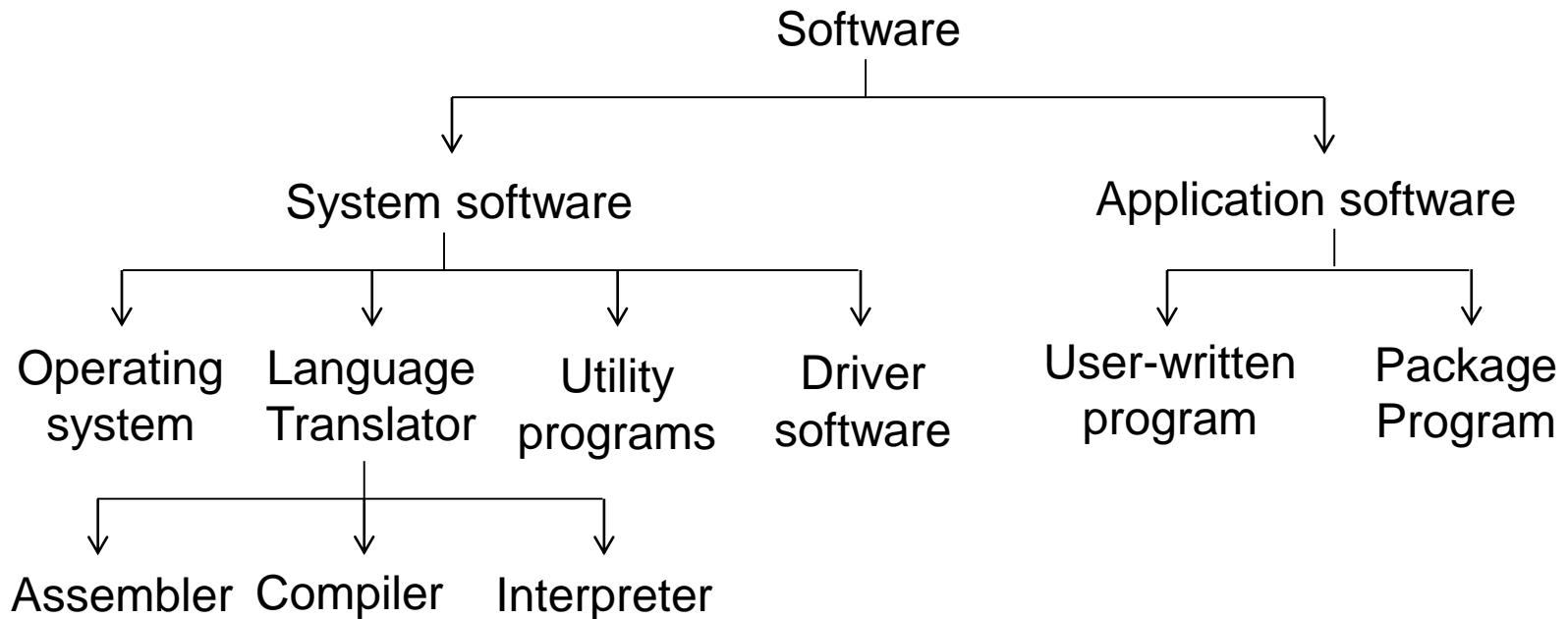


Computer Software

Software: Software is one or more computer programs. Computer programs are set of instructions given to a computer to perform some predefined tasks.

Example: Windows 7, MS Office 2010, Matlab 7, AutoCAD etc.

Classification of Computer Software: Computer software can be classified as a tree like or hierarchical classification:



System Software:

A system software is one or more generalized programs used by the computer system to provide necessary helps to the computer users. Example: Windows 7, Vista, Linux etc.

Application Software:

An application software is one or more specialized programs used by the computer users to solve their daily life problems. Example: MS Office 2010, AutoCAD etc.

Role of System Software in Computer System

Operating System:

An operating system is a system software. It is an intermediary program in between computer user and computer hardware. It provides an environment in which a user can use the computer system effectively, efficiently, and conveniently.

Example: Windows 7, Vista, Linux etc.

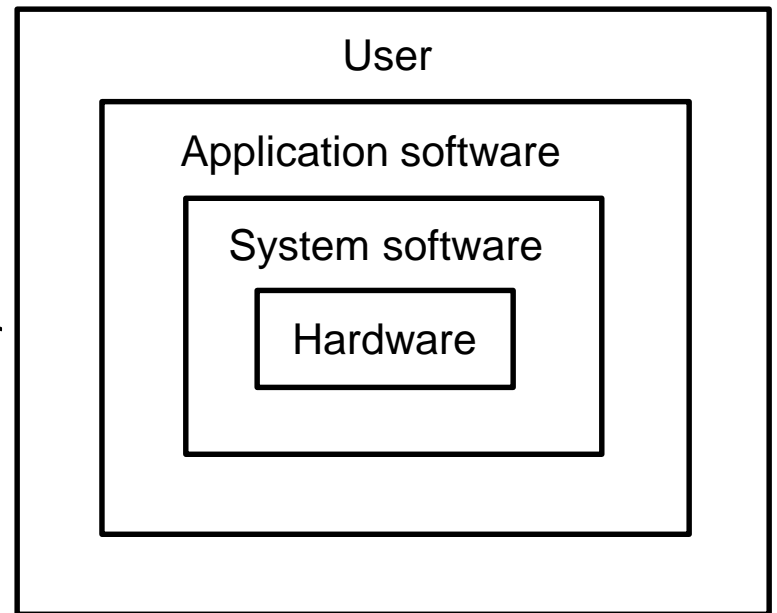


Fig. Role of system software in computer system

Types of Operating System (OS):

An operating system can be any one of the following major types:

1. Batch Processing OS. Ex. DOS.
2. Multi-tasking OS. Ex. Windows.
3. Multi-programming OS.
4. Time sharing OS. Ex. Unix.
5. Real Time OS.
6. Multiprocessing OS.

Functions of Operating System (OS):

An operating system performs following functions:

1. CPU Scheduling.
2. Memory Management.
3. Input/Output Control.

Difference between DOS and Windows:

DOS	Windows
1. Text or command based OS.	1. GUI or graphics based OS.
2. Not user friendly OS.	2. User friendly OS.
3. Mouse is not used here.	3. Mouse is used here.