

Chapter 1 – Introduction to TCP/IP Networking

1. Perspectives on Networking

Networking allows computers and devices to communicate and share data.

In a network:

- *Hosts (end devices) – computers, phones, or servers that send and receive data.*
- *Network devices – routers, switches, firewalls that move data between hosts.*
- *Links – cables or wireless connections that carry data.*

Example:

When you open a website, your computer sends a message through a switch, then a router, across the internet, to the web server.

Main goals of networking:

- *Connect devices to share data and resources*
- *Provide communication (email, web, video, etc.)*
- *Ensure reliability (data must arrive correctly)*

- Scalability (the network can grow easily)



2. TCP/IP Networking Model

TCP/IP is the most used networking model in the world.

It defines how data travels from one computer to another.

The 4 Layers of the TCP/IP Model:

Layer	Purpose	Example Protocols
1. Network Interface (Link)	Moves data through physical media	Ethernet, Wi-Fi
2. Internet Layer	Delivers packets between networks	IP, ICMP
3. Transport Layer	Manages end-to-end communication	TCP, UDP
4. Application Layer	Provides network services to users	HTTP, DNS, SMTP, FTP



TCP/IP is based on protocols, and each layer has specific jobs.

Example:

When you browse a website:

- *Application Layer → HTTP*
- *Transport Layer → TCP*
- *Internet Layer → IP*
- *Network Interface → Ethernet*

Each layer passes data to the next one, step by step.

3. *TCP/IP Data-Link and Physical Layers*

These are the lowest layers in networking – they handle how bits move physically.

Data-Link Layer

- *Works on local network communication (e.g., between your PC and switch).*
- *Uses MAC addresses.*
- *Example: Ethernet, Wi-Fi.*
- *It frames data and checks for errors.*

Physical Layer

- *Defines cables, connectors, signals, and electricity.*
- *Example: copper cables, fiber optics, radio waves.*
- *It sends bits (1s and 0s) over the medium.*

👉 *Together, these layers are responsible for actual data transmission across the network.*

4. Data Encapsulation Terminology

Encapsulation means wrapping data with extra information as it goes down through the layers.

Example:

When a message is sent:

- 1. Application layer creates data.*
- 2. Transport layer adds a TCP header → called a segment.*
- 3. Internet layer adds an IP header → called a packet.*

4. Data-link layer adds a frame header and trailer → called a frame.

5. Physical layer converts it to bits → sent through cables.

When the receiver gets the data, the process is de-encapsulation (reverse order).

5. Names of TCP/IP Messages

Each layer has its own name for the data it handles:


Layer	TCP/IP Message Name	Example
Application	Data	HTTP request
Transport	Segment (TCP) / Datagram (UDP)	TCP segment
Internet	Packet	IP packet
Network Interface	Frame	Ethernet frame
Physical	Bits	Electrical or optical signals

6. OSI Networking Model and Terminology

The OSI Model (Open Systems Interconnection) is a 7-layer theoretical model that helps understand networking concepts.

OSI Layers (Top to Bottom)

- 1. Application*
- 2. Presentation*
- 3. Session*
- 4. Transport*
- 5. Network*
- 6. Data Link*
- 7. Physical*

 *The OSI model is not used directly in real networks, but it helps explain how data flows.*

7. Comparing OSI and TCP/IP Layer Names and Numbers

<i>OSI Model (7 Layers)</i>	<i>TCP/IP Model (4 Layers)</i>	<i>Examples</i>
<i>Application</i>	<i>Application</i>	<i>HTTP, DNS</i>
<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Application</i>	<i>(Integrated into Application layer in TCP/IP)</i>
<i>Session</i>	<i>Application</i>	<i>(Integrated)</i>
<i>Transport</i>	<i>Transport</i>	<i>TCP, UDP</i>
<i>Network</i>	<i>Internet</i>	<i>IP</i>
<i>Data Link</i>	<i>Network Interface</i>	<i>Ethernet, Wi-Fi</i>
<i>Physical</i>	<i>Network Interface</i>	<i>Cables, Fiber, Wireless</i>

Key Point:

TCP/IP combines the top three OSI layers (Application, Presentation, Session) into one Application layer.



Summary of the Whole Chapter:

- *Networking connects devices and lets them communicate.*
- *TCP/IP is the main model used today.*
- *Data moves through layers, each adding headers (encapsulation).*
- *The OSI model helps explain networking with 7 layers.*
- *Every message has a specific name (segment, packet, frame, bits).*
- *Physical and Data-Link layers handle how data actually moves.*