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To use the CHEOPS Scheduling Feasibility Checker (SFC) you first have to install and configure the software. This process is described in the following subsection. You will need a total of 15 GB of disk space to install the SFC. Yes, 15 GB ;-)

After you completed the installation process the SFC is ready to be used.

#### Installing the Scheduling Feasibility Checker (SFC)

Installing the CHEOPS SFC is a two-step process. First, you need to download and install the VirtualBox software. As a second step you must download and configure the SFC virtual image.

#### Installing VirtualBox

Download and install VirtualBox for your operating system (Windows, OS X, Linux or Solaris): <u>https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads</u>

**Warning for OS X High Sierra (10.13) users**: You may experience problems when installing VirtualBox. Please refer to the following post to fix the problem: <u>https://github.com/docksal/docksal/issues/417</u>

**Warning for Ubuntu users**: If you are using Ubuntu 16 or higher, you may experience problems related to using unsigned kernel modules. For further details, please refer to the 'Frequently Asked Questions':

https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/cheops-guest-observers-programme/faq

Importing and configuring the SFC virtual image

1. Download the virtual image containing the Feasibility Checker. The download of the 2.8 GB virtual image may take a while.

ftp cheops\_fc@ssh.esac.esa.int:/cheopsfcvm07.ova

After executing the command you will be asked to provide a password. This password is available via the following web page:

https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/cheops-guest-observers-programme/scheduling-feasibil ity-checker

Please note that the access to this URL is restricted to registered users only.

In case a GUI based FTP program like Filezilla is used, then connect with:

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> Host: ssh.esac.esa.int Username: cheops\_fc Password: <as published - see above>

Once logged in via the cheops\_fc account, you are in the folder where the file cheopsfcvm06.ova can be downloaded.

In case you do not have a stand-alone FTP client available, you may issue the download command via a web browser that also supports FTP, for example Firefox, Chrome, Internet Explorer, etc. Please note, Safari under OS/X does not support this.

When using a web browser, use the following URL: ftp://cheops\_fc@ssh.esac.esa.int/cheopsfcvm06.ova

A popup will appear where you can enter the username and password.

- 2. Start the VirtualBox software.
- 3. Open the 'File' menu item and select 'Import appliance'.
- 4. Enter the location of the SFC virtual image on your computer.



5. Click on 'Continue'.

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6. Click on 'Import'.

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			ems				
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				Description	or running the CH	• CH	
				🗮 Guest OS Type	📔 Red Hat	: (64-bit)	
				CPU	1		
				RAM	4096 MB		
				🌍 DVD	$\checkmark$		
			/	Reinitialize the MAC ac	dress of all network card	ds	-
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-			_				

The import may take a while to complete.

- 7. Define a shared folder in order to easily transfer files between your computer (host) and the SFC virtual machine (guest):
  - a. In the VirtualBox main window, open the guest machine's settings by right clicking on the SFC virtual image in the left panel of the main window.
  - b. Open the 'Settings'.

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New Settings Discard	Oracle VM Virtu	alBox M	lanager	Machine Tools	Global Tools
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c. Click on 'Shared Folders', then click on the "plus" icon to add a folder to be shared between the guest and the host machine.

Make sure to check the "Auto-mount" checkbox. The folder will be mounted as a subdirectory of /media in the guest machine.

Note: this folder should be used to provide the input data (Observation Requests) for the SFC - see below.



d. Close the Settings dialog.

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The SFC virtual image is now ready to be used.

End of document