Why look for something else when Kubernetes does exist? Nomad as container orchestrator - lessons learned

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What is Showmax?

A world-scalable platform, delivering the best SVOD experience on the African continent and beyond.

- Built on microservice architecture (we love containers)
- We are distributed (EU + Africa)
- Engineering in Prague and Beroun



https://kinkyrhino.co.za/product/showmax-and-chill

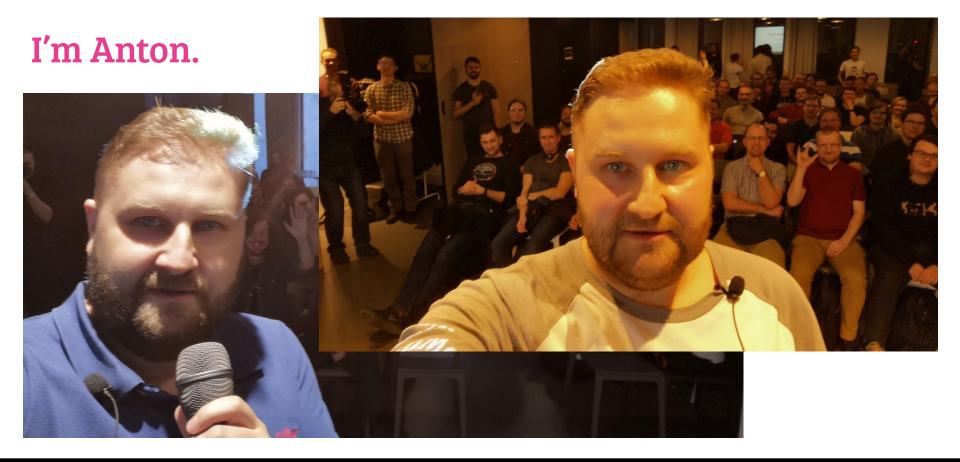


I'm Anton.

- In Showmax:
 - Infrastructure tech lead (assisting operation team)
- In vorobiev.cloud:
 - Swiss-army knife (helping companies to adopt k8s and automate stuff)





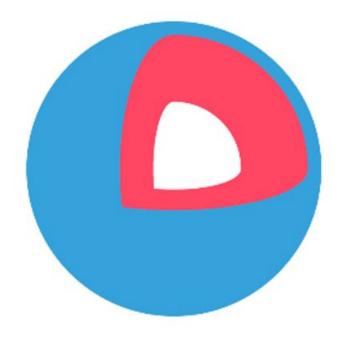




Past

- CoreOS fleet
 - a distributed init system
 - systemd-like unitfiles
 - custom tooling
 - rollout integration
- https://12factor.net/

https://content.pivotal.io/blog/beyond-the-twelve-factor-app



Present



fleet is no longer developed or maintained by CoreOS. After February 1, 2018, a available from the CoreOS Ouay registry, but will not be shipped as part of Conta

https://github.com/coreos/fleet

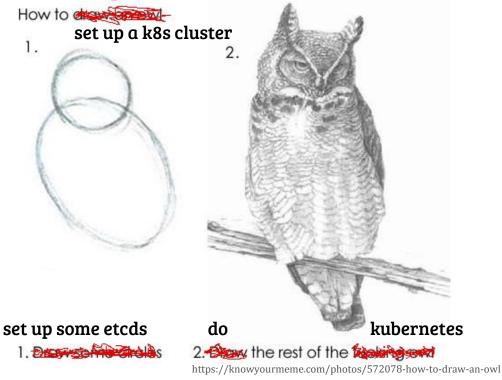


Future???



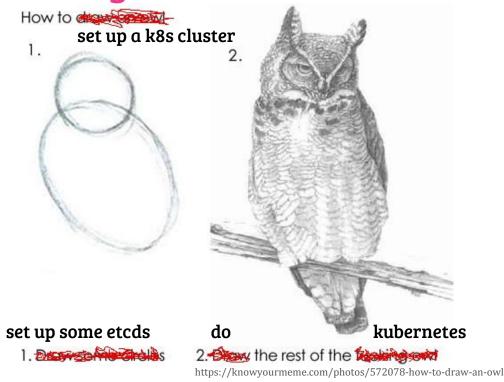


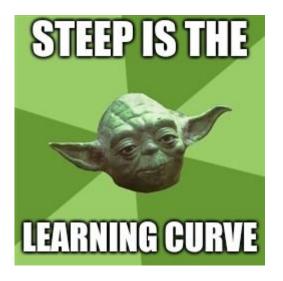
Almost any k8s howto *



* "k8s the hard way" is just an exception that proves the rule

Almost any k8s howto



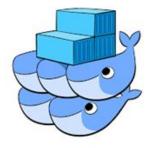


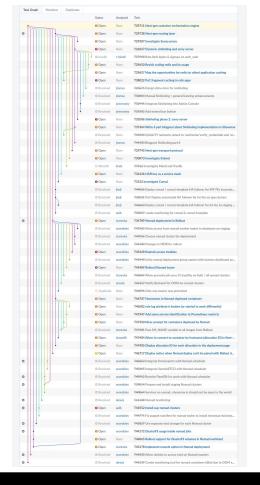


Future



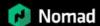






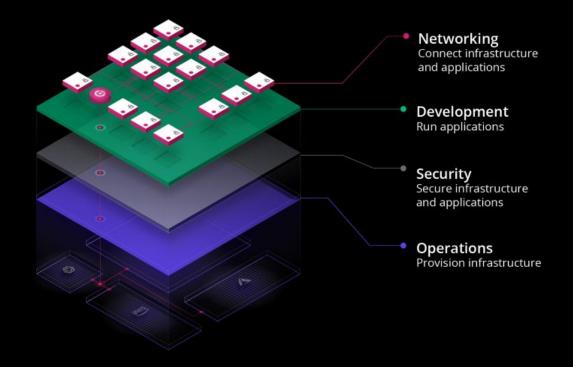














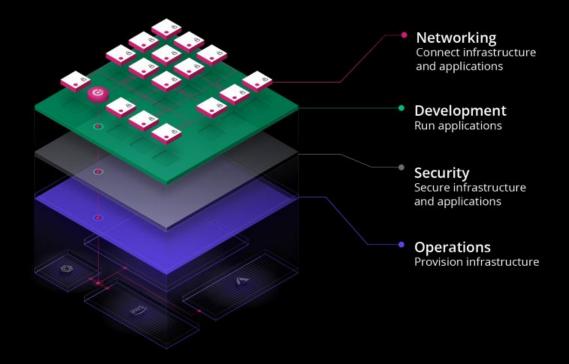








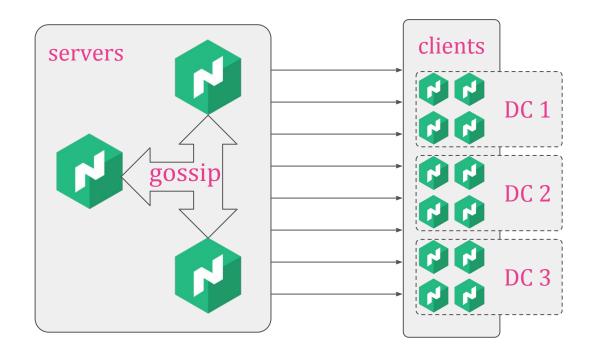


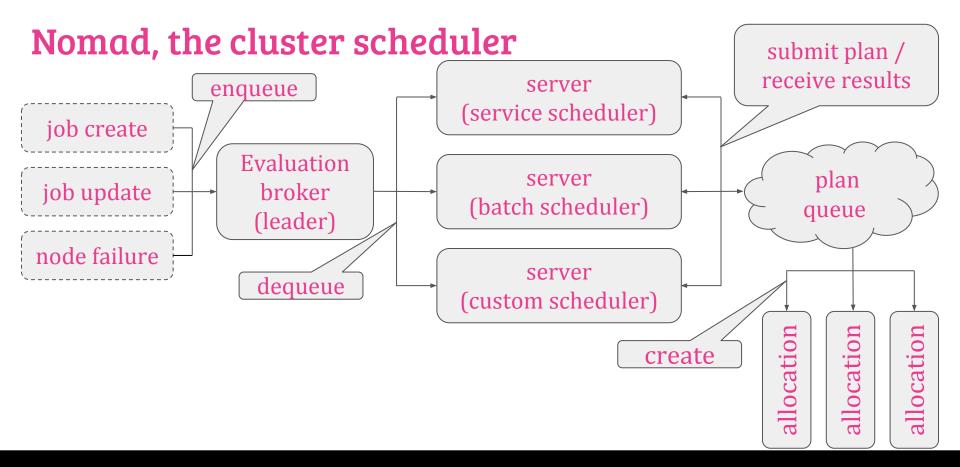




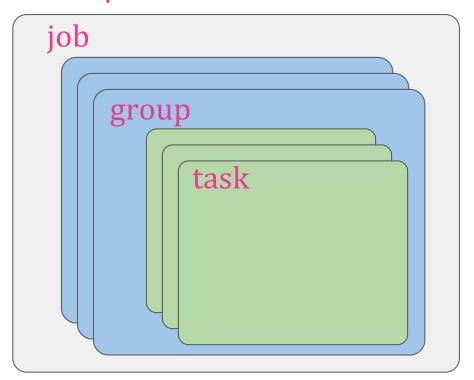


Nomad, the cluster scheduler





Nomad, the cluster scheduler



```
job "docs" {
 datacenters = ["dc1"]
  group "example" {
   task "server" {
     driver = "docker"
     config {
       image = "hashicorp/http-echo"
        args = [
          "-listen", ":5678",
          "-text", "hello world",
      resources
       network
          mbits = 10
          port "http" {
            static = "5678"
```

Nomad, the cluster scheduler

- Flexible (enough) deployments
 - service
 - batch
 - o system
- Schedules apps that can't easily be containerized
- Device plugins
- Resource limits
- Scheduling (anti-)affinities
- Scheduling constraints



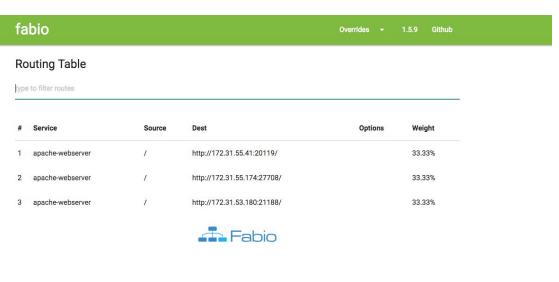
1 million containers challenge

- Cluster of 5 Nomad servers
- 5000 Nomad clients
- 1 000 000 containers under 5 minutes
- rate of 3,750 containers per second

https://www.hashicorp.com/c1m



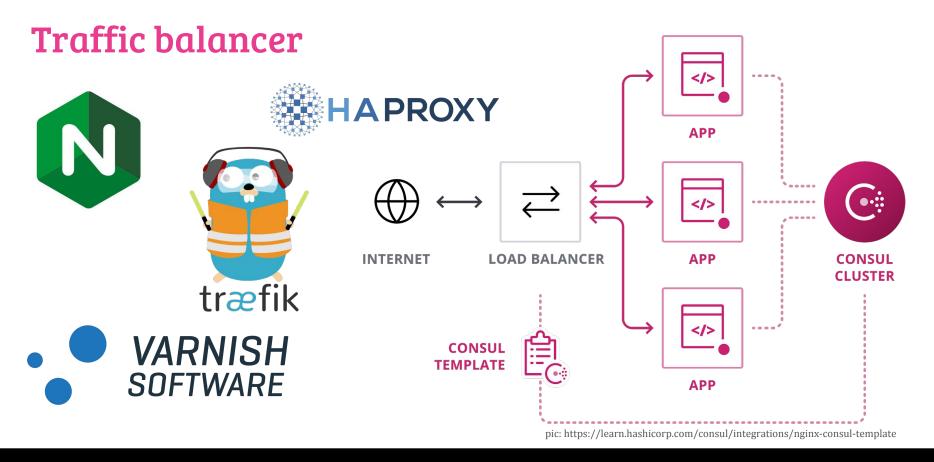
Traffic balancer



pic: https://www.nomadproject.io/guides/load-balancing/fabio.html

https://fabio.net

```
job "fabio" {
  datacenters = ["dc1"]
  type = "system"
  group "fabio" {
    task "fabio" {
      driver = "docker"
      config {
        image = "fabiolb/fabio"
        network_mode = "host"
      resources {
             = 200
        cpu
        memory = 128
        network {
          mbits = 20
          port "lb" {
            static = 9999
          port "ui" {
            static = 9998
```



Demo (hopefully)



Things that hurt

- Small community often times no choice of a tool with single available option (e.g. Fabio)
- Small community low update/maintenance velocity (e.g. Spark on Nomad)
- \${NOMAD_ALLOC_INDEX} / \${NOMAD_ALLOC_ID} worked around
- localhost bind() WIP
 (https://github.com/hashicorp/nomad/issues/2615)



Some state of the art WTF stuff

Inconsistent cli output

```
Placement Metrics
                                     job-anti-affinity node-reschedule-penalty node-affinity binpack final score
6fc7950f-6af1-001f-dc85-76690174e6a2
                                                                                                        0.192
16a5491e-a3ed-8f4e-af18-e29e05f45b52
                                                                                                        0.192
d711dc5e-20f5-fb6f-f227-2c91081672d2 -1
                                                                                                        -0.329
                                                                                               0.342
root@master:~#
Placement Metrics
                                     node-affinity binpack
                                                             job-anti-affinity node-reschedule-penalty
                                                                                                        final score
6fc7950f-6af1-001f-dc85-76690174e6a2
                                                    0.192
                                                                                                        0.192
16a5491e-a3ed-8f4e-af18-e29e05f45b52 0
                                                    0.192
                                                                                                        0.192
d711dc5e-20f5-fb6f-f227-2c91081672d2 0
                                                    0.342
                                                                                                        -0.329
root@master:~#
```



Some state of the art WTF stuff

Inconsiste

Placement Metric Node 6fc7950f-6af1-00 16a5491e-a3ed-8f d711dc5e-20f5-ft root@master:~#

Placement Metric Node 6fc7950f-6af1-00 16a5491e-a3ed-8f d711dc5e-20f5-fb root@master:~#



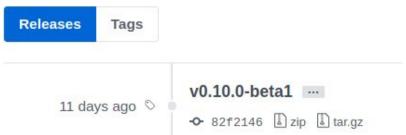
final score 0.192 0.192 -0.329

final score 0.192 0.192 -0.329

https://imgur.com/gallery/JmYCgIq



(Near) future



- Consul Connect based service mesh
- Shared network namespace within task group
- Host Volumes

https://www.hashicorp.com/blog/hashicorp-nomad-0-10-beta



The point is



https://me.me/i/you-must-choose-but-choose-wisely-meme-com-3791503

THANK YOU!

Get in touch!

Anton Vorobiev

