Setup of VirtualBox Development Environment*

University of Oregon, Department of Computer and Information Science Parallel Programming Course

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^{*}This document is meant to be used as a reference only. Information presented here was accurate and true at the time of its creation, but all software changes and evolves, so use your best judgment in the creation of your development environment.

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1 Introduction

This document has been designed to go through all of the steps necessary to both install *VirtualBox* and the development environment provided by the *HPCLinux OVA* file, as well as how to load and run the provided example code.

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This document is broken into distinct sections to break up the work. First, we will go over when to find and download *VirtualBox* in Section2, and then how to download and initially load the *HPCLinux OVA* file in Section 3. The remainder of the document is dedicated to how to interact with the environment and run the example code in Section 4.

1.1 System Specifications

This section will detail some of the recommended minimum system specifications for running the development environment. The environment is based on Fedora 16, so these minimum specifications are the same.

1.1.1 Processor and memory requirements for x86 Architectures

Fedora 16 may be installed on most "modern" x86 processors. (There are some "secondary architectures" supported by special interest groups for processors like Power PC, System/390 and ARM).

The minimum processor speed depends on the end use, the method of installation, and the specific hardware. Although some configurations might work on a Pentium 3, most users should consider a Pentium 4 or more modern processor, or the equivalent processor from other manufacturers. Fedora 16 is able to take full advantage of modern, multi-core architectures.

• Minimum RAM for text-mode: 768 MiB

• Minimum RAM for graphical: 768 MiB

• Recommended RAM for graphical: 1152 MiB

1.1.2 Processor and memory requirements for x86_64 architectures

• Minimum RAM for text-mode: 768 MiB

• Minimum RAM for graphical: 768 MiB

• Recommended RAM for graphical: 1152 MiB

1.1.3 Hard disk space requirements for all architectures

For this installation, it is recommended to have approximately 50GB of free space for installation. The *HPCLinux OVA* file is approximately 10GB, and will create a virtual disk once in virtual box for more user storage.

Additional space is also required for any user data, and at least 5% free space should be maintained for proper system operation.

2 Installing VirtualBox

The first step to setup the class development environment on your personal computer will be to download and install *VirtualBox*. *VirtualBox* is free to download and isntall, and is available for most platforms. The following two subsections (2.1 and 2.2) provide basic information about *VirtualBox* and may be safely skipped if you so desire.

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2.1 What is VirtualBox

Oracle VM *VirtualBox* is a virtualization software package for x86 and AMD64/Intel64-based computers from Oracle Corporation as part of its family of virtualization products. It was created by innotek GmbH, purchased in 2008 by Sun Microsystems, and now developed by Oracle. It is installed on an existing host operating system as an application; this host application allows additional guest operating systems, each known as a Guest OS, to be loaded and run, each with its own virtual environment.

Supported host operating systems include Linux, Mac OS X, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Solaris, and OpenSolaris. Supported guest operating systems include versions and derivations of Windows, Linux, BSD, OS/2, Solaris and others. Since release 3.2.0, VirtualBox also allows limited virtualization of Mac OS X guests on Apple hardware, though OSX86 can also be installed using VirtualBox.

Since version 4.1, Windows guests on supported hardware can take advantage of the recently implemented WDDM driver included in the guest additions; this allows Windows Aero to be enabled along with Direct3D support.

2.2 Licensing

With version 4 of *VirtualBox*, released in December 2010, the core package is free software released under GNU General Public License version 2 (GPLv2). This is the fully featured package, excluding some proprietary components not available under GPLv2. These components provide support for USB 2.0 devices, Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) and Preboot Execution Environment (PXE) for Intel cards and are released as a separate "VirtualBox Oracle VM VirtualBox extension pack" under a proprietary Personal Use and Evaluation License (PUEL), which permits use of the software for personal use, educational use, or evaluation, free of charge.

Oracle defines personal use as any situation in which one person installs the software, and only that individual, and their friends and family, use the software. Oracle does not care if that use is for commercial or non-commercial purposes.[19] Oracle would consider it non-personal use, for example, if a network administrator installed many copies of the software on many different machines, on behalf of many different end-users. That type of situation would require purchasing a special volume license.

Although *VirtualBox* has experimental support for Mac OS X guests, the end user license agreement of Mac OS X does not permit the operating system to run on non-Apple hardware, enforced within the operating system by calls to the Apple System Management Controller (SMC) in all Apple machines, which verifies the authenticity of the hardware.

2.3 Obtaining VirtualBox

VirtualBox can be downloaded at virtualbox.org (https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/downloads). Select, download, and install the binary that corresponds to your system.

3 Installing Development Environment

This section will detail how to load the *HPCLinux OVA* file into VirtualBox and how to begin development on the system.

3.1 Download Development Environment 'OVA' File

The most recent *HPCLinux OVA* file can be downloaded form ParaTools at http://www.paratools.com/HPCLinux#Download. Select whichever mirror you most prefer, and download the file.

3.2 Using 'OVA' File with VirtualBox

Once the *HPCLinux OVA* file has been retrieved, it is time to import the file into *VirtualBox* using the following steps:

Step 1 Start *VirtualBox*. You will come to a screen similar to that of Figure 1.

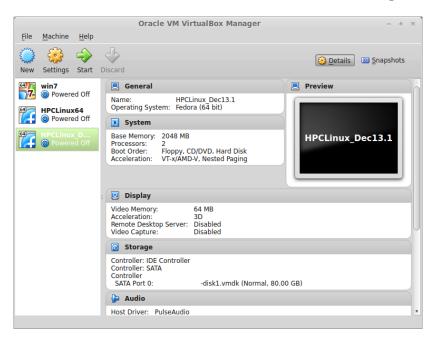


Figure 1: Initial VirtualBox start screen

Step 2 Load the 'OVA' file into *VirtualBox*. Click **File ->Import Appliance** and locate your downloaded copy of the 'OVA' file with the file explorer (See Figure 2).



Figure 2: Importing the 'OVA' file

Step 3 Click **Next**. Here, you can modify any of the base attributes of the system such as its *Name* number of *cpus* etc. For most systems the defaults will suffice, and can be changed later if needed (See Figure 3).



Figure 3: After clicking **Next** during 'OVA' import

VirtualBox Version 4.3.6+

Step 4 Click **Import** to finish the import process (See Figure 4). The appliance will then take up to several minutes to import and ready the virtual environment for use.



Figure 4: After clicking Import during 'OVA' import

Step 5 Once the import finishes, you will have a functional virtual environment ready for use (See Figure 5).

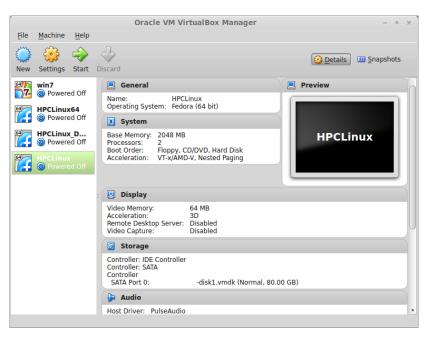


Figure 5: After import finishes environment is ready for use

Step 6 Highlight the virtual environment that you want to use and slick **Start** at the top of the screen. This will launch the virtual environment. You will be taken to a Grub screen and can select OS is loaded. The default selection is what we want, so either hit **enter**, or wait for it to autostart (See Figure 6).

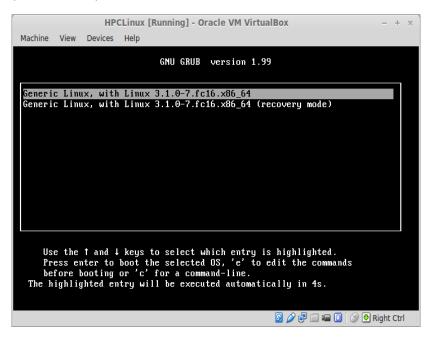


Figure 6: After clicking start and the loading of the Grub screen

Step 7 Once the virtual system starts, you will be at the login screen (See Figure 7). Select *livetau* and enter the password ************. Your system is now ready for use. For instructions on running example code see Section 4.

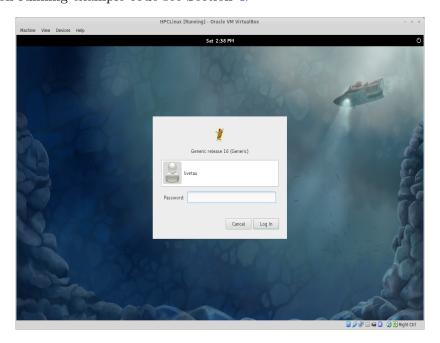


Figure 7: System ready for login

4 Environment Interaction and Running Example Code

In this section we will go over how to make and run the example code for this course. This section is important as it goes over specific modules that must be loaded each time you start the system in order to have access to the appropriate libraries and compilers.

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4.1 Setup After Startup

After *VirtualBox* development environment is installed and started, there are a few options for compiling and running the example code. This example code is from the book **Structured Parallel Programming**, and is useful to ensure that your system is ready for development. These examples will ensure that the appropriate compilers and libraries are available, and will run several example tests.

4.1.1 Get the Example Code

The example code for the **Structured Parallel Programming** book is available at **parallelbook**. **com/student**. Download the most recent version of the code using the link under the heading **CODE EXAMPLES FROM BOOK**. Once the code is downloaded, extract the top level directory to your most favorite place to work.

4.1.2 Compiling the Examples

The following steps will go over compiling and running the examples and tests with the various available options.

Step 1 Go to the top level of the examples directory, you should see three directories and three files (See Figure 8).

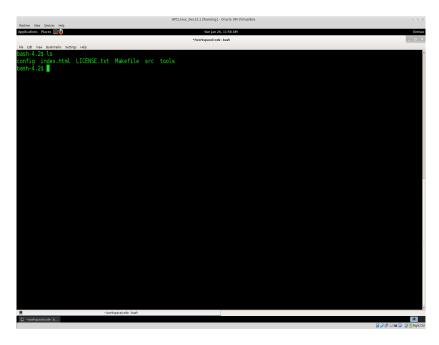


Figure 8: Top level directory of the example code

Step 2 The first thing that needs to be done, is the 'config.inc' file must be modified. Go to the **config** directory and open **config.inc**. To fully compile the example code and to take advantage of all the features, uncomment the second line in the file and set the compiler to 'icpc' (See Figure 9).. This will set the compiler to be the Intel compiler with support for Cilk Plus. If you do not want to compile the Cilk Plus specific code, uncomment the third line and set the compiler to 'g++'.

Figure 9: Uncommenting the compiler to allow for CILK Plus, TBB, and OpenMP code

Step 3 Now, go back to the top level directory and type **make**. This will compile the example code with the compiler option that was set in Step 2 and run some of the test programs (See Figure 10).

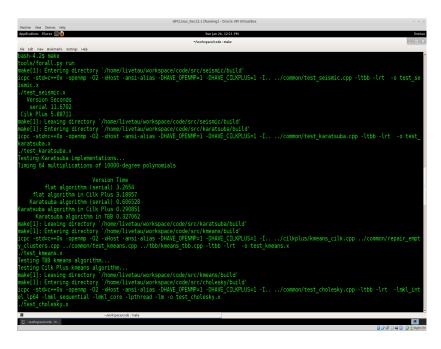


Figure 10: Uncommenting the compiler to allow for CILK Plus, TBB, and OpenMP code

Step 4 If there were no errors during the build and the tests completed, you should have an environment that is ready for development. If you want to look at or run any of the test programs individually they are available under the **src** directory (See Figure 11).

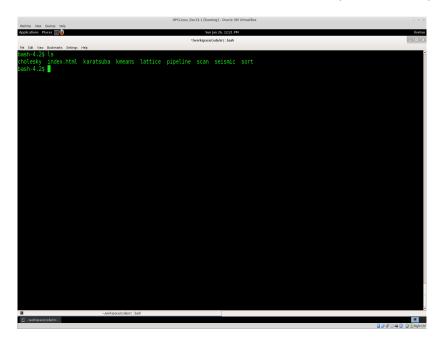


Figure 11: Test code directories available under src