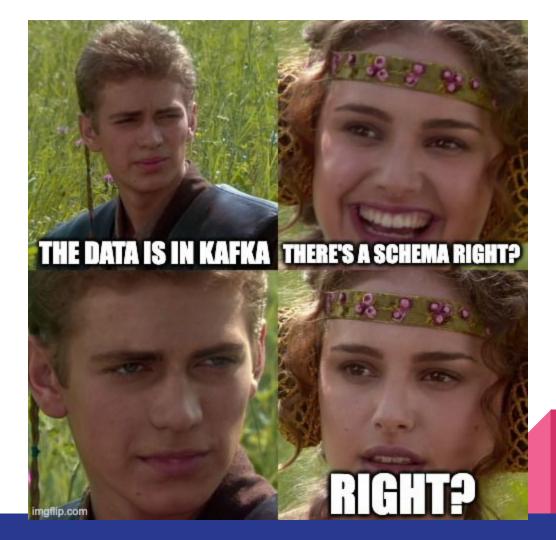
Schema Driven Development Leveraging Open Source Tools

Brandon Brown - Senior Staff Software Engineer - SecurityScorecard





Problems to Solve

- Share Data models between teams
- Enforce best practices for schemas
- Utilize peer review
- Support multiple languages
- Must work with or without a schema registry
- Easy to grok ownership

Solutions Explored

Schema formats

- Protobuf
- Avro
- o JSON Schema
- No Schemas

Registries

- Confluent Schema Registry
- AWS Glue Schema Registry
- Buf Schema Registry
- Apicurio Schema Registry

Exploration Results - Schema Formats

Format	Multi Language	Non Developer Friendliness	Validation Tooling
Protobuf			
Avro			
JSON Schema			
No Schemas			

Exploration Results - Registries

Registry	Formats	
Confluent Schema Registry	Protobuf, Avro, JSON Schema	
AWS Glue Schema Registry	Protobuf (wasn't supported at evaluation time), Avro, JSON Schema	
Buf Schema Registry	Protobuf	
Apicurio Schema Registry	Protobuf, Avro, JSON Schema	

The Winner - Schemas

Protobuf

- IDL based
- Compile to different languages
- Robust Tooling
- Compatibility check at the schema level

The Winner - Registry

Confluent

- Supported all the formats
- Seamless Integration with Kafka
- Library support out of the box
- Easy work around for handling messages in the case of no registry

The Solution

- Git Repository with 2 branches
- OmniProto for Proto compilation
- Buf CLI for linting and compatibility check
- Artifactory for library hosting
- Jenkins for ci/cd
- Bash to tie it all together

Omniproto

- https://github.com/grpckit/omniproto
- Toolkit for targeting multiple language targets
- Yaml configuration
- Solves the problem of manually scripting for each language

Omniproto Example

```
rootdir: protobuf
sources: # all sources will be passed together
 - com/bbrownsound/proto
output: gen # gen is the default output directory (should be gitignored)
plugins:
- name: python
 output: python-protobuf-models/src/bbrownsound
- name: cpp
 output: cpp-protobuf-models/src
- name: go
 args: paths=source_relative
 output: golang-protobuf-models
- name: js
 output: gen/js
- name: java
 output: scala-protobuf-models/src/main/java
- name: scala
 args: flat_package, java_conversions
 output: scala-protobuf-models/src/main/scala
descriptors:
 output: gen/descriptors.pb # defaults to descriptors.pb in root output directory
 enabled: true # defaults to true, descriptors are useful
 include_imports: true
 include source info: true
debug: true # debug will output command line information
dry_run: false # if true, don't execute the protoc command. useful with debug.
```

Buf

- Linting
- Compatibility Checking
- Why use Buf for checking?
 - Doesn't require registry to do the check (pro and a con)
 - Easy to use
 - Confluent tooling would require setting up a java project

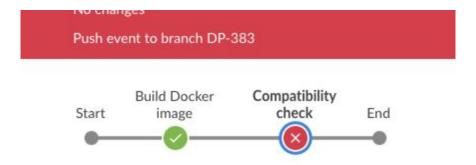
Buf Example

```
version: v1
lint:
    use:
        - MINIMAL
        - FILE_LOWER_SNAKE_CASE
        - ENUM_VALUE_UPPER_SNAKE_CASE
        - ENUM_FIRST_VALUE_ZERO
breaking:
    use:
        - WIRE
```

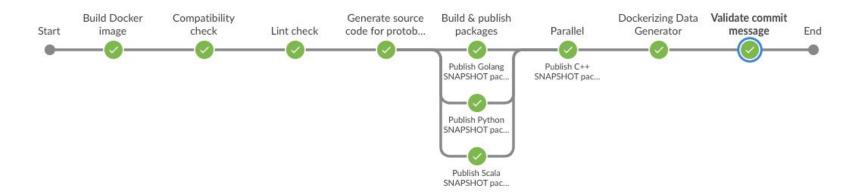
How does it work?

- Set up stubbed directories for each language
- gitignore the output directories
- Run omniproto
- Publish to your repository of choice
- Codeowners file + Package Structure

Example Build Failure

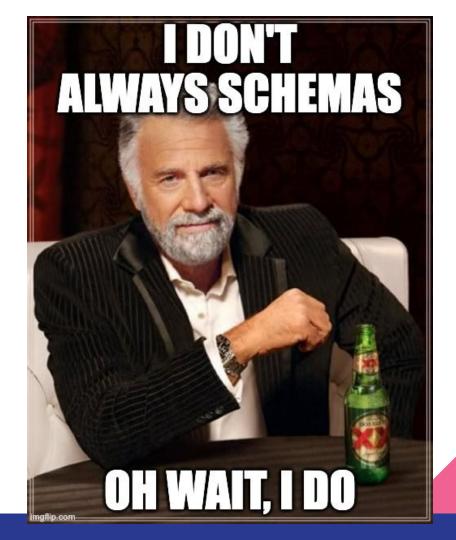


Example Build Success



Lessons Learned

- Lack of direct integration with the schema registry can lead to unknowns
- Versioning with golang is hard
- Providing example projects is key to onboarding
- Documentation is king
- Enforce standards and they will come
- Determining when to make releases is tricky
- Data as a first class citizen helps design decisions



Questions?

Connect with Me

- LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/brandon-brown-8529681b/
- Github: https://github.com/brbrown25
- Twitter: @brbrown
- Code Samples: https://github.com/brbrown25/current-23-talk