Deep Dive TCP/IP Bypass with eBPF in Service Mesh

Luyao Zhong @ Intel 2022 April

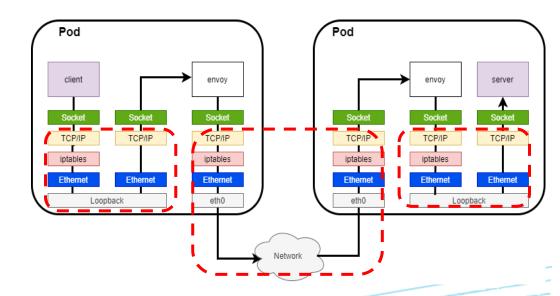
Agenda

- TCP/IP stack overhead
- Background knowledge of eBPF
- How to bypass TCP/IP stack
- Performance Comparison
- Project links



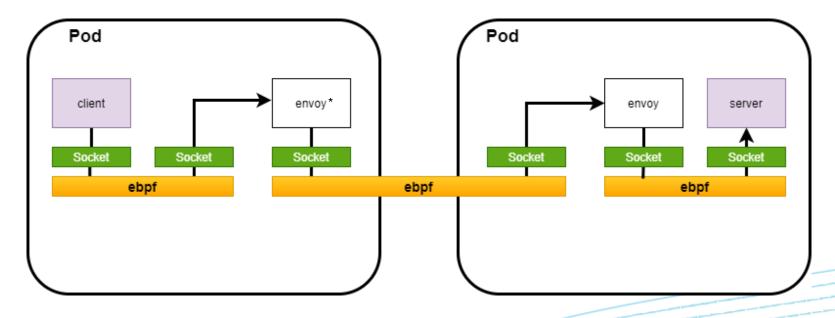
TCP/IP stack overhead

- All the application data goes via sidecar (Envoy*)
- All the data passes TCP/IP stack3 times
 - O Inbound
 - O Outbound
 - O Envoy to Envoy (same host)





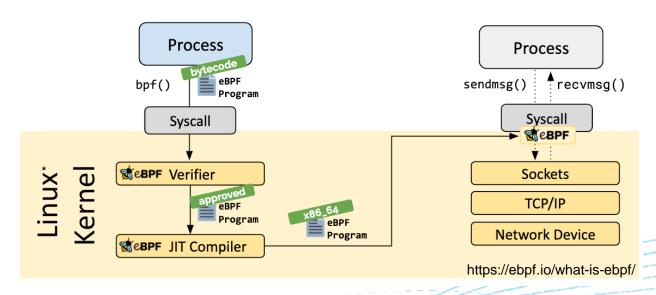
Dataflow after acceleration (same host)





ebpf background knowledge

Loader and verification architecture

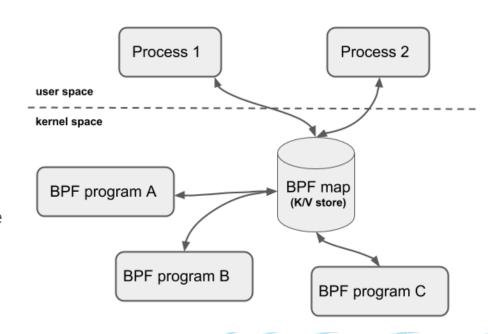




ebpf background knowledge

Map

- Share collected information
- Accessed from eBPF programs as well as from applications in user space
- Map type
 - O HASHMAP
 - O SOCKHASH: Hold socket as value





ebpf background knowledge

Prog type

- SOCK_OPS
 - > Set callbacks for TCP state changing
 - Help functions: BPF_MAP_UPDATE_ELEM, BPF_SOCK_HASH_UPDATE
- SK MSG
 - Attach to a SOCKHASH map, capture the packets sent by a socket in SOCKHASH map and determine its destination socket
 - Help functions: BPF_MSG_REDIRECT_HASH



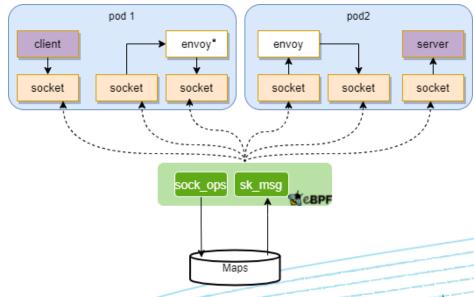
Work flow of acceleration

sock_ops

 Capture socket in specific states and populate the maps

sk_msg

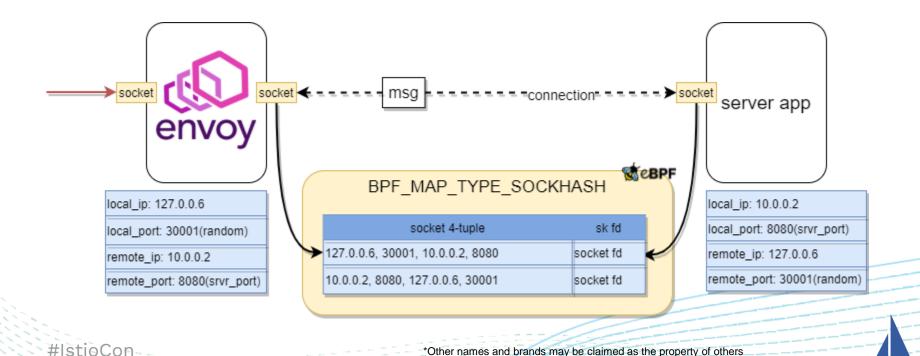
- When socket send a msg, lookup peer socket
- Redirect



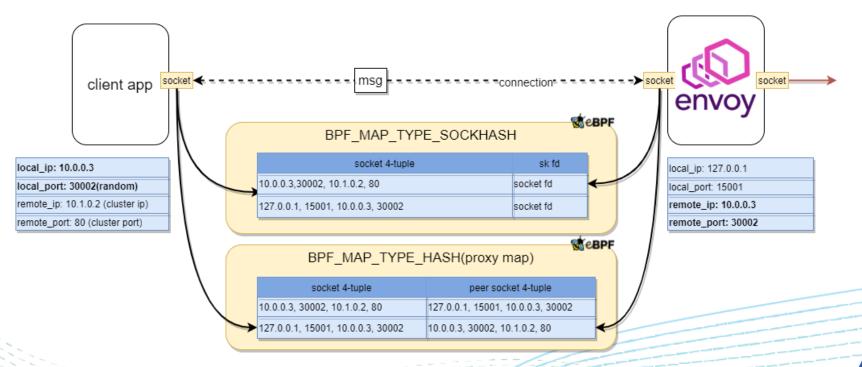


Inbound acceleration

Istio 1.10: PILOT_ENABLE_INBOUND_PASSTHROUGH



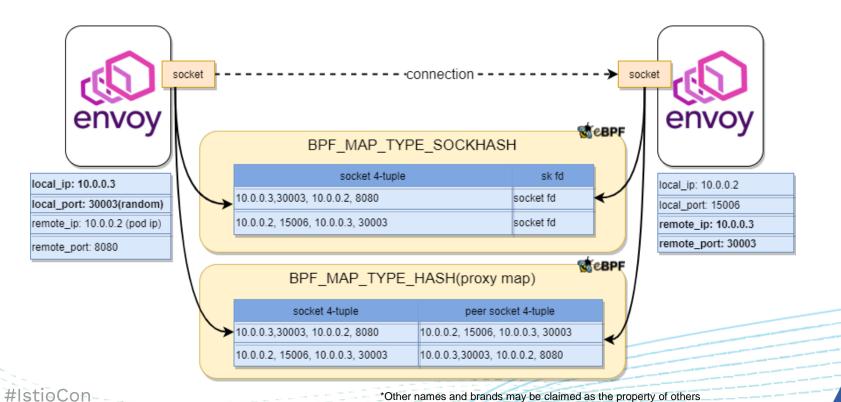
Outbound acceleration



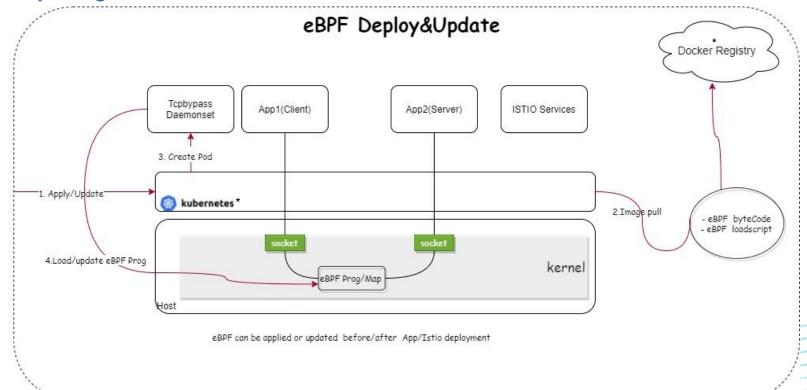
#IstioCon

*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others

Envoy* to Envoy Acceleration (same host)

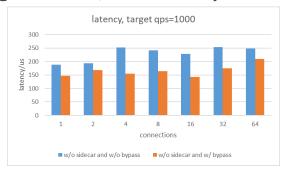


Deploy eBPF

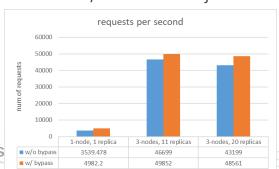


Performance Comparison

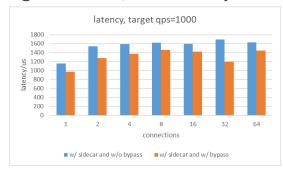
Nighthawk w/o sidecar injected



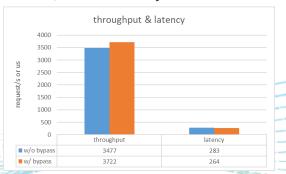
DSB-hotel w/o sidecar injected



Nighthawk w/ sidecar injected



GMS w/ sidecar injected





Project is public NOW!

- Docker* image
 - O https://hub.docker.com/r/intel/istio-tcpip-bypass/tags
- Project GitHub* repo
 - O https://github.com/intel/istio-tcpip-bypass
- Tips for Debug
 - O ss command: Inspect the socket status
 - O bpf_trace_printk() helper function: kernel debug tracepipe
 - /sys/kernel/debug/tracing/trace_pipe



Thank you!

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