



# Computer Networks

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Fall semester 2022

# Chapter 2

## Application Layer

# Chapter Outline

1 principles of network applications

2 Web and HTTP

# HTTP connections

## *non-persistent HTTP*

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

## *persistent HTTP*

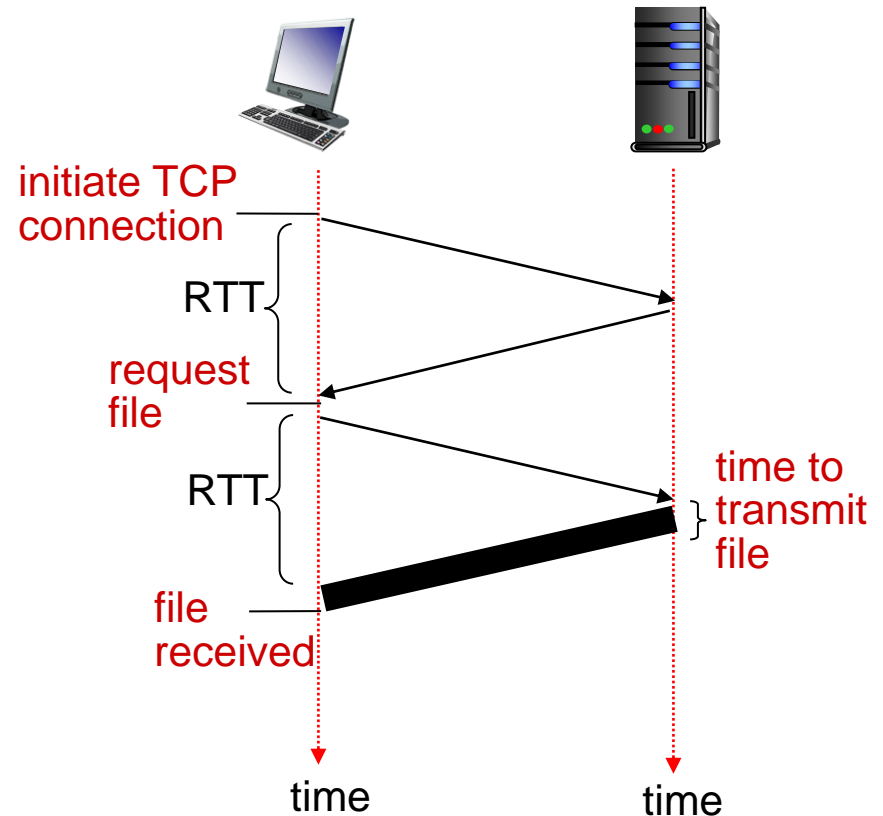
- multiple objects can be sent over single TCP connection between client, server

# Non-persistent HTTP: response time

**RTT (definition):** time for a small packet to travel from client to server and back

**HTTP response time:**

- one RTT to initiate TCP connection
- one RTT for HTTP request and first few bytes of HTTP response to return
- file transmission time
- non-persistent HTTP response time =  
 $2\text{RTT} + \text{file transmission time}$



# non-persistent HTTP issues

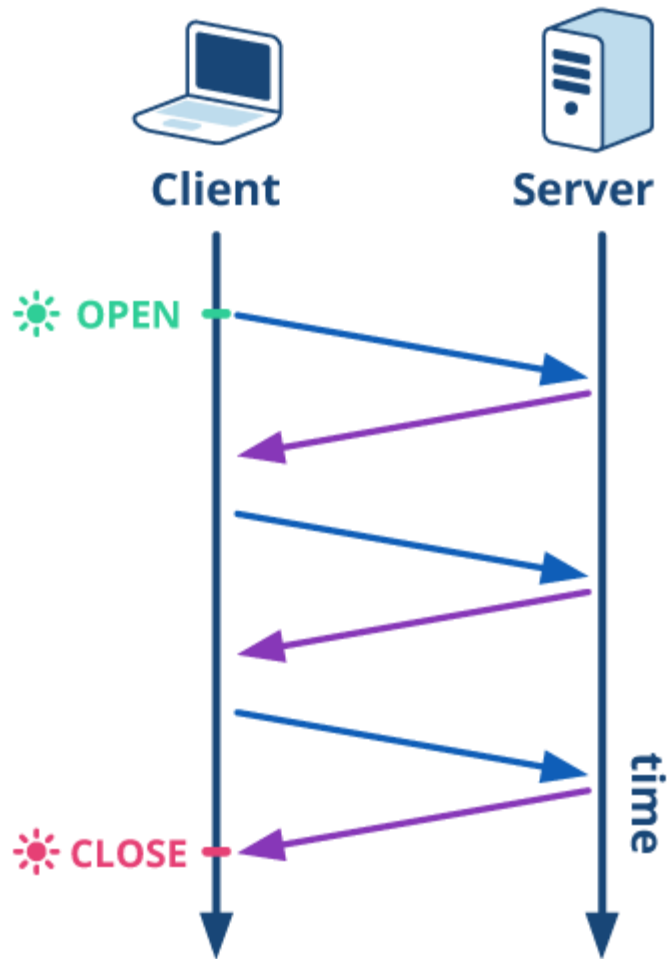
- OS overhead for *each* TCP connection
- requires 2 RTTs per object
- Slow start
- browsers often open parallel TCP connections to fetch referenced objects

# Persistent HTTP

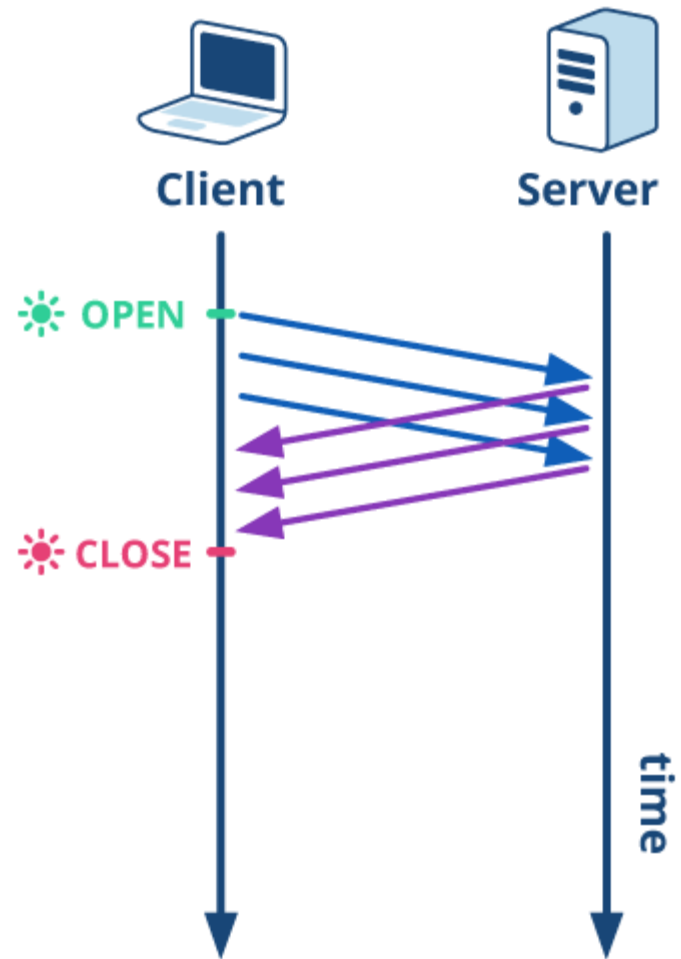
## ***persistent HTTP:***

- server leaves connection open after sending response
- subsequent HTTP messages between same client/server sent over open connection
- client sends requests as soon as it encounters a referenced object
- as little as one RTT for all the referenced objects

## NO PIPELINING



## PIPELINING





# HTTP request message

- two types of HTTP messages: *request, response*
- **HTTP request message:**
  - ASCII (human-readable format)

request line  
(GET, POST, HEAD commands)

GET /somedir/page.html HTTP/1.1

Connection: close

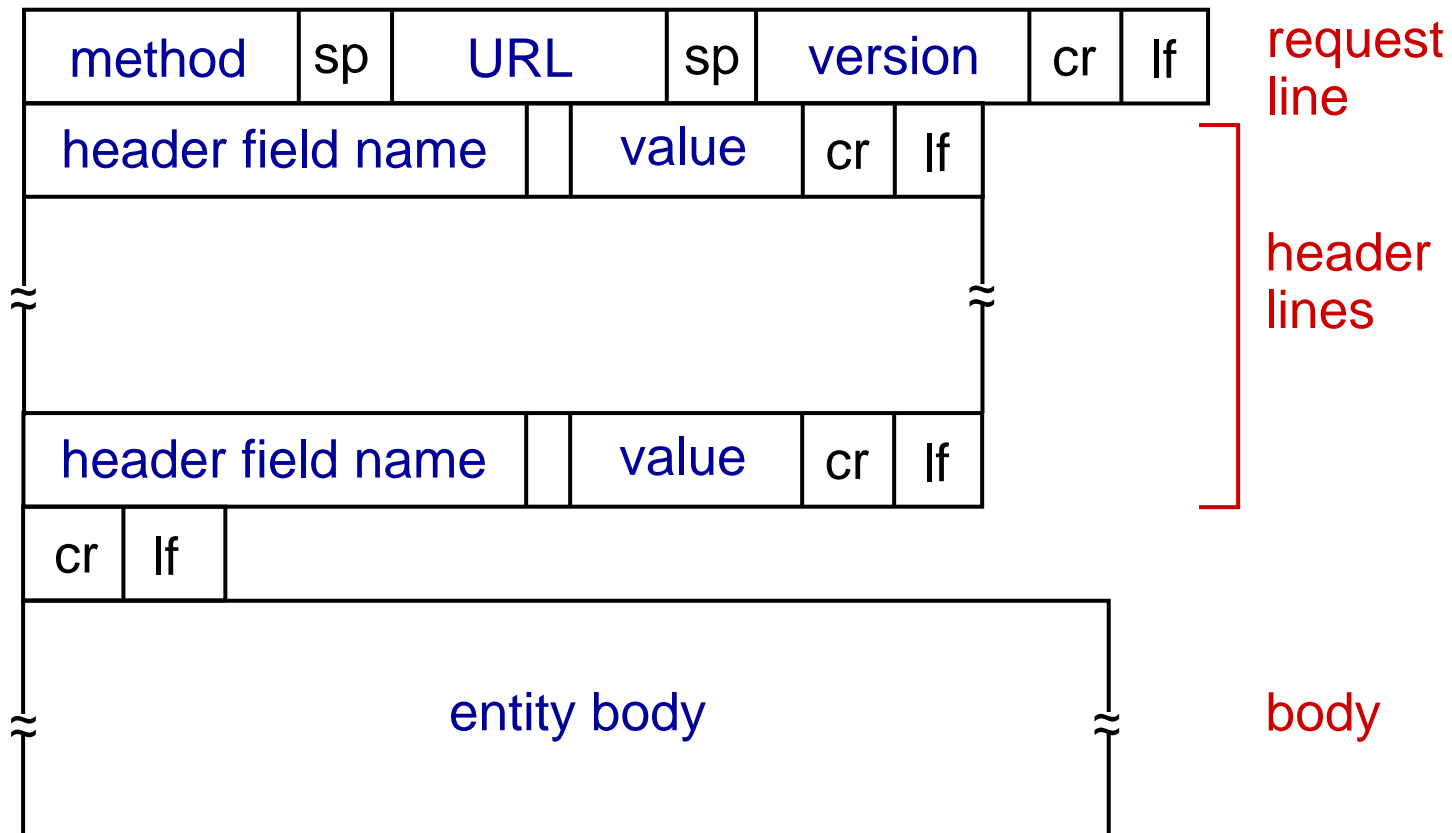
User-agent: Mozilla/5.0

Accept: text/html, image/gif, image/jpeg

Accept-language: fr

header  
lines

# HTTP request message: general format



**HTTP Request Methods**  
**GET, POST, PUT, DELETE**

# Method types

## HTTP/1.0:

- GET
- POST
- HEAD
  - asks server to leave requested object out of response

## HTTP/1.1:

- GET, POST, HEAD
- PUT
  - uploads file in entity body to path specified in URL field
- DELETE
  - deletes file specified in the URL field

# HTTP response message Example

status line (protocol status code status phrase)

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Connection: close

Date: Thu, 06 Aug 2018 12:00:15 GMT

Server: Apache/1.3.0 (Unix)

Last-Modified: Mon, 22 Jun 2018 09:23:24 GMT

Content-Length: 6821

Content-Type: text/html

*data data data data data ...*

header  
lines

data, e.g., requested HTML file

# HTTP response status codes

- status code indicates whether a specific HTTP request has been successfully completed

1. [Informational responses](#) ( 100 – 199 )
2. [Successful responses](#) ( 200 – 299 )
3. [Redirection messages](#) ( 300 – 399 )
4. [Client error responses](#) ( 400 – 499 )
5. [Server error responses](#) ( 500 – 599 )

# HTTP response status codes

- status code appears in 1st line in server-to-client response message.
- some sample codes:

## **200 OK**

- request succeeded, requested object later in this msg

## **301 Moved Permanently**

- requested object moved, new location specified later in this msg (Location:)

## **400 Bad Request**

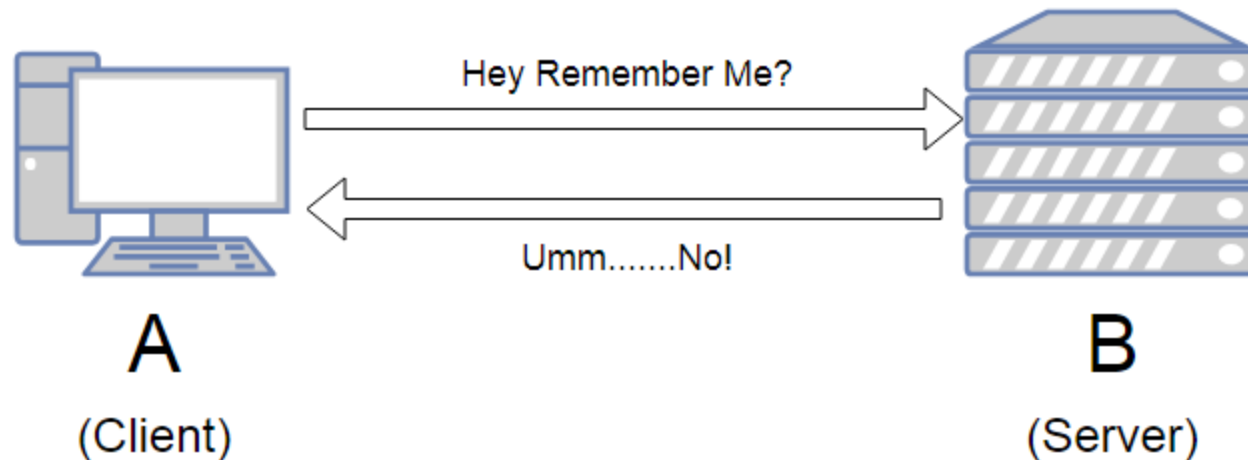
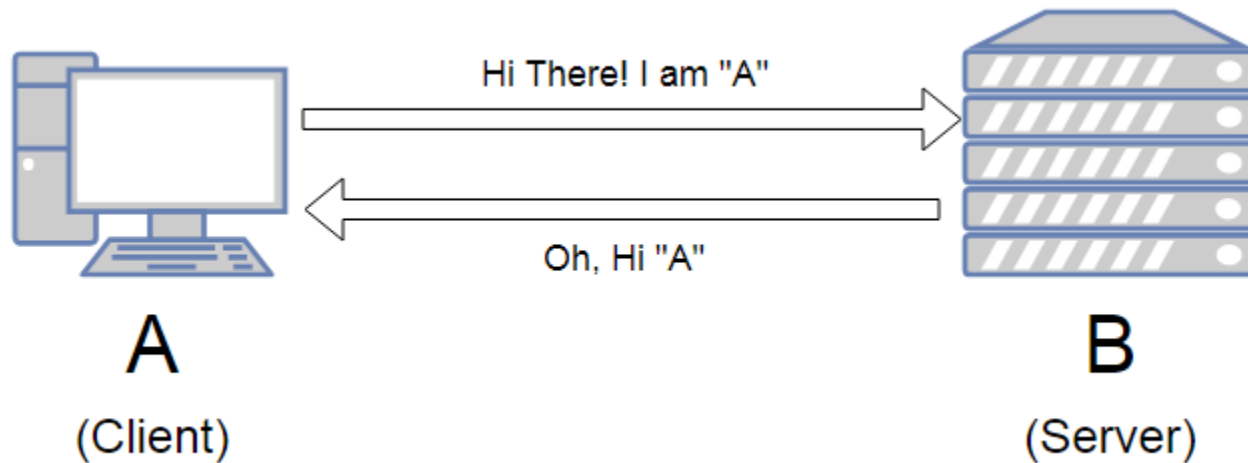
- request msg not understood by server

## **404 Not Found**

- requested document not found on this server

## **505 HTTP Version Not Supported**

# http: a stateless protocol



# User-server state: cookies

many Web sites use cookies

*four components:*

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

**example:**

- Susan always access Internet from PC
- visits specific e-commerce site for first time
- when initial HTTP requests arrives at site, site creates:
  - unique ID
  - entry in backend database for ID



# Cookies: keeping “state” (cont.)

client



server



cookie file



ebay 8734  
amazon 1678

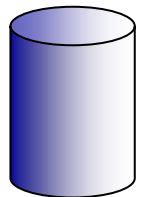
usual http request msg

Amazon server  
creates ID  
1678 for user

usual http response  
**set-cookie: 1678**

create  
entry

backend  
database



usual http request msg  
**cookie: 1678**

cookie-  
specific  
action

access

usual http response msg

one week later:



ebay 8734  
amazon 1678

usual http request msg  
**cookie: 1678**

cookie-  
specific  
action

access

usual http response msg

# Cookies (continued)

*what cookies can be used for:*

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



— aside —

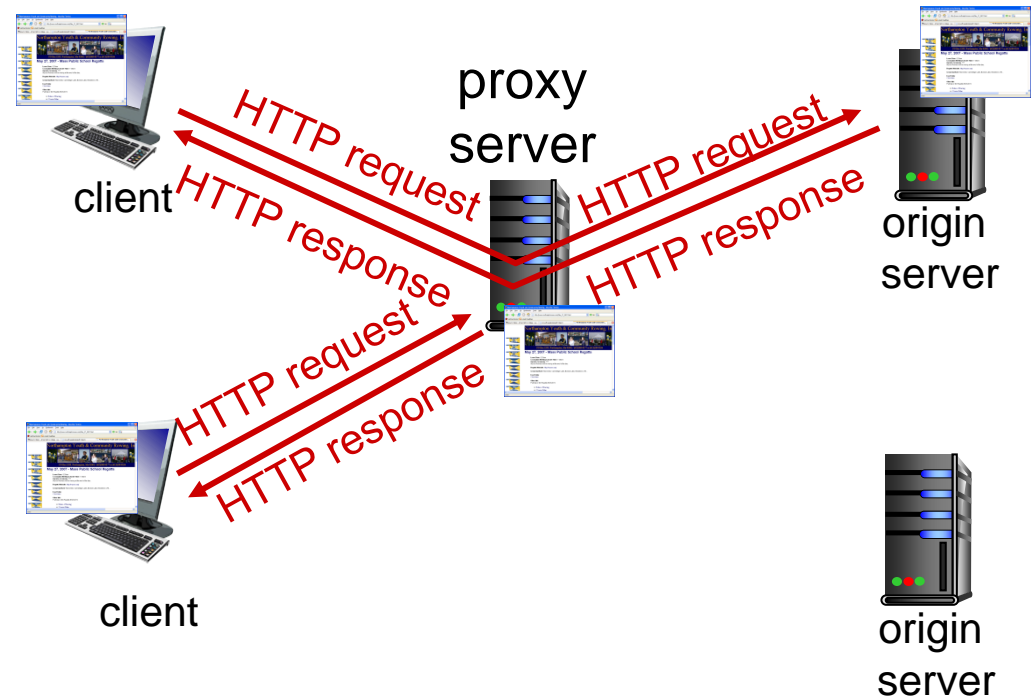
*cookies and privacy:*

- cookies permit sites to learn a lot about you
- you may supply name and e-mail to sites

# 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
  - server for original requesting client
  - client to origin server
- typically cache is installed by ISP (university, company, residential ISP)

# More about Web caching

## *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 (so too does P2P file sharing)

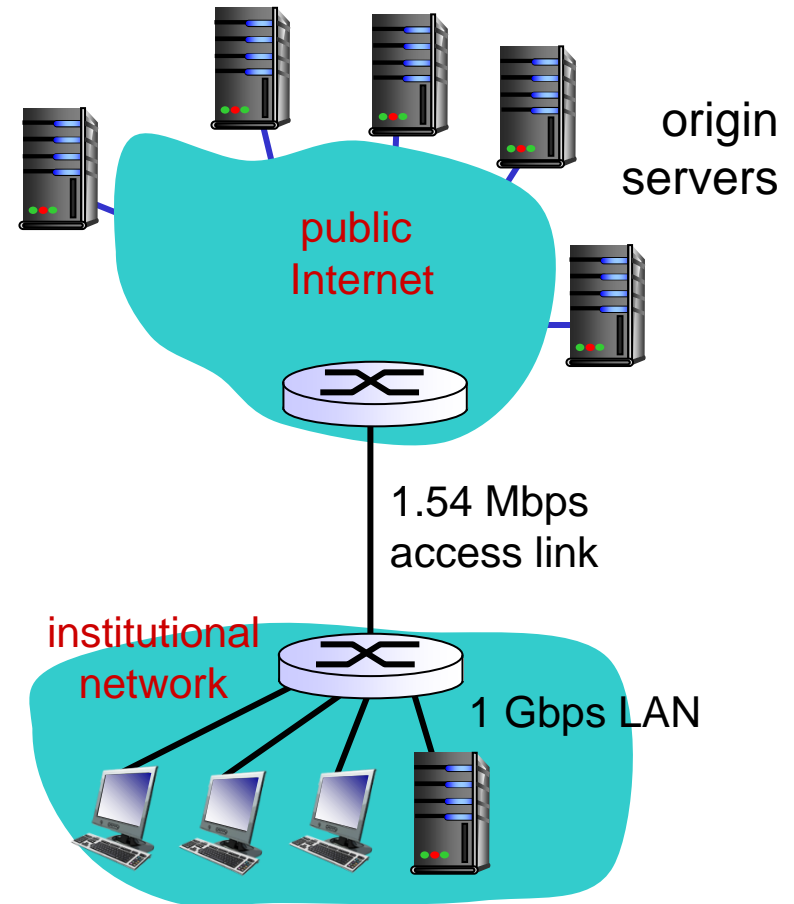
# Caching example:

## assumptions:

- avg object size: 100K bits
- avg request rate from browsers to origin servers: 15/sec
- avg data rate to browsers: 1.50 Mbps
- RTT from institutional router to any origin server: 2 sec
- access link rate: 1.54 Mbps

## consequences:

- LAN utilization: 15%
- access link utilization = 99% *problem!*
- total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay  
= 2 sec + minutes + usecs



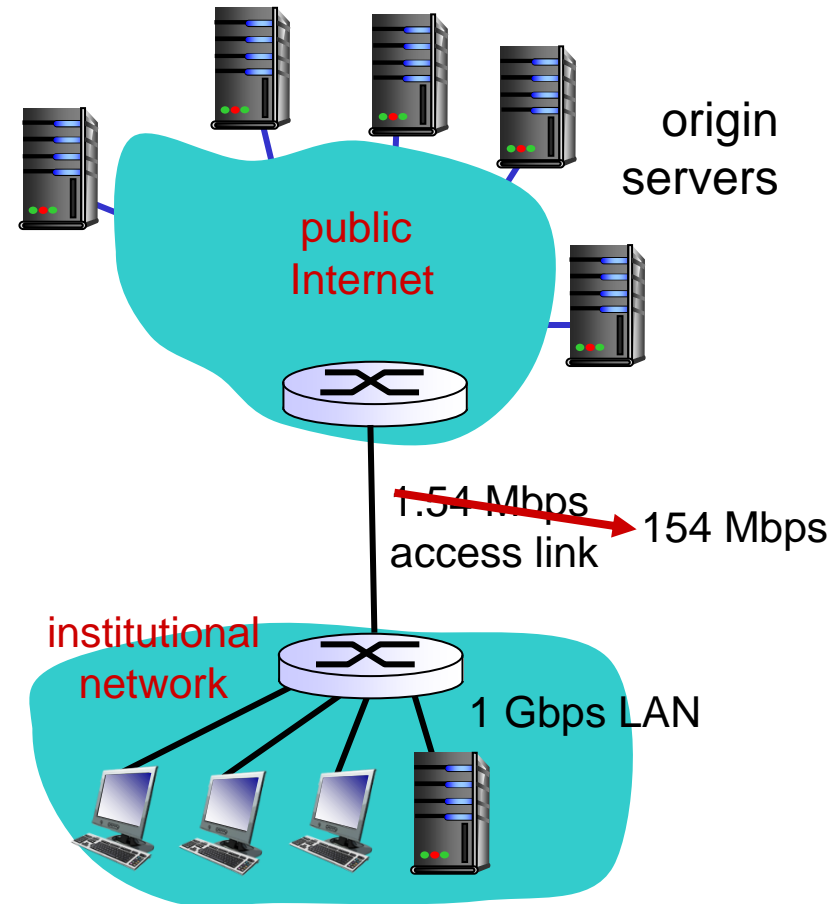
# Option I - fatter access link

## assumptions:

- avg object size: 100K bits
- avg request rate from browsers to origin servers: 15/sec
- avg data rate to browsers: 1.50 Mbps
- RTT from institutional router to any origin server: 2 sec
- access link rate: ~~1.54 Mbps~~ → 154 Mbps

## consequences:

- LAN utilization: 15%
- access link utilization = ~~99%~~ → 9.9%
- total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay  
= 2 sec + ~~minutes~~ → msecs



**Cost:** increased access link speed (not cheap!)

# Option 2: install local cache

## *assumptions:*

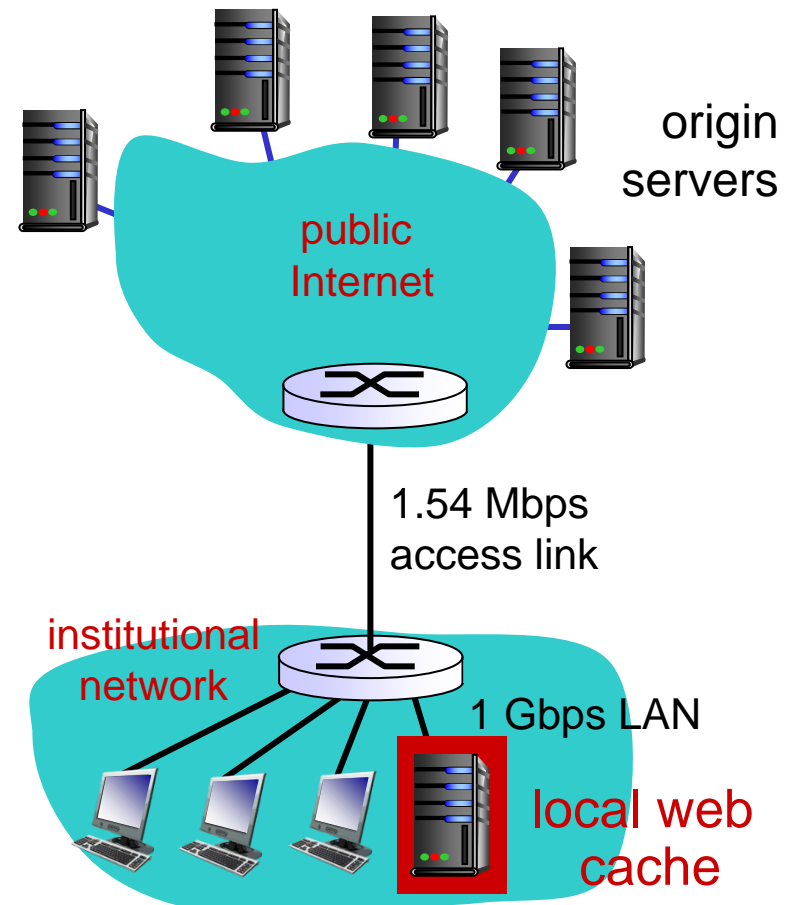
- avg object size: 100K bits
- avg request rate from browsers to origin servers: 15/sec
- avg data rate to browsers: 1.50 Mbps
- RTT from institutional router to any origin server: 2 sec
- access link rate: 1.54 Mbps

## *consequences:*

- LAN utilization: 15%
- access link utilization = ?
- total delay = ?

*How to compute link utilization, delay?*

*Cost:* web cache (cheap!)

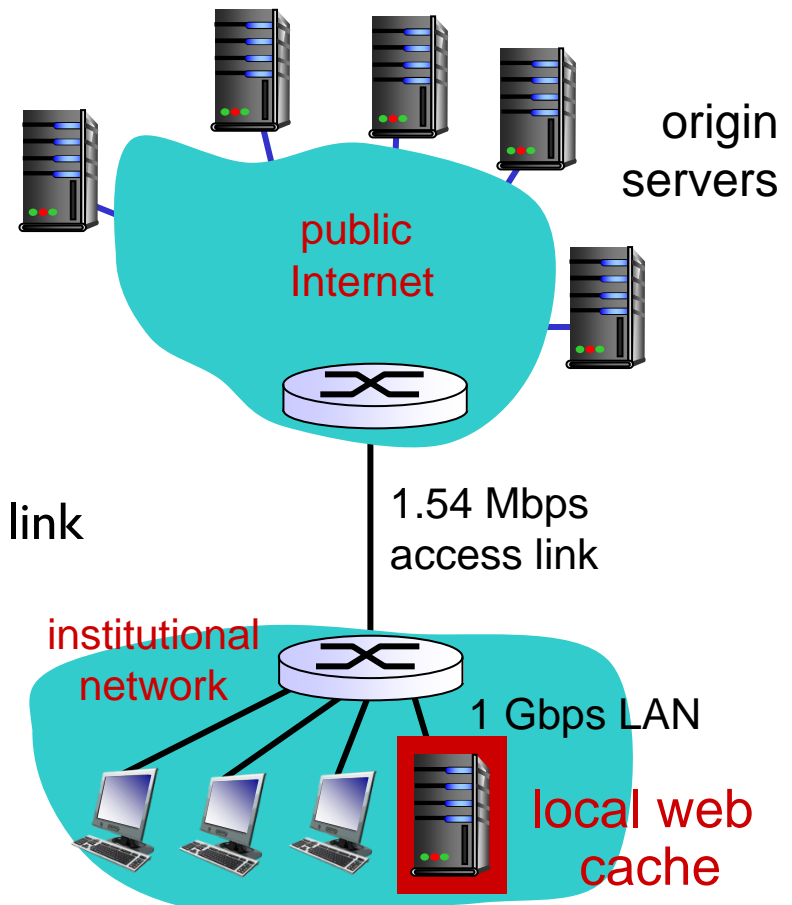




# Option 2: install local cache

## *Calculating access link utilization, delay with cache:*

- suppose cache hit rate is 0.4
  - 40% requests satisfied at cache, 60% requests satisfied at origin
- access link utilization:
  - 60% of requests use access link
- data rate to browsers over access link  
 $= 0.6 * 1.50 \text{ Mbps} = .9 \text{ Mbps}$ 
  - utilization =  $0.9 / 1.54 = .58$
- total delay
  - $= 0.6 * (\text{delay from origin servers}) + 0.4 * (\text{delay when satisfied at cache})$
  - $= 0.6 (2.01) + 0.4 (\sim \text{msecs}) = \sim 1.2 \text{ secs}$
  - less than with 154 Mbps link (and cheaper too!)



# Chapter Outline

1 principles of network applications

2 Web and HTTP

3 DNS

# DNS: domain name system

*people*: many identifiers:

- SSN, name, passport #

*Internet hosts, routers*:

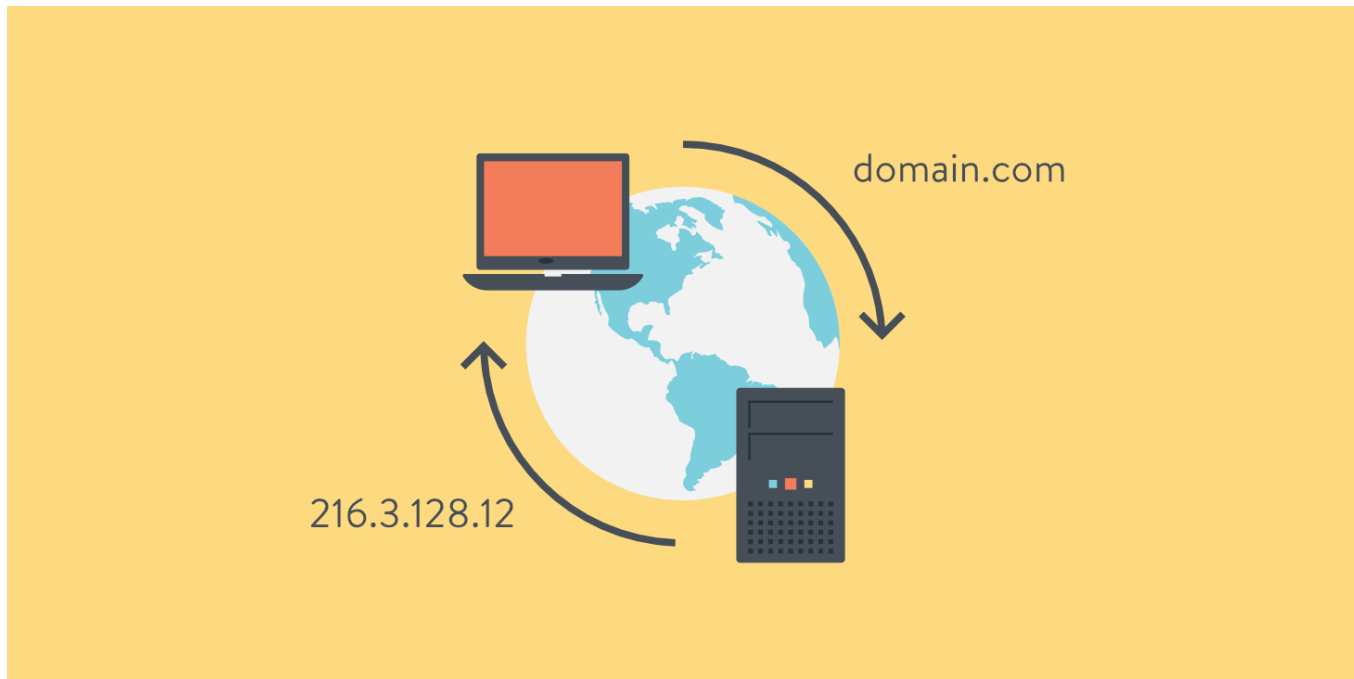
- “name”, e.g., `www.youtube.com` - used by humans
- IP address (32 bit) - used for addressing datagrams

e.g., `121.7.106.83`

Q: how to map between IP address and name, and vice versa ?

# DNS: domain name system

DNS: map between IP address and name



# DNS: domain name system

## *Domain Name System:*

- *distributed database* implemented in hierarchy of many *name servers*
- *application-layer protocol*: hosts, name servers communicate to *resolve* names (address/name translation)
  - note: core Internet function, implemented as application-layer protocol
  - complexity at network's "edge"

# DNS: services

## *DNS services*

- hostname to IP address translation
- host aliasing
  - canonical, alias names
- mail server aliasing
- load distribution
  - replicated Web servers: many IP addresses correspond to one name

# DNS: structure

*why not centralize DNS?*

- single point of failure
- traffic volume
- distant centralized database
- maintenance

*A: doesn't scale!*

# DNS: a distributed, hierarchical database

