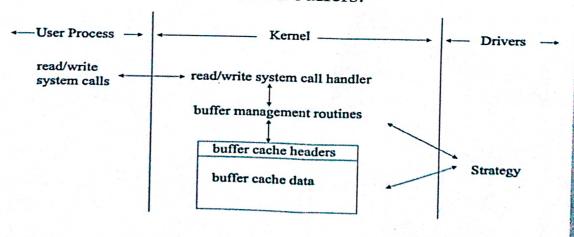


## **Block Device Drivers**



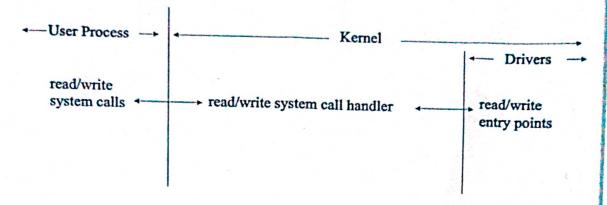
 Block drivers – Communicate with O.S. through a collections of fixed-sized buffers.



# Character Device Drivers



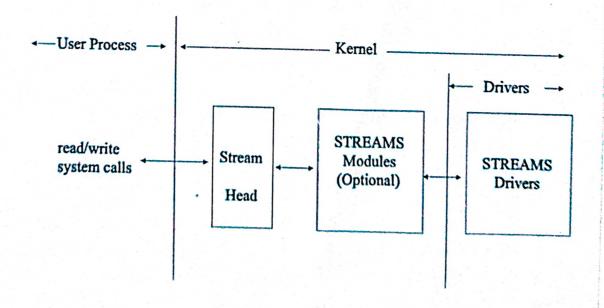
The communication structure of character device driver



# STREAM Drivers



The communication structure of Terminal Drivers



# Char/Block Device Driver Tables



#### Character Device Driver Table

	open	close	read	write	ioctl
0	conopen	conclose	conread	conwrite	coniocil
1	testopen	testalose	testread	testurite	noder
3	dzbopen	dzbclose	dzbread	dzbwnte	dzbioctl
4	sycpes	nulldev	syread	sympite	syloctl
5	nullder	nulldev	mmread	mmwrite	nodev

#### Block Device Driver Table

open	close	Strategy
gdopen	gdolose	gdstrategy
rdopen	rdclose	rdstrategy

### Major differences between Block/Char drivers



- Major difference with block driver
  - Block driver only interact with buffer cache
  - Char driver direct interact with user requests from user processes
    - I/O requests are directly passed (essentially unchanged) to the drivers from processes
    - Char driver is responsible for transferring data directly to and from between kernel memory space and user memory space

## **General Programming Considerations**



- Device drivers are parts of the kernel and not normal user processes, which means
  - · We can only use the kernel routines
    - C library functions or system calls provided for users cannot be used
    - Some kernel routines may have the same names as C library functions, but they are totally different in implementation
- Make frugal use of stack (local arrays & recursive functions)
  - The stack space in the kernel is limited and not expandable
- Don't use floating-point arithmetic May cause incorrect results
- Don't do busy wait that will prevent the whole system from doing nothing but responding to interrupts

