

# ***Portable, Universal, Single Sign-On for Your Clusters***

**Miguel Martinez @migmartri**  
**May 21st, Kubecon EU**



# Hi, I am Miguel!

- Spaniard in San Francisco, obsessed with Mexican food
- Full-stack developer at Bitnami
- Core contributor of Kubeapps, Monocular and Helm



@migmartri



# Agenda

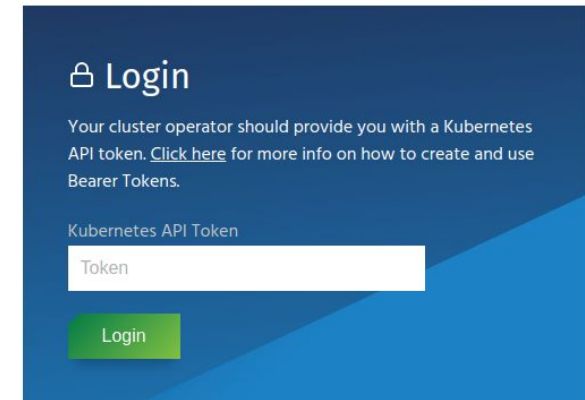
- Problem statement
- OIDC intro and key takeaways
- Implementation challenges
- Workarounds and demos

# Our problem

## Support Single Sign-on in Kubeapps

- Only supported k8s service accounts
- Adoption barrier
- Security best practices blocker

## Single sign-on, most requested feature





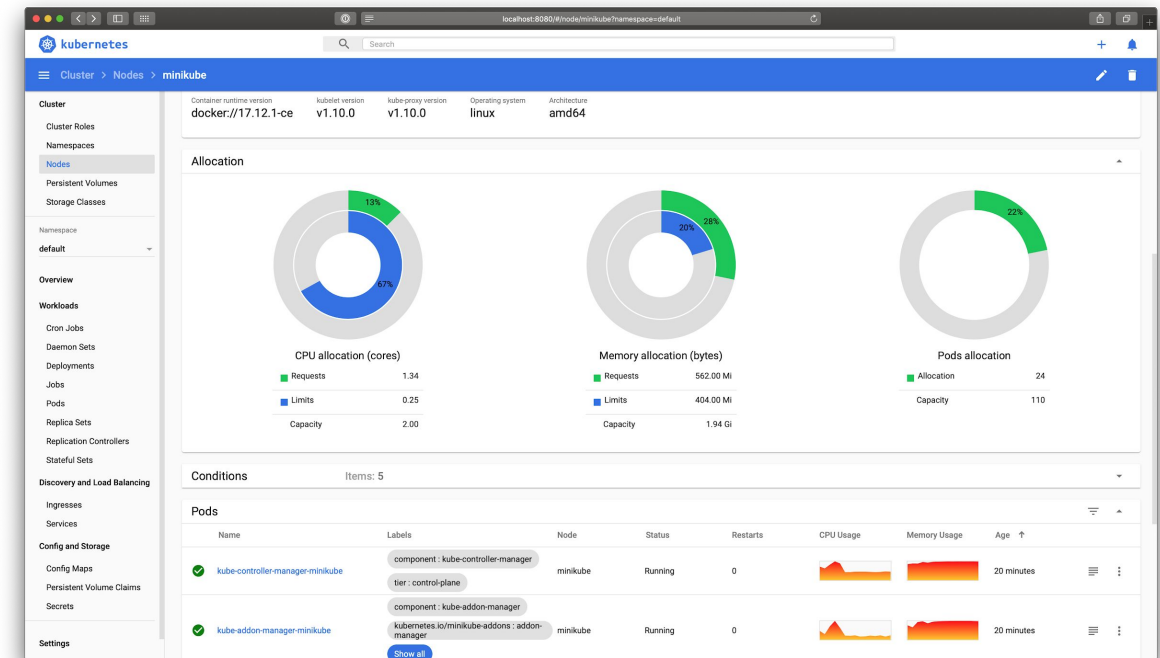
# Our problem

## General Statement

Application (YourApp) that

1. AuthN users via Single sign-on
2. **Talks to the k8s API server**

i.e kubectl, Kubernetes Dashboard, Kubeapps



```
Terminal
migmartri ~ $ kubectl cluster-info
Kubernetes master is running at https://192.168.99.110:8443
KubeDNS is running at https://192.168.99.110:8443/api/v1/namespaces/kube-system/services/kube-dns:dns/proxy
```

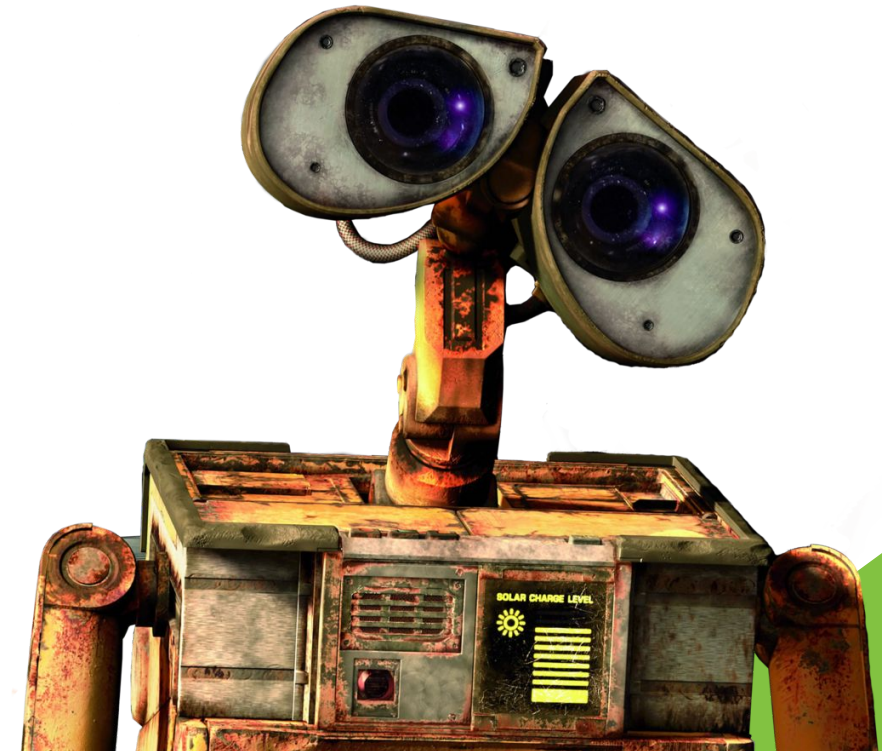
# Our problem

Solution Scope and Caveats

Platform ~~dependent~~ vs  
Independent

AuthN vs ~~AuthZ~~

~~Robots~~ vs Humans



# AuthN in Kubernetes

## User Authentication Overview

	Self-service	Rotation	Revocation	UX
X509 Client Certs				
Token (SA or Static)				
Basic Auth				
Single sign-on - OpenID Connect				

# SSO in Kubernetes

## Why?

### For Users

- Familiar AuthN mechanism
- No need to have additional set of credentials
- Self-service

### For Cluster Operators

- No manual generation or transfer of credentials
- Built-in rotation and revocation methods
- AuthN delegation
- Support for groups and scopes



# SSO in Kubernetes

Kubernetes API understands  
OpenID Connect (OIDC)

OAuth2 != OIDC!

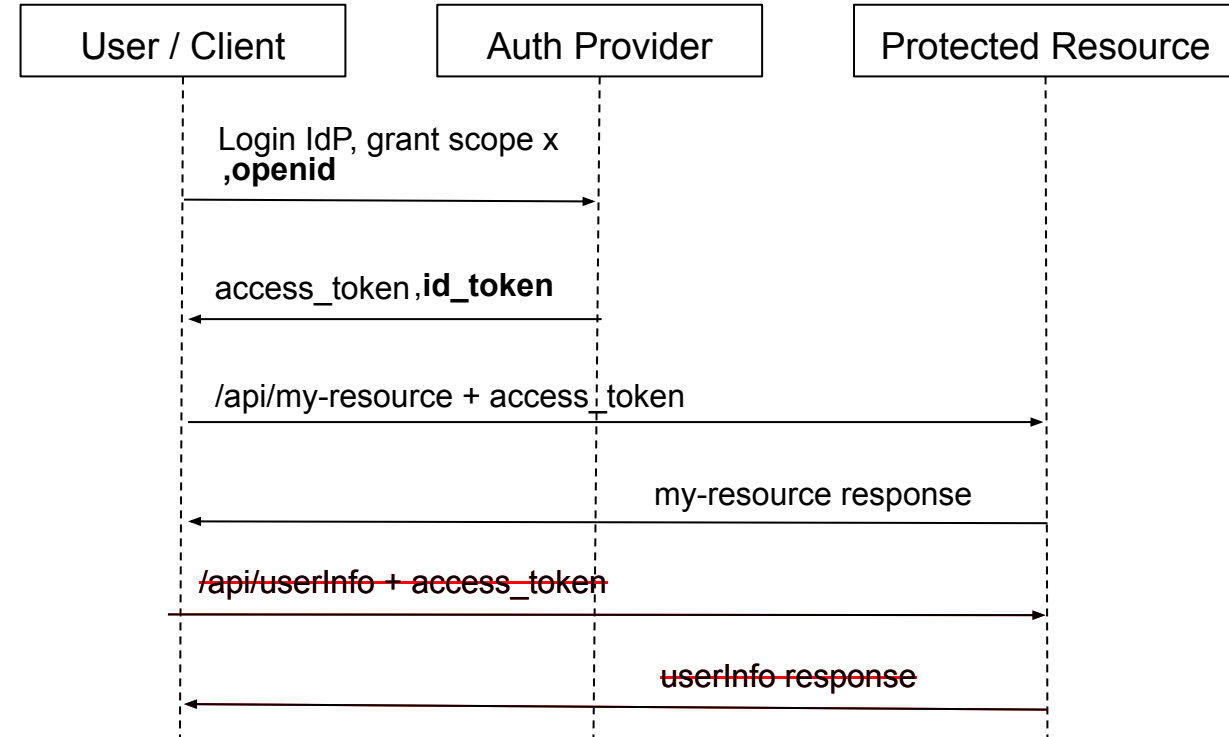


# SSO in Kubernetes

## OpenID Connect (OIDC)

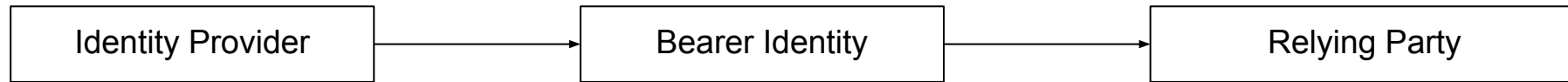
Identity layer **on top of** the OAuth 2.0  
AuthZ protocol

Authentication Info **standardized** in a  
**cryptographically signed JWT**  
**token** called id\_token

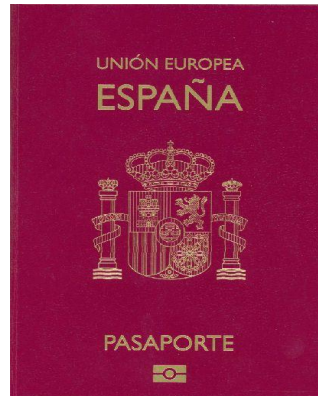


# SSO in Kubernetes

## OpenID Connect - Trust Chain example. Trip to the US



- Verify Identity
- Craft Passport

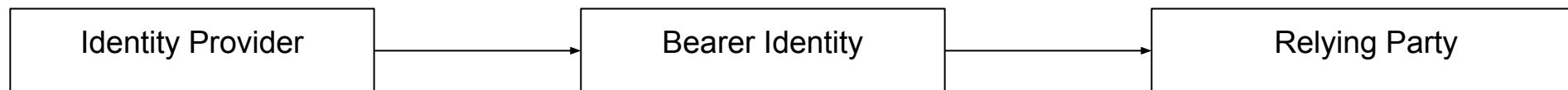


- It is from a trusted source
- It has not been tampered with (ePassport)
- It is not expired

**The relying party does not contact the identity provider**

# SSO in Kubernetes

## OpenID Connect - Trust Chain in Kubernetes



ID Token (JWT)

K8s API Server

3rd party app

- Header
- Payload
  - Identity (sub/email)
  - Who provisioned this token (**iss**)
  - Intended client audience (**aud**)
  - Expiration time (**exp**)
  - Claims (name, email, ...)
- **Signature**

- It has not been tampered with (**signature**)
- It is from a trusted source (**iss**)
- I am the receiver (**aud**)
- It is not expired (**exp**)
- **DOES NOT** contact the IdP (except to retrieve the Public Key)

# SSO in Kubernetes

## Integration

You need to configure the K8s API server to trust an OIDC Identity Provider

```
# API server flags

--oidc-issuer-url https://my-oidc-idP.com # .../.well-known/openid-configuration
--oidc-client-id my-client-id
--oidc-username-claim email
--oidc-groups-claim groups
```

```
# oidc-issuer.match(id_token.iss) && oidc-client-id.match(id_token.aud)
```

```
$ curl https://api-server -H "Authorization: Bearer ${id_token}"
```

```
$ kubectl --token ${id_token}
```



# Problem Statement

## Summary

Application (YourApp) that:

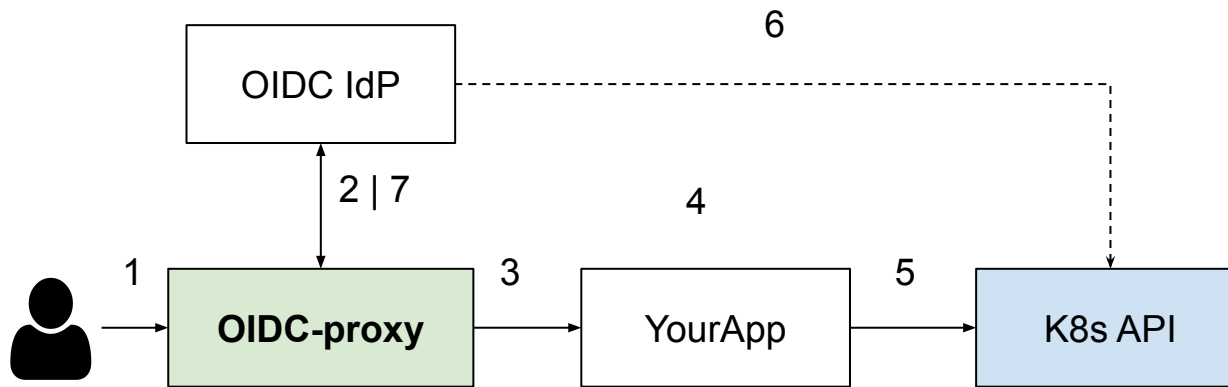
1. AuthN users via OIDC single sign-on
2. Talks directly to the k8s API server

i.e kubectl, Kubernetes Dashboard, Kubeapps

# Problem Statement

## Solution

Proxy configured with the **same OIDC IdP** than the **k8s API server** \*

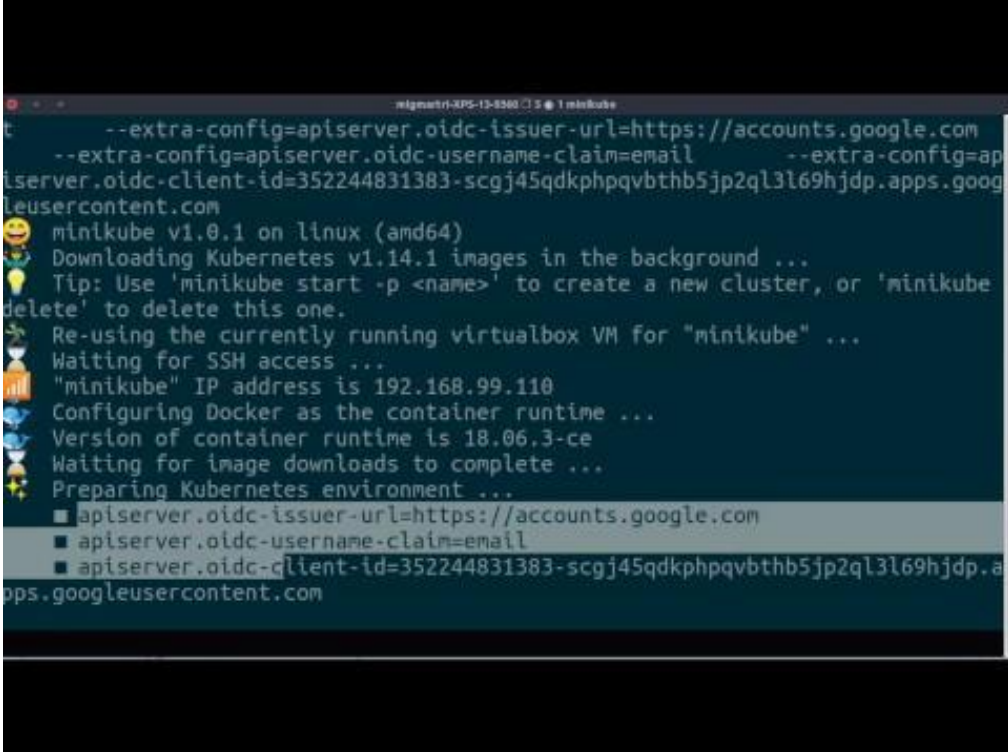


- Enforce AuthN with an external IdP
- Takes care of the OAuth2 dance, token exchange and refresh
- Inject ID Headers and forward them upstream

# Problem Statement

Demo, Exclamation Mark

SSO-enabled Kubernetes Dashboard  
+ Google's IdP on Minikube

A terminal window with a dark background and light-colored text. The title bar at the top reads "minikube". The command entered is `--extra-config=apiserver.oidc-issuer-url=https://accounts.google.com --extra-config=apiserver.oidc-username-claim=email --extra-config=apiserver.oidc-client-id=352244831383-scgj45qdkphpqvbthb5jp2ql3l69hjdps.apps.googleusercontent.com minikube`. The output shows the minikube version (v1.0.1 on linux (amd64)), downloading Kubernetes images, a tip to use 'minikube start -p <name>' to create a new cluster, re-using the current VM, waiting for SSH access, displaying the IP address (192.168.99.110), configuring Docker, showing the container runtime version (18.06.3-ce), waiting for image downloads, and preparing the Kubernetes environment with the specified flags. The flags are listed in a bulleted format.

```
--extra-config=apiserver.oidc-issuer-url=https://accounts.google.com
--extra-config=apiserver.oidc-username-claim=email --extra-config=ap
apiserver.oidc-client-id=352244831383-scgj45qdkphpqvbthb5jp2ql3l69hjdps.apps.goog
leusercontent.com
minikube v1.0.1 on linux (amd64)
Downloading Kubernetes v1.14.1 images in the background ...
Tip: Use 'minikube start -p <name>' to create a new cluster, or 'minikube
delete' to delete this one.
Re-using the currently running virtualbox VM for "minikube" ...
Waiting for SSH access ...
"minikube" IP address is 192.168.99.110
Configuring Docker as the container runtime ...
Version of container runtime is 18.06.3-ce
Waiting for image downloads to complete ...
Preparing Kubernetes environment ...
■ apiserver.oidc-issuer-url=https://accounts.google.com
■ apiserver.oidc-username-claim=email
■ apiserver.oidc-client-id=352244831383-scgj45qdkphpqvbthb5jp2ql3l69hjdps.a
pps.googleusercontent.com
```

# Problem Statement

We Are Not Done Yet

## The solution does not work in all platforms

- K8s provider API server lockdown
- Ops do not want OIDC enabled in k8s API
- IdP or authN requirements mismatch (LDAP)
- IdP groups/user claim support



# Problem Statement

## Challenge 1: K8s API Server OIDC Customisation

Kubernetes Distro	API Server OIDC Customization
GKE (Google)	No
EKS (AWS)	No
AKS (Azure)	Active Directory
OKE (Oracle)	Oracle Identity Cloud Service
Minikube	Any
Kops	Any
kubeadm	Any



# Problem Statement

## Challenge 2: Identity Providers and Group Claims

```
subjects:
- kind: Group
  name: "kubeapps:developer"
  apiGroup: rbac.authorization.k8s.io
```

```
"session_state": "eedbf6d0-950a-40af-a14e-be840775285f",
"acr": "1",
"email_verified": false,
"groups": [
  "kubeapps:developer"
],
"preferred_username": "keycloak"
}
```

OIDC Identity Provider	Group Claims Support
Okta	
Dex	Depends on Upstream
Keycloak	
Active Directory	
Google Accounts	
...	...

```
--oidc-groups-claim "groups" # API flag
```

“

Easy things should be easy, and hard things should be possible.

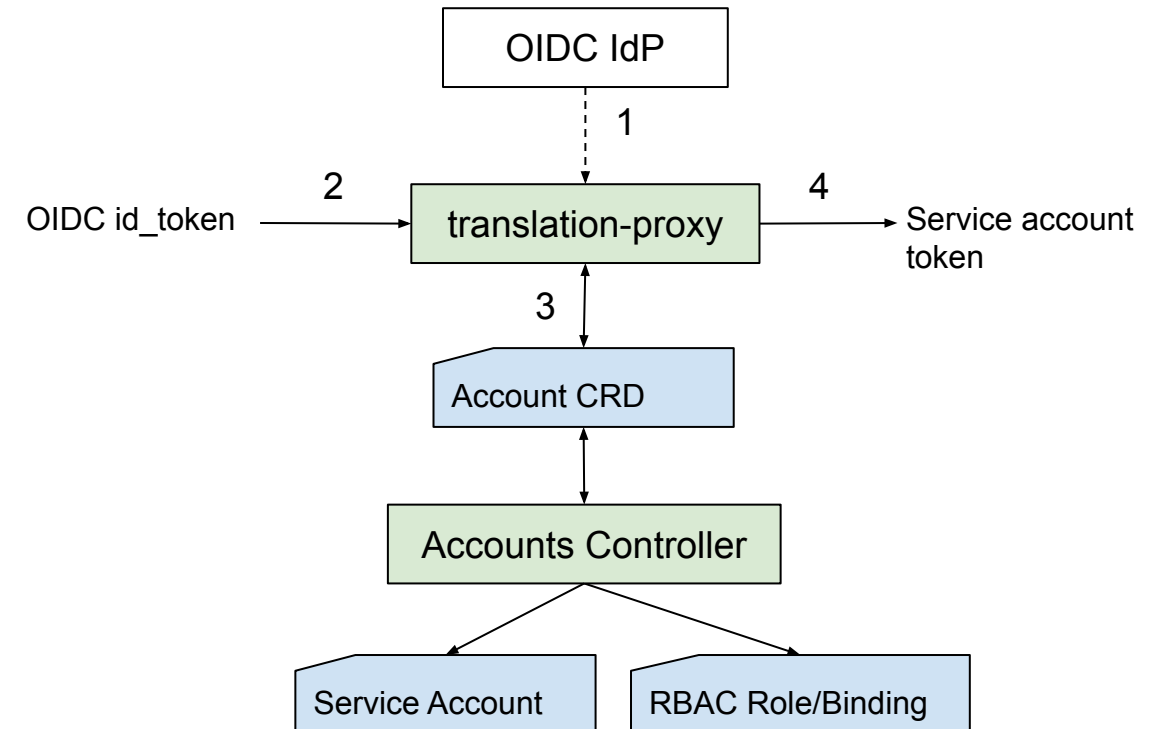
”

Larry Wall

# Workaround 1

## Translation to Service Accounts

**Translate OIDC id\_tokens into service accounts** via a translation proxy and a custom controller



# Workaround 2

## Kubernetes Impersonation

```
$ kubectl get pods --as FooUser --as-group kubeapps-user
```

Can ImpersonatorUser  
impersonate FooUser?

Can FooUser access  
pods in namespace x?

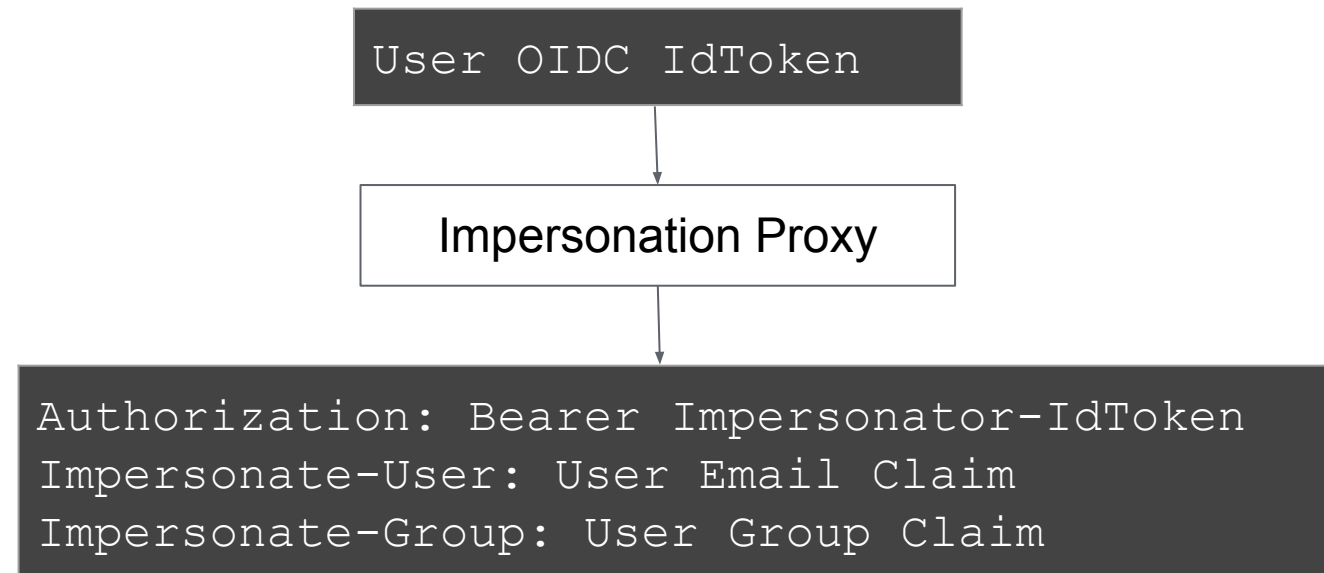
```
- apiGroups: [""]  
  resources: ["groups"]  
  verbs: ["impersonate"]  
  resourceNames:  
    ["developers", "kubeapps-user"]
```

```
$ curl https://api-server/api/v1/pods \  
-H "Authorization: Bearer ${impersonator token}" \  
-H "Impersonate-User: FooUser" \  
-H "Impersonate-Group: kubeapps-user"
```

# Workaround 2

## Kubernetes Impersonation

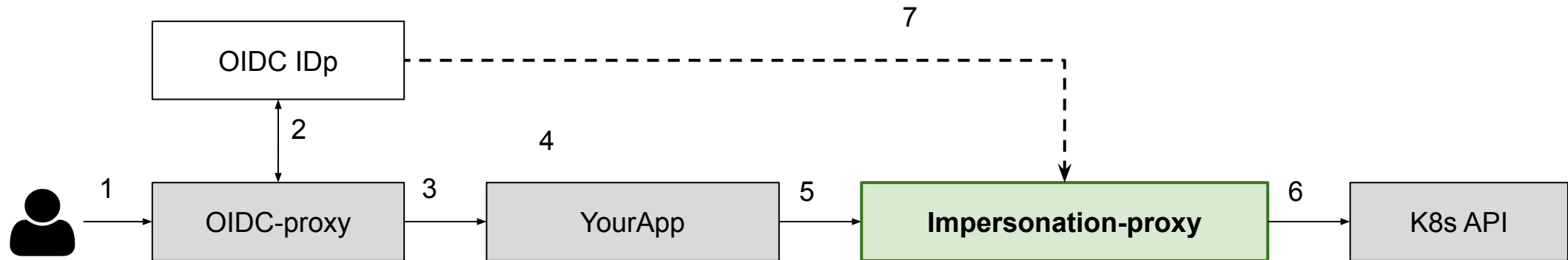
Proxy in charge of impersonating users and groups based on OIDC id\_token claims





# Workaround 2

## Kubernetes Impersonation

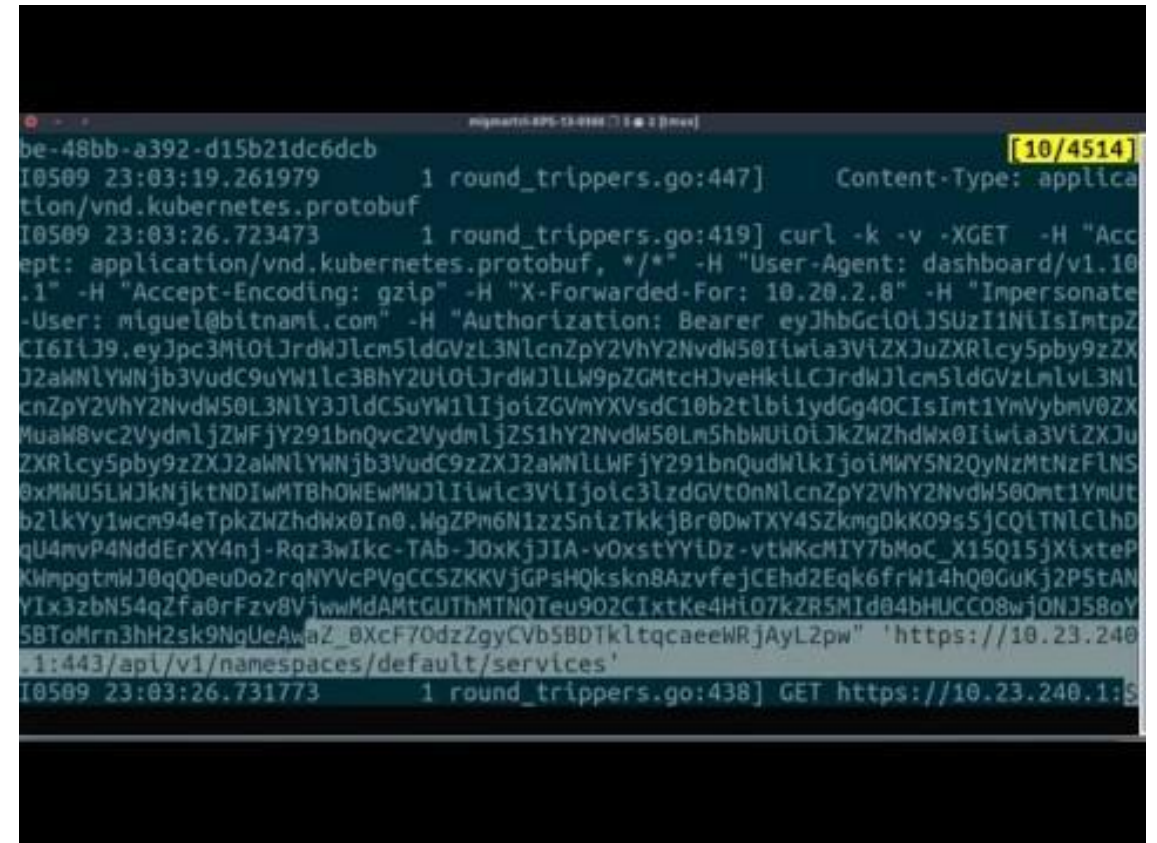


- Extracts OIDC verification logic from API server
- Prevent stale credentials
- Fewer moving pieces

# Kubernetes Impersonation

# SSO-enabled Kubernetes Dashboard + Google's IdP on **GKE\*** using impersonation

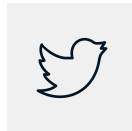
**\* API server not configurable**



SSO in Kubernetes can be **vendor locked**  
but we can **workaround** it and offer a  
Universal, **Cross-Platform SSO**  
**experience**

# Resources

- Kubeapps SSO in-depth document - <https://bit.ly/30bi1zF>
- SSO for Kubernetes talk - @JoelASpeed - <https://bit.ly/2Hh6kQN>
- kube-oidc-proxy - @jetstack - <https://bit.ly/2Vip6uw>
- Demo files repository - @prydonius - <https://bit.ly/2HfV9GI>
- This slide deck - <https://bit.ly/2WD8YoT>



@migmartri

## Thank You