

K8s Units

Raúl Estrada

Octubre 2020

Meaning of CPU

Limits and requests for CPU resources are measured in *cpu* units. One *cpu*, in Kubernetes, is equivalent to **1 vCPU/Core** for cloud providers and **1 hyperthread** on bare-metal Intel processors.

Fractional requests are allowed. A Container with `spec.containers[].resources.requests.cpu` of `0.5` is guaranteed half as much CPU as one that asks for 1 CPU. The expression `0.1` is equivalent to the expression `100m`, which can be read as "one hundred millicpu". Some people say "one hundred millicores", and this is understood to mean the same thing. A request with a decimal point, like `0.1`, is converted to `100m` by the API, and precision finer than `1m` is not allowed. For this reason, the form `100m` might be preferred.

CPU is always requested as an absolute quantity, never as a relative quantity; 0.1 is the same amount of CPU on a single-core, dual-core, or 48-core machine.

Meaning of memory [↗](#)

Limits and requests for `memory` are measured in bytes. You can express memory as a plain integer or as a fixed-point number using one of these suffixes: E, P, T, G, M, K. You can also use the power-of-two equivalents: Ei, Pi, Ti, Gi, Mi, Ki. For example, the following represent roughly the same value:

```
128974848, 129e6, 129M, 123Mi
```

Here's an example. The following Pod has two Containers. Each Container has a request of 0.25 cpu and 64MiB (2^{26} bytes) of memory. Each Container has a limit of 0.5 cpu and 128MiB of memory. You can say the Pod has a request of 0.5 cpu and 128 MiB of memory, and a limit of 1 cpu and 256MiB of memory.

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
  name: frontend
spec:
  containers:
  - name: app
    image: images.my-company.example/app:v4
    resources:
      requests:
        memory: "64Mi"
        cpu: "250m"
      limits:
        memory: "128Mi"
        cpu: "500m"
  - name: log-aggregator
    image: images.my-company.example/log-aggregator:v6
    resources:
      requests:
        memory: "64Mi"
        cpu: "250m"
      limits:
        memory: "128Mi"
        cpu: "500m"
```