Writing a CNI - as easy as pie

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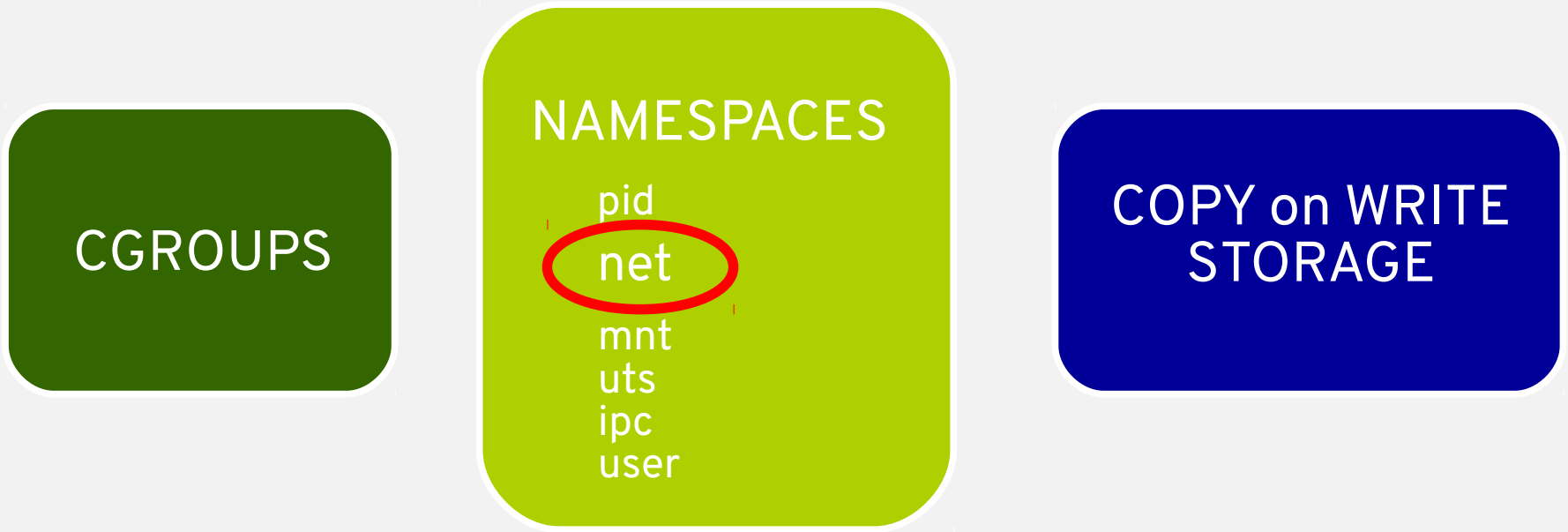
FOSDEM 2019

TOC

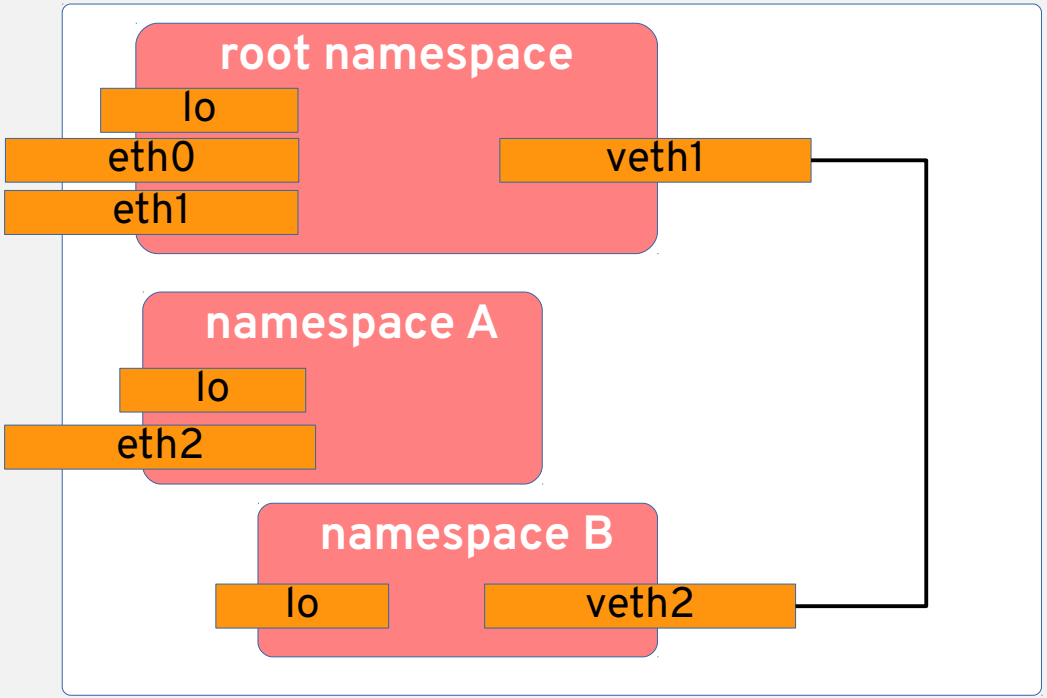
1. Container networking
2. What is CNI?
3. Demo

Anatomy of a container



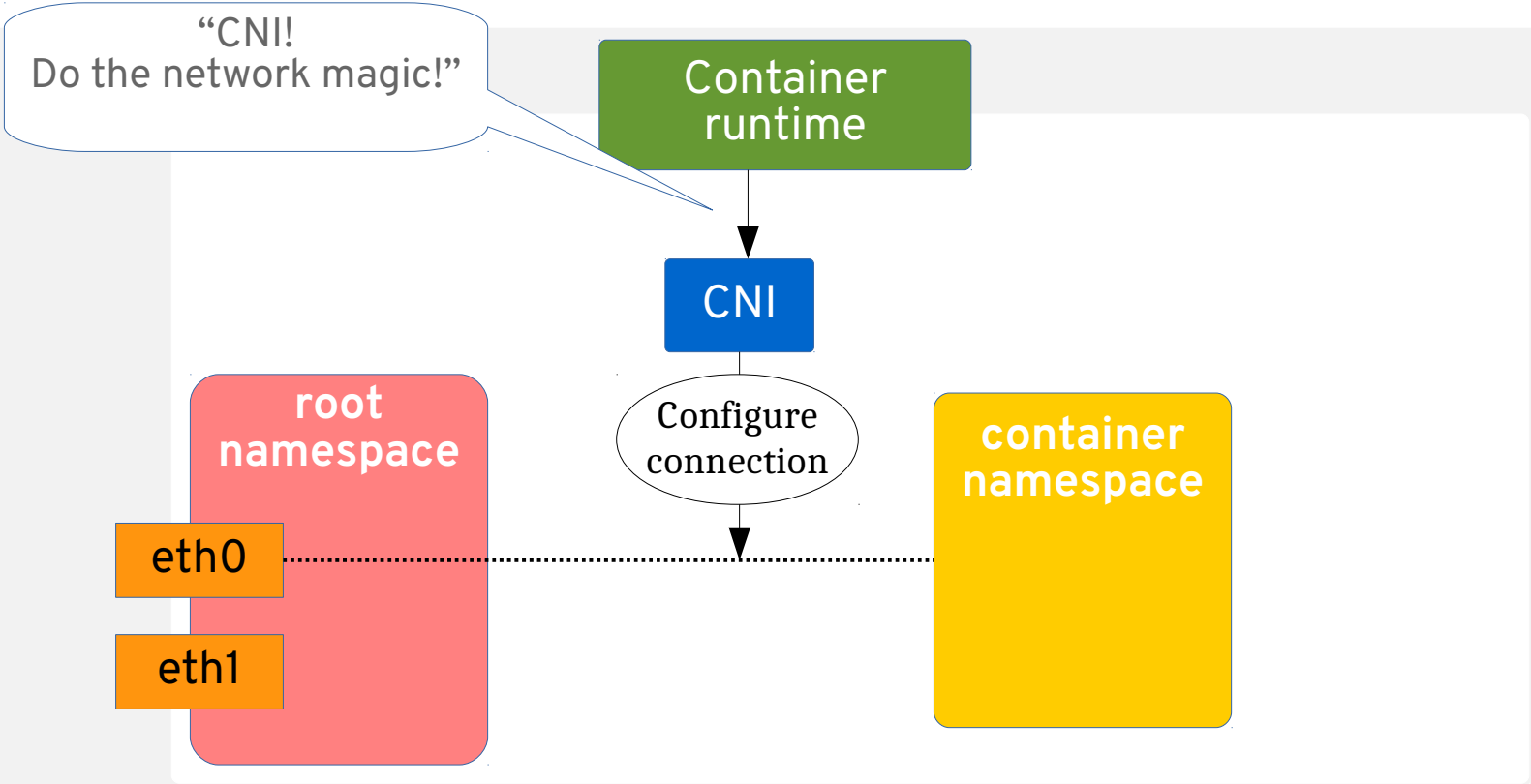
Network namespaces

- private network stack
- private network interfaces (lo included)
- private routing tables



Container networking

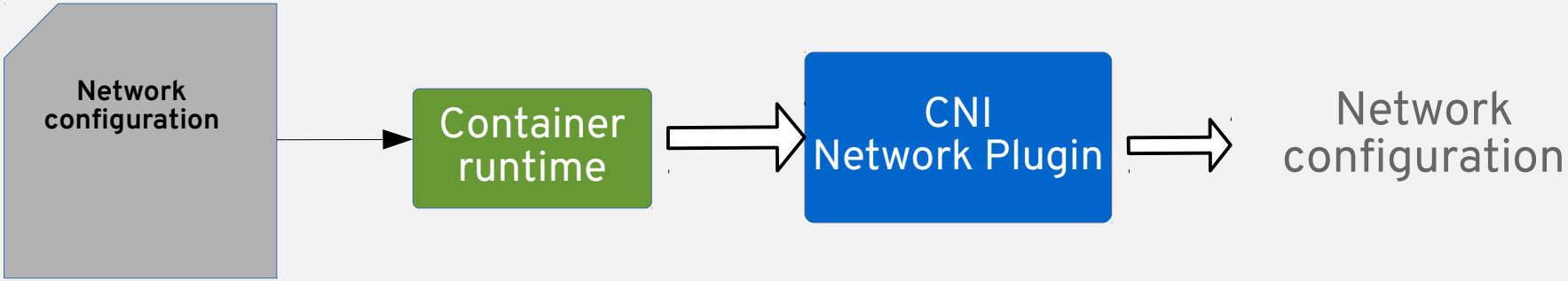
How a container is created



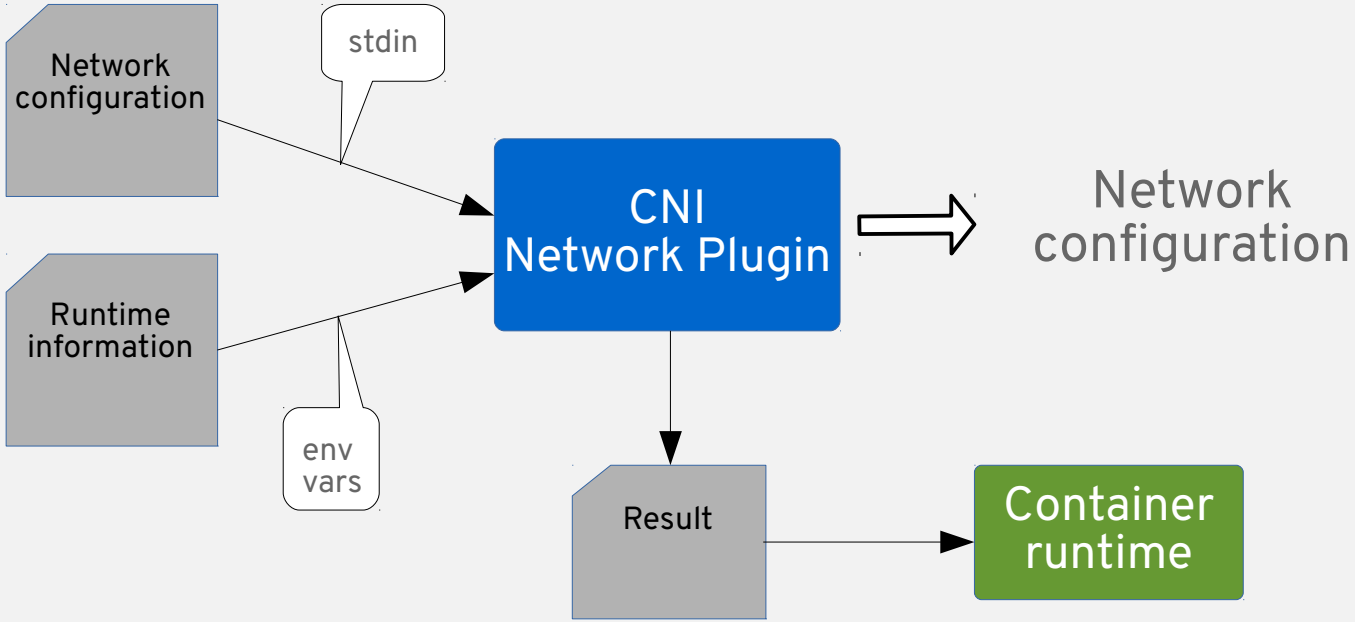
What's a CNI?

- Short for: **Container Network Interface**
- Interface between container runtime and network implementation
- Consists of:
  - Specification
  - plugin implementations
  - plugin libraries
- Started as part of rkt
- Part of CNCF (Cloud Native Computing Foundation)

How a CNI works

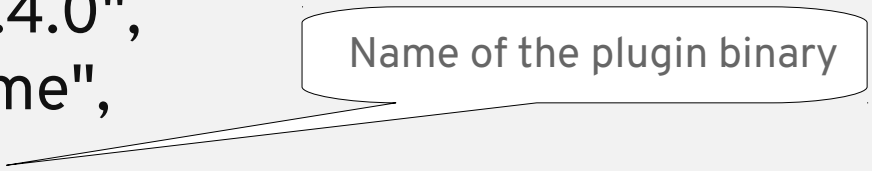


CNI plugin invocation



CNI network configuration

```
{
   "cniVersion": "0.4.0",
   "name": "my name",
   "type": "demo",
   "ipam": { ... },
   "dns": { ... },
   "additonalArg1": ... ,
  ...
}
```



CNI runtime information

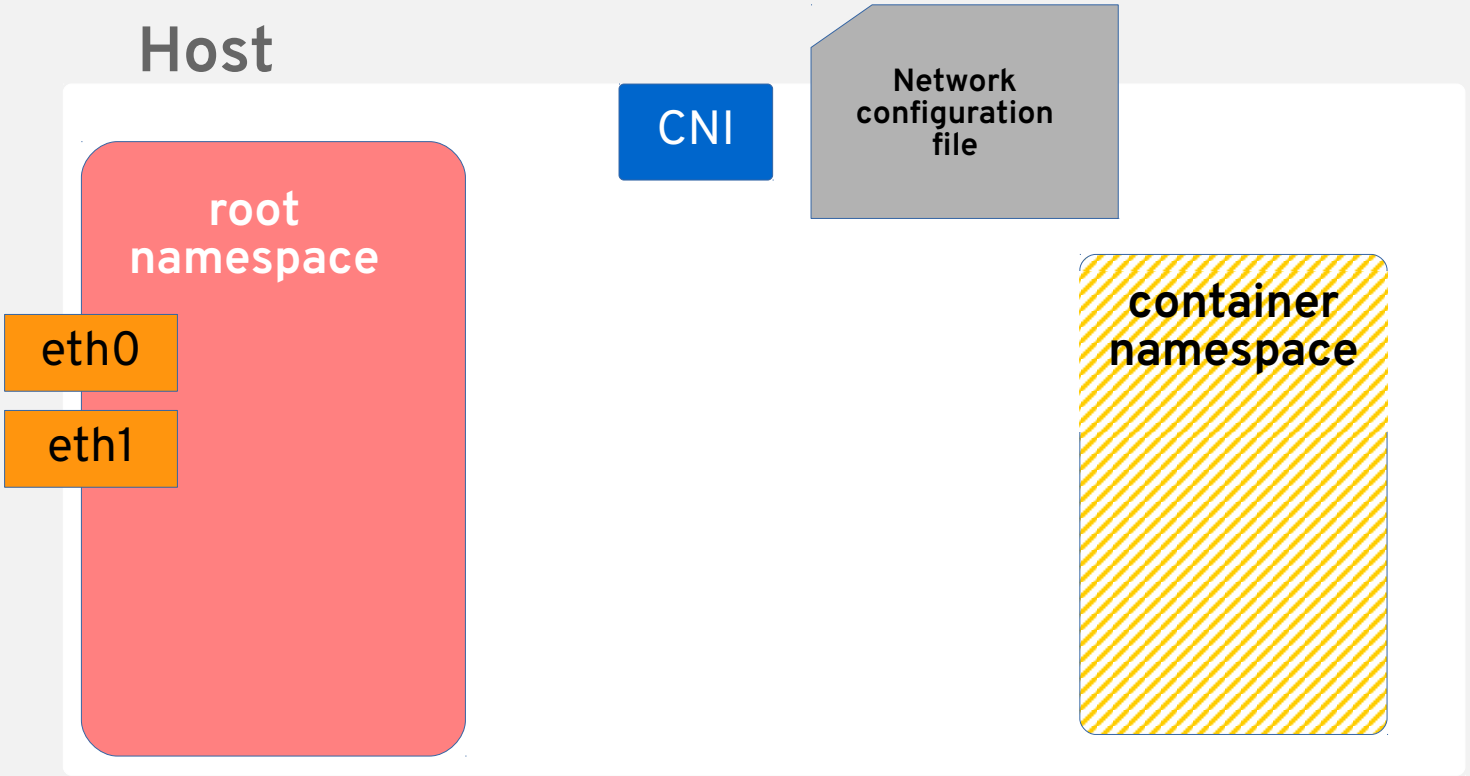
- **CNI_COMMAND** = ADD, DELETE, CHECK, VERSION
- **CNI_CONTAINERID** = <id>
- **CNI_NETNS** = */proc/*<pid>/ns/net
- **CNI_IFNAME** = eth0
- **CNI_PATH** = */opt/cni/bin*
- **CNI_ARGS**

CNI result

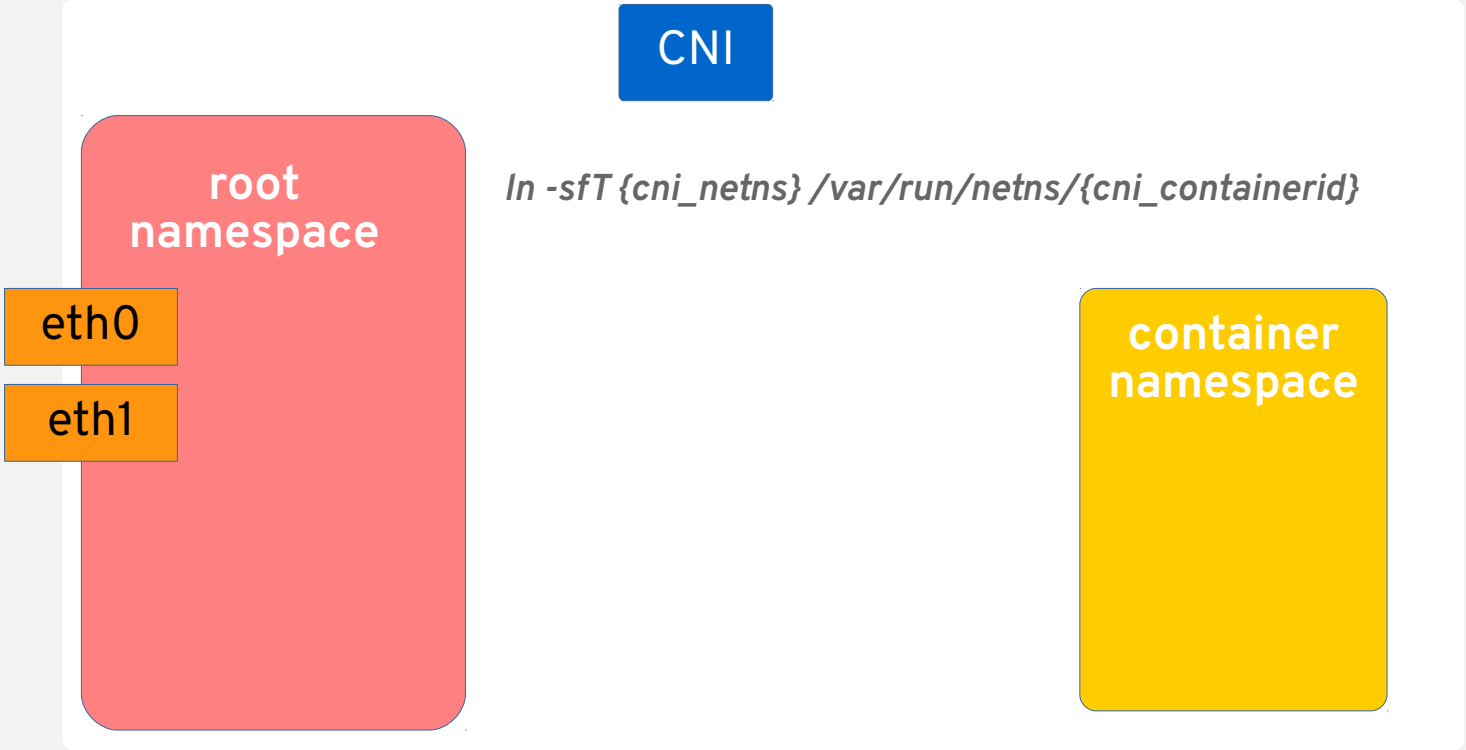
```
{
  "cniVersion": "0.4.0",
  "interfaces": [
      { … },
  ],
  "ips": [
      { … },
  ],
  "routes": [
      { … },
  ]
  "dns": { … }
}
```

DEMO

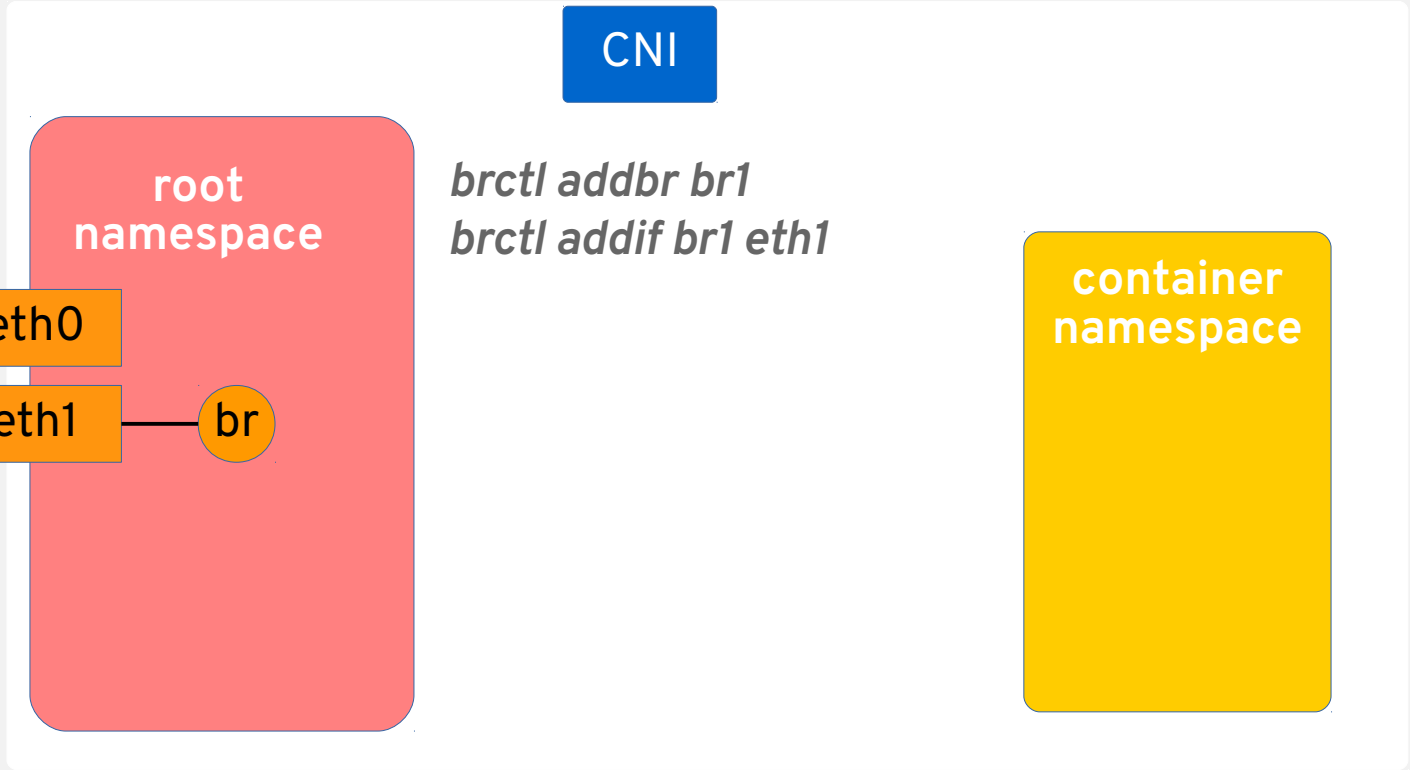
DEMO


Host
CNI
Network configuration file
root namespace
eth0
eth1
container namespace

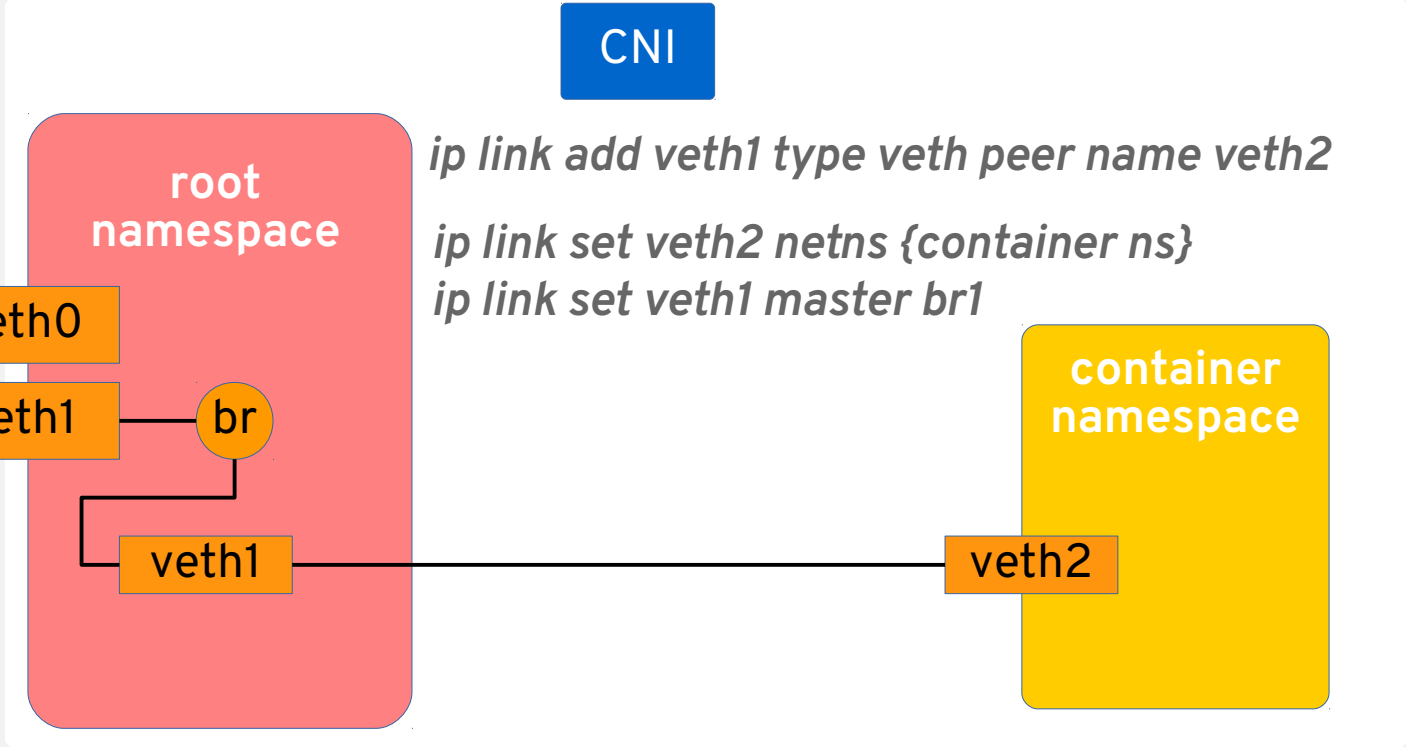
DEMO – Create a named network namespace



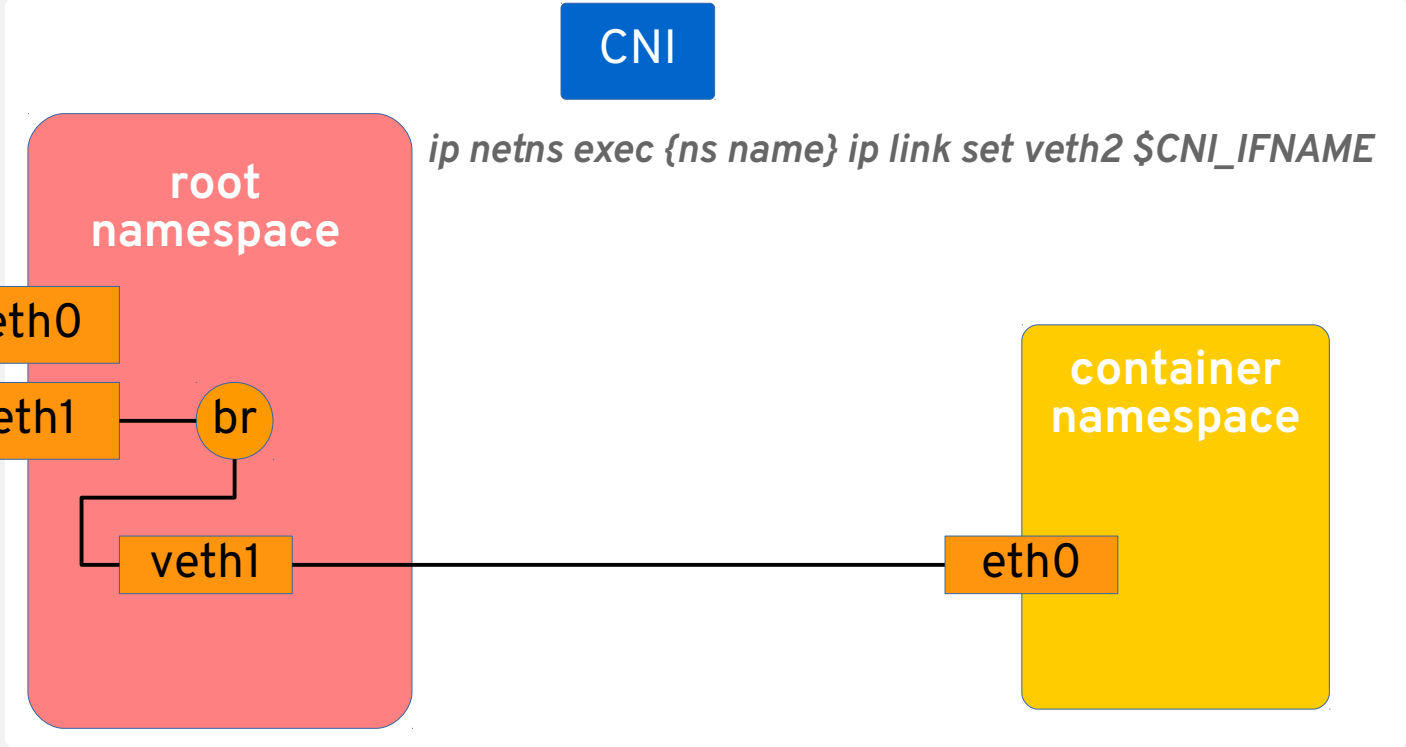
DEMO – Create a bridge



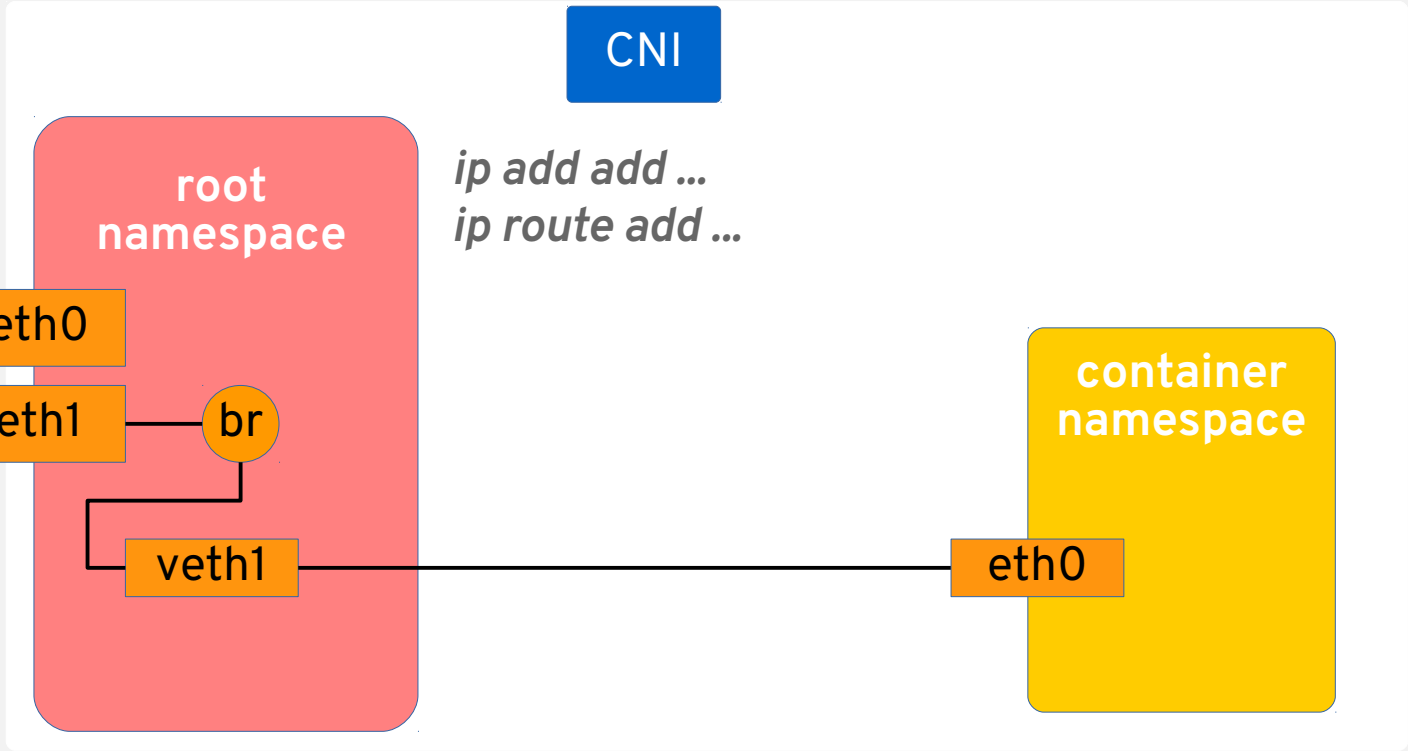
DEMO - Connect the veth pair



DEMO - Rename container interface



DEMO – Configure connection



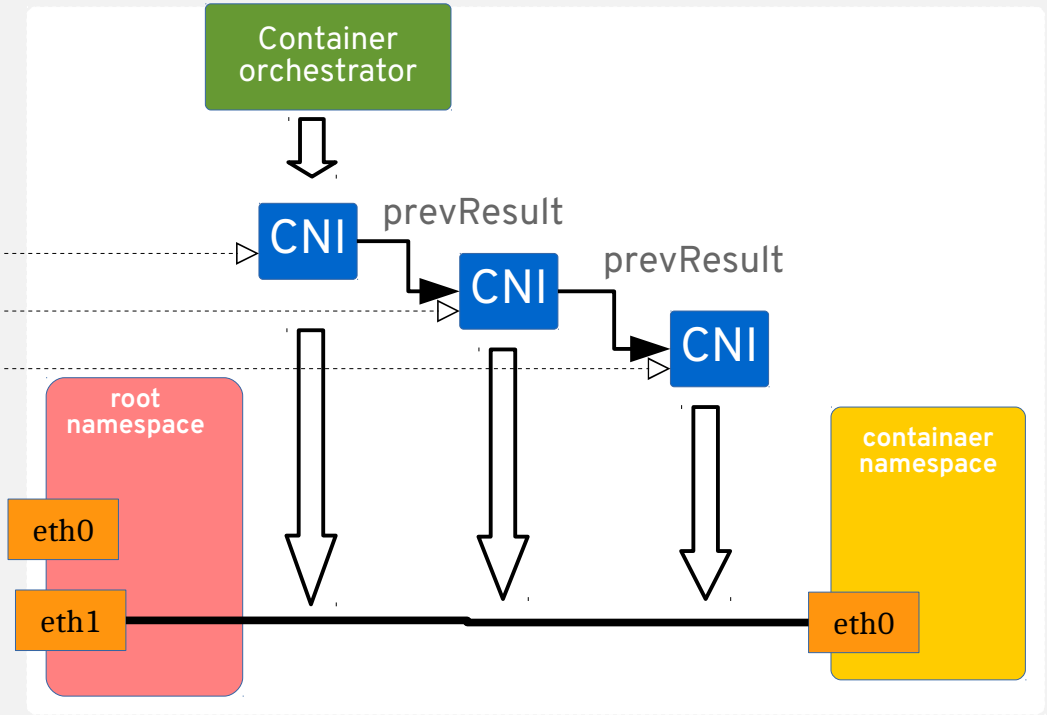
LIVE DEMO

Thank you

Backup slides

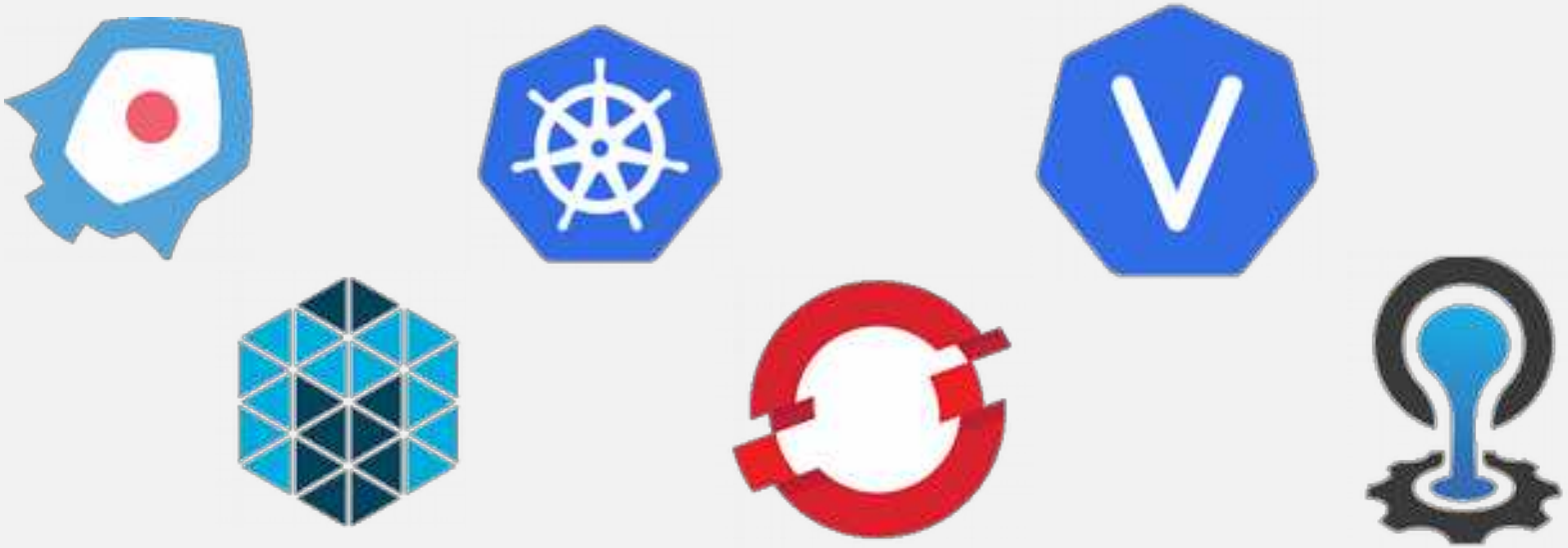
CNI plugin chaining

```
{
  ...
  "plugins": [
      {"type": A },
      {"type": B },
      {"type": C }
  ]
}
```



Why is it worth looking at?

Who is using CNI?



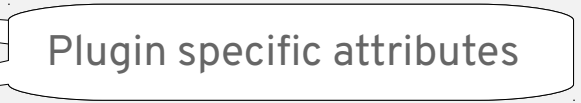
CNI network configuration – optional elements

```
{
    ...
    "ipam": {
       "type": "plugin type"
    },
    "dns": {
       "nameservers": [],
       "domain": ...,
       "search": [],
       "options": []
    }
}
```

Name of the IPAM plugin binary

CNI network configuration – example

```
{
    "cniVersion": "0.4.0",
    "name": "mynet",
    "type": "bridge",
    "bridge": "br0",
    "ipam": {
        "type": "ipam",
        "subnet": "10.1.0.0/16",
    },
    "dns": {
        "nameservers": [ "10.1.0.1" ]
    }
}
```



Sample net namespace magic …

ip netns add <name> - create a new net namespace named

ip link set dev eth0 netns <name> – move eth0 to namespace

ip netns exec <name> ip link – list interfaces in namespace

ip netns exec <name> ip addr add …

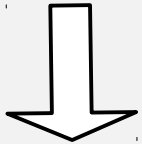
CNI components

Network configuration

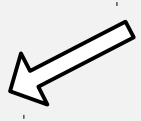
```
{
  "cniVersion": "0.4.0",
  "name": "myname",
  "type": "plugin type",
  "ipam": { ... },
  "dns": { ... },
  "additonalArg1": ... ,
  ...
}
```

Plugin

CNI



ACTION!



Runtime information

- CNI_COMMAND
- CNI_CONTAINERID
- CNI_NETNS
- CNI_IFNAME
- CNI_ARGS
- CNI_PATH