Dynamic Ecommerce Discounts with Redpanda

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1. Introduction

This project is a companion to the Example Next.js Ecommerce Store for Snowplow.

It allows you to test this demo locally, using LocalStack, and in the AWS cloud.

Its Architecture is designed so a developer can quickly and easily set up these two environments and test the project.

2. Architecture

- The **ecommerce-nextjs-example-store** is a Next.js application that generates tracking events.
- The **stream-collector** component sends these events via Kinesis to the **[snowbridge]** component.
- The **snowbridge** component enriches these events, inserts more information (via **[enrich]** component), and sends them to **[redpanda]**.
 - Read more about the **enrich** component here: https://docs.snowplow.io/docs/pipeline-components-and-applications/enrichment-components/enrich-kinesis/.
 - Read more about the **snowbridge** component here: https://docs.snowplow.io/docs/destinations/forwarding-events/snowbridge/.
- The **redpanda** broker is receives the events from use (aka Bethos) to apply the dynamic discounts.
- The redpanda-connector ...

Sequence Diagram for the Architecture:

TODO

All components in this Architecture run as Docker containers via docker compose:

- The Snowplow's components ([stream-collector], [enrich], and [snowbridge]) are defined in the file compose.snowplow.yaml.
- Redpanda's infrastructure is provided by the file compose.redpanda.yaml.
- The apps components ([ecommerce-nextjs-example-store]) are defined in the file compose.apps.yaml.
- The infrastructure to provide the AWS resources locally (Kinesis, DyanmoDB, etc) is created by LocalStack.
 - Read the file compose.localstack.yaml.
- These components and resources are created in AWS using Terraform scripts.
 - There is another document, in docs/terraform folder, explaining the details.

3. Prerequisites

- 1. Start a Ubuntu Linux (it can be running on a WSL2 environment) terminal.
- 2. Make sure you have docker (and docker compose) installed.
- 3. Clone this project with Git and cd to it.
- 4. Create a file docker/.env (from docker/.env.sample) and configure the AWS variables on it.



You don't need Java or Node.js configured on your machine to follow the steps below. You only need a Bash terminal and a Docker installation.

4. Steps (to run this application as is)

Step 1 → **Start the containers**

\$./docker/up.sh

Tips:

- 1. You can press Ctrl + C at any time. The docker containers will remain running.
- 2. If there is no file docker/.env in the project, this script will try to locate it in a file named ../dynamic-ecommerce-discounts-with-redpanda.env and copy it to docker/.env. This allows you to call git clean -fdX at any time you want without losing your configuration.
 - a. If the file ../dynamic-ecommerce-discounts-with-redpanda.env does not exists, it will copy the file docker/.env.sample to docker/.env and use it.
- 3. You can pass "services" as an argument option to this script. It will list the options you can pass to it by adding the suffix "-services":



```
$ ./docker/up.sh services
apps
localstack
redpanda
snowplow
```

4. By adding the "-services" to one of the options listed above, you will start only the services listed in the file copose.<service>.yaml. So, this will start only the redpanda services (services listed in compose.redpanda.yaml):

```
$ ./docker/up.sh redpanda-services
```

5. You can also call the script up.sh by using the compose.sh script this way:

```
$ ./docker/compose.sh up
```

Step 2 \rightarrow Know the URL provided by the services

- 1. LocalStack: https://app.localstack.cloud ← localstack
- 2. Redpanda:
 - a. Internal (docker containers access) http://localhost:9092 redpanda-internal
 - b. Console: http://localhost:8080 ← redpanda-console

- i. User / password: jane / some-other-secret-password
- 3. **Ecommerce store**: http://localhost:3000 ← ecommerce-store
 - a. It connects with **Snowplow collector** configured to run in http://localhost:9090
 snowplow-collector

Step 3 → **Browse the application pages**

As expected, in the [ecommerce-store], during every page navigation, we are tracking a page view event.

For ecommerce interactions we track the following:

- When a customer goes to a product page we track a product view event.
- When a customer sees an internal promotion list, e.g. Homepage promotions, we track an internal promotion view event.
- When a customer clicks an internal promotion, we track an internal promotion click event.
- When a customer goes to a product list page, we track a product list view event.
- When a customer clicks a product on a product list page, we track a product list click event.
- When a customer sees a recommended product list on the product page, we track a product list view event.
- When a customer clicks on a recommended product list on the product page, we track a product list click event.
- When the customer adds a product to the cart, we track an add to cart event.
- When the customer goes to the cart page we track a checkout step event.
- When they go to the payment step, another checkout step event is tracked.
- When the customer successfully completes a transaction, we track a transaction event (triggered on the server-side but formulated with the spec of Snowplow ecommerce)

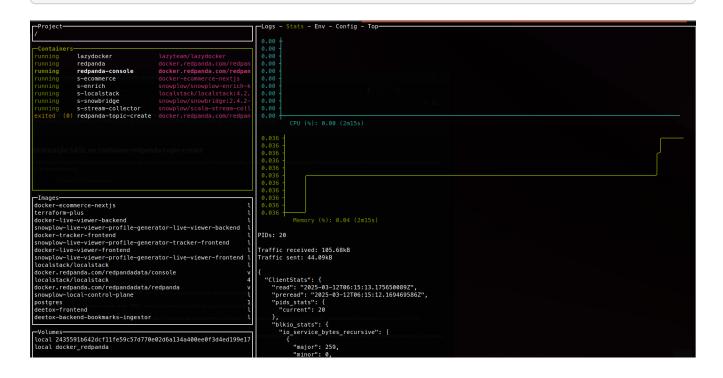
Step 4 → Access the redpanda-console and check the generated events

After browsing the , you can access the and check the generated events in the topic snowplow-enriched-good. See these images: redpanda-1.png, redpanda-2.png.

You can explore the data format of these events in enriched TSV format. In the scripts/raw-messages.sample directory, there are examples of the events recorded by Snowplow when they are transferred to Redpanda. These sample TSV files were created by running the script extract-snowplow-raw-messages.sh. Note: these are not the events final format of the events sent from [snowbridge] component to [redpanda].

Step N \rightarrow (optional) Use LazyDocker to monitor the containers and logs

\$./docker/compose.sh lazy



5. Clean up steps

Step 1 → **Stop the containers**

To stop all the containers, type:

\$./docker/down.sh

Step 2 → Clean up

To remove all the containers and images, type:

\$./docker/clean.sh



Warnings:

1. The script clean.sh will destroy any data generated by these containers.

6. References

LocalStack

Redpanda

- Docker Compose Labs
 - Start a Single Redpanda Broker with Redpanda Console in Docker
- Redpanda Self-Managed Quickstart
- How we engineered our CLI to improve developer productivity
- Some YouTube videos:
 - Why did Redpanda rewrite Apache Kafka? (with Christina Lin)
 - Redpanda Office Hour: HUGE rpk Redpanda CLI update!

7. Demo videos