Building Docker Images with Cloud Native Buildpacks

Ben Hale – VMware Terence Lee – Salesforce

Modern Application Distribution

- As languages and frameworks proliferate within development teams, it is becoming harder treat application artifacts (e.g. JARs) as the immutable artifact passing through systems
- Many common languages are interpreted rather than compiled, requiring distribution of source repositories
- Developers want to be able to both test their applications in the environment that they'll run in and...
- Control the environment that their applications run in, rather than relying on another team to configure it for them

Docker (OCI) Images are the Lingua Franca for Platform Portability

Docker Images

- Immutable artifact containing
 - Operating System Filesystem
 - Application Filesystem
 - Command to start application
- Self contained environment
- Runs the same everywhere
 - Laptop, Data Center, Public Cloud, Docker Daemon, Kubernetes, ...





Creating Docker Images

- Dockerfiles are the most common way of creating Docker Images
- Their flexibility is their power
 - Run any command, mutate any file
- Their flexibility is their weakness
 - Keeping consistent, ensuring security
- Takes a lot of effort for production grade Dockerfiles





What if... you could create a **GOOD** Docker image, without all the work



Cloud Native Buildpacks

- CNCF Sandbox Project
- Heroku (2011) invented and Cloud Foundry (2013) adopted buildpacks
- Buildpacks raise the value line, allowing developers to focus on apps
- Bring the advantages of buildpacks to the Docker Image world
- They do this with
 - Faster builds
 - Reusable layers (across versions, across apps)
 - Reproducible images
 - Modularity and composability
 - Portability via the OCI standard



Revisiting Cloud Native Buildpacks



Not Your Average Docker Image

- Day 2 Operations
 - Bill of Materials
 - Rebase
- OCI image manifests have ordered pointers to layers
 - Unlike Docker Image V1, pointers are not a tree
- Images build with CNBs identify which layers are the base image
- Like a Git rebase, image metadata (< 100Kb) is downloaded, modified to point at new base image and uploaded back to the registry (< 0.15s)
- Depends on Application Binary Interface (ABI) compatibility for safety



Rebase



Buildpack: node

FROM ubuntu:trusty

Rebase



Rebase



Day 2 Operations

In the wild!

- Azure Spring Cloud
- Google AppEngine
- Heroku
- VMware (Pivotal) kpack
- Spring Boot
 - Maven and Gradle plugins drive the CNB lifecycle
 - Automatic (but configurable)
 - Image name
 - Image tag
 - Java version



Spring Boot

Closing

- Cloud Native Buildpacks bring the advantages of buildpacks to the Docker Image world
 - Faster builds, reusable layers, reproducible images, etc.
- Dockerfiles don't have
 - Composability
 - Automated BOM
 - \circ Rebasing
- Multiple platforms
 - pack, kpack, Heroku, Google, Microsoft, Spring Boot
- Meet Developers where they are, at the app level

Try it out!



Buildpacks.io

- Pack CLI Beta v0.12.0
 - Paketo and Heroku Buildpacks
- Read the docs
 - buildpacks.io/docs
- Join us on Slack:
 - o <u>slack.buildpacks.io</u>
- Join our Mailing List:
 - <u>lists.cncf.io/g/cncf-buildpacks</u>