



# Chapter 4

Netowrk Layer: Data Plane

CS4377 – Intro to Networks  
Prof Kevin Long

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



# Lecture 14

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# Chapter 4

## Network Layer: Data Plane

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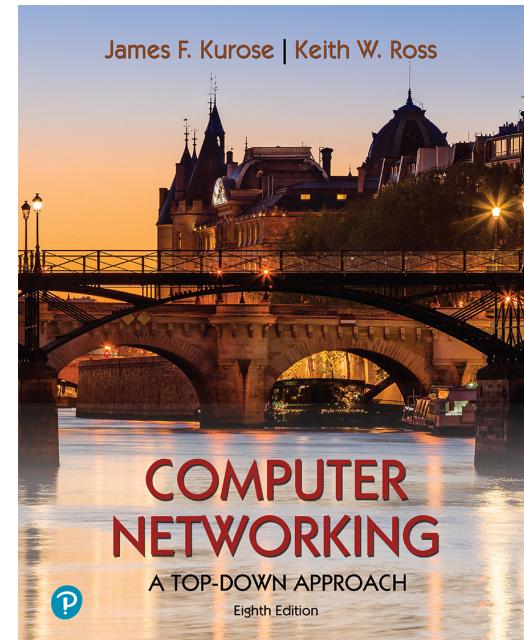
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*Computer Networking: A  
Top-Down Approach*

8<sup>th</sup> edition

Jim Kurose, Keith Ross  
Pearson, 2020

# Network layer: our goals

- understand principles behind network layer services, focusing on data plane:
  - network layer service models
  - forwarding versus routing
  - how a router works
  - addressing
  - generalized forwarding
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  - network layer service models
  - forwarding versus routing
  - how a router works
  - addressing
  - generalized forwarding
  - Internet architecture
- instantiation, implementation in the Internet
  - IP protocol
  - NAT, middleboxes

# Network layer: “data plane” roadmap

- Network layer: overview
  - data plane
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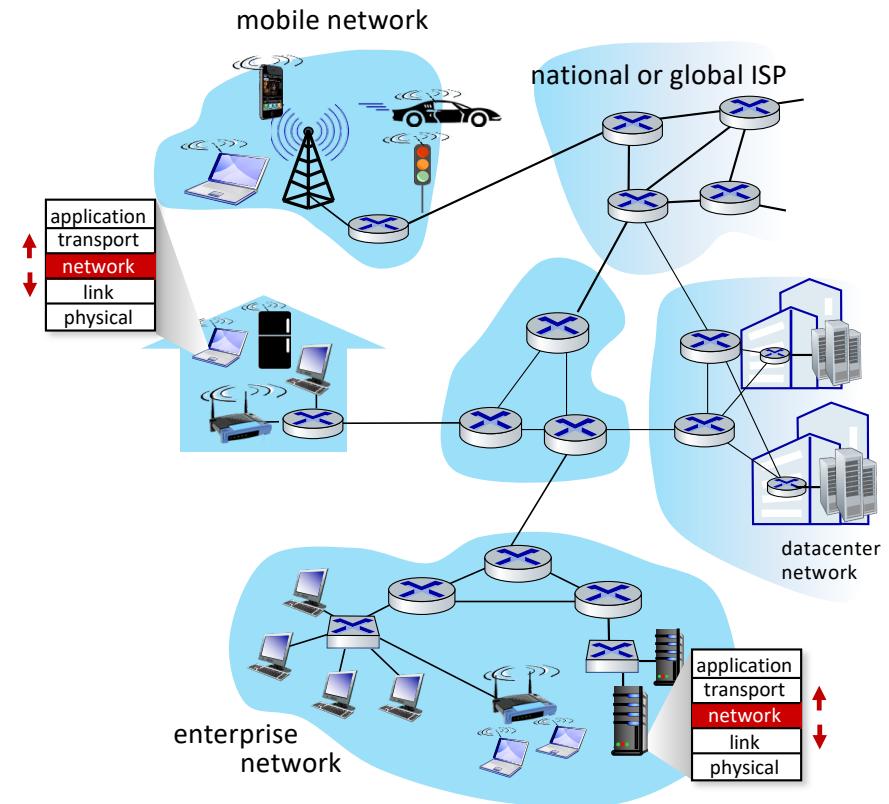
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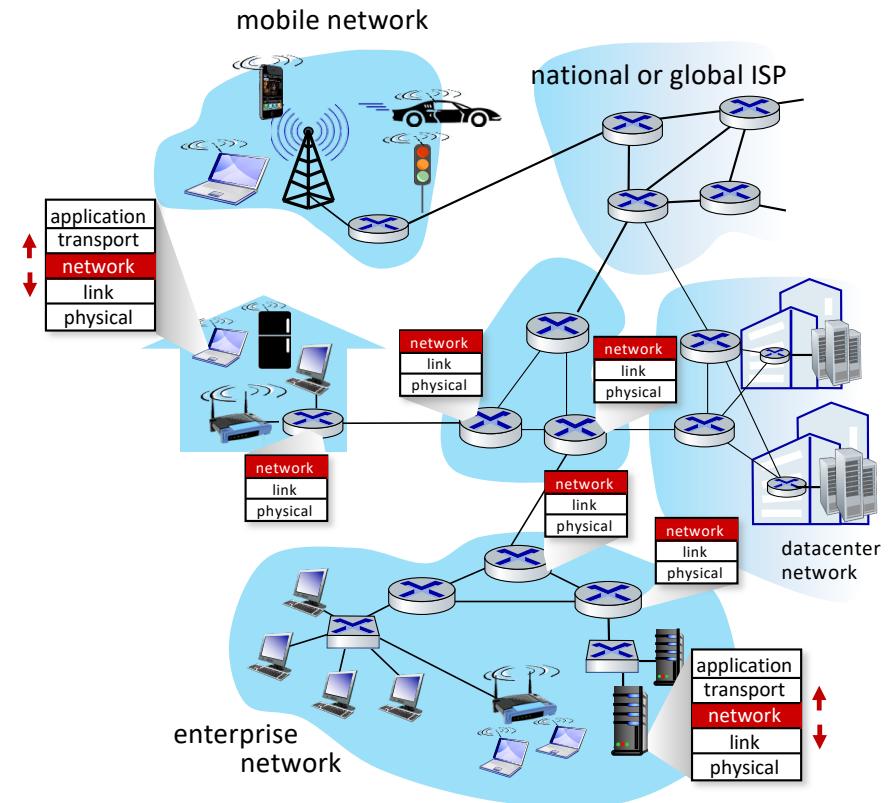
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- transport segment from sending to receiving host
  - **sender:** encapsulates segments into datagrams, passes to link layer
  - **receiver:** delivers segments to transport layer protocol



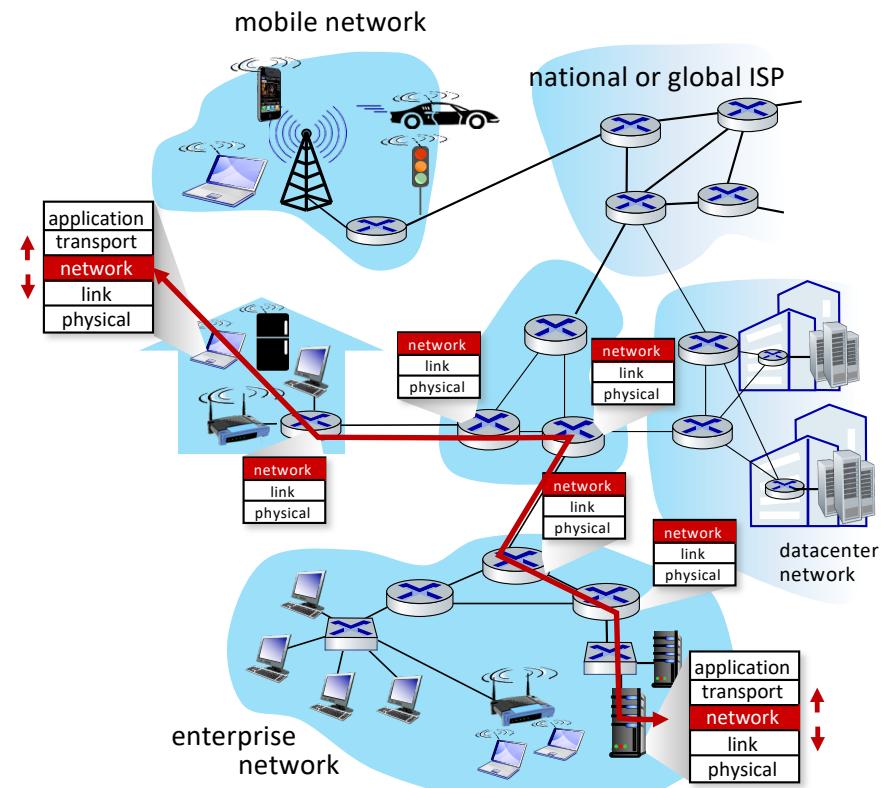
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- network layer protocols in *every Internet device*: hosts, routers
- **routers:**
  - examines header fields in all IP datagrams passing through it
  - moves datagrams from input ports to output ports to transfer datagrams along end-end path



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## analogy: taking a trip

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



forwarding

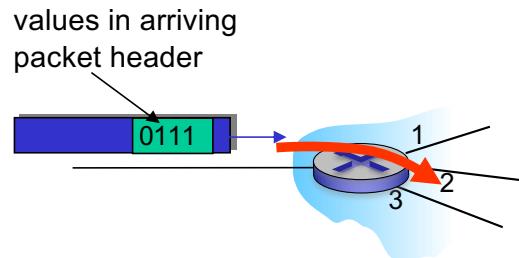


routing

# Network layer: data plane, control plane

## Data plane:

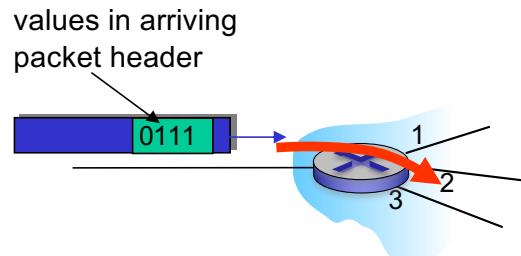
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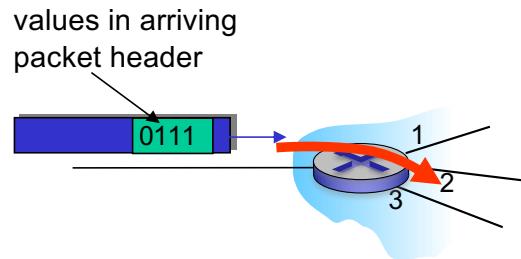
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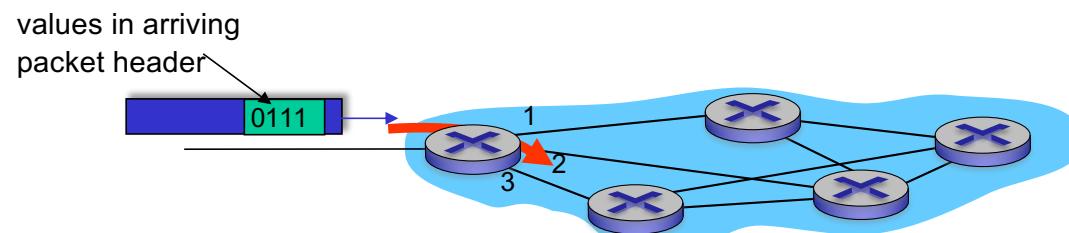


## Control plane

- *network-wide logic*
- determines how datagram is routed among routers along end-end path from source host to destination host
- two control-plane approaches:
  - *traditional routing algorithms*: implemented in routers
  - *software-defined networking (SDN)*: implemented in (remote) servers

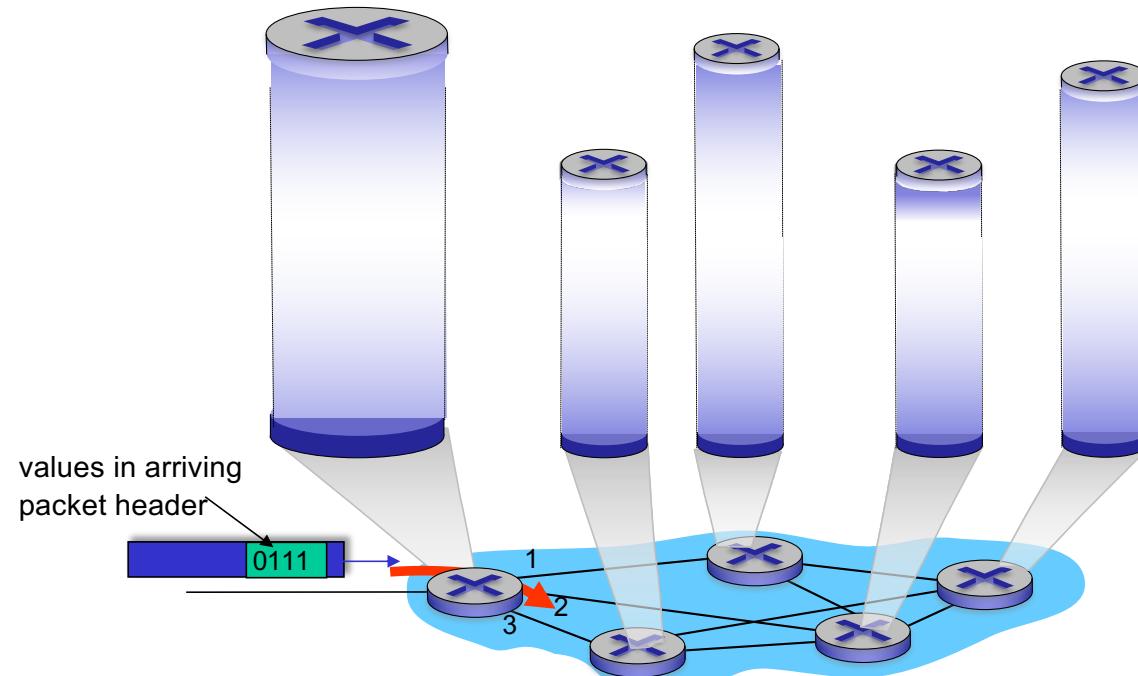
# Per-router control plane

Individual routing algorithm components *in each and every router* interact in the control plane



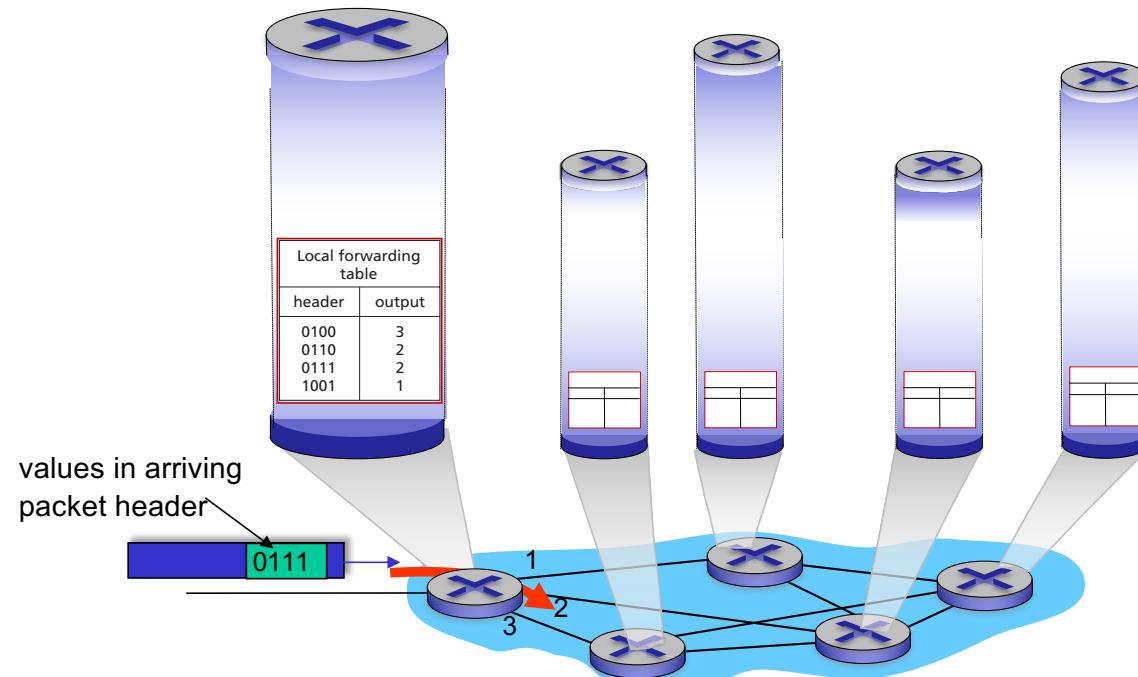
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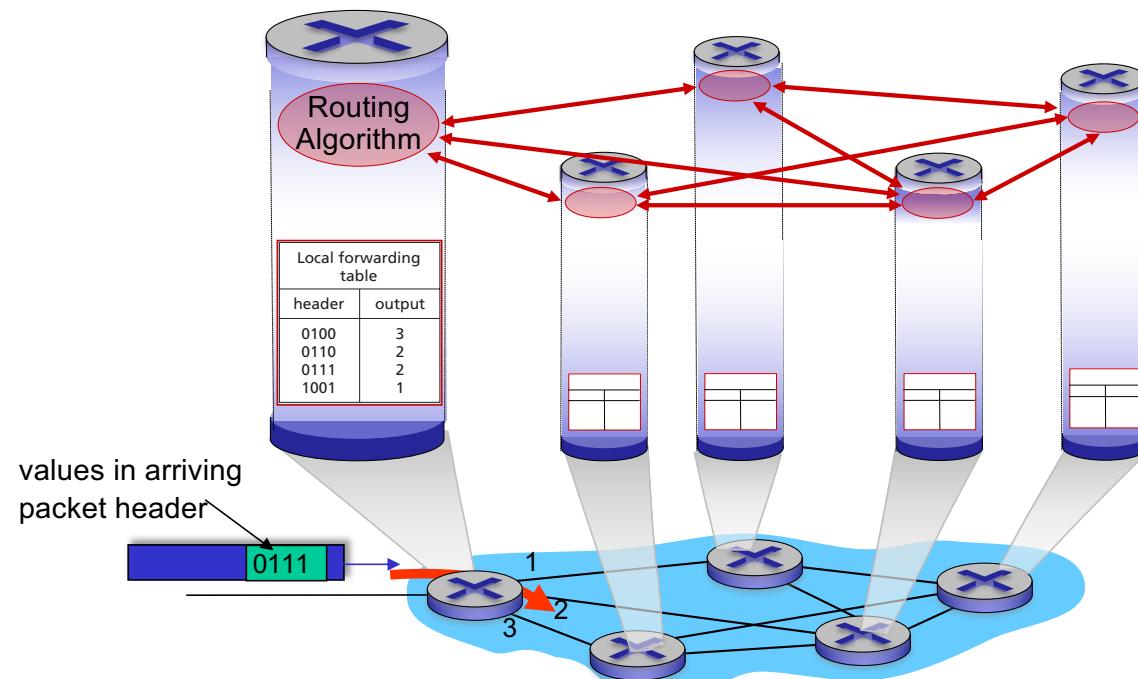
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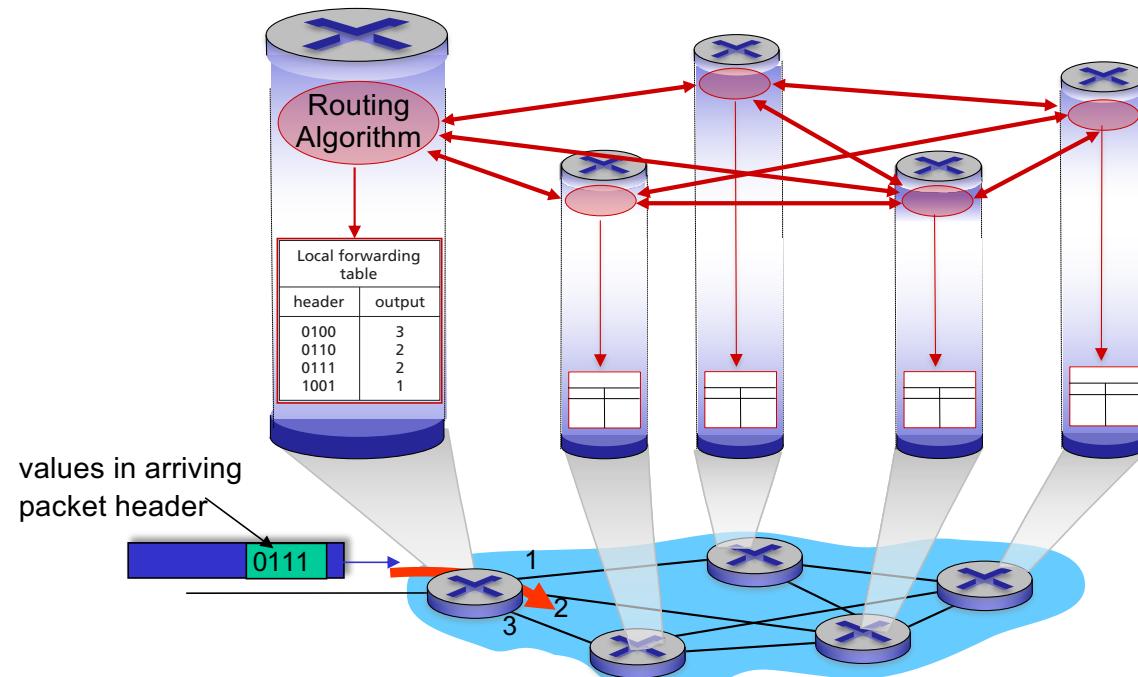
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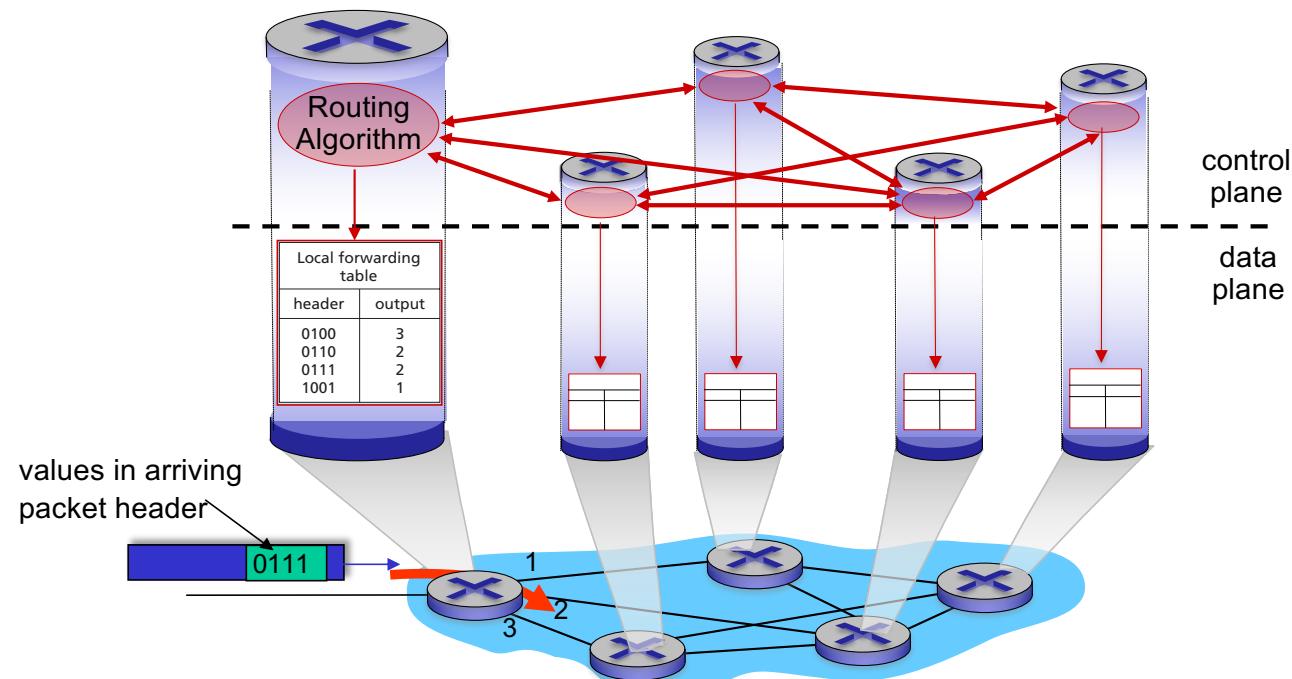
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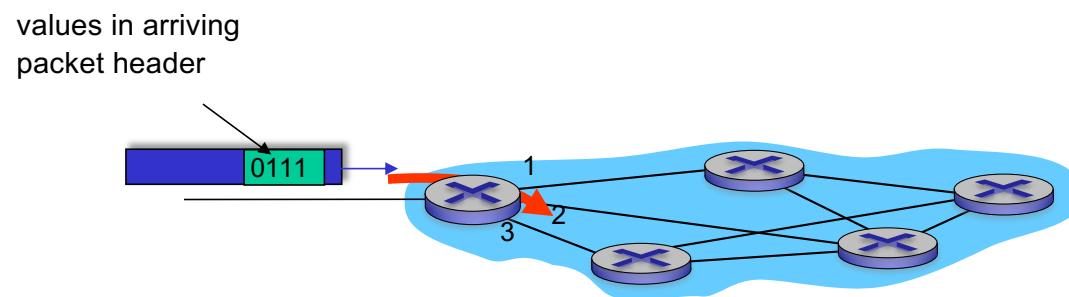
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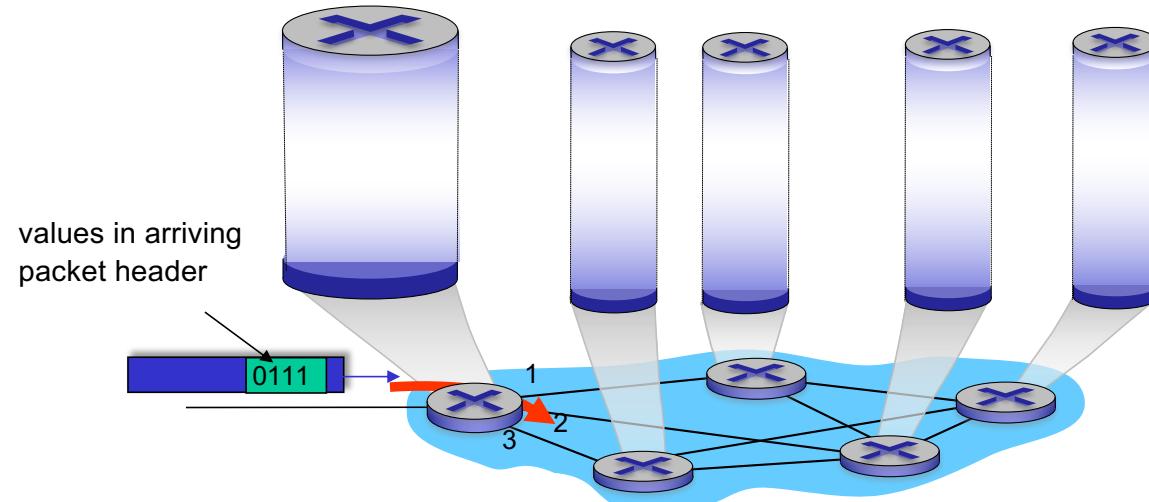
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Remote controller computes, installs forwarding tables in routers



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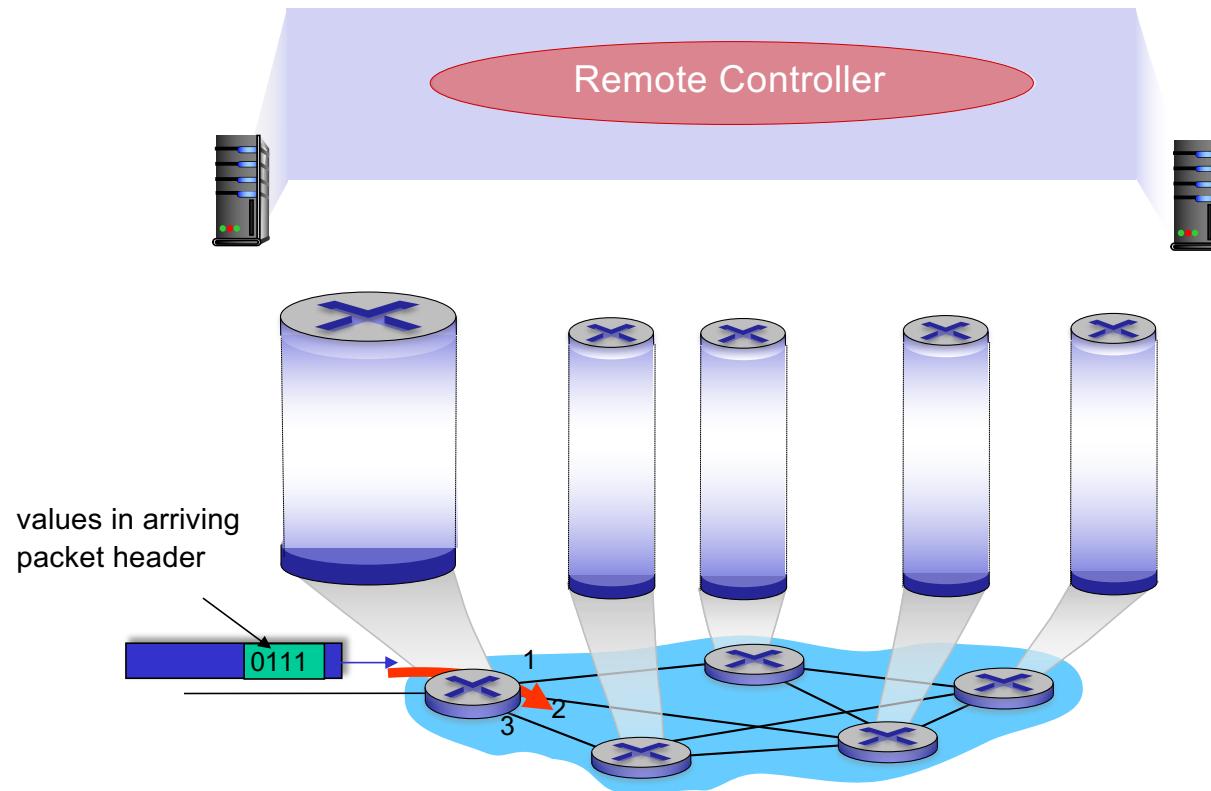
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Network Layer: 4-8

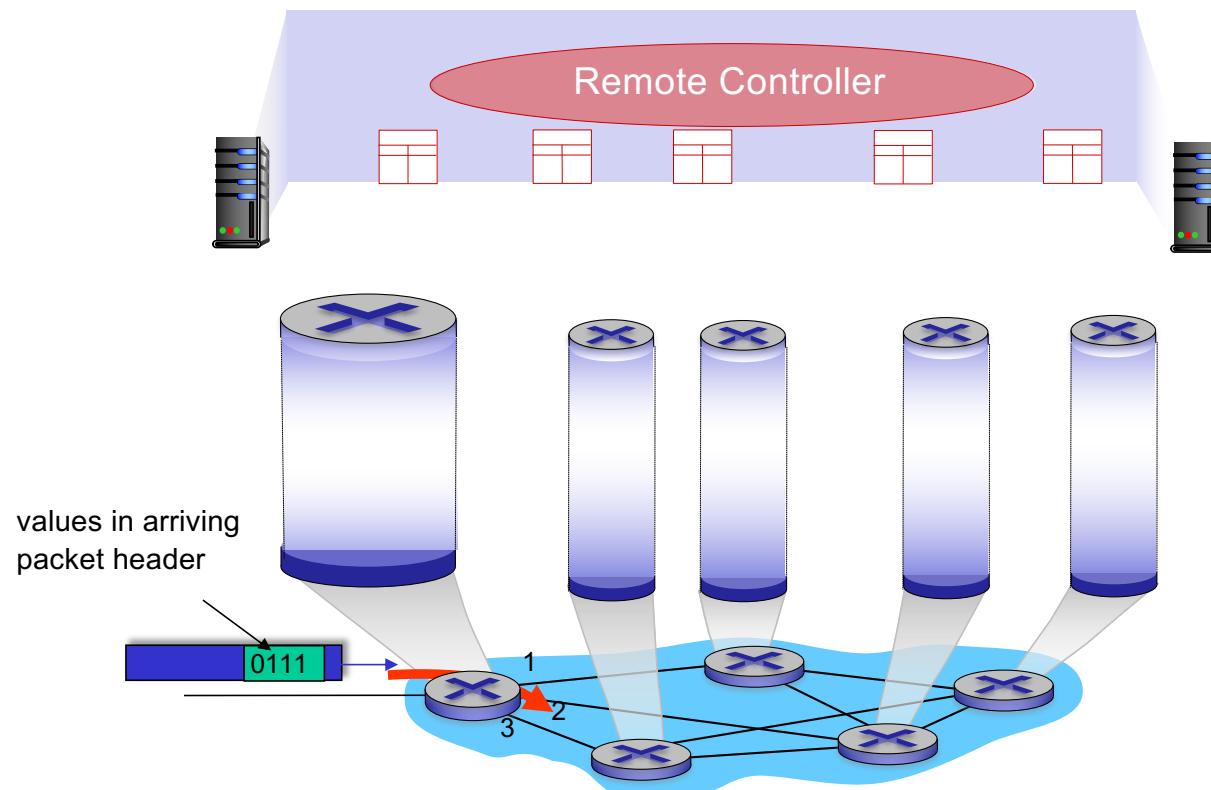
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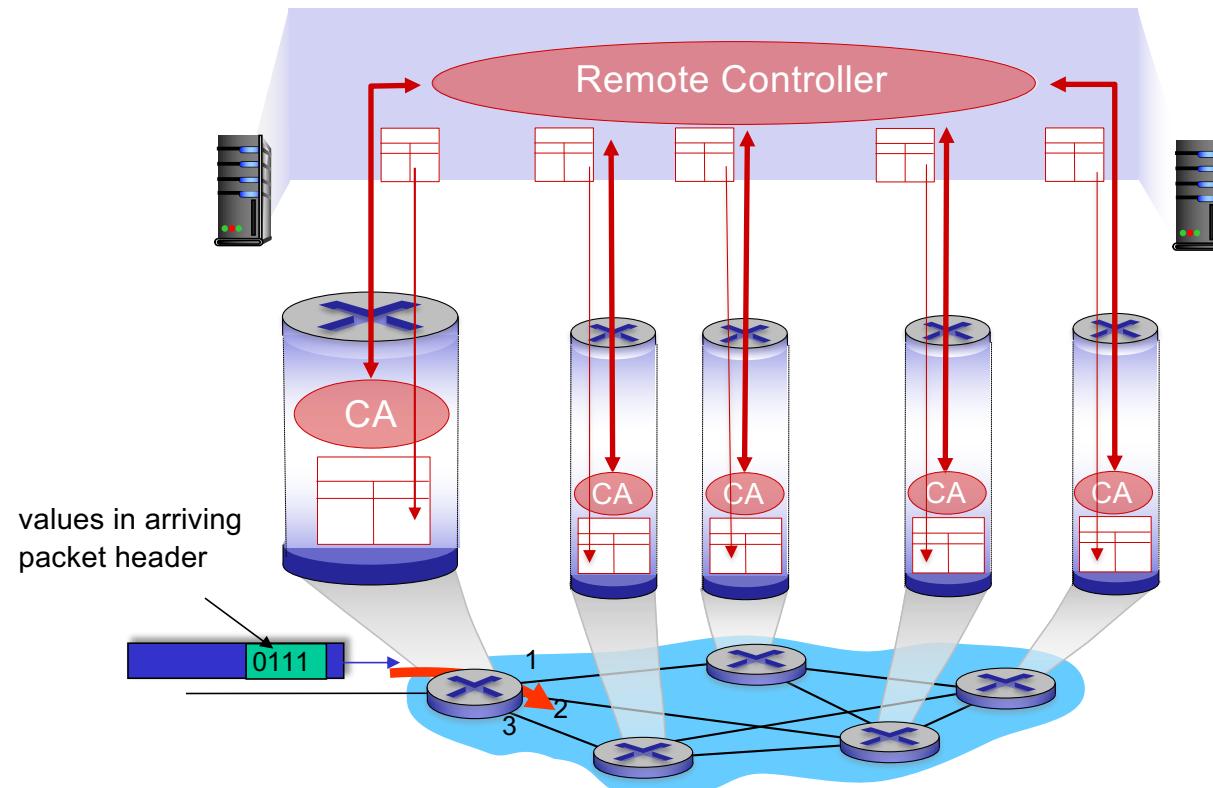
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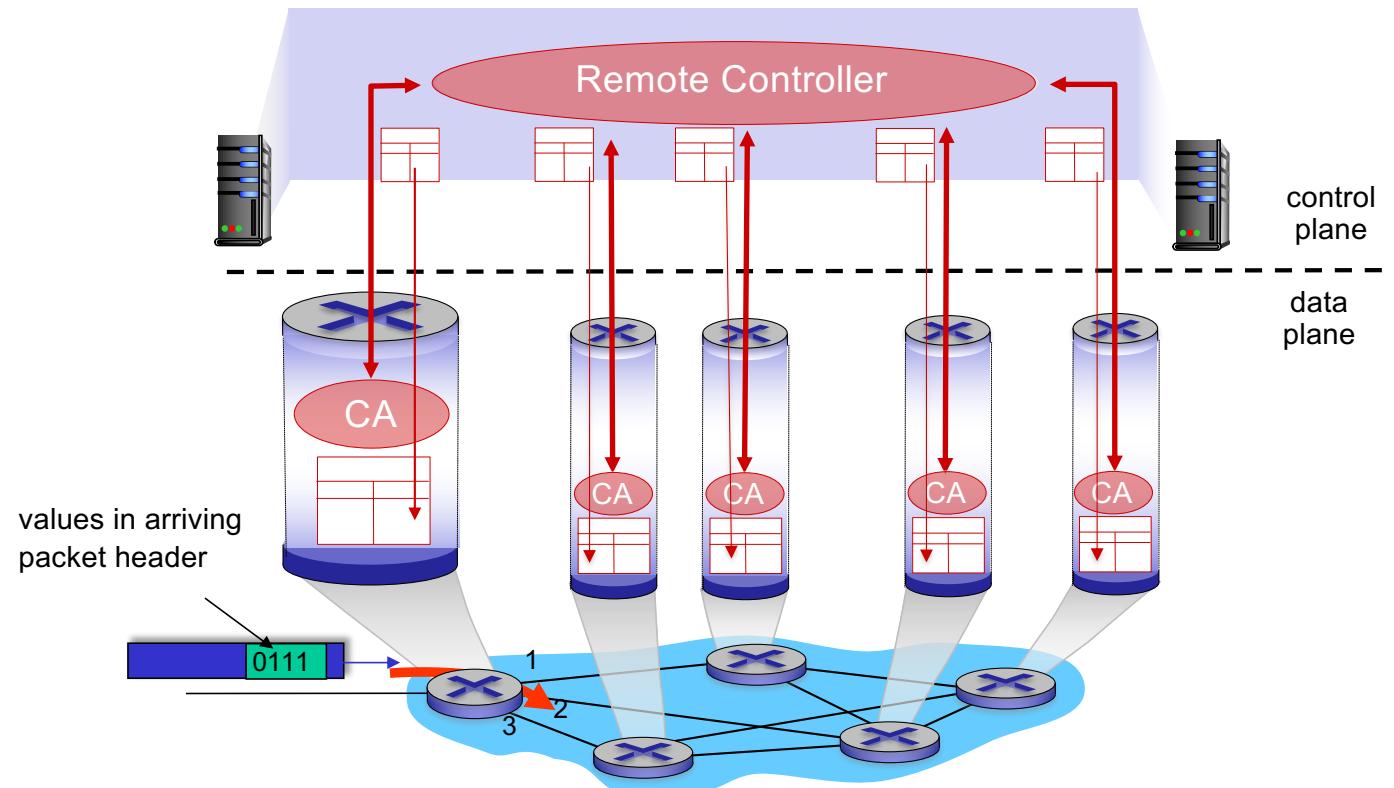
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example services for a *flow* of datagrams:

- in-order datagram delivery
- guaranteed minimum bandwidth to flow
- restrictions on changes in inter-packet spacing

# Network-layer service model

Network Architecture	Service Model	Quality of Service (QoS) Guarantees ?			
		Bandwidth	Loss	Order	Timing
Internet	best effort	none	no	no	no

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Internet “best effort” service model

*No* guarantees on:

- i. successful datagram delivery to destination
- ii. timing or order of delivery
- iii. bandwidth available to end-end flow

# Network-layer service model

Network Architecture	Service Model	Quality of Service (QoS) Guarantees ?			
		Bandwidth	Loss	Order	Timing
Internet	best effort	none	no	no	no
ATM	Constant Bit Rate	Constant rate	yes	yes	yes
ATM	Available Bit Rate	Guaranteed min	no	yes	no
Internet	Intserv Guaranteed (RFC 1633)	yes	yes	yes	yes
Internet	Diffserv (RFC 2475)	possible	possibly	possibly	no

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*It's hard to argue with success of best-effort service model*

# Network layer: “data plane” roadmap

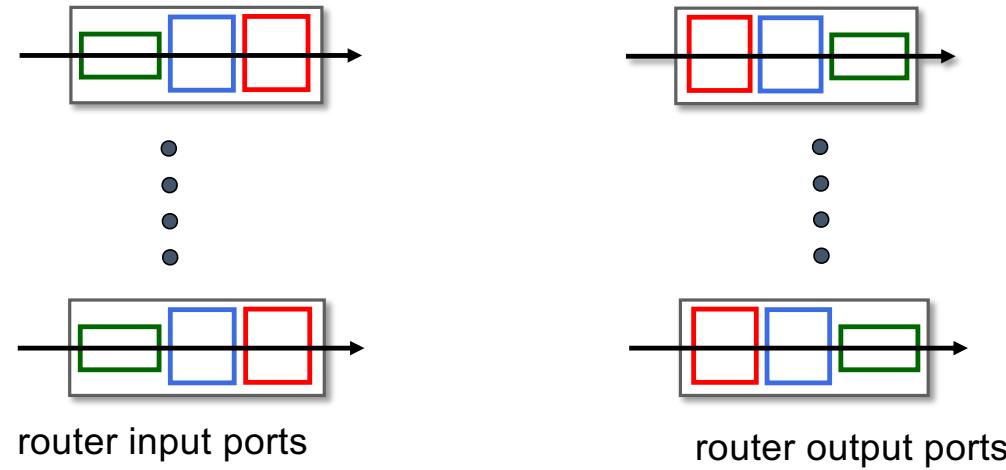
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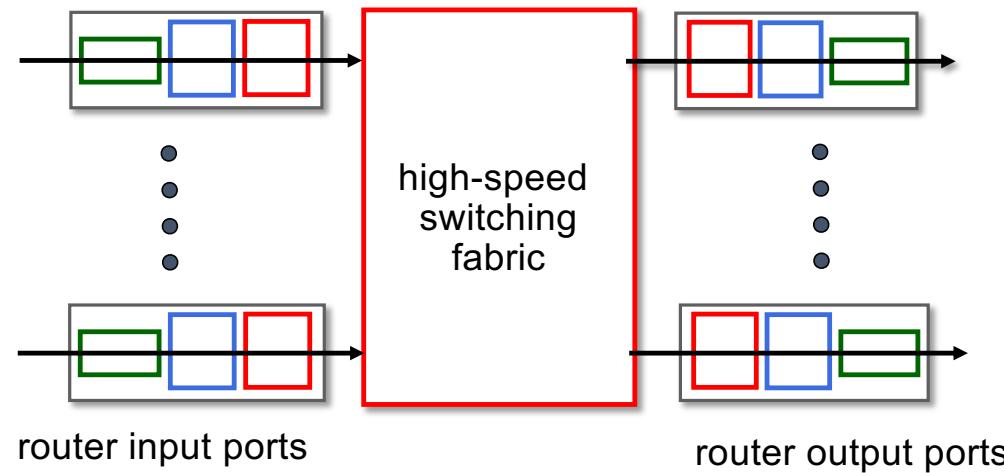
# Router architecture overview

high-level view of generic router architecture:



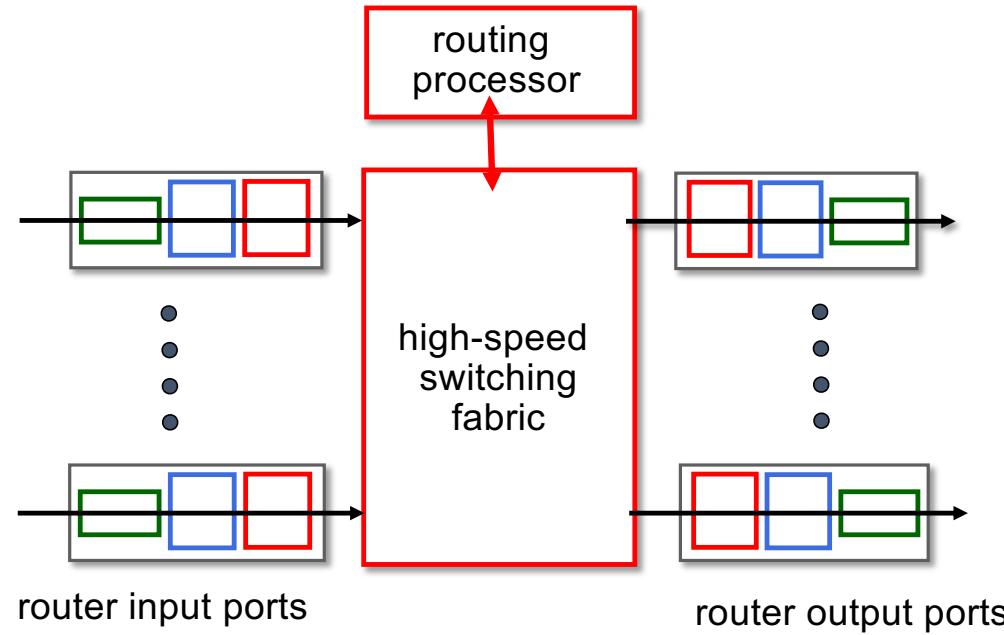
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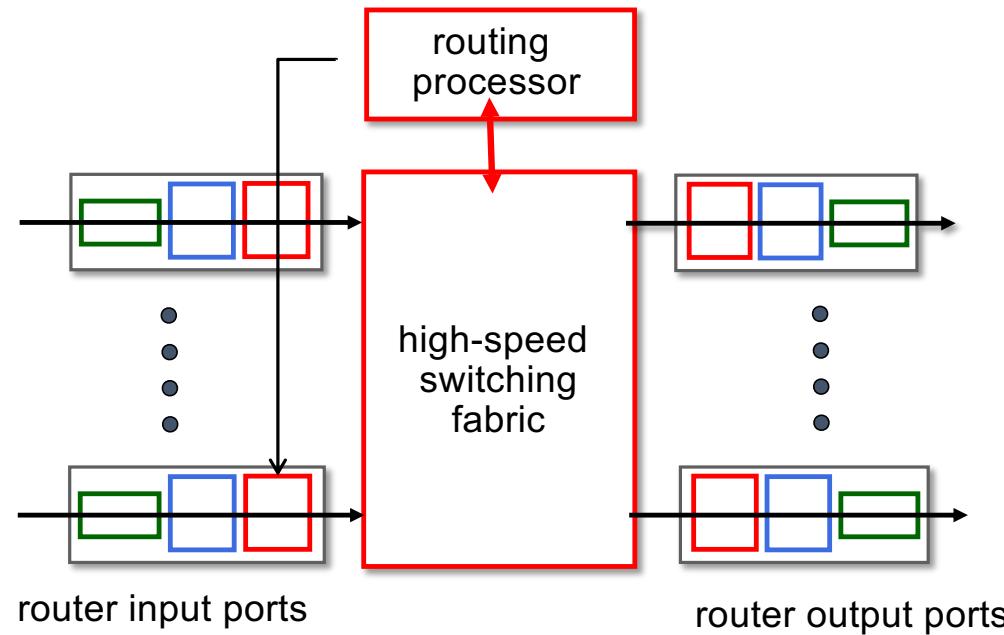
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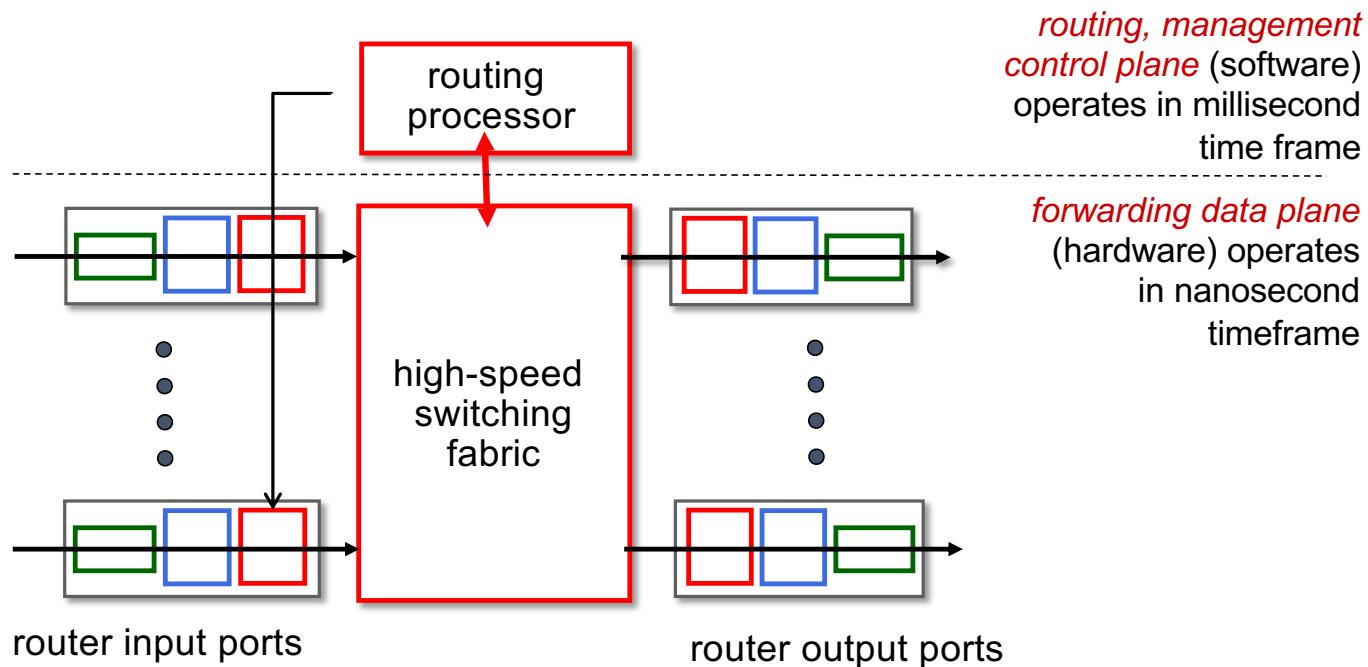
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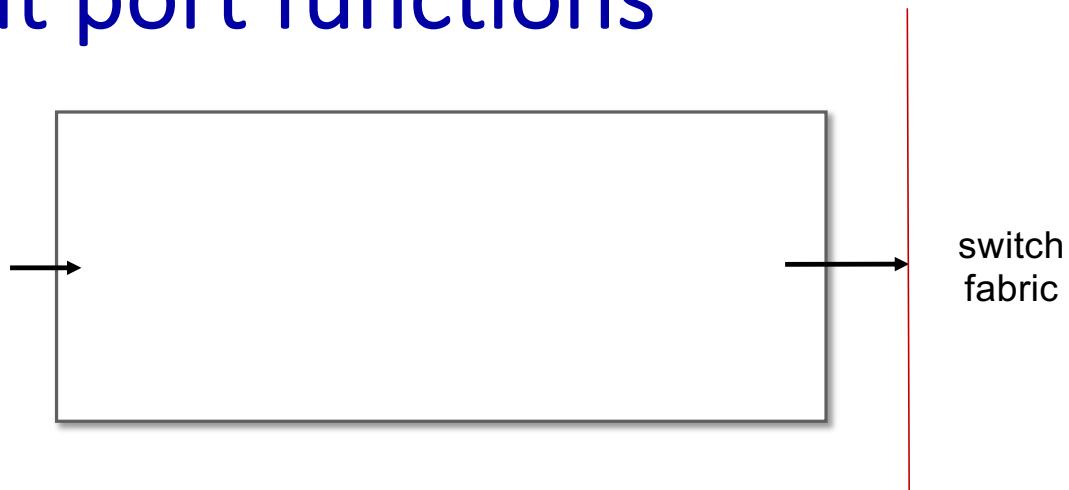


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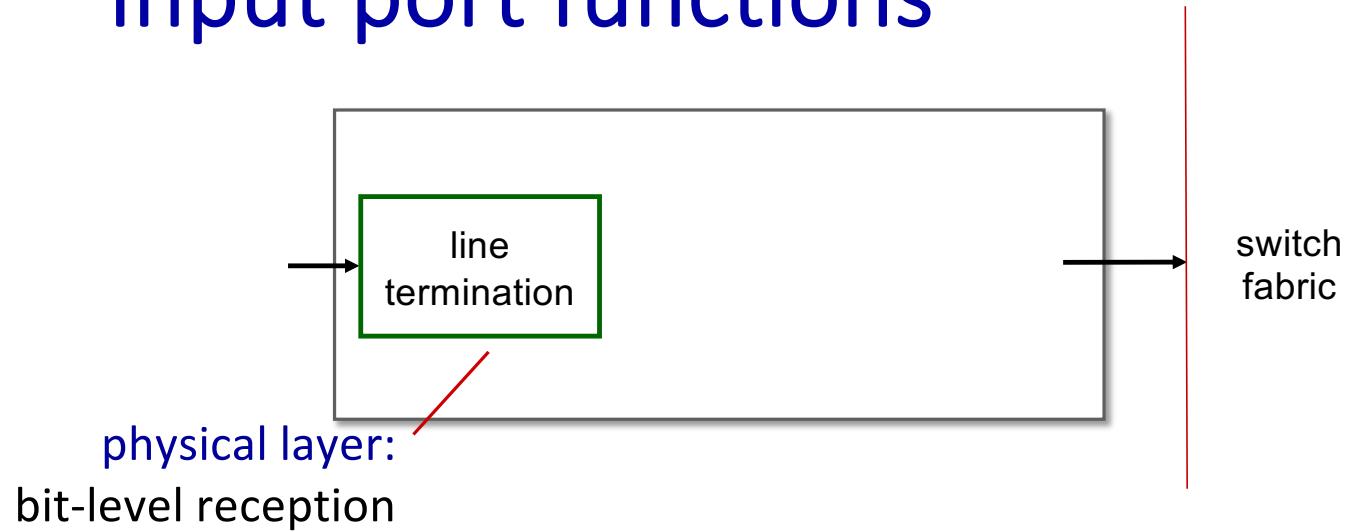
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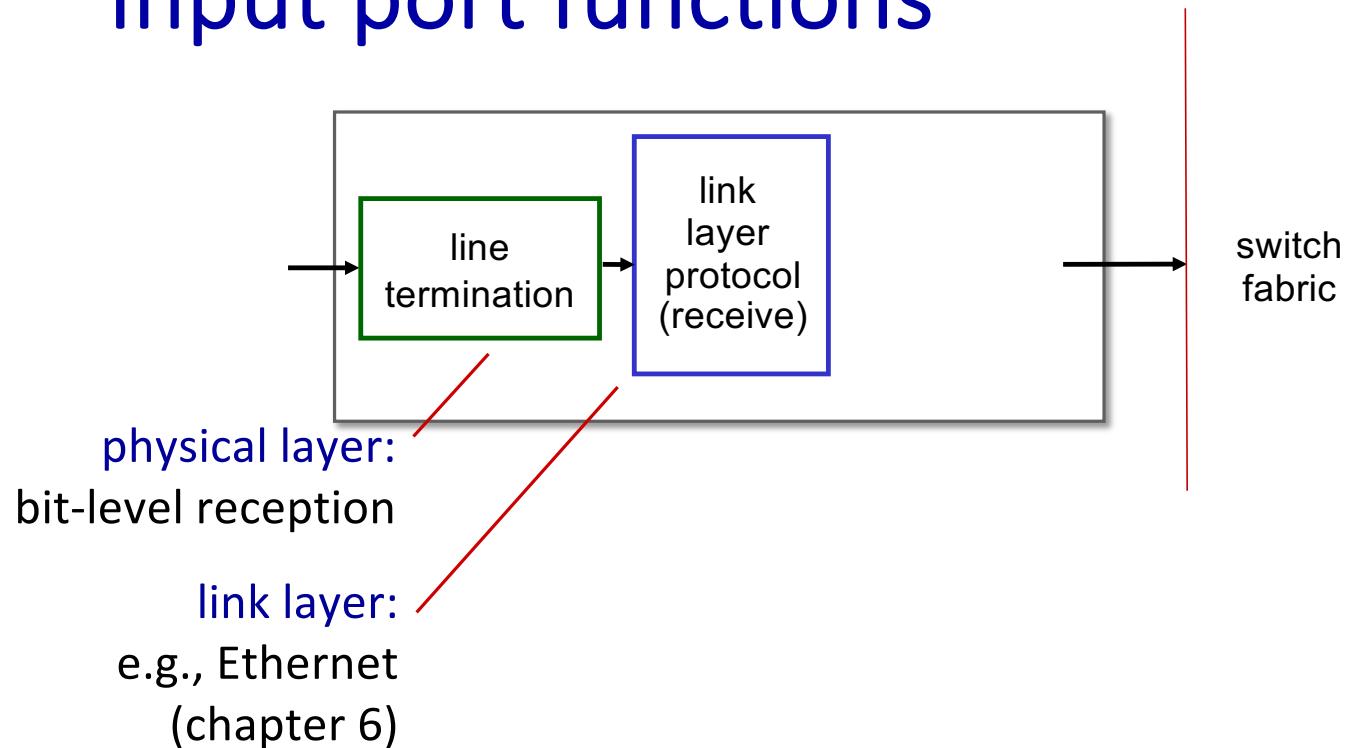
# Input port functions



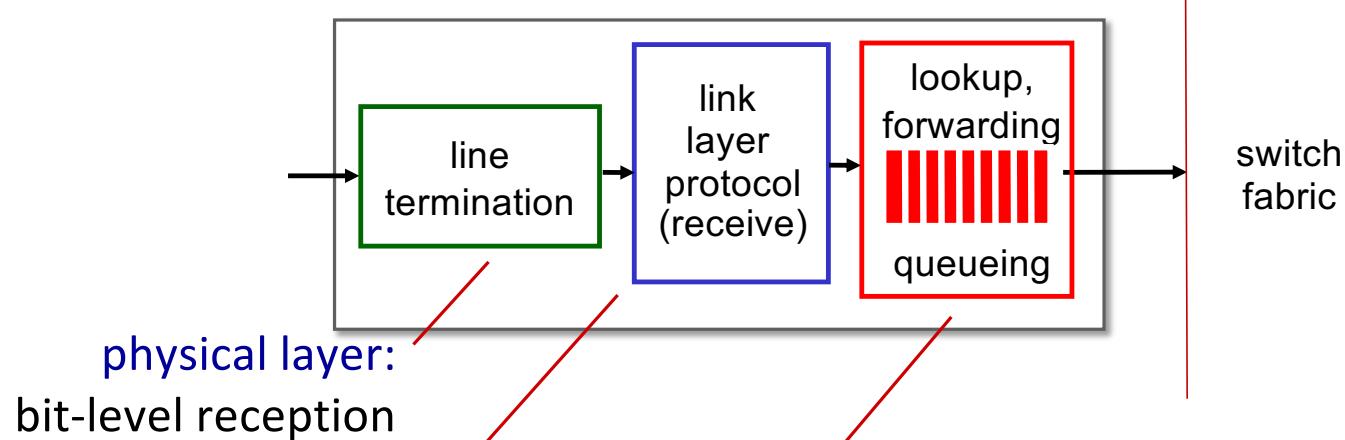
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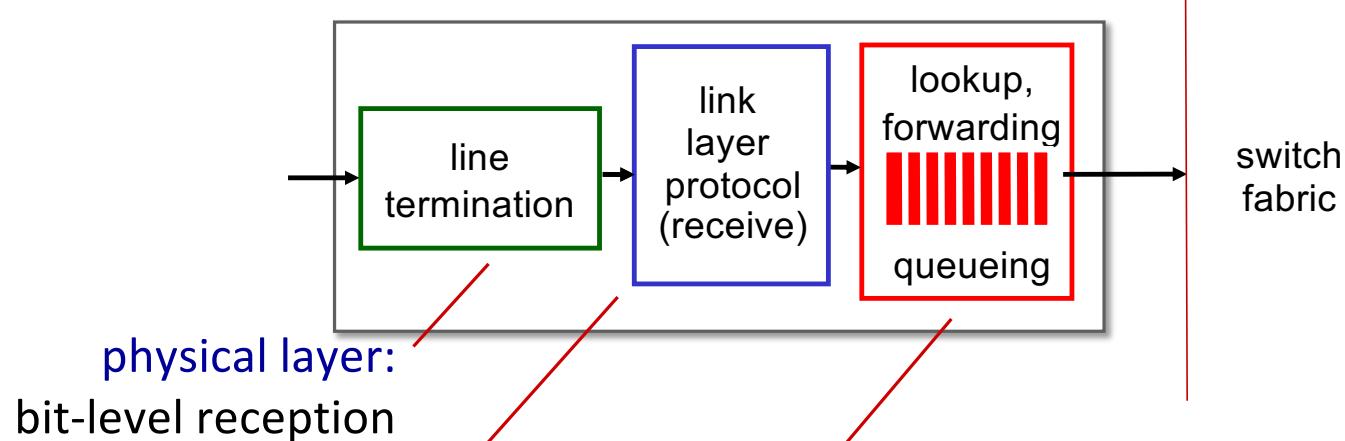
physical layer:  
bit-level reception

link layer:  
e.g., Ethernet  
(chapter 6)

decentralized switching:

- using header field values, lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory (“*match plus action*”)
- goal: complete input port processing at ‘line speed’
- **input port queuing**: if datagrams arrive faster than forwarding rate into switch fabric

# Input port functions



## decentralized switching:

- using header field values, lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory ("*match plus action*")
- **destination-based forwarding:** forward based only on destination IP address (traditional)
- **generalized forwarding:** forward based on any set of header field values

# Destination-based forwarding

<i>forwarding table</i>	
Destination Address Range	Link Interface
11001000 00010111 00010000 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00010111 11111111	0
11001000 00010111 00011000 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00011000 11111111	1
11001000 00010111 00011001 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00011111 11111111	2
otherwise	3

*Q:* but what happens if ranges don't divide up so nicely?

# Destination-based forwarding

*forwarding table*

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## longest prefix match

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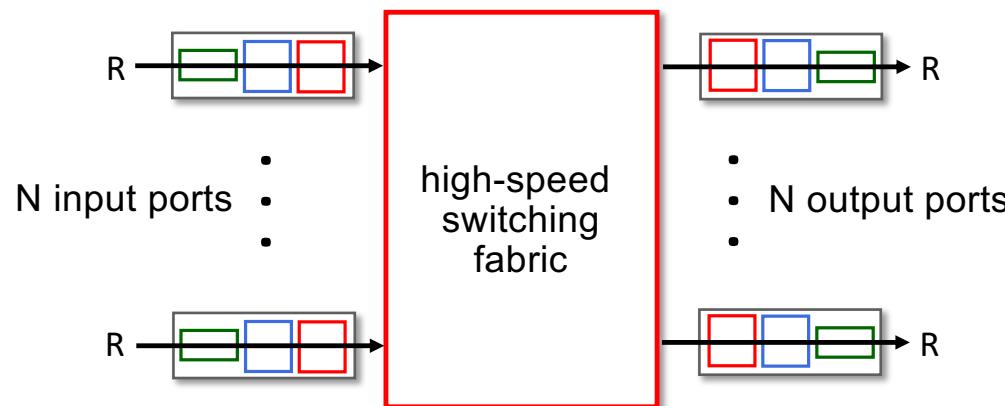
11001000 00010111 00010110	10100001	which interface?
11001000 00010111 00011000	10101010	which interface?

# Longest prefix matching

- we'll see *why* longest prefix matching is used shortly, when we study addressing
- longest prefix matching: often performed using ternary content addressable memories (TCAMs)
  - *content addressable*: present address to TCAM: retrieve address in one clock cycle, regardless of table size
  - Cisco Catalyst: ~1M routing table entries in TCAM

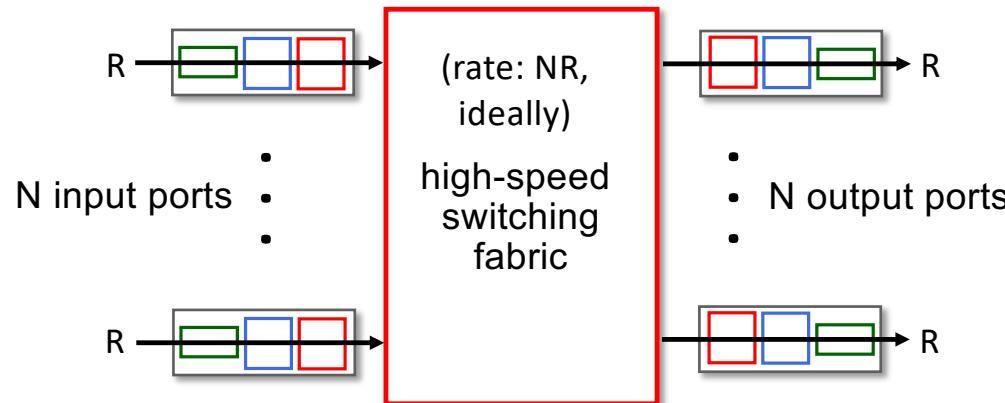
# Switching fabrics

- transfer packet from input link to appropriate output link



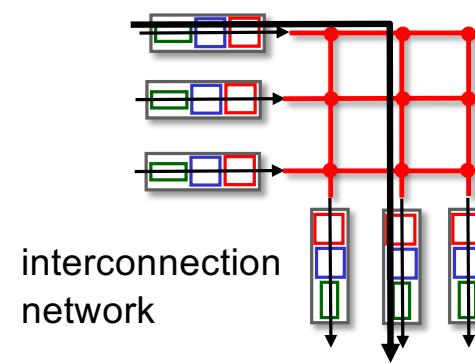
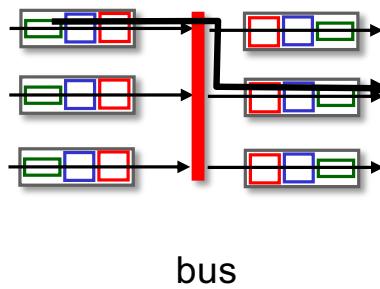
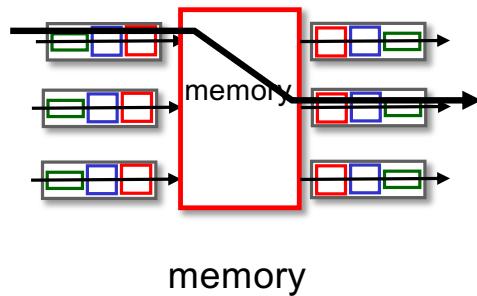
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# Switching fabrics

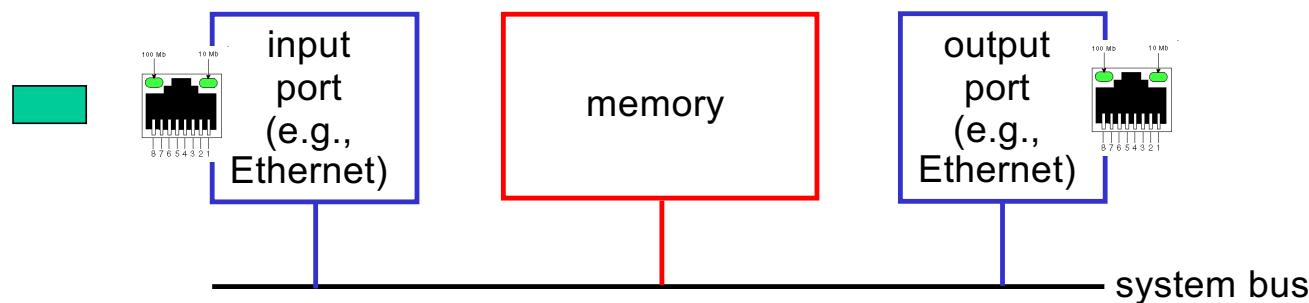
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- three major types of switching fabrics:



# Switching via memory

first generation routers:

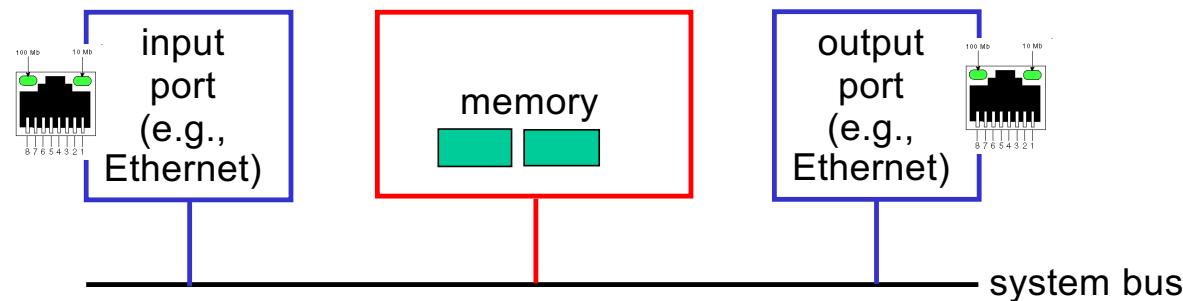
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- packet copied to system's memory
- speed limited by memory bandwidth (2 bus crossings per datagram)



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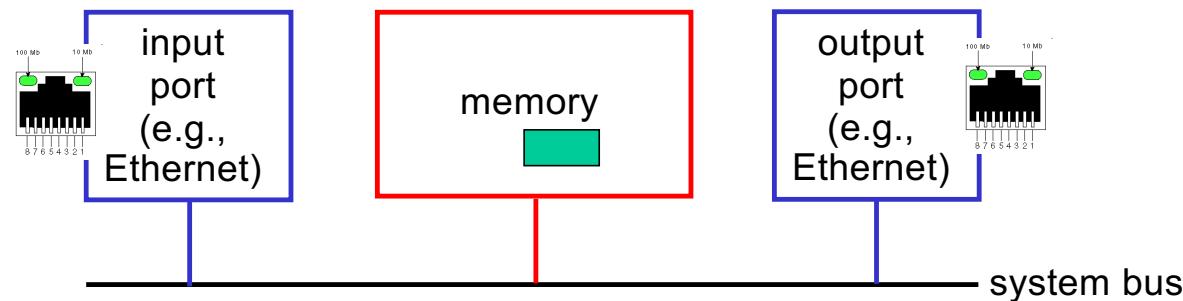
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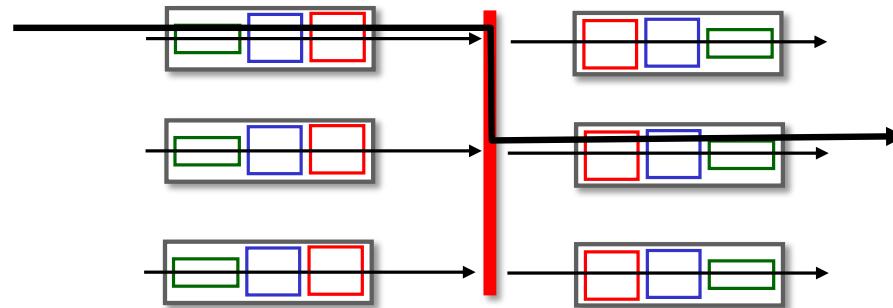
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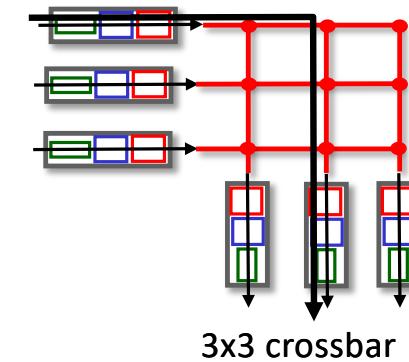
# Switching via a bus

- 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 routers



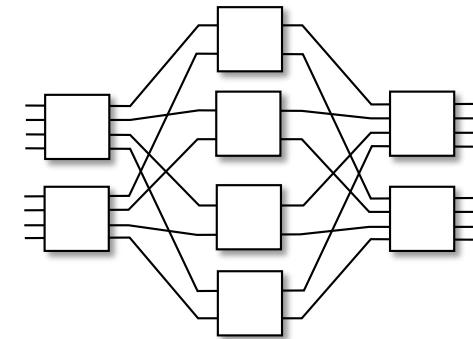
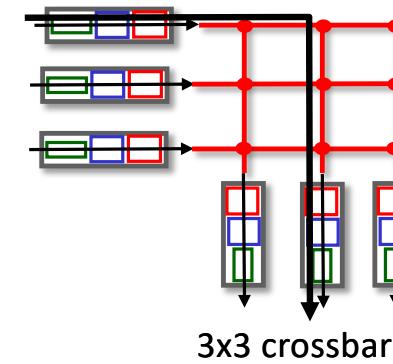
# Switching via interconnection network

- Crossbar, Clos networks, other interconnection nets initially developed to connect processors in multiprocessor



# Switching via interconnection network

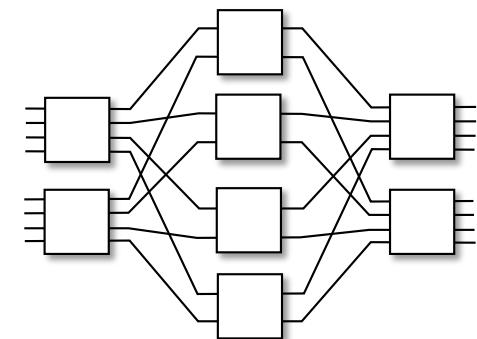
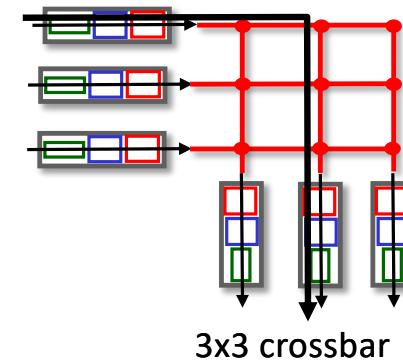
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8x8 multistage switch  
built from smaller-sized switches

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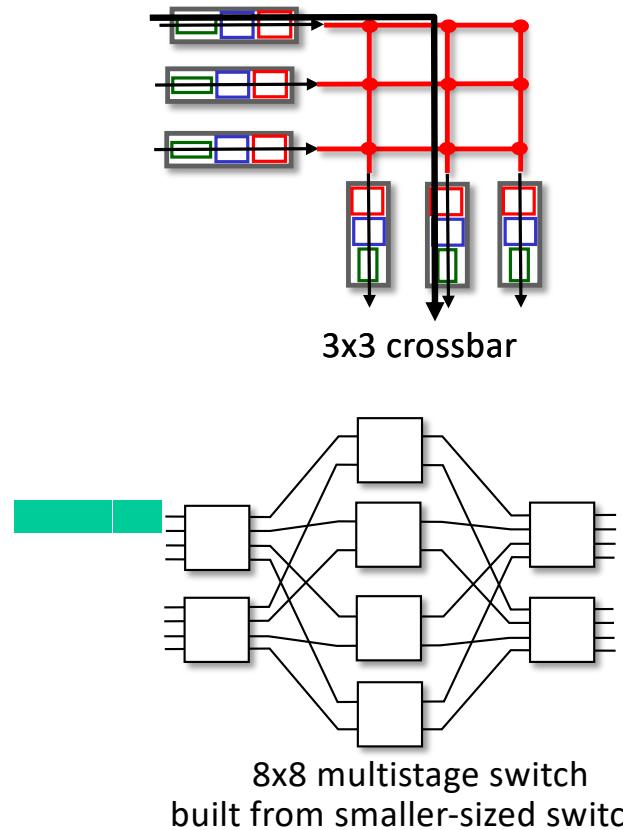
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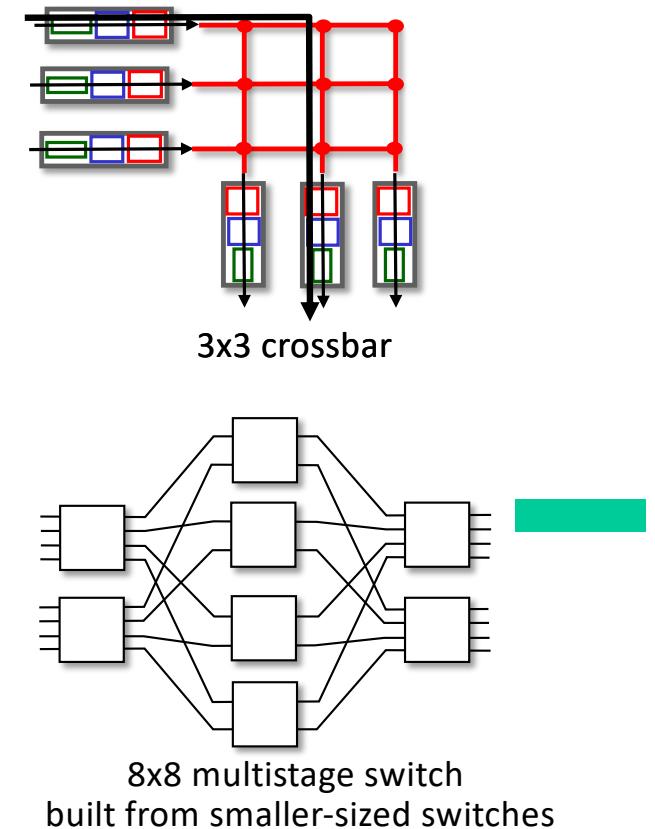
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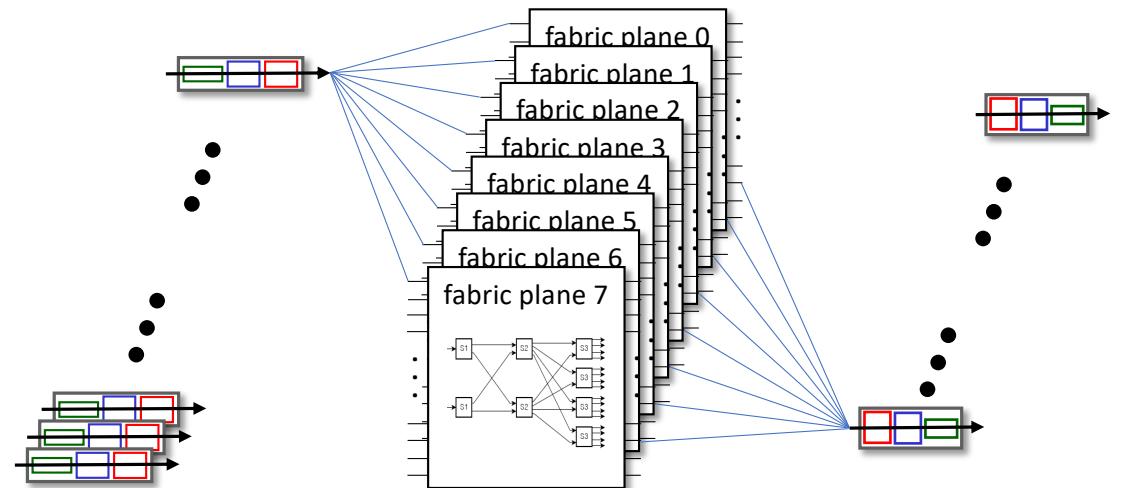
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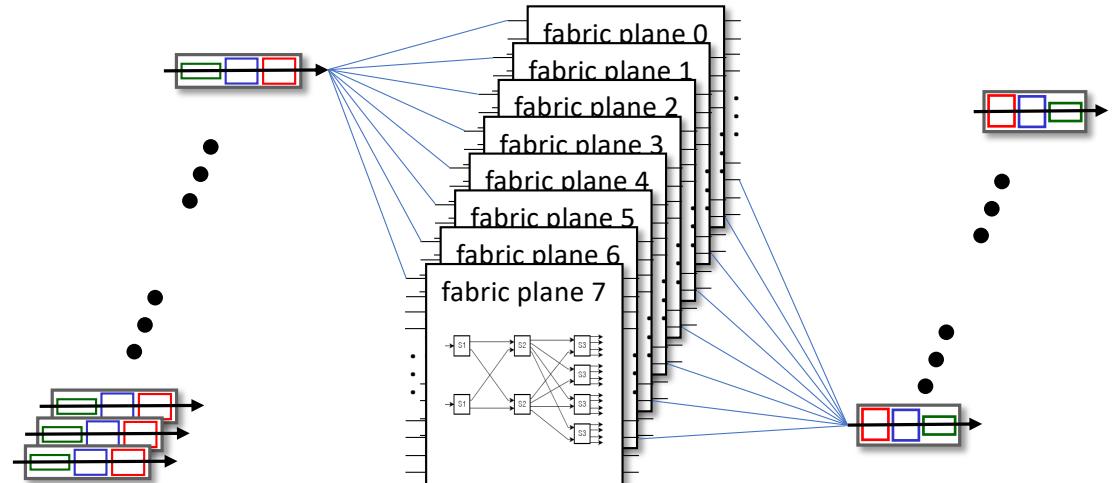
# Switching via interconnection network

- scaling, using multiple switching “planes” in parallel:
  - speedup, scaleup via parallelism



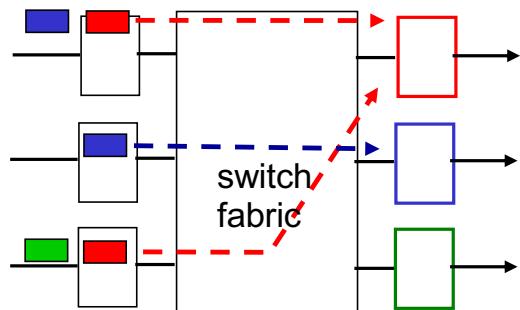
# Switching via interconnection network

- scaling, using multiple switching “planes” in parallel:
  - speedup, scaleup via parallelism
- Cisco CRS router:
  - basic unit: 8 switching planes
  - each plane: 3-stage interconnection network
  - up to 100's Tbps switching capacity



# Input port queuing

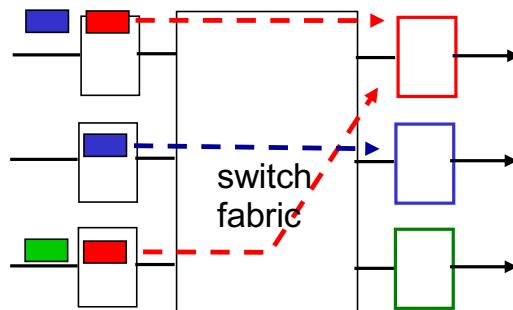
- If switch fabric slower than input ports combined -> queueing may occur at input queues
  - queueing delay and loss due to input buffer overflow!



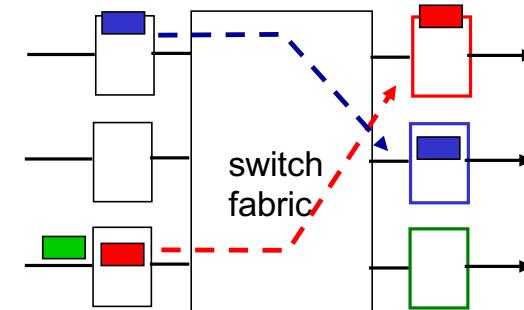
output port contention: only one red datagram can be transferred. lower red packet is *blocked*

# Input port queuing

- If switch fabric slower than input ports combined -> queueing may occur at input queues
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- **Head-of-the-Line (HOL) blocking:** queued datagram at front of queue prevents others in queue from moving forward

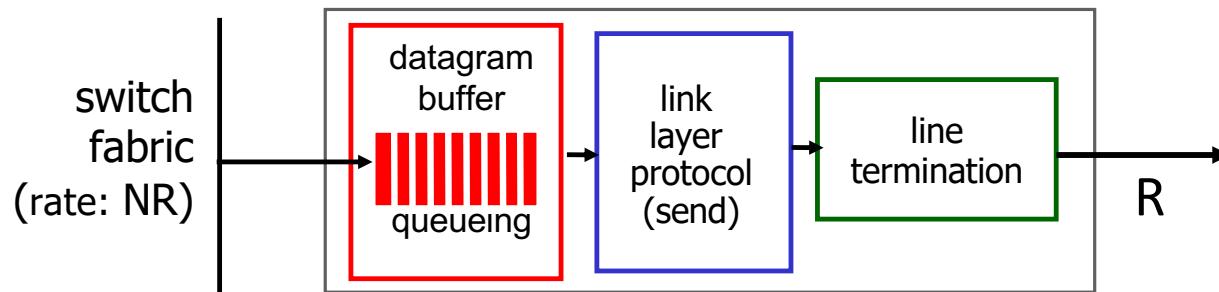


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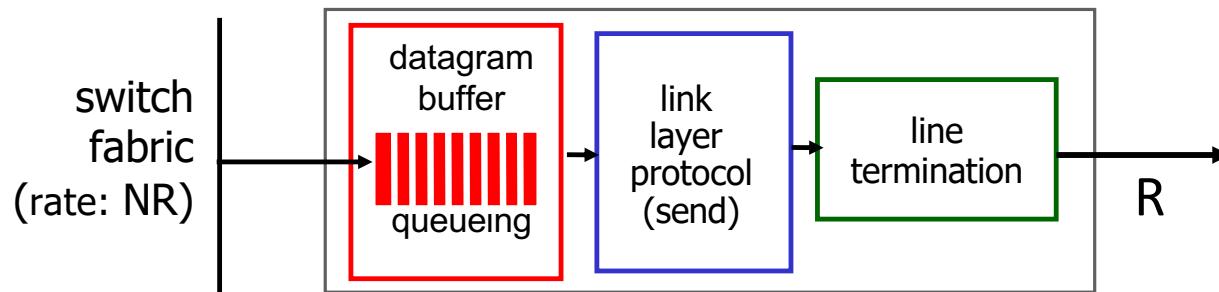
one packet time later: green packet experiences HOL blocking

# Output port queuing



- **Buffering** required when datagrams arrive from fabric faster than link transmission rate. **Drop policy:** which datagrams to drop if no free buffers?

# Output port queuing

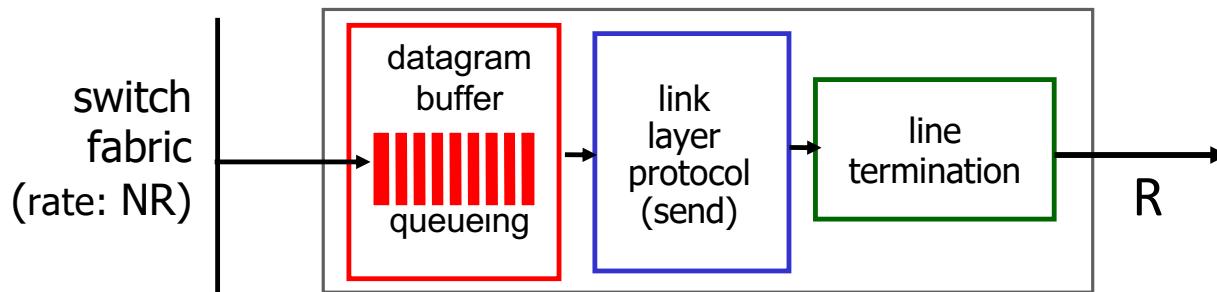


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Datagrams can be lost due to congestion, lack of buffers

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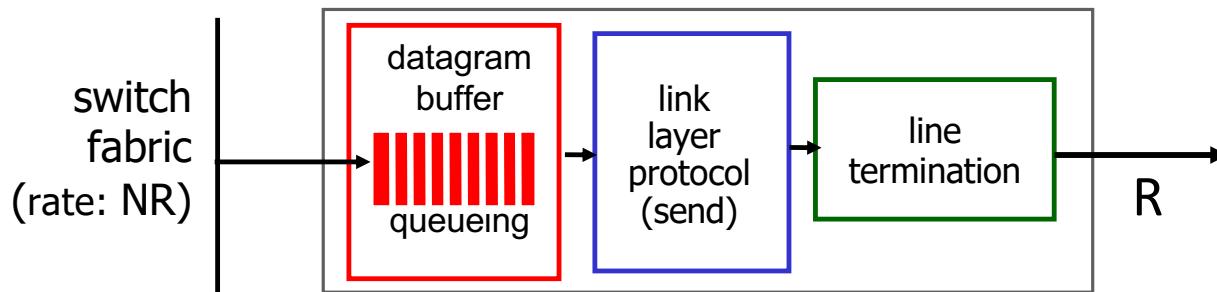


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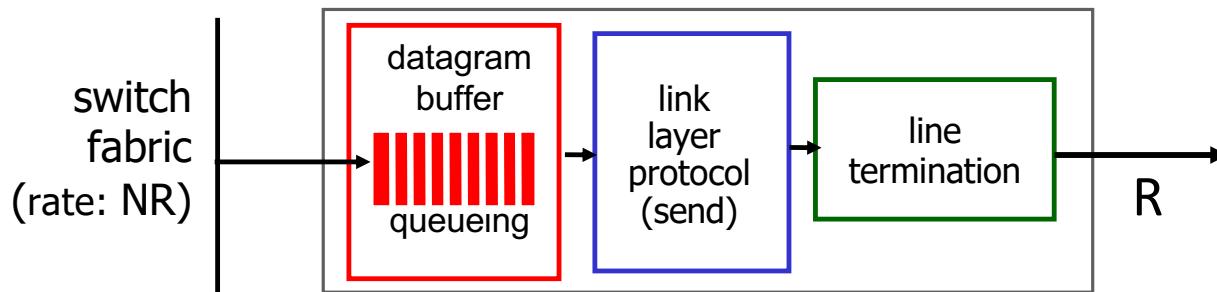
→ Datagrams can be lost due to congestion, lack of buffers

→ Priority scheduling – who gets best performance, network neutrality

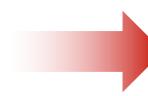
# Output port queuing



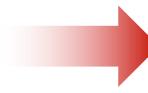
This is a really important slide



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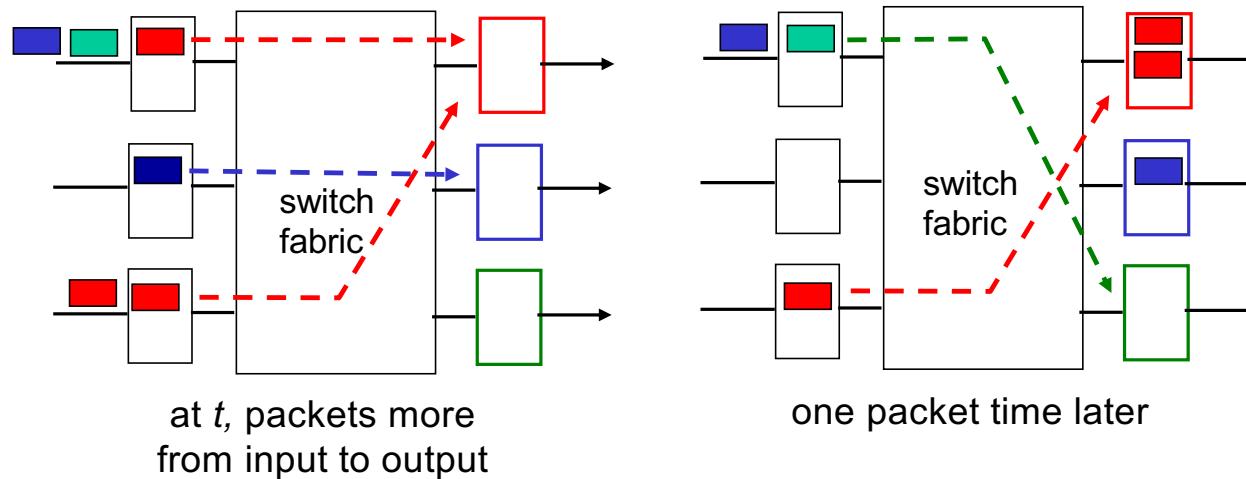


Datagrams can be lost due to congestion, lack of buffers



Priority scheduling – who gets best performance, network neutrality

# Output port queuing



- 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.,  $C = 10 \text{ Gbps}$  link: 2.5 Gbit buffer

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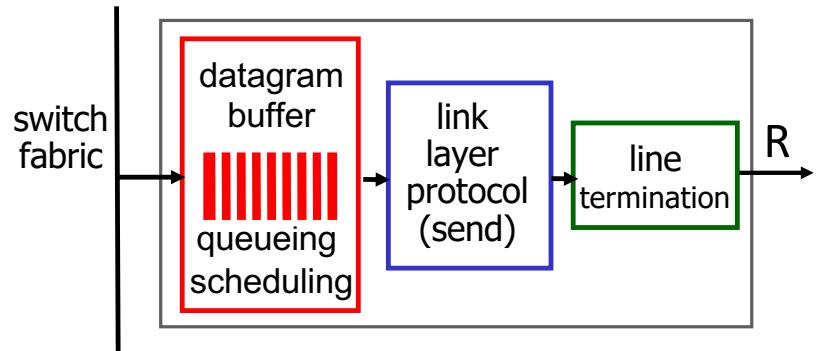
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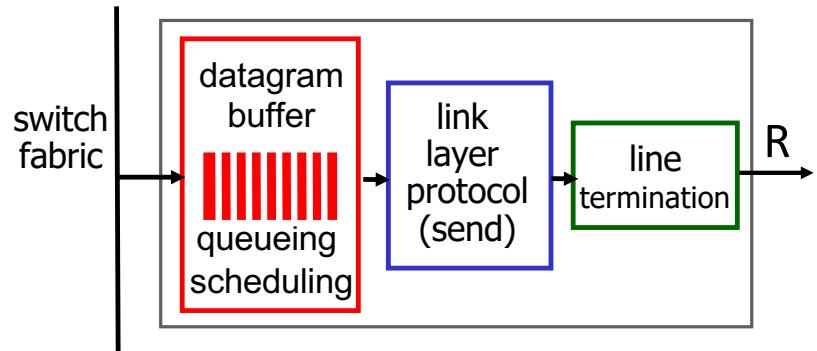
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- but *too* much buffering can increase delays (particularly in home routers)
  - long RTTs: poor performance for realtime apps, sluggish TCP response
  - recall delay-based congestion control: “keep bottleneck link just full enough (busy) but no fuller”

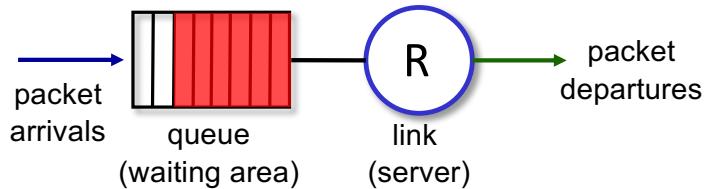
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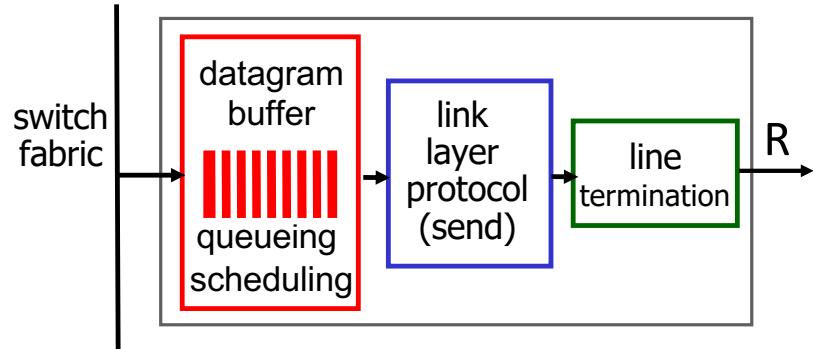
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Abstraction: queue



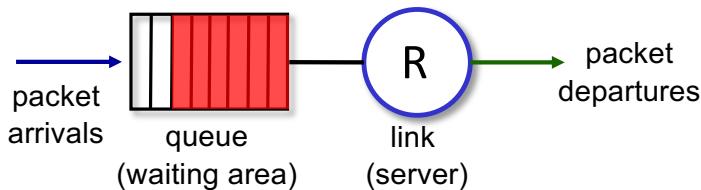
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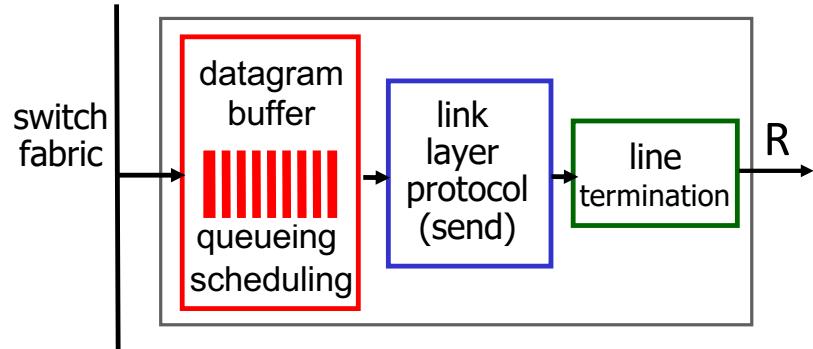
## buffer management:

- **drop**: which packet to add, drop when buffers are full
  - **tail drop**: drop arriving packet
  - **priority**: drop/remove on priority basis

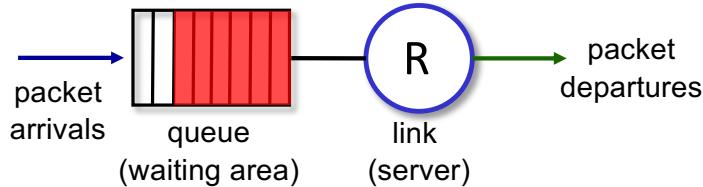
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# Buffer Management



Abstraction: queue



buffer management:

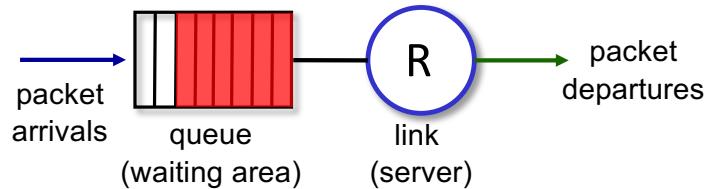
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- **marking**: which packets to mark to signal congestion (ECN, RED)

# Packet Scheduling: FCFS

**packet scheduling:** deciding which packet to send next on link

- first come, first served
- priority
- round robin
- weighted fair queueing

Abstraction: queue



# Packet Scheduling: FCFS

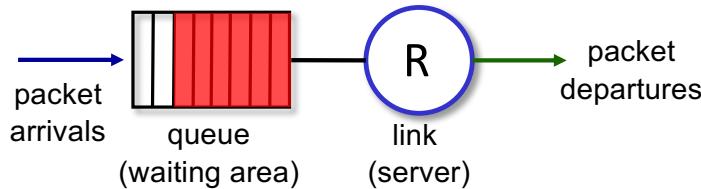
**packet scheduling:** deciding which packet to send next on link

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**FCFS:** packets transmitted in order of arrival to output port

- also known as: First-in-first-out (FIFO)
- real world examples?

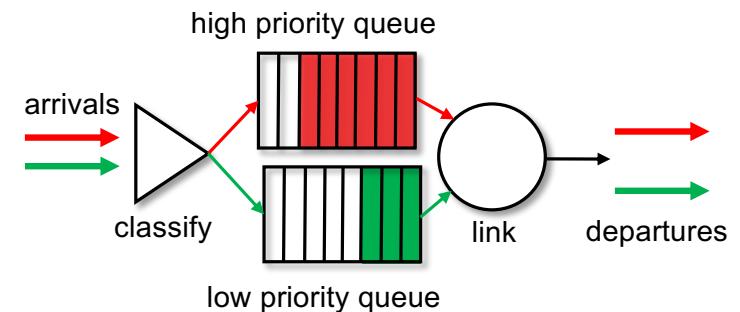
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# Scheduling policies: priority

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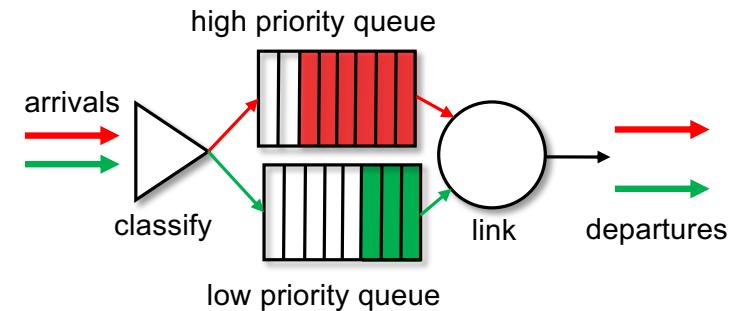
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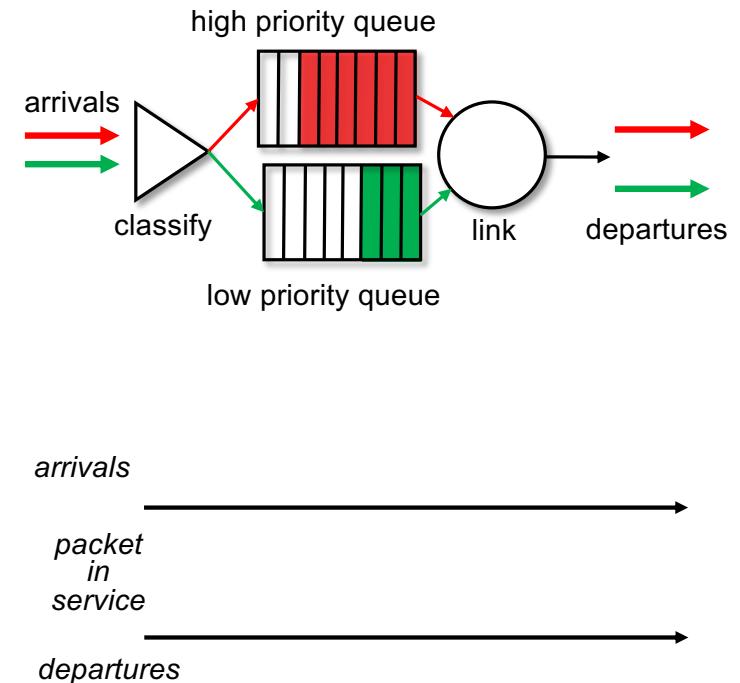
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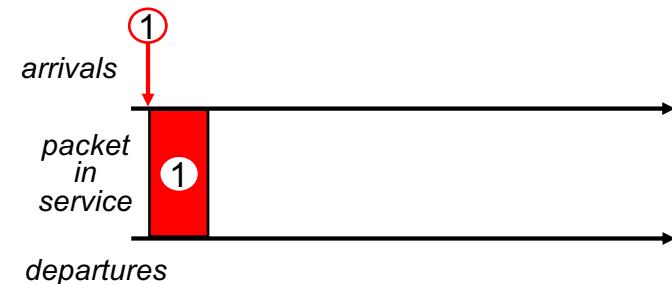
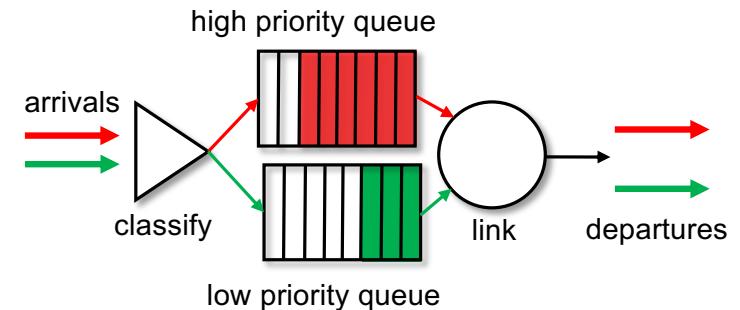
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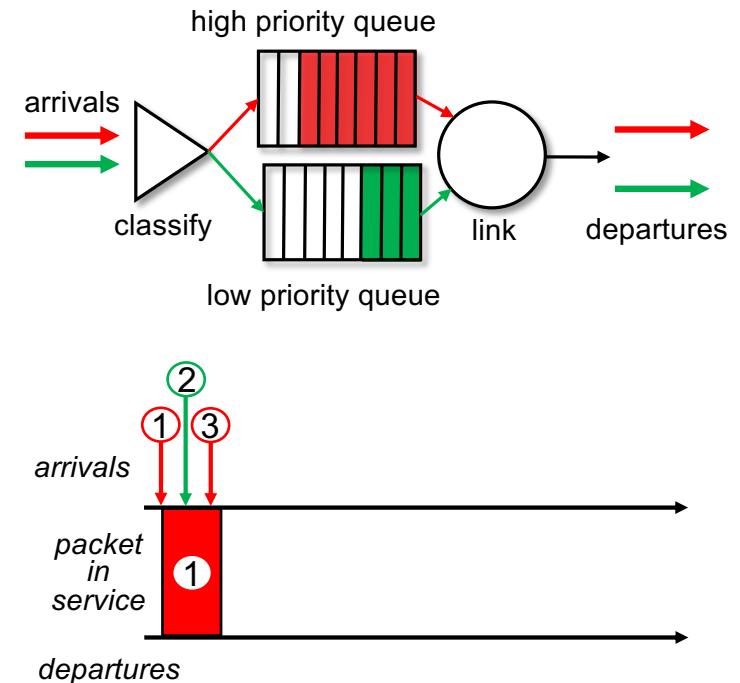
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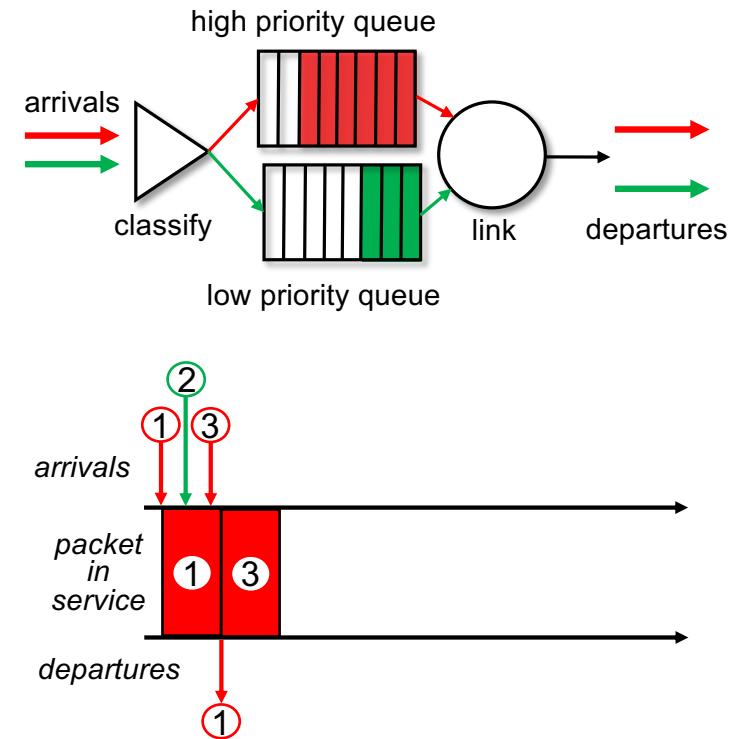
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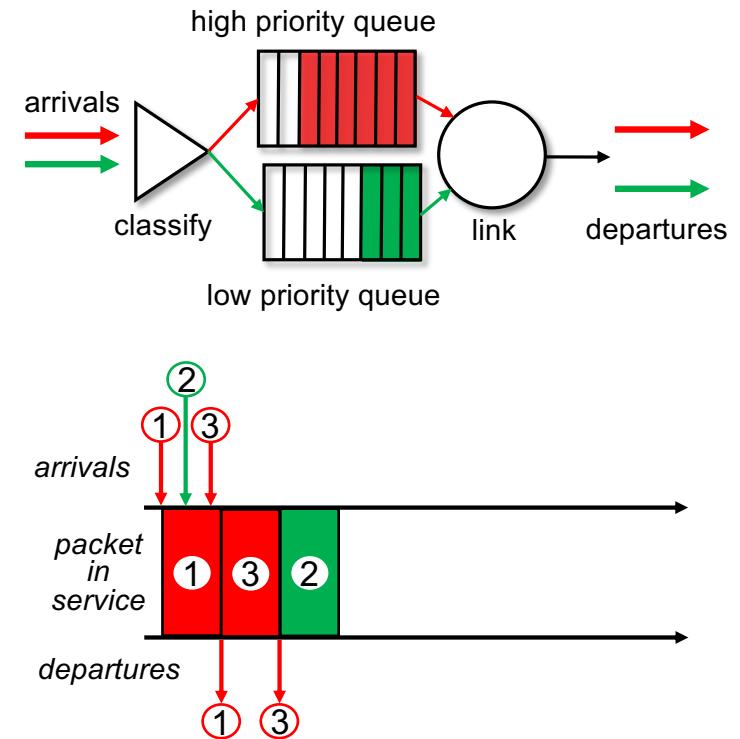
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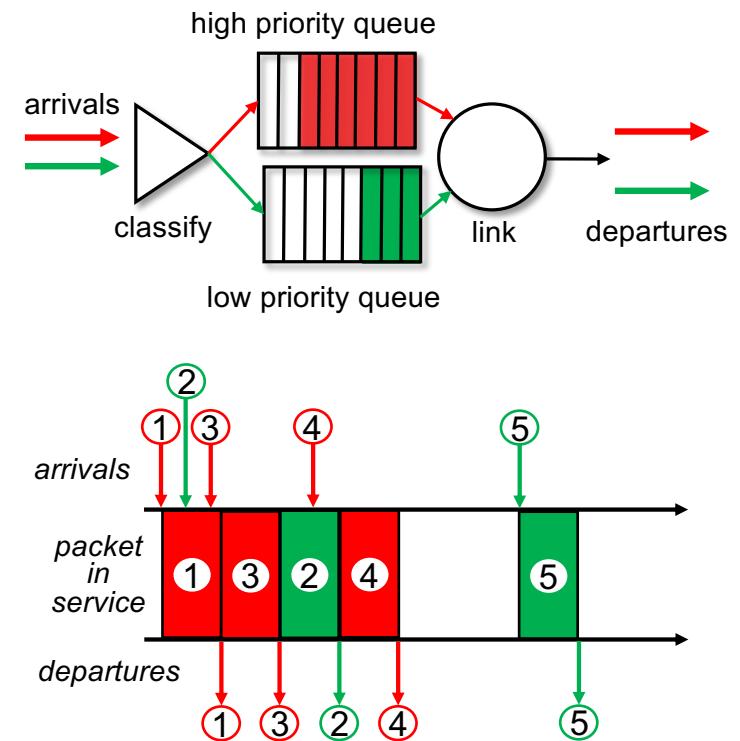
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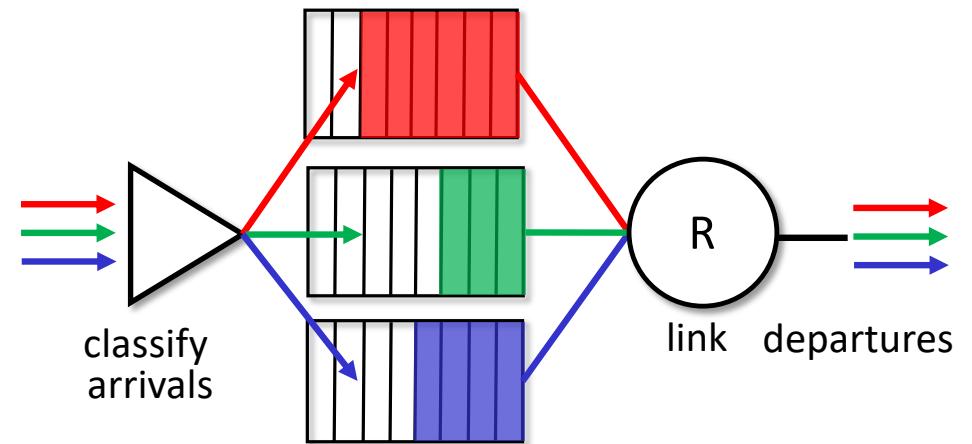
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# Scheduling policies: round robin

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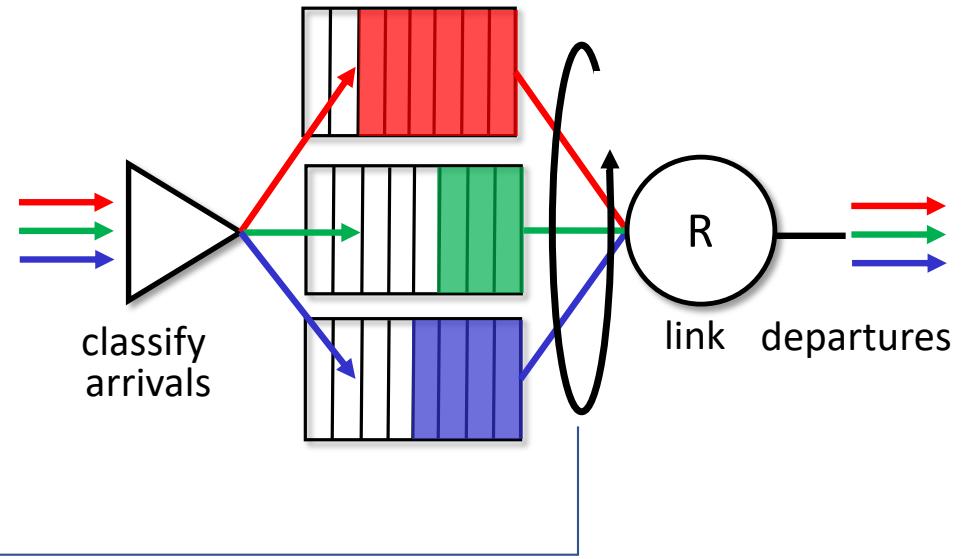
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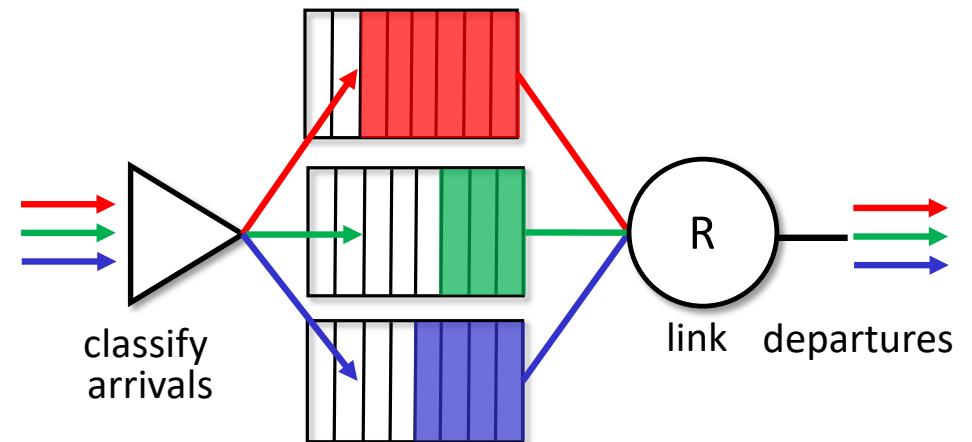
- arriving traffic classified, queued by class
  - any header fields can be used for classification
- server cyclically, repeatedly scans class queues, sending one complete packet from each class (if available) in turn



# Scheduling policies: weighted fair queueing

*Weighted Fair Queueing (WFQ):*

- generalized Round Robin

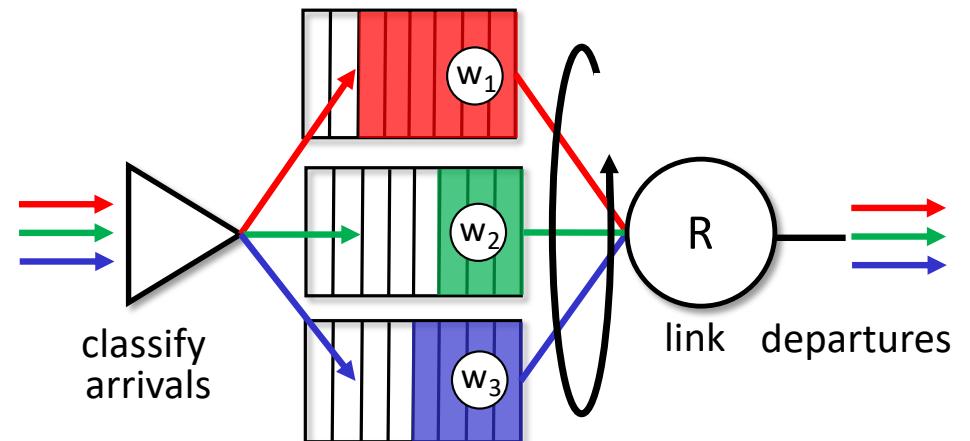


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*Weighted Fair Queuing (WFQ):*

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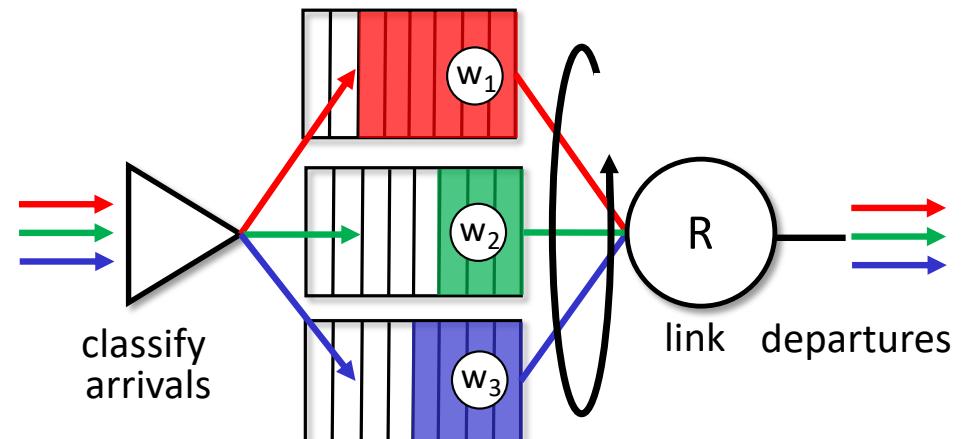
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- minimum bandwidth guarantee (per-traffic-class)



## Sidebar: Network Neutrality

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*Different countries have different “takes” on network neutrality*

## Sidebar: Network Neutrality

2015 US FCC *Order on Protecting and Promoting an Open Internet*: three “clear, bright line” rules:

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- **no paid prioritization.** ... “shall not engage in paid prioritization”

# ISP: telecommunications or information service?

Is an ISP a “telecommunications service” or an “information service” provider?

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US Telecommunication Act of 1934 and 1996:

- *Title II*: imposes “common carrier duties” on *telecommunications services*: reasonable rates, non-discrimination and *requires regulation*
- *Title I*: applies to *information services*:
  - no common carrier duties (*not regulated*)
  - but grants FCC authority “... as may be necessary in the execution of its functions”<sup>4</sup>

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



# Lecture 15

CS4377 – Intro to Networks  
Prof Kevin Long

# Network layer: “data plane” roadmap

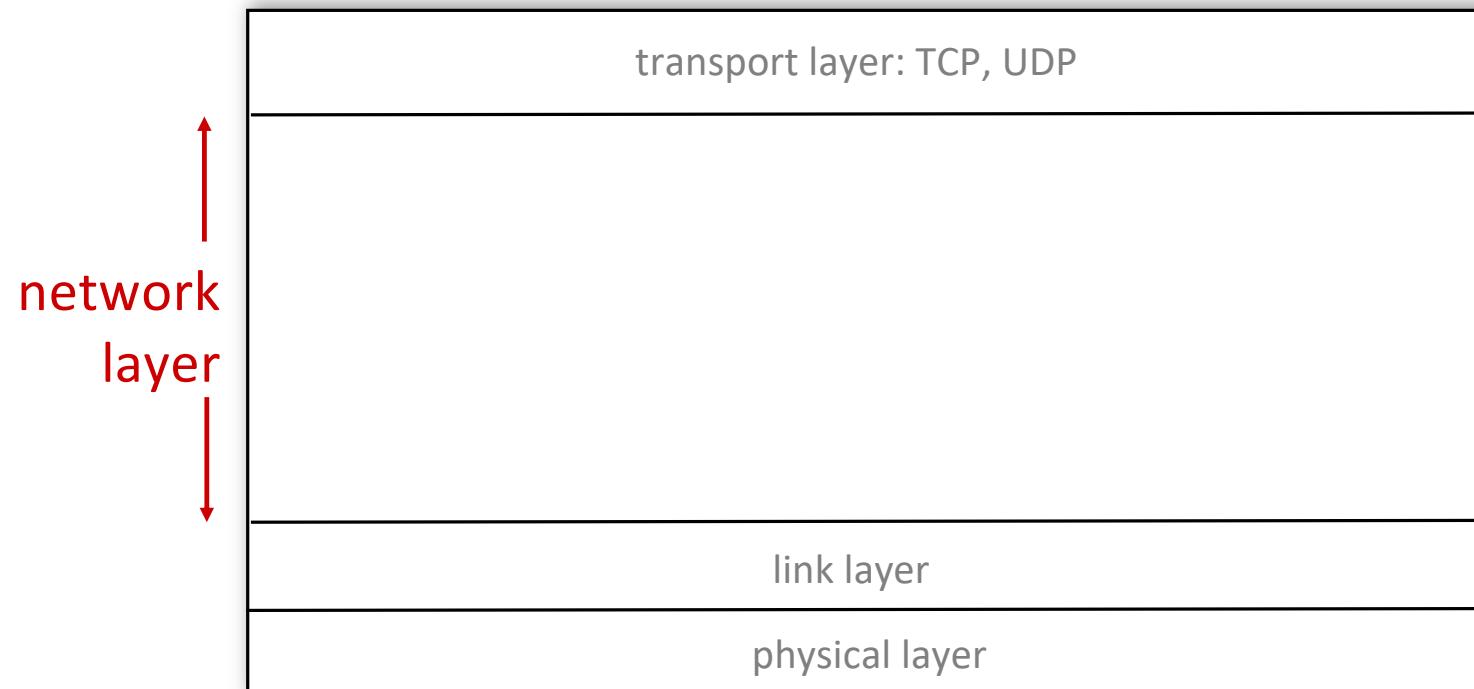
- Network layer: overview
  - data plane
  - control plane
- What's inside a router
  - input ports, switching, output ports
  - buffer management, scheduling
- IP: the Internet Protocol
  - **datagram format**
  - **addressing**
  - network address translation
  - IPv6



- Generalized Forwarding, SDN
  - match+action
  - OpenFlow: match+action in action
- Middleboxes

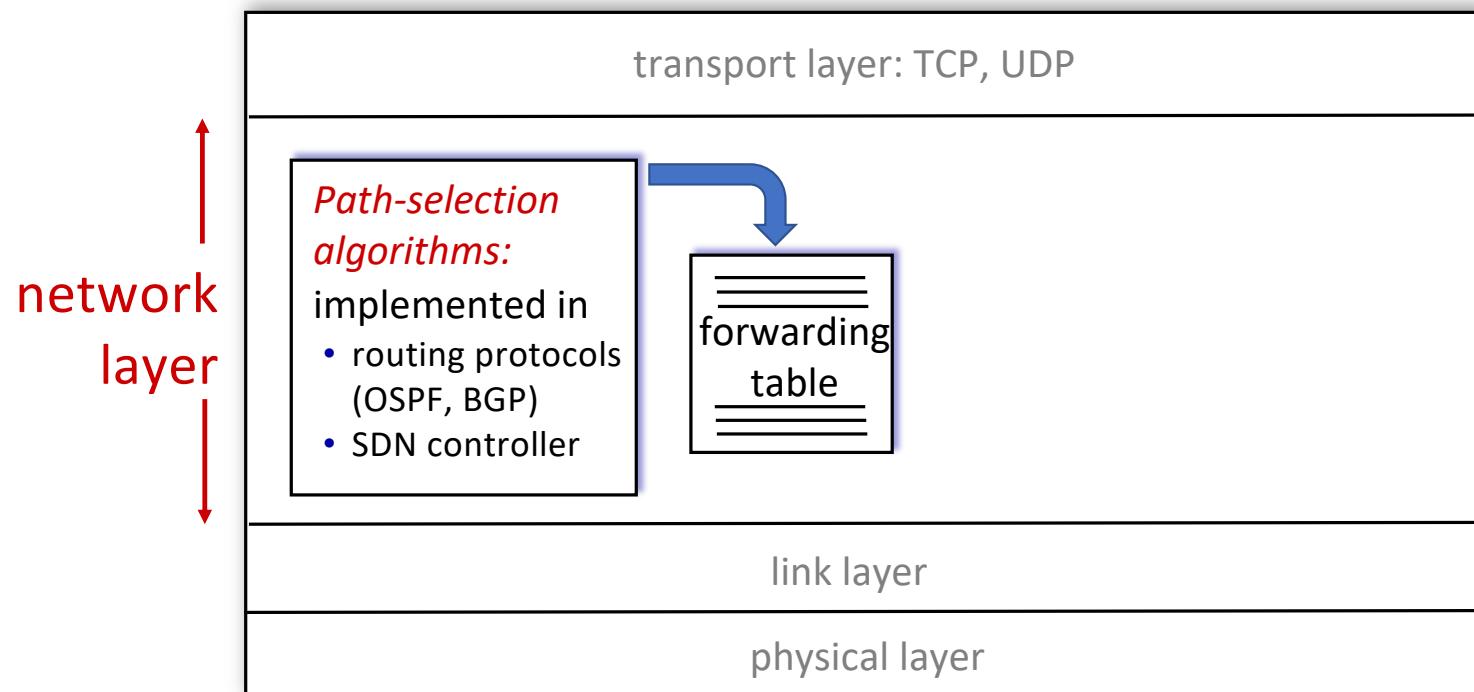
# Network Layer: Internet

host, router network layer functions:



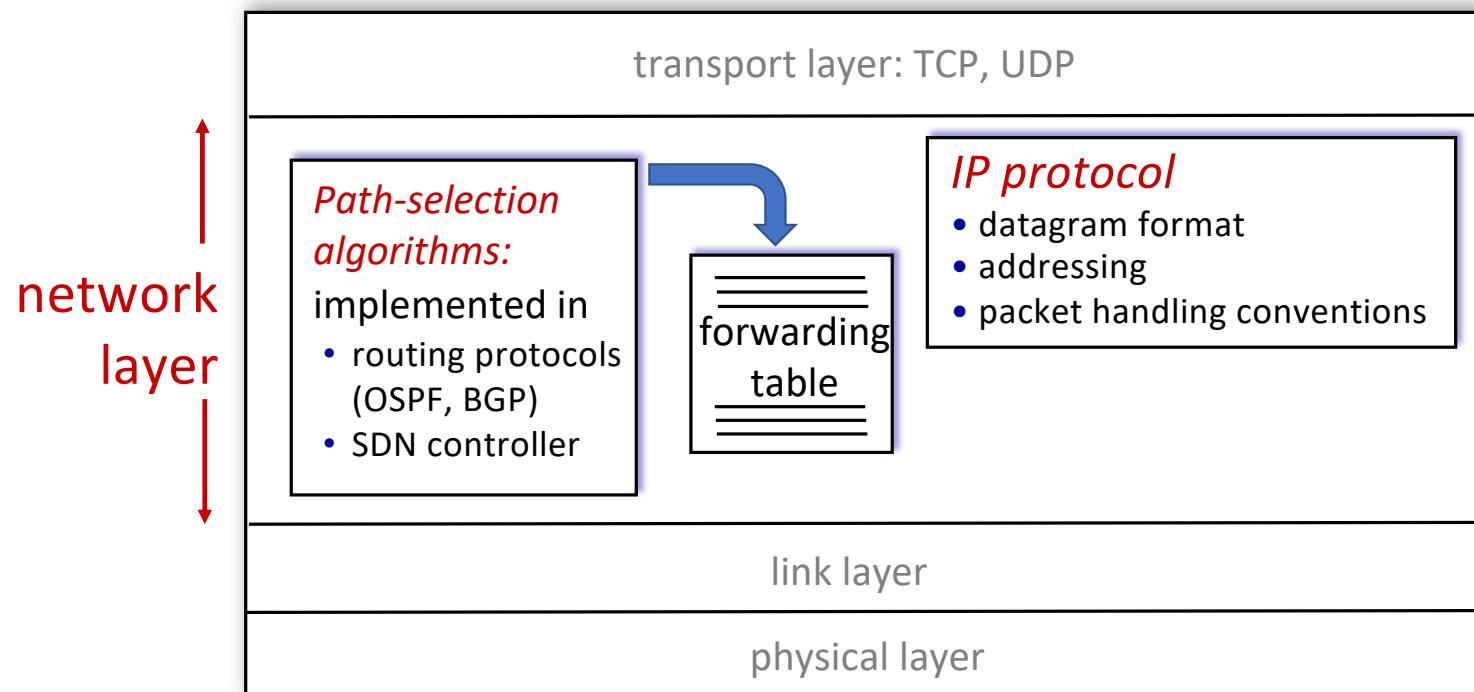
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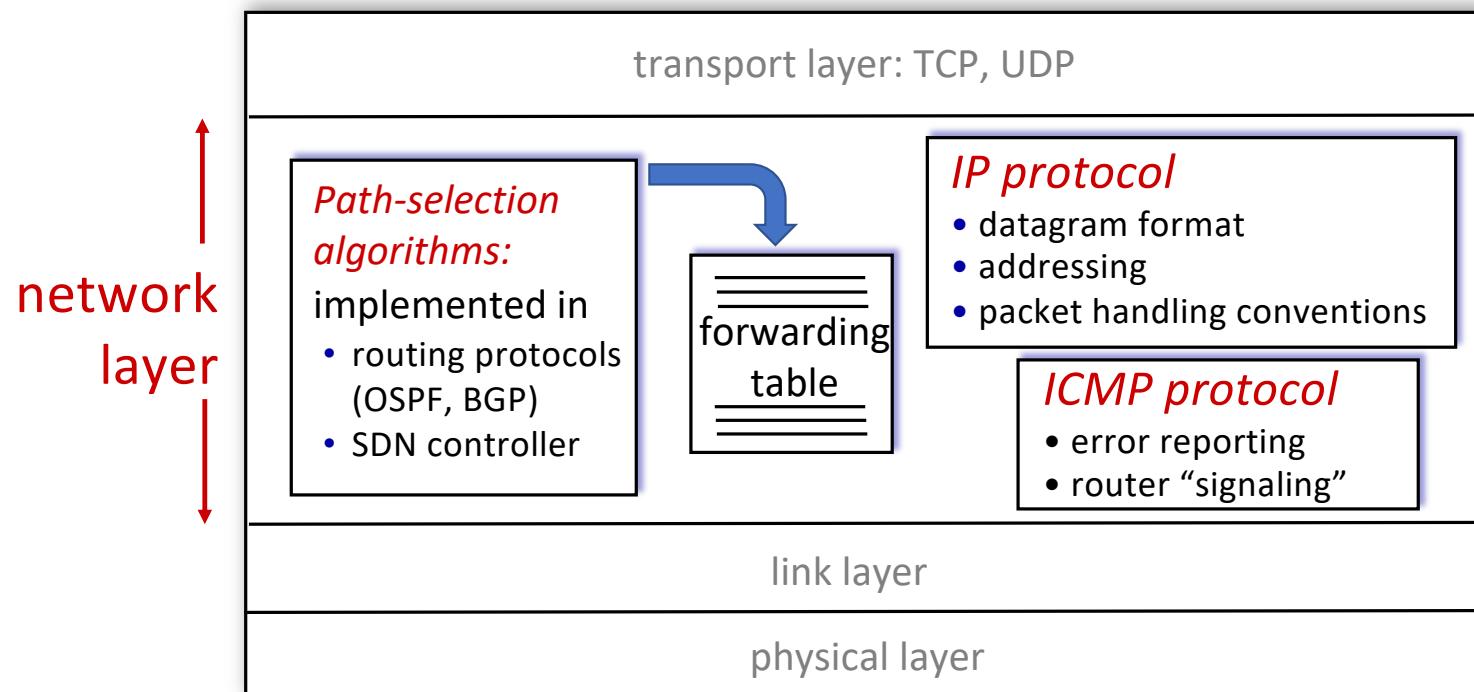
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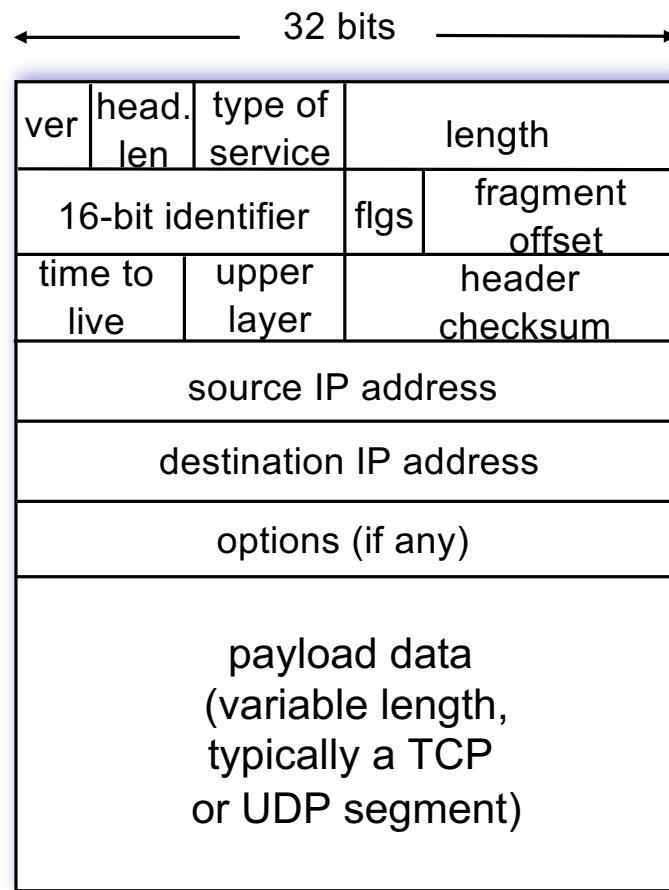


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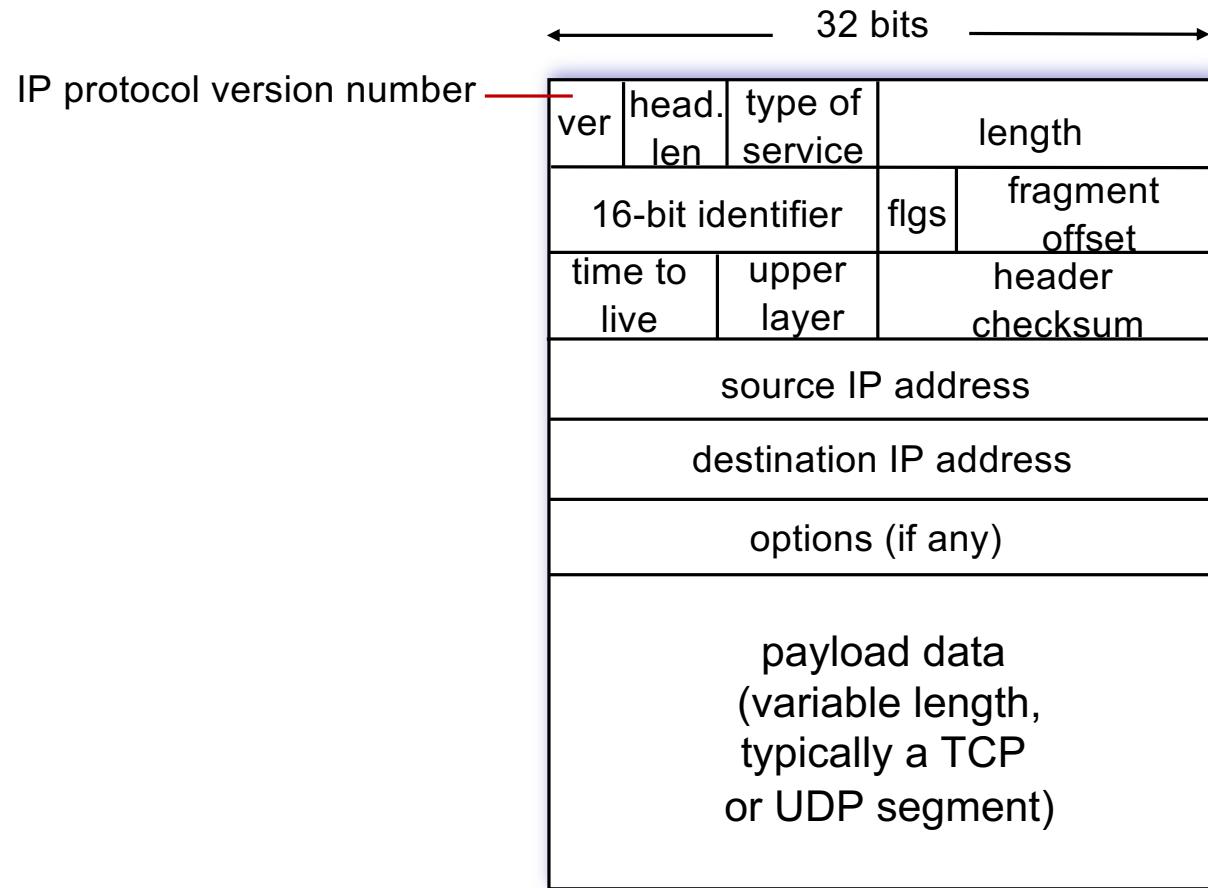
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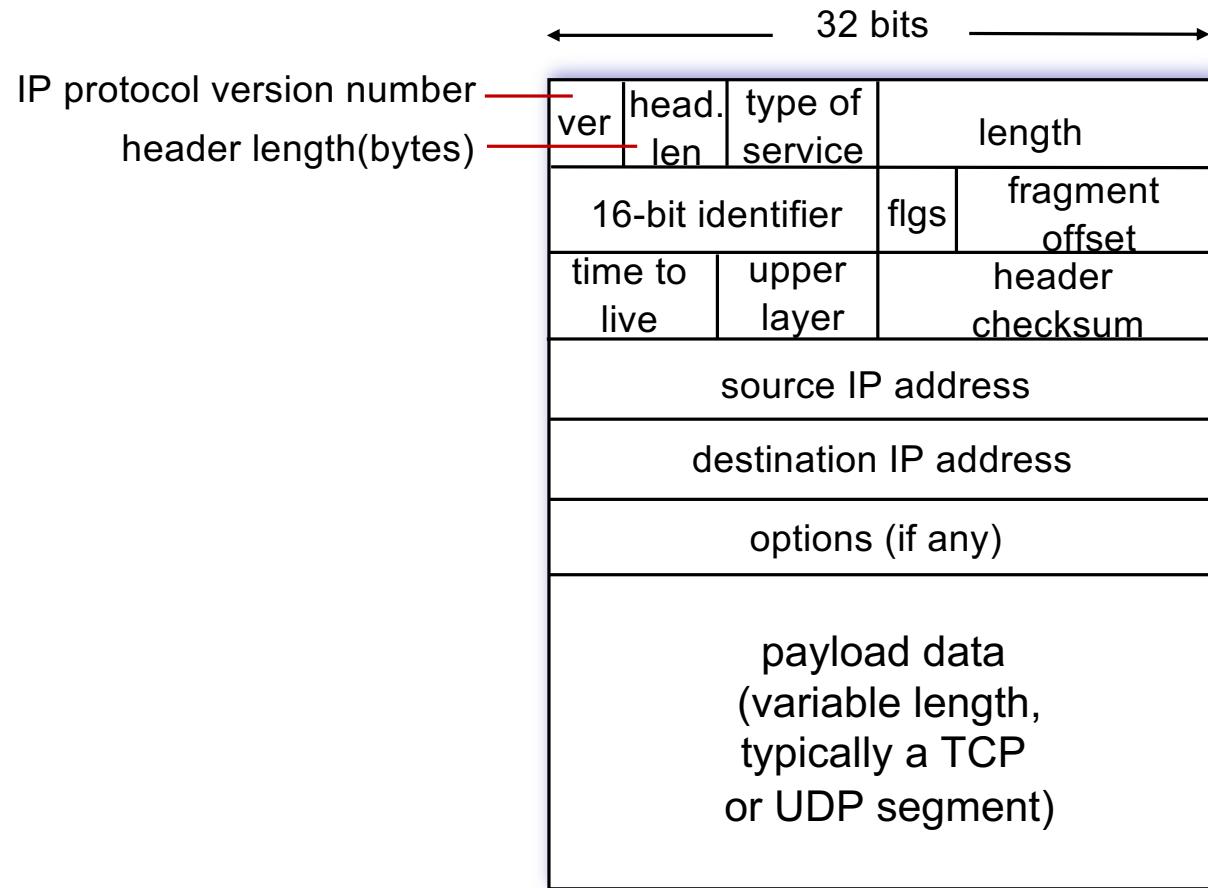
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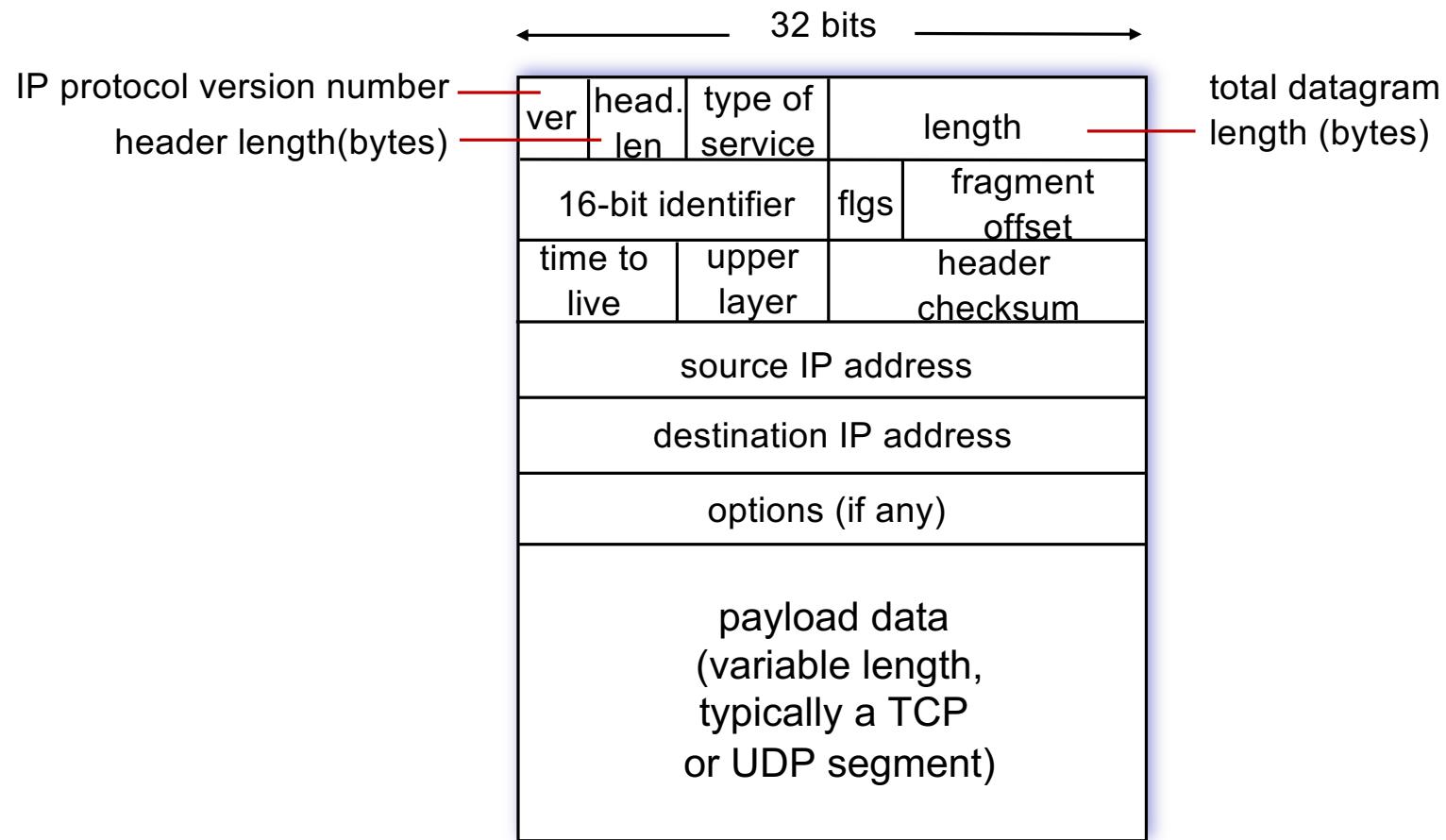
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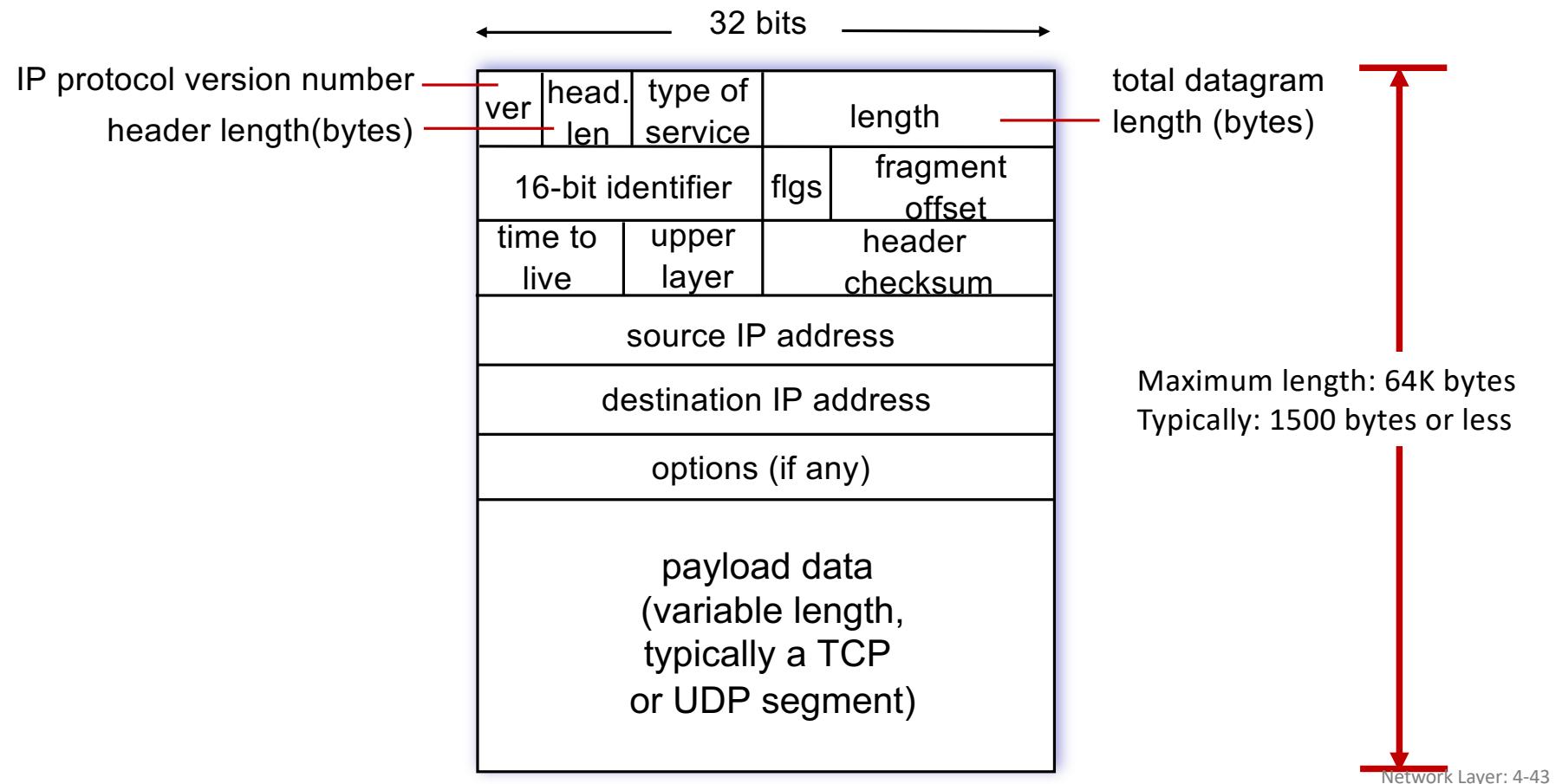
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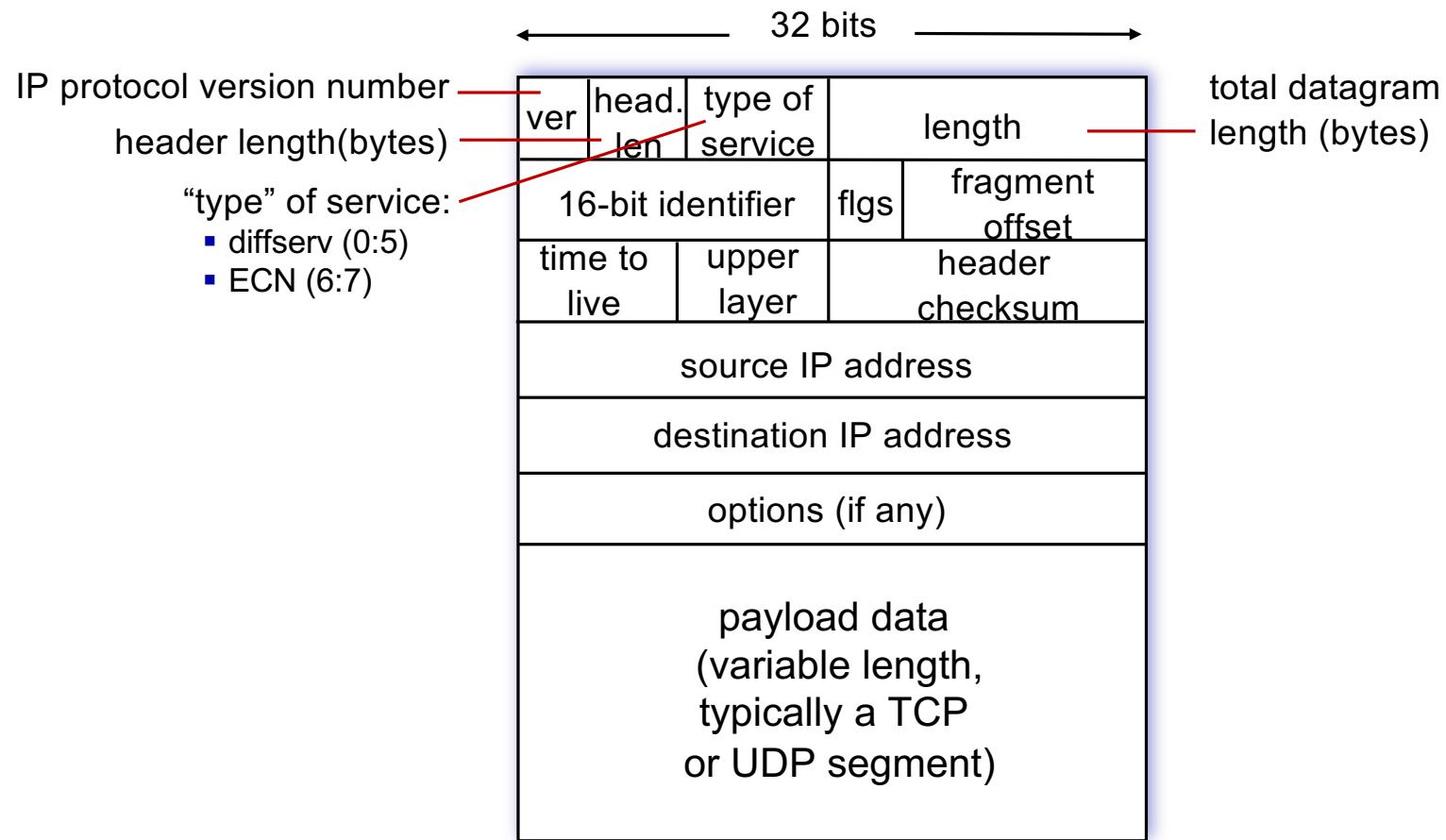
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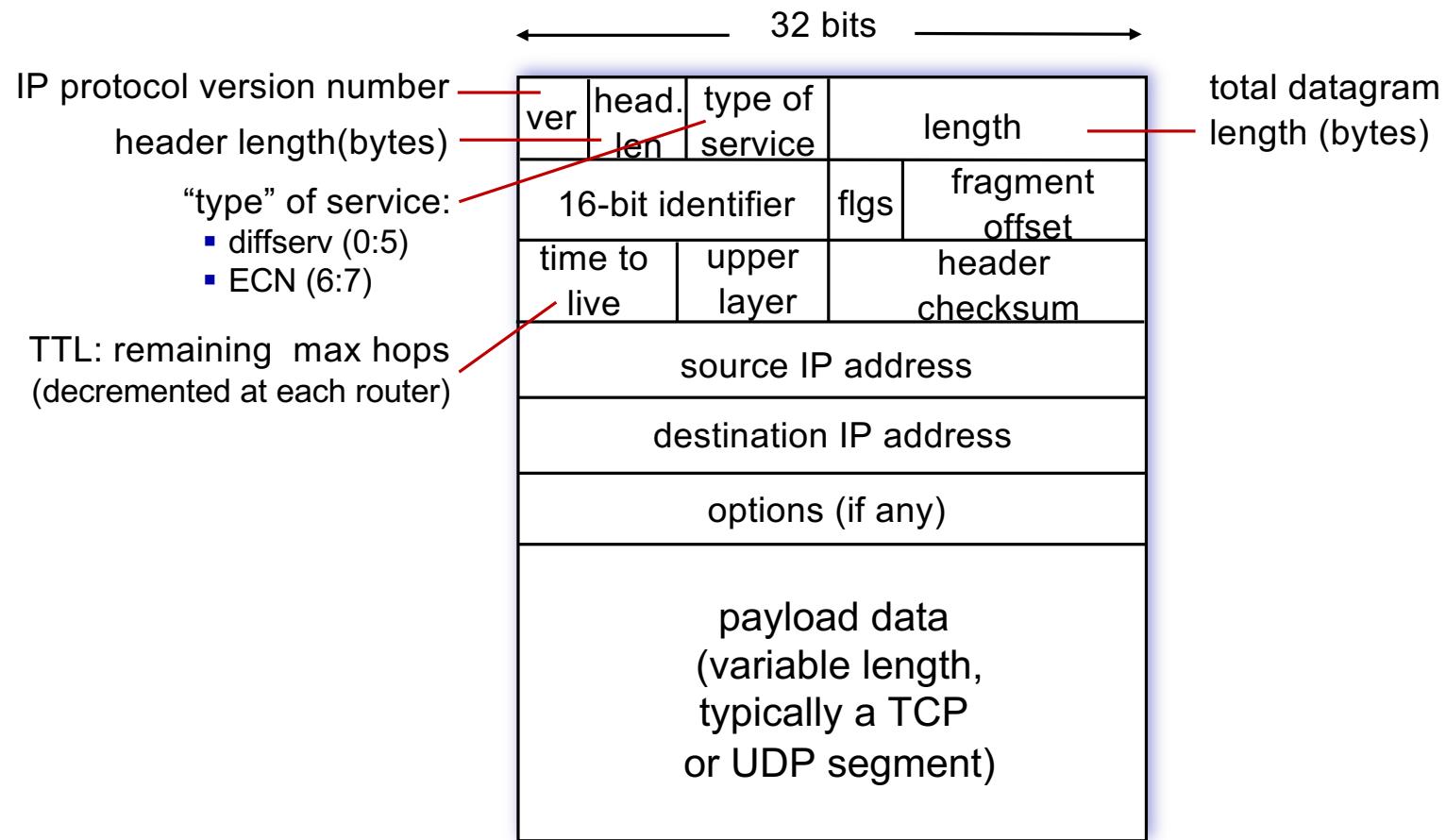
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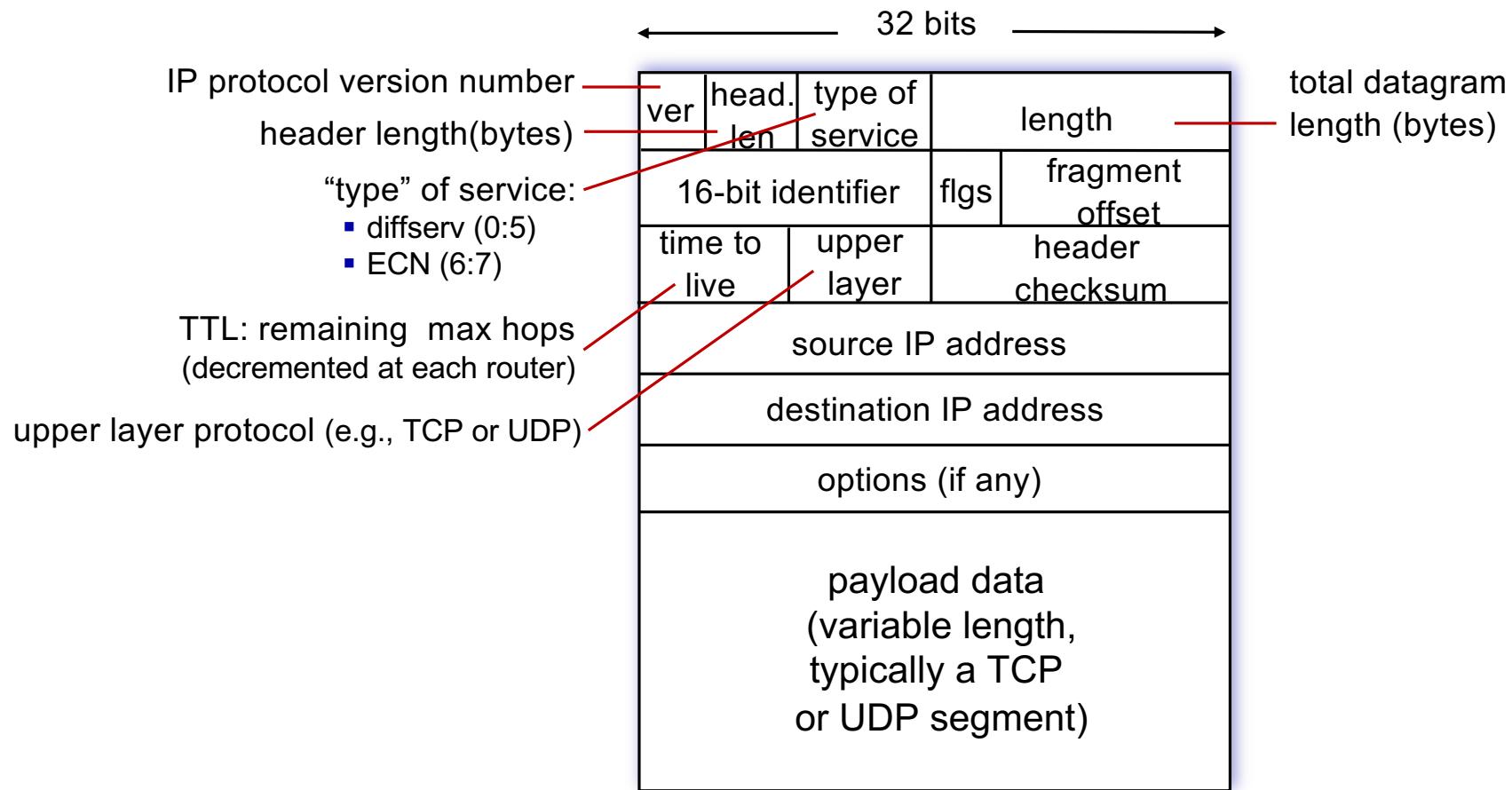
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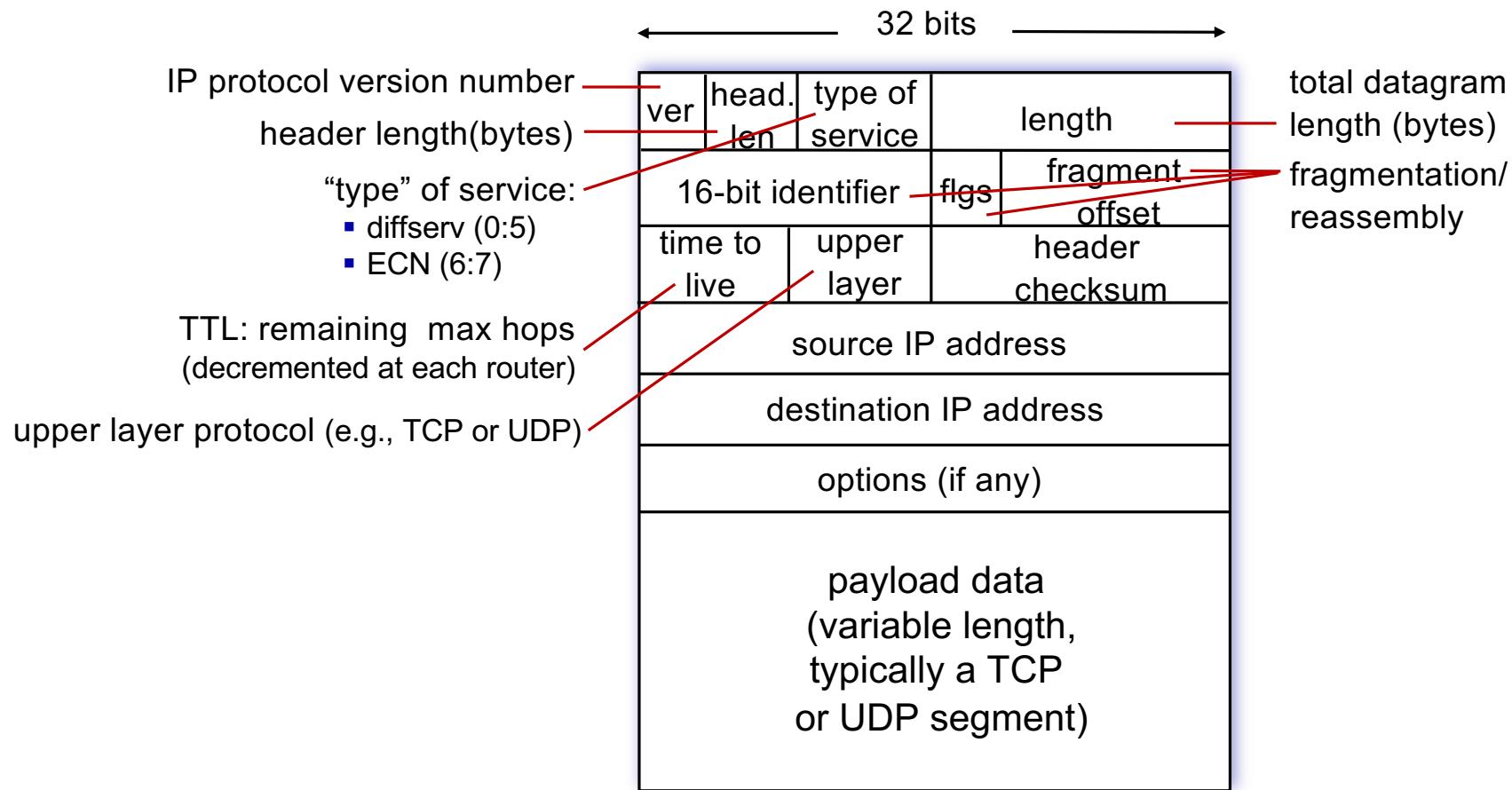
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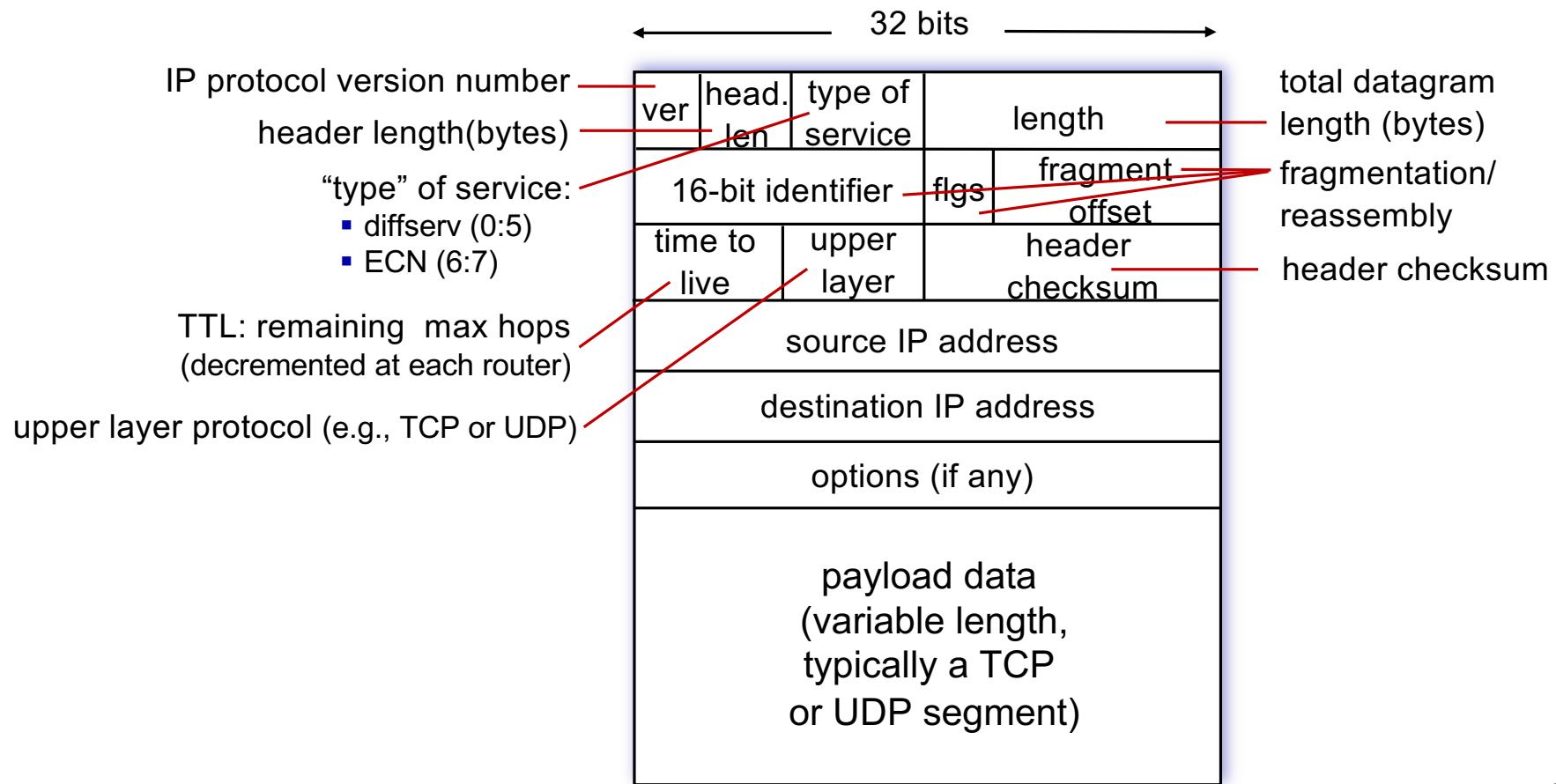
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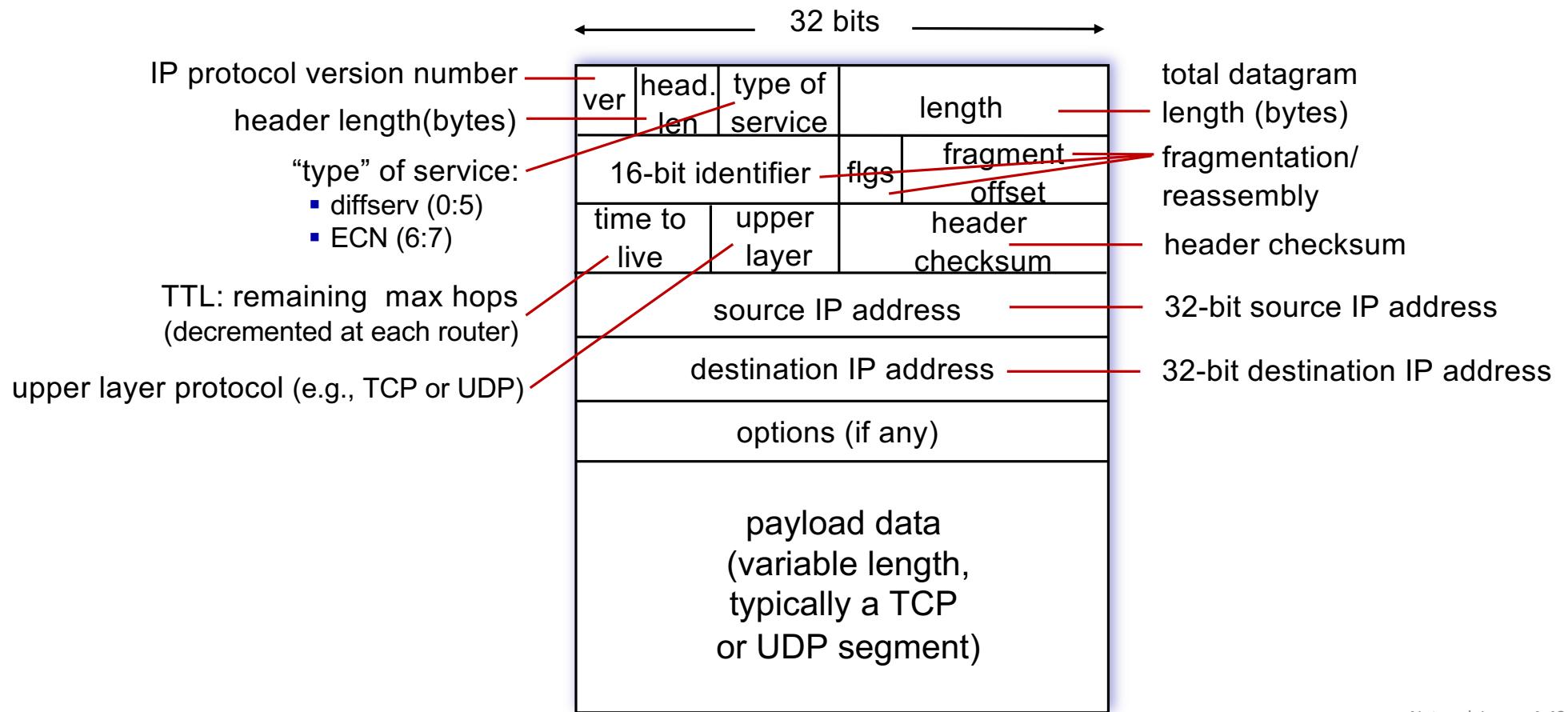
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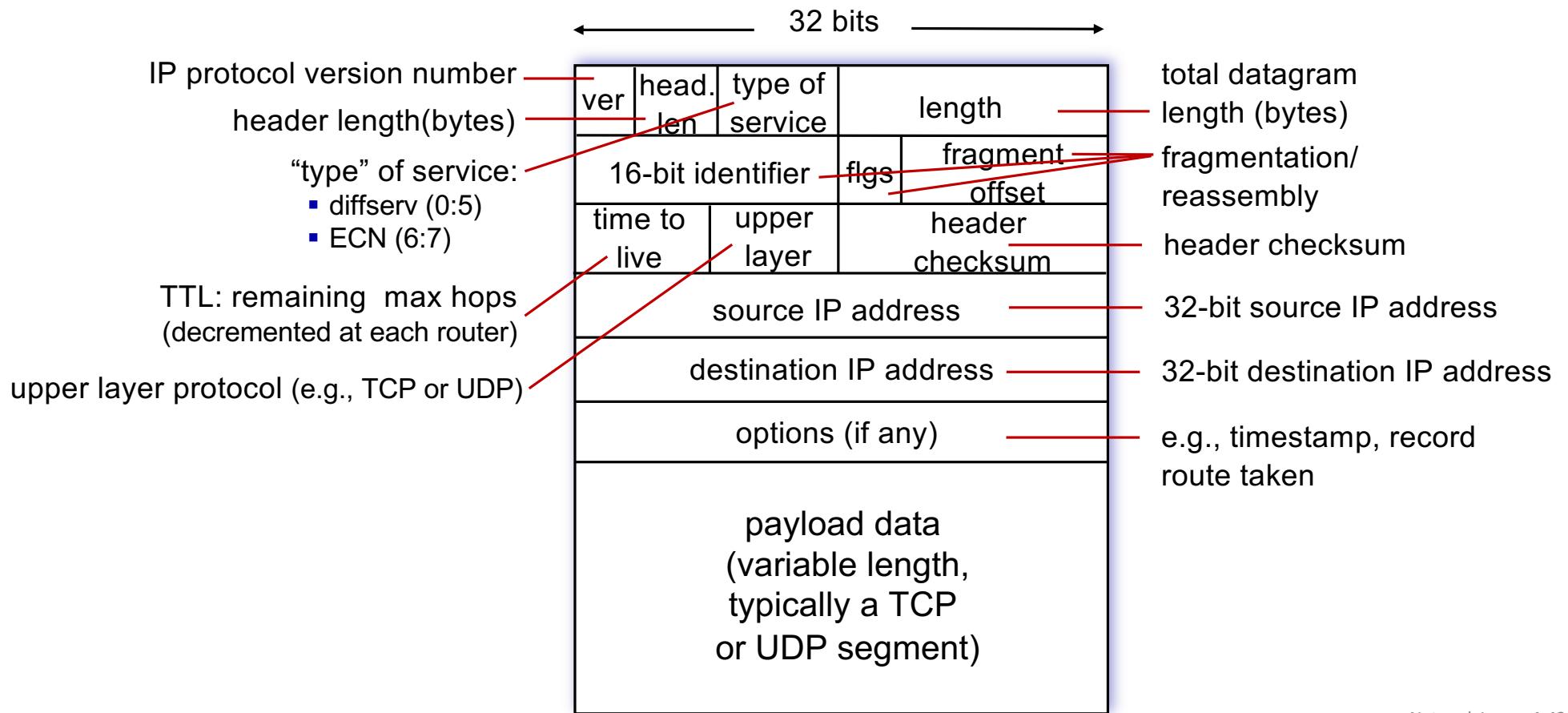
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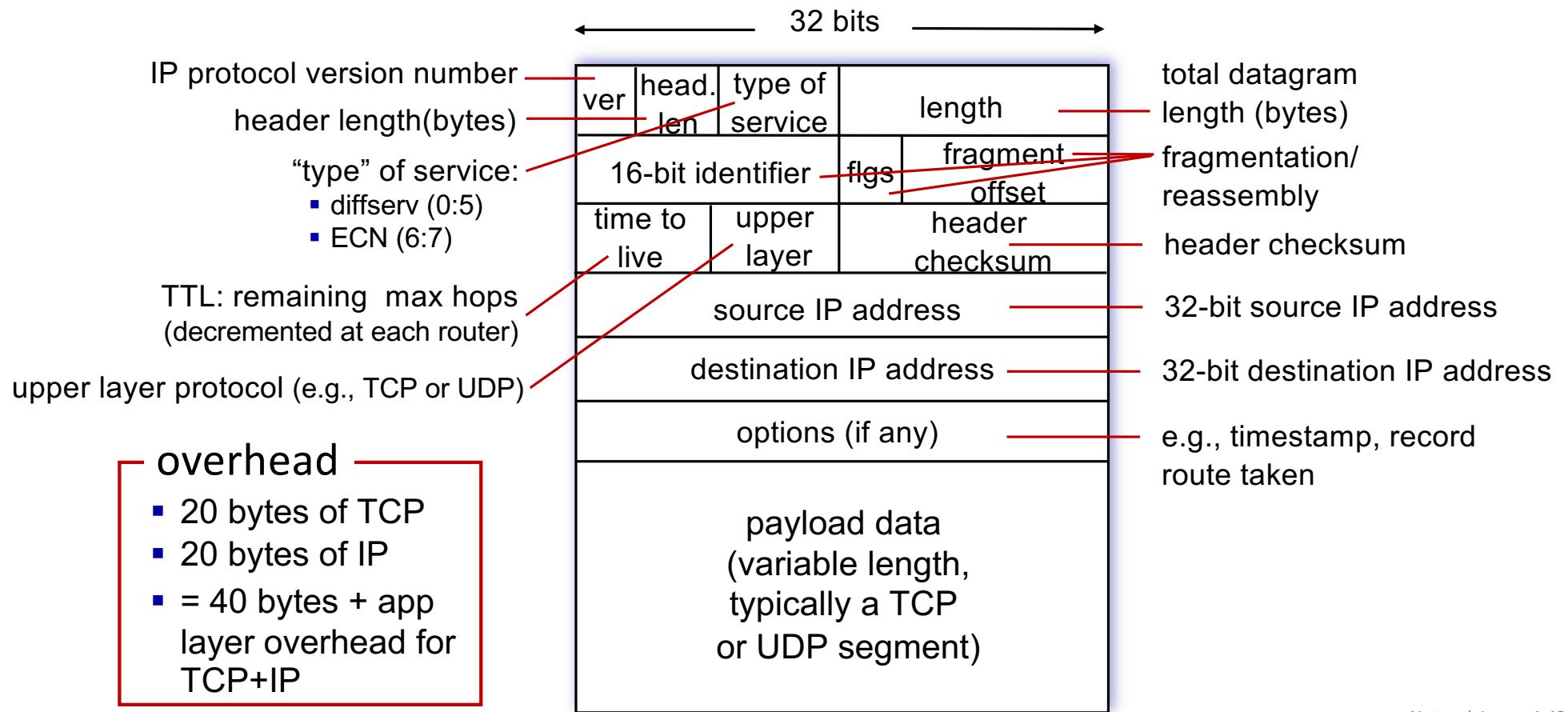
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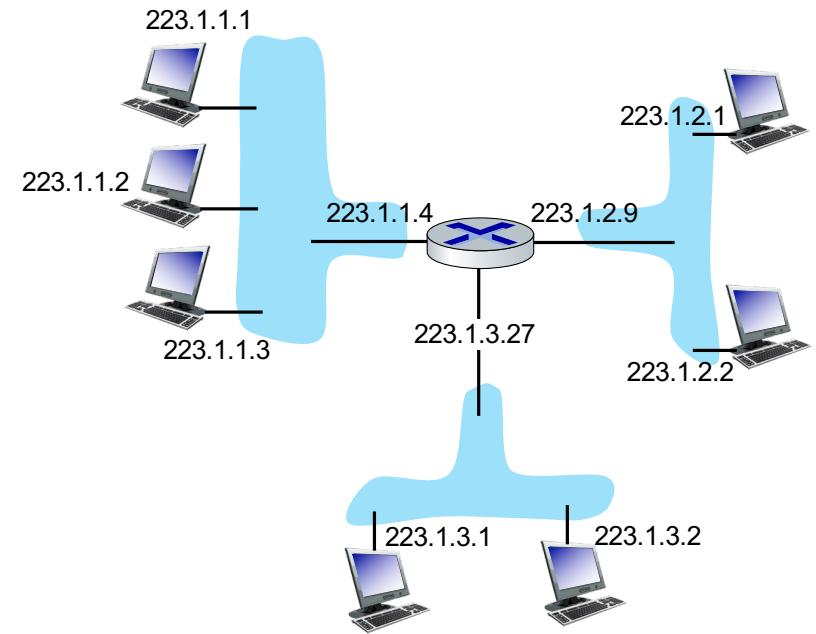
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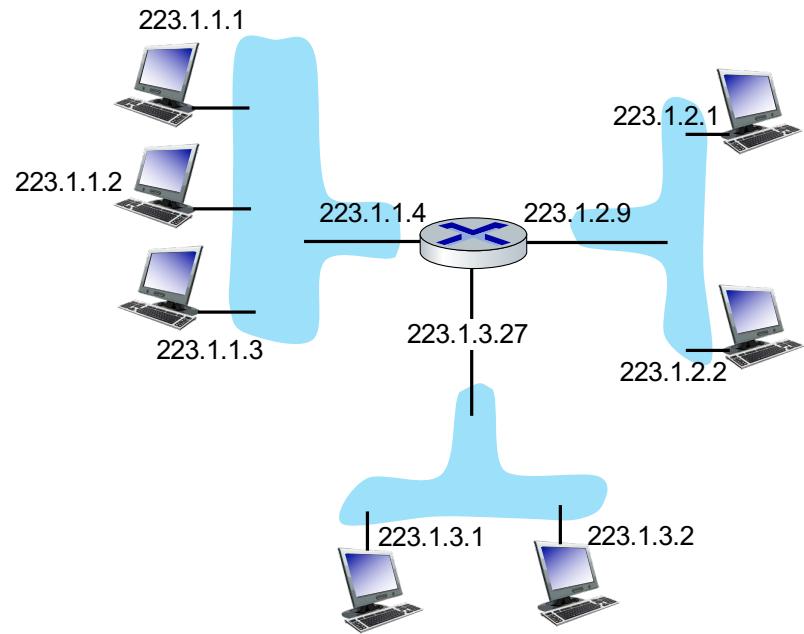


# IP addressing: introduction



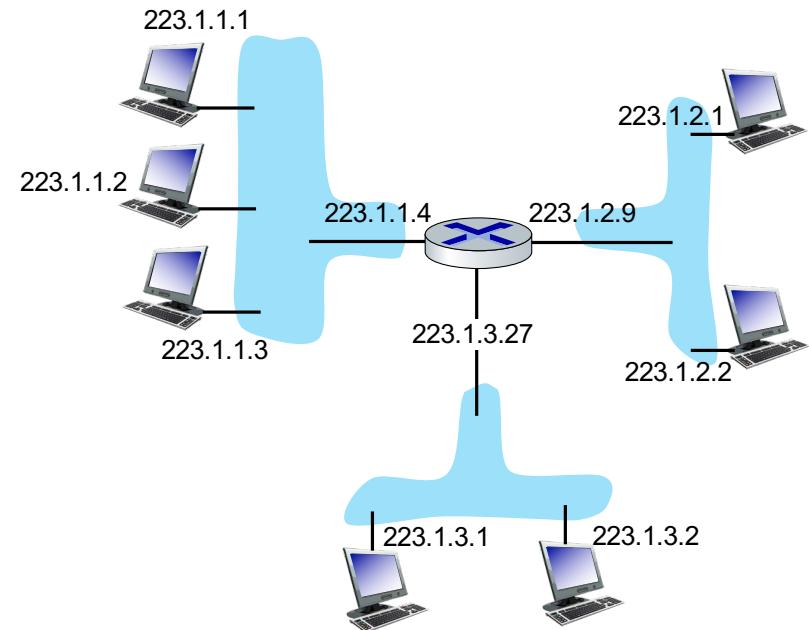
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- **IP address:** 32-bit identifier associated with each host or router *interface*



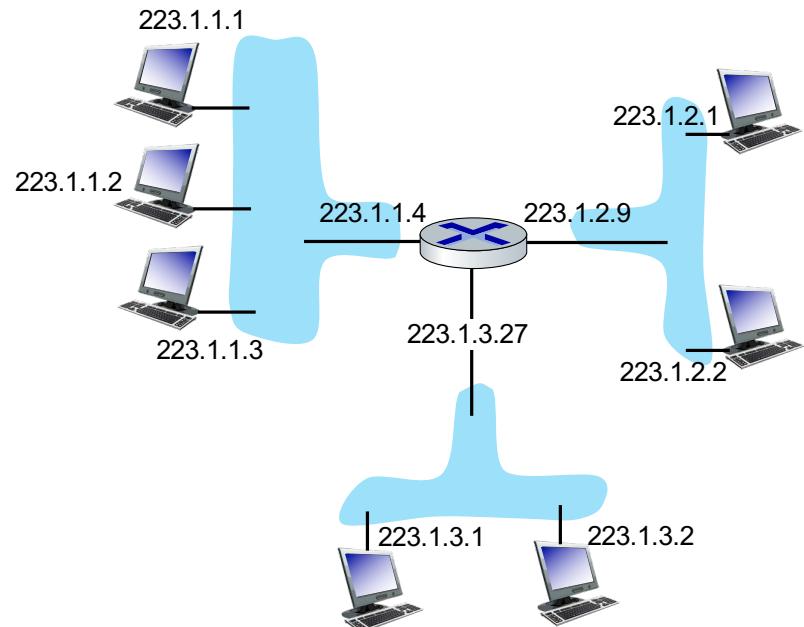
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dotted-decimal IP address notation:

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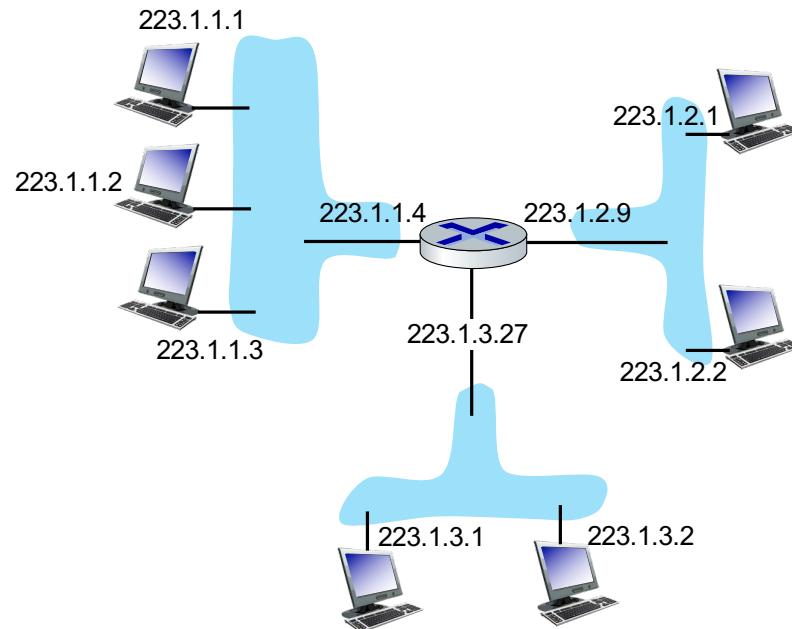
                  |                |                |  
          223    1      1      1

                  |                |  
          1      1

                  |  
          1

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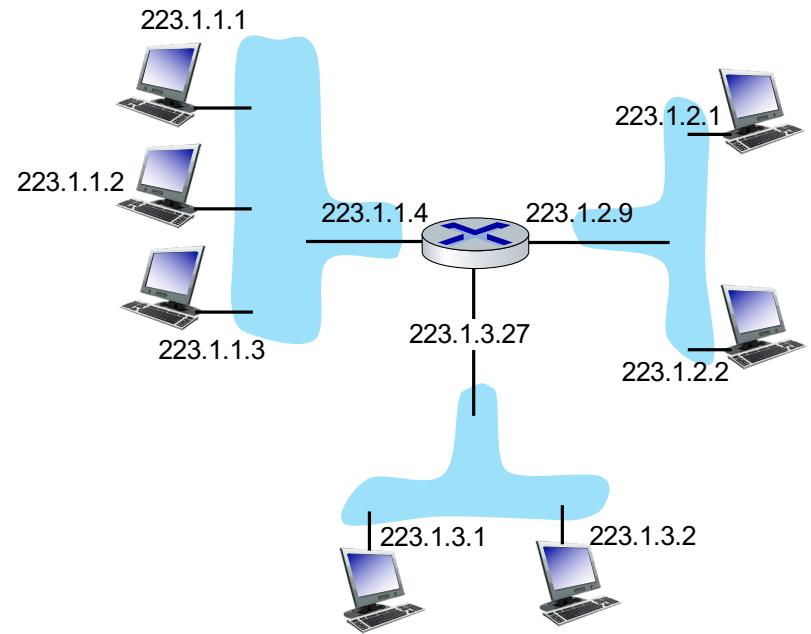
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223      1      1      1  
  |    |    |  
  1    1    1

Network Layer: 4-45

# IP addressing: introduction

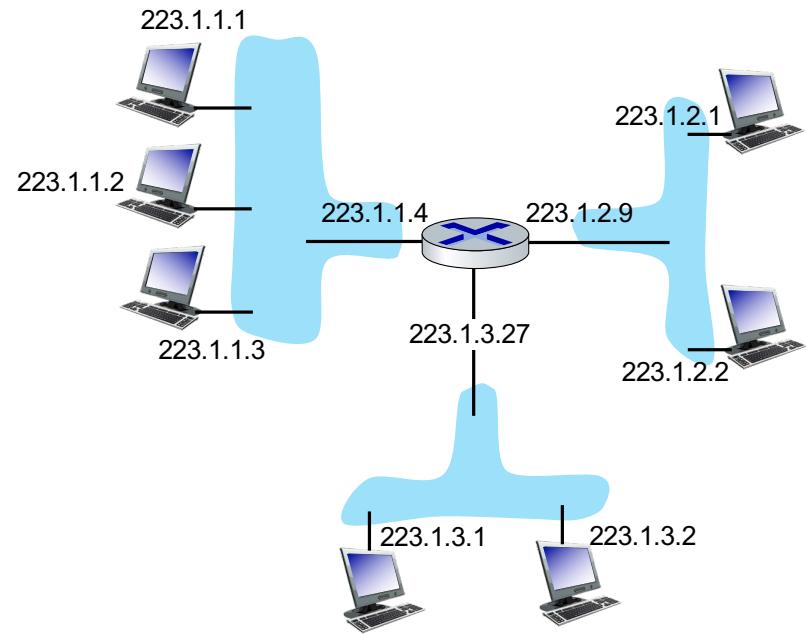
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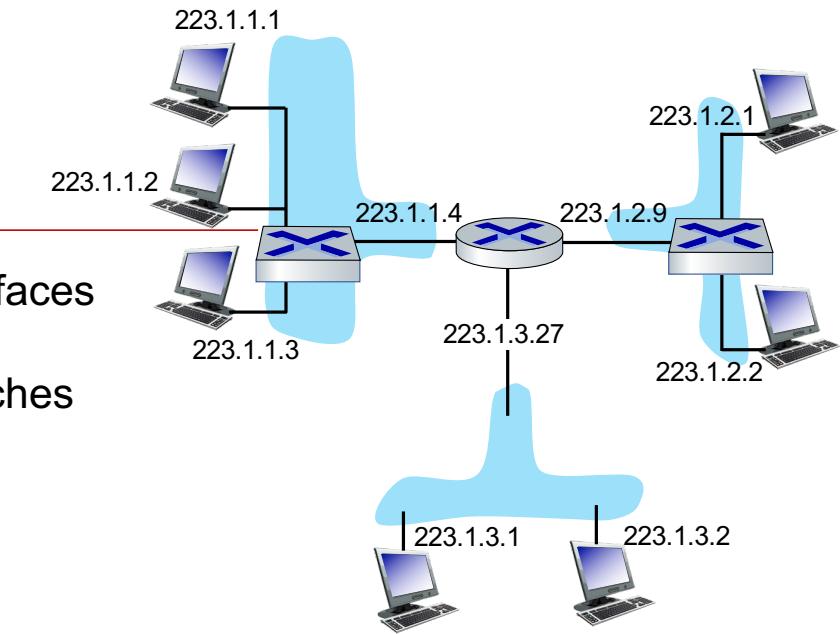


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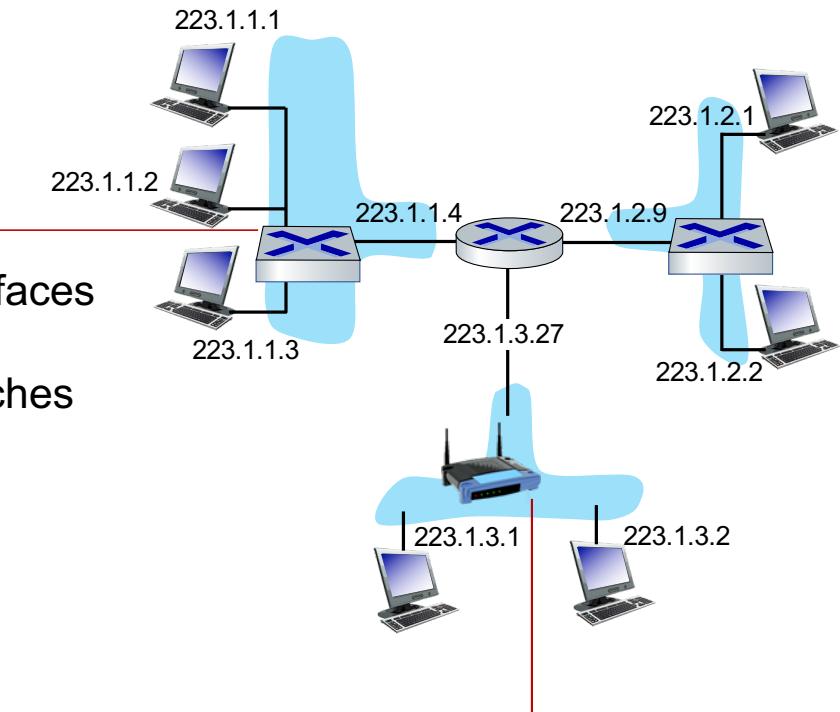


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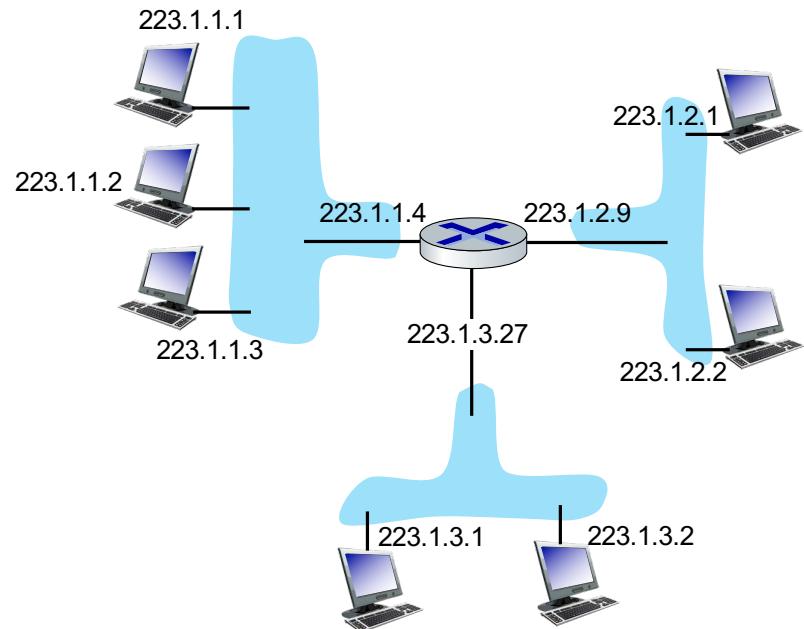
**A:** wireless WiFi interfaces  
connected by WiFi base station

# IP addressing: introduction

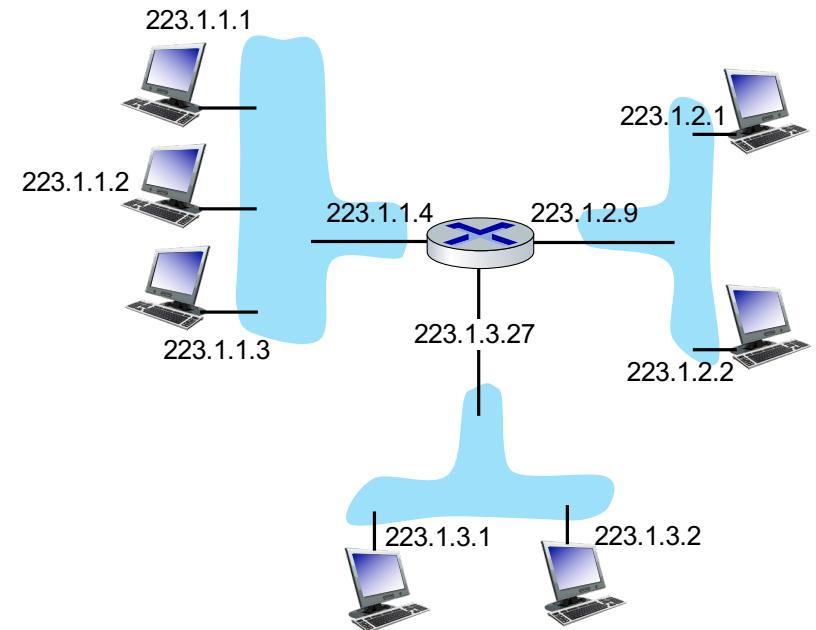
**Q:** how are interfaces  
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*For now:* don't need to worry  
about how one interface is  
connected to another (with no  
intervening router)



# Subnets

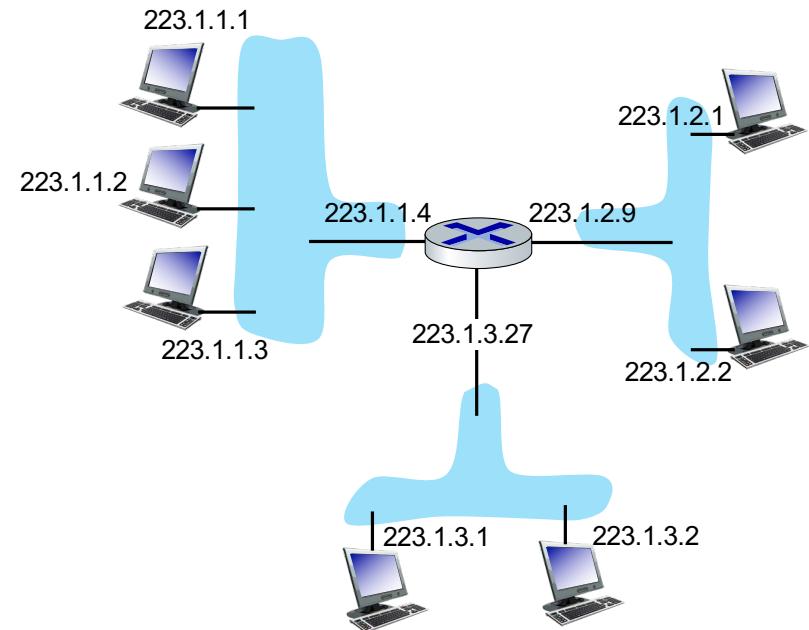


network consisting of 3 subnets

# Subnets

## ■ *What's a subnet ?*

- device interfaces that can physically reach each other **without passing through an intervening router**



network consisting of 3 subnets

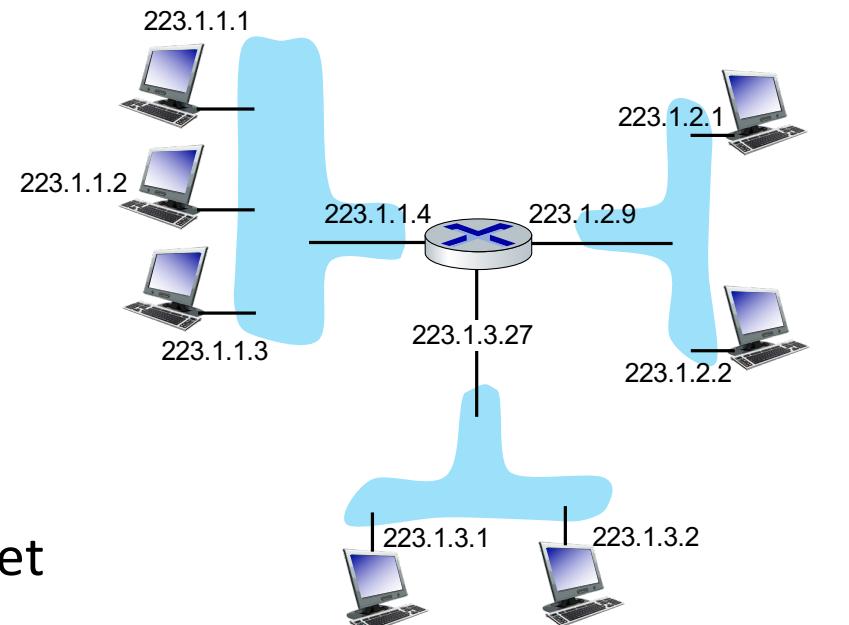
# Subnets

- *What's a subnet ?*

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- **IP addresses have structure:**

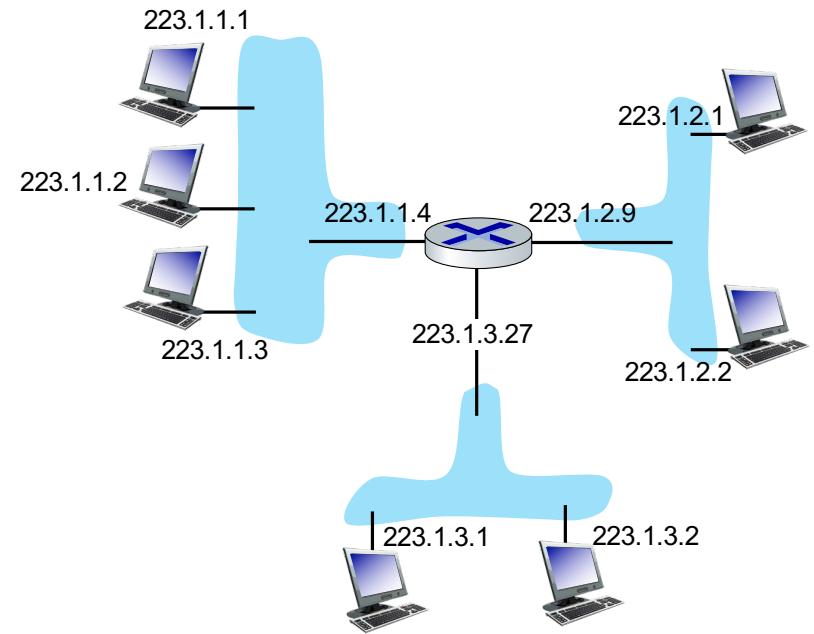
- **subnet part:** devices in same subnet have common high order bits
- **host part:** remaining low order bits



network consisting of 3 subnets

# Subnets

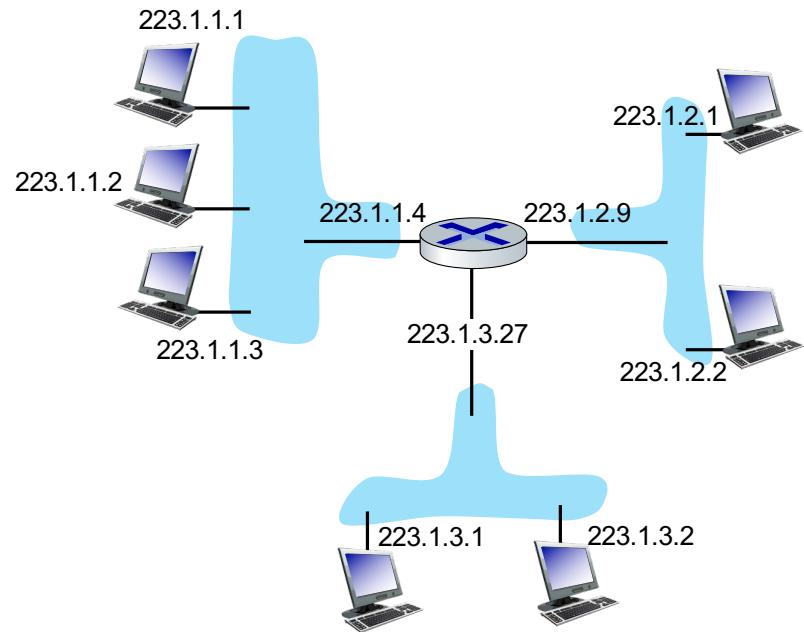
*Recipe for defining subnets:*



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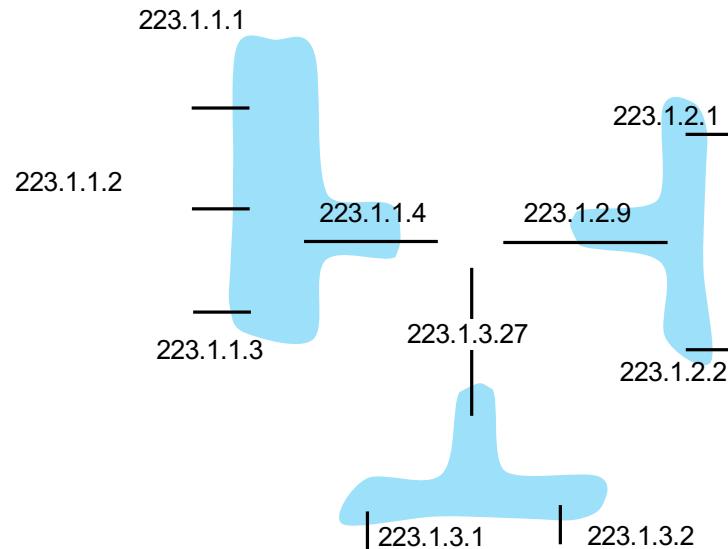
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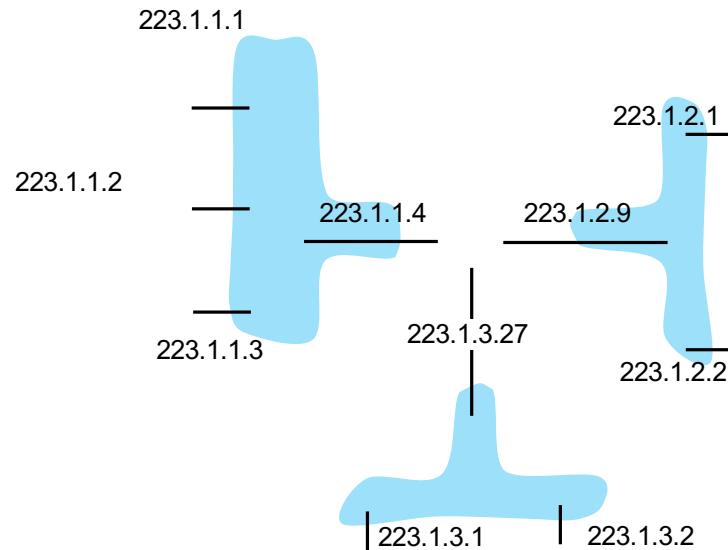
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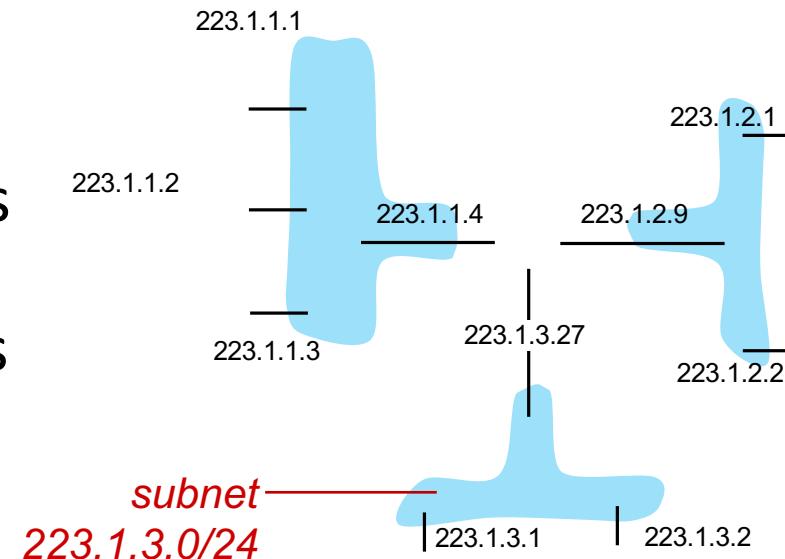
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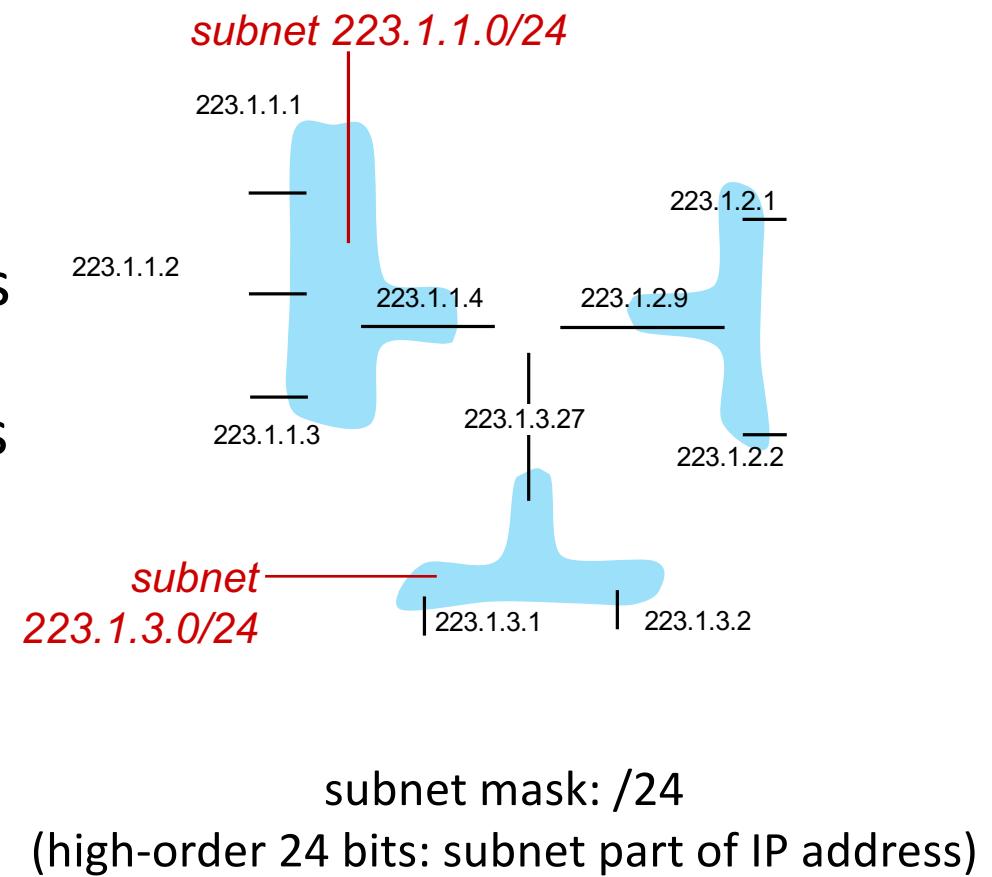


subnet mask: /24  
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*Recipe for defining subnets:*

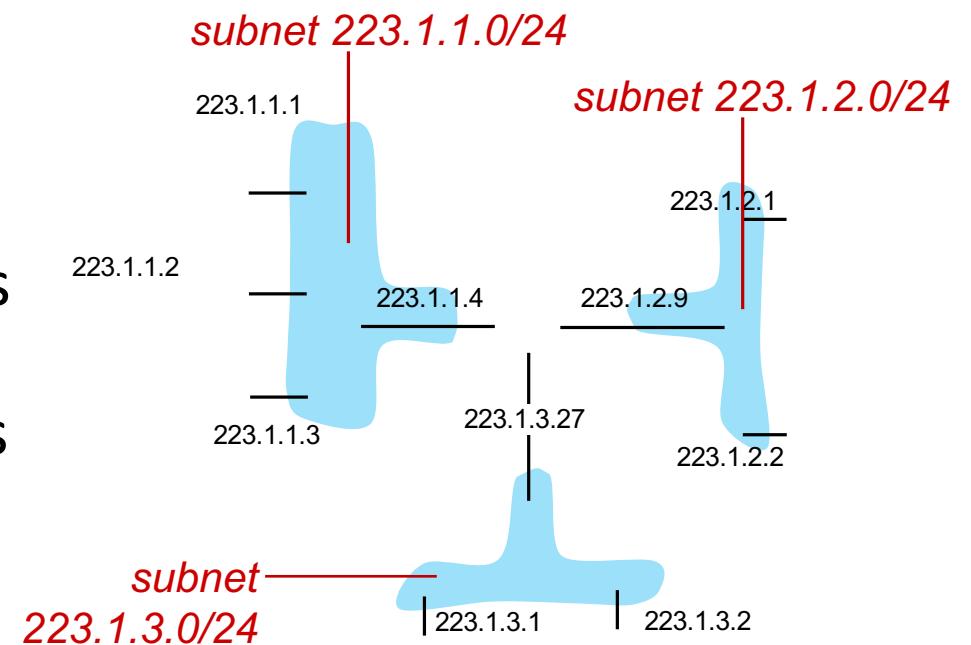
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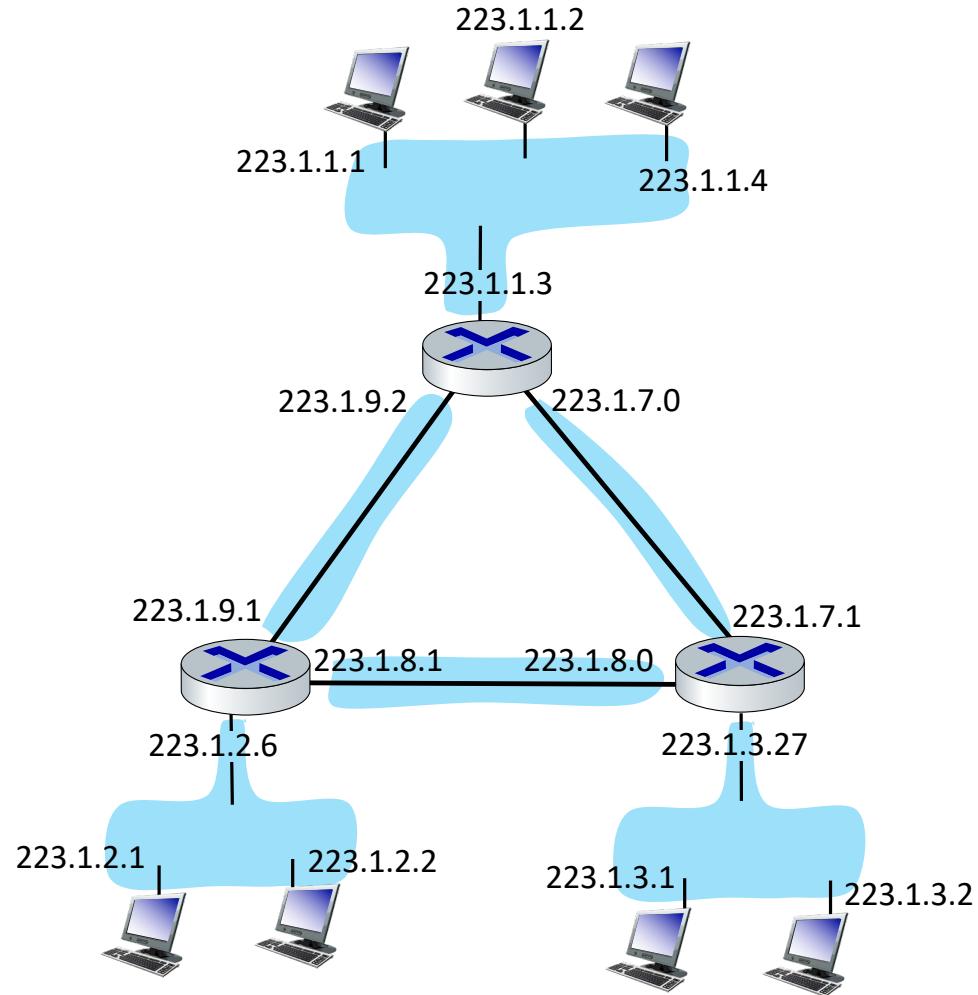
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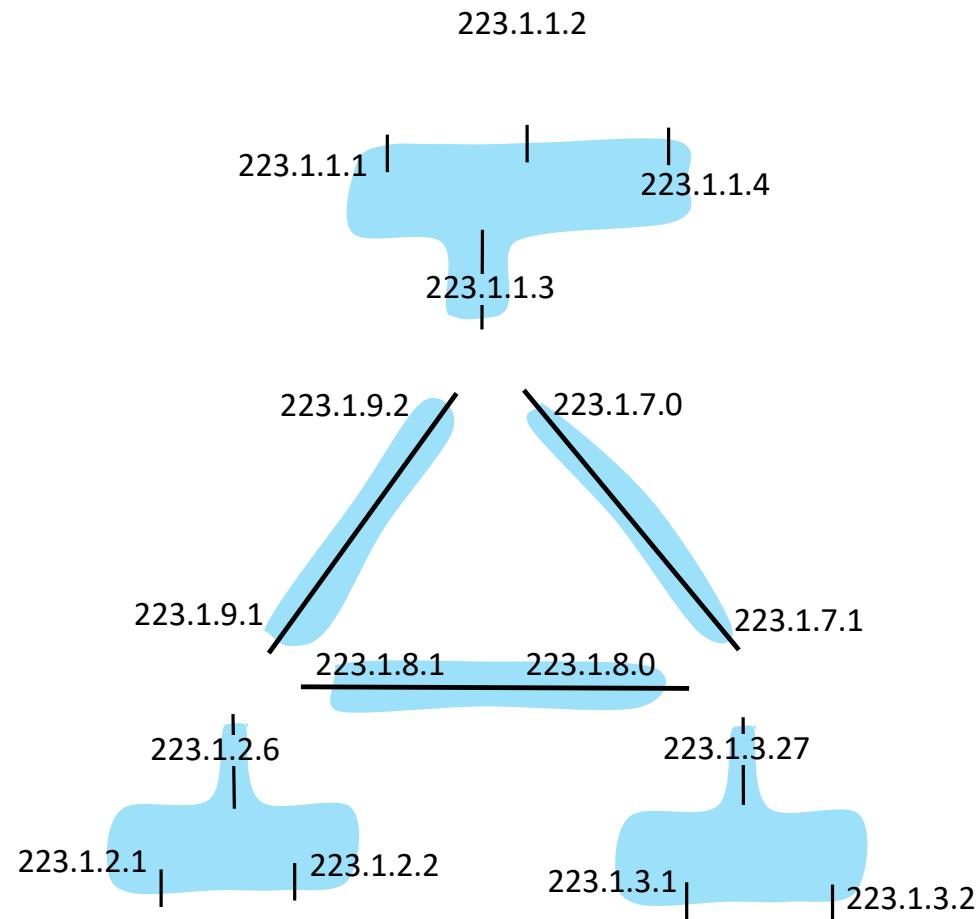
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- where are the subnets?
- what are the /24 subnet addresses?



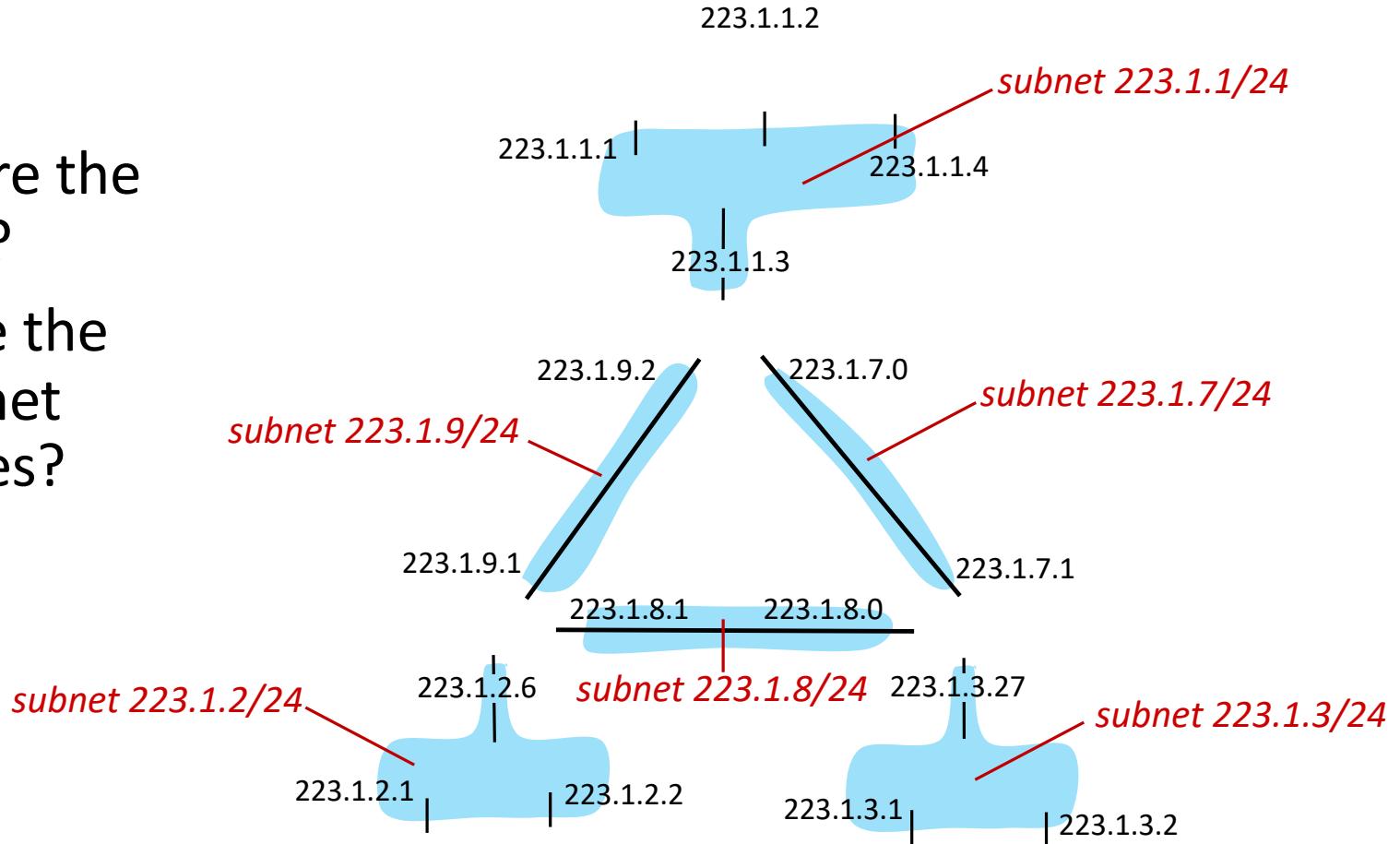
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# Subnets

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# IP addressing: CIDR

CIDR: Classless InterDomain Routing (pronounced “cider”)

- subnet portion of address of arbitrary length
- address format:  $a.b.c.d/x$ , where  $x$  is # bits in subnet portion of address

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# IP addresses: how to get one?

That's actually **two** questions:

1. Q: How does a *host* get IP address within its network (host part of address)?
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How does *host* get IP address?

- hard-coded by sysadmin in config file (e.g., /etc/rc.config in UNIX)
- **DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol:** dynamically get address from server
  - “plug-and-play”

# DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol

**goal:** host *dynamically* obtains IP address from network server when it “joins” network

- can renew its lease on address in use
- allows reuse of addresses (only hold address while connected/on)
- support for mobile users who join/leave network

# DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol

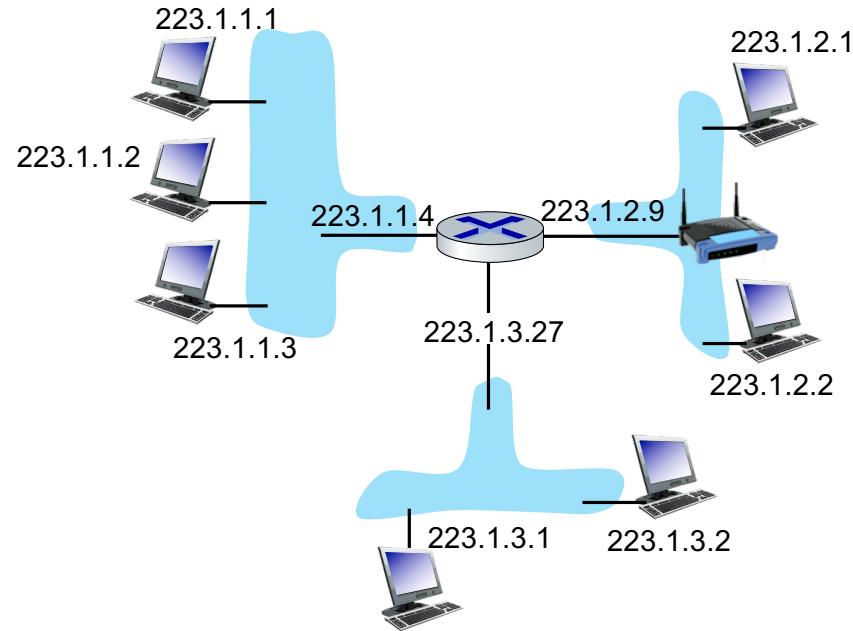
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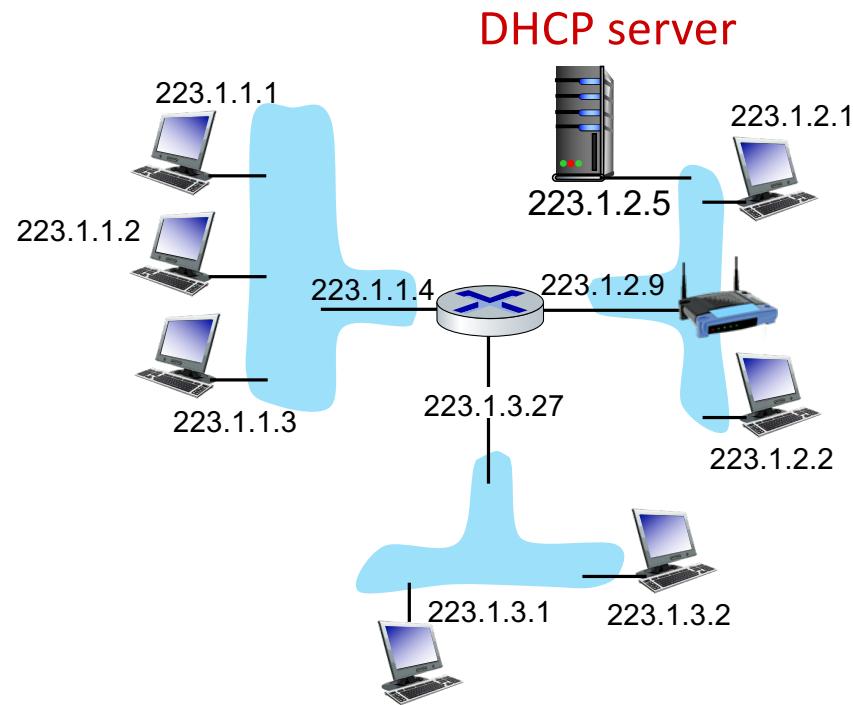
## DHCP overview:

- host broadcasts **DHCP discover** msg [optional]
- DHCP server responds with **DHCP offer** msg [optional]
- host requests IP address: **DHCP request** msg
- DHCP server sends address: **DHCP ack** msg

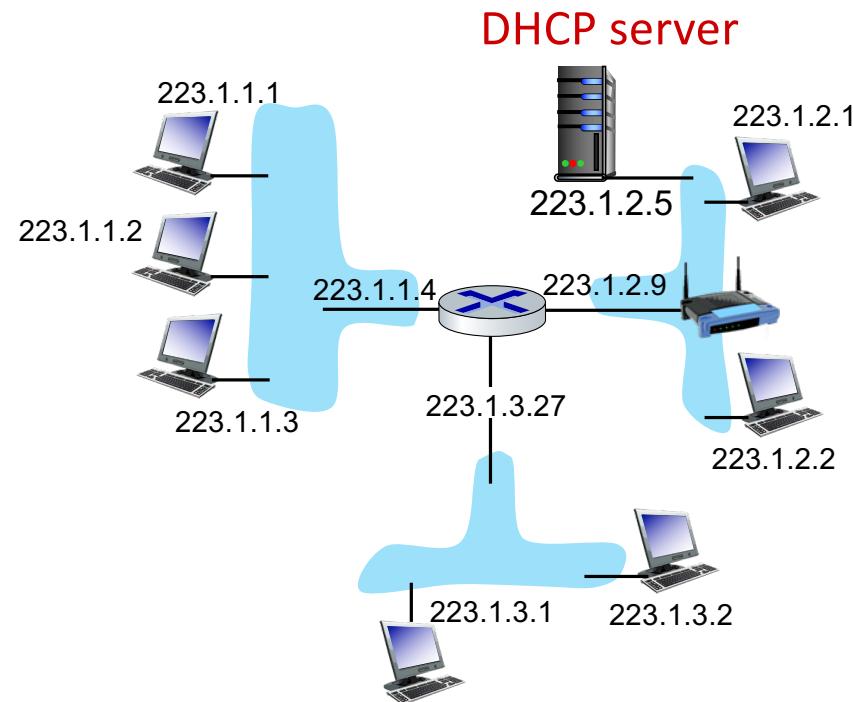
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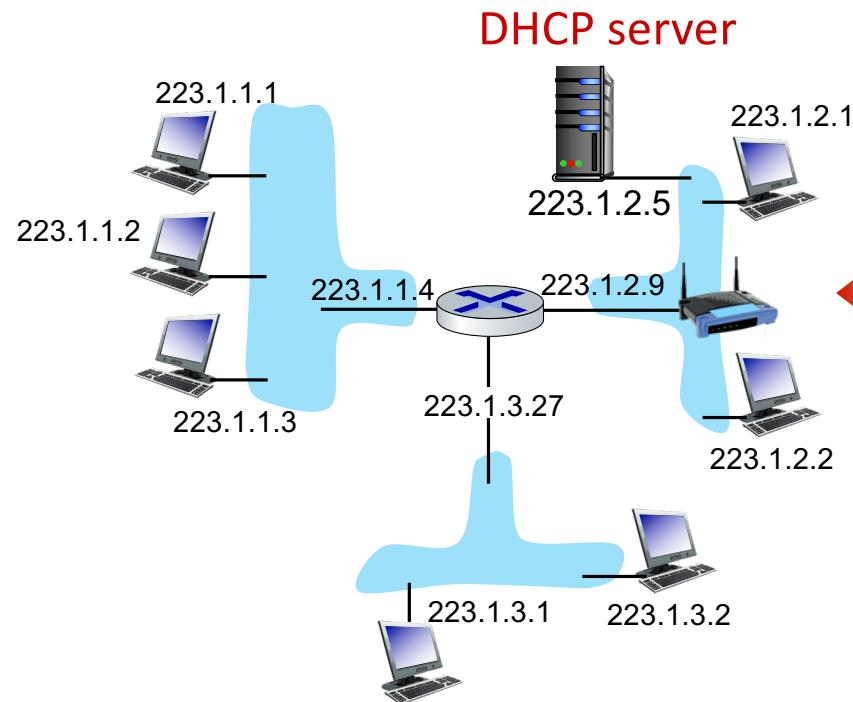


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Typically, DHCP server will be co-located in router, serving all subnets to which router is attached

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arriving **DHCP client** needs address in this network

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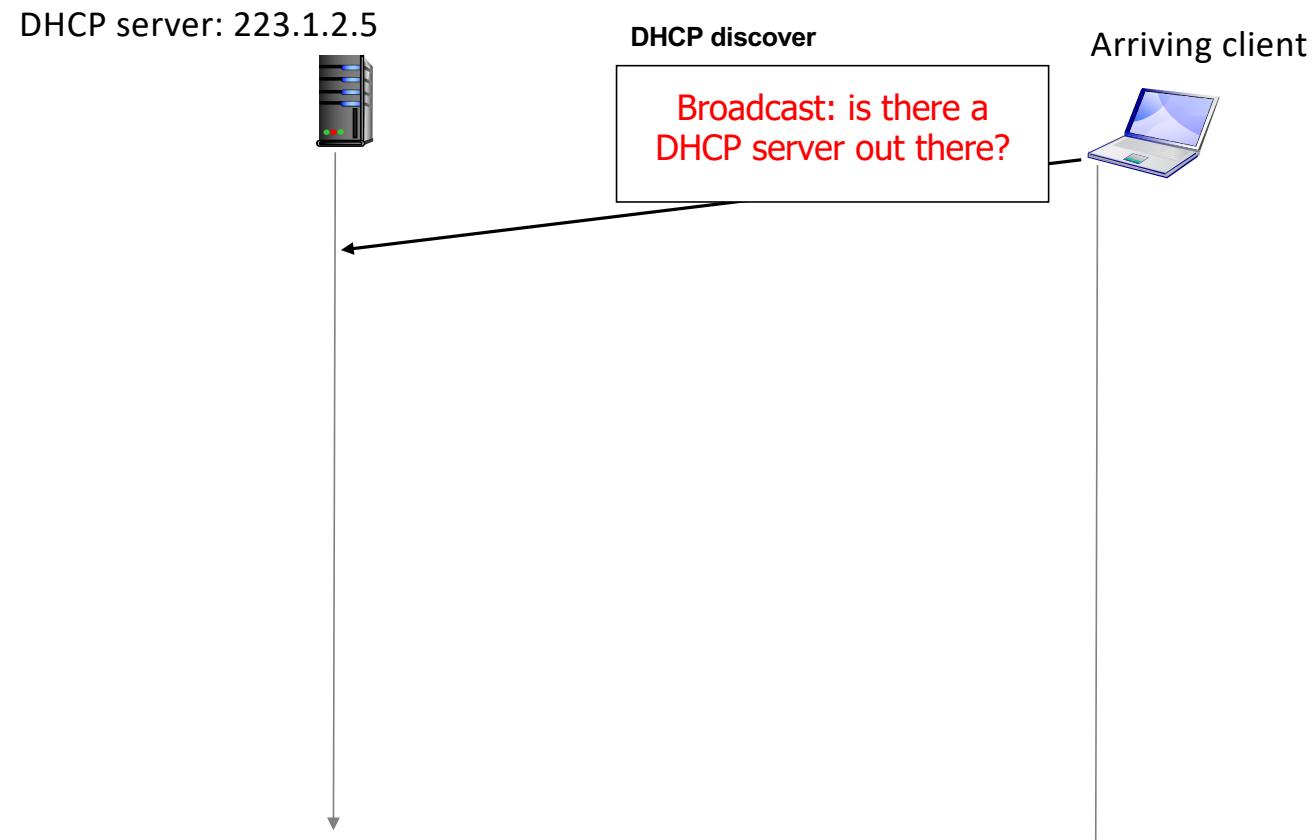
DHCP server: 223.1.2.5



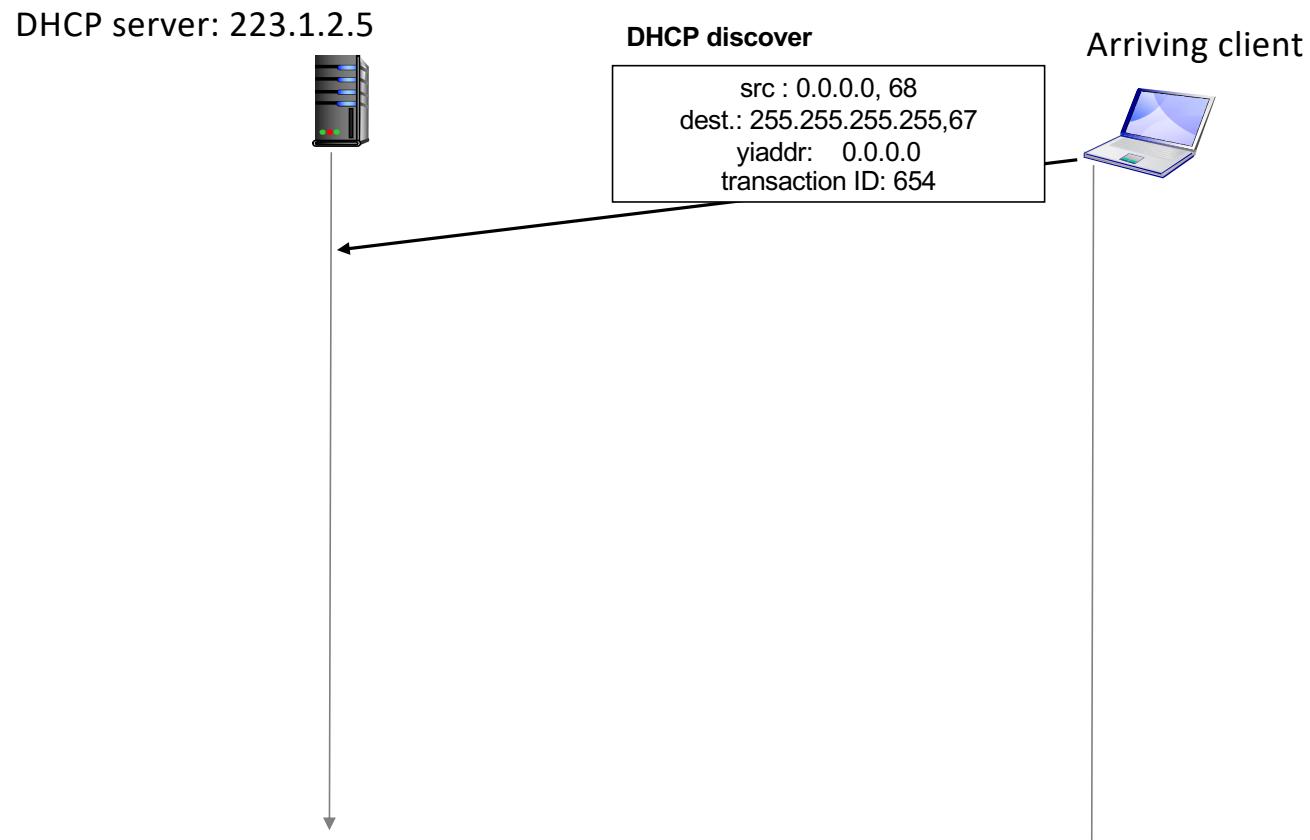
Arriving client



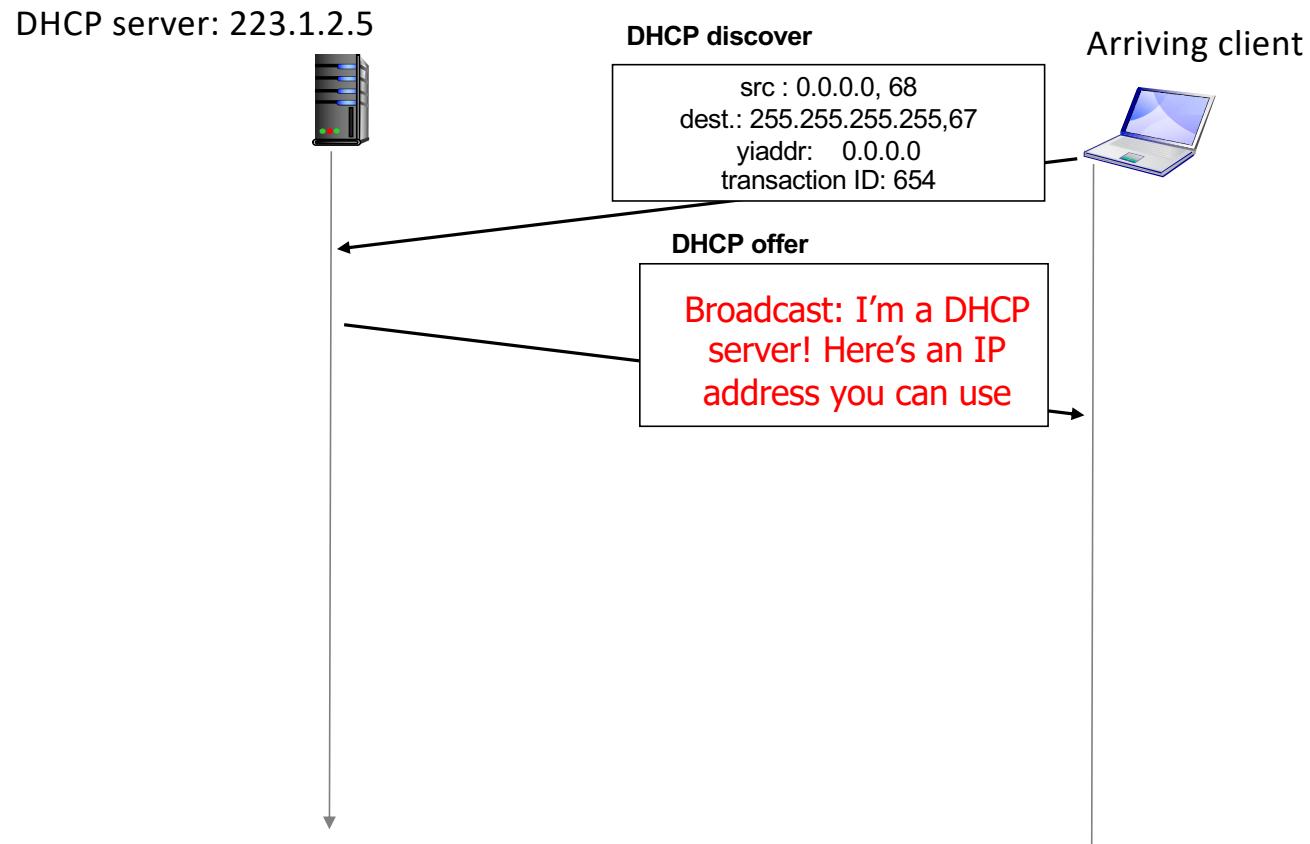
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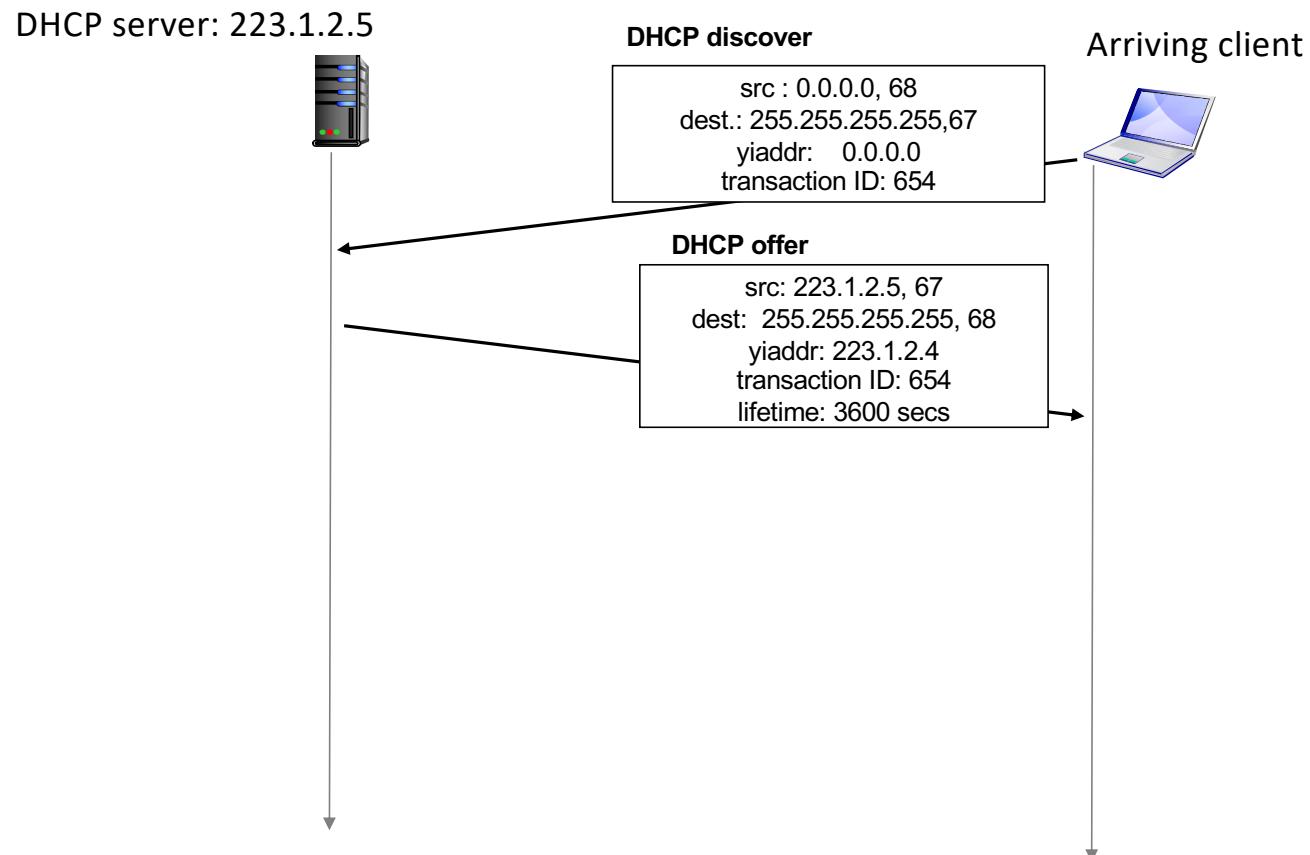
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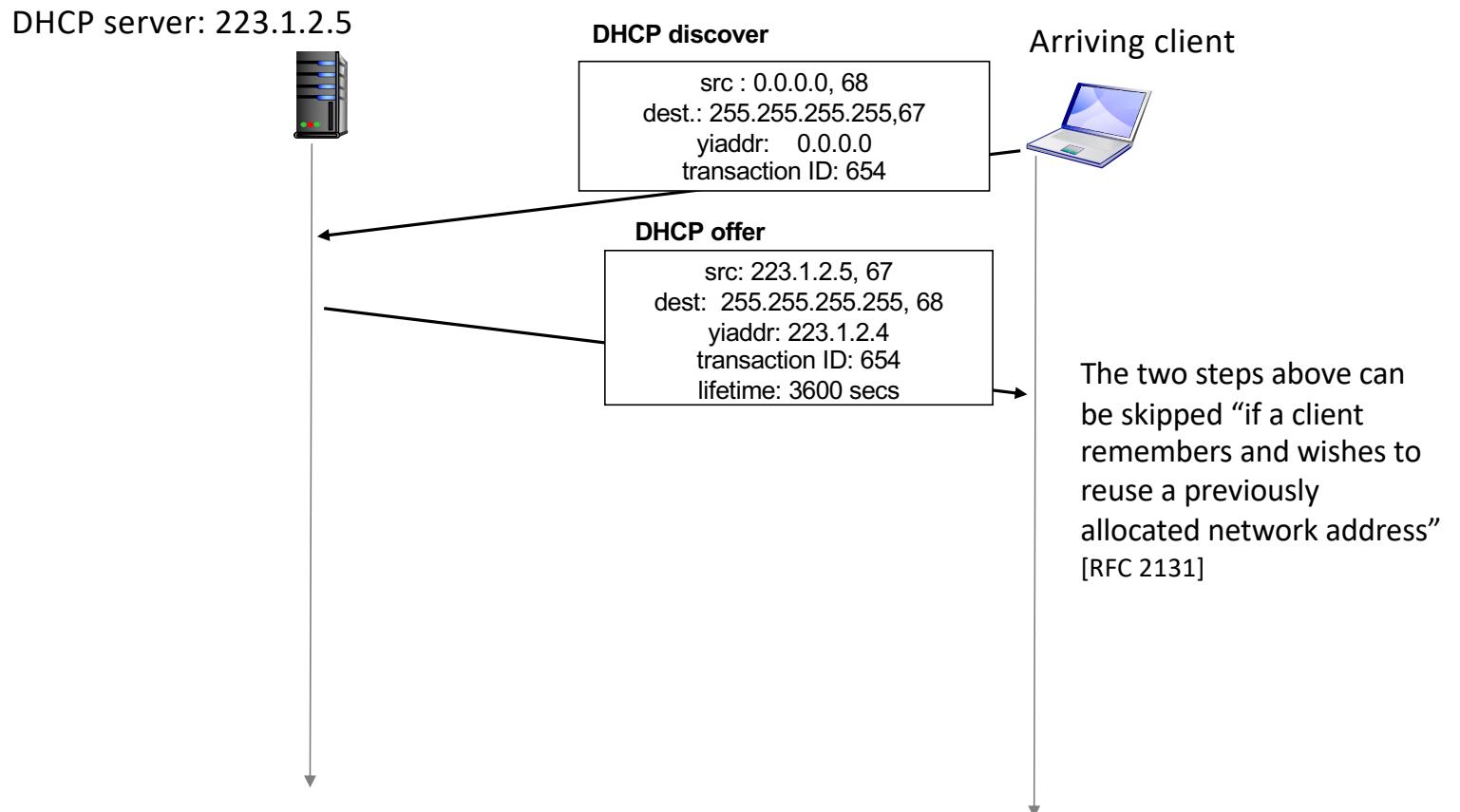
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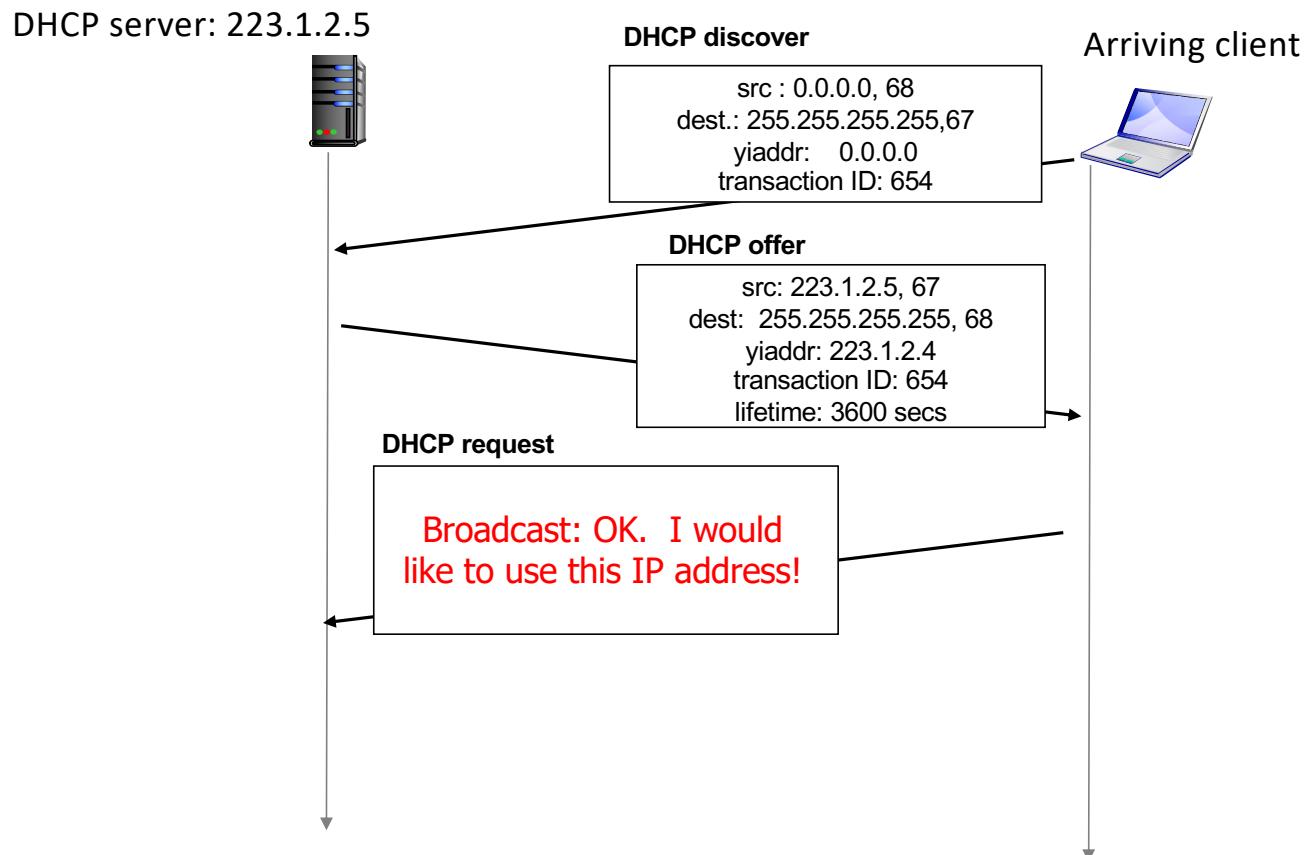
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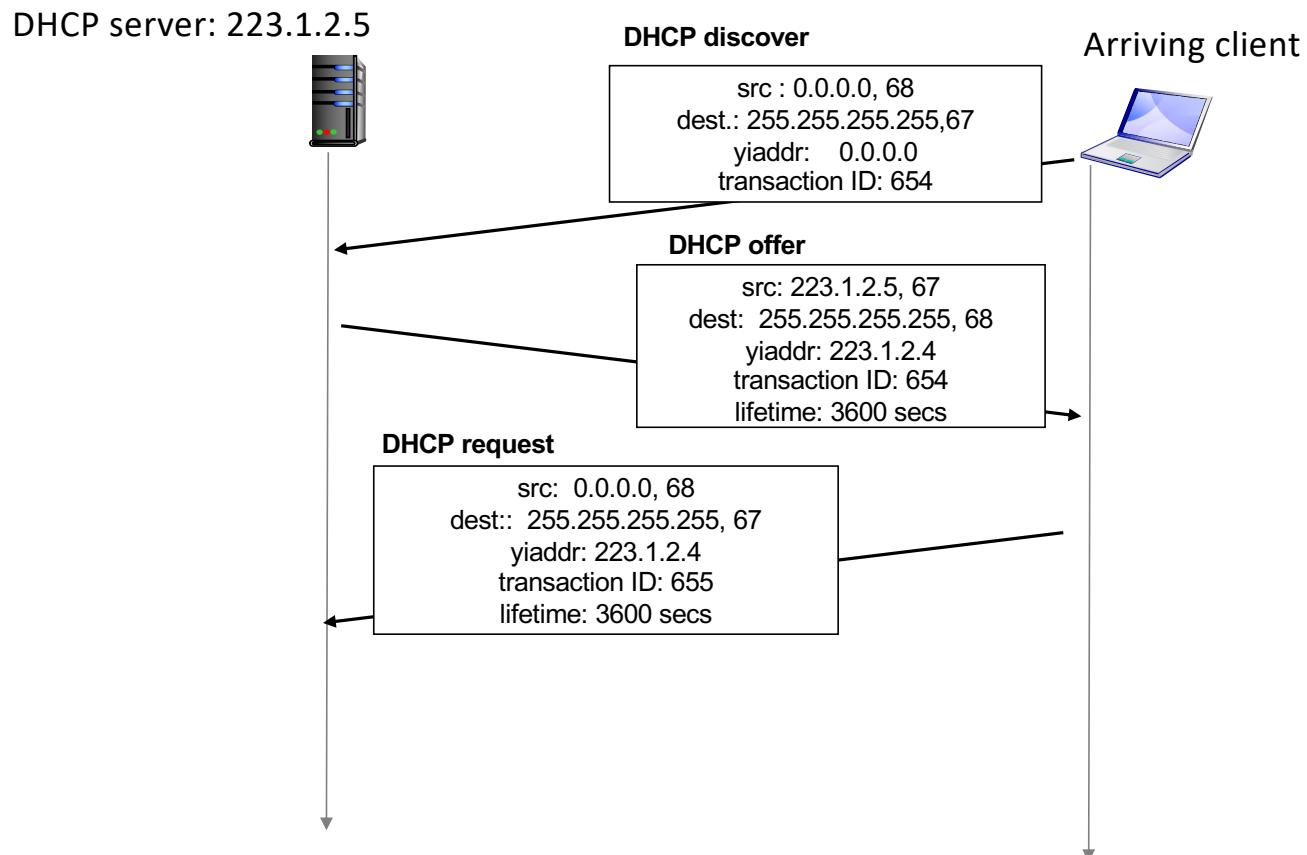
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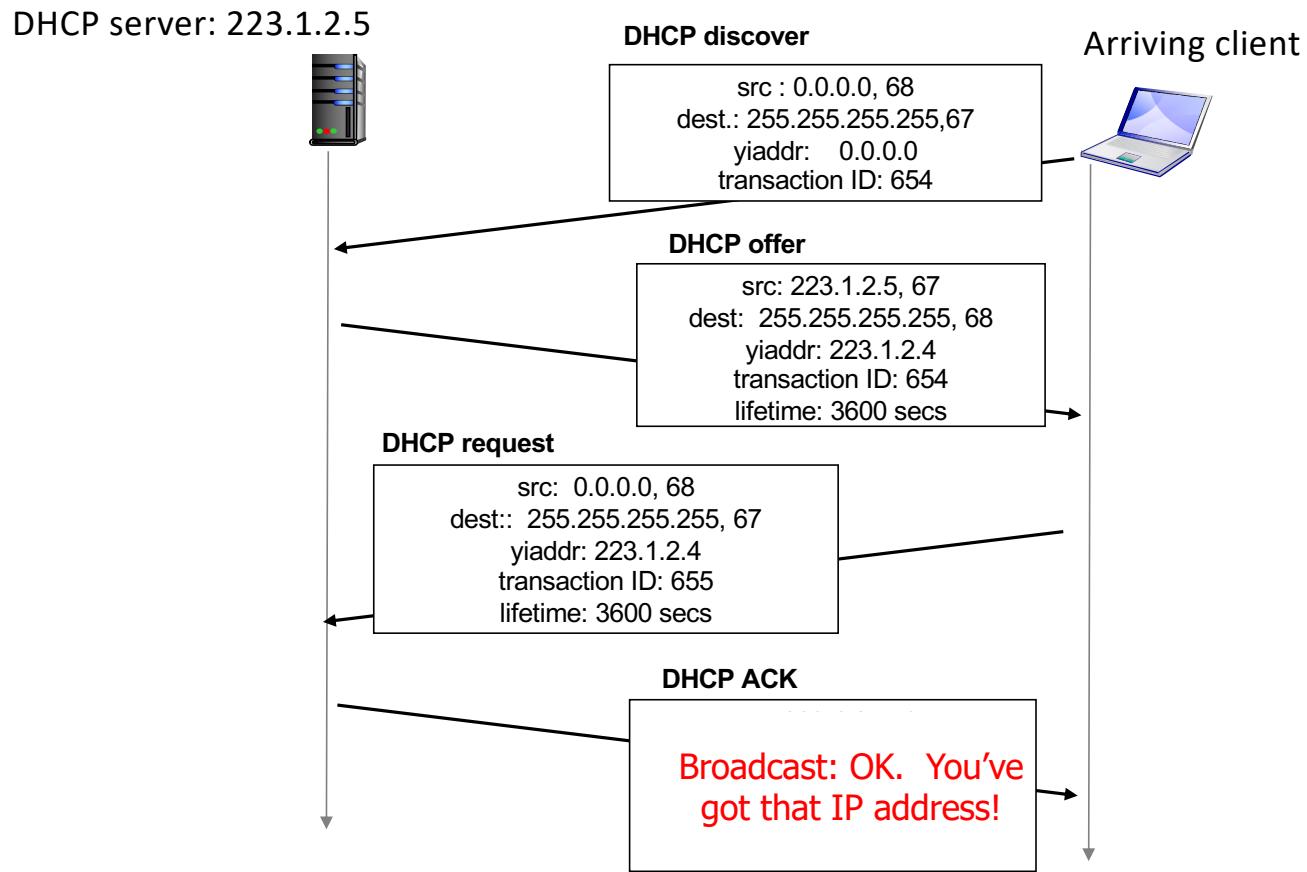
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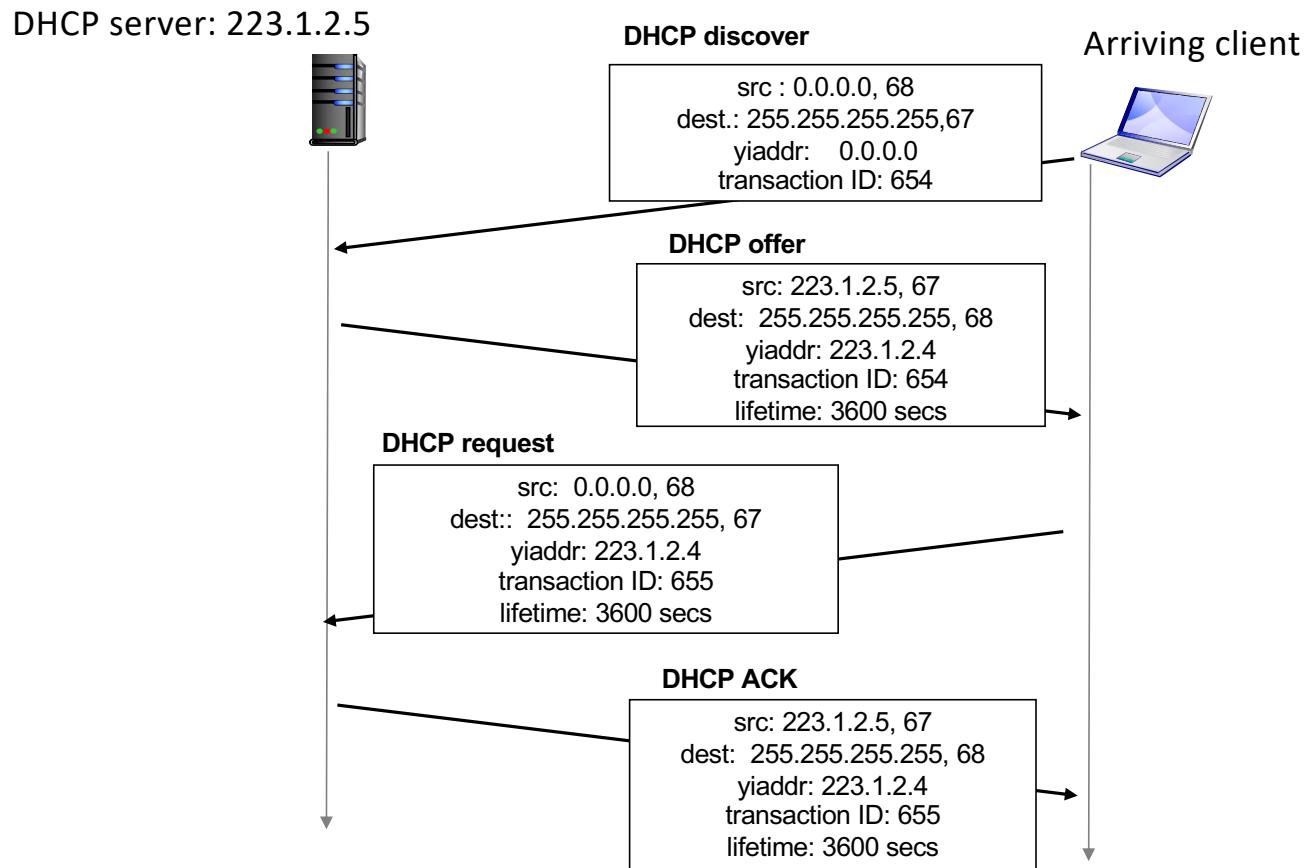
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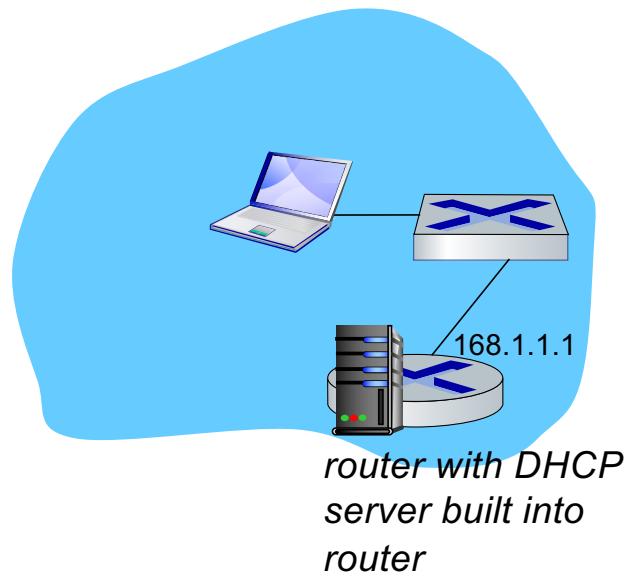


## DHCP: more than IP addresses

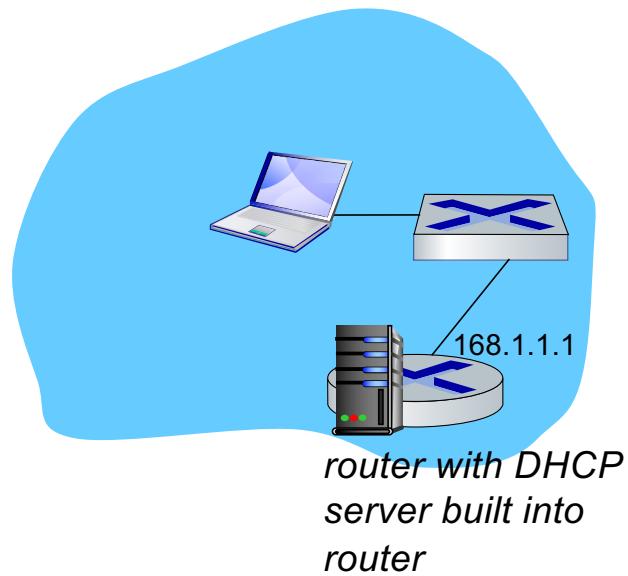
DHCP can return more than just allocated IP address on subnet:

- address of first-hop router for client
- name and IP address of DNS sever
- network mask (indicating network versus host portion of address)

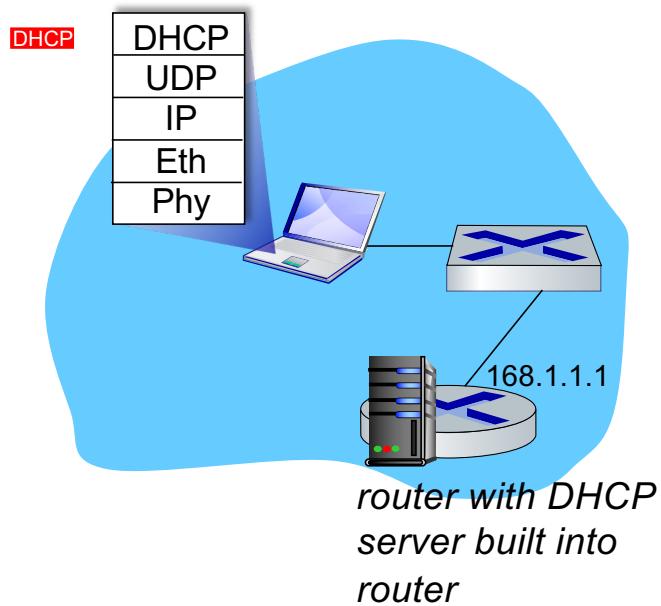
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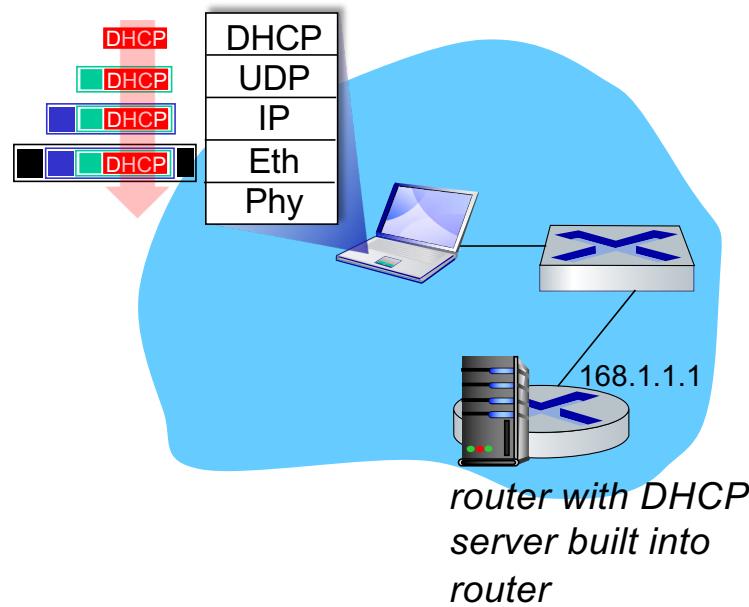


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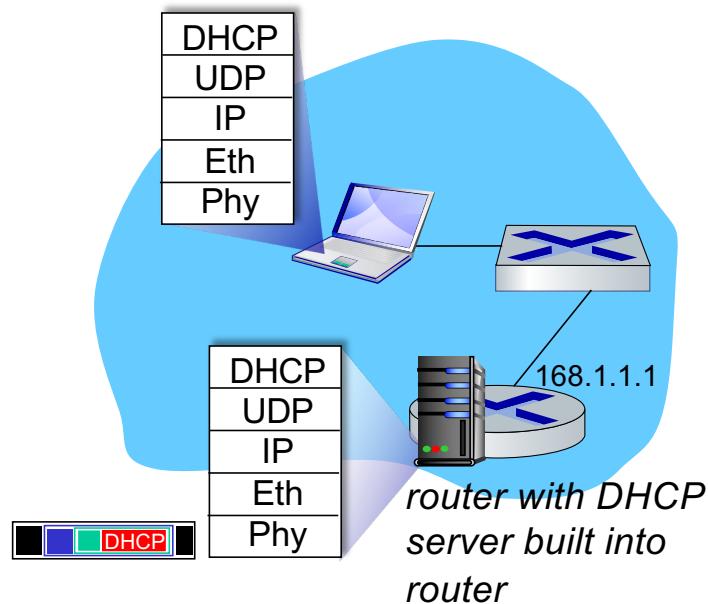
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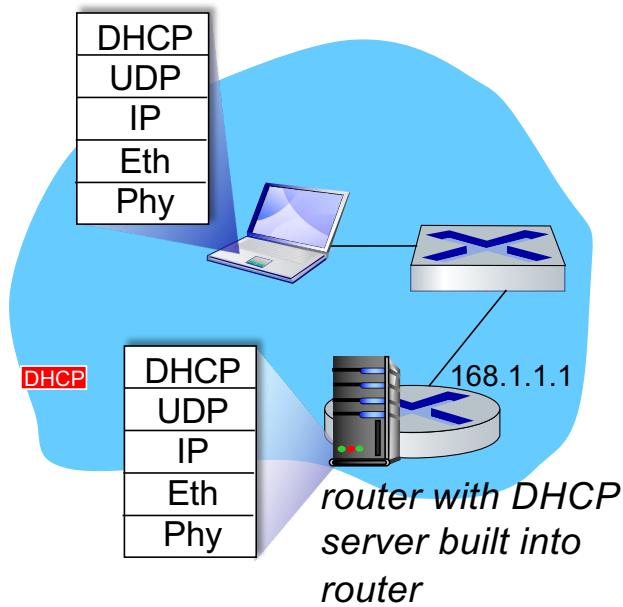
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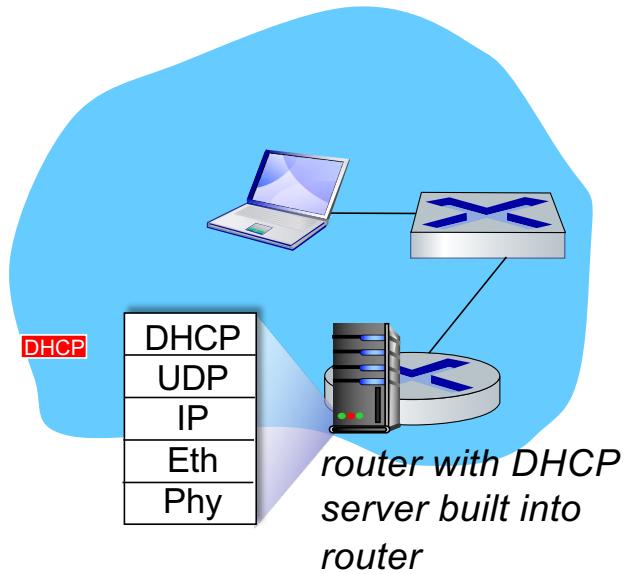
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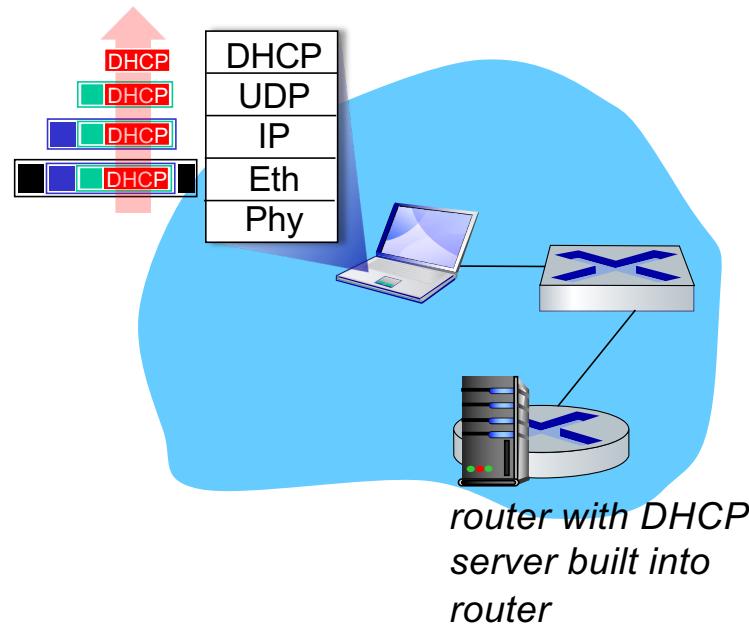
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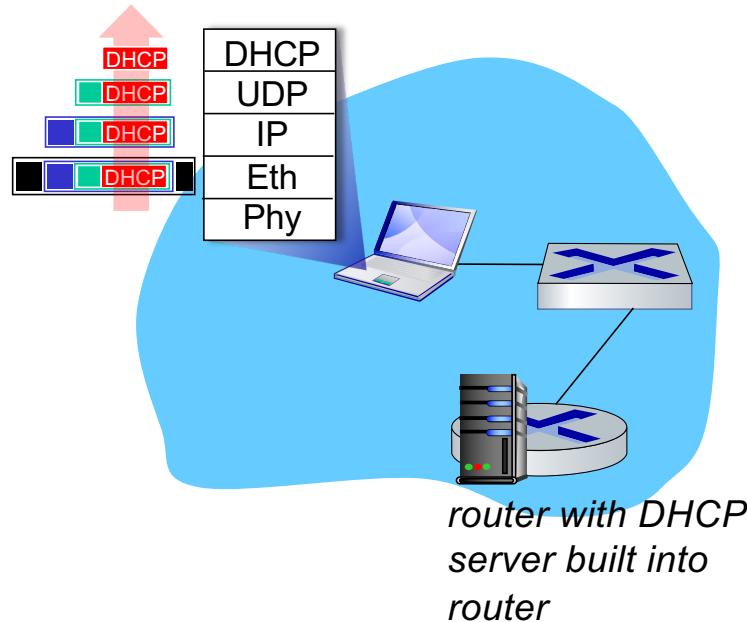
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- DCP server formulates DHCP ACK containing client's IP address, IP address of first-hop router for client, name & IP address of DNS server
- encapsulated DHCP server reply forwarded to client, demuxing up to DHCP at client
- client now knows its IP address, name and IP address of DNS server, IP address of its first-hop router

# IP addresses: how to get one?

**Q:** how does *network* get subnet part of IP address?

**A:** gets allocated portion of its provider ISP's address space

ISP's block

11001000 00010111 00010000 00000000 200.23.16.0/20

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ISP can then allocate out its address space in 8 blocks:

Organization 0    11001000 00010111 00010000 00000000    200.23.16.0/23

Organization 1    11001000 00010111 00010010 00000000    200.23.18.0/23

Organization 2    11001000 00010111 00010100 00000000    200.23.20.0/23

...

.....

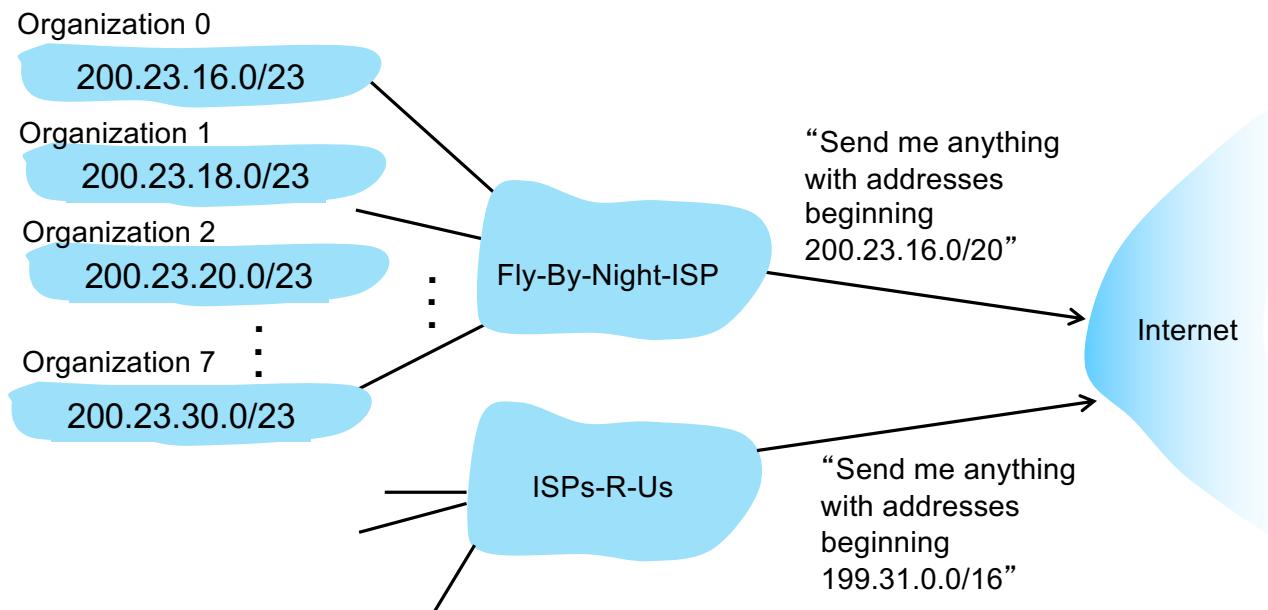
....

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Organization 7    11001000 00010111 00011110 00000000    200.23.30.0/23

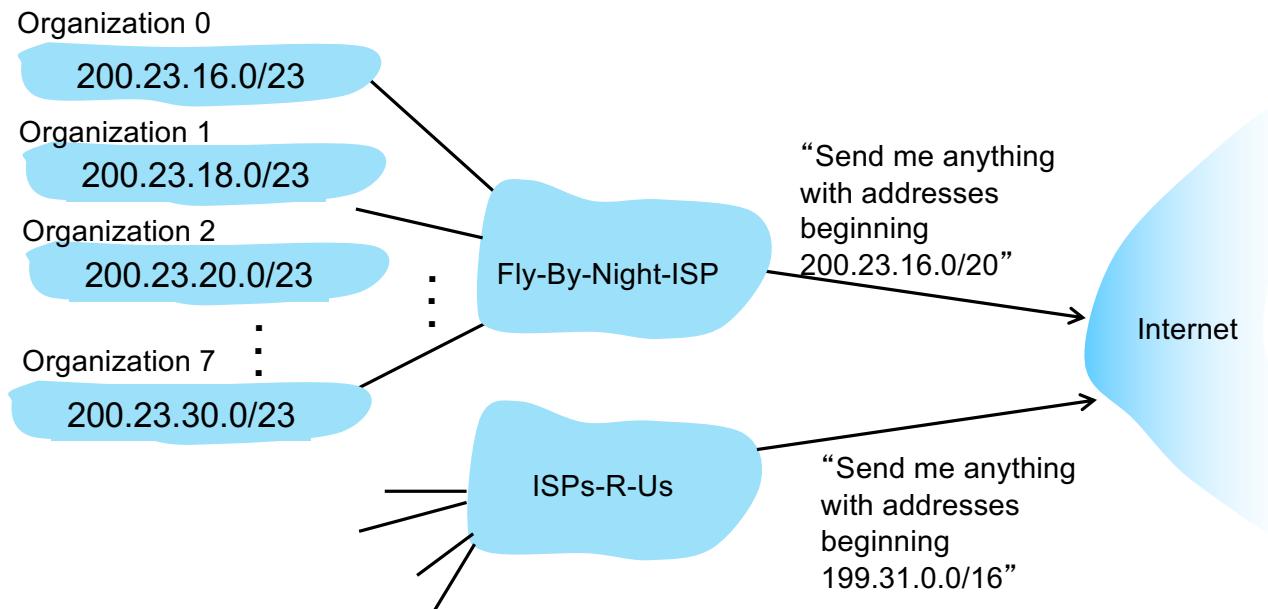
# Hierarchical addressing: route aggregation

hierarchical addressing allows efficient advertisement of routing information:



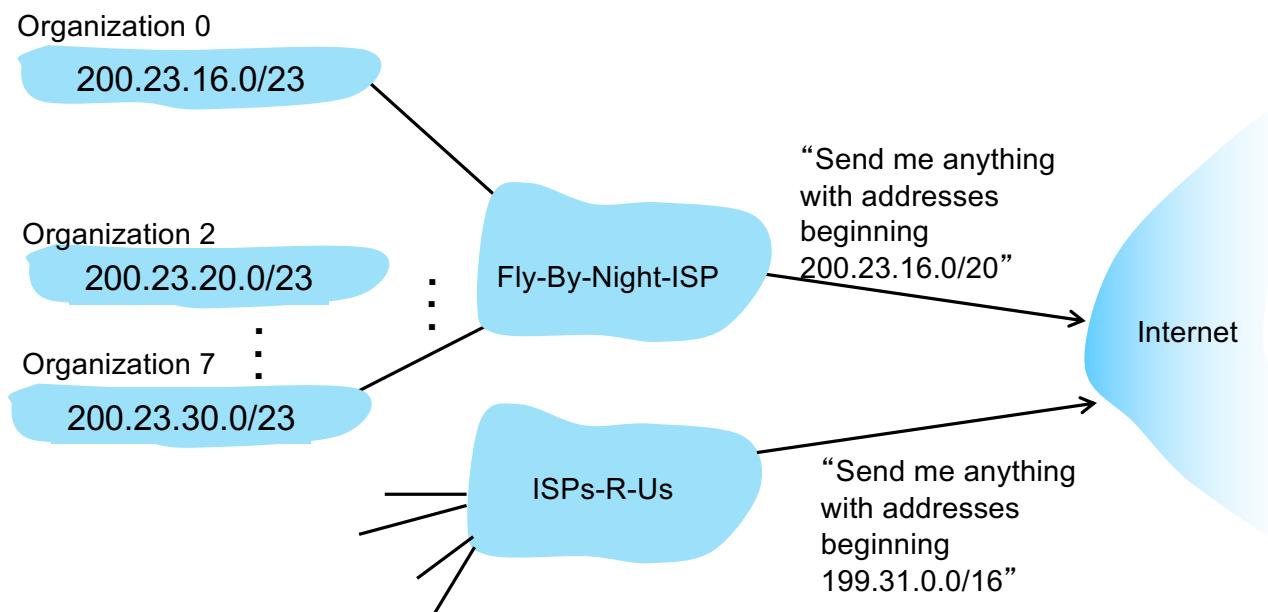
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- Organization 1 moves from Fly-By-Night-ISP to ISPs-R-Us
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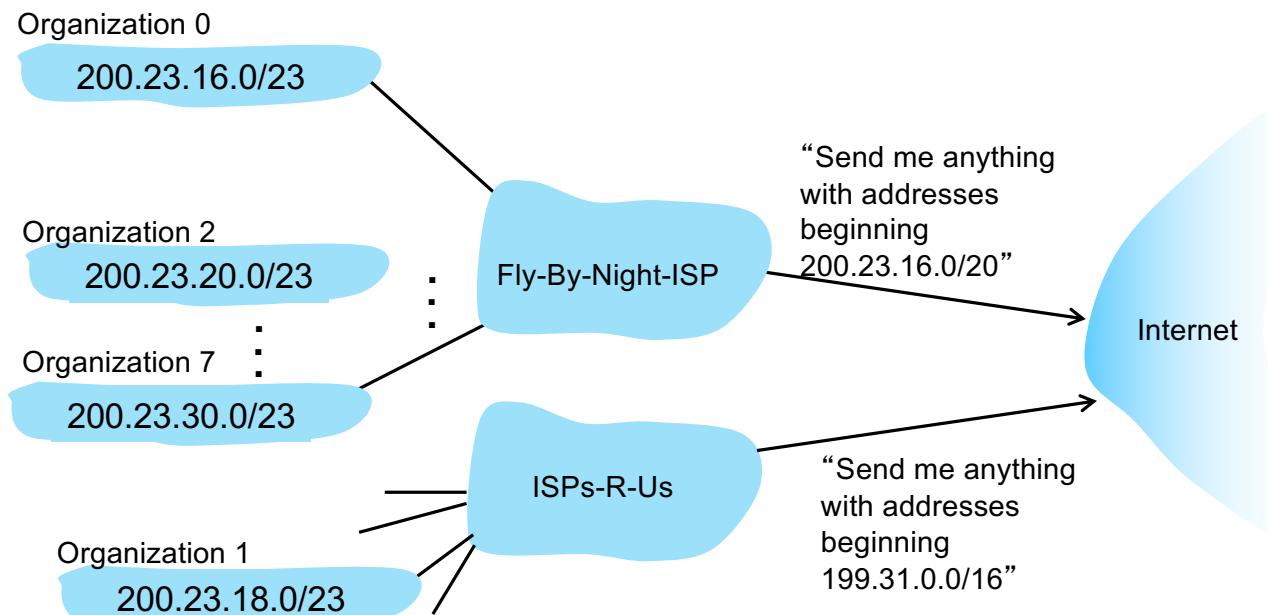
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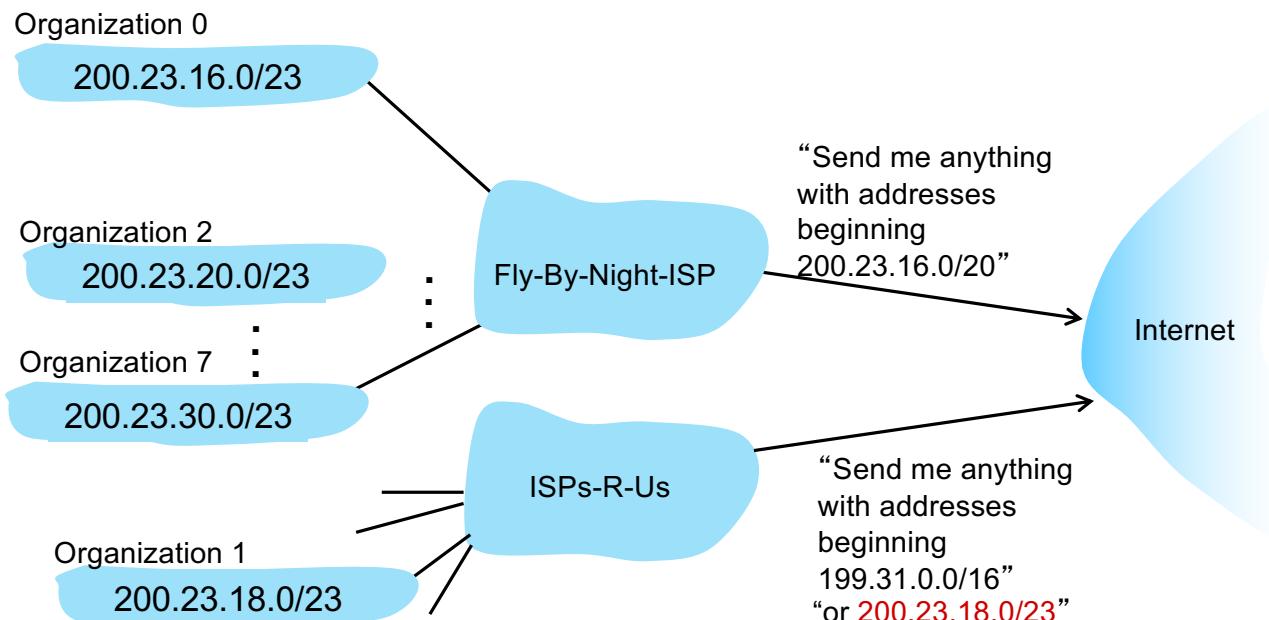
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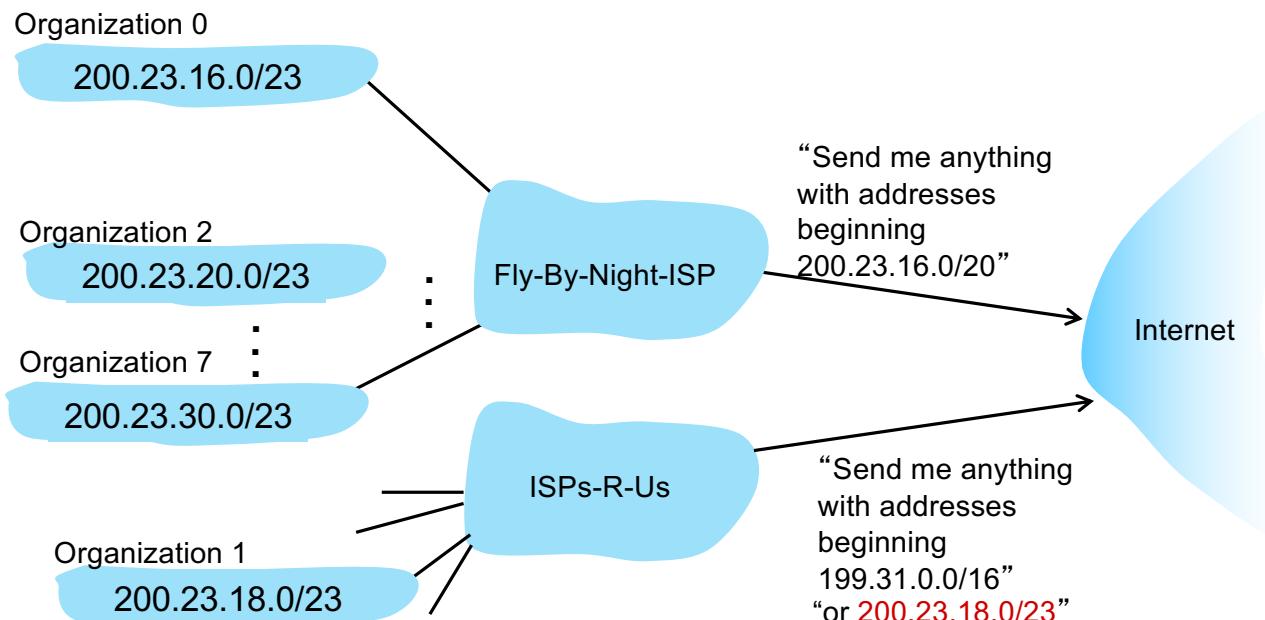
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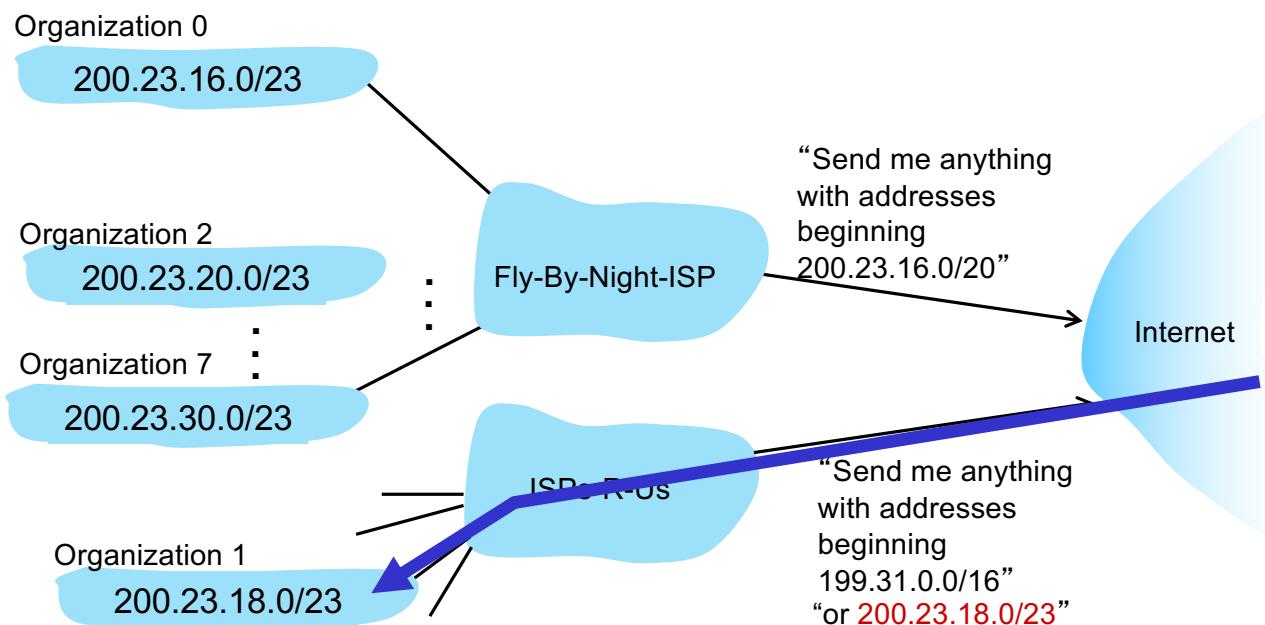
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"Who the hell knew how much address space we needed?" Vint Cerf (reflecting on decision to make IPv4 address 32 bits long)

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



# Lecture 16

CS4377 – Intro to Networks  
Prof Kevin Long

# Network layer: “data plane” roadmap

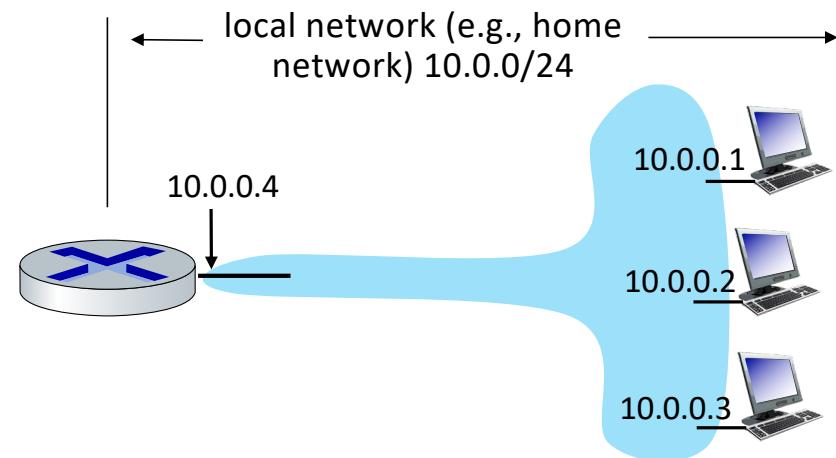
- Network layer: overview
  - data plane
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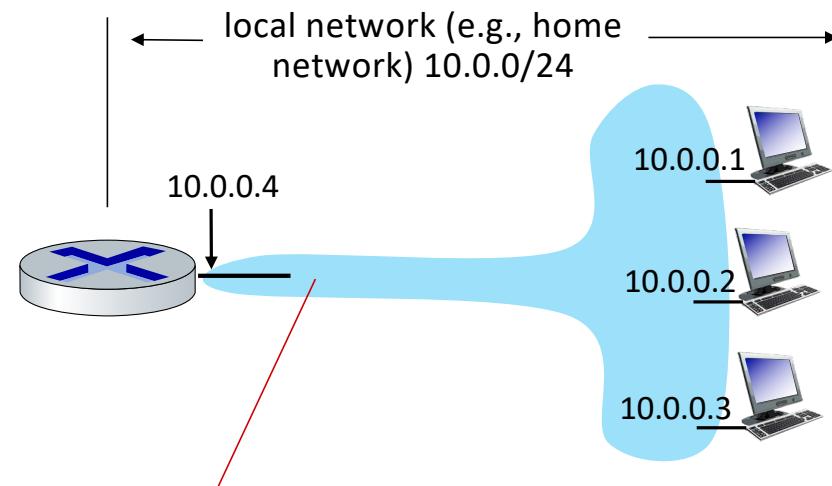
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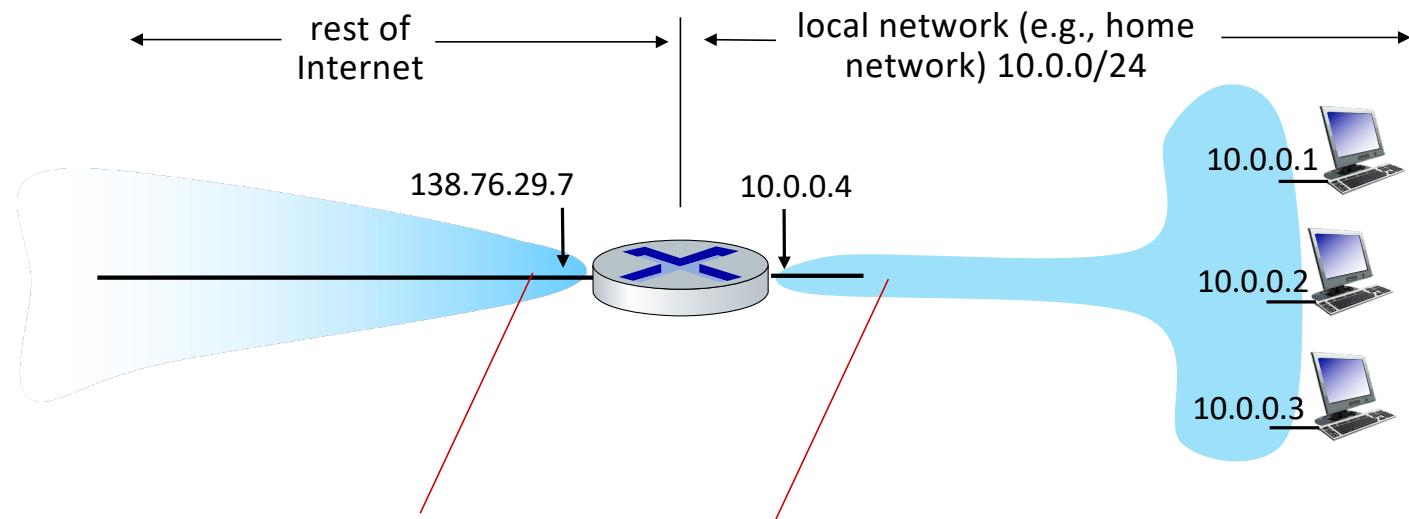
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*all* datagrams *leaving* local network have *same* source NAT IP address: 138.76.29.7, but *different* source port numbers

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- all devices in local network have 32-bit addresses in a “private” IP address space (10/8, 172.16/12, 192.168/16 prefixes) that can only be used in local network
- advantages:
  - just **one** IP address needed from provider ISP for ***all*** devices
  - can change addresses of host in local network without notifying outside world
  - can change ISP without changing addresses of devices in local network
  - security: devices inside local net not directly addressable, visible by outside world

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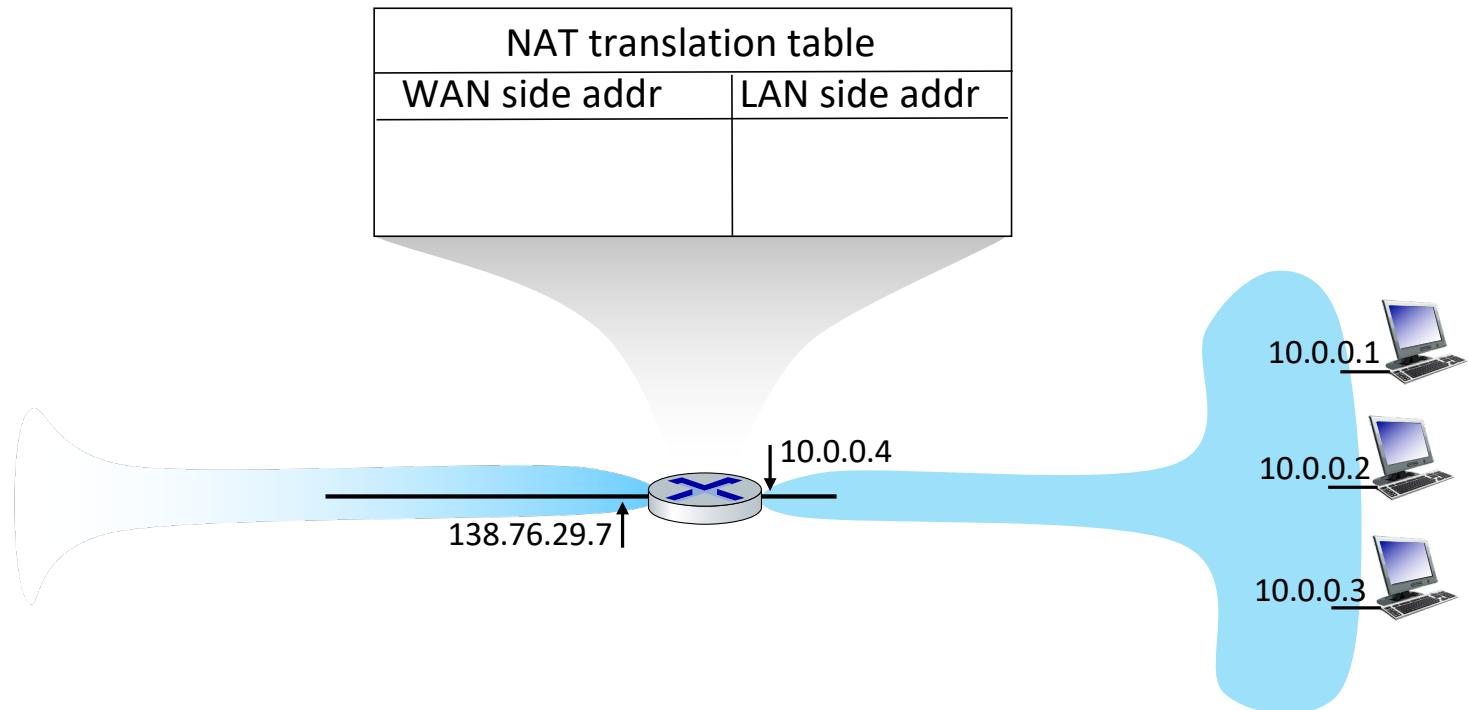
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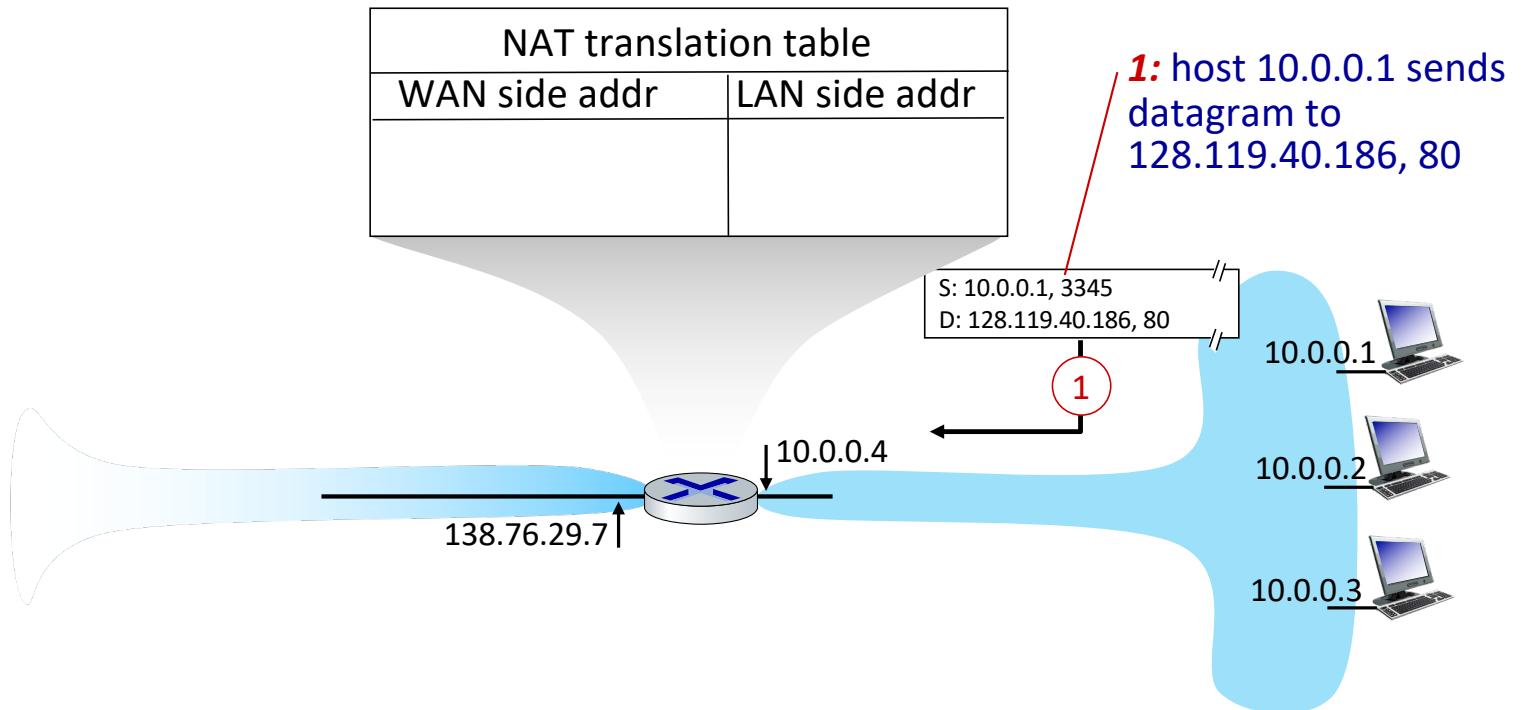
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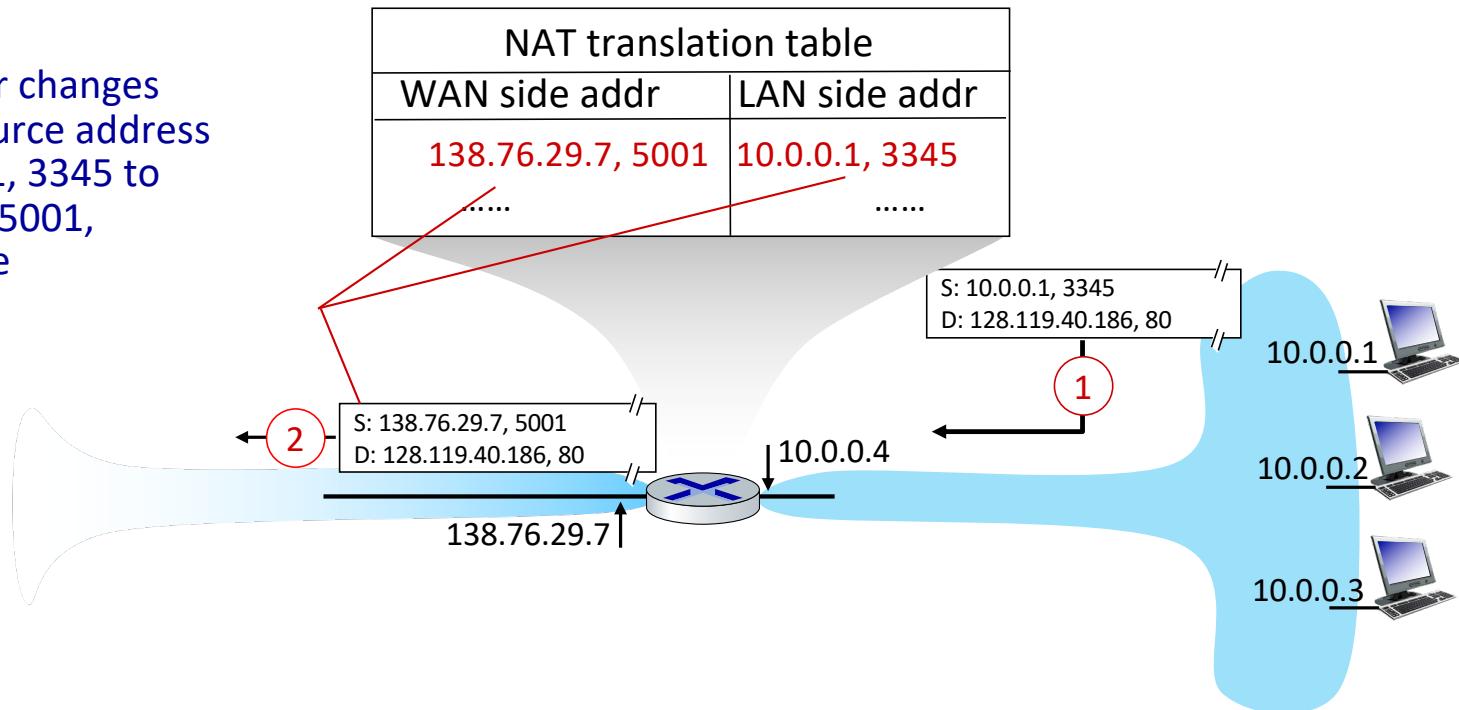


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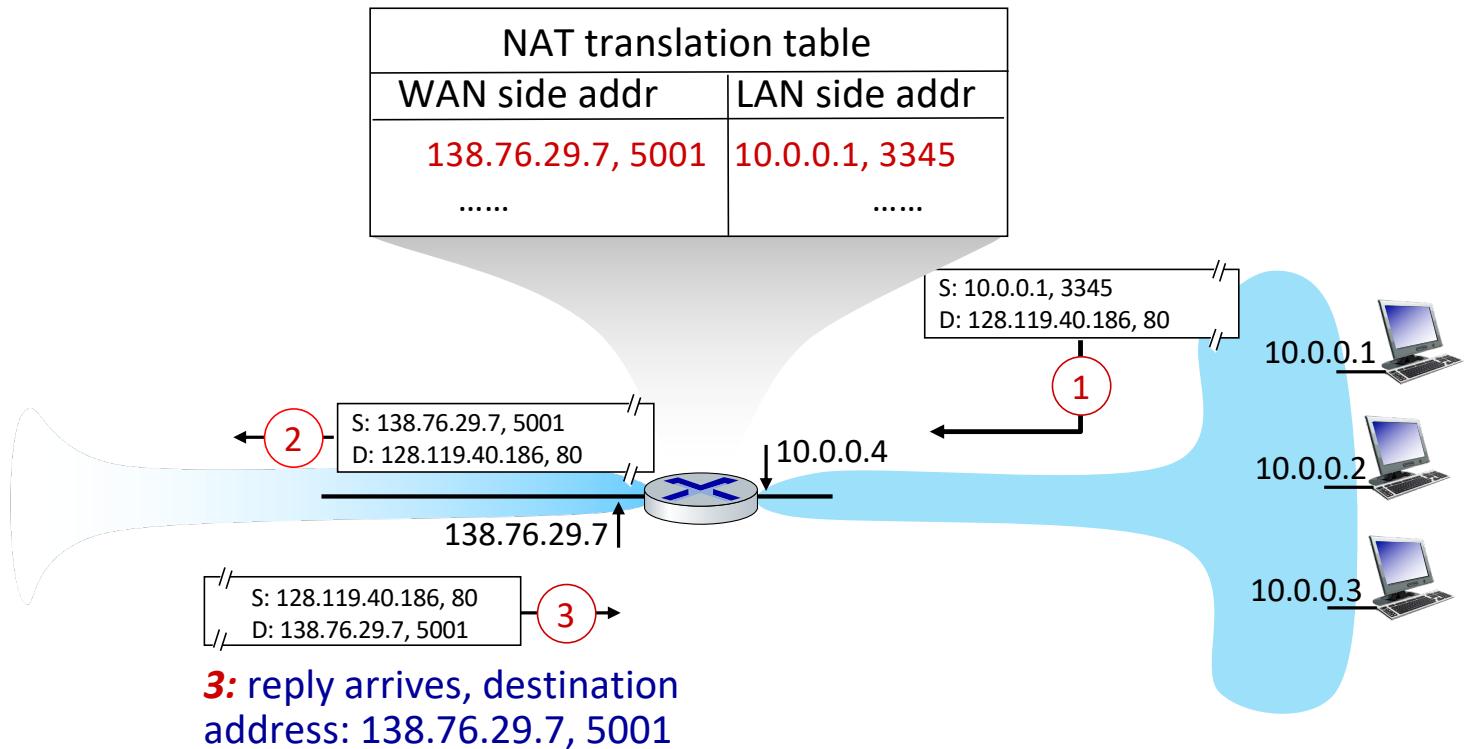


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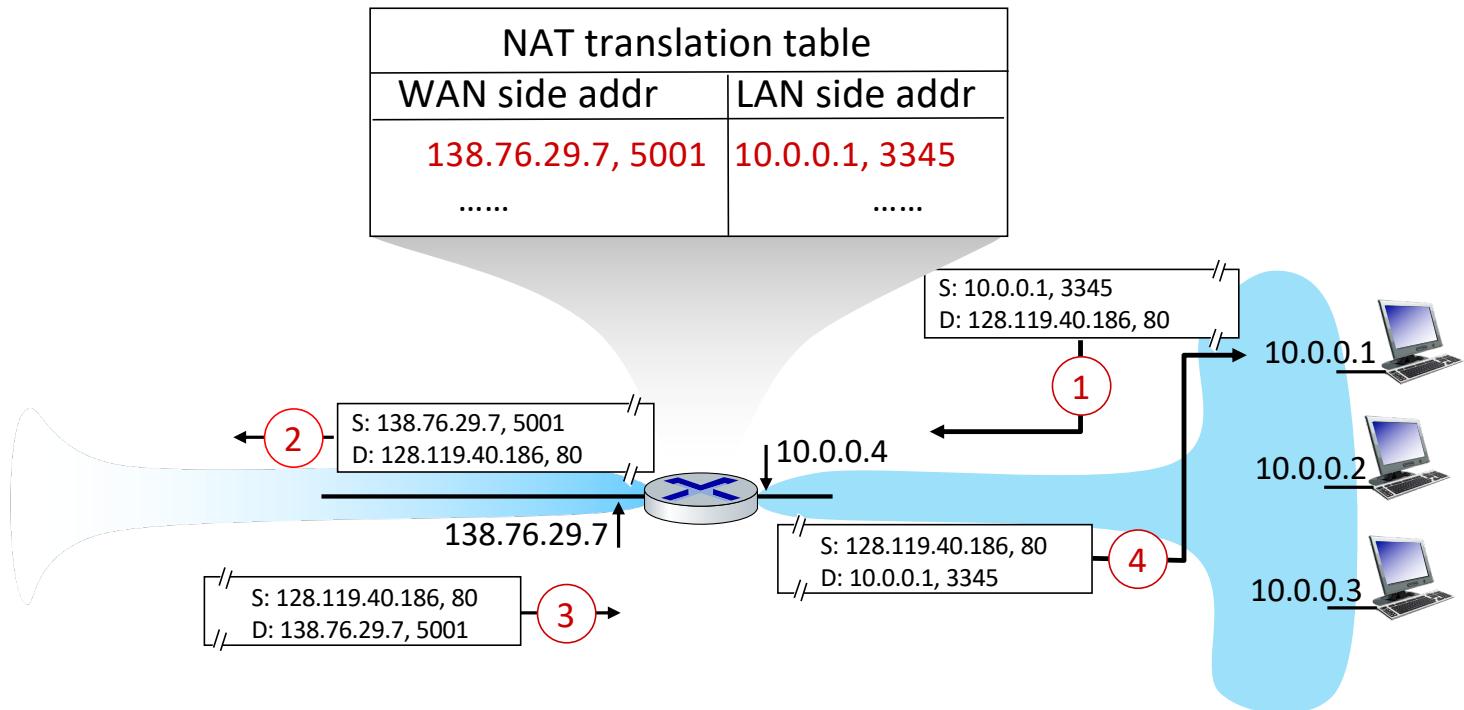
**2:** NAT router changes datagram source address from 10.0.0.1, 3345 to 138.76.29.7, 5001, updates table



# NAT: network address translation



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- NAT has been controversial:
  - routers “should” only process up to layer 3
  - address “shortage” should be solved by IPv6
  - violates end-to-end argument (port # manipulation by network-layer device)
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- but NAT is here to stay:
  - extensively used in home and institutional nets, 4G/5G cellular nets

# IPv6: motivation

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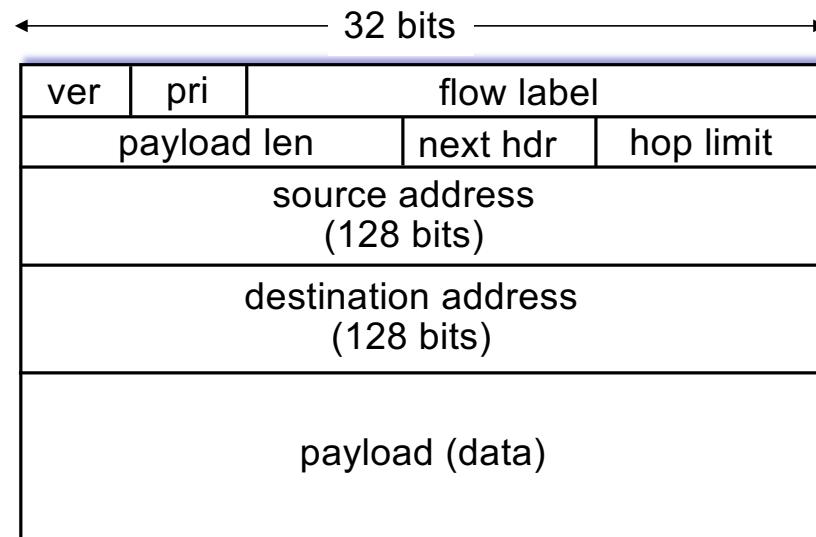
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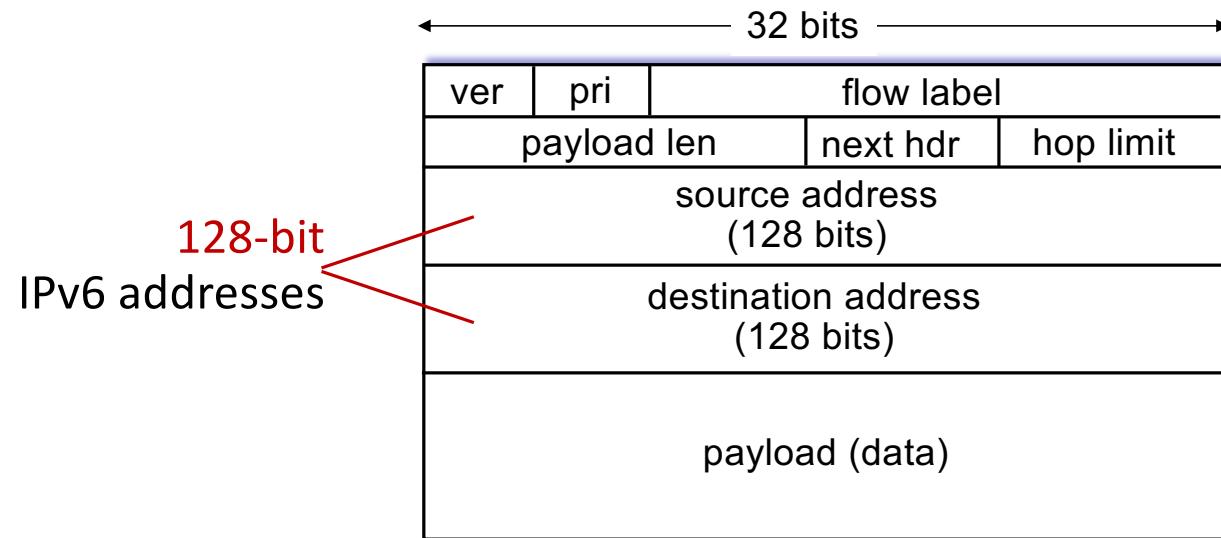
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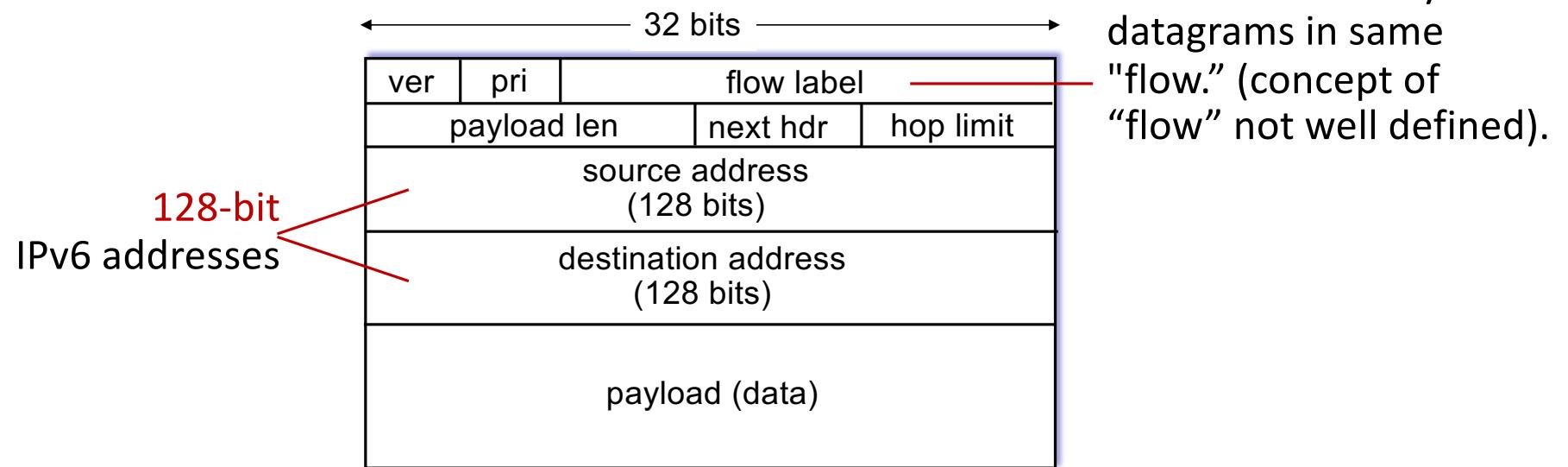
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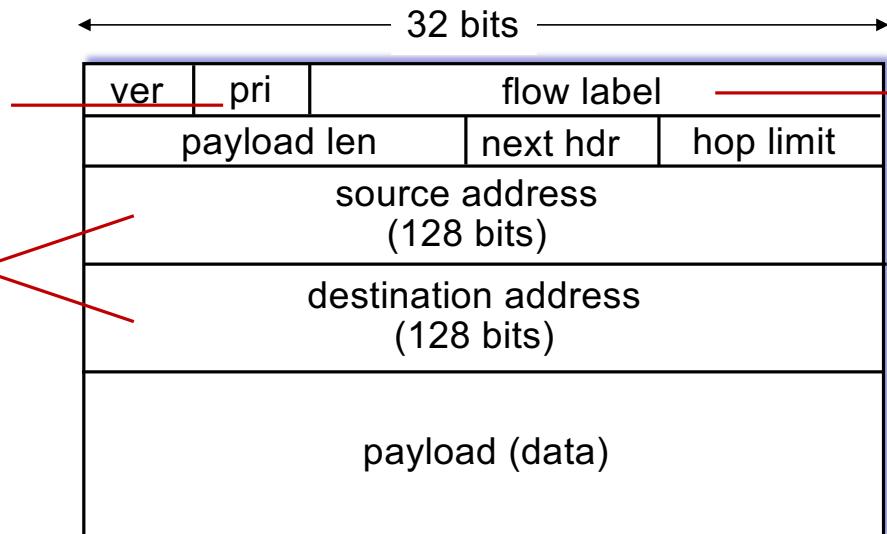
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**priority:** identify priority among datagrams in flow

**128-bit  
IPv6 addresses**

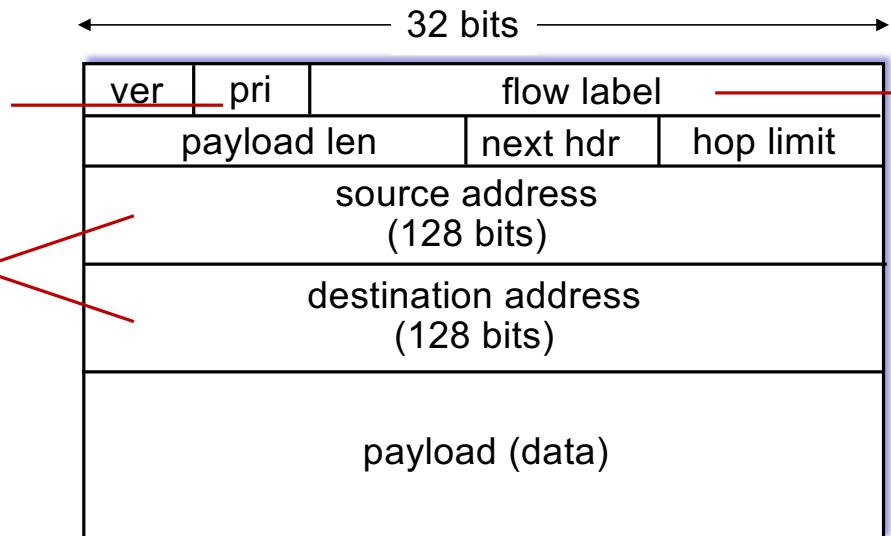


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# IPv6 datagram format

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What's missing (compared with IPv4):

- no checksum (to speed processing at routers)
- no fragmentation/reassembly
- no options (available as upper-layer, next-header protocol at router)

# Transition from IPv4 to IPv6

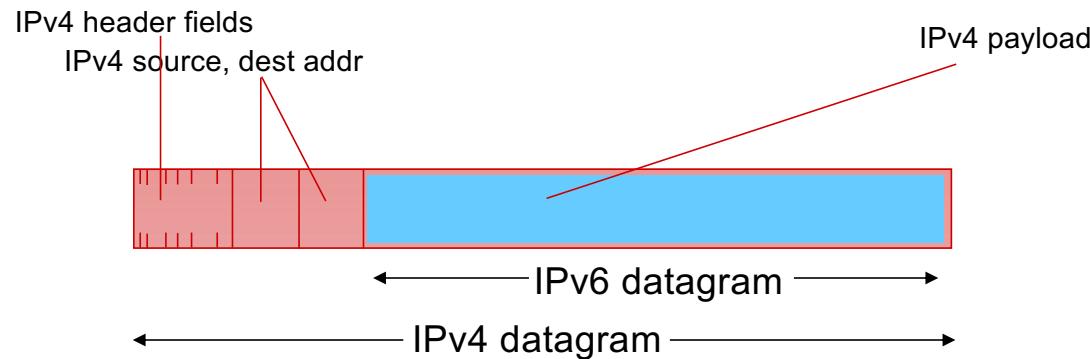
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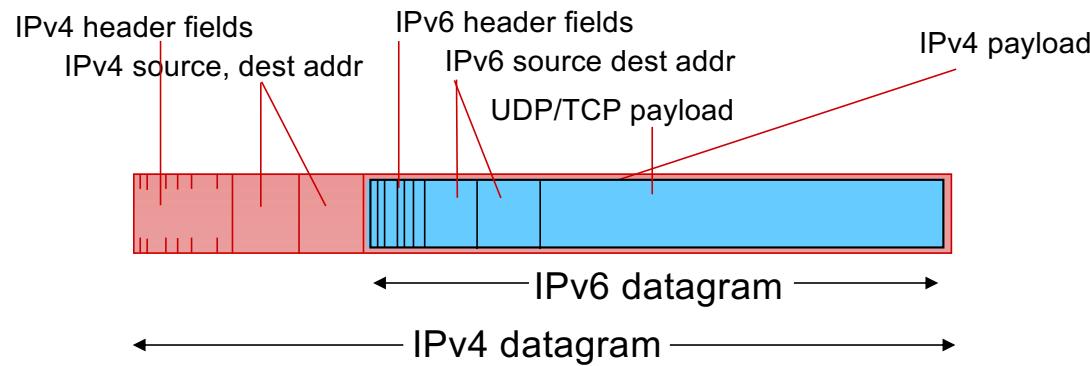
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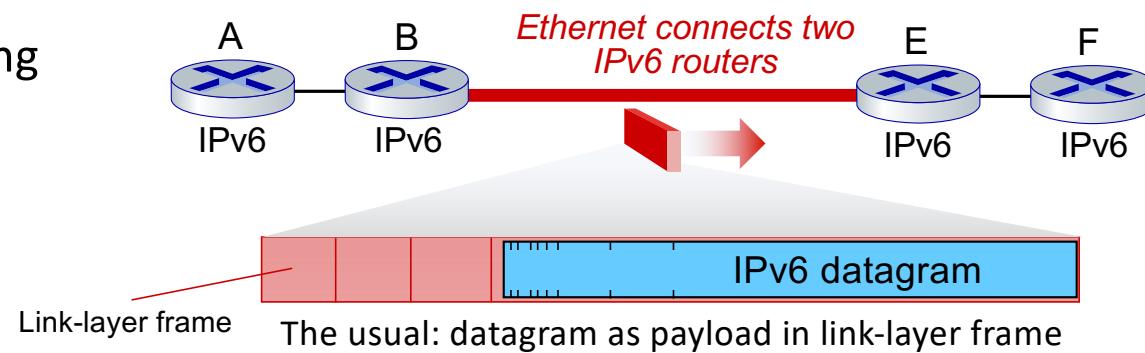
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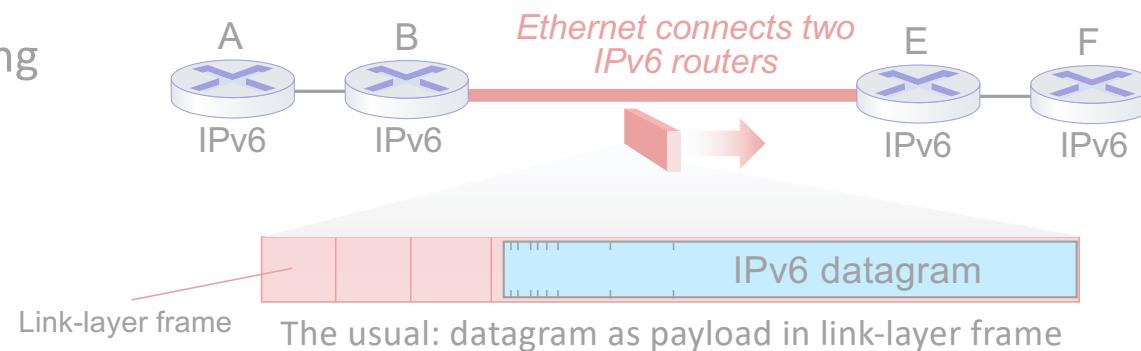
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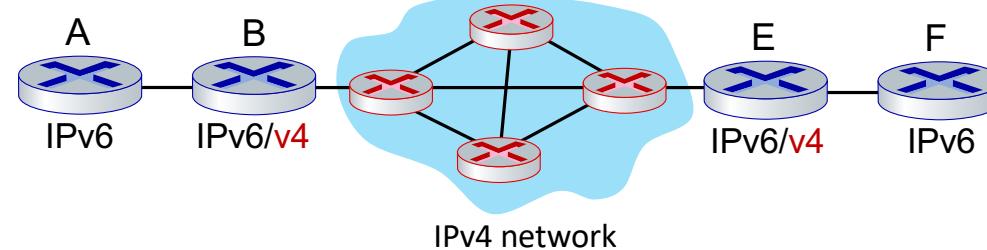


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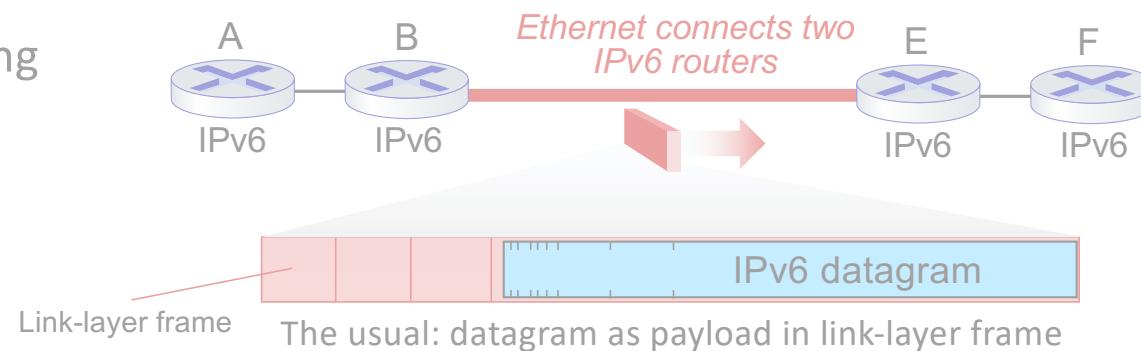


IPv4 network  
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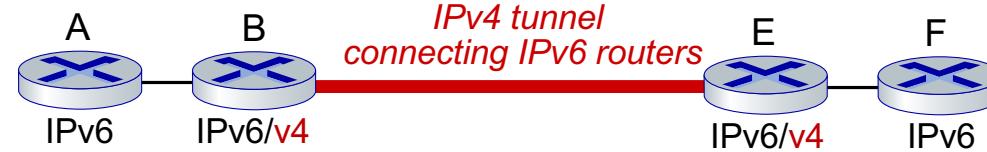


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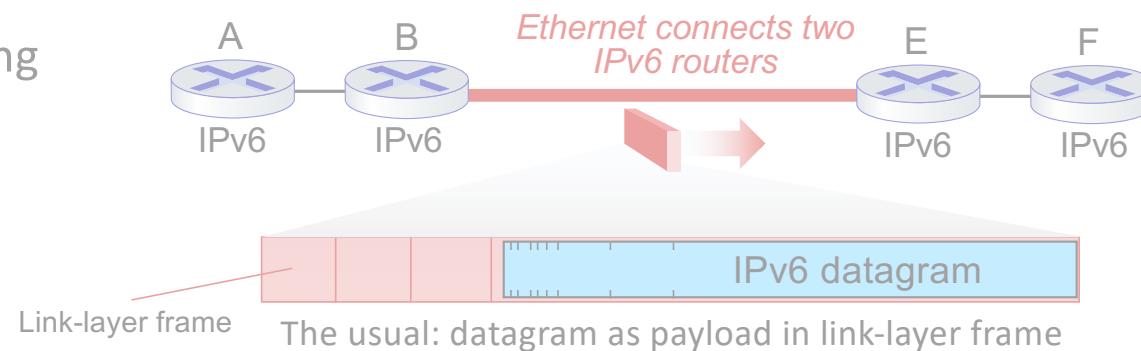


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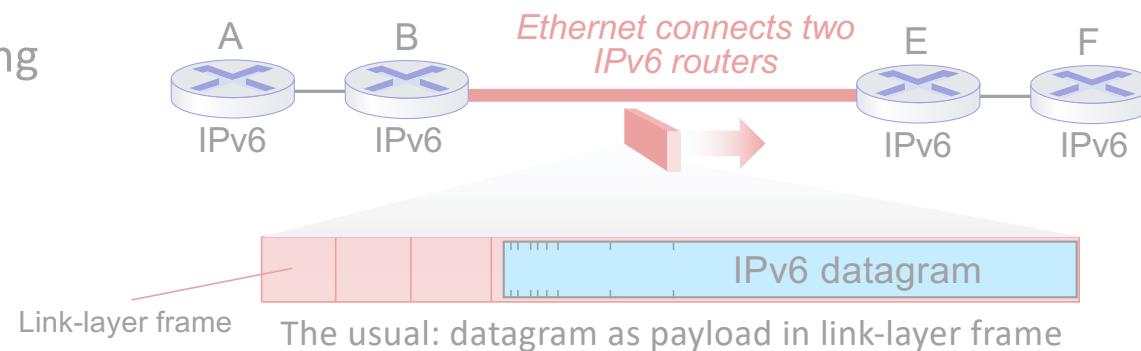


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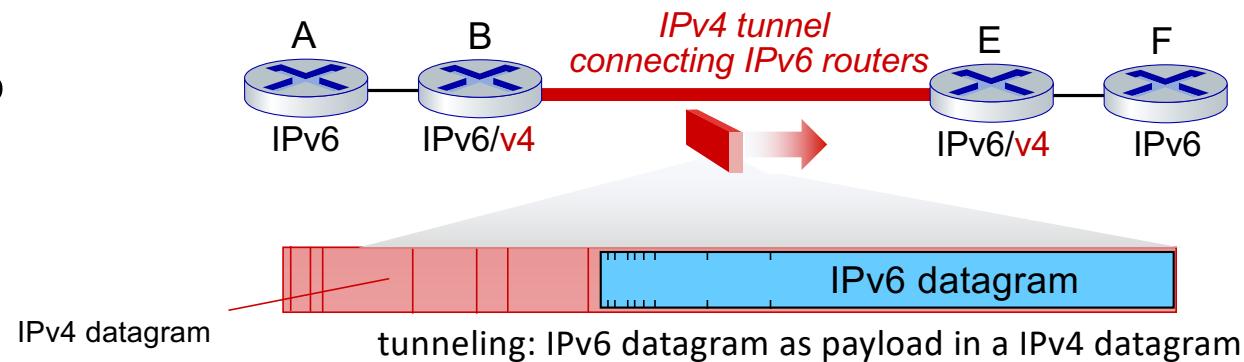


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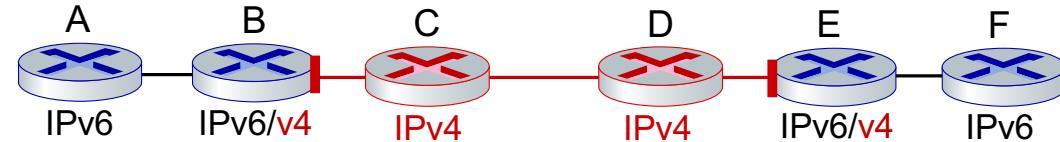


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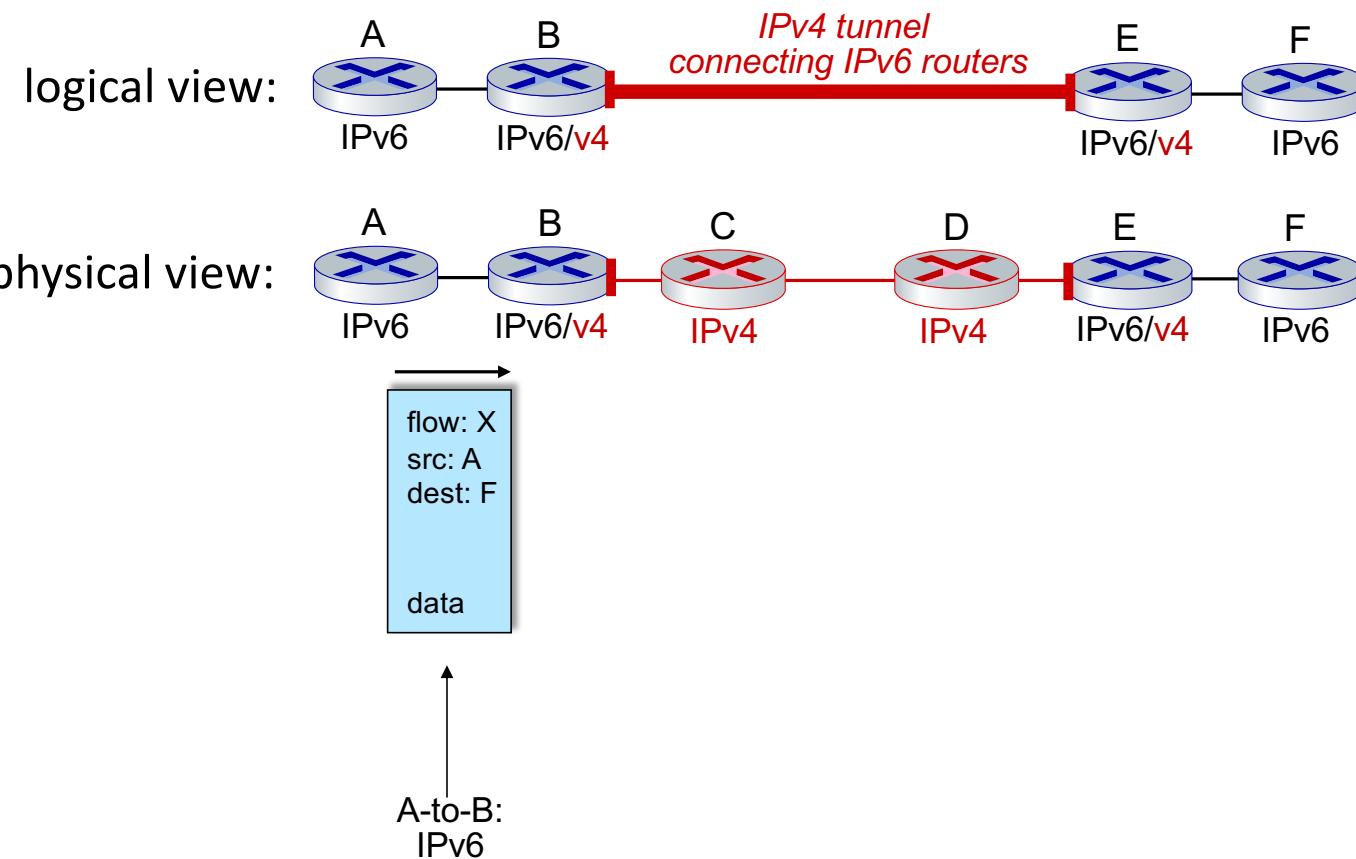
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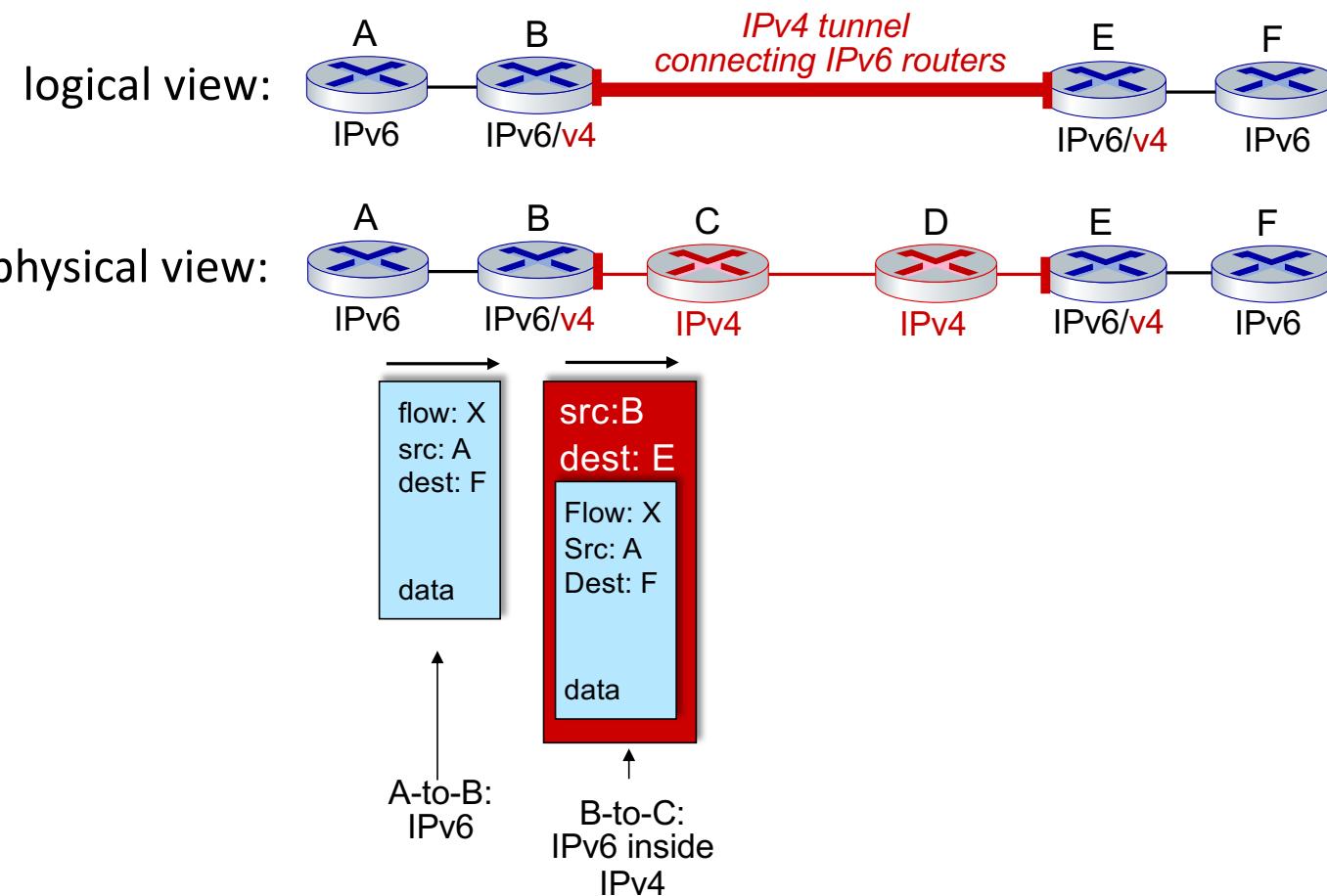
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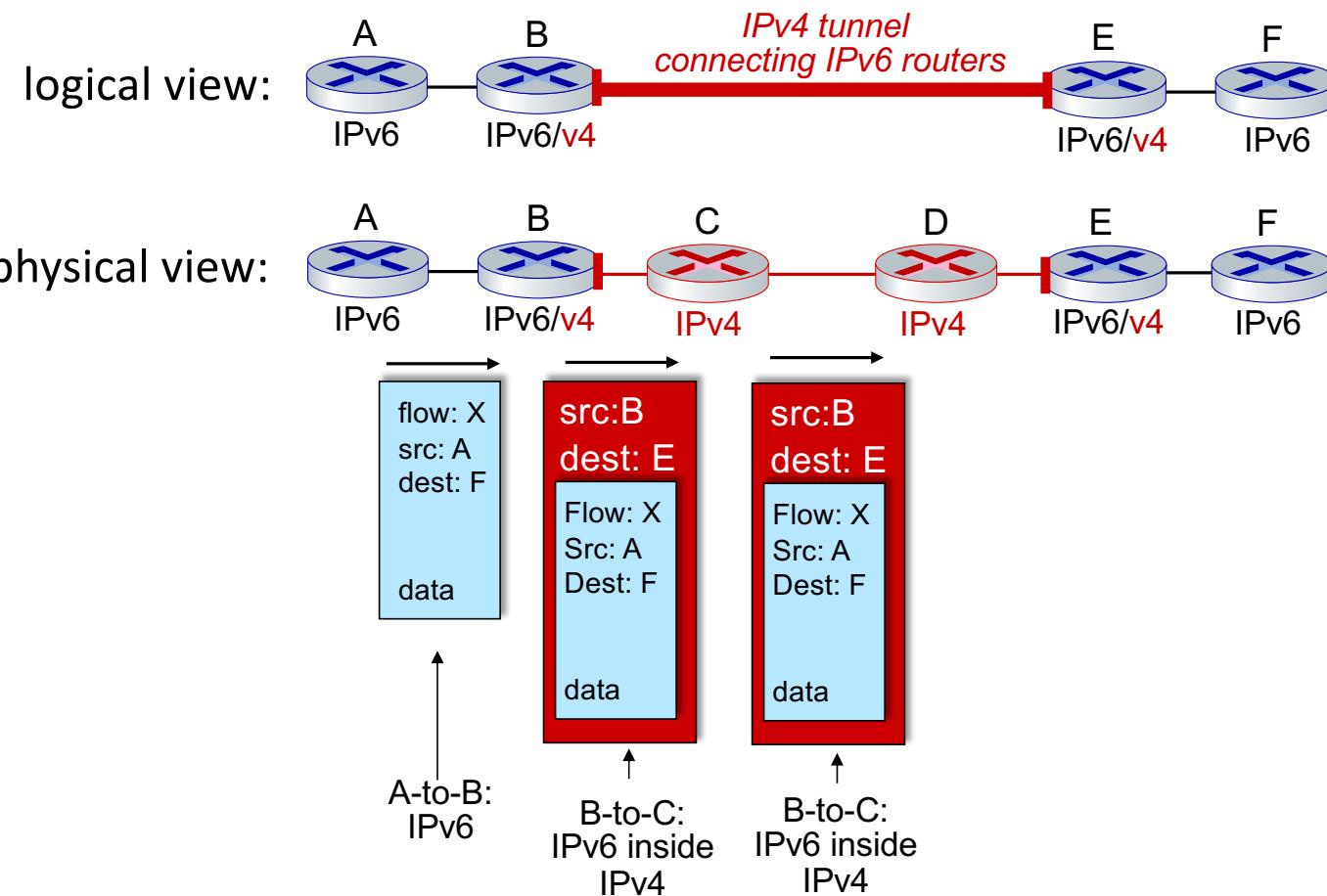
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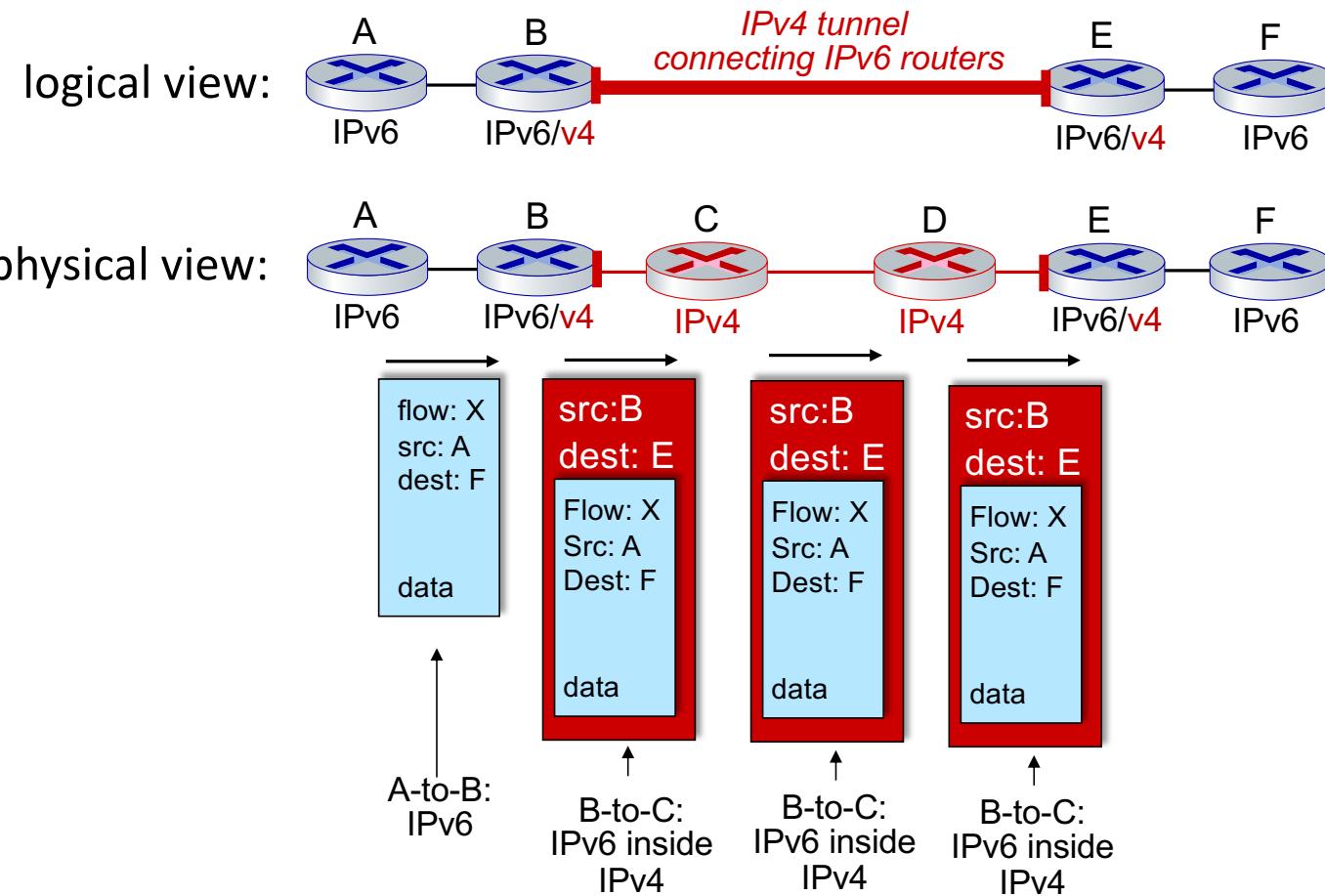
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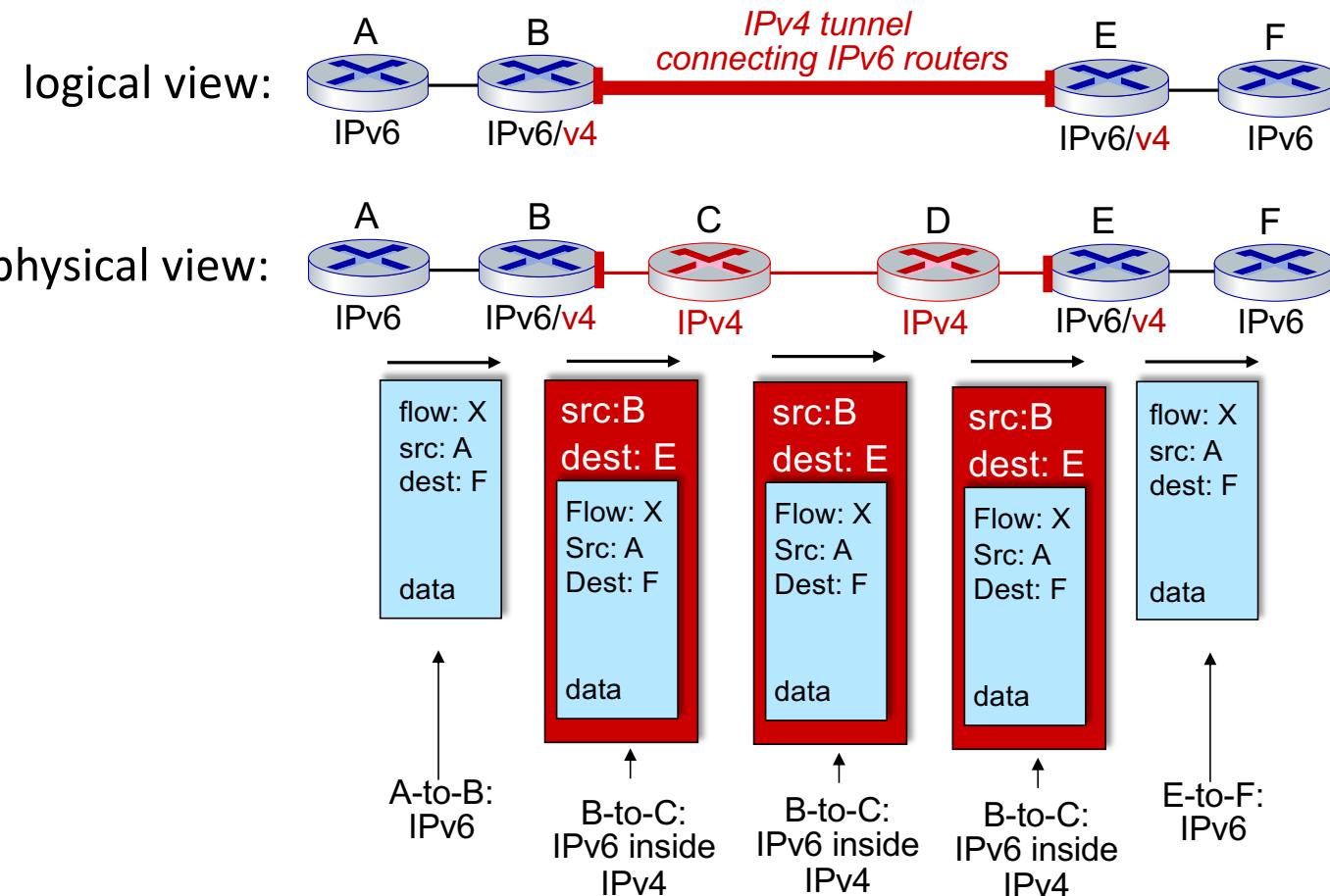
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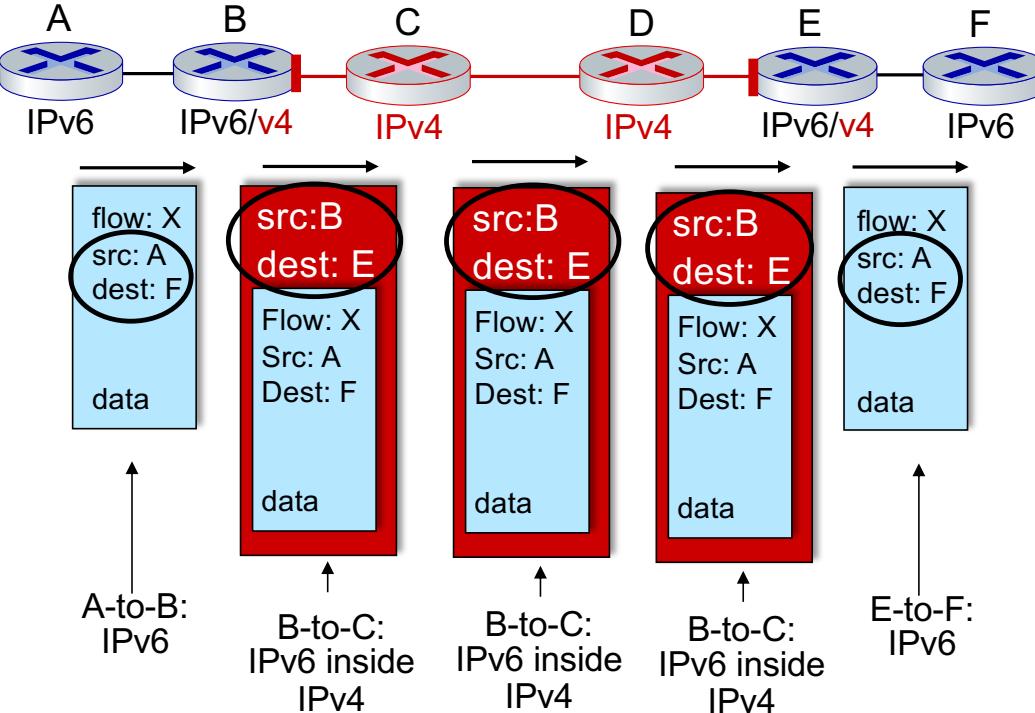
# Tunneling

logical view:



physical view:

Note source and destination addresses!



# IPv6: adoption

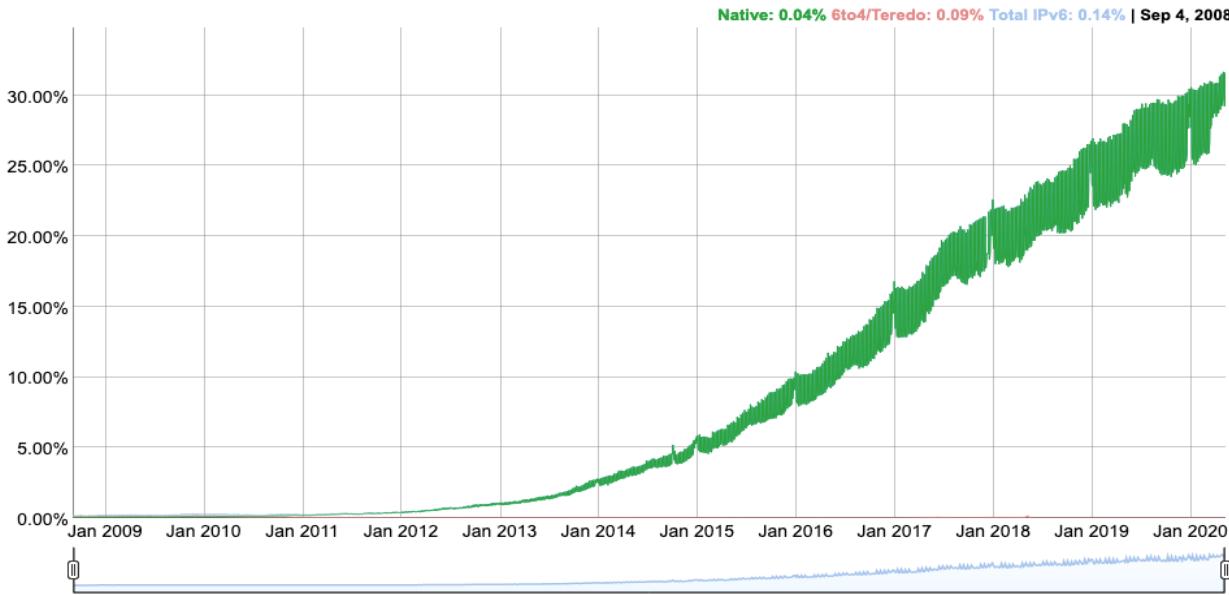
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## IPv6 Adoption

We are continuously measuring the availability of IPv6 connectivity among Google users. The graph shows the percentage of users that access Google over IPv6.



1

<https://www.google.com/intl/en/ipv6/statistics.html>

Network Layer: 4-75

# IPv6: adoption

- Google<sup>1</sup>: ~ 30% of clients access services via IPv6
- NIST: 1/3 of all US government domains are IPv6 capable
- Long (long!) time for deployment, use
  - 25 years and counting!
  - think of application-level changes in last 25 years: WWW, social media, streaming media, gaming, telepresence, ...
  - *Why?*

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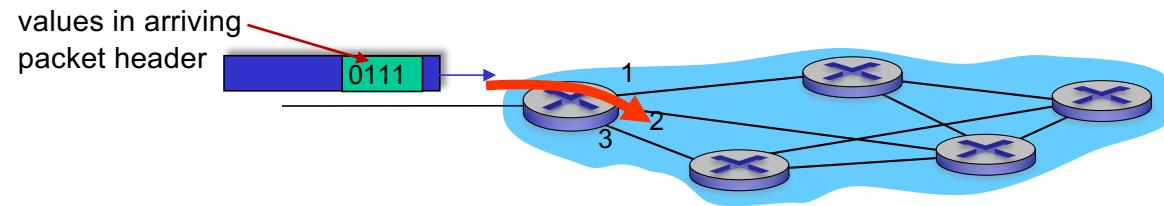
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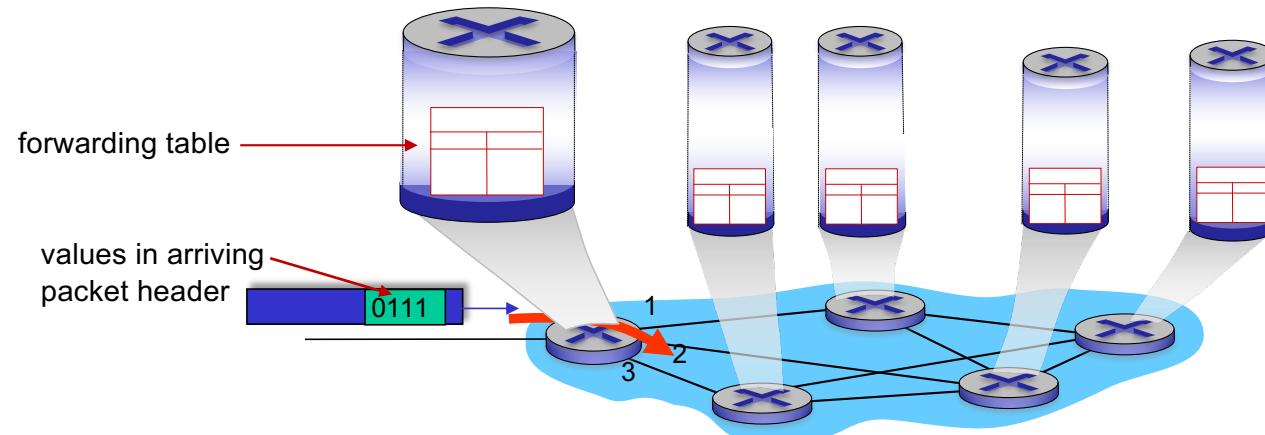
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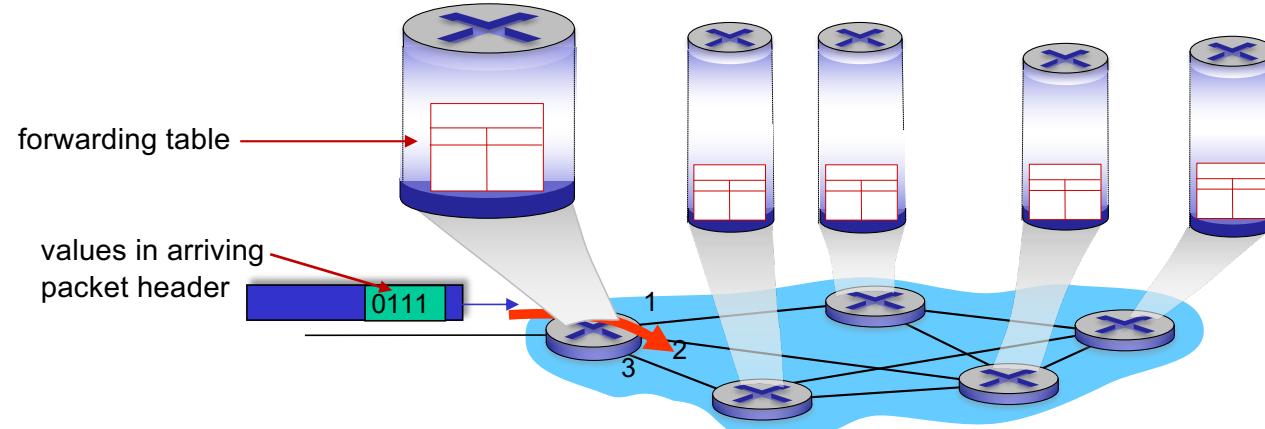
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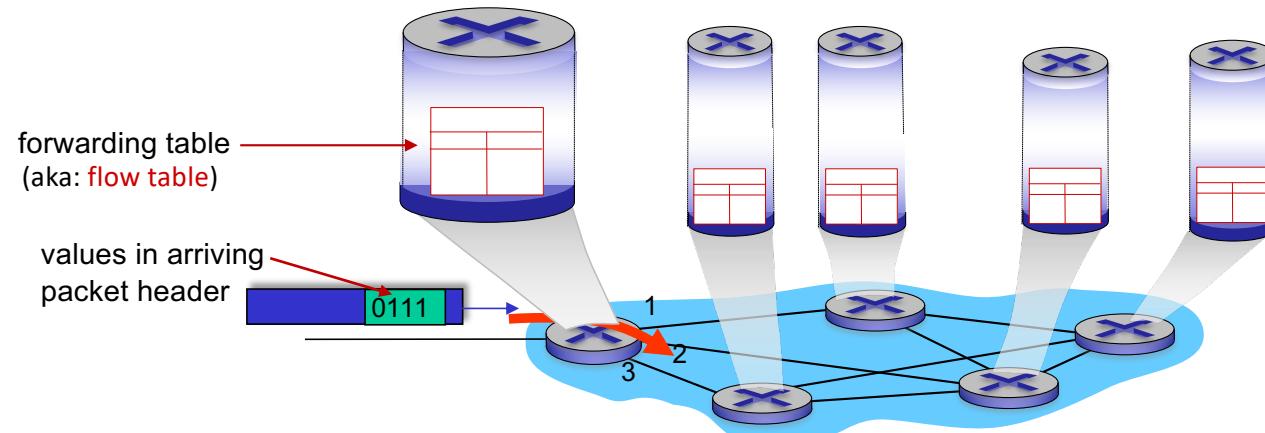
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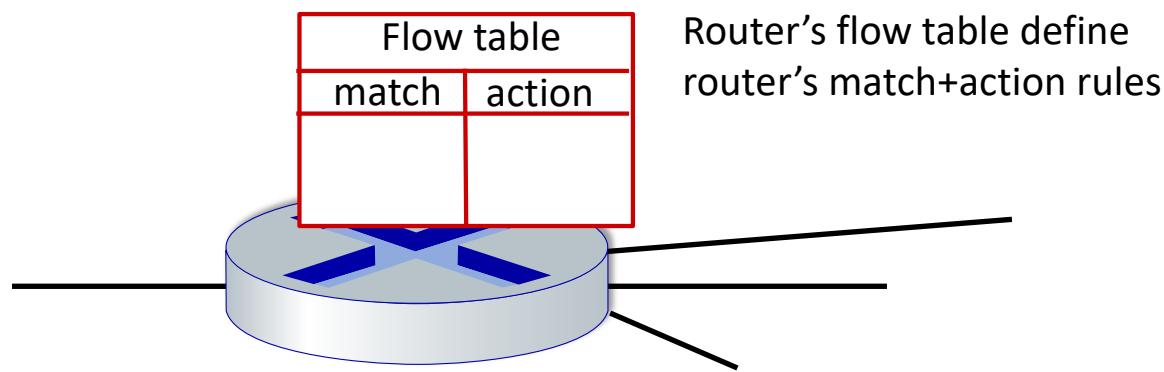
Review: each router contains a **forwarding table** (aka: **flow table**)

- “**match plus action**” abstraction: match bits in arriving packet, take action
  - *destination-based forwarding*: forward based on dest. IP address
  - *generalized forwarding*:
    - many header fields can determine action
    - many actions possible: drop/copy/modify/log packet



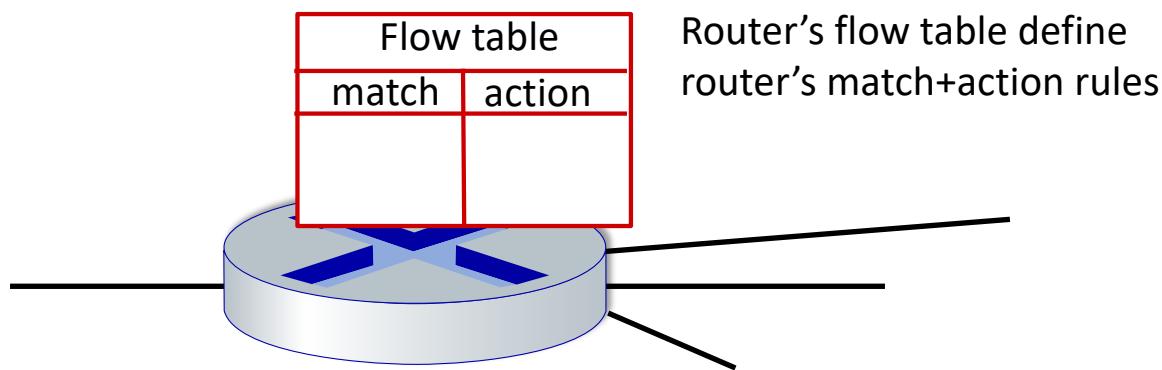
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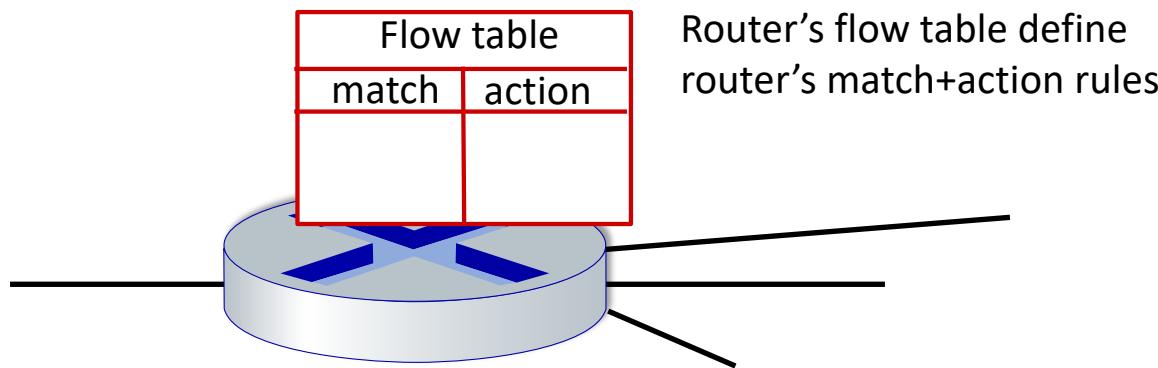
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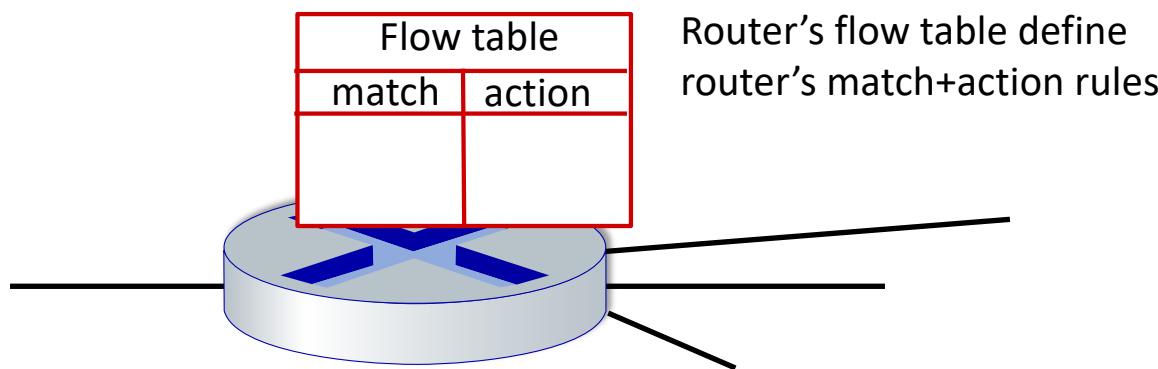
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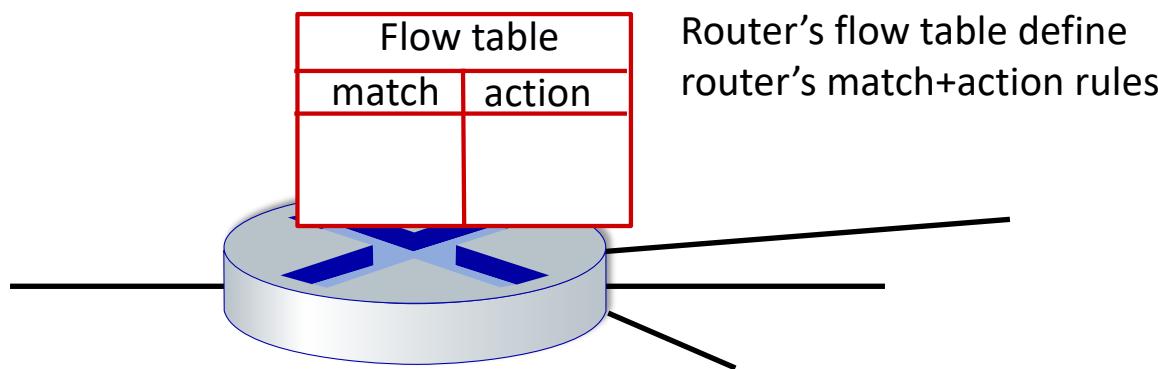
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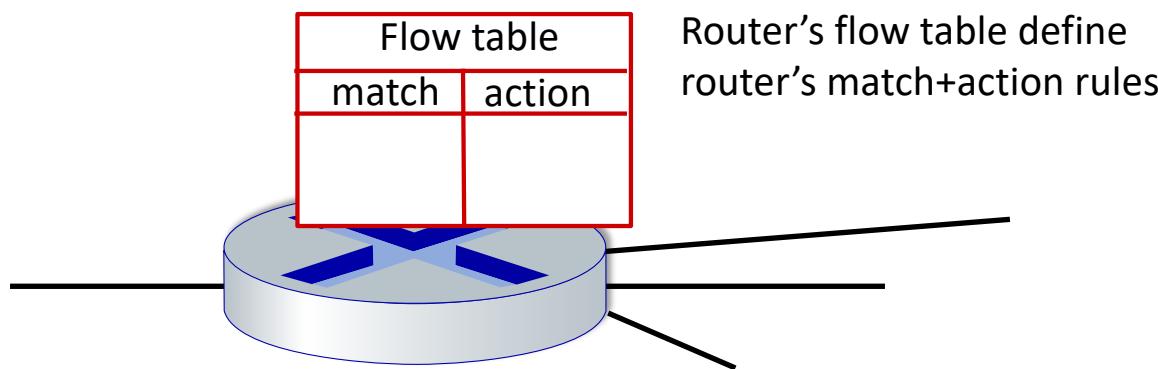
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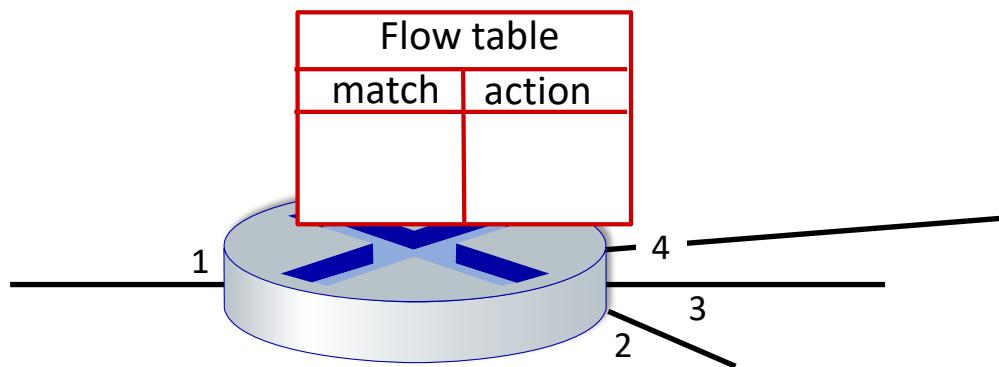
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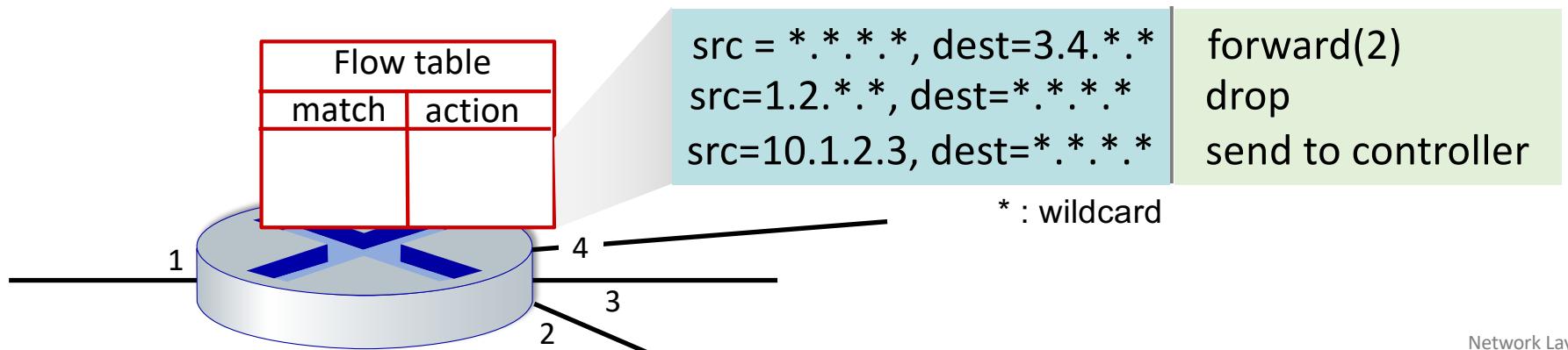
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Network Layer: 4-80

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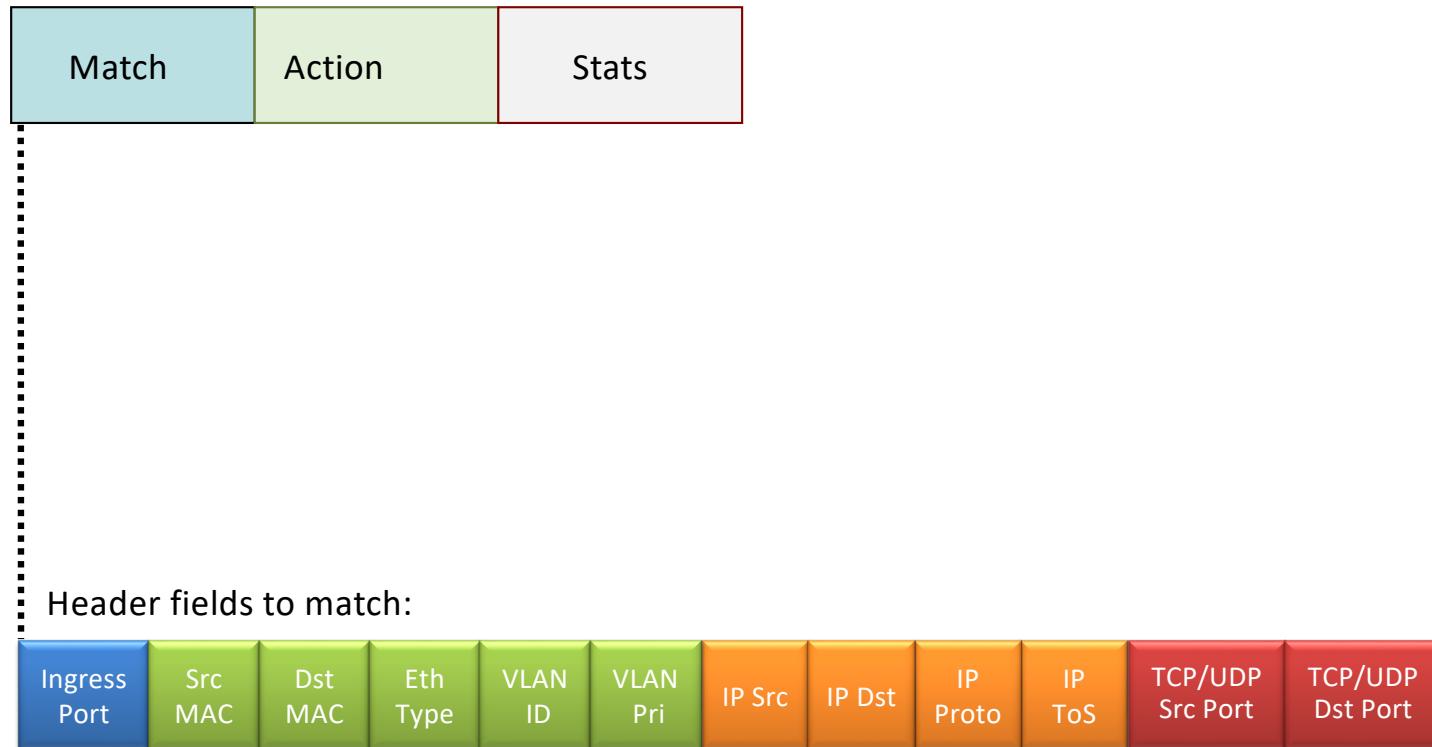
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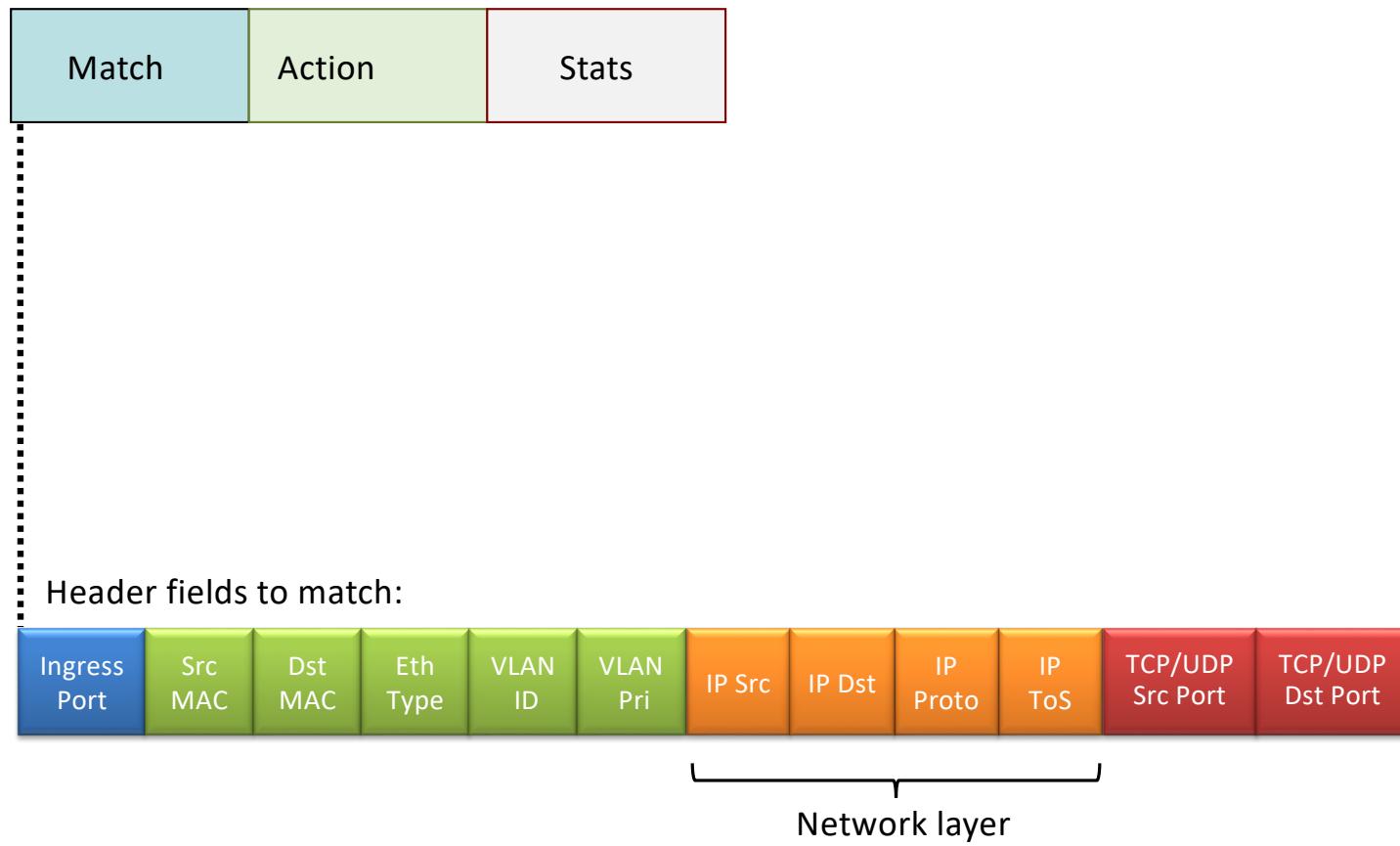
# OpenFlow: flow table entries

Match	Action	Stats
-------	--------	-------

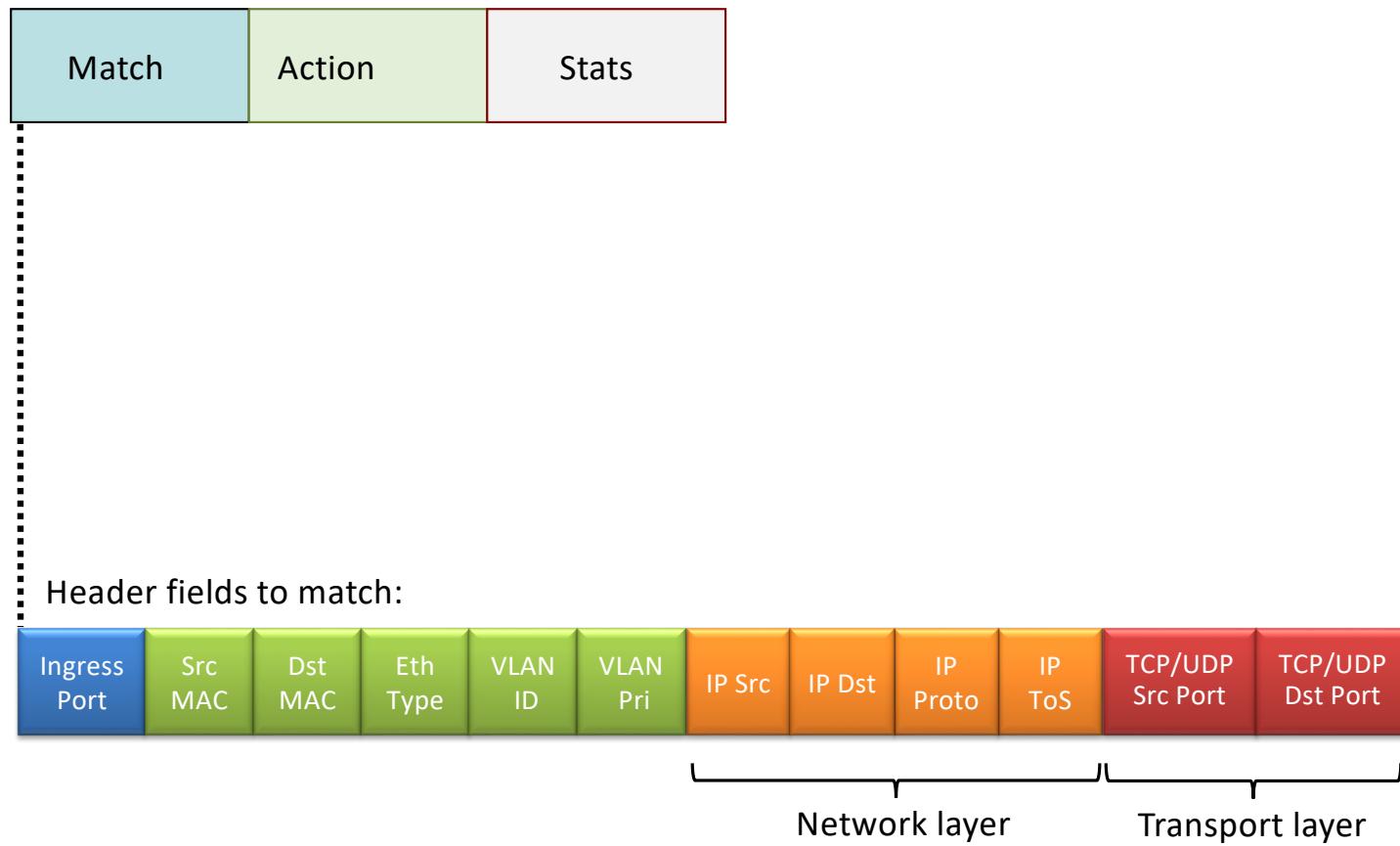
# OpenFlow: flow table entries



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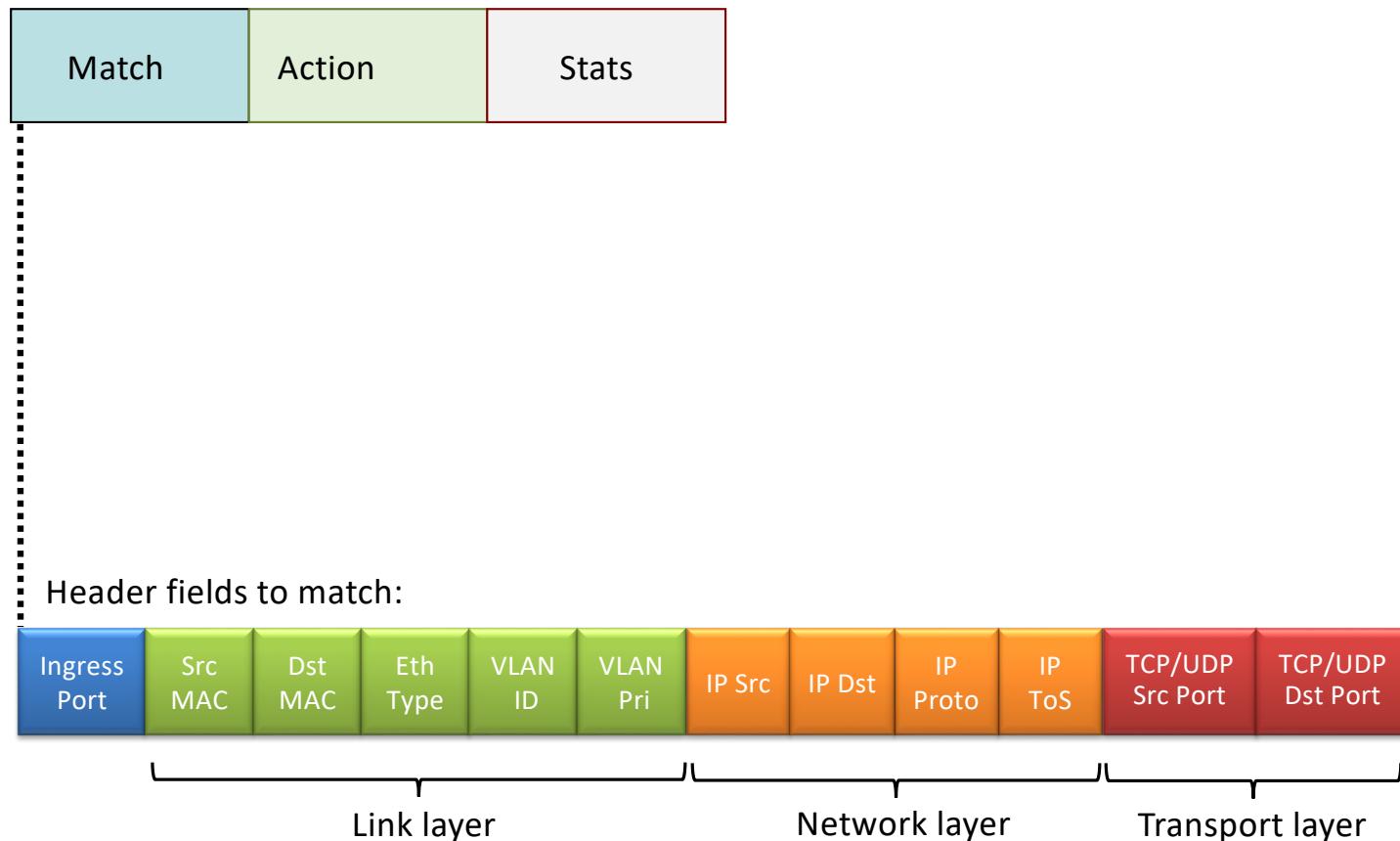


# OpenFlow: flow table entries



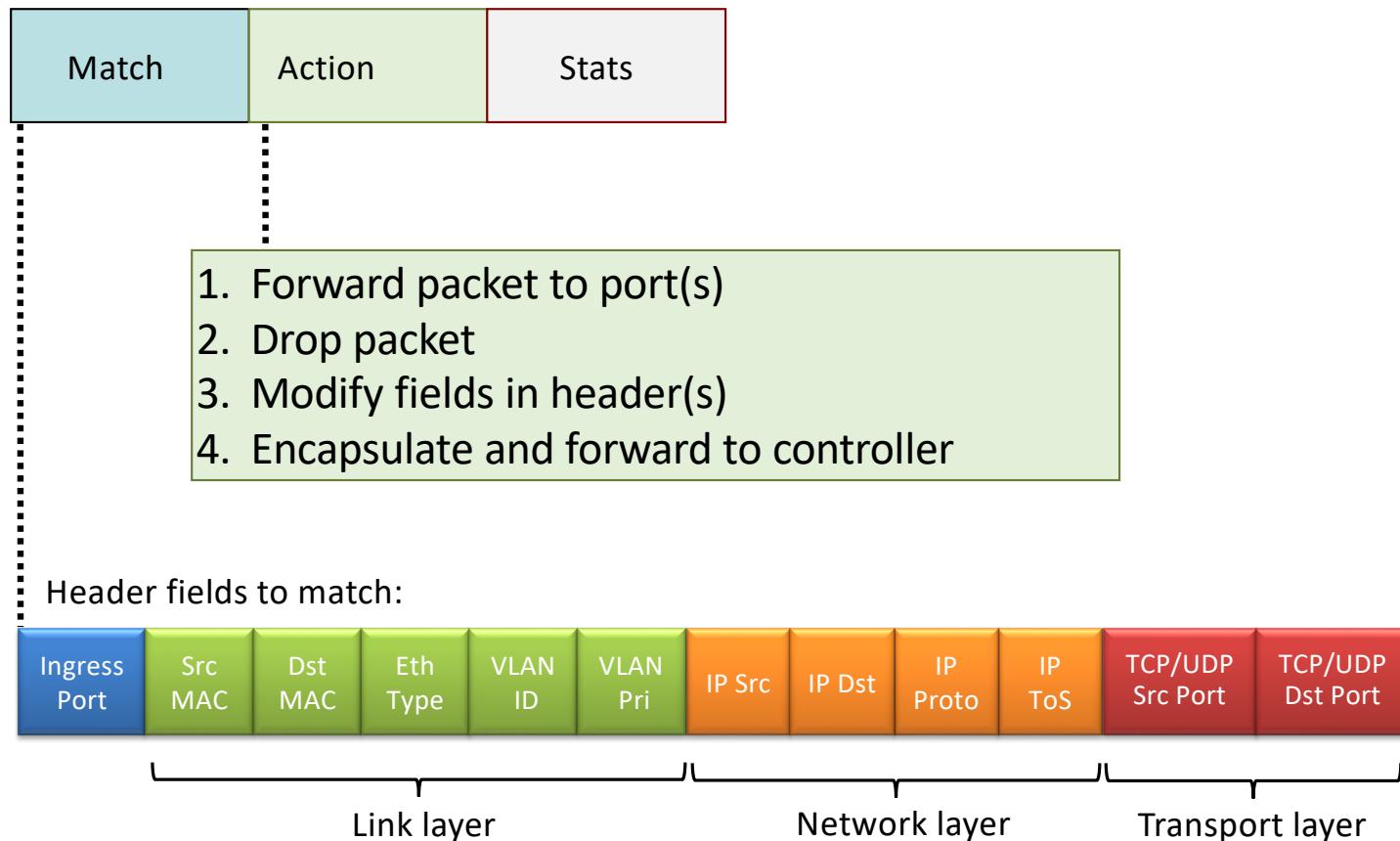
Network Layer: 4-81

# OpenFlow: flow table entries

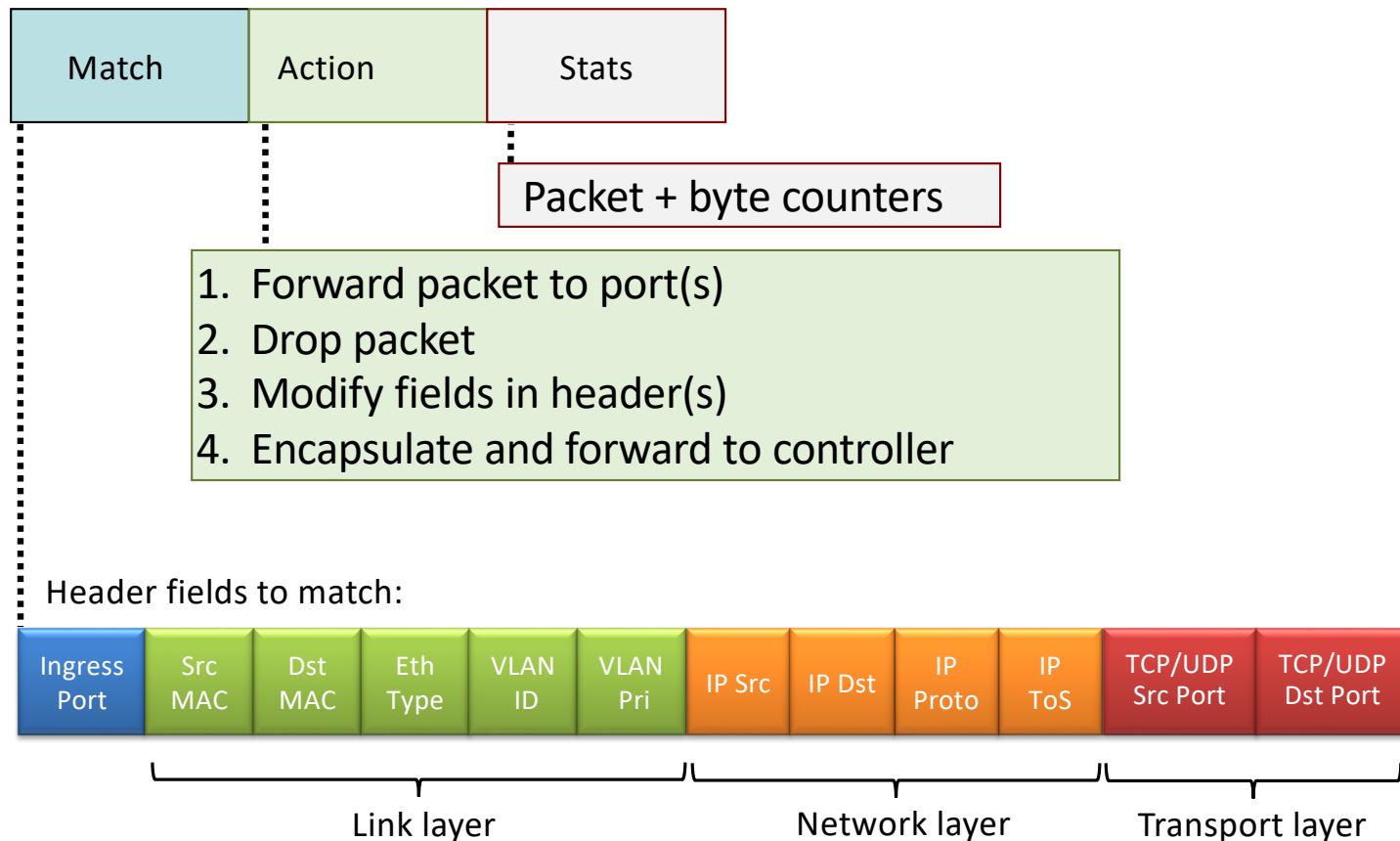


Network Layer: 4-81

# OpenFlow: flow table entries



# OpenFlow: flow table entries



Network Layer: 4-81

# OpenFlow: examples

# OpenFlow: examples

Destination-based forwarding:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	VLAN Pri	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	IP ToS	TCP s-port	TCP d-port	Action
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	51.6.0.8	*	*	*	*	port6

IP datagrams destined to IP address 51.6.0.8 should be forwarded to router output port 6

# OpenFlow: examples

Destination-based forwarding:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	VLAN Pri	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	IP ToS	TCP s-port	TCP d-port	Action
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Firewall:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	VLAN Pri	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	IP ToS	TCP s-port	TCP d-port	Action
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22 drop

Block (do not forward) all datagrams destined to TCP port 22 (ssh port #)

# OpenFlow: examples

Destination-based forwarding:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	VLAN Pri	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	IP ToS	TCP s-port	TCP d-port	Action
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Firewall:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	VLAN Pri	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	IP ToS	TCP s-port	TCP d-port	Action
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22 drop

Block (do not forward) all datagrams destined to TCP port 22 (ssh port #)

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	VLAN Pri	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	IP ToS	TCP s-port	TCP d-port	Action
*	*	*	*	*	*	128.119.1.1	*	*	*	*	*	drop

Block (do not forward) all datagrams sent by host 128.119.1.1

# OpenFlow: examples

Layer 2 destination-based forwarding:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	VLAN Pri	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	IP ToS	TCP s-port	TCP d-port	Action
*	*	22:A7:23: 11:E1:02	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	port3

layer 2 frames with destination MAC address 22:A7:23:11:E1:02 should be forwarded to output port 3

# OpenFlow abstraction

- **match+action:** abstraction unifies different kinds of devices

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## Router

- *match:* longest destination IP prefix
- *action:* forward out a link

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- *match:* destination MAC address
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- *match:* IP addresses and TCP/UDP port numbers
- *action:* permit or deny

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## NAT

- *match:* IP address and port
- *action:* rewrite address and port

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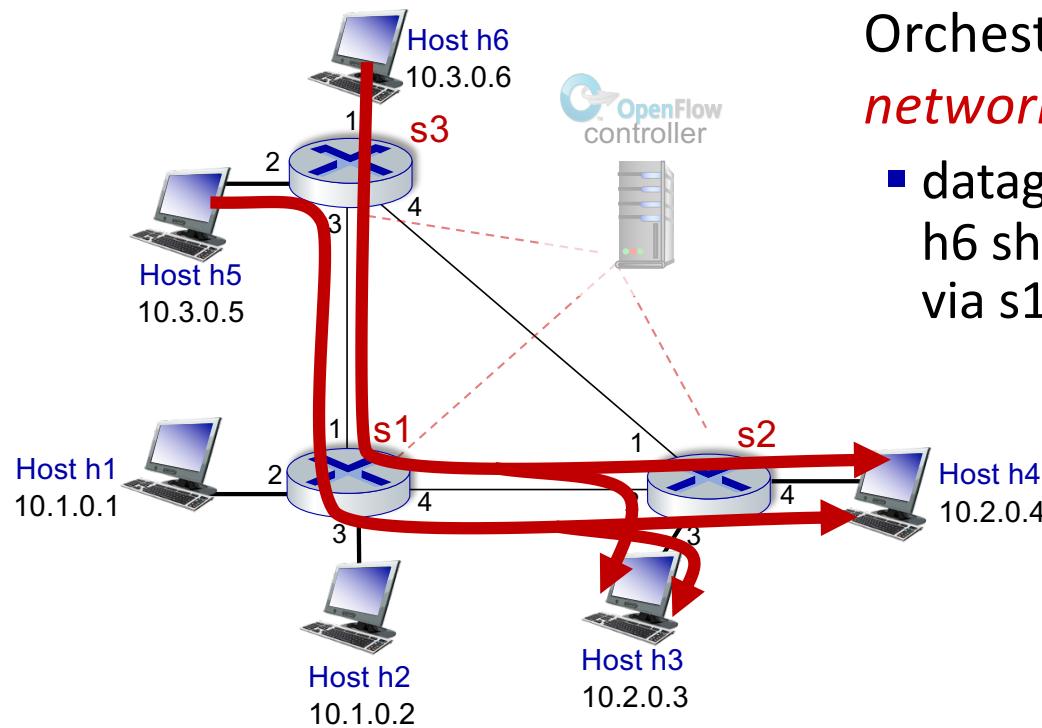
## Firewall

- *match:* IP addresses and TCP/UDP port numbers
- *action:* permit or deny

## NAT

- *match:* IP address and port
- *action:* rewrite address and port

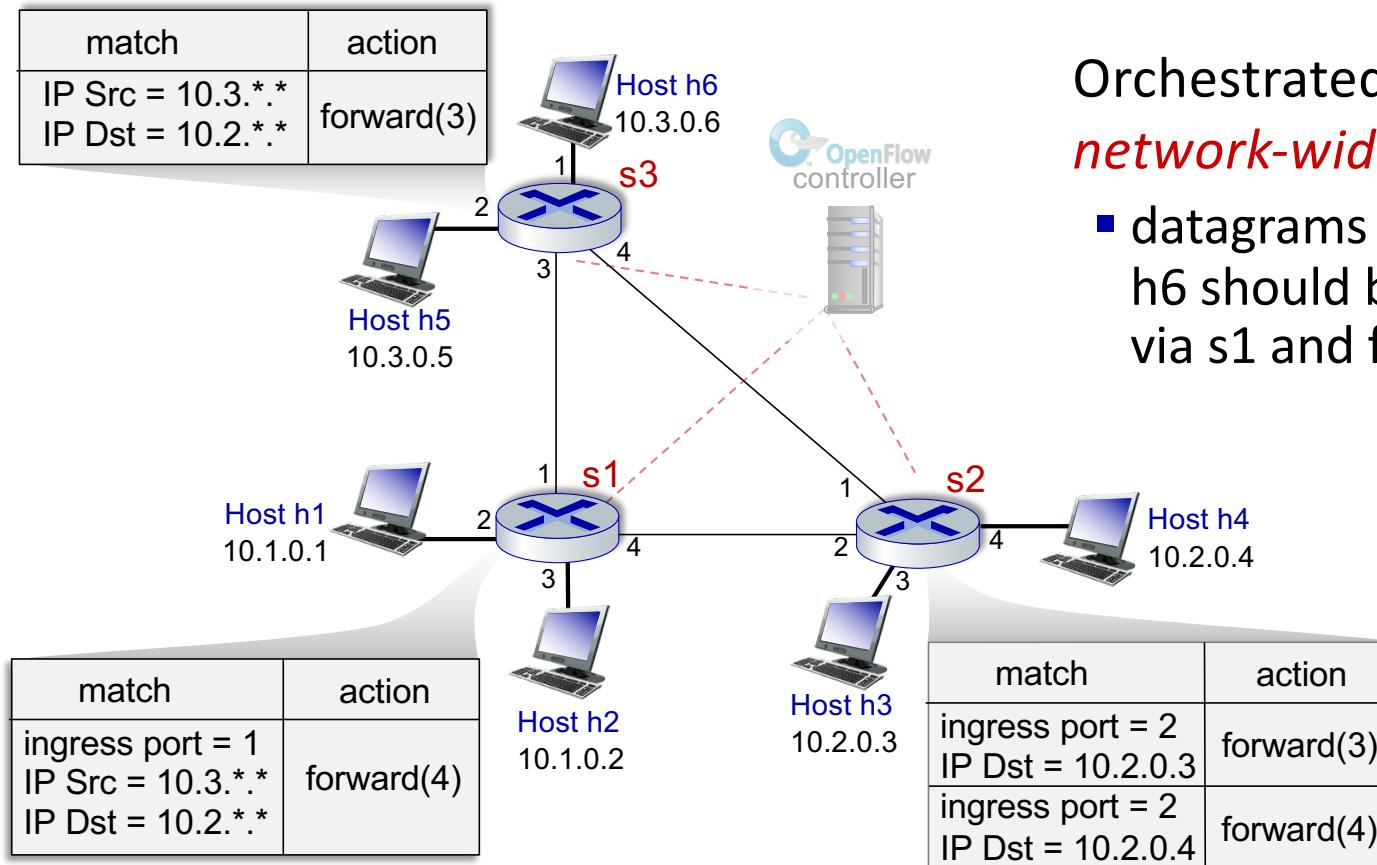
# OpenFlow example



Orchestrated tables can create *network-wide* behavior, e.g.,:

- datagrams from hosts h5 and h6 should be sent to h3 or h4, via s1 and from there to s2

# OpenFlow example



Orchestrated tables can create *network-wide* behavior, e.g.,:

- datagrams from hosts h5 and h6 should be sent to h3 or h4, via s1 and from there to s2

# Generalized forwarding: summary

- “match plus action” abstraction: match bits in arriving packet header(s) in any layers, take action
  - matching over many fields (link-, network-, transport-layer)
  - local actions: drop, forward, modify, or send matched packet to controller
  - “program” *network-wide* behaviors
- simple form of “network programmability”
  - programmable, per-packet “processing”
  - *historical roots*: active networking
  - *today*: more generalized programming:  
P4 (see p4.org).

# Network layer: “data plane” roadmap

- Network layer: overview
- What's inside a router
- IP: the Internet Protocol
- Generalized Forwarding
- **Middleboxes**
  - middlebox functions
  - evolution, architectural principles of the Internet



# Middleboxes

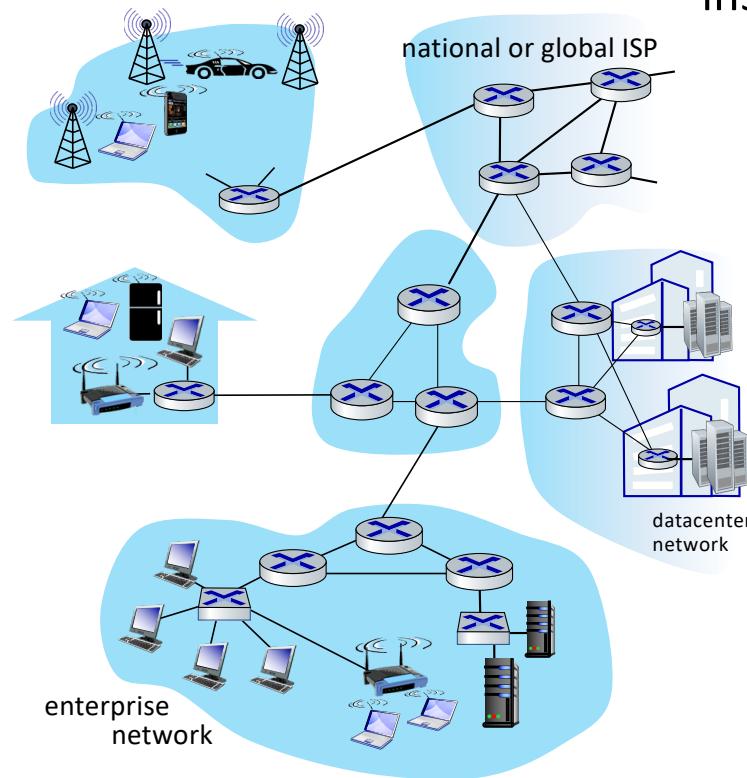
Middlebox (RFC 3234)

“any intermediary box performing functions apart from normal, standard functions of an IP router on the data path between a source host and destination host”

# Middleboxes everywhere!

NAT: home,  
cellular,  
institutional

Application-specific: service providers, institutional, CDN



Firewalls, IDS: corporate, institutional, service providers, ISPs

Load balancers: corporate, service provider, data center, mobile nets

Caches: service provider, mobile, CDNs

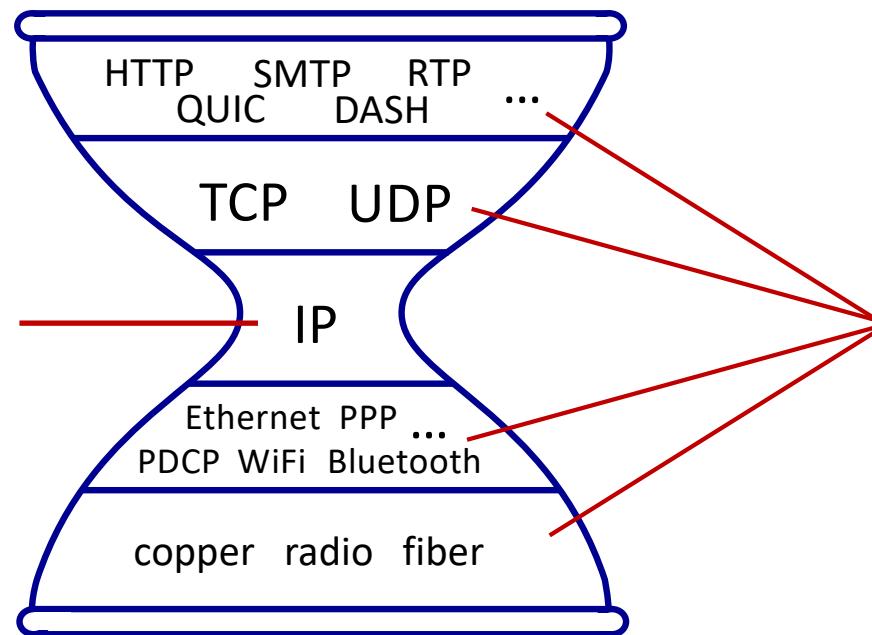
# Middleboxes

- initially: proprietary (closed) hardware solutions
- move towards “whitebox” hardware implementing open API
  - move away from proprietary hardware solutions
  - **programmable local actions** via match+action
  - move towards innovation/differentiation in software
- **SDN:** (logically) centralized control and configuration management often in private/public cloud
- **network functions virtualization (NFV):** programmable services over white box networking, computation, storage

# The IP hourglass

Internet's "thin waist":

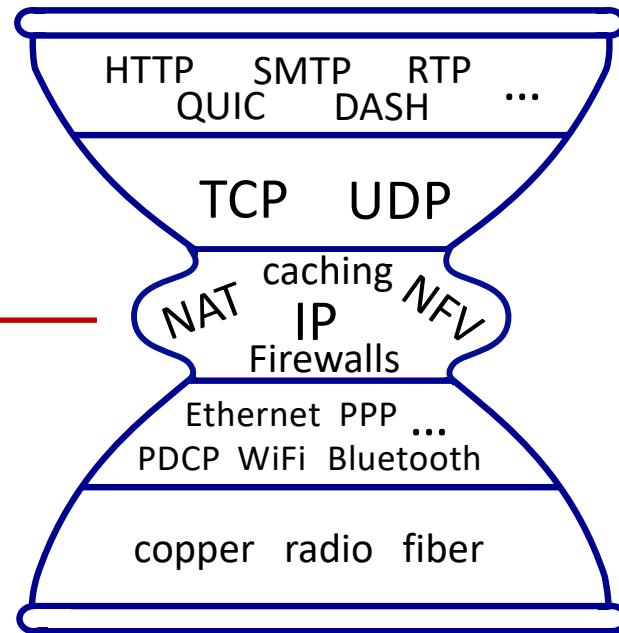
- one network layer protocol: IP
- must be implemented by every (billions) of Internet-connected devices



*many* protocols  
in physical, link,  
transport, and  
application  
layers

# The IP hourglass, at middle age

Internet's middle age  
“love handles”?  
■ middleboxes,  
operating inside the  
network



# Architectural Principles of the Internet

RFC 1958

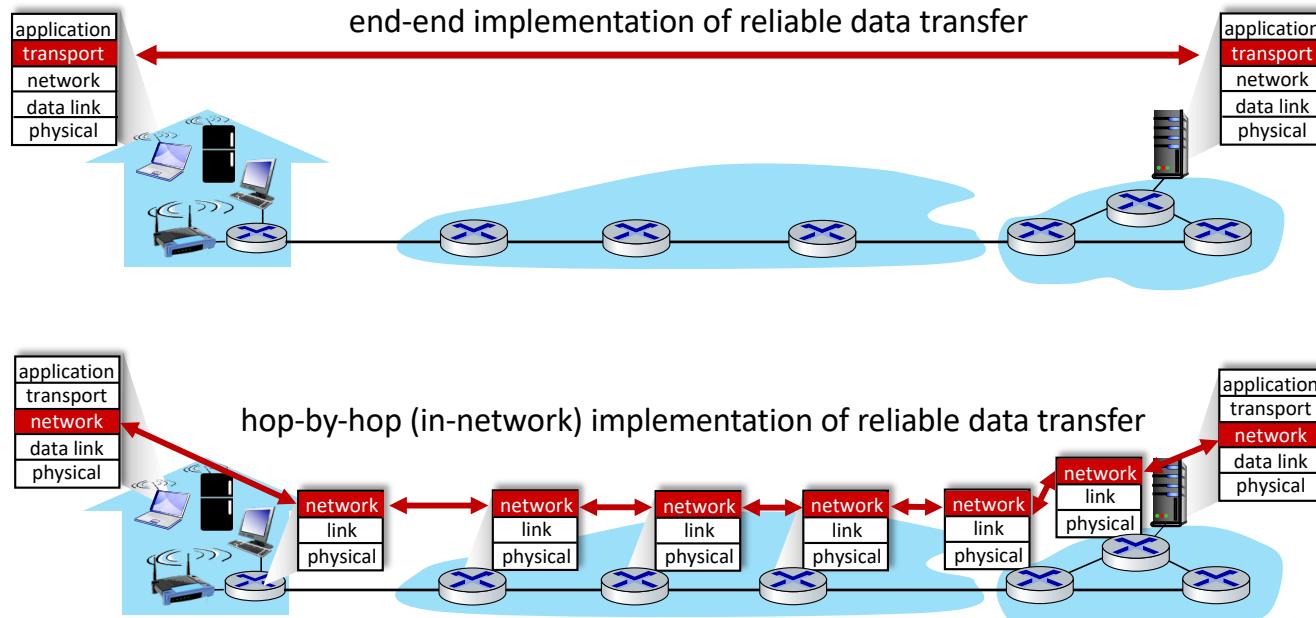
“Many members of the Internet community would argue that there is no architecture, but only a tradition, which was not written down for the first 25 years (or at least not by the IAB). However, in very general terms, the community believes that **the goal is connectivity, the tool is the Internet Protocol, and the intelligence is end to end rather than hidden in the network.**”

Three cornerstone beliefs:

- simple connectivity
- IP protocol: that narrow waist
- intelligence, complexity at network edge

# The end-end argument

- some network functionality (e.g., reliable data transfer, congestion) can be implemented **in network**, or at **network edge**



# The end-end argument

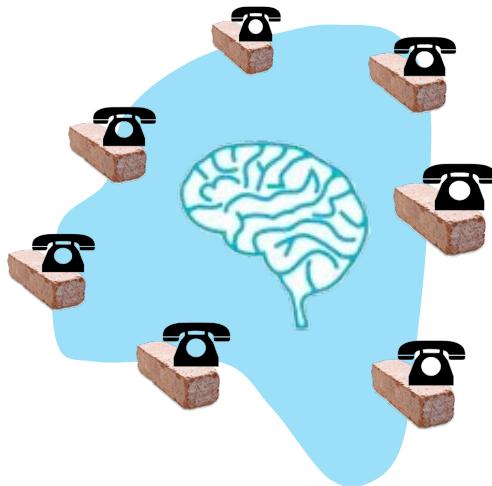
- some network functionality (e.g., reliable data transfer, congestion) can be implemented **in network**, or at **network edge**

“The function in question can completely and correctly be implemented only with the knowledge and help of the application standing at the end points of the communication system. Therefore, providing that questioned function as a feature of the communication system itself is not possible. (Sometimes an incomplete version of the function provided by the communication system may be useful as a performance enhancement.)

We call this line of reasoning against low-level function implementation the “end-to-end argument.”

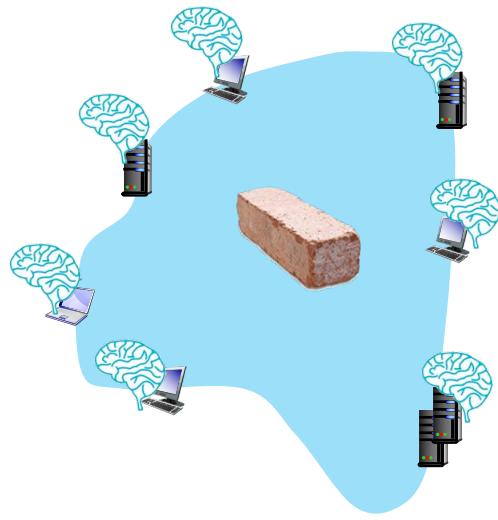
Saltzer, Reed, Clark 1981

# Where's the intelligence?



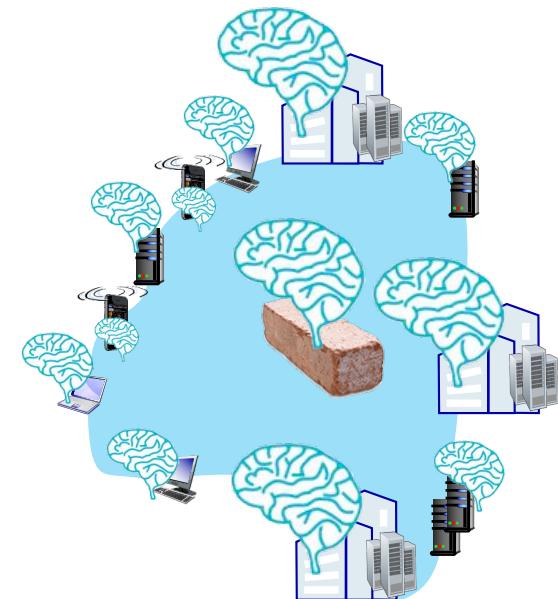
## 20<sup>th</sup> century phone net:

- intelligence/computing at network switches



## Internet (pre-2005)

- intelligence, computing at edge



## Internet (post-2005)

- programmable network devices
- intelligence, computing, massive application-level infrastructure at edge

# Chapter 4: done!

- Network layer: overview
- What's inside a router
- IP: the Internet Protocol
- Generalized Forwarding, SDN
- Middleboxes



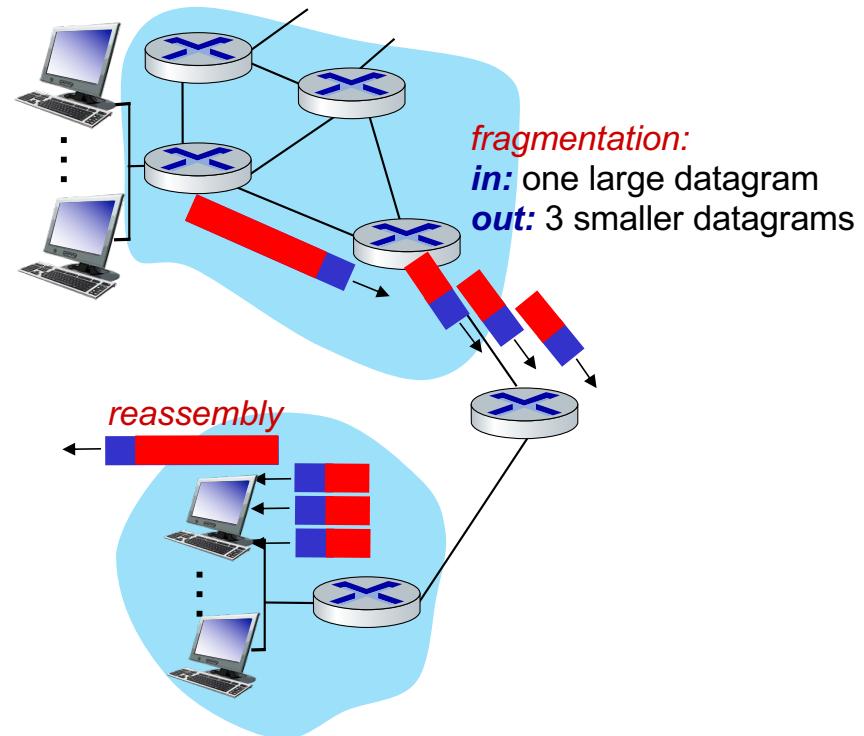
*Question:* how are forwarding tables (destination-based forwarding) or flow tables (generalized forwarding) computed?

*Answer:* by the control plane (next chapter)

# Additional Chapter 4 slides

# IP fragmentation/reassembly

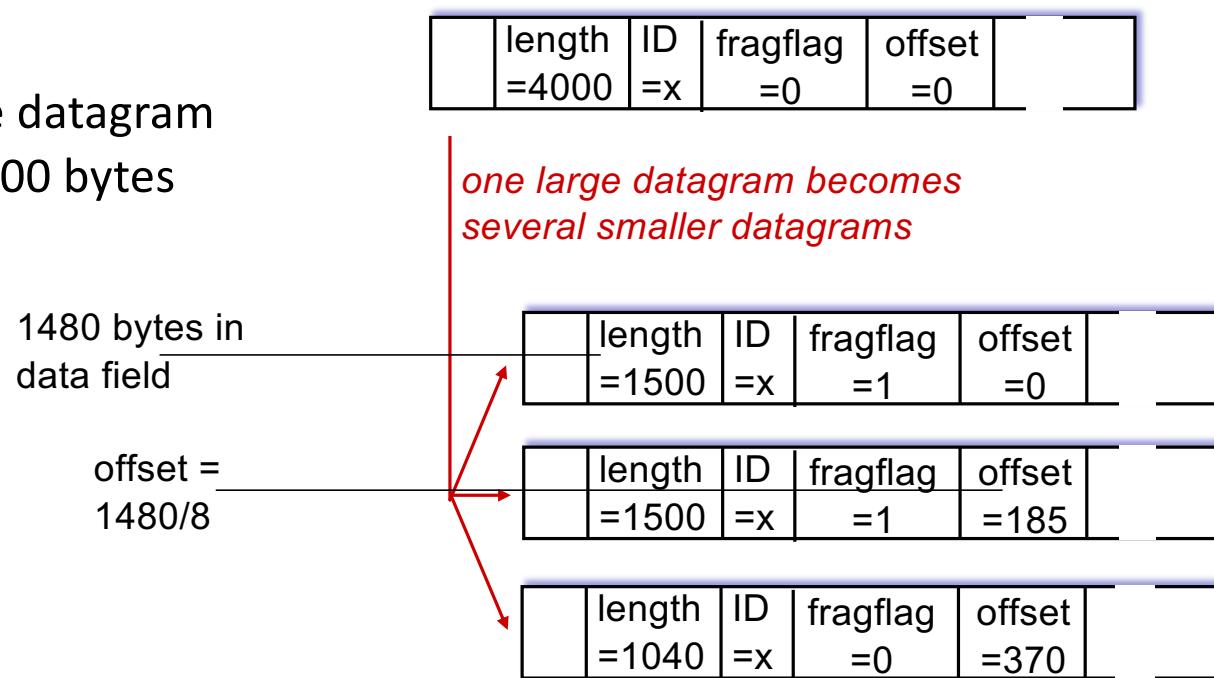
- network links have MTU (max. transfer size) - largest possible link-level frame
  - different link types, different MTUs
- large IP datagram divided (“fragmented”) within net
  - one datagram becomes several datagrams
  - “reassembled” only at *destination*
  - IP header bits used to identify, order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



# IP fragmentation/reassembly

example:

- 4000 byte datagram
- MTU = 1500 bytes



# DHCP: Wireshark output (home LAN)

Message type: **Boot Request (1)**

Hardware type: Ethernet

Hardware address length: 6

Hops: 0

**Transaction ID: 0x6b3a11b7**

Seconds elapsed: 0

Bootp flags: 0x0000 (Unicast)

Client IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)

Your (client) IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)

Next server IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)

Relay agent IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)

**Client MAC address: Wistron\_23:68:8a (00:16:d3:23:68:8a)**

Server host name not given

Boot file name not given

Magic cookie: (OK)

Option: (t=53,l=1) **DHCP Message Type = DHCP Request**

Option: (61) Client identifier

Length: 7; Value: 010016D323688A;

Hardware type: Ethernet

Client MAC address: Wistron\_23:68:8a (00:16:d3:23:68:8a)

Option: (t=50,l=4) Requested IP Address = 192.168.1.101

Option: (t=12,l=5) Host Name = "nomad"

**Option: (55) Parameter Request List**

Length: 11; Value: 010F03062C2E2F1F21F92B

**1 = Subnet Mask; 15 = Domain Name**

**3 = Router; 6 = Domain Name Server**

44 = NetBIOS over TCP/IP Name Server

.....

request

reply

Message type: **Boot Reply (2)**

Hardware type: Ethernet

Hardware address length: 6

Hops: 0

**Transaction ID: 0x6b3a11b7**

Seconds elapsed: 0

Bootp flags: 0x0000 (Unicast)

**Client IP address: 192.168.1.101 (192.168.1.101)**

Your (client) IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)

**Next server IP address: 192.168.1.1 (192.168.1.1)**

Relay agent IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)

Client MAC address: Wistron\_23:68:8a (00:16:d3:23:68:8a)

Server host name not given

Boot file name not given

Magic cookie: (OK)

Option: (t=53,l=1) **DHCP Message Type = DHCP ACK**

Option: (t=54,l=4) **Server Identifier = 192.168.1.1**

Option: (t=1,l=4) **Subnet Mask = 255.255.255.0**

Option: (t=3,l=4) **Router = 192.168.1.1**

Option: (6) **Domain Name Server**

Length: 12; Value: 445747E2445749F244574092;

IP Address: 68.87.71.226;

IP Address: 68.87.73.242;

IP Address: 68.87.64.146

Option: (t=15,l=20) **Domain Name = "hsd1.ma.comcast.net."**