

Linux Environment Setup on Windows 10 Using CentOS 7

This guide is designed for Windows users who wish to set up a Linux development environment using CentOS 7. CentOS 7 is chosen for its stability and broad industry acceptance, making it a reliable choice for both development and production environments. This setup has been fully tested on Windows 10 to ensure compatibility and consistency.

Prerequisites

Before you begin the setup, download and install the following tools:

1. VirtualBox

- **Download Link:** [VirtualBox Downloads](#)
- **Description:** VirtualBox is a powerful x86 and AMD64/Intel64 virtualization product for enterprise as well as home use.

2. Vagrant

- **Download Link:** [Vagrant Downloads](#)
- **Note:** Download the AMD64 version.
- **Description:** Vagrant is an open-source software product for building and maintaining portable virtual software development environments.

3. WinSCP

- **Download Link:** [WinSCP Downloads](#)
- **Description:** WinSCP is a popular SFTP client and FTP client for Microsoft Windows, providing safe copying of files between a local and a remote computer.

4. Git Bash

- **Download Link:** [Git for Windows](#)
- **Description:** Git for Windows provides a BASH emulation used to run Git from the command line.

5. Visual Studio Code (VS Code)

- **Download Link:** [VS Code](#)
- **Description:** VS Code is a streamlined code editor with support for development operations like debugging, task running, and version control. We use it for editing files and run commands on the VM.

Setup Steps

Step 1: Set Up the Virtual Machine

Open PowerShell, and run the following commands to clone the repository and set up the CentOS 7 VM:

```
git clone https://github.com/aaronwang0509/forgerock_training_docs.git
cd .\forgerock_training_docs\VM_for_Win10\
vagrant plugin install vagrant-vbguest
vagrant up
```

This will set up a CentOS 7 VM. You can then log in using:

```
vagrant ssh
```

```
(base) PS C:\Users\wangqiushi\Desktop\CentOS_Win10\forgerock_training_docs\VM_for_Win10> vagrant ssh
Last login: Fri Jun 14 17:39:15 2024 from 10.0.2.2
[vagrant@localhost ~]$ cat /etc/os-release
NAME="CentOS Linux"
VERSION="7 (Core)"
ID="centos"
ID_LIKE="rhel fedora"
VERSION_ID="7"
PRETTY_NAME="CentOS Linux 7 (Core)"
ANSI_COLOR="0;31"
CPE_NAME="cpe:/o:centos:centos:7"
HOME_URL="https://www.centos.org/"
BUG_REPORT_URL="https://bugs.centos.org/"

CENTOS_MANTISBT_PROJECT="CentOS-7"
CENTOS_MANTISBT_PROJECT_VERSION="7"
REDHAT_SUPPORT_PRODUCT="centos"
REDHAT_SUPPORT_PRODUCT_VERSION="7"
```

Then you can run the following command to check the VM:

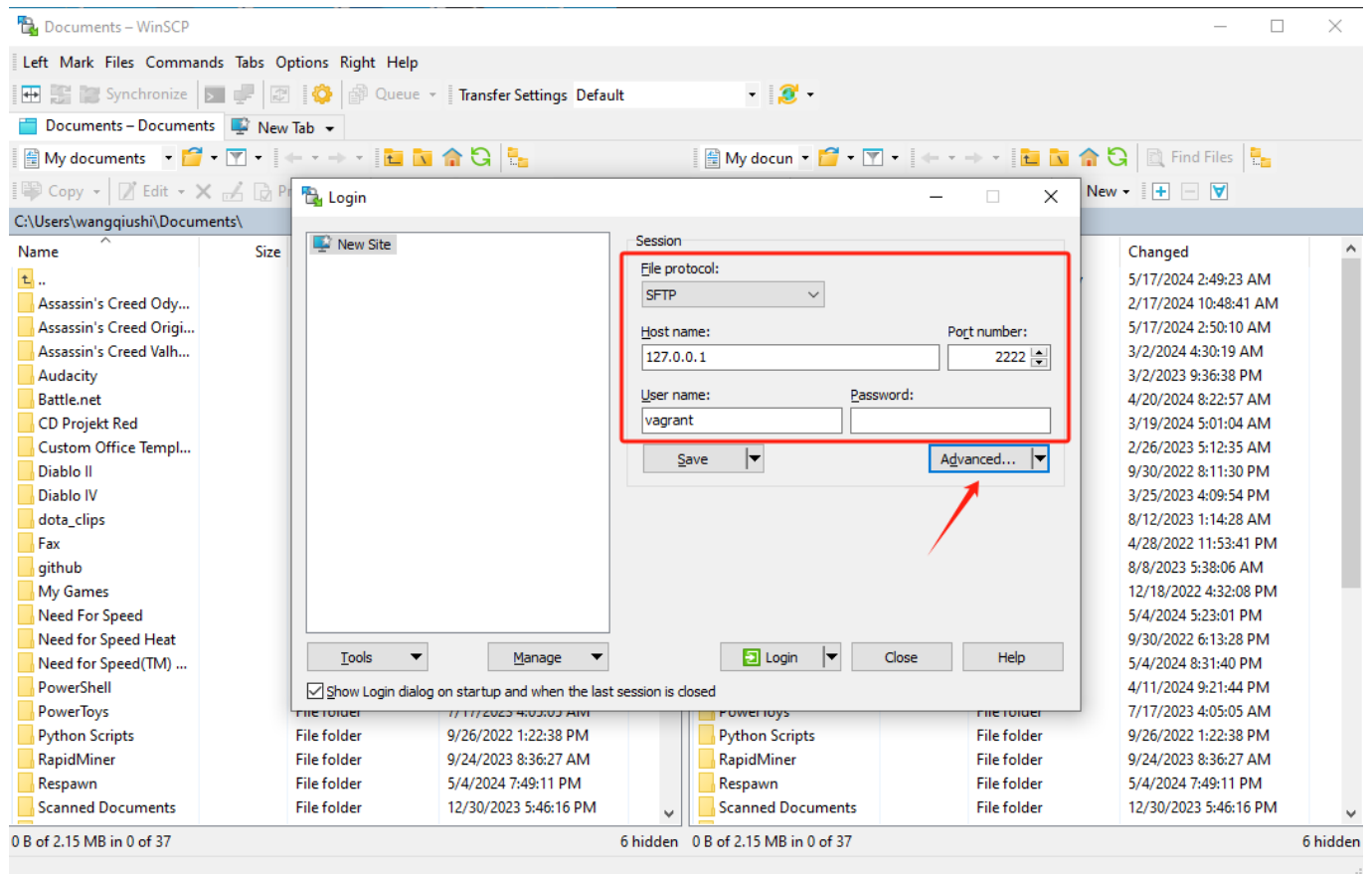
```
sudo yum update -y
sudo yum install -y vim
```

Step 2: Set Up WinSCP for File Transfers

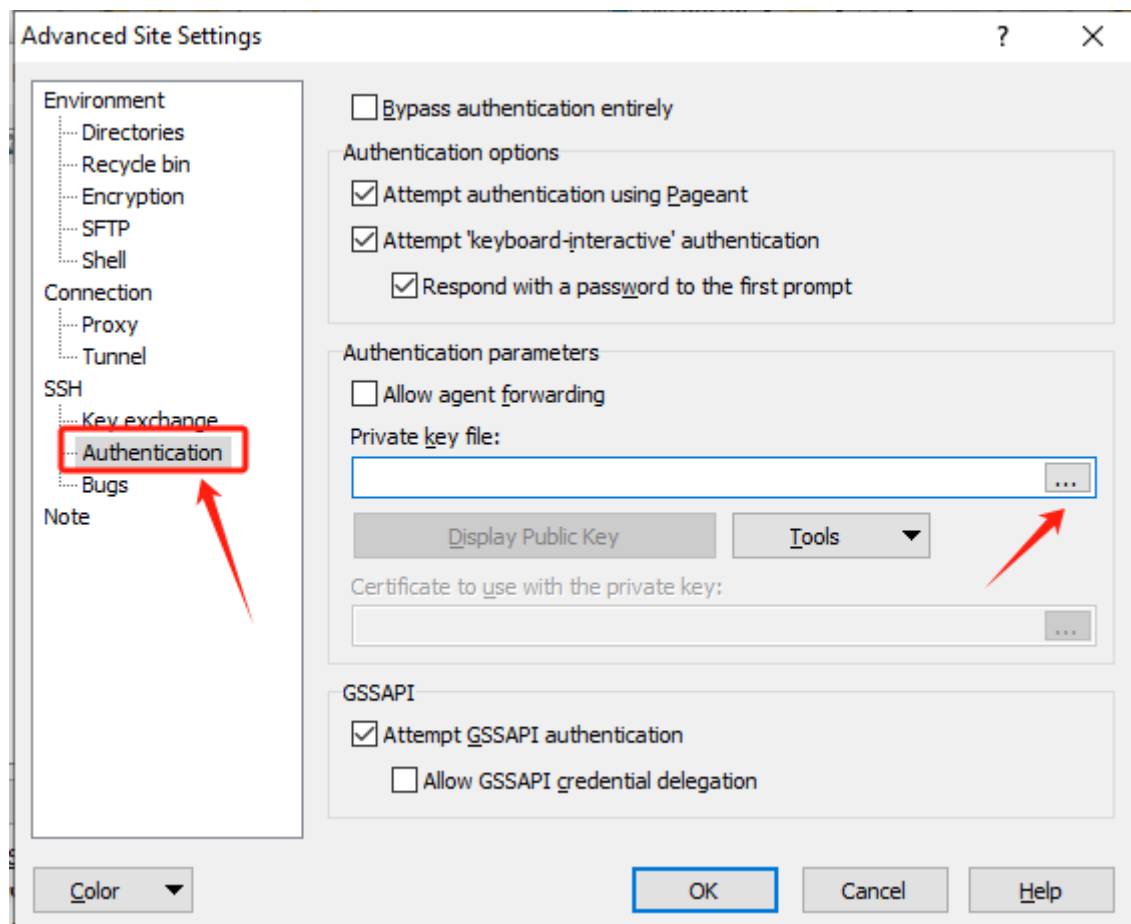
Retrieve SSH information of your VM:

```
vagrant ssh-config
```

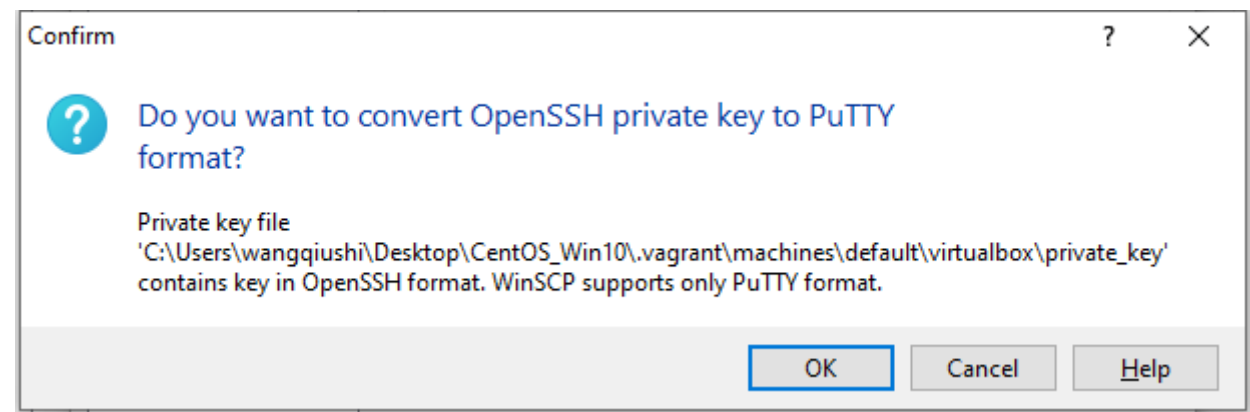
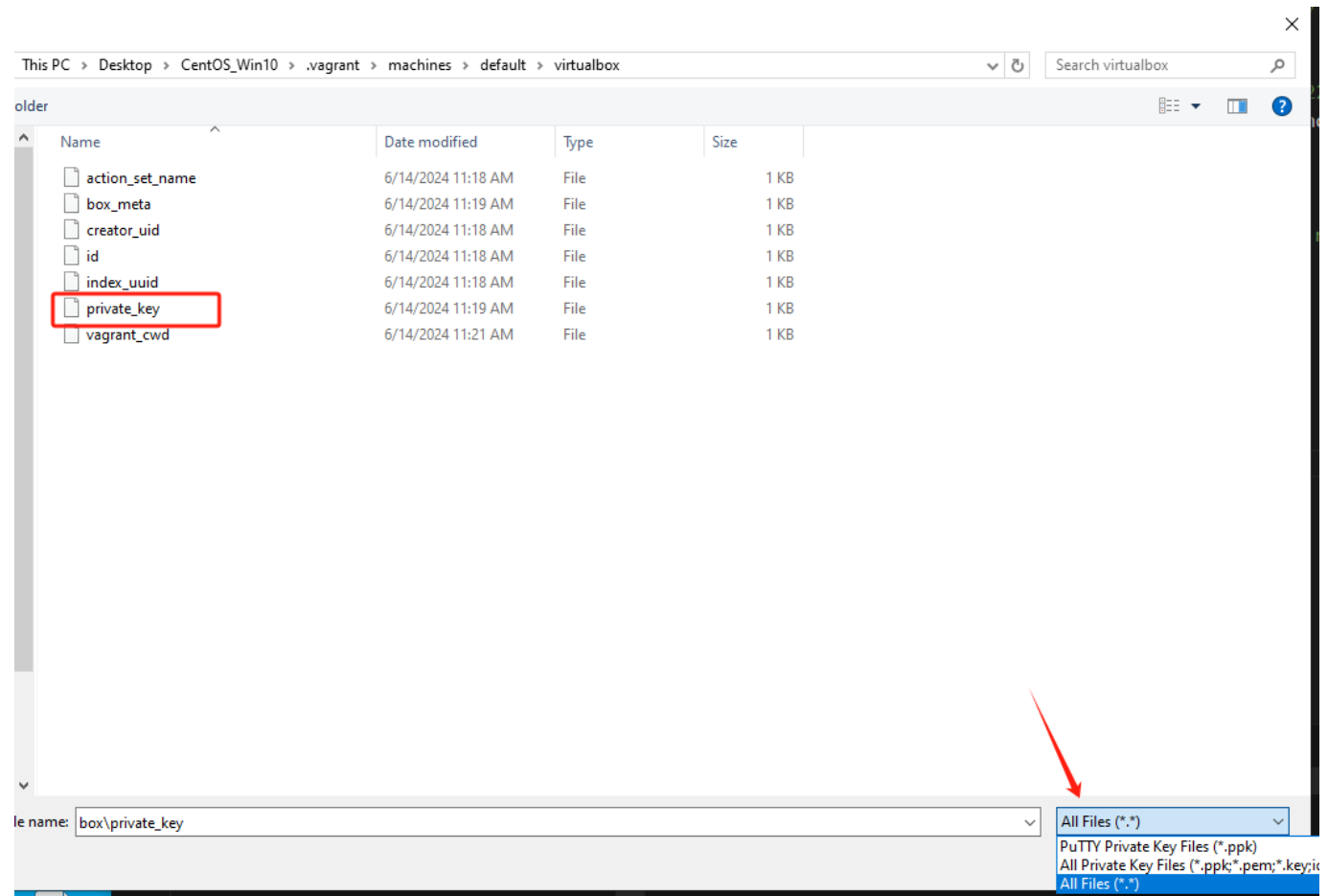
Open WinSCP, select the SFTP protocol, and input the SSH information.



Under Advanced settings in SSH->Authentication, choose the private key file from .vagrant\machines\default\virtualbox.

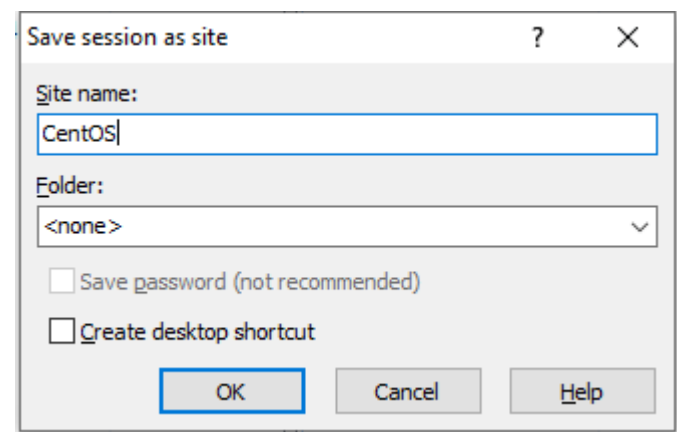


Choose the private key file and confirm to convert the private key file to PPK format.



Then click login, now you can transfer file between windows and VM.

You can save the session for future use.



Step 3: Manage Ports

Because we don't have a GUI, so we need to use port management to access the service in VM. Open Vagrantfile in the VM directory, and you can see the following lines:

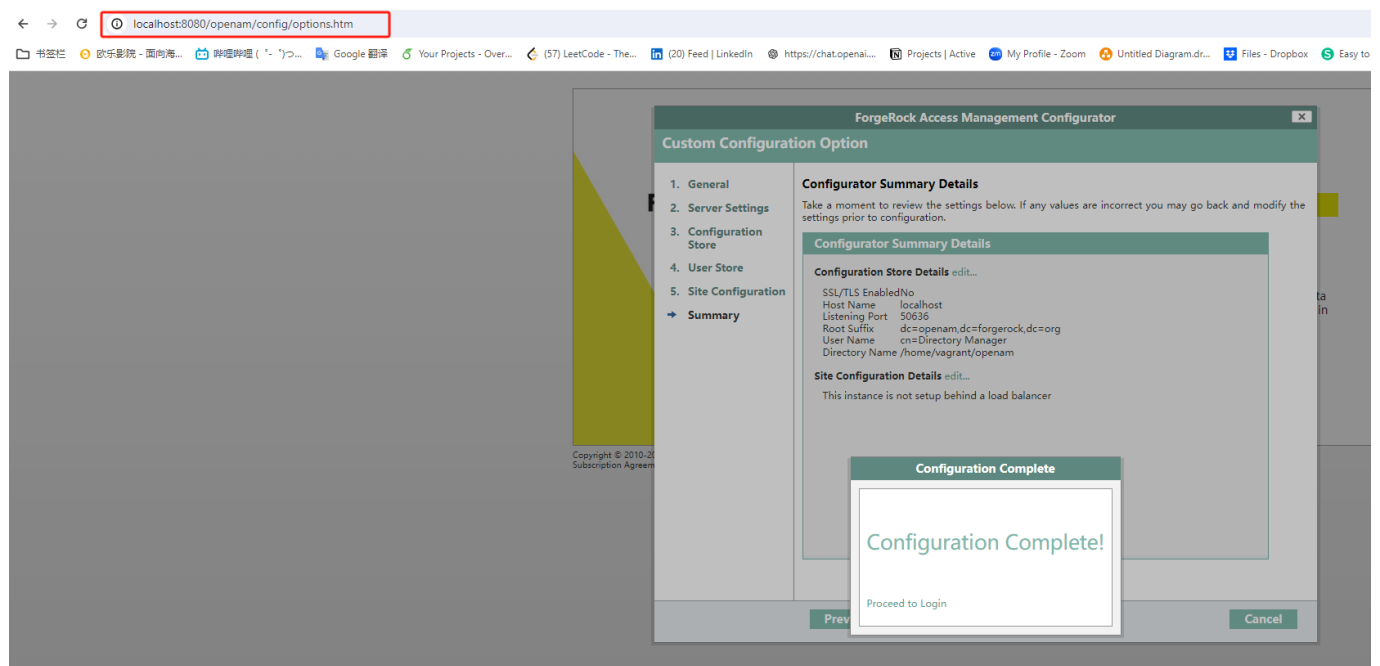
```
# Forward port 22 for SSH access from host to 2222 (change host port if needed)
config.vm.network "forwarded_port", guest: 22, host: 2222
# Add more forwarded ports as needed
# config.vm.network "forwarded_port", guest: 8080, host: 8080
```

```
# config.vm.network "forwarded_port", guest: 8080, host: 8080
```

Uncomment and modify the line as necessary to forward additional ports. After changes, run:

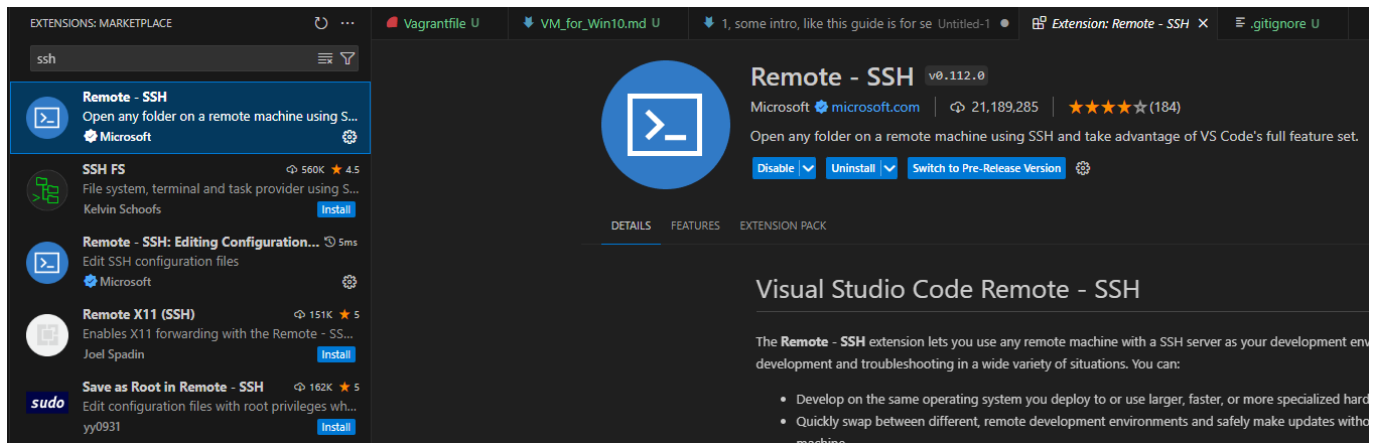
```
vagrant reload
```

VM will restart, then you can access the service in VM by <http://localhost:8080>



Step 4: Set Up VS Code for Remote Editing

Install the Remote SSH extension in VS Code. Click the blue icon in the lower left corner, select "Connect to Host", then "Config SSH Hosts". Select the SSH config file, e.g., C:\Users***.ssh\config.

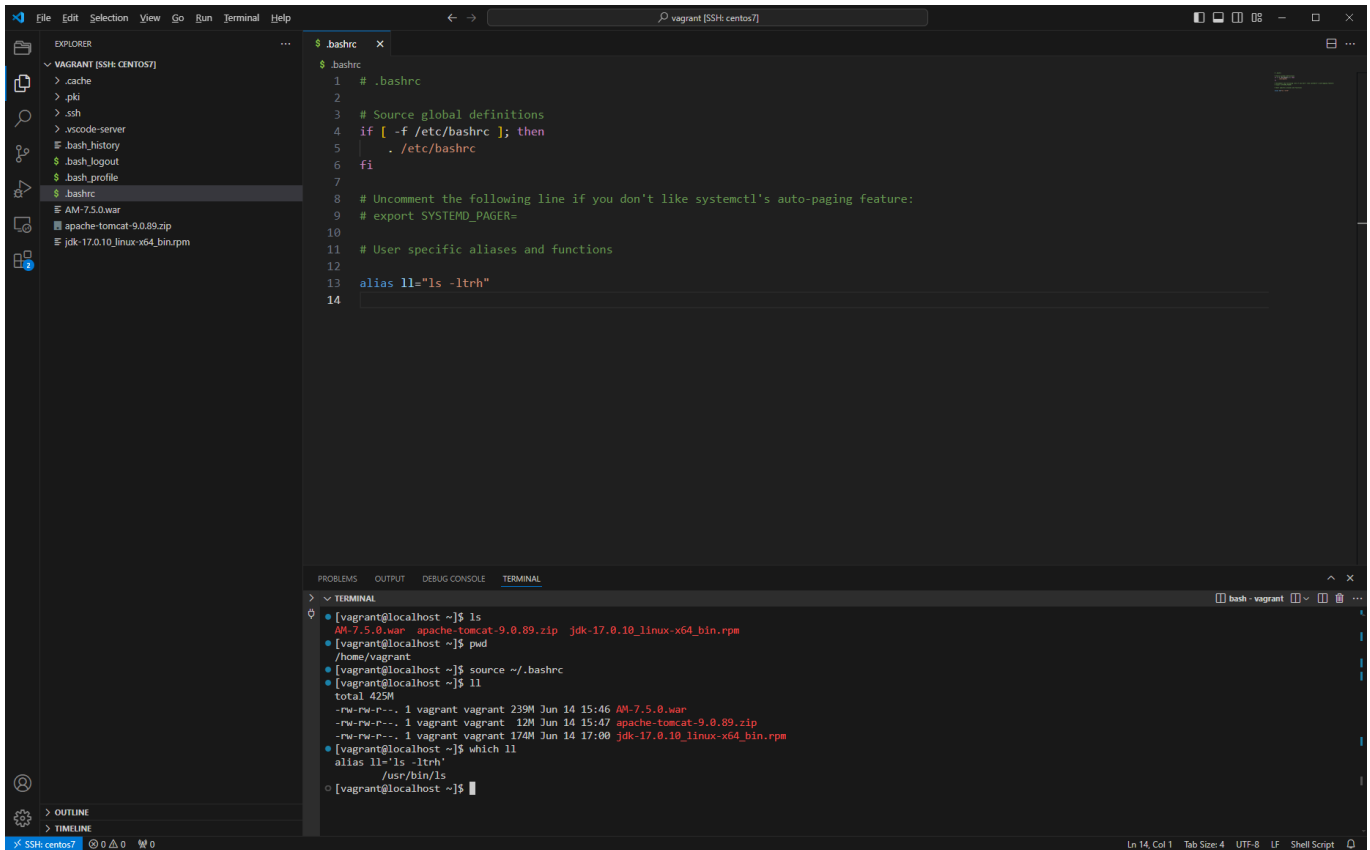


Add the SSH configuration of the VM:

```
Host centos7
  HostName 127.0.0.1
  User vagrant
  Port 2222
  IdentityFile
  C:/Users/wangqiushi/Desktop/CentOS_Win10/forgerock_training_docs/VM_for_Win10/.vagrant/machines/default/virtualbox/private_key
  StrictHostKeyChecking no
  UserKnownHostsFile /dev/null
```

Change the IdentityFile to the private key file in .vagrant\machines\default\virtualbox, then save it.

Click the blue icon in the lower left corner, select "Connect to Host", then select 'centos7', and you can edit the files or run commands in VM.



The screenshot shows a VS Code editor with a Vagrantfile open. The Vagrantfile contains the following content:

```
1 # -*- mode: ruby -*-
2 # See: https://rubygems.org/pages/show/new
3
4 # Source global definitions
5 if [ -f /etc/bashrc ]; then
6   . /etc/bashrc
7 fi
8
9 # Uncomment the following line if you don't like systemctl's auto-paging feature:
10 # export SYSTEMD_PAGER=
11
12 # User specific aliases and functions
13
14 alias ll='ls -ltrh'
```

The terminal window shows the output of the following commands:

```
[vagrant@localhost ~]$ ll
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vagrant vagrant 239M Jun 14 15:46 AM-7.5.0.war
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vagrant vagrant 12M Jun 14 15:47 apache-tomcat-9.0.89.zip
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vagrant vagrant 174M Jun 14 17:00 jdk-17.0.10_linux-x64_bin.rpm
total 425M
[vagrant@localhost ~]$ source ~/.bashrc
[vagrant@localhost ~]$ ll
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vagrant vagrant 239M Jun 14 15:46 AM-7.5.0.war
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vagrant vagrant 12M Jun 14 15:47 apache-tomcat-9.0.89.zip
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vagrant vagrant 174M Jun 14 17:00 jdk-17.0.10_linux-x64_bin.rpm
total 425M
[vagrant@localhost ~]$ which ll
/usr/bin/ls
alias ll='ls -ltrh'
```

Appendix: Vagrant Common Commands and Notes

Run these commands in the directory containing your Vagrantfile

vagrant up

Run it to start or resume the VM.

vagrant halt

Use it to safely shut down the VM, preserving the state for the next "vagrant up".

vagrant reload

Useful for reloading any changes made to the Vagrantfile without destroying the VM.

vagrant ssh

Run it to build a ssh connection with the VM.

vagrant destroy

Use it when you want to completely remove the VM.

vagrant status

Helpful to check the status of the VM.

vagrant ssh-config

Useful to check the ssh configuration of the VM.

vagrant suspend

Use it to pause the virtual machine, saving its state for later.

```
vagrant resume
```

```
# Run it to continue after using "vagrant suspend".
```