

Linux kernel 3.0 release

Linux  
The future technology



# IO Data Flow Hook On Xen

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What?

Why?

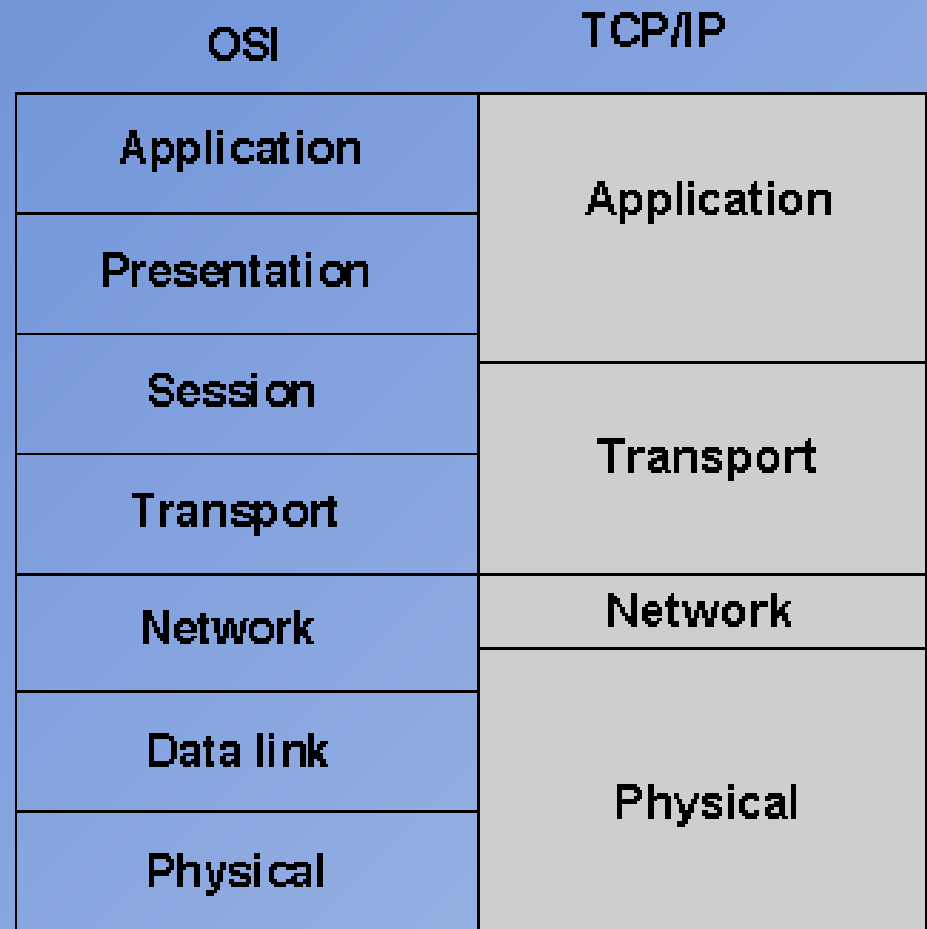
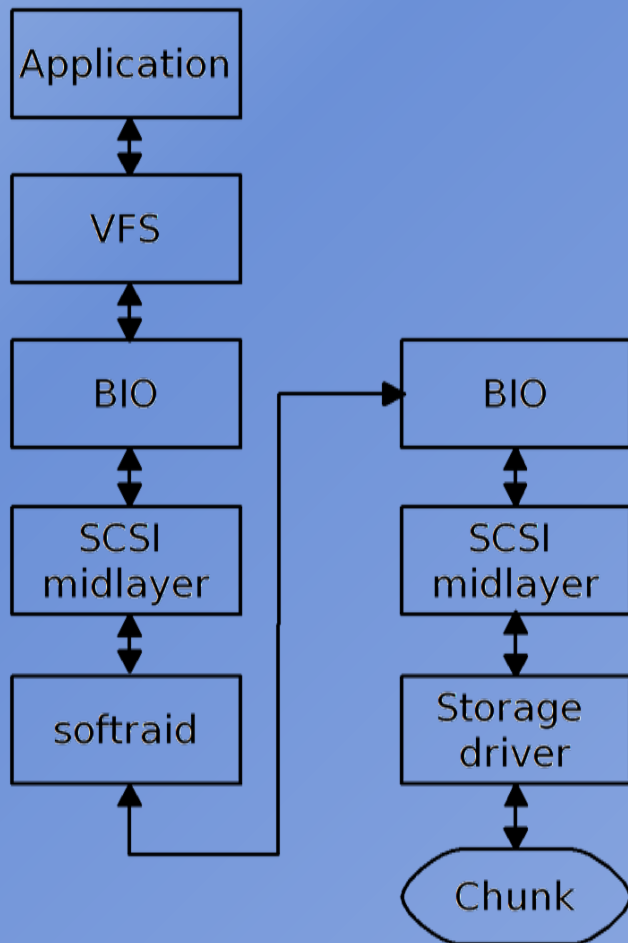
How?



# Agenda

- IO hook general idea
- IO hook on virtualization platform
- IO hook achievement on Xen

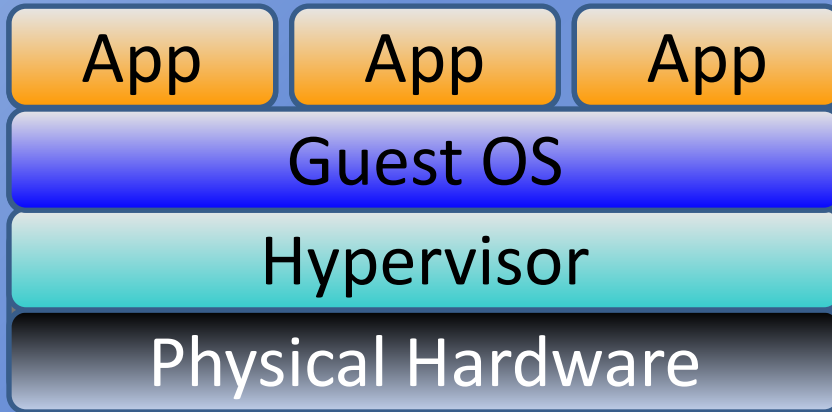
# IO Hook Philosophy



# Utility

- transparent encryption (e.g. Linux dm-crypt)
- virtual block device driver (e.g. Linux softraid)
- file hidden
- virtual filesystem (e.g. FUSE)
- firewall (e.g. Netfilter)
- virtual network device driver (e.g. bond & vlan)

# IT World Is Changing ...



从对于变化的研究  
来研究技术的变化

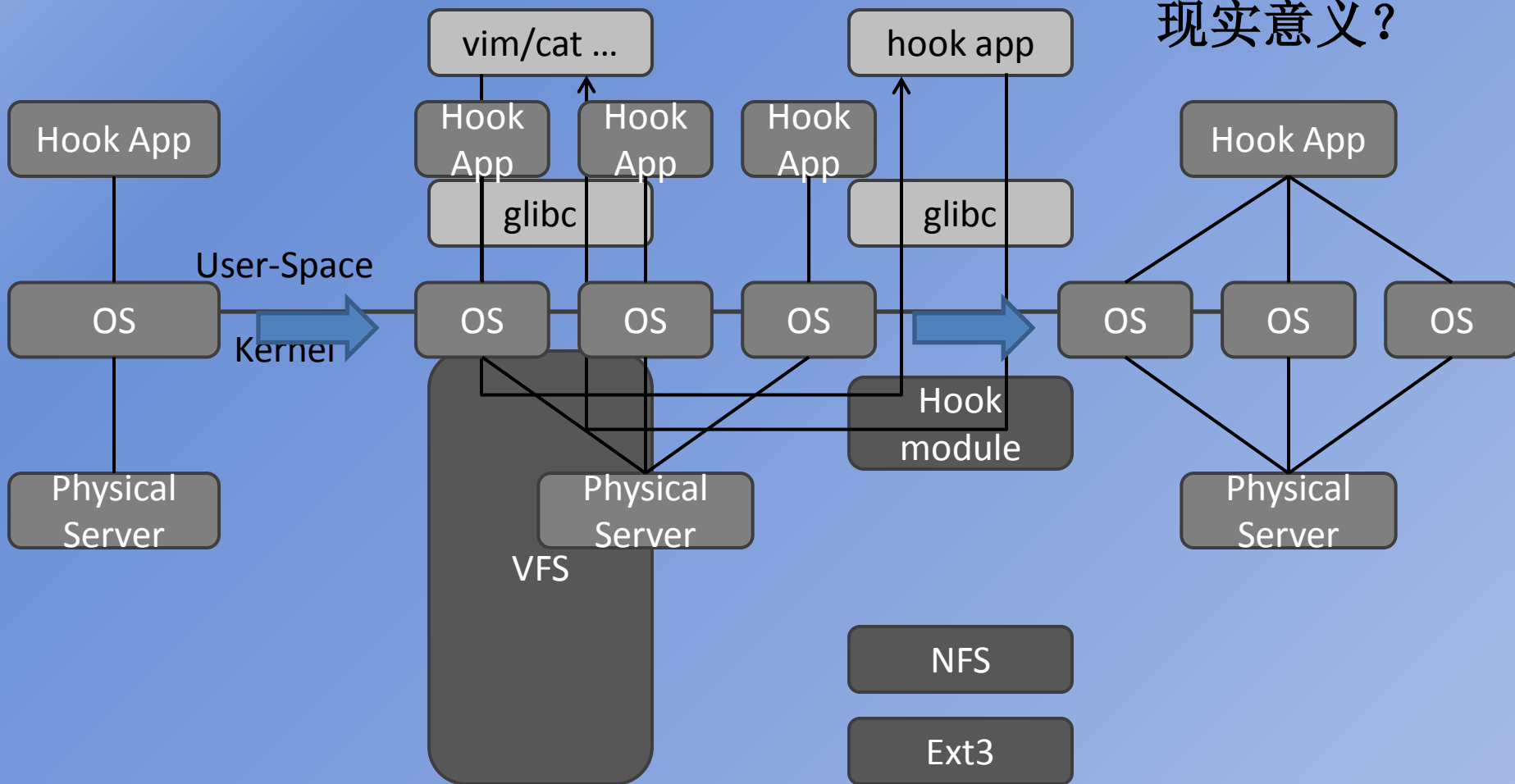


Physical Server



Guest OS

# Change Our Cognition

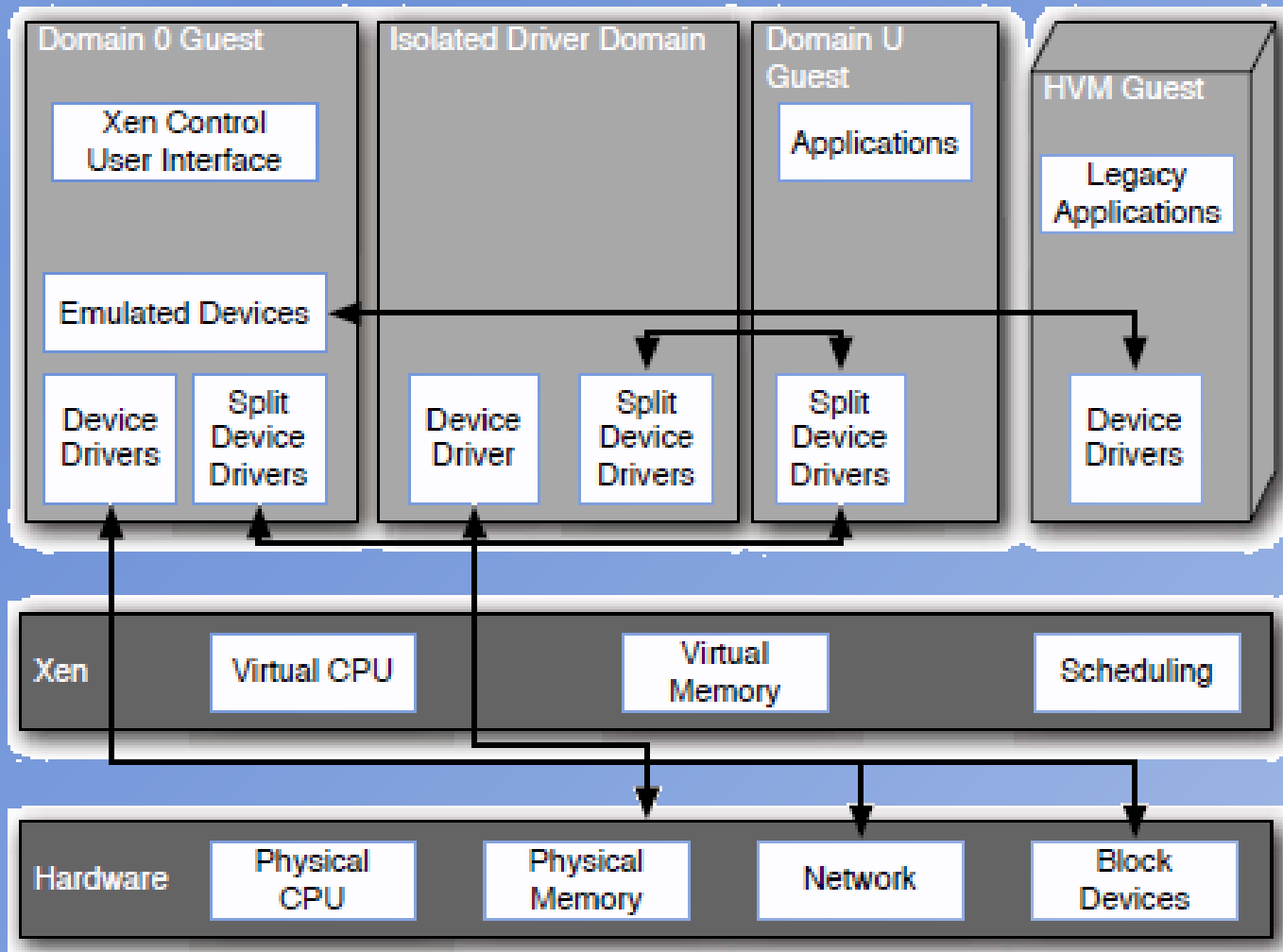




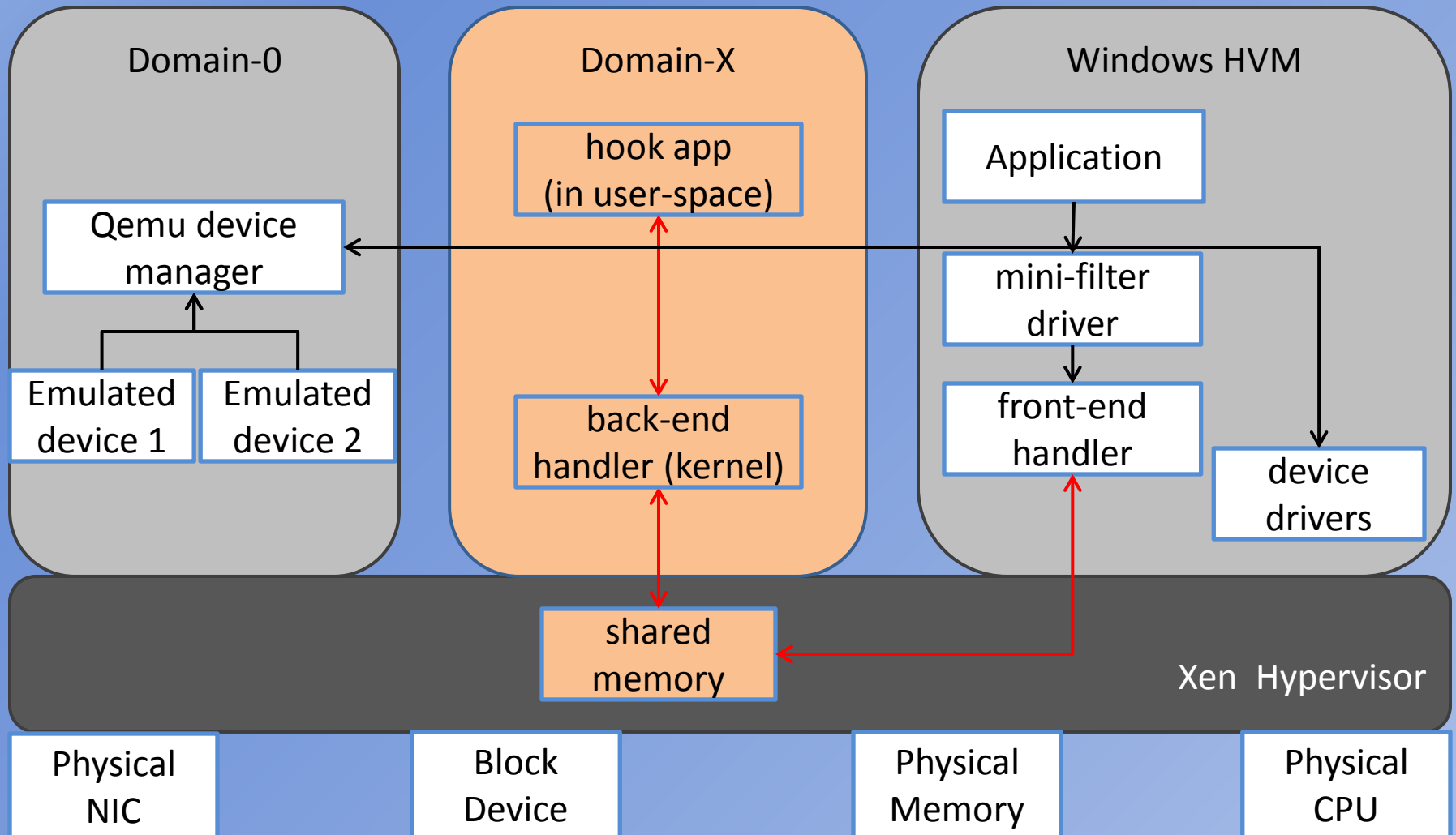
# Advantage

- reduce management cost
  - ✓ uniform configuration interface
  - ✓ frequent patch/hot fix
  - ✓ migration
  - ✓ virtual appliance shipping
- management task
  - ✓ heterogeneous -> uniform

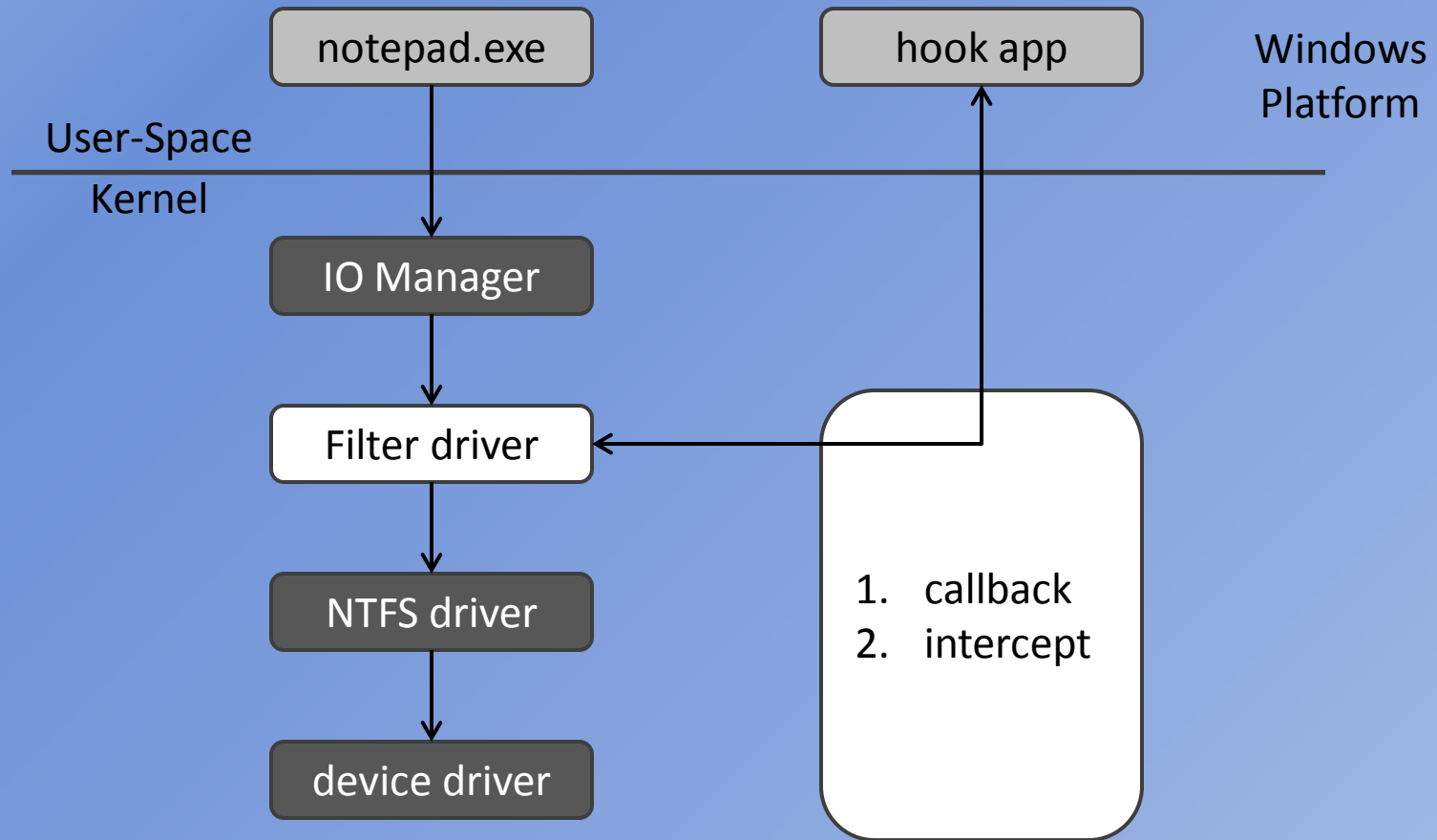
# Xen IO Overview



# Filesystem Hook Overview



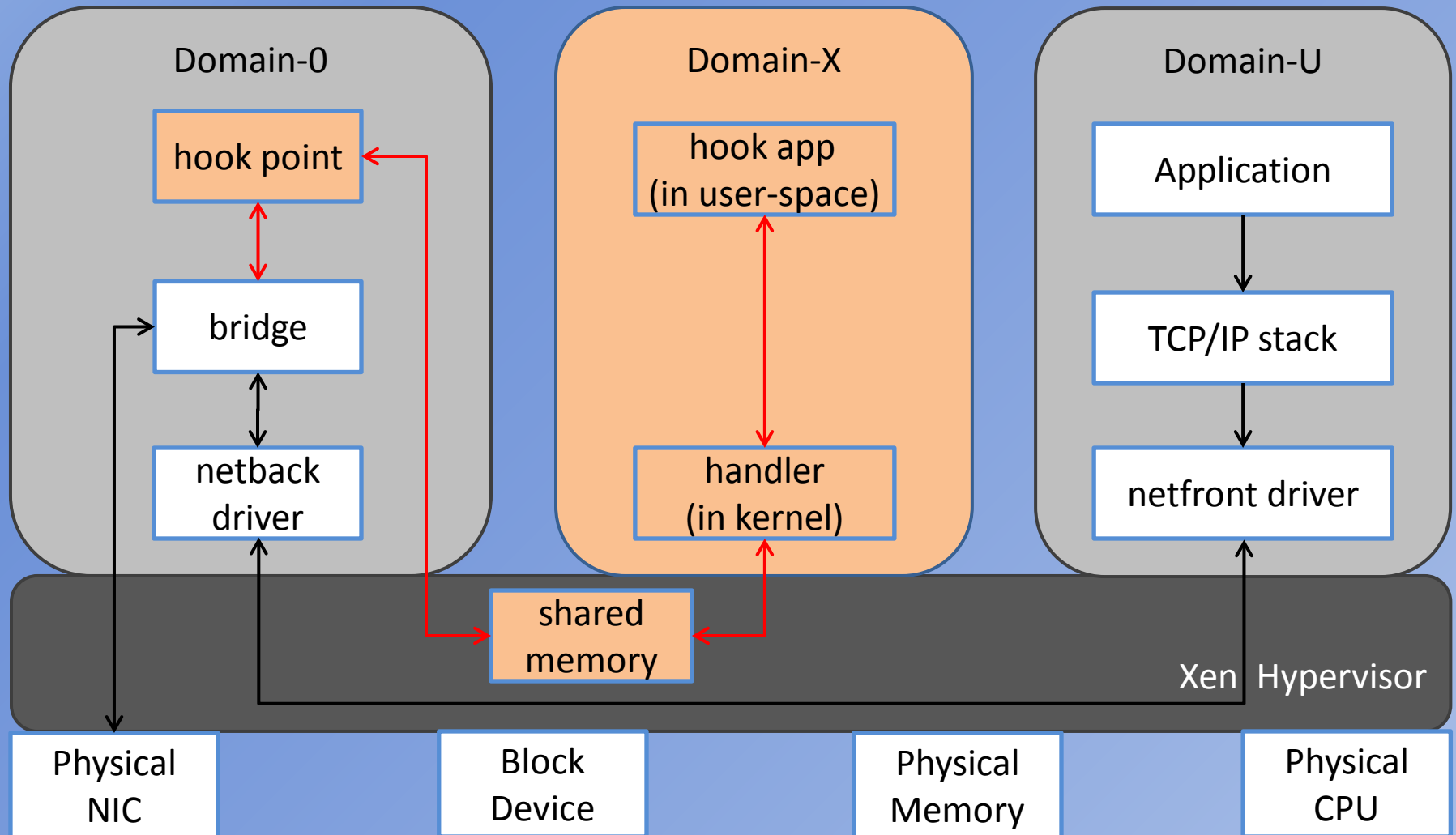
# Xen Filesystem IO Hook (1)



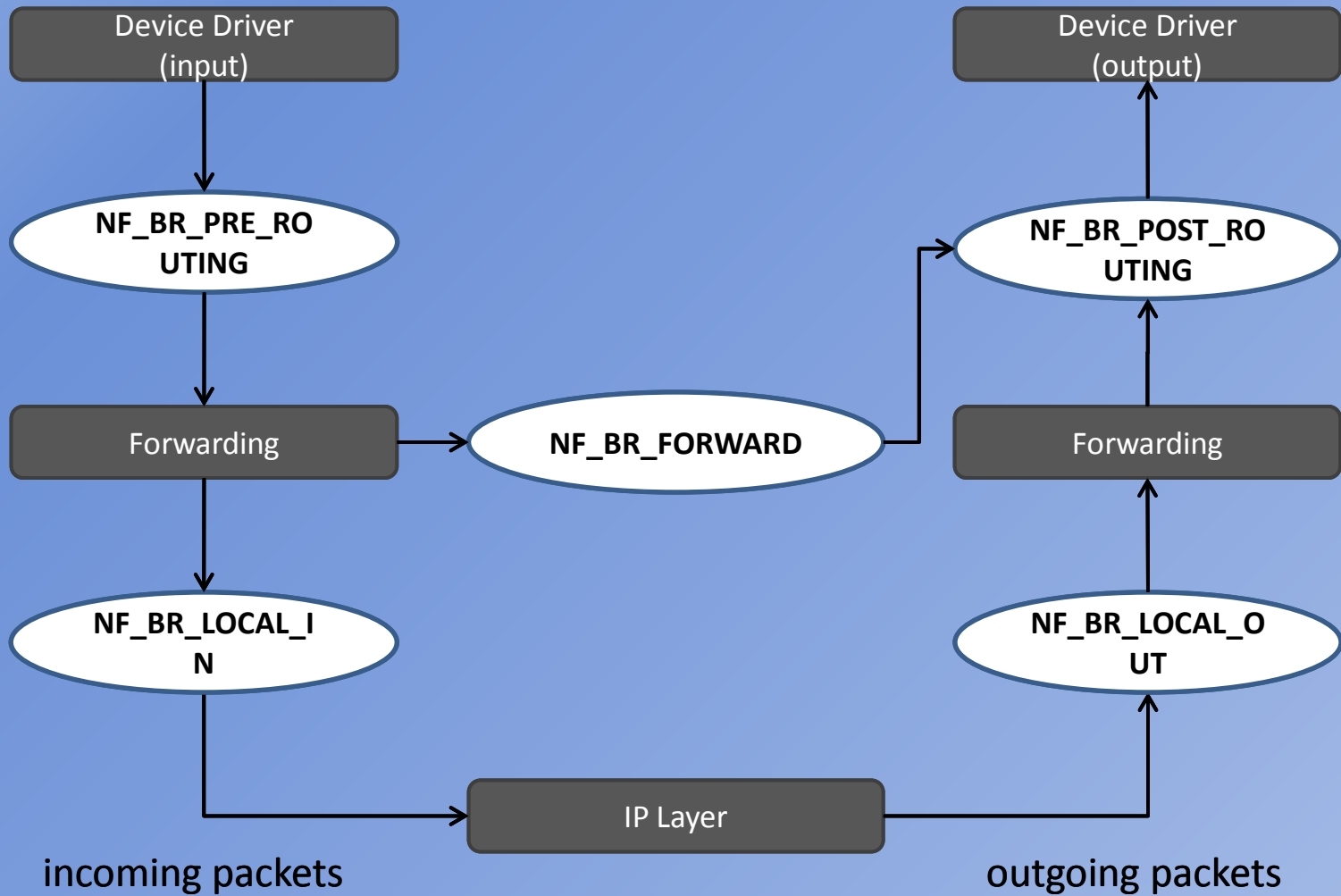
# Xen Filesystem IO Hook (2)

- One agent on each windows Guest OS
  - ✓ mini-filter driver
  - ✓ filter/delete/quarantine
  - ✓ do not need binary update
- Deployment challenge
  - ✓ convince user “no harm”
  - ✓ VM template? Good idea?

# Network Hook Overview



# Xen Network IO Hook (1)



# Xen Network IO Hook (2)

- Where to hook?
  - ✓ Layer-2 (bridge) [V]
  - ✓ Layer-3 (ip) [V]
  - ✓ Layer-4 (tcp) [X]
- Xen uses bridge-network by default
  - ✓ /etc/xen/xend-config.sxp  
(network-script network-bridge)



# Xen Network IO Hook (3)

- Layer-2 hook vs. Layer-3 hook
  - ✓ mac address permanent while ip address maybe dynamic (DHCP)
  - ✓ ARP packet to Dom0 cannot be hooked in IP Layer
    - proxy ARP & ARP spoof
  - ✓ easy to cooperate with Open vSwitch

# Data Handling (1)

- Where to handle these hooked data?
  - ✓ Dom0
  - ✓ one dedicated PV domain, “DomX” [V]
- Data transfer between domains
  - ✓ TCP/IP socket transmit?
  - ✓ memory sharing? [V]
    - event notification?
    - synchronization?

# Data Handling (2)

- Difference in filesystem hook & network hook
  - ✓ Filesystem hook
    - Domain U  $\leftrightarrow$  share memory  $\leftrightarrow$  Domain X
  - ✓ Network hook
    - Domain 0  $\leftrightarrow$  share memory  $\leftrightarrow$  Domain X

# Data Handling (3)

- Memory sharing between 2 domains
  - ✓ grant table provided by Xen
    - allocate page & grant reference id on initiator side
    - map grant reference id on other side
    - who should be initiator?
  - ✓ alternative channel organization
    - place metadata & data in the channel
    - place metadata in the channel while put data out-band

# Data Handling (4)

## ➤ Event notification between 2 domains

### ✓ event channel provided by Xen

- similar as POSIX signal
- local port <-> remote port
- bind local port with one virtual irq handler
- initialization
  1. where to keep remote domid & port? xenstore
- when to trigger virtual irq handler?

```
domain switch to -> ret_from_intr -> test_all_events ->
event_do_upcall -> virtual irq handler (Xen-3.4.0)
```

# Data Handling (5)

- Memory access sync between 2 domains
  - ✓ shared memory organized as ring-buffer
  - ✓ `xen/include/public/io/ring.h` (xen-4.0.1)
    - one reader & one writer
    - memory barrier
  - ✓ filesystem hook
    - one reader & multiple writer

# Xen Programming Interface

## ➤ Xen hypercall

✓ similar as Linux system call

- event channel
- grant table
- domain control
- ...

✓ Linux wrapper interfaces

✓ trap Guest OS kernel to Xen hypervisor

- normal kernel routines may trap to Xen hypervisor

```
schedule -> update_rq_clock -> native_read_tsc -> "rdtsc" ->  
invalid op exception -> trap into Xen (linux-2.6.24-29-xen)
```

# Potential Issue

- PV driver in HVM
- PCI through
- VMDq
- ...





Q & A