Multi-Service Server Deployment and Maintenance with Automation

Objective:

Create a Linux server environment that:

- 1. Hosts a website using Nginx and Apache2.
- 2. Manages users with specific roles and permissions.
- 3. Uses a database MySQL for dynamic website content.
- 4. Automates backup of website data, configuration files, and databases further compressing and archiving it using shell scripts.
- 5. Automating backups using cron jobs.

1. Web Hosting with Apache and Nginx

Objective: Set up Apache as the primary web server and Nginx as a reverse proxy. Steps:

1. Install Apache and Nginx:

```
alfiya@alfiya:~$ sudo apt install apache2
[sudo] password for alfiya:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
    apache2-bin apache2-data apache2-utils libapr1t64 libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3
    libaprutil1-ldap libaprutil1t64
Suggested packages:
    apache2-doc apache2-suexec-pristine | apache2-suexec-custom
```

- 2. Configure Apache to use port 8080:
- Edit the Apache configuration:

```
sudo nano /etc/apache2/ports.conf

alfiya@alfiya:-$ sudo nano /etc/apache2/ports.conf
```

• Change Listen 80 to:

```
GNU nano 7.2 /etc/apache2/9
# If you just change the port or add more ports here, you will likely also
# have to change the VirtualHost statement in
# /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/000-default.conf

Listen 80

<IfModule ssl_module>
    Listen 443
</IfModule>
```

• Listen 8080

```
GNU nano 7.2 /etc/apache2/|
# If you just change the port or add more ports here, you will likely also
# have to change the VirtualHost statement in
# /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/000-default.conf

Listen 8080

<IfModule ssl_module>
    Listen 443

</IfModule>
```

• Edit the default virtual host:

sudo nano /etc/apache2/sites-available/000-default.conf

• Change <VirtualHost *:80> to:

```
GNU nano 7.2

<VirtualHost *:80>

# The ServerName directive sets the request scheme, hostname and port the # the server uses to identify itself. This is used when creating # redirection URLs. In the context of virtual hosts, the ServerName # specifies what hostname must appear in the request's Host: header to # match this virtual host. For the default virtual host (this file) this # value is not decisive as it is used as a last resort host regardless. # However, you must set it for any further virtual host explicitly. #ServerName www.example.com
```

<VirtualHost *:8080>

```
GNU nano 7.2

<VirtualHost *:8080>

    # The ServerName directive sets the request scheme, hostname and port the
    # the server uses to identify itself. This is used when creating
    # redirection URLs. In the context of virtual hosts, the ServerName
    # specifies what hostname must appear in the request's Host: header to
    # match this virtual host. For the default virtual host (this file) this
    # value is not decisive as it is used as a last resort host regardless.
    # However, you must set it for any further virtual host explicitly.
    #ServerName www.example.com
```

• Restart Apache:

sudo systemetl restart apache2

- 3. Configure Nginx as a reverse proxy:
- Edit the Nginx configuration:

sudo nano /etc/nginx/sites-available/default

• Update the server block:

```
server {
    listen 80;
    server_name yourdomain.com;

location / {
    proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
    proxy_set_header Host $host;
    proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;
    proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-For $proxy_add_x_forwarded_for;
}
```

```
#
server {
    listen 80;
    server_name testnginx.com www.testnginx.com;

    location / {
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080; #forwards to apache
        proxy_set_header Host $host;
        proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-For $proxy_add_x_forwarded_for;
    }
}

# pass_PHP_scripts to East(GI_server)
```

• Test and restart Nginx:

```
sudo nginx -t
sudo systemctl restart nginx

alfiya@alfiya:~$ sudo nginx -t
nginx: the configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf syntax is ok
nginx: configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf test is successful
alfiya@alfiya:-$ sudo systemctl restart nginx
alfiya@alfiya:-$ sudo systemctl restart nginx
onginx.service - A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server
Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/nginx.service; enabled; preset: enabled)
Active: active (running) since Sat 2024-11-30 19:51:05 CST; 7s ago
Docs: man:nginx(8)
Process: 9180 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/nginx -t -q -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Process: 9181 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Main PID: 9183 (nginx)
Tasks: 13 (limit: 38038)
```

- 4. Update /etc/hosts File for Local Testing
- testnginx.com add it to your local /etc/hosts file.
- Edit the file:

sudo nano /etc/hosts

```
Nov 30 20:25

alfiya@alfiya:~

GNU nano 7.2

127.0.0.1 localhost
127.0.1.1 alfiya
127.0.0.1 testnginx.com

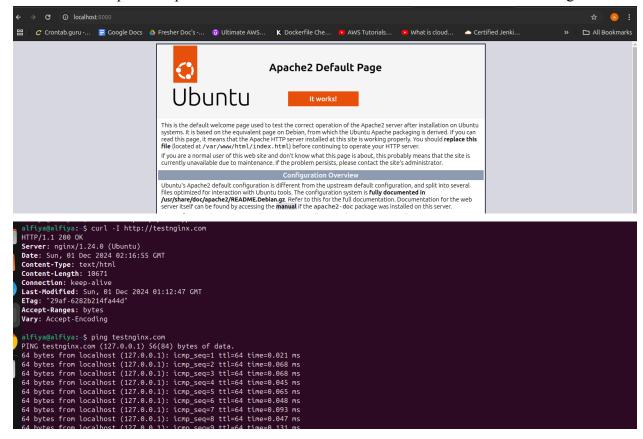
# The following lines are desirable for IPv6 capable hosts
```

- 5. Verify which ports are in use:
- Use ss to check ports:

```
sudo ss -tuln | grep 8080
```

What This Confirms:

- Nginx is running as a reverse proxy on port 80 (standard HTTP port).
- Apache is running on port 8080 (backend service for Nginx).
- This setup avoids port conflicts and allows both services to coexist and work together.



2. User Management

- Objective: Create and manage user roles with appropriate permissions.
- Create users for admins, developers, and guests.
- Assign proper permissions to directories /var/www/html for web admins.

Steps:

1. Add users:

sudo adduser admin_user

sudo adduser dev_user sudo adduser guest user

```
alfiya@alfiya:-$ sudo adduser admin_user
sudo adduser dev_user
sudo adduser guest_user
info: Adding user `admin_user' ...
info: Selecting UID/GID from range 1000 to 59999 ...
info: Adding new group `admin_user' (1001) ...
info: Adding new user `admin_user' (1001) with group `admin_user (1001)' ...
info: Creating home directory `/home/admin_user' ...
info: Copying files from `/etc/skel' ...
New password:
```

2. Set permissions:

```
sudo chown -R admin_user:www-data /var/www/html sudo chmod -R 775 /var/www/html
```

```
alfiya@alfiya:~$ sudo chown -R admin_user:www-data /var/www/html
sudo chmod -R 775 /var/www/html
alfiya@alfiya:~$
```

3. Access Examples

- Admin User Access: Can create, modify, or delete files in `/var/www/html` since they are the owner.Full control over the directory and its contents.
- Developer Access: Can edit or create files in `/var/www/html` because they belong to the `www-data` group. Cannot delete files not created by them unless explicitly allowed.
- Guest User Access: Can only read and execute files in `/var/www/html`.Cannot modify, create, or delete files due to limited permissions.

```
alfiya@alfiya:~$ su - admin_user
Password:
admin_user@alfiya:~$ echo "Admin content" > /var/www/html/admin_file.txt
admin_user@alfiya:~$ ls /var/www/html/admin_file.txt
/var/www/html/admin_file.txt
admin_user@alfiya:~$ ls /var/www/html/
admin_file.txt index.html index.nginx-debian.html
admin_user@alfiya:~$
```

```
admin_user@alfiya:~$ su - guest_user
Password:
guest_user@alfiya:~$ cat /var/www/html/dev_file.txt
cat: /var/www/html/dev_file.txt: No such file or directory
guest_user@alfiya:~$ echo "Admin content" > /var/www/html/admin_fil2e.txt
-bash: /var/www/html/admin_fil2e.txt: Permission denied
guest_user@alfiya:~$
```

3. Database Management: Creating a Simple Website with Form Submission and Database Integration.

Steps:

1. Install Required Software and ensure Apache or Nginx, PHP and MySQL are installed.

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install apache2 mysql-server php php-mysql -y
```

```
alfiya@alfiya:-$ sudo apt install mysql-server php php-mysql -y
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
   libaio1t64 libapache2-mod-php8.3 libcgi-fast-perl libcgi-pm-perl
   libevent-core-2.1-7t64 libevent-pthreads-2.1-7t64 libfcgi-bin libfcgi-perl
   libfcgi0t64 libhtml-template-perl libmecab2 libprotobuf-lite32t64
```

2. Configure MySQL Database: Log in to MySQL:

```
sudo mysql -u root -p

Trocessing triggers for troapachez-mod-phpo.3 (0.3.0-odobarcao.24.04.2) ...

alfiya@alfiya:-$
sudo mysql -u root -p

Enter password:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor. Commands end with; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 8
Server version: 8.0.40-0ubuntu0.24.04.1 (Ubuntu)

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Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql>
```

- 3. Create a new database and create a user and grant user permissions
- 4. Use the database and create a table for storing form data

```
CREATE DATABASE formdb;
CREATE USER 'formuser'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'securepassword';
GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON formdb.* TO 'formuser'@'localhost';
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
USE formdb;
CREATE TABLE submissions (
   id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
   name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,
```

```
email VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL, submitted_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
);
```

```
mysql> CREATE DATABASE formdb;
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.01 sec)

mysql>
mysql>

mysql> CREATE USER 'formuser'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'securepassword';
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.01 sec)

mysql> GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON formdb.* TO 'formuser'@'localhost';
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.01 sec)
```

5. Create the HTML Form

- Place the form in Apache's web root directory /var/www/html.
- Create a file named form.html

```
<br/>
```

6. Create the PHP Backend

• Create a file named submit.php in the same directory

```
$servername = "localhost";
$username = "formuser";
$password = "securepassword";
$dbname = "formdb";
$conn = new mysqli($servername, $username, $password, $dbname);
if ($conn->connect error) {
  die("Connection failed: " . $conn->connect error);
$name = $ POST['name'];
$email = $ POST['email'];
$sql = "INSERT INTO submissions (name, email) VALUES ('$name', '$email')";
if ($conn->query($sql) === TRUE) {
  echo "Data submitted successfully!";
} else {
  echo "Error: " . $sql . "<br/>" . $conn->error;
$conn->close();
```

7. Test the Website

- Open a browser and navigate to the form
- Fill out the form and submit it.
- Verify that the data is stored in the database

```
sudo mysql -u root -p
USE formdb;
SELECT * FROM submissions;
```

Submit	Your 1	Infor	mation
Name:			

Email:

Submit

```
alfiya@alfiya:~$ sudo mysql -u root -p
[sudo] password for alfiya:
Enter password:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor. Commands end with; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 10
Server version: 8.0.40-0ubuntu0.24.04.1 (Ubuntu)
Copyright (c) 2000, 2024, Oracle and/or its affiliates.
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affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.
Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.
mysql> USE formdb;
Reading table information for completion of table and column names
You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A
Database changed
mysql> SELECT * FROM submissions;
| 1 | demo | demo@gmail.com | 2024-12-02 17:11:13 |
+----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
mysql>
```

4. Automates backup of website data that is form, configuration files, and databases and further compressing and archiving it using shell scripts.

Steps:

- 1. Create the Script File
 - Open a new file
 - sudo nano backup website.sh
 - Backup MySQL database

```
# Variables
DB USER="formuser"
DB PASS="securepassword"
DB NAME="formdb"
BACKUP DIR="backups"
DATE=$(date +'%Y-%m-%d %H-%M-%S')
APACHE CONF="/etc/apache2/sites-available"
NGINX CONF="/etc/nginx/sites-available"
WEBSITE DATA="/var/www"
# Create backup directory if not exists
if [ ! -d "$BACKUP DIR" ]; then
    echo "Creating backup directory $BACKUP DIR..."
    mkdir -p "$BACKUP DIR"
    chmod 755 "$BACKUP DIR"
fi
DIR/$DB NAME-$DATE.sql"
if [ $? -eq 0 ]; then
    echo "Database backup successful!"
else
    echo "Database backup failed!" >&2
    exit 1
fi
# Backup Apache2 configuration
echo "Backing up Apache2 configuration files..."
tar -czf "$BACKUP DIR/apache2-config-$DATE.tar.gz" "$APACHE CONF"
if [ $? -eq 0 ]; then
    echo "Apache2 configuration backup successful!"
else
```

```
echo "Apache2 configuration backup failed!" >&2
    exit 1
fi
# Backup Nginx configuration
echo "Backing up Nginx configuration files..."
tar -czf "$BACKUP_DIR/nginx-config-$DATE.tar.gz" "$NGINX_CONF"
if [ $? -eq 0 ]; then
    echo "Nginx configuration backup successful!"
    echo "Nginx configuration backup failed!" >&2
    exit 1
fi
# Backup website data
echo "Backing up website data..."
tar -czf "$BACKUP_DIR/website-data-$DATE.tar.gz" "$WEBSITE_DATA"
if [ $? -eq 0 ]; then
    echo "Website data backup successful!"
else
    echo "Website data backup failed!" >&2
    exit 1
fi
# Create a final archive
echo "Creating a final backup archive..."
tar -czf "$BACKUP DIR/full-backup-$DATE.tar.gz"
"$BACKUP DIR"/*.tar.gz "$BACKUP DIR"/*.sql"
if [ $? -eq 0 ]; then
    echo "Final archive created successfully!"
   #rm -f "$BACKUP DIR"/*.tar.gz "$BACKUP DIR"/*.sql
else
    echo "Failed to create final archive!" >&2
    exit 1
Fi
echo "Backup completed! All backups are stored in $BACKUP DIR."
```

2. Make the Script Executable:

```
chmod +x full_backup.sh
```

3. Execute the Script

```
./backup_website.sh
```

- 4. Verify the Backup
- 5. Check the backups directory

ls backups

```
alfiya@alfiya:-/linux_project_backup_script$ ./backup_website.sh

Creating backup directory backups...
Backing up MySQL database...
mysqldump: [Warning] Using a password on the command line interface can be insecure.
Database backup successful!
Backup file created: backups/formdb-2024-12-02_20-13-19.sql
Backing up Apache2 configuration files...
tar: Removing leading '/' from member names
Apache2 configuration backup successful!
Backing up Nginx configuration files...
tar: Removing leading '/' from member names
Nginx configuration backup successful!
Backing up website data...
tar: Removing leading '/' from member names
Website data backup successful!
Creating a final backup archive...
final archive created successfully!
Backup completed! All backups are stored in backups.
alfiya@alfiya:-/linux_project_backup_script$ ls
backups backup_website.sh test_backup_website.sh test.sh
alfiya@alfiya:-/linux_project_backup_script$
```

(Note: Use the name Username, password, DB and Table also check if the user has privileges for taking backups)

- 5. Automating backups using cron jobs.
 - 1. Open Crontab for Editing You need to set up a cron job that will automatically run the backup script on a regular basis (e.g., daily, weekly, etc.).
 - 2. Run the following command to edit the cron jobs:

```
crontab -e
```

3. Add a Cron Job To automate the backup process, add a line in the crontab file for the desired schedule. For example, to run the backup every day at 2 AM, add this line:

0 2 * * * /path/to/backup_website.sh

- 4. Verify Cron Job
 - To verify that the cron job has been added correctly:
 - List the active cron jobs:

crontab -1

• Check that the script is being executed as expected by looking files