

Desktop Virtualization

“Light Client” Evaluation Group '09

similar to server virtualization:

- centralize management
- consolidate resources
- savings - time, money, fundamentally "ease of management"

What's the point?

- public computer labs/access
- faculty staff computers
- remote access/application deployment

Use Cases

- **Application virtualization:**
 - Citrix XenApp
 - VMware Thinapp

- **Desktop virtualization:**
 - VMware View
 - Citrix XenDesktop
 - Citrix Provisioning server

Technologies

- What is it?
- Pros:
 - remote access
 - platform independent
- Cons:
 - requires more backend infrastructure
 - not completely transparent to the user (requires mapping for local access etc...)
 - network dependent
- Uses

XenApp

- What is it?
- Pros:
 - application portability
 - keeps systems pristine
- Cons:
 - provides no mechanism for distributing or allowing access to end users.
- Uses

Thinapp

The “virtual lab”

- provide the same experience to users regardless of location or hardware
- centrally manage, build, avoid imaging
- quickly deploy applications to users

Desktop Virtualization

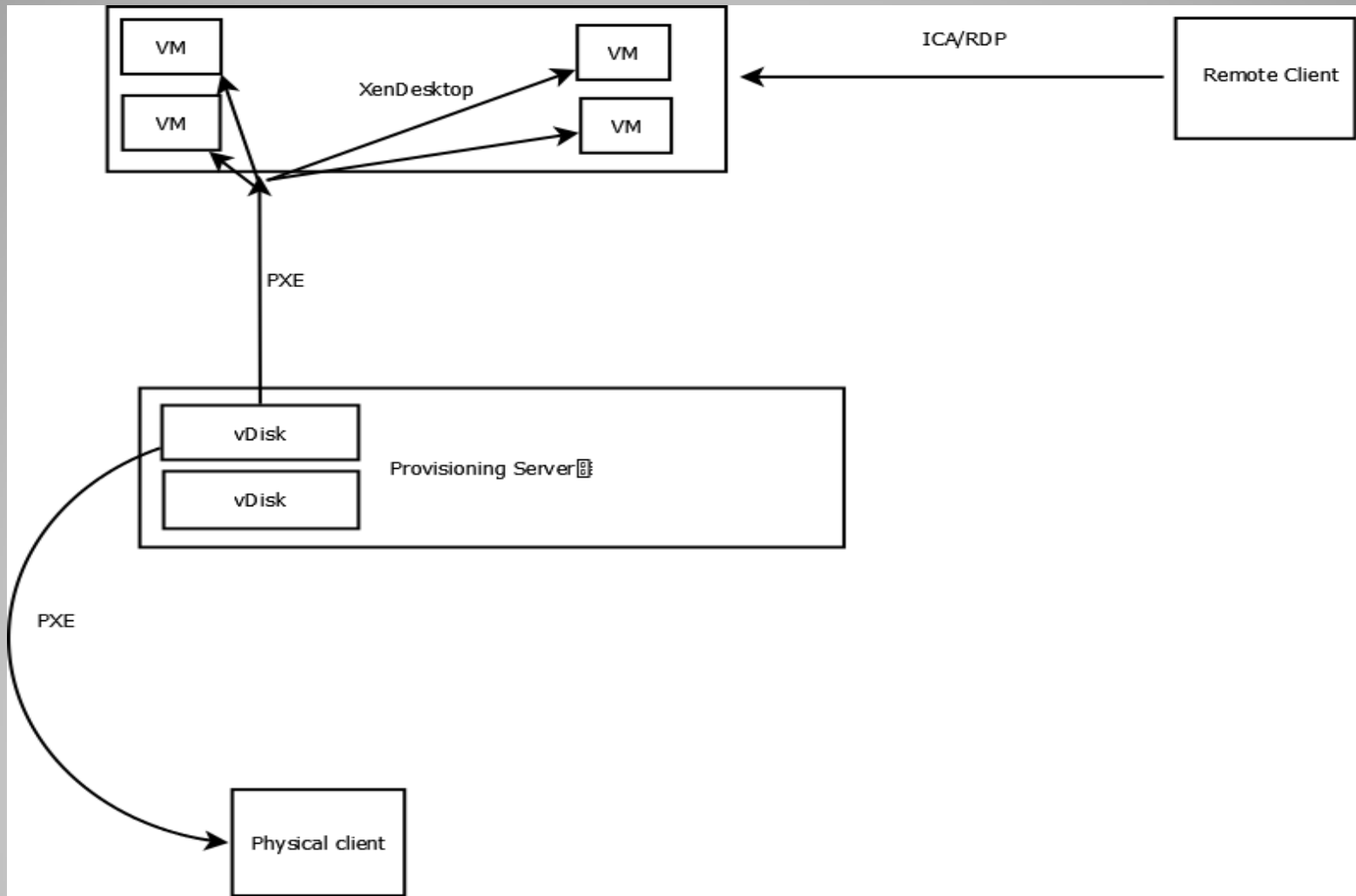
- **VDI:**

XenDesktop and VMware View

- concept: outgrowth of thinclient concept
 - traditional having clients connecting to a backend through RDP/ICA, sessions run on the server
 - provides central management
- bad for video, CAD, resource intensive applications

New model:

- virtual machine streams to the client, runs locally
- provisioning server - provides a virtual image, streams via PXE. can boot either physical or virtual machines.



Wharton Virtual Lab project