



西北工业大学
NORTHWESTERN POLYTECHNICAL UNIVERSITY



Computer Networks

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Fall semester 2022

Chapter 2

Application Layer

Chapter outline

1 principles of network applications

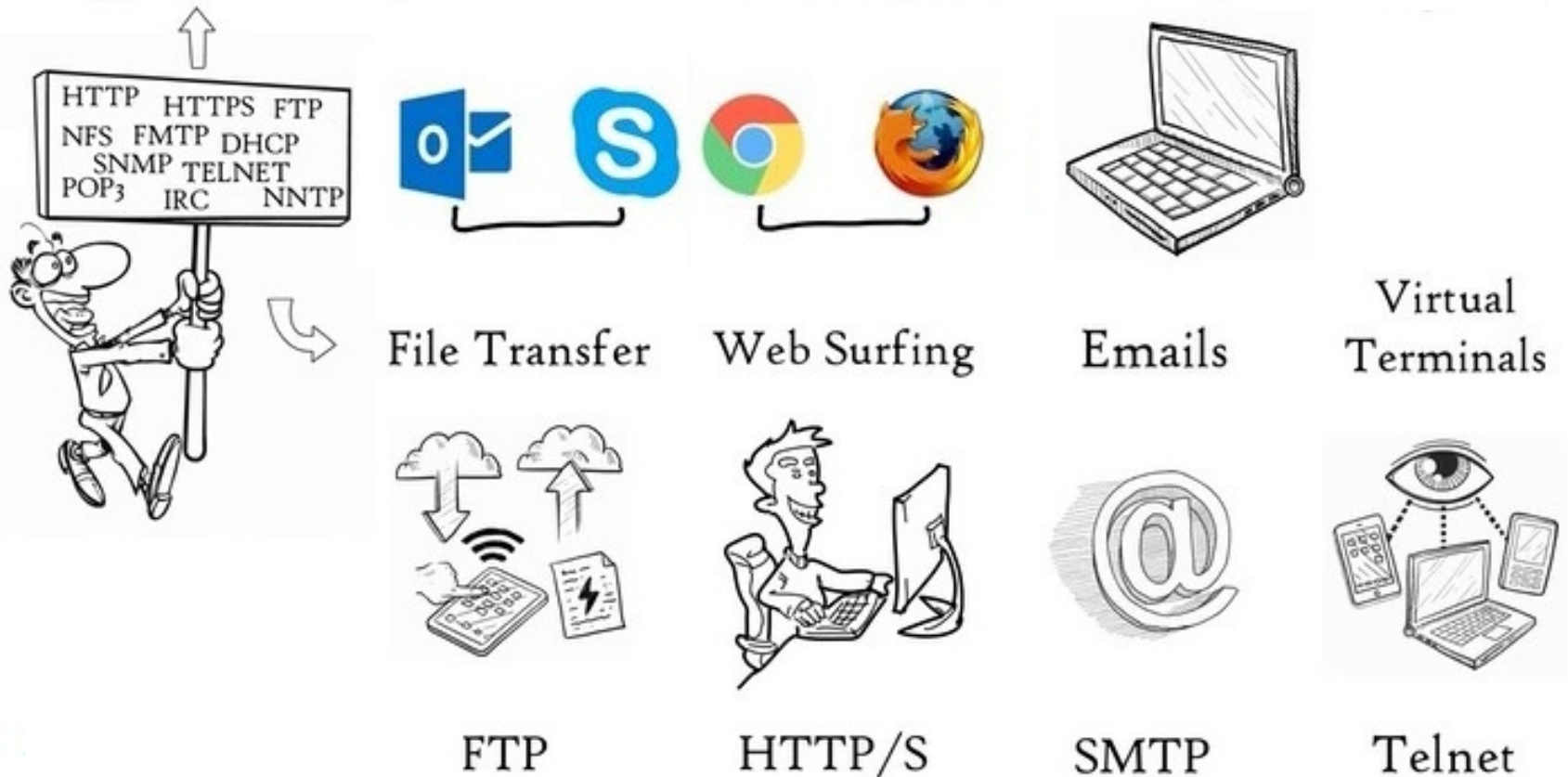
2 Web & HTTP

3 Email

4 DNS

Some network apps

Application Layer: Used by Network Applications



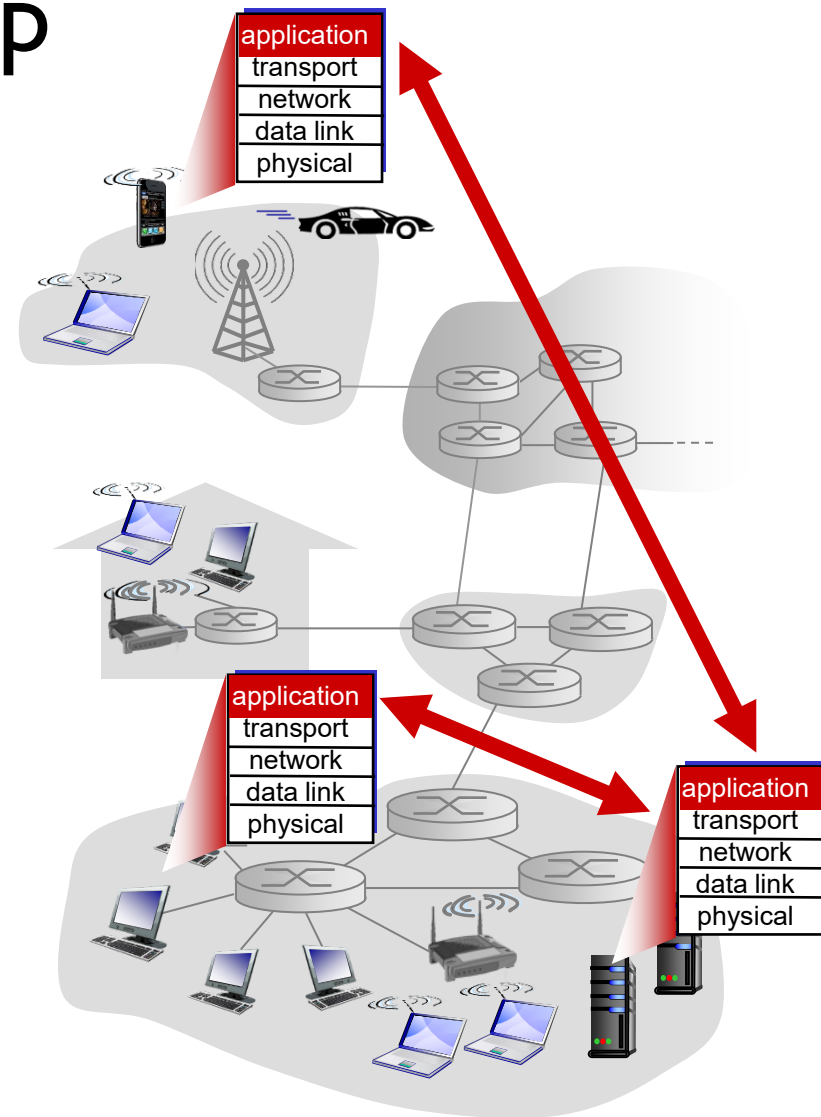
Creating a network app

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 network-core devices

- network-core devices do not run user applications
- applications on end systems allows for rapid app development, propagation

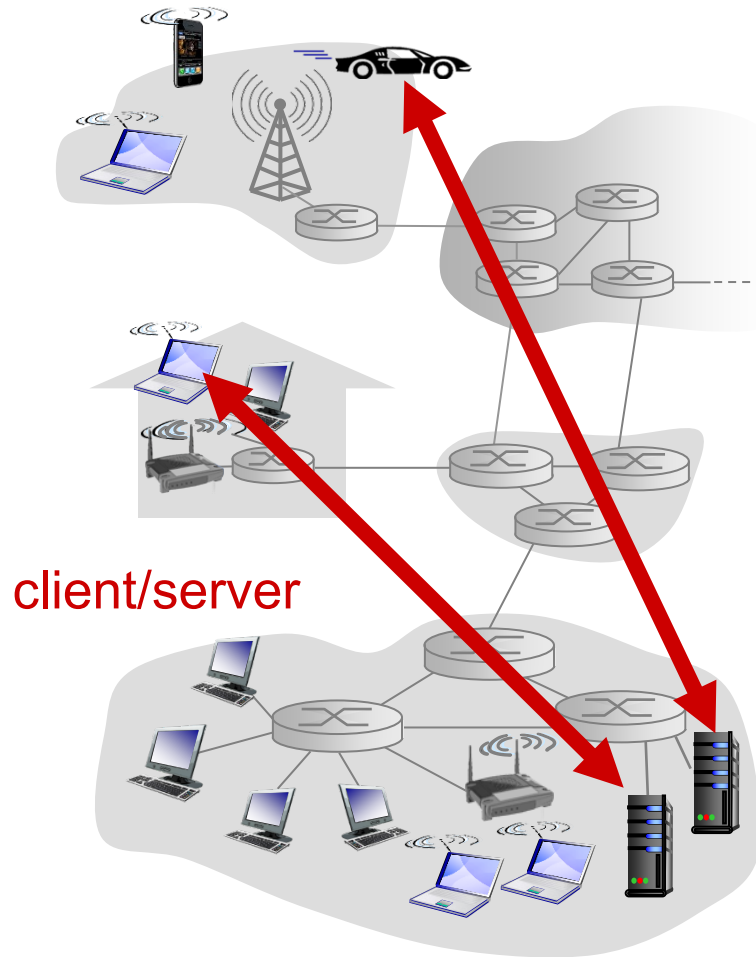


Application architectures

possible structure of applications:

- client-server
- peer-to-peer (P2P)

Client-server architecture



server:

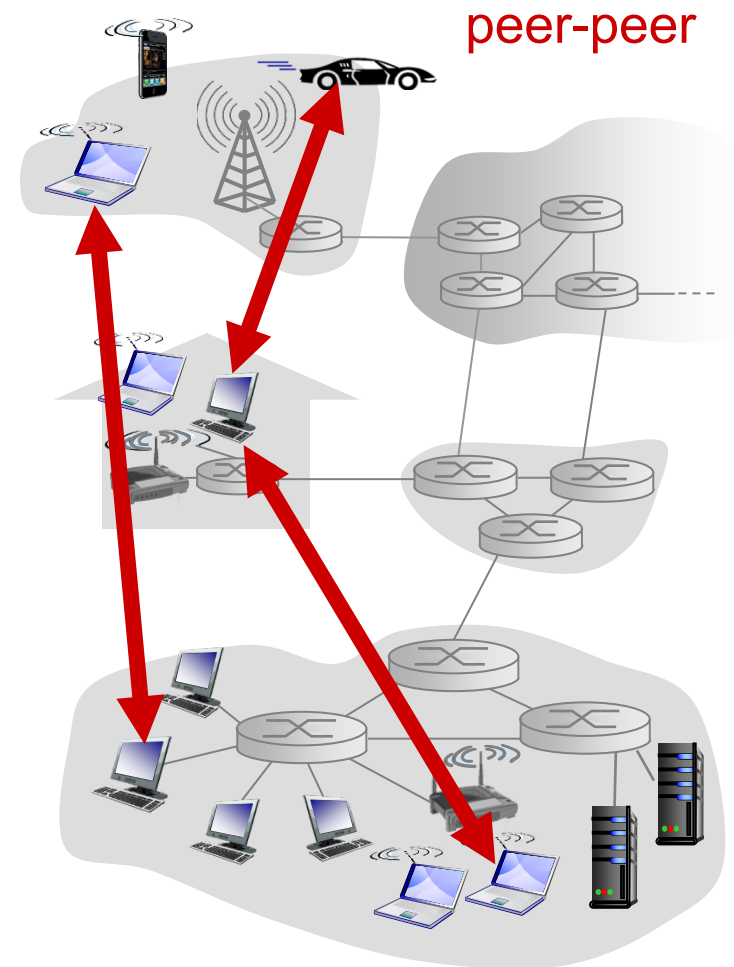
- always-on host
- permanent IP address
- data centers for scaling

clients:

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

P2P architecture

- no always-on server
- arbitrary end systems directly communicate
- peers request service from other peers, provide service in return to other peers
 - *self scalability* – new peers bring new service capacity, as well as new service demands
- peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses
 - complex management



Processes communicating

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**

clients, servers

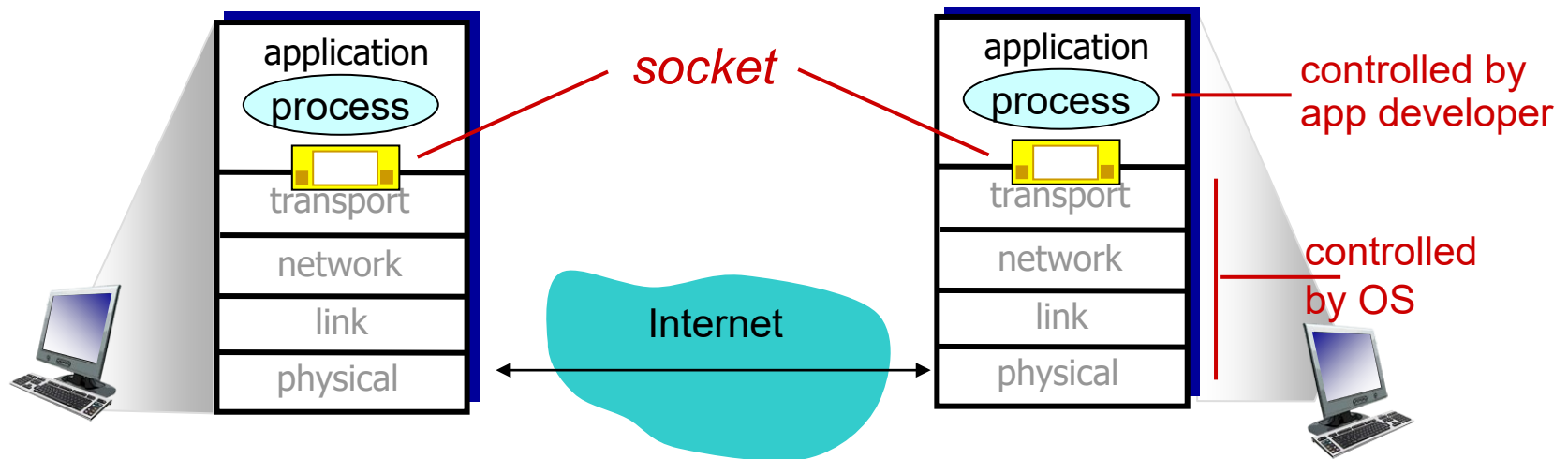
client process: process that initiates communication

server process: process that waits to be contacted

- aside: applications with P2P architectures have client processes & server processes

Sockets

- 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 to deliver message to socket at receiving 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?
 - A: 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...

IP address vs Port number

IP ADDRESS

A numerical label assigned to each device connected to a computer network that uses the Internet Protocol for communication

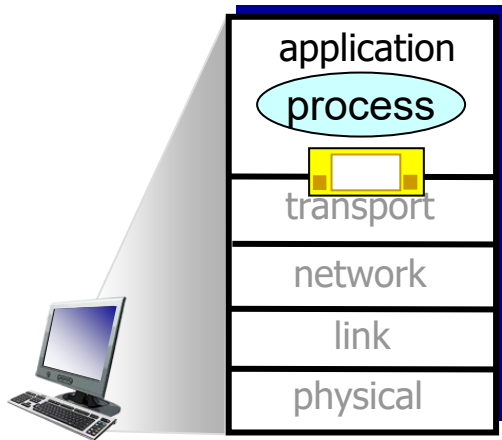
Used to identify a particular device in the network

PORT NUMBER

A numerical value that is assigned to an application in an endpoint of communication

Used to identify a particular process executing in the device

What transport service does an app need?



What transport service does an app need?

data integrity

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

timing

- some apps (e.g., Internet telephony, interactive games) require low delay to be “effective”

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

- encryption, data integrity, ...

Transport service requirements: common apps

application	data loss	throughput	time sensitive
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 video: 10kbps-5Mbps	yes, 100' s msec
stored audio/video	loss-tolerant	same as above	
interactive games	loss-tolerant	few kbps up	yes, few secs
text messaging	no loss	elastic	yes, 100' s msec yes and no

TCP Service

TCP service:

- *connection-oriented*: setup required between client and server processes
- *reliable transport* between sending and receiving process
- *congestion control*: throttle sender when network overloaded
- *flow control*: sender won't overwhelm receiver

does not provide:

- timing, minimum throughput guarantee, security

UDP service

- *Connectionless*: no handshaking before comm starts.
- *unreliable data transfer* between sending and receiving process

does not provide: reliability, flow control, congestion control, timing, throughput guarantee, security, or connection setup,

Internet apps: application, transport protocols

	application	application layer protocol	underlying transport protocol
	e-mail	SMTP [RFC 2821]	TCP
remote terminal access		Telnet [RFC 854]	TCP
	Web	HTTP [RFC 2616]	TCP
	file transfer	FTP [RFC 959]	TCP
streaming multimedia		HTTP (e.g., YouTube), RTP [RFC 1889]	TCP or UDP
Internet telephony		SIP, RTP, proprietary (e.g., Skype)	TCP or UDP

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World Wide Web (WWW)

- WWW: an information system enabling documents and other web resources to be accessed over the Internet
- Also known as **Web**



Web page

First, a review...

- *web page* consists of *objects*
- object can be HTML file, JPEG image, audio file,...
- web page consists of *base HTML-file* which includes *several referenced objects*
- each object is addressable by a *URL*, e.g.,

`www.someschool.edu/someDept/pic.gif`

host name

path name

Hypertext Transfer Protocol

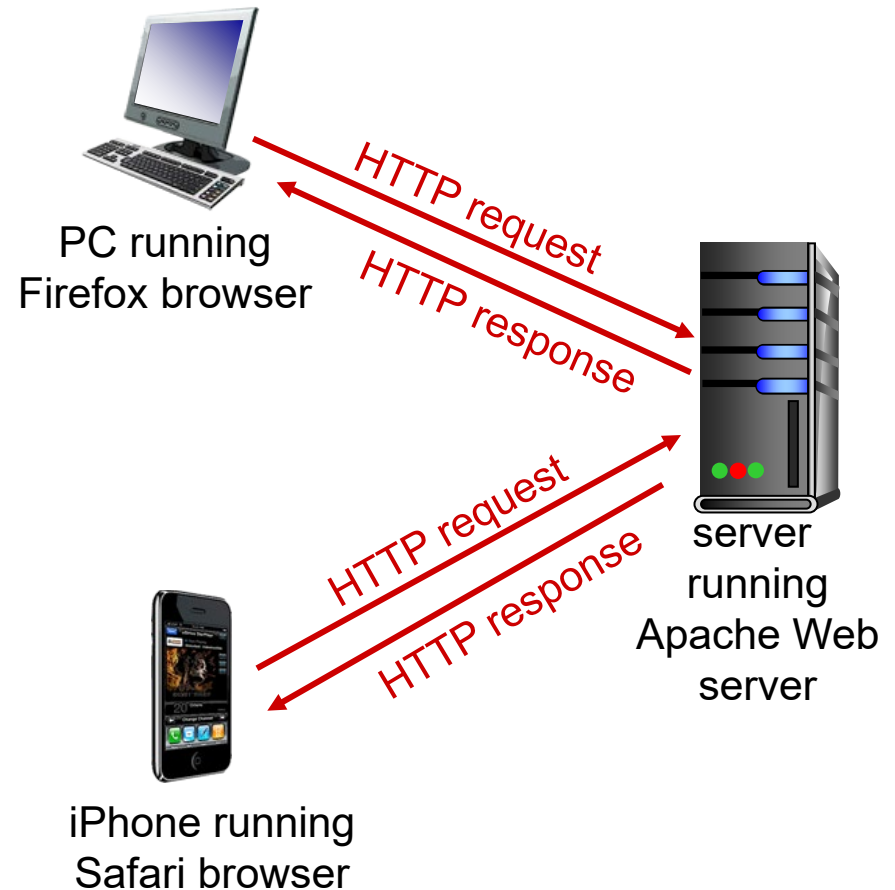
- The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), the Web's application-layer protocol, is at the heart of the Web.



HTTP overview

HTTP: hypertext transfer protocol

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



HTTP overview (continued)

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)
- TCP connection closed

HTTP is “stateless”

- server maintains no information about past client requests

aside

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

HTTP connections

non-persistent HTTP

- at most one object sent over TCP connection
 - connection then closed
- downloading multiple objects required multiple connections

persistent HTTP

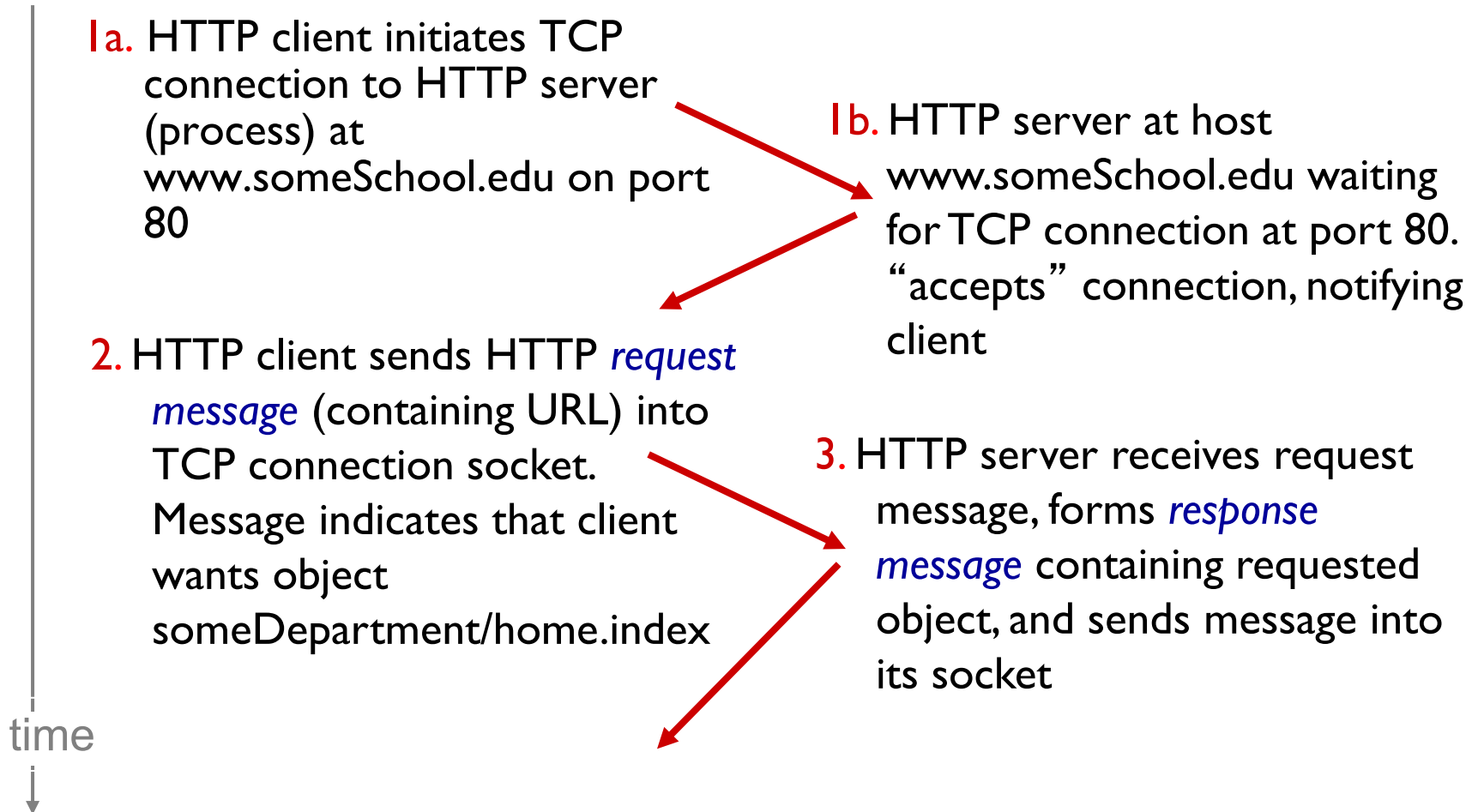
- multiple objects can be sent over single TCP connection between client, server

Non-persistent HTTP

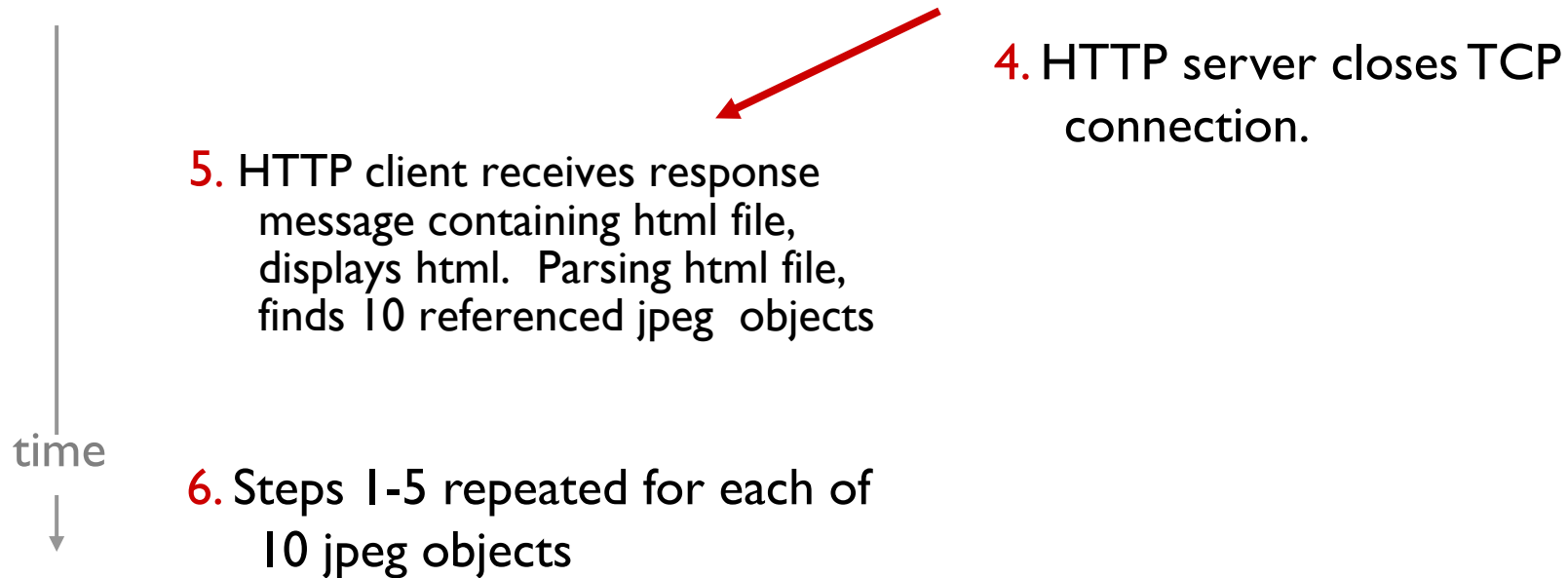
suppose user enters URL:

`www.someSchool.edu/someDepartment/home.index`

(contains text,
references to 10
jpeg images)



Non-persistent HTTP (cont.)



11 TCP connections are generated.