Can you hear me now?
Networking for containers
Who am I

- Face behind doger.io
- Been playing with containers in mainline since 2010
- Worked with openVZ before this
- Original implementation was a bet that I could write more user friendly tools than openVZ
Who is this for

- Will mainly be focusing on what you need to implement your own LXC or docker implementation
- People interested in networking
- Not going to have time to dive deep, just enough to get you pointed in right direction
What we will be covering

- Bridges
- VLANS
- Dummy interfaces
- Bonded interfaces
- MACVLAN
- MACVLAN/tap
- VETH
- VXLAN
- SDN
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- SDN

Assumed knowledge, only briefly touched on
How it goes together
Bonding

• Join 2 or more links into one logical link
• Speed increases (with caveats)
• High Availability (ability to lose one or more links and continue working)
• Typically use LACP (802.11ad) with switches
VLANs

- Split a switch or group of Physical switches into smaller Logical switches
- Useful for segregating clients (not security in itself but can be used to provide security)
- Comes in 'tagged' and 'untagged' form
- VLAN can spawn multiple switches with 'trunking'
Dummy Interfaces

- Mainly used for Linux routers
- Provide 'Service' addresses
- Integrates well with OSPF and BGP
- Ensure a service remains available even if the link is down
- Intent clearer than adding IP addresses to loopback interface, Better visibility.
Bridge

• Emulate a L2 Switch in software (the box you plug the cables into)
• Basis of most Virtualisation and container setups (libvirt, docker)
• Virtual networks plug into this virtual switch
• Can be connected to a real network
VETH

- The cable, Packets go in one end, come out the other
- When mixed with bridges, packets may be processed multiple times
- 'link detection' detects if other end is up or down (use to confirm if a container is 'ready')
- Simple networking: One end in a container, one end in a bridge
MACVLAN

- The other cables, takes an interface and splits it up
- Comes in 2 versions (macvlan/tap)
- High performance (possible to reduce the amount of times packets go via network stack)
- May fall back to software processing if many created on same interface (~10 depends on hardware)
Overlay Networks

- Lets you have a network layout that looks different from what it is implemented on
- Easier time with migration of resources
- Lower friction for provisioning networks compared to vlans
VXLAN

- A cable cut in half that still works somehow
- Joins multiple machines together as if they where directly connected (Layer 2 network)
- Unlike normal VLANs can go over the internet
- Unlike GRE tunnel can connect more than 2 machines together
- 24 bits for vlan id compared to normal vlans 12 bits
How it goes together

Host A
---
vxlan: 30
---
Host B
---
Host C
---
Host D
---
vxlan: 40
---
Host E
---
Router
SDN

- Software processes controlling the flow of packets through your network
- Can switch traffic around congested links
- Can provide isolation/VLAN like functionality
- If you can think of it, you can likely do it
How it goes together
How it goes together

Host A  Host B  Host C  Host D  Host E

Switch 1  Switch 2  Switch 3  Switch 4  Switch 5
OpenFlow

- Specification to talk to SDN Switches/Machines
- Open protocol, easy to obtain specs
- Allows mixing and matching of Hardware devices and Software Control Planes
- Widely implemented
- Start looking the other way if either half does not implement it (vendor lock-in)
OpenVSwitch

- Shows up as a bridge device
- Has a userspace daemon to control packet flow
- Daemon installs rules in kernel openvswitch table for device on demand
- Kernel routes directly if it has a rule
- Can speak openflow, coordinate multiple machines
Roll your own?

- Will work fine on 'perfect' network (ie localhost)
- Worst case is normally no traffic rather than degraded performance
- Odd hard to diagnose issues in production (TCP in TCP, mtu issues)
- Easier to let someone else do the hard work and support it (linux kernel)
Questions? T-Shirts?
(yes we have T-Shirts now)

More info at www.pocketnix.org and doger.io
Bonus Points

- Mess with your coworkers
- Binary in interface names
- UTF-8 Extended chars
- Hardcoded color interfaces!
Bonus Points

root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# ip li add '(...)' type dummy
root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# ip li sh '(...)
64: (...) J: <BROADCAST,NOARP> mtu 1500 qdisc noop state DOWN mode DEFAULT group default
  link/ether 32:6a:f2:05:42:3bff:ff:ff:ff:ff
root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# 

root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# echo `tput setaf 14`\`tput setaf 7`
\`
root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# IFACE="`tput setaf 14`\`tput setaf 7`"
root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# ip li add "$IFACE" type dummy
root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# ip li sh "$IFACE"
65: \: <BROADCAST,NOARP> mtu 1500 qdisc noop state DOWN mode DEFAULT group default
  link/ether 86:c1:b6:e0:53:61 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
root@dablitz:/home/dablitz# 

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