

My Journey to Kubernetes

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kubernetes

My 4 Phases of Learning Kubernetes

1. Unconscious Incompetence
2. Conscious Incompetence
3. Conscious Competence
4. Unconscious Incompetence



Unconscious Incompetence

Getting acquainted with Kubernetes



How I first met Kubernetes at



?



Working as a backend/devops engineer at Universitas Islam Indonesia I was tasked to...

- Migrate monolithic system to microservices architecture
- Change application/service deployment platform from VM to container
- Find the right tool for managing container orchestration



The year was 2016, Kubernetes wasn't the only cool kid,
there are others...



HashiCorp

Nomad



kubernetes



Apache

MESOS™



The reason I finally chose Kubernetes



- Kubernetes popularity is on the rise, more companies and organizations are using it
- It has the most comprehensive features compare to other solutions
- It was born and battle-tested at Google as an Open Source fork of Borg
- Exclusively build to manage containerized workloads
- Growing communities

How I learn Kubernetes?



My go to learning resources



- Official documentation at kubernetes.io/docs/home
- Official tutorials at kubernetes.io/docs/tutorials
- Kelsey Hightower's [Kubernetes The Hard Way](#) guide
- Kelsey Hightower's [Kubernetes Up & Running](#) book
- Phone a friend at Prismapp & Sale Stock

Conscious Incompetence

Struggling with Kubernetes



Operating Bare-Metal K8s at



Solutions I worked with



- [Kubernetes The Hard Way](#) => Failed
- [Kubeadm](#) => Failed
- [Rancher](#) => Success

More selection of tools for bare-metal & on-premise K8s:

<https://github.com/ramitsurana/awesome-kubernetes#installers>

Rancher Kubernetes Cluster Installation Dashboard



Add Cluster

In a hosted Kubernetes provider



Import existing cluster



From nodes in an infrastructure provider



From my own existing nodes



Cluster Name *

Add a Description

production

Member Roles

Control who has access to the cluster and what permission they have to change it.

Service Account *

Read from a file

Service account private key JSON file



Challenges in operating Kubernetes



The challenges I faced when implementing Kubernetes for the first time...

- Guiding developers to the right way
- Logging and monitoring
- Kubernetes cluster maintenance
- Securing Kubernetes cluster
- Keeping up with the continuously expanding Kubernetes landscape



Failing in production



Things I failed to anticipate



- Weak logging & monitoring setup
- No planned workload sizing
- Trusting Kubernetes self-healing & auto-scaling features a bit too much
- Failed to correctly implement microservices best practices

Conscious Competence

Confidence with Kubernetes



Operating GKE cluster at **ruang
guru**



A little insight on how Ruangguru Kubernetes clusters look like...

- Multiple GKE clusters, each with its own specific functionality
- The core cluster has more than 1.400 Deployments, 600 StatefulSets, and 8.000 Pods running
- Currently we have 5 different stacks used to develop our microservices, which consist of Go, Python, ReasonML, NodeJS, Ruby, & PHP



What the experience is like compare to working with bare-metal...

The Good:

- Easier installation & setup
- Easier cluster maintenance & update
- Less to none networking concerns
- Nodepool autoscaling
- Preemptible instances to optimize cost

The Bad:

- Limited cluster customization
- Limited control to Kubernetes master components



Anticipating Failures



What we do at Ruangguru



- RED and USE monitoring using Prometheus + Grafana for both VMs and containers
- Log everything from every applications and services using Loki
- Implement service mesh using Istio to support more robust traffic management, security policy, & observability
- Utilize IaC for more controlled, faster, and less error-prone infrastructures update and provisioning
- Secure sensitive secrets such as access token, password, etc. using Vault

Unconscious Competence

Taming Kubernetes



Building Tools for Kubernetes



Developing

Rogu + Newton:

Ruangguru's internal
Kubernetes deployment
tools.

```
$ rogu --help
Ruangguru deployment tools.

Usage:
  rogu [command]

Available Commands:
  config          Manage service configuration
  create-version  Create a version
  db             Manage database deployment
  dependency      manage dependencies
  deploy         Deploy a from current directory
  deploy-version  Deploy a specific version
  deployment-history get deployment history for specific service
  frontend       Run frontend project
  gen-proto      generate files from proto files in dependencies as defined in service.yaml
  help          Help about any command
  init-member    init rogu cli member info
  install-protoc Install protoc and plugin needed
  list-version   show list of version
  loadtest       Perform loadtest.
  redeploy       redeploy last deployment version of a service
  rollback       Rollback to specific hash on deployment-history
  run           Run service locally with remote configs
  scaling        Manage service scaling
  secret         manage secret configuration
  set-config     set config variables for specific service
  status         get status of a service at current time
  sync          sync rogu from source
  synclibs      sync libs dependencies (go only) from shared-libs
  test          Integration test device and api service
  update        update rogu to latest version
  version       Print client version

Flags:
  -h, --help  help for rogu

Use "rogu [command] --help" for more information about a command.
```



Newton Deployment System



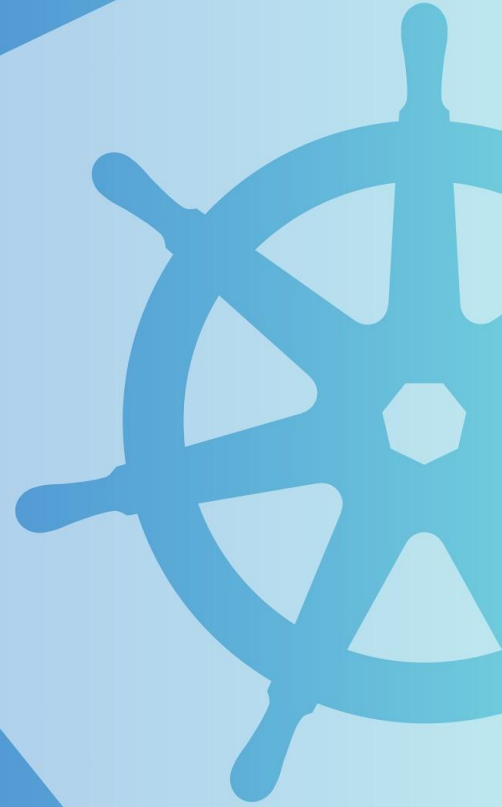
- Manage service build & deployment
- Manage service versioning
- Manage service database dependency
- Manage service scaling profile
- Simplify service configuration
- Orchestrate load testing

Rogu CLI



- Centralized CLI developers
- Single command to deploy & scale service running in Kubernetes
- Single command to launch load testing
- Shared libraries management
- Other ton of useful commands

Tips for Your K8s Journey



Some personal advices



- Try Kubernetes The Hard Way
- Complete your monitoring homework since Day-0
- Learn and use IaC tools (Terraform, Ansible, etc.)
- Learn Go programming
- Join Community



That's all folks!

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