



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
informatics

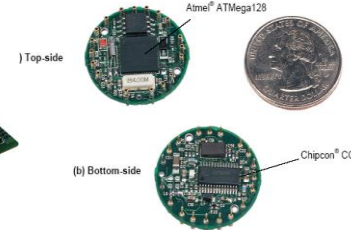
Operating Systems (INFR10079) 2020/2021 Semester 2

Introduction (Operating Systems and Hardware)

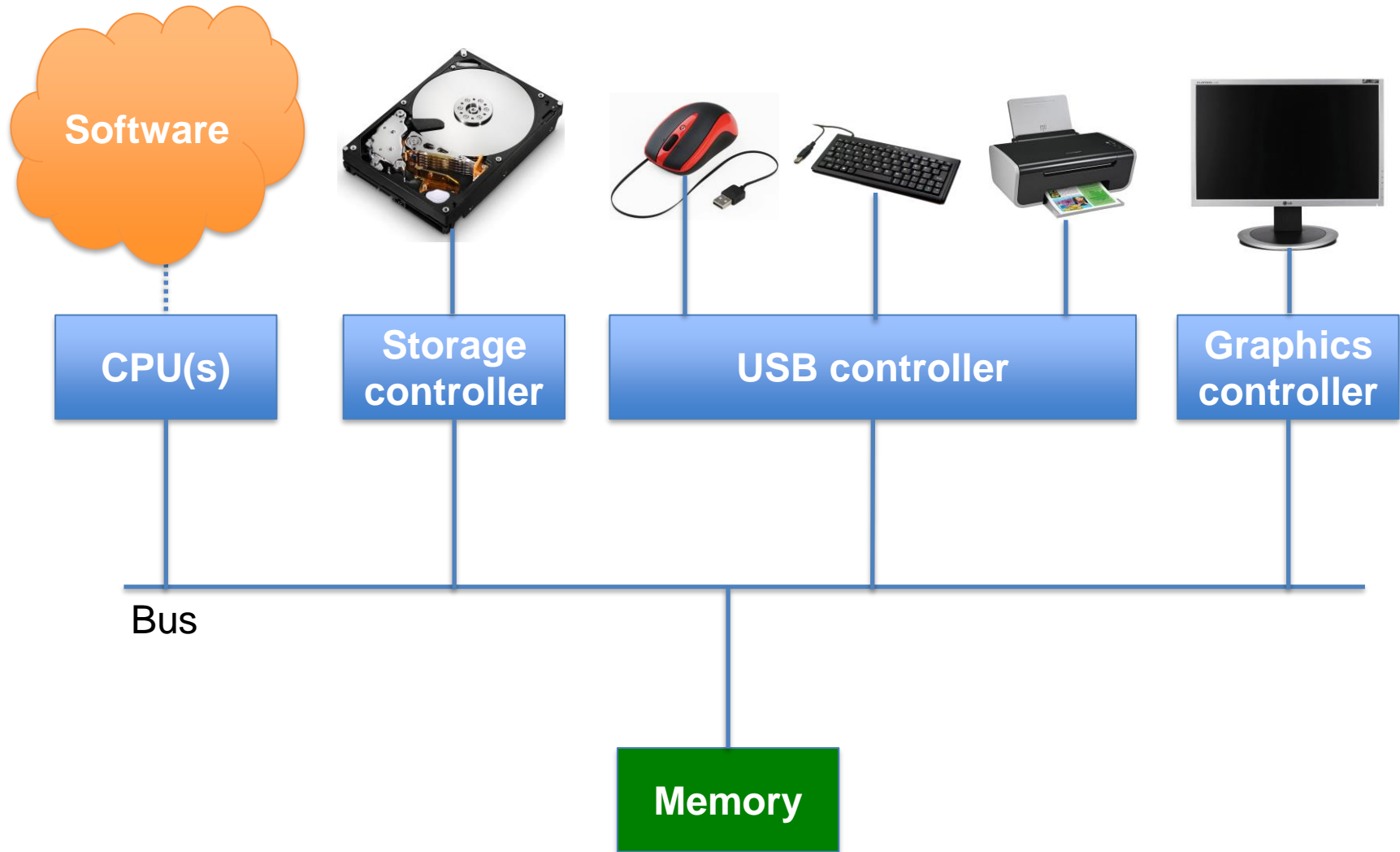
abarbala@inf.ed.ac.uk

Chapter 1.1, 1.2, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.4.2

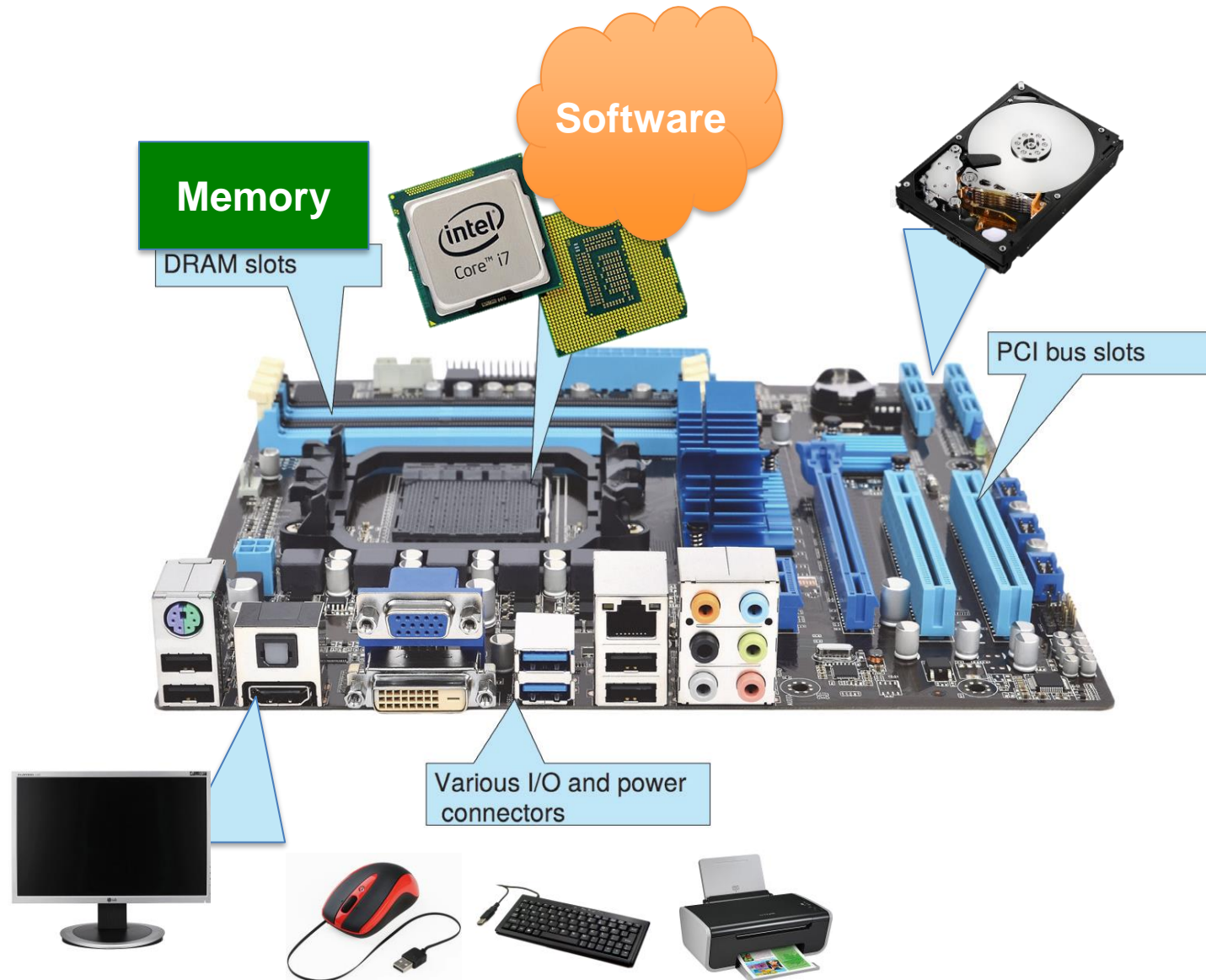
Computing Systems are Everywhere



Modern Computer System



Modern Computer System – PC Motherboard



What is an Operating System?

- A program that **manages** a computer's hardware
- A program that acts as an **intermediary** between the user of a computer and computer hardware
- A big program
 - “The **Linux Kernel** Enters 2020 At **27.8 Million Lines** In Git But With Less Developers For 2019”, 1 January 2020 at 09:14 AM EST
 - https://www.phoronix.com/scan.php?page=news_item&px=Linux-Git-Stats-EOY2019

Operating Systems

MS-DOS



Mac OS X



iOS



MINIX 3

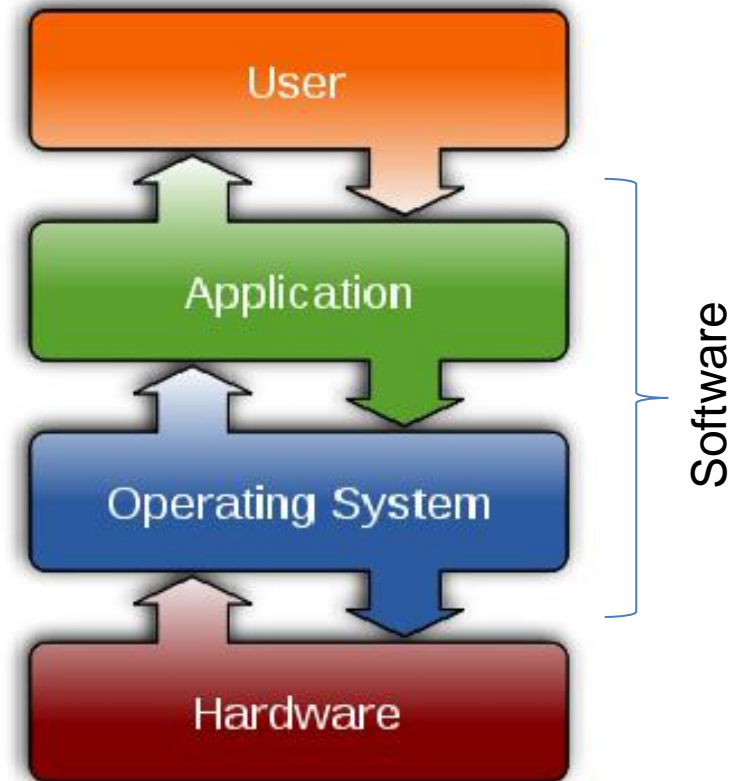


Some Goals of Operating Systems

- Simplify the execution of user programs and make **solving user problems easier**
- Use computer hardware **efficiently**
 - Allow sharing of hardware and software resources
- Make application software **portable and versatile**
- Provide **isolation, security and protection** among user programs
- Improve overall system **reliability**
 - error confinement, fault tolerance, reconfiguration

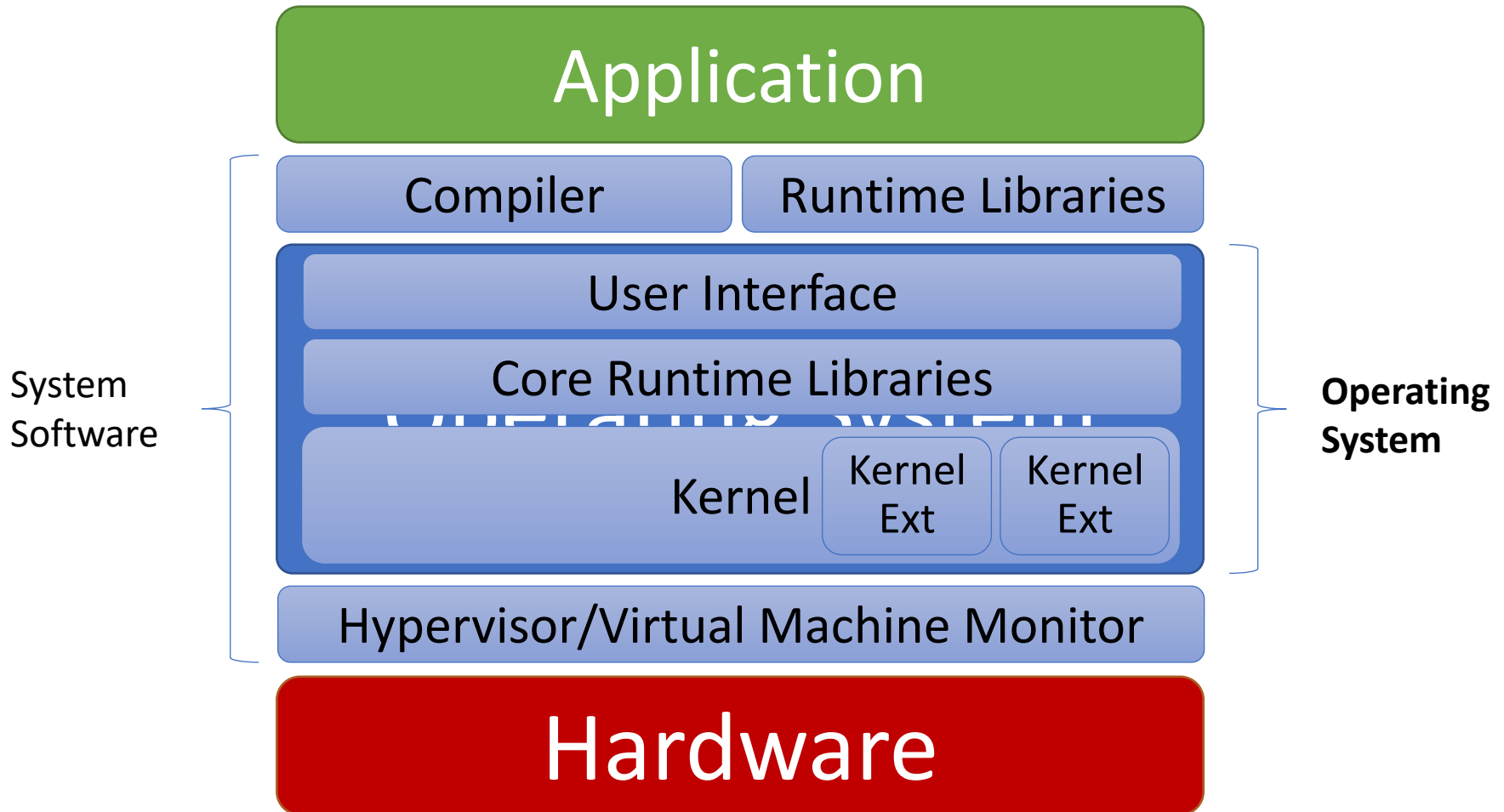
The Traditional Picture

- “The OS is everything you don’t need to write in order to run your application”
- Think OS as a library
 - In some ways, it is
 - all operations on I/O devices require OS calls (*syscalls*)
 - In other ways, it isn't
 - you use the CPU/memory without OS calls
 - it intervenes without having been explicitly called



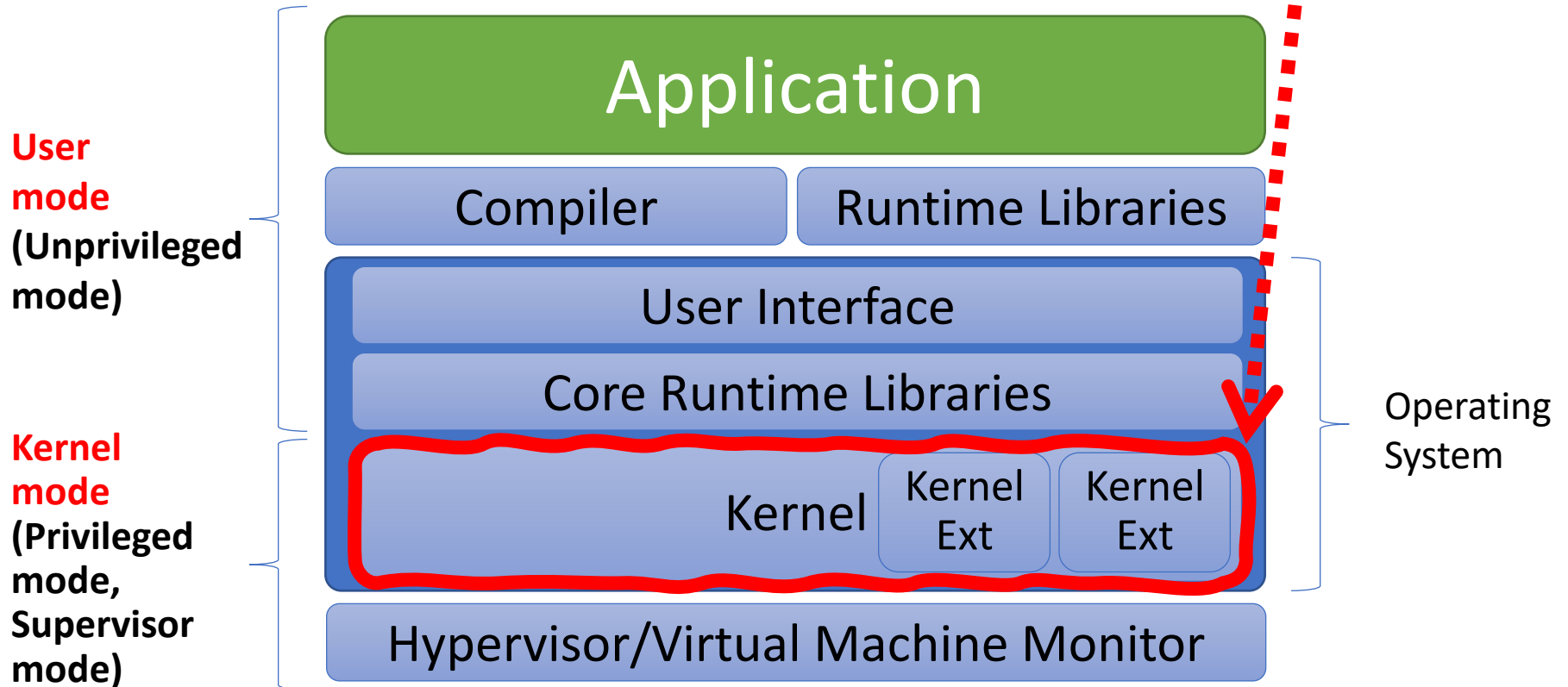
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Operating_system_placement.svg

What is OS? #1



What is OS? #2

**FOCUS of the
OS COURSE**



NOTE there exist OSes that do not use modes, there is hardware that doesn't support modes

The OS and Hardware

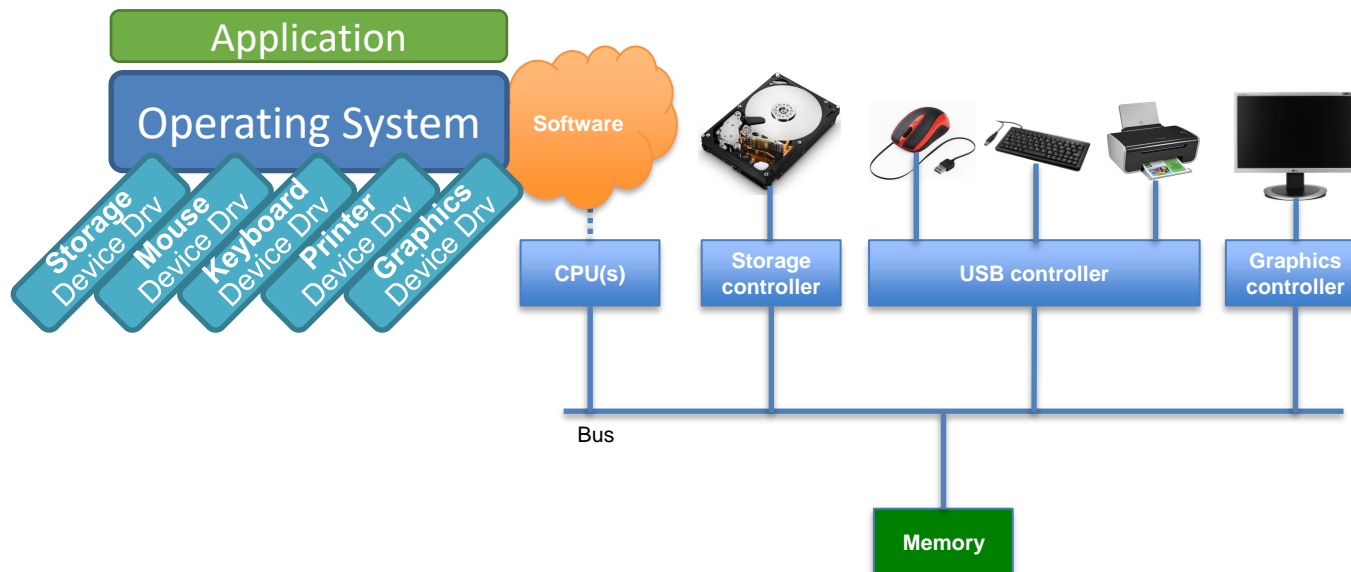
- An OS **mediates** programs' access to hardware resources (*sharing and protection*)
 - computation (CPU)
 - volatile storage (memory) and persistent storage (disk, etc.)
 - network communications (TCP/IP stacks, Ethernet cards, etc.)
 - input/output devices (keyboard, display, sound card, etc.)
- The OS **abstracts** hardware into **logical resources** and well-defined **interfaces** to those resources (*ease of use*)
 - processes (CPU, memory)
 - files (disk)
 - sockets (network)

Why Bother with an OS?

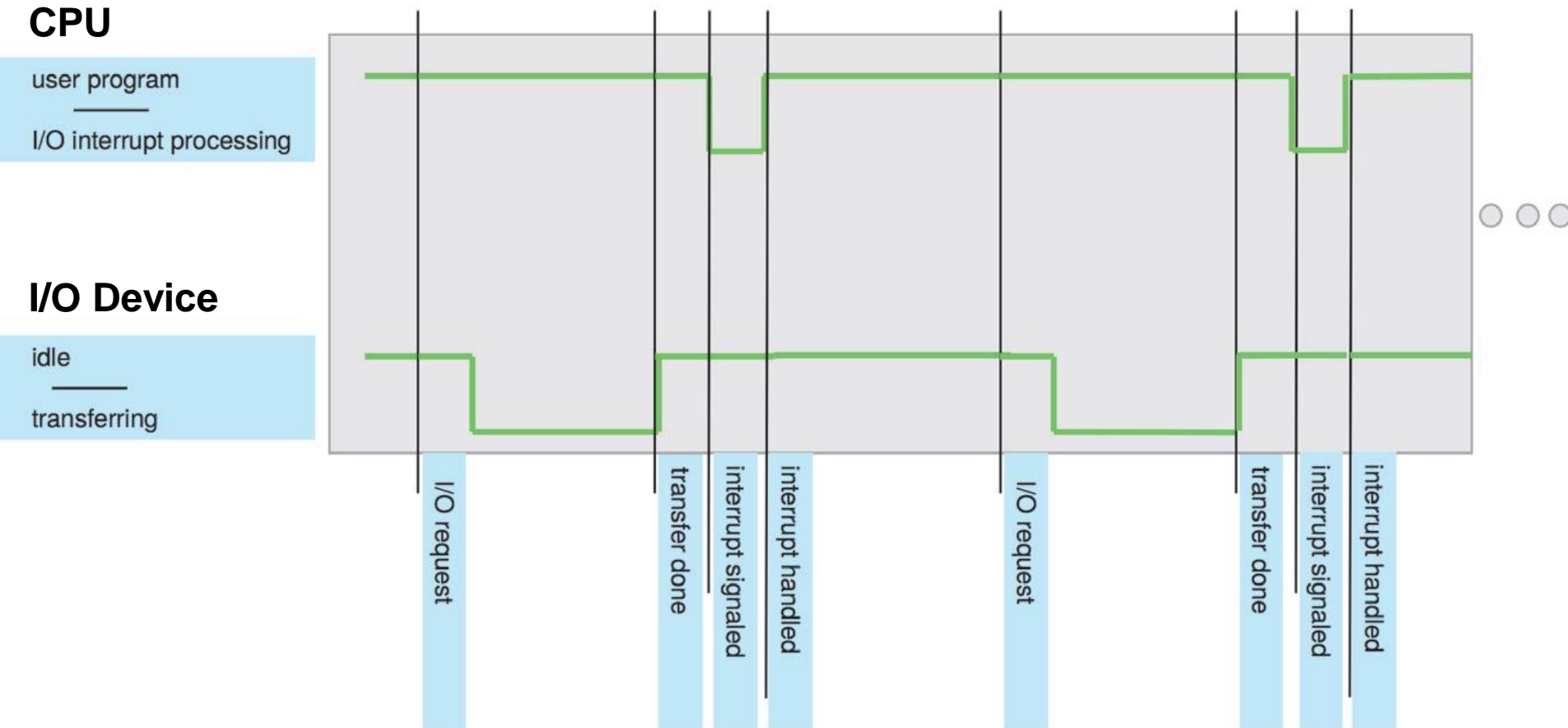
- Application benefits
 - programming **simplicity**
 - see high-level abstractions (files) instead of low-level hardware details (device registers)
 - abstractions are **reusable** across many programs
 - **portability** (across machine configurations or architectures)
 - device independence: 3com card or Intel card?
- User benefits
 - **safety**
 - program “sees” its own (virtual) machine, thinks it “owns” the computer
 - OS **protects** programs from each other
 - OS **fairly multiplexes** resources across programs
 - **efficiency** (cost and speed)
 - **share** one computer across many users
 - **concurrent** execution of multiple programs

Hardware Recap: Devices

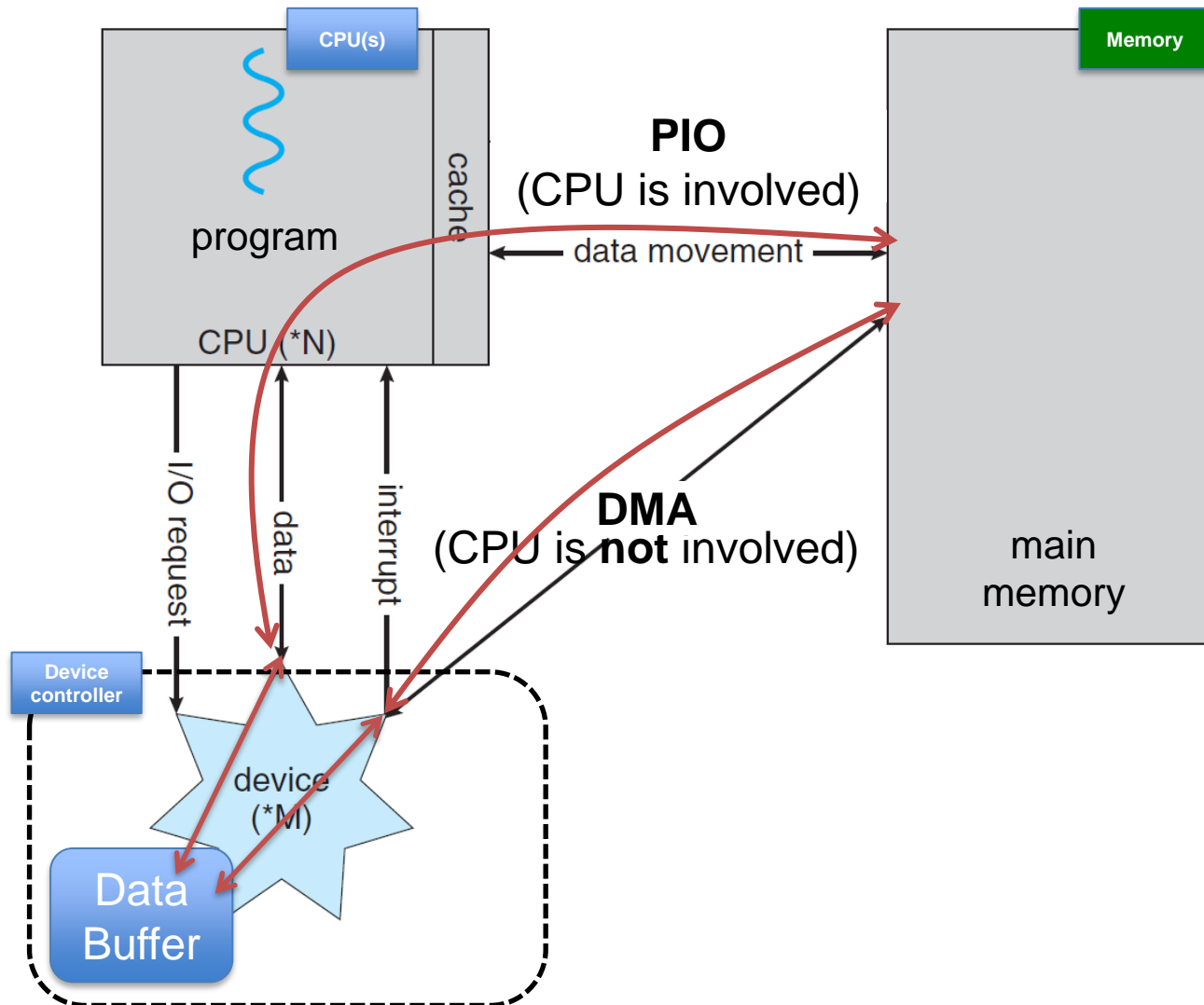
- To interact with the **external world** (e.g., with the user)
- Every device has a **device controller**, which
 - May move data to main memory, like the CPU(s)
 - Run in parallel to the CPU
 - Have buffers for data (thus, local memory)
- Operating Systems have **device drivers** per **device controller**



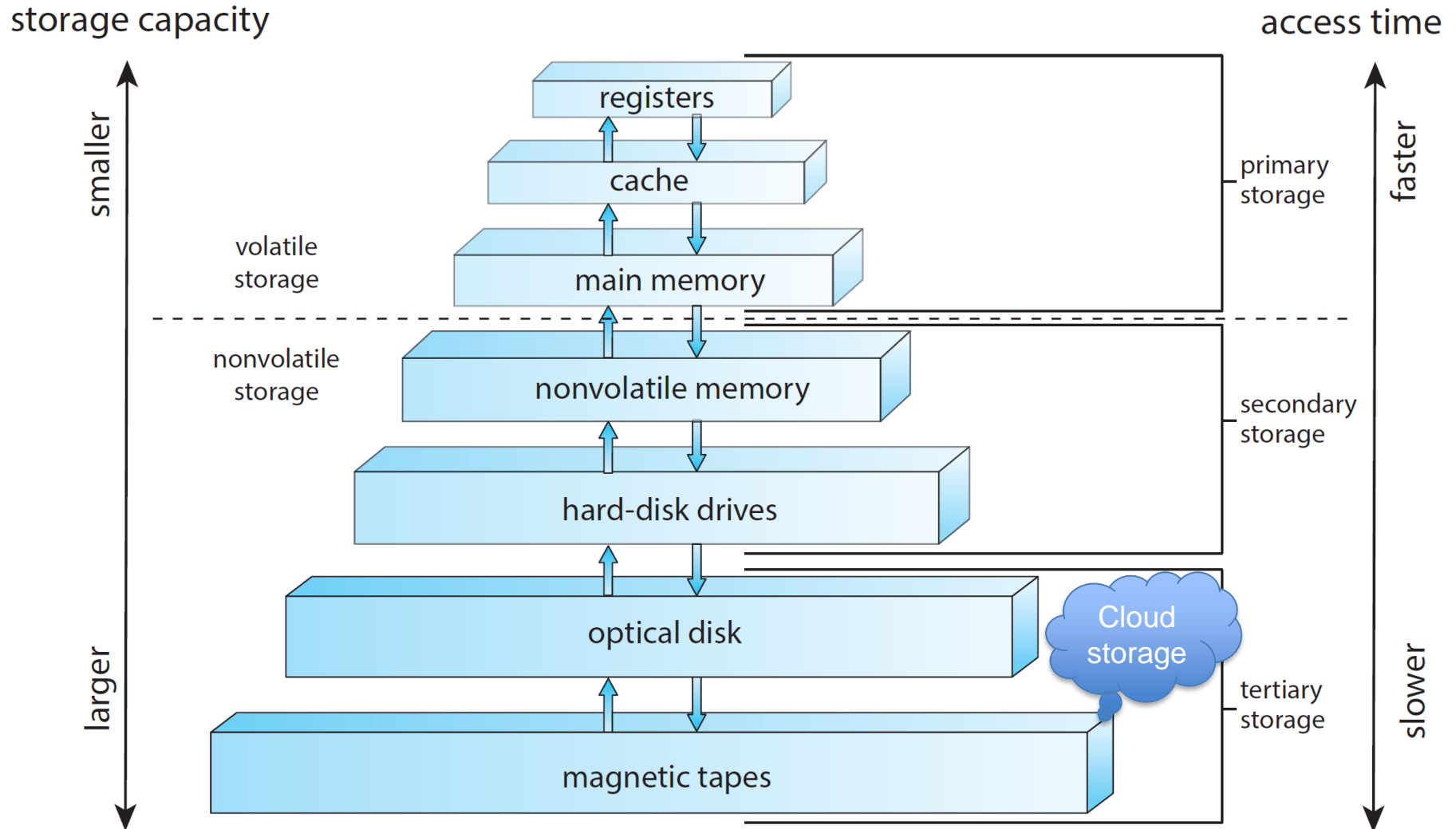
Hardware Recap: Interrupts



Hardware Recap: DMA



Hardware Recap: Storage Structure



Hardware Recap: Memory and CPU

