Guidewire

Introduction to Docker and Containers

@docker
@charme_g

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Outline

- **Whom is this for?**
- What's the problem?
- What's a Container?
- Docker 101
- Docker images
- Docker future

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Ops

- any distro[1]
- any cloud[2]
- any machine (physical, virtual...)
- recent kernels[3]

[1] as long as it's Ubuntu or Debian ☺ others coming soon
[2] as long as they don't ship with their custom crappy kernel
[3] at least 3.8; support for RHEL 2.6.32 on the way

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Devs

- all languages
- all databases
- all O/S
- targetting Linux systems

Docker will eventually be able to target FreeBSD, Solaris, and maybe OS X.

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CFO, CIO, CTO, ...

- LESS overhead!
- MORE consolidation!
- MORE agility!
- LESS costs!

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The Matrix From Hell

	my laptop	your laptop	QA	staging	prod on cloud VM	prod on bare metal
django web frontend	?	?	?	?	?	?
node.js async API	?	?	?	?	?	?
background workers	?	?	?	?	?	?
SQL database	?	?	?	?	?	?
distributed DB, big data	?	?	?	?	?	?
message queue	?	?	?	?	?	?

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Another Matrix from Hell

	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
	?	?	?	?	?	?	?







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Solution:
the *intermodal shipping container*

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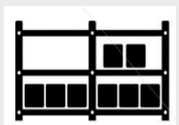
Solved!







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Solution to the deployment problem: the *Linux* container

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Linux containers...

Units of software delivery (**ship it!**)

- run everywhere
  - regardless of kernel version
  - regardless of host distro
  - (but container and host architecture must match*)
- run anything
  - if it can run on the host, it can run in the container
  - i.e., if it can run on a Linux kernel, it can run

*Unless you emulate CPU with qemu and binfmt

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High level approach: it's a lightweight VM

- own process space
- own network interface
- can run stuff as root
- can have its own /sbin/init (different from the host)

« Machine Container »

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Low level approach: it's chroot on steroids

- can also *not* have its own /sbin/init
- container = isolated process(es)
- share kernel with host
- no device emulation (neither HVM nor PV)

« Application Container »

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Separation of concerns: Dave the Developer

- inside my container:
  - my code
  - my libraries
  - my package manager
  - my app
  - my data

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Separation of concerns: Oscar the Ops guy

- outside the container:
  - logging
  - remote access
  - network configuration
  - monitoring

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How does it work?
Isolation with namespaces

- pid
- mnt
- net
- uts
- ipc
- user

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How does it work?
Isolation with cgroups

- memory
- cpu
- blkio
- devices

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If you're serious about security, you also need…

- capabilities
  - okay: cap_ipc_lock, cap_lease, cap_mknod, cap_net_admin, cap_net_bind_service, cap_net_raw
  - troublesome: cap_sys_admin (mount!)
- think twice before granting root
- grsec is nice
- seccomp (very specific use cases); seccomp-bpf
- beware of full-scale kernel exploits!

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How does it work? Copy-on-write storage

- unioning filesystems
  (AUFS, overlayfs)
- snapshotting filesystems
  (BTRFS, ZFS)
- copy-on-write block devices
  (thin snapshots with LVM or device-mapper)

This is now being integrated with low-level LXC tools as well!

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Efficiency

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Compute efficiency: *almost* no overhead

- processes are isolated,
  but run straight on the host
- CPU performance
  = native performance
- memory performance
  = a few % shaved off for (optional) accounting
- network performance
  = small overhead; can be reduced to zero

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Storage efficiency: many options!

	Union Filesystems	Snapshotting Filesystems	Copy-on-write block devices
Provisioning	Superfast Supercheap	Fast Cheap	Fast Cheap
Changing small files	Superfast Supercheap	Fast Cheap	Fast Costly
Changing large files	Slow (first time) Inefficient (copy-up!)	Fast Cheap	Fast Cheap
Diffing	Superfast	Superfast (ZFS) Kinda meh (BTRFS)	Slow
Memory usage	Efficient	Efficient	Inefficient (at high densities)
Drawbacks	Random quirks AUFS not mainline !AUFS more quirks	ZFS not mainline BTRFS not as nice	Higher disk usage Great performance (except diffing)
Bottom line	**Ideal for PAAS and high density things**	**This might be the Future**	**Dodge Ram 3500**

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Docker-what?

- Open Source engine to **commoditize** LXC
- using copy-on-write for quick provisioning

STOP!

~~HAMMER~~ DEMO TIME.

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root@dockerhost:~#

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Yes, but...

- « I don't need Docker;
  I can do all that stuff with LXC tools, rsync,
  some scripts! »
- correct on all accounts;
  but it's also true for apt, dpkg, rpm, yum, etc.
- the whole point is to **commoditize**,
  i.e. make it ridiculously easy to use

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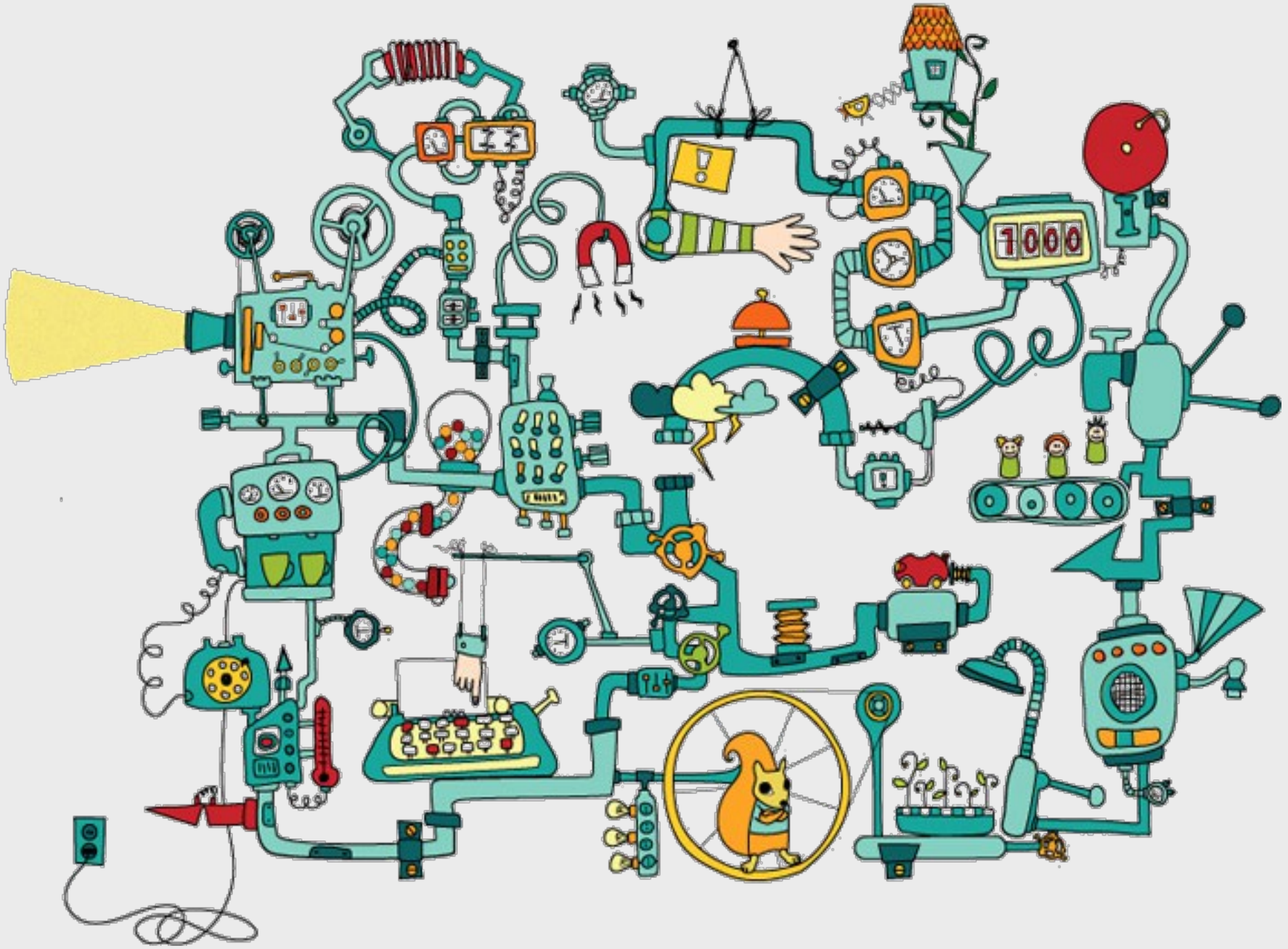
Containers before Docker



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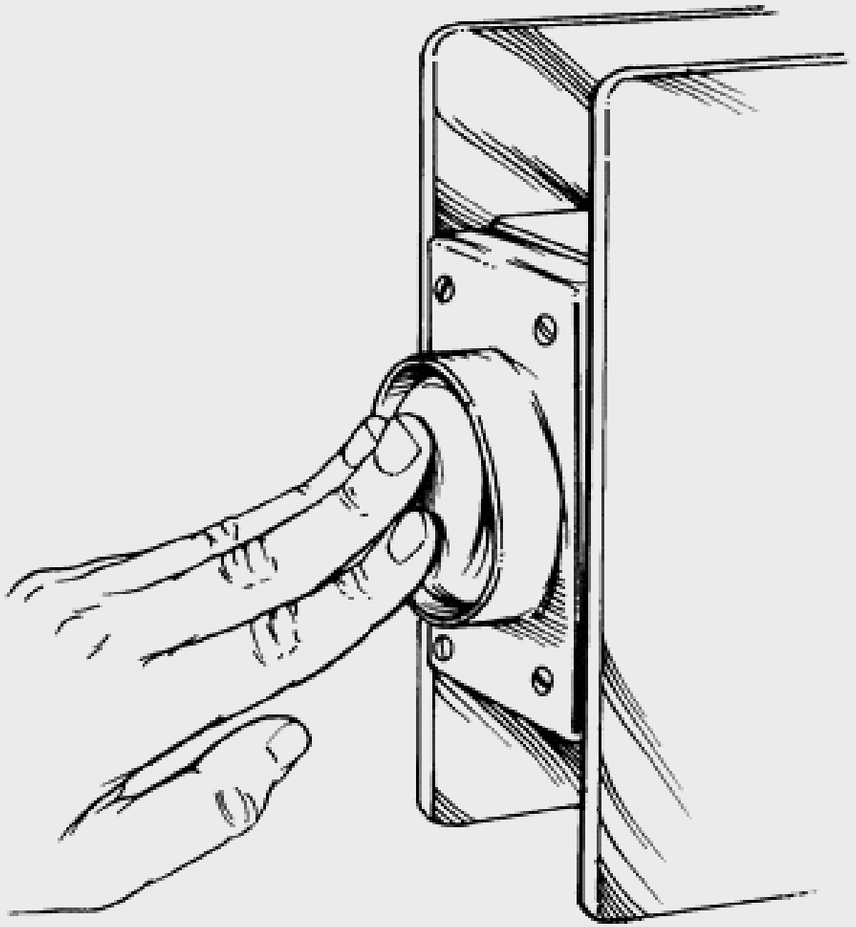
Containers after Docker



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What this really means…

- instead of writing « very small shell scripts » to manage containers, write them to do the rest:
  - continuous deployment/integration/testing
  - orchestration
- = use Docker as a building block
- re-use other people images (yay ecosystem!)

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Docker-what?
The Big Picture

- Open Source engine to commoditize LXC
- using copy-on-write for quick provisioning
- allowing to **create and share** *images*
- **standard format** for containers
  (stack of layers; 1 layer = tarball+metadata)
- standard, *reproducible* way to *easily* build
  trusted images (Dockerfile, Stackbrew...)

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Docker-what?
Under The Hood

- rewrite of dotCloud internal container engine
  - original version: Python, tied to dotCloud's internal stuff
  - released version: Go, legacy-free
- the Docker daemon runs in the background
  - manages containers, images, and builds
  - HTTP API (over UNIX or TCP socket)
  - embedded CLI talking to the API
- Open Source (GitHub public repository + issue tracking)

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Authoring images with run/commit

1) docker run ubuntu bash
2) apt-get install this and that
3) docker commit <containerid> <imagename>
4) docker run <imagename> bash
5) git clone git://.../mycode
6) pip install -r requirements.txt
7) docker commit <containerid> <imagename>
8) repeat steps 4-7 as necessary
9) docker tag <imagename> <user/image>

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Authoring images with a Dockerfile

```
FROM ubuntu

RUN apt-get -y update
RUN apt-get install -y g++
RUN apt-get install -y erlang-dev erlang-manpages
erlang-base-hipe ...
RUN apt-get install -y libmozjs185-dev libicu-dev
libtool ...
RUN apt-get install -y make wget

RUN wget http://.../apache-couchdb-1.3.1.tar.gz | tar
-C /tmp -zxf-
RUN cd /tmp/apache-couchdb-* && ./configure && make
install

RUN printf "[httpd]\nport = 8101\nbind_address =
0.0.0.0" >
    /usr/local/etc/couchdb/local.d/docker.ini
```

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Authoring Images with Chef/Puppet/Ansible/Salt/...

Plan A: « my other VM is a container »

- write a Dockerfile to install $YOUR_CM
- start tons of containers
- run $YOUR_CM in them

Good if you want a mix of containers/VM/metal

But slower to deploy, and uses more resources

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Authoring Images with Chef/Puppet/Ansible/Salt/...

Plan B: « the revolution will be containerized »

- write a Dockerfile to install $YOUR_CM
- … and *run* $YOUR_CM as part of build process
- deploy fully baked images

Faster to deploy

Easier to rollback

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Docker: the community

- Docker: >200 contributors
- <7% of them work for ~~dotCloud~~ Docker inc.
- latest milestone (0.6): 40 contributors
- ~50% of all commits by external contributors
- GitHub repository: >800 forks

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Docker: the ecosystem

- Cocaine (PAAS; has Docker plugin)
- CoreOS (full distro based on Docker)
- Deis (PAAS; available)
- Dokku (mini-Heroku in 100 lines of bash)
- Flynn (PAAS; in development)
- Maestro (orchestration from a simple YAML file)
- OpenStack integration (in Havana, Nova has a Docker driver)

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Docker long-term roadmap

Docker 1.0:

- dynamic discovery
- remove AUFS, THINP, LXC, etc.
  - execution? chroot!
  - storage? cp!
  - we can run everywhere \o/
- re-add everything as plugins

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Thank you! Questions?

http://docker.io/

http://docker.com/

https://github.com/dotcloud/docker

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