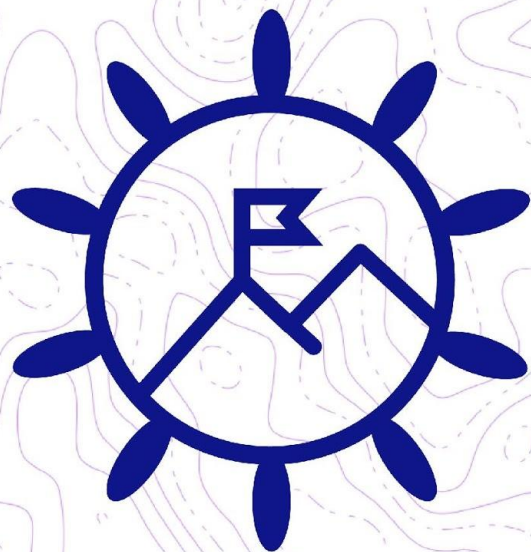
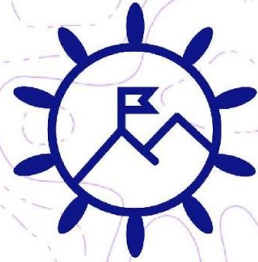




**HELM
SUMMIT**



HELM
SUMMIT

Day 2 Operations of Helm Charts

Dexter Horthy



[@dexhorthy](#)



[@dexhorthy](#)

REPLICATED

Quietly powering the worlds best enterprise software



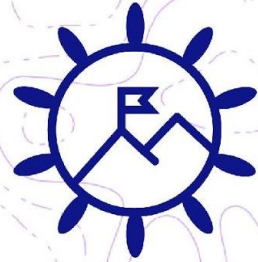
Dex

@dexhorthy



Deployed my blog on Kubernetes





HELM
SUMMIT

Day 2 Operations of Helm Charts

Dexter Horthy

Kubernetes != Configuration as Code

Why This Matters

How you can leverage it

Great for Helm Users

Great for Chart Maintainers

**Great for the larger Kubernetes
community.**

Configuration as Code?

Ways to deploy code

Whose code?

Where?

	Your Servers	Someone Else's Servers
Your Code		
Someone Else's Code		

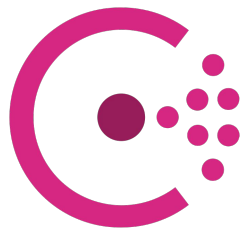
90%

Your code → your servers

	Your Servers	Someone Else's Servers
Your Code		
Someone Else's Code		

	Your Servers	Someone Else's Servers
Your Code	You	
Someone Else's Code		

OTS In Kubernetes



HashiCorp

Consul

 RabbitMQ



OPENFAAS



elastic

anchore

Your Servers

Someone Else's
Servers

Your Code

You

Someone
Else's Code

Also You

	Your Servers	Someone Else's Servers
Your Code		You?
Someone Else's Code		

	Your Servers	Someone Else's Servers
Your Code		
Someone Else's Code		 Google Cloud   Microsoft Azure



	Your Servers	Someone Else's Servers
Your Code	1st Party	OTS Maintainer
Someone Else's Code	OTS Consumer	

OTS vs First Party

**Configuration As Code is great for First Party
Deployment**

1st Party

- **Limited deployment environments**
- **Direct access to source configuration**
- **Direct access to application experts**

1st Party

- **Easy to change**
- **Few changes needed**

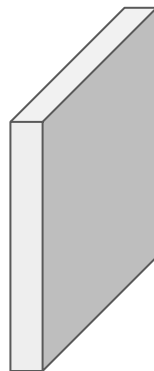
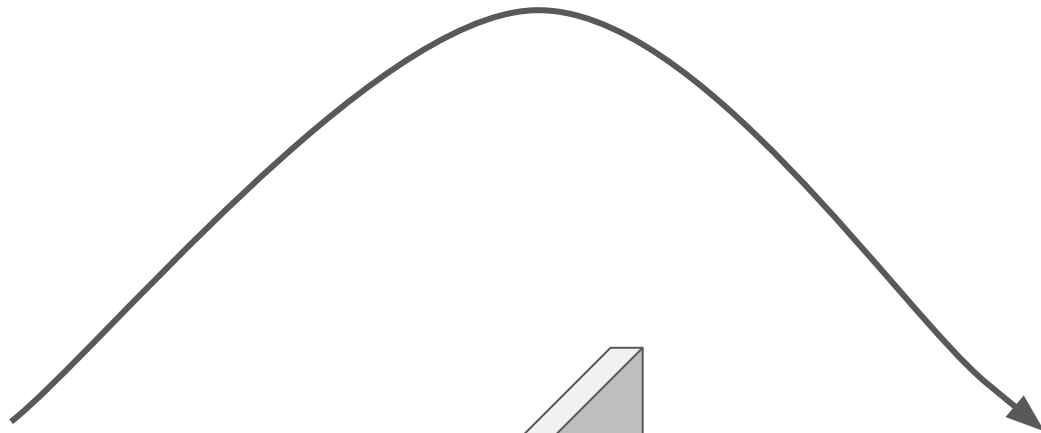
3rd Party

- **Infinite Deployment Environments**
- **Limited control over source configuration**

3rd Party

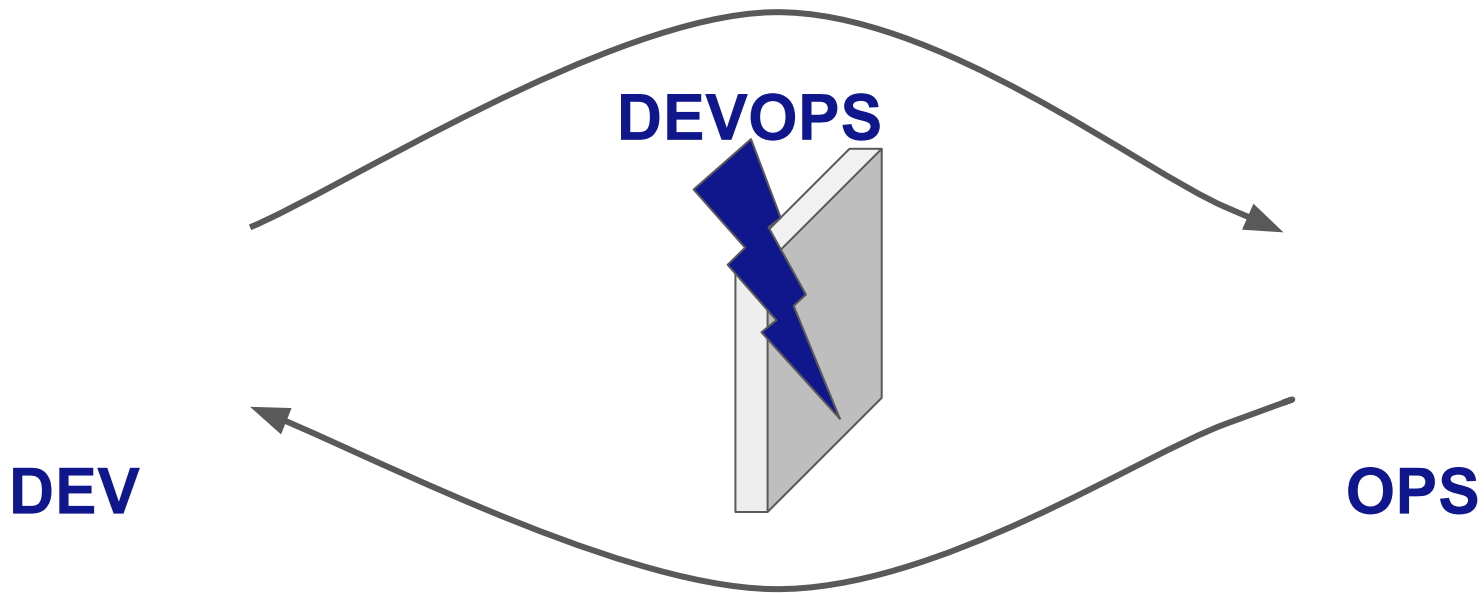
- **Many changes needed**
- **Harder to change**

DEV



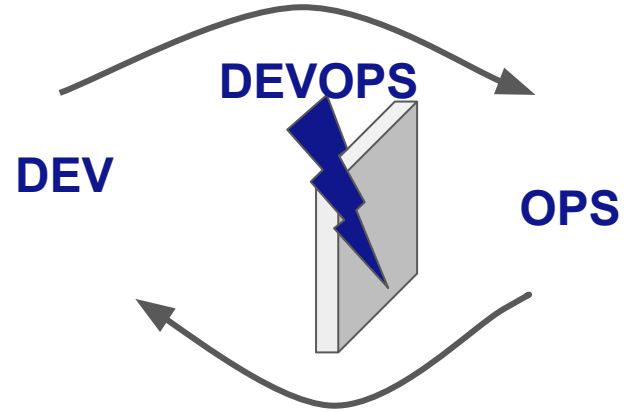
WALL

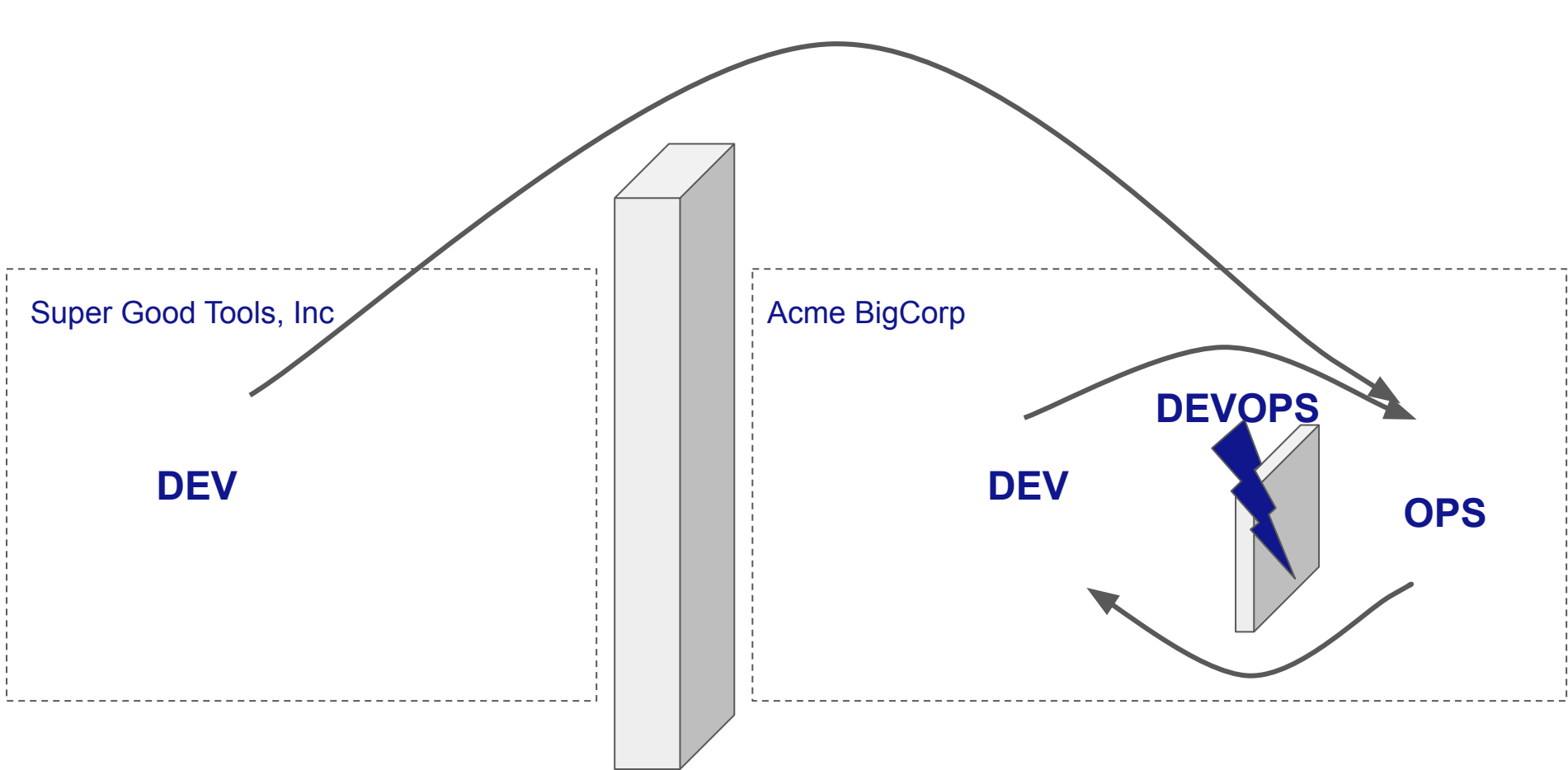
OPS



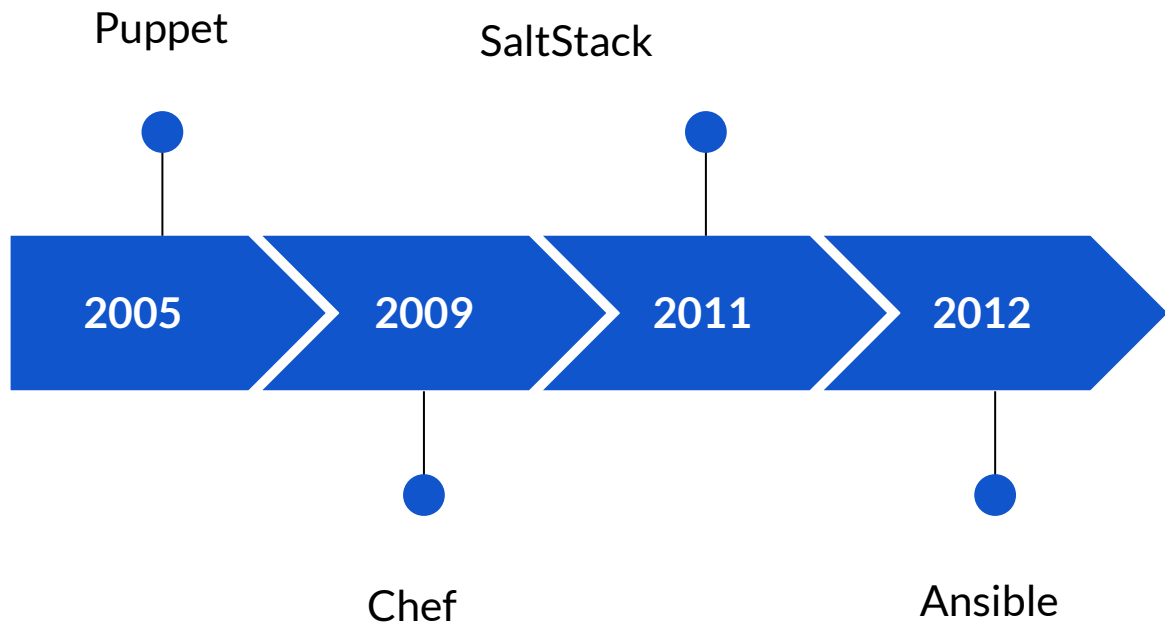
This is harder for OTS

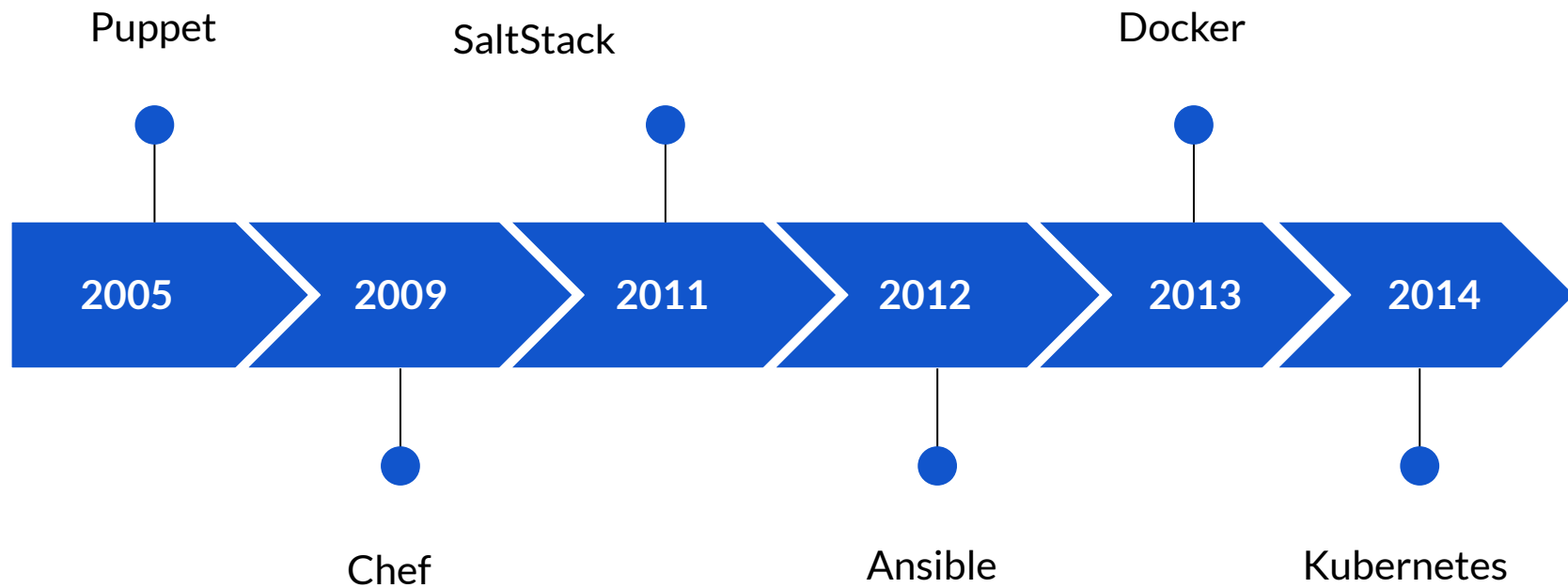
Acme BigCorp





This pre-dates Kubernetes





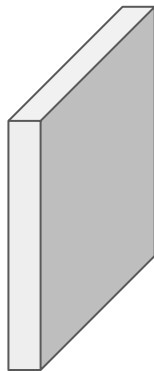
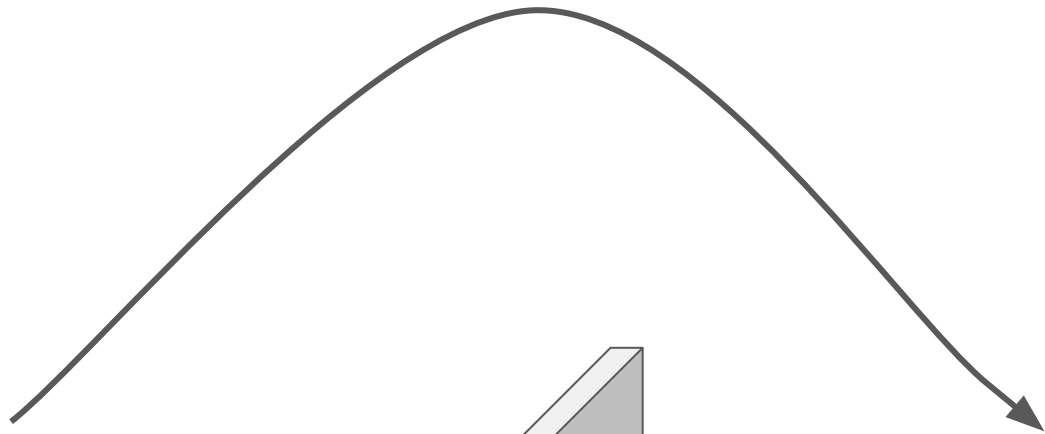
This pre-dates Kubernetes

**But by nature, Kubernetes is equipped to
solve this better than its predecessors**

**What does this problem look
like in Kubernetes?**

Kubernetes has its own wall

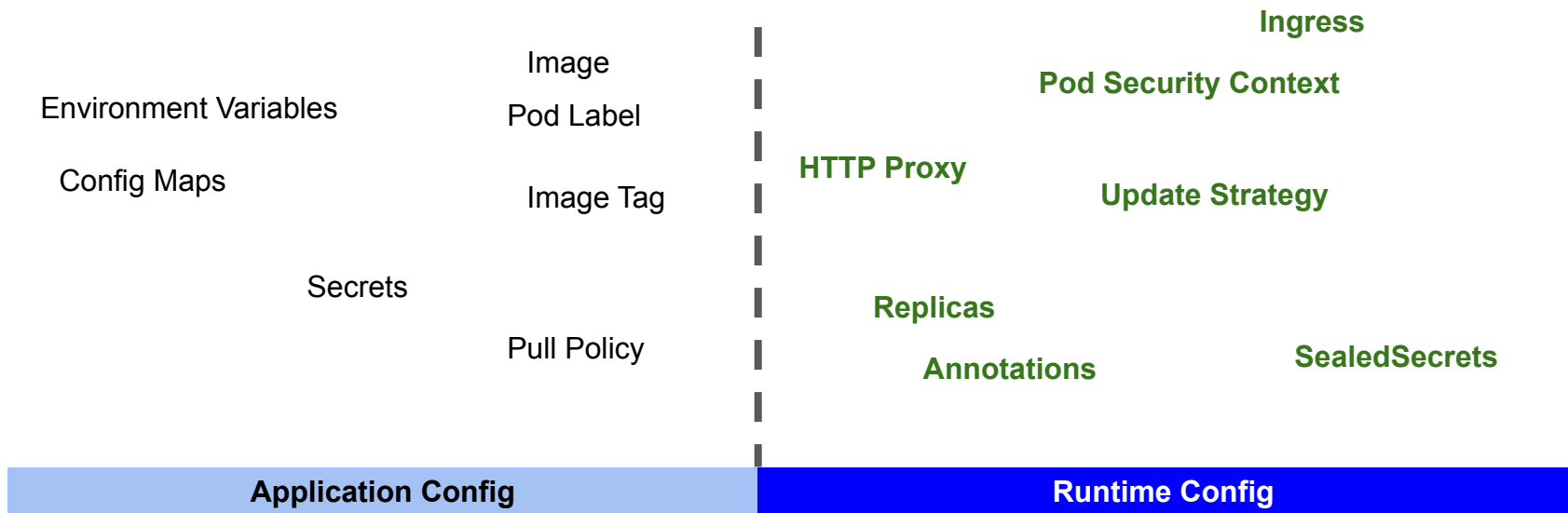
DEV



WALL

OPS





App Maintainer

Cluster Operator

Environment Variables
Config Maps
Secrets
Image
Pod Label
Image Tag
Pull Policy

Ingress
Pod Security Context
HTTP Proxy
Update Strategy
Replicas
Annotations
SealedSecrets

Application Config

Runtime Config

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 3
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: quay.io/supergoodtool/web-app:1.0.1
          imagePullPolicy: Always
          envFrom:
            secret:
              name: web-app
          env:
            - name: HTTP_PROXY
              value: someproxy.acmecorp.internal:6123
          ports:
            - name: http
              containerPort: 8090
```

Mixed together

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
```

App
Runtime

```
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 3
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: quay.io/supergoodtool/web-app:1.0.1
          imagePullPolicy: Always
          envFrom:
            - secret:
                name: web-app
          env:
            - name: HTTP_PROXY
              value: someproxy.acmecorp.internal:6123
          ports:
            - name: http
              containerPort: 8090
```

App Config

- **Finite Configurations**
- **OTS Application knows all possible options**
- **Easily templatable**

Runtime Config

- **Infinite configurations**
 - **+ CRDS**
 - **+ Infrastructure**
- **Independent of OTS application**
- **Cluster Operator concerns**

Application vs Runtime Config in Kubernetes

App Config

- Easily templated
- OTS application knows all possible configurations

Runtime Config

- Unlimited configurations
 - + CRDs
 - + Infrastructure
- Options are independent of OTS application
- Cluster operator should decide how to deliver app to runtime

1st Party

- Limited deployment environments
- Direct access to source configuration
- Direct access to application experts

3rd Party

- Unlimited deployment environments
- Limited Access to source configuration
- Hard to change

**Maintaining an OSS chart means accepting
lots of changes to add configurability**

stable/prometheus

Started on Nov 14, 2016 (3 years ago) - Averaging 1+ commit per week

200 total commits to chart

70% “make X configurable”, 20% “updates”, 10% “helm chores”

Started (from *incubating*) with 415 lines in Values.yaml

Now has 1324 lines in Values.yaml

The chart has 10k+ lines of TEMPLATED yaml

As an operator, 3rd party customization

- **is slower**
- **adds complexity**

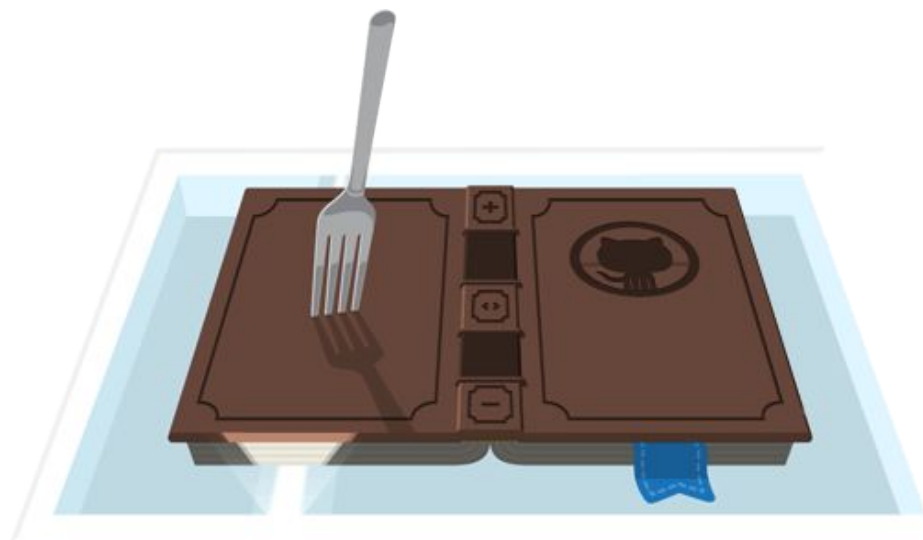
**How can I get the speed and
simplicity of 1st Party...**

...for Charts I don't own?

Option 1: Fork

```
# values.yaml  
color: blue
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1  
kind: Deployment  
metadata:  
  name: web-app  
spec:  
  template:  
    spec:  
      containers:  
        - name: web-app  
          image: nginx:1.17  
          env:  
            - name: COLOR  
              value: {{ .Values.color }}
```



```
# values.yaml
color: blue
replicas: 1
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: {{ .Values.replicas }}
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: {{ .Values.color }}
```

```
$ helm install --set color=yellow --set replicas=10 ...
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 10
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
      - name: web-app
        image: nginx:1.17
        env:
        - name: COLOR
          value: yellow
```

Option 2: Template & Modify

```
# values.yaml
color: blue
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: {{ .Values.color }}
```

```
$ helm template --set color=yellow ...
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: yellow
```

```
$ helm template --set color=yellow ...
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
+ replicas: 10
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: yellow
```

Neither of these options are great

You get customizability...

...but you become the owner

**This makes Day 2 really
hard!**

Day 2?

Regular Updates / CD

Monitoring

Alerting

Log Aggregation

Canary Deploys

Integration Testing

Security Scanning

...

Deployment

Regular Updates / CD

Integration Testing

Security Scanning

Canary Deploys

Observability

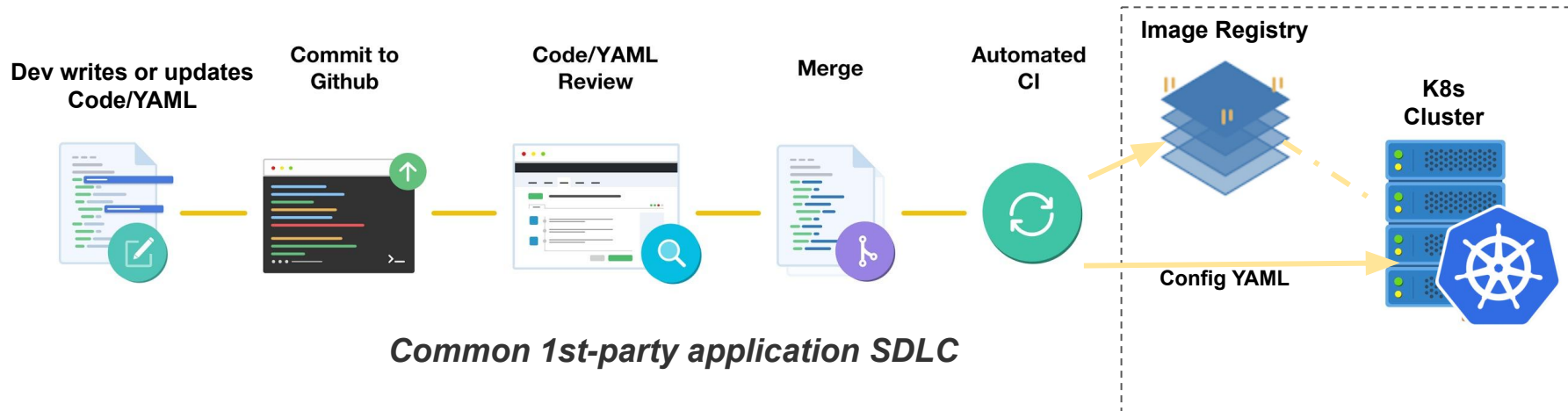
Monitoring

Alerting

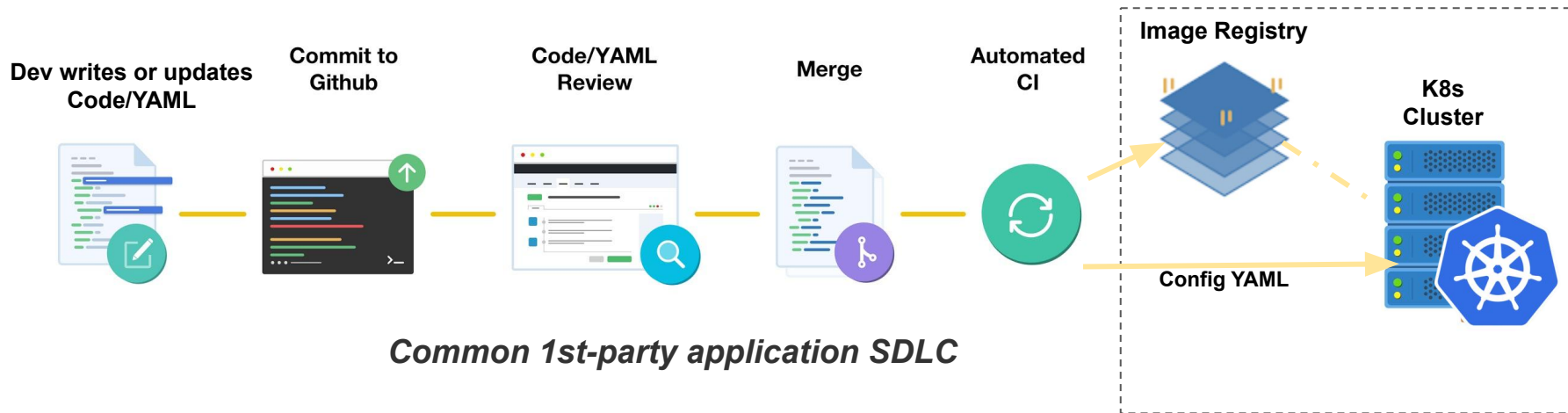
Log Aggregation

Tracing

Example Deployment Workflows



Example Deployment Workflows



Deployment

Regular Updates / CD
Integration Testing
Security Scanning
Canary Deploys

Observability

Monitoring
Alerting
Log Aggregation
Tracing

Day 2



**Leverage the same process I use for my own
code**

To do...

Regular Updates / CD

Monitoring

Alerting

Log Aggregation

Canary Deploys

Integration Testing

Security Scanning

You Need...

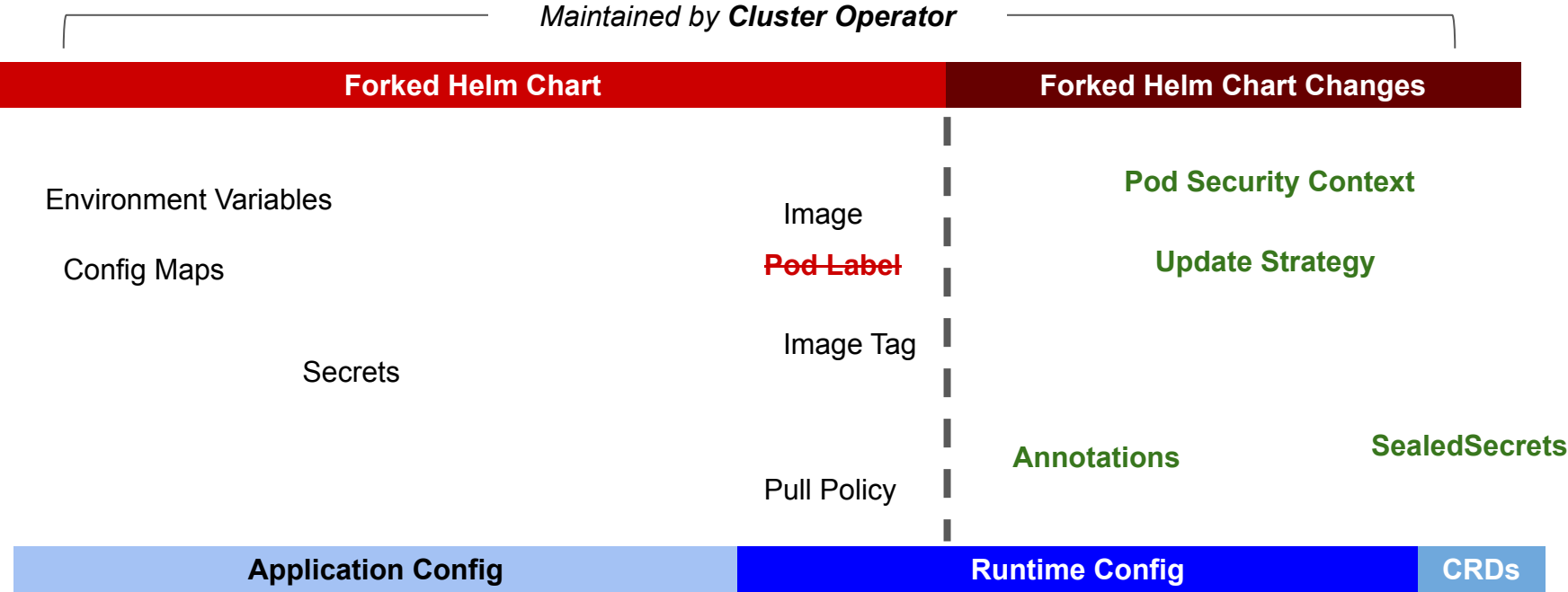
Deployment Flexibility

Deep Customization

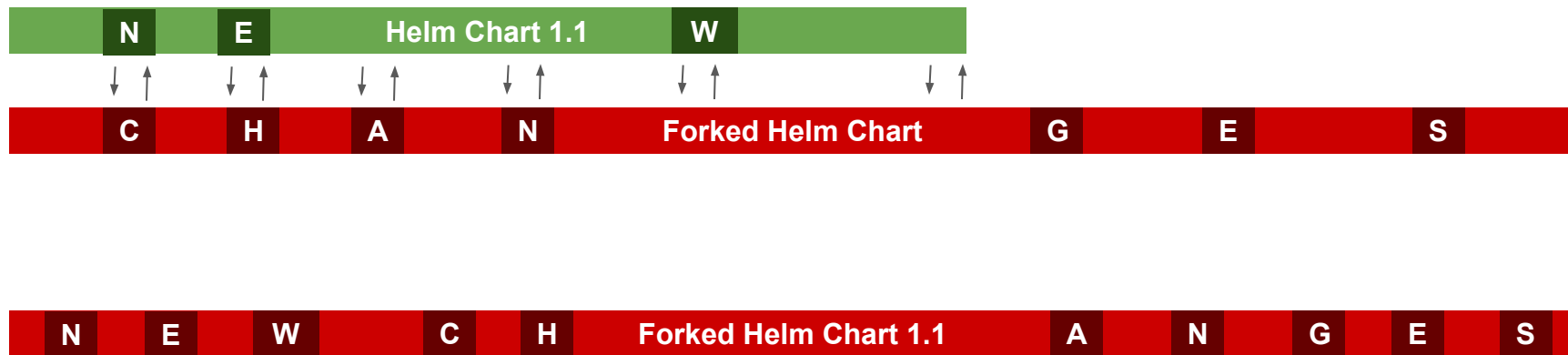
Transparency

Day 2 with forks

Real World Configuration



Forks = Manually reconciling updates



Repeated for 200+ apps at 1,000s of orgs.

Choose your merge conflict!

Option 1: Fork Chart

```
{{- end }}  
  labels:  
    <<<<<<<<<<HEAD  
      {{- include "prometheus.server.labels" . | nindent 8 }}  
    =====  
      {{- end }}  
      {{- if .Values.server.statefulSet.labels}}  
      {{ toYaml .Values.server.statefulSet.labels | nindent 8 }}  
    >>>>>>>>>abcea52  
      {{- end}}  
    <<<<<<<<<<HEAD  
    {{- if .Values.server.affinity }}  
      affinity:  
    =====
```

Option 2: Template + Modify

labels:

<<<<<<<<<HEAD

app: prometheus

heritage: Tiller

=====

app: prometheus

myapp.io/source: external

heritage: Tiller

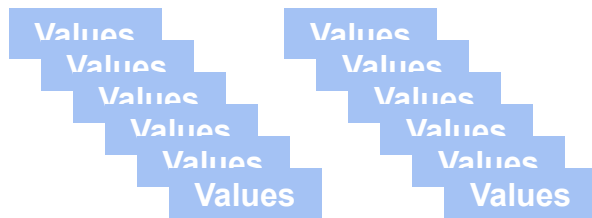
>>>>>>>>>abcea52

affinity:

What cluster operators manage in reality



Vs. ideally



Manual processes cause problems

“I’ll check on it once in a while”

“If it’s working, don’t fiddle with it”

“We check for updates quarterly”

Updating is important



Security



Features



Fixes

How do I get better at this?

Embrace the wall

Super Good Tools, Inc

DEV

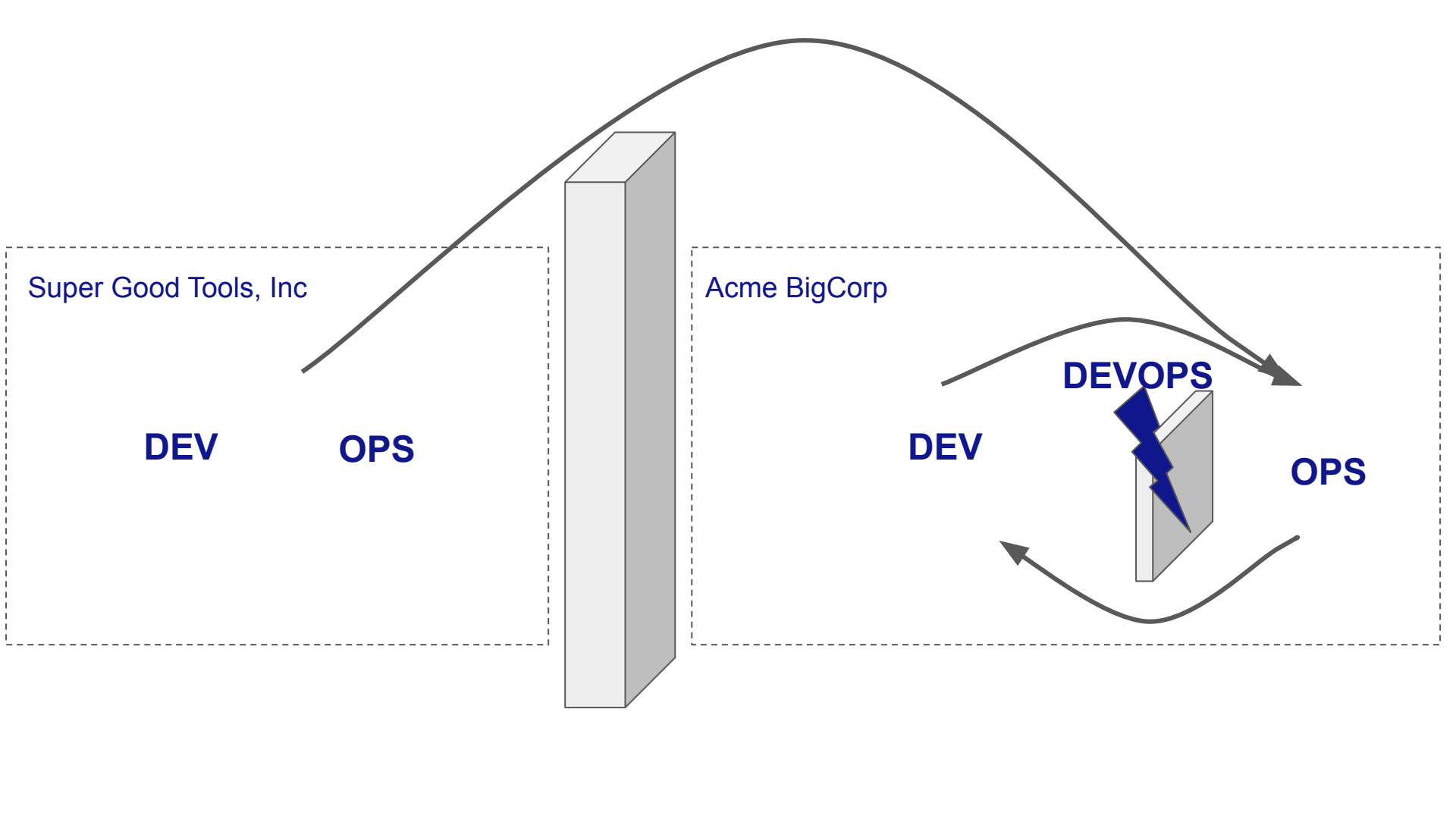
OPS

Acme BigCorp

DEV

DEVOPS

OPS



App Maintainer

Cluster Operator

Environment Variables
Config Maps
Secrets
Image
Pod Label
Image Tag
Pull Policy

Ingress
Pod Security Context
HTTP Proxy
Update Strategy
Replicas
Annotations
SealedSecrets

Application Config

Runtime Config

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
```

App
Runtime

```
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 3
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: quay.io/supergoodtool/web-app:1.0.1
          imagePullPolicy: Always
          envFrom:
            secret:
              name: web-app
          env:
            - name: HTTP_PROXY
              value: someproxy.acmecorp.internal:6123
          ports:
            - name: http
              containerPort: 8090
```




+



customize.io

Declarative Configuration for Kubernetes

Kustomize introduces a template-free way to customize application configuration that simplifies the use of off-the-shelf applications.

[Install](#)[View Docs](#)

Kustomization.yaml

```
1 bases:
2   - ldap
3 patches
4   - patch.yaml
5 ...
```

Base - ldap

```
1 apiVersion: v1beta2
2 kind: Deployment
3 metadata:
4   name: ldap
5   labels:
6     app: ldap
7 spec:
8   replicas: 1
9   selector:
10    matchLabels:
11      app: ldap
12   template:
13     metadata:
14       labels:
```

```
    app: ldap
  spec:
    containers:
      - image: osixia/openldap
        name: ldap
        volumeMounts:
          - name: ldap-data
            mountPath: /var/lib/ldap
          - name: ldap-config
            mountPath: /etc/ldap
          - name: ldap-certs
            mountPath: /etc/openldap/certs
          - name: configmap-v
            mountPath: /etc/openldap/schema
          - name: container-r
            mountPath: /etc/openldap/resolv.conf
        ports:
          - containerPort: 389
            name: openldap
    volumes:
      - name: ldap-data
```

patch.yaml - Staging

```
1 # Staging Deployment
2
3 apiVersion: apps/v1beta2
4 kind: Deployment
5 metadata:
6   name: ldap
7 spec:
8   replicas: 2
```

patch.yaml - Prod

```
1 # Production Deployment
2
3 apiVersion: apps/v1beta2
4 kind: Deployment
5 metadata:
6   name: ldap
7 spec:
8   replicas: 6
9   template:
10     spec:
11       volumes:
12         - name: ldap-data
13           emptyDir: null
```

Inspired by Brian Grant's whitepaper

Declarative application management in Kubernetes

This article was authored by Brian Grant (bgrant0607) on 8/2/2017. The original Google Doc can be found here: <https://goo.gl/T66ZcD>

Most users will deploy a combination of applications they build themselves, also known as **bespoke** applications, and **common off-the-shelf (COTS)** components. Bespoke applications are typically stateless application servers, whereas COTS components are typically infrastructure (and frequently stateful) systems, such as databases, key-value stores, caches, and messaging systems.

In the case of the latter, users sometimes have the choice of using hosted SaaS products that are entirely managed by the service provider and are therefore opaque, also known as **blackbox services**. However, they often run open-source components themselves, and must configure, deploy, scale, secure, monitor, update, and otherwise manage the lifecycles of these **whitebox COTS applications**.

This document proposes a unified method of managing both bespoke and off-the-shelf applications declaratively using the same tools and application operator workflow, while leveraging developer-friendly CLIs and UIs, streamlining common tasks, and avoiding common pitfalls. The approach is based on observations of several dozen configuration projects and hundreds of configured applications within Google and in the Kubernetes ecosystem, as well as quantitative analysis of Borg configurations and work on the Kubernetes [system architecture](#), [API](#), and [community](#).

The central idea is that a toolbox of composable configuration tools can be used to generate declarative API resource specifications, which serve as the source of truth for the application lifecycle.

Template Free Configuration
=
No code!

Chef

```
user 'a user' do
  comment 'A random user'
  uid '1234'
  gid '1234'
  home '/home/random'
  shell '/bin/bash'
  password '$1$JJsvHslasdfjVEroftprNn4JHtDi'
end
```

Chef

```
user_home = "/home/#{node['cookbook_name']['user']}"

user node['cookbook_name']['user'] do
  gid node['cookbook_name']['group']
  shell '/bin/bash'
  home user_home
  system true
  action :create
end
```

Ansible

- **name:** Install nginx
yum: name=nginx state=present
 - **name:** Copy nginx configuration for wordpress
template: src=default.conf dest=/etc/nginx/conf.d/default.conf
notify: restart nginx
-

Ansible

```
- name: here, 'users' contains the above list of employees
mysql_user:
  name: "{{ item[0] }}"
  priv: "{{ item[1] }}.*:ALL"
  append_privs: yes
  password: "foo"
with_nested:
  - "{{ users }}"
  - [ 'clientdb', 'employeedb', 'providerdb' ]
```



ダディさま
@leifwalsh



OH: "I Can't Believe It's Not YAML™" — @thejunglejane

4:56 PM · May 13, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Helm doesn't quite solve this

Helm prevents accessing the Kubernetes API.

Helm only allows for configuration of items in the chart, not additions or deletions or non-standard changes.

```
20 spec:
21   affinity:
22     podAntiAffinity:
23       {{- if eq .Values.AntiAffinity "hard" }}
24         requiredDuringSchedulingIgnoredDuringExecution:
25           - topologyKey: "kubernetes.io/hostname"
26             labelSelector:
27               matchLabels:
28                 app: {{ template "memcached.fullname" . }}
29                 release: {{ .Release.Name | quote }}
30       {{- else if eq .Values.AntiAffinity "soft" }}
31         preferredDuringSchedulingIgnoredDuringExecution:
32           - weight: 5
33             podAffinityTerm:
34               topologyKey: "kubernetes.io/hostname"
35               labelSelector:
36                 matchLabels:
37                   app: {{ template "memcached.fullname" . }}
38                   release: {{ .Release.Name | quote }}
39       {{- end }}
```

How to access the Kubernetes API directly with Helm

```
155         port: metrics
156         initialDelaySeconds: {{ .Values.metrics.readinessProbe.initialDelaySeconds }}
157         timeoutSeconds: {{ .Values.metrics.readinessProbe.timeoutSeconds }}
158         resources:
159         {{ toYaml .Values.metrics.resources | indent 10 }}
160         {{- end }}
161     volumes:
162     {{- if .Values.configurationFiles }}
163     - name: configurations
```

How can Kustomize help?

Patch. Don't Fork.



Helm Chart

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the original.



Custom Values

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions or changes).



Base

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the helm chart.



Patches

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions).



Deployable App

Patch. Don't Fork.



Helm Chart

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the original.



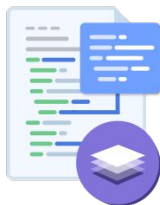
Custom Values

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions or changes).



Base

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the helm chart.



Patches

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions).



Deployable App

Application Config

Runtime Config

```
# values.yaml  
color: blue
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1  
kind: Deployment  
metadata:  
  name: web-app  
spec:  
  template:  
    spec:  
      containers:  
        - name: web-app  
          image: nginx:1.17  
          env:  
            - name: COLOR  
              value: {{ .Values.color }}
```

```
$ helm template --set color=yellow ...
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: yellow
```

Templated

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
      - name: web-app
        image: nginx:1.17
        env:
        - name: COLOR
          value: yellow
```

Application Config

Patch

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 10
```

Runtime Config

```
$ kustomize build ./
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
```

```
kind: Deployment
```

```
metadata:
```

```
  name: web-app
```

```
spec:
```

```
  replicas: 10
```

Runtime Config

```
  template:
```

```
    spec:
```

```
      containers:
```

```
        - name: web-app
```

```
          image: nginx:1.17
```

```
          env:
```

```
            - name: COLOR
```

```
              value: yellow
```

Application Config

```
$ kubectl kustomize ./
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
```

```
kind: Deployment
```

```
metadata:
```

```
  name: web-app
```

```
spec:
```

```
  replicas: 10
```

Runtime Config

```
  template:
```

```
    spec:
```

```
      containers:
```

```
        - name: web-app
```

```
          image: nginx:1.17
```

```
          env:
```

```
            - name: COLOR
```

```
              value: yellow
```

Application Config

Templated

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: yellow
```

Application Config

Patch

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 10
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          imagePullPolicy: Always
```

Runtime Config

```
$ kubectl kustomize ./
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
```

```
kind: Deployment
```

```
metadata:
```

```
  name: web-app
```

```
spec:
```

```
  replicas: 10
```

Runtime Config

```
  template:
```

```
    spec:
```

```
      containers:
```

```
        - name: web-app
```

```
          image: nginx:1.17
```

```
          imagePullPolicy: Always
```

Runtime Config

```
          env:
```

```
            - name: COLOR
```

```
              value: yellow
```

Application Config

App & Runtime config mixed in a single object...

...but stored separately

Base

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: yellow
```

Application Config

Overlay

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 10
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          imagePullPolicy: Always
```

Runtime Config

Base

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
        - name: web-app
          image: nginx:1.17
          env:
            - name: COLOR
              value: yellow
```

overlays/staging

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 3
  template:
```

overlays/production

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: web-app
spec:
  replicas: 10
  template:
```

What does this have to do with Day 2 operations?

Declarative application management in Kubernetes

This article was authored by Brian Grant (bgrant0607) on 8/2/2017. The original Google Doc can be found here:

<https://goo.gl/T66ZcD>

Most users will deploy a combination of applications they build themselves, also known as *bespoke* applications, and **common off-the-shelf (COTS)** components. Bespoke applications are typically stateless application servers, whereas COTS components are typically infrastructure (and frequently stateful) systems, such as databases, key-value stores, caches, and messaging systems.

In the case of the latter, users sometimes have the choice of using hosted SaaS products that are entirely managed by the service provider and are therefore opaque, also known as *blackbox services*. However, they often run open-source components themselves, and must configure, deploy, scale, secure, monitor, update, and otherwise manage the lifecycles of these *whitebox COTS applications*.

This document proposes a unified method of managing both bespoke and off-the-shelf applications declaratively using the same tools and application operator workflow, while leveraging developer-friendly CLIs and UIs, streamlining common tasks, and avoiding common pitfalls. The approach is based on observations of several dozen configuration projects and hundreds of configured applications within Google and in the Kubernetes ecosystem, as well as quantitative analysis of Borg configurations and work on the Kubernetes [system architecture](#), [API](#), and common

The central idea is that a toolbox of composable configuration templates, including declarative API resource specifications, which serve as a common

“The user can periodically rebase their base”

This is a git merge conflict-free process.

No Templates, No Code, No Control Flow



Structured Object Merge

Still a merge, still room for conflicts...

**...but in 90% of cases you can pull upstream
with no effort.**

```
{{- end }}
```

```
labels:
```

```
<<<<<<<<<HEAD
```

```
    {{- include "prometheus.server.labels" . | nindent 8 }}
```

```
=====
```

```
    {{- end }}
```

```
    {{- if .Values.server.statefulSet.labels }}
```

```
    {{ toYaml .Values.server.statefulSet.labels | nindent 8 }}
```

```
>>>>>>>>>abcea52
```

```
    {{- end }}
```

```
<<<<<<<<<HEAD
```

```
{{- if .Values.server.affinity }}
```

```
    affinity:
```

```
=====
```

```
    spec:
```

```
>>>>>>>>>abcea52
```

Kustomize emits plain YAML



Grokkable Diffs!

```
320 - image: k8s.gcr.io/kube-state-metrics:v1.5.0
321 + imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
322 name: kube-state-metrics
323 ports:
```

```
@@ -329,6 +361,7 @@ spec:
```

```
329     initialDelaySeconds: 5
330     timeoutSeconds: 5
331     resources: null
```

```
332 securityContext:
333   fsGroup: 65534
334   runAsUser: 65534
```

```
@@ -362,14 +395,14 @@ spec:
```

```
362     - name: DD_LOG_LEVEL
363       value: INFO
364     - name: KUBERNETES
365 -   value: "yes"
366     - name: DD_KUBERNETES_KUBELET_HOST
367       valueFrom:
368         fieldRef:
369           fieldPath: status.hostIP
370     - name: DD_HEALTH_PORT
371       value: "5555"
```

```
372 - image: datadog/agent:6.10.1
373 imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
```

```
352 + image: quay.io/coreos/kube-state-metrics:v1.6.0
353 imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
354 name: kube-state-metrics
355 ports:
```

```
361     initialDelaySeconds: 5
362     timeoutSeconds: 5
363     resources: null
```

```
364 + hostNetwork: false
```

```
365 securityContext:
366   fsGroup: 65534
367   runAsUser: 65534
```

```
395     - name: DD_LOG_LEVEL
396       value: INFO
397     - name: KUBERNETES
398 +   value: true
399     - name: DD_KUBERNETES_KUBELET_HOST
400       valueFrom:
401         fieldRef:
402           fieldPath: status.hostIP
403     - name: DD_HEALTH_PORT
404       value: "5555"
```

```
405 + image: datadog/agent:6.13.0
406 imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
```

Patch. Don't Fork.



Helm Chart

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the original.



Custom Values

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions or changes).



Base

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the helm chart.



Patches

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions).



Deployable App

Easy to customize, easy to update

How do I operationalize this?

Introducing kots

kots

- “Kubernetes Off the Shelf (Software)”
- Successor to Replicated Ship
- Optimized for Helm Charts
- No more forking charts
- Streamlines advanced configuration with Kustomize
- Pluggable into existing workflows
- GitOps release management
- Automates merging upstream changes

github.com/replicatedhq/kots

Patch. Don't Fork.



Helm Chart

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the original.



Custom Values

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions or changes).



Base

The base is the rendered Helm chart. Ship will create this for you and it's generated from the helm chart.



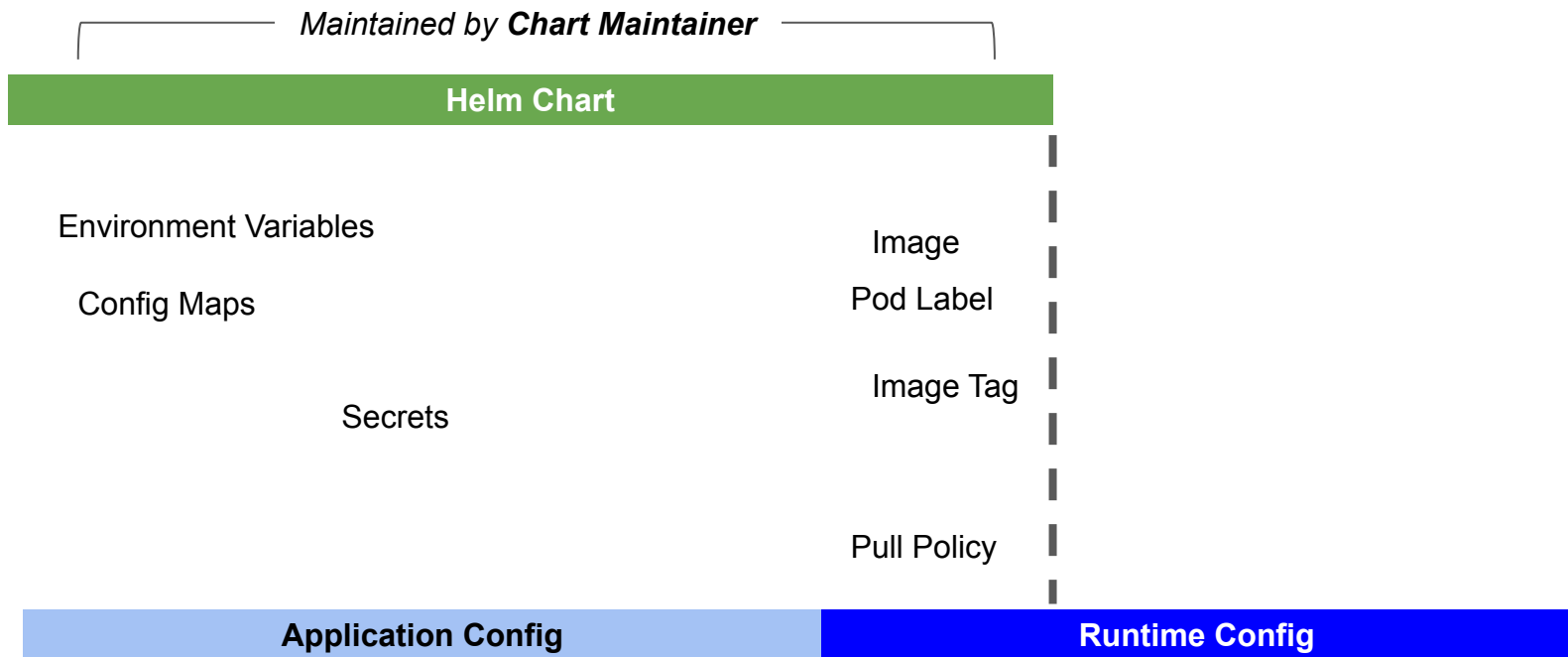
Patches

The changes you would have made in a fork, i.e. any advanced customization (additions, deletions).

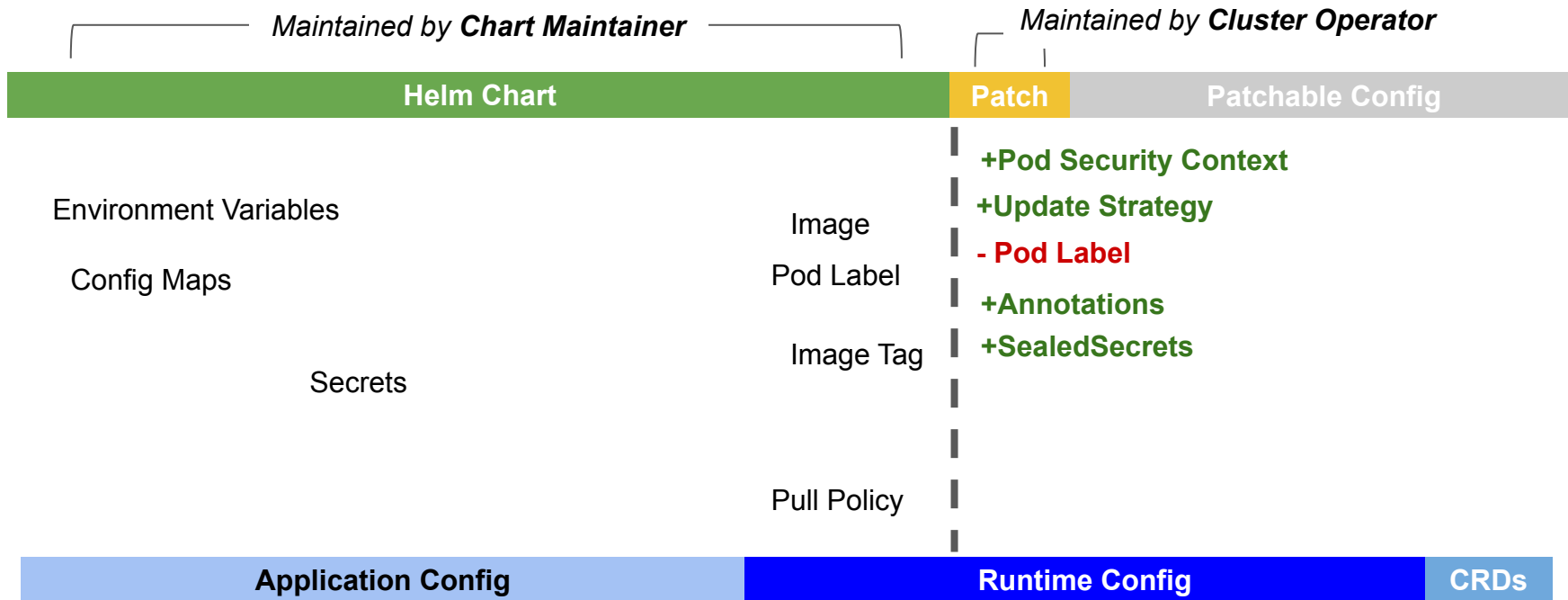


Deployable App

Advanced Configuration with kots



Advanced Configuration with kots



kots = Automatically reconciling updates



Reality with Helm forks



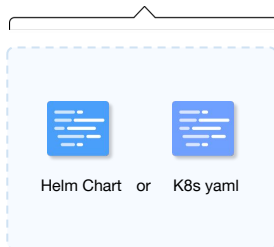
Vs. reality with patches



Midstreams vs. Downstream

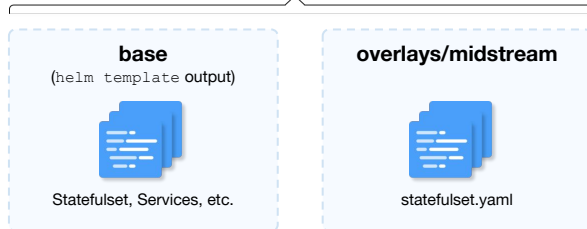
Upstream

An upstream is an OTS application managed by another party



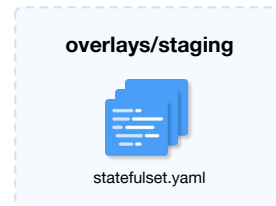
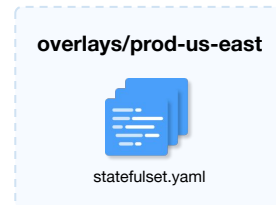
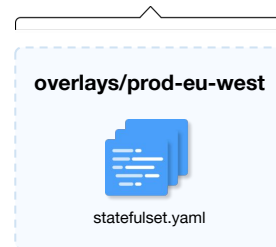
Midstream

A midstream is the organization-approved version of the application, built from the operator-supplied helm values.yaml and top-level customize patches

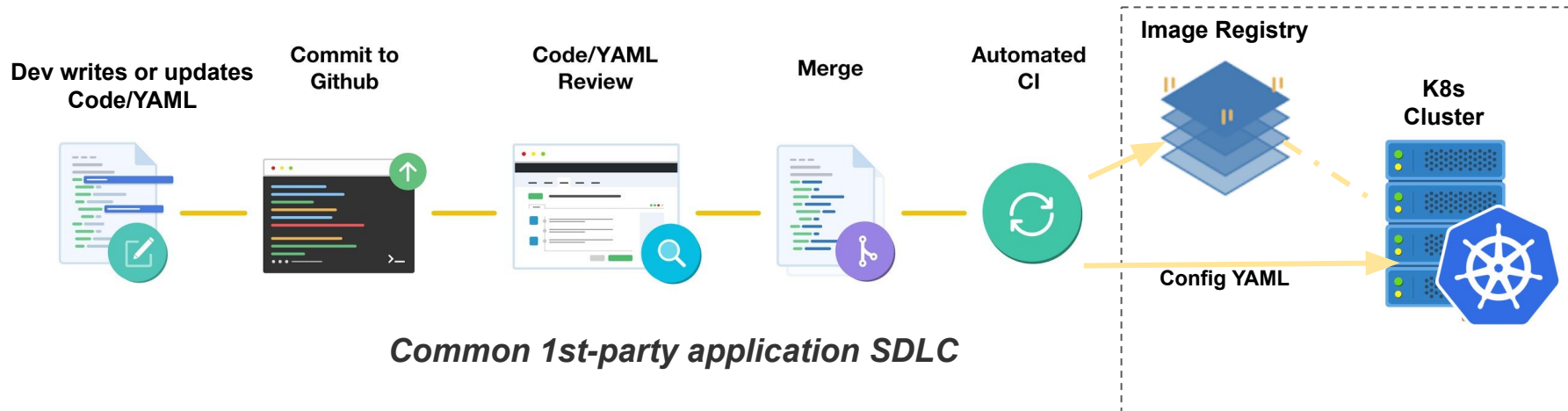


Downstreams

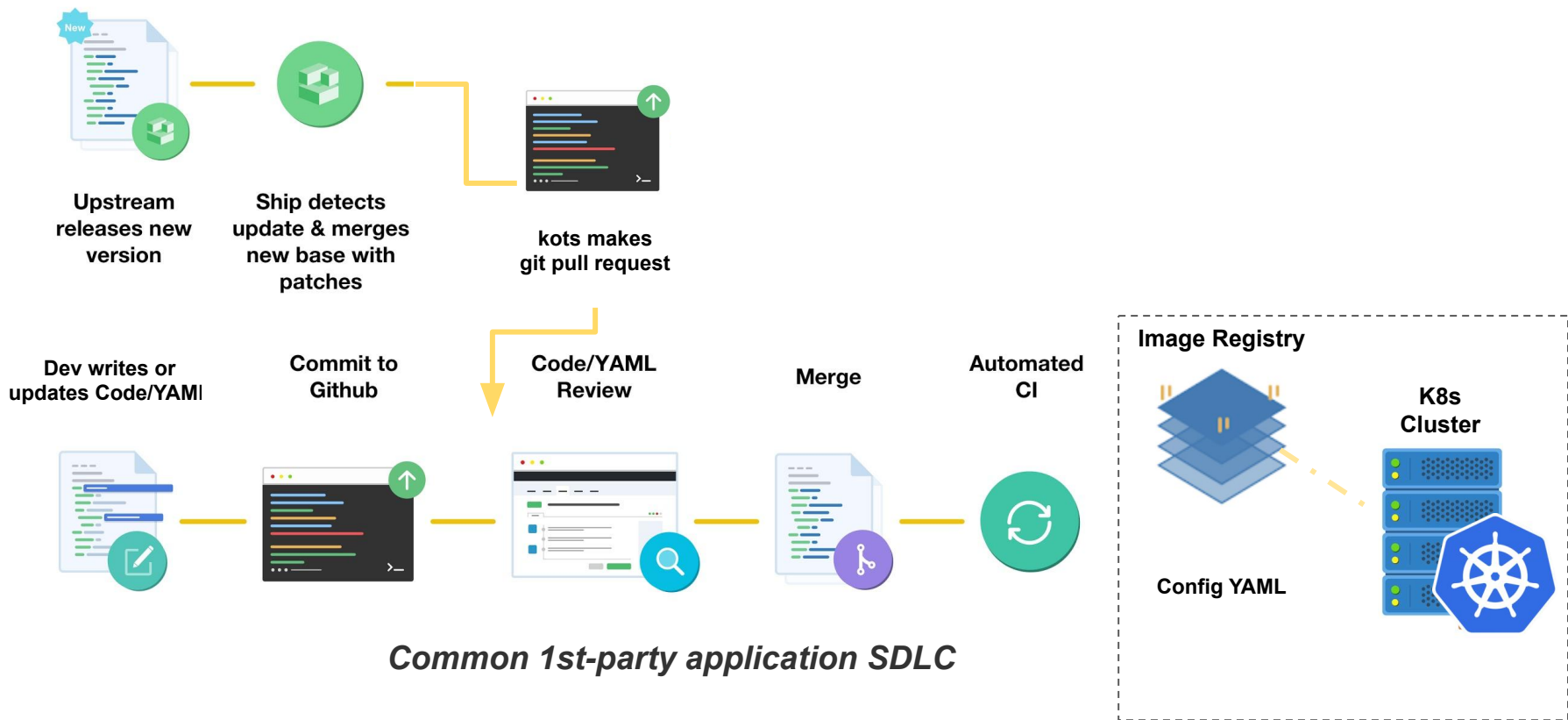
Downstreams capture last-mile changes to be made in specific environments



Example Deployment Workflows



Example Deployment Workflows *(OSS / COTS with kots)*



```
320 - image: k8s.gcr.io/kube-state-metrics:v1.5.0
321 + imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
322 name: kube-state-metrics
323 ports:
```

```
@@ -329,6 +361,7 @@ spec:
```

```
329     initialDelaySeconds: 5
330     timeoutSeconds: 5
331     resources: null
```

```
332 securityContext:
```

```
333     fsGroup: 65534
```

```
334     runAsUser: 65534
```

```
@@ -362,14 +395,14 @@ spec:
```

```
362     - name: DD_LOG_LEVEL
```

```
363       value: INFO
```

```
364     - name: KUBERNETES
```

```
365 -   value: "yes"
```

```
366     - name: DD_KUBERNETES_KUBELET_HOST
```

```
367       valueFrom:
```

```
368         fieldRef:
```

```
369           fieldPath: status.hostIP
```

```
370     - name: DD_HEALTH_PORT
```

```
371       value: "5555"
```

```
372 - image: datadog/agent:6.10.1
```

```
373 imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
```

```
352 + image: quay.io/coreos/kube-state-metrics:v1.6.0
353 imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
354 name: kube-state-metrics
355 ports:
```

```
361     initialDelaySeconds: 5
```

```
362     timeoutSeconds: 5
```

```
363     resources: null
```

```
364 + hostNetwork: false
```

```
365 securityContext:
```

```
366     fsGroup: 65534
```

```
367     runAsUser: 65534
```

```
395     - name: DD_LOG_LEVEL
```

```
396       value: INFO
```

```
397     - name: KUBERNETES
```

```
398 +   value: true
```

```
399     - name: DD_KUBERNETES_KUBELET_HOST
```

```
400       valueFrom:
```

```
401         fieldRef:
```

```
402           fieldPath: status.hostIP
```

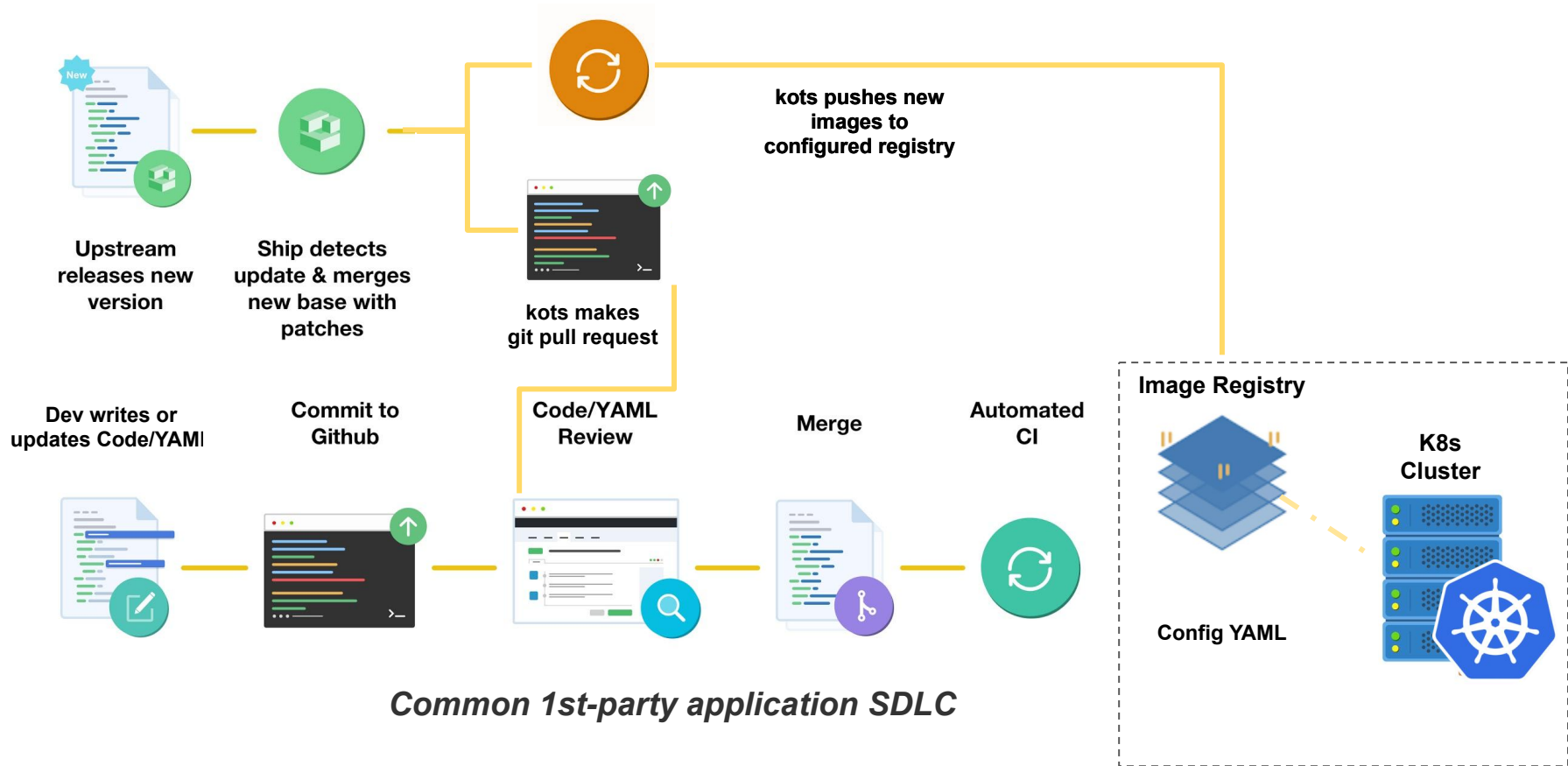
```
403     - name: DD_HEALTH_PORT
```

```
404       value: "5555"
```

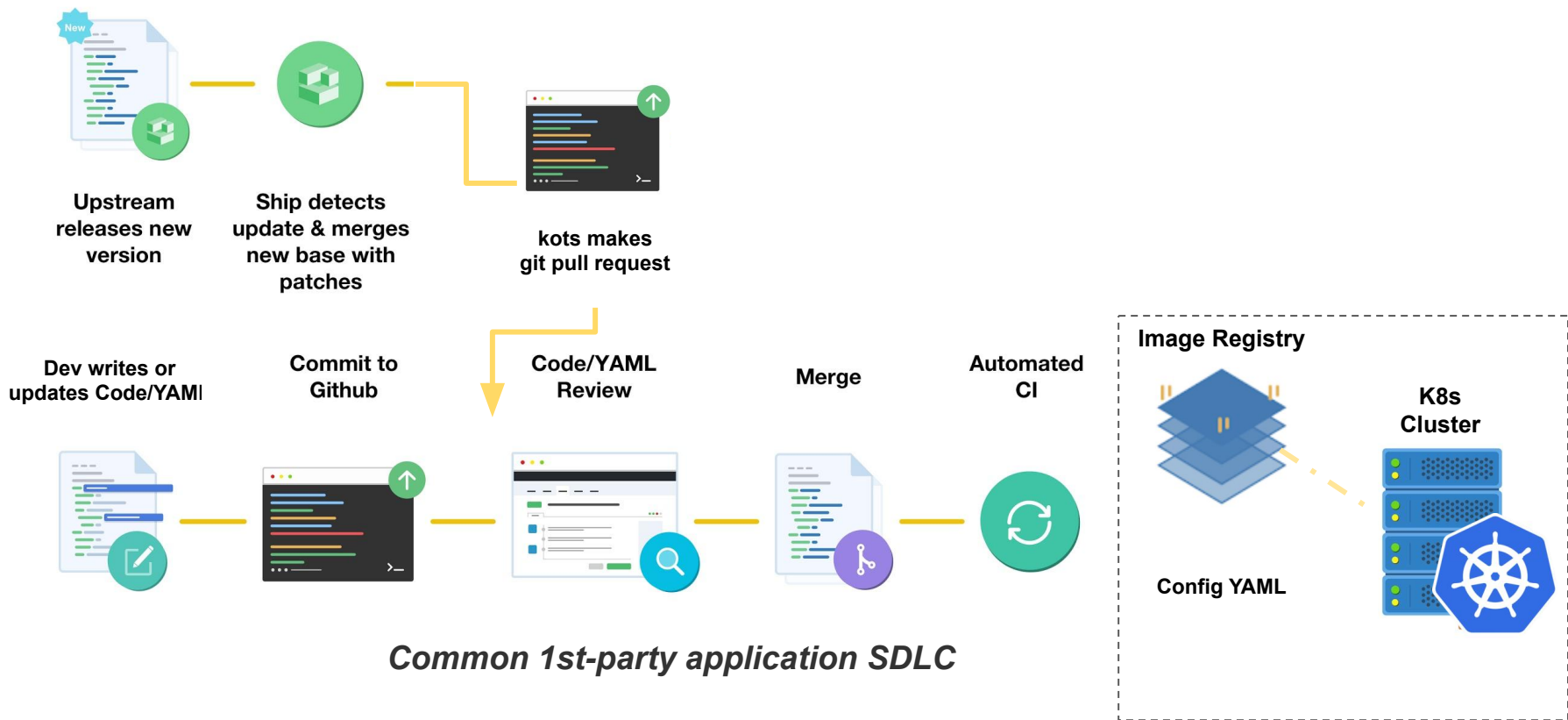
```
405 + image: datadog/agent:6.13.0
```

```
406 imagePullPolicy: IfNotPresent
```

Example Deployment Workflows *(OSS / COTS with kots)*



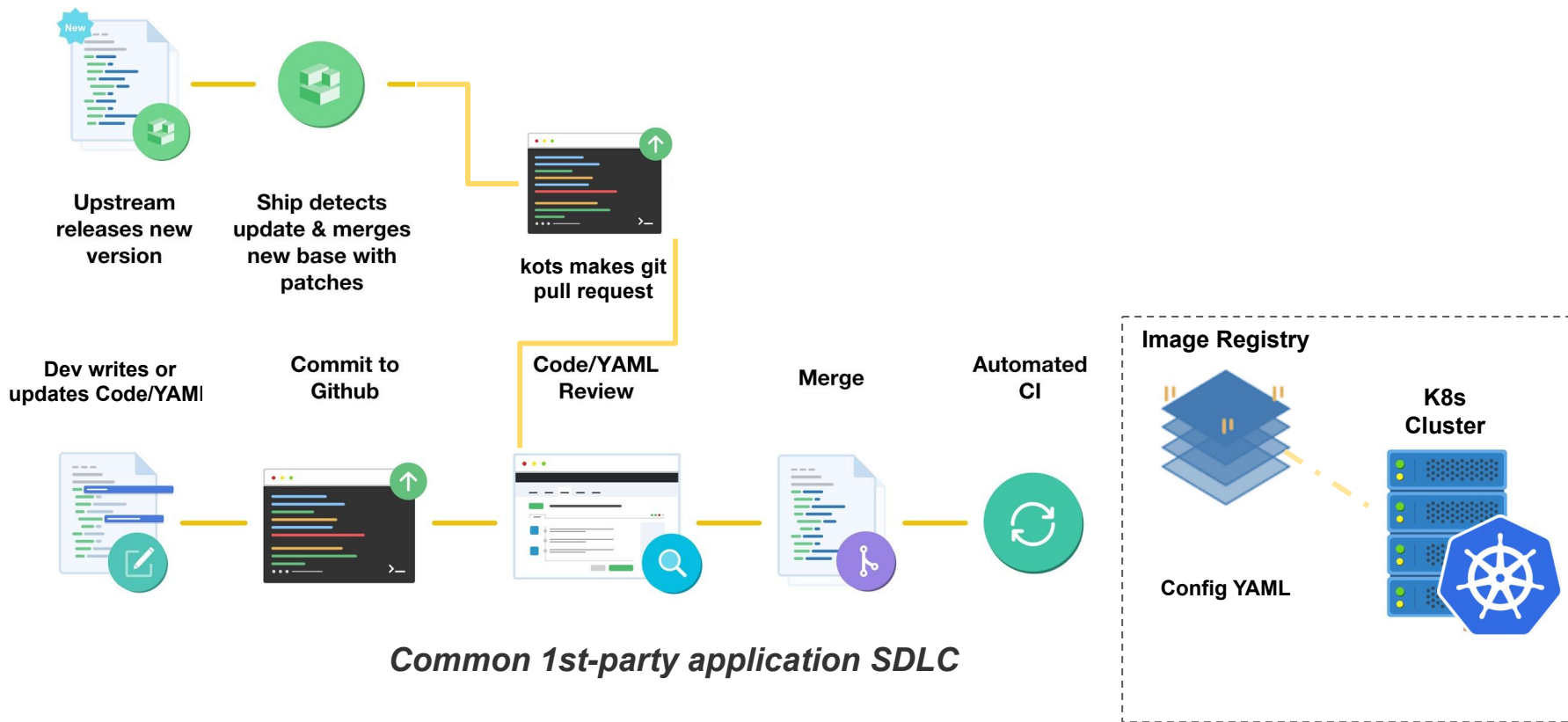
Example Deployment Workflows *(OSS / COTS with kots)*

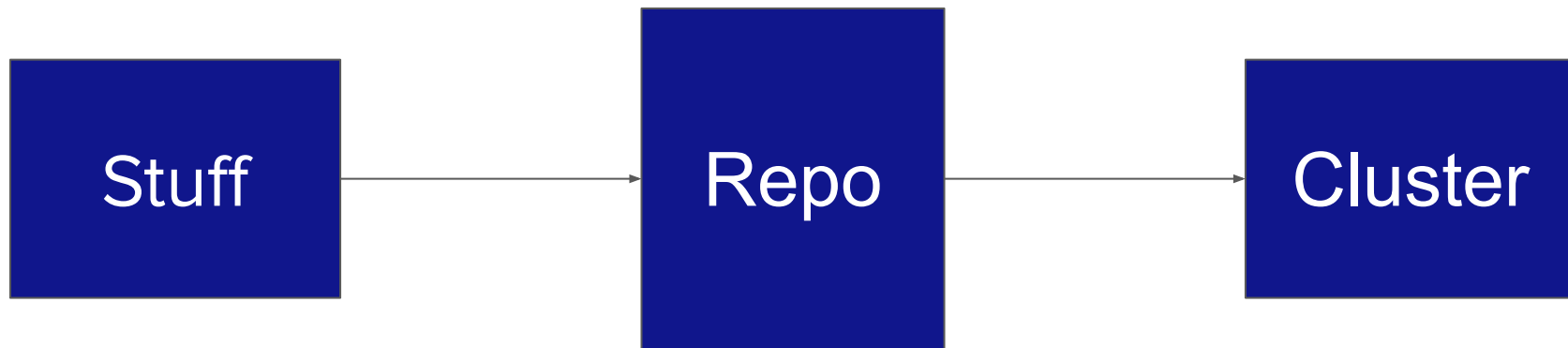


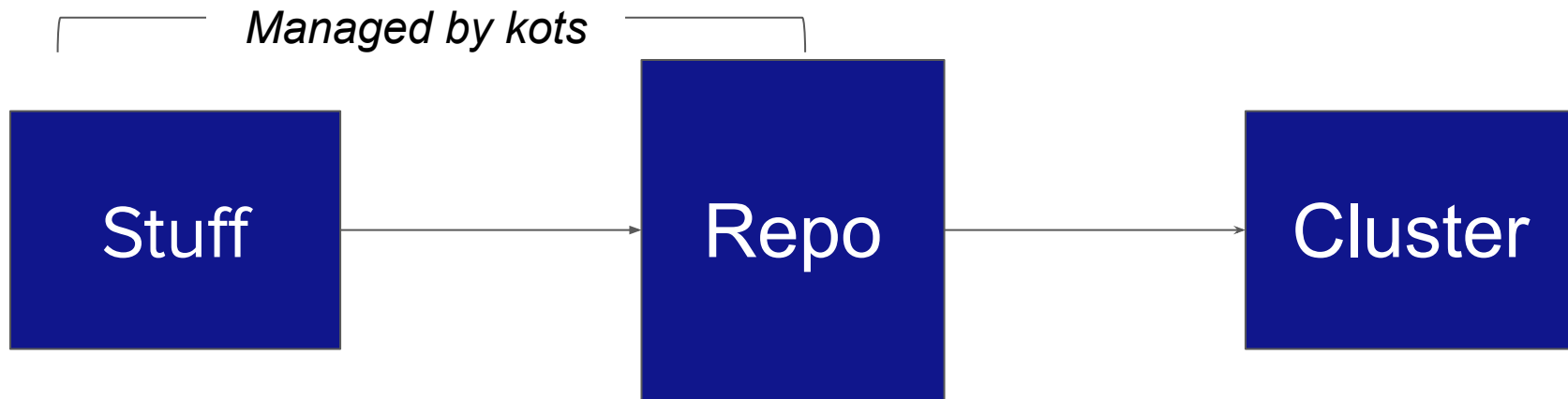
**Let's install a community chart,
with my custom requirements.**

Assume I'm using gitops

Example Deployment Workflows *(OSS / COTS with ship)*







- <> Code
-  Issues 0
-  Pull requests 0
-  Projects 0
-  Wiki
-  Security
-  Insights

No description, website, or topics provided.

 70 commits

 13 branches

 2 releases

 2 contributors

Branch: master ▾

New pull request

Create new file

Upload files

Find File

Clone or download

	dexhorthy Merge pull request #21 from better-db/0.2.0 ...	Latest commit 15186d0 11 hours ago
 templates	v0.2.0 Bump image tag, add log level param	12 hours ago
 .gitignore	first commit	last commit
 .helmignore	first commit	last commit
 Chart.yaml	v0.2.0 Bump image tag, add log level param	12 hours ago
 README.md	first commit	last commit
 values.yaml	v0.2.0 Bump image tag, add log level param	12 hours ago

```
4
5 replicaCount: 1
6
7 image:
8   repository: nginx
9   tag: 1.15.2
10  pullPolicy: IfNotPresent
11
12 logLevel: info
13
14 service:
15   type: ClusterIP
16   port: 80
17
18 securityContext:
19   allowPrivilegeEscalation: true
20
21 resources:
22   # limits:
23   #   cpu: 100m
24   #   memory: 128Mi
25   # requests:
26   #   cpu: 100m
27   #   memory: 128Mi
28
29 nodeSelector: {}
30
31 tolerations: []
32
33 affinity: {}
```

Installing Better DB

Upstream

better-db/chart



Midstream

base



overlays/midstream



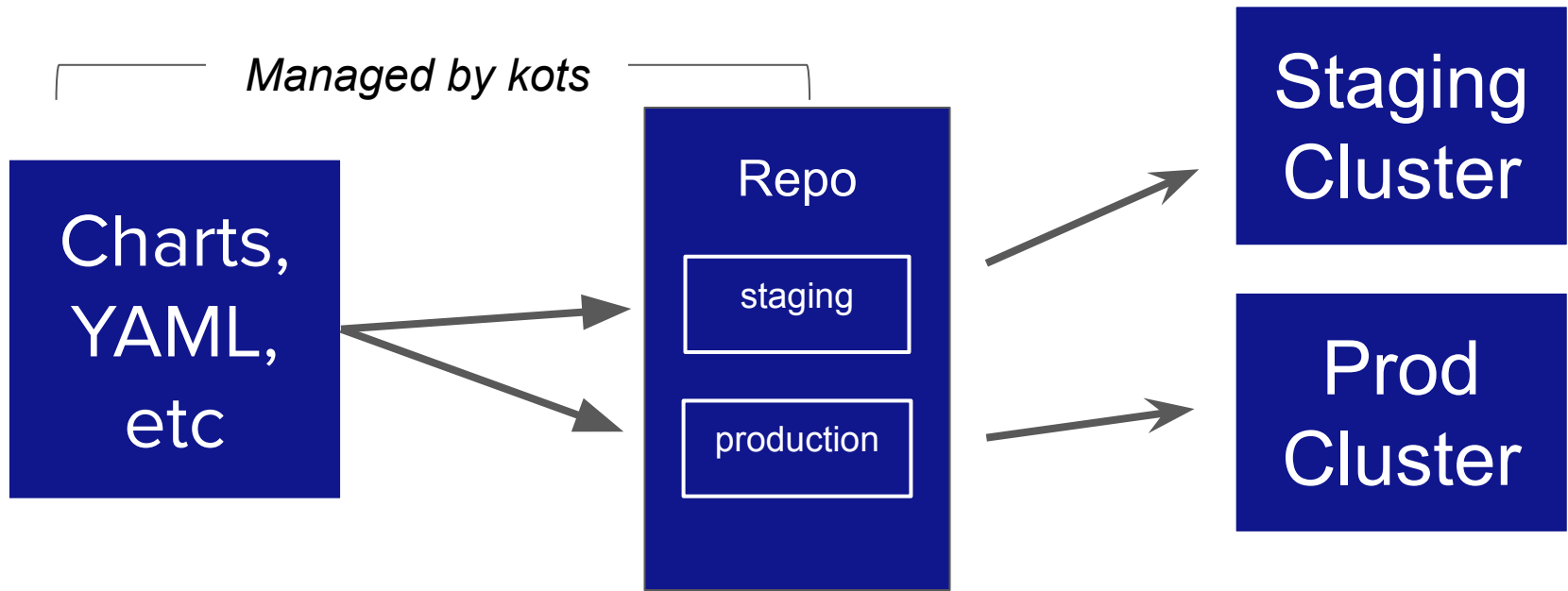
Downstreams

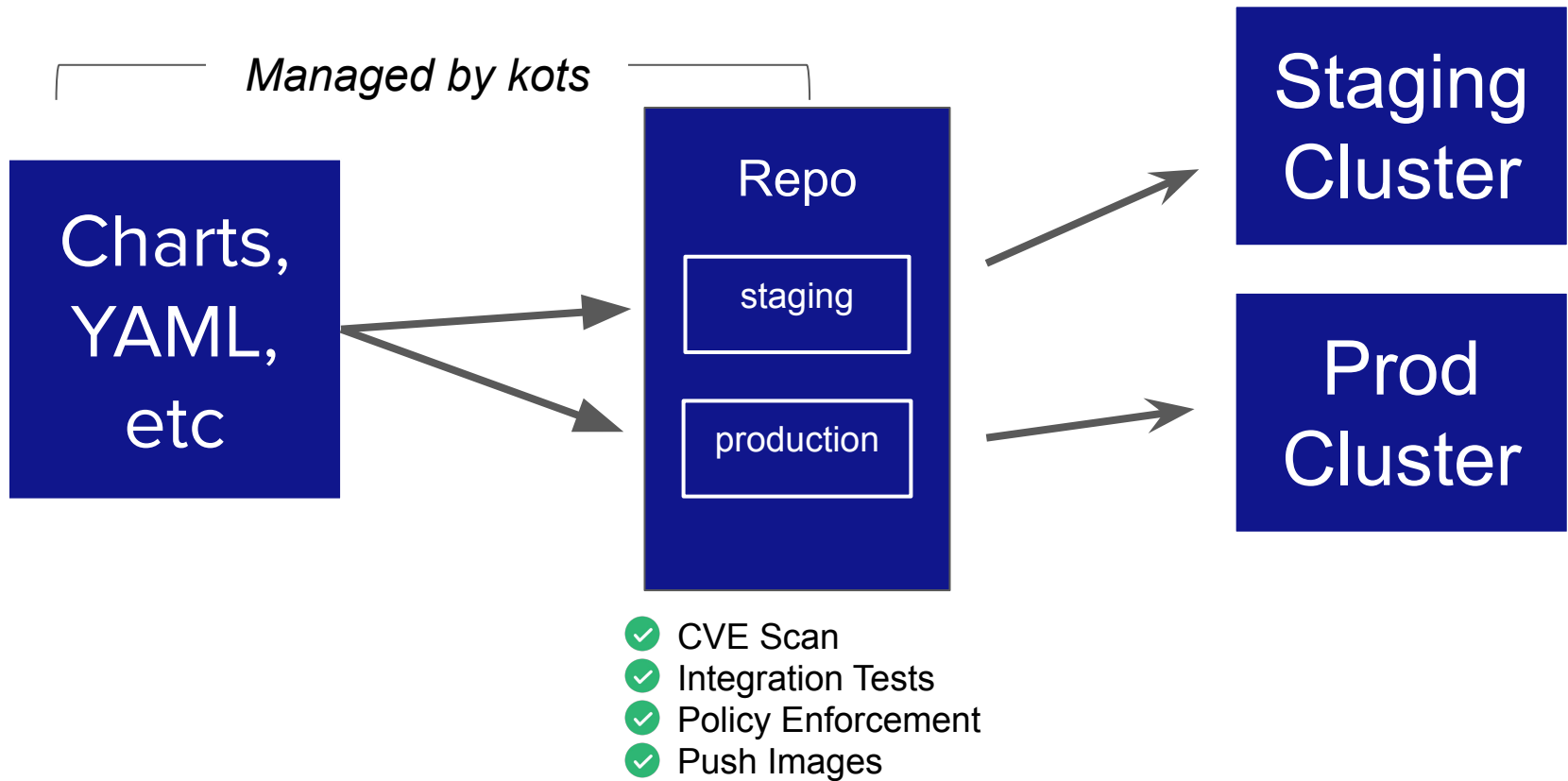
overlays/production

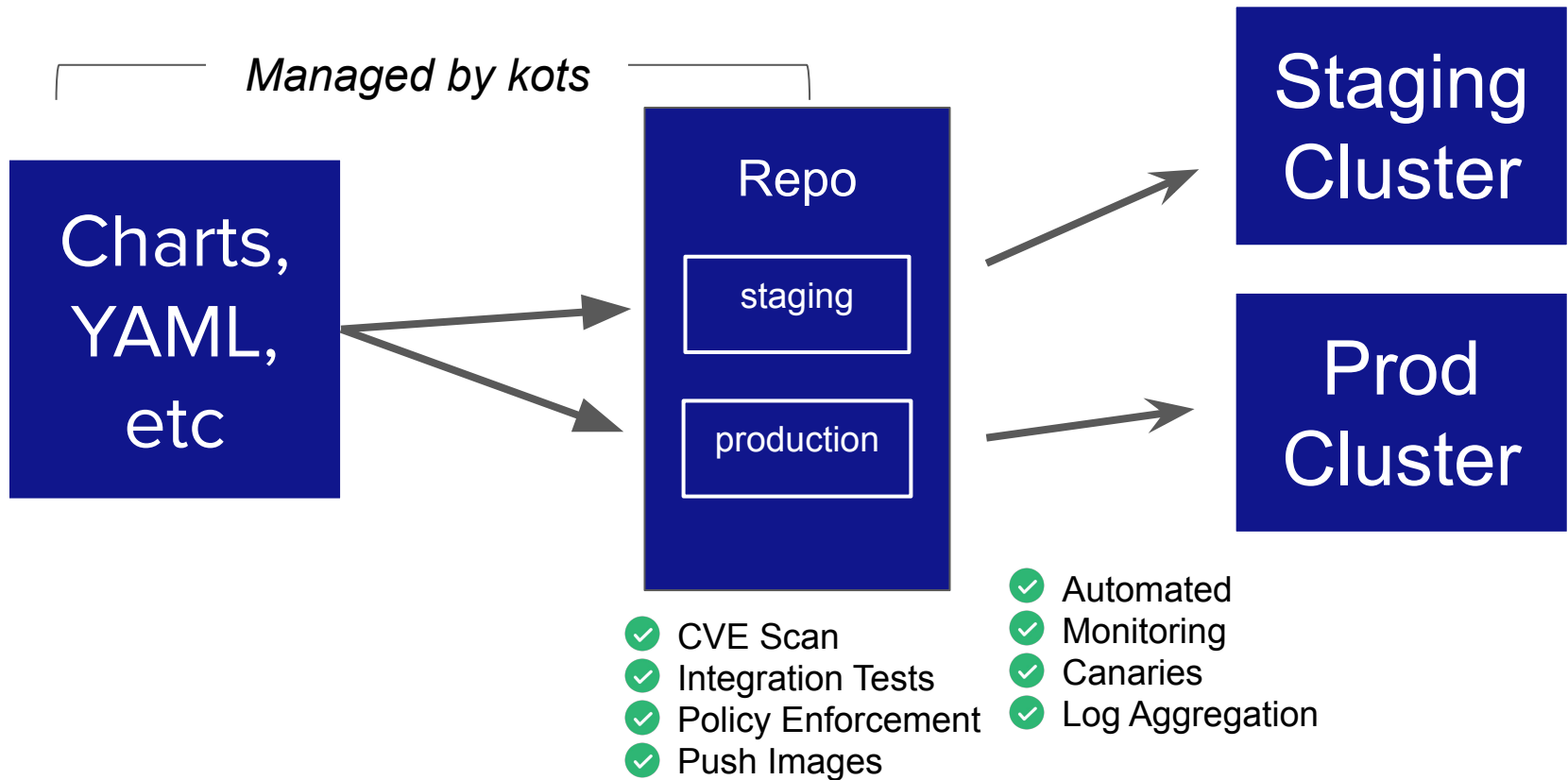


overlays/staging

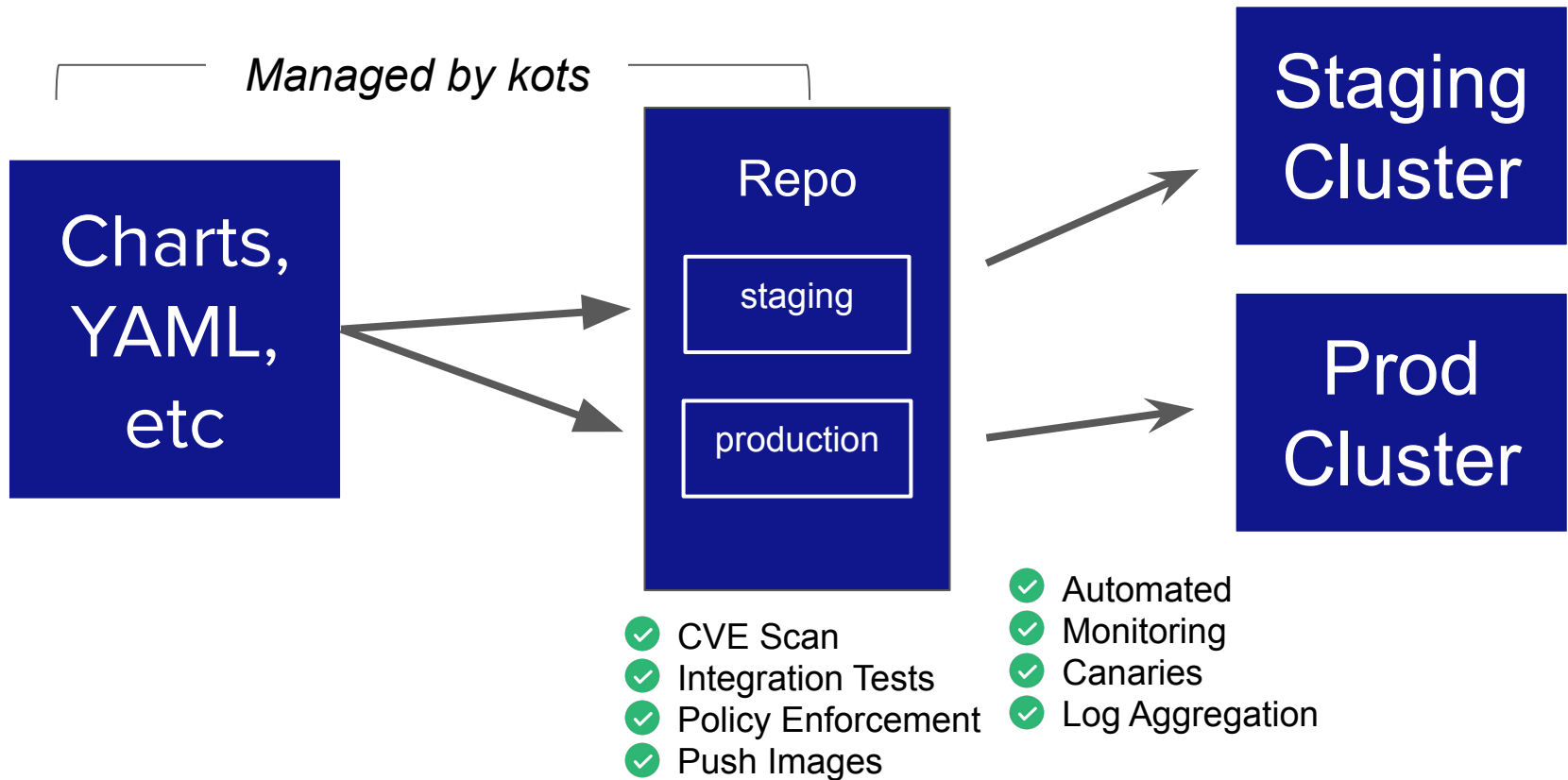








kots + kotsadm Demo



kotsadm

- OSS k8s app
- Multi-app
- Gitops-enabled (via Automatic PRs)
- Multi-Downstream
- Cluster Preflights
- Sophisticated Troubleshooting

The screenshot displays the kotsadm dashboard interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Dashboard' and 'Clusters'. The left sidebar contains a list of applications with their status:

- Retraced Audit Log**: Up to date (green checkmark)
- jenkins**: 2+ versions behind (orange warning icon)
- consul**: 2+ versions behind (orange warning icon, highlighted with a blue border)
- grafana**: 2+ versions behind (orange warning icon)
- seldon-core**: 1 version behind (orange warning icon)
- hazelcast**: 2+ versions behind (orange warning icon)
- istio**: 2+ versions behind (orange warning icon)

The main content area shows the details for the 'consul' application. It includes the 'consul' logo and a description: 'This is a "Midstream". Midstreams are a single place that you can manage your application's configuration and patches for your Kubernetes cluster.' Below this, there is an 'Edit application' section with the text: 'Update patches for your application. These patches will be applied to all clusters. To update patches for a cluster, find it below click "Customize" on the cluster page.' An 'Edit consul' button is present. The 'Downstreams' section shows a list of clusters: 'dexhorthy-gitop...loy-master' (2+ versions behind) and 'dexhorthy-gitops' (No deployments). A 'See downstreams' button is at the bottom.

Kots Wins

Operator

Own less yaml

Use your own process
(e.g. GitOps)

Customize everything

Transparency

Maintainer

Write mostly YAML

Only template app config

Nobody Forks your chart

Community

Makes helm an even
more flexible packaging
format

Enables first-time and
advanced users

What's Next

Download Kots: <https://github.com/replicatedhq/kots>

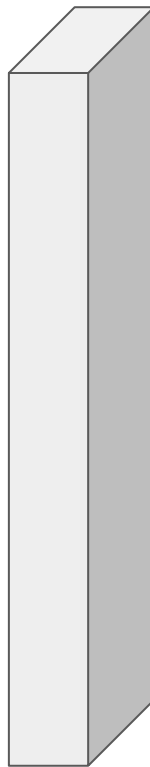
Kots pull: **kubectl kots pull helm://stable/grafana**

Kots install: **kubectl kots install helm://stable/grafana**

[Outdated](#): **kubectl outdated** *Discover outdated cluster images*

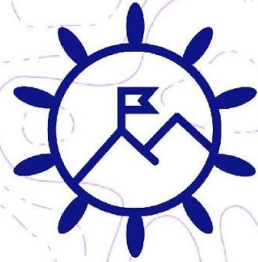
[Unfork](#): **kubectl unfork** *Unfork your deployed helm charts*

[#ship](#) at kubernetes.slack.com



Embrace the wall

Thanks!



HELM
SUMMIT

Day 2 Operations of Helm Charts

Dexter Horthy