Computer Networks COL 334/672

Why computer networks and administrivia

Tarun Mangla

Sem 1, 2024-25

Internet: Mankind's Largest Engineered System

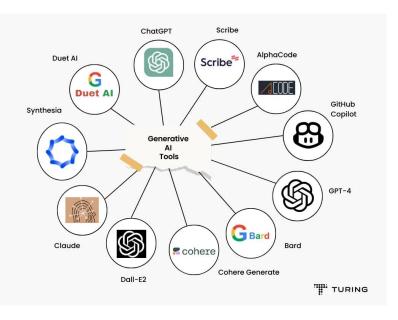








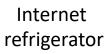




"Fun" Internet-connected devices







Security Camera



IP picture frame



Slingbox: remote control cable TV



Pacemaker & Monitor



Tweet-a-watt: monitor energy use





scooters



Internet phones



Gaming devices



sensorized, bed mattress



Web-enabled toaster +

weather forecaster

Others?

Internet Supports Critical Infrastructure





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Important to understand the what/why/how of computer networks, especially as computer engineers











This Course...





How does my browser know where to go when I type google.com?

> How is WiFi bandwidth shared between me and my roommate?

How does data traverse across the Internet?

What are these terms: TCP, IP, LAN, VPN..?

Course Learning Objectives

- What is "Under the Hood" of the Internet
- Why the Internet was designed this way
- How to develop custom network protocols and applications

Administrivia

- TAs
- Evaluation
- Coordination
- Course overview
- Reading material

Teaching Assistants

- Neha
- Ankit
- Manan Sharma
- Pratham Agrawal
- Prateek Bhaisora
- Sagar Gangadhar Palled
- Sourabh Tiwari
- Manshi Sagar
- Vatsal Jingar

Course Prerequisites

- Data Structure and Algorithms, COL106
- Computer Architecture, COL216
- (Enthusiasm to learn!)

Evaluation

Exams (40%)

- Minor (20%)
- Major (20%)

Assignments (40%)

- There will be 5 assignments
- Late policy
 - No extensions will be given
 - You have a balance of 96 late hours allowed
 - Once balance expires, half credit for any submission within a week after the deadline

Quiz (20%)

- Surprise quiz will be conducted either in the beginning or end of the class
- Best of 90% will be considered for the final grade
- Easy if you keep up with the lectures

Class participation (Bonus, 4%)

Asking questions in class, on piazza

Evaluation

Audit Policy

- Minimum B- is required to pass the course
- All assignments should be attempted with a minimum of 50% across assignments
- Attempt at least 50% of quizzes
- Pass Criteria: Minimum 30% needed for a D grade

Attendance Policy

- Not mandatory but regular attendance will make the course much easier
- Attendance will be taken either using a sheet or through photograph
- Any misconduct will result in severe penalty

Coordination

- Assignments: Moodle and Gradescope
- Discussion: Piazza and in-class
- Quiz: Moodle (tentative)

Contact

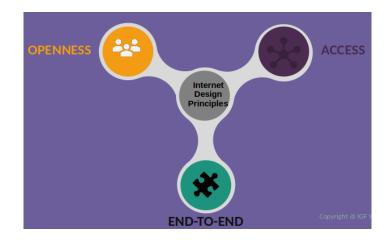
- Office hours: Wednesdays, 2-3p, Bharti 423
- Non-urgent emails will be ignored, use Piazza!
- For urgent emails, use [COL334] in the subject

Course Conduct

- Adherence to the IIT Delhi Honour Code
 - Strict compliance: Cheating will result in severe penalty
- Permitted activities
 - Discussions encouraged among peers
 - Ask questions on Piazza
 - Cite discussions with peers or over Piazza in your submissions
- Use of Al Tools
 - Strongly discouraged
 - If used, you **must** cite the prompt and response in your submission

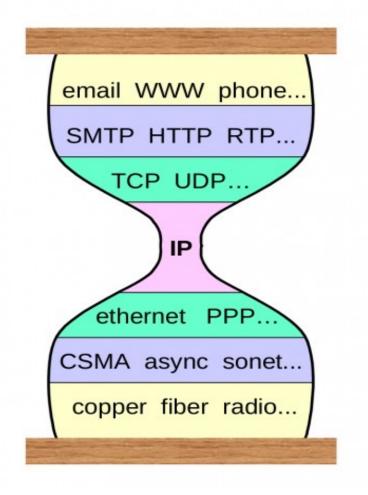
Course Plan (Tentative)

Topic	Sub-topics
Introduction	Internet overview, design decisions
	Packet vs circuit switching, protocol
Internet design	layers and service models, 5-layer
philosophy	model



Course Plan

Topic	Sub-topics
Link layer	MAC protocol, switching, error detection/correction
Network layer	Forwarding and routing, data plane, control plane
Transport layer	Multiplexing, UDP, TCP, flow and congestion control
Application layer	Distributed application paradigm, DNS, HTTP, Email, CDN, video streaming and conferencing



Internet hourglass structure

Course Plan

Topic	Sub-topics
Wireless and mobile networks	Wireless link characteristics, WiFi, mobility management, cellular network
Network security	Network-specific attacks and threats, countermeasures
Emerging topics	New networks, virtual network, middleboxes, quantum networking



Reading Material

Recommended Textbooks

- Computer Networking: A Top-down Approach by Jim Kurose and Keith Ross
- Computer Networks: A Systems Approach by Larry Peterson and Bruce Davie
- Computer Networks by Andrew Tanenbaum, David Weatherall, Nick Feamster

Lecture Slides

Will be shared on Moodle after the class

Papers (encouraged)

Pointers to papers will be shared throughout the lectures

Quiz Time

Precap

Build a computer network from first principles

- What are the required design decisions?
- What were the decisions taken by the Internet?