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ACS-3911-050 Computer Network

Chapter 2
Application Layer

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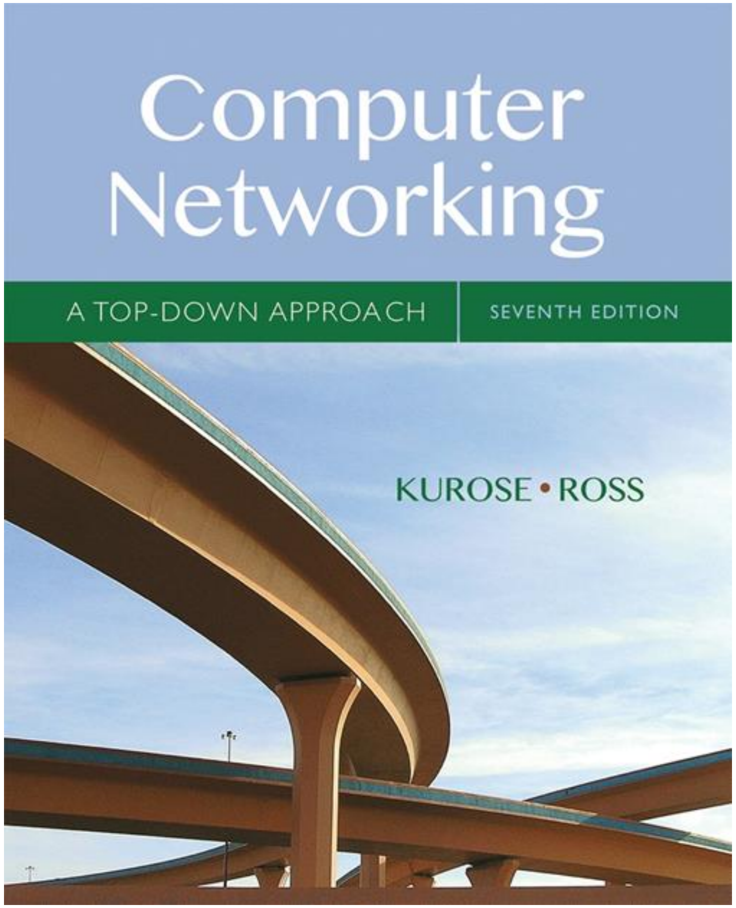

Roadmap

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2.1 principles of network applications

2.2 Web and HTTP

2.3 electronic mail

- SMTP, POP3, IMAP

2.4 DNS

2.5 P2P applications

2.6 video streaming and content distribution networks

2.7 socket programming with UDP and TCP

Video Streaming and CDNs: context

- video traffic: major consumer of Internet bandwidth
  - Netflix, YouTube: 37%, 16% of downstream residential ISP traffic
  - ~1B YouTube users, ~75M Netflix users
- challenge: scale - how to reach ~1B users?
  - single mega-video server won't work (why?)
- challenge: heterogeneity
  - different users have different capabilities (e.g., wired versus mobile; bandwidth rich versus bandwidth poor)
- *solution:* distributed, application-level infrastructure

Multimedia: video

- video: sequence of images displayed at constant rate
  - e.g., 24 images/sec
- digital image: array of pixels
  - each pixel represented by bits
- coding: use redundancy *within* and *between* images to decrease # bits used to encode image
  - spatial (within image)
  - temporal (from one image to next)

spatial coding example: instead of sending *N* values of same color (all purple), send only two values: color value (*purple*) *and number of repeated values* (N)

frame *i*

temporal coding example: instead of sending complete frame at i+1, send only differences from frame i

frame *i+1*

Multimedia: video

- CBR: (constant bit rate): video encoding rate fixed
- VBR: (variable bit rate): video encoding rate changes as amount of spatial, temporal coding changes
- examples:
  - MPEG 1 (CD-ROM) 1.5 Mbps
  - MPEG2 (DVD) 3-6 Mbps
  - MPEG4 (often used in Internet, < 1 Mbps)

spatial coding example: instead of sending *N* values of same color (all purple), send only two values: color value (*purple*) *and number of repeated values* (N)

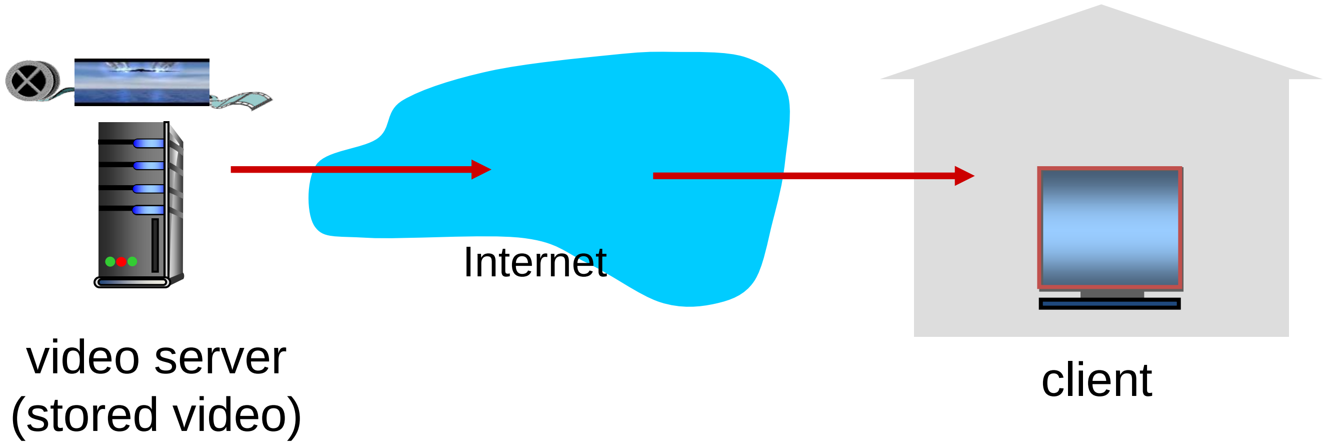
frame *i*

temporal coding example: instead of sending complete frame at i+1, send only differences from frame i

frame *i+1*

Streaming stored video

simple scenario:



Streaming multimedia: DASH

*DASH: D*ynamic, *A*daptive *S*treaming over *H*TTP

- *server:*
  - divides video file into multiple chunks
  - each chunk stored, encoded at different rates
  - *manifest file:* provides URLs for different chunks
- *client:*
  - periodically measures server-to-client bandwidth
  - consulting manifest, requests one chunk at a time
    - chooses maximum coding rate sustainable given current bandwidth
    - can choose different coding rates at different points in time (depending on available bandwidth at time)

Streaming multimedia: DASH

*DASH: D*ynamic, *A*daptive *S*treaming over *H*TTP

- *"intelligence"* at client: client determines
  - *when* to request chunk (so that buffer starvation, or overflow does not occur)
  - *what encoding rate* to request (higher quality when more bandwidth available)
  - *where* to request chunk (can request from URL server that is "close" to client or has high available bandwidth)

Content distribution networks

- challenge: how to stream content (selected from millions of videos) to hundreds of thousands of simultaneous users?

- option 1: single, large "mega-server"
  - single point of failure
  - point of network congestion
  - long path to distant clients
  - multiple copies of video sent over outgoing link

....quite simply: this solution doesn't scale

Content distribution networks

- *challenge:* how to stream content (selected from millions of videos) to hundreds of thousands of simultaneous users?

- *option 2:* store/serve multiple copies of videos at multiple geographically distributed sites *(CDN)*
  - *enter deep:* push CDN servers deep into many access networks
    - close to users
    - used by Akamai, 1700 locations
  - *bring home:* smaller number (10's) of larger clusters in POPs near (but not within) access networks
    - used by Limelight

Content distribution networks

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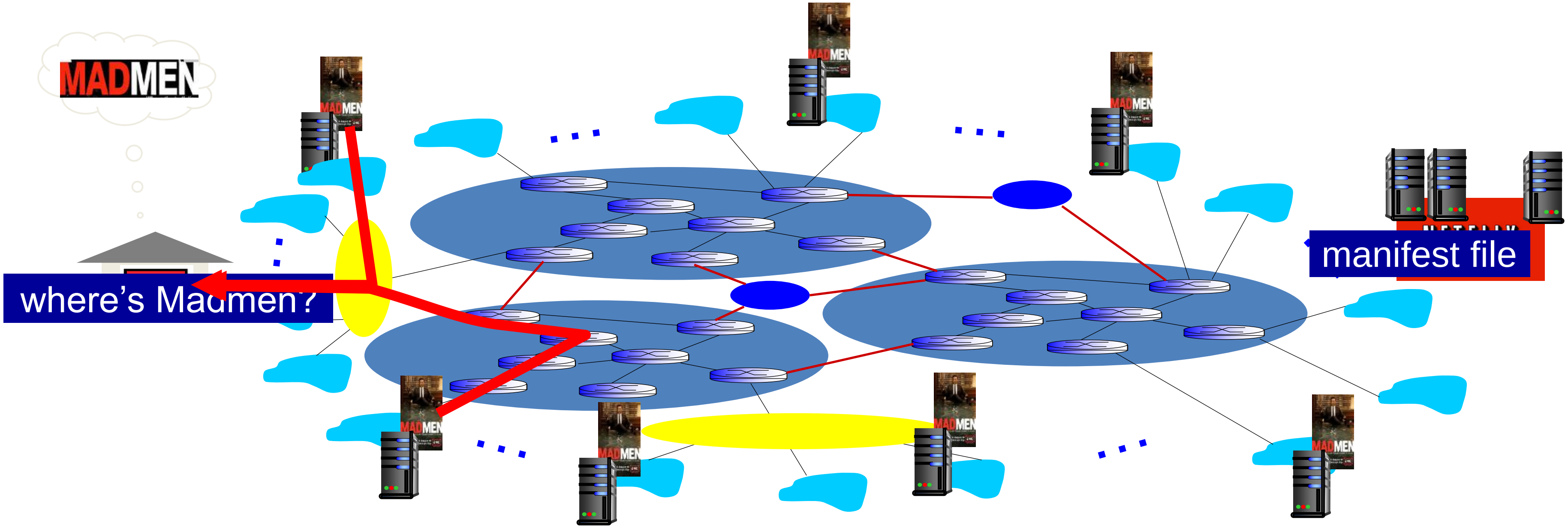
- CDN: stores copies of content at CDN nodes
  - e.g. Netflix stores copies of MadMen
- subscriber requests content from CDN
  - directed to nearby copy, retrieves content
  - may choose different copy if network path congested



Content distribution networks

Internet host-host communication as a service

OTT challenges: coping with a congested Internet

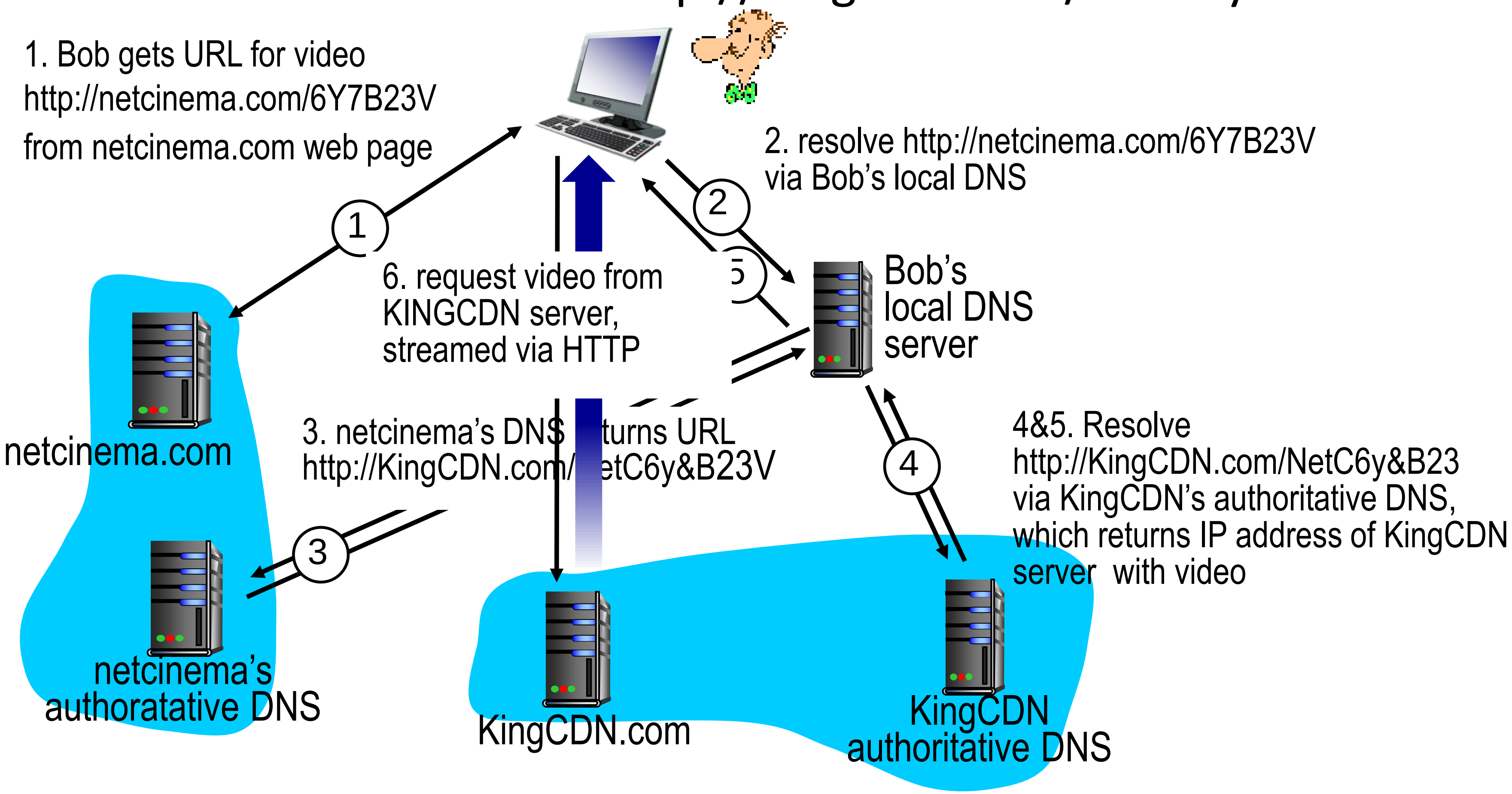
- from which CDN node to retrieve content?
- viewer behavior in presence of congestion?
- what content to place in which CDN node?

more .. in chapter 7

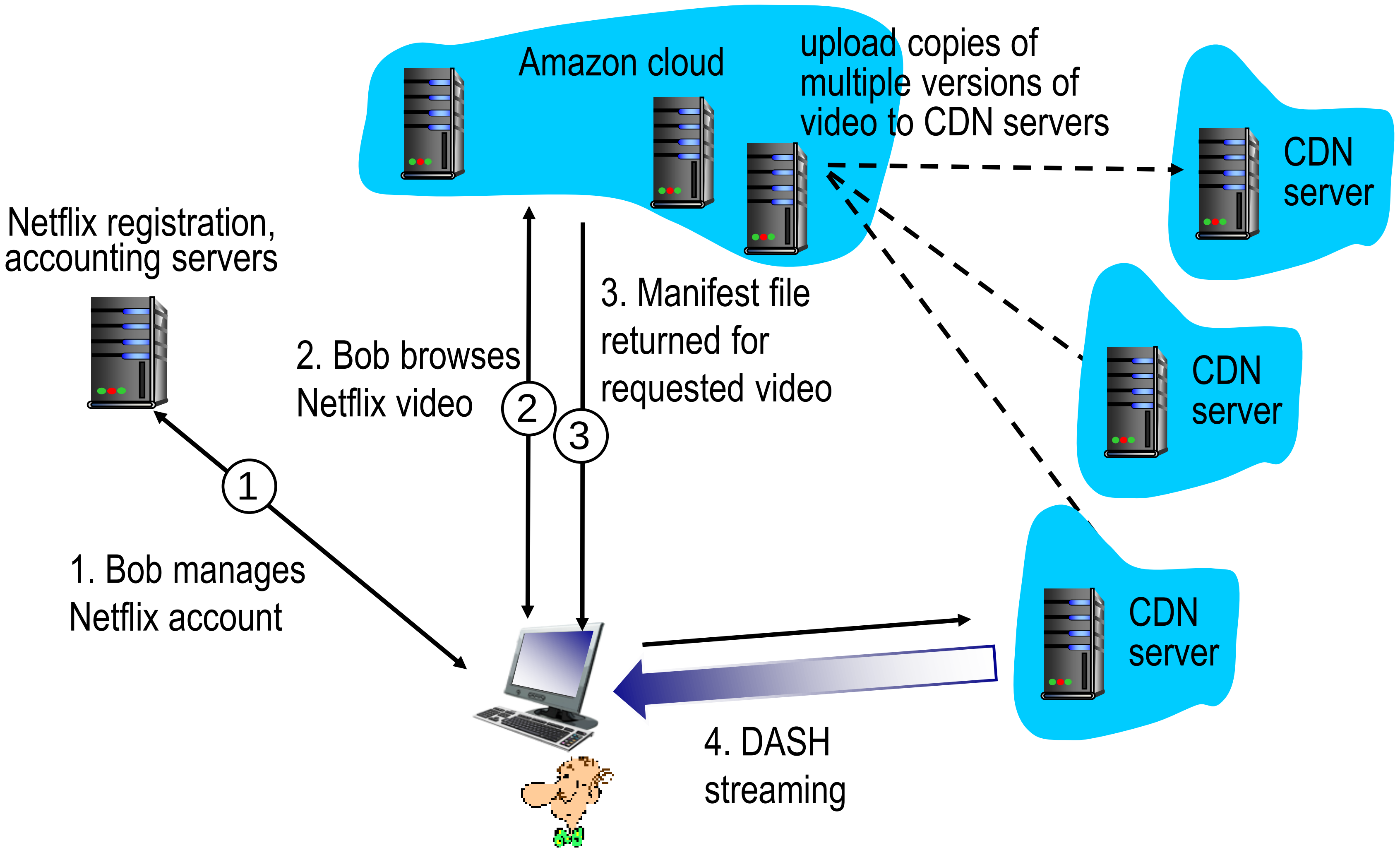
CDN content access: a closer look

Bob (client) requests video http://netcinema.com/6Y7B23V

- video stored in CDN at http://KingCDN.com/NetC6y&B23V



Case study: Netflix



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Socket Programming

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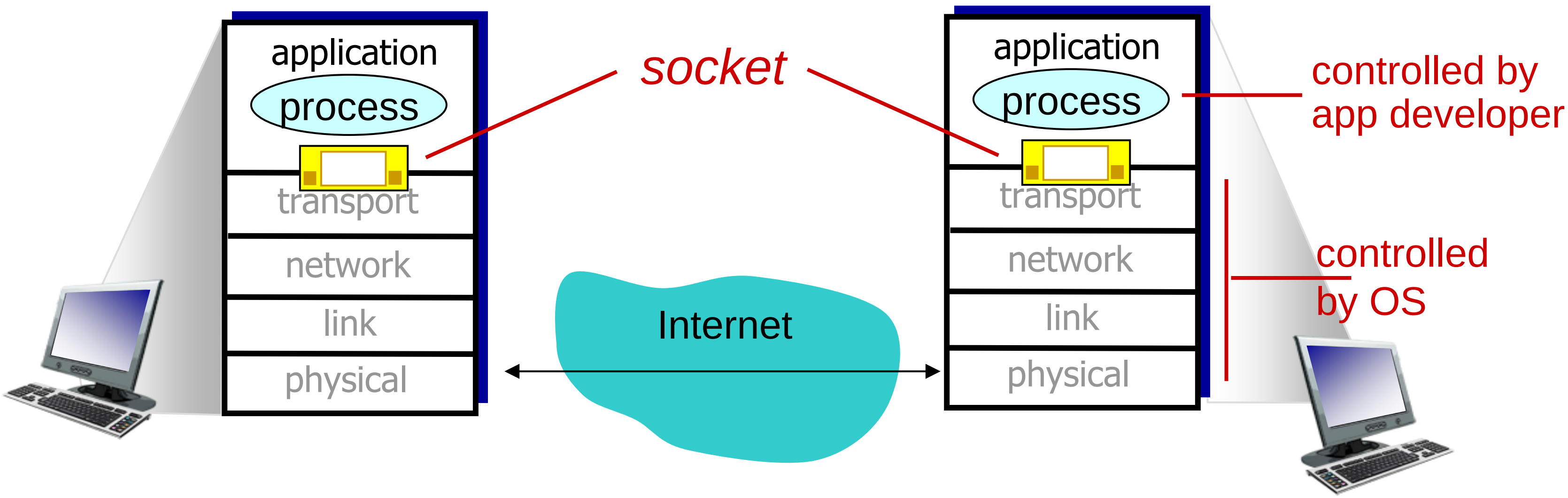
goal: learn how to build client/server applications that communicate using sockets

socket: door between application process and end-end-transport protocol



Socket Programming

Two socket types for two transport services:

- *UDP:* unreliable datagram
- *TCP:* reliable, byte stream-oriented

Application Example:

1. Client reads a line of characters (data) from its keyboard and sends the data to the server.
2. The server receives the data and converts characters to uppercase.
3. The server sends the modified data to the client.
4. The client receives the modified data and displays the line on its screen.

Socket Programming with UDP

UDP: no "connection" between client & server

- no handshaking before sending data
- sender explicitly attaches IP destination address and port # to each packet
- receiver extracts sender IP address and port# from received packet

UDP: transmitted data may be lost or received out-of-order

Application viewpoint:

- UDP provides *unreliable* transfer of groups of bytes ("datagrams") between client and server

Client/Server Socket Interaction: UDP

server (running on serverIP)

create socket, port= x:
serverSocket =
socket(AF_INET,SOCK_DGRAM)

↓

read datagram from
serverSocket

↓

write reply to
serverSocket
specifying
client address,
port number

client

create socket:
clientSocket =
socket(AF_INET,SOCK_DGRAM)

↓

Create datagram with server IP and
port=x; send datagram via
clientSocket

↓

read datagram from
clientSocket

↓

close
clientSocket

Example Application: UDP Client

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Python UDPClient

include Python's socket library → from socket import *

serverName = 'hostname'

serverPort = 12000

create UDP socket for server → clientSocket = socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_DGRAM)

get user keyboard input → message = raw_input('Input lowercase sentence:')

Attach server name, port to message; send into socket → clientSocket.sendto(message,(serverName, serverPort))

read reply characters from socket into string → modifiedMessage, serverAddress = clientSocket.recvfrom(2048)

print out received string and close socket → print modifiedMessage

clientSocket.close()

```
from socket import *
serverName = 'hostname'
serverPort = 12000
clientSocket = socket(socket.AF_INET,
                      socket.SOCK_DGRAM)
message = raw_input('Input lowercase sentence:')
clientSocket.sendto(message,(serverName, serverPort))
modifiedMessage, serverAddress =
                      clientSocket.recvfrom(2048)
print modifiedMessage
clientSocket.close()
```

Example Application: UDP Server

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Python UDPServer

```
from socket import *
serverPort = 12000
serverSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM)
serverSocket.bind(('', serverPort))
print "The server is ready to receive"
while 1:
    message, clientAddress = serverSocket.recvfrom(2048)
    modifiedMessage = message.upper()
    serverSocket.sendto(modifiedMessage, clientAddress)
```

- create UDP socket → serverSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM)
- bind socket to local port number 12000 → serverSocket.bind(('', serverPort))
- loop forever → while 1:
- Read from UDP socket into message, getting client's address (client IP and port) → message, clientAddress = serverSocket.recvfrom(2048)
- send upper case string back to this client → serverSocket.sendto(modifiedMessage, clientAddress)

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:

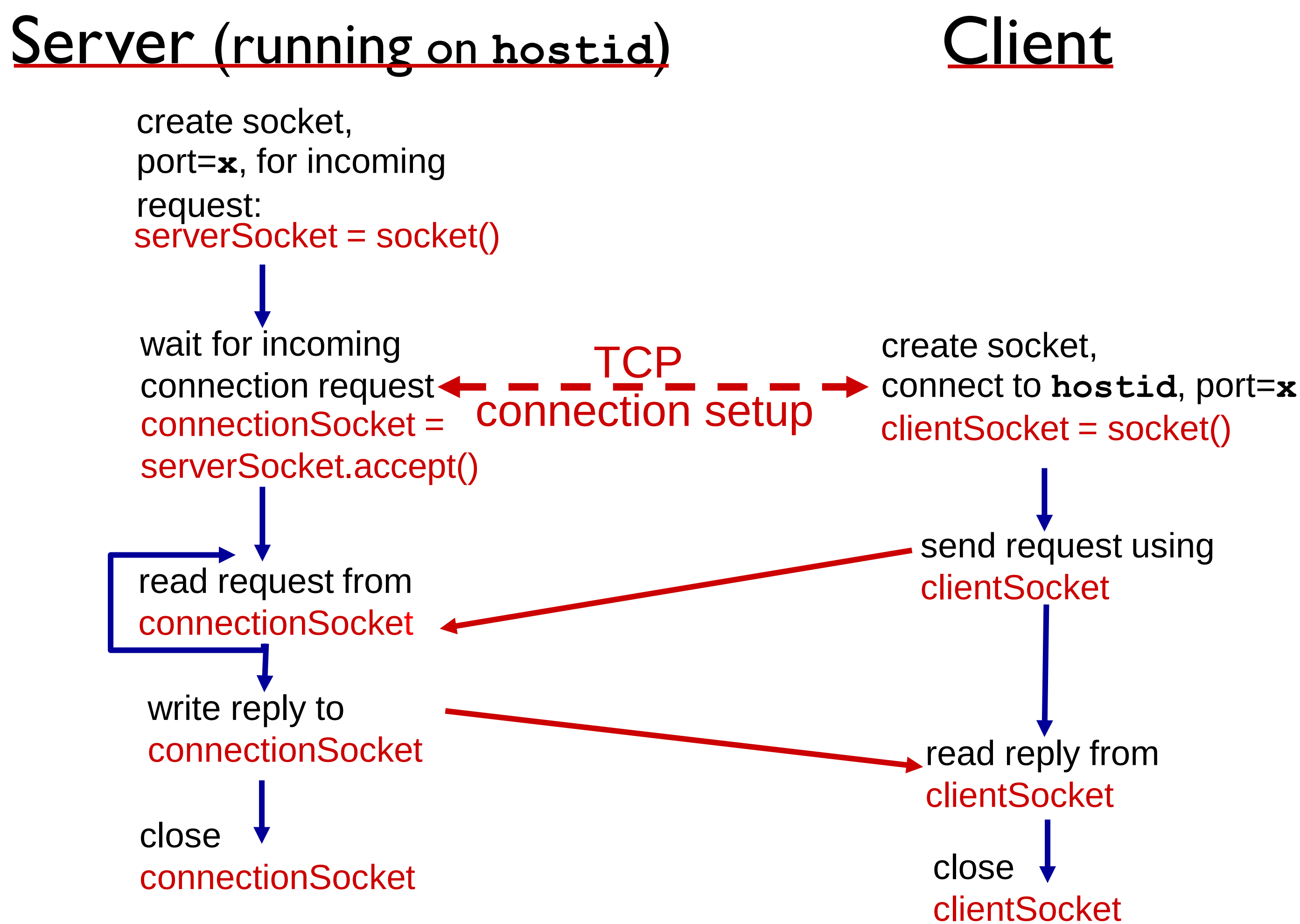
- Creating TCP socket, specifying IP address, port number of server process
- *when client creates socket:* client TCP establishes connection to server TCP

- when contacted by client, *server TCP creates new socket* for server process to communicate with that particular 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 byte-stream transfer ("pipe") between client and server

Client/Server Socket Interaction: TCP



DISCOVER · ACHIEVE · BELONG

Example Application: TCP Client

Python TCPClient

create TCP socket for server, remote port 12000

No need to attach server name, port

```
from socket import *
serverName = 'servername'
serverPort = 12000
clientSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM)
clientSocket.connect((serverName,serverPort))
sentence = raw_input('Input lowercase sentence:')
clientSocket.send(sentence)
modifiedSentence = clientSocket.recv(1024)
print 'From Server:', modifiedSentence
clientSocket.close()
```

Example Application: TCP Server

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Python TCPServer

```
from socket import *
serverPort = 12000
serverSocket = socket(AF_INET,SOCK_STREAM)
serverSocket.bind(('',serverPort))
serverSocket.listen(1)
print 'The server is ready to receive'
while 1:
    connectionSocket, addr = serverSocket.accept()

    sentence = connectionSocket.recv(1024)
    capitalizedSentence = sentence.upper()
    connectionSocket.send(capitalizedSentence)
    connectionSocket.close()
```

- create TCP welcoming socket → `serverSocket = socket(AF_INET,SOCK_STREAM)`
- server begins listening for incoming TCP requests → `serverSocket.listen(1)`
- loop forever → `while 1:`
- server waits on accept() for incoming requests, new socket created on return → `connectionSocket, addr = serverSocket.accept()`
- read bytes from socket (but not address as in UDP) → `sentence = connectionSocket.recv(1024)`
- close connection to this client (but *not* welcoming socket) → `connectionSocket.close()`

Summary

our study of network apps now complete!

- application architectures
  - client-server
  - P2P
- application service requirements:
  - reliability, bandwidth, delay
- Internet transport service model
  - connection-oriented, reliable: TCP
  - unreliable, datagrams: UDP
- specific protocols:
  - HTTP
  - SMTP, POP, IMAP
  - DNS
  - P2P: BitTorrent
- Video streaming, CDN
- socket programming: TCP, UDP sockets

Summary (cont.)

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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 message transfer
- "complexity at network edge"

ACS-3911-050 – Questions?

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