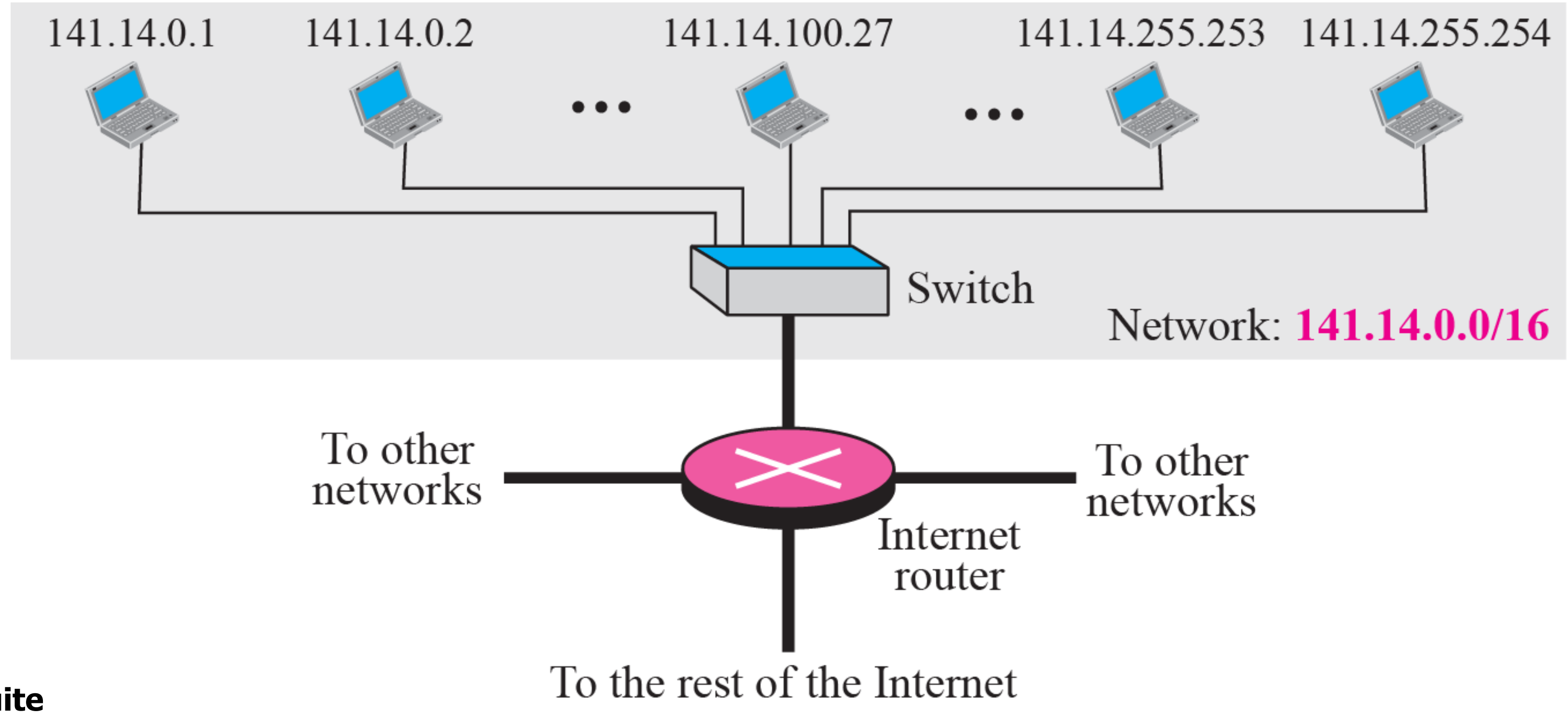
Subnetting & Supernetting

Subnetting Concept

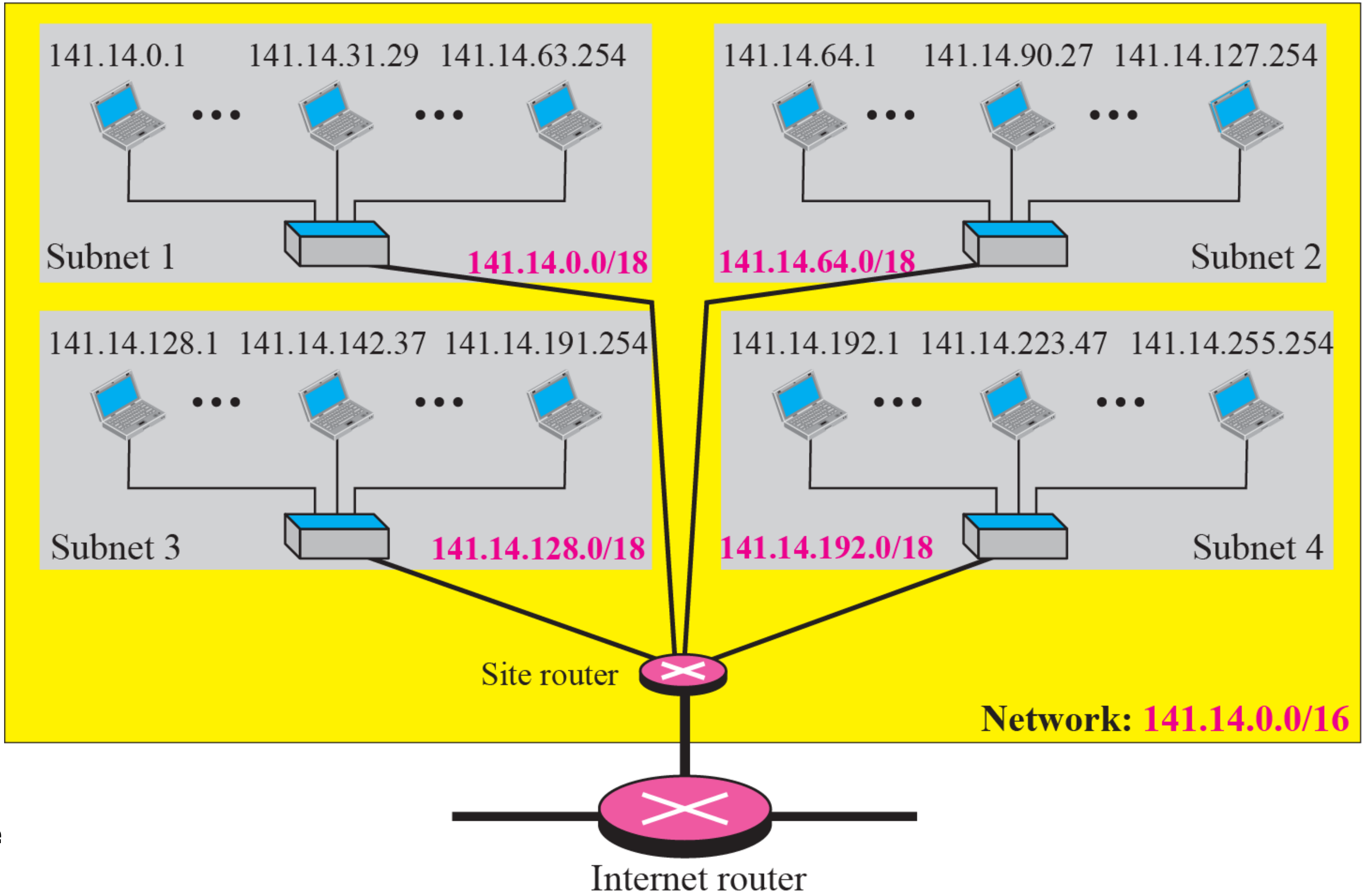
- Figure shows a network using class B addresses before subnetting. We have just one network with almost 2^{16} hosts. The whole network is connected, through one single connection, to one of the routers in the Internet. Note that we have shown /16 to show the length of the netid (class B).



Subnetting

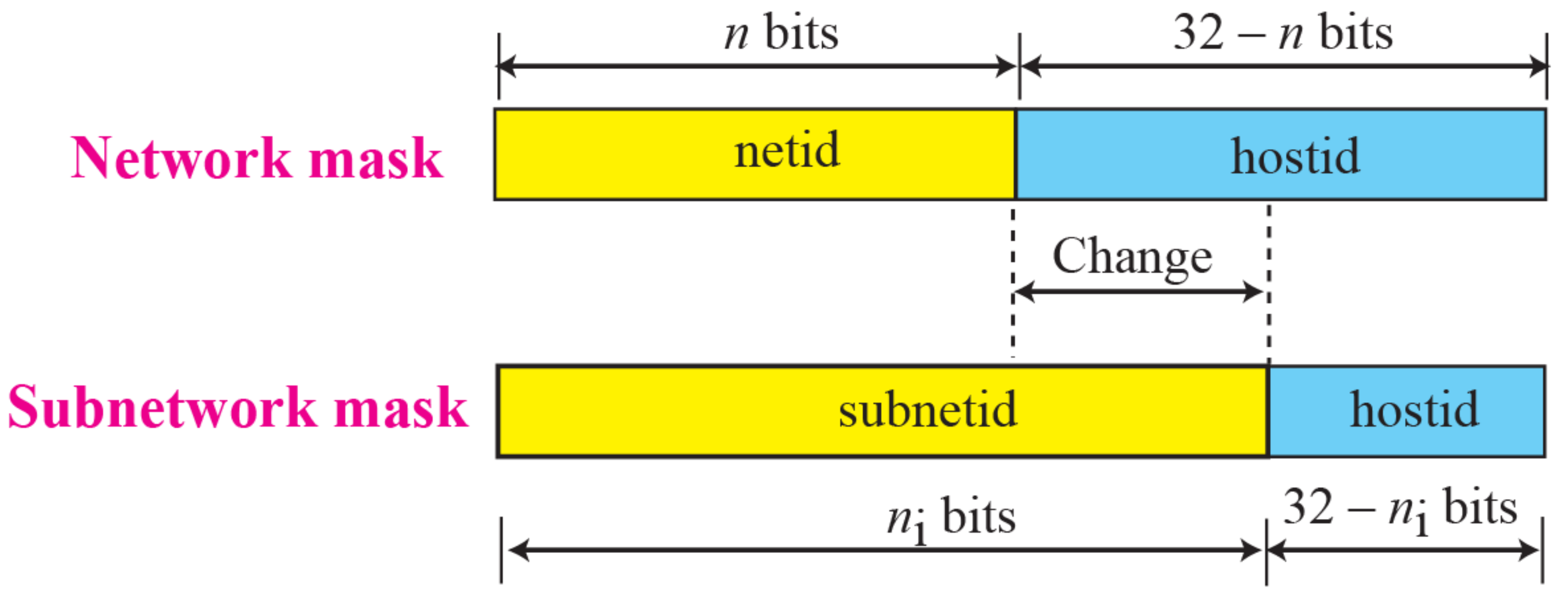
- Figure shows the same network after subnetting.
- The whole network is still connected to the Internet through the same router.
- However, the network has used a private router to divide the network into four subnetworks.
- The rest of the Internet still sees only one network; internally the network is made of four subnetworks.
- Each subnetwork can now have almost 2^{14} hosts.
- The network can belong to a university campus with four different schools (buildings).
- After subnetting, each school has its own subnetworks, but still the whole campus is one network for the rest of the Internet.
- Note that /16 and /18 show the length of the netid and subnetids.

Subnetting



141.14.0.1
141.14.31.29
141.14.63.254
Subnet 1
141.14.0.0/18
141.14.64.1
141.14.90.27
141.14.127.254
Subnet 2
141.14.64.0/18
141.14.128.1
141.14.142.37
141.14.191.254
Subnet 3
141.14.128.0/18
141.14.192.1
141.14.223.47
141.14.255.254
Subnet 4
141.14.192.0/18
Site router
Network: 141.14.0.0/16
Internet router

Network and Subnetwork mark



Example

- In Example, we divided a class B network into four subnetworks. The value of n = 16 and the value of
  - $n_1 = n_2 = n_3 = n_4 = 16 + \log_2 4 = 18$.

- This means that the subnet mask has eighteen 1s and fourteen 0s. In other words, the subnet mask is 255.255.192.0 which is different from the network mask for class B (255.255.0.0).

Example

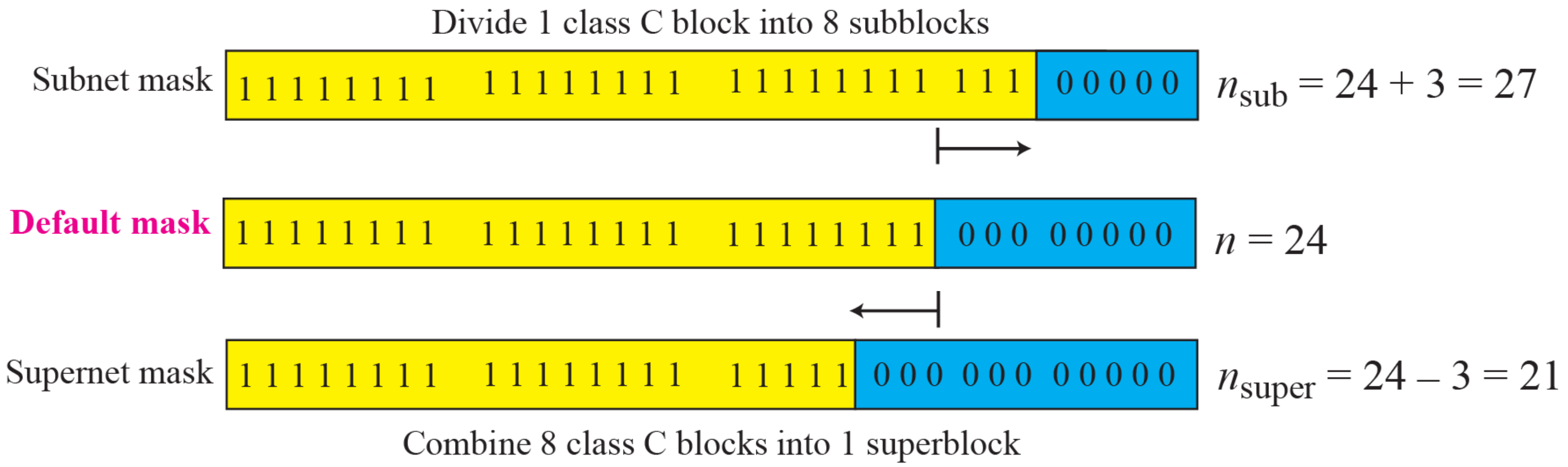
In Example, we show that a network is divided into four subnets. Since one of the addresses in subnet 2 is 141.14.120.77, we can find the subnet address as:

Address	→	141	.	14	.	120	.	77
Mask	→	255	.	255	.	192	.	0
Subnet Address	→	141	.	14	.	64	.	0

The values of the first, second, and fourth bytes are calculated using the first short cut for AND operation. The value of the third byte is calculated using the second short cut for the AND operation.

Address (120)	0	+	64	+	32	+	16	+	8	+	0	+	0	+	0
Mask (192)	128	+	64	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0
Result (64)	0	+	64	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0

Comparison of subnet, default, and supernet mask



CLASSLESS ADDRESSING

- Subnetting and supernetting in classful addressing did not really solve the address shortage problem.
- With the growth of the Internet, it was clear that a larger address space was needed as a long-term solution.
- Although the long-range solution has already been planned and is called IPv6, a short-term solution was also devised to use the same address space but to change the distribution of addresses to provide a fair share to each organization.
- The short-term solution still uses IPv4 addresses, but it is called *classless addressing*.

IP addressing: CIDR

CIDR: Classless InterDomain Routing (pronounced “cider”)

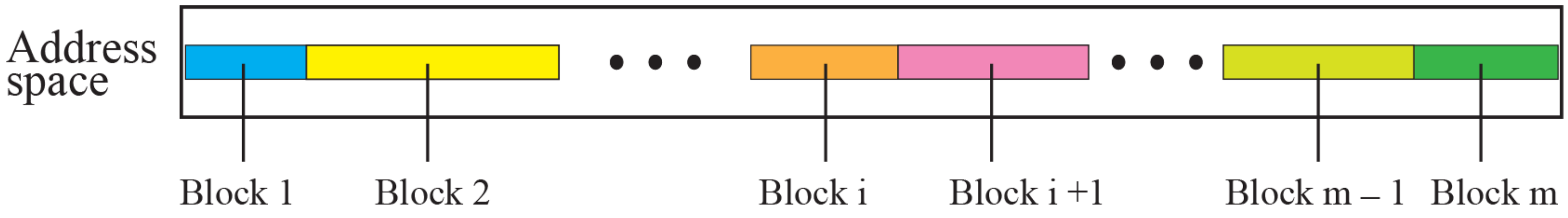
- subnet portion of address of arbitrary length
- address format: a.b.c.d/x, where x is # bits in subnet portion of address

subnet part | host part

11001000 00010111 00010000 00000000

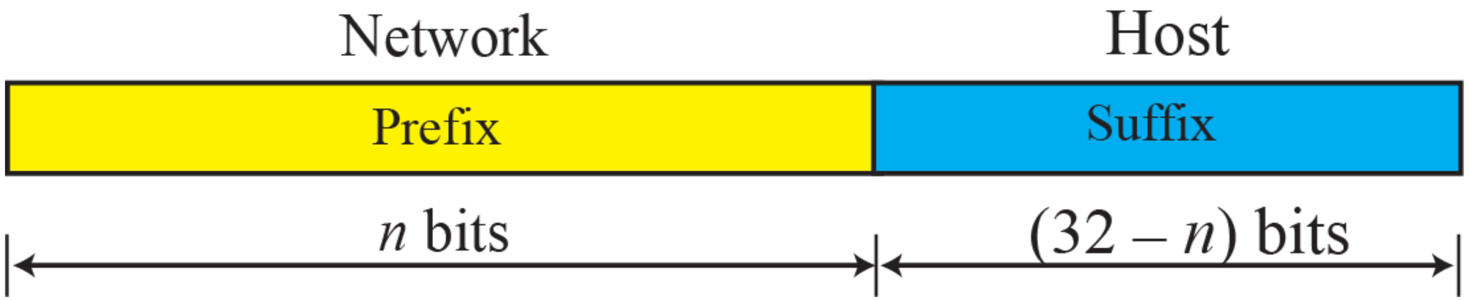
200.23.16.0/23

Variable-length blocks in classless addressing



In classless addressing, the prefix defines the network and the suffix defines the host.

Prefix and suffix



The prefix length in classless addressing can be 1 to 32.

Example 1

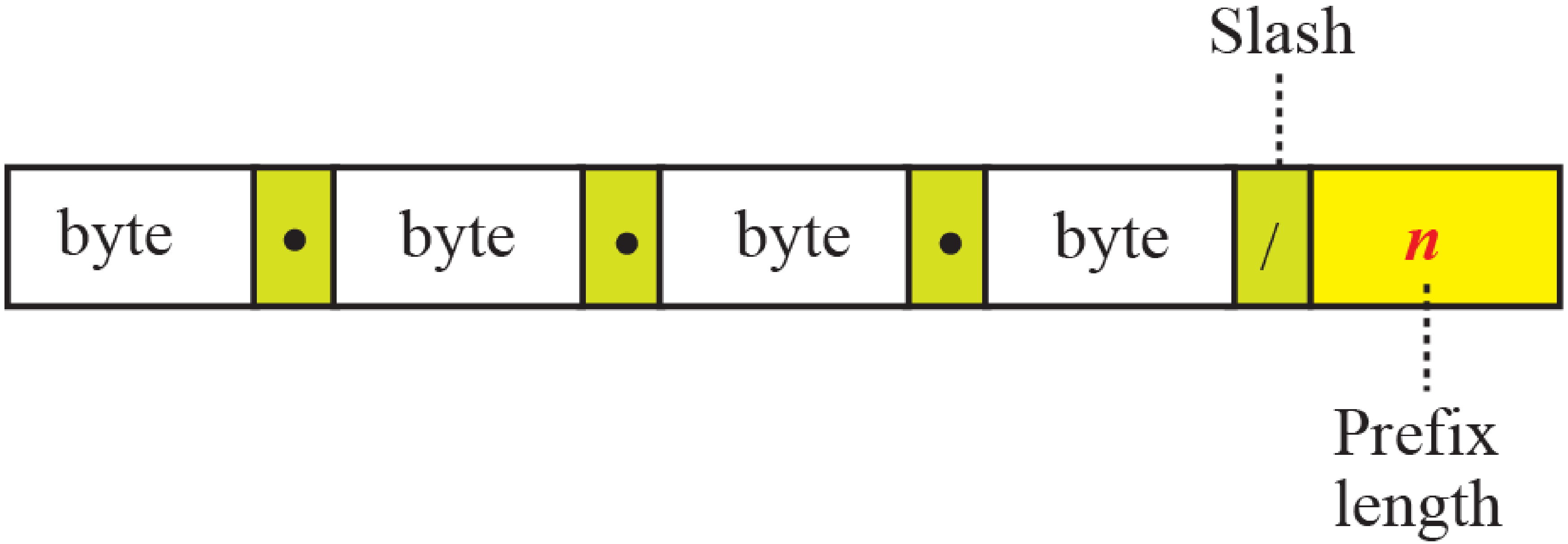
What is the prefix length and suffix length if the whole Internet is considered as one single block with 4,294,967,296 addresses?

Solution

In this case, the prefix length is 0 and the suffix length is 32. All 32 bits vary to define 2^{32} = 4,294,967,296 hosts in this single block.

Slash notation

- The number of addresses in a block is inversely related to the value of the prefix length, *n*. A small *n* means a larger block; a large *n* means a small block.



Example

- In classless addressing, we need to know one of the addresses in the block and the prefix length to define the block.
- In classless addressing, an address cannot per se define the block the address belongs to. For example, the address 230.8.24.56 can belong to many blocks some of them are shown below with the value of the prefix associated with that block:

Prefix length:16	→	Block:	230.8.0.0	to	230.8.255.255
Prefix length:20	→	Block:	230.8.16.0	to	230.8.31.255
Prefix length:26	→	Block:	230.8.24.0	to	230.8.24.63
Prefix length:27	→	Block:	230.8.24.32	to	230.8.24.63
Prefix length:29	→	Block:	230.8.24.56	to	230.8.24.63
Prefix length:31	→	Block:	230.8.24.56	to	230.8.24.57

Example

The following addresses are defined using slash notations.

a. In the address 12.23.24.78/8, the network mask is 255.0.0.0. The mask has eight 1s and twenty-four 0s. The prefix length is 8; the suffix length is 24.

b. In the address 130.11.232.156/16, the network mask is 255.255.0.0. The mask has sixteen 1s and sixteen 0s.The prefix length is 16; the suffix length is 16.

c. In the address 167.199.170.82/27, the network mask is 255.255.255.224. The mask has twenty-seven 1s and five 0s. The prefix length is 27; the suffix length is 5.

Example

One of the addresses in a block is 167.199.170.82/27. Find the number of addresses in the network, the first address, and the last address.

Solution

The value of n is 27. The network mask has twenty-seven 1s and five 0s. It is 255.255.255.224.

a. The number of addresses in the network is $2^{32-n} = 32$.

b. We use the AND operation to find the first address (network address). The first address is 167.199.170.64/27.

Address in binary:	10100111 11000111 10101010 01010010
Network mask:	11111111 11111111 11111111 11100000
First address:	10100111 11000111 10101010 01000000

Cont..

c. To find the last address, we first find the complement of the network mask and then OR it with the given address: The last address is 167.199.170.95/27.

Address in binary:	10100111	11000111	10101010	01010010
Complement of network mask:	00000000	00000000	00000000	00011111
Last address:	10100111	11000111	10101010	01011111

Example

One of the addresses in a block is 17.63.110.114/24. Find the number of addresses, the first address, and the last address in the block.

Solution

The network mask is 255.255.255.0.

a. The number of addresses in the network is $2^{32 - 24} = 256$.

b. The first address is 17.63.110.0/24.

c. The last address is 17.63.110.255/24.

Address:	17	.	63	.	110	.	114
Network mask:	255	.	255	.	255	.	0
First address (AND):	17	.	63	.	110	.	0

Example

One of the addresses in a block is 110.23.120.14/20. Find the number of addresses, the first address, and the last address in the block.

Solution

The network mask is 255.255.240.0.

a. The number of addresses in the network is $2^{32-20} = 4096$.

b. The first address is 110.23.112.0/20.

Address:	110	.	23	.	120	.	14
Network mask:	255	.	255	.	240	.	0
First address (AND):	110	.	23	.	112	.	0

Example

c. The OR operation is applied to the complement of the mask. Other way is set all host-id to 1. The last address is 110.23.127.255/20.

Address:	110	.	23	.	120	.	14
Network mask:	0	.	0	.	15	.	255
Last address (OR):	110	.	23	.	127	.	255

Example

An organization is granted the block 130.34.12.64/26. The organization needs four subnetworks, each with an equal number of hosts. Design the subnetworks and find the information about each network.

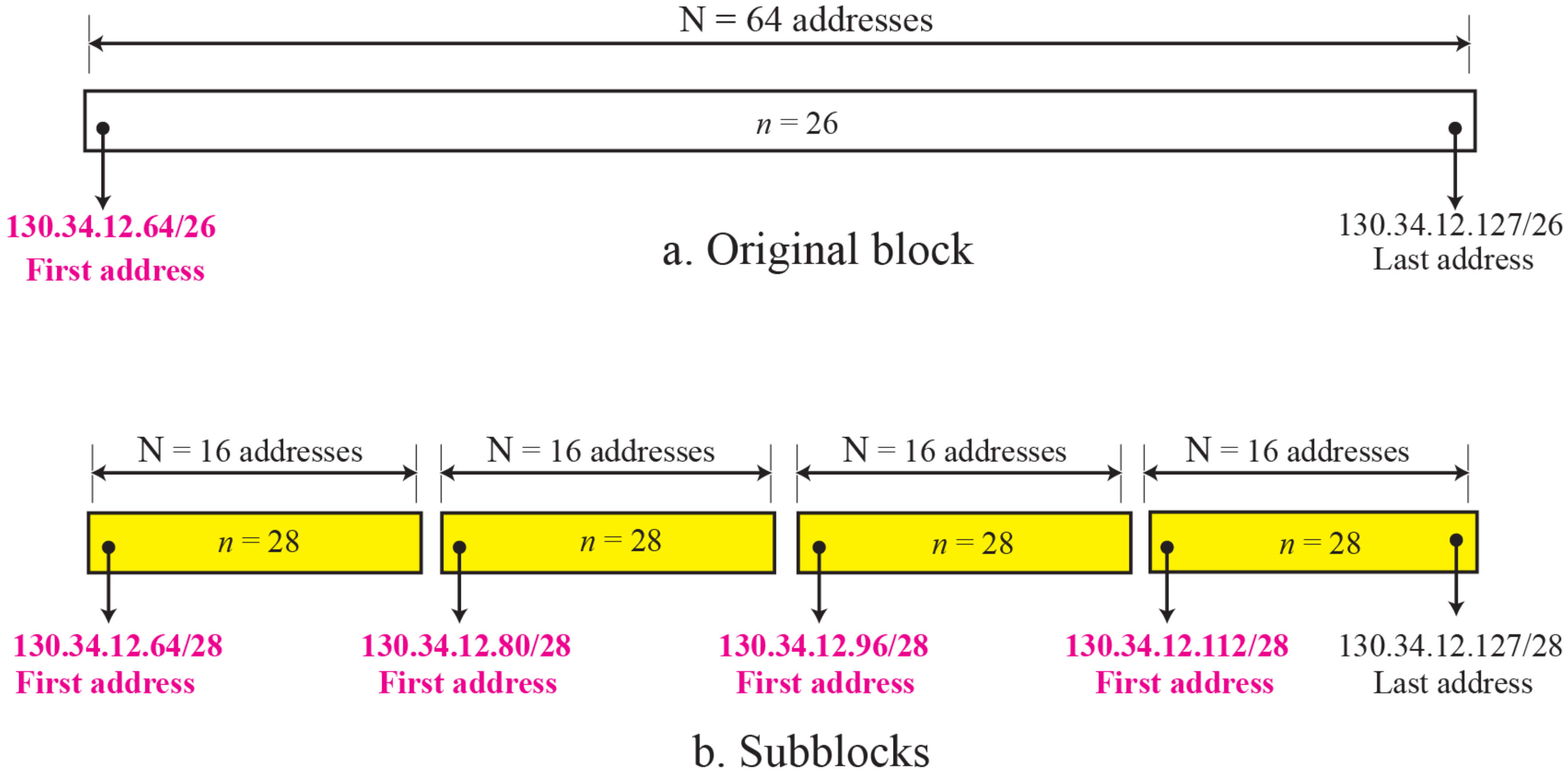
Solution

The number of addresses for the whole network can be found as $N = 2^{32-26} = 64$. The first address in the network is 130.34.12.64/26 and the last address is 130.34.12.127/26. We now design the subnetworks:

1. We grant 16 addresses for each subnetwork to meet the first requirement (64/16 is a power of 2).
2. The subnetwork mask for each subnetwork is:

$$n_1 = n_2 = n_3 = n_4 = n + \log_2 (N/N_i) = 26 + \log_2 4 = 28$$

3. We grant 16 addresses to each subnet starting from the first available address. Figure shows the subblock for each subnet. Note that the starting address in each subnetwork is divisible by the number of addresses in that subnetwork.



Example

An organization is granted a block of addresses with the beginning address 14.24.74.0/24. The organization needs to have 3 subblocks of addresses to use in its three subnets as shown below:

- ❑ One subblock of 120 addresses.
- ❑ One subblock of 60 addresses.
- ❑ One subblock of 10 addresses.

Solution

There are $2^{32-24} = 256$ addresses in this block. The first address is 14.24.74.0/24; the last address is 14.24.74.255/24.

a. The number of addresses in the first subblock is not a power of 2. We allocate 128 addresses. The subnet mask is 25. The first address is 14.24.74.0/25; the last address is 14.24.74.127/25.

Example

b. The number of addresses in the second subblock is not a power of 2 either. We allocate 64 addresses. The subnet mask is 26. The first address in this block is 14.24.74.128/26; the last address is 14.24.74.191/26.

c. The number of addresses in the third subblock is not a power of 2 either. We allocate 16 addresses. The subnet mask is 28. The first address in this block is 14.24.74.192/28; the last address is 14.24.74.207/28.

d. If we add all addresses in the previous subblocks, the result is 208 addresses, which means 48 addresses are left in reserve. The first address in this range is 14.24.74.209. The last address is 14.24.74.255.

e. Figure shows the configuration of blocks. We have shown the first address in each block.

Solution to Example