

Understanding "State"

State is data created and used by your application which must not be lost

User-generated data, user accounts, ...

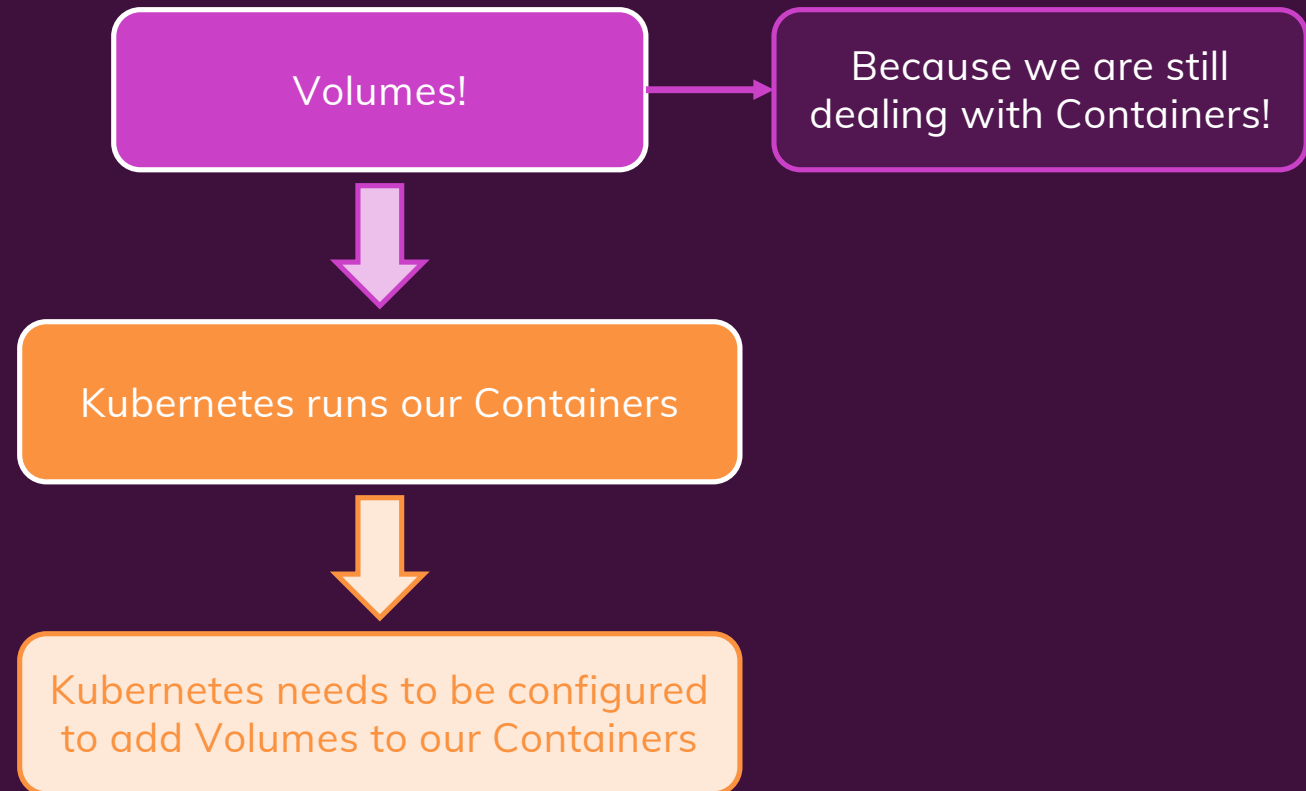
Often stored in a database, but could also be files (e.g. uploads)

Intermediate results derived by the app

Often stored in memory, temporary database tables or files

Volumes

We Already Know The Solution!



Kubernetes & Volumes

Kubernetes can mount Volumes into Containers

A broad variety of Volume types / drivers are supported

"Local" Volumes
(i.e. on Nodes)

Cloud-provider
specific Volumes

Volume lifetime depends on the Pod lifetime

Volumes survive
Container
restarts (and
removal)

Volumes are
removed when
Pods are
destroyed

Kubernetes Volumes vs Docker Volumes

Kubernetes Volumes

Supports many different Drivers
and Types

Volumes are not necessarily
persistent

Volumes survive Container restarts
and removals

Docker Volumes

Basically no Driver / Type Support

Volumes persist until manually
cleared

Volumes survive Container restarts
and removals

Persistent Volumes

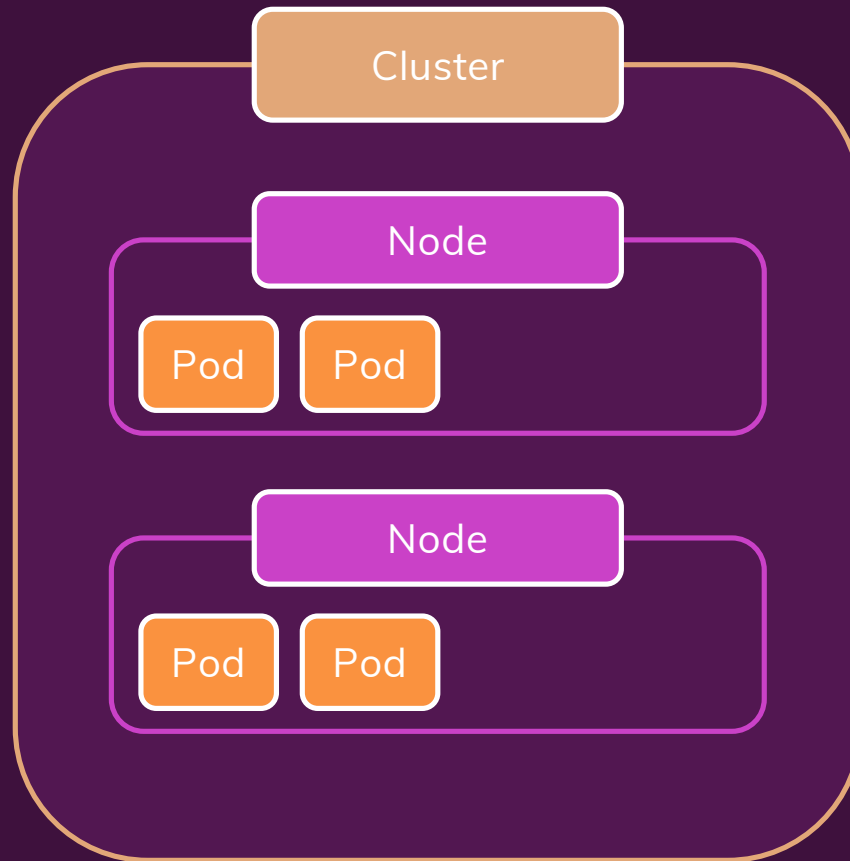
Volumes are destroyed when a Pod is removed

hostPath partially works around that in "One-Node" environments

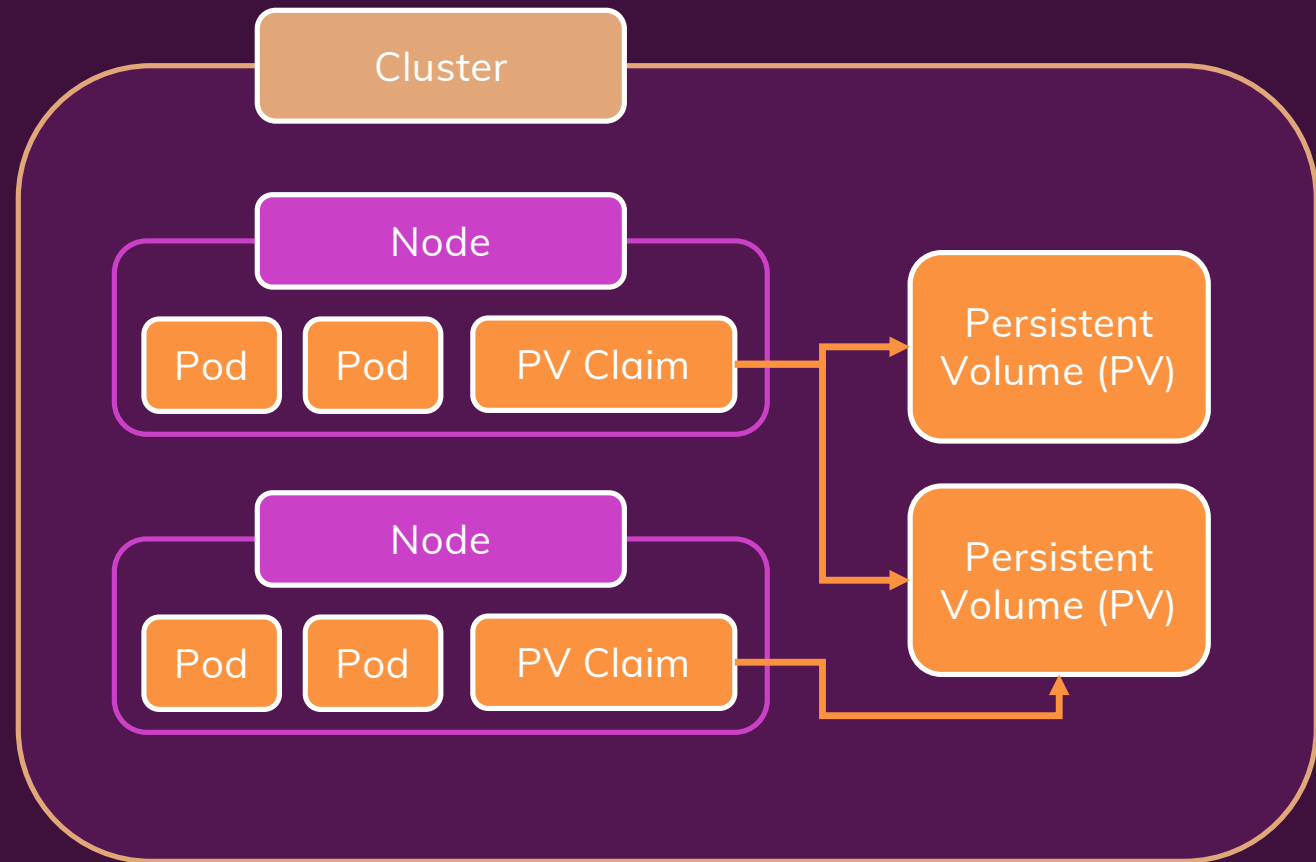
Pod- and Node-independent Volumes are sometimes required

Persistent Volumes

From Volumes To Persistent Volumes



Persistent Volumes & Persistent Volume Claims



“Normal” Volumes vs Persistent Volumes

Volumes allow you to persist data

“Normal” Volumes

Volume is attached to Pod and Pod lifecycle

Defined and created together with Pod

Repetitive and hard to administer on a global level

Persistent Volumes

Volume is a standalone Cluster resource (NOT attached to a Pod)

Created standalone, claimed via a PVC

Can be defined once and used multiple times