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# **common-ovf-tool Documentation**

***Release 1.4.1***

**the COT project developers**

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## Introduction

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COT (the Common OVF Tool) is a tool for editing [Open Virtualization Format](#) (.ovf, .ova) virtual appliances, with a focus on virtualized network appliances such as the [Cisco CSR 1000V](#) and [Cisco IOS XRv](#) platforms.

COT's capabilities include:

- Add a disk or other file to an OVF/OVA
- Edit OVF hardware information (CPUs, RAM, NICs, configuration profiles, etc.)
- Edit product description information in an OVF/OVA
- Edit OVF environment properties
- Display a descriptive summary of the contents of an OVA or OVF package
- Embed a bootstrap configuration text file into an OVF/OVA.
- Deploy an OVF/OVA to an ESXi (VMware vSphere or vCenter) server to provision a new virtual machine (VM).

## 1.1 Examples

Displaying a summary of OVA contents:

```
> cot info --brief iosxrv.5.1.1.ova
-----
iosxrv.5.1.1.ova
COT detected platform type: Cisco IOS XRv
-----
Product:  Cisco IOS XRv
Vendor:   Cisco Systems, Inc.
Version:  5.1.1

Files and Disks:      File Size  Capacity Device
-----
iosxrv.vmdk           271.59 MB   3.00 GB harddisk @ IDE 0:0

Hardware Variants:
System types:         vmx-08 Cisco:Internal:VMCloud-01
Ethernet device types: E1000

Configuration Profiles: CPUs      Memory NICs  Serials Disks/Capacity
-----
1CPU-3GB-2NIC (default)  1    3.00 GB   2      2    1 /   3.00 GB
```

2CPU-4GB-8NIC	2	4.00 GB	8	2	1 /	3.00 GB
4CPU-6GB-10NIC	4	6.00 GB	10	2	1 /	3.00 GB

Adding a custom hardware configuration profile to an OVA:

```
> cot edit-hardware csr1000v.ova --output csr1000v_custom.ova \  
    --profile 1CPU-4GB --cpus 1 --memory 4GB
```

Customizing OVF environment properties:

```
> cot edit-properties csr1000v.ova --output csr1000v_custom.ova \  
    --properties mgmt-ipv4-addr=10.1.1.100/24 \  
                mgmt-ipv4-gateway=10.1.1.1
```

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## Installing COT

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- *System requirements*
- *Download COT*
- *Install the COT libraries and script*
- *Install helper programs*

### 2.1 System requirements

- COT requires either Python 2.7 or Python 3.3 or later.
- COT is tested to work under Mac OS X and Ubuntu Linux and similar distros.
- COT now has limited support for CentOS and Python 2.6 as well.

On Mac OS X you can install COT from [MacPorts](#), or you can install it manually by following the same steps as Linux, described below.

### 2.2 Download COT

You can download COT via Git or using HTTP.

```
git clone git://github.com/glenmmatthews/cot
cd cot
```

or

```
wget -O cot.tgz https://github.com/glenmmatthews/cot/archive/master.tar.gz
tar xzf cot.tgz
cd cot-master
```

or

```
curl -o cot.tgz https://github.com/glenmmatthews/cot/archive/master.tar.gz
tar xzf cot.tgz
cd cot-master
```

## 2.3 Install the COT libraries and script

```
sudo python setup.py install
```

## 2.4 Install helper programs

Certain COT features require helper programs - you can install these as part of the COT installation process, or they can be installed as-needed by COT:

- COT uses `qemu-img` as a helper program for various operations involving the creation, inspection, and modification of hard disk image files packaged in an OVF.
- The `cot add-disk` command requires either `qemu-img` (version 2.1 or later) or `vmdktool` as a helper program when adding hard disks to an OVF.
- The `cot inject-config` command requires `mkisofs` (or its fork `genisoimage`) to create ISO (CD-ROM) images for platforms that use ISOs.
- Similarly, for platforms using hard disks for bootstrap configuration, `cot inject-config` requires `fatdisk` to format hard disk images.
- The `cot deploy ... esxi` command requires `ovftool` to communicate with an ESXi server. If `ovftool` is installed, COT's automated unit tests will also make use of `ovftool` to perform additional verification that OVFs and OVAs created by COT align with VMware's expectations for these file types.

COT can attempt to install these tools using the appropriate package manager for your platform (i.e., `MacPorts` for Mac OS X, and either `apt-get` or `yum` for Linux).

**Warning:** Unfortunately, VMware requires a site login to download `ovftool`, so if you need this tool, you will have to install it yourself. COT cannot install it for you at present.

To let COT attempt to pre-install all of the above helpers, you can optionally run:

```
cot install-helpers
```

See [here](#) for more details.

If you skip this step, then when you are running COT, and it encounters the need for a helper that has not been installed, COT will prompt you to allow it to install the helper in question.



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## Using COT

---

### 3.1 Getting CLI help

#### 3.1.1 Synopsis

```
cot --help
cot --version
cot help <command>
cot <command> --help
cot <options> <command> <command-options>
```

#### 3.1.2 Description

Common OVF Tool (COT), version 1.4.1+0.gb22a76f.dirty

A tool for editing Open Virtualization Format (.ovf, .ova) virtual appliances, with a focus on virtualized network appliances such as the Cisco CSR 1000V and Cisco IOS XRv platforms.

You can always get detailed help for COT by running `cot --help`, `cot <command> --help`, or `cot help <command>`.

#### 3.1.3 Options

<b>-h, --help</b>	show this help message and exit
<b>-V, --version</b>	show program's version number and exit
<b>-f, --force</b>	Perform requested actions without prompting for confirmation
<b>-q, --quiet</b>	Quiet output and logging (warnings and errors only)
<b>-v, --verbose</b>	Verbose output and logging
<b>-d, --debug</b>	Debug (most verbose) output and logging

#### Commands

**add-disk** Add a disk image to an OVF package and map it as a disk in the guest environment

**add-file** Add a file to an OVF package

**deploy** Create a new VM on the target hypervisor from the given OVF or OVA

**edit-hardware** Edit virtual machine hardware properties of an OVF

**edit-product** Edit product info in an OVF

**edit-properties** Edit environment properties of an OVF

**help** Print help for a command

**info** Generate a description of an OVF package

**inject-config** Inject a configuration file into an OVF package

**install-helpers** Install/verify COT manual pages and any third- party helper programs that COT may require

## 3.2 Verifying and installing helper programs with `cot install-helpers`

### 3.2.1 Synopsis

```
cot install-helpers --help
cot <opts> install-helpers --verify-only
cot <opts> install-helpers [--ignore-errors]
```

### 3.2.2 Description

Install or verify the installation of COT manual pages and various required third-party helper programs for COT.

- `qemu-img` (<http://www.qemu.org/>)
- `mkisofs` (<http://cdrecord.org/>)
- `ovftool` (<https://www.vmware.com/support/developer/ovf/>)
- `fatdisk` (<http://github.com/goblinhack/fatdisk>)
- `vmdktool` (<http://www.freshports.org/sysutils/vmdktool/>)

### 3.2.3 Options

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>-h, --help</b>          | show this help message and exit                                      |
| <b>--verify-only</b>       | Only verify helpers – do not attempt to install any missing helpers. |
| <b>-i, --ignore-errors</b> | Do not fail even if helper installation fails.                       |

### 3.2.4 Examples

Verify whether COT can find all expected helper programs

```
> cot install-helpers --verify-only
Results:
-----
COT manpages: present in /usr/share/man/man1/
fatdisk:      present at /opt/local/bin/fatdisk
```

```

mkisofs:      present at /opt/local/bin/mkisofs
ovftool:      present at /usr/local/bin/ovftool
qemu-img:     present at /opt/local/bin/qemu-img
vmdktool:     NOT FOUND

```

Have COT attempt to install missing helpers for you. Note that most helpers require administrator / sudo privileges to install. If any installation fails, COT will exit with an error, unless you pass `--ignore-errors`.

```

> cot install-helpers
  INFO: Installing 'fatdisk'...
  INFO: Compiling 'fatdisk'
  INFO: Calling './RUNME'...
(...)
  INFO: ...done
  INFO: Compilation complete, installing now
  INFO: Calling 'sudo cp fatdisk /usr/local/bin/fatdisk'...
  INFO: ...done
  INFO: Successfully installed 'fatdisk'
  INFO: Installing 'vmdktool'...
  INFO: vmdktool requires 'zlib'... installing 'zlib'
  INFO: Calling 'sudo apt-get -q install zlib1g-dev'...
(...)
  INFO: ...done
  INFO: Compiling 'vmdktool'
  INFO: Calling 'make CFLAGS="-D_GNU_SOURCE -g -O -pipe"'...
(...)
  INFO: ...done
  INFO: Compilation complete, installing now.
  INFO: Calling 'sudo mkdir -p --mode=755 /usr/local/man/man8'...
  INFO: ...done
  INFO: Calling 'sudo make install'...
install -s vmdktool /usr/local/bin/
install vmdktool.8 /usr/local/man/man8/
  INFO: ...done
  INFO: Successfully installed 'vmdktool'
  INFO: Copying cot-add-disk.1 to /usr/share/man/man1/cot-add-disk.1
(...)
  INFO: Copying cot.1 to /usr/share/man/man1/cot.1
Results:
-----
COT manpages: successfully installed to /usr/share/man
fatdisk:      successfully installed to /usr/local/bin/fatdisk
mkisofs:      present at /usr/bin/mkisofs
ovftool:      INSTALLATION FAILED: No support for automated
              installation of ovftool, as VMware requires a site
              login to download it. See
              https://www.vmware.com/support/developer/ovf/
qemu-img:     present at /usr/bin/qemu-img
vmdktool:     successfully installed to /usr/local/bin/vmdktool

Unable to install some helpers

```

**Warning:** Unfortunately, VMware requires a site login to download `ovftool`, so if you need this tool, you will have to install it yourself. COT cannot install it for you at present.

## 3.3 Inspecting OVF contents with `cot info`

### 3.3.1 Synopsis

```
cot info --help
cot info [-b | -v] PACKAGE [PACKAGE ...]
```

### 3.3.2 Description

Show a summary of the contents of the given OVF(s) and/or OVA(s).

### 3.3.3 Options

**PACKAGE** [**PACKAGE ...**] OVF descriptor(s) and/or OVA file(s) to describe

- h, --help** show this help message and exit
- b, --brief** Brief output (shorter)
- v, --verbose** Verbose output (longer)

## 3.4 Updating product information with `cot edit-product`

### 3.4.1 Synopsis

```
cot edit-product --help
cot <opts> edit-product PACKAGE [-o OUTPUT] [-p PRODUCT] [-n VENDOR]
                                [-v SHORT_VERSION] [-V FULL_VERSION]
                                [-u PRODUCT_URL ] [-r VENDOR_URL]
                                [-l APPLICATION_URL]
```

### 3.4.2 Description

Edit product information attributes of the given OVF or OVA

### 3.4.3 Options

**PACKAGE** OVF descriptor or OVA file to edit

- h, --help** show this help message and exit
- o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT** Name/path of new OVF/OVA package to create instead of updating the existing OVF
- p PRODUCT, --product PRODUCT** Product name string, such as “Cisco IOS-XE”
- n VENDOR, --vendor VENDOR** Vendor string, such as “Cisco Systems, Inc.”
- v SHORT\_VERSION, --version SHORT\_VERSION** Software short version string, such as “15.3(4)S” or “5.2.0.01I”

- V FULL\_VERSION, --full-version FULL\_VERSION** Software long version string, such as “Cisco IOS-XE Software, Version 15.3(4)S”
- u PRODUCT\_URL, --product-url PRODUCT\_URL** Product URL, such as “<http://www.cisco.com/go/iosxrv>”
- r VENDOR\_URL, --vendor-url VENDOR\_URL** Vendor URL, such as “<http://www.cisco.com>”
- l APPLICATION\_URL, --application-url APPLICATION\_URL** Application URL, such as “<https://router1:530/>”

## 3.5 Adding disks to an OVF with `cot add-disk`

### 3.5.1 Synopsis

```
cot add-disk --help
cot <opts> add-disk DISK_IMAGE PACKAGE [-o OUTPUT] [-f FILE_ID]
                        [-t {harddisk,cdrom}] [-c {ide,scsi}]
                        [-s SUBTYPE] [-a ADDRESS] [-d DESCRIPTION]
                        [-n DISKNAME]
```

### 3.5.2 Description

Add or replace a disk image in the specified OVF or OVA. If the specified disk image, controller/address, file-id, and/or instance match an existing entry in the OVF, will replace the existing disk with the provided file (prompting for confirmation if `-force` was not set); otherwise, will create a new disk entry.

### 3.5.3 Options

**DISK\_IMAGE** Disk image file to add to the package

**PACKAGE** OVF descriptor or OVA file to edit

#### General options

- h, --help** Show this help message and exit
- o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT** Name/path of new OVF/OVA package to create instead of updating the existing OVF

#### Disk-related options

- f FILE\_ID, --file-id FILE\_ID** Disk image file ID string within the OVF package (default: use disk image filename)
- t <harddisk,cdrom>, --type <harddisk,cdrom>** Disk type (default: files ending in `.vmdk/.raw/.qcow2/.img` will use `harddisk` and files ending in `.iso` will use `cdrom`)

### Controller-related options

- c <ide,scsi>, --controller <ide,scsi>** Disk controller type (default: determined by disk type and platform)
- a ADDRESS, --address ADDRESS** Address of the disk, such as “1:0”. Requires that `--controller` be explicitly set. (default: use first unused address on the controller)
- s SUBTYPE, --subtype SUBTYPE** Disk controller subtype such as “virtio” or “lsilogic”.

### Descriptive options

- d DESCRIPTION, --description DESCRIPTION** Description of this disk (optional)
- n DISKNAME, --name DISKNAME** Name of this disk (default: “Hard disk #” or “CD-ROM #” as appropriate)

## 3.6 Packaging additional files into an OVF with `cot add-file`

### 3.6.1 Synopsis

```
cot add-file --help
cot <opts> add-file FILE PACKAGE [-o OUTPUT] [-f FILE_ID]
```

### 3.6.2 Description

Add or replace a file in the given OVF. If the specified file and/or file-id match existing package contents, will replace it (prompting for confirmation if `--force` was not set); otherwise, will create a new file entry.

### 3.6.3 Options

**FILE** File to add to the package

**PACKAGE** Package, OVF descriptor or OVA file to edit

- h, --help** show this help message and exit
- o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT** Name/path of new VM package to create instead of updating the existing package
- f FILE\_ID, --file-id FILE\_ID** File ID string within the package (default: same as filename)

## 3.7 Customizing hardware profiles with `cot edit-hardware`

### 3.7.1 Synopsis

```
cot edit-hardware --help
cot <opts> edit-hardware PACKAGE [-o OUTPUT] -v TYPE [TYPE2 ...]
cot <opts> edit-hardware PACKAGE [-o OUTPUT]
                                [-p PROFILE [PROFILE2 ...]
                                [--delete-all-other-profiles]] [-c CPUS]
```

```

[-m MEMORY] [-n NICS]
[--nic-type {e1000,virtio,vmxnet3}]
[-N NETWORK [NETWORK2 ...]]
[-M MAC1 [MAC2 ...]]
[--nic-names NAME1 [NAME2 ...]]
[-s SERIAL_PORTS] [-S URI1 [URI2 ...]]
[--scsi-subtype SCSI_SUBTYPE]
[--ide-subtype IDE_SUBTYPE]

```

## 3.7.2 Description

Edit hardware properties of the specified OVF or OVA

## 3.7.3 Options

**PACKAGE** OVF descriptor or OVA file to edit

### General options

- h, --help** Show this help message and exit
- o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT** Name/path of new OVF/OVA package to create instead of updating the existing OVF
- v <TYPE...>, --virtual-system-type <TYPE...>** Change virtual system type(s) supported by this OVF/OVA package.
- p <PROFILE...>, --profiles <PROFILE...>** Make hardware changes only under the given configuration profile(s). (default: changes apply to all profiles)
- delete-all-other-profiles** Delete all configuration profiles other than those specified with the `--profiles` option

### Computational hardware options

- c CPUS, --cpus CPUS** Set the number of CPUs.
- m MEMORY, --memory MEMORY** Set the amount of RAM. (Examples: “4096MB”, “4GB”)

### Network interface options

- n NICS, --nics NICS** Set the number of NICs.
- nic-type <e1000,virtio,vmxnet3>** Set the hardware type for all NICs. (default: do not change existing NICs, and new NICs added will match the existing type.)
- nic-names <NAME1...>** Specify a list of one or more NIC names or patterns to apply to NIC devices. See Notes.
- N <NETWORK...>, --nic-networks <NETWORK...>** Specify a series of one or more network names or patterns to map NICs to. See Notes.
- M <MAC1...>, --mac-addresses-list <MAC1...>** Specify a list of MAC addresses for the NICs. If N MACs are specified, the first (N-1) NICs will receive the first (N-1) MACs, and all remaining NICs will receive the Nth MAC

## Serial port options

- s SERIAL\_PORTS, --serial-ports SERIAL\_PORTS** Set the number of serial ports.
- S <URI1...>, --serial-connectivity <URI1...>** Specify a series of connectivity strings (URIs such as “telnet://localhost:9101”) to map serial ports to. If fewer URIs than serial ports are specified, the remaining ports will be unmapped.

## Disk and disk controller options

- scsi-subtype SCSI\_SUBTYPE** Set resource subtype (such as “lsilogic” or “virtio”) for all SCSI controllers. If an empty string is provided, any existing subtype will be removed.
- ide-subtype IDE\_SUBTYPE** Set resource subtype (such as “virtio”) for all IDE controllers. If an empty string is provided, any existing subtype will be removed.

## 3.7.4 Notes

The `--nic-names` and `--nic-networks` options support the use of a wildcard value to automatically generate a series of consecutively numbered names. The syntax for the wildcard option is ‘{’ followed by a number to start incrementing from, followed by ‘}’. See examples below.

## 3.7.5 Examples

Create a new profile named “1CPU-8GB” with 1 CPU and 8 gigabytes of RAM

```
cot edit-hardware csr1000v.ova --output csr1000v_custom.ova \  
--profile 1CPU-4GB --cpus 1 --memory 8GB
```

Wildcard example - without caring about how many NICs are defined in the input OVA, rename all of the NICs in the output OVA as ‘Ethernet0/10’, ‘Ethernet0/11’, ‘Ethernet0/12’, etc., and map them to networks ‘Ethernet0\_10’, ‘Ethernet0\_11’, ‘Ethernet0\_12’, etc.

```
cot edit-hardware input.ova -o output.ova \  
--nic-names "Ethernet0/{10}" \  
--nic-networks "Ethernet0_{10}"
```

Combination of fixed and wildcarded names - rename the NICs in the output OVA as ‘mgmt’, ‘eth0’, ‘eth1’, ‘eth2’...

```
cot edit-hardware input.ova -o output.ova --nic-names "mgmt" \  
"eth{0}"
```

## 3.8 Customizing OVF environment settings with cot edit-properties

### 3.8.1 Synopsis

```
cot edit-properties --help  
cot <opts> edit-properties PACKAGE -p KEY1=VALUE1 [KEY2=VALUE2 ...]  
[ -o OUTPUT ]  
cot <opts> edit-properties PACKAGE -c CONFIG_FILE [ -o OUTPUT ]  
cot <opts> edit-properties PACKAGE [ -o OUTPUT ]
```



### 3.8.2 Description

Configure environment properties of the given OVF or OVA. The user may specify key-value pairs as command-line arguments or may provide a config-file to read from. If neither are specified, the program will run interactively.

### 3.8.3 Options

**PACKAGE** OVF descriptor or OVA file to edit

#### General options

- h, --help** Show this help message and exit
- o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT** Name/path of new OVF/OVA package to create instead of updating the existing OVF

#### Property setting options

- c CONFIG\_FILE, --config-file CONFIG\_FILE** Read configuration CLI from this text file and generate generic properties for each line of CLI
- p <KEY1=VALUE1...>, --properties <KEY1=VALUE1...>** Set the given property key-value pair(s). This argument may be repeated as needed to specify multiple properties to edit.

## 3.9 Embedding bootstrap configuration with `cot inject-config`

### 3.9.1 Synopsis

```
cot inject-config --help
cot <opts> inject-config PACKAGE -c CONFIG_FILE [-o OUTPUT]
cot <opts> inject-config PACKAGE -s SECONDARY_CONFIG_FILE [-o OUTPUT]
cot <opts> inject-config PACKAGE -c CONFIG_FILE
                                -s SECONDARY_CONFIG_FILE [-o OUTPUT]
```

### 3.9.2 Description

Add one or more “bootstrap” configuration file(s) to the given OVF or OVA.

### 3.9.3 Options

**PACKAGE** Package, OVF descriptor or OVA file to edit

- h, --help** show this help message and exit
- o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT** Name/path of new VM package to create instead of updating the existing package
- c CONFIG\_FILE, --config-file CONFIG\_FILE** Primary configuration text file to embed

**-s SECONDARY\_CONFIG\_FILE, --secondary-config-file SECONDARY\_CONFIG\_FILE**  
Secondary configuration text file to embed (currently only supported in IOS XRv for admin config)

## 3.10 Deploying an OVF to create a VM with `cot deploy`

### 3.10.1 Synopsis

```
cot deploy --help
cot <opts> deploy PACKAGE esxi ...
```

### 3.10.2 Description

Deploy an OVF or OVA to create a virtual machine on a specified server.

### 3.10.3 Options

**PACKAGE** OVF descriptor or OVA file

**-h, --help** show this help message and exit

#### Hypervisors

**esxi** Deploy to ESXi, vSphere, or vCenter

## 3.11 Creating a VM on VMware vCenter/vSphere with `cot deploy esxi`

### 3.11.1 Synopsis

```
cot deploy PACKAGE esxi --help
cot <opts> deploy PACKAGE esxi LOCATOR [-u USERNAME] [-p PASSWORD]
                                     [-c CONFIGURATION] [-n VM_NAME] [-P]
                                     [-N OVF1=HOST1 [-N OVF2=HOST2 ...]]
                                     [-S CONN1 [-S CONN2 ...]]
                                     [-d DATASTORE] [-o=OVFTOOL_ARGS]
```

### 3.11.2 Description

Deploy OVF/OVA to ESXi/vCenter/vSphere hypervisor

### 3.11.3 Options

**LOCATOR** vSphere target locator. Examples: “192.0.2.100” (deploy directly to ESXi server), “192.0.2.101/mydatacenter/host/192.0.2.100” (deploy via vCenter server)

- h, --help** show this help message and exit
- u USERNAME, --username USERNAME** Server login username
- p PASSWORD, --password PASSWORD** Server login password
- c CONFIGURATION, --configuration CONFIGURATION** Use the specified configuration profile defined in the OVF. If unspecified and the OVF has multiple profiles, the user will be prompted or the default configuration will be used.
- n VM\_NAME, --vm-name VM\_NAME** Name to use for the VM (if applicable) and any files created. If unspecified, the name of the OVF will be used.
- P, --power-on** Power on the created VM to begin booting immediately.
- N <OVF\_NET1=HOST\_NET1...>, --network-map <OVF\_NET1=HOST\_NET1...>** Map networks named in the OVF to networks (bridges, vSwitches, etc.) in the hypervisor environment. This argument may be repeated as needed to specify multiple mappings.
- S <CONN1...>, --serial-connection <CONN1...>** Set connectivity for a serial port defined in the OVF. This argument may be repeated to specify more port connections. Each entry should be structured as ‘kind:value[,options]’.
- d DATASTORE, --datastore DATASTORE** ESXi datastore to use for the new VM
- o OVFTOOL\_ARGS, --ovftool-args OVFTOOL\_ARGS** Quoted string describing additional CLI parameters to pass through to “ovftool”. Examples: -o=”-foo”, -ovftool-args=”-foo -bar”

### 3.11.4 Examples

Deploy to vSphere/ESXi server 192.0.2.100 with credentials admin/admin, creating a VM named ‘test\_vm’ from foo.ova.

```
cot deploy foo.ova esxi 192.0.2.100 -u admin -p admin \
-n test_vm
```

Deploy to vSphere/ESXi server 192.0.2.100, with username admin (prompting the user to input a password at runtime), creating a VM based on profile ‘1CPU-2.5GB’ in foo.ova, and creating the serial port as a telnet server listening on port 10022 of the host

```
cot deploy foo.ova esxi 192.0.2.100 -u admin -c 1CPU-2.5GB \
-S telnet://:10022,server
```

Deploy to vSphere server 192.0.2.1 which belongs to datacenter ‘mydc’ on vCenter server 192.0.2.100, and map the two NIC networks to vSwitches. Note that in this case -u specifies the vCenter login username.

```
cot deploy foo.ova esxi "192.0.2.100/mydc/host/192.0.2.1" \
-u administrator -N "GigabitEthernet1=VM Network" \
-N "GigabitEthernet2=myvswitch"
```

Deploy with passthrough arguments to ovftool.

```
cot deploy foo.ova esxi 192.0.2.100 -u admin -p password \  
  --ovftool-args="--overwrite --acceptAllEulas"
```

---

## Change Log

---

All notable changes to the COT project will be documented in this file. This project adheres to [Semantic Versioning](#).

### 4.1 1.4.1 - 2015-09-02

#### Fixed

- [#41](#) - symlinks were not dereferenced when writing out to OVA.

### 4.2 1.4.0 - 2015-09-01

#### Added

- [#24](#) - `cot deploy esxi` now creates serial ports after deployment using [pyVmomi](#) library.
  - Serial port connectivity must be specified either via entries in the OVF (which can be defined using `cot edit-hardware ... -S`) or at deployment time using the new `-S / --serial-connection` parameter to `cot deploy`.
  - The syntax for serial port connectivity definition is based on that of QEMU's `--serial` CLI option.
  - Currently only “telnet”, “tcp”, and “device” connection types are supported.
- [#38](#) - `cot edit-product` can now set product and vendor information.
- [flake8](#) validation now includes [pep257](#) to validate docstring compliance to [PEP 257](#) as well.
- Added changelog file.
- Added `COT.file_reference` submodule in support of [#39](#).

#### Changed

- Split ESXi-specific logic out of `COT.deploy` module and into new `COT.deploy_esxi` module.
- UT for `COT.deploy_esxi` now requires `mock` (standard library in Python 3.x, install via `pip` on Python 2.x).

#### Fixed

- [#39](#) - avoid unnecessary file copies to save time and disk space.

## 4.3 1.3.3 - 2015-07-02

### Fixed

- #10 - When changing network mapping, delete no longer needed networks
- #31 - Added `--delete-all-other-profiles` option to `cot edit-hardware`
- #32 - `cot edit-hardware` network names can now use wildcards
- #34 - `cot add-disk` can now be used to replace a CD-ROM drive with a hard disk, or vice versa.

## 4.4 1.3.2 - 2015-04-09

### Fixed

- Adapt to changes to the Travis-CI testing environment.

## 4.5 1.3.1 - 2015-04-09

### Fixed

- #30 - `cot install-helpers` can now install `fatdisk` and `vmdktool` under Python 3.

## 4.6 1.3.0 - 2015-03-27

### Added

- Installation of helper programs is now provided by a `cot install-helpers` subcommand rather than a separate script.
- COT now has man pages (`man cot`, `man cot-edit-hardware`, etc.) The man pages are also installed by `cot install-helpers`.
- Improved documentation of the CLI on [readthedocs.org](http://readthedocs.org) as well.

### Changed

- Refactored `COT.helper_tools` module into `COT.helpers` subpackage. This package has an API (`COT.helpers.api`) for the rest of COT to access it; the helper-specific logic (`qemu-img`, `fatdisk`, etc.) is split into individual helper modules that are abstracted away by the API.
- Similarly, logic from `COT.tests.helper_tools` has been refactored and enhanced under `COT.helpers.tests`.
- Renamed all test code files from “foo.py” to “test\_foo.py” to facilitate test case discovery.
- CLI help strings are dynamically rendered to ReST when docs are built, providing cleaner output for both [readthedocs.org](http://readthedocs.org) and the manpages.

### Removed

- COT no longer supports Python 3.2.
- `cot_unittest` is no more - use `tox` or `unit2 discover` to run tests.

- As noted above, the installation script `check_and_install_helpers.py` no longer exists - this functionality is now provided by the `COT.install_helpers` module.

## 4.7 1.2.4 - 2015-03-06

### Fixed

- [#29](#) - `cot edit-properties` interactive mode was broken in v1.2.2

## 4.8 1.2.3 - 2015-02-19

### Fixed

- Some documentation fixes for <http://cot.readthedocs.org>

## 4.9 1.2.2 - 2015-02-19

### Added

- Documentation built with Sphinx and available at <http://cot.readthedocs.org>

### Changed

- CLI adapts more intelligently to terminal width (fixes [#28](#))
- Submodules now use Python properties instead of `get_value/set_value` methods.

## 4.10 1.2.1 - 2015-02-03

### Added

- Now [PEP 8](#) compliant - passes validation by [flake8](#) code analysis.
- Very preliminary support for OVF 2.x format
- Now uses [tox](#) for easier test execution and [coverage.py](#) for code coverage analysis.
- Code coverage reporting with [Coveralls](#).

### Changed

- Now uses [colorlog](#) instead of `coloredlogs` for CLI log colorization, as this fits better with COT's logging model.
- Greatly improved unit test structure and code coverage, including tests for logging.

## 4.11 1.2.0 - 2015-01-16

### Added

- Greatly improved logging ([#26](#)). COT now defaults to logging level INFO, which provides relatively brief status updates to the user. You can also run with `--quiet` to suppress INFO messages and only log WARNING and ERROR messages, `--verbose` to see VERBOSE messages as well, or `--debug` if you want to really get into the guts of what COT is doing.
- Now integrated with [Travis CI](#) for automated builds and UT under all supported Python versions. This should greatly improve the stability of COT under less-common Python versions. ([#12](#))

#### Changed

- The CLI for `cot deploy` has been revised somewhat based on user feedback.
- A lot of restructuring of the underlying code to make things more modular and easier to test in isolation.

#### Fixed

- Various bugfixes for issues specific to Python 2.6 and 3.x - these environments should now be fully working again.

## 4.12 1.1.6 - 2015-01-05

#### Added

- Added THANKS file recognizing various non-code contributions to COT.

#### Fixed

- Bug fixes for `cot inject-config` and `cot deploy`, including issues [#19](#) and [#20](#) and a warning to users about serial ports and ESXi (issue eventually to be addressed by fixing [#24](#)).
- More graceful handling of Ctrl-C interrupt while COT is running.

## 4.13 1.1.5 - 2014-11-25

#### Fixed

- Fixed issue [#17](#) (`cot edit-hardware` adding NICs makes an OVA that vCenter regards as invalid)
- Removed several spurious WARNING messages

## 4.14 1.1.4 - 2014-11-12

#### Added

- COT can at least be installed and run under CentOS/Python2.6 now, although the automated unit tests will complain about the different XML output that 2.6 produces.

#### Changed

- Vastly improved installation workflow under Linuxes supporting `apt-get` or `yum` - included helper script can automatically install all helper programs except `ovftool`. Fixes [#9](#).

#### Fixed

- Improved `cot deploy` handling of config profiles - fixed [#5](#) and [#15](#)



## 4.15 1.1.3 - 2014-10-01

### Added

- `cot edit-hardware` added `--nic-names` option for assigning names to each NIC
- `cot info` now displays NIC names.

### Fixed

- Improved installation documentation
- Some improvements to IOS XRv OVA support

## 4.16 1.1.2 - 2014-09-24

### Added

- Take advantage of QEMU 2.1 finally supporting the `streamOptimized` VMDK sub-format.
- Can now create new hardware items without an existing item of the same type (issue #4)

### Changed

- Clearer documentation and logging messages (issue #8 and others)
- Now uses `versioneer` for automatic version numbering.

### Fixed

- Fixed several Python 3 compatibility issues (issue #7 and others)

## 4.17 1.1.1 - 2014-08-19

### Fixed

- Minor bug fixes to `cot deploy esxi`.

## 4.18 1.1.0 - 2014-07-29

### Added

- `cot deploy esxi` subcommand by Kevin Keim (@kakeim), which uses `ovftool` to deploy an OVA to an ESXi vCenter server.

### Changed

- Removed dependencies on `md5` / `md5sum` / `shasum` / `sha1sum` in favor of Python's `hashlib` module.
- Nicer formatting of `cot info` output

### Fixed

- Miscellaneous fixes and code cleanup.

## 4.19 1.0.0 - 2014-06-27

Initial public release.

---

## Contributing to COT

---

Please do contribute! We only have a few simple requirements for diffs and pull requests.

- *Follow coding guidelines*
- *Add automated unit tests*
- *Update documentation*
- *Add yourself as a contributor*
- *Open a pull request*

### 5.1 Follow coding guidelines

#### 5.1.1 Logging level usage

**ERROR** Something is wrong (such as a violation of the OVF specification) but COT was able to attempt to recover. If recovery is not possible, you should raise an `Error` of appropriate type instead of logging an **ERROR** message.

**WARNING** Something unexpected or risky happened that the user needs a heads-up about. This includes cases where the software had to make an uncertain choice on its own due to lack of information from the user.

**INFO** Important status updates about normal operation of the software. As this is the lowest logging level enabled by default, you should keep the logs generated at this level relatively brief but meaningful.

**VERBOSE** Detailed information of interest to an advanced or inquisitive user.

**DEBUG** Highly detailed information only useful to a developer familiar with the code.

#### 5.1.2 Coding style

We try to keep COT's code base compliant with Python coding standards including [PEP 8](#) and [PEP 257](#). We use the `flake8` and `pep257` tools to verify this as part of our test automation. To run coding style analysis independently of the other test automation, you can run `tox -e flake8`, or you can install these tools and run `flake8` directly:

```
cot/$ sudo pip install --upgrade flake8
cot/$ sudo pip install --upgrade pep257
cot/$ sudo pip install --upgrade flake8-pep257
cot/$ flake8
```

```
./COT/tests/ovf.py:180:80: E501 line too long (80 > 79 characters)
./COT/tests/ovf.py:184:77: F841 local variable 'ovf' is assigned to but never used
./COT/tests/ovf.py:184:80: E501 line too long (80 > 79 characters)
./COT/tests/ovf.py:196:40: F841 local variable 'ova' is assigned to but never used
./COT/tests/ovf.py:210:75: F841 local variable 'ovf' is assigned to but never used
./COT/ovf.py:776:5: E303 too many blank lines (2)
```

Fix any errors it reports, and run again until no errors are reported.

## 5.2 Add automated unit tests

Whether adding new functionality or fixing a bug, **please** add appropriate unit test case(s) under `COT/tests/` to cover your changes. Your changes **must** pass all existing and new automated test cases before your code will be accepted.

You can run the COT automated tests under a single Python version by running `python ./setup.py test`.

For full testing under all supported versions as well as verifying code coverage for your tests, you should install `tox` (`pip install tox`) and `coverage` (`pip install coverage`) then run `tox` from the COT directory:

```
cot/$ tox
...
py26 runtests: commands[0] | coverage run --append setup.py test --quiet
...
py27 runtests: commands[0] | coverage run --append setup.py test --quiet
...
py32 runtests: commands[0] | coverage run --append setup.py test --quiet
...
py33 runtests: commands[0] | coverage run --append setup.py test --quiet
...
py34 runtests: commands[0] | coverage run --append setup.py test --quiet
...
pypy runtests: commands[0] | coverage run --append setup.py test --quiet
...
stats runtests: commands[0] | coverage combine
stats runtests: commands[1] | coverage report -i
Name                               Stmts   Miss  Cover
-----
COT/__init__.py                     4        0   100%
COT/add_disk.py                    147        1    99%
COT/add_file.py                     50        0   100%
COT/cli.py                          143        6    96%
COT/data_validation.py              69        0   100%
COT/deploy.py                      142        5    96%
COT/edit_hardware.py               159        0   100%
COT/edit_product.py                 36        0   100%
COT/edit_properties.py             104       40    62%
COT/helper_tools.py                171        3    98%
COT/info.py                        41        0   100%
COT/inject_config.py               87        2    98%
COT/ovf.py                         1586       52    96%
COT/platforms.py                   173        0   100%
COT/submodule.py                   80        2    98%
COT/ui_shared.py                   24        0   100%
COT/vm_context_manager.py           12        0   100%
COT/vm_description.py              119        1    99%
COT/vm_factory.py                   25        0   100%
```

```
COT/xml_file.py          112      0   100%
-----
TOTAL                    3284    112   96%
stats runtests: commands[2] | coverage html -i
...
flake8 runtests: commands[0] | flake8
_____ summary _____
  clean: commands succeeded
  py26: commands succeeded
  py27: commands succeeded
  py33: commands succeeded
  py34: commands succeeded
  pypy: commands succeeded
  flake8: commands succeeded
  docs: commands succeeded
  stats: commands succeeded
  congratulations :)
```

After running `tox` you can check the code coverage details by opening `htmlcov/index.html` in a web browser.

## 5.3 Update documentation

If you add or change any COT CLI or APIs, or add or remove any external dependencies, please update the relevant documentation.

## 5.4 Add yourself as a contributor

If you haven't contributed to COT previously, be sure to add yourself as a contributor in the `COPYRIGHT.txt` file.

## 5.5 Open a pull request

COT follows Vincent Driessen's [A successful Git branching model](#). As such, please submit feature enhancement and non-critical bugfix requests to merge into the `develop` branch rather than `master`.



---

## Credits

---

We would like to thank:

- For evangelization, user feedback and bug reports:
  - Arun Arunkumar
  - Mark Coverdill
  - Jonathan Muslow
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  - Taskin Ucpinar
- Rich Wellum, for creating “Build, Deploy, Execute OVA” (`bdeo.sh`), the precursor to COT.
- Neil McGill, for creating and maintaining `fatdisk`
- Brian Somers, for creating and maintaining `vmdktool`





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## COT package reference

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The below documents describe in depth the code structure and APIs of COT. These are not generally of interest to the end users of the COT script, but are provided for reference of developers wishing to integrate the COT package directly into their code. Package implementing the Common OVF Tool.

### 7.1 Virtual machine definition modules

<i>COT.vm_description</i>	Abstract superclass for reading, editing, and writing VMs.
<i>COT.vm_factory</i>	Factory for virtual machine objects.
<i>COT.vm_context_manager</i>	Context manager for virtual machine definitions.
<i>COT.xml_file</i>	Reading, editing, and writing XML files.
<i>COT.ovf</i>	Module for handling OVF and OVA virtual machine description files.

#### 7.1.1 COT.vm\_description module

Abstract superclass for reading, editing, and writing VMs.

<i>VMInitError</i>	Class representing errors encountered when trying to init/load a VM.
<i>VMDescription</i>	Abstract class for reading, editing, and writing VM definitions.

##### exception **VMInitError**

Bases: `exceptions.EnvironmentError`

Class representing errors encountered when trying to init/load a VM.

##### class **VMDescription** (*input\_file*, *output\_file=None*)

Bases: `object`

Abstract class for reading, editing, and writing VM definitions.

##### Properties

<i>input_file</i>	Data file to read in.
<i>output_file</i>	Filename that <i>write()</i> will output to.
<i>platform</i>	The Platform class object associated with this VM.
<i>config_profiles</i>	The list of supported configuration profiles.
<i>default_config_profile</i>	The name of the default configuration profile.

Continued on next page

Table 7.3 – continued from previous page

<i>environment_properties</i>	The array of environment properties.
<i>networks</i>	The list of network names currently defined in this VM.
<i>system_types</i>	List of virtual system type(s) supported by this virtual machine.
<i>version_short</i>	A short string describing the product version.
<i>version_long</i>	A long string describing the product version.

**add\_controller\_device** (*type*, *subtype*, *address*, *ctrl\_item=None*)

Create a new IDE or SCSI controller, or update existing one.

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – ‘ide’ or ‘scsi’
- **subtype** (*str*) – Subtype such as ‘virtio’ (optional)
- **address** (*int*) – Controller address such as 0 or 1 (optional)
- **ctrl\_item** – Existing controller device to update (optional)

**Returns** New or updated controller device object

**add\_disk** (*file\_path*, *file\_id*, *disk\_type*, *disk=None*)

Add a new disk object to the VM or overwrite the provided one.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to disk image file
- **file\_id** (*str*) – Identifier string for the file/disk mapping
- **disk\_type** (*str*) – ‘harddisk’ or ‘cdrom’
- **disk** – Existing disk object to overwrite

**Returns** New or updated disk object

**add\_disk\_device** (*type*, *address*, *name*, *description*, *disk*, *file*, *ctrl\_item*, *disk\_item=None*)

Add a new disk device to the VM or update the provided one.

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – ‘harddisk’ or ‘cdrom’
- **address** (*str*) – Address on controller, such as “1:0” (optional)
- **name** (*str*) – Device name string (optional)
- **description** (*str*) – Description string (optional)
- **disk** – Disk object to map to this device
- **file** – File object to map to this device
- **ctrl\_item** – Controller object to serve as parent
- **disk\_item** – Existing disk device to update instead of making a new device.

**Returns** New or updated disk device object.

**add\_file** (*file\_path*, *file\_id*, *file=None*, *disk=None*)

Add a new file object to the VM or overwrite the provided one.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to file to add

- **file\_id** (*str*) – Identifier string for the file in the VM
- **file** – Existing file object to overwrite
- **disk** – Existing disk object referencing *file*.

**Returns** New or updated file object

**check\_sanity\_of\_disk\_device** (*disk, file, disk\_item, ctrl\_item*)

Check if the given disk is linked properly to the other objects.

**Parameters**

- **disk** – Disk object to validate
- **file** – File object which this disk should be linked to (optional)
- **disk\_item** – Disk device object which should link to this disk (optional)
- **ctrl\_item** – Controller device object which should link to the *disk\_item*

**Raises** **ValueMismatchError** if the given items are not linked properly.

**config\_file\_to\_properties** (*file*)

Import each line of a text file into a configuration property.

**Parameters** **file** (*str*) – File name to import.

**convert\_disk\_if\_needed** (*file\_path, kind*)

Convert the disk to a more appropriate format if needed.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Image to inspect and possibly convert
- **kind** (*str*) – Image type (harddisk/cdrom)

**Returns**

- *file\_path*, if no conversion was required
- or a file path in *output\_dir* containing the converted image

**create\_configuration\_profile** (*id, label, description*)

Create/update a configuration profile with the given ID.

**Parameters**

- **id** – Profile identifier
- **label** (*str*) – Brief descriptive label for the profile
- **description** (*str*) – Verbose description of the profile

**create\_network** (*label, description*)

Define a new network with the given label and description.

**Parameters**

- **label** (*str*) – Brief label for the network
- **description** (*str*) – Verbose description of the network

**delete\_configuration\_profile** (*profile*)

Delete the configuration profile with the given ID.

**destroy()**

Clean up after ourselves.

Deletes `self.working_dir` and its contents.

**classmethod detect\_type\_from\_name(filename)**

Check the given filename to see if it looks like a type we support.

Does not check file contents, as the given filename may not yet exist.

**Returns** A string representing a recognized and supported type of file

**Raises** `ValueUnsupportedError` if we don't know how to handle this file.

**find\_device\_location(device)**

Find the controller type and address of a given device object.

**Parameters** `device` – Hardware device object.

**Returns** (type, address), such as ("ide", "1:0").

**find\_empty\_drive(type)**

Find a disk device that exists but contains no data.

**Parameters** `type` (str) – Disk type, such as 'cdrom' or 'harddisk'

**Returns** Hardware device object, or None.

**find\_open\_controller(type)**

Find the first open slot on a controller of the given type.

**Parameters** `type` (str) – 'ide' or 'scsi'

**Returns** (controller\_device, address\_string) or (None, None)

**get\_common\_subtype(type)**

Get the sub-type common to all devices of the given type.

**Parameters** `type` (str) – Device type such as 'ide' or 'memory'.

**Returns** None, if multiple such devices exist and they do not all have the same sub-type.

**Returns** Subtype string common to all devices of the type.

**get\_file\_ref\_from\_disk(disk)**

Get the file reference from the given opaque disk object.

**Parameters** `disk` – Disk object to query

**Returns** String that can be used to identify the file associated with this disk

**get\_id\_from\_file(file)**

Get the file ID from the given opaque file object.

**Parameters** `file` – File object to query

**Returns** Identifier string associated with this object

**get\_nic\_count(profile\_list)**

Get the number of NICs under the given profile(s).

**Parameters** `profile_list` (list) – Profile(s) of interest.

**Return type** dict

**Returns** { profile\_name : nic\_count }

**get\_path\_from\_file** (*file*)

Get the file path from the given opaque file object.

**Parameters** **file** – File object to query

**Returns** Relative path to the file associated with this object

**get\_property\_value** (*key*)

Get the value of the given property.

**Parameters** **key** (*str*) – Property identifier

**Returns** Value of this property, or None

**get\_serial\_connectivity** (*profile*)

Get the serial port connectivity strings under the given profile.

**Parameters** **profile** (*str*) – Profile of interest.

**Returns** List of connectivity strings

**get\_serial\_count** (*profile\_list*)

Get the number of serial ports under the given profile(s).

**Return type** dict

**Returns** { profile\_name : serial\_count }

**get\_subtype\_from\_device** (*device*)

Get the sub-type of the given opaque device object.

**Parameters** **device** – Device object to query

**Returns** None, or string such as 'virtio' or 'lsilogic'

**get\_type\_from\_device** (*device*)

Get the type of the given opaque device object.

**Parameters** **device** – Device object to query

**Returns** string such as 'ide' or 'memory'

**info\_string** (*width=79, verbosity\_option=None*)

Get a descriptive string summarizing the contents of this VM.

**Parameters**

- **width** (*int*) – Line length to wrap to where possible.
- **verbosity\_option** (*str*) – 'brief', None (default), or 'verbose'

**Returns** Wrapped, appropriately verbose string.

**profile\_info\_string** (*width=79, verbosity\_option=None, enumerate=False*)

Get a string summarizing available configuration profiles.

**Parameters**

- **TEXT\_WIDTH** (*int*) – Line length to wrap to if possible
- **verbosity\_option** (*str*) – 'brief', None (default), or 'verbose'
- **enumerate** (*boolean*) – If True, number the profiles.

**Returns** Appropriately formatted and verbose string.

**search\_from\_controller** (*controller, address*)

From the controller type and device address, look for existing disk.

**Parameters**

- **controller** (*str*) – 'ide' or 'scsi'
- **address** (*str*) – Device address such as '1:0'

**Returns** (*file*, *disk*, *controller\_device*, *disk\_device*), opaque objects of which any or all may be None

**search\_from\_file\_id** (*file\_id*)

From the given file ID, try to find any existing objects.

**Parameters** **filename** (*str*) – Filename to search from

**Returns** (*file*, *disk*, *controller\_device*, *disk\_device*), opaque objects of which any or all may be None

**search\_from\_filename** (*filename*)

From the given filename, try to find any existing objects.

**Parameters** **filename** (*str*) – Filename to search from

**Returns** (*file*, *disk*, *controller\_device*, *disk\_device*), opaque objects of which any or all may be None

**set\_cpu\_count** (*cpus*, *profile\_list*)

Set the number of CPUs.

**Parameters**

- **cpus** (*int*) – Number of CPUs
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_ide\_subtype** (*type*, *profile\_list*)

Set the device subtype for the IDE controller(s).

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – IDE subtype string
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_memory** (*megabytes*, *profile\_list*)

Set the amount of RAM, in megabytes.

**Parameters**

- **megabytes** (*int*) – Memory value, in megabytes
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_count** (*count*, *profile\_list*)

Set the given profile(s) to have the given number of NICs.

**Parameters**

- **count** (*int*) – number of NICs
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_mac\_addresses** (*mac\_list*, *profile\_list*)

Set the MAC addresses for NICs under the given profile(s).

---

**Note:** If the length of `mac_list` is less than the number of NICs, will use the last entry in the list for all remaining NICs.

---

**Parameters**

- **mac\_list** (*list*) – List of MAC addresses to assign to NICs
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_names** (*name\_list, profile\_list*)

Set the device names for NICs under the given profile(s).

Since NICs are often named sequentially, this API supports a wildcard option for the final element in *name\_list* which can be expanded to automatically assign sequential NIC names. The syntax for the wildcard option is { followed by a number (indicating the starting index for the name) followed by }. Examples:

[**"eth{0}"**] Expands to [**"eth0"**, **"eth1"**, **"eth2"**, ...]

[**"mgmt0" "eth{10}"**] Expands to [**"mgmt0"**, **"eth10"**, **"eth11"**, **"eth12"**, ...]

**Parameters**

- **name\_list** (*list*) – List of names to assign.
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_networks** (*network\_list, profile\_list*)

Set the NIC to network mapping for NICs under the given profile(s).

---

**Note:** If the length of *network\_list* is less than the number of NICs, will use the last entry in the list for all remaining NICs.

---

**Parameters**

- **network\_list** (*list*) – List of networks to map NICs to
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_type** (*type, profile\_list*)

Set the hardware type for NICs.

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – NIC hardware type
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles.

**set\_property\_value** (*key, value*)

Set the value of the given property (converting value if needed).

**Parameters**

- **key** (*str*) – Property identifier
- **value** – Value to set for this property

**Returns** the (converted) value that was set.**set\_scsi\_subtype** (*type, profile\_list*)

Set the device subtype for the SCSI controller(s).

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – SCSI subtype string
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_serial\_connectivity** (*conn\_list*, *profile\_list*)

Set the serial port connectivity under the given profile(s).

**Parameters**

- **conn\_list** (*list*) – List of connectivity strings
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_serial\_count** (*count*, *profile\_list*)

Set the given profile(s) to have the given number of NICs.

**Parameters**

- **count** (*int*) – Number of serial ports
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**write** ()

Write the VM description to *output\_file*, if any.

**config\_profiles**

The list of supported configuration profiles.

If there are no profiles defined, returns an empty list. If there is a default profile, it will be first in the list.

**default\_config\_profile**

The name of the default configuration profile.

**Returns** Profile name or `None` if none are defined.

**environment\_properties**

The array of environment properties.

**Returns** Array of dicts (one per property) with the keys "key", "value", "qualifiers", "type", "label", and "description".

**input\_file**

Data file to read in.

**networks**

The list of network names currently defined in this VM.

**Return type** list[str]

**output\_file**

Filename that *write* () will output to.

**platform**

The Platform class object associated with this VM.

*GenericPlatform* or a more specific subclass if recognized as such.

**system\_types**

List of virtual system type(s) supported by this virtual machine.

**verbosity\_options** = {None: 1, 'brief': 0, 'verbose': 2}

**version\_long**

A long string describing the product version.

**version\_short**

A short string describing the product version.



## 7.1.2 COT.vm\_factory module

Factory for virtual machine objects.

### class VMFactory

Creates a VMDescription instance from a specified input file.

#### classmethod create (input\_file, output\_file)

Create an appropriate VMDescription subclass instance from a file.

#### Raises

- **VMInitError** – if no appropriate class is identified
- **VMInitError** – if the selected subclass raises a ValueUnsupportedError while loading the file.

#### Parameters

- **input\_file** (*str*) – File to read VM description from
- **output\_file** (*str*) – File to write to when finished (optional)

**Return type** instance of VMDescription or appropriate subclass

## 7.1.3 COT.vm\_context\_manager module

Context manager for virtual machine definitions.

### class VMContextManager (input\_file, output\_file)

Context manager for virtual machine definitions.

When the context manager exits, unless an error occurred, the virtual machine's `write()` method is called. Regardless of whether an error occurred, the virtual machine's `destroy()` method is then called.

Use as follows:

```
with VMContextManager(input_file, output_file) as vm:
    vm.foo()
    vm.bar()
```

## 7.1.4 COT.xml\_file module

Reading, editing, and writing XML files.

### class XML

Bases: object

Class capable of reading, editing, and writing XML files.

#### classmethod add\_child (parent, new\_child, ordering=None, known\_namespaces=None)

Add the given child element under the given parent element.

#### Parameters

- **parent** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Parent element
- **new\_child** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Child element to attach
- **ordering** (*list*) – (Optional) List describing the expected ordering of child tags under the parent; if a new child element is created, its placement under the parent will respect this sequence.

- **known\_namespaces** (*list*) – (Optional) List of well-understood XML namespaces. If a new child is created, and `ordering` is given, any tag (new or existing) that is encountered but not accounted for in `ordering` will result in COT logging a warning **iff** the unaccounted-for tag is in a known namespace.

**classmethod** `find_all_children` (*parent*, *tag*, *attrib*={})

Find all matching child elements under the specified parent element.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Parent element
- **tag** (*str*) – Child tag to match on
- **attrib** (*dict*) – Child attributes to match on

**Return type** list of `xml.etree.ElementTree.Element` instances

**classmethod** `find_child` (*parent*, *tag*, *attrib*={}, *required*=False)

Find the unique child element under the specified parent element.

**Raises**

- **LookupError** – if more than one matching child is found
- **KeyError** – if no matching child is found and `required` is True

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Parent element
- **tag** (*str*) – Child tag to match on
- **attrib** (*dict*) – Child attributes to match on
- **required** (*boolean*) – Whether to raise an error if no child exists

**Return type** `xml.etree.ElementTree.Element`

**classmethod** `get_ns` (*text*)

Get the namespace prefix from an XML element or attribute name.

**read\_xml** (*xml\_file*)

Read the given XML file and store it in memory.

The memory representation is available as `self.tree` and `self.root`.

**Raises**

- **xml.etree.ElementTree.ParseError** – if parsing fails under Python 2.7 or later
- **xml.parsers.expat.ExpatError** – if parsing fails under Python 2.6

**Parameters** **xml\_file** (*str*) – File path to read.

**register\_namespace** (*prefix*, *URI*)

Record a particular mapping between a namespace prefix and URI.

**Parameters**

- **prefix** (*str*) – Namespace prefix such as “ovf”
- **URI** (*str*) – Namespace URI such as “<http://schemas.dmtf.org/ovf/envelope/1>”

**classmethod** `set_or_make_child` (*parent*, *tag*, *text*=None, *attrib*=None, *ordering*=None, *known\_namespaces*=None)

Update or create a child element under the specified parent element.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Parent element
- **tag** (*str*) – Child element text tag to find or create
- **text** (*str*) – Value to set the child’s text attribute to
- **attrib** (*dict*) – Dict of child attributes to match on while searching and set in the final child element
- **ordering** (*list*) – See `add_child()`
- **known\_namespaces** (*list*) – See `add_child()`

**Returns** New or updated child Element.

**Return type** `xml.etree.ElementTree.Element`

**classmethod** `strip_ns` (*text*)

Remove a namespace prefix from an XML element or attribute name.

**write\_xml** (*file*)

Write pretty XML out to the given file.

**Parameters** **file** (*str*) – Filename to write to

**xml\_reindent** (*parent, depth*)

Recursively add indentation to XML to make it look nice.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Current parent element
- **depth** (*int*) – How far down the rabbit hole we have recursed. Increments by 2 for each successive level of nesting.

## 7.1.5 COT.ovf module

Module for handling OVF and OVA virtual machine description files.

### Functions

<code>byte_count</code>	Convert an OVF-style value + multiplier into decimal byte count.
<code>byte_string</code>	Pretty-print the given bytes value.
<code>factor_bytes</code>	Convert a byte count into OVF-style bytes + multiplier.

### Classes and Exceptions

<code>OVF</code>	Representation of the contents of an OVF or OVA.
<code>OVFNameHelper</code>	Helper class for <code>OVF</code> .
<code>OVFHardware</code>	Helper class for <code>OVF</code> .
<code>OVFHardwareDataError</code>	The input data used to construct an <code>OVFHardware</code> is not sane.
<code>OVFItem</code>	Helper class for <code>OVF</code> .
<code>OVFItemDataError</code>	Data to be added to an <code>OVFItem</code> conflicts with existing data.

**byte\_count** (*base\_val, multiplier*)

Convert an OVF-style value + multiplier into decimal byte count.

Inverse operation of `factor_bytes()`.

```
>>> byte_count("128", "byte * 2^20")
134217728
```

**Parameters**

- **base\_val** (*str*) – Base value string (value of `ovf:capacity`, etc.)
- **multiplier** (*str*) – Multiplier string (value of `ovf:capacityAllocationUnits`, etc.)

**Returns** Number of bytes

**Return type** `int`

**byte\_string** (*byte\_count*, *base\_shift=0*)

Pretty-print the given bytes value.

**Parameters**

- **byte\_count** (*float*) – Value
- **base\_shift** (*int*) – Base value of `byte_count` (0 = bytes, 1 = kB, 2 = MB, etc.)

**Returns** Pretty-printed byte string such as “1.00 GB”

**factor\_bytes** (*byte\_count*)

Convert a byte count into OVF-style bytes + multiplier.

Inverse operation of `byte_count()`

```
>>> factor_bytes(134217728)
('128', 'byte * 2^20')
>>> factor_bytes(134217729)
('134217729', 'byte')
```

**Parameters** **byte\_count** (*int*) – Number of bytes

**Returns** (*base\_val*, *multiplier*)

**class OVF** (*input\_file*, *output\_file*)

Bases: `COT.vm_description.VMDescription`, `COT.xml_file.XML`

Representation of the contents of an OVF or OVA.

**Variables** **ovf\_version** – Float representing the OVF specification version in use. Supported values at present are 0.9, 1.0, and 2.0.

**Properties**

<code>input_file</code>	Data file to read in.
<code>output_file</code>	OVF or OVA file that will be created or updated by <code>write()</code> .
<code>platform</code>	The platform type, as determined from the OVF descriptor.
<code>config_profiles</code>	The list of supported configuration profiles.
<code>default_config_profile</code>	The name of the default configuration profile.
<code>environment_properties</code>	The array of environment properties.
<code>networks</code>	The list of network names currently defined in this VM.
<code>system_types</code>	List of virtual system type(s) supported by this virtual machine.
<code>version_short</code>	Short descriptive version string (XML <code>Version</code> element).
<code>version_long</code>	Long descriptive version string (XML <code>FullVersion</code> element).

**add\_controller\_device** (*type, subtype, address, ctrl\_item=None*)

Create a new IDE or SCSI controller, or update existing one.

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – 'ide' or 'scsi'
- **subtype** (*str*) – Subtype such as 'virtio' (optional)
- **address** (*int*) – Controller address such as 0 or 1 (optional)
- **ctrl\_item** – Existing controller device to update (optional)

**Returns** New or updated controller device object

**add\_disk** (*file\_path, file\_id, disk\_type, disk=None*)

Add a new disk object to the VM or overwrite the provided one.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to disk image file
- **file\_id** (*str*) – Identifier string for the file/disk mapping
- **disk\_type** (*str*) – 'harddisk' or 'cdrom'
- **disk** – Existing disk object to overwrite

**Returns** New or updated disk object

**add\_disk\_device** (*type, address, name, description, disk, file, ctrl\_item, disk\_item=None*)

Create a new disk hardware device or overwrite an existing one.

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – 'harddisk' or 'cdrom'
- **address** (*str*) – Address on controller, such as "1:0" (optional)
- **name** (*str*) – Device name string (optional)
- **description** (*str*) – Description string (optional)
- **disk** – Disk object to map to this device
- **file** – File object to map to this device
- **ctrl\_item** – Controller object to serve as parent
- **disk\_item** – Existing disk device to update instead of making a new device.

**Returns** New or updated disk device object.

**add\_file** (*file\_path, file\_id, file=None, disk=None*)

Add a new file object to the VM or overwrite the provided one.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to file to add
- **file\_id** (*str*) – Identifier string for the file in the VM
- **file** – Existing file object to overwrite
- **disk** – Existing disk object referencing *file*.

**Returns** New or updated file object

**check\_sanity\_of\_disk\_device** (*disk, file, disk\_item, ctrl\_item*)

Check if the given disk is linked properly to the other objects.

**Parameters**

- **disk** – Disk object to validate
- **file** – File object which this disk should be linked to (optional)
- **disk\_item** – Disk device object which should link to this disk (optional)
- **ctrl\_item** – Controller device object which should link to the `disk_item`

**Raises**

- **ValueMismatchError** – if the given items are not linked properly.
- **ValueUnsupportedError** – if the `disk_item` has a `HostResource` value in an unrecognized or invalid format.

**config\_file\_to\_properties** (*file*)

Import each line of a text file into a configuration property.

**Raises NotImplementedError** if the `platform` for this OVF does not define `LITERAL_CLI_STRING`

**Parameters** **file** (*str*) – File name to import.

**convert\_disk\_if\_needed** (*file\_path*, *kind*)

Convert the disk to a more appropriate format if needed.

- All hard disk files are converted to stream-optimized VMDK as it is the only format that VMware supports in OVA packages.
- CD-ROM iso images are accepted without change.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Image to inspect and possibly convert
- **kind** (*str*) – Image type (harddisk/cdrom)

**Returns**

- `file_path`, if no conversion was required
- or a file path in `output_dir` containing the converted image

**create\_configuration\_profile** (*id*, *label*, *description*)

Create or update a configuration profile with the given ID.

**Parameters**

- **id** – Profile identifier
- **label** (*str*) – Brief descriptive label for the profile
- **description** (*str*) – Verbose description of the profile

**create\_envelope\_section\_if\_absent** (*section\_tag*, *info\_string*, *attrib*={})

If the OVF doesn't already have the given Section, create it.

**Parameters**

- **section\_tag** (*str*) – XML tag of the desired section.
- **info\_string** (*str*) – Info string to set if a new Section is created.
- **attrib** (*dict*) – Attributes to filter by when looking for any existing section.

**Returns** Section element that was found or created

**create\_network** (*label*, *description*)

Define a new network with the given label and description.

**Parameters**

- **label** (*str*) – Brief label for the network
- **description** (*str*) – Verbose description of the network

**delete\_configuration\_profile** (*profile*)

Delete the profile with the given ID.

**classmethod detect\_type\_from\_name** (*filename*)

Check the given filename to see if it looks like a type we support.

For our purposes, the file needs to match “.ov[af]” to appear to be an OVF/OVA file. We also support names like “foo.ovf.20150101” as those have been seen in the wild.

Does not check file contents, as the given filename may not yet exist.

**Returns** ‘.ovf’ or ‘.ova’

**Raises** **ValueUnsupportedError** if filename doesn’t match ovf/ova

**device\_info\_str** (*device\_item*)

Get a one-line summary of a hardware device.

**Parameters** **device\_item** (*OVFItem*) – Device to summarize

**Returns** Descriptive string such as “harddisk @ IDE 1:0”

**find\_device\_location** (*device*)

Find the controller type and address of a given device object.

**Parameters** **device** – Hardware device object.

**Returns** (*type*, *address*), such as (“ide”, “1:0”).

**find\_disk\_from\_file\_id** (*file\_id*)

Find the Disk that uses the given file\_id for backing.

**Parameters** **file\_id** (*str*) – File identifier string

**Returns** Disk element matching the file, or None

**find\_empty\_drive** (*type*)

Find a disk device that exists but contains no data.

**Parameters** **type** (*str*) – Either ‘cdrom’ or ‘harddisk’

**Returns** Hardware device object, or None.

**find\_item\_from\_disk** (*disk*)

Find the disk Item that references the given Disk.

**Parameters** **disk** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Disk element

**Returns** *OVFItem* instance, or None

**find\_item\_from\_file** (*file*)

Find the disk Item that references the given File.

**Parameters** **file** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – File element

**Returns** *OVFItem* instance, or None.

**find\_open\_controller** (*type*)

Find the first open slot on a controller of the given type.

**Parameters** `type` (*str*) – 'ide' or 'scsi'

**Returns** (`ctrl_item`, `address_string`) or (`None`, `None`)

**find\_parent\_from\_item** (*item*)

Find the parent Item of the given Item.

**Parameters** `item` (`OVFItem`) – Item whose parent is desired

**Returns** `OVFItem` representing the parent device, or `None`

**generate\_manifest** (*ovf\_file*)

Construct the manifest file for this package, if possible.

**Parameters** `ovf_file` (*str*) – OVF descriptor file path

**Returns** `True` if the manifest was successfully generated, `False` if not successful (such as if checksum helper tools are unavailable).

**get\_capacity\_from\_disk** (*disk*)

Get the capacity of the given Disk in bytes.

**Parameters** `disk` (`xml.etree.ElementTree.Element`) – Disk element

**Return type** `int`

**get\_common\_subtype** (*type*)

Get the sub-type common to all devices of the given type.

**Parameters** `type` (*str*) – Device type such as 'ide' or 'memory'.

**Returns** `None`, if multiple such devices exist and they do not all have the same sub-type.

**Returns** Subtype string common to all devices of the type.

**get\_file\_ref\_from\_disk** (*disk*)

Get the file reference from the given opaque disk object.

**Parameters** `disk` (`xml.etree.ElementTree.Element`) – 'Disk' element

**Returns** 'fileRef' attribute value of this element

**get\_id\_from\_file** (*file*)

Get the file ID from the given opaque file object.

**Parameters** `file` (`xml.etree.ElementTree.Element`) – 'File' element

**Returns** 'id' attribute value of this element

**get\_nic\_count** (*profile\_list*)

Get the number of NICs under the given profile(s).

**Parameters** `profile_list` (*list*) – Profile(s) of interest.

**Return type** `dict`

**Returns** { `profile_name` : `nic_count` }

**get\_path\_from\_file** (*file*)

Get the file path from the given opaque file object.

**Parameters** `file` (`xml.etree.ElementTree.Element`) – 'File' element

**Returns** 'href' attribute value of this element

**get\_property\_value** (*key*)

Get the value of the given property.



**Parameters** **key** (*str*) – Property identifier

**Returns** Value of this property, or None

**get\_serial\_connectivity** (*profile*)

Get the serial port connectivity strings under the given profile.

**Parameters** **profile** (*str*) – Profile of interest.

**Returns** List of connectivity strings

**get\_serial\_count** (*profile\_list*)

Get the number of serial ports under the given profile(s).

**Return type** dict

**Returns** { **profile\_name** : **serial\_count** }

**get\_subtype\_from\_device** (*device*)

Get the sub-type of the given opaque device object.

**Parameters** **device** – Device object to query

**Returns** None, or string such as ‘virtio’ or ‘lsilogic’

**get\_type\_from\_device** (*device*)

Get the type of the given device.

**Parameters** **device** (*OVFItem*) – Device object to query

**Returns** string such as ‘ide’ or ‘memory’

**info\_string** (*TEXT\_WIDTH=79, verbosity\_option=None*)

Get a descriptive string summarizing the contents of this OVF.

**Parameters**

- **TEXT\_WIDTH** (*int*) – Line length to wrap to where possible.
- **verbosity\_option** (*str*) – ‘brief’, None (default), or ‘verbose’

**Returns** Wrapped, appropriately verbose string.

**profile\_info\_list** (*TEXT\_WIDTH=79, verbose=False*)

Get a list describing available configuration profiles.

**Parameters**

- **TEXT\_WIDTH** (*int*) – Line length to wrap to if possible
- **verbose** (*str*) – if True, generate multiple lines per profile

**Returns** (header, list)

**profile\_info\_string** (*TEXT\_WIDTH=79, verbosity\_option=None*)

Get a string summarizing available configuration profiles.

**Parameters**

- **TEXT\_WIDTH** (*int*) – Line length to wrap to if possible
- **verbosity\_option** (*str*) – ‘brief’, None (default), or ‘verbose’

**Returns** Appropriately formatted and verbose string.

**search\_from\_controller** (*controller, address*)

From the controller type and device address, look for existing disk.

This implementation uses the parameters to find matching controller and disk `Item` elements, then using the disk `Item` to find matching `File` and/or `Disk`.

**Parameters**

- **controller** (*str*) – 'ide' or 'scsi'
- **address** (*str*) – Device address such as '1:0'

**Returns** (*file*, *disk*, *ctrl\_item*, *disk\_item*), any or all of which may be `None`

**search\_from\_file\_id** (*file\_id*)

From the given file ID, try to find any existing objects.

This implementation uses the given *file\_id* to find a matching `File` in the OVF, then using that to find a matching `Disk` and `Item` entries.

**Parameters** **file\_id** (*str*) – Filename to search from

**Returns** (*file*, *disk*, *ctrl\_item*, *disk\_item*), any or all of which may be `None`

**search\_from\_filename** (*filename*)

From the given filename, try to find any existing objects.

This implementation uses the given *filename* to find a matching `File` in the OVF, then using that to find a matching `Disk` and `Item` entries.

**Parameters** **filename** (*str*) – Filename to search from

**Returns** (*file*, *disk*, *ctrl\_item*, *disk\_item*), any or all of which may be `None`

**set\_capacity\_of\_disk** (*disk*, *capacity\_bytes*)

Set the storage capacity of the given `Disk`.

Tries to use the most human-readable form possible (i.e., 8 GB instead of 8589934592 bytes).

**Parameters**

- **disk** (*xml.etree.ElementTree.Element*) – Disk to update
- **capacity\_bytes** (*int*) – Disk capacity, in bytes

**set\_cpu\_count** (*cpus*, *profile\_list*)

Set the number of CPUs.

**Parameters**

- **cpus** (*int*) – Number of CPUs
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_ide\_subtype** (*type*, *profile\_list*)

Set the device subtype for the IDE controller(s).

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – IDE subtype string
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_memory** (*megabytes*, *profile\_list*)

Set the amount of RAM, in megabytes.

**Parameters**

- **megabytes** (*int*) – Memory value, in megabytes
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_count** (*count*, *profile\_list*)

Set the given profile(s) to have the given number of NICs.

**Parameters**

- **count** (*int*) – number of NICs
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_mac\_addresses** (*mac\_list*, *profile\_list*)

Set the MAC addresses for NICs under the given profile(s).

---

**Note:** If the length of *mac\_list* is less than the number of NICs, will use the last entry in the list for all remaining NICs.

---

**Parameters**

- **mac\_list** (*list*) – List of MAC addresses to assign to NICs
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_names** (*name\_list*, *profile\_list*)

Set the device names for NICs under the given profile(s).

**Parameters**

- **name\_list** (*list*) – List of names to assign.
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_networks** (*network\_list*, *profile\_list*)

Set the NIC to network mapping for NICs under the given profile(s).

---

**Note:** If the length of *network\_list* is less than the number of NICs, will use the last entry in the list for all remaining NICs.

---

**Parameters**

- **network\_list** (*list*) – List of networks to map NICs to
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_nic\_type** (*type*, *profile\_list*)

Set the hardware type for NICs.

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – NIC hardware type
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles.

**set\_product\_section\_child** (*child\_tag*, *child\_text*)

If the OVF doesn't already have the given Section, create it.

**Parameters**

- **child\_tag** (*str*) – XML tag of the product section child element.
- **child\_text** (*str*) – Text to set for the child element.

**Returns** The product section element that was updated or created

**set\_property\_value** (*key*, *value*)

Set the value of the given property (converting value if needed).

**Parameters**

- **key** (*str*) – Property identifier
- **value** – Value to set for this property

**Returns** the (converted) value that was set.

**set\_scsi\_subtype** (*type*, *profile\_list*)

Set the device subtype for the SCSI controller(s).

**Parameters**

- **type** (*str*) – SCSI subtype string
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_serial\_connectivity** (*conn\_list*, *profile\_list*)

Set the serial port connectivity under the given profile(s).

**Parameters**

- **conn\_list** (*list*) – List of connectivity strings
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**set\_serial\_count** (*count*, *profile\_list*)

Set the given profile(s) to have the given number of serial ports.

**Parameters**

- **count** (*int*) – Number of serial ports
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Change only the given profiles

**tar** (*ovf\_descriptor*, *tar\_file*)

Create a .ova tar file based on the given OVF descriptor.

**Parameters**

- **ovf\_descriptor** (*str*) – File path for an OVF descriptor
- **tar\_file** (*str*) – File path for the desired OVA archive.

**untar** (*file*)

Untar the OVF descriptor from an .ova to the working directory.

**Parameters** **file** (*str*) – OVA file path

**Raises** **VMInitError** if the given file does not represent a valid OVA archive.

**Returns** Path to extracted OVF descriptor

**validate\_and\_update\_file\_references** ()

Check all File entries to make sure they are valid and up to date.

Helper method for `write()`.

**validate\_and\_update\_networks** ()

Make sure all defined networks are actually used by NICs.

Delete any networks that are unused and warn the user. Helper method for `write()`.

**write** ()

Write OVF or OVA to `output_file`, if set.

**application\_url**

Application URL string (XML AppUrl element).

**config\_profiles**

The list of supported configuration profiles.

If this OVF has no defined profiles, returns an empty list. If there is a default profile, it will be first in the list.

**environment\_properties**

The array of environment properties.

**Returns** Array of dicts (one per property) with the keys "key", "value", "qualifiers", "type", "label", and "description".

**networks**

The list of network names currently defined in this VM.

**Return type** list[str]

**output\_file**

OVF or OVA file that will be created or updated by `write()`.

**Raises** `ValueUnsupportedError` if `detect_type_from_name()` fails

**platform**

The platform type, as determined from the OVF descriptor.

**Type** Class object - `GenericPlatform` or a more-specific subclass if recognized as such.

**product**

Short descriptive product string (XML Product element).

**product\_url**

Product URL string (XML ProductUrl element).

**system\_types**

List of virtual system type(s) supported by this virtual machine.

For an OVF, this corresponds to the `VirtualSystemType` element.

**vendor**

Short descriptive vendor string (XML Vendor element).

**vendor\_url**

Vendor URL string (XML VendorUrl element).

**version\_long**

Long descriptive version string (XML FullVersion element).

**version\_short**

Short descriptive version string (XML Version element).

**class OV FNameHelper** (*version*)

Bases: object

Helper class for *OVF*.

Provides string constants for easier lookup of various OVF XML elements and attributes.

**class OV FHardware** (*ovf*)

Helper class for *OVF*.

Represents all hardware items defined by this OVF; i.e., the contents of all Items in the VirtualHardwareSection.

Fundamentally it's just a dict of *OV FItem* objects with a bunch of helper methods.

**clone\_item** (*parent\_item*, *profile\_list*)

Clone an *OVFItem* to create a new instance.

**Parameters**

- **parent\_item** (*OVFItem*) – Instance to clone from
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – List of profiles to clone into

**Returns** (*instance*, *ovfitem*)

**find\_all\_items** (*resource\_type=None*, *properties=None*, *profile\_list=None*)

Find all items matching the given type, properties, and profiles.

**Parameters**

- **resource\_type** – Resource type string like ‘scsi’ or ‘serial’
- **value]** **properties** (*dict[property,)* – Property values to match
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – List of profiles to filter on

**Returns** list of *OVFItem* instances

**find\_item** (*resource\_type=None*, *properties=None*, *profile=None*)

Find the only *OVFItem* of the given *resource\_type*.

**Parameters**

- **resource\_type** –
- **properties** –
- **profile** – Single profile ID to search within

**Return type** *OVFItem* or None

**Raises** **LookupError** if more than one such Item exists.

**find\_unused\_instance\_id** ()

Find the first available InstanceID number.

**Return type** string

**get\_item\_count** (*resource\_type*, *profile*)

Wrapper for *get\_item\_count\_per\_profile* ().

**Parameters**

- **resource\_type** (*str*) –
- **profile** (*str*) – Single profile identifier string to look up.

**Returns** Number of items of this type in this profile.

**get\_item\_count\_per\_profile** (*resource\_type*, *profile\_list*)

Get the number of Items of the given type per profile.

Items present under “no profile” will be counted against the total for each profile.

**Parameters**

- **resource\_type** (*str*) –
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – List of profiles to filter on (default: apply across all profiles)

**Return type** dict[profile, count]

**new\_item** (*resource\_type*, *profile\_list=None*)

Create a new *OVFItem* of the given type.

#### Parameters

- **resource\_type** (*str*) –
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – Profiles the new item should belong to

**Returns** (*instance*, *ovfitem*)

**set\_item\_count\_per\_profile** (*resource\_type*, *count*, *profile\_list*)

Set the number of items of a given type under the given profile(s).

If the new count is greater than the current count under this profile, then additional instances that already exist under another profile will be added to this profile, starting with the lowest-sequence instance not already present, and only as a last resort will new instances be created.

If the new count is less than the current count under this profile, then the highest-numbered instances will be removed preferentially.

#### Parameters

- **resource\_type** (*str*) – ‘cpu’, ‘harddisk’, etc.
- **count** (*int*) – Desired number of items
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – List of profiles to filter on (default: apply across all profiles)

**set\_item\_values\_per\_profile** (*resource\_type*, *property*, *value\_list*, *profile\_list*, *default=None*)

Set value(s) for a property of multiple items of a type.

#### Parameters

- **resource\_type** (*str*) – Device type such as ‘harddisk’ or ‘cpu’
- **property** (*str*) – Property name to update
- **value\_list** (*list*) – List of values to set (one value per item of the given *resource\_type*)
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – List of profiles to filter on (default: apply across all profiles)
- **default** – If there are more matching items than entries in *value\_list*, set extra items to this value

**set\_value\_for\_all\_items** (*resource\_type*, *property*, *new\_value*, *profile\_list*, *create\_new=False*)

Set a property to the given value for all items of the given type.

If no items of the given type exist, will create a new *Item* if *create\_new* is set to *True*; otherwise will log a warning and do nothing.

#### Parameters

- **resource\_type** (*str*) – Resource type such as ‘cpu’ or ‘harddisk’
- **property** (*str*) – Property name to update
- **new\_value** – New value to set the property to
- **profile\_list** (*list*) – List of profiles to filter on (default: apply across all profiles)
- **create\_new** (*boolean*) – Whether to create a new entry if no items of this *resource\_type* presently exist.

**update\_xml()**

Regenerate all Items under the VirtualHardwareSection, if needed.

Will do nothing if no Items have been changed.

**class OVHardwareDataError**

Bases: `exceptions.Exception`

The input data used to construct an *OVHardware* is not sane.

**class OVItem** (*ovf, item=None*)

Helper class for *OVF*.

Represents all variations of a given hardware *Item* amongst different hardware configuration profiles.

In essence, it is:

- a dict of *Item* properties (indexed by element name)
- each of which is a dict of sets of profiles (indexed by element value)

**add\_item** (*item*)

Add the given *Item* element to this OVItem.

**Parameters** *item* – XML *Item* element

**Raises** **OVItemDataError** if the new *Item* conflicts with existing data already in the OVItem.

**add\_profile** (*new\_profile, from\_item=None*)

Add a new profile to this item.

**Parameters**

- **new\_profile** (*str*) – Profile name to add
- **from\_item** (*OVItem*) – Item to inherit properties from. If unset, this defaults to *self*.

**generate\_items()**

Get a list of *Item* XML elements derived from this object's data.

**Return type** `list[xml.etree.ElementTree.Element]`

**get** (*tag*)

Get the dict associated with the given XML tag, if any.

**Parameters** *tag* (*str*) – XML tag to look up

**Return type** `dict`

**Returns** Dictionary of values associated with this tag (TODO?)

**get\_all\_values** (*tag*)

Get the set of all value strings for the given tag.

**Parameters** *tag* –

**Return type** `set`

**get\_value** (*tag, profiles=None*)

Get the value for the given tag under the given profiles.

If the tag does not exist under these profiles, or the tag values differ across the profiles, returns *None*.

**Parameters**

- **tag** (*str*) – Tag that the value is associated with
- **profiles** – set of profile names, or *None*



**Returns** Value string or None

**has\_profile** (*profile*)

Check if this Item exists under the given profile.

**Parameters** **profile** (*str*) – Profile name

**Return type** boolean

**remove\_profile** (*profile*, *split\_default=True*)

Remove all trace of the given profile from this item.

**Parameters**

- **profile** – Profile name to remove
- **split\_default** – If false, do not split out ‘default’ profile items to specifically exclude this profile. Used when the profile being removed will no longer exist anywhere and so ‘default’ will continue to exclude this profile.

**set\_property** (*key*, *value*, *profiles=None*, *overwrite=True*)

Store the value and profiles associated with it for the given key.

**Parameters**

- **key** (*str*) – Property key
- **value** – Value associated with key
- **profiles** (*list[str]*) – If None, set for all profiles currently known to this item, else set only for the given list of profiles.
- **overwrite** (*boolean*) – Whether to permit overwriting of existing value set in this item.

**Raises OVFIItemDataError** if a value is already defined and would be overwritten, unless *overwrite* is True

**validate** ()

Verify that the OVFIItem describes a valid set of items.

**Raises RuntimeError** if validation fails and self-repair is impossible.

**ATTRIB\_KEY\_SUFFIX** = ‘{Item attribute}’

**ELEMENT\_KEY\_SUFFIX** = ‘{custom element}’

**class OVFIItemDataError**

Bases: `exceptions.Exception`

Data to be added to an *OVFIItem* conflicts with existing data.

## 7.2 Command modules

<i>COT.submodule</i>	Parent classes for implementing COT subcommands.
<i>COT.add_disk</i>	Module for adding disks to VMs.
<i>COT.add_file</i>	Module for adding files to VM definitions.
<i>COT.deploy</i>	Module for deploying VM descriptions to a hypervisor to instantiate VMs.
<i>COT.deploy_esxi</i>	Module for deploying VMs to ESXi, vCenter, and vSphere.
<i>COT.edit_hardware</i>	Module for editing hardware details of a VM.
<i>COT.edit_product</i>	Module for editing product information in a VM description.
Continued on next page	

Table 7.7 – continued from previous page

<code>COT.edit_properties</code>	Module for managing VM environment configuration properties.
<code>COT.help</code>	Provide ‘help’ keyword for COT CLI.
<code>COT.info</code>	Implements “info” subcommand.
<code>COT.inject_config</code>	Implements “inject-config” command.
<code>COT.install_helpers</code>	Implements “install-helpers” command.

### 7.2.1 COT.submodule module

Parent classes for implementing COT subcommands.

#### Classes

<code>COTGenericSubmodule</code>	Abstract interface for COT command submodules.
<code>COTReadOnlySubmodule</code>	Class for submodules that do not modify the OVF, such as ‘deploy’.
<code>COTSubmodule</code>	Class for submodules that read and write the OVF.

**class** `COTGenericSubmodule` (*UI*)

Bases: `object`

Abstract interface for COT command submodules.

Attributes: *vm*, *UI*

---

**Note:** Generally a command should not inherit directly from this class, but should instead subclass `COTReadOnlySubmodule` or `COTSubmodule` as appropriate.

---

**create\_subparser** (*parent*, *storage*)

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

#### Parameters

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { ‘label’: subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**destroy** ()

Destroy any VM associated with this submodule.

**finished** ()

Do any final actions before being destroyed.

This class does nothing; subclasses may choose to do things like write their VM state out to a file.

**ready\_to\_run** ()

Check whether the module is ready to `run()`.

**Returns** (True, *ready\_message*) or (False, *reason\_why\_not*)

**run** ()

Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises** `InvalidInputError` if `ready_to_run()` reports False

**UI** = None

User interface instance (UI or subclass).

**vm = None**  
Virtual machine description (VMDescription).

**class COTReadOnlySubmodule (UI)**  
Bases: *COT.submodule.COTGenericSubmodule*  
Class for submodules that do not modify the OVF, such as ‘deploy’.  
Inherited attributes: vm, UI  
Attributes: *package*

**ready\_to\_run ()**  
Check whether the module is ready to run ().  
**Returns** (True, ready\_message) or (False, reason\_why\_not)

**package**  
VM description file to read from.  
Calls *COT.vm\_factory.VMFactory.create ()* to instantiate self.vm from the provided file.  
**Raises** *InvalidInputError* if the file does not exist.

**class COTSubmodule (UI)**  
Bases: *COT.submodule.COTGenericSubmodule*  
Class for submodules that read and write the OVF.  
Inherited attributes: vm, UI  
Attributes: *package, output*

**finished ()**  
Write the current VM state out to disk if requested.

**ready\_to\_run ()**  
Check whether the module is ready to *run ()*.  
**Returns** (True, ready\_message) or (False, reason\_why\_not)

**run ()**  
Do the actual work of this submodule.  
If *output* was not previously set, automatically sets it to the value of PACKAGE.  
**Raises** *InvalidInputError* if *ready\_to\_run ()* reports False

**output**  
Output file for this submodule.  
If the specified file already exists, will prompt the user (*confirm\_or\_die ()*) to confirm overwriting the existing file.

**package**  
VM description file to read (and possibly write).  
Calls *COT.vm\_factory.VMFactory.create ()* to instantiate self.vm from the provided file.  
**Raises** *InvalidInputError* if the file does not exist.

## 7.2.2 COT.add\_disk module

Module for adding disks to VMs.

<code>COTAddDisk(UI)</code>	Add or replace a disk in a virtual machine.
<code>add_disk_worker(vm, UI, DISK_IMAGE[, type, ...])</code>	Worker function for actually adding the disk.

**class COTAddDisk** (*UI*)

Bases: *COT.submodule.COTSubmodule*

Add or replace a disk in a virtual machine.

Inherited attributes: *UI, package, output*

Attributes: *disk\_image, type, file\_id, controller, subtype, address, diskname, description*

**create\_subparser** (*parent, storage*)

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

#### Parameters

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { 'label': subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**ready\_to\_run** ()

Check whether the module is ready to *run()*.

**Returns** (*True, ready\_message*) or (*False, reason\_why\_not*)

**run** ()

Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises** *InvalidInputError* if *ready\_to\_run()* reports *False*

**validate\_controller\_address** (*controller, address*)

Check validity of the given address string for the given controller.

Helper method for the *controller/address* setters.

#### Parameters

- **controller** (*str*) – 'ide' or 'scsi'
- **address** (*str*) – A string like '0:0' or '2:10'

**Raises** *InvalidInputError* if the address/controller combo is invalid.

**address**

Disk device address on controller (1:0, etc.).

**Raises** *InvalidInputError*, see *validate\_controller\_address()*

**controller**

Disk controller type (ide, scsi).

**Raises** *InvalidInputError*, see *validate\_controller\_address()*

**description = None**

Description of the disk.

**disk\_image**

Path to disk image file to add to the VM.

**Raises** *InvalidInputError* if the file does not exist.

**diskname = None**

Name string for the disk.

**file\_id = None**

File identifier to map disk to file.

**subtype = None**

Controller subtype, such as “virtio”.

**type = None**

Disk type (‘harddisk’ or ‘cdrom’).

**add\_disk\_worker** (*vm, UI, DISK\_IMAGE, type=None, file\_id=None, controller=None, subtype=None, address=None, diskname=None, description=None*)

Worker function for actually adding the disk.

All parameters except *vm*, *UI*, and *DISK\_IMAGE* are optional and will be automatically determined by COT if unspecified.

#### Parameters

- **vm** (*OVF* or other *VMDescription* subclass) – The virtual machine being edited.
- **UI** (instance of *UI* or subclass.) – User interface in effect.
- **DISK\_IMAGE** (*str*) – path to disk image to add to the VM.
- **type** (*str*) – Disk type: ‘cdrom’ or ‘harddisk’. If not specified, will be derived automatically from the *DISK\_IMAGE* file name extension.
- **file\_id** (*str*) – Identifier of the disk file in the VM. If not specified, the VM will automatically derive an appropriate value.
- **controller** (*str*) – Disk controller type: ‘ide’ or ‘scsi’. If not specified, will be derived from the *type* and the *platform* of the given *vm*.
- **subtype** (*str*) – Controller subtype (‘virtio’, ‘lsilogic’, etc.)
- **address** (*str*) – Disk device address on its controller (such as ‘1:0’). If this matches an existing disk device, that device will be overwritten. If not specified, the first available address not already occupied by an existing device will be selected.
- **diskname** (*str*) – Name for disk device
- **description** (*str*) – Description of disk device

### 7.2.3 COT.add\_file module

Module for adding files to VM definitions.

---

*COTAddFile*(*UI*)    Add a file (such as a README) to the package.

---

**class COTAddFile** (*UI*)

Bases: *COT.submodule.COTSubmodule*

Add a file (such as a README) to the package.

Inherited attributes: *UI*, *package*, *output*

Attributes: *file*, *file\_id*

**create\_subparser** (*parent, storage*)

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { 'label': subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**ready\_to\_run()**

Check whether the module is ready to `run()`.

**Returns** (True, ready\_message) or (False, reason\_why\_not)

**run()**

Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises** `InvalidInputError` if `ready_to_run()` reports False

**file**

File to be added to the package.

**Raises** `InvalidInputError` if the file does not exist.

**file\_id = None**

File identifier string.

## 7.2.4 COT.deploy module

Module for deploying VM descriptions to a hypervisor to instantiate VMs.

**Classes**

---

<code>COTDeploy</code>	Semi-abstract class for submodules used to deploy a VM to a hypervisor.
<code>SerialConnection</code>	Generic class defining a serial port connection.

---

**class COTDeploy (UI)**

Bases: `COT.submodule.COTReadOnlySubmodule`

Semi-abstract class for submodules used to deploy a VM to a hypervisor.

Provides some baseline parameters and input validation that are expected to be common across all concrete subclasses.

Inherited attributes: UI, package,

Attributes: `generic_parser`, `parser`, `subparsers`, `hypervisor`, `configuration`, `username`, `password`, `power_on`, `vm_name`, `network_map`

**create\_subparser (parent, storage)**

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

---

**Note:** Unlike most submodules, this one has subparsers of its own - 'cot deploy PACKAGE <hypervisor>' so subclasses of this module should call `super().create_subparser(parent, storage)` (to create the main 'deploy' subparser if it doesn't already exist) then call `self.subparsers.add_parser()` to add their own sub-subparser.

---

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { 'label': subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**ready\_to\_run()**

Check whether the module is ready to `run()`.

**Returns** (True, ready\_message) or (False, reason\_why\_not)

**run()**

Do the actual work of this submodule.

**configuration**

VM configuration profile to use for deployment.

**Raise** `InvalidInputError` if not a profile defined in the VM.

**generic\_parser = None**

Generic parser object providing args that most subclasses will use.

Subclasses can call `self.subparsers.add_parser(parents=[self.generic_parser])` to automatically inherit this set of args

**hypervisor**

Hypervisor to deploy to.

**Raise** `InvalidInputError` if not a recognized value.

**network\_map**

Mapping of network names to networks.

**password = None**

Server login password.

**power\_on**

Whether to automatically power on the VM after deployment.

**serial\_connection**

Mapping of serial ports to various connection types.

**subparsers = None**

Subparser grouping for hypervisor-specific sub-subparsers.

Subclasses should generally have their `create_subparser()` implementations create their sub-subparsers under `subparsers` and NOT under `parent`.

**username = None**

Server login username.

**vm\_name = None**

Name of the created virtual machine

**class SerialConnection** (*kind, value, options*)

Generic class defining a serial port connection.

**classmethod from\_cli\_string** (*cli\_string*)

Parse a string 'kind:value[,opts]' to build a SerialConnection.

Based on the QEMU CLI for serial ports.

**classmethod validate\_kind** (*kind*)

Validate the connection type string and munge it as needed.

**Parameters** **kind** (*str*) – Connection type string, possibly in need of munging.

**Returns** A valid type string

**Raises** **ValueUnsupportedError** if type string is not recognized as valid

**classmethod** **validate\_options** (*kind, value, options*)

Check that the given set of options are valid for this connection.

**Parameters**

- **kind** (*str*) – Validated ‘kind’ string.
- **value** (*str*) – Validated ‘value’ string.
- **options** (*dict*) – Input options dictionary.

**Returns** validated options dict

**Raises** **InvalidInputError** if options are not valid.

**classmethod** **validate\_value** (*kind, value*)

Check that the given value is valid for the given connection kind.

**Parameters**

- **kind** (*str*) – Connection type, valid per `validate_kind()`.
- **value** (*str*) – Connection value such as ‘/dev/ttyS0’ or ‘1.1.1.1:80’

**Returns** Munged value string.

**Raises** **InvalidInputError** if value string is not recognized as valid

## 7.2.5 COT.deploy\_esxi module

Module for deploying VMs to ESXi, vCenter, and vSphere.

**Classes**

<code>COTDeployESXi</code>	Submodule for deploying VMs on ESXi and VMware vCenter/vSphere.
<code>SmarterConnection</code>	A smarter version of pyVmomi’s SmartConnection context manager.
<code>PyVmomiVMReconfigSpec</code>	Context manager for reconfiguring an ESXi VM using PyVmomi.

**class** **COTDeployESXi** (*UI*)

Bases: `COT.deploy.COTDeploy`

Submodule for deploying VMs on ESXi and VMware vCenter/vSphere.

Inherited attributes: `UI`, `package`, `generic_parser`, `parser`, `subparsers`, `hypervisor`, `configuration`, `username`, `password`, `power_on`, `vm_name`, `network_map`, `serial_connection`

Attributes: `locator`, `datastore`, `ovftool_args`

**create\_subparser** (*parent, storage*)

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

This will create the shared parser under `parent`, then create our own sub-subparser under `subparsers`.

**Parameters**



- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { 'label': subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**fixup\_serial\_ports** (*serial\_count*)

Use PyVmomi to create and configure serial ports for the new VM.

**ready\_to\_run** ()

Check whether the module is ready to `run()`.

**Returns** (True, ready\_message) or (False, reason\_why\_not)

**run** ()

Do the actual work of this submodule - deploying to ESXi.

**Raises** `InvalidInputError` if `ready_to_run()` reports False

**datastore = None**

ESXi datastore to deploy to.

**host = None**

vSphere host to deploy to - set implicitly by self.locator.

**locator**

Target vSphere locator.

**ovftool\_args**

List of CLI arguments to pass through to ovftool.

**serial\_connection**

Mapping of serial ports to various connection types.

**server = None**

vCenter server or vSphere host - set implicitly by self.locator.

**class PyVmomiVMReconfigSpec** (*conn, vm\_name*)

Context manager for reconfiguring an ESXi VM using PyVmomi.

**get\_obj** (*conn, vimtype, name*)

Look up an object by name.

**class SmarterConnection** (*UI, server, username, password, port=443*)

Bases: `pyVim.connect.SmartConnection`

A smarter version of pyVmomi's SmartConnection context manager.

## 7.2.6 COT.edit\_hardware module

Module for editing hardware details of a VM.

**Classes**

---

<code>COTEditHardware</code>	Edit hardware information (CPUs, RAM, NICs, etc.).
------------------------------	--

---

**class COTEditHardware** (*UI*)

Bases: `COT.submodule.COTSubmodule`

Edit hardware information (CPUs, RAM, NICs, etc.).

Inherited attributes: UI, package, output

Attributes: *profiles*, *delete\_all\_other\_profiles*, *cpus*, *memory*, *nics*, *nic\_type*, *mac\_addresses\_list*, *nic\_networks*, *nic\_names*, *serial\_ports*, *serial\_connectivity*, *scsi\_subtype*, *ide\_subtype*, *virtual\_system\_type*

**create\_subparser** (*parent*, *storage*)

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

#### Parameters

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { 'label': subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**expand\_list\_wildcard** (*name\_list*, *length*)

Expand a list containing a wildcard to the desired length.

Since various items (NIC names, network names, etc.) are often named or numbered sequentially, we provide this API to allow the user to specify a wildcard value to permit automatically expanding a list of input strings to the desired length. The syntax for the wildcard option is { followed by a number (indicating the starting index for the name) followed by }. Examples:

`["eth{0}"]` Expands to `["eth0", "eth1", "eth2", ...]`

`["mgmt0" "eth{10}"]` Expands to `["mgmt0", "eth10", "eth11", "eth12", ...]`

#### Parameters

- **name\_list** (*list*) – List of names to assign.
- **length** (*list*) – Length to expand to

**Returns** Expanded list

**ready\_to\_run** ()

Check whether the module is ready to *run()*.

**Returns** (True, *ready\_message*) or (False, *reason\_why\_not*)

**run** ()

Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises** `InvalidInputError` if *ready\_to\_run()* reports False

**cpus**

Number of CPUs to set.

**delete\_all\_other\_profiles** = None

Delete all profiles other than those set in *profiles*.

**ide\_subtype** = None

Subtype string for IDE controllers

**mac\_addresses\_list** = None

List of MAC addresses to set.

**memory**

Amount of RAM (in megabytes) to set.

**nic\_names** = None

List of NIC name strings.

Can use wildcards as described in `expand_list_wildcard()`.

**nic\_networks = None**

List of NIC-to-network mappings.

Can use wildcards as described in `expand_list_wildcard()`.

**nic\_type**

NIC type string to set.

**nics**

Number of NICs to set.

**profiles = None**

Configuration profile(s) to edit.

**scsi\_subtype = None**

Subtype string for SCSI controllers

**serial\_connectivity = None**

List of serial connection strings.

**serial\_ports**

Serial port count to set.

**virtual\_system\_type = None**

Virtual system type

## 7.2.7 COT.edit\_product module

Module for editing product information in a VM description.

Classes

---

<i>COTEditProduct</i>	Edit product, vendor, and version information strings.
-----------------------	--

---

**class COTEditProduct (UI)**

Bases: *COT.submodule.COTSubmodule*

Edit product, vendor, and version information strings.

Inherited attributes: UI, package, output

Attributes: *product vendor version, full\_version product\_url vendor\_url application\_url*

**create\_subparser (parent, storage)**

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { 'label': subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**ready\_to\_run ()**

Check whether the module is ready to `run()`.

**Returns** (True, `ready_message`) or (False, `reason_why_not`)

**run ()**  
Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises `InvalidInputError`** if `ready_to_run ()` reports `False`

**application\_url = None**  
Application URL string.

**full\_version = None**  
Long version string.

**product = None**  
Product string.

**product\_url = None**  
Product URL string.

**vendor = None**  
Vendor string.

**vendor\_url = None**  
Vendor URL string.

**version = None**  
Short version string.

## 7.2.8 COT.edit\_properties module

Module for managing VM environment configuration properties.

### Classes

---

<i>COTEditProperties</i>	Edit OVF environment XML properties.
--------------------------	--------------------------------------

---

**class COTEditProperties (UI)**  
Bases: *COT.submodule.COTSubmodule*  
Edit OVF environment XML properties.  
Inherited attributes: `UI`, `package`, `output`  
Attributes: *config\_file*, *properties*

**create\_subparser (parent, storage)**  
Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

#### Parameters

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers ()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { ‘label’: subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**edit\_properties\_interactive ()**  
Present an interactive UI for the user to edit properties.

**run ()**  
Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises `InvalidInputError`** if `ready_to_run ()` reports `False`

**config\_file**

Path to plaintext file to read configuration lines from.

**Raise** `InvalidInputError` if the file does not exist.

**properties**

List of property (key, value) tuples to update.

## 7.2.9 COT.help module

Provide ‘help’ keyword for COT CLI.

**class COTHelp (UI)**

Bases: `COT.submodule.COTGenericSubmodule`

Provide ‘help <subcommand>’ syntax.

Inherited attributes: `UI`

Attributes: `subcommand`

**create\_subparser (parent, storage)**

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { ‘label’: subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**run ()**

Display the help menu for the specified subcommand.

**subcommand**

CLI subcommand to give help for.

If None, then help will be displayed for the COT global parser.

## 7.2.10 COT.info module

Implements “info” subcommand.

**class COTInfo (UI)**

Bases: `COT.submodule.COTGenericSubmodule`

Display VM information string.

Inherited attributes: `UI`

Attributes: `package_list`, `verbosity`

**create\_subparser (parent, storage)**

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { ‘label’: subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**ready\_to\_run()**

Check whether the module is ready to *run()*.

**Returns** (True, ready\_message) or (False, reason\_why\_not)

**run()**

Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises `InvalidInputError`** if *ready\_to\_run()* reports False

**package\_list**

List of VM definitions to get information for.

**verbosity**

Verbosity of information displayed.

## 7.2.11 COT.inject\_config module

Implements “inject-config” command.

**class `COTInjectConfig(UI)`**

Bases: *COT.submodule.COTSubmodule*

Wrap configuration file(s) into a disk image embedded into the VM.

Inherited attributes: UI, package, output

Attributes: *config\_file*, *secondary\_config\_file*

**create\_subparser** (*parent*, *storage*)

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { ‘label’: subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**ready\_to\_run()**

Check whether the module is ready to *run()*.

**Returns** (True, ready\_message) or (False, reason\_why\_not)

**run()**

Do the actual work of this submodule.

**Raises `InvalidInputError`** if *ready\_to\_run()* reports False

**config\_file**

Primary configuration file.

**Raises**

- **`InvalidInputError`** – if the file does not exist
- **`InvalidInputError`** – if the *platform described by :attr:‘package* doesn’t support configuration files.

**secondary\_config\_file**

Secondary configuration file.

**Raises**

- **InvalidInputError** – if the file does not exist
- **InvalidInputError** – if the platform described by `package` doesn't support secondary configuration files.

### 7.2.12 COT.install\_helpers module

Implements “install-helpers” command.

**class COTInstallHelpers (UI)**

Bases: *COT.submodule.COTGenericSubmodule*

Install all helper tools that COT requires.

**create\_subparser** (*parent*, *storage*)

Add subparser for the CLI of this submodule.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*object*) – Subparser grouping object returned by `ArgumentParser.add_subparsers()`
- **storage** (*dict*) – Dict of { ‘label’: subparser } to be updated with subparser(s) created, if any.

**install\_helper** (*helper*)

Install the given helper module.

**Returns** (result, message)

**install\_manpages** ()

Install COT's manual pages.

**Returns** (result, message)

**run** ()

Verify all helper tools and install any that are missing.

## 7.3 Helper library modules

<i>COT.data_validation</i>	Various helpers for data sanity checks.
<i>COT.file_reference</i>	Wrapper classes to abstract away differences between file sources.
<i>COT.platforms</i>	Handles behavior that varies between guest platforms.

### 7.3.1 COT.data\_validation module

Various helpers for data sanity checks.

**Exceptions**

<i>InvalidInputError</i>	Miscellaneous error during validation of user input.
<i>ValueMismatchError</i>	Values which were expected to be equal turned out to be not equal.
<i>ValueUnsupportedError</i>	An unsupported value was provided.
<i>ValueTooLowError</i>	A numerical input was less than the lowest supported value.
<i>ValueTooHighError</i>	A numerical input was higher than the highest supported value.

## Functions

<code>check_for_conflict</code>	Make sure the list does not contain references to more than one object.
<code>device_address</code>	Parser helper function for device address arguments.
<code>mac_address</code>	Parser helper function for MAC address arguments.
<code>match_or_die</code>	Make sure “first” and “second” are equal or raise an error.
<code>natural_sort</code>	Sort the given list “naturally” rather than in ASCII order.
<code>no_whitespace</code>	Parser helper function for arguments not allowed to contain whitespace.
<code>non_negative_int</code>	Parser helper function for integer arguments that must be 0 or more.
<code>positive_int</code>	Parser helper function for integer arguments that must be 1 or more.
<code>to_string</code>	Get string representation of an object, special-case for XML Element.
<code>validate_int</code>	Parser helper function for validating integer arguments in a range.

### exception `InvalidInputError`

Bases: `exceptions.ValueError`

Miscellaneous error during validation of user input.

### exception `ValueMismatchError`

Bases: `exceptions.ValueError`

Values which were expected to be equal turned out to be not equal.

### exception `ValueTooHighError` (*value\_type, actual, expected*)

Bases: `COT.data_validation.ValueUnsupportedError`

A numerical input was higher than the highest supported value.

#### Variables

- **value\_type** – descriptive string
- **actual\_value** – invalid value that was provided
- **expected\_value** – maximum supported value

### exception `ValueTooLowError` (*value\_type, actual, expected*)

Bases: `COT.data_validation.ValueUnsupportedError`

A numerical input was less than the lowest supported value.

#### Variables

- **value\_type** – descriptive string
- **actual\_value** – invalid value that was provided
- **expected\_value** – minimum supported value

### exception `ValueUnsupportedError` (*value\_type, actual, expected*)

Bases: `COT.data_validation.InvalidInputError`

An unsupported value was provided.

#### Variables

- **value\_type** – descriptive string
- **actual\_value** – invalid value that was provided
- **expected\_value** – expected (valid) value or values (item or list)

### `check_for_conflict` (*label, li*)

Make sure the list does not contain references to more than one object.



**Parameters**

- **label** (*str*) – Descriptive label to be used if an error is raised
- **li** (*list*) – List of object references (which may include `None`)

**Raises** `ValueMismatchError` if references differ

**Returns** the object or `None`

**device\_address** (*string*)

Parser helper function for device address arguments.

Validate string is an appropriately formed device address such as '1:0'.

**Parameters** **string** (*str*) – String to validate

**Raises** `InvalidInputError` if string is not a well-formatted device address

**Returns** Validated string (with leading/trailing whitespace stripped)

**mac\_address** (*string*)

Parser helper function for MAC address arguments.

Validate whether a string is a valid MAC address. Recognized formats are:

- `XX:XX:XX:XX:XX:XX`
- `XX-XX-XX-XX-XX-XX`
- `XXXX.XXXX.XXXX`

**Parameters** **string** – String to validate

**Raises** `InvalidInputError` if string is not a valid MAC address

**Returns** Validated string (with leading/trailing whitespace stripped)

**match\_or\_die** (*first\_label, first, second\_label, second*)

Make sure "first" and "second" are equal or raise an error.

**Parameters**

- **first\_label** (*str*) – Descriptive label for *first*
- **first** – First object to compare
- **second\_label** (*str*) – Descriptive label for *second*
- **second** – Second object to compare

**Raises** `ValueMismatchError` if `first != second`

**natural\_sort** (*l*)

Sort the given list "naturally" rather than in ASCII order.

E.g, "10" comes after "9" rather than between "1" and "2".

See also [http://nedbatchelder.com/blog/200712/human\\_sorting.html](http://nedbatchelder.com/blog/200712/human_sorting.html)

**Parameters** **l** (*list*) – List to sort

**Returns** Sorted list

**no\_whitespace** (*string*)

Parser helper function for arguments not allowed to contain whitespace.

**Parameters** **string** (*str*) – String to validate

**Raises `InvalidInputError`** if string contains internal whitespace

**Returns** Validated string (with leading/trailing whitespace stripped)

**`non_negative_int`** (*string*)

Parser helper function for integer arguments that must be 0 or more.

Alias for `validate_int()` setting `min` to 0.

**`positive_int`** (*string*)

Parser helper function for integer arguments that must be 1 or more.

Alias for `validate_int()` setting `min` to 1.

**`to_string`** (*obj*)

Get string representation of an object, special-case for XML Element.

**`validate_int`** (*string*, *min=None*, *max=None*, *label='input'*)

Parser helper function for validating integer arguments in a range.

**Parameters**

- **`string`** (*str*) – String to convert to an integer and validate
- **`min`** (*int*) – Minimum valid value (optional)
- **`max`** (*int*) – Maximum valid value (optional)
- **`label`** (*str*) – Label to include in any errors raised

**Returns** Validated integer value

**Raises**

- **`ValueUnsupportedError`** – if `string` can't be converted to int
- **`ValueTooLowError`** – if value is less than `min`
- **`ValueTooHighError`** – if value is more than `max`

### 7.3.2 `COT.file_reference` module

Wrapper classes to abstract away differences between file sources.

**class `FileInTAR`** (*tarfile\_path*, *filename*)

Bases: `object`

Wrapper for a file inside a TAR archive or OVA.

**`add_to_archive`** (*tarf*)

Copy this file into the given tarfile object.

**`close`** ()

Close the file object previously opened.

**`copy_to`** (*dest\_dir*)

Extract this file to the given destination directory.

**`exists`** ()

Check whether the file exists in the TAR archive.

**`open`** (*mode*)

Open the TAR and return a reference to the relevant file object.

**`size`** ()

Get the size of this file in bytes.

```

class FileOnDisk (file_path, filename=None)
    Bases: object

    Wrapper for a 'real' file on disk.

    add_to_archive (tarf)
        Copy this file into the given tarfile object.

    close ()
        Close the file previously opened.

    copy_to (dest_dir)
        Copy this file to the given destination directory.

    exists ()
        Check whether the file exists on disk.

    open (mode)
        Open the file and return a reference to the file object.

    size ()
        Get the size of this file, in bytes.

```

### 7.3.3 COT.platforms module

Handles behavior that varies between guest platforms.

#### Classes

<i>GenericPlatform</i>	Generic class for operations that depend on guest platform.
<i>CSR1000V</i>	Platform-specific logic for Cisco CSR1000V platform.
<i>IOSv</i>	Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOSv.
<i>IOSXRv</i>	Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOS XRv platform.
<i>IOSXRvRP</i>	Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOS XRv HA-capable RP.
<i>IOSXRvLC</i>	Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOS XRv line card.
<i>NXOSv</i>	Platform-specific logic for Cisco NX-OSv (Titanium).

```

class GenericPlatform
    Bases: object

    Generic class for operations that depend on guest platform.

    To be used whenever the guest is unrecognized or does not need special handling.

    classmethod controller_type_for_device (device_type)
        Get the default controller type for the given device type.

    classmethod guess_nic_name (nic_number)
        Guess the name of the Nth NIC for this platform.

        Note that this counts from 1, not from 0!

    classmethod valid_list_only (desc, val, supported_list)
        Error if the given value is not an item in the provided list.

    classmethod validate_cpu_count (cpus)
        Throw an error if the number of CPUs is not a supported value.

    classmethod validate_memory_amount (megabytes)
        Throw an error if the amount of RAM is not supported.

```

**classmethod validate\_nic\_count** (*count*)

Throw an error if the number of NICs is not supported.

**classmethod validate\_nic\_type** (*type\_string*)

Throw an error if the NIC type string is not supported.

**classmethod validate\_serial\_count** (*count*)

Throw an error if the number of serial ports is not supported.

**BOOTSTRAP\_DISK\_TYPE** = 'cdrom'

**CONFIG\_TEXT\_FILE** = 'config.txt'

**LITERAL\_CLI\_STRING** = 'config'

**PLATFORM\_NAME** = '(unrecognized platform, generic)'

**SECONDARY\_CONFIG\_TEXT\_FILE** = None

**class CSR1000V**

Bases: *COT.platforms.GenericPlatform*

Platform-specific logic for Cisco CSR1000V platform.

**classmethod controller\_type\_for\_device** (*device\_type*)

CSR1000V uses SCSI for hard disks and IDE for CD-ROMs.

**classmethod guess\_nic\_name** (*nic\_number*)

GigabitEthernet1, GigabitEthernet2, etc.

**Warning:** In all current CSR releases, NIC names start at “GigabitEthernet1”. Some early versions started at “GigabitEthernet0” but we don’t support that.

**classmethod validate\_cpu\_count** (*cpus*)

CSR1000V supports 1, 2, or 4 CPUs.

**classmethod validate\_memory\_amount** (*megabytes*)

Minimum 2.5 GB, max 8 GB.

**classmethod validate\_nic\_count** (*count*)

CSR1000V requires 3 NICs and supports up to 26.

**classmethod validate\_serial\_count** (*count*)

CSR1000V supports 0-2 serial ports.

**CONFIG\_TEXT\_FILE** = 'iosxe\_config.txt'

**LITERAL\_CLI\_STRING** = 'ios-config'

**PLATFORM\_NAME** = 'Cisco CSR1000V'

**class IOSv**

Bases: *COT.platforms.GenericPlatform*

Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOSv.

**classmethod guess\_nic\_name** (*nic\_number*)

GigabitEthernet0/0, GigabitEthernet0/1, etc.

**classmethod validate\_cpu\_count** (*cpus*)

IOSv only supports a single CPU.

**classmethod validate\_memory\_amount** (*megabytes*)

IOSv has minimum 192 MB (with minimal feature set), max 3 GB.

```

classmethod validate_nic_count (count)
    IOSv supports up to 16 NICs.

classmethod validate_nic_type (type_string)
    IOSv only supports E1000 NICs.

classmethod validate_serial_count (count)
    IOSv requires 1-2 serial ports.

BOOTSTRAP_DISK_TYPE = 'harddisk'

CONFIG_TEXT_FILE = 'ios_config.txt'

LITERAL_CLI_STRING = None

PLATFORM_NAME = 'Cisco IOSv'

```

#### class IOSXRv

```

Bases: COT.platforms.GenericPlatform

Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOS XRv platform.

classmethod guess_nic_name (nic_number)
    MgmtEth0/0/CPU0/0, GigabitEthernet0/0/0/0, Gig0/0/0/1, etc.

classmethod validate_cpu_count (cpus)
    IOS XRv supports 1-8 CPUs.

classmethod validate_memory_amount (megabytes)
    Minimum 3 GB, max 8 GB of RAM.

classmethod validate_nic_count (count)
    IOS XRv requires at least one NIC.

classmethod validate_nic_type (type_string)
    IOS XRv supports E1000 and virtio NICs.

classmethod validate_serial_count (count)
    IOS XRv supports 1-4 serial ports.

CONFIG_TEXT_FILE = 'iosxr_config.txt'

LITERAL_CLI_STRING = None

PLATFORM_NAME = 'Cisco IOS XRv'

SECONDARY_CONFIG_TEXT_FILE = 'iosxr_config_admin.txt'

```

#### class IOSXRvRP

```

Bases: COT.platforms.IOSXRv

Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOS XRv HA-capable RP.

classmethod guess_nic_name (nic_number)
    Fabric and management only.

    •fabric

    •MgmtEth0/{SLOT}/CPU0/0

classmethod validate_nic_count (count)
    Fabric plus an optional management NIC.

PLATFORM_NAME = 'Cisco IOS XRv route processor card'

```

**class IOSXRvLC**Bases: *COT.platforms.IOSXRv*

Platform-specific logic for Cisco IOS XRv line card.

**classmethod guess\_nic\_name** (*nic\_number*)

Fabric interface plus slot-appropriate GigabitEthernet interfaces.

- fabric
- GigabitEthernet0/{SLOT}/0/0
- GigabitEthernet0/{SLOT}/0/1
- etc.

**classmethod validate\_serial\_count** (*count*)

No serial ports are needed but up to 4 can be used for debugging.

**CONFIG\_TEXT\_FILE** = None**PLATFORM\_NAME** = 'Cisco IOS XRv line card'**SECONDARY\_CONFIG\_TEXT\_FILE** = None**class NXOSv**Bases: *COT.platforms.GenericPlatform*

Platform-specific logic for Cisco NX-OSv (Titanium).

**classmethod guess\_nic\_name** (*nic\_number*)

NX-OSv names its NICs a bit interestingly...

- mgmt0
- Ethernet2/1
- Ethernet2/2
- ...
- Ethernet2/48
- Ethernet3/1
- Ethernet3/2
- ...

**classmethod validate\_cpu\_count** (*cpus*)

NX-OSv requires 1-8 CPUs.

**classmethod validate\_memory\_amount** (*megabytes*)

NX-OSv requires 2-8 GB of RAM.

**classmethod validate\_nic\_type** (*type\_string*)

NX-OSv supports only E1000 and virtio NICs.

**classmethod validate\_serial\_count** (*count*)

NX-OSv requires 1-2 serial ports.

**CONFIG\_TEXT\_FILE** = 'nxos\_config.txt'**LITERAL\_CLI\_STRING** = None**PLATFORM\_NAME** = 'Cisco NX-OSv'

## 7.4 User interface modules

<code>COT.ui_shared</code>	Abstract user interface superclass.
<code>COT.cli</code>	CLI entry point for the Common OVF Tool (COT) suite.

### 7.4.1 COT.ui\_shared module

Abstract user interface superclass.

**class UI** (*force=False*)

Bases: `object`

Abstract user interface functionality.

Can also be used in test code as a stub that autoconfirms everything.

**choose\_from\_list** (*footer, option\_list, default\_value, header='', info\_list=[]*)

Prompt the user to choose from a list.

#### Parameters

- **footer** – Prompt string to display following the list
- **option\_list** – List of strings to choose amongst
- **default\_value** – Default value to select if user declines
- **header** – String to display prior to the list
- **info\_list** – Verbose strings to display instead of `option_list`

**confirm** (*prompt*)

Prompt user to confirm the requested operation.

Auto-accepts if *force* is set to `True`.

**Warning:** This stub implementation does not actually interact with the user, but instead returns `default_confirm_response`. Subclasses should override this method.

**Parameters** **prompt** (*str*) – Message to prompt the user with

**Returns** `True` (user confirms acceptance) or `False` (user declines)

**confirm\_or\_die** (*prompt*)

If the user doesn't agree, abort the program.

A simple wrapper for `confirm()` that calls `sys.exit()` if `confirm()` returns `False`.

**fill\_examples** (*example\_list*)

Pretty-print a set of usage examples.

**Parameters** **example\_list** (*list*) – List of (example, description) tuples.

**Raises** `NotImplementedError` Must be implemented by a subclass.

**fill\_usage** (*subcommand, usage\_list*)

Pretty-print a list of usage strings.

#### Parameters

- **subcommand** (*str*) – Subcommand name/keyword
- **usage\_list** (*list*) – List of usage strings for this subcommand.

**Returns** String containing all usage strings, each appropriately wrapped to the `terminal_width` value.

**get\_input** (*prompt*, *default\_value*)

Prompt the user to enter a string.

Auto-inputs the `default_value` if *force* is set to `True`.

**Warning:** This stub implementation does not actually interact with the user, but instead always returns `default_value`. Subclasses should override this method.

#### Parameters

- **prompt** (*str*) – Message to prompt the user with
- **default\_value** (*str*) – Default value to input if the user simply hits Enter without entering a value, or if *force*.

**Returns** Input value

**Return type** str

**get\_password** (*username*, *host*)

Get password string from the user.

**Warning:** This stub implementation does not actually interact with the user, but instead always returns `"passwd"`. Subclasses should override this method.

#### Parameters

- **username** (*str*) – Username the password is associated with
- **host** (*str*) – Host the password is associated with

**default\_confirm\_response** = `None`

Knob for API testing, sets the default response to `confirm()`.

**force** = `None`

Whether to automatically select the default value in all cases.

(As opposed to interactively prompting the user.)

**terminal\_width**

Get the width of the terminal in columns.

## 7.4.2 COT.cli module

CLI entry point for the Common OVF Tool (COT) suite.

### Classes

---

*CLI* Command-line user interface for COT.

---

**class CLI** (*terminal\_width=None*)

Bases: *COT.ui\_shared.UI*

Command-line user interface for COT.

---

*confirm* Prompt user to confirm the requested operation.

*create\_parser* Create parser object for global `cot` command.

---

Continued on next page



Table 7.22 – continued from previous page

<code>create_subparsers</code>	Populate the CLI sub-parsers for all known submodules.
<code>fill_examples</code>	Pretty-print a set of usage examples.
<code>fill_usage</code>	Pretty-print a list of usage strings for a COT subcommand.
<code>formatter</code>	Create formatter for log output.
<code>get_input</code>	Prompt the user to enter a string.
<code>get_password</code>	Get password string from the user.
<code>main</code>	Main worker function for COT when invoked from the CLI.
<code>parse_args</code>	Parse the given CLI arguments into a namespace object.
<code>run</code>	Parse the given CLI args then run.
<code>set_verbosity</code>	Enable logging and/or change the logging verbosity level.
<code>terminal_width</code>	The width of the terminal in columns.

**confirm** (*prompt*)

Prompt user to confirm the requested operation.

Auto-accepts if force is set to True.

**Parameters** **prompt** (*str*) – Message to prompt the user with

**Returns** True (user confirms acceptance) or False (user declines)

**create\_parser** ()

Create parser object for global cot command.

Includes a number of globally applicable CLI options.

**create\_subparsers** ()

Populate the CLI sub-parsers for all known submodules.

Creates an instance of each *COTGenericSubmodule* subclass, then calls *create\_subparser()* for each.

**fill\_examples** (*example\_list*)

Pretty-print a set of usage examples.

```
>>> fill_examples([
...     ("Deploy to vSphere/ESXi server 192.0.2.100 with credentials"
...      " admin/admin, creating a VM named 'test_vm' from foo.ova.",
...      'cot deploy foo.ova esxi 192.0.2.100 -u admin -p admin'
...      ' -n test_vm'),
...     ("Deploy to vSphere/ESXi server 192.0.2.100, with username"
...      " admin (prompting the user to input a password at runtime),"
...      " creating a VM based on profile '1CPU-2.5GB' in foo.ova.",
...      'cot deploy foo.ova esxi 192.0.2.100 -u admin -c 1CPU-2.5GB')
... ])
```

Examples:

```
Deploy to vSphere/ESXi server 192.0.2.100 with credentials
admin/admin, creating a VM named 'test_vm' from foo.ova.
```

```
cot deploy foo.ova esxi 192.0.2.100 -u admin -p admin \
-n test_vm
```

```
Deploy to vSphere/ESXi server 192.0.2.100, with username admin
(prompting the user to input a password at runtime), creating a VM
based on profile '1CPU-2.5GB' in foo.ova.
```

```
cot deploy foo.ova esxi 192.0.2.100 -u admin -c 1CPU-2.5GB
```

**Parameters** **example\_list** (*list*) – List of (description, CLI example) tuples.

**Returns** Examples wrapped appropriately to the `terminal_width()` value. CLI examples will be wrapped with backslashes and a hanging indent.

**fill\_usage** (*subcommand, usage\_list*)

Pretty-print a list of usage strings for a COT subcommand.

Automatically prepends a `cot subcommand --help` usage string to the provided list.

```
>>> fill_usage('add-file', ["FILE PACKAGE [-o OUTPUT] [-f FILE_ID]"])
cot add-file --help
cot add-file FILE PACKAGE [-o OUTPUT]
                        [-f FILE_ID]
```

#### Parameters

- **subcommand** (*str*) – Subcommand name/keyword
- **usage\_list** (*list*) – List of usage strings for this subcommand.

**Returns** String containing all usage strings, each appropriately wrapped to the `terminal_width()` value.

**formatter** (*verbosity=20*)

Create formatter for log output.

We offer different (more verbose) formatting when debugging is enabled, hence this need.

**Parameters** **verbosity** – Logging level as defined by logging.

**Returns** Formatter object for use with logging.

**Return type** instance of `colorlog.ColoredFormatter`

**get\_input** (*prompt, default\_value*)

Prompt the user to enter a string.

Auto-inputs the `default_value` if `force` is set to `True`.

#### Parameters

- **prompt** (*str*) – Message to prompt the user with
- **default\_value** (*str*) – Default value to input if the user simply hits Enter without entering a value, or if `force`.

**Returns** Input value

**Return type** `str`

**get\_password** (*username, host*)

Get password string from the user.

#### Parameters

- **username** (*str*) – Username the password is associated with
- **host** (*str*) – Host the password is associated with

**Raises** **InvalidInputError** if `force` is `True` (as there is no “default” password value)

**main** (*args*)

Main worker function for COT when invoked from the CLI.

- Calls `set_verbosity()` with the appropriate verbosity level derived from the args.

- Looks up the appropriate *COTGenericSubmodule* instance corresponding to the subcommand that was invoked.
- Converts *args* to a dict and calls *set\_value()* for each arg/value in the dict.
- Calls *run()* followed by *finished()*.
- Catches various exceptions and handles them appropriately.

**Parameters** *args* – Parser namespace object returned from *parse\_args()*.

**Return type** int

**Returns**

Exit code for the COT executable.

- 0 on successful completion
- 1 on runtime error
- 2 on input error (parser error, *InvalidInputError*, etc.)

**parse\_args** (*argv*)

Parse the given CLI arguments into a namespace object.

**Parameters** *argv* (*list*) – List of CLI arguments, not including *argv0*

**Returns** Parser namespace object

**run** (*argv*)

Parse the given CLI args then run.

Calls *parse\_args()* followed by *main()*.

**Parameters** *argv* (*list*) – The CLI argv value (not including *argv[0]*)

**Returns** Return code from *main()*

**set\_verbosity** (*level*)

Enable logging and/or change the logging verbosity level.

Will call *formatter()* and associate the resulting formatter with logging.

**Parameters** *level* – Logging level as defined by logging

**terminal\_width**

The width of the terminal in columns.

**main** ()

Launch COT from the CLI.



---

## COT.helpers package reference

---

Provide various non-Python helper programs that COT makes use of.

In general, COT submodules should work through the APIs provided in `COT.helpers.api` rather than accessing individual helper program classes. This gives us the flexibility to change the specific set of helper programs that are used to provide any given functionality with minimal impact to COT as a whole.

### 8.1 API

<code>convert_disk_image</code>	Convert the given disk image to the requested format/subformat.
<code>create_disk_image</code>	Create a new disk image at the requested location.
<code>get_checksum</code>	Get the checksum of the given file.
<code>get_disk_capacity</code>	Get the storage capacity of the given disk image.
<code>get_disk_format</code>	Get the disk image format of the given file.

### 8.2 Exceptions

<code>HelperError</code>	A helper program exited with non-zero return code.
<code>HelperNotFoundError</code>	A helper program cannot be located.

### 8.3 Helper modules

<code>COT.helpers.api</code>	API for abstract access to third-party helper tools.
<code>COT.helpers.helper</code>	Interface for providers of non-Python helper programs.
<code>COT.helpers.fatdisk</code>	Give COT access to <code>fatdisk</code> for creating and updating FAT32 file systems.
<code>COT.helpers.mkisofs</code>	Give COT access to <code>mkisofs</code> or <code>genisoimage</code> for creating ISO images.
<code>COT.helpers.ovftool</code>	Give COT access to <code>ovftool</code> for validating and deploying OVF to ESXi.
<code>COT.helpers.qemu_img</code>	Give COT access to <code>qemu-img</code> for manipulating disk image formats.
<code>COT.helpers.vmdktool</code>	Give COT access to <code>vmdktool</code> for manipulating compressed VMDK files.

#### 8.3.1 COT.helpers.api module

API for abstract access to third-party helper tools.

Abstracts away operations that require third-party helper programs, especially those that are not available through PyPI.

The actual helper programs are provided by individual classes in this package.

## Functions

<code>convert_disk_image</code>	Convert the given disk image to the requested format/subformat.
<code>create_disk_image</code>	Create a new disk image at the requested location.
<code>get_checksum</code>	Get the checksum of the given file.
<code>get_disk_capacity</code>	Get the storage capacity of the given disk image.
<code>get_disk_format</code>	Get the disk image format of the given file.

**convert\_disk\_image** (*file\_path*, *output\_dir*, *new\_format*, *new\_subformat=None*)

Convert the given disk image to the requested format/subformat.

If the disk is already in this format then it is unchanged; otherwise, will convert to a new disk in the specified *output\_dir* and return its path.

Current supported conversions:

- *.vmdk* (any format) to *.vmdk* (streamOptimized)
- *.img* to *.vmdk* (streamOptimized)

### Parameters

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Disk image file to inspect/convert
- **output\_dir** (*str*) – Directory to place converted image into, if needed
- **new\_format** (*str*) – Desired final format
- **new\_subformat** (*str*) – Desired final subformat

### Returns

- *file\_path*, if no conversion was required
- or a file path in *output\_dir* containing the converted image

**Raises ValueError** if the *new\_format* and/or *new\_subformat* are not supported conversion targets.

**create\_disk\_image** (*file\_path*, *file\_format=None*, *capacity=None*, *contents=[]*)

Create a new disk image at the requested location.

Either *capacity* or *contents* or both must be specified.

### Parameters

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Desired location of new disk image
- **file\_format** (*str*) – Desired image format (if not specified, this will be derived from the file extension of *file\_path*)
- **capacity** – Disk capacity. A string like '16M' or '1G'.
- **contents** (*list*) – List of file paths to package into the created image. If not specified, the image will be left blank and unformatted.

**get\_checksum** (*path\_or\_obj*, *checksum\_type*)

Get the checksum of the given file.

**Parameters**

- **path\_or\_obj** (*str*) – File path to checksum OR an opened file object
- **checksum\_type** (*str*) – Supported values are ‘md5’ and ‘sha1’.

**Returns** String containing hexadecimal file checksum

**get\_disk\_capacity** (*file\_path*)

Get the storage capacity of the given disk image.

**Parameters** **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to disk image file to inspect

**Returns** Disk capacity, in bytes

**get\_disk\_format** (*file\_path*)

Get the disk image format of the given file.

**Warning:** If *file\_path* refers to a file which is not a disk image at all, this function will return (‘raw’, None).

**Parameters** **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to disk image file to inspect.

**Returns**

(*format*, *subformat*)

- *format* may be ‘vmdk’, ‘raw’, or ‘qcow2’
- *subformat* may be None, or various strings for ‘vmdk’ files.

### 8.3.2 COT.helpers.helper module

Interface for providers of non-Python helper programs.

Provides the ability to install the program if not already present, and the ability to run the program as well.

**exception HelperError**

Bases: `exceptions.EnvironmentError`

A helper program exited with non-zero return code.

**exception HelperNotFoundError**

Bases: `exceptions.OSError`

A helper program cannot be located.

**class Helper** (*name*, *version\_args=None*, *version\_regex='([0-9.]+')*)

Bases: `object`

A provider of a non-Python helper program.

**Class Properties**

<code>PACKAGE MANAGERS</code>	Class-level lookup for package manager executables.
-------------------------------	---

**Class Methods**

<code>apt_install</code>	Try to use apt-get to install a package.
<code>port_install</code>	Try to use port to install a package.
<code>yum_install</code>	Try to use yum to install a package.

Continued on next page

Table 8.6 – continued from previous page

<code>download_and_expand</code>	Context manager for downloading and expanding a .tar.gz file.
<code>find_executable</code>	Wrapper for <code>distutils.spawn.find_executable()</code> .

### Instance Properties

<code>name</code>	Name of the helper program.
<code>path</code>	Discovered path to the helper.
<code>version</code>	Release version of the associated helper program.

### Instance Methods

<code>call_helper</code>	Call the helper program with the given arguments.
<code>install_helper</code>	Install the helper program (abstract method).

`__init__` (*name*, *version\_args*=None, *version\_regex*='([0-9.]+')

Initializer.

#### Parameters

- **name** – Name of helper executable
- **version\_args** (*list*) – Args to pass to the helper to get its version. Defaults to `['--version']` if unset.
- **version\_regex** – Regexp to get the version number from the output of the command.

**classmethod** `apt_install` (*package*)

Try to use `apt-get` to install a package.

**call\_helper** (*args*, *capture\_output*=True, *require\_success*=True)

Call the helper program with the given arguments.

#### Parameters

- **args** (*list*) – List of arguments to the helper program.
- **capture\_output** (*boolean*) – If True, stdout/stderr will be redirected to a buffer and returned, instead of being displayed to the user.
- **require\_success** (*boolean*) – if True, an exception will be raised if the helper exits with a non-zero status code.

**Returns** Captured stdout/stderr (if *capture\_output*), else None.

**classmethod** `download_and_expand` (*\*args*, *\*\*kws*)

Context manager for downloading and expanding a .tar.gz file.

Creates a temporary directory, downloads the specified URL into the directory, unzips and untars the file into this directory, then yields to the given block. When the block exits, the temporary directory and its contents are deleted.

```
with self.download_and_expand("http://example.com/foo.tgz") as d:
    # archive contents have been extracted to 'd'
    ...
# d is automatically cleaned up.
```

**Parameters** **url** (*str*) – URL of a .tgz or .tar.gz file to download.



**classmethod** `find_executable(name)`

Wrapper for `distutils.spawn.find_executable()`.

**install\_helper()**

Install the helper program (abstract method).

**Raise** `NotImplementedError` as this method must be implemented by a concrete subclass.

**classmethod** `port_install(package)`

Try to use `port` to install a package.

**classmethod** `yum_install(package)`

Try to use `yum` to install a package.

**PACKAGE MANAGERS** = {'apt-get': '/usr/bin/apt-get', 'yum': None, 'port': None}

Class-level lookup for package manager executables.

**name**

Name of the helper program.

**path**

Discovered path to the helper.

**version**

Release version of the associated helper program.

### 8.3.3 COT.helpers.fatdisk module

Give COT access to `fatdisk` for creating and updating FAT32 file systems.

<http://github.com/goblinhack/fatdisk>

**class** `FatDisk`

Bases: `COT.helpers.helper.Helper`

Helper provider for `fatdisk` (<http://github.com/goblinhack/fatdisk>).

**Methods**

<code>install_helper</code>	Install <code>fatdisk</code> .
<code>create_raw_image</code>	Create a new FAT32-formatted raw image at the requested location.

**create\_raw\_image** (`file_path`, `contents`, `capacity=None`)

Create a new FAT32-formatted raw image at the requested location.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Desired location of new disk image
- **contents** (*list*) – List of file paths to package into the created image.
- **capacity** – (optional) Disk capacity. A string like '16M' or '1G'.

**install\_helper()**

Install `fatdisk`.

### 8.3.4 COT.helpers.mkisofs module

Give COT access to `mkisofs` or `genisoimage` for creating ISO images.

<http://cdrecord.org/>

**class MkIsoFS**Bases: *COT.helpers.helper.Helper*

Helper provider for mkisofs and/or genisoimage.

<http://cdrecord.org/>**Methods**

<i>install_helper</i>	Install mkisofs and/or genisoimage.
<i>create_iso</i>	Create a new ISO image at the requested location.

**create\_iso** (*file\_path*, *contents*)

Create a new ISO image at the requested location.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Desired location of new disk image
- **contents** (*list*) – List of file paths to package into the created image.

**install\_helper** ()

Install mkisofs and/or genisoimage.

**name**

Either mkisofs or genisoimage depending on environment.

**path**

Find either mkisofs or genisoimage if available.

### 8.3.5 COT.helpers.ovftool module

Give COT access to ovftool for validating and deploying OVF to ESXi.

<https://www.vmware.com/support/developer/ovf/>**class OVFTool**Bases: *COT.helpers.helper.Helper*

Helper provider for ovftool from VMware.

<https://www.vmware.com/support/developer/ovf/>**Methods**

<i>install_helper</i>	Install ovftool.
<i>validate_ovf</i>	Use VMware's ovftool program to validate an OVF or OVA.

**install\_helper** ()

Install ovftool.

**Raise** `NotImplementedError` as VMware does not currently provide any mechanism for automatic download of ovftool.

**validate\_ovf** (*ovf\_file*)

Use VMware's ovftool program to validate an OVF or OVA.

This checks the file against the OVF standard and any VMware-specific requirements.

**Parameters** **ovf\_file** (*str*) – File to validate

**Returns** Output from `ovftool`

**Raises**

- **HelperNotFoundError** – if `ovftool` is not found.
- **HelperError** – if `ovftool` regards the file as invalid

### 8.3.6 `COT.helpers.qemu_img` module

Give COT access to `qemu-img` for manipulating disk image formats.

<http://www.qemu.org>

**class** `QEMUImg`

Bases: `COT.helpers.helper.Helper`

Helper provider for `qemu-img` (<http://www.qemu.org>).

**Methods**

<code>install_helper</code>	Install <code>qemu-img</code> .
<code>get_disk_format</code>	Get the major disk image format of the given file.
<code>get_disk_capacity</code>	Get the storage capacity of the given disk image.
<code>convert_disk_image</code>	Convert the given disk image to the requested format/subformat.
<code>create_blank_disk</code>	Create an unformatted disk image at the requested location.

**convert\_disk\_image** (*file\_path*, *output\_dir*, *new\_format*, *new\_subformat=None*)

Convert the given disk image to the requested format/subformat.

If the disk is already in this format then it is unchanged; otherwise, will convert to a new disk in the specified `output_dir` and return its path.

Current supported conversions:

- `.vmdk` (any format) to `.vmdk` (`streamOptimized`)
- `.img` to `.vmdk` (`streamOptimized`)

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Disk image file to inspect/convert
- **output\_dir** (*str*) – Directory to place converted image into, if needed
- **new\_format** (*str*) – Desired final format
- **new\_subformat** (*str*) – Desired final subformat

**Returns**

- `file_path`, if no conversion was required
- or a file path in `output_dir` containing the converted image

**Raises** `NotImplementedError` if the `new_format` and/or `new_subformat` are not supported conversion targets.

**create\_blank\_disk** (*file\_path*, *capacity*, *file\_format=None*)

Create an unformatted disk image at the requested location.

**Parameters**

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Desired location of new disk image
- **capacity** – Disk capacity. A string like ‘16M’ or ‘1G’.
- **file\_format** (*str*) – Desired image format (if not specified, this will be derived from the file extension of `file_path`)

**get\_disk\_capacity** (*file\_path*)

Get the storage capacity of the given disk image.

**Parameters** **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to disk image file to inspect

**Returns** Disk capacity, in bytes

**get\_disk\_format** (*file\_path*)

Get the major disk image format of the given file.

**Warning:** If `file_path` refers to a file which is not a disk image at all, this function will return ‘raw’.

**Parameters** **file\_path** (*str*) – Path to disk image file to inspect.

**Returns** Disk image format (‘vmdk’, ‘raw’, ‘qcow2’, etc.)

**install\_helper** ()

Install qemu-img.

### 8.3.7 COT.helpers.vmdktool module

Give COT access to `vmdktool` for manipulating compressed VMDK files.

<http://www.freshports.org/sysutils/vmdktool/>

**class VmdkTool**

Bases: `COT.helpers.helper.Helper`

Helper provider for `vmdktool`.

<http://www.freshports.org/sysutils/vmdktool/>

#### Methods

<code>install_helper</code>	Install <code>vmdktool</code> .
<code>convert_disk_image</code>	Convert the given disk image to the requested format/subformat.

**convert\_disk\_image** (*file\_path*, *output\_dir*, *new\_format*, *new\_subformat=None*)

Convert the given disk image to the requested format/subformat.

If the disk is already in this format then it is unchanged; otherwise, will convert to a new disk in the specified `output_dir` and return its path.

Current supported conversions:

- `vmdk` (any format) to `vmdk` (`streamOptimized`)
- `img` to `vmdk` (`streamOptimized`)

#### Parameters

- **file\_path** (*str*) – Disk image file to inspect/convert
- **output\_dir** (*str*) – Directory to place converted image into, if needed

- **new\_format** (*str*) – Desired final format
- **new\_subformat** (*str*) – Desired final subformat

**Returns**

- `file_path`, if no conversion was required
- or a file path in `output_dir` containing the converted image

**Raises `NotImplementedError`** if the `new_format` and/or `new_subformat` are not supported conversion targets.

**`install_helper()`**  
Install `vmdktool`.



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