Application Layer – Cookie, Proxy

Lec 10

Trying out HTTP using Telnet

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!

User-server state: cookies

Many major Web sites use cookies

Four components:

1) cookie header line of HTTP *response* message
2) cookie header line in HTTP *request* message
3) cookie file kept on user's host, managed by user's browser
4) back-end database at Web site

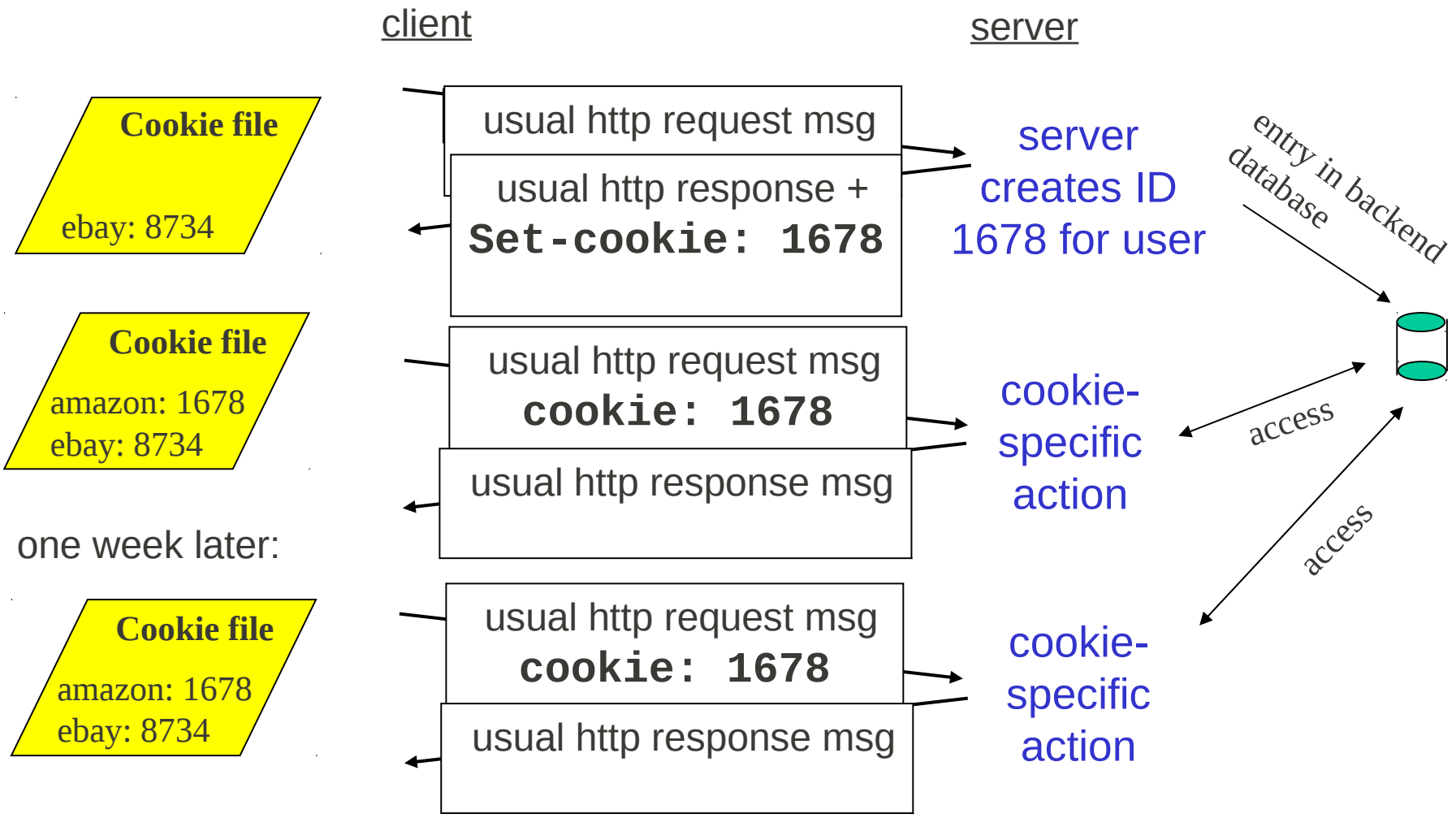
Example:

Recently viewed items in flipkart

Recently viewed movies in imdb.

etc..

Cookies: keeping “state” (cont.)



Cookies (continued)

What cookies can bring:

- authorization
- shopping carts
- recommendations
- user session state (Web e-mail)

aside

Cookies and privacy:

- cookies permit sites to learn a lot about you

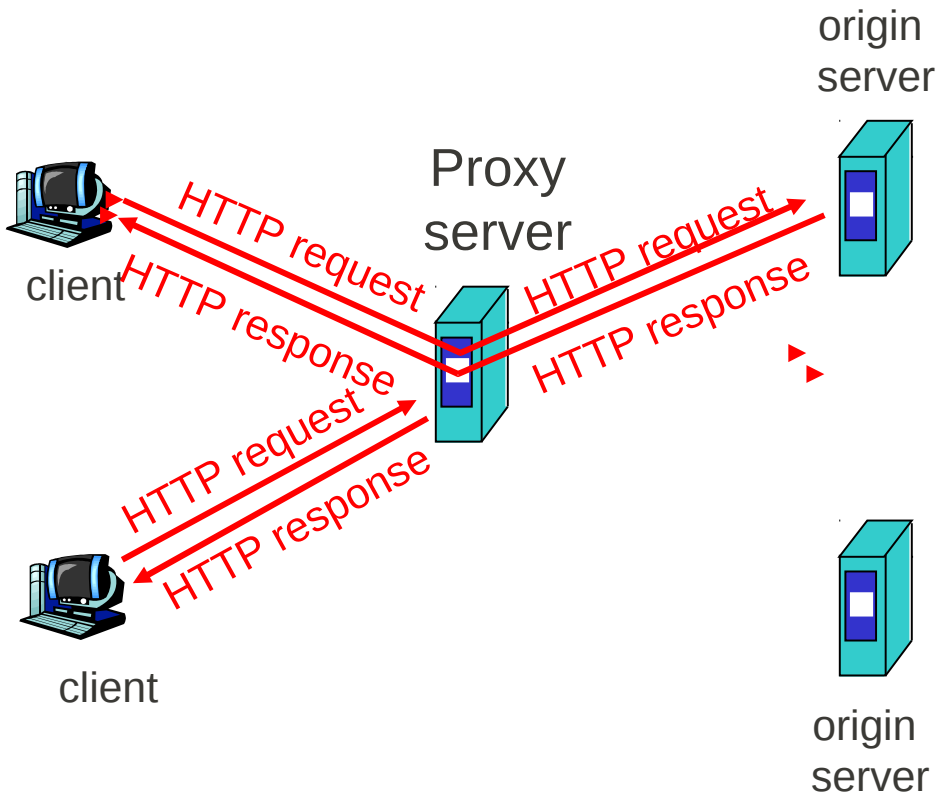
How to keep “state”:

- Protocol endpoints: maintain state at sender/receiver over multiple transactions
- cookies: http messages carry state

Web caches (proxy server)

Goal: satisfy client request without involving origin server

- 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.
- 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)

Caching example

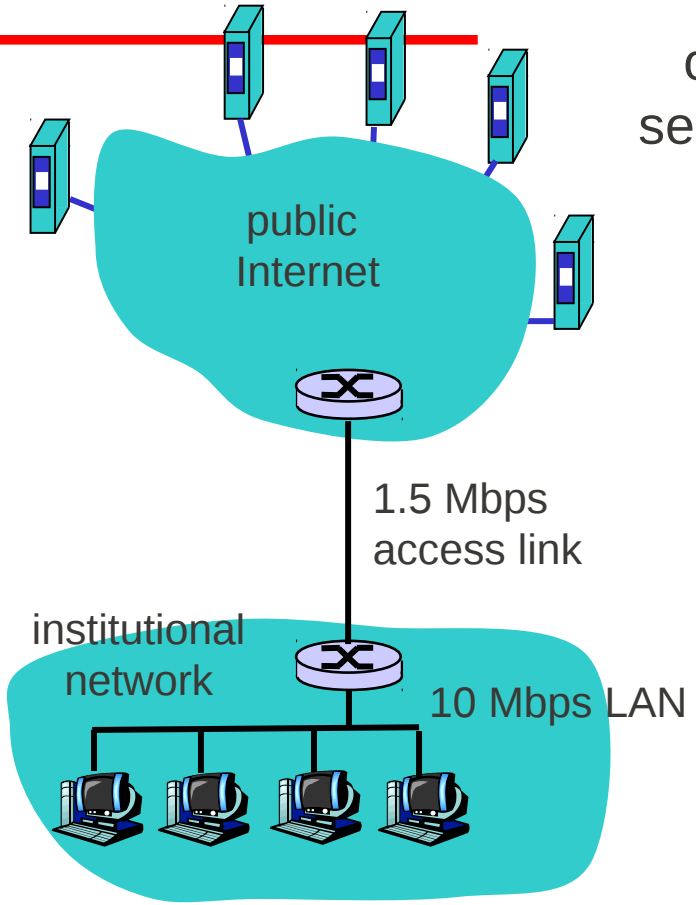
Assumptions

- 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

- utilization on LAN = 15%
- utilization on access link = 100%
- total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay

= sec + minutes + milliseconds



Caching example (cont)

Possible solution

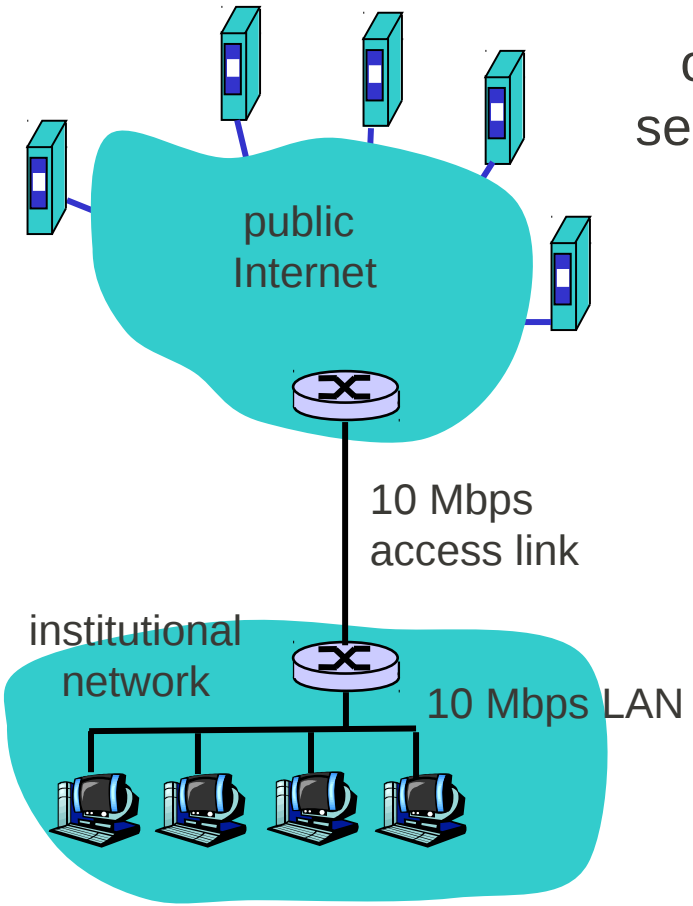
- increase bandwidth of access link to, say, 10 Mbps

Consequences

- utilization on LAN = 15%
- utilization on access link = 15%
- Total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay

= sec + msecs + msecs

- often a costly upgrade



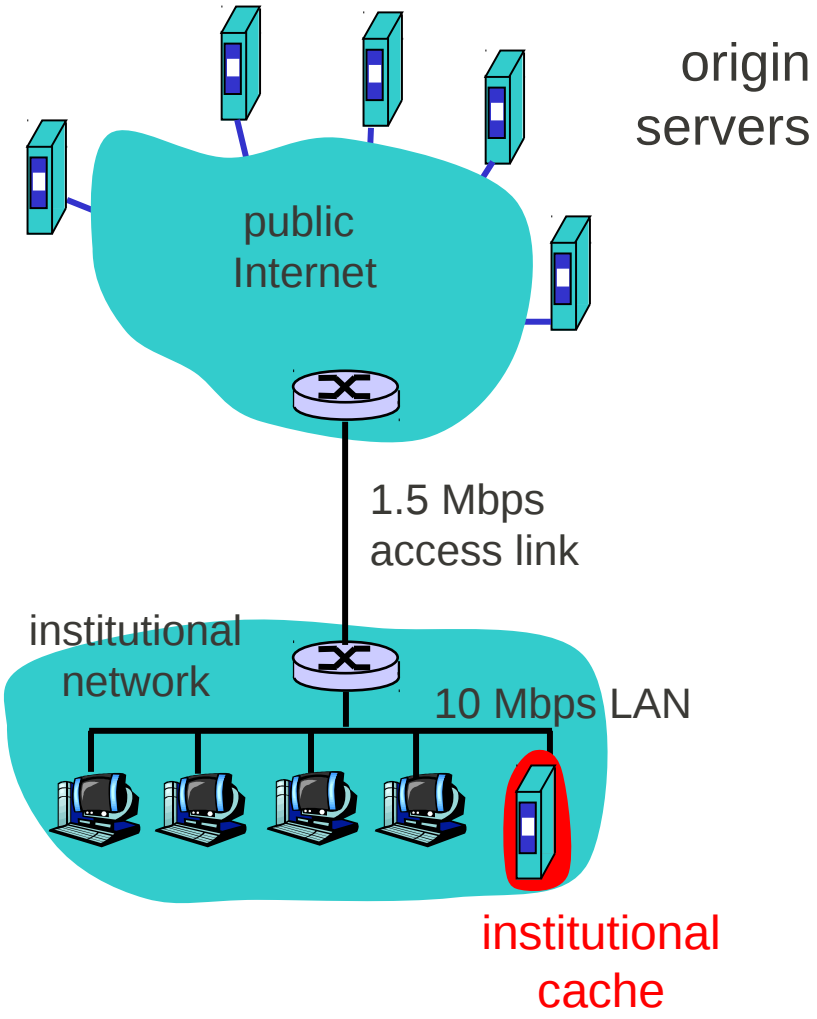
Caching example (cont)

Install cache

- suppose hit rate is .4

Consequence

- 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 + 0.6*access delay + LAN delay =
  secs + milliseconds



Conditional GET

- 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-to-date:

  `HTTP/1.0 304 Not Modified`