

CS5222– Computer Networks & Internets
Research Report

Goal: Research a **new computer networking technology** (related to Chapters 1–7 of the textbook, **excluding security topics from Chapter 8**) that you have encountered in your everyday life—through news, work, or personal experience—and write a report that demonstrates your understanding and critical thinking.

Format:

Submit the following two documents:

- A. **Report:** **Maximum 4 pages**, 12pt fonts, single column. References are excluded from page count. (see guidelines in part A below)
- B. **Reflection Log:** **Maximum 1 page** to reflect on the learning process (see guidelines in part B below).

You may submit an optional appendix:

- C. Appendix (Optional): Include GenAI prompts, screenshots, or notes showing your research process.

A) Guidelines on Report:

- Clearly explain how you encountered the technology. (e.g., read it in recent news or used it in your office)
- Discuss the technology. E.g., how does it work? How is it related to Cha.1-7 of the textbook? What is the motivation for developing this technology? What will be the possible future development? What is your opinion about this technology? What is the main challenge of the technology? What is the main innovation of the technology? ...
- Explain with your own words and illustrations. Simply copying and pasting content from websites, books, and academic papers is not a good idea.
- Structure your report with clear sections and figures.
- Explain clearly so that we can learn something from your report. It may not be nice to just mention a very complicated technology that we cannot understand.

- Cite all sources, including GenAI tools, as per the department's GenAI policy announced on Aug 31, 2023: "**For writing assignments and reports, students are allowed to use GenAI, but its use must be acknowledged through proper citation and referencing.** In this case, GenAI is considered as a secondary source (an interpretation and analysis of primary sources) or even a tertiary source (an encyclopaedia). Copying text or ideas produced by GenAI *without acknowledgment* is considered plagiarism. However, please be careful as GenAI can hallucinate (confabulate) false information without knowing it. Thus, students should try to find other sources to corroborate any information provided by GenAI."

B) **Guidelines on Reflection Log (Required):**

Submit a 1-page reflection answering the following questions:

1. What did you learn that you did not know before?
2. What was the most challenging part of this assignment?
3. How did GenAI help or hinder your understanding?
4. What steps did you take to verify GenAI-generated information?
5. What would you do differently next time?

Evaluation

This assignment will be graded according to:

- Novelty of topic (10%)
- The clarity and technical depth of your discussion (35%)
- The quality of presentation (including English writing) (30%)
- Reflection and learning process (25%)

Rubric

Criteria	Excellent (A)	Good (B)	Fair (C)	Poor (D/F)
Novelty (10%)	Unique, timely, and relevant technology	Somewhat novel	Common topic	Overused or irrelevant
Technical Depth & Clarity (35%)	Deep understanding, clear explanations	Adequate depth, mostly clear	Basic understanding, some confusion	Superficial or unclear
Presentation Quality (30%)	Well-structured, polished writing, effective visuals	Clear structure, minor issues	Disorganized or weak visuals	Poorly written or hard to follow
Reflection & Learning (25%)	Insightful, honest, shows growth and effort	Thoughtful, shows engagement	Basic reflection, limited insight	Minimal effort or missing