OSI Model and Protocols Documentation

1. Introduction

What is the OSI Model?

The Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Model is a conceptual framework that standardizes the functions of a telecommunication or computing system into seven abstract layers.

Its goal is to guide product developers and facilitate interoperability between different communication systems.

Why is it important?

- Provides a universal language for network design.
- Helps in troubleshooting by isolating issues at specific layers.
- Ensures interoperability among hardware/software from different vendors.

2. Overview of the 7 Layers

| Layer No. | Layer Name | Function Summary |
|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| 7 | Application Layer | Interface for end-user processes and network services |
| 6 | Presentation Layer | Data representation, encryption, compression |
| 5 | Session Layer | Establishes, manages, and terminates sessions |
| 4 | Transport Layer | Reliable delivery, flow control, error recovery |
| 3 | Network Layer | Logical addressing and routing |
| 2 | Data Link Layer | Physical addressing, error detection/correction |
| 1 | Physical Layer | Transmission of raw bits over physical medium |

3. Detailed Explanation of Each Layer

Layer 1: Physical Layer

- Role: Transmits raw bit streams over the physical medium.
- Functions: Defines cables, connectors, signaling, voltage levels.
- **Examples:** Ethernet cables, fiber optics, hubs, repeaters.

Layer 2: Data Link Layer

- Role: Node-to-node data transfer and frame error detection.
- Sub-layers:
 - LLC (Logical Link Control): Flow control & error checking.
 - MAC (Media Access Control): Physical addressing.
- Examples: Ethernet (IEEE 802.3), PPP, Switches, MAC addresses.

Layer 3: Network Layer

- Role: Responsible for logical addressing and routing.
- Functions: Path selection, packet forwarding, fragmentation.
- Examples: IP (IPv4, IPv6), ICMP, Routers.

Layer 4: Transport Layer

- Role: Reliable or unreliable delivery of data.
- Functions: Segmentation, flow control, error recovery.
- Protocols:
 - TCP (Transmission Control Protocol): Reliable, connection-oriented.
 - UDP (User Datagram Protocol): Unreliable, connectionless.

Layer 5: Session Layer

• Role: Manages sessions between applications.

• Functions: Session establishment, maintenance, termination.

• Examples: Remote Procedure Calls (RPC), NetBIOS.

Layer 6: Presentation Layer

• Role: Data translation, encryption, and compression.

• Functions: Converts data formats for the Application layer.

• Examples: JPEG, MPEG, SSL/TLS (for encryption).

Layer 7: Application Layer

• Role: Provides network services directly to end-users.

• Examples: HTTP, FTP, SMTP, DNS, POP3, Telnet.

4. Common Protocols Mapped to OSI Layers

| Layer | Protocols/Examples |
|-------|--|
| 7 | HTTP, FTP, SMTP, DNS, Telnet, SNMP |
| 6 | SSL/TLS, JPEG, MPEG |
| 5 | NetBIOS, PPTP, RPC |
| 4 | TCP, UDP |
| 3 | IP, ICMP, IGMP, IPsec, RIP, OSPF |
| 2 | Ethernet, PPP, Frame Relay, ATM, ARP |
| 1 | Ethernet cables, Fiber optics, Hubs, DSL |

5. OSI vs. TCP/IP Model

| OSI Layer | TCP/IP Layer |
|-----------|--------------|
| | |

| Application | Application |
|--------------|----------------|
| Presentation | Application |
| Session | Application |
| Transport | Transport |
| Network | Internet |
| Data Link | Network Access |
| Physical | Network Access |

6. Data Encapsulation in OSI Model

- **Encapsulation:** Each layer adds its own header (and sometimes trailer) as data passes down.
 - Application → Presentation → Session → Transport (Segment) → Network
 (Packet) → Data Link (Frame) → Physical (Bits)
- **Decapsulation:** The reverse process happens at the receiving end.

Advantages of the OSI Model

| | Description |
|---------------------|---|
| Standardization | Provides a universal standard for different systems to communicate, ensuring interoperability. |
| Modular Approach | Breaks down complex networking tasks into smaller, manageable layers. |
| Troubleshooting | Simplifies network troubleshooting by isolating issues to specific layers. |
| Flexibility | Allows development and upgrades of individual layers without affecting the entire architecture. |
| Vendor Neutral | Helps hardware/software from different vendors work together. |
| Educational Tool | Makes it easier for learners to understand how networking works step by step. |

ENCAPSULATION OF TCP-Byte/Bits Growth

| Layer | Data | Approx Size |
|--------------------------|--|-------------|
| App/Presentation/Session | "Hi" | 2 bytes |
| Transport (TCP) | TCP Header (20 bytes) + "Hi" | 22 bytes |
| Network (IP) | IP Header (20 bytes) + TCP Segment | 42 bytes |
| Data Link (Ethernet) | Ethernet Header (14) + IP Packet + Trailer (4) | 60 bytes |
| Physical | Converts into 480 bits (60 bytes × 8) | 480 bits |

Decapsulation (Receiver Side)

The receiver will do the reverse:

1. Physical Layer: Convert bits to frame

2. Data Link: Remove Ethernet header/trailer

3. Network: Remove IP header

4. Transport: Remove TCP header → get actual data

5. App Layer: Show "Hi" on screen

TCP - Socket

Socket Lifecycle (TCP)

1. Server Side:

- Create socket
- Bind to IP & port
- Listen for connection
- Accept client

2. Client Side:

- Create socket
- Connect to server IP & port

Advantages of TCP

| | Description | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Reliable Transmission | Guarantees delivery of data by using acknowledgments and retransmissions. | |
| Connection-Oriented | Establishes a connection before data transfer (3-way handshake). | |
| Ordered Data Transfer | Data packets arrive in order, even if sent out of order. | |
| Error Detection & Recovery | Ensures data integrity through error checking and correction. | |
| Flow & Congestion Control | Prevents network congestion and manages data flow to match receiver capability. | |

ENCAPSULATION OF UDP-Byte/Bits Growth

| Layer | Payload Added | UDP Total Size |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Арр | "Hi" (2 bytes) | 2 bytes |
| Transport (UDP) | 8 bytes | 10 bytes |
| Network (IP) | 20 bytes | 30 bytes |
| Link (Ethernet) | 18 bytes | 48 bytes |
| Physical | → Convert to 384 bits | |

UDP Decapsulation

| Layer | What Happens? | Example |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Physical (Layer 1) | Receives bits (0s and 1s) from the cable/wireless. | 384 bits → electrical signals |
| 2. Data Link (Layer 2) | Checks Ethernet header + CRC . Strips off the Ethernet frame, passes the IP | Verifies MAC address, CRC OK |

| | packet to Network Layer. | |
|---|--|--|
| 3. Network (Layer 3) | Reads IP header (20 bytes). Checks destination IP, strips IP header, passes UDP segment to Transport Layer. | IP dest = my IP? Yes → next |
| 4. Transport (Layer 4) | Reads UDP header (8 bytes): source port, destination port, length, checksum. Passes payload data to the correct application socket . | Dest port = 5555? Deliver to listening app |
| 5. Session / Presentation / Application (Layers 5– 7) | Data reaches the app. If encrypted, decrypts; if compressed, decompresses; shows to the user. | Chat app displays |

UDP Socket Lifecycle

UDP is **connectionless**, so:

- No listen()
- No accept()
- No handshake
- Uses sendto() and recvfrom()

Advantages of UDP

| | Description |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Low Overhead | No connection establishment or acknowledgment, so it's faster and more lightweight. |
| Broadcast & Multicast Support | Ideal for applications like DNS queries, VoIP, video streaming, and online gaming. |
| Connectionless | Suitable for simple request-response protocols where reliability can be handled by the application. |
| Reduced Latency | No handshaking delays — useful for time-sensitive transmissions. |
| Stateless | The server does not maintain session state, which reduces resource usage for each client. |