CS 350: Operating Systems

Charles Shen

Fall 2016, University of Waterloo

Notes written from Gregor Richards's lectures.

Feel free to email feedback to me at ccshen902@gmail.com.

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1 Introduction

There are three views of an operating system:

- 1. **Application View** (Section 1.1): what service does it provide?
- 2. **System View** (Section 1.2): what problems does it solve?
- 3. **Implementation View** (Section 1.3): how is it built?

An operating system is part cop, part facilitator.

kernel: The operating system kernel is the part of the operating system that responds to system calls, interrupts and exception.

operating system (OS): The operating system as a whole includes the kernel, and may include other related programs that provide services for application such as utility programs, command interpreters, and programming libraries.

1.1 Application View of an Operating System

The OS provides an execution environment for running programs.

- The execution environment provides a program with the processor time and memory space that it needs to run.
- The execution environment provides interfaces through which a program can
 use networks, storage, I/O devices, and other system hardware components.
 Interfaces provide a simplified, abstract view of hardware to application programs.
- The execution environment isolates running programs from one another and prevents undesirable interactions among them.

1.2 System View of an Operating System

The OS manages the hardware resources of a computer system.

- Resources include processors, memory, disks and other storage devices, network interfaces, I/O devices such as keyboards, mice and monitors, and so on.
- The operating system allocates resources among running programs. It controls the sharing of resources among programs.

• The OS itself also uses resources, which it must share with application programs.

1.3 Implementation View of an Operating System

The OS is a concurrent, real-time program.

- Concurrency arises naturally in an OS when it supports concurrent applications, and because it must interact directly with the hardware.
- Hardware interactions also impose timing constraints.

1.4 Operating System Abstractions

The execution environment provided by the OS includes a variety of abstract entities that can be manipulated by a running program. Examples:

- files and file systems: abstract view of secondary storage
- address spaces: abstract view of primary memory
- processes, threads: abstract view of program execution
- sockets, pipes: abstract view of network or other message channels

2 Threads and Concurrency

Threads provide a way for programmers to express *concurrency* in a program. A normal *sequential program* consists of a single thread of execution. In threaded concurrent programs, there are multiple threads of executions that are all occurring at the same time.

2.1 OS/161's Thread Interface

Create a new thread:

```
int thread_fork(
                                 // name of new thread
  const char *name,
  struct proc *proc,
                                 // thread's process
 void (*func)
                                 // new thread's function
    (void *, unsigned long),
 void *datat1,
                                 // function's first param
 unsigned long data2
                                 // function's second param
);
Terminating the calling thread:
void thread_exit(void);
Voluntarily yield execution:
void thread_yield(void);
```

3 Processes and System Calls

4 Assignment 2A Review

5 Virtual Memory

6 Scheduling

7 Devices and Device Management

8 File Systems

9 Interprocess Communications and Networking

Indices

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Application View, 1 operating system, 1 Implementation View, 1 kernel, 1 System View, 1
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