Docker Containers

CMIS 545 - Cloud Computing Architecture

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Section 1

Just Enough Microservices

What are Microservices?

- Microservices are a good starting point for containers
- Microservices are self-contained, independent, autonomous, loosely coupled services that work together
- No standard definition, they are usually built around a business domain
- Designed specifically to allow independent deployability of each service

How do Microservices relate to Containers?

- Containers facilitate the modularized development and deployment of microservices
- For this level of independence and flexibility to exist, a clear definition between service boundaries must also exist
- Having services tied to specific machines would be inefficient and risky
- Using one container per service guarantees independence

Section 2

Virtual Machines vs Containers

Virtual Machines

- Virtualization allows the creation of an abstraction layer (Hypervisor) on top of the host OS to divide and virtualize physical resources
- Resources from the host machine are carved out into multiple Virtual Machines
- Each VM runs an independent, guest OS

Containers

- Containerization is based on the creation of isolated partitions or zones directly from within the host OS, no virtualization software required
- Partitions only have access to their own content, and to specific shared OS Kernel components
- A container is a standard unit of software that can be deployed on any other machine, virtual or otherwise, that runs a compatible OS; independently of any other containers

Architecture Diagram

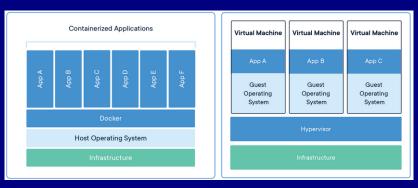


Figure 1: Container vs VM Architecture

Section 3

Docker & Docker Primitives

What is Docker?

- Docker is an open source Platform as a Service for developers and systems engineers to build, ship, and run distributed applications making use of containers
- Docker can package code from an application, including all its dependencies, into a standard container
- Docker includes a comprehensive set of concepts, tools and APIs:
 - Docker Engine
 - Docker Image
 - Docker Container
 - Docker Compose
 - Docker Swarm
 - Data Volumes
 - Networks

Docker Engine

- The Docker Engine is the underlying software that acts as a client-server for building, executing and orchestrating containers
- It relies on 3 major components:
 - The Docker Daemon
 - The Docker Engine API
 - The Command Line Interface

Docker Engine Diagram

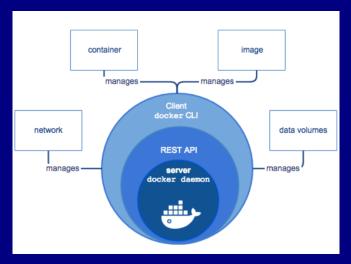


Figure 2: Docker Engine Diagram

Docker Image

- We can think of a Docker Image as a stopped Docker Container
- Each element within an image represents an image layer.
 Layers are then stacked on top of each other and ready to run
- Docker Images can be pulled from image registries, which are collections of image repositories
- The most popular repository is the Docker Hub

Notes

- Docker Inc has recently established rate limits for Docker Hub.
- AWS has announced work on their own public image repository.

Building a Docker Image

- Define the DockerFile
- The DockerFile declares the staring point of the image: From Scratch or From Parent Image
- It describes and contains all the layers
- The image can be built running the docker build command

Notes

- Images are lightweight. An Ubuntu 20 LTS image weights \sim 75 MB whereas the full install requires 25 GB
- Images have great boot up speed

Docker Container

- A Docker Container is a runtime instance of a Docker Image
- It is possible to run many Containers (instances) from one Image
- Containers are the central unit on top of which all Docker is built, and they are better examined practically

Section 4

Docker Demo

Graylog App

- Graylog is an open source log management solution for capturing, storing, and analyzing machine data
- It needs two dependencies:
 - MongoDB: An open-source, "general purpose, document-based, distributed database"
 - Elasticsearch: An open-source, "powerful analytics engine to explore data easily"

Docker Run

- ~\$ docker container run <options> <image>:<tag> <app>
 - <options>: refers to the container command flags
 - <image>: refers to the original name or id of the image
 - <tag>: refers to the specific version of that image
- ~\$ docker container run -d -name ubuntu ubuntu:latest

Graylog Setup

```
eduardo@eduardo-L380:~$ docker container run --name mongo -d mongo:3

eduardo@eduardo-L380:~$ docker run --name elasticsearch \
    -e "http.host=0.0.0.0" \
    -e "ES_JAVA_OPTS=-Xms512m -Xmx512m" \
    -d docker.elastic.co/elasticsearch/elasticsearch-oss:6.8.10

eduardo@eduardo-L380:~$ docker run --name graylog --link mongo --link elasticsearch \
    -p 9000:9000 -p 12201:12201 -p 1514:1514 -p 5555:5555\
    -e GRAYLOG_HTTP_EXTERNAL_URI="http://127.0.0.1:9000/" \
    -d graylog/graylog:3.3
```

Figure 3: Graylog Setup Commands

Note

In Ubuntu 20.04 LTS stock, installing graylog requires adjusting default virtual memory settings using: *sudo sysctl -w vm.max_map_count=262144*

Running Containers

eduardo@eduardo-L380: \$ docker container ls				
CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	CREATED	STATUS	NAMES
1de8801d699f	graylog/graylog:3.3	4 seconds ago	Up 3 seconds (health: starting)	graylog
76b0e75fb7be	./elasticsearch/	22 seconds ago	Up 21 seconds	elasticsearch
229f3aebfe56	mongo:3	27 seconds ago	Up 26 seconds	mongo

Figure 4: Running Containers' List

Testing Graylog

```
eduardo@eduardo-L380: $ echo 'Testing log message for CMIS545 Cloud
Computing Architecture' | nc localhost 5555
```

Figure 5: Echo Command

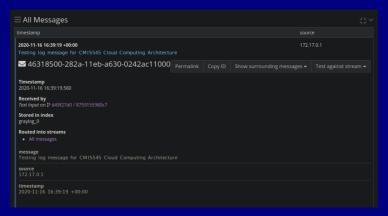


Figure 6: Graylog Dashboard

Stoping and Removing Containers

```
eduardo@eduardo-L380:~$ docker container stop mongo

eduardo@eduardo-L380:~$ docker container ls -a

CONTAINER ID IMAGE CREATED STATUS NAMES

1de8801d699f graylog/graylog:3.3 2 minutes ago Up 2 minutes (healthy) graylog
76b0e75fb7be ./elasticsearch/ 53 seconds ago Up 52 seconds elasticsearch
229f3aebfe56 mongo:3 2 minutes ago Exited(0) 5 seconds ago mongo
```

Figure 7: Stoping Single Container

```
eduardo@eduardo-L380:~$ docker container stop mongo elasticsearch graylog eduardo@eduardo-L380:~$ docker container rm mongo elasticsearch graylog
```

Figure 8: Stopping and Removing all Containers

Further Container Commands[1]

Command	Description		
docker container prune docker container start docker container diff docker container exec docker container export docker container inspect docker container kill docker container logs	Remove all stopped containers Start one or more stopped containers Inspect file or directory changes Run a command in a running container Export a container's filesystem as a tar Display detailed information Kill one or more running containers Fetch the logs of a container		

[1]

Documentation: https://docs.docker.com/engine/reference/commandline/container_run/

Section 5

Beyond 1 Container

Multiple Containers and 1 host: Docker Compose

- Compose is an orchestrator tool for multiple-container applications (usually microservices)
- An app designed using microservices will need 1 container per microservice
- Compose is best suited for development and automated-testing environments, given its capacity to create multiple isolated environments on a single host
- Compose is useful but it doesn't work to scale out of a single host into distributed systems

Multiple Containers and Hosts: Docker Swarm

- Docker Swarm is Docker's distributed computation solution and a cluster management system
- A cluster of Docker Engines (Hosts) is called a swarm
- The key concepts to understand Swarm are: nodes, services & tasks, and load balancing
- A node refers to an instance of a Docker Engine
- Load balancing. Balancing and work distribution can be configured internally or be outsourced to an external balancer

Notes

Swarm competes with Kubernetes