

A person in a dark shirt and pants is walking down a long, brightly lit server aisle. The aisle is lined with server racks on both sides, and the floor is a light-colored metal grating. The person is looking at a laptop or tablet. The background is a bright, overexposed area, possibly a window or a bright light source, creating a strong silhouette effect.

# Modernization of Storage Scale

**IBM Storage Scale User Meeting @ ISC2024**

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# Modernize?

## Moving from the past...

### The current control plane (mm-commands)

- Designed for humans
- It is the single control plane interface
- Hard to impossible for applications to leverage
- Slow - implemented in shell scripting
- Little flexibility

### Existing REST API

- Hosted on the Scale GUI
- User authentication limited to user id/password
- Interfaces with Scale via mm-commands
- Rigid set of roles for access control
- No support for domain and tenancy separation

## ...to the future

### The new control plane

- API designed for applications
  - Ease of 3rd party integration with Scale
  - Versioning
- CLI designed for humans
  - CLI is a client application of the API
  - Behavioral consistency between API and CLI
  - Familiarity with other softwares (k8s, Openshift, git...)
- Improved security
  - Multiple authn methods (UDS, user certs, OIDC)
  - Authz based on RBAC
  - Domain separations and multi-tenancy with native domains
- Performance / Scalability \*
- Developer Productivity
  - Leverage modern tools and languages
  - Code generation (45.5k LoC to date)
  - Skill building

# Modernization of Scale: Security

## Security Improvements

Removal of SSH dependency

Removal of root requirement for control plane

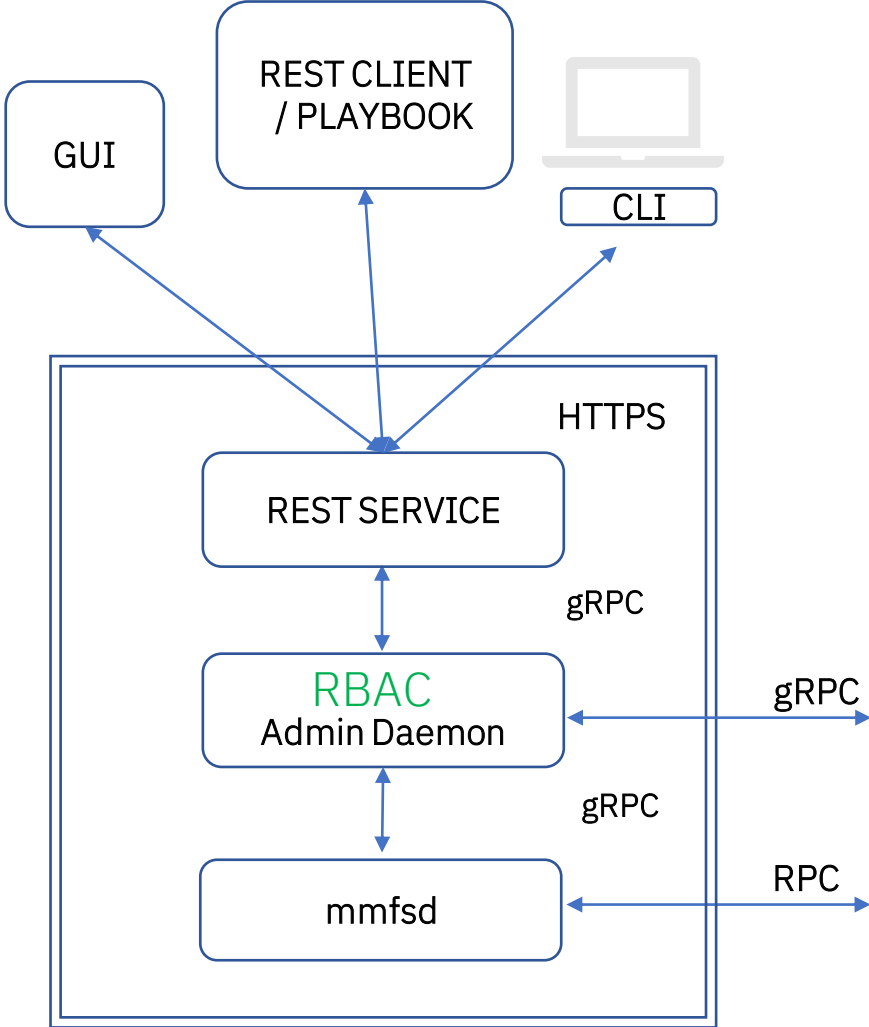


Remote Administration

Fine-Grained Role Based Access Control  
Declarative policy rules based on Open Policy Agent

Control Plane Designed For Applications / Operators

Retain CLI for human management



# Role-Based Access Control

## Authentication

- scalectl via UDS – the admin daemon uses the id returned by the OS as the user’s authenticated identity
- scalectl via URL or cURL – the admin daemon uses PAM for authenticating users (pam\_unix module)
- users must exist on the host, GPFS does not create them
- additional authentication methods will be added with each release (OAUTH, LDAP/AD)

## Authorization

RBAC core components for enforcing authorization

- Based on [Open Policy Agent](#) (Graduated project from Cloud Native Computing Foundation)
- [Domains](#) – logical groupings of resources, users/roles, and actions  
(no built-in restrictions on which resources can be within a domain)
- [Resources](#) – represented as a URL endpoints (effectively represents a filesystem, fileset, disk, nsd, etc.)
  - A wildcard (\*) can be used to match on any resource, e.g., /scalemgmt/v3/filesystems/fs0/filesets/\* will match on any filesets in filesystem fs0
- [Action](#) – various operations that can be performed on a resource (not all actions apply to every resource)
  - Currently supported: create, delete, get, list, update, link, unlink, mount, unmount and can\_i / impersonate
- [User](#) – who makes the request
- [Effect](#) – “allow” or “deny”, with following ordered rule evaluation:
  1. Default deny
  2. Find allow rule that matches request
  3. Check if explicit deny rule exists that overrides allow

# Role-Based Access Control

## Authorization (continued)

- RBAC components for enforcing authorization
  - **Membership** – relationship between a user and role within a domain
  - **Permission** – relationship between a role, action, effect, and resource within a domain
  - **Resource Group** – a collection of Resources that can be reused in various roles
  - **Time** – the time of the request
  - **Attribute** – advanced use case to define custom attributes that can be evaluated for Attribute Based Access Control (ABAC)

## Default Domain (StorageScaleDomain)

- Contains the memberships, permissions and resource groups required by Scale components to function properly
- Cannot be deleted
- Roles cannot be modified (for now), but new roles can be added
- Root user is in the domain, but other users can be added
- If the domain is not specified, RBAC will be evaluated against the default domain
  - with `scalectl --domain` option; or in REST header as “X-StorageScaleDomain“

# Tech Preview in Scale 5.1.9 + 5.2.0

## Installation

Available on Linux x86-64 only in distinct packages

- Look for `gdfs.scaleapi*` packages and install all
- The base GPFS functionality was extended with a gRPC service in the `mmfsd` daemon

Post install...

- A new functional id and group
  - `scaleapiadm:scaleapiadm`
- A new daemon running – `scaleadm`
  - Currently running as `root`, but will move to running as `scaleapiadm:scaleapiadm` in GA version
- Some files and directories in `/var/mmfs` have new ownership of `scaleapiadm:[scaleapiadm|root]`

```
[root@dev-22 ~]# ls -l /var/mmfs
total 0
drwxr-xr-x. 2 root      root      64 Nov  1 11:13 ces
drwxr-xr-x. 2 root      root      35 Nov  1 11:13 etc
drwxr-xr-x. 4 scaleapiadm root      40 Nov  1 11:13 gen
drwxr-xr-x. 2 root      root       6 Nov  1 11:13 mmbackup
drwx-----. 2 root      root       6 Nov  1 11:13 mmpmon
drwxr-xr-x. 2 root      root     119 Nov  1 11:13 mmsysmon
lrwxrwxrwx. 1 root      root      13 Nov  1 11:13 run -> /var/run/mmfs
drwxr-sr-x. 5 scaleapiadm scaleapiadm 42 Nov  1 11:13 scaleadm
drwxr-s---. 4 scaleapiadm scaleapiadm 34 Nov  1 11:13 ssl
drwxr-xr-x. 3 root      root      26 Nov  1 11:14 tmp
[root@dev-22 ~]#
```

- Ready to create a new one-node cluster as `root` or non-`root` with additional setup

# Command Examples

```
[root@mosdev-11 ~]# scalectl -h
Storage Scale Admin CLI interface
```

## Usage:

```
scalectl [flags]
scalectl [command]
```

## Available Commands:

```
authorization Authorization commands
cluster          Cluster commands
fileset         Fileset commands
filesystem      Filesystem commands
node            Node commands
nodeid          NodeId commands
nsd             NSD commands
operations      Operation commands
```

## Flags:

```
--debug string[="stderr"]  enable debug logging for the current request. Accepts an absolute file path to store
the logs in the form of --debug=<file>. If no file path is provided, stderr will be used
--domain string           Sets the domain for the request (default "StorageScaleDomain")
-h, --help                help for scalectl
--insecure-skip-tls-verify if true, the server's certificate will not be checked for validity. This will make y
our HTTPS connections insecure
--json                    display output in json format
--url string              send the request over https to the specified endpoint <FQDN/IP>:<port>. An IPv6 addr
ess must be wrapped in square brackets such as [IPv6]:<port>. If a port is not specified, 46443 will be used
--version                  scalectl build information
```

## Additional help topics:

```
scalectl config          config commands
```

Use "scalectl [command] --help" for more information about a command.



# Command Examples

```
[root@mosdev-11 ~]# scalectl filesystem -h
Filesystem commands
```

## Usage:

```
scalectl filesystem [command]
```

## Available Commands:

create	Create a new filesystem
delete	Delete an existing filesystem
get	Describe an existing filesystem
list	List existing filesystems
mount	Mount existing filesystem
mountAll	Mount all existing filesystems
unmount	Unmount existing filesystem
unmountAll	Unmount all existing filesystems
update	Update an existing filesystem

## Flags:

```
-h, --help help for filesystem
```

## Global Flags:

<code>--debug string[="stderr"]</code>	enable debug logging for the current request. Accepts an absolute file path to store the logs in the form of <code>--debug=&lt;file&gt;</code> . If no file path is provided, stderr will be used
<code>--domain string</code>	Sets the domain for the request (default "StorageScaleDomain")
<code>--insecure-skip-tls-verify</code>	if true, the server's certificate will not be checked for validity. This will make our HTTPS connections insecure
<code>--json</code>	display output in json format
<code>--url string</code>	send the request over https to the specified endpoint <code>&lt;FQDN/IP&gt;:&lt;port&gt;</code> . An IPv6 address must be wrapped in square brackets such as <code>[IPv6]:&lt;port&gt;</code> . If a port is not specified, 46443 will be used

Use "scalectl filesystem [command] --help" for more information about a command.

# REST Overview

After the admin daemon has been started, you can access the swagger documentation by going to the endpoint (ending slash is important): <https://x.x.x.x:46443/openapi/> where x.x.x.x is the public IP of the API server node

<b>NodeidService</b> ^		
GET	/scalemgmt/v3/nodeid GetNodeid	🔒
<b>ClusterService</b> ^		
GET	/scalemgmt/v3/cluster ListCluster	🔒
<b>NSDService</b> ^		
GET	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds ListNSDs	🔒
POST	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds CreateNSD	🔒
DELETE	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds/clearId ClearId	🔒
GET	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds/{nsd_name} GetNSD	🔒
DELETE	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds/{nsd_name} DeleteNSD	🔒
PATCH	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds/{nsd_name} UpdateNSD	🔒
POST	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds:batchCreate BatchCreateNSDs	🔒
POST	/scalemgmt/v3/nsds:batchDelete BatchDeleteNSDs	🔒
<b>FilesystemDiskService</b> IBM Storage Scale Filesystem Disk Management Endpoints ^		
GET	/scalemgmt/v3/filesystems/{filesystem}/disks List filesystem disks	🔒
POST	/scalemgmt/v3/filesystems/{filesystem}/disks Create filesystem disk	🔒

# REST Example

Swagger UI:

**GET** /scalemgmt/v3/cluster ListCluster

## Parameters

Name	Description
read_mask string (query)	<input type="text" value="read_mask"/>
X-StorageScaleDomain string (header)	Domain to be authorized against for the request (default 'StorageScaleDomain') <input type="text" value="X-StorageScaleDomain"/>

## Responses

Response content type

## Curl

```
curl -X 'GET' \  
  'https://9.46.94.86:46443/scalemgmt/v3/cluster' \  
  -H 'accept: application/json' \  
  -H 'authorization: Basic cm9vdDpNeWludGVyZXN0QDE5NjQxMjM='
```

## Request URL

```
https://9.46.94.86:46443/scalemgmt/v3/cluster
```

# REST Example

Swagger UI:

Server response

Code

Details

200

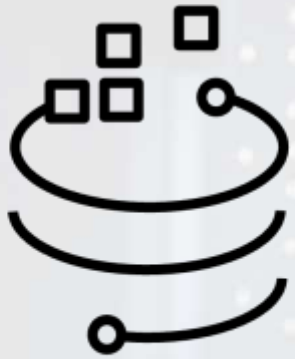
Response body

```
{
  "clusters": [
    {
      "cluster_name": "ansibleCluster2153-1.fyre.ibm.com",
      "cluster_id": "4623696294882986386",
      "rsh_path": "/usr/bin/ssh",
      "uid_domain": "ansibleCluster2153-1.fyre.ibm.com",
      "rsh_sudo_wrapper": "NO",
      "rcp_path": "/usr/bin/scp",
      "rcp_sudo_wrapper": "NO",
      "repository_type": "CCR",
      "primary_server": "ansibleCluster2153-1.fyre.ibm.com",
      "nodes": [
        {
          "node_number": "1",
          "daemon_node_name": "ansibleCluster2153-1.fyre.ibm.com",
          "ip_address": "10.21.106.34",
          "admin_node_name": "ansibleCluster2153-1.fyre.ibm.com",
          "designation": {
            "quorum": true,
            "manager": true
          }
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

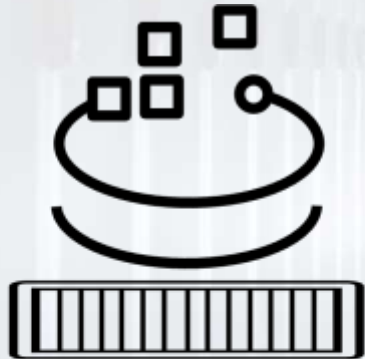
# What is implemented today

- NSD Services
- Node Services (add, delete)
- Node Identities (TLS communication across admin daemons)
- Cluster Creation / Information
- Storage Pool Services
- Fileset Services
- RBAC
- Filesystem Services
- Filesystem Policy Services (mmlspolicy / mmchpolicy)
- LRO Management (long running operations)
- Non-Root Admin Daemon
- Manager services (mmlsmgr, mmchmgr)

Thank you for using



Storage Scale



Storage Scale  
System