

# The Container Security in Healthcare Data Exchange System

Bachelor's degree graduation project

Chih-Hsuan Yang

National Sun Yat-sen University

February 3, 2021  
v1.0

# Outline

- 1 Outcome
  - Expected Outcome
  - Current Outcome
- 2 Interfaces
  - Linux feature
  - Exploit
- 3 Related work
  - Study
  - Simple container
- 4 Current progress
- 5 Reference

# Outcome

# Medical cloud

- Container
- Privacy, Security
- Load balanceability, Portability, Manageability

# Current outcome

- An easy container with Linux namespace.

```
→ container git:(main) X gcc *.c -o c
→ container git:(main) X sudo ./c "bash"
Success on creating container
Start container: bash with clone id: 193761
In container PID: 1
bash-5.0# ./test.sh
This is the self test script in container!
Support bash cat echo ls rm hostname, 5 commands.
./test.sh
-----FILE: test.sh -----
1  #!/bin/bash
2
3  echo "This is the self test script in container!"
4  echo "Support bash cat echo ls rm hostname, 5 commands."
5
6  echo $0
7
8  echo "-----FILE: test.sh -----"
9  cat -n test.sh
10 echo "-----"
11
12 echo $(hostname) >天竺鼠車車
13 cat 天竺鼠車車
14 rm 天竺鼠車車
15 ls
-----
container
bin dev etc home lib lib64 mnt opt proc root run sbin sys test.sh tmp usr var
bash-5.0# exit
```

# List of attack surface

- cgroups with race condition
- namespace
  - wrong privileges
  - Cannot cross namespace? Really?
- init.
  - stack overflow(thread)?
  - fork and CoW?
  - defunct processing
- lib/syscall/kernel exploit

# Interfaces

# namespace

- Start from 2.4.19(2003)
- Completed in Linux kernel 3.8(2013)
- System calls
  - clone, unshare, setns
- Nested, scope

```
→ container git:(main) X sudo unshare --fork --pid --mount-proc bash
[sudo] password for scc:
root@scc-lab:/media/d/git/nsysu/cs/try/lc/container# ps -a
  PID TTY          TIME CMD
    1 pts/1        00:00:00 bash
    8 pts/1        00:00:00 ps
root@scc-lab:/media/d/git/nsysu/cs/try/lc/container# exit
exit
→ container git:(main) X
```



# namespace

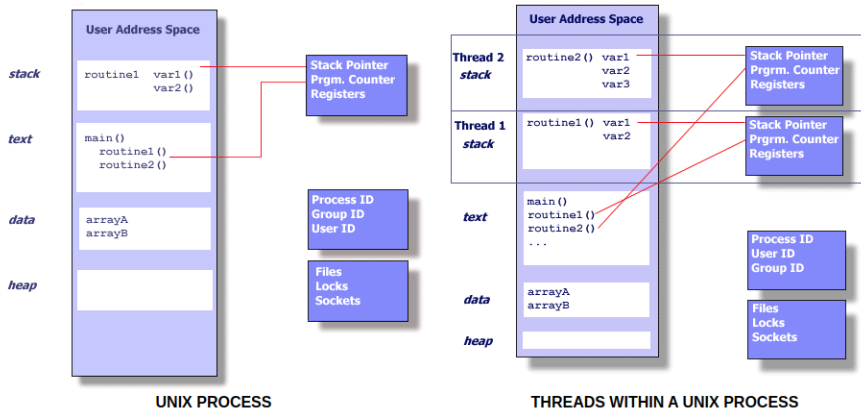
- 6 mechanisms
  - Mount, UTS, IPC, PID, NET, USER
- ps: `mount -t proc proc /proc`
- *PID* = 1, the "init" [1]
  - SIGTERM, SIGKILL
  - The defunct
- Starting in Linux 3.8, unprivileged processes can create user namespaces, . . . unprivileged applications now have access to functionality that was formerly limited to root. . . . Thus, it may happen that user namespaces have some as-yet unknown security issues. [2]

# cgroups

- Access controller
  - Resource limiting: CPU, Mem, IO...
  - Prioritization: CPU, IO...
  - Accounting: evaluate
  - Control: freeze, check, and resume
- The OOM killer 4.19
  - Guarantee the integrity of the workload.

# Stack overflow

- Default: 8MB
- The init of container, confused here.



[3]

## Related work

# The 3 Big issue

- Concepts
- Container security
- High-performance server

# Concepts

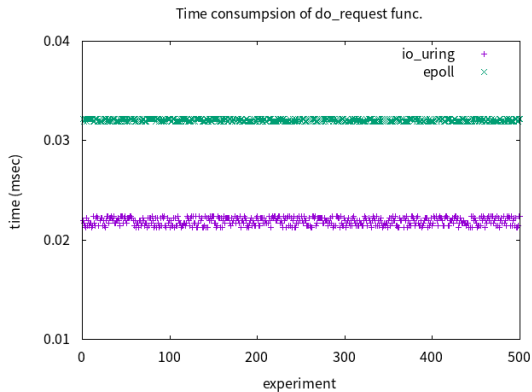
- Virtual machines and containers
- The FHIR system
- Linux kernel features
  - namespaces, cgroups, capabilities, seccomp
  - mmap, copy on write, race condition
  - aio, epoll, io\_uring

# Container security

- Study of the Dirty Copy On Write
- Container Security: Issues, Challenges, and the Road Ahead
- Linux kernel exploit

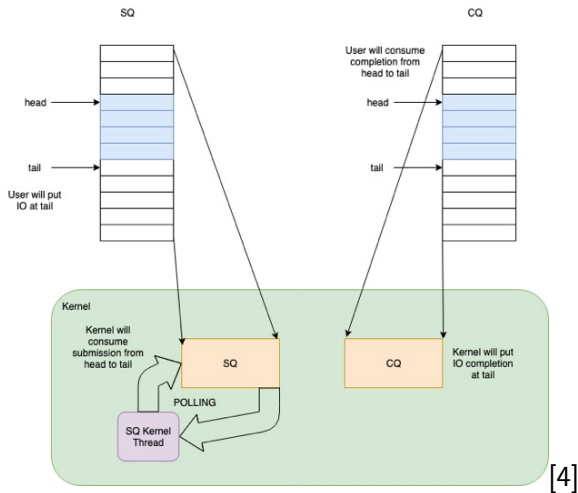
# High-performance server

- PINE: Optimizing Performance Isolation in Container Environments
- The epoll vs. io\_uring performance comparison





# The io\_uring



# My container

Code review

# My container

```
4 int cont_start(char *argv[], int do_wait);  
5 int cont_stop();
```

# My container

```
51 int cont_start(char *argv[], int do_wait)
52 {
53     c_stkptr = (char *) malloc(STK_SIZE);
54     c_pid = (long) loader(argv);
55     if (c_pid)
56         printf("%s on creating container\n", strerror(errno)
57 );
58     printf("Start container: %s with clone id: %d\n", argv
59 [0], c_pid);
60     if (do_wait)
61         waitpid(c_pid, NULL, 0);
62 }
```

```
45 static inline pid_t loader(char *argv[])
46 {
47     return clone(run, c_stkptr + STK_SIZE,
48                 CLONE_NEWNS | CLONE_NEWUTS | CLONE_NEWPID |
49                 SIGCHLD, argv);
50 }
```





# My container

```
18 static void isol()  
19 {  
20     unshare(CLONE_FILES | CLONE_FS | CLONE_SYSVSEM |  
CLONE_NEWCGROUP);  
21     sethostname("container", 10);  
22     if (chroot(Stringize_Value_of(ROOTFS)))  
23         perror("chroot error");  
24     printf("In container PID: %ld\n", (long) getpid());  
25 }
```

```
32 static int run(void *argv)  
33 {  
34     char **arg = (char **) argv;  
35     isol();  
36     chdir("/");  
37     int ret = execvp(arg[0], arg);  
38     if (ret)  
39         printf("%s in container\n", strerror(errno));  
40     return ret;  
41 }
```

## Current progress

# Application of MOST

- Papers:  1.0
- FIXME:  0.9
- Pages:  1.6
- My Exp.:  Maybe...

# Demo

Live demo.



# List of attack surface

- cgroups with race condition
- namespace
  - wrong privileges
  - Cannot cross namespace? Really?
- init.
  - stack overflow(thread)?
  - fork and CoW?
  - defunct processing
- lib/syscall/kernel exploit

## Reference

# References I



HONGLI LAI. *Docker and the PID 1 zombie reaping problem*. blog. 2015. URL: <https://blog.phusion.nl/2015/01/20/docker-and-the-pid-1-zombie-reaping-problem/>.



Michael Kerrisk. *Namespaces in operation, part 1: namespaces overview*. site. URL: <https://lwn.net/Articles/531114/>.



Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Blaise Barney. *POSIX Threads Programming*. site. URL: <https://computing.llnl.gov/tutorials/pthreads/>.



*seHTTPd + io\_uring*. URL: [https://hackmd.io/g9YkMb4nRvW\\_SWeLNkQrow?view](https://hackmd.io/g9YkMb4nRvW_SWeLNkQrow?view).