Old idea from the 70s

IBM VM/370 – A VMM for IBM mainframe

- Multiplex multiple OS environments on expensive hardware
- Desirable when few machines around

Interest died out in the 80s and 90s

- Hardware got cheap
- The era of the personal computer (Windows)
- Revived by the Disco work led by Mendel Rosenblum, later lead to the foundation of VMware
- → Another important work Xen

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