Server Virtualization: The Essentials

Part 1 of 4

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TeamQuest
Server Virtualization: The Essentials

- What is virtualization?
- Why consolidation and virtualization?
- Advantages of Virtualization
- Disadvantages of Virtualization
- Different Approaches
- CPU Measurements
What is virtualization?

- Virtualization creates a level of indirection or an abstraction layer between a physical object and the managing application.

- Storage virtualization refers to the presentation of a simple file, logical volume or other storage object (i.e. disk drive) to an application in such a way that allows the physical complexity of the storage to be hidden from both the storage administrator and the application.

- Virtualization involves the process of presenting computing resources in ways that users and applications can easily get value out of them, rather than presenting them in a way dictated by their implementation, geographic location, or physical packaging.

- Virtualization is an abstraction layer that decouples the physical hardware from the operating system to deliver greater IT resource utilization and flexibility.
Why consolidation and virtualization?

- Mainframes (Centralized Computing)
- Open Systems (Distributed Computing)
- Computer Sprawl (Application-driven)
- Service Level (Business-driven)
Advantages of Virtualization

- Increased server utilization
- Rapid service deployment
- Hidden complexity
- Reduction of datacenter footprint
Disadvantages of Virtualization

- Administration complexity
- Skilled personnel
- Confusion over different approaches
- Confusion regarding standard statistics
- Licensing issues
Different Approaches

- IBM (AIX)
- Hewlett-Packard (HP-UX)
- Sun Microsystems (Solaris)
- VMware (ESX)
- Microsoft (Windows Virtual Server)
Different Approaches: IBM LPARs

Software

- Applications
- AIX

Hardware

- CPU
- Memory
- I/O

- CPU
- Memory
- I/O
Different Approaches: IBM LPARs

- Single OS in each LPAR
- CPUs are not shared across LPARs
- CPUs are provisioned by whole CPUs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Software</th>
<th>Hardware</th>
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<td>Applications</td>
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Different Approaches: Firmware, IBM Micropartitions

- **Software**
  - Applications
  - AIX

- **Firmware**
  - POWER Hypervisor

- **Hardware**
  - CPU
  - Memory
  - I/O
Different Approaches: Firmware, IBM Micropartitions

- Multiple OSs
- Partial CPU configuration
- CPUs can be shared across LPAR
- AIX sees physical and virtual CPUs

```
Software
  Applications
    AIX

Firmware
  POWER Hypervisor
    CPU

Hardware
```
Different Approaches: Hardware, NPAR

Software

Hardware

Applications

HPUX

CPU

Memory

I/O

Applications

HPUX

CPU

Memory

I/O
Different Approaches: Hardware, NPAR

- Single OS in each NPAR
- CPUs are not shared across NPAR
- CPUs are provisioned by whole CPUs

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Different Approaches: Firmware, HP VPAR

- **Software**
  - Applications
  - HPUX

- **Firmware**
  - HP 9000 Firmware

- **Hardware**
  - CPU
  - Memory
  - I/O

Virtual Partition Monitor
### Different Approaches: Firmware, HP VPAR

- Multiple O.S.s
- No Partial CPU configuration (Core Granularity)
- CPUs can be shared across VPAR

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<td>Hardware</td>
<td>HP 9000 Firmware</td>
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Different Approaches: Hardware, Sun Domains

Software

Hardware

Applications

Solaris

CPU

Memory

I/O

Applications

Solaris

CPU

Memory

I/O
Different Approaches: Hardware, Sun Domains

- Single OS in each domain
- CPUs are not shared across domains
- CPUs are provisioned by whole CPUs

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Different Approaches: Software, Solaris Zones

- **Software**
  - Applications Zone
  - Solaris 10

- **Hardware**
  - CPU
  - Memory
  - I/O
Different Approaches: Software, Solaris Zones

- Single OS
- Physical CPUs are visible to the OS
Different Approaches: Firmware, Solaris LDOMS

Software

Firmware

Hardware

Applications
Solaris

Applications
Solaris

Solaris Hypervisor

CPU
Memory
I/O

CPU
Memory
I/O

CPU
Memory
I/O
Different Approaches: Firmware, Solaris LDOMS

- Multiple OSs
- Partial CPU configuration
- Solaris sees physical and virtual CPUs
Different Approaches: Software, VMware ESX Server

Software

Applications
Windows

Hardware

VMware ESX

CPU
CPU
CPU
CPU

Memory
Memory
Memory
Memory

I/O
I/O
I/O
I/O
Different Approaches: Software, VMware ESX Server

- Single “host” OS
- Physical CPUs visible to the host OS
- “Guest” OS sees virtual CPUs

```
Software

Applications
Windows

Hardware

VMware ESX
CPU
CPU
CPU
CPU

Applications
Linux
```
Different Approaches: Software, Windows Virtual Server

Software

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Hardware

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Different Approaches: Software, Windows Virtual Server

- Single “host” OS
- Physical CPUs visible to the host OS
- “Guest” OS sees virtual CPUs
CPU Measurements

- Traditional CPU measurements now have very different meanings
- CPU measurements are gathered from operating system APIs
- Pay close attention to where you look for CPU resource usage
- There is still real hardware somewhere
Example Configuration – IBM Micropartition

- **VS1 Configuration**
  - 2-Virtual CPUs, 1-Entitled Capacity
  - Capped, SMT off, Shared Processor Pool
- **Single process running in VS1 using 45 seconds of a physical CPU in a 60 second interval**

![Diagram showing VS1, VS2, VS3 configurations with applications and virtual CPUs](attachment:diagram.png)
Virtual Processor

**CPU:Summary::%busy**

The percentage of the virtual processor capacity consumed. Affected by both SMT and Capping.

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**POWER Hypervisor**

- **Shared Pool**
  - PCPU
  - PCPU
  - PCPU

- **Dedicated**
  - PCPU
  - PCPU

%busy = 37.5%
Entitled Processor

CPU:by LPAR::%entc

The percentage of the entitled processor capacity consumed by the partition.

- **VS1**
  - Applications
  - AIX
  - VCPU VCPU

- **VS2**
  - Applications
  - AIX
  - VCPU VCPU

- **VS3**
  - Applications
  - AIX
  - VCPU VCPU

POWER Hypervisor

- **Shared Pool**
  - PCPU PCPU

- **Dedicated**
  - PCPU PCPU

%entc = 75%
**Processor Pool**

**CPU:by LPAR::%lpar_pool_busy**

The percentage of the processor pool capacity consumed by the partition.

### Shared Pool
- **PCPU**
- **PCPU**

### Dedicated
- **PCPU**
- **PCPU**

---

%lpar_pool_busy = 18.75%
CPU: by LPAR: \%lpar\_phys\_busy

The percentage of the physical processor capacity consumed by the partition.

\%lpar\_phys\_busy = 9.38%
**Processor Pool**

**CPU: by LPAR:: %total_pool_busy**

The percentage of the processor pool capacity consumed by all partitions using the pool.

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**POWER Hypervisor**

**Shared Pool**

- PCPU
- PCPU

**Dedicated**

- PCPU
- PCPU

**%total_pool_busy = 32%**
CPU Chart

The image shows a bar chart with the title 'TeamQuest View - [New Report1]'. The chart includes bars representing different categories:

- Summary: %busy
- by LPAR: %enc
- by LPAR: %par_pool_busy
- by LPAR: %total_pool_busy
- by LPAR: %par_phys_busy

The x-axis represents the date and time: 11/29 08:29:50 - 11/29 08:32:30.

The chart indicates the percentage of CPU usage for each category at different points in time.
Additional Statistics

**CPU:by LPAR::physc**
The number of physical processors consumed by the partition.

**CPU:by LPAR::app**
The number of available processors in the shared pool.
Is Capacity Planning Important?

- What happens to response times when activity changes?
- When will my guest get “full”?
- When will my application activity exceed my server capacity?
- When will my application activity exceed my cluster capacity?

TeamQuest solutions tell you what you will need before you need it.
Conclusion of Part 1

For more discussion on this topic, please contact Jim Smith at: jim.smith@teamquest.com

To view demos on how to better manage the capacity of virtualized VMware ESX, Sun Solaris and IBM AIX server environments, simply close this video and return to the TeamQuest website

Thank you for joining us.

For Capacity Planning solutions please call:

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<th>Region</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<td>Corporate Offices and Americas</td>
<td>+1 800-551-8326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe, Middle East, Africa</td>
<td>+46 (0) 31 80 95 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia Pacific</td>
<td>+61 3 9641 2288</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>+44 (0) 1865 338031</td>
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