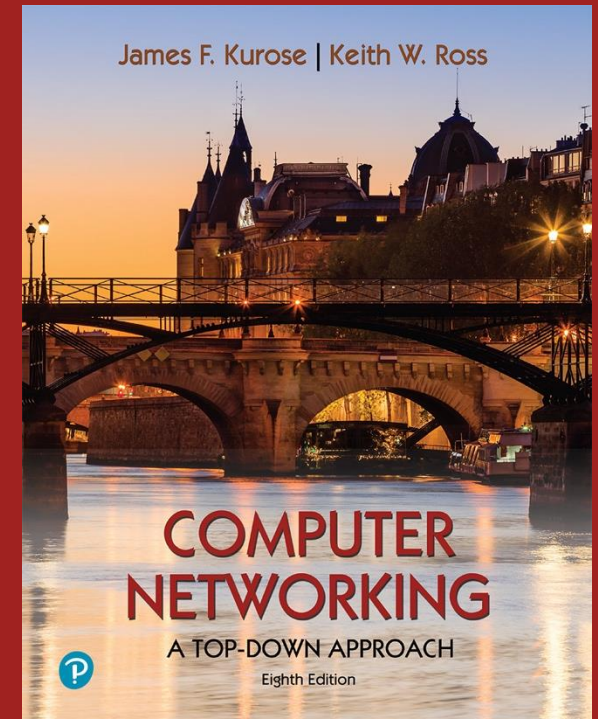


Chapter 2

Application Layer



Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach
8th Edition, 2020, Pearson,
James F. Kurose, Keith W. Ross

Chapter 2 outline

2.1 Principles of network applications

2.2 Web and HTTP, and **FTP**

2.3 electronic mail

- SMTP, POP3, IMAP

2.4 DNS

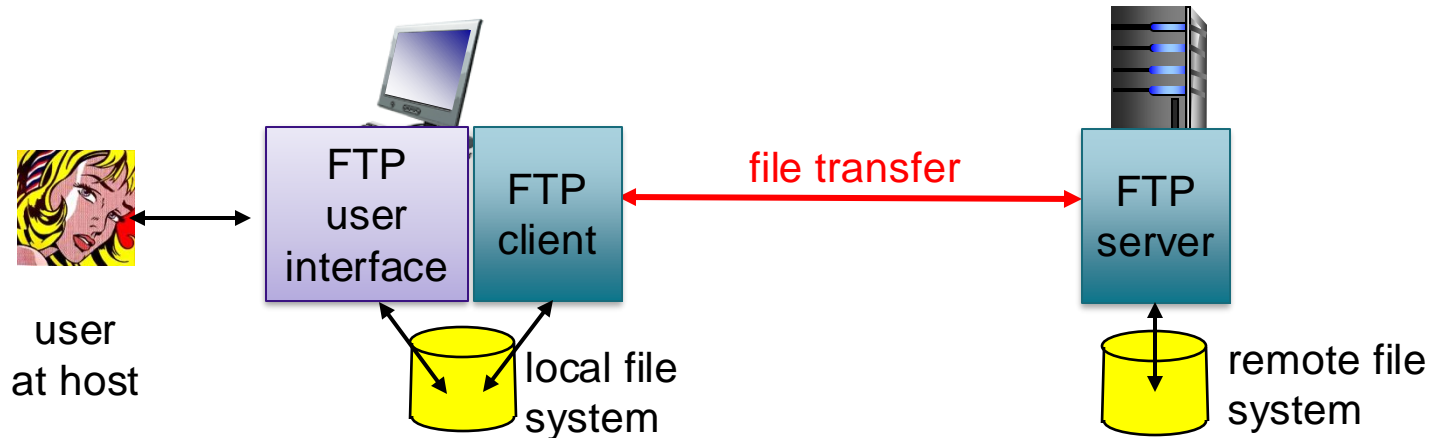
2.5 P2P applications

[**2.6** video streaming and content distribution networks]

2.7 Socket programming with UDP and TCP

FTP: the file transfer protocol

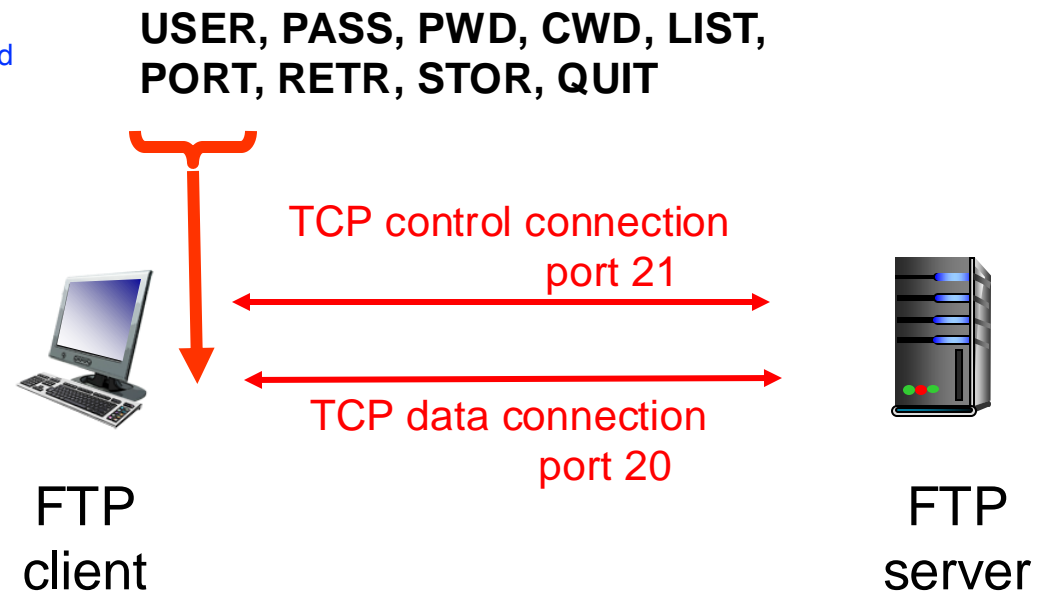
per file nieuwe tunnel aanmaken



- transfer file to/from remote host
- client/server model
 - *client*: side that initiates transfer (either to/from remote)
 - *server*: remote host
- ftp: RFC 959
- ftp server: port 21 (control), port 20 (data)

FTP: separate control, data connections

- FTP client contacts FTP server at port 21, specifying TCP as transport protocol
- Client obtains authorization over control connection
- Client browses remote directory by sending commands over control connection.
- When server receives a command for a file transfer, the server opens a TCP data connection to client
- After transferring file, server closes data connection
- Server opens a new TCP data connection to transfer another file.



- Control connection: “out of band”
- FTP server maintains “state”: current directory, earlier authentication

FTP commands, responses

Sample commands:

- sent as ASCII text over control channel
- **USER** *username*
- **PASS** *password*
- **LIST** return list of file in current directory
- **RETR** *filename* retrieves (gets) file
- **STOR** *filename* stores (puts) file onto remote host

Sample return codes

- status code and phrase (as in HTTP)
- 331 Username OK, password required
- 125 data connection already open; transfer starting
- 425 Can't open data connection
- 452 Error writing file

FTP example

```
$ telnet ftp.microsoft.com 21
```

```
220 CPMSFTFTPA06 Microsoft FTP Service (Version 5.0).
```

```
Connected to: Microsoft
```

```
USER anonymous
```

```
331 Anonymous access allowed, send identity (e-mail name) as password.
```

```
PASS
```

```
230-This is FTP.MICROSOFT.COM Please see the dirmap.txt
```

```
230-file for more information.
```

```
230 Anonymous user logged in.
```

```
SYST
```

```
215 Windows2000
```

```
PWD
```

```
257 "/" is current directory.
```

```
TYPE A
```

```
200 Type set to A.
```

```
PORT 157,193,122,155,4,18
```

```
200 PORT command successful.
```

```
LIST
```

```
150 Opening ASCII mode data connection for /bin/ls.
```

```
226 Transfer complete.
```

```
CWD /products/
```

```
250 CWD command successful.
```

```
TYPE A
```

```
200 Type set to A.
```

```
PORT 157,193,122,155,4,19
```

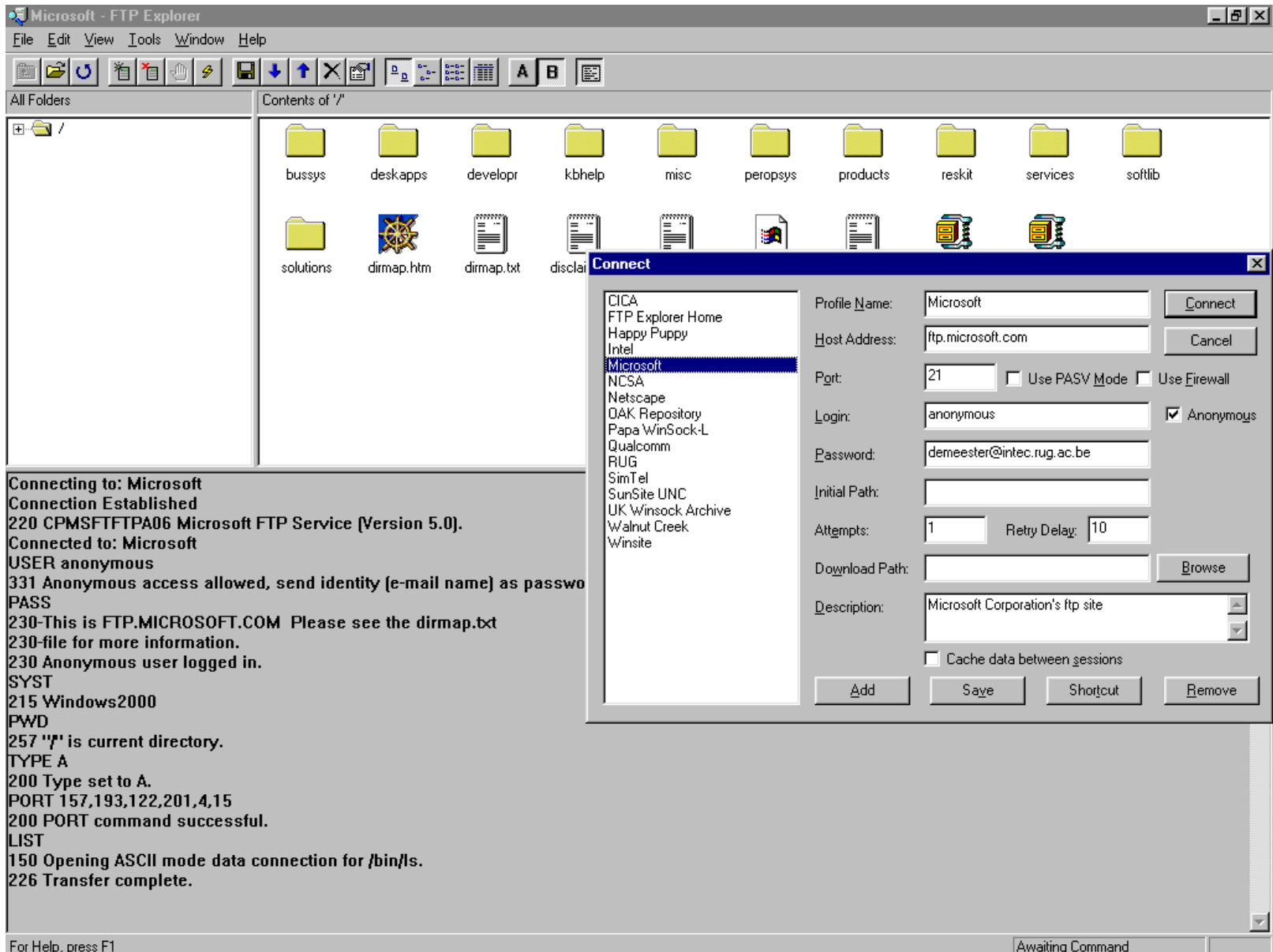
```
200 PORT command successful.
```

```
LIST
```

```
150 Opening ASCII mode data connection for /bin/ls.
```

```
226 Transfer complete.
```

FTP example



Chapter 2 outline

2.1 Principles of network applications

2.2 Web and HTTP

2.3 electronic mail

– **SMTP, POP3, IMAP**

2.4 DNS

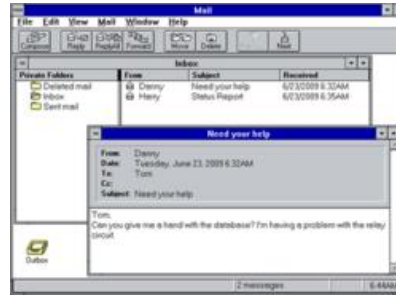
2.5 P2P applications

[**2.6** video streaming and content distribution networks]

2.7 Socket programming with UDP and TCP

History of email

ARPANET



1971:
Invention
of email

1982:
SMTP

1988:
MSMail
(Outlook
v0)

1993:
Webmail

2004:
Gmail

1976: The
Queen's
first email

1978: First
spam
email

1991: First
email from
space

1992:
MIME

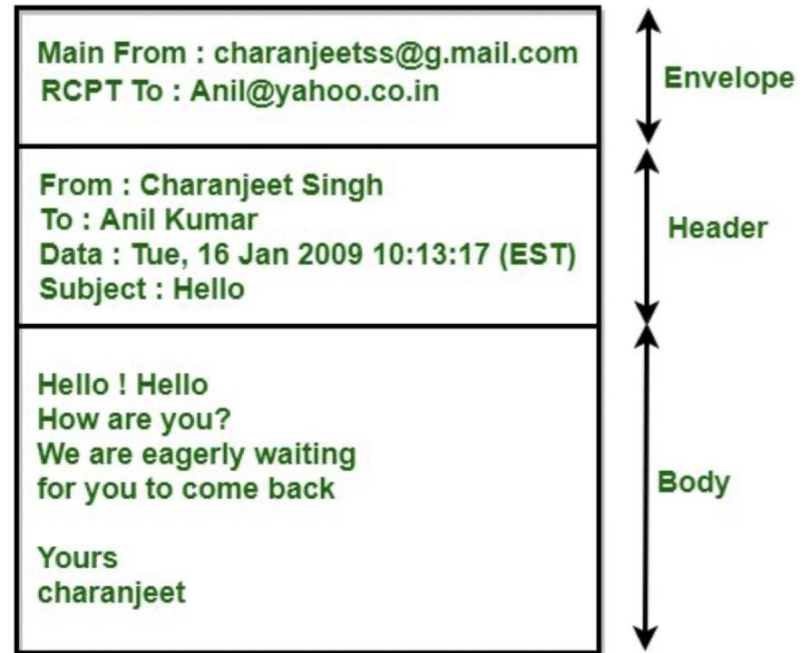
> 2010:
fighting
spam



Application Layer 2-9

E-mail protocols

- Collection of different protocols for sending, forwarding and downloading/viewing e-mails
- E-mail protocols are text-based
 - All e-mail content should be text (including HTML support)
 - Attachments are possible through MIME extensions converting binary formats to text



Electronic mail protocols/formats

(E)SMTP = (Extended) Simple Mail Transfer Protocol :
transfer e-mail message from UA to MTA or between MTAs

 POP3 = Post Office Protocol 3

retrieve e-mail from MTA

haalt de mails van een server shit, vroeger niet altijd verbonden dus if online
-> zit er iets in me postvak een haal ze op als er zijn

 IMAP = Internet Message Access Protocol

advanced retrieve of e-mail from MTA

intelligence in MTA (also advanced database structure)

 RFC 822 (message format) → not a protocol !

format of a plain text message

 MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) → not a protocol !

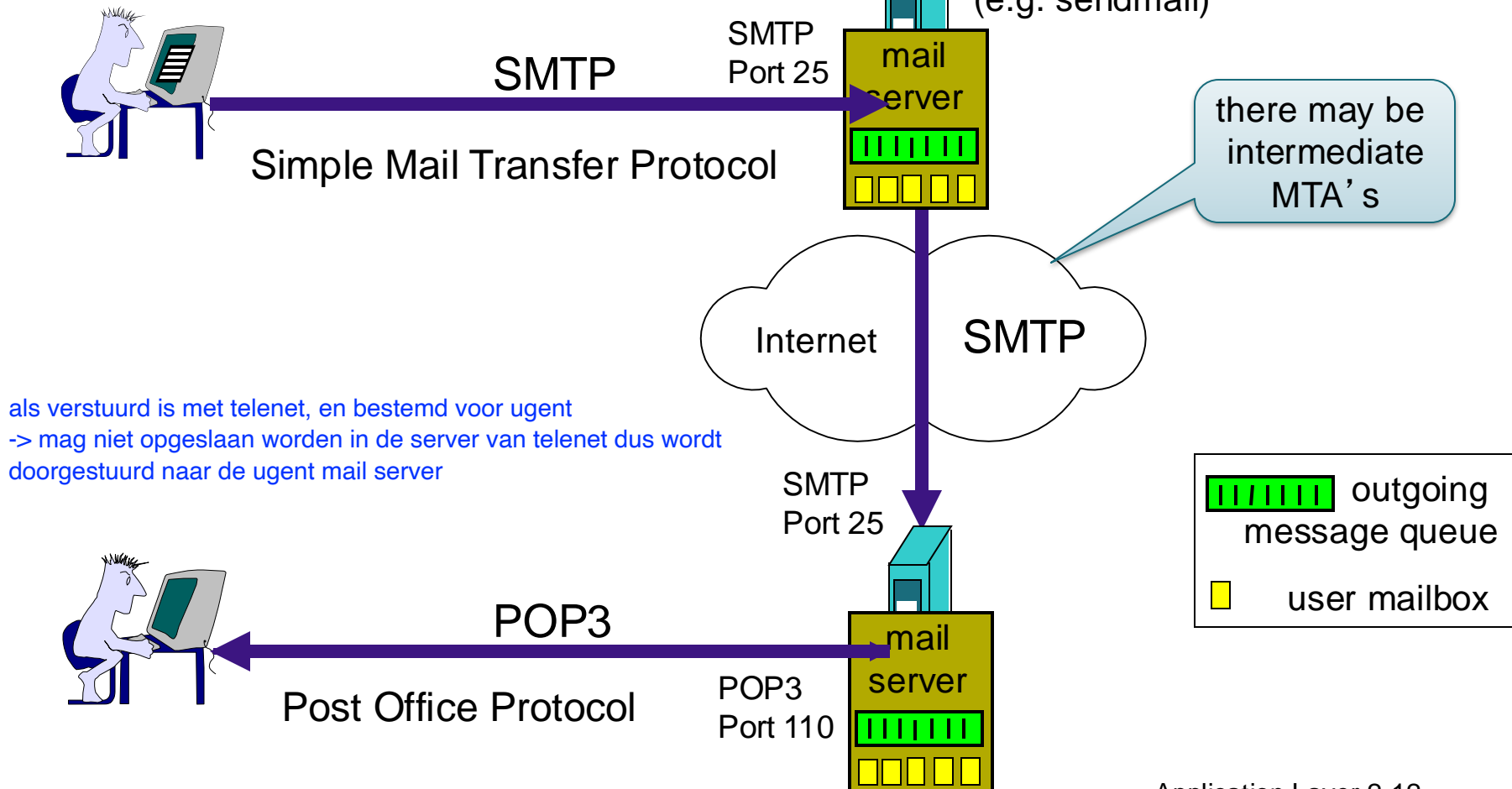
format and coding of non plain text messages (e.g. JPEG, Word)
and split into several sub-messages (e.g. attachments)

Electronic mail

User agent (UA)
Email client
(e.g. Outlook, Thunderbird,
smartphone mail client)

via / met smtp -> naar een eigenmail service
pusht de email

Message Transfer Agent (MTA)
Email server, SMTP server
(e.g. sendmail)



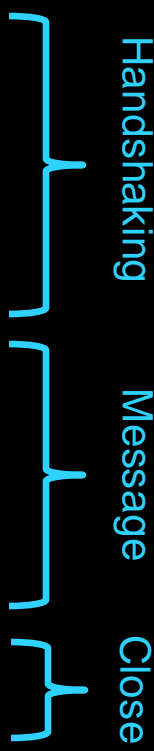
Submitting and forwarding e-mail

- The Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) is used for submitting or forwarding an e-mail to an MTA
- The SMTP server will:
 1. **Verify** if the submitting party has necessary permissions (username and password)
 2. **Receive** e-mail and put it in its **outgoing queue**
 3. Perform a **spam check** (e.g. using AI matching algorithms)
 4. **Forward the e-mail** towards the next MTA by checking DNS record matching the mail domain of receiver (cfr. DNS section)

Electronic mail : SMTP [RFC 2821]

Server port 25

```
root@pc1:/# telnet mailugent.ugent.be 25
Trying 192.168.0.100...
Connected to mailugent.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 mailugent.ugent.be ESMTP Postfix (Debian/GNU)
HELO mailugent.ugent.be
250 mailugent.ugent.be
MAIL FROM: alice@ugent.be
250 2.1.0 Ok
RCPT TO: bob@startup.net
250 2.1.5 Ok
DATA
354 End data with <CR><LF>.<CR><LF>
Subject: example message
Bob,
hier een kleine test-boodschap.
.
250 2.0.0 Ok: queued as 7F1B4315FBC
QUIT
221 2.0.0 Bye
Connection closed by foreign host.
```



The diagram on the right side of the terminal output shows three phases of an SMTP session, each indicated by a bracket:

- Handshaking**: This phase includes the initial connection (220), the HELO command, and the MAIL FROM/RCPT TO commands.
- Message**: This phase includes the DATA command, the message body (Subject, Bob, hier een kleine test-boodschap.), and the end of the message (single dot).
- Close**: This phase includes the QUIT command and the final 221 response.

ESMTP adds secure authentication to SMTP amongst other features (RFC 2821)

Note: you can redo this experiment in Kathará.

Accepting and receiving e-mails

- Receiving email servers accept messages if:
 - The server is **configured for the domain** of the receiver
 - If the receiver **username is known** (has a registered mailbox)
 - Checked for **spam** amongst other security checks
- Once accepted, the e-mail is stored in a local database or filesystem, ready to be read by users requesting their e-mails
 - Using the Post Office Protocol (POPv3) or the Internet Access Protocol (IMAP) through:
 - a **mail client** (e.g., Outlook or Thunderbird)
 - a **webserver** having access to the mailbox (webmail)

Electronic mail : POP3

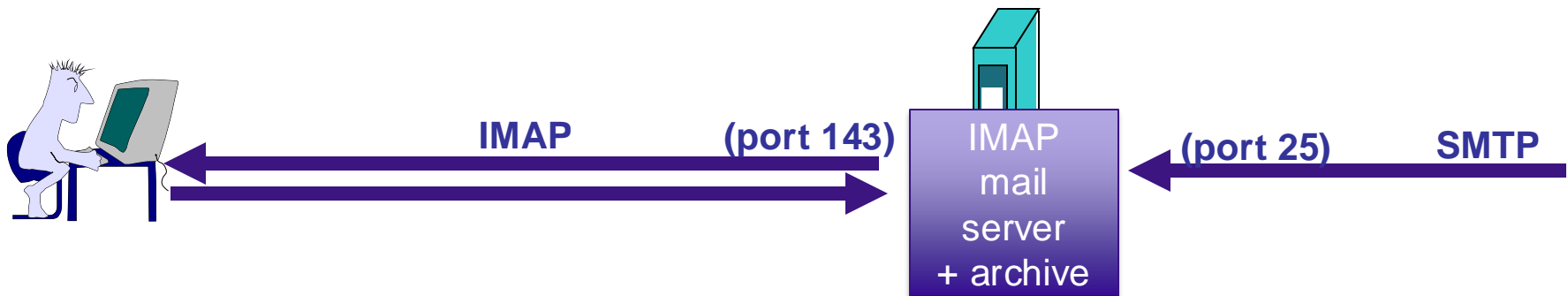
```
root@pc2:/# telnet mailstartup 110
Trying 192.168.0.200...
Connected to mailstartup.
Escape character is '^]'.
+OK Dovecot (Debian) ready.
USER bob
+OK
PASS bobpwd
+OK Logged in.
STAT
+OK 1 534
RETR 1
+OK 534 octets
Return-Path: <alice@ugent.be>
X-Original-To: bob@startup.net
Delivered-To: bob@startup.net
Received: from mailugent.ugent.be (unknown [192.168.0.100])
    by mailstartup.startup.net (Postfix) with ESMTPS id E3C98315FC2
    for <bob@startup.net>; Tue, 17 Sep 2024 09:27:28 +0000 (UTC)
Received: from mailugent.ugent.be (unknown [192.168.0.111])
    by mailugent.ugent.be (Postfix) with SMTP id 7F1B4315FBC
    for <bob@startup.net>; Tue, 17 Sep 2024 09:26:42 +0000 (UTC)
Subject: example message

Bob,
hier een kleine test-boodschap.
.
QUIT
+OK Logging out.
Connection closed by foreign host.
```

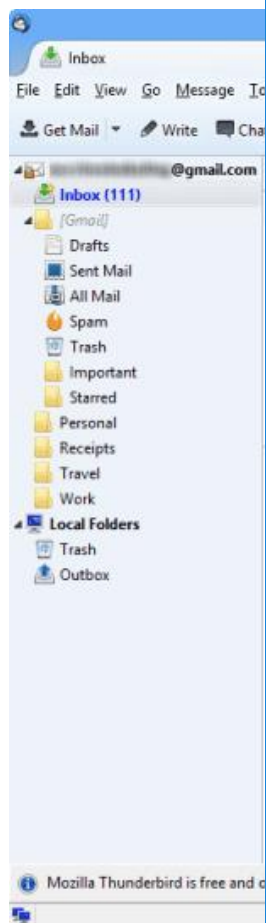
POP3 (as HTTP) : pull protocol <> SMTP : push protocol

IMAP (Internet Message Access Protocol)

- Keep all messages in one place: the server
- Allows user to organize messages in folders
- IMAP keeps user state across sessions:
 - names of folders and mappings between message IDs and folder name



e-mail



Account Settings

✕

✕ mailbox@testdomain.sk

Server Settings

Copies & Folders

Composition & Addressing

Junk Settings

Synchronization & Storage

Return Receipts

Security

✕ Local Folders

Junk Settings

Disk Space

Outgoing Server (SMTP)

Account Actions

Server Settings

Server Type: IMAP Mail Server

Server Name: imaps.platon.sk Port: 993 Default: 993

User Name: mailbox@testdomain.sk

Security Settings

Connection security: SSL/TLS

Authentication method: Normal password

Server Settings

☒ Check for new messages at startup

☒ Check for new messages every 10 minutes

☒ Allow immediate server notifications when new messages arrive

When I delete a message:

☒ Move it to this folder: Choose Folder...

☐ Just mark it as deleted

☐ Remove it immediately

Advanced...

Message Storage

☐ Clean up ("Expunge") Inbox on Exit

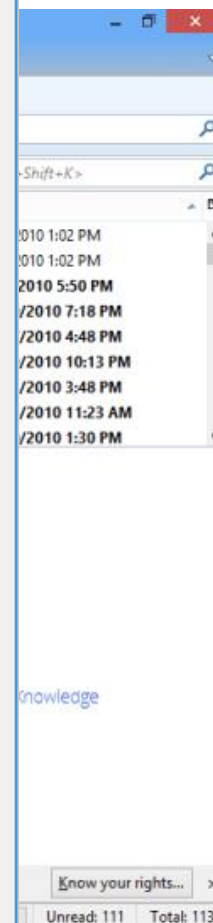
☐ Empty Trash on Exit

Message Store Type: File per folder (mbox)

Local directory: C:\Users\Administrator

Browse...

OK Cancel

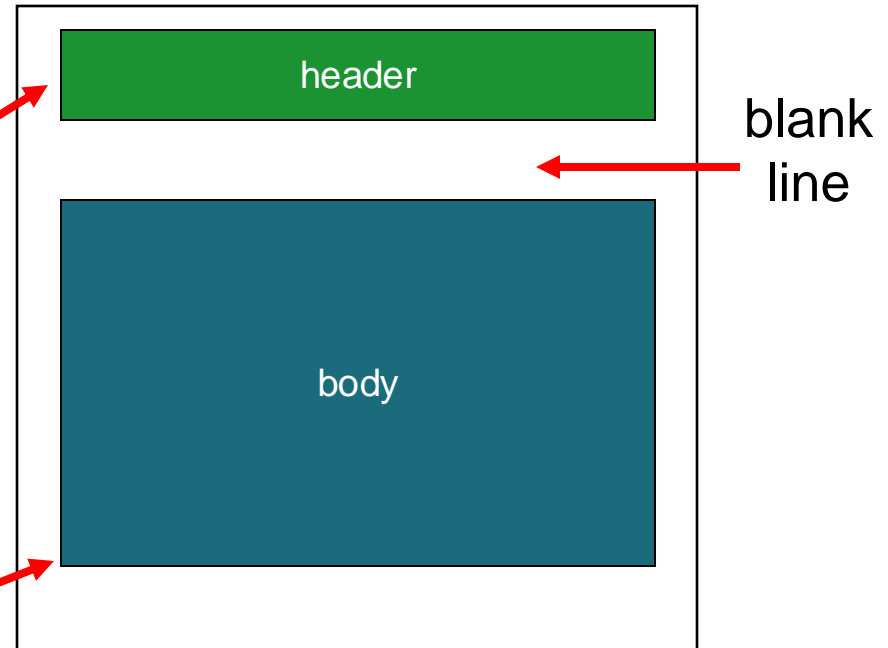


Mail message format

[SMTP: protocol for exchanging email msgs]

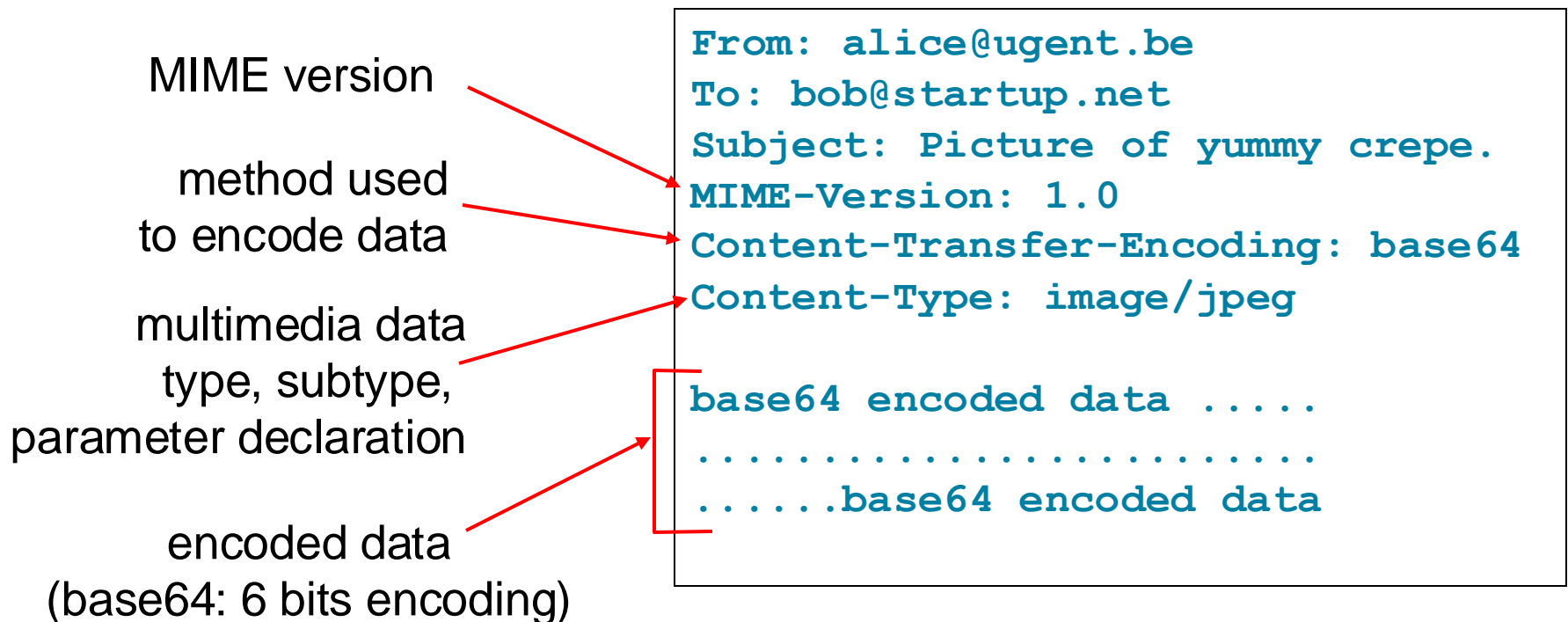
RFC 822: standard for text message format:

- header lines, e.g.,
 - To:
 - From:
 - Subject:*different from SMTP commands !*
- body
 - the “message”, ASCII characters only



Message format: multimedia extensions

- MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) :
multimedia mail extension, RFC 2045, 2056
- additional lines in msg header declare MIME content type



BASE64

The Base64 index table:

Value	Char	Value	Char	Value	Char	Value	Char
0	A	16	Q	32	g	48	w
1	B	17	R	33	h	49	x
2	C	18	S	34	i	50	y
3	D	19	T	35	j	51	z
4	E	20	U	36	k	52	0
5	F	21	V	37	l	53	1
6	G	22	W	38	m	54	2
7	H	23	X	39	n	55	3
8	I	24	Y	40	o	56	4
9	J	25	Z	41	p	57	5
10	K	26	a	42	q	58	6
11	L	27	b	43	r	59	7
12	M	28	c	44	s	60	8
13	N	29	d	45	t	61	9
14	O	30	e	46	u	62	+
15	P	31	f	47	v	63	/

Mail message format example

```
Return-Path: <jane.doe@intec.rug.ac.be>
Delivered-To: johndoe@allserv.rug.ac.be
Received: from mserv.rug.ac.be (mserv.rug.ac.be [157.193.40.37])
    by allserv.rug.ac.be (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id RAA19192
    for <johndoe@allserv.rug.ac.be>; Fri, 11 Feb 2000 10:39:45 +0100
(MET)
Received: from mailserver.intec.rug.ac.be (mailserver.intec.rug.ac.be
    [157.193.84.3])
    by mserv.rug.ac.be (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id RAA21860
    for <johndoe@rug.ac.be>; Fri, 11 Feb 2000 10:39:19 +0100 (MET)
Received: from acnet0.intec.rug.ac.be (acnet0.intec.rug.ac.be
    [157.193.84.63])
    by mailserver.intec.rug.ac.be (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id RAA19039
    for <johndoe@rug.ac.be>; Fri, 11 Feb 2000 10:38:41 +0100 (MET)
Date: Fri, 11 Feb 2000 10:38:41 +0100 (MET)
From: Jane Doe <Jane.Doe@intec.rug.ac.be>
Subject: example message
Message-Id: <200002121557.QAA18605@intec.rug.ac.be>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text
Content-Length: 34

John,
hier een kleine test-boodschap.
.
```

RFC 822
headers

MIME
headers

Message

Mail message format example (with 2 attachments)

```
<RFC822 headers left away>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="===== _909671503== _"
X-UIDL: 8adae81620fdf73614975fcaa08a3ed5
Status: 0
X-Status:
----- _909671503== _
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

John,
This is an email message with two attached MS-Word documents.

----- _909671503== _
Content-Type: application/msword; name="MIMetest1.doc";
  x-mac-type="42494E41"; x-mac-creator="4D535744"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="MIMetest1.doc"

0M8R4KGxGuEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAPgADAP7/CQAGAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAABAAAIQAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
...
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA==
----- _909671503== _
Content-Type: application/msword; name="MIMetest2.doc";
  x-mac-type="42494E41"; x-mac-creator="4D535744"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="MIMetest2.doc"

0M8R4KGxGuEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAPgADAP7/CQAGAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAABAAAIQAAAAAAAAAA
EAAAIwAAAEAAAD+////AAAAACAAAD////////////////////////////////////
...
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA==
----- _909671503== _
.
```

RFC 822 headers

MIME
header

Message

MIME
header

Attachment1

MIME
header

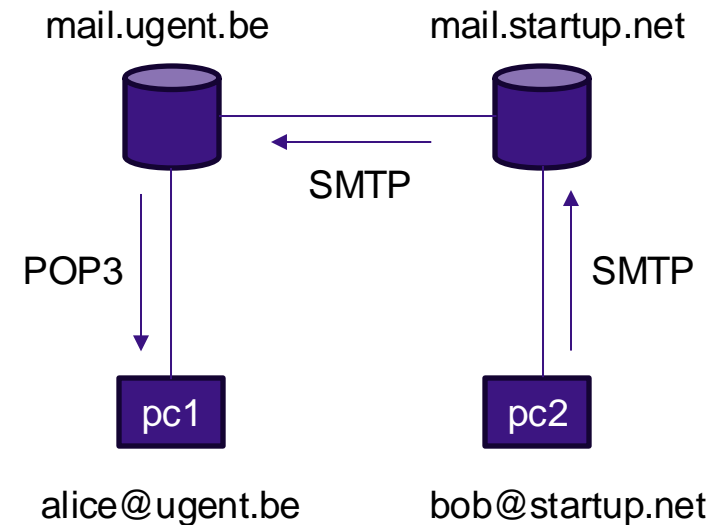
Attachment2

End Of Message

Experiment in Kathará



- kathara-chapter2->email experiment
 - Involves commonly used postfix SMTP server and dovecot POP3/IMAP server
- Write and receive e-mail from bob@startup.net to alice@ugent.be
 - Capture SMTP packets between mail servers using tcpdump
 - Capture POP3 packets when Bob fetches mail



Chapter 2 outline

2.1 Principles of network applications

2.2 Web and HTTP

2.3 electronic mail

- SMTP, POP3, IMAP

2.4 DNS (Domain Name System)

2.5 P2P applications

[2.6 video streaming and content distribution networks]

[2.7 socket programming with UDP and TCP]

Facebook unreachable on Oct 4, 2021



Outage lasting > 5 hours

```
;; global options: +cmd
;; connection timed out; no servers could be reached
root@jrs-router:/etc/bind# dig @8.8.8.8 m.facebook.com

; <<>> DiG 9.11.3-lubuntu1.15-Ubuntu <<>> @8.8.8.8 m.facebook.com
; (1 server found)
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: SERVFAIL, id: 49071
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 0, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 512
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;m.facebook.com.
;; Query time: 15 msec
;; SERVER: 8.8.8.8 (8.8.8.8)
;; WHEN: Mon Oct 04 11:46:05 EDT 2021
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 43
```

Facebook's (authoritative) DNS servers
could not be reached due to BGP error

```
root@jrs-router:/etc/bind# dig @8.8.8.8 www.facebook.com

; <<>> DiG 9.11.3-lubuntu1.15-Ubuntu <<>> @8.8.8.8 www.facebook.com
; (1 server found)
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: SERVFAIL, id: 29830
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 0, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 512
;; QUESTION SECTION:
```

Domain Name System (DNS)

Two possible network identifications in the Internet : **name** (used by Internet users) OR **address** (used by hardware)

Address : 4 bytes (4 numbers with values between 0 and 255)

example : 157.193.40.41 (corresponding to *allserv.ugent.be* server)

advantage : fixed limited length, hierarchical, easy to handle in the network, physical structure of the network

Name : mnemonic : xxx.xxx.xxx

example : intec.ugent.be

advantage : readable, independence of name and address, logical structure of an organization

DNS = application layer protocol using *distributed database* to provide name to address translation using a *client/server* architecture

Some examples :

google.be ⇔ 142.250.179.195

ugent.be ⇔ 157.193.43.50

When to use DNS ?

Send e-mail to :

rik.vandewalle@ugent.be

alexander.decroo@premier.fed.be

SMTP server of ugent.be domain ?

157.193.49.14
cedar.ugent.be

Access web-site :

www.atlantis.ugent.be

SMTP server of premier.fed.be domain ?

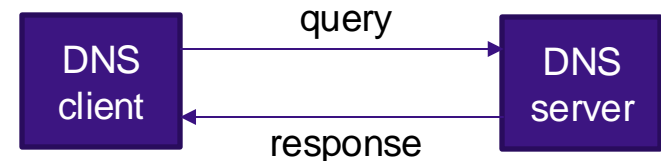
157.193.214.245
relay-shs.fed.be

IP address of HTTP server ?

157.193.215.4
pegasus.atlantis.ugent.be

DNS basics:

- Client/server protocol
- Application layer
- Uses UDP in the transport layer as default (TCP also possible)



Domain Name System (DNS)

- Who determines the mapping and where is it stored?
 - Organisations can request domain names (e.g. ugent.be) to a DNS registrar, and if available, they need to set up **authoritative DNS server** which stores mappings between their servers and IP addresses, e.g.:

▪ ugent.be	IN	A	157.193.43.50
▪ allserv.ugent.be	IN	A	157.193.40.41
▪ cedar.ugent.be	IN	A	157.193.49.14
▪ ugent.be	IN	MX	cedar.ugent.be



DNS Resource
Records

Some internet DNS server statistics in 2020

- World wide:
 - 477 million DNS records
 - ~ 2.7 million authoritative name servers
- only 0.35 % =~ 9400 servers responsible for 90 % of the domain names
 - Reason: use of cloud-based DNS service

Provider	Number of records
Godaddy (domaincontrol.com)	94,536,346
Google Domains	20,134,705
dns.com (Xiamen Diensi)	15,642,026
IONOS (ui-dns)	15,599,972
hichina	15,118,733
Cloudflare	13,759,936
enom.com / registrar-servers.com	11,159,866
wixdns.net	9,170,163
name-services.com	7.334.904
namebrightnds.com	7.321,327

Source: <https://isc.sans.edu/diary/Internet+Choke+Points%3A+Concentration+of+Authoritative+Name+Servers/26428>

DDoS attack

Mirai botnet generating tens of millions of DNS queries

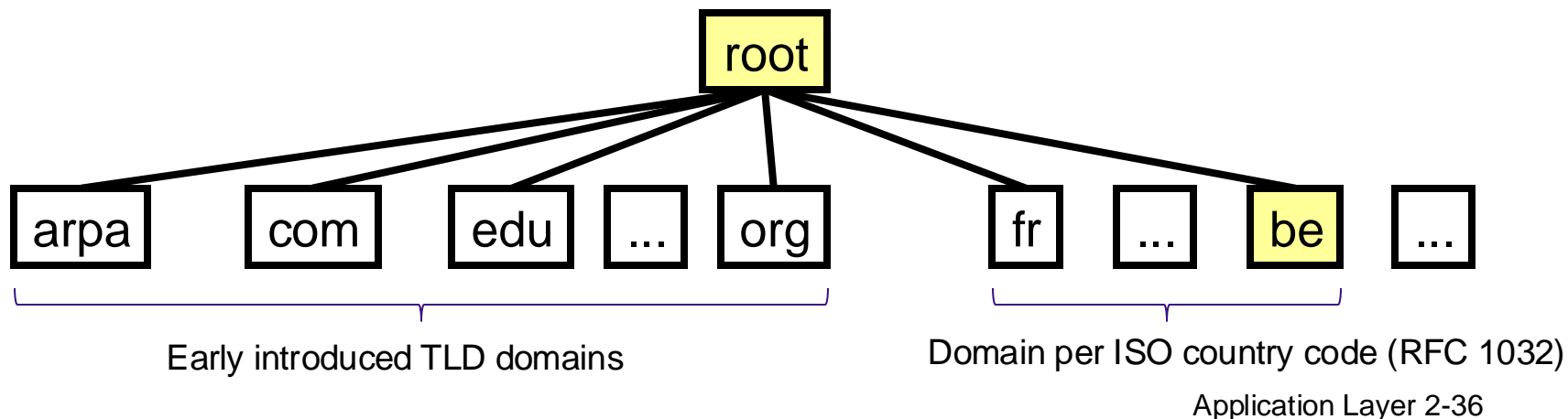
A particularly notable DDoS attack on authoritative DNS servers was the [attack on Dyn](#) in October 2016. Attackers used the Mirai botnet to overwhelm Dyn's DNS servers with a whopping 1.2 terabits per second of traffic. Dyn's DNS servers couldn't respond to legitimate DNS queries under the load, which left Dyn's customers -- including the *New York Times*, Reddit, Tumblr and Twitter -- unreachable.

A photograph of a server room with rows of server racks. The racks are filled with equipment, and many small lights are visible, some glowing blue and others green. The perspective is looking down a long aisle between the racks, with a bright light source at the end of the aisle. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid in the center of the image, containing white text.

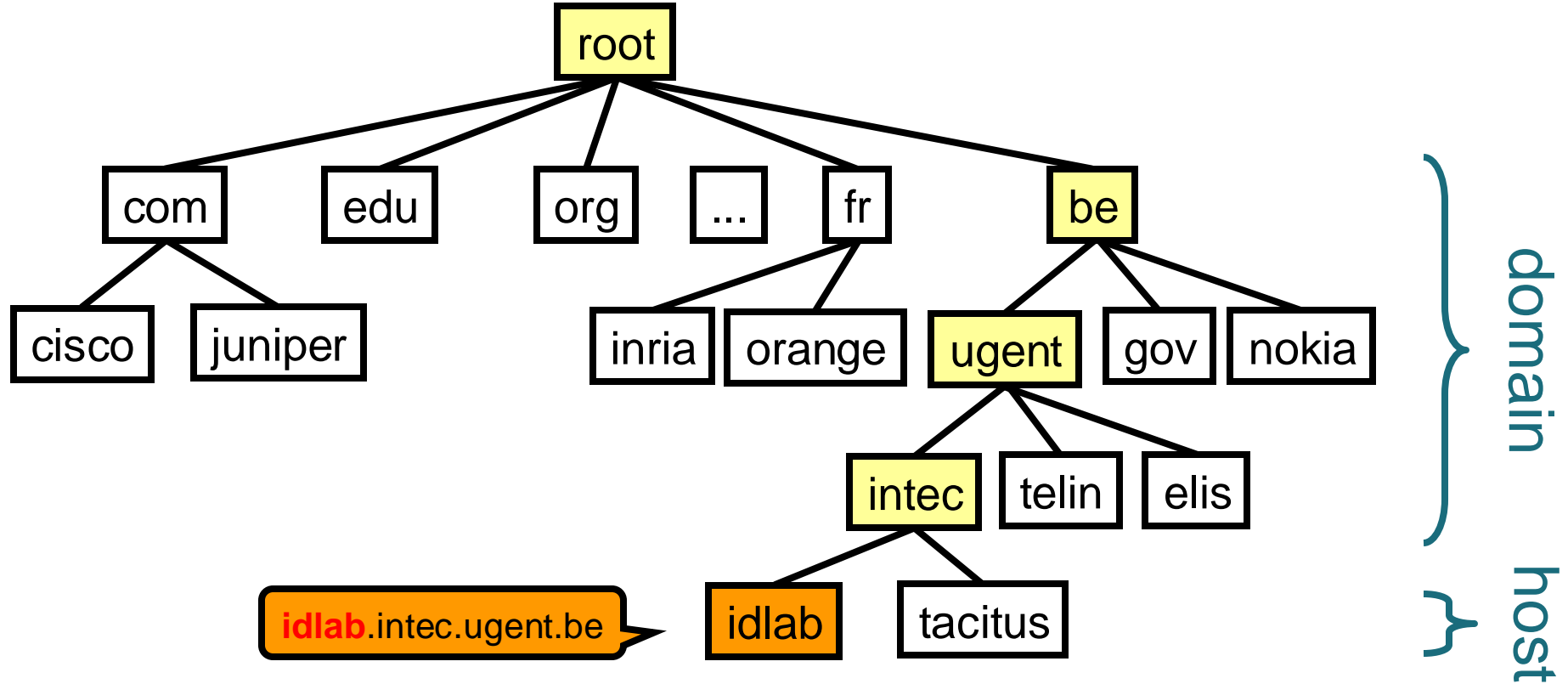
**How to find & contact the authoritative
DNS server responsible for the domain
name you want to resolve?**

Domain Name System (DNS)

- Historically (<1982)
 - Single `hosts.txt` file stored at the NIC (Network Information Center) in the US storing list of <name,IP> address mappings
 - All hosts needed to fetch the file and regularly sync it
 - Quickly became unscalable
- Since the '80s: hierarchical tree structure for domain names
 - Top-Level Domain (TLD) names (managed by ICANN)
 - Each TLD is managed by organization deciding on sub-domain names



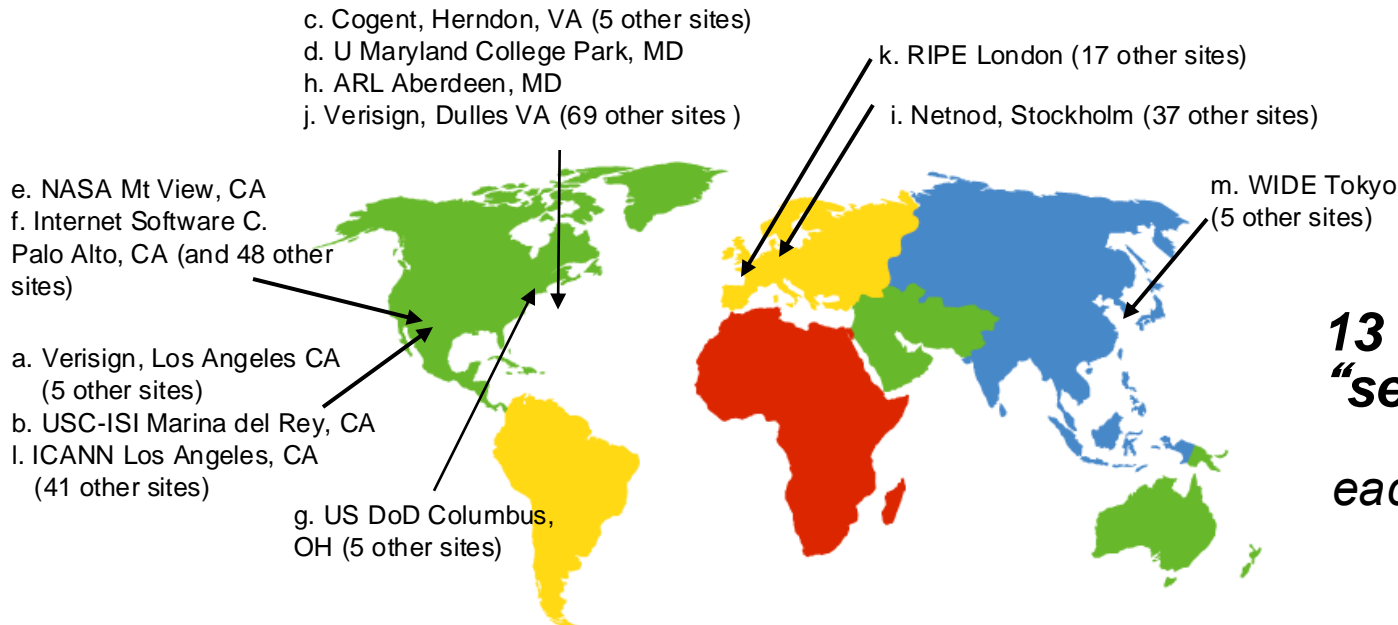
DNS : Domain Name System



- hierarchical & relative distinguished names
- sub-domain hierarchy usually reflects logical structure of organization
- **every domain has at least one name server** able to answer following queries:
 1. Give IP address of any server/host inside its own domain
 2. Give name server responsible for any direct sub-domain

Root name servers

- Contacted by local name server that can not resolve name
- Has reference to TLD name servers



***13 logical root name
“servers” worldwide***

***each “server” replicated
many times***

TLD, Authoritative Servers

Top-Level Domain (TLD) servers:

- responsible for com, org, net, edu, aero, jobs, museums, and all top-level country domains, e.g.: uk, fr, ca, jp, be, tk
- **Network Solutions** maintains servers for .com TLD
- **Educause** for .edu TLD

Authoritative DNS servers:

- Organization's own DNS server(s), providing authoritative hostname to IP mappings for organization's named hosts
- can be maintained by organization or service provider

Inserting Records into DNS

- example: new startup “Network Utopia”
- register name networkutopia.com at **DNS registrar** (e.g., Network Solutions)
 - provide names, IP addresses of authoritative name server (primary and secondary)
 - registrar inserts two RRs into .com TLD server:
`(networkutopia.com, dns1.networkutopia.com, NS)`
`(dns1.networkutopia.com, 212.212.212.1, A)`
`(networkutopia.com, dns2.networkutopia.com, NS)`
`(dns2.networkutopia.com, 212.212.215.1, A)`
- In `dns1.networkutopia.com` (& `dns2.networkutopia.com`) : create authoritative server
 - type A record for `www.networkutopia.com` (web server);
 - type MX record for `networkutopia.com` (mail server)

DNS : Resource Records (RR)

What to store in a DNS :

- list of the worldwide root servers
- list of names (host, name server, mail server, ...) and their corresponding IP address
- alias names and their canonical name
- list of IP addresses and their corresponding names (for inverse look-up)
- ...

How to store information in the DNS databases ?

Resource Record (RR) :

[name], [TTL], [class], record-type, record-data

name : name to be resolved

TTL : how long record may be cached

class : IN (for Internet)

record-type : e.g.: NS, A, MX, CNAME

record-data : e.g.: IP address

DNS : Resource Records (RR)

Record-Types / Record-Data :

name can have multiple A records
for redundancy/load balancing

A : the *name* is a **hostname** and the *record-data* is the **IP address**

webserver1.intec.ugent.be IN A 157.193.135.37

Name server is not necessarily
located in same domain

NS : the *name* is a **domain** and the *record-data* is the **hostname of a server** that knows how to obtain the IP addresses in that domain

ugent.be IN NS ugdns1.ugent.be (authoritative name server for ugent.be)

intec.ugent.be IN NS dns1.intec.ugent.be (authoritative name server for intec.ugent.be)

CNAME : the *name* is an **alias for a hostname** and the *record-data* is the corresponding **canonical hostname**

www.intec.ugent.be IN CNAME webserver1.intec.ugent.be

MX : the *name* is a **domain name** and the *record-data* is the corresponding **name of a mail server** (MTA), *preference* indicates the primary, secondary, ... mail servers for the domain

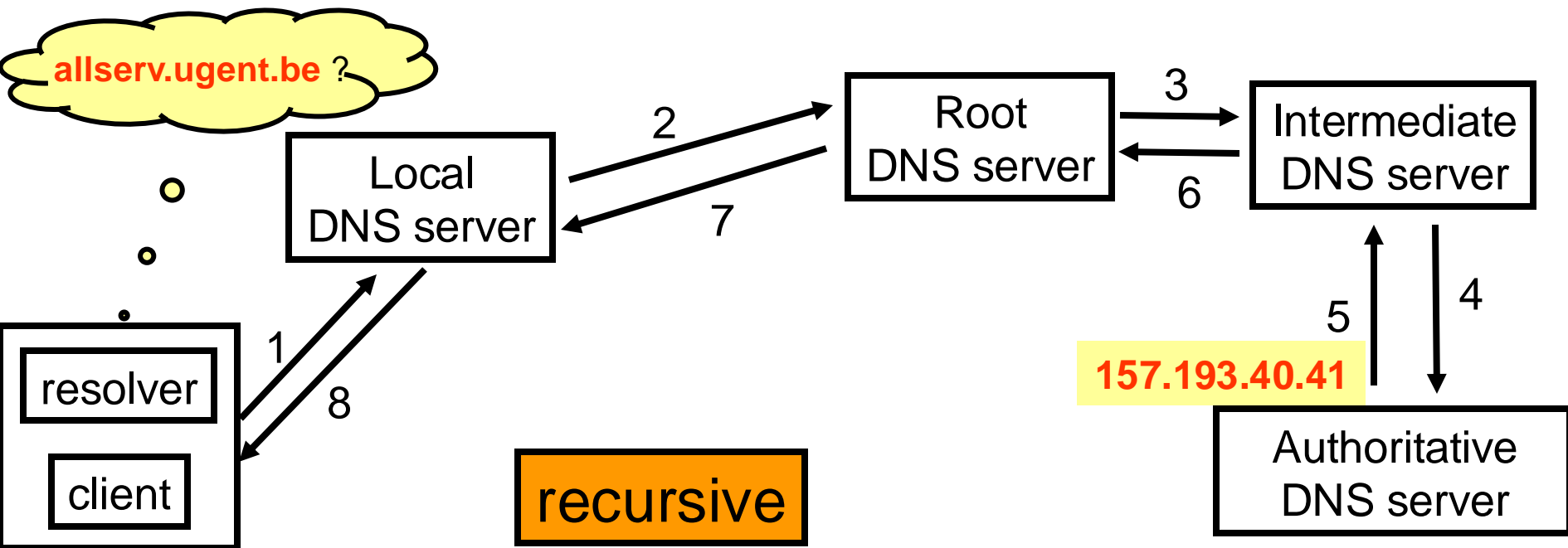
ugent.be IN MX preference=20 smtpfltrp1.ugent.be
preference=20 smtpfltrp2.ugent.be

Local DNS Name Server

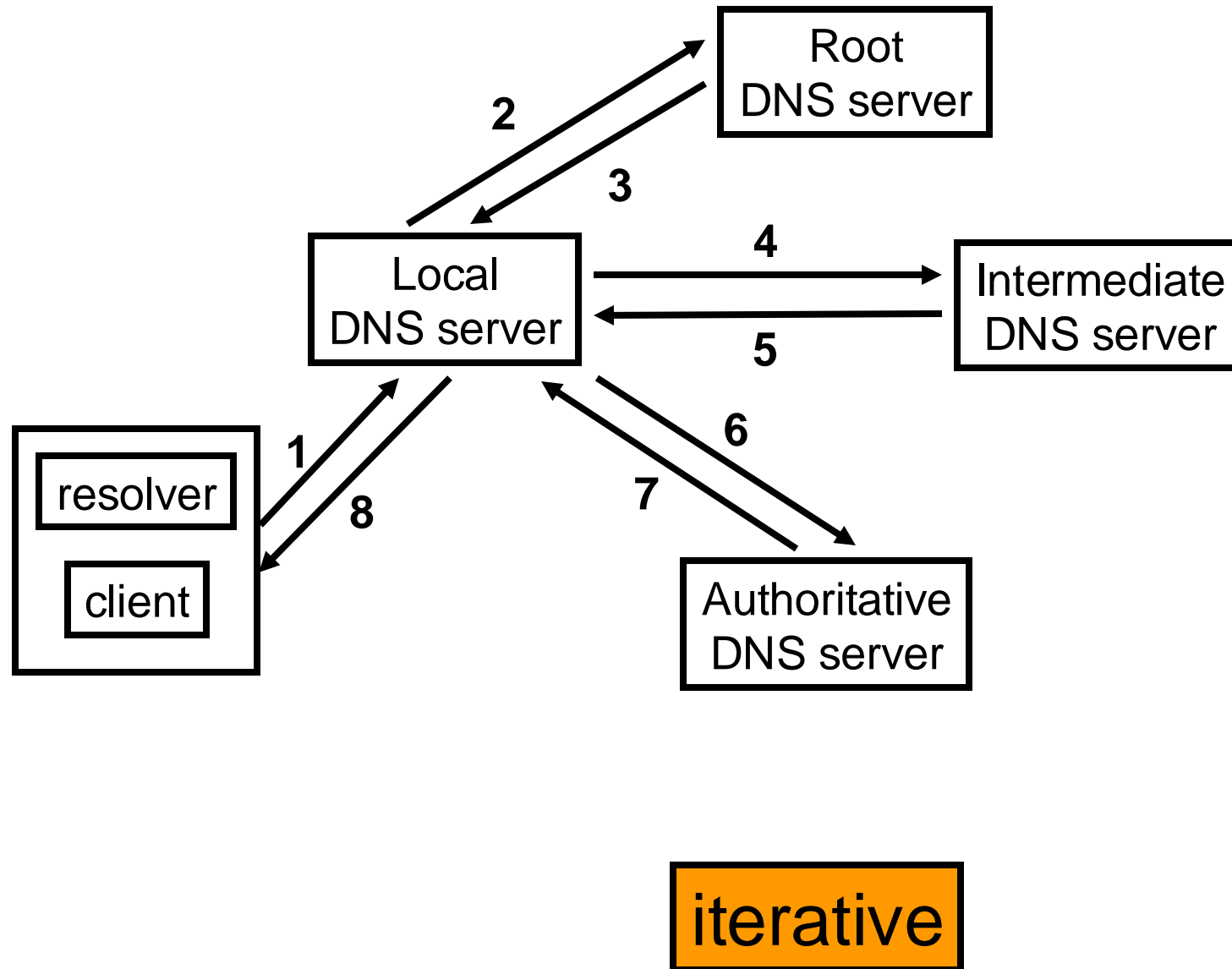
- does not strictly belong to hierarchy
- each ISP (residential ISP, company, university) has one
 - also called “default name server”
- when host makes DNS query, query is sent to its local DNS server
 - has local cache of recent name-to-address translation pairs (but may be out of date!)
 - acts as proxy, forwards query into hierarchy

How do DNS servers interact?

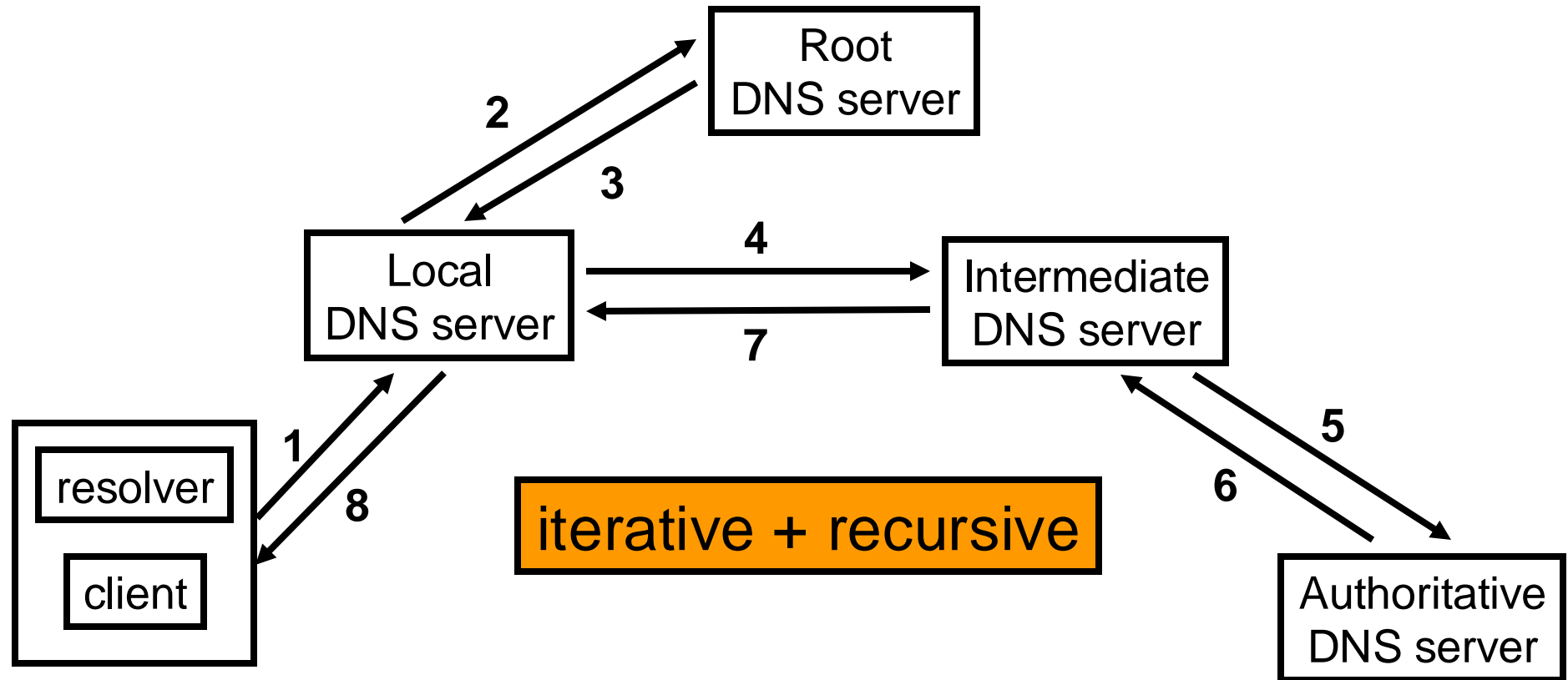
- Resolver : local program (client side) sending out a mapping request (**allserv.ugent.be** ?) to local name server
- Local name server (default name server) : handles request from client contacts other name server(s) to resolve the name
- Root name server : top level root server (13 in total)
- Authoritative name server : where host (requested name) is registered (at least two authoritative name servers for each host)



DNS : mapping name to address



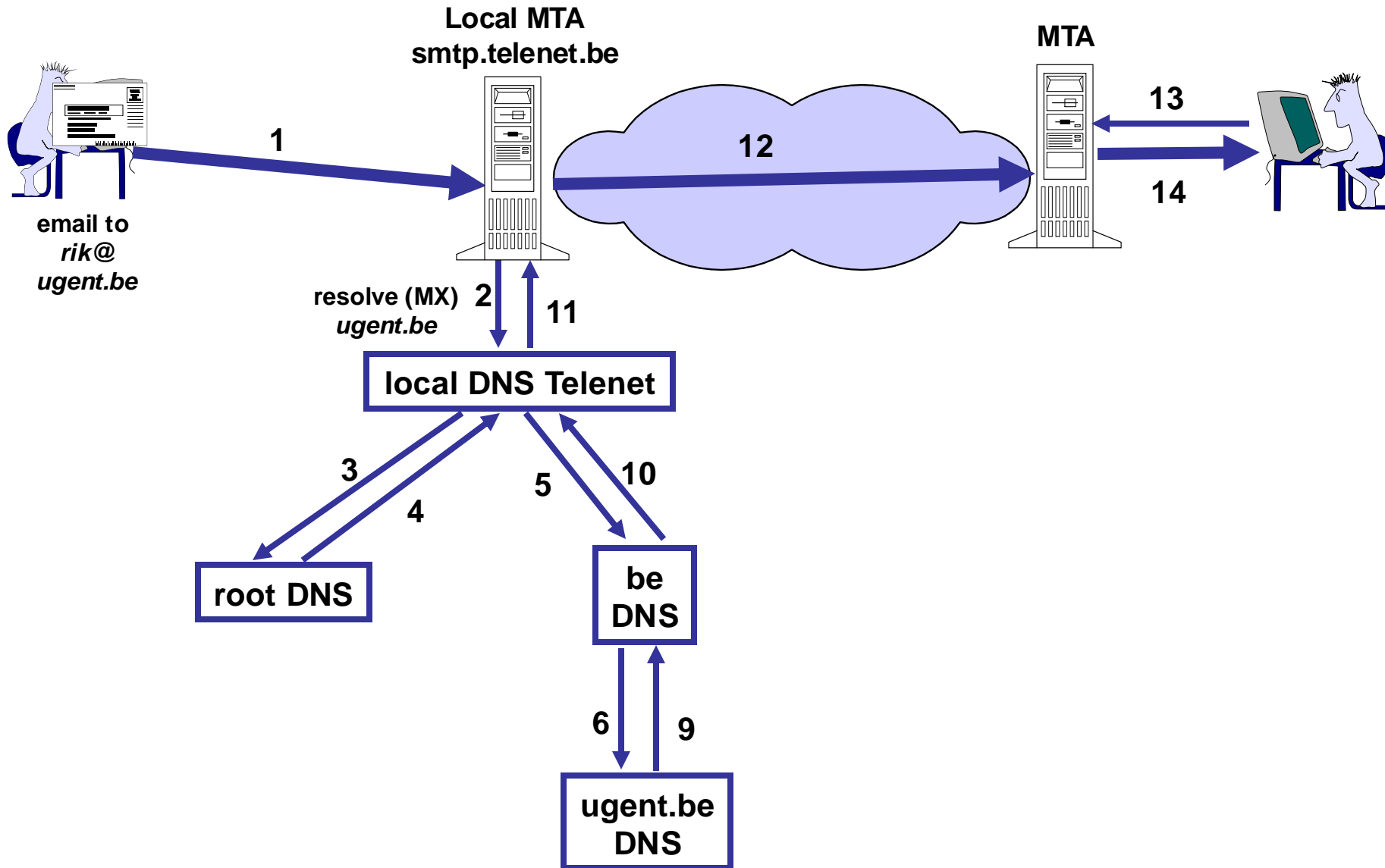
DNS : mapping name to address



caching of name/address translation pairs

- caching in intermediate name servers
- improve delay performance of name/address translation
- reduce number of DNS queries on the network
- cached record is valid limited in time (few days → TTL)
- very limited number of requests towards root servers

Interaction between e-mail and DNS

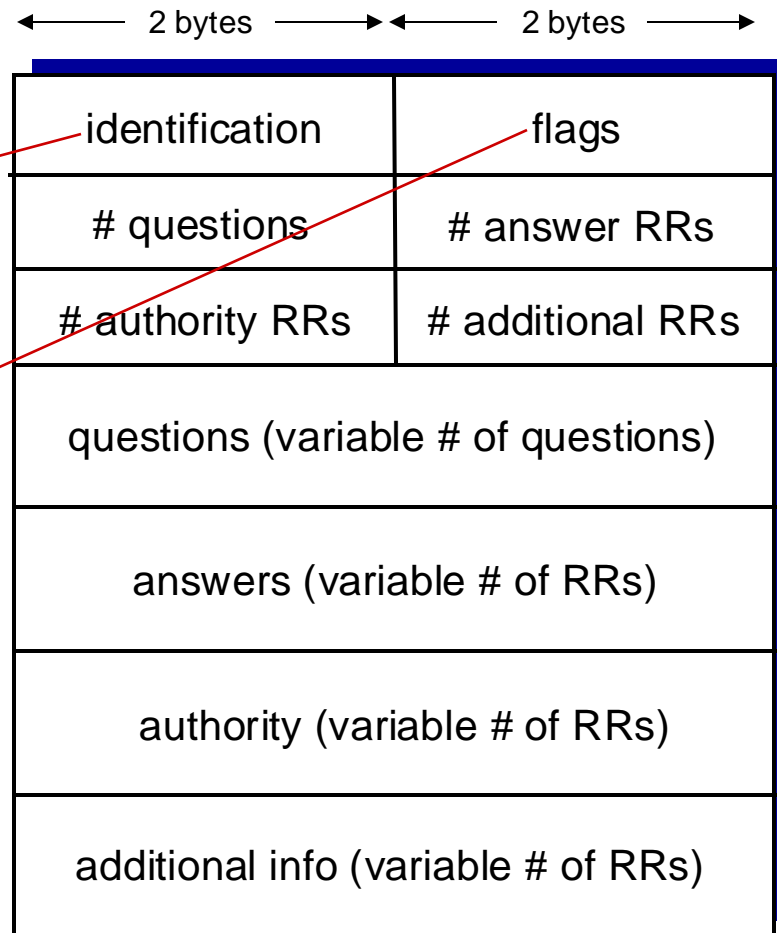


DNS : Messages (in UDP)

query and *reply* messages, both with same *message format*

message header

- **identification:**
16 bit # for query,
reply to query uses same #
- **flags:**
 - query or reply
 - recursion desired
 - recursion available
 - reply is authoritative



Resolving domains from command line

```
> dig www.ugent.be
```

domain name to be resolved

```
; <<>> DiG 9.10.6 <<>> www.ugent.be
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 27968
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags;; udp: 1232
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;www.ugent.be.                IN      A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
www.ugent.be.                10957   IN      A      157.193.43.50

;; Query time: 95 msec
;; SERVER: 192.168.50.1#53(192.168.50.1)
;; WHEN: Fri Sep 20 14:27:25 CEST 2024
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 57
```

Query with recursion desired

Successful resolution

Response with recursion available

Query A RR for www.ugent.be

Found type A RR for host

Responsible (local) DNS server

Alternatively the tool `nslookup` can be used from command line.

dig in Wireshark: DNS query

Wi-Fi: en0

frame.number>992 && frame.number<995

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
993	5.159660	192.168.50.91	192.168.50.1	DNS	83	Standard query 0x37e9 A www.ugent.be OPT
994	5.233451	192.168.50.1	192.168.50.91	DNS	99	Standard query response 0x37e9 A www.ugent.be A 157.193.43.50 OPT

> Frame 993: 83 bytes on wire (664 bits), 83 bytes captured (664 bits) on interface en0, id 0

> Ethernet II, Src: Apple_7d:39:30 (a0:78:17:7d:39:30), Dst: ASUSTekCOMPU_c1:02:c0 (c8:7f:54:c1:02:c0)

> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.50.91, Dst: 192.168.50.1

> User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 53812, Dst Port: 53

Source Port: 53812
Destination Port: 53
Length: 49
Checksum: 0x27b8 [unverified]
[Checksum Status: Unverified]
[Stream index: 16]
[Stream Packet Number: 1]
[Timestamps]
UDP payload (41 bytes)

> Domain Name System (query)

Transaction ID: 0x37e9

> Flags: 0x0120 Standard query

Questions: 1
Answer RRs: 0
Authority RRs: 0
Additional RRs: 1

> Queries

> www.ugent.be: type A, class IN
Name: www.ugent.be
[Name Length: 12]
[Label Count: 3]
Type: A (1) (Host Address)
Class: IN (0x0001)

[Response In: 994]

The response to this DNS query is in this frame (dns.response_in)

Packets: 1112 · Displayed: 2 (0.2%) · Dropped: 0 (0.0%) · Profile: Default

dig in Wireshark: DNS response

Wi-Fi: en0

frame.number>992 && frame.number<995

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
993	5.159660	192.168.50.91	192.168.50.1	DNS	83	Standard query 0x37e9 A www.ugent.be OPT
994	5.233451	192.168.50.1	192.168.50.1	DNS	99	Standard query response 0x37e9 A www.ugent.be A 157.193.43.50 OPT

> Frame 994: 99 bytes on wire (792 bits), 99 bytes captured (792 bits) on interface en0, id 0

> Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTekCOMPU_c1:02:c0 (c8:7f:54:c1:02:c0), Dst: Apple_7d:39:30 (a0:78:17:7d:39:30)

> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.50.1, Dst: 192.168.50.1

> User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 53, Dst Port: 53812

> Domain Name System (response)

- Transaction ID: 0x37e9
- Flags: 0x8180 Standard query response, No error
- Questions: 1
- Answer RRs: 1
- Authority RRs: 0
- Additional RRs: 1

> Queries

- www.ugent.be: type A, class IN
 - Name: www.ugent.be
 - [Name Length: 12]
 - [Label Count: 3]
 - Type: A (1) (Host Address)
 - Class: IN (0x0001)

> Answers

- www.ugent.be: type A, class IN, addr 157.193.43.50
 - Name: www.ugent.be
 - Type: A (1) (Host Address)
 - Class: IN (0x0001)
 - Time to live: 10250 (2 hours, 50 minutes, 50 seconds)
 - Data length: 4
 - Address: 157.193.43.50

UDP port 53

Response details

wireshark_Wi-Fi8Y0XT2.pcapng

Packets: 1112 · Displayed: 2 (0.2%) · Dropped: 0 (0.0%)

Profile: Default

DNS and IPv6: AAAA record

- Dual network layer:
IPv6 addresses next to IPv4 addresses
- DNS extended with a new Resource Record type:
AAAA
 - Similar to A record in IPv4
 - E.g. zone file facebook.com

facebook.com.	IN	A	179.60.195.36	; IPv4
	IN	AAAA	2a03:2880:f121:83:face:b00c::25de	; IPv6

Upgrade of _all_ DNS records
needed!

Attacking DNS

DDoS attacks

- bombard root servers with traffic
 - not successful to date
 - traffic filtering
 - local DNS servers cache IPs of TLD servers, allowing root server bypass
- bombard TLD servers
 - potentially more dangerous

redirect attacks

- man-in-middle
 - Intercept queries
- DNS poisoning
 - Send bogus replies to DNS server, which caches

exploit DNS for DDoS

- send queries with spoofed source address: target IP
- requires amplification