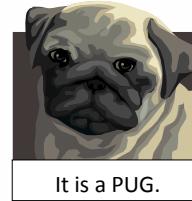


POWER up your Linux!

Georgia IBM **POWER** User Group

April 21, 2016



Mehboob Mithaiwala, IBM Lab Services

Agenda

- IBM Power Systems - Linux Portfolio
- Why Linux on Power?
- Which Linux distro?
- Power Virtualization Options
- Linux Installation (PowerVM)
- Installing PowerKVM
- Linux Installation (PowerKVM)

IBM Power Systems - Linux Portfolio

Industry-leading performance, resilience and virtualization flexibility for business-critical computing



Power S824L



Power S822L
Power S812L



PowerKVM PowerVM

Power S824
Power S814



Power S822



Power E850



Power E870

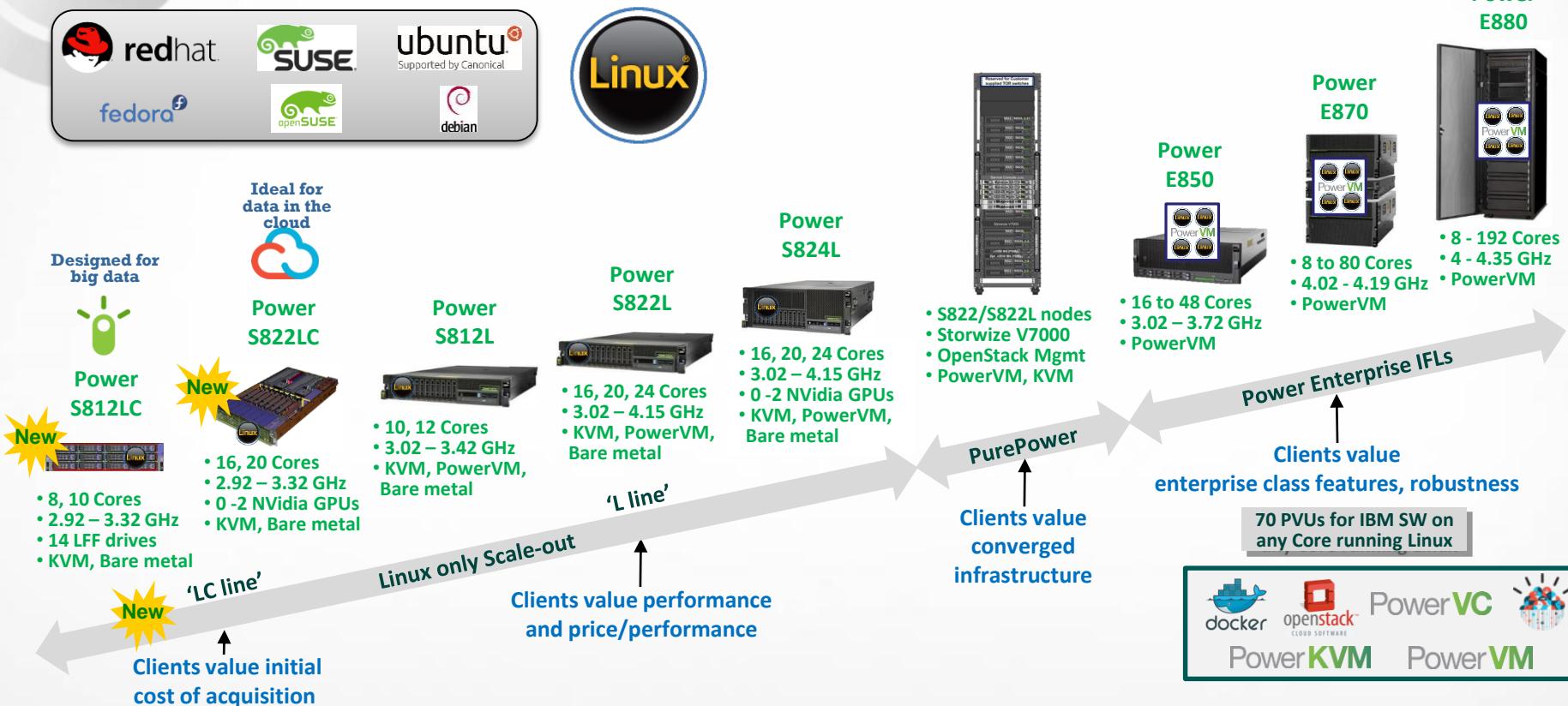


Power E880

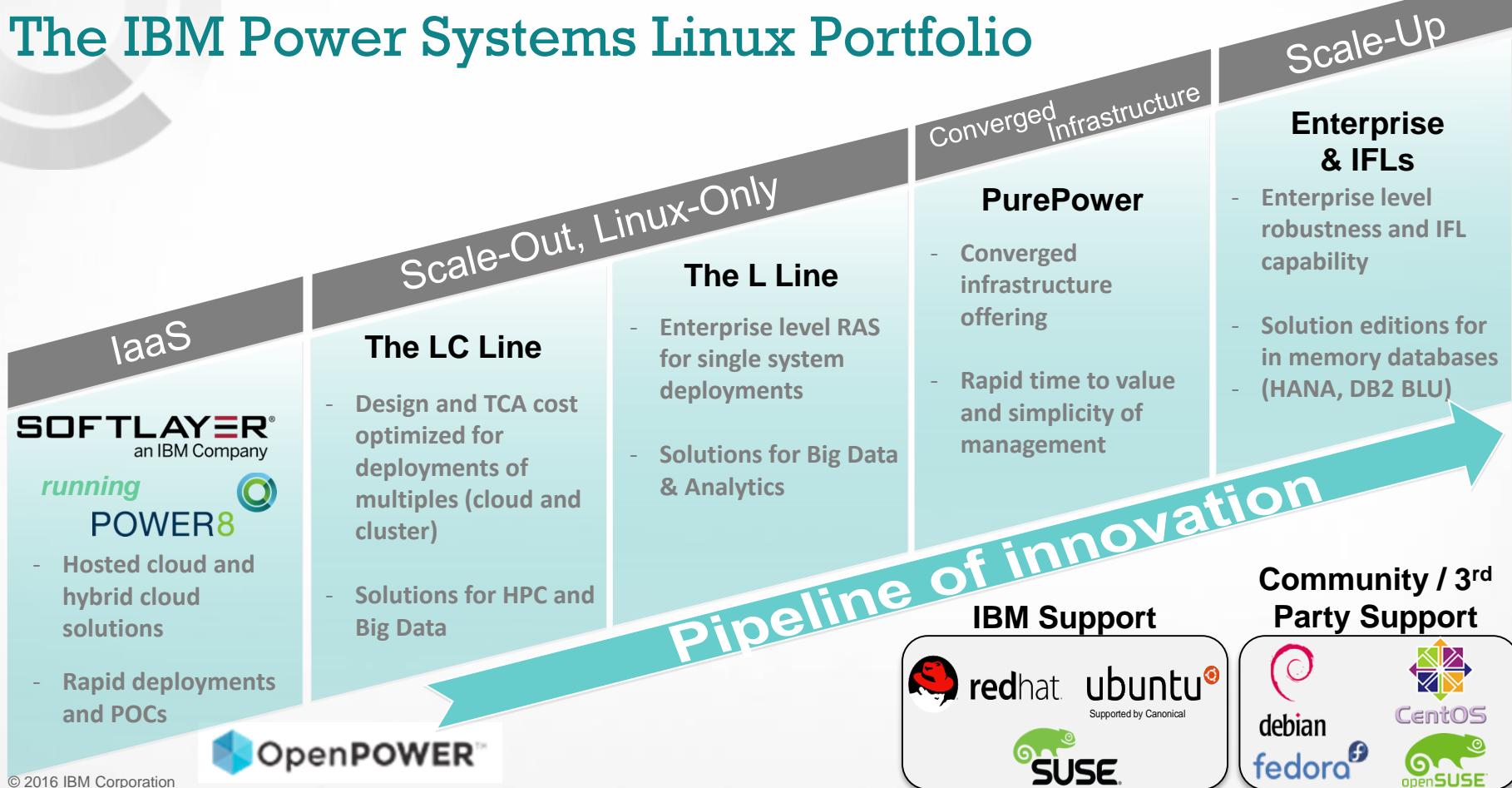


PowerVM PowerHA

Linux on POWER8 Portfolio – Spans Workloads of all Sizes



The IBM Power Systems Linux Portfolio



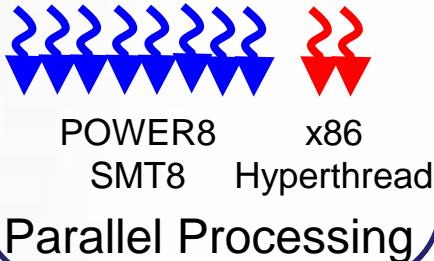
Why Linux on Power?

POWER8:

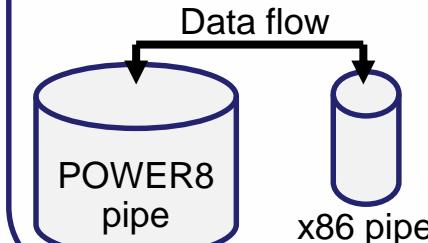
Architecture Matters - features that delivers better performance

4X

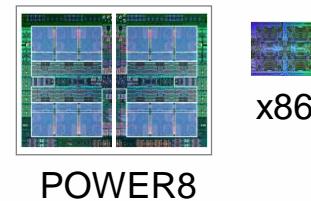
Threads per core*

**4X**

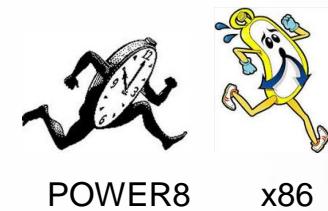
Mem. Bandwidth*

**5X**

More cache*

**1.4 - 2.3X**

Clock Frequency*



These design decisions result in best performance for all types of workloads such as:

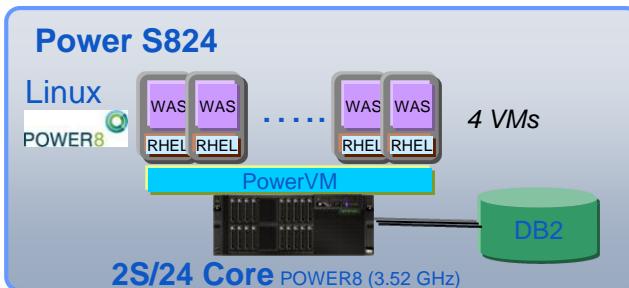
Analytics, Big Data, Java, OLTP, HPC

* POWER8 compared to Haswell EX

Sources: Haswell EX: http://ark.intel.com/products/84685/Intel-Xeon-Processor-E7-8890-v3-45M-Cache-2_50-GHz

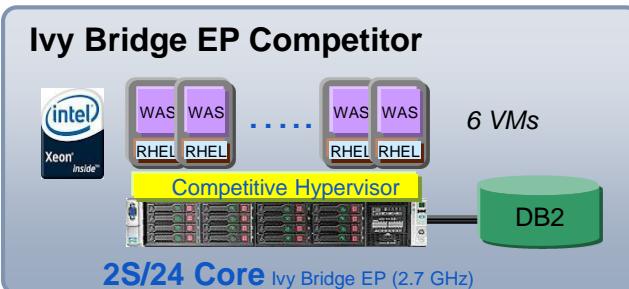
POWER8: http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/cgi-bin/ssialias?subtype=BR&infotype=PM&appname=STGE_PO_PO_USEN&htmlfid=POB03046USEN

POWER8 with Linux: Delivers Better Performance at LESS cost than x86 Linux



188,184 User Interactions per second
\$2.97 per UI per sec
WebSphere on platform
Database off platform

Web Application Online Banking Workload v3.6

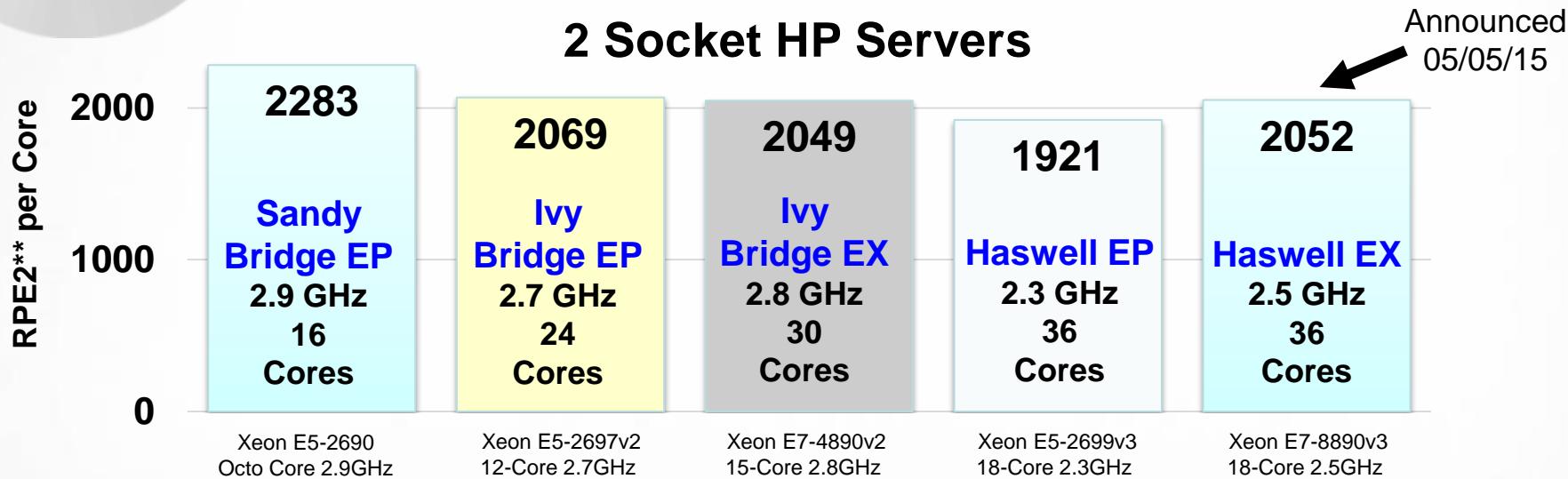


84,262 User Interactions per second
\$6.37 per UI per sec
WebSphere on platform
Database off platform

2.2x Faster
53% Lower cost

This is an IBM internal study designed to replicate a typical IBM customer workload usage in the marketplace. It consists of a POWER8 S824 with 24 cores, 256GB Memory, 3.52 GHz, RHEL 7.0, WAS 8.5.5.2, DB2 9.7, JDK 7.0 FP1 compared to an Ivy Bridge EP 24 cores, 256GB Memory, 2.7 GHz, RHEL 6.5, WAS 8.5.5.1, DB2 9.7, JDK 7.0 FP1. The results were obtained under laboratory conditions, and not in an actual customer environment. IBM's internal workload studies are not benchmark applications, nor are they based on any benchmark standard. As such, customer applications, differences in the stack deployed, and other systems variations or testing conditions may produce different results and may vary based on actual configuration, applications, specific queries and other variables in a production environment. Prices, where applicable, are based on published US list prices for both IBM and competitor, and the Total Cost of Acquisition (TCA) includes the list HW and SW prices and 3 years of service & support which is then divided by the number of transactions to get \$ per user interaction per second.

The last three generations of x86 architecture: Performance per core has remained flat



The number shown is best in each category (sockets and number of cores)

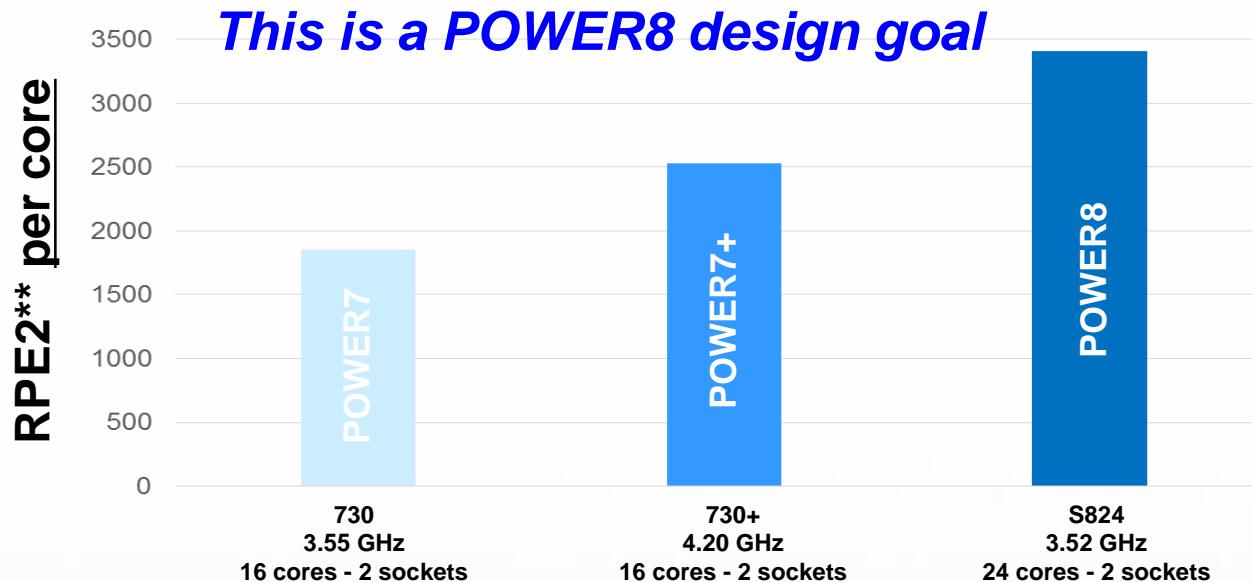
**Gartner RPE2 Details:

<http://www.gartner.com/technology/research/RPE2-methodology-details.jsp>

RPE2** numbers are derived from the following six benchmark inputs:

SAP SD Two-Tier, TPC-C, TPC-H, SPECjbb2006 and two SPEC CPU2006 components

POWER architecture: Performance per core is increasing!



The number shown is best in each category (sockets and number of cores)

**Gartner RPE2 Details:

<http://www.gartner.com/technology/research/RPE2-methodology-details.jsp>

RPE2** numbers are derived from the following six benchmark inputs:

SAP SD Two-Tier, TPC-C, TPC-H, SPECjbb2006 and two SPEC CPU2006 components

Why is this important?

POWER8 design focus and results

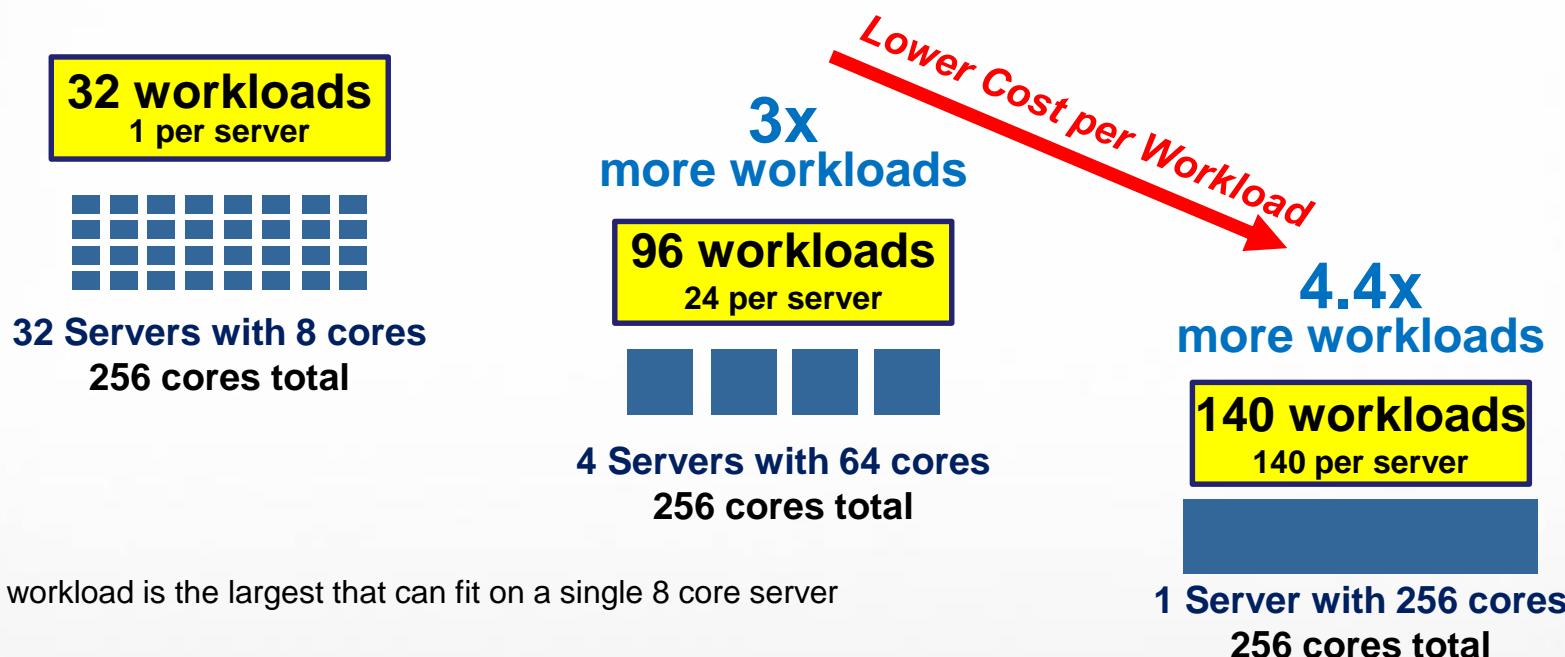
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- More threads- More memory bandwidth- More cache- Higher clock frequencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fastest performance for all types of workloads- Ready to address larger workloads (Analytics, Big Data)
Higher Performance per core	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lower software costs and Total Cost of Acquisition (TCA)- Fewer servers, lower support costs

x86 Design Focus and Results

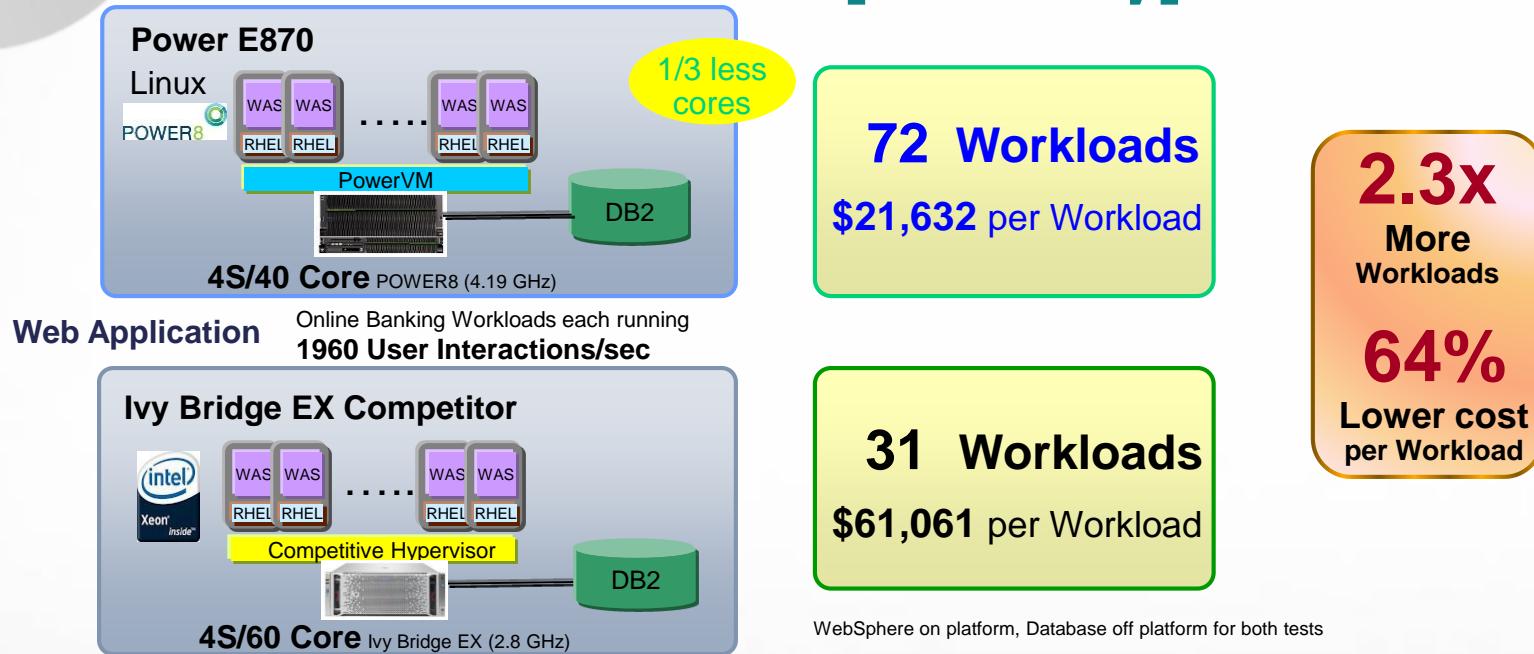
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- More sockets and cores per server	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Faster overall SERVER performance- Higher cost per server
Performance per core remains the same	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Overall solution cost is higher

Statistical Multiplexing drives higher utilization, more workloads and lower cost per workload on large servers

A single virtualized server with a large pool of shared processors can run more workloads than several smaller servers with the same total number of processors



E870 with PowerVM supports 2.3x more workloads with 1/3rd fewer cores than competitive hypervisor



This is an IBM internal study designed to replicate a typical IBM customer workload usage in the marketplace. It consists of a POWER8 E870 with 40 cores, 4.19 GHz, RHEL 7, WAS 8.5.5.2, DB2 10.5, JDK 7.0 FP1, compared to an Ivy Bridge EX 60 cores 2.8 GHz, RHEL 7, WAS 8.5.5.2, DB2 10.5, JDK 7.0 FP1 and a Competitive hypervisor. The results were obtained under laboratory conditions, and not in an actual customer environment. IBM's internal workload studies are not benchmark applications, nor are they based on any benchmark standard. As such, customer applications, differences in the stack deployed, and other systems variations or testing conditions may produce different results and may vary based on actual configuration, applications, specific queries and other variables in a production environment.

IBM has a Strong History of Collaboration on Open Technology



*15+ Years of
Collaboration on
Open Source*



1999 2000 2001 2007 2007 2011 2011 2012 2013 2015

200+
IBM software products

500+
patents donated

600+
developers



Accelerates software innovation

- Over 1,900 Linux ISVs developing on Power
- 50 IBM Innovation Centers
- Compelling PoCs
- Support for little endian applications



HPC

CHARMM	miniDFT
GROMACS	CTH
NAMD	BLAST
AMBER	Bowtie
RTM	BWA
GAMESS	FASTA
WRF	HMMER
HYCOM	GATK
HOMME	SOAP3
LES	STAC-A2
MiniGhost	SHOC
AMG2013	Graph500
OpenFOAM	llog

Cloud



Big Data & Machine Learning



Mobile Enterprise



Which Linux distro?

Linux support for IBM Power Systems

- Same source and distribution release schedules as x86. No special IBM code.
- Simplified x86 application migration with little endian distributions.
- Enterprise support for all three from IBM or distributors.



RHEL 7 (BE/LE)

- POWER8 (native mode) and POWER 7/7+ at GA (BE)
- Available June 2014
- LE distribution (7.1)
- Bare metal on L/LC models (7.2)



RHEL 6

- POWER8 supported with U5 (P7-compatibility mode)
- Full support of POWER6 and POWER7 (native mode)

Fedora

- Fedora 16 was first release to re-launch POWER
- Fedora 20 has POWER8 support
- Docker in Rawhide, target Fedora 23



Supported add-ons

- JBoss
- High Performance Network Add-on



SLES 12 (LE)

- POWER8 (native mode)
- Technology preview of KVM host support
- Bare metal support target of SP1 ('L' models only)



SLES 11 (BE)

- POWER8 with SP3 (P7-compatibility mode)
- POWER7+ encryption, RNG accelerators with SP3
- Full support of POWER7 (native mode)

openSUSE

- openSUSE 12.2 re-launched for IBM POWER
- POWER in openSUSE 13.2
- Docker enabled in Tumbleweed
- Power enablement in Leap 42.1 underway



Supported add-ons

- SUSE Linux Enterprise HA



Ubuntu 15.10 (LE)

- S822LC enablement
- CAPI enablement



Ubuntu 15.04 (LE)

- Docker enablement
- FPGA support

Ubuntu 14.10 (LE)

- S824L GPU enablement

Ubuntu 14.04 (LE)

- POWER8 enabled (native mode)
- No official support for POWER7+ and older systems
- 64-bit only
- KVM hosting enabled (.2)
- S812LC enabled (.3)



Supported add-ons

- JuJu Charms
- MaaS (Metal as a Service)
- Landscape

Debian

- Stable supports POWER8 LE in Jessie (8) release

Power Virtualization Options

Power Virtualization Options

PowerVM is Power Virtualization that will continue to be enhanced to support AIX, IBM i, as well as Linux workloads



PowerVM

2004 Initial Offering

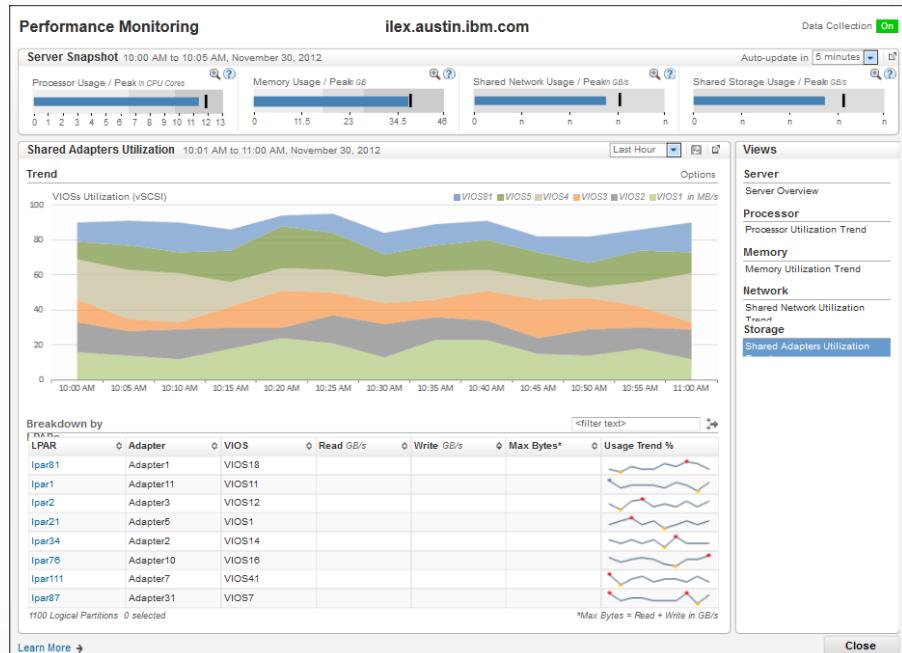
Q2 2014
Initial Offering

PowerKVM provides an [open source choice](#) for Power Virtualization for Linux workloads. Best for clients that aren't familiar with Power and Linux centric admins.



PowerVM: Virtualization without limits

- New monitoring views help simplify performance and capacity management
- Support for latest POWER8 servers and capabilities
- SR-IOV NIC support for enhanced network virtualization

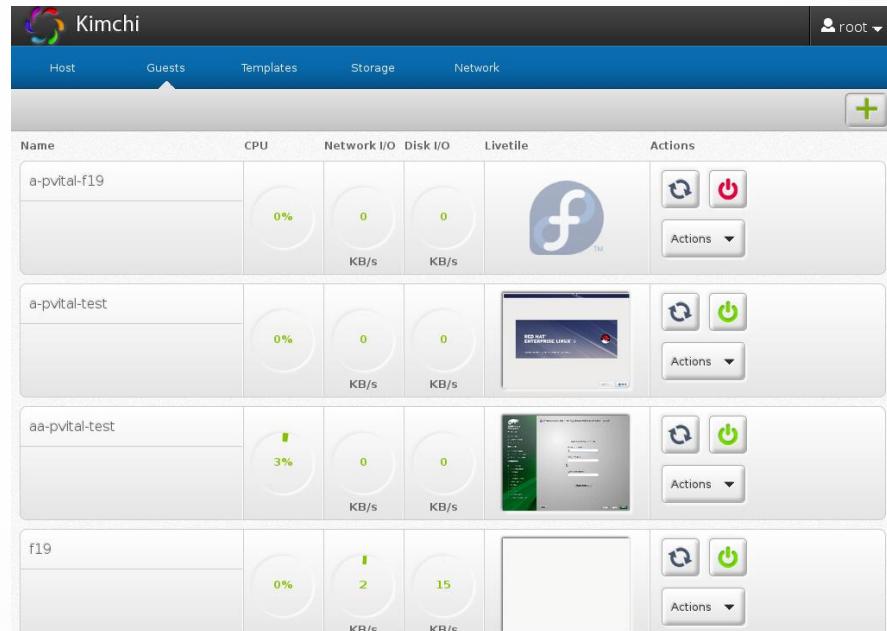


PowerVM



PowerKVM: open virtualization for scale-out servers

- Kernel-Based Virtual Machine (KVM) virtualization targets new Linux workloads
- Provides simplicity and familiarity for VMware and KVM x86 Linux admins
- Enables cloud providers to integrate Linux on Power into OpenStack environments
- Managed by PowerVC or open source tools such as Kimchi
- Exploits POWER8 micro-threading for performance efficiency



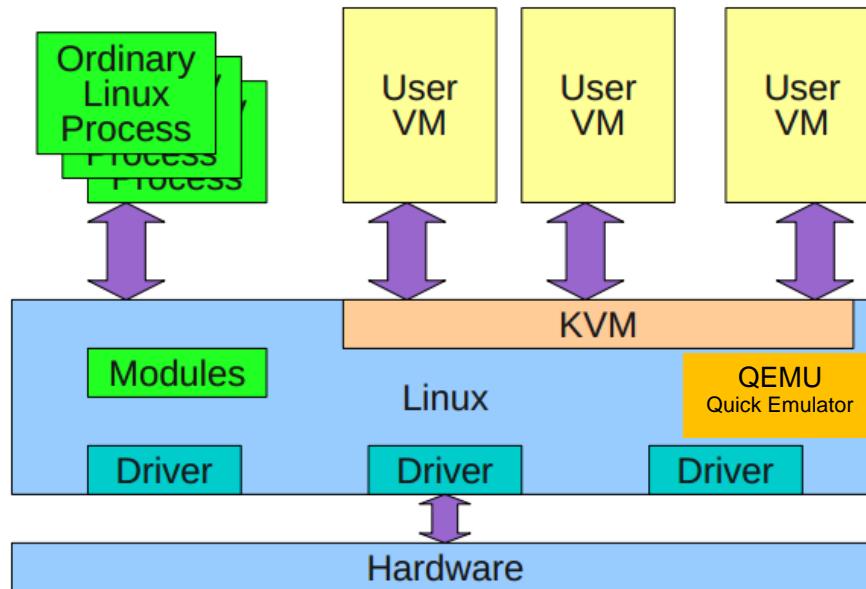
PowerKVM



Power Firmware – OPAL (Open Power Abstraction Layer)

- PowerKVM runs over a different firmware stack than PowerVM
 - New system firmware layer developed (OPAL)
- Hardware Management Console (HMC) does not play a role
 - Console access using open source tool called **ipmitool**
- System Management Services (SMS) is replaced by Petitboot
 - Petitboot is a platform independent bootloader based on the Linux **kexec** warm reboot mechanism

KVM Architecture Overview

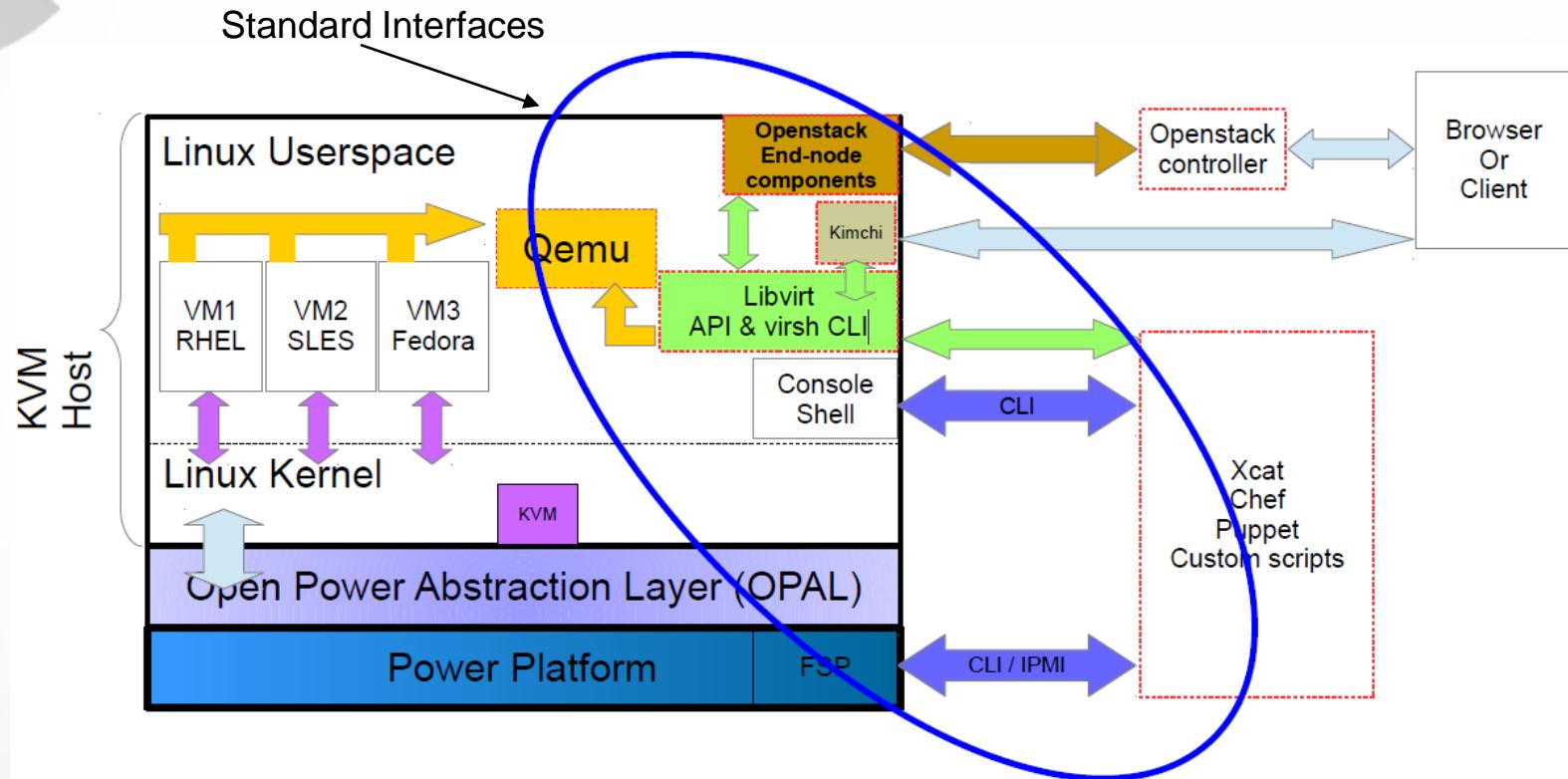


KVM - Kernel-Based Virtual Machine
Loadable Kernel Module that provides server virtualization for Memory and CPU
QEMU – Quick Emulator virtualizes I/O

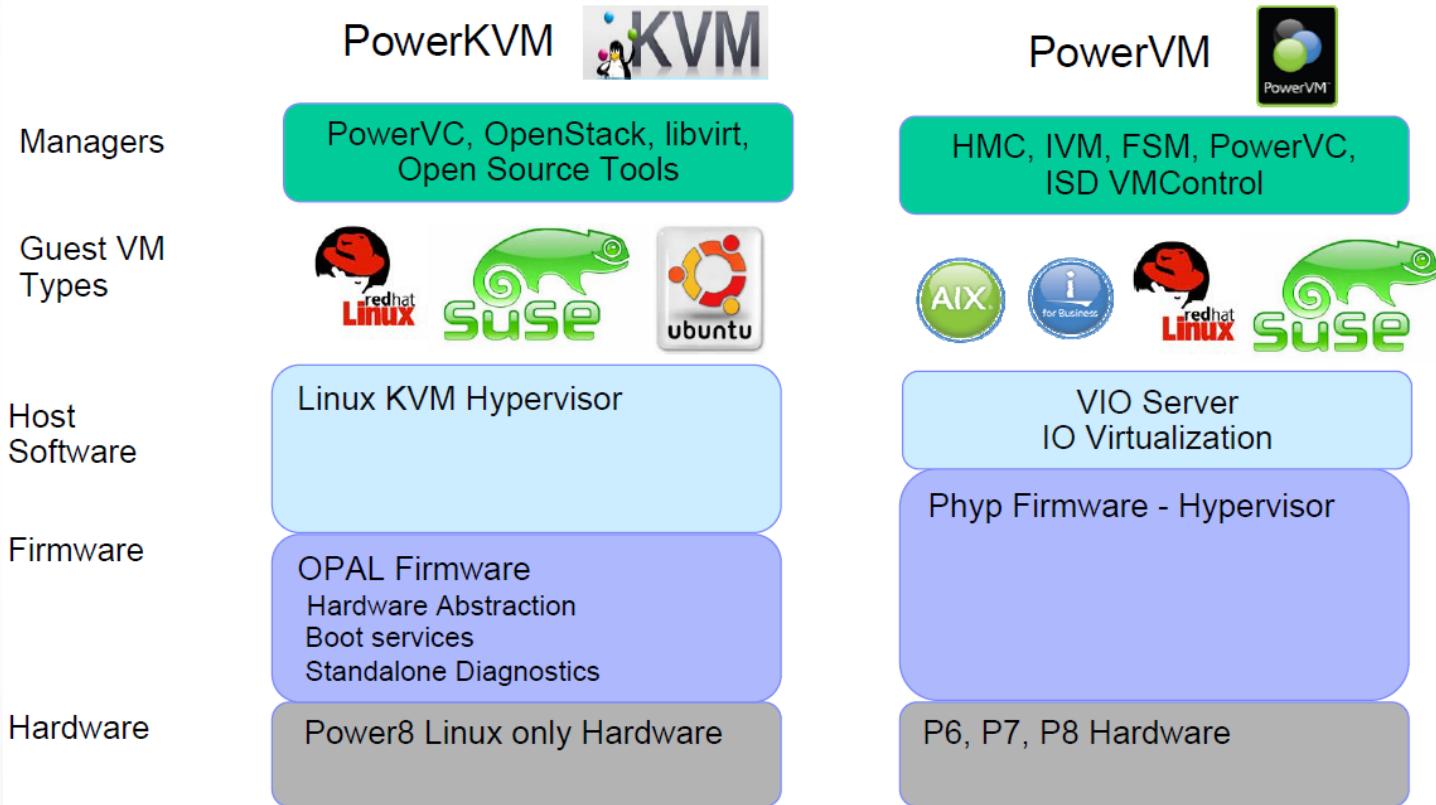
Guests run a normal Linux Process scheduled by the Linux Scheduler

Originally designed for x86 and uses hardware assists. Intel VT, AMD-V

KVM on Power - PowerKVM



Component Overview: PowerKVM vs. PowerVM



Terminology comparison

IBM PowerKVM	KVM on x86	IBM PowerVM
Guest, virtual machine	Guest, virtual machine	LPAR
Hypervisor, Host	Hypervisor, Host	Hypervisor
Flexible Service Processor (FSP)	Integrated Management Module (IMM)	Flexible Service Processor (FSP)
Open Power Abstraction Layer (OPAL)	Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI) and BIOS	PowerVM hypervisor driver (pHyp)
KVM Host User space (QEMU)	KVM Host User space (QEMU)	Virtual IO Server (VIOS)
Kimchi and virsh	Kimchi and virsh	HMC
Intelligent Platform Management Interface	Intelligent Platform Management Interface	Hardware Management Console
Kernel Same-page Merge (KSM)	Kernel Same-page Merge (KSM)	Active Memory Deduplication
zswap	zswap	Active Memory Expansion (AME)
SLOF	SeaBIOS	Open Firmware, SMS
Preboot eXecution Environment (PXE)	Preboot eXecution Environment (PXE)	bootp and tftp, NIM
Virtio drivers, ibmvscsi, ibmveth	Virtio drivers	ibmvscsi, ibmveth
Hot plug	Hot plug	DLPAR

Linux Installation (PowerVM)

Installation of a Linux OS

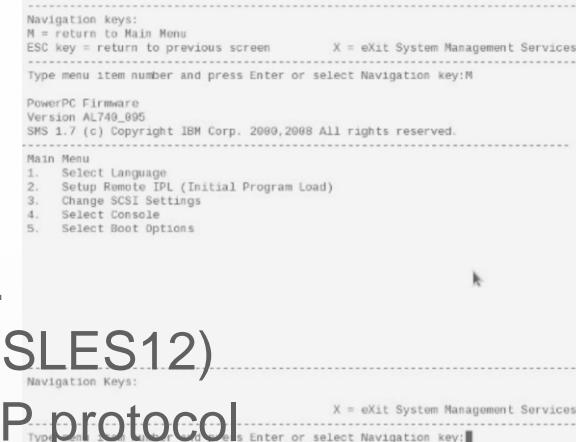
Either natively or into a partition / virtual machine

- DVD (physical or virtual optical)
- To make life easier:
 - Use VNC installation mode for headless nodes
 - **boot: linux vnc**
 - Needs network connection and assumes DHCP available, otherwise specify network settings also
 - Automated installation using configuration file available on network
 - Kickstart - RHEL or Ubuntu
 - Preconfiguration file - Ubuntu Installer
 - AutoYAST (rules and profiles) - SUSE
- Network

Linux is Linux

(but there are some differences related to the architecture)

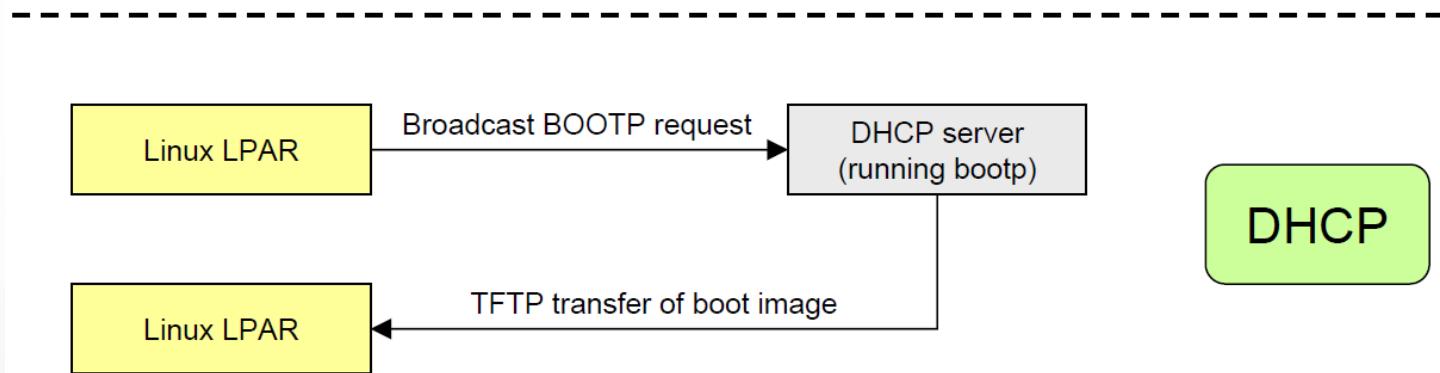
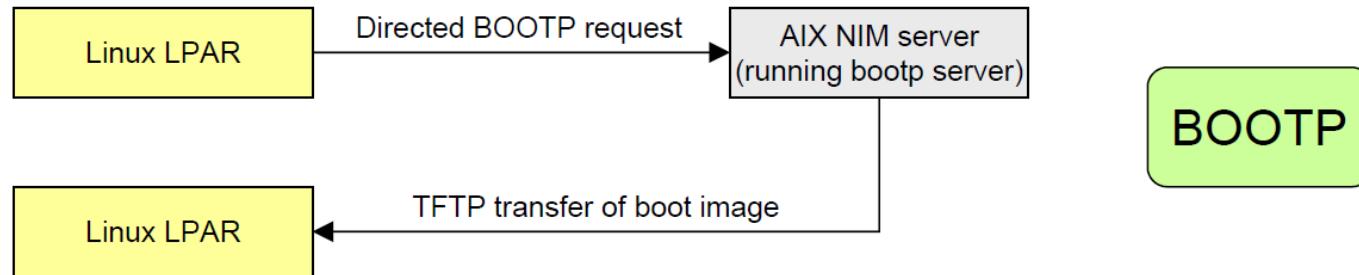
- Partitioning:
 - additional PPC PReP Boot partition which holds bootloader
 - MBR is present, but only holds partition table
- System firmware
 - System Management Services (SMS)
 - Press 1 at boot time to enter, x to exit
 - Setup Remote IPL
 - Select Boot Order, bootp network boot, ...
- Bootloader: yaboot (grub2 for RHEL71, SLES12)
- No PXE boot, network boot uses BOOTP protocol
- Additional value-add packages: IBM Service and Productivity Tools



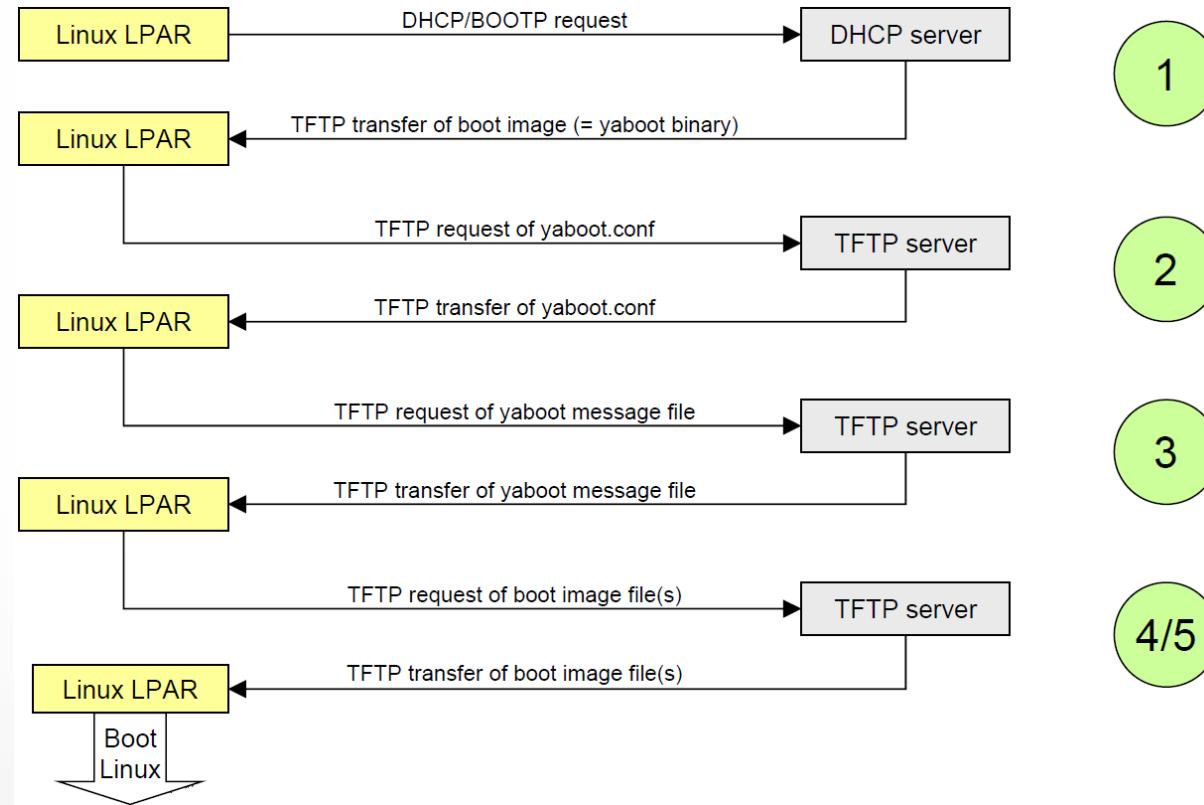
Netbooting Linux on Power

- Netbooting Linux on Power uses – same protocols as AIX:
 - BOOTP is an IP protocol that informs a computer of its IP address and where on the network to obtain a boot image
 - TFTP (Trivial File Transfer Protocol) is used to serve the boot image to the client
- Two basic approaches:
 - AIX NIM server setup as Linux install server
 - Use a directed bootp request
 - Does not require you to know the MAC address of the network boot adapter
 - (Linux) DHCP server
 - Use a broadcast bootp request
 - DHCP server must support BOOTP protocol
 - Requires you to know the MAC address of the network boot adapter

Directed BOOTP vs. broadcast BOOTP request



Netbooting yaboot (1/2)



Netboot yaboot (2/2)

- Linux LPAR sends out directed BOOTP or broadcast DHCP request
- DHCP server answers BOOTP/DHCP request and transfers boot image back to Linux LPAR via TFTP
- Linux LPAR executes transferred boot image (= yaboot binary)
- Yaboot now requests via TFTP its config file `yaboot.conf`:
 - Depending on Linux distribution client-specific `yaboot.conf` can be located in different locations (i.e., directories)
 - TFTP server transfers `yaboot.conf` back to Linux LPAR
- If “`yaboot.conf`“ contains a statement “`message=yaboot.txt`“ then the `yaboot` message file is requested via TFTP and transferred back from the TFTP server
- Linux LPAR now requests the boot image file(s)
- TFTP server transfers boot image file(s) back to Linux LPAR

Netbooting Linux on Power – AIX NIM bootp setup

```
/etc/bootptab:  
# Legend:  
#   first field -- hostname (may be full domain name and probably should be)  
#   hd -- home directory  
#   bf -- bootfile  
#   sa -- server IP address to tftp bootfile from  
#   gw -- gateways  
#   ha -- hardware address  
#   ht -- hardware type  
#   ip -- host IP address  
#   sm -- subnet mask  
#   tc -- template host (points to similar host entry)  
#   hn -- name switch  
#   bs -- boot image size  
#   dt -- old style boot switch  
js21-5-rhel5:bf=/tftpboot/js21-5-rhel5:ip=10.0.21.52:ht=ethernet:sa=10.0.0.8:sm=255.255.0.0:  
js21-6-sles10:bf=/tftpboot/js21-6-sles10:ip=10.0.21.62:ht=ethernet:sa=10.0.0.8:sm=255.255.0.0:
```

```
root@nim:/tftpboot> ls -la js*  
lrwxrwxrwx    1 root      system          19 Mar 03 2013  js21-5-rhel5 -> rhel5u8-netboot.img  
lrwxrwxrwx    1 root      system          14 Mar 02 2013  js21-6-sles11 -> sles11-sp2-inst64
```

Netbooting Linux on Power – Linux DHCP server

```
[root@ppclinix:/tftpboot]# ls -al
drwxr-xr-x 14 root root      640 Apr 19 00:29 .
drwxr-xr-x 26 root root     888 Apr 16 21:32 ..
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root root      10 Apr  7 13:32 LPAR00001 -> yaboot.RHEL65
drwxr-xr-x  2 root root     104 Apr  7 14:09 RHEL6U5
-rw-r--r--  1 root root    2916 Apr  7 14:40 yaboot.conf
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root root      11 Apr  7 13:51 yaboot.conf-36-9a-c0-00-40-0b -> yaboot.conf
-rw-r--r--  1 root root  263760 Apr  7 13:27 yaboot.RHEL65
-rw-r--r--  1 root root     213 Apr  7 13:58 yaboot.txt

[root@ppclinix:/tftpboot]# ls -al RHEL6U5
./RHEL6-U5:
-rw-r--r--  1 root root 28205108 Apr  7 14:09 initrd.img
-rwxr-xr-x  1 root root 17020184 Apr  7 14:09 vmlinuz
```

Netbooting Linux on Power – Linux DHCP server

```
/etc/dhcpd.conf:

option domain-name "████████.ibm.com";
option domain-name-servers 10.0.0.8;
option routers 10.0.0.1;
option ntp-servers 10.0.0.8;
ddns-update-style none;
ignore unknown-clients;
allow bootp;
subnet 10.0.0.0 netmask 255.255.0.0 {
    range 10.0.56.230 10.0.56.250;
    default-lease-time 86400;
    max-lease-time 604800;
}
host LPAR00001 {
    hardware ethernet 36:9A:C0:00:40:0B;
    filename "LPAR00001";
    fixed-address 10.0.56.4;
    next-server 10.0.0.51;
}
```

Netbooting Linux on Power – Linux DHCP server

```
[root@dhcp-server:/tftpboot]# cat yaboot.conf
## This yaboot.conf is for netbooting different Linux distributions

message=yaboot.txt

timeout=100

default=sles11-sp3

image[64bit]=sles11-sp3-inst64
    label=sles11-sp3
    append="quiet sysrq=1 insmod=sym53c8xx insmod=ipr install=nfs://10.0.0.51/export/PPC/SLES11-SP3"

image[64bit]=sles11-sp2-inst64
    label=sles11
    append="quiet sysrq=1 insmod=sym53c8xx insmod=ipr install=nfs://10.0.0.51/export/PPC/SLES11-SP2"

image=/RHEL6-U5/vmlinuz
    label=rhel6-u5
    initrd=/RHEL6-U5/initrd.img
    append="ks=nfs:10.0.0.51:/export/RHEL_Kickstart/kickstart.cfg ksdevice=eth0"
    read-only

. . .
```

Installing PowerKVM

OPAL Model: IPMI on the FSP

- IPMI (which stands for Intelligent Platform Management Interface) is a standardized interface and protocol set for managing systems out of band, or in-band and monitoring operation
 - Common protocol on x86 server BMCs, although HP, DELL, Lenovo have customized BMC software
- Open source command line tool on Linux: ipmitool
- There is no explicit IPMI user on the FSP
 - No user to specify when using ipmitool
- IPMI password is set within the ASMI interface
- Firmware updates are not done with IPMI on FSP-based systems

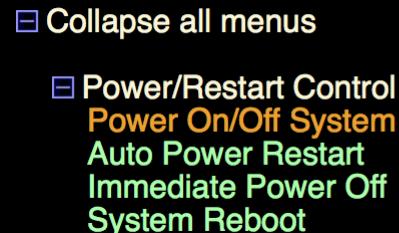
Determining IP address – Systems with FSPs

- The FSP ports (usually labeled HMC1 and HMC2) are initially configured to obtain network address(es) via DHCP request
- The op console can be used to determine the IP address of the FSP
- The following steps will determine the IP Address
 - STEP 1: Use the op-console to set the system into manual mode
 - STEP 2: Use the up/down arrow keys to select option 30
 - STEP 3: Press Enter
 - STEP 4: Use the up arrow keys to select 3000
 - STEP 5: Press Enter
 - STEP 6: Observe IP Address

Configuring the system for Opal Mode

Power off the system

- POWER8 Scale-Out Linux only
Models can be configured to support either the PowerVM hypervisor or OPAL (bare metal)
- Configuring the system to support OPAL mode requires the system to be in a powered-off state and not managed by an HMC
- **Step 1:** Check the Power state of the system via ASM and power off if necessary



This is a configuration page for the Power On/Off System. It includes the following sections:

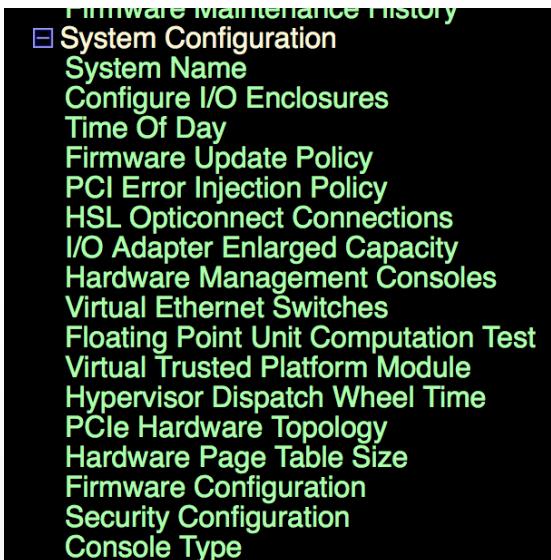
- Power On/Off System**:
 - Current system power state: Off
 - Current firmware boot side: Temporary
 - Current system server firmware state: Not running
 - Current service processor state: Standby
- Firmware boot side for the next boot:** A dropdown menu set to "Temporary" with a help icon.
- System operating mode:** A dropdown menu set to "Manual" with a help icon.
- Server firmware start policy:** A dropdown menu set to "Running (Auto-Start Always)" with a help icon.
- System power off policy:** A dropdown menu set to "Automatic" with a help icon.
- Buttons:** "Save settings" and "Save settings and power on" both with help icons.

Note: Any setting changes will not be effective until the next system IPL.

Configuring the system for Opal mode

Verify that there is no HMC connection to the system

- To change a system to OPAL mode all HMC connections need to be removed
- **Step 2:** Remove any configured HMC connections



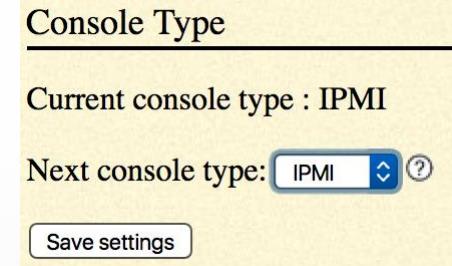
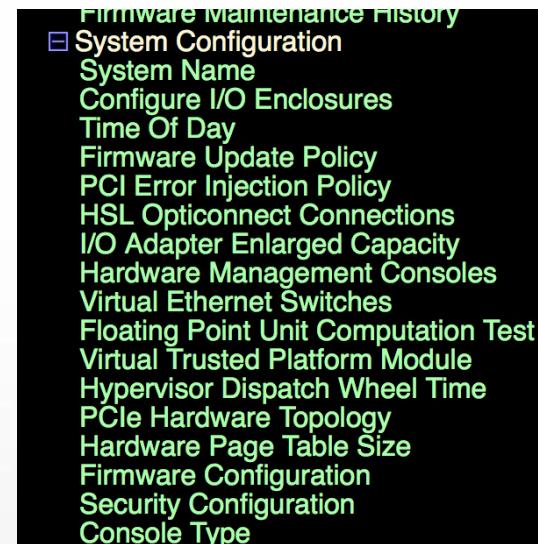
Hardware Management Consoles

There are no HMC connections at this time

Configuring the system for OPAL mode

Check Console Type

- In OPAL mode there are two console types, serial and IPMI
 - Serial requires a connection to the serial port on the back of the system
 - IPMI requires a network connection to the Service Processor
- **Step 3:** Ensure that the console type is set to IPMI



Configuring the system for OPAL mode

Setting the IPMI password

- The password defined for the ‘IPMI’ user is used to access the Flexible Service Processor via ipmi tools
- Step 4:** Set the IPMI password

Control Panel

- Login Profile
- Change Password
- Retrieve Login Audits
- Change Default Language
- Update Installed Languages
- User Access Policy

Change Password

User ID to change:  

Current password for user ID admin: 

New password for user: 

New password again: 

Useful IPMI commands

- **Power on server**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com chassis power on
- **Power off server**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com chassis power off
- **Check server status**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com chassis status
- **Gracefully shut down the server**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com chassis power soft
- **Server hard reset**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com chassis power reset

Useful IPMI commands

- **Activate Serial Over LAN (SOL) console**

- ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com sol activate

- **Deactive SOL system console**

- ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com sol deactivate

- **Get error log**

- ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com sel list

- **List status of all sensors**

- ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com sdr list

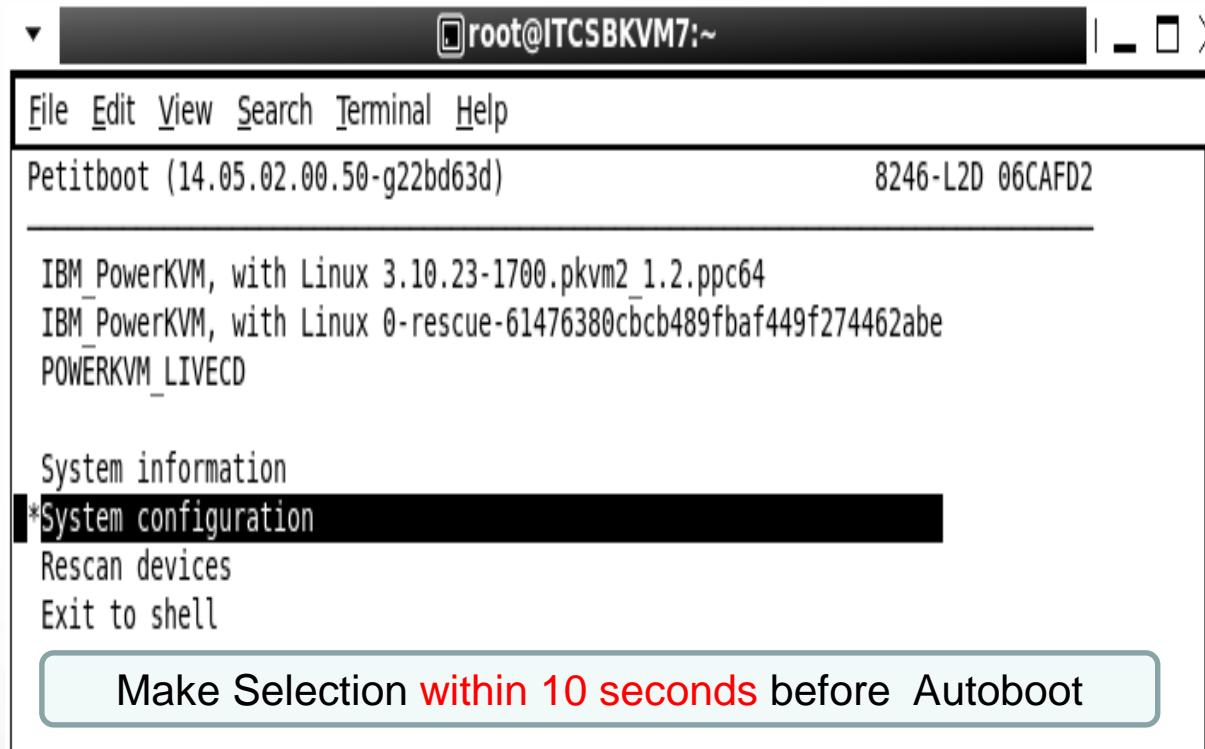
Useful IPMI commands

- **Get firmware version**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com mc info
- **Get a specific sensor**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com sdr get "OS Boot"
- **Get a list of sensor types**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com sdr type list
- **Set boot device**
 - ipmitool -I lanplus -H myserver.ibmpowerlinux.com chassis bootdev cdrom

Petitboot Utility

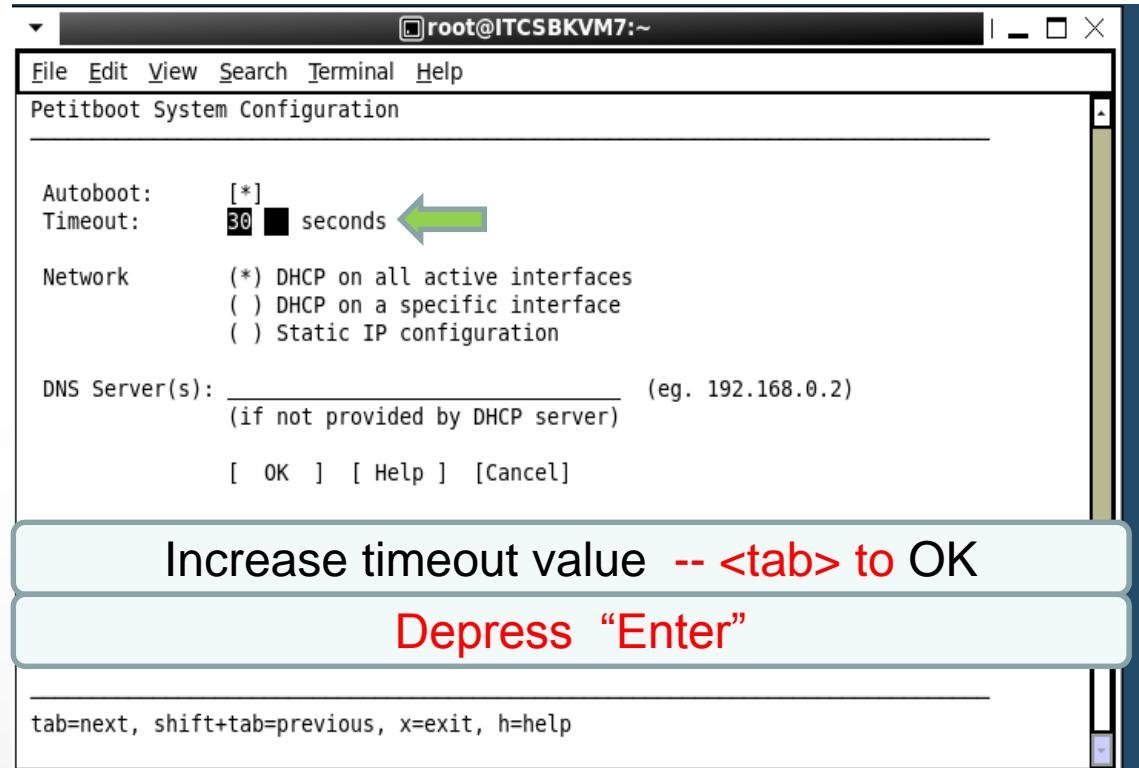
- Petitboot is a platform independent boot loader based on the Linux **kexec** warm reboot mechanism
- Petitboot is part of the OPAL firmware that provides the following functions
 - Automatically detects installation media as well as installed Linux instances
 - Displays all physical adapters / ports attached to the Power Server
 - Configures storage on attached storage adapters
 - Sets Petitboot auto timeout and other settings
 - Interfaces with boot device (DVD, Linux Kernel, etc)
- Power systems configured for OPAL mode will disable PHYP and boot into Petitboot

Petitboot Main Menu

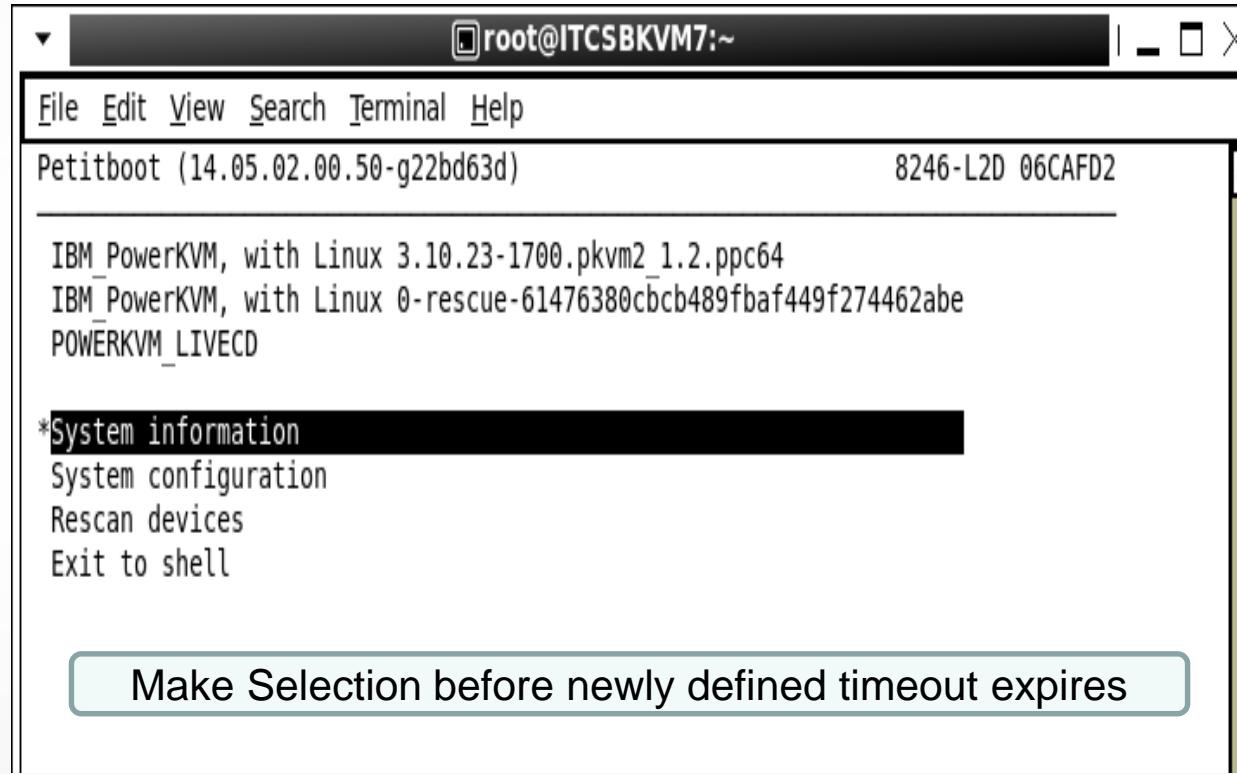


Petitboot – System Configuration

Increasing the Timeout



Petitboot – Working with System Information



Petitboot – Working with System Information

```
root@ITCSBKVM7:~
```

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

Petitboot System Information

System type: 8246-L2D
System id: 06CAF02

Storage devices

sda2:
UUID: f74cd8b1-e3a6-48e3-8813-8488b6da1117
mounted at: /var/petitboot/mnt/dev/sda2

sr0:
UUID: 2014-06-03-10-25-28-00
mounted at: /var/petitboot/mnt/dev/sr0

Network interfaces

eth0:
MAC: 40:f2:e9:5a:72:bc
link: down

eth1:

x=exit, h=help

Server Type and Serial Number

Internal Disk Array

DVD Device

Down Arrow Key to view next Screen

Petitboot – Working with System Information

The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@ITCSBKVM7:~". The window displays the following system information:

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Petitboot System Information
-----
MAC: 40:f2:e9:5a:72:bd
link: down

eth2:
MAC: 40:f2:e9:5a:72:be
link: up

eth3:
MAC: 40:f2:e9:5a:72:bf
link: up

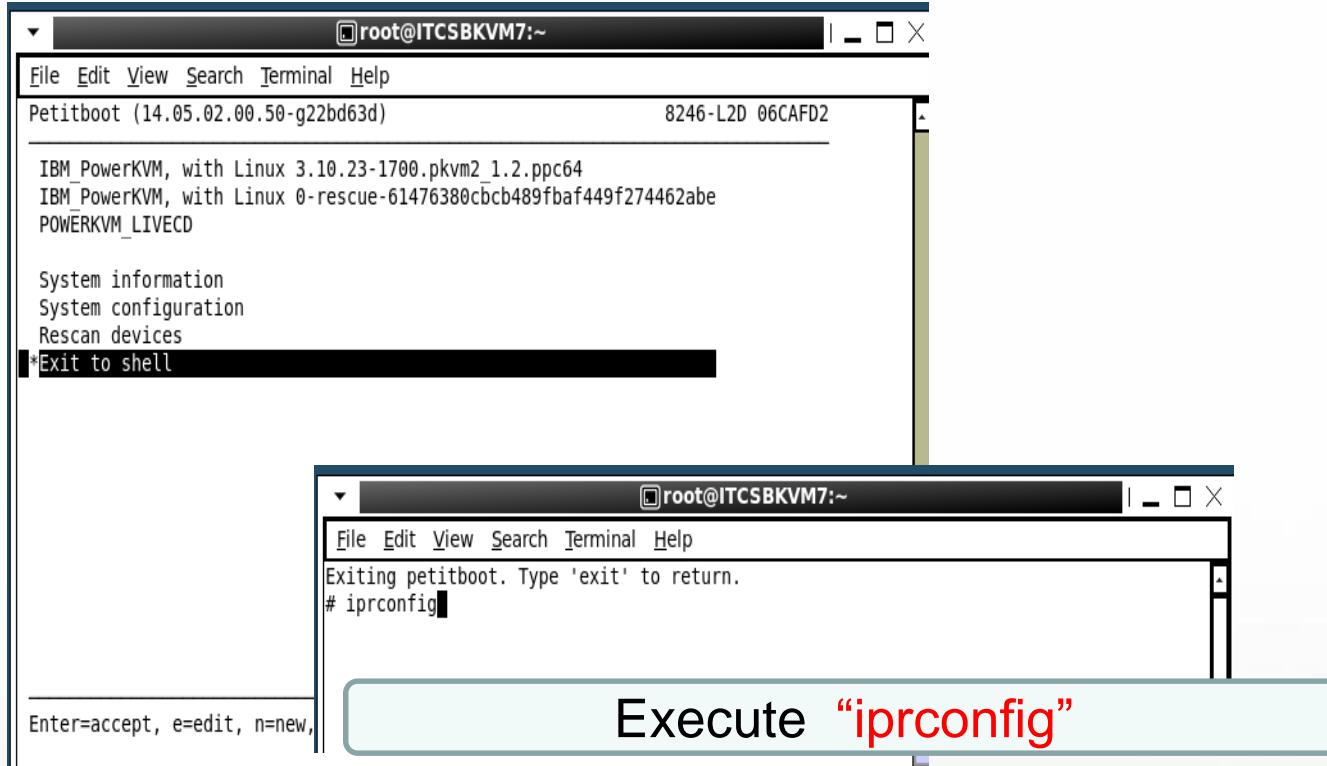
eth4:
MAC: 00:90:fa:2d:f1:08
link: down

eth5:
MAC: 00:90:fa:2d:f1:09
link: down
```

Annotations on the right side of the terminal window:

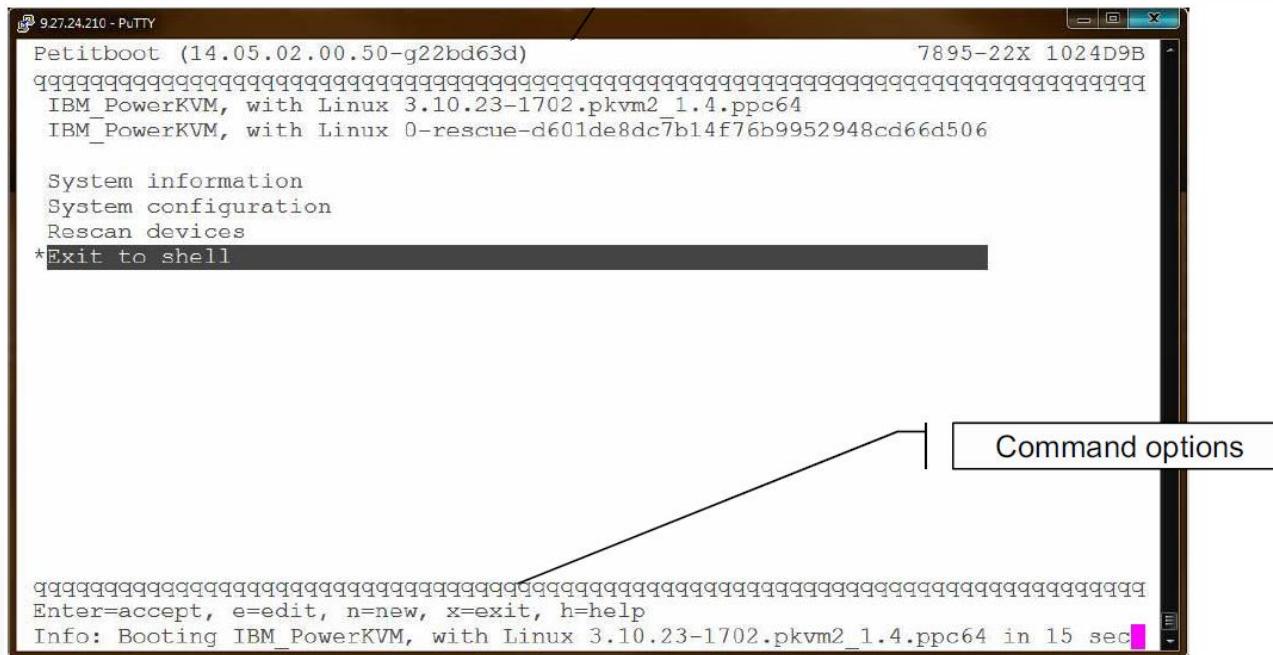
- A green box highlights the line "Ethernet “ent2” Active" with the text "Ethernet “ent2” Active".
- A green box highlights the line "Ethernet “ent3” Active" with the text "Ethernet “ent3” Active".
- A red box at the bottom right of the terminal window contains the text "Depress ‘x’".
- A small green sun-like icon is located at the bottom left of the terminal window.

Petitboot – Working with Hardware RAID Adapters



Petitboot – Network boot: Option Editor (1/3)

- From the main **Petitboot** menu, use the **N** key to create a new entry



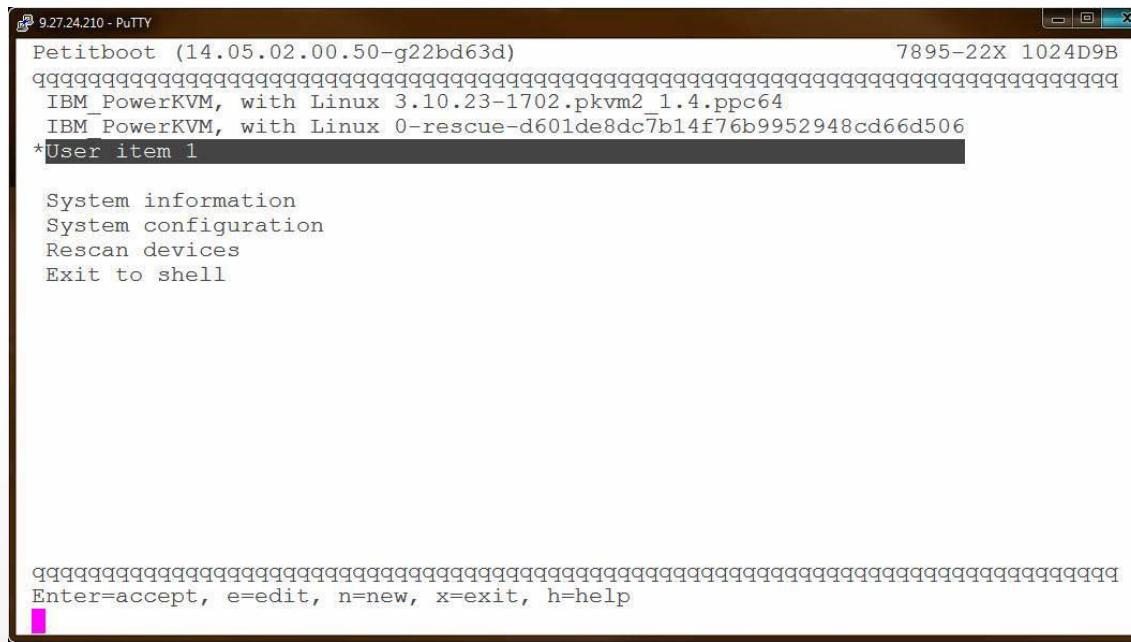
Petitboot – Network boot: Option Editor (2/3)

- Provide required information
 - lines in the example extend beyond the screen capture



Petitboot – Network boot: Option Editor (3/3)

- Select the boot source:
 - example shows new user item just created



PowerKVM Connections

- Direct connection to system via serial port
- Network connection to KVM host once PowerKVM has been installed
- Serial Over LAN (SOL) console from workstation with network connection/access to KVM Host
 - SOL is supported by ipmitool on Linux and MAC workstations and ipmiutil on Windows workstations

PowerKVM Installation

- Power Cycle the Power Server via ipmitool
- Open SOL console to the server via ipmitool
- Select “DVD” Media” from Petitboot Menu
- Follow “PowerKVM Installation Menus”

“ipmitool” Syntax

- Power Control Command Options

```
$ ipmitool -I lanplus -H <fsp – IP> -P <fsp password> power <option>
```

status
on
off
cycle

- Serial Over LAN – Console Connection

```
$ ipmitool -I lanplus -H <fsp – IP> -P <fsp password> sol activate
```

activate
deactivate

System Power-On and petitboot access

FSP IP Address and IPMITOOL Password

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

```
[root@ITCSBKVM7 ~]# ipmitool -I lanplus -H 192.168.100.10 -P lnxteam power status
```

Chassis Power is off

verify Chassis power is "OFF"

```
[root@ITCSBKVM7 ~]#
```

```
[root@ITCSBKVM7 ~]# ipmitool -I lanplus -H 192.168.100.10 -P lnxteam power on
```

Chassis Power Control: Up/On

Activate Chassis power "ON"

```
[root@ITCSBKVM7 ~]#
```

```
[root@ITCSBKVM7 ~]# ipmitool -I lanplus -H 192.168.100.10 -P lnxteam sol activate
```

```
[SOL Session operational. Use ~? for help]
```

Activate Serial Over Lan - Console

Be Patient Can take up to 5 minutes before "Petitboot" Menu Appears

Booting the Installer

- When the system is started petitboot scans the system looking for any bootable devices (such as HDDs/SSDs with Linux installed or USB keys/Media Drives with installation media)
- To install PowerKVM use the arrow keys to highlight ‘Install IBM_PowerKVM’ and press <ENTER>

```
Petitboot (dev.20151116)          8335-GTA          2104CFA
[Disk: sda2 / 636e4b60-1df2-49c5-9f47-4c92768089b4]
  IBM_PowerKVM 3.1.0, with Linux 3.18.22-359.el7_1.pkvm3_1_0.4000.1.ppc64le
[USB: sd11 / 2015-11-17-18-14-41-00]
  Install IBM_PowerKVM 3.1.0 

---


System information
System configuration
Language
Rescan devices
*Retrieve config from URL
Exit to shell

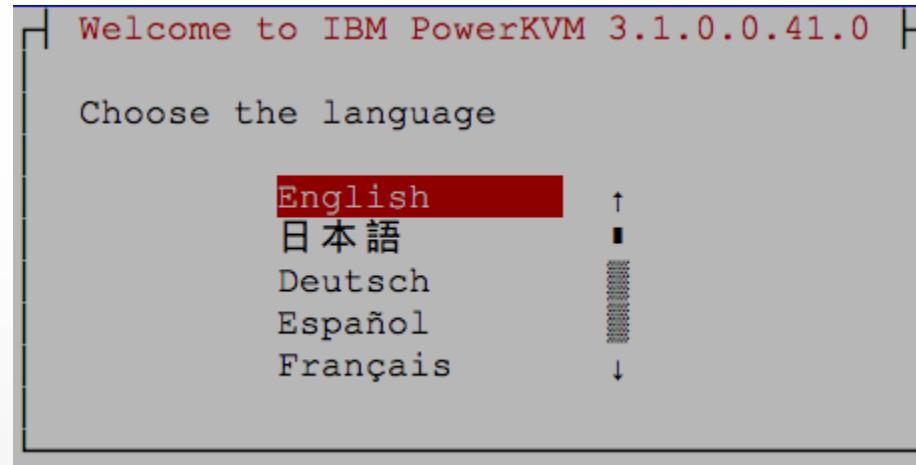


---


Enter=accept, e=edit, n=new, x=exit, l=language, h=help
```

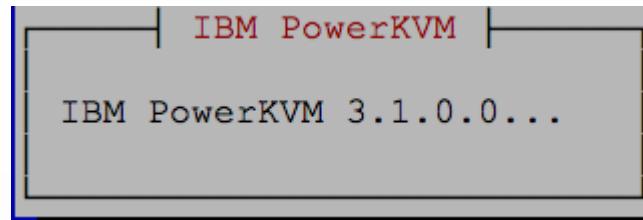
Installing PowerKVM

- When the installer is selected, petitboot uses a mechanism called ‘kswap’ to swap itself out of memory in favor of the bootable device selected (in this case the installer)
- The first step in the installation is to select the language to use for the installation.
 - Highlight the desired selection and press <ENTER>



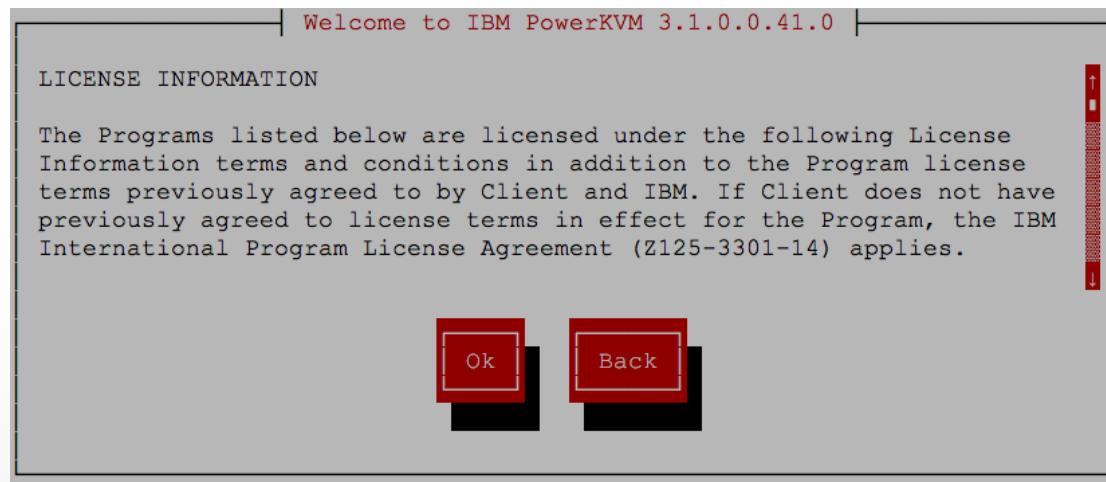
Installer Loading

- After the language selection additional installation files are loaded
- There is no action to take until the next dialog is displayed



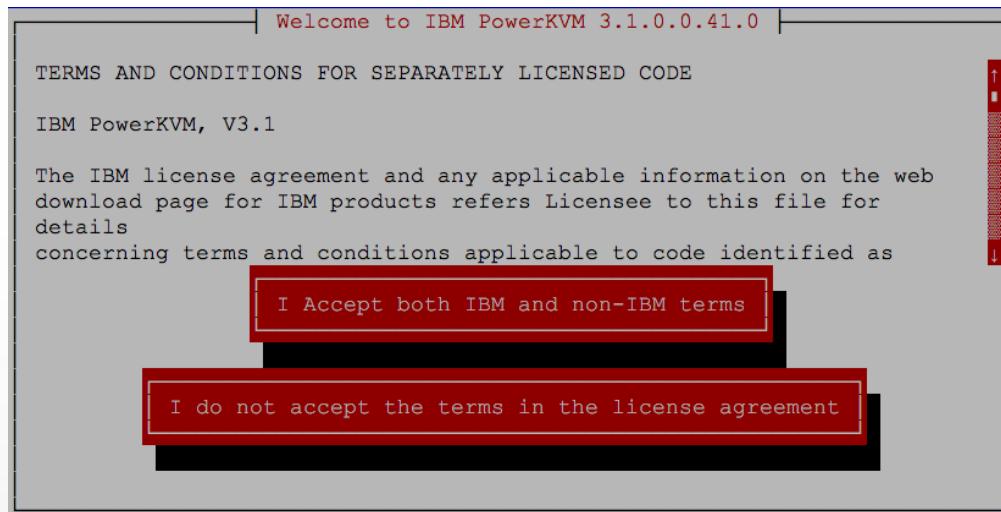
PowerKVM License Agreement #1

- Select <OK> to accept the displayed License Agreement
 - NOTE: In the installer buttons are highlighted by pressing the <TAB> key and selected via the <ENTER> key



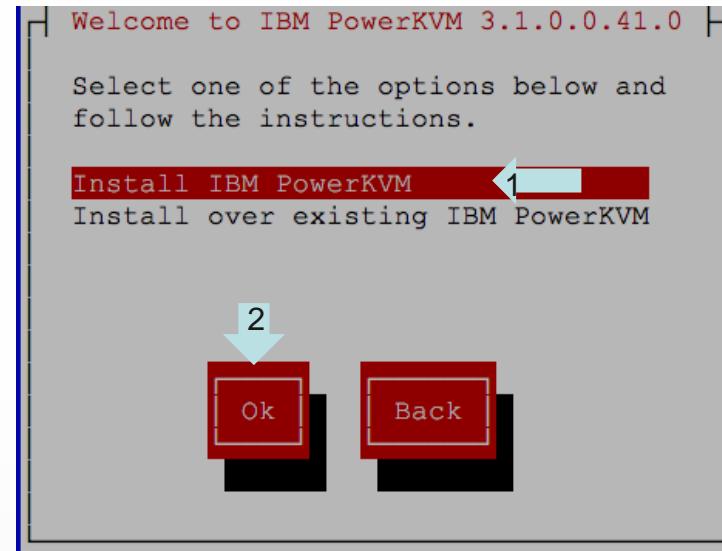
PowerKVM License Agreement #2

- PowerKVM has a second set of License Agreements that need to be accepted
- Select <I Accept both IBM and non-IBM terms>



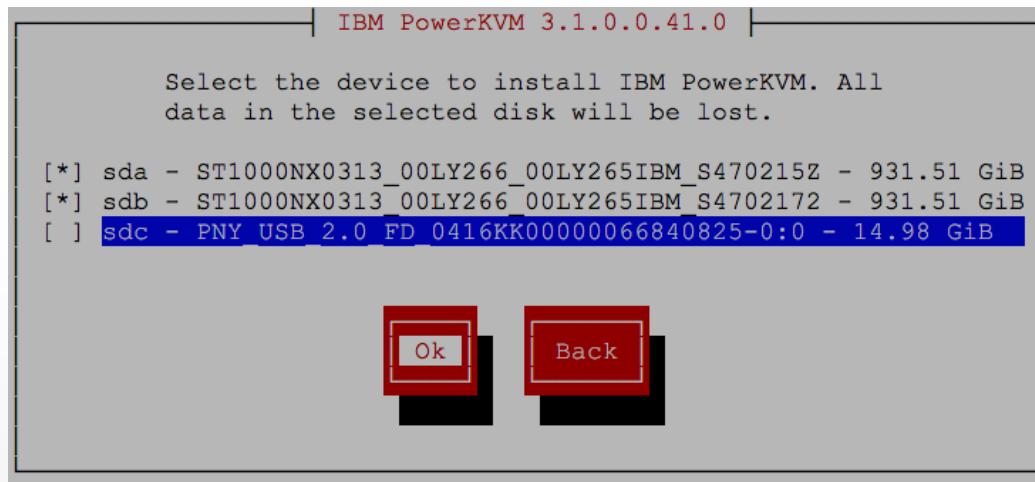
Install New vs. Over Existing

- If PowerKVM is being installed on a system that has a previous installation of PowerKVM then the option is provided to overwrite the existing installation
 - What this means is that the storage volumes for any installed guests are not overwritten
 - Keep in mind that all configurations are overwritten so any guests previously defined will need to be redefined – but the virtual disks for the guests will still be available



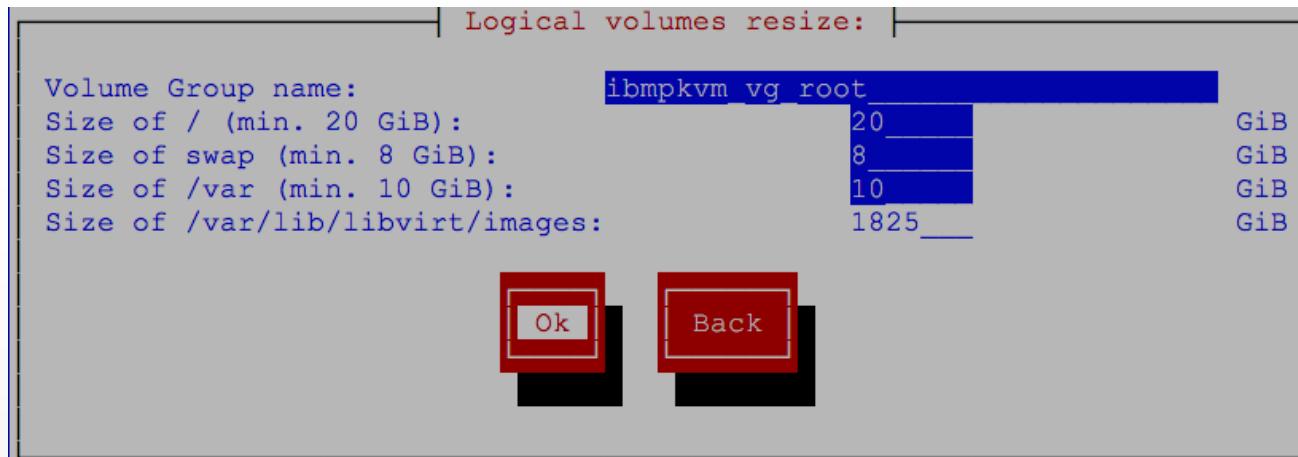
Disk Selection

- The disk selected will be the disk that the installer will partition, format, and install the operating system onto
- Use the arrow keys to highlight the desired disk and press the <SPACE BAR> to select it
 - NOTE: Multiple disks can be selected. PowerKVM uses Logical Volume Manager (LVM) and will spread the volumes across all of the disk devices selected
- Once the disk(s) are selected press <TAB> to OK and then press <ENTER>



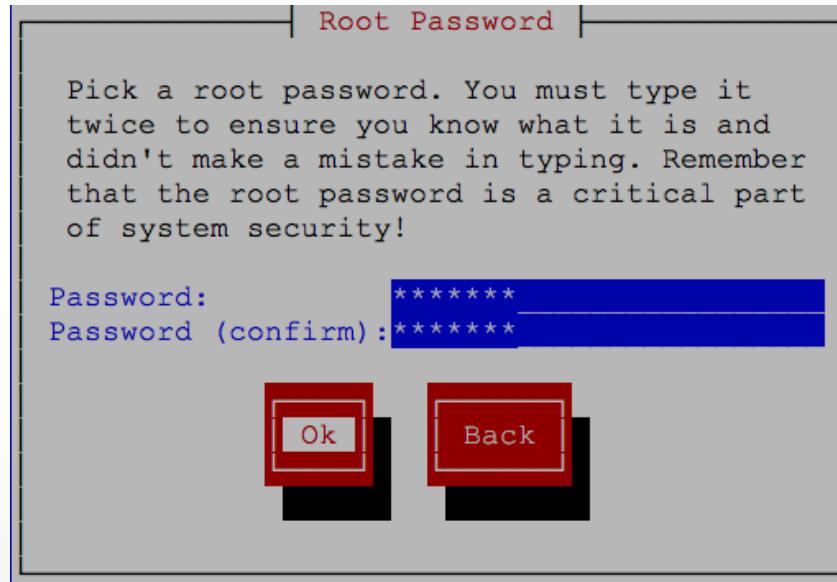
Logical Volume Resize

- The installer will establish the size of the Logical Volumes based on default (minimum) sizes for the root, swap and var file systems. The remaining space is put in the /var/lib/libvirt/images volume
 - /var/lib/libvirt/images is the default storage directory for the KVM guest image files (virtual disks)
- Tab to <OK> and press <ENTER>



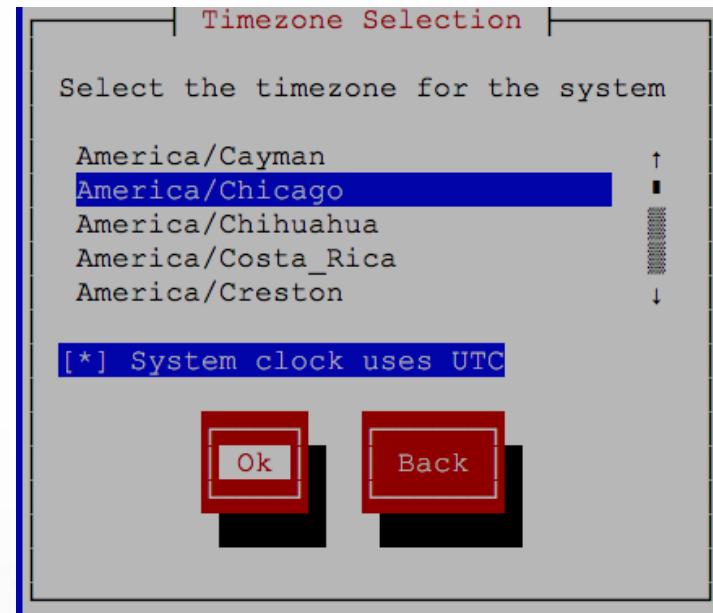
root password definition

- Define a password for the root user
- Tab to OK and press <ENTER>



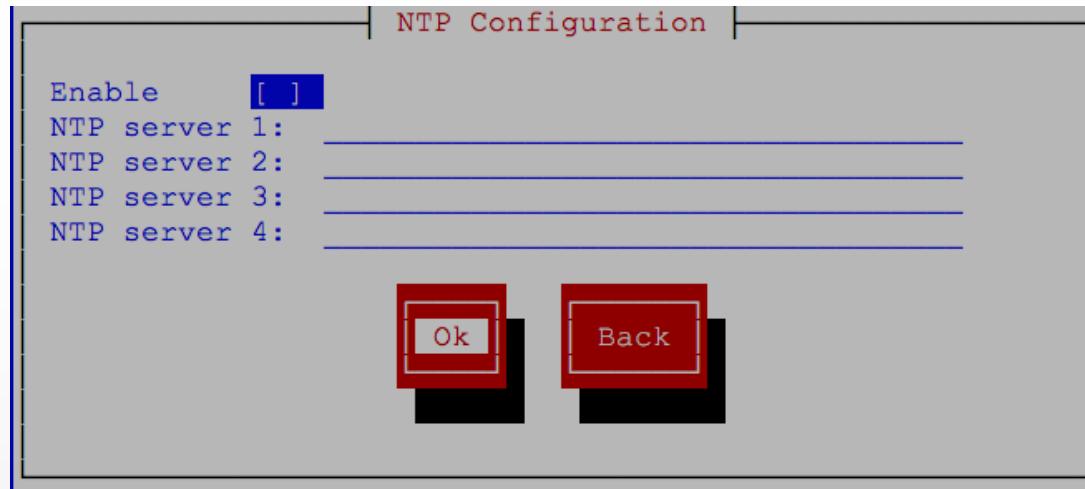
Timezone Selection

- Use the arrow keys to highlight the appropriate time-zone
- Press <TAB> to highlight OK and then press <ENTER>



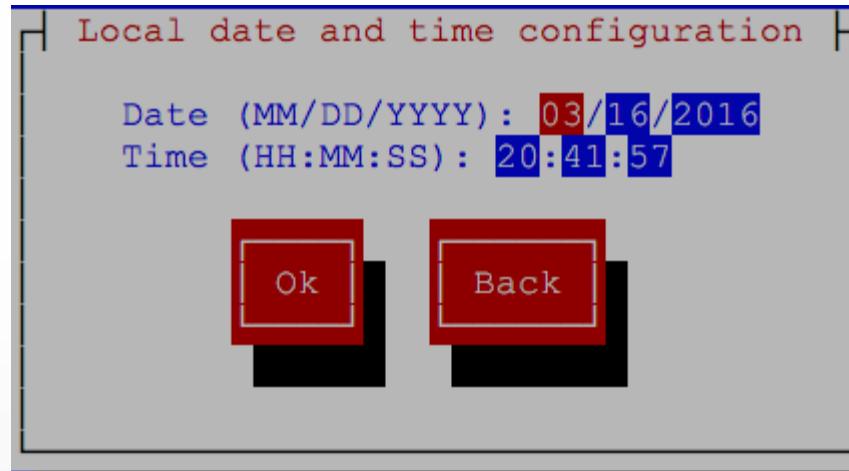
NTP Configuration

- If an NTP server is available on the network then press the <SPACE BAR> to enable NTP and then provide the network address for each NTP server
- Press <TAB> to highlight OK and then press <ENTER>



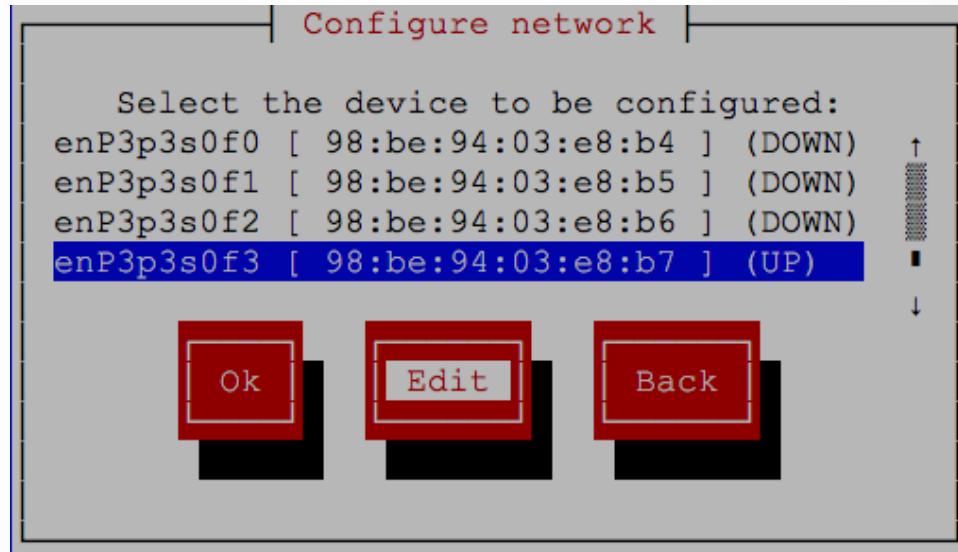
Date / Time Configuration

- Update the Date and Time as appropriate
- Press <TAB> to highlight OK and then press <ENTER>



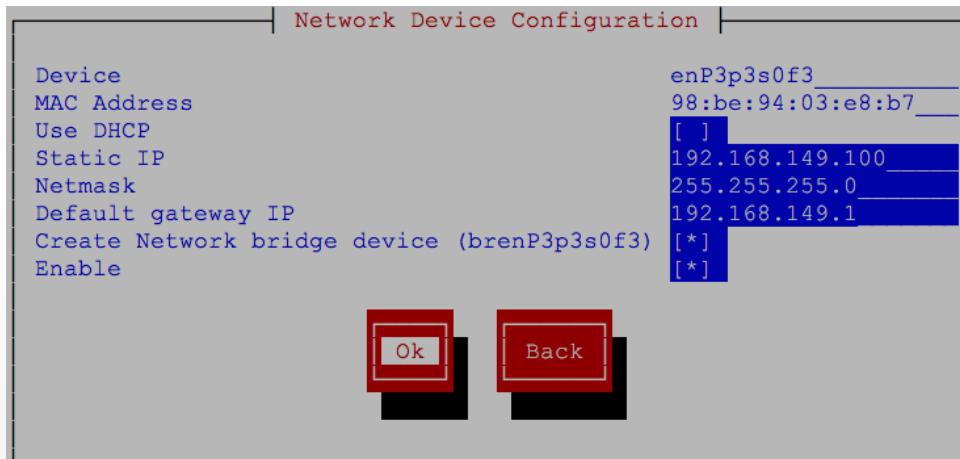
Network Configuration

- The first page of the network configuration shows the link status of each network interface discovered on the system
- Use the arrow keys to highlight an interface with a link status of 'UP'
- Tab to Edit and then press <ENTER> to advance to the second page of Network Configuration



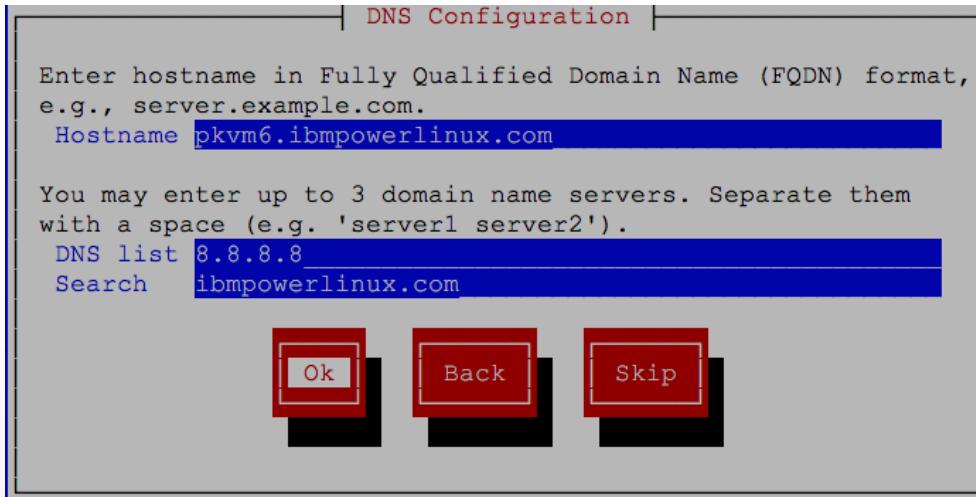
Network Device Configuration

- Most of the fields on the Network Device Configuration are self explanatory; however, there are a couple that need further explanation
 - **'Create Network bridge device'** – this will create a bridge device in Linux that can be used by KVM to route network traffic from a KVM guest via this network adapter to the external network.
 - **'Enable'** – this will cause the adapter to be enabled on start of KVM.
- <TAB> to OK and press <ENTER>
- Back on the 'Configure Network' screen <TAB> to OK and press <ENTER>



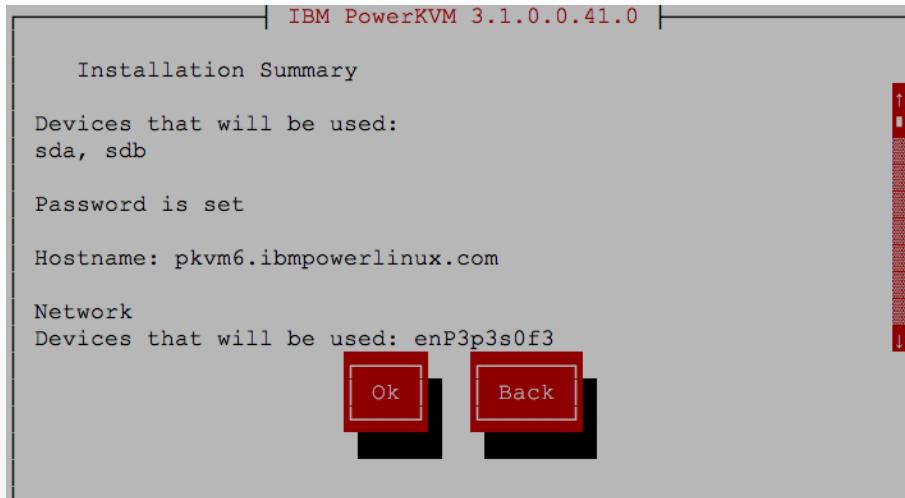
Network Configuration – DNS Configuration

- Provide a network name for the system
- Specify the DNS server(s) as well as any domains to have in the search list
 - NOTE: 8.8.8.8 is a public DNS server provided by google
 - NOTE: the ‘ibmpowerlinux.com’ domain is a domain that can be used for POCs – it does not resolve to anything on the public network
- Press <TAB> to highlight OK and press <ENTER>



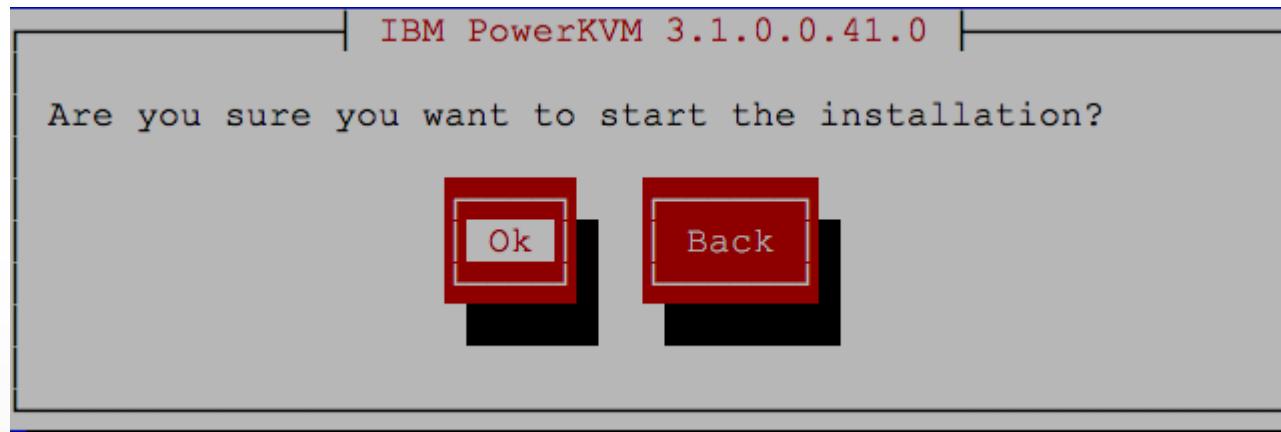
Installation Summary

- Once all of the installation settings have been specified a summary of the installation is provided
- After reviewing the settings if they are correct press <TAB> to highlight OK and press <ENTER>

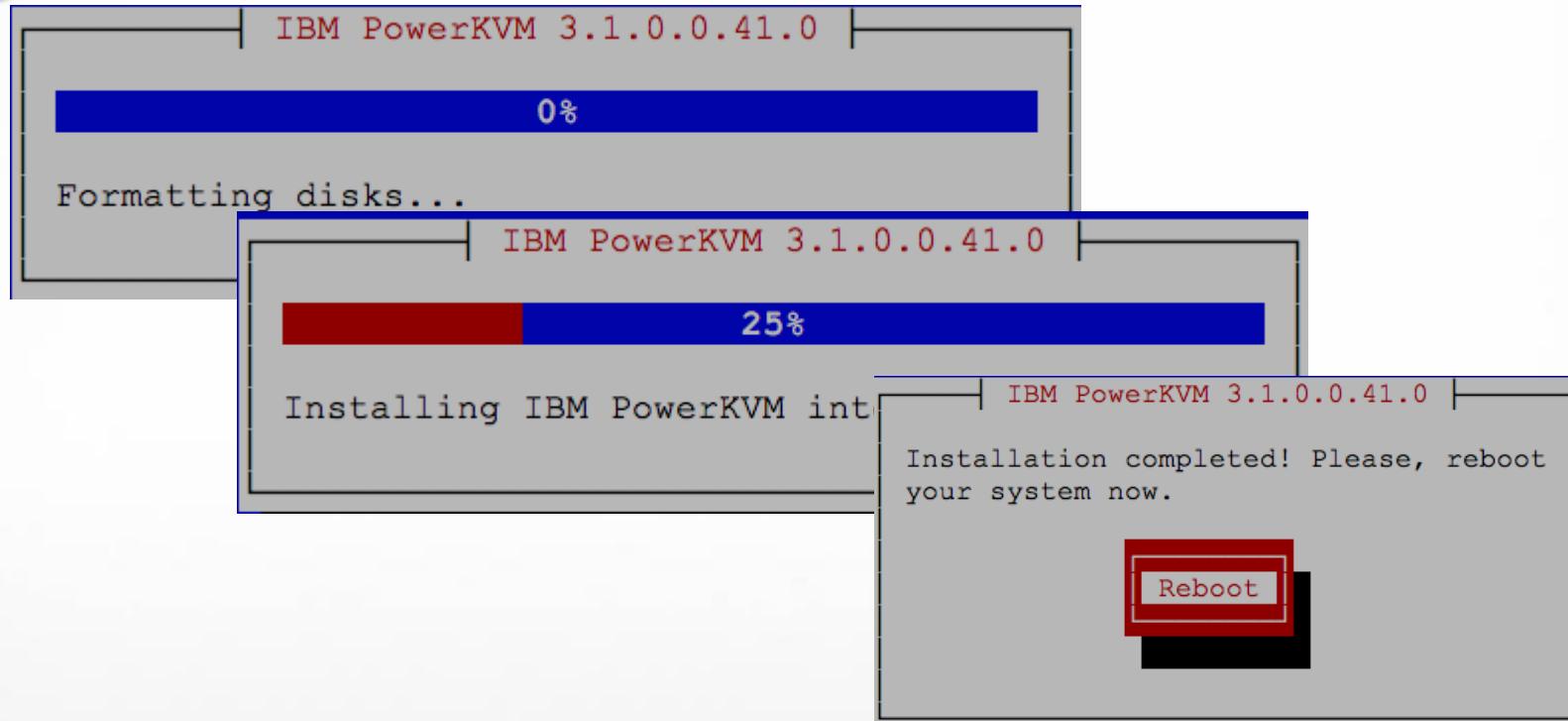


Final Confirmation

- A final confirmation for the installation is displayed.
- Press <TAB> to highlight OK and press <ENTER>

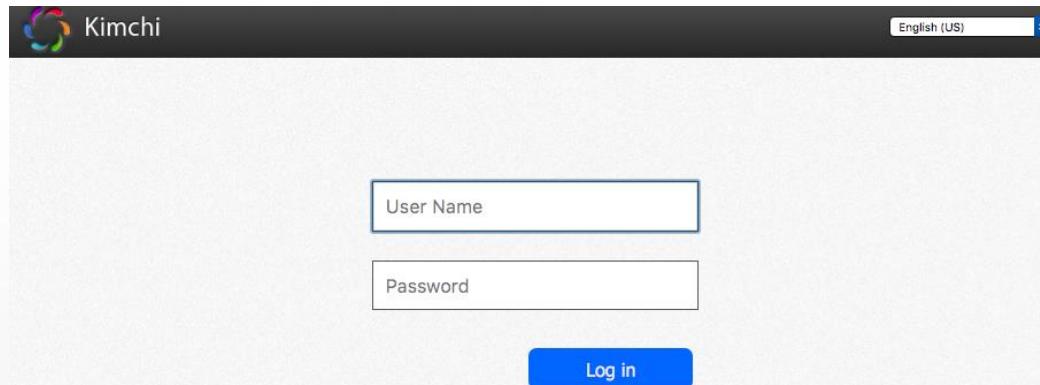


Installation Progress



Post Installation Setup

- After the installation the system reboots into ‘petitboot’
- The KVM host is flagged as the first O/S to boot so after the ‘petitboot’ timeout the just installed KVM host will boot
- We will use the KIMCHI interface to configure networking and validate storage for the KVM host
- Point a web browser at the IP Address of the KVM host and specify port 8001 (i.e., <https://<ip address of KVM host>:8001>)
- Login with the root user and password



Post Installation Setup

Validate Default Storage Setup

- The Installer sets up two storage pools by default.
 - The ISO storage pool is used to store ISO images used for installations
 - The default storage pool is where storage volumes used by the guests are stored by default

The screenshot shows the Kimchi web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs: Host, Guests, Templates, Storage (which is currently selected), Network, and Administration. On the far right of the top bar, there is a user icon labeled "root". Below the navigation bar is a search bar containing the text "Search". The main content area is titled "Storage" and displays a table of storage pools. The table has columns: Name, %Used, State, Location, Type, Capacity, Allocated, and Actions. There are two rows in the table:

- ISO**: %Used 2%, State green, Location /var/lib/kimchi/isos, Type dir, Capacity 9.7G, Allocated 163.6M, Actions dropdown menu.
- default**: %Used 0%, State green, Location /var/lib/libvirt/images, Type dir, Capacity 1.8T, Allocated 76.0M, Actions dropdown menu.

A large green "+" button is located in the top right corner of the table area, indicating the option to add new storage pools.

Name	%Used	State	Location	Type	Capacity	Allocated	Actions
ISO	2%	green	/var/lib/kimchi/isos	dir	9.7G	163.6M	Actions ▾
default	0%	green	/var/lib/libvirt/images	dir	1.8T	76.0M	Actions ▾

Post Installation Setup

Bridged Network Definition

- The KVM installer defines networks by default
 - The ‘default’ network is a network that uses Network Address Translation (NAT) to route guest traffic to the external network by masquerading through the IP address of the KVM host.
 - The kop network is an isolated network that only allows communication between the guests and host and does not allow external network communication
- On the next slide we will create a new bridged network definition.

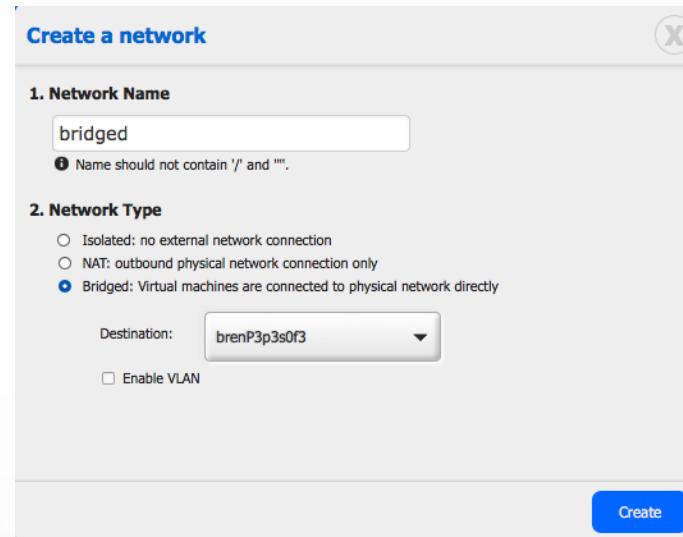
The screenshot shows the Kimchi web interface for managing KVM hosts. The top navigation bar includes the Kimchi logo, the host name 'Kimchi', and a user dropdown indicating 'root'. Below the navigation is a horizontal menu bar with tabs: Host, Guests, Templates, Storage, Network (which is currently selected), and Administration. A large green '+' button is located in the center of the page below the menu. The main content area displays a table of network definitions:

Network Name	State	Network Type	Interface	Address Space	Actions
default	●	nat	virbr0	192.168.122.0/24	Actions ▾
kop	●	isolated	virbr1	192.168.121.0/24	Actions ▾

Post Installation Setup

Bridged Network Definition

- To create a new network select the '+' on the Network page
- Complete the 'Create a network' dialog as follows:
 - Network Name – this is a user defined name for network
 - Network type – bridged
 - Destination – the bridged network interface defined during the KVM host installation
 - This interface name will begin with 'br'



Post Installation Setup

Bridged Network Definition

- Notice that the displayed networks now include the newly created network
- Also notice that the network is currently not active
- The network can be activated by selecting ‘Start’ from the networks ‘Actions’ drop-down list

The screenshot shows the Kimchi interface with the Network tab selected. The table displays the following network configurations:

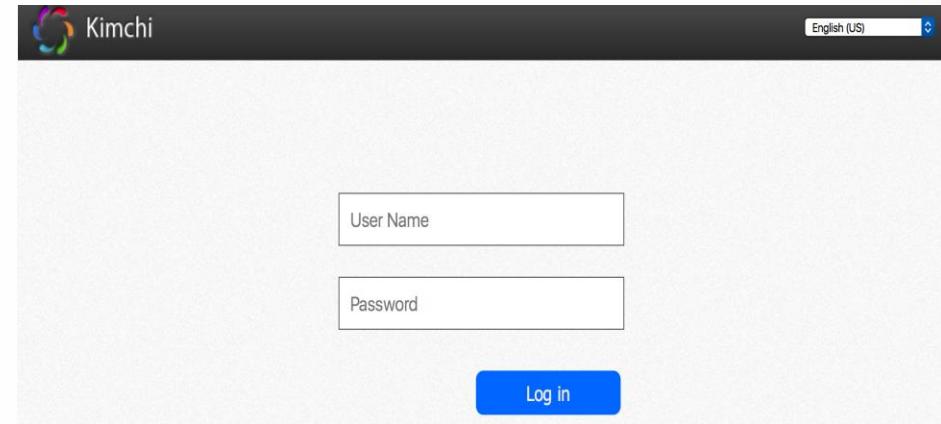
Network Name	State	Network Type	Interface	Address Space	Actions
default	● (green)	nat	virbr0	192.168.122.0/24	Actions ▾
kop	● (green)	isolated	virbr1	192.168.121.0/24	Actions ▾
bridged	● (grey)	bridged	brenP3p3s0f3	192.168.149.0/24	Actions ▾

A green plus sign icon is located in the top right corner of the table area, indicating the option to add a new network.

Linux Installation (PowerKVM)

Using KIMCHI to create RHEL 7.1 Guest

- KIMCHI will be used to setup the Linux guest that will be used as the baseline for PowerVC
- KIMCHI can be accessed by pointing a web browser to port 8001 of the KVM Host:
 - <https://<KVM host>:8001>
- When the login screen is displayed use the root account and password



Linux Installation ISO Images

- Following table shows where Linux ISO images can be obtained from:

Distribution	Location
RedHat	https://access.redhat.com/products/red-hat-enterprise-linux/evaluation
SuSE	https://www.suse.com/products/server/download/
Ubuntu	http://www.ubuntu.com/download/server/power8

Regardless of where obtained, the installation ISO images should be placed in the `/var/lib/kimchi/isos` directory so they are available for template creation.

Using KIMCHI to create RHEL 7.1 Guest

Template Creation

- The first step to creating a KVM guest via KIMCHI is to create a template
- The template is used to define items such as the installation source, number of processors, amount of memory, size of disk, and networks to attach to
- The first step is to select the '+' on the Guests page
- Then Select 'Local ISO Image'
- Finally select the ISO and the <Create Templates from Selected ISO>

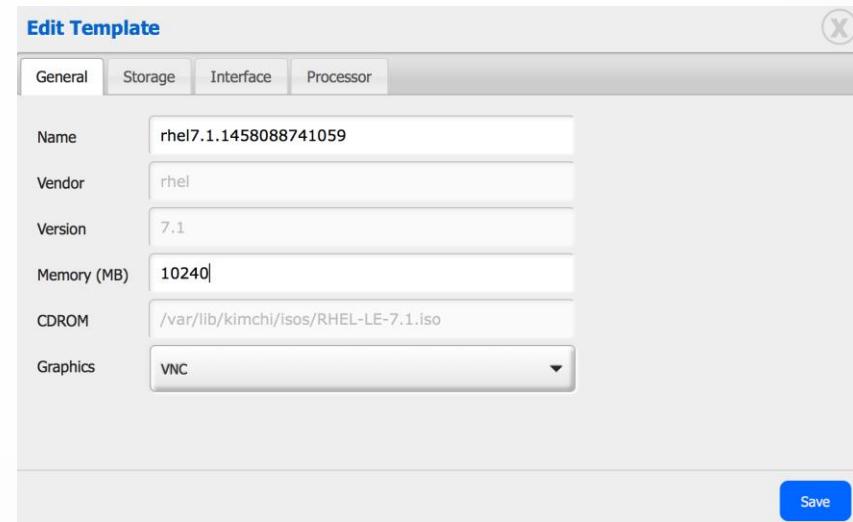
The screenshot shows the Kimchi interface with the 'Guests' tab selected. A modal dialog titled 'Add Template' is open, asking 'Where is the source media for this template?'. It lists three options: 'Local ISO Image', 'Local Image File', and 'Remote ISO Image'. Below the dialog, another window titled 'Add Template' shows a list of available ISOs. One ISO, 'RHEL-LE-7.1.iso', is highlighted. This ISO is labeled as 'VM', 'OS: rhel', and 'Version: 7.1'. At the bottom of this window are buttons for 'Search more ISOs' and 'Create Templates from Selected ISO'.

Using KIMCHI to create RHEL 7.1 Guest

Template Creation – General Settings

- After the template is created use the 'Edit' function under 'Actions' to make changes as detailed on the following pages
- Change the value of memory to '10240'

NOTE: The modified settings meet the resource requirements for PowerVC



Using KIMCHI to create RHEL 7.1 Guest

Template Creation – Storage & Interface Settings

- Change the size of the disk to 40GB
- Change the Network to ‘bridged’
 - The network that was previously defined as the bridged network

The image displays two side-by-side 'Edit Template' dialog boxes from the KIMCHI software.

Top Dialog (Storage Settings):

- General Tab:** Storage tab is selected.
- Storage Pool:** default
- Type:** dir
- Disk(GB):** 40
- Disk Format:** qcow2

Bottom Dialog (Interface Settings):

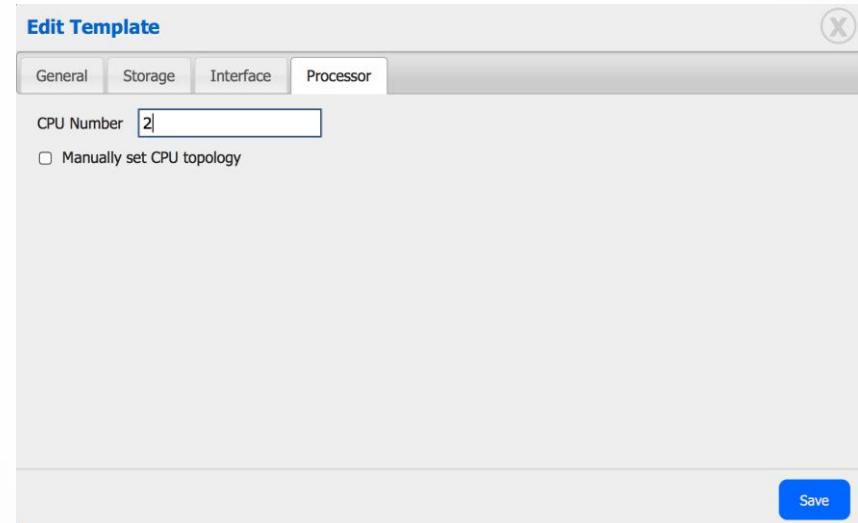
- General Tab:** Interface tab is selected.
- Network:** bridged
- Type:** network

Both dialogs include a 'Save' button in the bottom right corner.

Using KIMCHI to create RHEL 7.1 Guest

Template Creation – Processor Settings

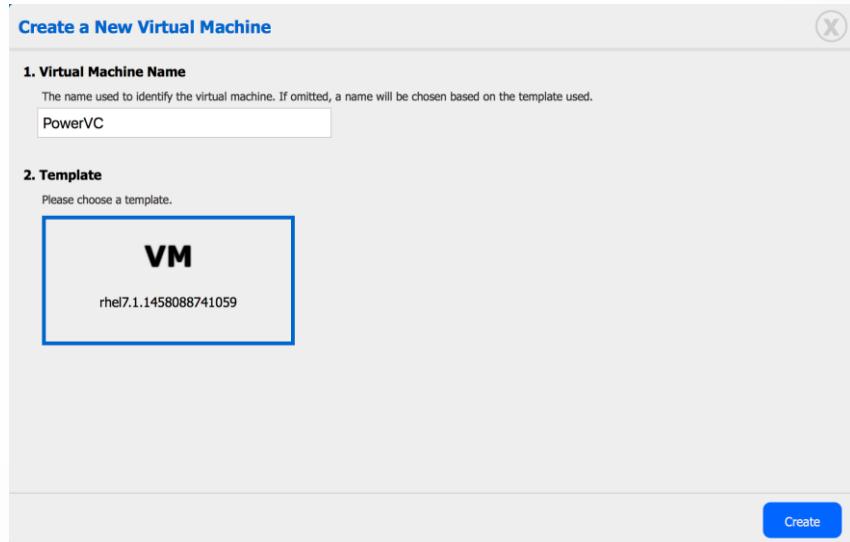
- Change the CPU Number to 2
- Click on the <Save> button to save the template settings



Using KIMCHI to create RHEL 7.1 Guest

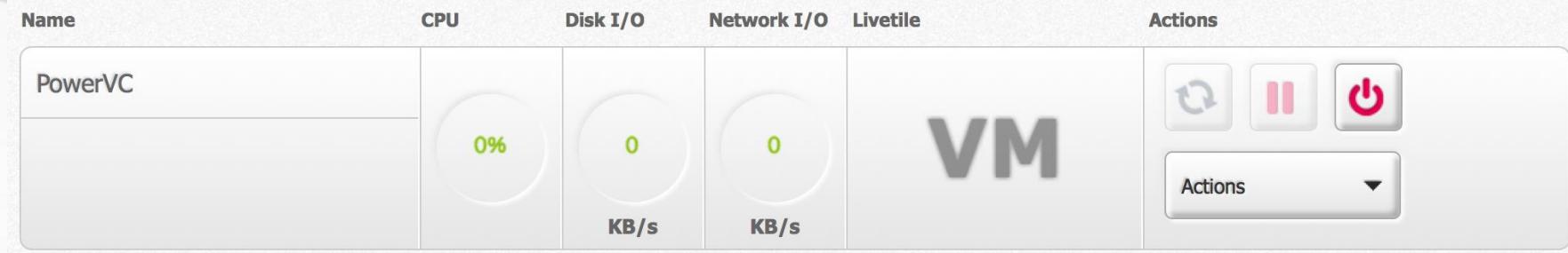
Guest Creation

- Select the ‘+’ on the ‘Guests’ page
- Provide a name for the Guest
- Select the previously created template
- Click on <Create> to create the guest.



Using KIMCHI to create RHEL 7.1 Guest

- Guests, including the newly created guest, are displayed on the guests page



- Newly created guest can be started by selecting the power button or 'Start' from the 'Actions' drop-down



- Console can be accessed by clicking on the Livetile (NOTE: popups have to be enabled in the browser)

Installing RHEL 7.1

Language Selection (Installation)

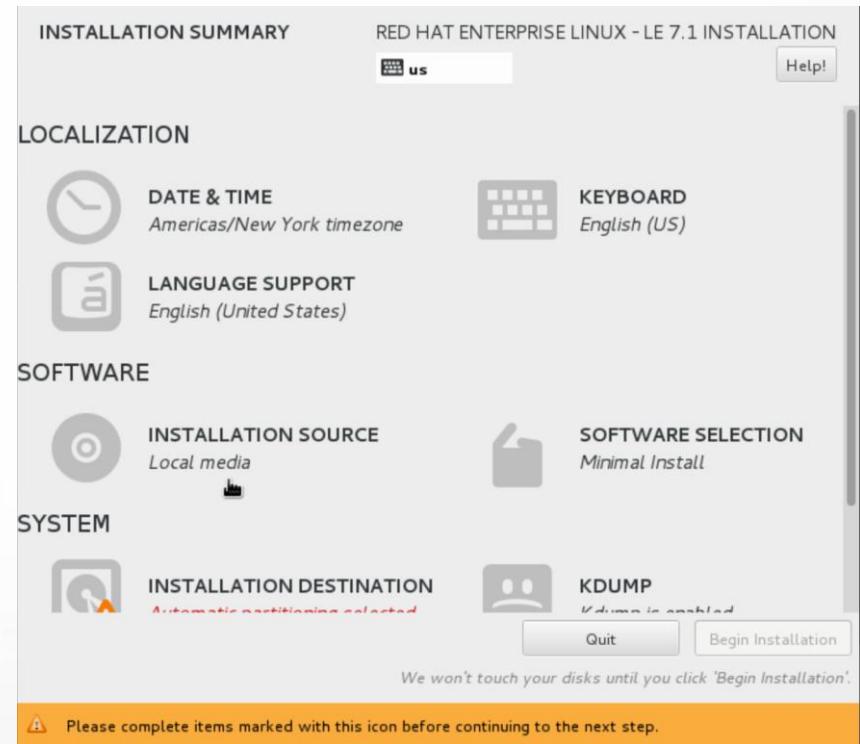
- Select the language to use for the installation
- Select <Continue>



Installing RHEL 7.1

Installation Summary

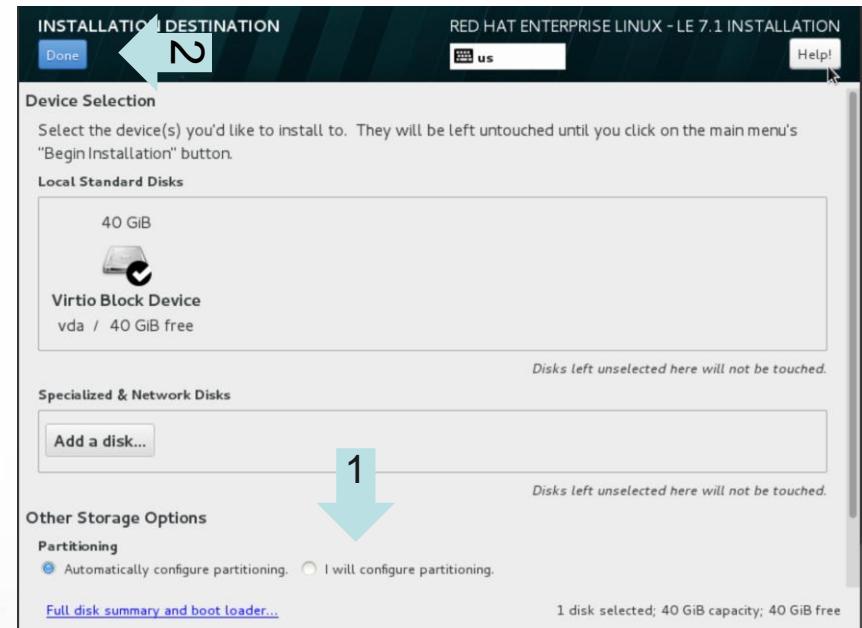
- For PowerVC the size of the swap partition needs to be changed
- This is accomplished by selecting 'Installation Destination' from the 'Installation Summary' screen and using the steps provided on the following slides



Installing RHEL 7.1

Installation Destination

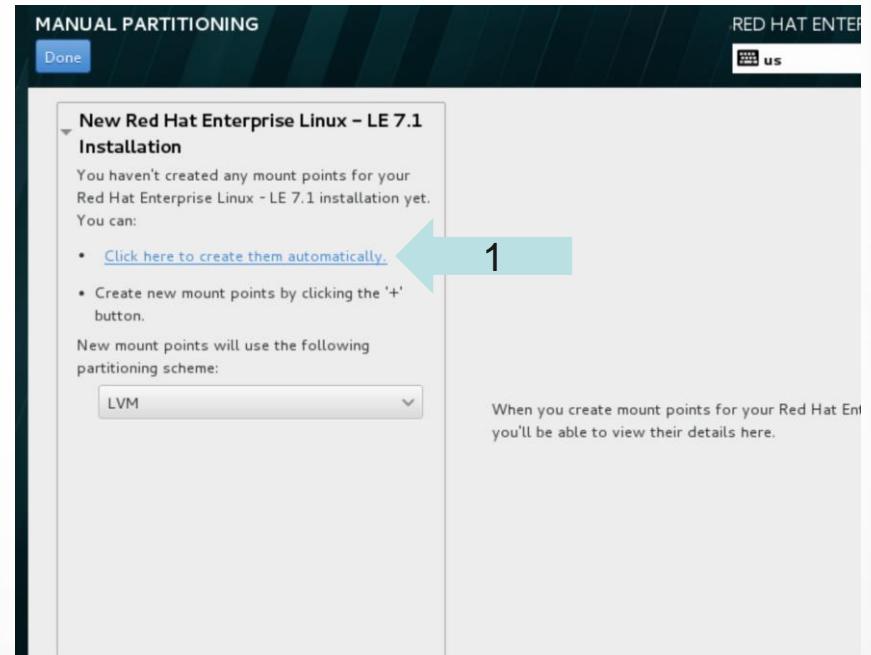
- To change the size of the 'swap' partition select 'I will configure partitioning' under 'Other Storage Options'
- Select <Done> to display the manual partitioning page



Installing RHEL 7.1

Manual Partitioning

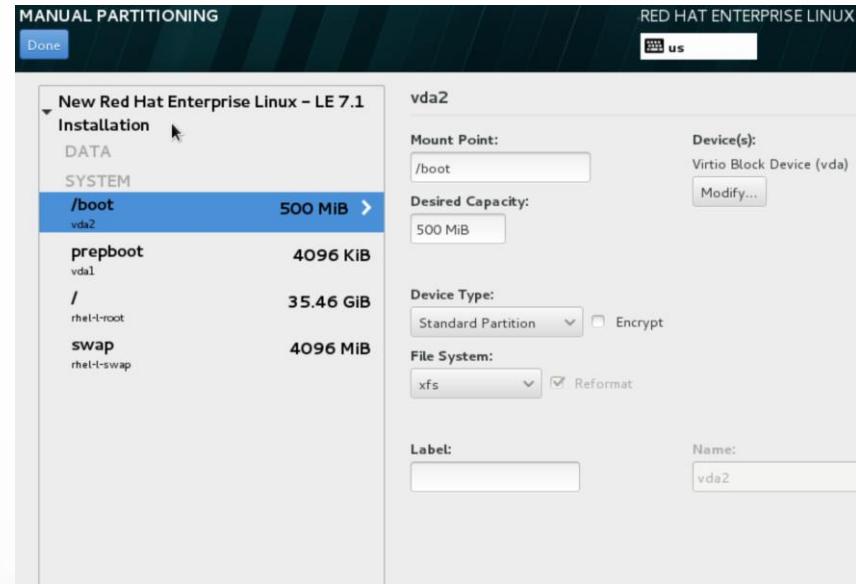
- On the Manual Partitioning page select ‘Click here to create them automatically’
 - This will cause a default partition scheme to be created
 - The default partition scheme to be displayed and allow for changes to be made



Installing RHEL 7.1

Manual Partitioning

- The swap partition, which is used for virtual paging when physical memory is full, needs to be at least 10 GiB in size for the PowerVC installation
- To increase the size of swap, space needs to be freed up from another partition
- Select the / partition and reduce it's size to 28 GiB
 - NOTE: The change will be reflected when the next partition is selected
- Select the swap partition and change it's size to 11 GiB
- When the changes are completed select <Done>



Installing RHEL 7.1

Summary of Changes (Disk Partitioning)

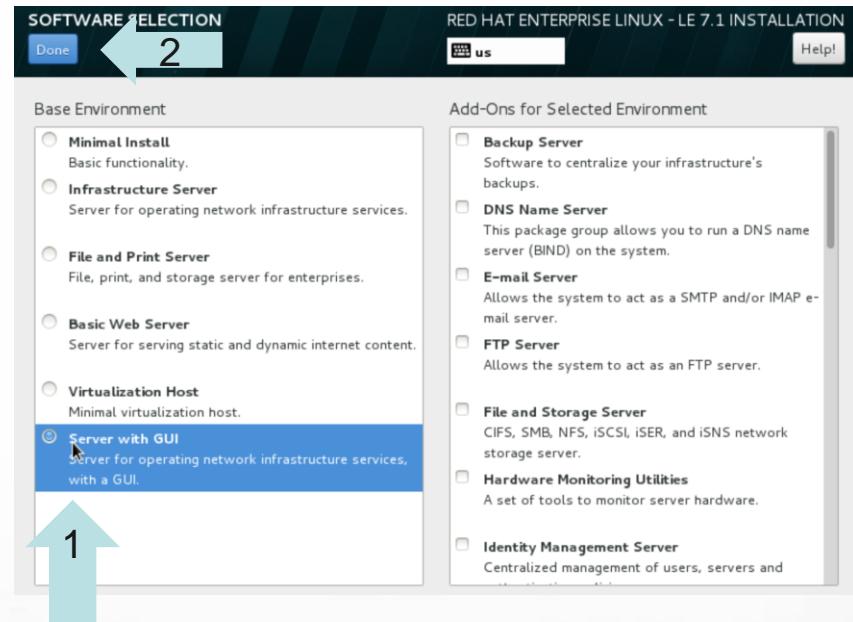
- The Summary of Changes dialog shows the partitioning steps that will take place as a result of the partitioning selections made.
- Select <Accept Changes> to confirm the partitioning for the RHEL installation

SUMMARY OF CHANGES				
Your customizations will result in the following changes taking effect on the disks you've selected:				
Order	Action	Type	Device	Mount point
1	Destroy Format	Unknown	Virtio Block Device (vda)	
2	Create Format	partition table (MSDOS)	Virtio Block Device (vda)	
3	Create Device	partition	vda1 on Virtio Block Device	
4	Create Format	PPC PReP Boot	vda1 on Virtio Block Device	
5	Create Device	partition	vda2 on Virtio Block Device	
6	Create Format	xfs	vda2 on Virtio Block Device	/boot
7	Create Device	partition	vda3 on Virtio Block Device	
8	Create Format	physical volume (LVM)	vda3 on Virtio Block Device	
9	Create Device	lvmvg	rhel-l	
10	Create Device	lvmlv	rhel-l-swap	
11	Create Format	swap	rhel-l-swap	

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Software Selection

- On the Installation Summary page select the ‘Software Selection’ item
- From the ‘Software Selection’ screen select ‘Server with GUI’
- Select <Done>



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Installation Summary

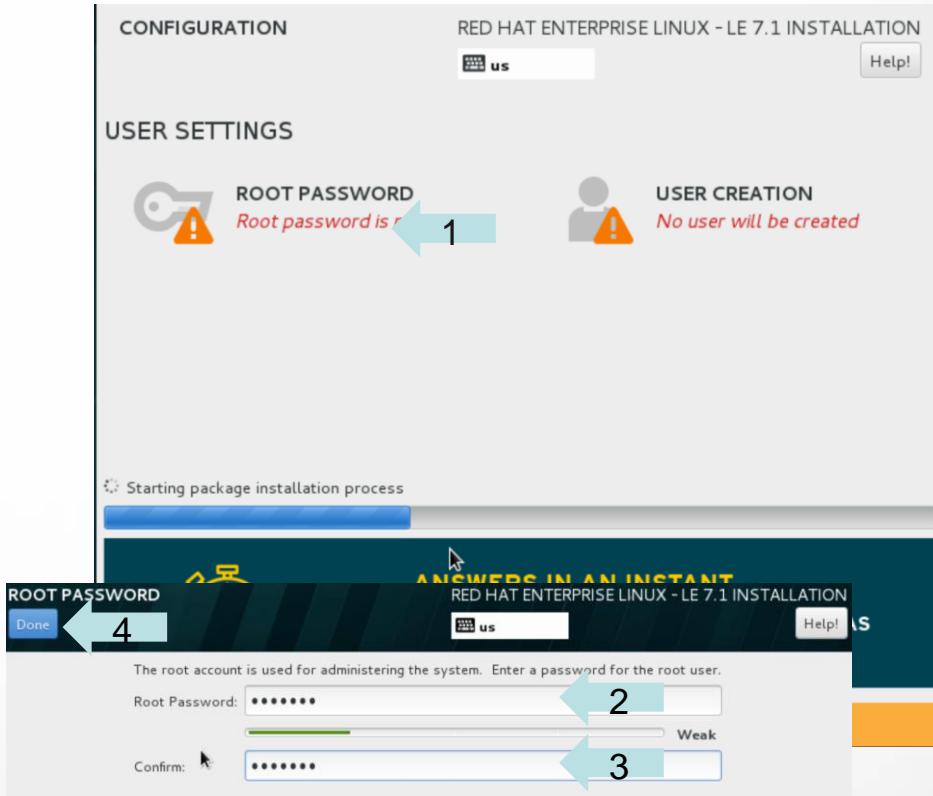
- Once the previous changes have been completed select <Begin Installation> on the Installation Summary page



Installing RHEL 7.1

Configuration

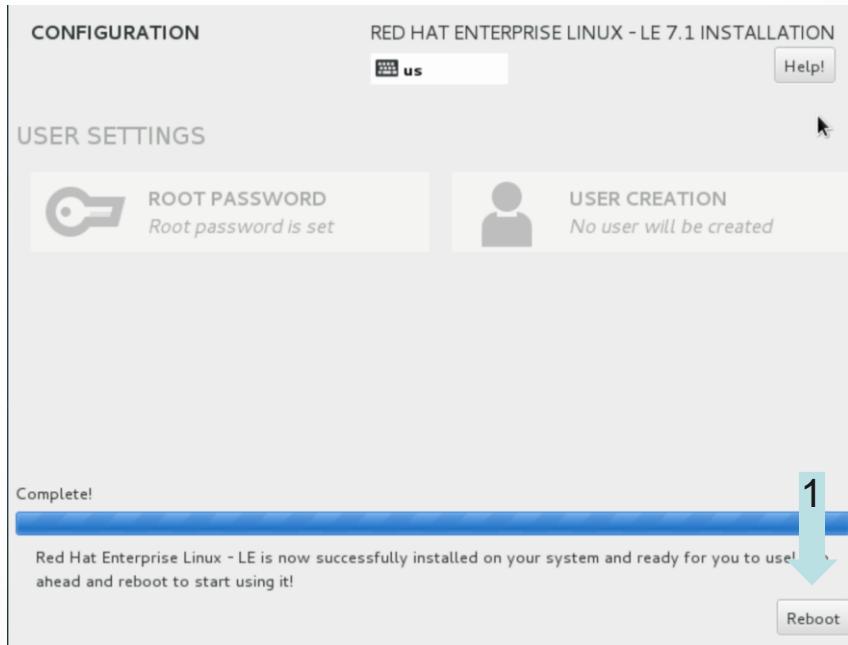
- During the installation of packages, the password for the root user needs to be set
- Select 'Root Password'
- Type (and confirm) the root password
- Select <Done>
 - NOTE: If a simple (weak) password is used then <Done> will need to be selected twice



Installing RHEL 7.1

Configuration

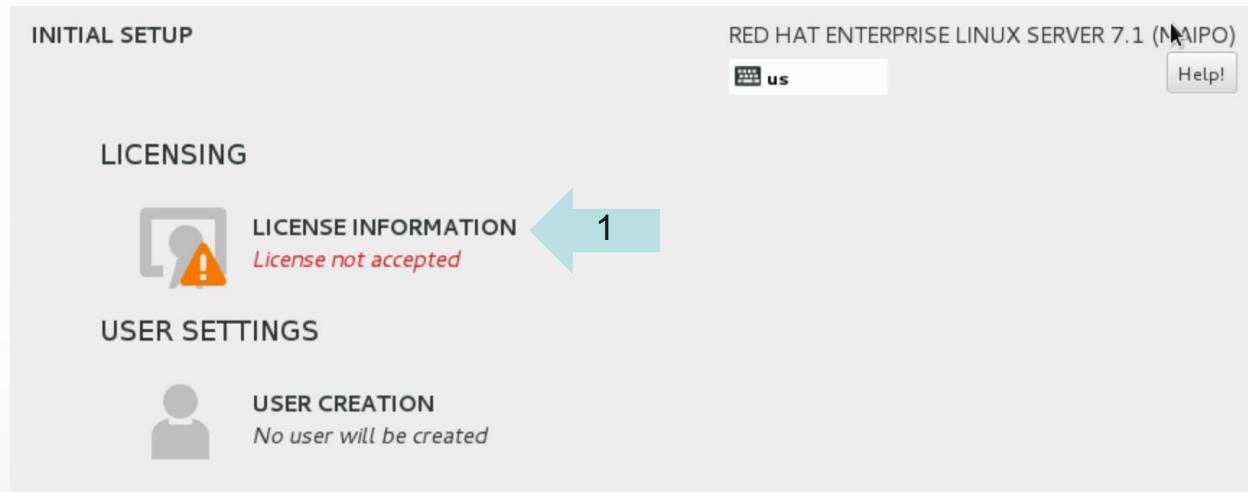
- Once the installation of packages is completed additional activities take place including
 - Post installation setup
 - Bootloader installation
 - initramfs generation
- Select the <Reboot> button



Installing RHEL 7.1

Initial Setup

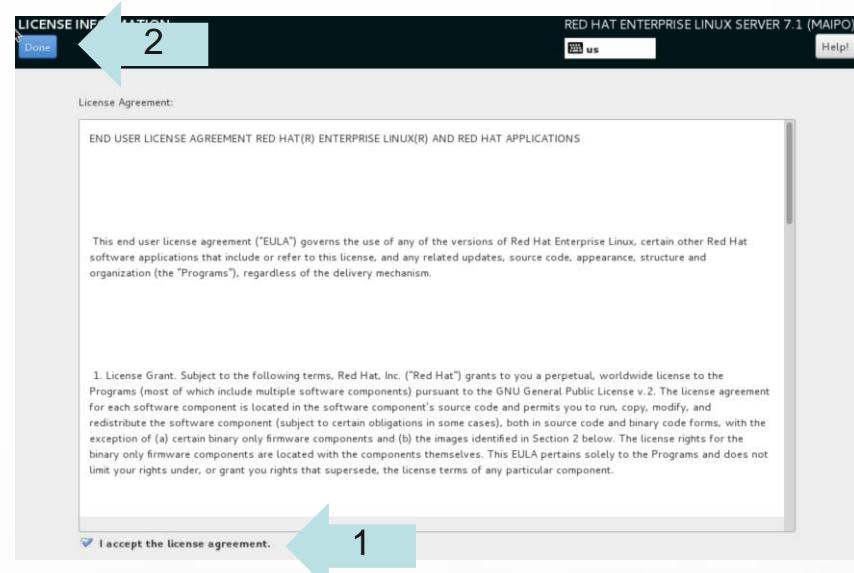
- A number of initial setup steps need to be completed prior to using the newly installed Linux operating system
- Red Hat's License Agreement needs to be accepted, click on 'License Information'



Installing RHEL 7.1

License Information

- Select ‘Accept the license agreement’
 - Select <Done>
 - Back on the ‘Initial Setup’ window select the <FINISH CONFIGURATION> button



Installing RHEL 7.1

Subscription Management Registration

- Since we don't have an active Red Hat Network subscript, select 'No, I prefer to register at a later time'
- Select <Forward>

Subscription Management Registration

This assistant will guide you through the process of registering your system with Red Hat to receive software updates and other benefits. You will need the following to register:

- A network connection
- Your account login
- The address of a subscription management service (optional)

[Why Should I Register?](#)

Would you like to register your system at this time? **(Strongly recommended.)**

- Yes, I'd like to register now.
 No, I prefer to register at a later time.

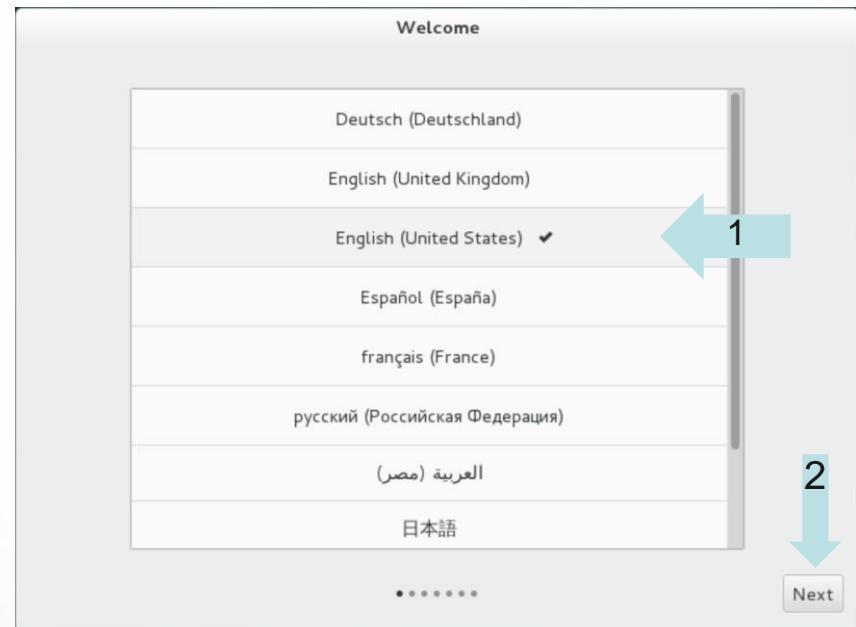
1

2

[Back](#) [Forward](#)

Installing RHEL 7.1

- Select the desired Language
- Select <Next>



Installing RHEL 7.1

Input Sources

- Select <Next> to validate the detected input sources



Installing RHEL 7.1

Create a Local Account

- The RedHat installer forces the creation of a new user
- Enter the required information
- Select <Next>

Login

Create a Local Account

Full Name

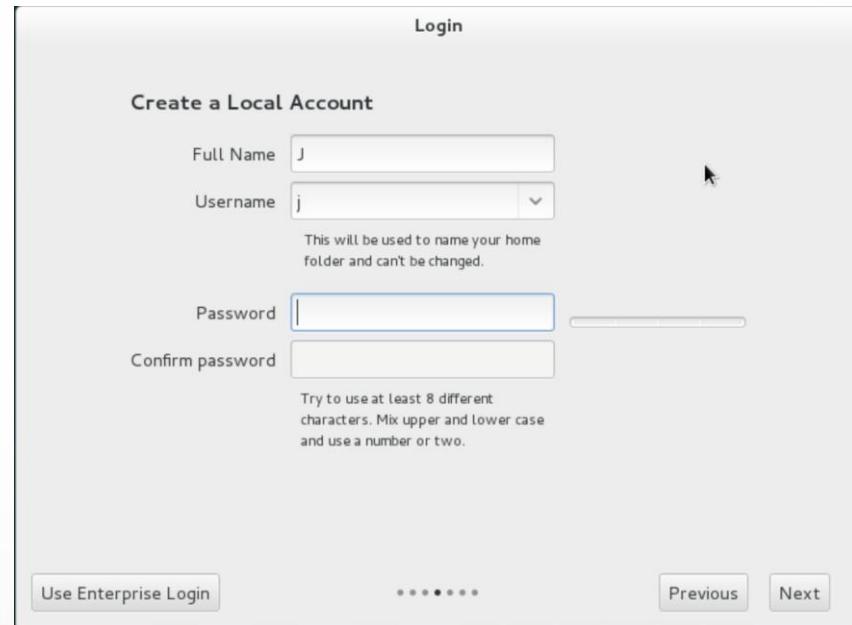
Username ▼

This will be used to name your home folder and can't be changed.

Password

Confirm password

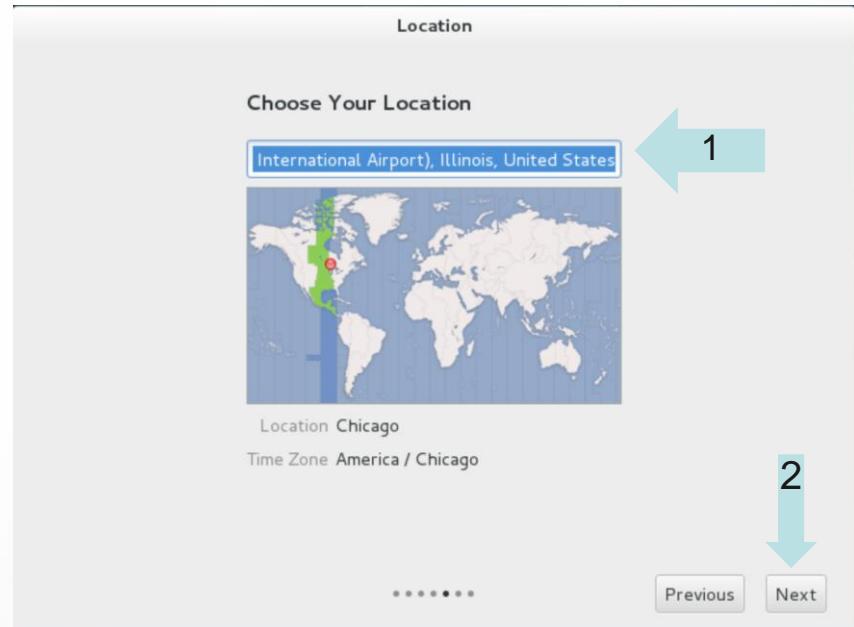
Try to use at least 8 different characters. Mix upper and lower case and use a number or two.



Installing RHEL 7.1

Location Selection

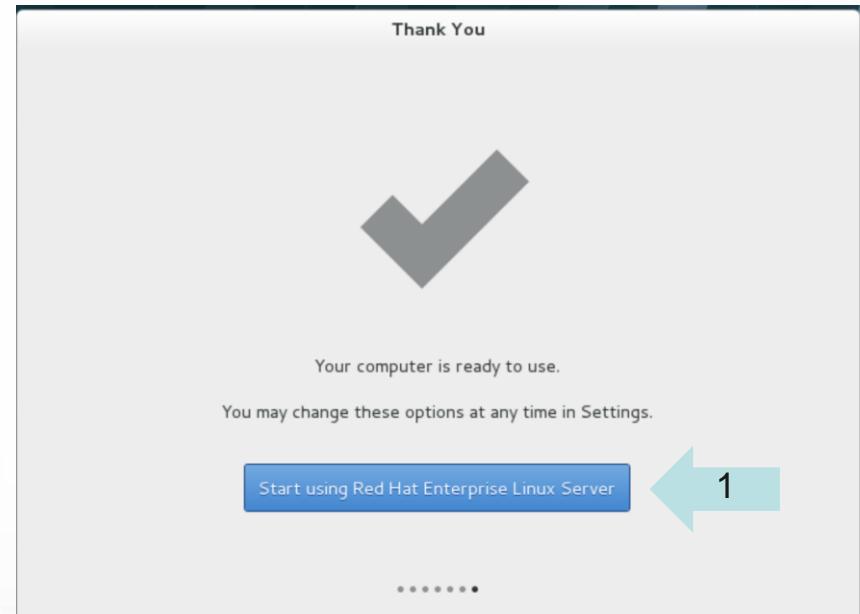
- Select the Location
- Select <Next>



Installing RHEL 7.1

Setup Complete

- Initial setup is complete and you can start using Linux by selecting the <Start using Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server> button



Learn more about Linux on Power Systems

- Power System Linux web site:
<http://www-03.ibm.com/systems/power/software/linux/>
- The Linux on Power Community:
www.ibm.com/developerworks/group/tpl/
- AIXpert blog:
<http://tinyurl.com/AIXpert>
- Google+ Linux on Power Community:
<https://plus.google.com/communities/100156952249293416679>

In Summary....

- There are many benefits to running Linux on Power whether you are coming from a Power background or an x86 background
 - For scale out workloads the default answer should not be Linux on x86. Linux on Power has comparable TCA, better TCO, better performance and reliability
 - In an existing Power environment Linux can be better suited for emerging / open source workloads
- Have a go at it!
 - Download a version of Linux and try it out on your existing hardware
 - Customers - don't have hardware but have a focus workload? Get us involved in a proof of concept
 - Unsure about your Linux strategy? Get us involved to look more closely at your existing workloads and their suitability for moving

Reference Charts

The IBM Power Systems L Line

Key Client Value Proposition		Specifications
S812L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Entry price offering for Linux on POWER8Delivers equal performance to a 2 socket x86 serverIdeal for clients who do not want to virtualize	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1-socket, 2UUp to 12 cores (2.9-3.3Ghz)512 GB Memory (8 DIMMs)192 GB/sec sustained memory bandwidth12 x 2.5" SAS drives, 21.6TB Storage7 PCIe slots, 2 CAPI enabledDefault 3 yr 9x5 Warranty
S822L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strong performance that can be maximized with virtualizationPowerVM Support allows easier datacenter management of heterogeneous OS environments65% Utilization Guarantee8 core fast offering, delivering 16 cores, SMT4 at 4.15 GHz for workloads requiring highest single thread performanceNEBS compliant option for TELCO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2-socket, 2UUp to 24 cores (2.9-3.3Ghz)1 TB Memory (8 DIMMs)384 GB/sec sustained memory bandwidth12 x 2.5" SAS drives, 21.6TB Storage9 PCIe slots, 4 CAPI enabledDefault 3 yr 9x5 Warranty
S824L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Integrated GPU acceleration (2 K40s or K80s) targeting HPC with support for Ubuntu BareMetalNon GPU acceleration with PowerVM support version available2 TB of memory available on system with Linux pricing model	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2-socket, 4UUp to 24 cores (2.9-3.3Ghz)2 TB Memory384 GB/sec sustained memory bandwidth18 x 2.5" SAS drives, 32.4TB Storage11 PCIe slots, 4 CAPI enabledDefault 3 yr 9x5 Warranty

The IBM Power Systems LC Line



	Key Client Value Proposition	Specifications
S812LC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimized for Hadoop and SparkLargest internal storage in portfolioLowest priced offering delivering 1TB memoryComplete the same Spark workloads for less than ½ the cost of Intel Xeon E5-2690 v3 systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1-socket, 2UUp to 10 cores (2.9-3.3Ghz)1 TB Memory (32 DIMMs)115 GB/sec sustained memory bandwidth14x 3.5" drives, 84TB Storage4 PCIe slots, 2 CAPI enabledDefault 3 yr 9x5 Warranty 100% CRU
S822LC <i>Commercial</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ideal for compute intensive data workloads in the cloud40% better price performance vs Xeon E5-2600 v3 based serversOver 2X memory bandwidth than Xeon E5-2600 v3 with fully configured memory capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2-socket, 2UUp to 20 cores (2.9-3.3Ghz)1 TB Memory (32 DIMMs)230 GB/sec sustained memory bandwidth2x SFF (HDD/SSD), 2 TB storage5 PCIe slots, 4 CAPI enabled, IB Add-inDefault 3 yr 9x5 Warranty 100% CRU
S822LC <i>High Performance Computing</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2 GPU accelerators integrated for HPC workloadsOver 2X memory bandwidth than Xeon E5-2600 v3 with fully configured memory capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Deltas from S822LC<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2 integrated K80 NVIDIA GPUs- 3 PCIe slots, 2 CAPI enabled, IB Add-in

Linux Distro Support on POWER8 Models

Linux Distribution (Big Endian / Little Endian)	S812 LC S822 LC	S812 L S822 L	S824 L	S814 / S822 S824	S850	S870 S880
RED HAT LINUX						
Big Endian - Red Hat Linux 6.5 and updates		X	X (opt)	X		X
Big Endian - Red Hat Linux 6.6 and updates		X	X (opt)	X	X	X
Big Endian - Red Hat Linux 7 and updates		X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)		X (opt)
Big Endian - Red Hat Linux 7.1 and updates		X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)
Little Endian - Red Hat Linux 7.1 and updates		X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)
Little Endian - Red Hat Linux 7.2 and updates	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)
SUSE LINUX						
Big Endian – SUSE Linux Enterprise 11 SP3 and updates		X		X		X
Big Endian – SUSE Linux Enterprise 11 SP4 and updates		X		X	X (opt)	X
Little Endian – SUSE Linux Enterprise 12 and updates		X (opt)	X (opt)		X (opt)	X (opt)
UBUNTU LINUX						
Little Endian – Ubuntu 14.04		X (opt)				
Little Endian – Ubuntu 14.04.2		X (opt)	X (opt)		X (opt)	X (opt)
Little Endian – Ubuntu 14.04.3 and updates	X (opt)	X (opt)	X (opt)		X (opt)	X (opt)

Hypervisor Support on POWER8 Models

Linux / Hypervisor Distribution	S812 LC S822 LC	S812 L S822 L	S824 L	S814 S822 S824	S850	S870 S880
RED HAT LINUX						
PowerVM		X	X	X	X	X
PowerKVM	X	X	X			
SUSE LINUX						
PowerVM		X	X	X	X	X
PowerKVM	X	X	X			
UBUNTU LINUX						
PowerVM		X	X	X	X	X
PowerKVM	X	X	X			

POWER8 Endian Support

	Big-Endian	Little-Endian
AIX	AIX 6.1, AIX 7.1	N/A
IBM i	IBM i 7.1, IBM i 7.2	N/A
SUSE	SLES11	SLES12
Red Hat	RHEL 6.5 - RHEL 7.0, RHEL 7.1, RHEL 7.2	RHEL 7.1, RHEL 7.2
Canonical	N/A	Ubuntu 14.04 / 15.04
PowerVM	Mixed endian LPAR support as of FW8.30	
PowerKVM	Mixed endian guest support as of 10/2014	

Note: See IBM documentation for specific OS/Hypervisor release support information