Virtualization

Rich Jones & Mark McLoughlin 2009-06-27 @ 11:00



What?

- Guest virtual machines
- Run multiple OSes on a single host
- Support from modern hardware



Why?

- Test rawhide
- Play with other distros
- Run windows
- Server consolidation
- Migration



How?

- yum groupinstall Virtualization
- virt-manager



Previously - Xen

- Standalone hypervisor
- Paravirtualization
- Dom0 not upstream



Now - KVM

- kvm.ko
- VM is just a process
- Uses Intel VT or AMD SVM
- Paravirt too
- Simple, secure, fast



Cool Features

- Save/restore
- Live migration
- PCI/USB device assignment
- Swapable guest memory
- Ballooning
- KSM



libvirt

- A VM management API
- e.g. list VMs, start/stop VM
- XML format to describe VMs
- Hypervisor independent KVM, Xen, LXC, VirtualBox, UML, ESX, ...



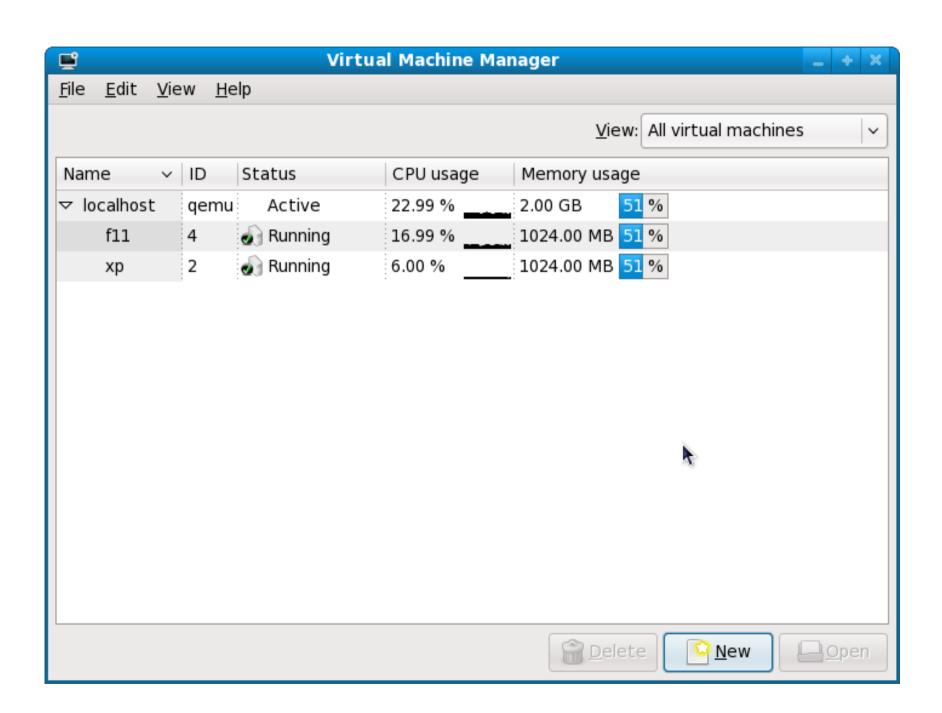
libvirt - There's More

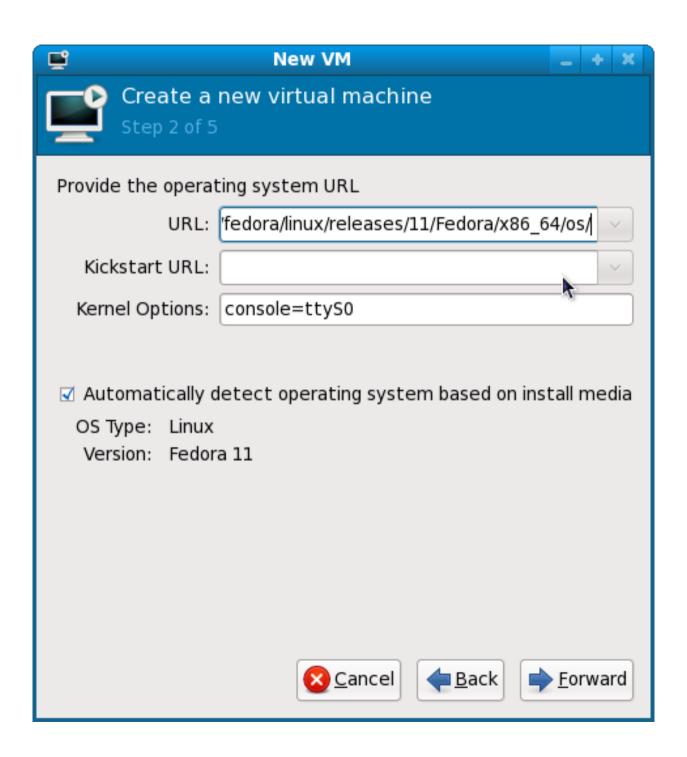
- Storage and networking management too
 - Storage pools and volumes
 - Virtual networks
 - Host network interface configuration
- Remote management
- Language bindings C, Python, Perl, Ruby,
 OCaml, Java, C#
 fedoro

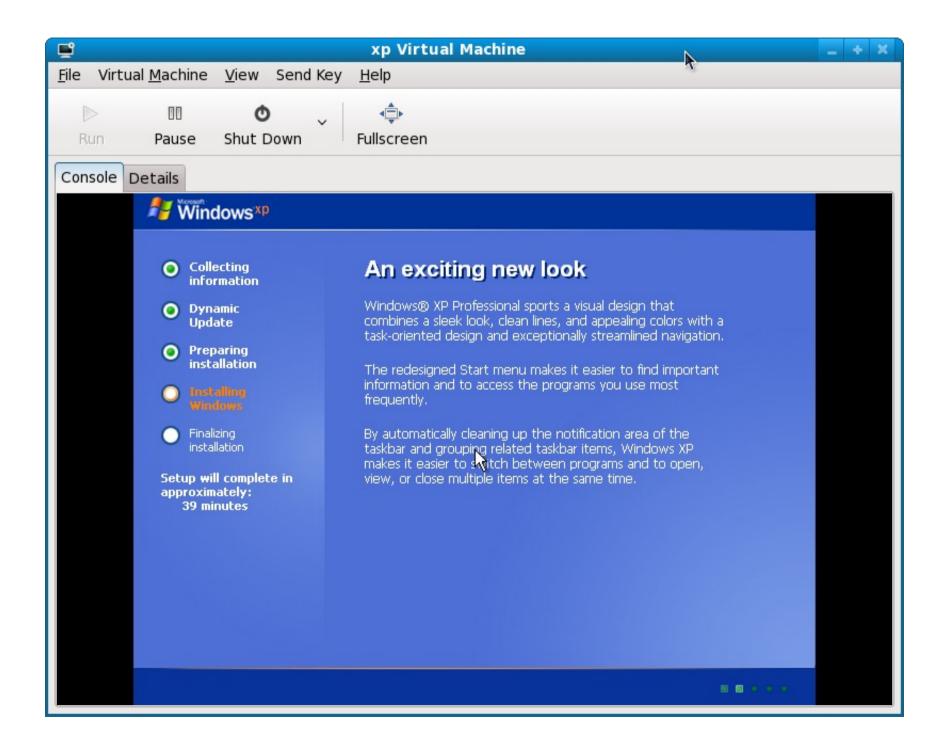
Virtual Machine Manager

- Simple UI
- Easy to create a VM
- Monitoring
- Hotplug
- Remote management









virt-install

Kick off a guest install from the command line

```
$> virt-install -n MyGuest -m 512 \
```

- --disk pool=default,size=8 \
- --network:default \
- -1 http://download.fedoraproject.org/.../x86_64/os



Misc. Tools

- virt-clone/virt-image/virt-convert
- xenner run Xen guests in KVM
- virt-top 'top' for VMs
- virt-ps/virt-uname/virt-dmesg poke VMs



Get Involved

- list: fedora-virt@redhat.com
- http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Virtualization
- #virt on irc.oftc.net
- Test days
- Bugzilla fedora-virt-maint@redhat.com
- Regular status reports



Foo

• Bar



Virtio

- Bus for paravirt devices
- PCI based
- Ring buffers
- virtio_net packet flow



KVM Memory Management

- Shadow page tables
- Cached shadow
- Out-of-sync shadow
- Paravirt MMU
- NPT/EPT



Best For Last - libguestfs

- library for accessing guest disk images
- guestfish shell
- virt-inspector
- Xen to KVM migration tools
- Go to the libguestfs hackfest
- http://libguestfs.org



A Word On Appliances

- Download and run a VM
- Great opportunity for developers
- Hyped too early, still in their infancy

