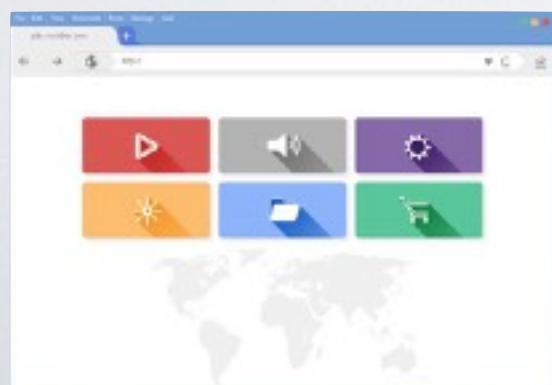# What is a protocol

Communication protocol

is an agreement on how communication should take place

- defines the data encoding and/or format

- defines the message sequence

➡ (most) protocols are standards defined by
the IETF - The Internet Engineering Task Force

HTTP GET /document.html

HTTP 200 <!DOCTYPE html = …

Internet Applications

Web	Mail	File Exchange	Remote Shell
`http`	`smtp imap pop3 exchange`	`BiTorrent`	`ssh`

...

Internet

example.com