eBPF powered, distributed Kubernetes performance analysis

Yes, the title is very long...

O'Reilly Velocity - Berlin, 2019

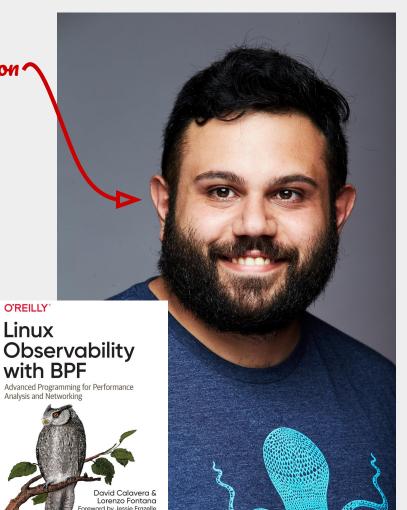


Lorenzo Fontana

Open Source Software Engineer Sysdig



Tweets at @fntlnz



Who here has never struggled trying to understand what's going on in a Kubernetes cluster?



Why performance analysis is harder on Kubernetes?

Kubernetes is an abstraction layer

Kubernetes complexity reflects on your ability to observe what's going on under the abstraction

Performance analysis on Kubernetes makes me cry

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Performance analysis tooling is very tied to the languages

Our kubernetes cluster speaks many different languages.

We need We need anguage agnostic tools

What are my options then?

strace

Kernel modules

Valgrind

Top, htop, iotop, etc..

Many options

eBPF

In-code

(as having the performance analysis code in the application itself) Read /proc and /sys filesystems

perf

Slows down applications, makes them unstable

strace

HARD to write, maintain, crazy stuff, DEATH Kernel modules

Slows down applications Valgrind

Very limited Top, htop, iotop, etc.. Many options

Good luck with the performance impact

In-code

(as having the performance analysis code in the application itself) Very limited Read /proc and /sys filesystems Can see everything Very programmable Fast Lots of tools available eBPF

Can see everything Can also use eBPF Very limited in integrating with other tools perf

Ok, but....

Kubernetes is distributed

Tooling exists but is not aware of the abstraction

Tooling exists but it was made for people to use over SSH

Kubernetes SSH is the kubectl

Kubernetes SSH is the kubectl

Abstrachen

Application

Kubernetes

OS

Kernel

Hardware

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Abstrachen

Application

Kubernetes

OS

Kernel

The interesting stuff is here

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Hardware

Abstraction

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Application

Kubernetes

OS

Kernel

And it knows about the whole thing...

Hardware

Abstrachen

Application

Kubernetes

OS

Kernel

You can ask everything at this level using an eBPF program

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Hardware

How to Kubernetes + eBPF?

They want to be together, we need to help them.

eBPF in a POD

eBPF using a CRD

eBPF in the kubectl

eBPF in a POD

Easy peasy lemon squeezy

Pros:

- Very customizable
- Easy deployment
- No need to install anything

Cons:

- Need to write boilerplate

eBPF in a Pod

```
const source string = `
#include <uapi/linux/ptrace.h>
struct readline_event_t {
                u32 pid;
                char str[80];
} __attribute__((packed));
BPF_PERF_OUTPUT(readline_events);
int get_return_value(struct pt_regs *ctx) {
    struct readline_event_t event = {};
    u32 pid;
    if (!PT_REGS_RC(ctx)) {
        return 0;
    pid = bpf_get_current_pid_tgid();
    event.pid = pid;
    bpf_probe_read(&event.str, sizeof(event.str), (void *)PT_REGS_RC(ctx));
    readline_events.perf_submit(ctx, &event, sizeof(event));
    return 0;
}
.
```

eBPF in a Pod

Yes, this is a Go constant containing C code

```
const source string = `
#include <uapi/linux/ptrace.h>
```

```
BPF_PERF_OUTPUT(readline_events);
```

```
int get_return_value(struct pt_regs *ctx) {
    struct readline_event_t event = {};
    u32 pid;
    if (!PT_REGS_RC(ctx)) {
        return 0;
    }
    pid = bpf_get_current_pid_tgid();
    event.pid = pid;
    bpf_probe_read(&event.str, sizeof(event.str), (void *)PT_REGS_RC(ctx));
```

```
readline_events.perf_submit(ctx, &event, sizeof(event));
```

```
return 0;
```

}

eBPF in a Pod

```
m := bpf.NewModule(source, []string{})
defer m.Close()
// This loads the uprobe program and sets the "get_return_value" as entrypoint
readlineUretprobe, err := m.LoadUprobe("get_return_value")
if err != nil {
    log.Fatalf("Failed to load get return value: %v", err)
// This attaches the uretprobe to the readline function of the passed binary.
// This will consider every process (old and new) since we didn't specify the pid to look for.
err = m.AttachUretprobe(binaryName, "readline", readlineUretprobe, -1)
if err != nil {
    log.Fatalf("Failed to attach return_value: %v", err)
// This creates a new perf table "readline events" to look to,
// this must have the same name as the table defined in the eBPF progrma with BPF PERF OUTPUT.
table := bpf.NewTable(m.TableId("readline_events"), m)
// This channel will contain our results
channel := make(chan []byte)
// Link our channel with the perf table
perfMap, err := bpf.InitPerfMap(table, channel)
if err != nil {
    log.Fatalf("Failed to init perf map: %v", err)
}
```

// This creates a new module to compile our eBPF code asynchronously

eBPF in a Pod

The C code

```
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m := bpf.NewModule(source, []string{})
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if err != nil {
    log.Fatalf("Failed to init perf map: %v", err)
}
```

eBPF in a Pod

```
// Goroutine to handle the events
go func() {
    var event readlineEvent
    for {
        // Get the current element from the channel
        data := <-channel
        // Read the data and populate the event struct
        err = binary.Read(bytes.NewBuffer(data), binary.LittleEndian, &event)
        if err != nil {
            log.Printf("failed to decode received data: %s", err)
            continue
        // Convert the C string to a Go string
        comm := string(event.Str[:bytes.IndexByte(event.Str[:], 0)])
        readlineProcessed.WithLabelValues(comm, strconv.Itoa(int(event.Pid)), nodeName).Inc()
}()
go func() {
    r := prometheus.NewRegistry()
    r.MustRegister(readlineProcessed)
    handler := promhttp.HandlerFor(r, promhttp.HandlerOpts{})
    http.Handle("/metrics", handler)
    err := http.ListenAndServe(":8080", nil)
    if err != nil {
        log.Fatalf("error starting the webserver: %v", err)
}()
```

eBPF in a Pod

apiVersion: apps/v1 kind: DaemonSet metadata: name: bpf-program namespace: bpf-stuff labels: app: bpf-program spec: spec: containers: - name: bpf-program image: docker.io/bpftools/prometheus-ebpf-example:lates env: t - name: MY NODE NAME valueFrom: fieldRef: fieldPath: spec.nodeName - name: URETPROBE BINARY value: /host/usr/bin/bash ports: - containerPort: 8080 securityContext: privileged: true volumeMounts: - name: sys mountPath: /sys readOnly: true - name: headers mountPath: /usr/src readOnly: true - name: modules mountPath: /lib/modules readOnly: true - name: bin mountPath: /host/usr/bin readOnly: true

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eBPF in a Pod

This image uses a compiled version of our BPF loader as entrypoint

apiVersion: apps/v1 kind: DaemonSet metadata: name: bpf-program namespace: bpf-stuff labels: app: bpf-program spec: spec: containers: - name: bpf-program image: docker.io/bpftools/prometheus-ebpf-example:lates env: t - name: MY NODE NAME valueFrom: fieldRef: fieldPath: spec.nodeName - name: URETPROBE BINARY value: /host/usr/bin/bash ports: - containerPort: 8080 securityContext: privileged: true volumeMounts: - name: sys mountPath: /sys readOnly: true - name: headers mountPath: /usr/src readOnly: true - name: modules mountPath: /lib/modules readOnly: true - name: bin mountPath: /host/usr/bin readOnly: true

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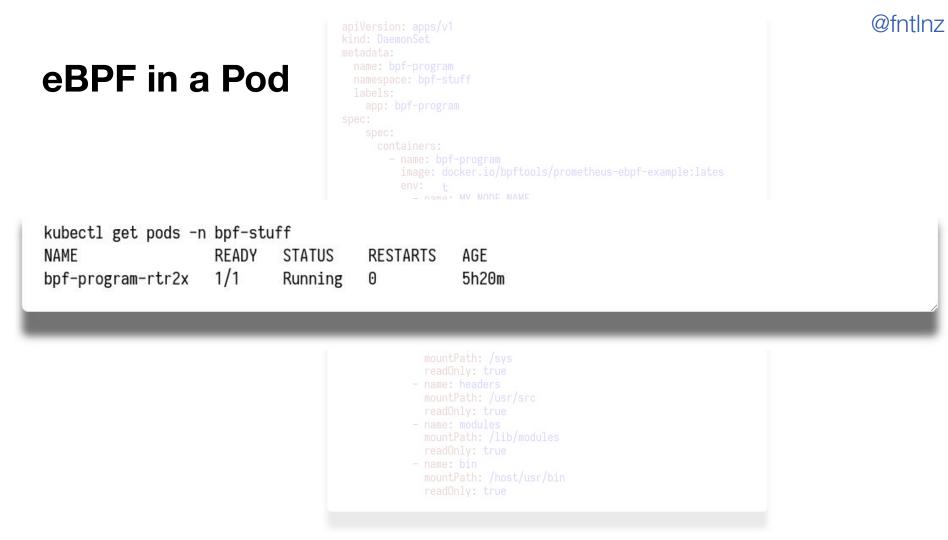
eBPF in a Pod

apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: DaemonSet
metadata:
 name: bpf-program
 namespace: bpf-stuff
 labels:
 app: bpf-program
 spec:
 containers:
 - name: bpf-program
 image: docker.io/bpftools/prometheus-ebpf-example:lates
 env: t
 - name: MY_NODE_NAME
 valueFrom:
 Circle.cometheus.c

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kubectl apply -f https://raw.githubusercontent.com/bpftools/prometheus-ebpf-example/master/daemonset.yaml

mountPath: /sys
readOnly: true
name: headers
mountPath: /usr/src
readOnly: true
name: modules
mountPath: /lib/modules
readOnly: true
name: bin
mountPath: /host/usr/bin
readOnly: true



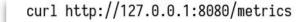
eBPF in a Pod

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kubectl port-forward daemonset/bpf-program -n bpf-stuff 8080:8080

 name: sys mountPath: /sys readOnly: true
 name: headers mountPath: /usr/src readOnly: true
 name: modules mountPath: /lib/module: readOnly: true
 name: bin mountPath: /host/usr/b: readOnly: true apiVersion: apps/v1

eBPF in a Pod



HELP commands count The number of times a command is invoked via bash # TYPE commands count counter commands_count{command="clear",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 3 commands_count{command="curl http://127.0.0.1:8080/metrics",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1847919"} 1 commands_count{command="docker images",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands_count{command="docker ps",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands count{command="ip a",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands count{command="ip a",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1847919"} 2 commands count{command="ls -la",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands count{command="ls -la",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1847919"} 4 commands_count{command="ps",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands_count{command="ps -fe",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands count{command="ps -fe | grep evil",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands_count{command="vim",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1 commands_count{command="vim",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1847919"} 2 commands count{command="whoami",nodename="gallifrey",pid="1834654"} 1

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eBPF in a Pod I wanted to expose a Prometheus endpoint but the program is yours, do what YOU want

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eBPF in a Pod

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Full example repository on GitHub

https://github.com/bpftools/prometheus-ebpf-example

securityContext:

eBPF using a CRD

I'm that Kind: of person

Pros:

- No boilerplate
- Easy to use
- Automatically expose a Prometheus endpoint for every map you create
- A pod on every node

Cons:

- Need to deploy the Controller
- Not very extensible

eBPF using a CRD

```
// map containing a pair of protocol number -> count
// see the wikipedia article on protocol numbers
// https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of IP protocol numbers
struct bpf_map_def SEC("maps/packets") countmap = {
    .type = BPF_MAP_TYPE_HASH,
    .key size = sizeof(int),
    .value_size = sizeof(int),
    .max_entries = 256,
};
SEC("socket/prog")
int socket_prog(struct __sk_buff *skb) {
  int proto = load_byte(skb, ETH_HLEN + offsetof(struct iphdr, protocol));
  int one = 1;
  int *el = bpf_map_lookup_elem(&countmap, &proto);
 if (el) {
   (*el)++;
  } else {
    el = &one:
  bpf_map_update_elem(&countmap, &proto, el, BPF_ANY);
  return 0;
}
char license[] SEC("license") = "GPL";
unsigned int _version SEC("version") = 0xFFFFFFE;
// this tells to the ELF loader to set the current running kernel version
```

eBPF using a CRD

```
clang -02 -target bpf -c pkts.c -o pkts.o
```

eBPF using a CRD

// map containing a pair of protocol number -> count
// see the wikipedia article on protocol numbers
// https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_IP_protocol_numbers
struct bpf_map_def SEC("maps/packets") countmap = {
 .type = BPF_MAP_TYPE_HASH,
 .key_size = sizeof(int),
 .value_size = sizeof(int),

kubectl create configmap --from-file pkts.o pkts -o yaml --dry-run >> "pkts.yaml"

```
if (el) {
   (*el)++;
   } else {
     el = &one;
   }
   bpf_map_update_elem(&countmap, &proto, el, BPF_ANY);
   return 0;
}
char _license[] SEC("license") = "GPL";
unsigned int _version SEC("version") = 0xFFFFFFFE;
// this tells to the ELF loader to set the current running kernel vers:
```

eBPF using a CRD

apiVersion: v1 binarvData:

pkts.o:

NrZXRfcHJvZwAucmVsc29ja2V0L3Byb2cALmxsdm1fYWRkcnNpZwBfbG1jZW5zZQBwa3RzLmMALnN0cnRhYgAuc31tdGFiAExCQjBfMgAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA gAAAAAAAAAAGAAAAAAAAAA kind: ConfigMap

metadata:

creationTimestamp: null

name: pkts-config

eBPF using a CRD

apiVersion: v1

Base64 ELF

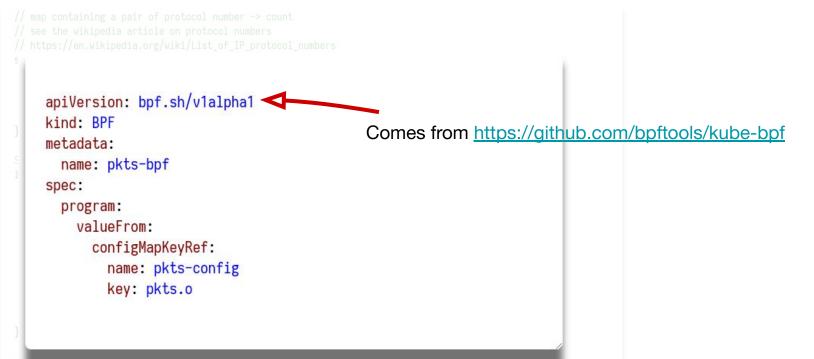
binaryData: pkts.o: NrZXRfcHJvZwAucmVsc29ja2V0L3Byb2cALmxsdm1fYWRkcnNpZwBfbG1jZW5zZQBwa3RzLmMALnN0cnRhYgAuc31tdGFiAExCQjBfMgAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA gAAAAAAAAAAGAAAAAAAAAA kind: ConfigMap metadata: creationTimestamp: null name: pkts-config

eBPF using a CRD

apiVersion: bpf.sh/v1alpha1 kind: BPF metadata: name: pkts-bpf spec: program: valueFrom: configMapKeyRef: name: pkts-config key: pkts.o

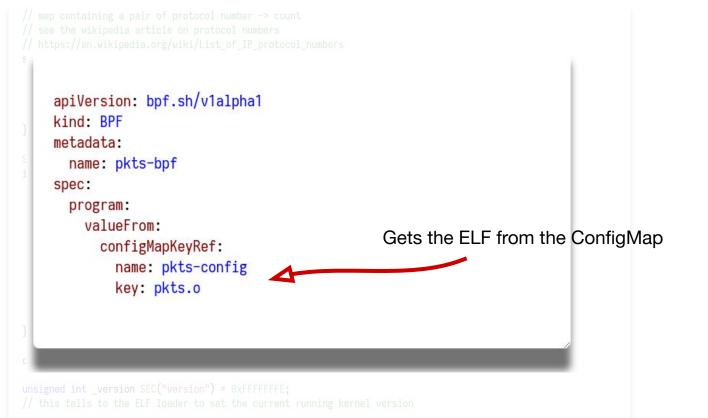
unsigned int _version SEC("version") = 0xFFFFFFE;
// this tells to the ELF loader to set the current running kernel version

eBPF using a CRD



unsigned int _version SEC("version") = 0xFFFFFFE; // this tells to the ELF loader to set the current running kernel version

eBPF using a CRD



eBPF using a CRD

// map containing a pair of protocol number -> count // see the wikipedia article on protocol numbers // https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_IP_protocol_numbers

```
# HELP test_packets No. of packets per protocol (key), node
# TYPE test_packets counter
test_packets{key="00001",node="127.0.0.1"} 8
test_packets{key="00002",node="127.0.0.1"} 1
test_packets{key="00006",node="127.0.0.1"} 551
test_packets{key="00008",node="127.0.0.1"} 1
test_packets{key="00008",node="127.0.0.1"} 1
test_packets{key="00089",node="127.0.0.1"} 9
test_packets{key="00089",node="127.0.0.1"} 1
# EOF
```

unsigned int _version SEC("version") = 0xFFFFFFE; // this tells to the ELF loader to set the current running kernel version

eBPF using a CRD

Learn more at

https://github.com/bpftools/kube-bpf

```
int proto = load_byte(skb, ETH_HLEN + offsetof(struct iphdr, protocol))
int one = 1;
int *el = bpf_map_lookup_elem(&countmap, &proto);
if (el) {
    (*el)++;
    } else {
        el = &one;
    }
    bpf_map_update_elem(&countmap, &proto, el, BPF_ANY);
    return 0;
}
char _license[] SEC("license") = "GPL";
unsigned int _version SEC("version") = 0xFFFFFFFE;
// this tells to the ELF loader to set the current running kernel versior
```

Like DTrace but for kubernetes

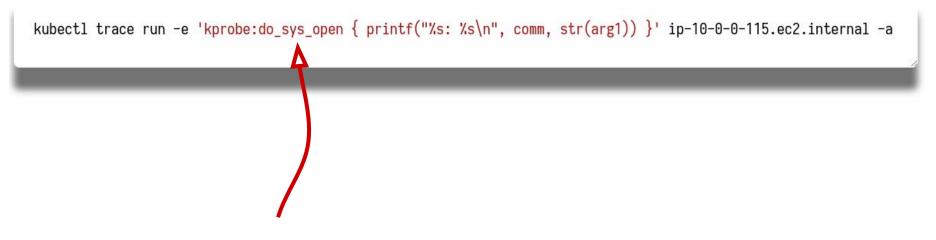
Pros:

- Uses the bpftrace DSL
- Very powerful
- Unix philosophy

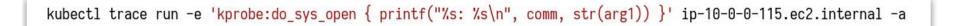
Cons:

- Can only do what bpftrace can do
- No custom logic, just use the DSL

kubectl trace run -e 'kprobe:do_sys_open { printf("%s: %s\n", comm, str(arg1)) }' ip-10-0-0-115.ec2.internal -a



Every time the open syscall is executed print the opened file name



Only on this specific node

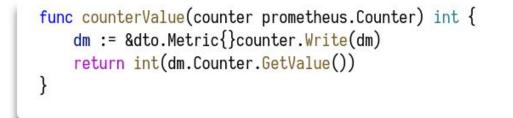
eBPF in the kubectl

kubectl trace

python3: /usr/lib/python3.7/_pycache_/_sitebuiltins.cpython-37.pyc python3: /usr/lib/python3.7/_sitebuiltins.py python3: /usr/lib/python3.7/site-packages cat: /etc/ld.so.cache cat: /usr/lib/libc.so.6 cat: /usr/lib/locale/locale-archive cat: /sys/class/net/wlp2s0/operstate python3: /usr/lib/python3.7/lib-dynload perl: /usr/share/perl5/core perl/vars.pm perl: /usr/share/perl5/core_perl/warnings/register.pm python3: /usr/lib/python3.7/site-packages kubectl: /etc/passwd python3: /home/fntlnz/.config/i3/i3blocks-contrib/battery2/battery2 python3: /home/fntlnz/.config/i3/i3blocks-contrib/battery2/battery2 perl: /usr/share/perl5/core_perl/constant.pm python3: /home/fntlnz/.dotfiles/i3/.config/i3/i3blocks-contrib/battery2 python3: /usr/lib/python3.7/__pycache__/re.cpython-37.pyc

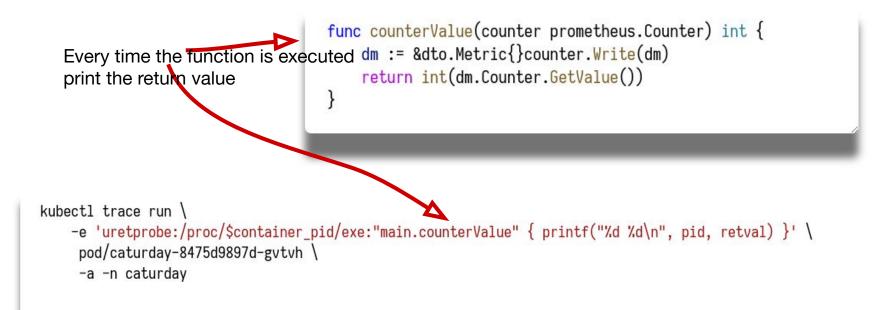
0-0-115.ec2.internal -a

eBPF in the kubectl

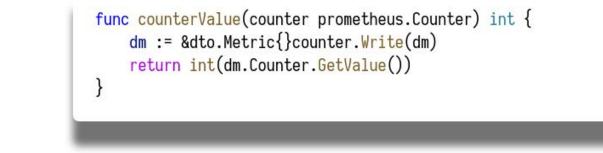


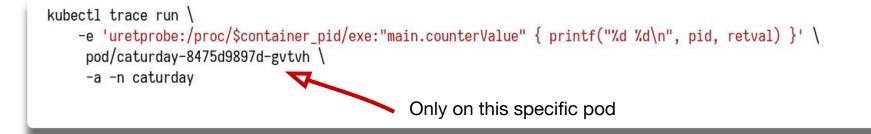
```
kubectl trace run \
    -e 'uretprobe:/proc/$container_pid/exe:"main.counterValue" { printf("%d %d\n", pid, retval) }' \
    pod/caturday-8475d9897d-gvtvh \
    -a -n caturday
```

eBPF in the kubectl



eBPF in the kubectl





eBPF in the kubectl

Learn more at

https://github.com/iovisor/kubectl-trace

```
int proto = load_byte(skb, ETH_HLEN + offsetof(struct iphdr, protocol))
int one = 1;
int el = bpf_map_lookup_elem(&countmap, &proto);
if (el) {
    (*el)++;
    } else {
      el = &one;
    }
    bpf_map_update_elem(&countmap, &proto, el, BPF_ANY);
    return 0;
}
char _license[] SEC("license") = "GPL";
unsigned int _version SEC("version") = 0xFFFFFFFE;
// this tells to the ELF loader to set the current running kernel version
```

Performance analysis is hard

On kubernetes it's **even harder**

eBPF **is here to help**

Tools are already available

Kubernetes eBPF links for y'all

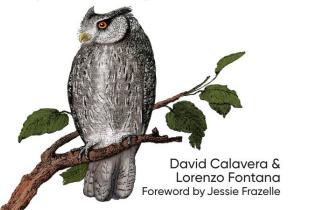
- https://github.com/bpftools/kube-bpf
- <u>https://github.com/iovisor/kubectl-trace</u>
- https://github.com/falcosecurity/falco
- <u>https://github.com/draios/sysdig</u>
- https://github.com/bpftools/linux-observability-with-bpf

Linux Observability with BPF

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Advanced Programming for Performance Analysis and Networking



- Get the PDF for free (link below)
- From me and **David Calavera** (@calavera)
- Foreword by Jessie Frazelle (@jessfraz)
- There's stuff I learned in it
- It's **complimentary** to this talk
- Still looking at this slide, **go get your copy**

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Thanks

Tweets at @fntlnz

My DMs are open!

