

Walk-through: Debugging an RBAC Problem in Istio

(but without the swearing)

KubeCon, San Diego California | November 2019



Matt Turner

@mt165 | mt165.co.uk

*no fucking promises

← **Tweet**



Matt Turner @mt165 · 21h

My @KubeCon_ talk may not be written, but my apartment is *really* clean.



Patrick Michael O'Reilly 🍀

@yllierop

Replying to @mt165 and @KubeCon_

At least as the founder of @KubeCon_ I can definitely say your priorities seem legit. #Kubernetes

4:30 am · 30 Sep 2019 from Los Angeles, CA · Twitter for iPhone



Settings

General

Resources

- ADVANCED
- FILE SHARING
- PROXIES
- NETWORK

Docker Engine

Command Line

Kubernetes

Resources Advanced

CPUs: 8



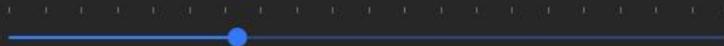
Memory: 8.00 GB



Swap: 4 GB



Disk image size: 59.6 GB (0 Bytes used)

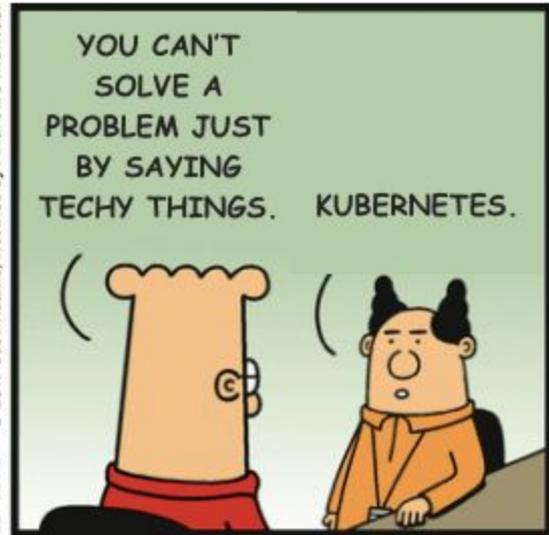
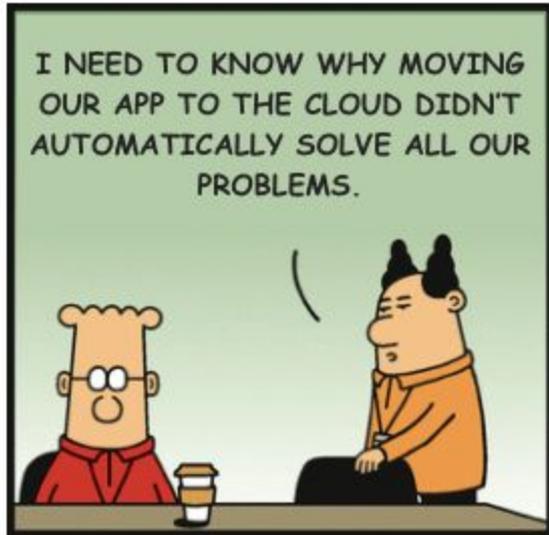


 Docker Engine
running

Cancel

Apply & Restart

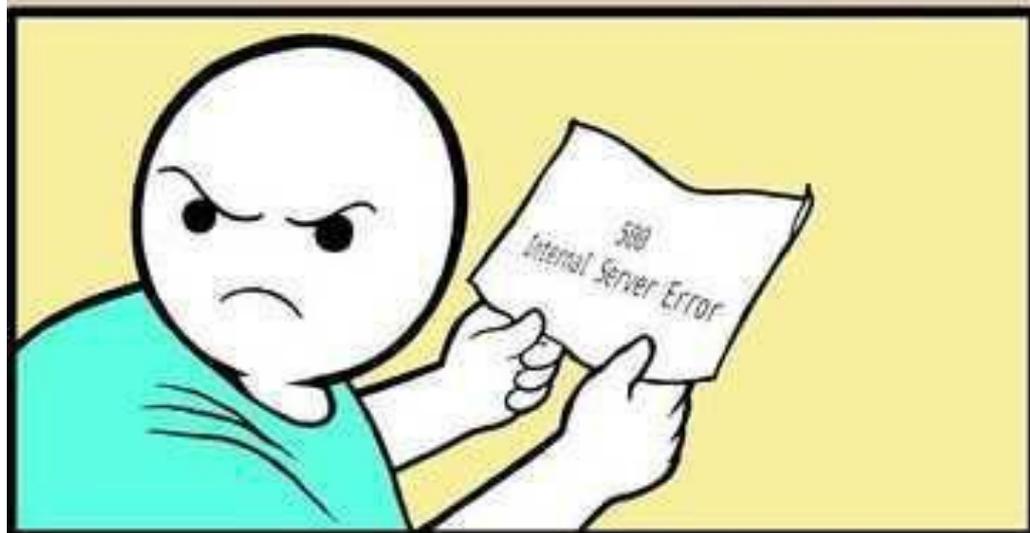
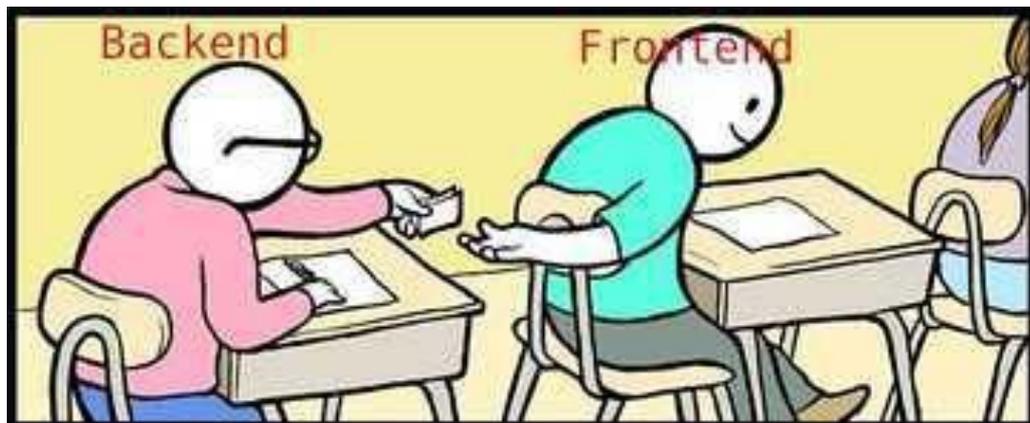
Introduction



Dilbert.com @ScottAdamsSays

11-08-17 © 2017 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

RBAC: 20, 21



Forking Shirtballs

Debuggability =
Observability X Controllability

Observability

“... the behaviour of the entire system can be determined by only looking at its inputs and outputs” - Kalman, 1961

The software has a model of the world, which may be wrong.

You have a model of its model, which may be wrong.

Envoy Logs: 30

user-agent

Start time

Request ID

Method

Protocol

Response Code

Response Flags

Bytes sent, received

Duration (ms)

Upstream svc. time

```
[2019-08-01T17:45:16.683Z] "GET /HTTP/1.1" 200 - 0 13 3 0 "-"
"curl/7.47.0" "4344078e-59cf-4303-bd60-1a7b77982e3d"
"auth.default.svc.cluster.local" "127.0.0.1:8080"
inbound|80|auth.default.svc.cluster.local - 10.52.0.22:8080
10.52.1.18:54982
```

downstream local address

upstream cluster Request Authority

upstream host

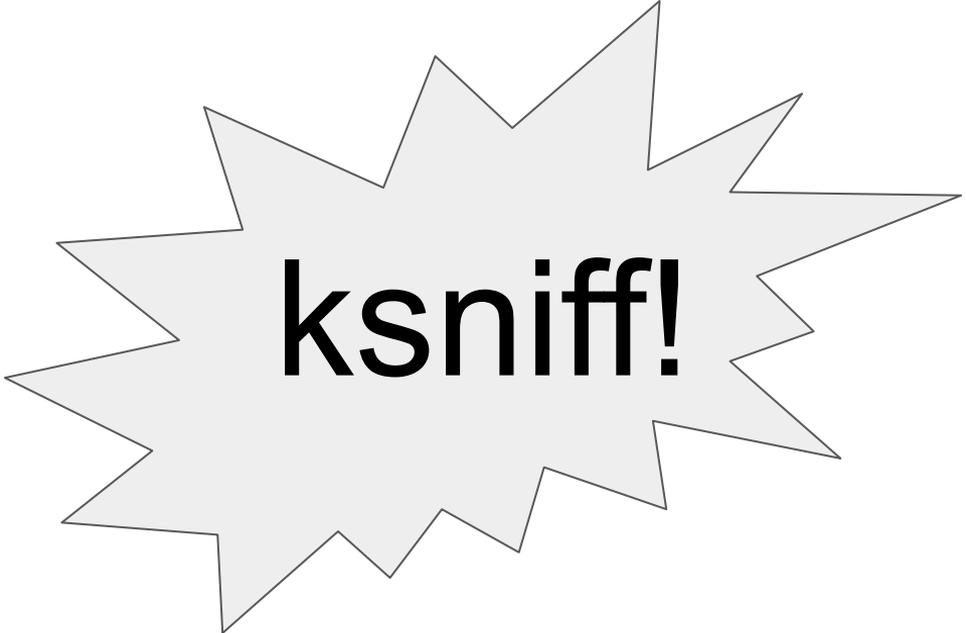
upstream local address

x-forwarded-for



engarde!

Traffic Dump: 31



ksniff!

It's all meshed up!

Controllability

Permissive RBAC: 32

Change One Thing At A Time
R-BACk on: 20

Follow the Pipeline: 33

Hone in: 34, 35

Guess and check: 36

¿What the actual fuck?

Why? Can do end-user, port, etc based authz

ServiceRole[Binding] will be gone from 1.6, replaced with AuthorizationPolicy

One more: Don't Panic!



Thanks!

@mt165

Slides |
Videos | mt165.co.uk
Demo code |

