Transport Services and Protocols

Transport Services and Protocols

- The transport layer is responsible for providing logical communication between application processes running on different hosts.
- There are two actions the transport layer needs to achieve:
 - 1. Send action: The transport layer needs to divide application messages into segments, and pass them to the network layer.
 - 2. Recieve action: The transport layer needs to reassemble segments from the network layer into messages, and pass them to the application layer.
- There are two transport protocols available: the User Datagram Protocol (UDP), and the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP).

The Application Layer, The Transport Layer, and The Network Layer

- The application layer is the process that is running on the network host.
- The transport layer is responsible for the logical communcation between processes.
- The network layer is responseible for the logical communication between network hosts.
- When a **message is sent** from an application over the network, it follow the following order: application layer → transport layer → network layer.
- When a **message is received** from the network, and sent to an application, it follows the following order: network layer → transport layer → application layer.

Transport Layer Actions

- When a message is sent from an application, the transport layer does the following:
 - 1. Recieves the application-layer message.
 - 2. Determines segment header field values.
 - 3. Creates the segment.
 - 4. Passes the segment to the internet protocol.
- When a message is recieved from the network, the transport layer does the following:
 - 1. Recieves the segment from the internet protocol.
 - 2. Checks the header values.
 - 3. Extracts the application-layer message.
 - 4. Demultiplexes message up to the application via a socket.

User Datagram Protocol and Transmission Control Protocol

- The User Datagram Protocol (UDP) is an unreliable, unordered delivery protocol. This protocol has minimal overhead but is not reliable.
- The Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) is a reliable, in-order delivery protocol that supports congestion control, flow control, and connection setup. This protocol has significant overhead, but is very reliable.
- Both UDP and TCP do not provide delay guarantees and bandwith guarantees.

Multiplexing

Multiplexing

- Multiplexing is a method used by networks to consolidate multiple signals into a single composit signal that is then transported over a common medium.
- When sending data, multiplexing is used to transmit segments from several sockets via transport headers.
- When **recieving data**, the **header info** is used to **demultiplex** the data, sending it to the **correct socket**.
- Demultiplexing works by receiving IP datagrams containing a source and destination IP address and port as headers. Each datagram contains a single segment.
 - The IP addresses and port numbers are used to route the segment to the correct socket.
 - This is why you must specify a port (and sometimes an address) number when creating a socket.

Connectionless Multiplexing

- When creating a server socket you must specify a port, that the socket will be bound to.
- When creating a datagram (UDP) you must specify the destination host and port.
- When a host receives a datagram with the port destination that matches the port the server socket is bound to, it will route the datagram to said socket.
 - The host address does not matter when a datagram is received by a host, it will simply attempt to route it to the destination port. This means that several hosts can send datagrams to the same port, and they will all be available at the same socket.

Connection-Oriented Multiplexing

- When creating a **connection oriented socket** (TCP), you create a **4-tuple** containing the **source address**, **source port**, **destination address**, and **destination port**.
- The 4-tuple is used to route inbound packets to the correct socket.
- Servers may support several simultaneous TCP sockets, typically one for each client. Each socket will have a unique 4-tuple.

Summary

- Multiplexing and demultiplexing are based on segman, datagram header values.
- UDP uses the port for demultiplexing.
- TCP uses the 4-tuple for demultiplexing.
- Multiplexing happens at all layers.

User Datagram Protocol

User Datagram Protocol

- The User Datagram Protocol (UDP) is a connectionless (no handshake) communication protocol that uses the internet protocol.
- UDP has minimal overhead, at the cost of having no connection state, no congestion control, and no packet delivery verification.
- UDP is used for loss-tolerant, rate sensitive applications.
- It is possible to have **reliable UDP communication** by implementing it at the **application layer**.

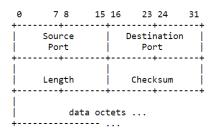
User Datagram Protocol

Introduction

This User Datagram Protocol (UDP) is defined to make available a datagram mode of packet-switched computer communication in the environment of an interconnected set of computer networks. This protocol assumes that the Internet Protocol (IP) $[\underline{1}]$ is used as the underlying protocol.

This protocol provides a procedure for application programs to send messages to other programs with a minimum of protocol mechanism. The protocol is transaction oriented, and delivery and duplicate protection are not guaranteed. Applications requiring ordered reliable delivery of streams of data should use the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) [2].

Format



User Datagram Header Format

- UDP datagrams have the following headers:
 - 1. **Destination port** The port the datagram is being sent to.
 - 2. Length The length in octets of the datagram.
 - 3. **Checksum** The checksum is used to ensure the packet received was not corrupted during transmission.
 - 4. **Pseudo** A header containing the source address, destination address, the protocol, and the UDP length. This information is used to give protection against misrouted datagrams.
- The checksum is computed by taking the one's complement sum of the entire content of the datagram, treating the bits of the datagram as a series of 16-bit integers.
 - The checksum is not perfect, several different datagrams can result in the same checksum.

Reliable Data Transfer

Reliable Data Transfer Overview

- The **complexity** of the **reliable data transfer protocol** will strongly **depend** on the **characteristics** of the **unreliable channel** (drop packes, corruption, data reordering, etc).
- The sender and receiver do not know the state of each other, unless it is communicated.

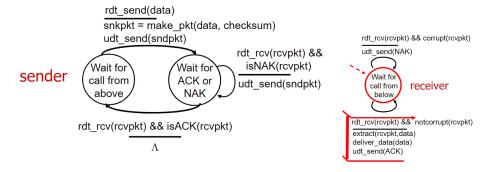
RDT 1.0 — Reliable Transfer over a Reliable Channel

- In this case, the **underlying channel** is perfectly **reliable**; there are **no bit errors**, and **no loss of packets**.
- This is the most primitive form of reliable data transfer; the **sender sends the data**, and the **receiver reads the data**.



RDT 2.0 — Channel with Bit Errors

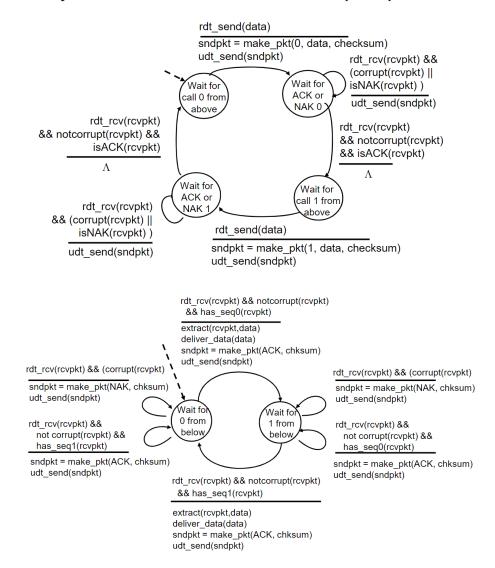
- In this case, the **underlying channel** may **flip bits in packets randomly**. To determine if this happend we can use a **checksum**.
- To recover from errors, we can have the receiver send a respone.
 - The acknowledgement (ACK) response indicates that the packet was successfully transmitted.
 - The negative acknowledgement (NAK) response indicates that the packet was not successfully transmitted.
 - If the sender recieves a NAK response, they must retransmit the packet.
- The **sender** must **stop** and wait for a resonse, before sending the next packet.



- RDT 2.0 has a fatal flaw, if the ACK or NAK gets corrupted, the sender won't know if the receiver received the packet.
 - You can't retransmit the packet, it could result in a possible duplicate.

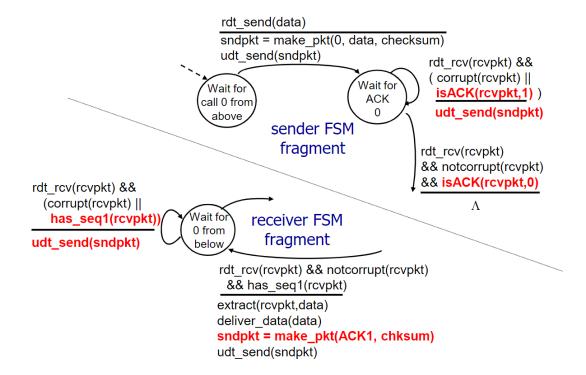
RDT 2.1 — Handling Corrupted ACKs and NAKs

• In the case where the receiver's response gets corrupted, we can add a sequence number to each packet. This will allow the reciever to detect duplicate packets.



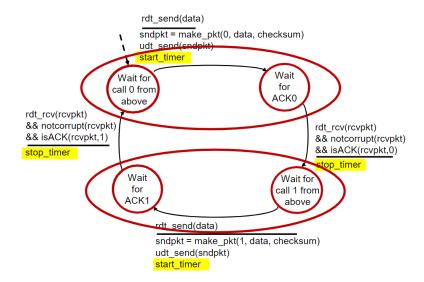
RDT 2.2 — A NAK-free Protocol

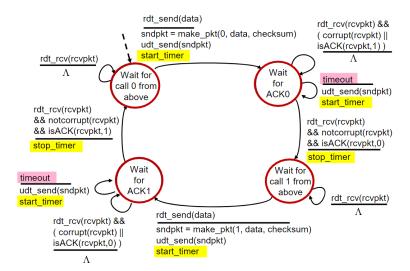
- This protocol has the same functionality as 2.1, but it only uses ACKs.
- Instead of NAK, the receiver sends ACK for the last packet recieved OK.
 - The receiver must explicitally include the sequence number of the packet being ACKed.
- A duplicated ACK at the sender results in the same action as NAK; retransmit the current packet.



RDT 3.0 — Channels with Bit Errors and Packet Loss

- In this case the underlying channel can lose packets, and corrupt packets.
- The checksum, sequence of numbers, ACKs, and restransmission will help, but will not be enough.
- In this protocol, the sender waits a "reasonable" anout of time for an ACK, if ACK is not recieved within a reasonable amount of time, the sender will retransmit the packet.
 - If the packet ACK was just delayed and not lost, the sequence number will allow to reciever to discard the duplicate packet.
 - When the reciever is sending the ACK, they must specify the packet number they are ACKing.





• The **stop-and-wait** operation the **sender** has to undergo is **very slow**; It reduces the maximum transmission rate.

RDT 3.0 — Pipelined Protocol Operations

- **Pipelining** is when the **sender** allows for **multiple in-flight** (yet to be acknowledged) **packets**.
 - The range of the sequence numbers must be increased.
 - Buffering is required and the sender's end and the reciever's end.
- **Pipelining** allows for increased utilization.

RDT 3.0 — Pipelined Go-Back-N Protocol

- In the Go-Back-N protocol, the sender sends a "window" of up to N, consecutively transmitted (unacknowldeg) packes.
- After the sender recieves a **cumulative ACK** (acknowledgement of all packets up to n), the **sender** moves the **window forward to begin at n+1**.
- If a timeout occurs, simply retransmit the window.
- In the Go-Back-N protocol, the receiver sends an ACK for the correctly-received packets so far, with the highest in-order sequence numbers (This may generate duplicate ACKs).
- If the **receiver** receives **out-of-order packets**, they can either reorder them, or discard and re-ACK (it depends on the implementation).

RDT 3.0 — Pipelined Selective Repeat Protocol

- In the Selective Repeat protocol, the receiver individually acknowledges all correctly received pacakets.
 - The receiver buffers the packets, as needed, for an eventual in-order delivery to the upper layer.
- The sender retransmits unACKed packets.
 - The sender must maintain a timer for each unACKed packet.

sender -

data from above:

if next available seq # in window, send packet

timeout(*n*):

resend packet n, restart timer

ACK(n) in [sendbase,sendbase+N]:

- mark packet n as received
- if n smallest unACKed packet, advance window base to next unACKed seg #

-receiver

packet *n* in [rcvbase, rcvbase+N-1]

- send ACK(n)
- out-of-order: buffer
- in-order: deliver (also deliver buffered, in-order packets), advance window to next not-yetreceived packet

packet n in [rcvbase-N,rcvbase-1]

ACK(n)

otherwise:

ignore

Principals of Congestion Control

- Informally, congestion occurs when too may sources are sending data too fast for a network to handle.
 - Indicators that congestion is occurring are **long delays**, and **packet loss**.
- One the indicators of congestion occur, the sender should act accordingly.
- There is also **network-assisted congestion control**; **routers** provide **direct feedback** to the **sending** and **receiving** hosts (may indicate congestion level as-well).

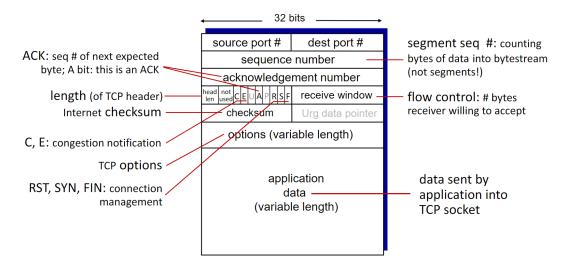
Connection-Oriented Transportation: TCP

Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) Overview

- TCP is is/does the following:
 - 1. **Point-To-Point**: There is one sender, and one receiver.
 - 2. Reliable, in-order byte stream: There are no "message boundaries".
 - 3. Full Duplex: There is bi-directional data flow in a single connection.
 - 4. **Pipelined**: TCP congestion and flow-control can set the window size.
 - 5. **Connection-Oriented**: Handshaking is used to initalize the sender and receiver state before the data exchange begins.
 - 6. Flow Controlled: The sender will not overwhelm the receiver.
 - 7. Supports cumulative ACKs.
- The TCP specification does not specify how to handle out-of-order packets; it is up to the specific implementation.
- The **TCP timeout period** must be carefully set. If it is **too short**, premature timeout occurs. If it is **too long**, there is a slow reaction to segment loss.
- To estimate the **route-trip time (RTT)** you do the following:
 - 1. Measure the time starting when a single segmant transmisstion is sent, and stopping when you receive an ACK receipt. Set EstimatedRTT equal to this time length.
 - 2. Repeat the process as your transmit more segments, updating the EstimatedRTT with the following formula: $EstimatedRTT = (1 \alpha) \times EstimatedRTT + \alpha \times SampleRTT$ (A typical α value is 0.125).

- When actually setting the timeout period, you should add a **saftey margin**.
- TCP Fast Re-Transmit: When the sender receives three ACKs for the same data, the sender should re-transmit all unACKed segments.

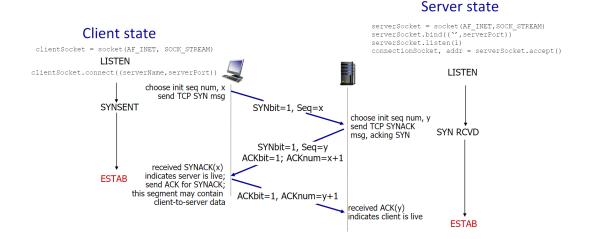
TCP Segment Structure



- TCP segments are composed of 10 sections:
 - 1. **Source Port**: The port the segment is coming from.
 - 2. **Destination Port**: The port the segment is going to.
 - 3. **Sequence Number**: The number of bytes in the bytestream.
 - 4. **Acknowledgements**: Sequence number of the next byte expected from the other side, and cumulative ACKs.
 - 5. Length and Flags: The length of the TCP header, and other flags.
 - 6. **Receive Window**: The number of bytes the receiver is willing to accept (flow control).
 - 7. Checksum: A checksum to verify the segment was received correctly.
 - 8. Url Data Pointer: Indicates how many bytes from the first are urgent.
 - 9. **TCP Options**: Additional options (variable length).
 - 10. **Application Data**: The payload (variable length).

TCP Connection Creation

- Before data is exchanged, the sender and the receiver perform a handshake.
- This let's both sides know that the other side agrees to establish a connection, and that they agree on connection parameters.
- TCP uses a 3-way handshake to establish a connection.



TCP Flow Control

- TCP flow control is achieved by the receiver setting the window section of the TCP segment specifying how many segments it is able to receive.
- This will prevent the receiver from being overwhelmed.

TCP Connection Termination

- To terminate a TCP connection, the client and the server both close their side of the connection; by sending a TCP segment with the FIN bit set to 1.
- They respond to the **FIN** with **ACK**; the ACK response can be combined with FIN.
- Simultaneous FIN exchanges can be handled.

TCP Congestion Control: AIMD

- AIMD stands for Additive Increase, Multiplicative Decrease.
- The sender can increase the sending rate until congestion occurs, then decrease.
 - When increasing the transmission rate, you increase the sending rate by 1 maximum segment size every RTT until loss is detected.
 - When decreasing the transmission rate, you cut the rate in half at each loss event.
- AIMD has been shown to optomize congested flow rates network-wide, and is stable.
- When a **connection** is first **established**, the segments should start off being sent **really slow**, **and increase exponentially until lose occurs**. After **loss occurs**, follow the **AIMD** principals.