

VMS is VMS is VMS is VMS
-VAX Alpha IA64 +x86-64

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VMSgenerations April 2022

Good morning VMS colleagues.

First some thanks;

for the opportunity to chat about porting to X86 VMS.

to Jeremy Begg for providing the cross-compiler environment and currently on-line X86 WASD site.

and finally to VSI for the opportunity to participate in such an interesting and pivotal field-test.

As you can see from the title slide - with some caveats - VMS is VMS is VMS is VMS.

And the WASD porting experience underscores this for me.

Moving **User Mode** Application(s) To **x86-64**

(spoiler alert: c'est du gâteau)

This session concerns USER mode code.

Undoubtedly elevated modes will be less straight-forward.

And I seem to have given it away already - the port was very straight-forward.

It really was a piece of cake.

VMS is VMS ...

agenda

application environment
x86-64 porting (EAK V9.0)
 after one hour
 after eight hours
 x86-64 code specifics
x86-64 porting (EAK V9.1)
 development platforms
 cross compiling
 x86-64 performance
questions?

There are three main sections to this session.

- 1) A brief description of the application code environment.
- 2) A summary of the initial port (V9.0), eighteen months ago.
- 3) Some comments on the subsequent port (V9.1), six months ago.

Application Environment

WASD HTTP services package

- First developed early '90s on VAX - 32 bit
- Initially VAX C, now DEC / VSI C
- Ported to Alpha ('95) and Itanium ('04)
- 32 bit with necessary 64 bit data as adjacent longwords
- Uses SYS\$ services extensively
- Uses LIB\$ routines (less) extensively
- All USER MODE code

Application Environment

WASD HTTP services package

- server code / comment counts

----- OVERALL -----										
-----Total-----		-----Code-----			-----Comment-----					
	Lines	Chars	Lines		Chars		Lines		Chars	
0172	237768	7861504	163085	77%	4388885	72%	21976	10%	1650720	27%

code: 163,000 lines 77% of total

comment: 21,976 lines 10% of total

x86-64 Porting

EAK 9.0 (September 2020)

- BXNUC10i7FNH4 6 core i7 1.10GHz 32GB
(thanks to Jeremy Begg of VSM Software Services)

Generously resourced Intel NUC compact form-factor computer.

Linux O/S.

Virtualbox.

VMS V9.0 supplied as a (largely) pre-configured virtual HDD containing an ODS-5 file system.

x86-64 Porting

EAK 9.0 (September 2020)

- BXNUC10i7FNH4 6 core i7 1.10GHz 32GB
(thanks to Jeremy Begg of VSM Software Services)
- After approximately one hour

```
$ mcr wasd_root:[x86_64]httpd /version
%HTTPD-I-SOFTWAREID, HTTPd-WASD/11.5.1 OpenVMS/X86
WASD VMS Web Services, Copyright (C) 1996-2020 Mark G.Daniel.
8< snip 8<
-HTTPD-I-SYSTEM, VBOX VBOXFACP 1 CPU 15361MB VMS V9.0-D
-HTTPD-I-TCPIP, Not (yet) for x86-64!
-HTTPD-I-TLS, none
```

all the “core” code was built and running

Some preliminary hacking of source code placed __x86_64 conditionals in parallel with existing __VAX, __ALPHA __ia64.

It was then just a matter of running the server build procedures and correcting the typos.

x86-64 Porting

EAK 9.0 (September 2020)

- BXNUC10i7FNH4 6 core i7 1.10GHz 32GB
(thanks to Jeremy Begg of VSM Software Services)

- After approximately one hour

```
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-HTTPD-I-SYSTEM, VBOX VBOXFACP 1 CPU 15361MB VMS V9.0-D
-HTTPD-I-TCPIP, Not (yet) for x86-64!
-HTTPD-I-TLS, none
```

all the “core” code was built and running

- architecture-specific had hard-wired output (e.g. “Not (yet)...”)

<https://wasd.vsm.com.au/info-WASD/2020/0099>

x86-64 Porting

EAK 9.0 (September 2020)

- Approximately eight hours (excluding chasing bugs in the EAK) filled in the majority of the architecture specifics

```
%HTTPD-I-SOFTWAREID, HTTPd-WASD/11.5.1 OpenVMS/X86 SSL
WASD VMS Web Services, Copyright (C) 1996-2020 Mark G.Daniel.
8< snip 8<
%HTTPD-I-SYSTEM, VBOX VBOXFACP VMS V9.0-D
8< snip 8<
%HTTPD-I-SSL, OpenSSL 1.1.1g 21 Apr 2020 (0x1010107F)
-SSL-I-PROTOCOL, TLSv1,TLSv1.1,TLSv1.2,TLSv1.3
-SSL-I-OPTIONS, 0x80410854
-SSL-I-SNI, Server Name Indication enabled
-SSL-W-DH, no ephemeral DH param
%HTTPD-I-HTTP2, enabled
8< snip 8<
%HTTPD-I-SERVICE, http://x86v1.vsm.com.au:7080
%HTTPD-I-SERVICE, https://x86v1.vsm.com.au:7443
%HTTPD-I-SSL, x86v1.vsm.com.au:7443
Generate x86v1.vsm.com.au 2048 bit private key:
.....+++++++
.....+++++++
%HTTPD-I-DEMO, demonstration mode
8< snip 8<
%HTTPD-I-BEGIN, 18-SEP-2020 15:48:59, WASD:7080 accepting requests
```

A number of deficiencies were encountered with V9.0.

Establishing where the execution was breaking took time.

Creating simple reproducers to pass back to VSI took time.

However after eight hours of real work the server was basically up and running.

x86-64 Porting

EAK 9.0 (September 2020)

- 163,000 code lines
X86 code specifics: 8
- each of these paralleled existing
__VAX, __ALPHA, __ia64 specifics

```
$ search *.c "#ifdef __x86

*****
WASD_ROOT:[src.HTTDPX]httpd.c;6

#ifdef __x86_64
#ifdef __x86_64
#ifdef __x86_64

*****
WASD_ROOT:[src.HTTDPX]net.c;17

#ifdef __x86_64

*****
WASD_ROOT:[src.HTTDPX]sysplus.c;3

#ifdef __x86_64

*****
WASD_ROOT:[src.HTTDPX]tcpip.c;7

#ifdef __x86_64
#ifdef __x86_64

*****
WASD_ROOT:[src.HTTDPX]version.c;3

#ifdef __x86_64
```

<https://wasd.vsm.com.au/info-WASD/2020/0102>
<https://wasd.vsm.com.au/other/WASD%20x86-64%2019-SEP-2020.html>

Just to reiterate.

Many of which were fairly trivial cut-n-paste modification of a literal.

But not all of them.

```

        if (ExitStatus != SS_W_CONTROLY)
        {
            /* add traceback information */
            int SanityCheck = 100;
#ifdef __ALPHA
            lib$get_curr_invo_context (&icb);
            while (lib$get_prev_invo_context (&icb),
                    !icb.libicb$v_bottom_of_stack && SanityCheck--)
                fprintf (stdout, "-HTTPD-F-TRACE, %08.08X%08.08X\n",
                        icb.libicb$q_program_counter[1],
                        icb.libicb$q_program_counter[0]);
#endif
#ifdef __ia64
            lib$i64_init_invo_context (&icb, LIBICB$K_INVO_CONTEXT_VERSION);

            lib$i64_get_curr_invo_context (&icb);
            while (lib$i64_get_prev_invo_context (&icb),
                    !icb.libicb$v_bottom_of_stack && SanityCheck--)
                fprintf (stdout, "-HTTPD-F-TRACE, %08.08X%08.08X\n",
                        ((ULONGPTR)&icb.libicb$ih_pc)[1],
                        ((ULONGPTR)&icb.libicb$ih_pc)[0]);
#endif
#ifdef __x86_64
            lib$x86_init_invo_context (&icb, LIBICB$K_INVO_CONTEXT_VERSION);

            lib$x86_get_curr_invo_context (&icb);
            while (lib$x86_get_prev_invo_context (&icb),
                    !icb.libicb$v_bottom_of_stack && SanityCheck--)
                fprintf (stdout, "-HTTPD-F-TRACE, %08.08X%08.08X\n",
                        ((ULONGPTR)&icb.libicb$ih_ip)[1],
                        ((ULONGPTR)&icb.libicb$ih_ip)[0]);
#endif
            /* list current and history list requests */
            RequestDump ();
        }
    }

```

This is a portion of the server error exit handling.

Reinventing an X86-specific section of IA64 code.

Required checking the C header file for an X86 equivalent of the IA64 calls.

So - trivial bordering on the non-trivial - or non-trivial bordering on the trivial :-)

My thanks to Jean-Pierre Petit for providing the original code for this traceback. Jean-Pierre has never reported a problem (and he has a few over the years) without also providing a solution. Merci beaucoup.

WASD x86v1.vsm.com.au:7080

Server Administration

Configuration

	Report	Revise	Action
Server	Statistics Log Site-Log	Edit	Zero
Configuration	Server File Server	File Edit	
Services	Server File Server	File Edit Purge All	
Messages	Server File Server	File Edit	
Path Mapping	Server File	Edit Reload	
Path Authorization	Server File	Edit Reload	
User Authentication	Server	HTA HTL	Purge
Secure Sockets	Service CA	Edit-CA Load-CA	
Other Reports	AltFit Cache Cluster	DCL DEConn Host	
	HTTP Lock Match Memory Process Proxy		
	Request System Throttle WATCH WebDAV WebSocket		
	1 2 4 8 16 24 72 168 336 504 672	hours activity	

Control

RESTART

RESTARTNOW

RESTARTQuiet

EXIT

EXITNOW

Log

Cache

Proxy

Instance

On Off Flush

On Off Purge

Adjust Zero

Max CPU 1 2

3 4 5 6 7 8

Active Passive

/20*

Friday, 18-SEP-2020 15:56:41

Fri, 18 Sep 2020 15:56:41 GMT (0400)

default-gateway (61.69.242.235)

HTTP/1.1

Time X86V1:: 5 04:06:09.64

Process: 0 00:07:46.03

Image: 0 00:07:44.27

CPU: 0 00:00:02.13

Connect Current: 1

Peak: 3

Total: 6

Request Current: 1

Peak: 1

Total: 18

Bytes: 289,920

WASD x86v1.vsm.com.au:7080

Server Statistics

Friday, 18-SEP-2020 15:56:50

Environment

Version:

 HTTPd-WASD/11.5.1 OpenVMS/X86 SSL

Build:

 18-SEP-2020 14:05:37.08 VMS 8.4-2L1 DECC 70430342

SSL:

 OpenSSL 1.1.1g 21 Apr 2020 (Mon Jun 29 11:31:26 2020 UTC)

ZLIB:

 %HTTPD-W-GZIP, shareable image not found

TCP/IP:

 Not (yet) for x86-64!

System:

 VBOX VBOXFACP with 1 CPU and 15361MB running VMS V9.0-D

Startup:

 /DEMO /SERV=HTTP:*:7080,HTTPS:*:7443

WASD_ROOT:

 X86V1\$DKA200:[WASD_ROOT]

Instances

Node	Cluster
X86V1::WASD:7080	(n/a)

Node instances are currently ACTIVE.

Server Process

Name:	WASD:7080	PID:	00000119	User:	
AuthPriv:	WARNING	ImagPriv:	as expected	CurPriv:	as expected
Last Exit:		Exit Time:	(none)	Exit PID:	(none)
Image:	0 00:07:52.92	Process:	0 00:07:54.68	CPU:	0 00:00:02.14
Pg.Faults:	3097	Startup:	1	Mode:	INTERACTIVE
WsSize:	126352 (61MB)	WsPeak:	49568 (24MB)	VirtPeak:	407776 (199MB)
AST:	291 / 300 (3%)	BIO:	148 / 150 (1%)	BYT:	993472 / 997888 (0%)
DIO:	150 / 150 (0%)	ENQ:	3982 / 4000 (0%)	FIL:	126 / 128 (2%)
PGFL:	410976 / 512000 (200/250MB 20%)	PRC:	8 / 8 (0%)	TQ:	98 / 100 (2%)
Input:	TERMINAL				
Output:	TERMINAL				

System Resources

8 hours
8 X86 specifics
163,000 code lines

x86-64 Porting

native 64 bit storage

- After the relative ease of the initial port (EAK 9.0)
 - it was decided to retire VAX support (not a difficult decision)
 - and remove all VAX 32 bit accomodations
 - using native 64 bit data storage (e.g. [long][long] to [int64])
- This design decision was totally unrelated to X86 support
- Lots of fairly dry hack work and six months incremental field testing
 - across 4 sites and 3 platforms later ... v12.0.0

x86-64 Porting

EAK V9.1 (June 2021) and V9.1-A (September 2021)

- Deciding I needed some further hands-on, deployed existing
MacBook Pro, Intel Core i5, 2.7 GHz, 8GB
a basic laptop
- Then a AU\$300 (~€200) eBay purchase
Dell Optiplex 9020 SFF i7-4770 QC 3.4Ghz 16GB Windows 10 Pro
a basic desktop
- I now have fairly cost-effective VMS development systems
<https://wasd.vsm.com.au/info-WASD/2021/0063>
<https://wasd.vsm.com.au/info-WASD/2021/0091>

Unlike V9.0, V9.1 was deployed by VSI as an ISO image and installed using the familiar

- 1) Upgrade, install or reconfigure OpenVMS ...
- 2) Display layered products that this procedure can install
- ...
- 9) Shut down this system

x86-64 Porting

cross compiling

- All compilation (currently) requires an Itanium host

```
IA64$ product show history X86_XTOOLS
-----
PRODUCT                                KIT  TYPE  OPERATION  VAL  DATE
-----
VSI I64VMS X86_XTOOLS V9.1-A_XG1K      Full LP   Install    Val  27-OCT-2021
VSI I64VMS X86_XTOOLS V9.0-H_XFX8      Full LP   Remove     -   27-OCT-2021
VSI I64VMS X86_XTOOLS V9.0-H_XFX8      Full LP   Install    Val  18-APR-2021
VSI I64VMS X86_XTOOLS V9.0-F_XFRZ      Full LP   Remove     -   18-APR-2021
VSI I64VMS X86_XTOOLS V9.0-F_XFRZ      Full LP   Install    Val  18-DEC-2020
VSI I64VMS X86_XTOOLS V9.0-C_XFN5      Full LP   Remove     -   18-DEC-2020
VSI I64VMS X86_XTOOLS V9.0-C_XFN5      Full LP   Install    Val  13-SEP-2020
-----
7 items found

$ @SYS$MANAGER:X86_XTOOLS$SYLOGIN.COM
```

For formal V9.1 X86 release (i.e. WASD community) build procedures required some modification so that building under the cross-compiler (i.e. on Itanium) targeted X86 object directories.

x86-64 Porting

cross compiling

- Parallel source code trees

```
IA64$ SET DEFAULT WASD_ROOT:[000000]
IA64$ ZIP "-V" disk:[directory]file.ZIP [...OBJ_X86_64]*.OBJ
...
X86$ SET DEFAULT WASD_ROOT:[000000]
X86$ UNZIP disk:[directory]file.ZIP
```

- a minor embuggerance
- Alternatively; use clustered IA64-X86 nodes and MSCP-shared volume
Clustering works very effectively
- native X86 compilers promised incrementally during V9.2 releases

x86-64 Performance

V9.1-A (December 2021)

- VMS itself boots in seconds
- ```
! Dell Optiplex 9020 4 core i7 3.4Ghz 16GB
X86VMS$ @vups.com
innotek GmbH VirtualBox with 3 CPU and 4492MB running VMS V9.1-A
Approximate System VUPs Rating : 244.9 (min: 244.4 max: 245.4)

! BXNUC10i7FNH4 6 core i7 1.10GHz 32GB
innotek GmbH with 2 CPU and 7680MB running VMS V9.1-A
Approximate System VUPs Rating : 456.8 (min: 453.2 max: 459.2)

Digital Personal WorkStation with 1 CPU and 1536MB running VMS V8.4-2L1
Approximate System VUPs Rating : 161.3 (min: 161.2 max: 161.4)

AlphaServer DS20 500 MHz with 2 CPU and 1536MB running VMS V8.4-2L2
Approximate System VUPs Rating : 254.8 (min: 254.8 max: 254.8)

HP rx2660 (1.40GHz/6.0MB) with 4 CPU and 14335MB running VMS V8.4-2L1
INFO: Preventing endless loop (10$) on fast CPUs
Approximate System VUPs Rating : 499.6 (min: 497.8 max: 501.4)
```

This is the “standard” VUPS.COM DCL procedure that’s been kicking around for ever. Modified to output the hardware, CPU count, memory size, and VMS version.

Doesn’t provide an absolute measure of performance but is useful for comparative purposes.

Also remember, this is non-optimised operating system code!

# x86-64 Performance

## V9.1-A (December 2021)

- X86VMS\$ TCPIP SHOW VERSION  
VSI TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS x86\_64 Version X6.0  
on an innotek GmbH VirtualBox running OpenVMS V9.1-A
- X86VMS\$ curl -ko nl: http://192.168.1.86/dka100/colossus.mp4  
% Total % Received % Xferd Average Speed Time Time Time Current  
Dload Upload Total Spent Left Speed  
100 1398M 100 1398M 0 0 52.2M 0 0:00:26 0:00:26 --:--:-- 52.7M
- X86VMS\$ MONITOR MODES  
Combined for 3 CPUs  

|                    | 0   | 75    | 150 | 225 | 300 |
|--------------------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| Interrupt State    | 39  | ***** |     |     |     |
| MP Synchronization |     |       |     |     |     |
| Kernel Mode        | 36  | ****  |     |     |     |
| Executive Mode     |     |       |     |     |     |
| Supervisor Mode    |     |       |     |     |     |
| User Mode          | 47  | ***** |     |     |     |
| Compatibility Mode |     |       |     |     |     |
| Idle Time          | 177 | ***** |     |     |     |

Remember, this is non-optimised operating system code executing under a hypervisor!

innotek GmbH VirtualBox with 3 CPU and 4492MB running VMS V9.1-A

Approximate System VUPs Rating : 244.9 ( min: 244.4 max: 245.4 )

VSI TCP/IP Services 6.0 field test.

WASD X86 v12.0.0

cURL for X86 executing on the same X86 system (so no “real”) network I/O.

Sustained 500Mbps throughput.

SEK consuming 25% of available CPU, 16% USER, leaving 59% idle.

**questions?**

## WASD development bench

- KLAATU the original Alpha PWS - 120W (regardless - and noisy!)
- BA356 storage shelf (courtesy Jeremy Begg) with 15K HDD - 25W
- X86VMS the Dell SFF (SSD x 2) - 20W (quiescent) 40-60W (active)



[https://wasd.vsm.com.au/other/#WASD\\_x86-64](https://wasd.vsm.com.au/other/#WASD_x86-64)

<https://vsmx86.vsm.com.au>

<https://wasd.vsm.com.au/wasd/>

<https://vmssoftware.com/about/roadmap/>

<https://vmssoftware.com/about/openvmsv9-1/>