The Internet Hourglass

Internet protocol stack

Application

Transport

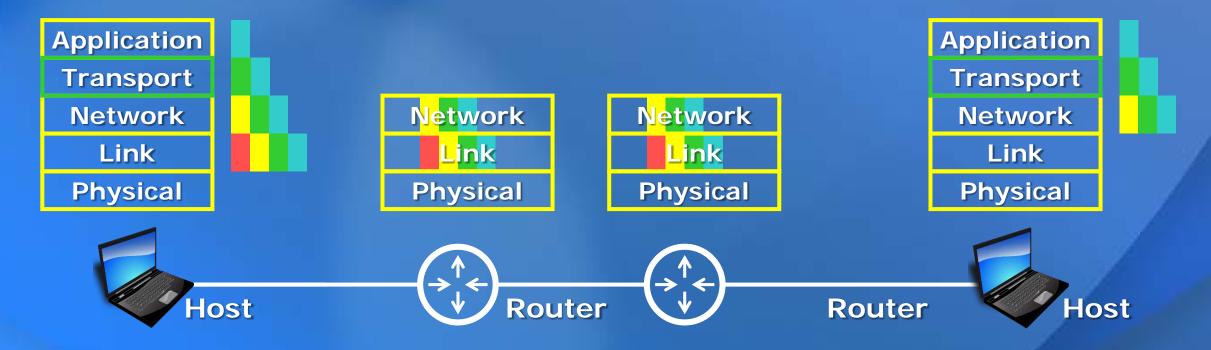
Network

Link

Physical

- Application layer runs applications,
 e.g. email, web browser, messaging
- Transport layer provides for logical communication between applications
- Network layer delivers packets from source to destination over a network
- Link layer handles data transfer from between adjacent nodes
- Physical layer deals with properties of medium (e.g. wired/wireless)

Layer Communication



The end-to-end layers (i.e., transport and application) are implemented only at hosts

Network, link and physical layers are implemented everywhere.

The Internet Hourglass

Many Applications



Few Transport Protocols TCP UDP

IP One Network Protocol

Ethernet 802.11 Power lines ATM Optical Satellite

Many Link Technologies