Linux Desktop 2.0 - Ubuntu

20 May 2019

This page attempts to capture the process of installling ubuntu on a SLAC desktop machine.

News

6/14/2019 - the 'old' comet (rhel6-64) is replaced with a fresh install of ubuntu 18.04.2

References relating to the building and configuration of a Ubuntu desktop machine at SLAC.

- Ubuntu Desktop How-To
- Ubuntu/CentOS 7 Desktop Scope of Support
- Installing YFS on Ubuntu Desktop
- Ubuntu System Administration

Downloading ubuntu and create a bootable dvd

These instructions assume one is running on an existing rhel6-64 machine.
(6/14/2019)

1. At https://ubuntu.com, select "Ubuntu Desktop" LTS (Long-term support) which is currently v18.04.2
2. Download. The file should be ubuntu-18.04.2-desktop-amd64.iso and is about 1.9 GB in size
3. Insert a fresh DVD (4.7 GB) into the drive
4. $ cdrecord -v -dev='/dev/scd0' ubuntu-18.04.2-desktop-amd64.iso
   If you are uncertain as to the proper device name, you may use the command "cdrecord --devices" to find out.

Install ubuntu

(6/14/2019)

1. Boot from installation disc created above
2. Select "Normal Install" (rather than "Minimal")
3. Follow your nose...
4. At some point, the installation script will assess the contents of your system disk. There are several choices: automatic install (empty disk or overwrite anything that is already there); install along side whatever is already there; create your own partitions. Select this last option.
5. Now you will see a list of all the hard drives on the computer (typically only one). Select "New Partition Table", and then manually add partitions from the table below.

Mount point	Size (GB)	Notes
/boot	2	
/	30	
/home	30	
swap	24	(I selected 3x RAM, but need not be this large)
/opt	40	
/tmp	10	
/var	10	
/scswork	10	
/usr/vice/cache	5	
/scratch	all remaining	

6. Define your local account. NOTE: this should NOT be the same as your SLAC unix account userid.
7. Allow the installation to proceed. (~10 min)

8. Reboot, remove the installation dvd, and log in!
9. One of the first items will be the OS will want to download and install a hefty number of updates. (~10 min)
10. Begin the process of installing various packages (see next section)

```
dragon1@comet:~$ uname -a
Linux comet 4.18.0-21-generic #22~18.04.1-Ubuntu SMP Thu May 16 15:07:19 UTC 2019 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
```

Installed software

In addition to the "Normal Installation" of ubuntu, the following packages have been installed.

Package	Date Installed	Procedure	Description	
curl	6/14/2019	sudo apt install curl	file transfer command	
go-chef	6/14/2019	curl http://yum.slac.stanford.edu/go-chef | sudo /bin/sh	This integrates a freshly installed OS into the SLAC family Note: if you need to re-install the OS, then one must first "reset" chef with the following curl yum/ungo-chef | sudo /bin/sh	
chrome	6/14/2019	https://www.google.com/chrome	Follow the download instructions for the debian/ubuntu build, which should automatically trigger the "Ubuntu Software" installer	
slack	6/14/2019	Ubuntu Software (app)	Communication	
gtop	6/14/2019	Ubuntu Software (app)	System monitor	
gir*	6/14/2019	sudo apt-get install gir1.2-gtop-2.0 gir1.2-networkmanager-1.0 gir1.2-clutter-1.0	Dependency for 'system-monitor' shell extension (puts system performance plots in top bar)	
	6/14/2019			

Tweaks & Adjustments

Adjustment	Purpose
$ gsettings set org.gnome.desktop.session idle-delay 3600	Increase screen blanking to 1 hour

Gotchas

None yet!