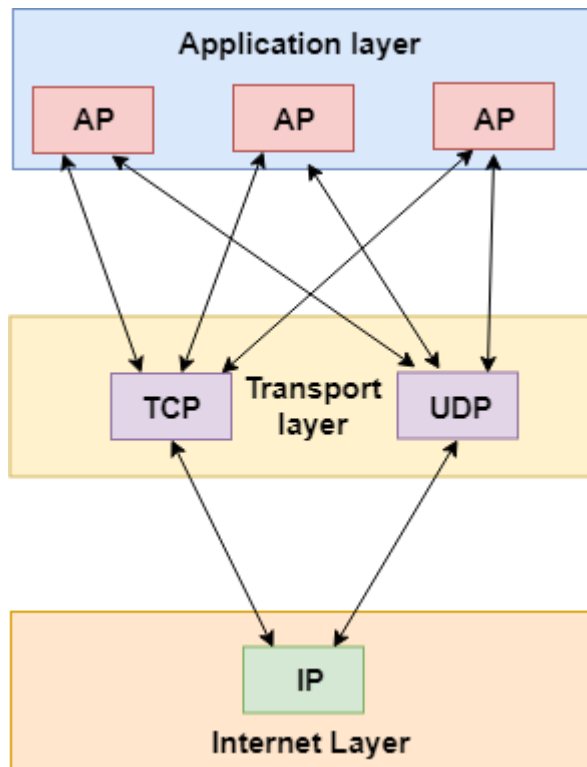


Transport Layer and Protocols

- The transport layer is a 4th layer from the top.
- The main role of the transport layer is to provide the communication services directly to the application processes running on different hosts.
- The transport layer provides a logical communication between application processes running on different hosts. Although the application processes on different hosts are not physically connected, application processes use the logical communication provided by the transport layer to send the messages to each other.
- The transport layer protocols are implemented in the end systems but not in the network routers.
- A computer network provides more than one protocol to the network applications. For example, TCP and UDP are two transport layer protocols that provide a different set of services to the network layer.
- All transport layer protocols provide multiplexing/demultiplexing service. It also provides other services such as reliable data transfer, bandwidth guarantees, and delay guarantees.
- Each of the applications in the application layer has the ability to send a message by using TCP or UDP. The application communicates by using either of these two protocols. Both TCP and UDP will then communicate with the internet protocol in the internet layer. The applications can read and write to the transport layer. Therefore, we can say that communication is a two-way process.

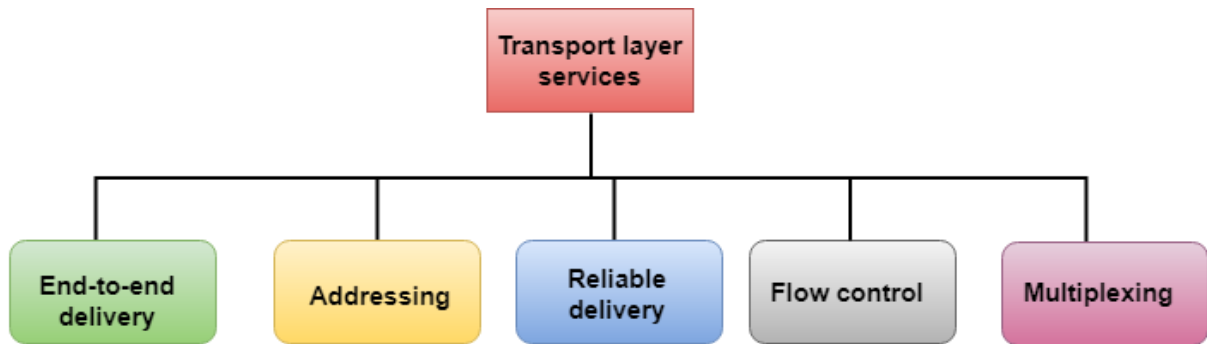


Services provided by the Transport Layer

The services provided by the transport layer are similar to those of the data link layer. The data link layer provides the services within a single network while the transport layer provides the services across an internetwork made up of many networks. The data link layer controls the physical layer while the transport layer controls all the lower layers.

The services provided by the transport layer protocols can be divided into five categories:

- End-to-end delivery
- Addressing
- Reliable delivery
- Flow control
- Multiplexing



End-to-end delivery:

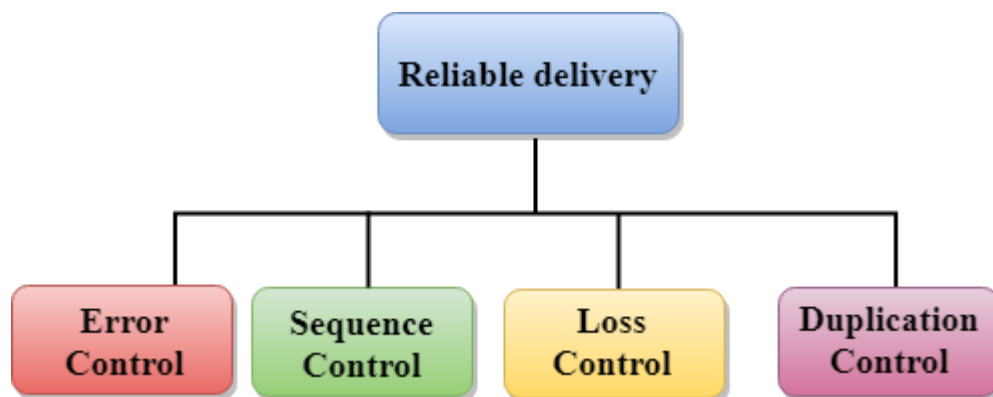
The transport layer transmits the entire message to the destination. Therefore, it ensures the end-to-end delivery of an entire message from a source to the destination.

Reliable delivery:

The transport layer provides reliability services by retransmitting the lost and damaged packets

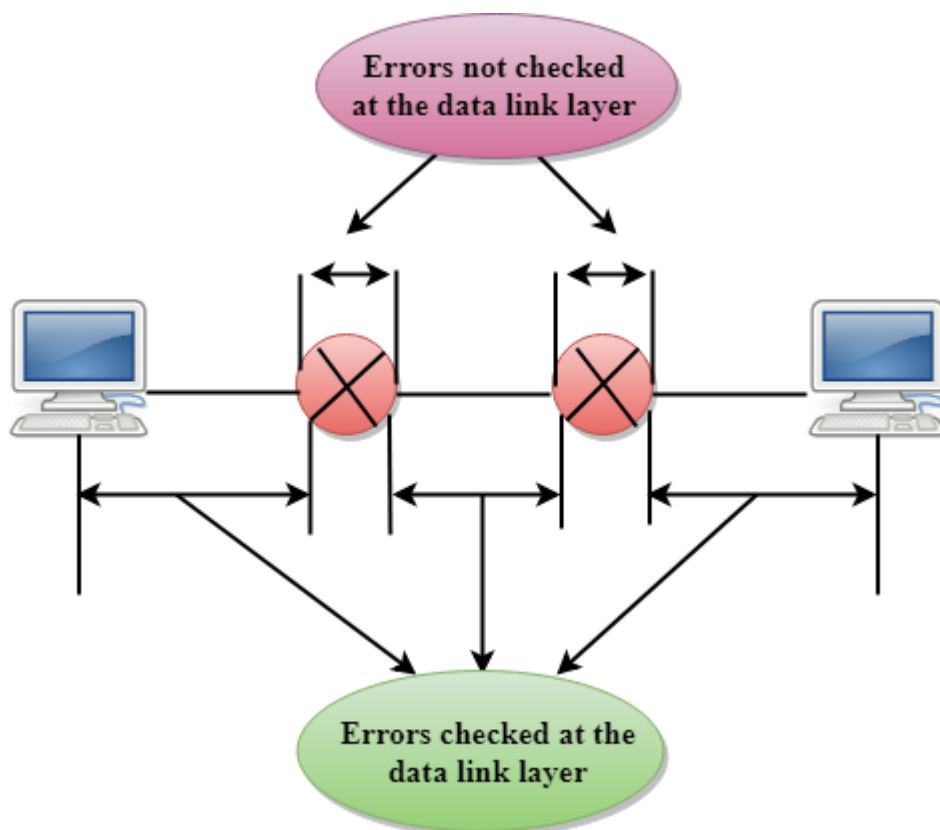
The reliable delivery has four aspects:

- Error control
- Sequence control
- Loss control
- Duplication control



Error Control

- The primary role of reliability is **Error Control**. In reality, no transmission will be 100 percent error-free delivery. Therefore, transport layer protocols are designed to provide error-free transmission.
- The data link layer also provides the error handling mechanism, but it ensures only node-to-node error-free delivery. However, node-to-node reliability does not ensure the end-to-end reliability.
- The data link layer checks for the error between each network. If an error is introduced inside one of the routers, then this error will not be caught by the data link layer. It only detects those errors that have been introduced between the beginning and end of the link. Therefore, the transport layer performs the checking for the errors end-to-end to ensure that the packet has arrived correctly.



Sequence Control

- The second aspect of the reliability is sequence control which is implemented at the transport layer.

- On the sending end, the transport layer is responsible for ensuring that the packets received from the upper layers can be used by the lower layers. On the receiving end, it ensures that the various segments of a transmission can be correctly reassembled.

Loss Control

Loss Control is a third aspect of reliability. The transport layer ensures that all the fragments of a transmission arrive at the destination, not some of them. On the sending end, all the fragments of transmission are given sequence numbers by a transport layer. These sequence numbers allow the receiver's transport layer to identify the missing segment.

Duplication Control

Duplication Control is the fourth aspect of reliability. The transport layer guarantees that no duplicate data arrive at the destination. Sequence numbers are used to identify the lost packets; similarly, it allows the receiver to identify and discard duplicate segments.

Flow Control

Flow control is used to prevent the sender from overwhelming the receiver. If the receiver is overloaded with too much data, then the receiver discards the packets and asking for the retransmission of packets. This increases network congestion and thus, reducing the system performance. The transport layer is responsible for flow control. It uses the sliding window protocol that makes the data transmission more efficient as well as it controls the flow of data so that the receiver does not become overwhelmed. Sliding window protocol is byte oriented rather than frame oriented.

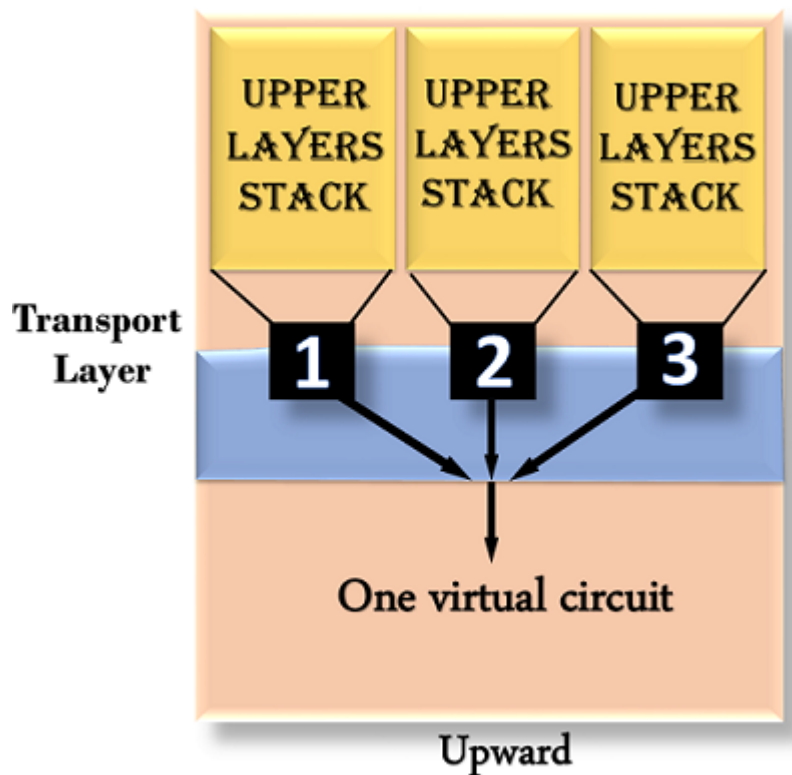
Multiplexing

The transport layer uses the multiplexing to improve transmission efficiency.

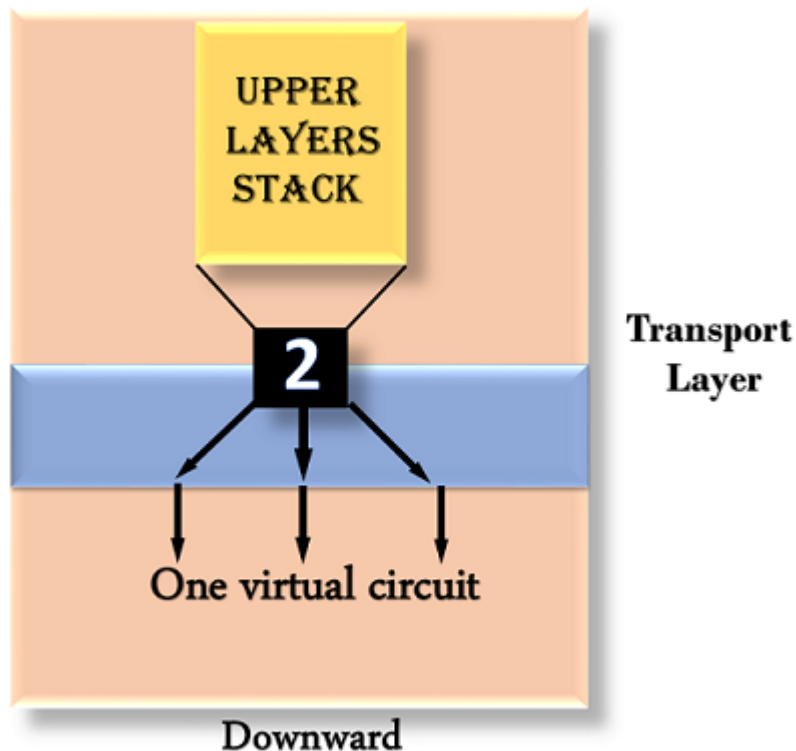
Multiplexing can occur in two ways:

- **Upward multiplexing:** Upward multiplexing means multiple transport layer connections use the same network connection. To make more cost-effective, the transport layer sends several transmissions bound for the same

destination along the same path; this is achieved through upward multiplexing.

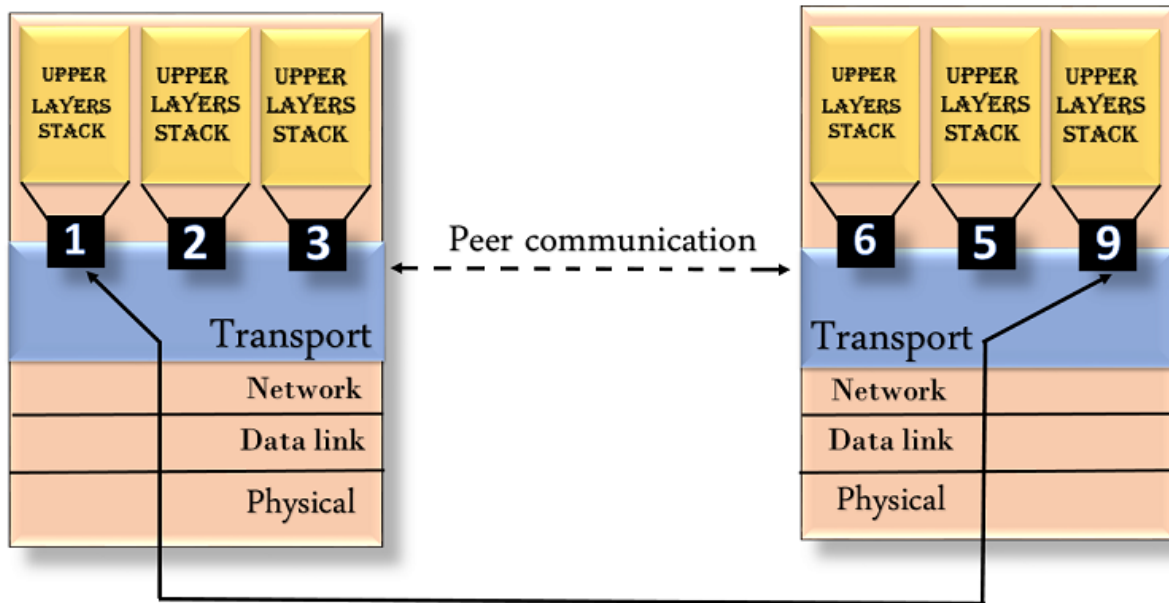


- **Downward multiplexing:** Downward multiplexing means one transport layer connection uses the multiple network connections. Downward multiplexing allows the transport layer to split a connection among several paths to improve the throughput. This type of multiplexing is used when networks have a low or slow capacity.



Addressing

- According to the layered model, the transport layer interacts with the functions of the session layer. Many protocols combine session, presentation, and application layer protocols into a single layer known as the application layer. In these cases, delivery to the session layer means the delivery to the application layer. Data generated by an application on one machine must be transmitted to the correct application on another machine. In this case, addressing is provided by the transport layer.
- The transport layer provides the user address which is specified as a station or port. The port variable represents a particular TS user of a specified station known as a Transport Service access point (TSAP). Each station has only one transport entity.
- The transport layer protocols need to know which upper-layer protocols are communicating.



IP address

An Internet Protocol address (IP address) is the logical address of our network hardware by which other devices identify it in a network. IP address stands for Internet Protocol address which is an unique number or a numerical representation that uniquely identifies a specific interface on the network. Each device that is connected to internet an IP address is assigned to it for its unique identification.

Addresses in IPv4 are 32-bits long example,

12.244.233.165

And Addresses in IPv6 are 128-bits example,

2001:0db8:0000:0000:0000:ff00:0042:7879

2. Port Number :

Port number is the part of the addressing information used to identify the senders and receivers of messages in computer networking. Different port numbers are used to determine what protocol incoming traffic should be directed to. Port number identifies a specific process to which an Internet or other network message is to be forwarded when it arrives at a server. Ports are identified for each protocol and It is considered as a communication endpoint.

Ports are represented by 16-bit numbers. There are 2^{16} port numbers i.e 65536.

They are divided into three categories

1. Well-Known Port Numbers

0 to 1023 are well-known port numbers as they are used by well-known protocol services.

These are allocated to server services by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA).

2. Registered Port Numbers

1024 to 49151 are registered port numbers i.e it can be registered to specific protocols by software corporations

3. Dynamic Port Numbers

49152 to 65536 are dynamic port numbers and they can be used by anyone