Operating System

Lecture 3: Operating System Structure

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Outline

- System Components
- Operating System Services

Common System Components

- Process Management
- Main Memory Management
- File Management
- I/O System Management
- Secondary Management
- Networking
- Protection System
- Command-Interpreter System

Process Management

- A *process* is a program in execution. A process needs certain resources, including CPU time, memory, files, and I/O devices, to accomplish its task.
- The operating system is responsible for the following activities
  - Process creation and deletion.
  - process suspension and resumption.
  - Provision of mechanisms for:
    - process synchronization
    - process communication
    - Deadlock handling

Main-Memory Management

- Memory is a large array of words or bytes, each with its own address. It is a repository of quickly accessible data shared by the CPU and I/O devices.
- Main memory is a volatile storage device. It loses its contents in the case of system failure.
- It is a repository of quickly accessible data shared by CPU and I/O devices
- Instructions in ins-fetch cycle and data in data-fetch cycle are performed from main memory
- DMA also reads and writes data into main memory

Main-Memory Management (Cont.)

- The operating system is responsible for the following activities in connections with memory management:
  - Keep track of which parts of memory are currently being used and by whom.
  - Decide which processes to load when memory space becomes available.
  - Allocate and deallocate memory space as needed.

File Management

- A file is a collection of related information defined by its creator. Commonly, files represent programs (both source and object forms) and data.

File Management (Cont.)

- The operating system is responsible for the following activities in connections with file management:
  - File creation and deletion.
  - Directory creation and deletion.
  - Support of primitives for manipulating files and directories.
  - Mapping files onto secondary storage.
  - File backup on stable (nonvolatile) storage media.

I/O System Management

- The I/O system consists of:
  - A buffer-caching system
  - A general device-driver interface
  - Drivers for specific hardware devices

Secondary-Storage Management

- Since main memory (*primary storage*) is volatile and too small to accommodate all data and programs permanently, the computer system must provide *secondary storage* to back up main memory.
- Most modern computer systems use disks as the principle on-line storage medium, for both programs and data.

Secondary-Storage Management (Cont.)

- The operating system is responsible for the following activities in connection with disk management:
  - Free space management
  - Storage allocation
  - Disk scheduling

Networking (Distributed Systems)

- A *distributed* system is a collection processors that do not share memory or a clock. Each processor has its own local memory.
- The processors in the system are connected through a communication network.
- Communication takes place using a *protocol.*

Networking (Distributed Systems) advantage

- A distributed system provides user access to various system resources.
- Access to a shared resource allows:
  - Computation speed-up
  - Increased data availability
  - Enhanced reliability

Protection System

- *Protection* refers to a mechanism for controlling access by programs, processes, or users to both system and user resources.
- The protection mechanism must:
  - distinguish between authorized and unauthorized usage.
  - specify the controls to be imposed.
  - provide a means of enforcement.

Command-Interpreter System

- Many commands are given to the operating system by control statements which deal with:
  - process creation and management
  - I/O handling
  - secondary-storage management
  - main-memory management
  - file-system access
  - protection
  - networking

Command-Interpreter System (Cont.)

- The program that reads and interprets control statements is called variously:
  - command-line interpreter
  - shell (in UNIX)

Its function is to get and execute the next command statement.

Operating System Services

- Program execution – system capability to load a program into memory and to run it.
- I/O operations – since user programs cannot execute I/O operations directly, the operating system must provide some means to perform I/O.
- File-system manipulation – program capability to read, write, create, and delete files.

Operating System Services (Cont.)

- Communications – exchange of information between processes executing either on the same computer or on different systems tied together by a network. Implemented via *shared memory* or *message passing*.
- Error detection – ensure correct computing by detecting errors in the CPU and memory hardware, in I/O devices, or in user programs.

Additional Operating System Functions

Additional functions exist not for helping the user, but rather for ensuring efficient system operations.

- Resource allocation – allocating resources to multiple users or multiple jobs running at the same time.
- Accounting – keep track of and record which users use how much and what kinds of computer resources for account billing or for accumulating usage statistics.
- Protection – ensuring that all access to system resources is controlled.

Thanks