

Kubernetes Operators made with Ansible

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1. What is Kubernetes

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
  name: example-app
  labels:
    app: example-app
spec:
  containers:
  - name: example
    image: companyname/example:v1.2.0
    ports:
    - containerPort: 8000
```

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Service
metadata:
  name: example-service
spec:
  selector:
    app: example-app
  ports:
  - protocol: TCP
    port: 80
    targetPort: 8000
```

2. Ansible k8s module

K8s YAML

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: ConfigMap
metadata:
  name: foo
  namespace: default
data:
  color: red
```

Ansible Task

```
---
- name: create foo configmap
  k8s:
    definition:
      apiVersion: v1
      kind: ConfigMap
      metadata:
        name: foo
        namespace: default
      data:
        color: "{{ color }}"
```

Ansible Template

```
---  
- name: create foo configmap  
  k8s:  
    definition: "{{ lookup('template', 'foo.yaml.j2') }}"
```

Ansible Role

- Packages related Ansible code for **re-use**
- Create a Role that deploys and manages your application
- Ansible Galaxy: central location to share Roles with the world

```
memcached/
├── defaults
│   └── main.yml
├── files
├── handlers
│   └── main.yml
├── meta
│   └── main.yml
├── README.md
├── tasks
│   └── main.yml
├── templates
├── tests
│   ├── inventory
│   └── test.yml
└── vars
    └── main.yml
```

Why use Ansible with Kubernetes

- Similar patterns of writing declarative/idempotent YAML
- Many ops teams are already familiar with Ansible
- Easy to learn, uses Jinja templating
- Capable of full day-2 management

3. Operators

What is an Operator?

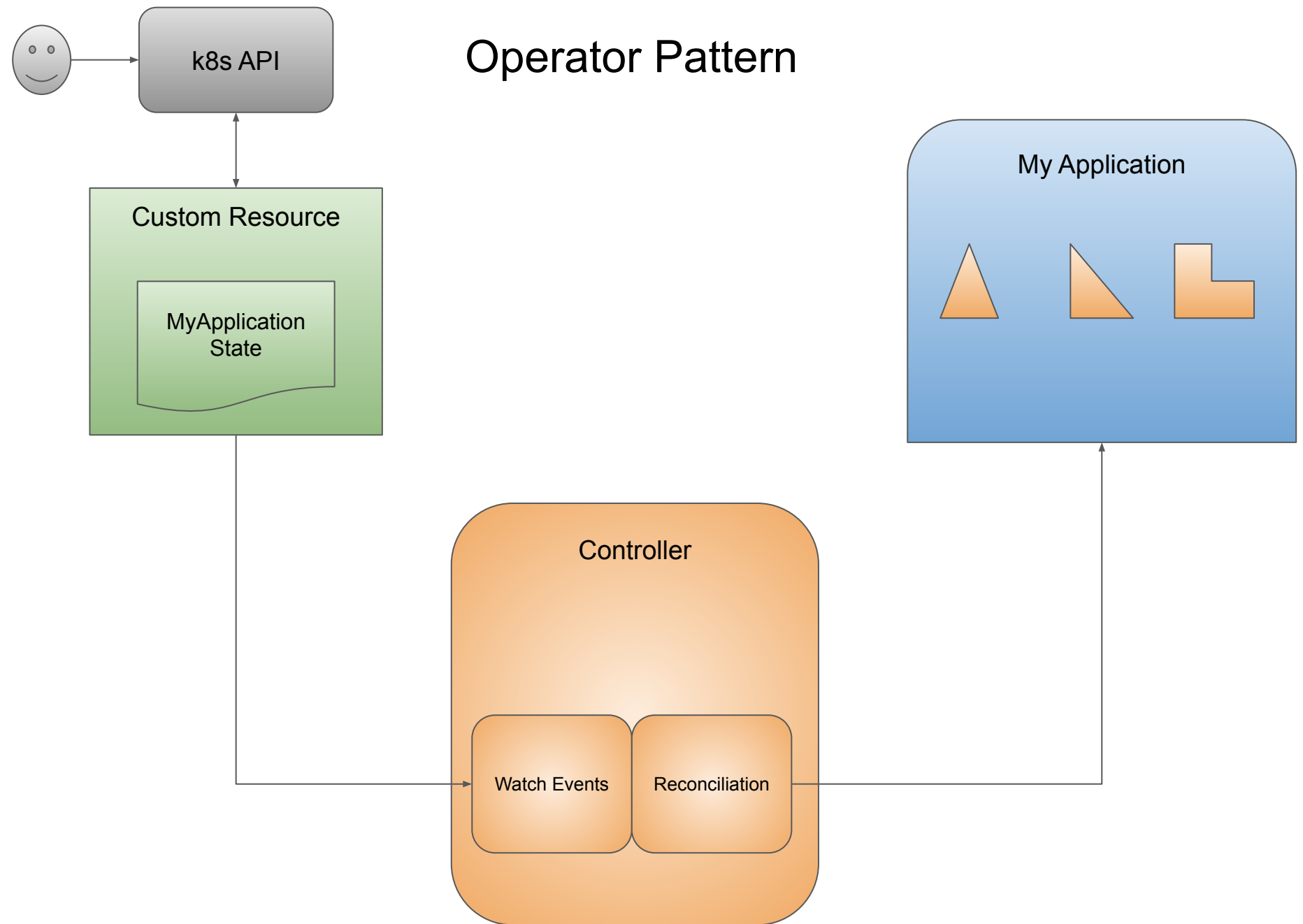
- Kubernetes Controller
- Deploys and manages an application
- Human operational knowledge in code
 - Deploy
 - Upgrade
 - Scale
 - Backup
 - Repair
 - ...

Extending the Kubernetes API

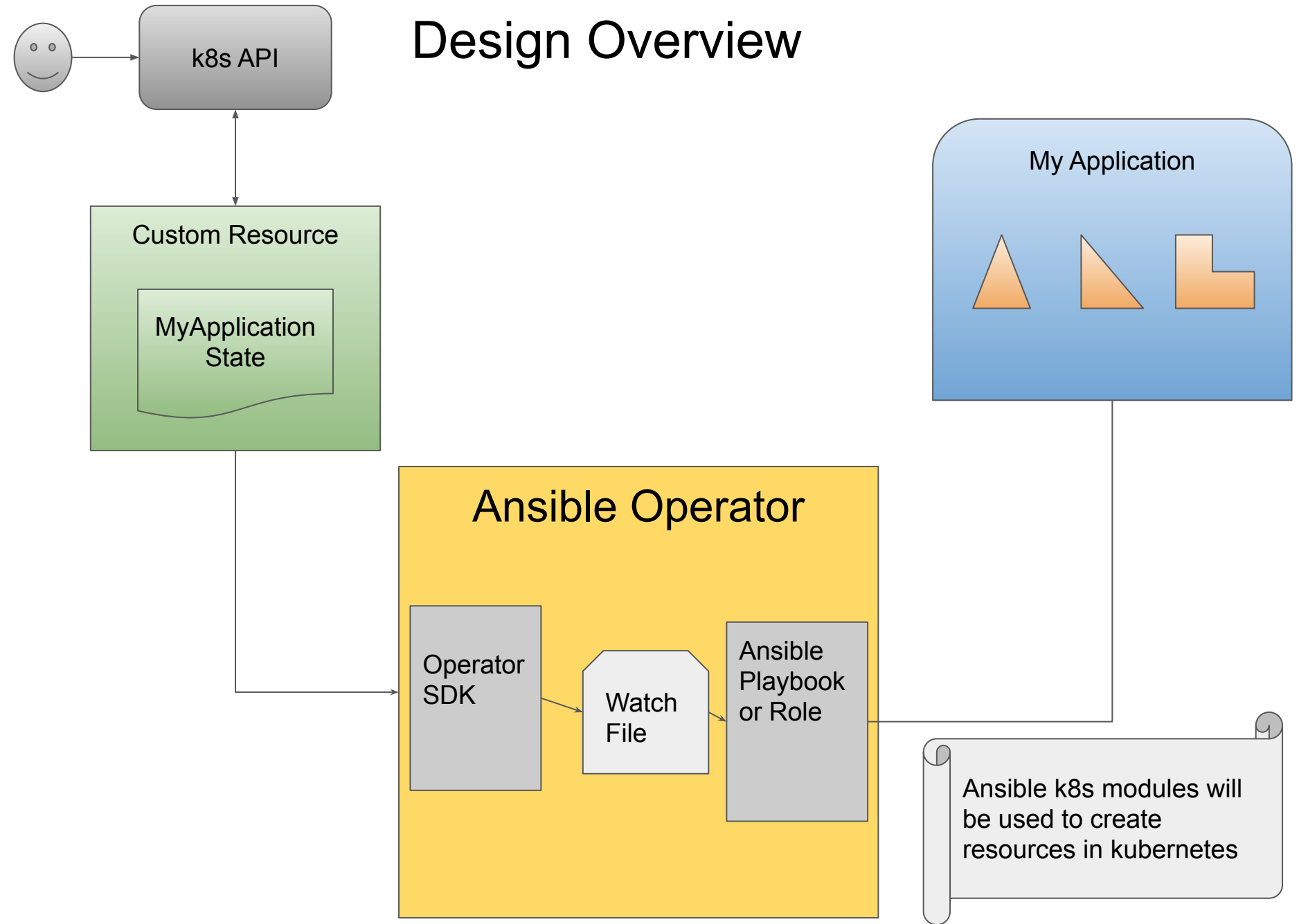
- You can define Custom Resources
- Choose what fields a user can “specify”

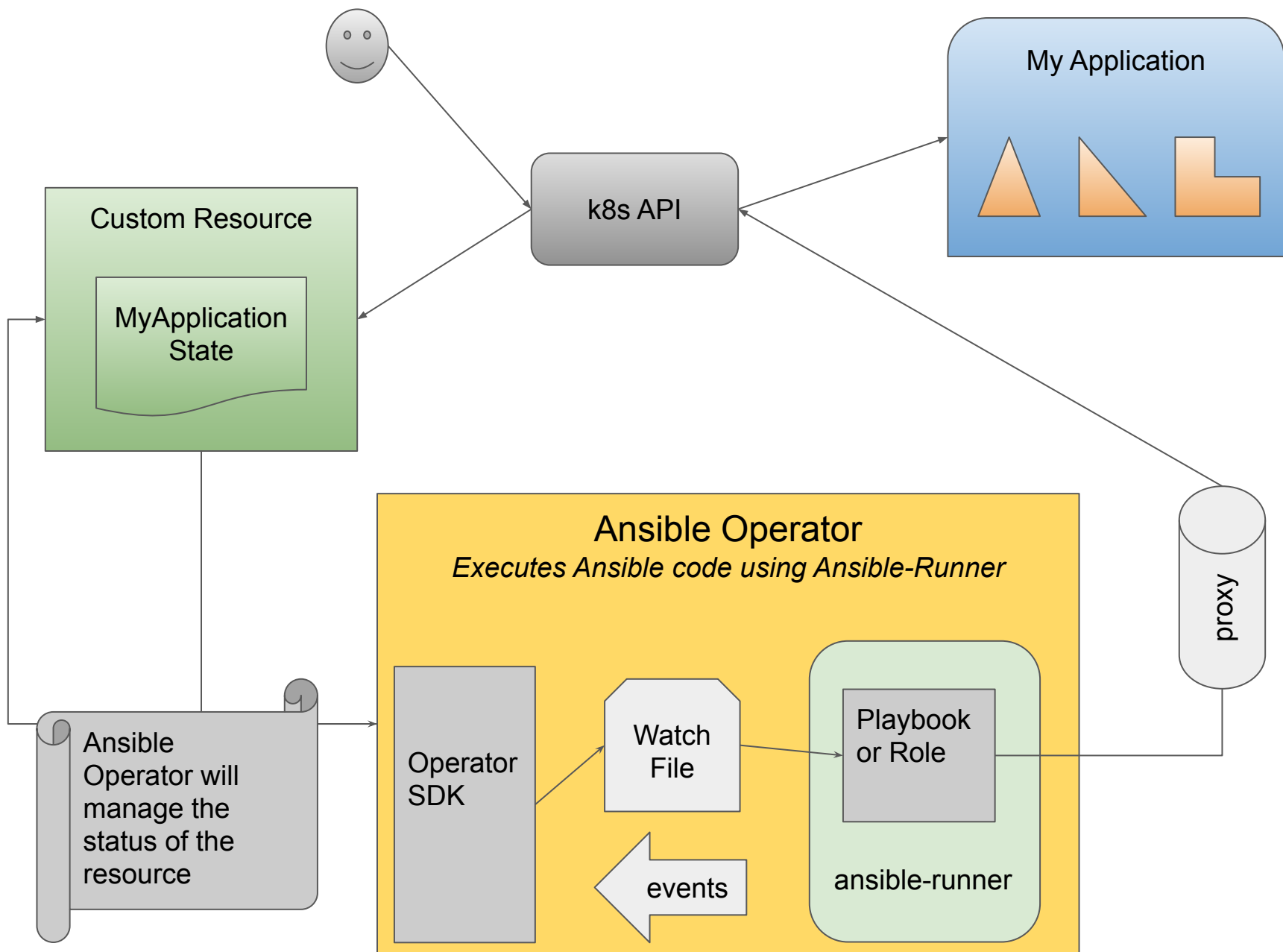
```
apiVersion: cache.example.com/v1alpha1
kind: Memcached
metadata:
  name: example-memcached
spec:
  size: 3
```

Operator Pattern



Design Overview





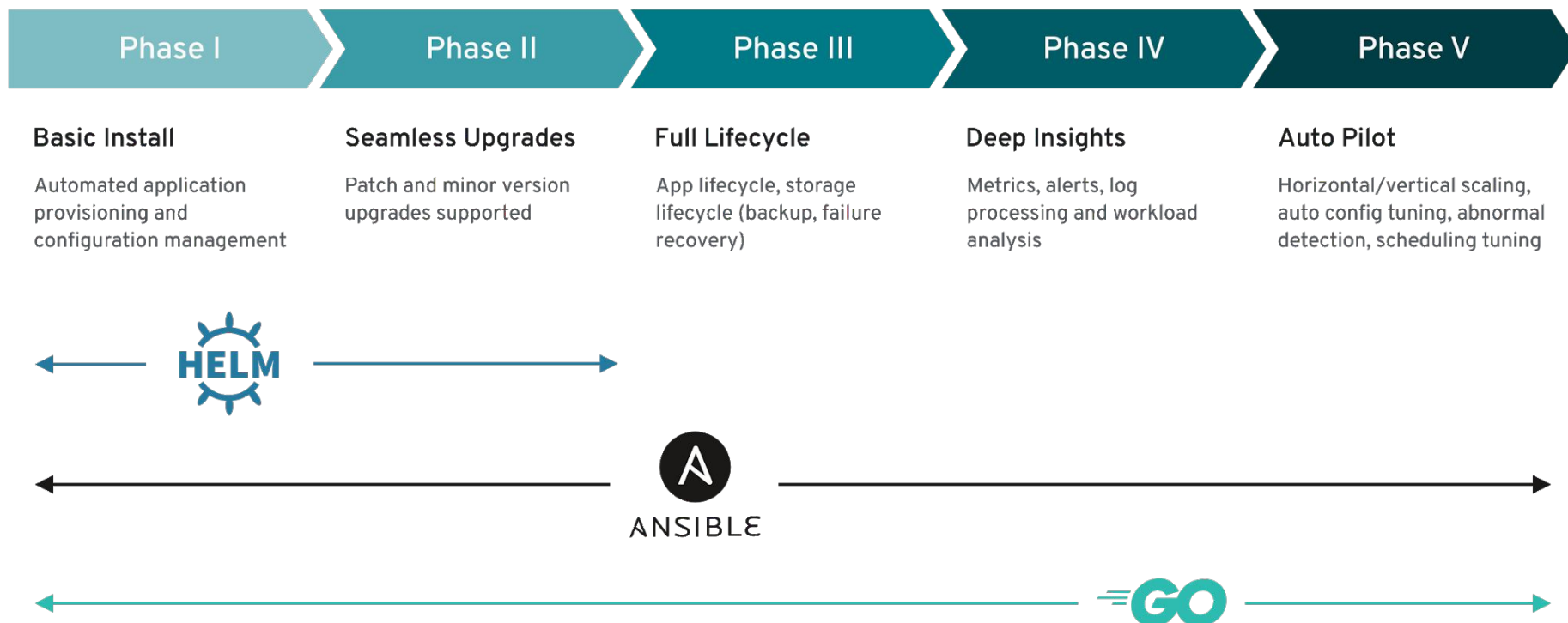
watches.yaml

- Maps a Group Version Kind (GVK) to a role or playbook.

```
# watches.yaml
---
- version: v1alpha1
  group: cache.example.com
  kind: Memcached
  playbook: /path/to/playbook
```



- Helps you create an operator
- Write using Go, Ansible, or Helm
- <https://github.com/operator-framework/operator-sdk/>



Spec To Parameters

Custom Resource

```
apiVersion: <Group/Version>
kind: <kind>
metadata:
  name: <name>
spec:
  <key>: <value>
  ....
status:
  <key>: <value>
  ....
```

Ansible Operator

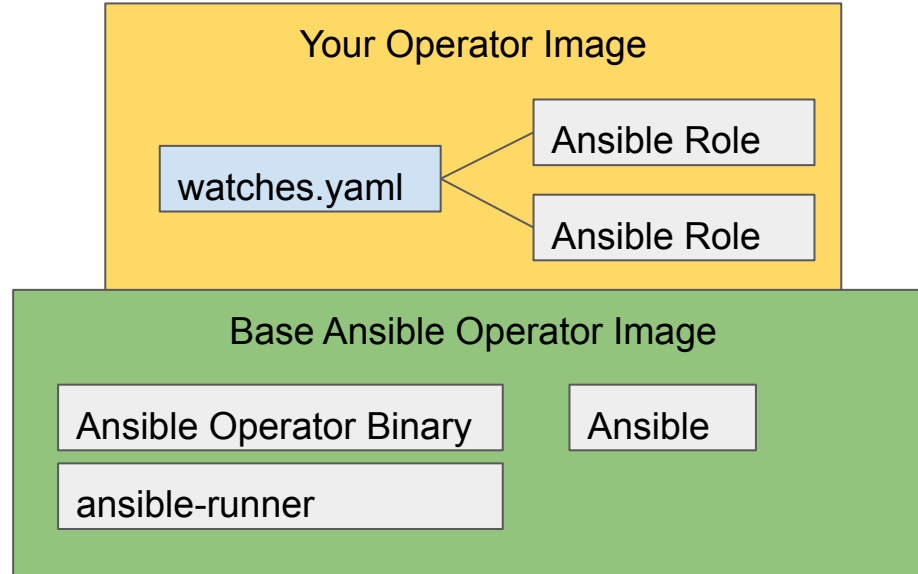
Spec values will be translated to Ansible extra vars.

Status will be a generic status defined by the operator. This will use ansible runner output to generate meaningful output for the user.

Anatomy of Operator Image

From a base Ansible Operator image:

- Add **watches.yaml**, which is a mapping of Group-Version-Kinds to a playbook or role.
- Add one or more **Ansible roles**.



Ansible Developer Experience

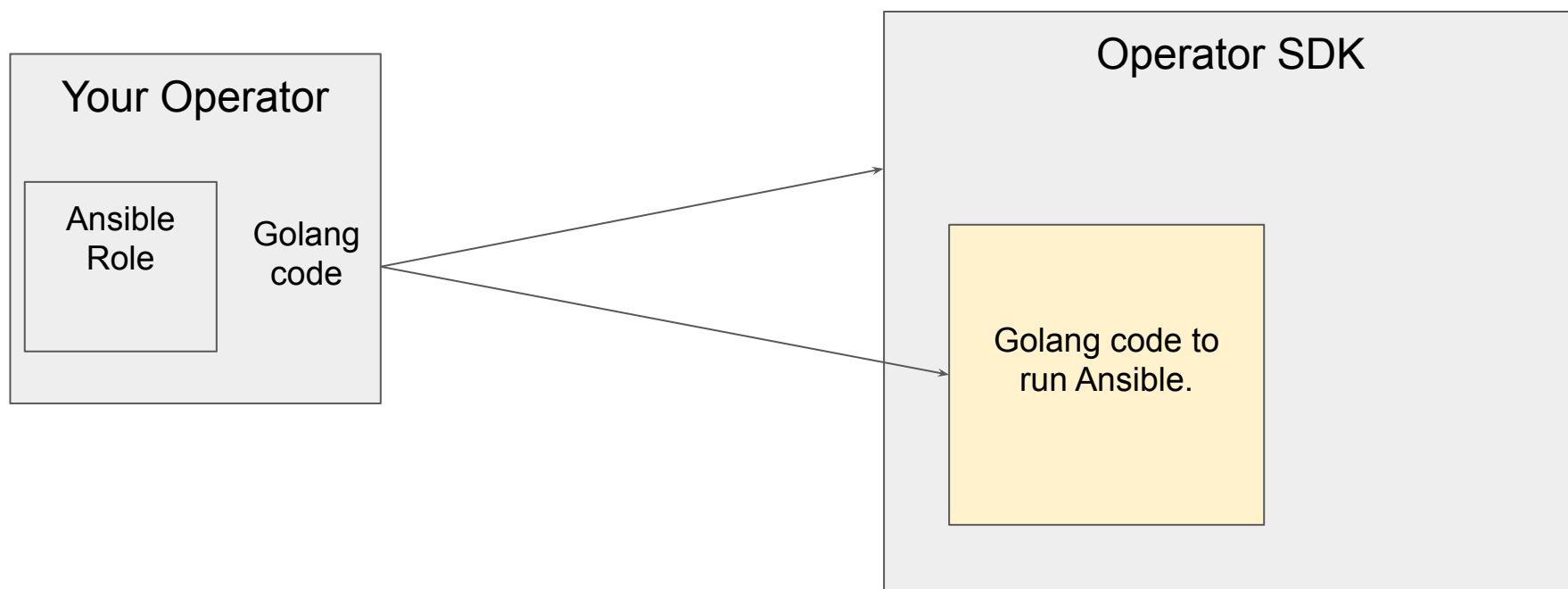
```
$ operator-sdk new memcached-operator  
--api-version=cache.example.com/v1alpha1 --kind=Memcached  
--type=ansible
```

Creates:

- Ansible Role
- Mapping File (watches.yaml)
- Custom Resource Definition
- Deploy manifest for the new Operator

Hybrid Use Case

- The Ansible Operator is a first class citizen of operator-sdk.
- You can extend/change your operator with golang code to make a hybrid.
- Allows you to change, compose, or reuse the Ansible Operator.

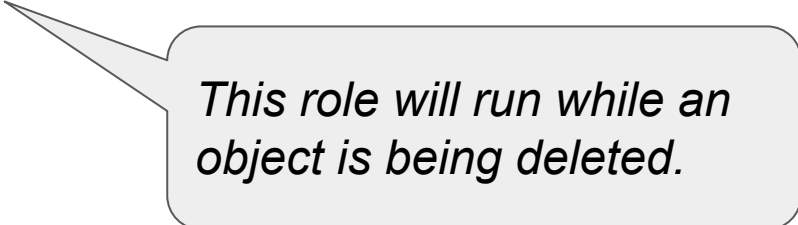


4. Advanced Patterns

Finalizers

- A way to run code before an object gets deleted.

```
# watches.yaml
---
- version: v1alpha1
  group: cache.example.com
  kind: Memcached
  role: /opt/ansible/roles/memcached
  finalizer:
    name: finalizer.memcached.cache.example.com
    role: /opt/ansible/roles/memfin
```



This role will run while an object is being deleted.

Upgrade

Can be an expression using any available variables.

- when: `version < 1.2`
block:
 - name: "run upgrade tool"
shell: `runupgrade.sh --version 1.2`
 - name: "do more upgrade stuff"
shell: ...

Backup / Restore

Create a CRD and Controller just for Backup

```
# watches.yaml
---
- version: v1beta2
  group: etcd.database.coreos.com
  kind: EtcdCluster
  playbook: /opt/ansible/playbook.yaml


- version: v1beta2
  group: etcd.database.coreos.com
  kind: EtcdBackup
  playbook: /opt/ansible/backup_playbook.yaml

- version: v1beta2
  group: etcd.database.coreos.com
  kind: EtcdRestore
  reconcilePeriod: 10h
  playbook: /opt/ansible/restore_playbook.yaml
```

Defines how and when a backup should be created.

Defines workflow logic for backup.

ansible.com/operators

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Ansible

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Building Operators with Ansible

Request more info

CHALLENGE

Operators are usually written in Go by software developers that are highly familiar with Kubernetes.

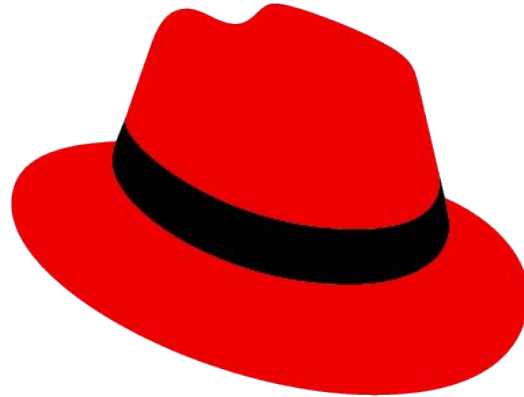
SOLUTION

Ansible® is a first class citizen in the Operator SDK. Ansible-based Operators provide a lower barrier to entry, faster iterations, and the power of Ansible and its ecosystem. Put more simply, an Operator is designed to watch and respond to the resources in your cluster to enable your application to run as desired. After the Operator SDK is invoked, it's Ansible code as opposed to a common approach of handling these events with Go code.

Learn the basics of Kubernetes

Key components, architecture, and how to get started

We are hiring!



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Questions

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