

Virtualisation: Performance and Use Cases

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One problem in distributed computing is bringing together application developers and resource providers to ensure that applications work well on the resources provided. A layer of abstraction between resources and applications provides new possibilities in designing Grid solutions.

This paper compares different virtualisation environments, among which are Xen (developed at the University of Cambridge / UK), User-Mode-Linux (a linux community effort) and MS Virtual Server (a commercial solution). The differences in architecture and features will be presented. The results of our intensive performance measurements that have been carried out on all of these virtualisation environments will be discussed.

Furthermore use cases that highlight solutions to typical problems in distributed computing with particular emphasis on Grid computing will be presented.

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