Energy System Simulation in the Cloud: ESSIM & ESDL-Mapeditor using Kubernetes & DevSecOps

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1. Introduction



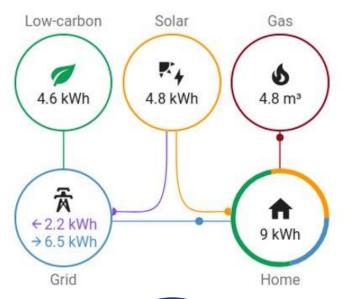
Fuck off Google ---- Stuur Big Tech de klas uit!! ---fuckoffgoogle.net decentralize all!

Jan Jacob Pebesma

- 22 y/o
- Hanze UAS
- 4th-year ICT-student
- Network Security Engineering
- Smart Energy
- Internship at DSO
- Student Assistant



Energy distribution











Lech Bialek

- 43 y/o
- Eternal student (i.e lecturer)
- Energy & Environmental Sciences Groningen University
- Software Engineering Hanze UAS
- Researcher at professorship New Business & ICT
- Hobbies: tinkering with software and sim racing

2. Context

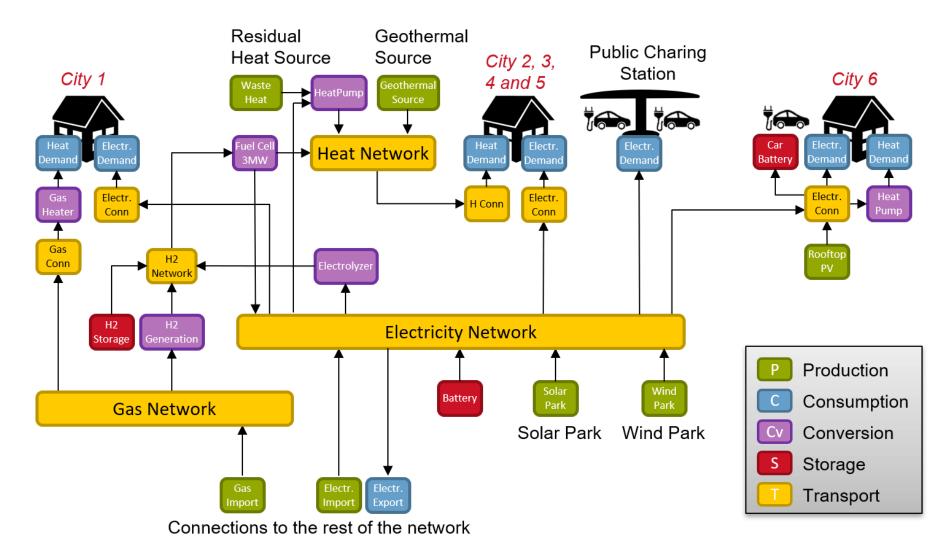
Digital Transformation & Energy Transition

What is happening right now?





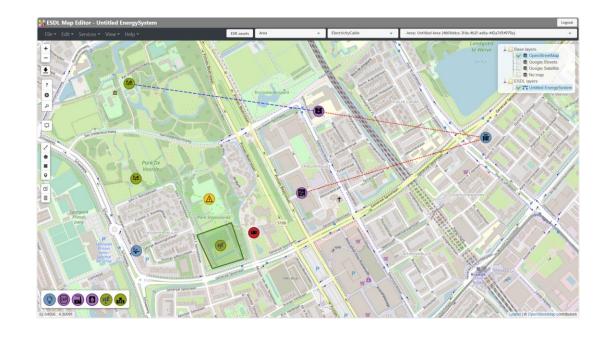
ESDL: Energy Systems Description Language



Source: ESDL (Energy System Description Language) - Energy.nl

TNO – ESSIM/ESDL

- Developers and maintainers of the ESSIM/ESDL toolsuite
- Dutch Organization for Applied Scientific Research
- TNO's mission is to generate innovative solutions with demonstrable impact to achieve a safe, healthy, sustainable, and digital society and boost the earning power of the Netherlands



Source: https://www.tno.nl

ENTRANCE – Centre of Expertise Energy

- "Innovatie werkplaats"
- ...where research, education and professional practice come together
- Professorship System integration in the energy transition
- Users of ESSIM/ESDL in research and education



Demonstration

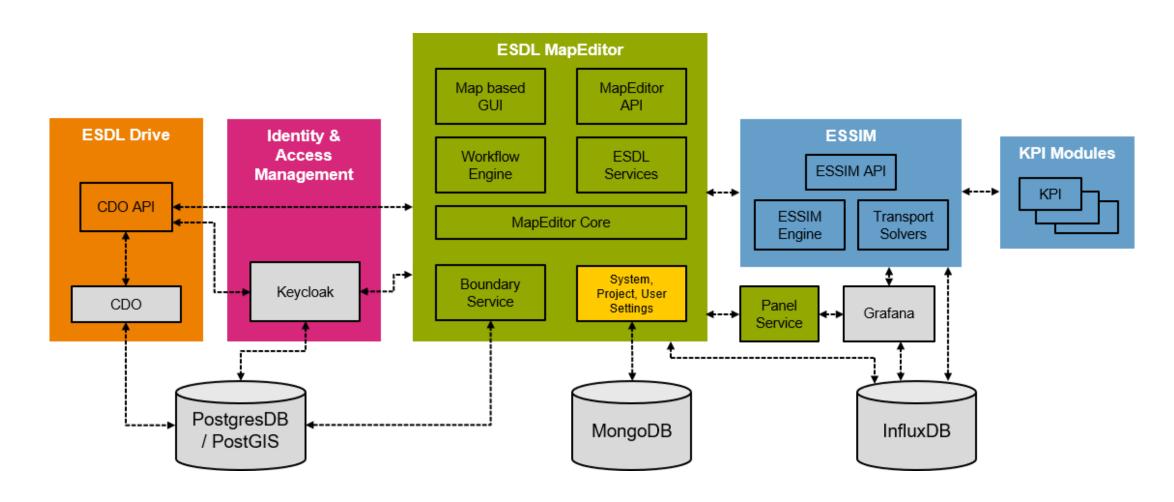
- Load ESDL-file from ESDL-Drive
- Simulate using ESSIM
- Show results in Grafana



3. Challenges

Moving to the Cloud and using DevSecOps

ESSIM/ESDL architecture



Source: https://github.com/ESDLMapEditorESSIM/docker-toolsuite

ESSIM/ESDL @ Hanze

Running ESDL-mapeditor locally:

- Managed employee laptops
- Unable to install Docker desktop
- 3 separate Docker compose files
- Resource usage/battery drain
- Solution



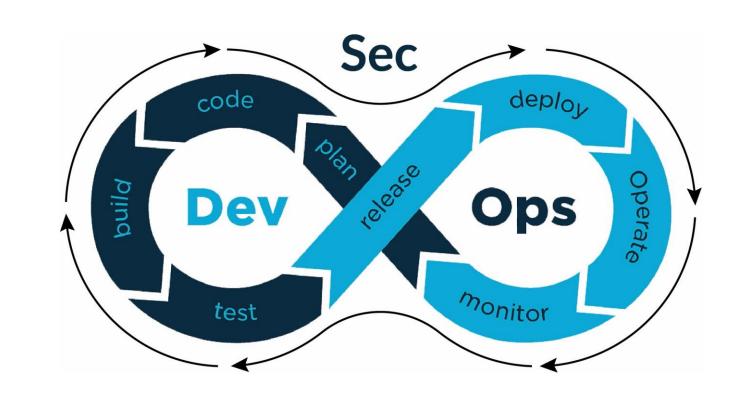
Hanze – DevSecOps learning community

HBO-ICT learning community

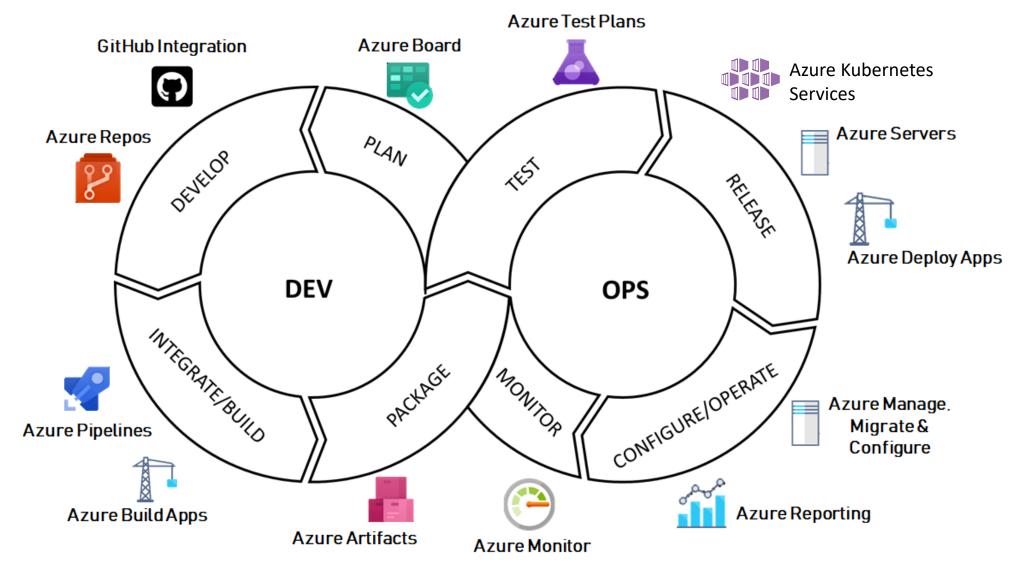
- Development
- Security
- Operations

Digital transformation:

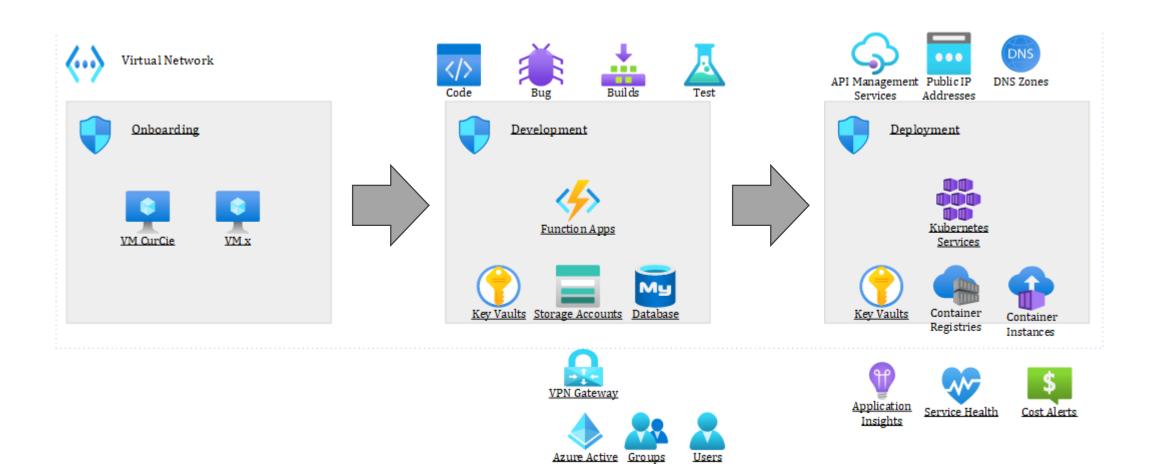
- Smart Mobility
- Energy
- Healthy Aging
- Agriculture



Tooling@Hanze? – Azure DevOps services



Onboarding process...



Directory

4. Lessons Learned

Moving to the Cloud and using DevSecOps

Phase 1: Azure VM

- Ubuntu VM with Docker
- Improvements docker-toolsuite
- Researchers start using our implementation...
- But Hanze policy says... NO VMs!





Stress testing with researchers

- Biggest ESDL file
- Unresponsive
- VM down
- No metrics

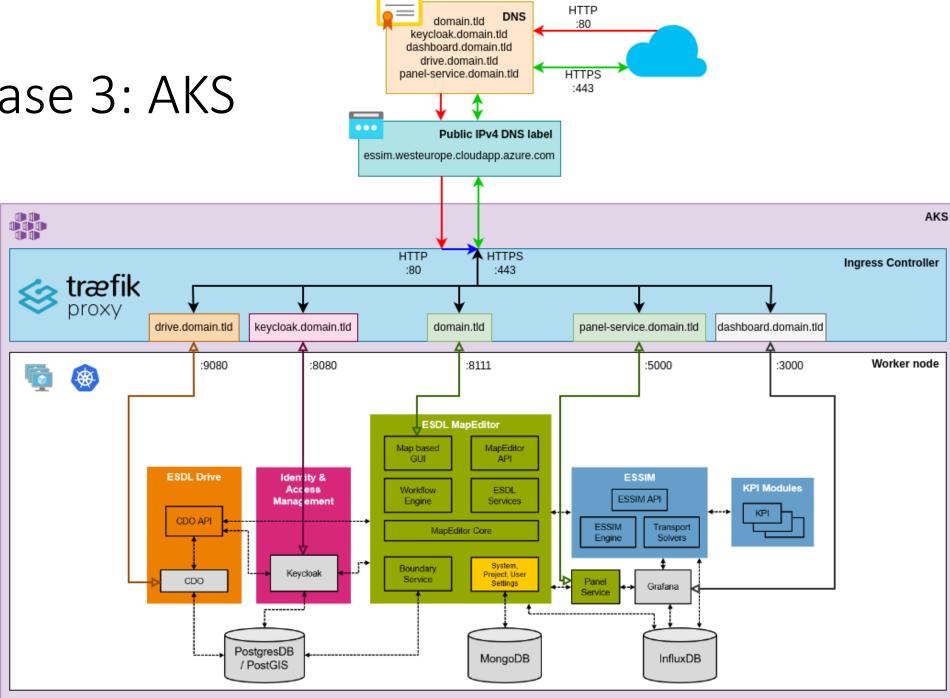


Phase 2: ACR/ACI

- Serverless
- Logging implementation
- Volume permissions
- Therapy session
- Use AKS instead



Phase 3: AKS



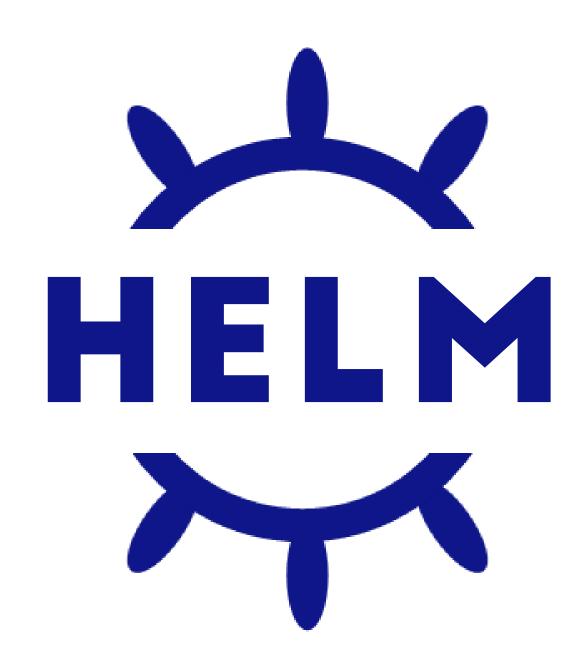
Kompose.io

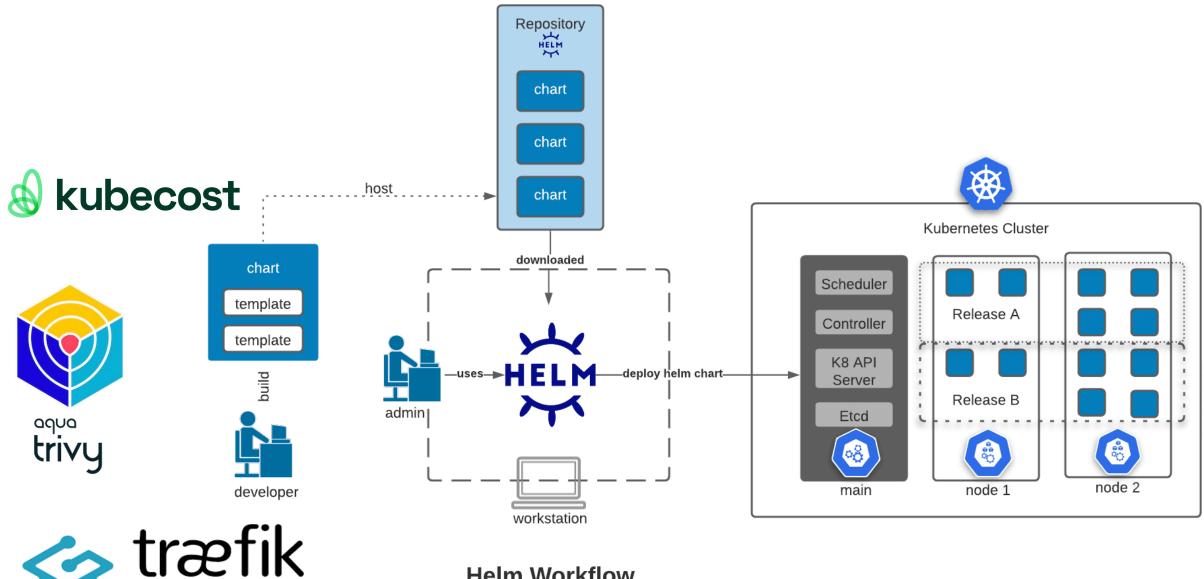
- Docker compose > Kubernetes
- Not 1:1
- Minikube
- Cloud provider



Helm

- K8s made easy
- Timesaver
- Pre-made config
- Difficult troubleshooting







Helm Workflow

During the summer holiday...

Researchers carry on working during the summer holiday...

- Insufficient RAM
- Oddly familiar...
- ESSIM
- Resource limits!
- Monitor HTTP status



Cost

- Azure Cost Analysis
- Cost per project
- Kubecost
- Cost optimizations
- OpenCost (FOSS)

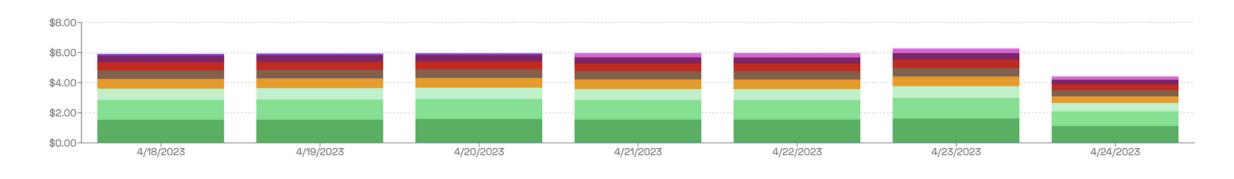






Kubecost by namespace





Name ®	CPU ®	GPU ⊚	RAM ⊕	PV ®	Network ®	LB ®	Shared •	Efficiency •	Total ⊕ ↓ cost
Totals	\$19.88	\$0.00	\$9.88	\$2.11	\$1.61	\$8.01	\$0.00	24.7%	\$41.50
kubecost	\$3.96	\$0.00	\$1.39	\$0.56	\$0.39	\$4.00	\$0.00	20.4%	\$10.31 (-10.2%)
kube-system	\$6.08	\$0.00	\$1.82	\$0.00	\$0.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	12.0%	\$8.87 (-19.3%)
cost-analyzer	\$2.85	\$0.00	\$2.00	\$0.09	\$0.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	19.3%	\$5.10 - 7.5%
ingress-nginx	\$0.15	\$0.00	\$0.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.00	\$0.00	34.7%	\$4.31 -6%
dev	\$1.93	\$0.00	\$1.24	\$0.56	\$0.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	23.5%	\$3.82 (-16.3%) ···

Container security scanner

- What is Trivy?
- Scans config
- Scans images for CVEs
- Results...

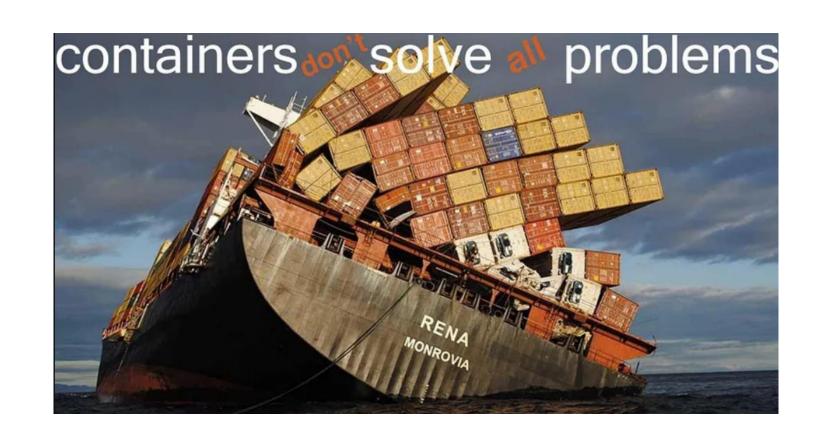


```
- fixedVersion: ""
  installedVersion: 5.3.28+dfsg1-0.8
  lastModifiedDate: "2021-07-31T08:15:00Z"
  links: []
  primaryLink: https://avd.aquasec.com/nvd/cve-2019-8457
  publishedDate: "2019-05-30T16:29:00Z"
  resource: libdb5.3
  score: 9.8
  severity: CRITICAL
  target: ""
  title: heap out-of-bound read in function rtreenode()
```

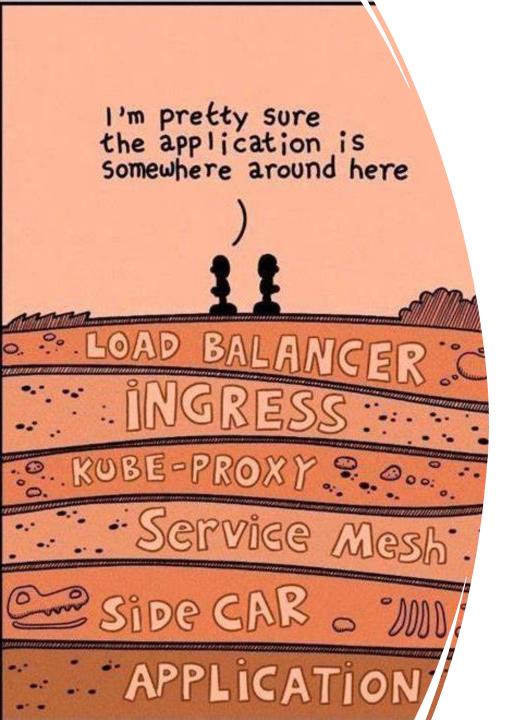
Autumn holiday!

Student assistants can break things too...

- Performance issues
- Undetected until update
- 2 days downtime
- Cause?
- Dev/Prod!



5. Final words



Results

- Docker local > Kubernetes cloud
- Fully functional
- In use
- Continuous improvement
- Cost management
- Security scanning
- Plenty to-do

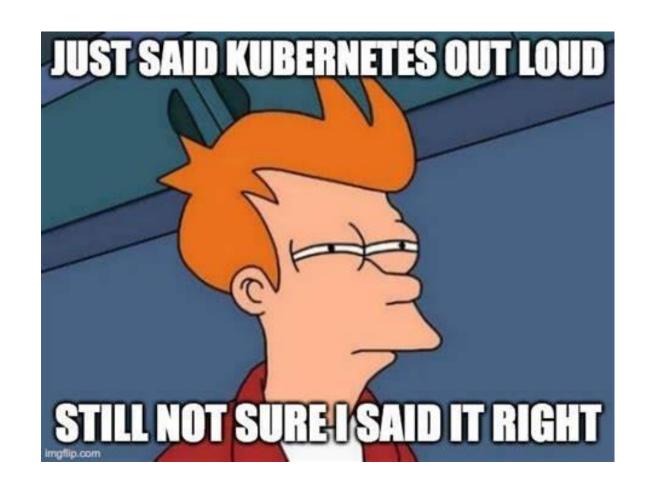
DevSecOps

- Requires a relatively high organizational maturity level
- There is much more to it than tooling
- Difficult to do with small teams that work part-time
- We did more SecOps than Dev...
- Azure is convenient, fast and costly
- Azure DevOps Services can be convoluted



Kubernetes

- Helm makes k8s easy and fast to deploy
- Tools like Kubecost can improve costs and – insight within your cluster
- Monitor your setup closely to properly setup limits and requests
- A dev and prod environment are essential to develop and test
- Easy insight in security by deploying tools like Trivy



6. Questions?

And discussion...