



Exercise 5.8: VNC Server Autostart

The VNC service can be automatically started via **systemd**. Some distros have **systemd** parameter files but since VNC requires a port number and user id customization is required. Create a **systemd** configuration file that will allow two VNC sessions one on port 42 and the other on port 43. The two VNC instances will be for the user student and be encrypted.

Solution 5.8

1. Create the **systemd** configuration file `/etc/systemd/system/vncserver@.service` with the following content:

```
[Unit]
Description=Remote desktop service (VNC) on port :%I
After=syslog.target network.target

[Service]
Type=forking
User=student

ExecStartPre=-/usr/bin/vncserver -kill :%i
ExecStart=/usr/bin/vncserver :%i -localhost
PIDFile=/home/lee/.vnc/%H:%i.pid
ExecStop=-/usr/bin/vncserver -kill :%i

[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

2. Re-load the **systemd** configuration files

```
# systemctl daemon-reload
```

3. Start the VNCservers.

```
# systemctl start vncserver@42
# systemctl start vncserver@43
```

4. Verify the VNC servers are working.

```
$ vncviewer -via student@hostname localhost:42
$ vncviewer -via student@hostname localhost:43
```

5. Make the VNC servers start at boot time.

```
# systemctl enable vncserver@42
# systemctl enable vncserver@43
```