COMP 431
Internet Services & Protocols

The Transport Layer
Principles of Reliable Data Delivery

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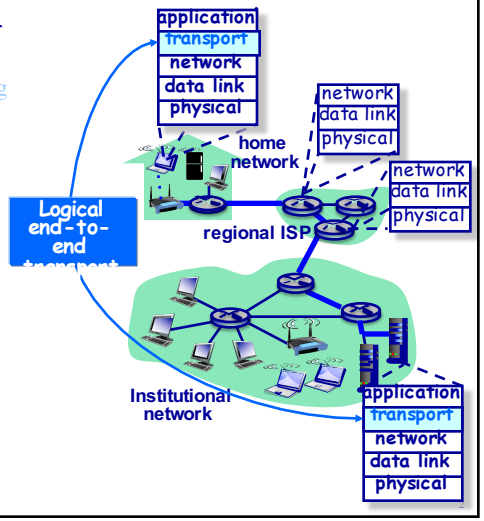
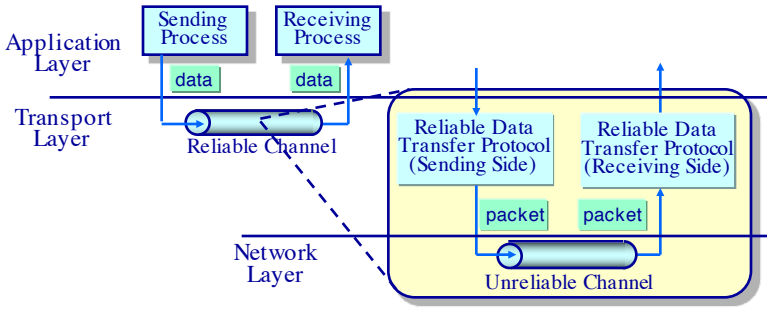
Transport Layer Protocols & Services
Outline

- Fundamental transport layer services
  - » Multiplexing/Demultiplexing
  - » Error detection
  - » Reliable data delivery
  - » Pipelining
  - » Flow control
  - » Congestion control
- Service implementation in Internet transport protocols
  - » UDP
  - » TCP



Fundamental Transport Layer Services

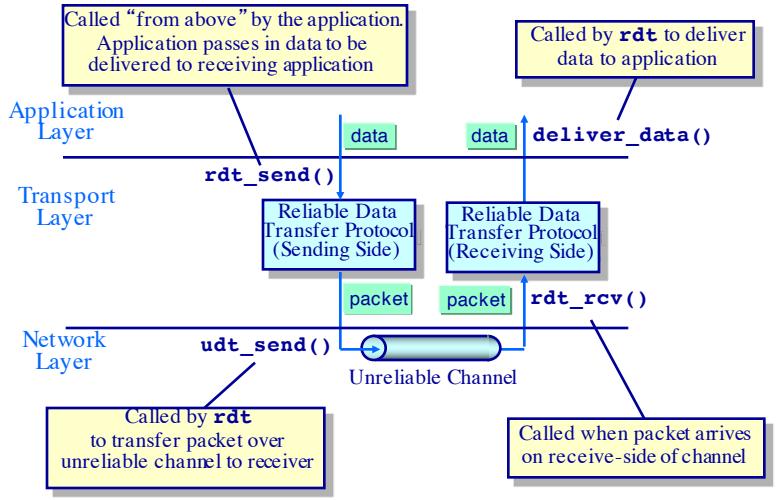
Principles of reliable data transfer



- Goal: Provide a reliable channel abstraction
  - » The characteristics of the underlying channel will determine the complexity of providing reliable communications
- Issues: *State* required at sender and receiver and number of *control messages* exchanged

Reliable Data Transfer

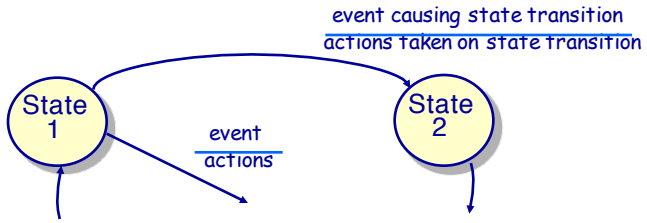
Programming interfaces



Reliable Data Transfer

Protocol specification method

- Use finite state machines to specify sender and receiver algorithms
  - » When in a given state, the next state (and actions) are uniquely determined by the next event

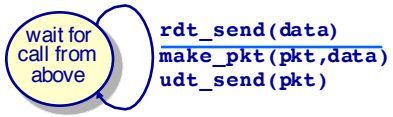


Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 1.0

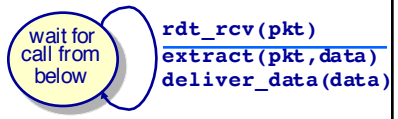
Reliable transfer over a reliable channel

- The underlying channel is assumed to be perfectly reliable
  - » No bit errors
  - » No loss of packets

- Sender state machine

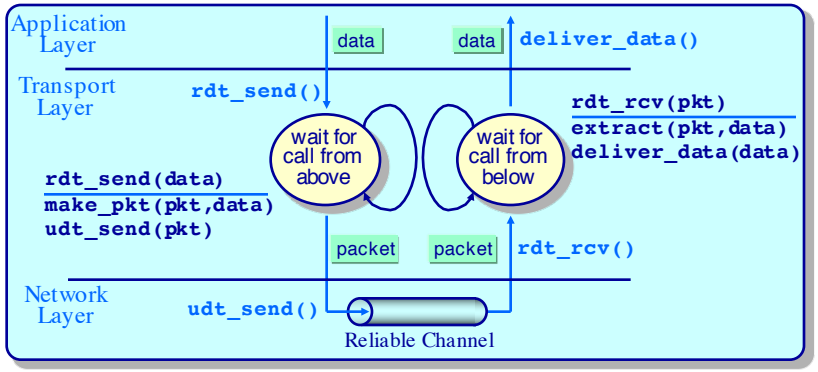


- Receiver state machine



Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 1.0

Programming interfaces



- This is the complete protocol under the assumption of a reliable network channel

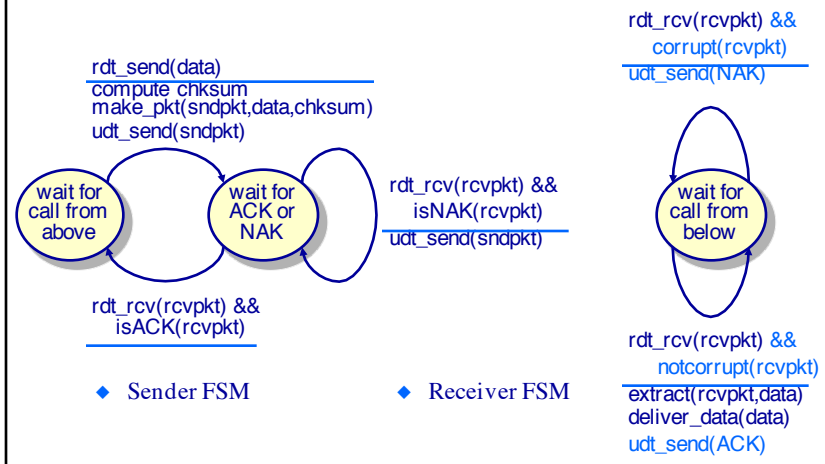
Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.0

Reliable transfer over a channel with bit errors

- Now assume the underlying channel may "flip" random bits in a packet
- How to detect errors?
- How to recover from errors:
  - » *acknowledgements* (*ACKs*) — the receiver explicitly tells the sender that a packet was received OK
  - » *negative acknowledgements* (*NAKs*) — the receiver explicitly tells the sender that a packet had errors
  - » Sender retransmits packet on receipt of NAK
- New mechanisms to deal with bit errors:
  - » Error detection
  - » Control messages (ACK, NAK) from a receiver to the sender
  - » Retransmission

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.0

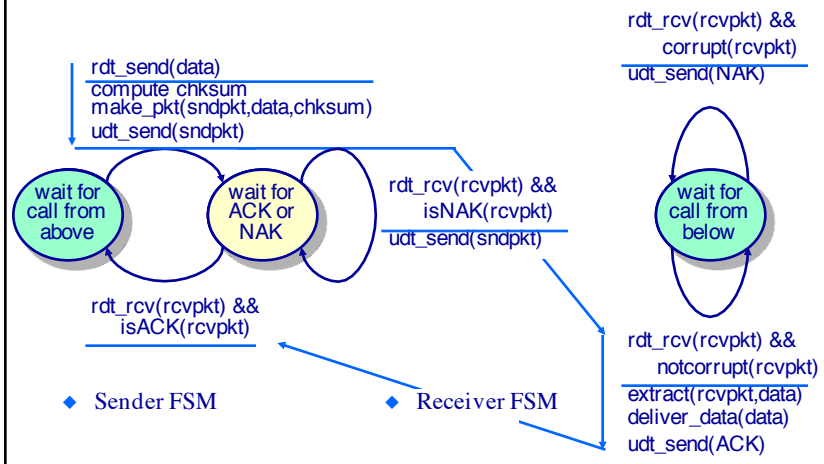
Reliable transfer over a channel with bit errors only



- Sender FSM
- Receiver FSM

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.0

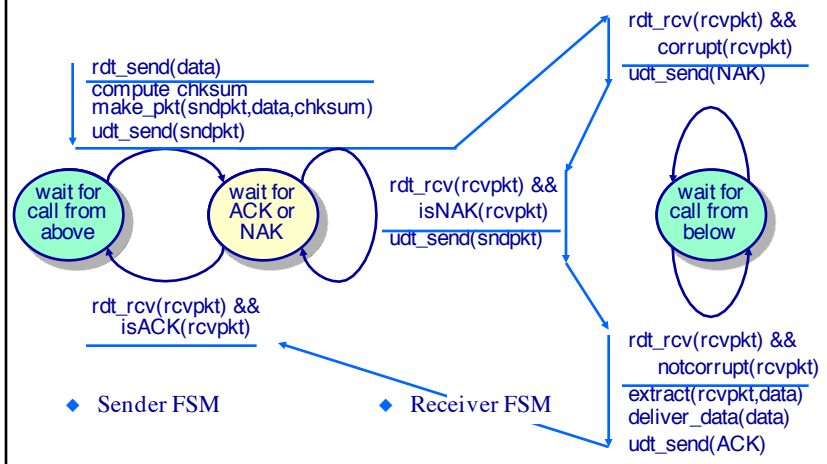
Example 1: No errors occur



- Sender FSM
- Receiver FSM

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.0

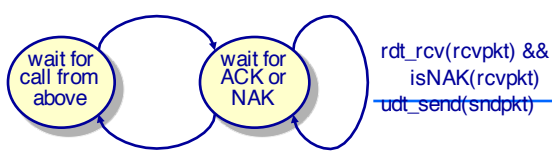
Example 2: A corrupted packet arrives at the receiver



- Sender FSM
- Receiver FSM

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.0

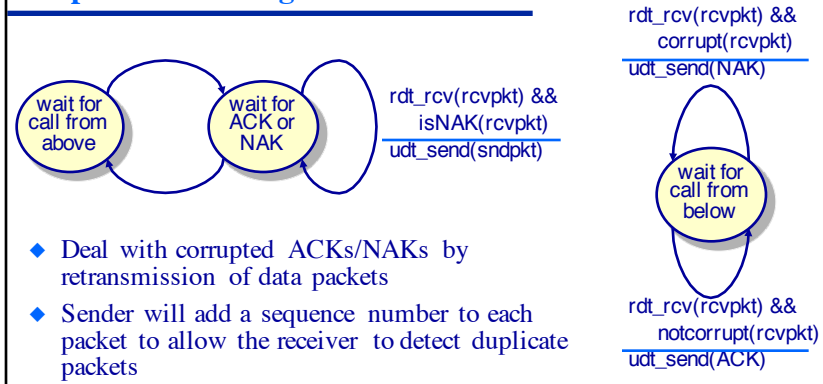
Simple… but wrong!



- What happens if an ACK/NAK is corrupted?
  - » Sender doesn't know what happened at the receiver!
- What to do?
  - » Sender ACKs/NAKs the receiver's ACK/NAK?
  - » Retransmit last data packet?
    - ❖ How to deal with duplicates?

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.0

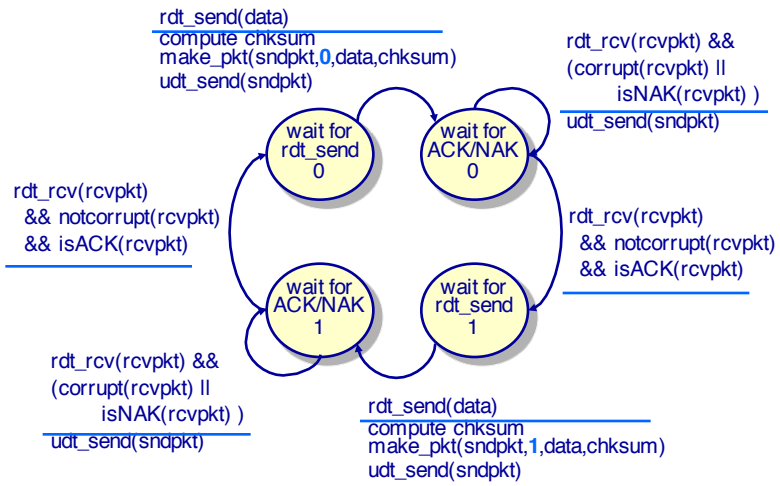
Simple… but wrong!



- Deal with corrupted ACKs/NAKs by retransmission of data packets
- Sender will add a sequence number to each packet to allow the receiver to detect duplicate packets
  - » Receiver's transport layer discards duplicate packets
- How much space to reserve in a header field for sequence numbers?

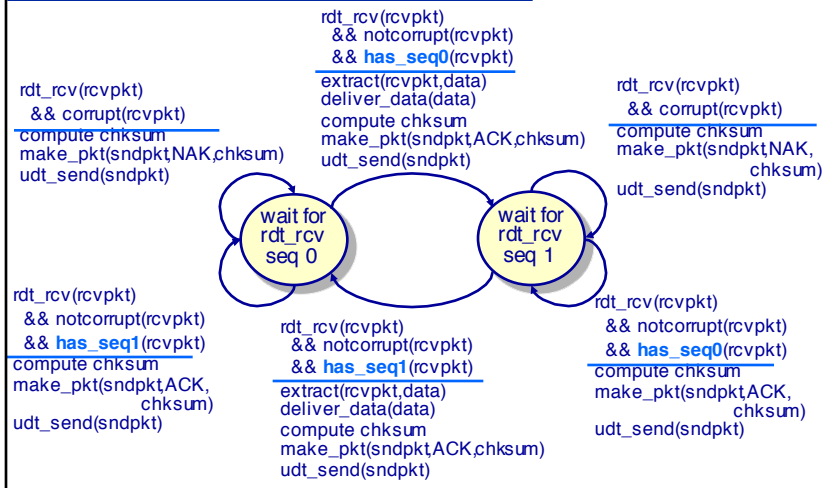
Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.1

Sender state machine to handle garbled ACKs/NAKs



Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.1

Receiver state machine to handle garbled ACKs/NAKs



Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.1

Discussion (Handling garbled ACKs/NAKs)

Sequence number added to header
- » Two sequence numbers suffice

Must check if received ACK/NAK is corrupted

Number of states doubles
- » State encodes whether current packet has sequence number 0 or 1

- Sender issues

Must check if received packet is duplicate
- » State encodes whether expected packet sequence number is 0 or 1

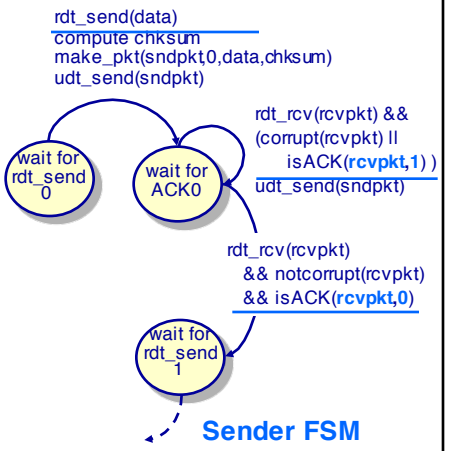
Note: receiver can *not* know if its last ACK/NAK received OK at sender

- Receiver issues

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.2

A NAK-free protocol

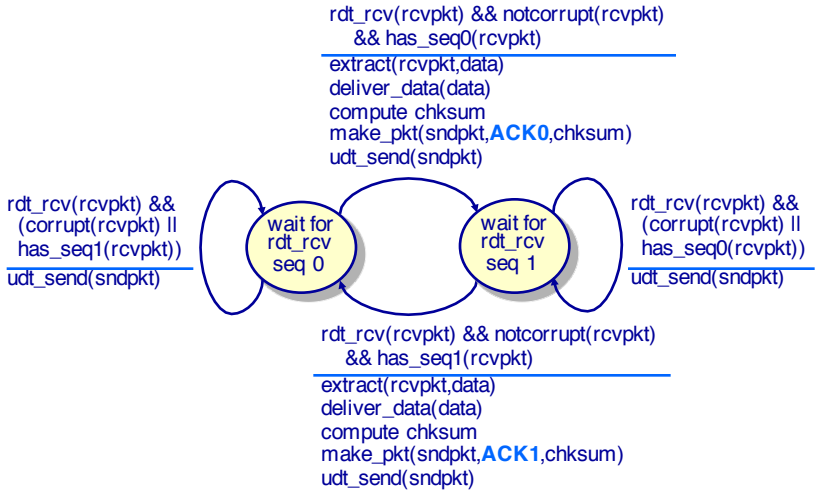
- Instead of NAKing, receiver sends ACK for last packet received OK
  - » Receiver must include the sequence number of packet being ACKed in ACK
- Receipt of duplicate ACKs at sender is equivalent to a NAK
  - » Sender retransmits current packet



Sender FSM

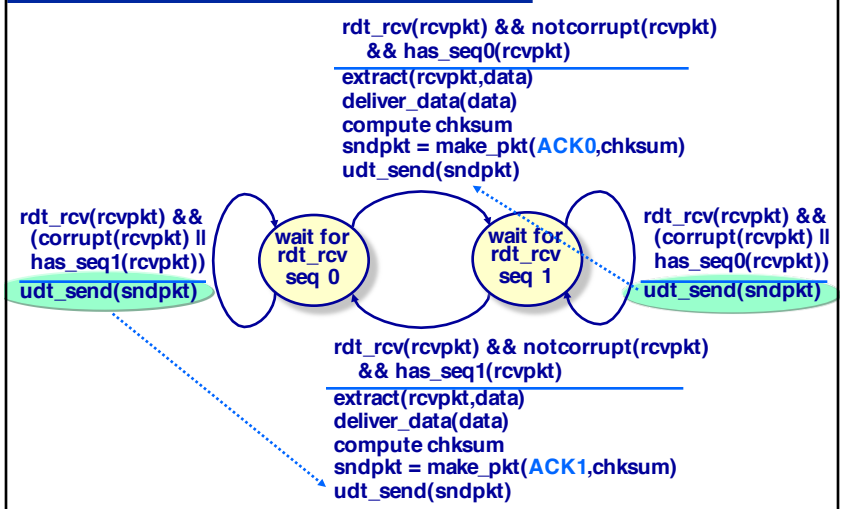
Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.2

Receiver state machine to eliminate NAKs



Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 2.2

A buggy receiver state machine?



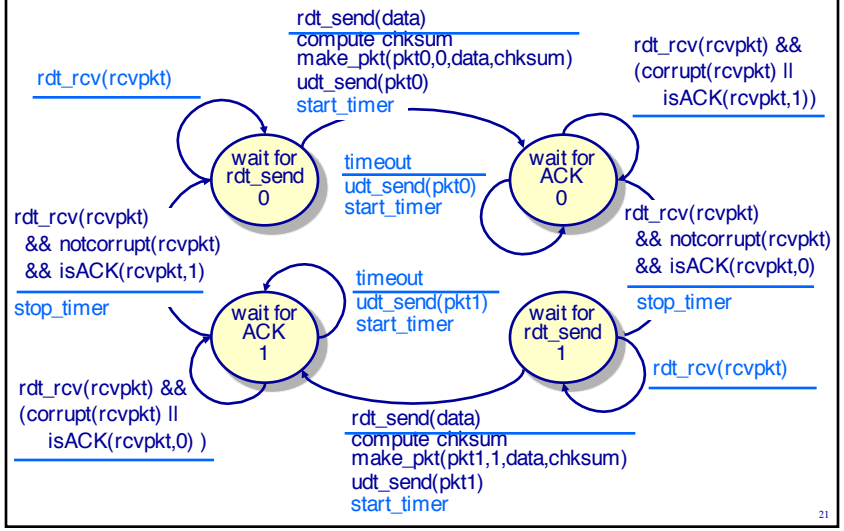
Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 3.0

Dealing with channels with errors *and* loss

- Now assume the underlying channel can also **lose** packets
- New problem: How to detect loss?
  - » Are checksums, ACKs, sequence numbers, retransmissions enough?
- Approach: sender waits "reasonable" amount of time and retransmits if no ACK received in this time
  - » Requires the use of a countdown timer
- What if packet (or ACK) just delayed beyond its timer?
  - » Retransmission will be duplicate…
  - » But use of sequence numbers already handles this!

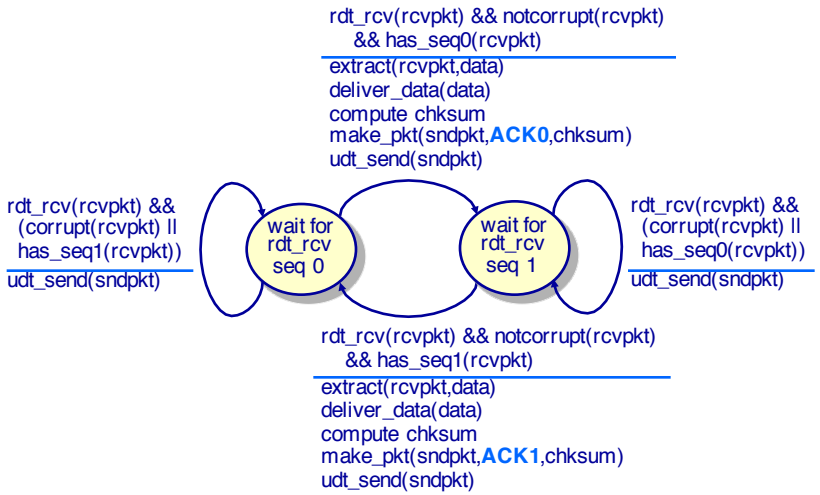
Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 3.0

Sender state machine to handle lost/garbled packets



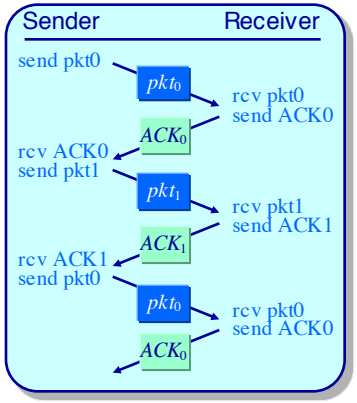
Receiver State Machine for RDT 2.2

What changes are needed to handle lost/garbled packets?

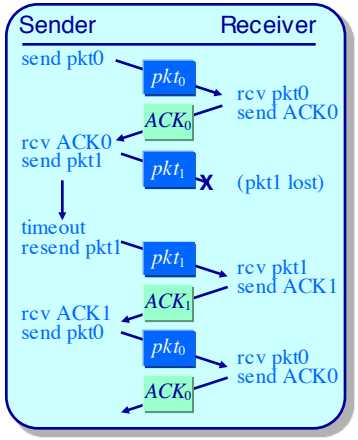


Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 3.0

Execution examples



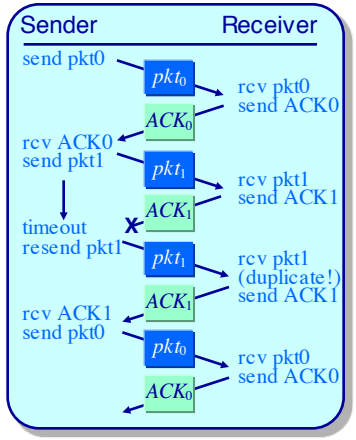
- Protocol operation with no loss



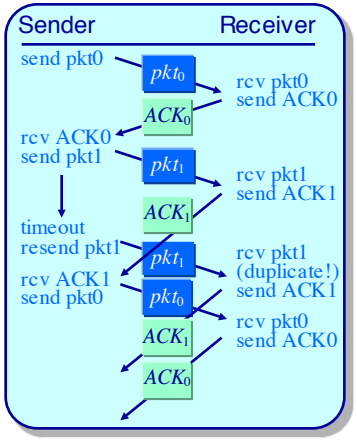
- Protocol operation with a lost packet

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 3.0

Execution examples



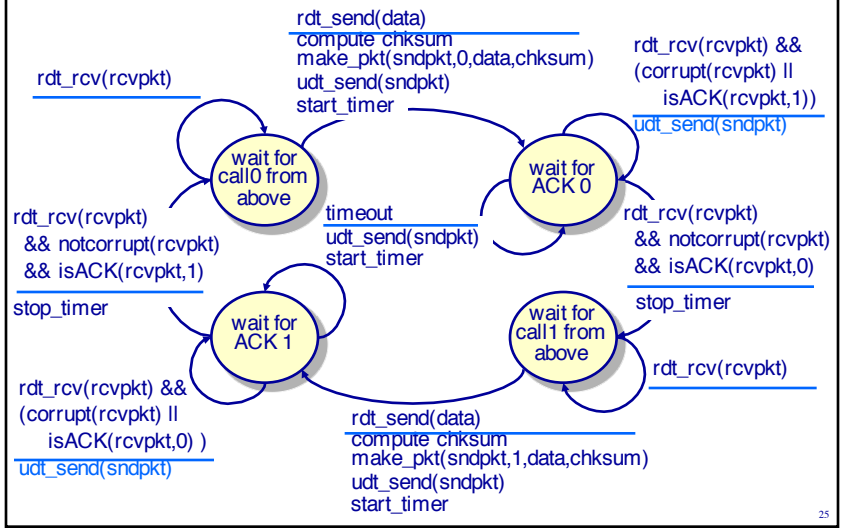
- Protocol operation with a lost ACK



- Protocol operation with a poor timeout value

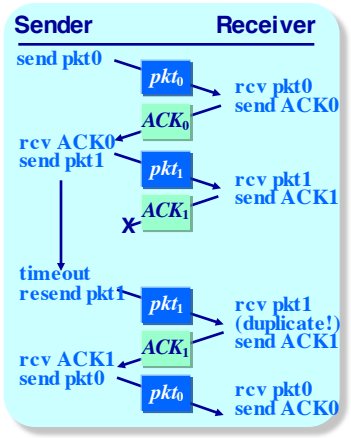
Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 3.1

Sender state machine to handle lost/garbled packets

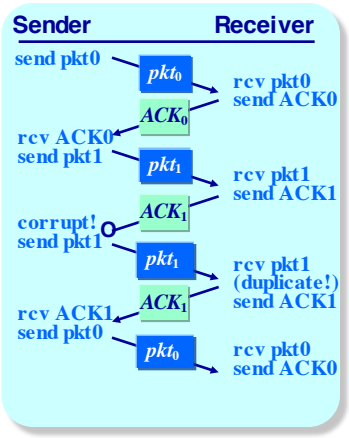


Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 3.1

Execution examples



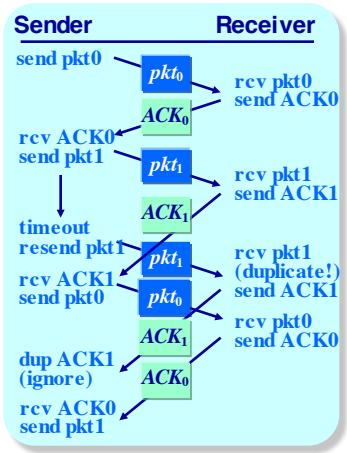
- Protocol operation with a lost ACK



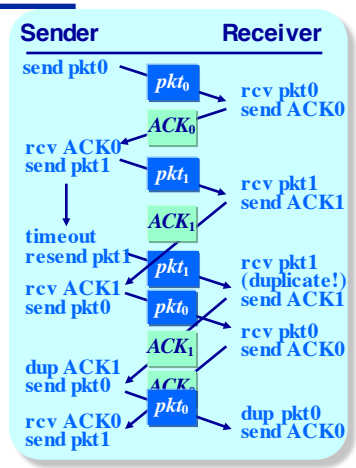
- Protocol operation with a corrupted ACK

Reliable Data Transfer Protocol 3.1

Execution examples



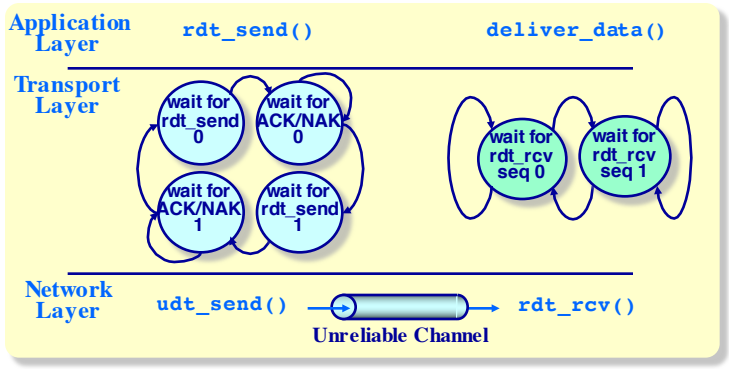
- RDT 3.0 operation with a duplicate ACK



- RDT 3.1 operation with a duplicate ACK

Reliable Data Delivery

Summary



- Reliable delivery requires a distributed algorithm for detecting and repairing packet errors and loss
  - » Reliability achieved at the expense of considerable overhead and complexity