Computer Networks
CS3611

Application Layer-Part 2

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The slides are adapted from those provided by Prof. Romit Roy Choudhury.

Chapter 2: Application layer

- 2.1 Principles of network applications
- 2.2 Web and HTTP
- 2.3 FTP
- 2.4 Electronic Mail
  - SMTP, POP3, IMAP
- 2.5 DNS
- 2.7 Socket programming with TCP
- 2.8 Socket programming with UDP

DNS: Domain Name System

- Imagine a world without DNS

- You would have to remember the IP addresses of
  - Every website you want to visit
  - Your bookmarks will be a list of IP addresses

  - You will speak like
    "I went to 167.33.24.10, and there was an awesome link to 153.11.35.81… "

DNS: Domain Name System

People: many identifiers:

- SSN, name, passport #

Internet hosts, routers:

- IP address (32 bit) - used for addressing datagrams
- "name", e.g., www.yahoo.com - used by humans

Q: map between IP addresses and name ?

Domain Name System:

- ***distributed database*** implemented in hierarchy of many *name servers*
- *application-layer protocol* host, name servers to communicate to *resolve* names (address/name translation)
  - note: core Internet function, implemented as application-layer protocol
  - complexity at network's "edge"

DNS

DNS services

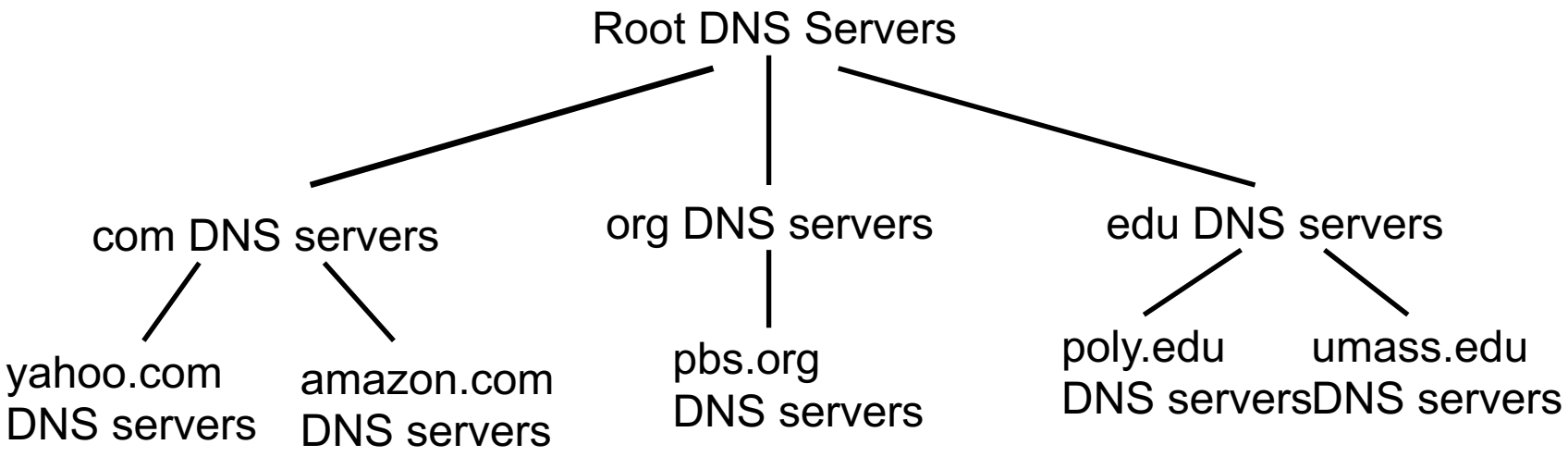
- Hostname to IP address translation
- Host aliasing
  - Canonical and alias names
- Mail server aliasing
- Load distribution
  - Replicated Web servers: set of IP addresses for one canonical name

Why not centralize DNS?

- single point of failure
- traffic volume
- distant centralized database

doesn't *scale!*

Distributed, Hierarchical Database

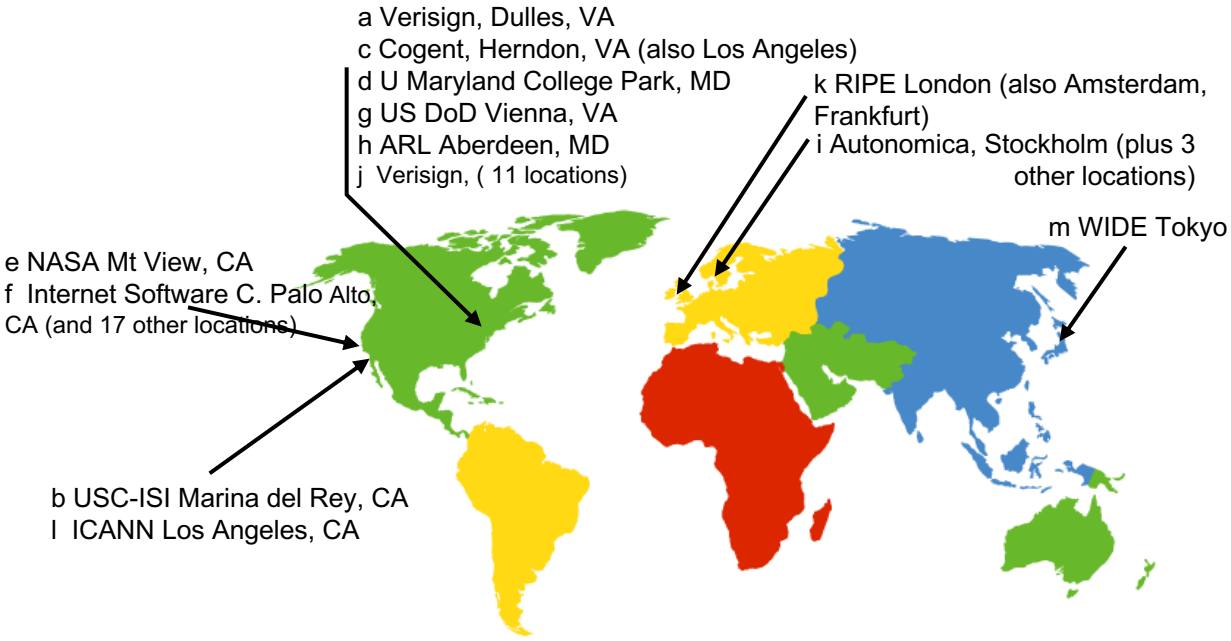


Client wants IP for www.amazon.com; 1st approx:

- Client queries a root server to find .com DNS server
- Client queries com DNS server to get amazon.com DNS server
- Client queries amazon.com DNS server to get IP address for www.amazon.com

DNS: Root name servers

- contacted by local name server that can not resolve name
- root name server:
  - contacts authoritative name server if name mapping not known
  - gets mapping
  - returns mapping to local name server



TLD and Authoritative Servers

- Top-level domain (TLD) servers:
  - responsible for com, org, net, edu, etc.
  - all top-level country domains uk, fr, ca, jp.
  - Educause for edu TLD

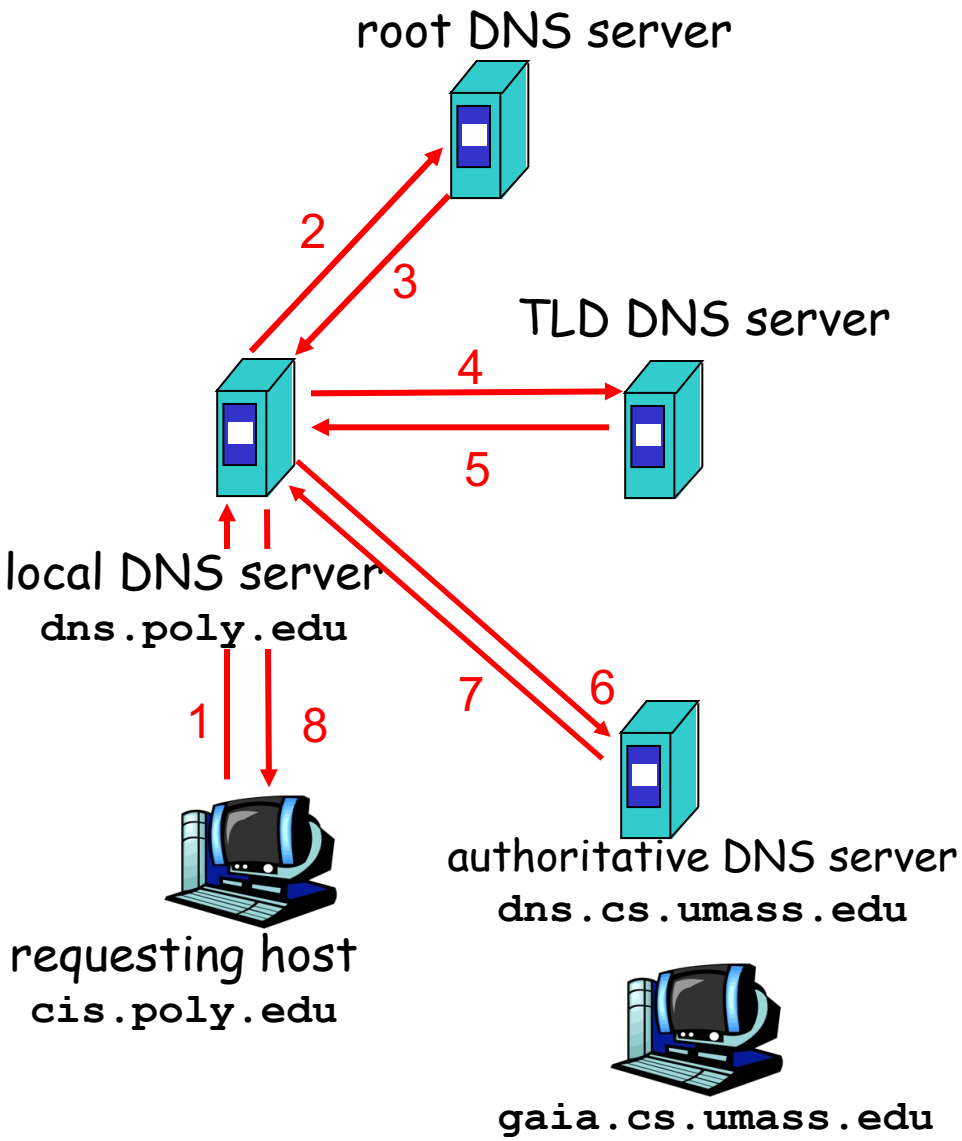
- Authoritative DNS servers:
  - An organization's DNS servers,
    - providing authoritative hostname to IP mappings for organization's servers (e.g., Web and mail).
  - Can be maintained by organization or service provider

Local Name Server

- Does not strictly belong to hierarchy
- Each ISP (residential, company, univ) has one.
  - Also called "default name server"
- When a host makes a DNS query
  - query is sent to its local DNS server
  - Acts as a proxy, forwards query into hierarchy.

Example

- **Iterative Querying**
  Host at cis.poly.edu wants IP address for gaia.cs.umass.edu



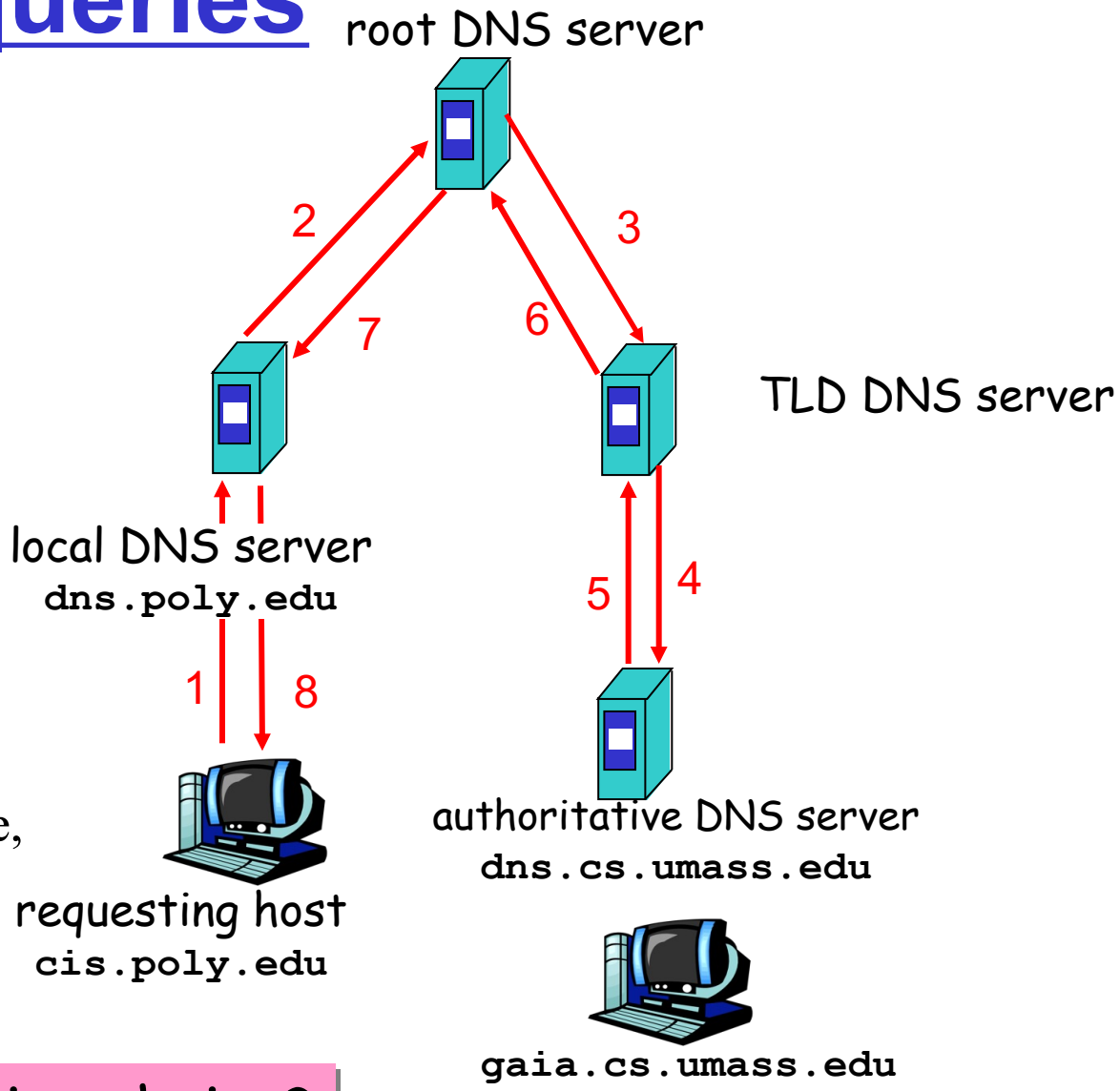
Recursive queries

recursive query:

- puts burden of name resolution on contacted name server
- heavy load?

iterated query:

- contacted server replies with name of server to contact
- "I don't know this name, but ask this server"



Which is a better design choice?

DNS: caching

- Once (any) name server learns mapping, it *caches* mapping
  - cache entries timeout (disappear) after some time
  - TLD servers typically cached in local name servers
    - Thus root name servers not often visited

DNS records

DNS: distributed db storing resource records (RR)

RR format: **(name, value, type, ttl)**

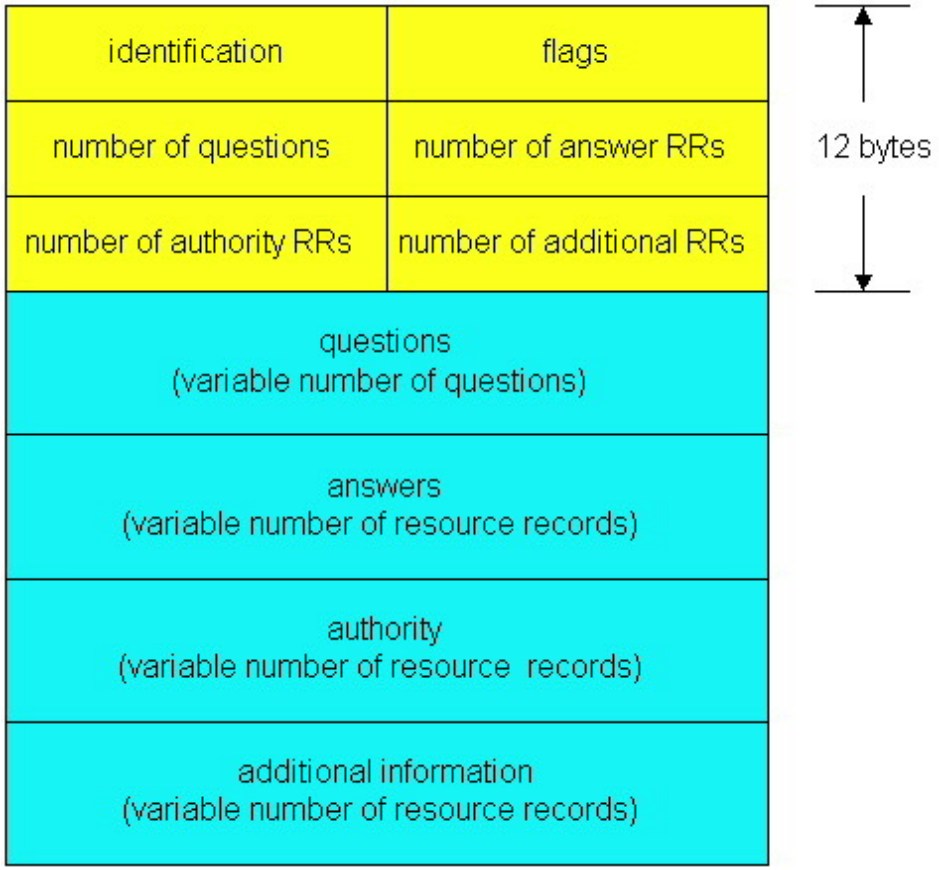
- Type=A
  - **name** is hostname
  - **value** is IP address
- Type=NS
  - **name** is domain (e.g. foo.com)
  - **value** is hostname of authoritative name server for this domain
- Type=CNAME
  - **name** is alias name for some "canonical" (the real) name `www.ibm.com` is really `servereast.backup2.ibm.com`
  - **value** is canonical name
- Type=MX
  - **value** is name of mailserver associated with **name**

DNS protocol, messages

DNS protocol : *query* and *reply* messages, both with same *message format*

msg header

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



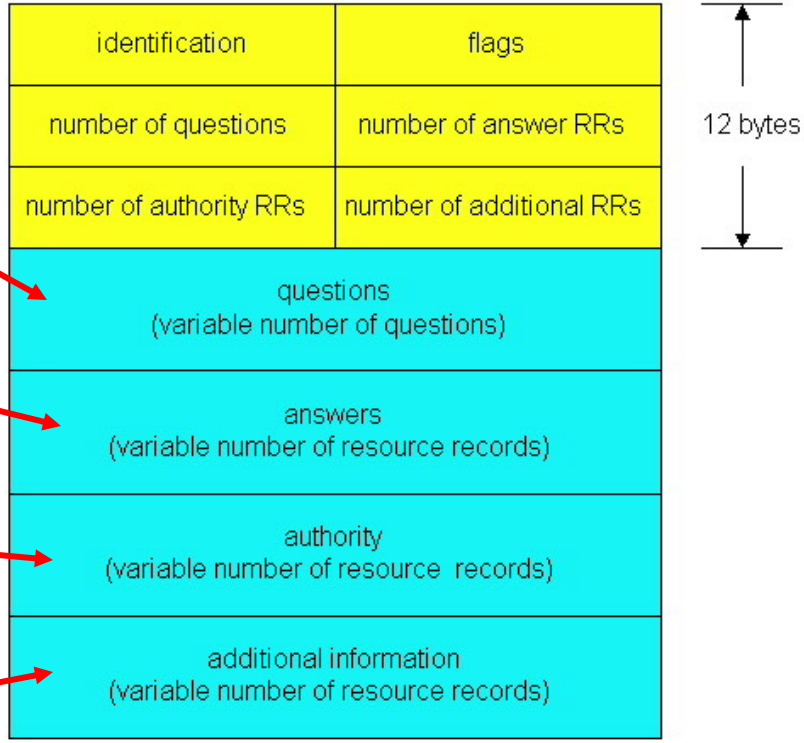
DNS protocol, messages

Name, type fields for a query

RRs in response to query

records for authoritative servers

additional "helpful" info that may be used



Questions ?

Chapter 2: Summary

Our study of network apps now complete!

- Application architectures
  - client-server
  - P2P
  - hybrid
- application service requirements:
  - reliability, bandwidth, delay
- Internet transport service model
  - connection-oriented, reliable: TCP
  - unreliable, datagrams: UDP
- specific protocols:
  - HTTP
  - FTP
  - SMTP, POP, IMAP
  - DNS
- socket programming

Chapter 2: Summary

Most importantly: learned about *protocols*

- typical request/reply message exchange:
  - client requests info or service
  - server responds with data, status code
- message formats:
  - headers: fields giving info about data
  - data: info being communicated

- control vs. data msgs
  - in-band, out-of-band
- centralized vs. decentralized
- stateless vs. stateful
- reliable vs. unreliable msg transfer
- "complexity at network edge"

Questions?