



APPLICATION PROTOCOL DESIGN

Protocol

- A protocol defines:
 - Message formats
 - Message sequences in communication
 - How to process a message
- Goals
 - Everyone must know
 - Everyone must agree
 - Unambiguous
 - Complete

Example: POP session

```
C: <client connects to service port 110>
S: +OK POP3 server ready <1896.6971@mailgate.dobbs.org>
C: USER bob
S: +OK bob
C: PASS redqueen
S: +OK bob's maildrop has 2 messages (320 octets)
C: LIST
S: +OK 2 messages (320 octets)
S: 1 120
S: 2 200
S: .
C: QUIT
S: +OK dewey POP3 server signing off (maildrop empty)
C: <client hangs u>
```

Example: FTP authentication

```
> ftp 202.191.56.65
C: Connected to 202.91.56.65
S: 220 Servers identifying string
User: tungbt (C: USER tungbt)
S: 331 Password required for tungbt
Password: (C: PASS)
S: 530 Login incorrect
C: ls
S: 530 Please login with USER and PASS
C: USER tungbt
S: 331 Password required for tungbt
Password: (C: PASS)
S: 230 User tungbt logged in
```

Issues

- Questions are raised while designing an application protocol:
 - Is it to be stateful vs stateless?
 - Is the transport protocol reliable or unreliable?
 - Are replies needed?
 - Is it to be broadcast, multicast or unicast?
 - Are there multiple connections?

Message format

- Two pieces of data
 - Message type (header) will describe what type of data in payload
 - Distinguish different type messages.
 - Payload
 - Data
- Message type
 - Short and descriptive type
 - SHOULD has fix length
 - So we can parse the message and understand its type easily
 - Example 1: see POP session

Data Format of messages

- In the byte format
 - the first part of the message is typically a byte to distinguish between message types.
 - Further bytes in the message would contain message content according to a pre-defined format
 - Advantages: compactness
 - Disadvantages: harder to process

Data Format of messages

- In character format
 - A message is a sequence of one or more lines
 - The start of the first line of the message is typically a word that represents the message type.
 - The rest of the first line and successive lines contain the data.
- Ex: HTTP message

Example: HTTP request

request line
(GET, POST,
HEAD commands)

header
lines

```
GET /dccn/index.html HTTP/1.1
Host: www.it-hut.edu.vn
User-agent: Mozilla/4.0
Connection: close
Accept-language: en-us
```

CR, LF

(extra carriage return, line feed)

indicates end
of message

Example: HTTP response

status line
(protocol
status code
status phrase)

header
lines

data, e.g.,
requested
HTML file

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Connection close
Date: Tue, 16 Mar 2008 12:00:15 GMT
Server: Apache/1.3.0 (Unix)
Last-Modified: Mon, 15 Mar 2008 .....
Content-Length: 8990
Content-Type: text/html
```

```
data data data data data ...
```

Protocol State Machine

- State: 
- Transaction: 
- Choose: 
- State Table

| Current state | Transcation | | Next state |
|---------------|-------------|------|------------|
| | Receive | Send | |
| | | | |

Exercise 1

- Create a UDP/TCP Client/Server “monolog” chat program that work as follows:
 - Client can send to server either login name or some messages.
 - When client sends login then server accepts and remembers his login
 - When client sends to server a text message, server saves the message into a log file. Each client has a separate log file.
- Hints:
 - Need a message type for login, another one for text message
 - Define fields of each messages and their length/type.
 - Define how client/server processes each message.
 - Draw protocol state machine.
 - Then now you can write code!!!

Exercise 2

- Create a UDP/TCP Client/Server “dialog” chat program that work as follows:
 - Client can send to server either login name or text message
 - When client sends login then server accepts and remembers his login
 - When client sends server a text message for transferring to another client , server sends this message to the client. Server should tell also the receiver that from whom the message come.
- Hints:
 - Started from the protocol of exercise 1 and define new message formats

Project

- Create your own HTTP client that can work with existing HTTP server
 - Client can visualize the page web in your own style.
- Online Chinese Chess game for multiple pairs of players
- Chat software with user authentication
 - Option to chat 2 persons
 - Option to chat to all users in the same time
- Puzzle game playing by two persons
- Penalty shoot in football game
 -
- Your proposal for project ...

Working plan

- Nov 1st:
 - Team identification,
 - Topic identification.
 - Topic Review with lecturer
- Nov 8th
 - Design review, by presentation
 - Application introduction
 - Architecture of the application: client/server, P2P, hybrid
 - Functionality
 - Protocol design (very important)
 - → get feedback and revise
- Nov 22nd
 - Design check, by presentation (continue)
 - Coding
 - Progress update

Working plan

- Dec 13th: Progress update, by presentation
- Final test: Final presentation.
 - Brief introduction with slide about the application, the design
 - Demo
 - Each team has to submit a report (hard copy): including design and application evaluation.

Design presentation

- Application description
- Game rule
- Application architecture (figure)
- Functionality
 - Use case
- Working procedure for each functionality
 - Communication diagram between client/servers, or between clients
- Message design
 - Message formats
 - Message sequences in communication
 - How to process a message