

Modern Jakarta EE and Microprofile on Azure: Open Liberty, JBoss EAP, and WebLogic

Ed Burns @edburns
Principal Architect
Java on Azure

Sandra Ahlgrimm @edburns
Cloud Advocate, Java Entwicklerin,
DevOps Enthusiast

Our plan for your time investment

- Morning

- Common set up for the rest of the day
- Azure services used and not used in this workshop
- JBoss EAP on Azure App Service workshop

- Afternoon

- Open Liberty on Azure Kubernetes Service
- WebLogic Server on Azure Kubernetes Service



Professional Biography

Client

NCSA Mosaic (1994)

SGI Cosmo Web Authoring

Sun Netscape 6 OJI

Server

J2EE JSF (2002)

Oracle Java EE

Servlet, JSF, Bean Validation, etc.

Microsoft Azure Cloud (2019)

Books





Sandra Ahlgrimm

Professional Biography

Cloud Advocate II

Docker expert

Visual Studio Code and GitHub Codespaces specialist

DevOps and CI/CD practitioner

Software Developer and Scrummaster

Spring Boot

DC/OS

Microservices

Homepage

<https://ahlgrimm.dev/>

Common set up for the rest of the day

<https://aka.ms/javaland-javaee>

How Microsoft delivers its Azure offerings

Meet developers where they are

Cross language

- Azure CLI
- Azure PowerShell
- Azure SDK
- REST APIs
- Infrastructure as code
 - Terraform
 - ARM/Bicep
- Azure Portal

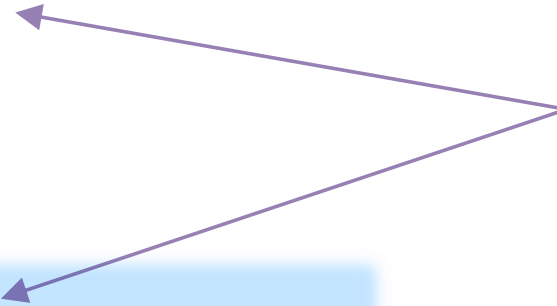
Java specific

- IDE extensions
 - Visual Studio Code
 - IntelliJ Idea
- Maven/Gradle plugins
- Spring starters

How Microsoft explains its Azure offerings

- Brand name: marketing focused
 - Can and does change over time
- Resource provider name: used by ARM
 - Does not change over time
- azure.microsoft.com content
 - Tells why to use it
 - IT manager focused
 - Useful, but also glossy brochureware
- docs.microsoft.com content
 - Tells how to use it to get things done
 - Developer focused content
 - Authoritative source
- MS Learn content

Mess of
[aka.ms](#) links



How Microsoft explains its Azure offerings

1. Use **site:docs.microsoft.com** in search engine

A. Look for the **Overview** pages

 Microsoft Bing

site:docs.microsoft.com javaee on azure



2. Use the template reference <https://aka.ms/azref>

3. Search for a learn module <https://learn.microsoft.com/>

~~4. Look at the javadocs~~

Azure for architects and team leaders

Azure Architecture Center

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/>

Azure Spring Cloud Reference Architecture

<https://aka.ms/azspringrefarch>

Azure for architects and team leaders

Azure pricing calculator

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/pricing/calculator/>

Engagement from Microsoft

Cloud Solution Architects

Customer Success Team

Azure certification

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/azure-fundamentals/>

Azure services used in this workshop

- Azure App Service
 - JBoss EAP stack
- Azure Kubernetes Service
 - IBM Liberty
 - Oracle WebLogic
- Azure Database for PostgreSQL



Azure
Status

Azure
Service
Health

Azure
Resource
Health

Azure Log
Analytics

Azure
Application
Insights

Azure
Portal

Azure
Management
Groups

How I felt when I
started to learn
Azure

Azure
Defender

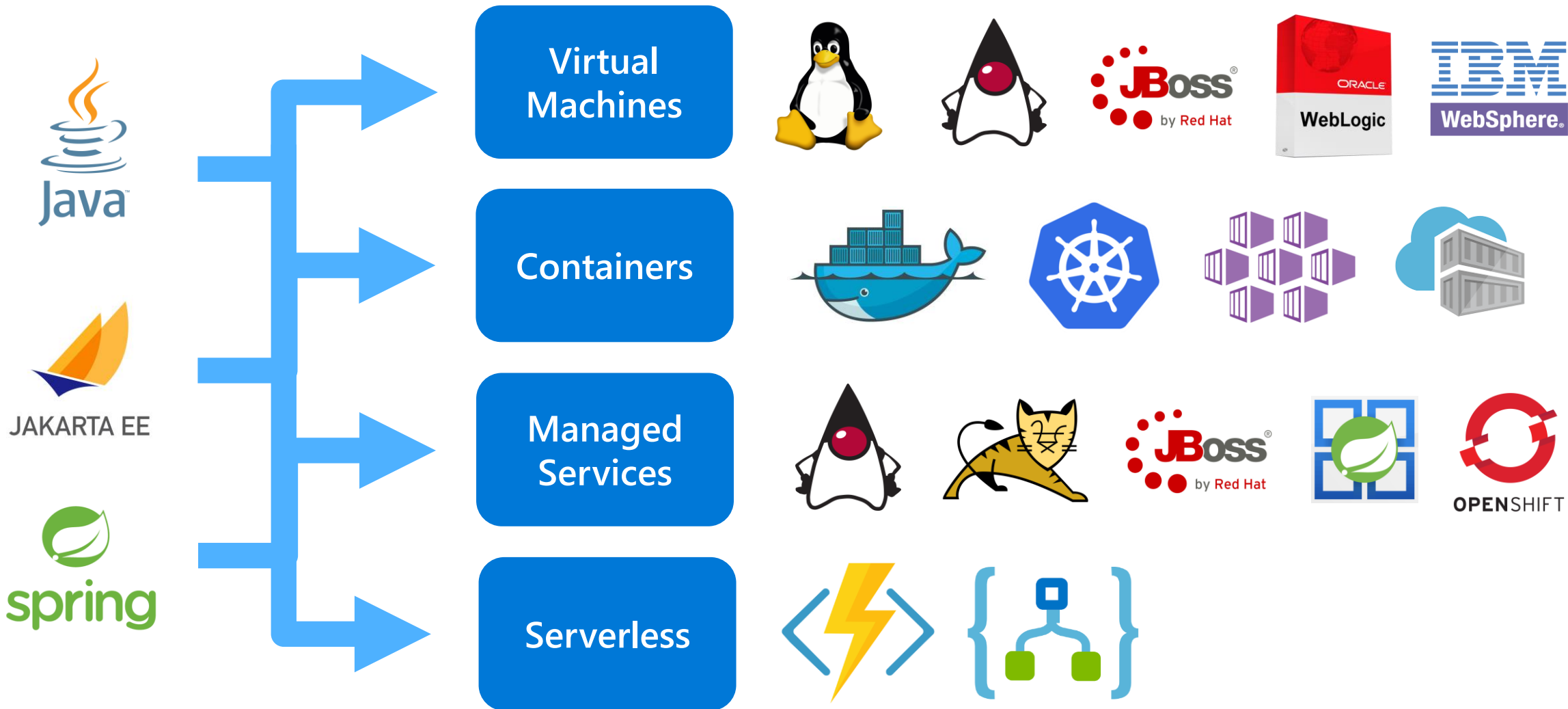
Azure
Sentinel

Azure
Container
Insights

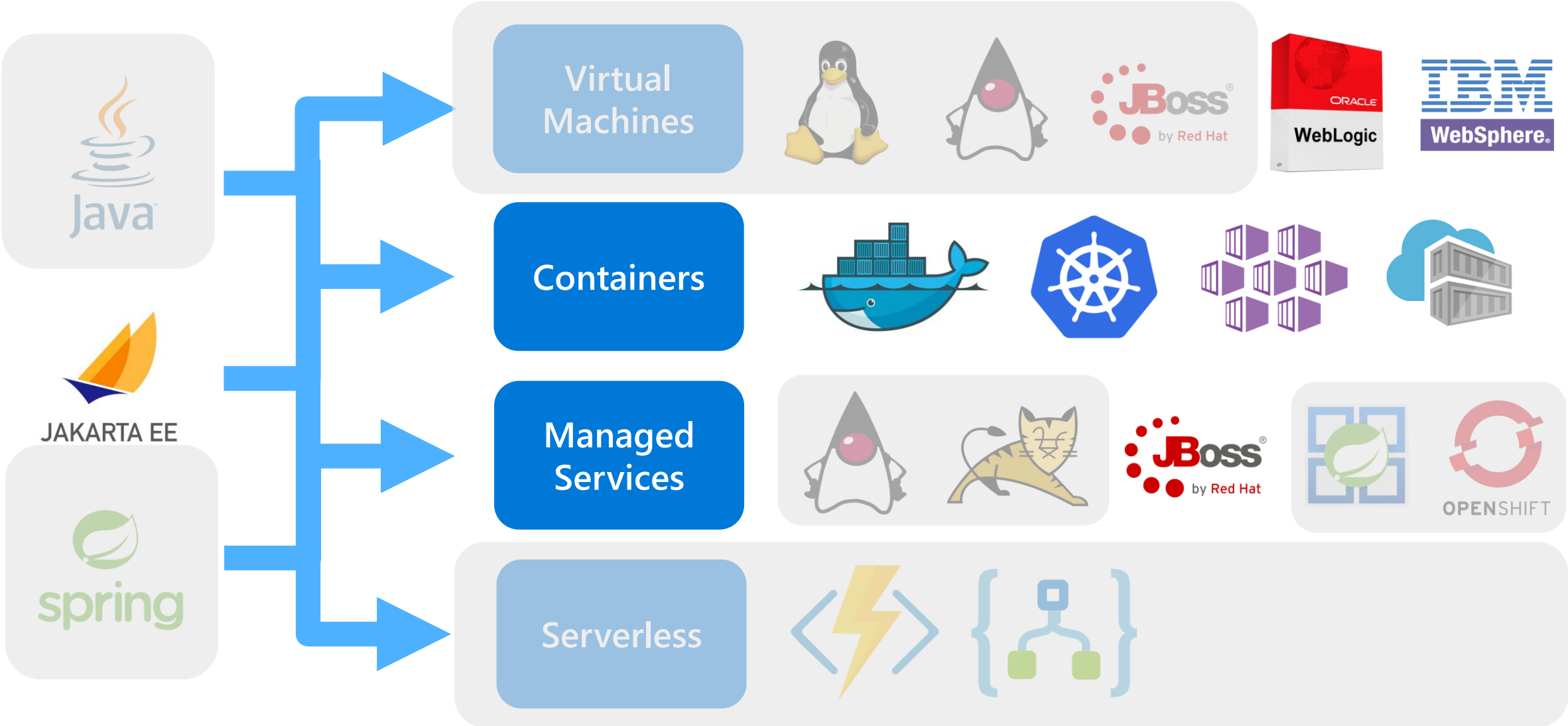
Azure
Arc

Azure
Security
Center

Abundance of Choice



Abundance of Choice



JBoss EAP on Azure App Service

<https://github.com/Azure-Samples/workshop-migrate-jboss-on-app-service>

Open Liberty on AKS

<https://aka.ms/javaland-javaee>

Select Open Liberty on AKS link

Execute steps in **Deploy the minimum viable cluster with the Portal**

Instructor lead slides during deployment

WebSphere Liberty

World-leading application runtime for new cloud-native and modernized workloads. Lightweight, efficient and simple to use enabling businesses to reduce costs and increase agility.



IBM WebSphere Liberty

1

50% increase in
developer productivity

Cloud-Native Development

- Simple rapid inner-loop developer experience in any IDE
- Optimized for Containers and Kubernetes
- Optimized for Continuous Integration, Continuous Delivery

2

40% increase in
IT admin productivity

Operational Resource Optimization

- Reduce costs with world-leading performance for microservices and monoliths
- Auto-tuning for continuous optimal performance in any environment
- Simple operator-based management in Kubernetes

3

195% ROI
Payback 8 months

Application Modernization

- API & configuration compatibility for reduced effort and risk
- HA clustering in Containers and VMs
- Transformation Advisor & Mono2Micro tools help plan and execute move to container and microservices

<https://ibm.biz/WSHE-TEI>

WebSphere Liberty

Rapid inner-loop developer experience – Dev Mode



- ✓ Immediate code and config change feedback without a rebuild
- ✓ Re-run Integration Tests without a rebuild
- ✓ In any IDE or editor, even Vi!
- ✓ Including in Containers for dev-prod parity



The [@OpenLibertyIO](#) dev mode is one of the best hot-reload features I have ever worked with, I am seriously impressed!



Have I mentioned lately how much of a delight [@OpenLibertyIO](#) is to work with? It's just thoroughly pleasant.

"I just love Liberty."

Developer in Top Insurance Company,
Norway

WebSphere Liberty

Containers and Kubernetes Optimized



- ✓ Pre-built containers for UBI & Ubuntu
- ✓ Production-ready, pre-optimized for performance, supported on any Kubernetes & OpenShift
- ✓ Available on Docker Hub and IBM Container Registry
- ✓ Optimized to each application – no excess baggage
- ✓ Designed for Observability & Kubernetes Lifecycle

IBM Cloud Container
Registry



kubernetes



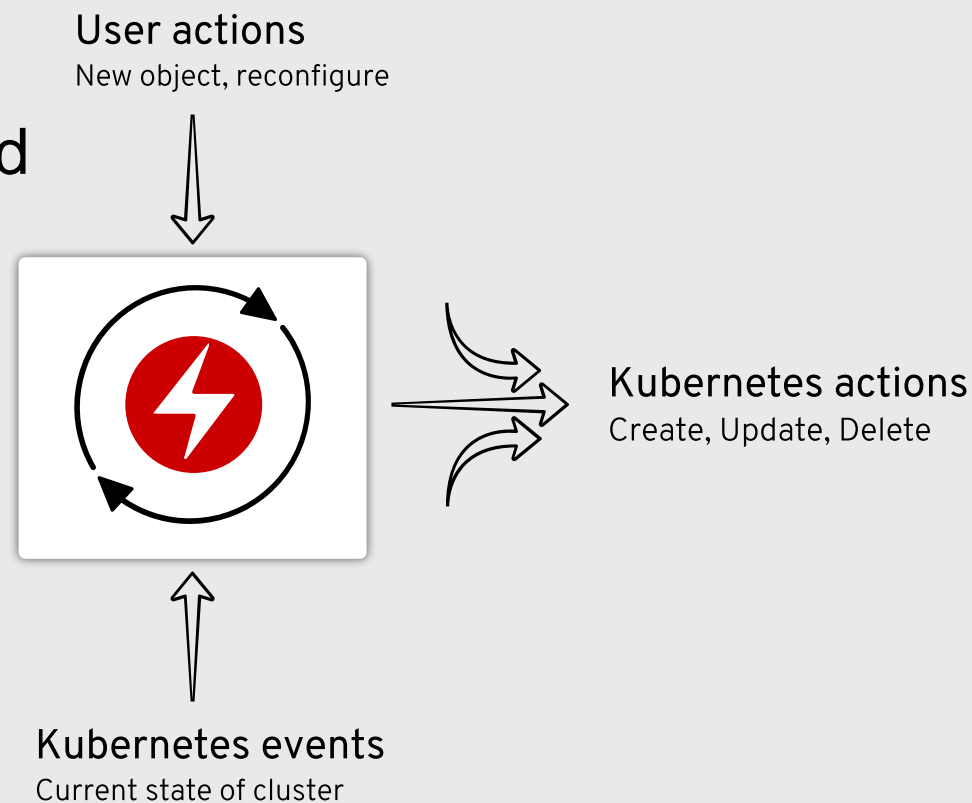
OPENSHIFT



Embracing Operators



- Extends Kubernetes functionality
- Makes use of Custom Resource Definitions (CRDs)
- Holds the knowledge of how an application needs to be packaged, deployed and managed






Without an Operator



Deployment	StatefulSet	Auto Scaling	Route
Service	Pod	Job	Ingress
Namespace	ConfigMap	Secret	Persistent Volume Claim
Application	Service Monitor	Certificate	Service Binding Request
Knative Configuration	Knative Revision	Knative Service	Knative Route

- Day 1 steep learning curve
- Inconsistency across the enterprise and GitOps
- **Lack of day 2 operations and synchronization** 



With an Operator

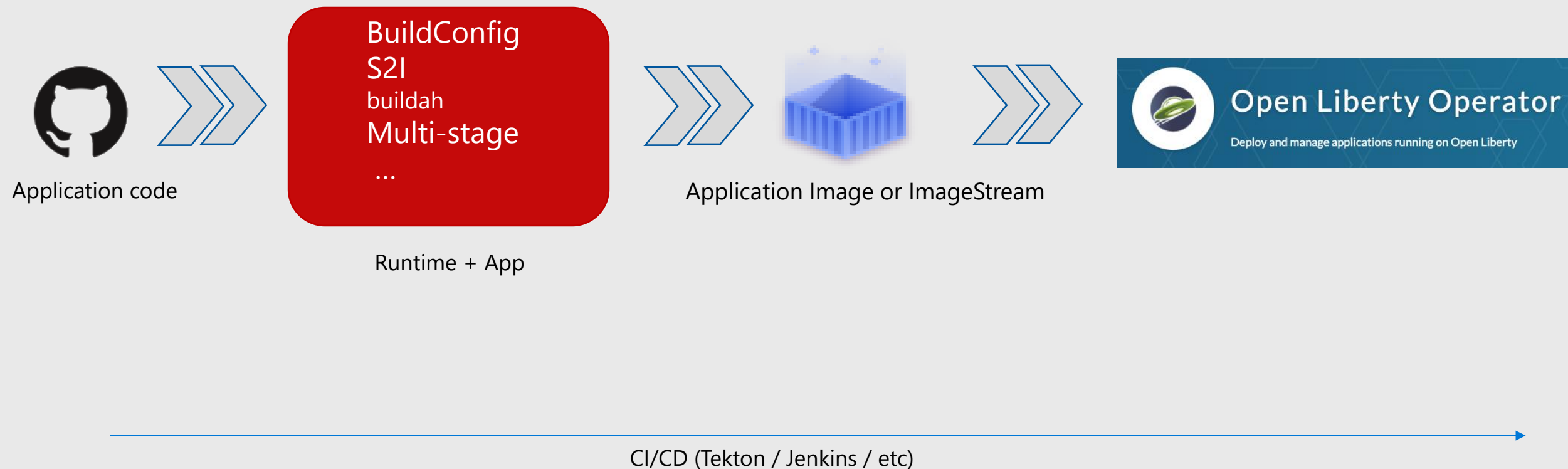


OpenLibertyApplication

- Enables:
auto-synchronization of runtime resources, day-2 operations
- Improves:
usage, maintenance, consistency



Input: Application image or ImageStream

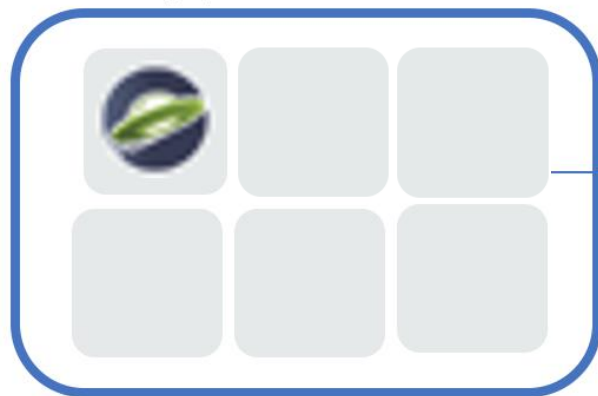




Open Liberty Operator



Applications

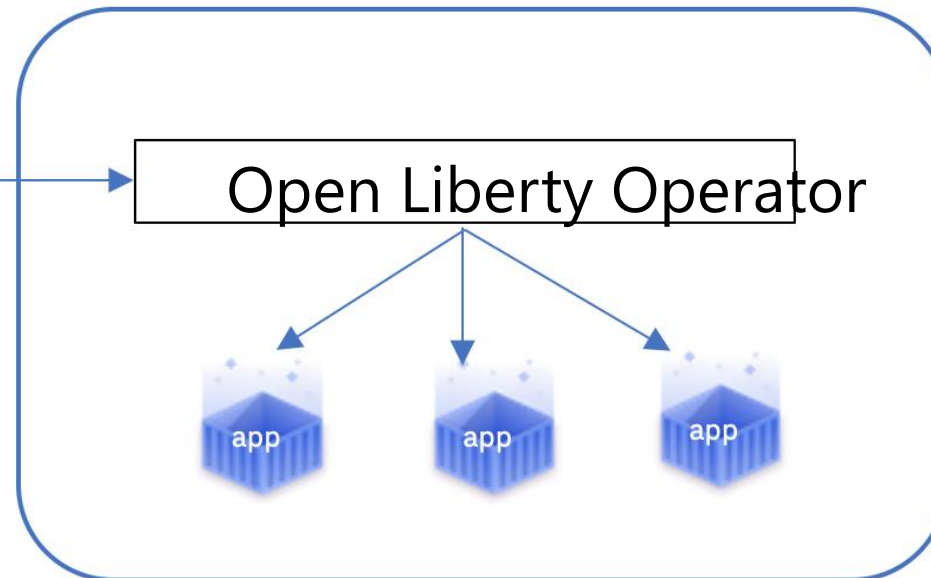


kubectl apply -f app-deploy.yaml

app-deploy.yaml

```
apiVersion: openliberty.io/v1beta1
kind: OpenLibertyApplication
metadata:
  name: my-liberty-app
spec:
  applicationImage: quay.io/my-repo/my-app:1.0
  service:
    type: ClusterIP
    port: 9080
  expose: true
  storage:
    size: 2Gi
    mountPath: "/logs"
```

Kubernetes





Open Liberty Operator



OperatorHub: Maturity level 5

- <https://github.com/OpenLiberty/open-liberty-operator>
<https://operatorhub.io/operator/open-liberty>



Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V
Basic Install Automated application provisioning and configuration management	Seamless Upgrades Patch and minor version upgrades supported	Full Lifecycle App lifecycle, storage lifecycle (backup, failure recovery)	Deep Insights Metrics, alerts, log processing and workload analysis	Auto Pilot Horizontal/vertical scaling, auto config tuning, abnormal detection, scheduling tuning



WebLogic Server on AKS

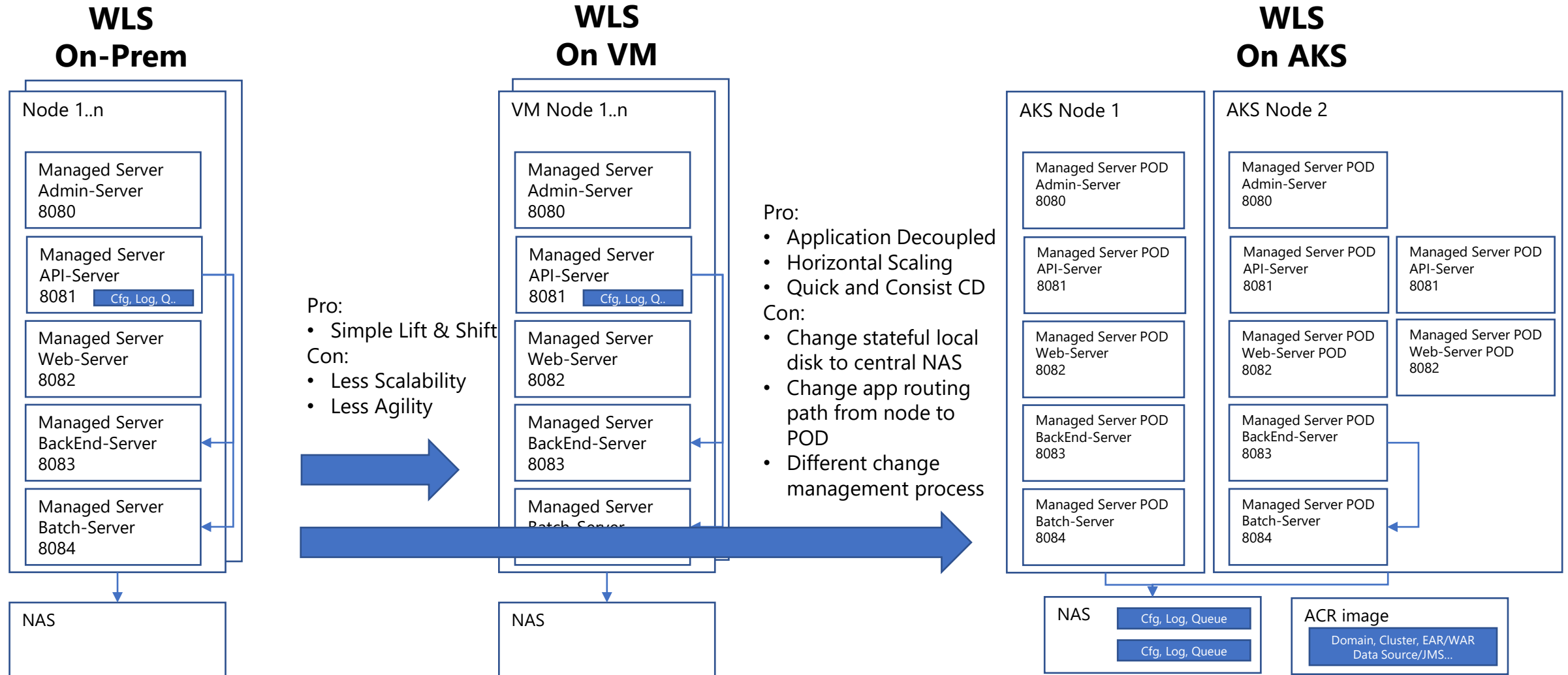
<https://aka.ms/javaland-javaee>

Select WebLogic Server on AKS link

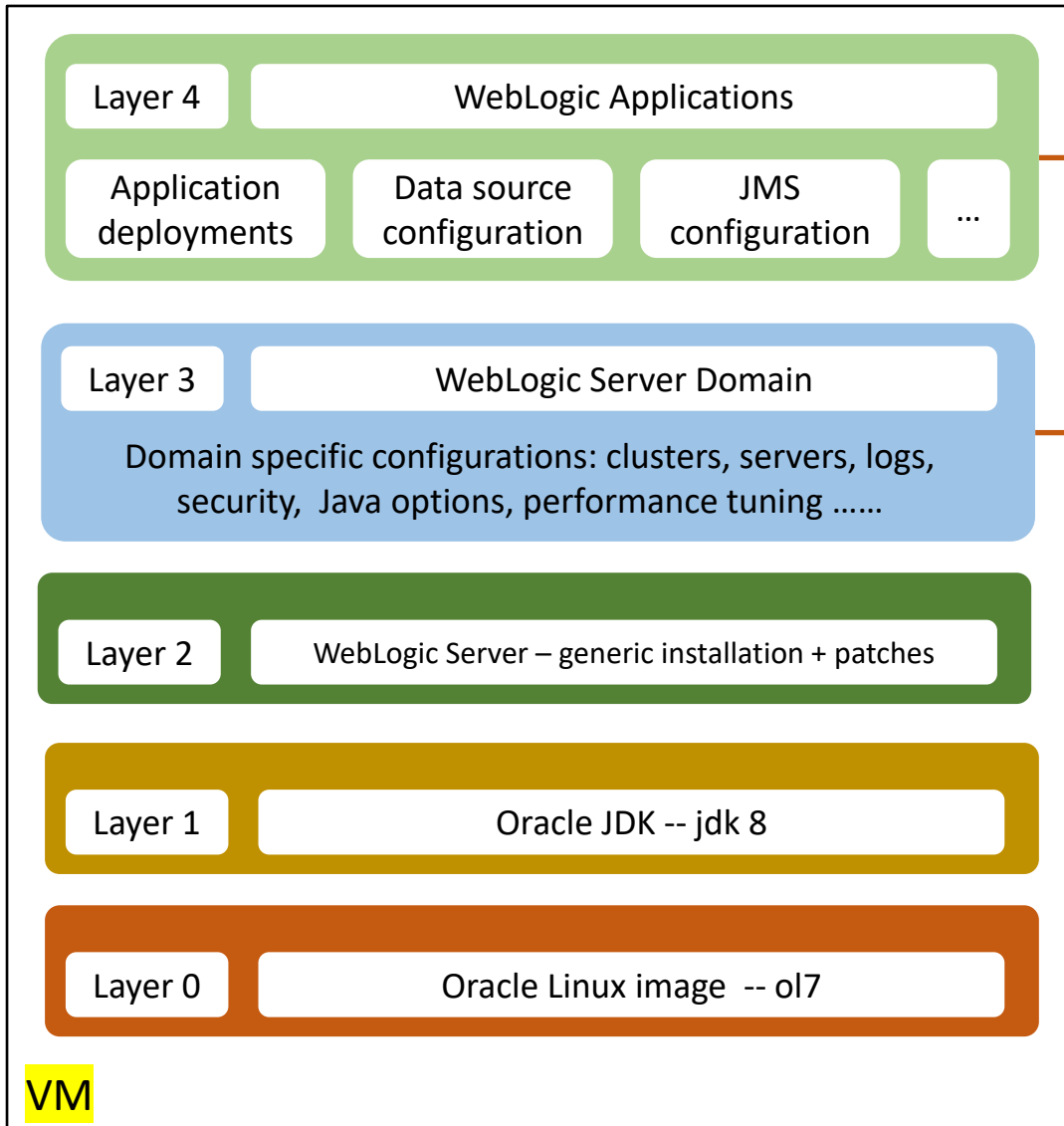
Execute steps up to and including **Perform the deployment with GitHub Actions Infrastructure as Code**

Instructor lead slides during deployment

Migrating WLS to AKS



Assets in VM



- Decouple the configuration from the runtime.
- Create configuration outside of the image.
- Be able to apply the external configuration to runtime.

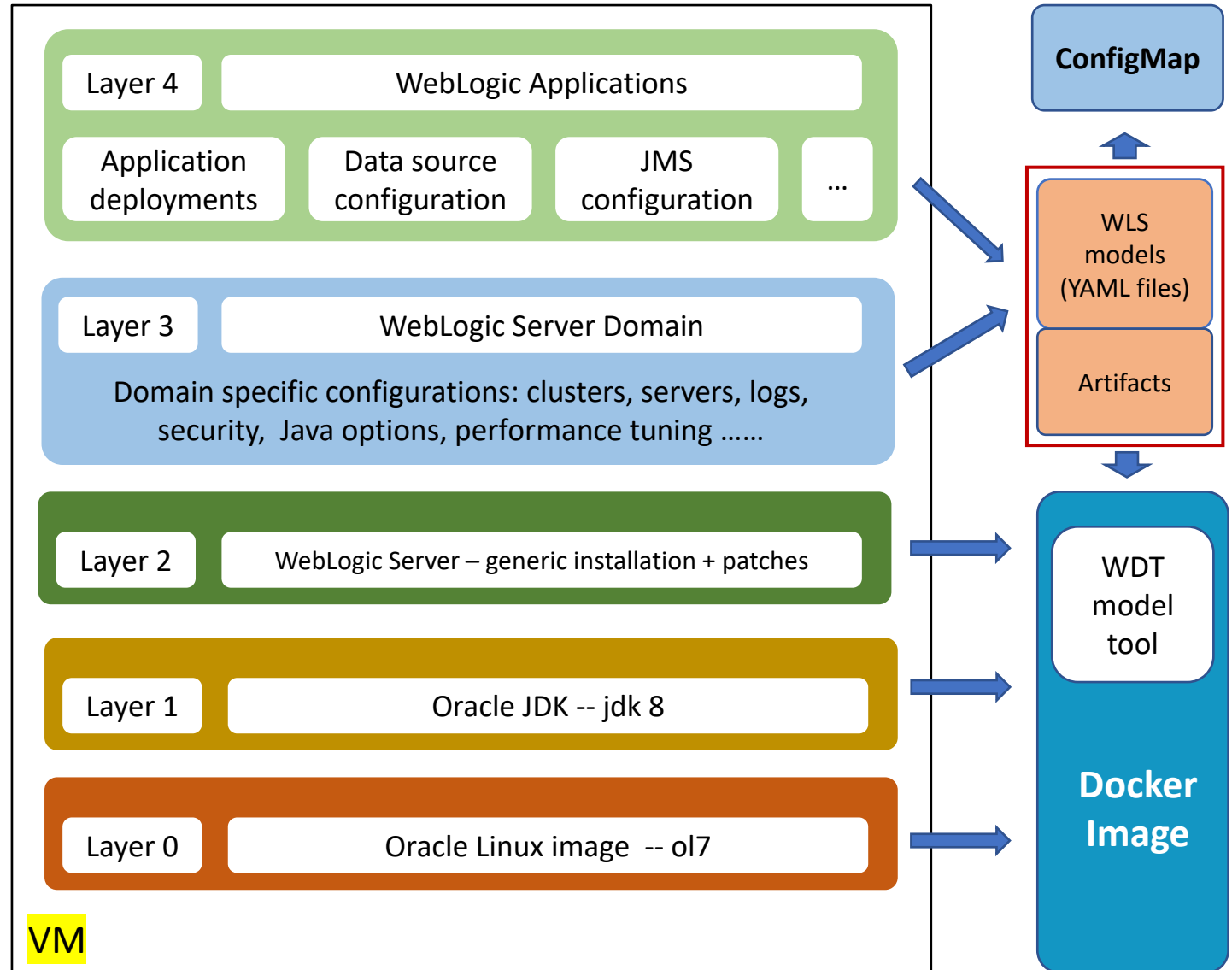
- WebLogic settings
- 3rd libs settings
- Performance settings
-

Build all of them to the docker image?

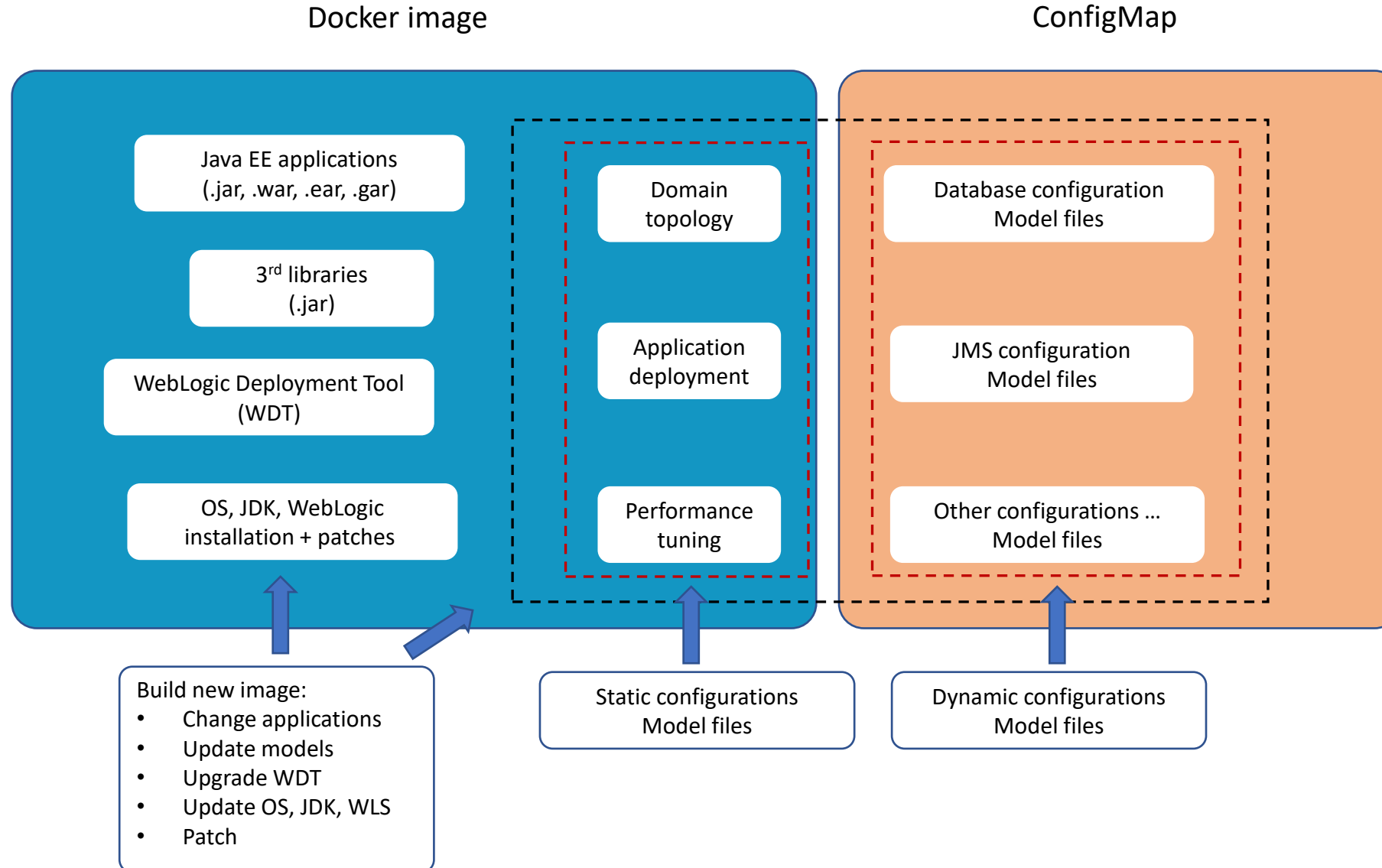
WebLogic domain model in image (1/2)

WebLogic domain model:

- Models are defined with YAML files
- WDT model tools to apply the models to WLS runtime
- Model files in image or ConfigMap



WebLogic domain model in image (2/2)



Docker image sample



WebLogic Image Tool

```
$ bash imagetool.sh cache addInstaller \
--type wdt \
--version latest \
2 --path weblogic-deploy.zip

$ bash imagetool.sh update \
--tag model-in-image:WLS-v1 \
1 --fromImage container-registry.oracle.com/middleware/weblogic:12.2.1.4 \
--wdtModel ./model.yaml \
3 --wdtVariables ./model.properties \
--wdtArchive ./archive.zip \
--wdtModelOnly \
--wdtDomainType WLS \
--chown oracle:oracle
```

- 1 WebLogic standard image: OS + JDK + WLS
- 2 WebLogic Server Deployment Tooling
- 3 Artifacts and WLS domain models

```
├── applications
│   └── ejb-server-stateless.ear
└── domainLibraries
    ├── postgresql-42.2.8.jar
    └── mssql-jdbc-7.4.1.jre8.jar
```

archive.zip

```
domainInfo:
  AdminUserName: "@@SECRET:__weblogic-credentials__:username@" 1
  AdminPassword: "@@SECRET:__weblogic-credentials__:password@"
  ServerStartMode: "prod"
  domainLibraries: [
    'wlsdeploy/domainLibraries/postgresql-42.2.8.jar',
    'wlsdeploy/domainLibraries/mssql-jdbc-7.4.1.jre8.jar' ]

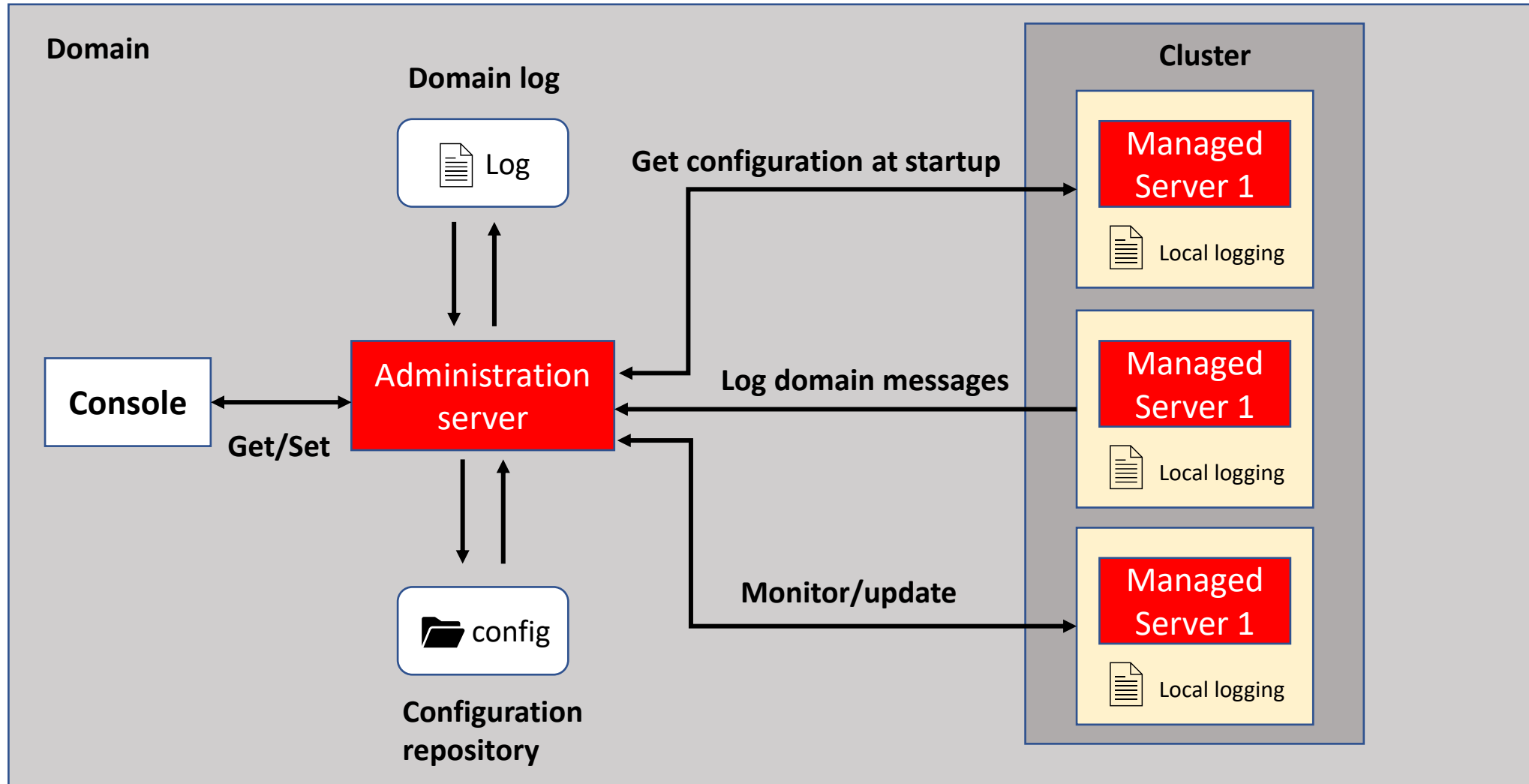
topology:
  Name: "@@ENV:CUSTOM_DOMAIN_NAME@"
  ProductionModeEnabled: true
  AdminServerName: "admin-server"
  Cluster:
    "cluster-1":
      DynamicServers:
        ServerTemplate: "cluster-1-template"
        ServerNamePrefix: "@@ENV:MANAGED_SERVER_PREFIX@" 2
        DynamicClusterSize: "@@PROP:CLUSTER_SIZE@"
        MaxDynamicClusterSize: "@@PROP:CLUSTER_SIZE@"
        MinDynamicClusterSize: "0"
        CalculatedListenPorts: false
      Server:
        "admin-server":
          ListenPort: 7001
      ServerTemplate:
        "cluster-1-template":
          Cluster: "cluster-1"
          ListenPort: 8001
      SecurityConfiguration:
        NodeManagerUsername: "@@SECRET:__weblogic-credentials__:username@" 1
        NodeManagerPasswordEncrypted: "@@SECRET:__weblogic-credentials__:password@"

appDeployments:
  Application:
    ejb-server:
      SourcePath: wlsdeploy/applications/ejb-server/cluster_ejb_stateful_session.ear
      ModuleType: ear
      Target: 'cluster-1'
```

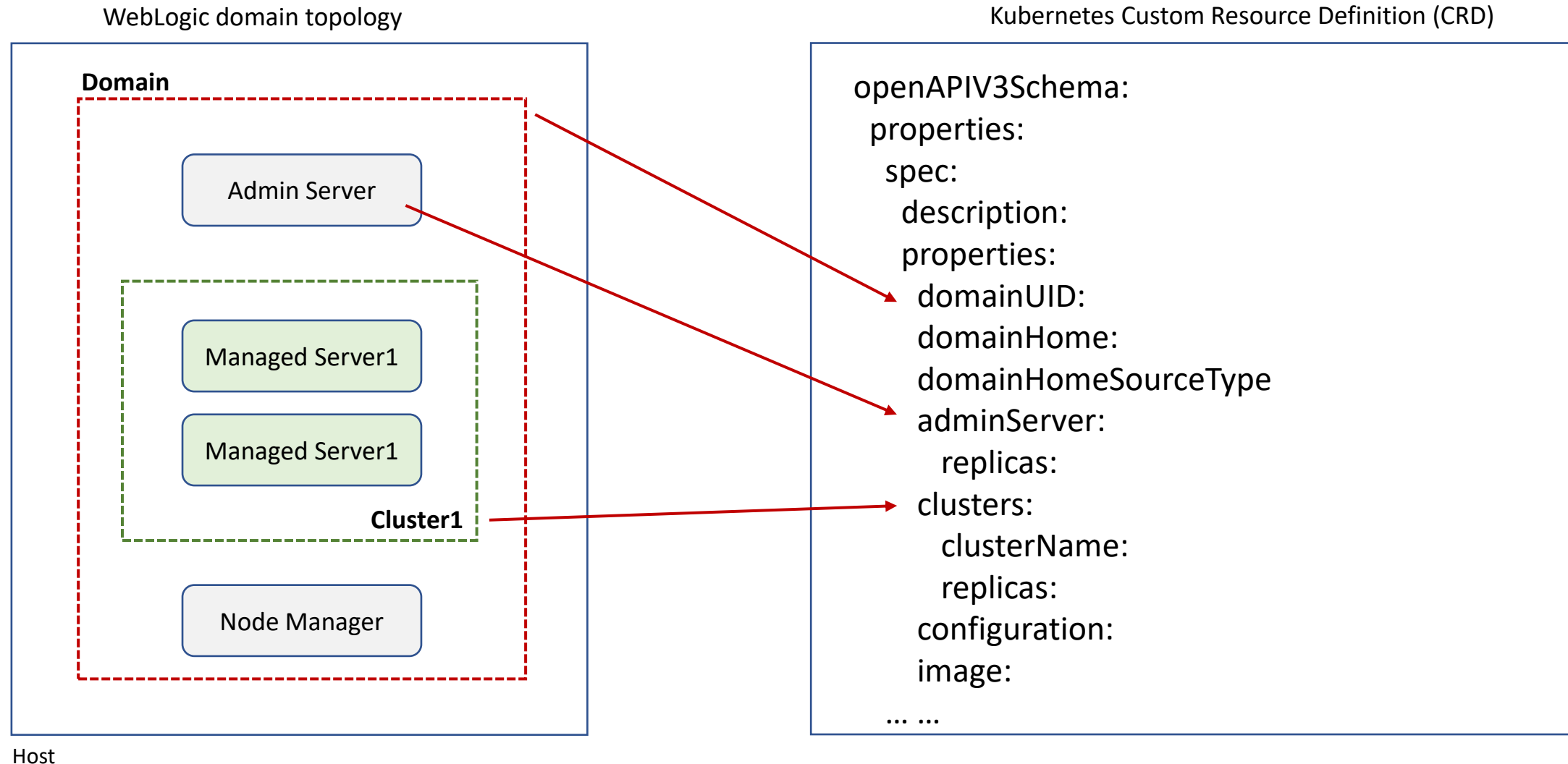
model.yaml

- 1 Run time: configured with Kubernetes Secrets
- 2 Run time: configured with ENV variables

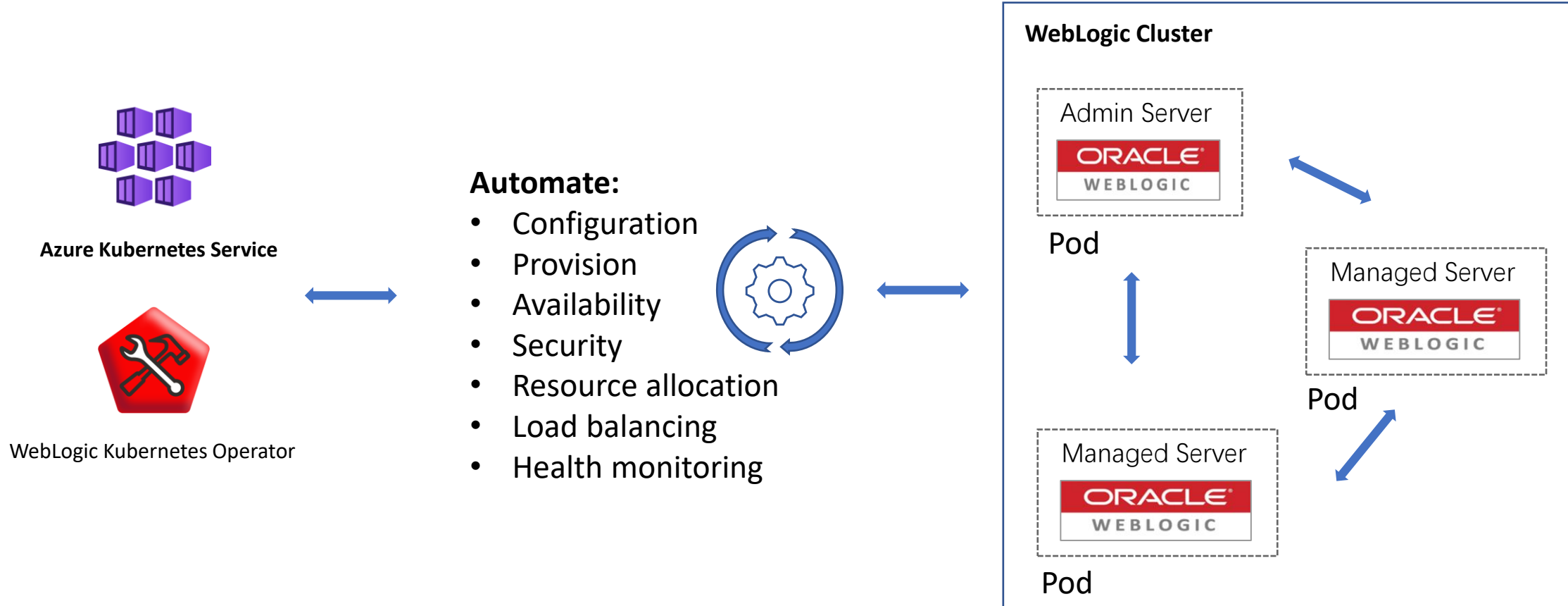
WLS domain



Extending Kubernetes API – the WLS operator

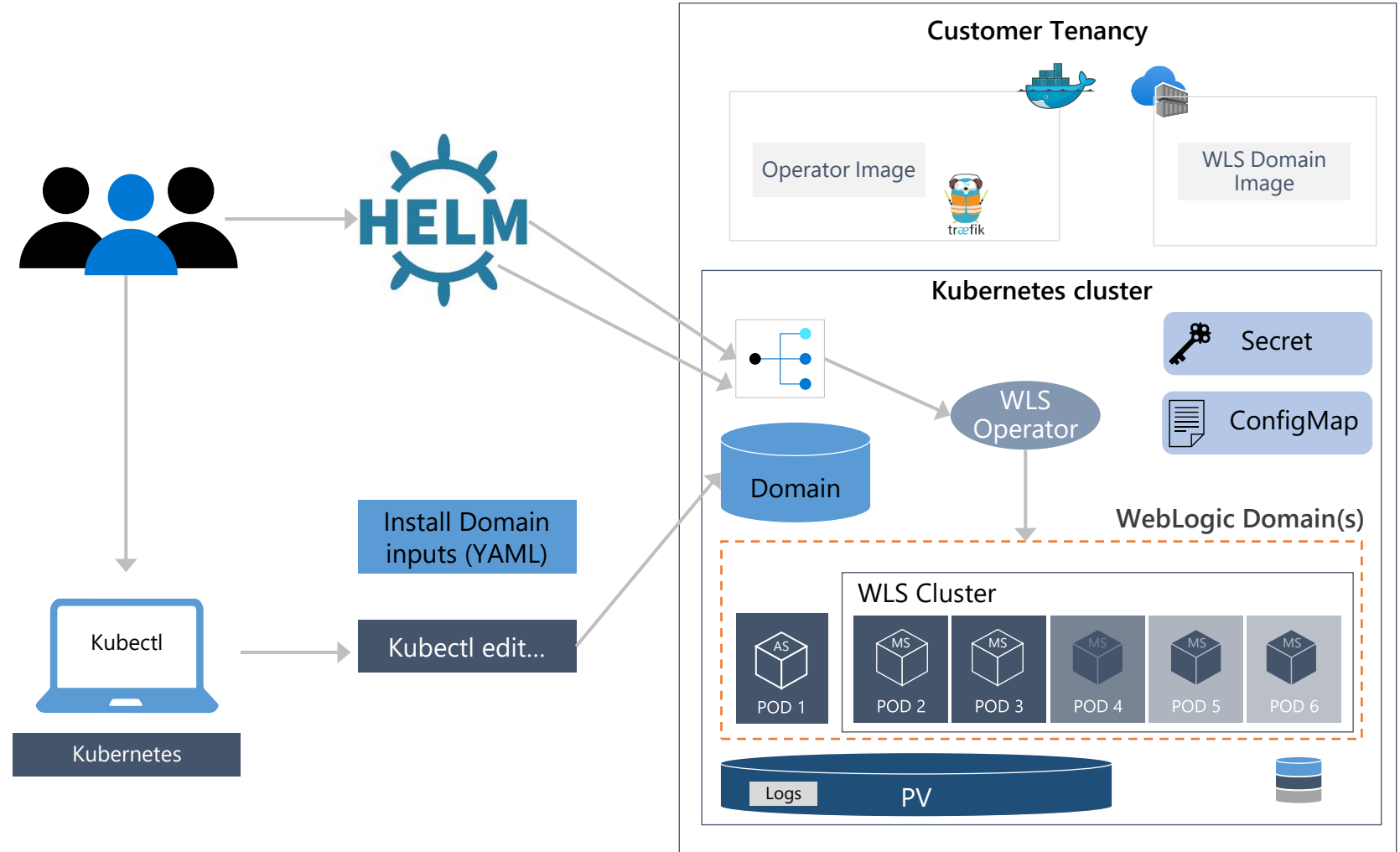


Container Orchestration



Run WebLogic using the WLS operator

- Build WLS application image and push it to ACR
- Install WLS operator with HELM charts
- Create WLS domain resource definition (YAML)
- Ask the WLS operator to install WLS domain
- The WLS operator creates pods for admin server and managed servers



Scaling

Node horizontal scaling

AKS supports node auto scaling

Scale node pool agentpool

You can scale the number of nodes in your cluster to increase the total amount of cores and memory available for your container applications. [Learn more](#)

Scale method ⓘ

☐ Manual

☒ Autoscale - **Recommended**

✱ This option is recommended so that the cluster is automatically sized correctly for the current running workloads.

Node count range ⓘ

2 175

Min: 1 Max: 1000

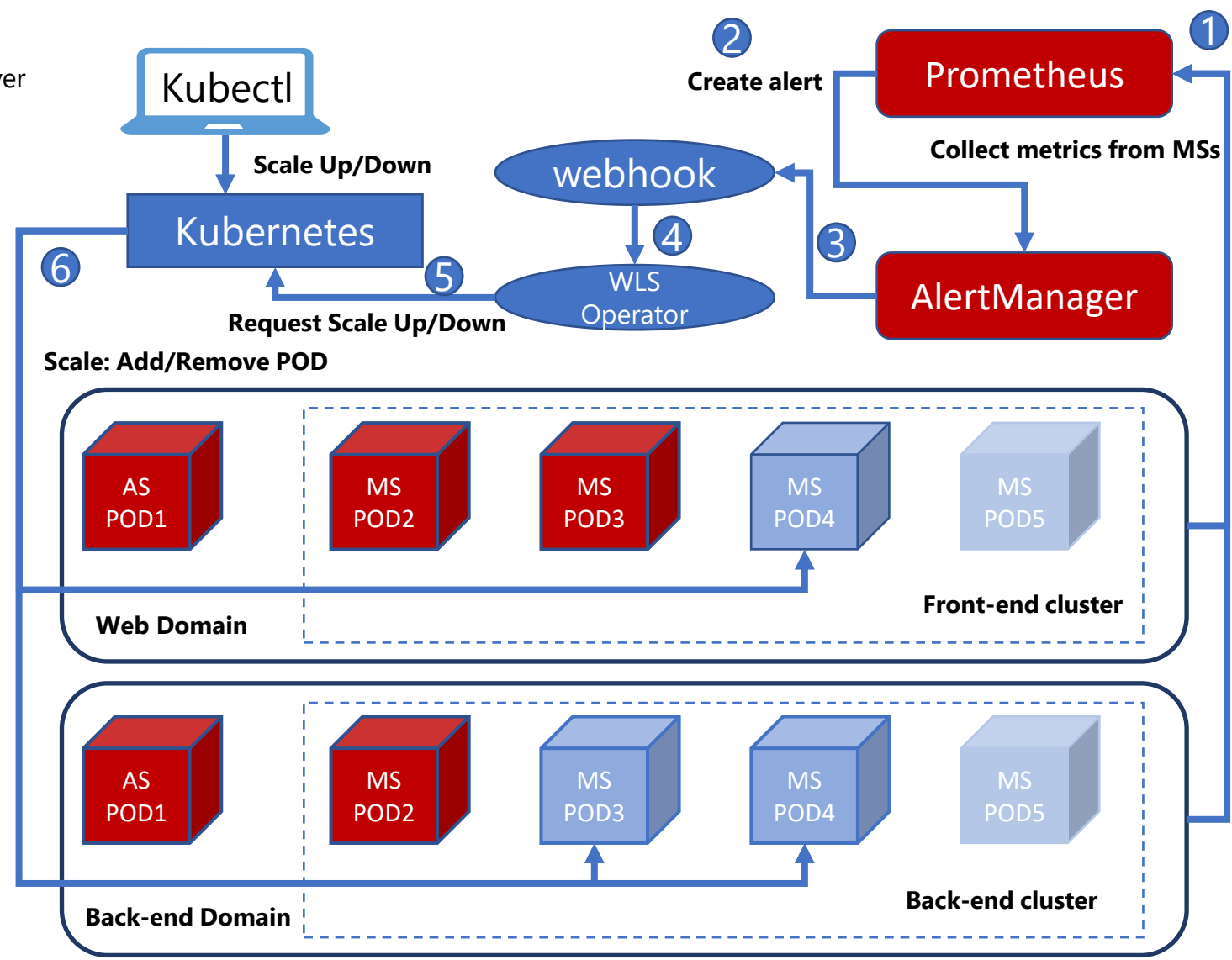
Pod horizontal scaling

- Different parts of the application have different scaling requirement.
- Metrics:
 - [WebLogic monitoring exporter](#)
 - Metrics of JVM, request, servlet... ..
- Solution:
 - Prometheus
 - AlertManager
 - Webhook
 - WebLogic operator

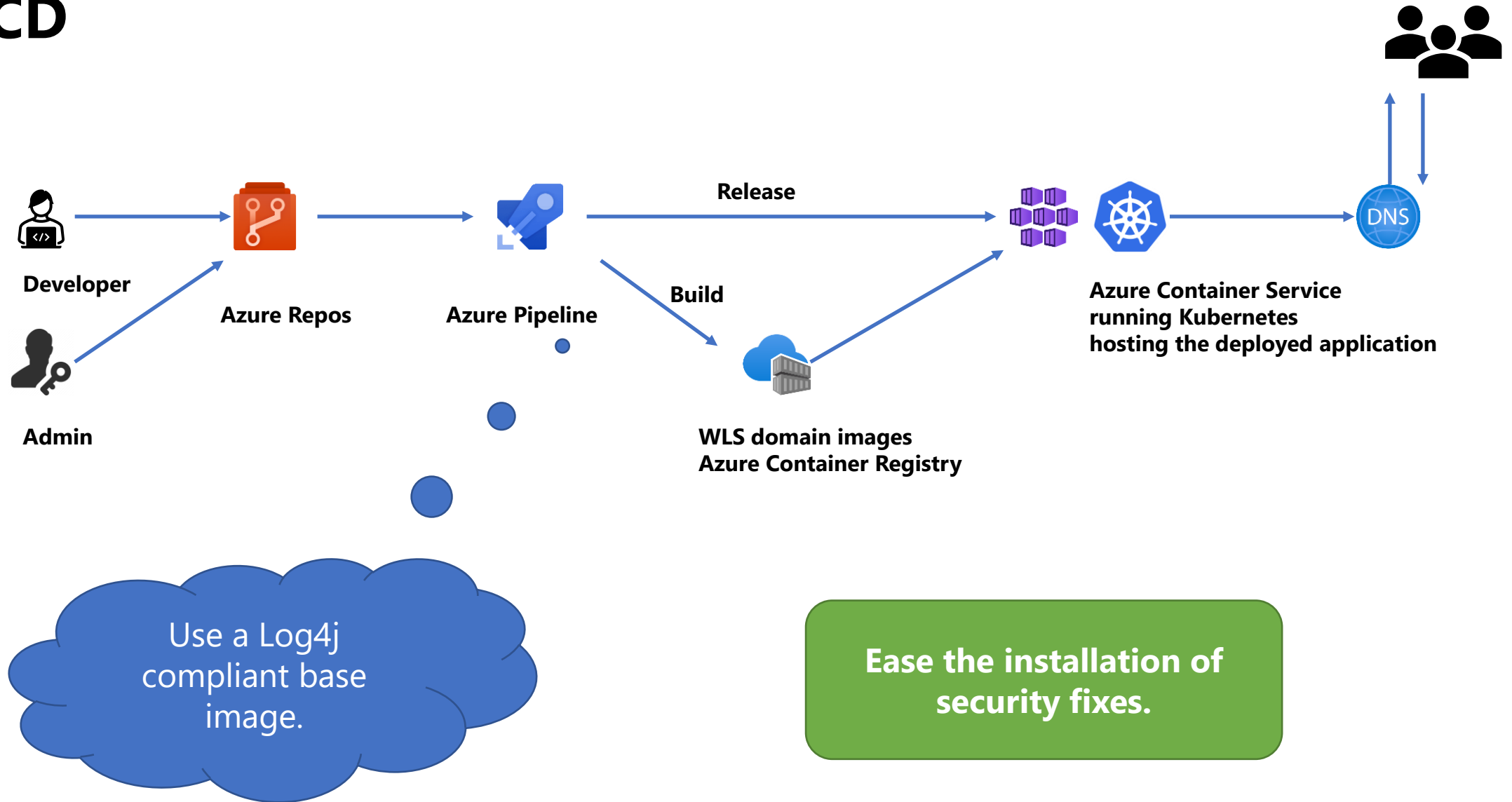
Pod horizontal autoscaling

AS: administration server
MS: managed server

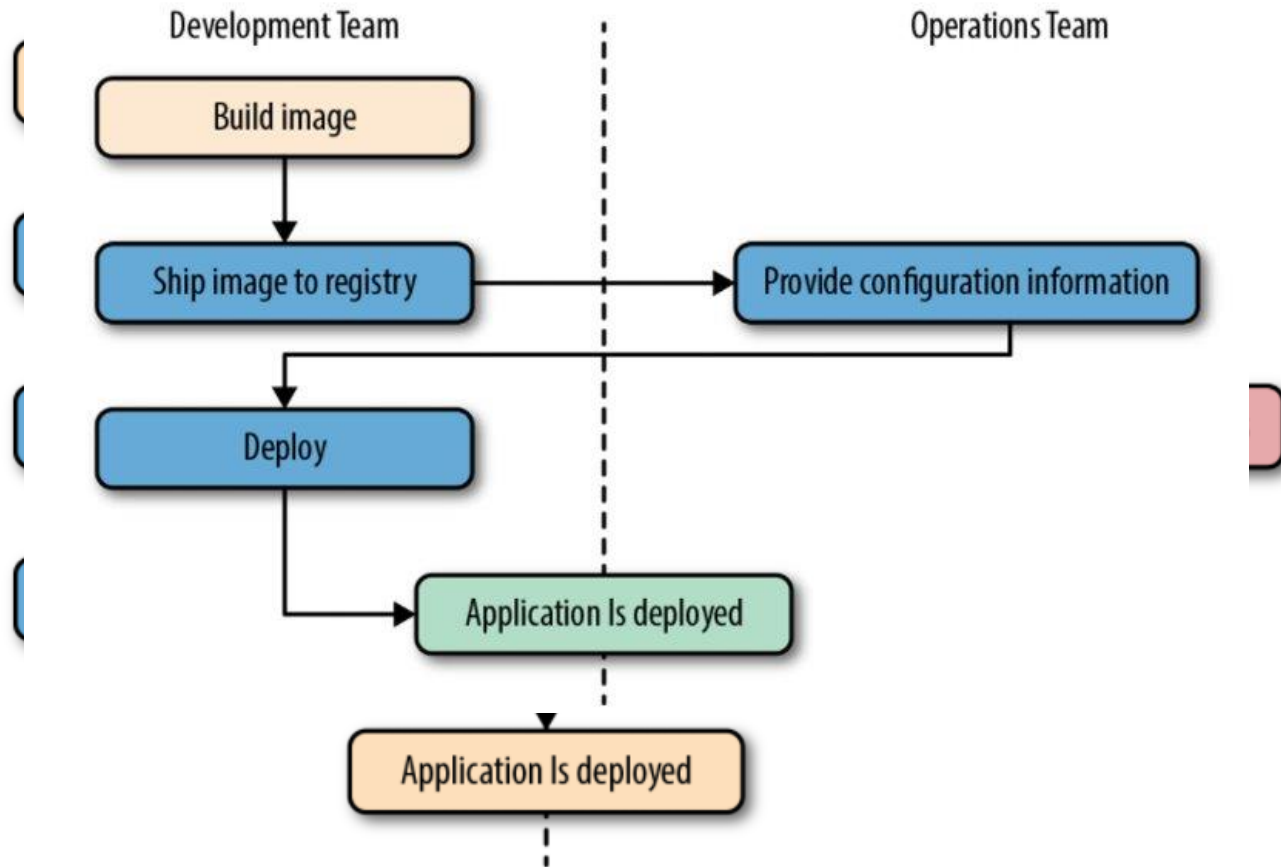
[Demo video](#)



CI/CD



CI/CD



Simplify collaboration between development and operations team.

Observability

Pillars	Layer	Tools: Open source	Tools: Azure Services
Metrics	Infrastructure (AKS)	Prometheus + Grafana	Azure Container Insight
	WebLogic Server	Prometheus + Grafana	
	Java EE Applications	Prometheus + Grafana	
Traces	Java EE Applications	Elastic APM	Azure Application Insight
Logs	Infrastructure (AKS)		Azure Monitor Logs
	WebLogic Server	Fluentd + Elasticsearch + Kibana	Azure Elasticsearch service Azure Kibana Service
	Java EE Applications	Fluentd + Elasticsearch + Kibana	Azure Elasticsearch service Azure Kibana Service
Service mesh	Java EE Applications	Istio	

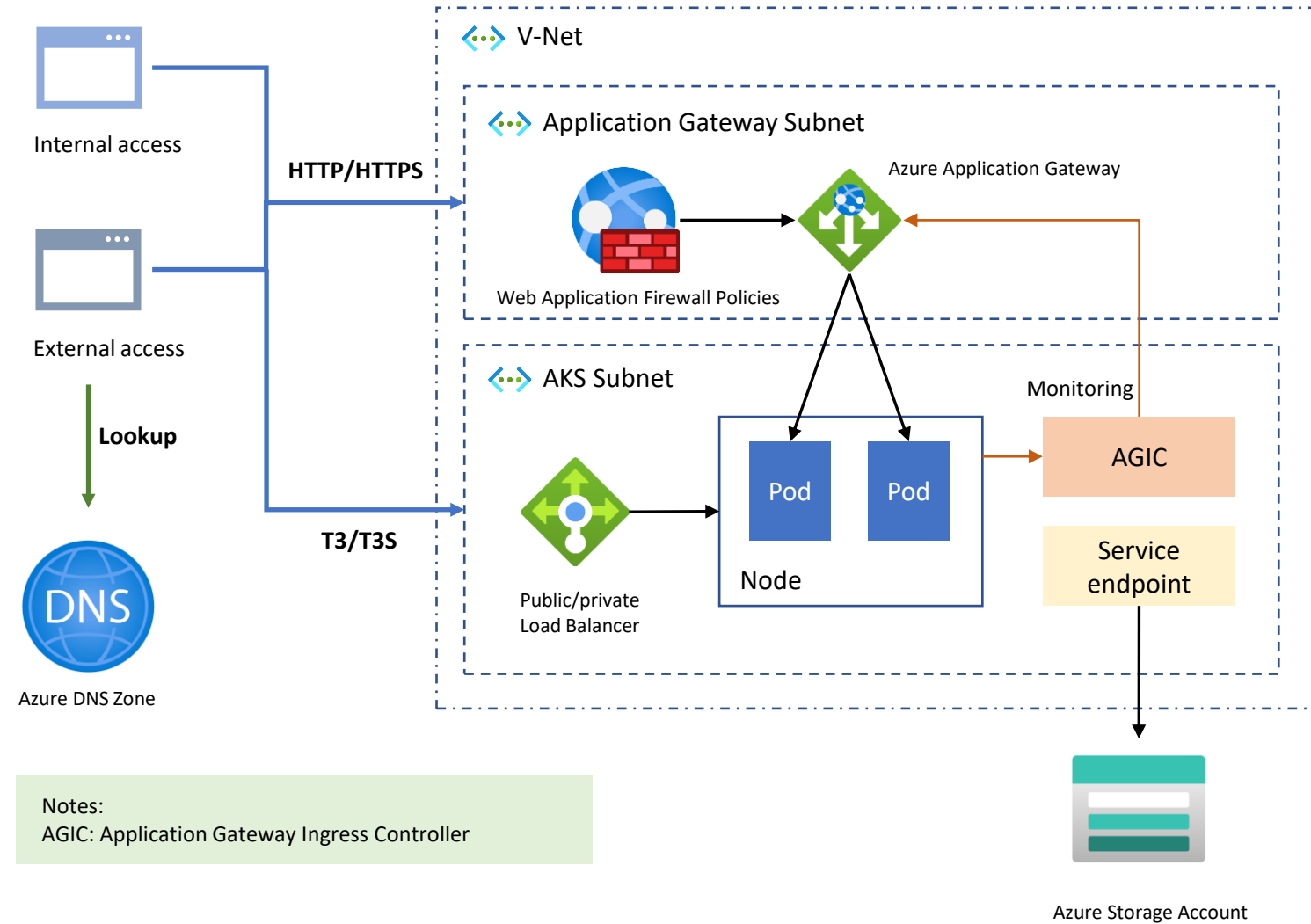
Integrating with monitoring services

- Azure file share
 - Persistent volume
- JVM args
 - `-javaagent:/shared/app-insight/applicationinsights-agent-3.1.1.jar`
 - `-javaagent:/shared/elastic-apm/elastic-apm-agent-1.24.0.jar`
- Kubernetes sidecar
 - Fluentd sidecar container to export application logs
 - Istio sidecar container to integrate with Istio

Capture automatically, no code change required.

Networking

- Traffic from layer 7 and layer 4
- TLS/SSL with custom certificates
- External DNS



Summary

- Microsoft very serious about Java
- Many pathways, choices and architectures supported
- Choose from virtual machines, containers, managed services, serverless and anything in between
- Full suite of Java tooling for seamless end-to-end, best of breed experience
- Actively evolving solutions for rapidly growing customer base

Resources

- **Java EE on Azure landing page**
 - <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/develop/java/ee/>
- **Java on Azure docs**
 - <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/java/azure/>
- **Azure Java code samples**
 - <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/documentation/samples/?term=java>



Java on Azure for Wherever You Are in your Cloud Journey



Azure Stack



Java EE on
Azure IaaS



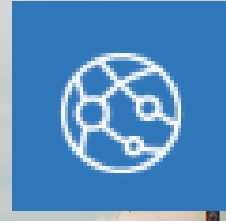
Azure
Container
Instances



Azure
Kubernetes
Service



Azure
RedHat
OpenShift



Azure App
Service



Azure Spring-
Cloud



Azure
Functions