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NIM 101

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Presentation can be downloaded from link at bottom of:
http://www.circle4.com/papers/common-nim101.pdf

Agenda

- Introduction
- NIM Resources
- Setup
- Client installs
- Hints and tips

Introduction

- Central point of management for installation and maintenance
- Used for LPARs and standalone servers
- Create golden image and clone LPARs
- Can install from software, golden image or mksysb
- Can use to apply maintenance or add bundles of products
- Can install multiple servers at a time
- Push or pull installs
- Fast – DVD takes about 8 hours, NIM 15 minutes
- Can do alternate disk installs, multibos, NIM clones

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NIM environment

- Master
  - NIM server itself
  - Owns and provides the resources necessary to service clients
  - Stores information about clients and resources
  - Stores information about NIM in its database
  - Need to backup NIM database regularly
- Client
  - Machines defined as clients
  - Standalone, diskless, dataless
  - System WPAR machines
- Network
  - Must support NFS
  - If using TCP wrappers will need to unwrap tftp and bootpd on the NIM master
  - At AIX v5.3 NIM no longer requires the r commands (rsh)
  - Use nimsh instead of rsh, etc

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NIM Server Setup

- Must be at highest level of AIX that you plan to support
- Should use dedicated resources for Disk and Network
  - Affects ability to restore images if depends on VIO
  - Same applies to TSM server
- Plan for memory (2-4GB is plenty) and core (.5 of a core with 2 VPs)
- Create scaleable VG - nimvg on disk to hold NIM resources
  - Do not put NIM resources into rootvg
- Create /nim filesystem in nimvg (JFS2)
- I also create a separate filesystem called /backups for mksysb images
- Install filesets and any updates from TLs for them
- bos.sysmgt.nim.master
- bos.sysmgt.nim.spot
- bos.sysmgt.nim.client
- Also ensure the following filesets are installed
  - bos.net.tcp.server
  - bos.net.nfs.server
- Use lslpp to check they are there

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More Setup

- Note – NIM does not like dot in resource names so use _
- Put AIX DVD in the DVD drive or replace /dev/cd0 below with the directory you have the BFFs from the DVD loaded up to
- Setup NIM
  - nim_master_setup –B –a device=/dev/cd0 -a file_system=/nim -a volume_group=nimvg
  - Creates /tftpboot
  - Will not take a mksysb of the NIM server
  - Creates SPOT and lpp_source resources in /nim

  - Directory Structure:
  - /nim
  - /nim/lpp_source
  - /nim/images
  - /nim/spot
  - /nim/bosinst_data
  - /nim/resolv_conf

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NIM on my 7.1 system

```
#lslpp -l | grep bos.sysmgt.nim
  bos.sysmgt.nim.client      7.1.1.0  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager -
  bos.sysmgt.nim.master      7.1.1.0  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager -
  bos.sysmgt.nim.spot       7.1.0.15  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager - SPOT
  bos.sysmgt.nim.client      7.1.1.0  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager -

#df -g /nim
Filesystem    GB blocks      Free %Used    Iused %Iused Mounted on
/dev/fslv05      165.25     81.51   51%   182982     1% /nim

#ls -al /nim
total 24
drwxr-xr-x    9 root     system          256 Aug 26 2011  .
drwxr-xr-x   42 root     system         4096 Apr 04 23:41 ..
drwxr-xr-x    2 root     system          256 Apr 11 2011  bosinst_data
drwxr-xr-x    2 root     system         4096 Nov 28 17:06 images
drwxr-xr-x    2 root     system          256 Mar 22 2011  lost+found
drwxr-xr-x   10 root     system          256 Nov 28 17:22 lpp_source
drwxr-xr-x    2 root     system          256 Apr 18 2011  scripts
drwxr-xr-x   13 root     system         4096 Nov 28 17:47 spot
drwxr-xr-x    3 root     system          256 Apr 15 2011  spotspot_53tl12sp2
```

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NIM Command output after setup (6.1 system)

```
# lslpp -l | grep nim
  bos.sysmgt.nim.client      6.1.5.2  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager -
  bos.sysmgt.nim.master      6.1.5.2  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager -
  bos.sysmgt.nim.spot        6.1.5.1  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager - SPOT
  bos.sysmgt.nim.client      6.1.5.2  COMMITTED  Network Install Manager –

# df -g /nim
Filesystem    GB blocks      Free   %Used    Iused %Iused Mounted on
/dev/lvnim       125.00        56.33    55%    76032     1%     /nim

 # ls –al /nim
total 16
drwxr-xr-x    8 root     system          256 Jan 06 2010  .
drwxr-xr-x   26 root     system         4096 Sep 07 11:02 ..
drwxr-xr-x    2 root     system          256 Jan 06 2010  bosinst_data
drwxr-xr-x    3 root     system         4096 May 05 14:32 images
drwxr-xr-x    2 root     system          256 Jan 05 2010  lost+found
drwxr-xr-x    6 root     system          256 Apr 29 08:42 lpp_source
drwxr-xr-x    2 root     system          256 Jan 06 2010  resolv_conf
drwxr-xr-x    6 root     system          256 Apr 29 09:07 spot
```

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Check network setup

- # cat /etc/hosts | grep gandalf
- 10.152.10.124 gandalf
-
- # cat /etc/inetd.conf
- ##
- ## service socket protocol wait/ user server server program
- ## name type nowait program arguments
- ##
- bootps dgram udp wait root /usr/sbin/bootpd bootpd /etc/bootptab
- tftp dgram udp6 SRC nobody /usr/sbin/tftpd tftpd -n
-
- Do not TCP wrap these
- For security reasons you can comment them out and just uncomment when you want to use them

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NIM Resources

- Machines
  - These are the clients
- lpp_source
  - The lpp_source (Licensed Program Product source) directory contains the images that AIX uses to load software. These are typically the BFF (backup file format) images that exist on the AIX installation CDs or DVD. Each OS version should have its own lpp_source. Additionally these should be separated into 32-bit and 64-bit lpp_source sets.
- SPOT
  - The SPOT (Shared Product Object Tree) is a directory that is created from the lpp_source. The SPOT is used in a similar fashion to the boot images and installation scripts on the Base installation CD volume 1 for AIX. It may be necessary to create multiple SPOTs depending on the maintenance levels and versions that need to be supported.
- mksysb
  - The NIM master can use lpp_source to install an instance or it can install the instance from a mksysb of either that instance or another one. Once the mksysb is restored a script can be run automatically to customize the instance .

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NIM Resources 1/2

#ls /nim/lpp_source

```
lpp_53tl12sp2   lpp_61tl06sp2   lpp_61tl06sp5   lpp_7100tlsp2
lpp_61tl05sp1   lpp_61tl06sp3   lpp_7100tl00sp3 lpp_71tl01sp1
```

ls /nim/spot

```
53tl12sp2      spot_61tl05sp1 spot_61tl06sp3 spot_71tl00sp2 spot_71tl01sp1 vio212sp4spot
spot_53tl12sp2 spot_61tl06sp2 spot_61tl06sp5 spot_71tl00sp3 spot_vio
```

#ls /nim/images

```
aix53.golden.mksysb          aix61tl06.mksysb           aix7101sp3.mksysb
aix53tl12sp2.golden.mksysb   aix61tl06sp5-golden.mksysb  aix71tl01sp1-nov2811.mksysb
aix61tl05sp1.mksysb  aix71-tl00-sp3.golden.mksysb  b740vio1.mksysb
```

#lspv | grep nimvg

```
hdisk0      00f6934bdeb1713b                nimvg       active
hdisk5      00f6934be0630676                nimvg       active
```

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NIM Resources 2/2

lsvg nimvg

```
VOLUME GROUP:       nimvg                   VG IDENTIFIER:  00f6934b00004c000000012ee06306b7
VG STATE:           active                  PP SIZE:        256 megabyte(s)
VG PERMISSION:      read/write              TOTAL PPs:      2234 (571904 megabytes)
MAX LVs:            256                     FREE PPs:       32 (8192 megabytes)
LVs:                4                       USED PPs:       2202 (563712 megabytes)
OPEN LVs:           4                       QUORUM:         2 (Enabled)
TOTAL PVs:          2                       VG DESCRIPTORS: 3
STALE PVs:          0                       STALE PPs:      0
ACTIVE PVs:         2                       AUTO ON:        yes
MAX PPs per VG:     32768                   MAX PVs:        1024
LTG size (Dynamic): 1024 kilobyte(s)        AUTO SYNC:      no
HOT SPARE:          no                      BB POLICY:      relocatable
MIRROR POOL STRICT: off
PV RESTRICTION:     none                    INFINITE RETRY: no
```

#lsvg -l nimvg

```
nimvg:
LV NAME             TYPE       LPs   PPs   PVs  LV STATE      MOUNT POINT
loglv00             jfs2log       1     1    1  open/syncd    N/A
fslv04              jfs2        920   920    1  open/syncd    /software
fslv05              jfs2        661   661    2  open/syncd    /nim
fslv06              jfs2        620   620    2  open/syncd    /backups
```

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NIM Resources

- Scripts
  - Scripts can be set to run during a BOS install to ensure that the resulting instance of the operating system is correctly tailored with any post installation items. These can include security requirements, third-party software installation and other customizations related to additional paging or dump space.
- bosinst_data
  - This is a file, not a directory, and it contains the necessary information to allow the installation to take place without manual intervention. It is used to define defaults such as default disk drive, type of installation and so on.
- image_data
  - This is also a file and contains operating system image information related to file systems, mirroring, etc.
- installp_bundles
  - These are files that list additional software to be loaded after AIX is installed. This can be useful when setting up groups of servers. As an example one bundle maybe for DB2 servers while another may be for web servers. Once the Operating System is installed you simply select the post install bundle and apply it.

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Client Machine Information

- Hardware Platform Type – default is chrp, older rs6k or rspc not supported
- Kernel to use for Network Boot - set to mp (AIX 5.3 discontinued shipment of up kernel – 5.3 ships only MP 32bit or MP 64bit, v6 and higher are MP 64bit only)
- Cable Type - most likely tp, not bnc or dix – N/A for virtual Ethernet
- Network Adapter Hardware Address - optional field
- More flexible to specify IP parameters on SMS menus during nim client boot.
- You must specify IP parameters if nim client and nim master are on different IP subnets
- Network Adapter Logical Device name - optional field - note this is an adapter name (entx) not an interface name (not enx or etx)
- Machines can register themselves. A running AIX instance (machine or LPAR) can become a client, can define itself to this server, by doing a smitty niminit.

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List resources

- # lsnim

- master machines master
- boot resources boot
- nim_script resources nim_script
- master_net networks ent
- 7100-00bid_ow resources bosinst_data
- lpp_61tl06sp3 resources lpp_source
- spot_61tl06sp3 resources spot
- mksysb_aix61tl06sp3 resources mksysb
- basic_res_grp groups res_group
- lpp_71tl00sp3 resources lpp_source
- spot_tl00sp3 resources spot
- mksysb_71tl00sp3 resources mksysb
- mksysb_53tl12sp2 resources mksysb
- lpp_53tl12sp2 resources lpp_source
- spot_53tl12sp2 resources spot
- ent-Network1 networks ent
- b750nr1 machines standalone
- changepw resources script
- viomksysb resources mksysb
- b750ns1 machines standalone
- lpp_71tl01sp1 resources lpp_source
- spot_71tl01sp1 resources spot
- mksysb_71tl01sp1 resources mksysb

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List resources

- #showmount -e
- export list for nimsrvr:
- /export/nim/scripts/b750nr1.script b750nr1
- /software b750nr1
- /backups b750nr1
- /nim/lpp_source/lpp_7100tl00sp3 b750r1
- /nim/spot/spot_71tl00sp3/spot_tl00sp3/usr b750nr1

- #lsnim -l b750nr1
- b750nr1:
- class = machines
- type = standalone
- connect = nimsh
- platform = chrp
- netboot_kernel = 64
- if1 = master_net b750nr1 0
- cable_type1 = N/A
- Cstate = Base Operating System installation is being performed
- prev_state = BOS installation has been enabled
- Mstate = in the process of booting
- info = prompting_for_data_at_console
- boot = boot
- lpp_source = lpp_71tl00sp3
- nim_script = nim_script
- spot = spot_tl00sp3
- cpuid = 00F693484C00
- control = master
- Cstate_result = success

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Update resources

- Put update CD in or change into fixes directory
- Update SPOT and lpp_source
- smitty nim
- Perform nim administration tasks
- Manage resources
- Perform operations on resources
- Select the SPOT
- Select update_all
- Point it to the update CD or directory

- OR
- nim -o define -t lpp_source -a server=master -a location=/nim/lpp_source/lpp_71tl01sp1 -a source=/software/aixv7/aix71-base lpp_71tl01sp1

- nim -o update -a packages=all -a source=/software/aixv7/aixv7-tl01-sp1 lpp_71tl01sp1

- nim -o define -t spot -a server=master -a location=/nim/spot -a source=lpp_71tl01sp1 spot_71tl01sp1

- nim -o check spot_71tl01sp1
- nim -o check lpp_71tl01sp1

- nim -o reset -a force=yes b740nl1

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Setup a client to restore from a mksysb

- Make sure gandalf (client) is in /etc/hosts or in DNS and that the name can be resolved
- Create the client (gandalf) machine to nim as a machine object
- The first step is to define gandalf as a client machine
- smitty nim, perform admin tasks, manage machines
- Define gandalf as a machine
- Select 64 as kernel, nimsh as shell, N/A as network i/face

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Image_data

- Template is /usr/lpp/bosinst/image.template
- Copy and modify
- Specify things like
  - logical volume policy
  - SHRINK=no
  - EXACT_FIT=no
  - lv_data: (an lv_data stanza for each logical volume in rootvg)
    - COPIES= 1 (or 2, 3 to mirror. make sure you have enough target disk stanzas in the bosinst_data resource)
    - LPs= nn (the number of logical partitions)
    - PP= nn (if mirroring, this is an exact 2x or 3x of LPs)
- IF you don't specify an image_data resource, NIM will use the file embedded in the mksysb image.
- Typical use of a "side" image.data file is when mksysb is mirrored, but the new install is to be nonmirrored, or vice-versa.

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Setup mksysb as a resource

smitty nim
Perform nim administrative tasks
Manage resources
Define a resource

Select mksysb resource and then fill in the following fields
name = aix61tl2sp2_mksysb
server = master
location = /nim/images/aix61tl2sp2-golden.mksysb

nim -o define -t mksysb -a server=master -a
location=/nim/images/aix71tl01sp1-nov2811.mksysb mksysb_71tl01sp1

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Tell NIM to use the mksysb for this machine

smitty nim_bosinst

Select gandalf

install source = aixtl2sp2_mksysb

select mksysb and spot as resources (also select the lpp)

Select yes to accept licenses

Select no to initiate now

Initiate now = no means this is a pull resource and must be initiated at the client

nim -o allocate -a spot=spot_61tl05 -a lpp_source=61tl05_lpp -a mksysb=mksysb_61tl05 p6datst1

nim -o bos_inst -a source=mksysb -a accept_licenses=yes -a boot_client=no -a installp_flags='-agX' p6datst1

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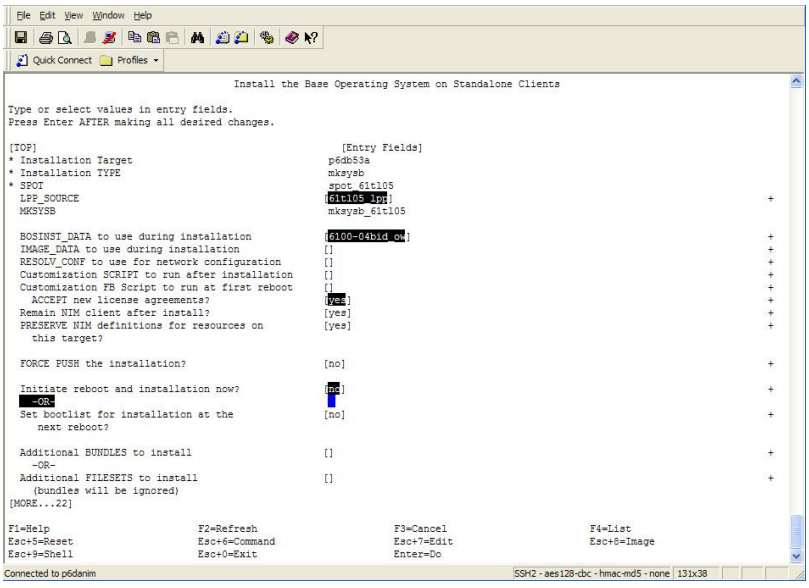
Tell NIM to use the mksysb for this machine



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List resources

- # lsnim -l gandalf
- gandalf:
- class = machines
- type = standalone
- connect = nimsh
- platform = chrp
- netboot_kernel = mp
- if1 = master_net gandalf 0
- cable_type1 = N/A
- Cstate = ready for a NIM operation
- prev_state = not running
- Mstate = not running
- lpp_source = 61tl05_lpp
- mksysb = mksysb_61tl05
- spot = spot_61tl05
- cpuid = 00C20AE54C00
- control = master
- Cstate_result = failure

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Checks

- showmount –e

- /nim/lpp_source/61tl05_lpp gandalf
- /nim/spot/spot_61tl05/spot_61tl05/usr gandalf
- /nim/images/aix61-tl05sp1-golden.mksysb gandalf

- # cat /etc/bootptab
- gandalf:bf=/tftpboot/gandalf:ip=10.152.10.124:ht=ethernet:sa=10.152.10.203:sm=255.255.255.0:

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Checks

- # ls -al /tftpboot
- lrwxrwxrwx 1 root system 18 May 14 16:14 10.152.10.124 -> /tftpboot/gandalf
- lrwxrwxrwx 1 root system 18 May 14 16:14 10.152.10.124.boot -> /tftpboot/gandalf
- lrwxrwxrwx 1 root system 23 May 14 16:14 10.152.10.124.info -> /tftpboot/gandalf.info
- lrwxrwxrwx 1 root system 28 May 14 16:14 10.152.10.124.iplrecord -> /tftpboot/gandalf.iplrecord
- lrwxrwxrwx 1 root system 33 May 14 16:14 gandalf -> /tftpboot/spot_61tl05.chrp.64.ent
- -rw-r--r-- 1 root system 1156 May 14 16:14 gandalf.info
- lrwxrwxrwx 1 root system 35 May 14 16:14 gandalf.iplrecord -> /tftpboot/spot_61tl05.iplrecord.ent
- -rw-r--r-- 1 root system 16958976 Apr 29 12:52 spot_61tl05.chrp.64.ent
- -rw-r--r-- 1 root system 512 Apr 29 12:52 spot_61tl05.iplrecord.ent
- -rw-r--r-- 1 root system 16752640 Mar 16 2010 spot_aix61tl04sp3.chrp.64.ent
- -rw-r--r-- 1 root system 512 Mar 16 2010

Useful NIM commands

- Recover missing simages if needs be:
- nim -o update -a recover=yes -a source=/software/aixv7/aix71-base lpp_71tl01sp1

- ALLOCATIONS
- nim -o deallocate -a spot=spot_71tl01sp1 -a lpp_source=lpp_71tl01sp1 -a mksysb=mksysb_71tl01sp1 b740nl1

- nim -o allocate -a spot=spot_71tl01sp1 -a lpp_source=lpp_71tl01sp1 -a mksysb=mksysb_71tl01sp1 b740nl1

- nim -o bos_inst -a source=mksysb -a accept_licenses=yes -a boot_client=no -a installp_flags='-agX' b740nl1

- OTHER
- To add the bos.games 5.2.0.0 and bos.terminfo filesets to lpp_source1, type:
- nim -o update -a packages="bos.games 5.2.0.0 bos.terminfo" \
- -a source=/dev/cd0 lpp_source1
- To remove bos.games from lpp_source1, type:
- nim -o update -a rm_images=yes -a packages="bos.games" lpp_source1

Backout

- If you have a machine enabled for install, and need to back out...
  - nim -o reset –a force=yes <nimclienthostname>
  - nim -Fo deallocate –a subclass=all <nimclienthostname>
  - nim -o change -a cpuid="" <nimclienthostname>

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Start the install from the client

- Boot client into SMS mode either from the HMC or the server

Select 2 for setup remote IPL
Select 1 for first ethernet
Select 1 for IPV4
Select 1 for bootp
Select 1 for IP parameters

1 - client – 10.0.1.5	Use the client IP here
2 - server - 10.0.1.9	Use the NIM server IP here
3 - Gateway - 10.0.1.1	You may need to leave this as 0.0.0.0
4 - Subnet - 255.255.255.0	

Esc
Select 2 for adapter config
2 spanning tree - ensure it is disabled (this can speed things up)
ESC
3 - protocol - set it to standard
ESC and ESC
3 Ping test then 1 to execute ping test
If the ping test is successful return to main menu
Select 5 - boot options
1 select boot device
6 select network
1 bootp
1 select first ethernet
2 normal mode boot
1 yes I want to exit

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Next steps

- LPAR/Server should boot and you should see tftp start up
- After around 30,000 packets the console prompt should appear
    - F1 and enter for console
    - 1 for english during install
    - An error message that “all LVs are being created exactly as they were but the disks are not the same” may appear. Unless there is a reason not to, go ahead and:
    - Choose 1 to continue with install
    - 2 Check install settings
    -
    - Make sure that only 1 disk is chosen here and that it is the correct one for rootvg:
    - Choose hdisk0
    - Use maps for installation – I tend to choose no
    - Check that importvgs defaults to n
    - 0 to continue with choices
- Note make sure the mksysb you are using is not of a mirrored system – if it is mirrored then you will need to provide 2 disks to restore to
- After the system reboots you can import volume groups, remirror rootvg and perform further tailoring

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Continuing on

- After reboot install should start
- Monitor using lsnim –l lparname
- This will show you how far it has gone

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Useful commands

- lsnim
- lsnim –l lparname
- nim -o reset –a force=yes clientnode
- nim -Fo deallocate –a subclass=all clientnode
- nim -o change -a cpuid="" clientnode
- bootlist -m normal –o (check bootlist)
- arp and ping
- oslevel –s
- Instfix
- showmount –e
- ls –al /tftpboot

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Useful commands on master

- # lsnim -l mksysb_61tl05

- mksysb_61tl05:
- class = resources
- type = mksysb
- Rstate = ready for use
- prev_state = unavailable for use
- location = /nim/images/aix61-tl05sp1-golden.mksysb
- version = 6
- release = 1
- mod = 5
- oslevel_r = 6100-05
- alloc_count = 2
- server = master
- creation_date = Thu Apr 29 09:35:47 2010

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Useful commands on master

- # lsnim -l 61tl05_lpp

- 61tl05_lpp:
- class = resources
- type = lpp_source
- comments = AIX 61 tl05 sp1 lpp
- arch = power
- Rstate = ready for use
- prev_state = unavailable for use
- location = /nim/lpp_source/61tl05_lpp
- simages = yes
- alloc_count = 2
- server = master

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Useful commands on master

- # lsnim -l spot_61tl05
- spot_61tl05:
- class = resources
- type = spot
- plat_defined = chrp
- arch = power
- bos_license = yes
- Rstate = ready for use
- prev_state = verification is being performed
- location = /nim/spot/spot_61tl05/spot_61tl05/usr
- version = 6
- release = 1
- mod = 5
- oslevel_r = 6100-05
- alloc_count = 2
- server = master
- if_supported = chrp.64 ent
- Rstate_result = success

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Useful commands on master

- # ls -al /etc/niminfo

- -rw-r--r-- 1 root system 164 Jan 06 2010 /etc/niminfo
- # cat /etc/niminfo
- # nimconfig
- export NIM_NAME=master
- export NIM_CONFIGURATION=master
- export NIM_MASTER_PORT=1058
- export NIM_REGISTRATION_PORT=1059
- export NIM_MASTER_HOSTNAME=pnimmstr

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Useful commands on master

- # ls -al /etc/objrepos/nim*
- -rw-rw-r-- 1 root system 24576 Sep 28 10:20 /etc/objrepos/nim_attr
- -rw-rw-r-- 1 root system 36864 Sep 28 10:20 /etc/objrepos/nim_attr.vc
- -rw-rw-r-- 1 root system 4096 Sep 28 10:20 /etc/objrepos/nim_object
- -rw-rw-r-- 1 root system 8192 Sep 28 10:20 /etc/objrepos/nim_object.vc
- -r-xr-x--- 1 root system 28672 Sep 06 09:48 /etc/objrepos/nim_pdattr
- -r-xr-x--- 1 root system 36864 Sep 06 09:48 /etc/objrepos/nim_pdattr.vc

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Backing up and restoring NIM

- Save the following NIM files on the master

- /etc/niminfo
- /etc/objrepos/nim_attr
- /etc/objrepos/nim_attr.vc
- /etc/objrepos/nim_object
- /etc/objrepos/nim_object.vc

- You can restore the NIM database and activate the NIM master using the Web-based System Manager, SMIT, or the command line.

- Restore the files saved in Backing up the NIM database.

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Recovering /etc/niminfo

- /etc/niminfo is required on master and running NIM clients to run NIM operations and commands

- You can rebuild it on the master:
- nimconfig -rTo

- You can rebuild it from a running NIM client:
- niminit -a master_port= PortNumber -a master= MasterHostName -a name= ClientMachineObjectName

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/etc/niminfo on the client

- export NIM_NAME=gandalf
- export NIM_HOSTNAME=gandalf
- export NIM_CONFIGURATION=standalone
- export NIM_MASTER_HOSTNAME=pnimmstr
- export NIM_MASTER_PORT=1058
- export NIM_REGISTRATION_PORT=1059
- export NIM_SHELL="nimsh"
- export NIM_MASTERID=00C20AE54C00
- export RC_CONFIG=rc.bos_inst
- export NIM_BOSINST_RECOVER="/../SPOT/usr/lpp/bos.sysmgt/nim/methods/c_bosinst_env -a hostname=gandalf"
- export SPOT=pnimmstr:/nim/spot/spot_61tl05/spot_61tl05/usr
- export NIM_CUSTOM="/../SPOT/usr/lpp/bos.sysmgt/nim/methods/c_script -a location=pnimmstr:/export/nim/scripts/gandalf.script"
- export NIM_BOS_IMAGE=/NIM_BOS_IMAGE
- export NIM_BOS_FORMAT=mksysb
- export NIM_HOSTS=" 127.0.0.1:loopback:localhost 10.152.10.124:gandalf 10.152.10.203:pnimmstr "
- export NIM_MOUNTS=" pnimmstr:/nim/lpp_source/61tl05_lpp:/SPOT/usr/sys/inst.images:dir pnimmstr:/nim/images/aix61-tl05sp1-golden.mksysb:/NIM_BOS_IMAGE:file "
- export ROUTES=" default:0:10.152.10.1 "

Migrations and Updates

Migration

Changes version or release

Update

Preserves version and release
Basically changes a TL or SP

Both migrations and updates can use alternate copies of rootvg if there is an unused disk available

After changes, boot from altinst_rootvg and test

Migrate or update NIM Master first
Then update LPP_SOURCE and SPOT

Use nimadm for migrations, to install a down level mksysb and then migrate it or to install a new golden image

Use nim_alt_clone with update_all to update a TL or SP
With multibos the standby copy of AIX can be on the same physical disk as the current rootvg

NIMADM

nimadm (Network Install Manager Alternate Disk Migration) command

Utility that allows the system administrator to:

Create a copy of rootvg to a free disk (or disks) and simultaneously migrate it to a new version or release level of AIX.

Using a copy of rootvg, create a new NIM mksysb resource that has been migrated to a new version or release level of AIX.

Using a NIM mksysb resource, create a new NIM mksysb resource that has been migrated to a new version or release level of AIX.

Using a NIM mksysb resource, restore to a free disk (or disks) and simultaneously migrate to a new version or release level of AIX.

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Nim_alt_clone

Update within the same version/release (i.e update a TL or SP)

Build the lpp_source at the desired level with simages-yes
Update NIM master from this lpp_source and reboot master

On client

Unmirror rootvg and cleanup (chpv –c and reducevg)
bosboot –a and bootlist –m

Master

smitty nim_alt_clone
Specify target client and target disks
Setc FIXES to install to “update_all”
Point to lpp_source from above and accept licenses

The clone and update will take place on altinst_rootvg while still running on rootvg
Boot from altinst_rootvg and test
Either reboot from old rootvg or make this the production one

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MULTIBOS

Creates, updates, and manages multiple versions of the Base Operating System (BOS) on a rootvg.

The multibos command allows the root level administrator to create multiple instances of AIX(R) on the same rootvg.

The multibos setup operation creates a standby Base Operating System (BOS) that boots from a distinct boot logical volume (BLV).

This creates two bootable sets of BOS on a given rootvg and the administrator can boot from either instance of BOS by specifying the respective BLV as an argument to the bootlist command or using system firmware boot operations.

Two bootable instances of BOS can be simultaneously maintained.

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Alternate Disk Install

- http://pic.dhe.ibm.com/infocenter/aix/v7r1/topic/com.ibm.aix.install/doc/insgdrf/HT_insgdrf_altdiskinstall_clone.htm

- Make sure you have a spare hard disk or LUN
- Install bos.alt_disk_install.rte and update it
- Create a bundle to install to the new disk and any custom scripts
  - Or take a mksysb of the system to a file
- Clone rootvg using smitty alt_clone
- lspv now shows a disk as rootvg and one as altinst_rootvg
- Check your bootlist as the alt disk install process changes it
  - bootlist –m normal –o
- Correct the bootlist back to normal until you are ready
- Now you can use smitty alt_disk_install to do the upgrades to then new hard drive
- When happy with the upgrade you update the bootlist and reboot on the new image

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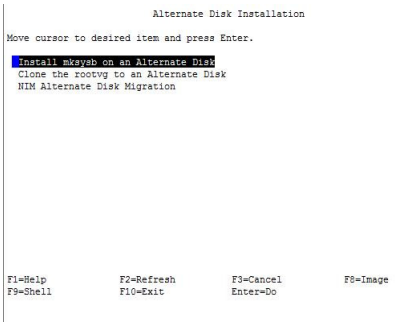
Alt Disk from mksysb

Commands to look at:
alt_disk_copy
alt_disk_install
alt_disk_mksysb
alt_rootvg_op




```
#
# lspv
hdisk0          00f6934c642af030                    rootvg          active
hdisk1          none                                None
# lsdev -Ccdisk
hdisk0 Available  Virtual SCSI Disk Drive
hdisk1 Available  Virtual SCSI Disk Drive
#
# lslpp -l | grep bos.alt
  bos.alt_disk_install.boot_images
  bos.alt_disk_install.rte  7.1.0.15  COMMITTED  Alternate Disk Installation
  bos.alt_disk_install.rte  7.1.0.15  COMMITTED  Alternate Disk Installation
```

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Alt Disk from mksysb

```
                    Install mksysb on an Alternate Disk

Type or select values in entry fields.
Press Enter AFTER making all desired changes.

                                                  [Entry Fields]
* Target Disk(s) to install                      [hdisk1]                +
* Device or image name                           [/usr/local/backups/b7> +
  Phase to execute                                all                    +
  image.data file                                 []                      /
  Customization script                            []                      /
  Set bootlist to boot from this disk
  on next reboot?                                 no                     +
  Reboot when complete?                           no                     +
  Verbose output?                                 yes                    +
  Debug output?                                   no                     +
  resolv.conf file                                []                      /


F1=Help             F2=Refresh          F3=Cancel           F4=List
Esc+5=Reset         F6=Command          F7=Edit             F8=Image
F9=Shell            F10=Exit            Enter=Do
```

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Alt Disk from mksysb

```
                                COMMAND STATUS

Command: running       stdout: yes           stderr: no

Before command completion, additional instructions may appear below.

[MORE...6]
Restoring /image.data from mksysb image.
Checking disk sizes.
Creating cloned rootvg volume group and associated logical volumes.
Creating logical volume alt_hd5.
Creating logical volume alt_hd6.
Creating logical volume alt_hd8.
Creating logical volume alt_hd4.
Creating logical volume alt_hd2.
Creating logical volume alt_hd9var.
Creating logical volume alt_hd3.
Creating logical volume alt_hd1.
Creating logical volume alt_hd10opt.
Creating logical volume alt_hd11admin.
Creating logical volume alt_lg_dumplv.
[BOTTOM]
```

Plus many more as it restores from the mksysb image

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Alt Disk from mksysb

Now we see:

```
# lspv
hdisk0          00f6934c642af030                    rootvg          active
hdisk1          00f6934c75816830                    altinst_rootvg  active

# bootlist -m normal -o
hdisk0 blv=hd5 pathid=0
```

Phase 1 Creates the **altinst_rootvg** volume group, the **alt_** "logical volumes", the /**alt_inst** file systems, and restores the mksysb or rootvg data.

Phase 2 Runs any specified customization script, installs updates, new filesets, fixes or bundles (cloning only), copies a **resolv.conf** file if specified, and copies files over to remain a NIM client if specified.

Phase 3 Unmounts the /**alt_inst** file systems, renames the file systems and logical volumes, removes the **alt_ logical** volumes, names ODM and varies off the altinst_rootvg. It sets the bootlist and reboots if specified.

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Alt Disk from mksysb

```
# lspv -l hdisk0
hdisk0:
LV NAME            LPs   PPs   DISTRIBUTION          MOUNT POINT
hd8                1     1     00..00..01..00..00    N/A
hd6                64    64    00..64..00..00..00    N/A
hd2                80    80    00..00..80..00..00    /usr
hd4                10    10    00..00..10..00..00    /
hd3                48    48    00..00..48..00..00    /tmp
hd9var             12    12    00..00..12..00..00    /var
hd10opt            32    32    00..32..00..00..00    /opt
hd1                4     4     00..00..04..00..00    /home
hd5                1     1     01..00..00..00..00    N/A
lg_dumplv2         16    16    00..16..00..00..00    N/A
fslv00             80    80    80..00..00..00..00    /usr/local
fslv01             16    16    00..16..00..00..00    /usr/local/logs
lg_dumplv          16    16    00..16..00..00..00    N/A
livedump           4     4     00..04..00..00..00
/var/adm/ras/livedump
hd11admin          4     4     00..00..04..00..00    /admin
```

```
# lspv -l hdisk1
hdisk1:
LV NAME            LPs   PPs   DISTRIBUTION          MOUNT POINT
alt_hd10opt        32    32    00..32..00..00..00    /alt_inst/opt
alt_hd1            4     4     00..00..04..00..00    /alt_inst/home
alt_hd3            48    48    00..00..48..00..00    /alt_inst/tmp
alt_hd9var         12    12    00..00..12..00..00    /alt_inst/var
alt_hd2            80    80    00..00..80..00..00    /alt_inst/usr
alt_hd4            10    10    00..00..10..00..00    /alt_inst
alt_hd8            1     1     00..00..01..00..00    N/A
alt_hd6            64    64    00..64..00..00..00    N/A
alt_hd5            1     1     01..00..00..00..00    N/A
alt_lg_dumplv      16    16    00..16..00..00..00    N/A
alt_hd11admin      4     4     00..00..04..00..00    /alt_inst/admin
alt_lg_dumplv2     16    16    00..16..00..00..00    N/A
alt_fslv01         16    16    00..16..00..00..00
/alt_inst/usr/local/logs
alt_fslv00         80    80    80..00..00..00..00    /alt_inst/usr/local
alt_livedump       4     4     00..04..00..00..00
/alt_inst/var/adm/ras/livedump
```

You can display the above during the mksysb clone
At the end altinst_rootvg is varied offline and these (the alt ones) are all unmounted

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Alt Disk from mksysb

You can wake up the altinst_rootvg to mount the filesystems and put it back to sleep:

```
# alt_disk_install -W hdisk1
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
ATTENTION: calling new module /usr/sbin/alt_rootvg_op. Please see the
alt_rootvg_op man page and documentation for more details.
Executing command: /usr/sbin/alt_rootvg_op -W -d hdisk1
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
Waking up altinst_rootvg volume group ...
```

```
# lspv
hdisk0          00f6934c642af030                    rootvg          active
hdisk1          00f6934c75816830                    altinst_rootvg  active
```

Back to sleep

```
# alt_disk_install -S hdisk1
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
ATTENTION: calling new module /usr/sbin/alt_rootvg_op. Please see the
alt_rootvg_op man page and documentation for more details.
Executing command: /usr/sbin/alt_rootvg_op -S hdisk1
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------+
Putting volume group altinst_rootvg to sleep ...
forced unmount of /alt_inst/var/adm/ras/livedump
forced unmount of /alt_inst/var/adm/ras/livedump
forced unmount of /alt_inst/var
forced unmount of /alt_inst/var
forced unmount of /alt_inst/usr/local/logs
forced unmount of /alt_inst/usr/local/logs
forced unmount of /alt_inst/usr/local
forced unmount of /alt_inst/usr/local
forced unmount of /alt_inst/usr
forced unmount of /alt_inst/usr
forced unmount of /alt_inst/tmp
forced unmount of /alt_inst/tmp
forced unmount of /alt_inst/opt
forced unmount of /alt_inst/opt
forced unmount of /alt_inst/home
forced unmount of /alt_inst/home
forced unmount of /alt_inst/admin
forced unmount of /alt_inst/admin
forced unmount of /alt_inst
forced unmount of /alt_inst
Fixing LV control blocks...
Fixing file system superblocks...
```

```
# lspv
hdisk0          00f6934c642af030                    rootvg          active
hdisk1          00f6934c75816830                    altinst_rootvg
```

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Alt Disk from mksysb

```
# df -g
Filesystem        GB blocks  Free %Used    Iused %Iused Mounted on
/dev/hd4              0.62  0.41   35%    10330   10%   /
/dev/hd2              5.00  2.37   53%    62100   11%   /usr
/dev/hd9var           0.75  0.47   38%     5785    5%   /var
/dev/hd3              3.00  3.00    1%       72    1%   /tmp
/dev/hd1              0.25  0.25    1%       11    1%   /home
/dev/hd11admin        0.25  0.25    1%        5    1%   /admin
/proc                    -     -     -        -     -   /proc
/dev/hd10opt          2.00  1.41   30%    13901    5%   /opt
/dev/livedump         0.25  0.25    1%        4    1%   /var/adm/ras/livedump
/dev/fslv00           5.00  4.93    2%      231    1%   /usr/local
/dev/fslv01           1.00  0.98    2%       39    1%   /usr/local/logs

/dev/alt_hd4          0.62  0.53    1%       13    1%   /alt_inst
/dev/alt_hd11admin    0.25  0.25    1%        5    1%   /alt_inst/admin
/dev/alt_hd1          0.25  0.25    1%       11    1%   /alt_inst/home
/dev/alt_hd10opt      2.00  1.41   30%    13900    5%   /alt_inst/opt
/dev/alt_hd3          3.00  3.00    1%       61    1%   /alt_inst/tmp
/dev/alt_hd2          5.00  2.37   53%    62100   11%   /alt_inst/usr
/dev/alt_fslv00       5.00  4.93    2%      230    1%   /alt_inst/usr/local
/dev/alt_fslv01       1.00  0.98    2%       39    1%   /alt_inst/usr/local/logs
/dev/alt_hd9var       0.75  0.47   38%     5761    5%   /alt_inst/var
/dev/alt_livedump     0.25  0.25    1%        4    1%   /alt_inst/var/adm/ras/livedump
```

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Quick alt_disk_copy Example

alt_disk_copy -d hdisk1 -F 5300-01_AIX_ML -l /updates

The above copies the current 5300-00 rootvg to hdisk1
It applies the updates from /updates to bring the cloned rootvg to 5300-01
It also sets the bootlist to boot from hdisk1

Allows you to copy the running system and apply maintenance in one step
After reboot the old rootvg will be named old_rootvg
Use alt_rootvg_op to remove it later
Use bootlist to go back if needs be

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VIOS and NIM

- Add VIOS partition as a client
- Copy the VIOS mksysb image from the CD to your NIM master
  - On VIOS 2.2 media there are 3 images now – the 3rd is on DVD 2
  - Copy all 3 images individually to a directory and then use cat to combine them
  - cat /export/mksysb/vios2.2/mksysb_image /export/mksysb/vios2.2/mksysb_image2 /export/mksysb/vios2.2/mksysb_image3 >/export/mksysb/nim_vios2.2mksysb
- Define mksysb resource to NIM master
- Define spot on NIM master
  - The source for the SPOT will be the combined mksysb
- Copy the bosinst.data from the DVD and create a viosbosinst resource
- You can now use bos_inst to do a mksysb install once the partition profile is defined
- http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=isg3T1011386

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Backing up VIOS

- Use viosbr to backup user defined virtual resources on the VIO
- Make sure to save that backup in rootvg
  - viosbr –backup –file /tmp/viosabkupbr
  - You can also use viosbr to view or restore
  - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/systems/scope/hw/topic/p7hcg/viosbr.htm
- Mount NFS filesystem to backup to (in my case /backups)
- mkdir /backups/viosa
- Then as padmin:
- backupios –file /backups/viosa
- The above creates a nim_resources.tar package in that directory and it can be used to clone VIO servers
- You can also back it up as a mksysb file that is easy to restore from the NIM server
- backupios -file /backups/viosa.mksysb -mksysb

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References for NIM

- How to install AIX 5L (look for EZNIM)
  - http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/aix/library/au-install-aix.html
- SG24-7296 – NIM from A-Z in AIX 5L Redbook – 30 May 2007
  - http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redbooks/pdfs/sg247296.pdf
- The Power of Network Install Manager
  - http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/aix/library/au-nim/index.html?S_TACT=105AGX20
- Simplifying with NIM – article from IBM Systems Magazine 2006
  - http://www.circle4.com/jaqui/eserver/aixtra-FebMar06-SimplifyingwithNIM.pdf
- NIM Concepts
  - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/aix/v6r1/topic/com.ibm.aix.install/doc/insgdrf/nim_concepts.htm
- Backing up the NIM Database
  - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/aix/v6r1/topic/com.ibm.aix.install/doc/insgdrf/adv_config_backup_db_cmd_line.htm
- AIX v6.1 NIM Pages
  - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/aix/v6r1/topic/com.ibm.aix.install/doc/insgdrf/basic_config.htm

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Questions???

Send questions to lynchj@forsythe.com

Handout is at:
http://www.circle4.com/papers/common-nim101.pdf

Movies are at:
http://www.circle4.com/movies

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