

Bit-for-bit reproducible builds with Dockerfile

Deterministic timestamps and deterministic apt-get

Demo:

<https://github.com/reproducible-containers/repro-get/releases/tag/v0.3.0>

What are reproducible builds?

- Same source, same binary
- Attestable by anybody, at anytime

But often needs a specific (virtual) machine

Dockerfile

```
FROM ubuntu
RUN apt-get install -y gcc make ...
RUN make
```

Build

OCI Image

```
sha256:6ea7098583cb6c9470570df28c154
cfec58e122188382cd4a7ceab8a9a79cb67
```

OCI Image

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```

Why do we need reproducible builds?

- Because we want to verify the *actual* source code of the binary, not the *claimed* source code
- *actual* \neq *claimed*, when the build env is compromised, or when the developer is malicious
- If the builds are reproducible, we can be sure that *actual* $==$ *claimed*

Not a panacea...

- Reproducibility has nothing to do with whether the source code is safe to use
- The source code may still contain malicious codes
- Reproducible builds make sense only when you review the source code

Why couldn't we make them reproducible?

- Timestamps
 - Timestamps of the files in tar layers
 - Timestamps in OCI Image Spec JSONs (`"org.opencontainers.image.created"`, etc.)
- “aptgettable” packages
 - The package version changes on every invocation of `apt-get`, `dnf`, etc.
- Filesystem characteristics
 - Hardlinks, xattrs, ...

BuildKit v0.11 supports reproducible builds! 🎉

- **BuildKit**: a modern image building framework made for Docker/Moby
 - Embedded in the Docker daemon since Docker 18.06
 - Can be also used with Kubernetes, nerdctl, Podman, etc.
- v0.11 (Jan 2023) contains built-in support for reproducing timestamps
 - Thanks to Tõnis Tiigi (Docker) for the large portion
- Still needs very complex Dockerfile
 - v0.12 will require less complex Dockerfiles

Reproducing timestamps

- The `SOURCE_DATE_EPOCH` build arg can be used for specifying the UNIX epoch

```
$ buildctl build --opt build-arg:SOURCE_DATE_EPOCH=<uint64> ...
```

- Conforms to: <https://reproducible-builds.org/specs/source-date-epoch/>
 - Usually set to `$(git log -1 --pretty=%ct)`
-
- The build arg is exposed to the “`RUN`” containers as an env var
 - The build arg is also consumed by BuildKit itself for the timestamps in the OCI JSONs (but not for the file timestamps in the tar layers, in v0.11)

Caveats in v0.11 (Being resolved in PR [#3560](#), targeted for v0.12)

- The file timestamps in the tar layers need to be explicitly touch-ed

```
ARG SOURCE_DATE_EPOCH
RUN find $( ls / | grep -E -v "^(dev|mnt|proc|sys)$" ) \
  -newermt "@${SOURCE_DATE_EPOCH}" -writable -xdev \
  | xargs touch --date="@${SOURCE_DATE_EPOCH}" --no-dereference
```

- The layers have to be squashed to remove unreproducible overlaysfs whiteouts

```
FROM scratch
COPY --from=0 / /
```

- Mount points can be created only under `/dev` (tmpfs)

```
RUN --mount=type=cache,target=/dev/.cache ...
```

- Hardlinks are not reproducible depending on the filesystem snapshotter

Reproducing packages

- “aptgettable” package versions are hard to reproduce
- Most distros do not retain old packages
- Debian retains old packages (thank you!), but not mirrored widely

```
/etc/apt/sources.list
```

```
deb http://snapshot.debian.org/archive/debian/20230101T091029Z/ bullseye main
```

- Too much load on the central `snapshot.debian.org`
- Can't be used in CI practically, due to slowness and flakiness
- The situation is similar for Fedora and ArchLinux

repro-get: decentralized & reproducible apt/dnf/apk/pacman... **NTT**

- Cryptographically locks the package versions with **SHA256SUMS**

SHA256SUMS-amd64

35b1508eeee9c1dfba798c4c04304ef0f266990f936a51f165571edf53325cbc pool/main/h/hello/hello_2.10-2_amd64.deb

- Blobs can be fetched from several places to avoid overloading

`http://deb.debian.org/debian/{{.Name}}` (Fast, ephemeral)

`http://debian.notset.fr/snapshot/by-hash/SHA256/{{.SHA256}}` (Slow, persistent)

`oci://example.com/oras-image@sha256:{{.SHA256}}`

`http://ipfs.io/ipfs/{{.CID}}`

- Supports Debian, Ubuntu, Fedora, Alpine, and ArchLinux

repro-get: decentralized & reproducible apt/dnf/apk/pacman... NTT

```
$ repro-get hash generate >SHA256SUMS-amd64.old
$ apt-get install -y hello
$ repro-get hash generate --dedupe=SHA256SUMS-amd64.old >SHA256SUMS-amd64
```

```
$ cat SHA256SUMS-amd64
35b1508eeee9c1dfba798c4c04304ef0f266990f936a51f165571edf53325cbc pool/main/h/hello/hello_2.10-2_amd64.deb

$ repro-get install SHA256SUMS-amd64
(001/001) hello_2.10-2_amd64.deb Downloading from
http://debian.notset.fr/snapshot/by-hash/SHA256/35b1508eeee9c1dfba798c4c04304ef0f266990f936a51f165571edf53325cbc
...
Preparing to unpack .../35b1508eeee9c1dfba798c4c04304ef0f266990f936a51f165571edf53325cbc ...
Unpacking hello (2.10-2) ...
Setting up hello (2.10-2) ...
```

Demo

<https://github.com/reproducible-containers/repro-get/releases/tag/v0.3.0>

```
$ docker run -d --name buildkitd --privileged moby/buildkit:v0.11.0
$ docker cp buildkitd:/usr/bin/buildctl /usr/local/bin/buildctl
$ export BUILDKIT_HOST=docker-container://buildkitd
$ ./hack/test-dockerfile-repro.sh examples/gcc
...
0a3bcfebc67c85cac40e9c2cadee7b2b2b5077dc5ff985d8c396f008df818690 /.../0-oci.tar
0a3bcfebc67c85cac40e9c2cadee7b2b2b5077dc5ff985d8c396f008df818690 /.../1-oci.tar
```

BuildKit version MUST be pinned
The filesystem (ext4) and the OS version
(Ubuntu 22.04) SHOULD be pinned too

GitHub Actions

Local

```
++ cut -f1 '-d '
++ uniq
++ wc -l
+ '[' 1 == 1 ']'
+ INFO 'The raw tar archives seem reproducible'
+ set +x
[INFO] The raw tar archives seem reproducible
+ for t in raw oci
+ INFO '==== Testing reproducibility of oci tar archives ====
+ set +x
[INFO] ==== Testing reproducibility of oci tar archives ====
+ sha256sum /tmp/df-repro/1673731273/0-oci.tar /tmp/df-repro/1673731273/1-oci.tar
+ tee /tmp/df-repro/1673731273/SHA256SUMS-oci.tar
0a3bcfebc67c85cac40e9c2cadee7b2b2b5077dc5ff985d8c396f008df818690 /tmp/df-repro/1673731273/0-oci.tar
0a3bcfebc67c85cac40e9c2cadee7b2b2b5077dc5ff985d8c396f008df818690 /tmp/df-repro/1673731273/1-oci.tar
++ cut -f1 '-d '
++ wc -l
++ uniq
+ '[' 1 == 1 ']'
+ INFO 'The oci tar archives seem reproducible'
+ set +x
[INFO] The oci tar archives seem reproducible
+ exit 0
suda@suda-ws01: ~/gopath/src/github.com/reproducible-containers/repro-get$
```

Future works

- Simplify Dockerfile
- Find an easier way to cache old packages locally
- Interoperability with `xx-apt` and `xx-apk` for cross-compilation
- Interoperability with SLSA Provenances
- Single-click attestation of reproducibility

Wrap-up

- Reproducible build helps attesting the true origin of the binary
- Challenges: non-deterministic timestamps, package versions, etc.
- BuildKit v0.11 adds preliminary support for `SOURCE_DATE_EPOCH`
- repro-get reproduces the package versions with `SHA256SUMS`