

OPA: The cloud-native policy engine

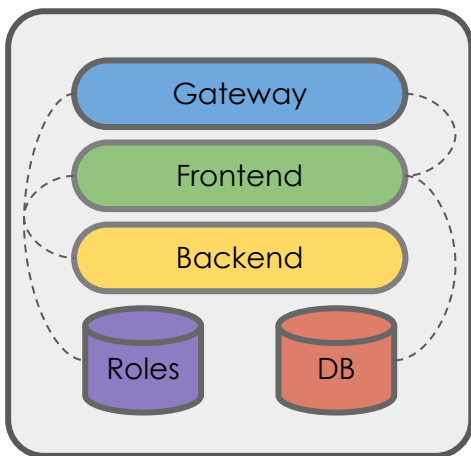
Intro to Open Policy Agent and Policy-as-code

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co-creator OPA
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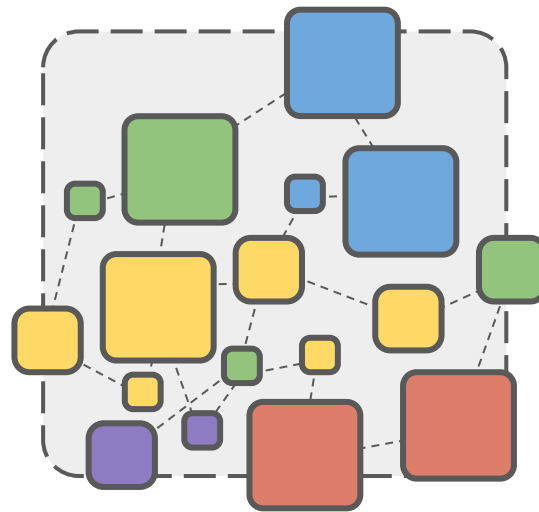
Software and therefore Security is Changing

YESTERDAY



- Monoliths
- Siloed Roles
- Manual
- Hardware

TOMORROW



- Microservices
- Dev(Sec)Ops
- Automation
- Self-service
- CI/CD
- Cloud

Impact on Security

- APIs → 10x larger attack surface
- Cloud → Less control over network / datacenter
- CI/CD/Automation → Dynamic environments
- DevOps/Self-service → 10x more people controlling production

Authorization is More Important than Ever

AUTHORIZATION

Which

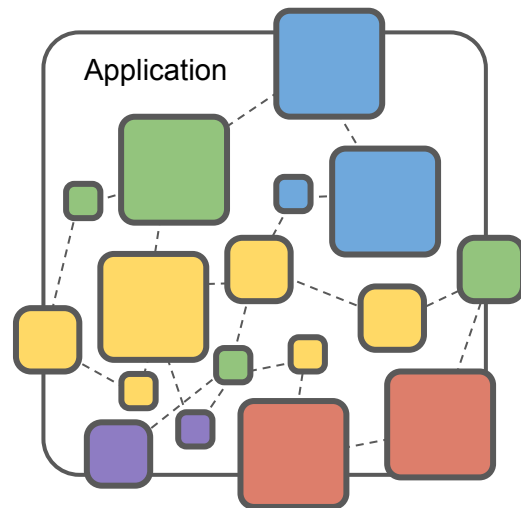
- **people/machines** can perform which
- **actions (APIs)** on which
- **software** in which
- **environments**



REQUIREMENTS

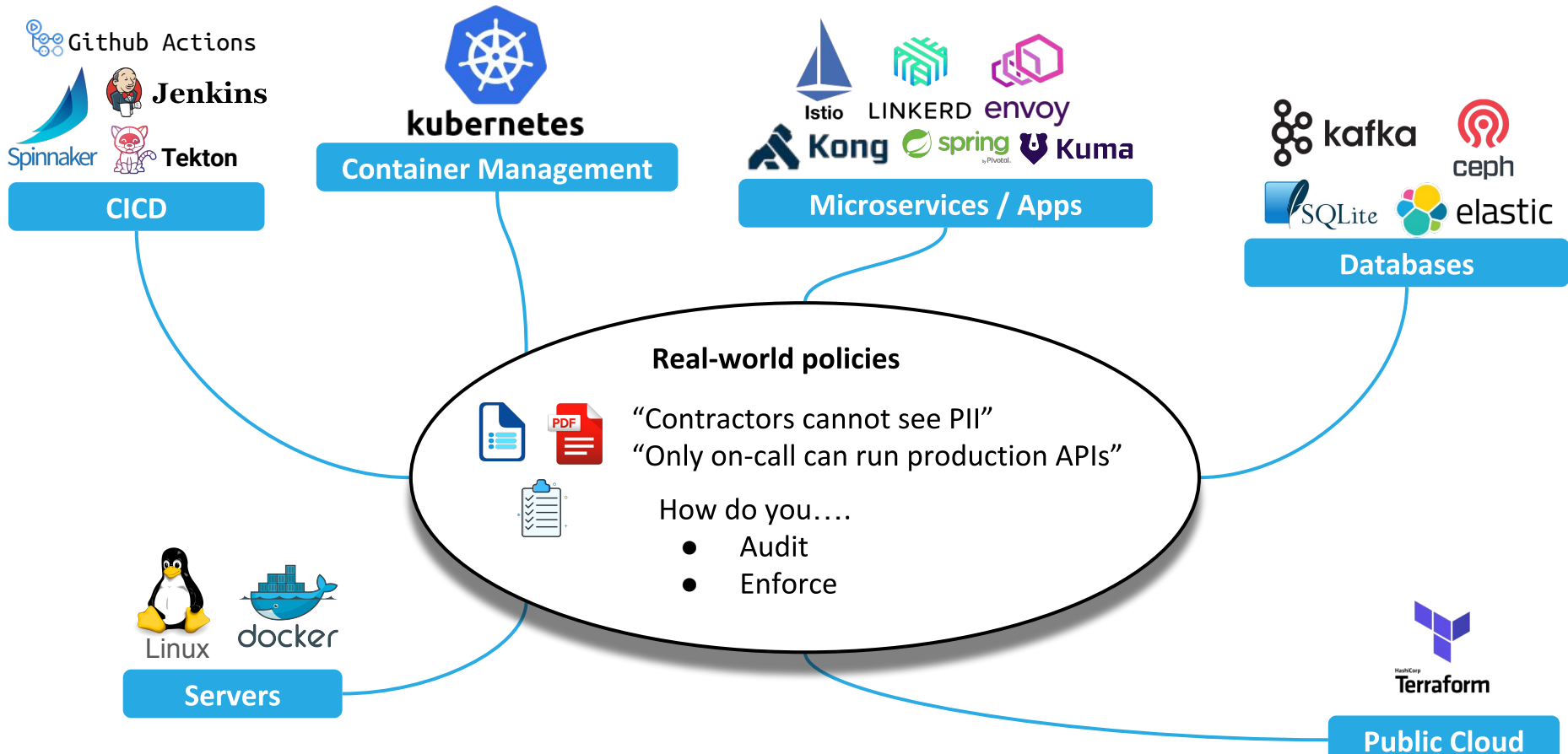
- **Sophisticated policies:** Space of decisions is larger than ever
- **Pervasive enforcement:** Can no longer rely on the environment to enforce authorization
- **Policy lifecycle:** Lifecycle of policy should be woven into the lifecycle of software

MACHINES

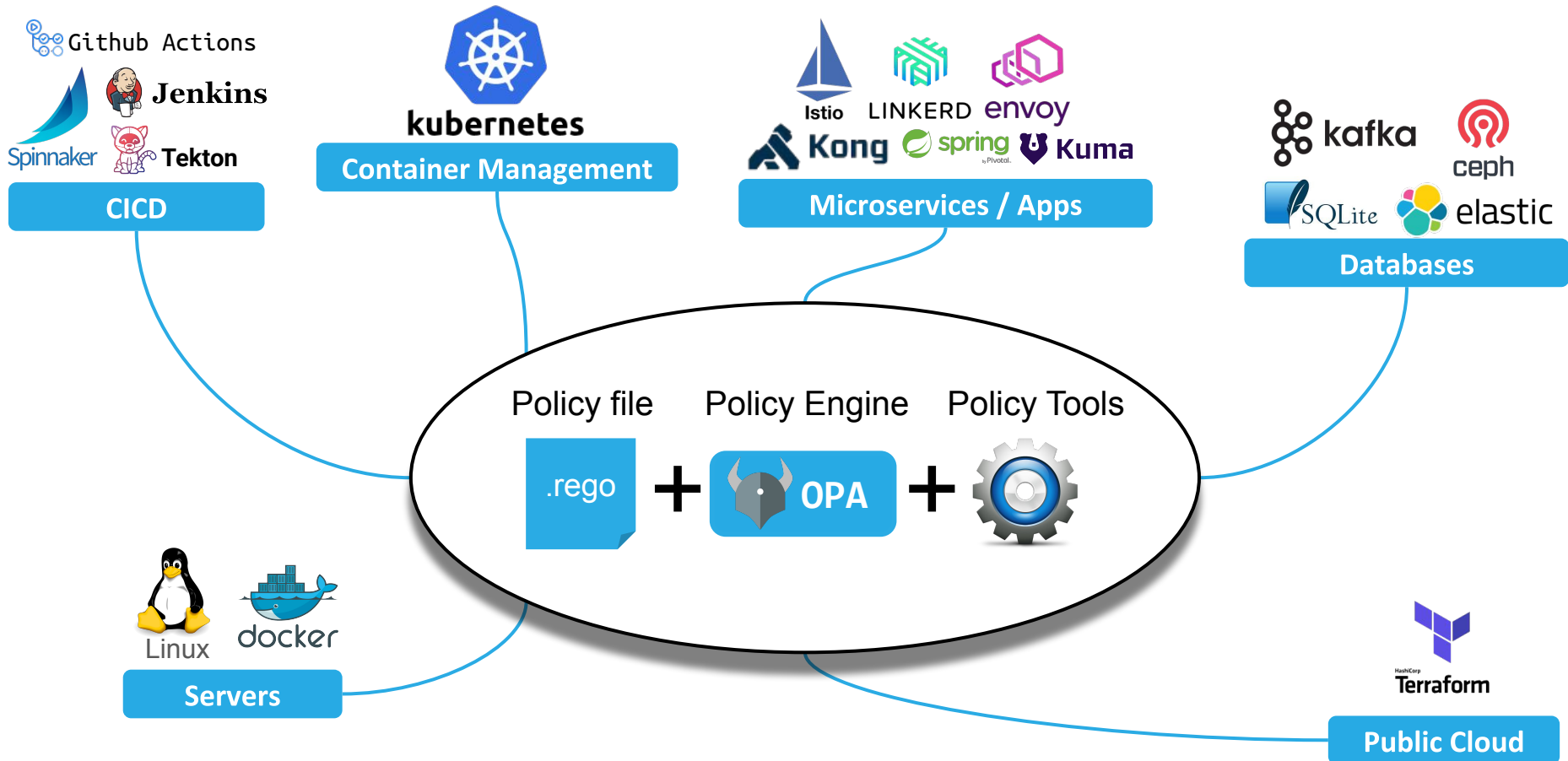


The diagram illustrates a cloud-native architecture stack. At the top, various tools are categorized into boxes: **CI/CD** (Github Actions, Jenkins, Spinnaker, Tekton), **Container Management** (kubernetes), **Microservices / Apps** (Istio, Linkerd, Envoy, Kong, Spring, Kuma), and **Databases** (kafka, ceph, SQLite, elastic). Below these, the core infrastructure is shown: **Servers** (Linux, docker) connect to a **Cloud** (represented by a cloud shape). The **Cloud** contains **Hosts** which run **Containers**. Each **Host** has an **sshd** service. The **Containers** are further divided into **GUI Container** and **API Container**. The **API Container** connects to a **Database** service. The **Cloud** also connects to **Public Cloud** (Terraform).

Yesterday: Train people || Hardcode policy || Many config languages



Open Policy Agent: Unified Authorization for Cloud-Native



OPA is ...



Open Policy Agent

*General purpose policy-as-code
solution designed for cloud-native.*

1. Define authz policy
2. Evaluate any relevant context
3. Provide decision for enforcement

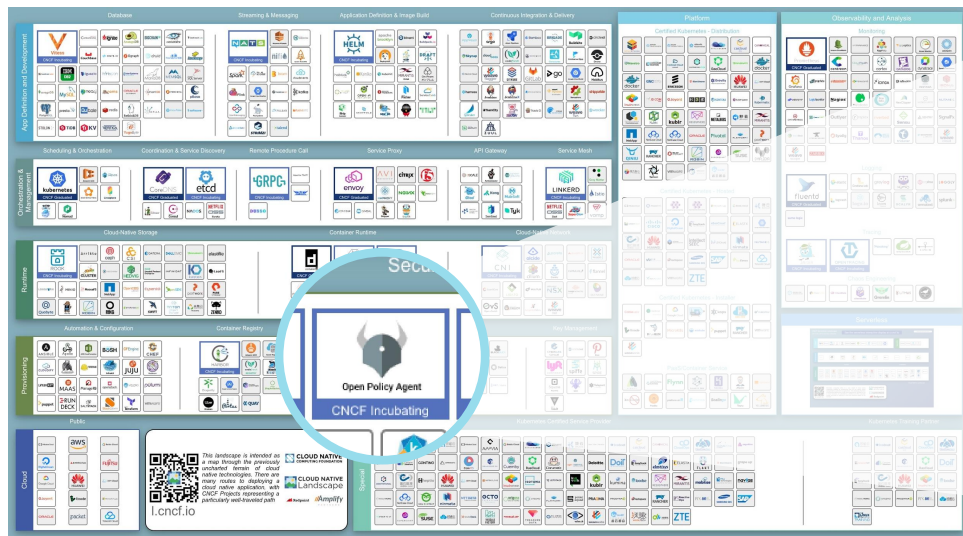


Community



Open Policy Agent: A CNCF Project

Founded by Styra (2016) / Sandbox (2018) / Incubating (2019)



Open Policy Agent (OPA)
Cloud-native policy engine

Contributors: 30+ companies, 150+ devs

Users: Netflix, Chef, Medallia, Atlassian, Cloudflare, Pinterest, Intuit, Capital One, ABN AMRO, Goldman Sachs ...and more.

Recent End-user Presentations

Sessions at KubeCon US 2019



- Yelp - How Yelp moved security from the app to the mesh
- Google - Enforcing service mesh structure using OPA
- Goldman Sachs - K8s policy enforcement using OPA at Goldman Sachs
- Snky - Applying policy throughout the app lifecycle with OPA
- Reddit - Kubernetes at Reddit: Tales from Production
- Adobe - What Makes A Good Multi Tenant Kubernetes Solution
- Giant Swarm - Using OPA for complex CRD Validation and Defaulting

- ABN AMRO
- Adobe
- Microsoft
- Goldman Sachs
- Google
- Yelp
- and more

OPA Summit at KubeCon US 2019

- Capital One - Open Policy Agent for Policy-enabled Kubernetes and CICD
- Chef - Open Policy Agent in Practice: From Angular to OPA in Chef Automate
- Pinterest - Open Policy Agent at Scale: How Pinterest Manages Policy Distribution
- Tripadvisor - Building a Testing Framework for Integrating Open Policy Agent into Kubernetes
- Atlassian - Deploying Open Policy Agent at Atlassian

Sessions at Virtual KubeCon EU 2020

- AquaSecurity: Handling Container Vulnerabilities with Open Policy Agent
- ABN AMRO: How ABN AMRO Switched Cloud Providers Without Anyone Noticing
- Medudoc: Securing Your Healthcare Data with OPA

Other events or public confirmation of using OPA: Bank of New York Mellon, AWS, Synemedia, Pure Storage, VMware, Netflix, Daimler, T-Mobile, Salesforce

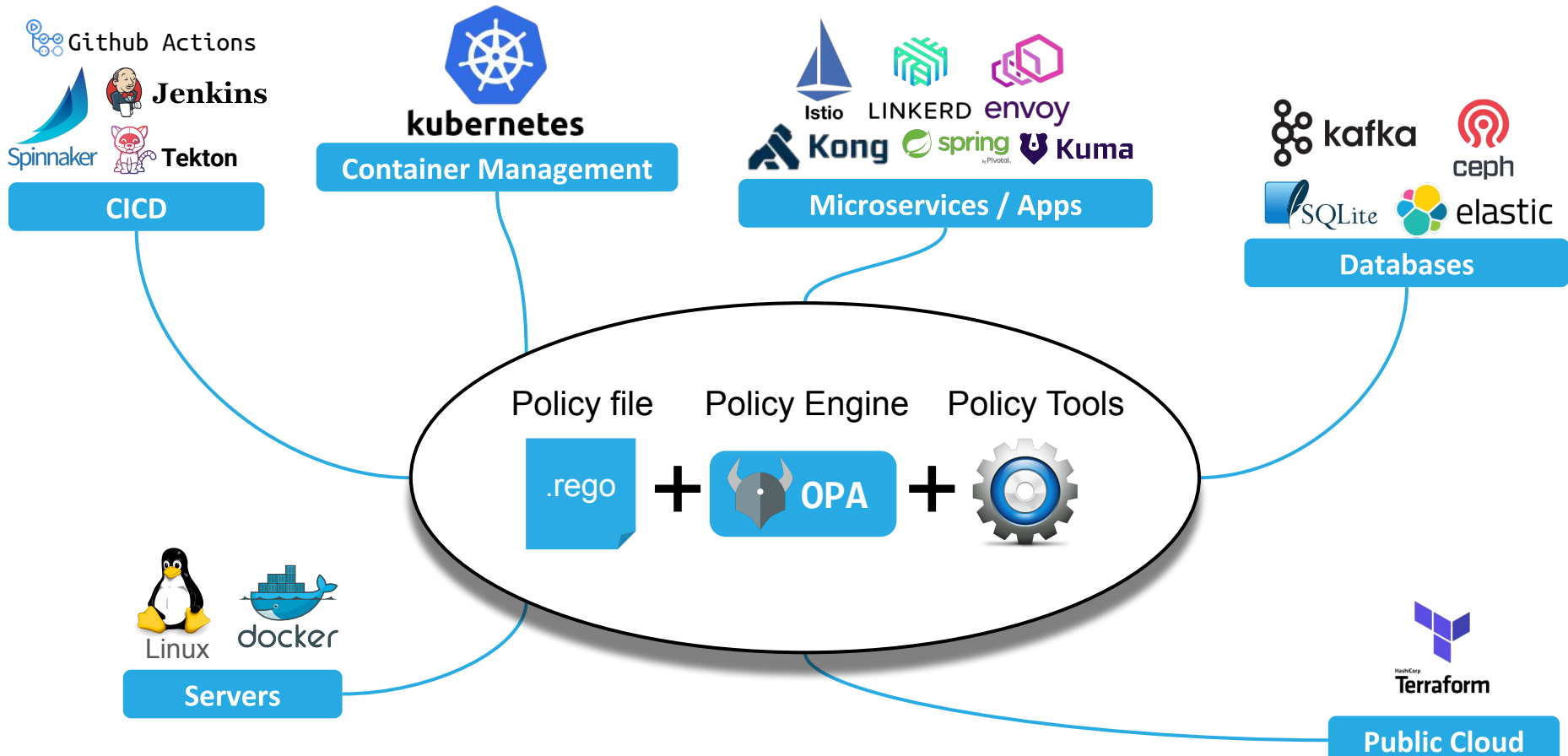


- Atlassian
- TripAdvisor
- Pinterest
- Chef
- Capital One
- and more

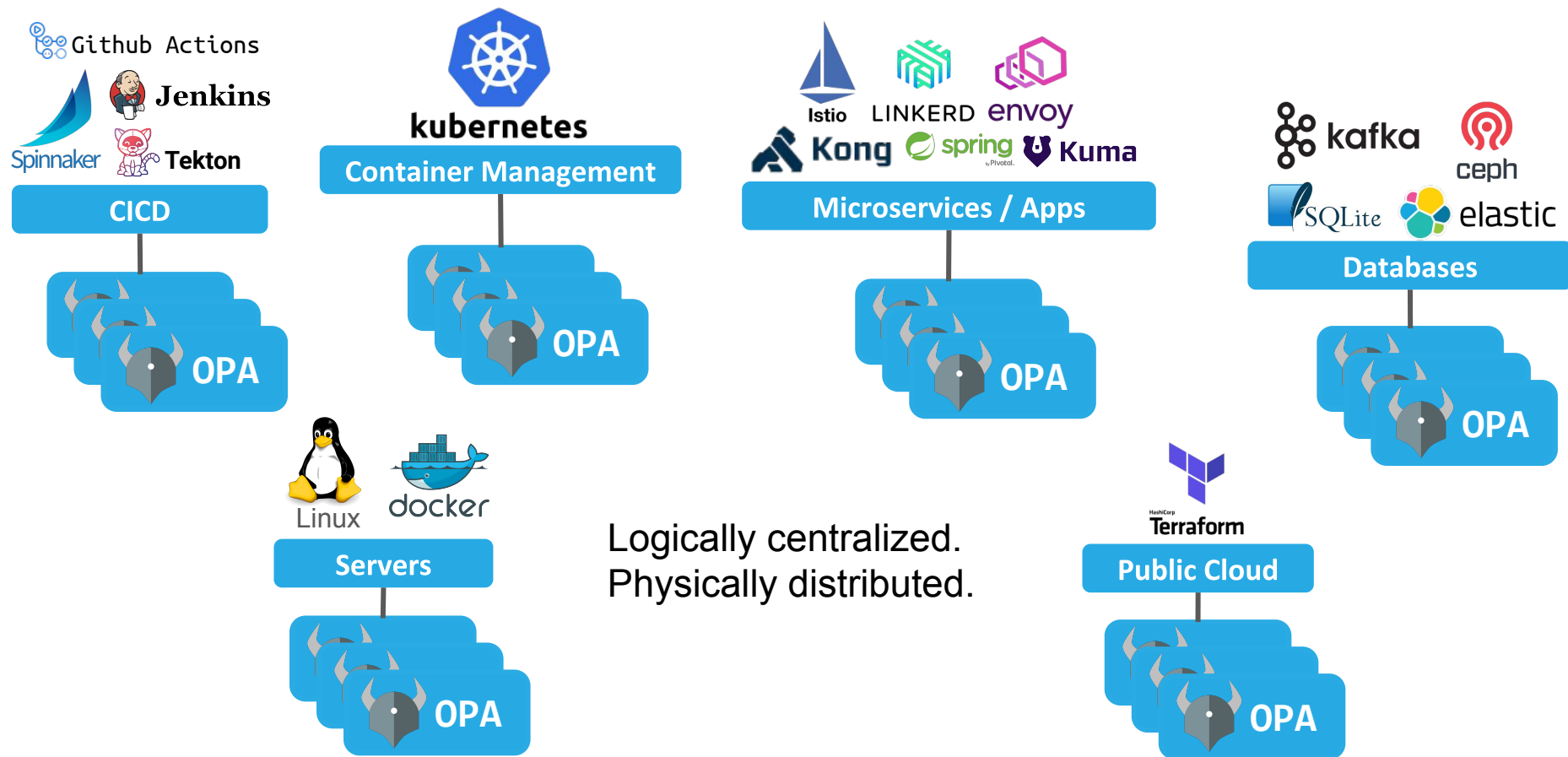
Architecture



Open Policy Agent: Unified Authorization for Cloud-Native



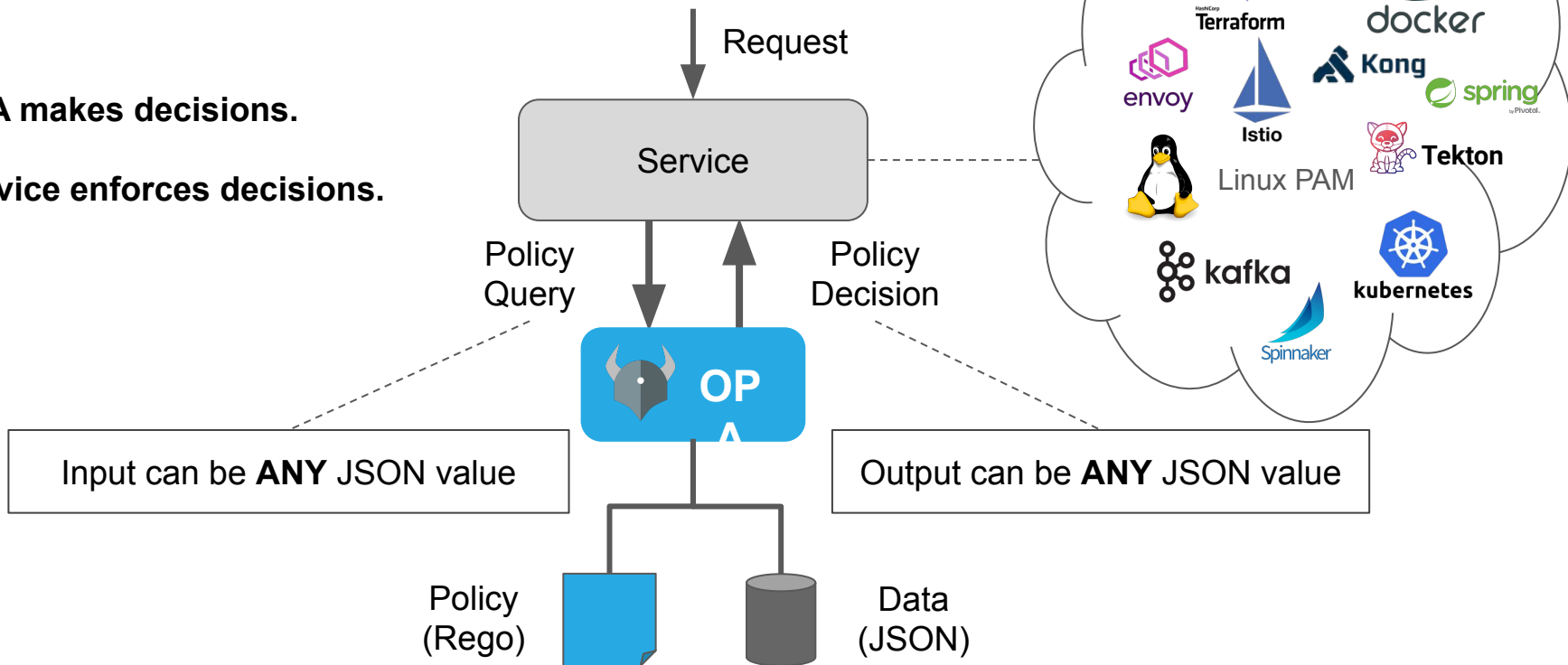
Open Policy Agent: Distributed Authorization for Availability and Perf



OPA: General-purpose Policy Engine

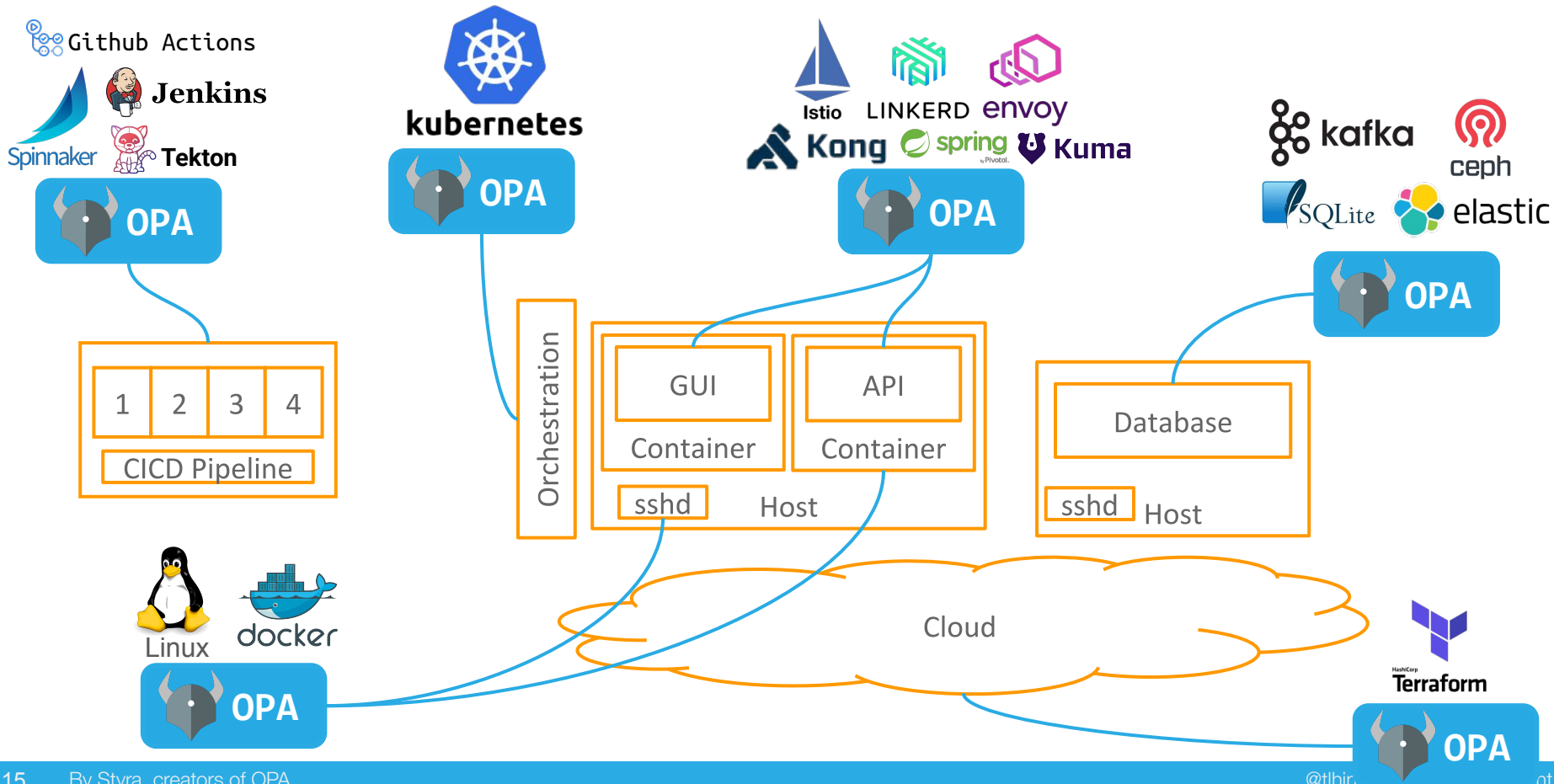
OPA makes decisions.

Service enforces decisions.



OPA runs as: Library (Go), WASM, Sidecar, Daemon, or Service

Open Policy Agent: Unified Authorization for Cloud-Native



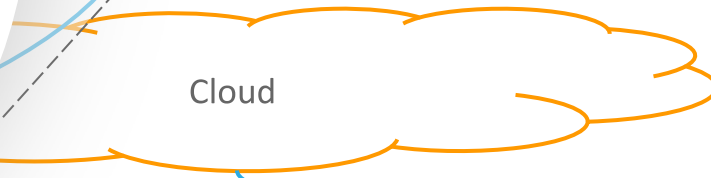
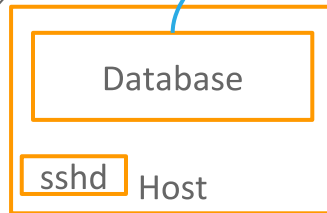
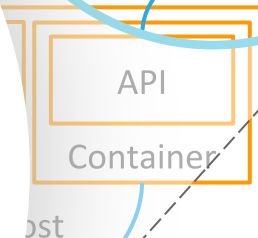
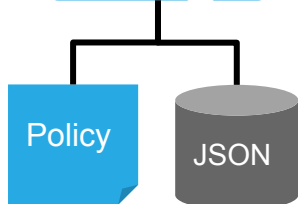
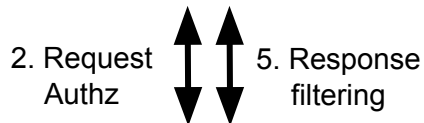
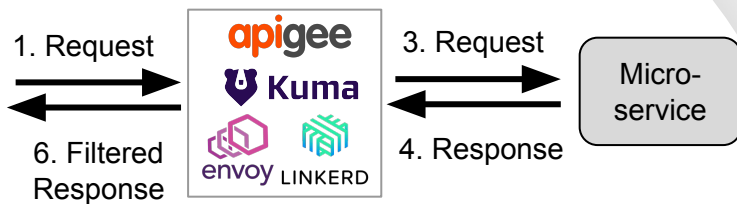
Open Policy Agent: Unified Authorization for Cloud-Native

Github Actions

Spinnaker

Jenkins

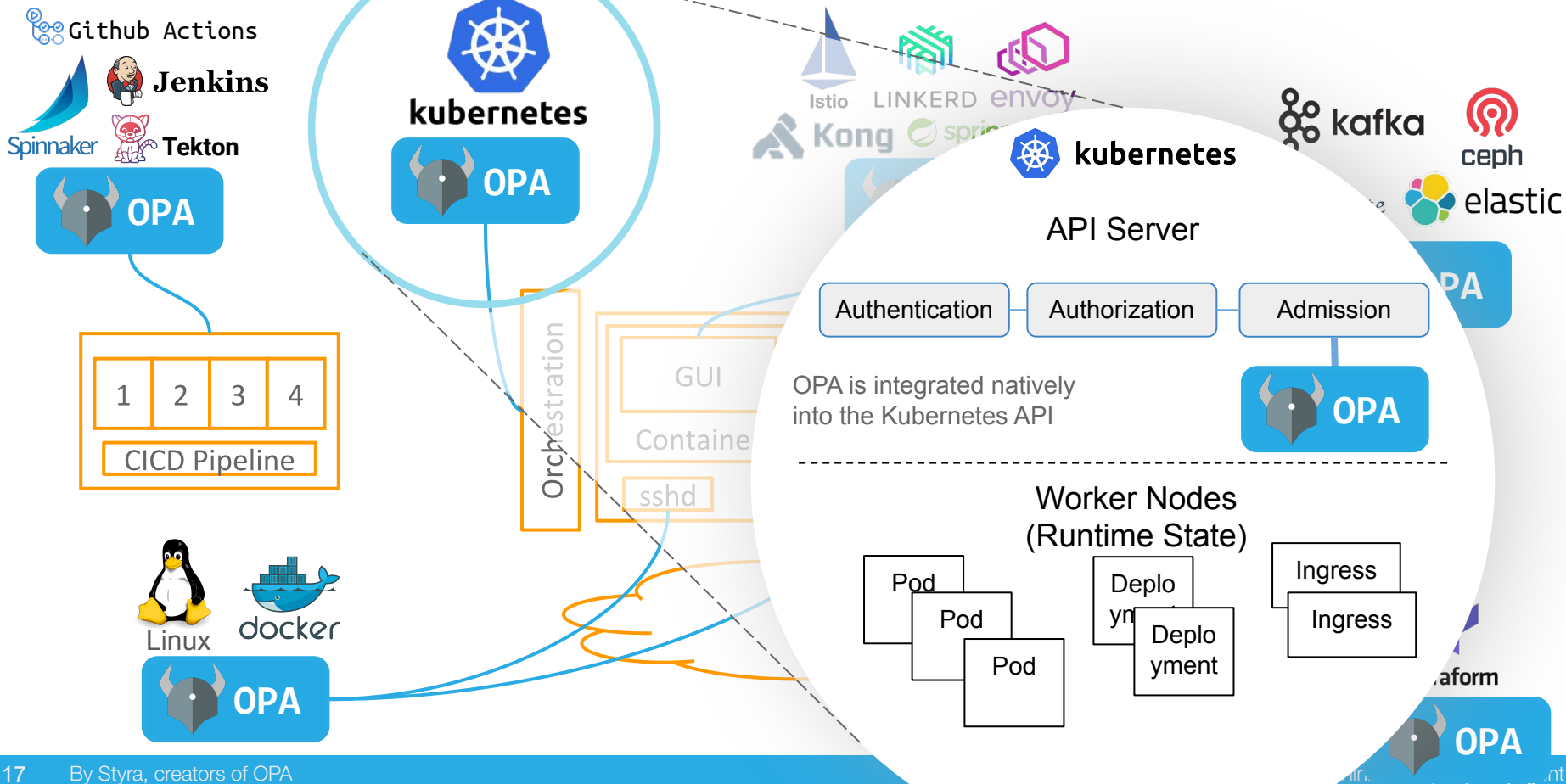
Network Proxy Integration



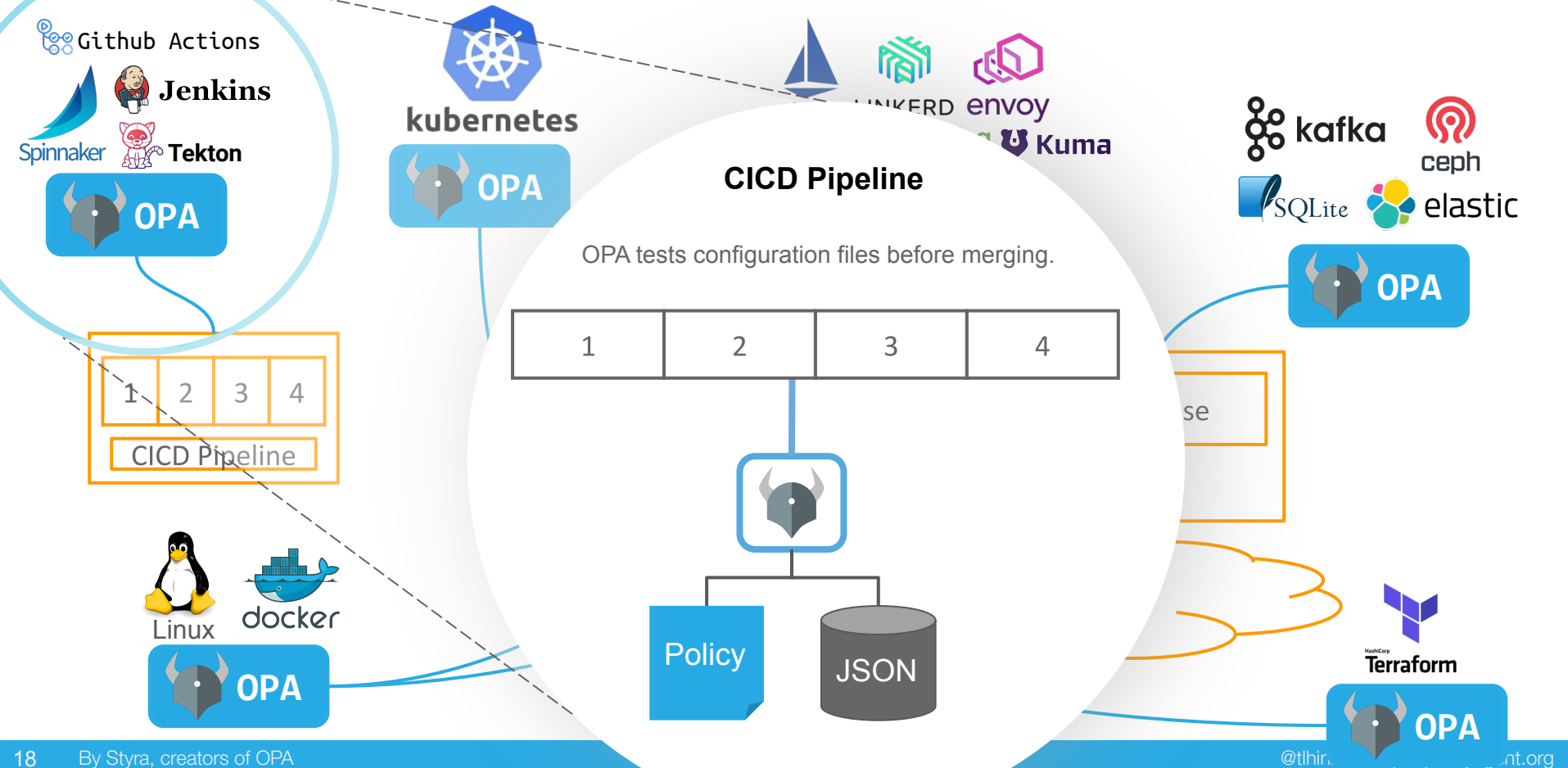
Terraform



Open Policy Agent. Unified Authorization for Cloud-Native



Open Policy Agent: Unified Authorization for Cloud-Native



Policy and Tooling

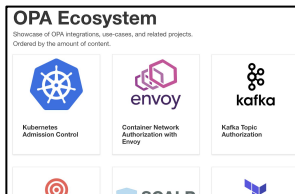


Policy Development Life Cycle and OPA Tooling

Stages

Requirements	Author Policy	CI	Deploy	Monitor	Log
Choose domain Assemble real-world policy (spreadsheet) Understand data dependencies Choose enforcement points (PEPs)	Write Rego Decide/learn input and decision schemas Modularize policy and delegate for collaboration	Assemble policy Test policy Create policy build artifacts	Deploy policy to OPA Deploy / refresh data to OPA	OPA health	Record decisions for audit

OPA Tooling



40 integrations

IDEs
REPL
Playground
VScode
IntelliJ

Tools
Unit test
Profile
Benchmark
Build

APIs
Bundle API
Push API
Pull builtins
JWT builtins

APIs
Status API
Prometheus

APIs
Log API



Design Principles of Rego, OPA's Policy Language

Syntax

Mirror declarative real-world policies

99% of Rego statements are IF statements, like those found in PDF/email policies

```
allow { user == "alice" }    # allow if user is alice
```

Semantics

Embrace hierarchical data

Rego provides first-class support for deeply nested data and 130+ common builtins

```
input.token.claims[i].id
```

Algorithms

Optimize Performance Automatically

Policy author is responsible for correctness. OPA is responsible for performance.

Rego Overview

When writing Rego you do two things:

- 1 Write Rules that make policy decisions. A Rule is a conditional assignment.

Assignment	IF	Conditions
allow is true	IF	user is alice and action is read
<code>allow = true</code>		<code>{ user == "alice"; action == "read" }</code>

- Value assigned to a variable
- Element assigned to a set
- Key assigned to a value
- Function call assigned to a result

IF

- Variable assignment
- Reference, e.g. input.user
- Equality or inequality
- Function call, iteration, ...

- 2 Organize Rules into Policies (*packages*). A Policy is a set of Rules with a hierarchical name.

```
package foo
```

```
rule1  
rule2  
rule3
```

```
package foo.bar
```

```
rule1  
rule2
```

```
package baz
```

```
rule1  
rule2  
rule3
```

Envoy Policy Example

[OPA Playground](#)

JSON/YAML from Envoy

```
parsed_path: ["api", "v1", "products"]
attributes:
  source:
    address:
      Address:
        SocketAddress:
          address: "172.17.0.10"
          PortSpecifier:
            PortValue: 36472
  destination:
    address:
      Address:
        SocketAddress:
          address: "172.17.0.17"
          PortSpecifier:
            PortValue: 9080
  request:
    http:
      id: 13359530607844510314
      method: GET
      headers: ...
      path: "/api/v1/products"
      host: "192.168.99.100:31380"
      protocol: "HTTP/1.1"
```

OPA Policy: Allow all GET and some PUT

```
package envoy.authz

# everyone can GET /
allow {
  input.attributes.request.http.method == "GET"
  input.parsed_path = ["/"]
}

# updates to /v1/admin/{id} dependent on source IP
allow {
  input.attributes.request.http.method == "PUT"
  input.parsed_path = ["v1", "admin", id]
  user_is_admin
  src := input.attributes.source.address.Address.SocketAddress.address
  net.cidr_contains("172.28.0.0/16", src)
}

user_is_admin { ... }
```

Kubernetes Policy Example

[OPA Playground](#)

JSON/YAML from Kubernetes

```
apiVersion: admission.k8s.io/v1beta1
kind: AdmissionReview
request:
  kind:
    group: ''
    kind: Pod
    version: v1
  namespace: opa
  object:
    metadata:
      labels:
        app: nginx
        name: nginx
        namespace: opa
    spec:
      containers:
        - image: nginx
          imagePullPolicy: Always
          name: nginx
          volumeMounts:
            - mountPath: "/var/run/serviceaccount"
              name: default-token-tm9v8
              readOnly: true
  operation: CREATE
```

OPA Policy: All images come from a trusted registry

```
package kubernetes.admission

deny[msg] {
  input.request.kind.kind == "Pod"
  some i
  image := input.request.object.spec.containers[i].image
  not startswith(image, "hooli.com/")
  msg := sprintf("image comes from bad registry: %v", [image])
}
```


Join Us!

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