

Lab 1 Exploring Linux Distributions

Requirements:

- **You will use Github to submit this Lab. Watch the 'What is Git and Github?' video before your start**
- Create a Github account before your start this lab.
- Bold your answers (*2 points*)
- Format your screenshots accordingly (not too big, not too small). If I can't read it, I cannot grade it.
- Video: <https://youtu.be/8Sa52S527Qc>

Working with Distrowatch

Question 1

During class, we explored the concept of Linux distribution. During this lab, you will research some Linux distributions using a website called Distrowatch. DistroWatch is a website that provides news, popularity rankings, and other general information about various Linux distributions and other Unix-like operating systems such as OpenSolaris, MINIX and BSD.

Go to [Distrowatch](#). Explore the website to get familiar with the home page. On the top left corner, you have a form that allows you to submit queries to the website. In the **"Type Distribution Name"** box type **"Ubuntu"**. This will return details about Ubuntu. Explore the Ubuntu Distrowatch page and answer the following questions:

1. What is the OS Type:
 - **Linux**
2. Which major distro is it based on?
 - **Debian**
3. Which processor architecture does it support?
 - **armhf, i686, powerpc, ppc64el, s390x, x86_64**
4. Is the distribution active or is it discontinued?
 - **Active**
5. What is the distro's home page?
 - **<https://www.ubuntu.com/>**

Question 2

On the top left corner, click on "Random Distribution" and answer the following questions from the distro you got.

1. What is the name of the distribution and the OS Type:

- **BSD**

2. Which major distro is it based on?

- **Independent**

3. Which processor architecture does it support?

- **acorn26, acorn32, alpha, amiga, arc, atari, cats, cobalt, dreamcast, emips, evbarm, evbmips, evbppc, evbsh3, ewa4800mips, hp300, hp700, hpcarm, hpcmips, hpcsh, i386, ibmnws, luna68k, m68010, mipsco, mvme68k, mvmeppc, news68k, newsmips, ofppc, pmax, powerpc, prep, sandpoint, sgimips, shark, sparc32, sparc64, sun2, sun3, vax, x68k, x86_64, zaurus**

4. Is the distribution active or is it discontinued?

- **Active**

5. What is the distro's home page?

- **<http://www.netbsd.org/>**

Question 3

On the top of the page, right in the middle, you will find an option that allows you to search for distributions. Click on "**Search**" and after the page loads, fill in the following information in the "**Search Distribution by Criteria**" section and Click on Submit Query.

- OS Type: Linux
- Architecture: x86_64
- Status: Active
- Leave the rest as default.

From the query results, choose any distribution and answer the following question about the distro you chose.

1. What is the name of the distribution?

- **MX Linux**

2. What is the country of Origin?

- **Greece**

3. What major distribution is it based on?

- **Debian (Stable), antiX**

4. What is the distribution category?

- **Desktop, From RAM, Live Medium**

5. Which processor architecture, aside from the one in the original query, does the OS support?

- **i686**

Question 4

Now that you know how to use Distrowatch. Find a Linux distribution for the following scenarios. For each distribution provide the website, name, and supported architecture.

1. A Linux distribution used for Data Rescue/Data recovery

- Distro Name: **Kali Linux (formerly BackTrack)**
- Website: **<http://www.kali.org/>**
- Desktop Environment: **Enlightenment, GNOME, KDE Plasma, LXDE, MATE, Xfce**

2. A Linux distribution used for Education that supports the ix86 processor architecture.

- Distro Name: **NixOS**
- Website: **<http://nixos.org/>**
- Desktop Environment: **Awesome, Enlightenment, Fluxbox, GNOME, i3, IceWM, KDE Plasma, Ratpoison, Xfce**

3. A Linux distribution that supports the OEM installation method

- Distro Name: **Linux Mint**
- Website: **<https://linuxmint.com/>**
- Desktop Environment: **Cinnamon, MATE, Xfce**

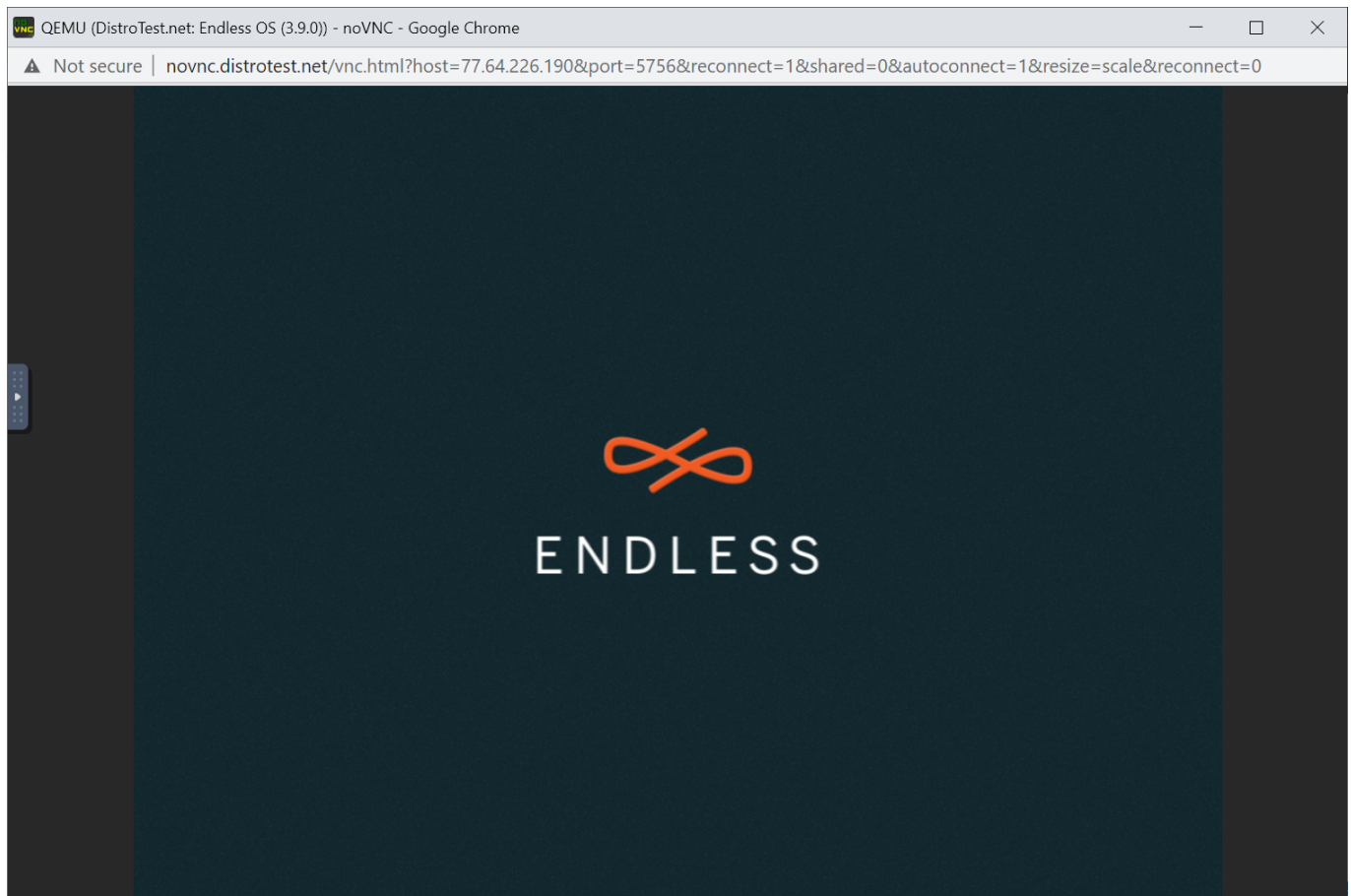
Question 5 (Extra credit 2 pts - Optional)

On the Distrowatch homepage in the menu located in the middle of the page, you will find an option called **"Submit Distribution"**. This option lists all the Linux distros that are pending evaluation, on development or that are experiencing some sort of legal constraint. Select one of these distributions and in a paragraph, share your thoughts. (keep it simple 5 to 8 sentences). **The distribution that I choose was Linux Kamarada. Their focus is mainly on distribution and documentation of Linux. I agree with their belief that Linux can one day be house hold operating system. In time I think Linux will reach that position once more people start learning and using the system. Linux Kamarada can become the reason for that in due time.**

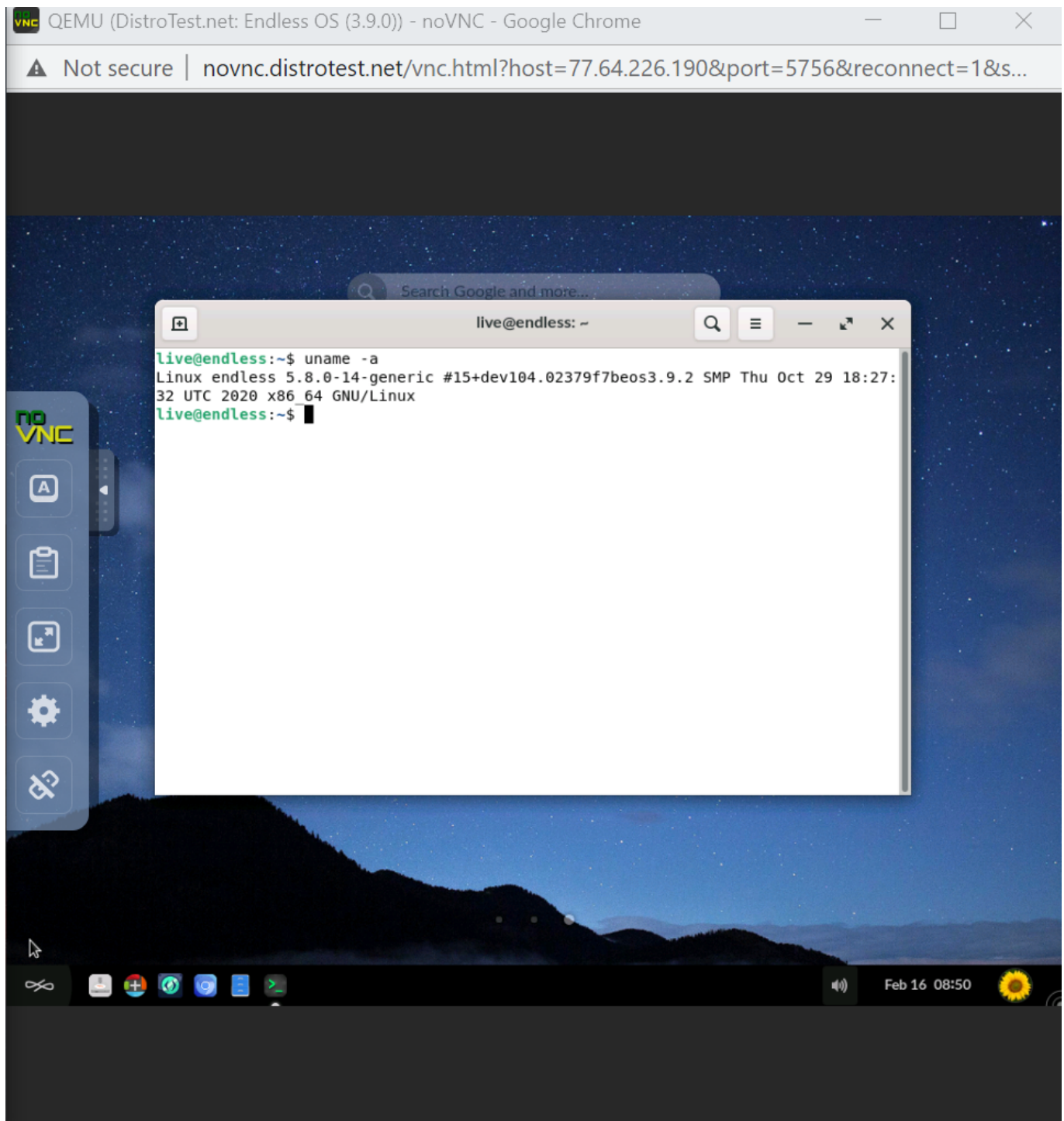
Working with DistroTest.net

Question 6

DistroTest.net is a project that allows you to test Linux/BSD distributions on your web browser. This website is great for trying out distributions before you even download the ISO file. Go to [Distrotest.net](https://distrotest.net) and click on any of the distributions. Start the distribution and take a screenshot of the browser window that just popped up.



Locate the terminal application in the distribution you started and type the following command: `uname -a`
Take a screenshot of the browser window showing the terminal application open.



Stop the machine and take a screenshot of the browser window showing that the machine has been stopped.

