

Kubernetes from Basic to Advanced



kubernetes

Session #09

Helm



kubernetes

Session Contents



- What is Helm?
- Helm Charts

What is Helm?



Motivation



- To deploy your applications, you need to create several manifest files
- When you want to deploy on different target clusters/environments you may need to make minor changes to reflect those differences
- Additionally, you may want to publish your manifest files on a centralized registry to make it available for other people/teams to reuse them
- To achieve this, a package manager-like tool is what you need
- Helm is the Kubernetes Package Manager

Helm Architecture



- Helm is a tool for managing Kubernetes packages called charts
- Helm can do the following:
 - Create new charts from scratch
 - Package charts into chart archive (tgz) files
 - Interact with chart repositories where charts are stored
 - Install and uninstall charts into an existing Kubernetes cluster
 - Manage the release cycle of charts that have been installed with Helm

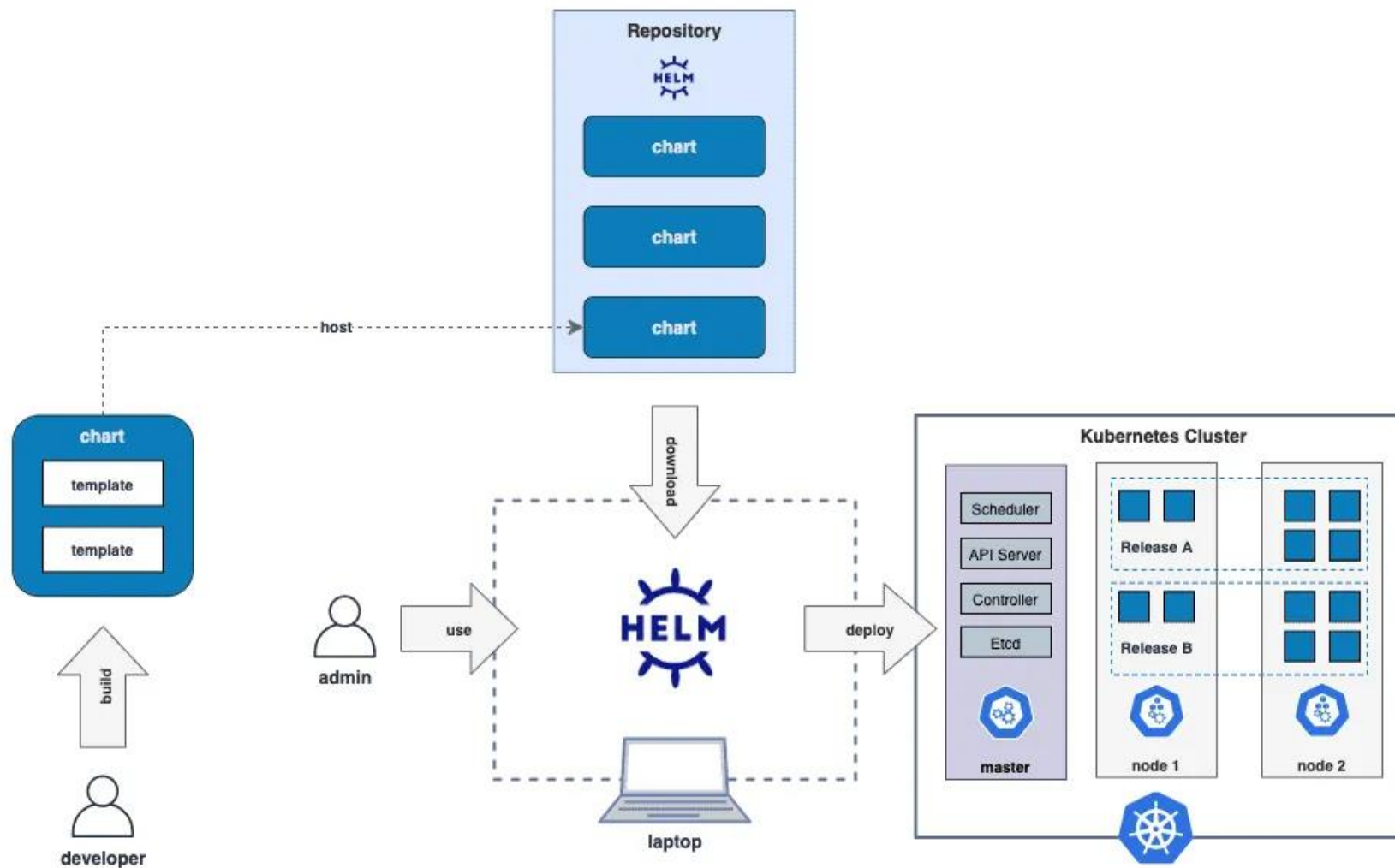
Helm Concepts



- The chart is a bundle of information necessary to create an instance of a Kubernetes application
- The config contains configuration information that can be merged into a packaged chart to create a releasable object.
- A release is a running instance of a chart, combined with a specific config
- Optionally, you may use a registry where you place/publish your charts to be used by other



Helm Concepts



Helm Benefits



- Deployment speed: you can deploy any application available at the Helm chart repository within a single command.
- Prebuilt application configurations: Helm allows you to install community-supported applications with ease.
- Easy rollbacks: Helm allows you to easily roll back your application deployment to the previous version if something goes wrong.

Helm OCI Registries



- OCI (Open Container Initiative) have a registry specification for container images registries
- Helm (on version 3) can use container registries with OCI support to store helm charts
- Several container registries have OCI Support
 - Docker Hub
 - GitHub Packages
 - All cloud providers Container Registries
- Central place to find Helm Charts is [ArtifactHUB](#)

Demo | Use Helm



Helm Charts

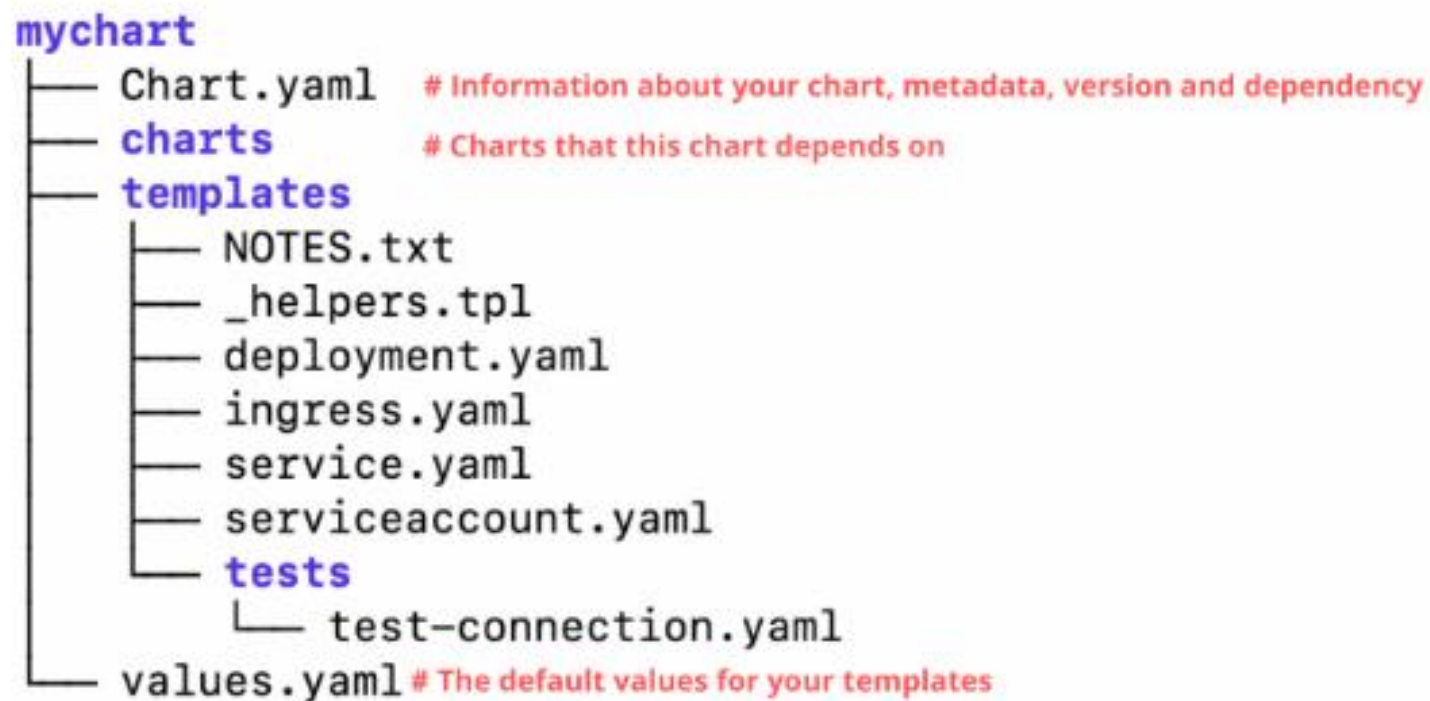


Motivation



- Until now we've used Helm to deploy chart that someone produced, like using Docker Hub to pull images
- Then I want to create my own charts, from my own applications, to make deploys
- After having those charts working, I may (or not) publish them to a registry

Helm Chart Structure



Helm: Chart File



- Main file that makes a folder be a Helm Chart folder
- You can see it like chart metadata
- Includes
 - Name
 - Description
 - Chart version
 - App version (different from chart version)

Helm: values File



- This file allows you to define values (variables) that can be set when someone uses your chart
- Can be more restrictive or more open
- All variables defined where can be used on your templates

Helm: templates Folder



- Where you define all Kubernetes objects that your application will need
- Are created using a Helm templating language that can use variables to implement dynamic behavior
- Can use functions to add extra features like conditionals and cycles
- Can have as much templates as needed to create all Kubernetes resources

Demo | Helm Charts



Questions?



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