LIMCI v1.1 coming soon

Linux virtual machines (e.g., for running containers on macOS)

- Automatic host filesystem sharing
- Automatic port forwarding
- Built-in integration for containerd

(and Docker, Podman, Kubernetes, Apptainer, ...)

```
$ brew install lima
$ limactl start
$ lima nerdctl run -p 80:80 nginx
```

How it works



Hypervisor

Virtualization.framework (default) or QEMU

Intel-on-ARM binary executor
 Rosetta 2 (Virtualization.framework) or QEMU-user

Filesystem sharing

virtiofs (Virtualization.framework), virtio-9p (QEMU), or reverse-sshfs

How it works



Network

- user mode networking (default)
- socket_vmnet (for direct access to the IP, etc. with sudo)

Port forwarding

Implemented by watching /proc/net/tcp, iptables, and Kubernetes services

Built-in templates



Distros

```
almalinux, alpine, archlinux, centos-stream, debian, PromCon opensuse, oraclelinux, rocky, ubuntu, ... North America 2021
```

Container engines

```
apptainer, docker, docker-rootful, podman, podman-rootful, ...
```

Container orchestration

```
faasd, k3s, k8s
```

```
$ limactl start --name=default template://docker
```

v1.0 (November 2024)

Changed the default VM driver on macOS:
 QEMU → Virtualization.framework



- Support nested virtualization on Apple M3
- Support UDP port forwarding (not enabled by default)
- Added `limactl tunnel`: let the host join the guest network (via SOCKS)
- Bumped up containerd and nerdctl to v2

v1.1 coming soon

- Inheritance of templates
 - Before: qcow2 URLs had to be copy-pasted to all YAMLs
 - After: base: template://ubuntu-24.04
- New port forwarder by default
 - Better throughput (3.38 Gbps → 3.80 Gbps)
 - UDP in addition to TCP

- DragonflyBSD hosts
- S390X guests

Future ideas



Virtio-GPU Venus

Promuon North America 2021

Menu-based text user interface

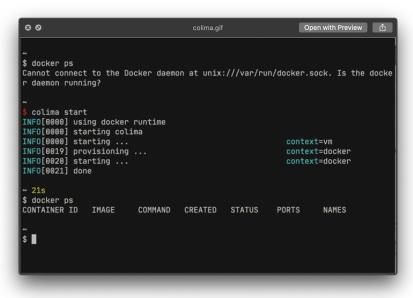
UX improvement for composing multiple VMs

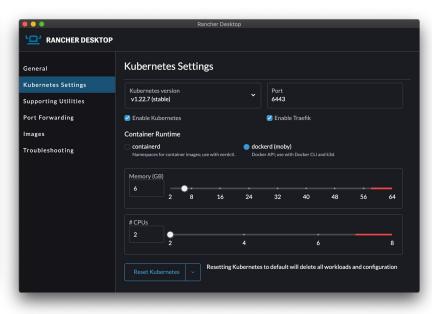
Plugin system for supporting other VM drivers

Third party FLOSS projects based on Lima

Lima-GUI	https://github.com/afbjorklund/lima-gui	
Colima	https://github.com/abiosoft/colima	PromCon
Rancher Desktop	https://rancherdesktop.io/	North America 20
Finch	https://github.com/runfinch/finch	



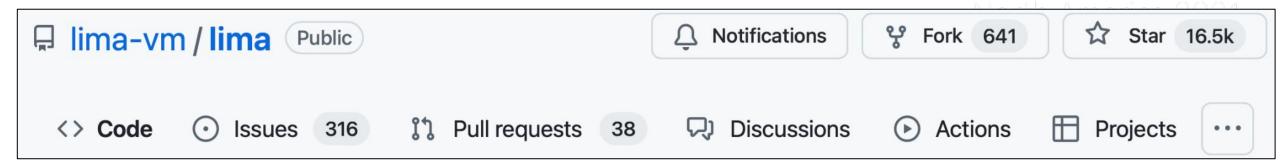




Join the community!



• GitHub: https://github.com/lima-vm/lima/



Slack: https://slack.cncf.io/ (Channel: #lima)