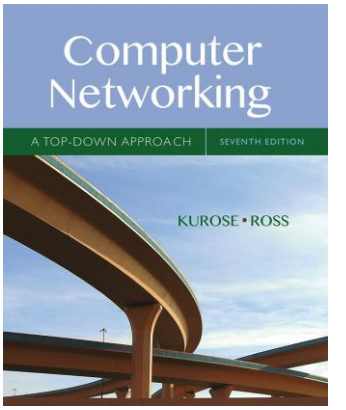
Chapter 4 Network Layer: The Data Plane



Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach

7th edition
Jim Kurose, Keith Ross
Pearson/Addison Wesley
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Chapter 4: outline

4.1 Overview of Network layer
- data plane
- control plane

4.2 What's inside a router

4.3 IP: Internet Protocol
- datagram format
- fragmentation
- IPv4 addressing

4.4 Generalized Forward and SDN
- match
- action
- OpenFlow examples of match-plus-action in action

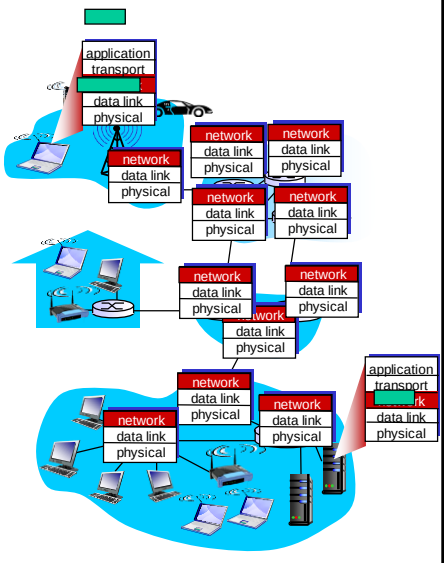
Chapter 4: network layer

chapter goals:

- understand principles behind network layer services, focusing on data plane:
  - network layer service models
  - forwarding versus routing
  - how a router works
  - generalized forwarding
- instantiation, implementation in the Internet

Network layer

- transport segment from sending to receiving host
- on sending side encapsulates segments into datagrams
- on receiving side, delivers segments to transport layer
- network layer protocols in *every* host, router
- router examines header fields in all IP datagrams passing through it



Two key network-layer functions

network-layer functions:

- *forwarding:* move packets from router's input to appropriate router output
- *routing:* determine route taken by packets from source to destination
  - *routing algorithms*

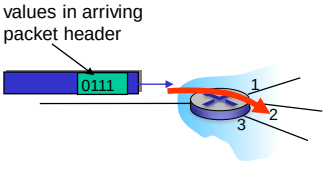
analogy: taking a trip

- *forwarding:* process of getting through single interchange
- *routing:* process of planning trip from source to destination

Network layer: data plane, control plane

Data plane

- local, per-router function
- determines how datagram arriving on router input port is forwarded to router output port
- forwarding function

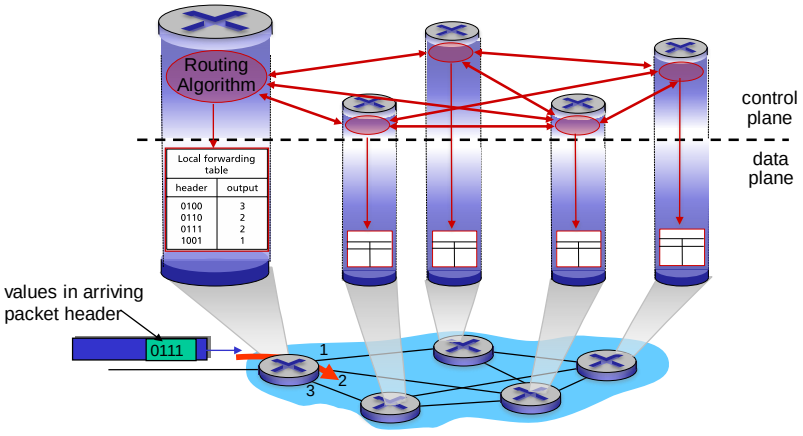


Control plane

- network-wide logic
- determines how datagram is routed among routers along end-end path from source host to destination host
- two control-plane approaches:
  - *traditional routing algorithms:* implemented in routers
  - *software-defined networking (SDN)*: implemented in (remote) servers

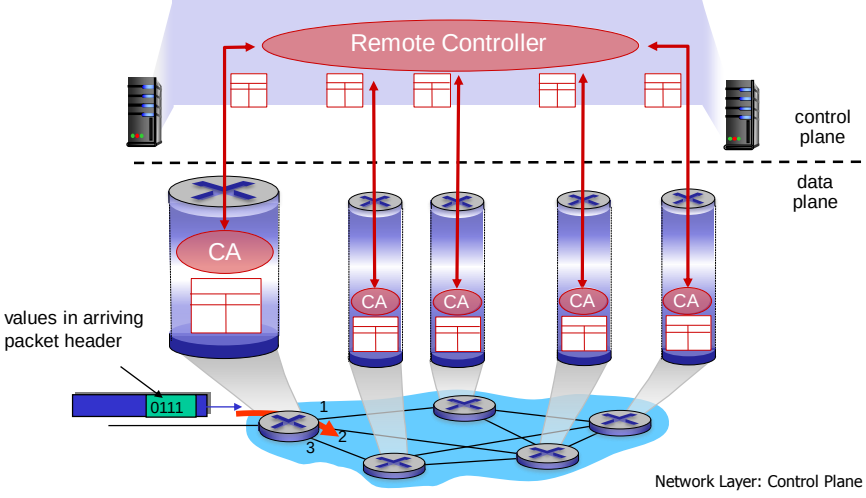
Per-router control plane

Individual routing algorithm components *in each and every router* interact in the control plane



Logically centralized control plane

A distinct (typically remote) controller interacts with local control agents (CAs)



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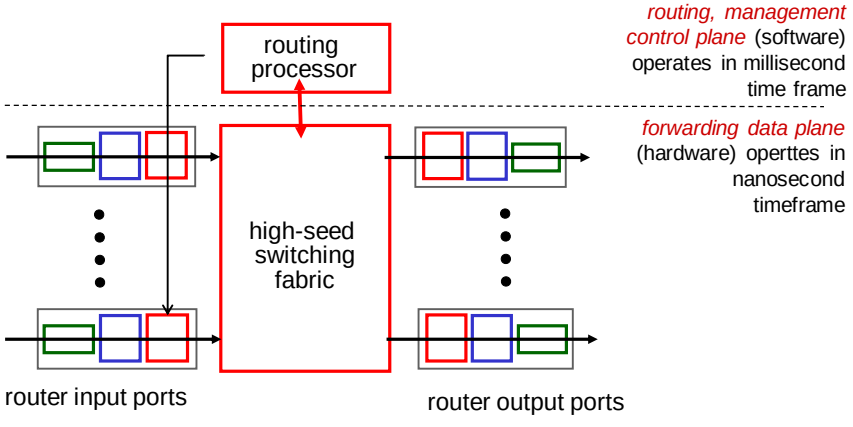
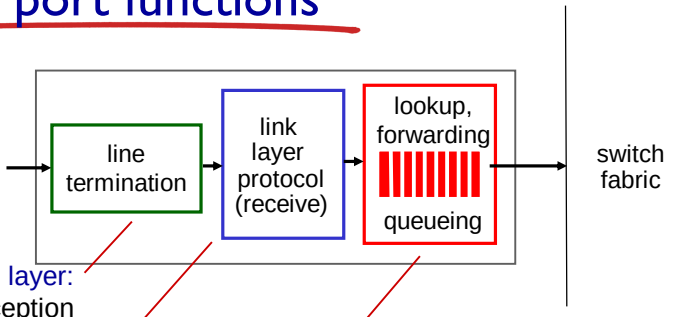
Router architecture overview

- high-level view of generic router architecture:



Input port functions



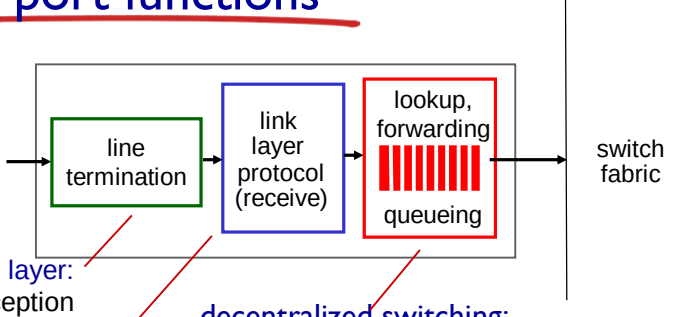
physical layer:
bit-level reception

data link layer:
e.g., Ethernet
see chapter 6

decentralized switching:

- using header field values, lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory *("match plus action")*
- goal: complete input port processing at 'line speed'
- queuing: if datagrams arrive faster than forwarding rate into switch fabric

Input port functions



physical layer:
bit-level reception

data link layer:
e.g., Ethernet
see chapter 6

decentralized switching:

- using header field values, lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory *("match plus action")*
- *destination-based forwarding:* forward based only on destination IP address (traditional)
- *generalized forwarding:* forward based on any set of header field values

Destination-based forwarding

forwarding table

Destination Address Range	Link Interface
11001000 00010111 00010000 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00010111 11111111	0
11001000 00010111 00011000 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00011000 11111111	1
11001000 00010111 00011001 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00011111 11111111	2
otherwise	3

Q: but what happens if ranges don't divide up so nicely?

Longest prefix matching

longest prefix matching

when looking for forwarding table entry for given destination address, use *longest* address prefix that matches destination address.

Destination Address Range	Link interface
11001000 00010111 00010*** *********	0
11001000 00010111 00011000 *********	1
11001000 00010111 00011*** *********	2
otherwise	3

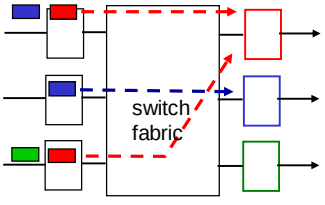
examples:

DA: 11001000 00010111 00010110 10100001 which interface?

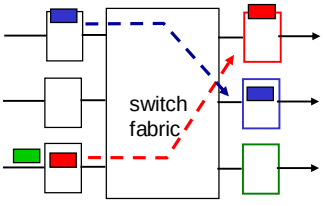
DA: 11001000 00010111 00011000 10101010 which interface?

Input port queuing

- fabric slower than input ports combined -> queueing may occur at input queues
  - *queueing delay and loss due to input buffer overflow!*
- Head-of-the-Line (HOL) blocking: queued datagram at front of queue prevents others in queue from moving forward



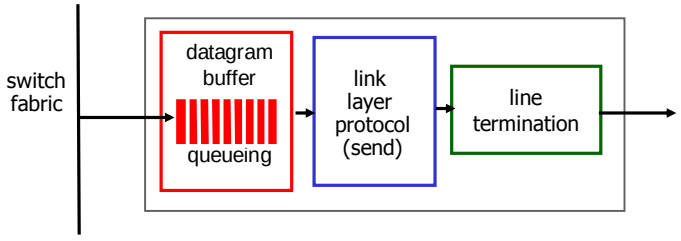
output port contention:
only one red datagram can be transferred.
lower red packet is blocked



one packet time later:
green packet
experiences HOL
blocking

Output ports

This slide in HUGELY important!



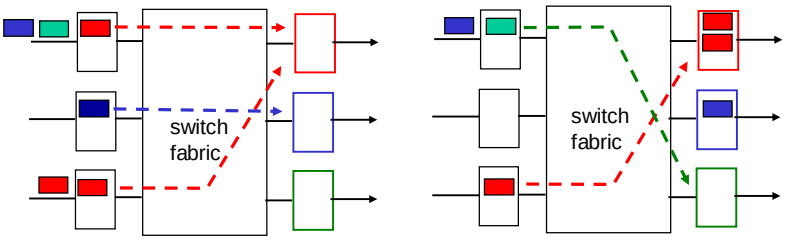
- *buffering* required from fabric faster rate

Datagram (packets) can be lost due to congestion, lack of buffers

- *scheduling* datagrams

Priority scheduling – who gets best performance, network neutrality

Output port queueing



at *t*, packets more from input to output

one packet time later

- buffering when arrival rate via switch exceeds output line speed
- *queueing (delay) and loss due to output port buffer overflow!*

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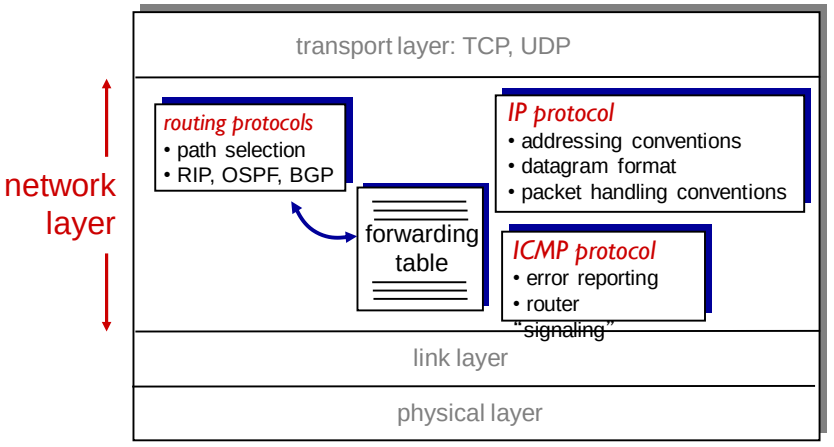
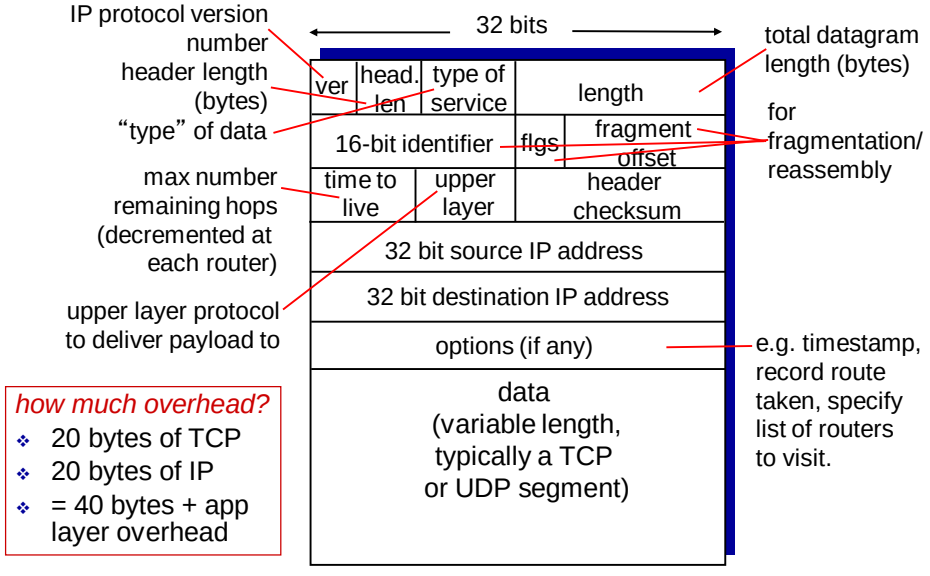
The Internet network layer

host, router network layer functions:



IP datagram format

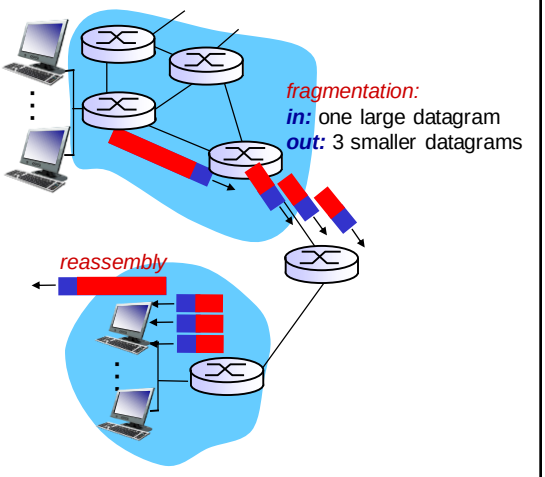


how much overhead?

- 20 bytes of TCP
- 20 bytes of IP
- = 40 bytes + app layer overhead

IP fragmentation, reassembly

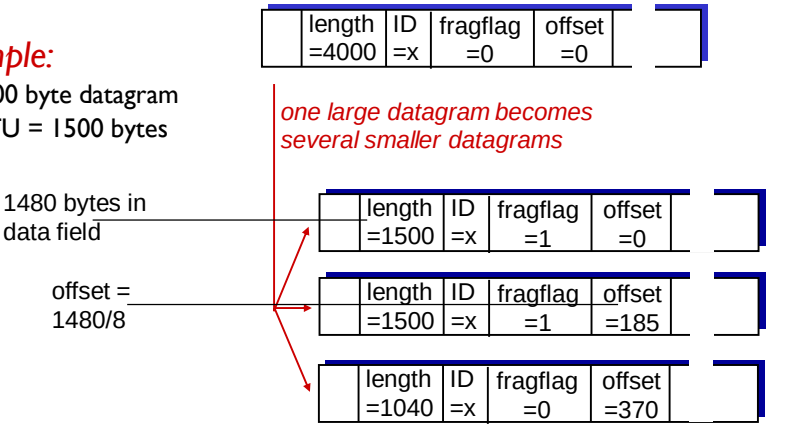
- network links have MTU (max.transfer size) - largest possible link-level frame
  - different link types, different MTUs
- large IP datagram divided ("fragmented") within net
  - one datagram becomes several datagrams
  - "reassembled" only at final destination
  - IP header bits used to identify, order related fragments



IP fragmentation, reassembly

example:

- 4000 byte datagram
- MTU = 1500 bytes



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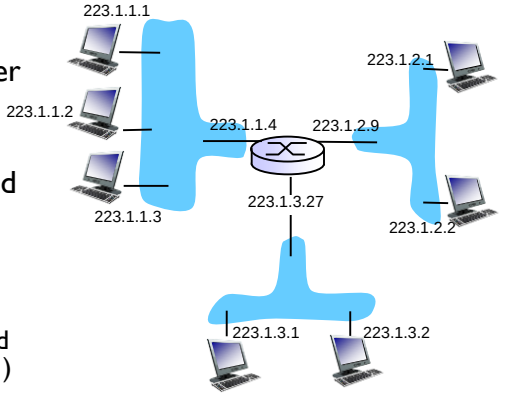
IP addressing: introduction

- *IP address:* 32-bit identifier for host, router *interface*
- *interface:* connection between host/router and physical link
  - router's typically have multiple interfaces
  - host typically has one or two interfaces (e.g., wired Ethernet, wireless 802.11)
- *IP addresses associated with each interface*



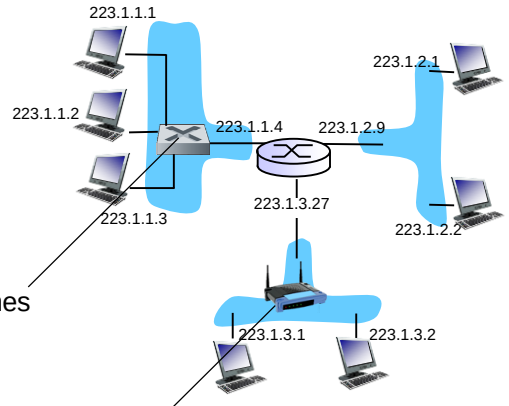
223.1.1.1 = 11011111 00000001 00000001 00000001

223 1 1 1

IP addressing: introduction

Q: how are interfaces actually connected?

A: we'll learn about that in chapter 6, 7.



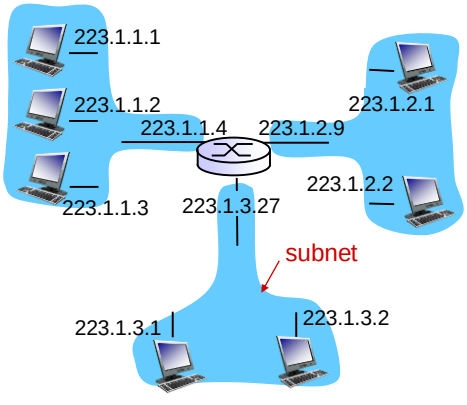
A: wired Ethernet interfaces connected by Ethernet switches

For now: don't need to worry about how one interface is connected to another (with no intervening router)

A: wireless WiFi interfaces connected by WiFi base station

Subnets

- IP address:
  - subnet part - high order bits
  - host part - low order bits
- *what's a subnet ?*
  - device interfaces with same subnet part of IP address
  - can physically reach each other *without intervening router*

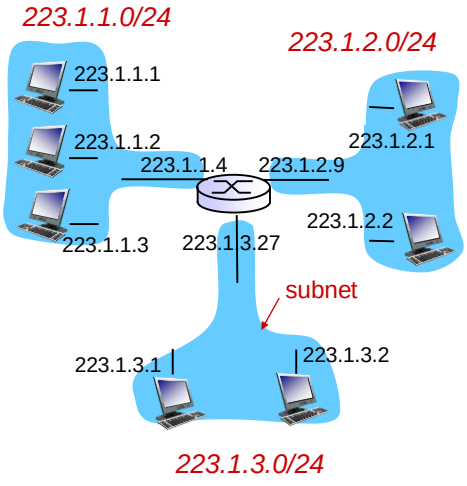


network consisting of 3 subnets

Subnets

recipe

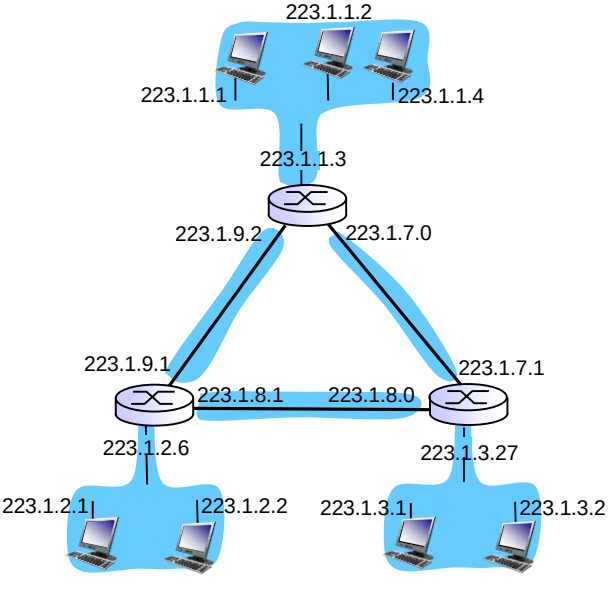
- to determine the subnets, detach each interface from its host or router, creating islands of isolated networks
- each isolated network is called a *subnet*



subnet mask: /24

Subnets

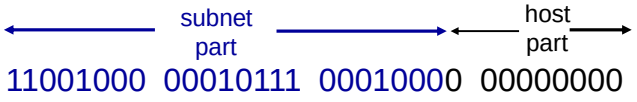
how many?



IP addressing: CIDR

CIDR: Classless InterDomain Routing

- subnet portion of address of arbitrary length
- address format: a.b.c.d/x, where x is # bits in subnet portion of address



200.23.16.0/23

IP addresses: how to get one?

Q: How does a *host* get IP address?

- hard-coded by system admin in a file
  - Windows: control-panel->network->configuration->tcp/ip->properties
  - UNIX: /etc/rc.config
- DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol: dynamically get address from as server
  - "plug-and-play"

IP addresses: how to get one?

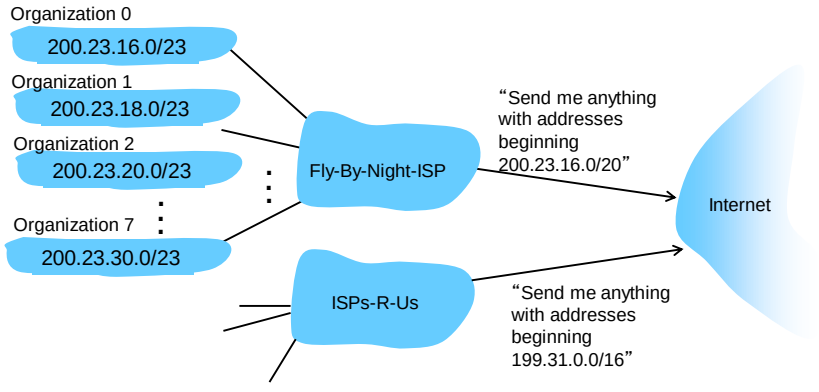
Q: how does *network* get subnet part of IP addr?

A: gets allocated portion of its provider ISP's address space

ISP's block	11001000 00010111 00010000	00000000	200.23.16.0/20
Organization 0	11001000 00010111 0001000**0**	00000000	200.23.16.0/23
Organization 1	11001000 00010111 0001001**0**	00000000	200.23.18.0/23
Organization 2	11001000 00010111 0001010**0**	00000000	200.23.20.0/23
...	.....	....	....
Organization 7	11001000 00010111 0001111**0**	00000000	200.23.30.0/23

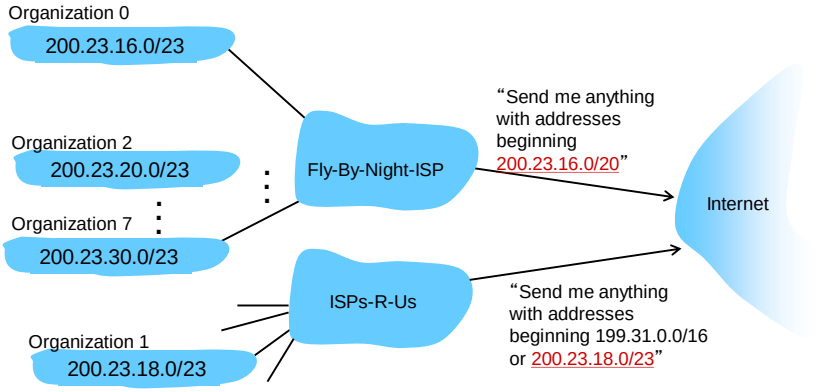
Hierarchical addressing: route aggregation

hierarchical addressing allows efficient advertisement of routing information:



Hierarchical addressing: more specific routes

ISPs-R-Us has a more specific route to Organization 1



IP addressing: the last word...

Q: how does an ISP get block of addresses?

A: ICANN: Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers http://www.icann.org/

- allocates addresses
- manages DNS
- assigns domain names, resolves disputes

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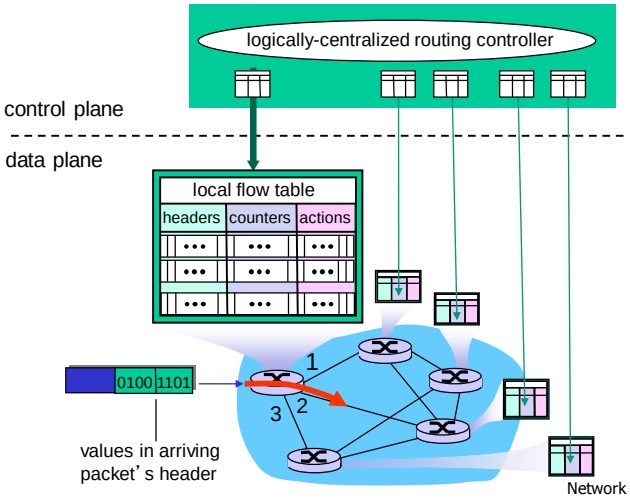
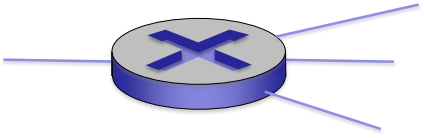
Generalized Forwarding and SDN

Each router contains a *flow table* that is computed and distributed by a *logically centralized* routing controller



OpenFlow data plane abstraction

- *flow*: defined by header fields
- generalized forwarding: simple packet-handling rules
  - *Pattern:* match values in packet header fields
  - *Actions: for matched packet:* drop, forward, modify, matched packet or send matched packet to controller
  - *Priority*: disambiguate overlapping patterns
  - *Counters:* #bytes and #packets



Flow table in a router (computed and distributed by controller) define router's match+action rules

OpenFlow data plane abstraction

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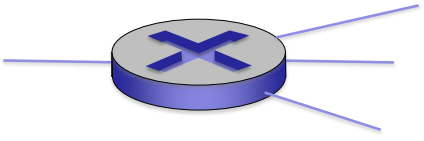
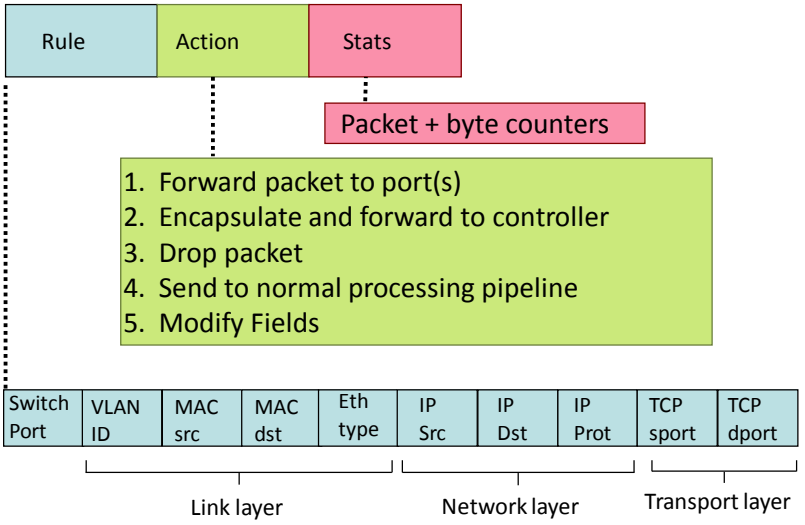


* : wildcard

1. src=1.2.*.*, dest=3.4.5.* → drop
2. src = *.*.*.*, dest=3.4.*.* → forward(2)
3. src=10.1.2.3, dest=*.*.*.* → send to controller

OpenFlow: Flow Table Entries



Examples

Destination-based forwarding:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	TCP sport	TCP dport	Action
*	*	*	*	*	*	51.6.0.8	*	*	*	port6

IP datagrams destined to IP address 51.6.0.8 should be forwarded to router output port **6**

Firewall:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	TCP sport	TCP dport	Forward
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22	drop

do not forward (block) all datagrams destined to TCP port 22

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	TCP sport	TCP dport	Forward
*	*	*	*	*	128.119.1.1	*	*	*	*	drop

do not forward (block) all datagrams sent by host 128.119.1.1

Examples

Destination-based layer 2 (switch) forwarding:

Switch Port	MAC src	MAC dst	Eth type	VLAN ID	IP Src	IP Dst	IP Prot	TCP sport	TCP dport	Action
*	22:A7:23: 11:E1:02	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	port3

layer 2 frames from MAC address 22:A7:23:11:E1:02 should be forwarded to output port 3

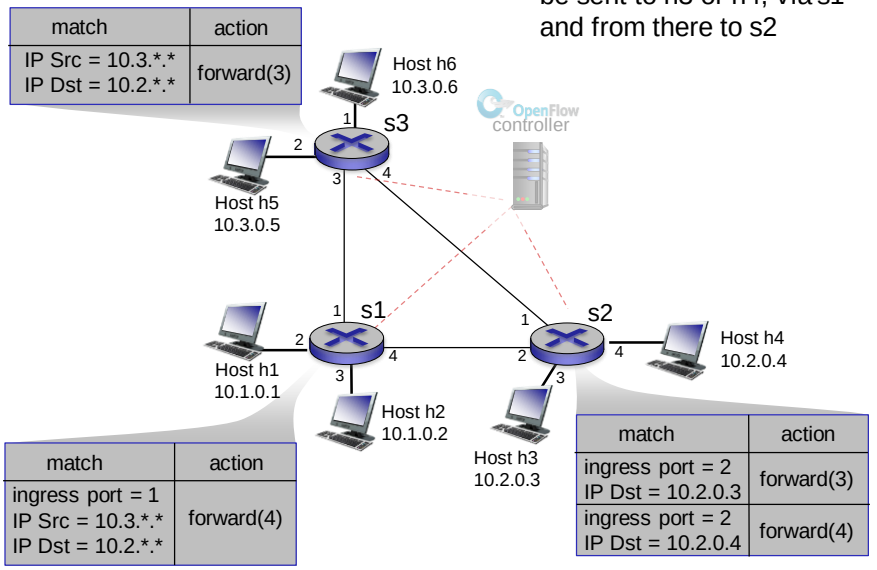
OpenFlow abstraction

- *match+action:* unifies different kinds of devices

- Router
  - *match:* longest destination IP prefix
  - *action:* forward out a link
- Switch
  - *match:* destination MAC address
  - *action:* forward or flood
- Firewall
  - *match*: IP addresses and TCP/UDP port numbers
  - *action:* permit or deny
- NAT
  - *match:* IP address and port
  - *action:* rewrite address and port

OpenFlow example

Example: datagrams from hosts h5 and h6 should be sent to h3 or h4, via s1 and from there to s2



Chapter 4: *done!*

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4.2 What's inside a router

4.3 IP: Internet Protocol

- datagram format
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- IPv4 addressing

4.4 Generalized Forward and SDN

- match plus action
- OpenFlow example

Question: how do forwarding tables (destination-based forwarding) or flow tables (generalized forwarding) computed?

Answer: by the control plane (next chapter)