

Introduction to KVM



By Sheng-wei Lee
swlee@swlee.org #20110929



Outline

- Hypervisor – KVM
- virt-manager
- Libvirt
- Migration



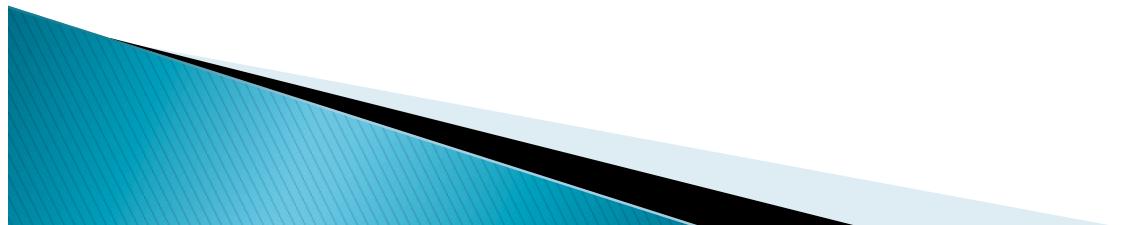
Outline

- ▶ How to install KVM.
- ▶ Bridged Networking
- ▶ Virsh
 - How to new a VM
 - How to adjust the setting of a VM.
 - How to make an image of a VM
 - How to new a VM using an existed image
 - How to close a VM.
- ▶ Virt-manager (VMM)



KVM – Kernel Based Virtual Machine

- ▶ KVM (for Kernel-based Virtual Machine) is a full virtualization solution for Linux on x86 hardware containing virtualization extensions (Intel VT or AMD-V). It consists of a loadable kernel module, `kvm.ko`, that provides the core virtualization infrastructure and a processor specific module, `kvm-intel.ko` or `kvm-amd.ko`. KVM also requires a modified QEMU although work is underway to get the required changes upstream.

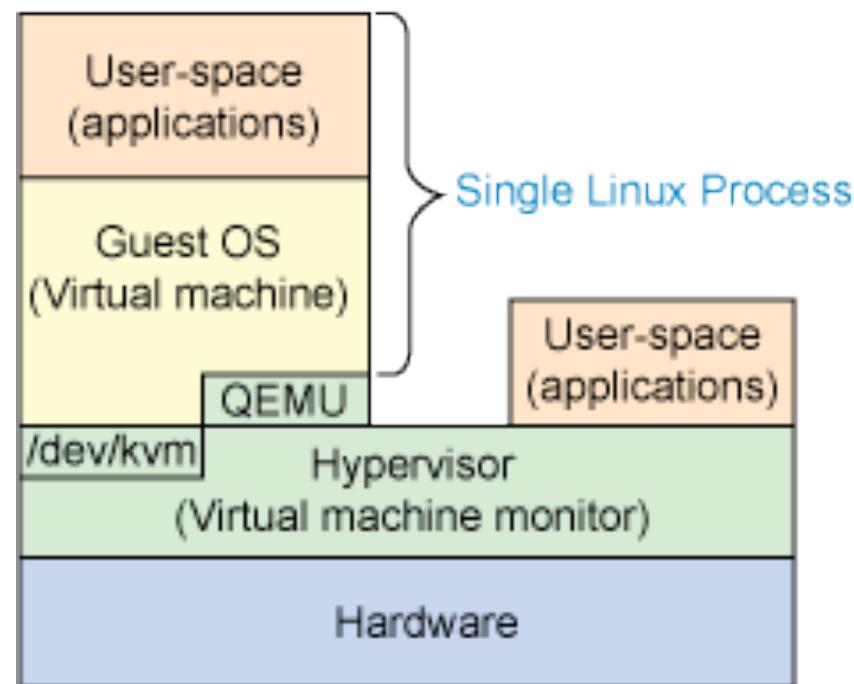


KVM – Kernel Based Virtual Machine

- ▶ Using KVM, one can run multiple virtual machines running unmodified Linux or Windows images. Each virtual machine has private virtualized hardware: a network card, disk, graphics adapter, etc.
- ▶ The kernel component of KVM is included in mainline Linux, as of 2.6.20.
- ▶ KVM is open source software.



The virtualization components with KVM



Hypervisor – KVM

- ▶ Guest Support Status

[http://www.linux-kvm.org/page/
Guest_Support_Status](http://www.linux-kvm.org/page/Guest_Support_Status)





Virt-manager

The "**Virtual Machine Manager**" application (virt-manager for short package name) is a desktop user interface for managing virtual machines. It presents a summary view of running domains, their live performance & resource utilization statistics. The detailed view graphs performance & utilization over time. Wizards enable the creation of new domains, and configuration & adjustment of a domain's resource allocation & virtual hardware. An embedded VNC client viewer presents a full graphical console to the guest domain.



- libvirt supports:
 - The [Xen](#) hypervisor on Linux and Solaris hosts.
 - The [QEMU](#) emulator
 - The [KVM](#) Linux hypervisor
 - The [LXC](#) Linux container system
 - The [OpenVZ](#) Linux container system
 - The [User Mode Linux](#) paravirtualized kernel
 - The [VirtualBox](#) hypervisor
 - The [VMware ESX and GSX](#) hypervisors
 - The [VMware Workstation and Player](#) hypervisors
 - Storage on IDE/SCSI/USB disks, FibreChannel, LVM, iSCSI, NFS and filesystems
- See also:
<http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/linux/library/l-libvirt/index.html>



- ▶ Storage drivers
- ▶ Directory backend
- ▶ Local filesystem backend
- ▶ Network filesystem backend
- ▶ Logical Volume Manager (LVM) backend
- ▶ Disk backend
- ▶ iSCSI backend
- ▶ SCSI backend
- ▶ Multipath backend

KVM – Migration

- ▶ KVM currently supports savevm/loadvm and offline or live migration. Migration commands are given when in qemu-monitor (Alt-Ctrl-2). Upon successful completion, the migrated VM continues to run on the destination host.



KVM – Migration

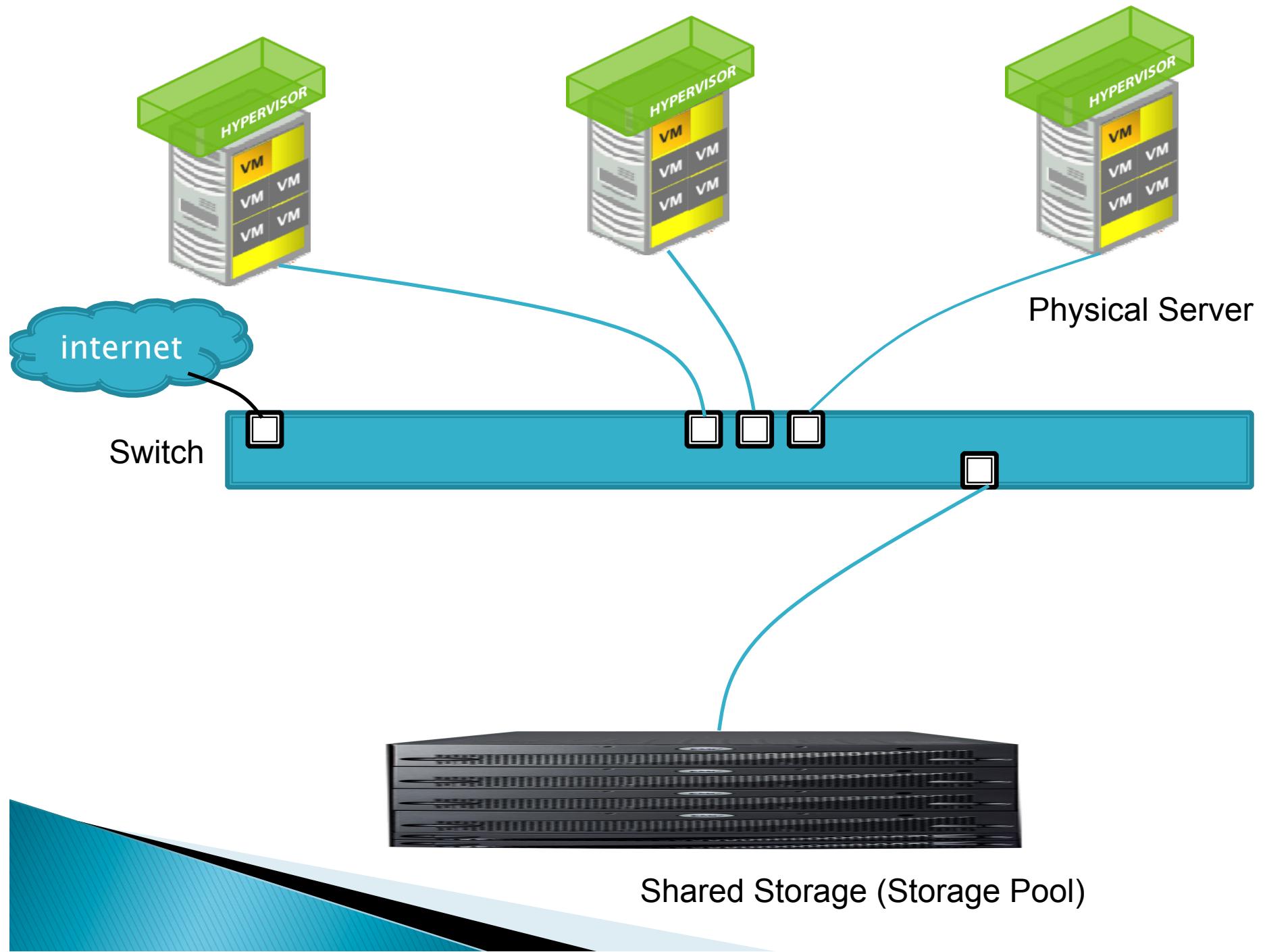
▶ Note

You can migrate a guest between an AMD host to an Intel host and back. Naturally, a 64-bit guest can only be migrated to a 64-bit host, but a 32-bit guest can be migrated at will.



KVM – Migration

- ▶ Requirements
- The VM image is accessible on both source and destination hosts (located on a shared storage, e.g. using nfs).
- It is recommended an images-directory would be found on the same path on both hosts (for migrations of a copy-on-write image -- an image created on top of a base-image using "qemu-image create -b ...")
- The src and dst hosts must be on the same subnet (keeping guest's network when tap is used).
- Do not use –snapshot qemu command line option.
- For tcp: migration protocol
- the guest on the destination must be started the same way it was started on the source.



How to install KVM.

- ▶ <https://help.ubuntu.com/community/KVM>
- ▶ Check that your CPU supports hardware virtualization
- ▶ To run KVM, you need a processor that supports hardware virtualization. Intel and AMD both have developed extensions for their processors, deemed respectively Intel VT-x (code name Vanderpool) and AMD-V (code name Pacifica). To see if your processor supports one of these, you can review the output from this command:
 - ▶ `egrep -c '(vmx|svm)' /proc/cpuinfo`

How to install KVM.

- ▶ If 0 it means that your CPU doesn't support hardware virtualization.
- ▶ If 1 (or more) it does – but you still need to make sure that virtualization is enabled in the BIOS.



How to install KVM.

- ▶ Use a 64 bit kernel (if possible)
- ▶ Running a 64 bit kernel on the host operating system is recommended but not required.
- ▶ To serve more than 2GB of RAM for your VMs, you **must** use a 64-bit kernel (see [32bit_and_64bit](#)). On a 32-bit kernel install, you'll be limited to 2GB RAM at maximum for a given VM.
- ▶ Also, a 64-bit system can host both 32-bit and 64-bit guests. A 32-bit system can only host 32-bit guests.



How to install KVM.

- ▶ To see if your processor is 64-bit, you can run this command:

```
egrep -c 'lm' /proc/cpuinfo
```

- ▶ If 0 is printed, it means that your CPU is not 64-bit.
▶ If 1 or higher, it is.

Note: *lm* stands for Long Mode which equates to a 64-bit CPU.

- ▶ Now see if your running kernel is 64-bit, just issue the following command:

```
uname -m
```

- ▶ **x86_64** indicates a running 64-bit kernel. If you see i386, i486, i586 or i686, you're running a 32-bit kernel.

Note: x86_64 is synonymous with amd64.

How to install KVM.

- ▶ Install Necessary Packages
- ▶ For the following setup, we will assume that you are deploying KVM on a server, and therefore do not have any X server on the machine.

- ▶ Lucid (10.04) or later
- ▶ \$ sudo apt-get install qemu-kvm libvirt-bin
ubuntu-vm-builder bridge-utils



How to install KVM.

- ▶ Add Users to Groups

- ▶ To check:

```
$ groups
```

```
adm dialout cdrom floppy audio dip video plugdev fuse lpadmin  
admin sambashare kvm libvirtd
```

- ▶ To add your <username> to the groups:

```
$ sudo adduser `id -un` kvm
```

```
Adding user '<username>' to group 'kvm' ...
```

```
$ sudo adduser `id -un` libvirtd
```

```
Adding user '<username>' to group 'libvirtd' ...
```



How to install KVM.

- ▶ Verify Installation
- ▶ You can test if your install has been successful with the following command:

```
$ virsh -c qemu:///system list
```

Id	Name	State
----	------	-------



How to install KVM.

- ▶ If on the other hand you get something like this:

```
$ virsh -c qemu:///system list  
libvir: Remote error : Permission denied  
error: failed to connect to the hypervisor
```



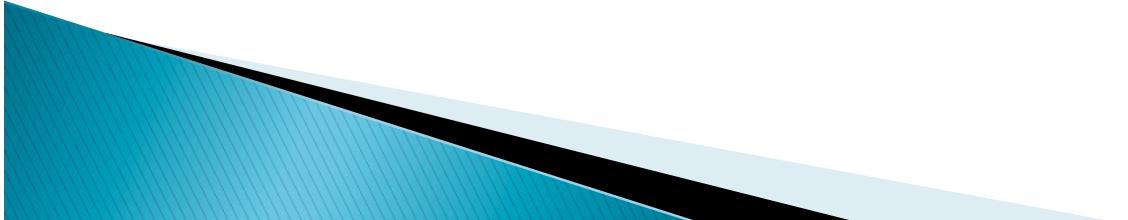
Bridged Networking

- ▶ Creating a network bridge on the host
- ▶ Install the bridge-utils package:

```
$sudo apt-get install bridge-utils
```

- ▶ We are going to change the network configuration¹. To do it properly, you should first stop networking²:

```
$sudo invoke-rc.d networking stop/restart
```



Bridged Networking

```
edit /etc/network/interfaces
```

```
auto lo  
iface lo inet loopback
```

```
auto eth0  
iface eth0 inet manual
```

```
auto br0  
iface br0 inet static  
    Address <your_IP>  
    network <network>  
    netmask <netmask>  
    Broadcast <broadcast>  
    gateway <gateway>  
    bridge_ports eth0  
    bridge_stp off  
    bridge_fd 0  
    bridge_maxwait 0
```



Bridged Networking

```
$ sudo /etc/init.d/networking restart
```



Virsh – How to new a VM

- ▶ Creating a guest
- ▶ Guests can be created from XML configuration files. You can copy existing XML from previously created guests or use the dumpxml option(refer to [Creating a virtual machine XML dump\(configuration file\)](#)). To create a guest with virsh from an XML file:

```
$ virsh create configuration_file.xml
```

Virsh – How to new a VM

- ▶ Alternatively, if you want to define it, but not run it, you could have used:

```
$ virsh define /tmp/foo_new.xml
```

- ▶ Once a virtual machine is running, you can manage it in many different ways, such as:

```
$ virsh start foo
```



Virsh – How to new a VM

- ▶ Creating a virtual machine XML dump(configuration file)
- ▶ To perform a data dump for an existing guest with virsh:
`$ virsh dumpxml [domain-id, domain-name or domain-uuid] > <domain>.xml`



Virsh – How to new a VM

- ▶ You can perform the following to install Ubuntu Hardy:

```
$ sudo virt-install --connect qemu:///system\  
-n hardy -r 512 -f hardy.qcow2 -s 12 /  
-c hardy-server-amd64.iso --vnc --  
noautoconsole --os-type linux --os-variant  
ubuntuHardy --accelerate --  
network=network:default
```

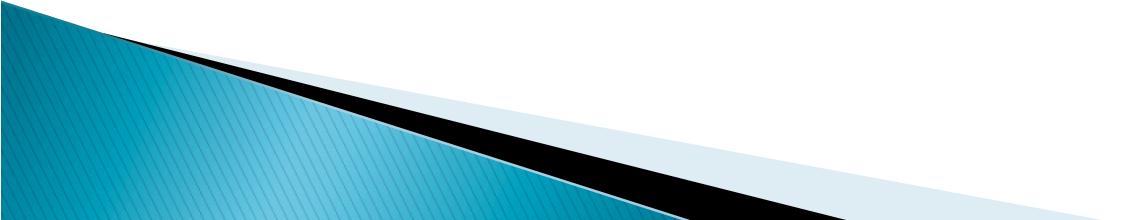


Virsh – How to adjust the setting of a VM.

```
▶ <domain type='kvm'>
  ▶ <name>Ubuntu-11.04-i686_Base</name>
  ▶ <uuid>4b4c19e8-9d76-0c9d-
    cbf8-12141823d393</uuid>
  ▶ <memory>524288</memory>
  ▶ <currentMemory>524288</currentMemory>
  ▶ <vcpu>2</vcpu>
  ▶ <os>
    ▶ <type arch='i686' machine='pc-0.14'>hvm</
      type>
    ▶ <boot dev='cdrom' />
    ▶ <boot dev='hd' />
    ▶ <bootmenu enable='no' />
  ▶ </os>
```

Virsh – How to adjust the setting of a VM.

```
▶ <features>
  ▶ <acpi/>
  ▶ <apic/>
  ▶ <pae/>
  ▶ </features>
  ▶ <clock offset='utc' />
  ▶ <on_poweroff>destroy</on_poweroff>
  ▶ <on_reboot>restart</on_reboot>
  ▶ <on_crash>restart</on_crash>
  ▶ <devices>
    ▶ <emulator>/usr/bin/kvm</emulator>
    ▶ <disk type='file' device='disk'>
      ▶ <driver name='qemu' type='qcow2' />
      ▶ <source file='/Storage/local/Base/Ubuntu-11.04-i686_Base.qcow2' />
      ▶ <target dev='hda' bus='ide' />
      ▶ <address type='drive' controller='0' bus='0' unit='0' />
    ▶ </disk>
```



Virsh – How to adjust the setting of a VM.

```
▶ <disk type='file' device='cdrom'>
  ▶   <driver name='qemu' type='raw' />
  ▶   <target dev='hdc' bus='ide' />
  ▶   <readonly />
  ▶   <address type='drive' controller='0' bus='1' unit='0' />
  ▶ </disk>
  ▶ <controller type='ide' index='0'>
    ▶   <address type='pci' domain='0x0000' bus='0x00' slot='0x01'
      function='0x1' />
  ▶ </controller>
  ▶ <interface type='network'>
    ▶   <mac address='52:54:00:4a:9a:02' />
    ▶   <source network='default' />
    ▶   <address type='pci' domain='0x0000' bus='0x00' slot='0x03'
      function='0x0' />
  ▶ </interface>
  ▶
```

Virsh – How to adjust the setting of a VM.

```
▶ <serial type='pty'>
  ▶   <target port='0' />
  ▶ </serial>
  ▶ <console type='pty'>
    ▶   <target type='serial' port='0' />
  ▶ </console>
  ▶ <input type='mouse' bus='ps2' />
  ▶ <graphics type='vnc' port=''-1' autoport='yes' />
  ▶ <sound model='ac97'>
    ▶   <address type='pci' domain='0x0000' bus='0x00' slot='0x04' function='0x0' />
  ▶ </sound>
  ▶ <video>
    ▶   <model type='cirrus' vram='9216' heads='1' />
    ▶   <address type='pci' domain='0x0000' bus='0x00' slot='0x02' function='0x0' />
  ▶ </video>
  ▶ <memballoon model='virtio'>
    ▶   <address type='pci' domain='0x0000' bus='0x00' slot='0x05' function='0x0' />
  ▶ </memballoon>
  ▶ </devices>
  ▶ </domain>
```



Virsh - How to make an image of a VM

- ▶ Create the hard drive image with qcow2 format:

```
$ qemu-img create -f qcow2 <image  
name>.qcow2
```



Virsh – How to new a VM using an existed image

- ▶ Cloning a virtual machine
- ▶ You can clone an existing virtual machine using the `virt-clone` tool. This duplicates the disk image and sets up the virtual machine domain configuration.
- ▶ If you wish to clone a virtual machine named *srchost* to a new machine *newhost*, ensure that the virtual machine *srchost* is not running and execute the following command.

```
$ virt-clone --connect=qemu:///system -o srchost -n newhost -f /path/to/newhost.qcow2
```

Virsh – How to shut a VM

\$ virsh shutdown foo

\$ virsh suspend foo

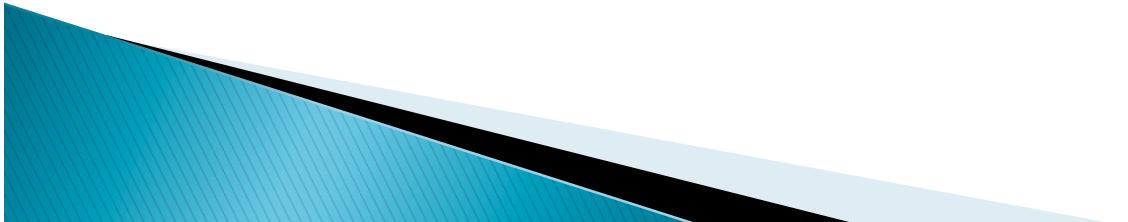
\$ virsh resume foo

\$ virsh save foo state-file

To save the current state of a guest to a file using the virsh command

\$virsh restore foo stat-file

To restore a guest that you previously saved with the
[virsh save option](#) using the virsh command



How to install VMM.

- ▶ Virt-Manager
- ▶ If you are working on a desktop computer you might want to install a GUI tool to manage virtual machines.

```
$ sudo apt-get install virt-manager
```

