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MAC SYSADMIN FOR EDMS

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## TEST BOX SPECIAL: MACOS TESTING IN A VM AND OTHER OPTIONS

## WHAT I'M GOING TO COVER

- ▶ Options for getting yourself a macOS test computer
- ▶ Advantages of using a Virtual Machine (VM)
- ▶ Options for building a VM
- ▶ Building a VM using VMware Fusion
- ▶ Building a VM using VMware Fusion plus AutoDMG and vfuse tools

All methods have pitfalls and limitations

## WHAT CAN I TEST THIS ON? (1/3)

- ▶ What do I test new software/scripts/commands on?
  - ▶ **Main computer**
    - ▶ + Quick and easy
    - ▶ - Unforeseen consequences
    - ▶ - Not realistic test of end user's computer
    - ▶ - Limited scenarios: fixed OS, can't do new build
    - ▶ + Personal testing sometimes picks up issues

Not realistic - you may have customised your main computer with admin rights

## WHAT CAN I TEST THIS ON? (2/3)

- ▶ What do I test new software/scripts/commands on?
  - ▶ **Second computer**
    - ▶ + Test different scenarios without risk
    - ▶ - Can be lengthy to switch scenarios, eg. macOS version
    - ▶ - Cost of having second Mac

Cost - Could save by running Mojave on a Hackintosh, but again potentially not realistic. (see links)

## WHAT CAN I TEST THIS ON? (3/3)

- ▶ What do I test new software/scripts/commands on?
  - ▶ **Virtual Machine (VM)**
    - ▶ + Quickly create/destroy/rollback machines
    - ▶ + Test multiple scenarios
    - ▶ - Buy and learn hypervisor software
    - ▶ - Storage
    - ▶ - Not as realistic as hardware; can get complicated

Explain what VM is - entire macOS installation (apps, devices) instead of running on real hardware, it's running on simulated hardware.

Snapshot - eg testing enrolling into management system, fix issue, roll back, go again

MacOS licence allows two VMs on same box. Can't run on non-Apple hardware.

Not realistic enough for testing FileVault, DEP etc without additional tweaking

## SOFTWARE OPTIONS FOR RUNNING A MACOS VM

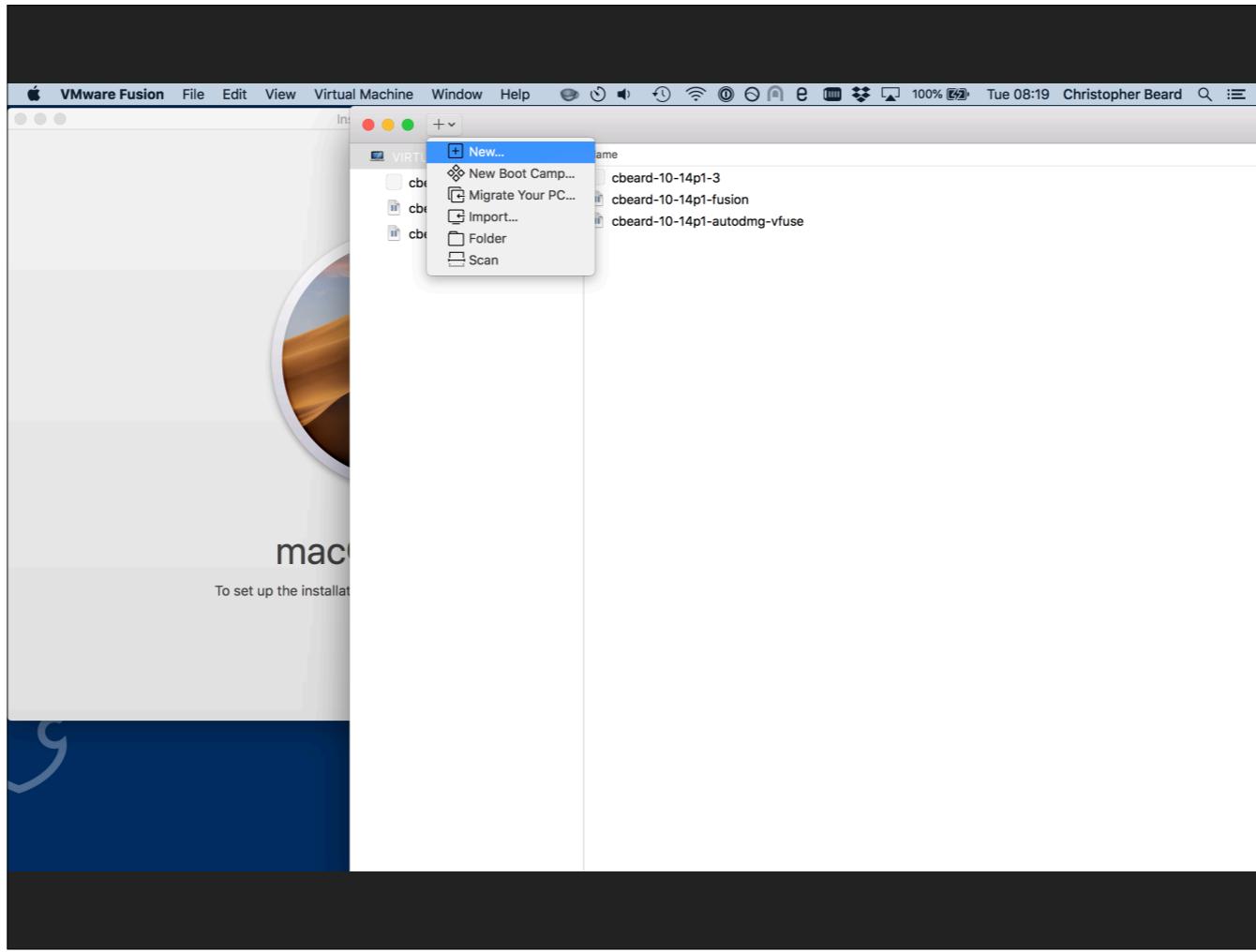
- ▶ Proprietary hypervisors
  - ▶ VMware Fusion. Version 11 supports Mojave.
  - ▶ Parallels
- ▶ Open source hypervisors
  - ▶ Oracle Virtual Box
  - ▶ QEMU

QEMU is more technical and mainly for kernel developers but can be useful for providing alternative virtualisation components.

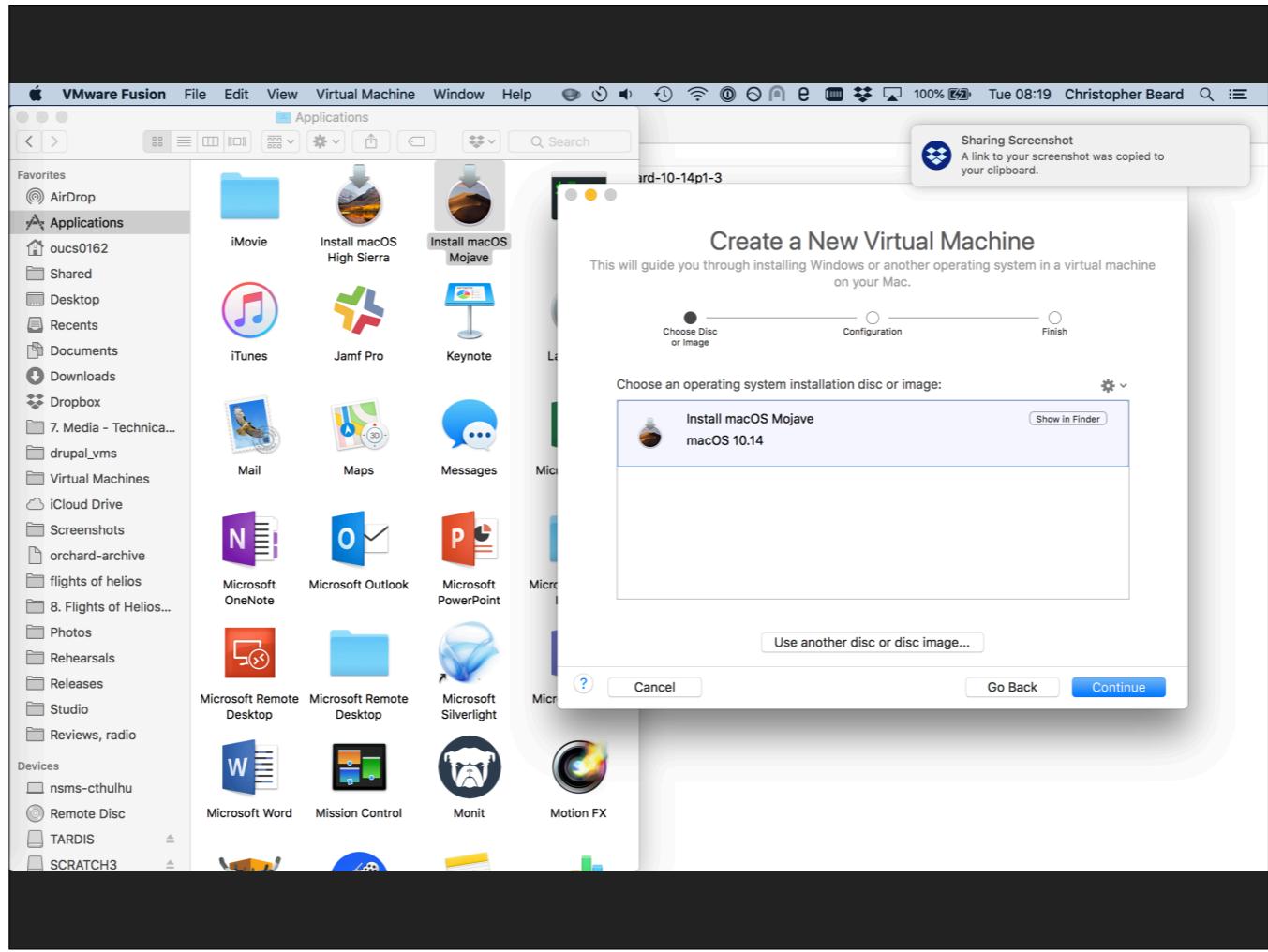
## BUILDING A VM USING VMWARE FUSION

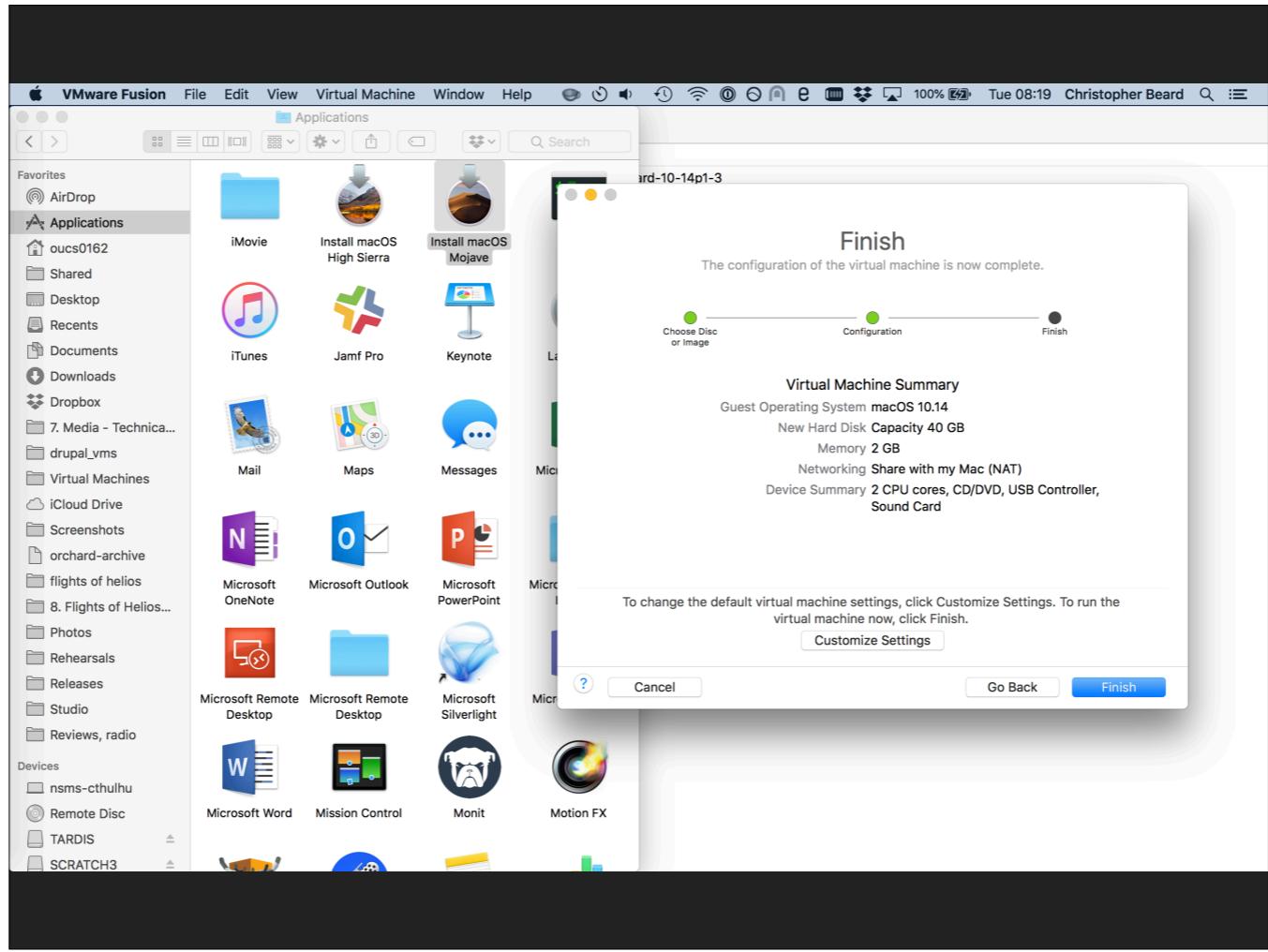
- ▶ Requirements for making a macOS 10.14 Mojave VM:
  - ▶ VMware Fusion 11 (Standard or Pro)
  - ▶ Install macOS Mojave.app (App Store)
  - ▶ 50GB storage
- ▶ No Fusion? See 'Building a macOS VM using Virtual Box' (in links)

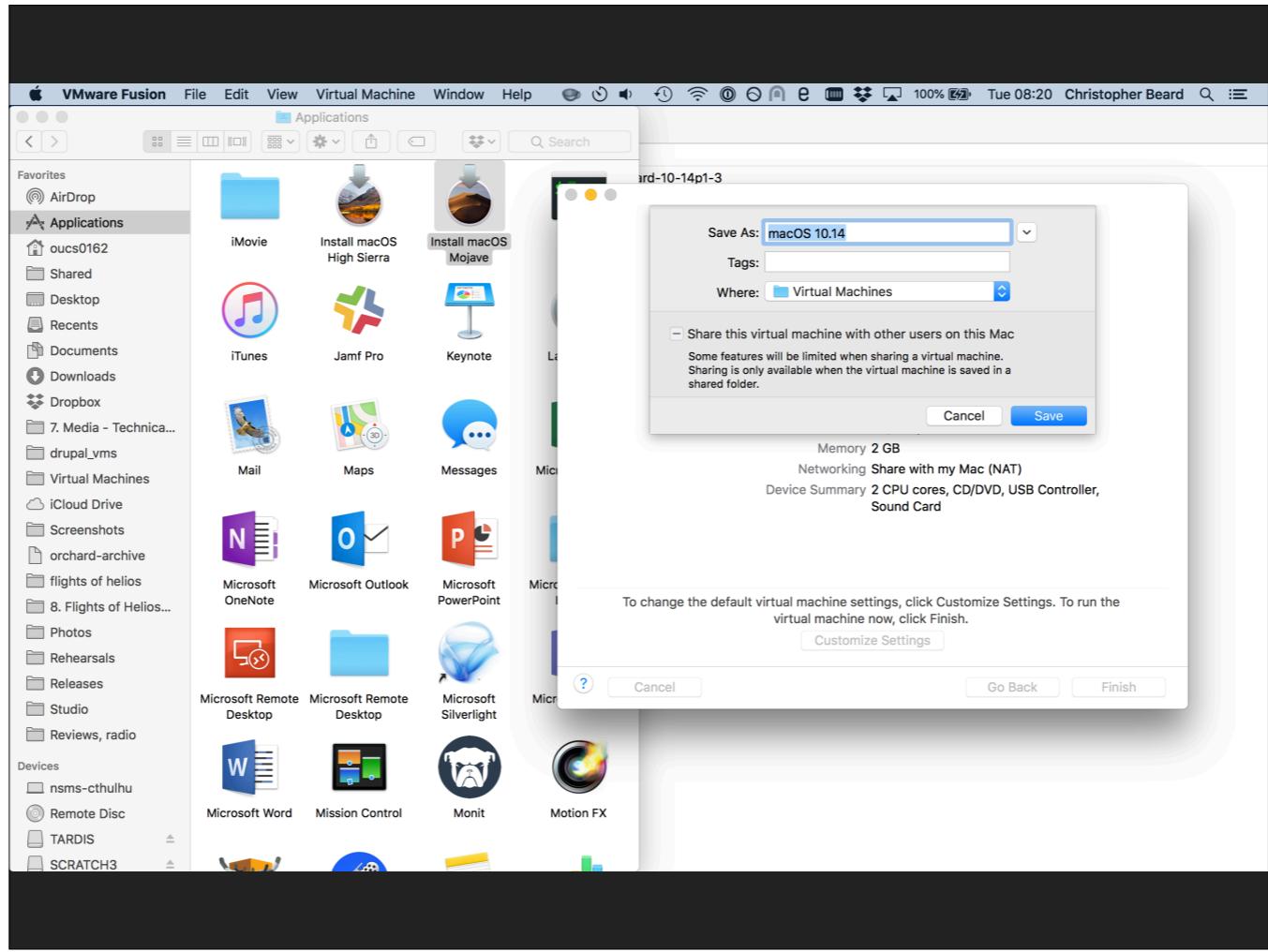
Fusion 11 Pro has additional automation features not required by most users.

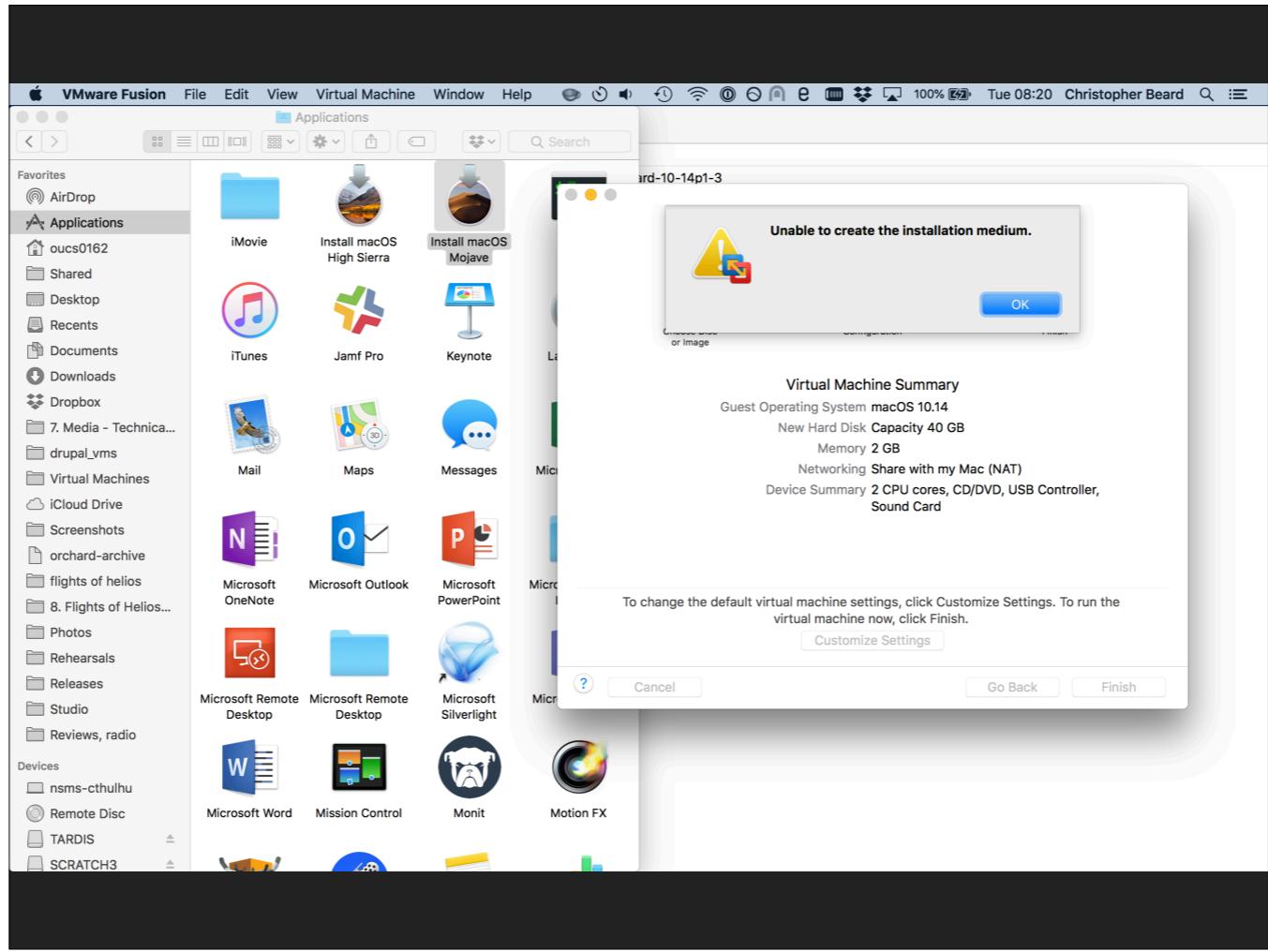


Creating a new VM in Fusion the normal way...

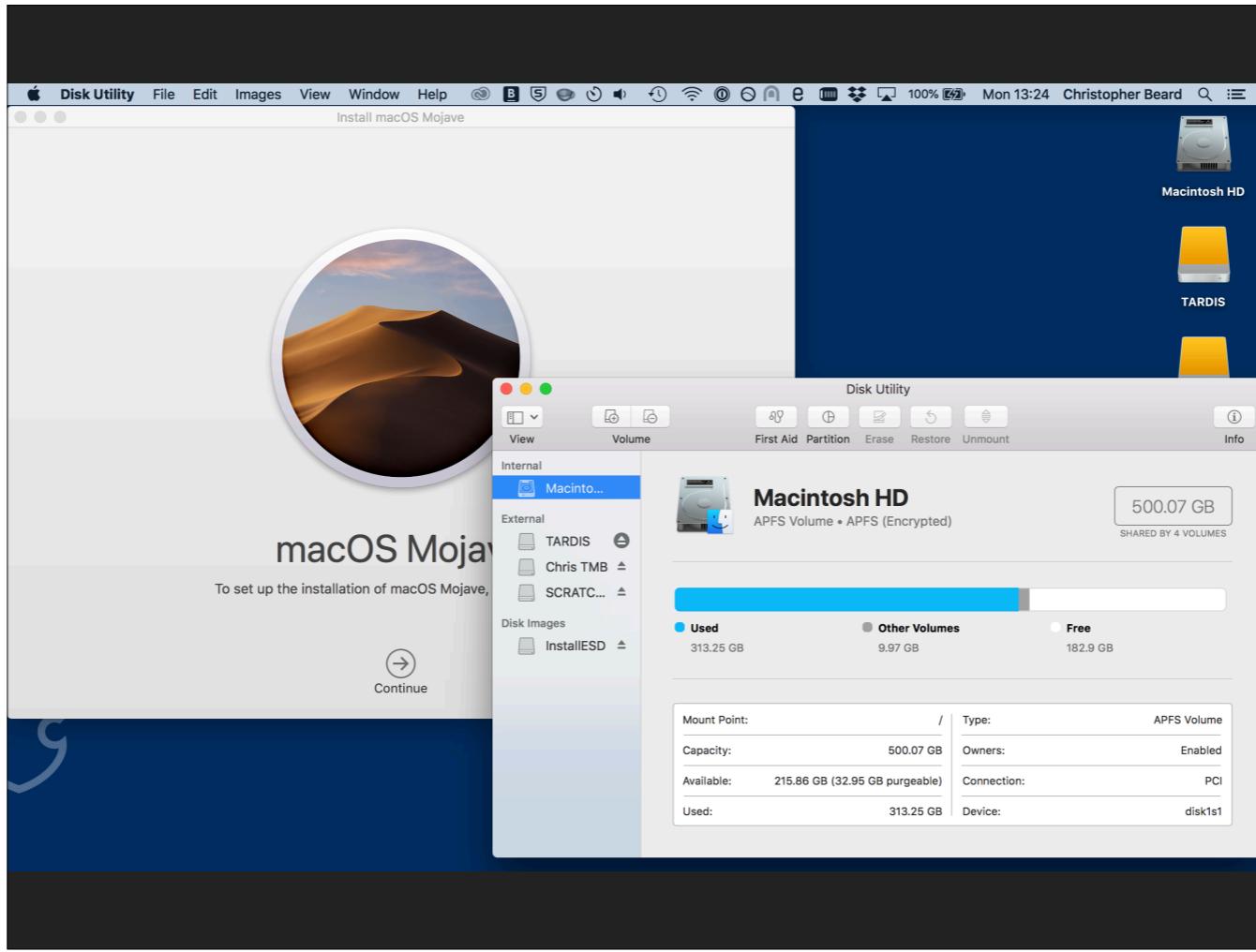




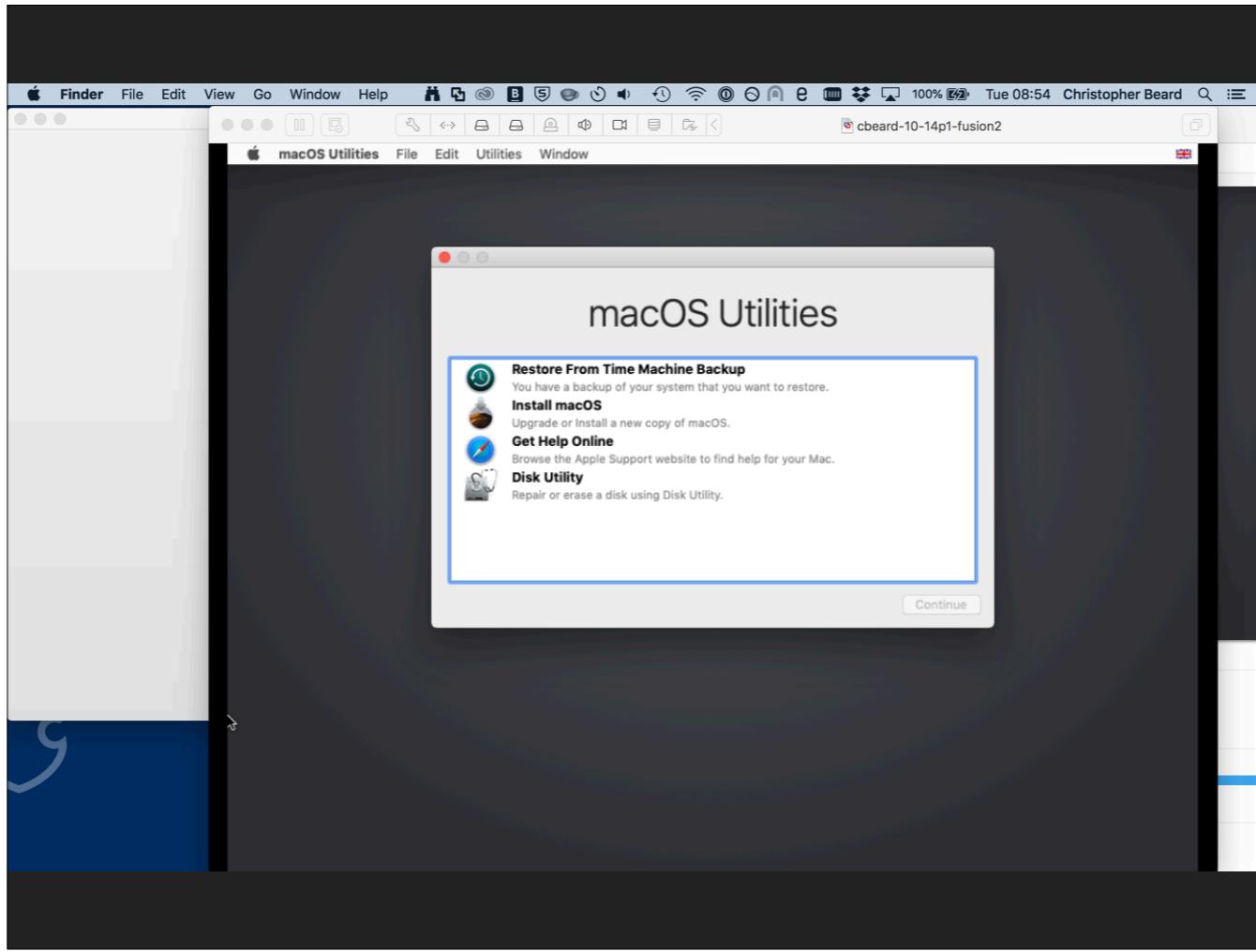




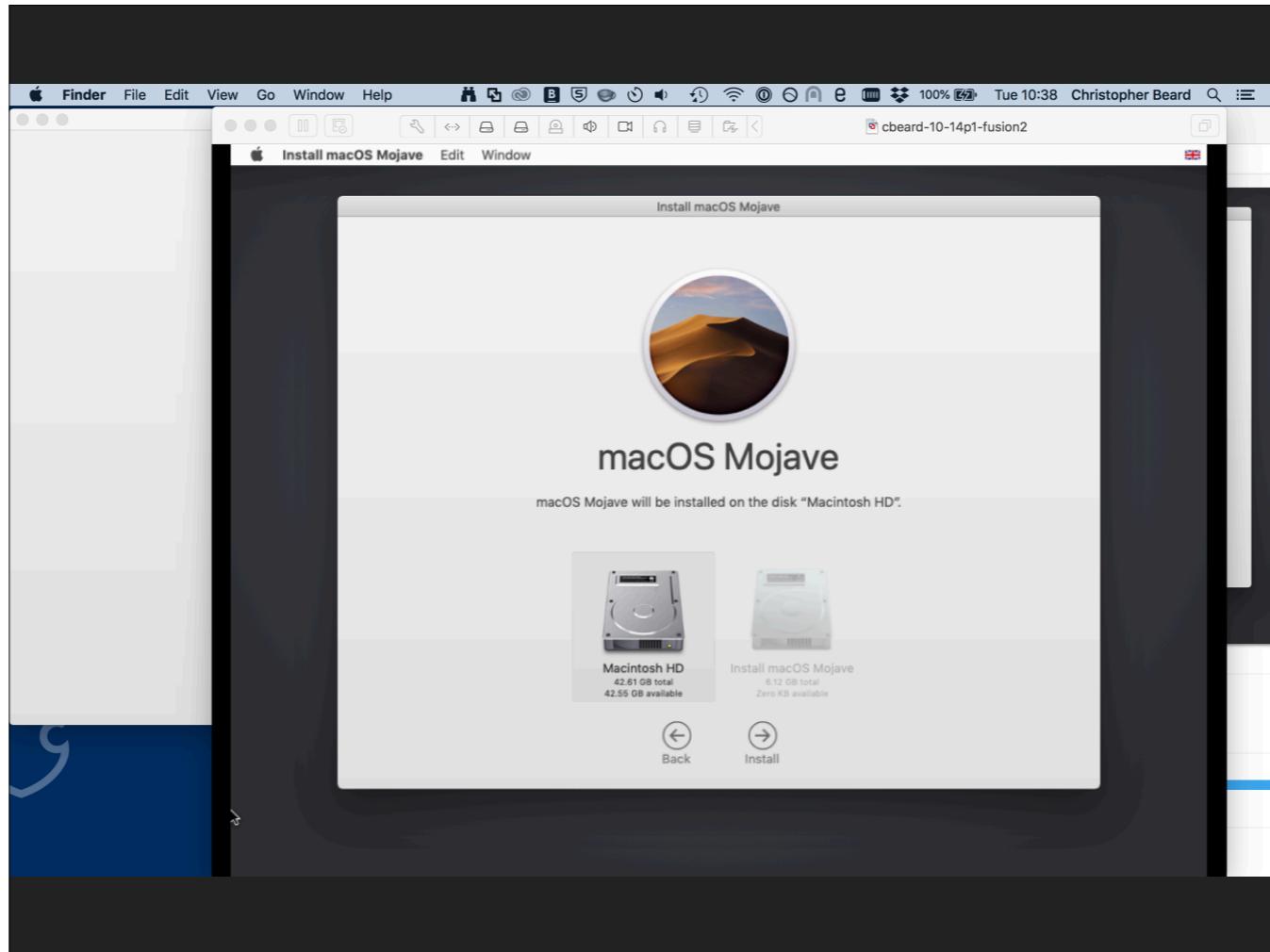
Gotcha 1!

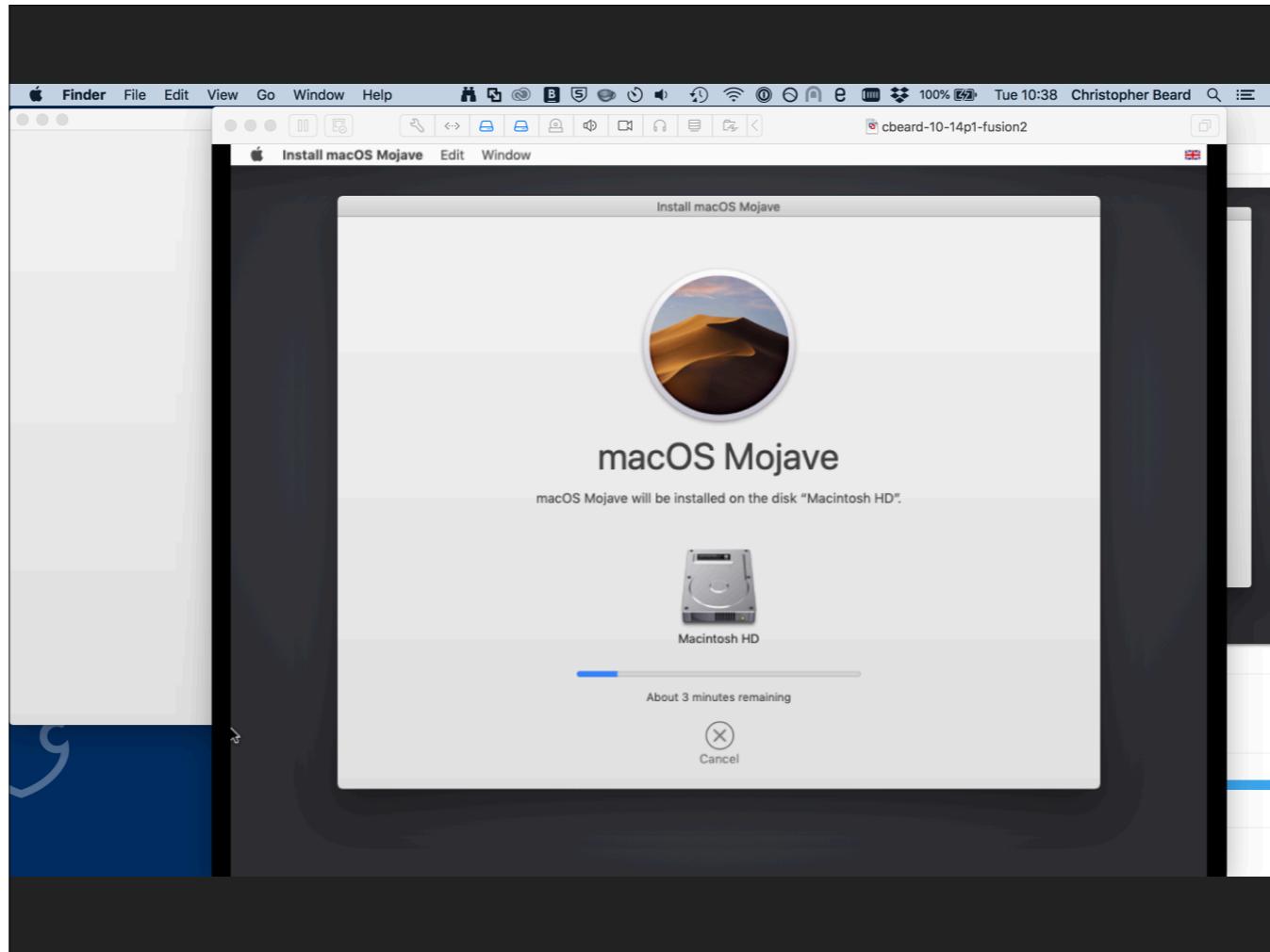


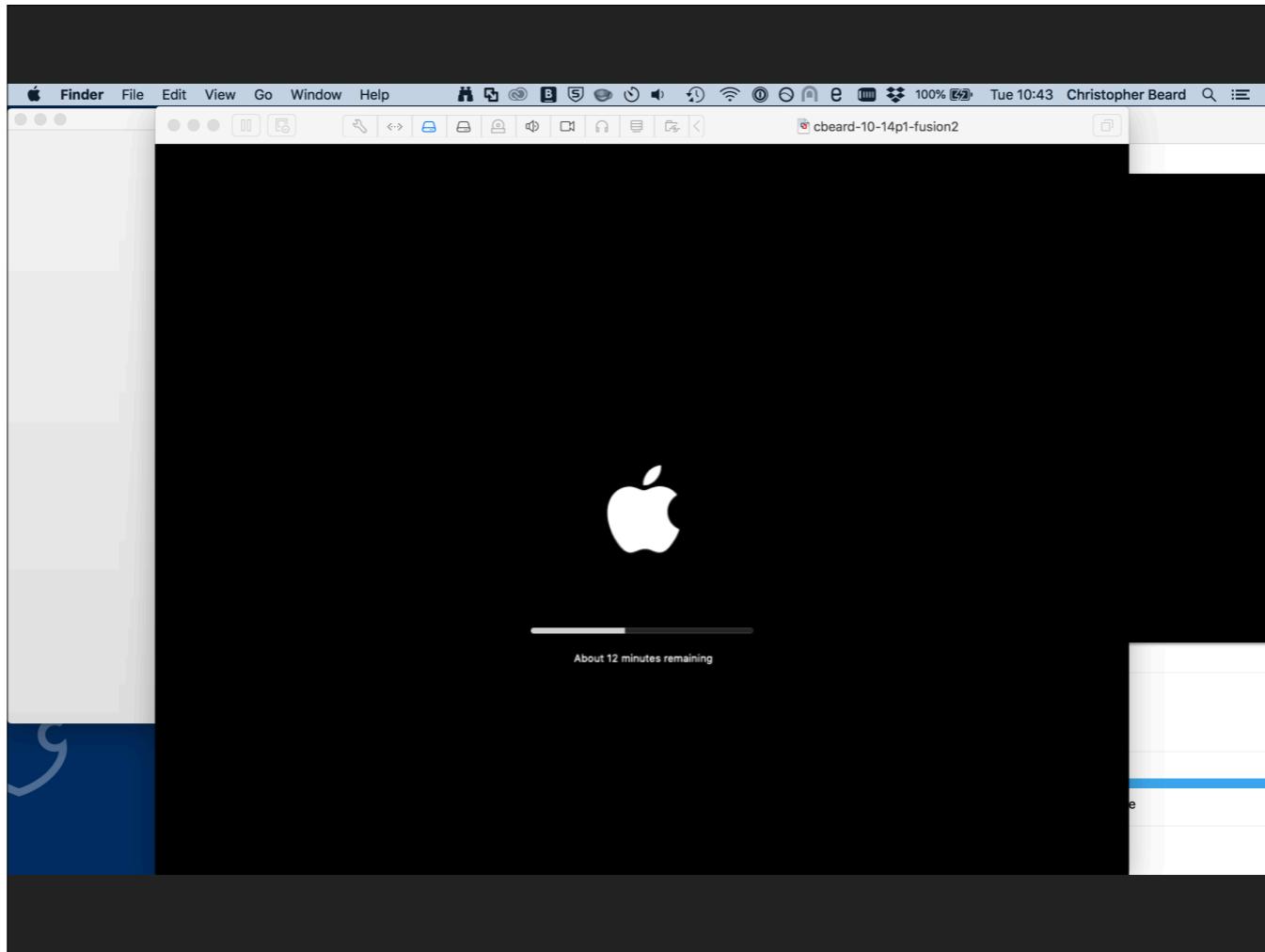
Solution to Gotcha 1: eject InstallESD.dmg

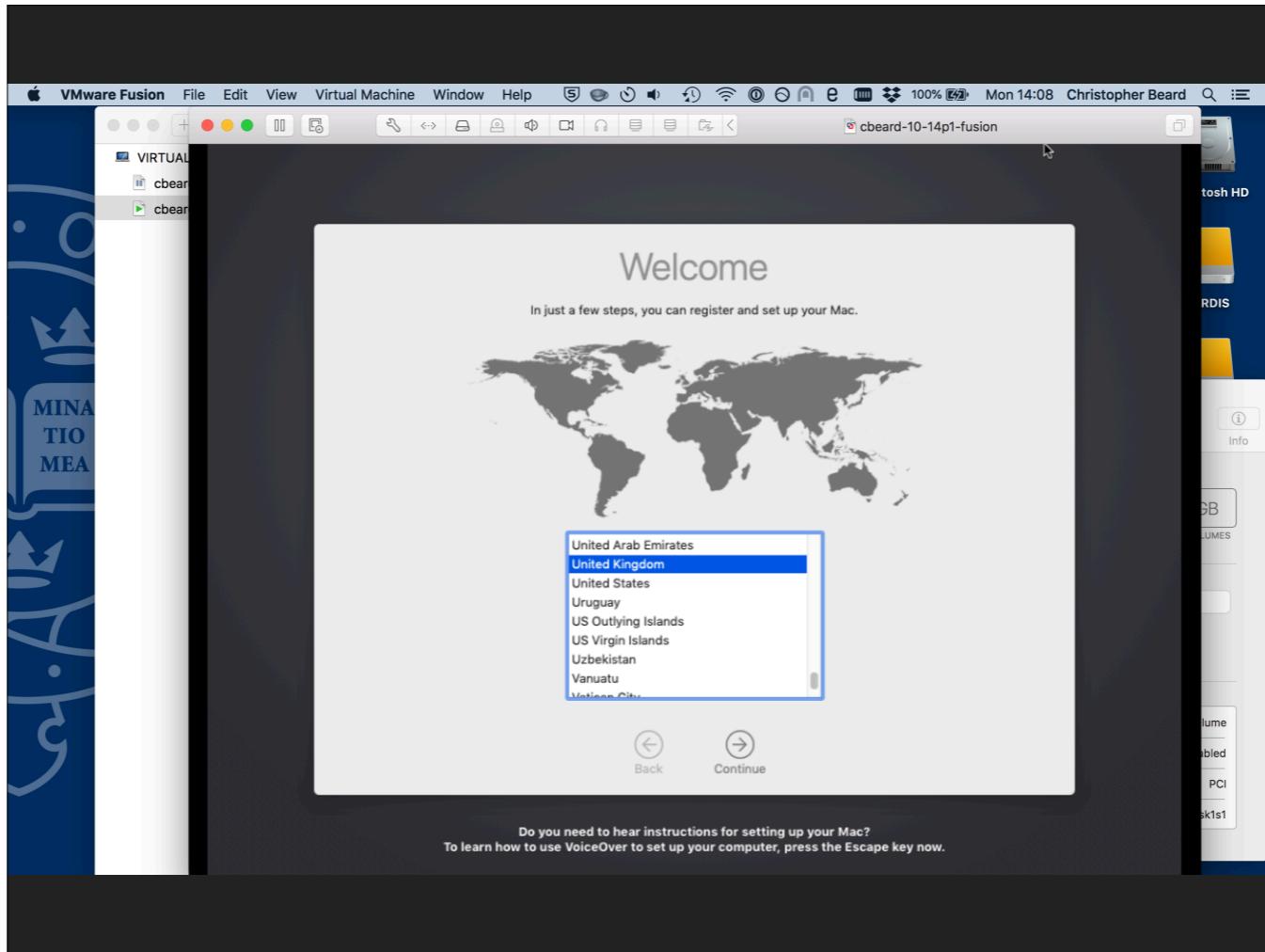


Standard method of building Fusion VM starts at macOS Utilities, meaning you need to do a full install every time then any pending updates. Can be an hour plus.

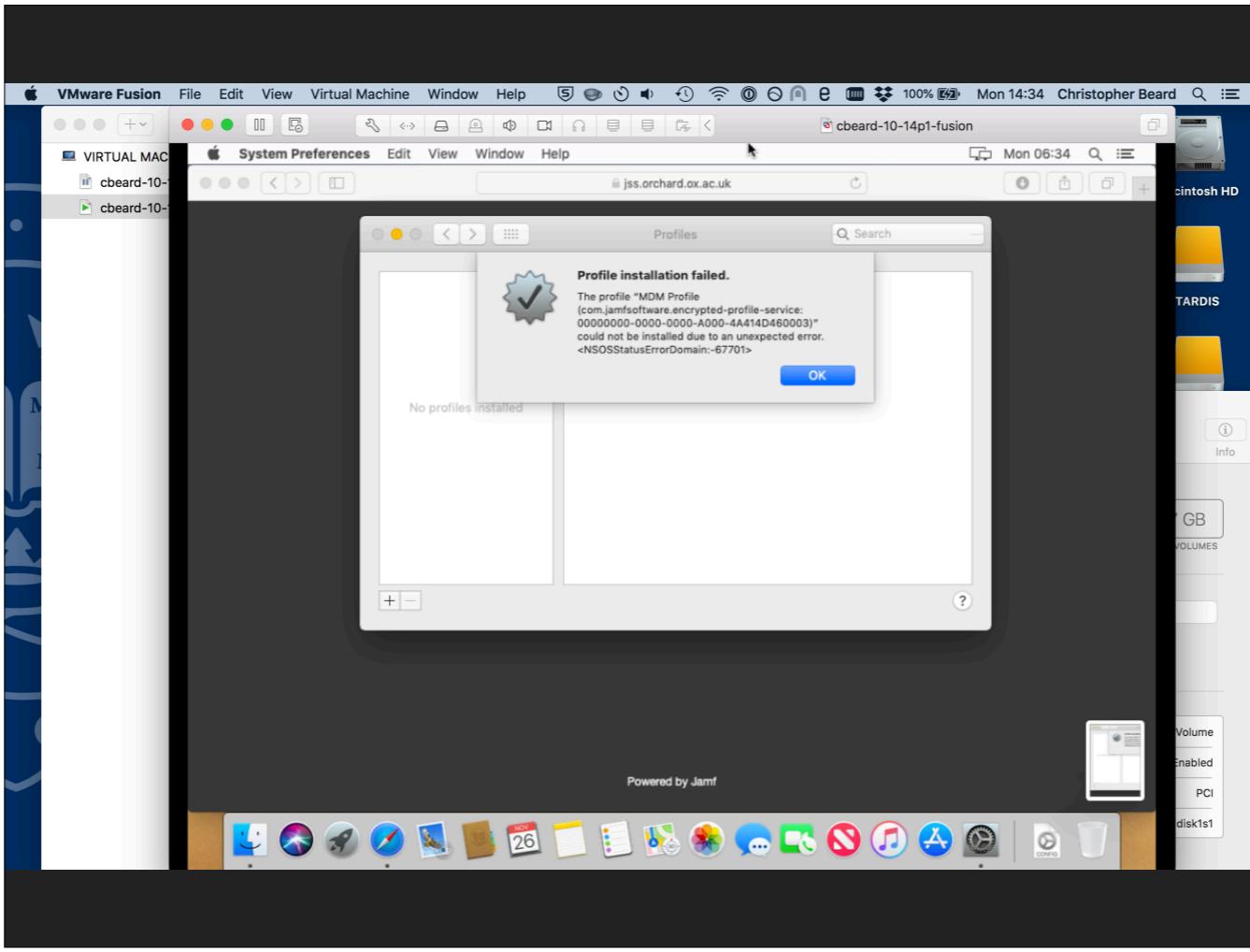




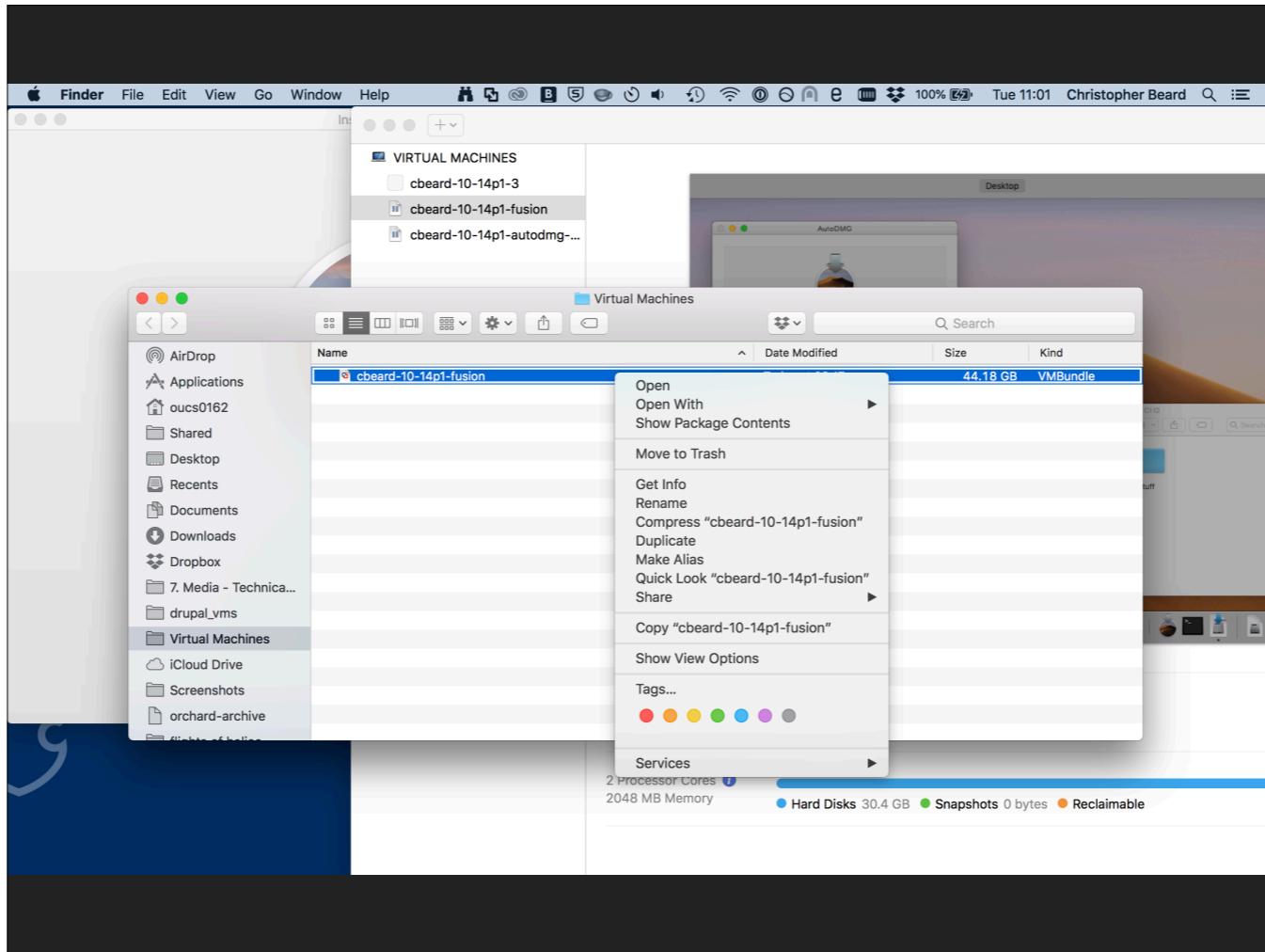




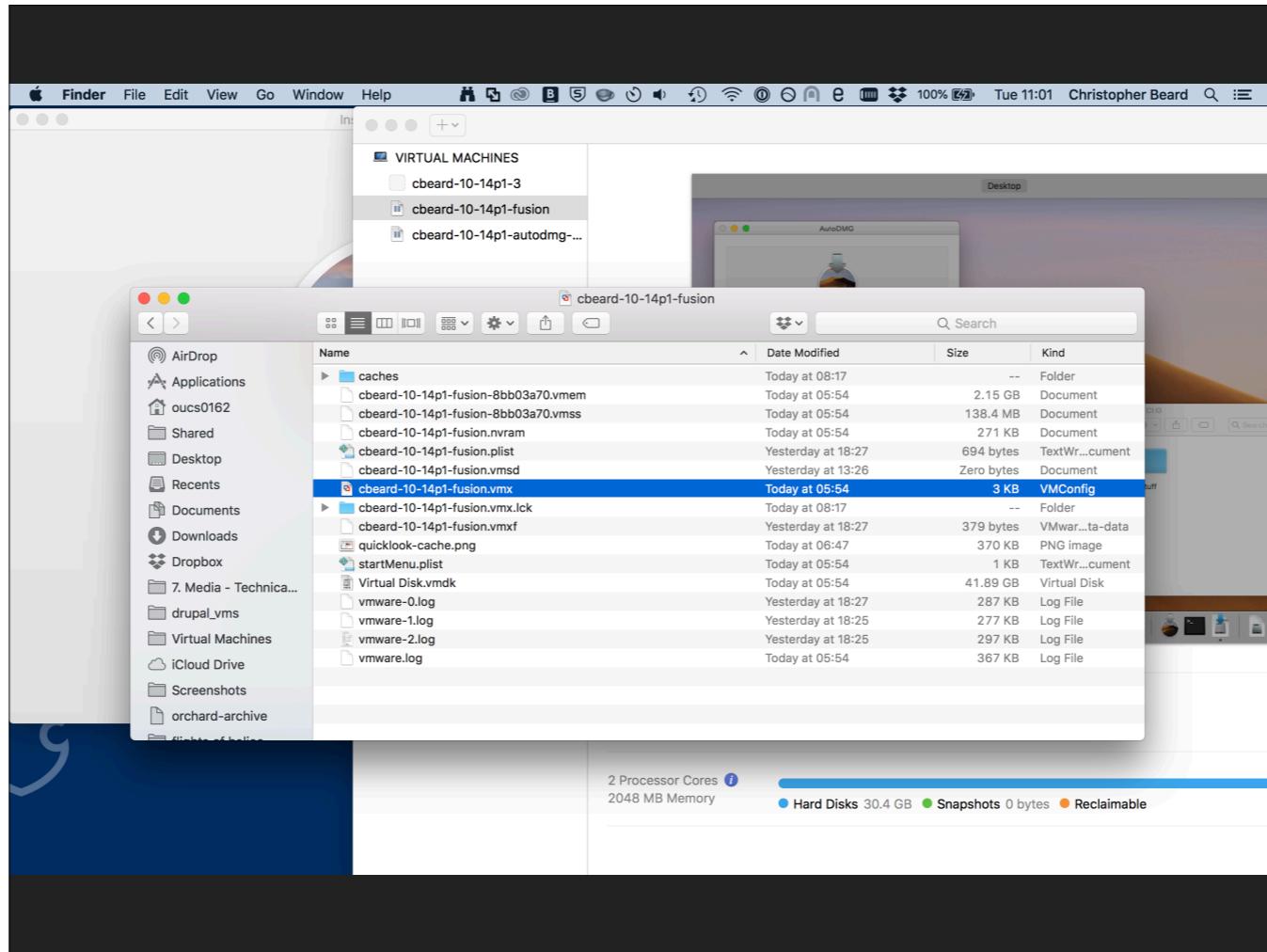
Will result in a generally working Mojave VM. However it's not entirely realistic...



Standard Fusion VM cannot be enrolled into our Orchard management system. What makes it different to hardware?



Looking at the VM files...



<vm-name>.vmx is the main configuration file for the VM.

```

25 hpet0.present = "TRUE"
26 ich7m.present = "TRUE"
27 keyboardAndMouseProfile = "52b7c47b-30be-a7e3-cbcc-28a6c29706b4"
28 memsize = "2048"
29 monitor.phys_bits_used = "43"
30 numa.autosize.cookie = "20012"
31 numa.autosize.vcpu.maxPerVirtualNode = "2"
32 numvcpus = "2"
33 nvram = "cbeard-10-14p1-fusion.nvram"
34 pciBridge0.pciSlotNumber = "17"
35 pciBridge0.present = "TRUE"
36 pciBridge4.functions = "8"
37 pciBridge4.pciSlotNumber = "21"
38 pciBridge4.present = "TRUE"
39 pciBridge4.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
40 pciBridge5.functions = "8"
41 pciBridge5.pciSlotNumber = "22"
42 pciBridge5.present = "TRUE"
43 pciBridge5.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
44 pciBridge6.functions = "8"
45 pciBridge6.pciSlotNumber = "23"
46 pciBridge6.present = "TRUE"
47 pciBridge6.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
48 pciBridge7.functions = "8"
49 pciBridge7.pciSlotNumber = "24"
50 pciBridge7.present = "TRUE"
51 pciBridge7.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
52 powerType.powerOff = "soft"
53 powerType.powerOn = "soft"
54 powerType.reset = "soft"
55 powerType.suspend = "soft"
56 sata0.fileName = "Virtual Disk.vmdk"
57 sata0.present = "TRUE"
58 sata0.redo = ""
59 sata0:1.autodetect = "TRUE"
60 sata0:1.deviceType = "cdrom-raw"
61 sata0:1.fileName = "auto detect"
62 sata0:1.present = "TRUE"
63 sata0:1.startConnected = "FALSE"
64 sata0.pciSlotNumber = "36"
65 sata0.present = "TRUE"
66 smc.present = "TRUE"
67 softPowerOff = "FALSE"
68 sound.autoDetect = "TRUE"
69 sound.fileName = "-1"
70 sound.pciSlotNumber = "33"
71 sound.present = "TRUE"

```

L: 42 C: 28 (none) Unicode (UTF-8) Unix (LF) Saved: 26/11/2018, 14:49:09 3,085 / ... /...

```

22 hpet0.present = "TRUE"
23 hw.model = "MacBookPro15,1"
24 hw.model.reflectHost = "FALSE"
25 ich7m.present = "TRUE"
26 keyboardAndMouseProfile = "macProfile"
27 memsize = "4096"
28 mks.enable3d = "FALSE"
29 monitor.phys_bits_used = "43"
30 msg.autoanswer = "TRUE"
31 numa.autosize.cookie = "20012"
32 numa.autosize.vcpu.maxPerVirtualNode = "2"
33 numvcpus = "2"
34 nvram = "osx-10.14-18A391.apfs.dmg-3.nvram"
35 pciBridge0.pciSlotNumber = "17"
36 pciBridge0.present = "TRUE"
37 pciBridge4.functions = "8"
38 pciBridge4.pciSlotNumber = "21"
39 pciBridge4.present = "TRUE"
40 pciBridge5.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
41 pciBridge6.functions = "8"
42 pciBridge6.pciSlotNumber = "22"
43 pciBridge6.present = "TRUE"
44 pciBridge6.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
45 pciBridge6.functions = "8"
46 pciBridge6.pciSlotNumber = "23"
47 pciBridge6.present = "TRUE"
48 pciBridge6.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
49 pciBridge7.functions = "8"
50 pciBridge7.pciSlotNumber = "24"
51 pciBridge7.present = "TRUE"
52 pciBridge7.virtualDev = "pcieRootPort"
53 sata0.fileName = "osx-10.14-18A391.apfs.dmg-3-000001.vmdk"
54 sata0.present = "TRUE"
55 sata0.redo = ""
56 sata0:1.autodetect = "TRUE"
57 sata0:1.deviceType = "cdrom-raw"
58 sata0:1.present = "TRUE"
59 sata0:1.startConnected = "FALSE"
60 sata0.pciSlotNumber = "35"
61 sata0.present = "TRUE"
62 serialNumber = "VMf4jqp57rin"
63 serialNumber.reflectHost = "FALSE"
64 smbios.reflectHost = "FALSE"
65 smc.present = "TRUE"
66 softPowerOff = "FALSE"
67 tools.syncTime = "TRUE"
68 toolsInstallManager.updateCounter = "12"

```

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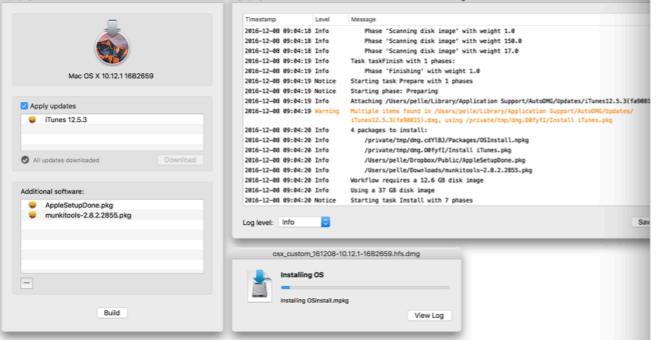
Comparing with a VM built from other means, the standard Fusion built VM (left) is lacking a serial number and model among other keys. Probably why can't enrol into our management system as serial is used to identify devices.

## A BETTER WAY: VMWARE FUSION + AUTODMG + VFUSE

- ▶ AutoDMG by Per Olofsson
  - ▶ Uses macOS installer to create never-booted Macintosh HD inside a disk image (dmg)
- ▶ vfuse by Joseph Chilcote
  - ▶ Takes a never-booted disk image and converts it to a VMware Fusion VM
- ▶ Download the latest release.

## AutoDMG

The award winning AutoDMG takes a macOS installer (10.10 or newer) and builds a system image suitable for deployment with Imagr, DeployStudio, LANrev, Jamf Pro, and other asr-based imaging tools.



**Documentation**

Documentation and help is in the [AutoDMG wiki](#).

**Presentation**

For a great overview of modular imaging and a demonstration of some of AutoDMG's features, watch Anthony F presentation from Penn State MacAdmins 2014:



## vfuse

This script takes a never-booted DMG and converts it to a VMware Fusion VM.

The germ of this idea came about, as all good ideas, and germs, do: while drinking beer. Specifically, I was to back drinks and tossing around ideas with [Gilbert Wilson](#), and he mentioned that he uses the VMware CLI to convert DMGs to VMDKs based on a [blog post](#) he'd read. Intrigued, I asked Gil to email me the specifics. After how potentially cool this was, I wrapped it up in this here terribly illegible, queasingly unpythonic script.

Note: VMware Fusion 11 was released in September, and there is currently a bug in the binaries that vfuse to create the VM. Please see this [wiki note for more details](#).

**Requirements**

- VMware Fusion 10.x Professional or above
- OS X 10.13.6+
- A never-booted image created with [AutoDMG](#).
- (optional) [Packer](#) 1.1.1 (or above) for building a vagrant box.
- (optional) [qemu-img](#)

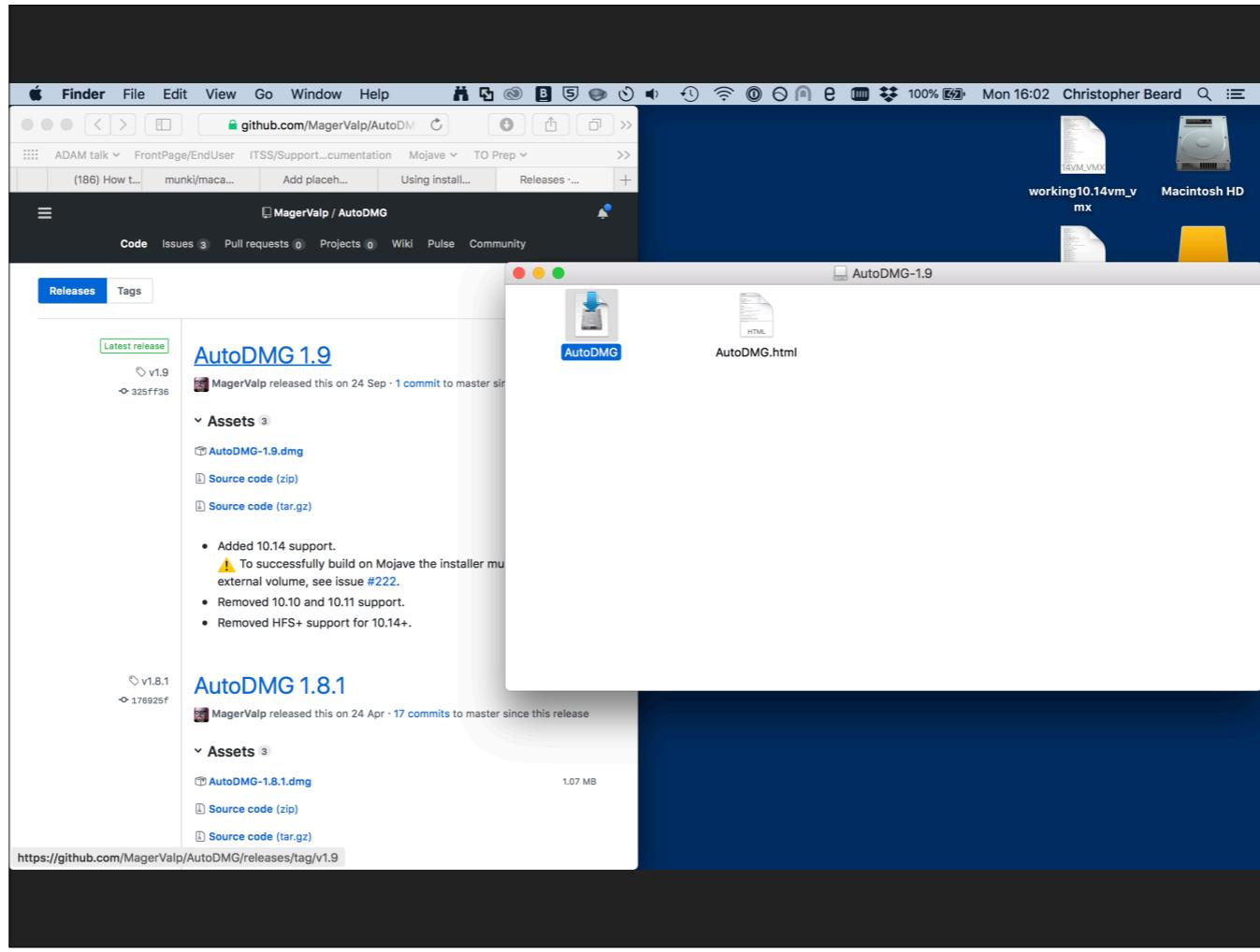
**Usage**

```
usage: vfuse [-h] [--version] [-i INPUT] [-o OUTPUT] [-n NAME] [-w HW_VERSION]
              [-m MEM_SIZE] [-s [SERIAL]] [-t TEMPLATE] [-e] [-p PACKER] [-d D]
              [-hw-model HW_MODEL] [-start [START]] [-stop STOP]
              [-reset RESET] [-use-qemu] [-recovery] [-snapshot]
              [-snapshot-name SNAPSHOT_NAME] [-c CHECKSUM] [--list-templates]
              [--list-cache] [--clear-cache]
```

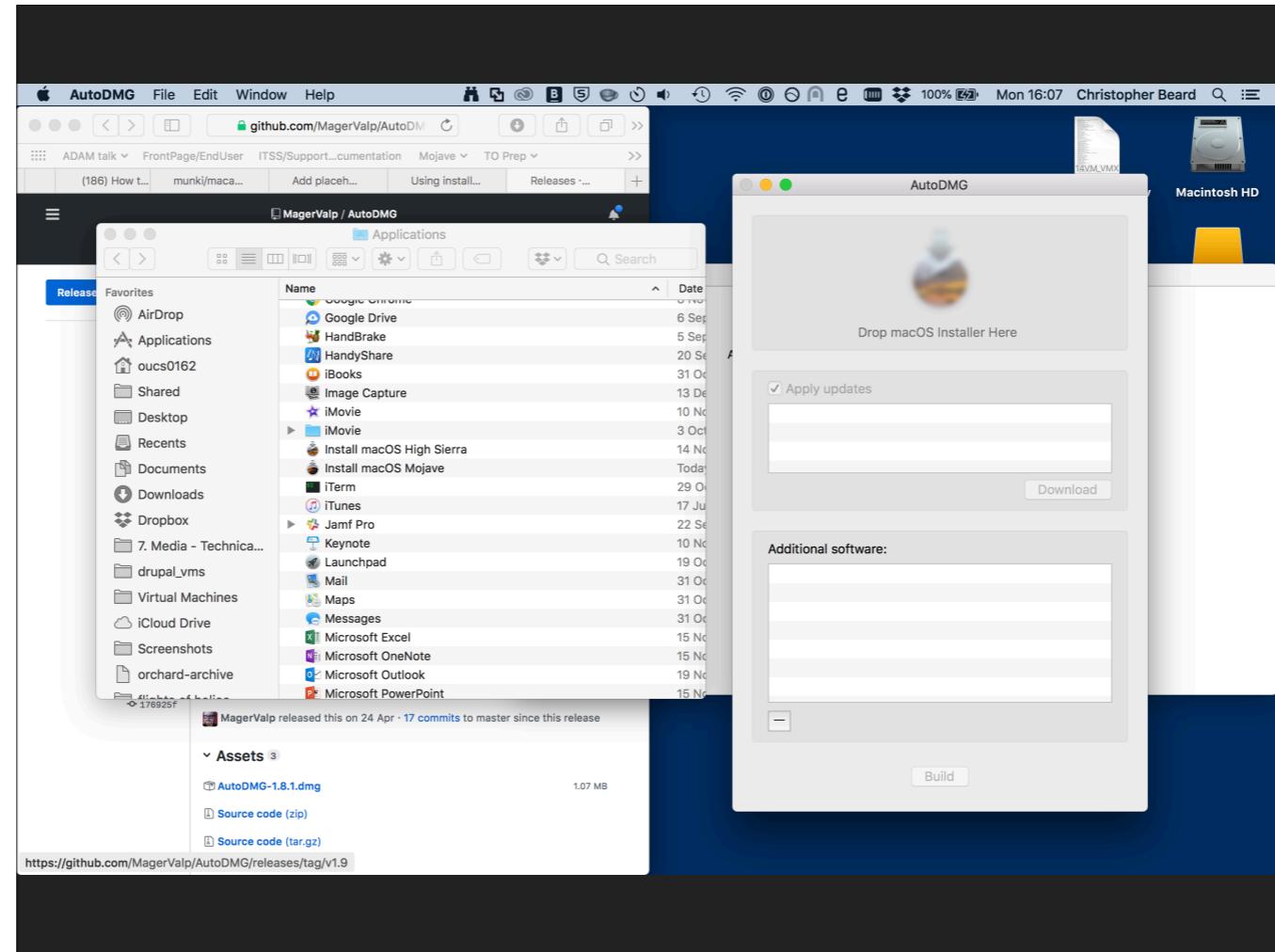
Create and monitor VM from source DMG.

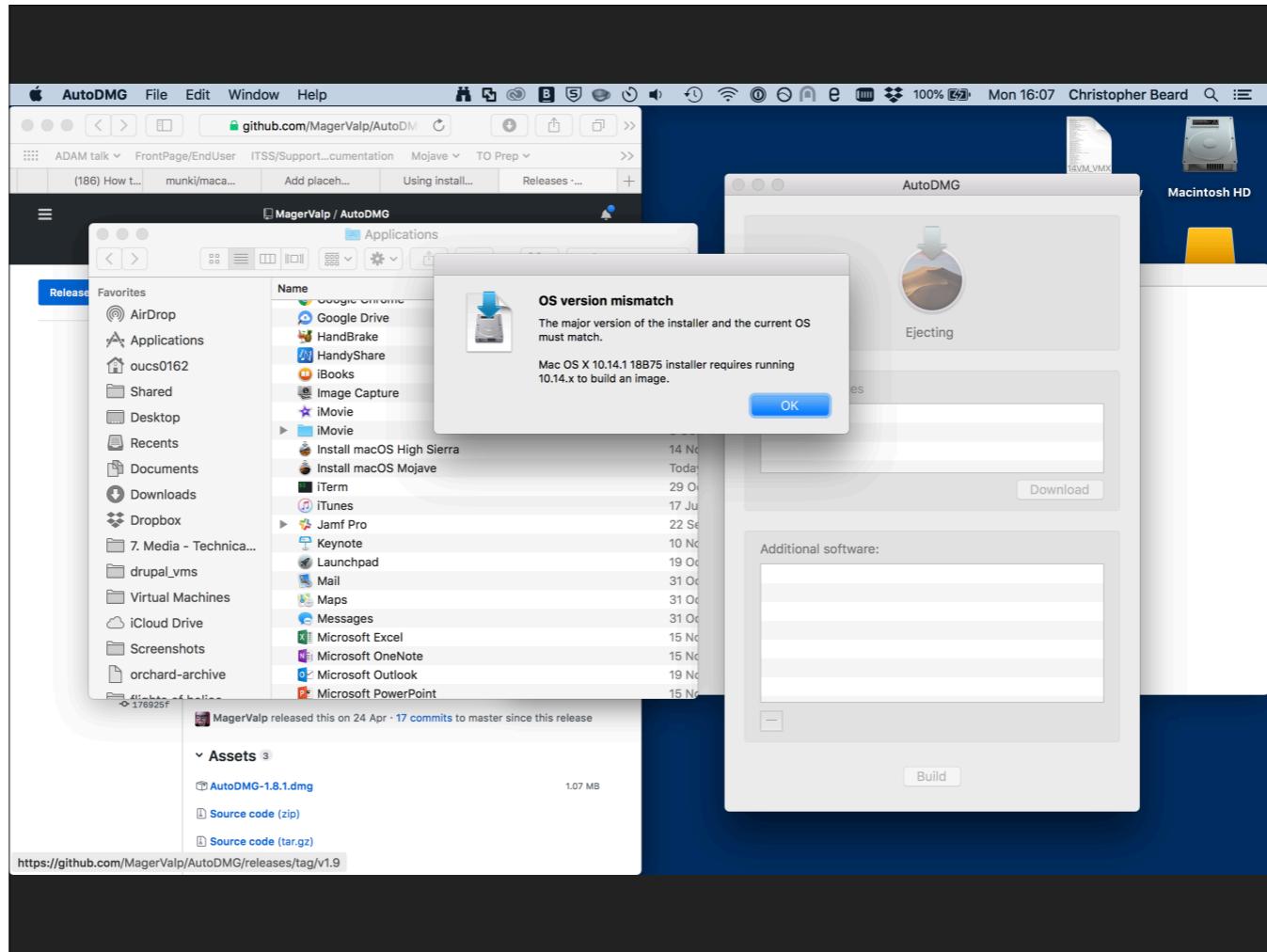
optional arguments:

-h, --help	show this help message and exit
--version	show the version number
-i INPUT, --input INPUT	/path/to/dmg
-o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT	/path/to/output/dir
-n NAME, --name NAME	Use a custom name
-w HW_VERSION, --hw-version HW_VERSION	VMware hardware version



Can run AutoDMG from its Disk Image.

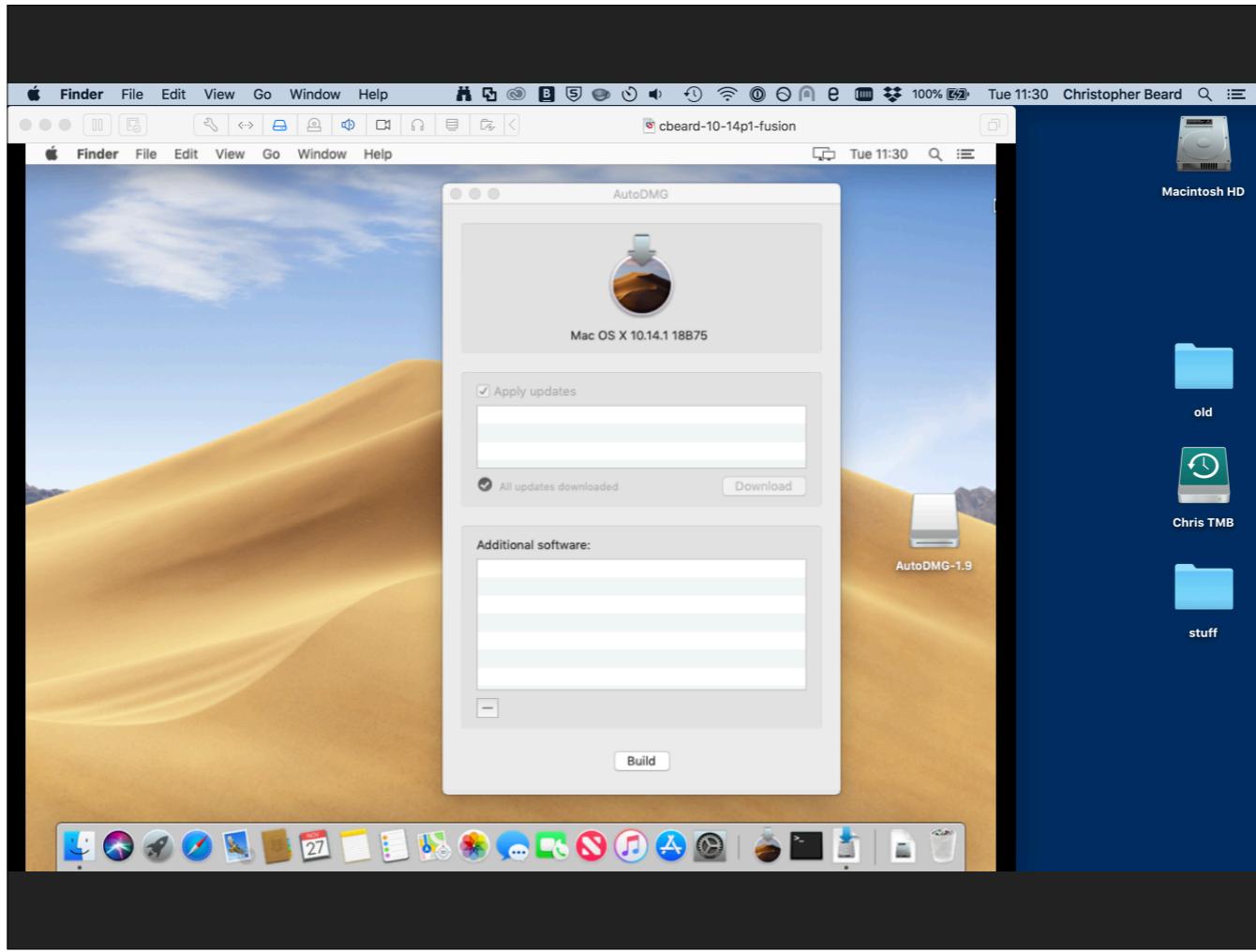


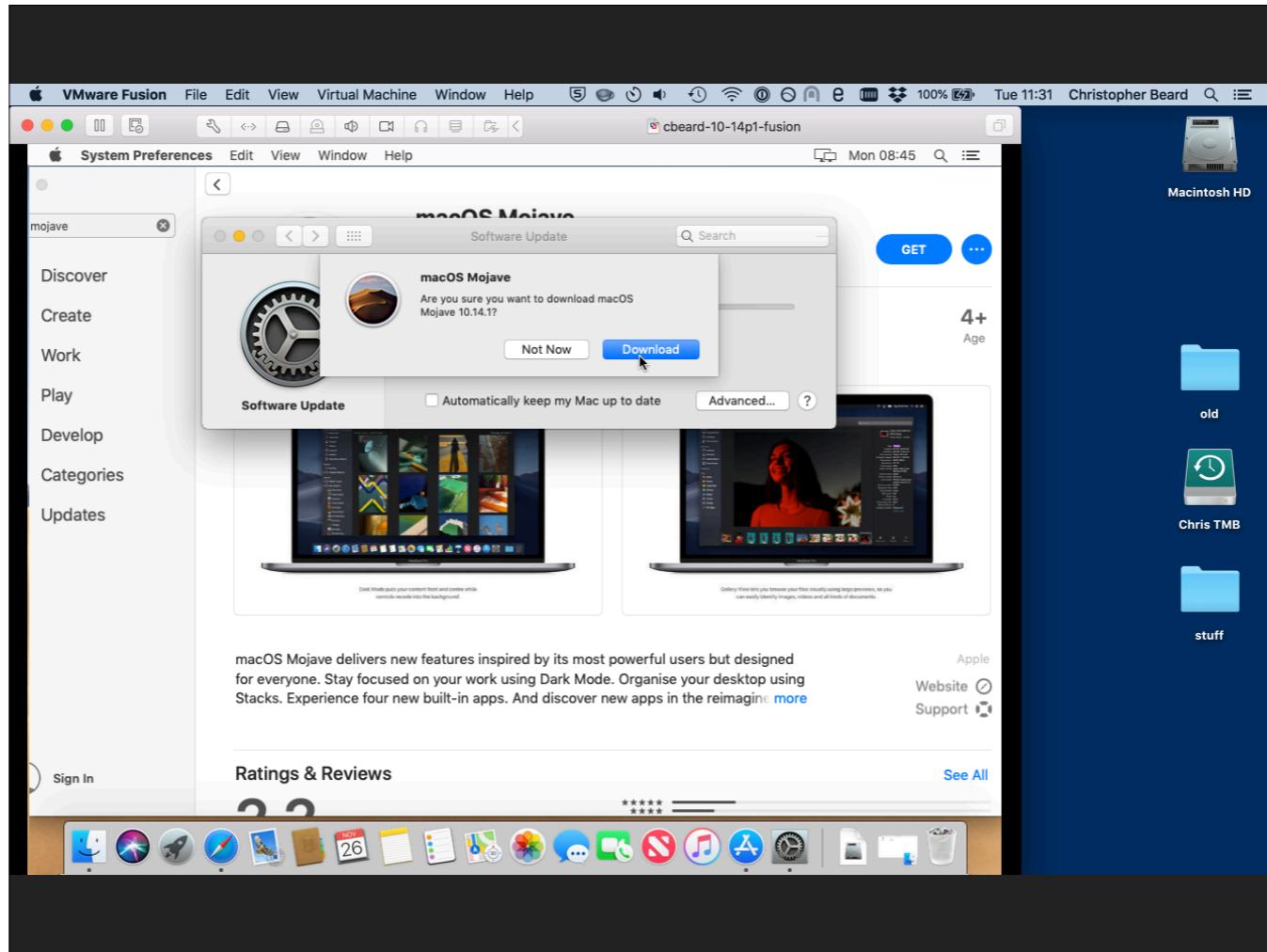


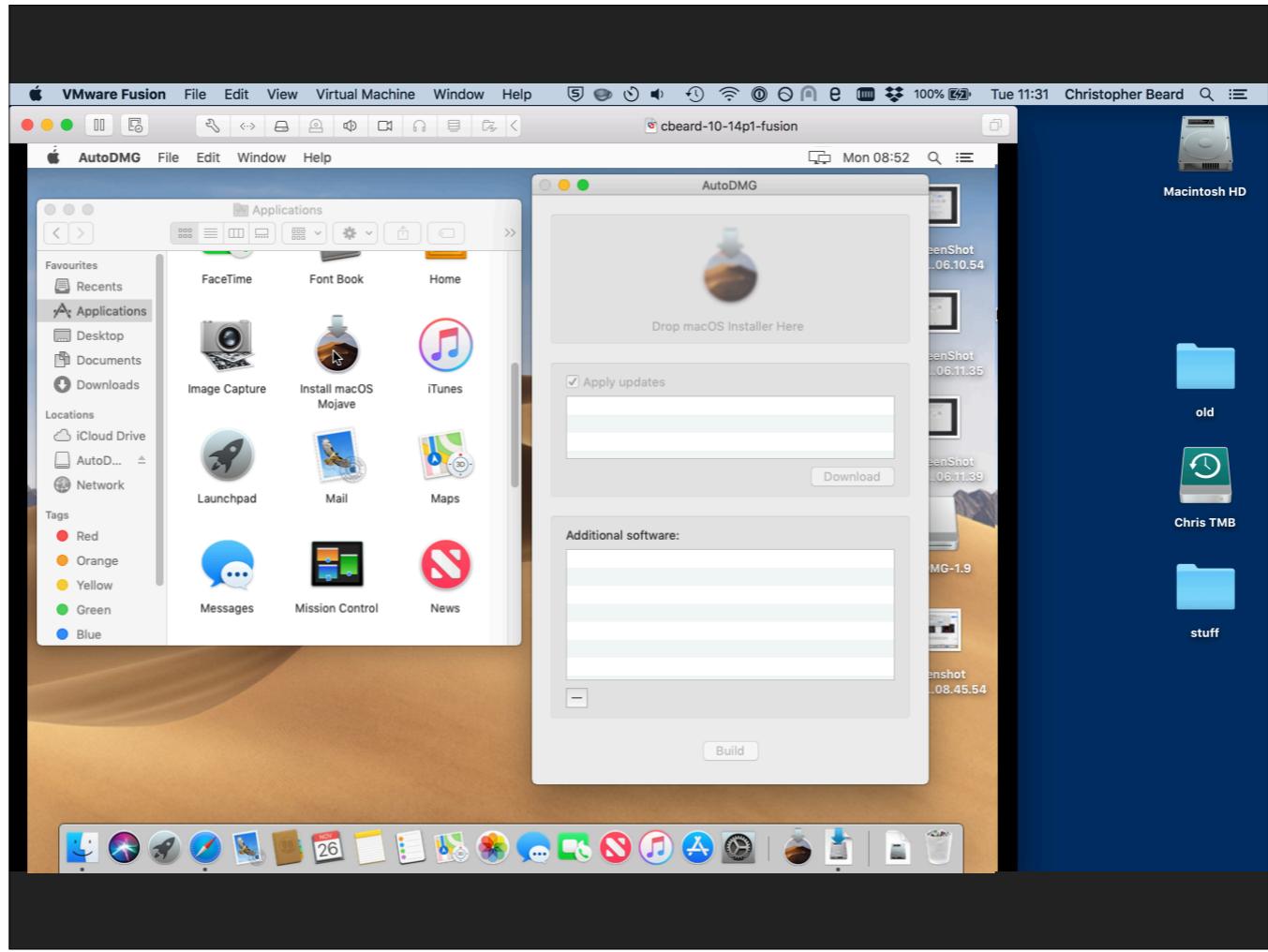
Gotcha 2: can't run a 10.14 macOS installer on a 10.13 Mac to create a never booted disk image. It makes calls to system components (installer framework) only present in 10.14. So we need a 10.14 system to run AutoDMG on here.

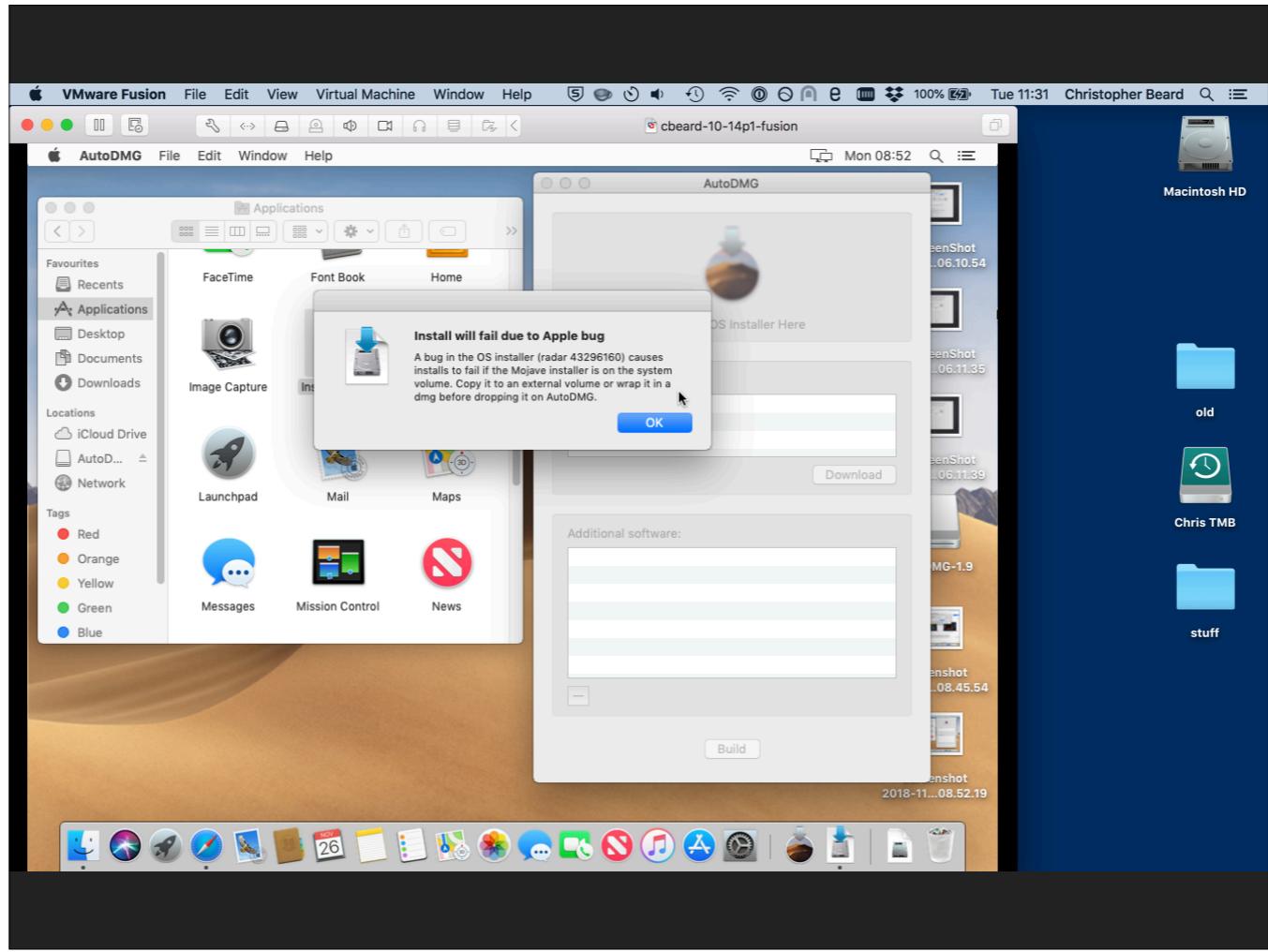


Using the standard Fusion VM we just built. If you have a physical box you can use, best to switch to this instead.

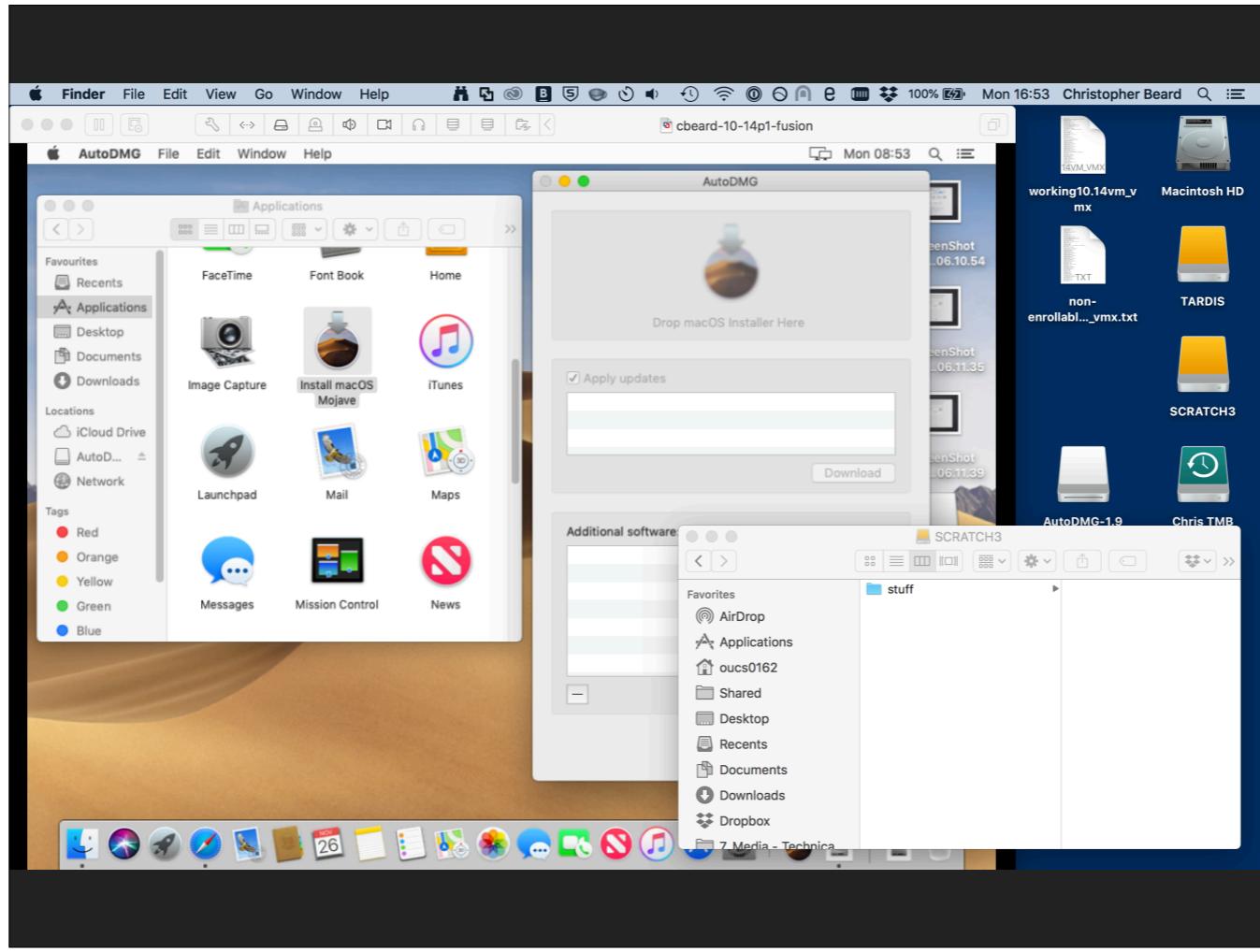




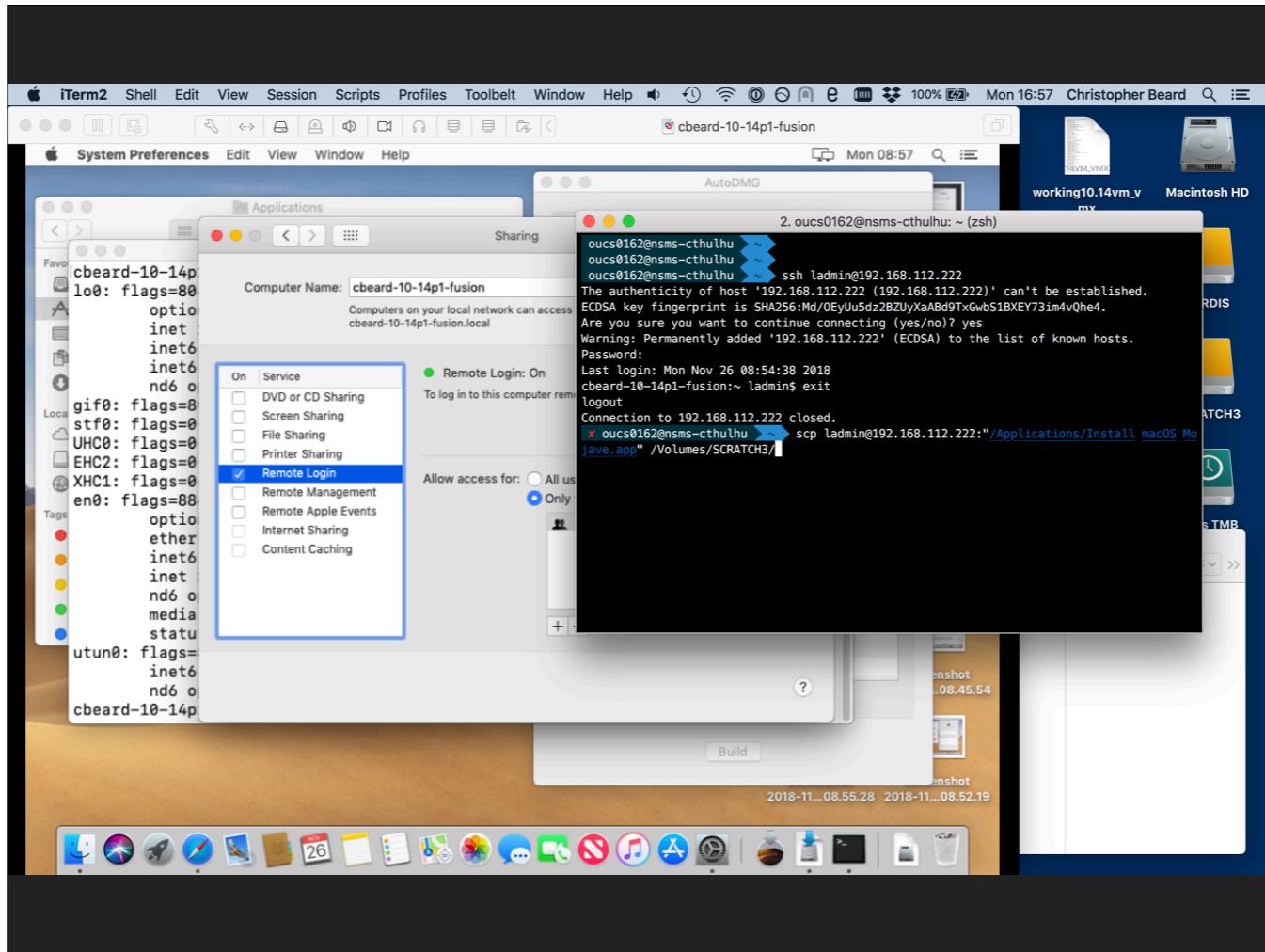




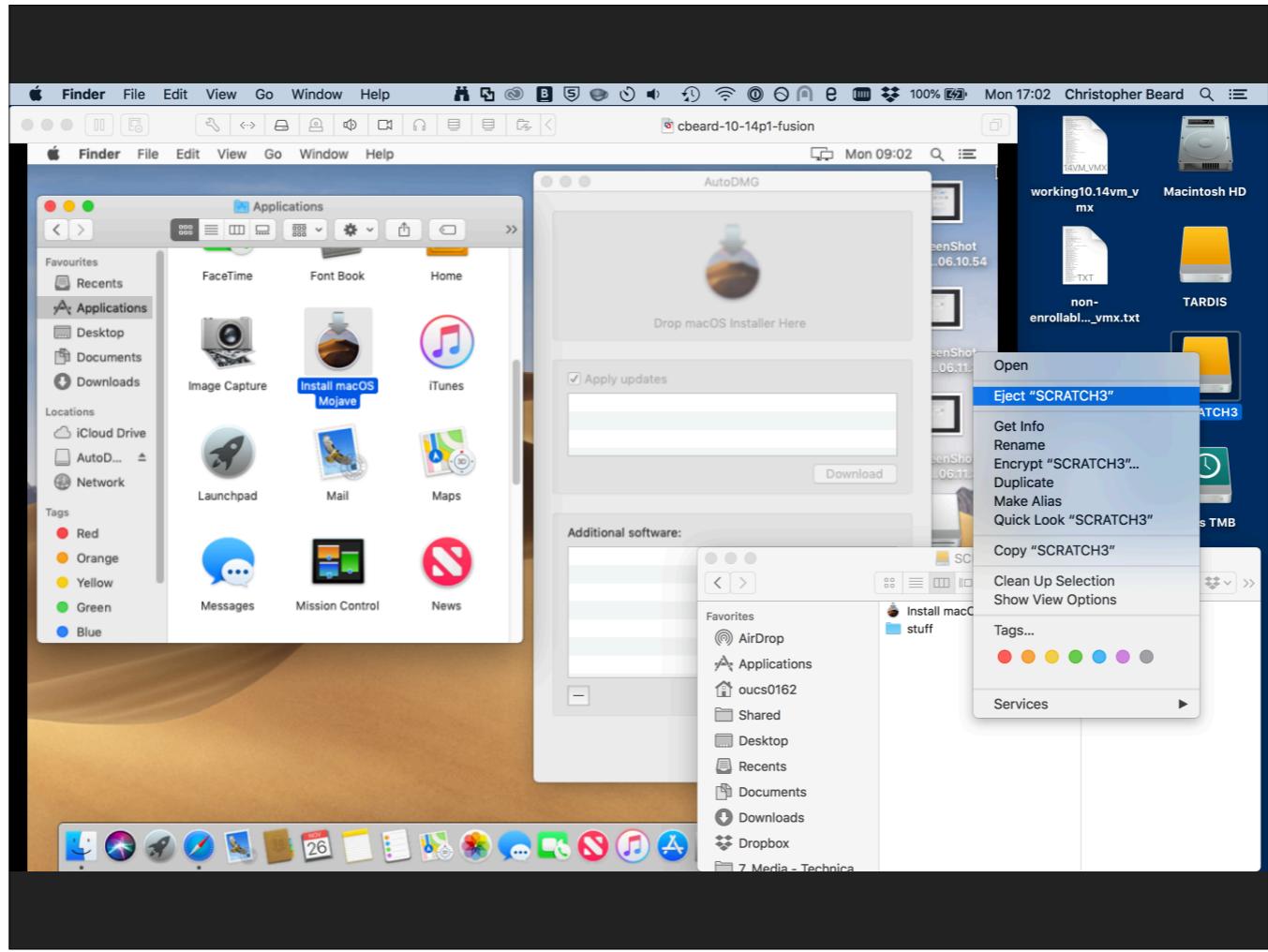
Gotcha 3: For 10.14 installers we have to move the 'Install macOS Mojave.app' to an external volume or wrap it in a disk image. For the latter could use `installinstallmacos.py` script to generate a pre-wrapped app (see links).

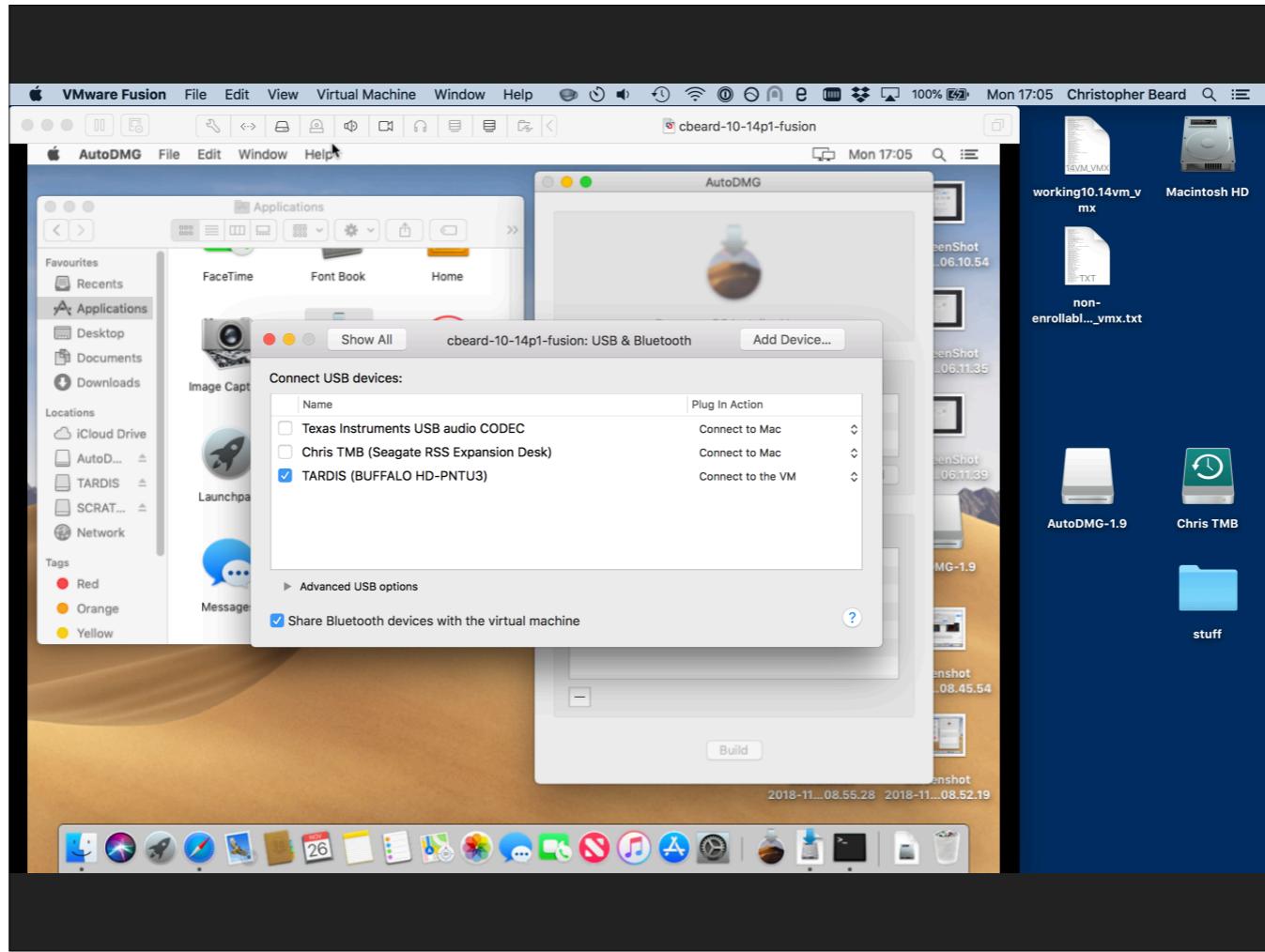


Scratch3 is my external volume

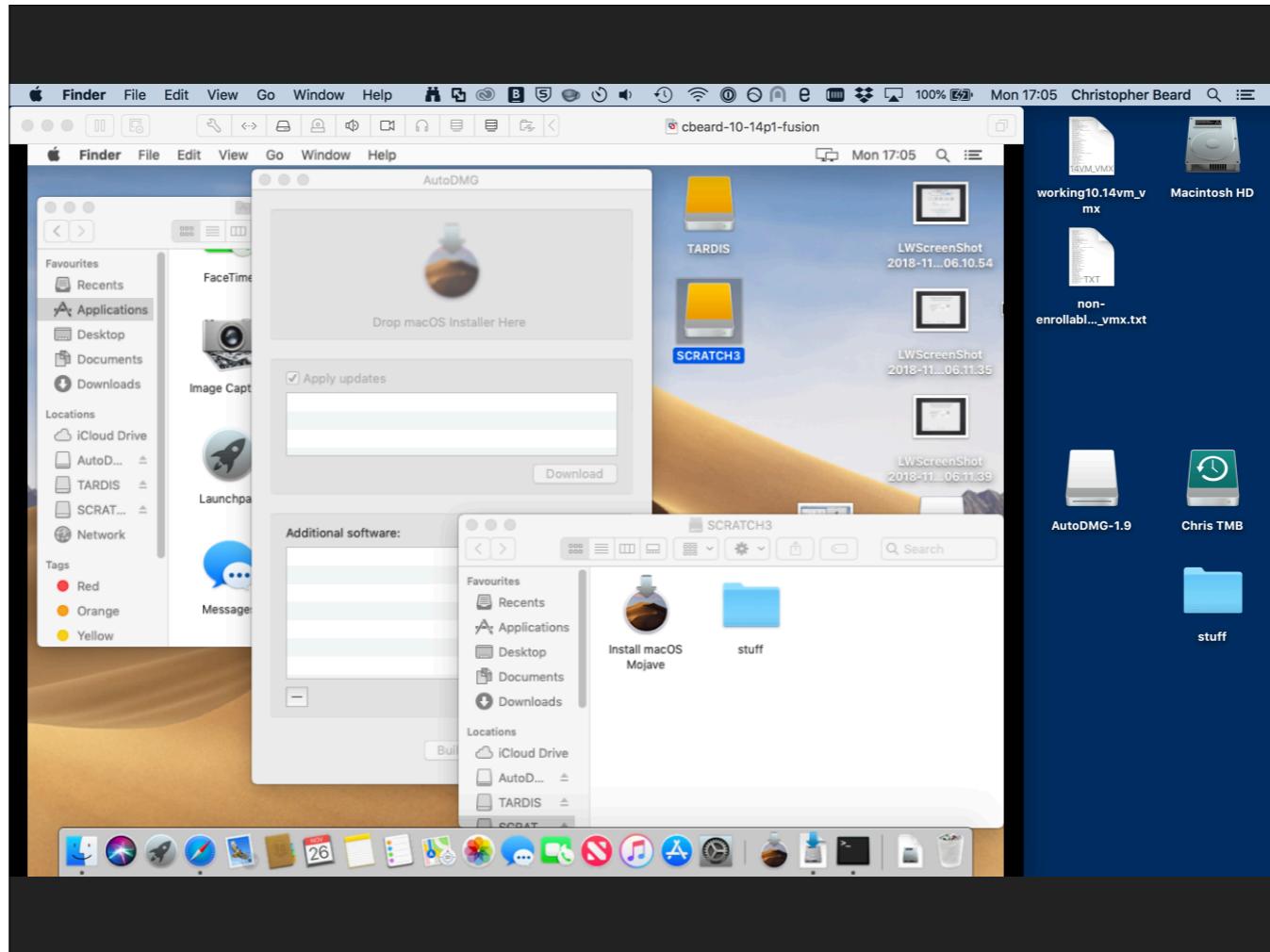


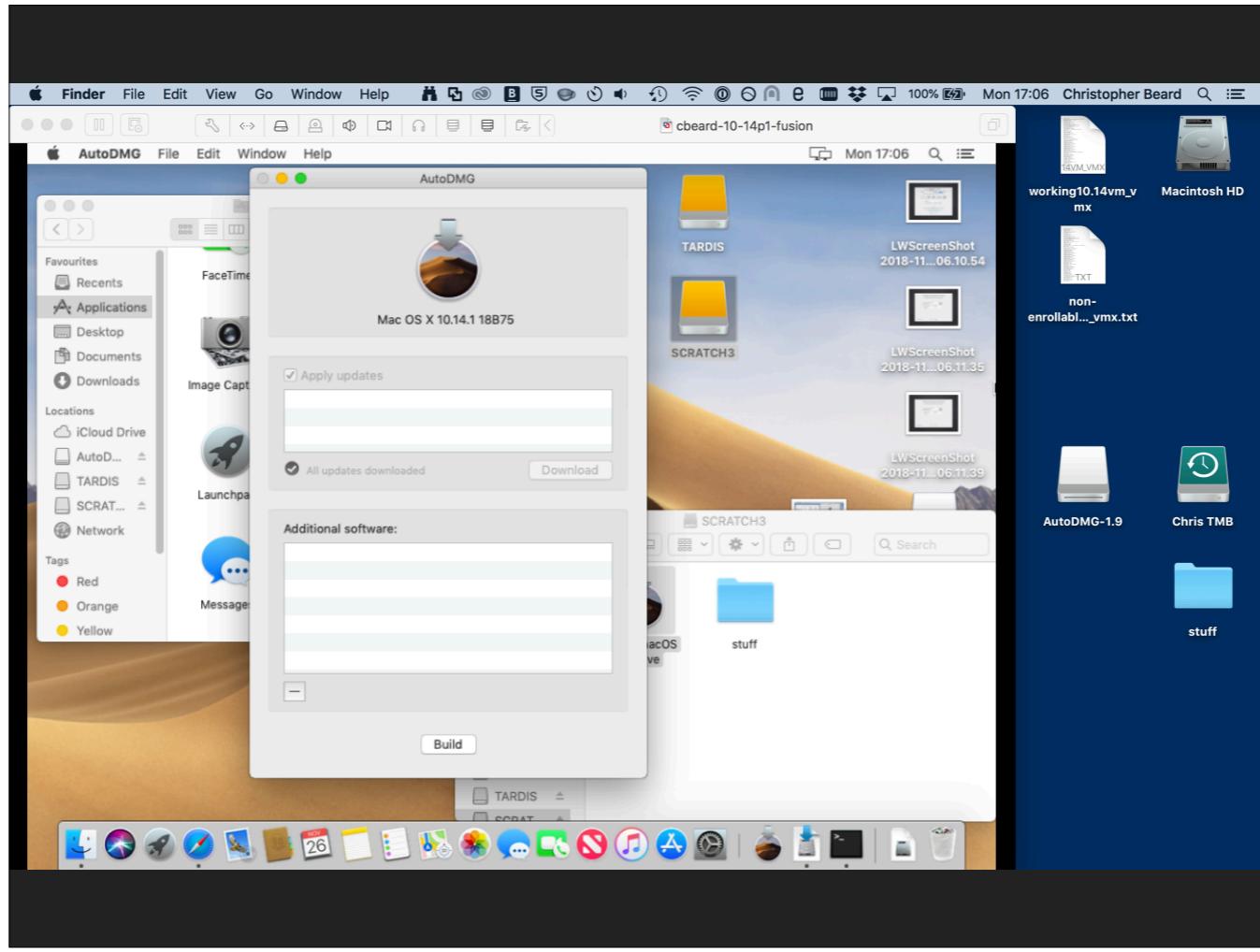
Copying the Mojave installer to my external disk using ssh. I could have just attached the volume to the VM instead to do the copy.





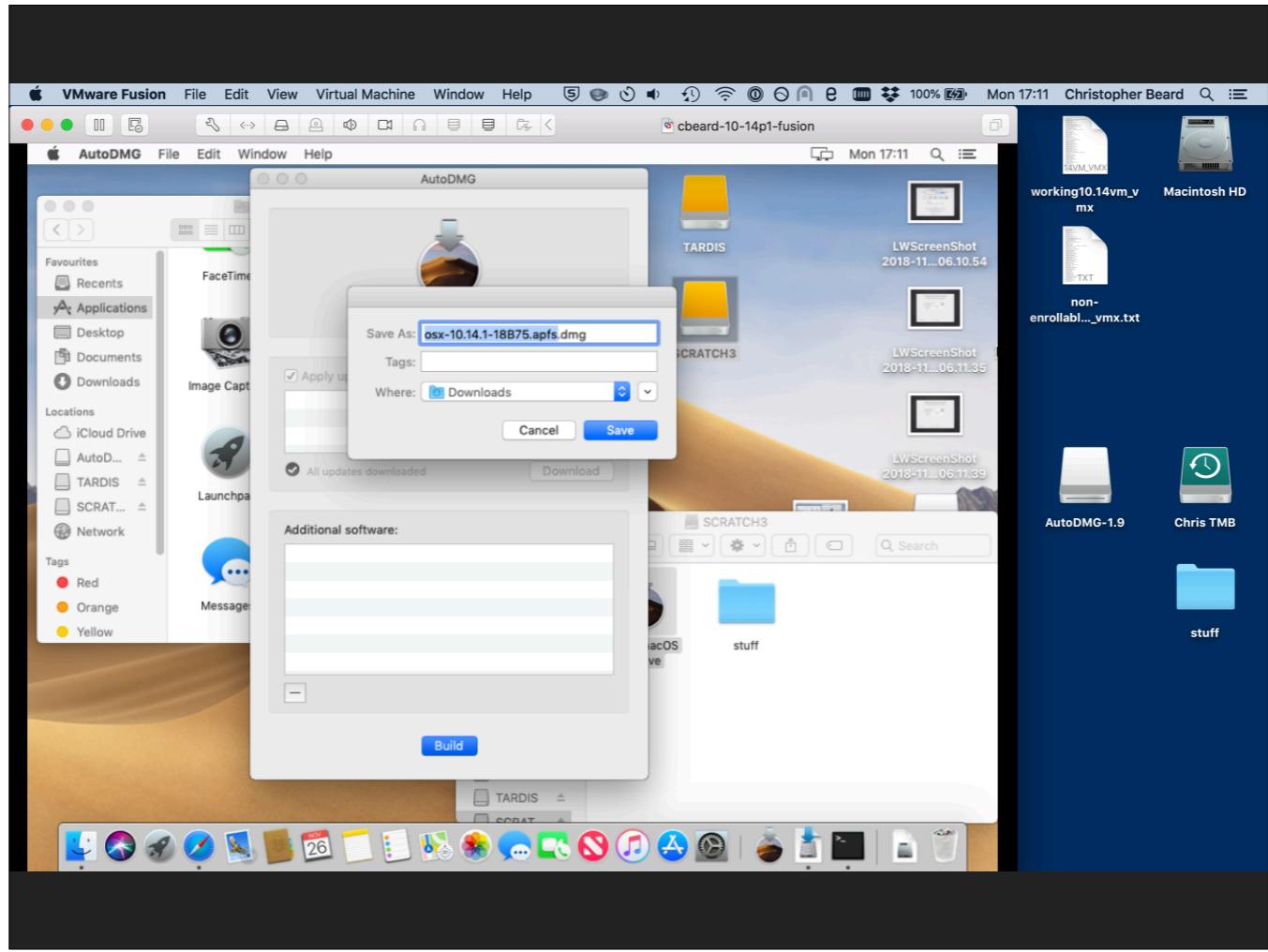
Attaching my external drive to the VM.

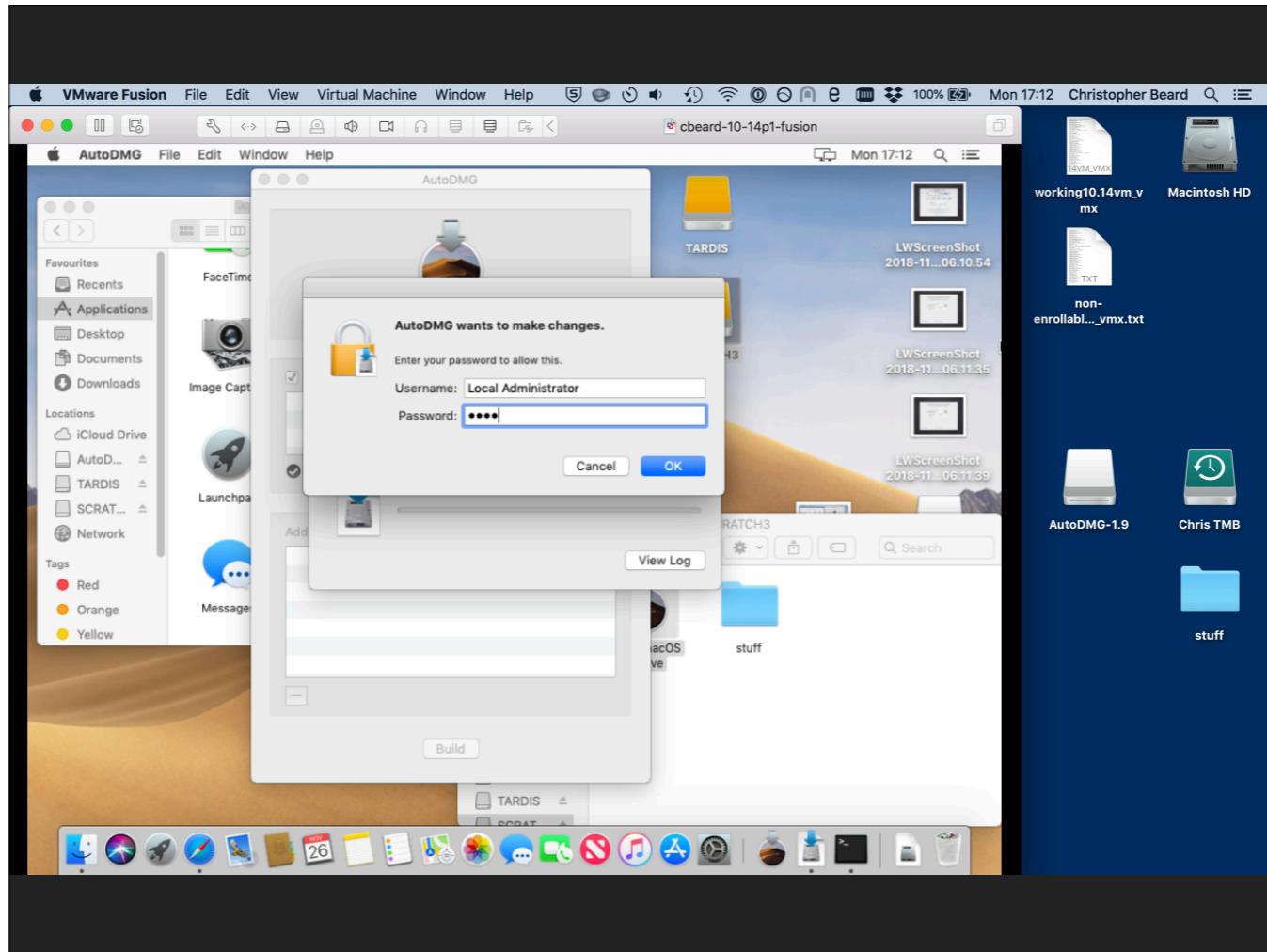


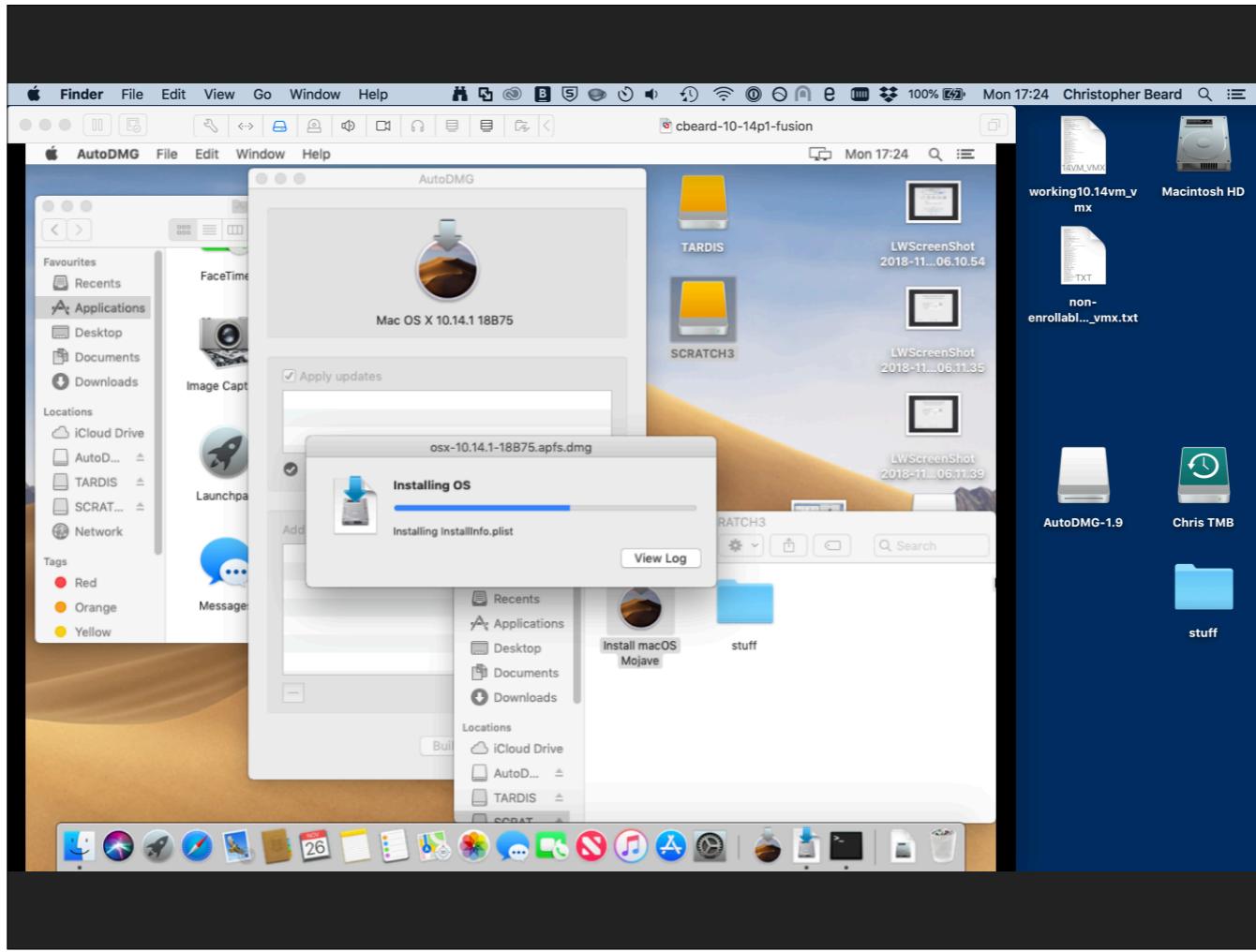


Available updates automatically found

Can add additional software packages eg. Office



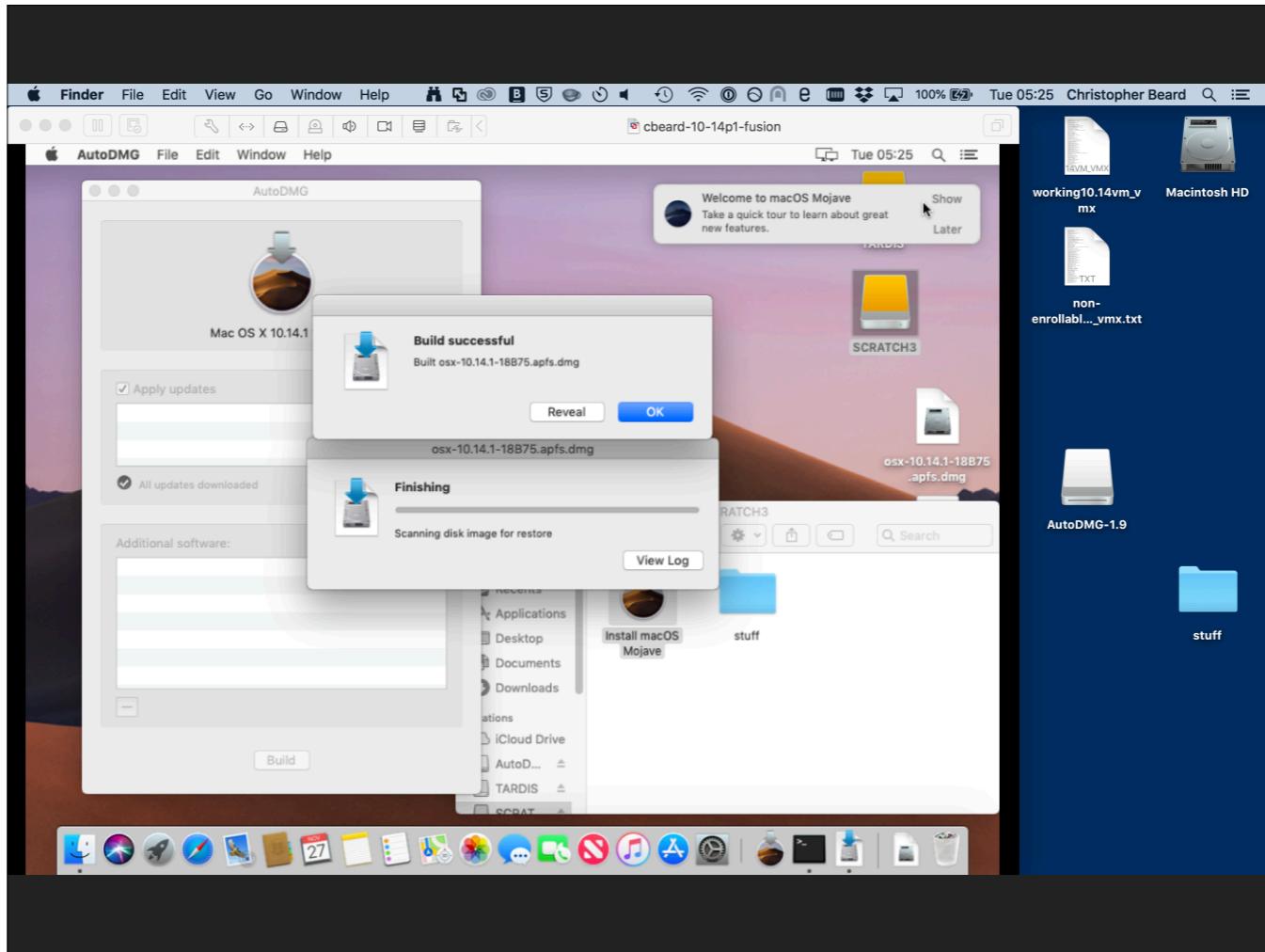




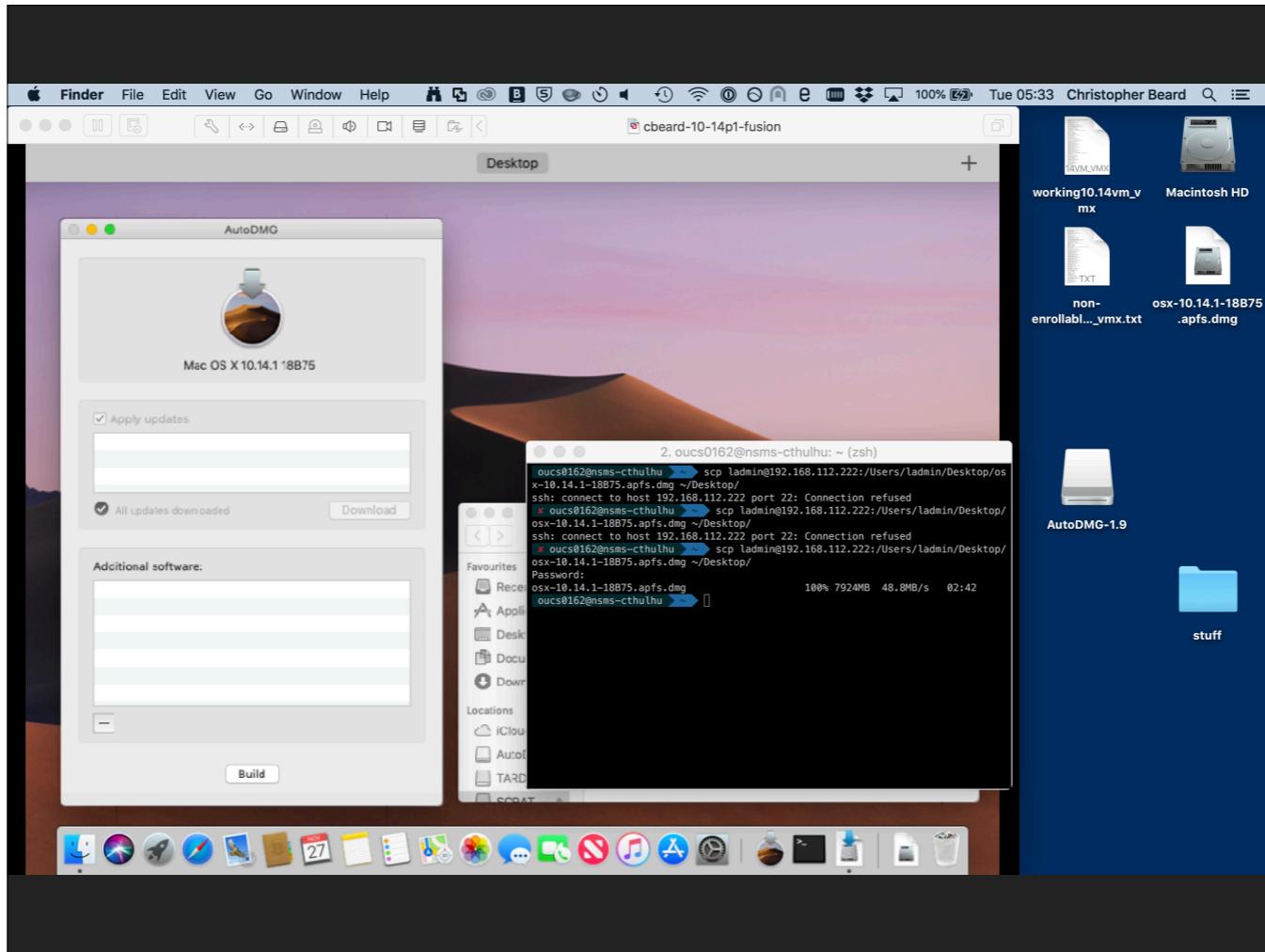
<1 hour on a physical machine (spec dependent)

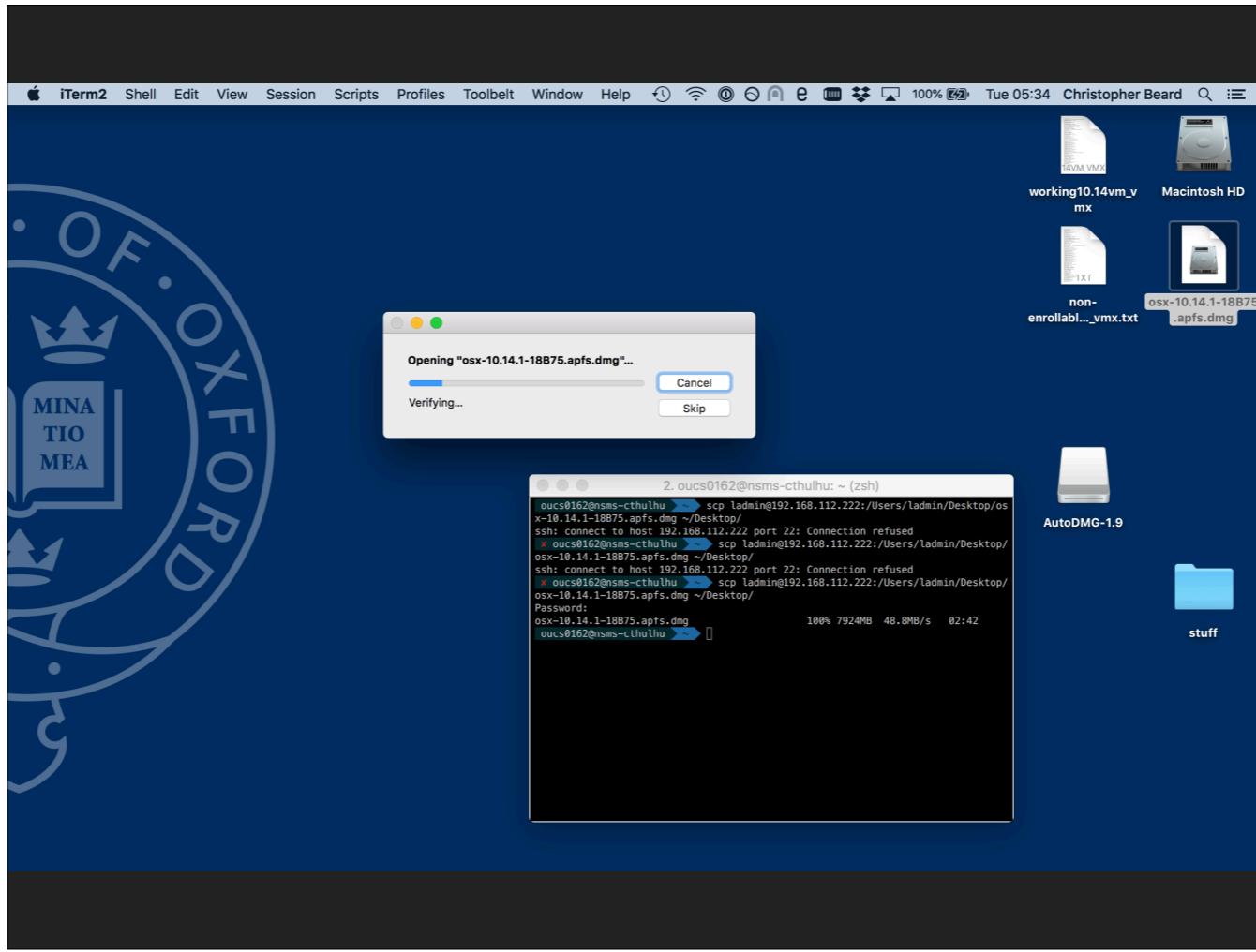
Circa 2 hours on a VM

Obviously more risk running in a VM eg. may need to restart the host box. Physical machine more reliable.

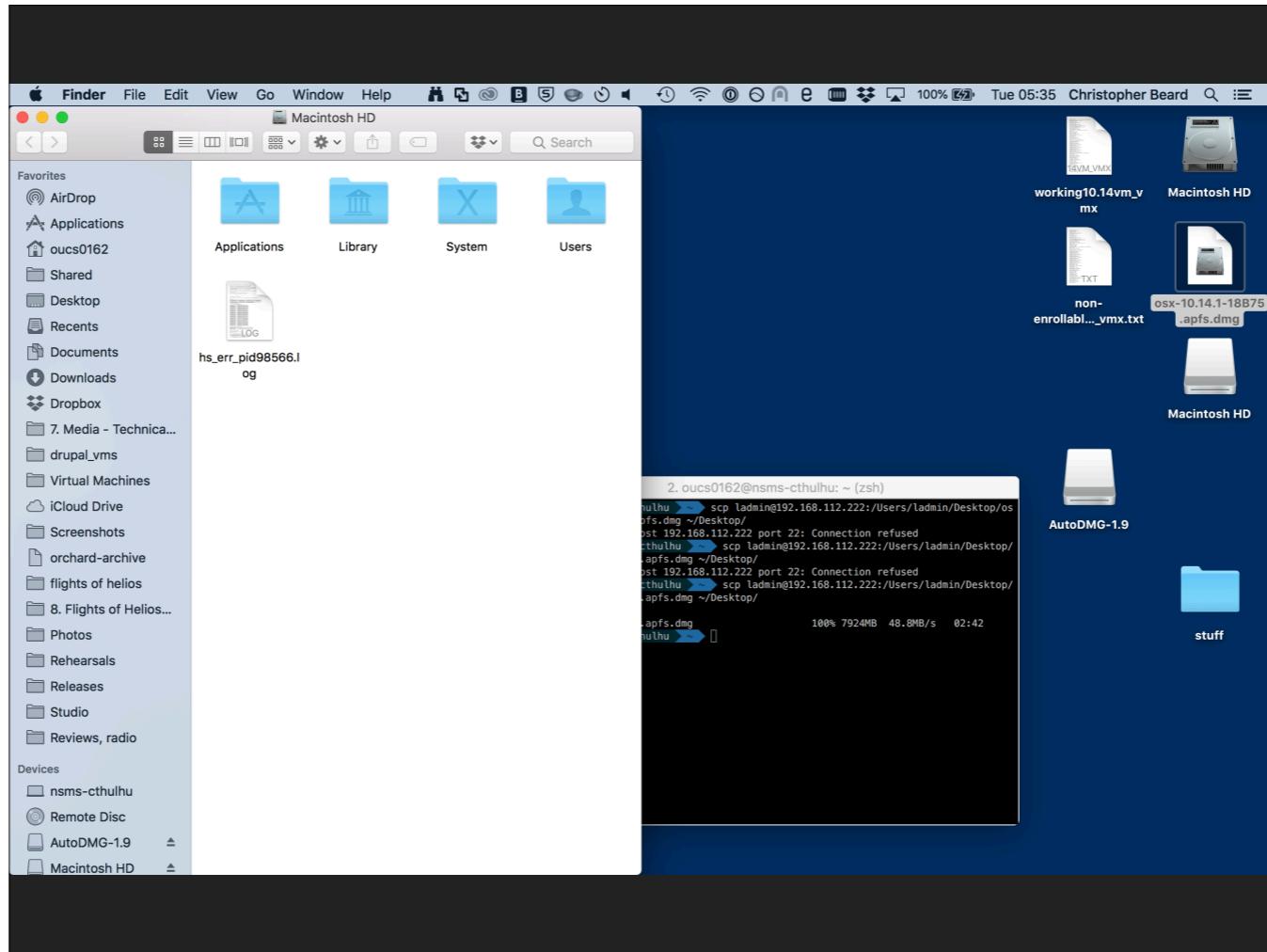


Success!

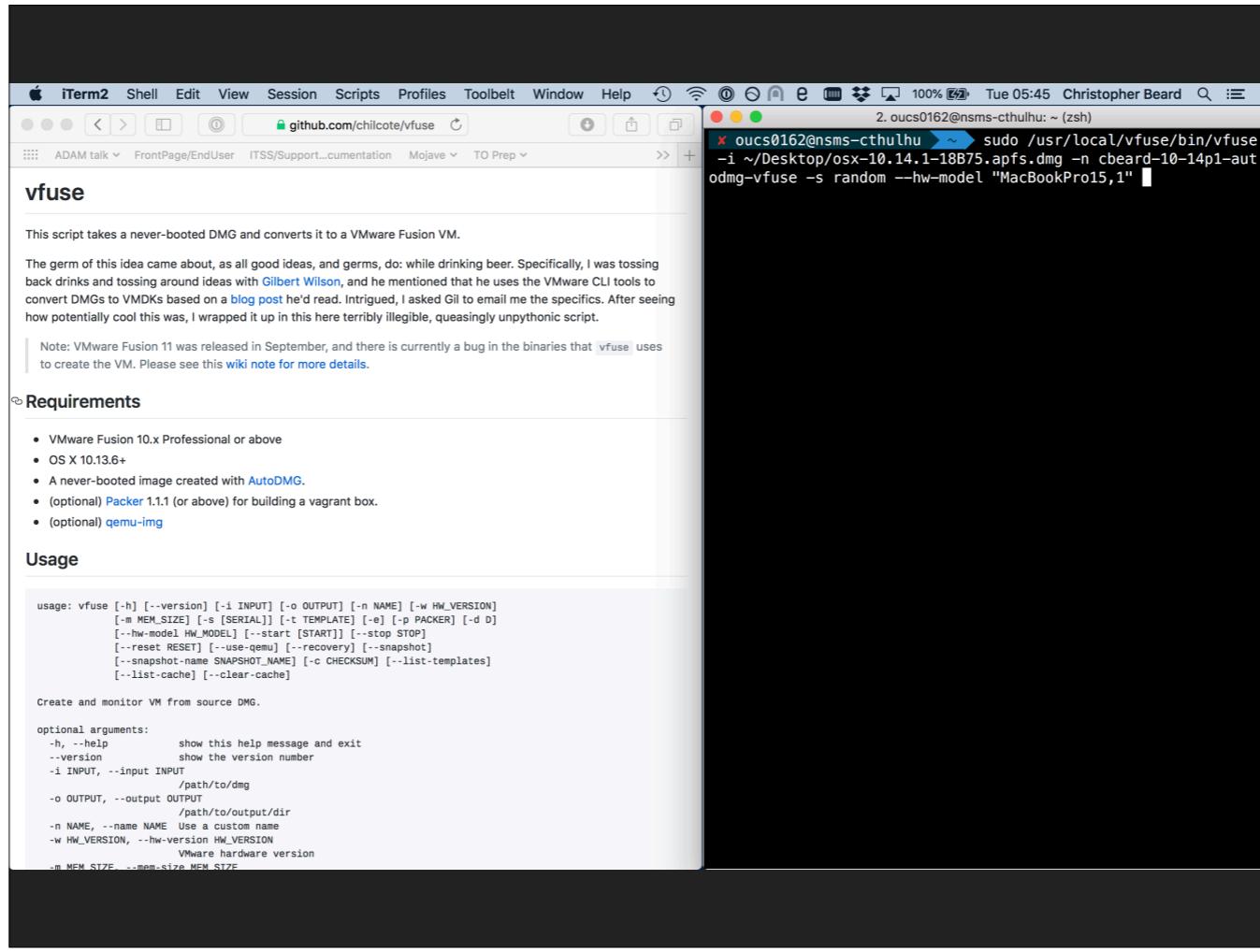




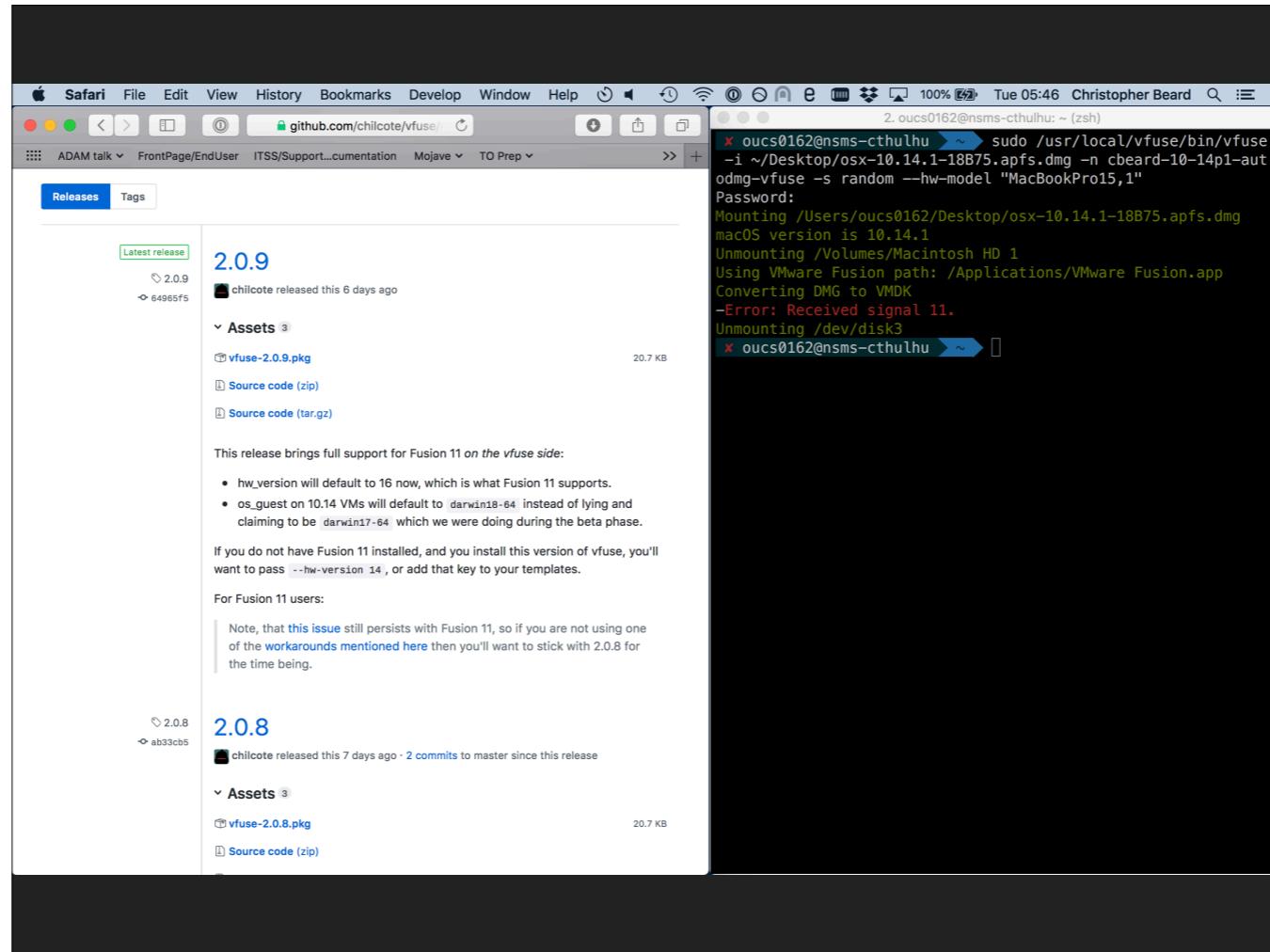
Checking the contents of our never-booted file system.



Odd error log mentioning JAVA failed. Another reason to use physical hardware for running AutoDMG. The error had no obvious subsequent effects.



Using vfuse to build a VM with a name, serial number and hardware model



Gotcha 4: vfuse does not work with Fusion 11!

**Received signal 11**

Joseph Chilcote edited this page 10 days ago - 3 revisions

**What's up with Fusion 11?**

VMware Fusion 11 was released on September 25, 2018 (with 11.0.1 following on November 9, 2018). This release brought support for Windows 10 and macOS Mojave, and as such has been hotly anticipated by the community, myself included especially for the IPv6 bug fixes that were killing us in Fusion 10 and below.

When the Tech Preview was released in June, one of the first things I did was install it and add support in vfuse to use the new version. However, I was greeted with this sad trombone baritone of an error:

```
Unable to create the source raw disk: The file specified is n
```

Now, I had seen this sort of error before, and knew where to look.

**It's all a facade**

The damning truth about vfuse is that it's just a bunch of poorly written window dressing built around two central VMware commands. So when I saw the error above, I removed vfuse from the equation and tried out these commands directly.

First I created a bootable macOS DMG with AutoDMG(<https://github.com/MagerValp/AutoDMG>), then mounted the DMG with `hdutil attach /path/to/dmg`, taking note of the device mount with `diskutil list`. For the sake of this example, assuming the device was mounted at `/dev/disk2`, I tried to create a VMware virtual disk backed by the partitions of the physical disk with:

**QEMU and Not U**

As an alternative, you can use `qemu-img` to create your VMs. Now, I know I mentioned already, twice, that `vfuse` is just a thin wrapper around those fancy VMware binaries. But I'll let you in on a dirty little secret: we don't need no stinking `vmware-vdiskmanager`.

QEMU is a free and open-source emulator that performs hardware virtualization, while `qemu-img` is its corresponding disk image utility. Adding support for `qemu-img` was suggested by @tvutton way back in February 2016.

Let's just take a moment to pause and think back to those halcyon days of early 2016, why don't we, sigh

Anyway, so the pieces are already in place to do an endrun around this bug, and get your business done without having to keep that old lump of Fusion 10 around, like some decorative lamp your Aunt gave you for your birthday in 2002.

First, you need to install `qemu-img`. Now, you could use `homebrew`, like an animal. Which is fine. I mean, if you have to. But the more discerning among you will prefer to install it with `macports` like so:

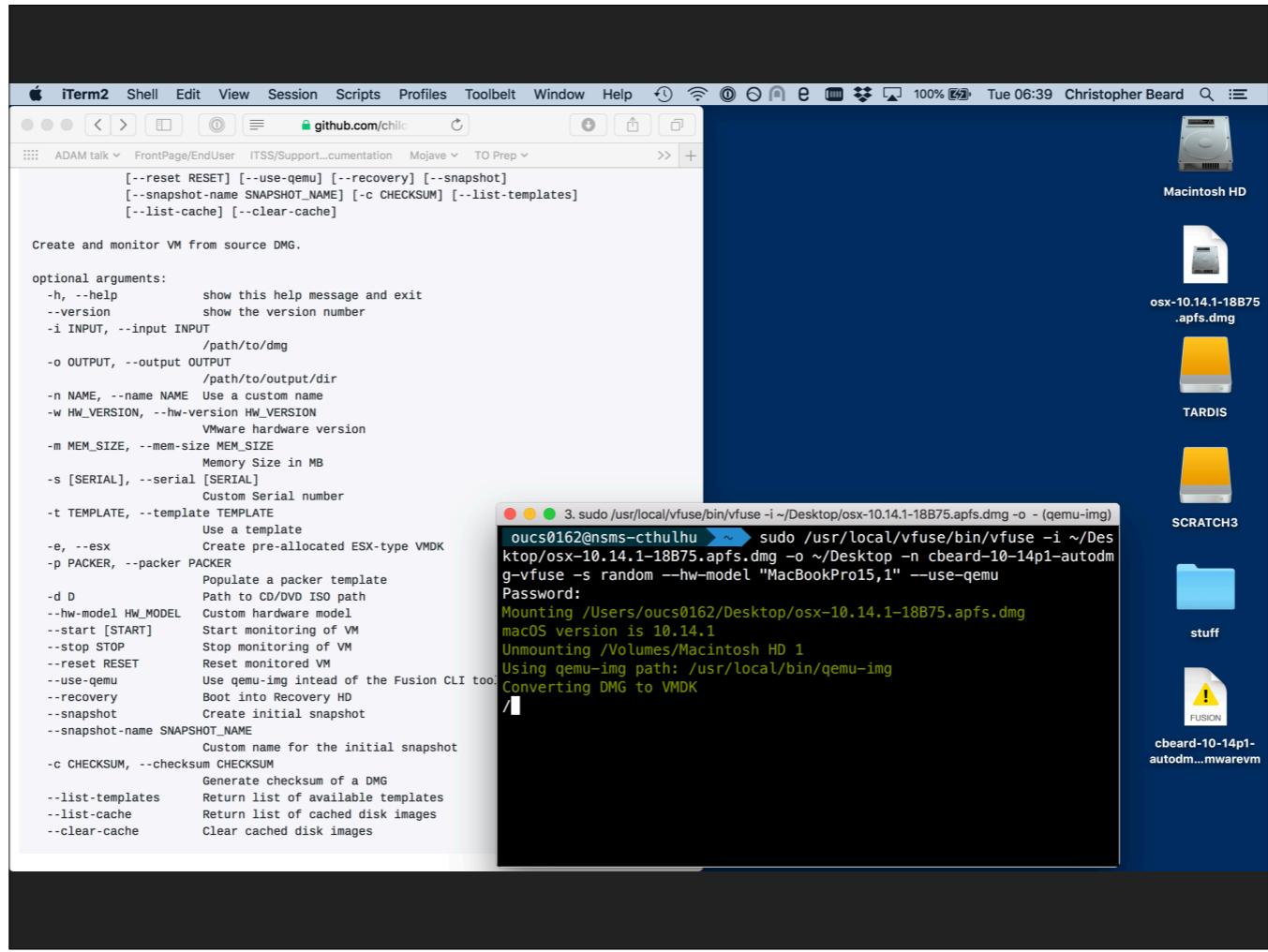
```
$ sudo port install qemu
```

Regardless of how you install it, `qemu-img` will exist at some location, and you can instruct `vfuse` to use it by passing the `--use-qemu` flag:

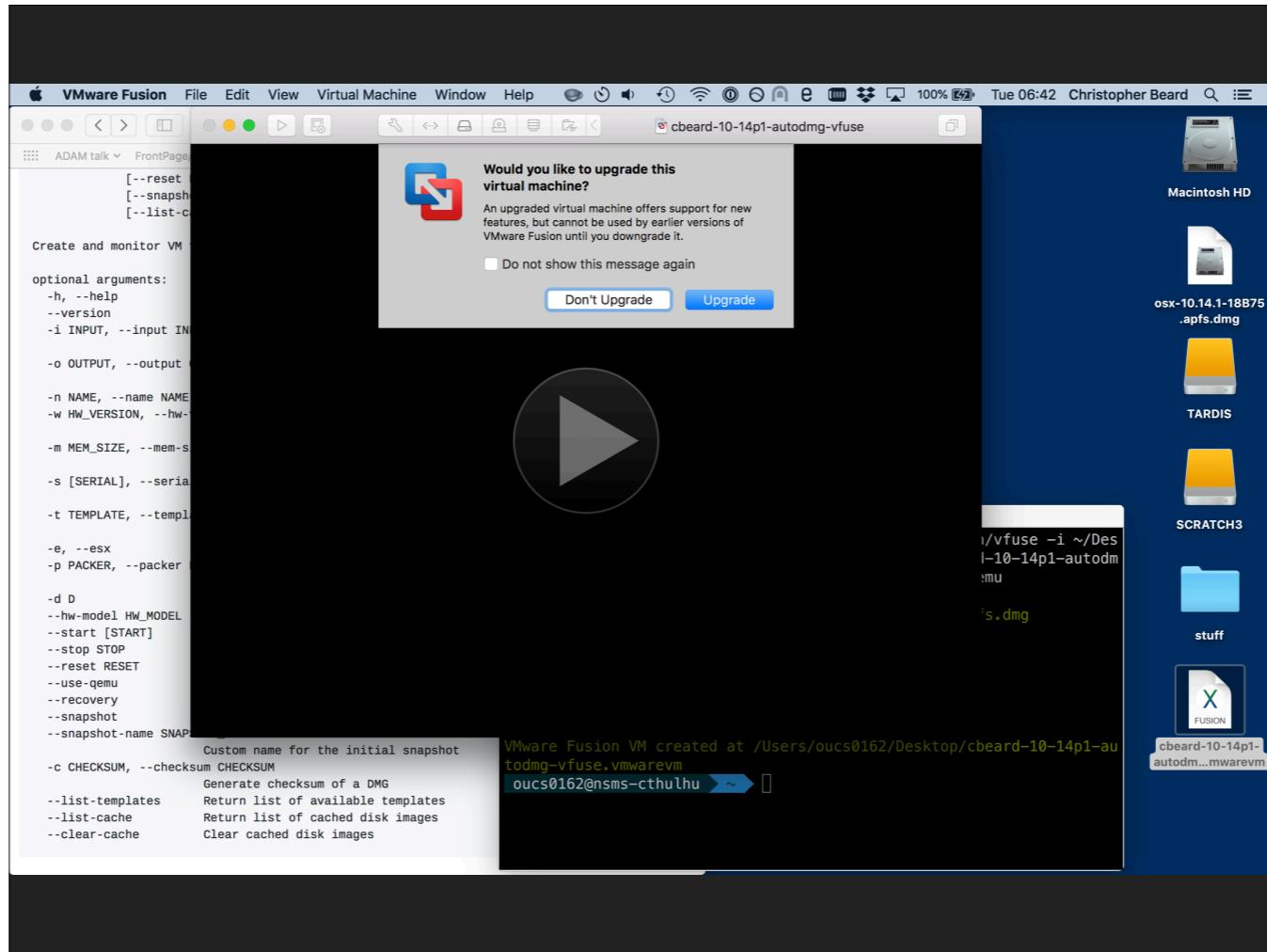
```
$ sudo vfuse -i foo.dmg --use-qemu /path/to/wherever/you/inst
```

If you don't supply a path, then `vfuse` will plug its nose and assume you installed it with `brew` and look for it at `/usr/local/bin/qemu-img`. Additionally, you can use a template and define the path to `qemu-img` there. Here is a sanitized Mojave template I'm currently providing out for folks who have Fusion 11 installed:

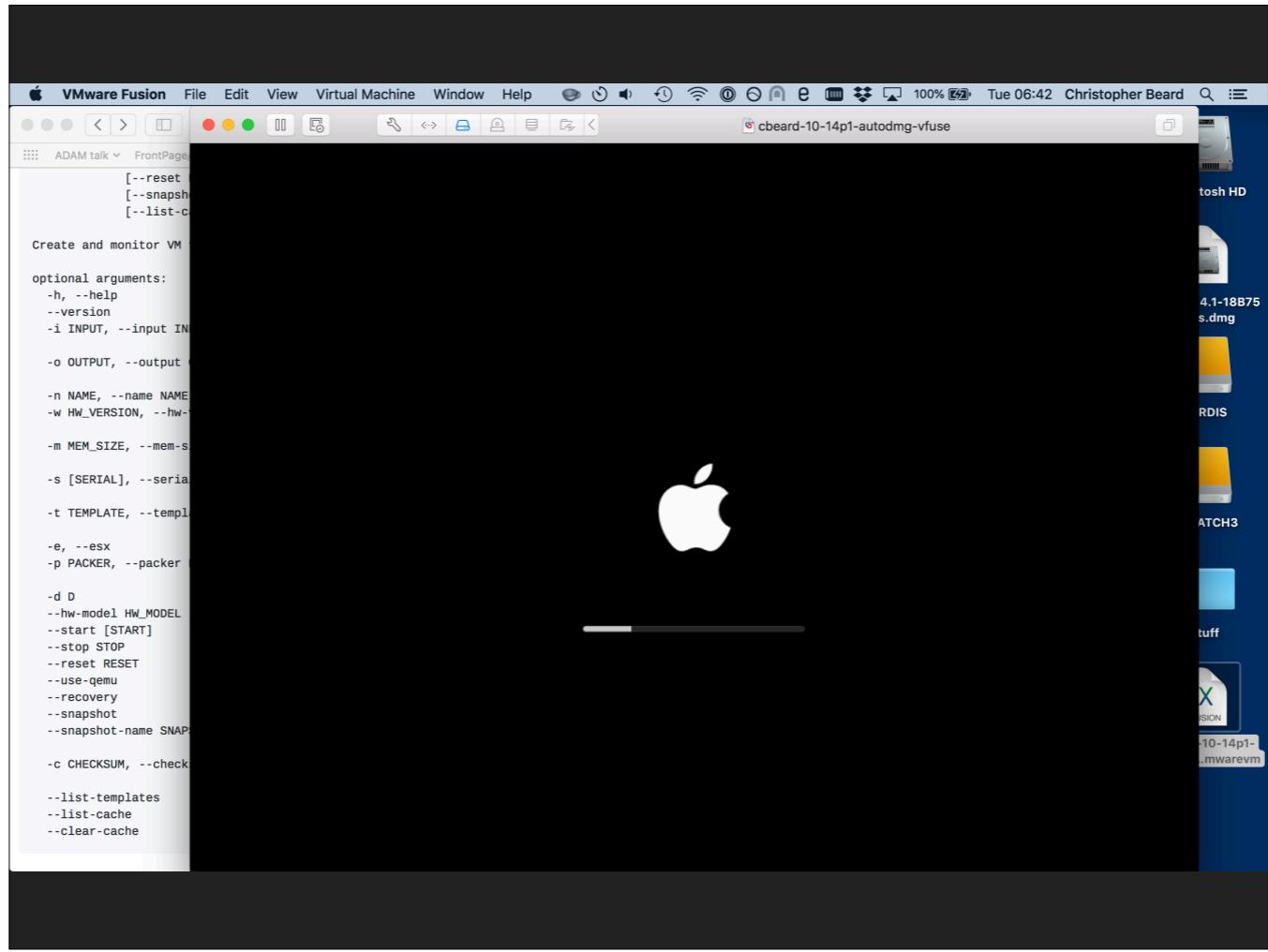
Solution for Gotcha 4: install QEMU using Homebrew/macports, then add vfuse switch '--use-qemu'

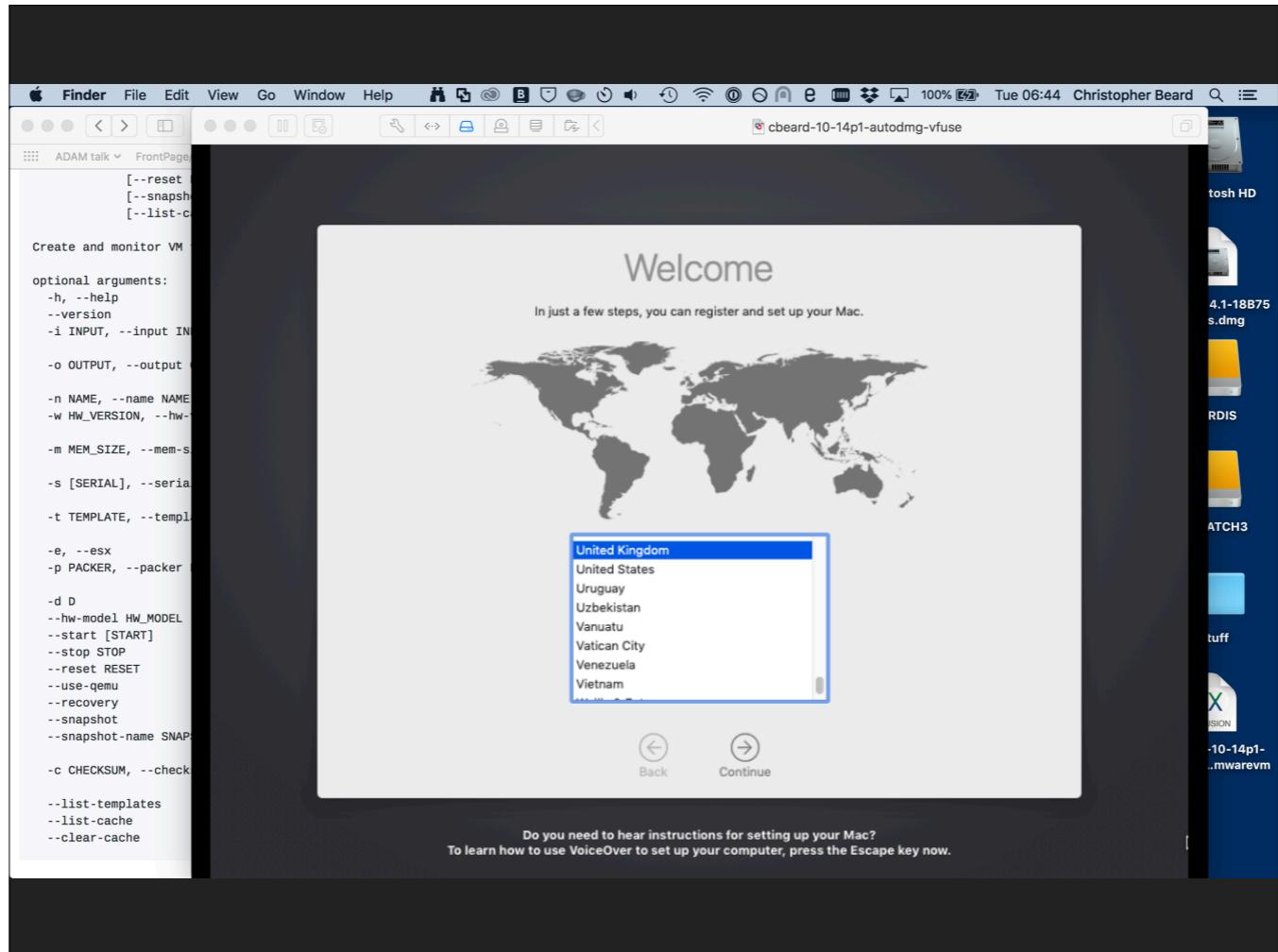


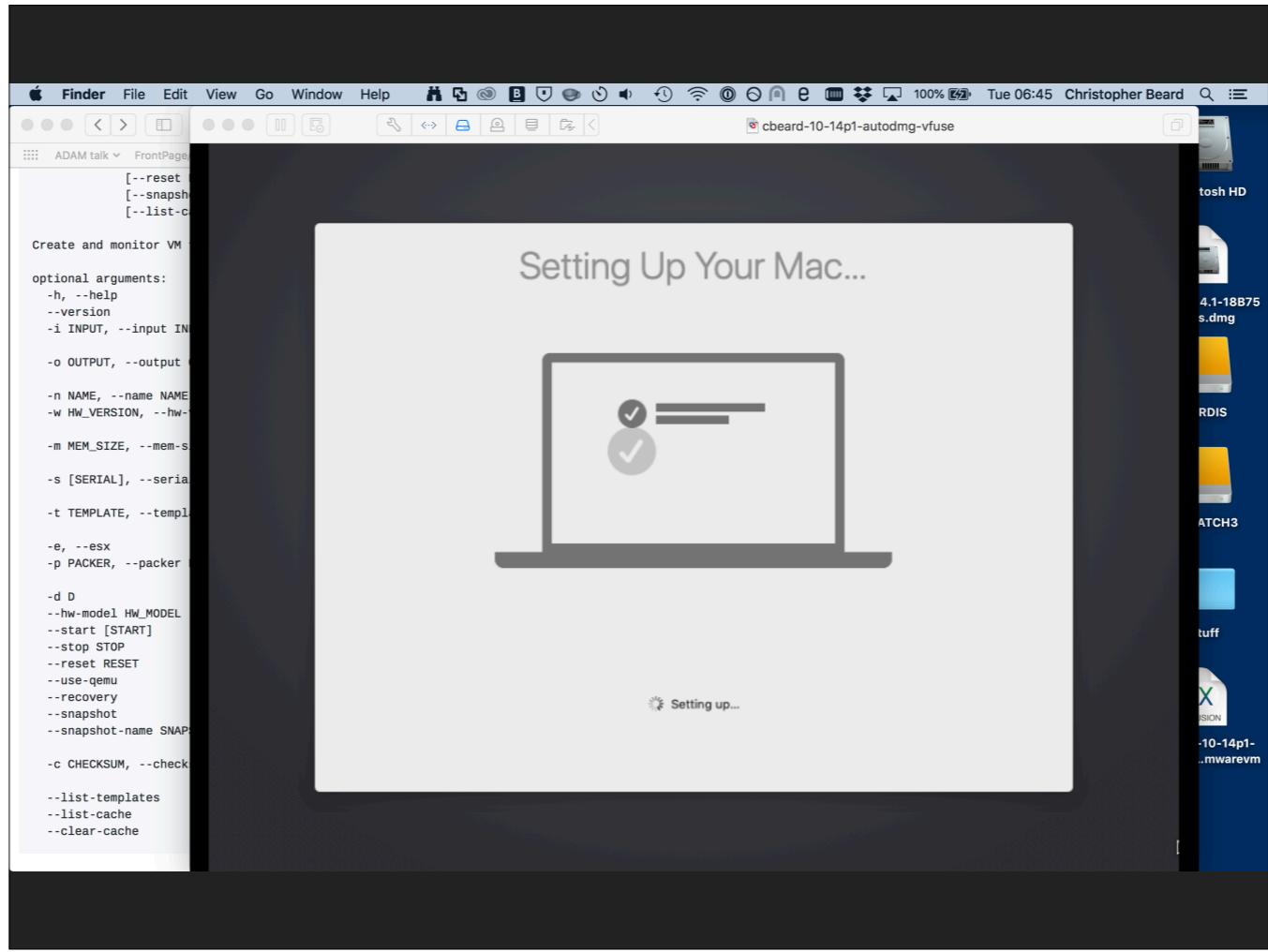
Vfuse now running fine. Takes 10-15 minutes to provision a working Mojave VM.



Opening our new VM in Fusion works ok.





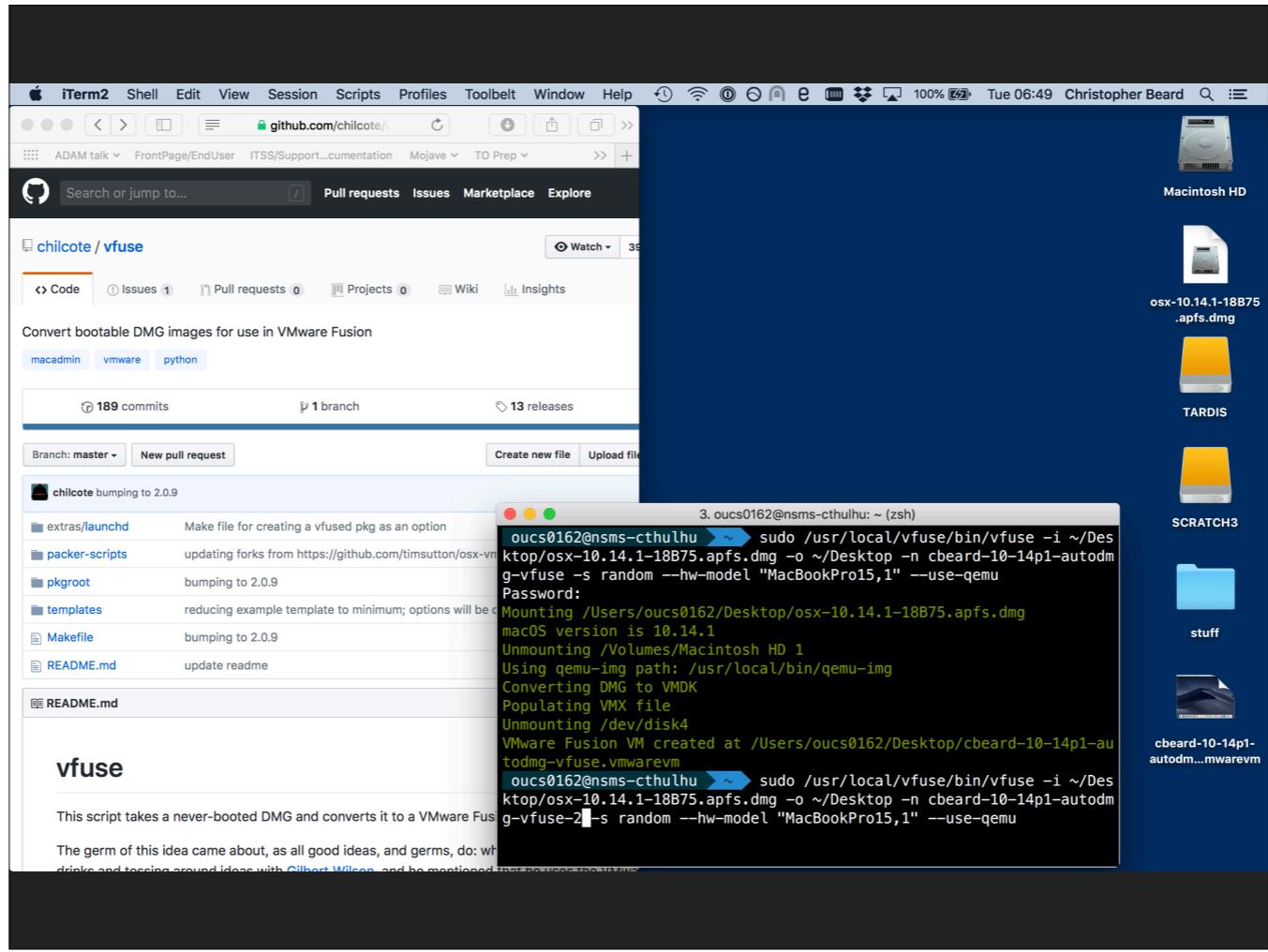




New VM looks good!

What is the point of this rigmarole? (1/2)

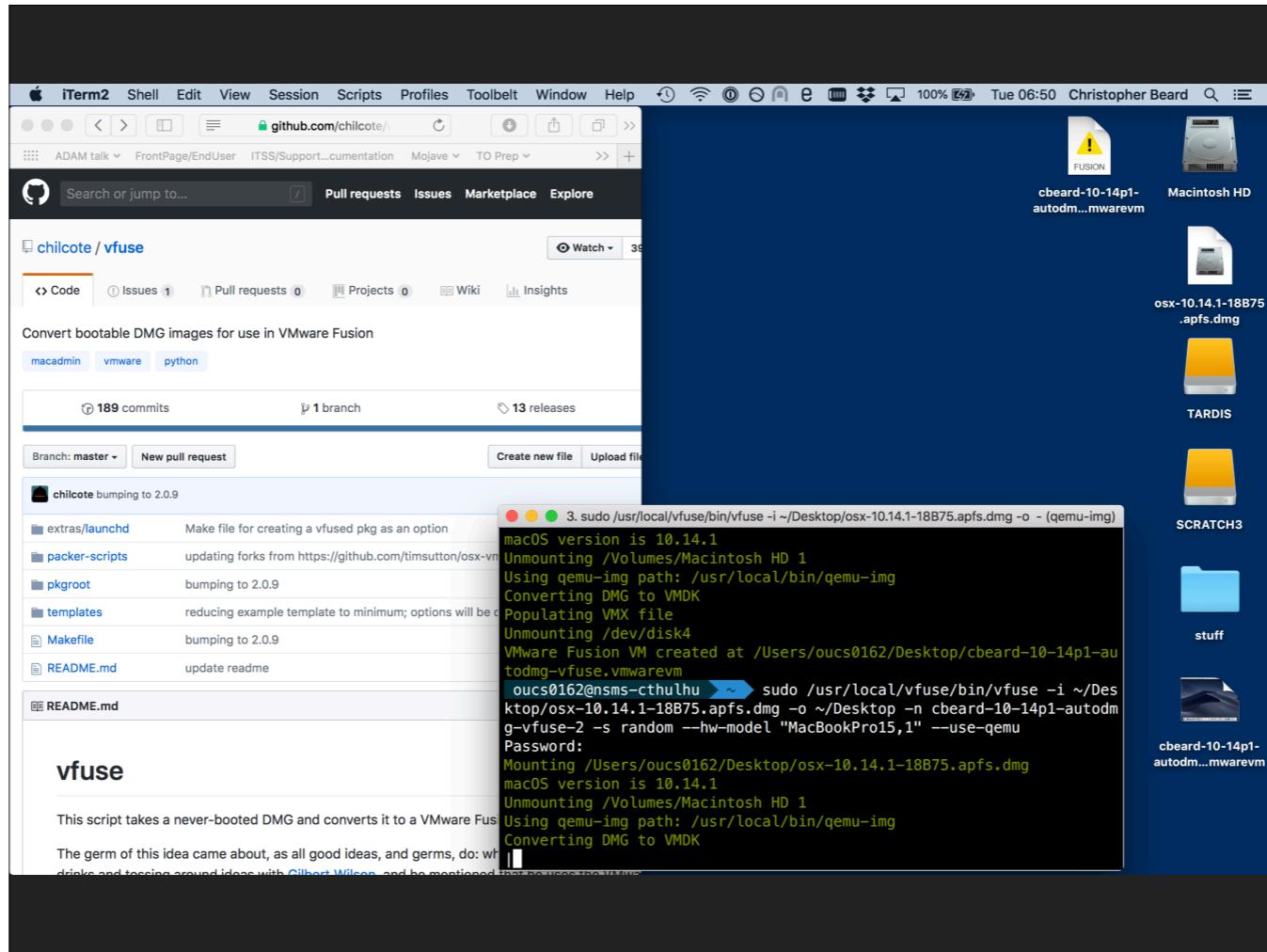
1. This new VM is more realistic than a standard Fusion VM, eg. meaning it will enroll into our management system.



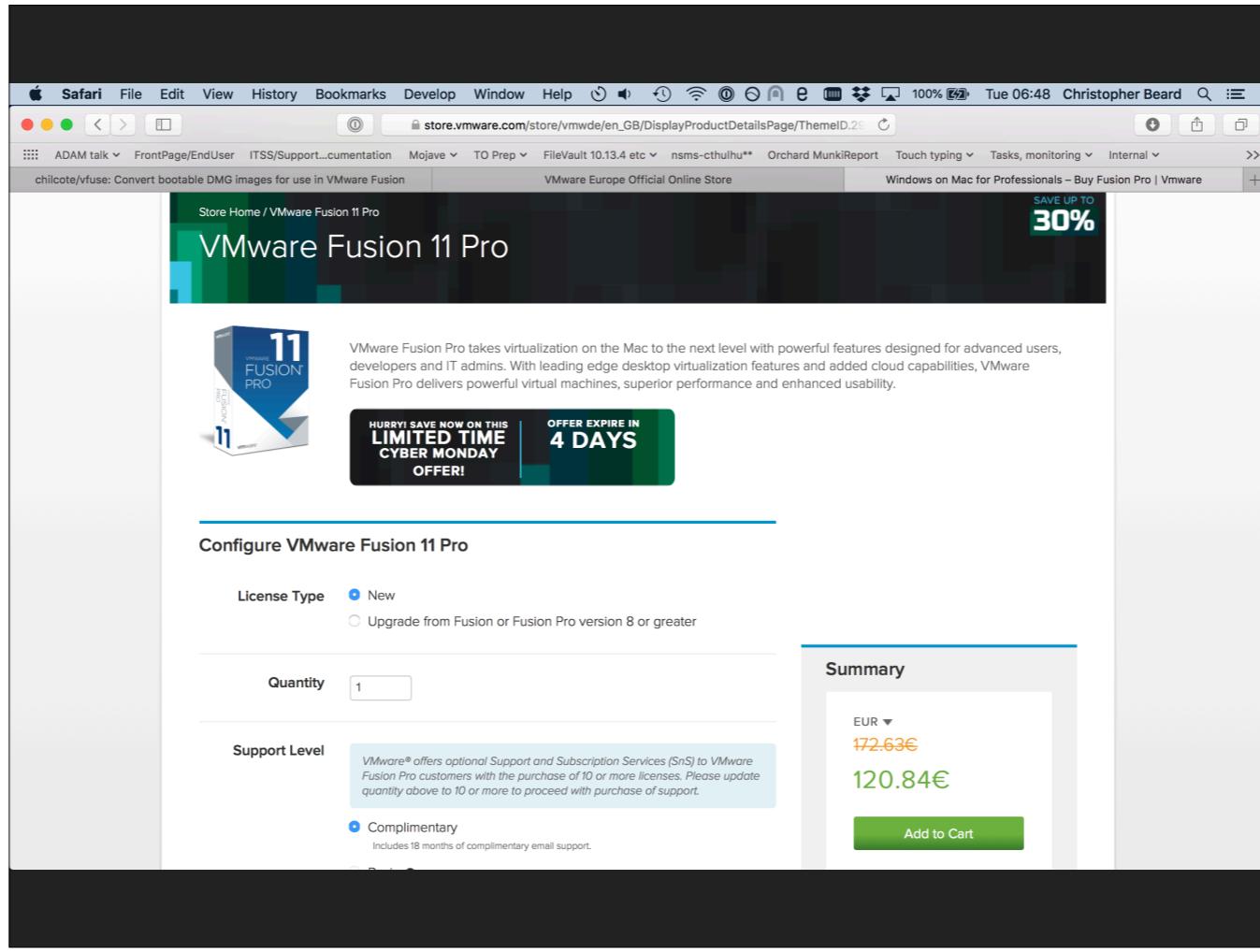
What is the point of this rigmarole? (2/2)

2. Using vfuse I can quickly spin up macOS VMs eg. with different models for testing, with a specific serial number for DEP. May still need to hack at .vmx file but saves a lot of initial setup work.

Easy to use autoDMG to create a never-booted DMG for each OS you support and then you can quickly spin up VMs for testing.



One change to the vfuse command and a new VM is being provisioned.



Standard education deal is year-round so best to use that.

## LINKS

- ▶ Build a Mojave Hackintosh with UniBeast: <https://www.tonymacx86.com/threads/unibeast-install-macos-mojave-on-any-supported-intel-based-pc.259381/>
- ▶ DEP-enabled Fusion VM: <https://www.rderewianko.com/how-to-create-a-vm-thatll-work-with-dep-on-vmware-fusion/>
- ▶ VMware Fusion: <https://www.vmware.com/uk/products/fusion.html>
- ▶ Build a macOS VM using Virtual Box: <https://github.com/geerlingguy/macos-virtualbox-vm>
- ▶ AutoDMG: <https://github.com/MagerValp/AutoDMG>
- ▶ vfuse: <https://github.com/chilcote/vfuse>
- ▶ InstallInstallmacos - can be useful for obtaining macOS installer apps: <https://github.com/munki/macadmin-scripts/blob/master/installinstallmacos.py>