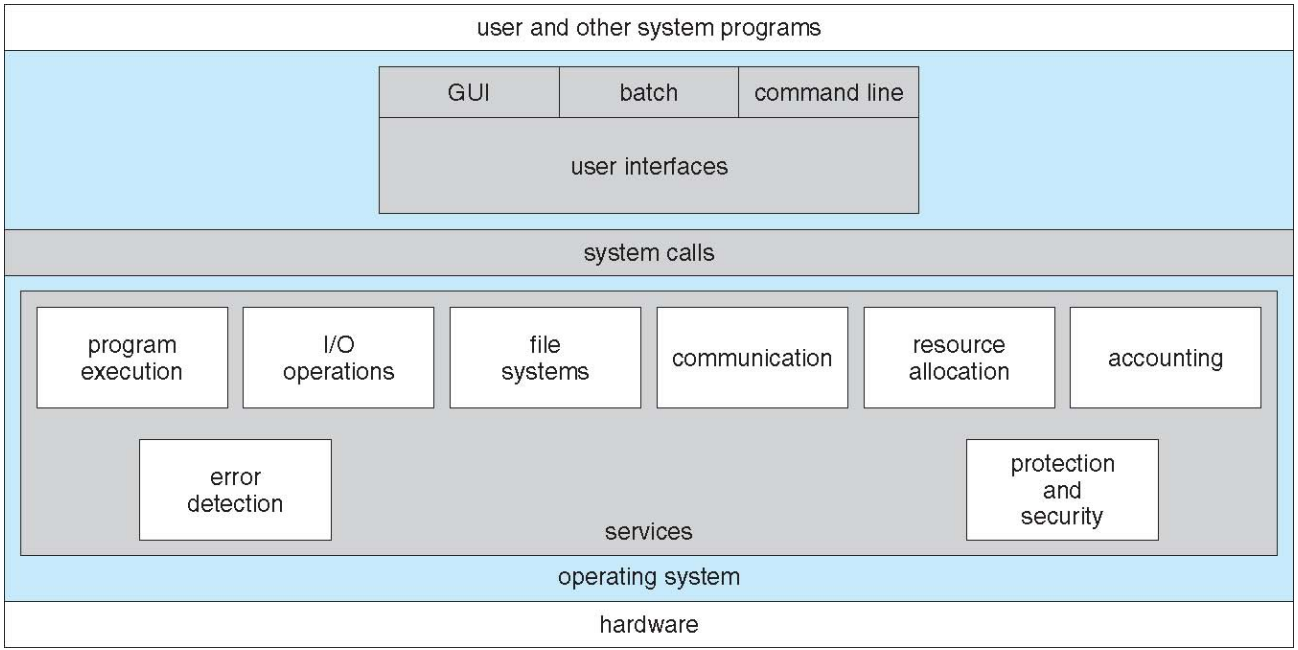
OPERATING SYSTEMS

OS STRUCTURE

Operating System Services

Operating System Services



The Operating System is

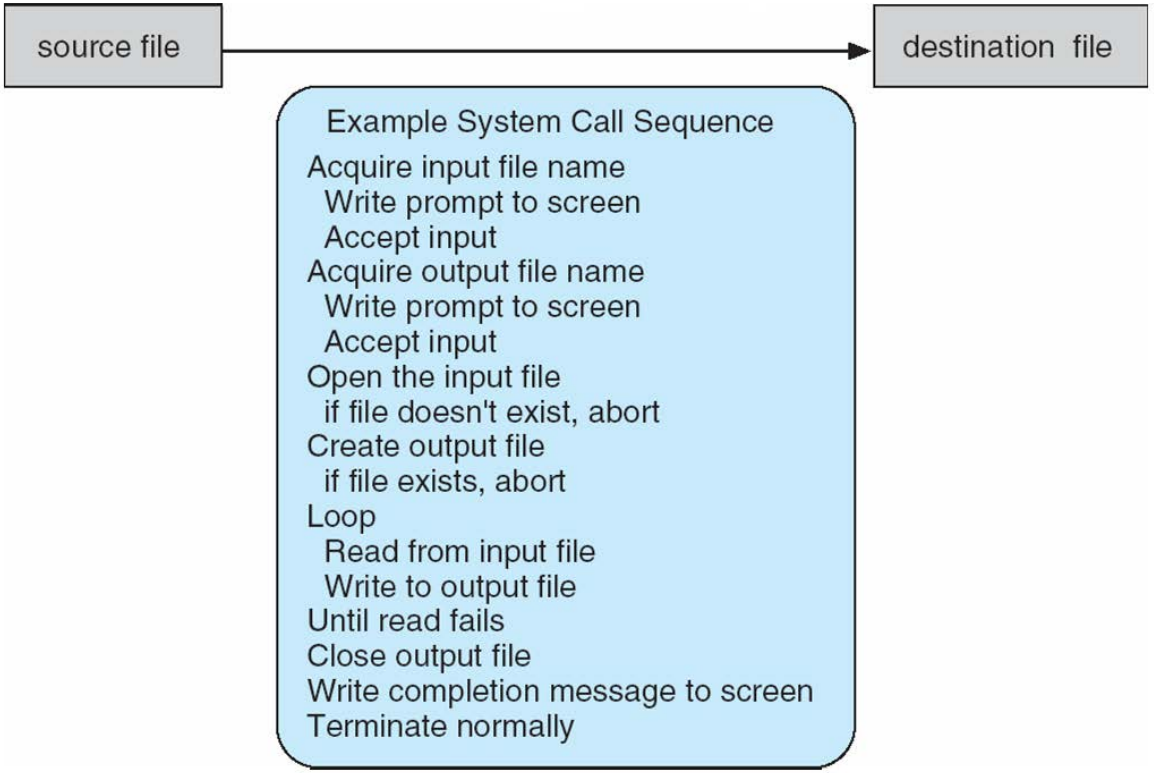
- A Human-Machine Interface
  - allows a simple interaction with the underlying hardware
- A Management Systems
  - resource sharing among users and programs
- A System that evolves with time
  - to keep up with the evolution of hardware platforms
  - to keep up with new users' requests

System Calls

What is a system call?

- A system call is a function of the OS usually part of one the system libraries
  - usually written in a high level language such as C, C++, etc.
  - small portions might be written in the assembly language
- The programmer interacts with the OS through APIs (Application Programming Interfaces)
  - a high level function performing one user task such as opening a file, etc.
  - it may contain more than one system call

Example API and system calls



File copy

Example API

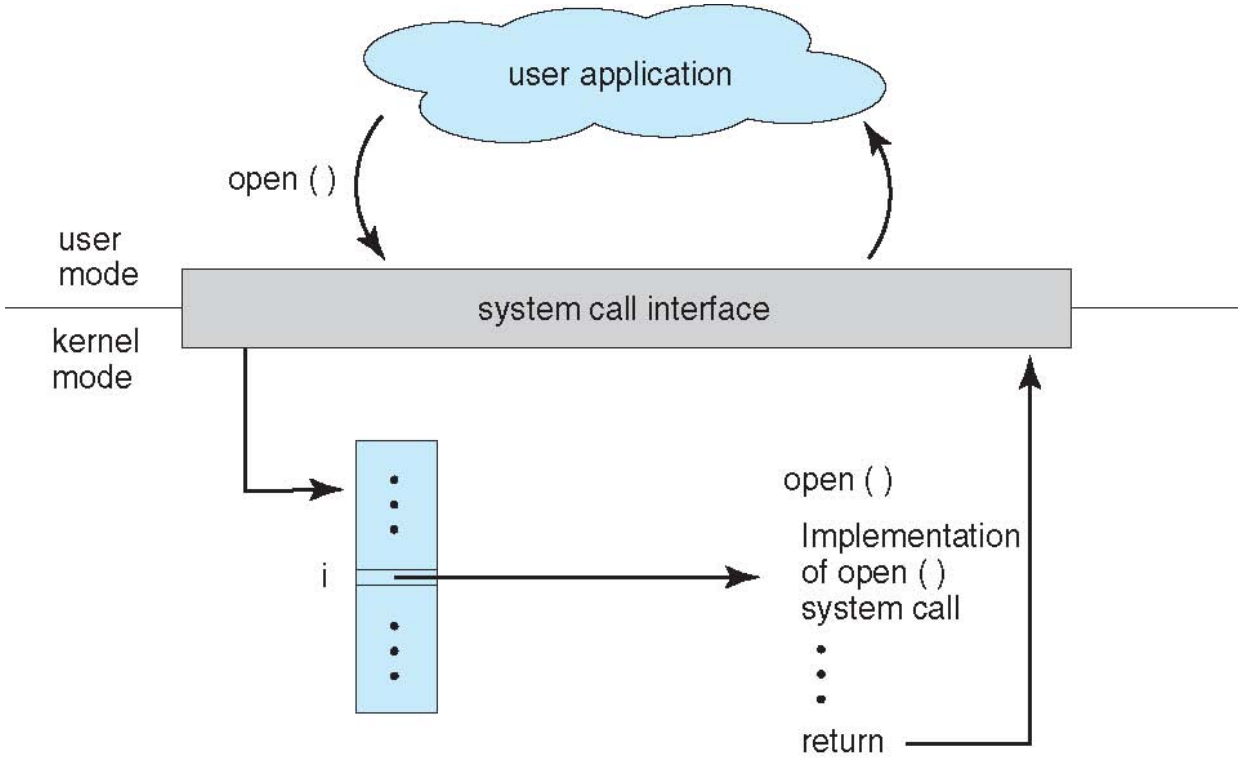
```
#include <unistd.h>

ssize_t     read(int fd, void *buf, size_t count)
```

return value — function name — parameters

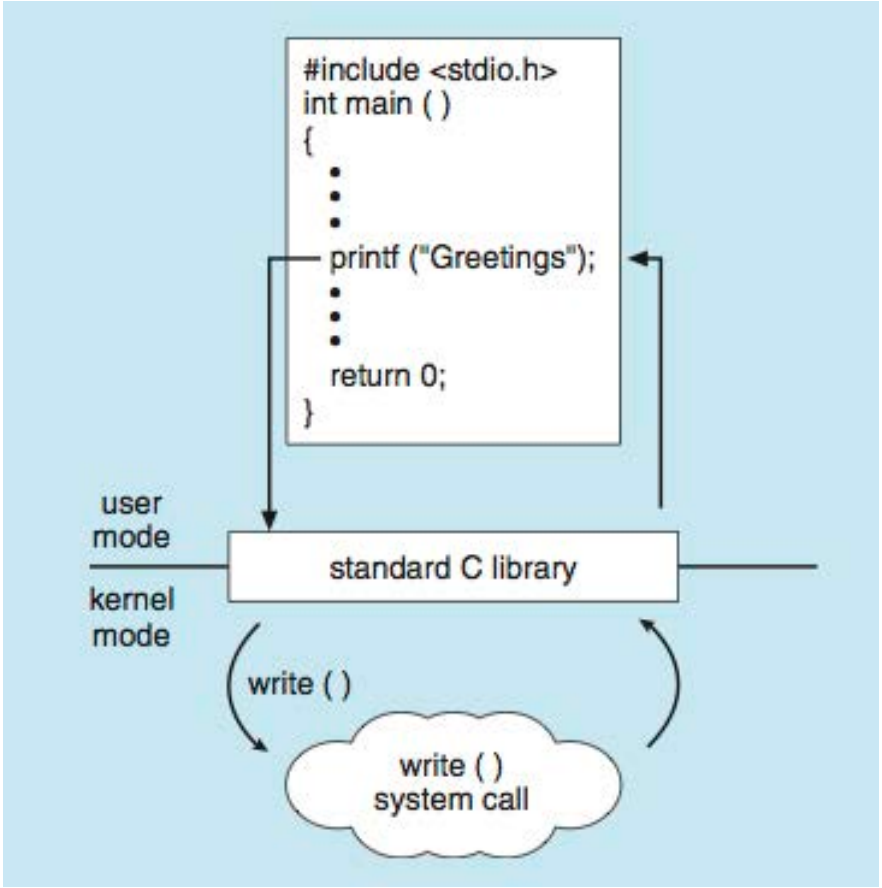
- `read()` - API UNIX - Linux
  - `int fd` the file descriptor to be read
  - `void *buf` a buffer where the data will be read into
  - `size_t count` the max number of bytes to be read into the buffer

This function returns the number of bytes that are read

The open ( ) system call



The `write()` system call



System call categories

Process Control

File Management

Device Management

OS Configuration and Settings

Communication

UNIX Vs. Win32 System Calls

	Windows	UNIX

Process Control	`CreateProcess()`
	`ExitProcess()`
	`WaitForSIngleObject()`
		`fork()`
		`exit()`
		`wait()`

File Management	`CreateFile()`
	`ReadFile()`
	`WriteFile()`
	`CloseHandle()`
		`open()`
		`read()`
		`write()`
		`close()`

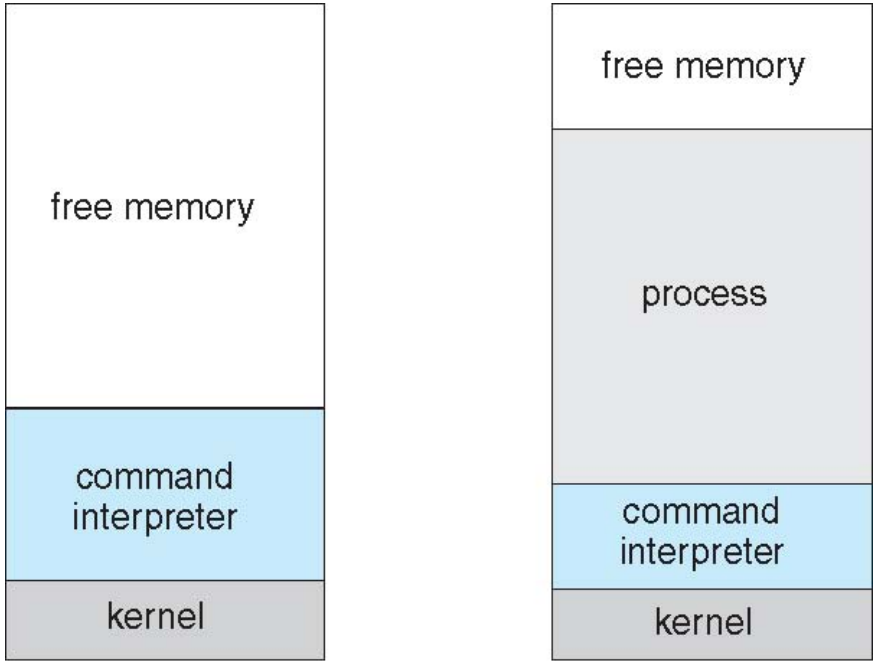
Device Management	`SetConsoleMode()`
	`ReadConsole()`
	`WriteConsole()`
		`ioctl()`
		`read()`
		`write()`

System Info	`GetCurrentProcessID()`
	`SetTimer()`
	`Sleep()`
		`getpid()`
		`alarm()`
		`sleep()`

Communication	`CreatePipe()`
	`CreateFileMapping()`
	`MapViewOfFIle()`
		`pipe()`
		`shmget()`
		`nmap()`

Protection and Security	`SetFileSecurity()`
	`InitializeSecurityDescriptor()`
	`SetSecurityDescriptorGroup()`
		`chmod()`
		`umask()`
		`chown()`

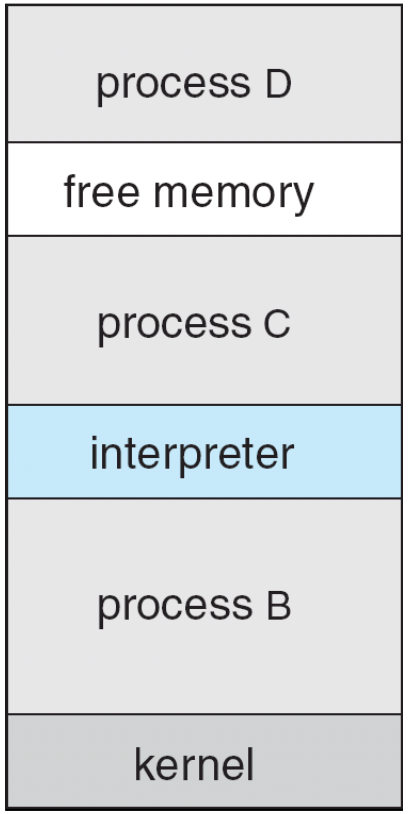
MS-DOS



(a) at system startup

(b) running a program

FreeBSD


process D
free memory
process C
interpreter
process B
kernel

System Programs

System Programs

- Utilities
  - File management, modification, and backup
  - Status information
  - Programming environments (text editors, compilers, debugger, etc.)
- Application programs usually distributed with the OS but nor part of the OS
  - Web browser
  - Office automation
  - Music and Video Players

Operating System Design and Implementation

Three Phases

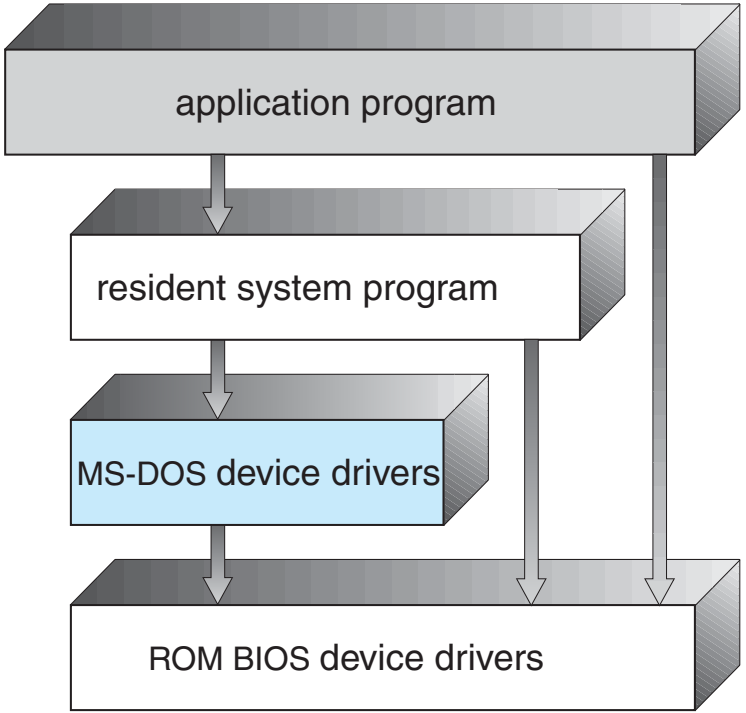
- OS Scope
  - Users and system goals
- Policies and mechanisms
  - What the OS will have to do and how it will do it
- Implementation
  - High-level language and assembly language

Operating System Structures

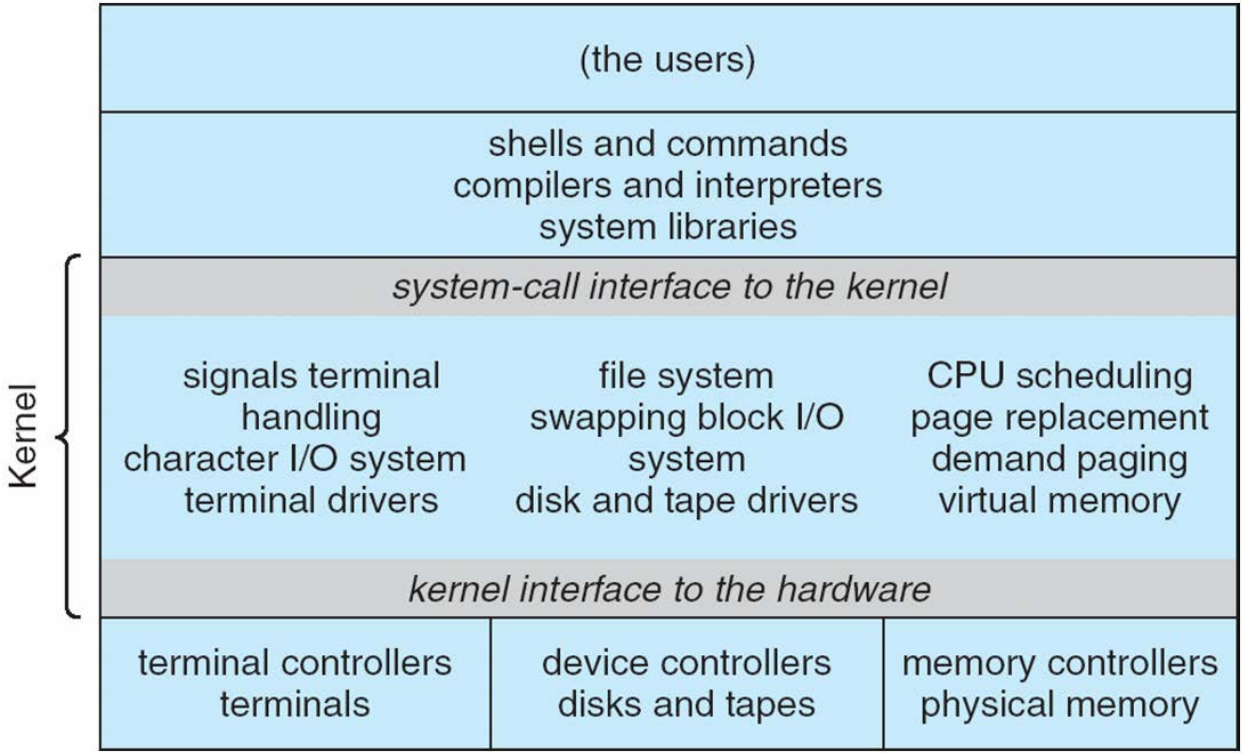
Simple Structure

- Typical of old operating systems
  - Tightly coupled to an individual hardware architecture
  - Limited by hardware functionalities
  - MS-DOS and initial UNIX versions
- Main characteristics
  - Not divided into modules
    - Monolithic kernel
  - User programs have direct access to the I/O

Simple structure MS-DOS



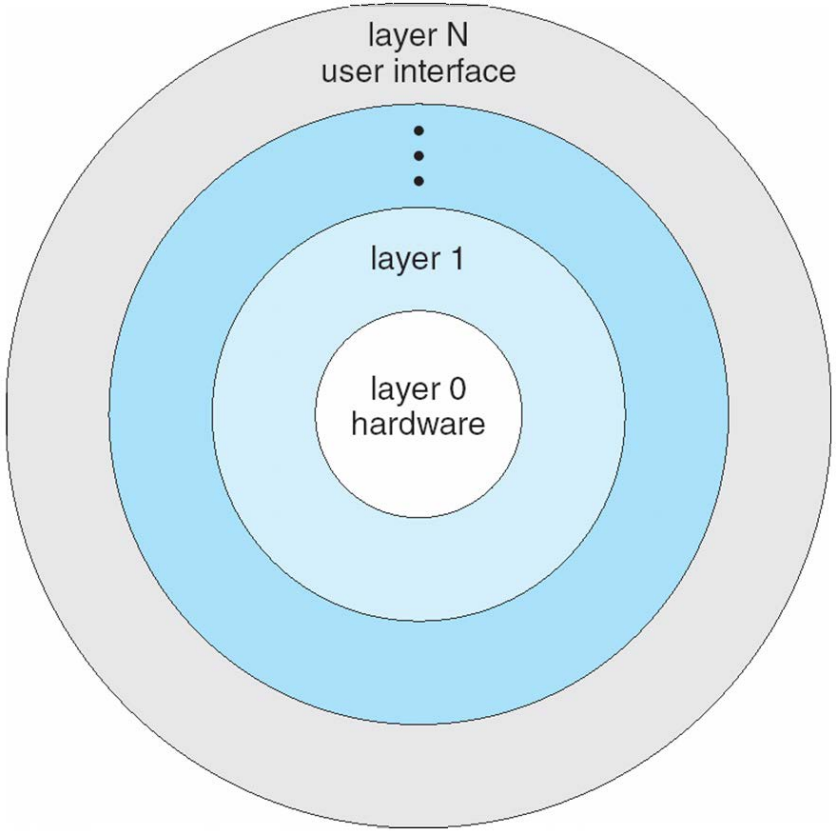
Traditional UNIX System Structure



Layered Approach

- Need specific hardware support
- Modularity
- The OS *hides* most of the low level functionalities
  - Protection from improper use
  - System update and upgrade is easier
  - Programmers interact with APIs

Layered Approach



How many layers?

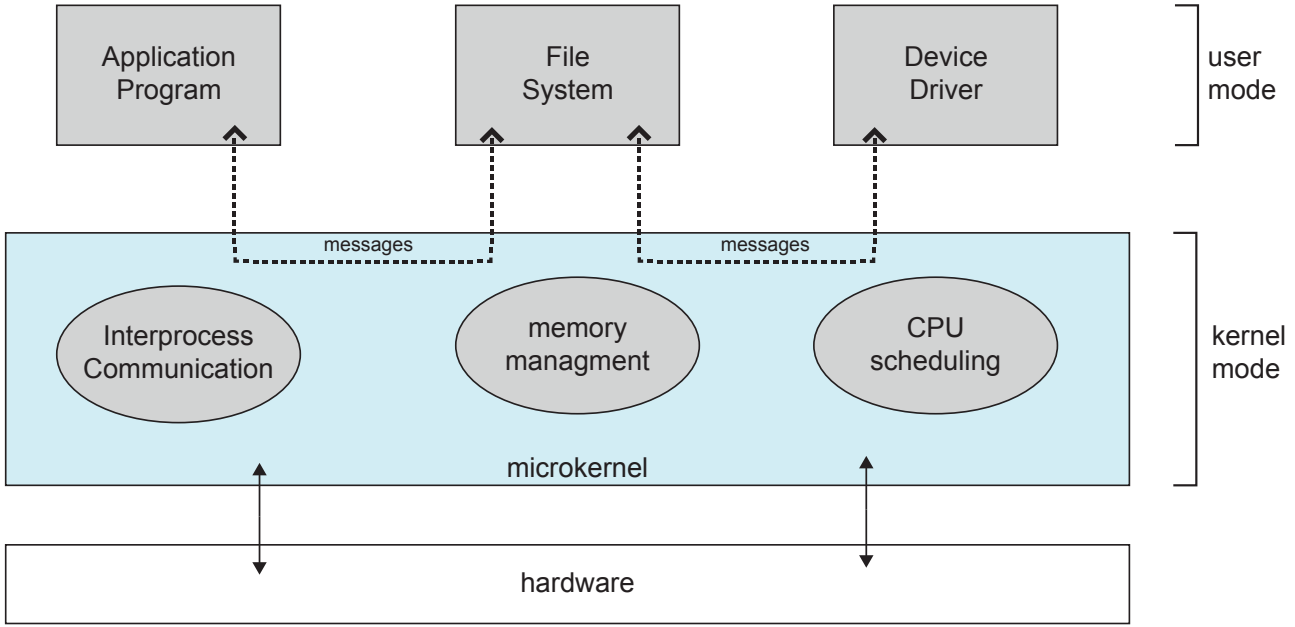
Which functions in each layer?

System effectiveness

Microkernel

- '80s: The size of OS *kernels* was too large
- Microkernel approach
  identification of the core functions, all other functions implemented as user processes
  - e.g., the Mach OS (Carnegie Mellon)
- External components are implemented as server processes
  - they interact with each other through message passing via the kernel
    - it can slow down the system

Microkernel



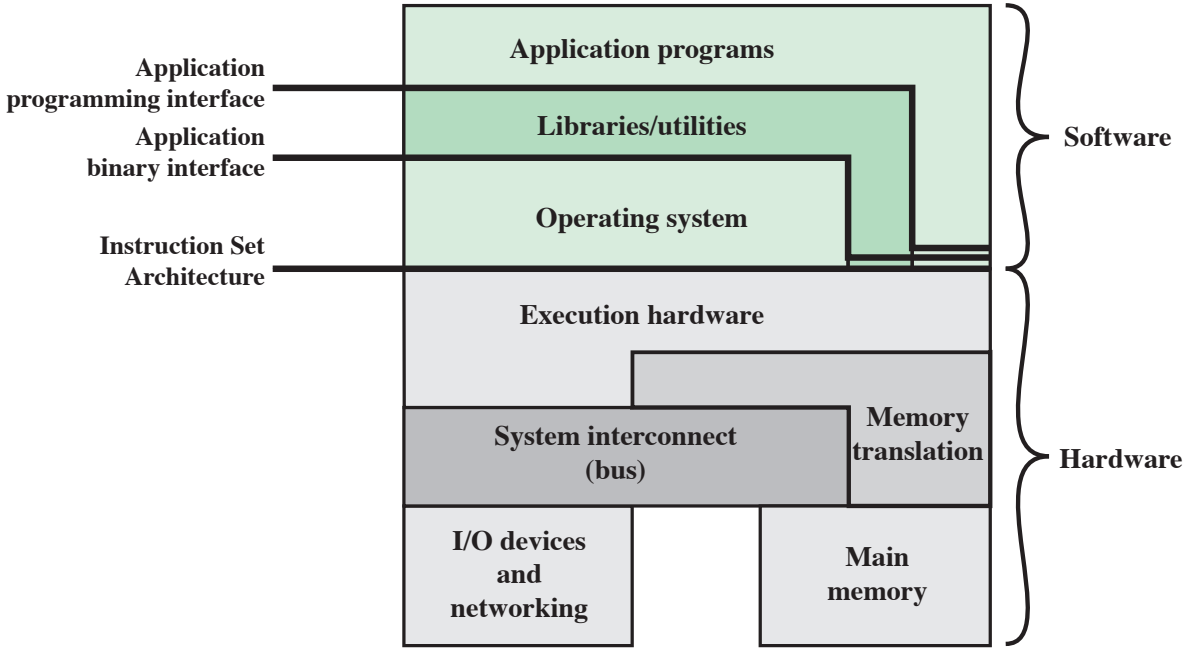
Modular structure

- Designed according to the Object Oriented Programming paradigm
  - the kernel contains only core components
  - other functions are implemented as modules that can be dynamically loaded
    - e.g., support for different file systems
  - modules can communicate to each other without calling the kernel
- This structures combines the benefits of microkernel with the layered structure

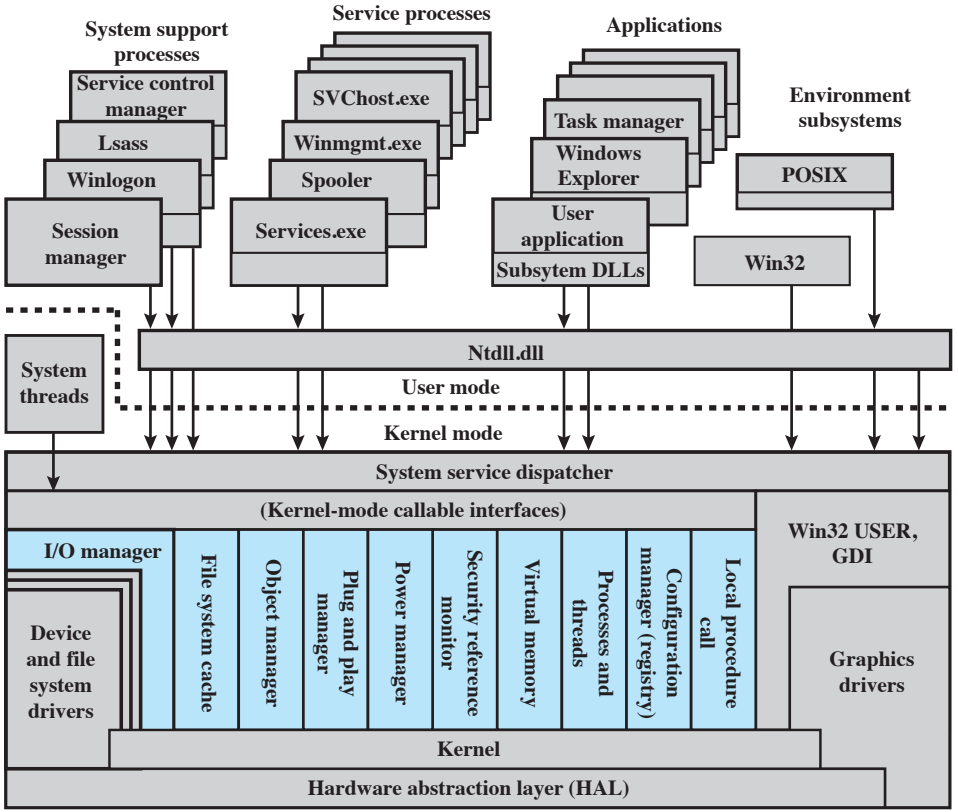
Ibrid Structures

- Modern OS does not strictly follow a particular structures
- Each function can be implemented according to one of the available structures according to the
  - goals
  - expected performances
  - user experience

Modern OS structures



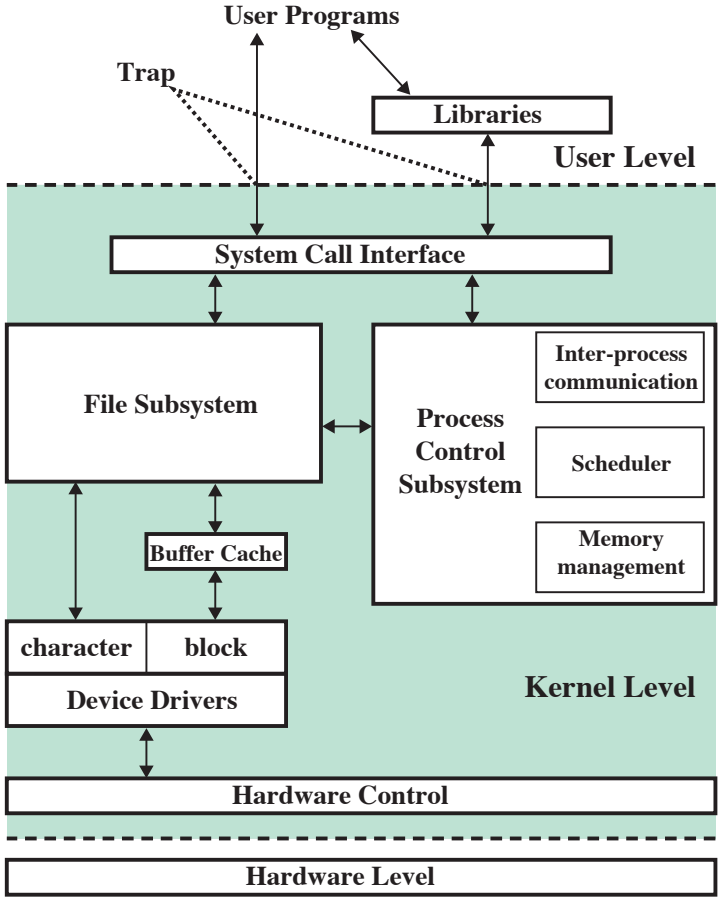
MS Windows Structure



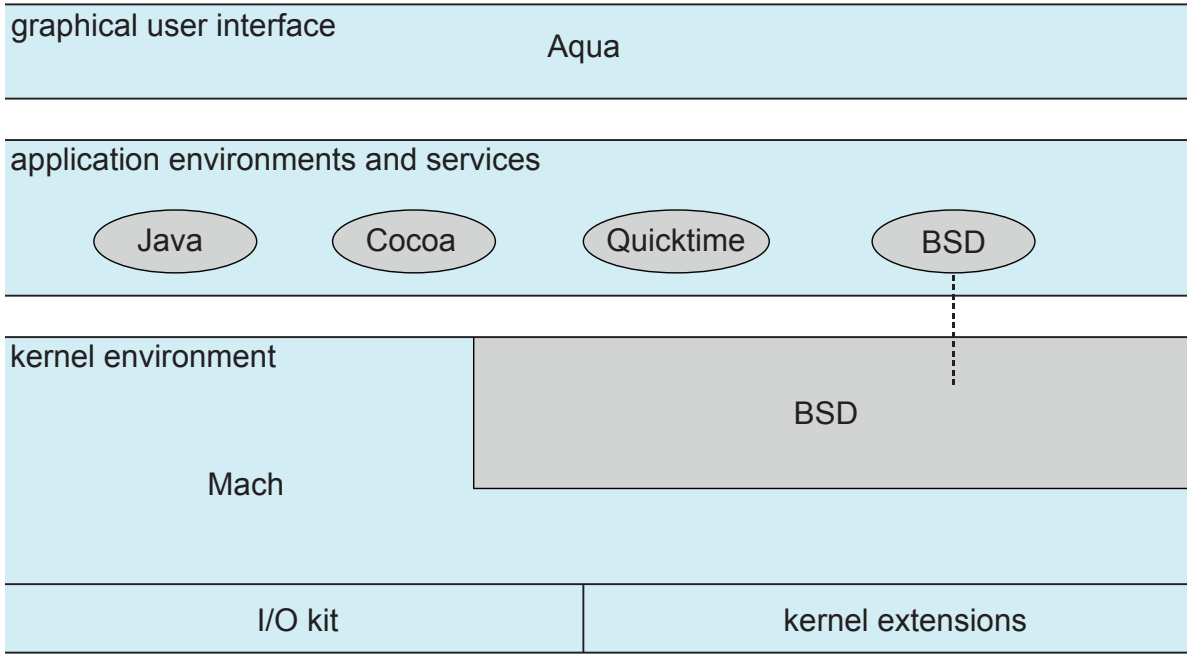
Lsass = local security authentication server
POSIX = portable operating system interface
GDI = graphics device interface
DLL = dynamic link libraries

Colored area indicates Executive

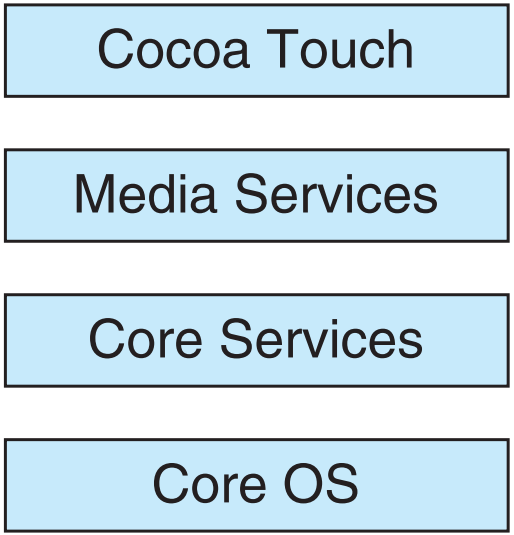
UNIX Structure



macOS Structure



iOS Structure



Android Structure