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Exercise 6-20 Solution

Problem Statement

Two hosts (A and B) share a 1 Mbps network:

- Host A: Uses UDP, sends 100-byte packets every 1 ms.
- Host B: Uses TCP, generates data at 600 kbps.

Which host achieves higher throughput?

Key Steps

1. Calculate Host A's attempted rate:

$$Packetsize = 100 \, bytes \times 8 = 800 \, bits$$

$$Rate = \frac{800\,bits}{0.001\,s} = 800\,kbps$$

2. Total demand exceeds network capacity:

$$800 \, kbps(A) + 600 \, kbps(B) = 1400 \, kbps > 1000 \, kbps(1Mbps)$$

- 3. **TCP congestion control:** Host B (TCP) will reduce its rate to avoid congestion, while Host A (UDP) continues transmitting aggressively.
- 4. Fair share calculation: The network allocates bandwidth proportionally. However, UDP does not back off, so Host A dominates:

$$Throughput(A) \approx 800 \, kbps$$
, $Throughput(B) \approx 200 \, kbps$

Conclusion

Host A (UDP) achieves higher throughput due to lack of congestion control.

Exercise 6-23 Solution

Problem Statement

Why do UDP/TCP use port numbers instead of process IDs?

Reasons

- 1. **Abstraction and standardization:** Port numbers are OS-independent, unlike process IDs, which vary across systems.
- 2. **Multiplexing:** Ports allow multiple applications on a single host to communicate simultaneously. Process IDs alone cannot manage multiple connections efficiently.
- 3. **Security and management:** Ports simplify mapping services to applications (e.g., HTTP on port 80), enabling easier firewall rules and service management.

Final Answer

Port numbers provide OS-independent abstraction and enable efficient multiplexing of network connections.