

What are containers?

Pulling containers

Running multi-node workloads

Building multi-node containers

WHAT ARE CONTAINERS?

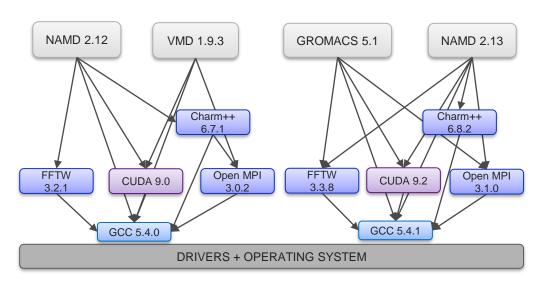
- Isolation technology based on Linux kernel namespaces
- Package everything needed to run an application
- Differ from virtualization
 - Containers run on common kernel as host
 - OS virtualization vs hardware abstraction
 - Containers are generally more lightweight and offer better performance than VMs
- Container runtimes Charlie Cloud, Docker, Shifter, Singularity, and more
 - NGC HPC containers are QAed with Docker and Singularity

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CONTAINER BENEFITS

- Enabling straddling of distros on a common Linux kernel
- Isolate environment and resources
- Encapsulate dependencies
- Straightforward deployment
- Drop in replacement for many workflows
- Promote reproducibility
- Equivalent performance to baremetal

BARE METAL VS CONTAINERS



NAMD 2.12
CUDA
libraries

VMD
CUDA
libraries

CUDA
libraries

CONTAINER RUNTIME

DRIVERS + OPERATING SYSTEM

BARE METAL

CONTAINERS

CONTAINER REGISTRIES

- Docker Hub https://hub.docker.com
 - Official repositories for CentOS, Ubuntu, and more
 - NVIDIA: https://hub.docker.com/r/nvidia/cuda
- Singularity Hub https://singularity-hub.org/
 - Registry of scientific Linux containers
- NVIDIA GPU Cloud (NGC) https://ngc.nvidia.com
 - Optimized HPC, HPC Visualization, Deep Learning, and base containers
 - User Guide: http://docs.nvidia.com/ngc/ngc-user-guide/index.html



NGC CONTAINER REGISTRY

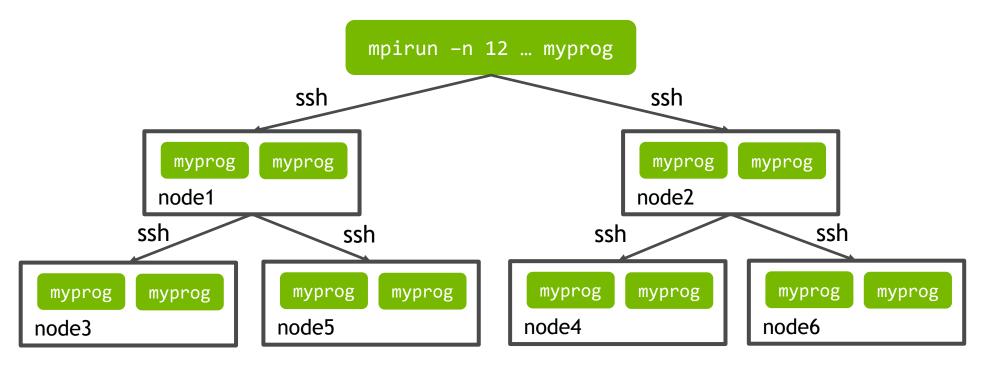
Over 40 containers available today

| HPC | HPC Visualization | RAPIDS/ML | NVIDIA/K8s | Partners |
|------------------|--|--|--|---|
| bigdft | index | rapidsai Kubernetes | | chainer |
| candle | paraview-holodeck | | OII IVIDIA GI OS | deep-learning-studio |
| chroma | paraview-index | | | h20ai-driverless |
| gamess | paraview-optix | | | kinetica |
| gromacs | vmd | | | mapd |
| lammps | | | | matlab |
| lattice-microbes | | | | paddlepaddle |
| milc | | | | |
| namd | | | | |
| pgi | | | | |
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MPI BACKGROUND

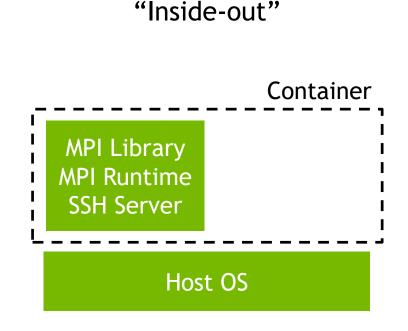
MPI implementations provide a job launcher, mpirun or mpiexec, that initializes and wires up distributed MPI ranks (i.e., processes) on a multi-node cluster



MPIRUN + CONTAINERS

"Outside-in" Container **MPI Library MPI** Runtime SSH Server Host OS

mpirun is invoked <u>outside</u> the container



mpirun is invoked <u>inside</u> the container

MPIRUN + CONTAINERS

"Outside-in"

- Fits in more "naturally" into the traditional HPC workflow (SSH keys, etc.)
- mpirun -hostfile hostfile -n 64 app becomes
 mpirun -hostfile hostfile -n 64 singularity run app.simg app
- Requires a compatible MPI runtime on the host

"Inside-out"

- Must insert SSH keys into the container image by some other mechanism
- Must orchestrate the launch of containers on other hosts
- Completely self-contained, no host MPI dependencies

MULTI-NODE OUTSIDE-IN MILC RUN

On the cluster

Get the sample dataset

```
$ mkdir $HOME/milc-dataset && cd $HOME/milc-dataset
$ wget http://denali.physics.indiana.edu/~sg/SC15 student cluster competition/benchmarks.tar
```

\$ tar -xf benchmarks.tar

Pull MILC container from NGC

```
$ module load singularity
```

\$ singularity build milc.simg docker://nvcr.io/hpc/milc:quda0.8-patch40ct2017

Get a 2 node allocation

Run the container using 2 nodes with 4 GPUs per node

```
$ module load openmpi
```

\$ mpirun -n 8 -npernode 4 -wdir \$HOME/milc-dataset/small singularity run --nv ~/milc.simg
/milc/milc_qcd-7.8.1/ks_imp_rhmc/su3_rhmd_hisq -geom 1 1 2 4 small.bench.in

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MULTI-NODE SLURM MILC RUN

On the cluster

Get the sample dataset

```
$ mkdir $HOME/milc-dataset && cd $HOME/milc-dataset
```

\$ wget http://denali.physics.indiana.edu/~sg/SC15_student_cluster_competition/benchmarks.tar

\$ tar -xf benchmarks.tar

Pull MILC container from NGC

\$ module load singularity

\$ singularity build milc.simg docker://nvcr.io/hpc/milc:quda0.8-patch40ct2017

Run the container using 2 nodes with 8 GPUs per node

\$ srun --nodes=2 --ntasks-per-node=8 --mpi=pmi2 singularity run --pwd \$HOME/milc-dataset/small --nv
milc.simg su3 rhmd hisq -geom 1 2 2 4 small.bench.in

GENERIC MULTI-NODE SLURM RUN

On the cluster

Pull container from NGC

```
$ module load singularity
```

\$ singularity build myapp.simg docker://nvcr.io/hpc/myapp:tag

Run the container using 2 nodes with 8 GPUs per node

\$ srun --nodes=2 --ntasks-per-node=8 --mpi=pmi2 singularity run --nv myapp.simg myapp





BUILDING MULTI-NODE CONTAINERS

- Know your target hardware and software configurations
 - If possible, build on your target hardware
- Use multi stage builds to minimize the size of your final container image
 - Don't include unneeded libraries
 - To get this advantage with Singularity, build a Docker image and convert it to Singularity
- Host integration vs. portability trade off

FOR BEST INTEGRATION

- Exactly match InfiniBand userspace component versions
 - (M)OFED version should match host
 - ► If available, nv_peer_mem, gdr_copy, and xpmem/knem should match host
- Exactly match host MPI flavor and version
 - Should match configure options as well

FOR BEST PORTABILITY

(M)OFED drivers

- MOFED 4.4+ will maintain forwards/backwards compatibility
- Otherwise, OFED drivers generally have fewer compatibility issues than MOFED drivers but you will lose out on some features

Use OpenMPI

- "Plugin" design can support many systems with choices delayed until runtime
- Can build support for lots of transport backends, resource managers, filesystem support, etc in a single build
- If possible, use 3.x or 4.x for best compatibility

FOR BEST PORTABILITY CONT'D

- Use UCX
 - Replaces deprecated openIB OpenMPI component
 - UCX is default starting with OpenMPI 4.0
 - Supports intra/inter node optimized transports
 - When built with nv_peer_mem, gdr_copy, knem, xpmem, cma it will automatically pick the best backend based on host support

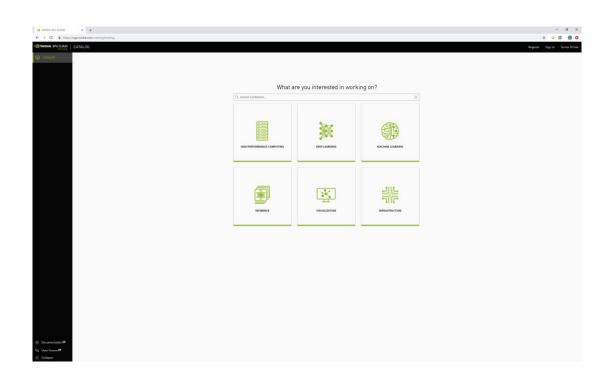
HPC CONTAINER MAKER (HPCCM)

- Simplifies the creation of container specification files
- Building block abstraction of components from implementation
 - Best practices for free
 - Updates to building blocks can be leveraged with a re-build
- Full power of Python in container recipes
- User arguments allow a single recipe to produce multiple containers

For more information on HPCCM, reference the "Containers Made Easy with HPC Container Maker" webinar or view the project's README and source at https://github.com/NVIDIA/hpc-container-maker

GET STARTED TODAY WITH NGC

Sign Up and Access Containers for Free



To learn more about all of the GPU-accelerated software from NGC, visit:

nvidia.com/cloud

To sign up or explore NGC, visit:

ngc.nvidia.com

