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# Computer Networks

Lecture [8]: TCP/IP PROTOCOL SUITE

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## *Topics discussed in Today's Lectures*

- TCP/IP PROTOCOL SUITE
- Layered Architecture
- Layers in the TCP/IP Protocol Suite

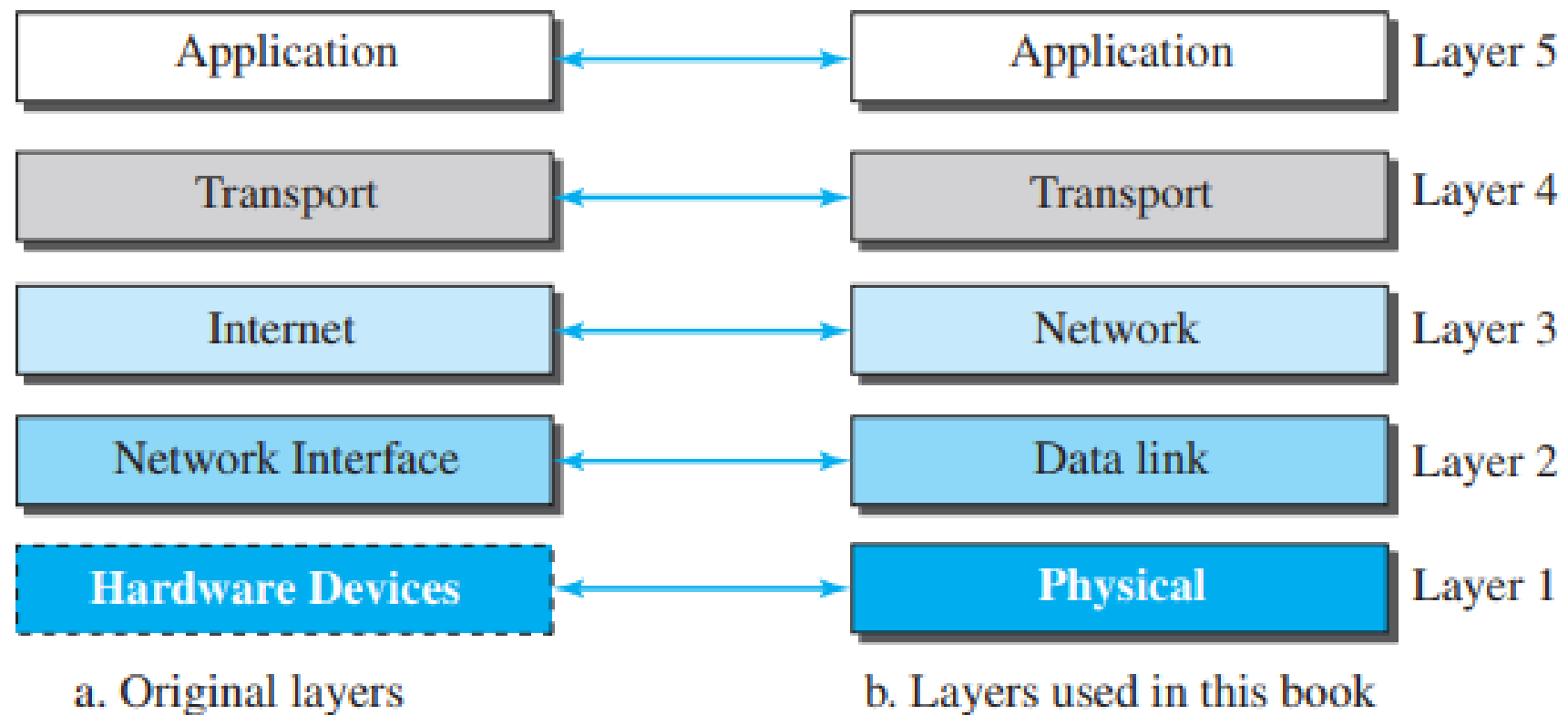


# TCP/IP

- TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol)
- TCP/IP is a protocol suite (a set of protocols organized in different layers) used in the Internet today
- It is a hierarchical protocol, each **upper level protocol** is **supported by** the services provided by one or more **lower level protocols**
- Today, TCP/IP is thought of as a five-layer model (old was 4 layer model)
- Figure 2.4 shows both configurations

# TCP/IP

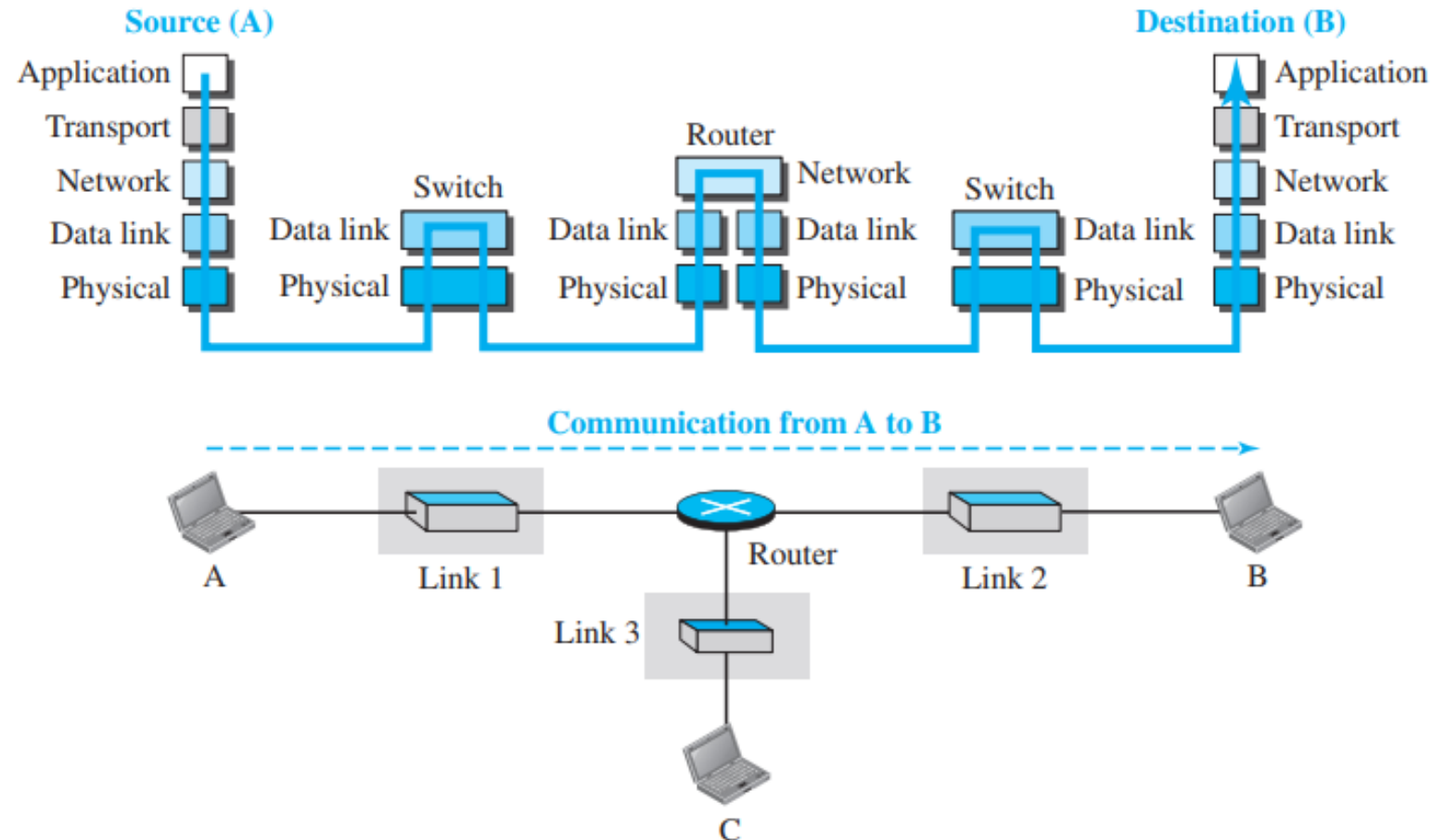
**Figure 2.4** *Layers in the TCP/IP protocol suite*



# Layered Architecture

- Layers in the TCP/IP protocol suite are involved in comm. b/w 2 hosts
- Assume we are using the suite in a small internet made up of 3 LANs (links), each with a link-layer switch
- Assume that the links are connected by one router, as shown in Figure 2.5.

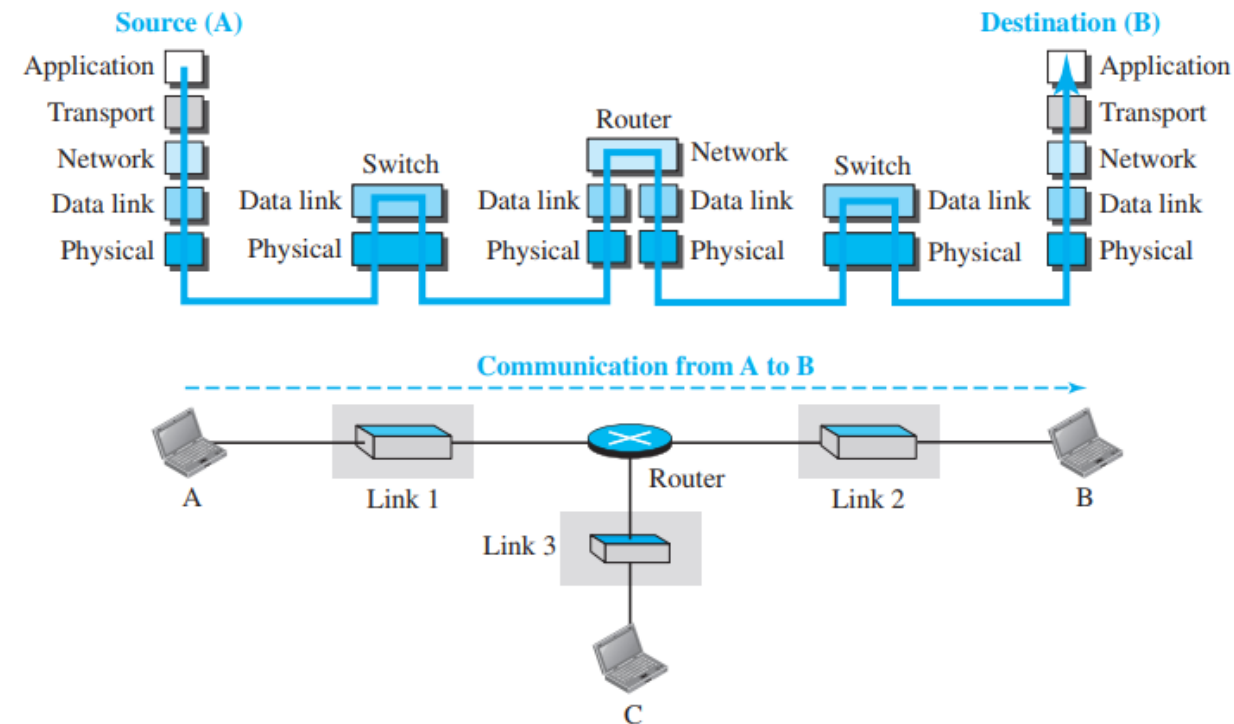
**Figure 2.5** *Communication through an internet*



# Layered Architecture

- Assume that computer A comm with B
- We have 5 communicating devices in this communication:
  - i. Source host (computer A)
  - ii. Link-layer switch in link 1
  - iii. Router
  - iv. Link-layer switch in link 2
  - v. Destination host (computer B)
- Two hosts are involved in all five layers
- **Source host** creates a message in the application layer & send it down the layers so that it is physically sent to the destination host
- **Destination host** needs to receive the comm. at physical layer & then deliver it through other layers to the application layer

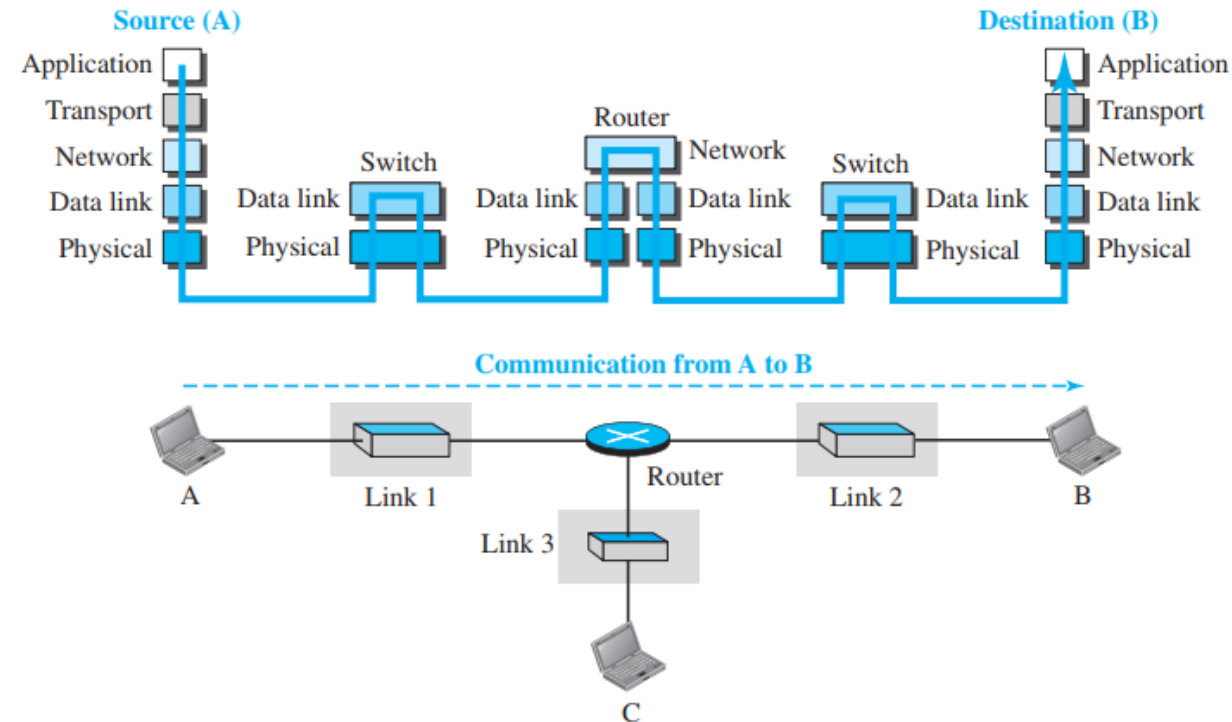
Figure 2.5 Communication through an internet



# Layered Architecture

- Router is involved in only 3 layers
- Although a router is always involved in one network layer, it is involved in  $n$  combinations of data link and physical layers in which  $n$  is the number of links the router is connected to
- The reason is that *each link may use its own data-link or physical protocol*
- For example, in the figure, the router is involved in **three links**, but the message sent from source A to destination B is involved in **two links**.

Figure 2.5 Communication through an internet

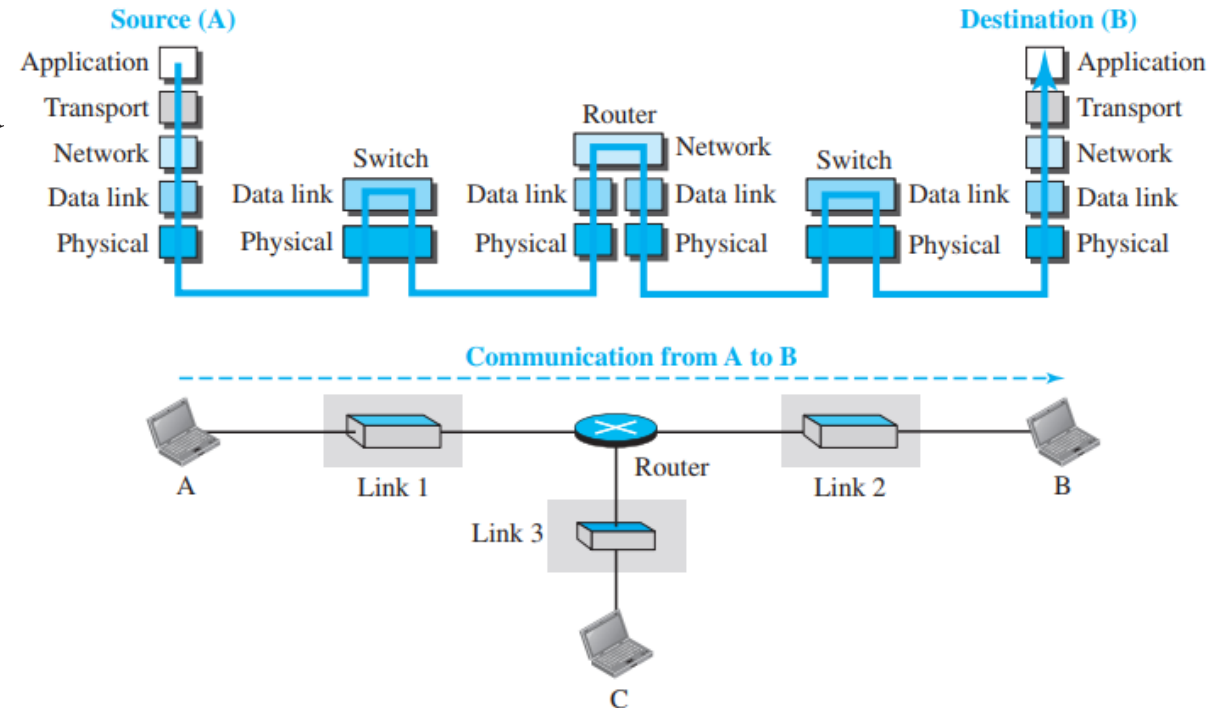




# Layered Architecture

- Each link may be using **different protocols**;
- Router needs to receive a packet from link 1 based on one pair of protocols and deliver it to link 2 based on another pair of protocols
- A link-layer **switch** is involved only in two layers, data-link and physical
- Each switch has two different **connections**, the connections are in the same link, which uses only **one set of protocols**
- This means that switch is involved only in one data-link and one physical layer

Figure 2.5 Communication through an internet

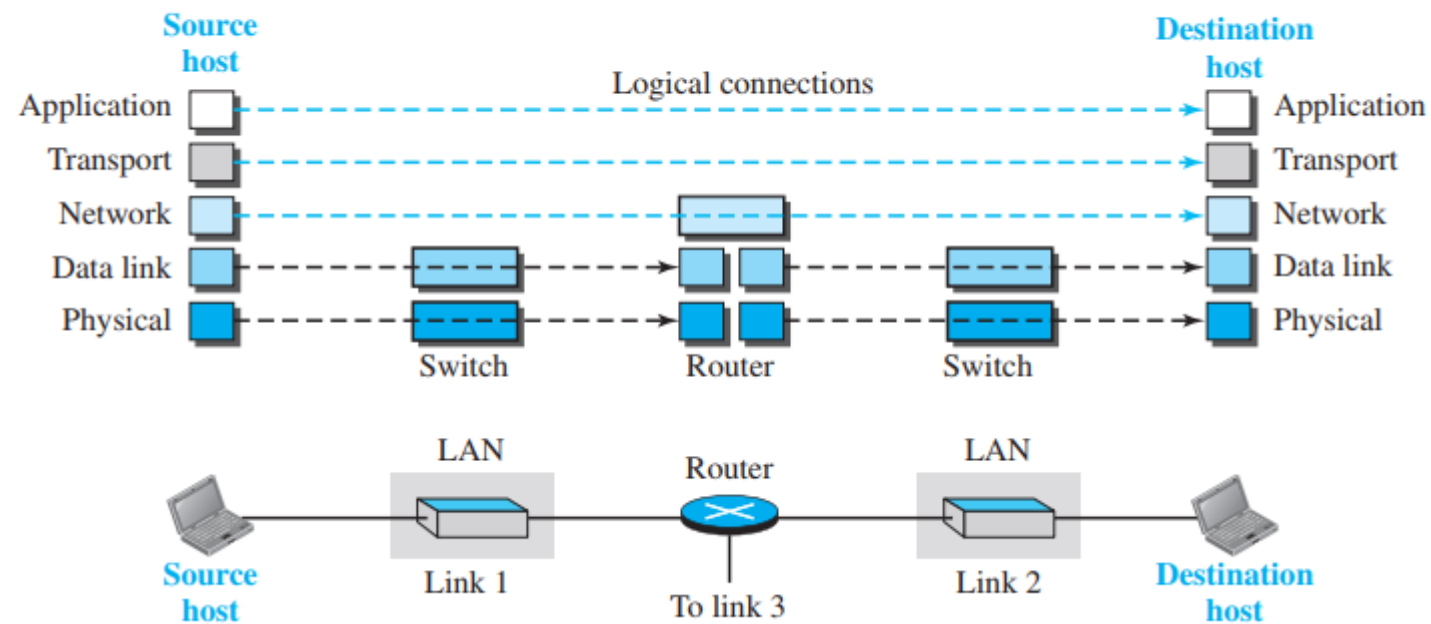


# Layers in the TCP/IP Protocol Suite

- To better understand the duties of each layer, we need to think about the **logical connections** b/n layers

**Figure 2.6** Logical connections between layers of the TCP/IP protocol suite

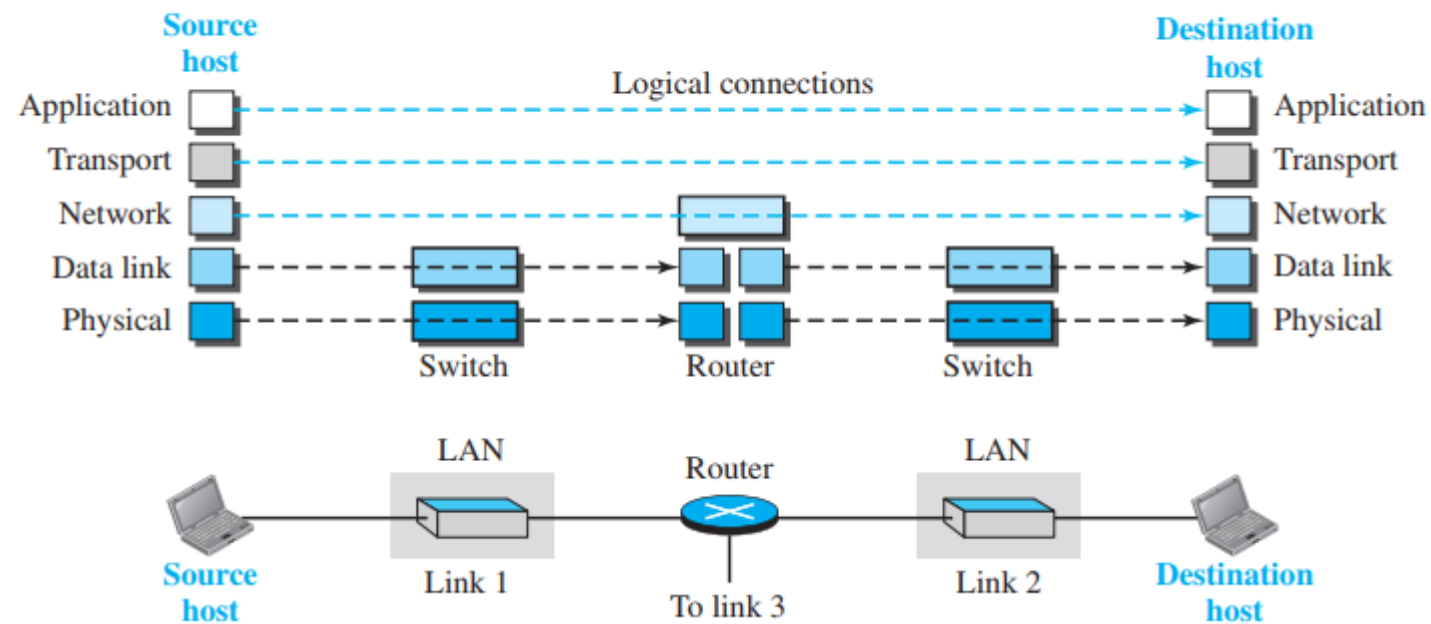
- As the figure shows, the duty of the application, transport, and network layers is **end-to-end**
- Duty of the data-link and physical layers is **hop-to-hop**, in which a **hop** is a host or router
- So, domain of duty of the top three layers is the **internet**, and domain of duty of the two lower layers is the **link**



# Layers in the TCP/IP Protocol Suite

- Another way of thinking of the logical connections is to think about the **data unit** created from each layer
- In the top three layers, the data unit (**packets**) should **not be** changed by any router or link-layer switch
- In the bottom two layers, the packet created by the host is changed only by the routers, not by the link-layer switches.
- Fig 2.7 shows the 2nd principle discussed previously for protocol layering.

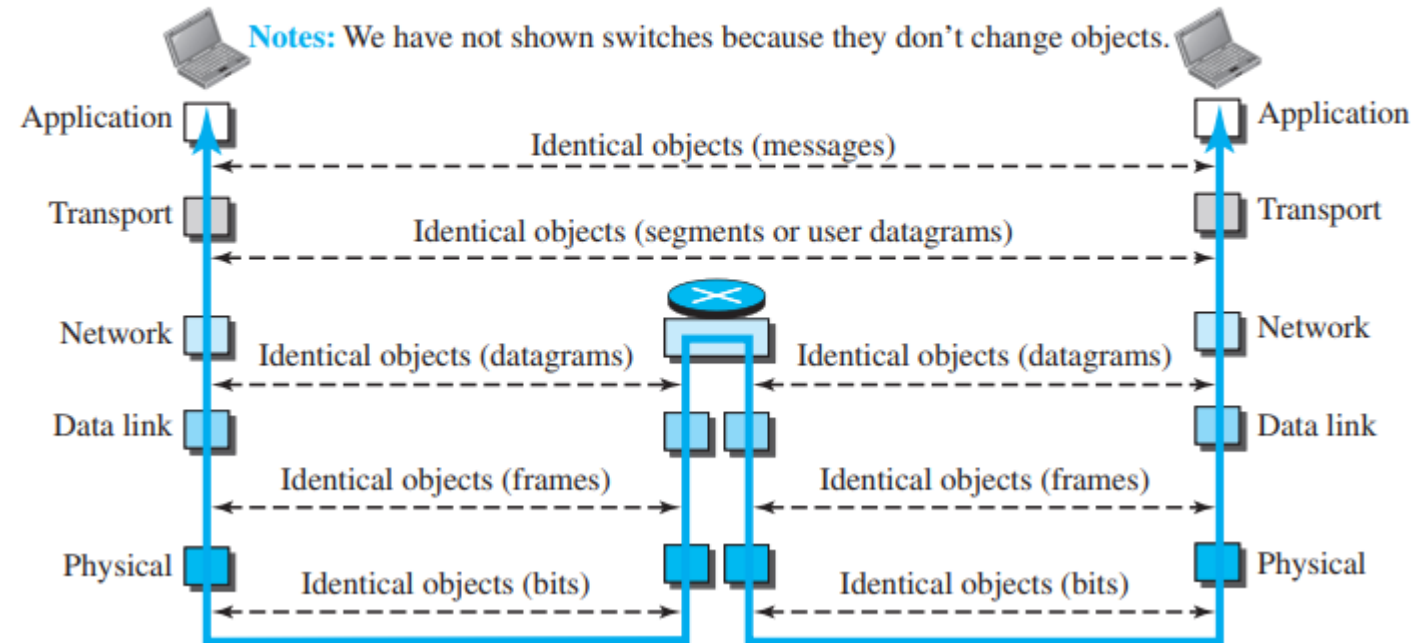
**Figure 2.6** Logical connections between layers of the TCP/IP protocol suite



# Layers in the TCP/IP Protocol Suite

- Although the logical connection at the network layer is between the two hosts
- **Identical objects** exist between two hops in this case because a router may fragment the packet at the network layer and send more packets than received
- Note that link between two hops does not change the object

**Figure 2.7** *Identical objects in the TCP/IP protocol suite*



# References

## Chapter 2

**Data Communication and Networking (5th Edition)**  
**By Behrouz A. Forouzan**

THANKS