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# Large Scale and Reliability Testing in Kubernetes using KWOK



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# Outline



- **KWOK overview and demo**
- **Fault injection for reliability testing and demo**
- **Summary**



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# KWOK Overview

# Kubernetes Cluster



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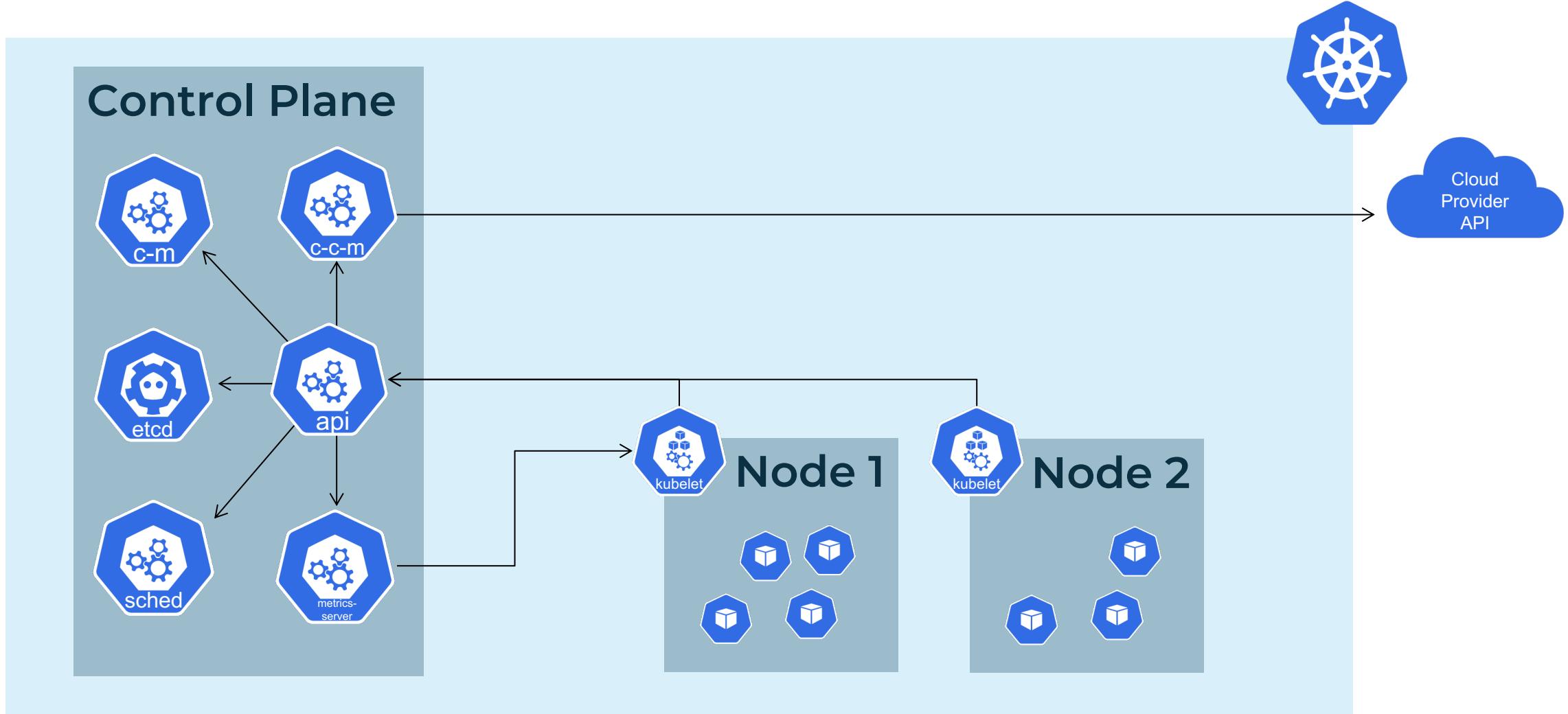


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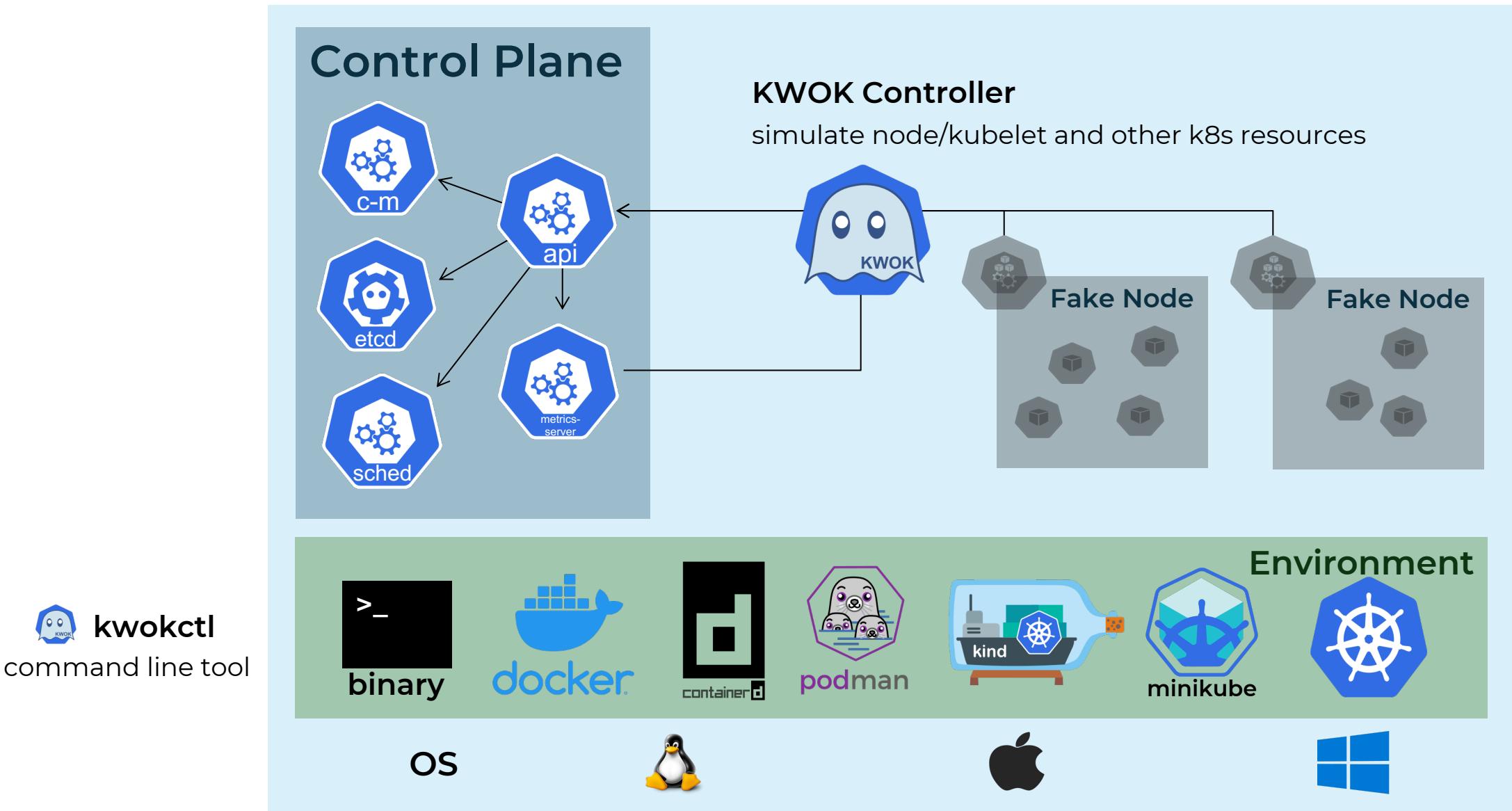
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# KWOK: Kubernetes WithOut Kubelet



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# KWOK Controller



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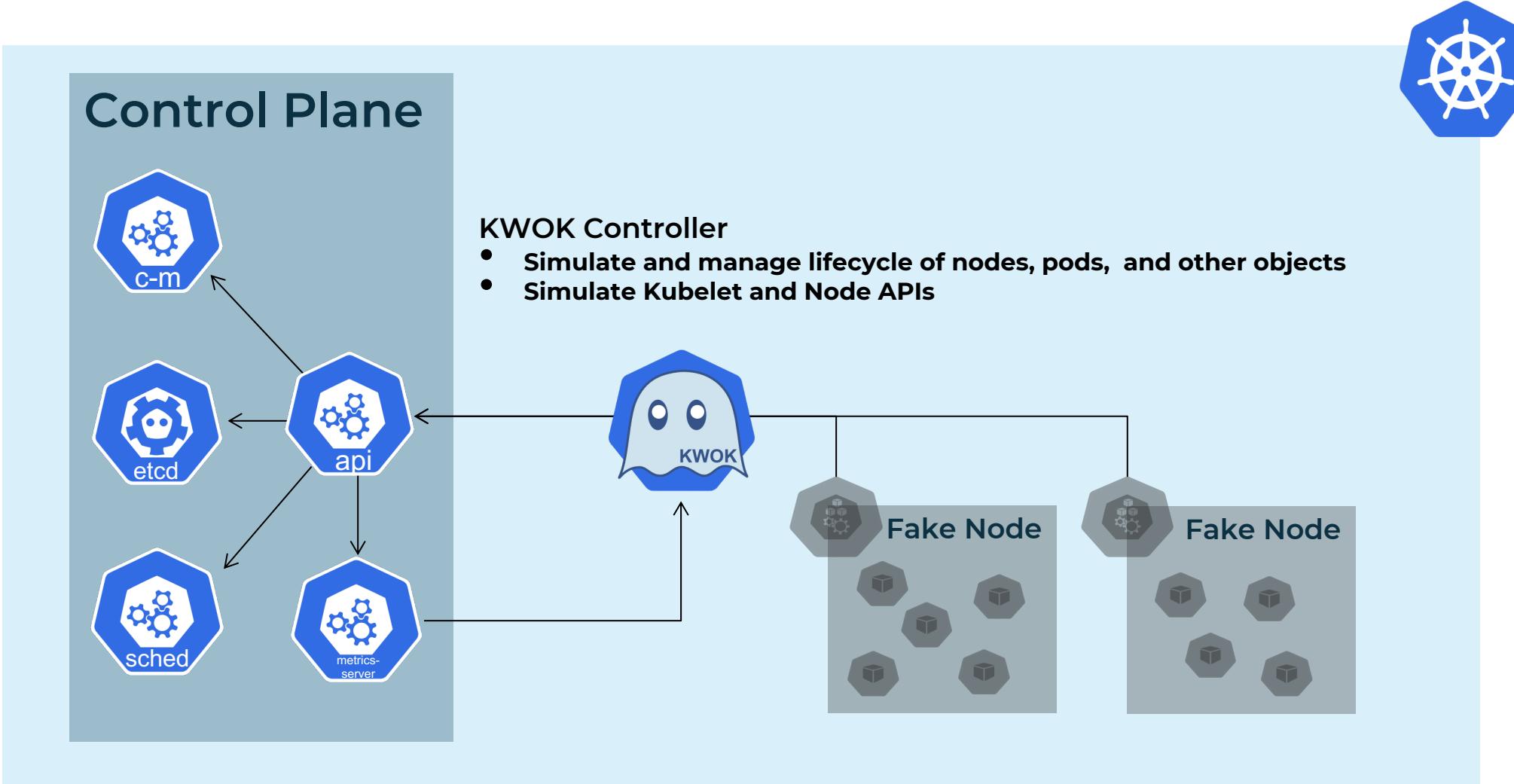
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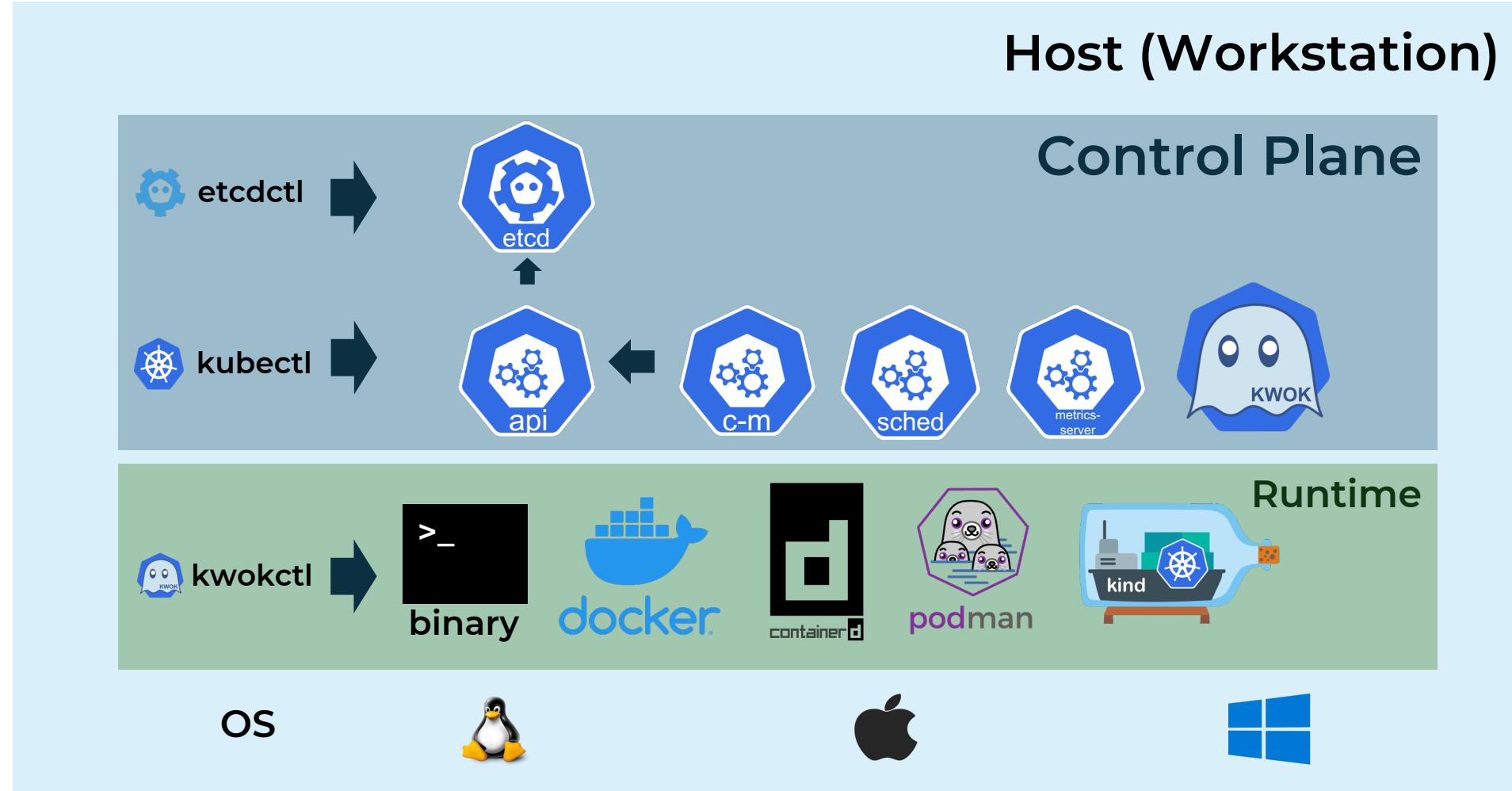
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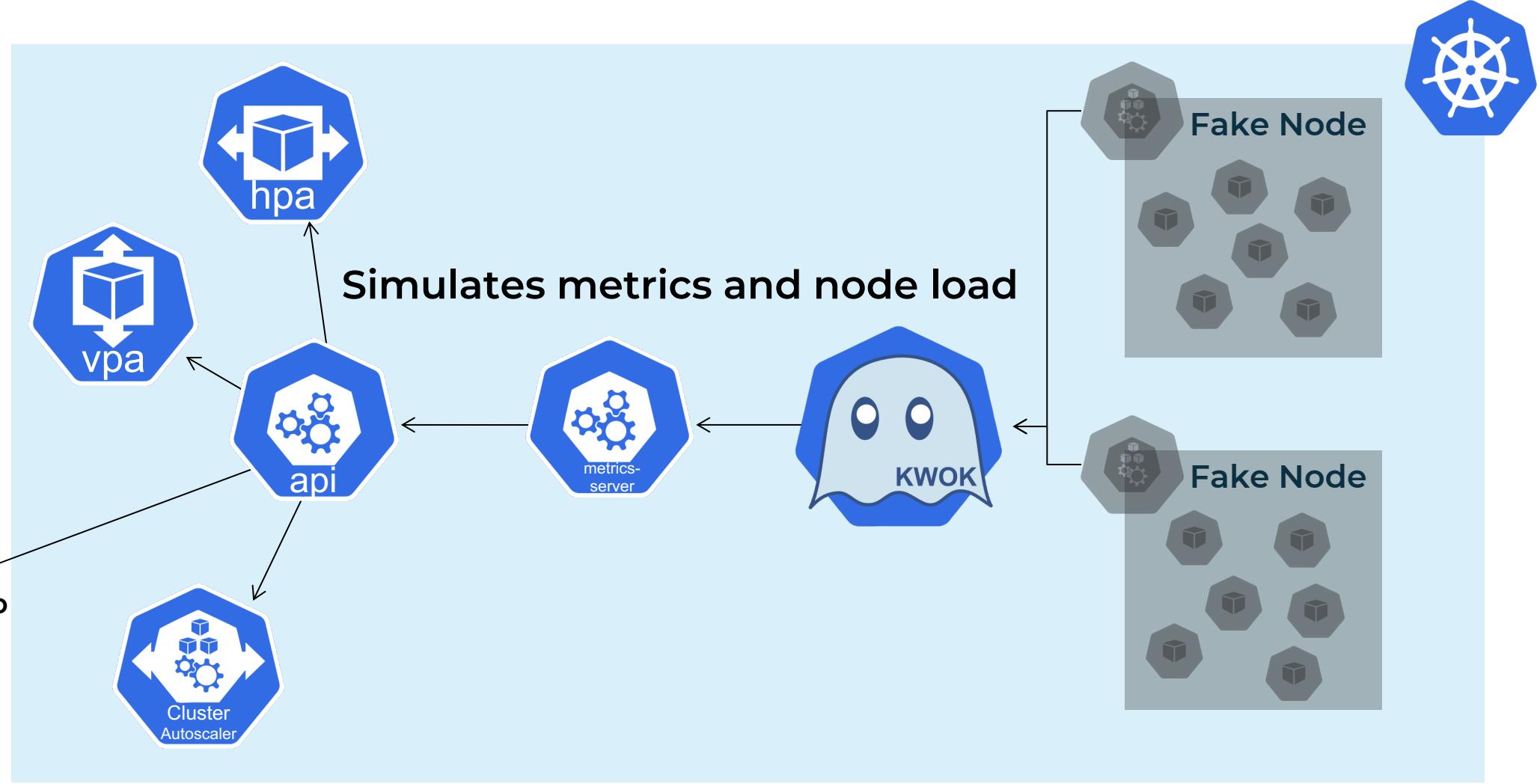
## A command line tool for cluster creation and management



# KWOK: Simulate Node Utilization



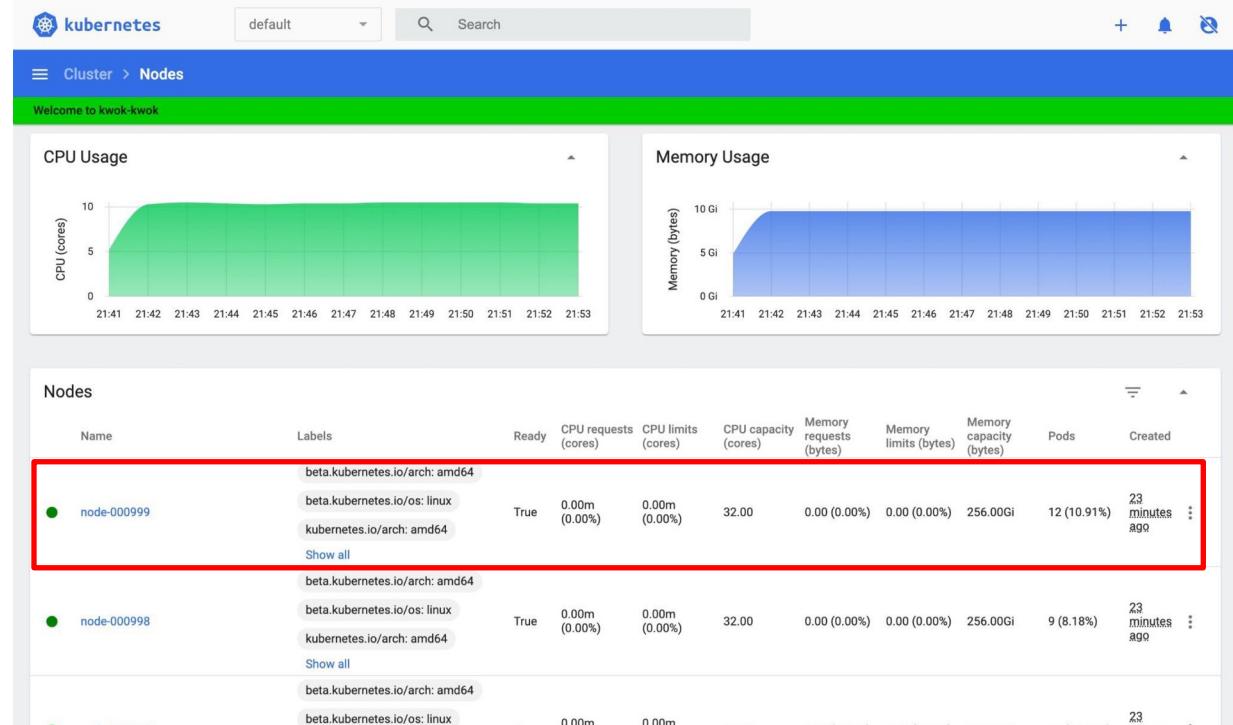
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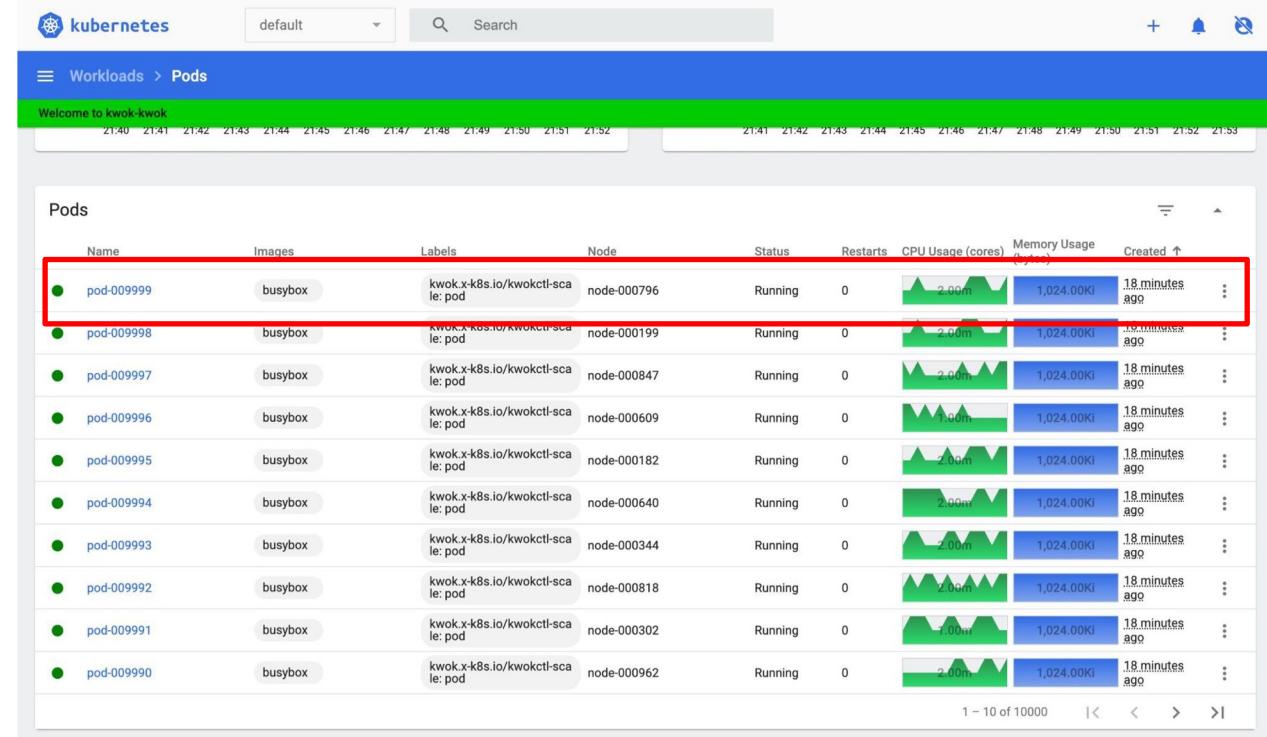
# KWOK: Create Large Scale Clusters



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1K Nodes



10K Pods

# KWOK: Use Low Resource



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Container CPU usage ⓘ		Container memory usage ⓘ		Show charts ▾			
279.51% / 800% (8 cores available)		4.78GB / 15.24GB					
Search		Only show running containers					
Name	CPU (%)	Memory usage/li...	Disk read/write	Network I/O	Status	Last started	Actions
kwok-kwok	279.51%	4.78GB / 124.88GB	1.61MB / 861.5M	190.5GB / 189.73G	Running (8/8)	14 minutes ago	⋮
kube-apiserver a58f48a88eb7	245.42%	1.5GB / 15.61GB	193KB / 0B	187GB / 1.41GB	Running	26 minutes ago	⋮
dashboard b9697df14318	0%	877.3MB / 15.61GB	418KB / 0B	2.25GB / 234MB	Running	26 minutes ago	⋮
dashboard-metrics-scraper 819b0a9e15c2	0%	811.5MB / 15.61GB	0B / 61.5MB	228MB / 1.85GB	Running	26 minutes ago	⋮
kwok-controller 8b2d1f4b1f53	2.53%	450.4MB / 15.61GB	201KB / 0B	490MB / 199MB	Running	26 minutes ago	⋮
etcd 55795cb6d93d	30.78%	432.6MB / 15.61GB	36.9KB / 800MB	309MB / 186GB	Running	26 minutes ago	⋮
kube-scheduler bd8ec1afbabb0	0.08%	368.4MB / 15.61GB	365KB / 0B	76.5MB / 14.9MB	Running	26 minutes ago	⋮
kube-controller-manager c489b8656123	0.6%	221MB / 15.61GB	283KB / 0B	39.5MB / 2.11MB	Running	14 minutes ago	⋮
metrics-server 2c53201419cb	0.1%	197.3MB / 15.61GB	152KB / 0B	139MB / 26.8MB	Running	26 minutes ago	⋮



**KWOK is a toolkit for creating and managing large scale Kubernetes clusters with fake nodes using minimum resources**

## **kwok controller: core component**

- Simulate lifecycle of nodes, pods, and other Kubernetes objects
- Simulate nodes and Kubelet APIs
- Simulate node utilization via Kubelet metrics

## **Kwokctl: a series of command line tools**

- Create and manage kwok clusters
- Dump/restore cluster snapshot



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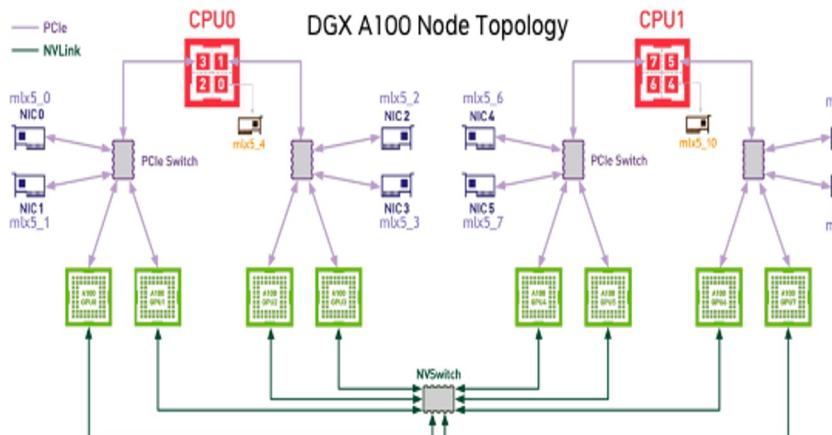
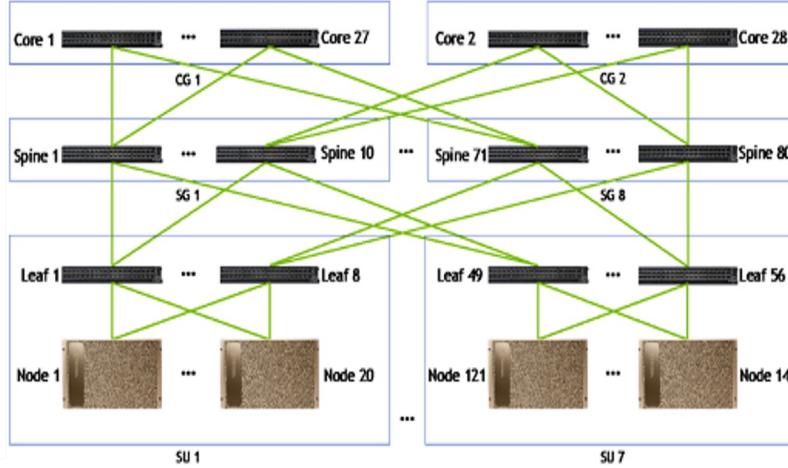
# Failure Injection and Reliability Testing

# Large Scale Kubernetes GPU Clusters



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## Hardware Architecture and Topology



NVLINK + GPUDirect RDMA  
NUMA binding  
Multi-level EW switching fabric  
Rack + spine  
Switch hierarchy  
Network topology

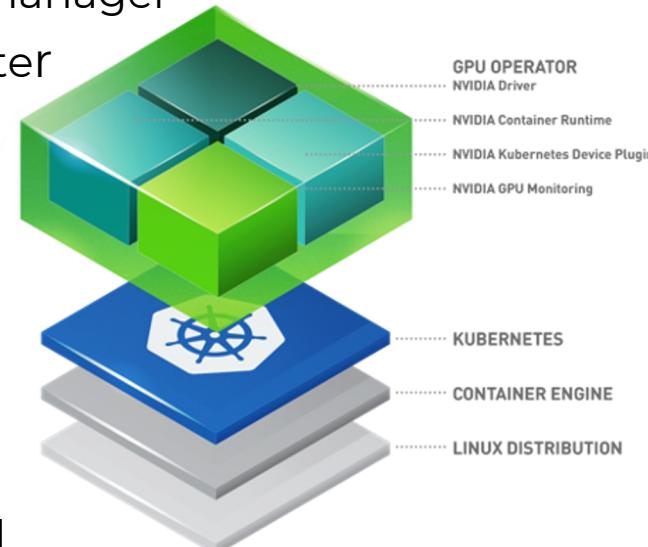
## Software Stacks & Components

### Host-level Components

nvidia-container-toolkit  
nvidia-gpu-driver

### Kubernetes Components

k8s-device-plugin  
gpu-feature-discovery  
nvidia-mig-manager  
dcgm-exporter



Source: Accelerating AI Workloads with GPUs in Kubernetes - Kevin Klues, Distinguished Engineer & Sanjay Chatterjee, Engineering Manager, NVIDIA, Keynote at KubeCon 2024 EU.

# Failures in GPU Clusters



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Errors/failures are the **New “Normal”**

- Hardware faults: GPU, network interface, interconnect
- Software errors: driver/firmware/controllers

# How to test?

**Failures are costly**

- Re-run a training job from scratch

**Fault-tolerance** is critical

The following table lists the Xid errors along with the potential causes for each.

XID	Failure	Causes						
		HW Error	Driver Error	User App Error	System Memory Corruption	Bus Error	Thermal Issue	FB Corruption
1	Invalid or corrupted push buffer stream		X		X	X		X
2	Invalid or corrupted push buffer stream		X		X	X		X
3	Invalid or corrupted push buffer stream		X		X	X		X
4	Invalid or corrupted push buffer stream		X		X	X		X
	GPU semaphore timeout		X	X	X	X		X
5	Unused							
6	Invalid or corrupted push buffer stream		X		X	X		X
7	Valid or corrupted bus buffer address		X			X		X
8	GPU stopped processing		X	X		X	X	
9	Driver error programming GPU		X					
10	Unused							
11	Invalid or corrupted push buffer stream		X		X	X		X
12	Driver error handling GPU exception		X					
13	Graphics Engine Exception	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
14	Unused							
15	Unused							
16	Display engine hung		X					
17	Unused							

[https://docs.nvidia.com/deploy/pdf/XID\\_Errors.pdf](https://docs.nvidia.com/deploy/pdf/XID_Errors.pdf)

# KWOK: Fault and Error Injection



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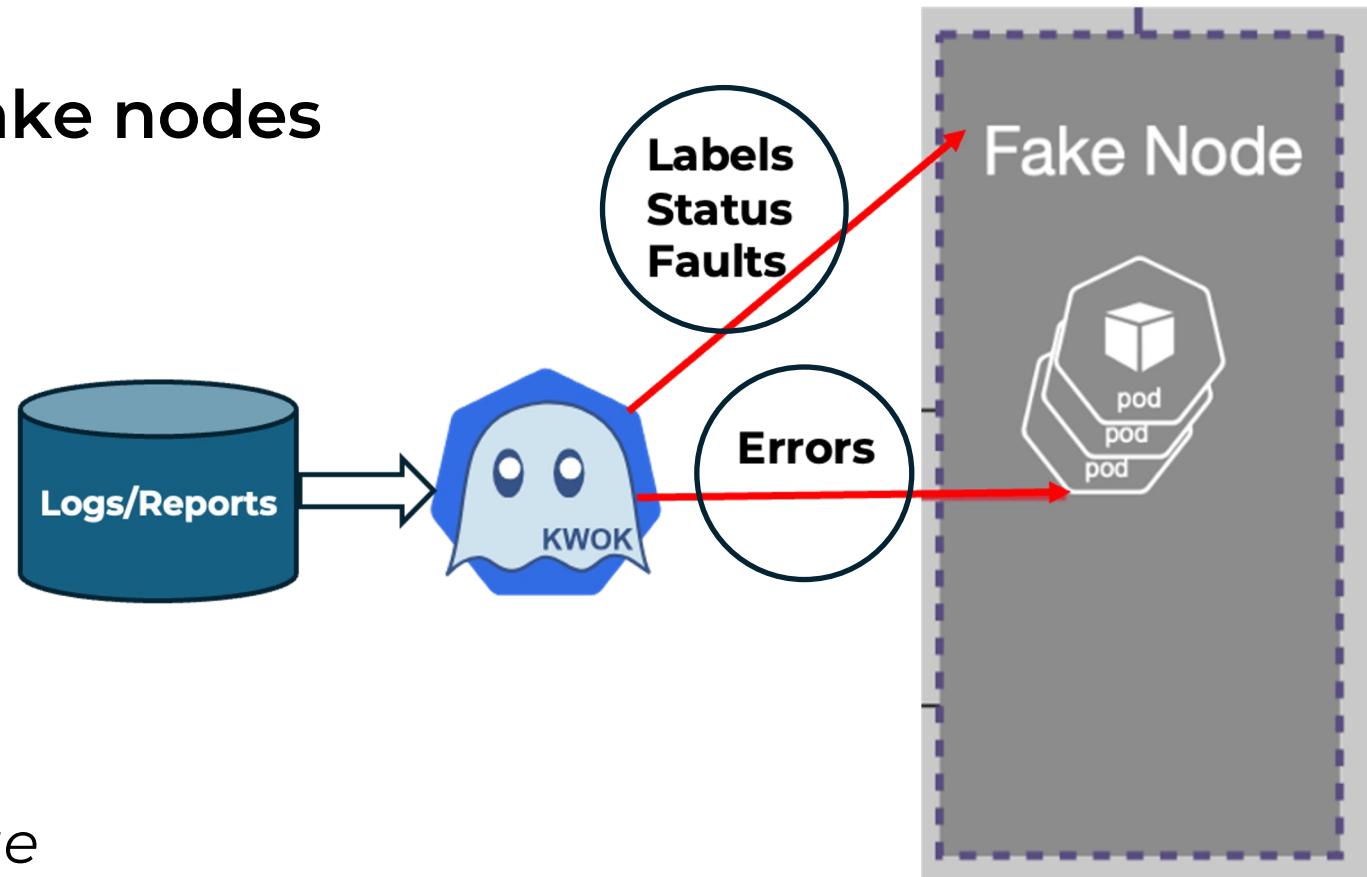
## Simulate failures

- **Inject conditions/errors to fake nodes**

- Taints
- Labels and annotations
- Status/conditions

- **Inject faults to pods**

- Initial and app. containers
- Custom faults : `exitCode`,  
`failureReason`, `FailureMessage`



# Node Fault Injection



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## Simulate node issues by injecting node conditions

- **Node Problem Detector (NPD):** hardware (GPU, mem, disk), kernel, container runtime issues
- **DCGM Health Check:** GPU health on the node reported by NVIDIA [DCGM](#) tool APIs

Type: GpuHWSlowDown, Status: False, Reason: GpuHWSlowDownNotActive,  
Message: GPU has HW Slowdown in Active State

Conditions:	Type	Status	LastHeartbeatTime	LastTransitionTime	Reason	Message
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
AggregatedNodeHealth	True	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 01:53:31 -0800	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 01:53:31 -0800	NodeReady	Node is healthy	
NvPeerMemProblem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:44:05 -0700	NvPeerMemKernelModuleOK	nv_peer_mem is loaded and active	
IBLinksProblem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:43:06 -0700	IBCarrierSignal	IB interface(s) are UP	
FrequentDockerRestart	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Wed, 25 Oct 2023 21:30:16 -0700	NoFrequentDockerRestart	docker is functioning properly	
KubeletProblem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Wed, 25 Oct 2023 21:30:16 -0700	KubeletIsUp	kubelet service is up	
FrequentContainerdRestart	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Wed, 25 Oct 2023 21:30:16 -0700	NoFrequentContainerdRestart	containerd is functioning properly	
FrequentUnregisterNetDevice	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Wed, 25 Oct 2023 21:30:16 -0700	NoFrequentUnregisterNetDevice	node is functioning properly	
FrequentKubeletRestart	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Wed, 25 Oct 2023 21:30:16 -0700	NoFrequentKubeletRestart	kubelet is functioning properly	
VMEEventScheduled	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Sat, 04 Nov 2023 21:37:35 -0700	NoVMEEventScheduled	VM has no scheduled event	
FilesystemCorruptionProblem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Wed, 25 Oct 2023 21:30:16 -0700	FilesystemIsOK	Filesystem is healthy	
ContainerRuntimeProblem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:00 -0800	Wed, 25 Oct 2023 21:30:16 -0700	ContainerRuntimeIsUp	container runtime service is up	
KernelDeadlock	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	KernelHasNoDeadlock	kernel has no deadlock	
ReadonlyFilesystem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	FilesystemIsReadOnly	Filesystem is read-only	
CephMountsHung	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	CephClientBlackListed	ceph client is blacklisted resulting in hung mounts	
GpuHWSlowDown	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	GpuHWSlowDownNotActive	GPU has HW Slowdown in Active State	
DgxRaidProblem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	DgxRaidOK	Dgx has /raid	
ACSModuleCheck	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	ACSModuleDisabled	acs kernel module is disabled	
NodeNotInNWTopologyCM	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	NodeIsAdded	Node is in NW Topology CM or feature disabled	
GpuDbeMsbeProblem	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:42:03 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:40:04 -0700	GpuHasNoDbeMsbeProblem	GPU has a DBE/MSBE problem	
NetworkUnavailable	False	Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:35:42 -0700	Mon, 23 Oct 2023 19:35:42 -0700	CiliumIsUp	Cilium is running on this node	
MemoryPressure	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:46:19 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:39:13 -0700	KubeletHasSufficientMemory	kubelet has sufficient memory available	
DiskPressure	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:46:19 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:39:13 -0700	KubeletHasNoDiskPressure	kubelet has no disk pressure	
PIDPressure	False	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:46:19 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:39:13 -0700	KubeletHasSufficientPID	kubelet has sufficient PID available	
Ready	True	Wed, 15 Nov 2023 10:46:19 -0800	Tue, 24 Oct 2023 10:39:13 -0700	KubeletReady	kubelet is posting ready status. AppArmor enabled	

# Pod Fault Injection



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Inject errors to **initContainer** to simulate preflight check failures: e.g., NCCL check, prolog-check, etc.

**Custom fault: container, exitCode, message, reason, delay**

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
  name: distributed-training
  labels:
    pod-init-container-running-failed.stage.kwok.x-k8s.io: true
  annotations:
    pod-init-container-running-failed.stage.kwok.x-k8s.io/container-name: nccl-checking
    pod-init-container-running-failed.stage.kwok.x-k8s.io/exitCode: 1
    pod-init-container-running-failed.stage.kwok.x-k8s.io/reason: nccl-checking-failure
    pod-init-container-running-failed.stage.kwok.x-k8s.io/message: "nccl checking failed"
    pod-init-container-running-failed.stage.kwok.x-k8s.io/delay: "1s"
    pod-init-container-running-failed.stage.kwok.x-k8s.io/jitter-delay: "5s"
spec:
  initContainers:
  - name: nccl-checking
~
```



# Use Case: Testing and Evaluating Fault-tolerant Job Scheduling



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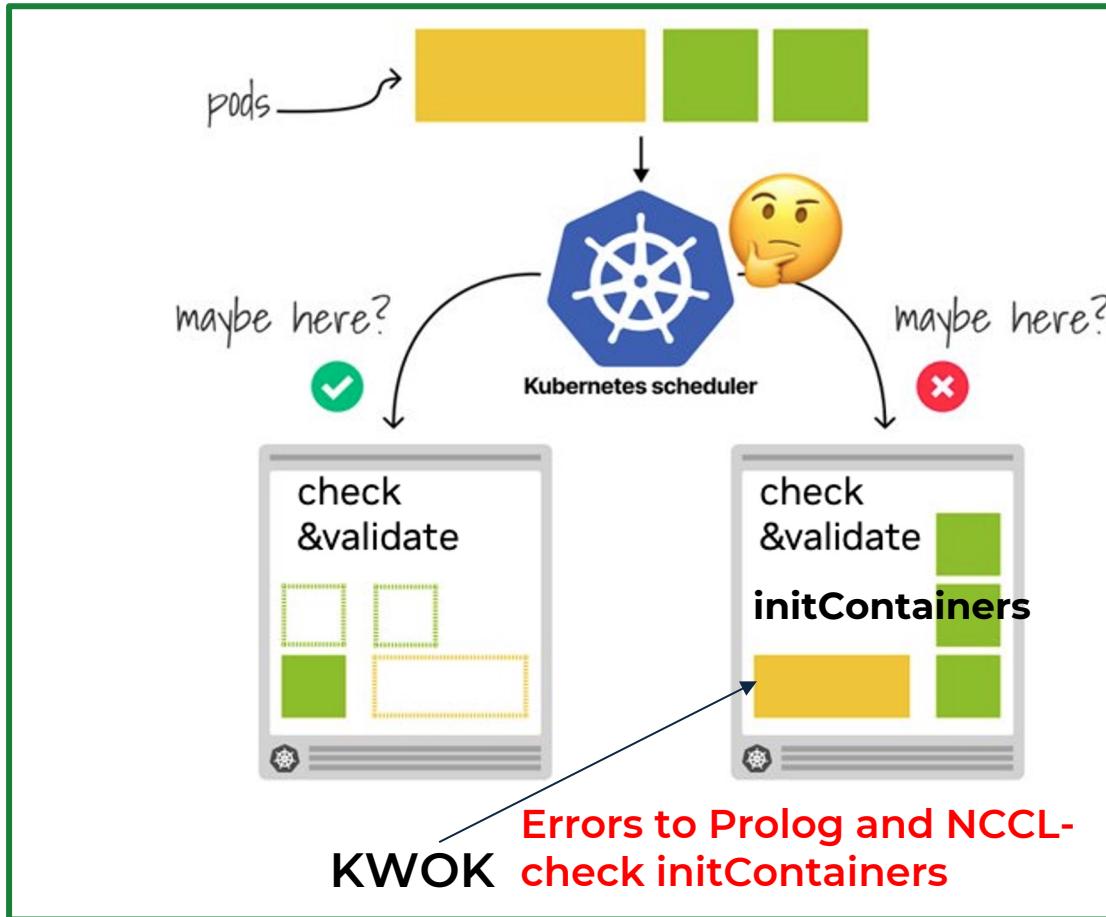


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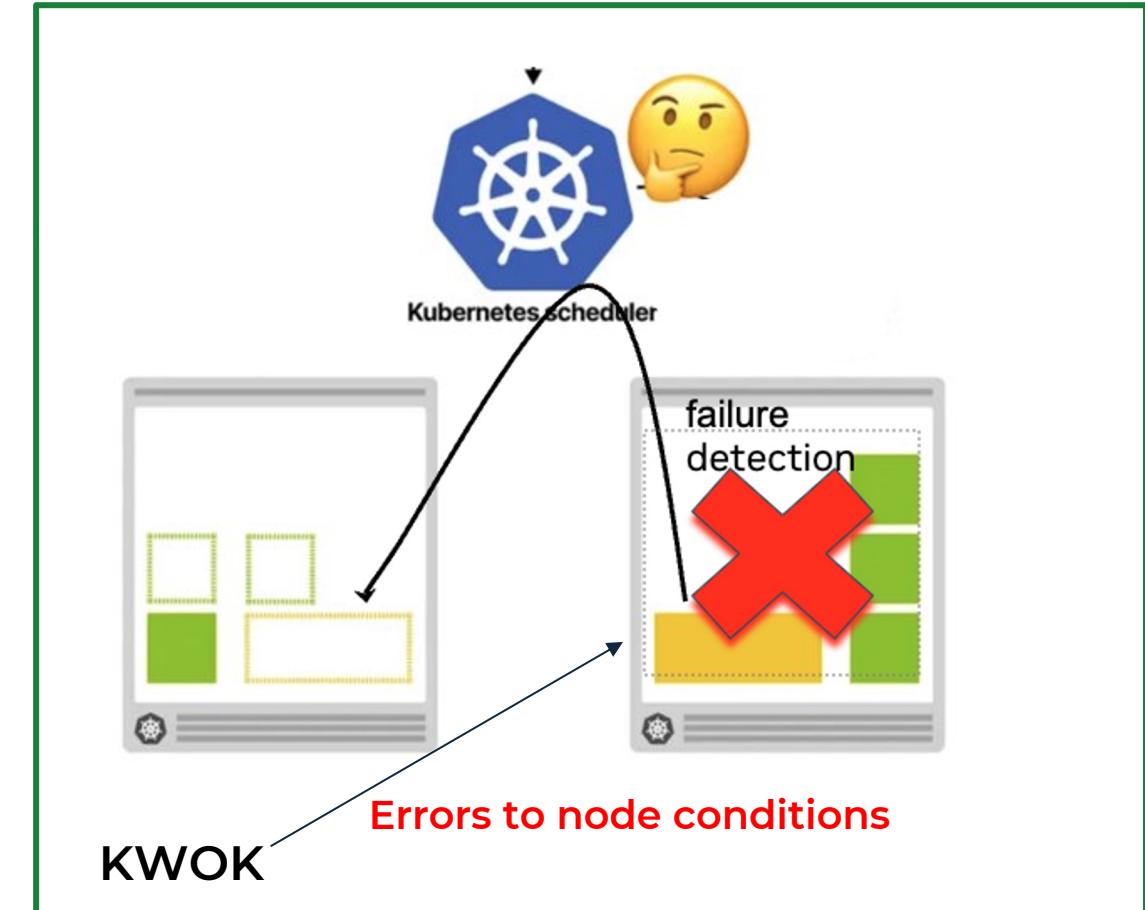
## Proactive Fault-tolerant Scheduling

Preflight check to avoid scheduling jobs on problematic nodes



## Reactive Fault-tolerant Scheduling

Detect fault and take corrective actions





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# Summary

# KWOK Use Cases and Adoption



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## DaoCloud

### Multi-cluster Testing

- [ClusterPedia](#): search Kubernetes resources across multi-clusters
- [DCE 5](#): private cloud management platform
- **Large-scale** cluster stress testing
- ...

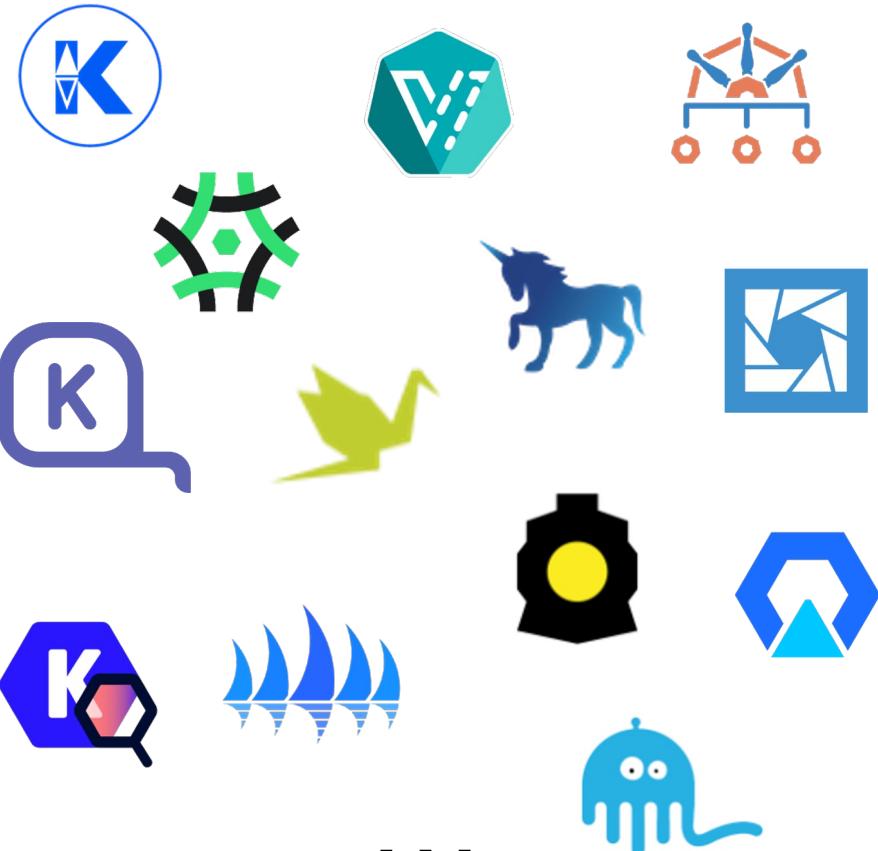


## NVIDIA®

### Testing in GPU Clusters

- [Knavigator](#): NVIDIA Kubernetes testing framework
- Testing of **fault-tolerant job scheduling**
- Comparison and evaluation of scheduling systems for AI/ML
  - K8s
  - Slurm
  - Volcano
  - Kueue
  - ...

## Related Open Source Projects



# Summary



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KWOW is a **power tool** for large scale Kubernetes testing at a low cost.

KWOK provides **support of failure injection and simulation** for testing.

## What's next?

- **GPU nodes and clusters for AI/ML workloads**
  - Simulate node operators: e.g., fake GPU operator
- **Failure and reliability testing**
  - Simulate and integrate different GPU faults and errors
  - Integrate data from failure monitoring, such as DCGM, Node Problem Detector
- Advanced kwok-operator
  - Manage **multiple kwoks** to simulate larger clusters
  - Manage creation and deletion of any resources

# References

## KWOK

- Project: <https://kwok.sigs.k8s.io/>
- GitHub: <https://kwok.sigs.k8s.io/docs/adopters/>
- Demos: <https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/kwok/tree/main/demo>
- Related talks:
  - Shiming Zhang & Hao Liang, 深入研究: KWOK | Deep Dive: KWOK
  - Sara Kokkila-Schumacher & Vishakha Ramani Best Practices: Improving Batch Scheduling Performance at Scale Using MCAD and KWOK
  - Wei Huang & Weiwei Yang, Revolutionizing Kube Scalability Testing with KWOK
  - Dejan Zele Pejchev, Scaling the Heights: Simulating Very Large Kubernetes Clusters with KWOK

## Knavigator

- GitHub: <https://github.com/NVIDIA/knavigator>

## Projects that use KWOK ([Adopters](#))

- <https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/kube-scheduler-simulator>
- <https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/e2e-framework>
- <https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/karpenter>
- <https://github.com/kubernetes/autoscaler>
- <https://github.com/capi-samples/cluster-api-provider-kwok>
- <https://github.com/kyverno/kyverno>
- <https://github.com/kubevirt/kubevirt>
- <https://github.com/NVIDIA/knavigator>
- <https://github.com/apache/yunikorn-k8shim>
- <https://github.com/Azure/azure-container-networking>
- <https://github.com/project-codeflare/multi-cluster-app-dispatcher>
- <https://github.com/openshift-psap/topsail>
- <https://github.com/kubescape/kwok-bench>
- <https://github.com/acrlabs/simkube>
- <https://github.com/run-ai/fake-gpu-operator>
- <https://github.com/kubeovn/kube-ovn>
- <https://github.com/nuodb/terraform-provider-nuodbaas>
- <https://github.com/vladimirvivien/ktop>
- <https://github.com/headlamp-k8s/headlamp>
- <https://github.com/turbonomic/kubeturbo>
- <https://github.com/kubewharf/kubeadmira>
- <https://github.com/clusterpedia-io/clusterpedia>
- ...



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# Acknowledgements



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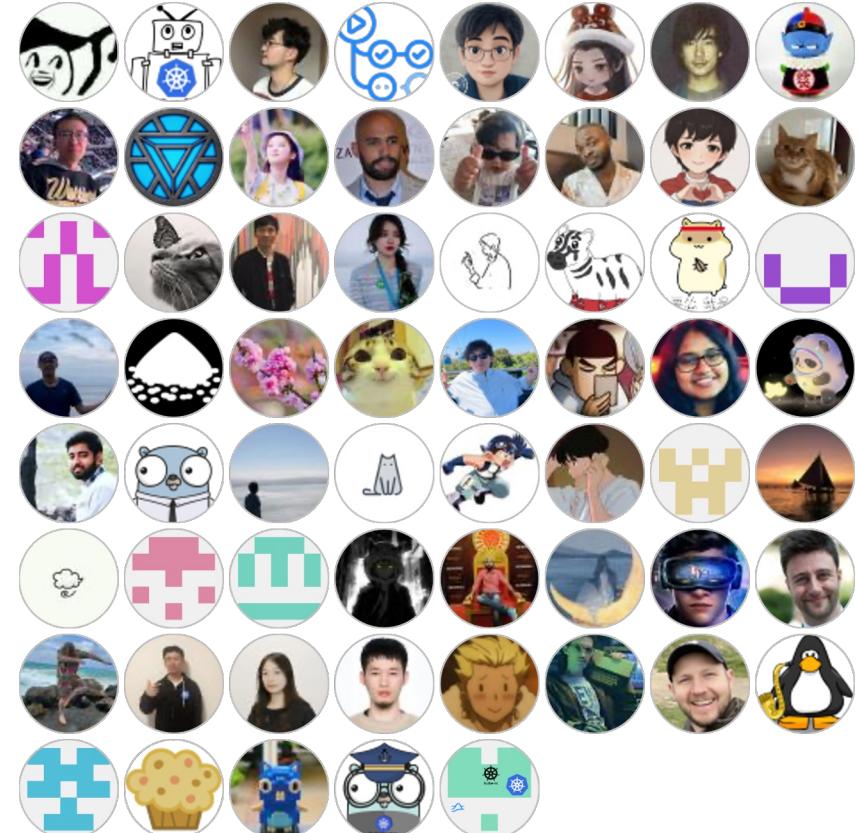
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# Thank you!