CNCF TOC Meeting

January 19, 2021

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COMPUTING FOUNDATION

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Meeting Logistics

- [Meeting Minutes / Planning Doc](#)
- Time: January 19, 2021 8AM (PT)
- https://zoom.us/j/967220397
  - Passcode: 77777
- Or Telephone:
  - Dial:
    - +1 646 558 8656 (US Toll) or +1 408 638 0968 (US Toll)
    - +1 855 880 1246 (US Toll Free) or +1 877 369 0926 (US Toll Free)
  - Meeting ID: 967 220 397
  - International numbers: https://zoom.us/zoomconference

TOC - Members Present Today

- Alena Prokharchyk <aprokharchyk@apple.com>

- Brendan Burns <bburns@microsoft.com>

- Dave Zolotusky <dzolo@spotify.com>

- Justin Cormack <justin.cormack@docker.com>

- Liz Rice <liz@lizrice.com>

- Matt Klein <mklein@lyft.com>

- Michelle Noorali <michelle.noorali@microsoft.com>

- Saad Ali <saadali@google.com>

- Sheng Liang <sheng@rancher.com>

- Xiang Li <x.li@alibaba-inc.com>

*Note: TOC meetings require a **quorum of two-thirds of the TOC total members to take a vote or make any decision.** If a TOC meeting fails to meet the quorum requirement, discussions may proceed, however there shall be no voting or decisions.*

Agenda

- Open* Explainer

Questions

Super short history

- Term itself is on the buzzwordy side now (Open Source, Open Standards, OpenStack, OpenTSDB, many many more)

- OpenMetrics: Standardizing Prometheus wire format
- OpenTracing: Standardizing code interfaces around tracing in different languages
- OpenCensus: Open sourcing Census (think Borg->Kubernetes, Borgmon->Prometheus)
- OpenTelemetry: Merger of OpenTracing and OpenCensus

Questions

OpenMetrics

- Back in 2015/2016, there was a political problem with other projects and vendors doing anything with the name "Prometheus"
- Dan Kohn & Chris A. asked Prometheus-team to standardize this outside of Prometheus
- I needed an IETF RFC to force network vendors to support Prometheus
- Chris A. wanted "OpenMetrics" strongly; I would have preferred "Epimetheus" ;)

OpenMetrics

- 100% focus on Prometheus, Cortex, Thanos, and K8s SIG instrumentation
- Opinionated about happy path: Do one thing, and do it well
- Stable release in 2020
- client_golang 29th most used Go library on GitHub. OM support since 2018/2019, full support of 1.0 within Q1 2021
- Concerns about open-ness
  - Too context much in our heads, even short absences found themselves unable to re-onboard
  - We thought we would be done quickly, wrong assessment
  - Personal story: Burnout, several markers of depression, acute loss of hearing, kinda meh, but better now
  - Strong attempts to take OpenMetrics away from Prometheus, we overshot in protection

OpenTelemetry

- Intended as a largely agnostic data pipeline for metrics, logs, and traces
- Focussing on Metrics here
- OTel-native metrics format, called OTLP
- Many meetings between PrometCorThanos, K8s, & OTel recently
  - Last meeting last week; 5 hours
  - Middle of the Friday night for EMEA, yet most of Prometheus-team showed up
  - OTel re-iterated commitment to first-class support for Prometheus
  - Still many technical incompabilities between OTel & Prometheus, ongoing work
  - Histograms, host-centric model, many more atomic data formats than Prometheus, K8s requires in-process metrics endpoint
- Current plan is to have something EOY 2021

Prometheus compatible

- Identified many interpretations of "compatible"
- Extensive guidelines, technical docs, and reference code exist, but no real compatibility scheme
- More players means we need a fair playing field
- We started with PromQL in 2020
- Focus area of 2021 for Prometheus-team
  - Also usable for OTel

Questions

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