



STRUCTURING OPERATING SYSTEMS LITERATURE FOR THE GRADUATE COURSE

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This document contains several groups of bibliographic citations which are used in the graduate-level course entitled, "Advanced Operating Systems". The course is largely based upon journal literature in this area and is organized about two major goals. The first is to acquaint the student with the flavor and substance of research and development in Operating Systems. The second aim addresses a range of skills which are applicable to many subject areas. It may be loosely described by the phrase, "Learning to use the literature," and involves extracting the import from an article, experiencing the benefits of group inquiry, and putting the material in perspective. The long-range benefit here lies in convincing the student that he can indeed use the professional literature to bring his understanding of a subject area up to "the state of the discipline".

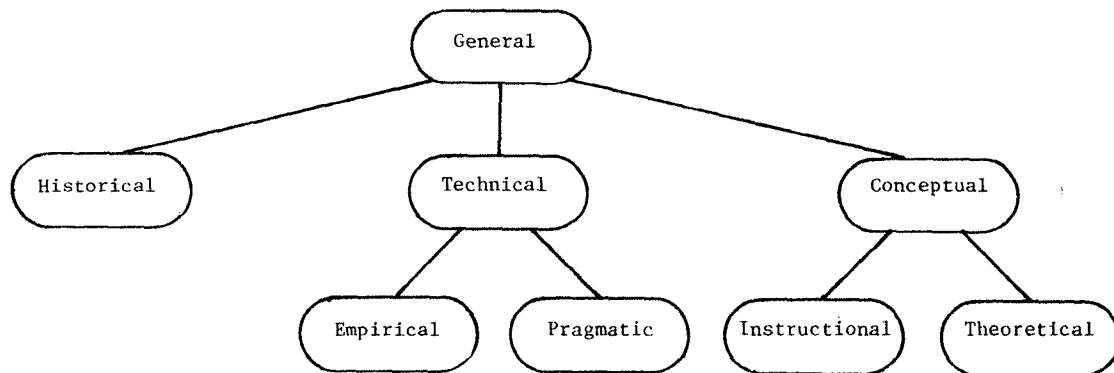
The conduct of the course is designed to put these skills to use as they develop. Material in the first half of the course is presented by the instructor, initially in an explicit lecture style but evolving to that of a loosely guided group discussion. In the second half of the course, the papers are presented by the students. Because teaching is seldom a subject of graduate training, the students are encouraged to gain experience with a variety of pedagogic methods and devices. In addition to covering the material of their assigned papers, the student presenters may pose exercises, give quizzes, distribute supplementary handouts, or conduct recitations.

There is a prerequisite course in Operating Systems, so the student is presumed to be acquainted with the workings of contemporary, large-scale operating systems. Any one of the introductory texts cited in the bibliographic section for books (in this document) would provide adequate background for this course. Topical coverage begins with overview material; "bottom-line" diagnostic and evaluative techniques from Rosen's book establish a context for viewing systems in the whole while presenting material often omitted from introductory courses. Then, the papers listed under the heading, "Pass One Papers" are presented in that order, commencing with a survey article providing a historical perspective with which to view the remaining works. The articles for student presentation are listed under the heading, "Closer-Look Sampler".

It is a challenging task to so organize the literature in an emerging area like Operating Systems that a series of selected readings can be arranged to constitute a coherent tour rather than a random sampling. The diversity of subject matter and the uneven pace among divers developments renders a chronological ordering unsatisfying. Splitting the area into ten or twelve categories, as *Computing Reviews* does, yields a disquieting frequency of cross-referencing and "coin toss" decisions about which aspect of a work to consider dominant and classify under. For example, a paper on modeling input/output activity could be grouped with those on Performance as easily as those on File Systems Management. The high incidence of such ambiguity in this subject's literature suggested the multi dimensional classification scheme outlined below.

The first of the three classifications, Topical Focus, is organized about the tasks and activities typical of operating systems. It follows the lines of division often used when dealing with these complex systems, separating into the managements of processes, resources, and communications. The second classification is termed Major Thrust and is intended to capture the viewpoint from which the topic is addressed. The main divisions here separate works describing a particular operating system from those treating the design of operating systems in some generality and from those whose subject is the analysis of existing or contemplated systems. The final classification, Treatment, is included to serve as an annotation which can help in the selection of items appropriate to a student's deeper inquiry. This categorization is a judgement call on whether, for example, the author's treatment of a topic is primarily technical or primarily conceptual.

The categorization used here is really hierarchical in structure so that a work can be classified at any one of several levels of specificity. The categorical structure for Treatments is shown in Figure 1 in the form of a tree. The number of levels employed in such a structure is really open-ended, depending mainly upon the need to finely divide the literature and the extent to which its individual works confine themselves to narrow topics, aspects, and standpoints. What's especially handy is the freedom to categorize at nodes above the leaves when a work is somewhat general or could well be assigned to more than one leaf.



TREATMENT CATEGORY TREE

FIGURE 1

There are other advantages of an hierarchical categorization. The number of levels employed can be chosen to suit the size of the corpus of literature being classified and finer divisions can be added to any leaf later, as they become apparent. It is also hoped that the changes which arise over a span of time as the field grows and matures would tend to affect the more detailed levels and thus have minimal impact upon categorizations already done. The fine-grained categorizations which could be added at the leaves are more subjective and difficult to draw distinctions among, so the individual researcher may wish to affix a personal layer to familiar categories.

The advantage used in the organization of these collections is that a preorder traversal of a category tree encounters general nodes before their more specific dependants and that leaves appended to the same node are encountered consecutively. This type of traversal yields a somewhat coherent ordering; a preorder traversal of the Topical Focus attributes of the Pass One Papers formed the basis for their order of treatment.

0 Overall Operating System	PM Process Management	SCH Scheduling	Deadlocks Optimal Scheduling Command & Control Langs.
		SYN Synchronization	Concurrency Mutual Exclusion Locks & Signals
	RM Resource Management	MEM Memory Management	Allocation/Deallocation Secondary Storage Segmentation & Paging Virtual Memory
		CXT Context Management	Context Switching Fault Isolation Backout & Checkout Virtual Machines
	CM Communications Management	FLS File Systems	Directory Structures File Services DBMS
		COM Communications Services	Interprocess Messages Network Communications Distributed Data Bases
		SEC Security	Access Control Security Kernel Encryption/Decryption

CATEGORIES OF TOPICAL FOCUS

FIGURE 2

Figure 2 displays that tree-structured categorization in tabular form. The letter codes in the boxes of the first three levels are used to annotate the fuller listings which follow. A fourth level of leaves is suggested in the figure to help explain the meanings of the terms at the higher nodes, but is not used here—divisions that specific would be appropriate only for far larger bibliographic or retrieval efforts. The Major Thrust categories are presented in this form in Figure 3 and, for completeness, those of Treatment are tabulated in Figure 4.

In the categorically organized listings that follow, each citation is annotated with a three-part descriptor of the form <TF, MT, T> in which;

TF is the letter code of the Topical Focus categorization,

MT is the letter code of the Major Thrust categorization,

T is the letter code of the Treatment categorization.

Since these listings are intended to assist students in starting purposive delvings, both topical and thrust listings are given. The listings are organized by three traversals of the Topical Focus and Major Thrust categories except that those items so general as to be classified at the root nodes are omitted. Many of the citations are assigned to the root node in only one classification and thus appear in only one listing. Those works of greater specificity appear in both listings.

These listings are not intended to be complete in any sense. Citations are included when the work is judged significant and suitable to the purposes of students seeking to explore further.

B Broad Overview	DE Design	ORG Organization	Nucleus/Primitives Hierarchical Structure Features
		ENV Environment	Real Time Distributed System Multiprogramming Multiprocessing
		PHL Philosophy	Process-Based Systems Message-Based Systems Object-Based Systems
	SD System or Topical Description	REP Report	
		MAN Manual	
		BIB Bibliography	
	AN Analysis	MOD Modeling	Queueing Theory Operational Analysis Stochastic Analysis Simulation
		MSR Measurement	Probes Monitoring Accounting

CATEGORIES OF MAJOR THRUST

FIGURE 3

G General	HS Historical	
	TN Technical	EMP Empirical
		PRG Pragmatic
	CO Conceptual	INS Instructional
		THR Theoretical

CATEGORIES OF TREATMENT

FIGURE 4

BOOKS

- BRINCH HANSEN, P., *Operating System Principles*, Prentice-Hall, 1973.
- CHANDY, K. M. and REISER, M., eds., *Computer Performance*, North-Holland, 1977.
- COFFMAN, E. G. and DENNING, P. J., *Operating Systems Theory*, Prentice-Hall, 1973.
- DRUMMOND, M. E., *Evaluation and Measurement Techniques for Digital Computers*, Prentice-Hall, 1973.
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- HELLERMAN, H. and CONROY, T. F., *Computer System Performance*, McGraw-Hill, 1975.
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- MADNICK, S. E. and DONOVAN, J. J., *Operating Systems*, McGraw-Hill, 1974.
- ROSEN, S., *Lectures on the Measurement and Evaluation of the Performance of Computing Systems*, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Philadelphia, PA, 1976.
- SAUER, C. H. and CHANDY, K. M., *Computer Systems Performance Modeling*, Prentice-Hall, 1981.
- SHAW, A. C., *The Logical Design of Operating Systems*, Prentice-Hall, 1974.
- SPIRN, J. R., *Program Behavior: Models and Measurements*, Elsevier, 1977.
- SVOBODOVA, L., *Computer Performance Measurement and Evaluation Methods: Analysis and Applications*, Elsevier, 1976.

PASS ONE PAPERS

- ROSIN, R. F., "Supervisory and Monitor Systems", *Computing Surveys*, 1:37-54, (March, 1969).
- LAMPSON, B. W., "A Scheduling Philosophy for Multiprocessing Systems", *CACM*, 11:347-360, (May, 1968).
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- RITCHIE, D. M. and THOMPSON, K., "The UNIX Time-Sharing System", *CACM*, 17:365-375, (July, 1974).

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- FABRY, R. S., "Capability Based Addressing", *CACM*, 17:403-411, (July, 1974).
- SCHROEDER, M. D., CLARK, D. D., and SALTZER, J. H., "Multics Kernel Design Project", *Operating Systems Review*, 11:No. 5:43-56, (November, 1977).
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- KEDDY, J. L., "On Structuring Operating Systems with Monitors", *Australian Computer J.*, 10:23-27, (February, 1978). <PM,ORG,G>

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