OS-1





What is an Operating System?

- A program that acts as an intermediary between a user of a computer and the computer hardware
- Operating system goals:
 - Execute user programs and make solving user problems easier
 - Make the computer system convenient to use
 - Use the computer hardware in an efficient manner





- Computer system can be divided into four components:
 - Hardware provides basic computing resources
 - CPU, memory, I/O devices
 - Operating system
 - Controls and coordinates use of hardware among various applications and users
 - Application programs define the ways in which the system resources are used to solve the computing problems of the users
 - Word processors, compilers, web browsers, database systems, video games
 - Users
 - People, machines, other computers



Four Components of a Computer System



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- □ OS is a resource allocator
 - Manages all resources
 - Decides between conflicting requests for efficient and fair resource use
- OS is a control program
 - Controls execution of programs to prevent errors and improper use of the computer





- □ No universally accepted definition
- "Everything a vendor ships when you order an operating system" is a good approximation
 - But varies wildly
- "The one program running at all times on the computer" is the kernel.
- Everything else is either
 - a system program (ships with the operating system), or
 - an application program.





- Most systems use a single general-purpose processor
 - Most systems have special-purpose processors as well
- Multiprocessors systems growing in use and importance
 - □ Also known as parallel systems, tightly-coupled systems
 - Advantages include:
 - 1. Increased throughput
 - 2. Economy of scale
 - 3. Increased reliability graceful degradation or fault tolerance
 - □ Two types:
 - Asymmetric Multiprocessing each processor is assigned a specie task.
 - 2. Symmetric Multiprocessing each processor performs all tasks





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- Multiprogramming (Batch system) needed for efficiency
 - Single user cannot keep CPU and I/O devices busy at all times
 - Multiprogramming organizes jobs (code and data) so CPU always has one to execute
 - A subset of total jobs in system is kept in memory
 - One job selected and run via job scheduling
 - □ When it has to wait (for I/O for example), OS switches to another job
- Timesharing (multitasking) is logical extension in which CPU switches jobs so frequently that users can interact with each job while it is running, creating interactive computing
 - Response time should be < 1 second</p>
 - □ Each user has at least one program executing in memory ⇒ process
 - □ If several jobs ready to run at the same time ⇒ CPU scheduling
 - If processes don't fit in memory, swapping moves them in and out to run
 - Virtual memory allows execution of processes not completely in memory



Operating System Services

- Operating systems provide an environment for execution of programs and services to programs and users
- One set of operating-system services provides functions that are helpful to the user:
 - User interface Almost all operating systems have a user interface (UI).
 - Varies between Command-Line (CLI), Graphics User Interface (GUI), Batch
 - Program execution The system must be able to load a program into memory and to run that program, end execution, either normally or abnormally (indicating error)
 - I/O operations A running program may require I/O, which may involve a file or an I/O device



Operating System Services (Cont.)

- One set of operating-system services provides functions that are helpful to the user (Cont.):
 - File-system manipulation The file system is of particular interest. Programs need to read and write files and directories, create and delete them, search them, list file Information, permission management.
 - Communications Processes may exchange information, on the same computer or between computers over a network
 - Communications may be via shared memory or through message passing (packets moved by the OS)
 - **Error detection** OS needs to be constantly aware of possible errors
 - May occur in the CPU and memory hardware, in I/O devices, in user program
 - For each type of error, OS should take the appropriate action to ensure correct and consistent computing
 - Debugging facilities can greatly enhance the user's and programmer's abilities to efficiently use the system



Operating System Services (Cont.)

- Another set of OS functions exists for ensuring the efficient operation of the system itself via resource sharing
 - Resource allocation When multiple users or multiple jobs running concurrently, resources must be allocated to each of them
 - Many types of resources CPU cycles, main memory, file storage, I/O devices.
 - Accounting To keep track of which users use how much and what kinds of computer resources
 - Protection and security The owners of information stored in a multiuser or networked computer system may want to control use of that information, concurrent processes should not interfere with each other
 - Protection involves ensuring that all access to system resources is controlled
 - Security of the system from outsiders requires user authentication, extends to defending external I/O devices from invalid access attempts



A View of Operating System Services



