The TCP/IP Suite

- TCP/IP was developed during the 1960s by the US Department of Defense's (DoD) Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA).
- It is a protocol stack which consists of multiple protocols including TCP (Transmission Control Protocol) and IP (Internet Protocol).
- It is the main protocol stack used in computer operations today.
- Whereas the OSI Reference Model is conceptual, the TCP/IP stack is used to transfer data in production networks.
- TCP/IP is also layered but does not use all of the OSI layers, though the layers are equivalent in operation and function.



Comparing the OSI Model with the TCP/IP Stack

OSI Model

TCP/IP Stack

Application

Presentation

Session

Transport

Network

Data Link

Physical

Application

Transport

Internet

Network Access



Host Communications Terminology

