

Jackie Chen's IT Workshop

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Use AWS EFS for Kubernetes

👤 Jackie Chen 📁 Cloud, Storage ⌚ May 1, 2018May 1, 2018 ≡ 2 Minutes

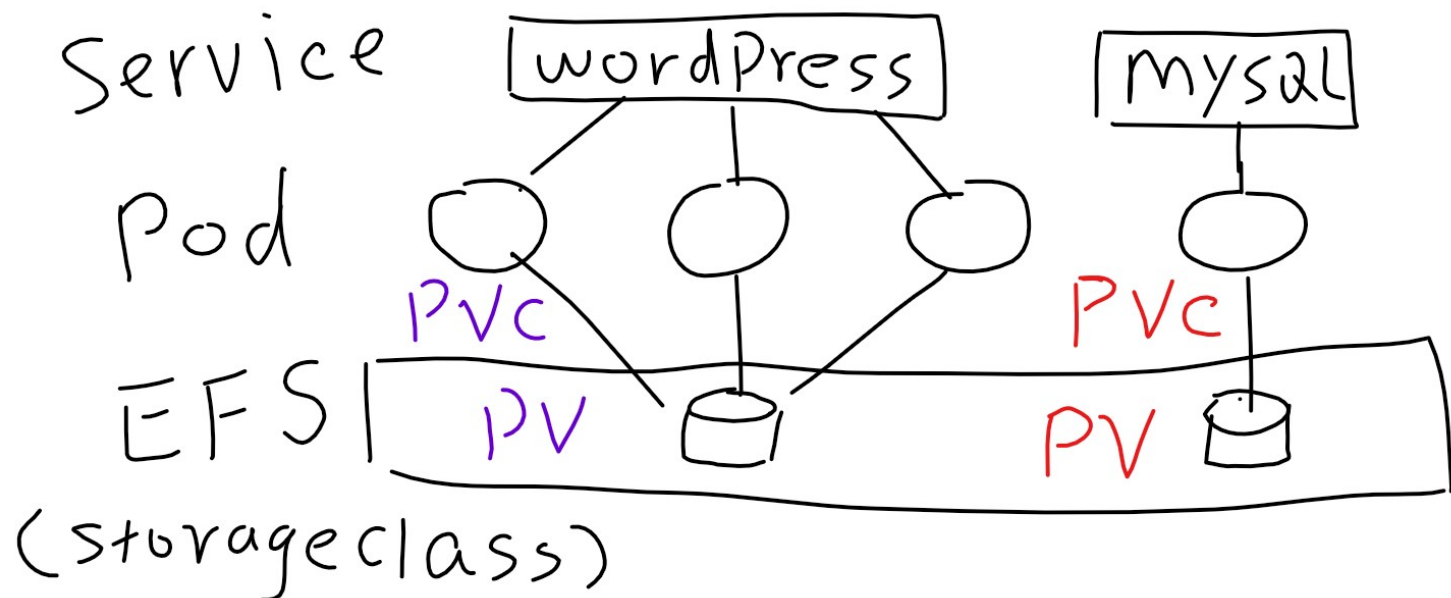
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Before introducing how to use AWS EFS for Kubernetes, let me recap some terms of Persistent Volumes (<https://kubernetes.io/docs/concepts/storage/persistent-volumes/>).

- PV (Persistent Volume): PV is a piece of storage, it can be NFS, iSCSI, EBS, EFS... The purpose of having PV is to decouple the storage from pod's lifecycle.
- PVC (Persistent Volume Claim): PVC provides the method for pods to use PV, it includes the request storage size and access mode. If the PV supports ReadWriteMany access mode, then its PVC can be used by multiple pods.
- Storage Class: This is the abstract layer of PV which hides the implementation of PV from end users.

With the above 3 points in your mind, let's have a look at the architecture.



Basically, there are four steps:

1. Create EFS (only the first time): It includes the tasks: create the EFS in the right subnets, setup the security groups to allow Kubernetes nodes to access and enable DNS support/resolution in your VPC.
2. Create StorageClass for EFS via `efs-provisioner` (<https://github.com/kubernetes-incubator/external-storage/tree/master/aws/efs>) (only the first time). `efs-provisioner` runs as a container which plays the role of EFS broker. It allows other pods to mount EFS as the persistent volumes. Just be aware of that EFS is built on top of NFS4, so you need to have `nfs-common` packages installed in your Kubernetes nodes
3. Create a PVC to use the StorageClass for EFS. Just note that EFS has unlimited storage, so the storage size request actually does not take any effects here. But you still have to keep it to pass the syntax check.
4. Create a volume for the PVC, then mount the volume inside the pod.

Here is how the PVC and PV look. And I also attached the sample code as below.

```
vagrant@xenial:~$ kubectl get pvc
NAME                STATUS    VOLUME                                     CAPACITY   ACCESS MODES   STORAGECLASS   AGE
efs-web-0           Bound    pvc-0b72112c-4c2f-11e8-bfb3-0605599b3d50  1Mi        RWO            aws-efs        1d
efs-wordpress       Bound    pvc-e351c723-4ce8-11e8-bc93-02305208901e  1Gi        RWX            aws-efs        8h
efs-wordpress-db-0  Bound    pvc-aa420396-4ce8-11e8-a8eb-06522142c018  1Gi        RWX            aws-efs        8h
efs-wordpress-db-1  Bound    pvc-b444b5bd-4ce8-11e8-a8eb-06522142c018  1Gi        RWX            aws-efs        8h
vagrant@xenial:~$ kubectl get pv
NAME                CAPACITY   ACCESS MODES   RECLAIM POLICY   STATUS   CLAIM                                STORAGECLASS   REASON   AGE
pvc-0b72112c-4c2f-11e8-bfb3-0605599b3d50  1Mi        RWO            Delete           Bound    default/efs-web-0                   aws-efs                               1d
pvc-aa420396-4ce8-11e8-a8eb-06522142c018  1Gi        RWX            Delete           Bound    default/efs-wordpress-db-0          aws-efs                               8h
pvc-b444b5bd-4ce8-11e8-a8eb-06522142c018  1Gi        RWX            Delete           Bound    default/efs-wordpress-db-1          aws-efs                               8h
pvc-e351c723-4ce8-11e8-bc93-02305208901e  1Gi        RWX            Delete           Bound    default/efs-wordpress               aws-efs                               8h
```

(<https://jackiechendotorg.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/pv1.png>)

```
---
kind: StorageClass
apiVersion: storage.k8s.io/v1
metadata:
  name: aws-efs
provisioner: example.com/aws-efs
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: ConfigMap
metadata:
  name: wordpress
data:
  database: wordpress-db
  password: *****
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Service
metadata:
  name: wordpress
  labels:
    app: wordpress
spec:
  ports:
    - port: 80
  selector:
    app: wordpress
---
kind: PersistentVolumeClaim
apiVersion: v1
metadata:
  name: efs-wordpress
  annotations:
    volume.beta.kubernetes.io/storage-class: "aws-efs"
spec:
  accessModes:
    - ReadWriteMany
  resources:
    requests:
      storage: 1Gi
---
apiVersion: extensions/v1beta1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: wordpress
  labels:
    app: wordpress
```

```
spec:
  replicas: 2
  strategy:
    type: Recreate
  template:
    metadata:
      labels:
        app: wordpress
    spec:
      containers:
        - image: wordpress:latest
          name: wordpress
          env:
            - name: WORDPRESS_DB_HOST
              valueFrom:
                configMapKeyRef:
                  name: wordpress
                  key: database
            - name: WORDPRESS_DB_PASSWORD
              valueFrom:
                configMapKeyRef:
                  name: wordpress
                  key: password
          ports:
            - containerPort: 80
              name: wordpress
          volumeMounts:
            - name: wordpress-pv
              mountPath: /var/www/html
      volumes:
        - name: wordpress-pv
          persistentVolumeClaim:
            claimName: efs-wordpress
```

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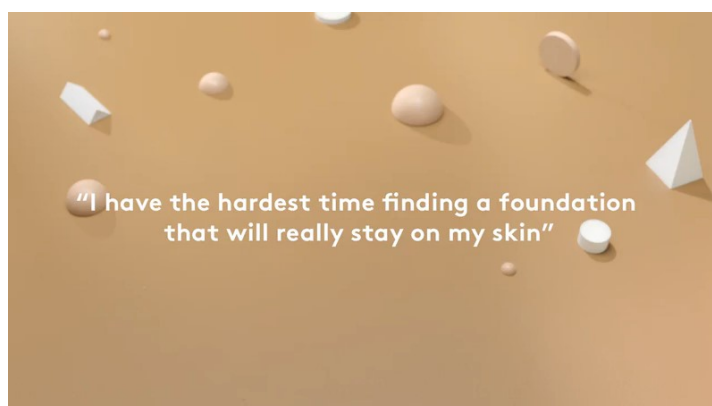
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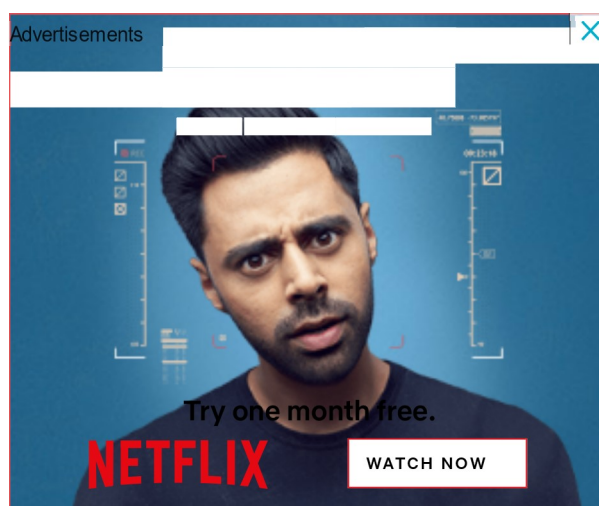


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