

COMPUTER SECURITY

Chapter 6: Network Security

Objectives for Chapter 6

- Networking basics
- Network threats and vulnerabilities
- WiFi security
- Denial-of-service attacks
- Network encryption concepts and tools
- Types of firewalls and what they do
- Intrusion detection and prevention systems
- Security information and event management tools

NETWORK BASICS

Network Transmission Media

- Cable
- Optical fiber
- Microwave
- WiFi
- Satellite communication

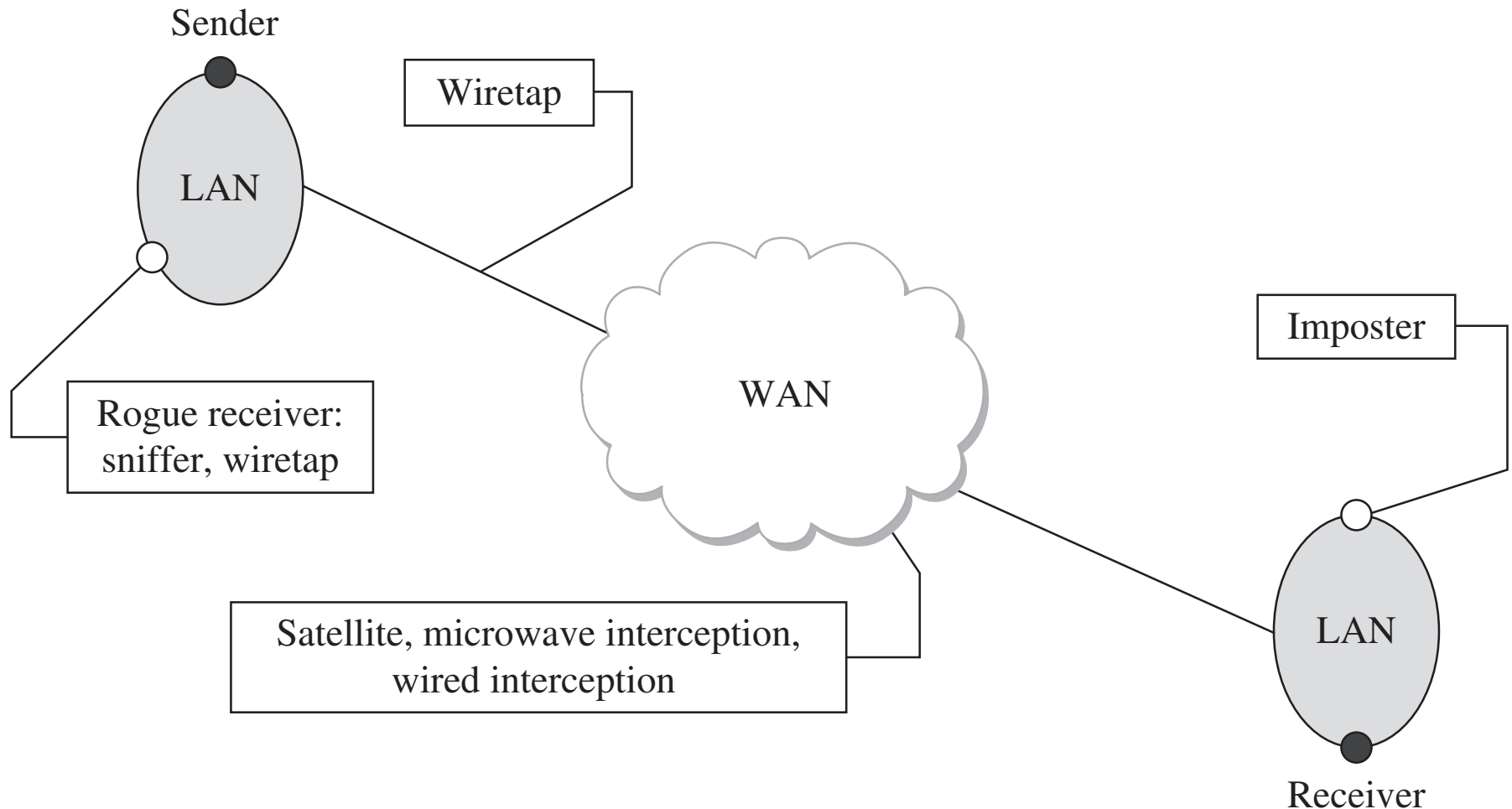
Communication Media Vulnerability

- Each transmission media has different physical properties
 - Those properties will influence their susceptibility to different kinds of attack

Communication Media Vulnerability

- There are different touch points where attackers can take advantage of communication media:
 - Wiretaps
 - sniffers and rogue receivers
 - Interception
 - impersonation

Communication Media Vulnerability



Communication Media Pros/Cons

Medium	Strengths	Weaknesses
Wire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Widely used• Inexpensive to buy, install, maintain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Susceptible to emanation• Susceptible to physical wiretapping
Optical fiber	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immune to emanation• Difficult to wiretap	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potentially exposed at connection points
Microwave	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong signal, not seriously affected by weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exposed to interception along path of transmission• Requires line of sight location• Signal must be repeated approximately every 30 miles (50 kilometers)
Wireless (radio, WiFi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Widely available• Built into many computers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signal degrades over distance; suitable for short range• Signal interceptable in circular pattern around transmitter
Satellite	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong, fast signal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delay due to distance signal travels up and down• Signal exposed over wide area at receiving end

Communication Media Pros/Cons

Medium	Strengths	Weaknesses
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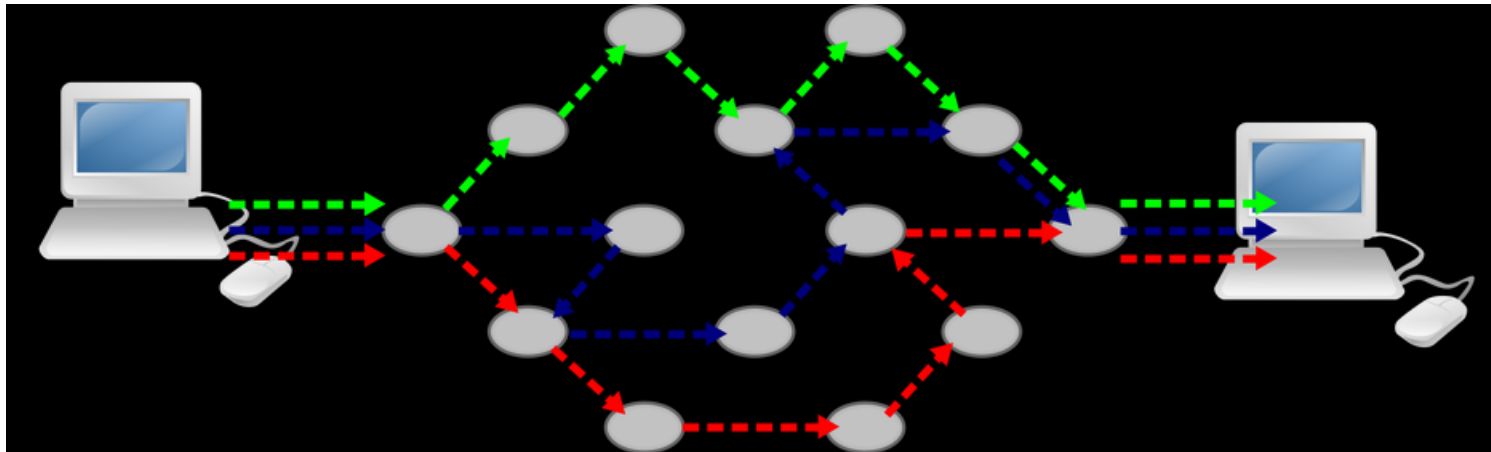
* Emanation = “the action or process of issuing from a source.”

- i.e., "the risk of radon gas emanation"

Computer Networks



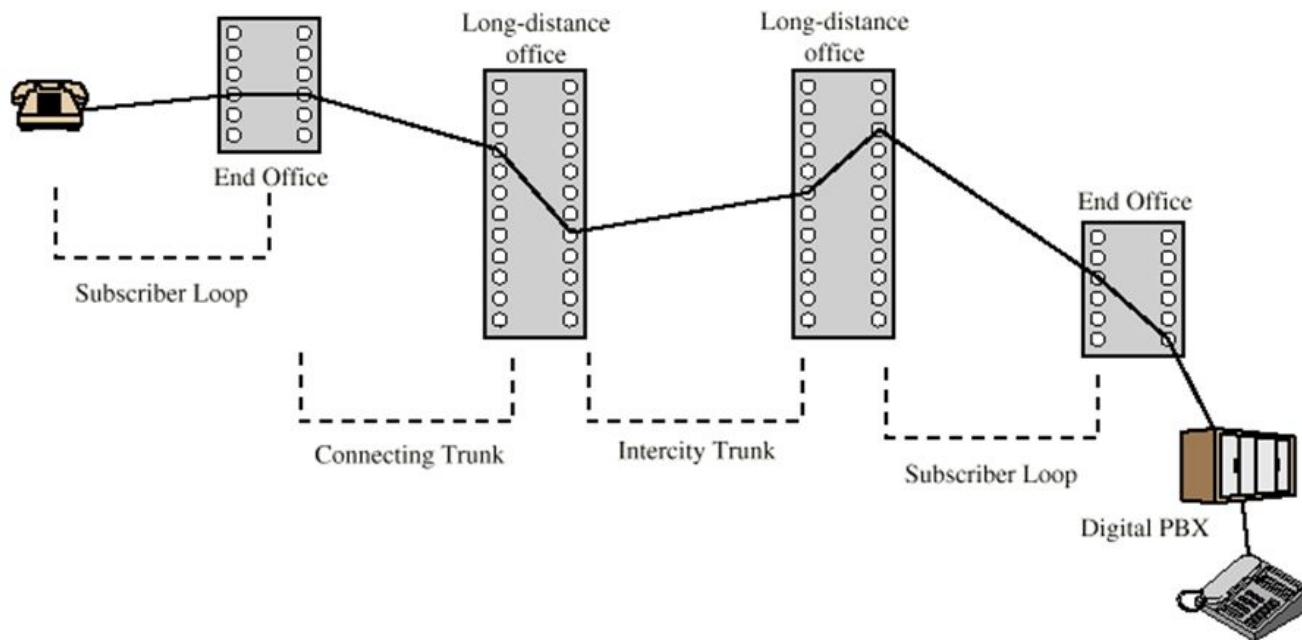
Circuit and Packet Switching



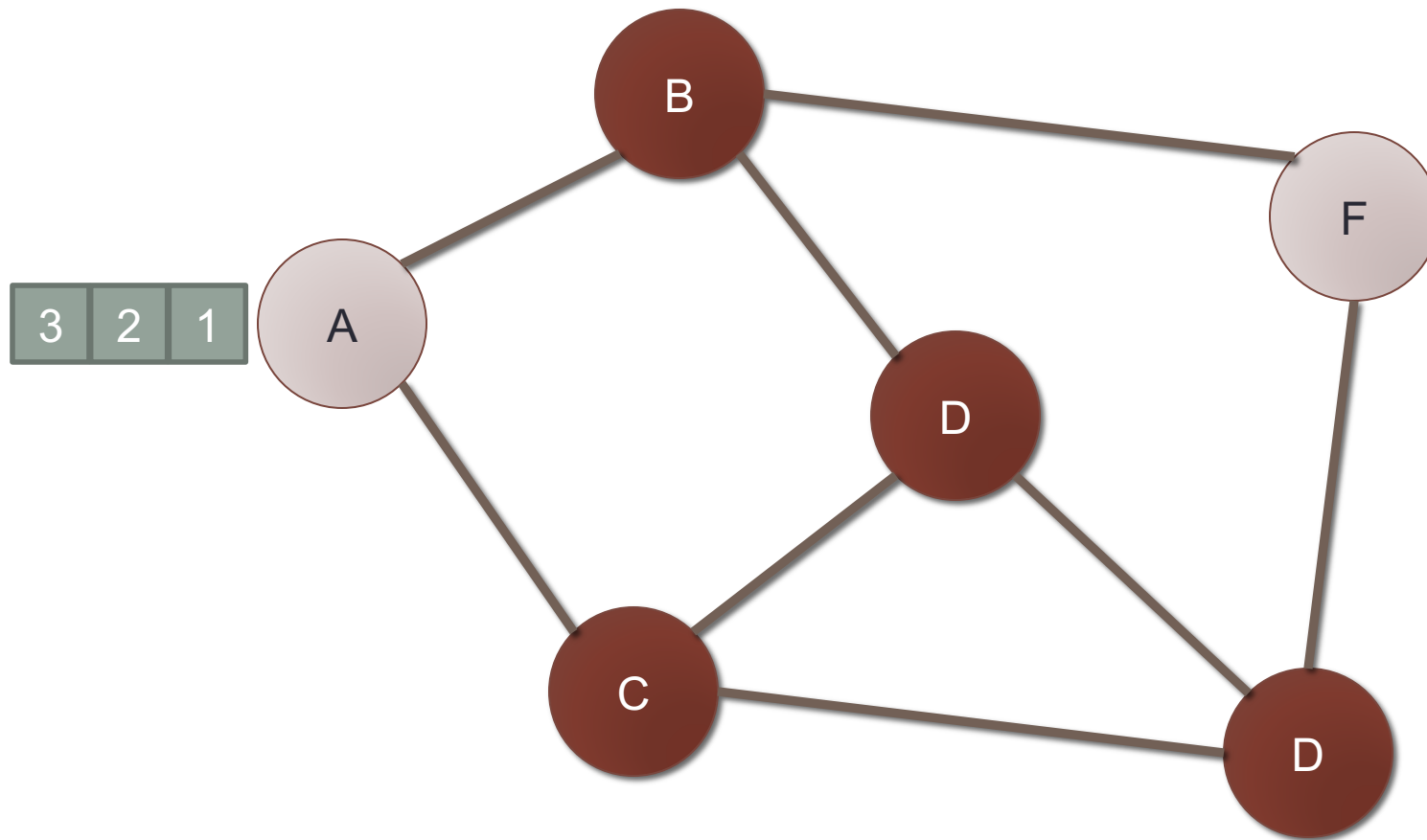
Circuit and Packet Switching

- Circuit switching
 - Legacy phone network
 - Single route through sequence of hardware devices established when two nodes start communication
 - Data sent along route
 - Route maintained until communication ends
- Packet switching
 - Internet
 - Data split into **packets**
 - Packets transported independently through network
 - Each packet handled on a **best efforts** basis
 - Packets may follow different routes

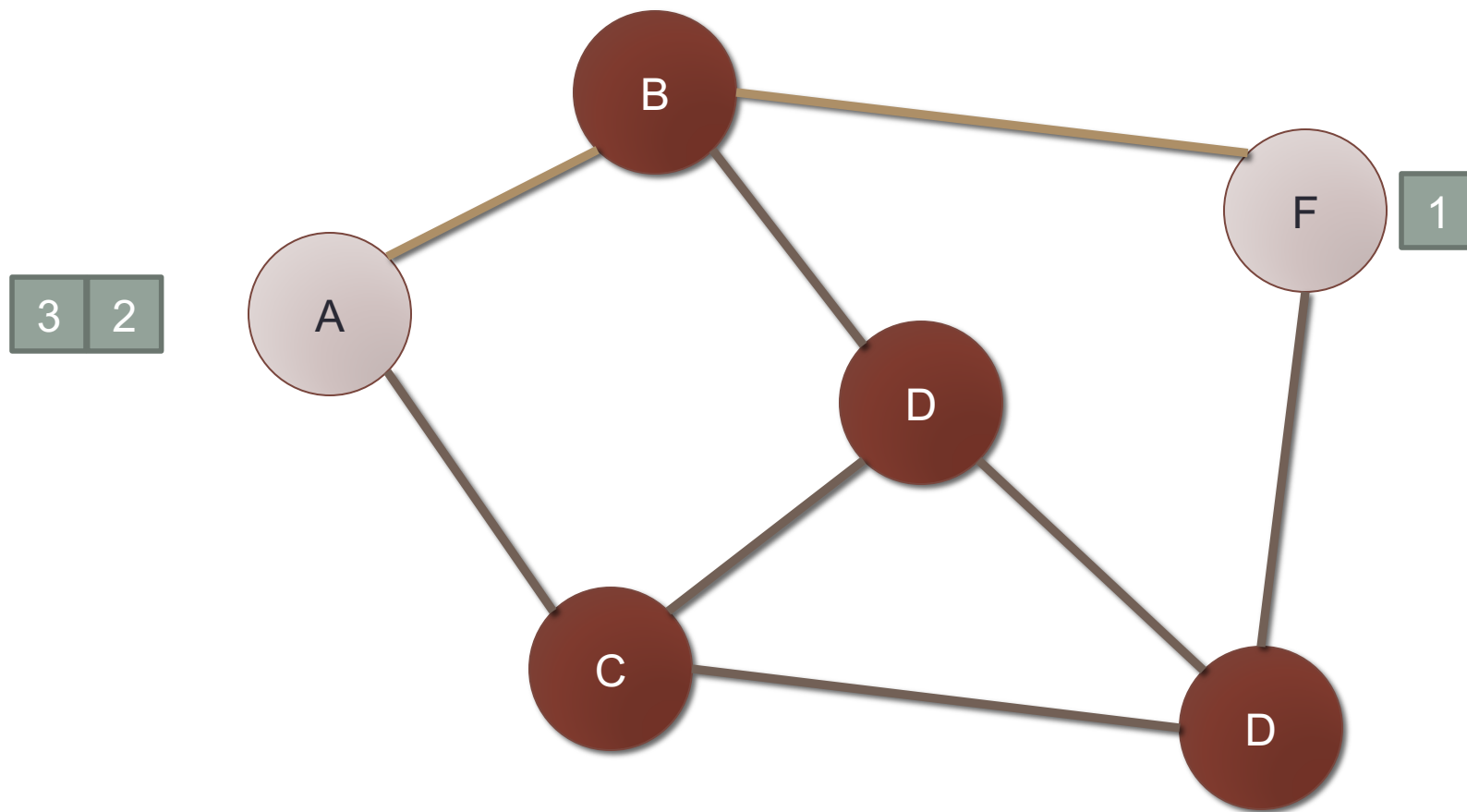
Public Circuit Switched Network



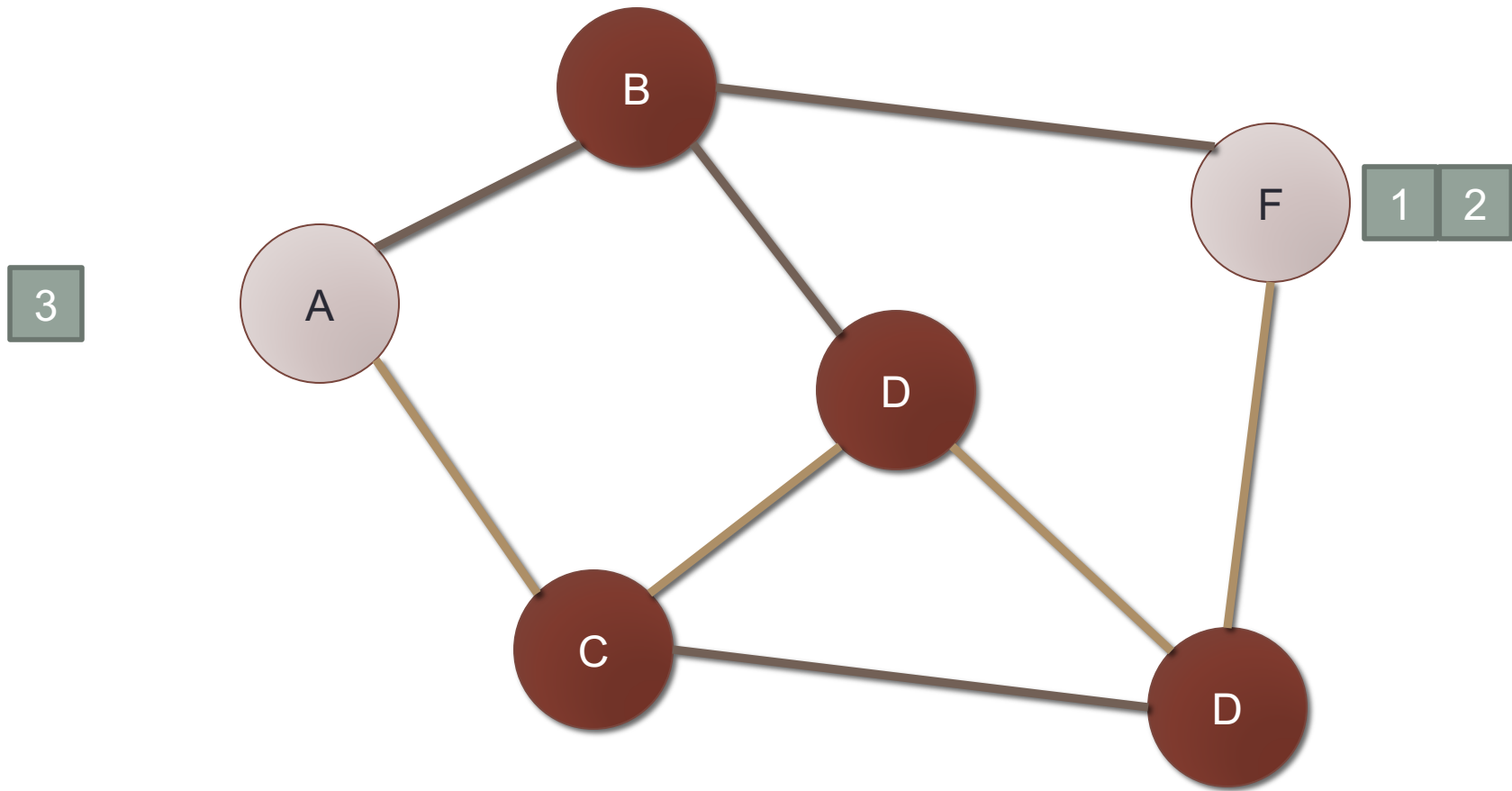
Packet Switching



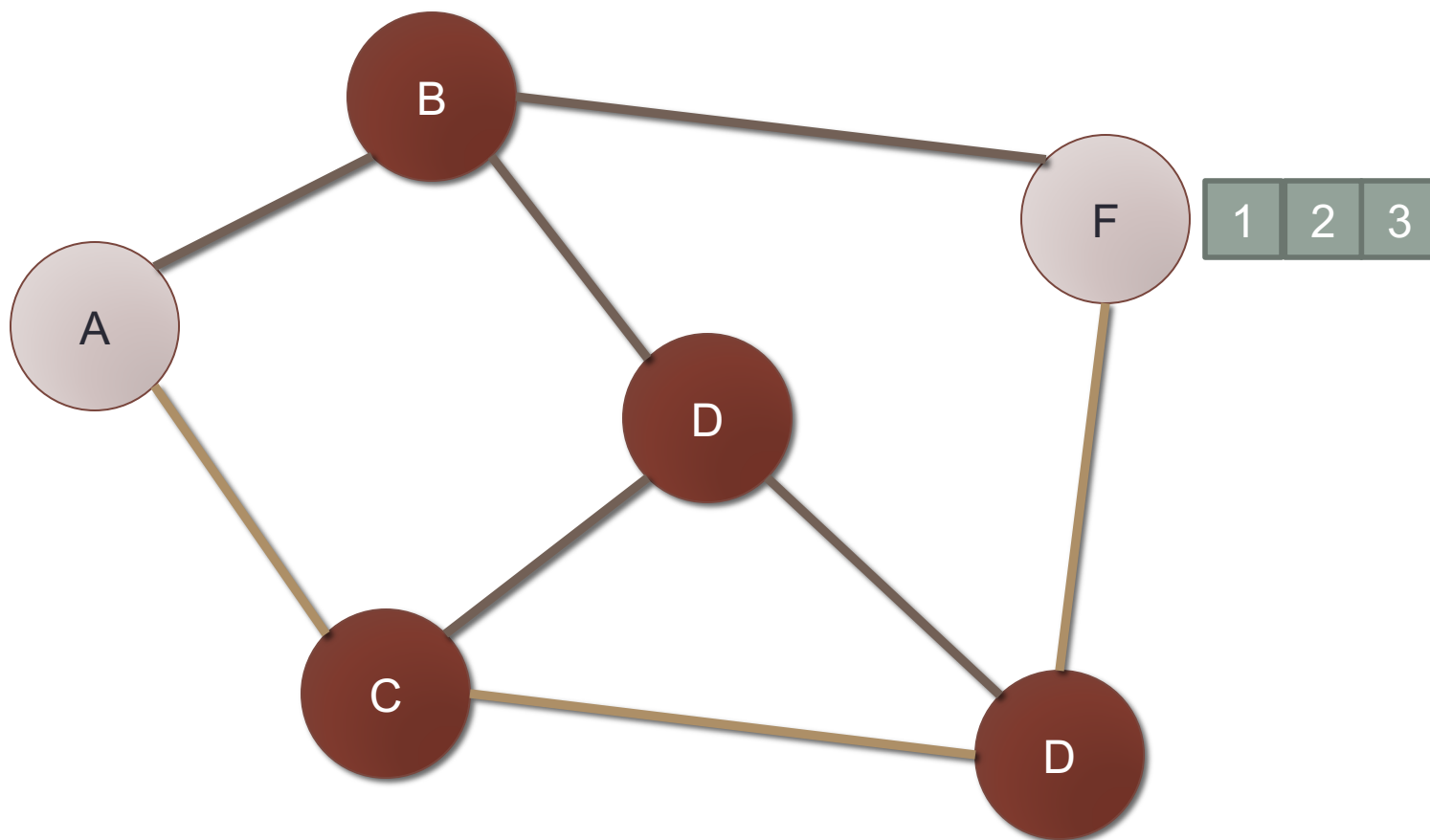
Packet Switching



Packet Switching



Packet Switching





Protocols

- A **protocol** defines the rules for communication between computers
- Protocols are broadly classified as connectionless and connection oriented

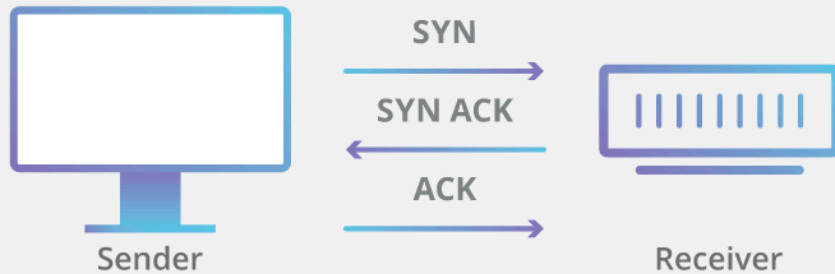


Protocols

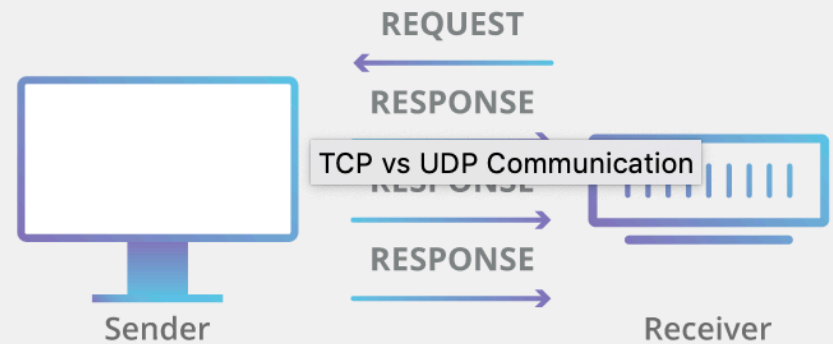
- **Connectionless protocol**
 - Sends data out as soon as there is enough data to be transmitted
 - E.g., user datagram protocol (UDP)
- **Connection-oriented protocol**
 - Provides a reliable connection stream between two nodes
 - Consists of set up, transmission, and tear down phases
 - Creates virtual circuit-switched network
 - E.g., transmission control protocol (TCP)

TCP vs UDP Communication

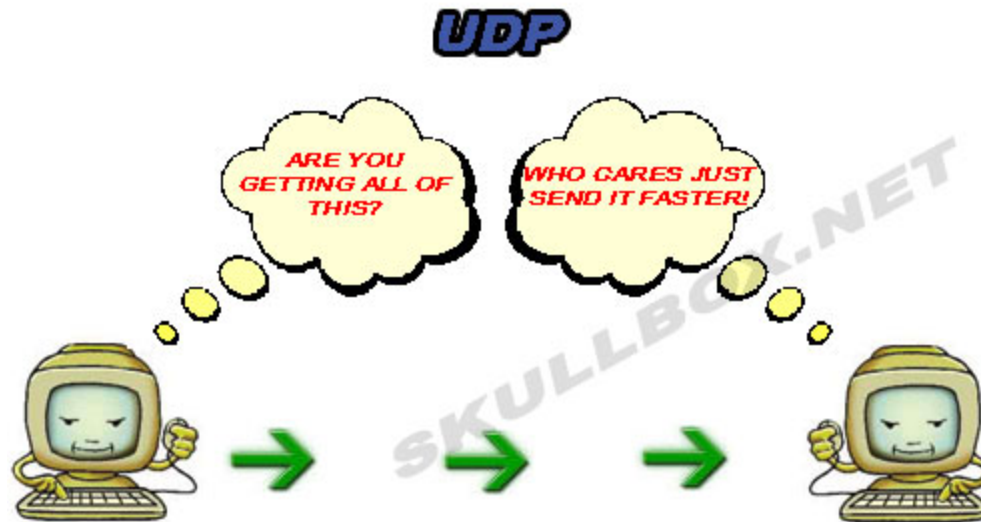
TCP HANDSHAKE



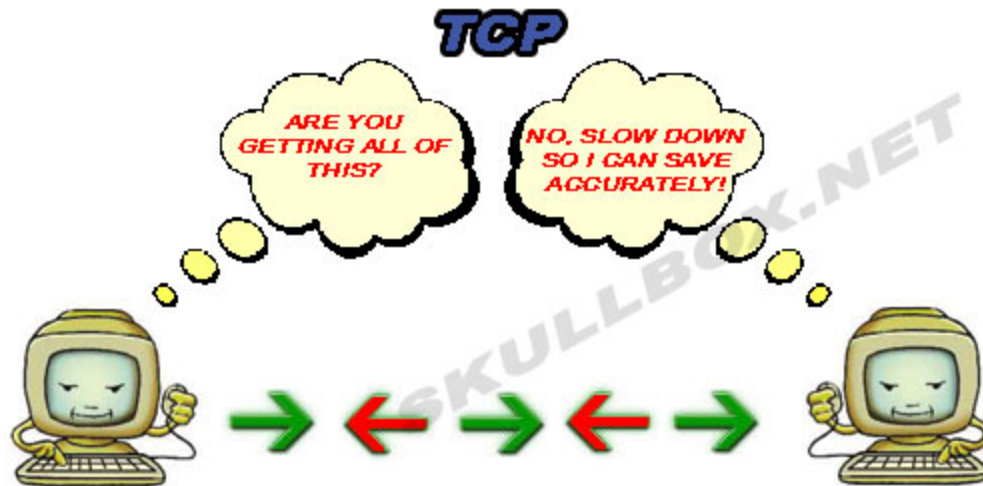
UDP



Connectionless protocol



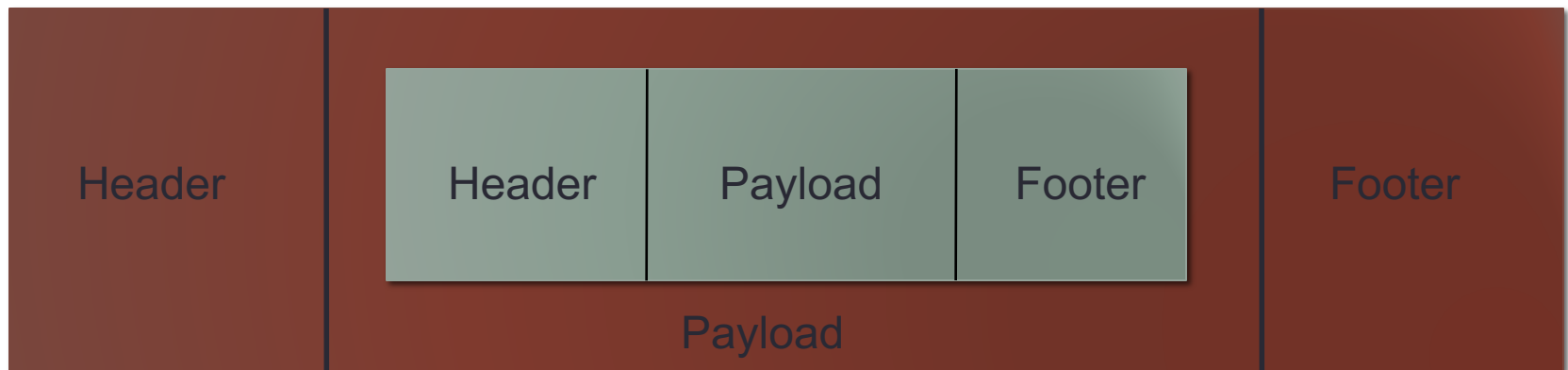
Connection-oriented protocol

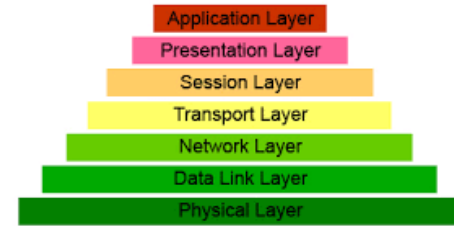


Encapsulation



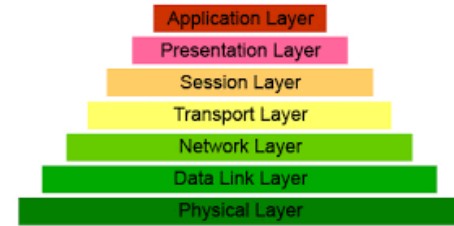
- A packet typically consists of
 - Control information for addressing the packet: **header** and **footer**
 - Data: **payload**
- A network protocol N1 can use the services of another network protocol N2
 - A packet p1 of N1 is encapsulated into a packet p2 of N2
 - The payload of p2 is p1
 - The control information of p2 is derived from that of p1





Network Layers

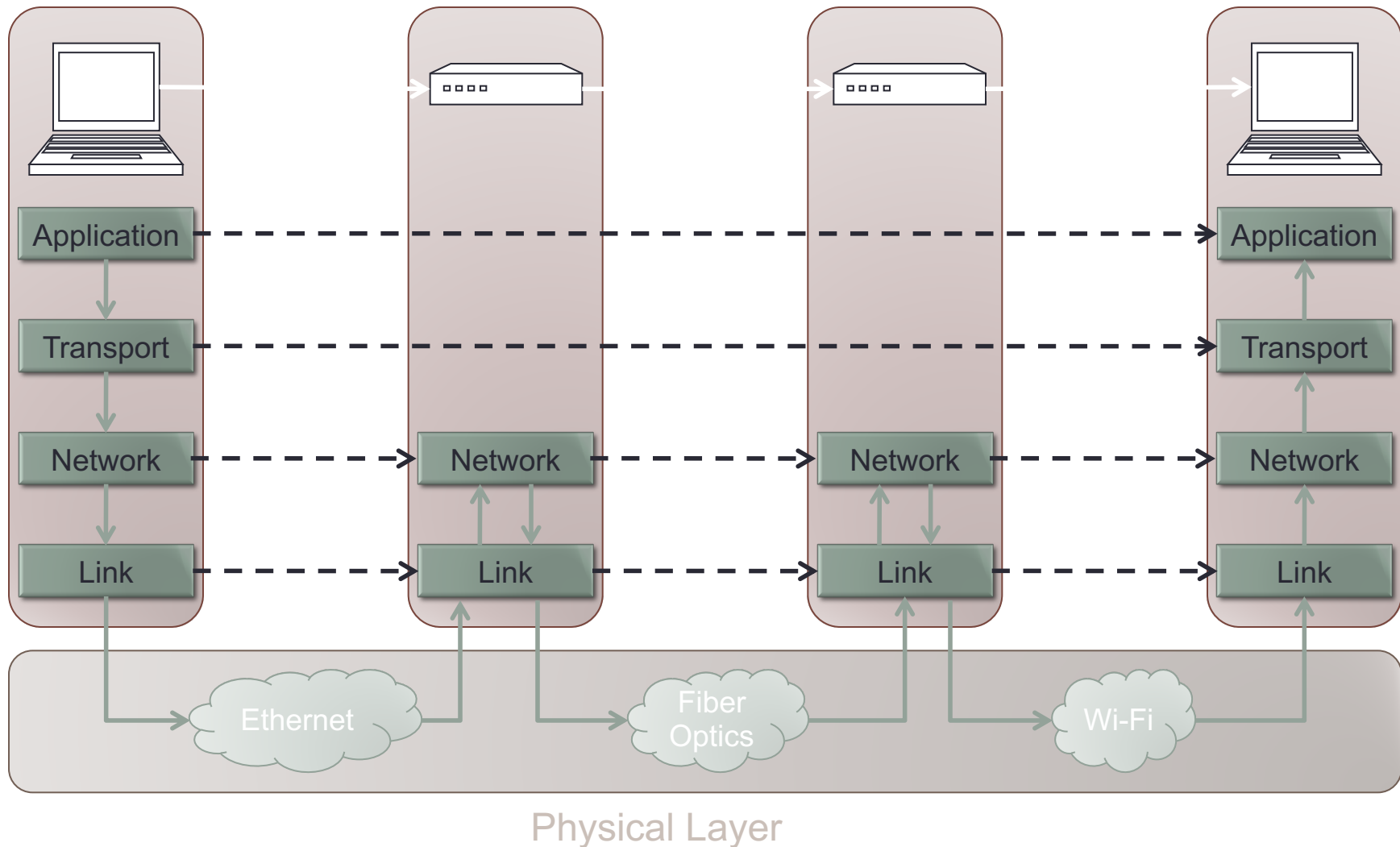
- Network models typically use a **stack** of layers
 - Higher layers use the services of lower layers via encapsulation
 - A layer can be implemented in hardware or software
 - The bottommost layer must be in hardware
- A network device may implement several layers



Network Layers

- A communication channel between two nodes is established for each layer
 - Actual channel at the bottom layer
 - Virtual channel at higher layers

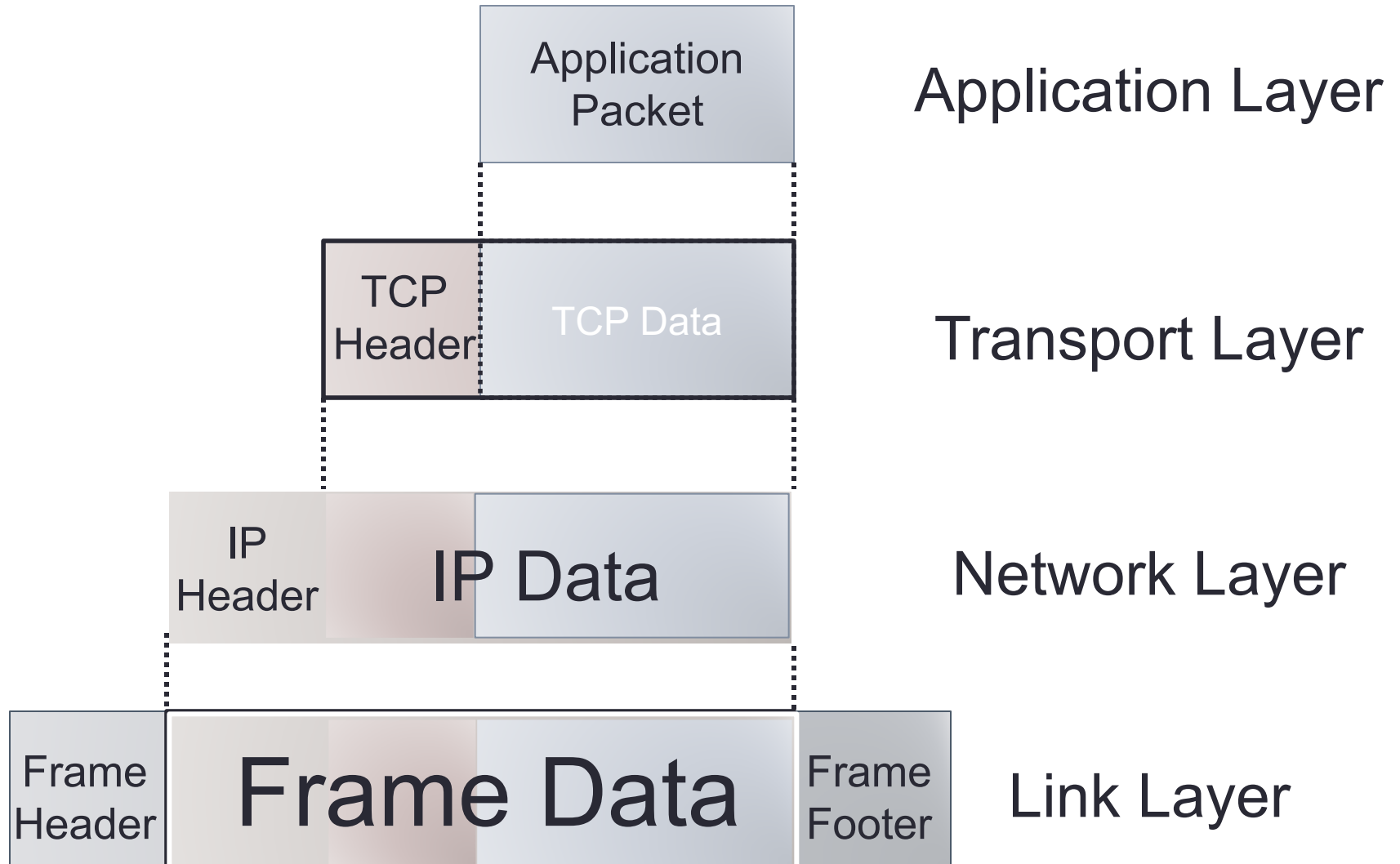
Internet Layers – TCP/IP model

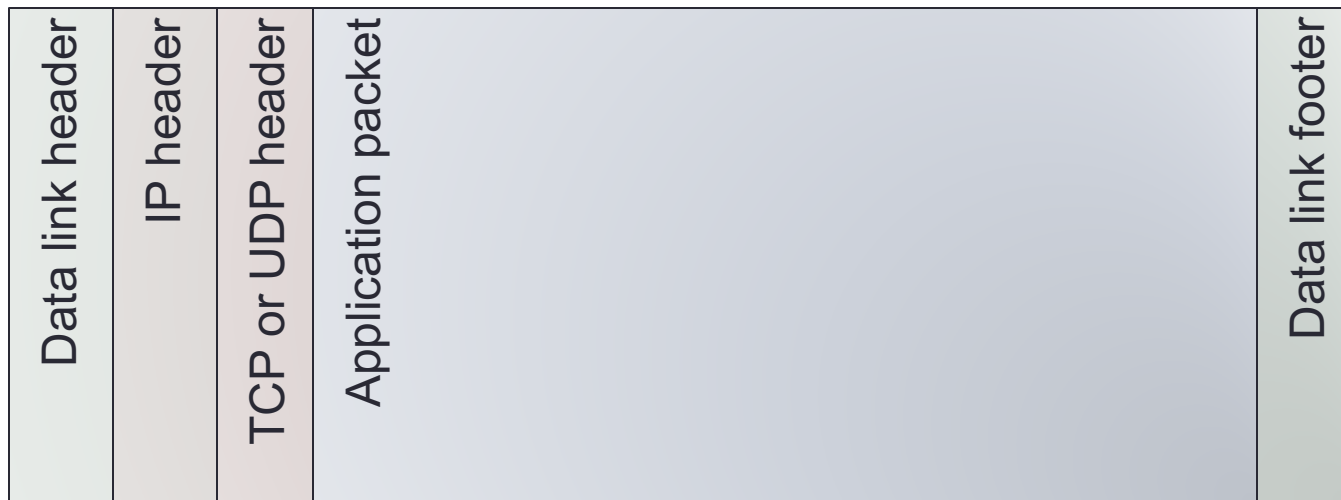
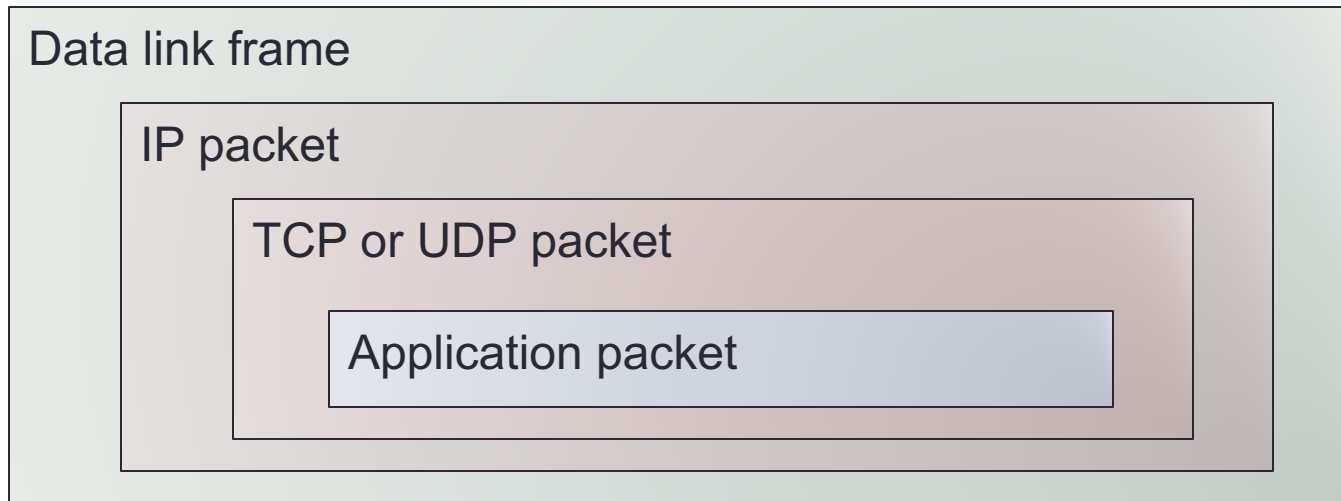


Intermediate Layers

- Link layer
 - Local area network: Ethernet, WiFi, optical fiber
 - 48-bit media access control (**MAC**) addresses
 - Packets called **frames**
- Network layer
 - Internet-wide communication
 - Best efforts
 - 32-bit internet protocol (**IP**) addresses in IPv4
 - 128-bit IP addresses in IPv6
- Transport layer
 - 16-bit addresses (**ports**) for classes of applications
 - Connection-oriented transmission layer protocol (**TCP**)
 - Connectionless user datagram protocol (**UDP**)

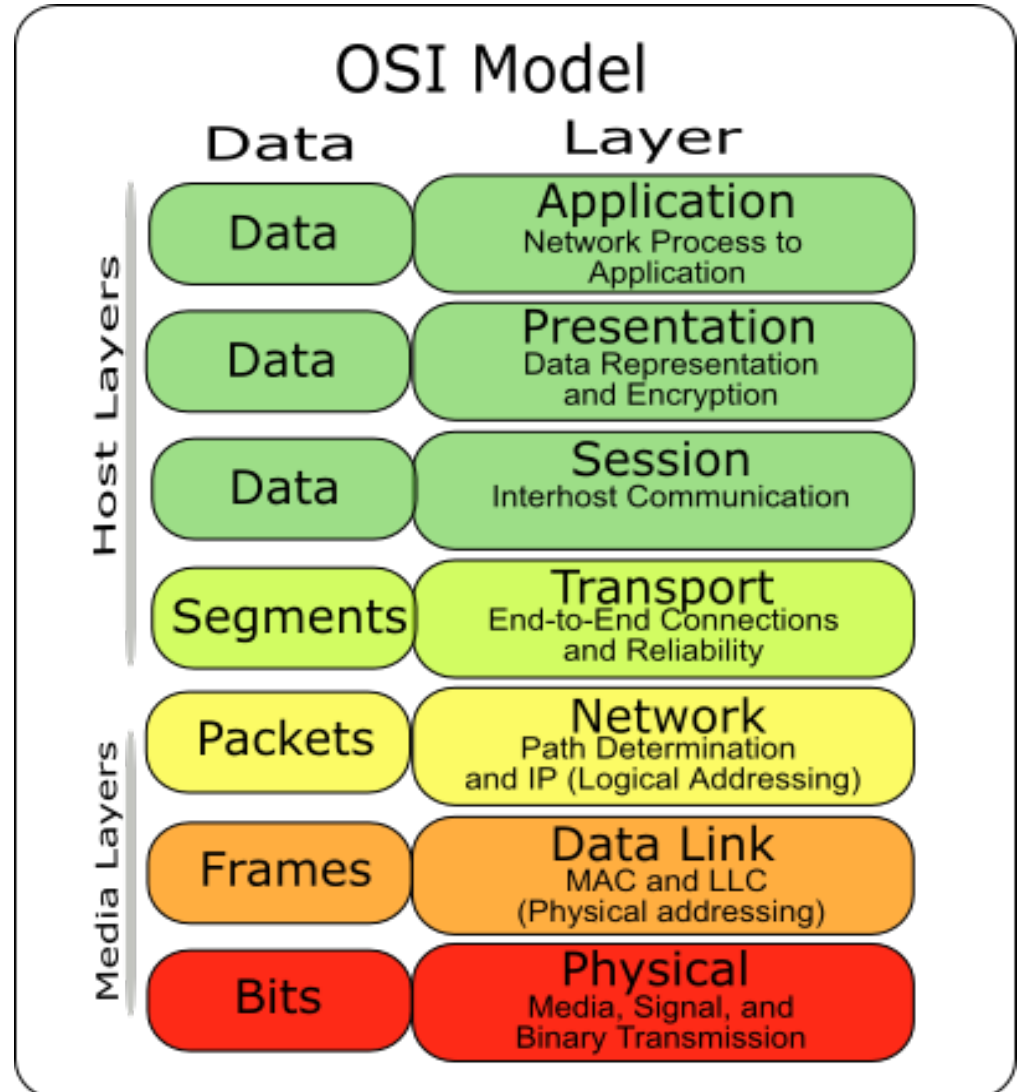
Packet Encapsulation – TCP/IP Model





The OSI Model

- The OSI (Open System Interconnect) Reference Model is a network model consisting of seven layers
- Created in 1983
- Promoted by the International Standard Organization (ISO)



The OSI Model

7 – Application	
6 – Presentation	
5 – Session	
4 – Transport	
3 – Network	
2 – Data Link	
1 – Physical	

7 – Application	▲
6 – Presentation	
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1 – Physical	



The OSI Model

- The OSI model doesn't map perfectly to the network protocol stack adopted in practice
- However, it is conceptually useful and stood the test of time.
- Most layers have their own vulnerabilities, attacks against, and countermeasures.
 - Useful attacks can occur at any layer, so all require protecting.

Network Interfaces

- Network interface: device connecting a computer to a network
 - Ethernet card
 - WiFi adapter
- A computer may have multiple network interfaces
- Packets transmitted between network interfaces
- Most local area networks, (including Ethernet and WiFi) broadcast frames

Network Interfaces

- In regular mode, each network interface gets the frames intended for it
- Traffic sniffing can be accomplished by configuring the network interface to read all frames (**promiscuous mode**)

MAC Addresses

- Most network interfaces come with a predefined MAC address
- A MAC address is a 48-bit number usually represented in hex
 - E.g., 00-1A-92-D4-BF-86
- The first three octets of any MAC address are IEEE-assigned Organizationally Unique Identifiers
 - E.g., Cisco 00-1A-A1, D-Link 00-1B-11, ASUSTek 00-1A-92

MAC Addresses

- The next three can be assigned by organizations as they please, with uniqueness being the only constraint
- Organizations can utilize MAC addresses to identify computers on their network
- MAC address can be reconfigured by network interface driver software

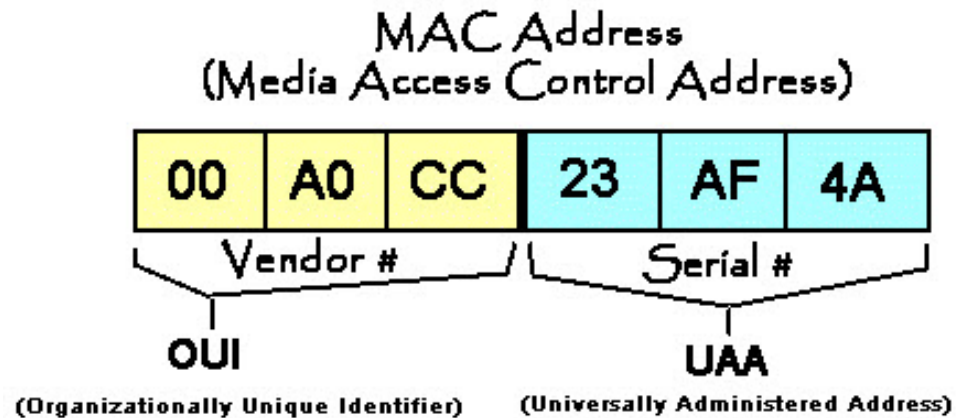
MAC Addresses

- MAC addresses can be:
 - permanently burned in (BIA)
 - locally administered address (LAA) set by an administrator
- Examples:
 - A MAC address starting out with 00-08-74 for instance is assigned by Dell
 - one starting out with 00-0a-95 is assigned by Apple

MAC Addresses

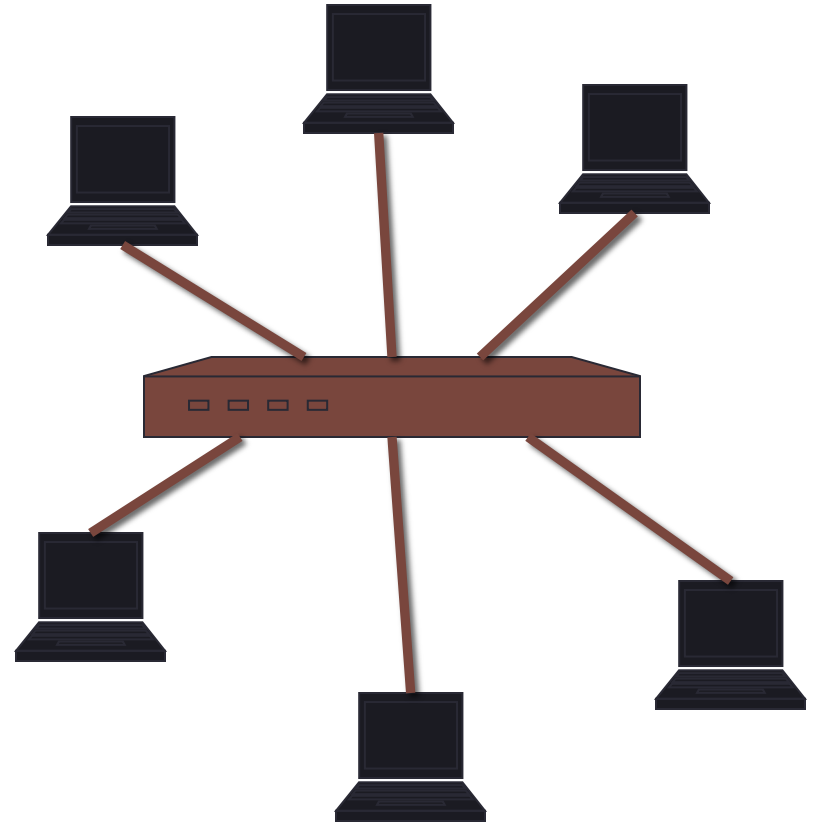
- Most OSs allow you to specify an arbitrary MAC for an interface
 - Despite the IEEE limitations on LAAs,

MAC Address

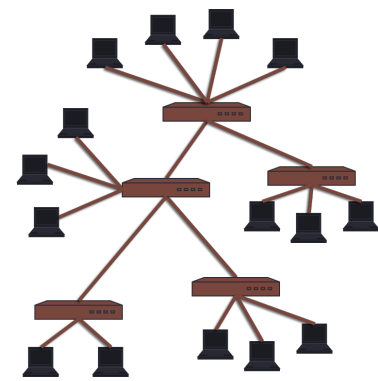


Switch

- A **switch** is a common network device
 - Operates at the link layer
 - Has multiple ports, each connected to a computer
- Operation of a switch
 - Learn the MAC address of each computer connected to it
 - Forward frames only to the destination computer

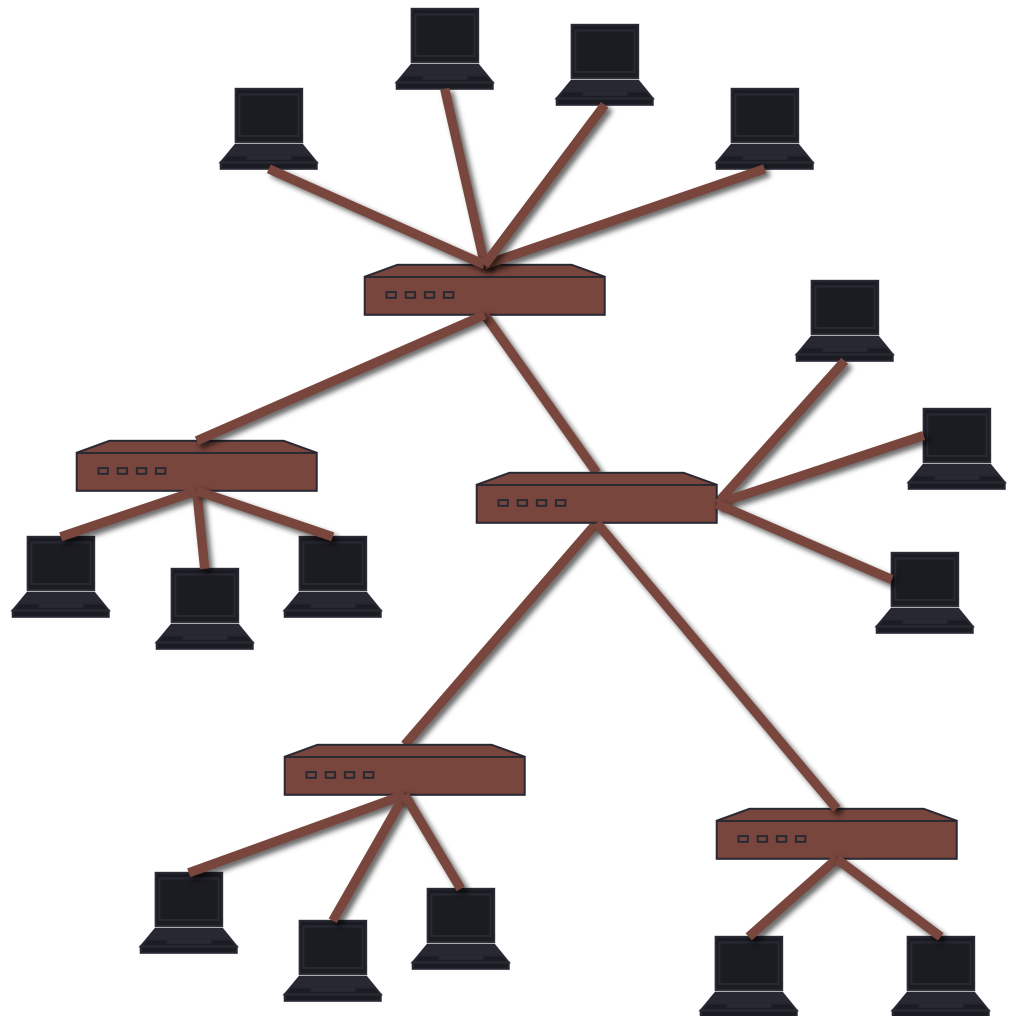


Combining Switches



- Switches can be arranged into a **tree**
- Each port learns the MAC addresses of the machines in the subtree connected to it
- Fragments to unknown MAC addresses are broadcast
- Frames to MAC addresses in the same segment as the sender are ignored

Combining Switches



MAC Address Filtering

- A switch can be configured to provide service only to machines with specific MAC addresses
- Allowed MAC addresses need to be registered with a network administrator

MAC Address Filtering

- A MAC spoofing attack impersonates another machine
 - Find out MAC address of target machine
 - Reconfigure MAC address of rogue machine
 - Turn off or unplug target machine
- Countermeasures
 - Block port of switch when machine is turned off or unplugged
 - Disable duplicate MAC addresses

Viewing the MAC Addresses

- Viewing the MAC addresses of the interfaces of a machine
 - Linux: `ifconfig`
 - Windows: `ipconfig /all`

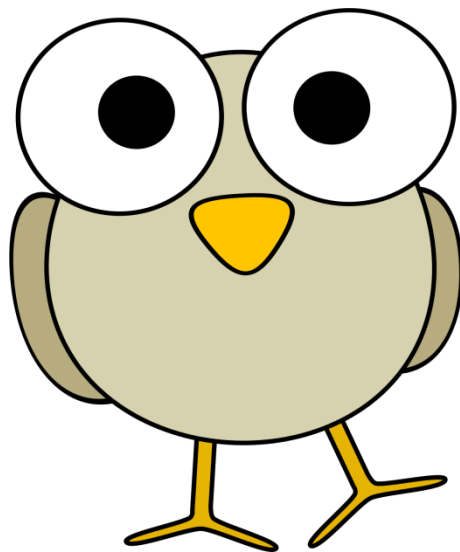
Changing MAC Addresses

- Changing a MAC address in Linux
 - Stop the networking service: `/etc/init.d/network stop`
 - Change the MAC address: `ifconfig eth0 hw ether <MAC-address>`
 - Start the networking service: `/etc/init.d/network start`
- In other derivatives like FreeBSD, MacOSX and others stopping the network service is not required,
 - the hw flag is dropped
 - => leading to a single command `ifconfig eth0 ether <MAC-address>`

Viewing and Changing MAC Addresses

- Changing a MAC address in Windows
 - Open the Network Connections applet
 - Access the properties for the network interface
 - Click “Configure ...”
 - In the advanced tab, change the network address to the desired value
- Changing a MAC address requires administrator privileges

- Questions?



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