Common VM Installation Instructions
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Introduction

Throughout the computer science and mathematics curriculum at Chapman, students will make extensive use of industry-standard software development and scientific computing tools. Because most students prefer to use their personal machines for their coursework, as opposed to lab computers, we have put together virtual machines that package these tools into an easily maintainable, portable, development environments. The intention is to provide the same look and feel of development environments across courses, and across the variety of operating systems students and faculty run on their personal computing platforms.

Installation Steps

1. Log into the Chapman Computer Science DreamSpark site, where you can download a variety of software packages at no charge. The URL is:

https://e5.onthehub.com/WebStore/Welcome.aspx?ws=3d1bf375-c89b-e011-969d-0030487d8897

You should have received an email to your Chapman account with your login credentials. However, if you need login credentials, please email Dr. Linstead with "DreamSpark" in the subject line.

2. Once you have logged into the webstore, click on the VMWare tab. PC users will want to download VMWare Player. Mac users will want to download VMWare Fusion. As part of the checkout and download process you will be provided with a serial number. Make sure to make note of it, as this will serve as the license key when you install VMWare.

3. Install the VMWare product you downloaded in step 2.

4. Download the common virtual machine instances. They are available at:
http://mathcs.chapman.edu/software

You will see virtual machine archives (zip files). Specifically, there are virtual machines for CentOS Linux and Windows 10. For most courses you will use the Linux VM. The Windows 10 VM will be used in CPSC 236 and CPSC 408. Note that each of these zip files are several gigabytes. If you do not have a fast internet connection at home you may wish to perform the download from a wired or wireless connection on campus.

After downloading the zip file, extract the content to an easily accessible directory on your machine. (The "Virtual Machines" directory created by VMWare is recommended.)

5. Open VMWare Player or Fusion. If you click on File->Open you can navigate to the directory where you extracted your virtual machine(s). Select the virtual machine you want to open.

6. You should now be able to run the virtual machine. One the machine has started, you will be given a login screen. The password for the default account is "CPSC". This is also the password for root/admin.

7. If you can successfully log into the default account, you are good to go!

Creating a Shared Folder

VWWare supports a useful feature that allows you to share a folder on the host operating system with the operating system in the virtual machine. To enable folder sharing open your VM instance in VMWare. If it is running, make sure to power it down. Finally, click "Virtual Machine" in the menu, then "sharing." You can now enable folder sharing and add a folder to be shared with the file system in the VM.

For a Windows VM, the shared folder will show up on the desktop when you start the virtual machine.

For the Linux VM, the shared folder is located under /mnt/hgfs. So if the folder you want to share is named "foo", the absolute path to this folder is /mnt/hgfs/foo. You may find it more convenient to create a link to this folder in your home directory. This can be accomplished with the follow commands executed from the terminal:

1) cd ~
2) ln –s /mnt/hgfs/foo foo

In step 2 above, make sure to replace "foo" with the name of your shared folder.

Revision History

August 16, 2015	Linstead	Initial draft
August 20, 2015	Linstead	Added shared folder instructions