Lecture 2: Introduction



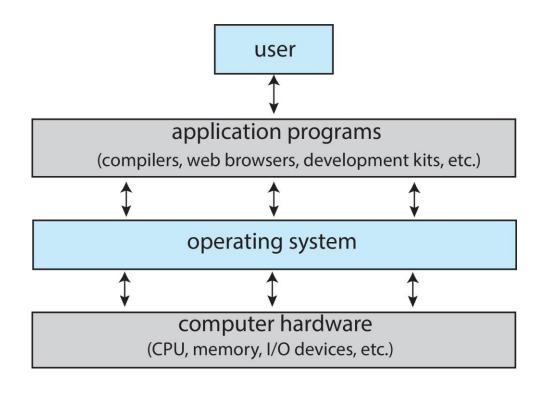


Computer System Structure

- Computer system can be divided into four components:
 - Hardware provides basic computing resources
 - CPU, memory, I/O devices
 - Operating system
 - Controls and coordinates use of hardware among various applications and users
 - Application programs define the ways in which the system resources are used to solve the computing problems of the users
 - Word processors, compilers, web browsers, database systems, video games
 - Users
 - People, machines, other computers



Abstract View of Components of Computer







What is an Operating System?

- A program that acts as an intermediary between a user of a computer and the computer hardware.
- Operating system goals:
 - Execute user programs and make solving user problems easier.
 - Make the computer system convenient to use.
- Use the computer hardware in an efficient manner.
- OS is a resource allocator:
 - Manages all resources : CPU time, memory space, filestorage space, I/O.
- OS is a control program:
- Controls execution of programs to prevent errors and improper use of the computer.

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Operating-System Operations

- Bootstrap program simple code to initialize the system, load the kernel
- Kernel loads
- Starts system daemons (services provided outside of the kernel)
- Kernel interrupt driven (hardware and software)
 - Hardware interrupt by one of the devices
 - Software interrupt (exception or trap):
 - Software error (e.g., division by zero)
 - Request for operating system service system call
 - Other process problems include infinite loop, processes modifying each other or the operating system





Multiprogramming and Multitasking

- Multiprogramming (Batch system) needed for efficiency
 - Single user cannot keep CPU and I/O devices busy at all times
 - Multiprogramming organizes jobs (code and data) so CPU always has one to execute
 - A subset of total jobs in system is kept in memory
 - One job selected and run via job scheduling
 - When it has to wait (for I/O for example), OS switches to another job
- Timesharing (multitasking) is logical extension in which CPU switches jobs so frequently that users can interact with each job while it is running, creating interactive computing
 - Response time should be < 1 second
 - Each user has at least one program executing in memory ⇒process
 - If several jobs ready to run at the same time ⇒ CPU scheduling
 - If processes don't fit in memory, swapping moves them in and out to run
 - Virtual memory allows execution of processes not completely in memory



Memory Layout for Multiprogrammed System

max	operating system
	process 1
	process 2
	process 3
0	process 4





Process Management

- A process is a program in execution. It is a unit of work within the system. Program is a passive entity, process is an active entity.
- Process needs resources to accomplish its task
 - CPU, memory, I/O, files
 - Initialization data
- Process termination requires reclaim of any reusable resources
- Single-threaded process has one program counter specifying location of next instruction to execute
 - Process executes instructions sequentially, one at a time, until completion
- Multi-threaded process has one program counter per thread
- Typically system has many processes, some user, some operating system running concurrently on one or more CPUs
 - Concurrency by multiplexing the CPUs among the processes / threads



Memory Management

- To execute a program all (or part) of the instructions must be in memory
- All (or part) of the data that is needed by the program must be in memory
- Memory management determines what is in memory and when
 - Optimizing CPU utilization and computer response to users
- Memory management activities
 - Keeping track of which parts of memory are currently being used and by whom
 - Deciding which processes (or parts thereof) and data to move into and out of memory
 - Allocating and deallocating memory space as needed





File-system Management

- OS provides uniform, logical view of information storage
 - Abstracts physical properties to logical storage unit file
 - Each medium is controlled by device (i.e., disk drive, tape drive)
 - Varying properties include access speed, capacity, data-transfer rate, access method (sequential or random)
- File-System management
 - Files usually organized into directories
 - Access control on most systems to determine who can access what
 - OS activities include
 - Creating and deleting files and directories
 - Primitives to manipulate files and directories
 - Mapping files onto secondary storage
 - Backup files onto stable (non-volatile) storage media





Mass-Storage Management

- Usually disks used to store data that does not fit in main memory or data that must be kept for a "long" period of time
- Proper management is of central importance
- Entire speed of computer operation hinges on disk subsystem and its algorithms
- OS activities
 - Mounting and unmounting
 - Free-space management
 - Storage allocation
 - Disk scheduling
 - Partitioning
 - Protection
- Some storage need not be fast
 - Tertiary storage includes optical storage, magnetic tape
- Still must be managed by OS or applications



Virtualization

- Allows operating systems to run applications within other OSes
 - Vast and growing industry
- Emulation used when source CPU type different from target type (i.e. PowerPC to Intel x86)
 - Generally slowest method
 - When computer language not compiled to native code Interpretation
- Virtualization OS natively compiled for CPU, running guest OSes also natively compiled
 - Consider VMware running WinXP guests, each running applications, all on native WinXP host OS
 - VMM (virtual machine Manager) provides virtualization services





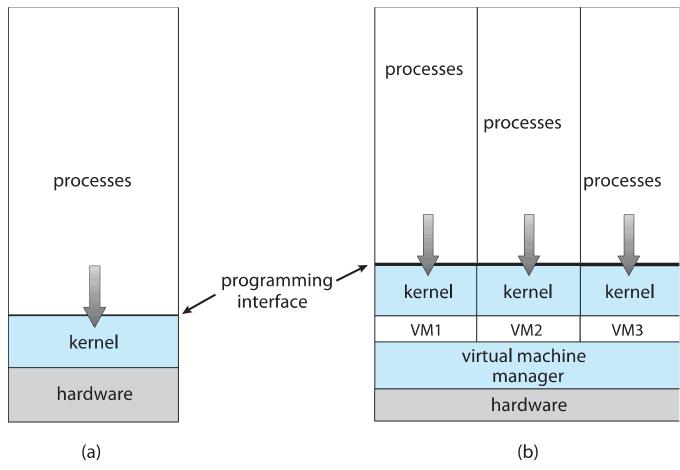
Virtualization (cont.)

- Use cases involve laptops and desktops running multiple OSes for exploration or compatibility
 - Apple laptop running Mac OS X host, Windows as a guest
 - Developing apps for multiple OSes without having multiple systems
 - QA testing applications without having multiple systems
 - Executing and managing compute environments within data centers
- VMM can run natively, in which case they are also the host
 - There is no general purpose host then (VMware ESX and Citrix XenServer)





Computing Environments - Virtualization





Distributed Systems

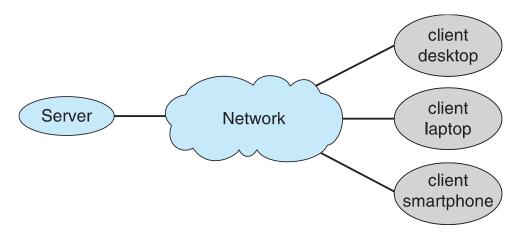
- Distributed computing
 - Collection of separate, possibly heterogeneous, systems networked together
 - Network is a communications path, TCP/IP most common
 - Local Area Network (LAN)
 - Wide Area Network (WAN)
 - Metropolitan Area Network (MAN)
 - Personal Area Network (PAN)
 - Network Operating System provides features between systems across network
 - Communication scheme allows systems to exchange messages
 - Illusion of a single system





Computing Environments – Client-Server

- Client-Server Computing
 - Dumb terminals supplanted by smart PCs
 - Many systems now servers, responding to requests generated by clients
 - Compute-server system provides an interface to client to request services (i.e., database)
 - File-server system provides interface for clients to store and retrieve files

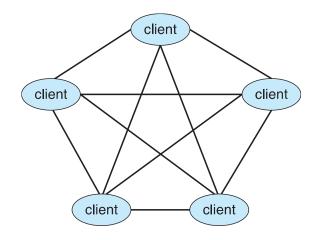






Computing Environments - Peer-to-Peer

- Another model of distributed system
- P2P does not distinguish clients and servers
 - Instead all nodes are considered peers
 - May each act as client, server or both
 - Node must join P2P network
 - Registers its service with central lookup service on network, or
 - Broadcast request for service and respond to requests for service via discovery protocol
 - Examples include Napster and Gnutella,
 Voice over IP (VoIP) such as Skype

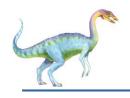






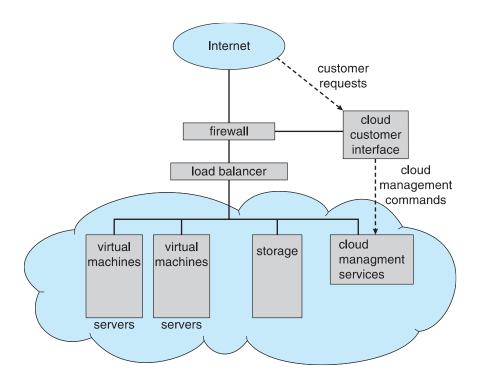
Computing Environments – Cloud Computing

- Delivers computing, storage, even apps as a service across a network
- Logical extension of virtualization because it uses virtualization as the base for it functionality.
 - Amazon EC2 has thousands of servers, millions of virtual machines, petabytes of storage available across the Internet, pay based on usage
- Many types
 - Public cloud available via Internet to anyone willing to pay
 - Private cloud run by a company for the company's own use
 - Hybrid cloud includes both public and private cloud components
 - Software as a Service (SaaS) one or more applications available via the Internet (i.e., word processor)
 - Platform as a Service (PaaS) software stack ready for application use via the Internet (i.e., a database server)
 - Infrastructure as a Service (laas) servers or storage available over Internet (i.e., storage available for backup use)

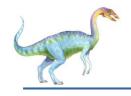


Computing Environments – Cloud Computing

- Cloud computing environments composed of traditional OSes, plus VMMs, plus cloud management tools
 - Internet connectivity requires security like firewalls
 - Load balancers spread traffic across multiple applications







Computing Environments – Real-Time Embedded Systems

- Real-time embedded systems most prevalent form of computers
 - Vary considerable, special purpose, limited purpose OS, real-time OS
 - Use expanding
- Many other special computing environments as well
 - Some have OSes, some perform tasks without an OS
- Real-time OS has well-defined fixed time constraints
 - Processing must be done within constraint
 - Correct operation only if constraints met

