How the Web Works

Chapter 2

Chapter 2

1. Internet Protocols
2. Domain Name System
3. Uniform Resource Locators
4. Hypertext Transfer Protocol
5. Web Browsers
6. Web Servers
7. Summary

Chapter 2

1 Internet Protocols

2 Domain Name System

3 Uniform Resource Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer Protocol

5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

Internet Protocols

A Layered Architecture

TCP/IP.

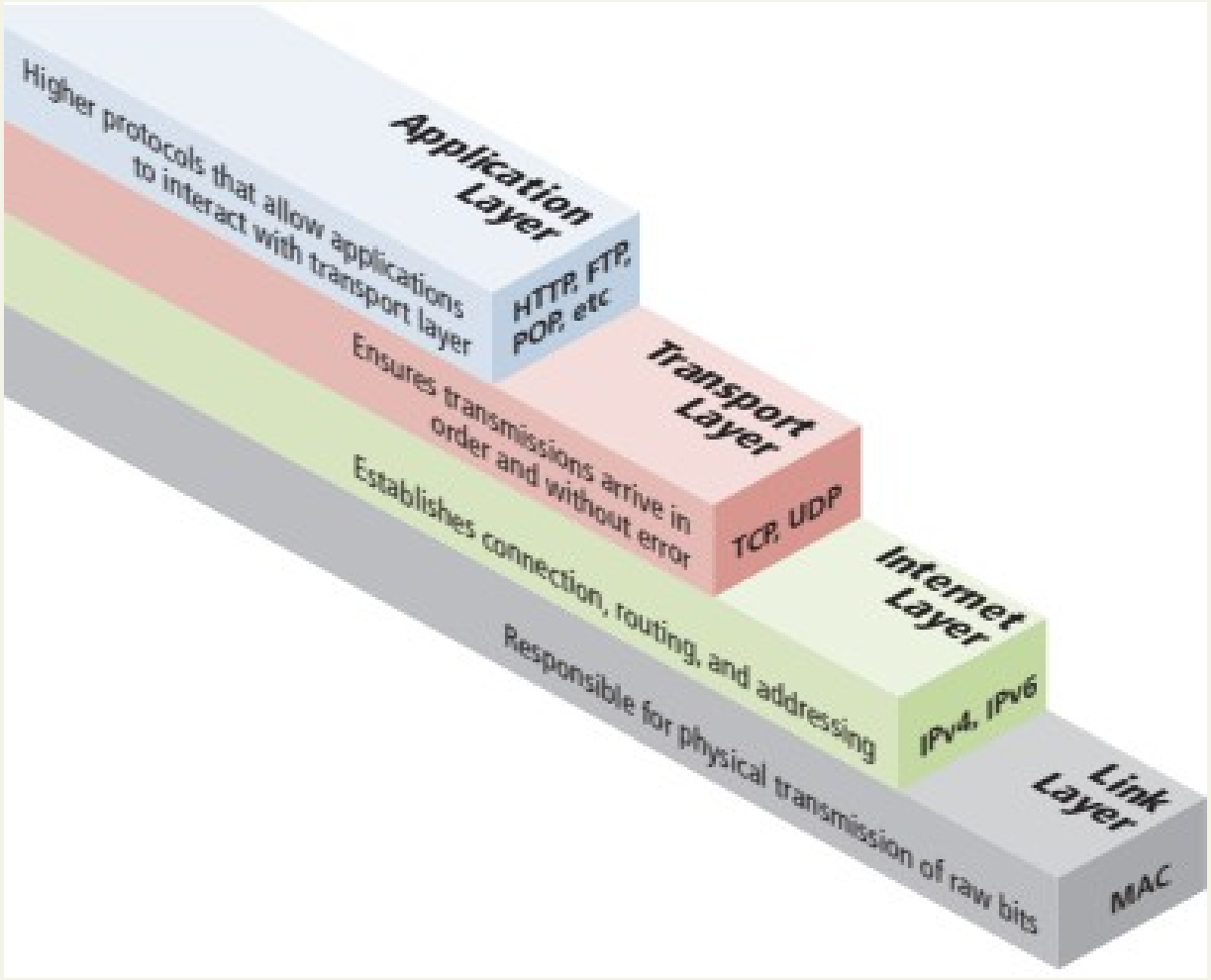
These protocols have been implemented in every operating system and make fast web development possible.

Networking is its own entire discipline.

Web developer needs general awareness of what the suite of Internet protocols does

Internet Protocols

A Layered Architecture



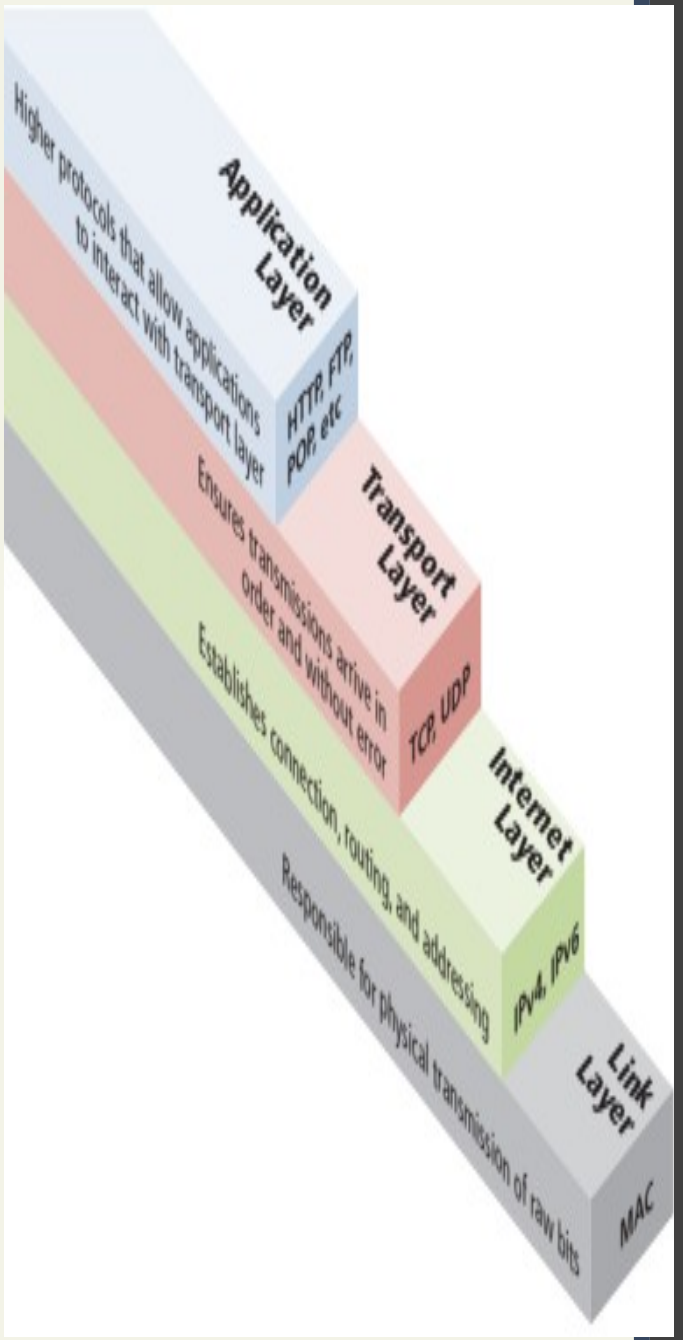
Internet Protocols

Link Layer

- Responsible for
  - physical transmission of data across media (both wired and wireless) and
  - Establishing logical links.

It handles issues like packet creation, transmission, reception, error detection, collisions, line sharing, and more.

Much more to learn in Networking courses outside of web development.

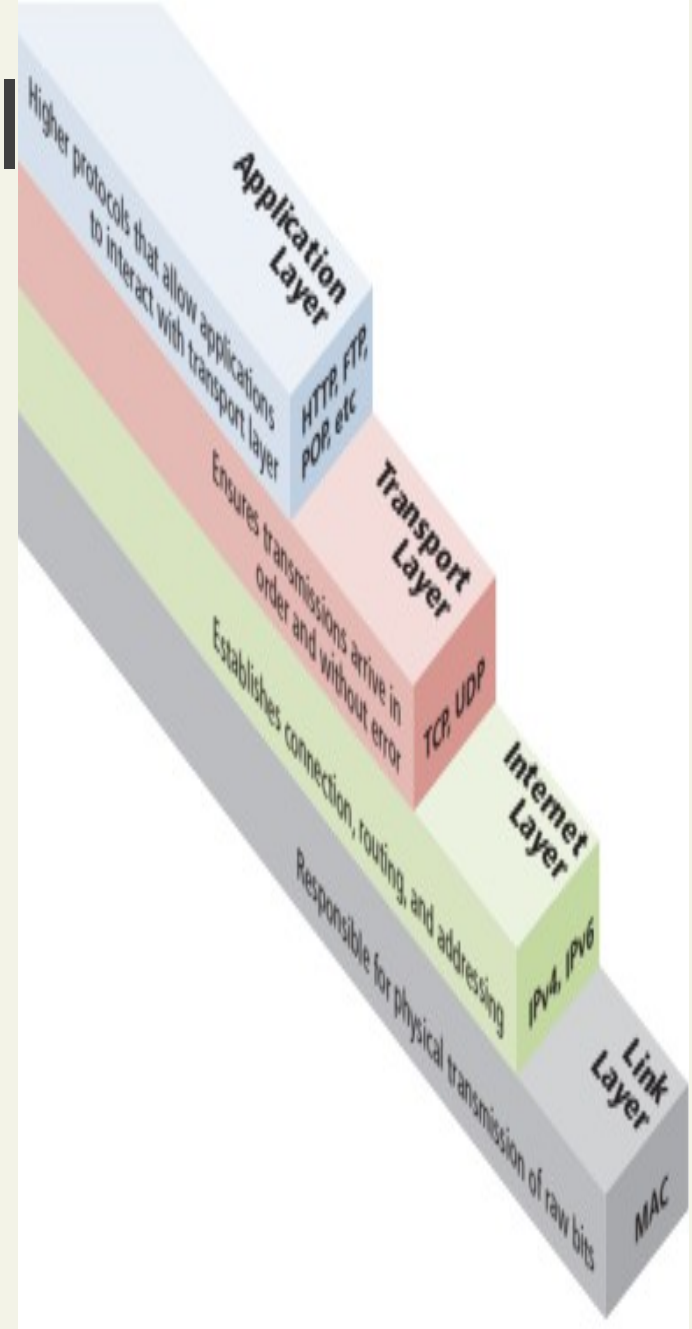


Internet Protocol

Internet Layer

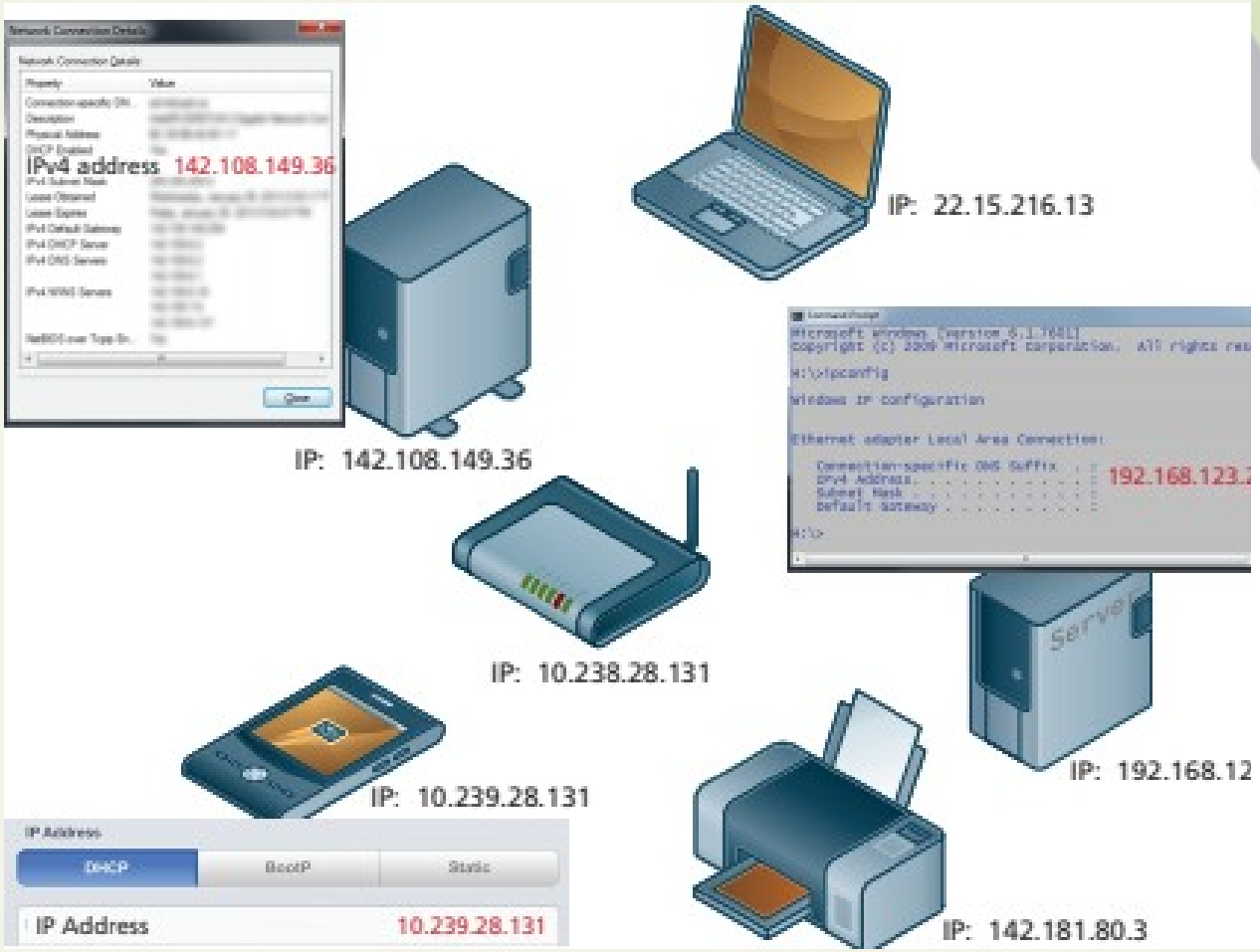
The Internet layer provides “best effort” communication.

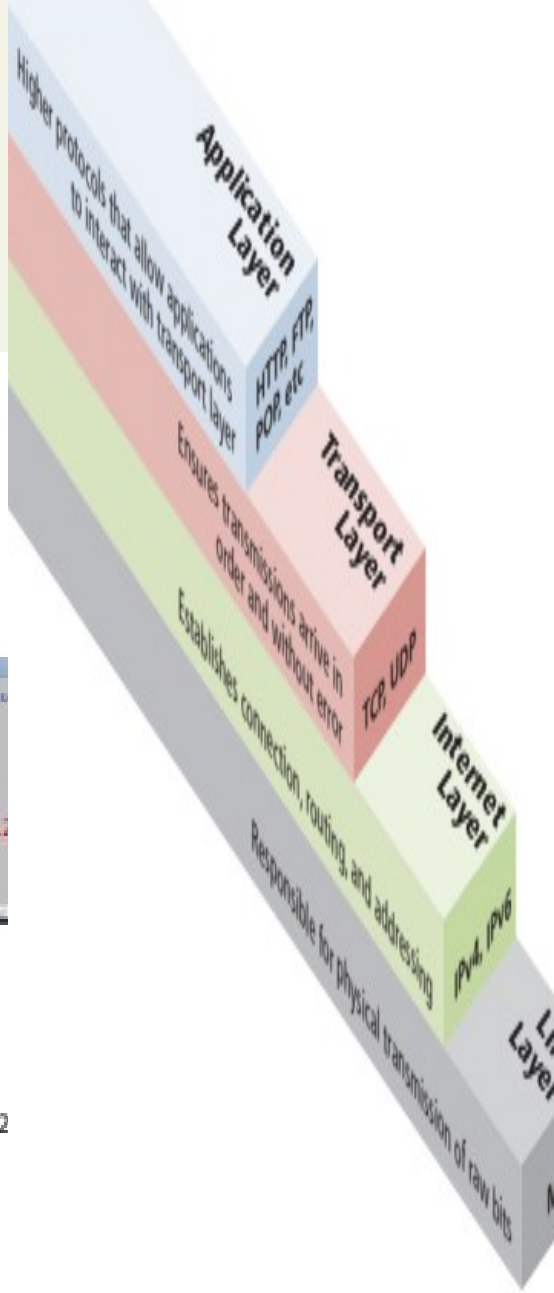
Makes use of IP addresses



Internet Protocols

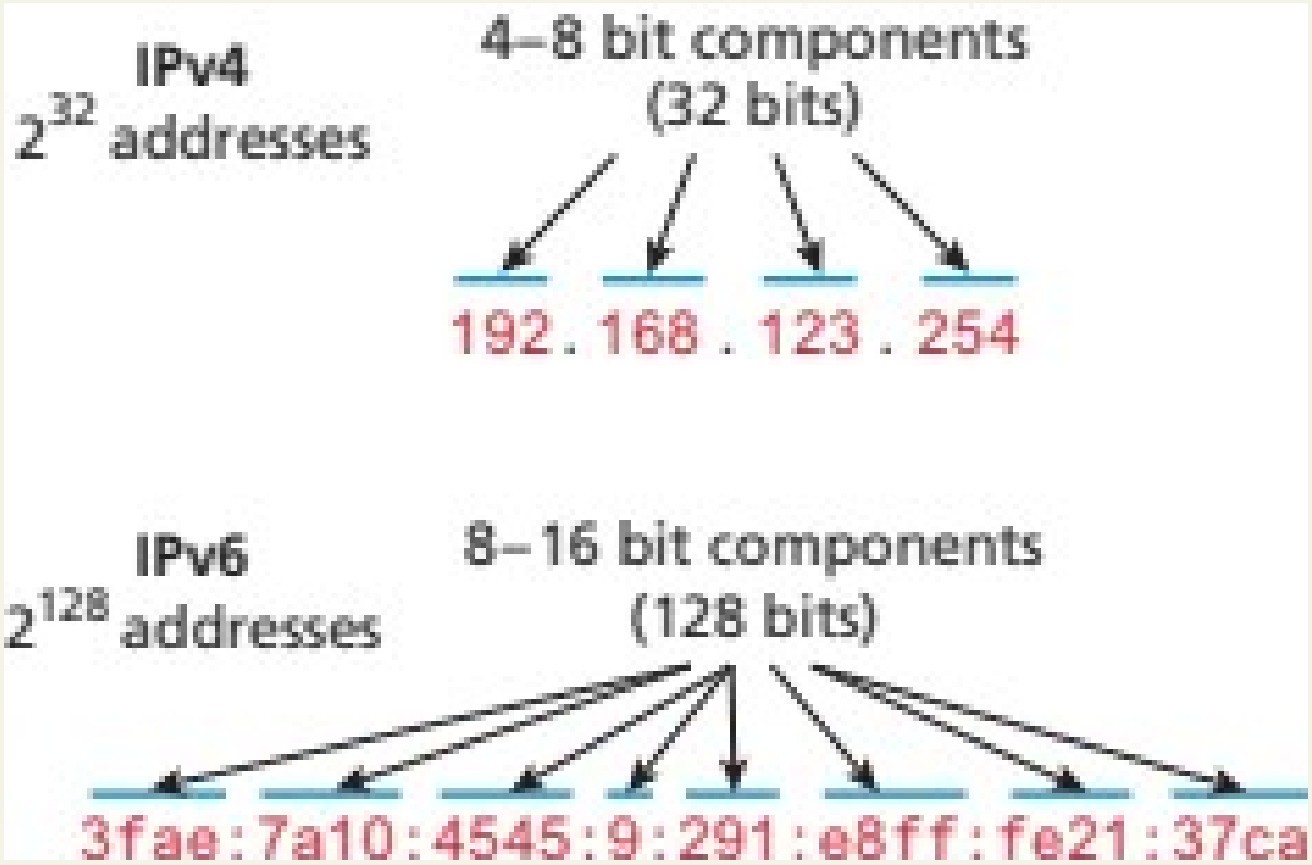
Internet Layer (IP)





Internet Protocols

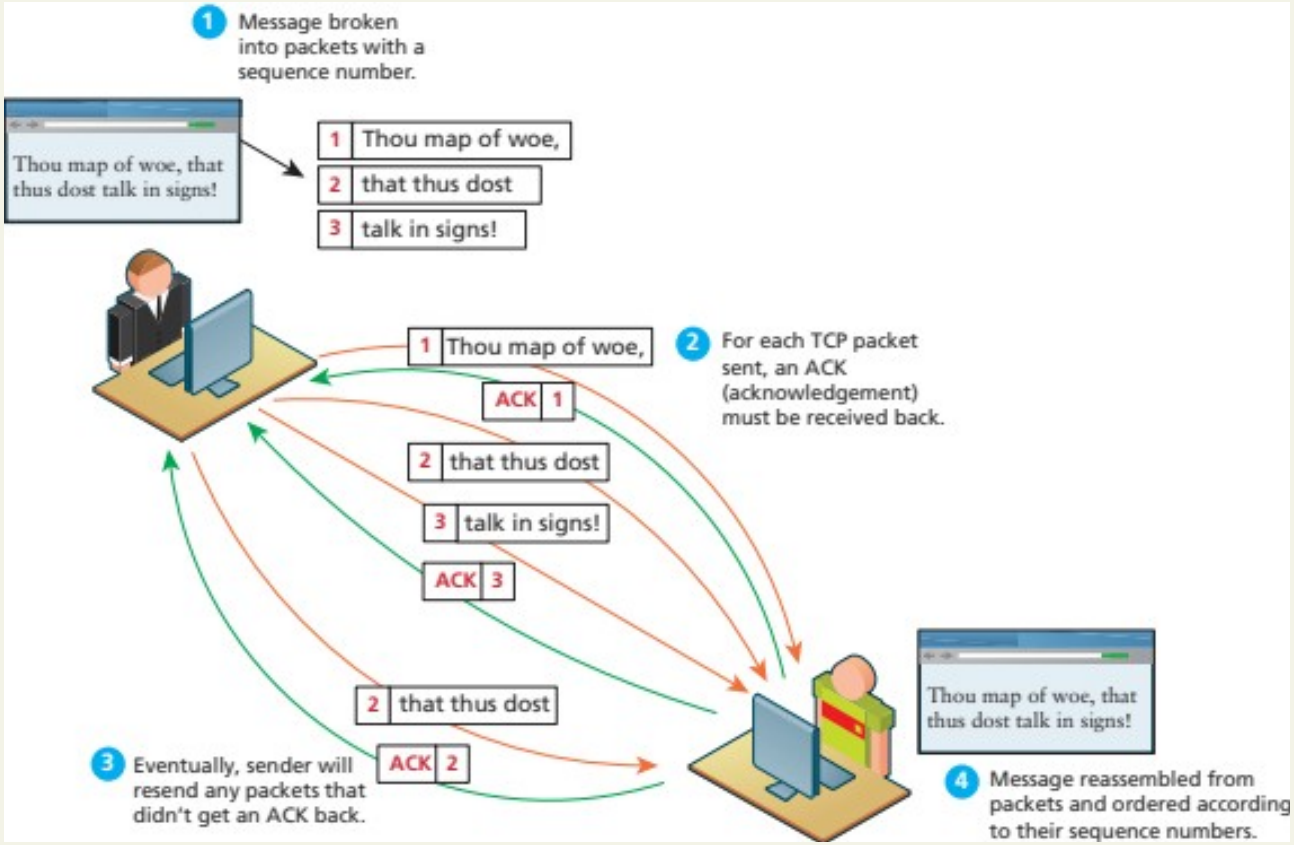
IP addresses



Internet Protocols

Transport Layer (TCP)

- Ensures transmissions arrive in order and without error



Internet Protocols

Application Layer

There are **many** application layer protocols. Web developers should be aware of :

- **HTTP.** The Hypertext Transfer Protocol is used for web communication.
- **SSH.** The Secure Shell Protocol allows remote command-line connections to servers.
- **FTP**. The File Transfer Protocol is used for transferring files between computers.
- **POP/IMAP/SMTP**. Email-related protocols for transferring and storing email.
- **DNS**. The Domain Name System protocol used for resolving domain names to IP addresses.

Chapter 2

1 Internet Protocols

2 Domain Name System

3 Uniform Resource Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer Protocol

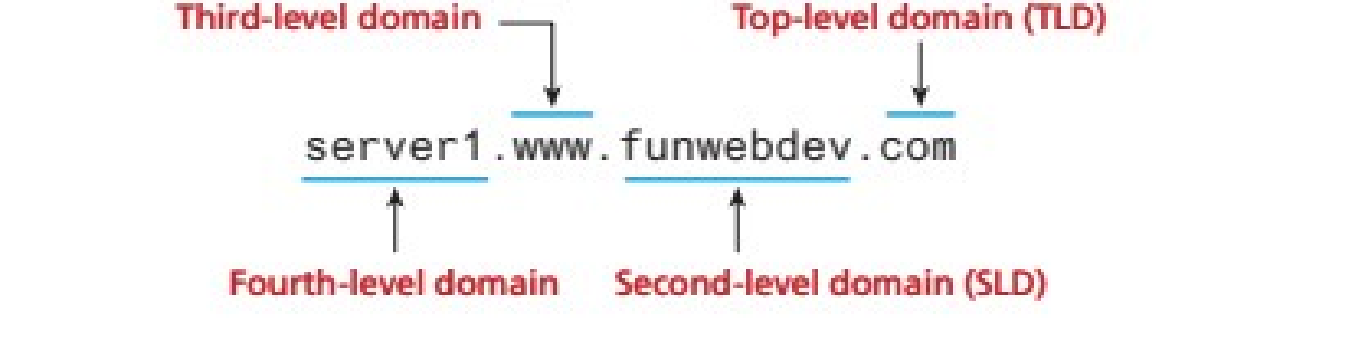
5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

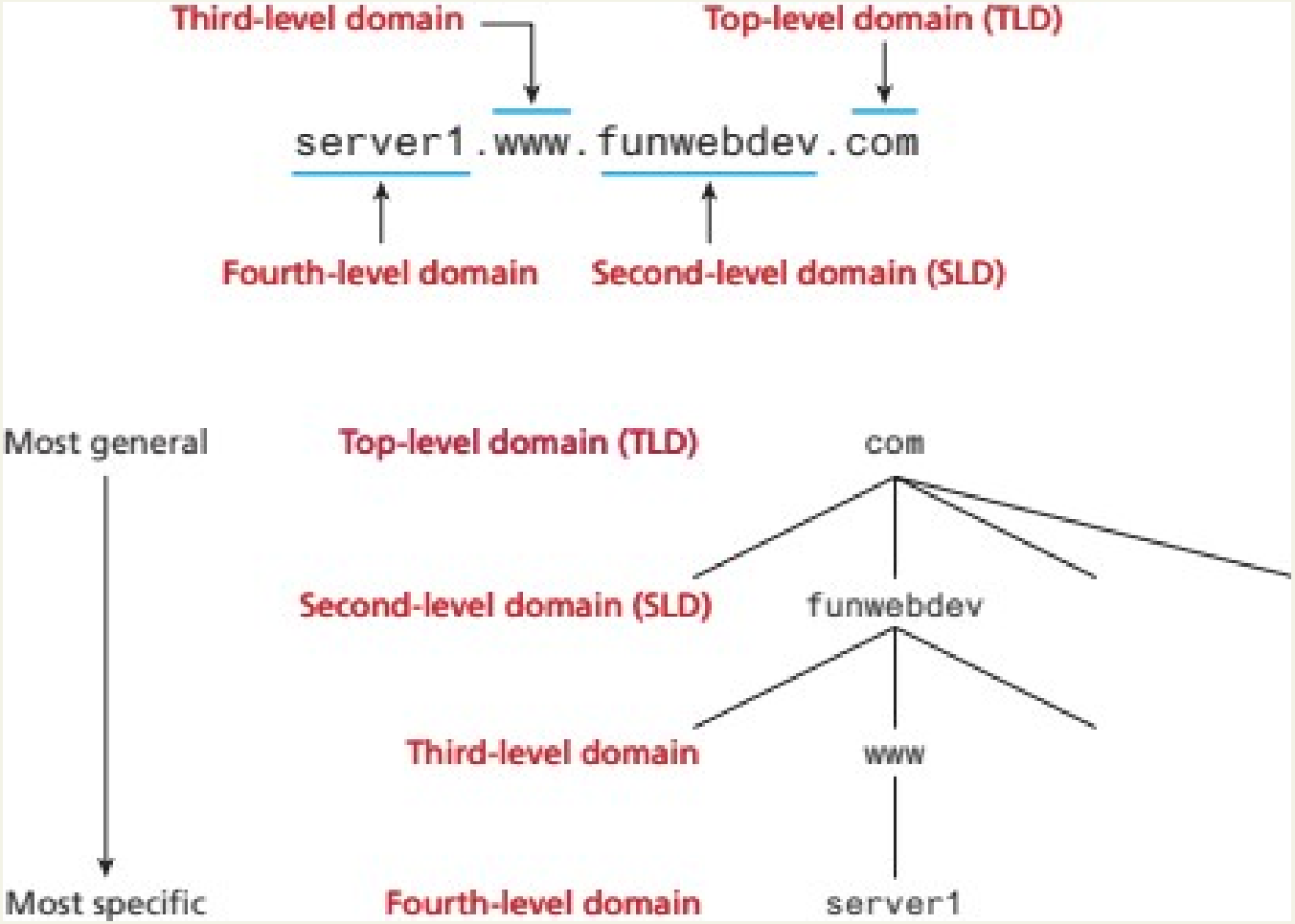
Domain Name System

Name Levels



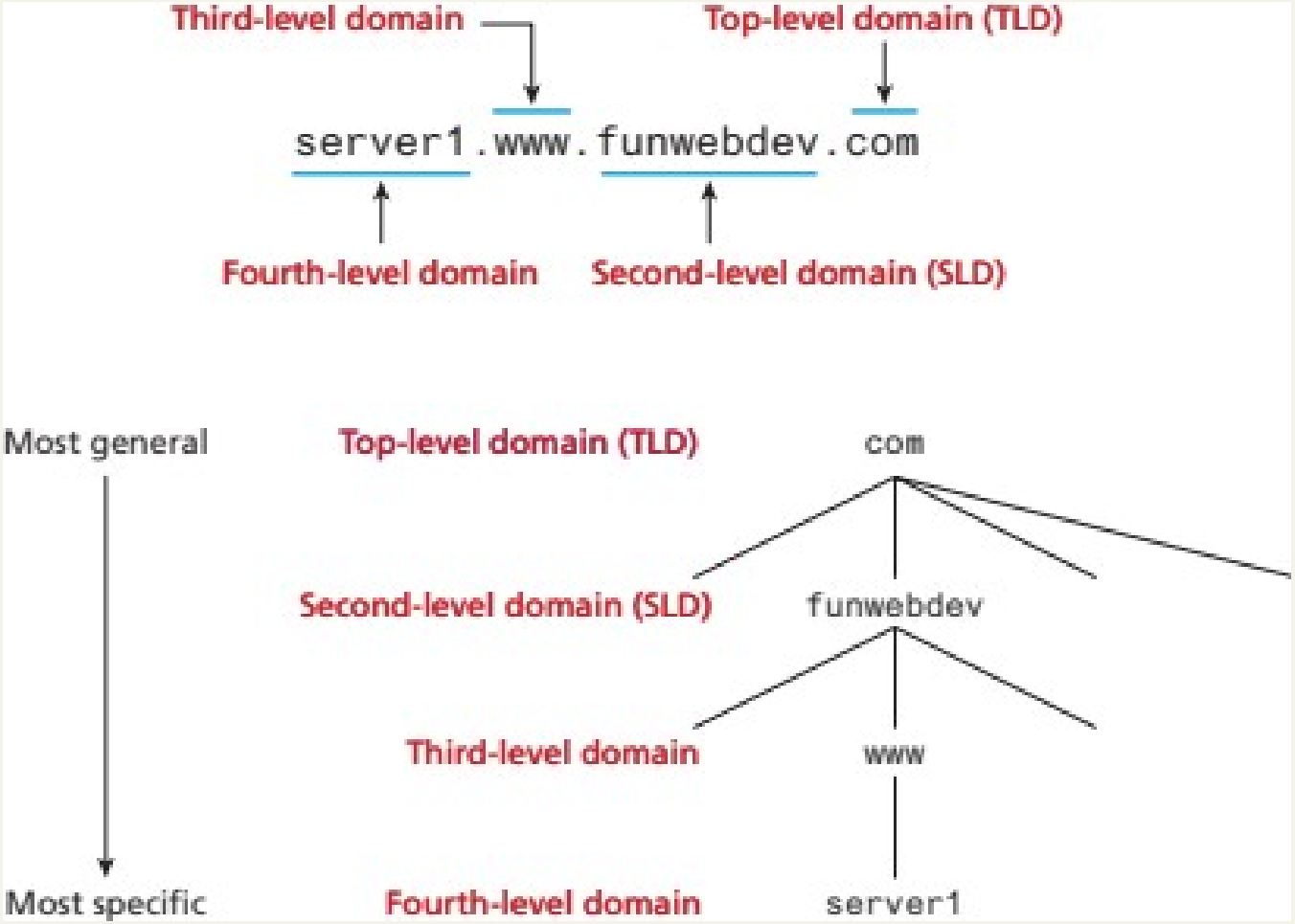
Domain Name System

Name Levels



Domain Name System

Name Levels



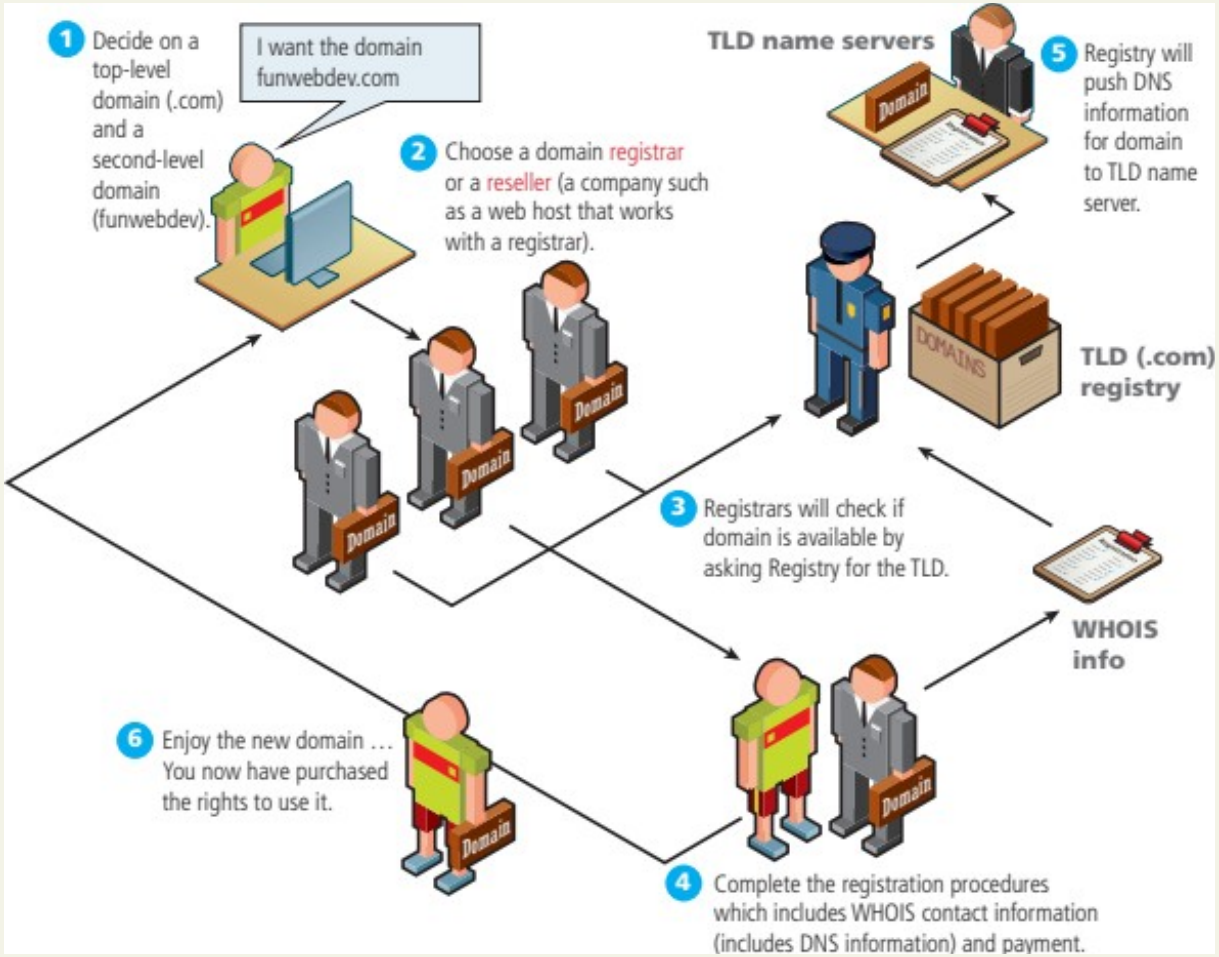
Domain Name System

Types of Top Level Domains

- Generic top-level domain (gTLD)
  - Unrestricted. TLDs include .com, .net, .org, and .info.
  - Sponsored. TLDs including .gov, .mil, .edu, and others.
  - New TLDs.
- Country code top-level domain (ccTLD)
  - TLDs include .us , .ca , .uk , and .au.
  - Internationalized Domain Names
- arpa (first assigned TLD. Used for reverse DNS lookups)

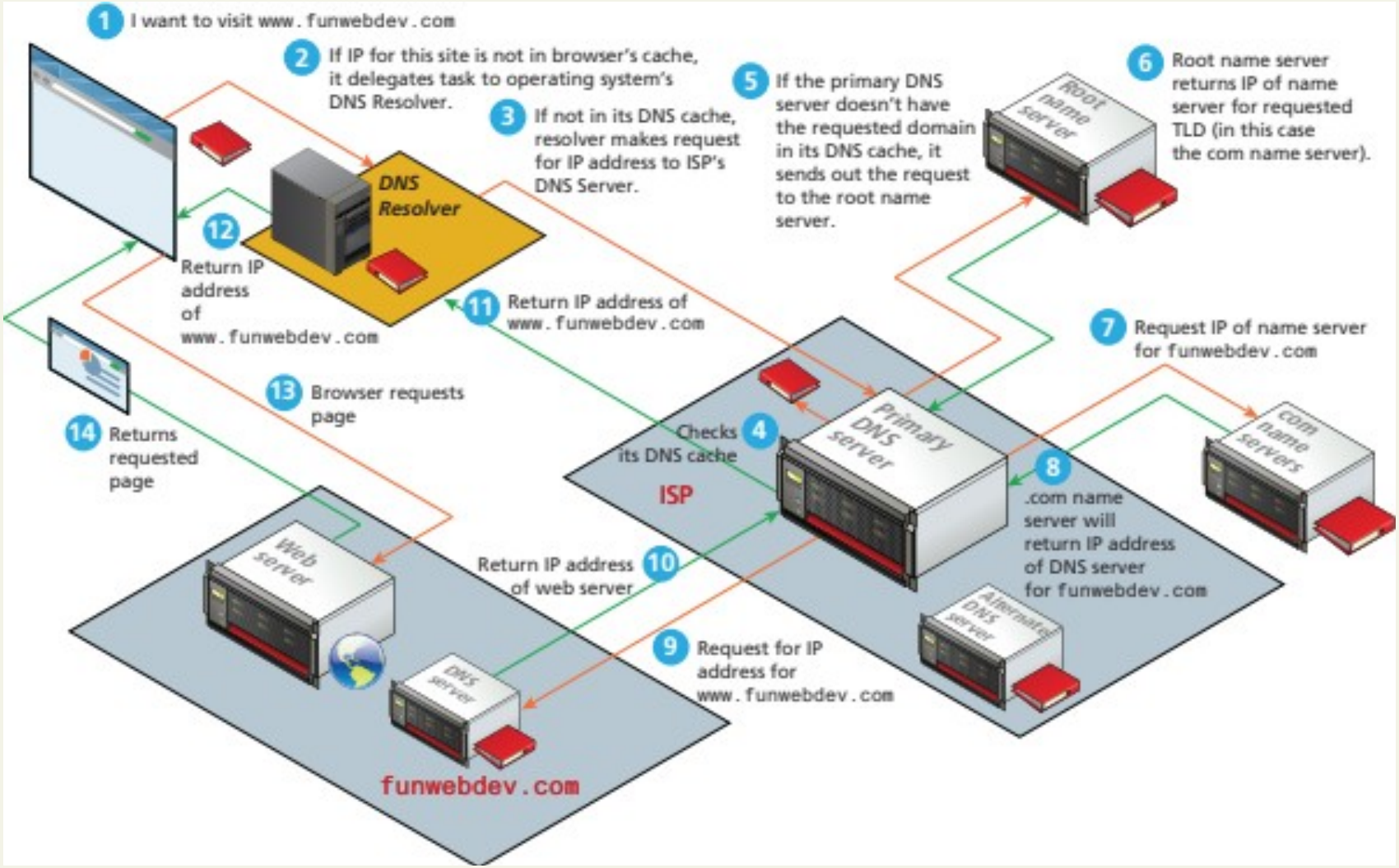
Domain Name System

Name Registration



Domain Name System

Address Resolution



Chapter 2

1 Internet Protocols

2 Domain Name System

3 Uniform Resource Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer Protocol

5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

Uniform Resource Locators

Overview

Uniform Resource Locators

Protocol

Recall that in Section 2.1, we listed several application layer protocols on the TCP/IP stack. FTP, SSH, HTTP, POP, IMAP, DNS, …

Requesting

- **ftp**://example.com/abc.txt ☾ sends out an FTP request on port 21, while
- **http**://example.com/abc.txt ☾ transmits an HTTP request on port 80.

Uniform Resource Locators

Domain

- The domain identifies the server from which we are requesting resources.
- Since the DNS system is case insensitive, this part of the URL is case insensitive.
- Alternatively, an IP address can be used for the domain

Uniform Resource Locators

Port

- The optional port attribute allows us to specify connections to ports other than the defaults
- Add a colon after the domain, then specify an integer port number.

Uniform Resource Locators

Path

Familiar concept to anyone who has ever used a computer file system.

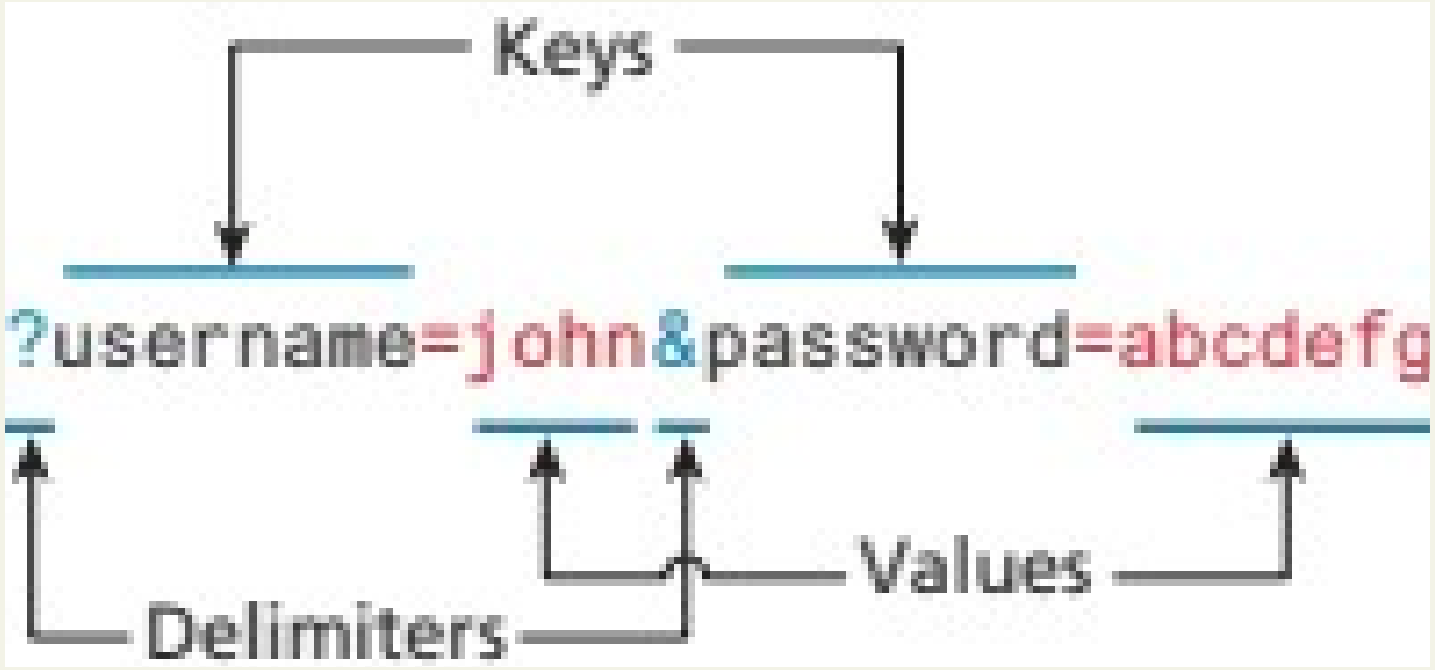
The root of a web server corresponds to a folder somewhere on that server.

- On many Linux servers that path is /var/www/html/
- On Windows IIS machines it is often /inetpub/wwwroot/

The path is optional. However, when requesting a folder or the top-level page, the web server will decide which file to send you.

Uniform Resource Locators

Query String



Uniform Resource Locators

Fragment

A way of requesting a portion of a page.

- Browsers will see the fragment in the URL, seek out the tag anchor in the HTML, and scroll the website to it.

Chapter 2

1 Internet Protocols

2 Domain Name System

3 Uniform Resource Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer Protocol

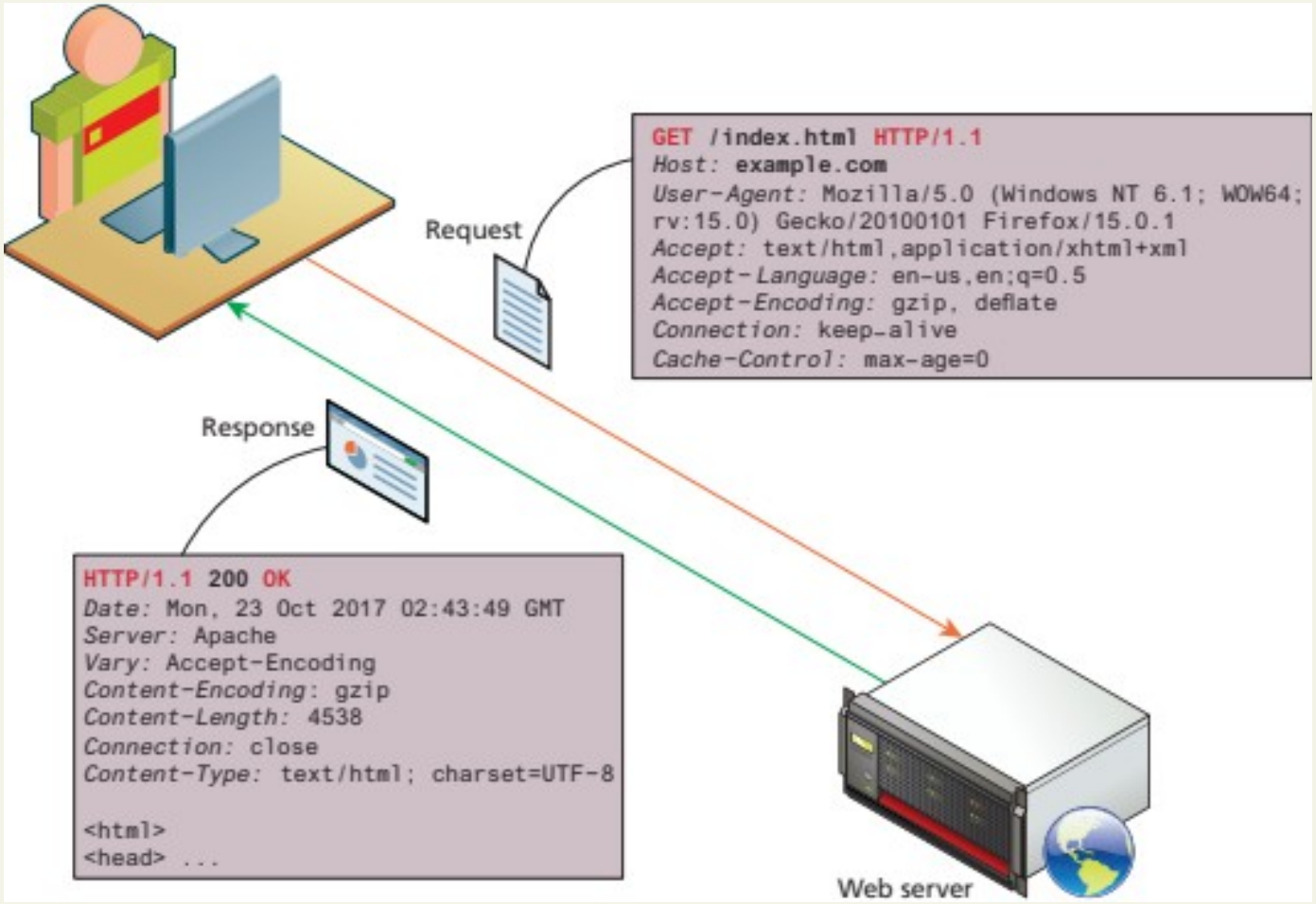
5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

Hypertext Transfer Protocol

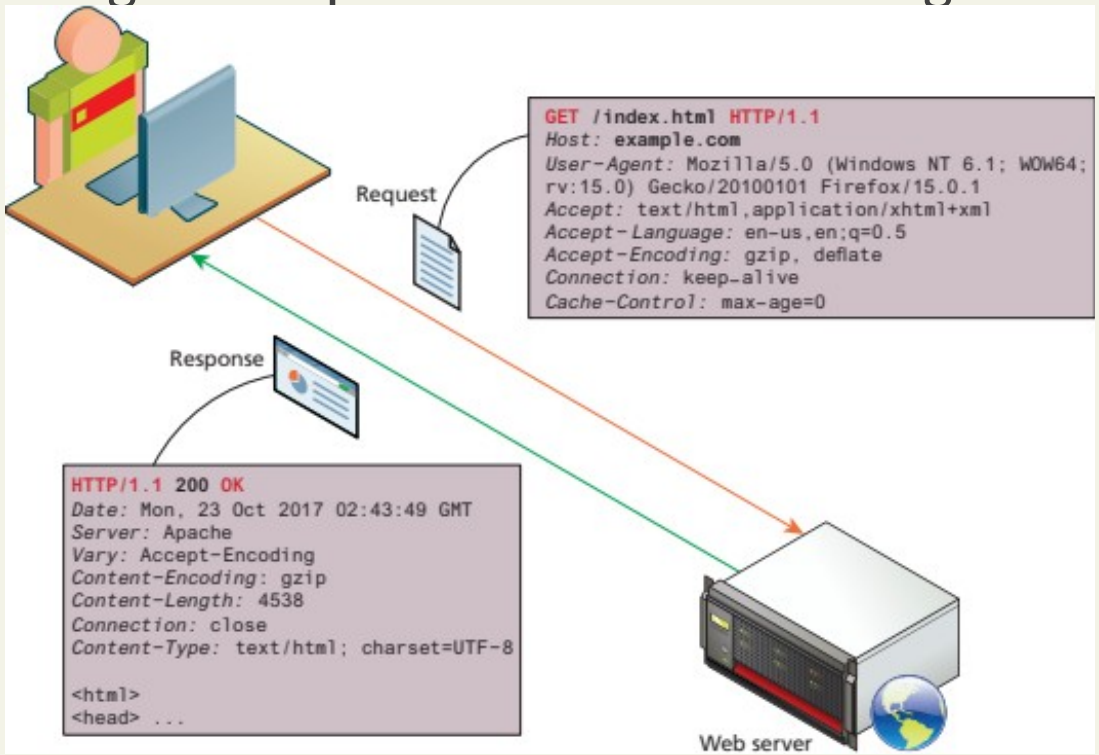
Headers



Hypertext Transfer Protocol

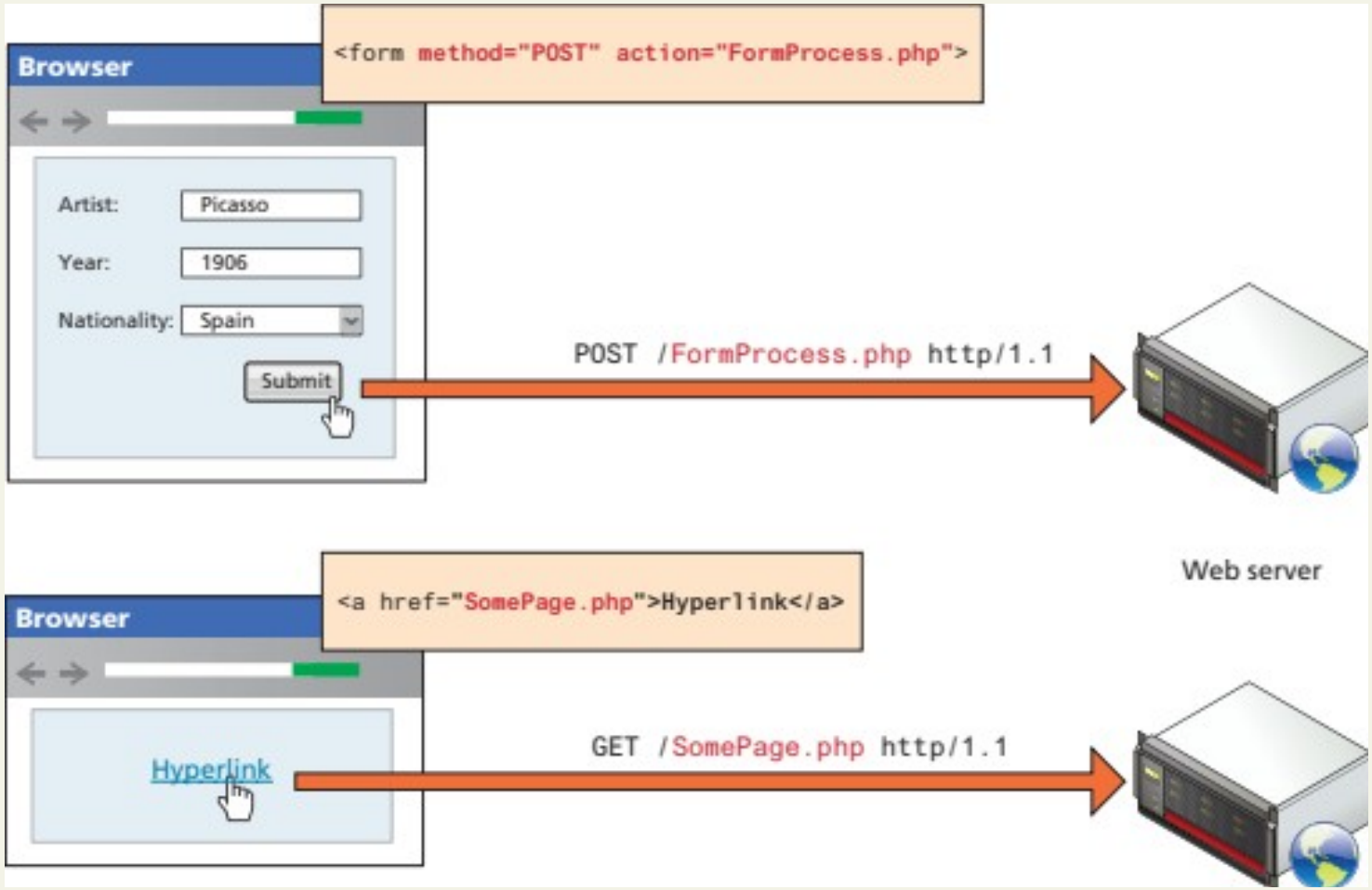
Headers

- **Request headers** include data about the client machine.
- **Response headers** have information about the server answering the request and the data being sent



Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Request Methods



Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Response Codes

- 2## codes are for successful responses,
- 3## are for redirection-related responses,
- 4## codes are **client** errors,
- 5## codes are **server** errors.

Hypertext Transfer Protocol

(Some) Response Codes

200: OK

301: Moved Permanently

304: Not Modified

307: Temporary redirect

400: Bad Request

401: Unauthorized

404: Not found

414: Request URI too long

500: Internal server error

Chapter 2

1 Internet Protocols

2 Domain Name System

3 Uniform Resource Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer Protocol

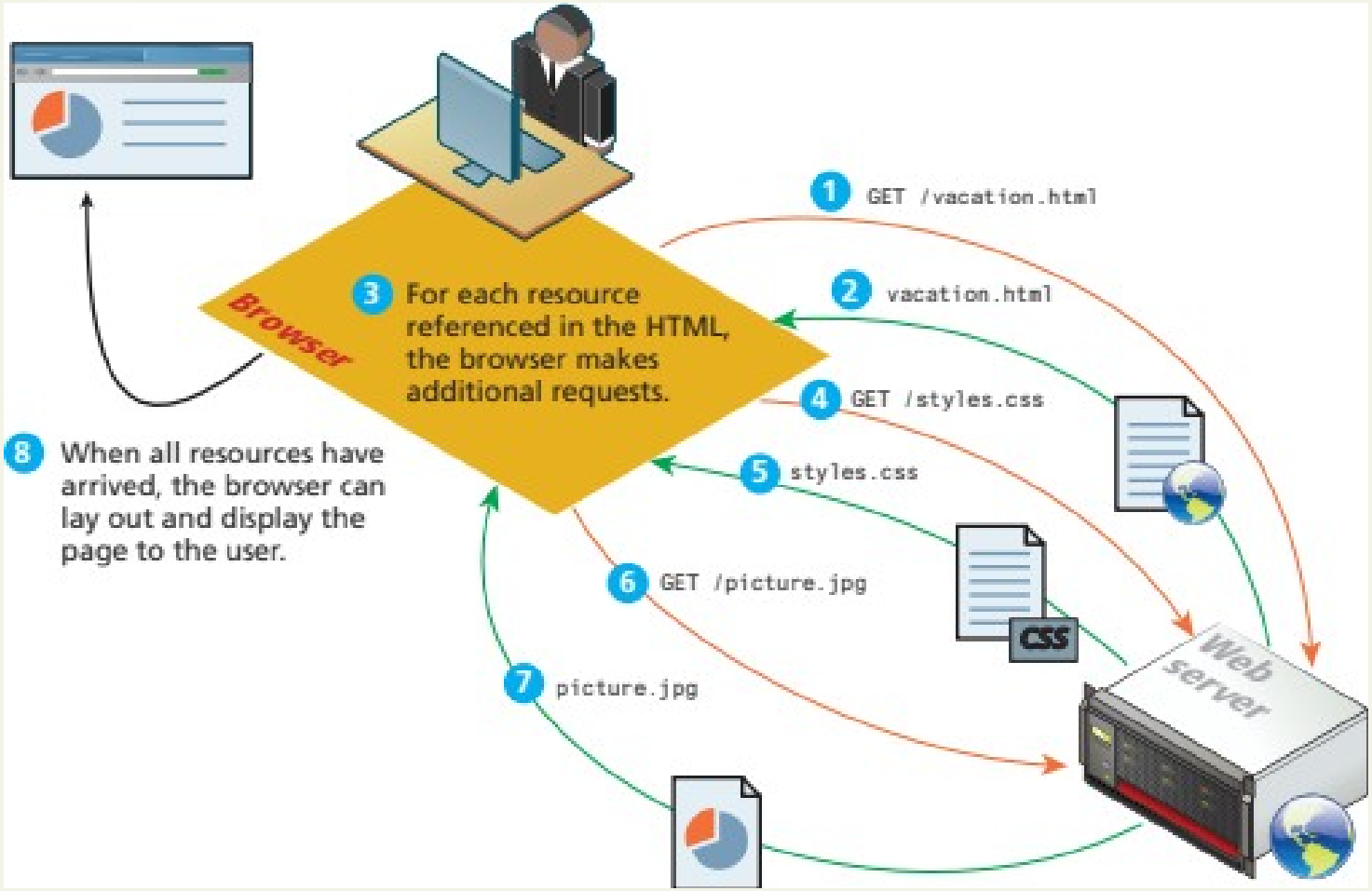
5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

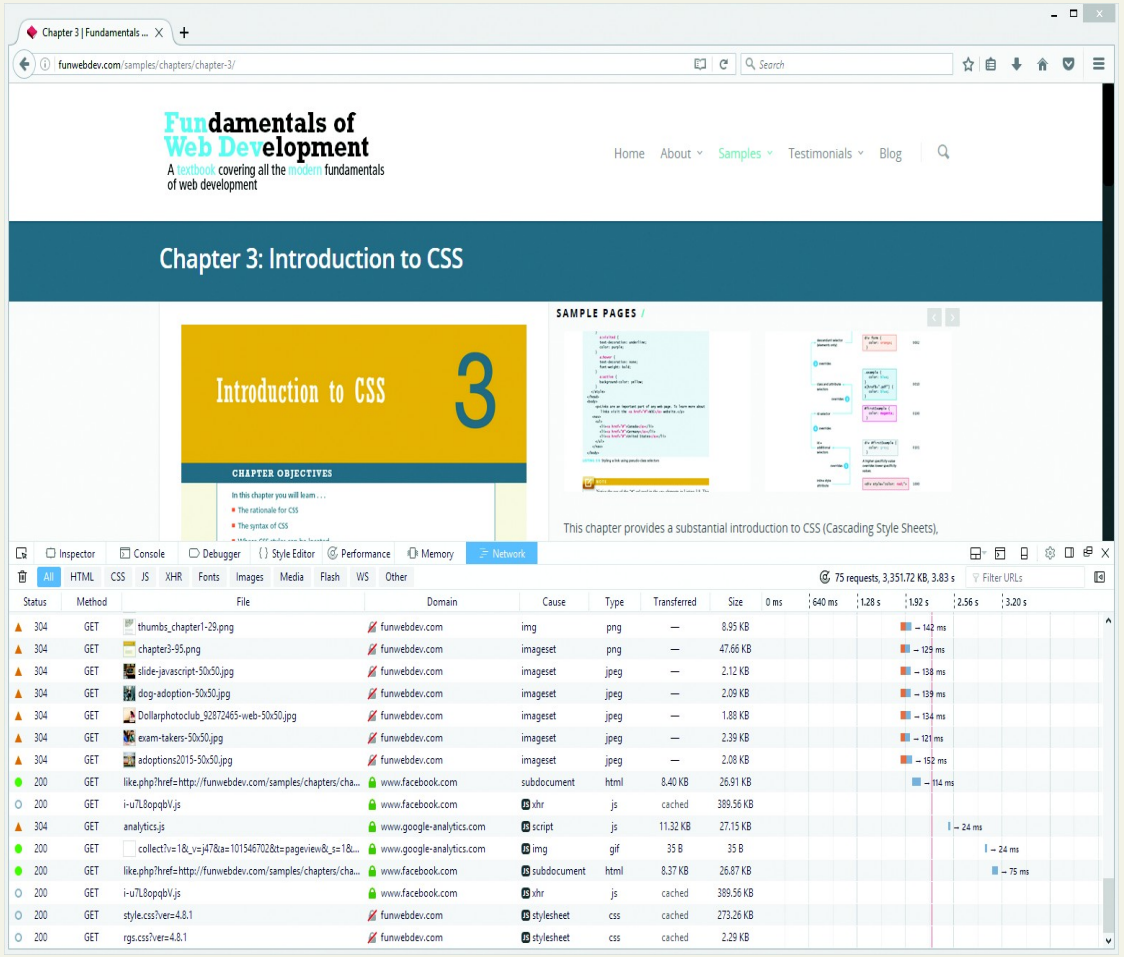
Web Browsers

Fetching a Web Page



Web Browsers

Fetching a Web Page – Load Times and Cascades



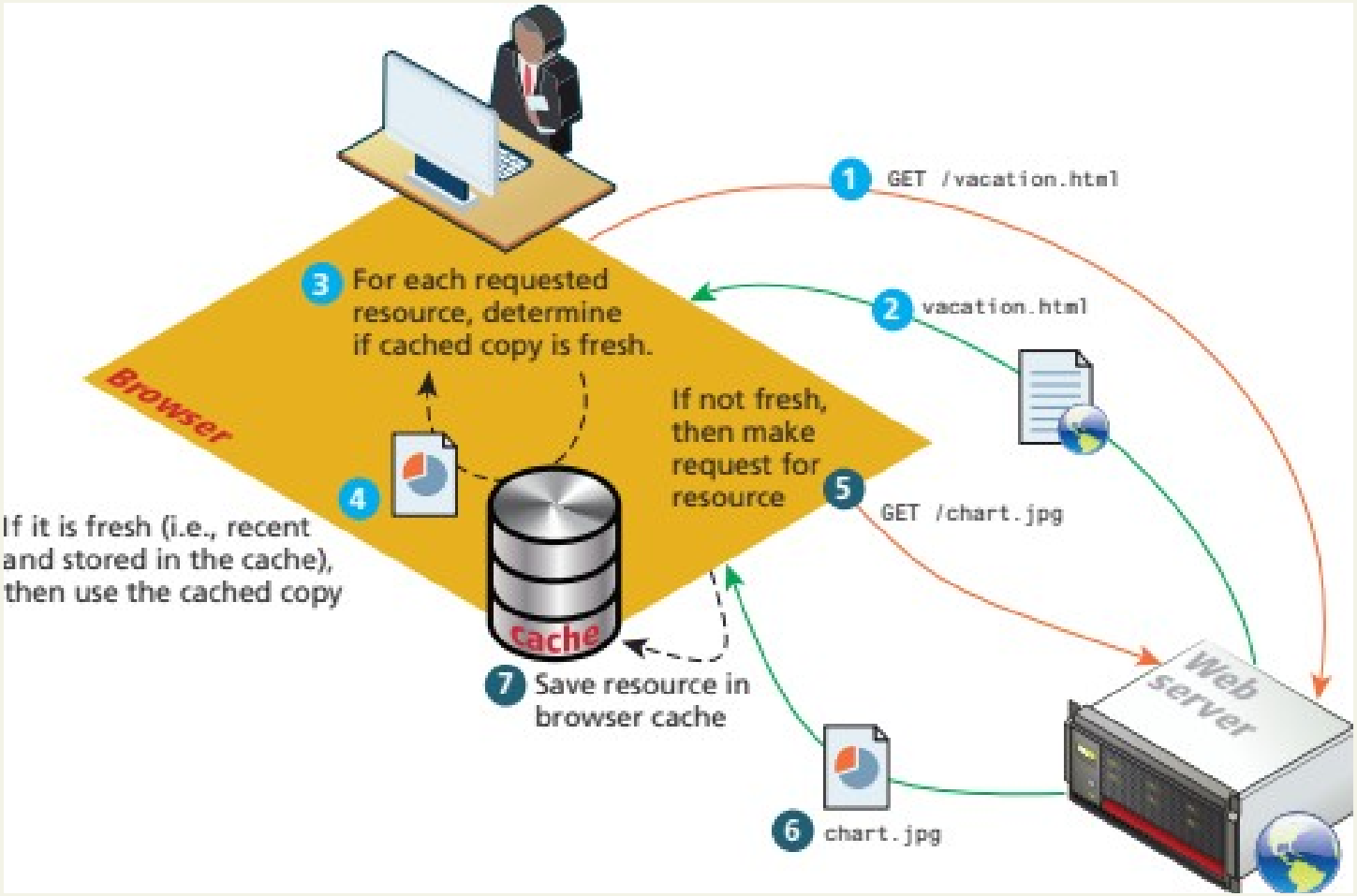
Web Browsers

Browser Rendering

- Interpreting the entire HTML markup together with the image and other assets into a grid of pixels for display within the browser window is called rendering the webpage.
- Implemented differently for each browser (Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Explorer, and Opera)

Web Browsers

Browser Caching



Web Browsers

Browser Features

- search engine integration,
- URL autocompletion,
- Form autocompletion,
- cloud caching of user history/bookmarks,
- phishing website detection,
- secure connection visualization,

and much more

Web Browsers

Browser Extensions

Can change what is shown to the end user. Newer challenge for web developers.

For developers, extensions like

- Firebug and
- Yslow

For the general public:

- Adblock
- Third Party Plugins

Chapter 2

1 Internet Protocols

2 Domain Name System

3 Uniform Resource Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer Protocol

5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

Web Servers

Operating Systems

- A **web server** is nothing more than a computer that responds to HTTP requests.
- Real-world web servers are often more powerful than your own desktop computer
- Webservers must choose an **application stack** to run a website. This application stack will include an
  - operating system,
  - web server software,
  - a database,
  - and a scripting language for dynamic requests

Web Servers

Application Stacks

We will rely on the LAMP software stack ,which refers to

- L inux operating system,
- A pache web server,
- M ySQL database, and
- P HP scripting language

Other stacks include WAMP, WISA, MEAN, …

Web Servers

Operating Systems

- Linux
- Windows

Web Servers

Web Server Software

- Apache
- Nginx
- IIS

Web Servers

Database Software

- MySQL
- PostgreSQL
- Sqlite
- Oracle
- IBM DB2
- Microsoft SQL Server
- MongoDB

Web Servers

Scripting Software

- PHP
- ASP.NET
- Python
- Node.js
- …

Chapter 2

1 Internet Protocols

2 Domain Name System

3 Uniform Resource Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer Protocol

5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

Summary

Key Terms

address resolution
Apache
Application stack
application layer
country code top-level domain (ccTLD)
DNS resolver
DNS server
domain names
domain name registrars
Domain Name System (DNS)
FTP
four-layer network model
generic top-level domain (gTLD)
GET request
HTTP
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA)
internationalized top-level domain name (IDN)
Internet layer
Internet Protocol (IP)
IP address
IPv4
IPv6
LAMP software stack
link layer
MAC addresses
MEAN software stack
packet
protocol
port
POST request
protocol
request
request headers
response codes
response headers
reverse DNS lookups
root name server
second-level domain
SFTP

Summary

Key Terms (Continued)

Questions?