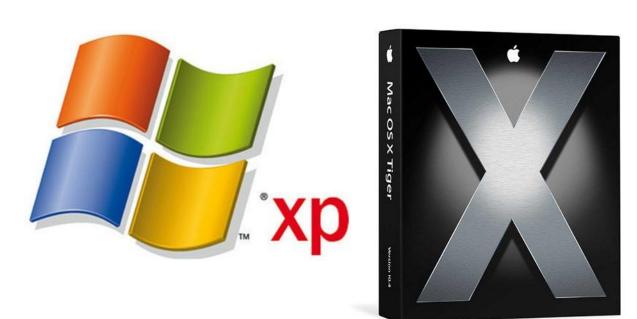
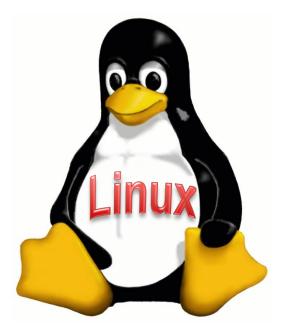
Operating Systems

What are they and why do we care?

interface NTFS CLI Posix GUI ext3, ext4 etc. HFS-Plus File systems ACLS ISO-9660 Virtual file system Journaling Virtual machine Unicode 64 bit vs 32 bit NFS Platform SAMBA FAT (FAT16, FAT32) AFP

The OS (Operating System) is the "host" software on the computer: Windows XP, Mac OSX, Linux....

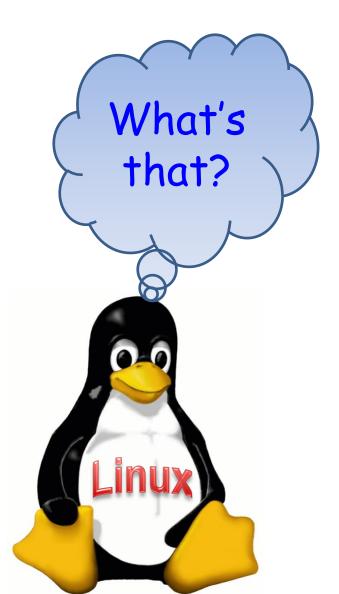




Why do you care?

When you select an operating system, you want to know that it can run on your hardware.

The OS needs to recognize the hardware and have "drivers" for it.

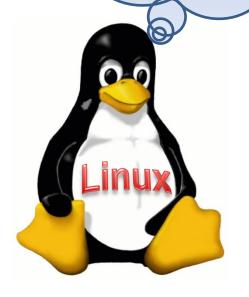


This situation is a problem



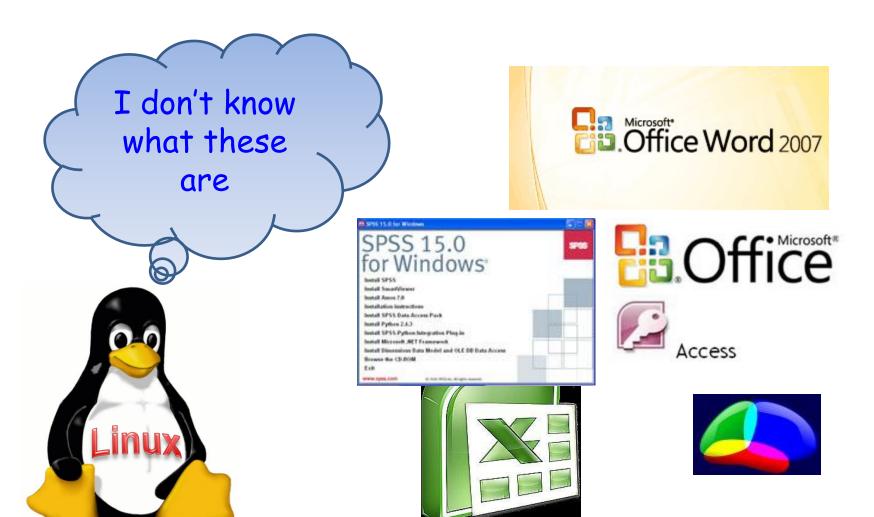
You want your OS to take full advantage of the hardware.

I don't know what 1000 speed is, I'll just use 100.



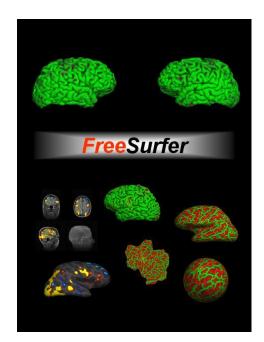


Your OS should also run the applications (programs) you want.



I don't know what these are

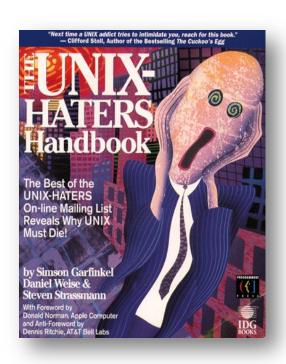






AND, finally

You want an OS you can stand to work with it.









I'm a PC.

I'm a MAC.



What does the OS do?

The OS is responsible for allocating hardware resources (e.g., cpu, ram, devices) to the applications.



OS meets Hardware: 32 bit & 64 bit (again)

The majority of the 32-bit operating systems and applications are able to run smoothly on the 64-bit hardware.

64 bit hardware is now commonplace.

64 bit operating systems are available, but not as common as the hardware.

So, how do they interact?

64-bit architectures indisputably make working with large data sets in applications such as digital video, scientific computing, and large databases easier.

However, there has been considerable debate as to whether 64 bit systems run 32-bit applications any faster than comparably-priced 32-bit systems.

64 bit vs 32 bit

	32 bit <i>OS</i>	64 bit OS
32 bit hardware	OK	X
64 bit hardware	OK	OK

	32 bit apps	64 bit apps
32 bit OS	OK	X
64 bit OS	OK	OK

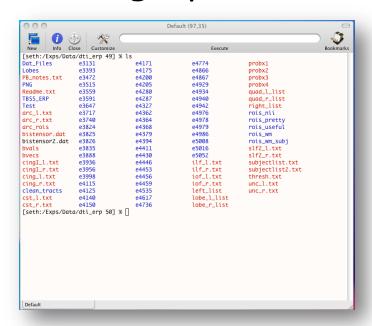
Hardware + OS = Platform

The particular combination of the hardware and operating system is called the platform.

Many programming languages require that you compile source code into binaries for each separate platform where it will run.

Organization You See

- The OS organizes your stuff by using files, directories and links (aliases).
- It also provides interfaces for you to interact with:
- CLI (commandline interface: typing)
- GUI (graphical user interface: mousing)





+ × □ □



But, behind the scenes, there is a lot more going on.

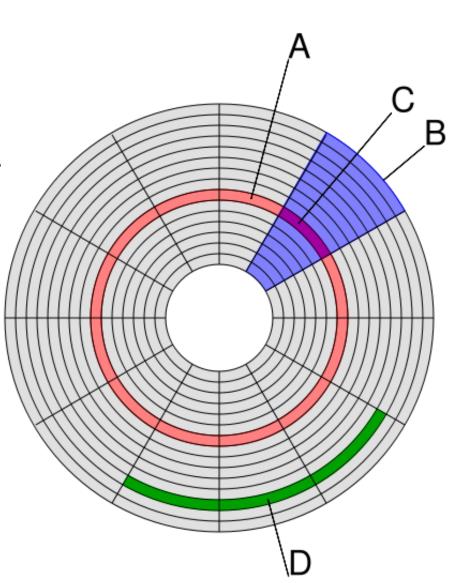
File Systems

Underneath each OS is a file system that organizes files and directories on the storage medium (e.g., the hard drive).

File systems maintain an index to the physical location of files on a data storage device.

Different indexing schemes have advantages and disadvantages.

e.g., The indexing scheme can limit the maximum number of clusters the file system can address.



Flat vs Hierarchical Systems

A flat filesystem stores all files at the top level (DOS 1.0 and early mac OS).

Even if you had the illusion of directories, you could not have files with the same names in different directories.

Hierarchical systems (allowing true directories and subdirectories) quickly became the norm.

Permissions

Early OS's did not have any way to control what users could do to files.

Traditional unix permissions have fairly simple "read, write and execute" attributes on files and directories.

ACLs (Access Control Lists) provide an extra nightmare detailed layer of control.

Journaling File systems

A journaling file system logs changes to a journal (usually a log in a dedicated area) before committing them to the main file system.

Such file systems are less likely to become corrupted (fragmented) in the event of power failure or system crash.

However, journaling requires more read/write operations and is hard on flash (e.g., SSD) drives (which have limit read/write life cycles)

Early OS's used ASCII with 128 characters

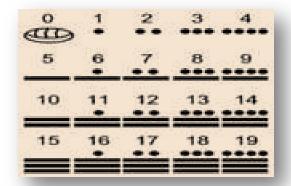
However, as computing has become worldwide, it has become important to natively support a LOT more characters.



நீராரும் கடலுடுத்த நிலமடந்தைக் கெழிலொழுகும் சீராரும் வதனமெனத் திகழ்பரதக் கண்டமிதில் தெக்கணமும் அதிற்சிறந்த திராவிடால் திருநாடும் தக்கசிறு பிறைநுதலும் தரித்தாறுர் திலகமுமே அத்திலக வாசனைபோல் அனைத்துலகும் இன்பமுற எத்திசையும் புகழ்மணக்க இருந்தபெருந் தமிழணங்கே! தமிழணங்கே!

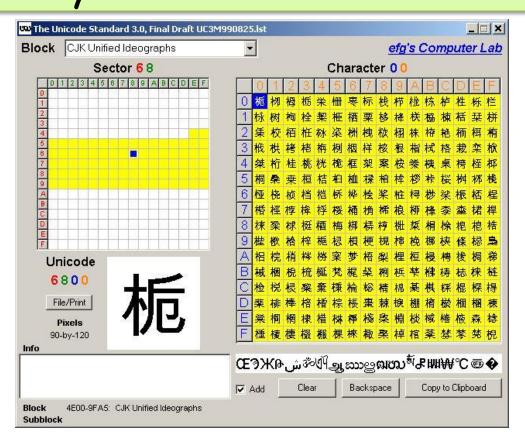
உன் சீரிளமைத் திறம்வியந்து செயல்மறந்து வாழ்த்துதுமே! வாழ்த்து துமே! வாழ்த்துதுமே!

மனோன்மணீயம் பெ. சுந்தரம் பிள்ளை



Unicode is a standardized 100,000 character set allowing computers to consistently represent and manipulate text expressed in most of the world's writing systems.

Most modern OSs support unicode.



File System Summary

Modern OSs are hierarchical and use journalling to reduce data corruption.

They provide permissions, to help protect your data and support privacy on multi-user systems.

They support multiple languages and fonts natively.

64 bit systems can handle bigger hard drives, more memory and bigger chunks of data.

But File systems aren't just for OS's:

File systems for OS's

CD/DVD file systems

Virtual File systems

Network File systems

FAT File Systems

FAT (File Allocation Table)

- FAT 16 (uses 16 bits per entry)
- FAT 32 (uses 32 bits per entry)

Invented by Bill Gates and Mark McDonald 1976-77.

Very simple, widely supported (Windows, Linux, MAC can read FAT and it is used for memory cards, USB keys etc.)



FAT 16

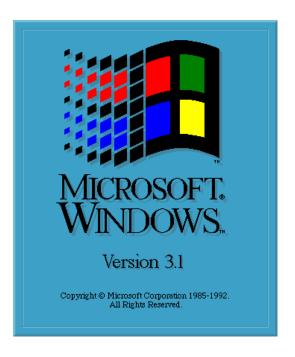
FAT 16: Could not address more than 2GB of storage.

Filenames limited to 8.3:

- · iam8char.txt is okay
- · iam8characters.txt is too long

Subject to fragmentation

No file permissions



FAT 32

Could address 4 TB of storage (but Windows OS limited HD to 127 GB to support scandisk utility)

255 characters allowed in filenames





NTFS

Added file permissions

Journaling system

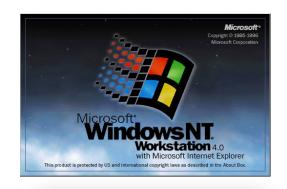
Unicode support

64 bit versions became available

16 EB (max HD or file)

Was proprietary so other OS's (linux, mac) had trouble reading it.

Not POSIX compliant









What's Posix?

The Posix standard defines a set of criteria for all unix-type systems to adhere to.

Microsoft does not fully support Posix

Apple's original OS did not support Posix

All unix systems support the standard: sun, sgi, linux, mac osx

Linux Filesystems

POSIX compliant

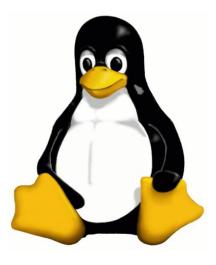
Permissions

ext3 (2001) was the first of the ext filesystems to provide journaling.

- · safer than ext2, but slower
- · 16TB HDs, 2 TB files

ext4 (Dec 2008)

· 1 EB HDs and 16 TB files



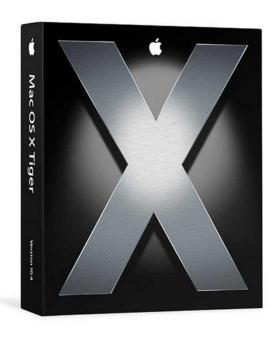
HFS-Plus: Mac OSX Filesystems

64 bit OS

16 EB max HD, 8 EB max file size

Journaling, Permissions

POSIX compliant



ISO 9660: CD File System

It aims at supporting multiple OS's, so that data may be exchanged.

The Rock Ridge extension to ISO 9660 adds support for POSIX file permissions and ownership, symbolic links, and longer file names;

The Joliet extension to ISO 9660, adds support for longer file names and the Unicode character set.

UDF: Universal Disk Format

UDF replaces ISO 9660 as the standard format for optical media.

It is widely used, especially on DVDs, but also for CDs.

Virtual File Systems: Motivation

 You have a laptop w/o a built in cd drive, but you want to use a cd-based program on it without dragging your external cd drive along.

Virtual CDs

If you copy a software CD onto your hard drive...you can browse the files, but you can't use the files to actually install or run the program, because the ISO 9660 filesystem is gone.

If you create a file (often a *.iso file) containing the CD filesystem and files, then you can use it to install or run software. This is a virtual CD.

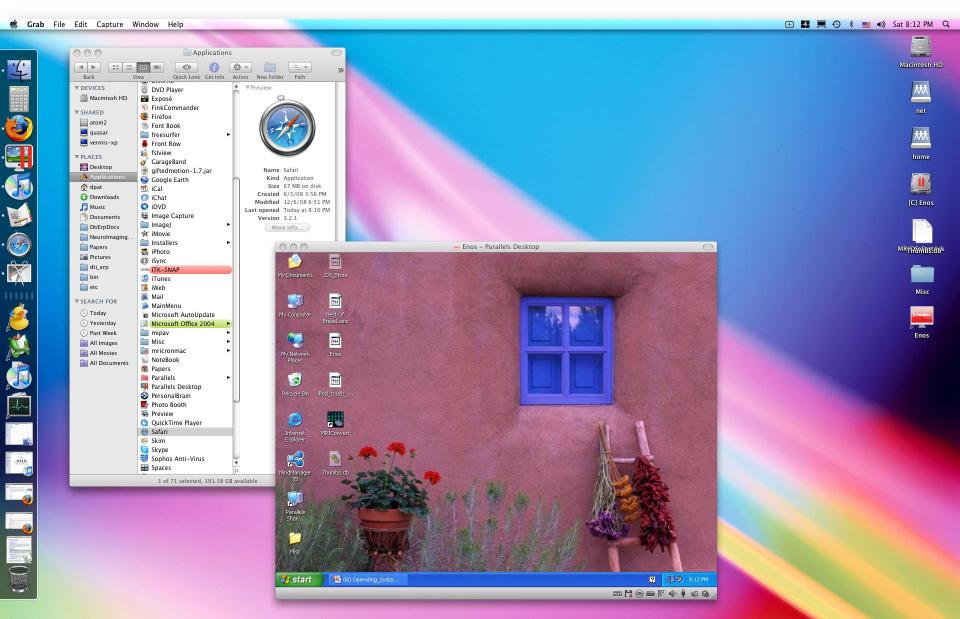
Virtual Machines: Motivation

You have a windows machine, but you want to run a unix program

You have a mac, but sometimes you want to run windows programs

You don't want to buy another machine

XP running on OS X



XP & Linux running on Mac OSX



You've seen why you'd want a virtual machine

You've seen actual pictures of virtual machines running

What is going on here?



A virtual machine is a computer inside of a computer.

It uses your hardware and your operating system to emulate a standardized machine

You can then install another OS on this standardized virtual machine.

Parallels desktop for Mac OSX (Intel) allows you to create as many virtual intel machines as you want.

You can install Windows, Linux etc. on these virtual machines.

You can shut the machines down, boot them up, install software on them, and run that software when you are running the virtual machine.

VMWare competes with Parallels

Each virtual machine is contained in a large file (e.g. a *.hdd file) which holds the operating system and filesystem.

Early VMs were not aware of their host OS (It was difficult to move the mouse or data between the systems)

Newer VMs allow drag and drop, copy and paste, and seamless mouse movement with their host.

Network File Systems

Any file system that allows the sharing of resources on another computer

File permissions may be different when accessed on a network share, than they are if you are directly logged on to the machine.

This is because the network file system imposes its own layer of permissions.

Network File Systems

NFS

Samba

AFP

The Network
File System
developed by
Sun for unix
machines in
the 1980s

An open
source version
of the MS
Windows SMB
(server
Message
Block) protocol

Apple Filing
Protocol, a file
sharing
protocol for
Apple OS's

Why do you care about Network File Systems?

Any time you store data on one machine, and access it from another machine, you involve the network.

As soon as you involve the network in data access, you must use a network file system.

Choosing an OS

Microsoft Windows

Good: Very common, lots of applications, most people familiar with it, easy to use interface, a pretty good choice for matlab and spm, has excellent hardware support.

Bad: A generally unstable OS with lots of security problems, not good for afni or fsl, weak commandline interface.

Windows XP is relatively reliable (Vista has had lots of problems).

Linux

Good: Cheap or free, supports afni and fsl, powerful commandline interface, should also work with matlab/spm, tends to be stable and has no virus issues.

Bad: Lots of versions, not always good support for new hardware, requires some expertise to set up and use efficiently (but easier than it used to be)

Mac OSX

Good: Pretty reliable (good marriage of hardware and software reduces problems), Excellent platform for FSL, easy to use interface AND powerful commandline tools, *should* work with spm/matlab, good security (few viruses), can run virtual windows machine. Native 64 bit

Bad: Relatively expensive, not quite standard unix (though technically Posix compliant)

interface NTFS CLI Posix GUI ext3, ext4 etc. HFS-Plus File systems ACLS ISO-9660 Virtual file system Journaling Virtual machine Unicode 64 bit vs 32 bit NFS Platform SAMBA FAT (FAT16, FAT32) AFP

Summary

We've compared operating systems and looked at their evolution.

As part of this, we've looked at the underlying file systems, including virtual file systems and network file systems.