COMN - Computer Communications and Networks Coursework VM Setup

Michio Honda
School of Informatics
University of Edinburgh
13/01/2021



Why we use a virtual machine

- Courseworks rely on many external apps and libraries
- Installing and configuring them for individual environment are tedious or often impossible
- We want a common platform



Software to be installed in your laptop

- Windows Mac and Linux
 - Virtualbox (https://www.virtualbox.org/)
 - Emulate the hardware and execute virtual machines
 - Vagrant (https://www.vagrantup.com/)
 - Configure, control and provision VMs
- Windows only
 - Git for Windows (https://gitforwindows.org/)
 - Also disable Hyper-V Hypervisor
 - Control Panel->Programs and Features->Turn Windows features on or of->Hyper-V->Hyper-V Platform
 - useful link: https://www.itu.dk/people/ropf/blog/vagrant install.html



Launch a VM

- Run Git Bash (Windows) or Terminal (Mac/Linux)
- Create an empty directory
 - mkdir comn_cw
 - cd comn_cw
- Download Vagrantfile* in this comn_cw directory using a web browser
- Start the VM
 - vagrant up





SSH Login to the VM (Linux/Mac)

- Option 1
 - cd comn_cw
 - vagrant ssh
- Option 2
 - vagrant ssh-config --host comn_vm >> ~/.ssh/config
 - ssh comn_vm



Shared Folder

• Files in the directory where Vagrantfile is can be accessed inside the VM at /vagrant

