Socket Programming

Introduction to Computer Systems
23th Lecture, Dec. 21, 2020

Instructors:

Class 1: Chen Xiangqun, Sun Guangyu, Liu Xianhua

Class 2: Guan Xuetao

Class 3: Lu Junlin

Outline

- A Programmer's View of the Internet
- Socket programming example
- Socket detail: socket address
- Socket detail: related functions
- Put it together, and test it

A Programmer's View of the Internet

1. Hosts are mapped to a set of 32-bit *IP addresses*

- 128.2.203.179
- 127.0.0.1 (always *localhost*)

2. The set of IP addresses is mapped to a set of identifiers called Internet *domain names*

- 128.2.217.3 is mapped to www.cs.cmu.edu

3. A process on one Internet host can communicate with a process on another Internet host over a *connection*

Internet Connections

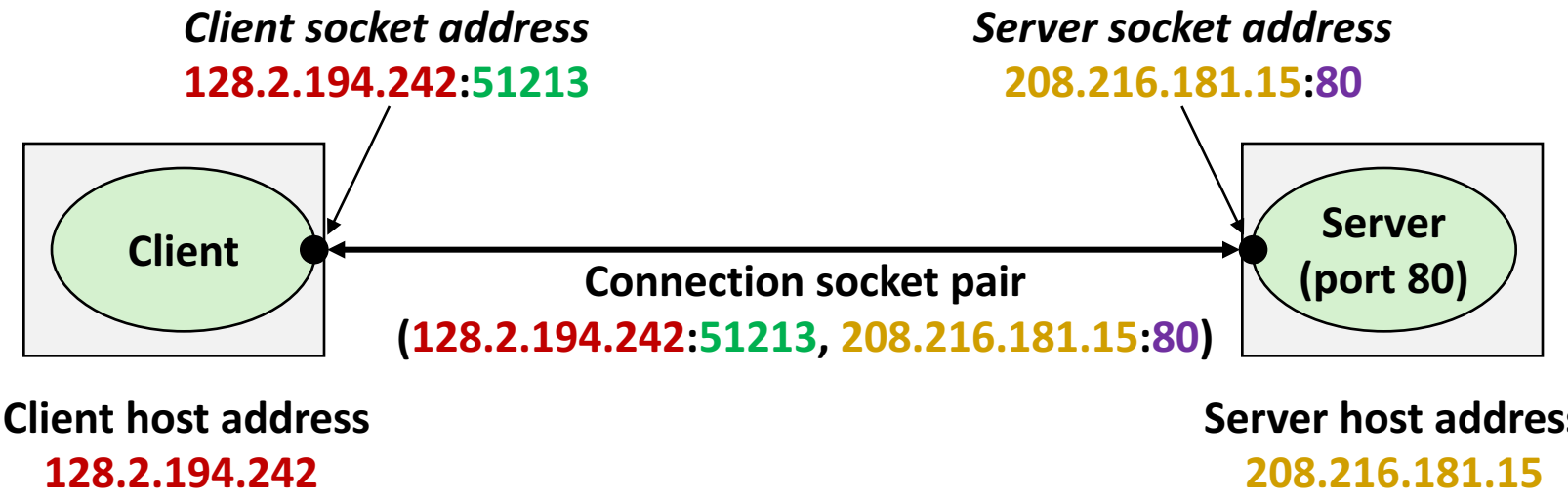
- **Clients and servers communicate by sending streams of bytes over *connections*. Each connection is:**
  - *Point-to-point*: connects a pair of processes.
  - *Full-duplex*: data can flow in both directions at the same time,
  - *Reliable*: stream of bytes sent by the source is eventually received by the destination in the same order it was sent.

- ***A socket* is an endpoint of a connection**
  - *Socket address* is an `IPaddress:port` pair

- **A *port* is a 16-bit integer that identifies a process:**
  - ***Ephemeral port*:** Assigned automatically by client kernel when client makes a connection request.
  - ***Well-known port:*** Associated with some *service* provided by a server (e.g., port 80 is associated with Web servers)

Anatomy of a Connection

- A connection is uniquely identified by the socket addresses of its endpoints (*socket pair*)
  - `(cliaddr:cliport, servaddr:servport)`

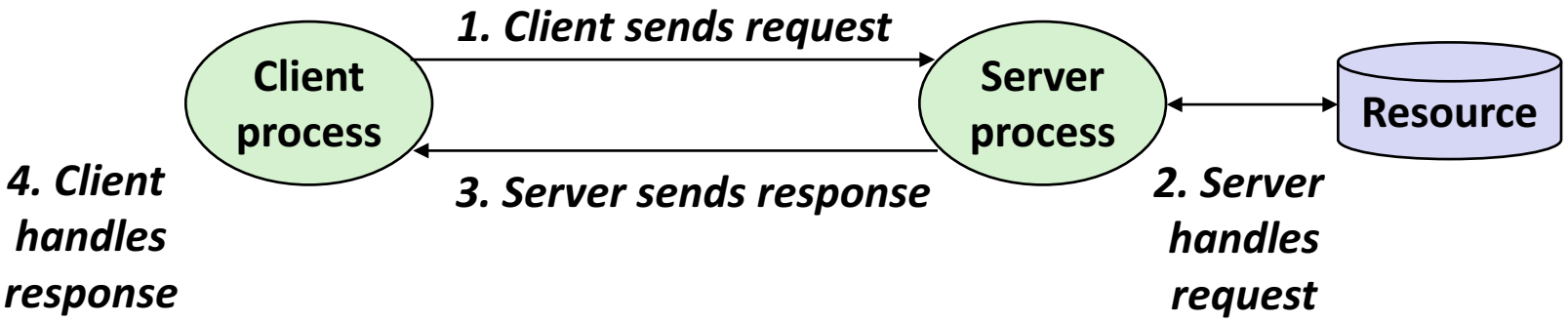


51213 is an ephemeral port allocated by the kernel

80 is a well-known port associated with Web servers

A Client-Server Transaction

- **Most network applications are based on the client-server model:**
  - A ***server*** process and one or more ***client*** processes
  - Server manages some ***resource***
  - Server provides ***service*** by manipulating resource for clients
  - Server activated by request from client (vending machine analogy)



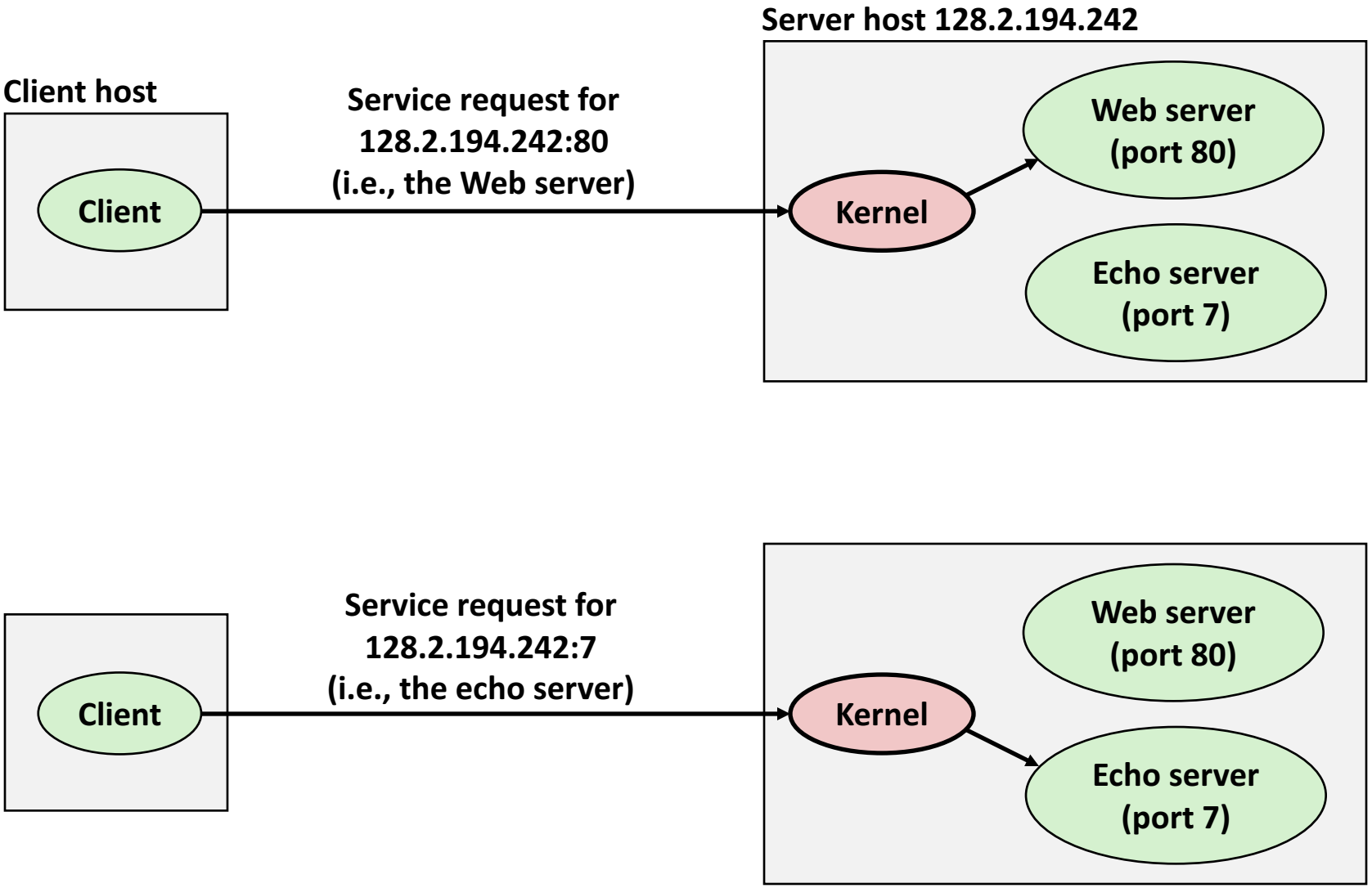
Note: clients and servers are processes running on hosts (can be the same or different hosts)

Clients

- **Examples of client programs**
  - Web browsers, `ftp`, `telnet`, `ssh`

- **How does a client find the server?** **IP addr : port #**
  - The IP address in the server socket address ***identifies the host*** (more precisely, an adapter on the host)
  - The (well-known) port in the server socket address ***identifies the service***, and thus implicitly identifies the server process that performs that service.
  - Examples of well know ports
    - **Port 7: Echo server**
    - Port 23: Telnet server
    - Port 25: Mail server
    - Port 80: Web server

Using Ports to Identify Services



Servers

- **Servers are long-running processes (daemons)**
  - Created at boot-time (typically) by the init process (process 1)
  - Run continuously until the machine is turned off

- **Each server waits for requests to arrive on a well-known port associated with a particular service**
  - Port 7: echo server
  - Port 23: telnet server
  - Port 25: mail server
  - Port 80: HTTP server

- **A machine that runs a server process is also often referred to as a "server"**

Server Examples

- **Web server (port 80)**
  - Resource: files/compute cycles (CGI programs)
  - Service: retrieves files and runs CGI programs on behalf of the client
- **FTP server (20, 21)**
  - Resource: files
  - Service: stores and retrieve files
- **Telnet server (23)**
  - Resource: terminal
  - Service: proxies a terminal on the server machine
- **Mail server (25)**
  - Resource: email “spool” file
  - Service: stores mail messages in spool file

See `/etc/services` for a comprehensive list of the port mappings on a Linux machine

Outline

- A Programmer's View of the Internet
- **Socket programming example**
- Socket detail: socket address
- Socket detail: related functions
- Put it together, and test it

Socket Programming Example

- **Echo server and client**
- **Server**
  - Accepts connection request
  - Repeats back lines as they are typed
- **Client**
  - Requests connection to server
  - Repeatedly:
    - Read line from terminal
    - Send to server
    - Read reply from server
    - Print line to terminal

Echo Server/Client Session Example

Client

```
linux> ./echoclient ics12 15213                    (A)
This line is being echoed                          (B)
This line is being echoed
This one is, too                                   (C)
This one is, too
^D
linux> ./echoclient ics12 15213                    (D)
This one is a new connection                       (E)
This one is a new connection
^D
```

Server

```
ics12> ./echoserveri 15213
Connected to (ics12.pku.edu.cn, 52069)             (A)
server received 26 bytes                           (B)
server received 17 bytes                           (C)
Connected to (ics12.pku.edu.cn, 52070)             (D)
server received 29 bytes                           (E)
```

```
ics> ./echoserveri 15213
```

```
linux> ./echoclient ics 15213          (A)
```

```
Connected to (ics.pku.edu.cn, 52069)  (A)
```

```
This line is being echoed                    (B)
```

```
server received 26 bytes                              (B)
```

```
This line is being echoed                    (echo)
This one is, too                             (C)
```

```
server received 17 bytes                              (C)
```

```
This one is, too                             (echo)
^D
```

```
Connection closed
```

```
linux> ./echoclient ics 15213          (D)
```

```
Connected to (ics.pku.edu.cn, 52070)  (D)
```

```
This one is a new connection                 (E)
```

```
server received 29 bytes                              (E)
```

```
This one is a new connection                 (echo)
^D
```

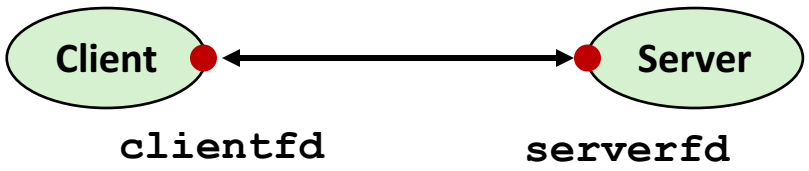
```
Connection closed
```

Sockets Interface

- **Set of system-level functions used in conjunction with Unix I/O to build network applications.**
- **Created in the early 80's as part of the original Berkeley distribution of Unix that contained an early version of the Internet protocols.**
- **Available on all modern systems**
  - Unix variants, Windows, OS X, IOS, Android, ARM

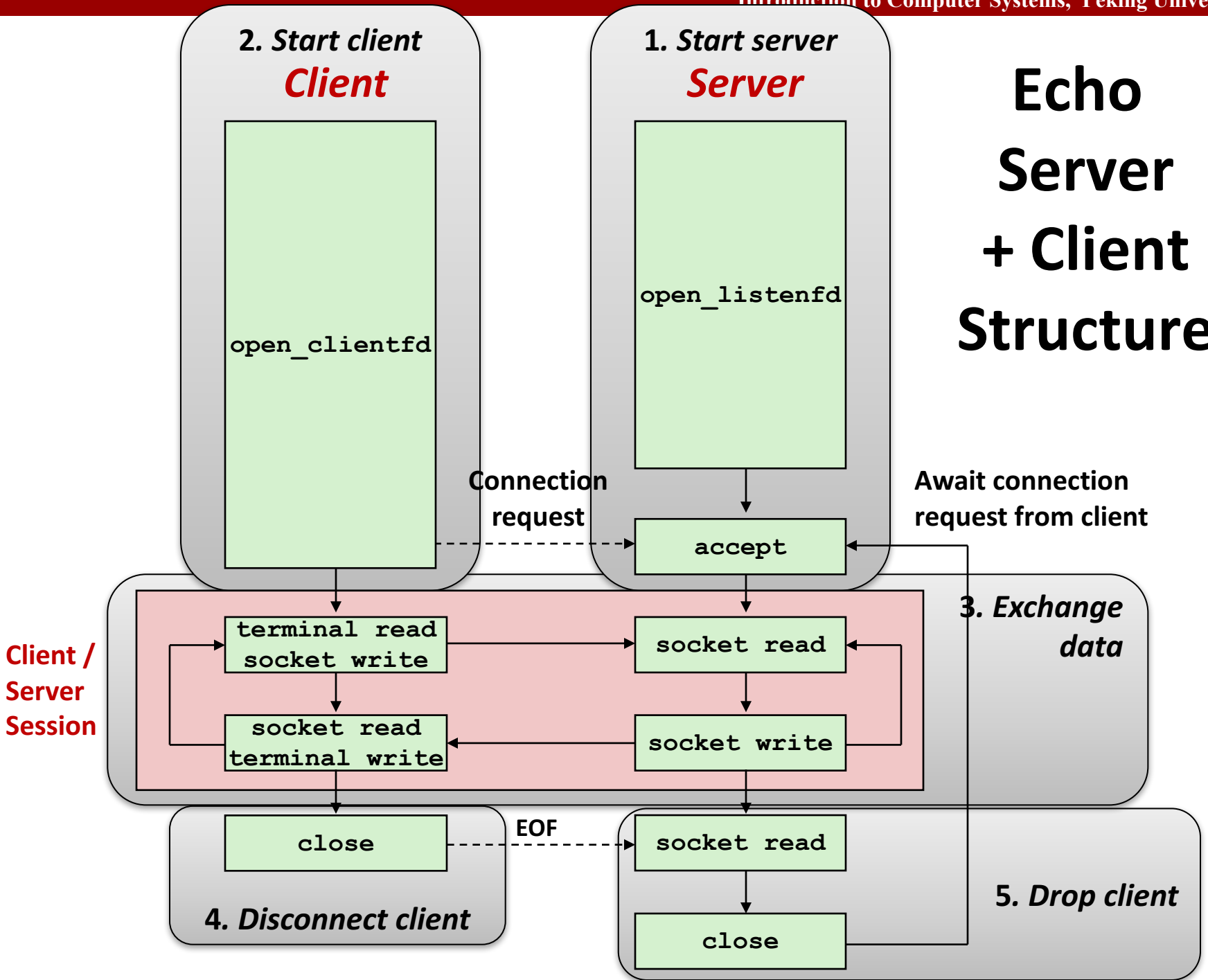
Sockets

- **What is a socket?**
  - To the kernel, a socket is an endpoint of communication
  - To an application, a socket is a file descriptor that lets the application read/write from/to the network
    - ***Remember:*** All Unix I/O devices, including networks, are modeled as files
- **Clients and servers communicate with each other by reading from and writing to socket descriptors**

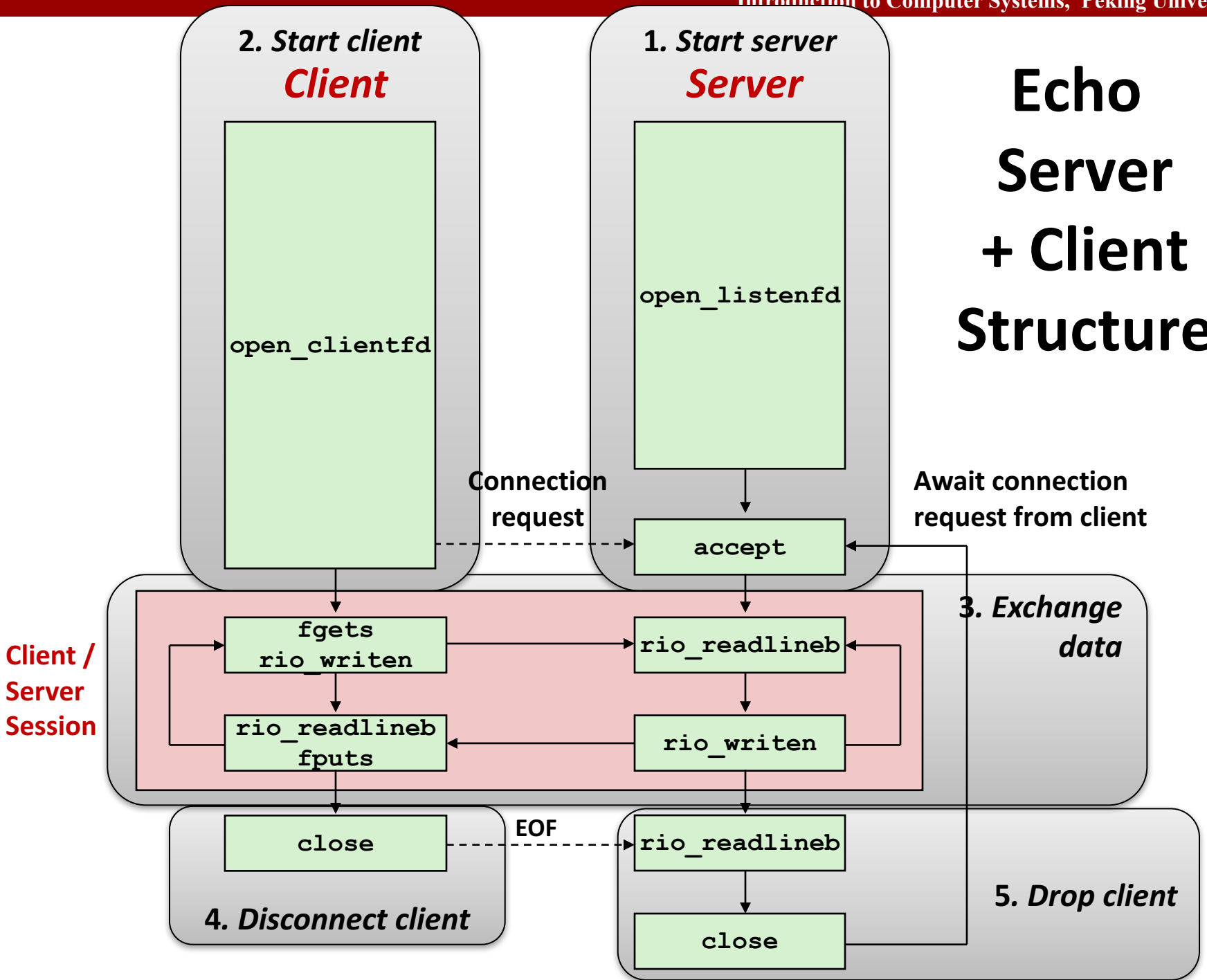


- **The main distinction between regular file I/O and socket I/O is how the application "opens" the socket descriptors**

Echo Server + Client Structure

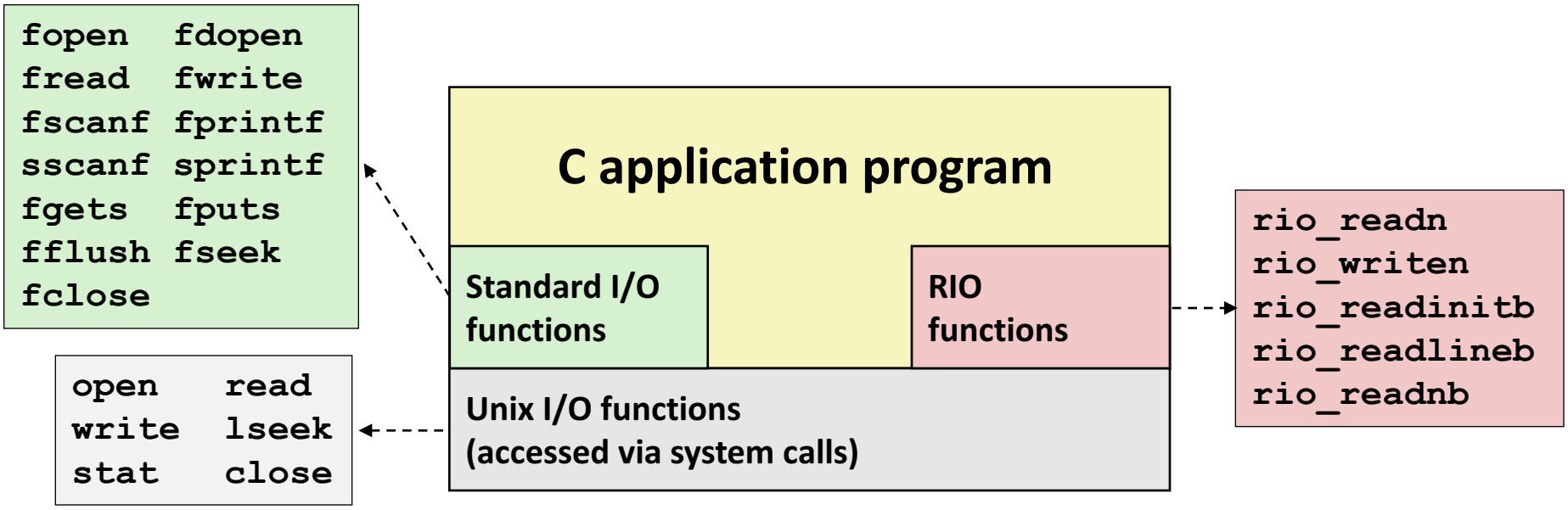


Echo Server + Client Structure



Recall: C Standard I/O, Unix I/O and RIO

- **Robust I/O (RIO): 15-213 special wrappers**
  good coding practice: handles error checking, signals, and "short counts"



Recall: Unbuffered RIO Input/Output

- Same interface as Unix **`read`** and **`write`**
- Especially useful for transferring data on network sockets

```
#include "csapp.h"

ssize_t rio_readn(int fd, void *usrbuf, size_t n);
ssize_t rio_writen(int fd, void *usrbuf, size_t n);
```

Return: num. bytes transferred if OK, 0 on EOF (`rio_readn` only), -1 on error

- **`rio_readn`** returns short count only if it encounters EOF
  - Only use it when you know how many bytes to read
- **`rio_writen`** never returns a short count
- Calls to **`rio_readn`** and **`rio_writen`** can be interleaved arbitrarily on the same descriptor

Recall: Buffered RIO Input Functions

- **Efficiently read text lines and binary data from a file partially cached in an internal memory buffer**

```
#include "csapp.h"

void rio_readinitb(rio_t *rp, int fd);

ssize_t rio_readlineb(rio_t *rp, void *usrbuf, size_t maxlen);
ssize_t rio_readnb(rio_t *rp, void *usrbuf, size_t n);
```

Return: num. bytes read if OK, 0 on EOF, -1 on error

  - `rio_readlineb` reads a ***text line*** of up to **`maxlen`** bytes from file **`fd`** and stores the line in **`usrbuf`**
    - Especially useful for reading text lines from network sockets
  - Stopping conditions
    - **`maxlen`** bytes read
    - EOF encountered
    - Newline (‘**`\n`**’) encountered

Echo Client: Main Routine

```
#include "csapp.h"

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    int clientfd;
    char *host, *port, buf[MAXLINE];
    rio_t rio;

    host = argv[1];
    port = argv[2];

    clientfd = Open_clientfd(host, port);
    Rio_readinitb(&rio, clientfd);

    while (Fgets(buf, MAXLINE, stdin) != NULL) {
        Rio_writen(clientfd, buf, strlen(buf));
        Rio_readlineb(&rio, buf, MAXLINE);
        Fputs(buf, stdout);
    }
    Close(clientfd);
    exit(0);
}
```

echoclient.c

Iterative Echo Server: Main Routine

```
#include "csapp.h"
void echo(int connfd);

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    int listenfd, connfd;
    socklen_t clientlen;
    struct sockaddr_storage clientaddr; /* Enough room for any addr */
    char client_hostname[MAXLINE], client_port[MAXLINE];

    listenfd = Open_listenfd(argv[1]);
    while (1) {
        clientlen = sizeof(struct sockaddr_storage); /* Important! */
        connfd = Accept(listenfd, (SA *)&clientaddr, &clientlen);
        Getnameinfo((SA *) &clientaddr, clientlen,
                    client_hostname, MAXLINE, client_port, MAXLINE, 0);
        printf("Connected to (%s, %s)\n", client_hostname, client_port);
        echo(connfd);
        Close(connfd);
    }
    exit(0);
}
```

echoserveri.c

Echo Server: `echo` function

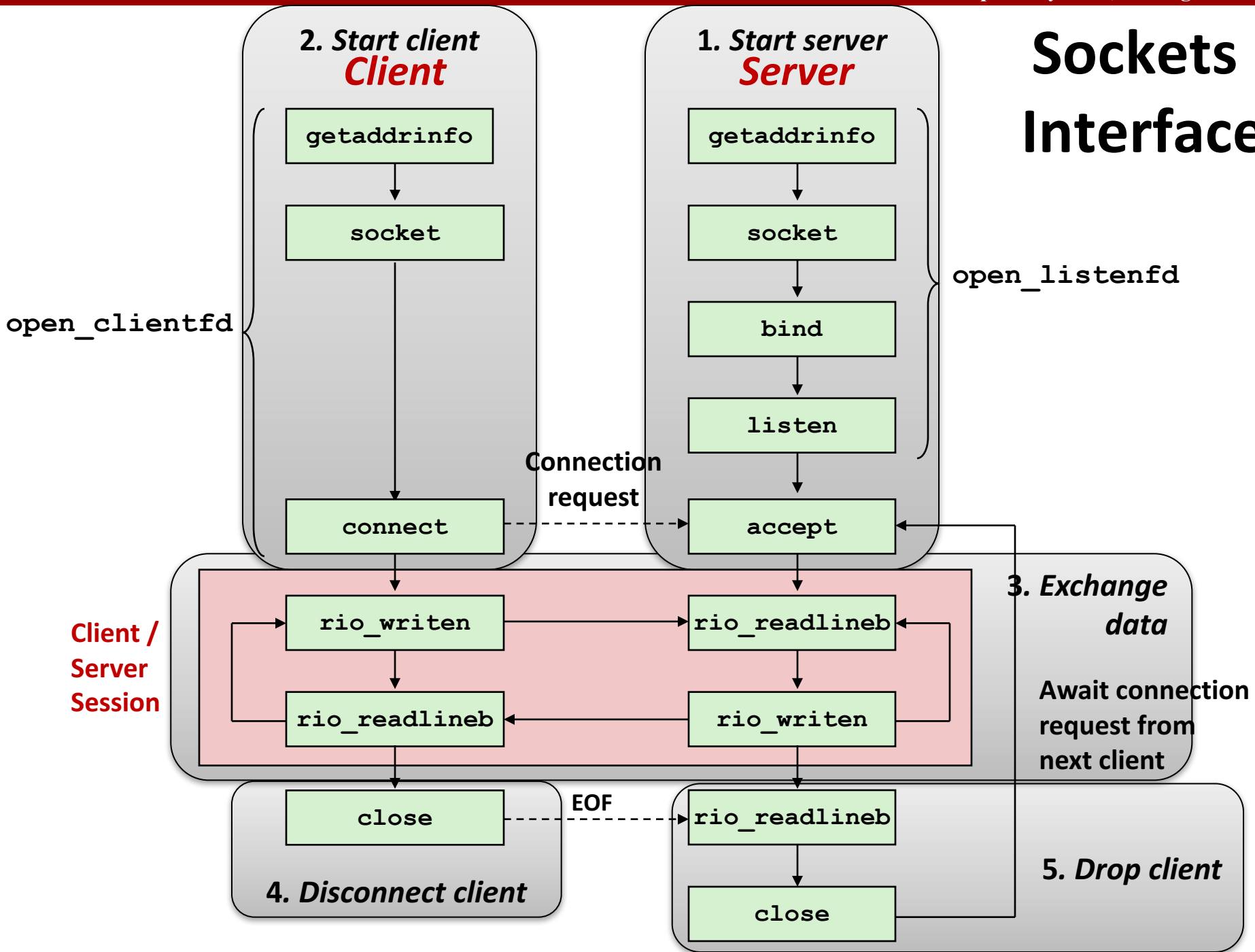
- **The server uses RIO to read and echo text lines until EOF (end-of-file) condition is encountered.**
  - EOF condition caused by client calling **`close(clientfd)`**

```
void echo(int connfd)
{
    size_t n;
    char buf[MAXLINE];
    rio_t rio;

    Rio_readinitb(&rio, connfd);
    while((n = Rio_readlineb(&rio, buf, MAXLINE)) != 0) {
        printf("server received %d bytes\n", (int)n);
        Rio_writen(connfd, buf, n);
    }
}
```

echo.c

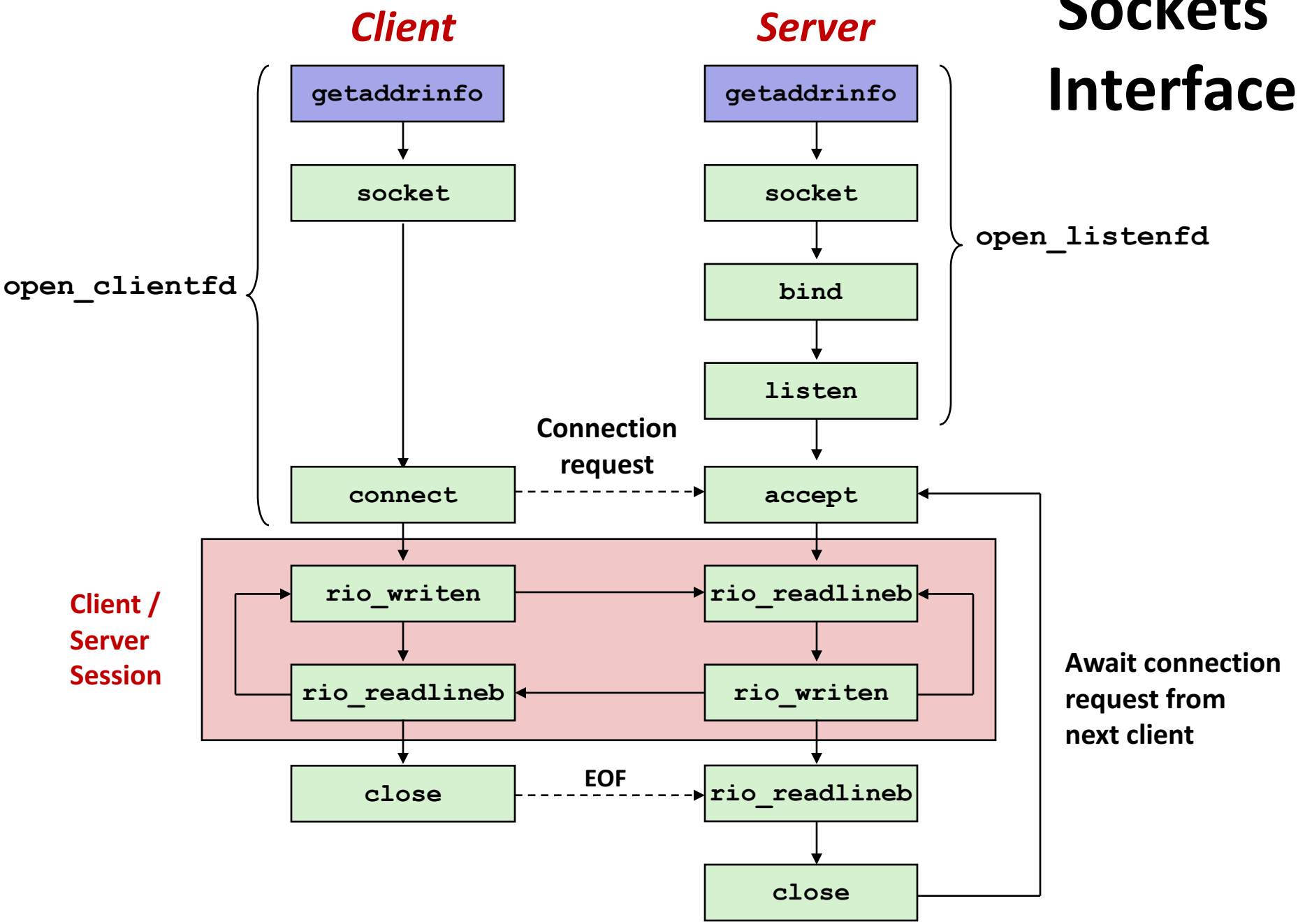
Sockets Interface



Outline

- A Programmer's View of the Internet
- Socket programming example
- **Socket detail: socket address**
- Socket detail: related functions
- Put it together, and test it

Sockets Interface

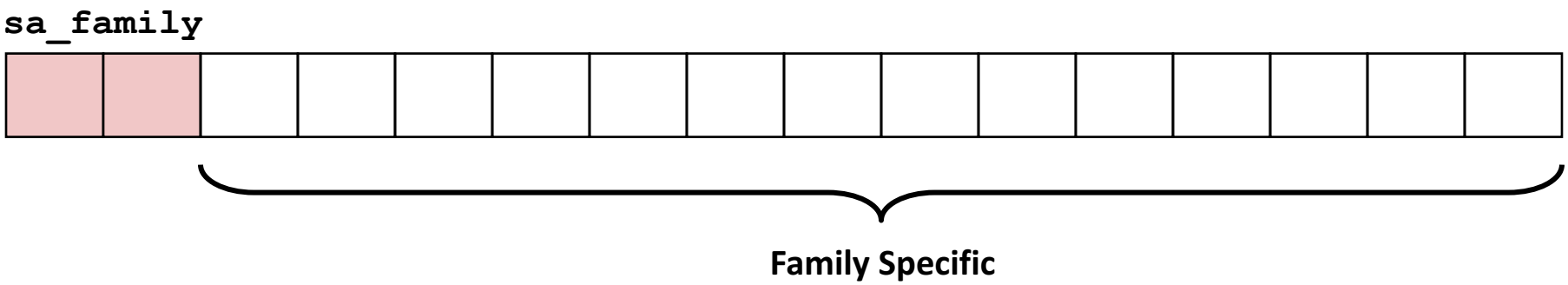


Socket Address Structures

- **Generic socket address:**
  - For address arguments to **`connect`**, **`bind`**, and **`accept`**
  - Necessary only because C did not have generic (**`void *`**) pointers when the sockets interface was designed
  - For casting convenience, we adopt the Stevens convention:

    `typedef struct sockaddr SA;`

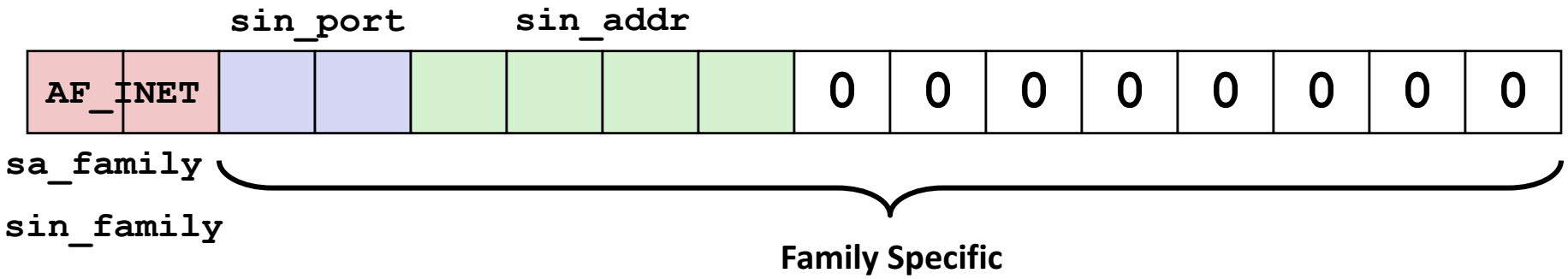
```
struct sockaddr {
  uint16_t  sa_family;    /* Protocol family */
  char      sa_data[14];  /* Address data.  */
};
```



Socket Address Structures

- **Internet (IPv4) specific socket address:**
  - Must cast (`struct sockaddr_in *`) to (`struct sockaddr *`) for functions that take socket address arguments.

```
struct sockaddr_in  {
  uint16_t        sin_family;  /* Protocol family (always AF_INET) */
  uint16_t        sin_port;    /* Port num in network byte order */
  struct in_addr  sin_addr;    /* IP addr in network byte order */
  unsigned char   sin_zero[8]; /* Pad to sizeof(struct sockaddr) */
};
```



Host and Service Conversion: `getaddrinfo`

- **`getaddrinfo` is the modern way to convert string representations of hostnames, host addresses, ports, and service names to socket address structures.**
  - Replaces obsolete `gethostbyname` and `getservbyname` funcs.

- **Advantages:**
  - Reentrant (can be safely used by threaded programs).
  - Allows us to write portable protocol-independent code
    - Works with both IPv4 and IPv6

- **Disadvantages**
  - Somewhat complex
  - Fortunately, a small number of usage patterns suffice in most cases.

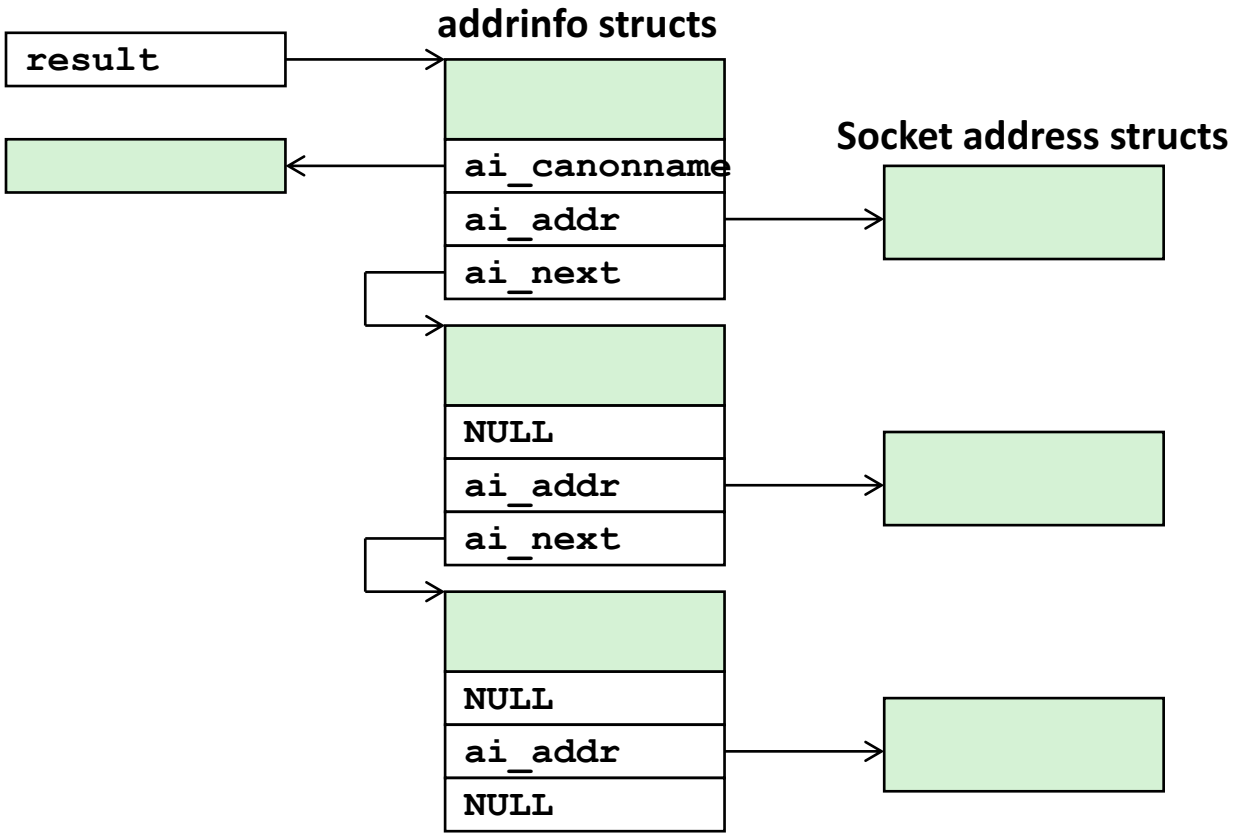
Host and Service Conversion: `getaddrinfo`

```
int getaddrinfo(const char *host,               /* Hostname or address */
                const char *service,            /* Port or service name */
                const struct addrinfo *hints,/* Input parameters */
                struct addrinfo **result);   /* Output linked list */

void freeaddrinfo(struct addrinfo *result);  /* Free linked list */
const char *gai_strerror(int errcode);       /* Return error msg */
```

- Given `host` and `service`, `getaddrinfo` returns `result` that points to a linked list of `addrinfo` structs, each of which points to a corresponding socket address struct, and which contains arguments for the sockets interface functions.
- Helper functions:
  - `freeadderinfo` frees the entire linked list.
  - `gai_strerror` converts error code to an error message.

Linked List Returned by `getaddrinfo`



- Clients: walk this list, trying each socket address in turn, until the calls to `socket` and `connect` succeed.
- Servers: walk the list until calls to `socket` and `bind` succeed.

addrinfo Struct

```
struct addrinfo {
    int              ai_flags;     /* Hints argument flags */
    int              ai_family;    /* First arg to socket function */
    int              ai_socktype;  /* Second arg to socket function */
    int              ai_protocol;  /* Third arg to socket function  */
    char            *ai_canonname; /* Canonical host name */
    size_t           ai_addrlen;   /* Size of ai_addr struct */
    struct sockaddr *ai_addr;      /* Ptr to socket address structure */
    struct addrinfo *ai_next;      /* Ptr to next item in linked list */
};
```

- Each addrinfo struct returned by getaddrinfo contains arguments that can be passed directly to `socket` function.
- Also points to a socket address struct that can be passed directly to `connect` and `bind` functions .

Host and Service Conversion: `getnameinfo`

- **`getnameinfo` is the inverse of getaddrinfo, converting a socket address to the corresponding host and service.**
  - Replaces obsolete `gethostbyaddr` and `getservbyport` funcs.
  - Reentrant and protocol independent.

```
int getnameinfo(const SA *sa, socklen_t salen, /* In: socket addr */
                char *host, size_t hostlen,    /* Out: host */
                char *serv, size_t servlen,    /* Out: service */
                int flags);                    /* optional flags */
```

Conversion Example

```c
#include "csapp.h"

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    struct addrinfo *p, *listp, hints;
    char buf[MAXLINE];
    int rc, flags;

    /* Get a list of addrinfo records */
    memset(&hints, 0, sizeof(struct addrinfo));
   // hints.ai_family = AF_INET;       /* IPv4 only */
    hints.ai_socktype = SOCK_STREAM; /* Connections only */
    if ((rc = getaddrinfo(argv[1], NULL, &hints, &listp)) != 0) {
        fprintf(stderr, "getaddrinfo error: %s\n", gai_strerror(rc));
        exit(1);
    }
```

hostinfo.c

Conversion Example (cont)

```
    /* Walk the list and display each IP address */
    flags = NI_NUMERICHOST; /* Display address instead of name */
    for (p = listp; p; p = p->ai_next) {
        Getnameinfo(p->ai_addr, p->ai_addrlen,
                    buf, MAXLINE, NULL, 0, flags);
        printf("%s\n", buf);
    }

    /* Clean up */
    Freeaddrinfo(listp);

    exit(0);
}
```

hostinfo.c

Running hostinfo

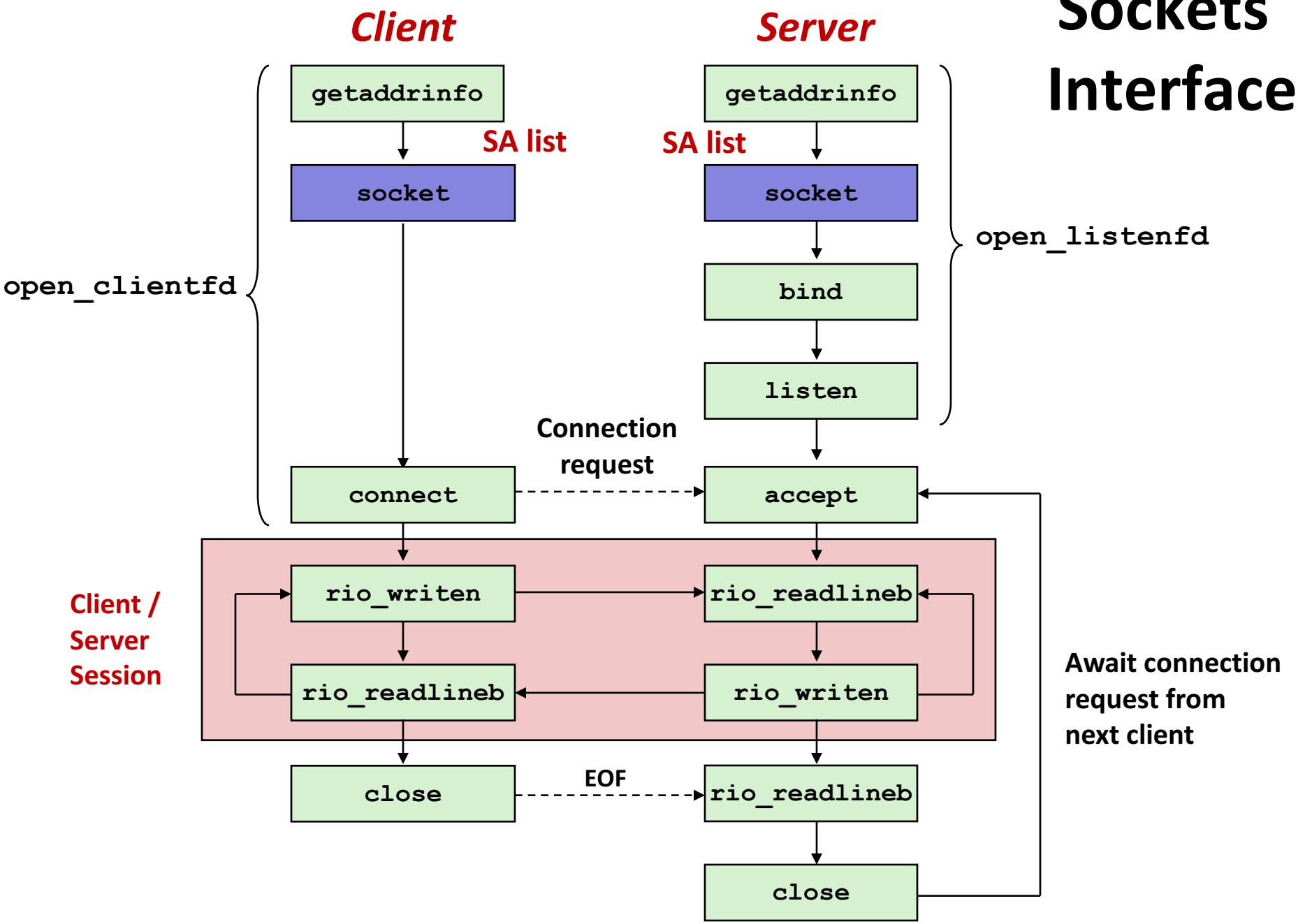
```
whaleshark> ./hostinfo localhost
127.0.0.1

whaleshark> ./hostinfo whaleshark.ics.cs.cmu.edu
128.2.210.175

whaleshark> ./hostinfo twitter.com
199.16.156.230
199.16.156.38
199.16.156.102
199.16.156.198

whaleshark> ./hostinfo google.com
172.217.15.110
2607:f8b0:4004:802::200e
```

Sockets Interface



Sockets Interface: `socket`

- Clients and servers use the `socket` function to create a *socket descriptor*:

```
int socket(int domain, int type, int protocol)
```

- Example:

```
int clientfd = Socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0);
```

Indicates that we are using 32-bit IPV4 addresses

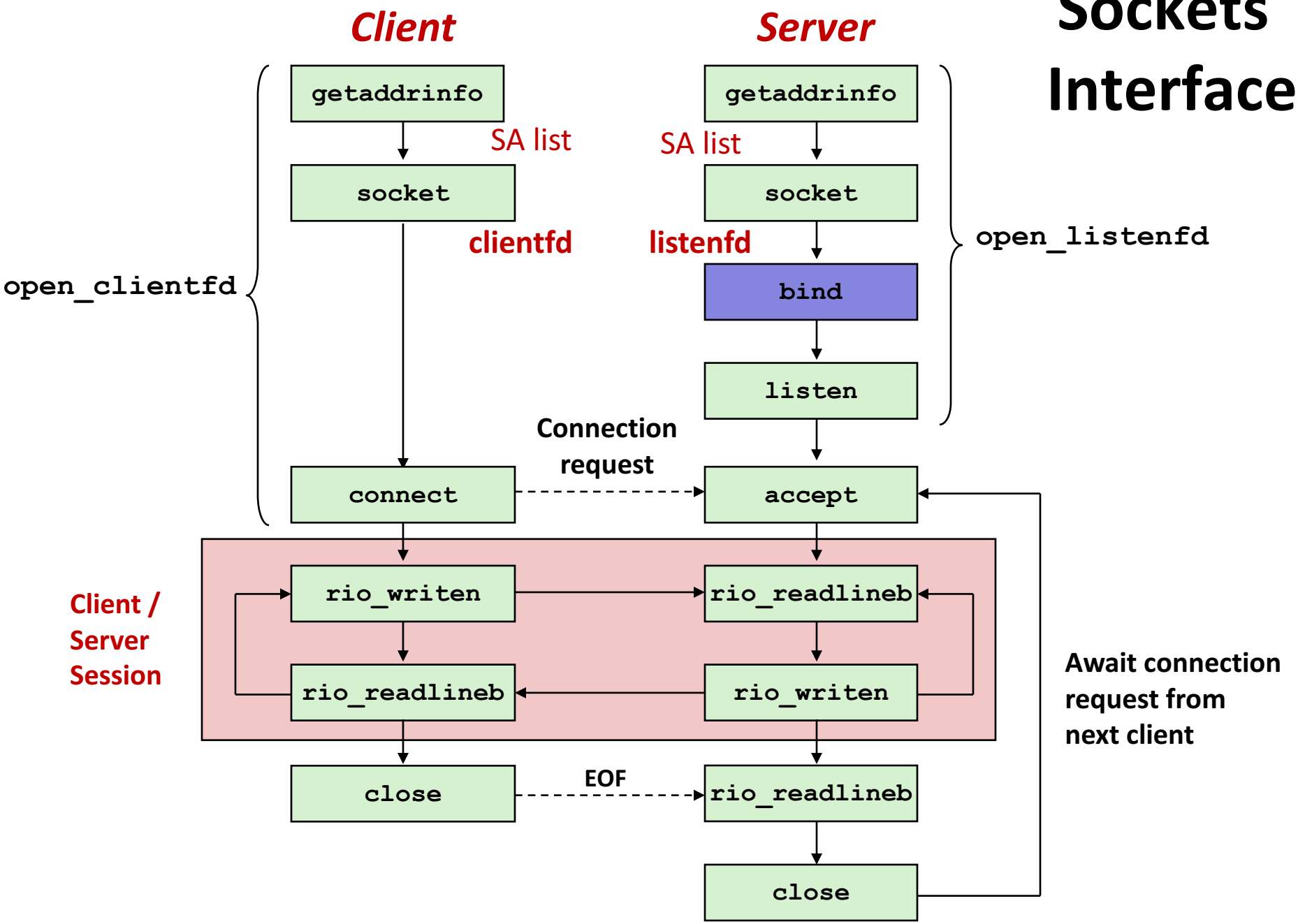
Indicates that the socket will be the end point of a connection

Protocol specific! Best practice is to use `getaddrinfo` to generate the parameters automatically, so that code is protocol independent.

Outline

- A Programmer's View of the Internet
- Socket programming example
- Socket detail: socket address
- **Socket detail: related functions**
- Put it together, and test it

Sockets Interface



Sockets Interface: `bind`

- A server uses `bind` to ask the kernel to associate the server's socket address with a socket descriptor:

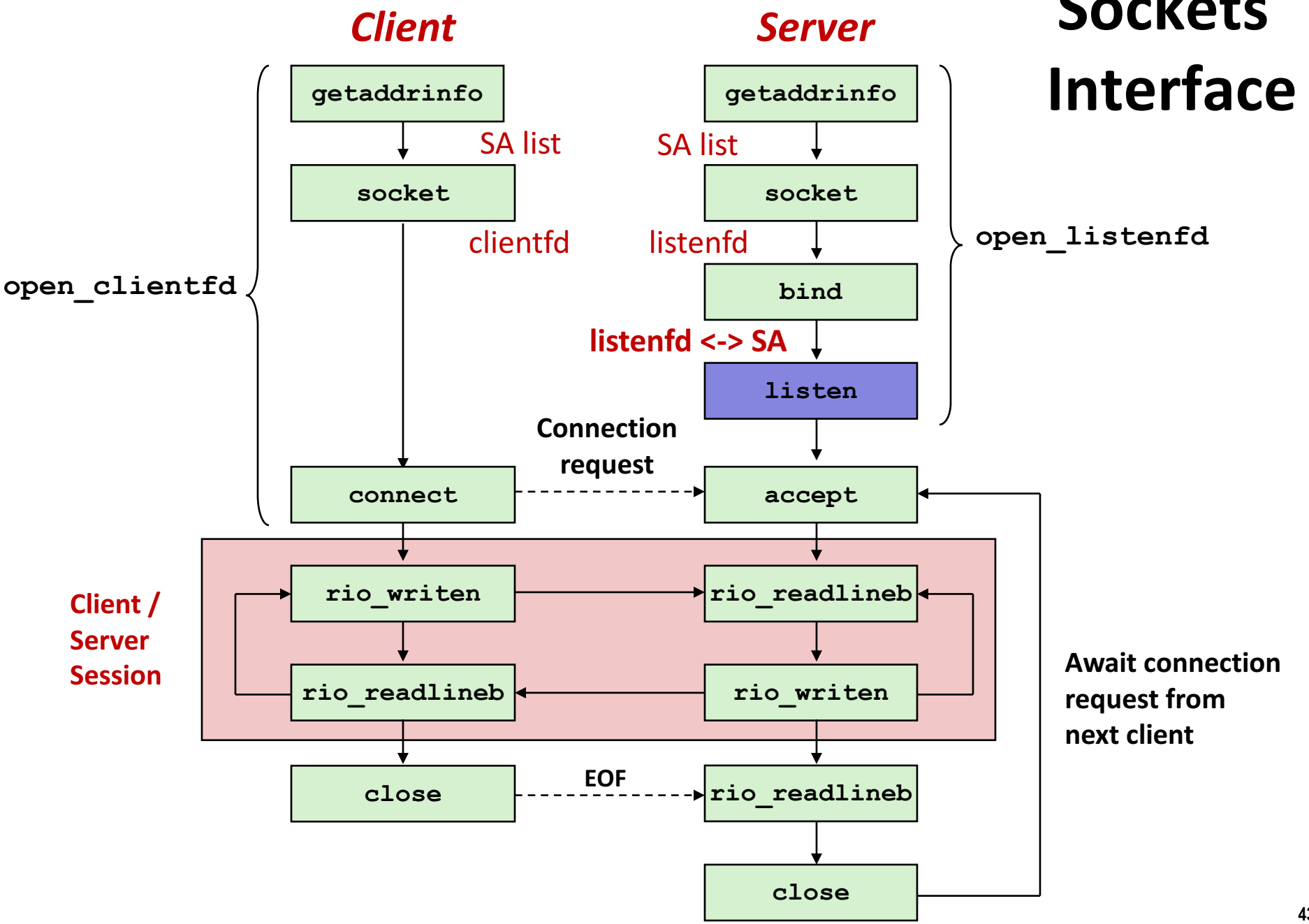
```
int bind(int sockfd, SA *addr, socklen_t addrlen);
```

Recall: `typedef struct sockaddr SA;`

- Process can read bytes that arrive on the connection whose endpoint is `addr` by reading from descriptor `sockfd`
- Similarly, writes to `sockfd` are transferred along connection whose endpoint is `addr`

Best practice is to use `getaddrinfo` to supply the arguments `addr` and `addrlen`.

Sockets Interface



Sockets Interface: `listen`

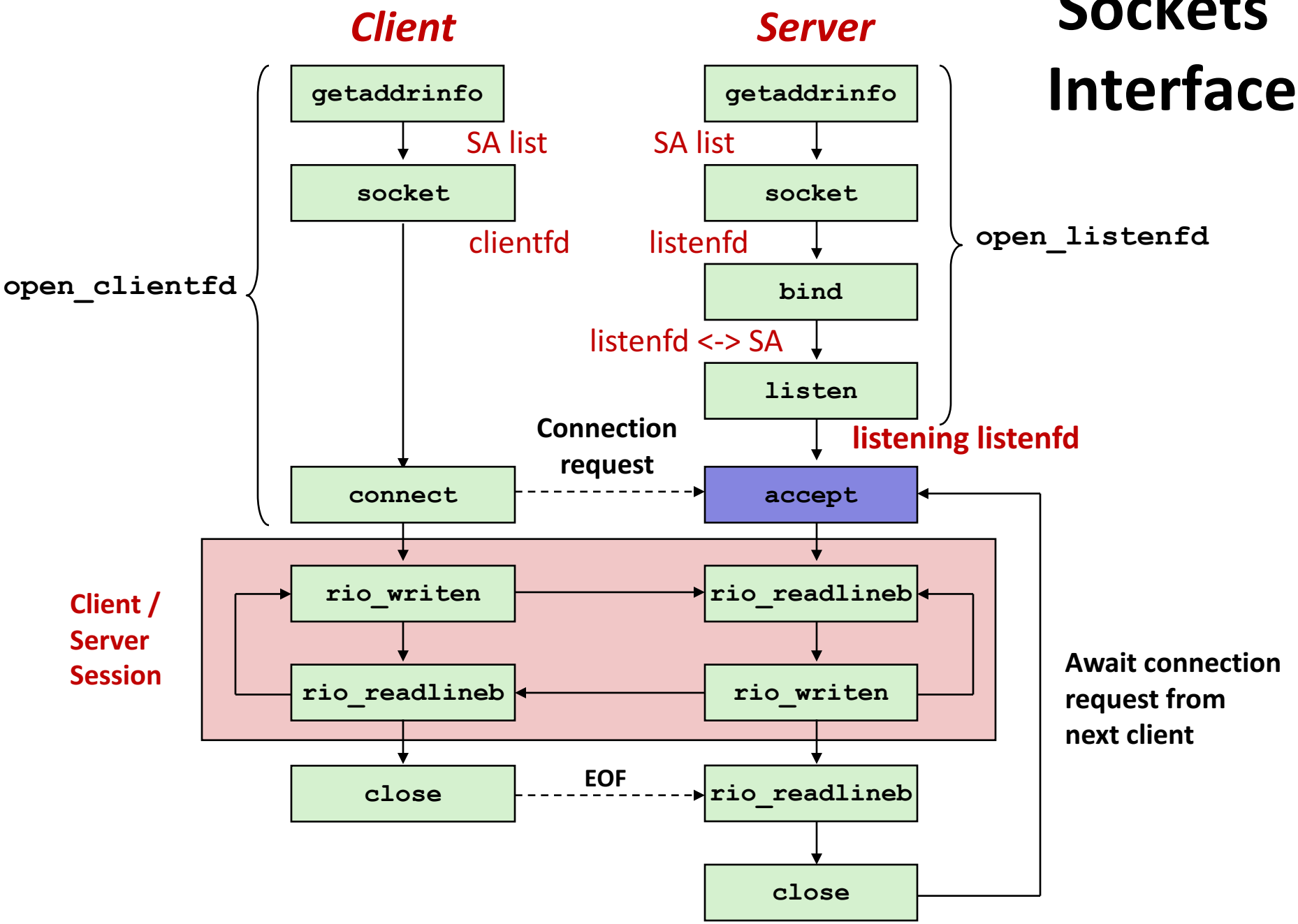
- By default, kernel assumes that descriptor from socket function is an *active socket* that will be on the client end of a connection.
- A server calls the listen function to tell the kernel that a descriptor will be used by a server rather than a client:

```
int listen(int sockfd, int backlog);
```

- Converts `sockfd` from an active socket to a *listening socket* that can accept connection requests from clients.

- `backlog` is a hint about the number of outstanding connection requests that the kernel should queue up before starting to refuse requests.

Sockets Interface



Sockets Interface: `accept`

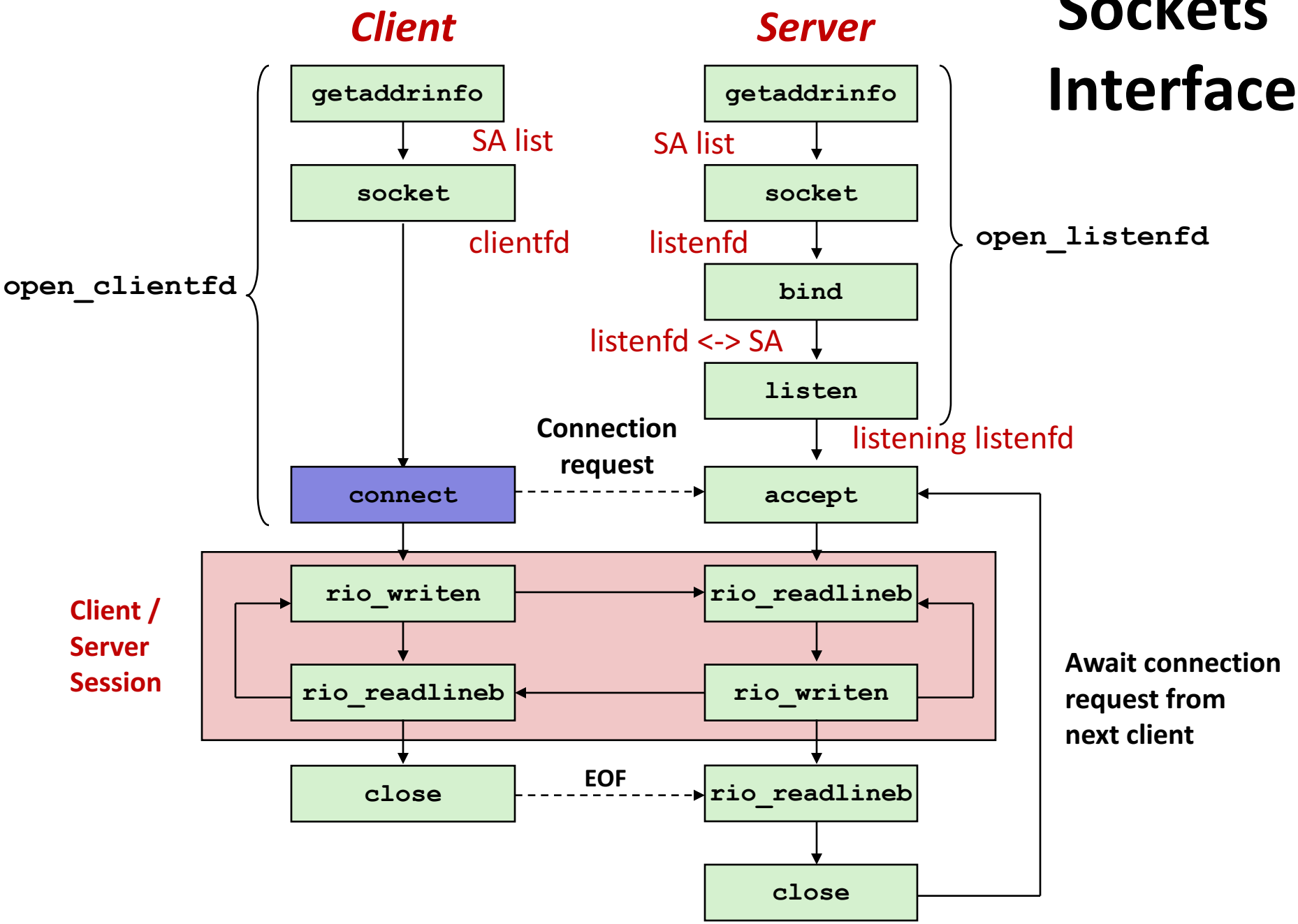
- Servers wait for connection requests from clients by calling `accept`:

```
int accept(int listenfd, SA *addr, int *addrlen);
```

- Waits for connection request to arrive on the connection bound to `listenfd`, then fills in client's socket address in `addr` and size of the socket address in `addrlen`.

- Returns a *connected descriptor* that can be used to communicate with the client via Unix I/O routines.

Sockets Interface



Sockets Interface: `connect`

- **A client establishes a connection with a server by calling connect:**

```
int connect(int clientfd, SA *addr, socklen_t addrlen);
```

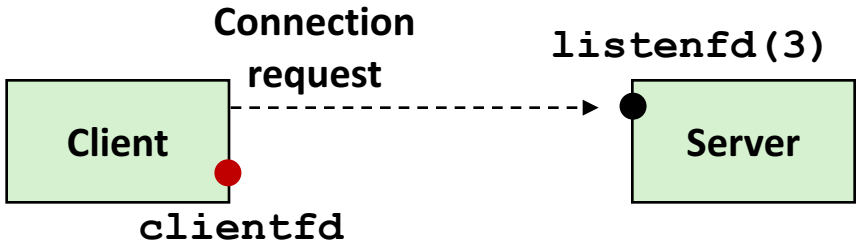
- **Attempts to establish a connection with server at socket address `addr`**
  - If successful, then **`clientfd`** is now ready for reading and writing.
  - Resulting connection is characterized by socket pair

    (**`x:y, addr.sin_addr:addr.sin_port`**)
    - **`x`** is client address
    - **`y`** is ephemeral port that uniquely identifies client process on client host

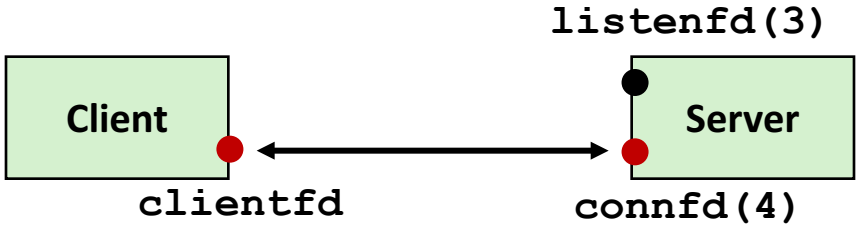
Best practice is to use `getaddrinfo` to supply the arguments `addr` and `addrlen`.

connect/accept Illustrated

1. Server blocks in `accept`, waiting for connection request on listening descriptor `listenfd`



2. Client makes connection request by calling and blocking in `connect`

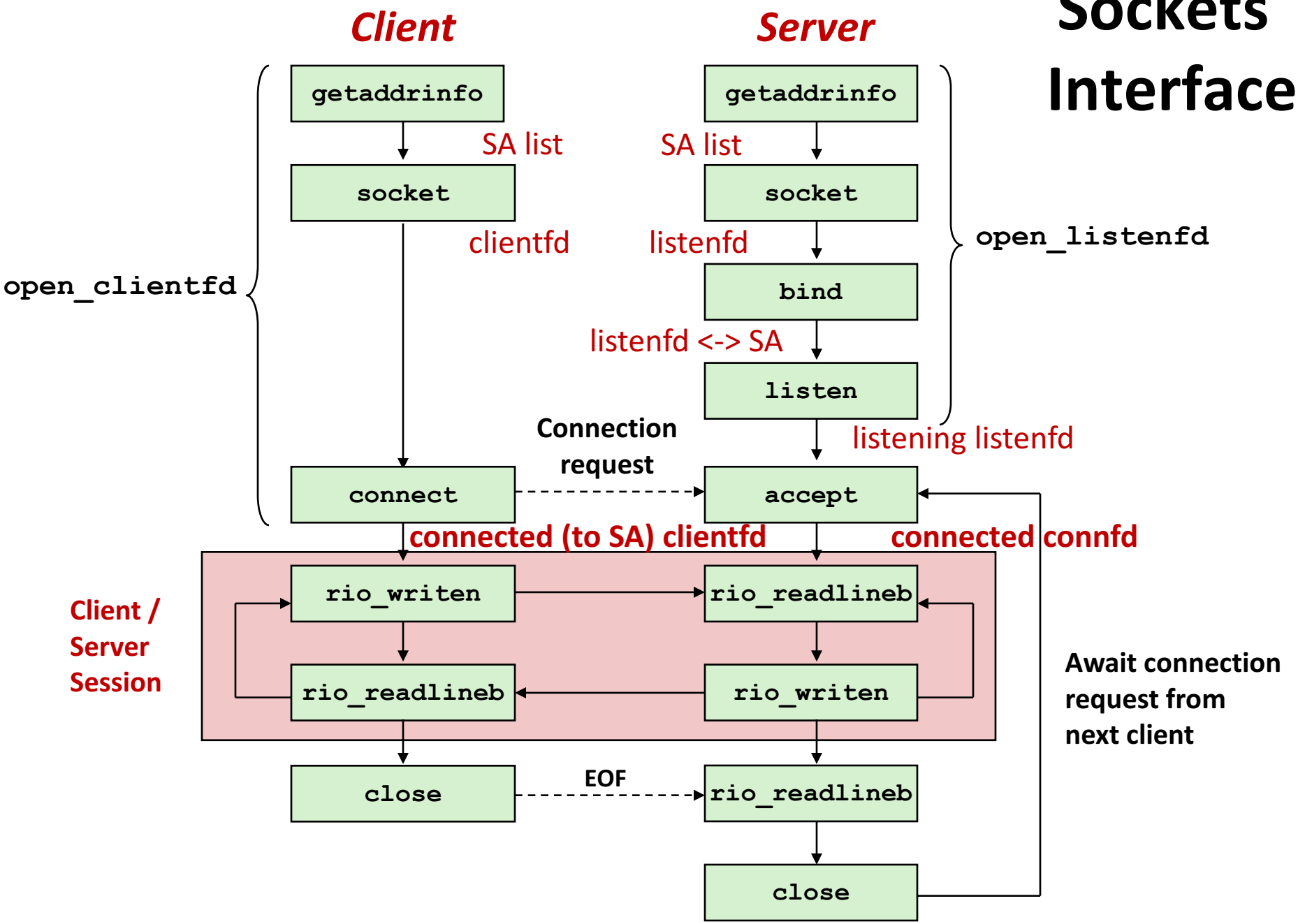


3. Server returns `connfd` from `accept`. Client returns from `connect`. Connection is now established between `clientfd` and `connfd`

Connected vs. Listening Descriptors

- **Listening descriptor**
  - End point for client connection requests
  - Created once and exists for lifetime of the server
- **Connected descriptor**
  - End point of the connection between client and server
  - A new descriptor is created each time the server accepts a connection request from a client
  - Exists only as long as it takes to service client
- **Why the distinction?**
  - Allows for concurrent servers that can communicate over many client connections simultaneously
    - E.g., Each time we receive a new request, we fork a child to handle the request

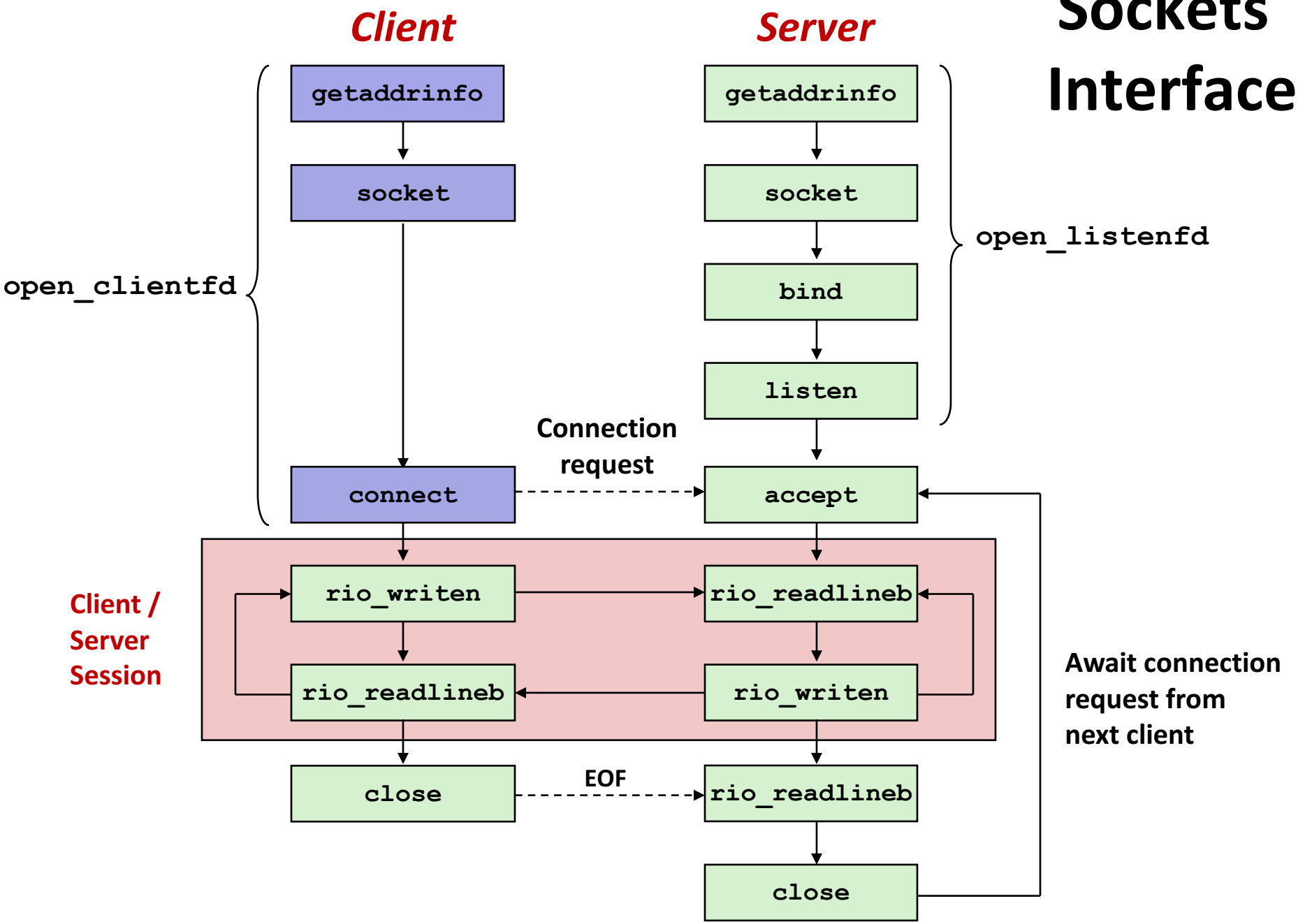
Sockets Interface



Outline

- A Programmer's View of the Internet
- Socket programming example
- Socket detail: socket address
- Socket detail: related functions
- **Put it together, and test it**

Sockets Interface



Sockets Helper: `open_clientfd`

- Establish a connection with a server

```
int open_clientfd(char *hostname, char *port) {
  int clientfd;
  struct addrinfo hints, *listp, *p;

  /* Get a list of potential server addresses */
  memset(&hints, 0, sizeof(struct addrinfo));
  hints.ai_socktype = SOCK_STREAM;  /* Open a connection */
  hints.ai_flags = AI_NUMERICSERV;  /* …using numeric port arg. */
  hints.ai_flags |= AI_ADDRCONFIG;  /* Recommended for connections */
  Getaddrinfo(hostname, port, &hints, &listp);
```

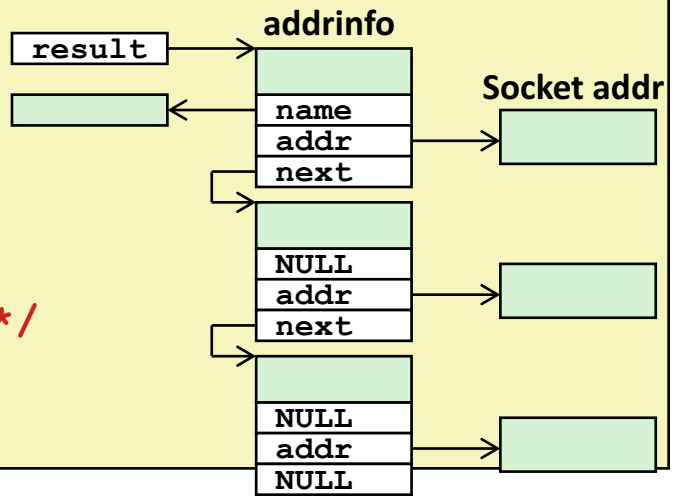
csapp.c

Sockets Helper: `open_clientfd` (cont)

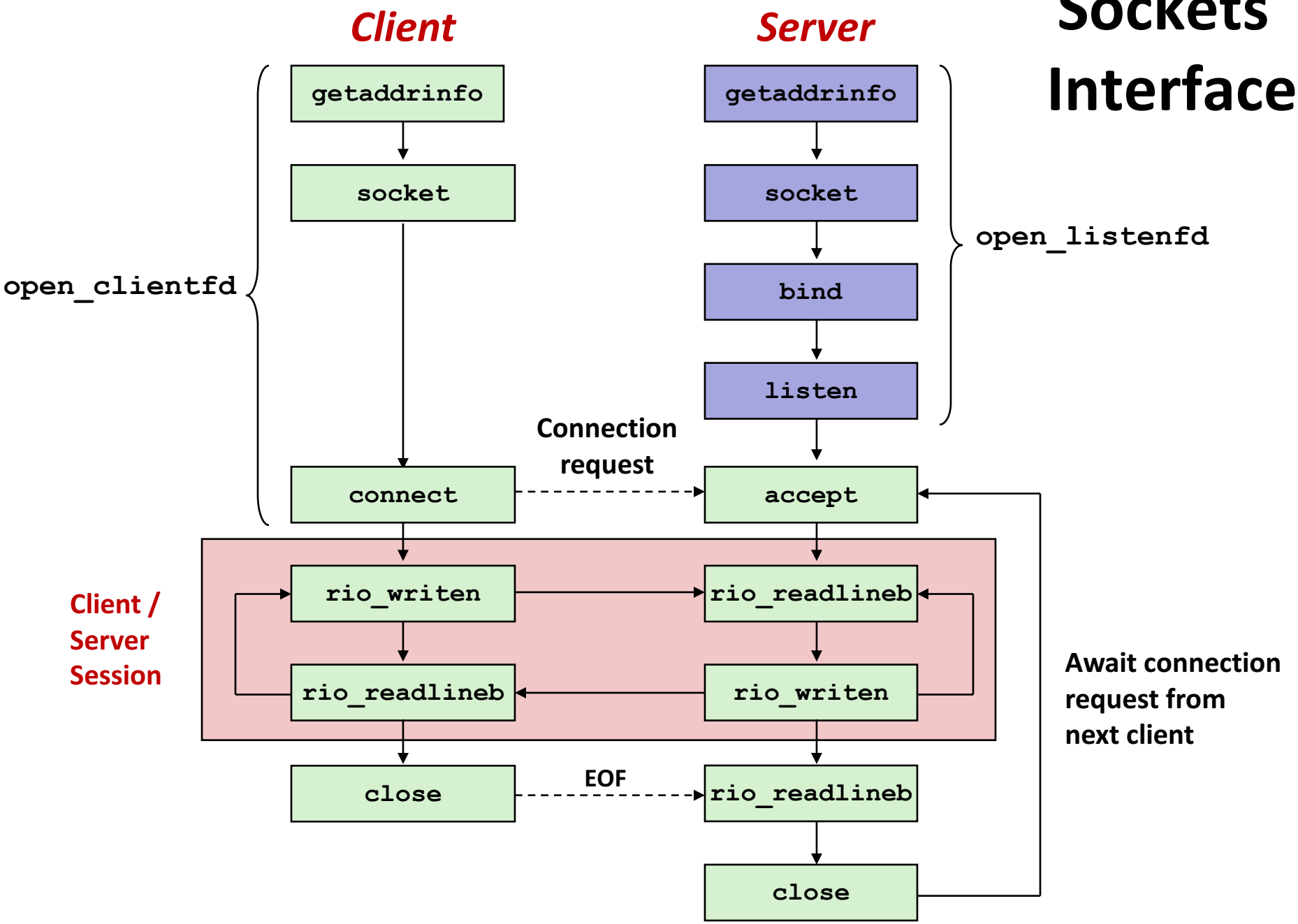
```
    /* Walk the list for one that we can successfully connect to */
    for (p = listp; p; p = p->ai_next) {
        /* Create a socket descriptor */
        if ((clientfd = socket(p->ai_family, p->ai_socktype,
                               p->ai_protocol)) < 0)
            continue; /* Socket failed, try the next */

        /* Connect to the server */
        if (connect(clientfd, p->ai_addr, p->ai_addrlen) != -1)
            break; /* Success */
        Close(clientfd); /* Connect failed, try another */
    }

    /* Clean up */
    Freeaddrinfo(listp);
    if (!p) /* All connects failed */
        return -1;
    else    /* The last connect succeeded */
        return clientfd;
}
```



Sockets Interface



Sockets Helper: `open_listenfd`

- Create a listening descriptor that can be used to accept connection requests from clients.

```
 int open_listenfd(char *port)
{
    struct addrinfo hints, *listp, *p;
    int listenfd, optval=1;

    /* Get a list of potential server addresses */
    memset(&hints, 0, sizeof(struct addrinfo));
    hints.ai_socktype = SOCK_STREAM;             /* Accept connect. */
    hints.ai_flags = AI_PASSIVE | AI_ADDRCONFIG; /* …on any IP addr */
    hints.ai_flags |= AI_NUMERICSERV;            /* …using port no. */
    Getaddrinfo(NULL, port, &hints, &listp);
```

csapp.c

Sockets Helper: `open_listenfd` (cont)

```
/* Walk the list for one that we can bind to */
for (p = listp; p; p = p->ai_next) {
    /* Create a socket descriptor */
    if ((listenfd = socket(p->ai_family, p->ai_socktype,
                           p->ai_protocol)) < 0)
        continue;  /* Socket failed, try the next */

    /* Eliminates "Address already in use" error from bind */
    Setsockopt(listenfd, SOL_SOCKET, SO_REUSEADDR,
               (const void *)&optval , sizeof(int));

    /* Bind the descriptor to the address */
    if (bind(listenfd, p->ai_addr, p->ai_addrlen) == 0)
        break; /* Success */
    Close(listenfd); /* Bind failed, try the next */
}
```

csapp.c

Sockets Helper: `open_listenfd` (cont)

```
    /* Clean up */
    Freeaddrinfo(listp);
    if (!p) /* No address worked */
        return -1;

    /* Make it a listening socket ready to accept conn. requests */
    if (listen(listenfd, LISTENQ) < 0) {
        Close(listenfd);
        return -1;
    }
    return listenfd;
}
```

csapp.c

- **Key point:** `open_clientfd` and `open_listenfd` are both independent of any particular version of IP.

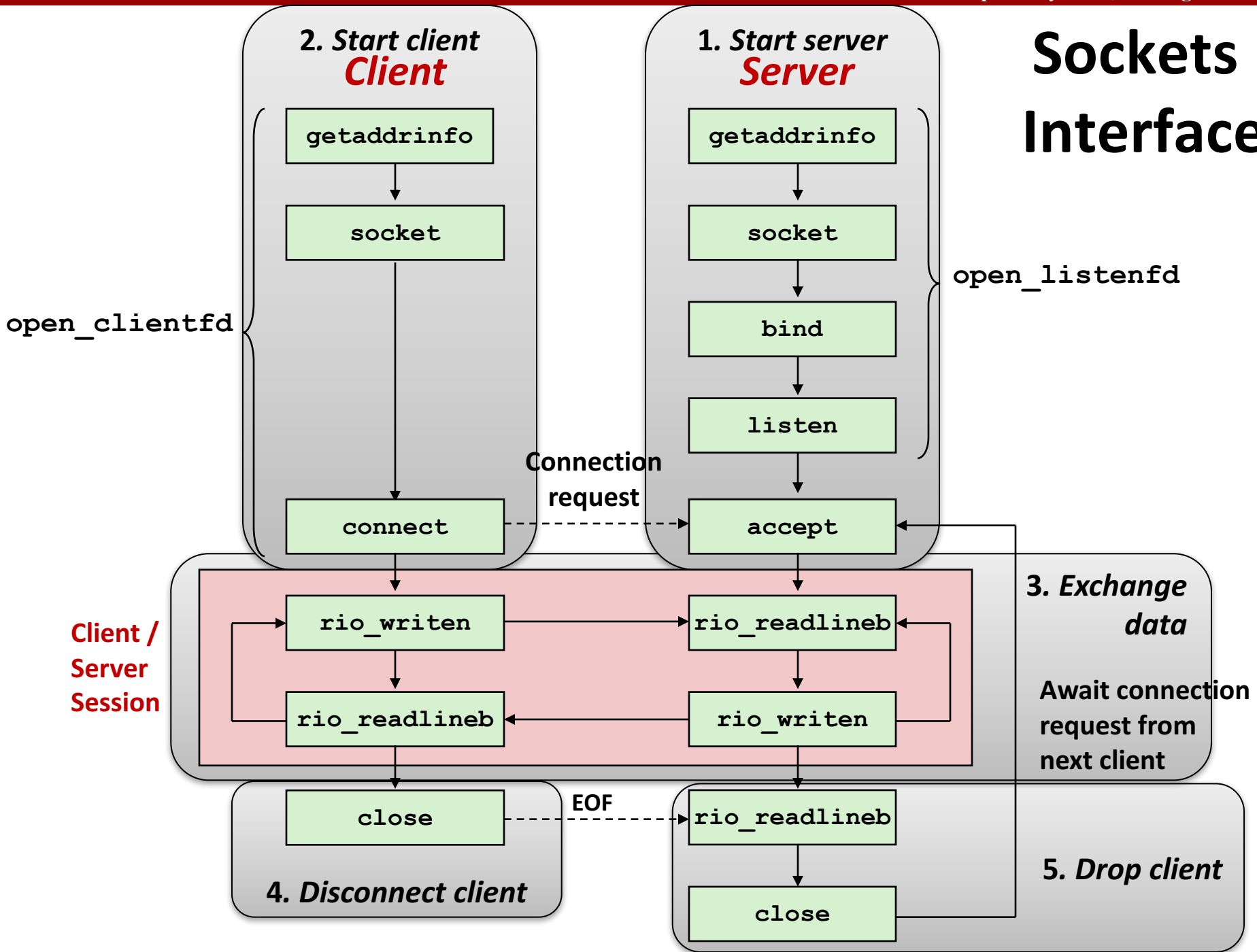
Sockets Attributes: `setsockopt`

- **The socket can be given some attributes**

```
...
/* Eliminates "Address already in use" error from bind(). */
if (setsockopt(listenfd, SOL_SOCKET, SO_REUSEADDR,
               (const void *)&optval , sizeof(int)) < 0)
    return -1;
```

- **Handy trick that allows us to rerun the server immediately after we kill it**
  - Otherwise we would have to wait about 15 seconds
  - Eliminates “Address already in use” error from **`bind()`**
- **Strongly suggest you do this for all your servers to simplify debugging**

Sockets Interface



Testing Servers Using `telnet`

- **The `telnet` program is invaluable for testing servers that transmit ASCII strings over Internet connections**
  - Our simple echo server
  - Web servers
  - Mail servers

- **Usage:**
  - **`unix> telnet <host> <portnumber>`**
  - Creates a connection with a server running on ***`<host>`*** and listening on port ***`<portnumber>`***

Testing the Echo Server With `telnet`

```
ics12> ./echoserveri 15213
Connected to (ics12, 50280)
server received 11 bytes
server received 8 bytes


ics11> telnet ics12 15213
Trying 192.168.168.112...
Connected to ics12 (192.168.168.112).
Escape character is '^]'.
Hi there!
Hi there!
Howdy!
Howdy!
^]
telnet> quit
Connection closed.
ics11>
```

For More Information

- **W. Richard Stevens, "Unix Network Programming: Networking APIs: Sockets and XTI", Volume 1, Second Edition, Prentice Hall, 1998**
  - THE network programming bible
- **Unix Man Pages**
  - Good for detailed information about specific functions
- **Complete versions of the echo client and server are developed in the text**
  - Updated versions linked to course website
  - Feel free to use this code in your assignments