

# Week 8: Transport Layer Contd

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Interne P90007

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Semester 2, 2021

# What happens when congested?

- Congestion results when too much traffic is offered; performance degrades due to loss/retransmissions
- Goodput (=useful packets) trials offered load

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# Congestion Control vs Flow Control

- **Flow control** is an issue for point to point traffic, primarily concerned with preventing sender transmitting data faster than receiver can receive <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
- **Congestion control** is a affecting the ability of the subnet to carry the available traffic, in a global context

# Load Shedding

- When congestion control mechanisms fail, load shedding is the key remaining possibility  
- **drop packets**

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- In order to alleviate applications can mark certain **packets as priority** to avoid discard policy

# What is the key problem if network is not delivering properly:

- Quality of Service becomes low
- Expected network performance is an important criterion of network applications <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
- Some engineering techniques are available to guarantee QoS (Quality of Service)
- 4 things to watch out for:  
bandwidth, reliability, delay, jitter

# Jitter is Interesting/New for Us

- Jitter is the **variation in packet arrival times**
  - ❑ a) high jitter
  - ❑ b) low jitter

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# Mechanisms for Jitter Control

- Jitter is an issue for some applications
- Jitter can be contained by **determining the expected transit time** of a packet
- Packets can be **ordered by hop in order to minimize jitter** packets sent first, faster packet queue
- For certain applications jitter control is extremely important as it mainly directly affects the **quality perceived by the application user**

# QoS Requirements

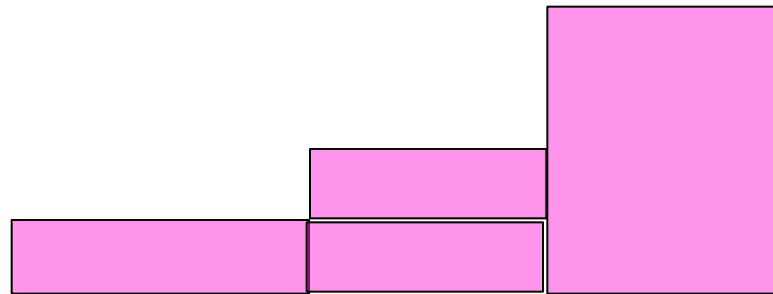
- Different applications care about different properties
  - ▣ We want all applications to get what they need

“High” means demanding the requirement!

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# Techniques for Achieving QoS

## ■ Over-provisioning

- more than adequate buffer, router CPU, and bandwidth (expensive and not scalable ...)

## ■ Buffering

- buffer received smoothes out jitter, but increases delay, but bandwidth

## ■ Traffic Shaping

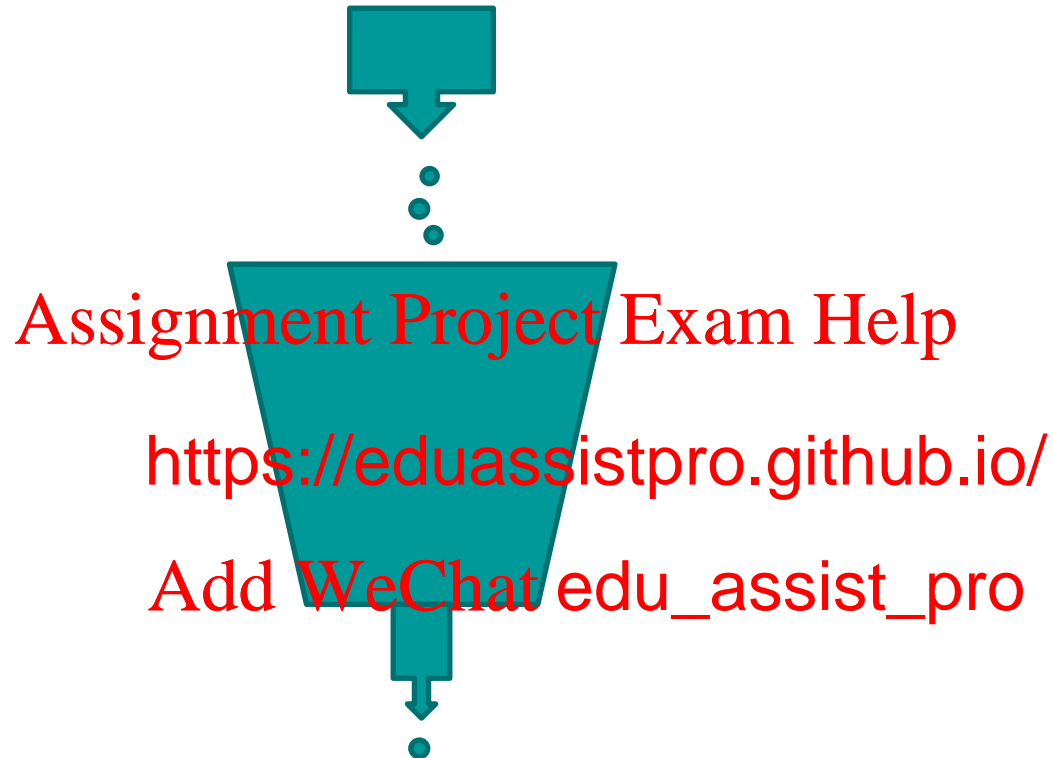
- regulate the average rate of transmission burstiness of
- leaky bucket
- token bucket

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# Leaky Bucket



Large **bursts** of traffic is buffered and smoothed while sending

e.g. can be done at host sending data

# Techniques for Good QoS Contd

## ■ Resource reservation

- reserve bandwidth, buffer space, CPU in advance

## ■ Admission control

- routers can decide whether to accept new flows, or reject them

## ■ Proportional routing

- traffic for same destination split among multiple routes

## ■ Packet scheduling

- Create queue(s) based on priority etc
- fair queuing, weighted fair queueing

# TCP and Congestion Control

- When networks are overloaded, congestion occurs, potentially affecting all layers
- Although local congestion (in a single network) attempt to address it, in reality **TCP impacts congestion significantly** because it uses its best methods to reduce the data rate, and hence reduce congestion itself

# Congestion Control: Design

- Two different problems exist
  - network capacity and receiver capacity
  - these should be dealt with separately, but compatibly
- The sender <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> is actually
  - Window described by the r
  - Congestion window
- Each regulates the number of bytes the sender can transmit – the maximum transmission rate is the minimum of the two windows

# TCP and Congestion Control Contd

- TCP adopts a defensive stance:
  - At connection establishment, a suitable window size is chosen by the receiver based on its buffer size  
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  - If the sender is constrained, then congestion problems will not occur due to buffer overflow at the receiver itself, but may still occur due to congestion within the network

# Incremental Congestion Control: Slow Start

- On connection establishment, the **sender initializes the congestion window to a size**, and transmits one segment
- If this segment is acknowledged before the timer expires, **the sender adds the congestion window by the amount of the segment's worth of bytes to the congestion window** <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> is two segments
- As **each new segment is acknowledged**, the congestion window is increased by the **amount of the segment's worth of bytes** <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pro
- In effect, each set of acknowledgements doubles the congestion window - which **grows until either a timeout occurs or the receiver's specified window is reached**

# Ack Clock

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# Slow Start (badly named...)

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# Additive increase

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# Internet Congestion Control

Slow start followed by additive increase (TCP Tahoe)  
Threshold is half of previous

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# Internet Congestion Control Contd

Another one with TCP Reno

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# Congestion Control And Wireless

- Much harder to deal with
  - ❑ Things are increasingly wireless
  - ❑ Not everything is wireless, but parts of a path
  - ❑ So how do <https://github.com/eduassistpro>
  - ❑ More variety on wireless [Add WeChat edu\\_assist\\_pro](https://github.com/eduassistpro)
  - ❑ SNR varies when people
  - ❑ Delay is different if it is Wifi vs Satellite
  - ❑ This is a hot area of research...

# TCP Timer

- A key worry is when timers go out
- Too early means too many resends
- Too late means too many retransmissions with more additional cost
- Solutions rely on dynamic network conditions change
- One needs to measure network performance and adapt timers

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