

Confluent Training Lab

Platform Guide



CONFLUENT

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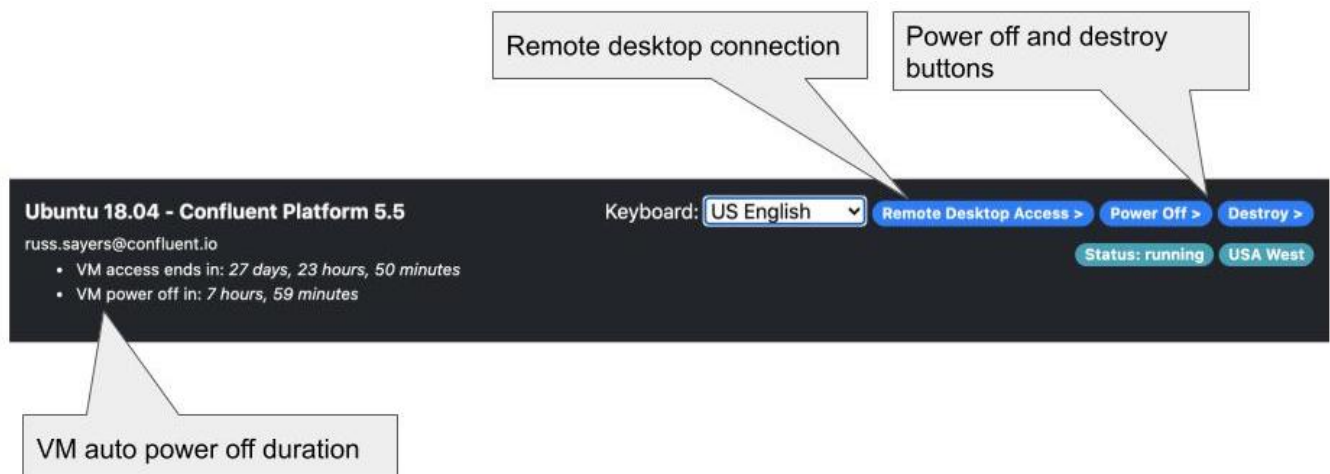
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Launching Your First Virtual Machine

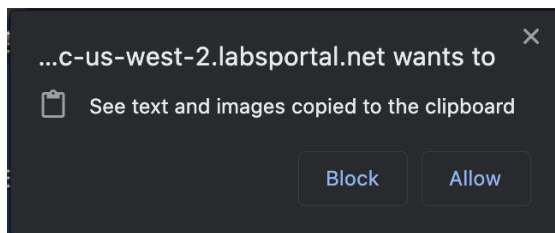
1. Locate your class lab control panel. At this point there will be no virtual machine running.



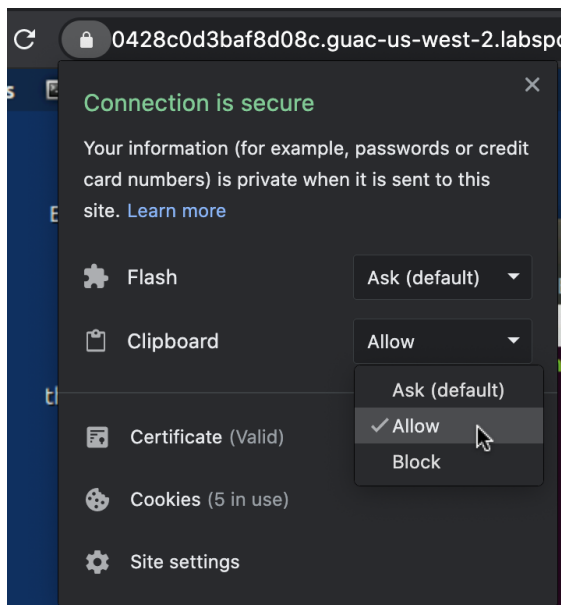
- a. **Access duration:** During the access duration you are able to launch, power on, power off and destroy a virtual machine. When access duration completes your lab environment ends.
 - b. **Region selector:** You can select a geographic region for your virtual machine. A geographic region closest to you will usually offer the best performance.
 - c. **Launch button:** The launch button will launch a virtual machine.
2. Select a region, click the **Launch** button to launch your first virtual machine.
 3. Once the virtual machine has reached a **running** status, some new options will appear in the control panel.



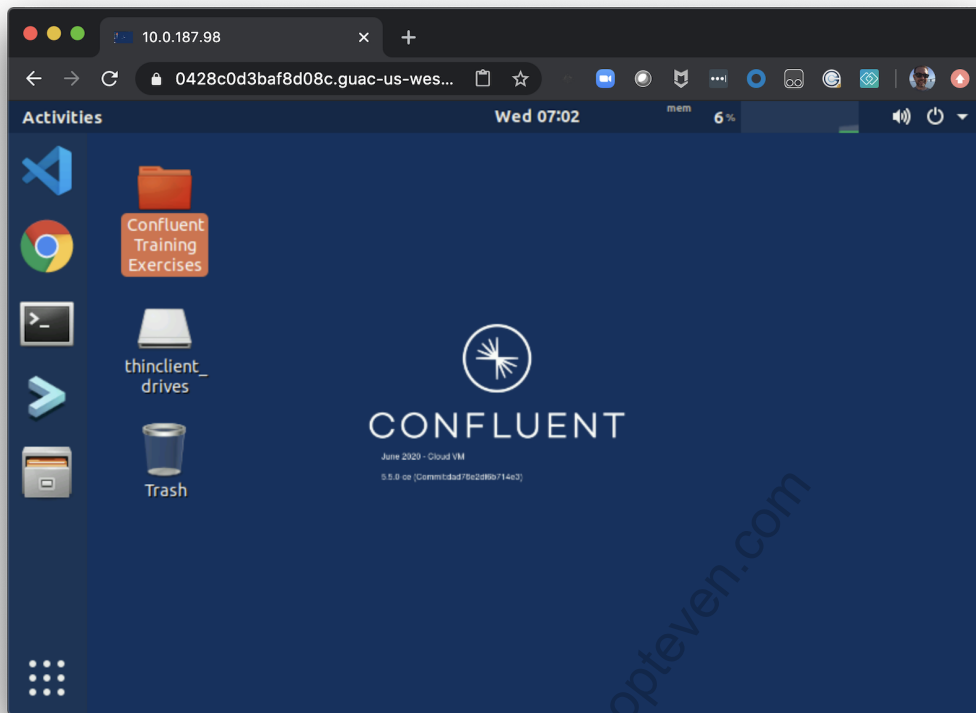
- a. **VM auto power off duration:** Your virtual machine will automatically power off after a set period of time. The automatic power off duration resets every time a virtual machine is powered on.
 - b. **Remote desktop connection:** the **Remote Desktop Access** button launches a connection to the virtual machine desktop in a new browser tab.
 - c. **Power off and destroy buttons:** You can power off, or destroy your virtual machine. Destroying your virtual machine allows you to launch a new clean virtual machine.
4. Click the **Remote Desktop Access** button. You will be connected to your virtual machine desktop.
 5. In a Chrome browser you will be prompted for access to the clipboard. This will allow you to copy from your host and paste into the virtual machine, and vice versa.



If you miss this step, you can update clipboard access any time. In your remote desktop browser tab, click the browser padlock, and for **Clipboard** select **Allow**.



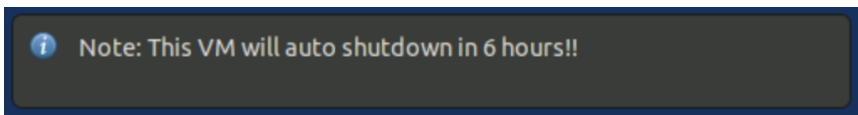
6. Open the **Confluent Training Exercises** folder on the desktop for HTML versions of your exercise guide.



Auto Power Off

Your virtual machine is configured to automatically power off after a set period of time. For example in a 3 day instructor led class, the virtual machine may power off 8 hours after your first launch each day. During the access duration you can start or launch a virtual machine at any time.

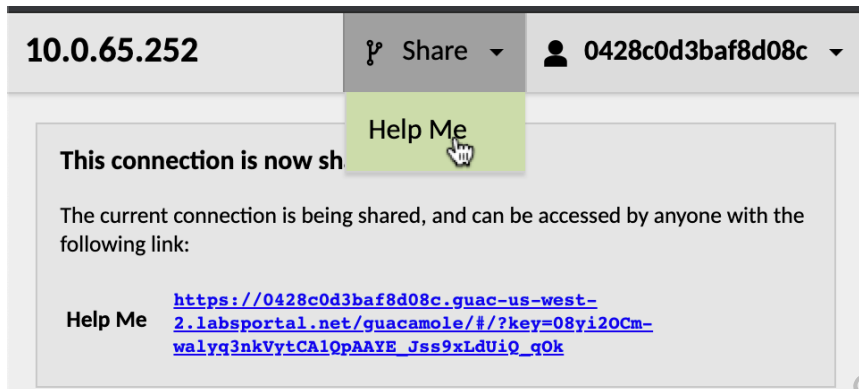
You will be reminded via desktop notifications the amount of time remaining before auto power off.



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Sharing Your Virtual Machine

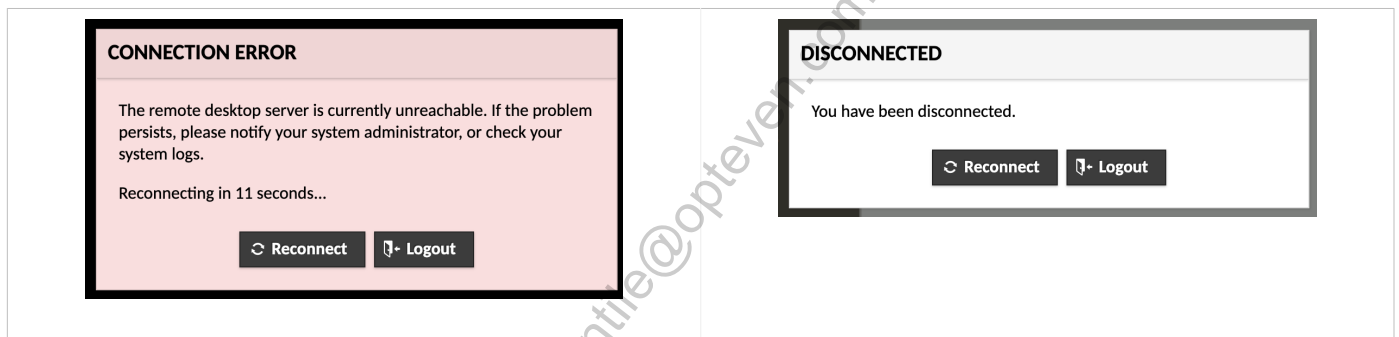
The remote desktop access uses an integrated install of [Apache Guacamole](#). You can use the sharing feature to share access to your desktop. This is convenient to share your desktop with an instructor to debug lab issues.



1. To share your virtual machine:
 - a. Open the Guacamole menu. On Windows, press: Ctrl+Alt+Shift. On MacOS, press: Ctrl+Cmd+Shift.
 - b. Click **Share**, then click **Help Me**
 - c. A sharing link will be displayed. Copy the link and supply it to your instructor.
 - d. Press the Guacamole menu key combination again to hide the Guacamole menu. On Windows, press: Ctrl+Alt+Shift. On MacOS, press: Ctrl+Cmd+Shift.

Troubleshooting

1. **Applications are slow to launch. Seeing a few seconds of a black screen when you very first connect to your virtual machine.** Disk performance may be degraded for about the first 10 minutes from launch time. These issues will correct themselves a few minutes after virtual machine is launched.
2. **Commands are pasting into the terminal window with extra characters or return characters.** Try using the alternative terminal **Terminus**, or using the terminal inside Visual Studio Code.
3. **DISCONNECTED or CONNECTION ERROR messages from remote desktop access**



- a. This can occur when your remote desktop access is attempting to access a stopped or destroyed virtual machine. You can check the status of your virtual machine by returning to the class lab control panel. If your virtual machine is not in a **running** status, close your remote desktop browser tab, and power on or launch a virtual machine. Once the virtual machine is in a **running** status, you will be able to re-connect remote desktop access.
- b. You also see this message when there is an intermittent network error preventing your connection. This will usually correct itself when your connection returns. You can further diagnose the network error by opening another browser tab and checking if another website is working for you.