

Name: Rohit - R. Yakkundi

SRN: PES2UG23C5819

Section: G

Date 21-2-25 Page

1] In cloud computing, virtualization allow multiple (VMs) to run on a single physical machine by abstracting hardware resource.

Two main types: Full virtualization & Para virtualization.

Full virtualization: - It completely abstracts the hardware, allowing multiple OS to run on the same system.

The hypervisor creates a complete virtual replica of the physical hardware.

Para-virtualization: - Para-virtualization requires modifications to the guest OS to communicate efficiently with hypervisor.

Working: Instead of emulating the full hardware exposes an interface that the guest OS can use directly, reducing overhead.

Eg:- Xen, VMWare, ESX (Older versions)

Comparison:

	Full-virtualization	Para-virtualization
OS modification	Not required	Required
Performance	Lower	Higher
Hardware Emulation	Yes	Partial
Isolation	Strong	Moderate.

2. Full virtualization Example Architecture:

- VMware ESXi, Microsoft Hyper-V, and KVM (Kernel-based-VM) are common examples of full virtualization architectures.
- In these architecture, the hypervisor completely abstracts the underlying hardware, allowing unmodified guest operating system to run in VM without awareness of being virtualized.
- ~~The~~ Para-virtualization Example Architecture:

Xen (Para-virtualized mode) is a well-known example of para-virtualization.

- In this approach, the guest OS is modified to be aware that it is running in a virtualized environment.
- Instead of executing privileged instructions directly, the guest OS makes explicit hypercalls to the hypervisor, reducing the need of complex instruction trapping and emulation.

Changes/Modifications in Para-Virtualization :-

1. Guest OS modification: The guest OS must be modified to include hypercalls instead of executing privileged CPU instructions directly.
2. No need for Binary Translation: Since the OS is aware of virtualization, the hypervisor doesn't need to use binary translation to handle sensitive instructions.

3. Efficient I/O Handling : The OS uses direct hypercalls for I/O operations, reducing the overhead compared to device emulation in full-virtualization.

3]

WSL 1 (Windows Subsystem for Linux 1)

- Not a Virtual Machine, nor a traditional container;
- WSL 1 translates Linux system calls into Windows NT kernel calls using a compatibility layer.

WSL 2 (Windows Subsystem for Linux 2)

- Uses a lightweight Virtual Machine (VM).
- Runs a real Linux kernel inside a Hyper-V-based VM.
- Unlike traditional VMs, WSL 2 is optimized for fast boot times and lower resource usage, but still a VM at its core.

Conclusion :

- WSL 1 is not a VM / container it uses system call translation.
- WSL 2 is a VM, though it is lightweight & optimized for performance.

Q] WSL 2 : Full virtualization or para-virtualization? -

WSL 2 uses Full virtualization

Justification :-

- 1) Runs an Unmodified Linux Kernel - Unlike para-virtualization, WSL2 doesn't modify the Linux Kernel.
- 2) Uses Hardware Virtualization - WSL2 relies on Hyper-V Full OS emulation, rather than modifying the guest OS for direct interaction.
- 3) No Hypercalls - para-virtualization requires hypercalls instead of privileged instructions but WSL2 doesn't modify Linux for this.
- 4) Complete OS Isolation - The Linux Kernel in WSL2 runs as a fully virtualized system, separate from windows unlike para-virtualized system.

5] Advantages of WSL 2 over Virtual Box

Date _____ Page _____

- 1) Better Performance - WSL 2 runs a lightweight VM with faster file I/O and lower resource usage.
- 2) Seamless Window Integration - Direct file sharing & execution of Linux command without extra setup.
- 3) Lower Resource Consumption - Uses less CPU & RAM compared to VirtualBox, which req. dedicated allocation.
- 4) Faster Boot time - Starts almost instantly unlike VB VMs that take longer to load.
- 5) Native GUI & Terminal Support - Supports Linux GUI apps (we) and Windows Terminal without extra configuration.

Conclusion :

WSL 2 is faster, more efficient, and better integrated with Windows compared to VirtualBox.

6) Yes, the changes made to the Linux Kernel for WSL 2 are publicly available.

Discussion:-

- Open Source - Microsoft has made the WSL 2 Linux Kernel source code available on GitHub under the GPLv2 license.
- Customized Optimizations - The Kernel is modified for Hyper-V compatibility, including optimization for performance, memory management & system calls.
- Continuous Updates - Microsoft maintains & updates this kernel, and users can build their own custom version if needed.

Conclusion:-

WSL 2's Linux Kernel is open-source and available on GitHub, ensuring transparency and allowing customization.

7] WSL2 and KVM both use hardware-assisted virtualization, but they differ in purpose and implement. WSL2 run a lightweight Hyper-V-based Virtual Machine to provide a Linux environment within windows,

Optimized for seamless integration and low resource usage, It does not offer full VM management capabilities like traditional hypervisors. In contrast, KVM (Kernel-based Virtual Machine) is a full-fledged Linux hypervisor, converting the Linux Kernel into a Type-1 hypervisor, allowing multiple fully isolated VM's to run with near-native performance.