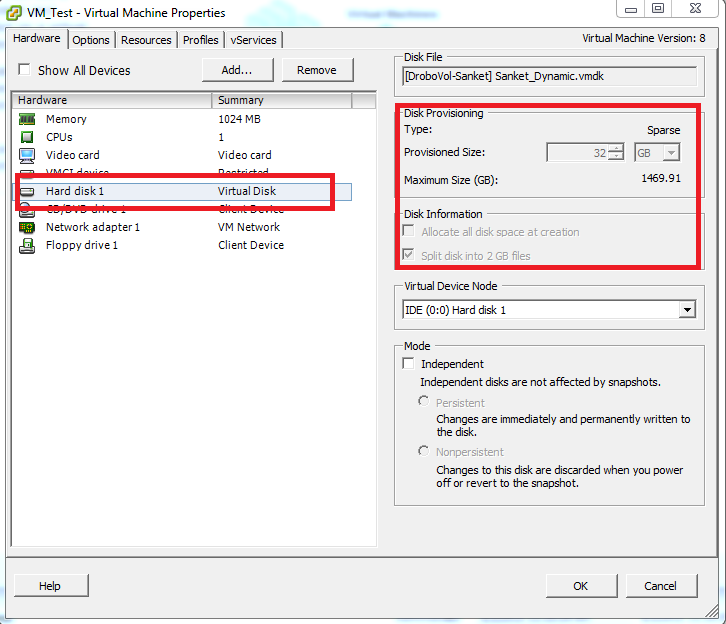
**Steps to carry out when the original VHD is not available**

These steps are for a customer, who has Virtual Machine/s (VM) having disk/s of the ‘Sparse Disk’ format. These types of disks are usually created by a 3rd Party Software and not by the ESX Server itself.

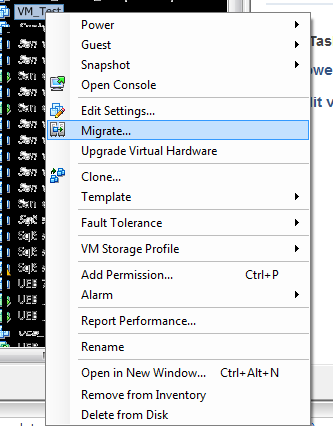
The ‘Disk Type’ of a VM can be checked in the vSphere Client by – Right Clicking on VM, selecting ‘Edit Settings’ and then clicking on ‘Hard Disk’. If the ‘Disk Type’ is ‘Sparse’ as shown in figure below, then proceed with the other steps to convert this disk type –



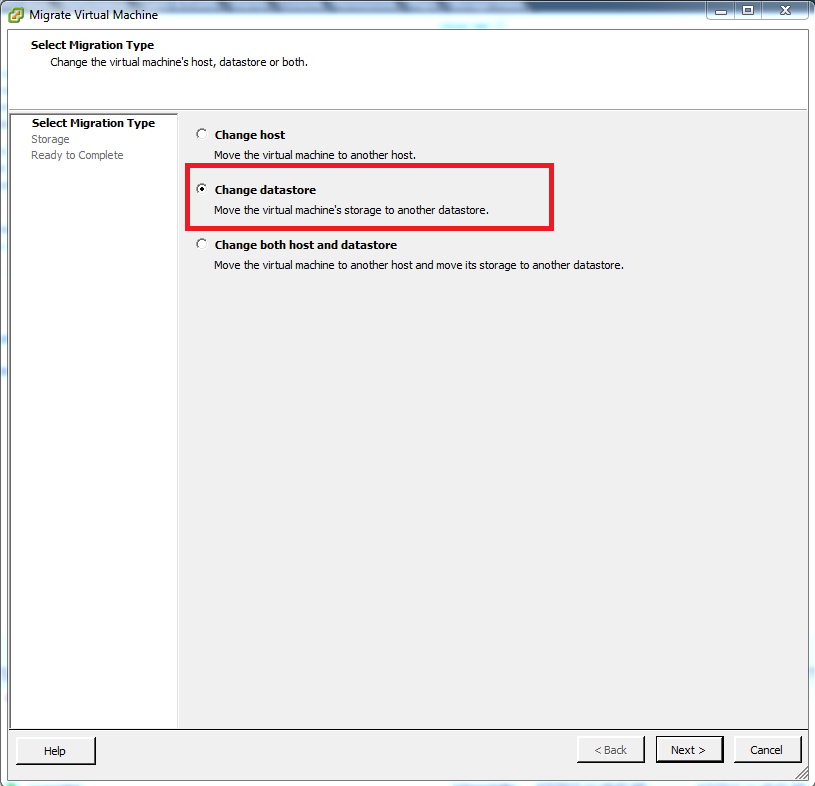
This method involved the use of VMware’s vMotion Technology. Hence, the customer should have a compatible datastore connected to the ESX Server on which the VM resides.

**Steps for Conversion:**

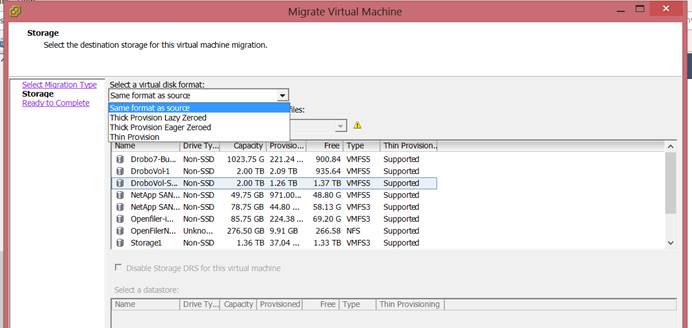
1. Power OFF the VM.
2. Right Click the VM and select ‘Migrate’ –



1. Select ‘Change Datastore’ –



1. Select the new Datastore that you want the VMs disks to be migrated to and for ‘Select a Virtual Disk Format’, **change it** to – Thick Provision Lazy Zeroed, Thick Provision Eager Zeroed or Thin Provision –



**NOTE:** The customer probably wants to select ‘Thin Provision’, since it is similar to the ‘Sparse Disk’ Format

1. Click ‘Next’ and then ‘Finish’.
2. The VMs disk/s would be migrated to the new datastore and the disk type would be changed as selected in Step 4.

The ‘Disk Type’ could be checked as shown in the introduction part of the document.