

System z

Introduction to Virtualization

SHARE Pittsburgh, Session 15712

Romney White, IBM

romneyw@us.ibm.com System z Architecture and Technology



© 2013 IBM Corporation



Introduction to Virtualization

- Concept
- Server Virtualization Approaches
- Hypervisor Implementation Methods
- Why Virtualization Matters

Virtualization on System z

- Logical Partitions
- Virtual Machines



Virtual Resources

- Proxies for real resources: same interfaces/functions, different attributes
- May be part of a physical resource or multiple physical resources

Virtualization

- Creates virtual resources and "maps" them to real resources
- Primarily accomplished with software or firmware

Resources

- Components with architecturally-defined interfaces/functions
- May be centralized or distributed usually physical
- Examples: memory, disk drives, networks, servers

- Separates presentation of resources to users from actual resources
- Aggregates pools of resources for allocation to users as virtual resources

Server Virtualization Approaches





Characteristics:

- Bare-metal hypervisors offer high efficiency and availability
- Hosted hypervisors are useful for clients where host OS integration is important
- Hardware partitioning is less flexible than hypervisor-based solutions

Hypervisor Implementation Methods







Roles:

- Consolidations
- Dynamic provisioning / hosting
- Workload management
- Workload isolation
- Software release migration
- Mixed production and test
- Mixed OS types/releases
- Reconfigurable clusters
- Low-cost backup servers



Possible Benefits:

- High resource utilization
- Great usage flexibility
- Enhanced workload QoS
- High availability / security
- Low cost of availability
- Low management costs
- Enhanced interoperability
- Legacy compatibility
- Investment protection

Virtualization can fill many roles and provide many benefits In the final analysis, its potential benefits take three forms:

- Help reduce hardware costs
 - Help increase physical resource utilization
 - Small footprints
- Can improve flexibility and responsiveness
 - Virtual resources can be adjusted dynamically to meet new or changing needs and to optimize service level achievement
 - Virtualization is a key enabler of on demand operating environments such as cloud
- Can reduce management costs
 - Fewer physical servers to manage
 - Many common management tasks become much easier





Multi-dimensional virtualization technology

- System z provides logical (LPAR) and software (z/VM) partitioning
- PR/SM enables highly scalable virtual server hosting for LPAR <u>and</u> z/VM virtual machine environments
- IRD coordinates allocation of CPU and I/O resources among z/OS and non-z/OS[®] LPARs*

^{*} Excluding non-shared resources like Integrated Facility for Linux processors









LPAR Memory Partitioning





= the real partition memory pages associated with a virtual address space; that is, the sets of dynamically-allocated physical memory pages necessary to run a z/OS task or a Linux process

= the real partition memory pages associated with a virtual machine; that is, the sets of dynamically-allocated physical memory pages necessary to run a guest operating system in a virtual machine

LPAR Multiple Logical Channel Subsystems









- The I/O infrastructure (adapters/channels, their transmission links, and attached I/O resources are shared by LPARs at native speeds (without hypervisor involvement)
 - I/O requests, their associated data transfers, and I/O interruptions flow between each OS instance and the shared I/O components, just as if the I/O components were physically dedicated to a single OS instance











= the guest real memory pages associated with a virtual address space; that is, the sets of dynamically-allocated host virtual memory pages necessary to run a z/OS task or a Linux process

= the guest real memory pages associated with a virtual machine; that is, the sets of dynamically-allocated host virtual memory pages necessary to run a guest operating system in a virtual machine









z/VM Operations Automation





System z Virtualization Genetics



