Installing Standalone IBM MQ Explorer 9.4 in Windows and Linux

https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6598657

Date last updated: 19-Jun-2024

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IBM MQ Support
https://www.ibm.com/products/mq/support
Find all the support you need for IBM MQ

+++ Updated on 19-Jun-2024

Because MQ 9.3 Explorer is no longer available for download (that is, only MQ 9.4 is available for download), the title was changed from 9.3 to 9.4.

+++ Objective

To provide detailed steps on how to install the Standalone IBM MQ Explorer 9.4 in Windows and Linux.

The Standalone MQ Explorer 9.4 can be used to connect to local and remote queue managers from any currently supported versions of IBM MQ.

MQ Explorer is backward-compatible with 7.0, 7.1, 7.5, 8.0, 9.0, 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3

Starting with MQ 9.3 there are changes that affect the delivery of the MQ Explorer:

  - MQ Explorer has been removed from the main product installers (Linux x86-64 and Windows), but continues to be available as a standalone download from:
https://ibm.biz/mqexplorer

  - MQ Explorer is delivered as a Continuous Delivery (CD) component only, so you will need to take updates in line with our CD releases.

The standalone MQ Explorer is fully supported by MQ Support.

The MQ Explorer is installed in a separate location and it is NOT a "formal" installation, that is, it is NOT displayed by the MQ utility: dspmqinst
The MQ Explorer code is self-contained and includes the necessary code for the MQ Explorer to interact with a queue manager, such as the necessary Eclipse components.
That is, you do NOT have to install the MQ client nor other MQ components.

The MQ Explorer can co-exist with the MQ Queue Manager or MQ Client installed in the same box, even if the version.releases are different. For example, you can have MQ 9.2 in Installation1 with queue managers, and you can have MQ Explorer 9.4.

The chapters are:
- Chapter 1: Downloading the MQ Explorer from IBM Fix Central
- Chapter 2: Windows: installation/uninstallation
- Chapter 3: Windows: launching the MQ Explorer
- Chapter 4: Linux: installation/uninstallation
- Chapter 5: Linux: launching the MQ Explorer

+ Note about MQ Explorer 9.4 in Windows 10:

The MQ Queue Manager 9.4 and MQ Client 9.4 require Windows 11 and cannot work on Windows 10.
HOWEVER, the MQ Explorer 9.4 can work under Windows 10 an Windows 11.

++ CAVEAT:
If you have queue managers in the host, such as using Installation1, then you MUST run the "setmqenv" command for Installation1, BEFORE you start the MQ Explorer.

Why? This will allow the MQ Explorer to see the local queue managers that use Installation1.
If you do not issue setmqenv before starting the MQ Explorer, then the local queue managers will NOT be shown!
For more details see the following article which provides a workaround to setup the environment variables, especially when there are multiple MQ installations.
https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6959685
Standalone IBM MQ Explorer only shows local queue managers associated with the Installation associated with setmqenv

++ Updating MQ Explorer with a new Fix Pack or CSU version …

There is no "Delta" Fix Pack for the MQ Explorer that you could apply on top of your existing MQ Explorer.
Instead, with each Fix Pack or CSU, the MQ Explorer that is provided in IBM Fix Central is a COMPLETE REPLACEMENT.
This means that you need to …
-- Uninstall the current MQ Explorer
-- Install the new Fix Pack / CSU level of MQ Explorer

++ Default location

The MQ Explorer 9.4 is NOT installed under "Installation1".
In fact, it does NOT use a formal MQ "installation" (the output of "dspmqinst" does not show the location of MQ Explorer 9.4)

The location to install the MQ Explorer 9.4 can be specified during the installation. However, there is a default location and it is shown below.

In Windows:

- The MQ Explorer is installed by default in: C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer

In Linux:

- The MQ Explorer is installed by default in: /opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer

- The MQ Explorer files are owned by root:root (that is, not owned by mqm:mqm).

- The master installation file is:
 /etc/opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer/MQExplorer.properties

 … and its contents is:
# IBM MQ Install Properties File
INSTALLDIR=/opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer
VRMF=9.4.0.0

++ Can multiple installations of MQ Explorer be available in the same server?

The following section in the online manual applies to version.releases PRIOR to MQ 9.3, such as MQ 9.1 and 9.2.
That is, you can have an MQ Explorer 9.2 (the one provided with the download package from IBM Passport Advantage) in:
  C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ

... and MQ Explorer 9.4 in:
  C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer
.
But you CANNOT have multiple installations of MQ Explorer 9.4 in the same host.
You can have ONLY one MQ Explorer 9.4 installed in the server.

If you have already installed one MQ Explorer 9.4 and if you try to install it again, you will get an error indicating that it is already installed.

++ References

https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6965360
Installing MS0P plugin in IBM MQ Explorer in Windows

https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6953623
Configuring VNC client in Windows and macOS to run remotely IBM MQ Explorer via TigerVNC server in RHEL 8

https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/ibm-mq/9.4?topic=iu-installing-uninstalling-mq-explorer-as-stand-alone-application-linux-windows
IBM MQ / 9.4
Installing and uninstalling IBM MQ Explorer as a stand-alone application on Linux and Windows

++ Background ++

a) Starting with MQ 9.3, the MQ Explorer is delivered ONLY in 1 way.

~~a.1) It is not included with the MQ Server download image from IBM Passport Advantage.~~

a.2) It is only included as a standalone package (no longer called SupportPac MS0T).
See item "b.2" bellow for the characteristics.

b) PRIOR TO MQ 9.3, the MQ Explorer was delivered in 2 ways:

b.1) Included with the MQ Server download image from IBM Passport Advantage.

The installer (setup.exe) offered a list of components with check boxes and the user could select the MQ Explorer.
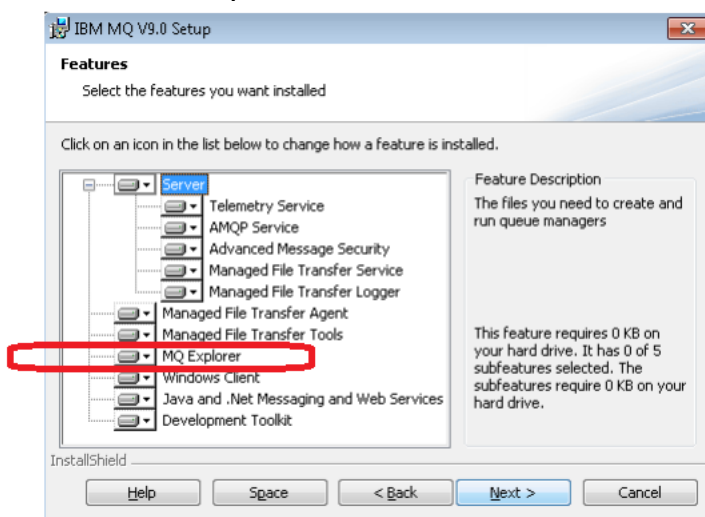
Some characteristics were:
- The MQ Explorer was part of a "named" installation of MQ, such as "Installation1".
- The MQ Explorer executable were included in the same directory tree that had the queue manager code:
  * Default: C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ
- The MQ Explorer did NOT have an explicit entry in the Start - Control Panel - Programs - Uninstall a program.
  * There was no separate/standalone installer for the MQ Explorer - it was included with the general setup.exe that included other components.
- The removal of the MQ Explorer component was done via the setup.exe for the MQ installation, which showed the list of components with check boxes and the user had to unselect the MQ Explorer.

* Because this method modified the Windows Registry, it was highly recommended that a reboot of the box needed to be done (Microsoft mantra: if you touch the Windows registry, then reboot).

* See tutorial:
   https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/598589
   Uninstalling MQ 9.0 components in Windows (example Telemetry)

b.2) As a "standalone" download of MQ Explorer (old SupportPac MS0T).

Some characteristics were:

- The MQ Explorer was NOT part of a "named" installation (not inside "Installation1", for example).
- The MQ Explorer executable were NOT included in the same directory tree that had the queue manager code.
  * That is, the code is installed in ANOTHER directory:
      C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer
- The MQ Explorer has an explicit entry in the Start - Programs - Uninstall Programs.
  * Thus it has a separate installer and uninstaller

- There were no explicit entries in the Windows Registry, therefore, the install/uninstall do not require a reboot.

```
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
+++ Chapter 1: Downloading the MQ Explorer from IBM Fix Central
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
```

Visit:
https://ibm.biz/mqexplorer

There is ONLY one version.release available:
- The latest MQ 9.4.x CD (which is compatible with all other MQ version.release.levels)
- That is, you cannot longer download the standalone MQ Explorer 8.0, 9.0, 9.1, 9.2, or 9.3

As of 18-Jun-2024:
1   release level: 9.4.0.0-IBM-MQ-Explorer-Win64
        Continuous Delivery release: 9.4.0.0 IBM MQ Explorer for Windows 64-bit, x86

2   release level: 9.4.0.0-IBM-MQ-Explorer-LinuxX64
        Continuous Delivery release: 9.4.0.0 IBM MQ Explorer for Linux 64-bit,x86_64

```
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
+++ Chapter 2: Windows: installation/uninstallation
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
```
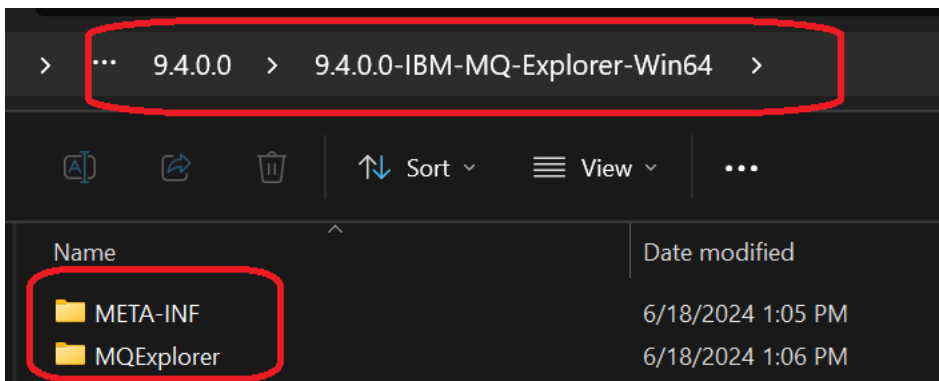
For this scenario the Windows (Win64) file:
  9.4.0.0-IBM-MQ-Explorer-Win64.zip

... was downloaded into a directory:
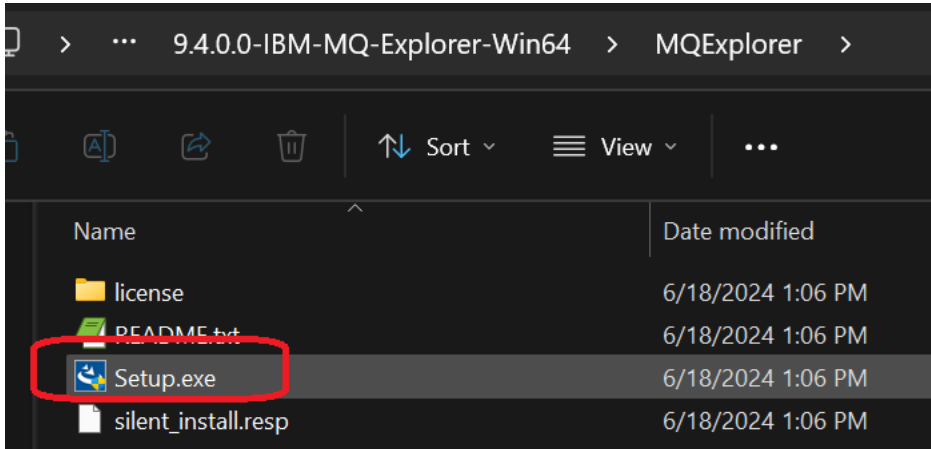 C:\downloads\MQ-downloads\9.4.0.0
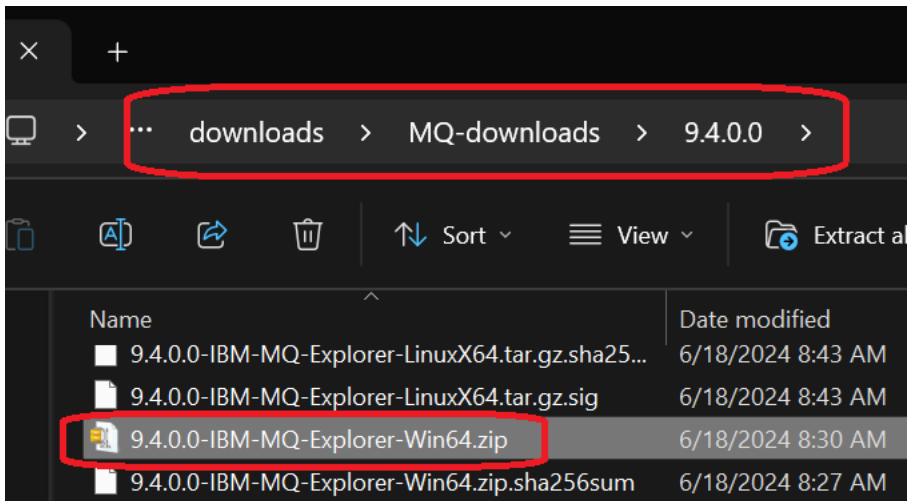
The zip file was unzipped into a subdirectory:
  C:\downloads\MQ-downloads\9.4.0.0\9.4.0.0-IBM-MQ-Explorer-Win64
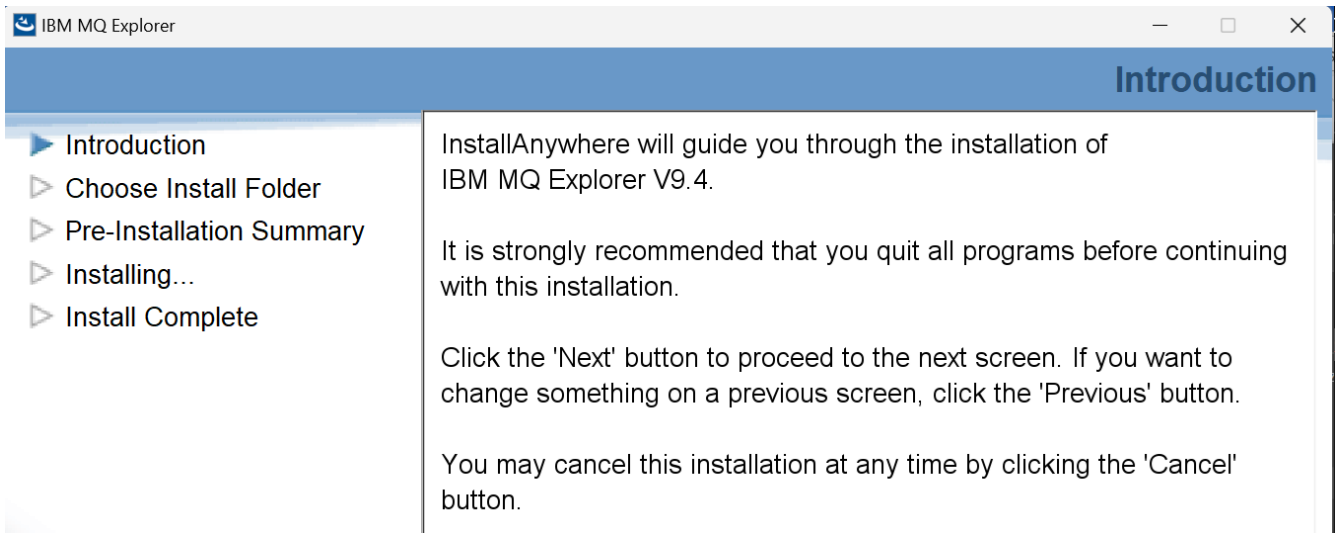
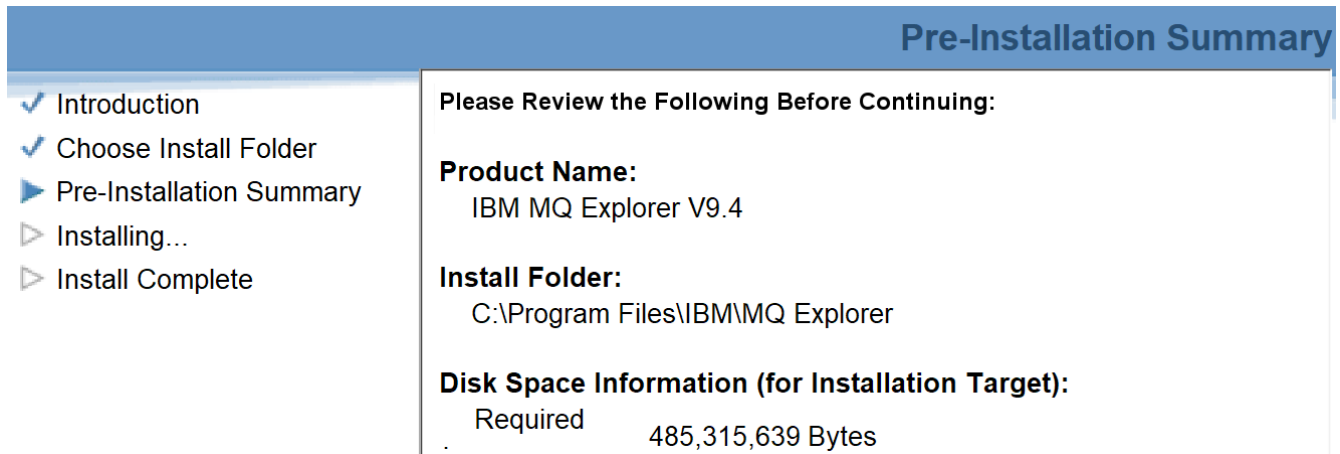Notice 2 subdirectories.

Go to the subdirectory "MQExplorer"

Launch:
  Setup.exe

Proceed with the informational prompts, such as by clicking on Next.
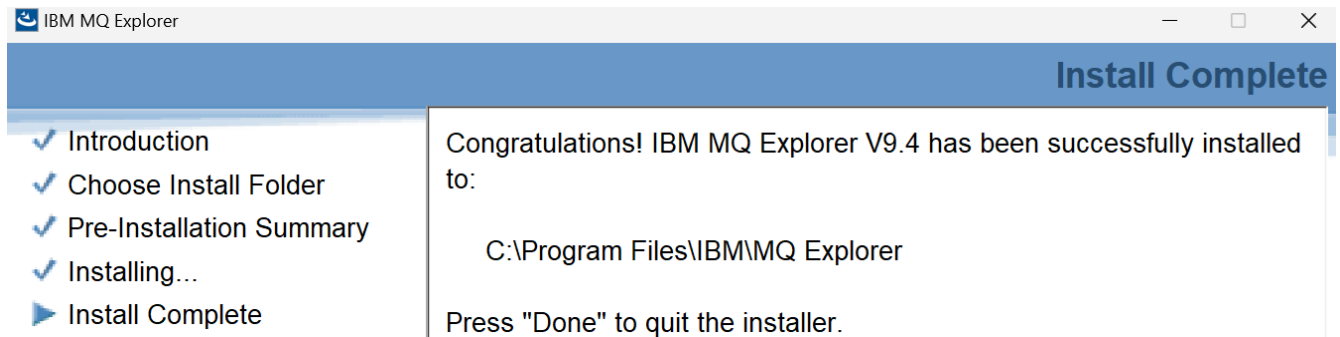

… and accept the license terms.

You can accept the default location:
  C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer

Pre-Installation Summary

✓ Introduction
✓ Choose Install Folder
▶ Pre-Installation Summary
▷ Installing...
▷ Install Complete

Please Review the Following Before Continuing:

Product Name:
  IBM MQ Explorer V9.4

Install Folder:
  C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer

Disk Space Information (for Installation Target):
  Required
      485,315,639 Bytes

Click Install.

The installation process will take place and the following dialog will indicate the completion:

IBM MQ Explorer   — □ ✕

Install Complete

✓ Introduction
✓ Choose Install Folder
✓ Pre-Installation Summary
✓ Installing...
▶ Install Complete

Congratulations! IBM MQ Explorer V9.4 has been successfully installed to:

    C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer

Press "Done" to quit the installer.

Click on Done.

ATTENTION:
Because the Operating System is Windows, ANY major activity with the installation, uninstallation, applying a Fix Pack, removing a Fix Pack, you ...

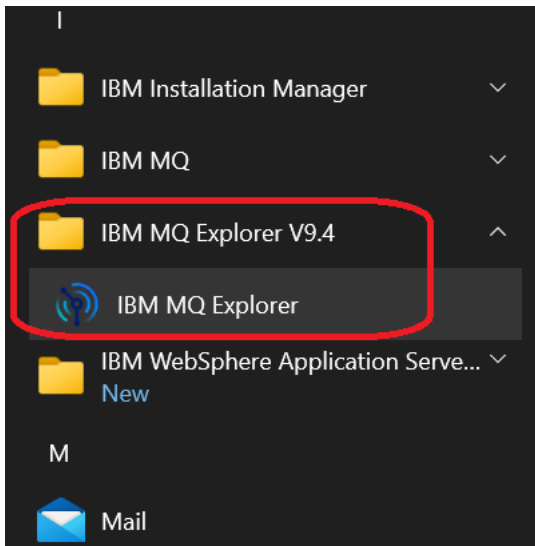# MUST REBOOT YOUR WINDOWS PC or VM!!

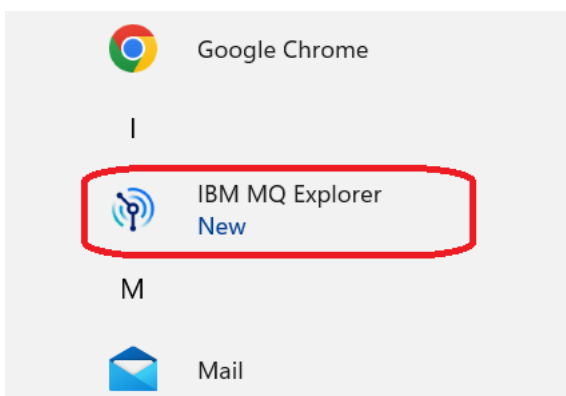+ After the reboot

You can notice the following:

- Windows 10: Entry in the Start menu:
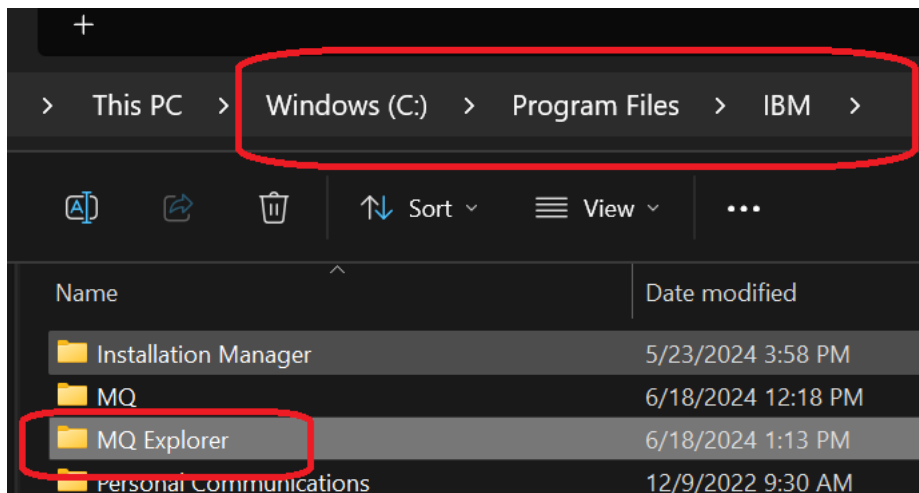
Folder: IBM MQ Explorer V9.4
   Item: IBM MQ Explorer

- In Windows 11, there is no folder for MQ Explorer in the Start menu, just the item:
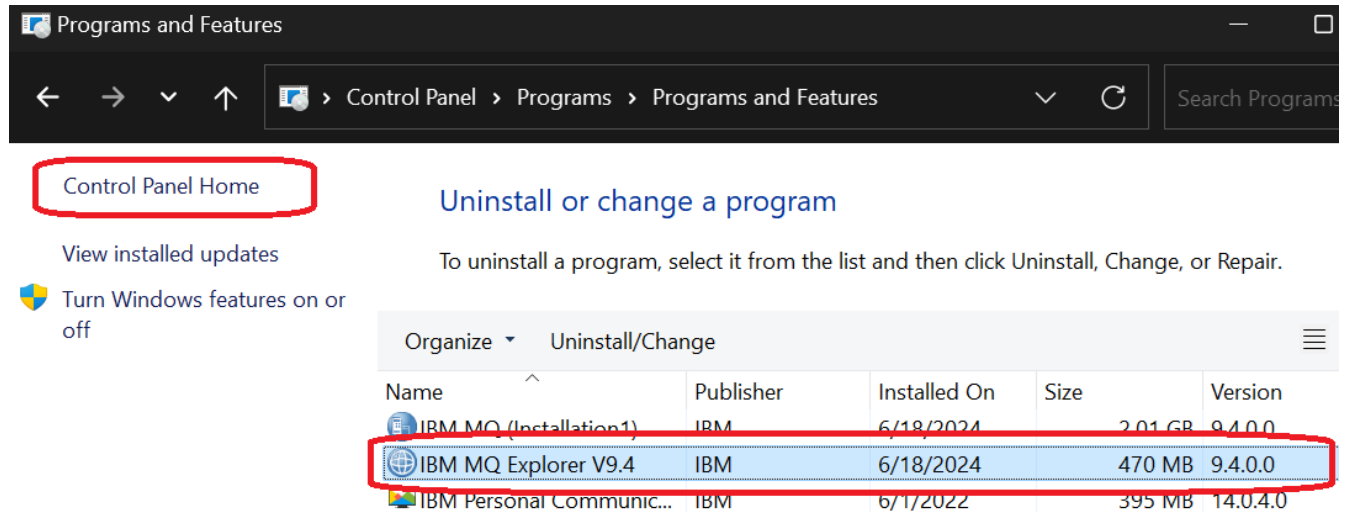 IBM MQ Explorer

- The folder for the MQ Explorer files is:
  C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer

- The 'Programs and Features' in the Windows Control Center will show an entry:

Name: IBM MQ Explorer V9.4   Version: 9.4.0.0

- Registry entries

The installation of the Standalone MQ Explorer provides its own set of entries in the Windows Registry.

- Using command line "reg.exe"

Open a command prompt as an Administrator:

C:\> **reg.exe query "HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432Node\IBM\WebSphere MQ Explorer\CurrentVersion" /s**

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432Node\IBM\WebSphere MQ
Explorer\CurrentVersion
   VRMF   REG_SZ   9.4.0.0
   InstallDir   REG_SZ   C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer

- Notice that the MQ Explorer code resides OUTSIDE the scope of "MQ Installations" and it is not listed by "dspmqinst".

```
C:\> dspmqinst
InstName:     Installation1
InstDesc:
Identifier:   1
InstPath:     C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ
Version:      9.3.0.0
Primary:      Yes
State:        Available
LicenseType:  Production
Entitlement:  IBM MQ Advanced
Fixes:
MSIProdCode:  {C2F0946B-C6D4-4C78-AF68-4B169152A49D}
MSIMedia:     9.3 Server
MSIInstanceId: 1
```

++ Uninstall in Windows

On Windows you can uninstall MQ Explorer using 'Programs and Features' in the Control Panel.

For more details see:
https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/ibm-mq/9.4?topic=windows-uninstalling-stand-alone-mq-explorer
IBM MQ / 9.4
[Windows] Uninstalling the stand-alone IBM MQ Explorer on Windows

```
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
+++ Chapter 3: Windows: launching the MQ Explorer
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
```

The MQ Explorer is launched by the command "strmqcfg"

Note about MQ Explorer 9.4.x in Windows:
In MQ 9.4, the command "strmqcfg" is NO longer provided by the MQ server/runtime filesets, but the MQ Explorer 9.4 provides "strmqcfg" in:
 "C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer\strmqcfg.cmd"

+ Step 1: Open a terminal window and "Run as Administrator"

Using Windows 11, from the "START" button open the menu for:
  Windows Tools
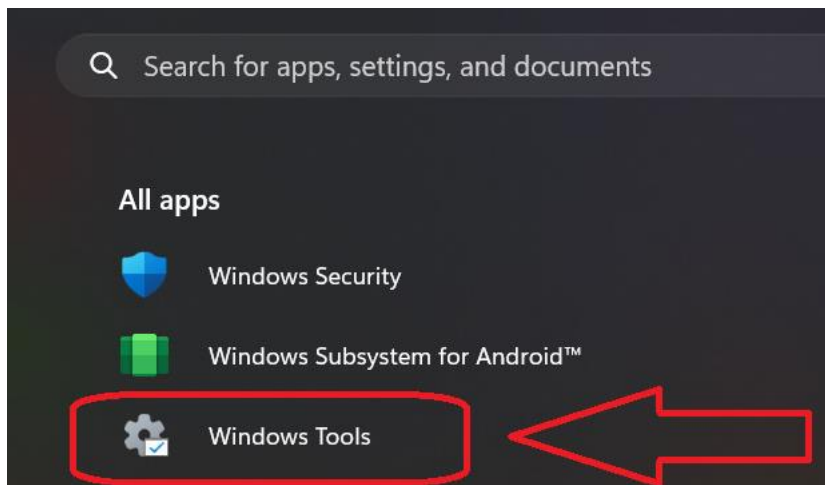
+ Step 2: From Windows Tools, run the "Command Prompt" Terminal as Administrator
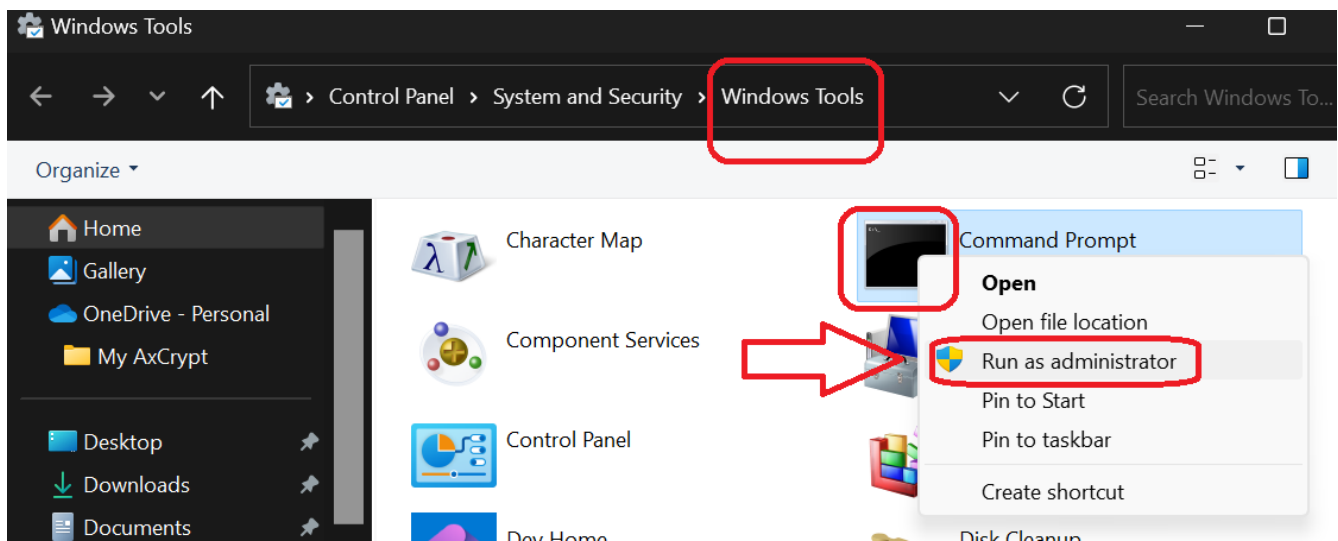
Notice that you will see a new window called:
  Administrator: Command Prompt

+ Step 3: You MUST run setmqenv if you have local queue managers

WARNING!
If you have installed the MQ Server component and if you have created local queue managers for this host, you MUST issue the setmqenv command BEFORE you start the MQ Explorer

Assuming that you have installed the MQ Server in the default Installation1, issue:

C:\> "C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ\bin\setmqenv" -n Installation1

Show the MQ environment variables:

C:\> set MQ
MQ_DATA_PATH=C:\ProgramData\IBM\MQ
MQ_ENV_MODE=64
MQ_FILE_PATH=C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ
MQ_INSTALLATION_NAME=Installation1
MQ_INSTALLATION_PATH=C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ
MQ_JAVA_DATA_PATH=C:\ProgramData\IBM\MQ
MQ_JAVA_INSTALL_PATH=C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ\java
MQ_JAVA_LIB_PATH=C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ\java\lib64
MQ_JRE_PATH=C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ\java\jre

+ Step 4:

Launch the MQ Explorer:
C:\> **"C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer\strmqcfg.cmd"**

The MQ Explorer should be displayed.
If you have queue managers (local or remote) they should be shown on the left navigational panel.

For example:
FR1 is a remote queue manager
QM93WIN is a local queue manager
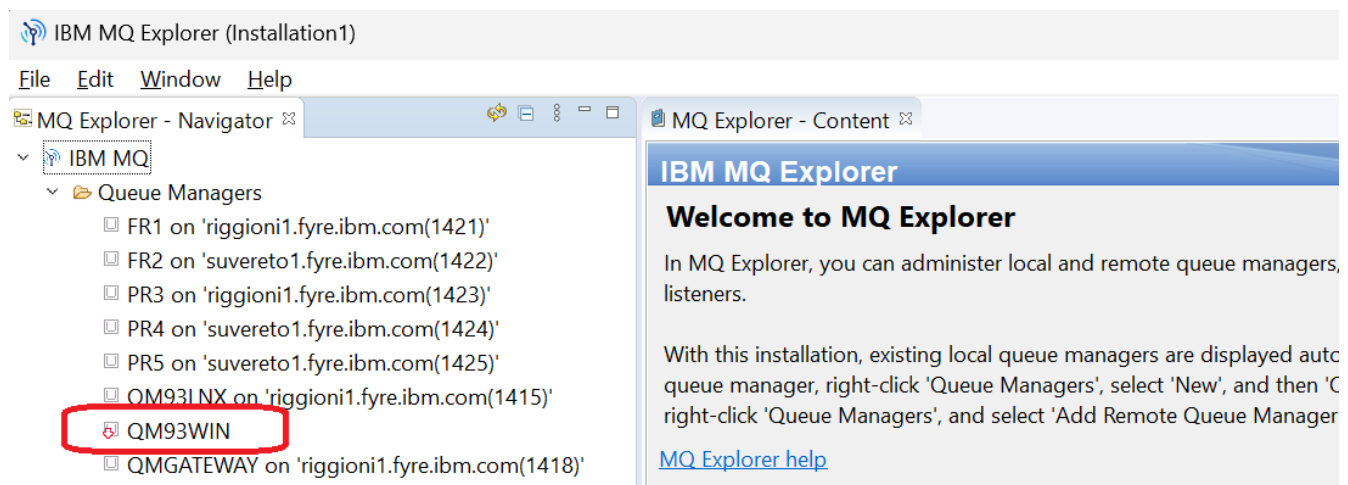
+ Default workspace

Note that when the MQ Explorer is launched, the default workspace is:

%USERPROFILE%\IBM\WebSphereMQ\workspace

Such as:
C:\Users\xxxx\IBM\WebSphereMQ\workspace
or
C:\Users\yyyy\IBM\WebSphereMQ\workspace-Installation1

* HINT:

I like to use a batch command file that I created that combines the setmqenv and the launching of the MQ Explorer.
In my case it is called: start-mq-explorer.bat
... and it is stored in a directory that is in my PATH, such as:
C:\WinTools

The contents is:

```
REM Setup the MQ Explorer environment for Installation1
CALL "C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ\bin\setmqenv" -n Installation1
REM Adding Samples to the path
SET
PATH=%PATH%;%MQ_FILE_PATH%\Tools\c\Samples\Bin;%MQ_FILE_PATH%\Tools\c\Sampl
es\Bin64;%MQ_FILE_PATH%\Tools\jms\samples;%MQ_JAVA_INSTALL_PATH%\bin\
dspmqver -f 2
REM Run MQ Explorer
"C:\Program Files\IBM\MQ Explorer\strmqcfg.cmd"
```

```
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
+++ Chapter 4: Linux: installation/uninstallation
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
```

There are no rpm filesets, instead there is an executable file called: Setup.bin
Follow the instructions from the file: README.txt

This tutorial shows the installation process by using Command Line (Console, text-based installation).

The MQ Explorer 9.4.0.0 has been downloaded into the following directory:

ROOT c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com:
cd /downloads/mq9400exp

ls
9.4.0.0-IBM-MQ-Explorer-LinuxX64.tar.gz

tar -zxvf 9.4.0.0-IBM-MQ-Explorer-LinuxX64.tar.gz
MQExplorer/Setup.bin
MQExplorer/README.txt
MQExplorer/silent_install.resp
MQExplorer/license/
MQExplorer/license/Chinese.txt
…
MQExplorer/license/English.txt
MQExplorer/license/*.txt
MQExplorer/license/non_ibm_license.txt
MQExplorer/license/notices.txt

Change to the directory where the files were extracted:

cd MQExplorer
ls
license README.txt Setup.bin silent_install.resp

The following page of the online manual has more details on the installation:

https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/ibm-mq/9.4?topic=windows-installing-stand-alone-mq-explorer-linux

https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/ibm-mq/9.4?topic=windows-installing-stand-alone-mq-explorer-linux
IBM MQ / 9.4
[Linux]
Installing the stand-alone IBM MQ Explorer on Linux

To perform a console (text-based) installation, launch the installer by using the following command as user "root"
   ./Setup.bin -i console

```
**ROOT** c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /downloads/mq9400exp/MQExplorer
# ./Setup.bin -i console
Preparing to install
Extracting the JRE from the installer archive...
Unpacking the JRE...
Extracting the installation resources from the installer archive...
Configuring the installer for this system's environment...

Launching installer...

==============================================================================
Choose Locale...
----------------

    1- Deutsch
  ->2- English
    3- Español
    4- Français
    5- Italiano
    6- Português  (Brasil)

CHOOSE LOCALE BY NUMBER: 2

==============================================================================
IBM MQ Explorer V9.4                              (created with InstallAnywhere)
------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Preparing CONSOLE Mode Installation...

==============================================================================
Introduction
------------

InstallAnywhere will guide you through the installation of
IBM MQ Explorer V9.4.

It is strongly recommended that you quit all programs before continuing with
this installation.
```

Respond to each prompt to proceed to the next step in the installation. If
you want to change something on a previous step, type 'back'.

You may cancel this installation at any time by typing 'quit'.

PRESS <ENTER> TO CONTINUE: <ENTER>

    NOTICE

    This document includes License Information documents below for
    multiple Programs. Each License Information document identifies the
    Program(s) to which it applies. Only those License Information
    documents for the Program(s) for which Licensee has acquired
    entitlements apply.

    ===
    IMPORTANT: READ CAREFULLY

    Two license agreements are presented below.

    1. IBM International License Agreement for Evaluation of Programs
    2. IBM International Program License Agreement

    If Licensee is obtaining the Program for purposes of productive use
    (other than evaluation, testing, trial "try or buy," or

Press Enter to continue viewing the license agreement, or enter "1" to
   accept the agreement, "2" to decline it, "3" to print it, or "99" to go back
   to the previous screen.: 1

===
Choose Install Folder

Where would you like to install?

  Default Install Folder: /opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer

ENTER AN ABSOLUTE PATH, OR PRESS <ENTER> TO ACCEPT THE DEFAULT
      : (note: I pressed Enter to accept the default)

===
Pre-Installation Summary

Please Review the Following Before Continuing:

Product Name:
    IBM MQ Explorer V9.4

Install Folder:
    /opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer

```
Disk Space Information (for Installation Target):
    Required:       477,771,583 Bytes
    Available: 224,896,069,632 Bytes

PRESS <ENTER> TO CONTINUE:
```
(note: I pressed Enter to continue)

```
Please Wait
-----------
--------|-----------------]

==============================================================================
Installation Complete
--------------------

Congratulations. IBM MQ Explorer V9.3 has been successfully installed to:

   /opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer

PRESS <ENTER> TO EXIT THE INSTALLER:
```
(note: I pressed Enter to exit)

Notice that there are no rpm packages for the MQ Explorer:

ROOT c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /downloads/mq9341exp/MQExplorer
rpm -qa | grep -i mq | grep -i exp
ROOT c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /downloads/mq9341exp/MQExplorer

Login as mqm

This command assumes that you have installed the MQ Server and/or MQ Client:
mqm@c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /home/mqm
$ **. /opt/mqm/bin/setmqenv -n Installation1**

mqm@c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /home/mqm
$ dspmqver -f2
Version: 9.3.0.15

Notice that the MQ Explorer code resides OUTSIDE the scope of "MQ Installations" and it is not listed by "dspmqinst".

mqm@c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /home/mqm
$ dspmqinst
InstName: Installation1
InstDesc:
Identifier: 1
InstPath: /opt/mqm
Version: 9.3.0.15
Primary: No

State: Available
LicenseType: Production
Entitlement: IBM MQ Advanced
Fixes:

The MQ Explorer files are NOT owned by mqm:mqm as for the code in /opt/mqm
The files are owned by root:root

Some of the files are shown below:

```
mqm@c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /home/mqm
$ cd /opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer
$ ls -l
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root        1460 Jun  5 06:34  about.html
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root      131402 Jun  5 06:36  artifacts.xml
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root          14 Jun  5 15:33  build_level.txt
drwxrwxr-x  4 root root          96 Jun 19 10:38  configuration
drwxrwxr-x  2 root root           6 Jun 19 10:37  dropins
drwxrwxr-x 42 root root        4096 Jun 19 10:37  features
drwxrwxr-x  3 root root        4096 Jun 19 10:38 '_IBM MQ Explorer V9.4_installation'
...
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root       86328 Jun  5 06:34  MQExplorer   (Note: Binary executable)
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root          33 Jun  5 14:29  MQExplorer.ini
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root    66739935 Jun  5 06:36  MQExplorerSDK.zip
drwxrwxr-x  5 root root         119 Jun 19 10:37  p2
drwxrwxr-x 13 root root       40960 Jun 19 10:37  plugins
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root        5813 Jun  5 15:33  README.txt
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root        5207 Jun  5 06:34  runwithtrace
-rwxrwxr-x  1 root root        3868 Jun  5 06:34  strmqcfg  (Note: shell script for MQExplorer)
drwxrwxr-x  2 root root          52 Jun 19 10:37  swidtag
```

- The installer for the MQ Explorer creates the following system directory:
        /etc/opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer
... And file:
        /etc/opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer/MQExplorer.properties

++ Uninstall in Linux

For more information see:

https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/ibm-mq/9.3?topic=windows-uninstalling-stand-alone-mq-explorer-linux
IBM MQ / 9.3
Uninstalling the stand-alone IBM MQ Explorer on Linux

On Linux systems go to the installation directory and then go in the directory
named '_IBM MQ Explorer V9.3_installation' and run (as root) the
application named 'Change IBM MQ Explorer V9.3 Installation'.

```
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
+++ Chapter 5: Linux: launching the MQ Explorer
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
```

I do not have physical Linux machine.
The MQ in Linux is running in a Virtual Machine (VM)

I use a Windows to access these remote Linux VMs:
- Putty for command line interface
- TigerVNC for GUI applications

Please see one the following tutorials:

a) Putty

https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/7114882
Using Putty and ssh with Xming X11 Forwarding from Windows to display a remote GUI running in Linux

b) VNC Client in Windows

https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6953623
Configuring VNC client in Windows and macOS to run remotely IBM MQ Explorer via TigerVNC server in RHEL 8

See the last chapter regarding how to launch the MQ Explorer via the TigerVNC client in Windows.
The chapter includes screen captures.
Chapter 6: If xclock is successful, then launch the MQ Explorer withing the VNC client.

++ Invoking the MQ Explorer in Linux

+ Step 1:
If you also have the MQ Server installed in the same host of the MQ Explorer, then you must run setmqenv to setup the MQ environment variables for the queue managers.
For example:
     . /opt/mqm/bin/setmqenv -n Installation1

+ Step 2:
Depending on how you are going to display GUIs that run in Linux, such as VNC from Windows, or directly working with the physical Linux terminal, you will need to setup the proper DISPLAY environment variable. There are many ways to do so, and it is not the scope of this section.

+ Step 3:
Run the text script strmqcfg, which will use the existing MQ environment variables (setup in Step 1), and prepares additional stuff for invoking the binary executable MQExplorer.

The & at the end of the line is to tell the shell to run the file in the background.
Stricly speaking, the GUI can run in the foreground, but if you did not setup correctly the DISPLAY variable, then it can be hard to stop the GUI. But if you run it in the background, it is easier to stop the GUI via a kill command.

/opt/ibm/MQ_Explorer/strmqcfg &

Now you should see the MQ Explorer on your PC (under the TigerVNC viewer)
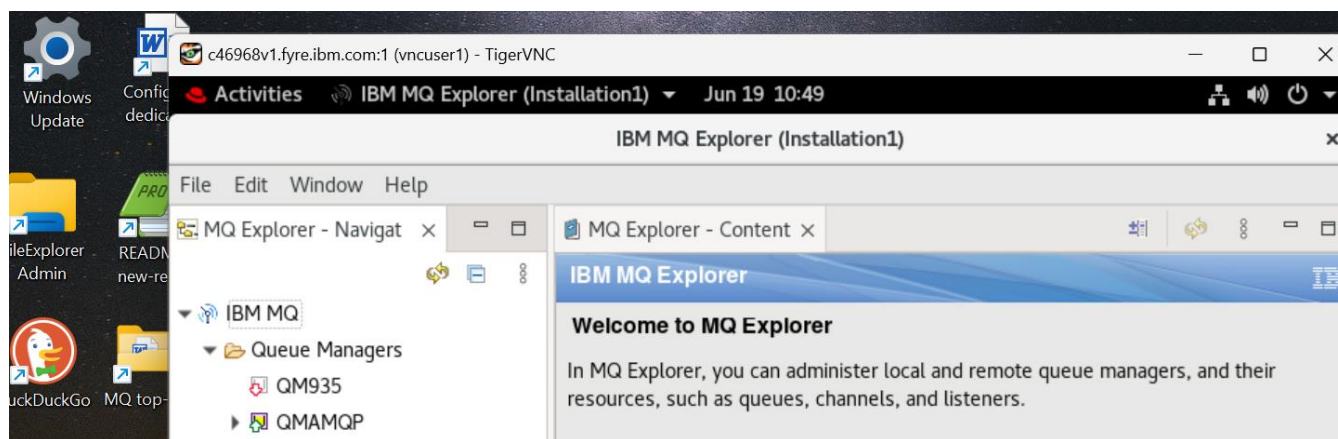
+ Default workspace

Note that when the MQ Explorer is launched, the default workspace is:
        /home/mqm/IBM/WebSphereMQ/workspace

The initial contents is:

mqm@c46968v1.fyre.ibm.com: /home/mqm/IBM/WebSphereMQ/workspace
$ ls -F
'WMQ Explorer Tests Data'/

+ Troubleshooting Note:

If you have queue managers in the host and the dspmq command shows them, but if you do not see them in the MQ Explorer, then see the workaround mentioned in the following article:

https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/node/6959685
Standalone IBM MQ Explorer only shows local queue managers related to the Installation associated with setmqenv

+++ end +++