

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

**Jornadas Técnicas RedIris
Mayo 2019**

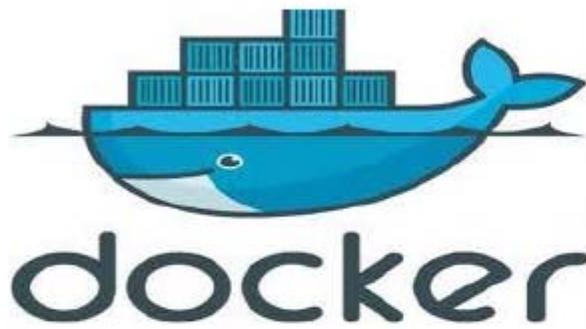
UNIC@RE

Xavier Peralta Ramos
xavier.peralta@csuc.cat



Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

CONTAINERS



- ✓ Lightweight
- ✗ Iffy isolation



HYPERVISORS



- ✓ Strong isolation
- ✗ Heavy weight

UNIC@RE

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

CONTAINERS



HYPERVERSORS



Can we break the myth of VMs
being heavy weight?

Yes, with Unikernels!

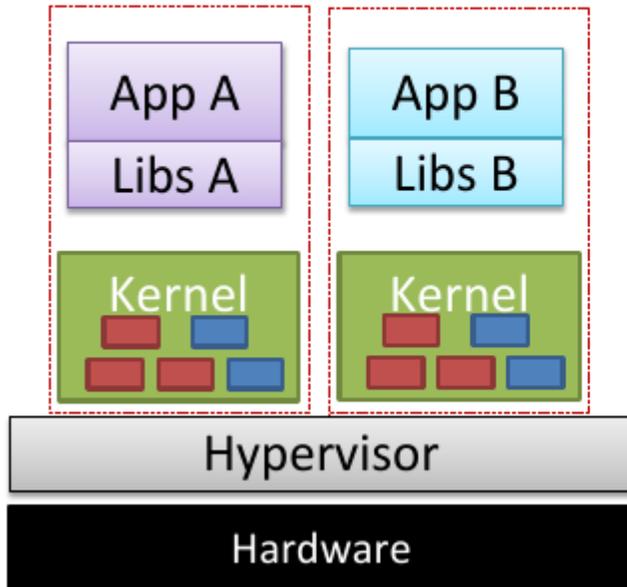
✘ Iffy isolation

✘ Heavy weight ?

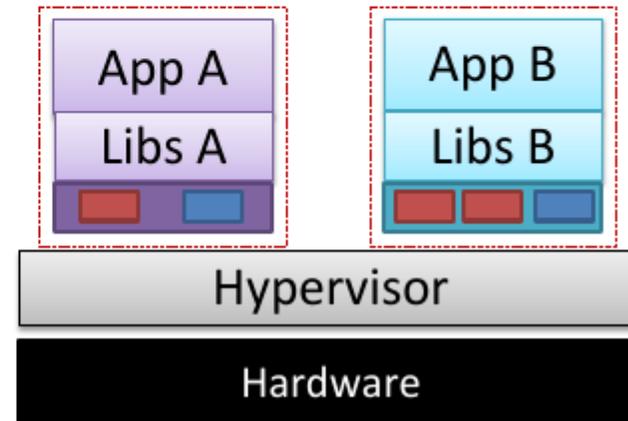
UNIC@RE

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

Traditional VMs



Unikernels



UNICORE

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers



Fast instantiation, destruction and migration time

- 10s of milliseconds
(*LigthVM [Manco SOSP 2017], Jitsu [Madhvapeddy, NSDI 2015]*)



Low memory footprint

- Few MB of RAM (*ClickOS [Martins NSDI 2014]*)



High density

- 10k guests on a single server node (*LigthVM [Manco SOSP 2017]*)



High Performance

- 10-40Gbit/s throughput with a single guest CPU
(*ClickOS [Martins NSDI 2014], Elastic CDNs [Kuenzer VEE 2017]*)

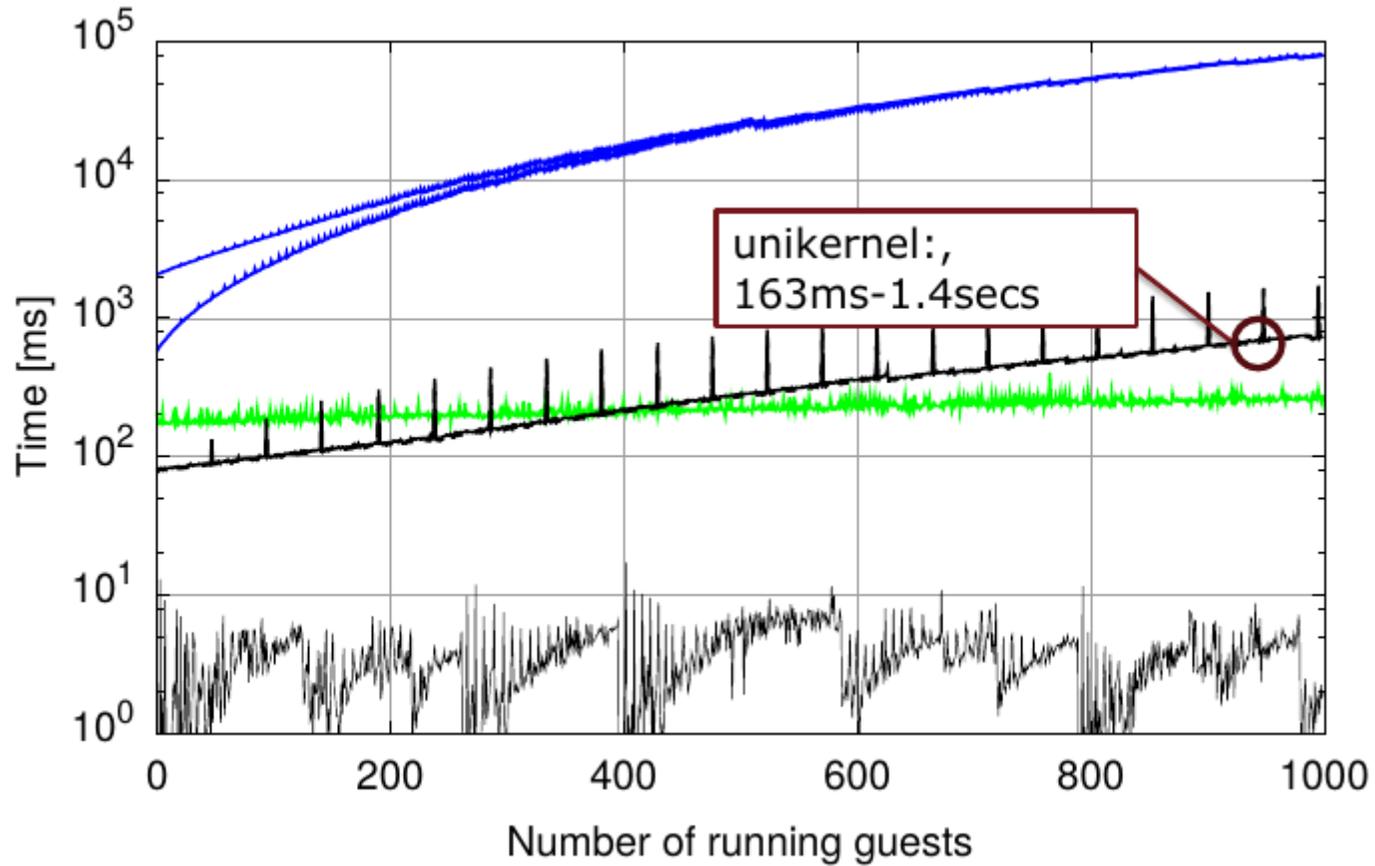


Reduced attack surface

- Less components exist in Unikernel
- Strong isolation by hypervisor

UNIC@RE

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers



UNIC@RE

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

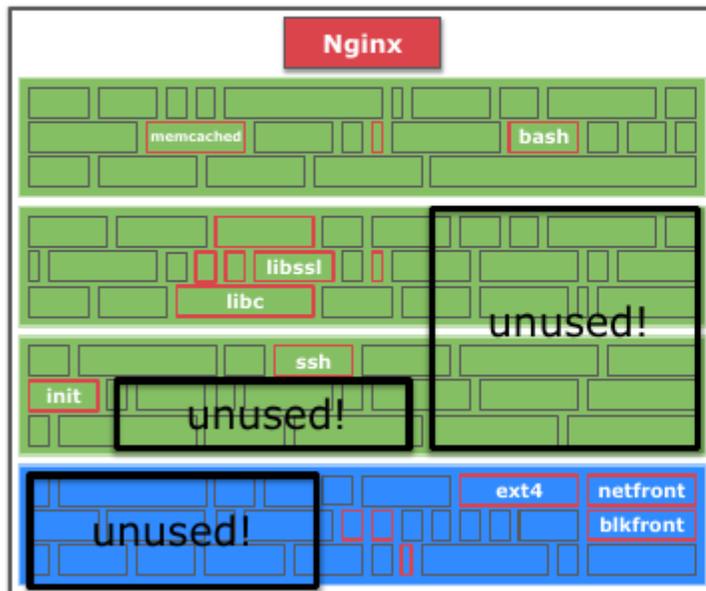


UNIC@RE

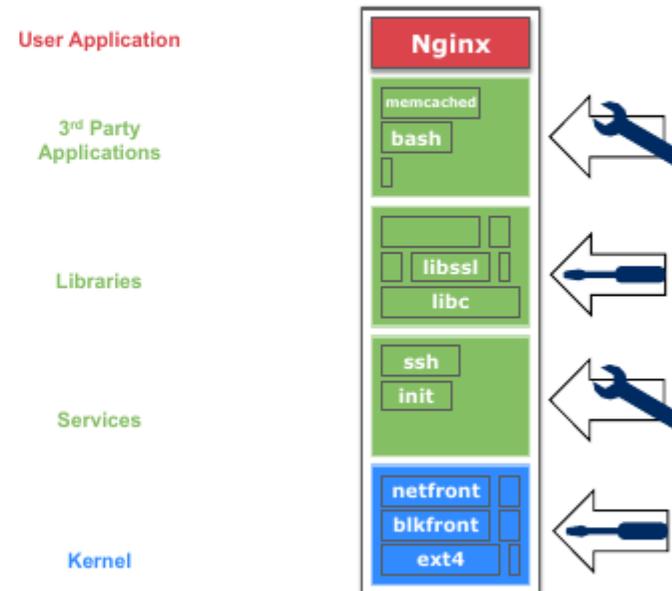
Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

Standard OS/VM/container:
lots of unnecessary code
= **lots** of overhead!

Unikernel: only what's needed is
there **but lots** of development
time!



General Purpose OS



Unikernel

UNICORE

UNICORE

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

Motivation

- Core principle: Support everyone's use case!
- Simplify building and optimizing
- Concentrate efforts of each Unikernel project to a single base

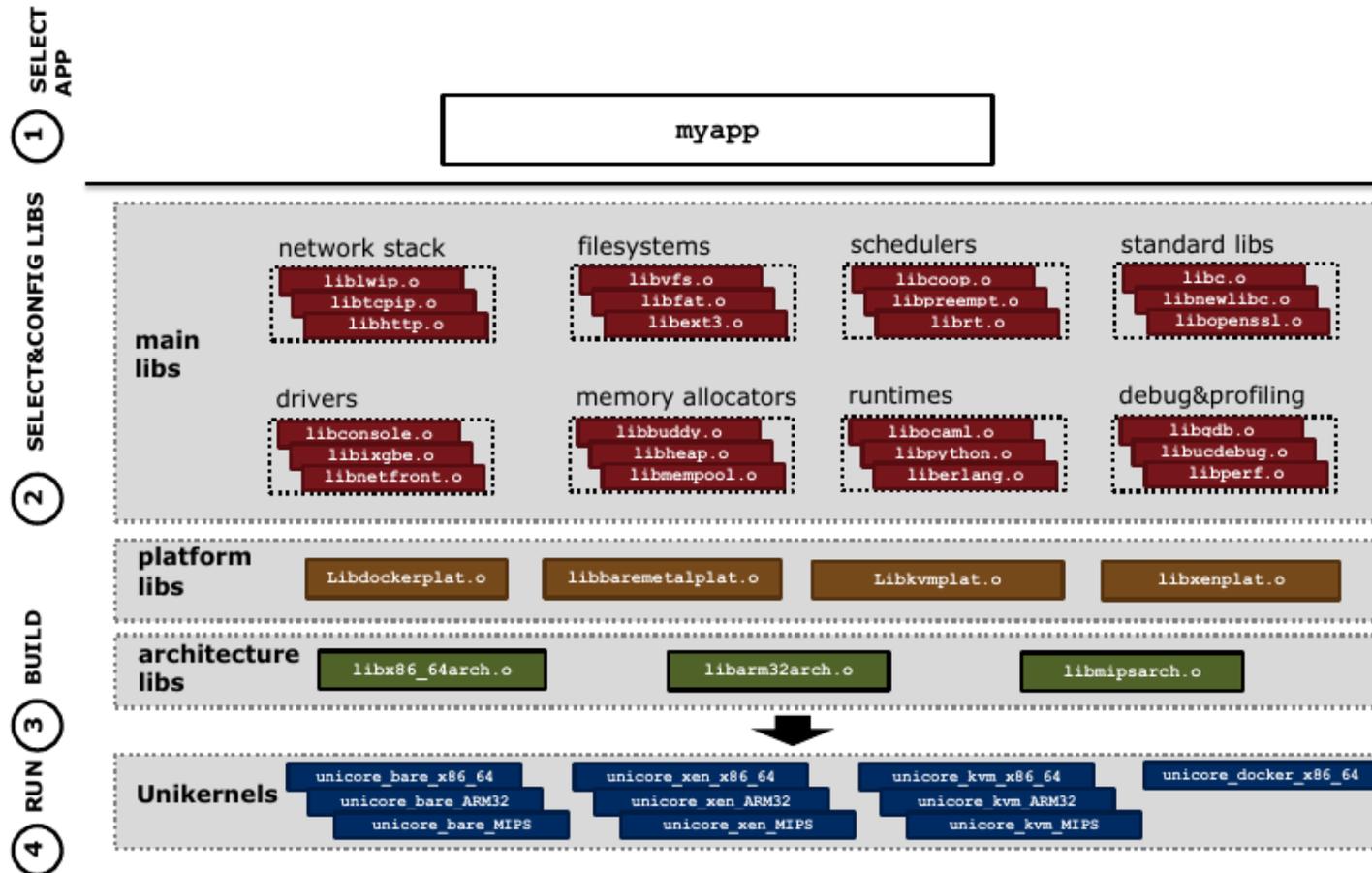


Our Approach

- Concept: "Everything is a library"
- Decomposed OS functionality as libraries
- Unikraft's 2 components:
 - Library Pool
 - Build Tool

UNIC@RE

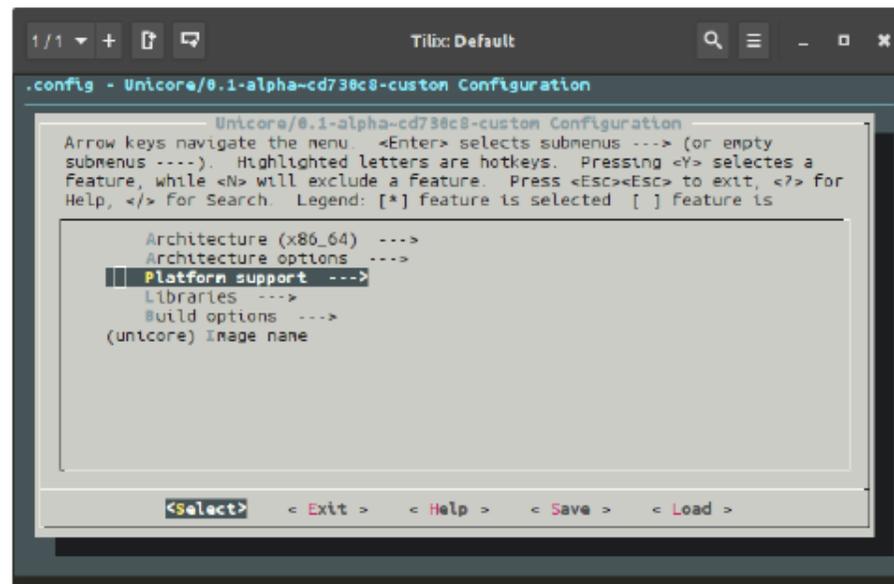
Unikernels: Another step beyond containers



UNICORE

Unikernels: Another step beyond containers

- | KConfig based and Makefile "Magic"
- | Type "make menuconfig"
- | Choose options in the menu that you want for your application
- | Choose your target platform(s)
 - Xen, KVM, bare-metal, Linux
- | Save your config and type "make"



UNIC@RE

Gracias

Ejecuta tu primer Unikernel
<http://tiny.cc/l4vw5y>

UNIC@RE