

Virtualization

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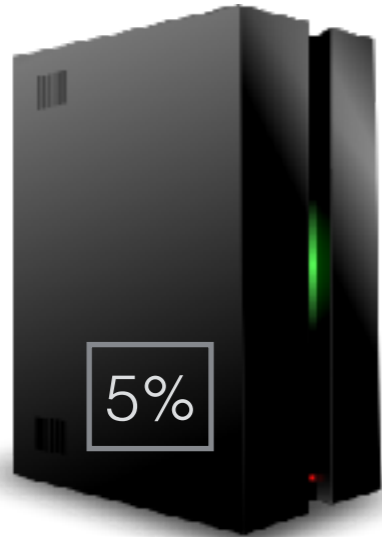
What is virtualization?

- Let's first look at a video from VMware
- <http://www.vmware.com/tw/products/vsphere.html>

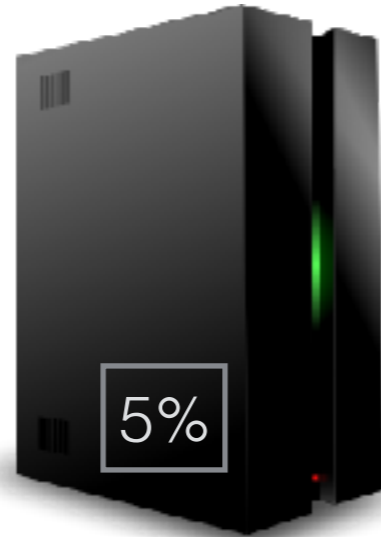
Problems?

Low utilization
Different needs

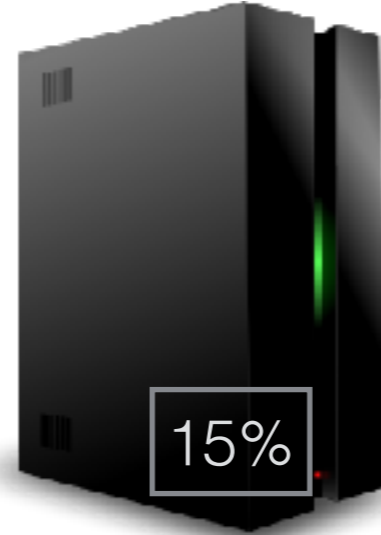
DNS



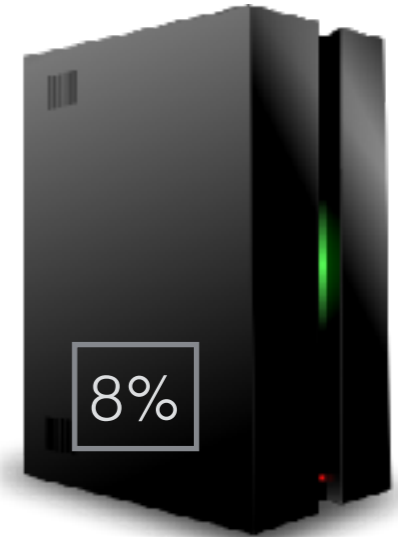
DHCP



Web



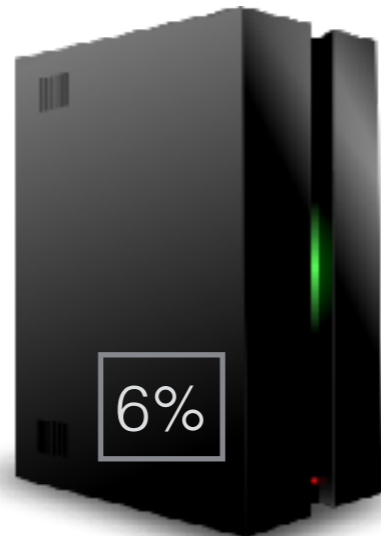
mail



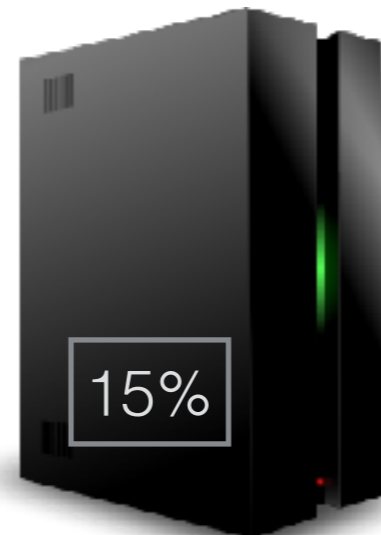
NFS



LDAP



Windows
Active Directory
Server



Database



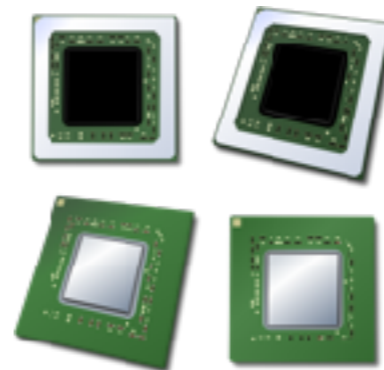
Problem & Results

- Software vendors:
please run our applications **on a separate machine** (incompatibility with other software)
- Utilization: between **5%** to **15%**
and decreasing due to better hardware in the future
- Results: a large number of servers

Results

- A large number of servers ==?

- Huge energy consumption



- CPU, hard drive, ...

- Cooling to keep the servers running



- Maintenance associated with a large number of servers



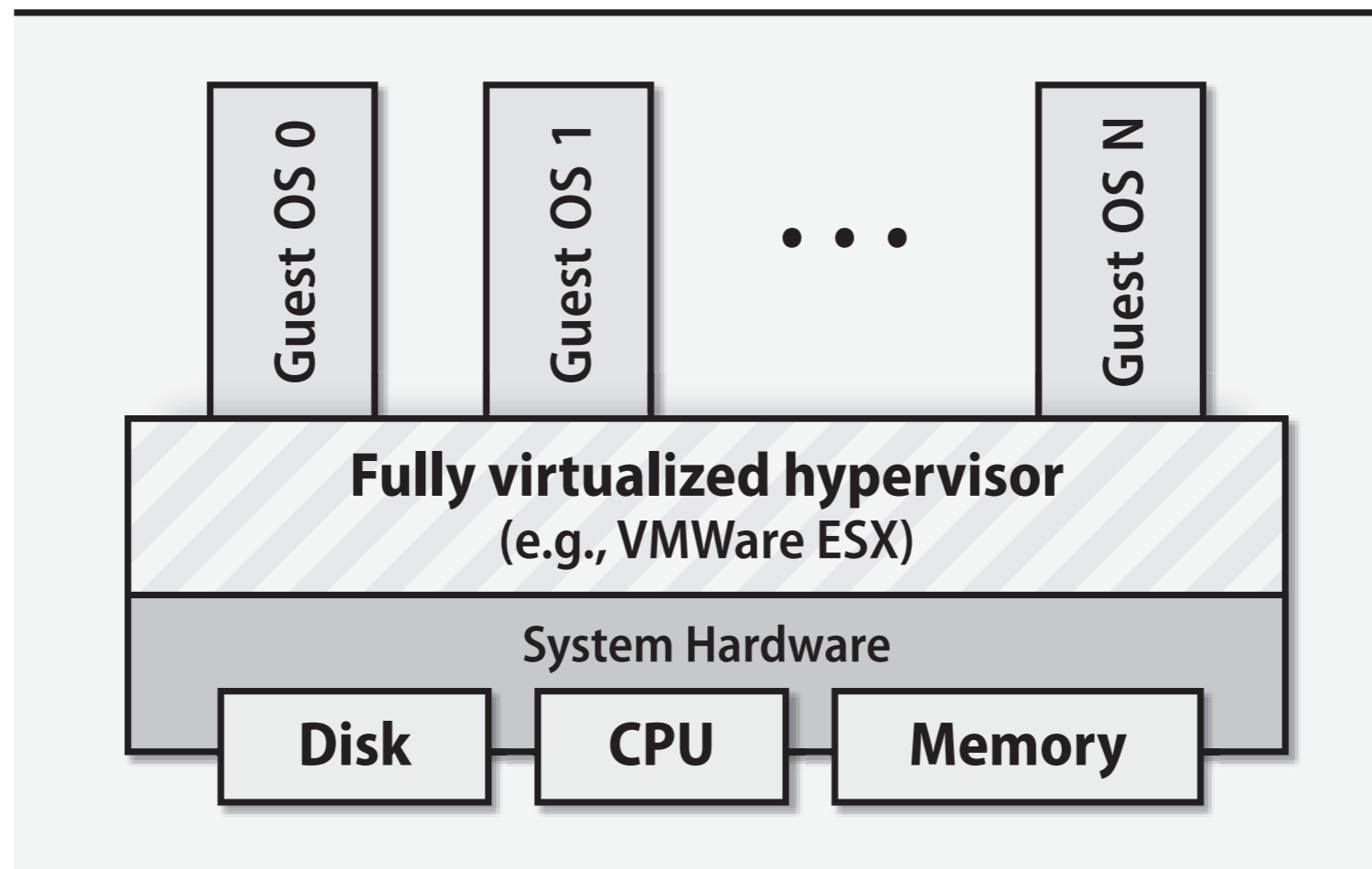
Virtualization

- Basic idea:
allow **multiple OS'es** to run concurrently on the **same physical hardware**
- **Per server maintenance** is reduced
- Isolation: each OS “more or less” **thinks** that they run on a physical machine
- Ability to dynamically assign resources to different OS'es, e.g., memory, CPU time, storage, network bandwidth.
- Possibility of **live migration**

Types of Virtualization

- Full virtualization
- Paravirtualization
- Operating system virtualization
- Native virtualization

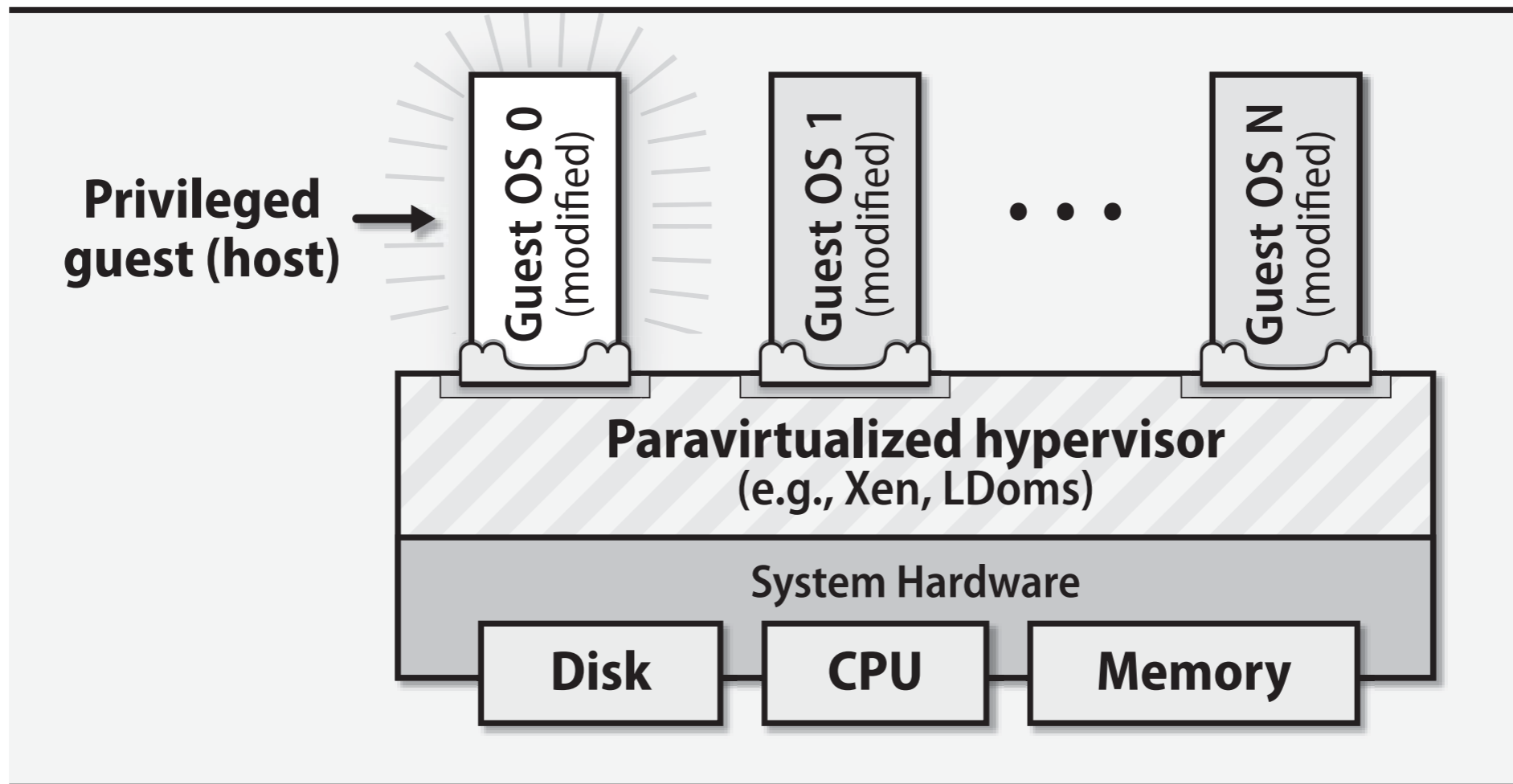
Full virtualization



Full virtualization

- a.k.a bare-metal virtualization
- Most secure: no access to hardware from guest OS
- No guest OS modification is needed
- Require translation of CPU instructions (performance penalty)

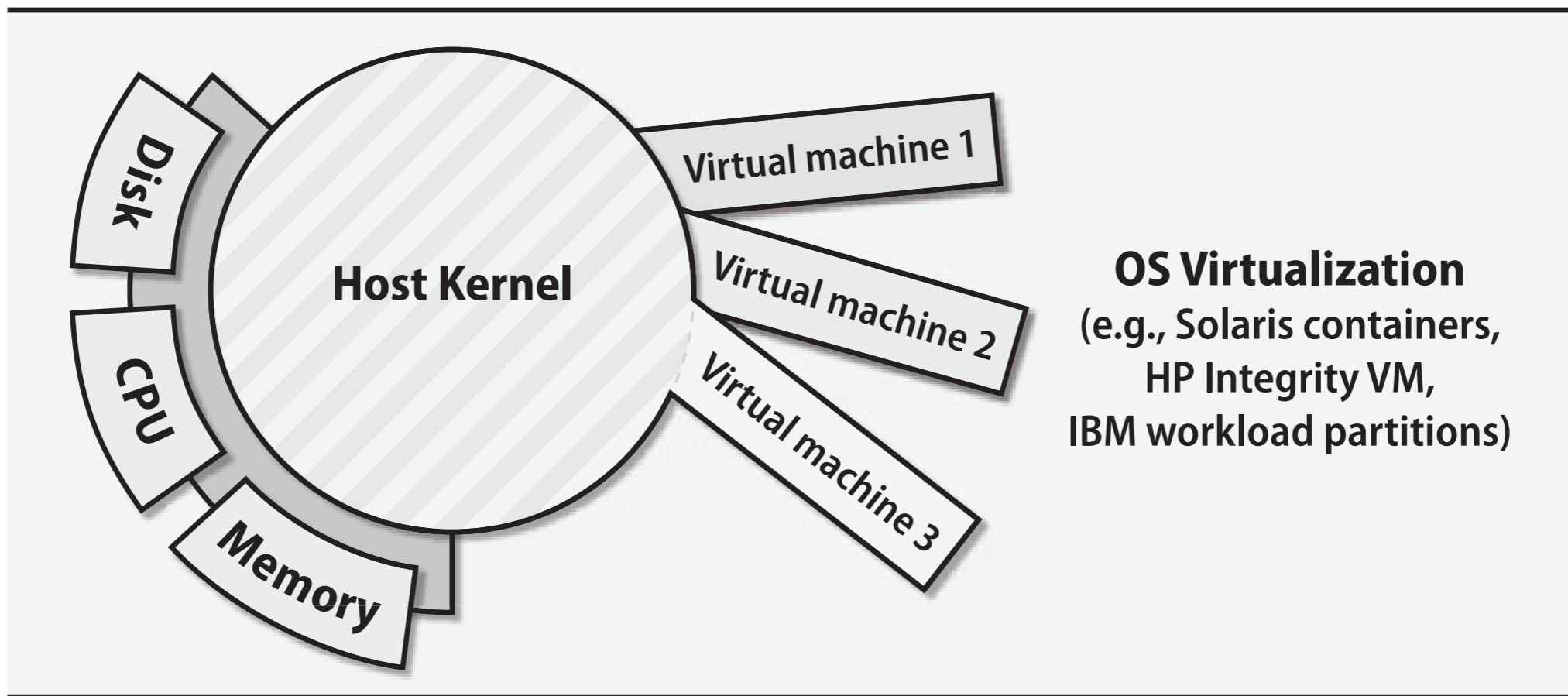
Paravirtualization



Paravirtualization

- Each guest OS kernel **must be modified**, so that sensitive CPU instructions can be translated using “hypercalls”
- Less overhead
- Due to the modification requirements, support for non-open-source kernels (e.g., Windows) is scant.

OS virtualization



OS virtualization

- Multiple, isolated application environments that references the same kernel
- No translation or virtualization layer exists —> very low overhead
- Cannot use multiple OS'es - sharing of a single kernel

Native virtualization

- Intel & AMD offer CPUs that support virtualization with hardware-assisted (native) virtualization
- No need for translation layer in full/para-virtualization
- Most solution utilizes them today

Benefits

- Cost:
 - New project: new VM instead of new hardware
 - Cooling: major cost saving
 - Lower data center cost:
rack space, maintenance, etc.
- Better utilization of multi-core servers
- Business continuity: live migration for disaster recovery



Benefits

- Manageability
 - Use **script** for **boot, shutdown, migration** (or even temporarily assign more memory / CPU to a VM)
 - Software for **legacy** hardware can be run on **new** hardware
- Development, test, staging can be **separated** from production environments

When virtualization shouldn't be used

- Resource intensive backup servers or log hosts
- High-bandwidth applications (e.g., IDS)
- Busy I/O-bound database servers
- Proprietary applications with hardware-based copy protection
- Applications with specialized hardware needs

Good candidates for virtualization

- Internet-facing web servers that query middleware systems / databases
- Underused stand-alone application servers
- Developer systems, e.g., build / version control servers
- Quality assurance test hosts and staging environments
- Core infrastructure systems, e.g., LDAP, DHCP, DNS, time servers, SSH gateways

Other applications of virtualization

- Mobile virtualization
 - Cheap phone - run mobile OS & baseband signal processing software
 - Dual usage phone - run two OS, one for personal use and one for business use
- Desktop virtualization - thin clients, virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI)
- Nested virtualization — running hypervisor inside another hypervisor
 - OS starts to gain hypervisor functionality - e.g., Windows 7 can run Windows XP VM.
 - Moving already existing virtualized environment into the cloud..