



# WHEN CONTAINERS AND VIRTUALIZATION DO - AND DON'T - WORK TOGETHER

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# Agenda

- Technology Trends
- Container and VM technical Overview
- Performance Data Round-up
- Workload Classification

# Why listen to me...

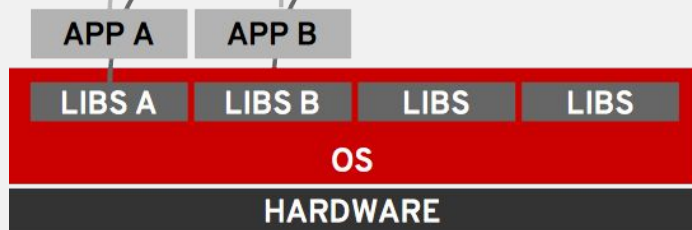
- Co-team lead for container performance and scale team at Red Hat.
- Architect of Red Hat “tuned” project.
- Authored many blogs and whitepapers on container performance, tuning for high frequency trading.

But really, don't listen to me:

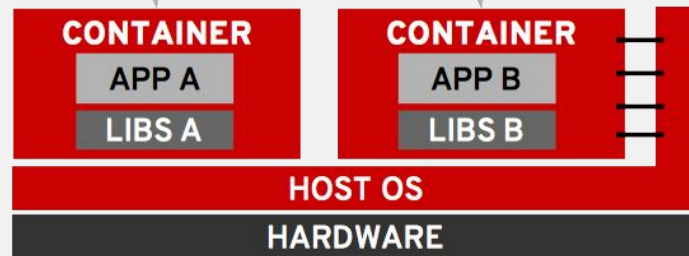
Listen to your apps.

# Containers are an OS Technology

VIRTUALIZATION



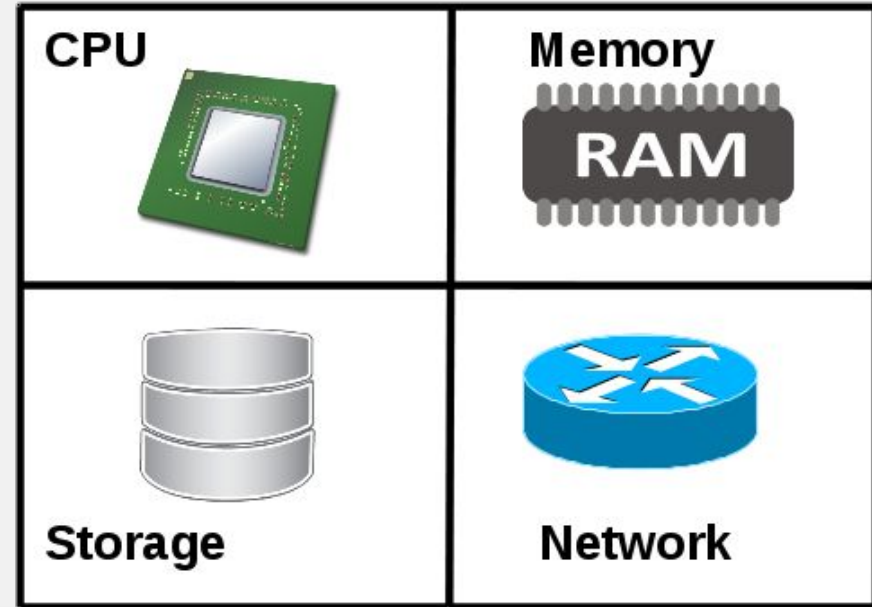
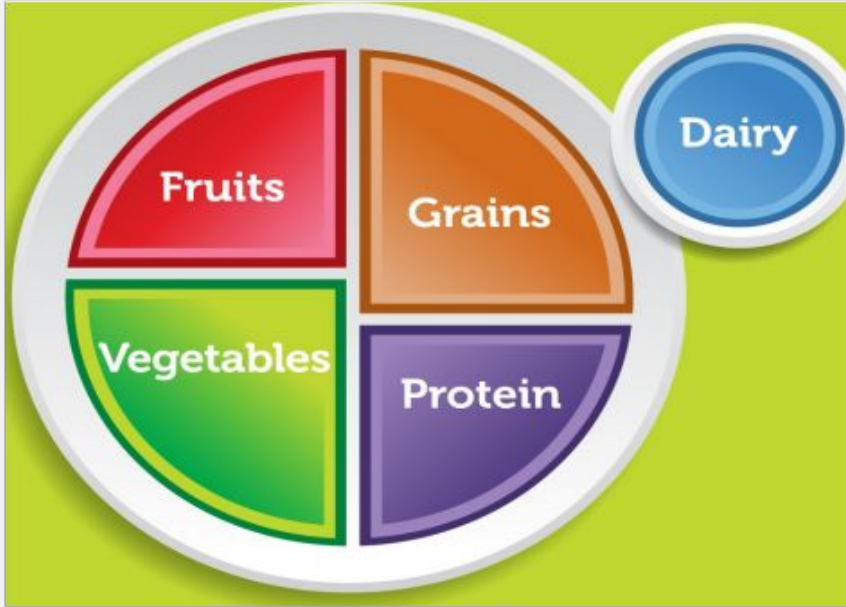
CONTAINERS



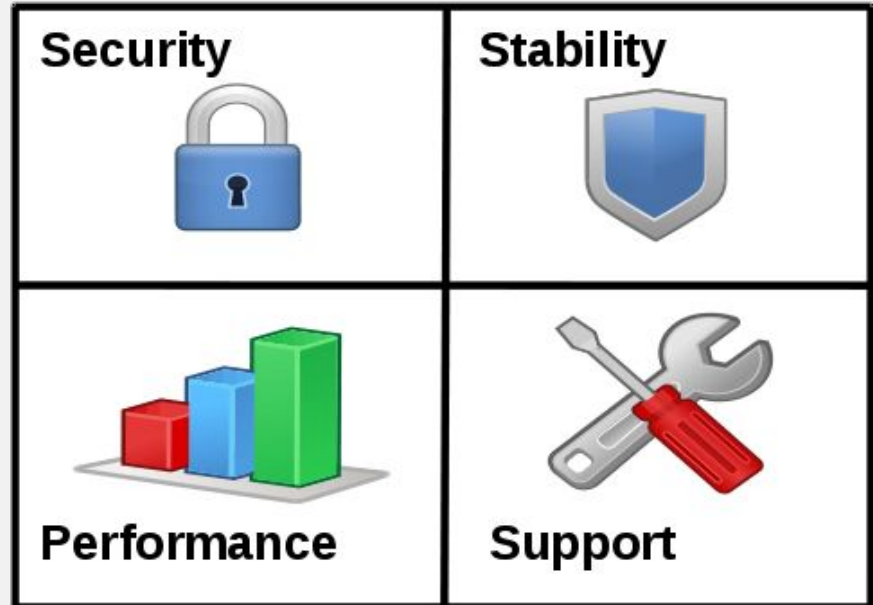
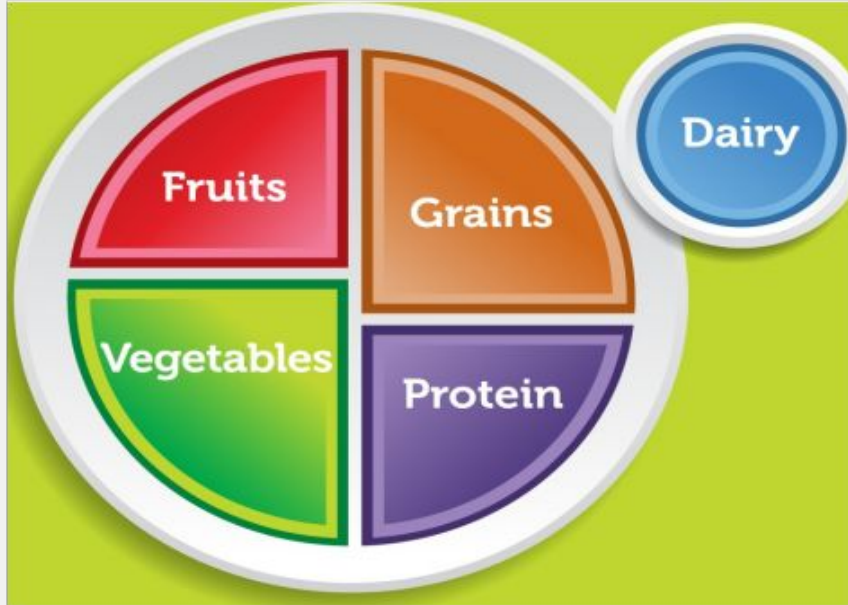
# It's all about the workloads...

- Some don't care where they run
  - Batch workloads
- Some care greatly
  - Security, Isolation
  - Uptime
  - Performance
  - Proximity/Locality to data

# What is a workload? Subsystems



# What is a workload? Business Requirements





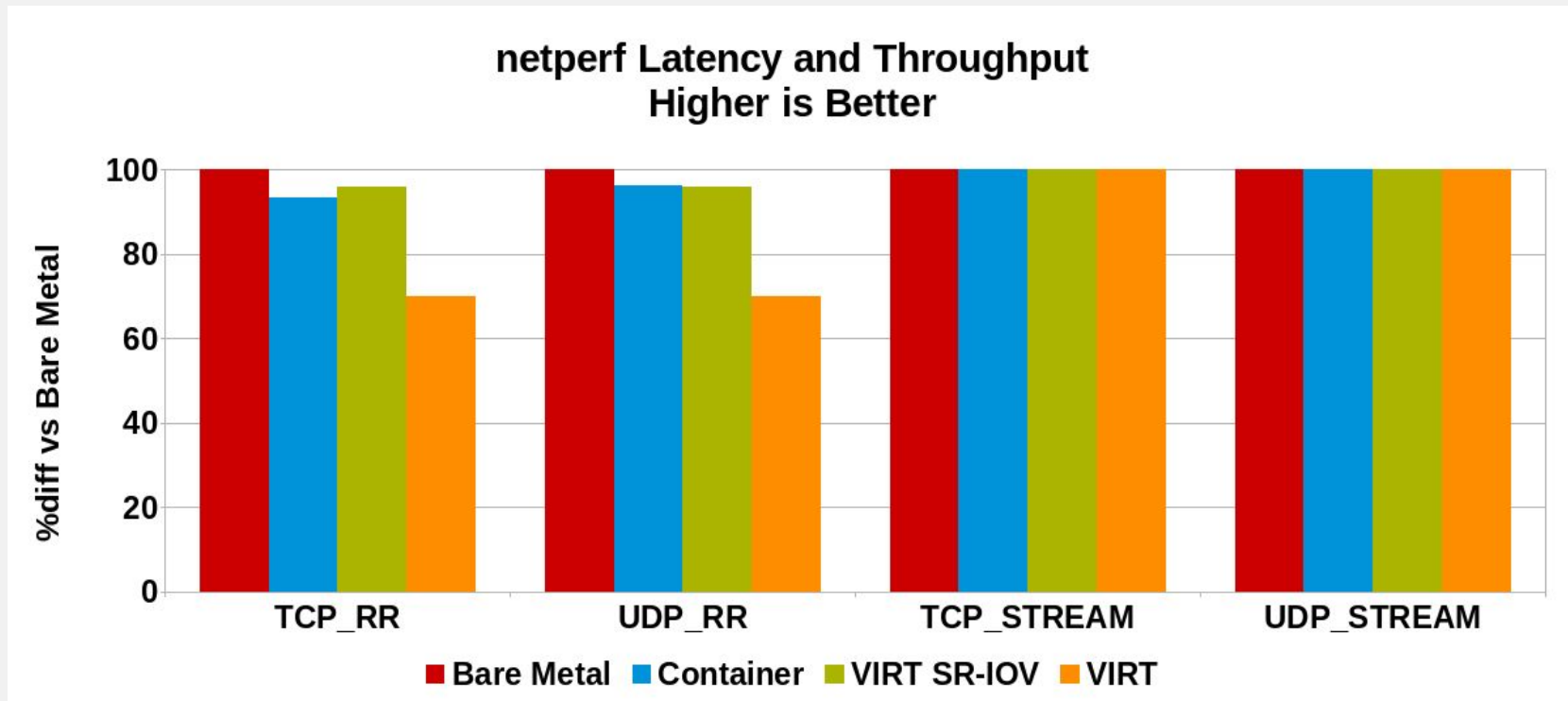
I WANT CHANGE

Code Down (Dev)  
versus  
Infra Up (Ops)

I WANT STABILITY

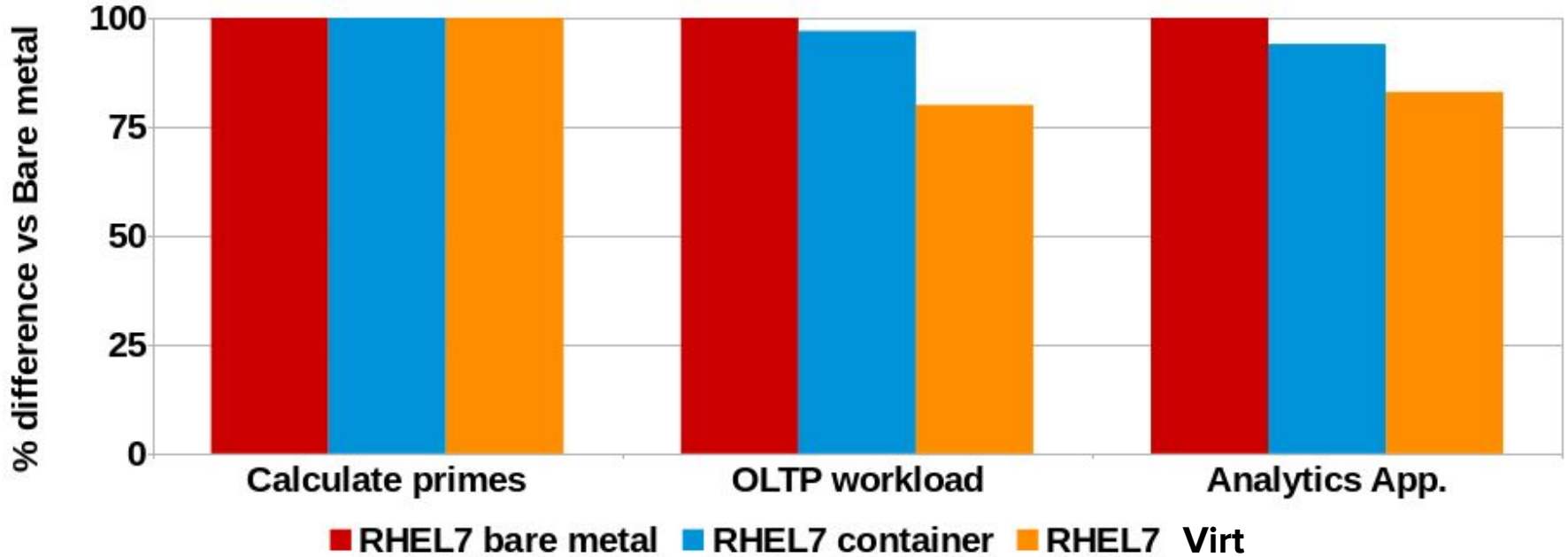
# CONTAINERS AND VIRTUALIZATION: PERFORMANCE DATA ROUND-UP

# Network Latency and Throughput

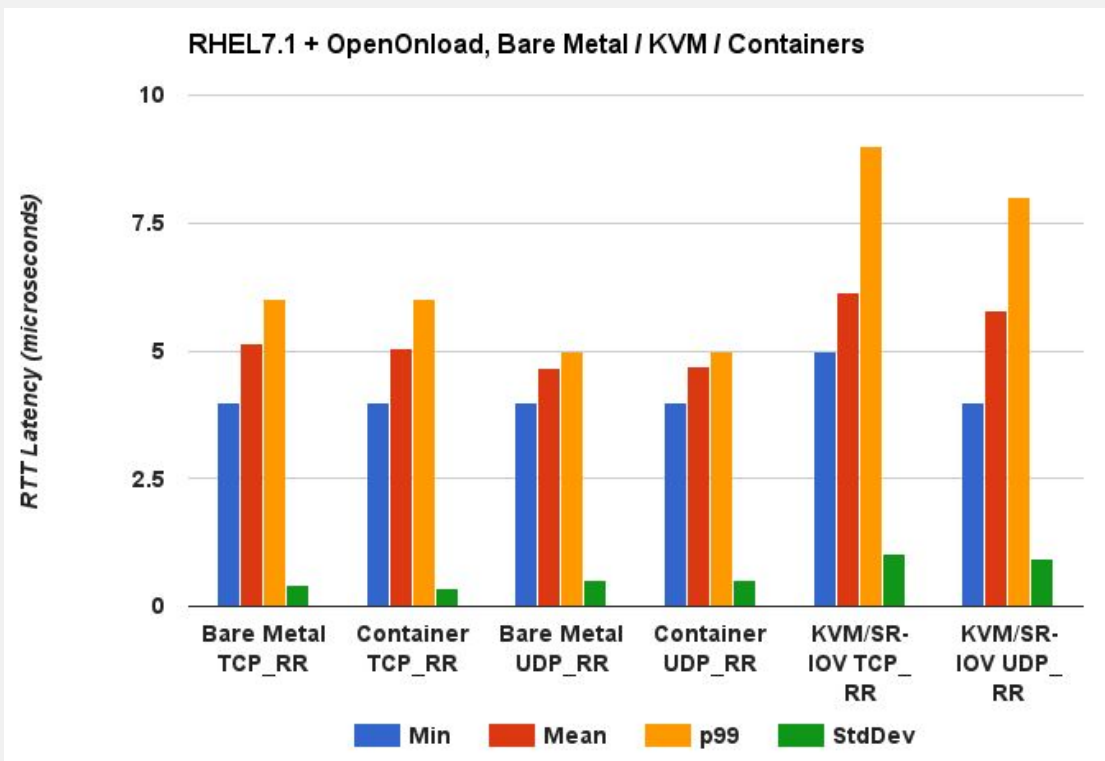


# Performance of Large “Expensive” Apps :-)

Time to Complete Test Workload  
Higher is Better



# RHEL7 + Containerized Solarflare OpenOnload

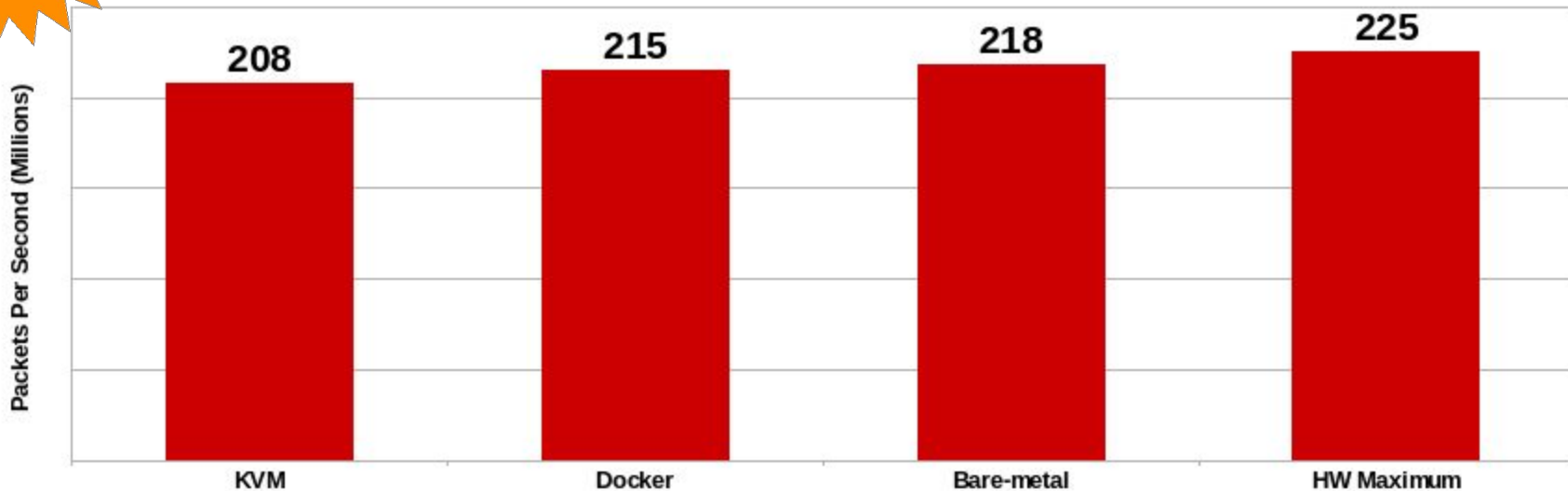


# Network Function Virtualization (NFV) Throughput and Packets/sec (RHEL7.x+DPDK)

208Mpps+  
INTO KVM  
DPDK

NFV: Millions of Packets Per Second

RHEL7.x, L2 Forwarding, 12 x 40Gb NICs



# Speedups for Virtual Machines

Workload	Mitigation
CPU-intensive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•CPU Pinning</li><li>•Avoid syscalls</li><li>•Setup NUMA topology in-Guest</li></ul>
Memory-heavy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Use hugepages</li><li>•NUMA Pinning</li><li>•Setup Hugepages in-Guest</li></ul>
Network (Latency)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•SR-IOV</li><li>•PCI Passthrough</li><li>•Busy Poll</li></ul>
Network (Throughput)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Not normally an issue</li></ul>
Storage (Latency)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Increase threads</li><li>•virtio-blk-dataplane coming soon</li></ul>
Storage (Throughput)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Not normally an issue</li></ul>

What is “tuned”?

# Tuning profile delivery mechanism



# Tuned Profiles throughout Red Hat Products

RHEL7 Desktop/Workstation

**balanced**

RHEL6/7 KVM Host, Guest

**Virtual-host/guest**

Red Hat Storage

**rhs-high-throughput, virt**

RHEL Atomic

**atomic-host, atomic-guest**

RHEL7 Server/HPC

**throughput-performance**

RHEV

**virtual-host**

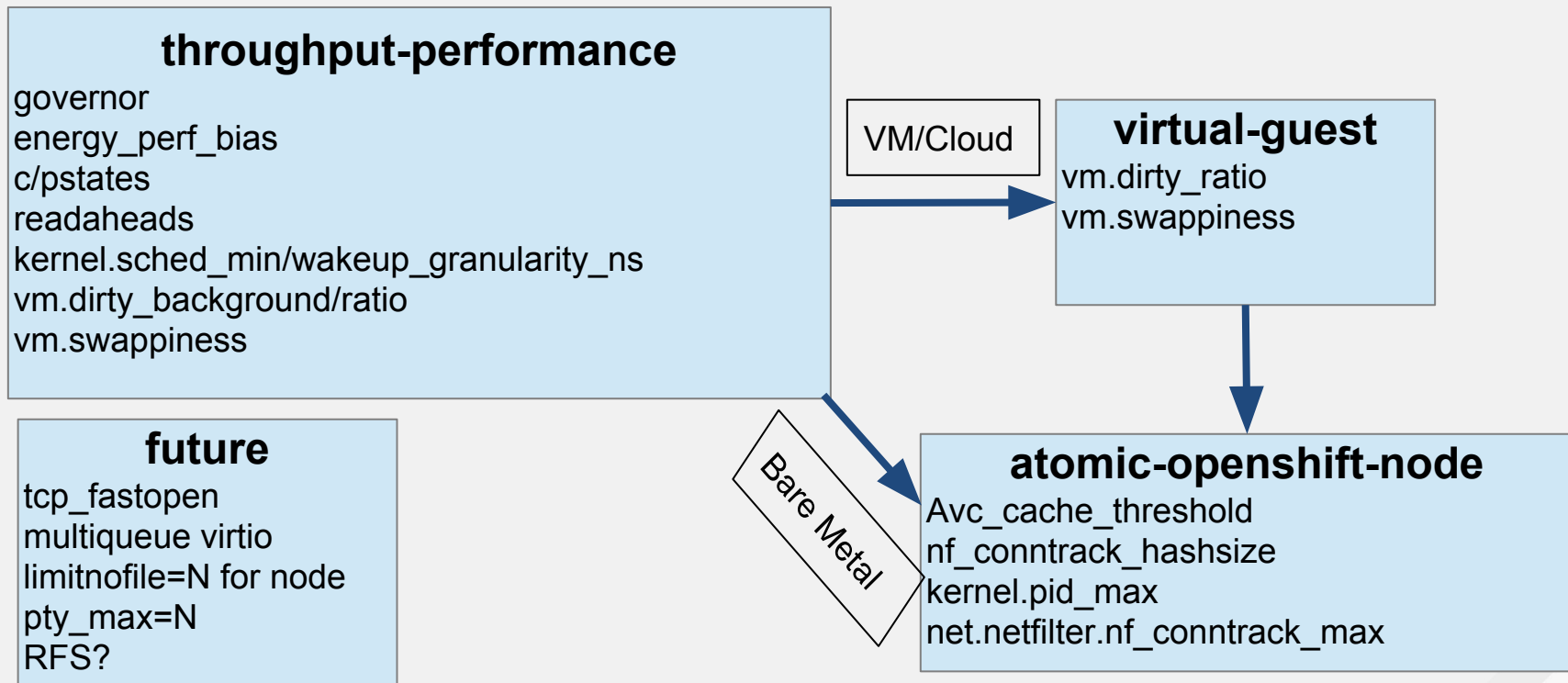
RHEL OSP (compute node)

**virtual-host**

OpenShift

**openshift-master,node**

# Tuned Profiles



# KVM vs Container Performance (HP results)



Figure 10. Comparison of Docker containers and KVMs (ProLiant DL580 Gen8 with RHEL 7.1)

## Distributed Environment

- Java application server
- Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP) server
- Batch server





<http://h20195.www2.hpe.com/V2/getpdf.aspx/4AA6-2761ENW.pdf>











# Workload → Infrastructure Mapping

Color	Meaning
	Mature No Perf Concerns
	Immature Limited Perf Concerns
	Difficult/Impossible (currently)

Workload	Bare Metal	Containers	Virt
CPU Intensive			
Memory Intensive			
Disk I/O Latency			
Disk I/O Throughput			
Network Latency			
Network Throughput			
Security			
Uptime (Live Migration)			
Deployment Speed			
Alternative OS			

# Workload → Infrastructure Mapping: Build Farm





Icon	Meaning
	Mature and/or No Perf Concerns
	Immature and/or Limited Perf Concerns
	Mixed Concerns
	Not Applicable











Attribute	Build Farm
CPU Intensive	High 
Memory Intensive	High 
Disk I/O Latency	Low 
Disk I/O Throughput	High 
Network Latency	Low 
Network Throughput	High 
Security	Low 
Uptime (Live Migration)	N/A 
Deployment Speed	High 
Alternative OS	N/A 

# Workload →

## Infrastructure Mapping:

### memcached





Icon	Meaning
	Mature and/or No Perf Concerns
	Immature and/or Limited Perf Concerns
	Mixed Concerns
	Not Applicable











Attribute	memcached
CPU Intensive	Medium 
Memory Intensive	Medium 
Disk I/O Latency	Low 
Disk I/O Throughput	Low 
Network Latency	High 
Network Throughput	High 
Security	N/A 
Uptime (Live Migration)	N/A 
Deployment Speed	Low 
Alternative OS	N/A 

# Workload →





## Infrastructure Mapping:











### Stock Trading

Icon	Meaning
	Mature and/or No Perf Concerns
	Immature and/or Limited Perf Concerns
	Mixed Concerns
	Not Applicable

Attribute	Stock Trading
CPU Intensive	High 
Memory Intensive	High 
Disk I/O Latency	Low 
Disk I/O Throughput	Low 
Network Latency	High 
Network Throughput	High 
Security	Low 
Uptime (Live Migration)	N/A 
Deployment Speed	N/A 
Alternative OS	N/A 

# Workload → Infrastructure Mapping: Gluster

Icon	Meaning
	Mature and/or No Perf Concerns
	Immature and/or Limited Perf Concerns
	Mixed Concerns
	Not Applicable





Attribute	Gluster
CPU Intensive	Low 
Memory Intensive	Low 
Disk I/O Latency	High 
Disk I/O Throughput	High 
Network Latency	High 
Network Throughput	High 
Security	N/A 
Uptime (Live Migration)	N/A 
Deployment Speed	Low 
Alternative OS	N/A 













# Workload →

## Infrastructure Mapping:

### Animation Render Farm

Icon	Meaning
	Mature and/or No Perf Concerns
	Immature and/or Limited Perf Concerns
	Mixed Concerns
	Not Applicable

Attribute	Animation
CPU Intensive	High 
Memory Intensive	Medium 
Disk I/O Latency	Medium 
Disk I/O Throughput	High 
Network Latency	Medium 
Network Throughput	High 
Security	Low 
Uptime (Live Migration)	Low 
Deployment Speed	High 
Alternative OS	N/A 

It's all about the  
workloads.

# FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

- Red Hat Performance Engineering Blogs

<https://developers.redhat.com/blog/tag/performance/>

- Red Hat Performance Tuning Guide

[https://access.redhat.com/documentation/en-US/Red\\_Hat\\_Enterprise\\_Linux/7/html-single/Performance\\_Tuning\\_Guide/](https://access.redhat.com/documentation/en-US/Red_Hat_Enterprise_Linux/7/html-single/Performance_Tuning_Guide/)

- Learn more about Red Hat Summit at [redhat.com/summit](https://redhat.com/summit)



THANK YOU

