

Documentation on how to setup caddy and balance the load

Submitted By

Pushpender

Transform iptables into TCP load balancer

Task requirement

To create two new Caddy LB or two nginx and after creating, it needs to forward the 50% of Load to another LB.

iptables is a user-space utility program that allows a system administrator to configure the IP packet filter rules of the Linux kernel firewall.

Environment details

iptable rules will be applicable for all types of OS.

UbuntuNAME="Ubuntu" VERSION="20.04.5

List of tools and technologies

Caddy:- CADDY_VERSION=v2.7.5

I have made two virtual machines so that they can work like a server.

For VM1 caddy installation

VM1:-192.168.122.19

Update and upgrade system commands

sudo apt update

sudo apt upgrade

Download and install Caddy, a web server, using the given below commands.

These commands are to be run in the virtual machine that we have created to run the caddy

To install caddy first we have to install the curl package on our server. To do this, run this command.

If you are in a root directory then run this command.

apt install curl -y

Or if you are not in a root directory then run this command.

sudo apt install curl -y

After that install the necessary dependencies to install the caddy web server.

Import the official GPG key for caddy. The keys are imported using these commands.

sudo apt install -y debian-keyring debian-archive-keyring apt-transport-https

curl -1sLf 'https://dl.cloudsmith.io/public/caddy/stable/gpg.key' | sudo gpg --dearmor -o /usr/share/keyrings/caddy-stable-archive-keyring.gpg

curl -1sLf 'https://dl.cloudsmith.io/public/caddy/stable/debian.deb.txt' | sudo tee /etc/apt/sources.list.d/caddy-stable.list

Update your system then install the caddy.

sudo apt update

sudo apt install caddy

It automatically starts caddy as a system service name caddy. The status of which you can check with the following command.

systemctl status caddy

Verify Caddy Installation: Confirm the installation of Caddy by checking its version.

caddy version

If everything works for you then it's time to check it by going to the server IP.

Go to the web browser of the same virtual machine in which you have installed caddy and in the url bar type:-

localhost:80

To install vim in a virtual machine.

sudo apt install vim

```
Then go to the terminal of the virtual machine 1.
```

```
cd /usr/share/caddy
```

ls

sudo vim index.html

Add below content:-

For VM2 caddy installation

VM2:- 192.168.122.103

Update and upgrade system commands.

sudo apt update

sudo apt upgrade

Download and Install Caddy: Download and install Caddy, a web server, using the given below commands.

These commands are to be run in the virtual machine that we have created to run the caddy.

To install caddy first we have to install the curl package on our server. To do this, run this command.

If you are in a root directory then run this command.

apt install curl -y

Or if you are not in a root directory then run this command	Or	r if	vou are	not in a	root	directory	then run	this	comman	d.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----	------	---------	----------	------	-----------	----------	------	--------	----

sudo apt install curl -y

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Import the official GPG key for caddy. The keys are imported using these commands.

sudo apt install -y debian-keyring debian-archive-keyring apt-transport-https

curl -1sLf 'https://dl.cloudsmith.io/public/caddy/stable/gpg.key' | sudo gpg --dearmor -o /usr/share/keyrings/caddy-stable-archive-keyring.gpg

curl -1sLf 'https://dl.cloudsmith.io/public/caddy/stable/debian.deb.txt' | sudo tee /etc/apt/sources.list.d/caddy-stable.list

Update your system then install the caddy.

sudo apt update

sudo apt install caddy

It automatically starts caddy as a system service name caddy. The status of which you can check with the following command.

systemctl status caddy

Verify Caddy Installation: Confirm the installation of Caddy by checking its version.

caddy version

If everything works for you then it's time to check it by going to the server IP.

Go to the web browser of the same virtual machine in which you have installed caddy and in the url bar type:-

localhost:80

To install vim in a virtual machine.

sudo apt install vim

Then go to the terminal of the virtual machine 2.

cd /usr/share/caddy

ls

sudo vim index.html

Add below content:-

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
       <meta charset="UTF-8">
       <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,</pre>
initial-scale=1.0">
       <title>Hello pushpender</title>
</head>
<body>
       <h1>Hello pushpender</h1>
</body>
</html>
Curl on virtual machines
I am able to curl pages from both virtual machines.
curl http://192.168.122.19
 <!DOCTYPE html>
 <html lang="en">
 <head>
       <meta charset="UTF-8">
       <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,</pre>
```

<title>Hello rohit</title>

<h1>Hello rohit</h1>

initial-scale=1.0">

</head>

<body>

```
curl http://192.168.122.103
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
       <meta charset="UTF-8">
       <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,</pre>
initial-scale=1.0">
       <title>Hello pushpender</title>
</head>
<body>
       <h1>Hello pushpender</h1>
</body>
</html>
Curl on base machine
I am able to curl from Base Machine.
curl http://192.168.122.19
 <!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
 <head>
       <meta charset="UTF-8">
       <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,
 initial-scale=1.0">
       <title>Hello rohit</title>
 </head>
 <body>
       <h1>Hello rohit</h1>
 </body>
                                                               curl
```

Commands that to be run on VM1

Now work on Virtual machine 1

a) Enable IP Forwarding:

Activate IP forwarding to facilitate traffic routing between interfaces:

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~\$ sudo vim /etc/sysctl.conf

uncomment in the file below line.

```
net.ipv4.conf.all.accept_redirects = 0

net.ipv4.conf.all.accept_source_route = 0

net.ipv4.conf.all.log_martians = 1

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~$ sudo sysctl -p

Modify source IP for forwarding: this command run vm1 source

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~$ sudo iptables -A POSTROUTING -t nat -p tcp -d
192.168.122.103 --dport 80 -j SNAT --to-source 192.168.122.19
```

Set default connection drop vm1

This implies that by default, any incoming traffic that doesn't match specific predefined rules will be dropped or rejected. In other words, if the firewall doesn't have a rule that explicitly allows the traffic to pass through, it

will block it as a security measure. This approach follows the principle of allowing only known and authorised traffic, enhancing the network's security.

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~\$ sudo iptables -t filter -P FORWARD DROP

Accept Traffic to the Server:

This involves creating rules that explicitly allow certain types of traffic to reach a designated server. For instance, if you have a server at IP address 192.168.122.44 and it's listening on port 80, you can configure the firewall to accept incoming traffic destined for that server's IP and port. This is done using firewall rules that specify the source, destination, protocol, and port of the allowed traffic. Allow specific traffic from particular sources and to specific destinations (servers) on specific ports (--dport for destination port and --sport for source port). This creates a controlled and secure network environment where only the specified traffic is permitted to traverse the firewall.

This command run on Virtual Machine 1

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~\$ sudo iptables -t filter -A FORWARD -d 192.168.122.103 -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~\$ sudo iptables -t filter -A FORWARD -s 192.168.122.103 -p tcp --sport 80 -j ACCEPT

Command to be run on Virtual Machine 2

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~\$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT

Apply Random Load Balancing and then Round Robin:-

A technique used in network environments to distribute incoming traffic across multiple servers in a random manner. This method is employed to optimise resource utilisation, prevent overload on individual servers, and enhance the overall performance and reliability of a system. In this case, incoming traffic destined for the IP address 192.168.122.123 on port 80 is subject to random distribution between one destinations (192.168.122.13:80) The --mode random option ensures that the traffic is distributed based on a randomised algorithm, with different probabilities assigned to each destination (--probability 0.33 and --probability 0.5 in this case). The goal of applying random load balancing is to distribute traffic unpredictably, achieving a fair distribution of incoming requests among the specified destinations. This way, the servers can collectively handle the load more efficiently, minimising the risk of overloading any single server and contributing to improved performance and fault tolerance.

Command to be run on Virtual Machine 1

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~\$ sudo iptables -A PREROUTING -t nat -p tcp -d 192.168.122.19 --dport 80 \

```
-m statistic --mode random --probability 0.33 \
-j DNAT --to-destination 192.168.122.103:80
```

Capture Specific Port Traffic:

Use tcpdump to monitor network traffic on a specific port:-

sudo tcpdump -i enp1s0 port 80 -n

Output of TCP Dump

1st curl hit:-

```
ubuntugubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009: $ sudo tcpdump -i emp1s0 port 80 -n
tcpdump: verbose output suppressed, use -v or -w for full protocol decode
listening on emp1s0, link-type EN10M8 (Ethernet), capture stze 262144 bytes
15:09:22.714976 IP 192.166.122.19.34278 > 35.232.111.78.00: Flags [5], seq 2470998019, win 64240, options [nss 1460,sackOK,T5 val 540937503 ecr 0,nop,wscale 7], length 0
15:09:23.055961 IP 192.166.122.19.34278 > 35.232.111.17.80: Flags [5], seq 2470998019, win 64240, options [nss 1460,sackOK,T5 val 4182517993 ecr 540937503,nop,wscale 7], length 0
15:09:23.055903 IP 192.166.122.19.34278 > 35.232.111.17.80: Flags [.], seq 1:08.052, options [nop,nop,T5 val 540937843 ecr 4182517993], length 0
15:09:23.464706 IP 35.232.111.17.80 > 192.166.122.19.34278: Flags [.], seq 1:08.06.050, nop,nop,T5 val 4182518301 ecr 540937844], length 0
15:09:23.464702 IP 35.232.111.17.80 > 192.166.122.19.34278: Flags [P.], seq 1:149, ack 88, win 500, options [nop,nop,T5 val 4182518301 ecr 540937844], length 148: HTTP: HTTP/1.1 204 No Content
15:09:23.464703 IP 35.232.111.17.80 > 192.166.122.19.34278: Flags [F.], seq 149, ack 88, win 500, options [nop,nop,T5 val 4182518303] ecr 540937844], length 0
15:09:23.464706 IP 192.168.122.19.34278 > 35.232.111.17.80: Flags [F.], seq 149, ack 88, win 500, options [nop,nop,T5 val 4182518303] ecr 540937844], length 0
15:09:23.464706 IP 192.168.122.19.34278 > 35.232.111.17.80: Flags [F.], seq 149, ack 88, win 501, options [nop,nop,T5 val 4182518303], length 0
15:09:23.464706 IP 192.168.122.19.34278 > 35.232.111.17.80: Flags [F.], seq 88, ack 150, win 501, options [nop,nop,T5 val 4182518709 ecr 540937844], length 0
15:09:23.773254 IP 35.232.111.17.80 > 192.168.122.19.34278: Flags [.], ack 89, win 500, options [nop,nop,T5 val 4182518709 ecr 540938253], length 0

NC
10 packets captured
10 packets dopped by kernel
```

2nd curl Hit:-

Load Testing:- (on base machine)

sudo apt install apache2-utils

Install ab command at local for load testing

Install apache2-utils for ab command for Load Testing

run load test using ab command :-

ubuntu@ubuntu-Standard-PC-Q35-ICH9-2009:~\$ ab -n 1000 -c 100 http://192.168.122.19:80/

pushpender@pushpender:~\$ sudo ab -n 1000 -c 100 http://192.168.122.19:80/

```
pushpender@pushpender-HP:~/Desktop$ sudo ab -n 1000 -c 100 http://192.168.122.19:80/
This is ApacheBench, Version 2.3 <$Revision: 1879490 $>
Copyright 1996 Adam Twiss, Zeus Technology Ltd, http://www.zeustech.net/
Licensed to The Apache Software Foundation, http://www.apache.org/
Benchmarking 192.168.122.19 (be patient)
Completed 100 requests
Completed 200 requests
Completed 300 requests
Completed 400 requests
Completed 500 requests
Completed 600 requests
Completed 700 requests
Completed 800 requests
Completed 900 requests
Completed 1000 requests
Finished 1000 requests
Server Software:
                        Caddy
Server Hostname:
                        192.168.122.19
Server Port:
Document Path:
                        234 bytes
Document Length:
Concurrency Level:
                        100
Time taken for tests:
                        1.078 seconds
                        1000
Complete requests:
Failed requests:
                        638
   (Connect: 0, Receive: 0, Length: 638, Exceptions: 0)
Total transferred:
                        459018 bytes
HTML transferred:
                        241018 bytes
Requests per second:
                        927.81 [#/sec] (mean)
Time per request:
                        107.781 [ms] (mean)
                        1.078 [ms] (mean, across all concurrent requests)
Time per request:
Transfer rate:
                        415.90 [Kbytes/sec] received
Connection Times (ms)
              min mean[+/-sd] median
                                        max
Connect:
                Θ
                    72 259.1
                                        1032
                                  1
                                         15
Processing:
                0
                     3
                         2.3
                                  2
Waiting:
                         2.3
                                  2
                                          15
                0
                     3
Total:
                Θ
                    75 259.4
                                  4
                                       1034
Percentage of the requests served within a certain time (ms)
  50%
           4
  66%
           б
  75%
           7
  75%
  80%
             8
  90%
            11
  95%
          1015
  98%
          1026
  99%
          1029
          1034 (longest request)
pushpender@pushpender-HP:~/Desktop$
```

curl Output :-

curl http://192.168.122.19

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
 <head>
       <meta charset="UTF-8">
       <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,</pre>
initial-scale=1.0">
       <title>Hello rohit</title>
 </head>
<body>
       <h1>Hello rohit</h1>
</body>
curl http://192.168.122.19
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
      <meta charset="UTF-8">
      <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,</pre>
initial-scale=1.0">
      <title>Hello pushpender</title>
</head>
<body>
       <h1>Hello pushpender</h1>
</body>
</html>
```