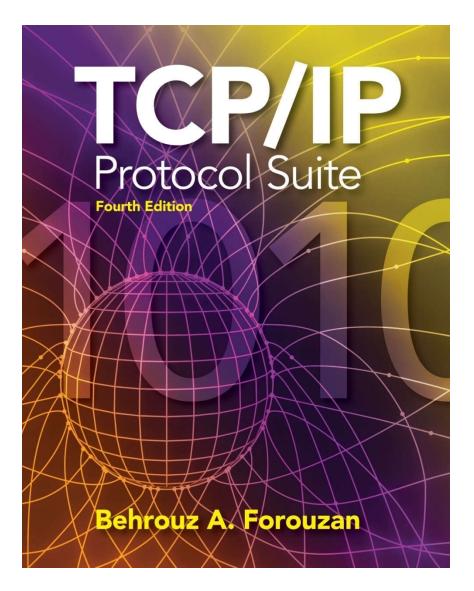
The OSI Model and the TCP/IP Protocol Suite



2-3 TCP/IP PROTOCOL SUITE

The TCP/IP protocol suite was developed prior to the OSI model.

Therefore, the layers in the TCP/IP protocol suite do not match exactly with those in the OSI model.

The original TCP/IP protocol suite was defined as four software layers built upon the hardware.

Today, however, TCP/IP is thought of as a five-layer model with the layers named similarly to the ones in the OSI model.

Figure 2.7 shows both configurations.

Topics Discussed in the Section

- **✓** Comparison between OSI and TCP/IP
- ✓ Layers in the TCP/IP Suite

3



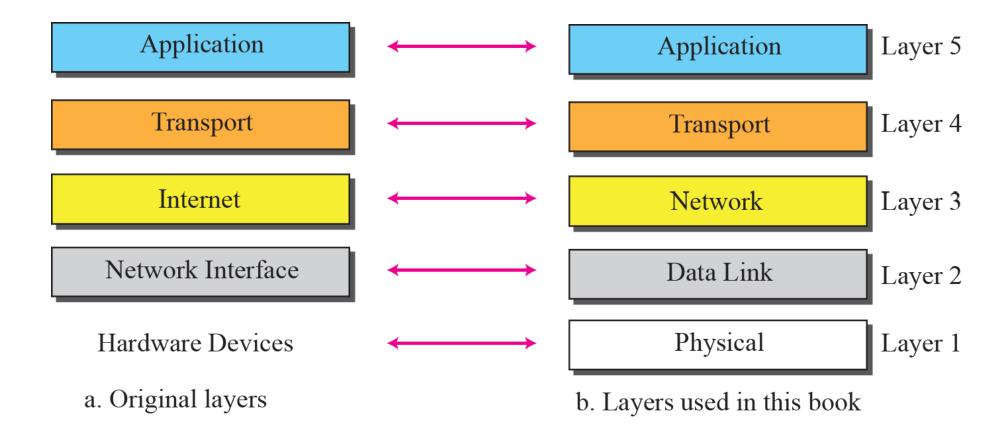
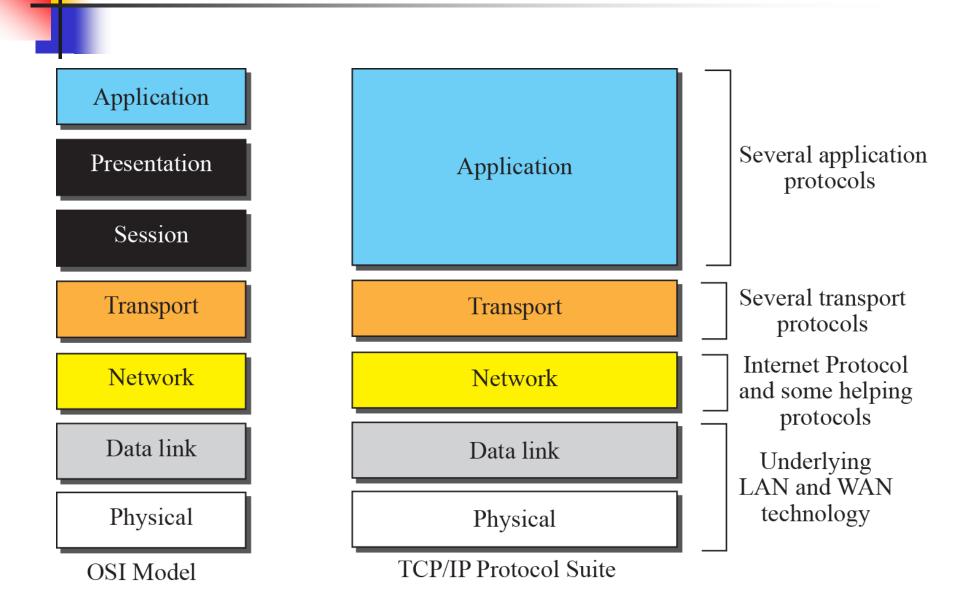
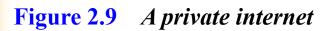


Figure 2.8 TCP/IP and OSI model





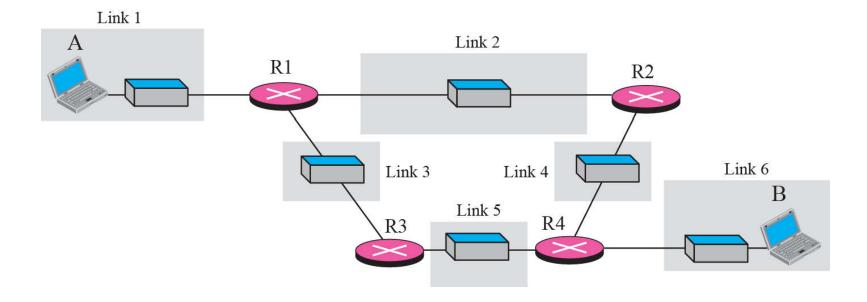
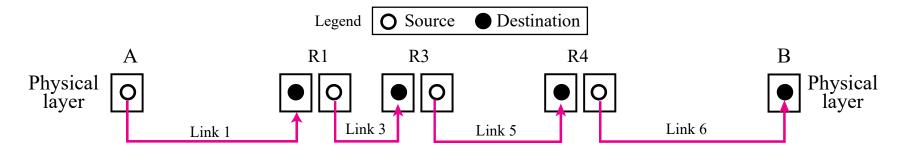
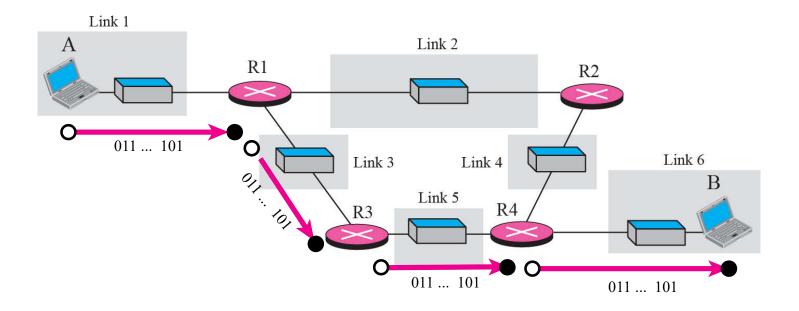




Figure 2.10 Communication at the physical layer

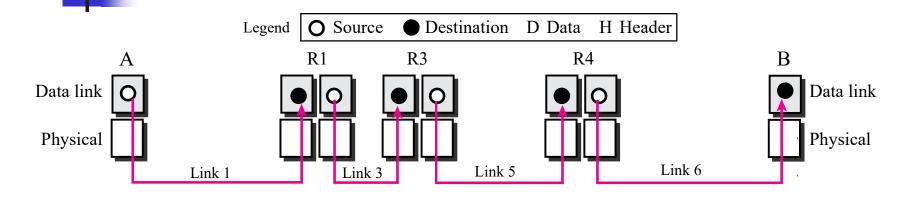


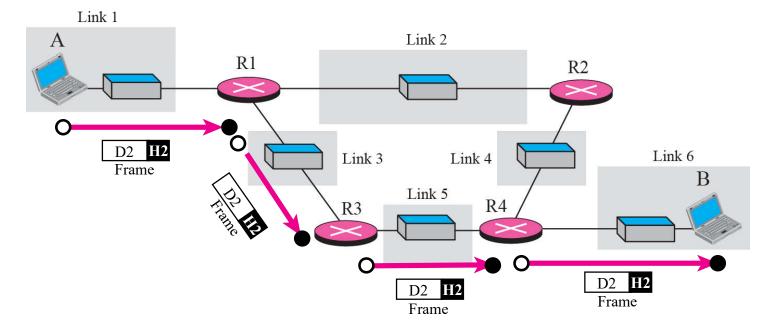




The unit of communication at the physical layer is a bit.

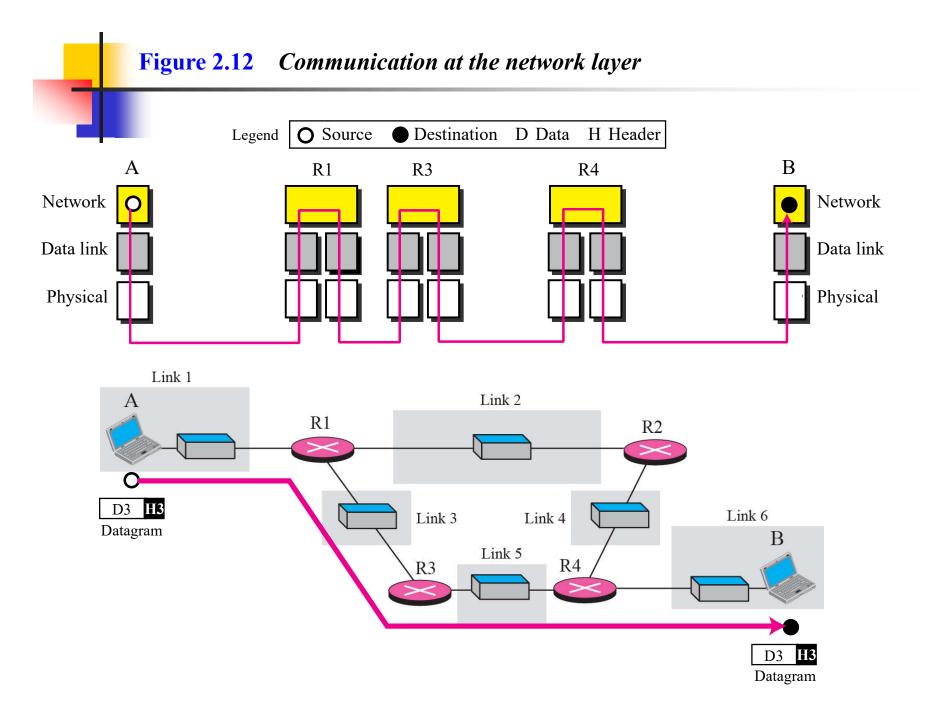








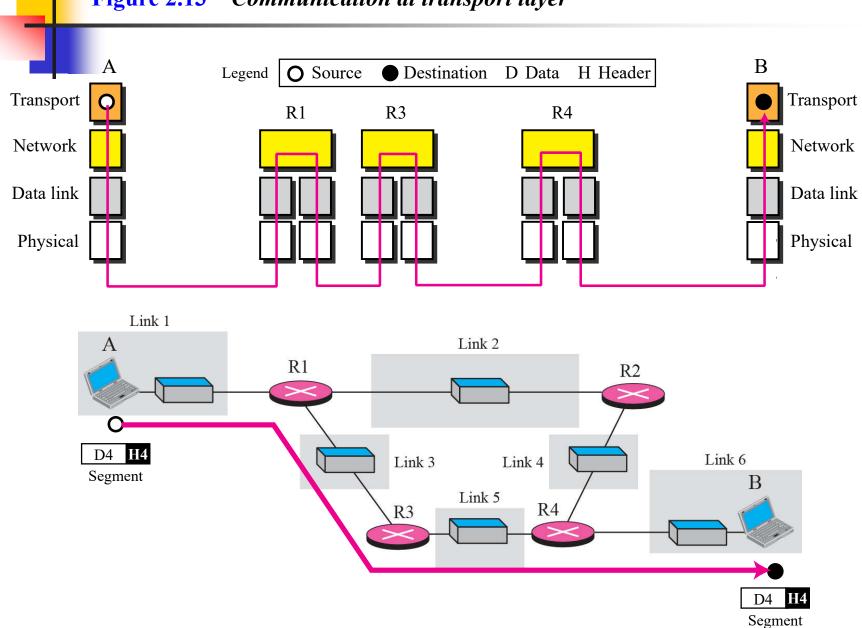
The unit of communication at the data link layer is a frame.





The unit of communication at the network layer is a datagram.

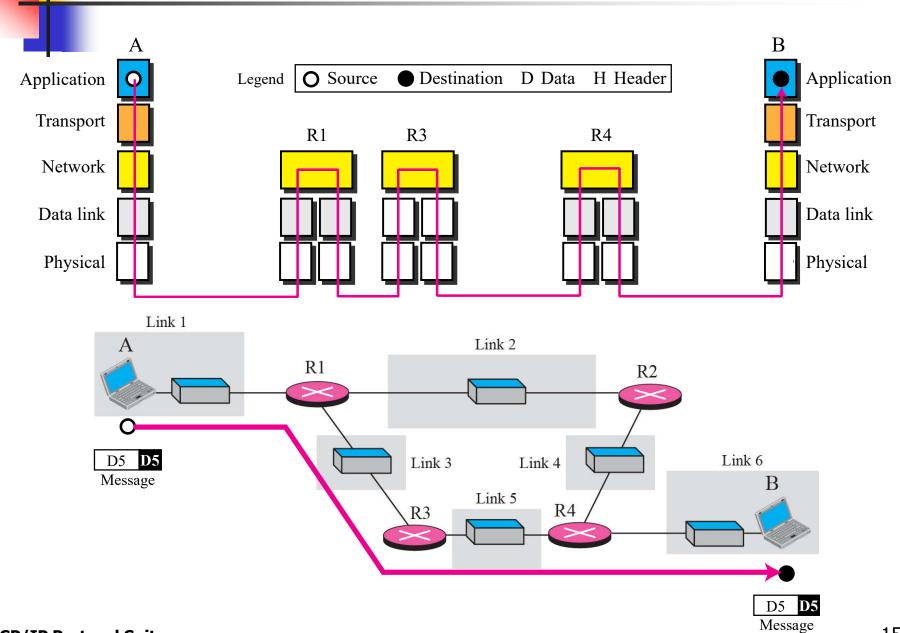
Figure 2.13 Communication at transport layer





The unit of communication at the transport layer is a segment, user datagram, or a packet, depending on the specific protocol used in this layer.

Figure 2.14 Communication at application layer





The unit of communication at the application layer is a message.