

Demystifying Argo Events:

An Architectural Deep Dive



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Image credit: Phil Botha, Unsplash

What is Argo Events?

What's in a name?



Argo Workflows

Kubernetes-native workflow engine supporting DAG and step-based workflows



Argo CD

Declarative continuous delivery with a fully-loaded UI



Argo Events

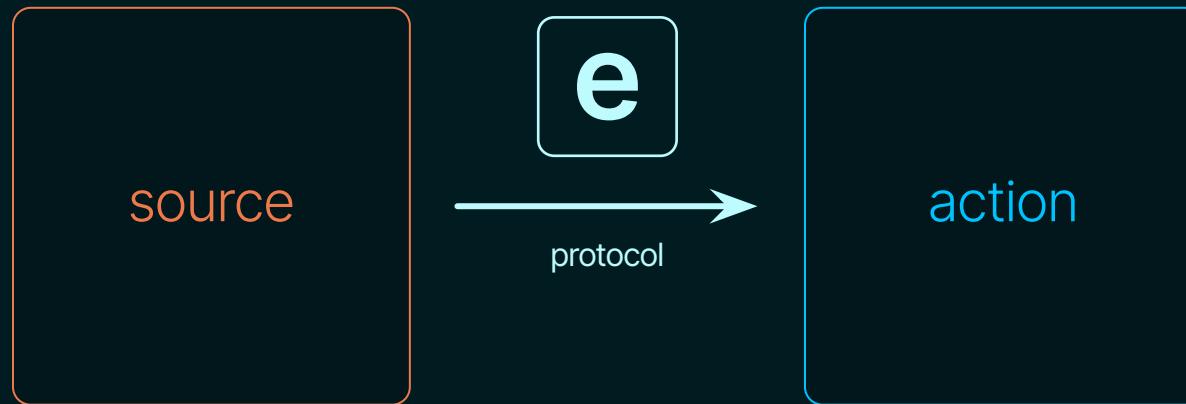
Event based dependency management for Kubernetes.



Argo Rollouts

Advanced Kubernetes deployment strategies such as Canary and Blue-Green made easy.

An event is... (an action and context)



Source:

<https://github.com/cloudevents/spec/blob/main/cloudevents/primer.md>

An event is... (an action and context)

An event has two parts:

- 1 an action,
- 2 its context

Sent from an event producer (the source) to event consumers

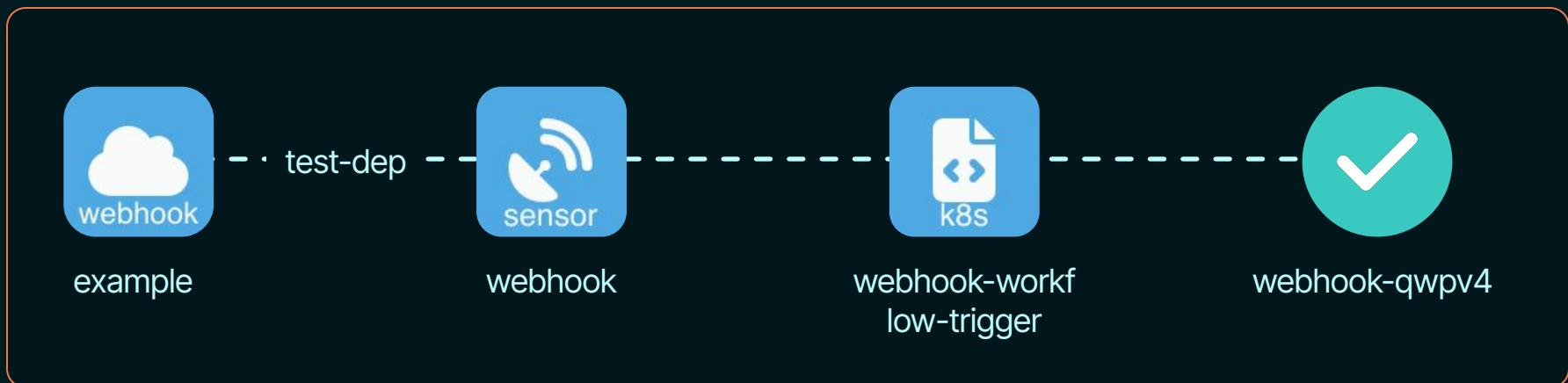
Unopinionated - Routing can be based on information in the event, but an event will not identify a specific routing destination.

```
{  
  "context": {  
    "type": "type_of_event_source",  
    "specversion": "cloud_events_version",  
    "source": "name_of_the_event_source",  
    "id": "unique_event_id",  
    "time": "event_time",  
    "datacontenttype": "type_of_data",  
    "subject": "name_of_the_configuration_within_event_source"  
  },  
  "data": {  
    "body": "Body is the Github event data",  
    "headers": "Headers from the Github event",  
  }  
}
```

What is Argo Events? (definition)

Argo Events is an event-driven workflow automation framework.

The Argo Events UI lives within Argo Workflows



What is Argo Events? (use cases)



CI/CD
Pipelines



Event-based
data processing

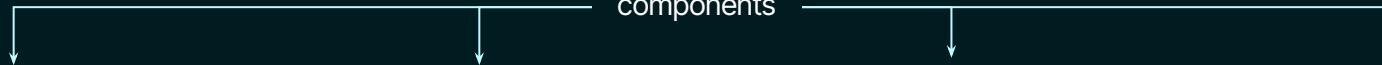


General
Automation

What is Argo Events? (components)

4

components



Event Source

Describes configuration
for consuming events
FROM external sources

Event Bus

A transport layer that
connects the Event
Source to the Sensor.

May or may not be driven
by Ms. Frizzle



Sensor

Defines the connection
between the Event
Source and the resource
being triggered

Controller Manager

Observes
creation/changes to Event
Source, Event Bus and
Sensor custom resources.

Installing Argo Events... in a few steps

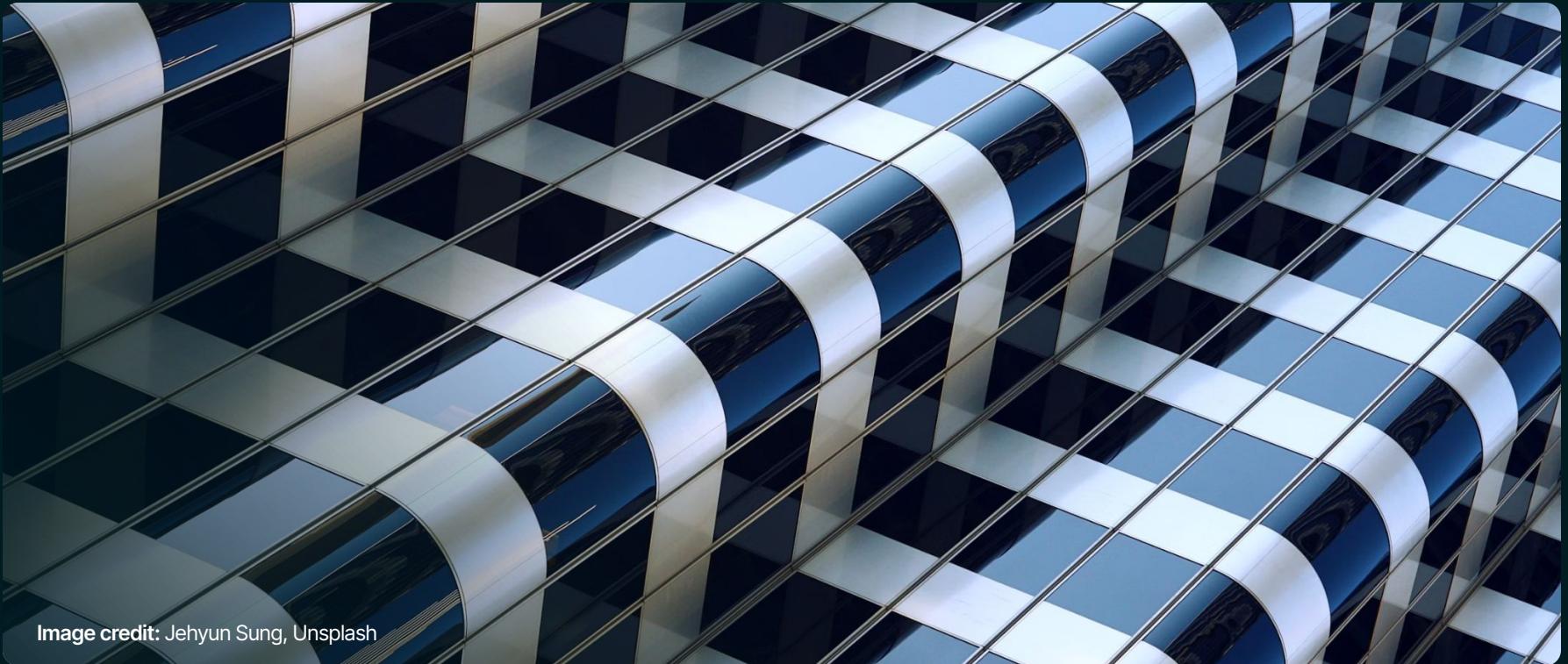


Image credit: Jehyun Sung, Unsplash

What exists in my cluster?

```
customresourcedefinition.apiextensions.k8s.io/eventbus.argoproj.io created
customresourcedefinition.apiextensions.k8s.io/eventsources.argoproj.io created
customresourcedefinition.apiextensions.k8s.io/sensors.argoproj.io created
serviceaccount/argo-events-sa created
clusterrole.rbac.authorization.k8s.io/argo-events-aggregate-to-admin created
clusterrole.rbac.authorization.k8s.io/argo-events-aggregate-to-edit created
clusterrole.rbac.authorization.k8s.io/argo-events-aggregate-to-view created
clusterrole.rbac.authorization.k8s.io/argo-events-role created
clusterrolebinding.rbac.authorization.k8s.io/argo-events-binding created
configmap/argo-events-controller-config created
deployment.apps/controller-manager created
```



CRDs



Controller Manager

Custom Resource Definitions

```
41 apiVersion: apiextensions.k8s.io/v1
42 kind: CustomResourceDefinition
43 metadata:
44   name: eventsources.argoproj.io
45 spec:
46   group: argoproj.io
47   names:
48     Kind: EventSource
49     listKind: EventSourceList
50   plural: eventsources
51   shortNames:
52     - es
53   singular: eventsource
54   scope: Namespaced
55   versions:
56     - name: v1alpha1
57       schema:
58         openAPIV3Schema:
59           properties:
60             apiVersion:
61               type: string
62             kind:
63               type: string
64             metadata:
65               type: object
66             spec:
67               type: object
```



CRDs

```
apiVersion: argoproj.io/v1alpha1
kind: EventSource
metadata:
  name: webhook
spec:
  service:
    ports:
      - port: 12000
        targetPort: 12000
webhook:
  example:
    # port to run HTTP server on
    port: "12000"
    # endpoint to listen to
    endpoint: /example
    # HTTP request method to allow.
    # In this case, only POST requests are accepted
    method: POST
```

Custom Resource Definitions

NAME

eventbus.argojob.io

eventsources.argojob.io

sensors.argojob.io



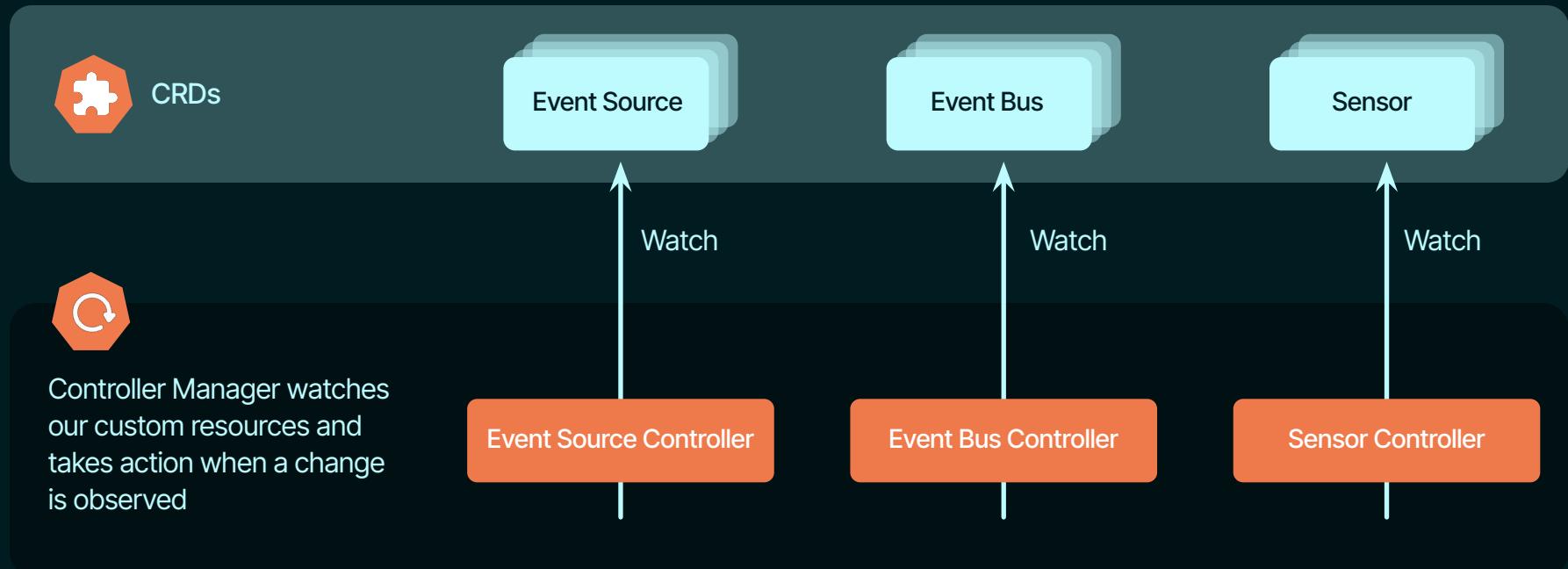
Event Source

Event Bus

Sensor



Controller Manager



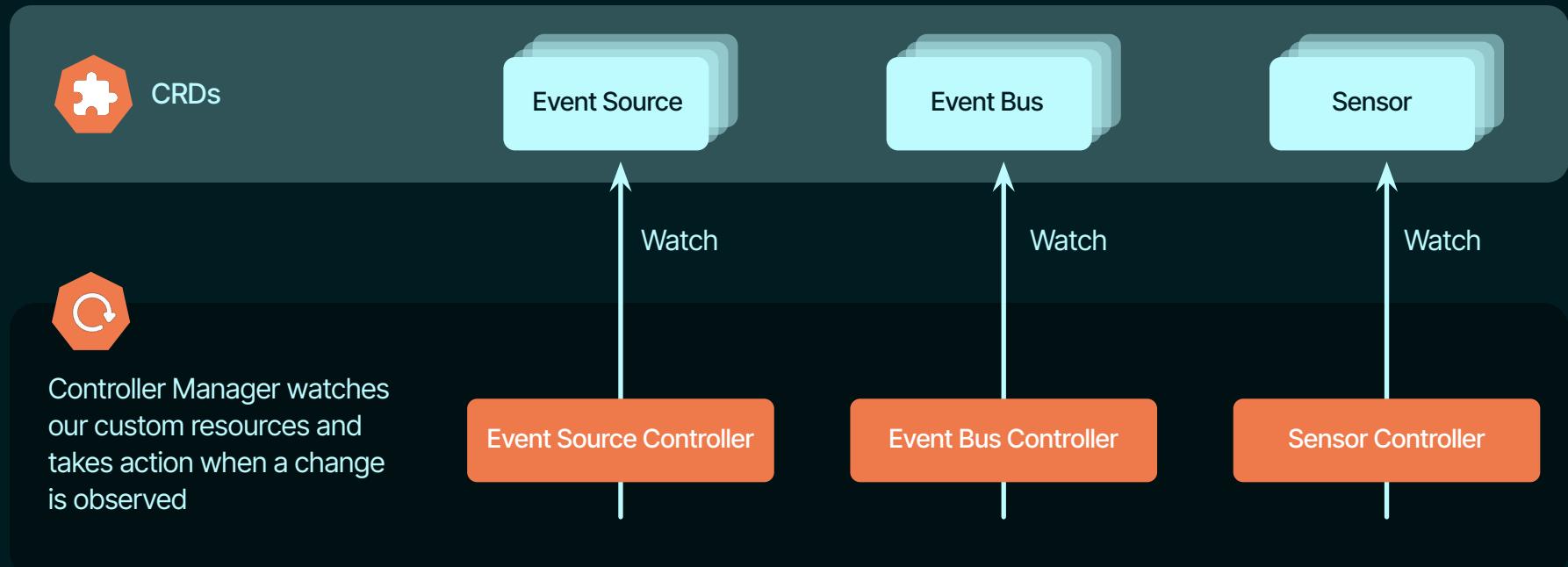
The case of the missing EventBus...

```
kubectl get eventbus -n argo-events  
No resources found in argo-events namespace.
```

```
kubectl apply -n argo-events -f  
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/argoproj/argo-events/stable/examples/eventbus/native.yaml
```

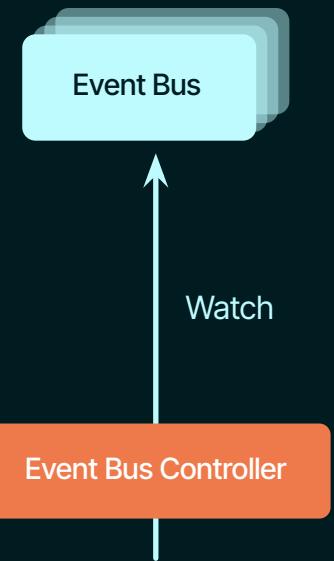
```
apiVersion: argoproj.io/v1alpha1  
kind: EventBus  
metadata:  
  name: default  
spec:  
  nats:  
    native:  
      replicas: 3  
      auth: token
```

Controller Manager

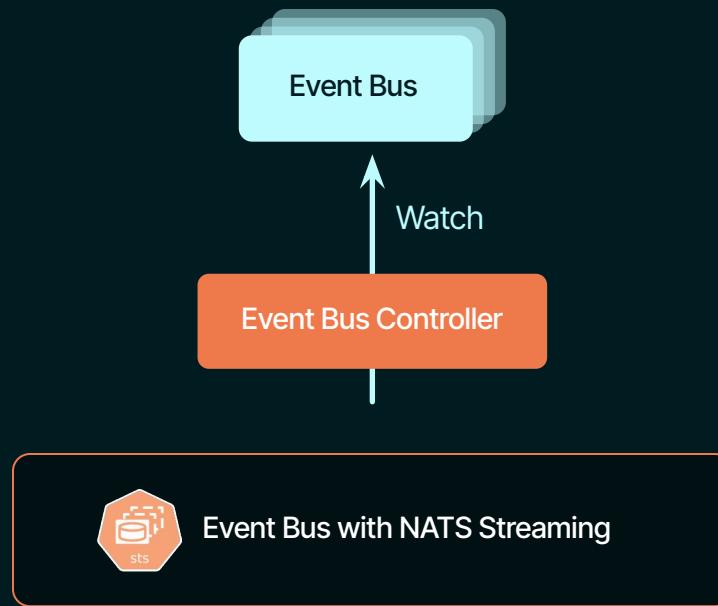


The case of the missing EventBus...

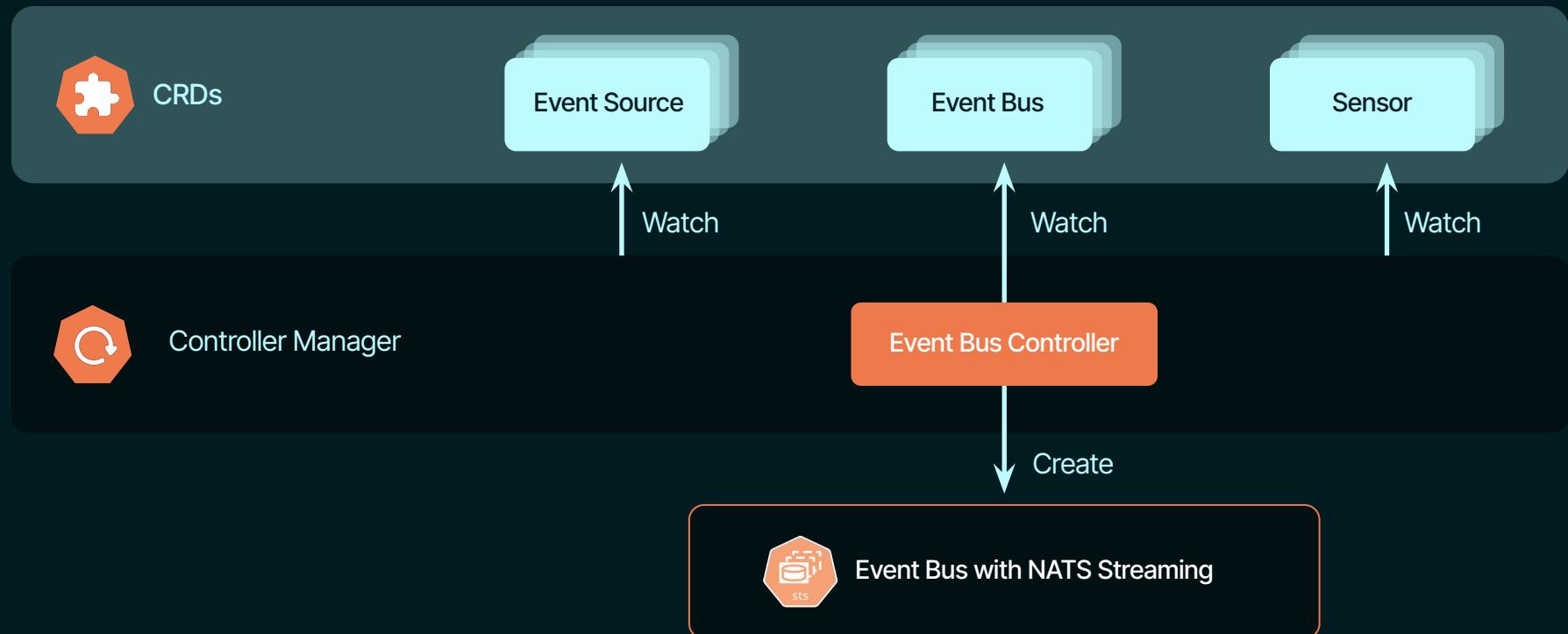
```
{"level": "info", "ts": 1725264481.6412816, "logger": "argo-events.eventbus-controller.nats", "caller": "installer/nats.go:180", "msg": "Service is created", "namespace": "argo-events", "eventbus": "default", "serviceName": "eventbus-default-stan-svc"} {"level": "info", "ts": 1725264481.6484525, "logger": "argo-events.eventbus-controller.nats", "caller": "installer/nats.go:221", "msg": "Created configmap", "namespace": "argo-events", "eventbus": "default", "configmapName": "eventbus-default-stan-configmap"} {"level": "info", "ts": 1725264481.6610892, "logger": "argo-events.eventbus-controller.nats", "caller": "installer/nats.go:314", "msg": "Created server auth secret", "namespace": "argo-events", "eventbus": "default", "serverAuthSecretName": "eventbus-default-server"} {"level": "info", "ts": 1725264481.6640878, "logger": "argo-events.eventbus-controller.nats", "caller": "installer/nats.go:343", "msg": "Created client auth secret", "namespace": "argo-events", "eventbus": "default", "clientAuthSecretName": "eventbus-default-client"} {"level": "info", "ts": 1725264481.6714368, "logger": "argo-events.eventbus-controller.nats", "caller": "installer/nats.go:399", "msg": "Statefulset is created", "namespace": "argo-events", "eventbus": "default", "statefulsetName": "eventbus-default-stan"}
```



The case of the missing EventBus...



Recap of where we are in the install



The Life of an Event - from JSON blob to tests

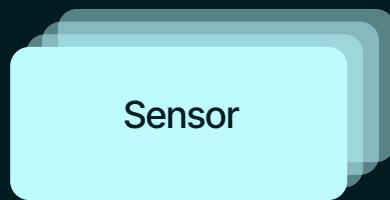
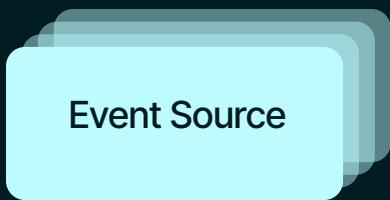


Workflow as test runner - parameters
from the event e.g. PR ID



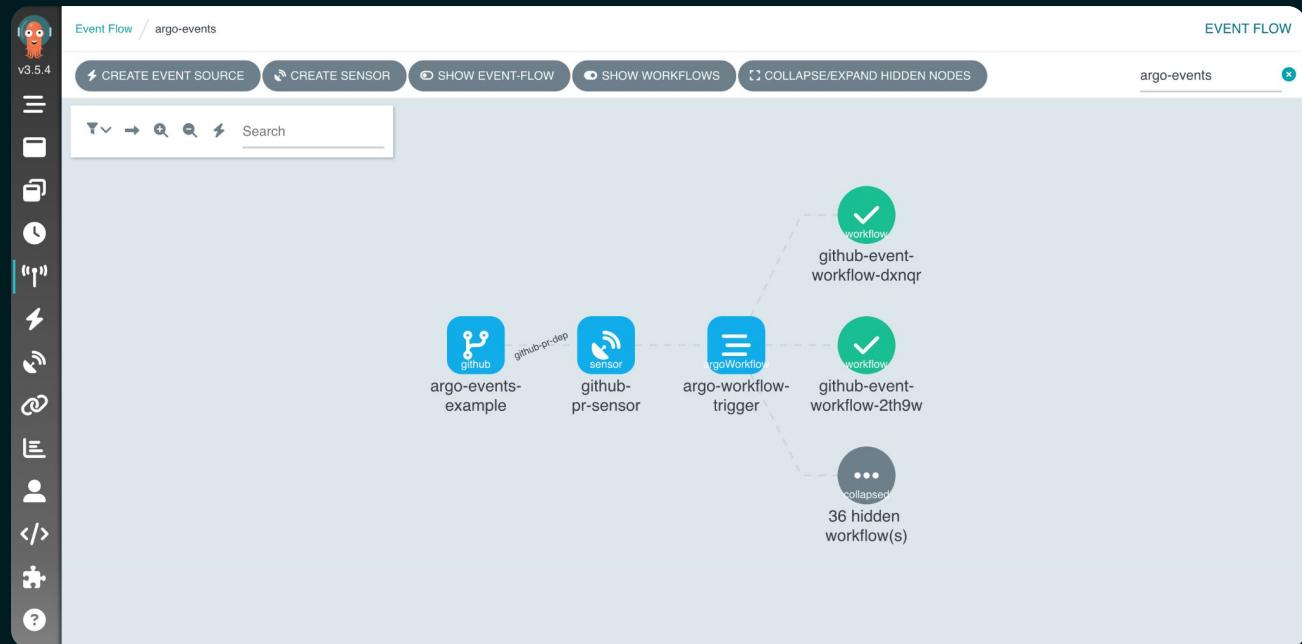
For each event...

We must define:



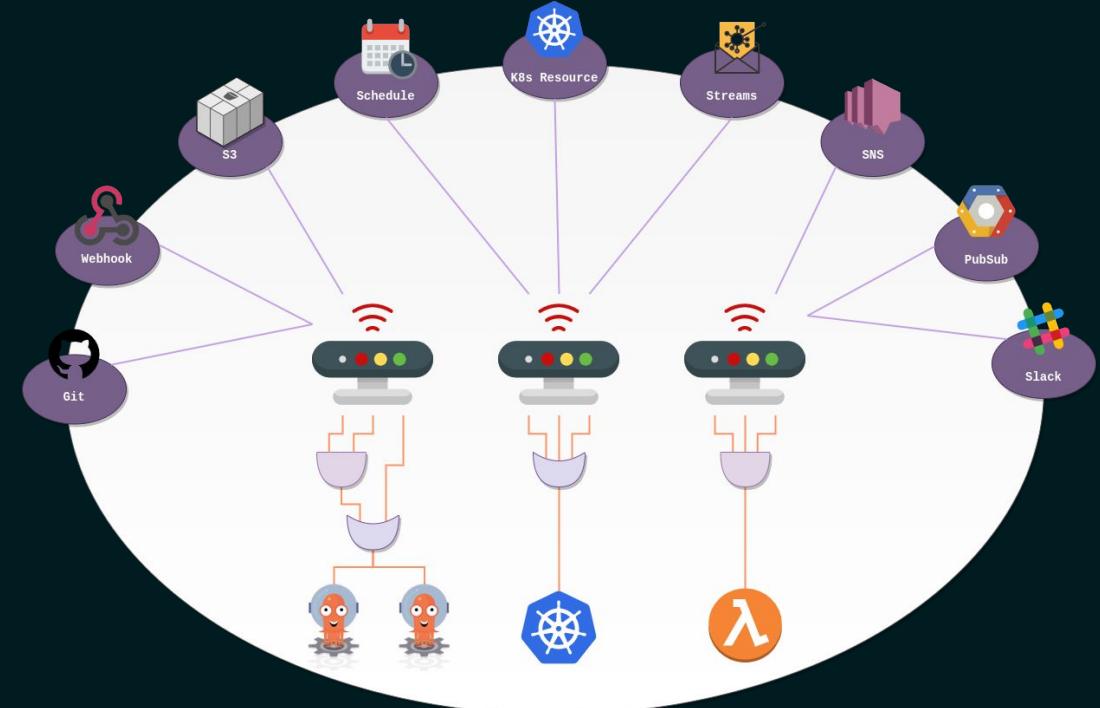
Controller Manager

Where do I see Events?



1. The Life of an Event: Before it reaches Argo Events

Something **produces** an event.



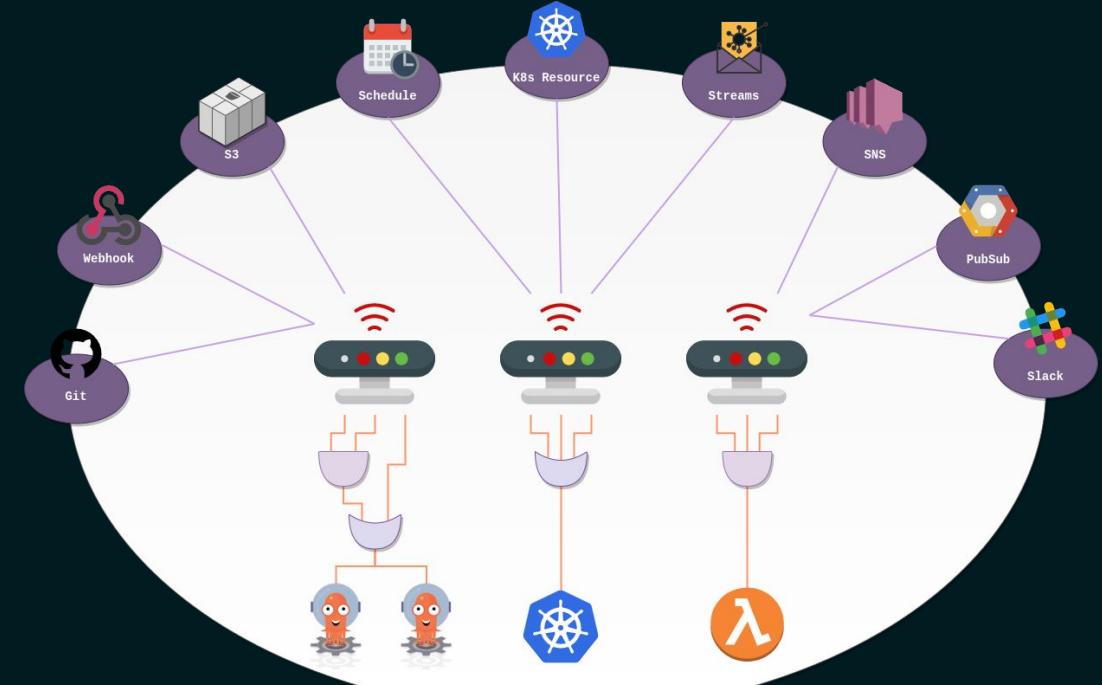
2. The Life of an Event: Event Source

Something produces an event.

We configure an event source so argo-events to be able to consume that event.

The Event Source:

- transforms the event into a standard format (see [cloudevents](#))
- dispatches the event onto the eventbus.



2. The Life of an Event: Event Source

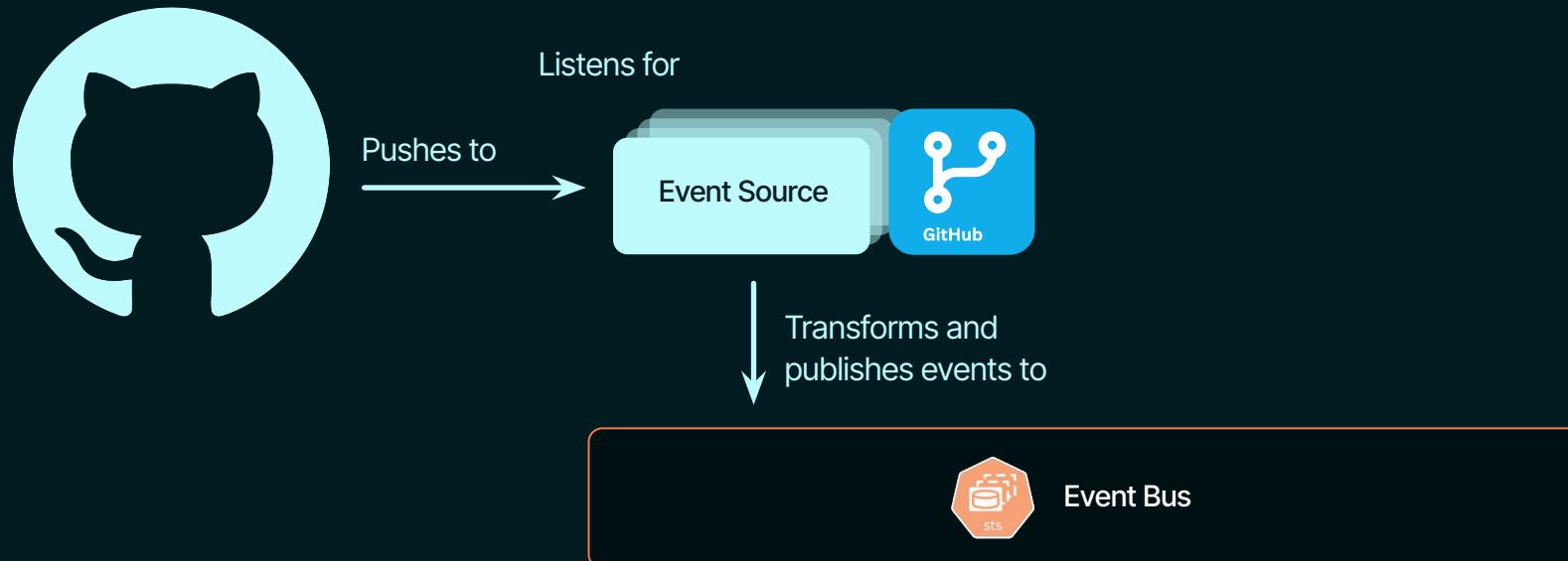
```
apiVersion: argoproj.io/v1alpha1
kind: EventSource
metadata:
  name: github-event-source
  namespace: argo-events
Spec:
  # this can be omitted if using the default eventbus
  eventBusName: default
  github:
    argo-events-example:
      owner: BeckyPauley
      repository: github-argo-events-demo
      events:
        - pull_request
      webhook:
        endpoint: /pr
        port: "12000"
        method: POST
        url: https://github-webhook.my-domain.com ...
```



✓ <https://github-webhook> .. (pull_request)
Last delivery was successful.

Edit Delete

3. The Life of an Event: Event Bus



4. The Life of an Event: Sensor - Dependencies

```
apiVersion: argoproj.io/v1alpha1
kind: Sensor
metadata:
  name: github-pr-sensor
  namespace: argo-events
spec:
  template:
    serviceAccountName: operate-workflow-sa
  dependencies:
    - name: pr
      eventSourceName: github-event-source
      eventName: github-event
```



Note: we *could* use filters here.

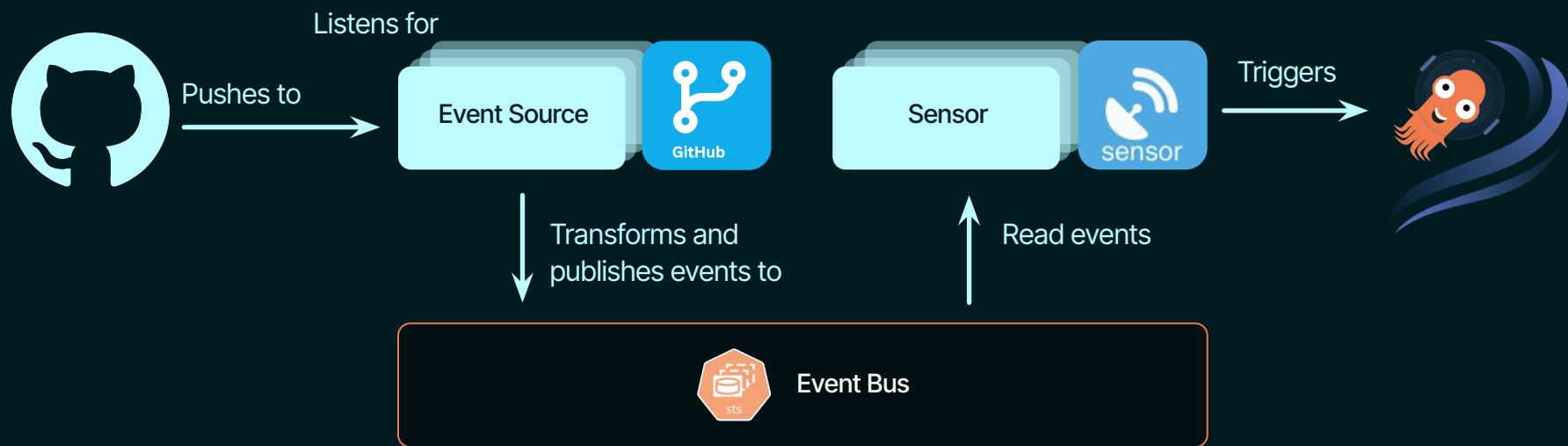
See: <https://argoproj.github.io/argo-events/sensors/filters/data>

4. The Life of an Event: Sensor - Triggers

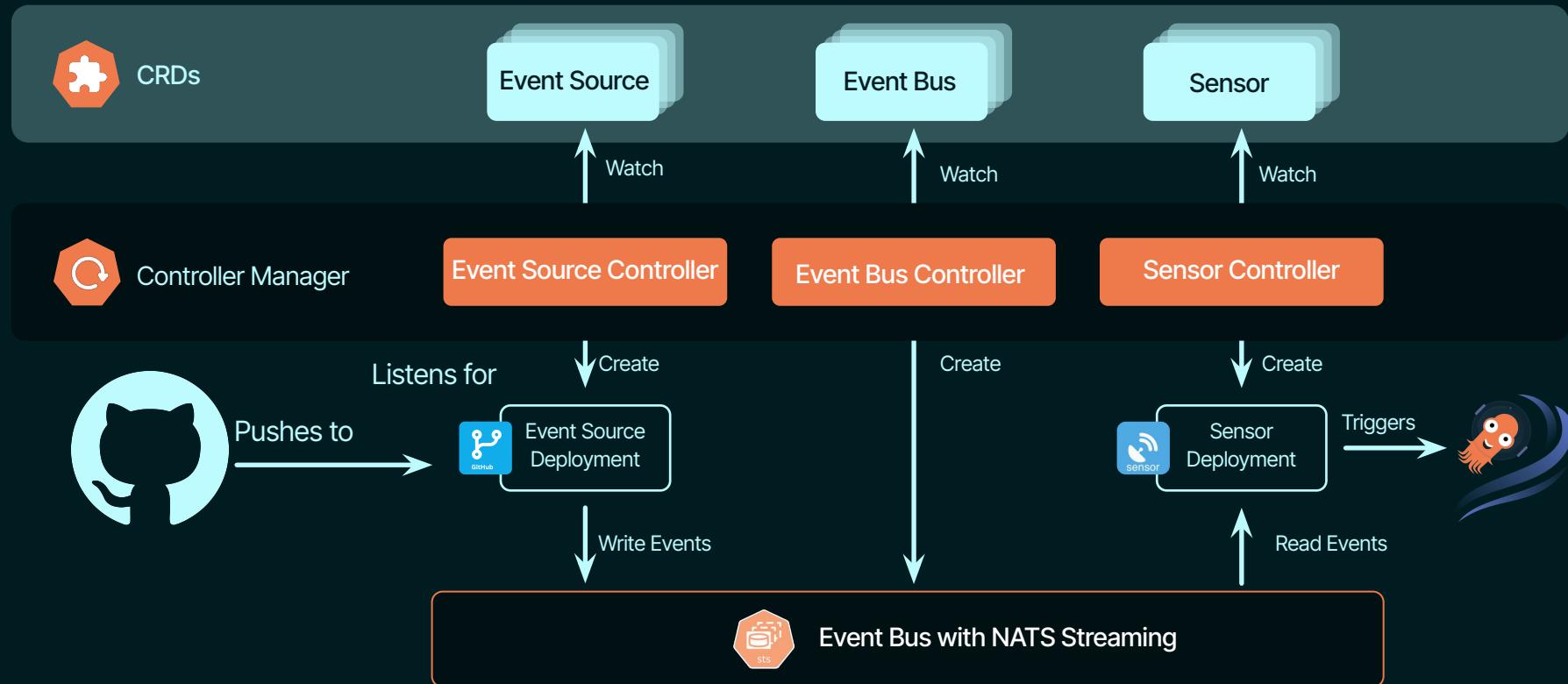
```
triggers:
- template:
  name: github-workflow-trigger
  # NB: We could use argoWorkflows or k8s trigger type here
  k8s:
    group: argoproj.io
    version: v1alpha1
    resource: workflows
    operation: create
    source:
      resource:
        apiVersion: argoproj.io/v1alpha1
        kind: Workflow
        metadata:
          name: pr-
          namespace: argo-events
          labels:
            workflows.argoproj.io/workflow-template: pr-build-and-test
    spec:
      arguments:
        parameters:
          - name: pr_number
            value: ''
          - name: git_sha
            value: ''
  workflowTemplateRef:
    name: pr-build-and-test
```



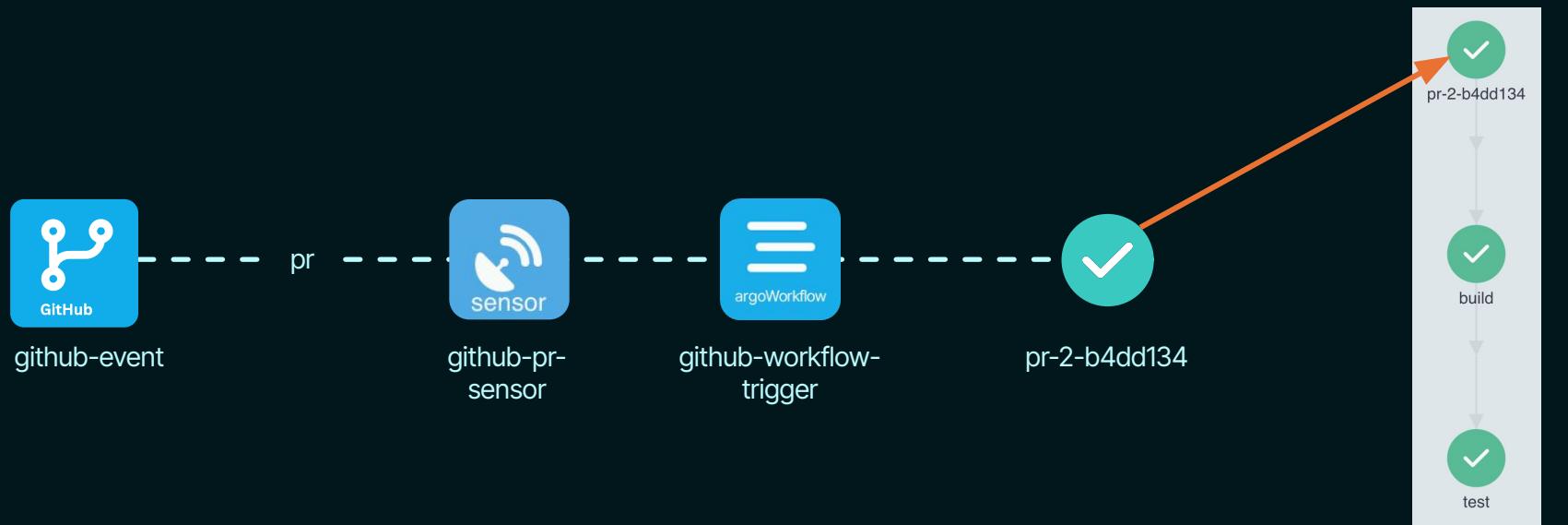
4. The Life of an Event: Sensor



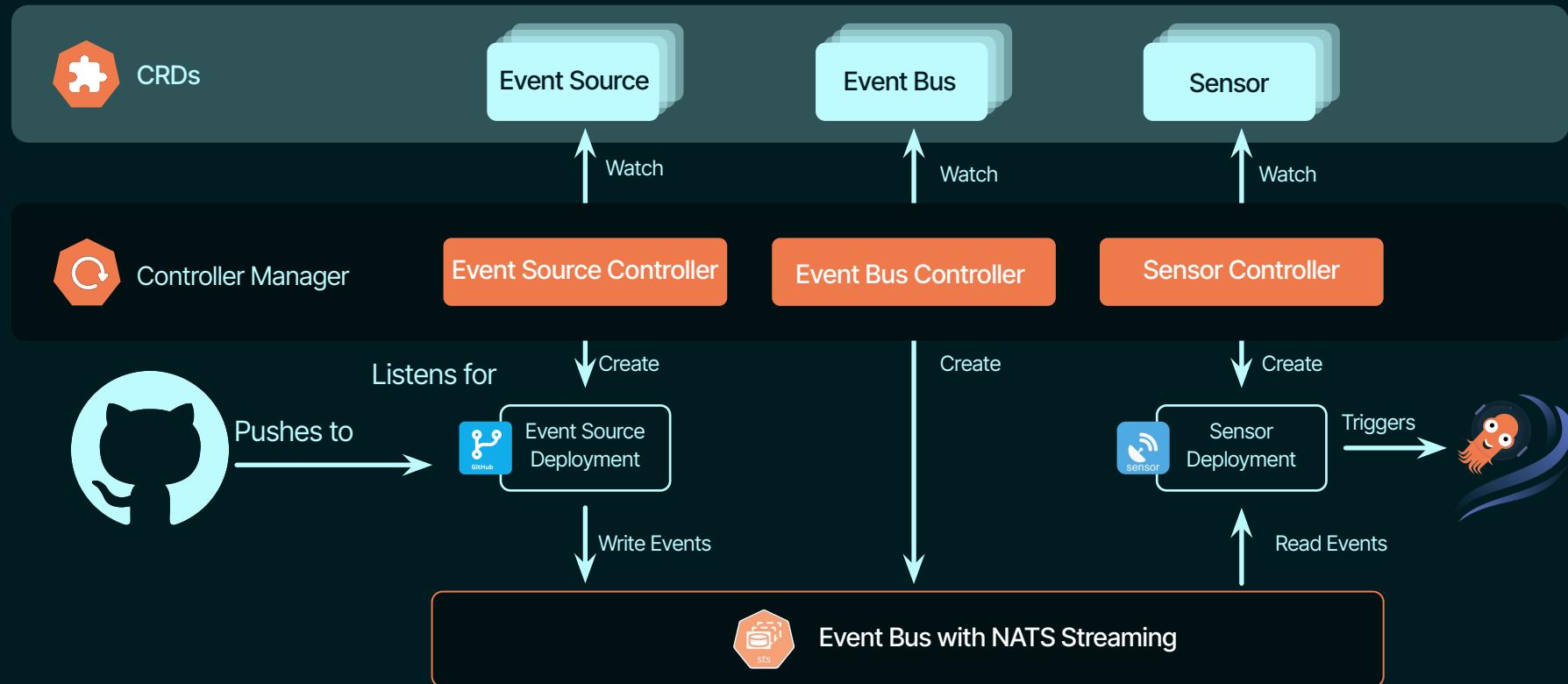
The Life of an Event: The Big Picture



The Life of an Event: Argo Workflows UI



The Even Bigger Picture



The Even Bigger Picture

Normally : one Event Bus

We could have:

- Many Event Sources → one Event Bus → many Sensors
- One Event Source for all activity in an entire GitHub org, many Sensors

Don't know exactly what sensors you'll need in the future?

Gather up information in your Event Source, build the Sensors you want today.

For Further Investigation

Event Bus Options

- There are three supported Event Bus options:
 - NATS
 - NATS Jetstream
 - Kafka

Validating admission webhook

- Kicks an error if your Argo Events configuration is invalid

Conclusion



- Recap of the lifecycle
- Customization options

Want to learn more?



Try the Getting Started guide and tutorials
https://argoproj.github.io/argo-events/quick_start/



Read through the docs
<https://argoproj.github.io/argo-events/>



Visit GitHub (especially the examples directory)
<https://github.com/argoproj/argo-events>



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 Save engineering time and up to 60% on compute costs

 Add 3 Argo maintainers and 7 Argo contributors to your team

 Serving startups & Fortune 500 enterprises since 2021:

Enterprise Support for Argo:

Ideal for Platform Eng teams scaling with Argo

Control Plane for Argo Workflows:

Ideal for data teams, granular RBAC, and multi-cluster architectures

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Jetstack Consult provides strategic advisory services, engineering and training to help businesses, large and small, solve five key platform engineering challenges:

- Platform optimisation
 - Cloud diversification
 - Infrastructure modernisation
 - Innovation at scale
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Thank you



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Feedback



Q&A

