

Chapter 5

Link Layer

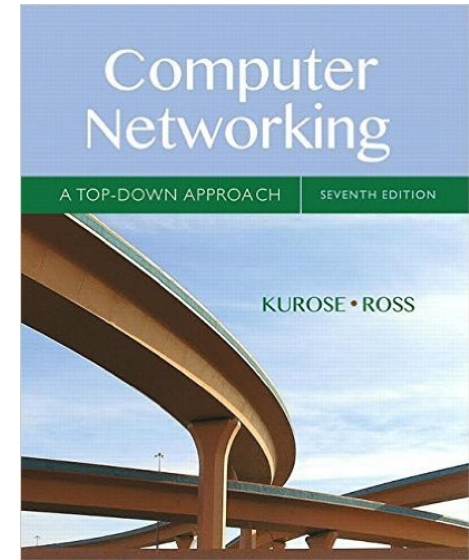
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**Computer
Networking: A
Top Down
Approach**
7th edition
**Jim Kurose, Keith
Ross**
Addison-Wesley
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Link layer, LANs: outline

*5.1 introduction,
services*

*5.2 error detection,
correction*

*5.3 multiple access
protocols*

5.4 LANs

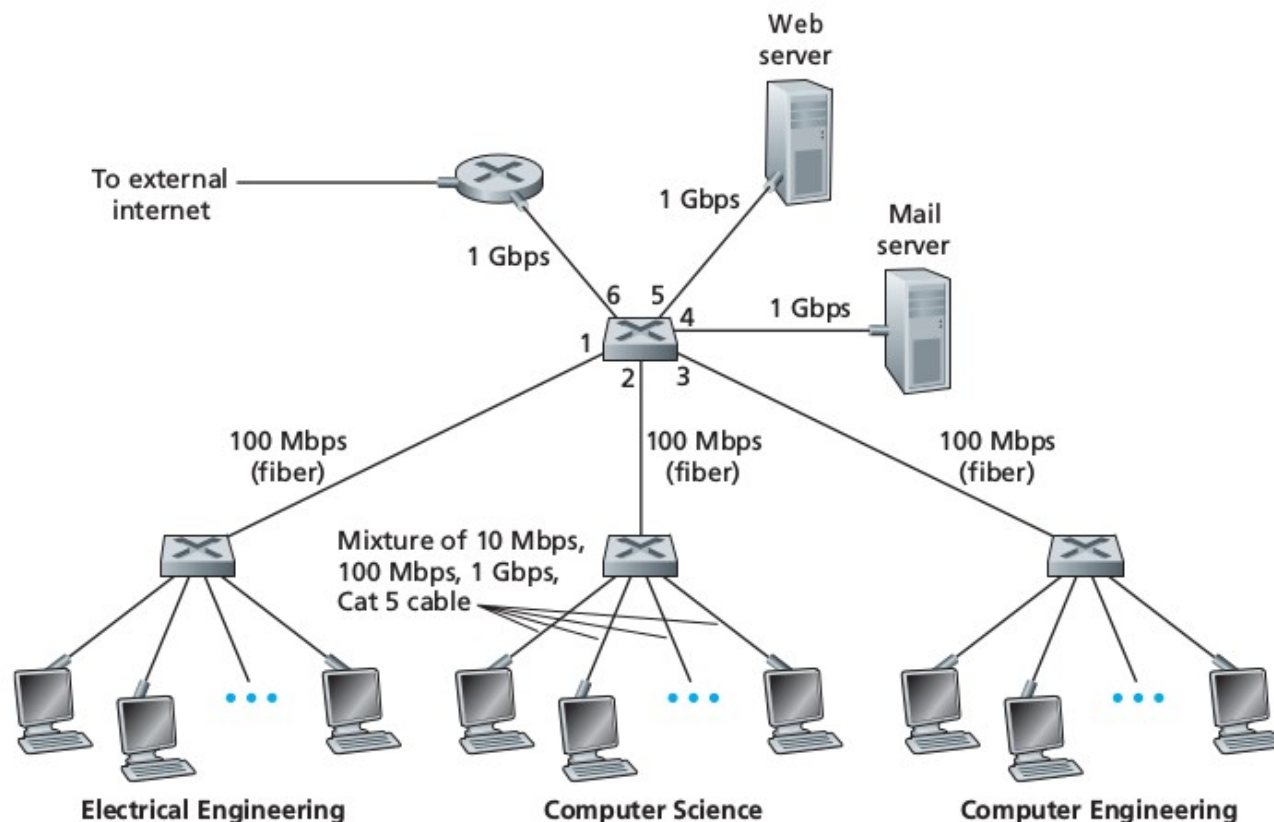
- *addressing, ARP*
- *Ethernet*
- *Switches*
- *VLANs*

Switched network, an example

Switches operate at link layer

They switch link-layer frames and DON'T use IP addresses...

Thus DON'T use routing algorithm (OSPF, RIP...)



MAC addresses and ARP

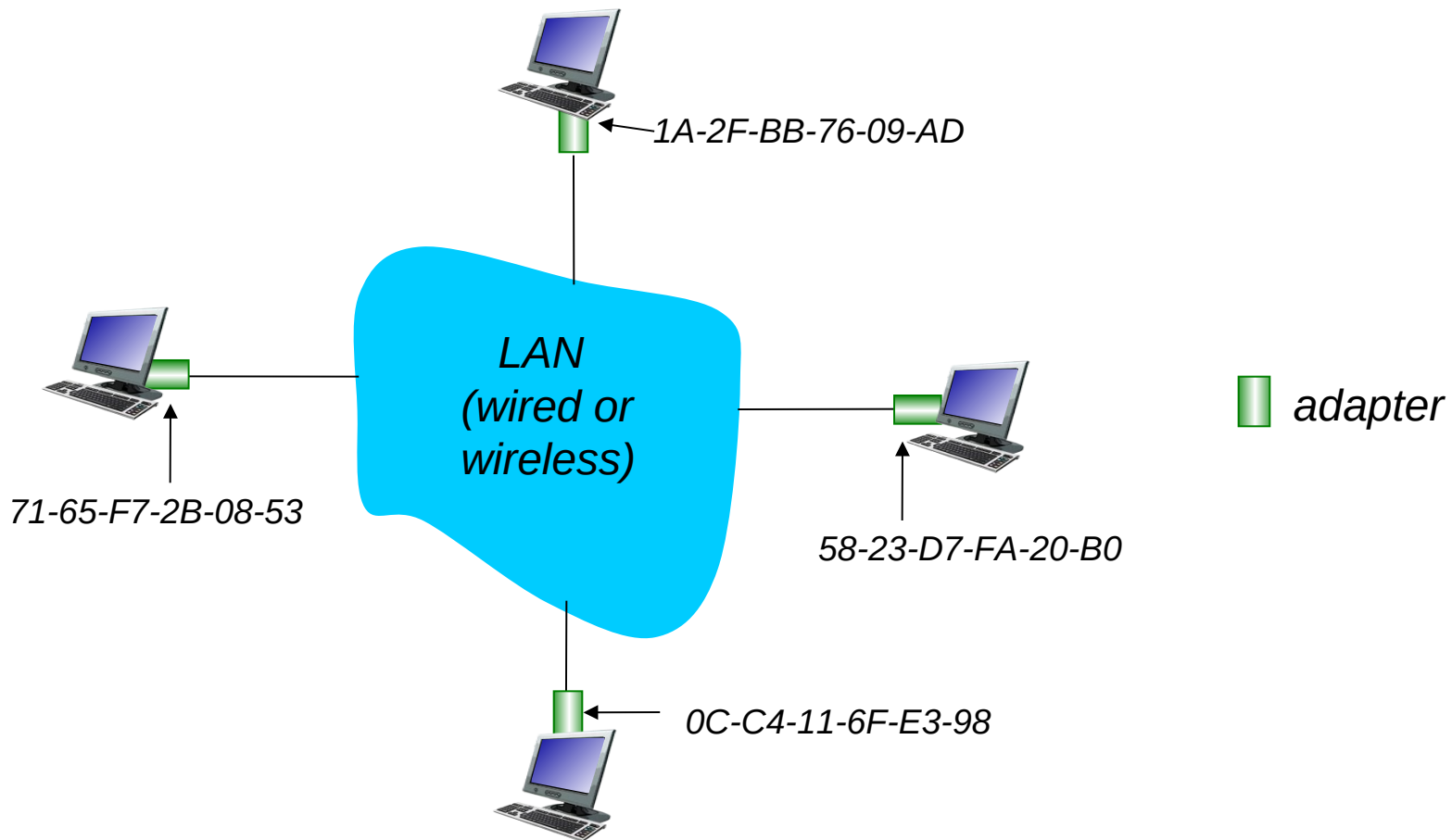
- ❖ *32-bit IP address:*
 - *network-layer address for interface*
 - *used for layer 3 (network layer) forwarding*
- ❖ *MAC (or LAN or physical or Ethernet) address:*
 - *function: used 'locally' to get frame from one interface to another physically-connected interface (same network, in IP-addressing sense)*
 - *48 bit MAC address (for most LANs) burned in NIC ROM, also sometimes software settable*
 - *e.g.: 1A-2F-BB-76-09-AD*

/

*hexadecimal (base 16) notation
(each "number" represents 4 bits)*

LAN addresses and ARP

each adapter on LAN has unique **LAN** address



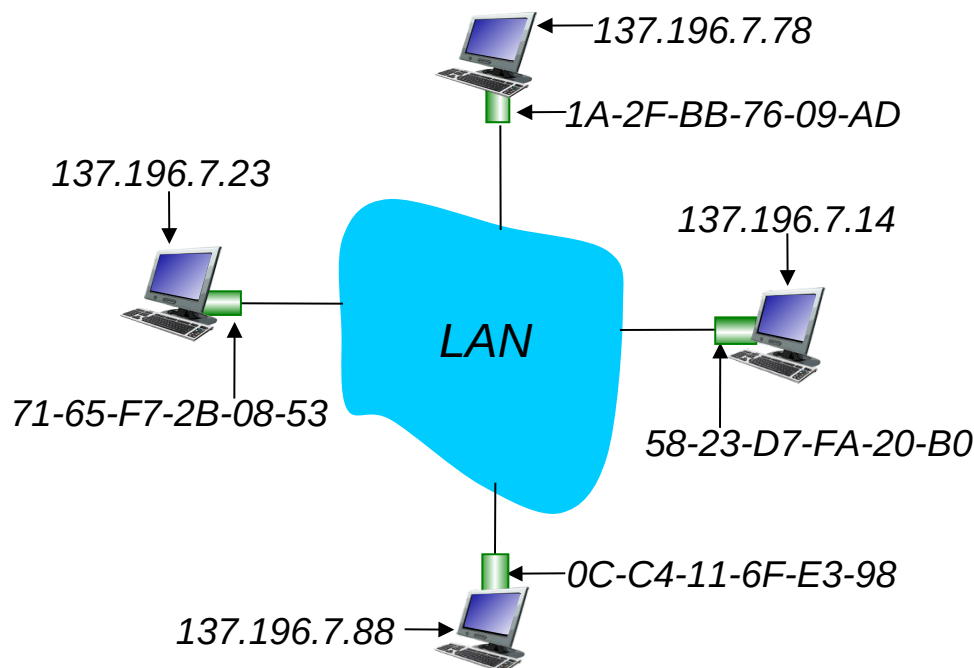
LAN addresses (more)

- ❖ *MAC address allocation administered by IEEE*
- ❖ *manufacturer buys portion of MAC address space (to assure uniqueness)*
- ❖ *analogy:*
 - *MAC address: like Fiscal Code*
 - *IP address: like postal address*
- ❖ *MAC flat address → portability*
 - *can move LAN card from one LAN to another*
- ❖ *IP hierarchical address not portable*
 - *address depends on IP subnet to which node is attached*

ARP: address resolution protocol

Question: how to determine interface's MAC address, knowing its IP address?

ARP table: each IP node (host, router) on LAN has table



- IP/MAC address mappings for some LAN nodes:

< IP address; MAC address; TTL >

- TTL (Time To Live): time after which address mapping will be forgotten (typically 20 min)

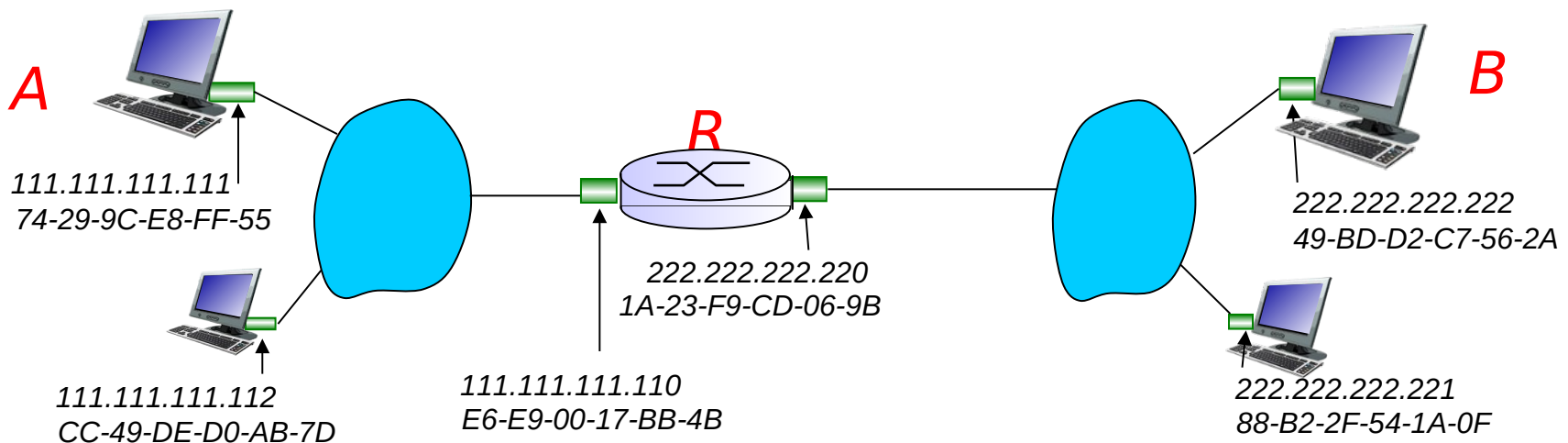
ARP protocol: same LAN

- ❖ *A wants to send datagram to B*
 - *B's MAC address not in A's ARP table.*
- ❖ *A **broadcasts** ARP query packet, containing B's IP address*
 - *dest MAC address = FF-FF-FF-FF-FF*
 - *all nodes on LAN receive ARP query*
- ❖ *B receives ARP packet, replies to A with its (B's) MAC address*
 - *frame sent to A's MAC address (unicast)*
- ❖ *A caches (saves) IP-to-MAC address pair in its ARP table until information becomes old (times out)*
 - *soft state: information that times out (goes away) unless refreshed*
- ❖ *ARP is “plug-and-play”:*
 - *nodes create their ARP tables without intervention from net administrator*

Addressing: routing to another LAN

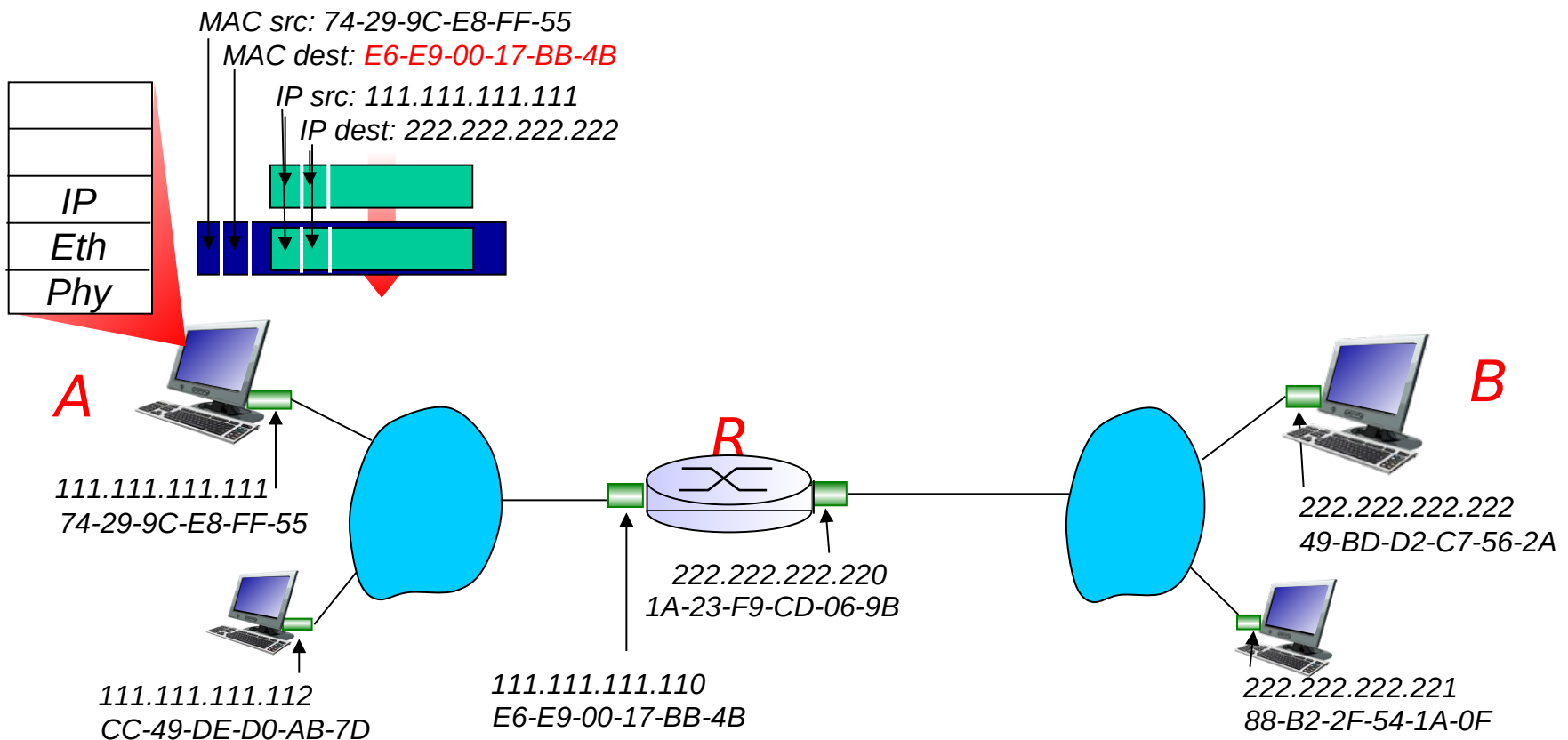
walkthrough: *send datagram from A to B via R*

- focus on addressing – at IP (datagram) and MAC layer (frame)
- assume A knows B's IP address
- assume A knows IP address of first hop router, R (how?)
- assume A knows R's MAC address (how?)



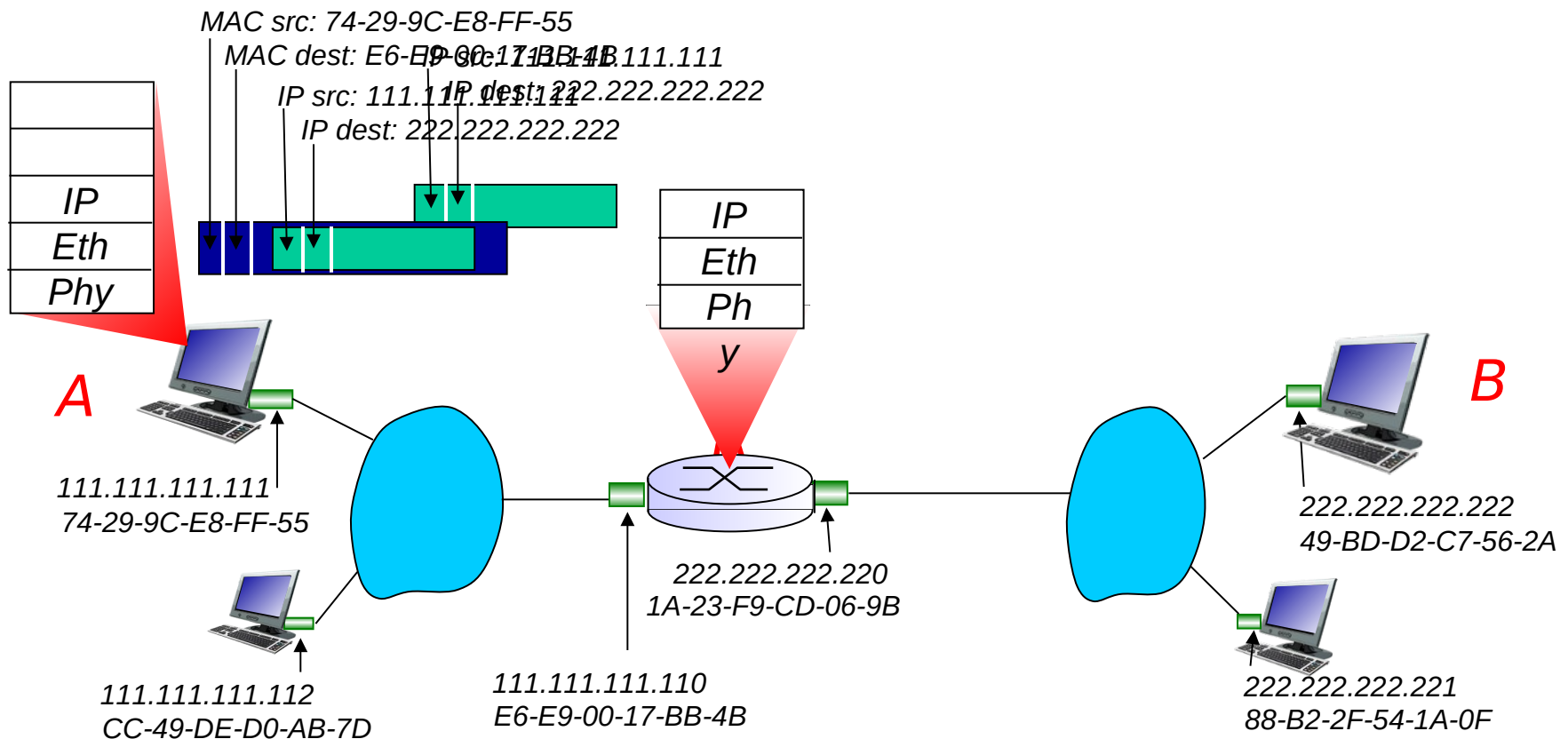
Addressing: routing to another LAN

- ❖ A creates IP datagram with IP source A, destination B
- ❖ A creates link-layer frame with R's MAC address as dest, frame contains A-to-B IP datagram



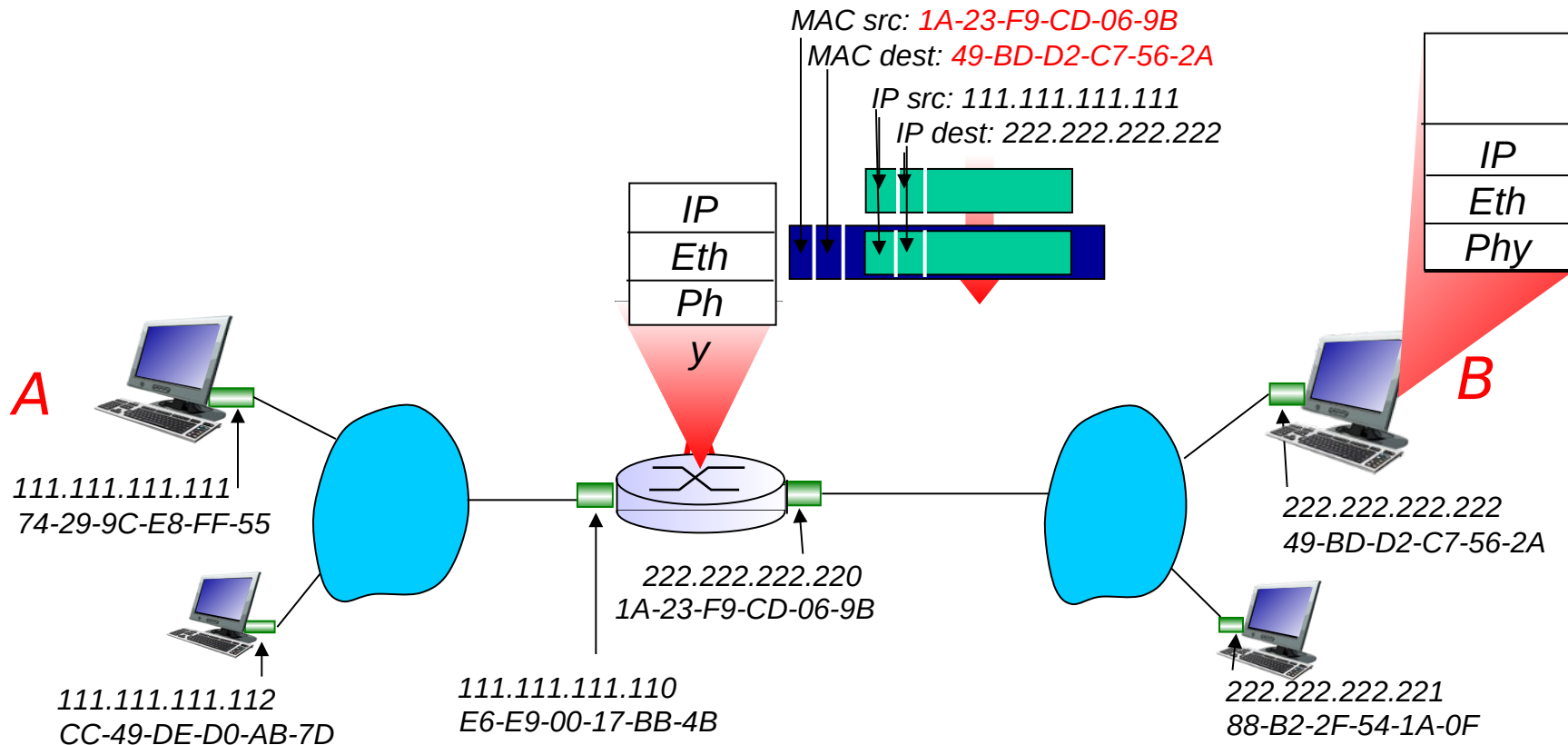
Addressing: routing to another LAN

- ❖ frame sent from A to R
- ❖ frame received at R, datagram removed, passed up to IP



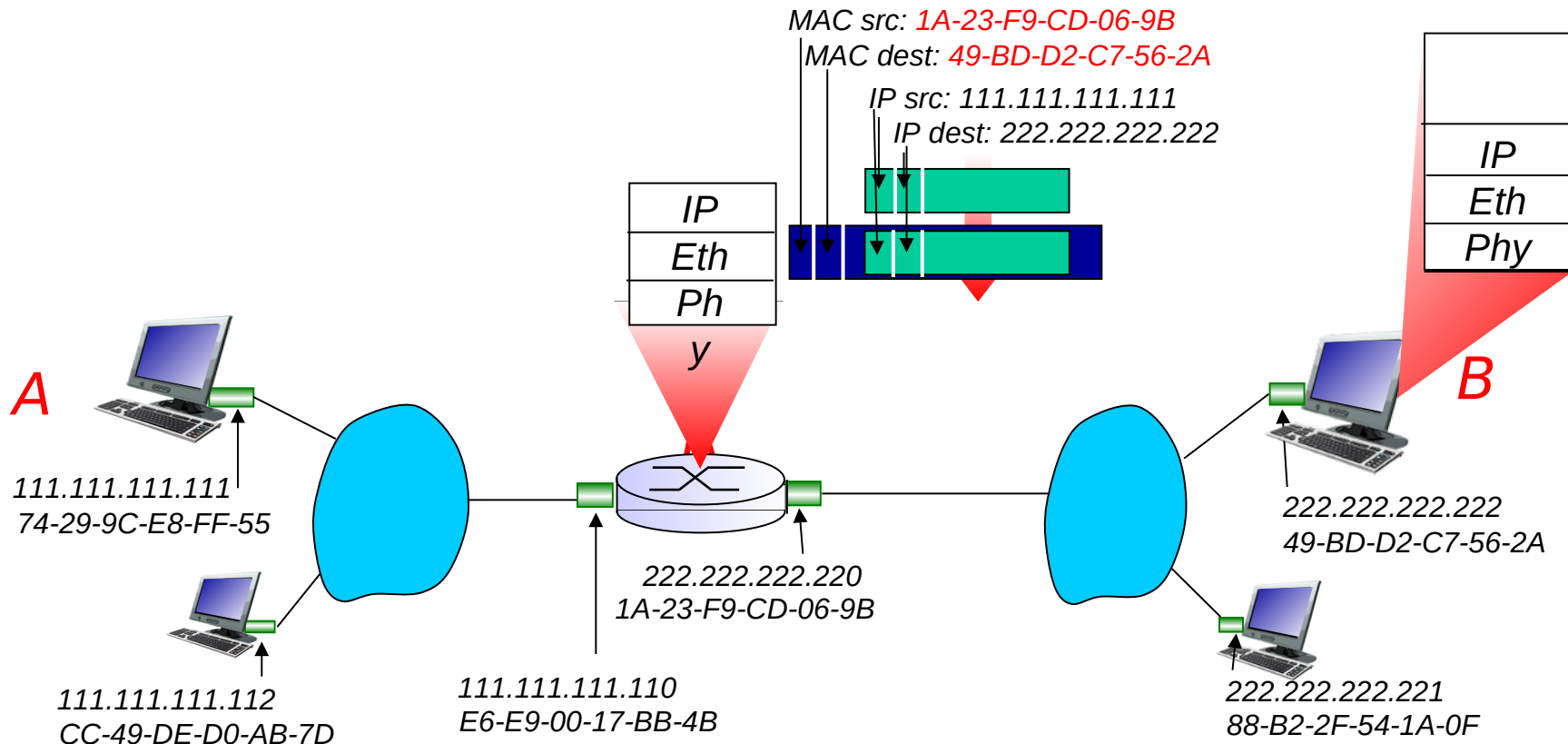
Addressing: routing to another LAN

- ❖ *R forwards datagram with IP source A, destination B*
- ❖ *R creates link-layer frame with B's MAC address as dest, frame contains A-to-B IP datagram*



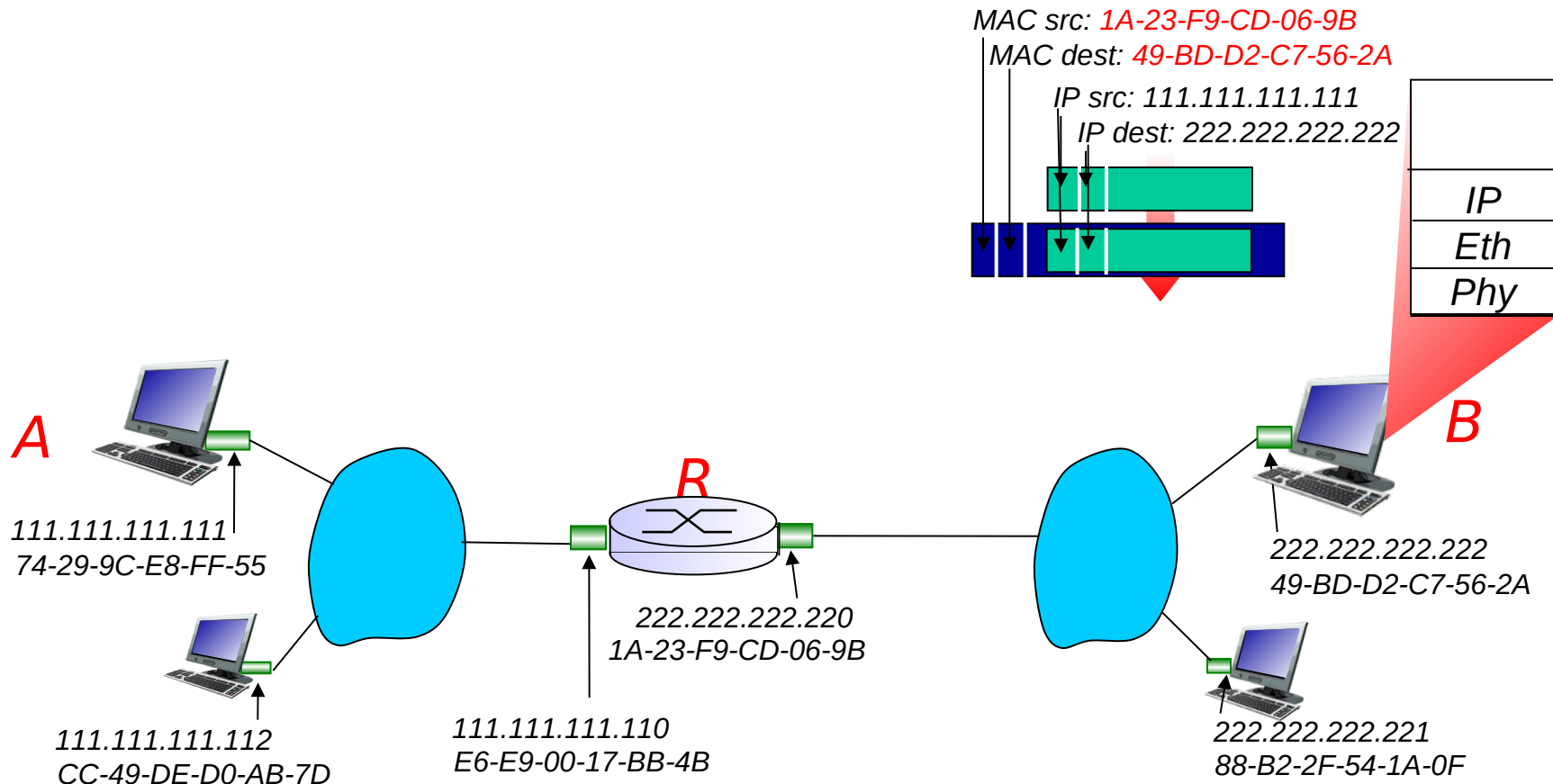
Addressing: routing to another LAN

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Addressing: routing to another LAN

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Link layer, LANs: outline

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*5.2 error detection,
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*5.3 multiple access
protocols*

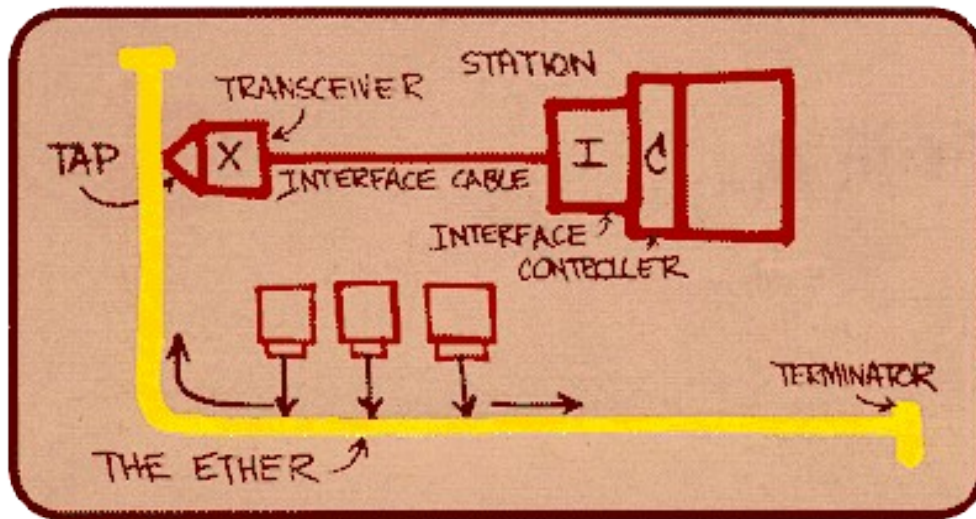
5.4 LANs

- addressing, ARP
- *Ethernet*
- Switches
- VLANs

Ethernet

“dominant” wired LAN technology:

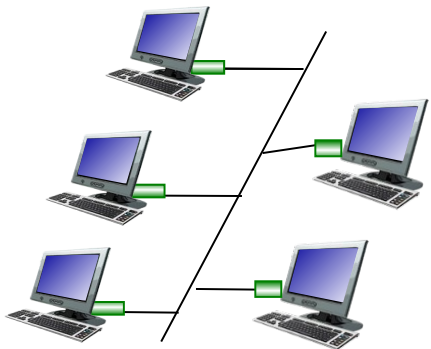
- ❖ *Cheap for NIC*
- ❖ *first widely used LAN technology*
- ❖ *simpler, cheaper than token ring LANs*
- ❖ *kept up with speed race: 10 Mbps – 10 Gbps*



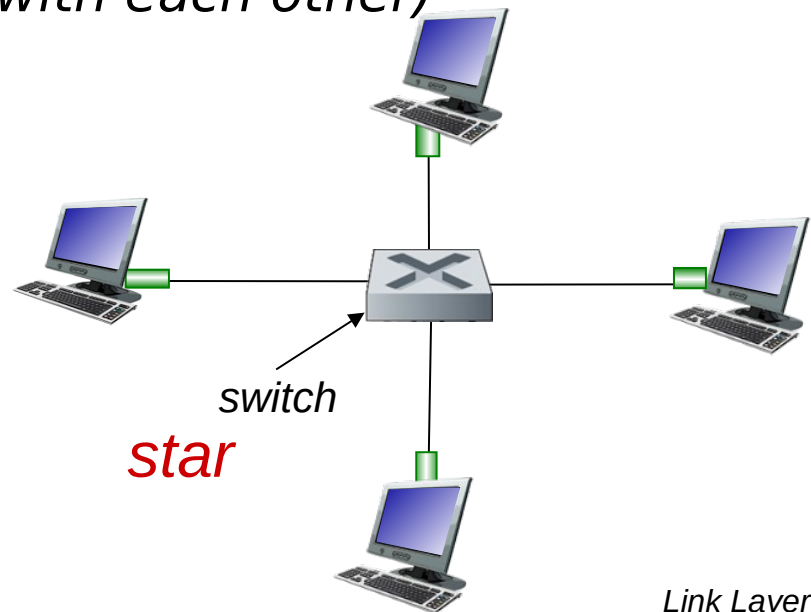
Metcalfe's Ethernet sketch

Ethernet: physical topology

- ❖ **bus**: popular through mid 90s
 - all nodes in same collision domain (can collide with each other)
- ❖ **star**: prevails today
 - Earlier: **hub** in center (can collide)
 - Now: active **switch** in center
 - each “spoke” runs a (separate) Ethernet protocol (nodes do not collide with each other)



bus: coaxial cable



Ethernet frame structure

sending adapter encapsulates IP datagram (or other network layer protocol packet) in *Ethernet frame*



preamble:

- ❖ 7 bytes with pattern 10101010 followed by one byte with pattern 10101011
- ❖ used to synchronize receiver, sender clock rates

Ethernet frame structure (more)

- ❖ **addresses:** 6 byte source, destination MAC addresses
 - if adapter receives frame with matching destination address, or with broadcast address (e.g. ARP packet), it passes data in frame to network layer protocol
 - otherwise, adapter discards frame
- ❖ **type:** indicates higher layer protocol (mostly IP but others possible, e.g., Novell IPX, AppleTalk)
- ❖ **CRC:** cyclic redundancy check at receiver
 - error detected: frame is dropped

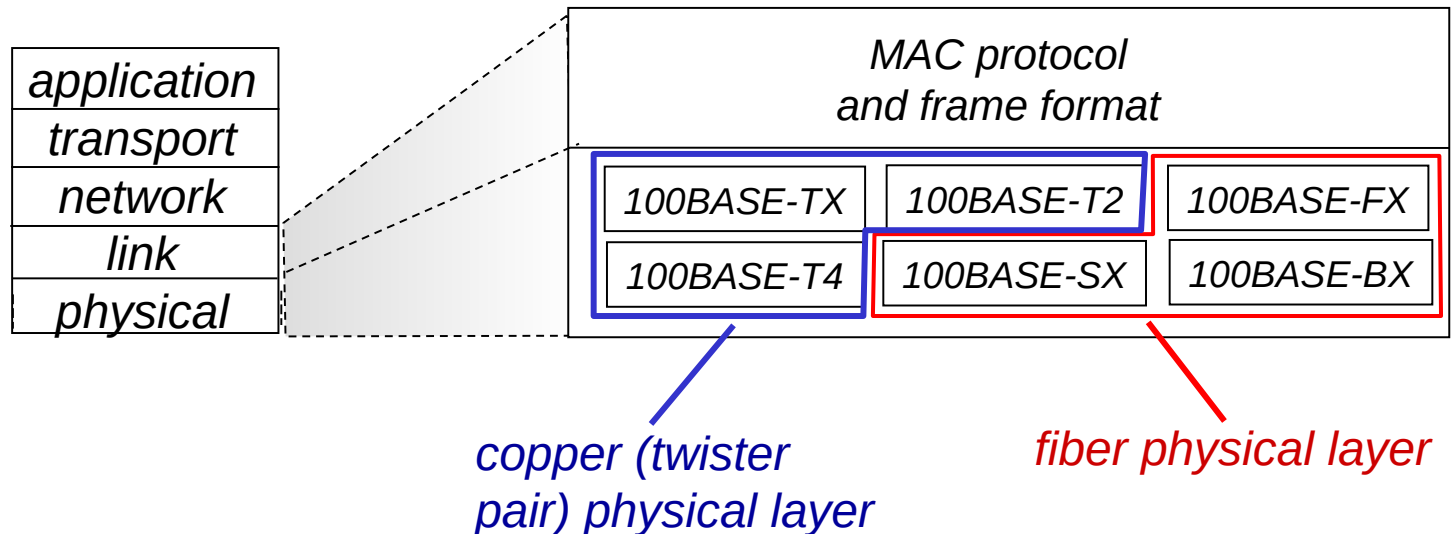


Ethernet: unreliable, connectionless

- ❖ *connectionless*: no handshaking between sending and receiving NICs
- ❖ *unreliable*: receiving NIC doesn't send acks or nacks to sending NIC
 - data in dropped frames recovered only if initial sender uses higher layer rdt (e.g., TCP), otherwise dropped data lost
- ❖ Ethernet's MAC protocol: unslotted *CSMA/CD with binary backoff*

802.3 Ethernet standards: link & physical layers

- ❖ *many* different Ethernet standards
 - common MAC protocol and frame format
 - different speeds: 2 Mbps, 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 1Gbps, 10G bps
 - different physical layer media: fiber, cable



Link layer, LANs: outline

*5.1 introduction,
services*

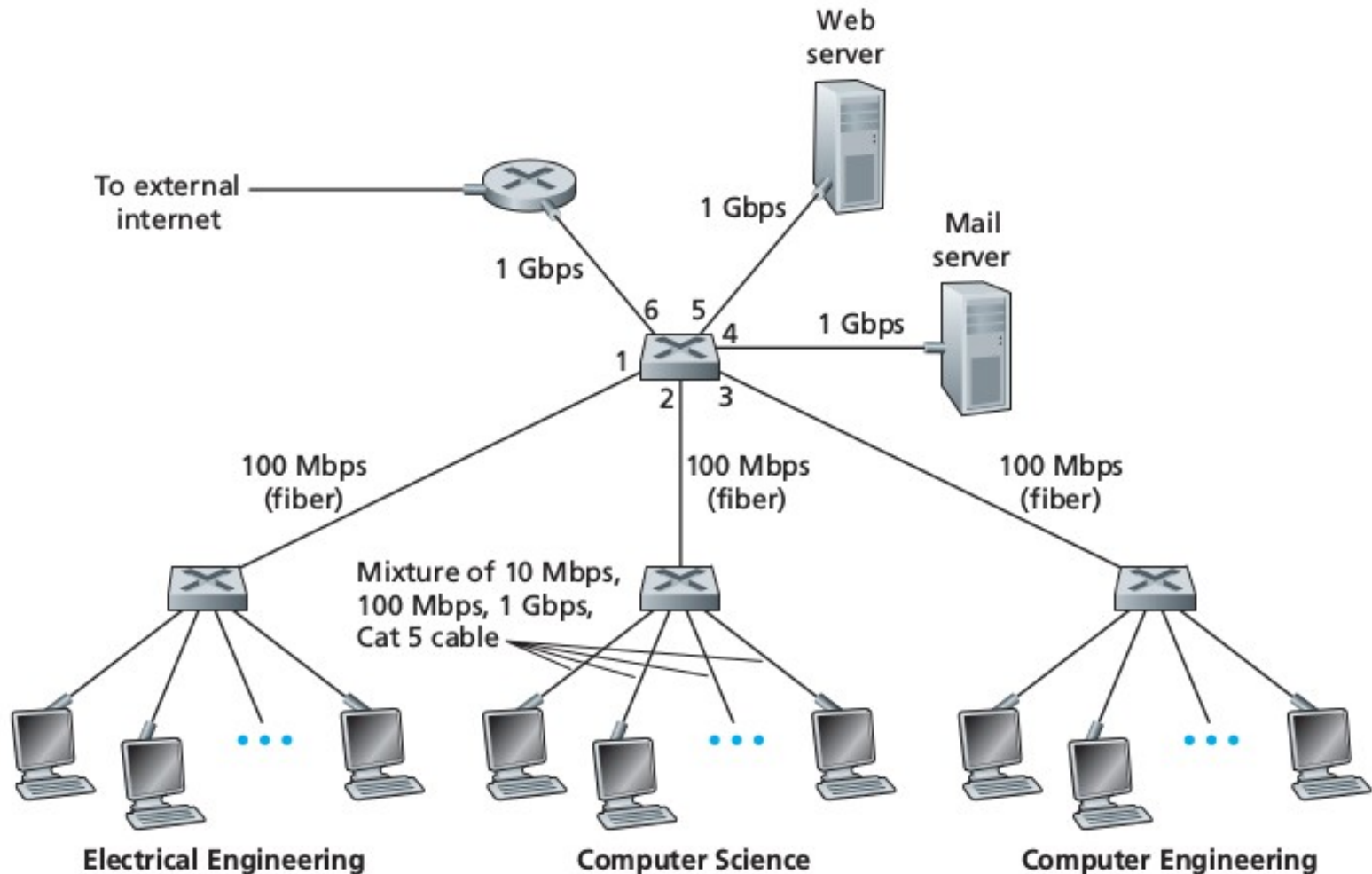
*5.2 error detection,
correction*

*5.3 multiple access
protocols*

5.4 LANs

- addressing, ARP
- Ethernet
- *Switches*
- VLANs

Switched network, an example

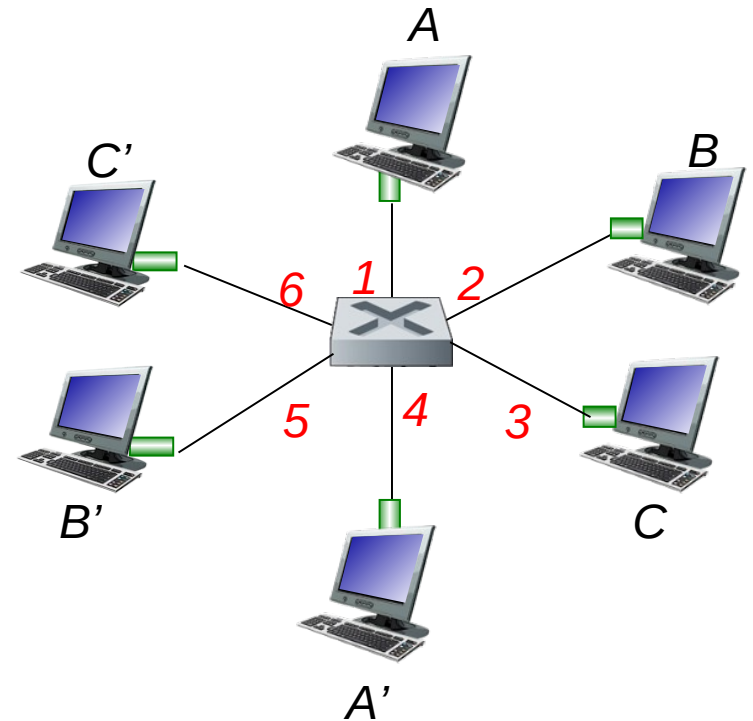


Ethernet switch

- ❖ *link-layer device: takes an active role*
 - store, forward Ethernet frames
 - examine incoming frame's MAC address, *selectively* forward frame to one-or-more outgoing links when frame is to be forwarded on segment
- ❖ *transparent*
 - hosts are unaware of presence of switches
- ❖ *plug-and-play, self-learning*
 - switches do not need to be configured

Switch: multiple simultaneous transmissions

- ❖ *hosts have dedicated, direct connection to switch*
- ❖ *switches buffer packets*
- ❖ *Ethernet protocol used on each incoming link, but no collisions; full duplex*
 - *each link is its own collision domain*
- ❖ **switching:** *A-to-A' and B-to-B' can transmit simultaneously, without collisions*



switch with six interfaces
(1,2,3,4,5,6)

Switch forwarding table

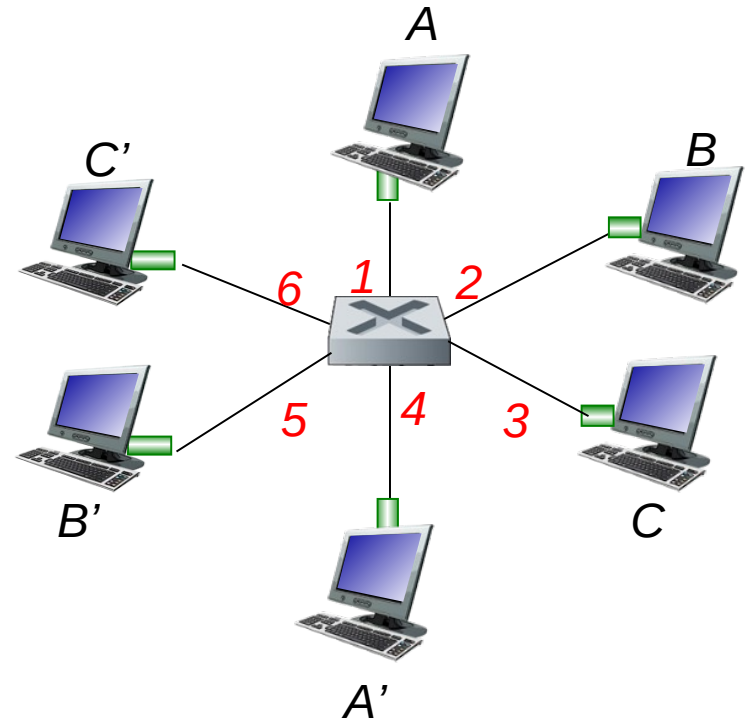
Q: how does switch know A' reachable via interface 4, B' reachable via interface 5?

❖ A: each switch has a **switch table**, each entry:

- (MAC address of host, interface to reach host, time stamp)
- looks like a routing table!

Q: how are entries created, maintained in switch table?

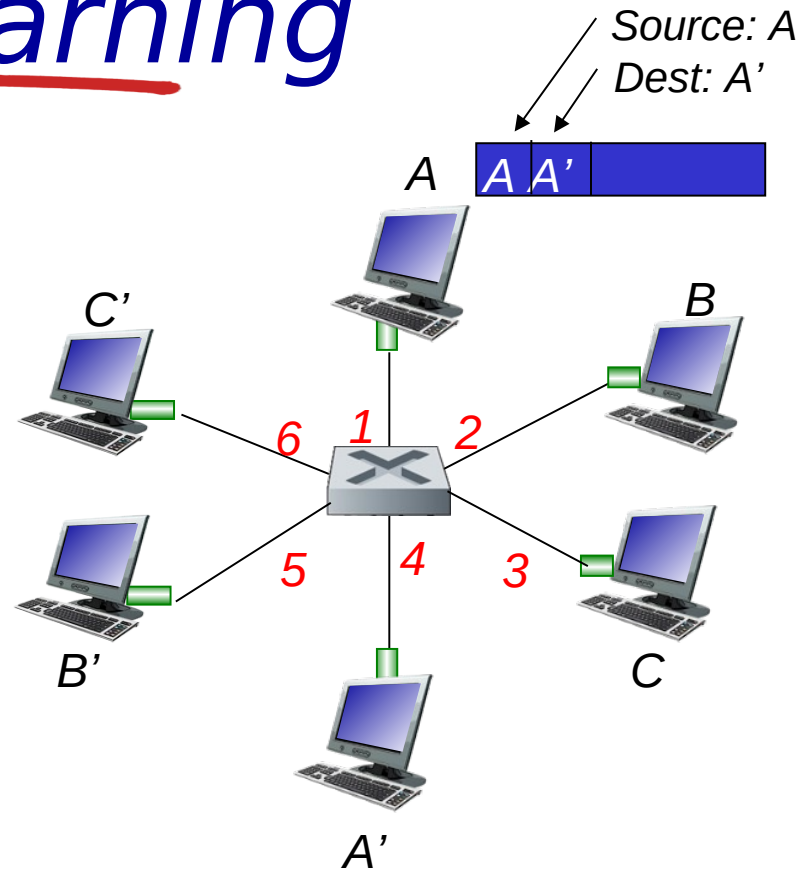
- something like a routing protocol?



switch with six interfaces
(1,2,3,4,5,6)

Switch: self-learning

- ❖ switch *learns* which hosts can be reached through which interfaces
 - when frame received, switch “learns” location of sender: incoming LAN segment
 - records sender/location pair in switch table



MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60

Switch table
(initially empty)

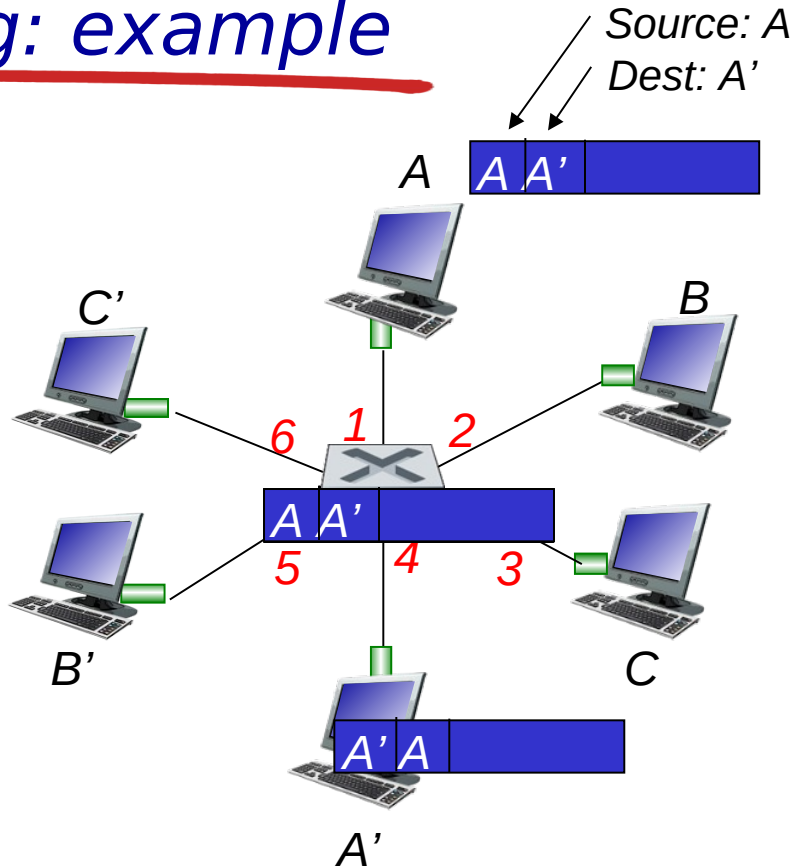
Switch: frame filtering/forwarding

when frame received at switch:

- 1. record incoming link, MAC address of sending host*
- 2. index switch table using MAC destination address*
- 3. if entry found for destination
 then {
 if destination on segment from which frame arrived
 then drop frame
 else forward frame on interface indicated by entry
 }
 else flood /* forward on all interfaces except arriving
 interface */*

Self-learning, forwarding: example

- ❖ frame destination, A', location unknown: *flood*
- ❖ destination A location known: *selectively send on just one link*

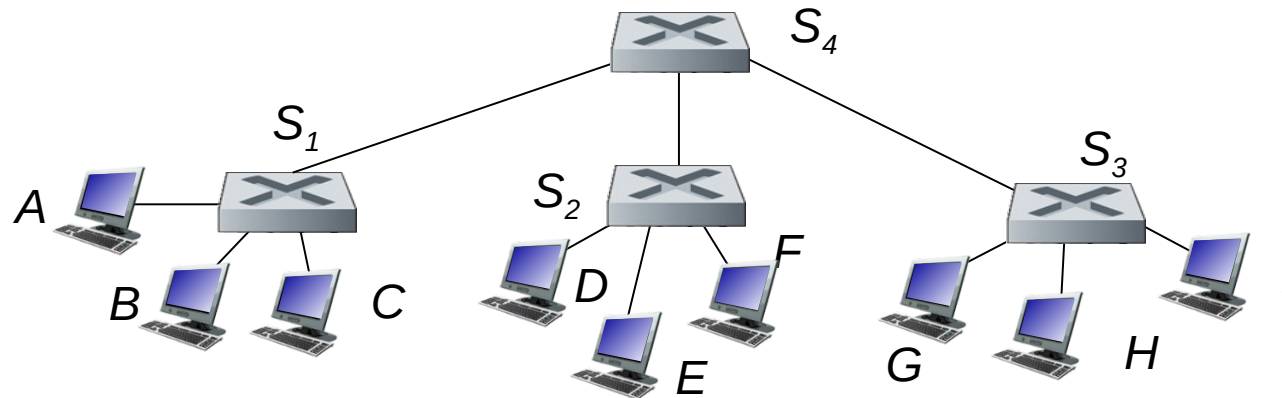


MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60
A'	4	60

switch table
(initially empty)

Interconnecting switches

- ❖ *switches can be connected together*

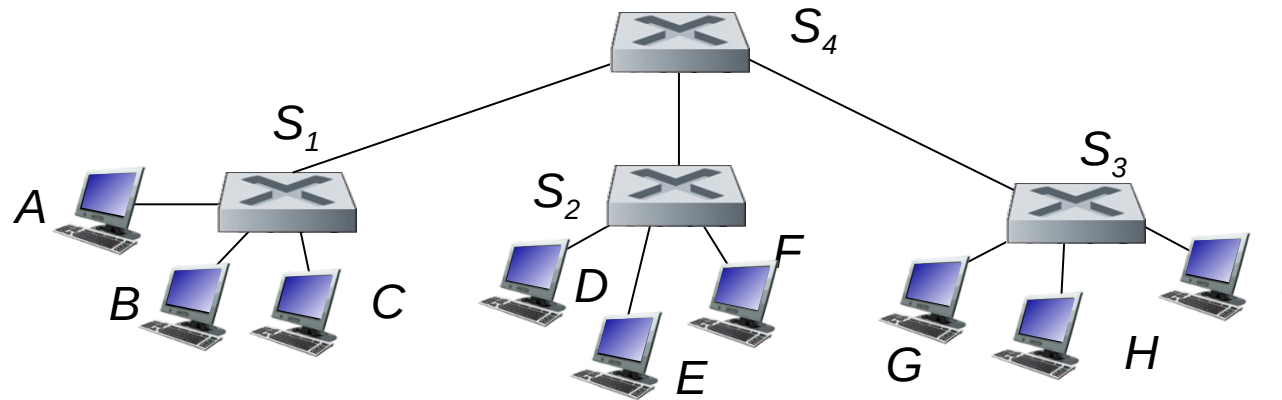


Q: sending from A to G - how does S_1 know to forward frame destined to F via S_4 and S_3 ?

❖ A: self learning! (works exactly the same as in single-switch case!)

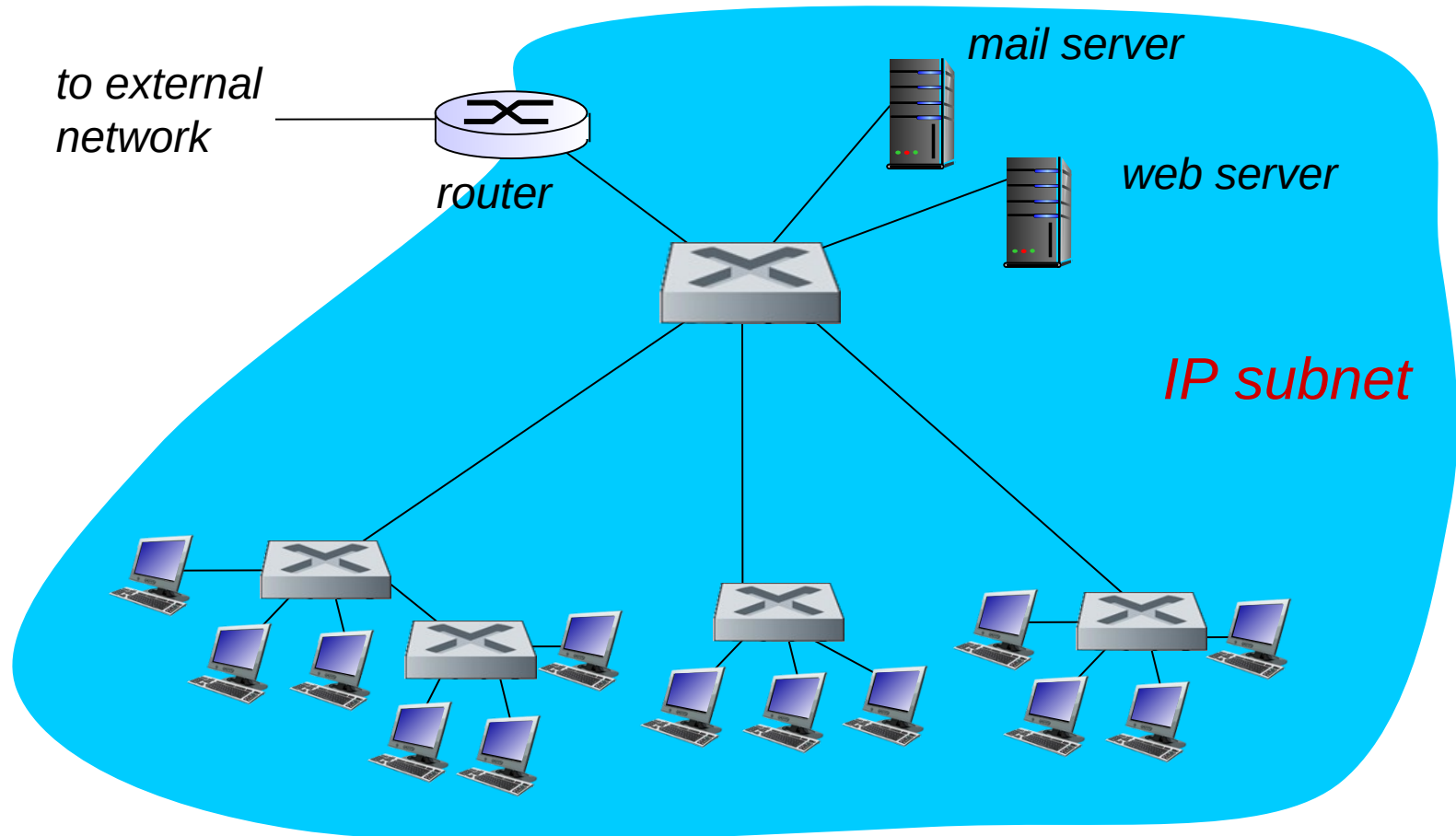
Self-learning multi-switch example

Suppose C sends frame to I, I responds to C



- ❖ Q: show switch tables and packet forwarding in S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4

Institutional network



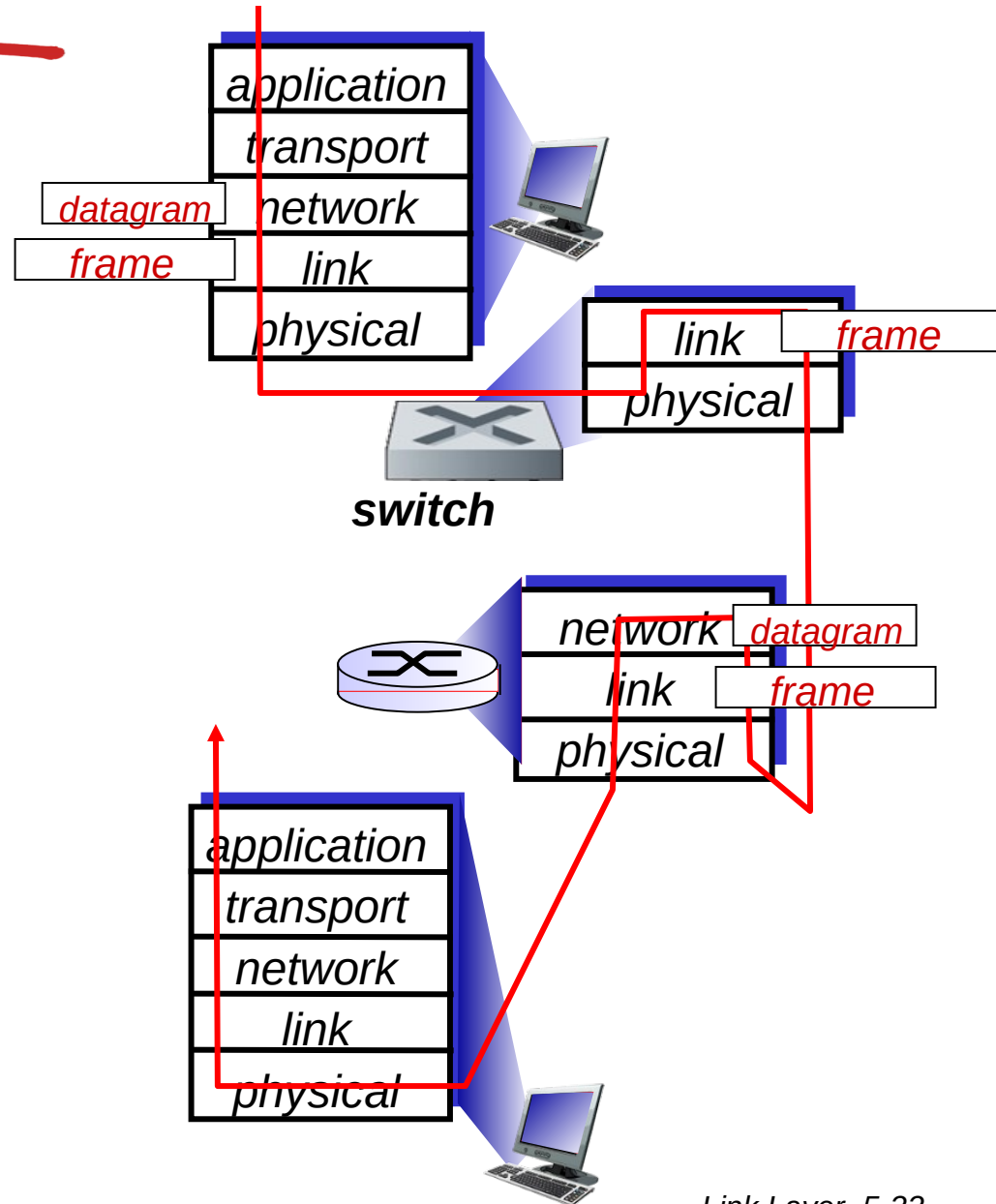
Switches vs. routers

both are store-and-forward:

- **routers:** network-layer devices (examine network-layer headers)
- **switches:** link-layer devices (examine link-layer headers)

both have forwarding tables:

- **routers:** compute tables using routing algorithms, IP addresses
- **switches:** learn forwarding table using flooding, learning, MAC addresses



Link layer, LANs: outline

*5.1 introduction,
services*

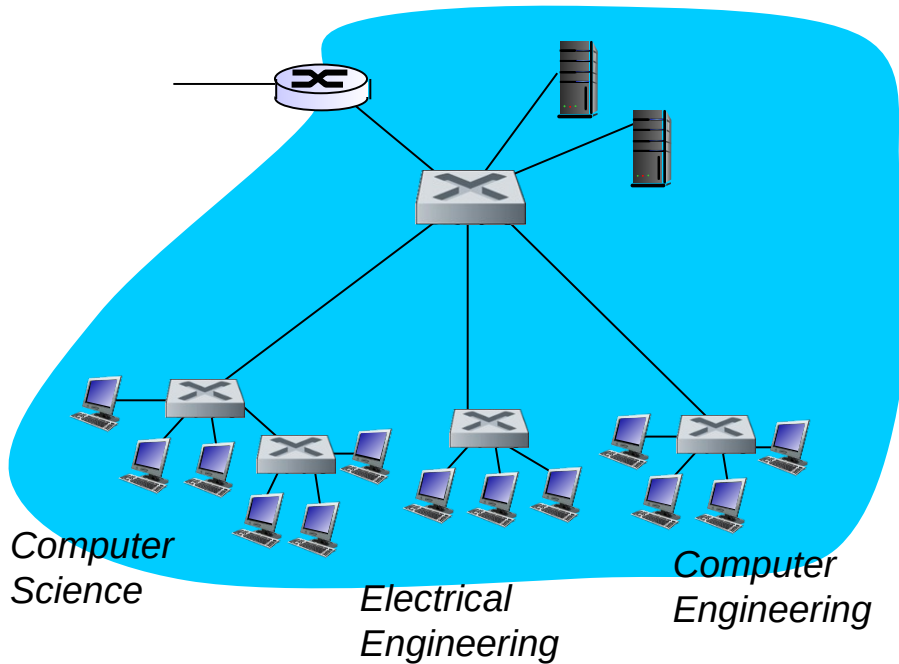
*5.2 error detection,
correction*

*5.3 multiple access
protocols*

5.4 LANs

- addressing, ARP
- Ethernet
- Switches
- **VLANs**

VLANs: motivation



consider:

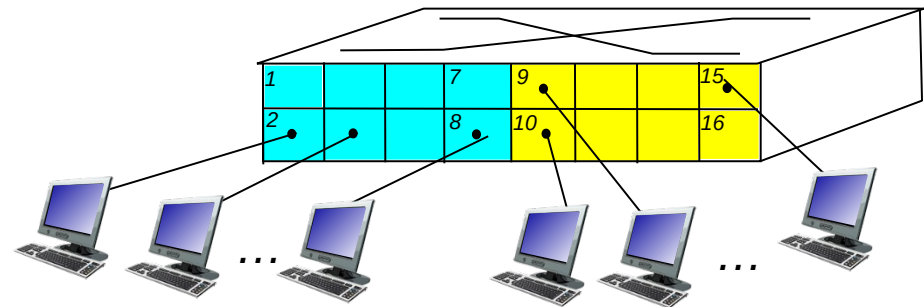
- ❖ *CS user moves office to EE, but wants connect to CS switch?*
- ❖ *single broadcast domain:*
 - *all layer-2 broadcast traffic (ARP, DHCP, unknown location of destination MAC address) must cross entire LAN*
 - *security/privacy, efficiency issues*

VLANs

Virtual Local Area Network

switch(es) supporting VLAN capabilities can be configured to define multiple **virtual** LANS over single physical LAN infrastructure.

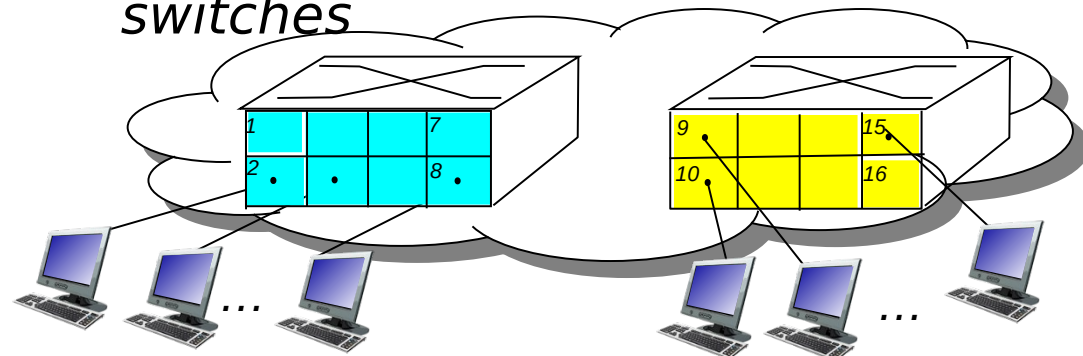
port-based VLAN: switch ports grouped (by switch management software) so that **single** physical switch



Electrical Engineering
(VLAN ports 1-8)

Computer Science
(VLAN ports 9-15)

... operates as **multiple** virtual switches

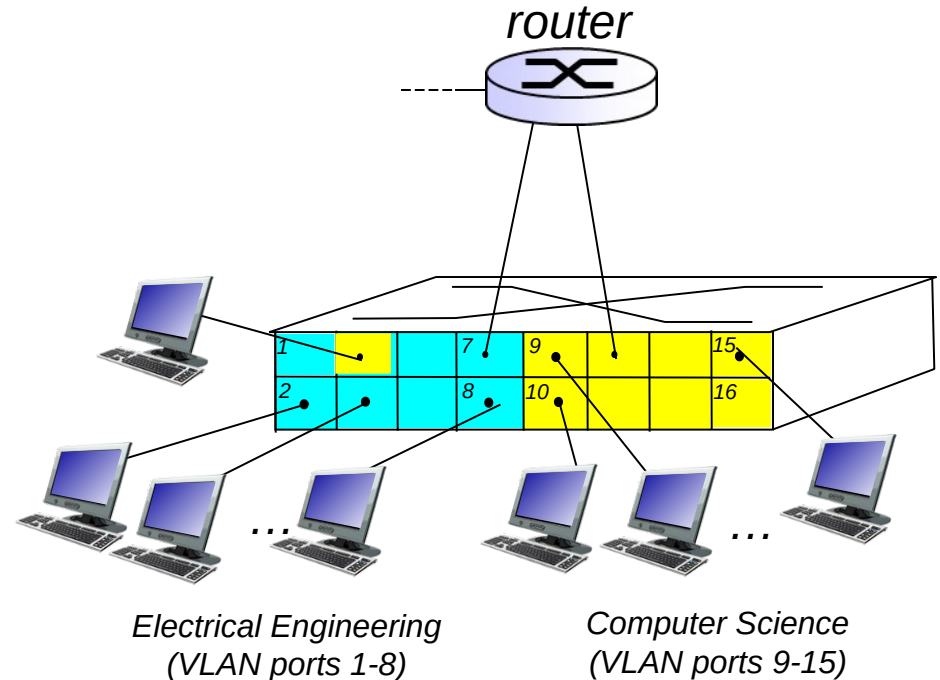


Electrical Engineering
(VLAN ports 1-8)

Computer Science
(VLAN ports 9-16)

Port-based VLAN

- ❖ **traffic isolation:** frames to/from ports 1-8 can only reach ports 1-8
 - can also define VLAN based on MAC addresses of endpoints, rather than switch port
- ❖ **dynamic membership:** ports can be dynamically assigned among VLANs
- ❖ **forwarding between VLANs:** done via routing (just as with separate switches)
 - in practice vendors sell combined switches plus routers



Port-based VLAN

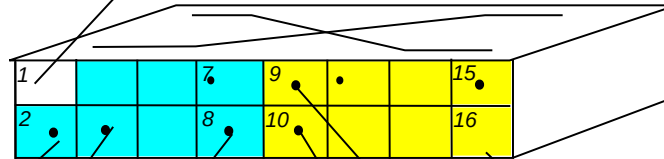
Router with two sub-interfaces

R1:111.111.1.0

R2:111.111.2.0

R':b4:39:d6:fe:e6:00

MAC src: S'
MAC dest: R'
IP src: S
IP dest D



S: 111.111.1.1
S':11-15-C1-12-21-14

111.111.1.2

111.111.1.3

Electrical Engineering
(VLAN ports 1-8)
VLAN ID 11

111.111.2.1

111.111.2.2

D: 111.111.2.3

D':13-15-A4-34-78-11

Computer Science
(VLAN ports 9-15)
VLAN ID 12

Port-based VLAN

Router

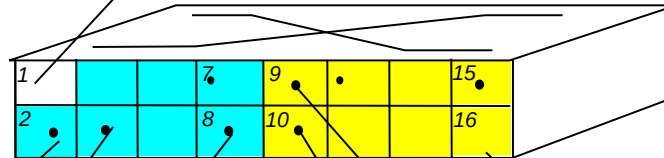
R1:111.111.1.0

R2:111.111.2.0

R':b4:39:d6:fe:e6:00

MAC src: R'
MAC dest: D' **VLAN ID12**

IP src: S
IP dest D



S: 111.111.1.1
S':11-15-C1-12-21-14

111.111.1.2

111.111.1.3

Electrical Engineering
(VLAN ports 1-8)
VLAN ID 11

...

111.111.2.1

111.111.2.2

D: 111.111.2.3

D':13-15-A4-34-78-11

Computer Science
(VLAN ports 9-15)
VLAN ID 12

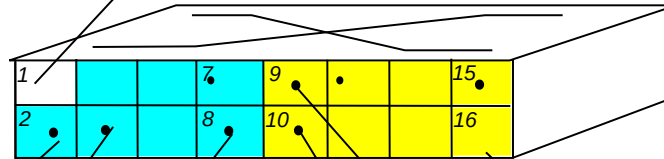
Port-based VLAN

Router

R1:111.111.1.0

R2:111.111.2.0

R':b4:39:d6:fe:e6:00



S: 111.111.1.1
S':11-15-C1-12-21-14

111.111.1.2

111.111.1.3

Electrical Engineering
(VLAN ports 1-8)
VLAN ID 11

...

D: 111.111.2.3

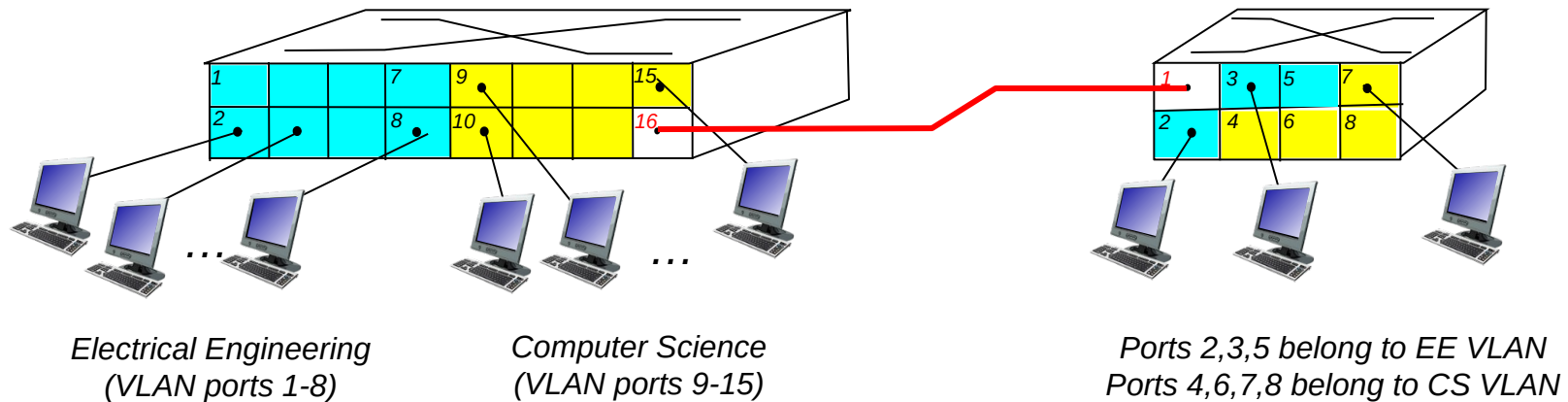
D':13-15-A4-34-78-11

Computer Science
(VLAN ports 9-15)
VLAN ID 12

- ❖ MAC src: R'
- ❖ MAC dest: D' **VLAN ID12**
- ❖ IP src: S
- ❖ IP dest D

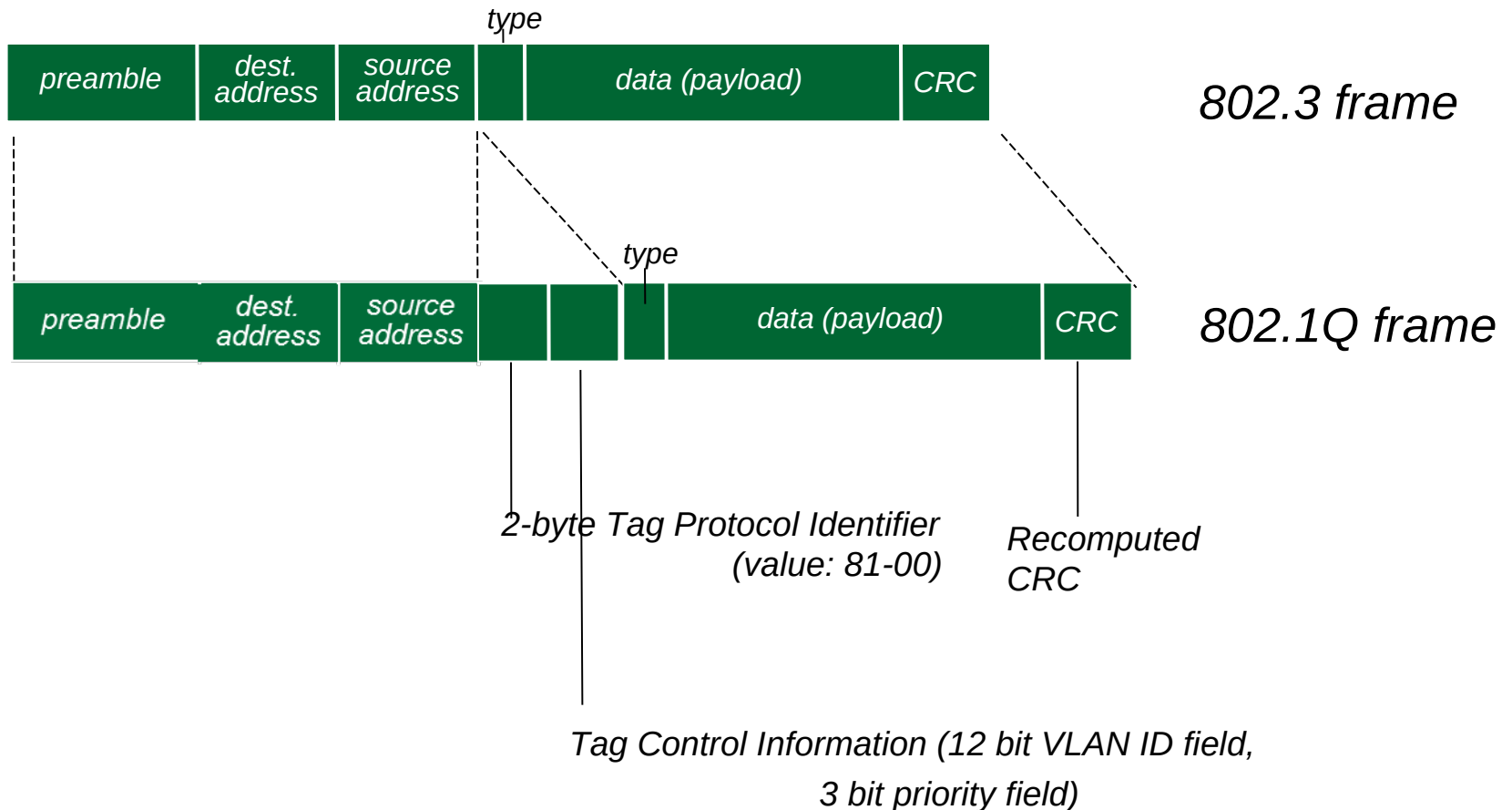


VLANs spanning multiple switches



- ❖ **trunk port:** carries frames between VLANs defined over multiple physical switches
 - frames forwarded within VLAN between switches can't be vanilla 802.1 frames (must carry VLAN ID info)
 - 802.1q protocol adds/removed additional header fields for frames forwarded between trunk ports

802.1Q VLAN frame format



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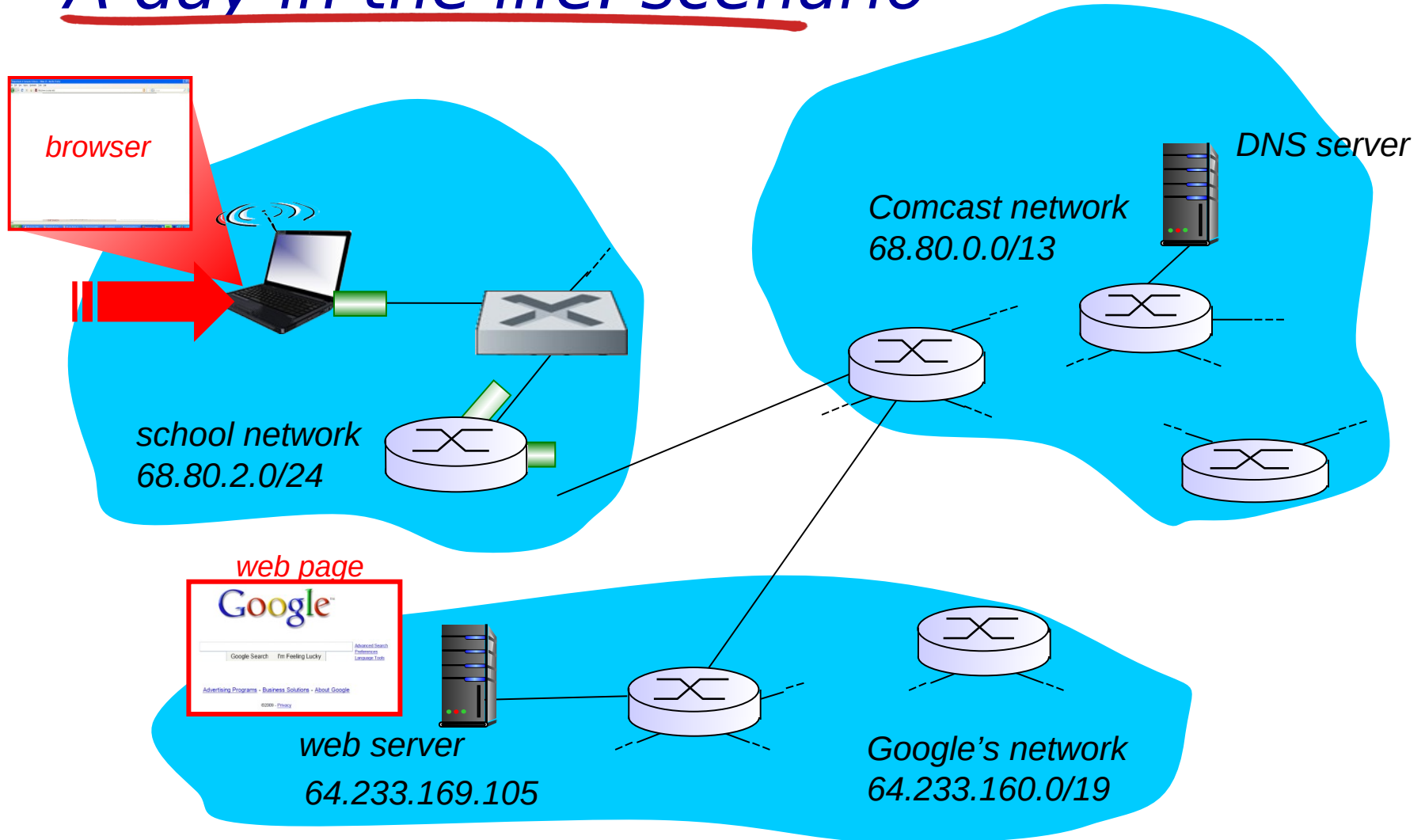
- *addressing, ARP*
- *Ethernet*
- *switches*
- *VLANs*

*5.6 a day in the life
of a web request*

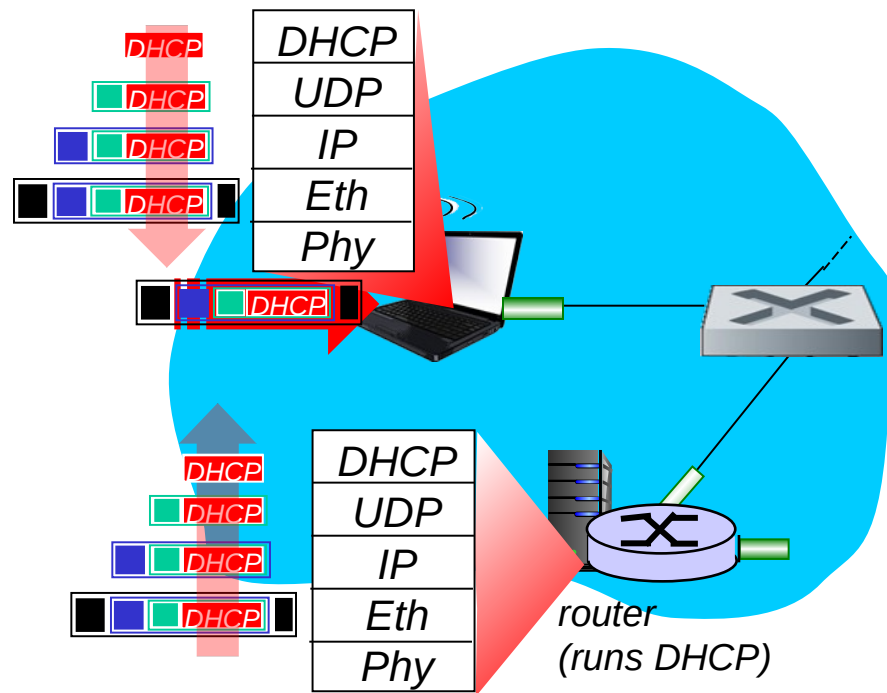
Synthesis: a day in the life of a web request

- ❖ *journey down protocol stack complete!*
 - *application, transport, network, link*
- ❖ *putting-it-all-together: synthesis!*
 - *goal: identify, review, understand protocols (at all layers) involved in seemingly simple scenario: requesting www page*
 - *scenario: student attaches laptop to campus network, requests/receives www.google.com*

A day in the life: scenario

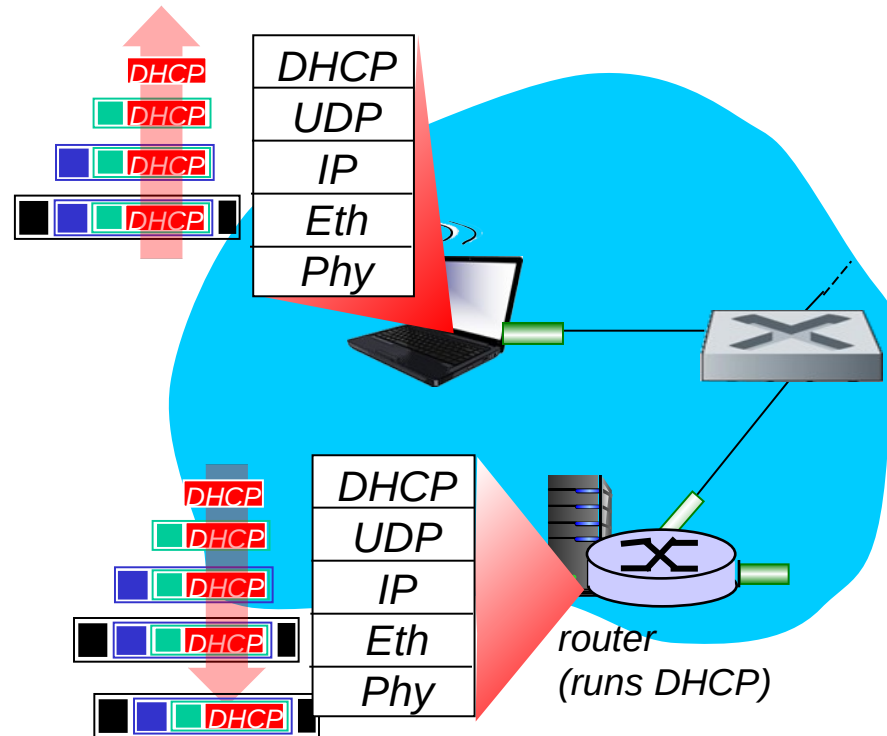


A day in the life... connecting to the Internet



- ❖ connecting laptop needs to get its own IP address, addr of first-hop router, addr of DNS server: use **DHCP**
- ❖ DHCP request **encapsulated** in **UDP**, encapsulated in **IP**, encapsulated in **802.3 Ethernet**
- ❖ Ethernet frame **broadcast** (dest: FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF) on LAN, received at router running **DHCP** server
- ❖ Ethernet **demuxed** to IP demuxed, UDP demuxed to DHCP

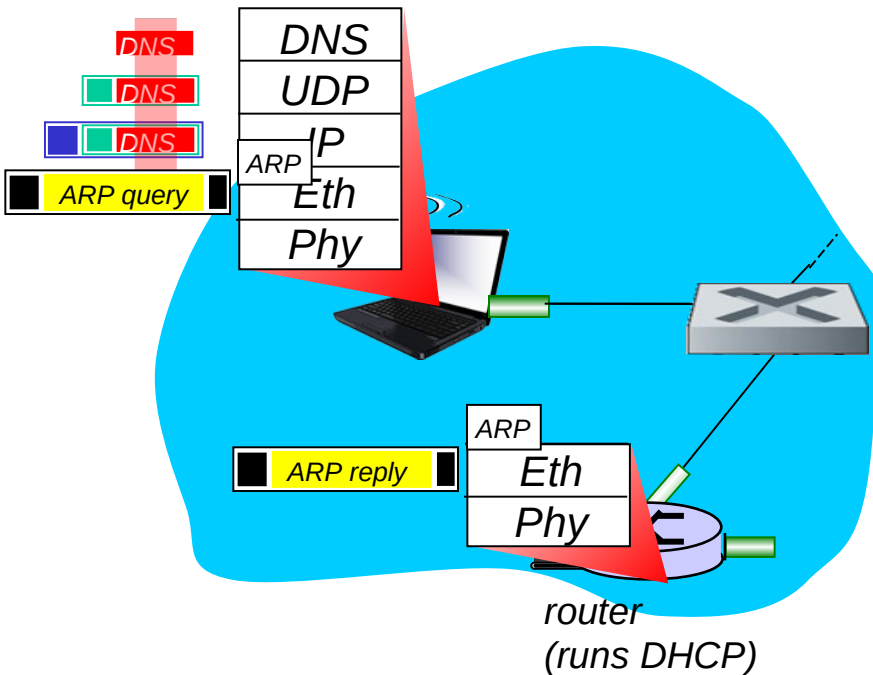
A day in the life... connecting to the Internet



- ❖ DHCP server formulates **DHCP ACK** containing client's IP address, IP address of first-hop router for client, name & IP address of DNS server
- ❖ encapsulation at DHCP server, frame forwarded (**switch learning**) through LAN, demultiplexing at client
- ❖ DHCP client receives DHCP ACK reply

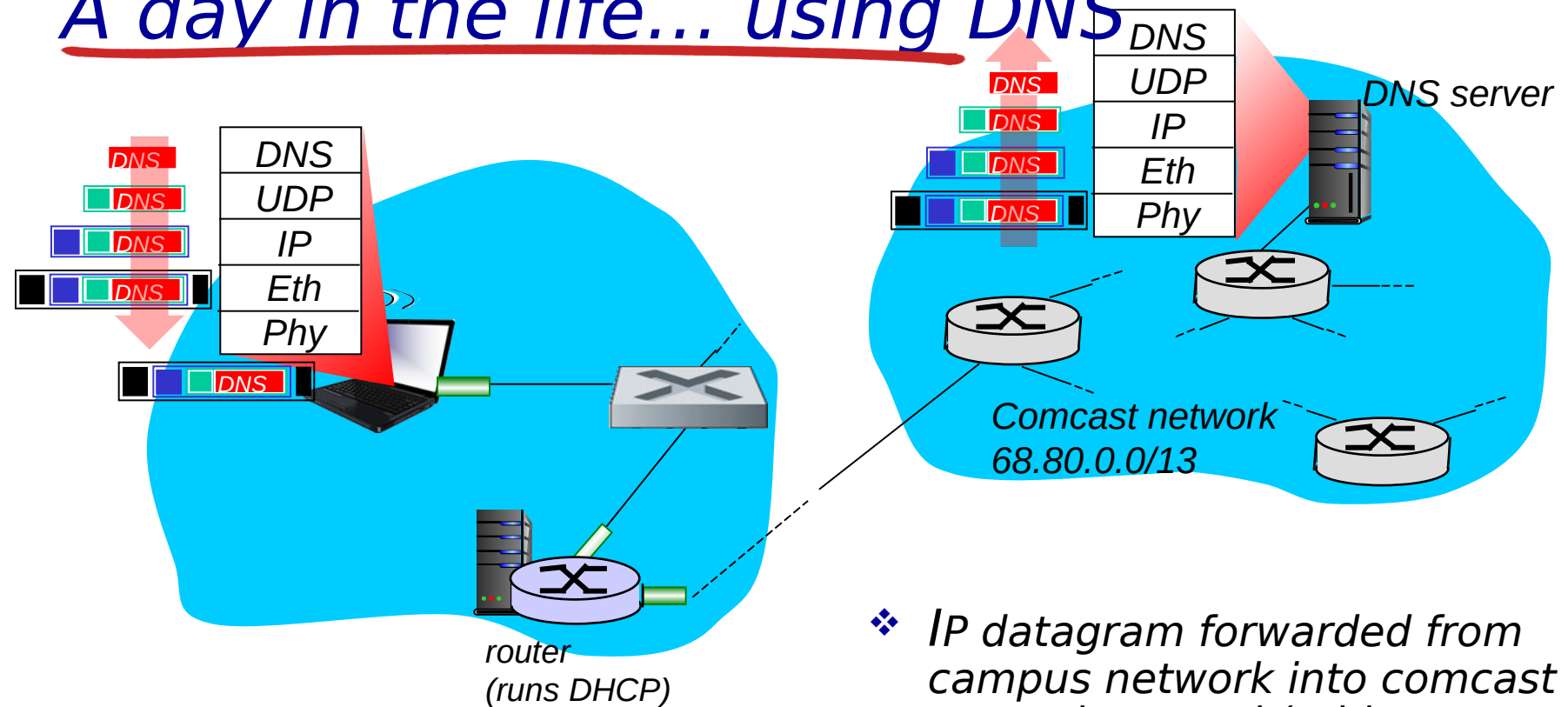
Client now has IP address, knows name & addr of DNS server, IP address of its first-hop router

A day in the life... ARP (before DNS, before HTTP)



- ❖ before sending **HTTP** request, need IP address of `www.google.com`: **DNS**
- ❖ DNS query created, encapsulated in UDP, encapsulated in IP, encapsulated in Eth. To send frame to router, need MAC address of router interface: **ARP**
- ❖ **ARP query** broadcast, received by router, which replies with **ARP reply** giving MAC address of router interface
- ❖ client now knows MAC address of first hop router, so can now send frame containing DNS query

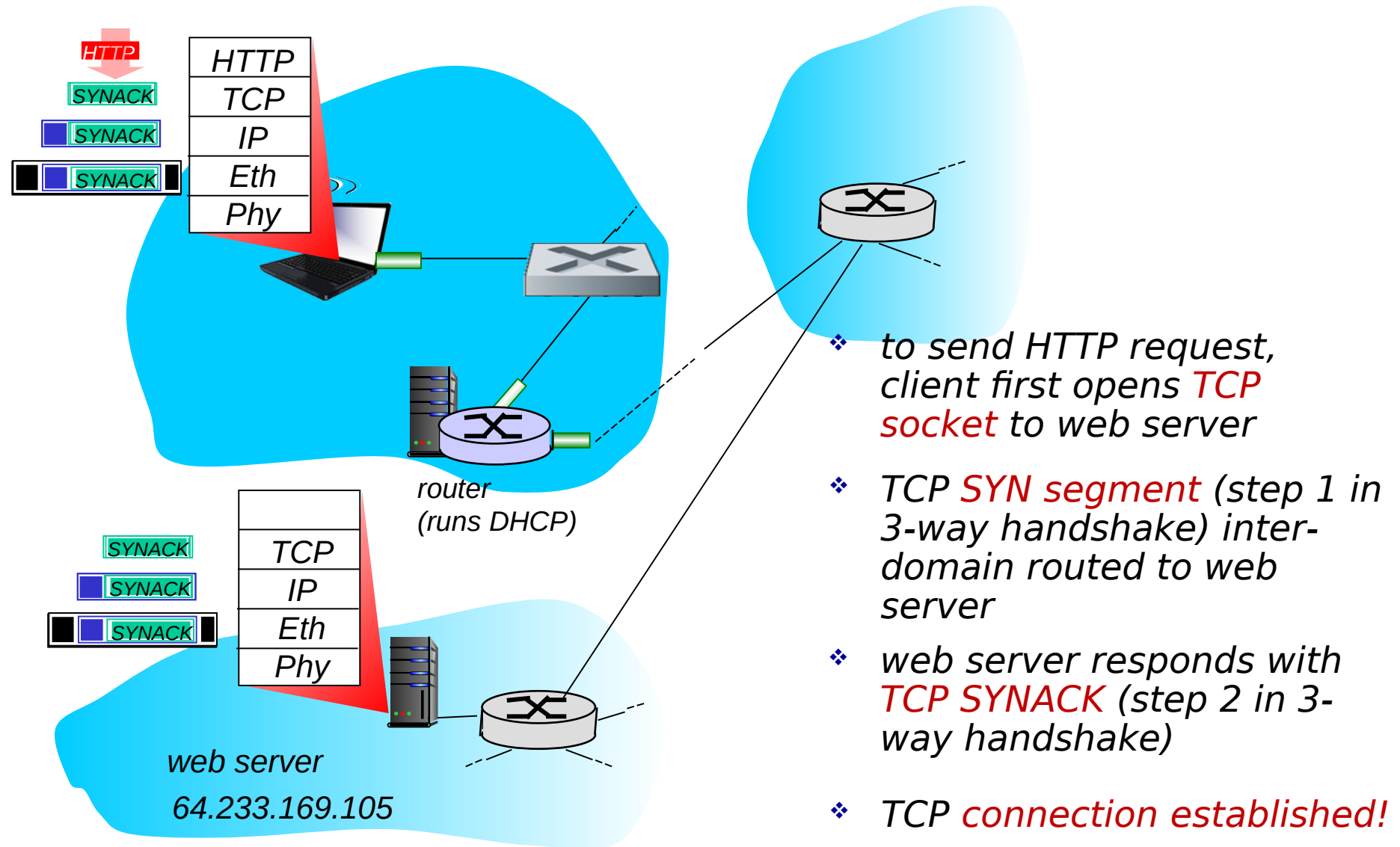
A day in the life... using DNS



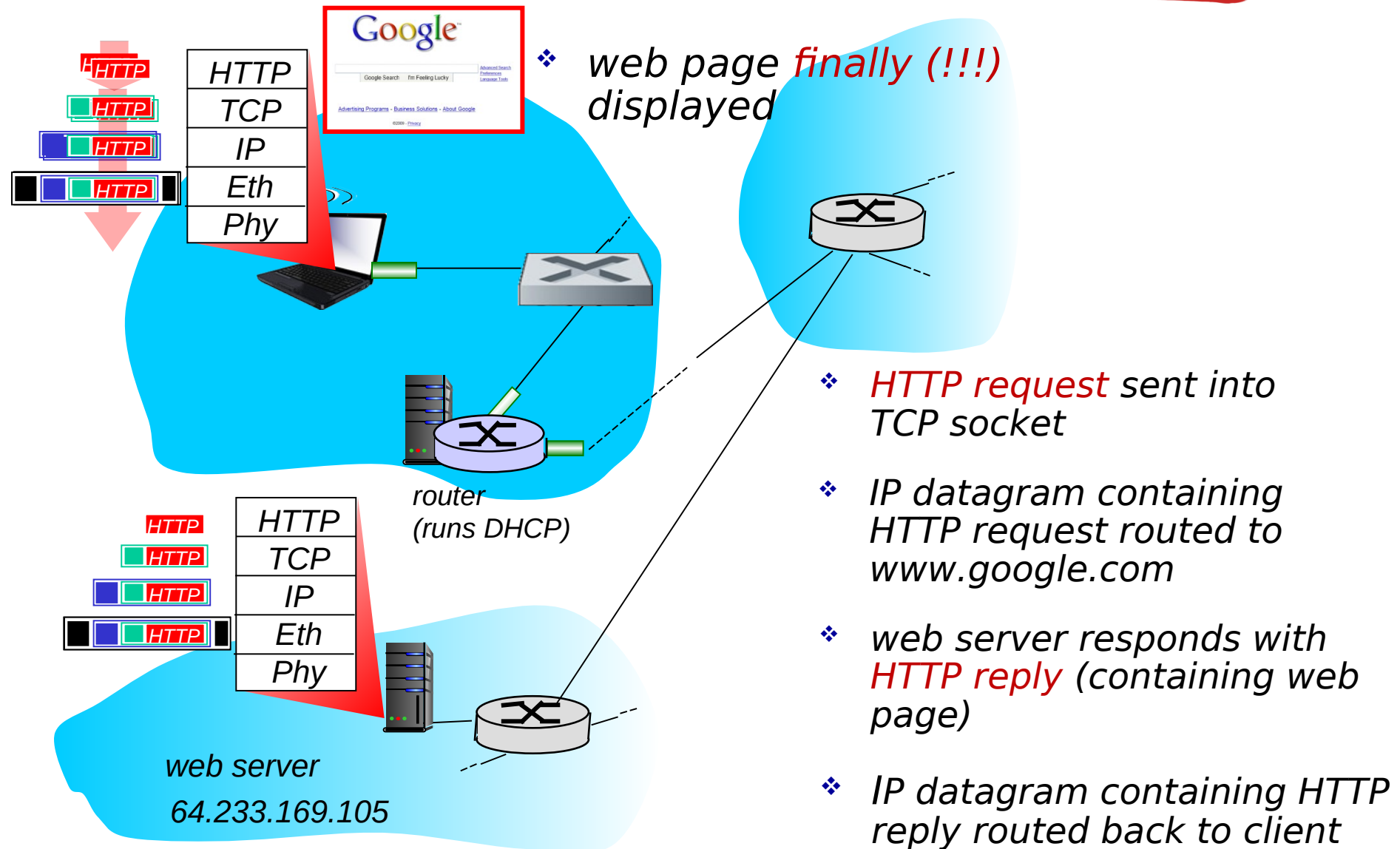
- ❖ IP datagram containing DNS query forwarded via LAN switch from client to 1st hop router

- ❖ IP datagram forwarded from campus network into comcast network, routed (tables created by **RIP**, **OSPF**, **IS-IS** and/or **BGP** routing protocols) to DNS server
- ❖ demux'ed to DNS server
- ❖ DNS server replies to client with IP address of **www.google.com**

A day in the life...TCP connection carrying HTTP



A day in the life... HTTP request/reply



Chapter 5: Summary

- ❖ *principles behind data link layer services:*
 - *error detection, correction*
 - *sharing a broadcast channel: multiple access*
 - *link layer addressing*
- ❖ *instantiation and implementation of various link layer technologies*
 - *Ethernet*
 - *switched LANS, VLANs*
- ❖ *synthesis: a day in the life of a web request*

Chapter 5: let's take a breath

- ❖ *journey down protocol stack **complete** (except PHY)*
- ❖ *solid understanding of networking principles, practice*
- ❖ *..... could stop here but **lots** of interesting topics!*
 - *wireless*
 - *multimedia*