NETWORK LAYER

Lets Talk

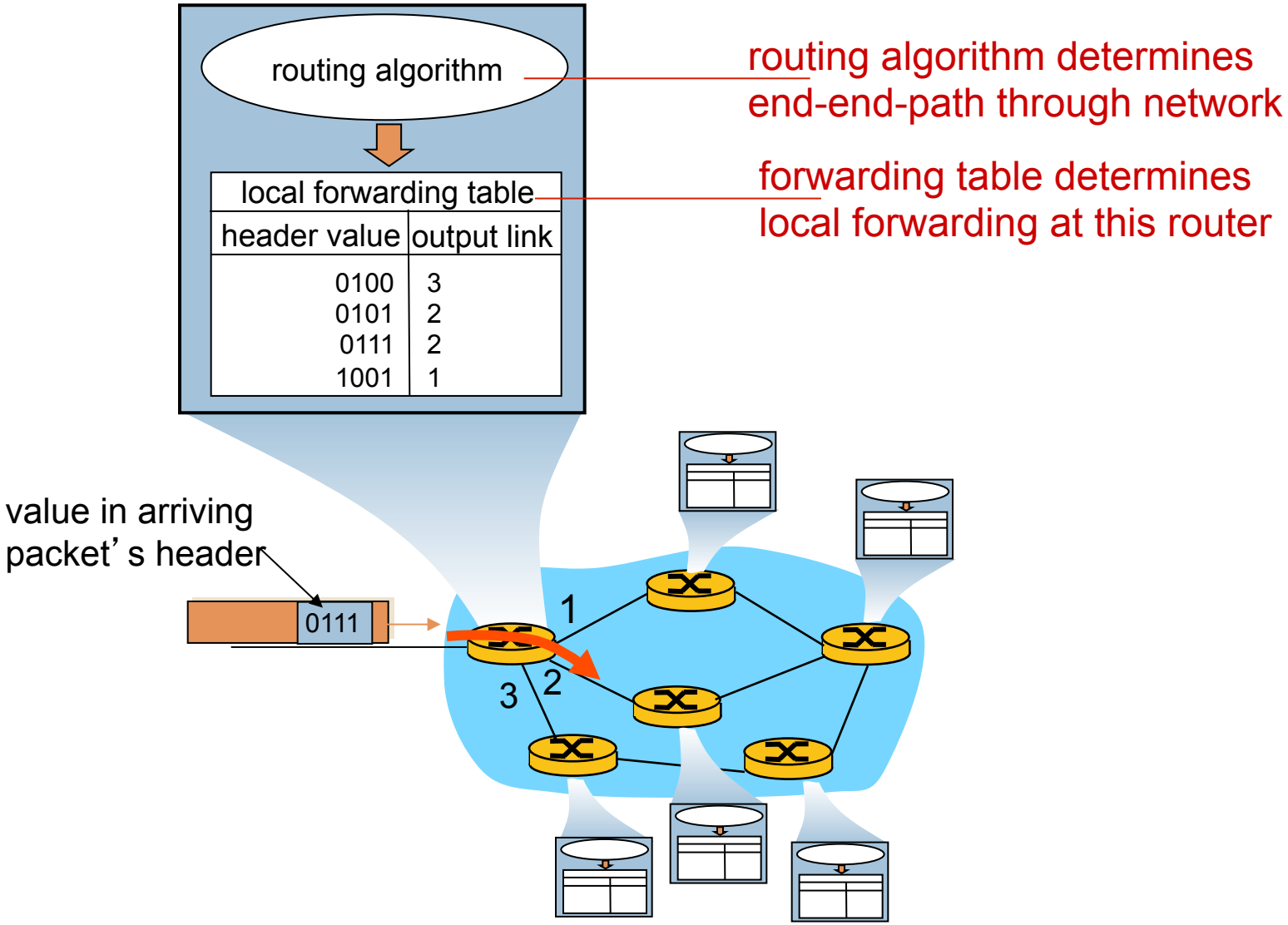
Two key network-layer functions

- *forwarding:* move packets from router's input to appropriate router output
- *routing:* determine route taken by packets from source to dest.
  - *routing algorithms*

analogy:

- *routing:* process of planning trip from source to dest
- *forwarding:* process of getting through single interchange

Interplay between routing and forwarding



Connection setup

- before datagrams flow, two end hosts *and* intervening routers establish virtual connection
  - routers get involved
- network vs transport layer connection service:
  - *network:* between two hosts (may also involve intervening routers in case of VCs)
  - *transport:* between two processes

Virtual circuits

"source-to-dest path behaves much like telephone circuit"

- performance-wise
- network actions along source-to-dest path

- call setup, teardown for each call *before* data can flow
- each packet carries VC identifier (not destination host address)
- *every* router on source-dest path maintains "state" for each passing connection
- link, router resources (bandwidth, buffers) may be *allocated* to VC (dedicated resources = predictable service)

VC implementation

a VC consists of:

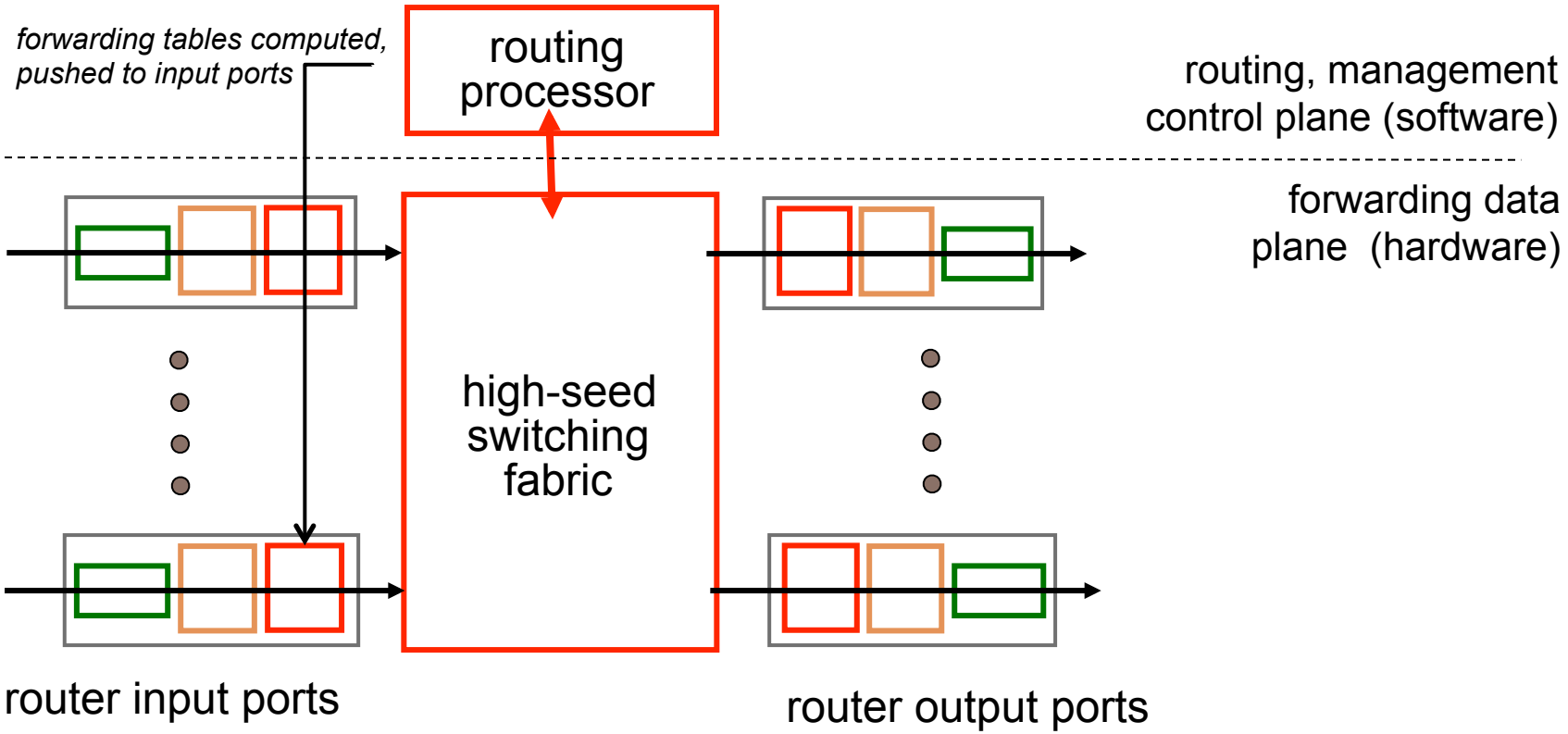
1. *path* from source to destination
2. *VC numbers*, one number for each link along path
3. *entries in forwarding tables* in routers along path

- packet belonging to VC carries VC number (rather than dest address)
- VC number can be changed on each link.
  - new VC number comes from forwarding table

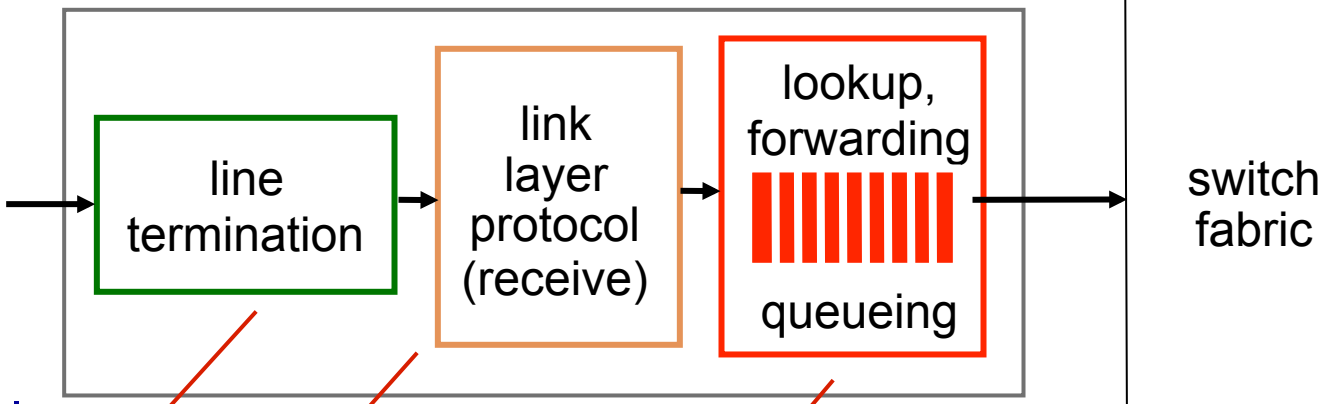
Router Architecture Overview

two key router functions:

- run routing algorithms/protocol (RIP, OSPF, BGP)
- *forwarding* datagrams from incoming to outgoing link



Input Port Functions



physical layer:
bit-level reception

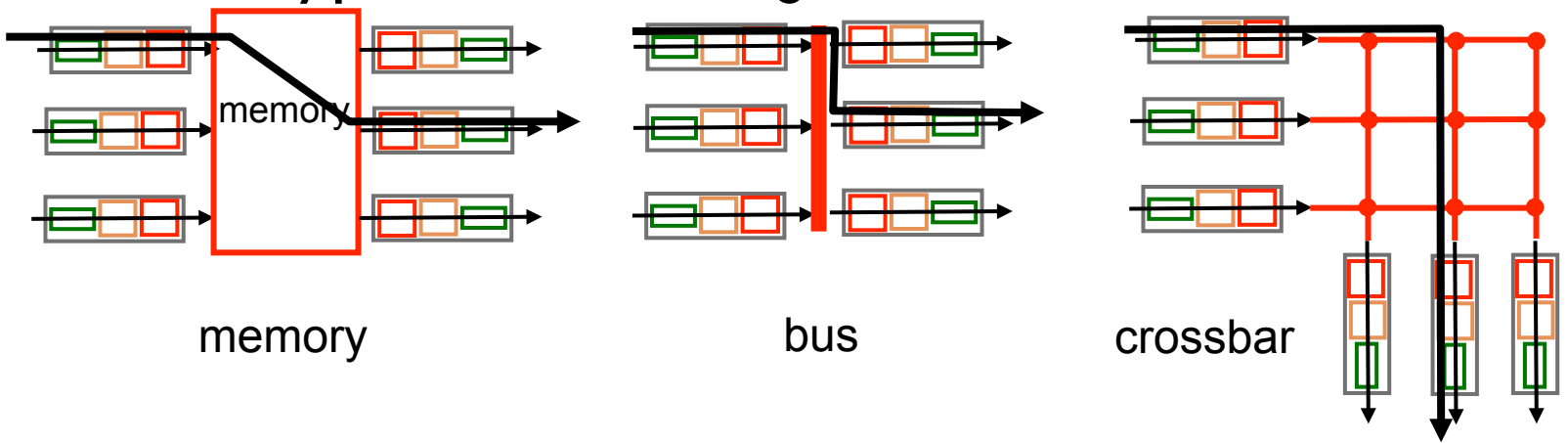
data link layer:
e.g., Ethernet
see chapter 5

decentralized switching:

- given datagram dest., lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory *("match plus action")*
- goal: complete input port processing at 'line speed'
- queuing: if datagrams arrive faster than forwarding rate into switch fabric

Switching fabrics

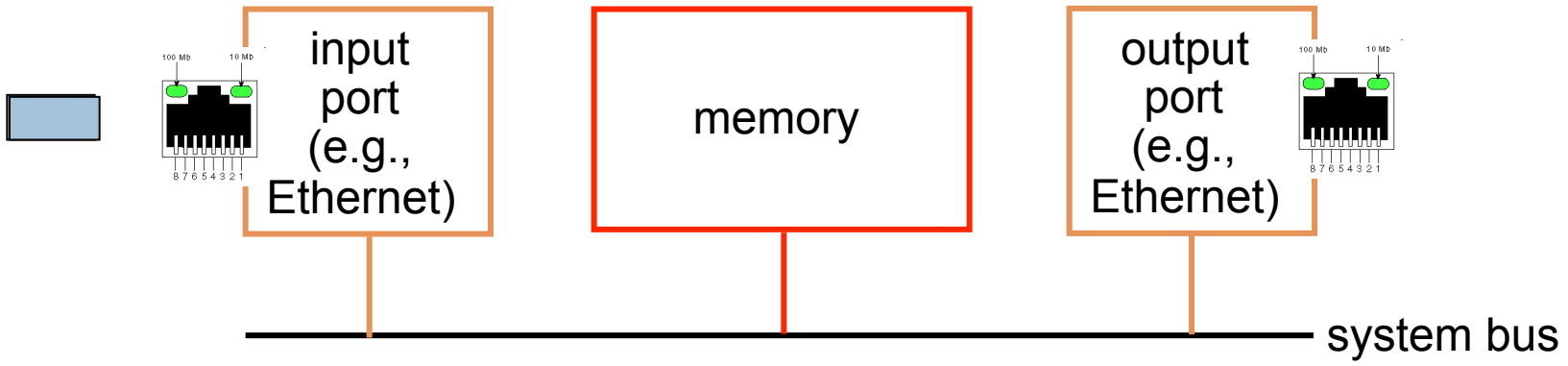
- transfer packet from input buffer to appropriate output buffer
- switching rate: rate at which packets can be transfer from inputs to outputs
  - often measured as multiple of input/output line rate
  - N inputs: switching rate N times line rate desirable
- three types of switching fabrics



Switching via memory

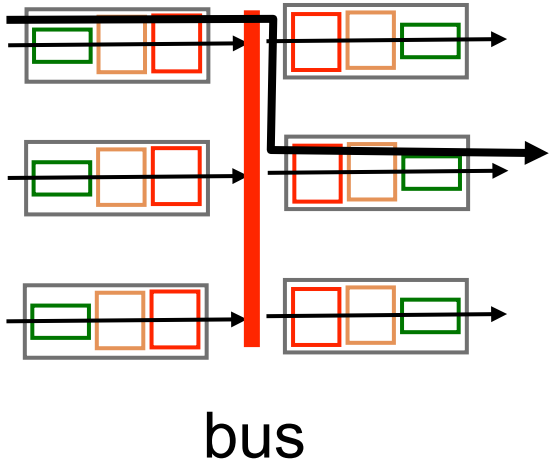
first generation routers:

- traditional computers with switching under direct control of CPU
- packet copied to system's memory
- speed limited by memory bandwidth (2 bus crossings per datagram)



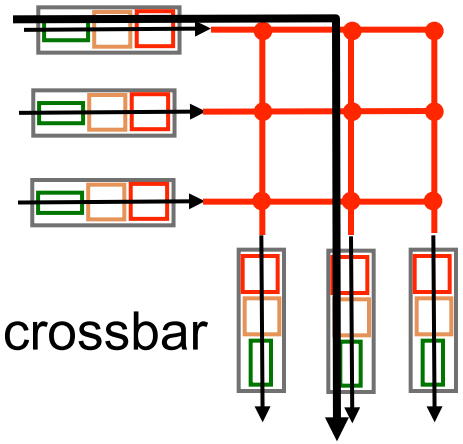
Switching via a bus

- datagram from input port memory to output port memory via a shared bus
- *bus contention:* switching speed limited by bus bandwidth
- 32 Gbps bus, Cisco 5600: sufficient speed for access and enterprise routers

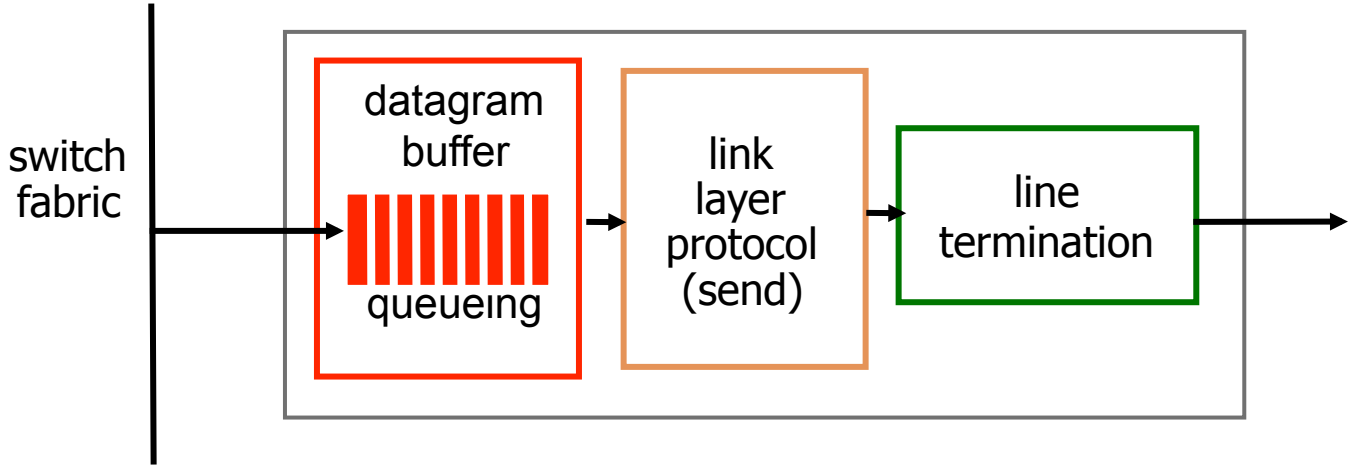


Switching via interconnection network

- overcome bus bandwidth limitations
- banyan networks, crossbar, other interconnection nets initially developed to connect processors in multiprocessor
- advanced design: fragmenting datagram into fixed length cells, switch cells through the fabric.
- Cisco 12000: switches 60 Gbps through the interconnection network



Output Ports

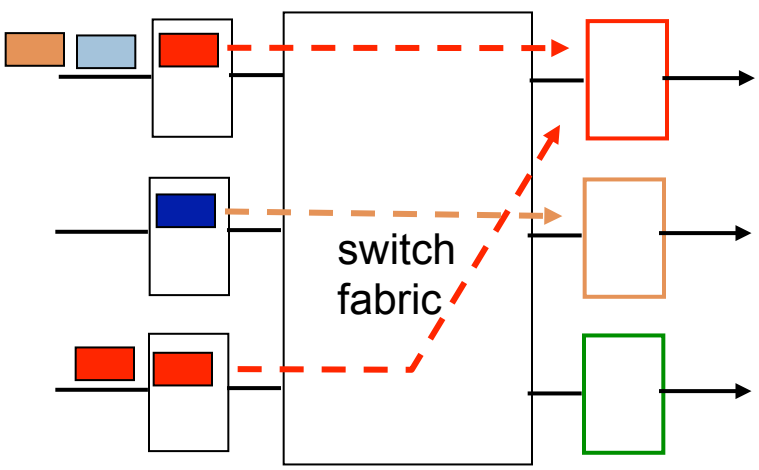


- *buffering* required when datagrams arrive from fabric faster than the transmission rate
- *scheduling discipline* chooses among queued datagrams for transmission

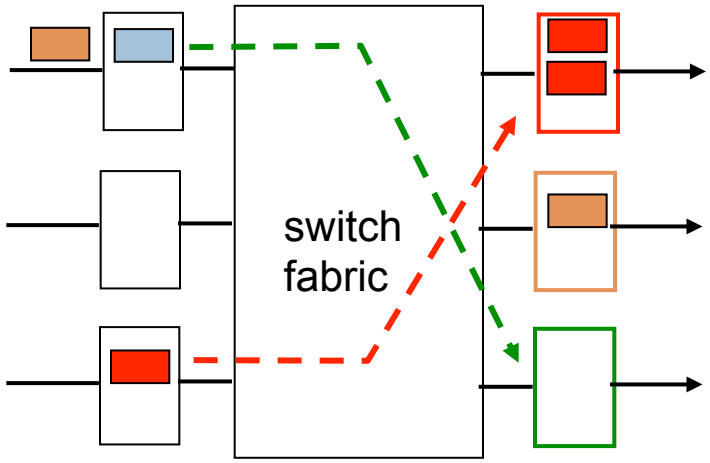
Datagram (packets) can be lost due to congestion, lack of buffers

Priority scheduling – who gets best performance, network neutrality

Output Port Queuing



at *t*, packets more from input to output



one packet time later

- buffering when arrival rate via switch exceeds output line speed
- *queueing (delay) and loss due to output port buffer overflow!*

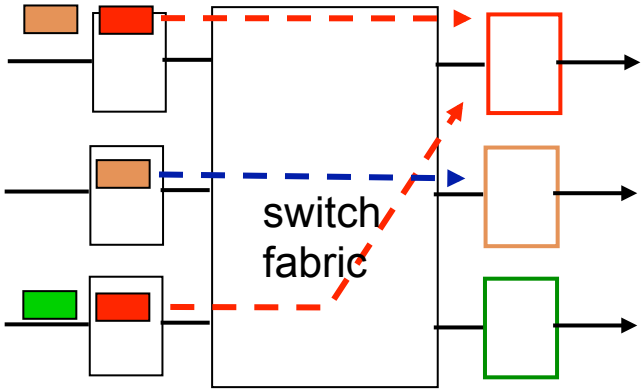
How much buffering?

- RFC 3439 rule of thumb: average buffering equal to "typical" RTT (say 250 msec) times link capacity C
  - e.g., C = 10 Gpbs link: 2.5 Gbit buffer
- recent recommendation: with *N* flows, buffering equal to

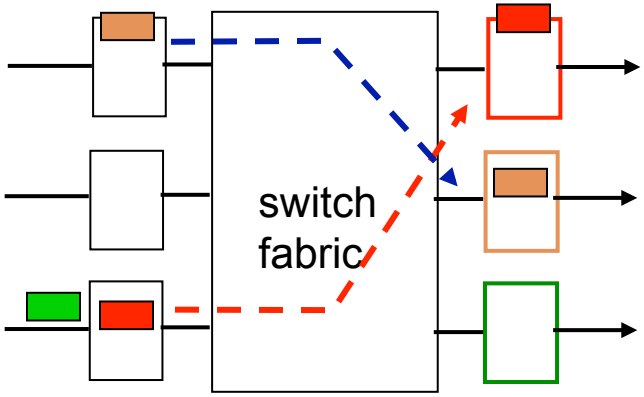
$$\frac{RTT \cdot C}{\sqrt{N}}$$

Input port queuing

- fabric slower than input ports combined -> queueing may occur at input queues
  - *queueing delay and loss due to input buffer overflow!*
- Head-of-the-Line (HOL) blocking: queued datagram at front of queue prevents others in queue from moving forward



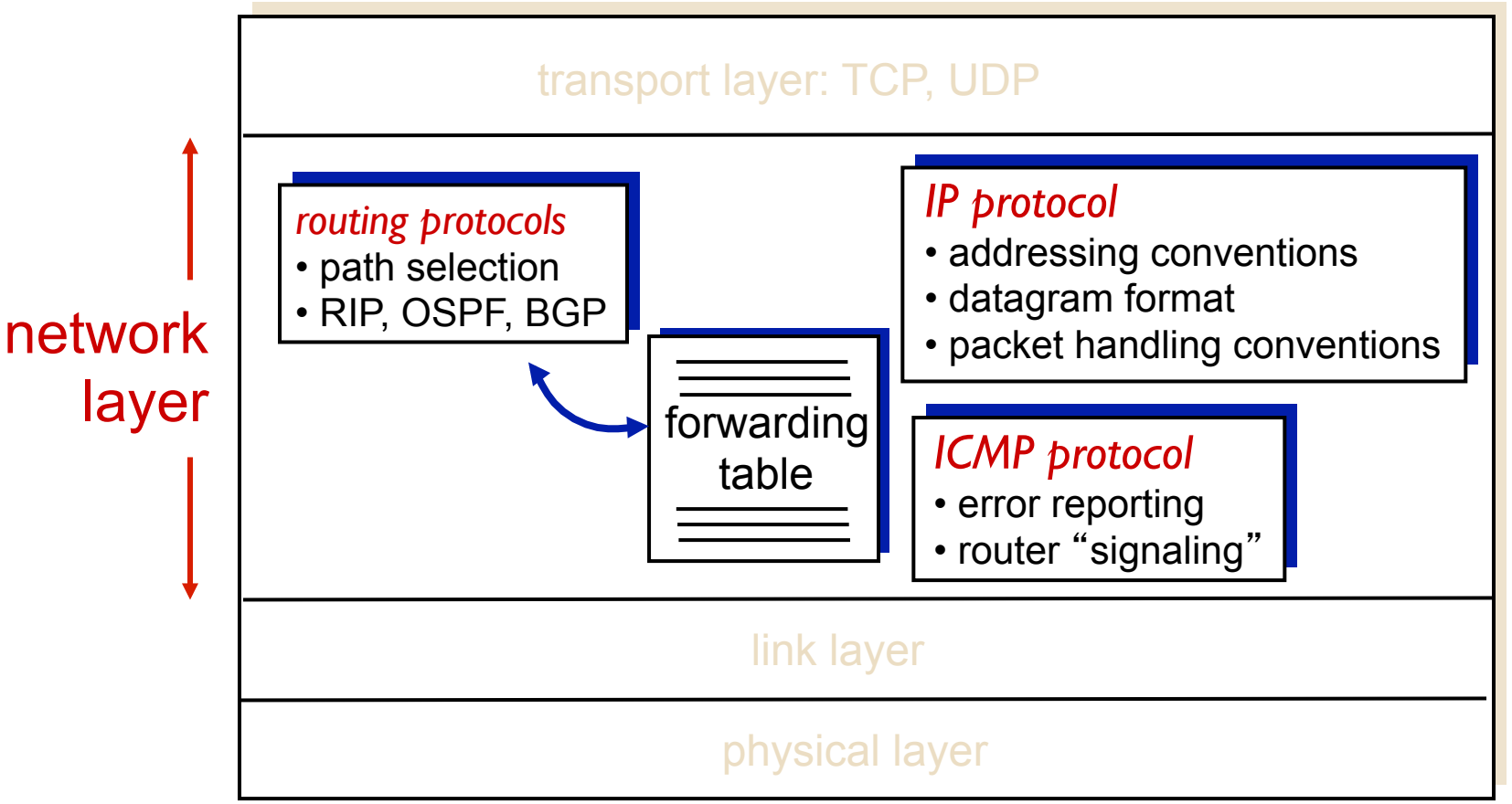
output port contention:
only one red datagram can be transferred.
lower red packet is blocked



one packet time later: green packet experiences HOL blocking

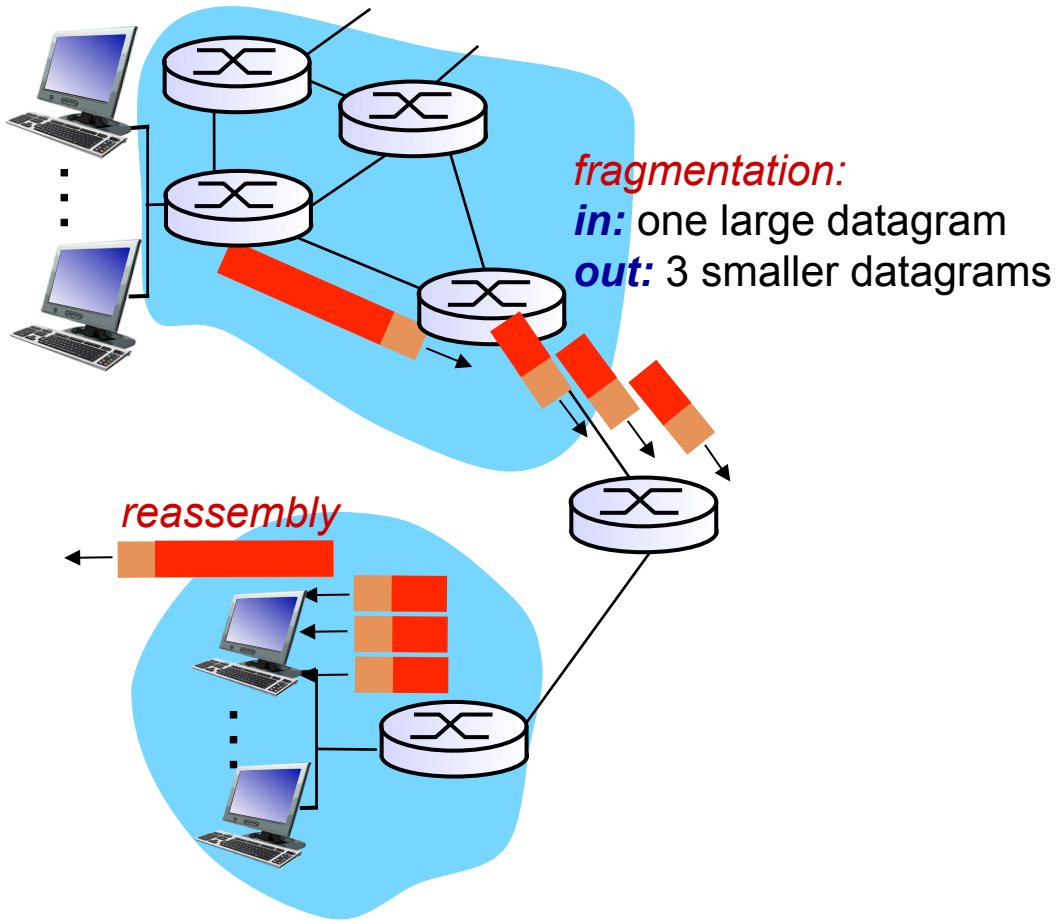
The Internet Network Layer

host, router network layer functions:



IP fragmentation, reassembly

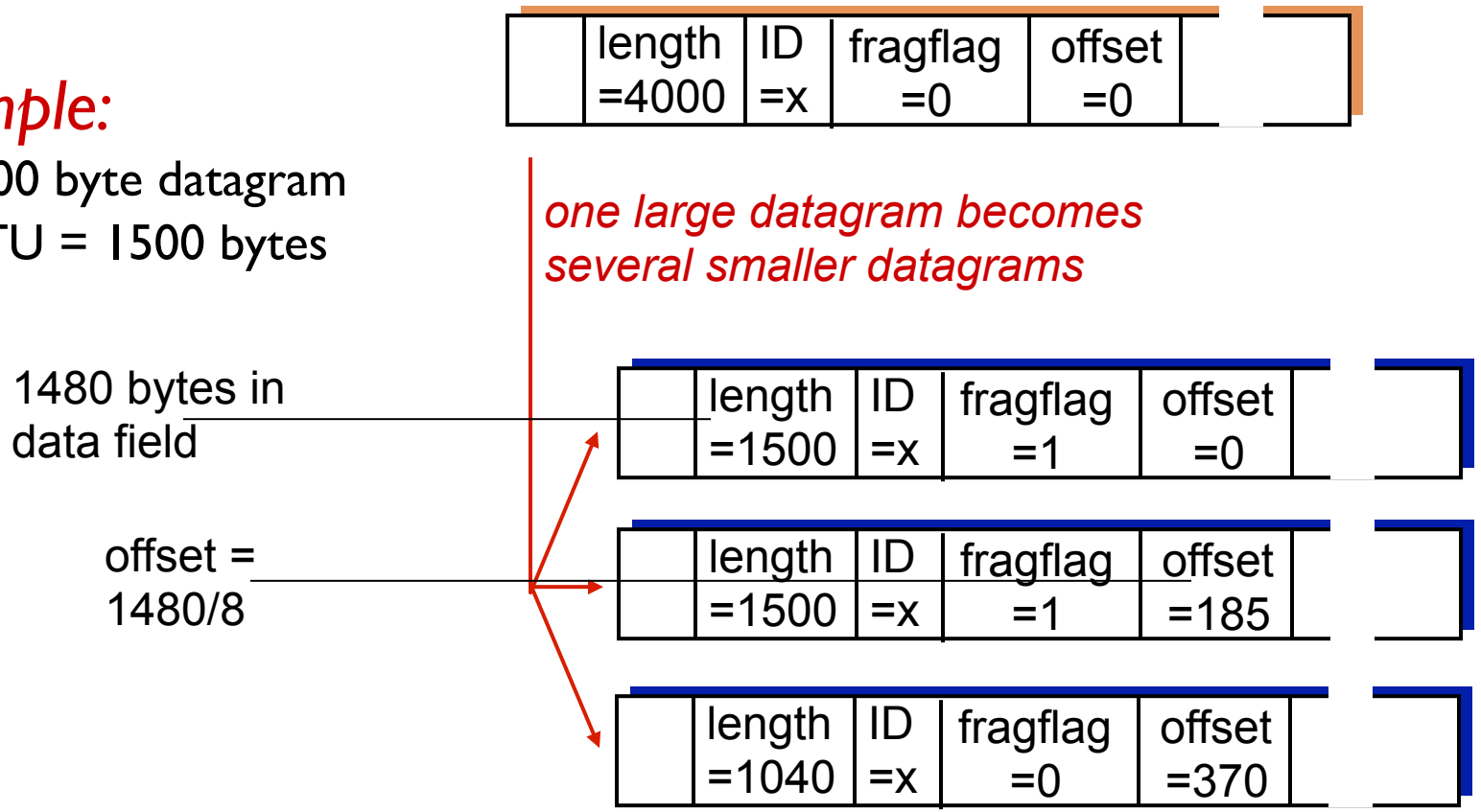
- network links have MTU (max.transfer size) - largest possible link-level frame
  - different link types, different MTUs
- large IP datagram divided ("fragmented") within net
  - one datagram becomes several datagrams
  - "reassembled" only at final destination
  - IP header bits used to identify, order related fragments



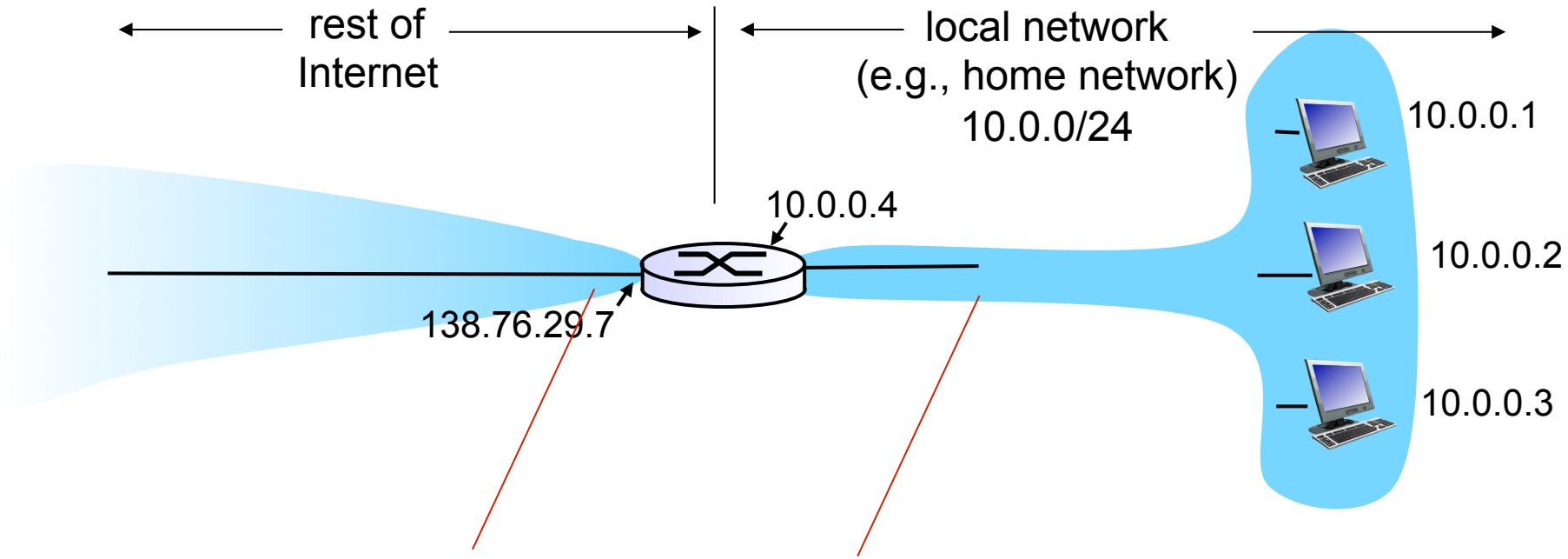
IP fragmentation, reassembly

example:

- 4000 byte datagram
- MTU = 1500 bytes



NAT: Network Address Translation



all datagrams *leaving* local network have *same* single source NAT IP address: 138.76.29.7,different source port numbers

datagrams with source or destination in this network have 10.0.0/24 address for source, destination (as usual)

NAT: Motivation

local network uses just one IP address as far as outside world is concerned:

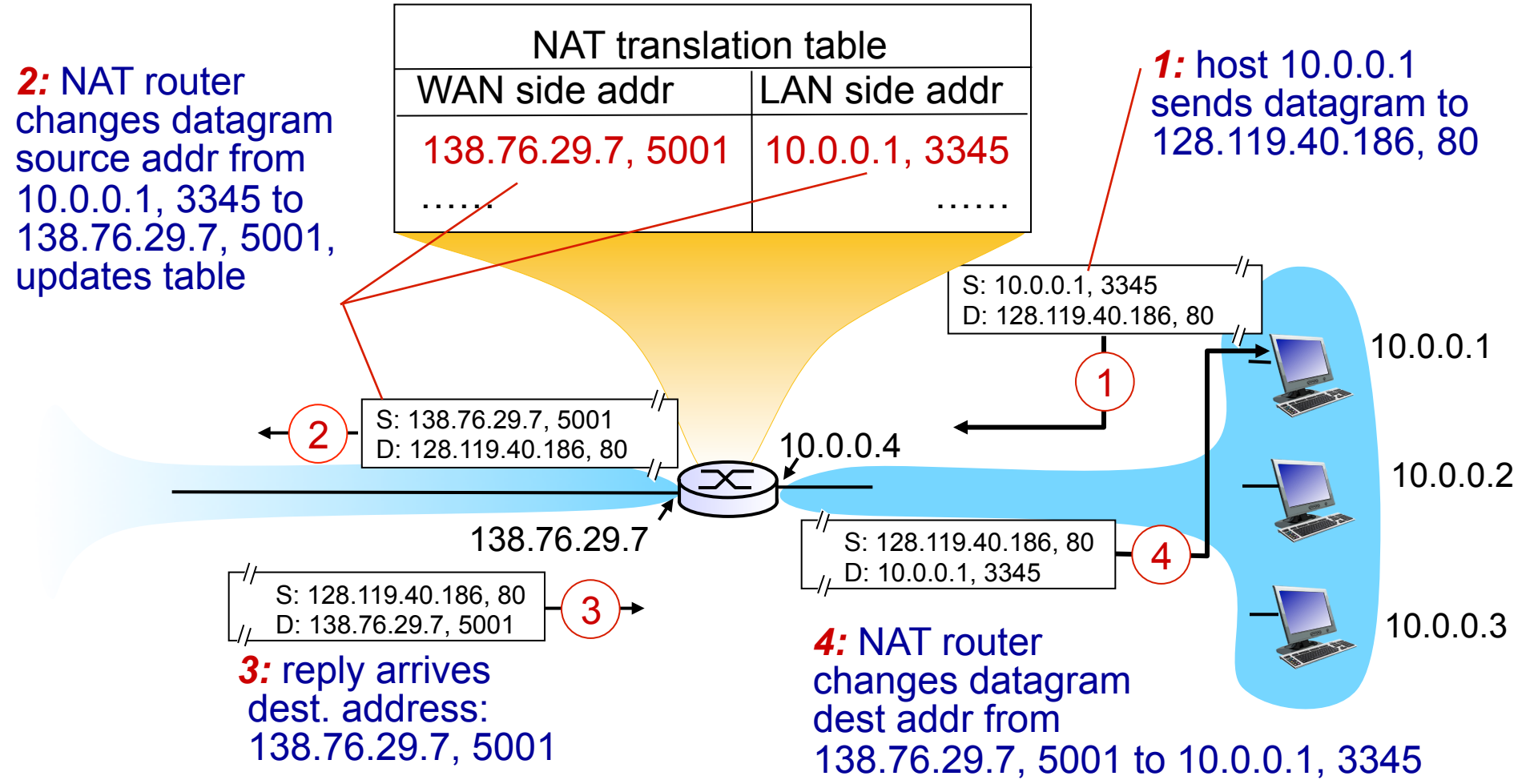
- range of addresses not needed from ISP: just one IP address for all devices
- can change addresses of devices in local network without notifying outside world
- can change ISP without changing addresses of devices in local network
- devices inside local net not explicitly addressable, visible by outside world (a security plus)

NAT: Implementation

NAT router must:

- *outgoing datagrams: replace* (source IP address, port #) of every outgoing datagram to (NAT IP address, new port #)
  . . . remote clients/servers will respond using (NAT IP address, new port #) as destination addr
- *remember (in NAT translation table)* every (source IP address, port #) to (NAT IP address, new port #) translation pair
- *incoming datagrams: replace* (NAT IP address, new port #) in dest fields of every incoming datagram with corresponding (source IP address, port #) stored in NAT table

NAT: Example

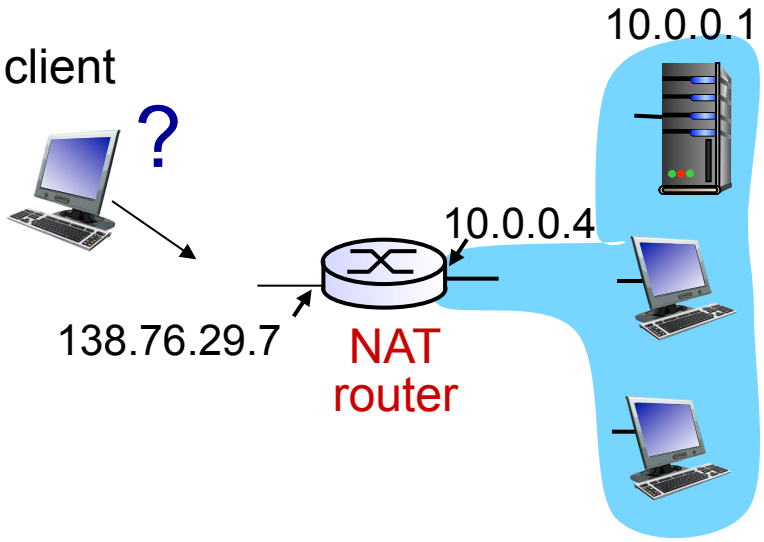

NAT translation table
WAN side addr
LAN side addr
138.76.29.7, 5001
10.0.0.1, 3345
……
……
2: NAT router changes datagram source addr from 10.0.0.1, 3345 to 138.76.29.7, 5001, updates table
1: host 10.0.0.1 sends datagram to 128.119.40.186, 80
S: 10.0.0.1, 3345
D: 128.119.40.186, 80
1
10.0.0.1
10.0.0.2
10.0.0.3
2
S: 138.76.29.7, 5001
D: 128.119.40.186, 80
10.0.0.4
138.76.29.7
S: 128.119.40.186, 80
D: 10.0.0.1, 3345
4
S: 128.119.40.186, 80
D: 138.76.29.7, 5001
3
3: reply arrives dest. address: 138.76.29.7, 5001
4: NAT router changes datagram dest addr from 138.76.29.7, 5001 to 10.0.0.1, 3345

NAT: Issues

- 16-bit port-number field:
  - 60,000 simultaneous connections with a single LAN-side address!
- NAT is controversial:
  - routers should only process up to layer 3
  - violates end-to-end argument
    - NAT possibility must be taken into account by app designers, e.g., P2P applications
  - address shortage should instead be solved by IPv6

NAT: Traversal Problem – Solution1

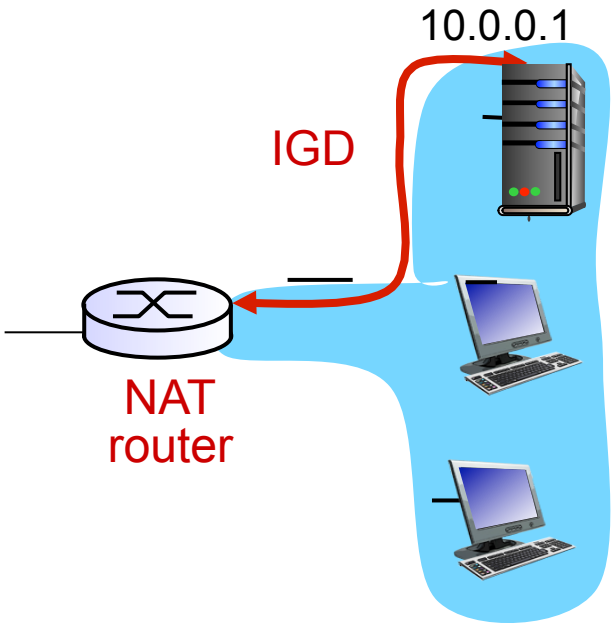
- client wants to connect to server with address 10.0.0.1
  - server address 10.0.0.1 local to LAN (client can't use it as destination addr)
  - only one externally visible NATed address: 138.76.29.7
- *solution1:* statically configure NAT to forward incoming connection requests at given port to server
  - e.g., (123.76.29.7, port 2500) always forwarded to 10.0.0.1 port 25000



NAT: Traversal Problem – Solution2

- *solution 2:* Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) Internet Gateway Device (IGD) Protocol. Allows NATed host to:
  - learn public IP address (138.76.29.7)
  - add/remove port mappings (with lease times)

  i.e., automate static NAT port map configuration



NAT: Traversal Problem – Solution 3

- *solution 3:* relaying (used in Skype)
  - NATed client establishes connection to relay
  - external client connects to relay
  - relay bridges packets between to connections