WebAssembly, Serverless, and the Cloud

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About Me

Distributed Systems

Microservices

Cloud Native Development

Kubernetes





Programming WebAssembly with Rust

Unified Development for Web, Mobile, and Embedded Applications



Agenda

- Intro to WebAssembly
- Defining Serverless
- WebAssembly + Serverless
- Introducing Waxosuit



Introduction to WebAssembly

介绍

Definition

A binary instruction format for a stack-based virtual machine. Wasm is designed as a portable target for compilation of high-level languages like C/C++/Rust, enabling deployment on the web for client and server applications -

webassembly.org

- Portable
- Efficient (Stack VM)
- "Write once run anywhere"
- Host agnostic

Limitations

- Only allowed to access sandboxed memory
- All functions accept/return 32/64-bit numbers only
- Memory growth can be constrained by host
- Host function access determined *solely* by the host

Advantages

- Secure execution
 - can't jump to non-existent instruction
- Secure and isolated memory
- Portability
- Small (typically) binaries
- Performance
- Any* language can compile to Wasm
- Any* language can host/interpret Wasm

Raw WebAssembly

```
(module
     (func (result i32)
       (i32.const 42)
 3
     (func (param $1hs i32) (param $rhs i32) (result i32)
       (i32.add
 6
           (get local $rhs)
 8
           (get local $1hs)
 9
     (export "helloWorld" (func 0))
10
11
     (export "add" (func 1))
12
```

No one wants to write code like this for real applications.

Defining Serverless

Serverless

Any workload that does not own the endpoints through which it communicates and is agnostic to the process in which it is hosted.

Common, but optional:

- Scale-to-Zero
- Run-once / Batch Style
- Single Function

Examples

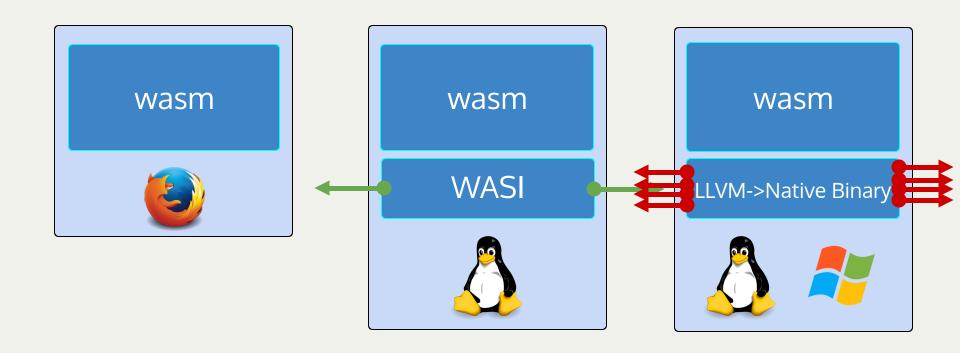
- AWS Lambda
- Google Cloud Functions
- Azure Serverless
- OpenFaaS
- Knative
- WebAssembly

WebAssembly and Serverless Ecosystem Status

WebAssembly Innovation

- Cranelift Mozilla code generator
- Lucet
 - Early stages, compile & run Wasm
 - Built on Cranelift
 - Powers Fastly Terrarium
- Wasmer Runtime
 - Rust
 - JIT
 - Relies on Cranelift
 - wapm
- Cloudflare WebAssembly Workers

Escaping the Sandbox



Trends*

- Using Wasm as intermediate format
 - Convert to native to run
- Portability over sandbox/safety
- JavaScript and In-browser experience over server hosting
- Focus on escaping sandbox, not embracing it
- Not enough focus on developer productivity & experience

Introducing Waxosuit

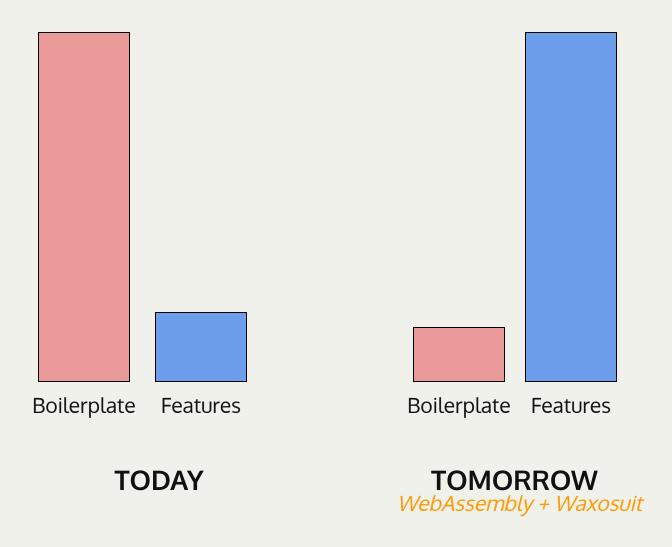


Waxosuit

A secure WebAssembly runtime environment for enterprise-grade, cloud-native applications with a focus on productivity and developer experience.



Where We Spend Our Time



Waxosuit Components

构件

- Wascap
 - RPC-style standard for Wasm<->Host Comms
 - Security standards for Wasm modules
- Waxosuit
 - Host runtime
- Gantry
 - Registry for wascap-signed modules
 - Can host any module, not just Waxosuit's

Wascap

Security

- Embedded JWT
- Verifiable Provenance
- Claims attest to capabilities module can use
- Other claims: tags, version, etc.

Guest<->Host Communications

- Protobuf Envelopes: Command / Event
- Payload : protobuf encoded Any
- Guest module required to implement allocator

Pluggable Standard

- Any Wasm module can be a guest
- Any Wasm-interpreting language can be a host

Waxosuit

- Fast WebAssembly execution runtime (wasmer) [Rust]
- Eliminate developer boilerplate for NFRs
- *Embraces* the sandbox, defense in depth.
- Build Wasm modules in any language (Rust available today)
- Live ("hot"), safe remote update of Wasm file w/no downtime
- Enforces wascap capability and provenance claims
- Dynamically loads capability providers
 - Key-value (Redis), Messaging (NATS), HTTP Server, HTTP Client
 - Easily create your own capability providers (c dylib)
- Optionally Integrates with Open Policy Agent
 - Guest module's JWT sent to OPA for policy evaluation



Gantry

Module Registry

- Searchable by tags, claims, etc
- Verify integrity of all stored modules
- Support for semantic versioning
- Any host (e.g. waxosuit) can pull modules directly from registry

Real-World Waxosuit Implementation

- Will be built with tiny waxosuit-hosted Wasm modules
- Used to prove Waxosuit's production readiness

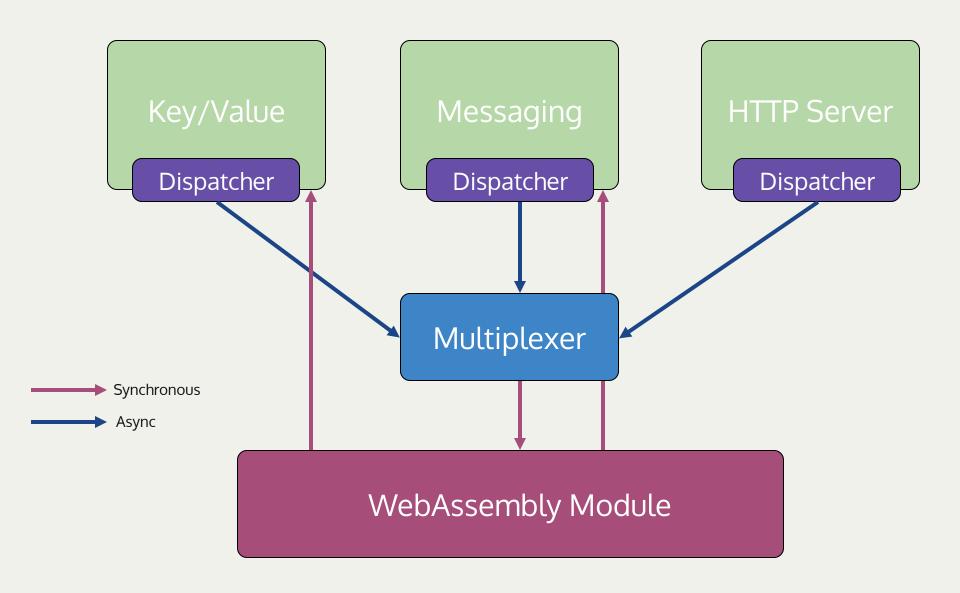
Help Wanted

- Work not yet started
- Contributors welcome! (generate Waxosuit feedback)

Using the Rust Guest SDK

```
1 pub fn handle call(ctx: &CapabilitiesContext, cmd: &Command) -> Result<Event> {
       match cmd.payload {
           Some(ref p) => match p.type url.as ref() {
               messaging::TYPE URL DELIVER MESSAGE => process sensor event(ctx, &p.value),
               core::TYPE URL HEALTH REQUEST => ping reply(),
                 => Ok(Event::bad dispatch(&p.type url)),
           },
           None => Ok(Event::bad dispatch("no payload")),
10 }
11
12 fn process sensor event(
       ctx: &CapabilitiesContext,
13
       msq: impl Into<messaging::DeliverMessage>) -> Result<Event> {
14
15
     let sensormsg: SensorMessage =
16
17
       serde json::from bytes(&msq.into().message)?;
18
19
     ctx.kv().set("foo", "bar")?;
20
     ctx.msg().publish("topic", SomeMessage::new());
21
22
23
     Ok(Event::success())
24 }
```

Architecture



Waxosuit Demo

- Wascap
 - Sign and Verify
- Waxosuit
 - Dynamically bind capabilities to guest modules
 - Integrate with OPA
 - Run Wasm workloads locally
 - Run in Kubernetes
 - Perform no-downtime live update
- Boilerplate
 - NONE!



Event-Sourced IoT Demo Sensor Detail Sensor Event Processor Sensor List

Future Plans and Milestones

- More NFRs
 - Jaeger/OpenTracing, Prometheus
- Improve Guest SDK for Rust, create Guest SDK for Go
- Gantry secure WebAssembly module registry
- Performance improvements
- More Capability Providers (Blob store, Graph, SQL, etc)
- 'cargo generate' template support
- Tutorials, Samples, Documentation
- waxosuit.io
- wascap.io
- github.com/waxosuit

Questions 你们有问题吗?

Get Involved, Reach Out, Contribute!

- Twitter @KevinHoffman, @waxosuit
- waxosuit.io
- wascap.io
- github.com/waxosuit