



# Open Policy Agent

Policy-based control for cloud native environments.

Project Intro and Community Update





# Rita Zhang

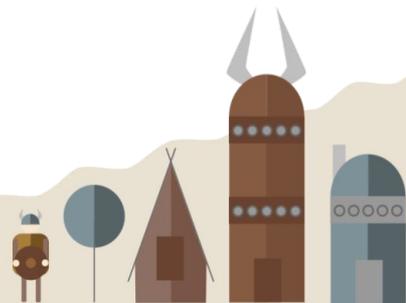
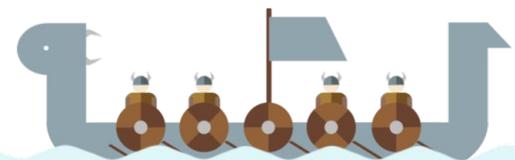
Engineer at Microsoft  
Gatekeeper Maintainer



Rita Zhang on OPA slack



@ritazzhang



# Patrick East

Engineer at Styra  
OPA Maintainer



Patrick East on OPA slack



@peast907



# OPA: Community

## Inception

Project started in 2016 at Styra.

## Goal

Unify policy enforcement across the stack.

## Users

Netflix  
Chef  
Medallia  
Cloudflare  
State Street  
Pinterest  
Intuit  
Capital One  
...and many more.

## Use Cases

Admission control  
Authorization  
ACLs  
RBAC  
IAM  
ABAC  
Risk management  
Data Protection  
Data Filtering

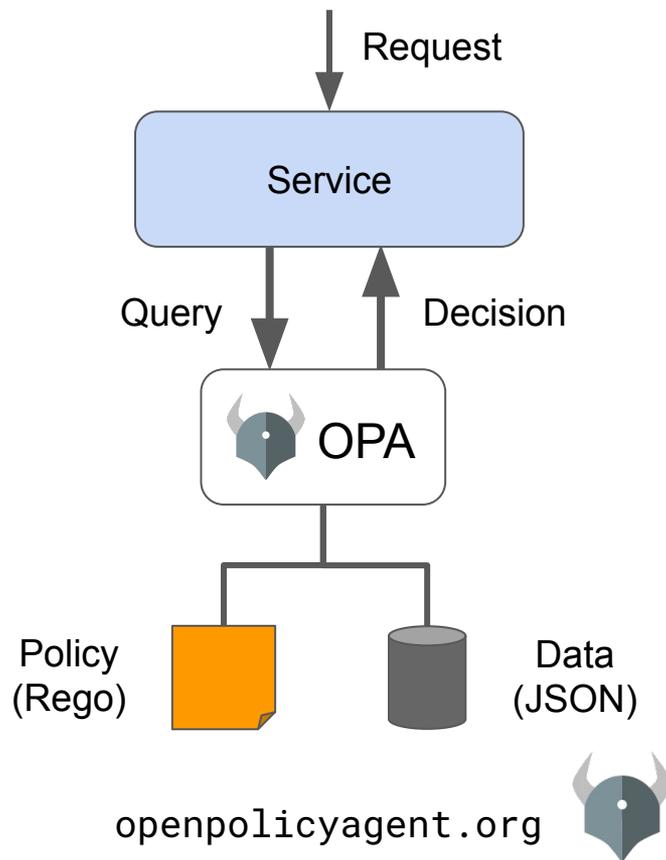
## Today

CNCF project  
(Incubating)  
  
>70 contributors  
>1000 slack members  
>2K stars  
>20 integrations



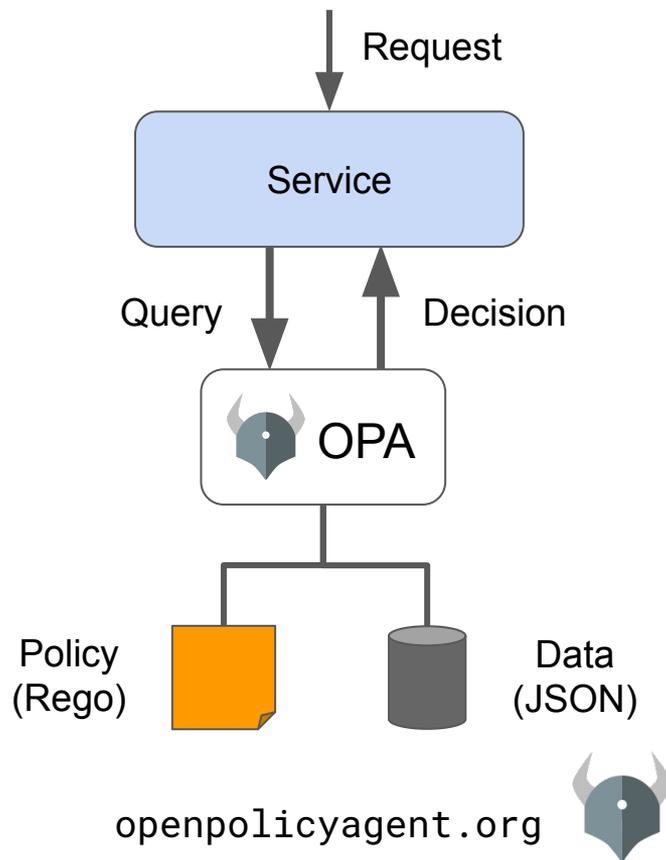
# OPA: What is it?

- **Declarative Policy Language (Rego)**
  - Can user X do operation Y on resource Z?
  - What invariants does workload W violate?
  - Which records should bob be allowed to see?



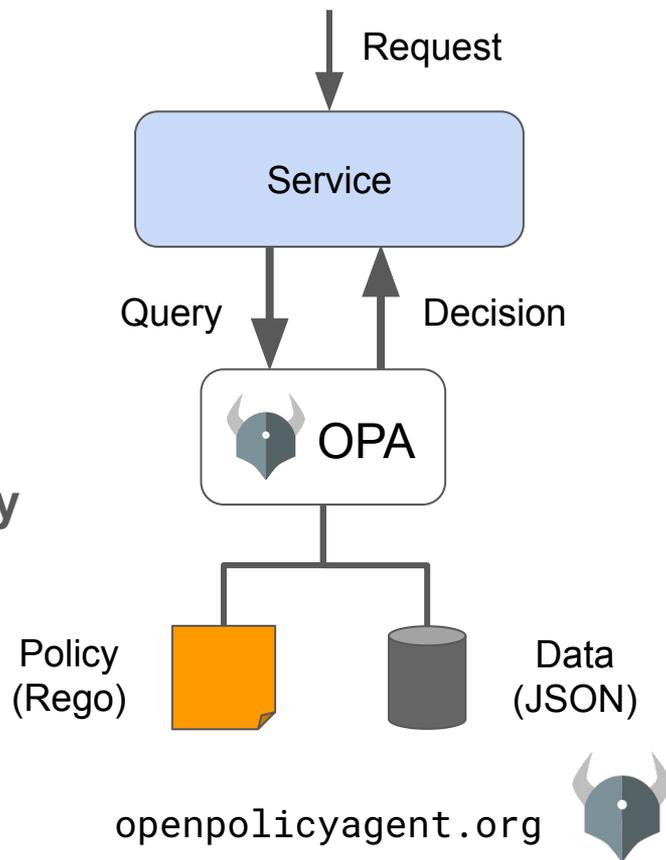
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  - Bundle service API for sending policy & data to OPA
  - Status service API for receiving status from OPA
  - Log service API for receiving audit log from OPA



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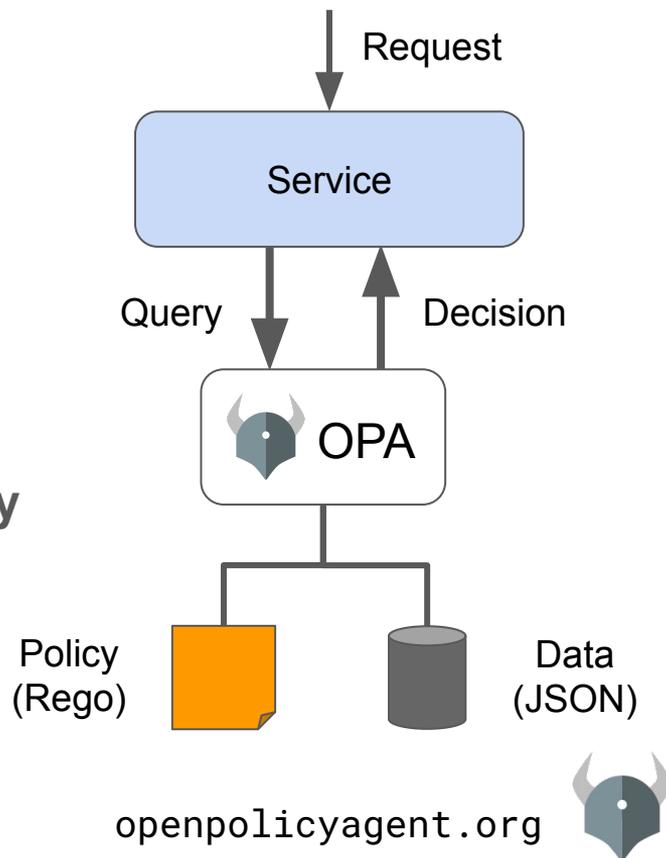
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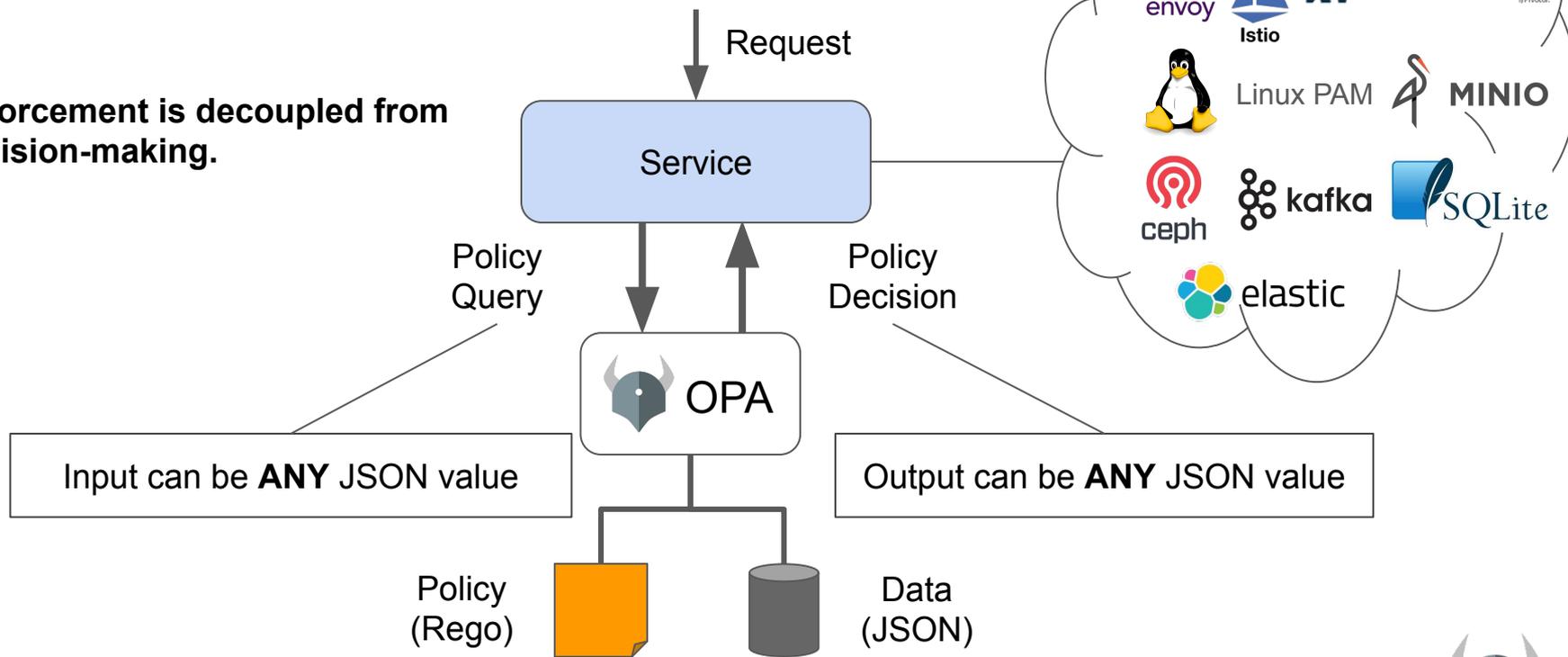
- **Tooling to build, test, and debug policy**

- opa run, opa test, opa fmt, opa deps, opa check, etc.
- VS Code plugin, Tracing, Profiling, etc.

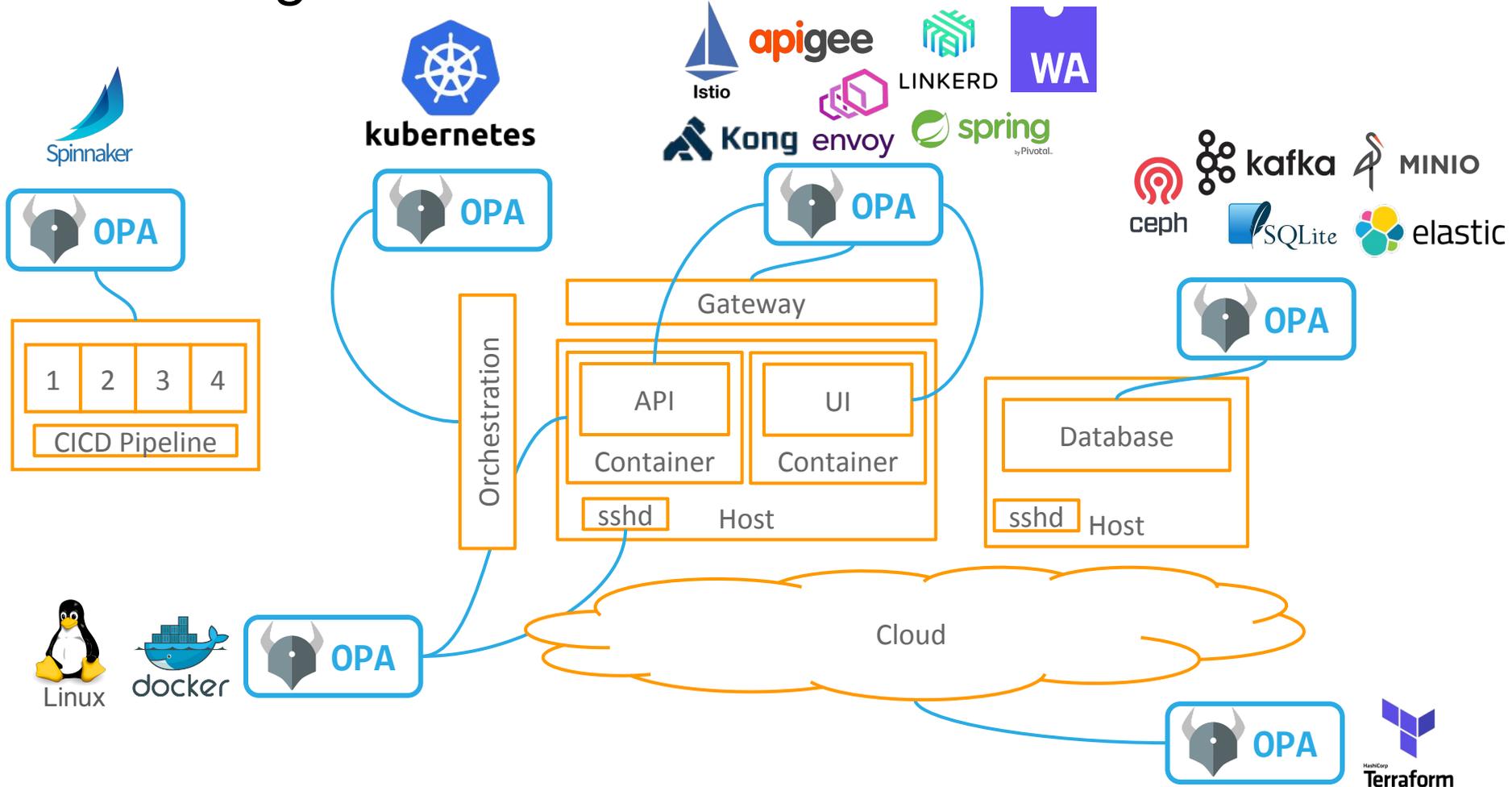


# OPA: General-purpose Policy Engine

Enforcement is decoupled from decision-making.



# OPA: Integrations



# OPA: Example Use-Cases



Admission Control

*"Restrict ingress hostnames for payments team."  
"Ensure container images come from corporate repo."*



API Authorization

*"Deny test scripts access to production services."  
"Allow analysts to access APIs serving anonymized data."*



Linux PAM

SSH & sudo

*"Only allow on-call engineers to SSH into production servers."*



Data Protection

*"Trades exceeding \$10M must be executed between 9AM and 5PM and require MFA."*



Data Filtering

*"Users can access files for past 6 months related to the region they licensed."*



# OPA: Integration Index - <https://bit.ly/32pPWEI>

The screenshot shows the 'OPA Ecosystem' page on the Open Policy Agent website. The page is titled 'OPA Ecosystem' and features a grid of 18 integration cards. The left sidebar contains navigation links for 'CORE DOCS', 'KUBERNETES', and 'OTHER USE CASES'. The top navigation bar includes the OPA logo and a 'pre-release' dropdown menu.

**CORE DOCS**

- Introduction
- Philosophy
- Policy Language
- Policy Performance
- Policy Testing
- Policy Reference
- Policy Cheatsheet
- External Data
- Integrating OPA
- Extending OPA
- REST API

**KUBERNETES**

- Overview & Architecture
- Policy Primer via Examples
- Tutorial: Ingress Validation
- Debugging Tips

**OTHER USE CASES**

- Docker
- HTTP APIs
- Kafka
- SSH and sudo
- Terraform
- Envoy

**OPA Ecosystem**

Showcase of OPA integrations, use-cases, and related projects.

Add or Update Integration

 <b>Ceph</b> Ceph Object Storage Authorization	 <b>clair</b> Kubernetes Admission Control using Vulnerability Scanning	 <b>CLOUDFLARE</b> Cloudflare Worker Enforcement of OPA Policies Using WASM	 <b>Confest</b> -- Configuration checking	 <b>HTTP API</b> Authorization in Dart	 <b>docker</b> Docker controls via OPA Policies
 <b>elastic</b> Elasticsearch Data Filtering	 <b>envoy</b> Container Network Authorization with Envoy	 <b>IPTables</b>	 <b>Container Network</b> Authorization with Istio (at the Edge)	 <b>Container Network</b> Authorization with Istio (as part of Mixer)	 <b>kafka</b> Kafka Topic Authorization
 <b>Kong</b> API Gateway Authorization with	 <b>Kubernetes</b> Admission Control	 <b>SSH and Sudo</b> Authorization with	 <b>MINIO</b> API	 <b>OpenFaaS</b> Serverless Functions	 <b>Spinnaker</b> Pipeline Policy Enforcement



# OPA: Whats new?

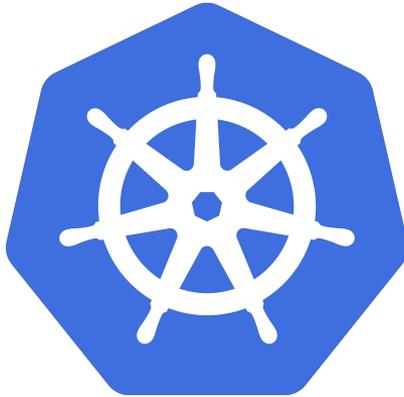
- CI/CD pipelines
  - Spinnaker
  - Boomerang
  - Terraform
- Public cloud object storage for bundles
  - S3 in particular (OPA features) (and GCS, and OCI)
- 



# OPA Use-Case: Kubernetes Admission Controller



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# Gatekeeper

A customizable Kubernetes admission webhook that helps enforce policies and strengthen governance



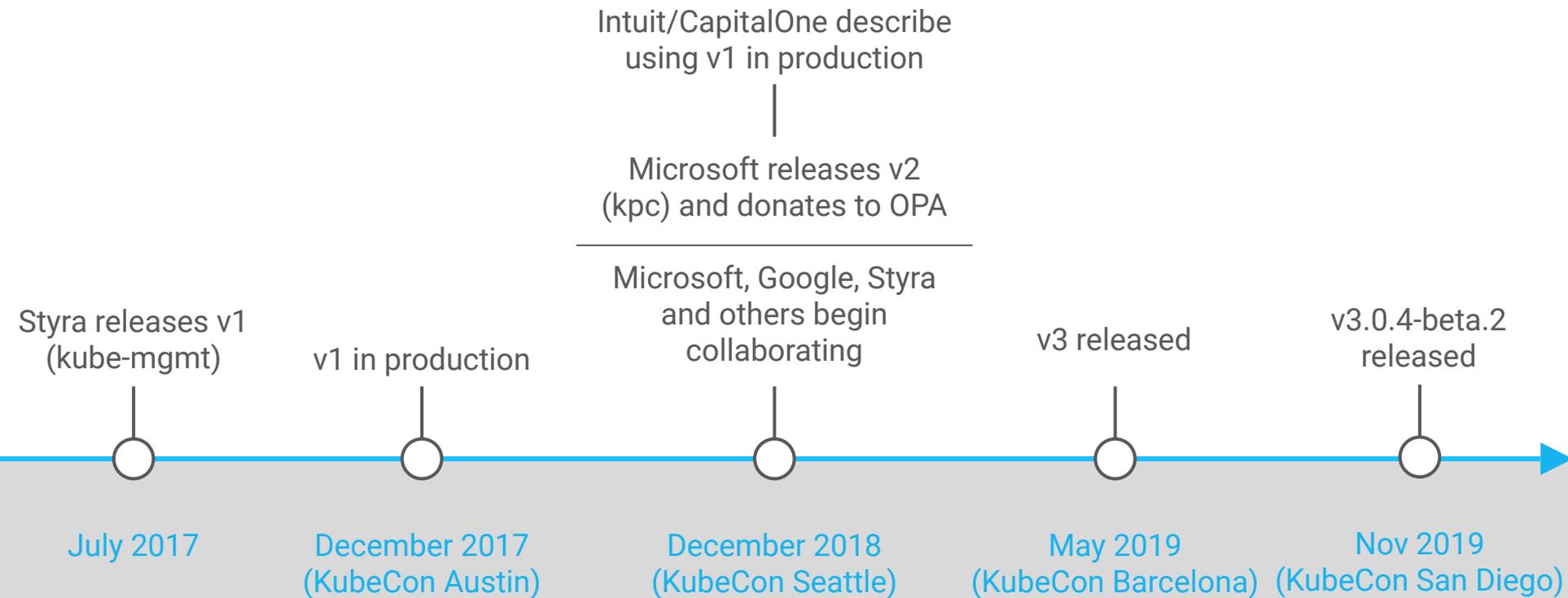
# Gatekeeper: Motivations

- Control what end-users can do on the cluster
- Help ensure clusters are in conformance with company policies
- Preview the effect of policy changes in production clusters to prevent impacts on existing workloads

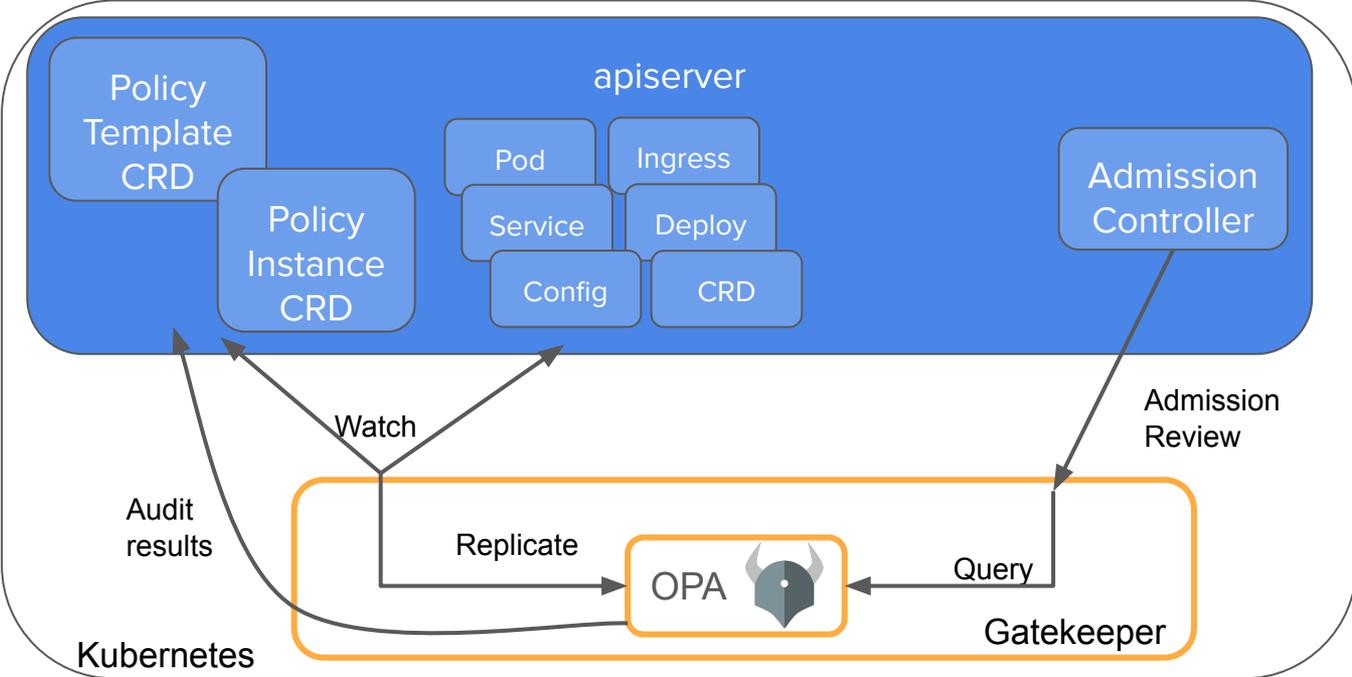
How do we help ensure conformance without sacrificing agility and autonomy?



# Gatekeeper: How We Got Here



# Gatekeeper: v3



# Gatekeeper: v1 vs v3

	V1 (aka kube-mgmt)	V3 (aka Constraint framework)
Policy Management	ConfigMap  Raw Rego stored in ConfigMaps with syntax-errors reported as annotations	CRD - Constraint template - Constraint  Raw Rego stored in Constraint templates
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Context-aware/referential policies</li><li>+ Validating admission control</li><li>+ Mutating admission control</li><li>+ Multi-source</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Context-aware/referential</li><li>+ Validating admission control</li><li>+ Audit</li><li>+ Dry run</li><li>+ CI/CD with conftest</li><li>+ Multi-source</li><li>+ Code reuse</li></ul> *Mutating admission control



# Gatekeeper: Core Features

- Validating admission control
  - Control what end-users can do on the cluster
- Context-aware/referential policies
- Constraints are parameterized and easily configurable by admins
- ConstraintTemplates provide the source code for constraints
  - Easily shared
  - Testable
  - Developed internally or sourced from the community
- Audit
  - Periodically evaluates resources against constraints
  - Allows for ongoing monitoring of cluster state to aid in detection and remediation of pre-existing misconfigurations



# Gatekeeper: Latest Updates

- Dry run
  - Test canary releases in a cluster in stages without impacting the cluster and your users
  - Gain confidence for our policies for admins before enforcing them; gradual rollout
- Namespace Selector
  - Narrow the scope of resources a constraint can enforce to certain namespaces only
- Policy library
  - Community developed policies
  - Pod security policies
- Multi-source constraint template
- Metrics



# Demo: Agile Bank

- Building the greatest P2P money transfer app to-date
- Highly regulated industry
- Both developers and admins are unhappy



# Agile Bank's Governance Policies

- All namespaces must have a label that lists a point-of-contact
- All pods must have an upper bound for resource usage
- All images must be from an approved repository
- Services must all have globally unique selectors
- Ingresses must all have globally unique hostnames



# Demo



# Gatekeeper: Status

- Beta
- Come help!
  - Issues
  - Feedback
  - User stories
  - Development



Cooking... but tasty

# Gatekeeper: Potential Growth

- Production ready
- Mutation
- External Data
- More audit features
- More metrics
- More policies
- Developer tooling
- Authorization? (likely separate project, same general semantics)



# Join Us!



## Open Policy Agent

[openpolicyagent.org](https://openpolicyagent.org)

[github.com/open-policy-agent/opa](https://github.com/open-policy-agent/opa)

## OPA Gatekeeper

[github.com/open-policy-agent/gatekeeper](https://github.com/open-policy-agent/gatekeeper)



## Community

[slack.openpolicyagent.org](https://slack.openpolicyagent.org)



Thank You!



# More Sessions this week!!

- Every day! — Meet the Maintainer: OPA
- Tuesday 11:50am — Applying Policy Throughout The Application Lifecycle with Open Policy Agent
- Tuesday 2:25pm — Enforcing Automatic mTLS With Linkerd and OPA Gatekeeper
- Wednesday 5:20pm — OPA Deep Dive
- Thursday 10:55am — How Yelp Moved Security From the App to the Mesh with Envoy and OPA
- Thursday 2:25pm — SIG Auth Update and Deep Dive
- Thursday 4:25pm — [Enforcing Service Mesh Structure using OPA Gatekeeper](#)
- Thursday 5:20pm — Kubernetes Policy Enforcement Using OPA At Goldman Sachs

... and more! Check the schedule!

