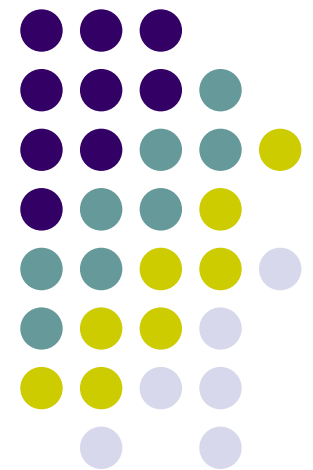
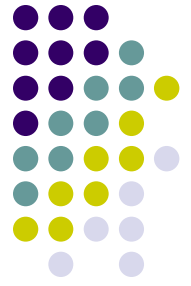


Xen on Fedora Linux

Jason C. Whitaker
Transylvania University
Consultant





What is Xen?

- “virtual machine monitor” somewhat comparable to VMware, Virtual PC, others.
- “paravirtualization” – Not a completely transparent VM solution; requires a port of the guest operating system to understand Xen APIs.
- UNIX only solution – Kernel support for Linux, NetBSD, more.



Why choose Xen?

- Open source under GNU GPL and free.
- RHEL / Fedora distros have integrated support for easy setup and management.
- Ported guest OSes may offer better performance than fully virtualized setups; doesn't require special hardware such as Intel VT chips.
- Can “reuse” VMs (a la “virtual appliances”).



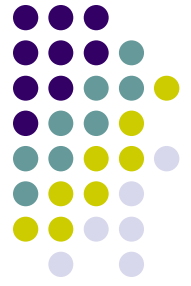
Xen concerns

- UNIX (for most, likely mainstream Linux) only.
- Open source and free – sometimes this means “consultants”!
- Will be replaced by KVM in the future?



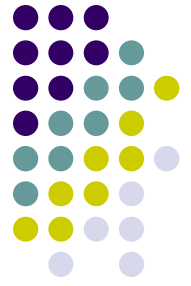
Transy's Xen VMs

- NetReg
- Mailman
- HTTP portal/proxy for outside access
- Moodle
- Zimbra
- Nagios
- DNS (planned)



Transy's backup and DR plans

- Two physical Xen servers, each running Fedora Core 6 with RAID1 mirroring.
- Each Xen VM is stopped, backed up, restarted on a scheduled basis.
- The two servers exchange copies of backed up VMs on a scheduled basis.
- Low cost solution without SAN, VMware; requires some expertise and “glue”.



More information

- <http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/research/srg/netos/xen/> - Systems Research Group, University of Cambridge
- <http://www.xensource.com/> - Leading Xen provider
- <http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/FedoraXenQuickstartFC6> - Fedora Core 6 Xen Quickstart guide
- <http://www.whitakerfamily.ws/blogs/jason/archives/category/fedoraxen> - Jason's Fedora/Xen blog

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