

Network Layer

→ Network layer is the third layer in the OSI model. Its main function is to transfer packets from source to destination. It is involved both at the source host and the destination host. At the source, it accepts a packet from the transport layer, encapsulates it in a datagram and then deliver the packet to the data link layer so that it can further be sent to the receiver. At the destination, the datagram is decapsulated the packet is extracted and delivered to the corresponding transport layer.

Functionalities:

Device which work on NW layer mainly focus on routing.

- Addressing devices and NW's
- populating routing tables or static routes
- queuing incoming and outgoing data and then forwarding them according to quality of service constraints set for those packets
- internetworking b/w two different subnets.
- delivering packets to destination with best efforts.
- provides connection oriented and connection less mechanism.

Features:

- Quality of service management
- load balancing and link management
- security
- interrelation of different protocols and subnet with different scheme
- different logical NW design over the physical NW design.

Address mapping: An internet is made of combination of physical NW's connected by internetworking devices such as routers.

the hosts and routers are recognized at the new level by their logical (IP) addresses.

Forwarding:-

- Forwarding means to place the packet in its route to its destination.
- Forwarding requires a host or a router to have a routing table. When a host has a packet to send or when a router has received a packet to be forwarded, it looks at the table to find the route to the final destination.
- However, this simple solution is impossible today in an internetwork such as the internet because the no. of entries needed in the routing table would make table lookups inefficient.
- we have
- Forwarding techniques
- Forwarding process
- Routing table

i) Forwarding techniques:-

There are several techniques which can make the size of routing table manageable and also handle issues like security. They are:

- a) Next-Hop method versus Route method.
- b) Network-specific method versus Host-specific method.
- c) Default method.

a) Next-Hop method versus Route method:-

- One technique to reduce the contents of a routing table is called next-HOP method.
- In this technique, the routing table holds only the address of the next hop instead of information about the complete route. The entries of a routing table must be consistent with one another.

a) Routing tables based on route

destination	ROUTE
HOST B	R ₁ , R ₂ , HOST B

b) Routing tables based on next hop

destination	nexthop
HOST B	R ₁

destination	ROUTE
HOST B	R ₂ , HOST B

Routing
table for
R₁

destination	nexthop
HOST B	R ₂

destination	ROUTE
HOST B	HOST B

Routing
table for
R₂

destination	nexthop
HOST B	-

Host A

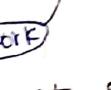


R₁

network

network

Host B



R₂

network

b) network-specific method versus host-specific method:

→ A second technique to reduce the routing table and simplify the searching process is called the nlw-specific method.

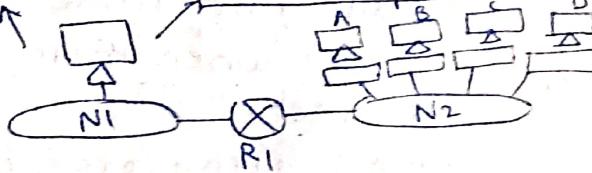
→ Here, instead of having an entry for every destination host connected to the same physical nlw, we have only one entry that defines the address of the destination nlw itself.

→ Host-specific routing is used for purposes such as checking the route or providing security measures.

(re)

destination	nexthop
A	R ₁
B	R ₁
C	R ₁
D	R ₁

destination	nexthop
N ₂	R ₁



c) Default method:-

- Another technique to simplify routing is called the default method.
- The Host A is connected to NIW 2. However, for the rest of the internet, router R2 is used.
- So instead of listing all NIWs in the entire internet, host A can just have one entry called default.

Forwarding process:-

- Forwarding is simply defined as the action applied by each router when a packet arrives at one of its interfaces.
- When a router receives a packet from one of its attached NIWs, it needs to forward the packet to another attached NIW, or to attached NIW's

Routing:-

- These are two other services offered by the NIW layer. In a NIW, there are a number of routes available from source to destination.
- The NIW layer has some strategies which find out the best possible route. This process is referred to as routing.
- There are a number of routing protocols which are used in this process and they should be run to help the routers coordinate with each other and help in establishing communication throughout the NIW.

unicast routing protocols:-

- A routing table can be either static or dynamic.
- A static table is one with manual entries and a dynamic table is one that is updated automatically when there is a change somewhere in the internet.
- A routing protocol is a combination of rules and procedures that lets routers in the

internet in the form each other of changes.

Distance Vector

Intra domain Routing:

As name suggests is a protocol in which routing algorithm works only within the domain.

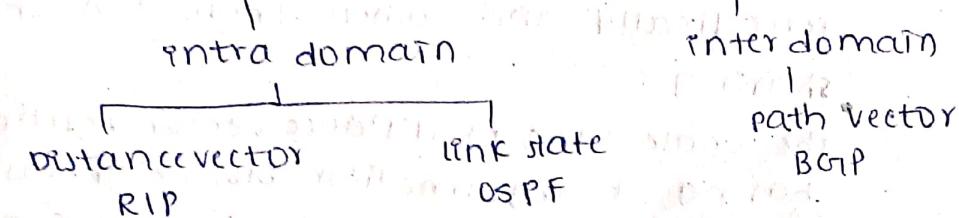
→ Routing is less complex and lesser interdependent as compared to that of inter domain routing.

Inter domain routing:

As name suggests is the protocol in which routing algorithm works within and between domains.

→ Inter domain routing is more complex and more dependent as compared to that of intra domain routing.

Routing protocols

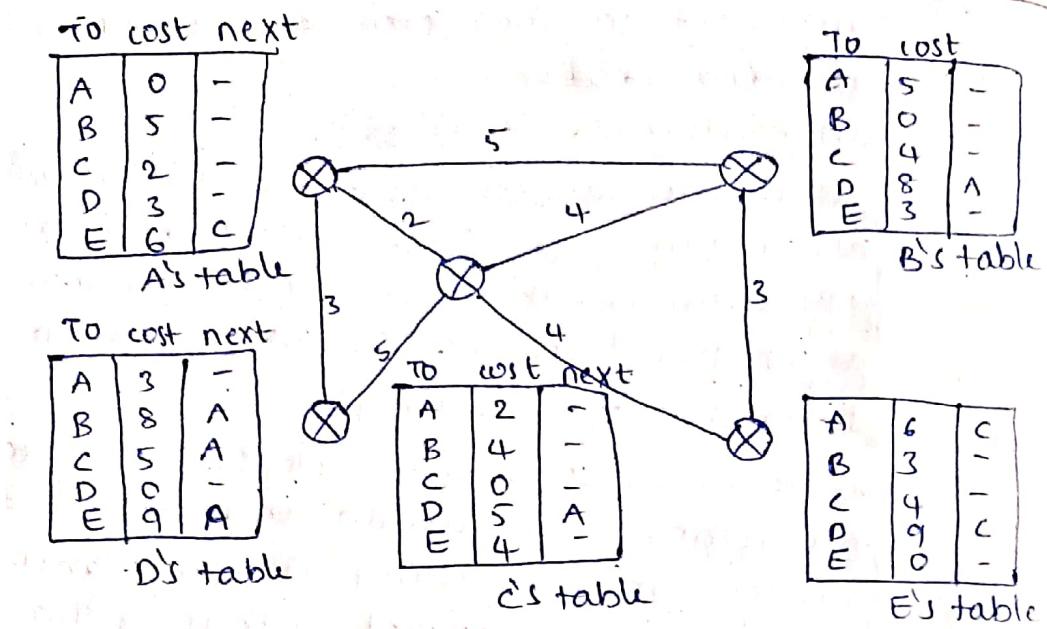


Distance vector routing:

In distance vector routing, the least-cost route between any two nodes is the route with minimum distance. In this protocol, as the name implies, each node maintains a vector (table) of minimum distances to every node.

Initialization:

Each node can know only the distance between itself and its immediate neighbours, those directly connected to it. We assume that each node can send a message to the immediate neighbours and find the distance between itself and these neighbors. Below fig shows the initial tables for each node. The distance for any entry that is not a neighbour is marked as infinite (unreachable).



In distance vector routing, each node shares its routing table with its immediate neighbours periodically and when there is a change sharing:-

The whole idea of distance vector routing is the sharing of information b/w neighbours. Although node A does not know about node E, node C does. So if node C shares its routing table with A, node A can also know how to reach node E. On the other hand, node C does not know how to reach node D, but node A does. If node A shares its routing table with node C and node C also knows how to reach node D. In other words, nodes A and C, as immediate neighbour can improve their routing tables, if they help each other.

updating:-

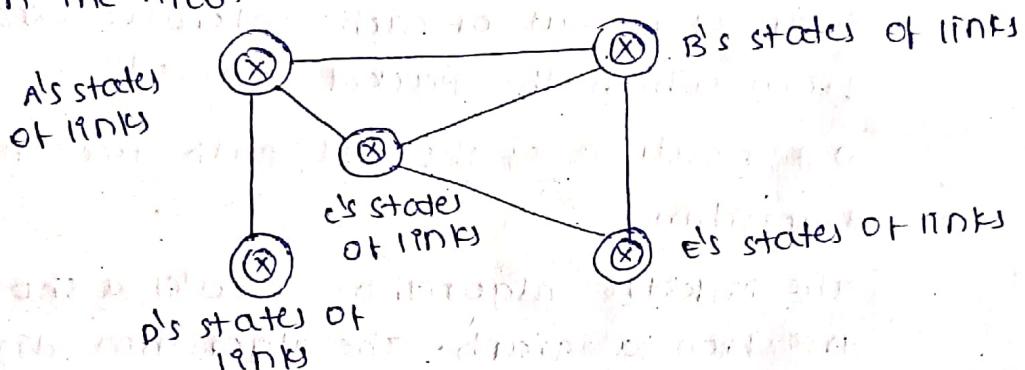
When a node receives a two-column table from a neighbor, it needs to update its routing table. Updating takes three steps:

- The receiving node needs to add the cost b/w itself and the sending node to each value in the second column ($x+y$)

- 2) If the receiving node uses information from any row, the sending node is the next node in the route.
- 3) The receiving node needs to compare each row of its old table with the corresponding row of the modified version of received table.

link state routing :-

The basic concept of link-state routing is that every node constructs a map of connectivity to the network, in the form of graph, showing which nodes are connected to which other nodes. Each node then independently calculates the next best logical path from it to every possible destination in the network.



Building routing tables:-

D creation of link state packet (LSP) :-

A link state packet can carry a large amount of information. For the moment, we assume that it carries a minimum amount of data, the node identity, the list of links, a sequence number and age. The first two, node identity and the list of links are needed to make the topology. The third sequence number, facilitates flooding and distinguishes new LSPs from old ones. The 4th, age, prevents old LSPs from remaining in the domain for a long time.

LSP's are generated on two occasions

i) when there is a change in the topology of domain.

2) on a periodic basis:- The period in this case is much longer compared to distance vector.

3) Flooding of LSP's:

After a node has prepared an LSP, it must be disseminated to all other nodes, not only to its neighbours. The process is called flooding and based on following:

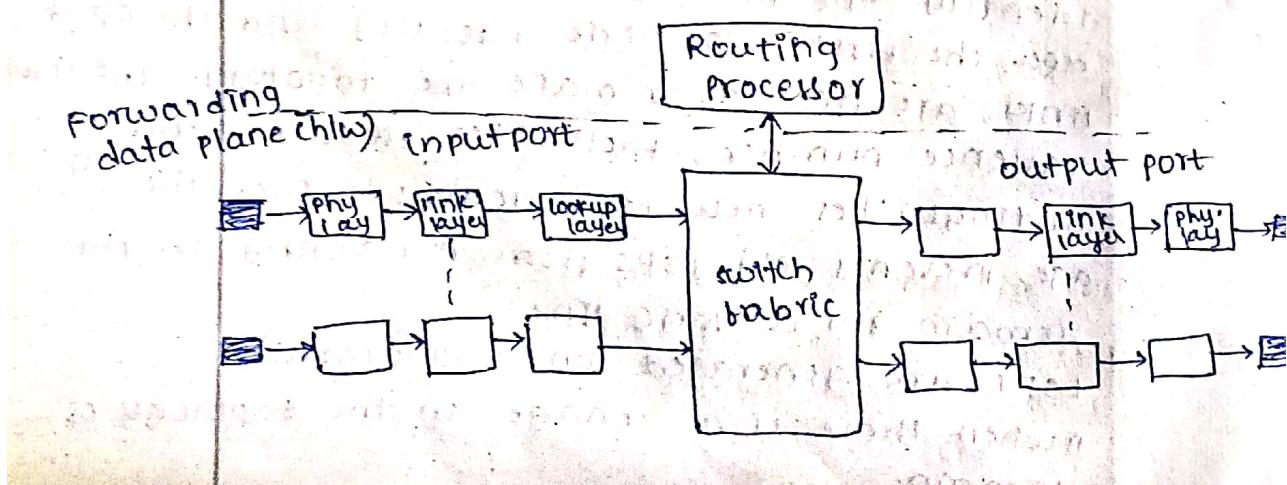
→ The creating node sends a copy of the LSP out of each interface.

→ A node that receives an LSP compares it with the copy it may already have. If the newly arrived LSP is older than the one it has, it discards the LSP. If it is newer, it sends a copy of it out of each interface except the one from which the packet arrived.

3) Formation of shortest path tree: Dijkstra Algorithm:

The Dijkstra algorithm creates a shortest path tree from a graph. The algorithm divides the nodes into two sets:- tentative and permanent. It finds the neighbours of a current node, makes them tentative, examines them, and if they pass the criteria, makes them permanent.

Router Architecture:

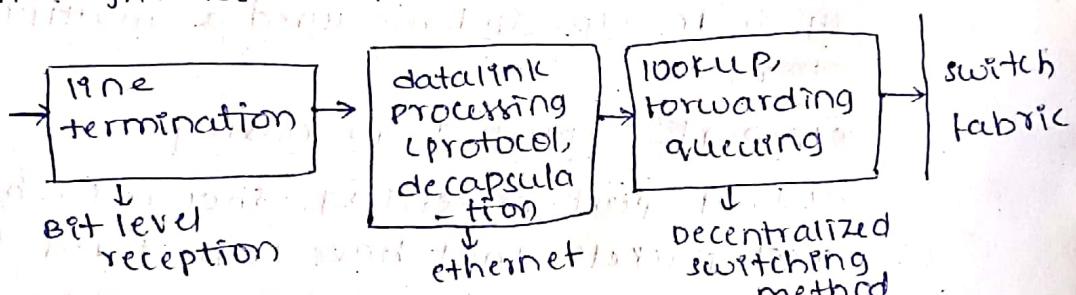


- * two key router functions
- * run routing algorithm protocol
- * forwarding datagram from incoming to outgoing link.

TIP port (input processing)

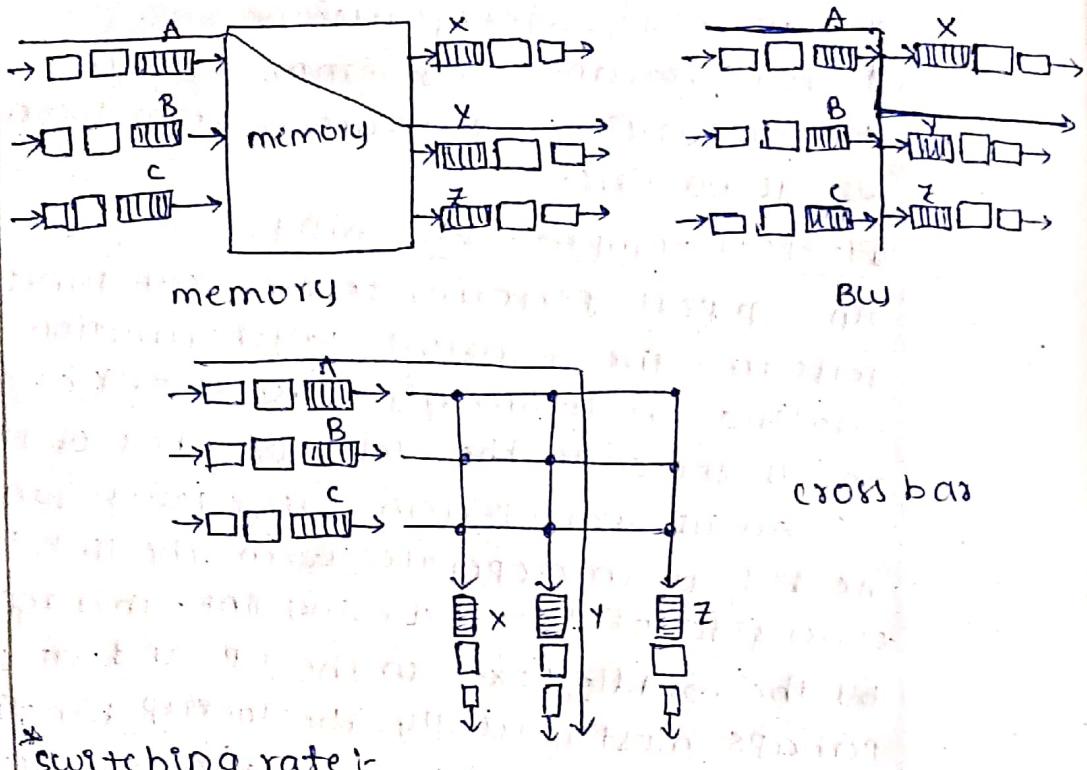
An TIP port performs several key functions. It performs the physical layer function of terminating an incoming physical link at a router, this is shown in the leftmost box of the TIP port.

An TIP port performs link layer functions needed to interoperate with the link layer at other side of the incoming link. This is represented by the middle boxes in the TIP and OLP port. Perhaps most crucially the lookup function is also performed at the TIP port, this will occur in the rightmost box of the TIP port.



queuing: If datagram arrives faster than forwarding rate, it to the switch fabric.
goal: complete TIP port processor at line speed.
line speed: The maximum speed a line can support

switching:
The switching fabric is at the very heart of a router, as it is, through this fabric that the packets are actually switched from an TIP port to an OLP port. Switching can be accomplished in a number of ways, as shown in below figure.

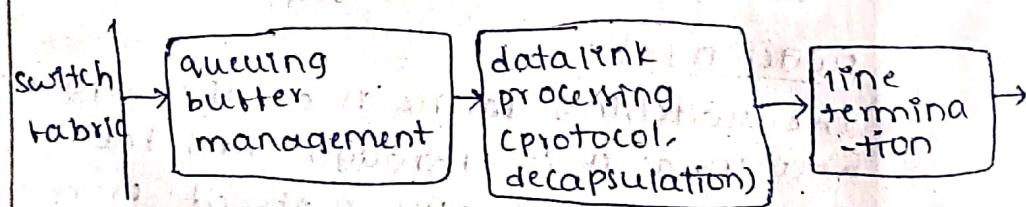


switching rate

A rate at which packets can transferred from RLP to OLP, and measured as multiple of RLP & OLP rate.

OLP port - (output processing)

Output port processing, shown in below fig. takes packets that have been stored in the OLP port's memory and transmits them over the OLP link. This includes selecting and de-queuing packets for transmission & performing the needed link-layer and physical-layer transmission functions.

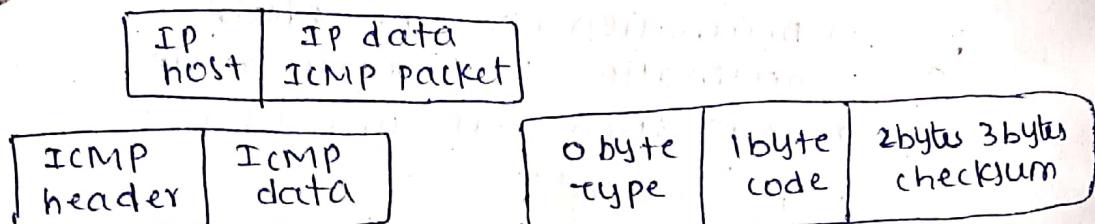


Switching fabric

The switching fabric connects the router's RLP ports to its OLP ports. The switching fabric is completely contained within the router - a new inside of a new router.

H1 Rotating processor- The routing processor executes the routing protocols, maintains routing tables and attached link state information & computes for forwarding table for the router. It also performs the NW management functions.

ICMP :-



- ICMP is network diagnostic and error reporting protocol. ICMP belongs to IP protocol suite and uses IP as carrier protocol.
- After constructing ICMP packet, it is encapsulated in IP packet. Because IP itself is a best-effort non reliable protocol, so is ICMP.
- Any feedback about NW is sent back to the originating host. If some error in the NW occurs, it is reported by means of ICMP. ICMP contains dozens of diagnostic and error reporting messages.

Internet control message protocol Parameters

message type	Description
destination unreachable	packet could not be delivered
time exceeded	time to live field hit 0
parameter problem	invalid header field
source quench	choke packet
redirect	teach a router about geography
Echo request	ask a machine if it is alive
Echo reply	yes, I am alive
timestamp request	same as echo request, but with time stamp
timestamp reply	same as echo reply, but with time stamp

destination unreachable:

it occurs when packet does not reach destination, suppose the sender sends the messages, but the message does not reach the destination, then intermediate router reports to sender that the destination is unreachable.

→ Destination nw unreachable

→ Destination Host unreachable

→ Destination port unreachable.

Time exceeded:

→ whenever a router decreases a datagram with a time-to-live value to zero, then the router discards a datagram and sends the time exceeded message to original source.

→ it's depending upon time to live field if TTL=0 then the router can send an ICMP packet.

Parameter problem:

→ the router and destination host can send a parameter problem message - this message conveys that some parameters are not properly set.

→ parameter problems includes checksum, bad length of frame.

source quench:

→ there is no flow control or congestion control mechanism in the nw-layer. The sender is only concerned with only sending packets and the sender doesn't think whether receiver is ready to receive packets or if there any congestion occurs in the nw-layer, so that sender can send a large number of packets.

choke packet:

it is a congestion control technique for both virtual circuit and datagram.

PING: PING is the combination of echo request and echo reply.

1) It works by sending ICMP echo request to interface, on the network wait for reply.

2) Ping uses echo request and echo reply.

3) We can hit any server on internet testing of the network can be done by ping command.

Purpose of ICMP:

1) To secure network traffic.

2) To manage network traffic congestion.

3) To facilitate communication between network devices.

4) To control network access.

5) Improve reliability.

Network service models:

The network service model defines the characteristics of end-to-end transport of data between one "edge" of the network and the other i.e., between sending & receiving end systems.

There are two service models:

1) Virtual circuit networks.

2) Datagram networks.

Virtual circuit Networks:

Virtual circuit networks provide connection oriented.

→ A transport layer can offer applications connectionless service or connection oriented service b/w two processes.

→ For example, the internet's transport layer provides each application a choice b/w two services: UDP, a connectionless service or TCP, a connection oriented service between two hosts.

→ A network layer connection service begins with handshaking b/w source & destination host.



→ a n/w layer connectionless service does not have any handshaking.

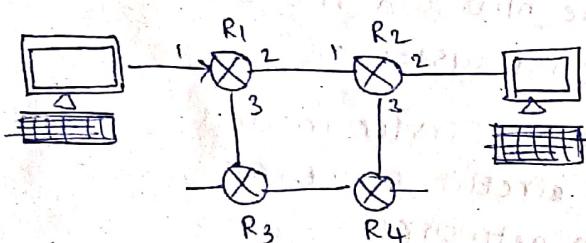
let's now consider how a vc service can be implemented in a computer n/w.

A vc consists of

- 1) a path (series of links & routers)
- 2) vc number (one number for each link)
- 3) entries in the forwarding table

A packet belonging to a virtual circuit will carry a vc number in its header. Because a virtual ckt may have a different vc number on each link, each router must replace the vc num of each traversing packet with a new vc number. the new vc number is obtained from the forwarding table.

TO illustrate the concept, consider the n/w shown in the figure.



The numbers next to links of R1 in the above figure are the link interface numbers. suppose now that host A requests that the n/w establish a vc between itself and host B. suppose also that the n/w chooses the path A-R1-R2-B and assigns vc. numbers 12, 22 and 32 to the three links in this path for the virtual ckt, when a packet in the vc leaves Host A, the value in the vc number field in the packet header R1, the value is 22, and when it leaves R2, the value is 32.

There are three identifiable phases in the virtual circuit.

i) VC setup: During this setup phase, the sending transport layer contacts the nw layer, specifies the receiver's address, and waits for the nw to set up the vc. The nw layer determines the path b/w sender and receiver, that is, the series of links and routers through which all packets of the vc will travel.

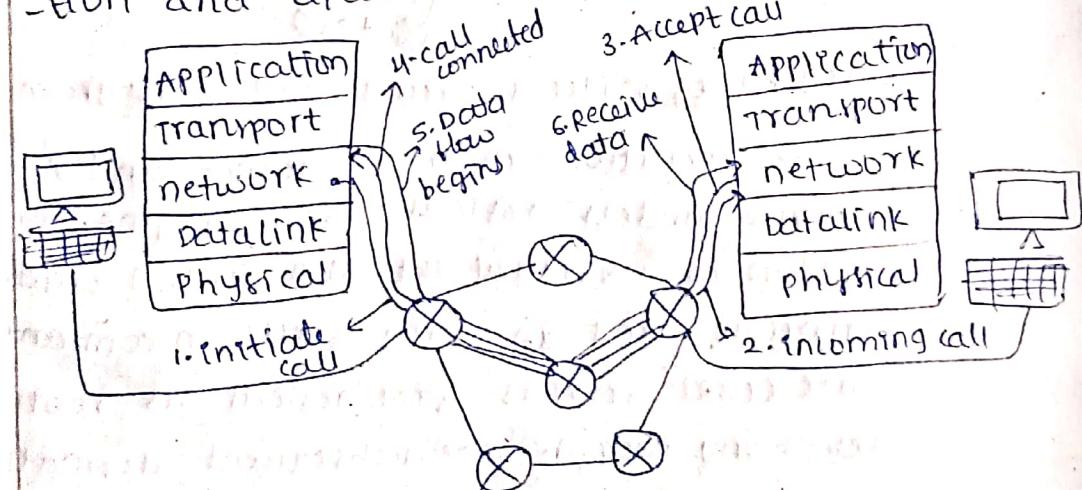
The nw layer also determines the vc number for each link along the path. Finally the nw layer adds an entry in the forwarding table in each router along the path. During vc setup, the nw layer may also reserve resources along the path of the vc.

ii) Data transfer:

Once the vc has been established, packets can begin to flow along the path vc.

iii) VC teardown:

This is initiated when the sender informs nw layer of its desire to terminate the vc. The nw layer will then typically inform the end system on the other side of the nw of the call termination and update the forwarding table.



There is a subtle but important distinction b/w vc setup at the nw layer and connection setup at the transport layer. Connection setup at the transport layer is initiated by the transport system.

during setup, systems also determine the parameters like sequence number, window size of their transport-layer connection.

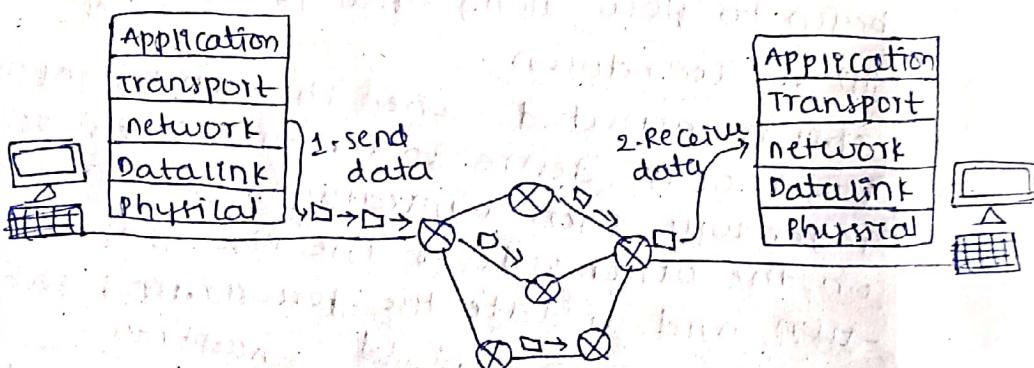
Handshaking:

It is the process that establishes communication between two networking devices.

Datagram networks

Datagram networks are computer networks that provide connectionless services.

→ In a datagram network, each time an end system wants to send a packet, it stamps the packet with address of destination end system and then pops the packet into the network. As shown in the below figure, there is no VC setup and routers do not maintain any VC state information.



Origins of virtual circuit and datagram networks

The evolution of the internet and ATM network service models reflects their origins. With the notion of a virtual circuit as a central organizing principle, and an early focus on constant bit rate (CBR) services, ATM reflects its roots in the telephony world. The subsequent definition of a unspecified bit rate (UBR) and available bit rate (ABR) services acknowledges the importance of data applications developed in the data networking community.

→ The internet, on the other hand, grew out of need to connect computers together. With sophisticated endsystem devices, the internet architecture choose to make the network-service model as simple as possible and to implement any additional functionality, as well as any new application level network services at a higher layer, at the end system.

Internet protocols forwarding and addressing in the internet

Forwarding is simply defined as the action applied by each router when a packet arrives at one of its interfaces. When a router receives a packet from one of its attached networks, it needs to forward the packet to another attached network or to some attached networks.

→ The third layer of communication protocol hierarchy is the network layer which specifies the networking aspects of a communication transaction. Thus IP layer handles networking aspects and establishes routes for packets.

→ The IP produces a header for packets. An IP header contains the IP addresses of a source node and a destination node respectively.

→ An IP packet can be encapsulated in the layer 2 frames when the packet enters a LAN.

→ IP layer provides a best-effort service. IP is inherently unreliable.

→ IP provides seamless internet connectivity and scalability. This layer is based on the connection-less or called datagram switching.

→ The advantages of this kind of service are
1) flexibility to allow interconnection b/w network topologies
2) robustness to node failure.

IP Addresses

In order to provide computer to computer communication via internet, we need a global addressing scheme. Such an addressing is provided by Internet Protocol (IP) at the network layer.

- It is a 32-bit address, thus called IP address or logical address which is made up of the network unique host ID
- It is represented in decimal value of each octet separated by a period(.)
- Every host and router have IP address which is unique and no two devices have same address at same time.
- IP address can be static or dynamic
- These numbers are assigned by ISP (internet service provider)
- IP are of 2 types
IPV4 & IPV6

IPV4 (Internet protocol version 4) :-

- The packet format of IP version 4 is shown below figure.

16-bits				*	16-bits												
version (4 bits)	Header length (4 bits)	Type of Services (8 bits)	Total length (16 bits)														
Identification bits (16 bits)			O	D	M	Fragment offset (13 bits)											
			F	F													
Time to live (8 bits)	Protocol (8 bits)		Header checksum (16 bits)														
Source IP address (32 bits)																	
Destination IP address (32 bits)																	
Options (0-40 bytes)																	
Data																	

IPV4 header format

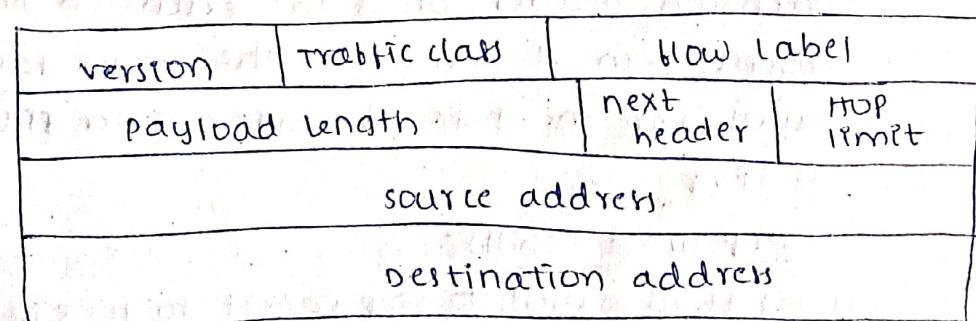
- each packet comprises the header and data.
- the size of header is variable with 20 bytes of fixed length header and an options field whose size is variable up to 40 bytes.
- In the figure

 - 1) version specifies IP version
 - 2) header length specifies length of the header
 - 3) type of service specifies quality of service such as priority level, delay, reliability and cost.
 - 4) total length specifies the total length of the packet in bytes.
 - 5) identification, flags and fragment offset are used for packet fragmentation and reassembly.
 - 6) time to live specifies the maximum no. of hops after which a packet must be discarded.
 - 7) protocol specifies the protocol used at destination
 - 8) header checksum is method of error detection and correction.
 - 9) source and destination IP addresses are 32-bit fields.
 - 10) options is rarely used variable-length field to specify security level, timestamp and type of route.

IPv6 (Internet protocol version 6)

- The IPv6 protocol defines a set of headers including the basic IPv6 header and IPv6 extension headers.

Below fig shows IPv6 header



IPv6 header format

The following list describes the function of each header field

1) Version (4 bits):

it represents the version of IP i.e. 0110

2) Traffic class (8-bits):

These 8 bits are divided into two parts. The most significant 6 bits are used for type of service and 2 least significant bits are used for explicit congestion notification (ECN).

3) Flow label (20-bits):

This label is used to maintain the flow of the packets belonging to communication. It helps router to identify that a particular packet belongs to a specific flow of informations. This field helps avoid re-ordering of data packets.

4) Payload length (16-bits):

This field is used to tell the routers how much information a particular packet contains in its payload. Payload is composed of extension headers and upper layer data. With 16 bits, upto 65535 bytes can be indicated. But if the extension headers contains Hop by hop extension header then the payload may exceed 65535 bytes and this field is set to 0.

5) next Header (8 bits):

This field is used to indicate either the type of extension header or if the extension header is not present then it indicates the upper layer PDU. The values for the type of upper layer PDU are same as IPv4.

6) Hop limit (8bits):

This field is used to stop packet to loop in network.

7) source address (48 bits):

Indicates address of the originator of the packet.



8) destination address (128-bits):-

provides address of recipient of the packet.

IPV6 extension Headers:-

The following IPV6 extension headers are currently defined.

- 1) Routing - extended routing, such as IPV4 loose source route
- 2) fragmentation - Fragmentation and reassembly
- 3) Authentication - integrity and authentication & security.
- 4) encapsulating security payload - confidentiality.
- 5) Hop by Hop options - special options that require hop by hop processing
- 6) Destination options - optional information to be examined by the destination node

differences between routing & forwarding table:

Routing table	Forwarding table
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Routing is used for routing the traffic2) stores the destination address for nlws3) it is process of finding path b/w two nlws based on their nlw addresses4) operates on nlw layer5) concentrates on calculating changes in topology & works based on IP address6) It follows different protocols such as routing internet protocol.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) It is used for forwarding data to appropriate destination port.2) responsible for storing the next hop & each nlw, frame type.3) process of collecting data from one device & sending to another device4) operates on nlw layer5) checks forwarding tables and forwarding packets accordingly.6) It follows different protocols such as UDP, security payloads

Differences b/w IPv4 & IPv6

IPv4	IPv6
1) IPv4 address are 32-bit address which means there can be about 4 billion different IPv4 address.	1) IPv6 are 128 bit address that provides around 340 billion of IPv6 address
2) IPv4 have 5 classes class A 1 to 127 class B 128 - 191 class C 192 - 223 class D 224 - 239 class E 239 - 255	2) IPv6 doesn't have any class
3) IPv4 is a numeric address.	3) IPv6 is a dip hexadecimal address
4) they are separated by periods (.) / dot <u>Ex:-</u> 192.112.255.250	4) they are separated by colon (:) <u>Ex:-</u> 6d1c:184f:b4ef: 830a:350:6742:946f :6960
5) $2^{32} = 4,294,967,296$	5) $2^{128} = 340,282,3669 \dots$
6) it supports manual & DHCP address	6) it supports auto & renumbering configuration
7) it can generate 4.29×10^9 address space	7) it can generate 3.9×10^{38} address space
8) Fragmentation is performed by sender & forwarding routers.	8) fragmentation is performed by sender
9) In IPv4 packet flow identification is not available	9) In IPv6 packet flow identification is available.
10) checksum field is available	10) checksum field is not available