Docker From The Ground Up Part 4 Kubernetes 101

A whistle-stop tour of Kubernetes architecture and control/data planes.



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Docker Birmingham Slack: @shaun



Recap







Requirements for Dev -> Production

- Multi-machine
- Discovery and Naming
- Scaling
- Multiple users
- Failure tolerance and recovery
- Monitoring
- Logging
- High availability
- Deployment lifecycle
- Load balancing
- etc, etc



Alternatives











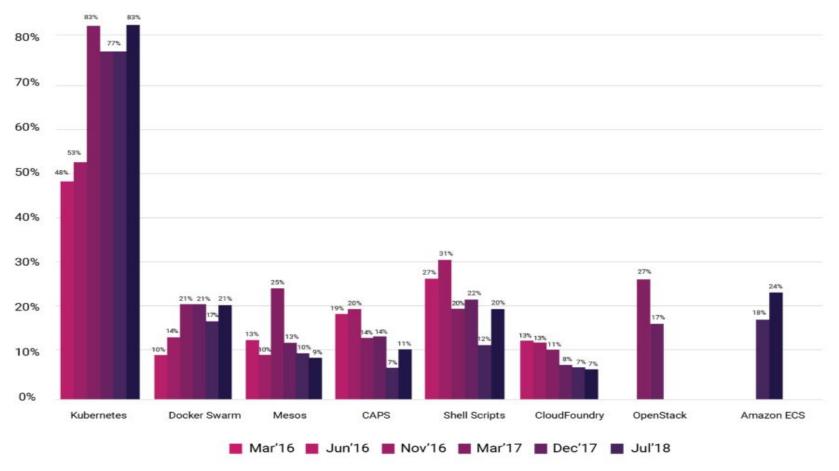


Image ref: https://www.cncf.io/blog/2018/08/29/cncf-survey-use-of-cloud-native-technologies-in-production-has-grown-over-200-percent/

Poll: Developers/Operators spread?







Kubernetes K8s

Greek for "Helmsman" < person who steers a ship

K8s is an abbreviation derived by replacing the 8 letters "ubernete" with "8".



Kubernetes is an open-source system for automating deployment, scaling, and management of containerized applications.



What does that really mean?

Kubernetes is a "Container Orchestrator"

- Scheduling: put containers on machines
 - by resource needs (CPU, memory)
 - by affinity requirements (put X near Y)
 - by labels put X on a "GPU" machines
- Replication: run N copies
- Discovery: find peers and services in other containers

- Recovery: automatically from failure
 - Health checking
 - Application failures
 - Machine failures
- Inspection: tell me what is happening
 - Basic monitoring
 - Logging



Where did it come from?

- Created by Joe Beda, Craig McLuckie (Heptio) and Brendan Burns (Microsoft)
- Based on ideas proven at Google for a decade and a half of experience that Google has with running production workloads at scale. *
- Project was open-sourced in 2014.
- Google has since donated to the Cloud Native Computing Foundation (CNCF).



Design Principles

- Declarative > imperative
- Control loops
- Simple > complex
- Modularity
- Legacy compatible
- Network-centric
- Labels > hierarchy
- Cattle > pets
- Open > closed



Kubernetes Architecture



Architecture overview

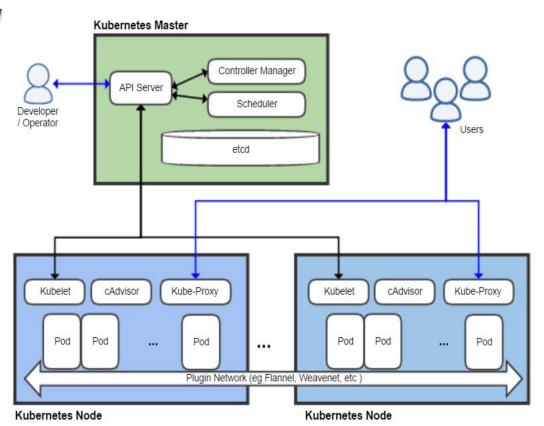
The machines that make up a Kubernetes cluster are called **nodes**.

Nodes in a Kubernetes cluster may be physical (bare metal), or virtual (vm's).

Two types of nodes:

Masters, which make up the **Control Plane**, acts as the "brains" of the cluster.

Workers, which make up the **Data Plane**, runs the actual container images (via pods).



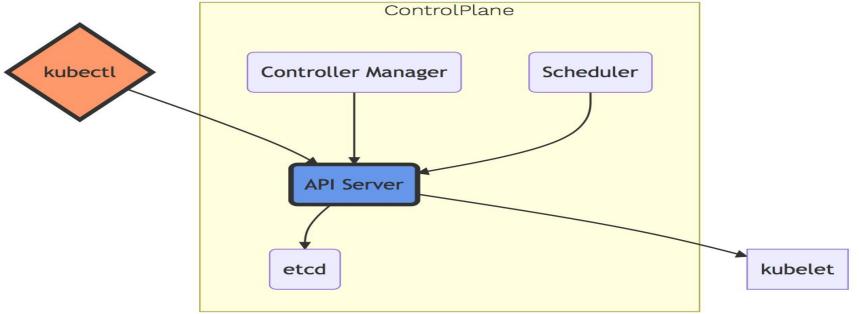


Master components (Control plane)



Master components





- One or more API Servers: Entry point for REST / kubectl
- etcd: Distributed key/value store
- Controller-manager: Always evaluating current vs desired state
- Scheduler: Schedules pods to worker nodes



API server



The kube API server exposes the Kubernetes REST API. It can easily scale horizontally as it is stateless and stores all data in the etcd cluster.

All clients, including nodes, users and other applications interact with Kubernetes strictly through the API Server.



etcd



Etcd is a highly reliable distributed datastore. Kubernetes uses it to store the entire cluster state.

In small, transient cluster a single instance of etcd can run on the same node with all the other master components.

However, for more substantial clusters it is typical to have a 3-node or even 5-node etcd cluster for redundancy and high availability.



Controller manager



The controller-manager is a collection of various managers rolled up into one binary. It is the primary daemon that manages all core component control loops.

All these managers monitor the cluster state via the API and steers the cluster towards the desired state.



Scheduler



The kube-scheduler is responsible for evaluating the workload requirements and attempts to place it on a matching resource.

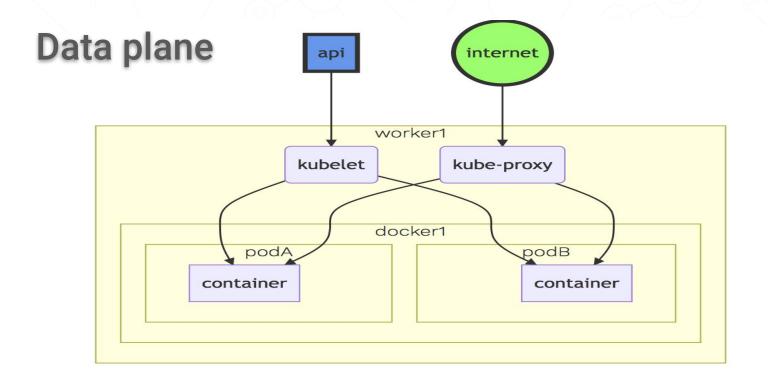
These requirements can include such things as general hardware reqs, affinity, anti-affinity, and other custom resource requirements.





Node components (Data plane)





- Made up of worker nodes
- kubelet: Acts as a conduit between the API server and the node
- kube-proxy: Manages IP translation and routing



kubelet



Acts as the node agent responsible for managing pod lifecycle on its host.

It oversees the communication with the master components and manage the running pods.

- Download pod secrets from the API server
- Mount volumes
- Run the pod's container
- Report the status of the node and each pod
- Run container liveness probes



kube-proxy



Manages the network rules on each node and performs connection forwarding or load balancing for Kubernetes cluster services.



Container runtime



A container runtime is a CRI (Container Runtime Interface) compatible application that executes and manages containers.

Kubernetes originally supported Docker as a container runtime engine. However, that is no longer the case;

- Containerd (docker)
- CRI-O
- Rkt
- etc



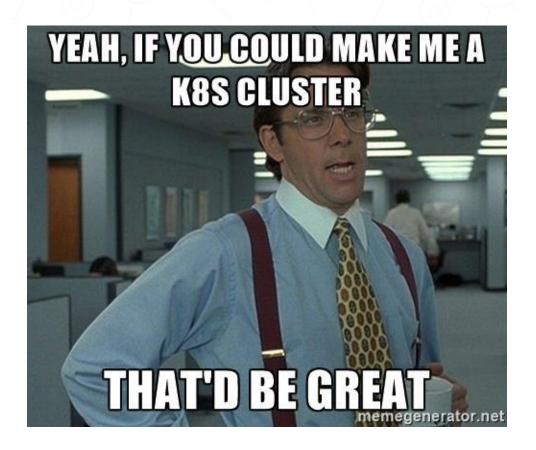
Cluster DNS



Provides Cluster Wide DNS for Kubernetes Services.

- kube-dns (default pre 1.11)
- CoreDNS (current default 1.13)







Kubernetes objects



Namespaces



Namespaces are a logical cluster or environment, and are the primary method of partitioning a cluster or scoping access.

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Namespace
metadata:
   name: prod
   labels:
    app: CorpWebApp
```

```
$ kubectl get ns --show-labels
             STATUS
                       AGF
NAMF
                                 LABFLS
default
             Active
                       11h
                                 <none>
kube-public Active 11h
                                 <none>
kube-system
             Active
                     11h
                                 <none>
prod
             Active
                       68
                                 app=CorpWebApp
```



Default namespaces



 default: The default namespace for any object without a namespace.

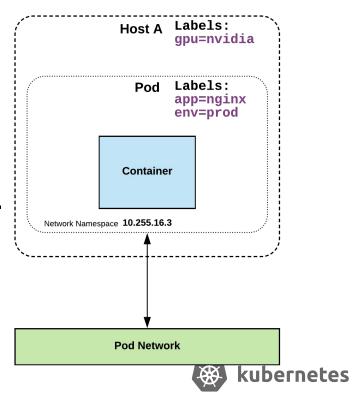
```
$ kubectl get ns --show-labels
NAME
              STATUS
                        AGF
                                   LABFLS
default
              Active
                        11h
                                   <none>
kube-public
              Active
                        11h
                                   <none>
kube-system
              Active
                        11h
                                   <none>
```

- **kube-system**: Acts as the home for objects and resources created by Kubernetes itself.
- kube-public: A special namespace; readable by all users that is reserved for cluster bootstrapping and configuration.

Labels



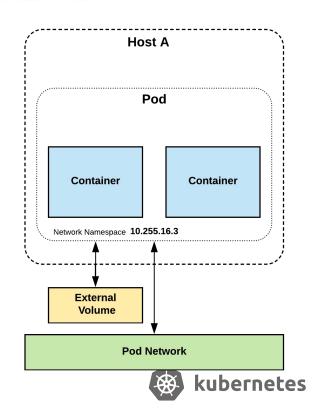
- key-value pairs that are used to identify, describe and group together related sets of objects or resources.
- NOT characteristic of uniqueness.
- Have a strict syntax with a slightly limited character set.



Pods



- Atomic unit or smallest "unit of work" of Kubernetes.
- Foundational building block of Kubernetes Workloads.
- Pods are one or more containers that share volumes, a network namespace, and are a part of a single context.



Pods are mortal



- They are born and when they die, they are not resurrected.
- ReplicaSets in particular create and destroy Pods dynamically (e.g. when scaling out or in).
- While each Pod gets its own IP address, even those IP addresses cannot be relied upon to be stable over time.



Services



- Unified method of accessing the exposed workloads of Pods.
- Durable resource (unlike Pods)
 - static cluster-unique IP
 - static namespaced DNS name

<service name>.<namespace>.svc.cluster.local



Services (contd)



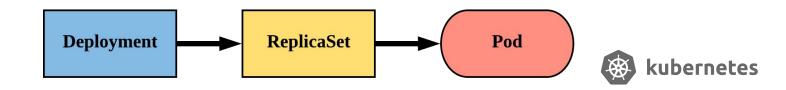
- Target Pods using equality based selectors.
- Uses kube-proxy to provide simple load-balancing.
- kube-proxy acts as a daemon that creates local entries in the host's iptables for every service.



Deployments



- Declarative method of managing Pods via ReplicaSets.
- Provide rollback functionality and update control.
- Updates are managed through the pod-template-hash label.
- Each iteration creates a unique label that is assigned to both the ReplicaSet and subsequent Pods.

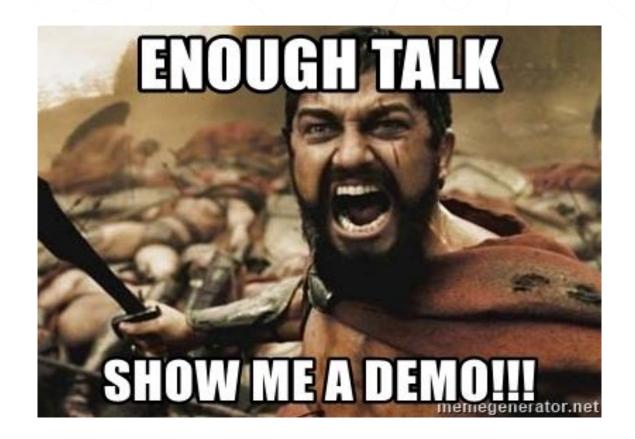


Deployment



- revisionHistoryLimit: The number of previous iterations of the Deployment to retain.
- strategy: Describes the method of updating the Pods based on the type. Valid options are Recreate or RollingUpdate.
 - Recreate: All existing Pods are killed before the new ones are created.
 - RollingUpdate: Cycles through updating the Pods according to the parameters: maxSurge and maxUnavailable.

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: deploy-example
spec:
  replicas: 3
  revisionHistoryLimit: 3
  selector:
    matchLabels:
      app: nginx
      env: prod
  strategy:
    type: RollingUpdate
    rollingUpdate:
      maxSurge: 1
      maxUnavailable: 0
  template:
    <pod template>
```





And more



- Ingress
 - L7 load balancing
- Jobs
 - Run to completion
- Autoscaling
 - Automatically adjust replica count
- DaemonSets
 - Run something on every node (or subset)
- StatefulSet
 - Support for long term stateful distributed systems



So much more



- Role Based Access Control (RBAC)
 - Control what users have access to what objects
- Multiple Schedulers
- Flexible Scheduling Constraints
 - Affinity, anti-affinity, taints, tolerations
- Automatic Cluster Scaling
 - K8s publishes signals that allow external services to scale the cluster automatically.
- Cloud Provider Integration
 - GCP, AWS, Azure, OpenStack, vSphere
- Network Policy
 - Network ingress policy







Gotchas



If you are managing your own cluster, then it is not without its perils.

Even with all the features that Kubernetes provides, it still requires lots of monitoring and pre-emptive capacity planning.



Unbalanced clusters





Unmonitored clusters will go on fire (not literally)





Without autoscaling in place, clusters can crash







Kubernetes Certified Service Provider

At time of writing there are 60+ certified service providers - see full list at https://www.cncf.io/certification/kcsp/





Accenture (KCSP) Accenture

MCap: \$101B



Alauda (KCSP) Alauda

Alibaba Cloud (KCSP) Alibaba Cloud

MCap: \$390B



Banzai Cloud (KCSP) Funding: \$2.5M Banzai Cloud

bitnami

Bitnami (KCSP) Bitnami



BoCloud (KCSP) Bocloud

Funding: \$15.3M



BoxBoat (KCSP) BoxBoat Technologies



Caicloud (KCSP) Caicloud

Funding: \$7.3M

Funding: \$15M



Canonical (KCSP) Canonical



CloudOps (KCSP) CloudOps



CloudYuga (KCSP)



CloudZone (KCSP)

MCap: \$503M



Component Soft (KCSP) Component Soft



Container Solutions (KCSP) Container Solutions



CoreOS (KCSP) Red Hat

MCap: \$31.2B



Creationline (KCSP) Creationline



DaoCloud (KCSP) DaoCloud

Funding: \$14.6M



Data Essential (KCSP) Data Essential

Matrix



DoiT International (KCSP) DoiT International



EasyStack (KCSP) Funding: \$110M EasyStack



eKing Technology (KCSP) Hainan eKing Technology



Elastisys (KCSP) Funding: \$680K Elastisvs



ELASTX (KCSP) ELASTX



Ghostcloud (KCSP) Ghostcloud



Giant Swarm (KCSP) Funding: \$3.33M Giant Swarm



Heptio (KCSP) Funding: \$33.5M



Huawei (KCSP)



IBM Cloud (KCSP) MCap: \$110B IBM



InfraCloud Technologies (KCSP)



inwinSTACK (KCSP) inwinSTACK



Jetstack (KCSP)

Jetstack



Kinvolk (KCSP) Kinvolk



Kubir (KCSP) Kublr





Loodse (KCSP)



Mesosphere (KCSP) Funding: \$247M



Mirantis (KCSP) Funding: \$220M Mirantis



Mobilise Cloud Services (KCSP) Mobilise Cloud



MSys Technologies (KCSP) MSys Technologies



Nebulaworks (KCSP) Nebulaworks

LiveWyer (KCSP)

LiveWyer



Nirmata (KCSP) Nirmata



OCTO Technology (KCSP) OCTO Technology



Oteemo (KCSP)



Pragma (KCSP) Pragma



PRODYNA (KCSP) PRODYNA



Rackspace (KCSP) Funding: \$17.8M



Rancher (KCSP) Rancher Labs



ReactiveOps (KCSP) ReactiveOps



RX-M (KCSP) RX-M



Samsung SDS (KCSP) Samsung SDS



MCap: \$122B

SAP (KCSP) SAP

STACKPOINT

StackPointCloud (KCSP) MCap: \$16.2B NetApp



Supergiant (KCSP) Supergiant



TenxCloud (KCSP)



teutoStack (KCSP) teutoStack



Transwarp (KCSP) Funding: \$67.6M Transwarp



Treasure Data (KCSP) Funding: \$54M



Weaveworks (KCSP) Funding: \$20M



Wise2C (KCSP) Wise2c Technology



Additional resources

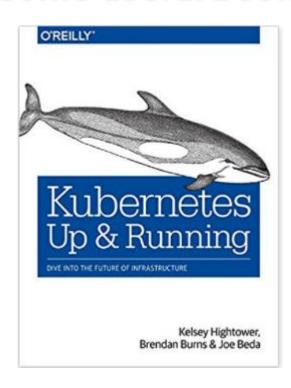


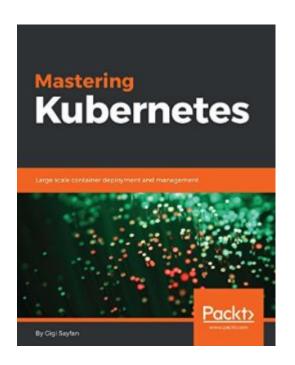
Links

- Kubernetes documentation https://kubernetes.io/docs/home/
- Interactive Kubernetes Tutorials
 https://www.katacoda.com/courses/kubernetes
- Learn Kubernetes the Hard Way by Kelsey Hightower https://github.com/kelseyhightower/kubernetes-the-hard-way
- Awesome Kubernetes
 https://github.com/ramitsurana/awesome-kubernetes



Some useful books...







Kubernetes cluster setup

There are many tools available to help bootstrap and configure a self-managed/commercial Kubernetes cluster.

Local development/learning;

- Minikube
- Docker for Mac
- Docker for Windows
- Kubeadm
- katacoda.com/learn

Commercial offerings;

- GKE https://cloud.google.com/kubernetes-engine/
- EKS https://aws.amazon.com/eks/
- AKS https://azure.microsoft.com/en-gb/services/kubernetes-service/
- IKS https://www.ibm.com/cloud/container-service
- PKS https://pivotal.io/platform/pivotal-container-service
- Kops





