

Title: Xen and the Art of Repeated Research

Xen is an x86 virtual machine monitor produced by the University of Cambridge Computer Laboratory and released under the GNU General Public License. Performance results comparing XenLinux (Linux running in a Xen virtual machine) to native Linux as well as to other virtualization tools such as User Mode Linux (UML) were recently published in the paper "Xen and the Art of Virtualization" at the Symposium on Operating Systems Principles (October 2003). In this study, we repeat this performance analysis of Xen. We also extend the analysis in several ways, including comparing XenLinux on x86 to an IBM zServer. We use this study as an example of repeated research. We argue that this model of research, which is enabled by open source software, is an important step in transferring the results of computer science research into production environments.