Virtualization Overview



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What is it?

- Virtualization of is the abstraction of the manifestation of a resource from the actual physical instance of that resource.
- What Computing/Network resources can be virtualized?
 - Virtually anything! :)

Anything?

- In the context of this course. We're interested in virtualization along two dimensions:
 - Services
 - Hosts

Resource/Service virtualization

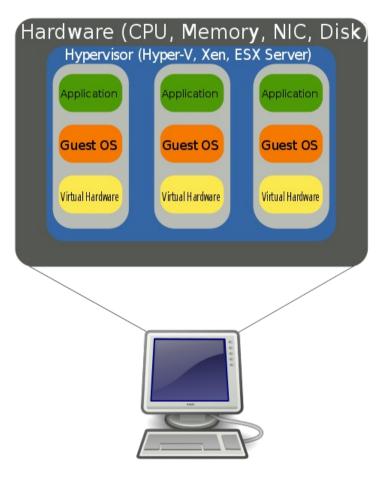
- Examples:
 - Load-balancers
 - DNS Based GLB
 - HTTP(S) Virtual Hosting
 - MX records
 - Virtual Switches
 - Virtual Routers
 - Virtual Firewalls

Resource Virtualization - Continued

- HTTP virtual hosts
 - Multiple websites on one system
- Load Balancing
 - One (or many sites or applications) across many systems
 - Can be done at Layer-3/4/7

Host Virtualization

- Examples
 - Vmware
 - Virtual-Box (used in class)
 - KVM
 - XEN
 - FreeBSD and Linux Jails
 - Windows Hyper-V



What problem are we attempting to solve with host virtualization.

- m 1 Idle capacity.
- of the machines in your datacenter are idle of the time.
- acity you're not using:
- ost money up front
- ost money to operate
- educes you return on capital
- ting discreet systems into a smaller number of ers provides savings along virtually every ension.

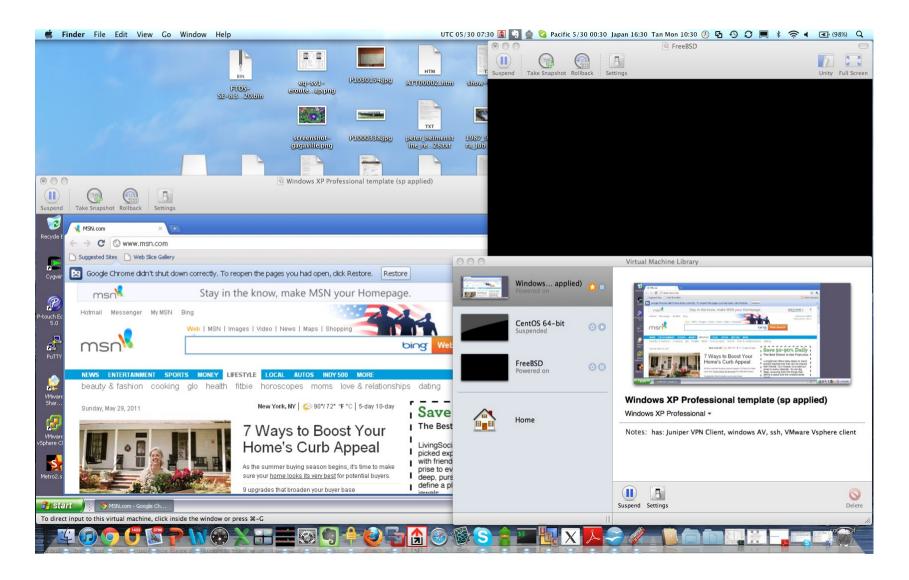
Problems - Continued

- Problem 2 Provisioning
 - Spinning up a new service involves:
 - Acquiring the hardware
 - Building the server
 - Integration with existing services
 - With virtualization we're aiming to short-circuit that
 - Capacity is a resource
 - Machine instances my be cloned or provisioned from common basic images
 - Resources are purchased in bulk and assigned to applications as necessary.

Problems - Continued

- Problem 3 Hardware abstraction
 - Operating systems, servers, and applications evolve at different rates.
 - Providing a common set of infrastructure resources means, virtualized systems are portable across servers
 - Hardware failure can more easily be managed.

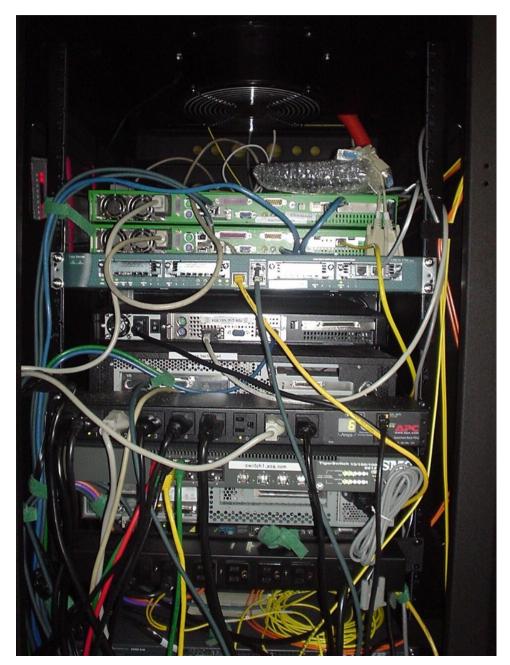
Examples – Desktop Virtualization



Desktop Virtualization

- Uses
 - Prototyping services or applications before deployment
 - Utilities that don't run on your operating system
 - Isolation of sandbox environments from your desktop
 - Maintaining multiple versions of an environment for support purposes.
 - Staying familiar with unix while running windows (consider compared to the alternative (dual-booting)
- Issues
 - Emulating multiple computers on your laptop/desktop is somewhat resource intensive
- Vmware player and VirtualBox are free.
 - http://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads
 - http://downloads.vmware.com/d/info/desktop_downloads/vmware_player/3_0?ie=UTF-

Examples – Server Virtualization



Server Virtualization - Continued

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Server Virtualization

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Virtualized Servers as a Service (Amazon Web Services)

- Much as colocated servers, are available from a hosting provider, virtual servers are also available.
- Model is:
 - You pay for what you use.
 - Flexibility, need fewer servers today then you used, yesterday.
 - Leverage other amazon tools (storage/mapreduce/load-balancing/payments etc)

AWS

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AWS Steps

- Select availability zone
- Launch new instance
- Select appropiate ami
- Associate with ssh key
- Launch instance
- Add ip
- SSH into new machine instance.
- t1-micro-instances run \$54 a year + bandwidth

Try it for free...

- Free tier for the first Calender year is (per month):
 - 750 hours of EC2 running Linux/Unix Micro instance usage
 - 750 hours of Elastic Load Balancing plus 15 GB data processing
 - 10 GB of Amazon Elastic Block Storage (EBS) plus 1 million IOs, 1 GB snapshot storage, 10,000 snapshot Get Requests and 1,000 snapshot Put Requests
 - 15 GB of bandwidth in and 15 GB of bandwidth out aggregated across all AWS services

AWS - Continued

- For provisioning purposes cli interaction is possible:
 - http://aws.amazon.com/developertools/351
- Along with tools to support the provisioning and destruction of virtual machines.

Provisioning and management

- Is the glue that makes virtualization usable
- In commercial virtualization environments the provisioning/management toolkits represent the bulk of the licensing cost (VMware) and the secret sauce (VMotion, disaster recovery, backup, etc)
- One end of the spectrum:
 - XEN tools a collection of perl scripts for spinning http://www.xen-tools.org/software/xen-tools/
 - KVM tools http://www.linux-kvm.org/page/Management_Tools
- The Other:
 - Rightscale http://www.rightscale.com/products/advantages/managing-systems-not-servers.php

Variation In virtualized environments

- Enterprise and Government virtualized environments may tend towards heterogeneity.
 - e.g. the applications (servers) that are being virtualized have accumulated over time
 - Are different enough that management may be depressingly manual
- ASP/Internet services environments may be more homogenous.
 - Leverage a common set infrastructure primitives
 - Thousands of like-systems providing overlapping functionality across hundreds of servers
 - Traditional network elements (e.g. loadblancers/firewalls) may be virtualized along with the application.

Can you spot the...

- Web server?
- Database server?
- Load-balancer?



Complimentary technologies

- NIC teaming or Link aggregation
- Network attached storage and network centric filesystems
 - Example NFS
 - Hadoopfs
- Distributed databases
 - Example mysql cluster
 - OracleRAC