Operating Systems Hot Topics

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faculty of mathematics and physics



Who Am I?



- Passionate programmer and operating systems enthusiast for many years
- HelenOS developer since 2005
- Computer science researcher
 - Distributed and component systems
 - Formal verification of operating system correctness





Reliability Robustness Dependability



Windows

- A fatal exception OE has occurred at 0028:C562F1B7 in VXD ctpci9x(05)
- + 00001853. The current application will be terminated.
- Press any key to terminate the current application.
- Press CTRL+ALT+DEL again to restart your computer. You will lose any unsaved information in all applications.

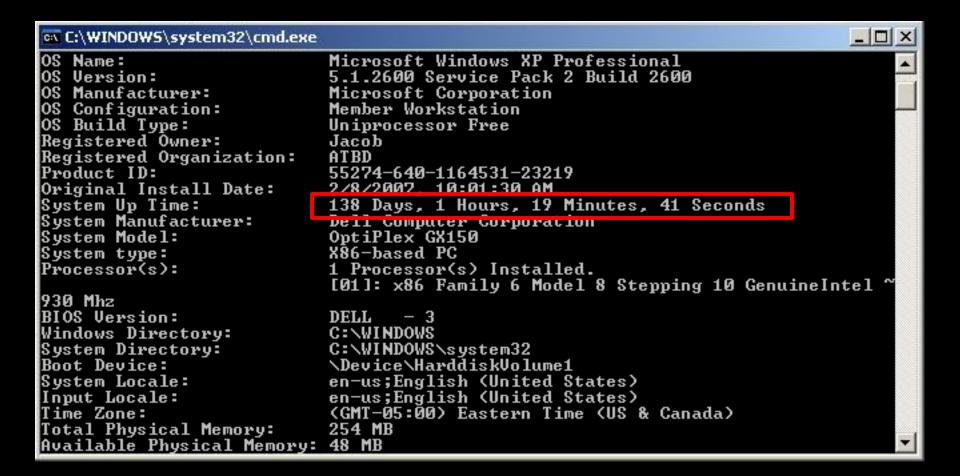
Press any key to continue

Reliability



- Some monolithic operating systems from 1990s infamous for their unreliability
 - Promise of microkernel multiserver systems to provide fundamentally better reliability
 - Smart design, simple code
 - Not enough momentum for large "market share"
- Time was good for the monolithic systems
 - Linus' Law (by Eric Raymond):
 "Given enough eyeballs, all bugs are shallow."
 - Jermář's Law:
 "Given enough eyeball-years, all bugs are shallow."





Robustness



- Record uptimes are no longer considered cool
 - Kernel bugs happen and they need to be patched
 - New kernel features are sometimes needed
 - Promise of microkernel systems for a feature-complete kernel
- Jon Corbet: "Linux has no longer any formal regression tracking process."
 - "How do we know the kernel is getting better over time?"
 - Promise of microkernel multiserver systems for run-time component upgrade and replacement



Dependability



IEEE definition

"Dependability is a measurable and provable degree of system's availability, reliability and its maintenance support"

In other words

 Formal verification of correctness and quality of service with respect to predefined specification/criteria



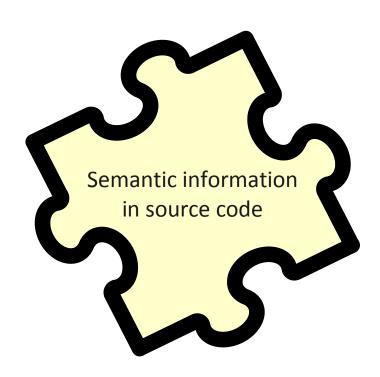


Practical ends

- (Static) Driver Verifier
 - SLAM (Software, Language, Analysis and modeling) model checker
 - WHQL
- Verifying C Compiler (VCC)
 - Invariants, pre-, postconditions using theorem prover
 - Object ownership and concurrency properties in Hyper-V
- Promise of microkernel multiserver systems for a systemwide verification of correctness

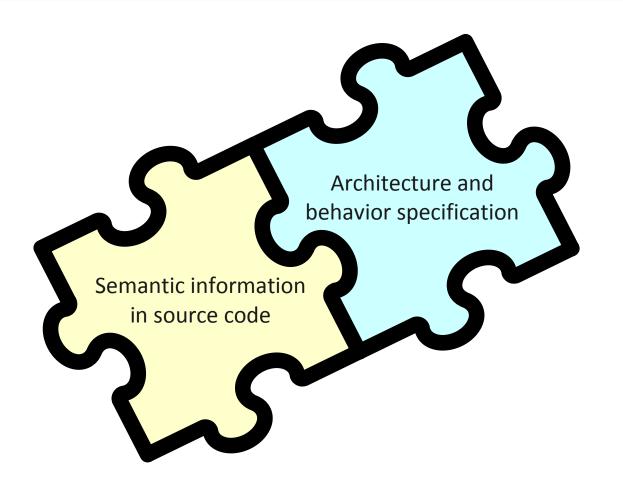






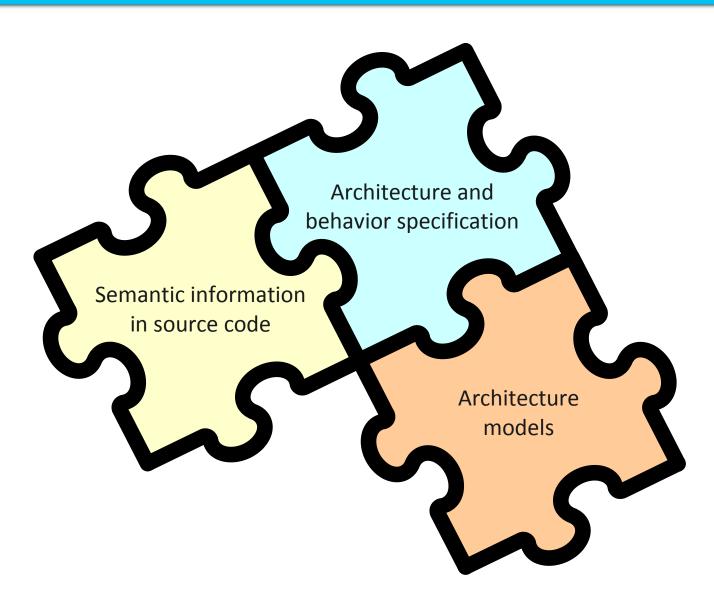






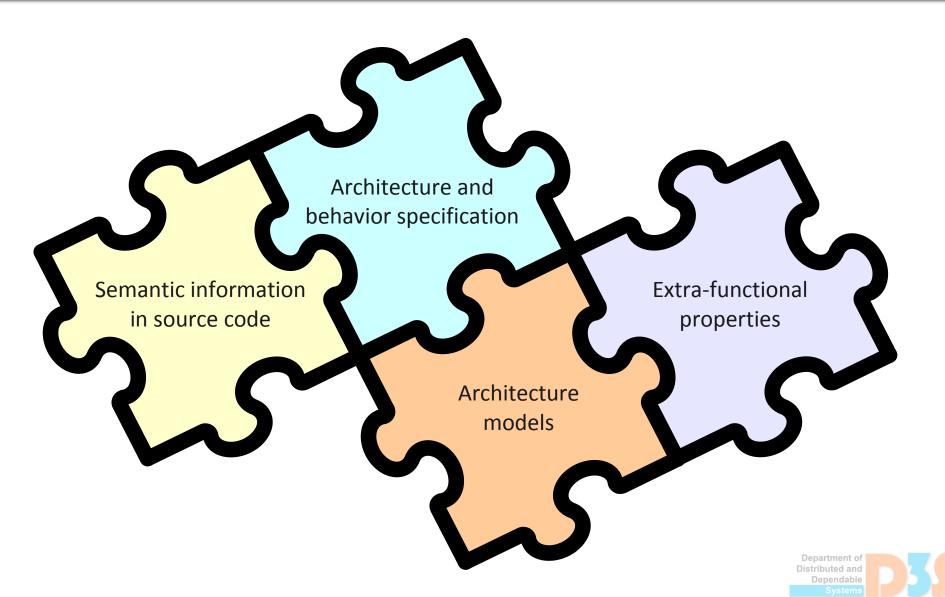




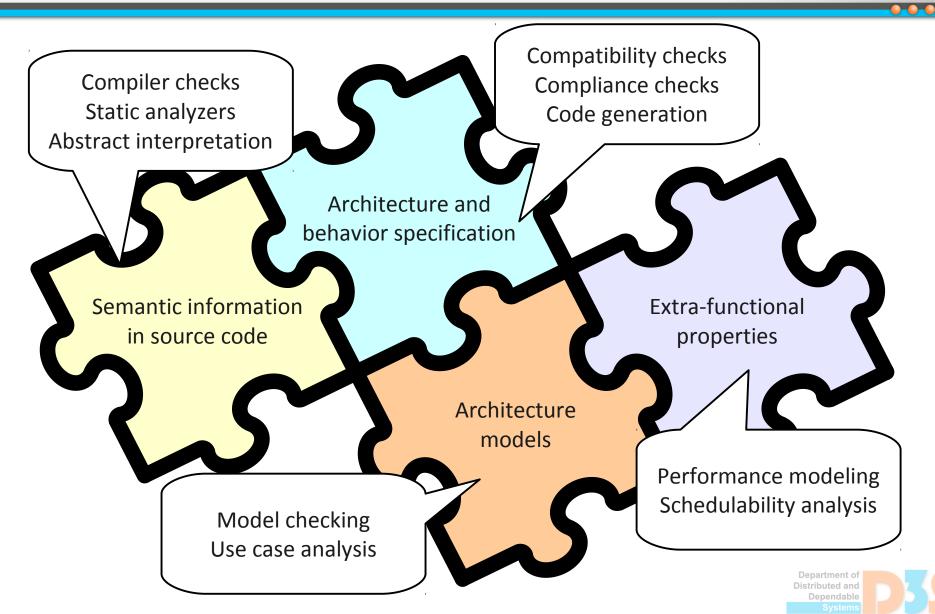


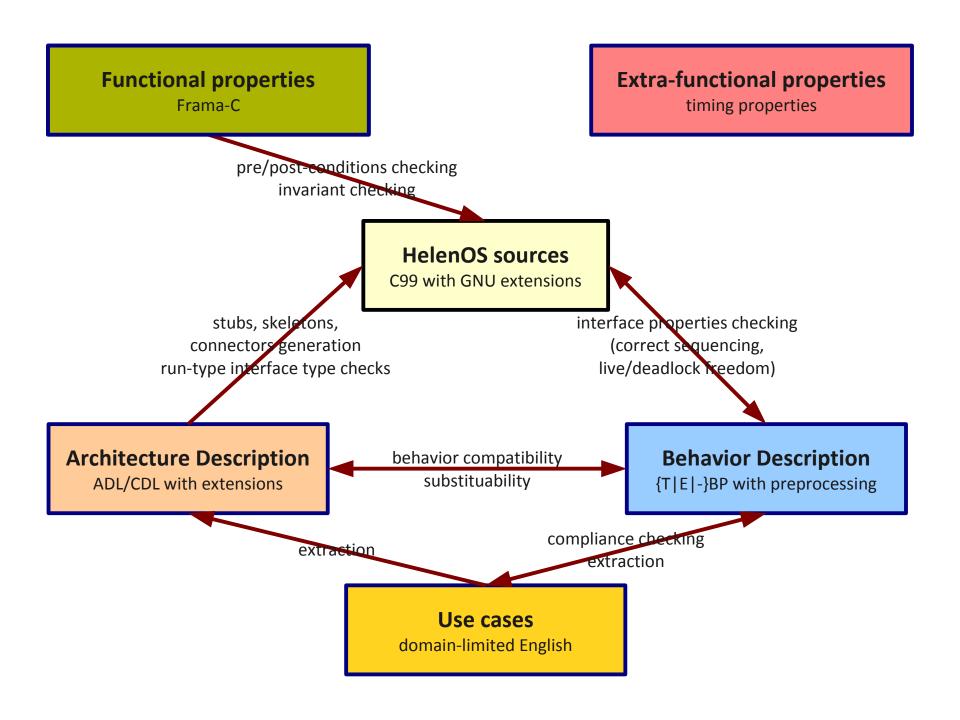












Industry Driven Dependability



Secure computing

- End-to-end digitally signed trusted code
 - From firmware (UEFI), over boot loaders, the kernel, kernel modules, device drivers, to any user space privileged code

LLVM/clang as a new unifying compiler toolchain

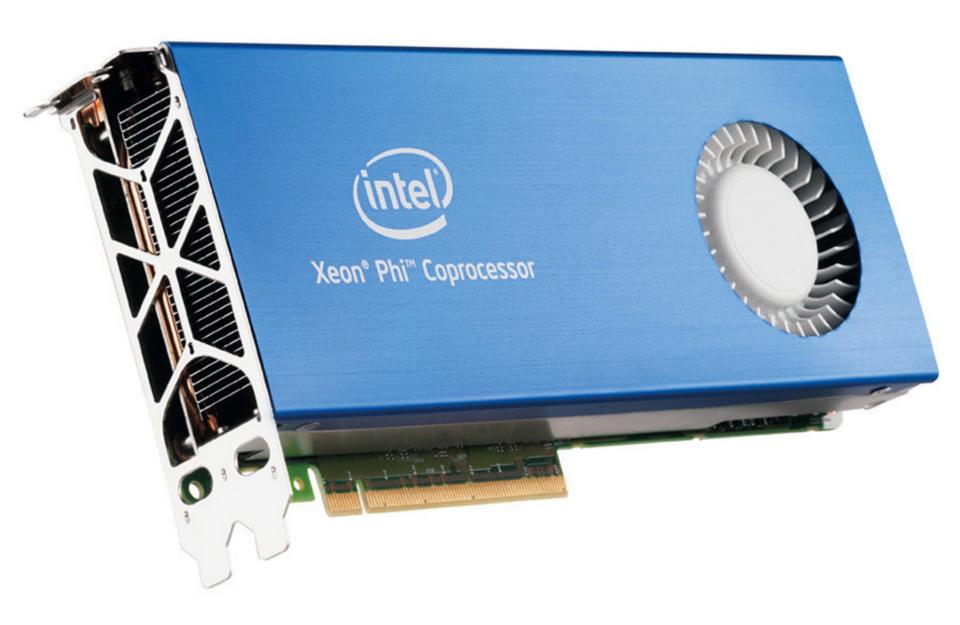
- FreeBSD, Mac OS X, HelenOS on par with GCC
- Linux, MINIX 3, others solid support
- Integration into IDEs, flexibility for verification tools
 - Detection of undefined behaviour (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)
 Arithmetic overflow checking (University of Utah)





Multicores Manycores





Hardware Today



Moore's Law still applies

The number of transistors on integrated circuits doubles every two years (or so)

• The golden era is over

- The raw single-core (sequential) performance does not double every two years (or so)
- Parallel algorithms and concurrency are more and more important

Empowering Manycores



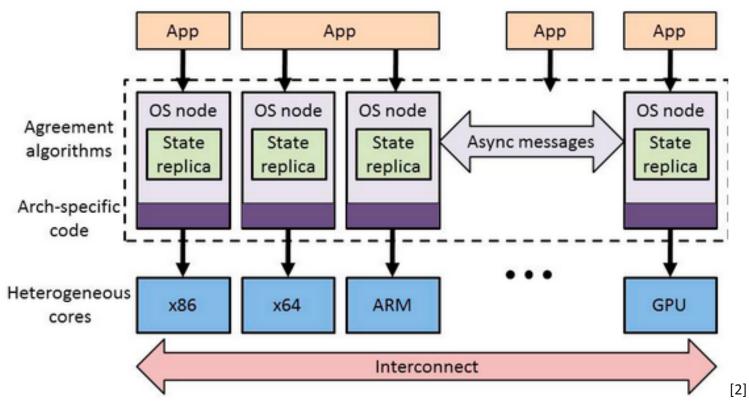
Single chip cloud computing

- Individual microkernel running on each core
 - Multikernel distributed system
 - Core-to-core and node-to-node communication treated as equal
 - Asynchronous messaging and state replication
 - Barrelfish (ETH Zürich, Microsoft Research Cambridge)

Barrelfish Architecture



The multikernel model





Empowering Manycores (2)



- Non-Symmetric Multiprocessing, Retargetable CPUs/hardware
 - Utilizing a massive number of specialized coprocessors
 - GPUs, big.LITTLE
 - Transparency vs. utilization
 - Dynamically reprogramming CPU cores on FPGAs
 - ReconOS (University of Paderborn)





Empowering Manycores (3)



Hardware Transactional Memory

- Intel Haswell microarchitecture
 - Extension to the instruction set
- How does it relate to synchronization problems
 - Paul McKenney: Lock elision and HTM
- How does it relate to synchronization methods
 - Paul McKenney: Read-Copy-Update using HTM





Big Data





VOLUME Large amounts of data.

VELOCITY

Needs to be analyzed quickly.

VARIETY

Different types of structured and unstructured data.

Key questions enterprises are asking about Big Data:

How to store and protect big data?

How to backup and restore big data?

How to organize and catalog the data that you have backed up?

How to keep costs low while ensuring that all the critical data is available when you need it? WHAT ARE THE VOLUMES OF DATA THAT WE ARE SEEING TODAY?



30 billion pieces of content were added to Facebook this past month by 600 million plus users.



Zynga processes 1 petabyte of content for players every day; a volume of data that is unmatched in the social game industry.



More than 2 billion videos were watched on YouTube... yesterday.



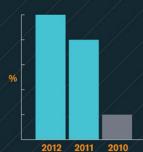
The average teenager sends 4,762 text messages per month.



32 billion searches were performed last month... on Twitter.

Source Garp

Everyday business and consumer life creates 2.5 quintillion bytes of data per day.



90% of the data in the world today has been created in the last two years alone.

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE?

Worldwide IP traffic will quadruple by 2015.









By 2015, nearly

3 billion people



will be online, pushing the data created and shared to nearly **8 zettabytes.**

HOW IS THE MARKET FOR BIG DATA SOLUTIONS EVOLVING?

A new IDC study says the market for big technology and services will grow from \$3.2 billion in 2010 to \$16.9 billion in 2015. That's a growth of 40% CAGR.

\$16.9 billion

58% of respondents expect their companies to increase spending on server backup solutions and other big data-related initiatives within the next three years.

Source Economic Business

2/3165 of surveyed businesses in North America said big data will become a concern for them within the next five years.

Big Data File Systems



- Integration of previously distinct components
 - Volume management + redundancy (RAID) + silent data corruption detection + file API + transactions API
 - Copy-on-write design, log-structured
 - ZFS (Oracle)
 btrfs (Oracle, Red Hat et al.)
 Loris (VU Amsterdam)
 HAMMER2 (Matthew Dillion)
- Fault-tolerant, seamlessly replicated distributed file systems
 - Ceph (University of California, Santa Cruz)
 HekaFS (community driven, venture capital)





Bleeding Edge Microkernel Ideas



HelenOS In-Progress Features



- Split of mechanism and policy design principle
 - User space driven system-wide scheduler
 - User space driven SMP management
- Rethinking the file system paradigms
 - Using capabilities for real-life user stories
 - If you cannot see it, you cannot access it



HelenOS Research Projects



• New RCU algorithms

- AP-RCU (highly portable, decently scalable PaR)
- AH-RCU (highly scalable, microkernel-friendly)

• Implicitly shared resources management

 De-duplicated caching, future usage prediction (read-ahead), resource pressure evaluation (outof-memory conditions)





Q&A





www.helenos.org



References



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