Kubernetes Policy WG Session

KubeCon Shanghai 2019

Zhipeng Huang, Huawei

WG Overview

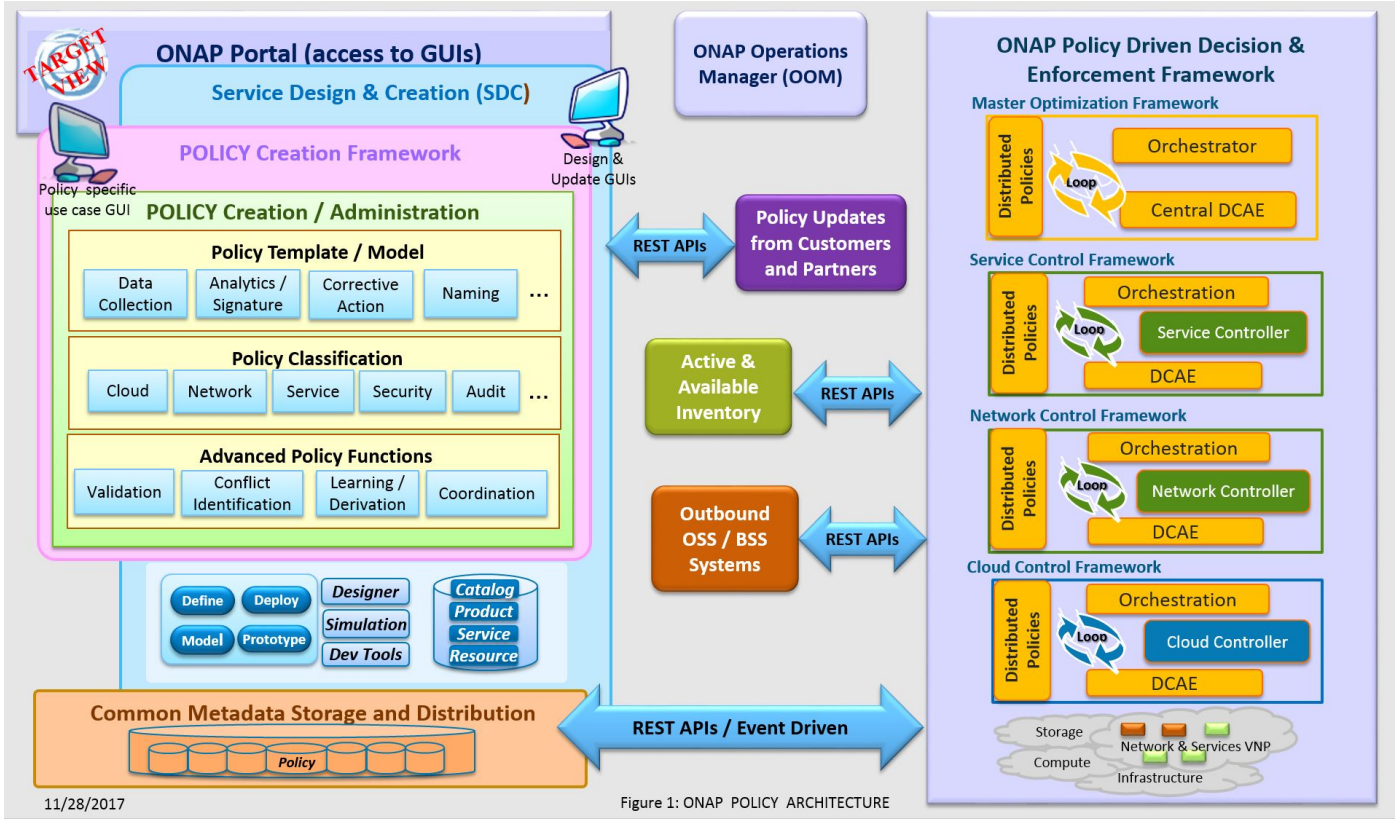
Motivation (from Brian G)

- Kubernetes The Policy Framework
- Policies impose permissions, quotas, constraints, requirements, defaults, etc. on other resources
- What patterns should we adopt going forward?
  - Built in vs extensions
  - Extension using DSLs vs APIs
  - Domain-specific (scheduling policy) vs resource-specific (pod restriction)
  - Conventions across policy types: whitelists, blacklists, profiles, defaults, etc.
  - Cluster-level vs namespace-level
  - Policies vs component flags
- How do we provide policy defaults?

Motivation (from ourselves)

- Policy are needed and designed all over the place in kubernetes
- Policy description are domain specific in nature:
  - Not only in the sense Brian G meant (Kubernetes' domain), but also in a larger context of usage (audit, security, storage, network, AI...), vertical adoption (finance, telco, pharma,...), languages, ...
  - Usually out of scope for WG description
- Policy semantic and control mechanism is universal
  - Policy semantic: the underlying description of the policy description
  - Policy control mechanism: life cycle of policy itself, and life cycle of elements defined in policy

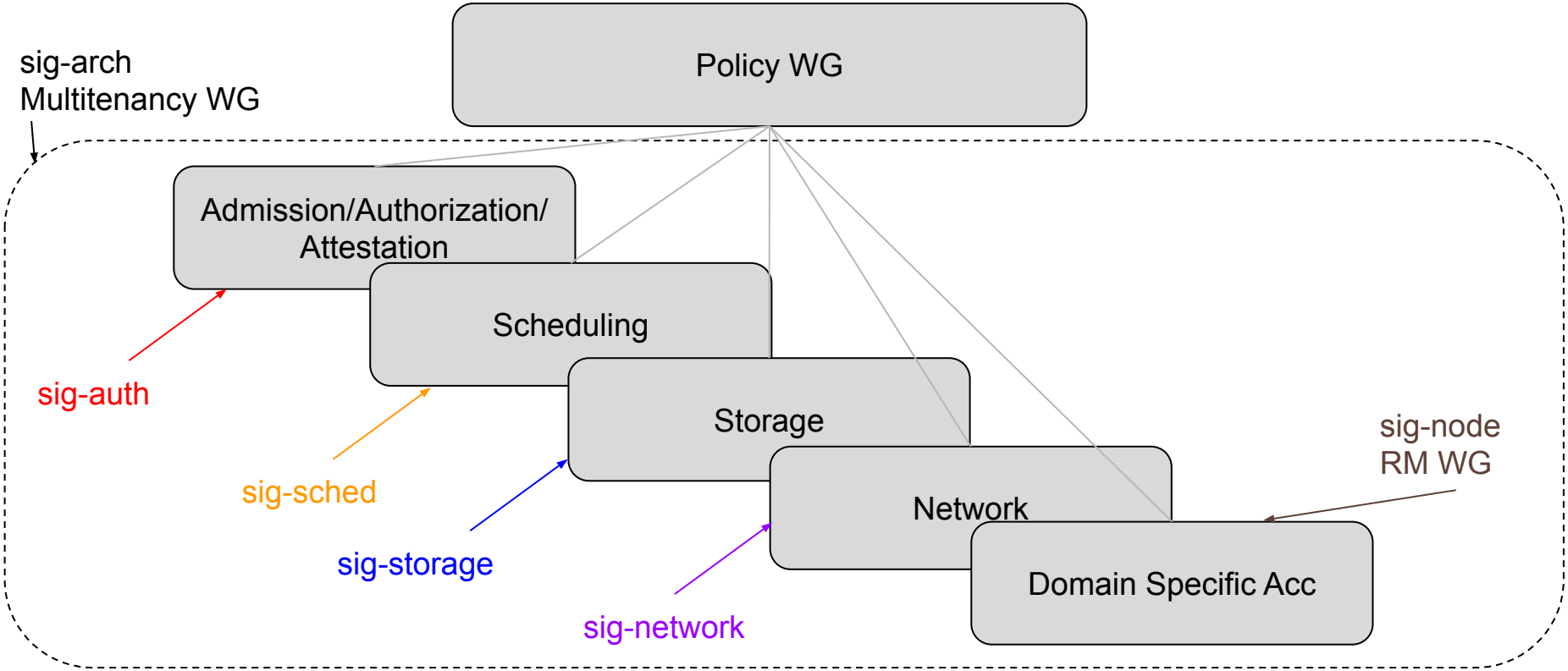
Motivation (Policy is needed in many places outside k8s)



11/28/2017

Figure 1: ONAP POLICY ARCHITECTURE

Overview (SIG Relationship)

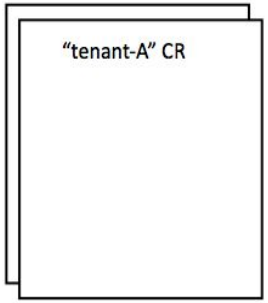


WG Work Items

Policy WG Work Items Overview

- Running list of interested items
  - Multi-tenancy: https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/multi-tenancy
  - Gatekeeper: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1A1-Q-1OMw3QODs1wT6eqfLTagcGmgzAJAjJihiO3T48/edit#heading=h.rosd3aktkpys
  - PodSecurityPolicy Migration: https://github.com/kubernetes/enhancements/issues/5
- New Area Exploration
  - Policy as type system
  - Policy formal verification
- Case Studies

WG Running List 2019 - Multi-Tenancy Policy



Minimal Base version workflow:

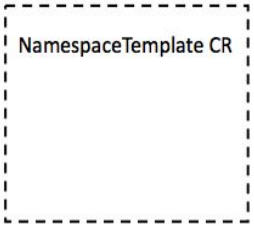
Kubectl create –f newtenant.yaml

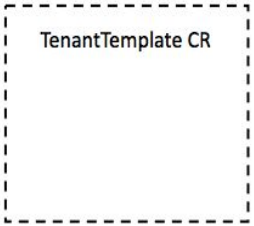
Kind:
tenant
Spec:
Tenant_name
Admin_contact
<NamespaceTemplateList>

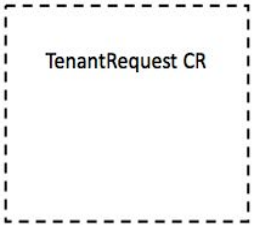
Advanced Full version workflow (WIP):

Kubectl create –f newtenant.yaml

Kind:
tenantrequest
Spec:
tenantTemplateInstance







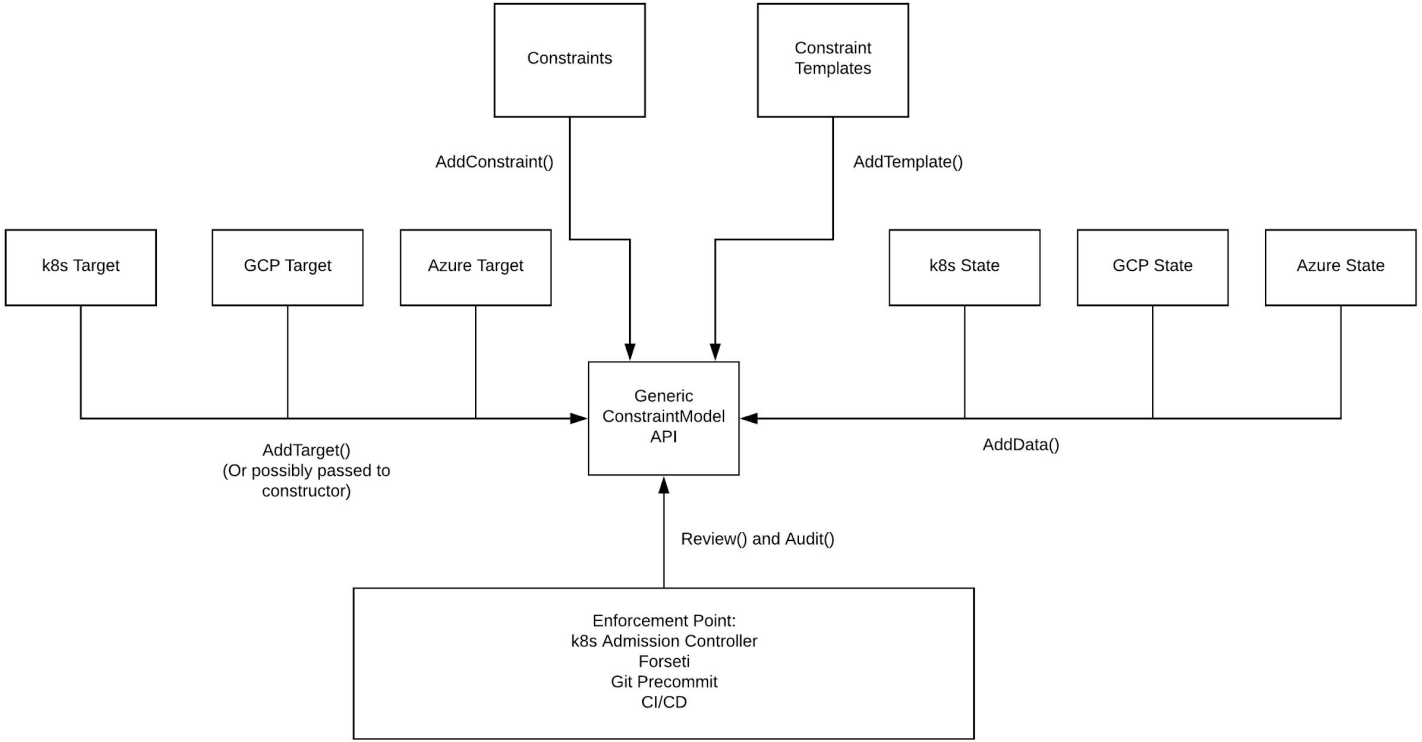
WG Running List 2019 - Multi-Tenancy Policy

- Self-service Namespace Creation
  - “kubectl create ns” by tenant admins without going over an indirect way through Tenant CRD and Tenant CRD controller.
- Cluster-scoped Resources
  - the tenant admins may have permissions to create cluster scoped resources like PodSecurityPolicy
- In a nutshell, help solving the CR population problem in the context of multi-tenancy

WG Running List 2019 - Multi-Tenancy Policy

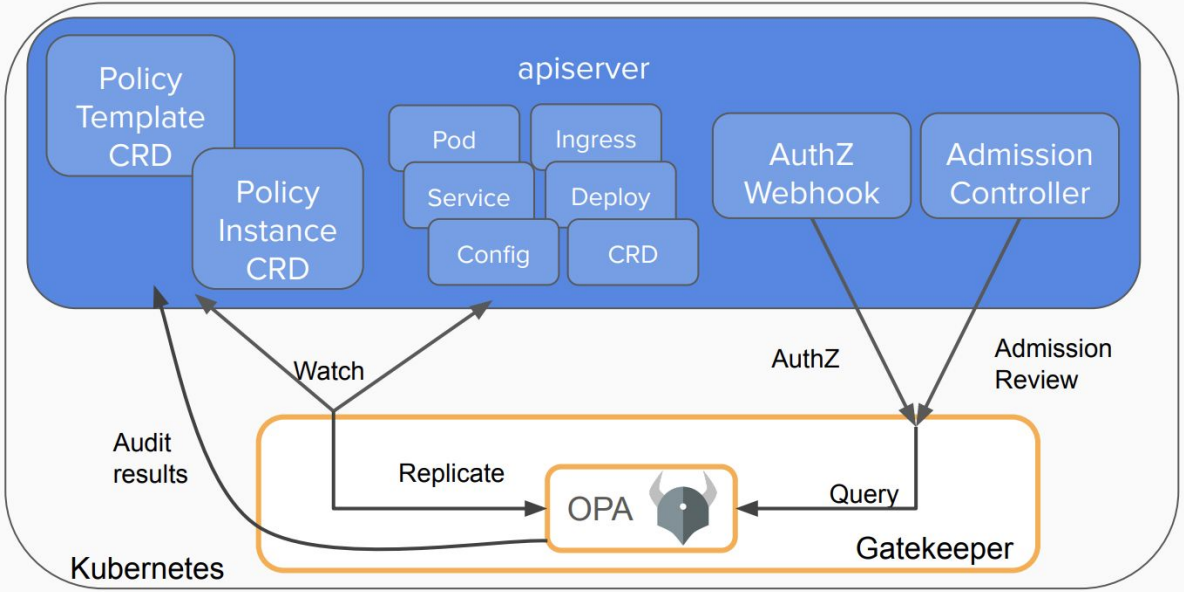
- **Proposal** : Policy Engine -> Policy Compiler -> Tenant Policy object -> Resource Population (ns, podsec, network, rbac, ...)
- **Example** : OPA -> Gatekeeper (Tenant Policy Object -> Resource Population) -> General Kubernetes Cluster
- **Problem**: how to define the constraint for a population (when do we hit a wall and stop)

WG Running List 2019 - OPA Gatekeeper Project



WG Running List 2019 - OPA Gatekeeper Project

OPA Gatekeeper v3.0

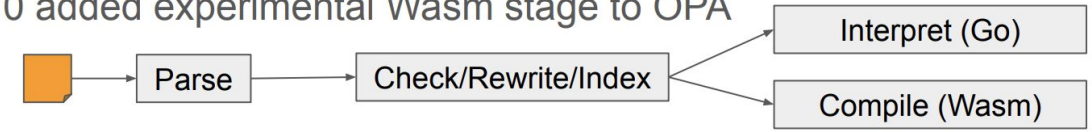


- Validating admission. Audit. CICD.
- Policy templates (Rego) and instances
- Policies stored in CRDs
- Audit results stored on policy CRDs
- Full architecture
- Google, Microsoft, Redhat, CBA, Styra
- “Gatekeeper” donated by Replicated
- Built with kubebuilder

WG Running List 2019 - OPA Gatekeeper Project

v0.11: Native Integrations: WebAssembly progress

- WebAssembly (Wasm) is an instruction format for virtual machines
  - Provides a safe/efficient/portable runtime for policy evaluation
  - Goal: enable library embeddings of OPA policies in any language/runtime
- v0.10 added experimental Wasm stage to OPA



- v0.11 expands the fragment of Rego supported by the Wasm stage
  - All types of rules (ordered/unordered, default, partial sets/objects) now supported
- Example: open-policy-agent/contrib/wasm (CDN example)

WG Running List 2019 - OPA Gatekeeper Project

PodSecurityPolicy Migration

- Explore the possibility of using Gatekeeper for PSP

```
// PodSecurityPolicySpec defines the policy enforced.
type PodSecurityPolicySpec struct {
        // Privileged determines if a pod can request to be run as privileged.
        Privileged bool `json:"privileged,omitempty"`
        // Capabilities is a list of capabilities that can be added.
        Capabilities []api.Capability `json:"capabilities,omitempty"`
        // Volumes allows and disallows the use of different types of volume plugins.
        Volumes VolumeSecurityPolicy `json:"volumes,omitempty"`
        // HostNetwork determines if the policy allows the use of HostNetwork in the pod spec.
        HostNetwork bool `json:"hostNetwork,omitempty"`
        // HostPorts determines which host port ranges are allowed to be exposed.
        HostPorts []HostPortRange `json:"hostPorts,omitempty"`
        // HostPID determines if the policy allows the use of HostPID in the pod spec.
        HostPID bool `json:"hostPID,omitempty"`
        // HostIPC determines if the policy allows the use of HostIPC in the pod spec.
        HostIPC bool `json:"hostIPC,omitempty"`
        // SELinuxContext is the strategy that will dictate the allowable labels that may be set.
        SELinuxContext SELinuxContextStrategyOptions `json:"seLinuxContext,omitempty"`
        // RunAsUser is the strategy that will dictate the allowable RunAsUser values that may be set.
        RunAsUser RunAsUserStrategyOptions `json:"runAsUser,omitempty"`

        // The users who have permissions to use this policy
        Users []string `json:"users,omitempty"`
        // The groups that have permission to use this policy
        Groups []string `json:"groups,omitempty"`
}
```

WG New Area Exploration - policy formal verification

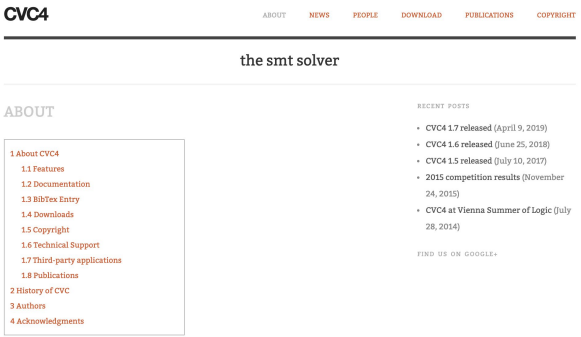
- Background Knowledge
  - SMT can be thought of as a form of the constraint satisfaction problem and thus a certain formalized approach to constraint programming
  - an SMT instance is a formula in first-order logic, where some function and predicate symbols have additional interpretations, and SMT is the problem of determining whether such a formula is satisfiable
  - A predicate is a binary-valued function of non-binary variables. Example predicates include linear inequalities (e.g. $3x + 2y - z \geq 4$) or equalities involving uninterpreted terms and function symbols (e.g: $f(f(u, v), v) = f(u, v)$

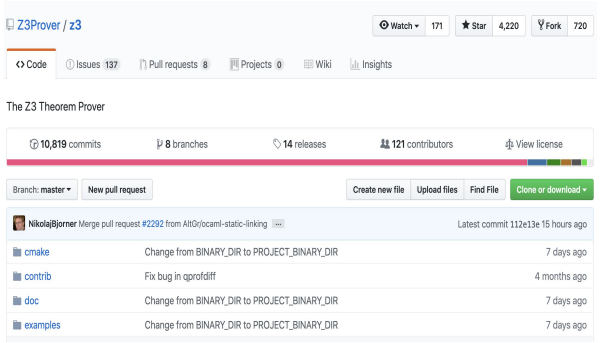
WG New Area Exploration - policy formal verification

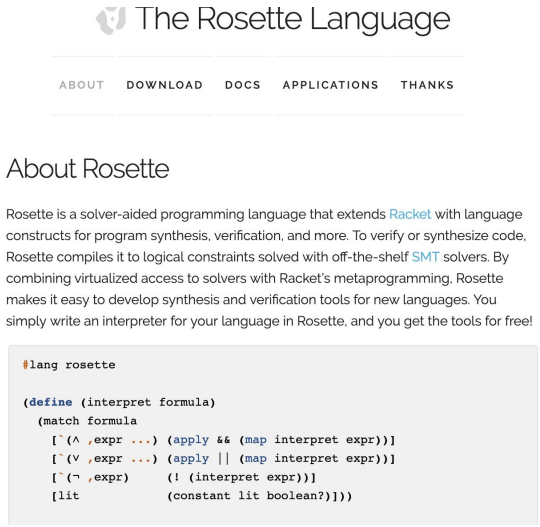
$$(\sin(x)^3 = \cos(\log(y) \cdot x) \vee b \vee -x^2 \geq 2.3y) \wedge \left(\neg b \vee y < -34.4 \vee \exp(x) > \frac{y}{x}\right)$$

where

$$b \in \mathbb{B}, x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

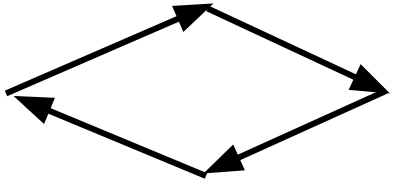




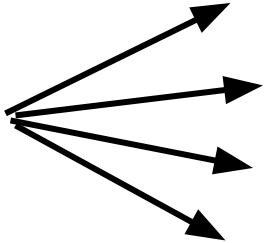


WG New Area Exploration - policy formal verification

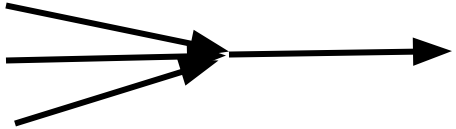
Construct a policy symbolic graph for each kubernetes domain



networking



Multi-tenancy



Security

WG New Area Exploration - policy formal verification

- Starting with use case for “Privilege Escalation”, requirements from operator LCM, multitenancy, Istio,...
- Collaboration involving AWS, Styra, and many others in the community
- Keep an eye on the slack channel or ping us via email (**zhipengh512@gmail, evb@redhat.com**) if you are also interested

WG New Area Exploration - policy as type system

Together, these concepts

1. Identity
2. Outcome Set
3. State
4. Rules

enable us to define a policy in a way that is consistent and automatable.

WG New Area Exploration - policy as type system

Proposed long term vision:

1- Strong type system for Kubernetes resources

- Better specifications and validation with a formal type system
- Algebraic types:
    - Allows you to define more complex resource types (e.g. “pod”+”configmap”, union types)
    - Compositional transformations and admission chains

WG New Area Exploration - policy as type system

Proposed long term vision:

2- Policy Hooks at key points

- Lifecycle: Admission, deletion
- Network traffic in and pod of pods
- Pod start up and down
- API calls - webhook not quite enough

WG New Area Exploration - policy as type system

Proposed long term vision:

3- Capabilities

- Pod “leases”
- Delegation, access control

WG New Area Exploration - policy as type system

Proposed long term vision:

4- Kubernetes as the “now”

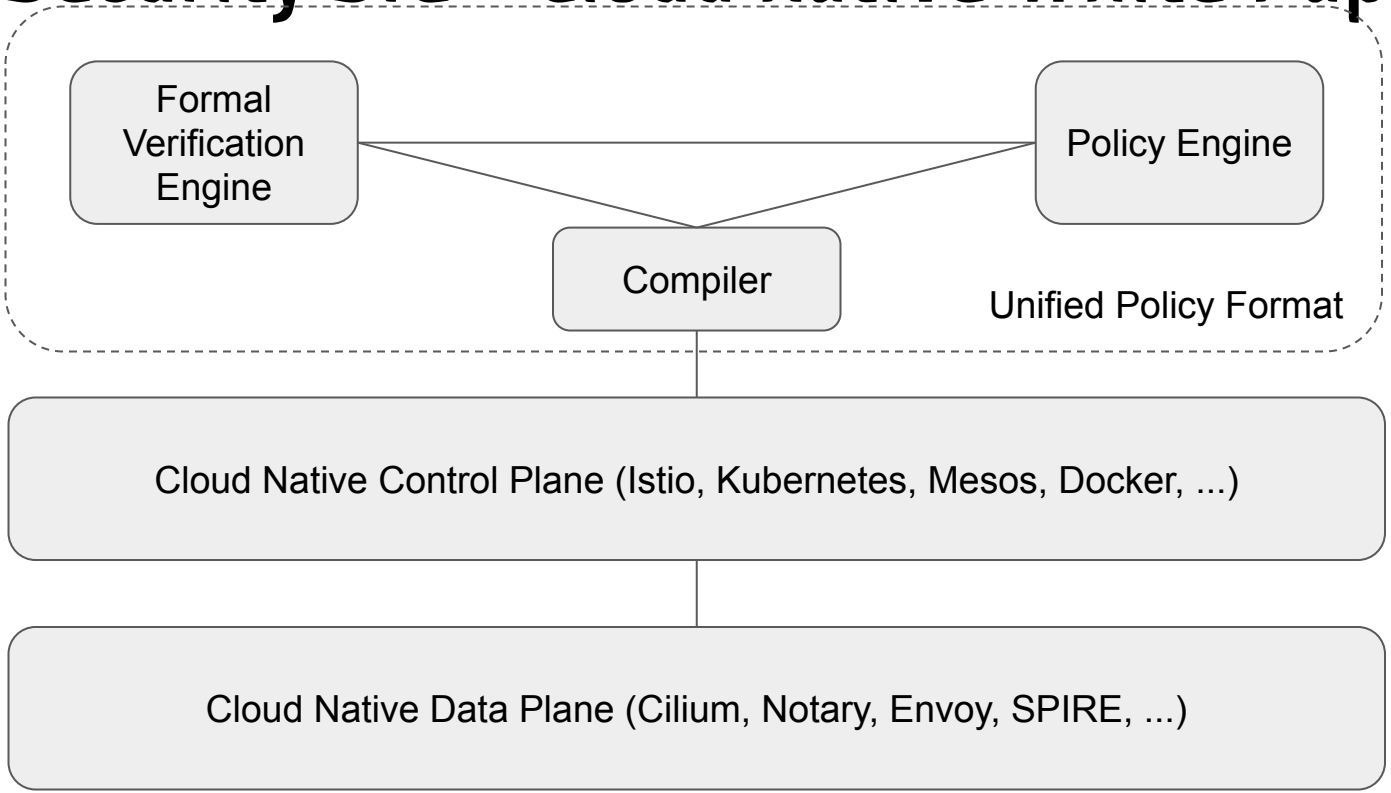
- Flattened view with explicit consistency bands
- Pipeline of transformations to facilitate managing clusters
- Favor “compiled” over runtime interpretation

WG New Area Exploration - policy as type system

- **Everything in namespaces**
  - Doesn't have to be the same "namespace"
    - e.g. "organization" concept over users
    - Needs to be - every resource is in one and only one namespace (or zone or class or whatever)
- **Immutable labels or annotations**
  - Keep context, allow chains of validations
- **Improved ownership**
  - Cross-namespace
  - "Object pairs" or other way to easily tie lifecycles together

CNCF Wide Collaboration

CNCF Security SIG - Cloud Native White Paper



Semantic + Control = Architecture

Contact and Contribute

WG Facts

- Feel free to join the weekly meeting or leave a note on the meeting minute doc (https://goo.gl/auTfy2) if you have more interesting topics or projects could be used for **case studies** !
- Find us at **#wg-policy on slack**, propose any new interesting idea like we talked here for futuristic open source study !
- Add **label wg-policy for your KEPs** if it is policy related !

Thank you !

Q & A