Operating Systems for Modern Applications

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2. Re-thinking the OS

3. Research Projects

Once upon a time, applications were..



single user, single platform, and single node.

Operating systems provided important services.

- Execution environment & hardware abstractions (e.g., process model).
- Protection & isolation (e.g., access control policy and enforcement).
- Managed storage & caching (e.g., the file system).

Today, applications are ...



multi-user, multi-platform and multi-node

Operating systems provide fewer services for modern applications.

Applications are now responsible for:

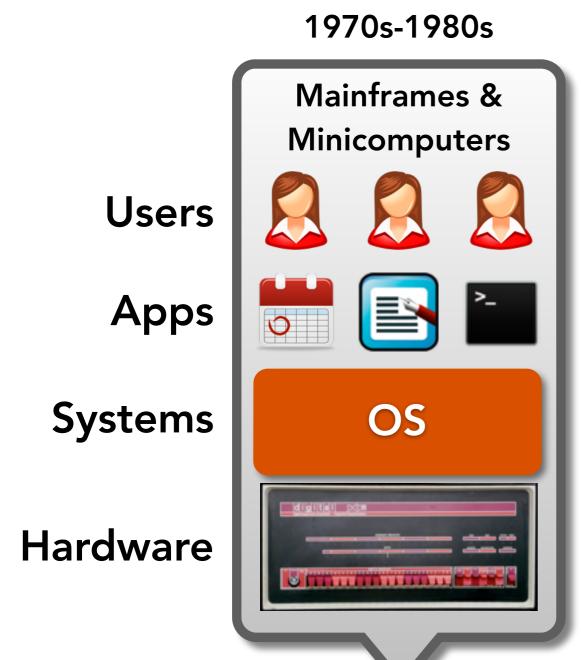
- Executing in many heterogeneous execution environments.
- Protecting shared user data.
- Coordinating distributed storage & caches.

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Evolution of Application Architecture







Are operating systems obsolete?



- Programmers must learn a different interface & process model for each platform.
- OS becomes a performance bottleneck, providing services that application doesn't need.
- Application still must manage users, sharing, and cross-platform coordination.

No! But the OS must now be...



distributed flexible customizable

1. Introduction

2. Re-thinking the OS

3. Research Projects

Rethinking the OS

Distribution &

Deployment

Sapphire

Protection

8

Privacy

Coordination

&

Consistency

Sapphire

A new distributed execution environment that allows applications to control performance trade-offs.

Sapphire Architecture



Rethinking the OS

Distribution &

Deployment

Sapphire

Protection

8

Privacy

Agate

Coordination

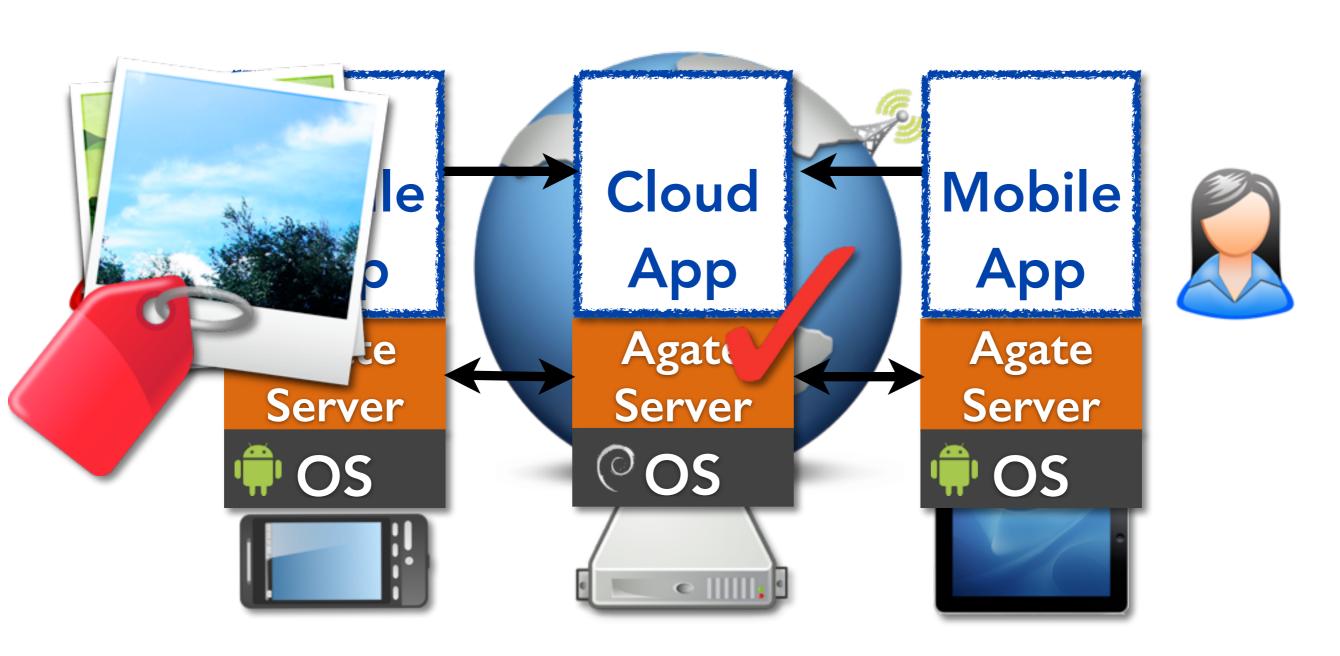
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Consistency

Agate

A new secure distributed OS for protecting <u>shared</u> user data.

Agate Architecture



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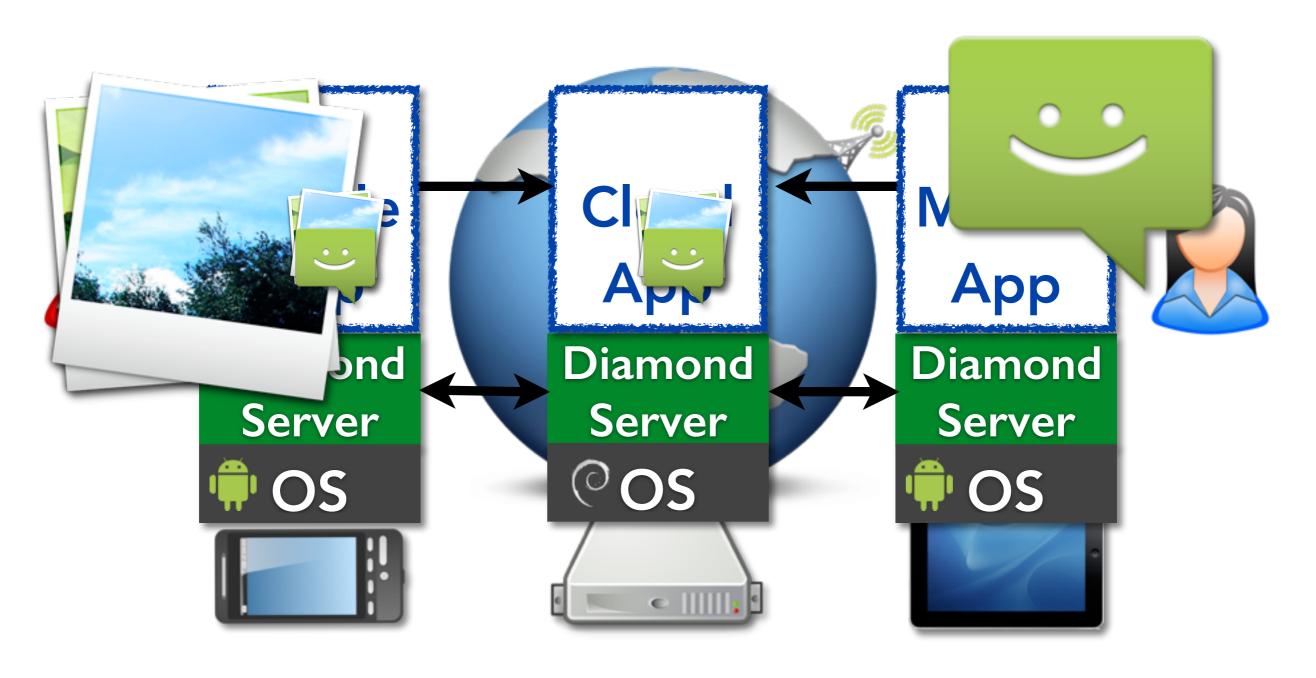
Consistency

Diamond

Diamond

A new coordination layer for tracking & synchronizing distributed application state.

Diamond Architecture



Summary

- Traditional OSes do not provide the services that modern applications need.
- We must rethink the OS for the new requirements of modern applications.
- We are working on projects to provide new OS services for modern applications.