VMMs today

VMs are used everywhere

- Popularized by cloud computing
- Used to solve different problems



VMMs are a hot topic in industry and academia

Industry commitment

Software: VMware, Xen, VirtualBox, ...

Hardware: Intel VT, AMD-V

· Academia - lots of related projects and papers

Why would you do such a crazy thing?

Software compatibility

VMMs can run pretty much all software (since they can pretty much all OSes)

Resource utilization

Machines today are powerful, want to multiplex their hardware

Isolation

Seemingly total data isolation between virtual machines

Encapsulation

Virtual machines are not tied to physical machines

Many other cool applications

Debugging, emulation, security, fault tolerance...