

Chapter 2

Application Layer

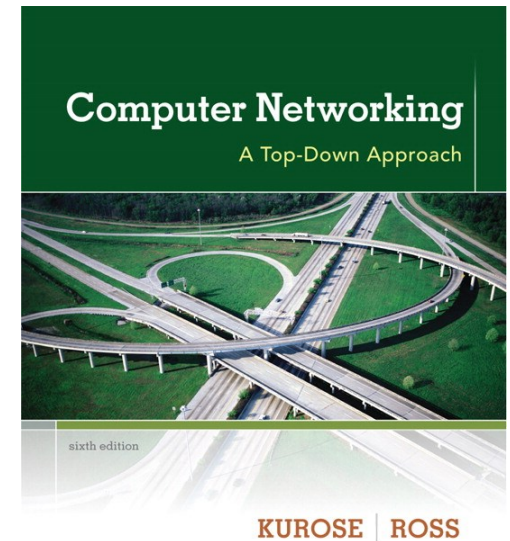
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Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach

6th edition

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Addison-Wesley

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Chapter 2: outline

2.1 principles of network applications

2.2 Web and HTTP

2.7 socket programming with UDP and TCP

Chapter 2: application layer

our goals:

- ❖ conceptual, implementation aspects of network application protocols
 - transport-layer service models
 - client-server paradigm
 - peer-to-peer paradigm
- ❖ learn about protocols by examining popular application-level protocols
 - HTTP
 - FTP
 - SMTP / POP3 / IMAP
 - DNS
- ❖ creating network applications
 - socket API

Some network apps

- ❖ e-mail
- ❖ web
- ❖ text messaging
- ❖ remote login
- ❖ P2P file sharing
- ❖ multi-user network games
- ❖ streaming stored video (YouTube, Hulu, Netflix)
- ❖ voice over IP (e.g., Skype)
- ❖ real-time video conferencing
- ❖ social networking
- ❖ search
- ❖ ...
- ❖ ...

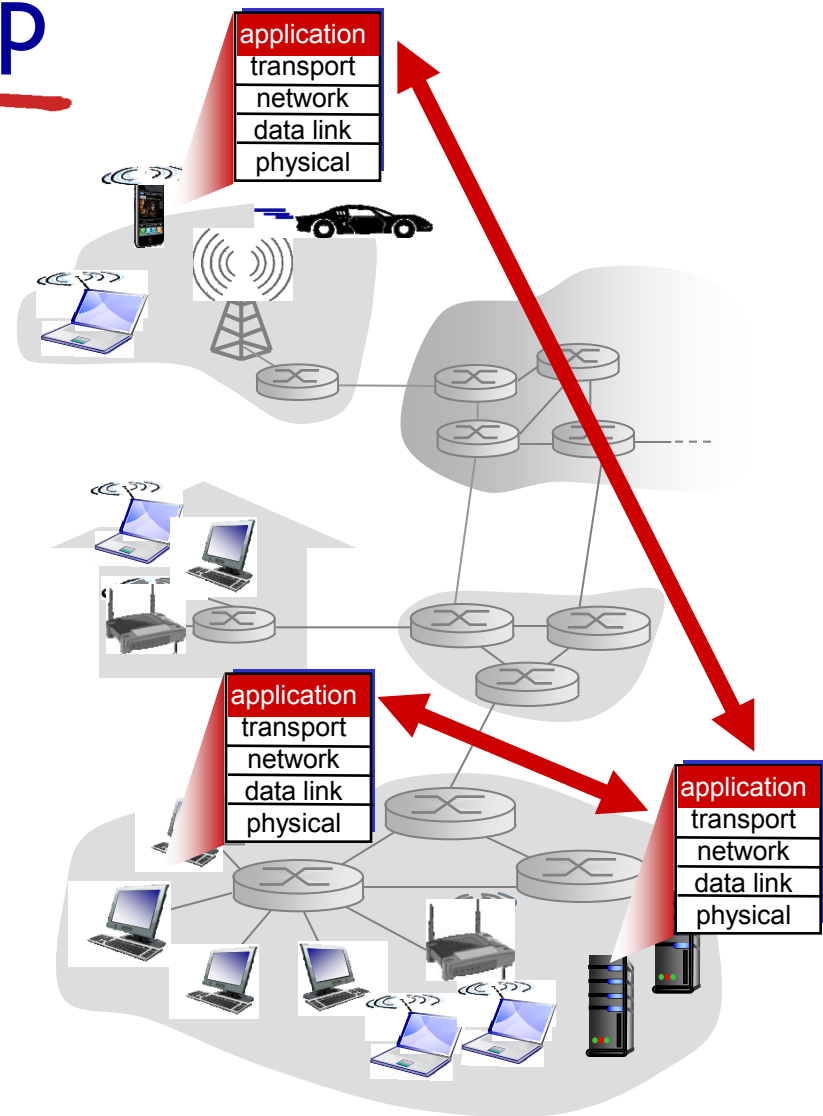
Creating a network app

write programs that:

- ❖ run on (different) *end systems*
- ❖ communicate over network
- ❖ e.g., web server software communicates with browser software

no need to write software for
network-core devices

- ❖ network-core devices do not run user applications
- ❖ applications on end systems allows for rapid app development, propagation

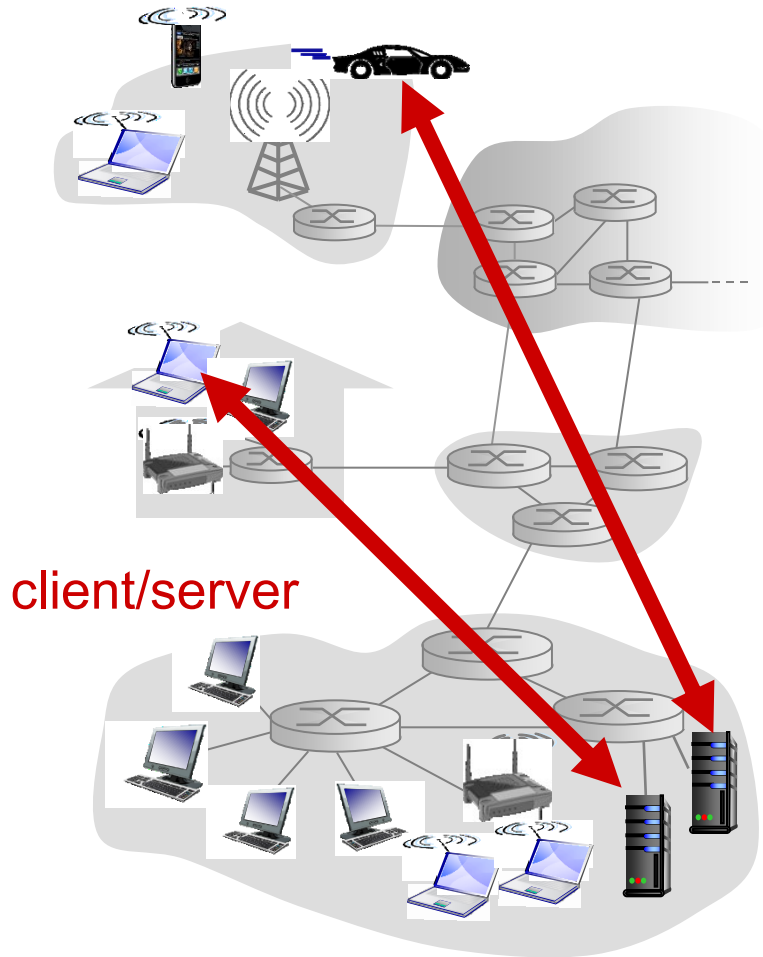


Application architectures

possible structure of applications:

- ❖ client-server
- ❖ peer-to-peer (P2P)

Client-server architecture



server:

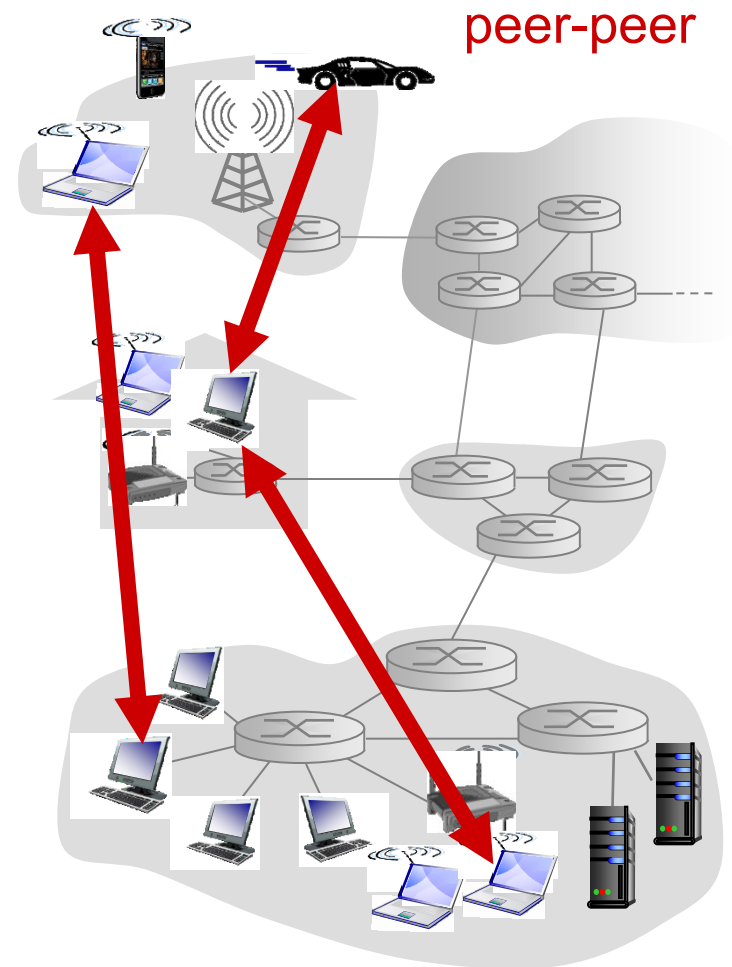
- ❖ always-on host
- ❖ permanent IP address
- ❖ data centers for scaling

clients:

- ❖ communicate with server
- ❖ may be intermittently connected
- ❖ may have dynamic IP addresses
- ❖ do not communicate directly with each other

P2P architecture

- ❖ no always-on server
- ❖ arbitrary end systems directly communicate
- ❖ peers request service from other peers, provide service in return to other peers
 - *self scalability* – new peers bring new service capacity, as well as new service demands
- ❖ peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses
 - complex management



Processes communicating

process: program running within a host

- ❖ within same host, two processes communicate using **inter-process communication** (defined by OS)
- ❖ processes in different hosts communicate by exchanging **messages**

clients, servers

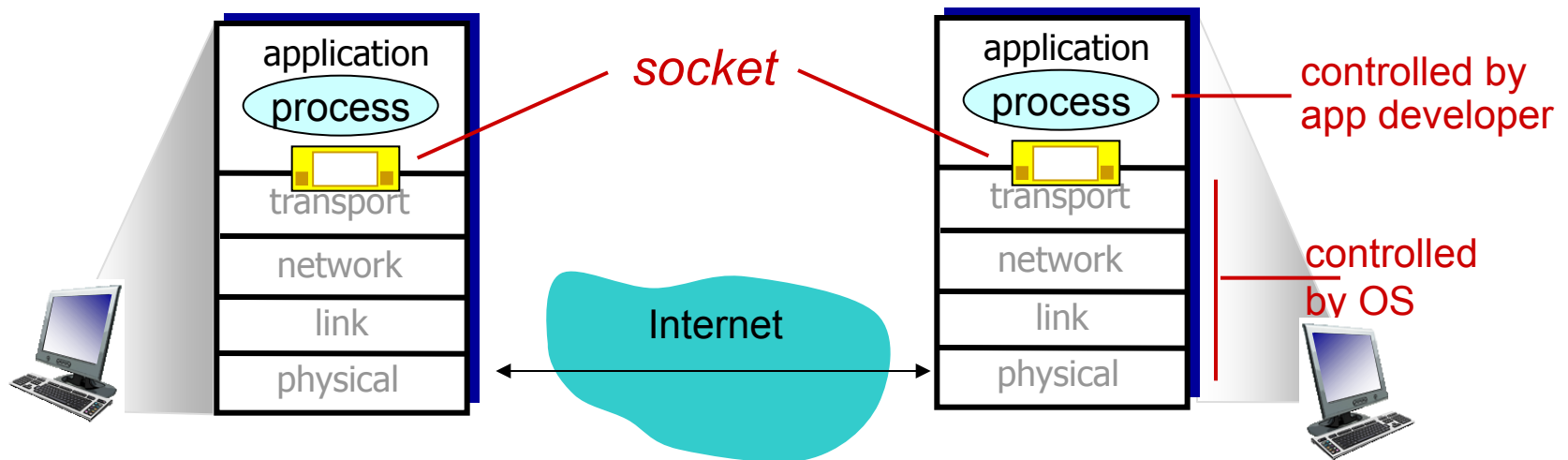
client process: process that initiates communication

server process: process that waits to be contacted

- ❖ aside: applications with P2P architectures have client processes & server processes

Sockets

- ❖ process sends/receives messages to/from its **socket**
- ❖ socket analogous to door
 - sending process shoves message out door
 - sending process relies on transport infrastructure on other side of door to deliver message to socket at receiving process



Addressing processes

- ❖ to receive messages, process must have *identifier*
- ❖ host device has unique 32-bit IP address
- ❖ Q: does IP address of host on which process runs suffice for identifying the process?
 - A: no, *many* processes can be running on same host
- ❖ *identifier* includes both **IP address** and **port numbers** associated with process on host.
- ❖ example port numbers:
 - HTTP server: 80
 - mail server: 25
- ❖ to send HTTP message to gaia.cs.umass.edu web server:
 - **IP address**: 128.119.245.12
 - **port number**: 80
- ❖ more shortly...

App-layer protocol defines

- ❖ types of messages exchanged,
 - e.g., request, response
- ❖ message syntax:
 - what fields in messages & how fields are delineated
- ❖ message semantics
 - meaning of information in fields
- ❖ rules for when and how processes send & respond to messages

open protocols:

- ❖ defined in RFCs
- ❖ allows for interoperability
- ❖ e.g., HTTP, SMTP

proprietary protocols:

- ❖ e.g., Skype

What transport service does an app need?

data integrity

- ❖ some apps (e.g., file transfer, web transactions) require 100% reliable data transfer
- ❖ other apps (e.g., audio) can tolerate some loss

timing

- ❖ some apps (e.g., Internet telephony, interactive games) require low delay to be “effective”

throughput

- ❖ some apps (e.g., multimedia) require minimum amount of throughput to be “effective”
- ❖ other apps (“elastic apps”) make use of whatever throughput they get

security

- ❖ encryption, data integrity,
...

Transport service requirements: common apps

application	data loss	throughput	time sensitive
file transfer	no loss	elastic	no
e-mail	no loss	elastic	no
Web documents	no loss	elastic	no
real-time audio/video	loss-tolerant	audio: 5kbps-1Mbps video: 10kbps-5Mbps	yes, 100' s msec
stored audio/video	loss-tolerant	same as above	
interactive games	loss-tolerant	few kbps up	yes, few secs
text messaging	no loss	elastic	yes, 100' s msec yes and no

Internet transport protocols services

TCP service:

- ❖ *reliable transport* between sending and receiving process
- ❖ *flow control*: sender won't overwhelm receiver
- ❖ *congestion control*: throttle sender when network overloaded
- ❖ *does not provide*: timing, minimum throughput guarantee, security
- ❖ *connection-oriented*: setup required between client and server processes

UDP service:

- ❖ *unreliable data transfer* between sending and receiving process
- ❖ *does not provide*: reliability, flow control, congestion control, timing, throughput guarantee, security, or connection setup,

Q: why bother? Why is there a UDP?

Internet apps: application, transport protocols

application	application layer protocol	underlying transport protocol
e-mail	SMTP [RFC 2821]	TCP
remote terminal access	Telnet [RFC 854]	TCP
Web	HTTP [RFC 2616]	TCP
file transfer	FTP [RFC 959]	TCP
streaming multimedia	HTTP (e.g., YouTube), RTP [RFC 1889]	TCP or UDP
Internet telephony	SIP, RTP, proprietary (e.g., Skype)	TCP or UDP

Securing TCP

TCP & UDP

- ❖ no encryption
- ❖ cleartext passwds sent into socket traverse Internet in cleartext

SSL

- ❖ provides encrypted TCP connection
- ❖ data integrity
- ❖ end-point authentication

SSL is at app layer

- ❖ Apps use SSL libraries, which “talk” to TCP

SSL socket API

- ❖ cleartext passwds sent into socket traverse Internet encrypted
- ❖ See Chapter 7

Chapter 2: outline

2.1 principles of network applications

- app architectures
- app requirements

2.2 Web and HTTP

2.7 socket programming with UDP and TCP

Web and HTTP

First, a review...

- ❖ *web page* consists of *objects*
- ❖ object can be HTML file, JPEG image, Java applet, audio file,...
- ❖ web page consists of *base HTML-file* which includes *several referenced objects*
- ❖ each object is addressable by a *URL*, e.g.,

`www.someschool.edu/someDept/pic.gif`

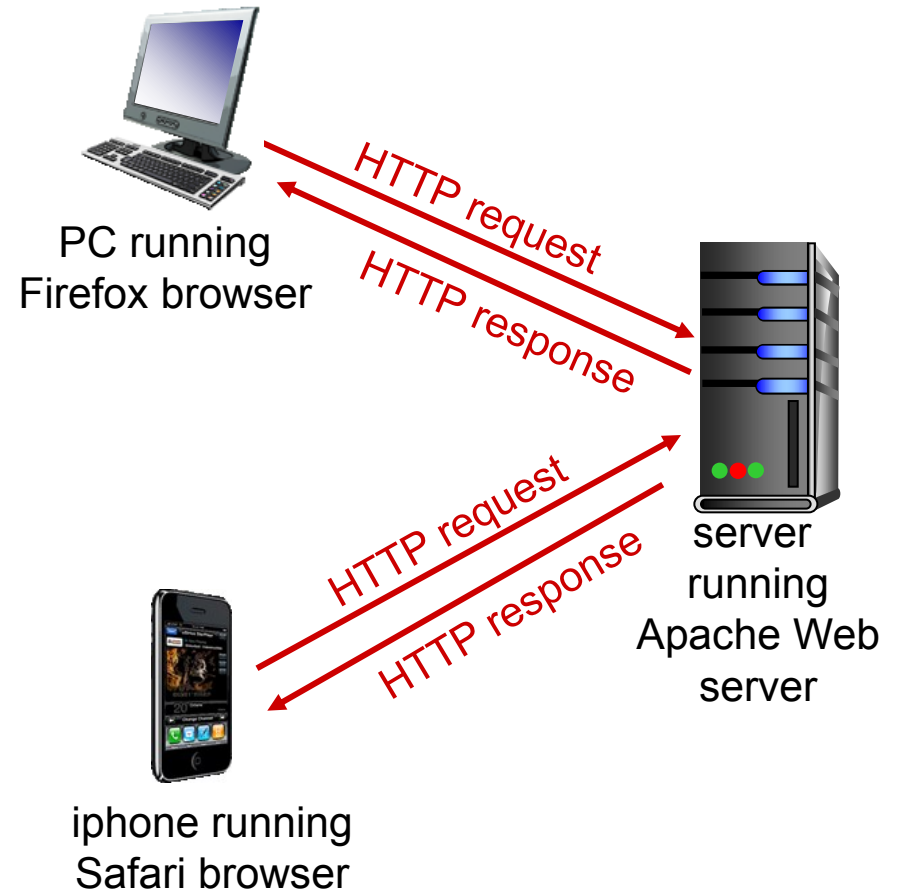
host name

path name

HTTP overview

HTTP: hypertext transfer protocol

- ❖ Web's application layer protocol
- ❖ client/server model
 - **client**: browser that requests, receives, (using HTTP protocol) and "displays" Web objects
 - **server**: Web server sends (using HTTP protocol) objects in response to requests



HTTP overview (continued)

uses TCP:

- ❖ client initiates TCP connection (creates socket) to server, port 80
- ❖ server accepts TCP connection from client
- ❖ HTTP messages (application-layer protocol messages) exchanged between browser (HTTP client) and Web server (HTTP server)
- ❖ TCP connection closed

HTTP is “stateless”

- ❖ server maintains no information about past client requests

aside protocols that maintain “state” are complex!

- ❖ past history (state) must be maintained
- ❖ if server/client crashes, their views of “state” may be inconsistent, must be reconciled

HTTP connections

non-persistent HTTP

- ❖ at most one object sent over TCP connection
 - connection then closed
- ❖ downloading multiple objects required multiple connections

persistent HTTP

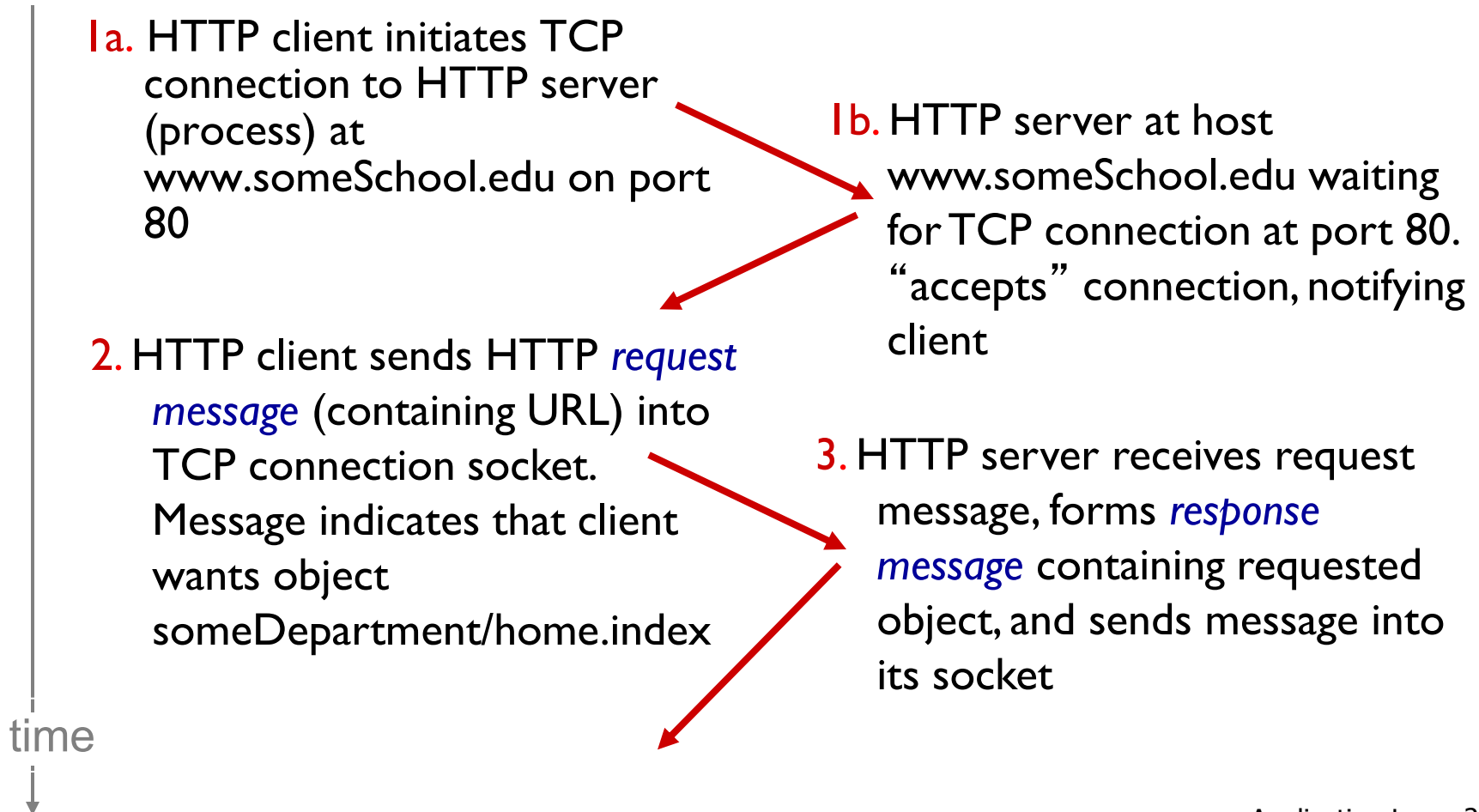
- ❖ multiple objects can be sent over single TCP connection between client, server

Non-persistent HTTP

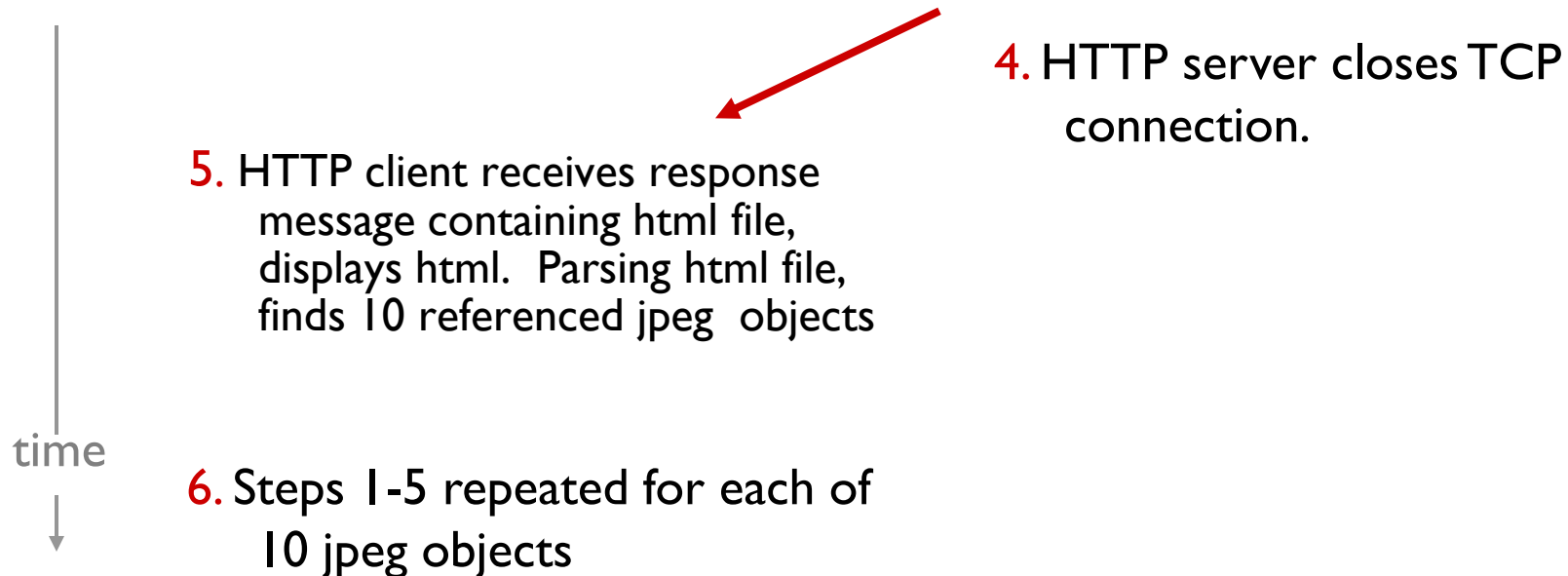
suppose user enters URL:

`www.someSchool.edu/someDepartment/home.index`

(contains text,
references to 10
jpeg images)



Non-persistent HTTP (cont.)

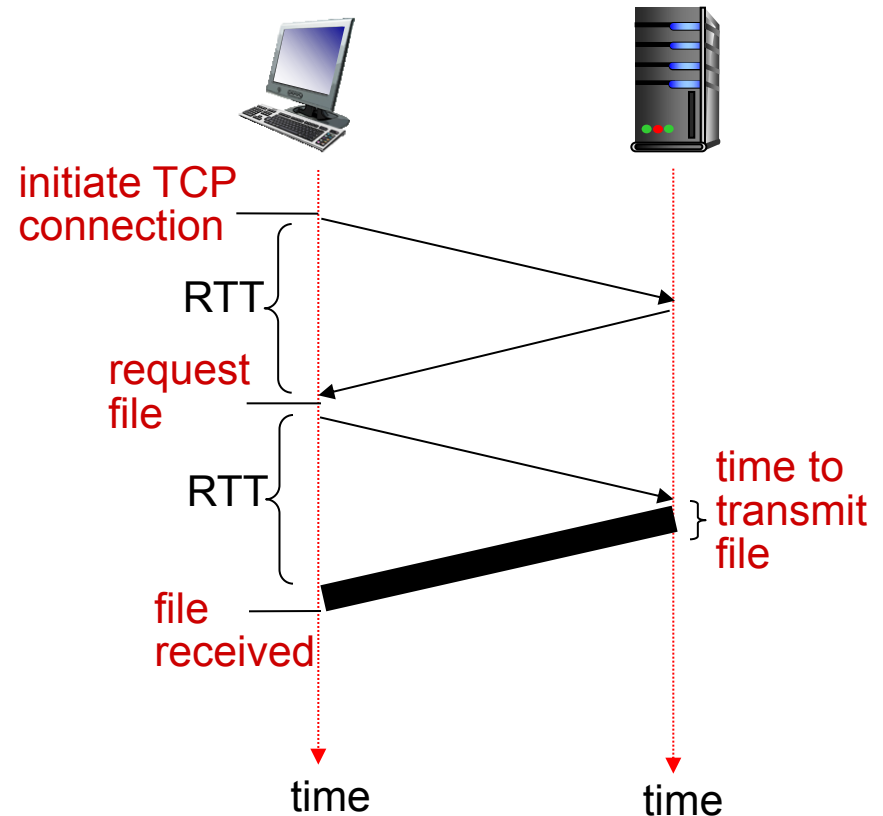


Non-persistent HTTP: response time

RTT (definition): time for a small packet to travel from client to server and back

HTTP response time:

- ❖ one RTT to initiate TCP connection
- ❖ one RTT for HTTP request and first few bytes of HTTP response to return
- ❖ file transmission time
- ❖ non-persistent HTTP response time =
 $2\text{RTT} + \text{file transmission time}$



Persistent HTTP

non-persistent HTTP issues:

- ❖ requires 2 RTTs per object
- ❖ OS overhead for *each* TCP connection
- ❖ browsers often open parallel TCP connections to fetch referenced objects

persistent HTTP:

- ❖ server leaves connection open after sending response
- ❖ subsequent HTTP messages between same client/server sent over open connection
- ❖ client sends requests as soon as it encounters a referenced object
- ❖ as little as one RTT for all the referenced objects

HTTP request message

- ❖ two types of HTTP messages: *request, response*
- ❖ **HTTP request message:**
 - ASCII (human-readable format)

request line
(GET, POST,
HEAD commands)

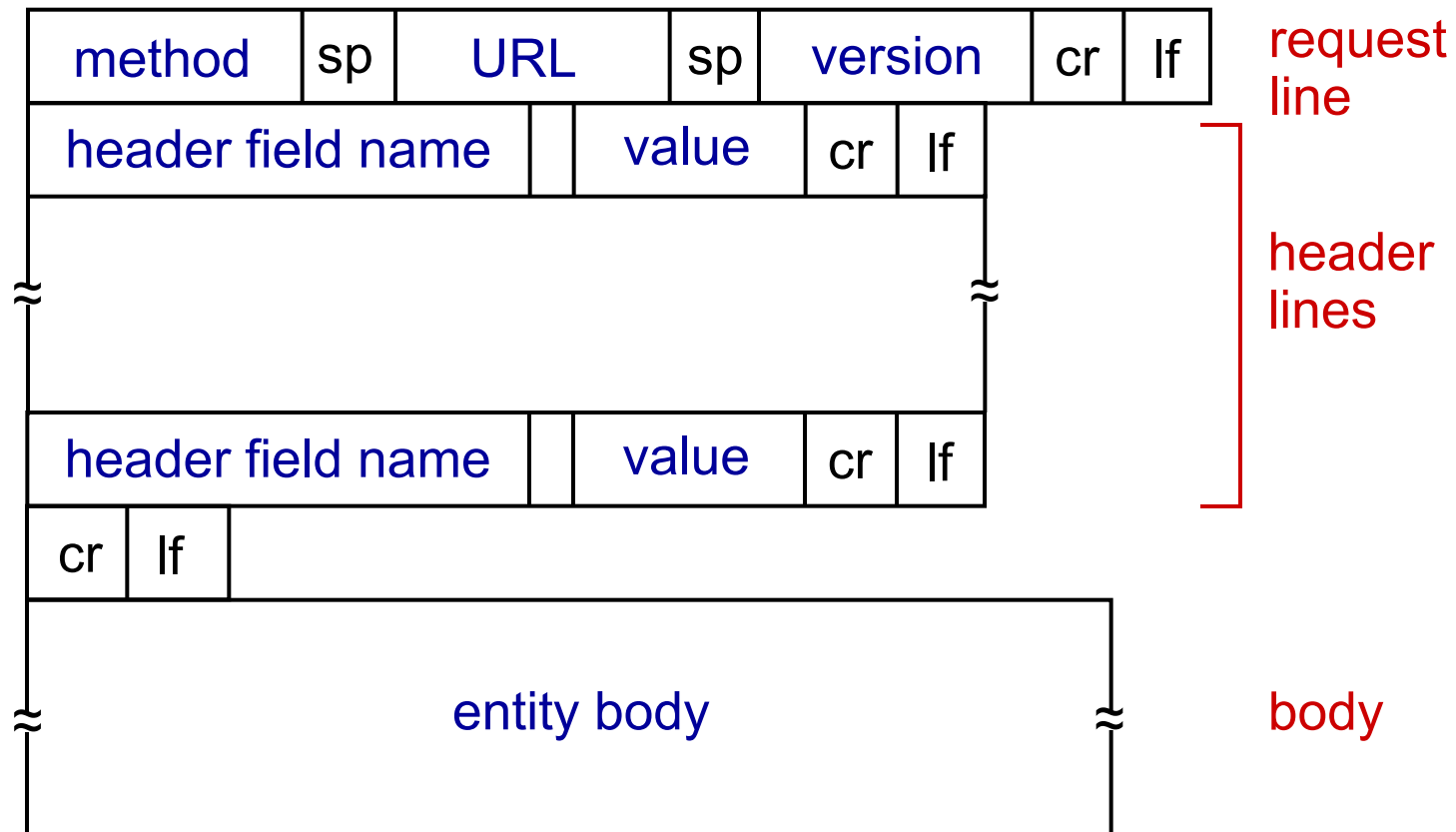
header
lines

carriage return,
line feed at start
of line indicates
end of header lines

```
GET /index.html HTTP/1.1\r\n
Host: www-net.cs.umass.edu\r\n
User-Agent: Firefox/3.6.10\r\n
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml\r\n
Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5\r\n
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate\r\n
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7\r\n
Keep-Alive: 115\r\n
Connection: keep-alive\r\n
\r\n
```

carriage return character
line-feed character

HTTP request message: general format



Uploading form input

POST method:

- ❖ web page often includes form input
- ❖ input is uploaded to server in entity body

URL method:

- ❖ uses GET method
- ❖ input is uploaded in URL field of request line:

`www.somesite.com/animalsearch?monkeys&banana`

Method types

HTTP/1.0:

- ❖ GET
- ❖ POST
- ❖ HEAD
 - asks server to leave requested object out of response

HTTP/1.1:

- ❖ GET, POST, HEAD
- ❖ PUT
 - uploads file in entity body to path specified in URL field
- ❖ DELETE
 - deletes file specified in the URL field

HTTP response message

status line
(protocol
status code
status phrase)

header
lines

data, e.g.,
requested
HTML file

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n
Date: Sun, 26 Sep 2010 20:09:20 GMT\r\n
Server: Apache/2.0.52 (CentOS)\r\n
Last-Modified: Tue, 30 Oct 2007 17:00:02
GMT\r\n
ETag: "17dc6-a5c-bf716880"\r\n
Accept-Ranges: bytes\r\n
Content-Length: 2652\r\n
Keep-Alive: timeout=10, max=100\r\n
Connection: Keep-Alive\r\n
Content-Type: text/html; charset=ISO-8859-
1\r\n
\r\n
data data data data data ...
```

HTTP response status codes

- ❖ status code appears in 1st line in server-to-client response message.
- ❖ some sample codes:

200 OK

- request succeeded, requested object later in this msg

301 Moved Permanently

- requested object moved, new location specified later in this msg (Location:)

400 Bad Request

- request msg not understood by server

404 Not Found

- requested document not found on this server

505 HTTP Version Not Supported

Trying out HTTP (client side) for yourself

1. Telnet to your favorite Web server:

```
telnet cis.poly.edu 80
```

opens TCP connection to port 80
(default HTTP server port) at cis.poly.edu.
anything typed in sent
to port 80 at cis.poly.edu

2. type in a GET HTTP request:

```
GET /~ross/ HTTP/1.1  
Host: cis.poly.edu
```

by typing this in (hit carriage
return twice), you send
this minimal (but complete)
GET request to HTTP server

3. look at response message sent by HTTP server!

(or use Wireshark to look at captured HTTP request/response)

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- app requirements

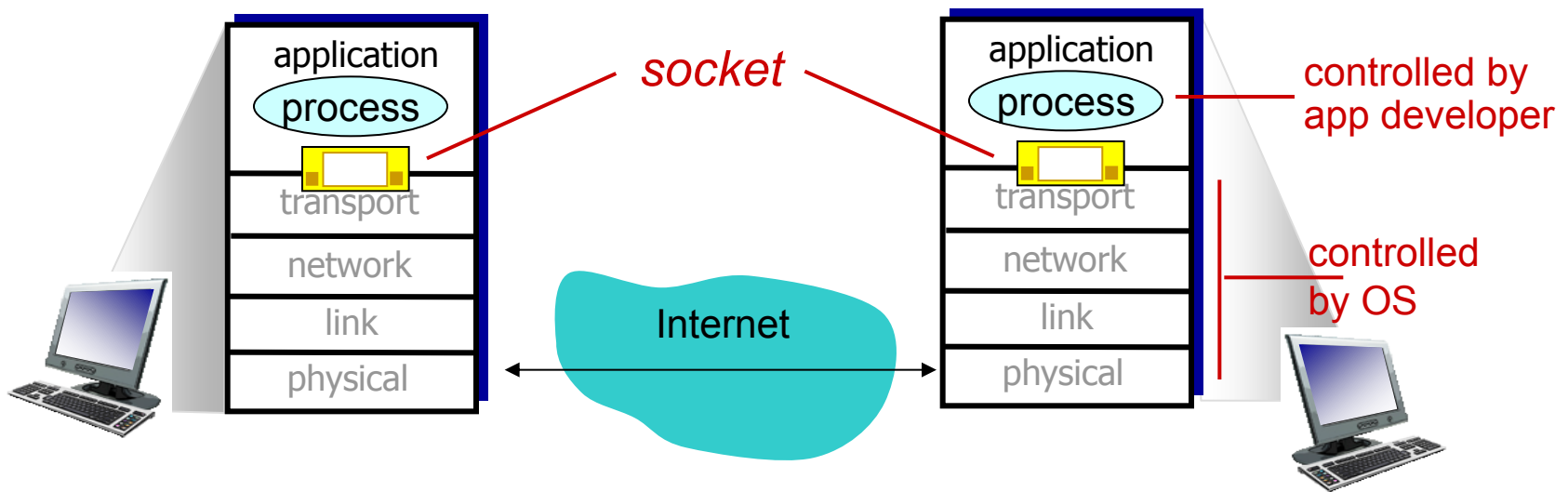
2.2 Web and HTTP

2.7 socket programming with UDP and TCP

Socket programming

goal: learn how to build client/server applications that communicate using sockets

socket: door between application process and end-end-transport protocol



Socket programming

Two socket types for two transport services:

- **UDP:** unreliable datagram
- **TCP:** reliable, byte stream-oriented

Application Example:

1. Client reads a line of characters (data) from its keyboard and sends the data to the server.
2. The server receives the data and converts characters to uppercase.
3. The server sends the modified data to the client.
4. The client receives the modified data and displays the line on its screen.

Socket programming *with* UDP

UDP: no “connection” between client & server

- ❖ no handshaking before sending data
- ❖ sender explicitly attaches IP destination address and port # to each packet
- ❖ rcvr extracts sender IP address and port# from received packet

UDP: transmitted data may be lost or received out-of-order

Application viewpoint:

- ❖ UDP provides *unreliable* transfer of groups of bytes (“datagrams”) between client and server

Client/server socket interaction: UDP

server (running on serverIP)

create socket, port= x:
`serverSocket =
socket(AF_INET,SOCK_DGRAM)`

↓
read datagram from
`serverSocket`

↓
write reply to
`serverSocket`
specifying
client address,
port number

client

create socket:
`clientSocket =
socket(AF_INET,SOCK_DGRAM)`

↓
Create datagram with server IP and
port=x; send datagram via
`clientSocket`

↓
read datagram from
`clientSocket`

↓
close
`clientSocket`

Example app: UDP client

Python UDPClient

include Python's socket
library

```
from socket import *  
serverName = 'hostname'  
serverPort = 12000
```

create UDP socket for
server

```
clientSocket = socket(socket.AF_INET,  
                        socket.SOCK_DGRAM)
```

get user keyboard
input

```
message = raw_input('Input lowercase sentence:')
```

Attach server name, port to
message; send into socket

```
clientSocket.sendto(message,(serverName, serverPort))
```

read reply characters from
socket into string

```
modifiedMessage, serverAddress =  
clientSocket.recvfrom(2048)
```

print out received string
and close socket

```
print modifiedMessage  
clientSocket.close()
```

Example app: UDP server

Python UDPServer

```
from socket import *
```

```
serverPort = 12000
```

create UDP socket → `serverSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM)`

bind socket to local port
number 12000 → `serverSocket.bind(("", serverPort))`

```
print "The server is ready to receive"
```

loop forever → `while 1:`

Read from UDP socket into
message, getting client's
address (client IP and port) → `message, clientAddress = serverSocket.recvfrom(2048)`

```
    modifiedMessage = message.upper()
```

send upper case string
back to this client → `serverSocket.sendto(modifiedMessage, clientAddress)`

Socket programming *with TCP*

client must contact server

- ❖ server process must first be running
- ❖ server must have created socket (door) that welcomes client's contact

client contacts server by:

- ❖ Creating TCP socket, specifying IP address, port number of server process
- ❖ *when client creates socket:* client TCP establishes connection to server TCP

- ❖ when contacted by client, *server TCP creates new socket* for server process to communicate with that particular client
 - allows server to talk with multiple clients
 - source port numbers used to distinguish clients (more in Chap 3)

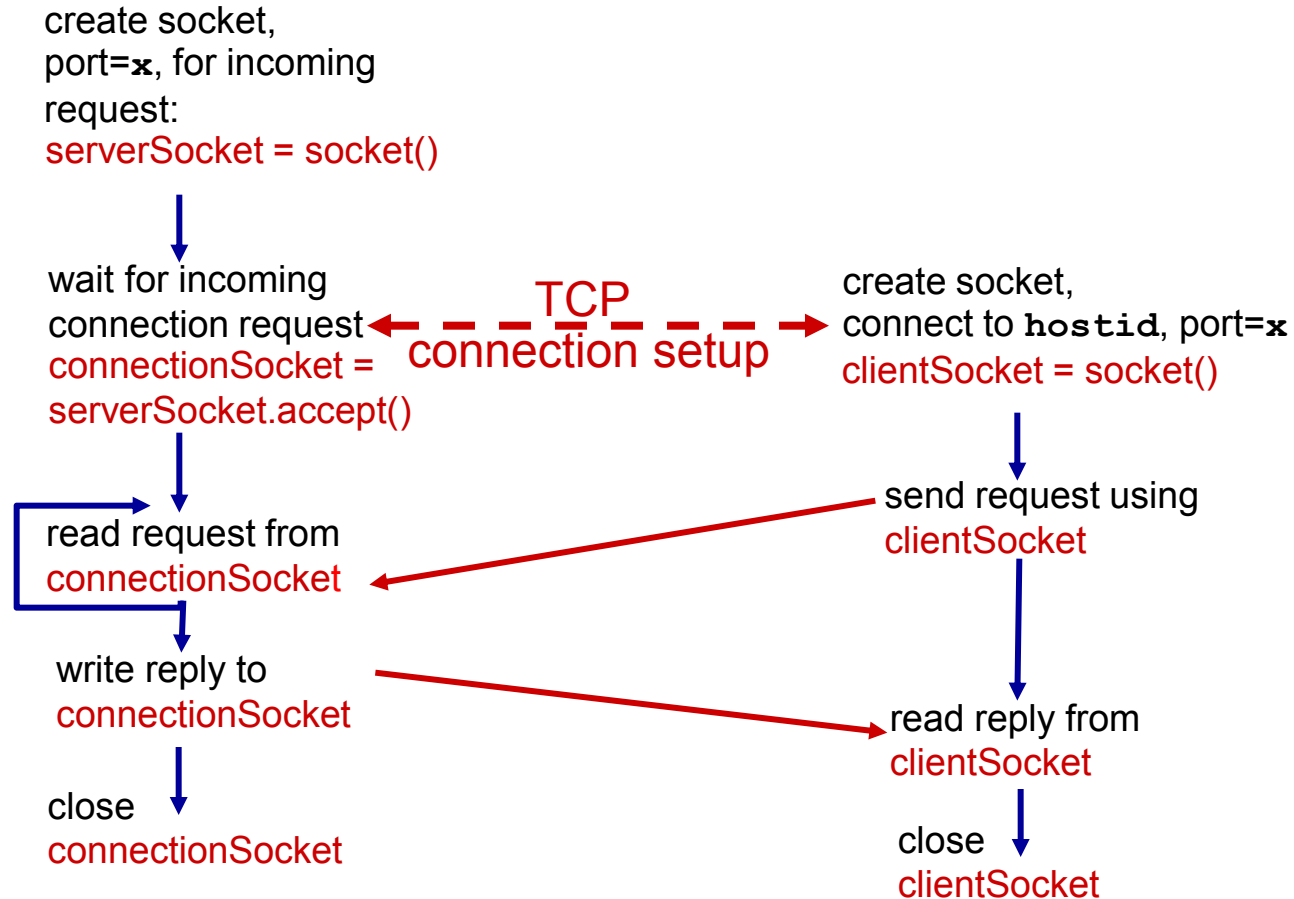
application viewpoint:

TCP provides reliable, in-order byte-stream transfer (“pipe”) between client and server

Client/server socket interaction: TCP

server (running on `hostid`)

client



Example app:TCP client

Python TCPClient

```
from socket import *
```

```
serverName = 'servername'
```

```
serverPort = 12000
```

create TCP socket for
server, remote port 12000

```
→ clientSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM)
```

```
clientSocket.connect((serverName,serverPort))
```

```
sentence = raw_input('Input lowercase sentence:')
```

No need to attach server
name, port

```
→ clientSocket.send(sentence)
```

```
modifiedSentence = clientSocket.recv(1024)
```

```
print 'From Server:', modifiedSentence
```

```
clientSocket.close()
```

Example app: TCP server

Python TCPServer

create TCP welcoming socket	→	<pre>from socket import * serverPort = 12000 serverSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM) serverSocket.bind(('', serverPort)) serverSocket.listen(1) print 'The server is ready to receive'</pre>
server begins listening for incoming TCP requests	→	<pre>while 1:</pre>
loop forever	→	<pre> connectionSocket, addr = serverSocket.accept() sentence = connectionSocket.recv(1024) capitalizedSentence = sentence.upper() connectionSocket.send(capitalizedSentence) connectionSocket.close()</pre>
server waits on accept() for incoming requests, new socket created on return	→	
read bytes from socket (but not address as in UDP)	→	
close connection to this client (but <i>not</i> welcoming socket)	→	

Chapter 2: summary

our study of network apps now complete!

- ❖ application architectures
 - client-server
 - P2P
- ❖ application service requirements:
 - reliability, bandwidth, delay
- ❖ Internet transport service model
 - connection-oriented, reliable: TCP
 - unreliable, datagrams: UDP
- ❖ specific protocols:
 - HTTP
 - FTP
 - SMTP, POP, IMAP
 - DNS
 - P2P: BitTorrent, DHT
- ❖ socket programming: TCP, UDP sockets

Chapter 2: summary

most importantly: learned about protocols!

- ❖ typical request/reply message exchange:
 - client requests info or service
 - server responds with data, status code
- ❖ message formats:
 - headers: fields giving info about data
 - data: info being communicated

important themes:

- ❖ control vs. data msgs
 - in-band, out-of-band
- ❖ centralized vs. decentralized
- ❖ stateless vs. stateful
- ❖ reliable vs. unreliable msg transfer
- ❖ “complexity at network edge”