Operating Systems Concepts

Introduction

INFO 2603
Platform Technologies

Week 2: 10-Sept-2018

Operating System (OS)

An Operating System is the layer of software that manages a computer's resources for its users and their applications.

It abstracts the use of these resources and provides a standardised interface to simplify development and use of applications.

Operating System - Managing Resources

An OS manages system resources and typically deals with:

- CPU scheduling
- Process management
- Memory management
- Input/Output device management
- Storage device management (hard disks, CD/DVD drives, etc)
- File System Management

Operating System - Layers

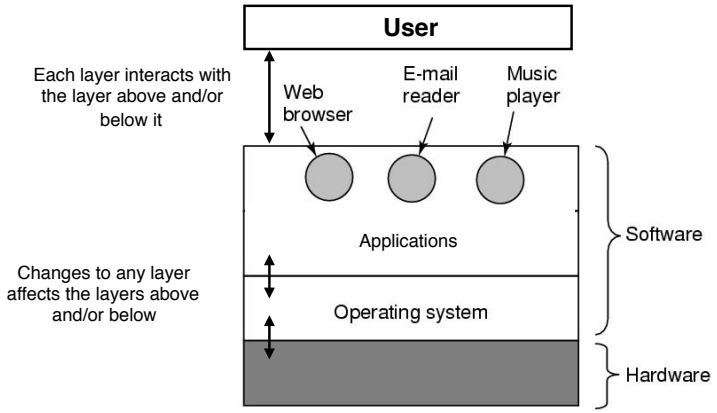


Fig. 1 Operating System Relative to Hardware and Software Layers

Operating System Modes

- A typical operating system has two modes of operation.
  - User Mode
  - Kernel Mode

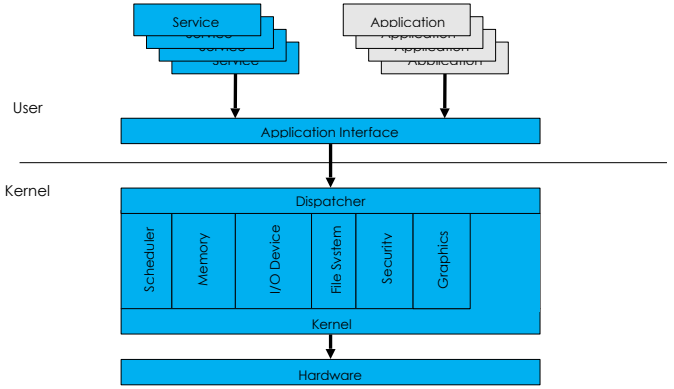
User Mode

- The User Mode is concerned with the actual interface between the user and the system.
- It controls things like running applications and accessing files.

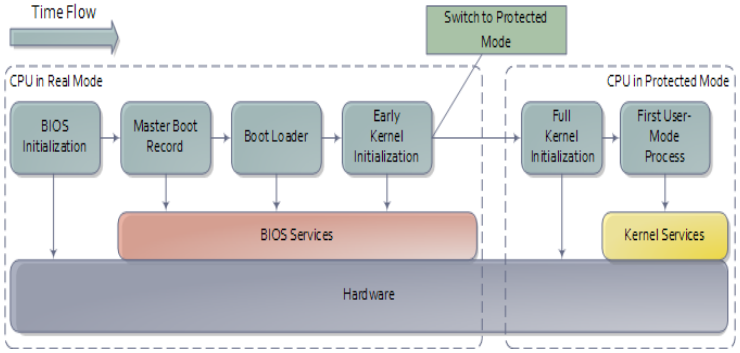
Kernel Mode

- The Kernel Mode is concerned with everything running in the background.
- It controls things like:
  - accessing system resources
  - controlling hardware functions
  - processing program instructions.
- The Kernel forms the core of the operating system.
  - acts like a supervisor for everything that is happening in the computer.

Typical OS Architecture



Starting an Operating System

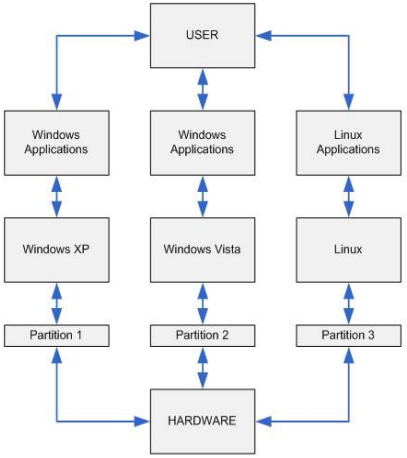


Types of Operating Systems

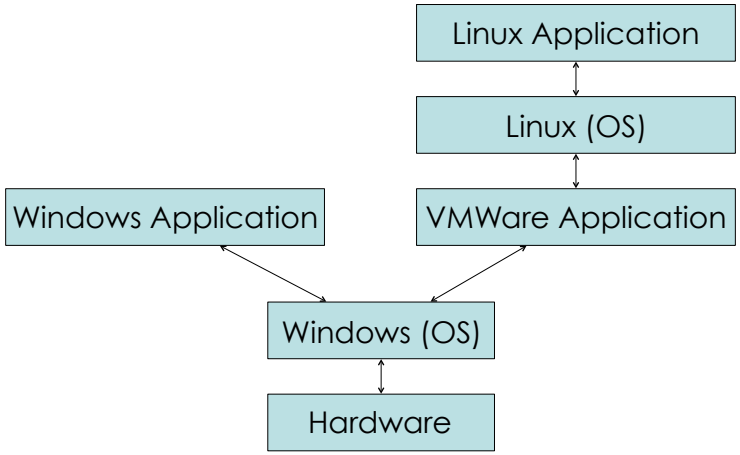
- Mainframe operating systems
- Server operating systems
- Multiprocessor operating systems
- Personal computer operating systems
- Handheld operating systems
- Embedded operating systems
- Sensor node operating systems
- Real-time operating systems
- Smart card operating systems

Operating System Examples

Running Multiple Operating Systems



Virtual Machine



Running a Virtual Machine

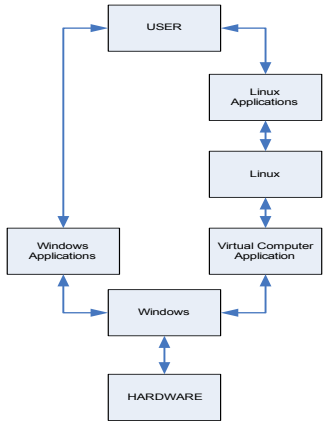


Figure 2.3
Layers with a virtual operating system

User Interaction with the OS

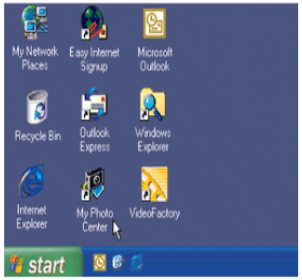
An operating system operates the functions of a computer. It also provides a way for users to interface with, or access, a computer's applications, resources and hardware.

There are two main types of user interfaces for an operating system:

1. Graphical user interface (GUI)

2. Command line interface

Graphical User Interface

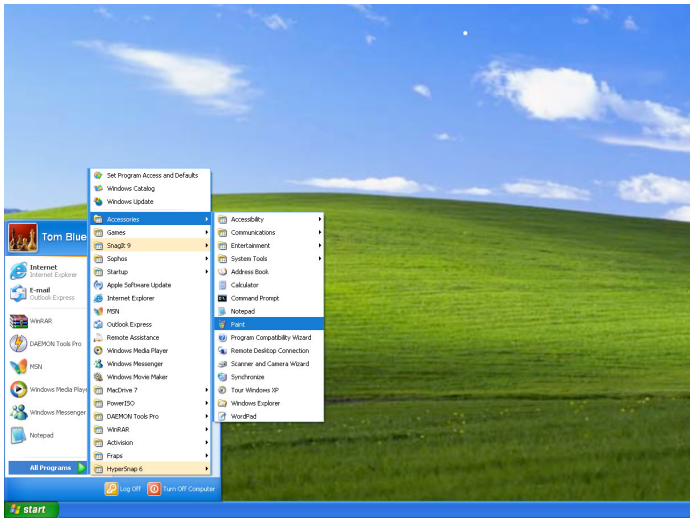


A graphical user interface features menus and icons that you can manipulate with the click of a mouse.

A GUI uses graphics (or pictures) and menus to help the user access resources and issue commands.

Windows XP, Linux and Mac OS X are examples of GUI operating systems.

Ubuntu Desktop



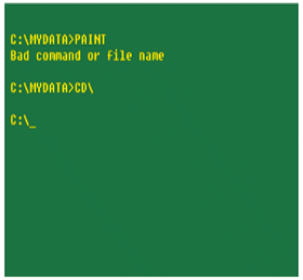
Windows Desktop

Command Line Interface

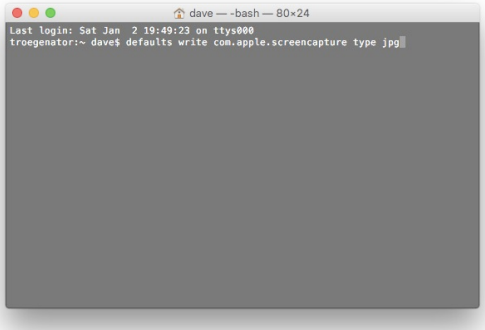
A command line interface uses typed commands to issue instructions to the computer.

It can be more difficult to use because the user must type the precise commands and locations of files.

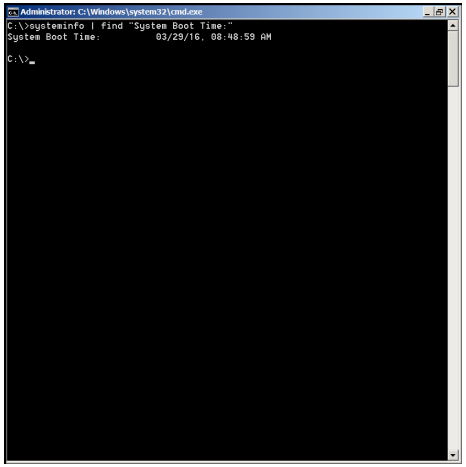
DOS (Disk Operating System) and UNIX are examples of command line interface operating systems.



A command-line interface requires you to memorize and type commands.



MacOs Bash Shell



Window Command Prompt

Command Line Interpreter

Applications are accessed at the User Mode level. This means that they do not have the authority to directly access system resources that are controlled at the Kernel Mode level.

When a user types a command (in a command line interface) or performs a task within an application (using a GUI), *processes* are initiated.

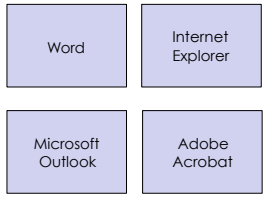
Since those processes usually require access to system resources, the command line interpreter converts them into system actions (called *system calls*). Most interpreters execute applications to perform the system calls.

Managing System Resources

- An operating system needs to manage a wide range of system resources:
  - CPU scheduling and process management
  - Memory (RAM)
  - Access to peripheral devices
  - File system management.

CPU Scheduling

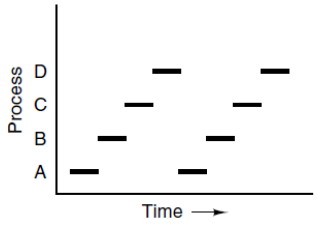
- Decide when applications should run; does the order matter?
- Are the applications active or sleeping?
- Multiple applications at the same time



Applications

Process

A process is an abstraction of a running program.
The CPU executes only one process at a time.

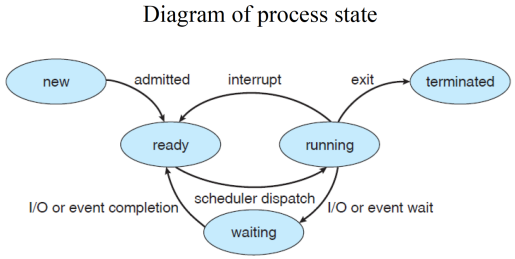


Process States

Fives states a process may be in:

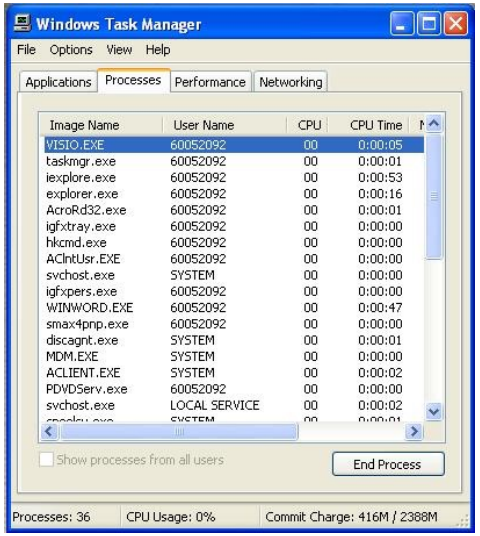
1. **Running** (actually using the CPU at that instant).
2. **Ready** (runnable; temporarily stopped to let another process run).
3. **Blocked** (unable to run until some external event happens).
4. **New** (Process is being created).
5. **Terminated** (Process has finished execution)

Process States



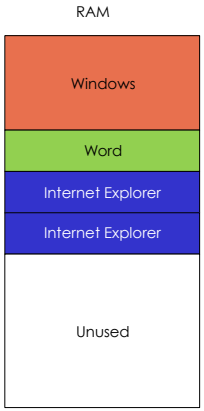
The Process Table

- Keeping track of all of the processes is done with the Process Table.
- The Process Table lists:
  - Processes that are currently being run
  - Processes that are waiting to be executed
  - Processes that have been temporarily suspended
  - It also keeps track of the current status, or state, of each process.



Memory Management

- Give memory to each application as needed.
- Protect applications from each other
- Protect operating system from 'bad' applications

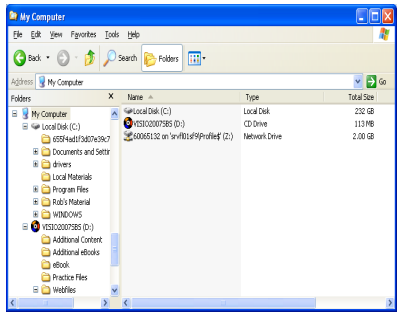


Peripherals

- Devices are very difficult to program
- OS Provides Drivers
- Applications speak to drivers
- Drivers communicate to device

File System

- Manage Information (files and folders)
- Provide common view of storage devices



References

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