

# Linux in a Virtual Environment

Nagarajan Prabakar

**School of Computing and Information Sciences  
Florida International University**





# Need for virtualization

Separate computer system:

- expensive
- low utilization of resources

Dual boot:

- boot time OS selection
- changes to a disk partition
- no concurrent execution



# Virtualization

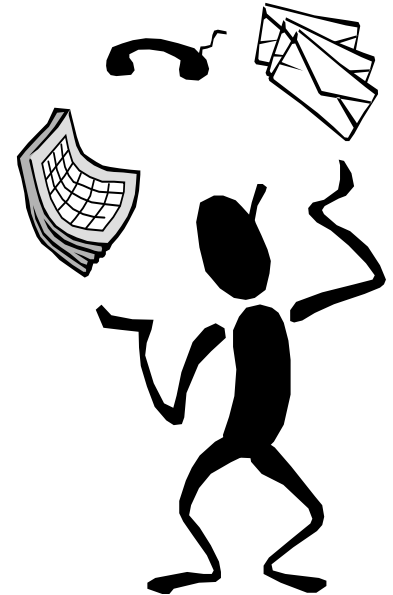
Supports virtual machines (VM)

The host operating system supports

guest operating system(s) VMs

with virtual resource allocation

Runtime sharing of resources



# Virtualization Software

Microsoft Virtual PC

VMware

VirtualBox (open source)

Xen Hypervisor (open source)



# VirtualBox

- Download Dir

UserManual.pdf

VirtualBox-4.1.8-75467-HostArch\* (87.9 MB)

Oracle\_VM\*-73507.vbox-extpack (9.3 MB)

- Download Fedora\_16 (about 3.54 GB)

32-bit: JCCL: \\buffalo\vmstorage-cgs3767\Fedora-16-i386-DVD.iso

32-bit: <http://torrent.fedoraproject.org/torrents/Fedora-16-i386-DVD.torrent>

64-bit: [http://torrent.fedoraproject.org/torrents/Fedora-16-x86\\_64-DVD.torrent](http://torrent.fedoraproject.org/torrents/Fedora-16-x86_64-DVD.torrent)

# Installation

- Run VirtualBox-4.1.8-75467-HostArch\*
- Run VM\_VirtualBox\_Extension\_Pack-4.1.8-75467. vbox-extpack
- Run Oracle VM VirtualBox Manager

Follow the [user manual](#)

New -> Next ->

GuestOS name [Fedora\_16\_32 or 64],

GuestOS type [Linux],

GuestOS version [Fedora or Fedora (64 bit)]

-> Next

# Installation ...

Memory [1024 MB]

Virtual Hard Disk

Enable Start-up Disk

Create new hard disk

File type: VMDK

Storage details: Fixed size

Virtual disk file location(browse)  
and size [10 GB]

Create -> Create

# **Installation of the Guest OS**

VirtualBox Manager window

Select the new Virtual Hard Disk

Click Start menu button

Load the guest OS installation CD

or Browse to the ISO file

Install the Guest OS

in the Virtual Hard Disk



# Installation of the Guest Additions

VirtualBox Manager window

Select the any Virtual Hard Disk

Click Start menu button

From the guest OS window

Device -> Install Guest Additions...

browse to VBoxGuestAdditions.iso

in C:\program Files\Oracle\VirtualBox\ folder

and install it

# Sharing Folders

VirtualBox Manager window

Select the any Virtual Hard Disk

Click Start menu button

From the guest OS window

Device -> Shared Folders...

add a shared folder

Folder path (share location in Host)

Folder name (share name)

Enable “Make permanent” option only

# Mounting Shared Folders

In the VM, login as root

Fedora: \$ su -      Ubuntu: \$ sudo -i

Create mounting directory as

```
# mkdir /media/mountDir
```

Mount the share as

```
# mount -t vboxsf sharename mountpoint
```

or automate this permanently by adding  
the following line to /etc/fstab

```
sharename mountpoint vboxsf defaults 0 0
```

# **Limitations of virtualization**

- Marginal performance degradation
- Each VM is associated with one user
- A VM cannot use all resources of the host

# Conclusion

- Simple and reliable installations
- Snapshot feature for future restorations
- One guest OS in each VHDisk
- Concurrent execution of several OS and sharing files

<http://users.cis.fiu.edu/~prabakar/resource/Linux>

# Thank you