TCSS 558: APPLIED DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING

Virtualization, Clients and Servers

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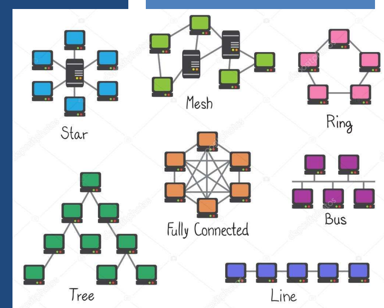
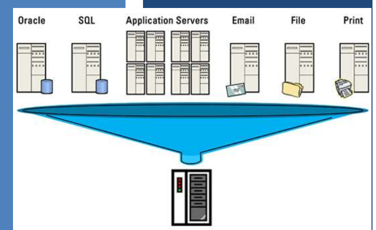


OBJECTIVES

- Assignment 1
- Feedback from 10/24
- Ch. 3 – Processes and threads
  - Virtualization
  - Clients
  - Servers



CH. 3.2: VIRTUALIZATION

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VIRTUALIZATION

- Initially introduced in the 1970s on IBM mainframe computers
- Legacy operating systems run in mainframe-based VMs
- Legacy software could be sustained by virtualizing legacy OSes
- 1970s virtualization went away as desktop/rack-based hardware became inexpensive

- Virtualization reappears in 2000s to leverage multi-core, multi-CPU processor systems
- VM-Ware virtual machines enable companies to host many virtual servers with mixed OSes on private clusters
- Cloud computing: Amazon offers VMs as-a-service (IaaS)

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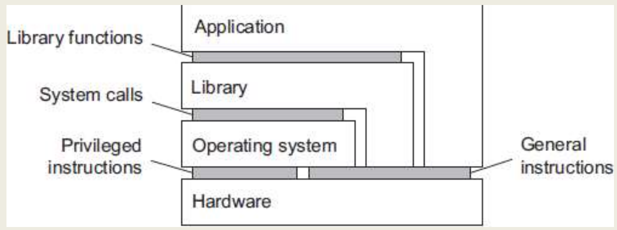
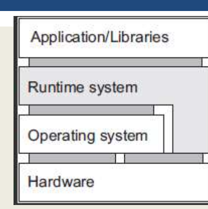
TYPES OF VIRTUALIZATION

- **Levels of instructions:**
- **Hardware**: CPU
  - Privileged instructions KERNEL MODE
  - General instructions USER MODE
- **Operating system**: system calls
- **Library**: programming APIs: e.g. C/C++,C#, Java libraries
- **Application**:
- **Goal of virtualization:** mimic these interface to provide a virtual computer

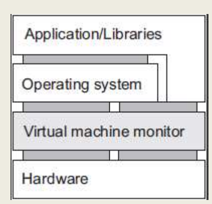


TYPES OF VIRTUALIZATION - 2

- **Process virtual machine**
  - Interpret instructions: (interpreters) (JavaVM) byte code → HW instructions
  - Emulate instructions: (emulators) (Wine) windows code → Linux code

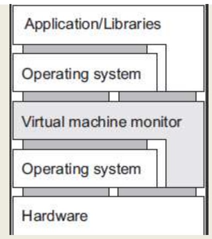


- **Native virtual machine monitor (VMM)**
  - Hypervisor (XEN): small OS with its own kernel
  - Provides an interface for multiple guest OSes
  - Facilitates sharing/scheduling of CPU, device I/O among many guests
  - Guest OSes require special kernel to interface with VMM
  - **Paravirtualization**



TYPES OF VIRTUALIZATION - 3

- **Hosted virtual machine monitor (VMM)**
  - Runs atop of hosted operating system
  - Uses host OS facilities for CPU scheduling, I/O
  - Full virtualization
  - Virtualbox



- *Text - note 3.5 –good explanation of full vs. paravirtualization*
- GOAL: run all user mode instructions directly on the CPU
- x86 instruction set has ~17 privileged user mode instructions
- Full virtualization: scan the EXE, insert code around privileged instructions to divert control to the VMM
- Paravirtualization: special OS kernel eliminates side effects of privileged instructions

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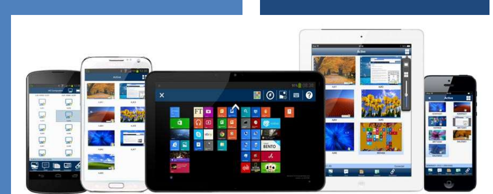

CH. 3.3: CLIENTS

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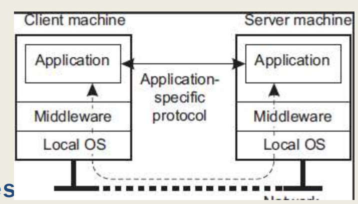
TYPES OF CLIENTS

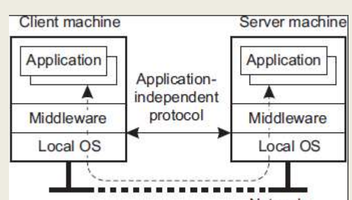
- Thick clients
  - Web browsers
    - Client-side scripting
  - Mobile apps
  - Multi-tier MVC apps
- Thin clients
  - Remote desktops/GUIs (very thin)

CLIENTS

- Application specific protocol
  - Thick clients
  - Clients maintain local data
  - Middleware (APIs)
  - Clients synchronize data with remote nodes
  - Example: shared calendar application



- Application independent
  - Thin clients
  - Client acts as a remote terminal
  - Provides interface to user (GUI / UI)
  - Server houses entire application stack



X WINDOWS

- Layered architecture to transport UI over network
- Remote desktop functionality for Linux/Unix systems
- X kernel acts as a server
  - Provides the X protocol: application level protocol
  - Xlib instances (client applications) exchange data and events with X kernels (servers)
  - Clients and servers on single machine → Linux GUI
  - Client and server communication transported over the network → remote Linux GUI

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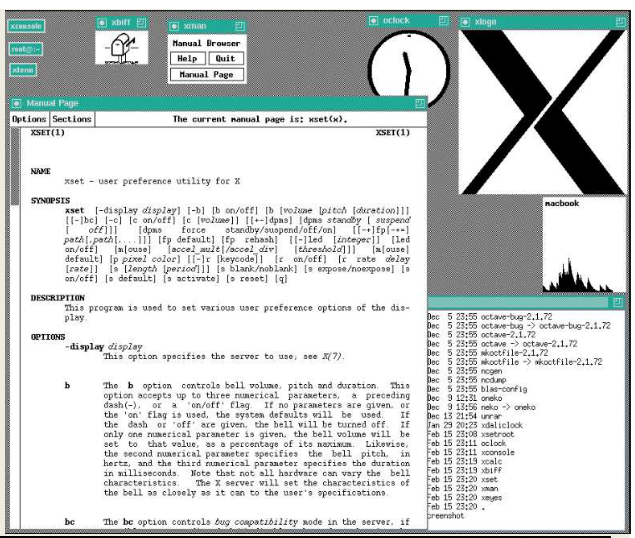
X WINDOWS - 2

- Window manager:
  - Application running atop of X-windows which provides flair
  - Many variants
  - Without X windows is quite bland



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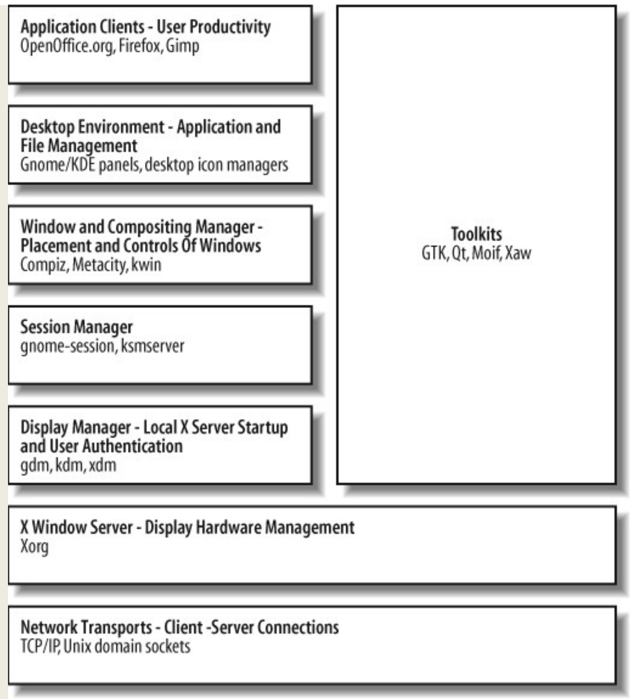
- Layered architecture
- X-kernel: low level interface/APIs for controlling screen, capturing keyboard and mouse events (X window Server)
- Provided on Linux as Xlib
- Provides network enabled GUI



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EXAMPLE: VNC SERVER

- How to Install VNC server on Ubuntu 16.04 EC2 instance
- `sudo apt-get update`
- `sudo apt-get install ubuntu-desktop`
- `sudo apt-get install tightvncserver`
- `sudo apt-get install gnome-panel gnome-settings-daemon metacity nautilus gnome-terminal`

- Start VNC server to create initial config file
- `vncserver :1`

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EXAMPLE: VNC SERVER - 2

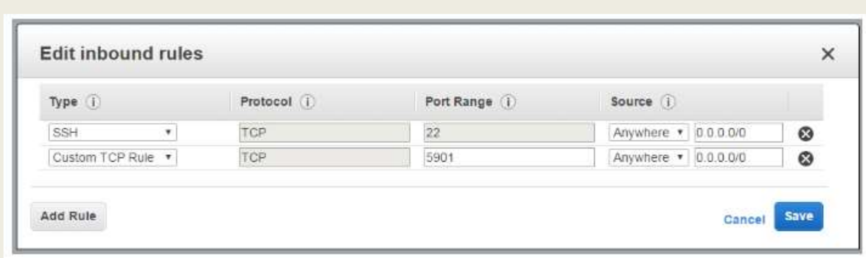
- Edit config file: `nano ~/.vnc/xstartup`
- Replace contents:

```
#!/bin/sh

export XKL_XMODMAP_DISABLE=1
unset SESSION_MANAGER
unset DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS

[ -x /etc/vnc/xstartup ] && exec /etc/vnc/xstartup
[ -r $HOME/.Xresources ] && xrdb $HOME/.Xresources
xsetroot -solid grey

vncconfig -iconic &
gnome-panel &
gnome-settings-daemon &
metacity &
nautilus &
gnome-terminal &
```


EXAMPLE: VNC SERVER - 3

- Reload config by restarting server
- `vncserver -kill :1`
- `vncserver :1`

- Open port 22 & 5901 in security group:



EXAMPLE: VNC CLIENT

- Create SSH connection to securely forward port 5901 on the EC2 instance to your localhost port 5901
- This way your VNC client doesn't need an SSH key

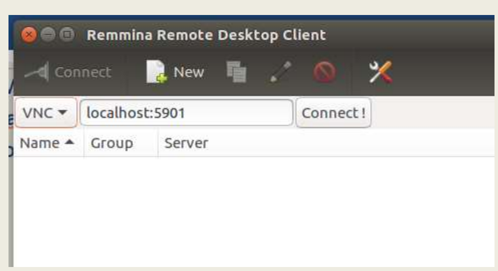
```
ssh -i <ssh-keyfile> -L 5901:127.0.0.1:5901 -N
-f -l <username> <EC2-instance ip_address>
```

- For example:

```
ssh -i mykey.pem -L 5901:127.0.0.1:5901 -N -f -
l ubuntu 52.111.202.44
```

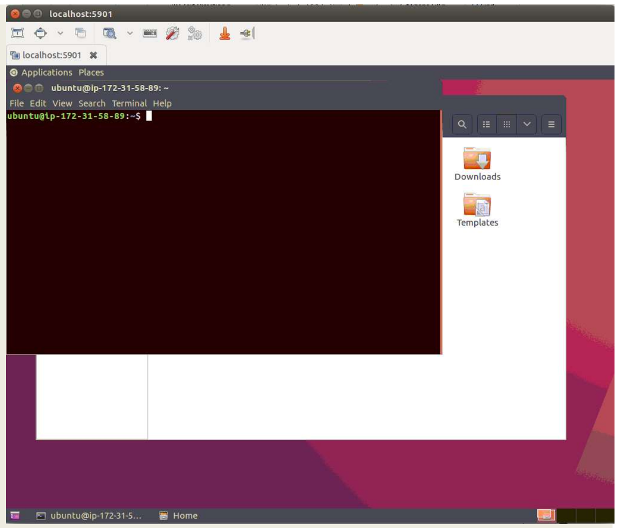

EXAMPLE: VNC CLIENT - 2

- Use a VNC Client to connect
- Remmina is provided by default on Ubuntu 16.04
- Can "google" for many others
- Remmina login:
- Chose "VNC" protocol
- Log into "localhost:5901"



REMOTE COMPUTER IN THE CLOUD

- Yes, your EC2 instance can have a GUI. . .!



THIN CLIENTS

- Thin clients
  - X windows protocol
  - A variety of other remote desktop protocols exist:

Remote desktop protocols include the following:

- Apple Remote Desktop Protocol (ARD) – Original protocol for Apple Remote Desktop on macOS machines.
- Appliance Link Protocol (ALP) – a Sun Microsystems-specific protocol featuring audio (play and record), remote printing, remote USB, accelerated video
- HP Remote Graphics Software (RGS) – a proprietary protocol designed by Hewlett-Packard specifically for high end workstation remoting and collaboration.
- Independent Computing Architecture (ICA) – a proprietary protocol designed by Citrix Systems
- NX technology (NoMachine NX) – Cross platform protocol featuring audio, video, remote printing, remote USB, H264-enabled.
- PC-over-IP (PCoIP) – a proprietary protocol used by VMware (licensed from Teradici)[2]
- Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) – a Windows-specific protocol featuring audio and remote printing
- Remote Frame Buffer Protocol (RFB) – A framebuffer level cross-platform protocol that VNC is based on.
- SPICE (Simple Protocol for Independent Computing Environments) – remote-display system built for virtual environments by Qumranet, now Red Hat
- Splashtop – a high performance remote desktop protocol developed by Splashtop, fully optimized for hardware (H.264) including Intel / AMD chipsets, NVIDIA of media codecs, Splashtop can deliver high frame rates with low latency, and also low power consumption.
- X Window System (X11) – a well-established cross-platform protocol mainly used for displaying local applications; X11 is network transparent

THIN CLIENTS - 2

- Applications should separate application logic from UI
- When application logic and UI interaction are tightly coupled many requests get sent to X kernel
- Client must wait for response
- Synchronous behavior and app-to-UI coupling adverselt affects performance of WAN / Internet

- **Protocol optimizations**: reduce bandwidth by shrinking size of X protocol messages
- Send only differences between messages with same identifier
- Optimizations enable connections with 9600 kbps

THIN CLIENTS - 3

- Virtual network computing (VNC)
- Send display over the network at the pixel level (instead of X lib events)
- Reduce pixel encodings to save bandwidth – fewer colors
- Pixel-based approaches loose application semantics
- Can transport any GUI this way

- **THINC**- hybrid approach
- Send video device driver commands over network
- More powerful than pixel based operations
- Less powerful compared to protocols such as X

TRADEOFFS: ABSTRACTION OF REMOTE DISPLAY PROTOCOLS

- Tradeoff space: abstraction level of remote display protocols

Pixel-level
VNC

Graphics lib
X11

TRADEOFFS: ABSTRACTION OF REMOTE DISPLAY PROTOCOLS

- Tradeoff space: abstraction level of remote display protocols

Pixel-level
VNC

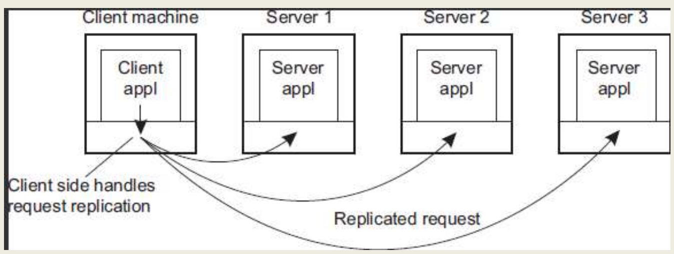
Graphics lib
X11

- Generic – no app context
- Graphics data
- Higher network bandwidth
- Fewer colors
- Utilize graphics compression
- More network traffic

- Application context is available
- UI data/operations
- Lower network bandwidth
- More colors

CLIENT ROLES IN PROVIDING DISTRIBUTION TRANSPARENCY

- Clients help enable distribution transparency of servers
- Replication transparency
  - Client aggregates responses from multiple servers
  - Only the client knows of replicas



CLIENT ROLES IN PROVIDING DISTRIBUTION TRANSPARENCY - 2

- Location/relocation/migration transparency
  - Harness convenient naming system to allow client to infer new locations
  - Server inform client of moves / Client reconnects to new endpoint
  - Client hides network address of server, and reconnects as needed
  - May involve temporary loss in performance
- Replication transparency
  - Client aggregates responses from multiple servers
- Failure transparency
  - Client retries, or maps to another server, or uses cached data
- Concurrency transparency
  - Transaction servers abstract coordination of multithreading

CH. 3.4: SERVERS

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SERVERS

- Cloud & Distributed Systems – rely on **Linux**
- http://www.zdnet.com/article/it-runs-on-the-cloud-and-the-cloud-runs-on-linux-any-questions/
- IT is moving to the cloud. And, what powers the cloud?
  - **Linux**
- Uptime Institute survey - 1,000 IT executives (2016)
  - 50% of IT executives – plan to migrate majority of IT workloads to off-premise to cloud or colocation sites
  - 23% expect the shift in 2017, 70% by 2020…
- Docker on Windows / Mac OS X
  - Based on **Linux**
  - Mac: Hyperkit Linux VM
  - Windows: Hyper-V Linux VM

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SERVERS - 2

- Servers implement a specific service for a collection of clients
- Servers wait for incoming requests, and respond accordingly

- **Server types**
- **Iterative**: immediately handle client requests
- **Concurrent**: Pass client request to separate thread

- Multithreaded servers are concurrent servers
  - E.g. Apache Tomcat

- ***Alternative***: fork a new process for each incoming request
- ***Hybrid***: mix multiple processes with thread pools

END POINTS

- Clients connect to servers via:
  IP Address and **Port Number**

- How do ports get assigned?

  - Many protocols support "default" port numbers

  - Client must find IP address(es) of servers

  - A single server often hosts multiple end points (servers/services)

COMMON PORTS

packetlife.net

TCP/UDP Port Numbers

7	Echo	**554**	RTSP	**2745**	Bagle.H	**6891-6901**	Windows Live
19	Chargen	**546-547**	DHCPv6	**2967**	Symantec AV	**6970**	Quicktime
20-21	FTP	**560**	rmonitor	**3050**	Interbase DB	**7212**	GhostSurf
22	SSH/SCP	**563**	NNTP over SSL	**3074**	XBOX Live	**7648-7649**	CU-SeeMe
23	Telnet	**587**	SMTP	**3124**	HTTP Proxy	**8000**	Internet Radio
25	SMTP	**591**	FileMaker	**3127**	MyDoom	**8080**	HTTP Proxy
42	WINS Replication	**593**	Microsoft DCOM	**3128**	HTTP Proxy	**8086-8087**	Kaspersky AV
43	WHOIS	**631**	Internet Printing	**3222**	GLBP	**8118**	Privoxy
49	TACACS	**636**	LDAP over SSL	**3260**	iSCSI Target	**8200**	VMware Server
53	DNS	**639**	MSDP (PIM)	**3306**	MySQL	**8500**	Adobe ColdFusion
67-68	DHCP/BOOTP	**646**	LDP (MPLS)	**3389**	Terminal Server	**8767**	TeamSpeak
69	TFTP	**691**	MS Exchange	**3689**	iTunes	**8866**	Bagle.B
70	Gopher	**860**	iSCSI	**3690**	Subversion	**9100**	HP JetDirect
79	Finger	**873**	rsync	**3724**	World of Warcraft	**9101-9103**	Bacula
80	HTTP	**902**	VMware Server	**3784-3785**	Ventrilo	**9119**	MXit
88	Kerberos	**989-990**	FTP over SSL	**4333**	mSQL	**9800**	WebDAV
102	MS Exchange	**993**	IMAP4 over SSL	**4444**	Blaster	**9898**	Dabber
110	POP3	**995**	POP3 over SSL	**4664**	Google Desktop	**9988**	Rbot/Spybot
113	Ident	**1025**	Microsoft RPC	**4672**	eMule	**9999**	Urchin
119	NNTP (Usenet)	**1026-1029**	Windows Messenger	**4899**	Radmin	**10000**	Webmin
123	NTP	**1080**	SOCKS Proxy	**5000**	UPnP	**10000**	BackupExec
135	Microsoft RPC	**1080**	MyDoom	**5001**	Slingbox	**10113-10116**	NetIQ
137-139	NetBIOS	**1194**	OpenVPN	**5001**	iperf	**11371**	OpenPGP
143	IMAP4	**1214**	Kazaa	**5004-5005**	RTP	**12035-12036**	Second Life
161-162	SNMP	**1241**	Nessus	**5050**	Yahoo! Messenger	**12345**	NetBus
177	XDMCP	**1311**	Dell OpenManage	**5060**	SIP	**13720-13721**	NetBackup
179	BGP	**1337**	WASTE	**5190**	AIM/ICQ	**14567**	Battlefield

TYPES OF SERVERS

- Daemon server
  - Example: NTP server
- Superserver
- Stateless server
  - Example: Apache server
- Stateful server
- Object servers
- EJB servers

NTP EXAMPLE

- Daemon servers
  - Run locally on Linux
  - Track current server end points (outside servers)
  - Example: network time protocol (ntp) daemon
    - Listen locally on specific port (ntp is 123)
    - Daemons routes local client traffic to the configured endpoint servers
    - University of Washington: time.u.washington.edu
    - Example "`ntpq -p`"
      - Queries local ntp daemon, routes traffic to configured server(s)

SUPERSERVER

- Linux inetd / xinetd
  - Single superserver
  - Extended internet service daemon
  - Not installed by default on Ubuntu
  - Intended for use on server machines
  - Used to configure box as a server for multiple internet services
    - E.g. ftp, pop, telnet
  - inetd daemon responds to multiple endpoints for multiple services
  - Requests fork a process to run required executable program
- Check what ports you're listening on:
  - `sudo netstat -tap | grep LISTEN`

INTERRUPTING A SERVER

- Server design issue:
  - Active client/server communication is taking place over a port
  - How can the server / data transfer protocol support interruption?
- Consider transferring a 1 GB image, how do you pass a unrelated message in this stream?
  1. **Out-of-band** data: special messages sent in-stream to support interrupting the server (*TCP urgent data*)
  2. Use a separate connection (different port) for admin control info
- Example: sftp secure file transfer protocol
  - Once a file transfer is started, can't be stopped easily
  - Must kill the client and/or server

STATELESS SERVERS

- Data about state of clients is not stored
- Example: web servers are typically stateless
- Many servers maintain information on clients (e.g. log files)
- Loss of stateless data doesn't disrupt server availability
  - Loosing log files typically has minimal consequences
- **Soft state**: server maintains state on the client for a limited time (*to support sessions*)
- Soft state information expires and is deleted

STATEFUL SERVERS

- Maintain persistent information about clients
- Information must be explicitly deleted by the server
- Example:
  File server - allows clients to keep local file copies for RW
- Server tracks client file permissions and most recent versions
  - Table of (client, file) entries
- If server crashes data must be recovered
- Entire state before a crash must be restored
- Fault tolerance - *Ch. 8*

STATEFUL SERVERS - 2

- Session state
  - Tracks series of operations by a single user
  - Maintained temporarily, not indefinitely
  - Often retained for multi-tier client server applications
  - Minimal consequence if session state is lost
  - Clients must start over, reinitialize sessions
- Permanent state
  - Customer information, software keys
- Client-side cookies
  - When servers don't maintain client state, clients can store state locally in "cookies"
  - Cookies are not executable, simply client-side data

OBJECT SERVERS

- Host objects and enable remote client access
- Do not provide a specific service
  - Do nothing if there are no objects to host
- Support adding/removing hosted objects
- Provide a home where objects live
- Objects, *themselves*, provide "services"
- Object parts
  - State data
  - Code (methods, etc.)
- Transient object
  - Objects with limited lifetime (< server)
  - Created at first invocation, destroyed when no longer used (i.e. no clients remain "bound").
  - Disadvantage: initialization may be expensive
  - Alternative: preinitialize and retain objects on server start-up

OBJECT SERVERS - 2

- Should object servers isolate memory for object instances?
  - Share neither code nor data
  - May be necessary if objects couple data and implementation
- Object server threading designs:
  - Single thread of control for object server
  - One thread for each object
  - Servers use separate thread for client requests
- Threads created on demand *vs.* Server maintains pool of threads
- What are the tradeoffs for creating server threads on demand vs. using a thread pool?

EJB – ENTERPRISE JAVA BEANS

- EJB- specialized Java object hosted by a EJB web container
- 4 types: stateless, stateful, entity, and message-driven beans
- Provides "middleware" standard (framework) for implementing back-ends of enterprise applications
- EJB web application containers integrate support for:
  - Transaction processing
  - Persistence
  - Concurrency
  - Event-driven programming
  - Asynchronous method invocation
  - Job scheduling
  - Naming and discovery services (JNDI)
  - Interprocess communication
  - Security
  - Software component deployment to an application server

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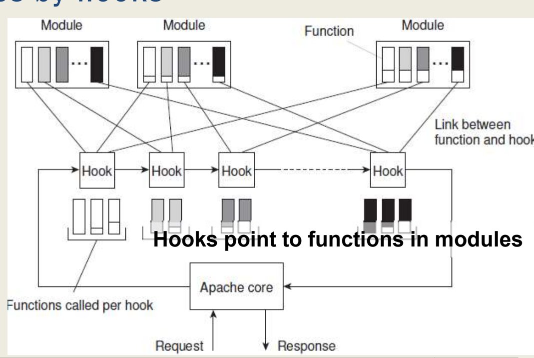
APACHE WEB SERVER

- Highly configurable, extensible, platform independent
- Supports TCP HTTP protocol communication
- Uses hooks – placeholders for group of functions
- Requests processed in phases by hooks
- Many hooks:
  - Translate a URL
  - Write info to log
  - Check client ID
  - Check access rights
- Hooks processed in order enforcing flow-of-control
- Functions in replaceable modules



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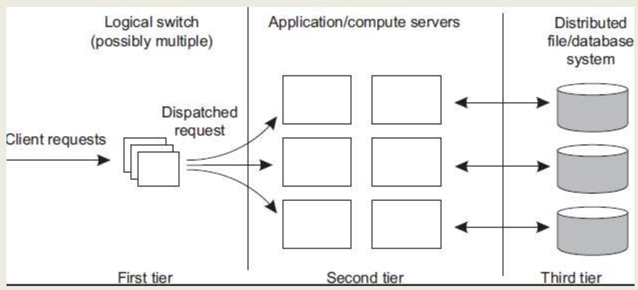
SERVER CLUSTERS

- Hosted across an LAN or WAN
- Collection of interconnected machines
- Can be organized in tiers:
  - Web server → app server → DB server
  - App and DB server sometimes integrated

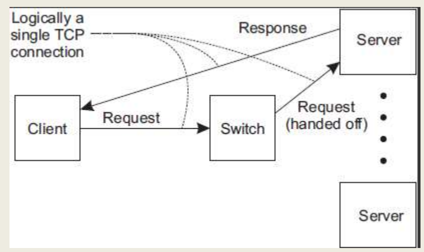


LAN REQUEST DISPATCHING

- Front end of three tier architecture (logical switch) provides distribution transparency – hides multiple servers
- Transport-layer switches: switch accepts TCP connection requests, hands off to a server
- Network-address-translation (NAT) approach:
  - All requests pass through switch
  - Switch sits in the middle of the client/server TCP connection
  - Maps (rewrites) source and destination addresses
- Connection hand-off approach:
  - TCP Handoff: switch hands of connection to a selected server

LAN REQUEST DISPATCHING - 2

- Who is the best server to handle the request?
- Switch plays important role in distributing requests
- Implements load balancing
- **Round-robin** – routes client requests to servers in a looping fashion
- **Transport-level** – route client requests based on TCP port number
- **Content-aware request distribution** – route requests based on inspecting data payload and determining which server node should process the request



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WIDE AREA CLUSTERS

- Deployed across the internet
- Leverage resource/infrastructure from Internet Service Providers (ISPs)
- Cloud computing simplifies building WAN clusters
- Resource from a single cloud provider can be combined to form a cluster

- **For deploying a cloud-based cluster (WAN), what are the implications of deploying nodes to:**
- (1) a single availability zone (e.g. us-east-1e)?
- (2) across multiple availability zones?

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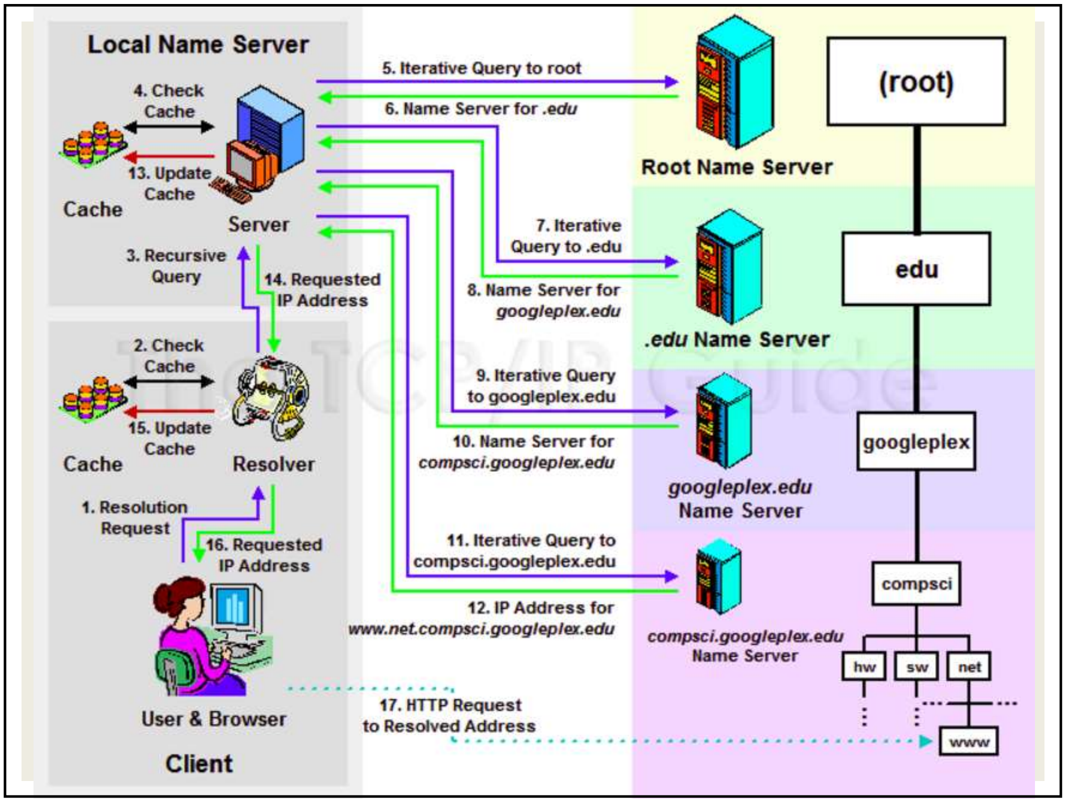
WAN REQUEST DISPATCHING

- Goal: minimize network latency using WANs (e.g. Internet)
- Send requests to nearby servers
- Request dispatcher: routes requests to nearby server
- **Example**: Domain Name System
  - Hierarchical decentralized naming system
- Linux: find your DNS servers:

```
# Find you device name of interest
nmcli dev
# Show device configuration
nmcli device show <device name>
```


DNS LOOKUP

- First query local server(s) for address
- Typically there are (2) local DNS servers
  - One is backup
- Hostname may be cached at local DNS server
  - E.g. www.google.com
- If not found, local DNS server routes to other servers
- Routing based on components of the hostname
- DNS servers down the chain mask the client IP, and use the originating DNS server IP to identify a local host
- ***Weakness:*** *client may be far from DNS server used. Resolved hostname is close to DNS server, but not necessarily close to the client*



DNS EXAMPLE – WAN DISPATCHING

- Ping www.google.com in WA from wireless network:
  - nslookup: 6 alternate addresses returned, choose (74.125.28.147)
  - Ping 74.125.28.147: Average RTT = **22.458 ms (11 attempts, 22 hops)**
- Ping www.google.com in VA (us-east-1) from EC2 instance:
  - nslookup: 1 address returned, choose 172.217.9.196
  - Ping 172.217.9.196: Average RTT = 1.278 ms (11 attempts, 13 hops)

- From VA EC2 instance, ping WA *www.google* server
- Ping 74.125.28.147: Average RTT 62.349ms (11 attempts, 27 hops)
- Pinging the WA-local server is ~60x slower from VA

- From local wireless network, ping VA us-east-1 google :
- Ping 172.217.9.196: Average RTT=81.637ms (11 attempts, 15 hops)

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DNS EXAMPLE – WAN DISPATCHING

- Ping www.google.com in WA from wireless network:
  - nslookup: 6 alternate addresses returned, choose (74.125.28.147)

Latency to ping VA server in WA: ~3.63x
WA client: local-google 22.458ms to VA-google 81.637ms

Latency to ping WA server in VA: ~48.7x
VA client: local-google 1.278ms to WA-google 62.349!

- From local wireless network, ping VA us-east-1 google :
- Ping 172.217.9.196: Average RTT=81.637ms (11 attempts, 15 hops)

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QUESTIONS

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EXTRA SLIDES

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