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# Cloud Native Superpowers with eBPF



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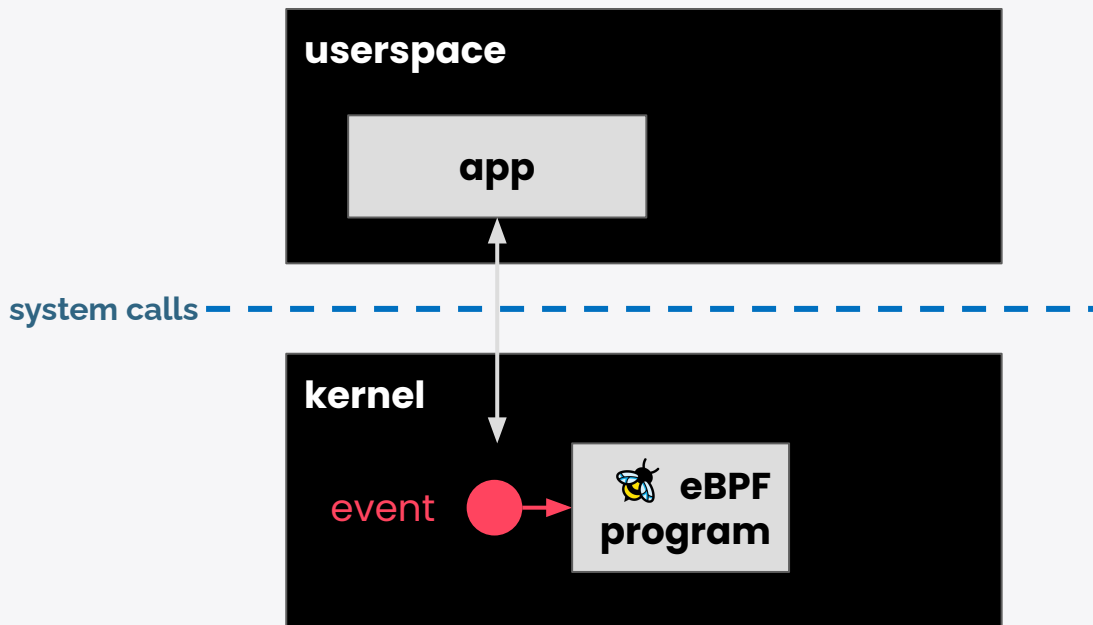
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What is  eBPF ?

Makes the kernel **programmable**

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## Run custom code in the kernel



```
1 #!/usr/bin/python3
2 from bcc import BPF
3
4 program = r"""
5 int hello(void *ctx) {
6     bpf_trace_printk("Hello World!");
7     return 0;
8 }
9 """
10
11 b = BPF(text=program)
12 syscall = b.get_syscall_fnname("execve")
13 b.attach_kprobe(event=syscall, fn_name="hello")
14
15 b.trace_print()
16
```

```
root@lima-learning-ebpf >
```

TERMINAL PROBLEMS 3 OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE PORTS COMMENTS

```
root@lima-learning-ebpf >
```

hello

ping

## eBPF Hello World

```
SEC("kprobe/sys_execve")
```

```
int hello(void *ctx)
```

```
{
```

```
    bpf_printk("Hello!");
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

+ userspace code to load eBPF program

Info about process that called execve syscall

```
$ sudo ./hello
bash-20241 [004] d... 84210.752785: 0: I'm alive!
bash-20242 [004] d... 84216.321993: 0: I'm alive!
bash-20243 [004] d... 84225.858880: 0: I'm alive!
```

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# Dynamically change kernel behaviour

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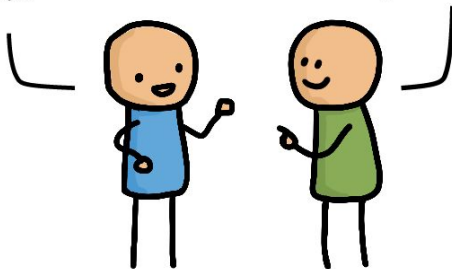
## Application Developer:

I want this new feature to observe my app



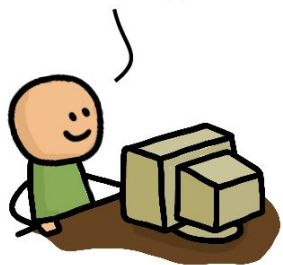
Hey kernel developer! Please add this new feature to the Linux kernel

OK! Just give me a year to convince the entire community that this is good for everyone.

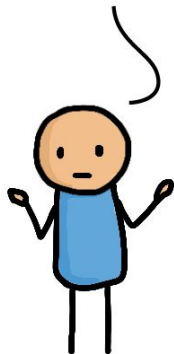


## 1 year later...

I'm done. The upstream kernel now supports this.



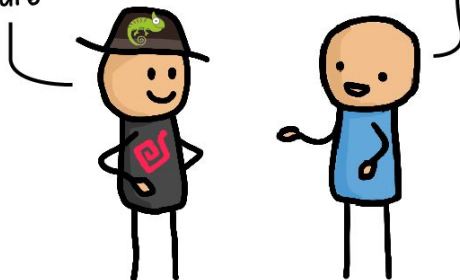
But I need this in my Linux distro



## 5 years later...

Good news. Our Linux distribution now ships a kernel with your required feature

OK but my requirements have changed since...



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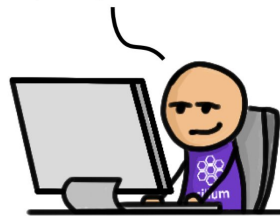
Application Developer:

i want this new feature  
to observe my app



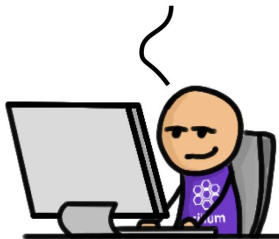
eBPF Developer:

OK! The kernel can't do this so let  
me quickly solve this with eBPF.



A couple of days later...

Here is a release of our eBPF project that has this feature  
now. BTW, you don't have to reboot your machine.



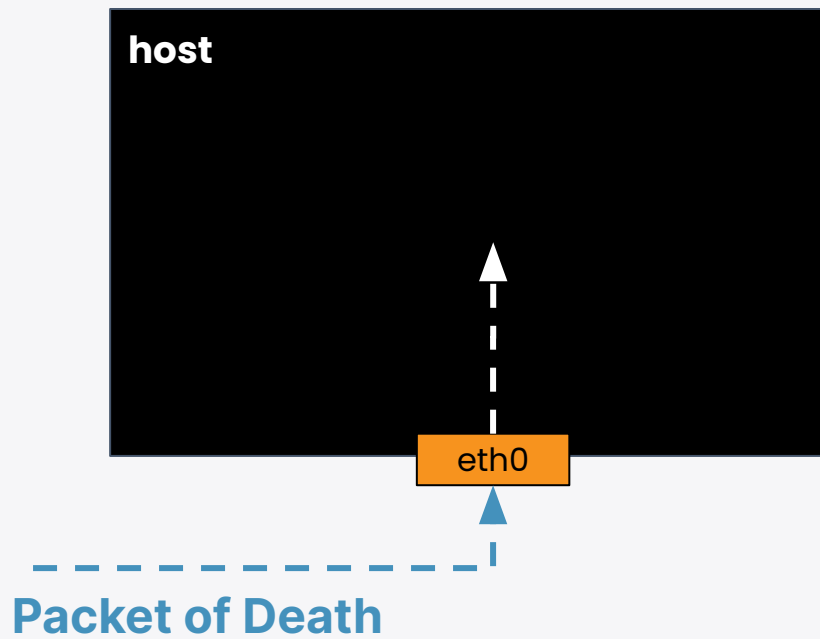


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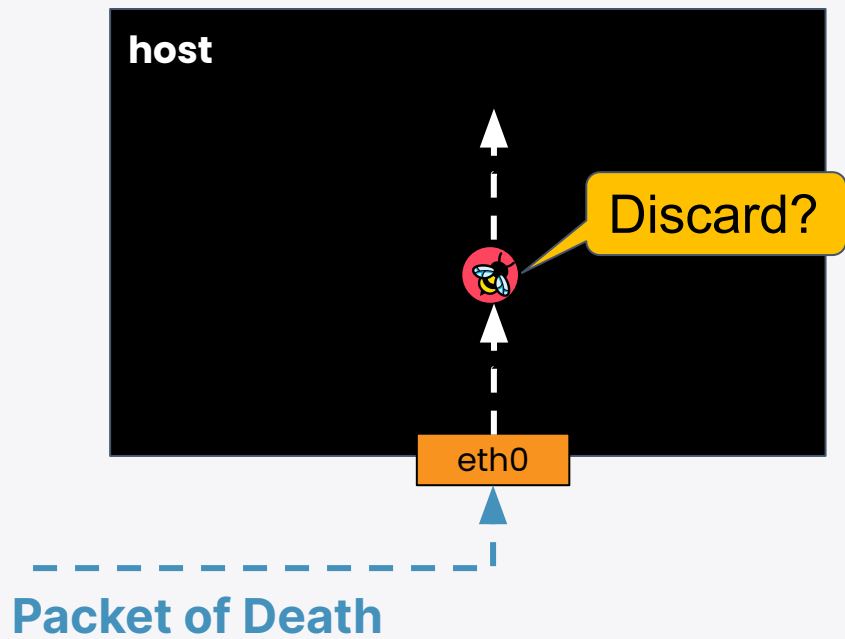
# Packet of Death mitigation

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## eBPF Packet Drop

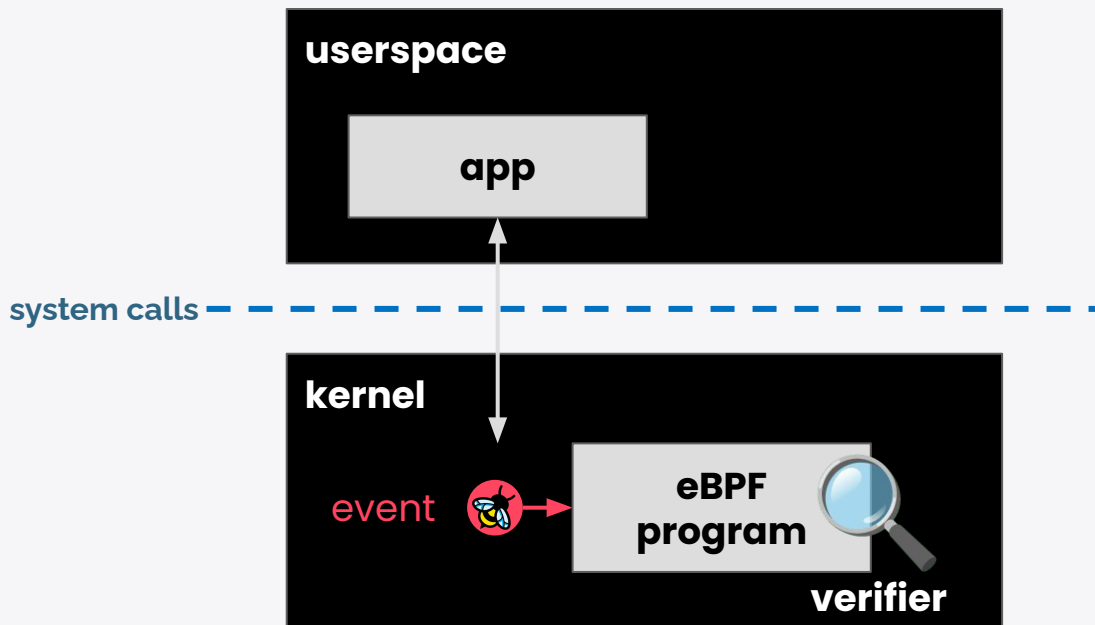
```
SEC("xdp/bye")
int goodbye_ping(struct xdp_md *ctx)
{
    ...
    if (iph->protocol == IPPROTO_ICMP)
        return XDP_DROP;

    return XDP_PASS;
}
```



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# eBPF code has to be safe

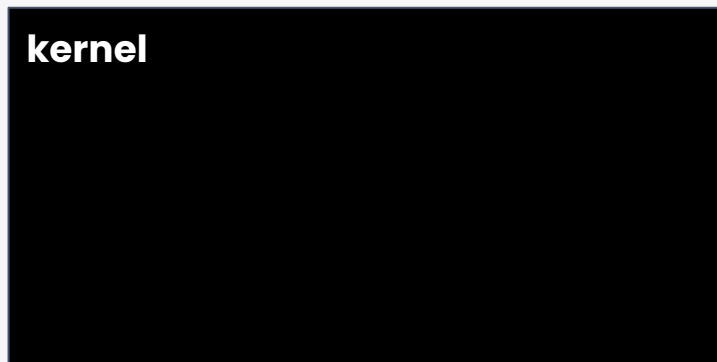
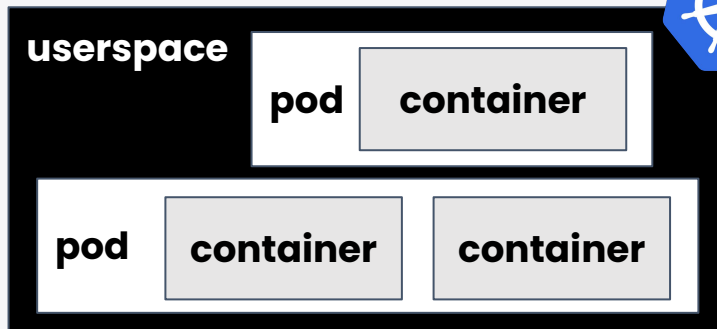


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# Programmable kernel in Kubernetes

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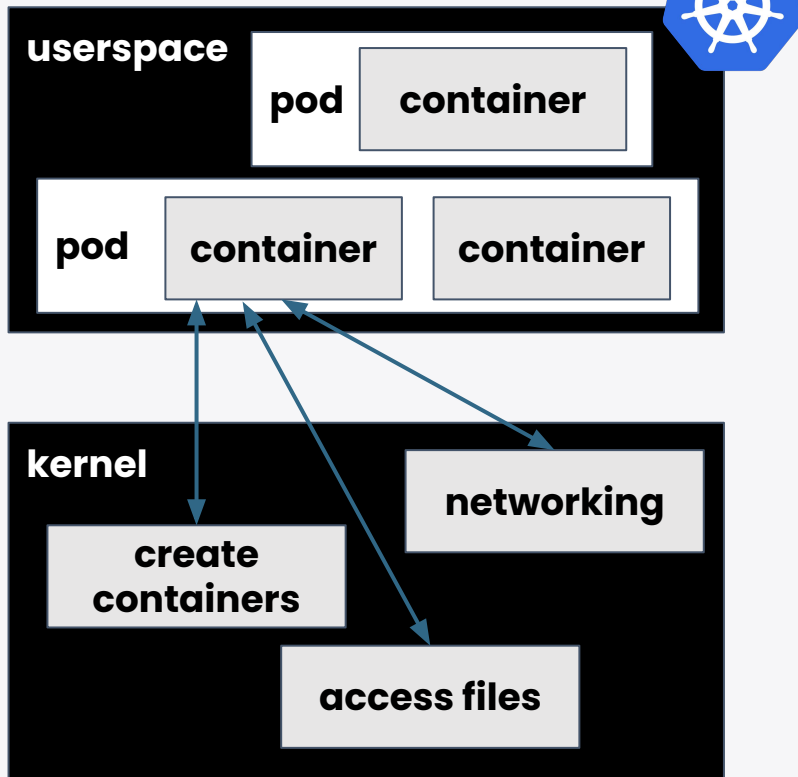
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**One kernel per host**

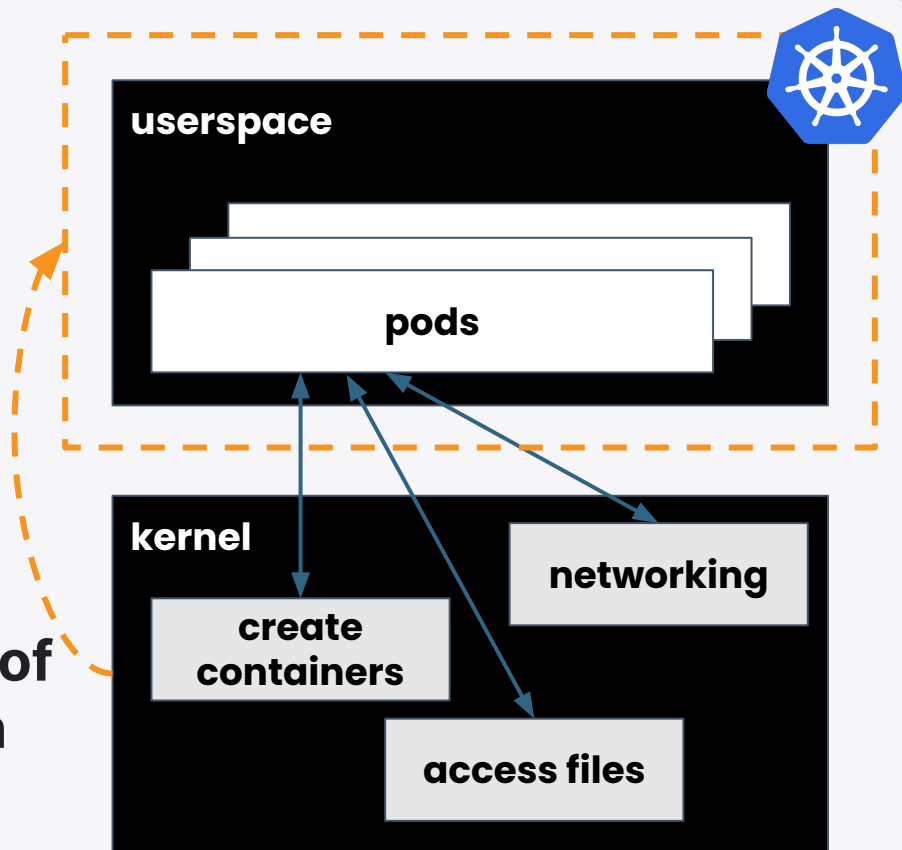


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One kernel per host

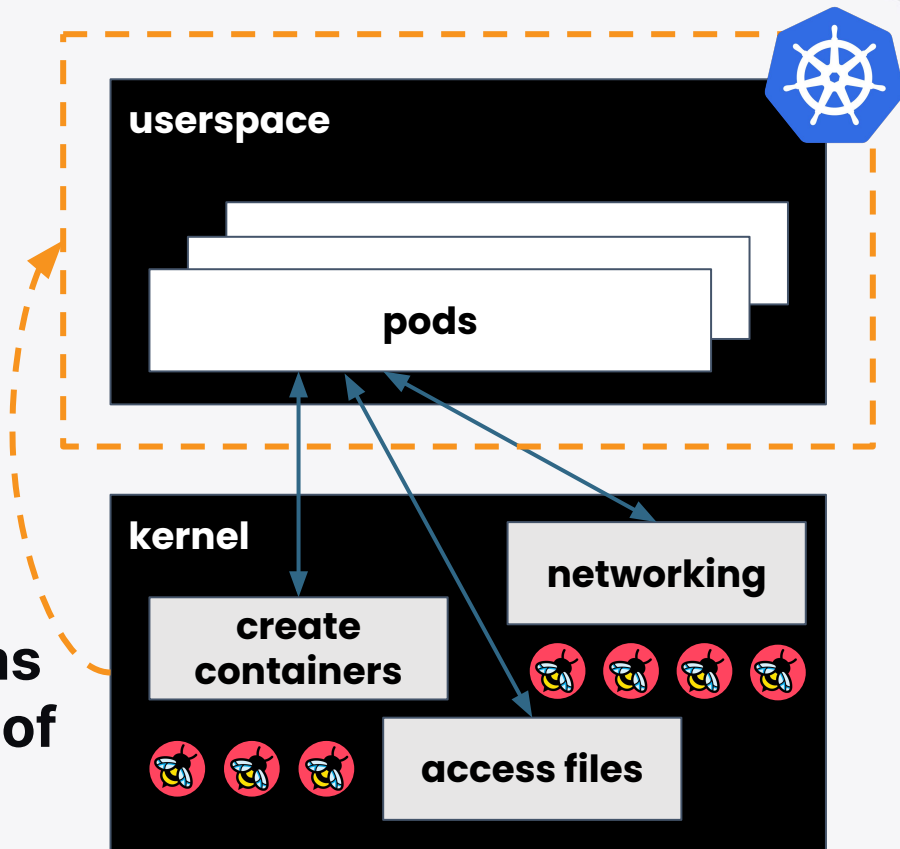
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**Kernel aware of everything on the host**

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eBPF programs  
can be aware of  
everything



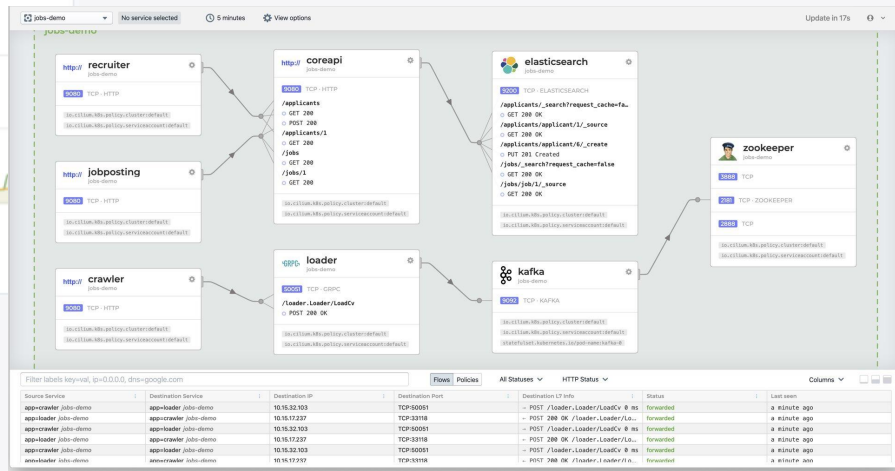
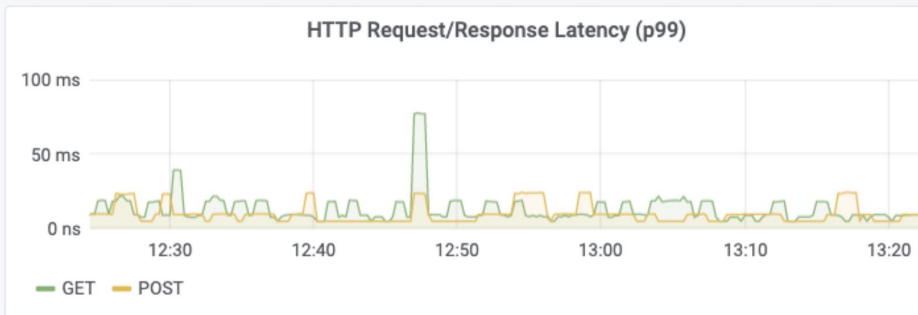
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**eBPF apps have a view  
across the entire node  
enabling deep observability**

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# Cilium Hubble observability

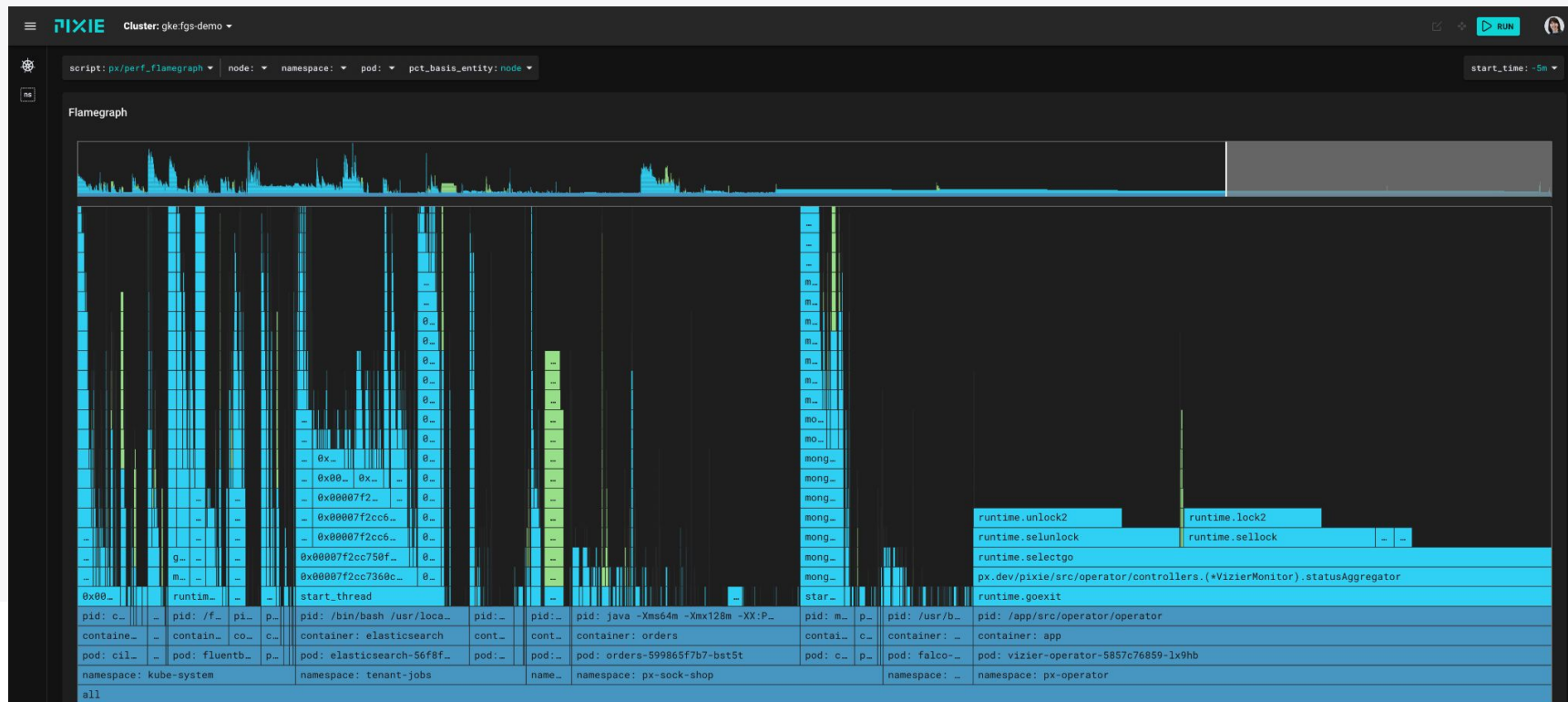


- Network flow logs
- Prometheus metrics
- Service map
- L3/4 & L7 (HTTP, DNS, Kafka, ...)
- Aware of Kubernetes identities



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# PIXIE flame graph

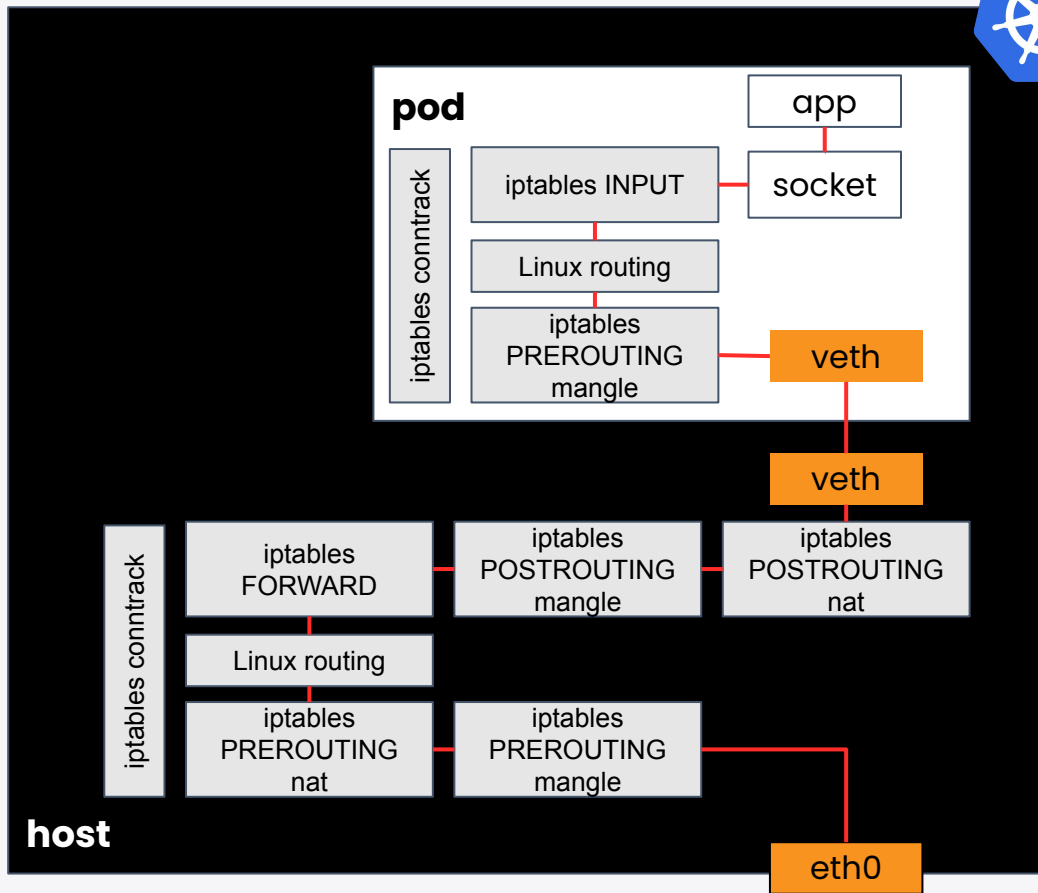


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**eBPF tools have a view  
across the entire node  
enabling network efficiency**

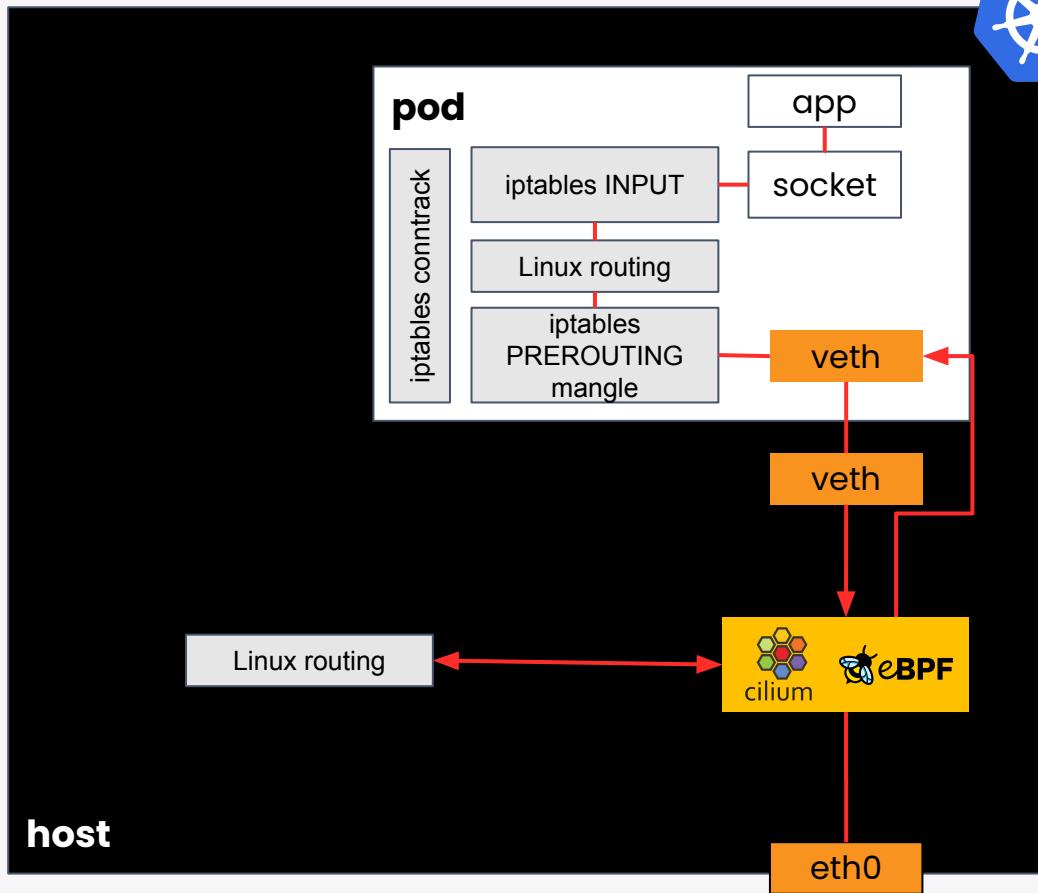
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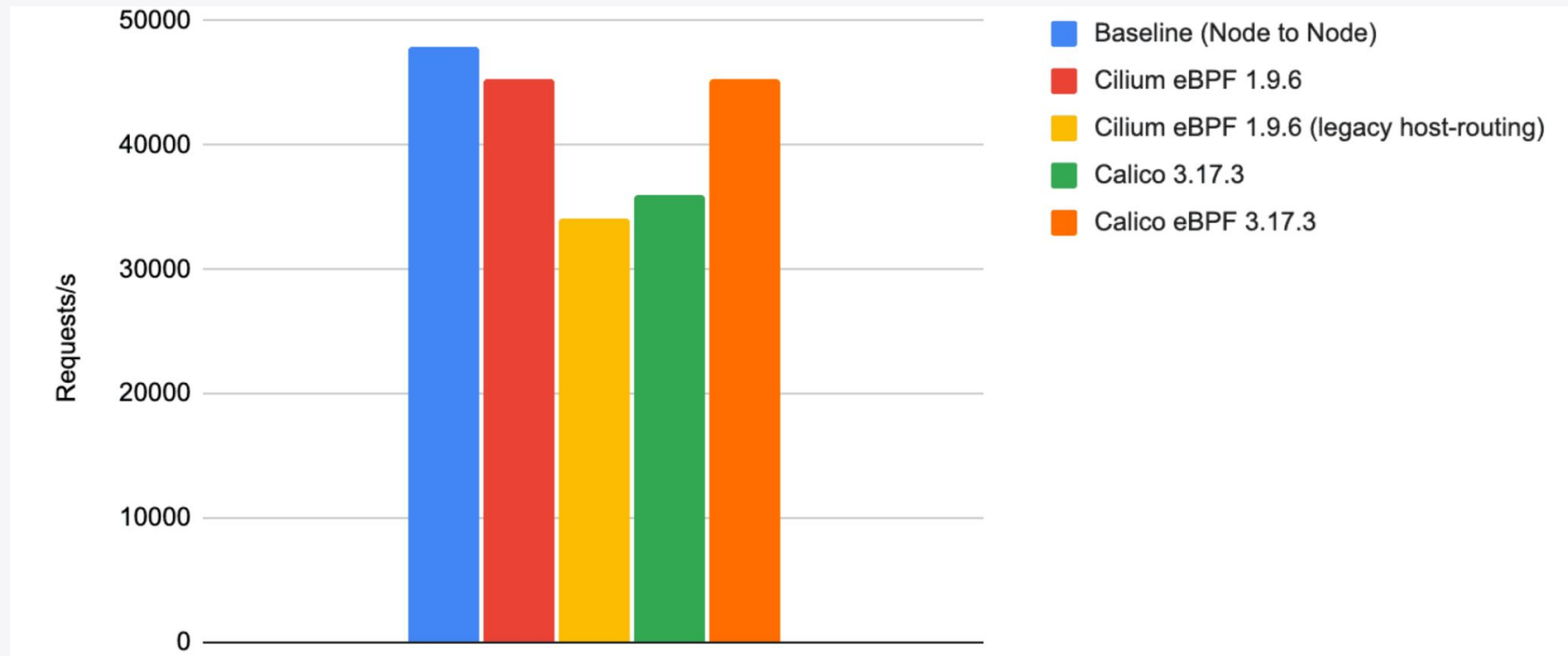


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## TCP RR (higher is better)



<https://cilium.io/blog/2021/05/11/cni-benchmark>

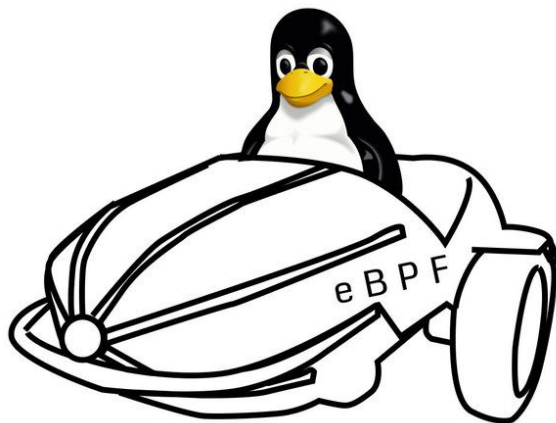
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**eBPF tools have a view  
across the entire node  
without any app or config changes**

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My other  
sidecar  
is a **kernel**

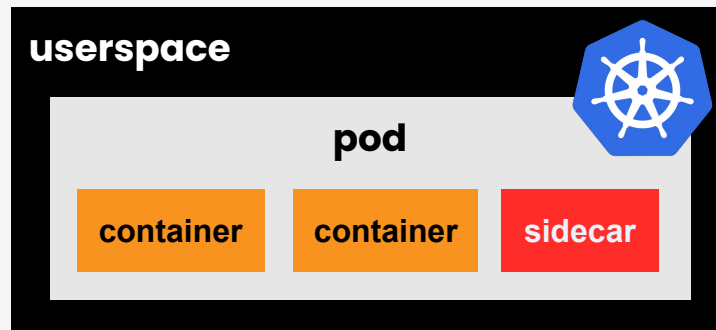


*"Get in loser. We're going tracing"*

- **Nathan LeClaire** [@dotpem](#)

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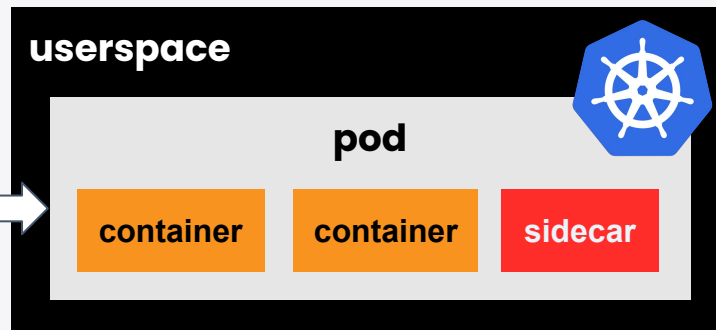
## A sidecar has a view across one pod



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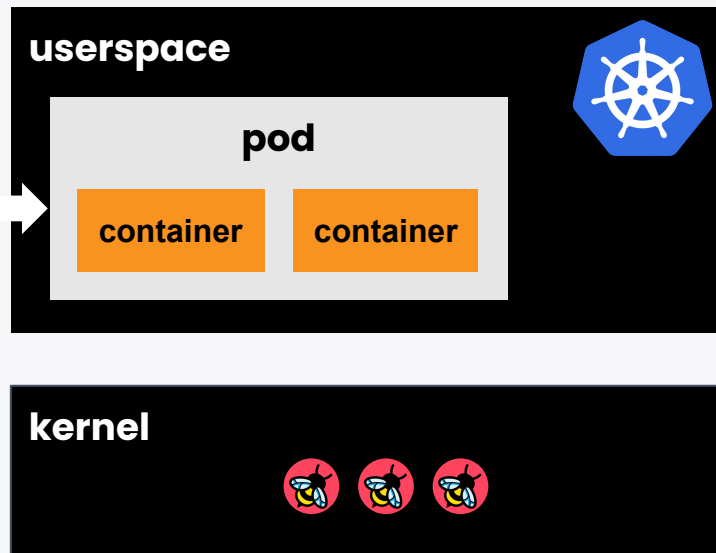
## Sidecars need YAML

```
my-app.yaml
containers:
- name: my-app
  ...
- name: my-app-init
  ...
- name: my-sidecar
  ...
```



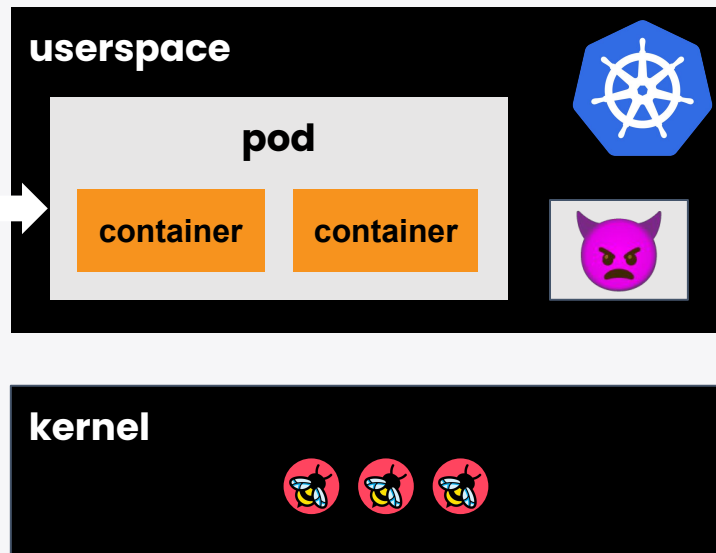
# eBPF does not need any app changes

```
my-app.yaml
containers:
- name: my-app
  ...
- name: my-app-init
  ...
```



# eBPF can see ALL activity on the node

```
my-app.yaml
containers:
- name: my-app
  ...
- name: my-app-init
  ...
```





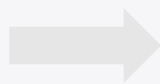
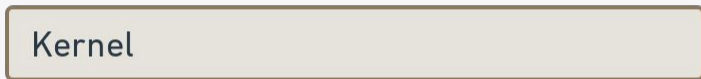
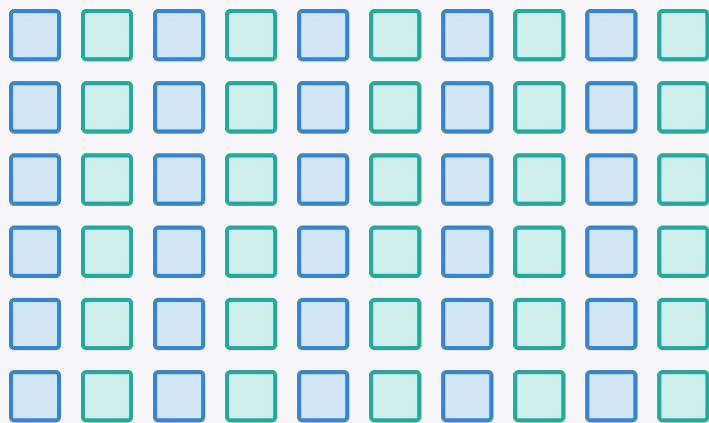
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# eBPF enables sidecarless Service Mesh

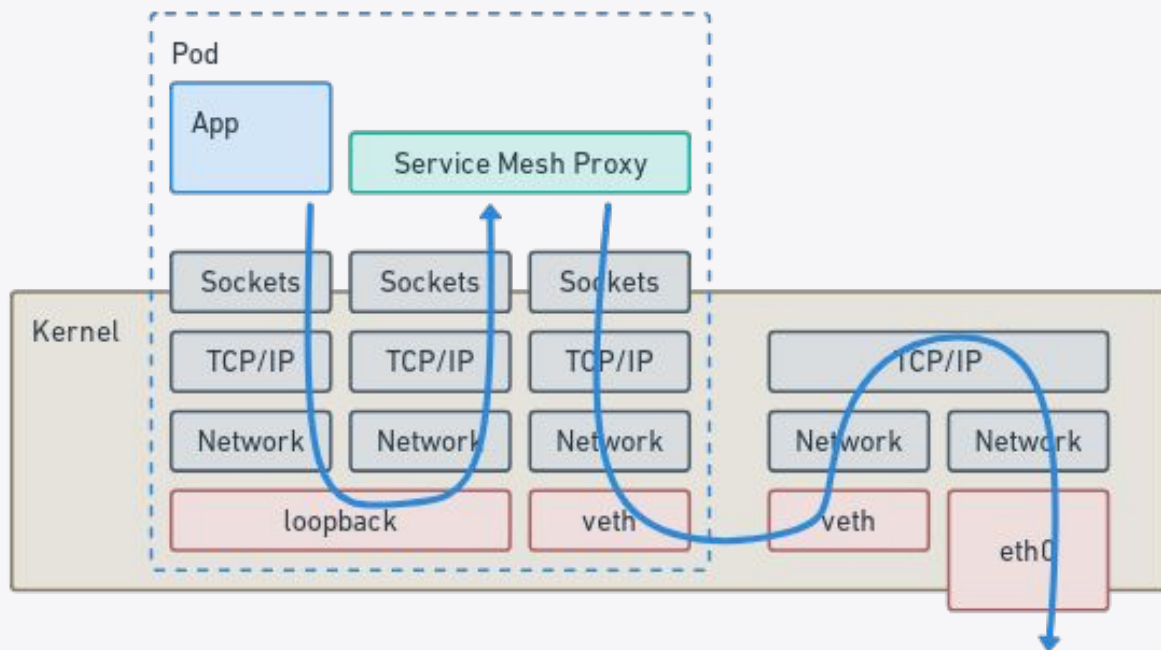
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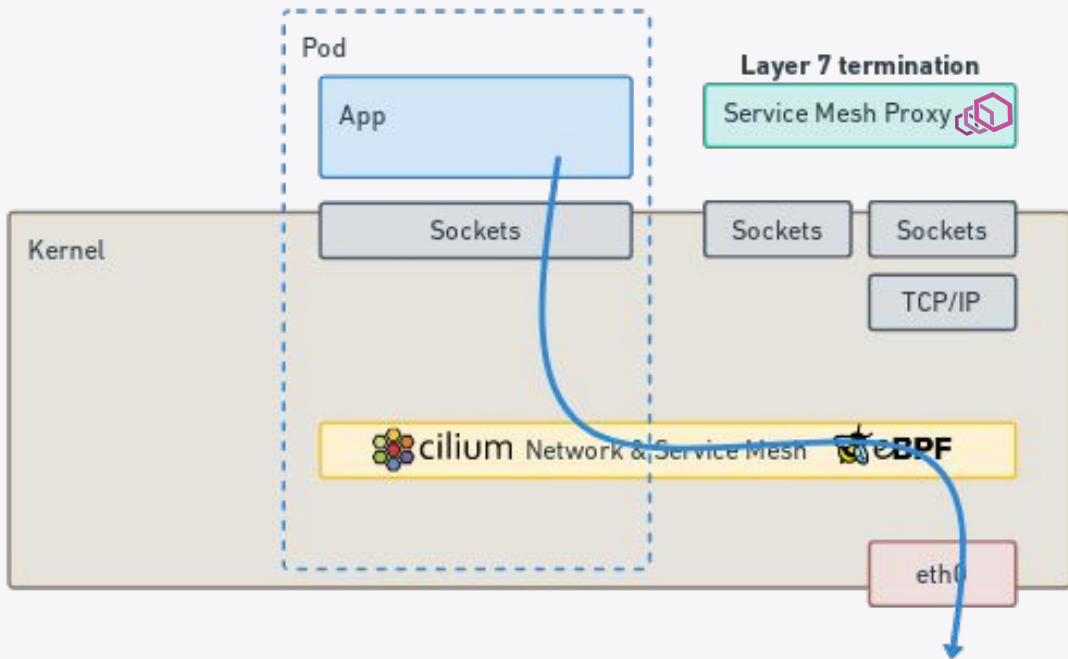
## Reduce resource usage



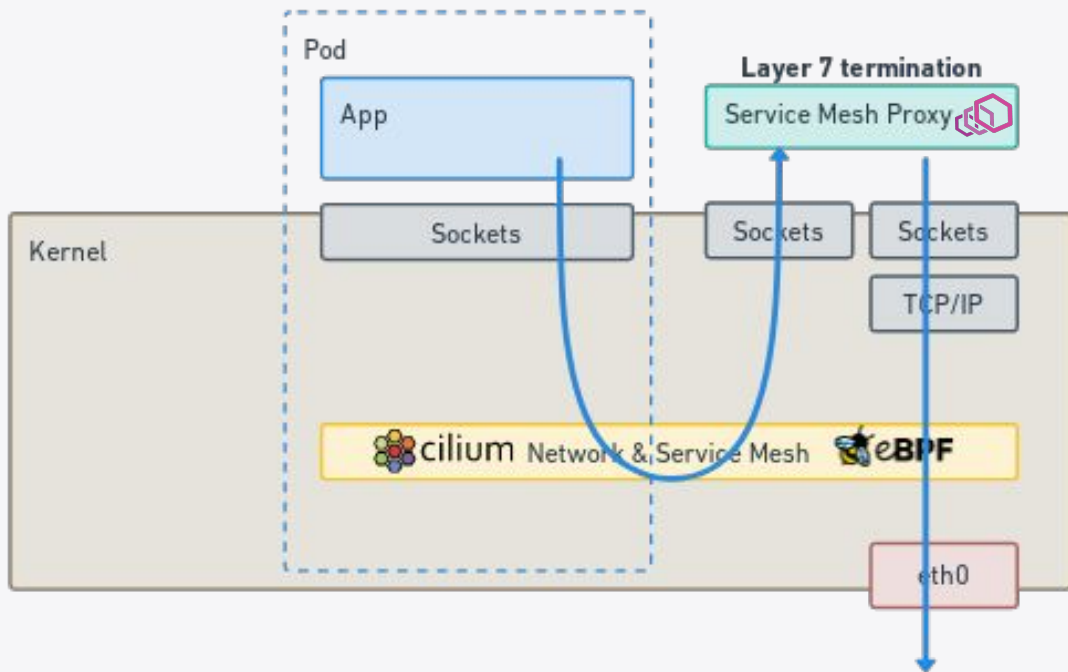
# Network path with sidecar



# Network path for L3/4 traffic



# Envoy for Layer 7 terminations when needed

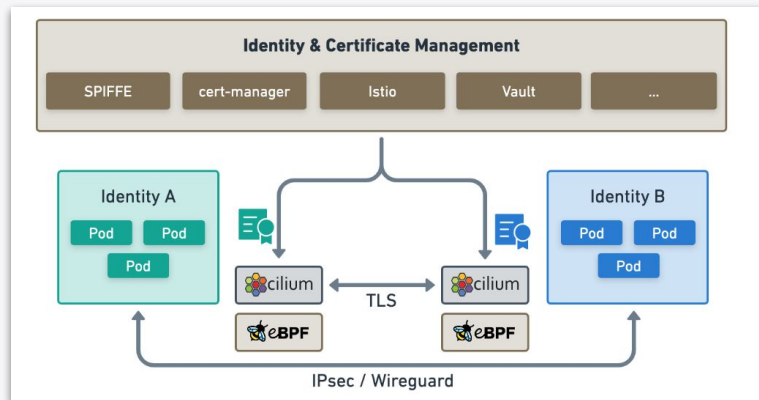
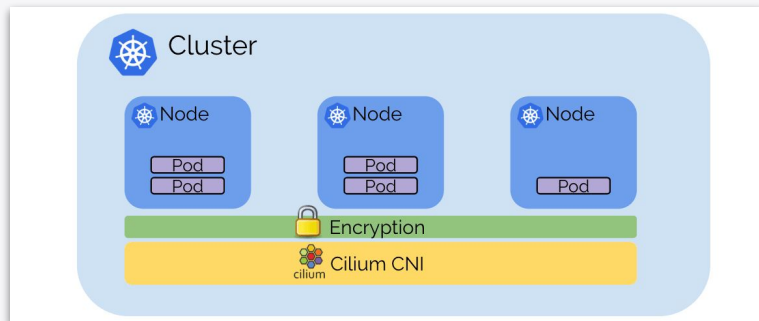


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**eBPF tools have a view  
across the entire node  
enabling powerful security**

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# Cilium transparent encryption

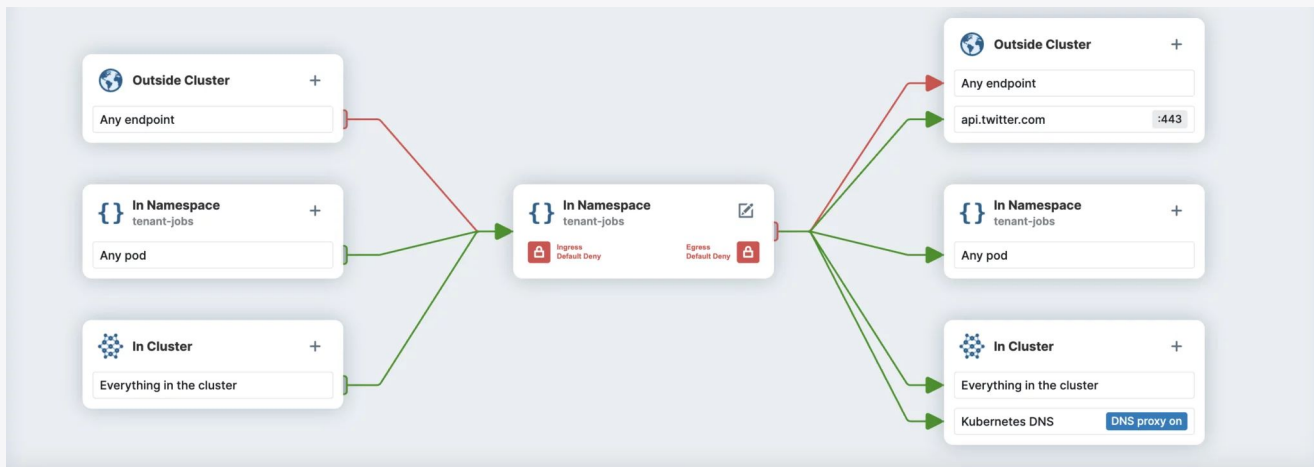


- IPsec / WireGuard
- Traffic encrypted in the kernel
- No app changes needed

## Next-generation mutual auth

- App identity authenticated with TLS handshake

# Cilium network policy → eBPF programs drop packets



Kubernetes Cilium

```

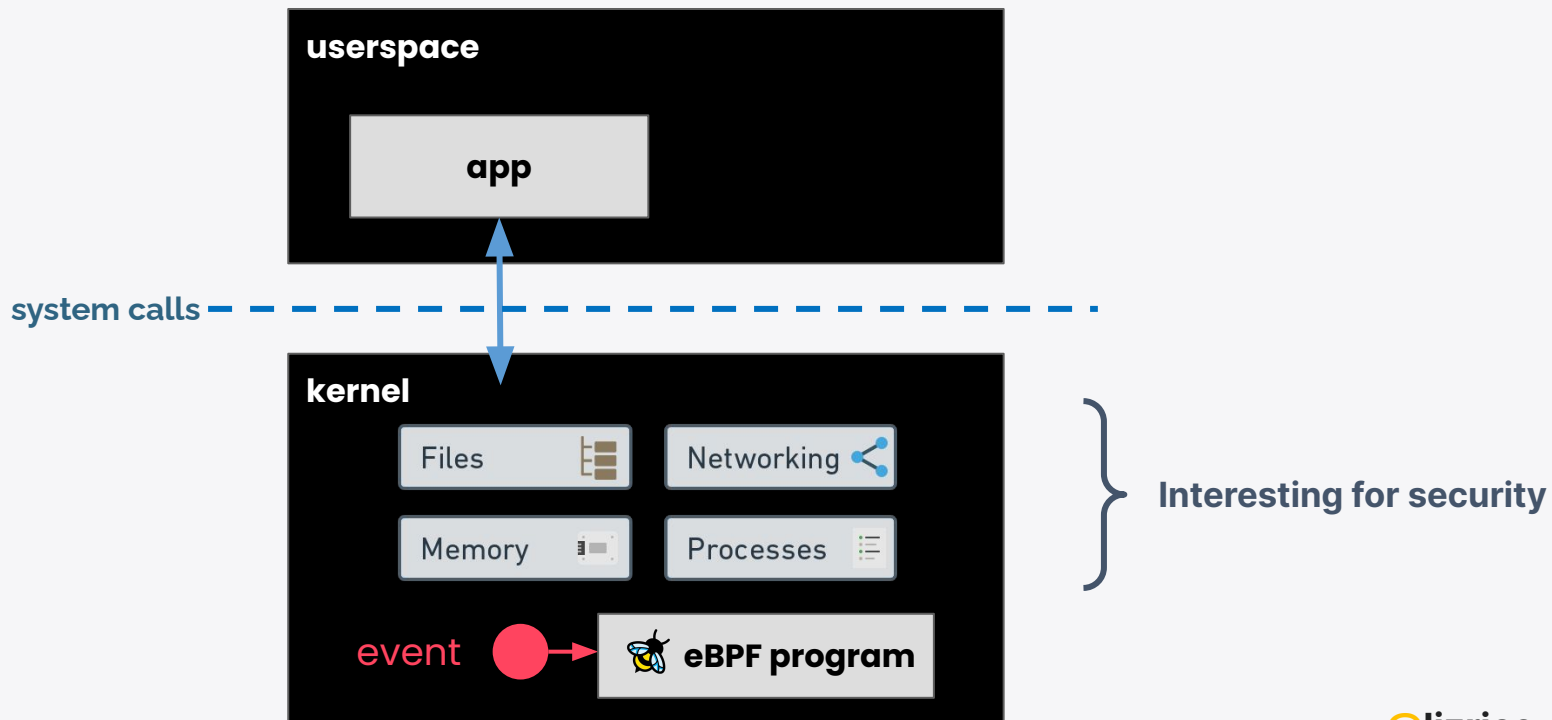
21     - ports:
22       - port: "53"
23         protocol: ANY
24     rules:
25       dns:
26         - matchPattern: "*"
27   - toFQDNs:
28     - matchName: api.twitter.com
29     toPorts:
30     - ports:
31       - port: "443"

```

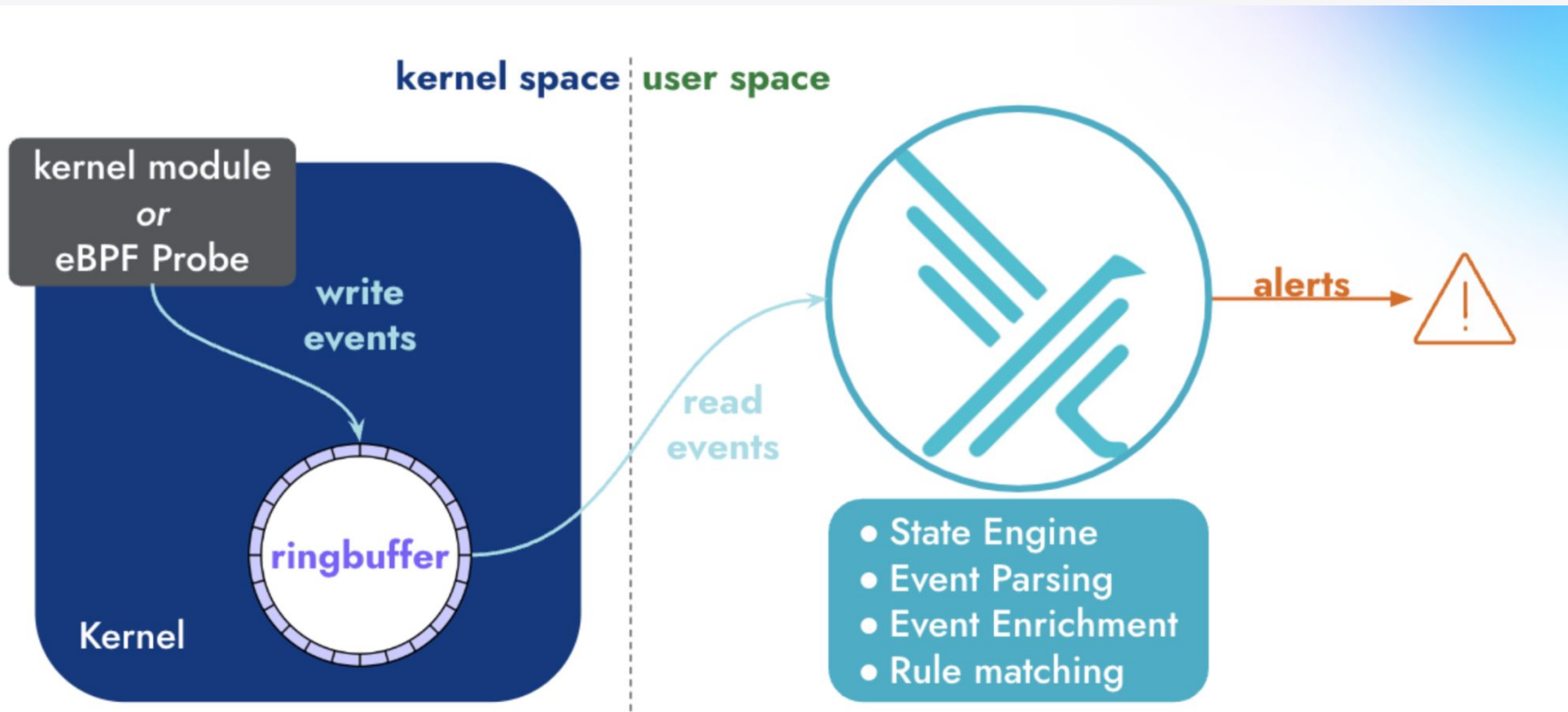
Source Identity	Destination Identity	Verdict
crawler tenant-jobs	api.twitter.com	forwarded
crawler tenant-jobs	elasticsearch tenant-jobs	forwarded
crawler tenant-jobs	elasticsearch tenant-jobs	forwarded
crawler tenant-jobs	api.twitter.com	forwarded
loader tenant-jobs	kafka tenant-jobs	forwarded
coreapi tenant-jobs	elasticsearch tenant-jobs	forwarded
jobposting tenant-jobs	coreapi tenant-jobs	forwarded
jobposting tenant-jobs	coreapi tenant-jobs	forwarded
coreapi tenant-jobs	elasticsearch tenant-jobs	forwarded
kafka tenant-jobs	zookeeper tenant-jobs	forwarded
coreapi tenant-jobs	elasticsearch tenant-jobs	forwarded
recruiter tenant-jobs	coreapi tenant-jobs	forwarded
recruiter tenant-jobs	coreapi tenant-jobs	forwarded
loader tenant-jobs	kafka tenant-jobs	forwarded



# Run custom code in the kernel

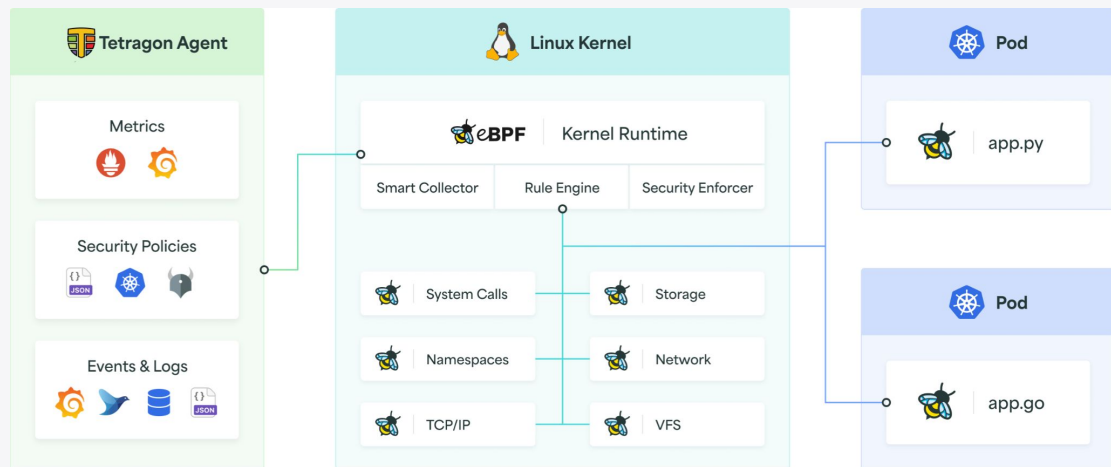


# Runtime security - Falco





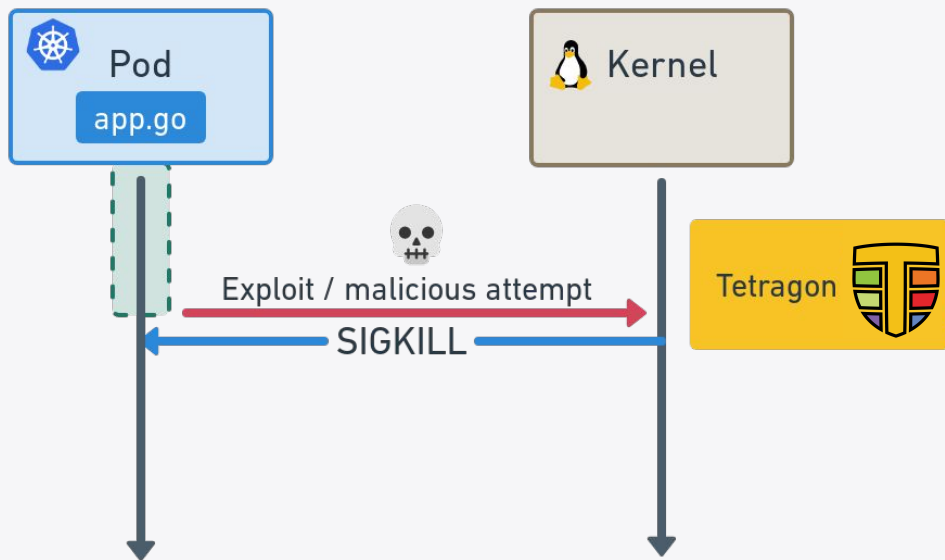
# Runtime security - Cilium Tetragon



- Observe security events
  - System, network, filesystem, and applications
- Low overhead
  - In-kernel policy filtering
  - <2% overhead
- Synchronous enforcement



# Cilium Tetragon runtime security



- Observe security events
  - System, network, filesystem, and applications
- Low overhead
  - In-kernel policy filtering
  - <2% overhead
- Synchronous enforcement

eBPF makes the Linux  
kernel **programmable**  
enabling a new generation of  
**powerful Cloud Native tools**

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# Thank you



[cilium/cilium](https://github.com/cilium/cilium)

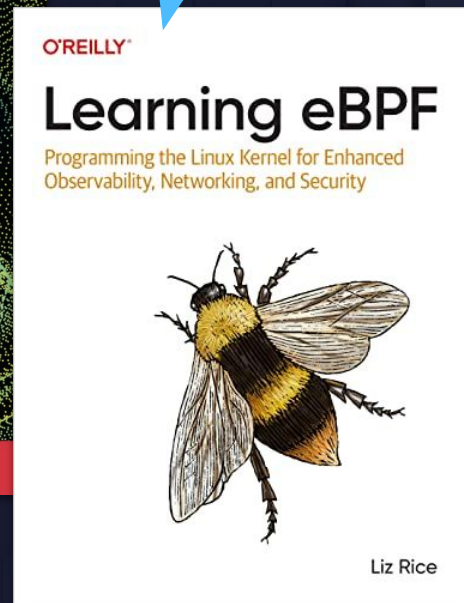
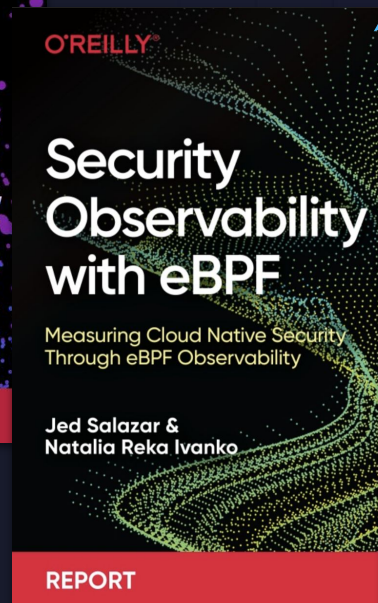
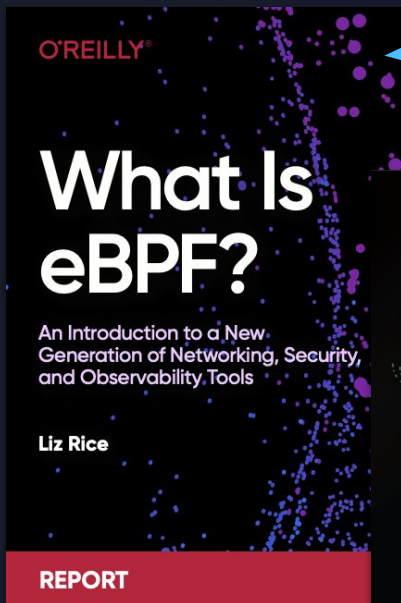


[cilium.io](https://cilium.io)



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