

Thema

Laboratory protocol GNU/Linux - Setting up a multi-user environment



Figure 1: Grouplogo

Subject: ITSI|ZIVK
Class: 3AHITN
Name: Stefan Fürst, Marcel Raichle
Groupname/number: Dumm und Dümmer/7
Supervisor: ZIVK
Exercise dates:
Submission date:

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1 Task definition

2 Summary

3 Exercise execution

3.1 creating the container

I choose to write my own Dockerfile for this, which is a textfile, that describes the commands needed to create the desired image. Lets walkthrough how to create an image for the first task.

We start by using the **FROM** keyword to specify from the base image [4] from which we start.

FROM ubuntu:latest

I choose the ubuntu image [5] and used the **latest** tag, which points to the latest LTS release.

However if we were to build, start and exec into the container we wouldnt be able to do it beacouse it would imidiatly showdown, since nothing is running.

To midigate this we add **CMD tail -F /dev/null** at the end of our Dockerfile. The **tail** command outputs the last 10 lines of a file and the **-F** argument, which stands for follow so it runs forever outputting the last 10 lines of a given file.[3] I used file **/dev/null** which is a virtual device, that any data that gets written to vanishes. [8] So we essentially read an empty file forever to keep the container up.

If we now run the following commands to build the image, run the container and get a shell in it.

```
#build the image
docker buildx build -t image-name .
#run the container
docker run -d --name container-name
#exec into the container (get a shell in it)
docker exec -it container-name /bin/bash
```

To make to commands less work to type, i like to make a shell script that i can source to have aliases for it like this.

```
#!/bin/sh
alias relaunch="sudo sh -c 'docker stop itsi &&\
docker rm itsi &&\
docker buildx build -t itsi:latest . &&\
docker run -d -p 38452:38452 --name itsi itsi:latest &&\
docker exec -it itsi /bin/bash'"
alias rebuild="sudo sh -c 'docker buildx build -t itsi:latest . &&\
docker run -d -p 38452:38452 --name itsi itsi:latest &&\
docker exec -it itsi /bin/bash'"
alias stop="sudo sh -c 'docker stop itsi && docker rm itsi'"
```

Now we are in the container but it has none of the required Packages install that are required for this exercise. They can be installed now in the container which would defeat the entire purpose of making an image, so we use the **RUN** keyword in our Dockerfile along with the desired command to run it when the image is build so the packages are installed as soon as you spin up the container:

```
RUN apt update
RUN apt upgrade -y
RUN apt install iproute2 iputils-ping zsh net-tools vim -y
```

3.2 testing connectivity

Now we can finally test the connectivity, since we have the `iputils-ping` package installed. Everything works out of the box by using the default bridge [1]

```
root@ab85eae5b992:~# ping google.at
PING google.at (142.251.208.99) 56(84) bytes of data:
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=1 ttl=57 time=5.72 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=2 ttl=57 time=5.20 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=3 ttl=57 time=5.85 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=4 ttl=57 time=5.39 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=5 ttl=57 time=5.41 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=6 ttl=57 time=5.89 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=7 ttl=57 time=4.98 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=8 ttl=57 time=4.92 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=9 ttl=57 time=5.15 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=10 ttl=57 time=4.87 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=11 ttl=57 time=5.49 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=12 ttl=57 time=5.12 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=13 ttl=57 time=5.15 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=14 ttl=57 time=5.02 ms
64 bytes from bud02s41-in-f3.1e100.net (142.251.208.99): icmp_seq=15 ttl=57 time=5.02 ms
^C
--- google.at ping statistics ---
15 packets transmitted, 15 received, 0% packet loss, time 14021ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 4.867/5.270/5.893/0.329 ms
root@ab85eae5b992:~#
```

Figure 2: ping to the internet

```
root@ab85eae5b992:~# ping 10.0.0.21
PING 10.0.0.21 (10.0.0.21) 56(84) bytes of data:
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=1 ttl=63 time=0.789 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=2 ttl=63 time=0.807 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=3 ttl=63 time=0.749 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=4 ttl=63 time=0.861 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=5 ttl=63 time=0.701 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=6 ttl=63 time=0.946 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=7 ttl=63 time=0.675 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=8 ttl=63 time=0.510 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=9 ttl=63 time=0.482 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=10 ttl=63 time=1.16 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=11 ttl=63 time=0.915 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.21: icmp_seq=12 ttl=63 time=0.708 ms
^C
--- 10.0.0.21 ping statistics ---
12 packets transmitted, 12 received, 0% packet loss, time 11143ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.482/0.775/1.161/0.178 ms
root@ab85eae5b992:~#
```

Figure 3: ping to the localnetwork

3.2.1 it works but why?

If we inspect our container by using `docker inspect container-name`, we see that its ip is different than the ones from the lan.

```
"Networks": {  
  "bridge": {  
    "IPAMConfig": null,  
    "Links": null,  
    "Aliases": null,  
    "MacAddress": "02:42:ac:11:00:02",  
    "DriverOpts": null,  
    "NetworkID": "a968a37e40341efec5e3524c509721198c066717751c17f949dd2833f9a9440f",  
    "EndpointID": "9d04b0da83449a5ab6b9a516aee20488ed5bc7711331007918b7292b7a0d8811",  
    "Gateway": "172.17.0.1",  
    "IPAddress": "172.17.0.2",  
    "IPPrefixLen": 16,  
    "IPv6Gateway": "",  
    "GlobalIPv6Address": "",  
    "GlobalIPv6PrefixLen": 0,  
    "DNSNames": null  
  }  
}
```

Figure 4: docker inspect

This happens because when you install docker, a virtual interface `docker0` is created, which is used as a networkbridge to allow the container to communicate to the internet and lan. [9]

```
> ip a | grep docker0  
4: docker0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc noqueue state UP group default  
    inet 172.17.0.1/16 brd 172.17.255.255 scope global docker0  
6: vethaa4d2c2@if5: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc noqueue master docker0 state UP group default
```

Figure 5: ip a | grep docker0

There are other types of docker networks, but they arent relevant for this exercise.[9]

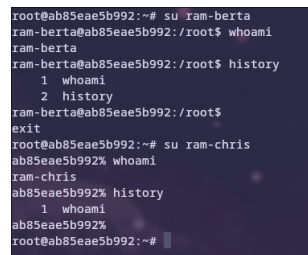
3.3 creating and managing users

For creating groups/users there are the commands `groupadd` and `useradd`. To add the user we add the following lines to our Dockerfile

```
#creating the group
RUN groupadd -g 324 ram-Users
#creating the users -u is used to set the groupid
RUN useradd -u 1024 ram-alois &&\
    useradd -u 1124 ram-berta &&\
    useradd -u 1224 ram-chris &&\
    useradd ram-fus &&\
    useradd ram-ram
#adding the users to the groups
RUN usermod -g ram-Users ram-alois &&\
    usermod -g ram-Users ram-berta
#settings chris's default shell to zsh
RUN usermod --shell /bin/zsh ram-chris
```

3.3.1 logging in as the users

To login as a different user the `su` command is used.



```
root@ab85eae5b992:~# su ram-berta
ram-berta@ab85eae5b992:/root$ whoami
ram-berta
ram-berta@ab85eae5b992:/root$ history
  1  whoami
  2  history
ram-berta@ab85eae5b992:/root$
exit
root@ab85eae5b992:~# su ram-chris
ab85eae5b992% whoami
ram-chris
ab85eae5b992% history
  1  whoami
ab85eae5b992%
root@ab85eae5b992:~#
```

Figure 6: logging in as berta and chris

Each user has their own history, which is saved in their home directory in either the `.bash_history` or `.zsh_history` file. You end the session by using the `exit` command or pressing `<C-d>`.

3.4 setting permissions for directories

The directories are created with this command and the `-p` stands for parents and creates parent directories if needed. For example `mkdir /test/test2` wouldn't work if you don't have `/test` but if you use `mkdir -p` instead it creates `/test` and `/test/test2`.

```
RUN mkdir -p /data/fus &&\
    mkdir /data/fus/alois &&\
    mkdir /data/fus/berta &&\
    mkdir /data/fus/chris &&\
    mkdir /data/fus/public
```

To set the permission three tools will be used: `chgrp`, `chown` and `chmod`.

First we want everyone in the group to have access to the directory for this `chgrp -R ram-Users /data/fus/` is used with the `-R` argument meaning recursive [14, 2]

To give everyone every permission in their own directory, we need to make them the owner of it by using `chown -R username:groupname /data/fus/name-of-their-directory`. [12]

Now we can assign the permissions to each directory, for this the `chmod` [10] command is used.

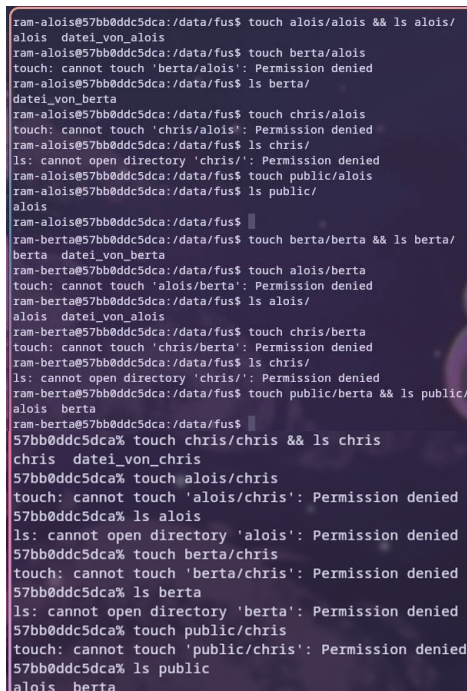
To better understand the command here is a breakdown of the options:

u = user who owns the file
g = group -> everyone in the group of the owner
o = other -> everyone else
r = read
w = write
x = execute
+ adding permissions
- removing permissions
= setting permissions

[10] Now lets use this to set the permissions accordingly

```
#giving the [g]roup [r]ead and [w]rite permissions for /data/fus
chmod g+rw /data/fus/
#giving the owner all permissions, the [g]roup only read [r]ead and none to [o]thers
chmod -R u+wx,g=r,o= /data/fus/alois/
#same for berta
#giving the owner all permissions and none to the [g]roup and [o]thers
chmod -R u+wx,g=,o= /data/fus/chris/
#giving the owner and [g]roup all permissions and none to [o]thers
chmod -R u+wx,g+wx,o=r /data/fus/public/
```

[10]



```
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch alois/alois && ls alois/
alois  datei_von_alois
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch berta/alois
touch: cannot touch 'berta/alois': Permission denied
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ ls berta/
datei_von_berta
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch chris/alois
touch: cannot touch 'chris/alois': Permission denied
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ ls chris/
ls: cannot open directory 'chris/': Permission denied
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch public/alois
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ ls public/
alois
ram-alois@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ 
ram-berta@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch berta/berta && ls berta/
berta  datei_von_berta
ram-berta@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch alois/berta
touch: cannot touch 'alois/berta': Permission denied
ram-berta@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ ls alois/
alois  datei_von_alois
ram-berta@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch chris/berta
touch: cannot touch 'chris/berta': Permission denied
ram-berta@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ ls chris/
ls: cannot open directory 'chris/': Permission denied
ram-berta@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ touch public/berta && ls public/
alois  berta
ram-berta@57bb0ddc5dca:/data/fus$ 
57bb0ddc5dca% touch chris/chris && ls chris
chris  datei_von_chris
57bb0ddc5dca% touch alois/chris
touch: cannot touch 'alois/chris': Permission denied
57bb0ddc5dca% ls alois
ls: cannot open directory 'alois': Permission denied
57bb0ddc5dca% touch berta/chris
touch: cannot touch 'berta/chris': Permission denied
57bb0ddc5dca% ls berta
ls: cannot open directory 'berta': Permission denied
57bb0ddc5dca% touch public/chris
touch: cannot touch 'public/chris': Permission denied
57bb0ddc5dca% ls public
alois  berta
```

Figure 7: testing the permissions

If we login as the users we can see that everything works as intended.

3.5 setting up ssh

The two new users required for this have already been created above in 3.3

To setup an ssh server we need to install the package if we just add `ssh` to our install command in the Dockerfile we find out, that this commands requires interactions to set the timezone we need to add these two extra lines to the Dockerfile.

```
#setting the timezone
RUN ln -fs /usr/share/zoneinfo/Europe/Vienna /etc/localtime
#running the command without it beeing interactive
RUN DEBIAN_FRONTEND=noninteractive apt install -y tzdata ssh
```

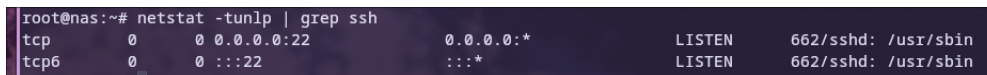
Now ssh is installed, but it needs to be started for this all we need to do is edit the last line of the file to launch the service aswell.

```
#the default command from before
CMD tail -F /dev/null
#with starting ssh
CMD service ssh start && tail -F /dev/null
```

To find out on what port the server is listening for ssh we use the `netstat` command, which comes with the `net-tools` package, which we installed earlier. For this the command `netstat -tunlp | grep ssh` is used. Here are the options of the command explained.

```
-t show TCP ports
-u show UDP ports
-n show numerical addresses instead of resolving hosts
-l show only listening ports
-p show the PID of the listener's process
```

[11]



```
root@nas:~# netstat -tunlp | grep ssh
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:22          0.0.0.0:*        LISTEN     662/sshd: /usr/sbin
tcp6       0      0 :::22              :::*              LISTEN     662/sshd: /usr/sbin
```

Figure 8: finding the port with netstat

Appereantly its a "good practise" to move off the standart ssh port and use a different port to evade bots and script kiddies who are scanning the internet for public servers with ssh and testing default passwords. I belive that this is snake oil to change to port for better security, because if you disable password authentication, have a strong password or ban failing ips with tools such as fail2ban all of the problems are resolved anyway.[13]

I still changed to port to show how it would be done anyway. For this we need to edit the file `/etc/ssh/sshd_config`. To do this we can use the preinstaleld texteditor `sed` so edit the file with the following command so we can change the port in the Dockerfile

```
#-i edit the file in place without printing it to the console
#s to use the substitute command of sed
#'/s/string-you-want-to-replace/string-you-want-to-replace-it-with'
#/etc/ssh/sshd_config file that you want to edit
RUN sed -i 's/#Port 22/Port 38452/' /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

If we try to ssh in with the created user we cant yet, since we havent published any ports in our container yet.

3.5.1 logging into the ssh server

To do this we need to add one line to the Dockerfile and edit the docker run command.

```
#add this to the with the port you choose to the Dockerfile
EXPOSE 38452
#add -p to [p]ublish the desired port
docker run -d -p 38452 --name container -name
```

```
> ssh -p 38452 ram-fus@localhost

ssh: connect to host localhost port 38452: Connection refused
```

Figure 9: connection refused

```
root@nas:~/test# ssh ram-fuest@localhost -p 38452
The authenticity of host '[localhost]:38452 ([::1]:38452)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:nP4zo6CxUSMQdq5G81DeaBh3HKpSpVm4hMa3Iumok0c.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '[localhost]:38452' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
ram-fuest@localhost's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
ram-fuest@localhost's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
ram-fuest@localhost's password:
ram-fuest@localhost: Permission denied (publickey,password).
root@nas:~/test#
```

Figure 10: logging without a password

Even if we login now it will still not work, since the user doesn't have a password.
To fix this we add this line to our Dockerfile:

RUN `echo 'root:youresecurepasswordhere' | chpasswd`

We change the root password instead of the user password, since we don't have `sudo` setup and having to type `sudo` for every command, when we are the only user is both unnecessary and annoying.

```
~/ssh took 3s
> ssh -p 38452 root@localhost

Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.11.5-arch1-1 x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro


This system has been minimized by removing packages and content that are
not required on a system that users do not log into.

To restore this content, you can run the 'unminimize' command.
Last login: Thu Oct 31 19:28:43 2024 from 172.17.0.1
root@ab85eae5b992:~#
```

Figure 11: working login

3.5.2 enabling keypair authentication

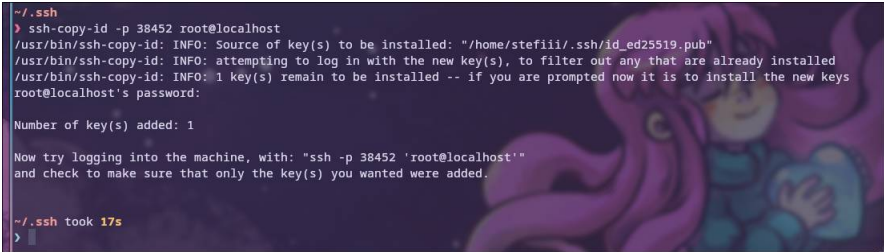
To generate a keypair, we go back to our host system and run the command `ssh-keygen -b 4096` to generate an 4096-bit SSH-Key. [7] On linux the keys get saved to the `/.ssh` directory, but you can specify a location with `-f`. The file ending with `.pub` is the public key and the other one is the private key.



```
~/.ssh  
> ls  
id_ed25519 id_ed25519.pub
```

Figure 12: keys in the directory

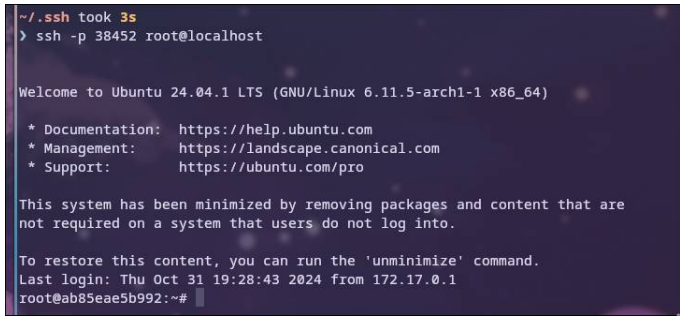
To copy the public key to the server, which we want to use it we the `ssh-copy-id` command on linux and `scp` on windows and mac. [6]



```
~/.ssh  
> ssh-copy-id -p 38452 root@localhost  
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: Source of key(s) to be installed: "/home/stefiii/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub"  
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: attempting to log in with the new key(s), to filter out any that are already installed  
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: 1 key(s) remain to be installed -- if you are prompted now it is to install the new keys  
root@localhost's password:  
  
Number of key(s) added: 1  
  
Now try logging into the machine, with: "ssh -p 38452 'root@localhost'"  
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.  
  
~/.ssh took 17s  
>
```

Figure 13: ssh-copy-id

After this if we don't need to enter a password anymore to authenticate.



```
~/.ssh took 3s  
> ssh -p 38452 root@localhost  
  
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.11.5-arch1-1 x86_64)  
  
* Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com  
* Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com  
* Support:        https://ubuntu.com/pro  
  
This system has been minimized by removing packages and content that are  
not required on a system that users do not log into.  
  
To restore this content, you can run the 'unminimize' command.  
Last login: Thu Oct 31 19:28:43 2024 from 172.17.0.1  
root@ab85eae5b992:~#
```

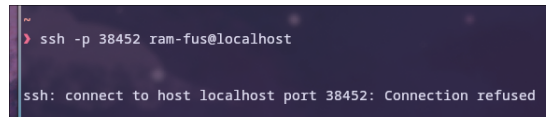
Figure 14: logging with a key

3.5.3 disableing password authentication

To only allow authentication via keys, we need to edit the file `/etc/ssh/sshd_config` again. To do this we ssh into the server and use open the file with the texteditor of your choice and edit this line.

```
#change this  
#PasswordAuthentication yes  
#to this  
PasswordAuthentication no
```

If we try to login as another user, for which we dont have a key we cant connect.



```
~  
» ssh -p 38452 ram-fus@localhost  
  
ssh: connect to host localhost port 38452: Connection refused
```

Figure 15: not having a key

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