CS450 Computer Networks

The slides used in class are derived from the slides available on
our text book companion website:
http://wps.pearsoned.com/ecs_kurose_compnetw_6/

CS450 Computer Networks

Lesson 2

Application Layer Overview

Consciousness is the field of all possibilites

Lecture 2
Application Layer Overview

Our goal:

Understand key Application Layer concepts:

- application architectures
  - client-server paradigm
  - peer-to-peer paradigm
  - hybrid client-server/P2P
- application process communication
- what services do applications need?

Some network apps

- e-mail
- web
- instant messaging
- remote login
- P2P file sharing
- multi-user network games
- streaming stored video (YouTube)
- voice over IP
- real-time video conferencing
- cloud computing
- IPTV
- …
-

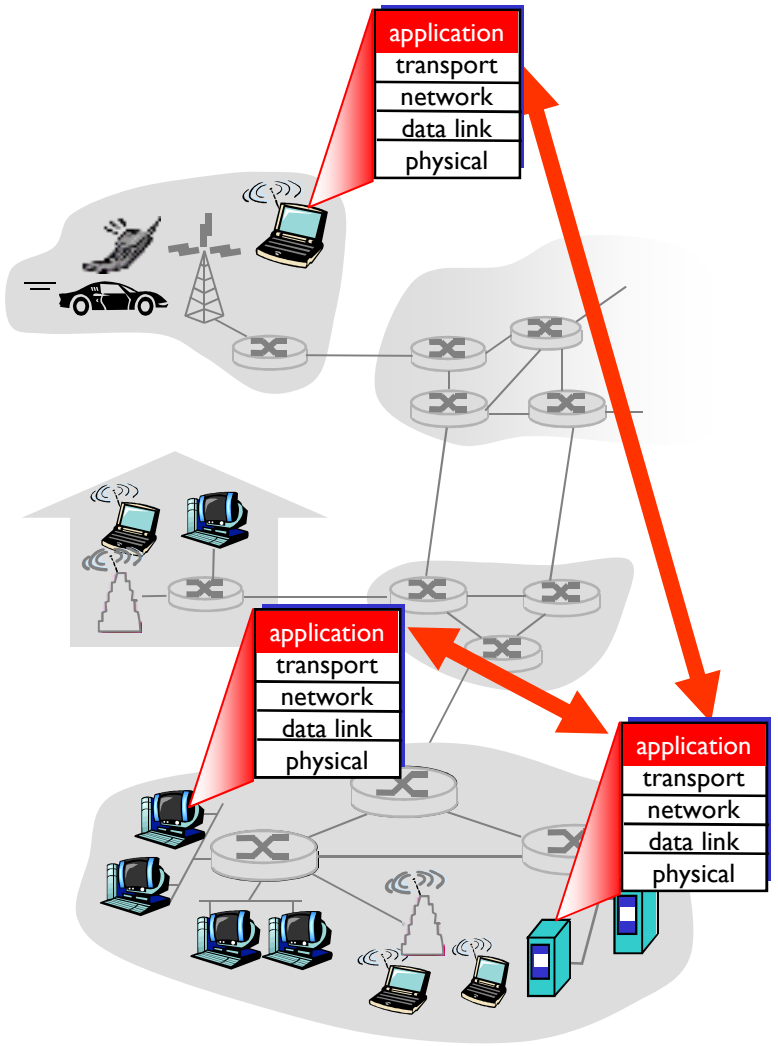
Creating a network app

write programs that

- run on (different) *end systems*
- communicate over network
- e.g., web server software communicates with browser software

No need to write software for network-core devices

- network-core devices do not run user applications
- applications on end systems allows for rapid app development, propagation

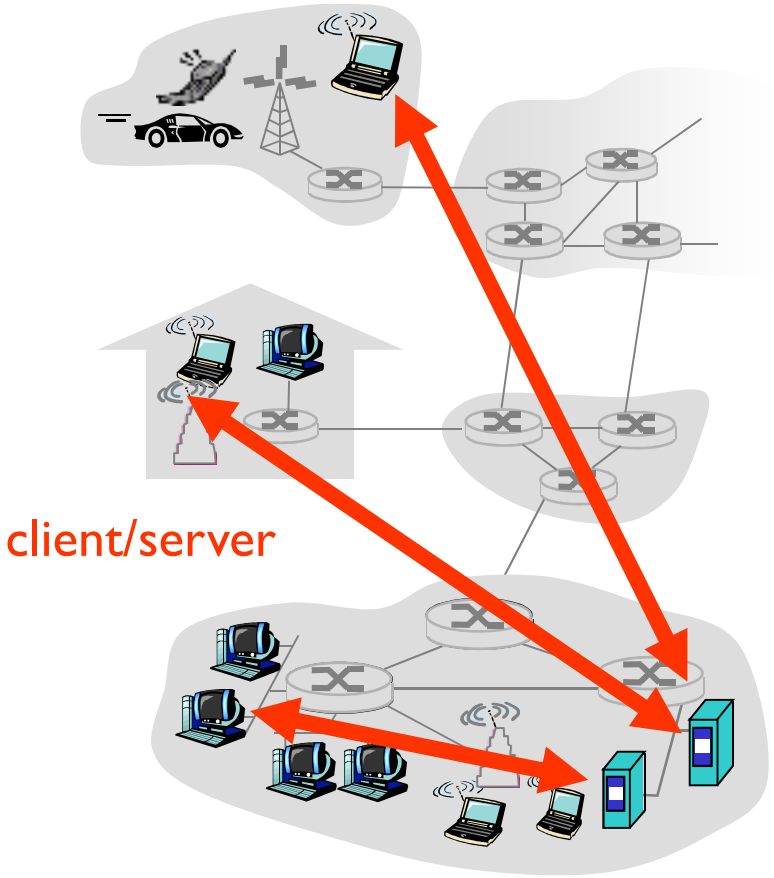


Application architectures

possible structure of applications:

- client-server
- peer-to-peer (P2P)

Client-server architecture



server:

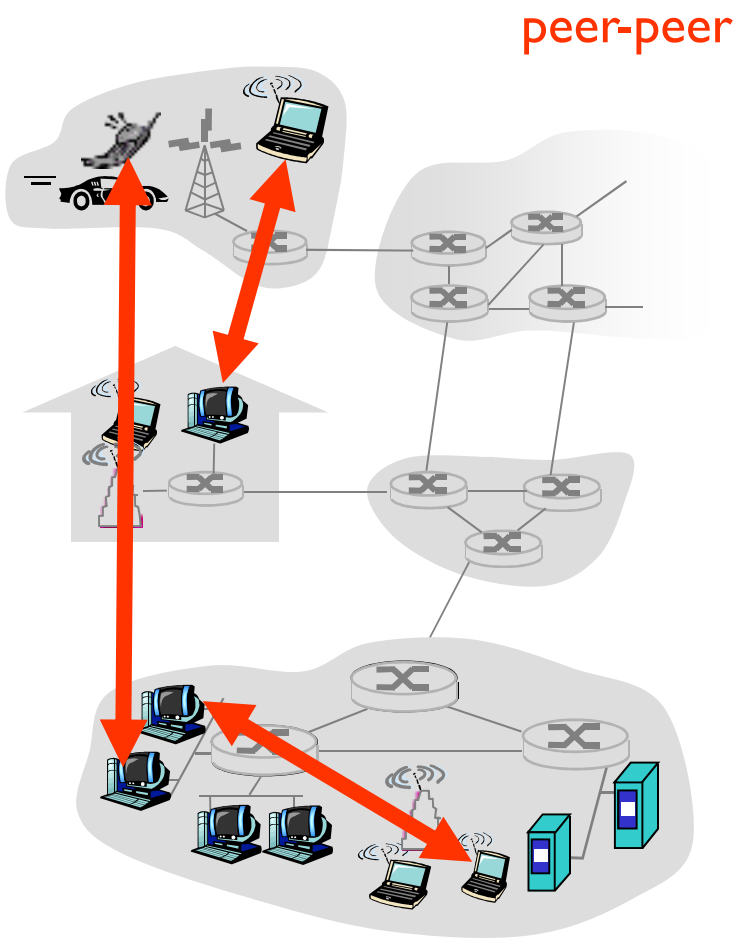
- always-on host
- permanent IP address
- server farms for scaling

clients:

- communicate with server
- may be intermittently connected
- may have dynamic IP addresses
- do not communicate directly with each other

P2P architecture

- *no* always-on server
- arbitrary end systems directly communicate
- peers request service from other peers, provide service in return to other peers
  - *self scalability* – new peers bring new service capacity, as well as new service demands
- peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses
  - complex management



Hybrid of client-server and P2P

Skype

- voice-over-IP P2P application
- centralized server: finding address of remote party:
- client-client connection: direct (not through server)

Instant messaging

- chatting between two users is P2P
- centralized service: client presence detection/location
  - user registers its IP address with central server when it comes online
  - user contacts central server to find IP addresses of buddies

Processes communicating

process: program running within a host.

- within same host, two processes communicate using inter-process communication (defined by OS).
- processes in different hosts communicate by exchanging messages

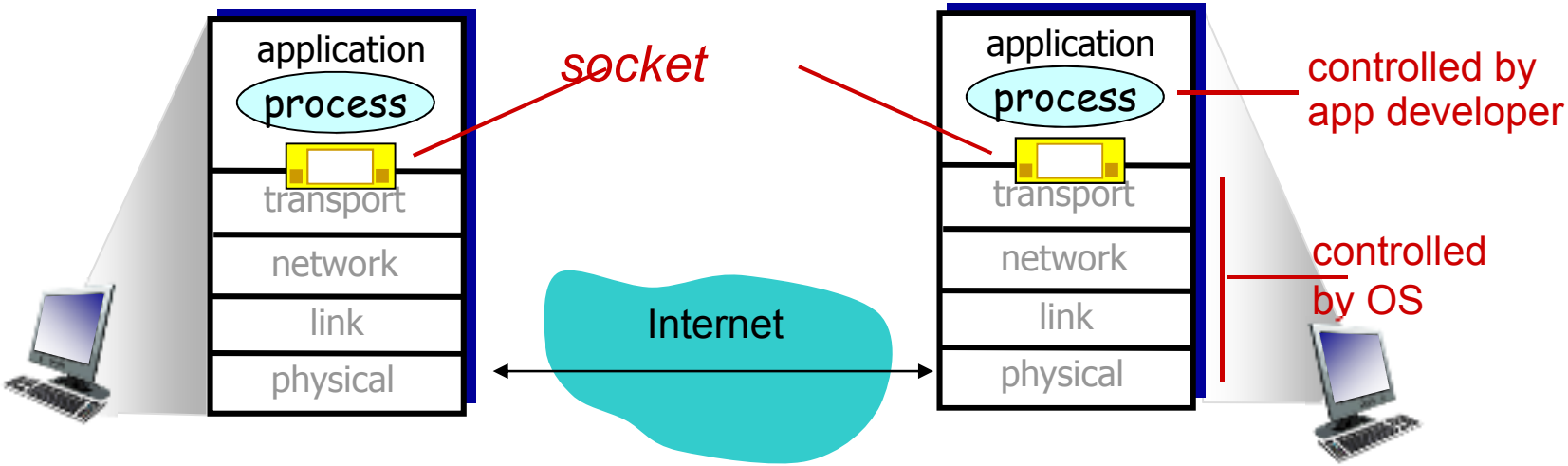
client process: process that initiates communication

server process: process that waits to be contacted

- aside: applications with P2P architectures have client processes & server processes

Sockets

- process sends/receives messages to/from its socket
- socket analogous to door
  - sending process shoves message out door
  - sending process relies on transport infrastructure on other side of door to deliver message to socket at receiving process



Addressing processes

- to receive messages, process must have *identifier*
- host device has unique 32-bit IP address
- *Q:* does IP address of host on which process runs suffice for identifying the process?

Addressing processes

- to receive messages, process must have *identifier*
- host device has unique 32-bit IP address
- *Q:* does IP address of host on which process runs suffice for identifying the process?
  - *A:* No, *many* processes can be running on same host

- *identifier* includes both IP address and port numbers associated with process on host.
- example port numbers:
  - HTTP server: 80
  - Mail server: 25
- to send HTTP message to gaia.cs.umass.edu web server:
  - IP address: 128.119.245.12
  - Port number: 80
- more shortly…

App-layer protocol defines

- types of messages exchanged,
  - e.g., request, response
- message syntax:
  - what fields in messages & how fields are delineated
- message semantics
  - meaning of information in fields
- rules for when and how processes send & respond to messages

public-domain protocols:

- defined in RFCs
- allows for interoperability
- e.g., HTTP, SMTP

proprietary protocols:

- e.g., Skype

What transport service does an app need?

Data Integrity

- some apps (e.g., audio) can tolerate some loss
- other apps (e.g., file transfer, telnet) require 100% reliable data transfer

Timing

- some apps (e.g., Internet telephony, interactive games) require low delay to be "effective"

Throughput

- some apps (e.g., multimedia) require minimum amount of throughput to be "effective"
- other apps ("elastic apps") make use of whatever throughput they get

Security

- encryption, data integrity, …

Transport service requirements of common apps

Application	Data loss	Throughput	Time Sensitive
file transfer			
e-mail			
Web documents			
real-time audio/video			
stored audio/video			
interactive games			
instant messaging			

Transport service requirements of common apps

Application	Data loss	Throughput	Time Sensitive
file transfer	no loss	elastic	no
e-mail	no loss	elastic	no
Web documents	no loss	elastic	no
real-time audio/video	loss-tolerant	audio: 5kbps-1Mbps video:10kbps-5Mbps	yes, 100's msec
stored audio/video	loss-tolerant	same as above	yes, few secs
interactive games	loss-tolerant	few kbps up	yes, 100's msec
instant messaging	no loss	elastic	yes and no

Internet transport protocols services

TCP service:

- *connection-oriented:* setup required between client and server processes
- *reliable transport* between sending and receiving process
- *flow control:* sender won't overwhelm receiver
- *congestion control:* throttle sender when network overloaded
- *does not provide:* timing, minimum throughput guarantees, security

UDP service:

- unreliable data transfer between sending and receiving process
- does not provide: connection setup, reliability, flow control, congestion control, timing, throughput guarantee, or security

Q: why bother? Why is there a UDP?

Securing TCP

TCP & UDP

- no encryption
- cleartext passwds sent into socket traverse Internet in cleartext

SSL

- provides encrypted TCP connection
- data integrity
- end-point authentication

SSL is at app layer

- Apps use SSL libraries, which "talk" to TCP

SSL socket API

- cleartext passwds sent into socket traverse Internet encrypted
- See Chapter 7

Internet apps: application, transport protocols

Application	Application layer protocol	Underlying transport protocol
e-mail	SMTP [RFC 2821]	TCP
remote terminal access	Telnet [RFC 854]	TCP
Web	HTTP [RFC 2616]	TCP
file transfer	FTP [RFC 959]	TCP
streaming multimedia	HTTP (e.g., YouTube), RTP [RFC 1889]	TCP or UDP
Internet telephony	SIP, RTP, proprietary (e.g., Skype)	typically UDP