
Lecture 5: Virtualization Basics

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Reading Materials

- VMWare virtualization concepts: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvXn2QiL3gs>
- Xen: Art of Virtualization:
<https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/research/srg/netos/papers/2003-xensosp.pdf>
- RedHat Virtualization: <https://www.redhat.com/en/topics/virtualization>
- <https://kubernetes.io/docs/tutorials/kubernetes-basics/>

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Physical Machines/ Virtual Machines/ Containers

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Types of Virtualization

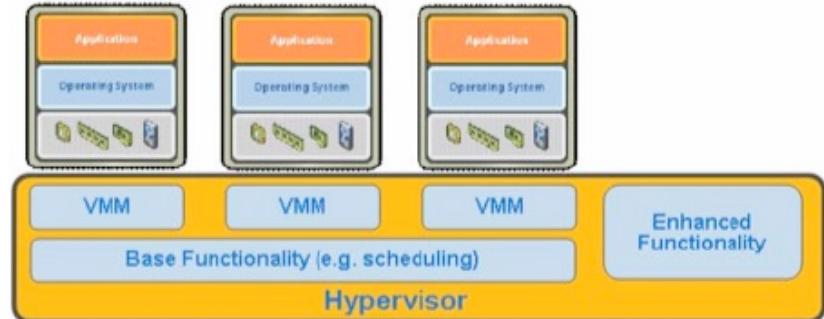
- Hardware emulation
 - Most complex: a hardware VM is created for each instance

- Full Virtualization
 - Uses hypervisor to share underlying hardware across guest VMs
 - Mediates between guest OS and underlying H/W

- Paravirtualization
 - Differs from full virtualization in that integrating handling code into OS – thus the guest OS code is modified
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- Operating system level virtualization
 - Virtualizes server on top of operating systems
 - Single OS that isolates the servers

Hypervisor and VMM

- Hypervisor runs on bare metal machine
- Functionality/role of hypervisor is dependent on type of virtualization



- So what is required in supporting virtualization, i.e., running multiple OS instances on a single machine?
 - OS typically has all the
 - Need to somehow not allow all the OS instances to run at ring 0, but still be able to function as OS
- Solution
 - Hypervisor runs at ring 0
 - OS runs at higher layer than ring 0, but lower than user applications
 - OS level instructions that required ring 0 privilege → need to be now run by hypervisor instead!

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Hypervisor manages virtual machine monitors

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Three types of virtualization (for CPU)

- Depending on how hypervisor handles the critical instructions from OS (ring 0), there are different virtualization methods
 - Full virtualization using binary translation
 - OS assisted virtualization or Paravirtualization
 - Hardware assisted virtualization

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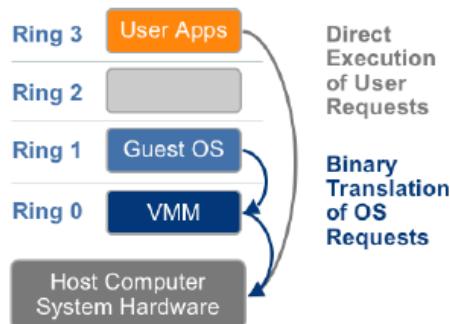


Figure 5 – The binary translation approach to x86 virtualization

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Full Virtualization

Para Virtualization

H/W Assisted Virtualization

Memory Virtualization

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- Memory virtualization requires further vir OS level virtual memory
 - Another level of MMU virtualization that maps multiple MMU into physical memory

Device and I/O Virtualization

- Requires managing the routing of I/O requests between virtual devices and shared physical hardware
- Example: Virtual Network Interface and switches
- Virtual devices emulate the physical devices

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Comparison of Three Virtualization Methods

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Iterative Memory Copy for Live Migration

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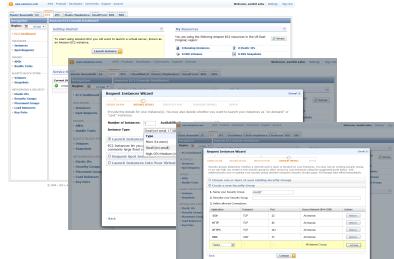
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Deconstructing Amazon EC2 request machine API

- User goes to Amazon EC2 portal and specifies desired parameters for a machine
 - Resource: CPU, mem, disk
 - Stack: OS and possibly with additional software
- Amazon AWS Cloud manager (resource pool manager) provisions the user request
 - Finds appropriate physical resource
 - Dispatches the request to virtualization manager on the identified resource
 - Cloud Manager invokes EC2 API to provisions the request
- Virtualization manager on physical server
 - Copies the pre-built software stack (virtual appliance)
 - Provisions a guest VM and configures parameters (IP address, access rules,...) at run/boot time
- Cloud manager returns login credentials to user

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1. User requests a machine with a desired Software stack, access rules



6. User is provided instance details

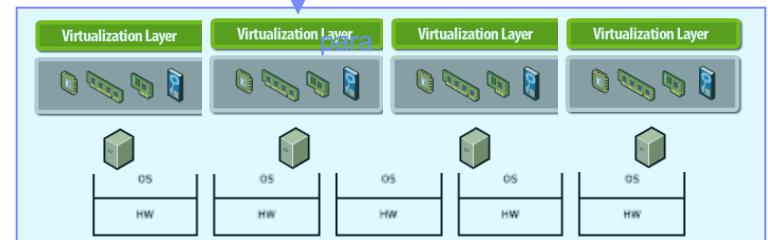
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5. Login credentials for user

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Physicalserver where to instantiate

4. Virtualization mgr on the server launches a VM, copies virtual appliance and boots the VM with appropriate run-time configuration



Physical Resource Pool

Key building blocks

- Cloud manager
- Virtual machine
- Virtual appliance
- Configuring virtual appliance at run time to meet the configuration parameters

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Another important application of Virtualization

- Note that virtual machines are created on demand by issuing requests to hypervisor
 - Virtual machines can be moved from one physical server to another in real time!
 - VMWare vMotion management software lets one move running virtual machines in real time from one server to
 - Opens up lot of interesting
 - Zero down-time maintenance upgrades
 - Dynamic workload balancing
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Moving all VMs from server A to server B

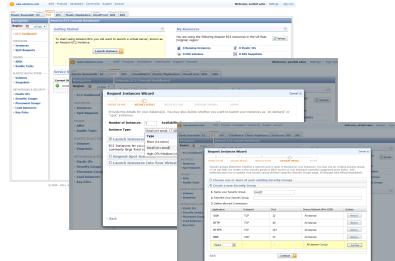
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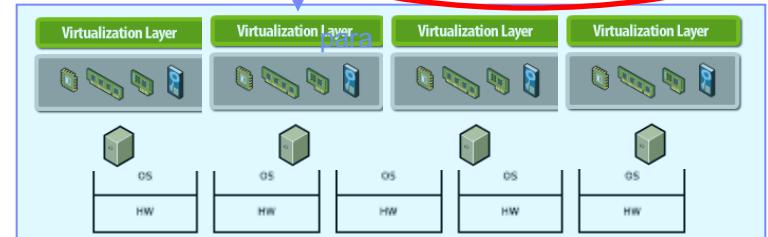
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6. User is provided instance details



5. Login credentials for user



Physical Resource Pool

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Virtual Appliance

- How was Amazon EC2 able to start a (virtual) server with a software stack such as Operating System (win203, SUSE linux 32-bit, LAMP stack etc.) almost instantly?

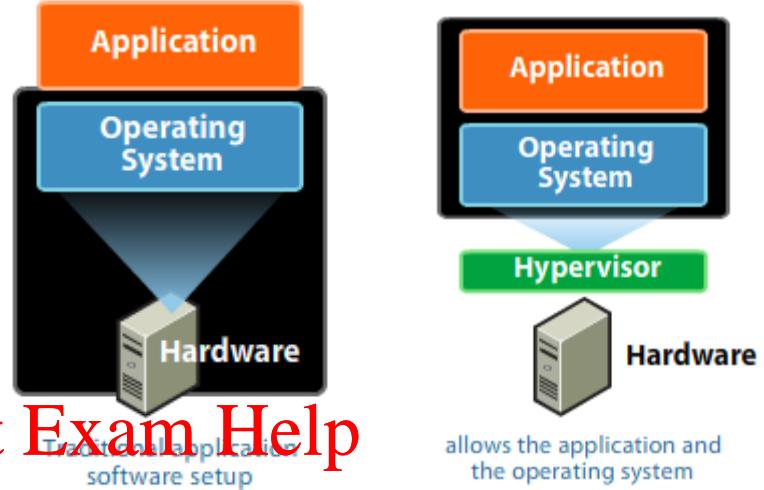
- User is able to choose from a list of available pre-built stack

- Virtual Appliance

- A virtual machine image file consisting of pre-built/installed software bundled with operating system
 - Built in a such a manner that the machine boots from this stack
 - Install once and replicate many times

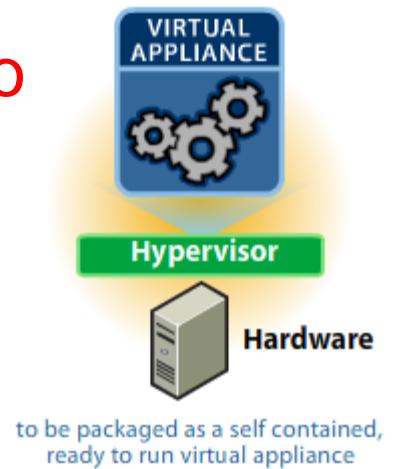
- Benefit

- No need to install the software as long as same virtual machine technology used
 - Removes the need for time consuming installation and configuration of software



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to be packaged as a self contained, ready to run virtual appliance

VMWare Virtual Appliance Demo

- http://download3.vmware.com/media/vam/vam_demo.html

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VMWare Virtual Appliance Marketplace

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Reference Materials

- ESXi: <http://www.vmware.com/products/vsphere-hypervisor/>
- vSphere: Mastering VMWare vSphere 5.5 – Scott Lowe
- vCloud: <http://www.vmware.com/products/vcloud-suite>

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Monolith vs Micro-Services

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Dockers and Containers

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- More light weight and runs as user space processes
- Containers provide the separation