

Light



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LEARNING LPIC-3 305-300

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Summary

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About Project

This project aims to help students or professionals to learn the main concepts of GNULinux and free software Some GNULinux distributions like Debian and RPM will be covered Installation and configuration of some packages will also be covered By doing this you can give the whole community a chance to benefit from your changes. Access to the source code is a precondition for this. Use vagrant for up machines and execute labs and practice content in this article. I have published in folder Vagrant a Vagrantfile with what is necessary for you to upload an environment for studies



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Getting Started

For starting the learning, see the documentation above.

Prerequisites

- Git
- VMware Workstation
- Vagrant VMWare Utility
- Vagrant

Installation

Clone the repo

```
git clone https://github.com/marcossilvestrini/learning-lpic-3-305-300.git  
cd learning-lpic-3-305-300
```

Customize a template *Vagrantfile-topic-XXX*. This file contains a vms configuration for labs.

Example:

- File Vagrantfile-topic-351
 - vm.clone_directory = "<your_driver_letter>:\<folder> \<to_machine>\#{VM_NAME}-instance-1" Example: vm.clone_directory = "E:\Servers\VMWare\#{VM_NAME}-instance-1"
 - vm.vmx["memsize"] = ""
 - vm.vmx["numvcpus"] = ""
 - vm.vmx["cpuid.coresPerSocket"] = ""

Customize network configuration in files configs/network.



Use this repository for get learning about LPIC-3 305-300 exam

└─[I] For up and down

Switch a *Vagrantfile-topic-xxx* template and copy for a new file with name *Vagrantfile*

```
cd vagrant && vagrant up  
cd vagrant && vagrant destroy -f
```

└─[I] For reboot VMs

```
cd vagrant && vagrant reload
```

Important: *If you reboot vms without vagrant, shared folder not mount after boot.*

└─[I] Use PowerShell for up and down

If you use Windows platform, I create a powershell script for up and down vms.

```
vagrant/up.ps1  
vagrant/destroy.ps1
```

└─[I] Infrastructure Schema Topic 351



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Light Roadmap

- Create repository
- Create scripts for provisioning labs
- Create examples about Topic 351
- Create examples about Topic 352
- Create examples about Topic 353
- Upload simulated itexam



□ Four Essential Freedoms

0.The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose (freedom 0). 1.The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish (freedom 1). Access to the source code is a precondition for this. 2.The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help others (freedom 2). 3.freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others (freedom 3).

□ Inspect commands

```
type COMMAND
apropos COMMAND
whatis COMMAND --long
whereis COMMAND
COMMAND --help, --h
man COMMAND
```

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□ Topic 351: Full Virtualization



The difference between type-1 and type-2 hypervisors

□ 351.1 Virtualization Concepts and Theory

Weight: 6

Description: Candidates should know and understand the general concepts, theory and terminology of virtualization. This includes Xen, QEMU and libvirt terminology.



Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand virtualization terminology
- Understand the pros and cons of virtualization
- Understand the various variations of Hypervisors and Virtual Machine Monitors
- Understand the major aspects of migrating physical to virtual machines
- Understand the major aspects of migrating virtual machines between host systems
- Understand the features and implications of virtualization for a virtual machine, such as snapshotting, pausing, cloning and resource limits
- Awareness of oVirt, Proxmox, systemd-machined and VirtualBox
- Awareness of Open vSwitch

351.1 Cited Objects

Hypervisor
Hardware Virtual Machine (HVM)
Paravirtualization (PV)
Emulation and Simulation
CPU flags
`/proc/cpuinfo`
Migration (P2V, V2V)

Hypervisors

Type 1 Hypervisor (Bare-Metal Hypervisor)

Type 1 Definition

Runs directly on the host's physical hardware, providing a base layer to manage VMs without the need for a host operating system.

Type 1 Characteristics

- High performance and efficiency.
- Lower latency and overhead.
- Often used in enterprise environments and data centers.

Type 1 Examples

- VMware ESXi: A robust and widely used hypervisor in enterprise settings.
- Microsoft Hyper-V: Integrated with Windows Server, offering strong performance and management features.



• Xen: An open-source hypervisor used by many cloud service providers.

- KVM (Kernel-based Virtual Machine): Integrated into the Linux kernel, providing high performance for Linux-based systems.

□ Type 2 Hypervisor (Hosted Hypervisor)

□ Type 2 Definition

Runs on top of a conventional operating system, relying on the host OS for resource management and device support.

□ Type 2 Characteristics

- □ Easier to set up and use, especially on personal computers.
- □ More flexible for development, testing, and smaller-scale deployments.
- □ Typically less efficient than Type 1 hypervisors due to additional overhead from the host OS.

□ Type 2 Examples

- VMware Workstation: A powerful hypervisor for running multiple operating systems on a single desktop.
- Oracle VirtualBox: An open-source hypervisor known for its flexibility and ease of use.
- Parallels Desktop: Designed for Mac users to run Windows and other operating systems alongside macOS.
- QEMU (Quick EMULATOR): An open-source emulator and virtualizer, often used in conjunction with KVM.

□ Key Differences Between Type 1 and Type 2 Hypervisors

- Deployment Environment:
 - Type 1 hypervisors are commonly deployed in data centers and enterprise environments due to their direct interaction with hardware and high performance.
 - Type 2 hypervisors are more suitable for personal use, development, testing, and small-scale virtualization tasks.
- Performance:
 - Type 1 hypervisors generally offer better performance and lower latency because they do not rely on a host OS.
 - Type 2 hypervisors may experience some performance degradation due to the overhead of running on top of a host OS.
- Management and Ease of Use:
 - Type 1 hypervisors require more complex setup and management but provide advanced features and scalability for large-scale deployments.

- Light^o Type 2 hypervisors are easier to install and use, making them ideal for individual users and smaller projects.



□ Migration Types

In the context of hypervisors, which are technologies used to create and manage virtual machines, the terms P2V migration and V2V migration are common in virtualization environments. They refer to processes of migrating systems between different types of platforms.

□□□ P2V - Physical to Virtual Migration

P2V migration refers to the process of migrating a physical server to a virtual machine. In other words, an operating system and its applications, running on dedicated physical hardware, are "converted" and moved to a virtual machine that runs on a hypervisor (such as VMware, Hyper-V, KVM, etc.).

- Example: You have a physical server running a Windows or Linux system, and you want to move it to a virtual environment, like a cloud infrastructure or an internal virtualization server. The process involves copying the entire system state, including the operating system, drivers, and data, to create an equivalent virtual machine that can run as if it were on the physical hardware.

□□□ V2V - Virtual to Virtual Migration

V2V migration refers to the process of migrating a virtual machine from one hypervisor to another. In this case, you already have a virtual machine running in a virtualized environment (like VMware), and you want to move it to another virtualized environment (for example, to Hyper-V or to a new VMware server).

- Example: You have a virtual machine running on a VMware virtualization server, but you decide to migrate it to a Hyper-V platform. In this case, the V2V migration converts the virtual machine from one format or hypervisor to another, ensuring it can continue running correctly.

□ HVM and Paravirtualization

□ Hardware-assisted Virtualization (HVM)

□ HVM Definition

HVM leverages hardware extensions provided by modern CPUs to virtualize hardware, enabling the creation and management of VMs with minimal performance overhead.

□ HVM Key Characteristics

- □ **Hardware Support:** Requires CPU support for virtualization extensions such as Intel VT-x or AMD-V.



- **Full Virtualization:** VMs can run unmodified guest operating systems, as the hypervisor provides a complete emulation of the hardware environment.
- **Performance:** Typically offers near-native performance because of direct execution of guest code on the CPU.
- **Isolation:** Provides strong isolation between VMs since each VM operates as if it has its own dedicated hardware.

□ HVM Examples

VMware ESXi, Microsoft Hyper-V, KVM (Kernel-based Virtual Machine).

□ HVM Advantages

- **Compatibility:** Can run any operating system without modification.
- **Performance:** High performance due to hardware support.
- **Security:** Enhanced isolation and security features provided by hardware.

□ HVM Disadvantages

- **Hardware Dependency:** Requires specific hardware features, limiting compatibility with older systems.
- **Complexity:** May involve more complex configuration and management.

□ Paravirtualization

□ Paravirtualization Definition

Paravirtualization involves modifying the guest operating system to be aware of the virtual environment, allowing it to interact more efficiently with the hypervisor.

□ Paravirtualization Key Characteristics

- **Guest Modification:** Requires changes to the guest operating system to communicate directly with the hypervisor using hypercalls.
- **Performance:** Can be more efficient than traditional full virtualization because it reduces the overhead associated with emulating hardware.
- **Compatibility:** Limited to operating systems that have been modified for paravirtualization.

□ Paravirtualization Examples

Xen with paravirtualized guests, VMware tools in certain configurations, and some KVM configurations.

□ Paravirtualization Advantages

- **Efficiency:** Reduces the overhead of virtualizing hardware, potentially offering better performance for certain workloads.



- **Resource Utilization:** More efficient use of system resources due to direct communication between the guest OS and hypervisor.

□ Paravirtualization Disadvantages

- **Guest OS Modification:** Requires modifications to the guest OS, limiting compatibility to supported operating systems.
- **Complexity:** Requires additional complexity in the guest OS for hypercall implementations.

□ Key Differences

□ Guest OS Requirements

- **HVM:** Can run unmodified guest operating systems.
- **Paravirtualization:** Requires guest operating systems to be modified to work with the hypervisor.

□ Performance

- **HVM:** Typically provides near-native performance due to hardware-assisted execution.
- **Paravirtualization:** Can offer efficient performance by reducing the overhead of hardware emulation, but relies on modified guest OS.

□ Hardware Dependency

- **HVM:** Requires specific CPU features (Intel VT-x, AMD-V).
- **Paravirtualization:** Does not require specific CPU features but needs modified guest OS.

□ Isolation

- **HVM:** Provides strong isolation using hardware features.
- **Paravirtualization:** Relies on software-based isolation, which may not be as robust as hardware-based isolation.

□ Complexity

- **HVM:** Generally more straightforward to deploy since it supports unmodified OS.
- **Paravirtualization:** Requires additional setup and modifications to the guest OS, increasing complexity.

□ NUMA (Non-Uniform Memory Access)

NUMA (Non-Uniform Memory Access) is a memory architecture used in multiprocessor systems to optimize memory access by processors. In a NUMA system, memory is distributed unevenly among processors, meaning that each processor has faster access to a portion of memory (its local memory). This can lead to improved performance for memory-intensive applications by reducing contention for shared memory resources.

than to memory that is physically further away (referred to as "remote memory") than to memory that is physically closer (referred to as "local memory") and associated with other processors.



Key Features of NUMA Architecture

1. **Local and Remote Memory:** Each processor has its own local memory, which it can access more quickly. However, it can also access the memory of other processors, although this takes longer.
2. **Differentiated Latency:** The latency of memory access varies depending on whether the processor is accessing its local memory or the memory of another node. Local memory access is faster, while accessing another node's memory (remote) is slower.
3. **Scalability:** NUMA architecture is designed to improve scalability in systems with many processors. As more processors are added, memory is also distributed, avoiding the bottleneck that would occur in a uniform memory access (UMA) architecture.

Advantages of NUMA

- Better Performance in Large Systems: Since each processor has local memory, it can work more efficiently without competing as much with other processors for memory access.
- Scalability: NUMA allows systems with many processors and large amounts of memory to scale more effectively compared to a UMA architecture.

Disadvantages

- Programming Complexity: Programmers need to be aware of which regions of memory are local or remote, optimizing the use of local memory to achieve better performance.
- Potential Performance Penalties: If a processor frequently accesses remote memory, performance may suffer due to higher latency. This architecture is common in high-performance multiprocessor systems, such as servers and supercomputers, where scalability and memory optimization are critical.

Opensource Solutions

- oVirt: <https://www.ovirt.org/>
- Proxmox: <https://www.proxmox.com/en/proxmox-virtual-environment/overview>
- Oracle VirtualBox: <https://www.virtualbox.org/>
- Open vSwitch: <https://www.openvswitch.org/>

Types of Virtualization

Hardware Virtualization (Server Virtualization)

HV Definition

Abstracts physical hardware to create virtual machines (VMs) that run separate operating systems and applications.



▀ HV Use Cases

Light
Data centers, cloud computing, server consolidation.

▀ HV Examples

VMware ESXi, Microsoft Hyper-V, KVM.

▀ Operating System Virtualization (containerization)

▀ containerization Definition

Allows multiple isolated user-space instances (containers) to run on a single OS kernel.

▀ containerization Use Cases

Microservices architecture, development and testing environments.

▀ containerization Examples

Docker, Kubernetes, LXC.

▀ Network Virtualization

▀ Network Virtualization Definition

Combines hardware and software network resources into a single, software-based administrative entity.

▀ Network Virtualization Use Cases

Software-defined networking (SDN), network function virtualization (NFV).

▀ Network Virtualization Examples

VMware NSX, Cisco ACI, OpenStack Neutron.

▀ Storage Virtualization

▀ Storage Virtualization Definition

Pools physical storage from multiple devices into a single virtual storage unit that can be managed centrally.

▀ Storage Virtualization Use Cases

Data management, storage optimization, disaster recovery.

▀ Storage Virtualization Examples

IBM SAN Volume Controller, VMware vSAN, NetApp ONTAP.

□ Desktop Virtualization



□ Desktop Virtualization Definition

Allows a desktop operating system to run on a virtual machine hosted on a server.

□ Desktop Virtualization Use Cases

Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI), remote work solutions.

□ Desktop Virtualization Examples

Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops, VMware Horizon, Microsoft Remote Desktop Services.

□ Application Virtualization

□ Application Virtualization Definition

Separates applications from the underlying hardware and operating system, allowing them to run in isolated environments.

□ Application Virtualization Use Cases

Simplified application deployment, compatibility testing.

□ Application Virtualization Examples

VMware ThinApp, Microsoft App-V, Citrix XenApp.

□ Data Virtualization

□ Data Virtualization Definition

Integrates data from various sources without physically consolidating it, providing a unified view for analysis and reporting.

□ Data Virtualization Use Cases

Business intelligence, real-time data integration.

□ Data Virtualization Examples

Denodo, Red Hat JBoss Data Virtualization, IBM InfoSphere.

□ Benefits of Virtualization

- □ Resource Efficiency: Better utilization of physical resources.
- □ Cost Savings: Reduced hardware and operational costs.
- □ Scalability: Easy to scale up or down according to demand.
- □ Flexibility: Supports a variety of workloads and applications.

• Disaster Recovery: Simplified backup and recovery processes.

- Isolation: Improved security through isolation of environments.



Emulation

Emulation involves simulating the behavior of hardware or software on a different platform than originally intended.

This process allows software designed for one system to run on another system that may have different architecture or operating environment.

While emulation provides versatility by enabling the execution of unmodified guest operating systems or applications, it often comes with performance overhead.

This overhead arises because the emulated system needs to interpret and translate instructions meant for the original system into instructions compatible with the host system. As a result, emulation can be slower than native execution, making it less efficient for resource-intensive tasks.

Despite this drawback, emulation remains valuable for running legacy software, testing applications across different platforms, and facilitating cross-platform development.

systemd-machined

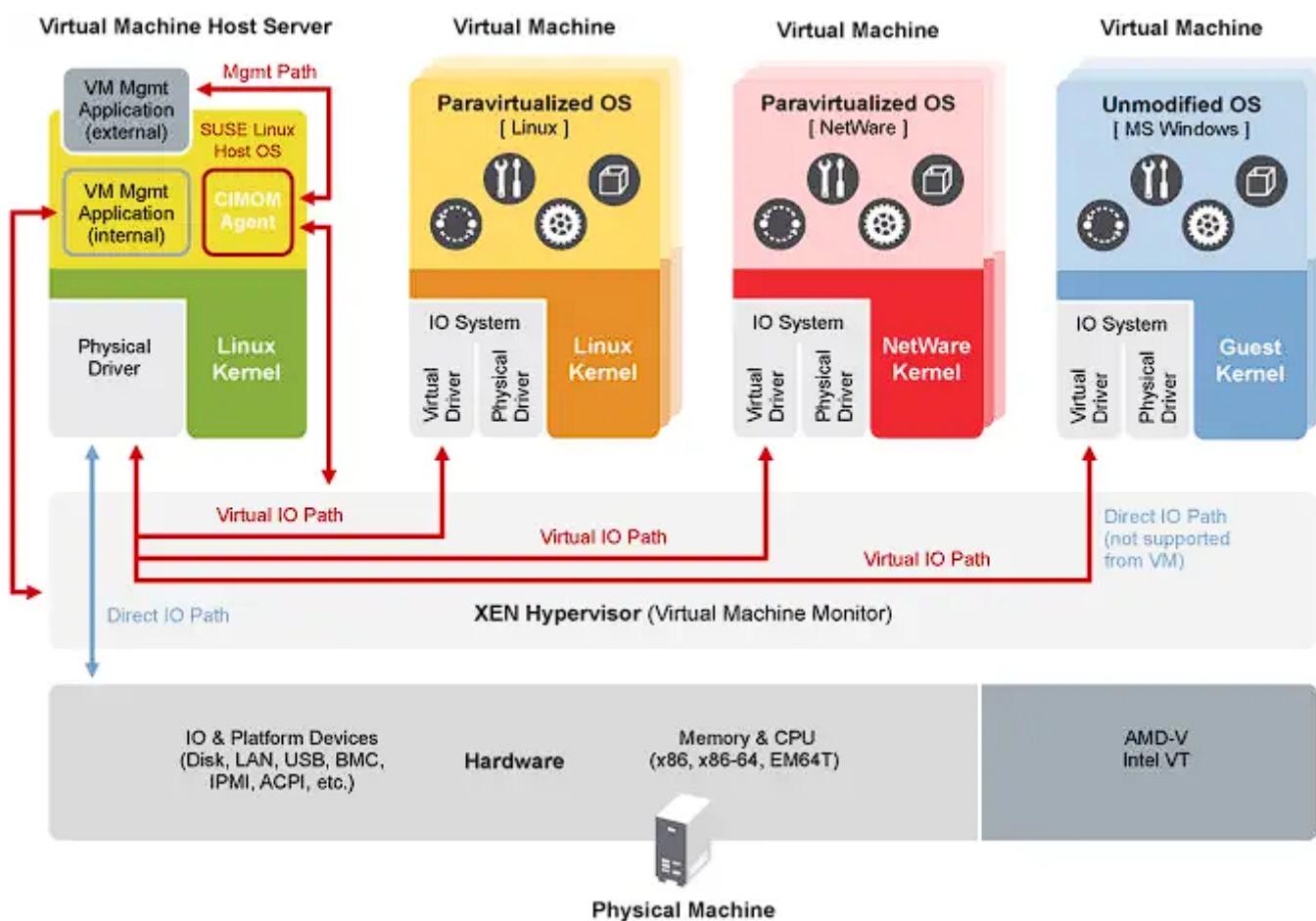
The systemd-machined service is dedicated to managing virtual machines and containers within the systemd ecosystem. It provides essential functionalities for controlling, monitoring, and maintaining virtual instances, offering robust integration and efficiency within Linux environments.

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351.2 Xen



□ **Weight:** 3



Description: Candidates should be able to install, configure, maintain, migrate and troubleshoot Xen installations. The focus is on Xen version 4.x.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand architecture of Xen, including networking and storage
- Basic configuration of Xen nodes and domains
- Basic management of Xen nodes and domains
- Basic troubleshooting of Xen installations
- Awareness of XAPI
- Awareness of XenStore
- Awareness of Xen Boot Parameters
- Awareness of the xm utility

□ Xen



Xen is an open-source type-1 (bare-metal) hypervisor, which allows multiple operating systems to run concurrently on the same physical hardware. Xen provides a layer between the physical hardware and virtual machines (VMs), enabling efficient resource sharing and isolation.

- **Architecture:** Xen operates with a two-tier system where Domain 0 (Dom0) is the privileged domain with direct hardware access and manages the hypervisor. Other virtual machines, called Domain U (DomU), run guest operating systems and are managed by Dom0.
- **Types of Virtualization:** Xen supports both paravirtualization (PV), which requires modified guest OS, and hardware-assisted virtualization (HVM), which uses hardware extensions (e.g., Intel VT-x or AMD-V) to run unmodified guest operating systems. Xen is widely used in cloud environments, notably by Amazon Web Services (AWS) and other large-scale cloud providers.

□ XenSource

XenSource was the company founded by the original developers of the Xen hypervisor at the University of Cambridge to commercialize Xen. The company provided enterprise solutions based



- **Acquisition by Citrix:** In 2007, XenSource was acquired by Citrix Systems, Inc. Citrix used Xen technology as the foundation for its Citrix XenServer product, which became a popular enterprise-grade virtualization platform based on Xen.
- **Transition:** After the acquisition, the Xen project continued as an open-source project, while Citrix focused on commercial offerings like XenServer, leveraging XenSource technology.

□ Xen Project

Xen Project refers to the open-source community and initiative responsible for developing and maintaining the Xen hypervisor after its commercialization. The Xen Project operates under the Linux Foundation, with a focus on building, improving, and supporting Xen as a collaborative, community-driven effort.

- **Goals:** The Xen Project aims to advance the hypervisor by improving its performance, security, and feature set for a wide range of use cases, including cloud computing, security-focused virtualization (e.g., Qubes OS), and embedded systems.
- **Contributors:** The project includes contributors from various organizations, including major cloud providers, hardware vendors, and independent developers.
- **XAPI and XenTools:** The Xen Project also includes tools such as XAPI (XenAPI), which is used for managing Xen hypervisor installations, and various other utilities for system management and optimization.

□ XenStore

Xen Store is a critical component of the Xen Hypervisor. Essentially, Xen Store is a distributed key-value database used for communication and information sharing between the Xen hypervisor and the virtual machines (also known as domains) it manages.

Here are some key aspects of Xen Store:

- **Inter-Domain Communication:** Xen Store enables communication between domains, such as Dom0 (the privileged domain that controls hardware resources) and DomUs (user domains, which are the VMs). This is done through key-value entries, where each domain can read or write information.
- **Configuration Management:** It is used to store and access configuration information, such as virtual devices, networking, and boot parameters. This facilitates the dynamic management and configuration of VMs.
- **Events and Notifications:** Xen Store also supports event notifications. When a particular key or value in the Xen Store is modified, interested domains can be notified to react to these changes. This is useful for monitoring and managing resources.
- **Simple API:** Xen Store provides a simple API for reading and writing data, making it easy for developers to integrate their applications with the Xen virtualization system.



XAPI, or XenAPI, is the application programming interface (API) used to manage the Xen Hypervisor and its virtual machines (VMs). XAPI is a key component of XenServer (now known as Citrix Hypervisor) and provides a standardized way to interact with the Xen hypervisor to perform operations such as creating, configuring, monitoring, and controlling VMs.

Here are some important aspects of XAPI:

- **VM Management:** XAPI allows administrators to programmatically create, delete, start, and stop virtual machines.
- **Automation:** With XAPI, it's possible to automate the management of virtual resources, including networking, storage, and computing, which is crucial for large cloud environments.
- **Integration:** XAPI can be integrated with other tools and scripts to provide more efficient and customized administration of the Xen environment.
- **Access Control:** XAPI also provides access control mechanisms to ensure that only authorized users can perform specific operations in the virtual environment.

XAPI is the interface that enables control and automation of the Xen Hypervisor, making it easier to manage virtualized environments.

□ Xen Summary

- **Xen:** The core hypervisor technology enabling virtual machines to run on physical hardware.
- **XenSource:** The company that commercialized Xen, later acquired by Citrix, leading to the development of Citrix XenServer.
- **Xen Project:** The open-source initiative and community that continues to develop and maintain the Xen hypervisor under the Linux Foundation.
- **XenStore:** Xen Store acts as a communication and configuration intermediary between the Xen hypervisor and the VMs, streamlining the operation and management of virtualized environments.
- **XAPI** is the interface that enables control and automation of the Xen Hypervisor, making it easier to manage virtualized environments.

□ Domain0 (Dom0)

Domain0, or Dom0, is the control domain in a Xen architecture. It manages other domains (DomUs) and has direct access to hardware. Dom0 runs device drivers, allowing DomUs, which lack direct hardware access, to communicate with devices. Typically, it is a full instance of an operating system, like Linux, and is essential for Xen hypervisor operation.

□ DomainU (DomU)

DomUs are non-privileged domains that run virtual machines. They are managed by Dom0 and do not have direct access to hardware. DomUs can be configured to run different operating

 systems and are used for various purposes, such as application servers and development environments. They rely on Dom0 for hardware interaction.



□ PV-DomU (Paravirtualized DomainU)

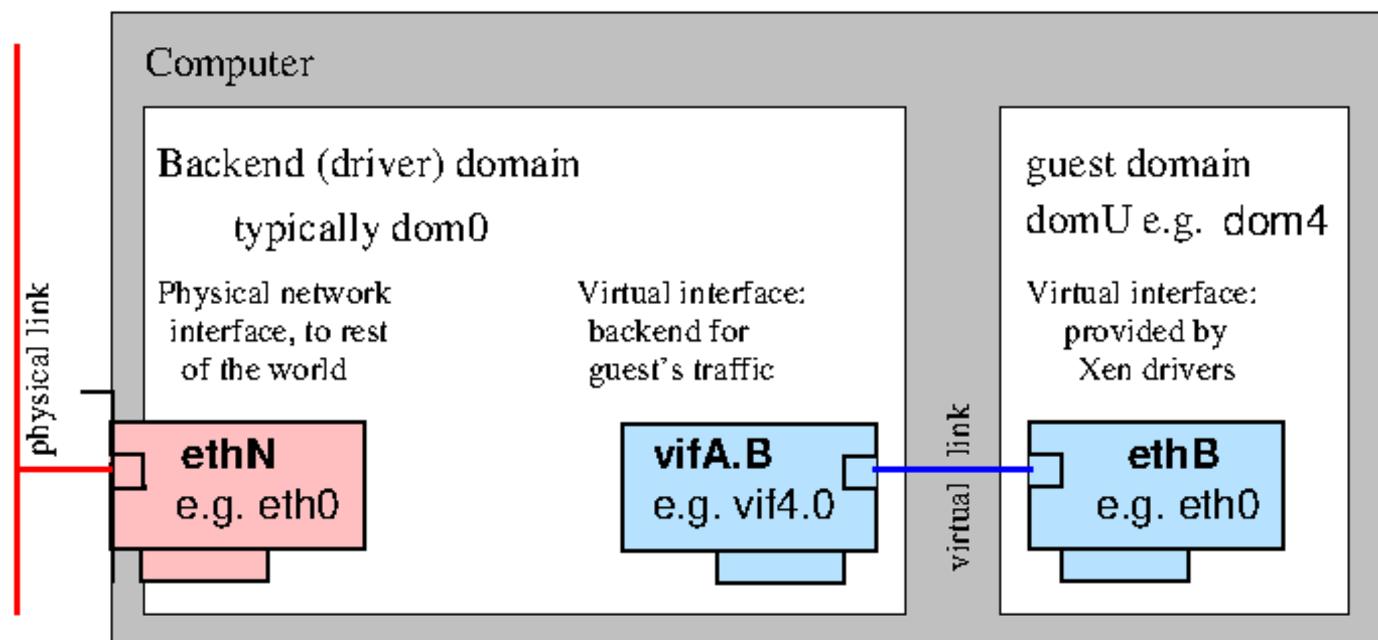
PV-DomUs use a technique called paravirtualization. In this model, the DomU operating system is modified to be aware that it runs in a virtualized environment, allowing it to communicate directly with the hypervisor for optimized performance. This results in lower overhead and better efficiency compared to full virtualization.

□ HVM-DomU (Hardware Virtual Machine DomainU)

HVM-DomUs are virtual machines that utilize full virtualization, allowing unmodified operating systems to run. The Xen hypervisor provides hardware emulation for these DomUs, enabling them to run any operating system that supports the underlying hardware architecture. While this offers greater flexibility, it can result in higher overhead compared to PV-DomUs.

□ Xen Network

Paravirtualized Network Devices





351.2 Cited Objects

```
Domain0 (Dom0), DomainU (DomU)
PV-DomU, HVM-DomU
/etc/xen/
x1
x1.cfg
x1.conf # Xen global configurations
xentop
oxenstored # Xenstore configurations
```

351.2 Notes

```
# Xen Settings
/etc/xen/
/etc/xen/xl.conf - Main general configuration file for Xen
/etc/xen/oxenstored.conf - Xenstore configurations

# VM Configurations
/etc/xen/xlexample.pvlinux
/etc/xen/xlexample.hvm
```



```
□ Light
# Service Configurations
/etc/default/xen
/etc/default/xendomains

# xen-tools configurations
/etc/xen-tools/
/usr/share/xen-tools/

# docs
x1(1)
x1.conf(5)
xlcpupool.cfg(5)
xl-disk-configuration(5)
xl-network-configuration(5)
xen-tscmode(7)

# initialized domains auto
/etc/default/xendomains
    XENDOMAINS_AUTO=/etc/xen/auto

/etc/xen/auto/

# set domain for up after xen reboot
## create folder auto
cd /etc/xen && mkdir -p auto && cd auto

# create symbolic link
ln -s /etc/xen/lpic3-pv-guest /etc/xen/auto/lpic3-pv-guest
```

vif

In Xen, “vif” stands for Virtual Interface and is used to configure networking for virtual machines (domains).

By specifying “vif” directives in the domain configuration files, administrators can define network interfaces, assign IP addresses, set up VLANs, and configure other networking parameters for virtual machines running on Xen hosts. For example: vif = [‘bridge=xenbr0’], in this case, it connects the VM’s network interface to the Xen bridge named “xenbr0”.

Xen Lab

Use this script for lab provisioning: xen.sh

□ 351.2 Important Commands

□ xen-create-image

```
# create a pv image
xen-create-image \
--hostname=lpic3-pv-guest \
```



```
└ Light--memory=1gb \
  --vcpus=2 \
  --lvm=vg_xen \
  --bridge=xenbr0 \
  --dhcp \
  --pygrub \
  --password=vagrant \
  --dist=bookworm
```

└ **xen-list-images**

```
# list image
xen-list-image
```

└ **xen-delete-image**

```
# delete a pv image
xen-delete-image lpic3-pv-guest --lvm=vg_xen
```

└ **xenstore-ls**

```
# list xenstore infos
xenstore-ls
```

└ **xl**

```
# view xen information
xl infos

# list Domains
xl list
xl list lpic3-hvm-guest
xl list lpic3-hvm-guest -l

# uptime Domains
xl uptime

# pause Domain
xl pause 2
xl pause lpic3-hvm-guest

# save state Domains
xl -v save lpic3-hvm-guest ~root/image-lpic3-hvm-guest.save

# restore Domain
xl restore /root/image-lpic3-hvm-guest.save

# get Domain name
```

xl domname 2



```
# view dmesg information
xl dmesg
```

```
# monitoring domain
xl top
xentop
xen top
```

```
# Limit mem Dom0
xl mem-set 0 2048
```

```
# Limit cpu (not permanent after boot)
xl vcpu-set 0 2
```

```
# create DomainU - virtual machine
xl create /etc/xen/lpic3-pv-guest.cfg
```

```
# create DomainU virtual machine and connect to guest
xl create -c /etc/xen/lpic3-pv-guest.cfg
```

```
#####
# create DomainU virtual machine HVM
```

```
## create logical volume
lvcreate -l +20%FREE -n lpic3-hvm-guest-disk vg_xen
```

```
## create a ssh tunel for vnc
ssh -l vagrant -L 5900:localhost:5900 192.168.0.130
```

```
## configure /etc/xen/lpic3-hvm-guest.cfg
## set boot for cdrom: boot = "d"
```

```
## create domain hvm
xl create /etc/xen/lpic3-hvm-guest.cfg
```

```
## open vcn connection in your vnc client with localhost
## for view install details
```

```
## after installation finished, destroy domain: xl destroy <id_or_name>
```

```
## set /etc/xen/lpic3-hvm-guest.cfg: boot for hard disc: boot = "c"
```

```
## create domain hvm
xl create /etc/xen/lpic3-hvm-guest.cfg
```

```
## access domain hvm
xl console <id_or_name>
#####
```

```
# connect in domain guest
xl console <id>|<name> (press enter)
xl console 1
xl console lpic3-pv-guest
```



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```
#How do I exit domU "xl console" session
#Press ctrl+] or if you're using Putty press ctrl+5.

# Poweroff domain
xl shutdown lpic3-pv-guest

# destroy domain
xl destroy lpic3-pv-guest

# reboot domain
xl reboot lpic3-pv-guest

# list block devices
xl block-list 1
xl block-list lpic3-pv-guest

# detach block devices
xl block-detach lpic3-hvm-guest hdc
xl block-detach 2 xvdc

# attach block devices

## hard disk devices
xl block-attach lpic3-hvm-guest-ubuntu 'phy:/dev/vg_xen/lpic3-hvm-guest-disk2,xvde,w

## cdrom
xl block-attach lpic3-hvm-guest 'file:/home/vagrant/isos/ubuntu/seed.iso,xvdc:cdrom,
xl block-attach 2 'file:/home/vagrant/isos/ubuntu/seed.iso,xvdc:cdrom,r'

# insert and eject cdrom devices
xl cd-insert lpic3-hvm-guest-ubuntu xvdb /home/vagrant/isos/ubuntu/ubuntu-24.04.1-1
xl cd-eject lpic3-hvm-guest-ubuntu xvdb
```

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351.3 QEMU



Weight: 4

Description: Candidates should be able to install, configure, maintain, migrate and troubleshoot QEMU installations.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand the architecture of QEMU, including KVM, networking and storage
- Start QEMU instances from the command line
- Manage snapshots using the QEMU monitor
- Install the QEMU Guest Agent and VirtIO device drivers
- Troubleshoot QEMU installations, including networking and storage
- Awareness of important QEMU configuration parameters

351.3 Cited Objects

```

Kernel modules: kvm, kvm-intel and kvm-amd
/dev/kvm
QEMU monitor
qemu
qemu-system-x86_64
ip
brctl
tunctl

```

351.3 Important Commands

351.3 Others Commands

check kvm module



□ **Light**

```
# Check if kvm is enabled
egrep -o '(vmx|svm)' /proc/cpuinfo
lscpu |grep Virtualization
lsmod|grep kvm
ls -l /dev/kvm
hostnamectl
systemd-detect-virt
```

```
# check if kvm is enabled
egrep -o '(vmx|svm)' /proc/cpuinfo
lscpu |grep Virtualization
lsmod|grep kvm
ls -l /dev/kvm
```

```
# check kernel infos
uname -a
```

```
# check root device
findmnt /
```

```
# mount a qcow2 image
## Example 1:
mkdir -p /mnt/qemu
guestmount -a os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 -i /mnt/qemu/

## Example 2:
sudo guestfish --rw -a os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2
run
list-filesystems

# run commands in qcow2 images
## Example 1:
virt-customize -a os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 --run-command 'e
## Example 2:
sudo virt-customize -a os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 \
--run-command 'echo -e "auto ens3\niface ens3 inet dhcp" > /etc/network/interfaces

# generate mac
printf 'DE:AD:BE:EF:%02X:%02X\n' $((RANDOM%256)) $((RANDOM%256))
```

□ **ip**

```
# list links
ip link show

# create bridge
ip link add br0 type bridge
```

□ **brctl**



Light

```
# list links  
ip link show  
  
# create bridge  
ip link add br0 type bridge
```

qemu-img

```
# create image  
qemu-img create -f qcow2 vm-disk-debian-12.qcow2 20G  
  
# convert vmdk to qcow2 image  
qemu-img convert \  
-f vmdk \  
-O qcow2 os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0_VMM_LinuxVMIImages.COM.vmdk os-i  
-p \  
-m16  
  
# check image  
qemu-img info os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2
```

qemu-system-x86_64

```
# create vm with ISO  
qemu-system-x86_64 \  
-name lpic3-debian-12 \  
-enable-kvm -hda vm-disk-debian-12.qcow2 \  
-cdrom /home/vagrant/isos/debian/debian-12.8.0-amd64-DVD-1.iso \  
-boot d \  
-m 2048 \  
-smp cpus=2 \  
-k pt-br  
  
# create vm with ISO using vnc in no gui servers \ ssh connections  
  
## create ssh tunel in host  
ssh -l vagrant -L 5902:localhost:5902 192.168.0.131  
  
## create vm  
qemu-system-x86_64 \  
-name lpic3-debian-12 \  
-enable-kvm \  
-m 2048 \  
-smp cpus=2 \  
-k pt-br \  
-vnc :2 \  
-device qemu-xhci \  
-device usb-tablet \  
-device ide-cd, bus=ide.1, drive=cdrom, bootindex=1 \  
-drive id=cdrom, media=cdrom, if=none, file=/home/vagrant/isos/debian/debian-12.8.0-a  
-hda vm-disk-debian-12.qcow2 \  
-vnc :2
```



```
Light-boot order=d \
-vga std \
-display none \
-monitor stdio

# create vm with OS Image - qcow2

## create vm
qemu-system-x86_64 \
-name lpic3-debian-12 \
-enable-kvm \
-m 2048 \
-smp cpus=2 \
-k pt-br \
-vnc :2 \
-hda os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2

## create vm with custom kernel params
qemu-system-x86_64 \
-name lpic3-debian-12 \
-kernel /vmlinuz \
-initrd /initrd.img \
-append "root=/dev/mapper/debian--vg-root ro fastboot console=ttyS0" \
-enable-kvm \
-m 2048 \
-smp cpus=2 \
-k pt-br \
-vnc :2 \
-hda os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2

## create vm with and attach disk
qemu-system-x86_64 \
-name lpic3-debian-12 \
-enable-kvm \
-m 2048 \
-smp cpus=2 \
-vnc :2 \
-hda os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 \
-hdb vmdisk-debian12.qcow2 \
-drive file=vmdisk-extra-debian12.qcow2,index=2,media=disk,if=ide \
-netdev bridge,id=net0,br=qemubr0 \
-device virtio-net-pci,netdev=net0

## create vm network netdev user
qemu-system-x86_64 \
-name lpic3-debian-12 \
-enable-kvm \
-m 2048 \
-smp cpus=2 \
-vnc :2 \
-hda os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 \
-netdev user,id=mynet0,net=192.168.0.150/24,dhcpstart=192.168.0.155,hostfwd=tcp::2 \
-device virtio-net-pci,netdev=mynet0

## create vm network netdev tap (Private Network)
```



```
ip link add br0 type bridge ; ifconfig br0 up
qemu-system-x86_64 \
    -name lpic3-debian-12 \
    -enable-kvm \
    -m 2048 \
    -smp cpus=2 \
    -vnc :2 \
    -hda os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 \
    -netdev tap,id=br0 \
    -device e1000,netdev=br0,mac=DE:AD:BE:EF:1A:24

## create vm with public bridge
#create a public bridge : https://www.linux-kvm.org/page/Networking

qemu-system-x86_64 \
    -name lpic3-debian-12 \
    -enable-kvm \
    -m 2048 \
    -smp cpus=2 \
    -hda os-images/Debian_12.0.0_VMM/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 \
    -k pt-br \
    -vnc :2 \
    -device qemu-xhci \
    -device usb-tablet \
    -vga std \
    -display none \
    -netdev bridge,id=net0,br=qemubr0 \
    -device virtio-net-pci,netdev=net0

## get a ipv4 ip - open ssh in vm and:
dhclient ens4
```

QEMU Monitor

For initiate QEMU monitor in commandline use **-monitor stdio** param in **qemu-system-x86_64**

```
qemu-system-x86_64 -monitor stdio
```

Exit qemu-monitor:

```
ctrl+alt+2
```

```
# Management
info status # vm info
info cpus # cpu information
info network # network informations
stop # pause vm
cont # start vm in status pause
system_powerdown # poweroff vm
system_reset # restart monitor
```



□ Light

```
# Blocks
info block # block info
boot_set d # force boot iso
change ide1-cd0 /home/vagrant/isos/debian/debian-12.8.0-amd64-DVD-1.iso # attach c
eject ide1-cd0 # detach cdrom

# Snapshots
info snapshots # list snapshots
savevm snapshot-01 # create snapshot
loadvm snapshot-01 # restore snapshot
delvm snapshot-01
```

□ Guest Agent

For enable, use:

```
qemu-system-x86_64
-chardev socket,path=/tmp/qga.sock,server=on,wait=off,id=qga0 \
-device virtio-serial \
-device virtserialport,chardev=qga0,name=org.qemu.guest_agent.0
```

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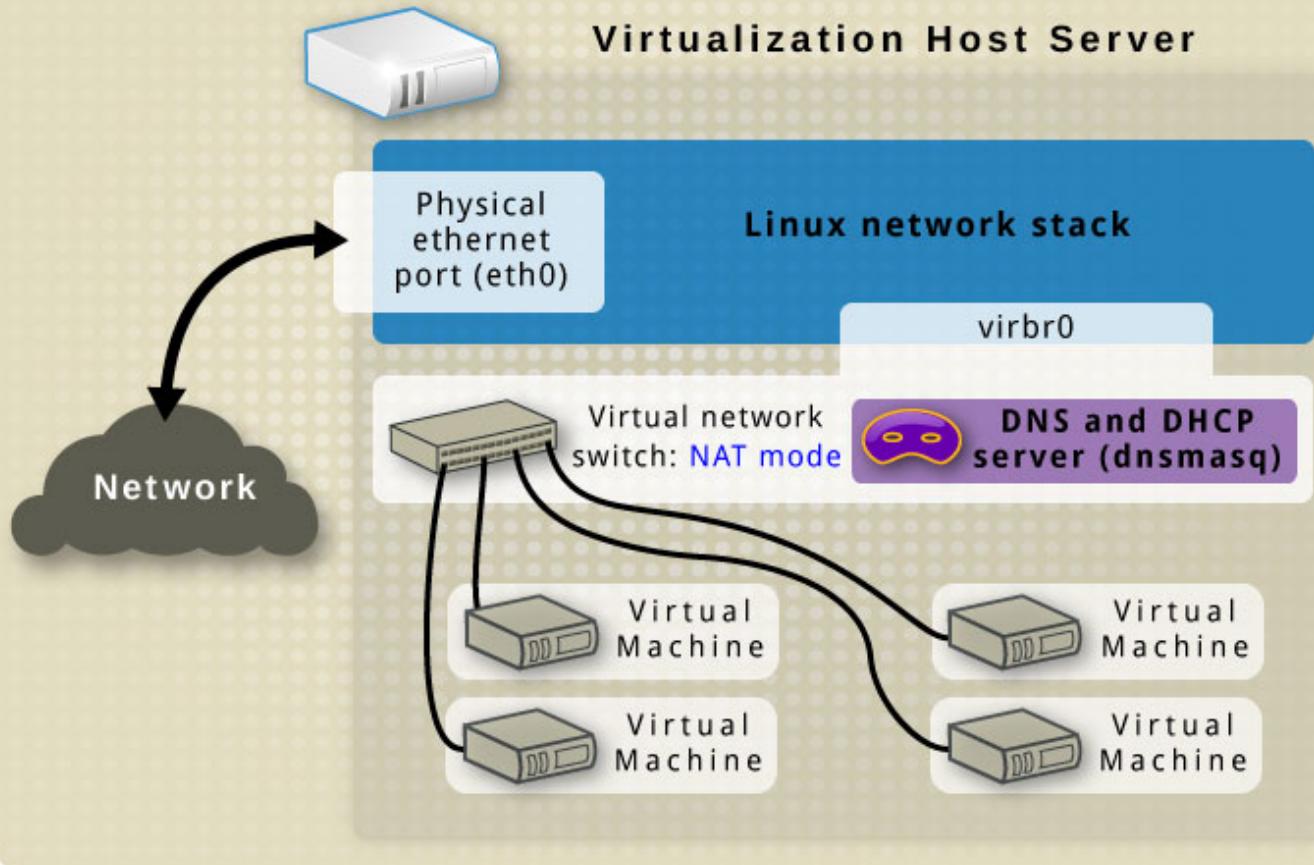
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□ 351.4 Libvirt Virtual Machine Management



libvirt's default network configuration



Weight: 9

Description: Candidates should be able to manage virtualization hosts and virtual machines ('libvirt domains') using libvirt and related tools.

Key Knowledge Areas:



- Understand the architecture of libvirt
- Manage libvirt connections and nodes
- Create and manage QEMU and Xen domains, including snapshots
- Manage and analyze resource consumption of domains
- Create and manage storage pools and volumes
- Create and manage virtual networks
- Migrate domains between nodes
- Understand how libvirt interacts with Xen and QEMU
- Understand how libvirt interacts with network services such as dnsmasq and radvd
- Understand libvirt XML configuration files
- Awareness of virtlogd and virtlockd

351.4 Cited Objects

```
libvirtd  
/etc/libvirt/  
/var/lib/libvirt  
/var/log/libvirt  
virsh (including relevant subcommands)
```

351.4 Important Commands

virsh

```
# using env variable for set virsh uri (local or remotely)  
export LIBVIRT_DEFAULT_URI=qemu:///system  
export LIBVIRT_DEFAULT_URI=xen+ssh://vagrant@192.168.0.130  
export LIBVIRT_DEFAULT_URI='xen+ssh://vagrant@192.168.0.130?keyfile=/home/vagrant/.s  
  
# COMMONS  
  
# get helps  
virsh help  
virsh help pool-create  
  
# view version  
virsh version  
  
# view system info  
sudo virsh sysinfo  
  
# view node info  
virsh nodeinfo  
  
# hostname
```

virsh hostname



```
# check vcn allocated port  
virsh vncdisplay <domain_id>  
virsh vncdisplay <domain_name>  
virsh vncdisplay rocky9-server01
```

HYPERVISORS

```
# view libvirt hypervisor connection  
virsh uri
```

```
# list valid hypervisors  
virt-host-validate  
virt-host-validate qemu
```

```
# test connection uri(vm test)  
virsh -c test:///default list
```

```
# connect remotely  
virsh -c xen+ssh://vagrant@192.168.0.130  
virsh -c xen+ssh://vagrant@192.168.0.130 list  
virsh -c qemu+ssh://vagrant@192.168.0.130/system list
```

```
# connect remotely without enter password  
virsh -c 'xen+ssh://vagrant@192.168.0.130?keyfile=/home/vagrant/.ssh/skynet-key-ecds
```

STORAGE

```
# list storage pools  
virsh pool-list --details
```

```
# list all storage pool  
virsh pool-list --all --details
```

```
# get a pool configuration  
virsh pool-dumpxml default
```

```
# get pool info  
virsh pool-info default
```

```
# create a storage pool  
virsh pool-define-as --name default --type dir --target /var/lib/libvirt/images
```

```
# create a storage pool with dumpxml  
virsh pool-create --overwrite --file configs/kvm/libvirt/pool.xml
```

```
# start storage pool  
virsh pool-start default
```

```
# set storage pool for autostart  
virsh pool-autostart default
```

```
# stop storage pool  
virsh pool-destroy linux
```



Light

```
# delete xml storage pool file
virsh pool-undefine linux

# edit storage pool
virsh pool-edit linux

# list volumes
virsh vol-list linux

# get volume infos
virsh vol-info Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 os-images
virsh vol-info --pool os-images Debian_12.0.0.qcow2

# get volume xml
virsh vol-dumpxml rocky9-disk1 default

# create volume
virsh vol-create-as default --format qcow2 disk1 10G

# delete volume
virsh vol-delete disk1 default

# DOMAINS \ INSTANCES \ VIRTUAL MACHINES

# list domain\instance\vm
virsh list
virsh list --all

# create domain\instance\vm
virsh create configs/kvm/libvirt/rocky9-server03.xml

# view domain\instance\vm info
virsh dominfo rocky9-server01

# view domain\instance\vm xml
virsh dumpxml rocky9-server01

# edit domain\instance\vm xml
virsh edit rocky9-server01

# stop domain\instance\vm
virsh shutdown rocky9-server01 # gracefully
virsh destroy 1
virsh destroy rocky9-server01

# suspend domain\instance\vm
virsh suspend rocky9-server01

# resume domain\instance\vm
virsh resume rocky9-server01

# start domain\instance\vm
virsh start rocky9-server01
```



```
① # remove domain\instance\vm
virsh undefine rocky9-server01

# remove domain\instance\vm and storage volumes
virsh undefine rocky9-server01 --remove-all-storage

# save domain\instance\vm
virsh save rocky9-server01 rocky9-server01.qcow2

# restore domain\instance\vm
virsh restore rocky9-server01.qcow2

# list snapshots
virsh snapshot-list rocky9-server01

# create snapshot
virsh snapshot-create rocky9-server01

# restore snapshot
virsh snapshot-revert rocky9-server01 1748983520

# view snapshot xml
virsh snapshot-info rocky9-server01 1748983520

# dumpxml snapshot
virsh snapshot-dumpxml rocky9-server01 1748983520

# xml snapshot path
/var/lib/libvirt/qemu/snapshot/rocky9-server01/

# view snapshot info
virsh snapshot-info rocky9-server01 1748983671

# edit snapshot
virsh snapshot-edit rocky9-server01 1748983520

# delete snapshot
virsh snapshot-delete rocky9-server01 1748983520

# DEVICES

# list block devices
virsh domblklist rocky9-server01 --details

# add cdrom media
virsh change-media rocky9-server01 sda /home/vagrant/isos/rocky/Rocky-9.5-x86_64-min
virsh attach-disk rocky9-server01 /home/vagrant/isos/rocky/Rocky-9.5-x86_64-minimal.

# remove cdrom media
virsh change-media rocky9-server01 sda --eject

# add new disk
virsh attach-disk rocky9-server01 /var/lib/libvirt/images/rocky9-disk2 vdb --persi

# remove disk
```

virsh detach-disk rocky9-server01 vdb --persistent



RESOURCES (CPU and Memory)

get cpu infos

virsh vcpuinfo rocky9-server01 --pretty

virsh dominfo rocky9-server01 | grep 'CPU'

get vcpu count

virsh vcpucount rocky9-server01

set vcpus maximum config

virsh setvcpus rocky9-server01 --count 4 --maximum --config

virsh shutdown rocky9-server01

virsh start rocky9-server01

set vcpu current config

virsh setvcpus rocky9-server01 --count 4 --config

set vcpu current live

virsh setvcpus rocky9-server01 --count 3 --current

virsh setvcpus rocky9-server01 --count 3 --live

configure vcpu affinity config

virsh vcpupin rocky9-server01 0 7 --config

virsh vcpupin rocky9-server01 1 5-6 --config

configure vcpu affinity current

virsh vcpupin rocky9-server01 0 7

virsh vcpupin rocky9-server01 1 5-6

set maximum memory config

virsh setmaxmem rocky9-server01 3000000 --config

virsh shutdown rocky9-server01

virsh start rocky9-server01

set current memory config

virsh setmem rocky9-server01 2500000 --current

NETWORK

get netwwork bridges

brctl show

get iptables rules for libvirt

sudo iptables -L -n -t nat

list network

virsh net-list --all

set default network

virsh net-define /etc/libvirt/qemu/networks/default.xml

get network infos

virsh net-info default



```
□ Light
# get xml network
virsh net-dumpxml default

# xml file
cat /etc/libvirt/qemu/networks/default.xml

# dhcp config
sudo cat /etc/libvirt/qemu/networks/default.xml | grep -A 10 dhcp
sudo cat /var/lib/libvirt/dnsmasq/default.conf

# get domain ip address
virsh net-dhcp-leases default
virsh net-dhcp-leases default --mac 52\:54\:00\:89\:19\:86

# edit network
virsh net-edit default

# get domain network details
virsh domiflist debian-server01

# path for network filter files
/etc/libvirt/nwfilter/

# list network filters
virsh nwfilter-list

# create network filter - block icmp traffic
virsh nwfilter-define block-icmp.xml
# virsh edit Debian-Server
#   <interface type='network'>
#     ...
#       <filterref filter='block-icmp'/>
#     ...
#   </interface>
# virsh destroy debian-server01
# virsh start debian-server01

# delete network filter
virsh nwfilter-undefine block-icmp

# get xml network filter
virsh nwfilter-dumpxml block-icmp
```

□ virt-install

```
# list os variants
virt-install --os-variant list
osinfo-query os

# create domain\instance\vm with iso file
virsh vol-create-as default --format qcow2 rocky9-disk1 20G
virt-install --name rocky9-server01 \
```



```
□ Light
  --cpu host \
  --memory 2048 \
  --disk vol=default/rocky9-disk1 \
  --cdrom /home/vagrant/isos/rocky/Rocky-9.5-x86_64-minimal.iso \
  --os-variant=rocky9 \
  --graphics vnc,listen=0.0.0.0,port=5905

# create debian domain\instance\vm with qcow2 file
virt-install --name debian-server01 \
  --vcpus 2 \
  --ram 2048 \
  --disk vol=os-images/Debian_12.0.0.qcow2 \
  --import \
  --osinfo detect=on \
  --graphics vnc,listen=0.0.0.0,port=5906 \
  --network network=default \
  --noautoconsole

# create rocky9 domain\instance\vm with qcow2 file
virt-install --name rocky9-server02 \
  --vcpus 2 \
  --ram 2048 \
  --disk path=os-images/RockyLinux_9.4_VMG/RockyLinux_9.4.qcow2,format=qcow2,bus=virtio \
  --import \
  --osinfo detect=on \
  --graphics vnc,listen=0.0.0.0,port=5907 \
  --network bridge=qemubr0,model=virtio \
  --noautoconsole

# open domain\instance\vm gui console
virt-viewer debian-server01

# check metadata domain\instance\vm file (if uri is qemu:///system)
less /etc/libvirt/qemu/debian-server01.xml
```

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□ 351.5 Virtual Machine Disk Image Management



Virtual Machine Disk Images

Format	Hypervisor	Size	Compression	Encryption	Snapshots
IMG	Generic	Gyramic	No	No	No
RAW	Generico	Hyper-V	Yes	No	No
VHD	Hyper-V (VMWare, VirtualBox)	Dynamic	Yes	No	Sim
VMDK	Hyper-V	Dynamic	Yes	Yes	Sim
VDI	VirtualBox	Dynamic	Yes	Yes	Sim
QCOW2	QEMU, KVM	Dynamic	Yes	Yes	Sim

Weight: 3

Description: Candidates should be able to manage virtual machines disk images. This includes converting disk images between various formats and hypervisors and accessing data stored within an image.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand features of various virtual disk image formats, such as raw images, qcows2 and VMDK
- Manage virtual machine disk images using qemu-img
- Mount partitions and access files contained in virtual machine disk images using libguestfish
- Copy physical disk content to a virtual machine disk image
- Migrate disk content between various virtual machine disk image formats
- Awareness of Open Virtualization Format (OVF)

351.5 Cited Objects

```

qemu-img
guestfish (including relevant subcommands)
guestmount
guestumount
virt-cat
virt-copy-in
virt-copy-out

```



- `virt-diff`
- Light
- `virt-inspector`
- `virt/filesystems`
- `virt-rescue`
- `virt-df`
- `virt-sparsify`
- `virt-p2v`
- `virt-p2v-make-disk`
- `virt-v2v`

□ 351.5 Important Commands

□ 351.5.1 qemu-img

```
# Display detailed information about a disk image
qemu-img info UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2

# Create a new 22G raw disk image (default format is raw)
qemu-img create new-disk 22G

# Create a new 22G disk image in qcow2 format
qemu-img create -f qcow2 new-disk2 22G

# Convert a VDI image to raw format using 5 threads and show progress
qemu-img convert -f vdi -O raw Ubuntu-Server.vdk new-Ubuntu.raw -m5 -p

# Convert vmdk to qcow2 image
qemu-img convert \
-f vmdk \
-O qcow2 os-images/UbuntuServer_24.04_VM/UbuntuServer_24.04_VM_LinuxVMImages.COM.vmd
os-images/UbuntuServer_24.04_VM/UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 \
-p \
-m16

# Resize a raw image to 30G
qemu-img resize -f raw new-disk 30G

# Resize a qcow2 image to 15G(actual size 30Gdisk 30G)
qemu-img resize -f raw --shrink new-disk 15G

# Snapshots

# List all snapshots in the image
qemu-img snapshot -l new-disk2.qcow2

# Create a snapshot named SNAP1
qemu-img snapshot -c SNAP1 disk

# Apply a snapshot by ID or name
qemu-img snapshot -a 123456789 disk

# Delete the snapshot named SNAP1
qemu-img snapshot -d SNAP1 disk
```



□ Light

□ guestfish

```
# set environment variables for guestfish
export LIBGUESTFS_BACKEND_SETTINGS=force_tcg

# Launch guestfish with a disk image
guestfish -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2
#run
#list-partitions

# Run the commands in a script file
guestfish -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -m /dev/sda -i < script.ssh

# Interactively run commands
guestfish --rw -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 <<'EOF'
run
list/filesystems
EOF

# Copy a file from the guest image to the host
export LIBGUESTFS_BACKEND_SETTINGS=force_tcg
sudo guestfish --rw -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -i <<'EOF'
copy-out /etc/hostname /tmp/
EOF

# Copy a file from the host into the guest image
echo "new-hostname" > /tmp/hostname
export LIBGUESTFS_BACKEND_SETTINGS=force_tcg
sudo guestfish --rw -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -i <<'EOF'
copy-in /tmp/hostname /etc/
EOF

# View contents of a file in the guest image
guestfish --ro -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -i <<'EOF'
cat /etc/hostname
EOF

# List files in the guest image
export LIBGUESTFS_BACKEND_SETTINGS=force_tcg
guestfish --rw -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -i <<'EOF'
ls /home/ubuntu
EOF

# Edit a file in the guest image
export LIBGUESTFS_BACKEND_SETTINGS=force_tcg
guestfish --rw -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -i <<'EOF'
edit /etc/hosts
EOF
```

□ guestmount



□ **Light**

```
# Mount a disk image to a directory
guestmount -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -m /dev/ubuntu-vg/ubuntu-lv /mnt/ubuntu
# domain
guestmount -d rocky9-server02 -m /dev/ubuntu-vg/ubuntu-lv /mnt/ubuntu

# Mount a specific partition from a disk image
guestmount -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -m /dev/sda2 /mnt/ubuntu
# domain
guestmount -d debian-server01 --ro -m /dev/debian-vg/root /mnt/debian
```

□ **guestumount**

```
# Umount a disk image to a directory
sudo guestunmount /mnt/ubuntu
```

□ **virt-df**

```
# Show free and used space on virtual machine filesystems
virt-df UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -h
virt-df -d rocky9-server02 -h
```

□ **virt-filesystems**

```
# List filesystems, partitions, and logical volumes in a VM disk image (disk image)
virt-filesystems -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 --all --long -h

# List filesystems, partitions, and logical volumes in a VM disk image (domain)
virt-filesystems -d debian-server01 --all --long -h
```

□ **virt-inspector**

```
# Inspect and report on the operating system in a VM disk image
virt-inspector -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 #(disk)
virt-inspector -d debian-server01 #(domain)
```

□ **virt-cat**

```
# Display the contents of a file inside a VM disk image
virt-cat -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 /etc/hosts
virt-cat -d debian-server01 /etc/hosts #(domain)
```

□ **virt-diff**



□ **Light**
Show differences between two VM disk images
`virt-diff -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 -A Rocky-Linux.qcow2`

□ **virt-sparsify**

```
# Make a VM disk image smaller by removing unused space  
virt-sparsify UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 UbuntuServer_24.04-sparse.qcow2
```

□ **virt-resize**

```
# Resize a VM disk image or its partitions  
virt-filesystems -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 --all --long -h #(check size of partitions)  
qemu-img create -f qcow2 UbuntuServer_24.04-expanded.qcow2 100G #(create new disk image)  
virt-resize --expand /dev/ubuntu-vg/ubuntu-lv \  
UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 UbuntuServer_24.04-expanded.qcow2
```

□ **virt-copy-in**

```
# Copy files from the host into a VM disk image  
virt-copy-in -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 ~vagrant/test-virt-copy-in.txt /home/ubuntu
```

□ **virt-copy-out**

```
# Copy files from a VM disk image to the host  
virt-copy-out -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 /home/ubuntu/.bashrc /tmp
```

□ **virt-ls**

```
# List files and directories inside a VM disk image  
virt-ls -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2 /home/ubuntu
```

□ **virt-rescue**

```
# Launch a rescue shell on a VM disk image for recovery  
virt-rescue -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2
```

□ **virt-sysprep**

```
# Prepare a VM disk image for cloning by removing system-specific data  
virt-sysprep -a UbuntuServer_24.04.qcow2
```



□ Light □ **virt-v2v**

```
# Convert a VM from a foreign hypervisor to run on KVM
virt-v2v -i disk input-disk.img -o local -os /var/tmp
```

□ **virt-p2v**

```
# Convert a physical machine to use KVM
```

□ **virt-p2v-make-disk**

```
# Create a bootable disk image for physical to virtual conversion
sudo virt-p2v-make-disk -o output.img
```

□ **351.5 Notes**

□ **OVF: Open Virtualization Format**

OVF: An open format that defines a standard for packaging and distributing virtual machines across different environments.

The generated package has the .ova extension and contains the following files:

- .ovf: XML file with metadata defining the virtual machine environment
- Image files: .vmdk, .vhdx, .vhd, .qcow2, .raw
- Additional files: metadata, snapshots, configuration, hash

(back to sub Topic 351.5)

(back to Topic 351)

(back to top)

□ **Topic 352: container Virtualization**

□ **352.1 container Virtualization Concepts**



Timeline

```
title Time Line containers Evolution
1979 : chroot
2000 : FreeBSD Jails
2002 : Linux Namespaces
2005 : Solaris containers
2007 : cgroups
2008 : LXC
2013 : Docker
2015 : Kubernetes
```

Weight: 7

Description: Candidates should understand the concept of container virtualization. This includes understanding the Linux components used to implement container virtualization as well as using standard Linux tools to troubleshoot these components.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand the concepts of system and application container
- Understand and analyze kernel namespaces
- Understand and analyze control groups
- Understand and analyze capabilities

☐ Light Understand the role of seccomp, SELinux and AppArmor for container virtualization



- Understand how LXC and Docker leverage namespaces, cgroups, capabilities, seccomp and MAC
- Understand the principle of runc
- Understand the principle of CRI-O and containerd
- Awareness of the OCI runtime and image specifications
- Awareness of the Kubernetes container Runtime Interface (CRI)
- Awareness of podman, buildah and skopeo
- Awareness of other container virtualization approaches in Linux and other free operating systems, such as rkt, OpenVZ, systemd-nspawn or BSD Jails

☐ 352.1 Cited Objects

```
nsenter
unshare
ip (including relevant subcommands)
capsh
/sys/fs/cgroups
/proc/[0-9]+/ns
/proc/[0-9]+/status
```

☐ Understanding containers



Containers are a lightweight virtualization technology that package applications along with their required dependencies — code, libraries, environment variables, and configuration files — into isolated, portable, and reproducible units.

In simple terms: a container is a self-contained box that runs your application the same way, anywhere.

What Is a Container?

Unlike Virtual Machines (VMs), containers do not virtualize hardware. Instead, they virtualize the operating system. Containers share the same Linux kernel with the host, but each one operates in a fully isolated user space.

Containers vs Virtual Machines:



Light Feature	containers	Virtual Machines
OS Kernel	Shared with host	Each VM has its own OS
Startup time	Fast (seconds or less)	Slow (minutes)
Image size	Lightweight (MBs)	Heavy (GBs)
Resource efficiency	High	Lower
Isolation mechanism	Kernel features (namespaces)	Hypervisor

Key Characteristics of containers

- Lightweight:** Share the host OS kernel, reducing overhead and enabling fast startup.
- Portable:** Run consistently across different environments (dev, staging, prod, cloud, on-prem).
- Isolated:** Use namespaces for process, network, and filesystem isolation.
- Efficient:** Enable higher density and better resource utilization than traditional VMs.
- Scalable:** Perfect fit for microservices and cloud-native architecture.

Types of containers

1. System containers

- Designed to run the entire OS, Resemble virtual machines.
- Support multiple processes and system services (init, syslog).
- Ideal for legacy or monolithic applications.
- Example: LXC, libvirt-lxc.

2. Application containers

- Designed to run a single process.
- Stateless, ephemeral, and horizontally scalable.
- Used widely in modern DevOps and Kubernetes environments.
- Example: Docker, containerd, CRI-O.

Popular container Runtimes

Runtime	Description
Docker	Most widely adopted CLI/daemon for building and running containers.
containerd	Lightweight runtime powering Docker and Kubernetes.
CRI-O	Kubernetes-native runtime for OCI containers.



└ **Linux Runtime**

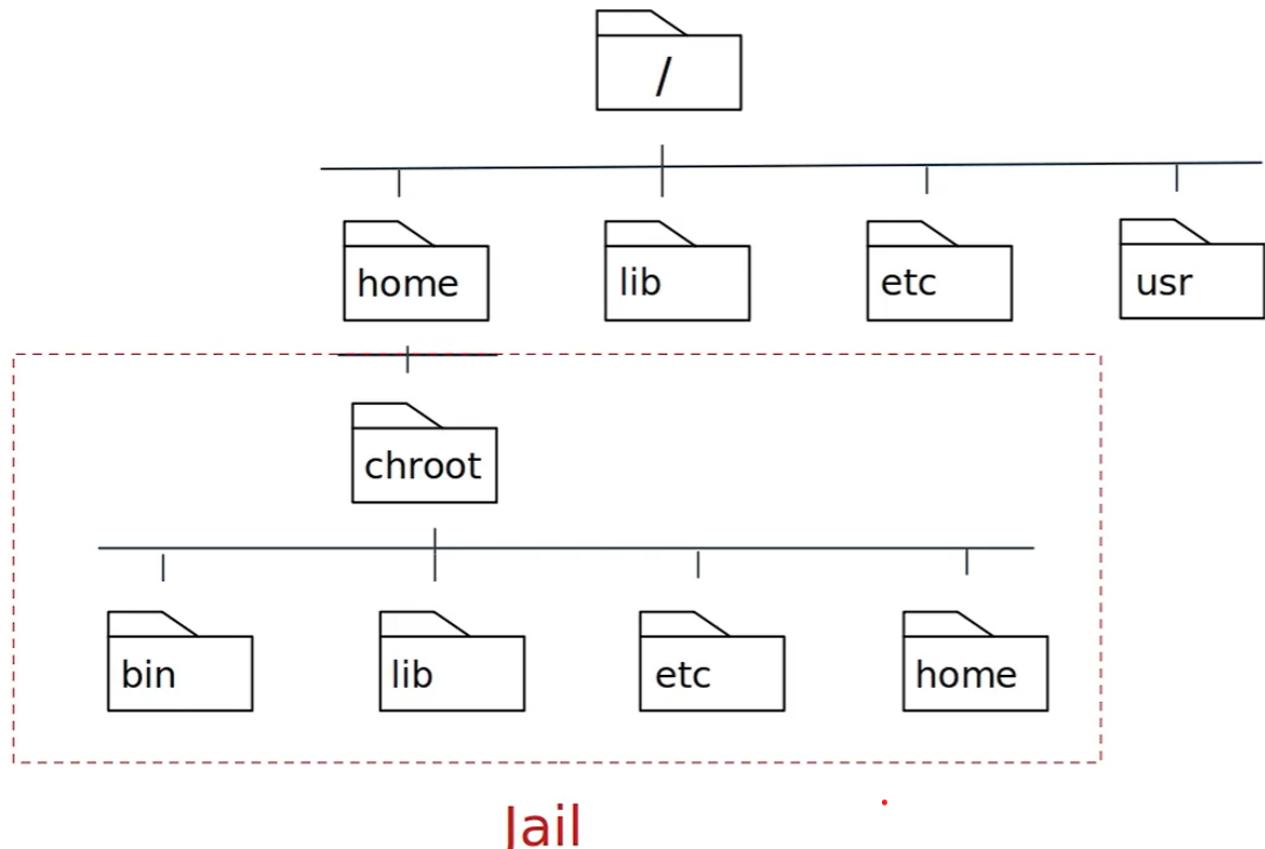
Description

LXC	Traditional Linux system containers, closer to full OS.
RKT	Security-focused runtime (deprecated).

└ **Container Internals and Security Elements**

Component	Role
Namespaces	Isolate processes, users, mounts, networks.
cgroups	Control and limit resource usage (CPU, memory, IO).
Capabilities	Fine-grained privilege control inside containers.
seccomp	Restricts allowed syscalls to reduce attack surface.
AppArmor / SELinux	Mandatory Access Control enforcement at kernel level.

└ **Understanding chroot - Change Root Directory in Unix/Linux**



What is chroot?

 **chroot** (short for change root) is a system call and command on Unix-like operating systems that changes the apparent root directory (/) for the current running process and its children. This creates an isolated environment, commonly referred to as a chroot jail.



□ Purpose and Use Cases

-  Isolate applications for security (jailing).
-  Create testing environments without impacting the rest of the system.
-  System recovery (e.g., boot into LiveCD and chroot into installed system).
-  Building software packages in a controlled environment.

□ Minimum Required Structure

The chroot environment must have its own essential files and structure:

```
/mnt/myenv/
├── bin/
│   └── bash
├── etc/
├── lib/
├── lib64/
├── usr/
├── dev/
├── proc/
└── tmp/
```

Use ldd to identify required libraries:

```
ldd /bin/bash
```

□ Limitations and Security Considerations

- chroot is not a security boundary like containers or VMs.
- A privileged user (root) inside the jail can potentially break out.
- No isolation of process namespaces, devices, or kernel-level resources.

For stronger isolation, consider alternatives like:

- Linux containers (LXC, Docker)
- Virtual machines (KVM, QEMU)
- Kernel namespaces and cgroups

□ Test chroot with debootstrap

```
# download debian files
sudo debootstrap stable ~vagrant/debian http://deb.debian.org/debian
```

```
sudo chroot ~vagrant/debian bash
```



Lab chroot

Use this script for lab: chroot.sh

```
[INFO] Copying touch and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/touch' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/touch'  
[INFO] Copying w and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/w' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/w'  
[INFO] Copying hostname and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/hostname' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/hostname'  
[INFO] Copying id and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/id' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/id'  
[INFO] Copying tr and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/tr' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/tr'  
[INFO] Copying head and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/head' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/head'  
[INFO] Copying sed and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/sed' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/sed'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libacl.so.1' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libacl.so.1'  
[INFO] Copying rm and dependencies  
'/usr/bin/rm' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/rm'  
[INFO] Chroot environment setup complete.  
  
=====  
Chroot Test Summary  
=====  
[SUMMARY]  
[CHROOT UTS] Hostname: lpic3-topic-352-container  
[CHROOT USER] UID/GID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)  
[CHROOT PID] Running processes:  


| USER | PID | %CPU | %MEM | VSZ    | RSS   | TTY | STAT | START | TIME | COMMAND      |
|------|-----|------|------|--------|-------|-----|------|-------|------|--------------|
| root | 1   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 169288 | 13864 | ?   | Ss   | Jul07 | 0:02 | /sbin/init   |
| root | 2   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0      | 0     | ?   | S    | Jul07 | 0:00 | [kthreadd]   |
| root | 3   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0      | 0     | ?   | I<   | Jul07 | 0:00 | [rcu_gp]     |
| root | 4   | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0      | 0     | ?   | I<   | Jul07 | 0:00 | [rcu_par_gp] |

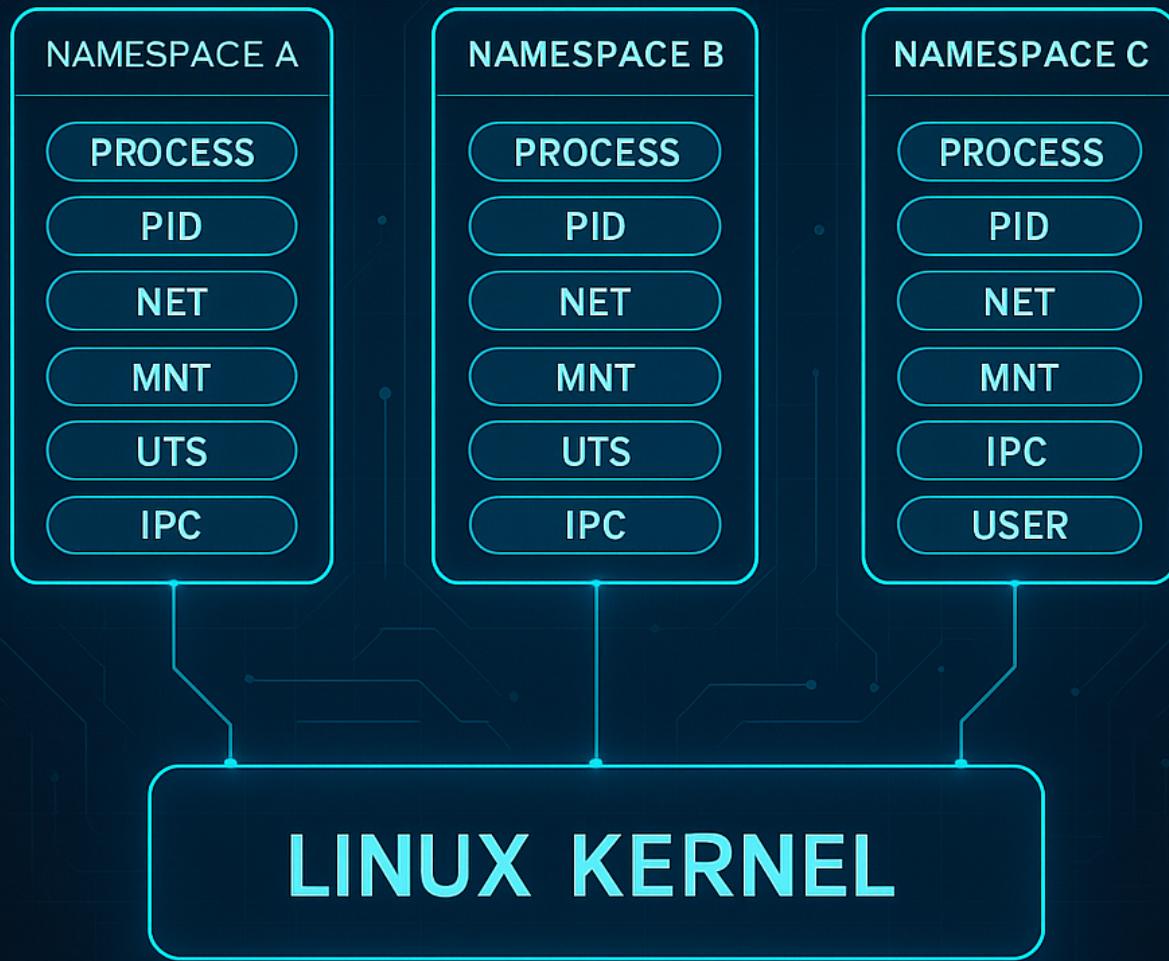
  
[CHROOT FS] Root filesystem:  
bin chroot-lab-summary.sh dev etc lib lib64 proc sys tmp usr  
[CHROOT MOUNT] /tmp write: OK  
=====  
  
bash-5.2# ls  
bin dev etc lib lib64 proc sys tmp usr  
bash-5.2# pwd  
/  
bash-5.2# ls /etc  
group passwd resolv.conf  
bash-5.2#
```



Understanding Linux Namespaces



LINUX NAMESPACES



Namespaces are a core Linux kernel feature that enable process-level isolation. They create separate "views" of global system resources — such as process IDs, networking, filesystems, and users — so that each process group believes it is running in its own system.

In simple terms: namespaces trick a process into thinking it owns the machine, even though it's just sharing it.

This is the foundation for container isolation.

What Do Namespaces Isolate?

Each namespace type isolates a specific system resource. Together, they make up the sandbox that a container operates in:

Namespace

Isolates...

Real-world example



_namespace

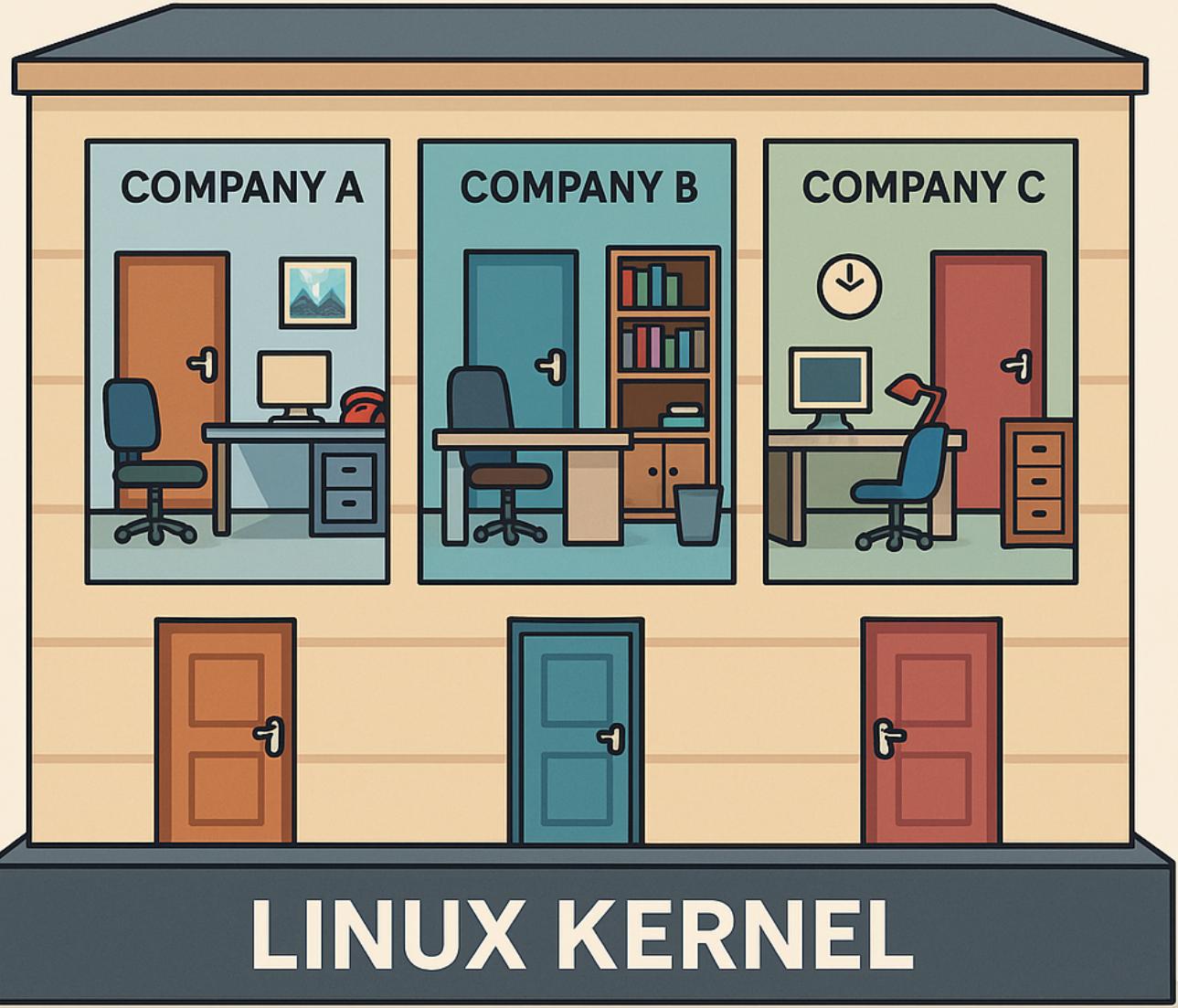
Isolates...

Real-world example

PID	Process IDs	Processes inside a container see a different PID space
Mount	Filesystem mount points	Each container sees its own root filesystem
Network	Network stack	Containers have isolated IPs, interfaces, and routes
UTS	Hostname and domain name	Each container sets its own hostname
IPC	Shared memory and semaphores	Prevents inter-process communication between containers
User	User and group IDs	Enables fake root (UID 0) inside the container
Cgroup (v2)	Control group membership	Ties into resource controls like CPU and memory limits

Visual Analogy

LINUX NAMESPACES



Imagine a shared office building:

- All tenants share the same foundation (Linux kernel).
- Each company has its own office (namespace): different locks, furniture, phone lines, and company name.
- To each tenant, it feels like their own building.

That's exactly how containers experience the system — isolated, yet efficient.

□ How containers Use Namespaces

When you run a container (e.g., with Docker or Podman), the runtime creates a new set of namespaces:

```
└ Light  
  docker run -it --rm alpine sh
```



This command gives the process:

- A new PID namespace → it's process 1 inside the container.
- A new network namespace → its own virtual Ethernet.
- A mount namespace → a container-specific root filesystem.
- Other namespaces depending on configuration (user, IPC, etc.)

The result: a lightweight, isolated runtime environment that behaves like a separate system.

└ Complementary Kernel Features

Namespaces hide resources from containers. But to control how much they can use and what they can do, we need additional mechanisms:

└ Cgroups (Control Groups)

Cgroups allow the kernel to limit, prioritize, and monitor resource usage across process groups.

Resource	Use case examples
CPU	Limit CPU time per container
Memory	Cap RAM usage
Disk I/O	Throttle read/write operations
Network (v2)	Bandwidth restrictions

└ Prevents the "noisy neighbor" problem by stopping one container from consuming all system resources.

└ Capabilities

Traditional Linux uses a binary privilege model: root (UID 0) can do everything, everyone else is limited.

Capability	Allows...
CAP_NET_BIND_SERVICE	Binding to privileged ports (e.g. 80, 443)
CAP_SYS_ADMIN	A powerful catch-all for system admin tasks
CAP_KILL	Sending signals to arbitrary processes

By dropping unnecessary capabilities, containers can run with only what they need — reducing risk.

□ Security Mechanisms



Used in conjunction with namespaces and cgroups to lock down what a containerized process can do:

Feature	Description
seccomp	Whitelist or block Linux system calls (syscalls)
AppArmor	Apply per-application security profiles
SELinux	Enforce Mandatory Access Control with tight system policies

□ Summary for Beginners

- Namespaces isolate what a container can see
- Cgroups control what it can use
- Capabilities and security modules define what it can do

Together, these kernel features form the technical backbone of container isolation — enabling high-density, secure, and efficient application deployment without full VMs.

□ Lab Namespaces

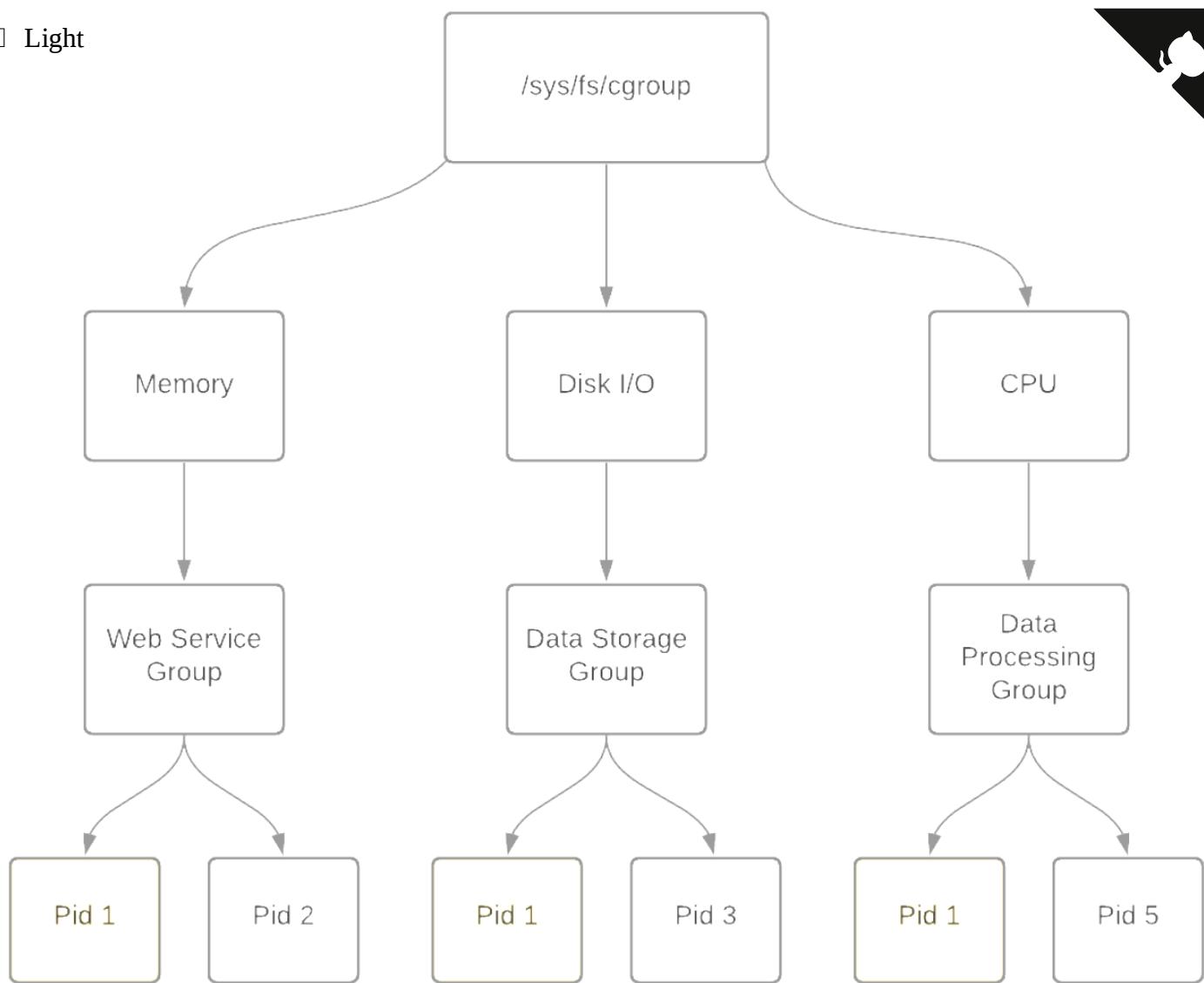
Use this script for lab: namespace.sh

```
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libtinfo.so.6' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libtinfo.so.6'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6'  
'/usr/bin/ls' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/ls'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libselinux.so.1' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libselinux.so.1'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpcre2-8.so.0' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpcre2-8.so.0'  
'/usr/bin/pstree' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/pstree'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libproc2.so.0' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libproc2.so.0'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libsystemd.so.0' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libsystemd.so.0'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libcap.so.2' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libcap.so.2'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libgcrypt.so.20' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libgcrypt.so.20'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/liblzma.so.5' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/liblzma.so.5'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libzstd.so.1' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libzstd.so.1'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libz4.so.1' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libz4.so.1'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpqg-error.so.0' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpqg-error.so.0'  
'/usr/bin/mkdir' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/mkdir'  
'/usr/bin/cat' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/cat'  
'/usr/bin/sh' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/sh'  
'/usr/bin/uname' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/uname'  
'/usr/bin/touch' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/touch'  
'/usr/bin/hostname' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/hostname'  
'/usr/sbin/ip' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/sbin/ip'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libbpf.so.1' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libbpf.so.1'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libelf.so.1' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libelf.so.1'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libmnl.so.0' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libmnl.so.0'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libbsd.so.0' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libbsd.so.0'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libbz.so.1' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libbz.so.1'  
'/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libmd.so.0' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libmd.so.0'  
'/usr/bin/id' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/id'  
'/usr/bin/whoami' -> '/mnt/myenv/usr/bin/whoami'  
[INFO] □ Copying essential system configuration □  
'/etc/resolv.conf' -> '/mnt/myenv/etc/resolv.conf'  
'/etc/passwd' -> '/mnt/myenv/etc/passwd'  
'/etc/group' -> '/mnt/myenv/etc/group'  
'/lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2' -> '/mnt/myenv/lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2'
```

Press Enter to return to menu... □



□ Understanding Cgroups (Control Groups)



[] Definition

Control Groups (cgroups) are a Linux kernel feature introduced in 2007 that allow you to limit, account for, and isolate the resource usage (CPU, memory, disk I/O, etc.) of groups of processes.

cgroups are heavily used by low-level container runtimes such as runc and crun, and leveraged by container engines like Docker, Podman, and LXC to enforce resource boundaries and provide isolation between containers.

Namespaces isolate, cgroups control.

Namespaces create separate environments for processes (like PID, network, or mounts), while cgroups limit and monitor resource usage (CPU, memory, I/O) for those processes.

[] Key Capabilities

Feature	Description
---------	-------------

Resource Limiting Impose limits on how much of a resource a group can use

Prioritization Allocate more CPU/IO priority to some groups over others



Light Feature	Description
Accounting	Track usage of resources per group
Control	Suspend, resume, or kill processes in bulk
Isolation	Prevent resource starvation between groups

Subsystems (Controllers)

cgroups operate through controllers, each responsible for managing one type of resource:

Subsystem	Description
cpu	Controls CPU scheduling
cpuacct	Generates CPU usage reports
memory	Limits and accounts memory usage
blkio	Limits block device I/O
devices	Controls access to devices
freezer	Suspends/resumes execution of tasks
net_cls	Tags packets for traffic shaping
ns	Manages namespace access (rare)

Filesystem Layout

cgroups are exposed through the virtual filesystem under `/sys/fs/cgroup`.

Depending on the version:

- **cgroups v1**: separate hierarchies for each controller (e.g., memory, cpu, etc.)
- **cgroups v2**: unified hierarchy under a single mount point

Mounted under:

`/sys/fs/cgroup/`

Typical cgroups v1 hierarchy:

```
/sys/fs/cgroup/
├── memory/
│   ├── mygroup/
│   │   ├── tasks
│   │   └── memory.limit_in_bytes
└── cpu/
```

Light └ mygroup/
 ...



In cgroups v2, all resources are managed under a unified hierarchy:

```
/sys/fs/cgroup/  
└── cgroup.procs  
└── cgroup.controllers  
└── memory.max  
└── cpu.max  
└── ...
```

Common Usage (v1 and v2 examples)

v1 – Create and assign memory limit:

```
# Mount memory controller (if needed)  
mount -t cgroup -o memory none /sys/fs/cgroup/memory  
  
# Create group  
mkdir /sys/fs/cgroup/memory/mygroup  
  
# Set memory limit (100 MB)  
echo 104857600 | tee /sys/fs/cgroup/memory/mygroup/memory.limit_in_bytes  
  
# Assign a process (e.g., current shell)  
echo $$ | tee /sys/fs/cgroup/memory/mygroup/tasks
```

v2 – Unified hierarchy:

```
# Create subgroup  
mkdir /sys/fs/cgroup/mygroup  
  
# Enable controllers  
echo +memory +cpu > /sys/fs/cgroup/cgroup.subtree_control  
  
# Move shell into group  
echo $$ > /sys/fs/cgroup/mygroup/cgroup.procs  
  
# Set limits  
echo 104857600 > /sys/fs/cgroup/mygroup/memory.max  
echo "50000 100000" > /sys/fs/cgroup/mygroup/cpu.max # 50ms quota per 100ms period
```

Process & Group Inspection

Command	Description
cat /proc/self/cgroup	Shows current cgroup membership



Light	Command	Description
cat	/proc/PID/cgroup	cgroup of another process
cat	/proc/PID/status	Memory and cgroup info
ps	-o pid,cmd,cgroup	Show process-to-cgroup mapping

Usage in containers

container engines like Docker, Podman, and containerd delegate resource control to cgroups (via runc or crun), allowing:

- Per-container CPU and memory limits
- Fine-grained control over blkio and devices
- Real-time resource accounting

Docker example:

```
docker run --memory=256m --cpus=1 busybox
```

Behind the scenes, this creates cgroup rules for memory and CPU limits for the container process.

Concepts Summary

Concept	Explanation
Controllers	Modules like <code>cpu</code> , <code>memory</code> , <code>blkio</code> , etc. apply limits and rules
Tasks	PIDs (processes) assigned to the control group
Hierarchy	Cgroups are structured in a parent-child tree
Delegation	Systemd and user services may manage subtrees of cgroups

Lab Cgroups

Use this script for lab: `cgroups.sh`

```
=====
Cgroup Behavior Simulator
By Silvestrini - 2025
=====
Choose a scenario to run:
1. Soft Limit      - Process stays within limits
2. CPU Throttling - Process slowed by CPU cap
3. OOM Kill        - Process exceeds memory and is killed
0. Exit
=====
Enter your choice [0-3]: 2
[INFO] 0  Setting up cgroup with mem=100M, cpu=10000/100000
[INFO] 0  Running test: CPU Throttling
[INFO] 0  Description: Memory OK, but CPU throttled to 10%. CPU usage will increase slowly.
[INFO] 0  stress-ng args: --vm 1 --vm-bytes 20M --timeout 30s --cpu 2
[CGROUP TEST] 0  PID: 14957
[CGROUP TEST] 0  Membership: /lpic3demo
[T+1s] 0  Memory: 6889472 bytes |  CPU: 199602931 µs
stress-ng: info: [14973] setting to a 30 second run per stressor
stress-ng: info: [14973] dispatching hogs: 1 vm, 2 cpu
[T+2s] 0  Memory: 35561472 bytes |  CPU: 199724692 µs
[T+3s] 0  Memory: 34791424 bytes |  CPU: 199866240 µs
[T+4s] 0  Memory: 37904384 bytes |  CPU: 200017097 µs
[T+5s] 0  Memory: 38154240 bytes |  CPU: 200154878 µs
```



Understanding Capabilities

What Are Linux Capabilities?

Traditionally in Linux, the root user has unrestricted access to the system. Linux capabilities were introduced to break down these all-powerful privileges into smaller, discrete permissions, allowing processes to perform specific privileged operations without requiring full root access.

This enhances system security by enforcing the principle of least privilege.

Capability	Description
CAP_CHOWN	Change file owner regardless of permissions
CAP_NET_BIND_SERVICE	Bind to ports below 1024 (e.g., 80, 443)
CAP_SYS_TIME	Set system clock
CAP_SYS_ADMIN	Very powerful – includes mount, BPF, and more
CAP_NET_RAW	Use raw sockets (e.g., ping, traceroute)
CAP_SYS_PTRACE	Trace other processes (debugging)
CAP_KILL	Send signals to any process
CAP_DAC_OVERRIDE	Modify files and directories without permission
CAP_SETUID	Change user ID (UID) of the process
CAP_NET_ADMIN	Manage network interfaces, routing, etc.



Capability Type	Description
CapInh (Inherited)	Capabilities inherited from the parent process.
CapPrm (Permitted)	Capabilities that the process is allowed to have.
CapEff (Effective)	Capabilities that the process is currently using.
CapBnd (Bounding)	Restricts the maximum set of effective capabilities a process can obtain.
CapAmb (Ambient)	Allows a process to explicitly define its own effective capabilities.

- Capabilities in containers and Pods containers typically do not run as full root, but instead receive a limited set of capabilities by default depending on the runtime.

Capabilities can be added or dropped in Kubernetes using the securityContext.

- Kubernetes example:

```
securityContext:  
  capabilities:  
    drop: ["ALL"]  
    add: ["NET_BIND_SERVICE"]
```

- This ensures the container starts with zero privileges and receives only what is needed.

□ Lab Capabilities

Use this script for lab: capabilities.sh

```
=====
Capabilities Simulator Lab
By Silvestrini - 2025
=====
Choose a scenario to run:
1. Drop All      - Packet capture fails (no CAP_NET_RAW)
2. Add CAP_NET_RAW - Packet capture works
3. Bind Port 80   - Python binds to 80 without root
4. CAP_KILL       - Kill process with and without CAP_KILL
5. CAP_SYS_PTRACE - Use strace on a process
6. CAP_SYS_ADMIN   - Try mounting tmpfs
9. Teardown/Cleanup Temporary Files
0. Exit
=====
Enter your choice [0-9]: 5
[INFO]  ||  ||  ||  Preparing test process for strace...
```



□ **Seccomp (Secure Computing Mode)**

What is it?

- A Linux kernel feature for restricting which syscalls (system calls) a process can use.
- Commonly used in containers (like Docker), browsers, sandboxes, etc.

How does it work?

- A process enables a seccomp profile/filter.
- The kernel blocks, logs, or kills the process if it tries forbidden syscalls.
- Filters are written in BPF (Berkeley Packet Filter) format.

Quick commands

```
# Check support
docker info | grep Seccomp

# Disable for a container:
docker run --security-opt seccomp=unconfined ...

# Inspect running process:
grep Seccomp /proc/$$/status
```

Tools

```
# for analyzing
seccomp-tools
```



```
□ Light  
# Profiles  
/etc/docker/seccomp.json
```

□ AppArmor

What is it?

- A Mandatory Access Control (MAC) system for restricting what specific programs can access.
- Profiles are text-based, path-oriented, easy to read and edit.

How does it work?

- Each binary can have a profile that defines its allowed files, network, and capabilities—even as root!
- Easy to switch between complain, enforce, and disabled modes.

Quick commands:

```
# Status  
aa-status  
  
# Put a program in enforce mode  
sudo aa-enforce /etc/apparmor.d/usr.bin.foo  
  
# Profiles  
location: /etc/apparmor.d/
```

Tools:

aa-genprof, aa-logprof for generating/updating profiles

Logs

/var/log/syslog (search for apparmor)

□ SELinux (Security-Enhanced Linux)

What is it?

- A very powerful MAC system for controlling access to everything: files, processes, users, ports, networks, and more.
- Uses labels (contexts) and detailed policies.

How does it work?

- Everything (process, file, port, etc.) gets a security context.

Kernel checks every action against policy rules.



Quick commands:

```
#Status  
sestatus  
  
#Set to enforcing/permissive:  
setenforce 1 # Enforcing  
setenforce 0 # Permissive  
  
#List security contexts:  
ls -Z # Files  
ps -eZ # Processes
```

Tools:

- audit2allow, semanage, chcon (for managing policies/labels)
- Logs: /var/log/audit/audit.log
- Policies: /etc/selinux/

Summary Table for Common Security Systems

System	Focus	Complexity	Policy Location	Typical Use
Seccomp	Kernel syscalls	Medium	Per-process (via code/config)	Docker, sandboxes
AppArmor	Per-program access	Easy	/etc/apparmor.d/	Ubuntu, Snap, SUSE
SELinux	Full-system MAC	Advanced	/etc/selinux/ + labels	RHEL, Fedora, CentOS

Linux container Isolation & Security Comparison

Technology	Purpose / What It Does	Main Differences	Example in containers
chroot	Changes the apparent root directory for a process. Isolates filesystem.	Simple filesystem isolation; does not restrict resources, privileges, or system calls.	Docker uses chroot internally for building minimal images, but not for strong isolation.



Light Technology	Purpose / What It Does	Main Differences	Example in containers
cgroups	Controls and limits resource usage (CPU, memory, disk I/O, etc.) per group of processes.	Kernel feature; fine-grained resource control, not isolation.	Docker and Kubernetes use cgroups to limit CPU/mem per container/pod.
namespaces	Isolate system resources: PID, mount, UTS, network, user, IPC, time.	Kernel feature; provides different kinds of isolation.	Each container runs in its own set of namespaces (PID, net, mount, etc).
capabilities	Split root privileges into fine-grained units (e.g., net_admin, sys_admin).	More granular than all-or-nothing root/non-root; can drop or grant specific privileges.	Docker containers usually run with reduced capabilities (drop dangerous ones).
seccomp	Filter/restrict which syscalls a process can make (whitelisting/blacklisting).	Very focused: blocks kernel syscalls; cannot block all actions.	Docker's default profile blocks dangerous syscalls (e.g., ptrace, mount).
AppArmor	Mandatory Access Control (MAC) framework: restricts programs' file/network access via profiles.	Profile-based, easier to manage than SELinux; less fine-grained in some cases.	Ubuntu-based containers often use AppArmor for container process profiles.
SELinux	More complex MAC framework, label-based, very fine-grained. Can confine users, processes, and files.	More powerful and complex than AppArmor; enforced on Fedora/RHEL/CentOS.	On OpenShift/Kubernetes with RHEL, SELinux labels are used to keep pods separate.

Summary

- chroot: Basic isolation, no resource/security guarantees.
- cgroups: Resource control, not isolation.
- namespaces: Isolate "views" of kernel resources.
- capabilities: Fine-tune process privileges.
- seccomp: Restrict system call surface.
- AppArmor/SELinux: Limit what processes can touch, even as root (MAC).



Overview and Roles

- **OCI (Open container Initiative)**

A foundation creating open standards for **container images** and **runtimes**.

Defines how images are formatted, stored, and how containers are started/stopped (runtime spec).

- **runc**

A universal, low-level, lightweight CLI tool that can run containers according to the OCI runtime specification.

“The engine” that turns an image + configuration into an actual running Linux container.

- **containerd**

A core container runtime daemon for managing the complete container lifecycle: **pulling images, managing storage, running containers** (calls runc), networking plugins, etc.

Used by Docker, Kubernetes, nerdctl, and other tools as their main container runtime backend.

- **CRI (container Runtime Interface)**

A Kubernetes-specific gRPC API to connect Kubernetes with container runtimes.

Not used outside Kubernetes, but enables K8s to talk to containerd, CRI-O, etc.

- **CRI-O**

A lightweight, Kubernetes-focused runtime that **only** runs OCI containers, using runc under the hood.

Mostly used in Kubernetes, but demonstrates how to build a minimal container runtime focused on open standards.

Comparison Table: OCI, runc, containerd, CRI, CRI-O

Component	Emoji	What Is It?	Who Uses It?	Example Usage
-----------	-------	-------------	--------------	---------------



Light Component	Emoji	What Is It?	Who Uses It?	Example Usage
OCI	🔗	Standards/specifications	Docker, Podman, CRI-O, containerd, runc	Ensures images/containers are compatible across tools
runc	🔗	container runtime (CLI)	containerd, CRI-O, Docker, Podman	Directly running a container from a bundle (e.g. <code>runc run</code>)
containerd	🔗	container runtime daemon	Docker, Kubernetes, nerdctl	Handles pulling images, managing storage/network, starts containers via runc
CRI	🔗	K8s runtime interface (API)	Kubernetes only	Lets kubelet talk to containerd/CRI-O
CRI-O	🔗	Lightweight container runtime for K8s	Kubernetes, OpenShift	Used as K8s container engine

🔗 Practical Examples (General container World)

- **Building images:**

Any tool (Docker, Podman, Buildah) can produce images following the **OCI Image Spec** so they're compatible everywhere.

- **Running containers:**

Both Podman and Docker ultimately use **runc** (via containerd or directly) to create containers.

- **Managing many containers:**

containerd can be used on its own (via `ctr` or `nerdctl`) or as a backend for Docker and Kubernetes.

- **Plug-and-play runtimes:**

Thanks to **OCI**, you could swap runc for another OCI-compliant runtime (like Kata containers for VMs, gVisor for sandboxing) without changing how you build or manage images.



```
[User CLI / Orchestration]
  |
  [containerd / CRI-O]
  |
  [runc]
  |
[Linux Kernel: namespaces, cgroups, etc]
```

- **Docker** : User CLI → containerd → runc
- **Podman** : User CLI → runc
- **Kubernetes** : kubelet (CRI) → containerd or CRI-O → runc

□ Summary

- **OCI** = Common language for images/runtimes (standards/specs)
- **runc** = Actual tool that creates and manages container processes
- **containerd** = Full-featured daemon that manages images, containers, lifecycle
- **CRI** = Only for Kubernetes, to make runtimes pluggable
- **CRI-O** = Lightweight runtime focused on Kubernetes, built on OCI standards and runc

□ Diagram: container Ecosystem





```
└ Light Podman --> runc
    Nerdctl --> containerd
    Kubelet --> CRI[CRI API]
    CRI --> containerd
    CRI --> crio
    containerd --> runc
    crio --> runc
    runc --> Kernel

    OCI1 -.-> containerd
    OCI1 -.-> crio
    OCI2 -.-> runc
```

└ **lab runc**

For runc lab, you can use this script: runc.sh

```
=====
runc Simulator Lab
By Silvestrini - 2025
=====
Choose an action:
1. Setup BusyBox rootfs
2. Generate runc spec
3. Run BusyBox container
4. Kill container
5. Exec shell inside container
9. Teardown/Cleanup Temporary Files
0. Exit
=====
Enter your choice [0,1,2,3,4,5,9]:
```



└ **lab containerd**

For containerd, you can use this script: containerd.sh

```
=====
 containerd Simulator Lab
 by Silvestrini - 2025
 =====
Choose an action:
1. Pull busybox image
2. Create & Run BusyBox container
3. Exec shell inside container
4. Kill and remove container
9. Teardown/Cleanup Temporary Files
0. Exit
=====
Enter your choice [0,1,2,3,4,9]: 3
[INFO] Launching shell in busybox-lab ...
/ # hostname
lpic3-topic-352-container
/ # ps
PID USER    TIME COMMAND
 1 root      0:00 sleep 3600
 7 root      0:00 /bin/sh
 14 root     0:00 ps
/ # ls
bin dev etc home lib lib64 proc root run sys tmp usr var
/ # free
total       used       free   shared  buff/cache available
Mem: 65943244 683908 64028340      9564 1230096 64699316
Swap: 1999868 4316 1995552
/ #
```



□ Podman, Buildah, Skopeo, OpenVZ, crun & Kata containers – Fast Track

□ Podman

- **What is it?** A container manager compatible with Docker CLI, but **daemonless** and can run **rootless**.
- **Use:** Create, run, stop, and inspect containers and pods.
- **Highlights:** No central daemon, safer for multi-user, integrates with systemd.
- More info

□ Buildah

- **What is it?** Tool to **build and manipulate container images** (OCI/Docker) without a daemon.
- **Use:** Building images in CI/CD pipelines or scripting.
- **Highlights:** Lightweight, rootless support, used by Podman under the hood.
- More info

□ Skopeo

- **What is it?** Utility to **inspect, copy, and move container images** between registries **without pulling or running them**.
- **Use:** Move images, check signatures and metadata.
- **Highlights:** No daemon, ideal for automation and security.



OpenVZ

- **What is it?** container-based virtualization solution for Linux (pre-dating modern container tools).
- **Use:** Lightweight VPS (virtual private servers) sharing the same kernel.
- **Highlights:** Very efficient, but less isolated than VM (shares kernel).
- More info

crun

- **What is it?** Ultra-fast, minimal OCI runtime for containers, written in C (not Go).
- **Use:** Executes containers with minimal overhead.
- **Highlights:** Faster and lighter than runc, default for Podman on some systems.
- More info

Kata containers

- **What is it?** Open source project combining containers and VMs: each container runs in a lightweight micro-VM.
- **Use:** Strong isolation for sensitive workloads or multi-tenant environments.
- **Highlights:** VM-grade security, near-container performance.
- More info

Comparison Table

Project	Category	Isolation	Daemon?	Main Use	Rootless	
Podman	Orchestration	container	No	Manage containers	Yes	Docker-like
Buildah	Build	N/A	No	Build images	Yes	For Cnccru
Skopeo	Image transfer	N/A	No	Move/check images	Yes	None

Project	Category	Isolation	Daemon?	Main Use	Rootless	sh le te
OpenVZ	Virtualization	container/VPS	Yes	Lightweight VPS	No	
crun	OCI Runtime	container	No	Fast container runtime	Yes	F th
Kata containers	Runtime/VM	MicroVM per container	No	Strong isolation	Yes	VI se

Quick Recap

- **Podman:** Modern, daemonless Docker alternative.
- **Buildah:** Build images, doesn't run containers.
- **Skopeo:** Moves/inspects images, never runs them.
- **OpenVZ:** Legacy container-based VPS.
- **crun:** Super fast, lightweight OCI runtime.
- **Kata:** containers with VM-level isolation.

352.1 Important Commands

unshare

```
# create a new namespaces and run a command in it
unshare --mount --uts --ipc --user --pid --net --map-root-user --mount-proc --fork
# mount /proc for test
#mount -t proc proc /proc
#ps -aux
#ip addr show
#umount /proc
```

lsns

```
# show all namespaces
lsns

# show only pid namespace
lsns -p <pid>
lsns -p 3669

ls -l /proc/<pid>/ns
ls -l /proc/3669/ns
```



□ **Light**
ps -o pid,pidns,netns,ipcns,utsns,userns,args -p <PID>
ps -o pid,pidns,netns,ipcns,utsns,userns,args -p 3669

□ **nsenter**

```
# get PID docker container  
# execute a command in namespace Network  
sudo nsenter -t 3669 -n ip link show  
  
# execute a command in namespace UTS  
sudo nsenter -t 3669 -u hostname  
  
# execute a command in namespace mount  
nsenter -t 3669 -m ls  
  
# execute a command in all namespaces  
sudo nsenter -t 3669 -a ps
```

□ **252.1 ip**

```
# create a new network namespace  
sudo ip netns add lxc1  
  
# list network list  
ip netns list  
  
# exec command in network namespace  
sudo ip netns exec lxc1 ip addr show
```

□ **stat**

```
# get cgroup version  
stat -fc %T /sys/fs/cgroup
```

□ **systemctl and systemd**

```
# get cgroups of system  
systemctl status  
systemd-cgls
```

□ **cgcreate**

```
cgcreate -g memory,cpu:lsf
```

□ **caclassify**



```
cgclassify -g memory,cpu:lsf <PID>
```

□ **pscap - List Process Capabilities**

```
# List capabilities of all process
pscap
```

□ **getcap /usr/bin/tcpdump**

```
getcap /usr/bin/tcpdump
```

□ **setcap cap_net_raw=ep /usr/bin/tcpdump**

```
# add capabilities to tcpdump
sudo setcap cap_net_raw=ep /usr/bin/tcpdump

# remove capabilities from tcpdump
sudo setcap -r /usr/bin/tcpdump
sudo setcap '' /usr/bin/tcpdump
```

□ **check capabilities by process**

```
grep Cap /proc/<PID>/status
```

□ **capsh - capability shell wrapper**

```
# use grep Cap /proc/<PID>/status for get hexadecimal value(Example CApEff=000000000000
capsh --decode=0000000000002000
```

□ **AppArmor - kernel enhancement to confine programs to a limited set of resources**

```
# check AppArmor status
sudo aa-status

# unload all AppArmor profiles
aa-teardown

# loads AppArmor profiles into the kernel
aapparmor_parser
```

□ **SELinux - Security-Enhanced Linux**



□ **Light**
Check SELinux status
sudo sestatus

check SELinux mode
sudo getenforce

set SELinux to enforcing mode
sudo setenforce 1

□ **runc**

```
#create a spec file for runc  
runc spec  
  
# run a container using runc  
sudo runc run mycontainer
```

(back to sub topic 352.1)

(back to topic 352)

(back to top)

□ **352.2 LXC**

Weight: 6

Description: Candidates should be able to use system containers using LXC and LXD. The version of LXC covered is 3.0 or higher.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand the architecture of LXC and LXD
- Manage LXC containers based on existing images using LXD, including networking and storage
- Configure LXC container properties
- Limit LXC container resource usage
- Use LXD profiles
- Understand LXC images
- Awareness of traditional LXC tools

□ **352.2 Cited Objects**



Light LXD

```
lxc (including relevant subcommands)
/etc/lxc/
/etc/default/lxc
/var/log/lxc/
/usr/share/lxc/templates
```

LXC & LXD – The Linux System containers Suite

LXC (Linux containers)

- **What is it?**

The core userspace toolset for managing application and system containers on Linux. Think of LXC as "**chroot on steroids**" – it provides lightweight process isolation using kernel features (namespaces, cgroups, AppArmor, seccomp, etc).

- **Use:**

- Run full Linux distributions as containers (not just single apps).
- Useful for testing, legacy apps, or simulating servers.

- **Highlights:**

- CLI-focused: `lxc-create` , `lxc-start` , `lxc-attach` , etc.
- Fine-grained control over container resources.
- No daemon – runs per-container processes.

- **Best for:**

Linux experts who want total control and “bare-metal” feel for containers.

Lab LXC

For LXC lab, you can use this script: `lxc.sh`



□ LXD

- **What is it?**

LXD is a *next-generation* container and VM manager, **built on top of LXC**. It offers a powerful but user-friendly experience to manage containers and virtual machines via REST API, CLI, or even a Web UI.

- **Use:**

- Manage system containers and virtual machines at scale.
- Networked “container as a service” with easy orchestration.

- **Highlights:**

- **REST API**: manage containers/VMs over the network.
- **Images**: Instant deployment of many Linux distros.
- **Snapshots, storage pools, clustering, live migration.**
- Supports running unprivileged containers by default.
- CLI: `lxc launch`, `lxc exec`, `lxc snapshot`, etc. (*Yes, same prefix as LXC, but different backend!*)

- **Best for:**

DevOps, sysadmins, cloud-native setups, lab environments.

□ LXD Storage: Feature Table (per backend)

Feature	dir	zfs	btrfs	lvm/lvmtthin	ceph/cephfs
---------	-----	-----	-------	--------------	-------------



Light Feature	dir	zfs	btrfs	lvm/lvmtin	ceph/cephfs
Snapshots	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Thin Provisioning	✗	✗	✗	✗ (lvmtin)	✗
Resizing	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Quotas	✗	✗	✗	✗ (lvmtin)	✗
Live Migration	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Deduplication	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗ (Ceph)
Compression	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗ (Ceph)
Encryption	✗	✗	✗	✗ (LUKS)	✗
Cluster/Remote	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Best Use Case	Dev	Labs/Prod	Labs/Prod	Labs/Prod	Clusters, Enterprise

Quick LXD Storage Summary

- Storage Pools:** Abstracts the backend—multiple pools, different drivers per pool.
- Available Drivers:** dir, zfs, btrfs, lvm, lvmtin, ceph, cephfs (more via plugins).
- Custom Volumes:** Create, mount, unmount for containers/VMs.
- Snapshots & Clones:** Native, fast, supports backup/restore, copy-on-write migration.
- Quotas & Resize:** Easy live management for pools, containers, or volumes.
- Live Migration:** Move containers/VMs across hosts without downtime.
- Security:** Built-in encryption (ZFS, LVM, Ceph), ACLs, backup/restore, etc.
- Enterprise-ready:** Suits clustered and high-availability setups.

LXC vs LXD Comparison Table

Feature	LXC	LXD
Type	Low-level userspace container manager	High-level manager (containers + VMs)
Interface	CLI only	REST API, CLI, Web UI
Daemon?	No (runs as processes)	Yes (central daemon/service)
Orchestration	Manual, scriptable	Built-in clustering & API

Light Feature

LXC

LXD



Images	Template-based	Full image repository, many OSes
Snapshots	Manual	Native, integrated
VM support	No	Yes (QEMU/KVM)
Use-case	Fine-grained control, “bare-metal”	Scalable, user-friendly, multi-host
Security	Can be unprivileged, but DIY	Default unprivileged, more isolation
Best for	Linux pros, advanced scripting	DevOps, cloud, teams, self-service

Quick Recap

- **LXC** = The low-level building blocks. Power and flexibility for *container purists*.
- **LXD** = Modern, API-driven, scalable platform on top of LXC for easy container and VM management (single node or clusters).

LXC vs LXD - Storage Support (Summary)

Feature	LXC	LXD
Storage	Local filesystem	<code>dir(filesystem), zfs, btrfs, lvm, ceph, cephfs</code>
Backends	(default only)	<code>,lvmthin</code>
Storage Pools	□ (just local paths, no native pools)	□ Multiple storage pools, each with different drivers
Snapshots	Manual/FS dependent	□ Native, fast, automatic, scheduled, consistent snapshots
Thin Provisioning	□ (not supported natively)	□ Supported in ZFS, Btrfs, LVM thin, Ceph
Quotas	□	□ Supported per container/volume (in ZFS, Btrfs, Ceph, LVMthin)
Live Migration	Limited	□ Live storage migration between hosts, copy-on-write
Encryption	□	□ (ZFS, LVM, Ceph)
Custom Volumes	□	□ Create, attach/detach custom storage volumes for containers/VMs
Remote Storage	□	□ Ceph, CephFS, NFS, SMB support



Lightweight Container

Feature	LXC	LXD
Filesystem Features	Host dependent	ZFS: dedup, compress, snapshots, send/receive, cache, quotas. LVM: thin, snapshots, etc.
Resizing	Manual (via host)	▪ Volumes and pools can be resized live
Storage Drivers	Basic/local only	Extensible plugins, multiple enterprise-ready drivers

Final Storage Comparison Table

	LXC	LXD
Storage Backend	Local only	dir, zfs, btrfs, lvm, lvmthin, ceph, cephfs
Storage Pools	▪	▪ Multiple, independent, hot-pluggable
Snapshots	Limited/manual	▪ Fast, automatic, consistent
Thin Provisioning	▪	▪ (ZFS, Btrfs, LVMthin, Ceph)
Quotas	▪	▪
Resizing	Manual	▪
Remote Storage	▪	▪ (Ceph, NFS, SMB)
Custom Volumes	▪	▪
Cluster Ready	▪	▪
Enterprise	No	Yes—HA, backup, migration, security, production ready

LXC vs LXD - Network Support (Summary)

Feature	LXC	LXD
Network Types	bridge, veth, macvlan, phys, vlan	bridge, ovn, macvlan, sriov, physical, vlan, fan, tunnels
Managed Networks	▪ Manual (host config)	▪ Natively managed via API/CLI, easy to create and edit
Network API	▪ CLI commands only	▪ REST API, CLI, integration with external tools



Light Feature

LXC

LXD

Bridge Support	Manual	Automatic and advanced (L2, Open vSwitch, native bridge)
NAT & DHCP	Manual (iptables/dnsmasq)	Integrated NAT, DHCP, DNS, per-network configurable
DNS	Manual	Integrated DNS, custom domains, systemd-resolved integration
IPv6	(manual, limited)	Full support, auto, DHCPv6, NAT6, routing
VLAN	(manual, host)	Native VLANs, easy configuration
SR-IOV		Native support
Network ACLs		ACLs, forwards, zones, peerings, firewall rules
Clustering		Replicated and managed networks in clusters
Attach/Detach	Manual (host)	CLI/API, hotplug, easy for containers/VMs
Security	Manual (host)	Isolation, firewall, ACL, firewalld integration, per-network rules
Custom Routes	Manual	Custom routes support, multiple gateways
Network Profiles		Reusable network profiles
Monitoring	Manual	Status, IPAM, logs, detailed info via CLI/API
Enterprise	No	Yes—multi-tenant, ACL, clustering, cloud integration

Final Network Comparison Table

LXC

LXD

Network Types	bridge, veth, vlan	bridge, ovn, macvlan, sriov, physical, vlan, fan, tunnels
Managed		
NAT/DHCP/DNS	Manual	Integrated
VLAN	Manual	
SR-IOV		



Light

LXC

LXD

API	□	□
Clustering	□	□
Security/ACL	Manual	□
Profiles	□	□
Enterprise	No	Yes

□ **lab LXD**

For LXD lab, you can use this script: lxd.sh

□ **352.2 Important Commands**

□ **lxc**

```
# lxc configuration
/etc/default/lxc
/etc/default/lxc-net
/etc/lxc/default.conf
/usr/share/lxc/

# lxc container configuration
/var/lib/lxc/

# check lxc version
lxc-create --version

# list containers
sudo lxc-ls --fancy
sudo lxc-ls -f

# create a privileged container
sudo lxc-create -n busybox -t busybox

# create a privileged container with template
sudo lxc-create -n debian01 -t download
sudo lxc-create --name server2 --template download --dist alpine --release 3.19 --

# get container info
sudo lxc-info -n debian01

# get container PID
sudo lxc-info -n debian01 -pH

# get container config
sudo lxc-checkconfig -n debian01
```



```
① # start container
Light sudo lxc-start -n debian01

# stop container
sudo lxc-stop -n debian01

# connect to container
sudo lxc-attach -n debian01

# execute a command in container
sudo lxc-attach -n debian01 -- echo "Hello from"
sudo lxc-attach -n debian01 -- bash -c ls

# delete container
sudo lxc-destroy -n debian01

# delete container and snapshot
sudo lxc-destroy -n -s debian01

# rootfs of a container
sudo ls -l /var/lib/lxc/server1/rootfs

# modify rootfs of a container
sudo touch /var/lib/lxc/server1/rootfs/tmp/test_roofs_file
sudo lxc-attach server1
ls /tmp

# get lxc namespaces
sudo lsns -p <LXC_container_PID>
sudo lsns -p $(sudo lxc-info server2 -pH)
sudo lsns -p $(sudo lxc-info -n server1 | awk '/PID:/ { print $2 }')

# unprivileged container namespaces
lsns -p $(lxc-info -n ubuntu | awk '/PID:/ { print $2 }')

# get container resource
sudo lxc-top

# create a container snapshot
sudo lxc-stop -k -n debian01
sudo lxc-snapshot -n debian01

# list snapshots
sudo lxc-snapshot -n debian01 -L

# restore snapshot
sudo lxc-stop -n debian01
sudo lxc-snapshot -n debian01 -r snap0

# delete snapshot
sudo lxc-snapshot -n debian01 -d snap0

# create a new container with snapshot
sudo lxc-snapshot -n debian01 -r snap0 -N debian02
```

Light

```
# create container checkpoint (privileged container)
sudo lxc-checkpoint -n debian01 -s -D /home/vagrant/.config/lxc/checkpoints/debian01

# define memory container limits with cgroups
sudo lxc-cgroup -n debian01 memory.max 262144000 #(250 MB × 1.048.576 bytes = 262144

# define CPU cores of container with cgroups
sudo lxc-cgroup -n debian01 cpuset.cpus 0-2

# get container cgroup limits
sudo cgget -g :lxc.payload.debian01 -a |grep memory.max
sudo cgget -g :lxc.payload.debian01 -a |grep cpuset

# set container cgroup vcpus range in file
sudo vim /var/lib/lxc/debian01/config
# add the following lines
lxc.cgroup2.cpuset.cpus = "5-6"

##### create unprivileged container #####
## create directory for unprivileged container
mkdir -p /home/vagrant/.config/lxc

## copy default config
cp /etc/lxc/default.conf /home/vagrant/.config/lxc/

## get subordinate user and group IDs
cat /etc/subuid

## configure subordinate user and group IDs
vim /home/vagrant/.config/lxc/default.conf

## add the following lines
lxc.idmap = u 0 100000 65536
lxc.idmap = g 0 100000 65536

## configure lxc-usernet
sudo vim /etc/lxc/lxc-usernet

## add the following line
vagrant veth lxcbr0 10

## create unprivileged container
lxc-create -n unprivileged -t download -- -d ubuntu -r jammy -a amd64

## set permissions for unprivileged container
sudo setfacl -m u:100000:--x /home/vagrant
sudo setfacl -m u:100000:--x /home/vagrant/.config
sudo setfacl -m u:100000:--x /home/vagrant/.local
sudo setfacl -m u:100000:--x /home/vagrant/.local/share

## start unprivileged container
lxc-start -n unprivileged --logpriority=DEBUG --logfile=lxc.log

## check container status
```



lxc-ls -f
Light

```
## unprivileged container files
ls .local/share/lxc/unprivileged/
```

lxd

```
# lxd configuration files
/var/lib/lxd
/var/log/lxd

# initialize lxd
sudo lxd init
sudo lxd init --auto
sudo cat lxd-init.yaml | lxd init --preseed
```

```
# check lxd version
sudo lxd --version
```

```
# check lxd status
systemctl status lxd
```

```
##### LXD STORAGE MANAGEMENT #####
```

```
# lxd list storage
lxc storage list
```

```
# show lxd storage pools
lxc storage show default
```

```
# lxd storage info
lxc storage info default
```

```
# create a new storage pool dir
lxc storage create lpic3-dir dir
```

```
# create a new storage pool lvm
lxc storage create lpic3-lvm lvm source=/dev/sdb1
```

```
# create a new storage pool btrfs
lxc storage create lpic3-btrfs btrfs
lxc storage create lpic3-btrfs btrfs size=10GB
lxc storage create lpic3-btrfs btrfs source=/dev/sdb2
```

```
# create a new storage pool zfs
lxc storage create lpic3-zfs zfs source=/dev/sdb3
```

```
# delete storage pool
lxc storage delete lpic3-btrfs
```

```
# edit storage pool
lxc storage edit lpic3-btrfs
```



```
# get storage pool properties
lxc storage get lpic3-btrfs size

# set storage pool properties
lxc storage set lpic3-btrfs size 20GB

# list storage volumes
lxc storage volume list lpic3-btrfs

# create a new storage volume
lxc storage volume create lpic3-btrfs vol-lpic3-btrfs

# delete storage volume
lxc storage volume delete lpic3-btrfs vol-lpic3-btrfs

### Management lxd storage buckets ####

# create lxd bucket
lxc storage bucket create lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs
lxc storage bucket create lpic3-zfs bucket-lpic3-zfs

# list lxd buckets
lxc storage bucket list lpic3-btrfs

# set lxd bucket properties
lxc storage bucket set lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs size 10GB

# edit lxd bucket
lxc storage bucket edit lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs

# delete lxd bucket
lxc storage bucket delete lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs

# show ldx storage bucket
lxc storage bucket show lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs

# create storage bucket keys
lxc storage bucket key create lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs key-bucket-lpic3-btrfs

# edit storage bucket keys
lxc storage bucket key edit lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs key-bucket-lpic3-btrfs

# list storage bucket keys
lxc storage bucket key list lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs

# show storage bucket keys
lxc storage bucket key show lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs key-bucket-lpic3-btrfs

# delete storage bucket keys
lxc storage bucket key delete lpic3-btrfs bucket-lpic3-btrfs key-bucket-lpic3-btrfs

### LXD IMAGE MANAGEMENT ###

# list lxd repositories
lxc remote list
```



```
□ Light
# add lxd remote repository
lxc remote add lpic3-images https://images.lxd.canonical.com --protocol=simplestrem

# remove lxd remote repository
lxc remote remove lpic3-images

# list lxd images
lxc image list

# list lxd images from remote repository
lxc image list images:
lxc image list images: os=Ubuntu
lxc image list images: os=Ubuntu release=jammy
lxc image list images: os=Ubuntu release=jammy architecture=amd64
lxc image list images: architecture=amd64 type=container
lxc image list images: d kal

# download lxd image to local
lxc image copy images:centos/9-Stream local: --alias centos-9

# export lxd remote image
lxc image export aed8a3749942 ./lxd-images/centos-9

# export lxd remote image
lxc image export images:f8fadb0d1b28 ./lxd-images/alma-9

# remove lxd image
lxc image delete centos-9

# mount lxd rootfs
mkdir -p /mnt/lxd-rootfs/centos-9
sudo mount lxd-images/centos-9/aed8a374994230243aaa82e979ac7d23f379e511556d35af051b1
ls /mnt/lxd-rootfs/centos-9

### LXD INSTANCES MANAGEMENT ###

# create a new container from image
lxc launch images:ubuntu/jammy ubuntu-lxd
lxc launch images:debian/12 debian12lxc
lxc launch images:fedora/41 fedora41
lxc launch images:opensuse/15.6 opensuse15

# create a new container from image with storage pool
lxc launch images:alpine/3.19 alpine --storage lpic3-lvm
lxc launch images:kali kali --storage lpic3-zfs

# create a new container from image local
lxc launch 757b2a721e9d kali-local-image

# create new vm
lxc launch --vm images:debian/13 debian13 --storage lpic3-zfs
lxc launch --vm images:e44d713a71b6 rocky9 --storage lpic3-btrfs

# list container\instances
```



lxc list

```
# stop container\instance  
lxc stop alpine
```

```
# start container\instance  
lxc start alpine
```

```
# delete container\instance  
lxc delete alpine --force
```

```
# show container\instance  
lxc info alpine
```

```
# show container\instance config  
lxc config show alpine
```

```
# edit container\instance config  
lxc config edit alpine
```

```
# view container\instance config  
lxc config get alpine boot.autostart
```

```
# set container\instance config  
lxc config set alpine boot.autostart=false
```

```
# set limit for container\instance  
lxc config set alpine limits.cpu 2  
lxc config set alpine limits.memory 10%
```

```
# unset limit for container\instance  
lxc config unset alpine limits.cpu  
lxc config unset alpine limits.memory
```

```
# execute command in container\instance  
lxc --exec alpine -- /bin/bash  
lxc exec alpine -- uname -a || dhclient  
lxc exec alpine -- sh -c "echo 'Hello from Alpine'"
```

```
# lxd copy file to container\instance  
lxc file push /etc/hosts alpine/etc/hosts
```

```
# lxd edit file in container\instance  
lxc file edit alpine/etc/hosts
```

```
# download file from container\instance  
lxc file pull alpine/etc/hosts /tmp/alpine-hosts
```

LXD NETWORK MANAGEMENT

```
# list networks  
lxc network list
```

```
# show network details  
lxc network show lxdbr0
```



```
□ Light
# create a new network
lxc network create lxdbr1

# delete a network
lxc network delete lxdbr0

# show network details
lxc network show lxdbr0

# set ipv4.dhcp.ranges
lxc network set lxdbr0 ipv4.dhcp.ranges=10.119.220.100-10.119.220.200

# attach a network to a container
lxc network attach lxdbr0 alpine

# detach a network from a container
lxc network detach lxdbr0 alpine

### LXD SNAPSHOT MANAGEMENT ###

# snapshot files
/var/lib/lxd/snapshots/
/var/snap/lxd/common/lxd/snapshots

# create a snapshot
lxc snapshot debian12

# create a snapshot
lxc snapshot debian12 nome-snapshot

# restore a snapshot
lxc restore debian12 nome-snapshot

# delete a snapshot
lxc delete debian12/snap0

# show snapshot info
lxc info debian12

# copy a snapshot
lxc copy debian12/snap0 debian12-2

### LXD PROFILES MANAGEMENT ###

# list profiles
lxc profile list

# show profile details
lxc profile show default

# copy profile
lxc profile copy default production

# edit profile
```



lxc profile edit production

```
#set environment variables  
lxc profile set production environment.EDITOR vim
```

```
# unset memory limit  
lxc profile unset production limits.memory
```

```
# set boot autostart  
lxc profile set production boot.autostart true
```

```
# add profile to container  
lxc profile add debian12 production
```

```
# remove profile from container  
lxc profile remove debian12 production
```

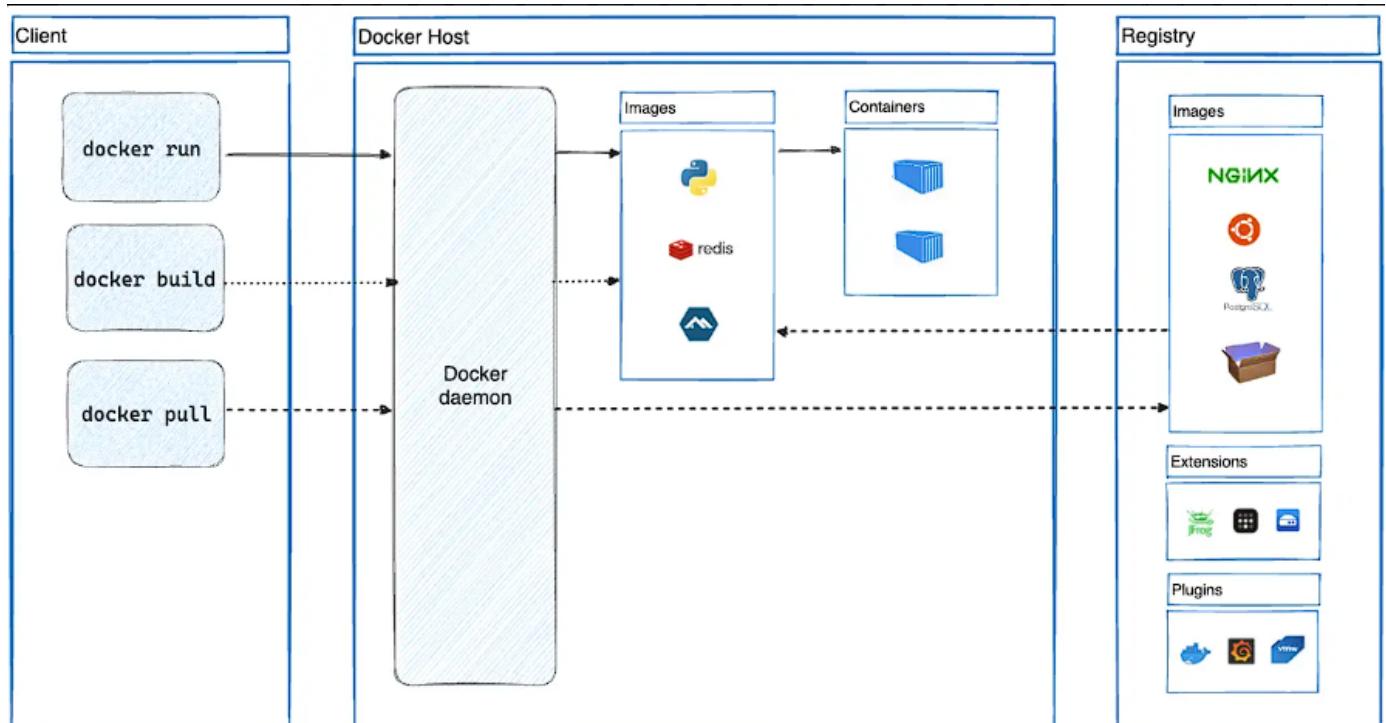
```
# launch container with profile  
lxc launch 1u1u1u1u1u1u1 rockylinux9-2 -p production
```

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352.3 Docker



Light



Weight: 9

Description: Candidate should be able to manage Docker nodes and Docker containers. This include understand the architecture of Docker as well as understanding how Docker interacts with the node's Linux system.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand the architecture and components of Docker
- Manage Docker containers by using images from a Docker registry
- Understand and manage images and volumes for Docker containers
- Understand and manage logging for Docker containers
- Understand and manage networking for Docker
- Use Dockerfiles to create container images
- Run a Docker registry using the registry Docker image

352.3 Cited Objects

dockerd
/etc/docker/daemon.json
/var/lib/docker/
docker
Dockerfile



□ Light

□ Definition

Docker is an **open-source container platform** that allows developers and operators to package applications and their dependencies into **containers**.

These containers ensure **consistency across environments**, speed up deployments, and reduce infrastructure complexity.

□ Key Concepts

- □ **container** → Lightweight, isolated runtime sharing the host kernel.
- □ **Image** → Read-only template containing the app and dependencies.
- □ **Docker Engine (dockerd)** → Daemon managing containers, images, and volumes.
- □ **Docker CLI** → Command-line tool (`docker`) communicating with the daemon.
- □ **Docker Hub** → Default registry for storing and distributing images.

□ Advantages

- □ **Lightweight & Fast** → Much faster than virtual machines.
- □ **Portability** → Runs anywhere Docker is supported.
- □ **Rich Ecosystem** → Compose, Swarm, Hub, Desktop UI, registries.
- □ **DevOps Friendly** → CI/CD integration and IaC alignment.

□ Docker Registries

- □ **Docker Hub** → Default, public registry.
- □ **Private Registries** → Harbor, Artifactory, GitHub container Registry.
- □ Use `docker login` to authenticate, push, and pull images.

□ Docker Compose

Tool to define and run **multi-container applications** via YAML:

docker-compose.yml example

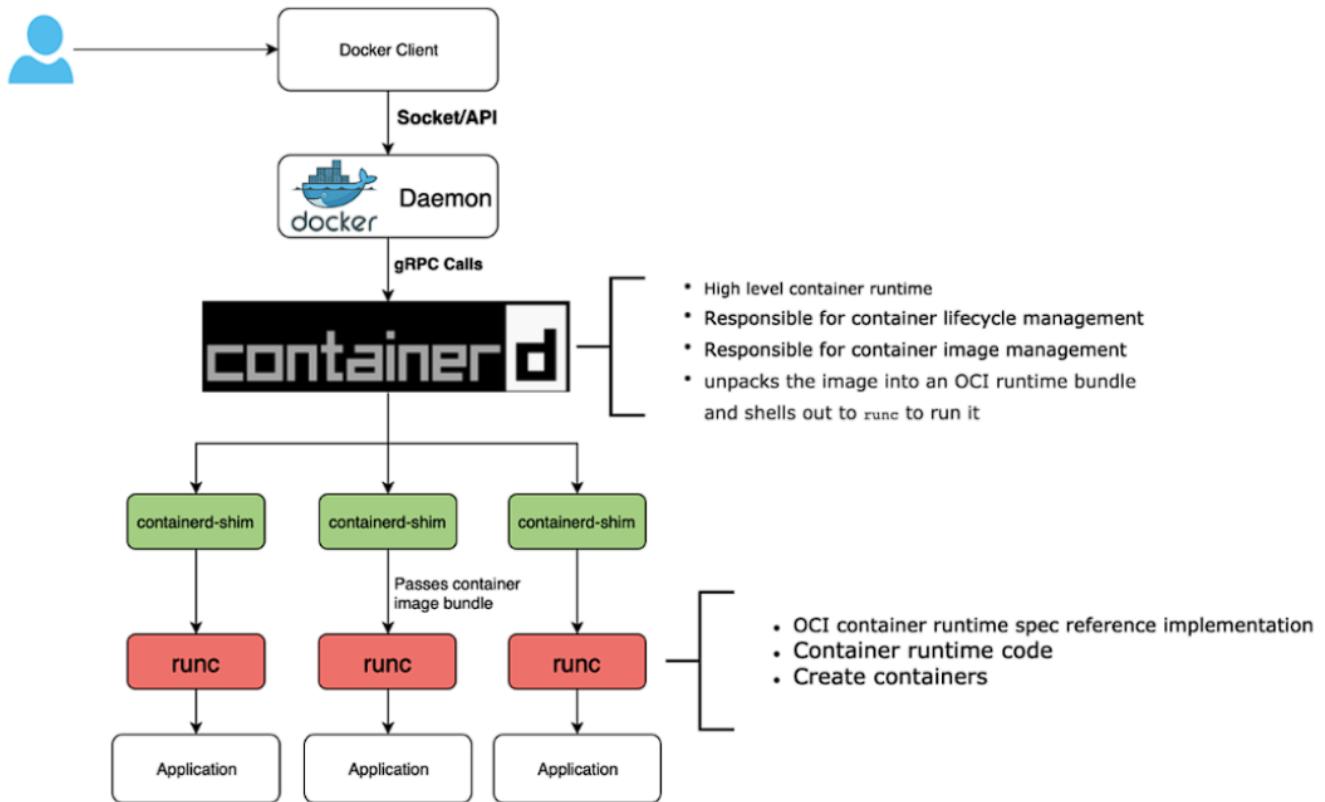
```
version: "3.9"
services:
  web:
    image: nginx:latest
    ports:
      - "8080:80"
    app:
      build: ./app
      environment:
        - DB_HOST=db
  db:
    image: postgres:15
    environment:
      - POSTGRES_PASSWORD=secret
```

Run:

Light



Docker + containerd + shim + runc Architecture



Main Components

- **Docker CLI / Docker Daemon (dockerd)**

The `docker` command communicates with the Docker daemon, which orchestrates container lifecycle, images, networks, and volumes.

- **containerd**

A high-level container runtime that manages the entire container lifecycle: pulling images, managing storage, networking, and execution.

- **containerd-shim**

- Acts as the *parent process* of each container once `runc` has done its job.
- Keeps `stdin/stdout/stderr` streams open, even if Docker or containerd restarts (so `docker logs` / `kubectl logs` still work).
- Collects the container exit code and reports it back to the manager.
- Prevents containers from becoming orphans if the daemon crashes or is restarted.

- **runc**

Light A low-level runtime (OCI-compliant) that creates containers using Linux namespaces and cgroups.



After launching the container, `runc` exits, and `containerd-shim` takes over as the parent process.

Execution Flow

1. User runs `docker run ...` → the **Docker Daemon** is called.
2. **Docker Daemon** delegates to **containerd**.
3. **containerd** spawns **runc**, which sets up the container.
4. Once the container starts, **runc exits**.
5. **containerd-shim** remains as the **container's parent process**, handling logging and exit codes.

Benefits of the Shim Layer

- **Resilience** → Containers continue running even if `dockerd` or `containerd` crash or restart.
- **Logging** → Maintains container log streams for `docker logs` or `kubectl logs`.
- **Isolation** → Each container has its own shim, simplifying lifecycle management.
- **Standards Compliance** → Works with the **OCI runtime spec**, ensuring compatibility.

Docker vs. containerd

Feature / Component	Docker (<code>dockerd</code>)	containerd
Scope	Full platform (build, CLI, UI, Hub)	Core container runtime only
API	High-level Docker API	Low-level CRI/runtime API
Built upon	Uses containerd internally	Standalone runtime
Features	Build, Compose, Swarm, Hub, Desktop	Image lifecycle, pull/run, runtime
Use Cases	Dev workflows, local testing	Kubernetes, production runtimes
Footprint	Heavier, more tooling	Lightweight, efficient
Ecosystem	Rich developer tools	CNCF project, Kubernetes default

352.3 Important Commands



```
# files
/var/lib/docker
/etc/docker/daemon.json

# get version
docker --version

# docker infos
docker info

# create container
docker run hello-world
docker run -it ubuntu bash

##### OTHERS COMMANDS #####
# get PID of container
docker inspect --format '{{.State.Pid}}' <container_id|name>

# get ID of <container_id|name>
docker inspect --format '{{.Id}}' <container_id|name>

# inspect namespaces
ls -l /proc/<PID>/ns
sudo lsns -p <PID>
ps -o pid,ppid,cmd,netns,mntns,pidns,utsns <PID>

# inspect cgroups
lscgroup | grep <PID> # cgroup v1
cat /proc/<PID>/cgroup # cgroup v2
ls -l /sys/fs/cgroup/system.slice/docker-<FULL_ID_CONTAINER>.scope
cat /sys/fs/cgroup/system.slice/docker-<FULL_ID_CONTAINER>.scope/cgroup.procs
```

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□ 352.4 container Orchestration Platforms

Weight: 3

Description: Candidates should understand the importance of container orchestration and the key concepts Docker Swarm and Kubernetes provide to implement container orchestration.

Key Knowledge Areas:



• Understand the relevance of container orchestration

- Understand the key concepts of Docker Compose and Docker Swarm
- Understand the key concepts of Kubernetes and Helm
- Awareness of OpenShift, Rancher and Mesosphere DC/OS

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□ **Topic 353: VM Deployment and Provisioning**

□ **353.1 Cloud Management Tools**

Weight: 2

Description: Candidates should understand common offerings in public clouds and have basic feature knowledge of commonly available cloud management tools.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand common offerings in public clouds
- Basic feature knowledge of OpenStack
- Basic feature knowledge of Terraform
- Awareness of CloudStack, Eucalyptus and OpenNebula

□ **353.1 Cited Objects**

IaaS, PaaS, SaaS

OpenStack

Terraform

□ **353.1 Important Commands**

□ **foo**

```
# examples
```

[\(back to sub topic 353.1\)](#)

[\(back to topic 353\)](#)

□ 353.2 Packer

Weight: 2

Description: Candidates should be able to use Packer to create system images. This includes running Packer in various public and private cloud environments as well as building container images for LXC/LXD.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand the functionality and features of Packer
- Create and maintain template files
- Build images from template files using different builders

□ 353.2 Cited Objects

packer

□ 353.2 Important Commands

□ **packer**

examples

(back to sub topic 353.2)

(back to topic 353)

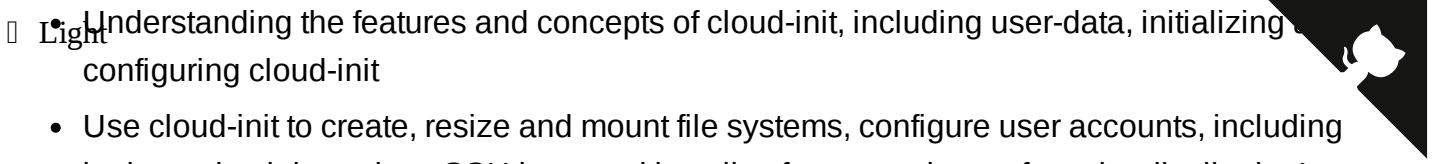
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□ 353.3 cloud-init

Weight: 3

Description: Candidates should be able to use cloud-init to configure virtual machines created from standardized images. This includes adjusting virtual machines to match their available hardware resources, specifically, disk space and volumes. Additionally, candidates should be able to configure instances to allow secure SSH logins and install a specific set of software packages. Furthermore, candidates should be able to create new system images with cloud-init support.

Key Knowledge Areas:



- Understanding the features and concepts of cloud-init, including user-data, initializing and configuring cloud-init
- Use cloud-init to create, resize and mount file systems, configure user accounts, including login credentials such as SSH keys and install software packages from the distribution's repository
- Integrate cloud-init into system images
- Use config drive datasource for testing

□ 353.3 Cited Objects

cloud-init
user-data
/var/lib/cloud/

□ 353.3 Important Commands

□ cloud-init

examples

(back to sub topic 353.3)

(back to topic 353)

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□ 353.4 Vagrant

Weight: 3

Description: Candidate should be able to use Vagrant to manage virtual machines, including provisioning of the virtual machine.

Key Knowledge Areas:

- Understand Vagrant architecture and concepts, including storage and networking
- Retrieve and use boxes from Atlas
- Create and run Vagrantfiles
- Access Vagrant virtual machines
- Share and synchronize folder between a Vagrant virtual machine and the host system
- Understand Vagrant provisioning, i.e. File and Shell provisioners
- Understand multi-machine setup



vagrant
Vagrantfile

□ 353.4 Important Commands

□ vagrant

examples

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□ Contributing

Contributions are what make the open source community such an amazing place to learn, inspire, and create. Any contributions you make are **greatly appreciated**.

If you have a suggestion that would make this better, please fork the repo and create a pull request. You can also simply open an issue with the tag "enhancement". Don't forget to give the project a star! Thanks again!

1. Fork the Project
2. Create your Feature Branch (`git checkout -b feature/AmazingFeature`)
3. Commit your Changes (`git commit -m 'Add some AmazingFeature'`)
4. Push to the Branch (`git push origin feature/AmazingFeature`)
5. Open a Pull Request

□ License

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□ Contact



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- Richard Stallman's
 - GNU/Linux FAQ by Richard Stallman
 - GNU
 - GNU Operating System
 - GCC Compiler
 - GNU Tar
 - GNU Make
 - GNU Emacs
 - GNU Packages
 - GNU/Linux Collection
 - GNU Grub Bootloader
 - GNU Hurd
- Kernel
 - Kernel
 - Linux Kernel Man Pages
 - Compile Your Kernel
- Linux Standard Base
 - Linux Standard Base
 - Filesystem Hierarchy Standard
 - File Hierarchy Structure
- Free Software
 - FSF
 - Free Software Directory
- License
 - Free Software
 - Copyleft



□ Light° GPL

- GNU Lesser General Public License
- BSD
- Open Source Initiative
- Creative Commons
- License LTS

• Distros

- Debian Free Software Guidelines
- List Linux Distribution
- Distro Watch
- Comparison Linux Distributions

• Desktop Environments

- X11 Org
- Wayland
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- Bind
- Bind Logging
- List of DNS record types



- Package Manager
 - Download Packages
 - Install Packages
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 - AWS
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- Xen
 - XenServer
 - Wiki XenProject
 - Network Interfaces
 - Xen Tools
 - LPI Blog: Xen Virtualization and Cloud Computing #01: Introduction



□ Light° LPI Blog: Xen Virtualization and Cloud Computing #02: How Xen Does the Job

- LPI Blog: Xen Virtualization and Cloud Computing #04: containers, OpenStack, and Other Related Platforms
- Xen Virtualization and Cloud Computing #05: The Xen Project, Unikernels, and the Future
- Xen Project Beginners Guide
- Crazy Book

• Unikernels

- Unikraft
- MirageOS
- HaLVM
- Unik

• KVM

- Official Doc
- KVM(Kernel Virtual Machines by RedHat)
- KVM Management Tools
- KVM Network

• QEMU

- Official Doc
- Download Images osboxes
- Download Images linuximages
- Virtio
- Guest Agent

• Libvirt

- Official Doc
- System Socket Activation
- Conections
- Storage
- Network
- VirtualNetwork
- virtlogd
- virtlockd
- virt-manager

• Disk Management



- Light ◦ Disk Images

- copy-on-write
- RAM x QCOW2
- Libguestfs

- containers

- AWS Doc containers
- GCP Doc containers
- IBM Doc container
- Red Hat Docs containers
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- Most important Namespaces
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- Man Cgroups
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- CRI-O
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- crun
- kata

- LXC - Linux containers

- LXC
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 - LPIC-3 305-300 Simulated Exam By ITexams

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