Practical exercise 2-8: Working with Aliases

This Practical Exercise will take students through the creation and use of aliases for commands in a Linux OS.

Open VirtualBox and start the openSUSE VM. Run snapshot 2-1 for the correctly configured environment. To run snapshot 2-1:
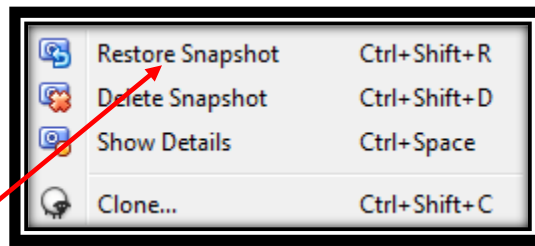
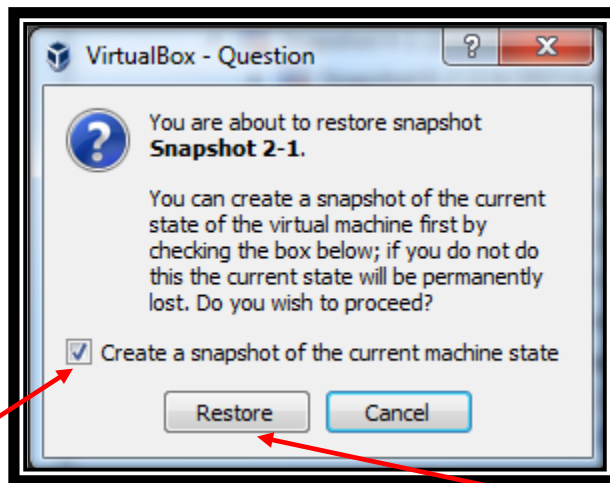1. Open the Oracle VM VirtualBox manager by double clicking this icon on your desktop:

2. Click "Snapshots" in the top right of the Oracle VM Virtualbox Manager.
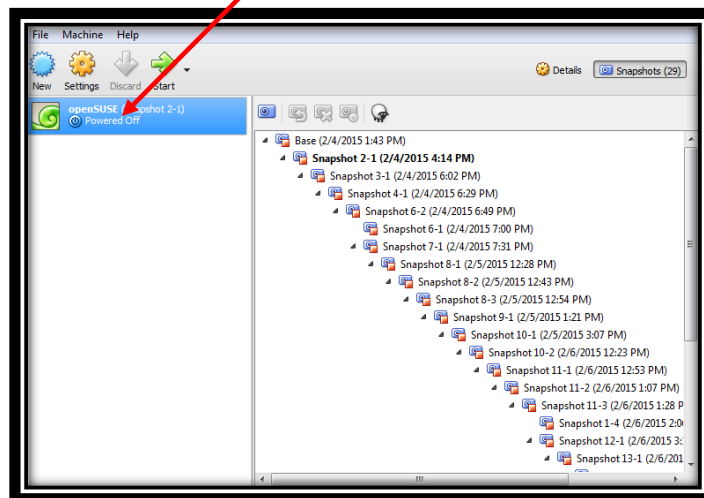

3. In the right side box populated with snapshots scroll up and find the one titled "Snapshot 2-1" and right click on it. The following box should appear:

4. Select "Restore Snapshot" and the following pop-up should appear:

5. Uncheck the "Create a Snapshot of the current machine state" box and then click the "Restore" button.

6. You should now see in the left box the openSUSE (Snapshot 2-1) with a status of "Powered Off." Power it on by double clicking it.

7. A separate window should open and you should see the openSUSE Linux OS booting.

8. Log in as the user student with the password: **student**; then press CTRL+ALT+F1.

9. At your login prompt, authenticate to the system as the user: **student** and password: **student** again.

10. Change to your root user account by entering **su –** followed by your root password.

11. Create an alias named log that will display the last few lines of your /var/log/messages file by entering **alias log="tail /var/log/messages"** at the shell prompt.

12. At the shell prompt, enter **alias** and verify that the alias has been created.

13. Test your alias by entering **log** at the shell prompt.

14. Verify that the last few lines of your /var/log/messages file are displayed.

15. At your shell prompt, enter **ls ~ -a**.

16. Which file would you edit on your particular distribution if you wanted to make the alias persistent?

17. Enter exit at the shell prompt.

18. Enter logout at the shell prompt.

--End of Practical Exercise--