**NIT3222 – Virtualisation in Computing**

**Tutorial 2**

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1. What are the storage options for virtual machine?

* Data disk A data disk is a managed disk that's attached to a virtual machine to store application data, or other data you need to keep. ...
* OS disk Every virtual machine has one attached operating system disk. ...
* Temporary disk Most VMs contain a temporary disk, which is not a managed disk.

1. What is Offloaded Data Transfer (ODX)? Explain how it works.

To enable efficient storage data movement, Microsoft introduced a new data transfer technology with Microsoft Server 2012 termed offloaded data transfer, or ODX. The goal of ODX is to significantly reduce the client-server network traffic and CPU load during large data transfers by managing the data copy within the ODX-suported storage device.

1. What is VHDX? How to mounting a VHDX?

VHDX is a semi-open file format that simulates a virtual hard disk. This file format is currently the newest, replacing the VHD format. Microsoft controls VHD/VHDX, but the formats are available for free use by all users. All VHDX specifications do not differ much from those of a physical hard drive, SSD, etc. In VHDX format, there is such a thing as block size. Essentially, these are certain areas that a dynamically expanding disk will grow into. This will happen over time, as the disk needs to grow to accommodate more data. The block size can only be set during VM creation and, for a fixed disk, this value is always 0.

1. What is Microsoft Assessment and Planning (MAP) ToolKit? Briefly describe its functions.

The Microsoft Assessment and Planning (MAP) Toolkit is part of the Microsoft Solution Accelerators that provide tested guidance and automated tools to help plan, deploy, and manage new Microsoft technologies. They are all freely available and fully-supported by Microsoft.