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Lab 0 Abstract

History of Linux

Linux began as an open source operating system created in the 90’s by Linus Torvalds. Linux was based of MINIX, and it originally started out as a hobby, nothing for commercial use. This project started out as a copy of AT&T’s UNIX without any of its code due to the fact that it was so expensive. The reason Linux is so popular is because it is completely opensource, and many different distributions of Linux have been created for various reasons such as, differences in philosophy, theme and personalizing design, and different uses or functions. Linux is capable of interacting with any hardware device in the computer allowing its user total control over its device. Because Linux was created as a free version of Unix, then two operating systems are quite similar. It was designed to be exactly the same despite not sharing any of its code with Unix systems. MacOS is Apples operating system based off a variant of Unix. This makes it similar to Linux, but MacOS is not opensource which means its applications are not portable to Linux without Apples consent. Windows is completely different compared to the three previous operating systems. Currently the most recent version of Windows is Windows 11 and it is not based off of Unix like the others are. Windows comes from MS-DOS which later was integrated into the release of Windows 95. Windows is not open sourced and has its own structure as well as different command terminals such as command prompt and PowerShell. Windows has its own format for executables as well that do not work on Unix based machines. Linux’s flexibility comes from the fact it is opensource and that’s why it remains so popular today.

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