CSYE 6225: Network Structure & Cloud Computing Course

Tutorial and Practice: VMs and Containers LXC

Objectives:

This tutorial covers basic containerization commands.

Prerequisites:

You will need to create a micro Ubuntu instance on AWS, ssh to the created Ubuntu virtual machine (VM), and execute this tutorial. You will install software to support these commands.

LXC:

LXC (Linux Containers) is an OS-level virtualization technology that allows multiple isolated Linux environments (containers) to run on a single host, sharing the same kernel but having their own file systems, processes, and network interfaces. LXC is often considered lightweight because it does not require full virtual machines (VMs) with their own kernels like traditional virtualization (e.g., KVM, VMware, etc.). Key Features of LXC are

LXC Components:

- **Namespaces:** Provides process isolation, network isolation, and more (e.g., PID, network, and user namespaces).
- Control Groups (cgroups): Allows limitation and prioritization of resources (CPU, memory, disk I/O) for containers.
- LXC Templates: Pre-built templates for creating containers with various Linux distributions (e.g., Ubuntu, CentOS).

Key Features of LXC:

- 1. **Lightweight:** Containers share the host system's kernel, making them less resource-intensive compared to virtual machines.
- 2. **Isolation:** LXC containers are isolated from each other and from the host, ensuring that processes, network interfaces, and file systems are independent.
- 3. **Efficiency:** Since there's no need for a full guest OS, LXC containers are more efficient in terms of memory and CPU usage.
- 4. **Flexible Networking:** Containers can be connected using various networking configurations (bridged, NAT, macvlan, etc.).

5. **Security:** LXC uses kernel features such as namespaces and cgroups to provide process isolation and resource limitation.

How LXC Differs from Docker:

- LXC provides a more traditional, system-level container, similar to a lightweight VM with its own init system, whereas Docker focuses on application-level containers designed for deploying specific applications or services.
- LXC allows for running a full Linux distribution, whereas Docker runs a single application or process per container.

Hand-on Creating my-sql container.

• ssh to your micro ubuntu VM on AWS.

\$ lxc

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-92:~$ lxc
Installing LXD snap, please be patient.
Description:
  Command line client for LXD
 All of LXD's features can be driven through the various commands below.
 For help with any of those, simply call them with --help.
Usage:
  1xc [command]
Available Commands:
             Manage command aliases
  alias
             Manage user authorization
  auth
  cluster
             Manage cluster members
             Manage instance and server configuration options
  config
  console
            Attach to instance consoles
 сору
             Copy instances within or in between LXD servers
             Delete instances and snapshots
 delete
            Execute commands in instances
  exec
  export
            Export instance backups
  file
             Manage files in instances
             Help about any command
 help
             Manage images
  image
  import
            Import instance backups
  info
             Show instance or server information
  init
             Create instances from images
  launch
             Create and start instances from images
  list
             List instances
 monitor
             Monitor a local or remote LXD server
 move
             Move instances within or in between LXD servers
  network
             Manage and attach instances to networks
  operation List, show and delete background operations
             Pause instances
  pause
  profile
             Manage profiles
  project
             Manage projects
  publish
             Publish instances as images
             Send a raw query to LXD
  query
 rebuild
             Rebuild instances
  remote
             Manage the list of remote servers
             Rename instances and snapshots
  rename
             Restart instances
  restart
             Restore instances from snapshots
  restore
             Create instance snapshots
  snapshot
             Start instances
  start
             Stop instances
 stop
             Manage storage pools and volumes
 storage
             Show local and remote versions
 version
             Manage warnings
 warning
Flags:
                      Show less common commands
      --all
                      Show all debug messages
     --debug
     --force-local
                      Force using the local unix socket
  -h, --help
                      Print help
     --project
                      Override the source project
  -q, --quiet
                      Don't show progress information
     --sub-commands Use with help or --help to view sub-commands
```

- Install LXC: Ensure LXC is installed on your system.
 - o sudo apt update
 - sudo apt install lxc lxc-templates

```
?2:~$ sudo apt install lxc lxc-templates
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
  The following additional packages will be installed:
arch-test binutils binutils-common binutils-x86-64-linux-gnu bridge-utils bzip2 cloud-image-utils
debootstrap dns-root-data dnsmasq-base dpkg fakechroot fakeroot genisoimage libbinutils
    libboost-iostreams1.83.0 libboost-thread1.83.0 libbz2-1.0 libctf-nobfd0 libctf0 libdaxctl1 libdistro-info-perl libdpkg-perl libfakechroot libfakeroot libfile-fcntllock-perl libgprofng0 libiscsi7 liblxc-common liblxc1t64 libndctl6 libnfs14 libpam-cgfs libpmem1 libpmemobj1 librados2 librbd1 librdmacm1t64 libsframe1 libsubid4 liburing2 lxcfs mmdebstrap qemu-block-extra qemu-utils uidmap
  Suggested packages:
 binutils-doc gprofng-gui ifupdown bzip2-doc mtools squid-deb-proxy-client debian-archive-keyring debsig-verify wodim cdrkit-doc debian-keyring gcc | c-compiler bzr criu python3-lxc qemu-user-static apt-transport-tor dpkg-dev genext2fs perl-doc qemu-user squashfs-tools-ng
The following NEW packages will be installed:
arch-test binutils binutils-common binutils-x86-64-linux-gnu bridge-utils bzip2 cloud-image-utils
     debootstrap dns-root-data dnsmasq-base fakechroot fakeroot genisoimage libbinutils libboost-iostreams1.83.0
     libboost-thread1.83.0 libctf-nobfd0 libctf0 libdaxctl1 libdistro-info-perl libdpkg-perl libfakechroot
libfakeroot libfile-fcntllock-perl libgprofng0 libiscsi7 liblxc-common liblxc1t64 libndctl6 libnfs14
libpam-cgfs libpmem1 libpmemobj1 librados2 librbd1 librdmacm1t64 libsframe1 libsubid4 liburing2 lxc
     lxc-templates lxcfs mmdebstrap qemu-block-extra qemu-utils uidmap
 The following packages will be upgraded:
dpkg libbz2-1.0
2 upgraded, 46 newly installed, 0 to remove and 137 not upgraded.
Need to get 22.1 MB of archives.
After this operation, 107 MB of additional disk space will be used.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] Y
Get:1 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/main amd64 dpkg amd64 1.22.6ubuntu6.1 [1283 kB]
Get:2 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/main amd64 libbz2-1.0 amd64 1.0.8-5.1build0.1 [34.4 kB]
Get:3 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 arch-test all 0.21-1 [12.7 kB]
Get:4 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 binutils-common amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [239 kB]
Get:5 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libsframe1 amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [14.8 kB]
Get:6 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libbinutils amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [572 kB]
Get:7 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libctf-nobfd0 amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [97.1 kB]
Get:8 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libctf0 amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [94.5 kB]
Get:9 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libgprofng0 amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [851 kB]
Get:10 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 binutils-x86-64-linux-gnu amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [2469 kB]
Get:11 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 binutils amd64 2.42-4ubuntu2 [18.0 kB]
Get:12 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 bridge-utils amd64 1.7.1-1ubuntu2 [33.9 kB]
Get:13 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/main amd64 bzip2 amd64 1.0.8-5.1build0.1 [34.5 kB]
Get:14 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 dns-root-data all 2023112702~willsync1 [4450 B]
Get:15 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 dnsmasq-base amd64 2.90-2build2 [375 kB]
Get:16 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libfakechroot amd64 2.20.1+ds-15 [47.2 kB]
Get:17 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 fakechroot all 2.20.1+ds-15 [25.4 kB]
Get:18 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libfakeroot amd64 1.33-1 [32.4 kB]
Get:19 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 librakeroot amd64 1.33-1 [32.4 kB]
Get:19 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 fakeroot amd64 1.33-1 [67.2 kB]
Get:20 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 genisoimage amd64 9:1.1.11-3.5 [378 kB]
Get:21 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libboost-iostreams1.83.0 amd64 1.83.0-2.1ubuntu3 [259 kB]
Get:22 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libboost-thread1.83.0 amd64 1.83.0-2.1ubuntu3 [276 kB]
Get:23 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libdaxctl1 amd64 77-2ubuntu2 [21.4 kB]
Get:24 http://us-west-2.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/main amd64 libdistro-info-perl all 1.7build1 [5616 B]
```

• Create and Start a Container: Create a container (using Ubuntu as an example) and start it:

\$ sudo lxc-create -t download -n mysql-container -- --dist ubuntu --release focal --arch amd64

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-92:-$ sudo lxc-create -t download -n mysql-container -- --dist ubuntu --release focal --arch amd64
Downloading the image index
Downloading the rootfs
Downloading the metadata
The image cache is now ready
Unpacking the rootfs
---
You just created an Ubuntu focal amd64 (20240921_07:42) container.
To enable SSH, run: apt install openssh-server
No default root or user password are set by LXC.
```

\$ sudo lxc-start -n mysql-container

```
[ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-92:~$ sudo lxc-start -n mysql-container
```

Set Up Networking (Optional): Configure networking if needed (bridged or NAT). You can check the container's IP:

sudo lxc-ls -f

Access the Container: Log into the container:

sudo lxc-attach -n mysql-container

Once inside the container, update the package list:

apt update

```
[ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-92:~$ sudo lxc-attach -n mysql-container
[root@mysql-container:/home/ubuntu# apt update
Hit:1 http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal InRelease
Get:2 http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal-updates InRelease
[128 kB]
Hit:3 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal-security InRelease
Get:4 http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal-updates/main amd64 Packages [3601 kB]
Get:5 http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal-updates/universe amd64 Packages [1232 kB]
Fetched 4962 kB in 2s (2282 kB/s)
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
All packages are up to date.
```

Install MySQL Server: Install MySQL within the container:

apt install mysql-server

```
rostSwysal-container:/home/abuntu# spt install mysal-server
Reading packags lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Building dependency tree
Reading packag instance... Done
Installed:
Inst
```

Configure MySQL (Optional): You may want to adjust some MySQL settings depending on your container environment. For instance, you might bind MySQL to specific IPs by editing the MySQL configuration file:

nano /etc/mysql/mysql.conf.d/mysqld.cnf

Set the bind address to 0.0.0.0 or your specific container's IP:

bind-address = 0.0.0.0

Start MySQL: Start MySQL inside the container:

systemctl start mysql

[root@mysql-container:/home/ubuntu# systemctl start mysql

Set Root Password and Secure Installation: Run the secure installation script:

mysql secure installation

```
[root@mysql-container:/home/ubuntu# mysql_secure_installation

Securing the MySQL server deployment.

Connecting to MySQL using a blank password.

VALIDATE PASSWORD COMPONENT can be used to test passwords
and improve security. It checks the strength of password
and allows the users to set only those passwords which are
secure enough. Would you like to setup VALIDATE PASSWORD component?

[Press y|Y for Yes, any other key for No: Y

There are three levels of password validation policy:

LOW Length >= 8

MEDIUM Length >= 8, numeric, mixed case, and special characters
STRONG Length >= 8, numeric, mixed case, special characters and dictionary file

[Please enter 0 = LOW, 1 = MEDIUM and 2 = STRONG: 0
```

Access mysql:

```
Proot@mysql-container:/home/ubuntu# mysql
Welcome to the MySQL monitor. Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 10
Server version: 8.0.39-Oubuntu0.20.04.1 (Ubuntu)

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Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.
```

```
mysql> show tables;
 Tables_in_sys
 host_summary
 host_summary_by_file_io
 host_summary_by_file_io_type
 host_summary_by_stages
 host_summary_by_statement_latency
 host_summary_by_statement_type
 innodb_buffer_stats_by_schema
 innodb_buffer_stats_by_table
 innodb_lock_waits
 io_by_thread_by_latency
 io_global_by_file_by_bytes
 io_global_by_file_by_latency
 io_global_by_wait_by_bytes
 io_global_by_wait_by_latency
 latest_file_io
 memory_by_host_by_current_bytes
 memory_by_thread_by_current_bytes
 memory_by_user_by_current_bytes
 memory_global_by_current_bytes
 memory_global_total
 metrics
 processlist
 ps_check_lost_instrumentation
 schema_auto_increment_columns
 schema_index_statistics
 schema_object_overview
 schema_redundant_indexes
 schema_table_lock_waits
 schema_table_statistics
 schema_table_statistics_with_buffer
 schema_tables_with_full_table_scans
 schema_unused_indexes
 session
 session_ssl_status
 statement_analysis
 statements_with_errors_or_warnings
 statements_with_full_table_scans
 statements_with_runtimes_in_95th_percentile
 statements_with_sorting
 statements_with_temp_tables
 sys_config
 user_summary
 user_summary_by_file_io
 user_summary_by_file_io_type
 user_summary_by_stages
```

Check on available services in the created container:

End Tutorial