Migrating from VMs to K8s

We did it, and so can you!



Who are we?

KnowledgeHound

Allen Nelson

Software Engineer

- Full stack engineer
- Past DevOps experience
- Helped multiple companies transition their development models
- https://www.linkedin.com/in/allen-nelson-05757050/



Nick Petrovits

VP of Engineering

- Full stack engineer
- Using public clouds since 2011



- He has built multiple automated multiple deployment pipelines
- Led the automation and DataOps process optimization for large big data solutions
- https://www.linkedin.com/in/nicholaspetrovits/

Where does this adventure start?

- A Load Balancer and EC2
- Deploying a few Django services to VMs is easy
- Updating dependencies is hard
- One service would never bring down both VMs!



We could try containers...

- Everything already works / K8s is hard
- Where do we start?
- No DevOps Team
- How do we stop everything and migrate?
- We are a small startup and this is a large opportunity cost!
- Murphy's Law A single service won't crash the entire site again!
- Let's just go serverless!



WHEN THE WINDS OF CHANGE BLOW HARD ENOUGH, THE MOST TRIVIAL OF THINGS CAN TURN INTO DEADLY PROJECTILES.



Where do we start again?



Step one!



What to transition with first?

- Small
- Non-critical
- Stateless
- New
- Representative



Don't piss off the rest of the team

- Script everything
- Dark deploy
- Avoid long-separated branches, merge/rebase often
- Make it easy to flip between versions and avoid downtime in environments
- Create a "1 Pager" with common dev, troubleshooting, and deployment tasks
- Teach the dev team before deploying



Documentation

- Detailed, step by step documentation
- High-level, quick notes documentation

I read the books and followed the instructions.

Samwell Tarly

How do we develop now?



- Local infrastructure managed through vagrant and docker-compose
- Configuration, scripts and infrastructure documentation live in a repository named devops
- One repo per service
- Developer is responsible for running services

I just want to deploy my code





Devops scripts can be awesome

- \$ k8s-deploy SERVICE --to int
- \$ k8s-deploy SERVICE --to prod --tag TAG
- \$ kh-pods int SERVICE --ssh
- \$ kubetail SERVICE

Devops scripts can be terrible

\$ kh-swiss-army-knife deploy --run-tests
--notify-slack --type k8s --replicas 6
--max-memory 10GB --branch my-branch

Lots of things happen... Error: Some step failed and now you have no idea what to do

\$ which tail-my-service
kubetail --some-option my-service

Networking





cat /etc/hosts/apache2/myserver.conf <VirtualHost *:1234> ServerName myserver <Location "/"> ProxyPass "http://10.0.2.2:1234/" ProxyPreserveHost On </Location> </VirtualHost>

We can do this!



What's Next?



Resource Usage and Stability

- You don't need to guess the exact resource requirements off the bat
- Start with a reasonable estimate, and then revise as needed observing production metrics
- Redundancy/replication is easy in Kubernetes. Use it!



CI/CD



Daniel Stori {turnoff.us}





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