastructure knowledge

Platform

- Became a bottleneck with endless feature requests

Community

- Slowing down adoption of new technologies

Our Vision

Protocol-driven Golden Path



Agile Innovations & Value Delivery



Effective Collaborations

Kusion as Platform Orchestrator

Key Values



Tailored
Golden Path

Build Golden Path tailored to your specific organizational needs



Vendor
Agnostic

Write once, deliver anywhere, any cloud with a consistent workflow



Everything As
Code

Codified Best Practices are key assets to achieve operational excellence



Extendable
Modules

Extendable and reusable modules with developer-friendly schemas



Dynamic
Config Mgmt.

Lower burden for developers via separation of concerns

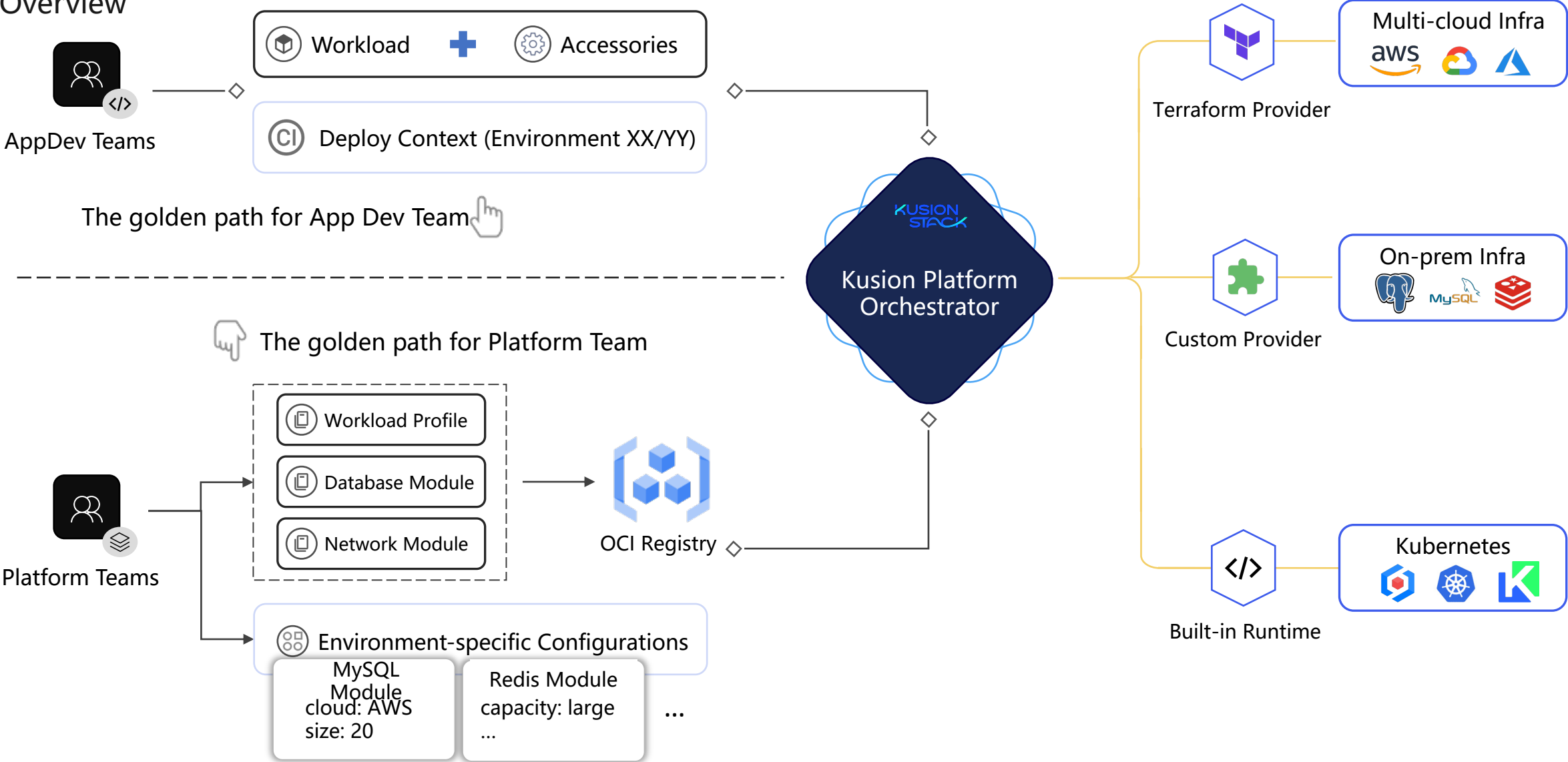


Hybrid
Resource

Orchestrate resources across different runtimes

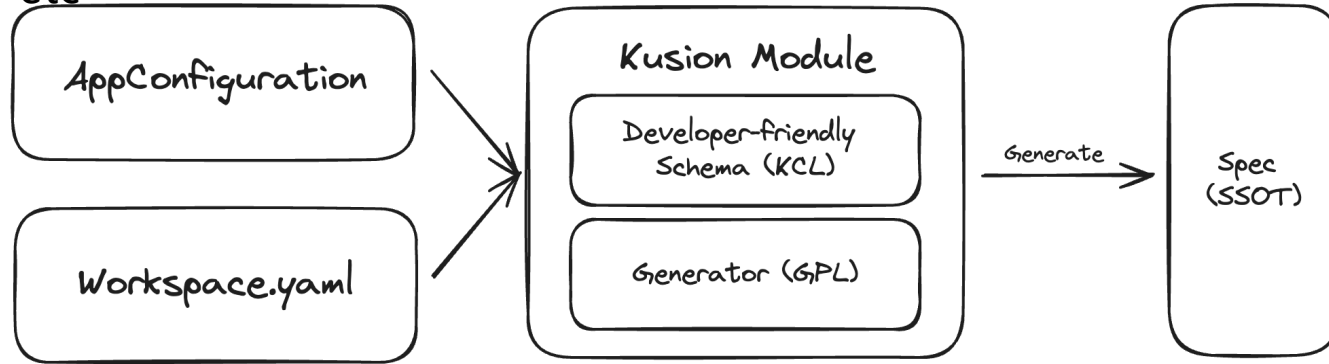
Define Golden Paths with Kusion

Overview



Kusion Modules & Workspaces

Standardized, re-usable building blocks, fronted by
KCL(CNCF Sandbox) such as database, storage, monitoring,
etc



Platform Configurations

- Environment and vendor-specific configurations should be managed by the platform.
- Application configurations should be decouple with platform ones so they can be written once and applied everywhere.
- The developers choose environments as they see fit.

```
1 accessories: {  
2     "mysql": mysql.MySQL {  
3         type: "cloud"  
4         version: "8.0"  
5     }  
6 }
```

App Dev Config Sample

```
1 modules:   
2 mysql:   
3     default:   
4         provider: aws   
5         size: 20   
6         instanceClass: db.t3.micro   
7         securityIPs:   
8             - 10.0.0.0/18   
9     smallClass:   
10         size: 50   
11         instanceClass: db.t3.small   
12         projectSelector:   
13             - foo   
14             - bar   
15         largeClass:   
16             instanceClass: db.t3.large   
17             projectSelector:   
18                 - baz
```

Module declaration

Default module config

Overriding default module config with selectors

Platform Config Sample: workspace.yaml

Application Centric Model

Accessories

Various runtime capabilities and operational requirements that app needs to function properly



Dependency

Describes cross-application dependency.



```
1  helloWorld: ac.AppConfiguration {
2    workload: wl.Service {
3      containers: {
4        "main": c.Container {
5          image: "ghcr.io/kusion-stack/samples/helloworld:latest"
6          readinessProbe: p.Probe {
7            probeHandler: p.Http {
8              url: "http://localhost:80"
9            }
10         }
11       }
12     }
13   }
14
15   # a collection of accessories that will be attached to the workload
16   accessories: {
17     # Built-in module
18     "my-prometheus" : m.Prometheus {
19       path: "/metrics"
20     }
21     # Built-in module
22     "my-database" : d.MySQL {
23       type: "cloud"
24       version: "8.0"
25     }
26     # Customized module
27     "my-customize": customizedModule {
28       type: "customized"
29     }
30   }
31
32   pipeline: {
33     "step" : Step {
34       use: "exec"
35       args: ["--test-all"]
36     }
37   }
38
39   dependency: {
40     dependentApps: ["init-kusion"]
41   }
42 }
```

Workload

Core part of the application, represent the compute workload configurations

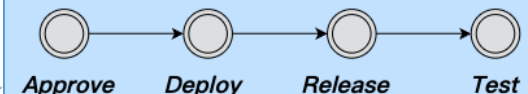


App Developer Configuration

- Enable self-service using modules that are understandable and easy to combine
- A configuration that covers the entire delivery lifecycle of the application

Pipeline

More fine-tuned control and customization on how to deliver an app



Kusion Platform Orchestrator Workflow

Drive intent into reality

Team collaboration

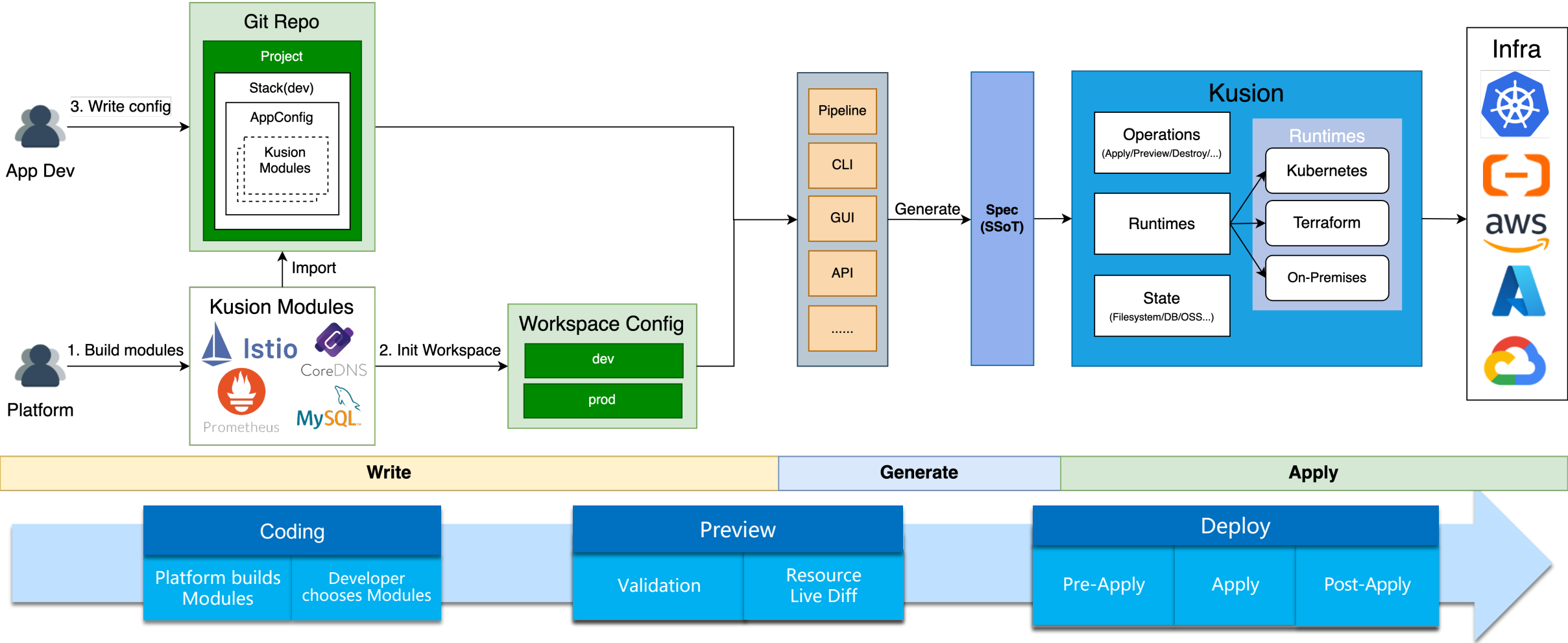
Environment-agnostic configuration enables self-service with Kusion modules

Environment variance management and platform standardization

Seamlessly integrates into current workflow

SSoT (Single Source of Truth) Management

Manage Kubernetes, Cloud and On-Premises in one place with one config file



Demo

Demo

What is Kusion doing?

1. Provision Kubernetes resources, such as Deployment, Service, Secret, etc
2. Provision cloud resources, such as DBInstance and SecurityGroup
3. Inject environment variables to the workload

Roadmap

1. Expand Kusion Module Ecosystem to meet more scenarios

- CNCF ecosystem projects
- Leverage Terraform module ecosystem

2. LLM (Large Language Models) Operation

- Applications based on Triton inference server
- Ray ecosystem

3. Kusion Server

- A long-running service
- A user-friendly portal

[Roadmap Dashboard](#)

Community

GitHub

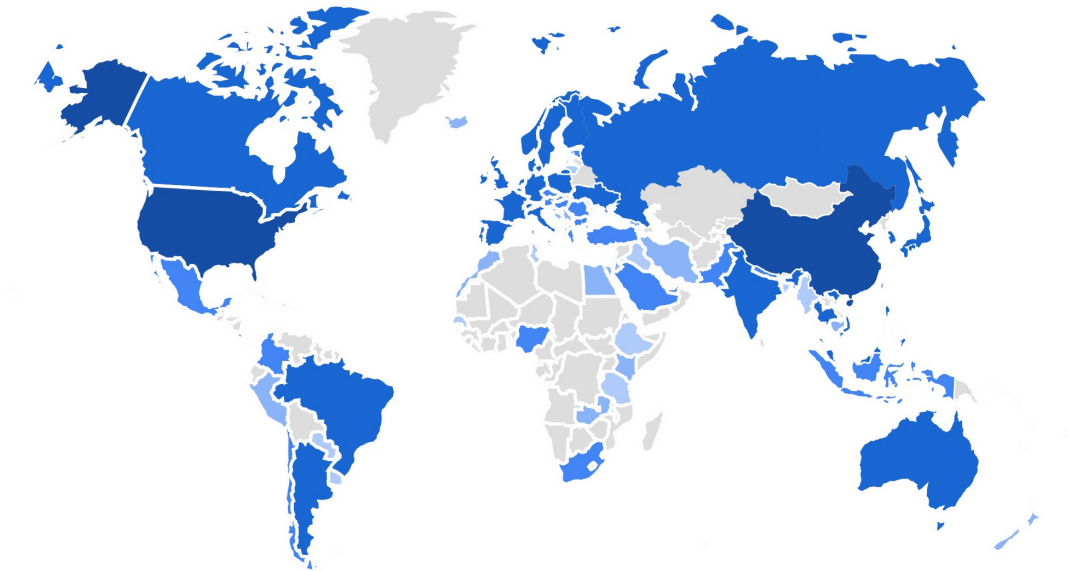
- 800+ stars
- 75 forks
- 25 contributors

Website

- 5.7K users
(This year Jan-Today)

End-User

- 5+ companies
- [Slack](#)
- [Blog](#)
- [Community Calls](#)



Country ▾ +		↓ Users
		5,690 100% of total
1	China	2,876
2	United States	1,117
3	United Kingdom	170
4	Germany	147
5	Japan	135
6	Singapore	116
7	India	107
8	France	92
9	Canada	72
10	South Korea	70

Comparison

Radius

Similarity

- Application-centric
- Separation of concerns

Kusion's difference

- Lightweight CLI
- Manage the SSoT for hybrid resources via Spec

Crossplane

Similarity

- Manage resources lifecycle
- Extension mechanism

Kusion's difference

- DSL > YAML for App developers
- Lightweight CLI
- DCM (Dynamic Configuration Management)

OAM/KubeVela

Similarity

- App-centric
- Separation of concerns

Kusion's difference

- Lightweight CLI
- Manage the SSoT for hybrid resources via Spec
- DCM (Dynamic Configuration Management)

For other comparisons: [Kusion vs X](#)

Q&A