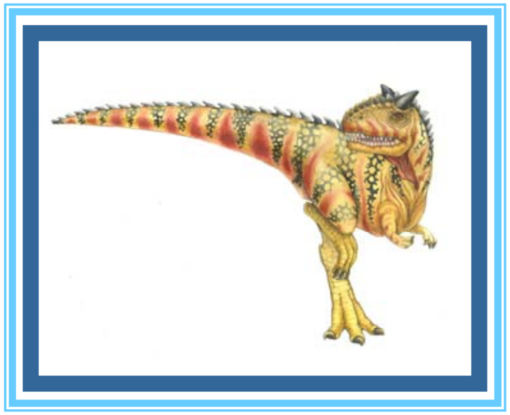
Chapter 1: Introduction



Chapter 1: Introduction

- What Operating Systems Do
- Computer-System Organization
- Computer-System Architecture
- Operating-System Structure
- Operating-System Operations
- Process Management
- Memory Management
- Storage Management
- Protection and Security
- Kernel Data Structures
- Computing Environments
- Open-Source Operating Systems

Objectives

- To describe the basic organization of computer systems
- To provide a grand tour of the major components of operating systems
- To give an overview of the many types of computing environments
- To explore several open-source operating systems

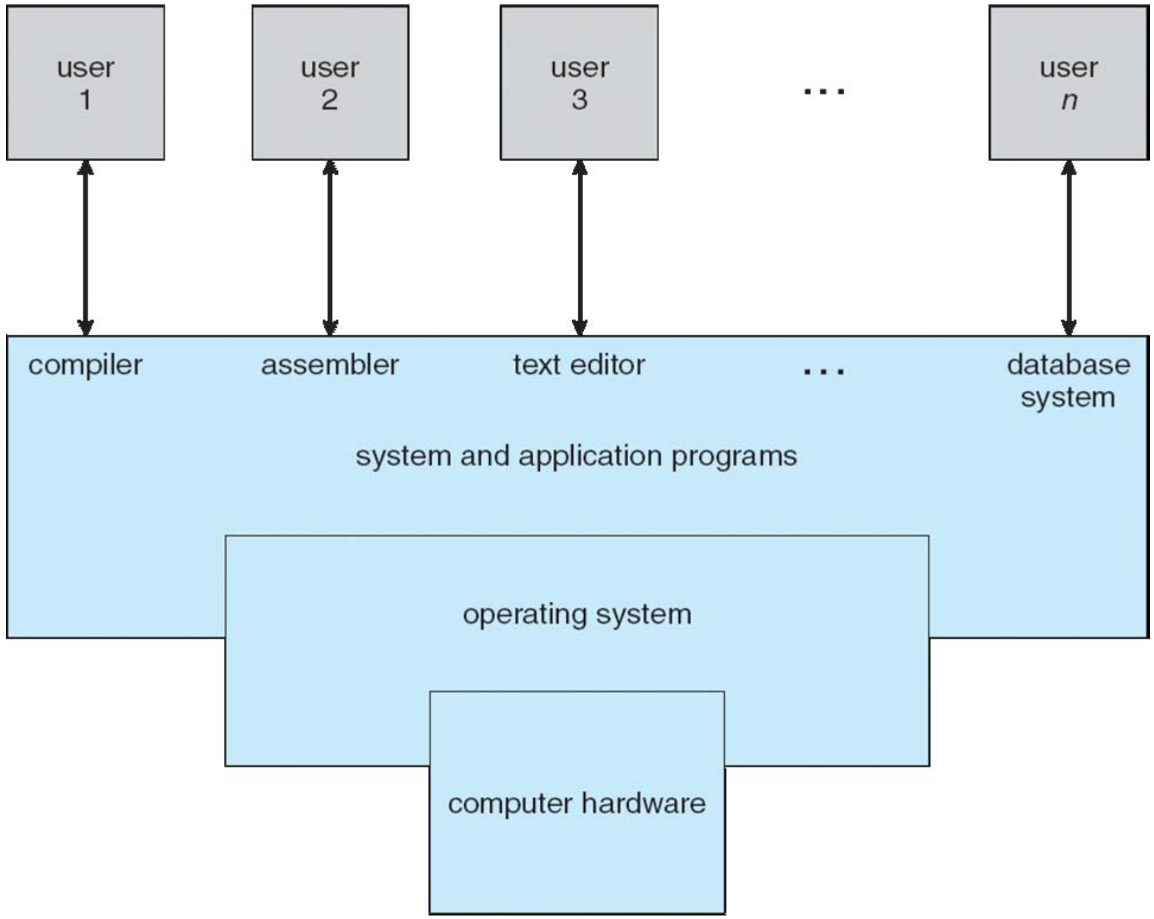
What is an Operating System?

- 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 Structure

- 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



What Operating Systems Do

- Depends on the point of view
- PC users want **convenience**, **ease of use** and **good performance**
  - Don't care about **resource utilization**
- But shared computer such as **mainframe** or **minicomputer** must keep all users happy, and thus resource utilization must be efficient.
- Users of dedicate systems such as **workstations** have dedicated resources but frequently use shared resources from **servers**
  - Balance between individual usability and resource utilization
- Handheld computers are resource poor, optimized for usability and battery life
- Some computers have little or no user interface, such as embedded computers in devices and automobiles

Operating System Definition

- 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

Operating System Definition (Cont.)

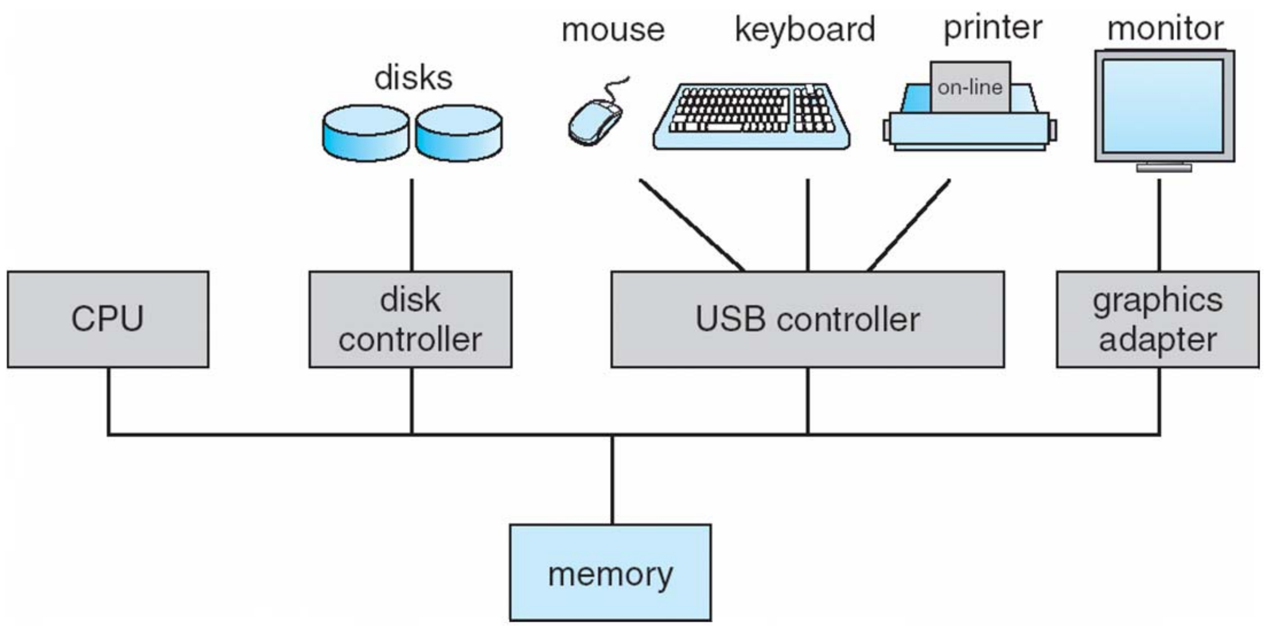
- No universally accepted definition
- "Everything a vendor ships when you order an operating system" is a good approximation
  - But varies wildly
- "The one program running at all times on the computer" is the **kernel**.
- Everything else is either
  - a system program (ships with the operating system)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

Computer Startup

- **bootstrap program** is loaded at power-up or reboot
  - Typically stored in ROM or EEPROM, generally known as **firmware**
  - Initializes all aspects of system
    - CPU registers, device controllers, memory contents
  - Loads operating system kernel and starts execution

Computer System Organization

- Computer-system operation
  - One or more CPUs, device controllers connect through common bus providing access to shared memory
  - Concurrent execution of CPUs and devices competing for memory cycles. A memory controller synchronizes access to the memory.



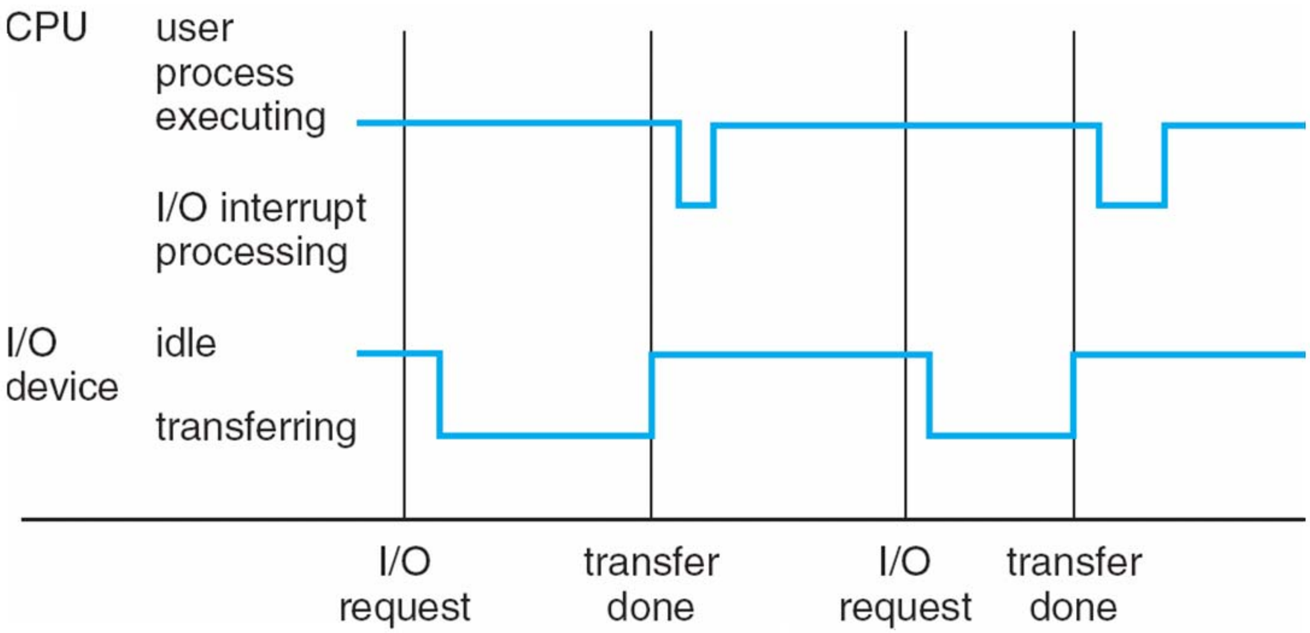
Computer-System Operation

- I/O devices and the CPU can execute concurrently
- Each device controller is in charge of a particular device type
- Each device controller has a local buffer
- CPU moves data from/to main memory to/from local buffers
- Device controller informs CPU that it has finished its operation by causing an interrupt

Common Functions of Interrupts

- Interrupt transfers control to the interrupt service routine generally, through the **interrupt vector**, which contains the addresses of all the service routines
- Interrupt architecture must save the address of the interrupted instruction
- A **trap** or **exception** is a software-generated interrupt caused either by an error or a user request
- An operating system is **interrupt driven**

Interrupt Timeline



Storage Definitions and Notation Review

CPU can load instructions only from memory.

The basic unit of computer storage is the **bit**. A bit can contain one of two values, 0 and 1. All other storage in a computer is based on collections of bits. Given enough bits, it is amazing how many things a computer can represent: numbers, letters, images, movies, sounds, documents, and programs, to name a few. A **byte** is 8 bits, and on most computers it is the smallest convenient chunk of storage. For example, most computers don't have an instruction to move a bit but do have one to move a byte. A less common term is **word**, which is a given computer architecture's native unit of data. A word is made up of one or more bytes. For example, a computer that has 64-bit registers and 64-bit memory addressing typically has 64-bit (8-byte) words. A computer executes many operations in its native word size rather than a byte at a time.

Computer storage, along with most computer throughput, is generally measured and manipulated in bytes and collections of bytes.
A **kilobyte**, or **KB**, is 1,024 bytes
a **megabyte**, or **MB**, is $1{,}024^2$ bytes
a **gigabyte**, or **GB**, is $1{,}024^3$ bytes
a **terabyte**, or **TB**, is $1{,}024^4$ bytes
a **petabyte**, or **PB**, is $1{,}024^5$ bytes

Computer manufacturers often round off these numbers and say that a megabyte is 1 million bytes and a gigabyte is 1 billion bytes. Networking measurements are an exception to this general rule; they are given in bits (because networks move data a bit at a time).

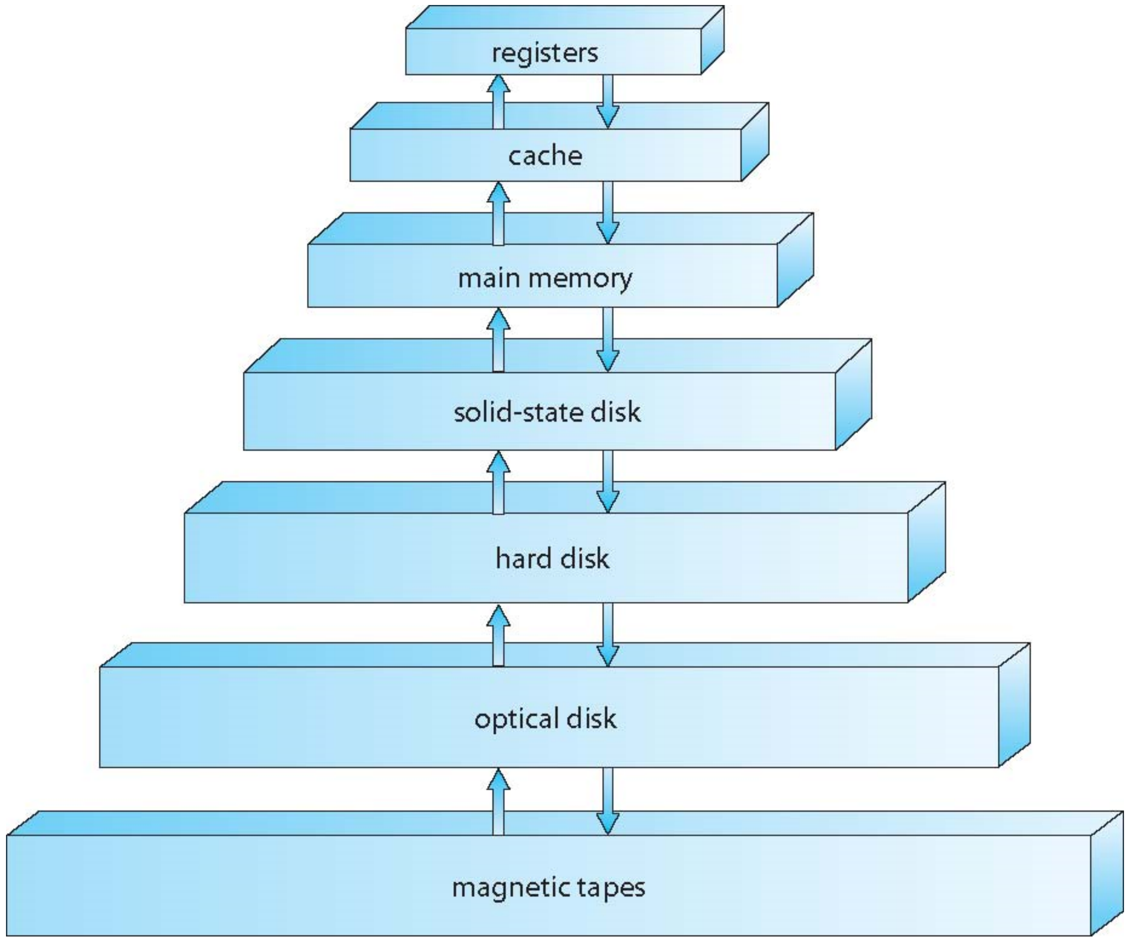
Storage Structure

- Main memory – only large storage media that the CPU can access directly
  - **Random access**
  - Typically **volatile**
- Secondary storage – extension of main memory that provides large **nonvolatile** storage capacity
- Hard disks – rigid metal or glass platters covered with magnetic recording material
  - Disk surface is logically divided into **tracks**, which are subdivided into **sectors**
  - The **disk controller** determines the logical interaction between the device and the computer
- **Solid-state disks** – faster than hard disks, nonvolatile
  - Various technologies
  - Becoming more popular

Storage Hierarchy

- Storage systems organized in hierarchy
  - Speed
  - Cost
  - Volatility
- **Caching** – copying information into faster storage system; main memory can be viewed as a cache for secondary storage
- **Device Driver** for each device controller to manage I/O
  - Provides uniform interface between controller and kernel

Storage-Device Hierarchy



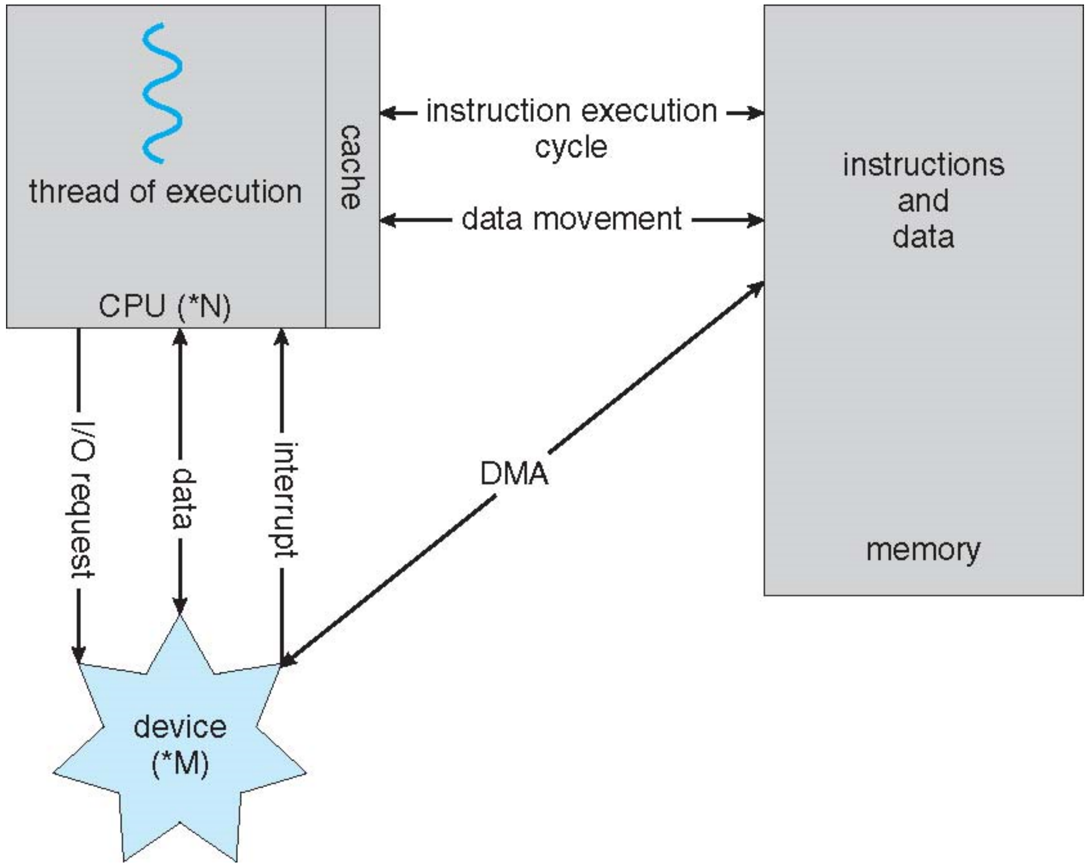
Caching

- Important principle, performed at many levels in a computer (in hardware, operating system, software)
- Information in use copied from slower to faster storage temporarily
- Faster storage (cache) checked first to determine if information is there
  - If it is, information used directly from the cache (fast)
  - If not, data copied to cache and used there
- Cache smaller than storage being cached
  - Cache management important design problem
  - Cache size and replacement policy

Direct Memory Access Structure

- Used for high-speed I/O devices able to transmit information at close to memory speeds
- Device controller transfers blocks of data from buffer storage directly to main memory without CPU intervention
- Only one interrupt is generated per block, rather than the one interrupt per byte

How a Modern Computer Works

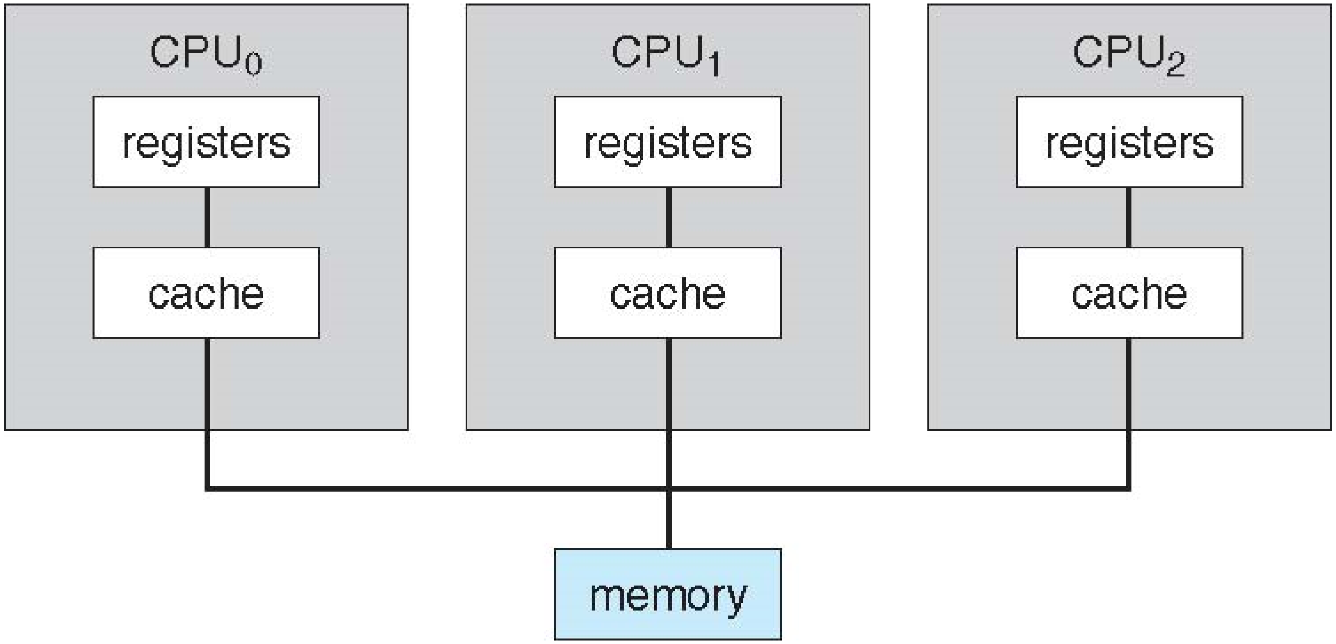


A von Neumann architecture

Computer-System Architecture

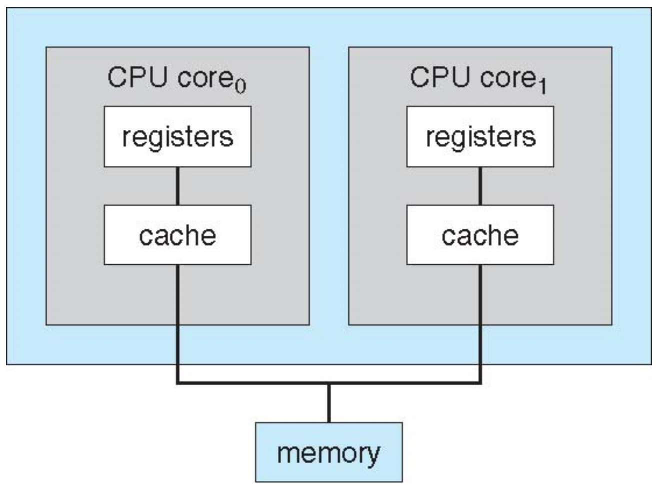
- Most systems use a single general-purpose processor
  - Most systems have special-purpose processors as well, like device controllers
- **Multiprocessors** systems growing in use and importance
  - Also known as **parallel systems**, **tightly-coupled systems**
  - Advantages include:
    1. **Increased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

Symmetric Multiprocessing Architecture



A Dual-Core Design

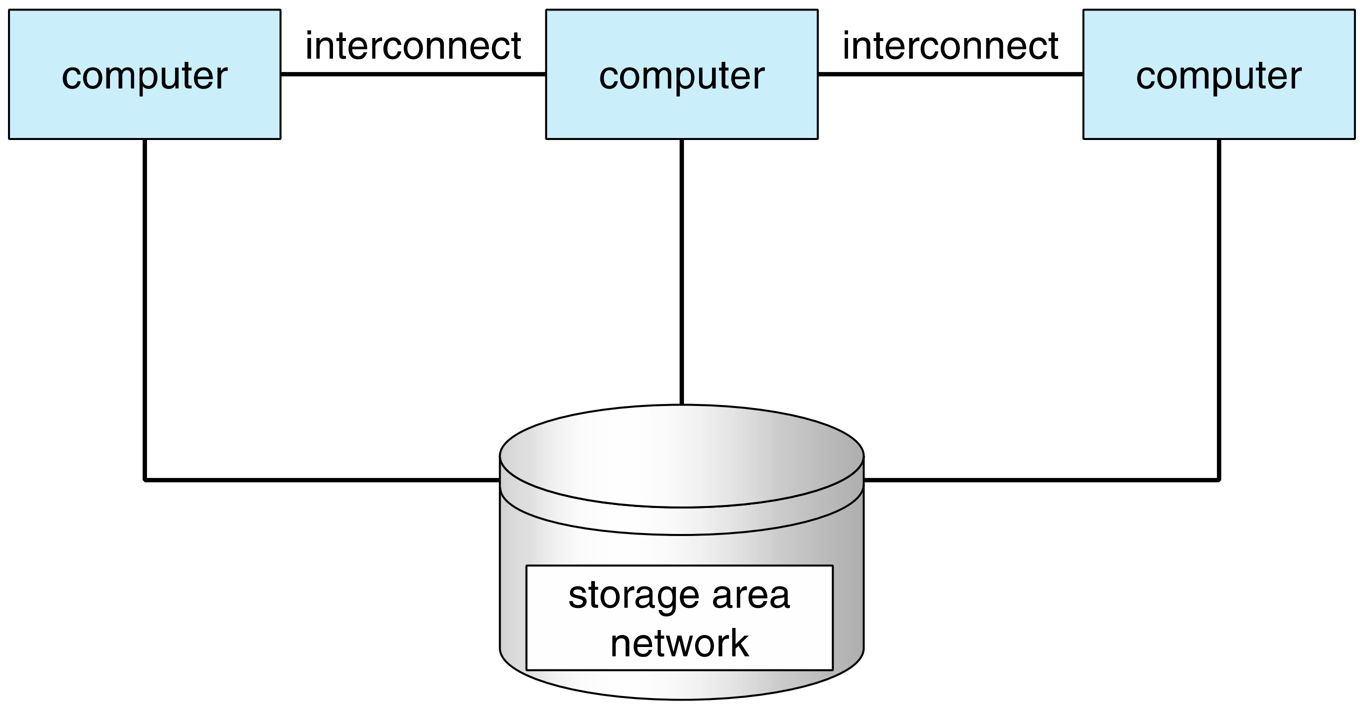
- Multi-chip and **multicore**
- Multicore system is more efficient than multi-chip system
  - On-chip communication is faster than between-chip communication.



Clustered Systems

- Like multiprocessor systems, but multiple systems working together
  - Usually sharing storage via a **storage-area network (SAN)**
  - Provides a **high-availability** service which survives failures
    - **Asymmetric clustering** has one machine in hot-standby mode
    - **Symmetric clustering** has multiple nodes running applications, monitoring each other
  - Some clusters are for **high-performance computing (HPC)**
    - Applications must be written to use **parallelization**

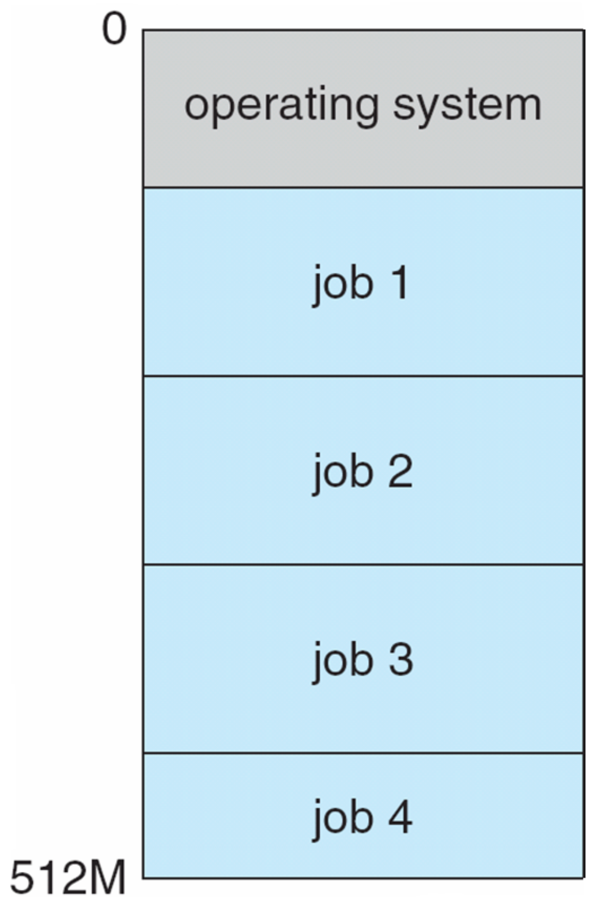
Clustered Systems



Operating System Structure

- **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
  - 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

Memory Layout for Multiprogrammed System

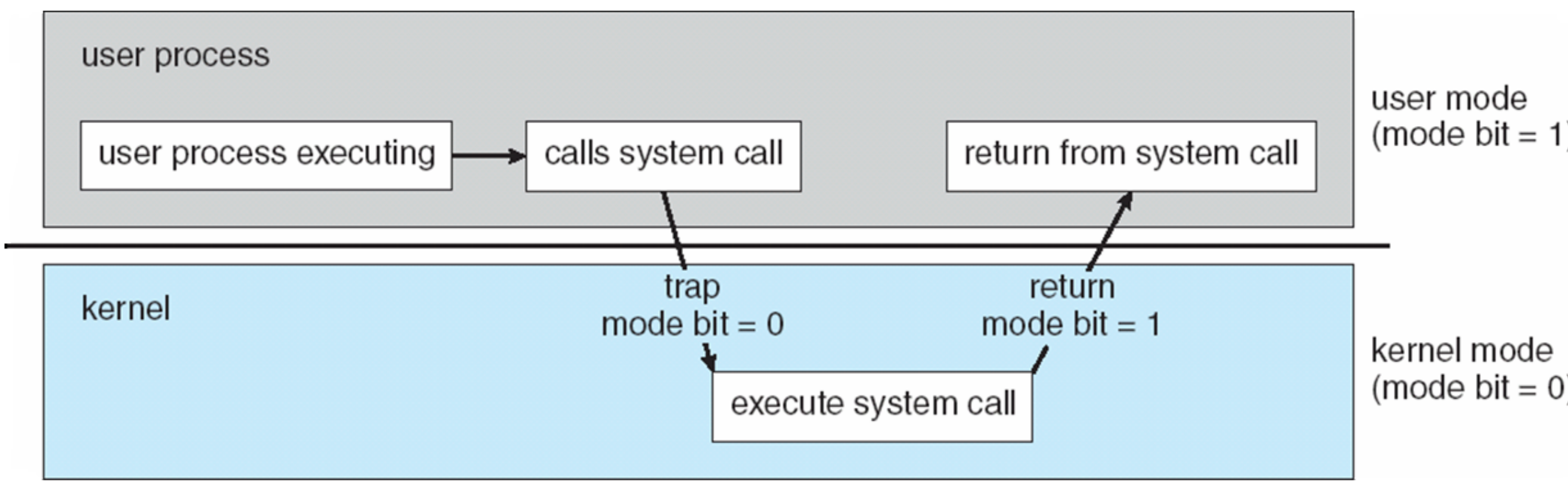


Operating-System Operations

- **Interrupt driven** (hardware and software)
  - Hardware interrupt by one of the devices
  - Software interrupt (**exception** or **trap):**
    - Software error (e.g., division by zero)
    - Request for operating system service
    - Other process problems include infinite loop, processes modifying each other or the operating system

Operating-System Operations (cont.)

- **Dual-mode** operation allows OS to protect itself and other system components
  - **User mode** and **kernel mode**
  - **Mode bit** provided by hardware (e.g., CS register in CPU)
    - Provides ability to distinguish when system is running user code or kernel code
    - Some instructions designated as **privileged**, only executable in kernel mode
    - System call changes mode to kernel, return from call resets it to user



Process Management

- A process is a program in execution. It is a unit of work within the system. Program is a ***passive entity***, process is an ***active entity***.
- Process needs resources to accomplish its task
  - CPU, memory, I/O, files
  - Initialization data
- Process termination requires reclaim of any reusable resources
- Single-threaded process has one **program counter** specifying location of next instruction to execute
  - Process executes instructions sequentially, one at a time, until completion
- Multi-threaded process has one program counter per thread
- Typically system has many processes, some user, some operating system running concurrently on one or more CPUs
  - Concurrency by multiplexing the CPUs among the processes / threads

Process Management Activities

The operating system is responsible for the following activities in connection with process management:

- Creating and deleting both user and system processes
- Suspending and resuming processes
- Providing mechanisms for process synchronization
- Providing mechanisms for process communication
- Providing mechanisms for deadlock handling

Memory Management

- To execute a program all (or part) of the instructions must be in memory
- All (or part) of the data that is needed by the program must be in memory.
- Memory management determines what is in memory and when
  - Optimizing CPU utilization and computer response to users
- Memory management activities
  - Keeping track of which parts of memory are currently being used and by whom
  - Deciding which processes (or parts thereof) and data to move into and out of memory
  - Allocating and deallocating memory space as needed

File-system Management

- OS provides uniform, logical view of information storage
  - Abstracts physical properties to logical storage unit - **file**
  - Each medium is controlled by device (i.e., disk drive, tape drive)
    - Varying properties include access speed, capacity, data-transfer rate, access method (sequential or random)
- File-System management
  - Files usually organized into directories
  - Access control on most systems to determine who can access what
  - OS activities include
    - Creating and deleting files and directories
    - Primitives to manipulate files and directories
    - Backup files onto stable (non-volatile) storage media

Mass-Storage Management

- Usually disks used to store data that does not fit in main memory or data that must be kept for a "long" period of time
- Proper management is of central importance
- Entire speed of computer operation hinges on disk subsystem and its algorithms
- OS activities
  - Free-space management
  - Storage allocation
  - Disk scheduling
- Some storage need not be fast
  - Tertiary storage includes optical storage, magnetic tape
  - Still must be managed – by OS or applications
  - Varies between WORM (write-once, read-many-times) and RW (read-write)

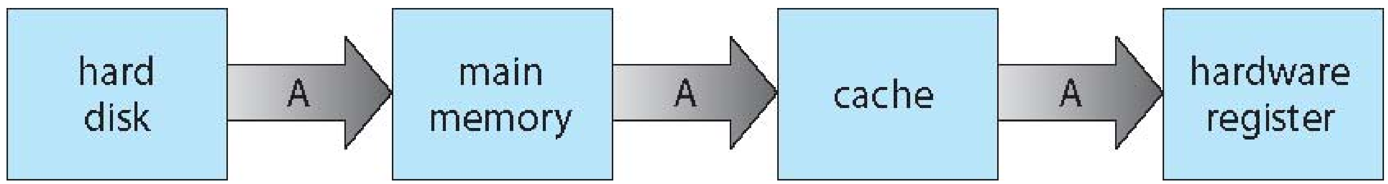
Performance of Various Levels of Storage

Level	1	2	3	4	5
Name	registers	cache	main memory	solid state disk	magnetic disk
Typical size	< 1 KB	< 16MB	< 64GB	< 1 TB	< 10 TB
Implementation technology	custom memory with multiple ports CMOS	on-chip or off-chip CMOS SRAM	CMOS SRAM	flash memory	magnetic disk
Access time (ns)	0.25 - 0.5	0.5 - 25	80 - 250	25,000 - 50,000	5,000,000
Bandwidth (MB/sec)	20,000 - 100,000	5,000 - 10,000	1,000 - 5,000	500	20 - 150
Managed by	compiler	hardware	operating system	operating system	operating system
Backed by	cache	main memory	disk	disk	disk or tape

- Movement between levels of storage hierarchy can be explicit or implicit
  - Hardware function: cache to CPU and registers
  - OS function: disk to memory

Migration of data “A” from Disk to Register

- Multitasking environments must be careful to use most recent value, no matter where it is stored in the storage hierarchy



- Multiprocessor environment must provide **cache coherency** in hardware such that all CPUs have the most recent value in their cache
- Distributed environment situation even more complex
  - Several copies of a datum can exist
  - Various solutions covered in Chapter 17

I/O Subsystem

- One purpose of OS is to hide peculiarities of hardware devices from the user
- I/O subsystem responsible for
  - Memory management of I/O including buffering, caching, spooling
  - General device-driver interface
  - Drivers for specific hardware devices

Computing Environments - Traditional

- Stand-alone general purpose machines
- But the line separating traditional computing environments have blurred as most systems interconnect with others (i.e., the Internet)
- **Portals** provide web access to internal systems
- **Network computers** (**thin clients**) are like Web terminals
- Mobile computers interconnect via **wireless networks**
- Networking becoming ubiquitous – even home systems use **firewalls** to protect home computers from Internet attacks

Computing Environments - Mobile

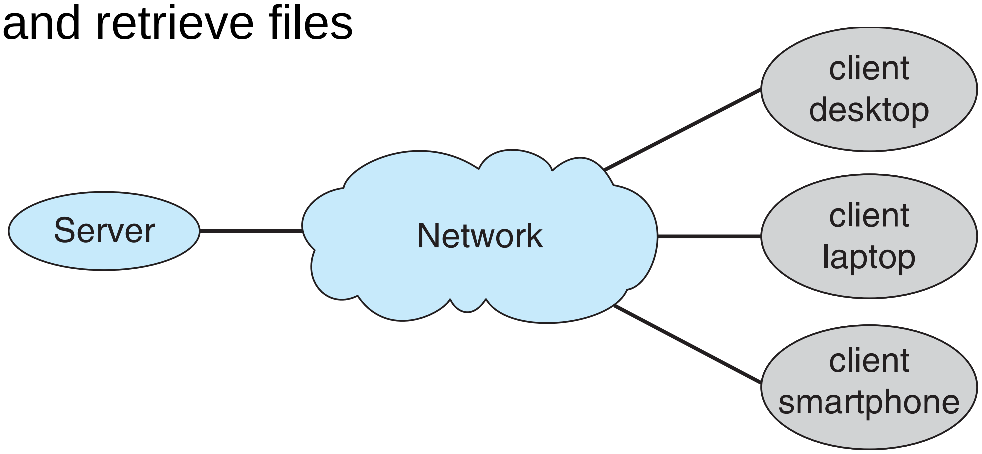
- Handheld smartphones, tablets, etc
- What is the functional difference between them and a "traditional" laptop?
- Extra feature – more OS features (GPS, gyroscope)
- Allows new types of apps like ***augmented reality***
- Use IEEE 802.11 wireless, or cellular data networks for connectivity
- Leaders are **Apple iOS** and **Google Android**

Computing Environments – Distributed

- Distributed computing
  - Collection of separate, possibly heterogeneous, systems networked together
    - **Network** is a communications path, **TCP/IP** most common
      - **Local Area Network** (**LAN**)
      - **Wide Area Network** (**WAN**)
      - **Metropolitan Area Network** (**MAN**)
      - **Personal Area Network** (**PAN**)
  - **Network Operating System** provides features between systems across network
    - E.g., file sharing and communication scheme to allow systems to exchange messages
    - Illusion of a single system

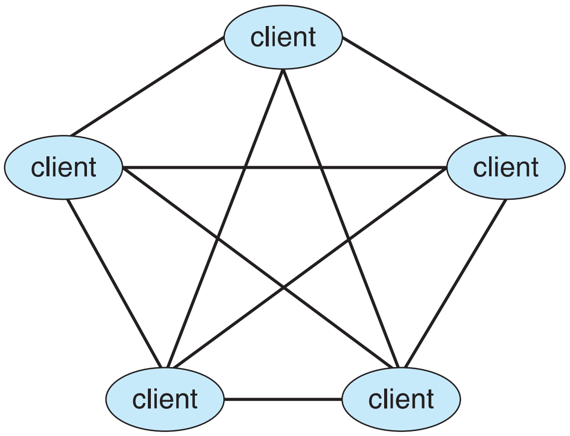
Computing Environments – Client-Server

- A specialized distributed system
- Client-Server Computing
  - Dumb terminals supplanted by smart PCs
  - Many systems now **servers**, responding to requests generated by **clients**
    - **Compute-server system** provides an interface to client to request services (i.e., database)
    - **File-server system** provides interface for clients to store and retrieve files



Computing Environments - Peer-to-Peer

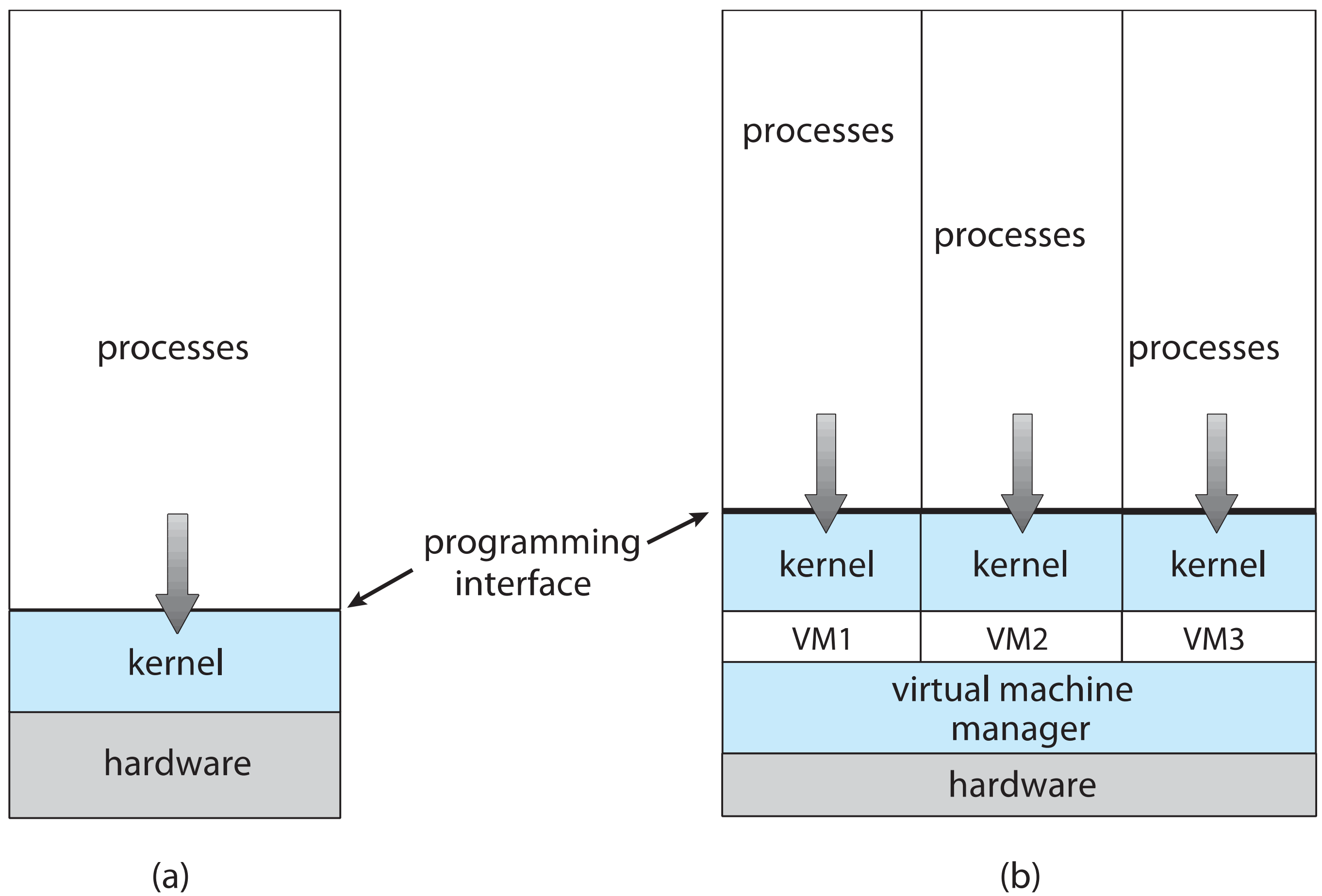
- Another model of distributed system
- P2P does not distinguish clients and servers
  - Instead all nodes are considered peers
  - May each act as client, server or both
  - Node must join P2P network
    - Registers its service with central lookup service on network, or
    - Broadcast request for service and respond to requests for service via ***discovery protocol***
  - Examples include Napster and Gnutella, **Voice over IP** (**VoIP**) such as Skype



Computing Environments - Virtualization

- Allows operating systems to run as applications within other OSes
  - Vast and growing industry
- Use cases involve laptops and desktops running multiple OSes for exploration or compatibility
  - Apple laptop running Mac OS X host, Windows as a guest
  - Developing apps for multiple OSes without having multiple systems
  - QA testing applications without having multiple systems
  - Executing and managing compute environments within data centers

Computing Environments - Virtualization

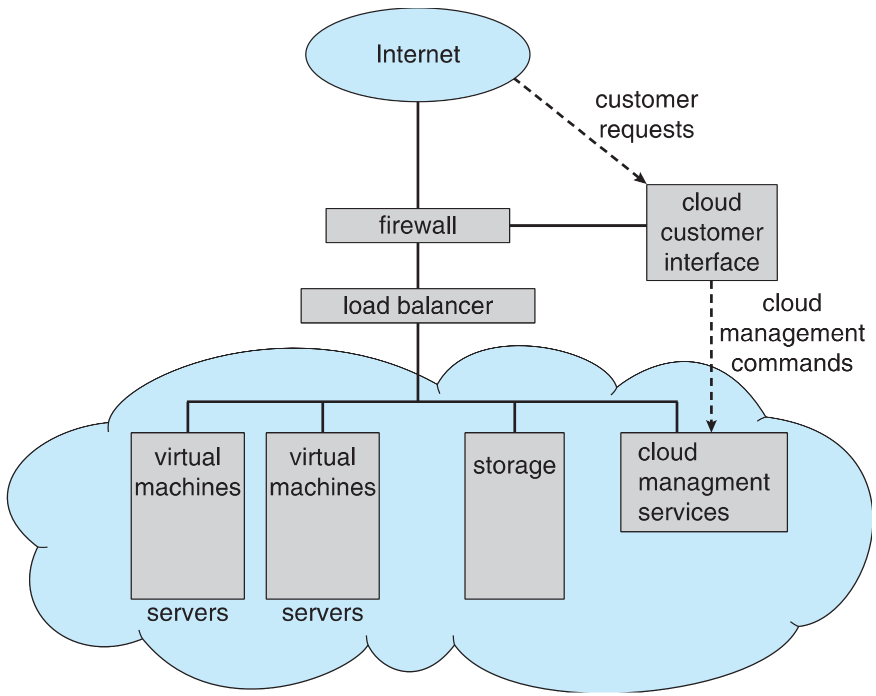


Computing Environments – Cloud Computing

- Delivers computing, storage, even apps as a service across a network
- Logical extension of virtualization because it uses virtualization as the base for it functionality.
  - Amazon **EC2** has thousands of servers, millions of virtual machines, petabytes of storage available across the Internet, pay based on usage
- Many types
  - **Public cloud** – available via Internet to anyone willing to pay
  - **Private cloud** – run by a company for the company's own use
  - **Hybrid cloud** – includes both public and private cloud components
  - Software as a Service (**SaaS**) – one or more applications available via the Internet (i.e., word processor)
  - Platform as a Service (**PaaS**) – software stack ready for application use via the Internet (i.e., a database server)
  - Infrastructure as a Service (**IaaS**) – servers or storage available over Internet (i.e., storage available for backup use)

Computing Environments – Cloud Computing

- Cloud computing environments composed of traditional OSes, plus VMMs, plus cloud management tools
  - Internet connectivity requires security like firewalls
  - Load balancers spread traffic across multiple applications



Computing Environments – Real-Time Embedded Systems

- Real-time embedded systems most prevalent form of computers
  - Vary considerable, special purpose, limited purpose OS, **real-time OS**
  - Use expanding
- Many other special computing environments as well
  - Some have OSes, some perform tasks without an OS
- Real-time OS has well-defined fixed time constraints
  - Processing ***must*** be done within constraint
  - Correct operation only if constraints met

Open-Source Operating Systems

- Operating systems made available in source-code format rather than just binary **closed-source**
- Counter to the **copy protection** and **Digital Rights Management (DRM)** movement
- Started by **Free Software Foundation (FSF)**, which has "copyleft" **GNU Public License (GPL)**
- Examples include **GNU/Linux** and **BSD UNIX** (including core of **Mac OS X**), and many more

End of Chapter 1