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OSs for low-power devices (in particular mobile phones) are a huge source of research

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Where several users (customers) are sharing the same hardware, but each has their own, private OS running their own, private applications

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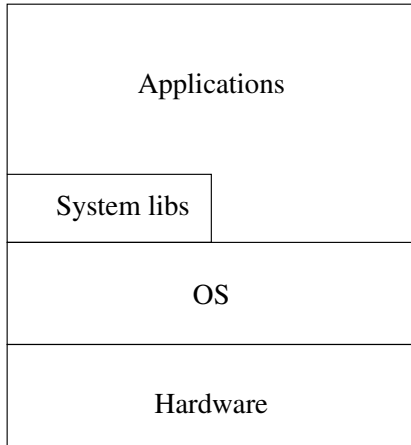
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Originally, OSs were the software closest to the hardware: with OS virtualisation, this is no longer necessarily true

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Traditional OS

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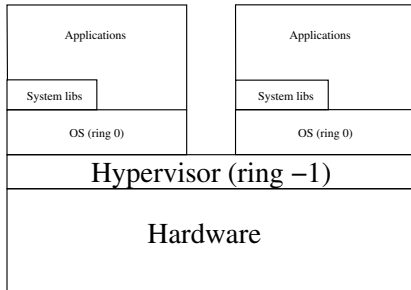
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So the solution is to have multiple, simultaneous OSs on a single machine

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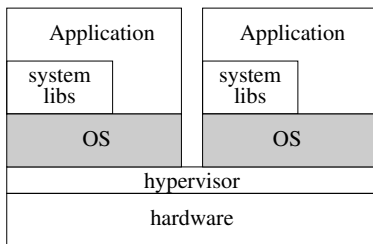
Virtualised OSs

Hypervisors appeared in IBM mainframes in the late 1960s

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There are several ways OS virtualisation is done

Conclusion of OS



Bare metal virtualisation has a thin layer, the *hypervisor*, to manage the hardware, allowing each OS to see separate "virtual hardware" which they manage

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Examples: Xen, Hyper-V

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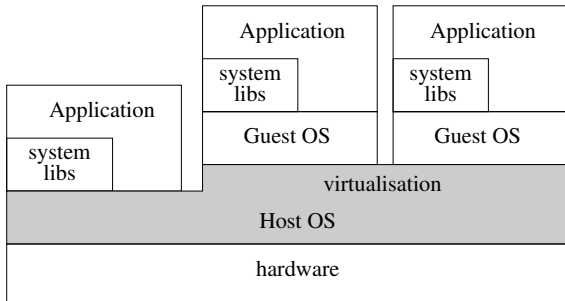
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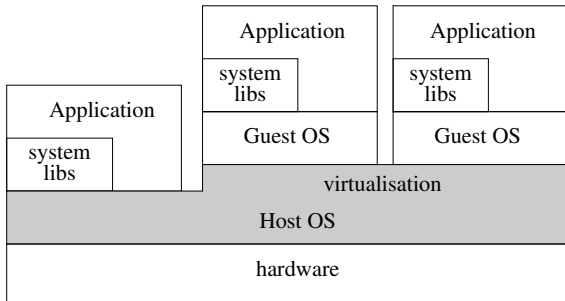
Good for sharing the computer amongst users who have requirements for different OSs

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Hosted virtualisation has a normal *host* OS that runs virtualisation code. One or more *guest* OSs run on top of that

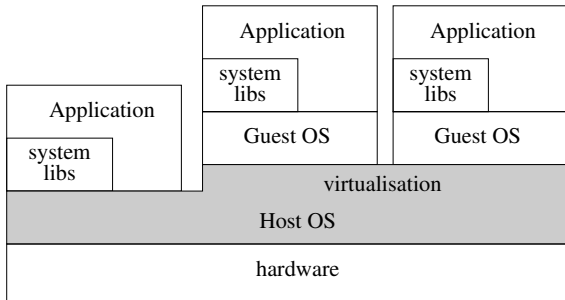
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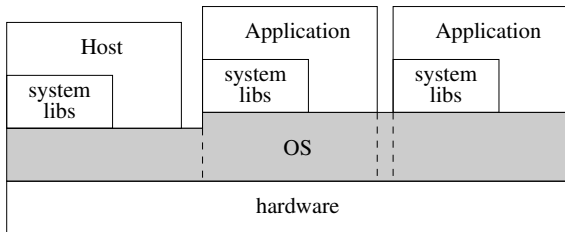


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Good for when you need sophisticated management of the guest OSs by the host OS, for example in Cloud provision

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Not quite OS virtualisation, but with the same target applications is *containers*. The applications share the same OS, but the OS is rigidly partitioned so each container cannot see or influence what is happening in other containers (e.g., CPU limits)

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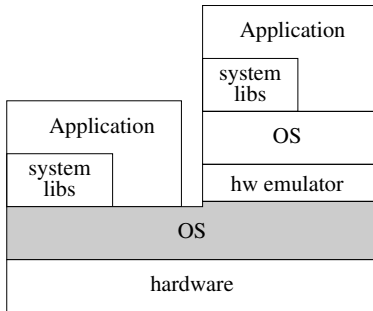
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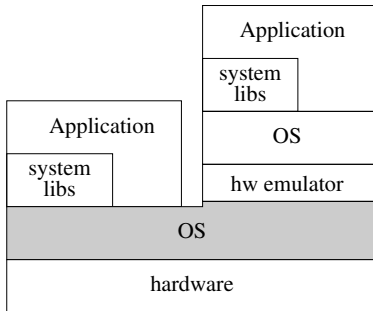
Good for application delivery, where an application needs a lot of specific system library support: so we deliver the systems libraries with the application!

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Or on an X86 emulation on ARM hardware

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Exercise Compare with Apple's new Rosetta software that allows Intel code to run on Arm hardware (only user code, though)

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Exercise Read up on Cloud Services, Software as a Service (SaaS), Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Software Appliances

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Welcome to the 1960s!

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Exercise On Mars, the autonomous helicopter drone Ingenuity (brought by the lander Perseverance) runs Linux on a 500Hz (not MHz!) processor. Read about this

Exercise Play with an OS you are not familiar with (Mac, Win or Lin or other) and learn the ways it does things. Write, compile and run a program

Exercise Read about the advances in persistent memory: comparable in speed to main memory, but retains data when power cycled like disk (*non-volatile*). What changes would we need from an OS to deal with such a technology?