

THE TRANSPORT LAYER • The basic function of the transport layer is to: - accept data from above it, - split it up into smaller units if need be, - pass these to the network layer, and - ensure that the pieces all arrive correctly at the other end.

THE SESSION LAYER The session layer allows users on different machines to establish sessions between them. Sessions offer various services: — including dialog control (keeping track of whose turn it is to transmit), — token management (preventing two parties from attempting the same critical operation simultaneously), and — synchronization

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THE PRESENTATION LAYER

- Unlike the lower layers, which are mostly concerned with moving bits around, the presentation layer is concerned with the syntax and semantics of the information transmitted.
- In order to make it possible for computers with different internal data representations to communicate, the data structures to be exchanged can be defined in an abstract way, along with a standard encoding to be used "on the wire."
- The presentation layer manages these abstract data structures and allows higher-level data structures (e.g., banking records) to be defined and exchanged

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THE APPLICATION LAYER

- The application layer contains a variety of protocols that are commonly needed by users
- One widely used application protocol is HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol), which is the basis for the World Wide Web.
- When a browser wants a Web page, it sends the name of the page it wants to the server hosting the page using HTTP.
- The server then sends the page back. Other application protocols are used for file transfer, electronic mail, and network new

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OSI Reference Model

Layer 7 Application

Layer 6 Presentation Adds formating, display, and encryption information to the packet

Layer 6 Session Dialog Coordination
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OSI Model

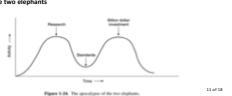
Three concepts are central to the OSI mode

- 1. Services.
- 2. Interfaces
- 3. Protocol
- The service definition tells what the layer does, not how entities above it
 access it or how the layer works.
- Layer's interface tells the processes above it how to access it. It specifies what
 the parameters are and what results to expect.
- Finally, the **peer protocols** used in a layer are the **layer's own business**. It can use any protocols it wants to, as long as it gets the job done (i.e., provides the offered services). It can also change them at will without affecting software in higher layers.

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A Critique of the OSI Model

- Bad timing.
- Bad technology.
- 3. Bad implementations
- Bad politics.
- David Clark of M.I.T. has a theory of standards that he calls the apocalypse of
 the true clarkants.



A Critique of the OSI Model

Bad Technology

- The choice of seven layers was more political than technical, and two
 of the layers (session and presentation) are nearly empty,
- Whereas two other ones (data link and network) are overfull

Bad Implementations

 Given the enormous complexity of the model and the protocols, it will come as no surprise that the initial implementations were huge, unwieldy, and slow.

Bad Politics

 o be the creature European telecommunication ministries, the European Community, and later the U.S. Government

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