

Knative: Building serverless platforms on top of Kubernetes

Ahmet Alp Balkan
@ahmetb

Kubernetes





Kubernetes is the de facto platform for **running containers**.

What can it do?

Kubernetes keeps your applications running while you're asleep.

- Container died?
 - Restart it.
- Container unhealthy?
 - Reschedule to another node.
- Container overloaded?
 - Add more replicas automatically.

What can it do?

Kubernetes API is extensible.

- You can create custom APItypes.
- You can write custom controllers to actuate the custom objects.

```
apiVersion: my.api/v1
kind: MysqlCluster
metadata:
  name: orders-db
spec:
  masters: 3
  replicas: 12
  storage:
  innodb: {}
```

Developers using Kubernetes

Have to do				
Write code			. — — -	
Build docker image	 	 	. — — -	
Upload image to registry			. — — -	
Deploy service	 		. — — -	
Expose to the internet	 	 		
Set up monitoring	 	 		
Set up autoscaling	 	 		



Serverless



Promise of serverless









Developers then can

- ... just to run their code.
- ... use their **favorite languages** and dependencies.
- ... don't need to manage the infrastructure.

The case for

Serverless on Kubernetes



How to get this on Kubernetes?









Knative



Hello Knative



Building blocks for creating serverless experiences on top of Kubernetes.

github.com/knative

Knative collaborators









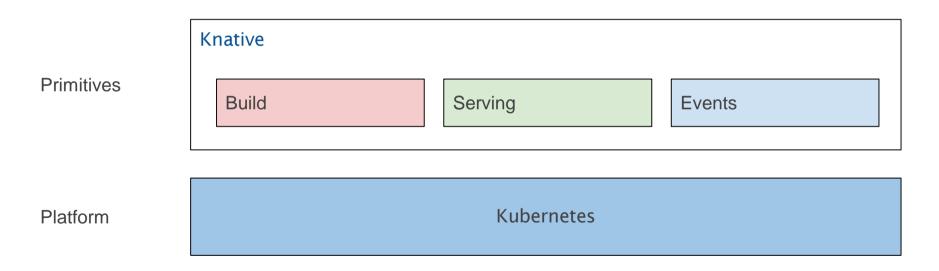


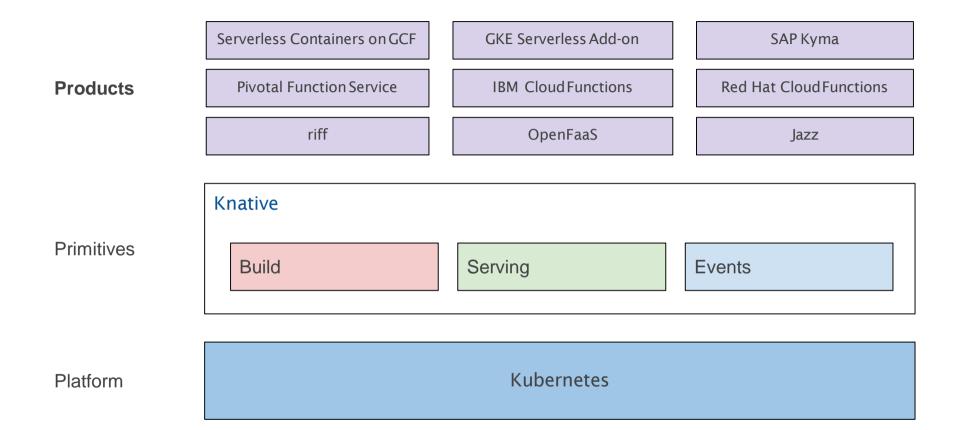
The Knative Stack

Platform

Kubernetes

The Knative Stack





What Knative is

- An open source project
- Set of building blocks to construct your own FaaS/PaaS
 - o abstracts common tasks through custom Kubernetes API objects
- An abstraction on top of Kubernetes.
 - o It's still Kubernetes: Runs containers at the end of the day.

What Knative is not

- It's not a Google product.
- It's not a FaaS.

What can you do with Knative?

- [Developers] Use it directly to deploystuff (not easy, but works fine)
- [Operators] Put a level of abstraction between your devs and Kubernetes.
- [Platform Architects] Use it to build your own serverless platform.
 - o e.g. DIY Heroku or GCF/Lambda.

Knative components

• Serving: Revisions, Traffic Splitting, Autoscaling

• Build: On-cluster builds and transformations

• **Eventing:** Declarative way to bind event sources to services

Knative Serving





Provides

- Seamlessly scale up and down
- Built-in traffic splitting between revisions
- Integrates networking and service mesh automatically
- Easy to reason about object model

- Connect to your own logging and monitoring platform, or use the built-in system
- Auto-scaler can be tuned or swapped out for custom code

Knative Serving

Primitives with clear separation of concerns:

Configuration

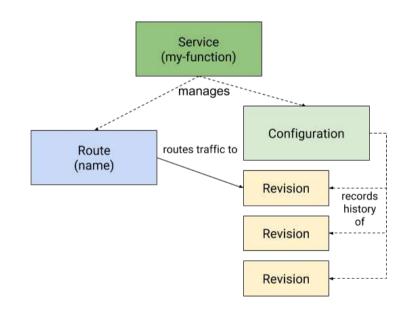
Current/desired state of an application Code & configuration separated (a la 12-factor)

Revision

Point in time snapshots for your code and configuration

Route

Maps traffic to a revisions
Supports fractional, named routing



Knative Build

Lets you go from source code to container images.

- Build pipelines can consist of multiple steps
- Each build step is a **container image**.
- Builds run inside the containers on the cluster.

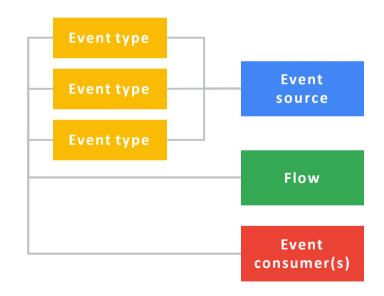
Makes it possible to do **GitOps** and go from "git push" to a running URL.

Knative Eventing

(Work in progress, subject to change.)

Eventing constructs:

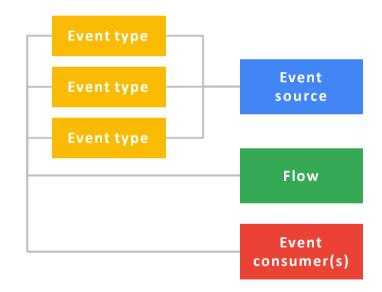
- Event Sources (producer)
- Event Types (different events)
- Event Actions (any route)
- Event Feeds (configuration)



Knative Eventing

Benefits

- Declaratively bind between event produces and your services
- Custom event pipelines to connect with your own existing systems



Installation



https://knative.dev/docs/install/

Thanks!

github.com/knative

cloud.google.com/knative

g.co/serverlessaddon (alpha sign-up)

