Pieces of the Puzzle

EE450: Introduction to Computer Networks

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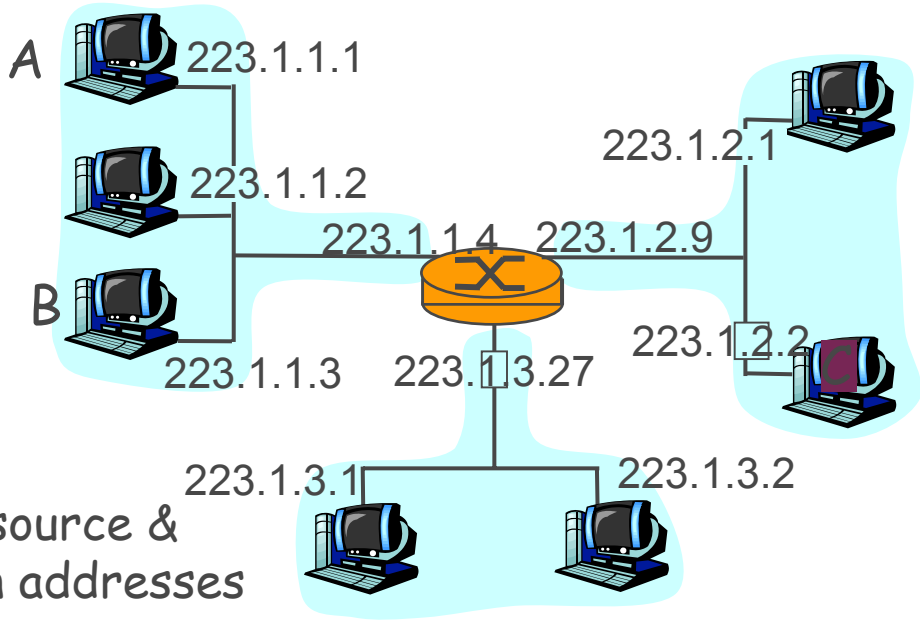
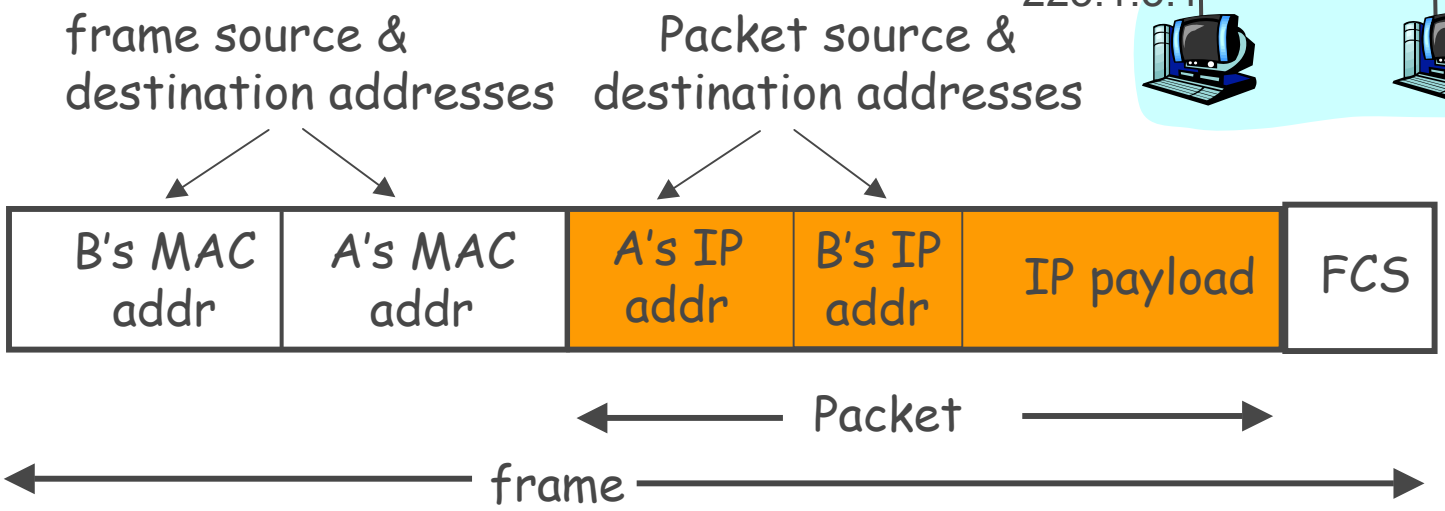
Burning Questions

- How does a host/router get the MAC address of another host/router on the same LAN?
  - Answer: Address Resolution Protocol: ARP
- How does a host get the IP address of another host across the Internet?
  - Answer : Domain Name Services: DNS
- How does a host get it's own IP address?
  - Answer: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)
- How do we distinguish between two or more applications running on the same host?
  - Answer: Port Numbers/Sockets

IP & MAC Addresses

- A has a Packet to send to B.
- A has the IP address of B and it knows that B is located on the same network.
- A encapsulate the packet inside a link-layer frame

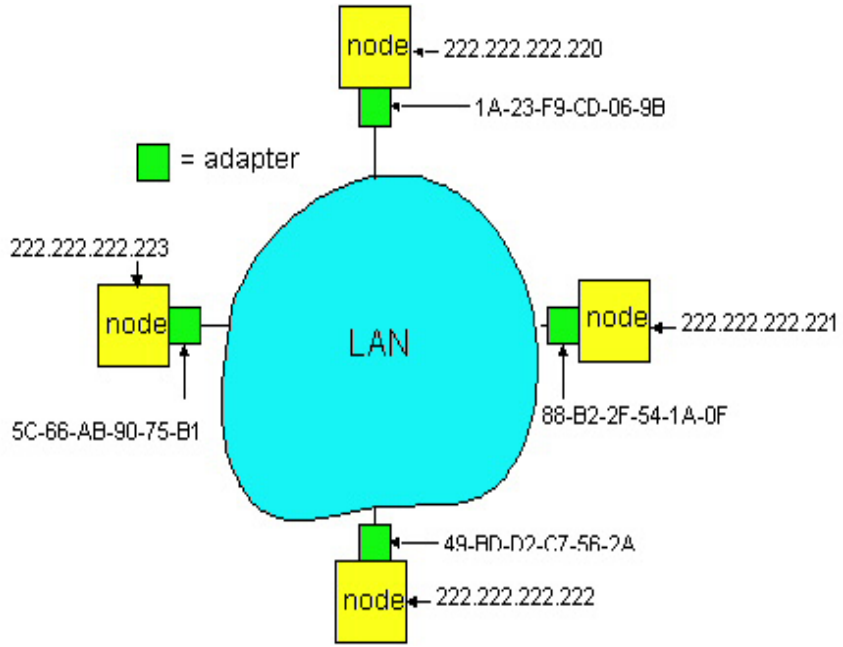




Question #1:
How does a Host/Router get the MAC address of another Host/Router on the same LAN?

Address Resolution Protocol

Question: how to determine MAC address of B given B's IP address?

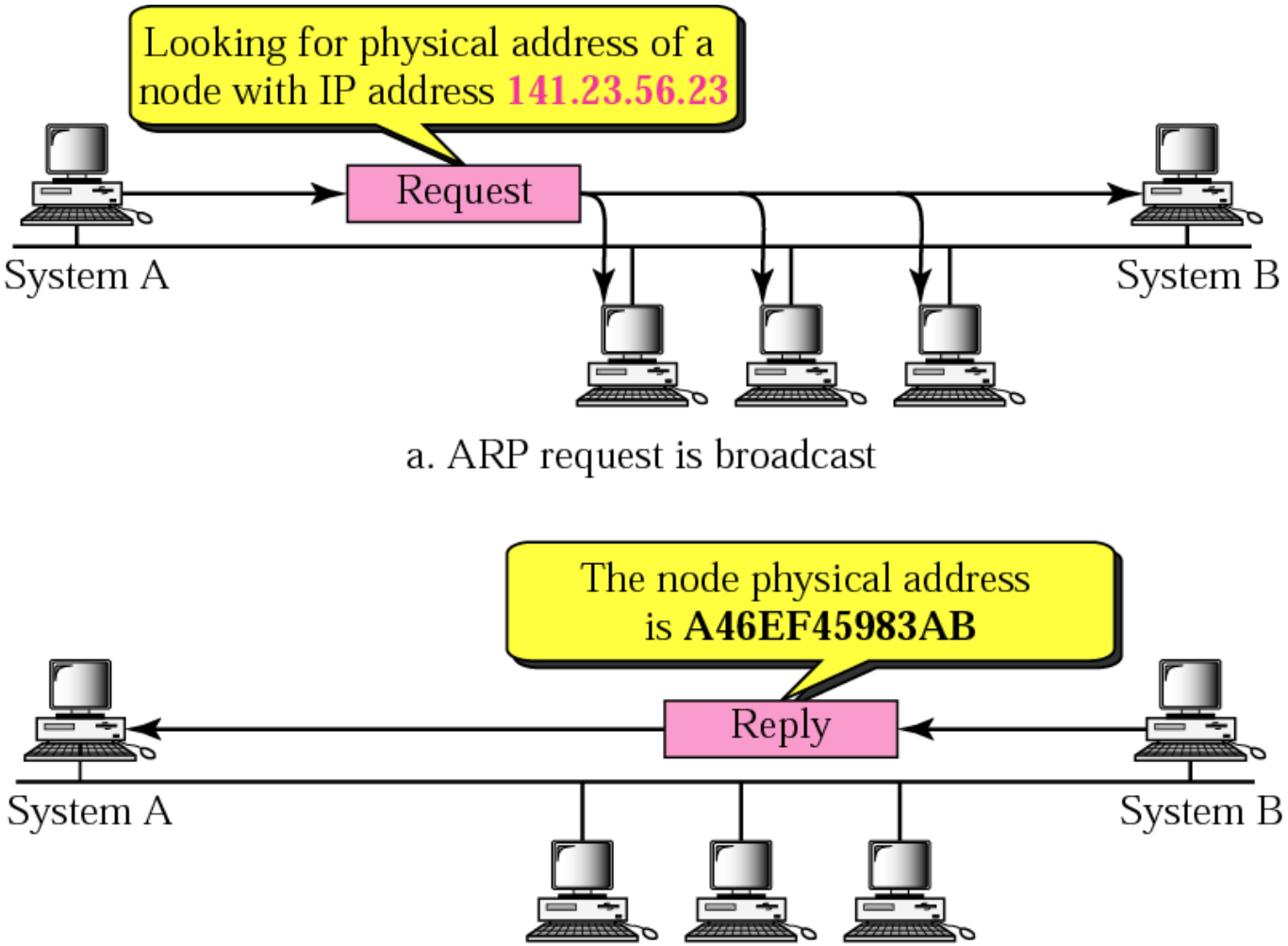


- Each IP node (Host, Router) on LAN has ARP module/table
- ARP Cache Table: IP/MAC address mappings for some LAN nodes
- Cache lifetime ~ 20 min

ARP (Continued)

- Address Resolution Protocol binds an IP address to a media (link) address
- ARP is a simple request-response protocol
  - Host "A" broadcasts a request packet containing IP address of "B". Broadcast MAC address is FF:FF:FF:FF:FF:FF. All hosts receive the ARP inquiry
  - Host "B" recognizes its IP address
  - Host "B" sends a response (not a broadcast) packet to first host containing its MAC address
  - Host "A" caches address mapping for later use
- ARP is a local, "Plug and Play" Protocol

ARP Operation

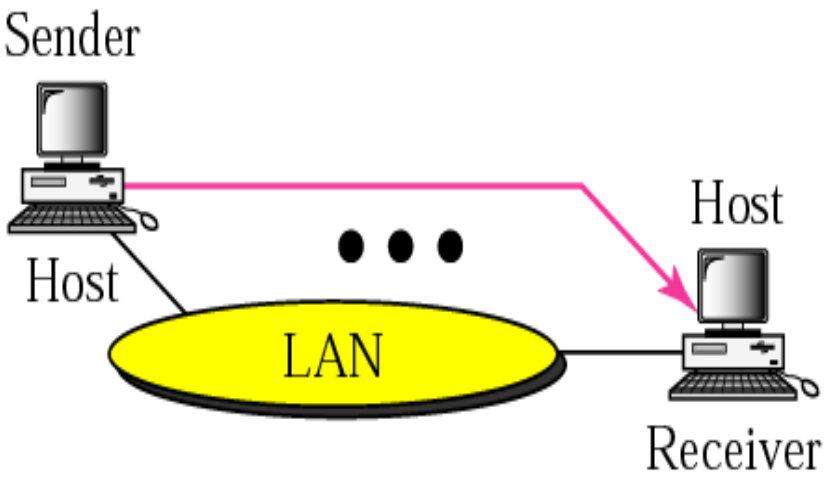


ARP Packet

Hardware Type		Protocol Type
Hardware length	Protocol length	Operation Request 1, Reply 2
Sender hardware address (For example, 6 bytes for Ethernet)		
Sender protocol address (For example, 4 bytes for IP)		
Target hardware address (For example, 6 bytes for Ethernet) (It is not filled in a request)		
Target protocol address (For example, 4 bytes for IP)		

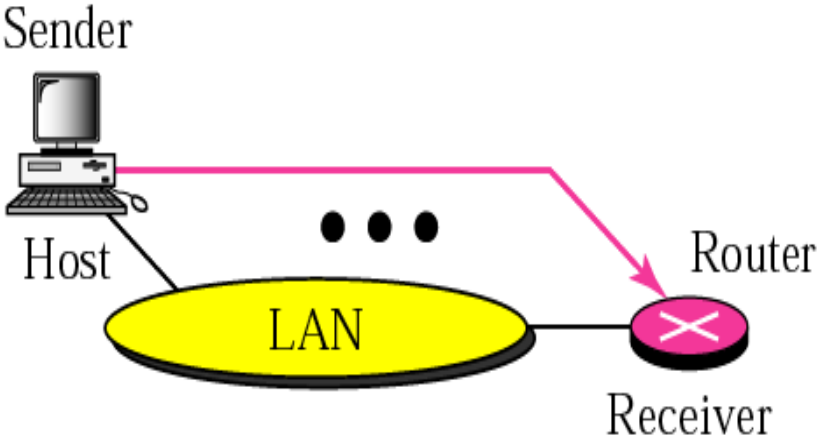
Four Cases of ARP use

Target IP address:
Destination address in the IP datagram



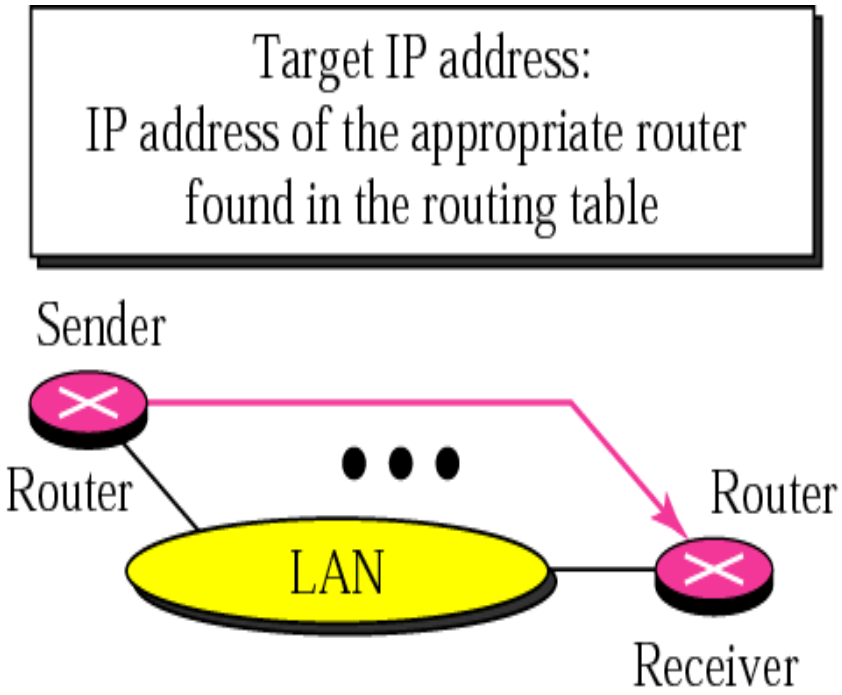
Case 1. A host has a packet to send to another host on the same network.

Target IP address:
IP address of a router

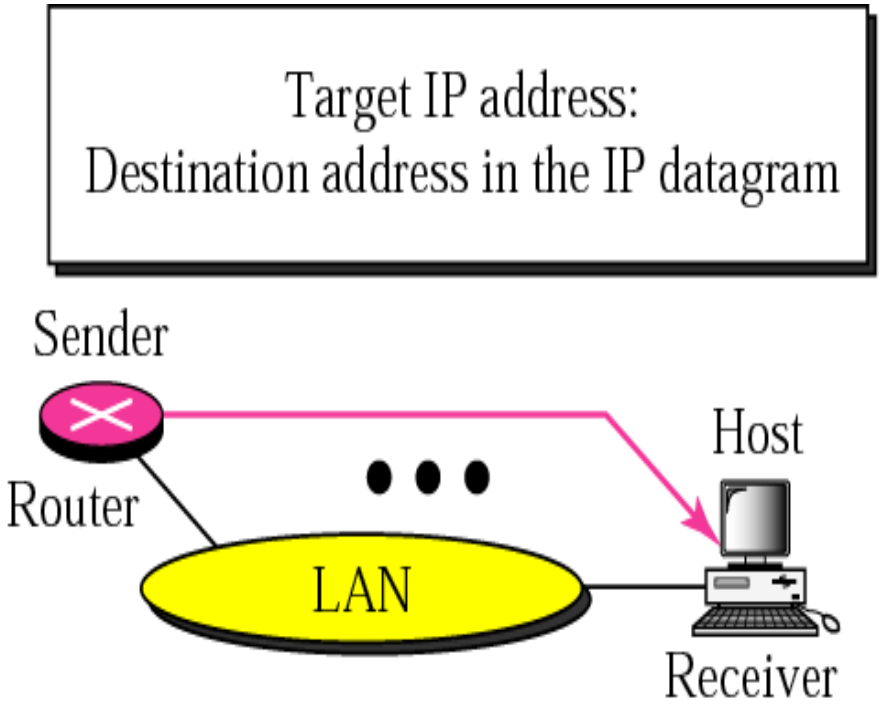


Case 2. A host wants to send a packet to another host on another network.
It must first be delivered to a router.

Four Cases of ARP use (Cont.)

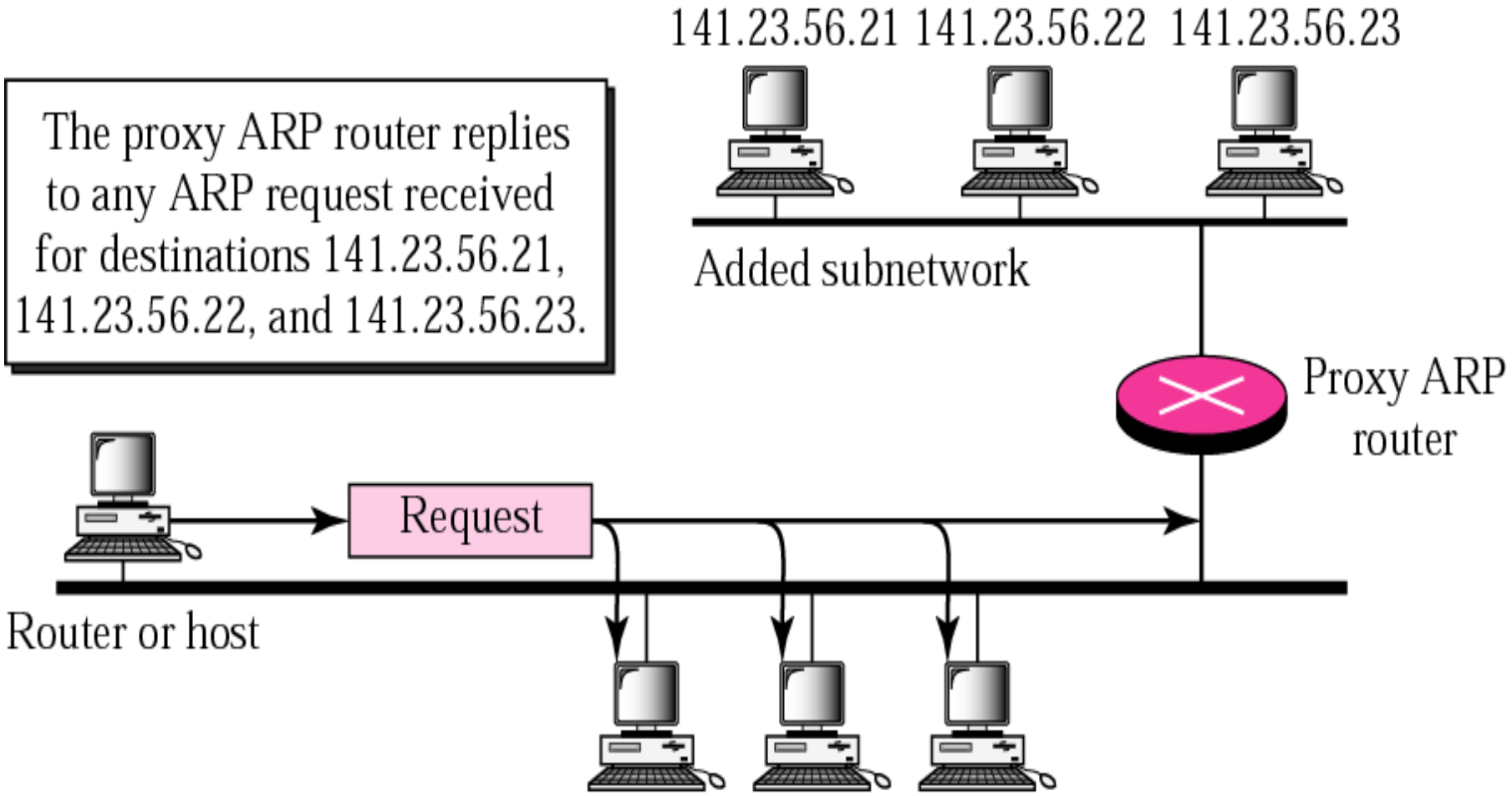


Case 3. A router receives a packet to be sent to a host on another network.
It must first be delivered to the appropriate router.



Case 4. A router receives a packet to be sent to a host on the same network.

Proxy ARP

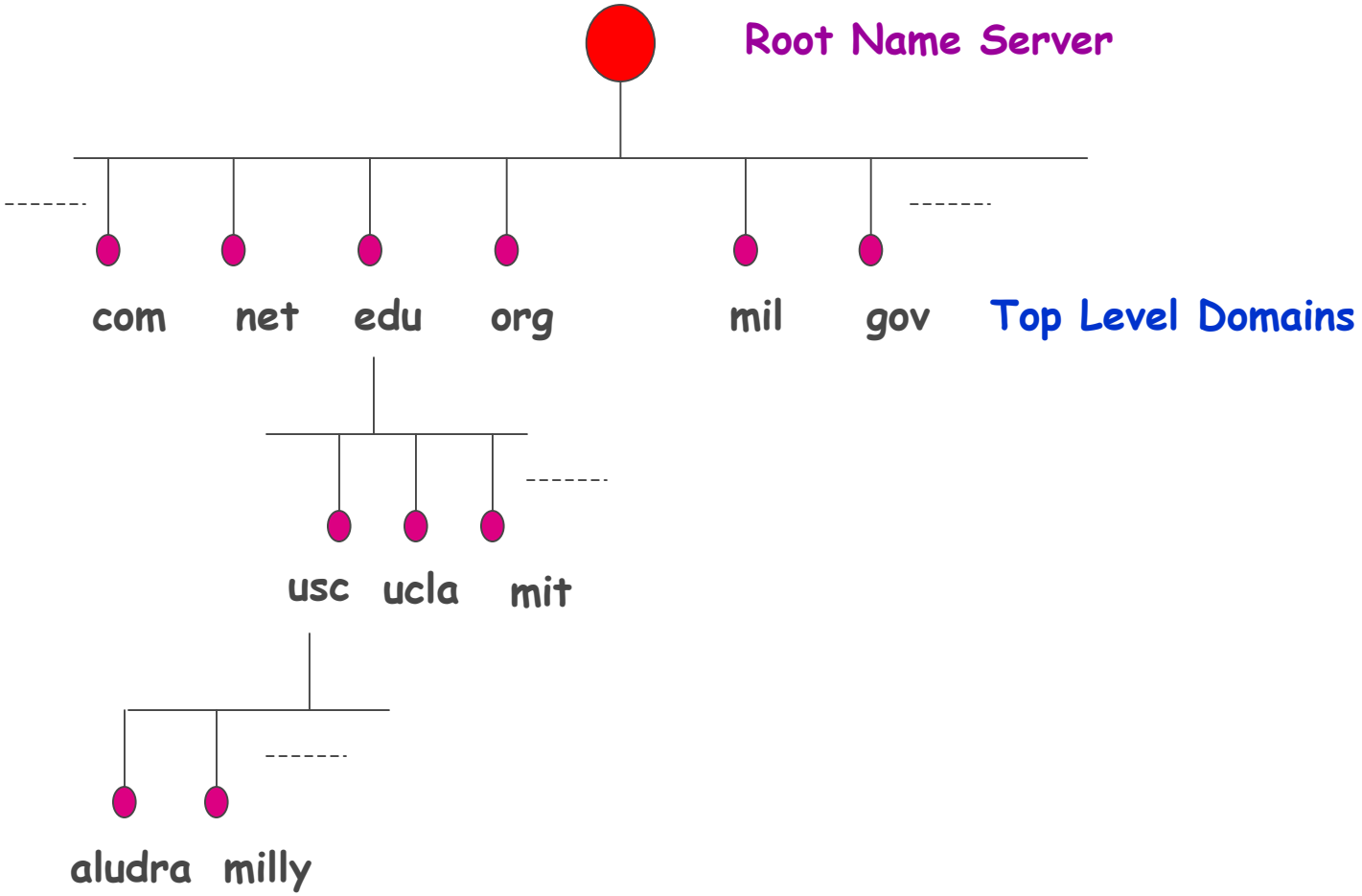

141.23.56.21 141.23.56.22 141.23.56.23
The proxy ARP router replies to any ARP request received for destinations 141.23.56.21, 141.23.56.22, and 141.23.56.23.
Added subnetwork
Proxy ARP router
Request
Router or host

Question #2:
How does a Host get the IP address of another Host across the Internet?

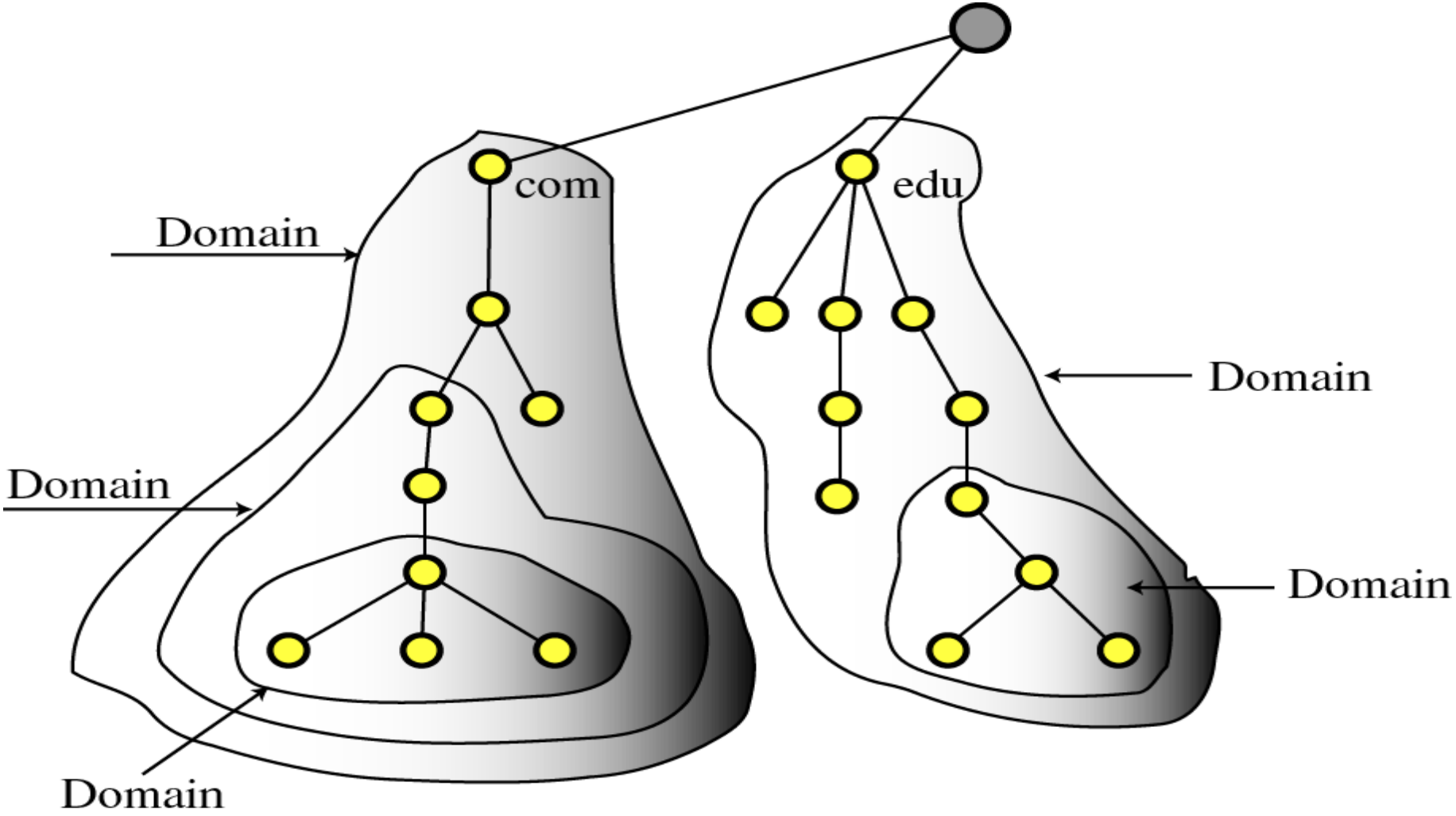
Domain Name Services (DNS)

- DNS is a TCP/IP client server application protocol that allow host and name servers to communicate in order to provide host name to IP address translation
- DNS uses a distributed, hierarchical naming structure by defining several *Domains*. A domain is a collection of sites that are related in some manner
- DNS use the services of UDP, port # 53
- Application protocols such as HTTP, FTP, SMTP, etc... use the services of DNS

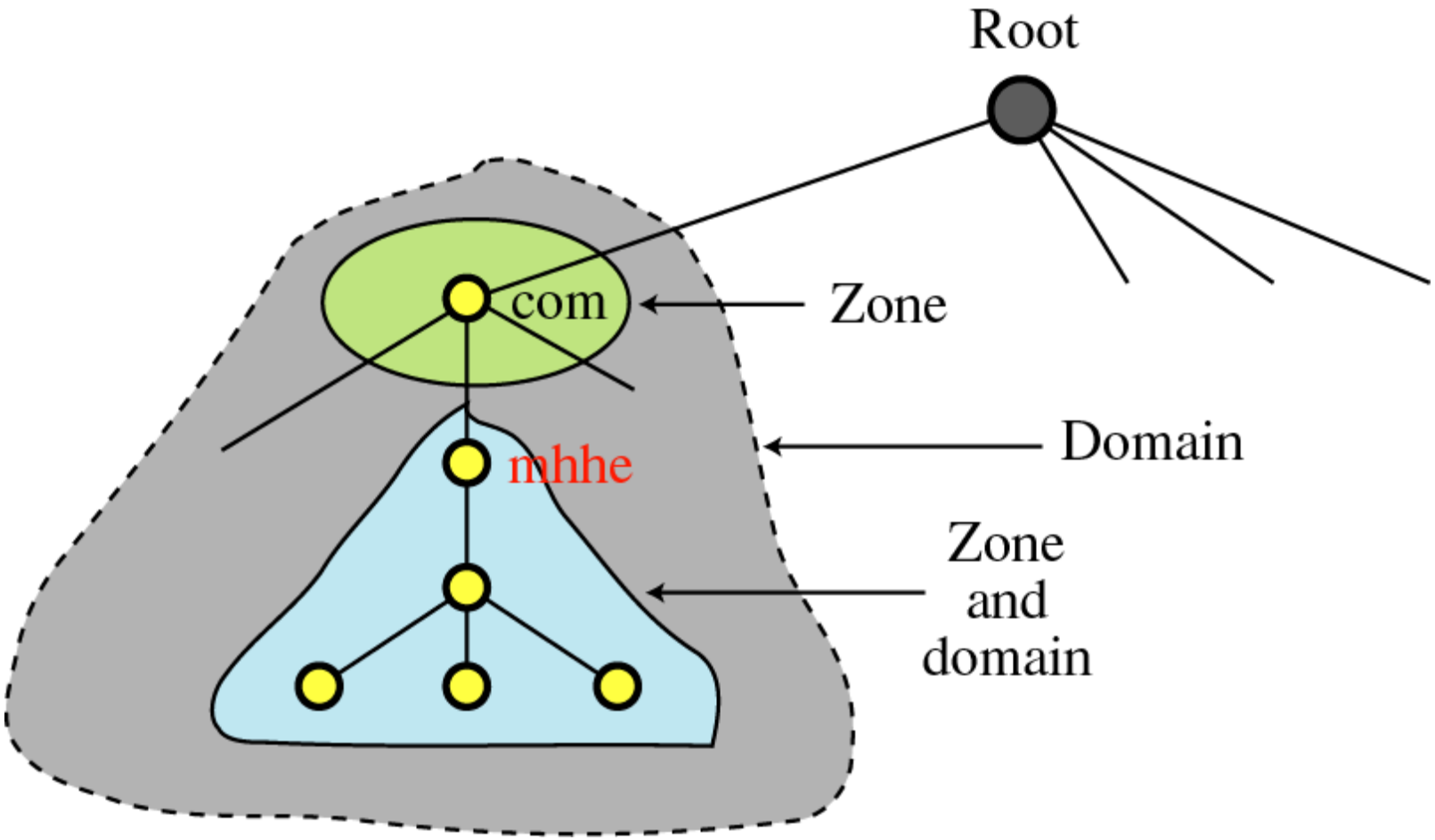
Domain Name Space



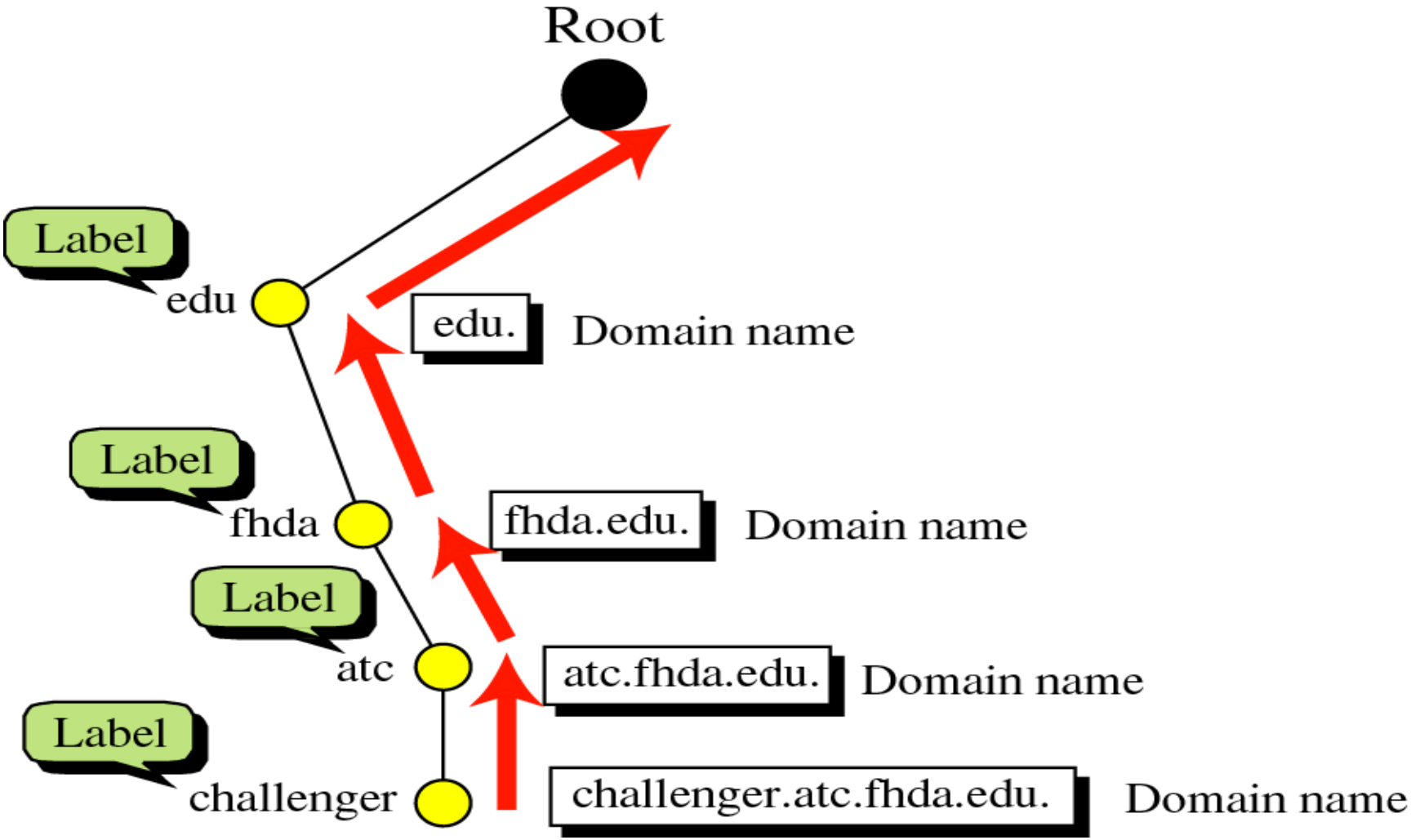
Domains



Domains and Zones



Domain Names & Labels

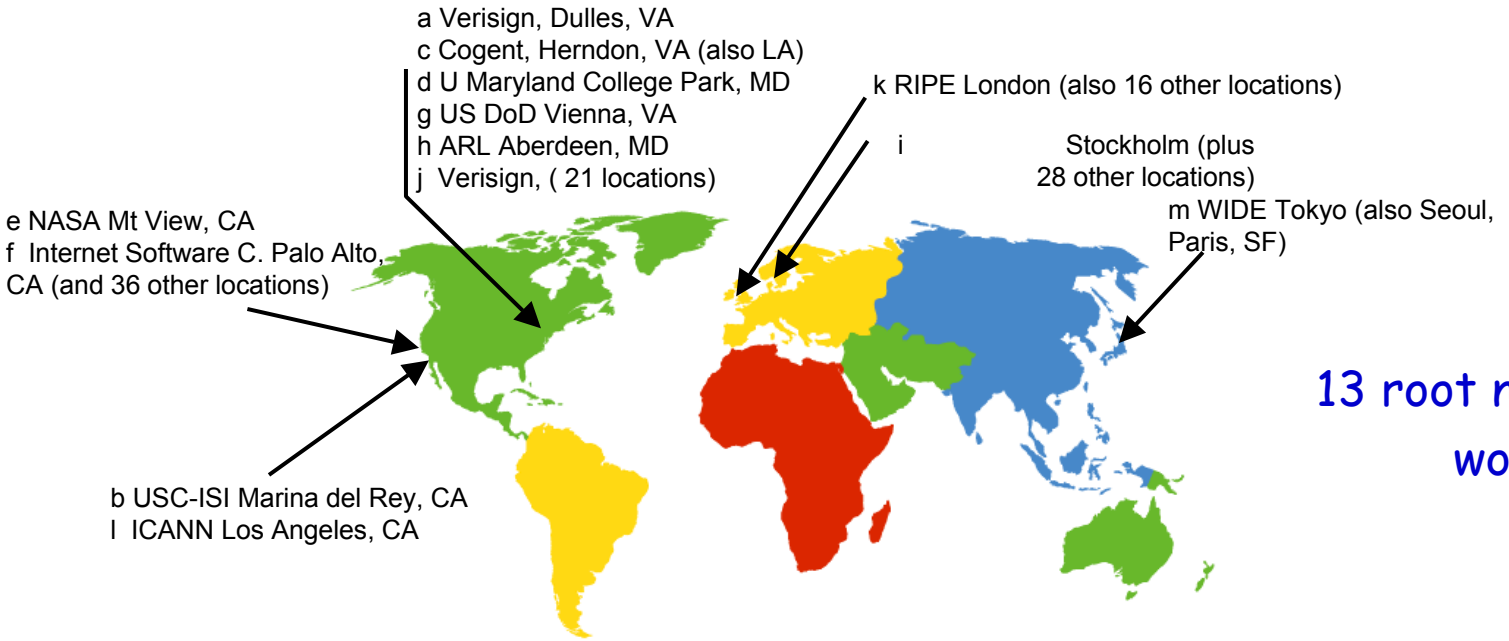


Name Servers

- Local Name Servers: This is the default name server (in department, university, company, residential ISP, etc…) that will receive the DNS query from the host
  - The IP address of the default local name server is configured manually in the host
- Root Name Servers: There are 13 root name servers most of which are located in US (two of them in Marina Del Rey). When a local name server can't satisfy the query from a host, it will behave as a DNS client and queries one of the root servers. If the root name server can't satisfy the query, it consult with
- Authoritative Name Server: This is where the host register its name/IP address

Root Name Servers

- Contacted by local name server that can not resolve name
- Root name server:
  - Contacts authoritative name server if name mapping not known
  - Gets mapping
  - Returns mapping to local name server



13 root name servers worldwide

TLD and Authoritative Name Servers

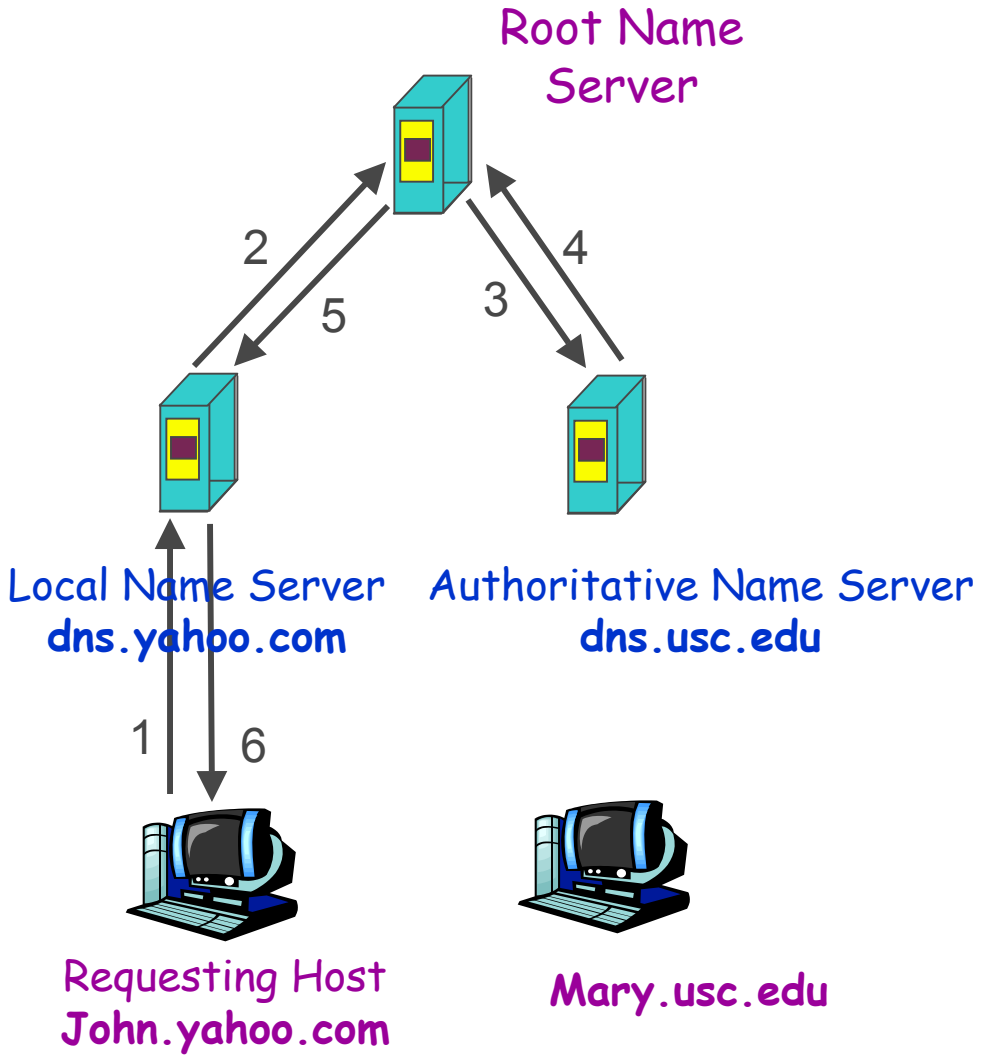
- Top-level domain (TLD) servers:
  - Responsible for com, org, net, edu, etc, and all top-level country domains uk, fr, ca, jp, in, cn
  - Network Solutions maintains servers for com TLD
  - Educause for edu TLD
- Authoritative DNS servers:
  - Organization's DNS servers, providing authoritative hostname to IP mappings for organization's servers (e.g., Web, mail).
  - Can be maintained by organization or service provider

Local Name Server

- Does not strictly belong to hierarchy
- Each ISP (residential ISP, company, university) has one.
  - also called "default name server"
- when host makes DNS query, query is sent to its local DNS server
  - acts as proxy, forwards query into hierarchy

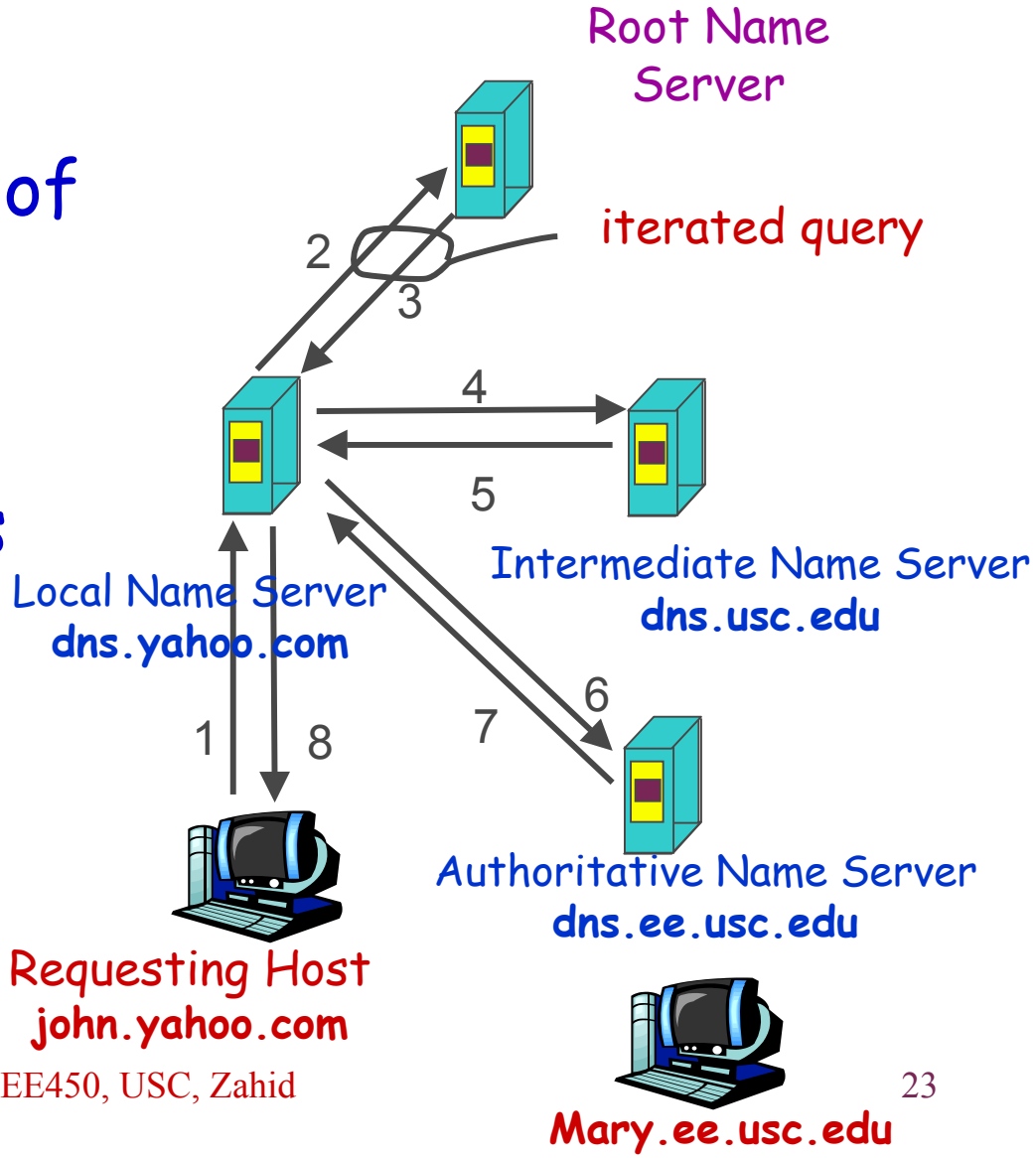
Recursive DNS

- Host "A" whose name is John.yahoo.com wants the IP address of another host "B" whose name is Mary.usc.edu
- Host "A" Contacts its local DNS server, dns.yahoo.com
- dns.yahoo.com contacts root name server, if necessary
- Root name server contacts authoritative name server, dns.usc.com, if necessary

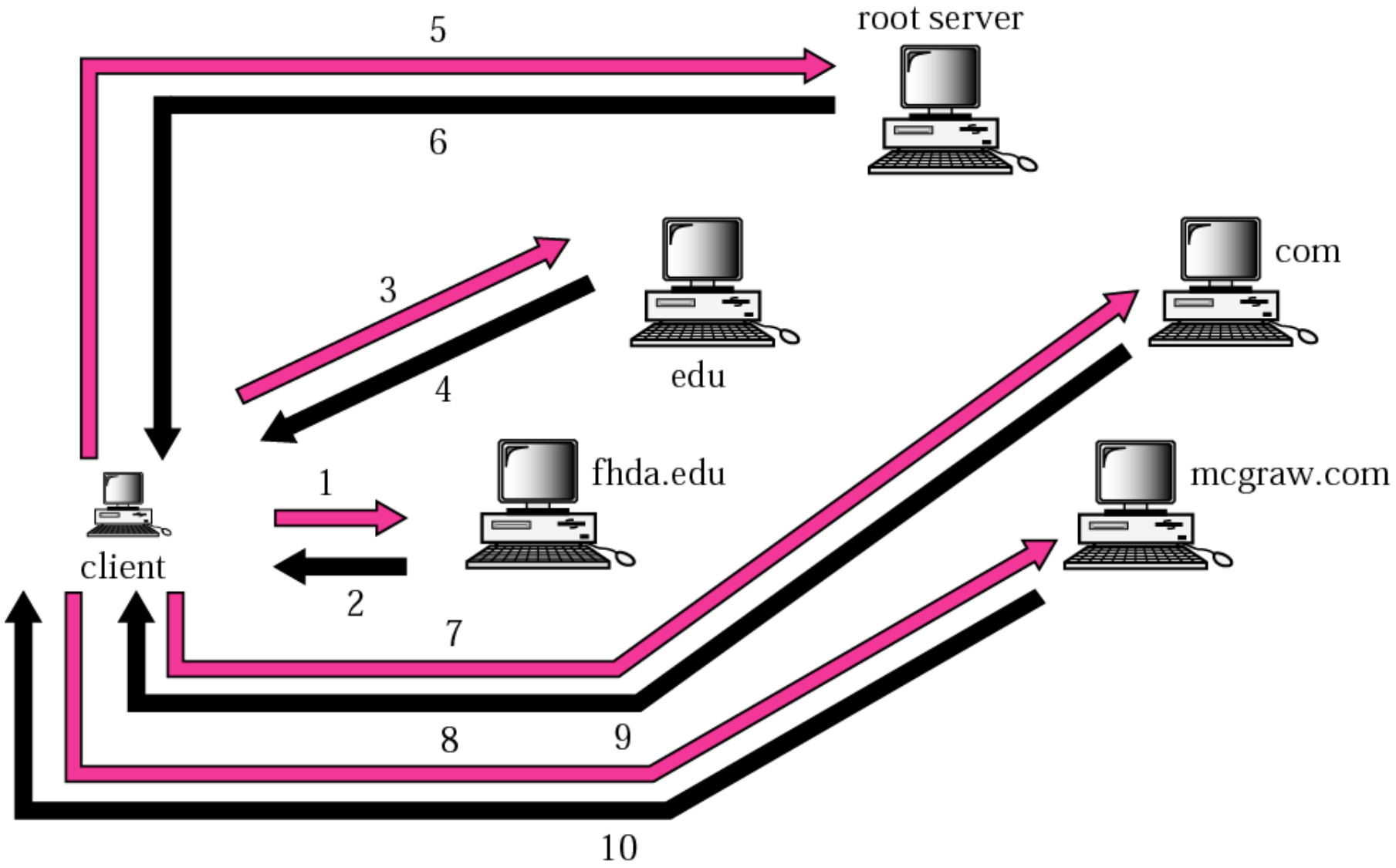


Iterative DNS

- Contacted server replies with name of server to contact
- "I don't know this name, but ask this server"



Pure Iterative Resolution



DNS Caching

- Once (any) name server learns mapping, it caches mapping
  - Cache entries timeout (disappear) after some time
  - TLD servers typically cached in local name servers
    - Thus root name servers not often visited

Why not Centralized DNS?

- A centralized DNS represent a single point of failure. If the name server crashes so would the entire internet
- All traffic volume would have to be handled by this name server
- A single name server can't be close to all query clients ⇒ increased delays ⇒ World Wide Wait !!!!!
- Maintaining and updating a single name server is a huge task. Just dealing wit authentication/authorization is a nightmare

⇒ A single Name Server doesn't scale !

Question #3:
How does a Host get an IP address?

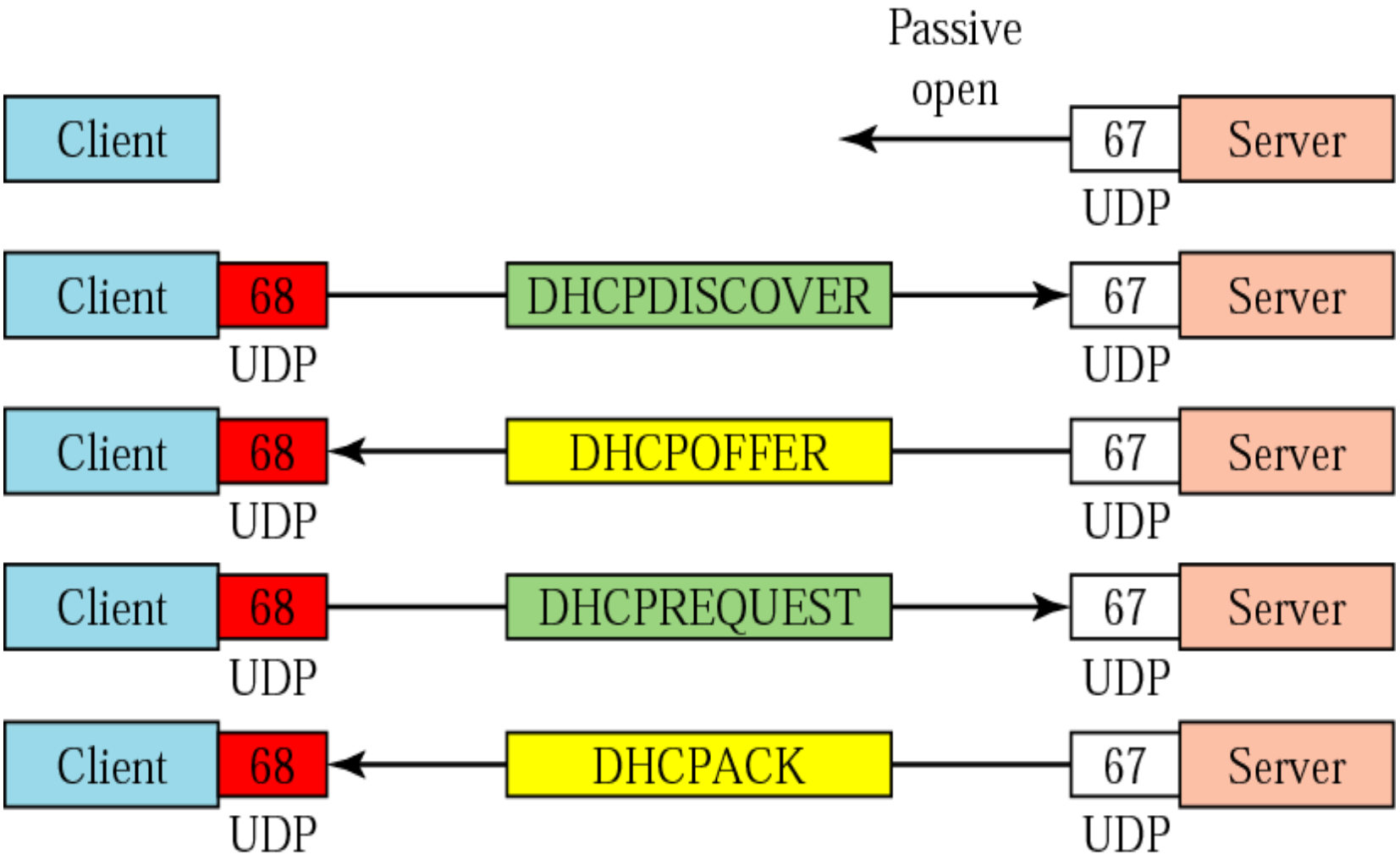
Host Configuration

- Problem of managing IP addresses within a customer network
  - Assigning IP address
  - Reclaiming IP addresses
- Manual management of IP addresses is difficult
  - Error-prone
  - Mobility of hosts

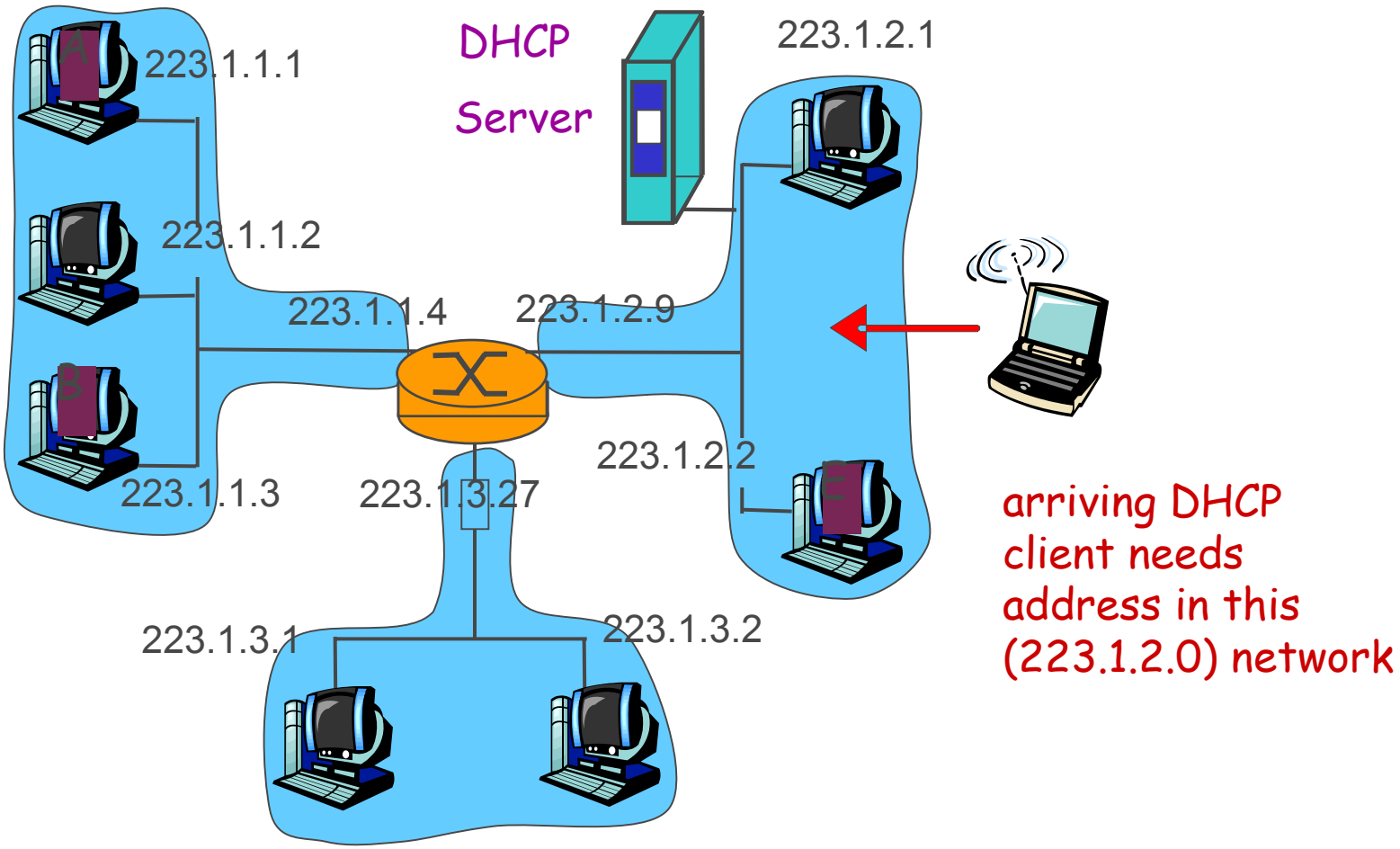
Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)

- DHCP is a client/server application designed to provide a centralized approach to configuring and maintaining IP addresses
- Four basic steps involved in obtaining an IP address:
  - Discovery Phase
  - Offer Phase
  - Request Phase
  - Acknowledgement Phase

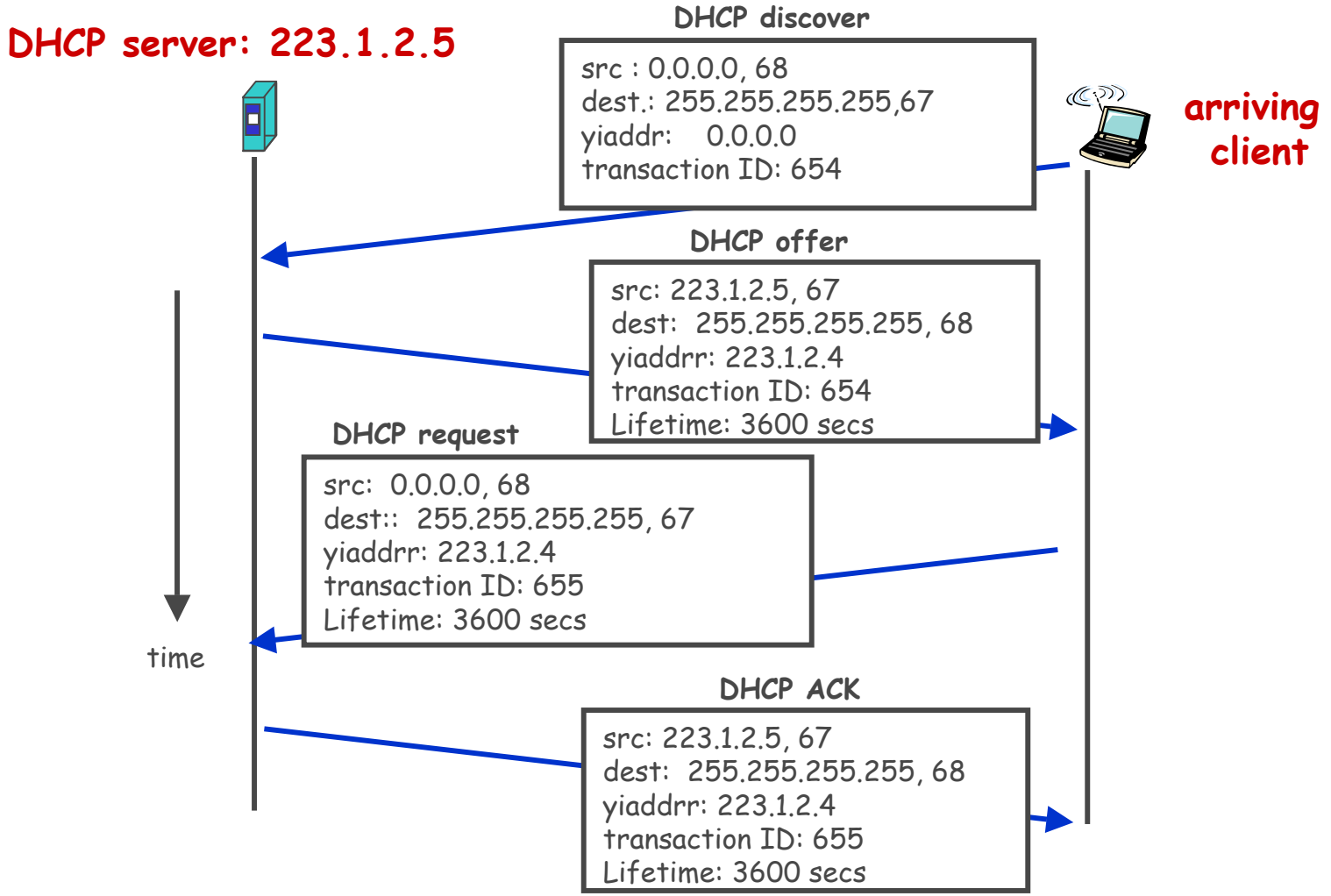
DHCP Exchange Messages



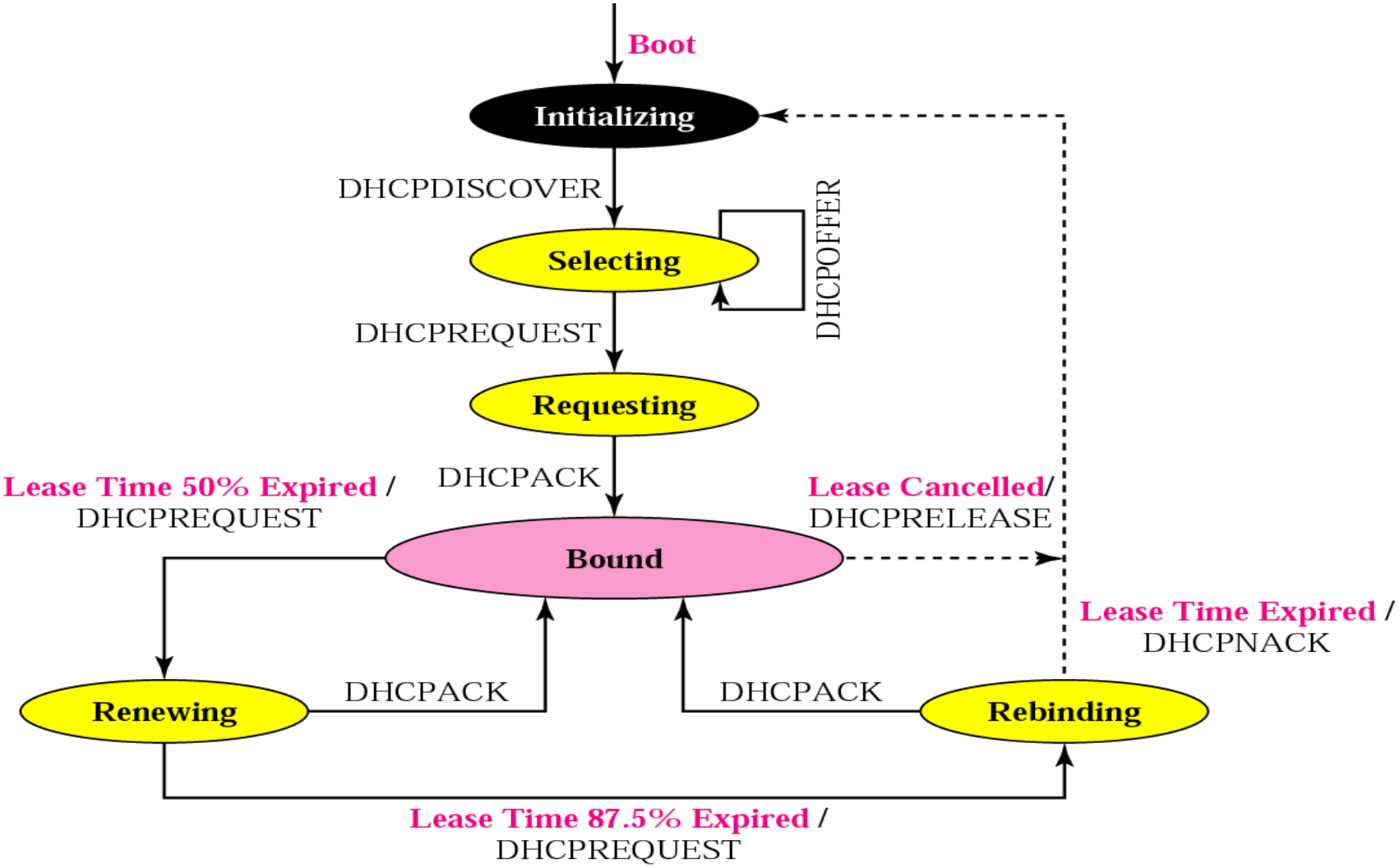
DHCP Client/Server Scenario



DHCP Client/Server Scenario

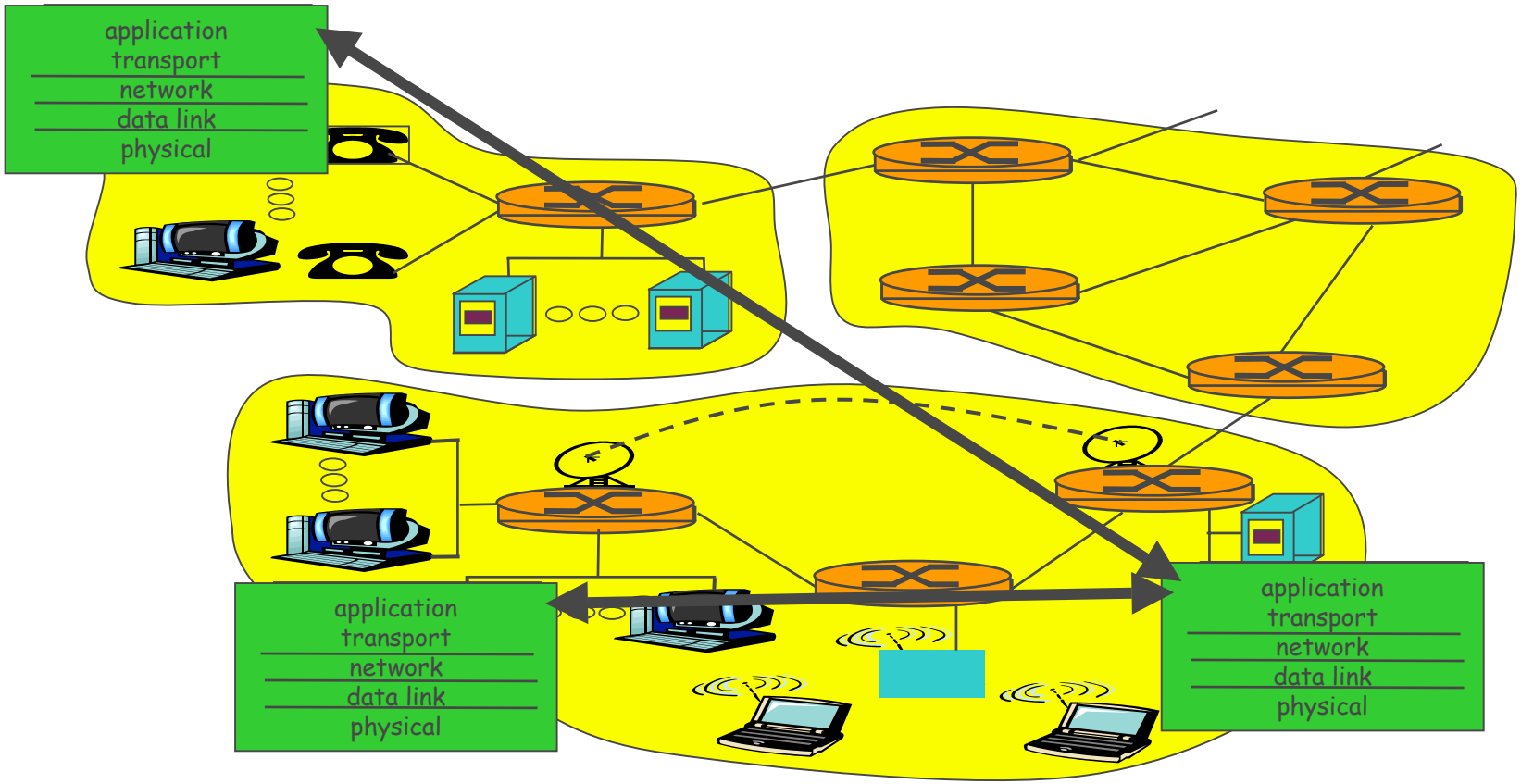


DHCP State Transition



Question #4:
How does a Process (Application) "identify" the other process with which it wants to communicate?

Client/Server Paradigm



Process-to-Process Communications

- Host-to-Host Communications: IP
- IP delivery is incomplete. Message must be delivered to the correct process running in destination host
- Both local and remote hosts can be running several processes at the same time ⇒ we need to be able to distinguish between these processes
- For communications to take place we need to define
  - Local host/Local process
  - Remote host/remote process
  - Transport layer protocol providing transport services

Port Numbers

- Port Numbers allow receiving host to determine to which local process the message be delivered
- Port numbers are integers between 0 and 65,535
- Client process defines itself with a port number chosen **randomly** by the underlying transport layer protocol.
- Server process defines itself by a **well-known port number**. The ports ranging from 0~1023 are well-known port numbers and are assigned and controlled by **ICANN**.

Socket Address

- The combination of the IP address, the port number and the transport layer protocol defines the "Socket Address" which uniquely defines the communications between the client process and the server process