Introduction to Sockets Programming in C using TCP/IP

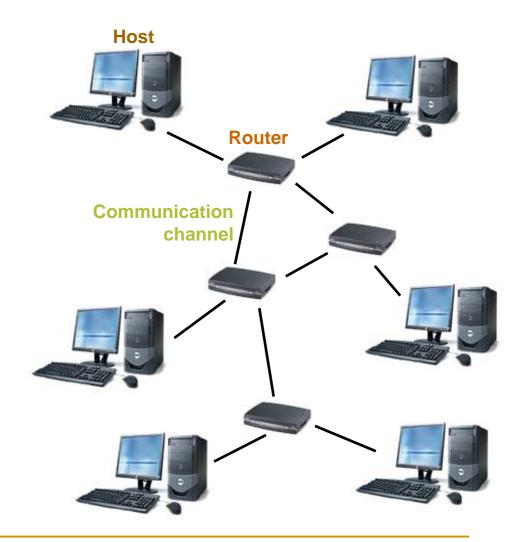
Professor: Panagiota Fatourou

TA: Eleftherios Kosmas

CSD - May 2012

Introduction

- Computer Network
 - hosts, routers, communication channels
- Hosts run applications
- Routers forward information
- Packets: sequence of bytes
 - contain control information
 - e.g. destination host
- Protocol is an agreement
 - meaning of packets
 - structure and size of packets
 - e.g. Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)



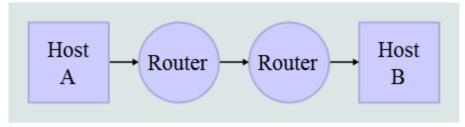
Protocol Families - TCP/IP

- Several protocols for different problems
- Protocol Suites or Protocol Families: TCP/IP
- TCP/IP provides end-to-end connectivity specifying how data should be
 - formatted,
 - addressed,
 - transmitted,
 - routed, and
 - received at the destination
- can be used in the internet and in stand-alone private networks
- it is organized into layers

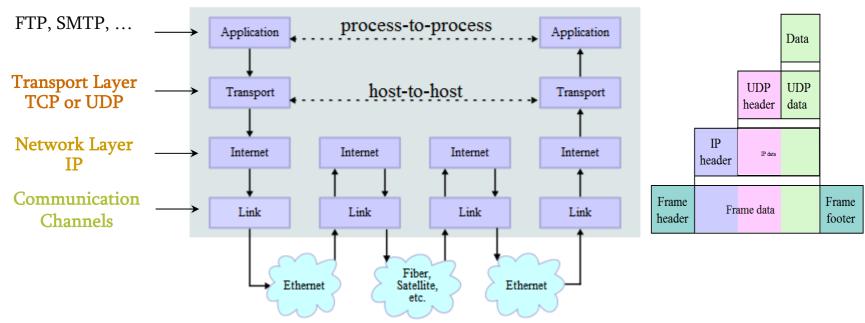
TCP/IP

Network Topology





Data Flow



^{*} image is taken from "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TCP/IP_model"

Internet Protocol (IP)

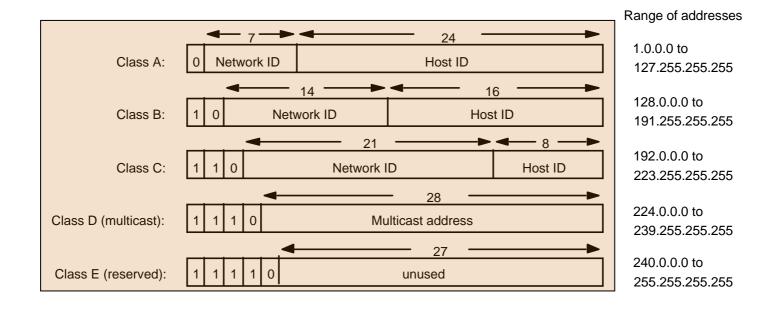
- provides a datagram service
 - packets are handled and delivered independently
- best-effort protocol
 - may loose, reorder or duplicate packets
- each packet must contain an IP address of its destination



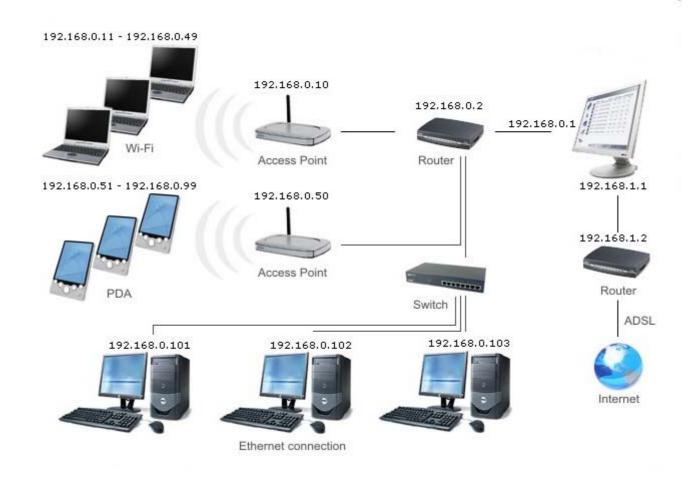


Addresses - IPv4

- The **32** bits of an IPv4 address are broken into **4 octets**, or 8 bit fields (0-255 value in decimal notation).
- For networks of different size,
 - □ the first one (for large networks) to three (for small networks) octets can be used to identify the network, while
 - □ the rest of the octets can be used to identify the **node** on the network.



Local Area Network Addresses - IPv4



TCP vs UDP

- Both use port numbers
 - application-specific construct serving as a communication endpoint
 - □ 16-bit unsigned integer, thus ranging from 0 to 65535
 - to provide end-to-end transport
- UDP: User Datagram Protocol
 - no acknowledgements
 - no retransmissions
 - out of order, duplicates possible
 - connectionless, i.e., app indicates destination for each packet
- TCP: Transmission Control Protocol
 - □ reliable byte-stream channel (in order, all arrive, no duplicates)
 - similar to file I/O
 - flow control
 - connection-oriented
 - bidirectional

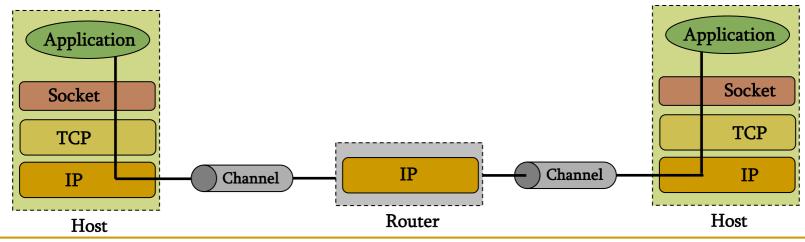
TCP vs UDP

- TCP is used for services with a large data capacity, and a persistent connection
- UDP is more commonly used for quick lookups, and single use query-reply actions.
- Some common examples of TCP and UDP with their default ports:

DNS lookup	UDP	53
FTP	TCP	21
HTTP	TCP	80
POP3	TCP	110
Telnet	TCP	23

Berkley Sockets

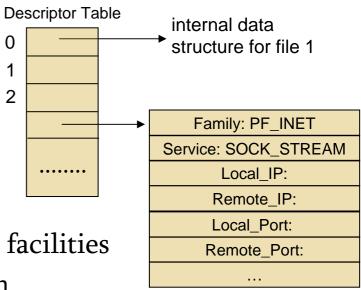
- Universally known as Sockets
- It is an abstraction through which an application may send and receive data
- Provide generic access to interprocess communication services
 - e.g. IPX/SPX, Appletalk, TCP/IP
- Standard API for networking



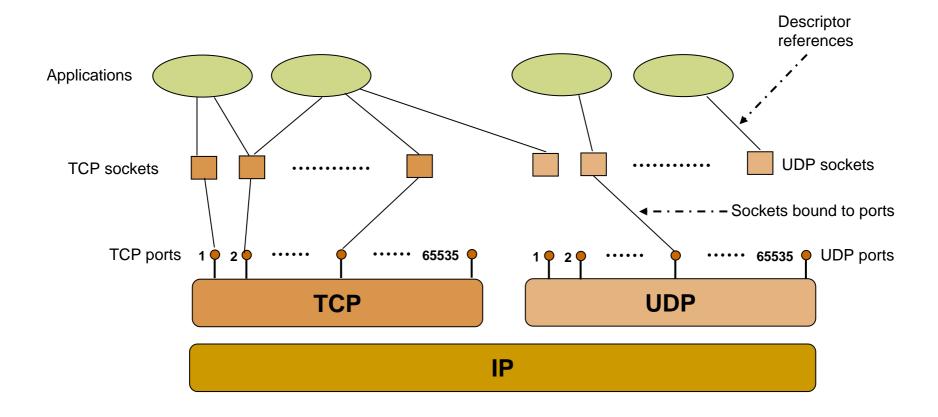


Sockets

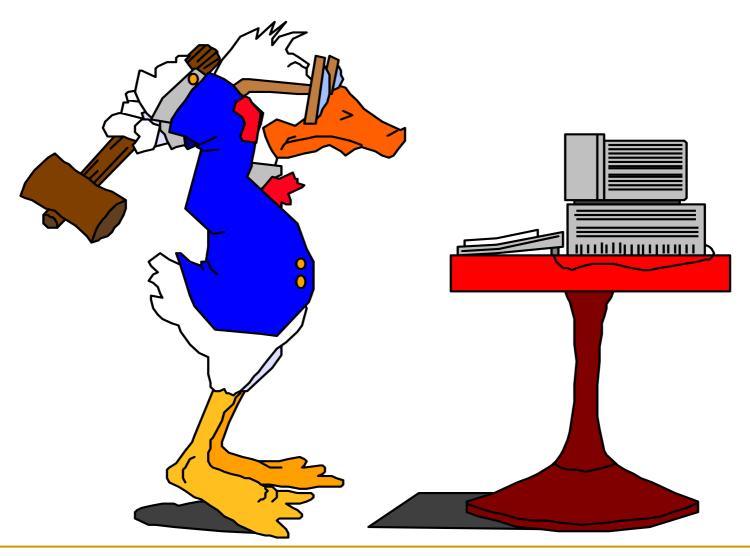
- Uniquely identified by
 - an internet address
 - an end-to-end protocol (e.g. TCP or UDP)
 - a port number
- Two types of (TCP/IP) sockets
 - Stream sockets (e.g. uses TCP)
 - provide reliable byte-stream service
 - Datagram sockets (e.g. uses UDP)
 - provide best-effort datagram service
 - messages up to 65.500 bytes
- Socket extend the convectional UNIX I/O facilities
 - file descriptors for network communication
 - extended the read and write system calls



Sockets



Socket Programming



Client-Server communication

Server

- passively waits for and responds to clients
- passive socket

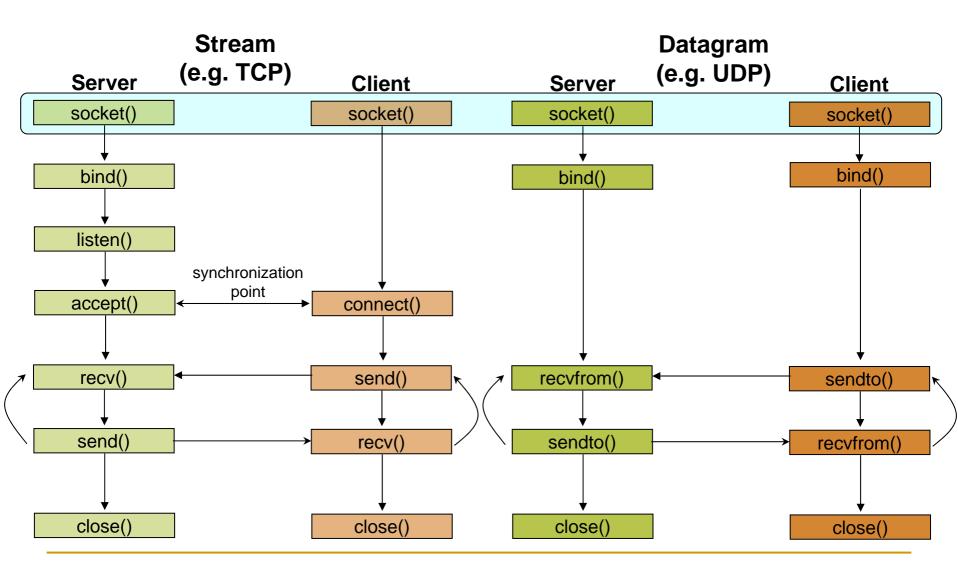
Client

- initiates the communication
- must know the address and the port of the server
- active socket

Sockets - Procedures

Primitive	Meaning	
Socket	Create a new communication endpoint	
Bind	Attach a local address to a socket	
Listen	Announce willingness to accept connections	
Accept	Block caller until a connection request arrives	
Connect	Actively attempt to establish a connection	
Send	Send some data over the connection	
Receive	Receive some data over the connection	
Close	Release the connection	

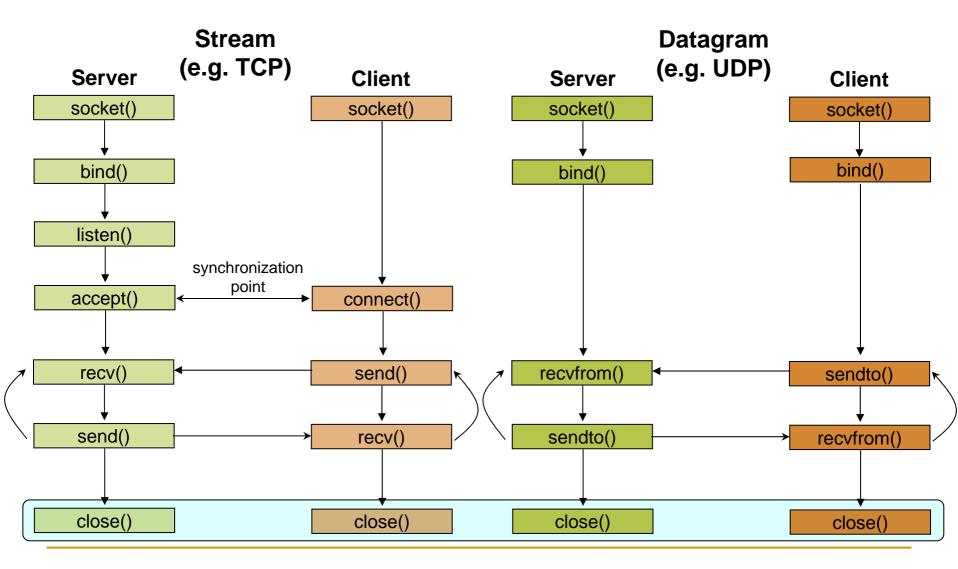
Client - Server Communication - Unix



Socket creation in C: socket()

- int sockid = socket(family, type, protocol);
 - sockid: socket descriptor, an integer (like a file-handle)
 - family: integer, communication domain, e.g.,
 - PF_INET, IPv4 protocols, Internet addresses (typically used)
 - PF_UNIX, Local communication, File addresses
 - type: communication type
 - SOCK_STREAM reliable, 2-way, connection-based service
 - SOCK_DGRAM unreliable, connectionless, messages of maximum length
 - protocol: specifies protocol
 - IPPROTO_TCP IPPROTO_UDP
 - usually set to 0 (i.e., use default protocol)
 - upon failure returns -1
- ▼ NOTE: socket call does not specify where data will be coming from, nor where it will be going to it just creates the interface!

Client - Server Communication - Unix



Socket close in C: close()

When finished using a socket, the socket should be closed

```
status = close(sockid);
```

- sockid: the file descriptor (socket being closed)
- status: 0 if successful, -1 if error
- Closing a socket
 - closes a connection (for stream socket)
 - frees up the port used by the socket

Specifying Addresses

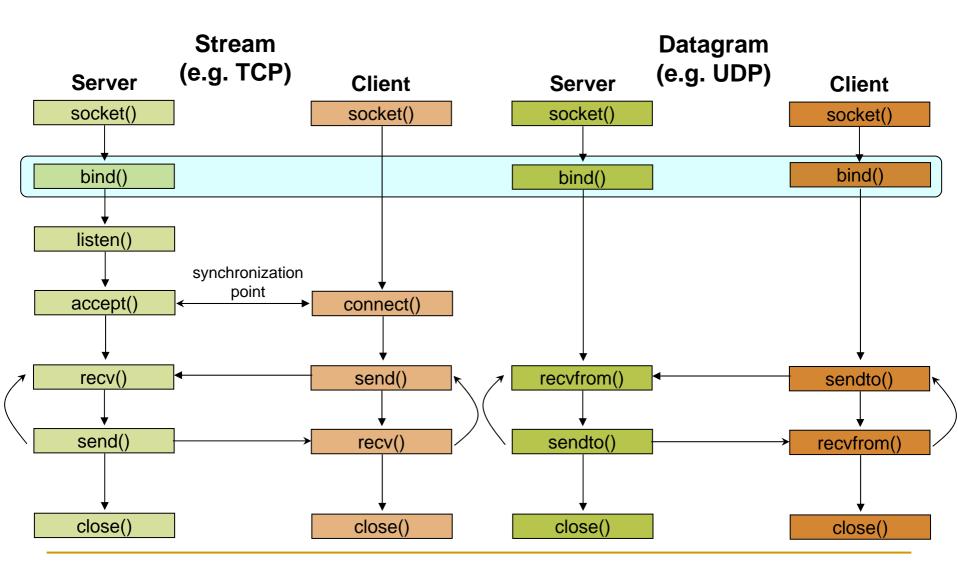
Socket API defines a generic data type for addresses:

```
struct sockaddr {
   unsigned short sa_family; /* Address family (e.g. AF_INET) */
   char sa_data[14]; /* Family-specific address information */
}
```

Particular form of the sockaddr used for TCP/IP addresses:

Important: sockaddr_in can be casted to a sockaddr

Client - Server Communication - Unix



Assign address to socket: bind()

associates and reserves a port for use by the socket

- int status = bind(sockid, &addrport, size);
 - sockid: integer, socket descriptor
 - **addrport**: struct sockaddr, the (IP) address and port of the machine
 - for TCP/IP server, internet address is usually set to INADDR_ANY, i.e., chooses any incoming interface
 - size: the size (in bytes) of the addrport structure
 - status: upon failure -1 is returned

bind()-Example with TCP

```
int sockid;
struct sockaddr_in addrport;
sockid = socket(PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0);

addrport.sin_family = AF_INET;
addrport.sin_port = htons(5100);
addrport.sin_addr.s_addr = htonl(INADDR_ANY);
if(bind(sockid, (struct sockaddr *) &addrport, sizeof(addrport))!= -1) {
    ...}
```

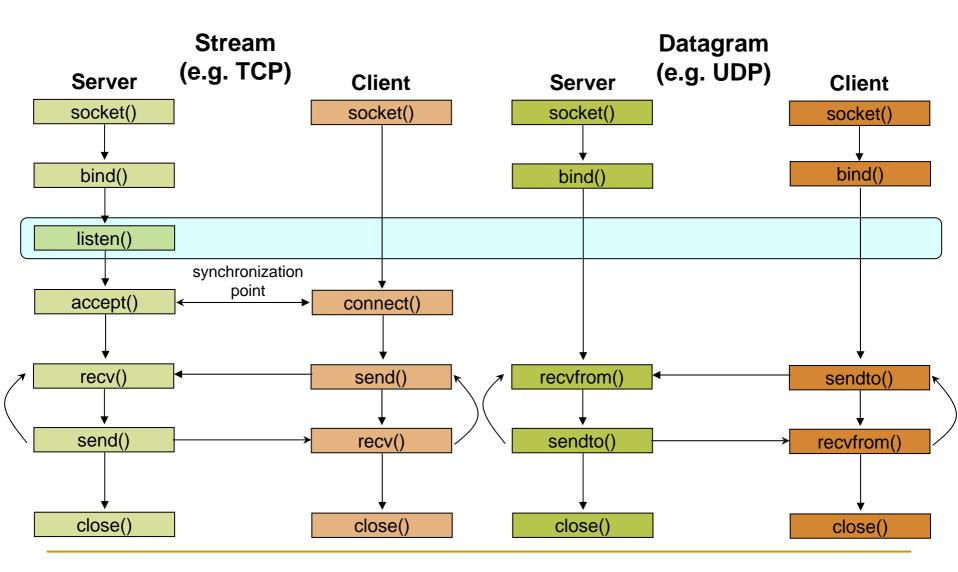
Skipping the bind()

bind can be skipped for both types of sockets

Datagram socket:

- if only sending, no need to bind. The OS finds a port each time the socket sends a packet
- if receiving, need to bind
- Stream socket:
 - destination determined during connection setup
 - don't need to know port sending from (during connection setup, receiving end is informed of port)

Client - Server Communication - Unix

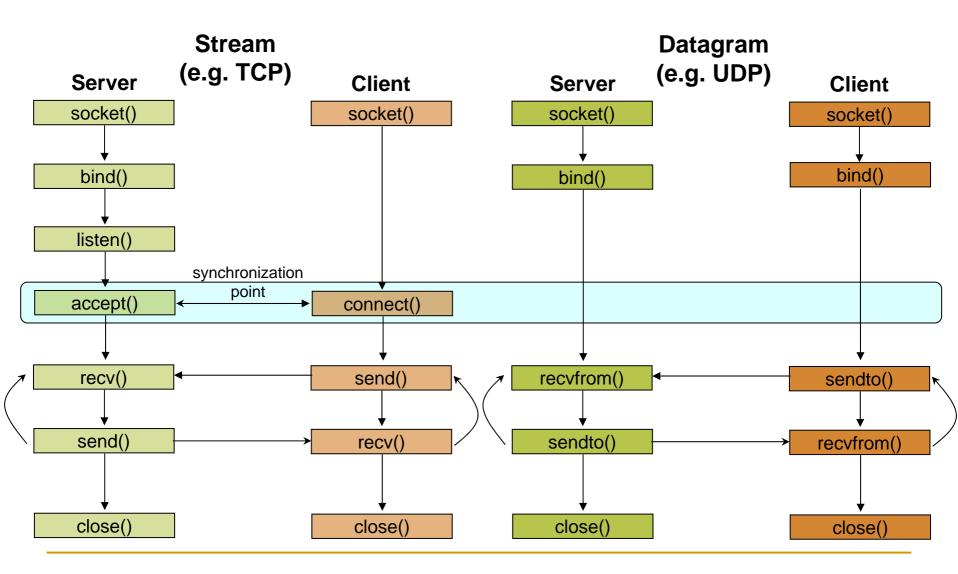


Assign address to socket: bind()

Instructs TCP protocol implementation to listen for connections

- int status = listen(sockid, queueLimit);
 - sockid: integer, socket descriptor
 - **queuelen**: integer, # of active participants that can "wait" for a connection
 - status: 0 if listening, -1 if error
- listen() is non-blocking: returns immediately
- The listening socket (sockid)
 - is never used for sending and receiving
 - is used by the server only as a way to get new sockets

Client - Server Communication - Unix



Establish Connection: connect()

 The client establishes a connection with the server by calling connect()

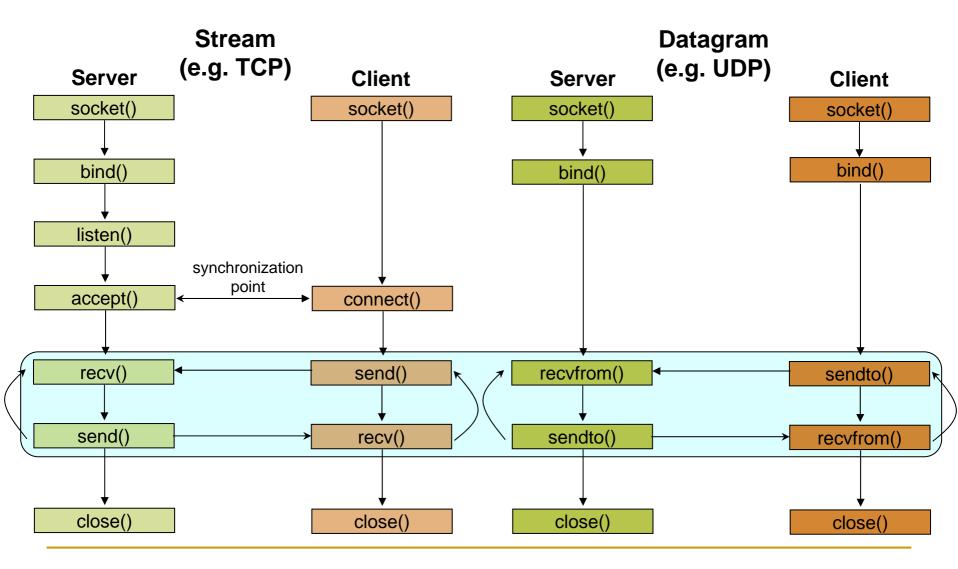
```
int status = connect(sockid, &foreignAddr, addrlen);
```

- sockid: integer, socket to be used in connection
- foreignAddr: struct sockaddr: address of the passive participant
- addrlen: integer, sizeof(name)
- status: 0 if successful connect, -1 otherwise
- connect() is blocking

Incoming Connection: accept()

- The server gets a socket for an incoming client connection by calling accept()
- int s = accept(sockid, &clientAddr, &addrLen);
 - s: integer, the new socket (used for data-transfer)
 - sockid: integer, the orig. socket (being listened on)
 - clientAddr: struct sockaddr, address of the active participant
 - filled in upon return
 - addrLen: sizeof(clientAddr): value/result parameter
 - must be set appropriately before call
 - adjusted upon return
- accept()
 - is blocking: waits for connection before returning
 - dequeues the next connection on the queue for socket (sockid)

Client - Server Communication - Unix



Exchanging data with stream socket

- int count = send(sockid, msg, msgLen, flags);
 - msg: const void[], message to be transmitted
 - msgLen: integer, length of message (in bytes) to transmit
 - flags: integer, special options, usually just 0
 - count: # bytes transmitted (-1 if error)
- int count = recv(sockid, recvBuf, bufLen, flags);
 - recvBuf: void[], stores received bytes
 - bufLen: # bytes received
 - flags: integer, special options, usually just 0
 - count: # bytes received (-1 if error)
- Calls are blocking
 - returns only after data is sent / received

Exchanging data with datagram socket

- int count = sendto(sockid, msg, msgLen, flags,
 &foreignAddr, addrlen);
 - msg, msgLen, flags, count: same with send()
 - foreignAddr: struct sockaddr, address of the destination
 - addrLen: sizeof(foreignAddr)
- int count = recvfrom(sockid, recvBuf, bufLen,
 flags, &clientAddr, addrlen);
 - recvBuf, bufLen, flags, count: same with recv()
 - clientAddr: struct sockaddr, address of the client
 - addrLen: sizeof(clientAddr)
- Calls are blocking
 - returns only after data is sent / received

Example - Echo

- A client communicates with an "echo" server
- The server simply echoes whatever it receives back to the client

Example - Echo using stream socket

The server starts by getting ready to receive client connections...

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- Close the connection

Server

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - Close the connection

Example - Echo using stream socket

```
/* Create socket for incoming connections */
if ((servSock = socket(PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, IPPROTO_TCP)) < 0)
    DieWithError("socket() failed");</pre>
```

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- Close the connection

Server

- 1. Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - Close the connection

Example - Echo using stream socket

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- 4. Close the connection

Server

- 1. Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - Close the connection

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - c. Close the connection

```
for (;;) /* Run forever */
{
   clntLen = sizeof(echoClntAddr);

   if ((clientSock=accept(servSock,(struct sockaddr *)&echoClntAddr,&clntLen))<0)
        DieWithError("accept() failed");
   ...</pre>
```

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - Close the connection

Server is now blocked waiting for connection from a client

• • •

A client decides to talk to the server

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Establish connection
- 3. Communicate
- Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - Close the connection

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - c. Close the connection

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Establish connection
- Communicate
- Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - c. Close the connection

Server's accept procedure in now unblocked and returns client's socket

```
for (;;) /* Run forever */
{
   clntLen = sizeof(echoClntAddr);

if ((clientSock=accept(servSock,(struct sockaddr *)&echoClntAddr,&clntLen))<0)
   DieWithError("accept() failed");
...</pre>
```

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - c. Close the connection

```
echoStringLen = strlen(echoString); /* Determine input length */

/* Send the string to the server */
if (send(clientSock, echoString, echoStringLen, 0) != echoStringLen)
    DieWithError("send() sent a different number of bytes than expected");
```

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- 3. Communicate
- Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - c. Close the connection

```
/* Receive message from client */
if ((recvMsgSize = recv(clntSocket, echoBuffer, RCVBUFSIZE, 0)) < 0)
    DieWithError("recv() failed");
/* Send received string and receive again until end of transmission */
while (recvMsgSize > 0) { /* zero indicates end of transmission */
    if (send(clientSocket, echobuffer, recvMsgSize, 0) != recvMsgSize)
        DieWithError("send() failed");
    if ((recvMsgSize = recv(clientSocket, echoBuffer, RECVBUFSIZE, 0)) < 0)
        DieWithError("recv() failed");
}</pre>
```

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- 3. Communicate
- 4. Close the connection

- 1. Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - Close the connection

Similarly, the client receives the data from the server

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Establish connection
- 3. Communicate
- 4. Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - **b.** Communicate
 - Close the connection

close(clientSock);

close(clientSock);

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- Establish connection
- Communicate
- 4. Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - c. Close the connection

Server is now blocked waiting for connection from a client

. . .

Client

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Establish connection
- Communicate
- 4. Close the connection

- Create a TCP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Set socket to listen
- 4. Repeatedly:
 - a. Accept new connection
 - b. Communicate
 - Close the connection

```
/* Create socket for sending/receiving datagrams */
if ((servSock = socket(PF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM, IPPROTO_UDP)) < 0)
    DieWithError("socket() failed");</pre>
```

Client

- 1. Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Communicate
- Close the socket

- Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- Repeatedly
 - Communicate

Client

DieWithError("connect() failed");

- 1. Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Communicate
- 4. Close the socket

- Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Repeatedly
 - Communicate

Client

- Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Communicate
- Close the socket

- Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Repeatedly
 - Communicate

Client

- Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Communicate
- 4. Close the socket

- 1. Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Repeatedly
 - Communicate

Similarly, the client receives the data from the server

Client

- Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Communicate
- Close the socket

- Create a UDP socket
- Assign a port to socket
- 3. Repeatedly
 - Communicate

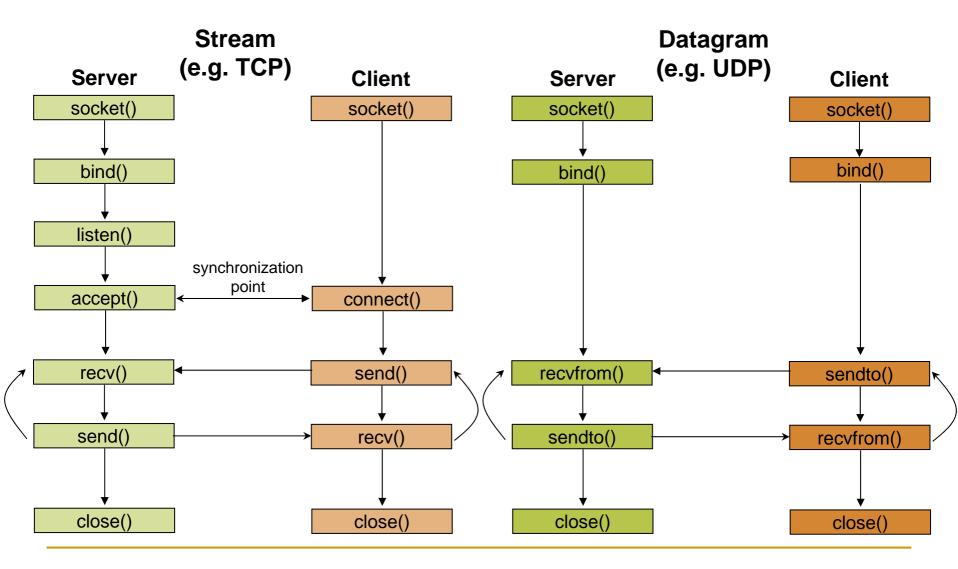
```
close(clientSock);
```

Client

- Create a UDP socket
- Assign a port to socket
- Communicate
- 4. Close the socket

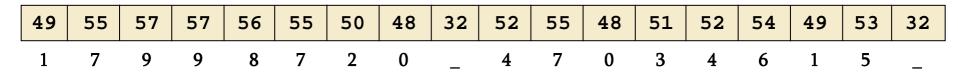
- Create a UDP socket
- 2. Assign a port to socket
- 3. Repeatedly
 - Communicate

Client - Server Communication - Unix



Constructing Messages - Encoding Data

- Client wants to send two integers x and y to server
- 1st Solution: Character Encoding
 - e.g. ASCII
 - the same representation is used to print or display them to screen
 - allows sending arbitrarily large numbers (at least in principle)
- e.g. x = 17,998,720 and y = 47,034,615



```
sprintf(msgBuffer, "%d %d ", x, y);
send(clientSocket, strlen(msgBuffer), 0);
```

Constructing Messages - Encoding Data

- Pitfalls
 - the second delimiter is required
 - otherwise the server will not be able to separate it from whatever it follows
 - msgBuffer must be large enough
 - strlen counts only the bytes of the message
 - not the null at the end of the string
- This solution is not efficient
 - each digit can be represented using 4 bits, instead of one byte
 - it is inconvenient to manipulate numbers
- 2^{nd} Solution: Sending the values of x and y

Constructing Messages - Encoding Data

- 2^{nd} Solution: Sending the values of x and y
 - pitfall: native integer format
 - a protocol is used
 - how many bits are used for each integer
 - what type of encoding is used (e.g. two's complement, sign/magnitude, unsigned)

1st Implementation

```
typedef struct {
  int x,y;
} msgStruct;
...
msgStruct.x = x; msgStruct.y = y;
send(clientSock, &msgStruct, sizeof(msgStruct), 0);
```

2nd Implementation

```
send(clientSock, &x, sizeof(x)), 0);
send(clientSock, &y, sizeof(y)), 0);
```

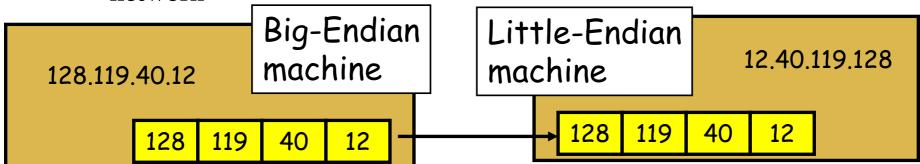
2nd implementation works in any case?

Constructing Messages - Byte Ordering

- Address and port are stored as integers
 - u_short sin_port; (16 bit)
 - in_addr sin_addr; (32 bit)

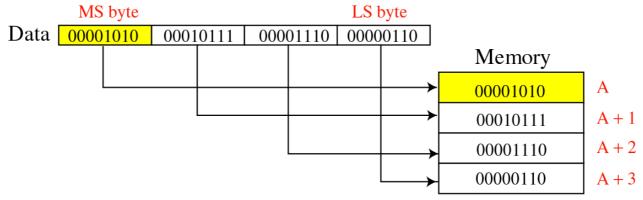
□ Problem:

- different machines / OS's use different word orderings
 - little-endian: lower bytes first
 - big-endian: higher bytes first
- these machines may communicate with one another over the network

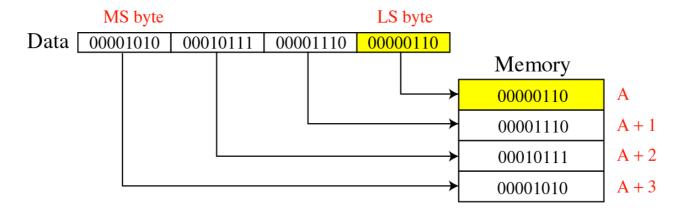


Constructing Messages - Byte Ordering

Big-Endian:

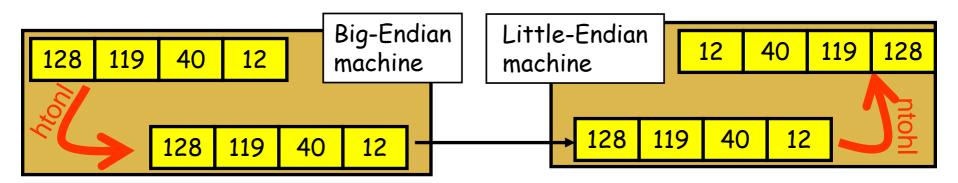


Little-Endian:



Constructing Messages - Byte Ordering - Solution: Network Byte Ordering

- Host Byte-Ordering: the byte ordering used by a host (big or little)
- Network Byte-Ordering: the byte ordering used by the network always big-endian
- u_long htonl(u_long x); u_long ntohl(u_long x);
- u_short htons(u_short x); u_short ntohs(u_short x);
- On big-endian machines, these routines do nothing
- □ On little-endian machines, they reverse the byte order



Constructing Messages - Byte Ordering - Example

Client

```
unsigned short clientPort, rcvBuffer;
unsigned int recvMsgSize;

if ( recvfrom(servSock, &rcvBuffer, sizeof(unsigned int), 0),
        (struct sockaddr *) &echoClientAddr, sizeof(echoClientAddr)) < 0)
        DieWithError("recvfrom() failed");

clientPort = ntohs(rcvBuffer);
printf ("Client's port: %d", clientPort);</pre>
```

Constructing Messages - Alignment and Padding

consider the following 12 byte structure

```
typedef struct {
  int x;
  short x2;
  int y;
  short y2;
} msgStruct;
```

- After compilation it will be a 14 byte structure!
- Why? \rightarrow Alignment!
- Remember the following rules:
 - data structures are maximally aligned, according to the size of the largest native integer
 - other multibyte fields are aligned to their size, e.g., a four-byte integer's address will be divisible by four



- This can be avoided
 - include padding to data structure
 - reorder fields

```
typedef struct {
  int x;
  short x2;
  char pad[2];
  int y;
  short y2;
} msgStruct;
```

```
typedef struct {
  int x;
  int y;
  short x2;
  short y2;
} msgStruct;
```

Constructing Messages - Framing and Parsing

- Framing is the problem of formatting the information so that the receiver can parse messages
- Parse means to locate the beginning and the end of message
- This is easy if the fields have fixed sizes
 - e.g., msgStruct
- For text-string representations is harder
 - Solution: use of appropriate delimiters
 - caution is needed since a call of recv may return the messages sent by multiple calls of send

Socket Options

- getsockopt and setsockopt allow socket options values to be queried and set, respectively
- int getsockopt (sockid, level, optName, optVal,
 optLen);
 - sockid: integer, socket descriptor
 - □ level: integer, the layers of the protocol stack (socket, TCP, IP)
 - optName: integer, option
 - optVal: pointer to a buffer; upon return it contains the value of the specified option
 - optLen: integer, in-out parameterit returns -1 if an error occured
- int setsockopt (sockid, level, optName, optVal,
 optLen);
 - optLen is now only an input parameter

Socket Options - Table

optName	Type	Values	Description
SOL_SOCKET Level	rm observation (Co		
SO_BROADCAST	int	0,1	Broadcast allowed
SO_KEEPALIVE	int	0,1	Keepalive messages enabled (if implemented by the protocol)
SO_LINGER	linger{}	time	Time to delay close() return waiting for confirmation (see Section 6.4.2)
SO_RCVBUF	int	bytes	Bytes in the socket receive buffer (see code on page 44 and Section 6.1)
SO_RCVLOWAT	int	bytes	Minimum number of available bytes that will cause recv() to return
SO_REUSEADDR	int	0,1	Binding allowed (under certain conditions) to an address or port already in use (see Section 6.4 and 6.5)
SO_SNDLOWAT	int	bytes	Minimum bytes to send a packet
SO_SNDBUF	int	bytes	Bytes in the socket send buffer (see Section 6.1)
IPPROTO_TCP Level			
TCP_MAX	int	seconds	Seconds between keepalive messages.
TCP_NODELAY	int	0,1	Disallow delay for data merging (Nagle's algorithm)
IPPROTO_IP Level			
IP_TTL	int	0-255	Time-to-live for unicast IP packets
IP_MULTICAST_TTL	unsigned char	0-255	Time-to-live for multicast IP packets (see MulticastSender.c on page 81)
IP_MULTICAST_LOOP	int	0,1	Enables multicast socket to receive packets it sent
IP_ADD_MEMBERSHIP	ip_mreq{}	group address	Enables reception of packets ad- dressed to the specified multicast group (see MulticastReceiver.c on page 83)—set only
IP_DROP_MEMBERSHIP	ip_mreq{}	group address	Disables reception of packets addressed to the specified multicast group—set only

Socket Options - Example

 Fetch and then double the current number of bytes in the socket's receive buffer

```
int rcvBufferSize:
int sockOptSize;
/* Retrieve and print the default buffer size */
sockOptSize = sizeof(recvBuffSize);
if (getsockopt(sock, SOL SOCKET, SO RCVBUF, &rcvBufferSize, &sockOptSize) < 0)</pre>
   DieWithError("getsockopt() failed");
printf("Initial Receive Buffer Size: %d\n", rcvBufferSize);
/* Double the buffer size */
recvBufferSize *= 2;
/* Set the buffer size to new value */
if (setsockopt(sock, SOL_SOCKET, SO_RCVBUF, &rcvBufferSize,
                 sizeof(rcvBufferSize)) < 0)</pre>
 DieWithError("getsockopt() failed");
```

Dealing with blocking calls

- Many of the functions we saw block (by default) until a certain event
 - accept: until a connection comes in
 - connect: until the connection is established
 - recv, recvfrom: until a packet (of data) is received
 - what if a packet is lost (in datagram socket)?
 - send: until data are pushed into socket's buffer
 - □ sendto: until data are given to the network subsystem
- For simple programs, blocking is convenient
- What about more complex programs?
 - multiple connections
 - simultaneous sends and receives
 - simultaneously doing non-networking processing

Dealing with blocking calls

- Non-blocking Sockets
- Asynchronous I/O
- Timeouts

Non-blocking Sockets

- If an operation can be completed immediately, success is returned;
 otherwise, a failure is returned (usually -1)
 - errno is properly set, to distinguish this (blocking) failure from other (EINPROGRESS for connect, EWOULDBLOCK for the other)
- 1st Solution: int fcntl (sockid, command, argument);
 - sockid: integer, socket descriptor
 - □ command: integer, the operation to be performed (F_GETFL, F_SETFL)
 - □ **argument**: long, e.g. **O_NONBLOCK**
 - fcntl (sockid, F_SETFL, O_NONBLOCK);
- 2nd Solution: flags parameter of send, recv, sendto, recvfrom
 - □ MSG DONTWAIT
 - not supported by all implementations

Signals

- Provide a mechanism for operating system to notify processes that certain events occur
 - e.g., the user typed the "interrupt" character, or a timer expired
- signals are delivered asynchronously
- upon signal delivery to program
 - it may be ignored, the process is never aware of it
 - the program is forcefully terminated by the OS
 - a signal-handling routine, specified by the program, is executed
 - this happens in a different thread
 - □ the signal is blocked, until the program takes action to allow its delivery
 - each process (or thread) has a corresponding mask
- Each signal has a default behavior
 - e.g. SIGINT (i.e., Ctrl+C) causes termination
 - it can be changed using sigaction()
- Signals can be nested (i.e., while one is being handled another is delivered)

Signals

- int sigaction(whichSignal, &newAction, &oldAction);
 - whichSignal: integer
 - newAction: struct sigaction, defines the new behavior
 - oldAction: struct sigaction, if not NULL, then previous behavior is copied
 - □ it returns 0 on success, -1 otherwise

```
struct sigaction {
   void (*sa_handler)(int); /* Signal handler */
   sigset_t sa_mask; /* Signals to be blocked during handler execution */
   int sa_flags; /* Flags to modify default behavior */
};
```

- sa_handler determines which of the first three possibilities occurs when signal is delivered, i.e., it is not masked
 - □ SIG_IGN, SIG_DFL, address of a function
- sa_mask specifies the signals to be blocked while handling whichSignal
 - □ whichSignal is always blocked
 - it is implemented as a set of boolean flags

```
int sigemptyset (sigset_t *set); /* unset all the flags */
int sigfullset (sigset_t *set); /* set all the flags */
int sigaddset(sigset_t *set, int whichSignal); /* set individual flag */
int sigdelset(sigset_t *set, int whichSignal); /* unset individual flag */
```

Signals - Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <signal.h>
#include <unistd.h>
void DieWithError(char *errorMessage);
void InterruptSignalHandler(int signalType);
int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {
                                                     /* Signal handler specification structure */
   struct sigaction handler;
   handler.sa_handler = InterruptSignalHandler; /* Set handler function */
   if (sigfillset(&handler.sa_mask) < 0)</pre>
                                                     /* Create mask that masks all signals */
      DieWithError ("sigfillset() failed");
   handler.sa flags = 0;
                                                     /* Set signal handling for interrupt signals */
   if (sigaction(SIGINT, &handler, 0) < 0)
      DieWithError ("sigaction() failed");
                                                     /* Suspend program until signal received */
   for(;;) pause();
   exit(0);
void InterruptHandler (int signalType) {
   printf ("Interrupt received. Exiting program.\n);
   exit(1);
```

Asynchronous I/O

- Non-blocking sockets require "polling"
- With asynchronous I/O the operating system informs the program when a socket call is completed
 - the **SIGIO** signal is delivered to the process, when some I/O-related event occurs on the socket
- Three steps:

```
/* i. inform the system of the desired disposition of the signal */
    struct sigaction handler;
    handler.sa_handler = SIGIOHandler;
    if (sigfillset(&handler.sa_mask) < 0) DiewithError("...");
    handler.sa_flags = 0;
    if (sigaction(SIGIO, &handler, 0) < 0) DieWithError("...");

/* ii. ensure that signals related to the socket will be delivered to this process */
    if (fcntl(sock, F_SETOWN, getpid()) < 0) DieWithError();

/* iii. mark the socket as being primed for asynchronous I/O */
    if (fcntl(sock, F_SETFL, O_NONBLOCK | FASYNC) < 0) DieWithError();</pre>
```

Timeouts

- Using asynchronous I/O the operating system informs the program for the occurrence of an I/O related event
 - what happens if a UPD packet is lost?
- We may need to know if something doesn't happen after some time
- unsigned int alarm (unsigned int secs);
 - starts a timer that expires after the specified number of seconds (secs)
 - returns
 - the number of seconds remaining until any previously scheduled alarm was due to be delivered,
 - or zero if there was no previously scheduled alarm
 - process receives SIGALARM signal when timer expires and errno is set to EINTR

Asynchronous I/O - Example

```
/* Inform the system of the <u>desired disposition</u> of the signal */
  struct sigaction myAction;
  myAction.sa handler = CatchAlarm;
  if (sigfillset(&myAction.sa mask) < 0) DiewithError("...");</pre>
  myAction.sa flags = 0;
  if (sigaction(SIGALARM, &handler, 0) < 0) DieWithError("...");
/* Set alarm */
  alarm(TIMEOUT SECS);
/* Call blocking receive */
  if (recvfrom(sock, echoBuffer, ECHOMAX, 0, ... ) < 0) {</pre>
      if (errno = EINTR) ... /*Alarm went off */
      else DieWithError("recvfrom() failed");
```

Iterative Stream Socket Server

- Handles one client at a time
- Additional clients can connect while one is being served
 - connections are established
 - they are able to send requests
 - but, the server will respond after it finishes with the first client
- Works well if each client required a small, bounded amount of work by the server
- otherwise, the clients experience long delays

Iterative Server - Example: echo using stream socket

```
/* for printf() and fprintf() */
#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/socket.h> /* for socket(), bind(), connect(), recv() and send() */
#include <arpa/inet.h> /* for sockaddr in and inet ntoa() */
#include <stdlib.h> /* for atoi() and exit() */
#include <string.h> /* for memset() */
#include <unistd.h>
                    /* for close() */
#define MAXPENDING 5 /* Maximum outstanding connection requests */
void DieWithError(char *errorMessage); /* Error handling function */
void HandleTCPClient(int clntSocket);  /* TCP client handling function */
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
                                 /* Socket descriptor for server */
   int servSock;
   int clntSock;
                                /* Socket descriptor for client */
   struct sockaddr in echoServAddr; /* Local address */
   struct sockaddr in echoClntAddr; /* Client address */
   if (argc != 2) { /* Test for correct number of arguments */
       fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s <Server Port>\n", argv[0]);
       exit(1);
   echoServPort = atoi(argv[1]); /* First arg: local port */
   /* Create socket for incoming connections */
   if ((servSock = socket(PF INET, SOCK STREAM, IPPROTO TCP)) < 0)</pre>
       DieWithError("socket() failed");
```

Iterative Server - Example: echo using stream socket

/* Construct local address structure */ memset(&echoServAddr, 0, sizeof(echoServAddr)); /* Zero out structure */ /* Internet address family */ echoServAddr.sin_family = AF_INET; echoServAddr.sin addr.s addr = htonl(INADDR ANY); /* Any incoming interface */ /* Bind to the local address */ if (bind(servSock, (struct sockaddr *) &echoServAddr, sizeof(echoServAddr)) < 0) DieWithError("bind() failed"); /* Mark the socket so it will listen for incoming connections */ if (listen(servSock, MAXPENDING) < 0)</pre> DieWithError("listen() failed"); for (;;) /* Run forever */ /* Set the size of the in-out parameter */ clntLen = sizeof(echoClntAddr); /* Wait for a client to connect */ if ((clntSock = accept(servSock, (struct sockaddr *) &echoClntAddr, &clntLen) < 0) DieWithError("accept() failed"); /* clntSock is connected to a client! */ printf("Handling client %s\n", inet_ntoa(echoClntAddr.sin_addr)); HandleTCPClient(clntSock); /* NOT REACHED */

Iterative Server - Example: echo using stream socket

```
#define RCVBUFSIZE 32
                    /* Size of receive buffer */
void HandleTCPClient(int clntSocket)
   /* Size of received message */
   int recvMsqSize;
   /* Receive message from client */
   if ((recvMsgSize = recv(clntSocket, echoBuffer, RCVBUFSIZE, 0)) < 0)</pre>
       DieWithError("recv() failed");
   /* Send received string and receive again until end of transmission */
   while (recvMsgSize > 0) /* zero indicates end of transmission */
       /* Echo message back to client */
       if (send(clntSocket, echoBuffer, recvMsgSize, 0) != recvMsgSize)
          DieWithError("send() failed");
       /* See if there is more data to receive */
       if ((recvMsgSize = recv(clntSocket, echoBuffer, RCVBUFSIZE, 0)) < 0)</pre>
           DieWithError("recv() failed");
   close(clntSocket); /* Close client socket */
```

Multitasking - Per-Client Process

- For each client connection request, a new process is created to handle the communication
- int fork();
 - a new process is created, identical to the calling process, except for its process ID and the return value it receives from fork()
 - returns 0 to child process, and the process ID of the new child to parent

Caution:

- when a child process terminates, it does not automatically disappears
- use waitpid() to parent in order to "harvest" zombies

Multitasking - Per-Client Process

- Example: echo using stream socket

```
/* for waitpid() */
#include <sys/wait.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
  int servSock;
                              /* Socket descriptor for server */
                             /* Socket descriptor for client */
  int clntSock;
  unsigned short echoServPort; /* Server port */
  pid t processID;
                  /* Process ID from fork()*/
  unsigned int childProcCount = 0; /* Number of child processes */
  if (argc != 2) { /* Test for correct number of arguments */
     fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s <Server Port>\n", argv[0]);
     exit(1);
  echoServPort = atoi(argv[1]);     /* First arg: local port */
  servSock = CreateTCPServerSocket(echoServPort);
  for (;;) { /* Run forever */
     clntSock = AcceptTCPConnection(servSock);
     if ((processID = fork()) < 0) DieWithError ("fork() failed"); /* Fork child process */
     else if (processID = 0) { /* This is the child process */
       HandleTCPClient(clntSock);
                               /* child process terminates */
       exit(0);
     childProcCount++; /* Increment number of outstanding child processes */
```

Multitasking - Per-Client Process

- Example: echo using stream socket

Multitasking - Per-Client Thread

- Forking a new process is expensive
 - duplicate the entire state (memory, stack, file/socket descriptors, ...)
- Threads decrease this cost by allowing multitasking within the same process
 - threads share the same address space (code and data)

An example is provided using POSIX Threads

Multitasking - Per-Client Thread

- Example: echo using stream socket

```
#include <pthread.h>
                                   /* for POSIX threads */
void *ThreadMain(void *arg)
                                 /* Main program of a thread */
struct ThreadArgs {
                               /* Structure of arguments to pass to client thread */
                               /* socket descriptor for client */
   int clntSock:
};
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
  int servSock;
                                  /* Socket descriptor for server */
                                 /* Socket descriptor for client */
  int clntSock;
  pthread_t threadID;
                                 /* Thread ID from pthread_create()*/
  struct ThreadArgs *threadArgs; /* Pointer to argument structure for thread */
  if (argc != 2) { /* Test for correct number of arguments */
     fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s <Server Port>\n", argv[0]);
     exit(1);
  echoServPort = atoi(argv[1]);     /* First arg: local port */
   servSock = CreateTCPServerSocket(echoServPort);
  for (;;) { /* Run forever */
     clntSock = AcceptTCPConnection(servSock);
     /* Create separate memory for client argument */
     if ((threadArgs = (struct ThreadArgs *) malloc(sizeof(struct ThreadArgs)))) == NULL) DieWithError("...");
     threadArgs -> clntSock = clntSock;
     /* Create client thread */
     if (pthread create (&threadID, NULL, ThreadMain, (void *) threadArgs) != 0) DieWithError("...");
   /* NOT REACHED */
```

Multitasking - Per-Client Thread

- Example: echo using stream socket

Multitasking - Constrained

- Both process and thread incurs overhead
 - creation, scheduling and context switching
- As their numbers increases
 - this overhead increases
 - after some point it would be better if a client was blocked
- Solution: Constrained multitasking. The server:
 - begins, creating, binding and listening to a socket
 - creates a number of processes, each loops forever and accept connections from the same socket
 - when a connection is established
 - the client socket descriptor is returned to only one process
 - the other remain blocked

Multitasking - Constrained

- Example: echo using stream socket

```
/* Main program of process */
void ProcessMain(int servSock);
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
   int servSock;
                                 /* Socket descriptor for server*/
   unsigned short echoServPort;  /* Server port */
   pid_t processID;
                                /* Process ID */
                              /* Number of child processes to create */
   unsigned int processLimit;
                              /* Process counter */
   unsigned int processCt;
   if (argc != 3) { /* Test for correct number of arguments */
       fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s <SERVER PORT> <FORK LIMIT>\n", argv[0]);
       exit(1);
   echoServPort = atoi(argv[1]); /* First arg: local port */
   processLimit = atoi(argv[2]); /* Second arg: number of child processes */
   servSock = CreateTCPServerSocket(echoServPort);
   for (processCt=0; processCt < processLimit; processCt++)</pre>
       else if (processID == 0) ProcessMain(servSock);
                                                                /* If this is the child process */
   exit(0); /* The children will carry on */
void ProcessMain(int servSock) {
   int clntSock;
                               /* Socket descriptor for client connection */
   for (;;) { /* Run forever */
       clntSock = AcceptTCPConnection(servSock);
       printf("with child process: %d\n", (unsigned int) getpid());
       HandleTCPClient(clntSock);
```

Multiplexing

- So far, we have dealt with a single I/O channel
- We may need to cope with multiple I/O channels
 - e.g., supporting the echo service over multiple ports
- Problem: from which socket the server should accept connections or receive messages?
 - it can be solved using non-blocking sockets
 - 🧚 but it requires polling
- Solution: select()
 - specifies a list of descriptors to check for pending I/O operations
 - blocks until one of the descriptors is ready
 - returns which descriptors are ready

Multiplexing

- int select (maxDescPlus1, &readDescs, &writeDescs,
 &exceptionDescs, &timeout);
 - maxDescsPlus1: integer, hint of the maximum number of descriptors
 - readDescs: fd_set, checked for immediate input availability
 - writeDescs: fd_set, checked for the ability to immediately write data
 - exceptionDescs: fd_set, checked for pending exceptions
 - □ timeout: struct timeval, how long it blocks (NULL → forever)
 - returns the total number of ready descriptors, -1 in case of error
 - changes the descriptor lists so that only the corresponding positions are set

```
struct timeval {
   time_t tv_sec; /* seconds */
   time_t tv_usec; /* microseconds */
};
```

Multiplexing - Example: echo using stream socket

```
#include <sys/time.h> /* for struct timeval {} */
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
  /* Set of socket descriptors for select() */
/* Timeout value given on command-line */
  fd set sockSet;
   long timeout;
  struct timeval selTimeout;
                         /* Timeout for select() */
  int running = 1;
                        /* 1 if server should be running; 0 otherwise */
                       /* Number of port specified on command-line */
   int noPorts;
                         /* Looping variable for ports */
   int port;
  unsigned short portNo; /* Actual port number */
  if (argc < 3) { /* Test for correct number of arguments */
     fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s <Timeout (secs.)> <Port 1> ...\n", argv[0]);
     exit(1);
  /* Number of ports is argument count minus 2 */
  noPorts = argc - 2;
  servSock = (int *) malloc(noPorts * sizeof(int)); /* Allocate list of sockets for incoming connections */
  maxDescriptor = -1;
                                      /* Initialize maxDescriptor for use by select() */
  servSock[port] = CreateTCPServerSocket(portNo); /* Create port socket */
     maxDescriptor = servSock[port];
```

Multiplexing - Example: echo using stream socket

```
printf("Starting server: Hit return to shutdown\n");
while (running) {
   /* Zero socket descriptor vector and set for server sockets */
   /* This must be reset every time select() is called */
   FD ZERO(&sockSet);
   FD SET(STDIN FILENO, &sockSet); /* Add keyboard to descriptor vector */
   for (port = 0; port < noPorts; port++) FD_SET(servSock[port], &sockSet);</pre>
   /* Timeout specification */
   /* This must be reset every time select() is called */
   /* 0 microseconds */
   selTimeout.tv_usec = 0;
   /* Suspend program until descriptor is ready or timeout */
   if (select(maxDescriptor + 1, &sockSet, NULL, NULL, &selTimeout) == 0)
       printf("No echo requests for %ld secs...Server still alive\n", timeout);
   else {
       if (FD_ISSET(0, &sockSet)) { /* Check keyboard */
           printf("Shutting down server\n");
           getchar();
           running = 0;
       for (port = 0; port < noPorts; port++)</pre>
           if (FD_ISSET(servSock[port], &sockSet)) {
               printf("Request on port %d: ", port);
               HandleTCPClient(AcceptTCPConnection(servSock[port]));
for (port = 0; port < noPorts; port++) close(servSock[port]); /* Close sockets */</pre>
                                                            /* Free list of sockets */
free(servSock);
exit(0);
```

Multiple Recipients

- So far, all sockets have dealt with unicast communication
 - i.e., an one-to-one communication, where one copy ("uni") of the data is sent ("cast")
- what if we want to send data to multiple recipients?
- 1st Solution: unicast a copy of the data to each recipient
 - inefficient, e.g.,
 - consider we are connected to the internet through a 3Mbps line
 - a video server sends 1-Mbps streams
 - then, server can support only three clients simultaneously
- **2**nd **Solution**: using network support
 - broadcast, all the hosts of the network receive the message
 - multicast, a message is sent to some subset of the host
 - for IP: only UDP sockets are allowed to broadcast and multicast

Multiple Recipients - Broadcast

- Only the IP address changes
- Local broadcast: to address 255.255.255.255
 - send the message to every host on the same broadcast network
 - not forwarded by the routers
- Directed broadcast:
 - for network identifier 169.125 (i.e., with subnet mask 255.255.0.0)
 - □ the directed broadcast address is 169.125.255.255
- No network-wide broadcast address is available
 - why?
- In order to use broadcast the options of socket must change:

```
int broadcastPermission = 1;
setsockopt(sock, SOL_SOCKET, SO_BROADCAST, (void*)
   &broadcastPermission, sizeof(broadcastPermission));
```

Multiple Recipients - Multicast

- Using class D addresses
 - range from 224.0.0.0 to 239.255.255.255
- hosts send multicast requests for specific addresses
- a multicast group is formed
- we need to set TTL (time-to-live), to limit the number of hops using sockopt()
- no need to change the options of socket

Useful Functions

- int atoi(const char *nptr);
 - converts the initial portion of the string pointed to by nptr to int
- int inet_aton(const char *cp, struct in_addr *inp);
 - onverts the Internet host address cp from the IPv4 numbers-and-dots notation into binary form (in network byte order)
 - stores it in the structure that inp points to.
 - it returns nonzero if the address is valid, and 0 if not
- char *inet_ntoa(struct in_addr in);
 - converts the Internet host address in, given in network byte order, to a string in IPv4 dotted-decimal notation

```
typedef uint32_t in_addr_t;
struct in_addr {
   in_addr_t s_addr;
};
```

Useful Functions

- int getpeername(int sockfd, struct sockaddr *addr, socklen_t *addrlen);
 - returns the address (IP and port) of the peer connected to the socket sockfd, in the buffer pointed to by addr
 - □ 0 is returned on success; -1 otherwise
- int getsockname(int sockfd, struct sockaddr *addr, socklen_t *addrlen);
 - returns the current address to which the socket sockfd is bound, in the buffer pointed to by addr
 - □ 0 is returned on success; -1 otherwise

Domain Name Service

- struct hostent *gethostbyname(const char *name);
 - returns a structure of type hostent for the given host name
 - name is a hostname, or an IPv4 address in standard dot notation
 e.g. gethostbyname("www.csd.uoc.gr");
- struct hostent *gethostbyaddr(const void *addr, socklen_t len, int type);
 - returns a structure of type hostent for the given host address addr of length len and address type type

Domain Name Service

- struct servent *getservbyname(const char *name, const char *proto);
 - returns a servent structure for the entry from the database that matches the service name using protocol proto.
 - if proto is NULL, any protocol will be matched.

```
e.g. getservbyname("echo", "tcp");
```

- struct servent *getservbyport(int port, const char
 *proto);
 - returns a servent structure for the entry from the database that matches the service name using port port

Compiling and Executing

- include the required header files
- Example:

```
milo:~/CS556/sockets> qcc -o TCPEchoServer TCPEchoServer.c DieWithError.c HandleTCPClient.c
milo:~/CS556/sockets> gcc -o TCPEchoClient TCPEchoClient.c DieWithError.c
milo:~/CS556/sockets> TCPEchoServer 3451 &
[1] 6273
milo:~/CS556/sockets> TCPEchoClient 0.0.0.0 hello! 3451
Handling client 127.0.0.1
Received: hello!
milo:~/CS556/sockets> ps
  PID TTY
                   TIME CMD
 5128 pts/9 00:00:00 tcsh
 6273 pts/9 00:00:00 TCPEchoServer
 6279 pts/9 00:00:00 ps
milo:~/CS556/sockets> kill 6273
milo:~/CS556/sockets>
[1]
       Terminated
                                     TCPEchoServer 3451
milo:~/CS556/sockets>
```

The End - Questions

