## ICOM5007/CIIC4050 Operating Systems

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**Laboratory: Virtual Memory in Minix** (11/22/2019)

Read documentation on:

http://wiki.minix3.org/doku.php?id=developersguide:vminternals

## **Serial Output Debugging**

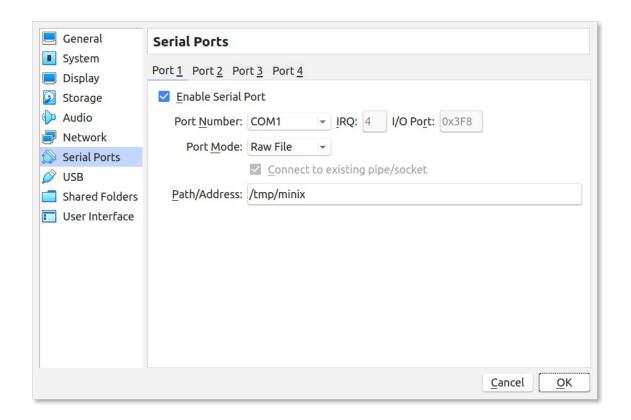
1. Turn off the Minix virtual machine (sync; shutdown).

2. On the virtual machine settings window on VirtualBox add a **Serial Port**:

Port 1> Enable Serial Port

Port Number: COM1
Port Mode: Raw File

Path/Address: /tmp/minix



- 3. Start the Minix virtual machine and boot to option 4
- 4. On the prompt **press enter** to display the boot parameters, to the line add **cttyline=0 cttybaud=115200**

```
File Machine View Input Devices Help

--- Welcome to MINIX 3. This is the boot monitor. ---

Memory: 639/1047552 k

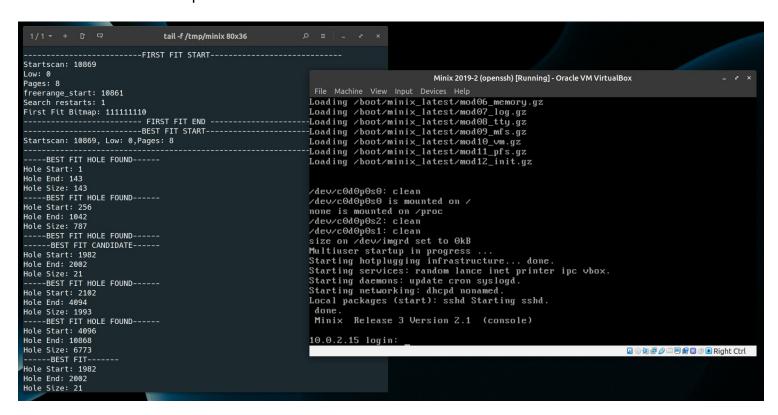
1. Start MINIX 3
2. Start latest MINIX 3 in single user mode
4. Edit menu option
5. Drop to boot prompt
6. Start MINIX 3 (3.2.1r1)
7. Start MINIX 3 (3.2.1r4)

Choose an option; RETURN for default; SPACE to stop countdown.

Option 2 will be chosen in 0 seconds.

Option (edit): [2]:
> load_mods /boot/minix_latest/mod*;multiboot /boot/minix_latest/kernel rootdevn
ame=c0d0p0s0 cttyline=0 cttybaud=115200_
```

- 5. Open a terminal on the host machine (Ubuntu) an run the tail command for the minix log
  - tail -f /tmp/minix



## **Troubleshooting**

- The serial debugger needs to be setup on every boot for it to work
- If you cannot access the /tmp folder on the host machine use your home folder
- The Minix file defined in VirtualBox is a text file that can be opened by any editor
  - This file is erased every time the virtual machine is started even if the serial debugger is not enabled in Minix
- Do not print on the kernel unless pages>2
- Outputting the console to the Serial Port is a **blocking** instruction
  - The Kernel will be blocked until the print is complete, this slows down the VM
- You need to compile the Kernel for the changes on the Virtual Memory Server to be reflected
- Additional information: <a href="http://wiki.minix3.org/doku.php?id=developersquide:serialout">http://wiki.minix3.org/doku.php?id=developersquide:serialout</a>