

Chair for Network Architectures and Services – Prof. Carle Department for Computer Science TU München

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Chapter 2: Application layer

- Principles of network applications
- □ Web and HTTP
- DNS
- P2P applications
- □ Socket programming with TCP
- Socket programming with UDP



Our goals:

- conceptual, implementation aspects of network application protocols
 - transport-layer service models
 - client-server paradigm
 - peer-to-peer paradigm
- learn about protocols by examining popular applicationlevel protocols
 - HTTP
 - DNS
- programming network applications
 - socket API



Some network applications

- 🗆 e-mail
- □ web
- □ instant messaging
- □ remote login
- □ P2P file sharing
- multi-user network games
- □ streaming stored video clips
- □ voice over IP
- □ real-time video conferencing
- □ grid computing



Creating a network application

write programs that

- run on (different) end systems
- communicate over network
- e.g., web server software communicates with browser software

No need to write software for networkcore devices

- Network-core devices do not run user applications
- applications on end systems allows for rapid application development, propagation
- think of different viewpoint: what would be the benefits if you could program your router?





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Principles of network applications

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□ Client-server

□ Peer-to-peer (P2P)

□ Hybrid of client-server and P2P



Client-server architecture

server:

- always-on host
- permanent IP address
- server farms for scaling

clients:

- communicate with server
- may be intermittently connected
- may have dynamic IP addresses
- do not communicate directly with each other





- □ *no* always-on server
- arbitrary end systems
 directly communicate
- peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses



Highly scalable but difficult to manage



Hybrid of client-server and P2P

Skype

- voice-over-IP P2P application
- centralized server: authenticates user, finds address of remote party
- client-client connection: direct (not through server)

Instant messaging

- chatting between two users is P2P
- centralized service: client presence detection/location
 - user registers its IP address with central server when it comes online
 - user contacts central server to find IP addresses of buddies



- Process: program running within a host.
- within same host, two processes communicate using inter-process communication (defined by OS).
- processes in different hosts
 communicate by exchanging
 messages

Client process: process that initiates communication

Server process: process that waits to be contacted

Note: applications with
 P2P architectures have
 client processes & server
 processes



- process sends/receives messages to/from its socket
- □ socket analogous to door
 - sending process shoves message out door
 - sending process relies on transport infrastructure on other side of door which brings message to socket at receiving process



□ API: (1) choice of transport protocol; (2) ability to fix a few parameters (lots more on this later)



Addressing processes

- to receive messages, process must have *identifier*
- host device has unique 32-bit IP address
- Q: does IP address of host suffice for identifying the process?



Addressing processes

- to receive messages, process must have *identifier*
- host device has unique 32-bit IP address
- Q: does IP address of host on which process runs suffice for identifying the process?
 - <u>A</u>: No, *many* processes can be running on same host

- identifier includes both IP address and port numbers associated with process on host.
- □ Example port numbers:
 - HTTP server: 80
 - Mail server: 25
- to send HTTP message to gaia.cs.umass.edu web server:
 - IP address: 128.119.245.12
 - Port number: 80
- □ more shortly...



Application-layer protocol defines

- □ Types of messages exchanged,
 - e.g., request, response
- Message syntax:
 - what fields in messages & how fields are delineated
- Message semantics
 - meaning of information in fields
- Rules for when and how processes send & respond to messages

Public-domain protocols:

- □ defined in RFCs
- □ allows for interoperability
- □ e.g., HTTP, SMTP

Proprietary protocols:

□ e.g., Skype



What transport service does an application need?

Data loss

- □ some apps (e.g., audio) can tolerate some loss
- other apps (e.g., file transfer, telnet) require 100% reliable data transfer

Timing

- some apps (e.g., Internet telephony, interactive games) require low delay to be "effective"
- frequently the applications also need timestamps (e.g. specifying playout time)

Throughput

- some apps (e.g., multimedia) require minimum amount of throughput to be "effective"
- other apps ("elastic apps") make use of whatever throughput they get
 Security
- Some apps (e.g. Internet banking) require security services such as encryption, data integrity, …



Application	Data loss	Throughput	Time Sensitive
	<u>.</u>		
file transfer	no loss	elastic	no
e-mail	no loss	elastic	no
Web documents	no loss	elastic	no
real-time audio/video	loss-tolerant	audio: 5kbps-1Mbps	yes, 100's msec
		video:10kbps-5Mbps	
stored audio/video	loss-tolerant	same as above	yes, few secs
interactive games	loss-tolerant	few kbps up	yes, 100's msec
instant messaging	no loss	elastic	yes and no



Internet transport protocols services

TCP service:

- connection-oriented: setup required between client and server processes
- reliable transport between sending and receiving process
- flow control: sender won't overwhelm receiver
- congestion control: sender throttled when network overloaded
- does not provide: timing, minimum throughput guarantees, security

<u>UDP service:</u>

- unreliable data transfer
 between sending and
 receiving process
- does not provide: connection setup, reliability, flow control, congestion control, timing, throughput guarantee, or security

Q: why bother? Why is there a UDP?



	Application	Application layer protocol	Underlying transport protocol
	e-mail	SMTP [RFC 2821]	TCP
remote	terminal access	Telnet [RFC 854]	ТСР
	Web	HTTP [RFC 2616]	ТСР
-	file transfer	FTP [RFC 959]	ТСР
strea	ming multimedia	HTTP (e.g., Youtube),	TCP or UDP
		RTP [RFC 1889]	
In	ternet telephony	SIP, RTP, proprietary	
		(e.g., Skype)	typically UDP



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HTTP: hypertext transfer protocol

- Web's application layer protocol
- □ client/server model
 - *client:* browser that requests, receives, "displays" Web objects
 - server: Web server sends objects in response to requests





HTTP overview (continued)

HTTP uses TCP:

- client initiates TCP
 connection (creates socket)
 to server, port 80
- server accepts TCP connection from client
- HTTP messages

 (application-layer protocol messages) exchanged
 between browser (HTTP client) and Web server
 (HTTP server)
- http1.0: TCP connection closed

HTTP is "stateless"

- server maintains no information about past client requests
 - Protocols that maintain "state" are complex!
 - past history (state) must be maintained
 - if server/client crashes, their views of "state" may be inconsistent, must be reconciled
- research by PhD candidate Andreas Klenk: stateless negotiation protocol suitable for Web services



Nonpersistent HTTP (v1.0)

 At most one object is sent over a TCP connection.

Persistent HTTP (v1.1)

 Multiple objects can be sent over single TCP connection between client and server.



Suppose user enters URL

www.someSchool.edu/someDepartment/home.index

1a. HTTP client initiates TCP connection to HTTP server (process) at www.someSchool.edu on port 80

2. HTTP client sends HTTP request message (containing URL) into TCP connection socket. Message indicates that client wants object someDepartment/home.index (contains text, references to 10 jpeg images)

 1b. HTTP server at host
 www.someSchool.edu waiting for TCP connection at port 80. "accepts" connection, notifying client

3. HTTP server receives request message, forms *response message* containing requested object, and sends message into its socket

time



5. HTTP client receives
 response message
 containing html file, displays
 html. Parsing html file, finds
 10 referenced jpeg objects

4. HTTP server closes TCP connection.

time

 Steps 1-5 repeated for each of 10 jpeg objects



Non-Persistent HTTP: Response time

Definition of RTT: time for a small packet to travel from client to server and back.

Response time:

- one RTT to initiate TCP connection
- one RTT for HTTP request and first few bytes of HTTP response to return
- □ file transmission time

total = 2RTT+ transmit time





Nonpersistent HTTP issues:

- requires 2 RTTs per object
- Operating System
 overhead for *each* TCP
 connection
- browsers often open parallel TCP connections to fetch referenced objects

Persistent HTTP

- server leaves connection
 open after sending response
- subsequent HTTP messages
 between same client/server
 sent over open connection
- client sends requests as soon as it encounters a referenced object
- as little as one RTT for all the referenced objects



- □ two types of HTTP messages: *request*, *response*
- □ HTTP request message:
 - ASCII (human-readable format)









Post method:

- Web page often includes form input
- Input is uploaded to server in entity body

URL method:

- Uses GET method
- Input is uploaded in URL field of request line:

www.somesite.com/animalsearch?monkeys&banana



<u>HTTP/1.0</u>

- 🛛 GET
- POST
- HEAD
 - asks server to leave requested object out of response

HTTP/1.1

- □ GET, POST, HEAD
- PUT
 - uploads file in entity body to path specified in URL field
- DELETE
 - deletes file specified in the URL field







- □ In first line in server->client response message.
- □ A few sample codes:

200 OK

- request succeeded, requested object later in this message
- 301 Moved Permanently
 - requested object moved, new location specified later in this message (Location:)
- 400 Bad Request
 - request message not understood by server
- 404 Not Found
 - requested document not found on this server
- 505 HTTP Version Not Supported



1. Telnet to your favorite Web server:

telnet cis.poly.edu 80

Opens TCP connection to port 80 (default HTTP server port) at cis.poly.edu. Anything typed in sent to port 80 at cis.poly.edu

2. Type in a GET HTTP request:

GET /~ross/ HTTP/1.1 Host: cis.poly.edu By typing this in (hit carriage return twice), you send this minimal (but complete) GET request to HTTP server

3. Look at response message sent by HTTP server!



Web caches (proxy server)

- Goal: satisfy client request without involving origin server
- non-transparent web cache: user sets browser: Web
 - accesses via cache
- browser sends all HTTP requests to cache
 - object in cache: cache returns object
 - else cache requests object from origin server, then returns object to client





More about Web caching

- cache acts as both client and server
- typically cache is installed by ISP (university, company, residential ISP)

Why Web caching?

reduce response time for client request

(Q.: under which condition is this statement true?)

- reduce traffic on an institution's access link.
- Internet dense with caches: enables "poor" content providers to effectively deliver content (but so does P2P file sharing)


Assumptions

- \Box average object size = 100,000 bits
- avg. request rate from institution's
 browsers to origin servers = 15/sec
- delay from institutional router to any origin server and back to router = 2 sec

Consequences

- \Box utilization on LAN = 15%
- □ utilization on access link = 100%
- total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay
 - = 2 sec + minutes + milliseconds





Caching example (cont)

possible solution

 increase bandwidth of access link to, say, 10 Mbps

<u>consequence</u>

- \Box utilization on LAN = 15%
- \Box utilization on access link = 15%
- Total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay
- = 2 sec + msecs + msecs
- □ often a costly upgrade





Caching example (cont)

possible solution: install cache

□ suppose hit rate is 0.4

<u>consequence</u>

- 40% requests will be satisfied almost immediately
- 60% requests satisfied by origin server
- utilization of access link reduced to 60%, resulting in negligible delays (say 10 msec)
- total avg delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay = .6*(2.01) secs + .4*milliseconds < 1.4 secs





- Goal: don't send object if cache has up-to-date cached version
- □ cache: specify date of cached copy in HTTP request If-modified-since: <date>
- server: response contains no object if cached copy is up-todate:

HTTP/1.0 304 Not Modified





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- □ "Father" of DNS
- Did design DNS in 1983, while working at Information Sciences Institute (ISI) of University of Southern California (USC)
- DNS Architecture: RFCs 882, 883
- □ Obsoleted by RFCs 1034,1035
- Company Nominum





- □ Jon Postel (1943 1998)
 - Editor of RFC series
 - co-developer many Internet standards such as TCP/IP, SMTP, and DNS
 - Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA)
 - "Be liberal in what you accept, and conservative in what you send."
 - obituary published in RFC 2468
- Postel Center at Information Sciences Institute, <u>http://www.postel.org/</u>
- Joe Touch
 Postel Center Director, USC/ISI
 Research Associate Professor, USC Dept.
 of Computer Science







DNS: Domain Name System

People: many identifiers:

 Social Secuity Number, name, passport #

Internet hosts, routers:

- IP address (32 bit) used for addressing datagrams
- "name", e.g.,
 ww.yahoo.com used by
 humans
- Q: map between IP addresses and name ?

Domain Name System:

- distributed database implemented in hierarchy of many name servers
- application-layer protocol host, routers, name servers to communicate to resolve names (address/name translation)
 - note: core Internet function, implemented as application-layer protocol
 - complexity at network's "edge"



Why not centralize DNS?

- □ single point of failure
- □ traffic volume
- distant centralized database
- □ maintenance

doesn't scale!

DNS services

- hostname to IP address translation
- □ host aliasing
 - Canonical, alias names
- □ mail server aliasing
- Ioad distribution
 - replicated Web servers: set of IP addresses for one canonical name



Client wants IP for www.amazon.com; 1st approx:

- client queries a root server to find com DNS server
- client queries com DNS server to get amazon.com DNS server
- client queries amazon.com DNS server to get IP address for www.amazon.com



- contacted by local name server that can not resolve name
- □ root name server:
 - contacts authoritative name server if name mapping not known
 - gets mapping
 - returns mapping to local name server





- □ Only 13 physical servers?
 - No, there are 13 operators of a redundant set of DNS root servers
 - nine of the servers operate in multiple geographical locations using anycast routing (→ later), for better performance and more fault toleranc



- □ Top-level domain (TLD) servers:
 - responsible for com, org, net, edu, etc, and all top-level country domains de, uk, fr, ca, jp...
 - the company Network Solutions maintains servers for com TLD
 - the company Educause for edu TLD
- □ Authoritative DNS servers:
 - organization's DNS servers, providing authoritative hostname to IP mappings for organization's servers (e.g., Web, mail).
 - can be maintained by organization or service provider



- □ does not strictly belong to hierarchy
- □ each ISP (residential ISP, company, university) has one.
 - also called "default name server"
- when host makes DNS query, query is sent to its local DNS server
 - acts as proxy, forwards query into hierarchy











□ once (any) name server learns mapping, it *caches* mapping

- cache entries timeout (disappear) after some time
- TLD servers typically cached in local name servers
 - Thus root name servers not often visited
- update/notify mechanisms designed by IETF
 - RFC 2136



DNS: distributed database storing resource records (RR)

RR format: (name, value, type, ttl)

- □ Type=A
 - name is hostname
 - value is IP address
- □ Type=NS
 - name is domain (e.g. foo.com)
 - value is hostname of authoritative name server for this domain

□ Type=CNAME

- name is alias name for some "canonical" (the real) name
- www.ibm.com is really servereast.backup2.ibm.com
- value is canonical name
- □ Type=MX
 - value is name of mailserver associated with name



DNS protocol : query and reply messages, both with same message format

msg header

- identification: 16 bit # for query, reply to query uses same #
- □ flags:
 - query (0) or reply (1)
 - recursion desired (1)
 - recursion available (1)
 - reply is authoritative (1)

identification	flags	
number of questions	number of answer RRs	12 bytes
number of authority RRs	number of additional RRs	
questions (variable number of questions)		
answers (variable number of resource records)		
authority (variable number of resource records)		
additional information (variable number of resource records)		







- □ example: new startup "Network Utopia"
- register name networkuptopia.com at DNS registrar (e.g., Network Solutions)
 - provide names, IP addresses of authoritative name server (primary and secondary)
 - registrar inserts two RRs into com TLD server:

```
(networkutopia.com, dns1.networkutopia.com,
NS)
```

```
(dnsl.networkutopia.com, 212.212.212.1, A)
```

- create authoritative server Type A records for www.networkuptopia.com;
 Type MX record for networkutopia.com
- □ How do people get IP address of your Web site?



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- □ *no* always-on server
- arbitrary end systems directly communicate
- peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses
- □ <u>Three topics:</u>
 - File distribution
 - Searching for information
 - Case Study: Skype





Question : How much time to distribute file from one server to N peers?



us: server upload



File distribution time: server-client





File distribution time: P2P



- client i takes F/d_i time to download
- NF bits must be downloaded (aggregate)

fastest possible upload rate: $u_s + Su_i$



$$d_{P2P} = \max \left\{ F/u_s, F/min(d_i), NF/(u_s + \Sigma u_i) \right\}$$



Client upload rate = u, F/u = 1 hour, $u_s = 10u$, $d_{min} \ge u_s$





□ P2P file distribution





- □ file divided into 256KB *chunks*.
- □ peer joining torrent:
 - has no chunks, but will accumulate them over time
 - registers with tracker to get list of peers, connects to subset of peers ("neighbors")
- while downloading, peer uploads chunks to other peers.
- □ peers may come and go
- once peer has entire file, it may (selfishly) leave or (altruistically) remain





Pulling Chunks

- at any given time, different peers have different subsets of file chunks
- periodically, a peer (Alice)
 asks each neighbor for list of
 chunks that they have.
- Alice sends requests for her missing chunks
 - rarest first

Sending Chunks: tit-for-tat

- Alice sends chunks to four neighbors currently sending her chunks at the highest rate
 - re-evaluate top 4 every 10 secs
- every 30 secs: randomly select another peer, starts sending chunks
 - newly chosen peer may join top 4
 - "optimistically unchoke"



- (1) Alice "optimistically unchokes" Bob
- (2) Alice becomes one of Bob's top-four providers; Bob reciprocates
- (3) Bob becomes one of Alice's top-four providers





Distributed Hash Table (DHT)

- □ DHT = distributed P2P database
- Database has (key, value) pairs;
 - key: ss number; value: human name
 - key: content type; value: IP address
- □ Peers query DB with key
 - DB returns values that match the key
- □ Peers can also insert (key, value) peers



□ Assign integer identifier to each peer in range $[0,2^{n}-1]$.

- Each identifier can be represented by n bits.
- □ Require each key to be an integer in same range.
- □ To get integer keys, hash original key.
 - eg, key = h("Led Zeppelin IV")
 - This is why they call it a distributed "hash" table



- □ Central issue:
 - Assigning (key, value) pairs to peers.
- □ Rule: assign key to the peer that has the closest ID.
- Convention in lecture: closest is the immediate successor of the key.
- □ Ex: n=4; peers: 1,3,4,5,8,10,12,14;
 - key = 13, then successor peer = 14
 - key = 15, then successor peer = 1





Each peer *only* aware of immediate successor and predecessor.
 "Overlay network"








- Each peer keeps track of IP addresses of predecessor, successor, short cuts.
- □ Reduced from 6 to 2 messages.
- Possible to design shortcuts so O(log N) neighbors, O(log N) messages in query





•To handle peer churn, require each peer to know the IP address of its two successors.

• Each peer periodically pings its two successors to see if they are still alive.

- □ Peer 5 abruptly leaves
- Peer 4 detects; makes 8 its immediate successor; asks 8 who its immediate successor is; makes 8's immediate successor its second successor.
- □ What if peer 13 wants to join?



P2P Case study: Skype

- inherently P2P: pairs of users communicate.
- proprietary application-layer protocol (inferred via reverse engineering)
- □ hierarchical overlay with SNs
- Index maps usernames to IP addresses; distributed over SNs





- Problem when both Alice and Bob are behind "NATs".
 - NAT prevents an outside peer from initiating a call to insider peer
- □ Solution:
 - Using Alice's and Bob's SNs, Relay is chosen
 - Each peer initiates session with relay.
 - Peers can now communicate through NATs via relay





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Goal: learn how to build client/server application that communicate using sockets

Socket API

- introduced in BSD4.1UNIX, 1981
- explicitly created, used, released by apps
- □ client/server paradigm
- two types of transport service via socket API:
 - unreliable datagram
 - reliable, byte streamoriented

socket a host-local, application-created, OS-controlled interface (a "door") into which application process can both send and receive messages to/from another application process



Socket: a door between application process and end-end-transport protocol (UCP or TCP)

TCP service: reliable transfer of bytes from one process to another





Socket programming with TCP

Client must contact server

- server process must first be running
- server must have created socket (door) that welcomes client's contact

Client contacts server by:

- □ creating client-local TCP socket
- specifying IP address, port number of server process
- When client creates socket: client TCP establishes connection to server TCP

- When contacted by client, server TCP creates new socket for server process to communicate with client
 - allows server to talk with multiple clients
 - source port numbers used to distinguish clients (more in Chap 3)

application viewpoint

TCP provides reliable, in-order transfer of bytes ("pipe") between client and server







- A stream is a sequence of characters that flow into or out of a process.
- An input stream is attached to some input source for the process, e.g., keyboard or socket.
- An output stream is attached to an output source, e.g., monitor or socket.





Socket programming with TCP

Example client-server app:

- 1) client reads line from standard input (inFromUser stream), sends to server via socket (outToServer stream)
- 2) server reads line from socket
- 3) server converts line to uppercase, sends back to client
- 4) client reads, prints modified line from socket (inFromServer stream)



















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UDP: no "connection" between client and server

- no handshaking
- sender explicitly attaches IP address and port of destination to each packet
- server must extract IP
 address, port of sender
 from received packet
- UDP: transmitted data may be received out of order, or lost

application viewpoint

UDP provides <u>unreliable</u> transfer of groups of bytes ("datagrams") between client and server



























our study of network apps now finished!

- □ application architectures
 - client-server
 - P2P
 - hybrid
- □ application service requirements:
 - reliability, bandwidth, delay
- Internet transport service model
 - connection-oriented, reliable: TCP
 - unreliable, datagrams: UDP
- □ specific protocols:
 - HTTP
 - DNS
 - P2P: BitTorrent, Skype
- □ socket programming



Most importantly: learned about protocols

□ typical request/reply message exchange:

- client requests info or service
- server responds with data, status code
- □ message formats:
 - headers: fields giving info about data
 - data: info being communicated
- □ Important themes:
- □ control vs. data msgs
 - in-band, out-of-band
- centralized vs. decentralized
- □ stateless vs. stateful
- □ reliable vs. unreliable msg transfer
- □ "complexity at network edge"