

Chapter 3

Transport Layer

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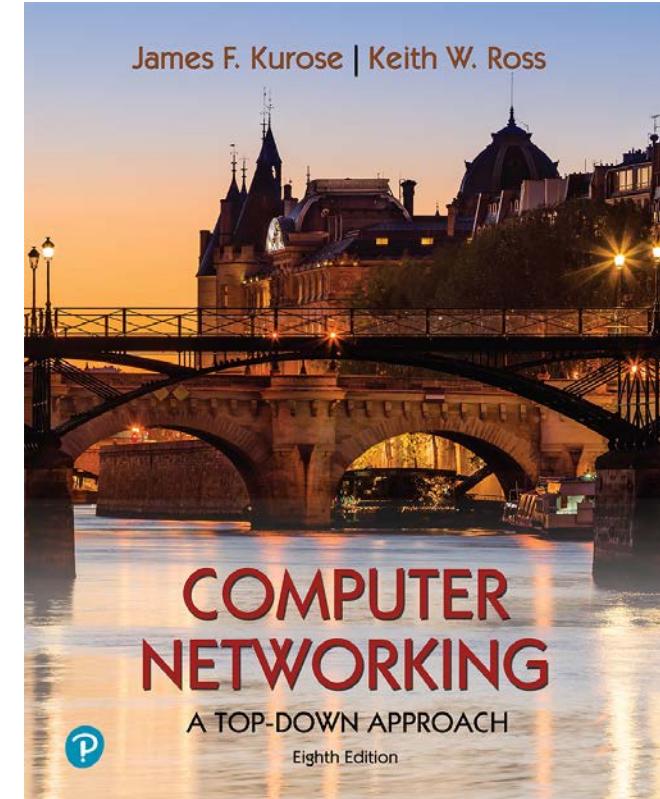
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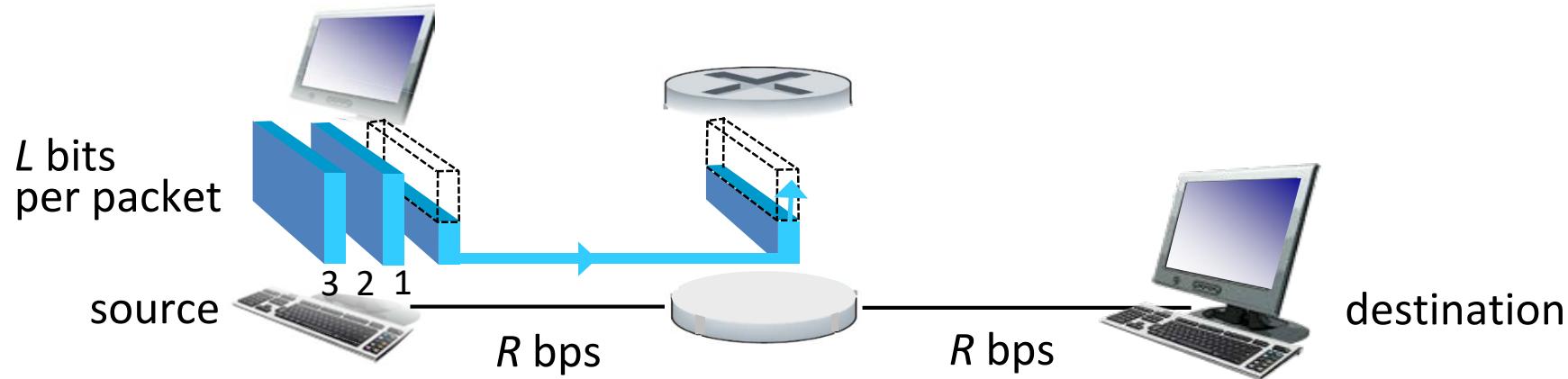
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*Computer Networking: A
Top-Down Approach*
8th edition
Jim Kurose, Keith Ross
Pearson, 2020

Packet-switching: store-and-forward

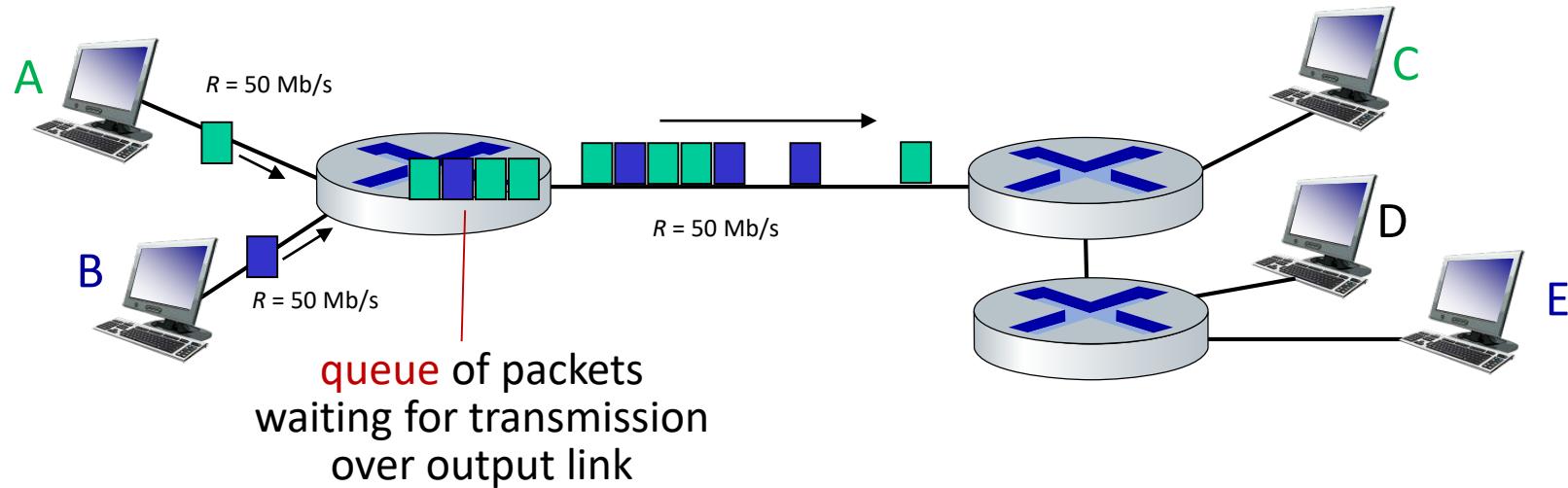


- **packet transmission delay:** takes L/R seconds to transmit (push out) L -bit packet into link at R bps

One-hop numerical example:

- $L = 10$ Kbits
- $R = 100$ Mbps
- one-hop transmission delay = 0.1 msec

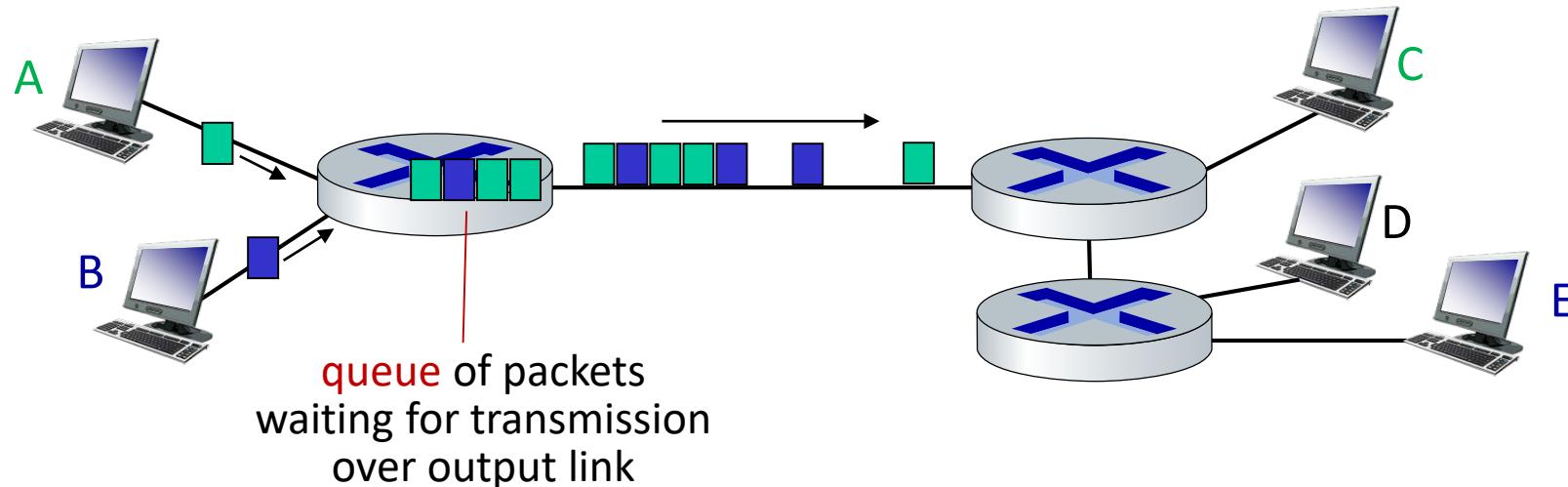
Packet-switching: queueing



Queueing occurs when work arrives faster than it can be serviced:



Packet-switching: queueing



Packet queuing and loss: if arrival rate (in bps) to link exceeds transmission rate (bps) of link for some period of time:

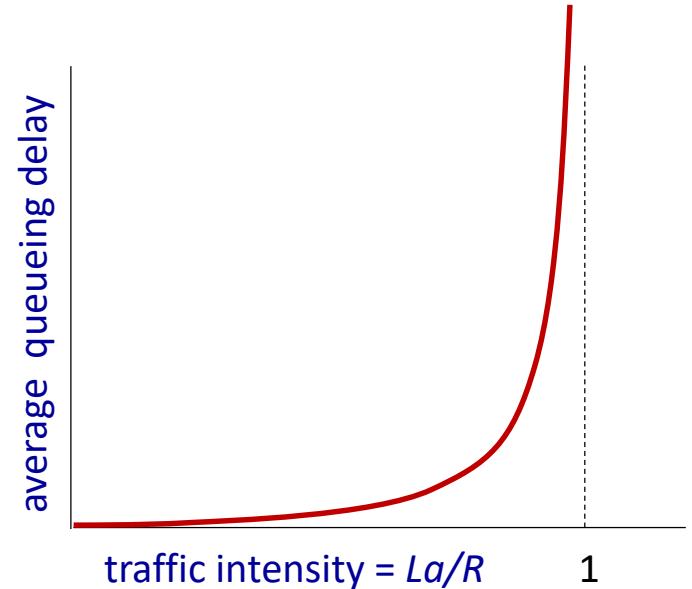
- packets will queue, waiting to be transmitted on output link
- packets can be dropped (lost) if memory (buffer) in router fills up

Packet queueing delay (revisited)

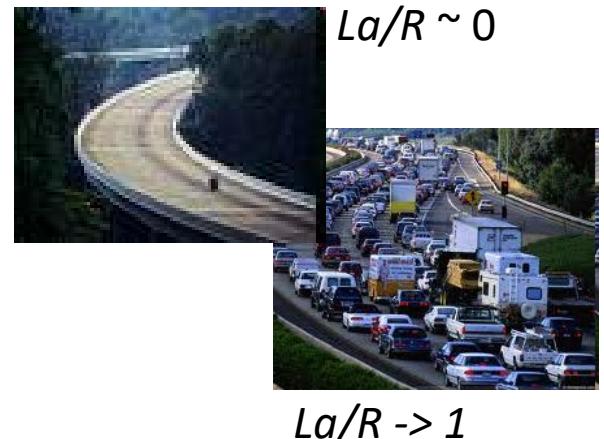
- a : average packet arrival rate
- L : packet length (bits)
- R : link bandwidth (bit transmission rate)

$$\frac{L \cdot a}{R} : \frac{\text{arrival rate of bits}}{\text{service rate of bits}}$$

“traffic intensity”



- $La/R \sim 0$: avg. queueing delay small
- $La/R \rightarrow 1$: avg. queueing delay large
- $La/R > 1$: more “work” arriving is more than can be serviced - average delay infinite!



Principles of congestion control

Congestion:

- informally: “too many sources sending too much data too fast for *network* to handle”
- manifestations:
 - long delays (queueing in router buffers)
 - packet loss (buffer overflow at routers)
- different from flow control!
- a top-10 problem!



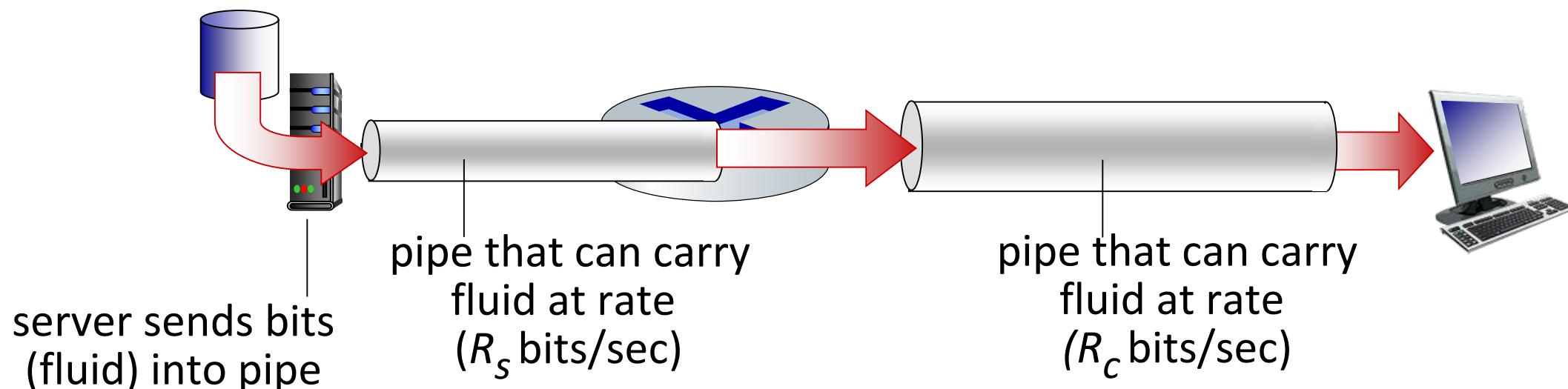
congestion control:
too many senders,
sending too fast



flow control: one sender
too fast for one receiver

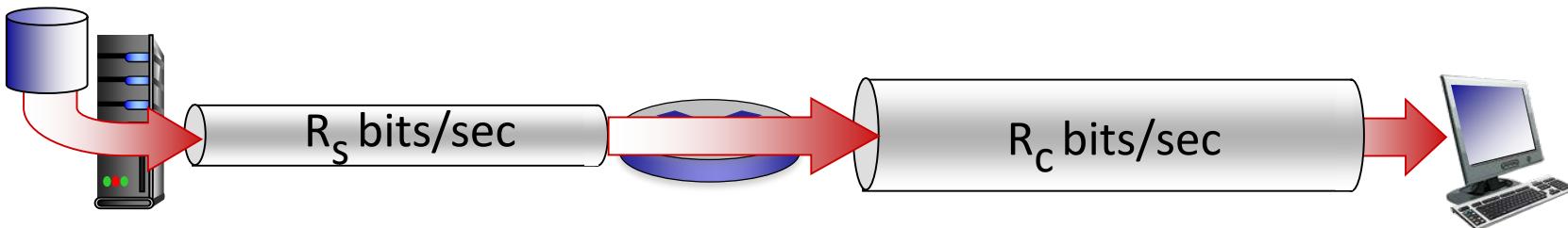
Throughput

- *throughput*: rate (bits/time unit) at which bits are being sent from sender to receiver
 - *instantaneous*: rate at given point in time
 - *average*: rate over longer period of time

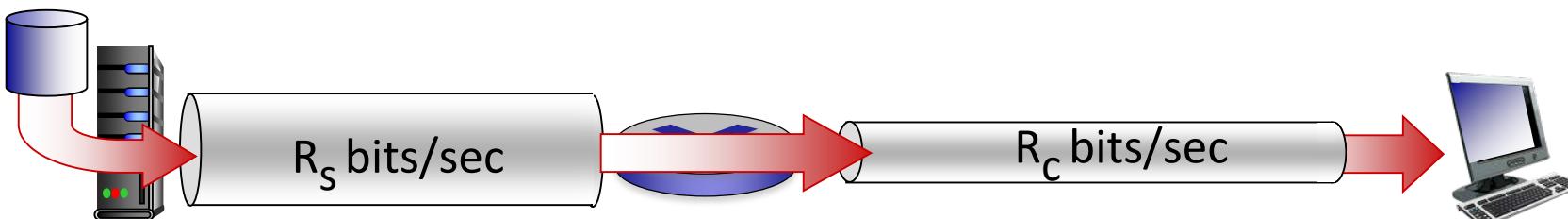


Throughput

$R_s < R_c$ What is average end-end throughput?



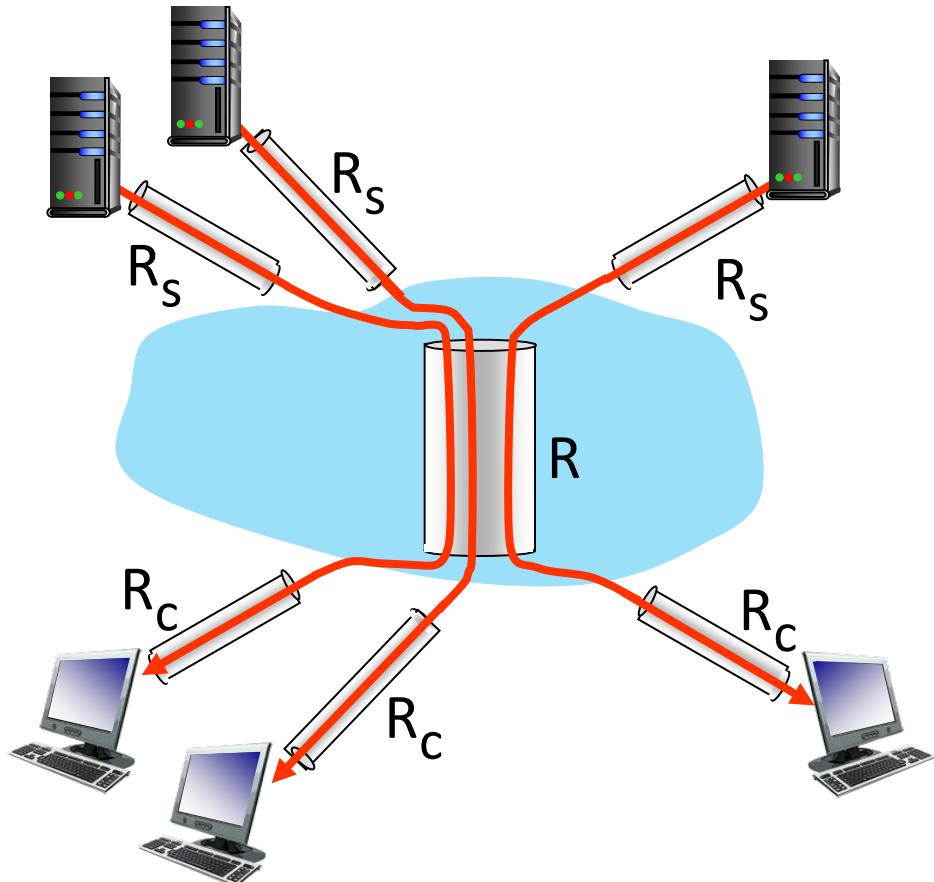
$R_s > R_c$ What is average end-end throughput?



bottleneck link

link on end-end path that constrains end-end throughput

Throughput: network scenario



10 connections (fairly) share
backbone bottleneck link R bits/sec

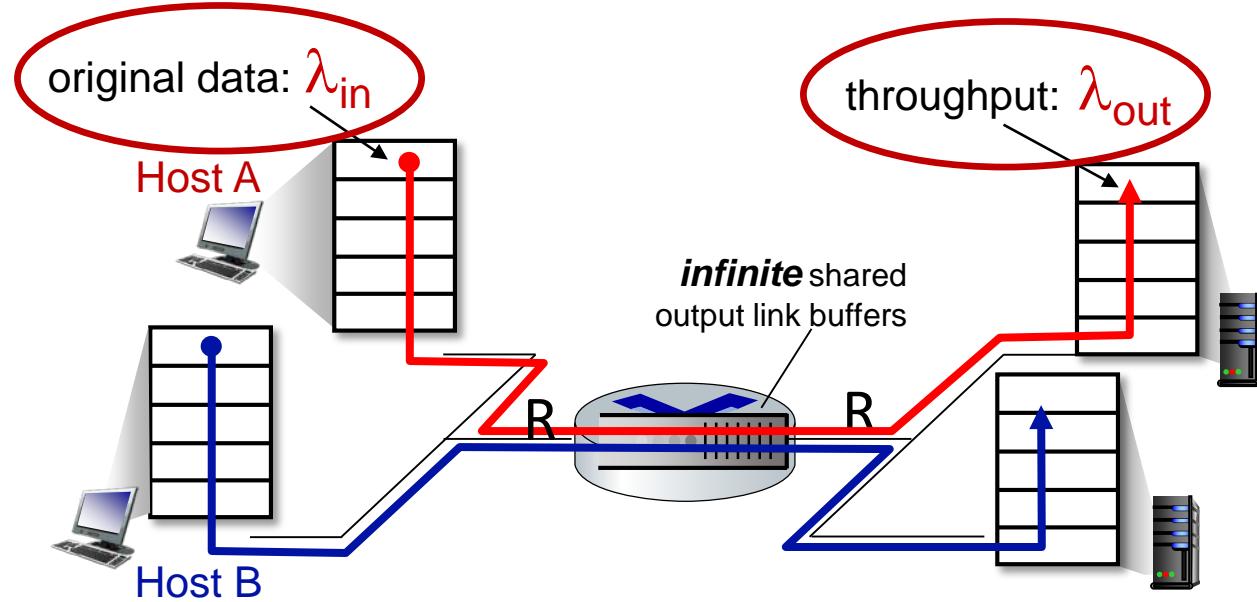
- per-connection end-end throughput: $\min(R_c, R_s, R/10)$
- in practice: R_c or R_s is often bottleneck

* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/

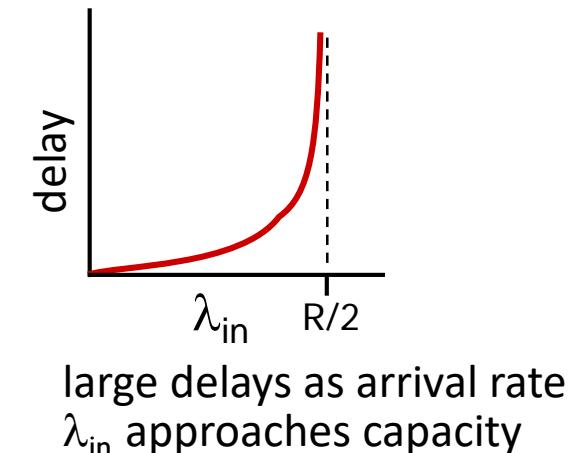
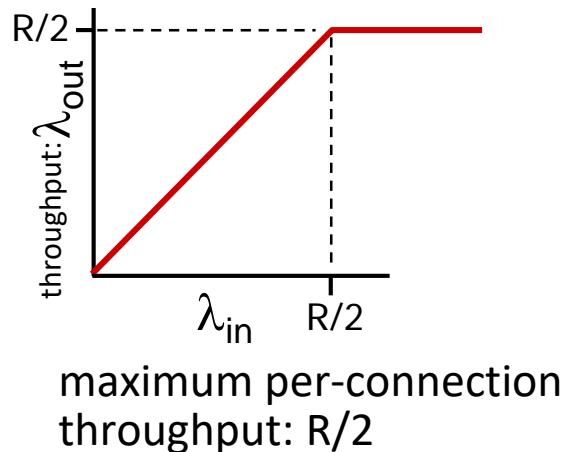
Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 1

Simplest scenario:

- one router, infinite buffers
- input, output link capacity: R
- two flows
- no retransmissions needed

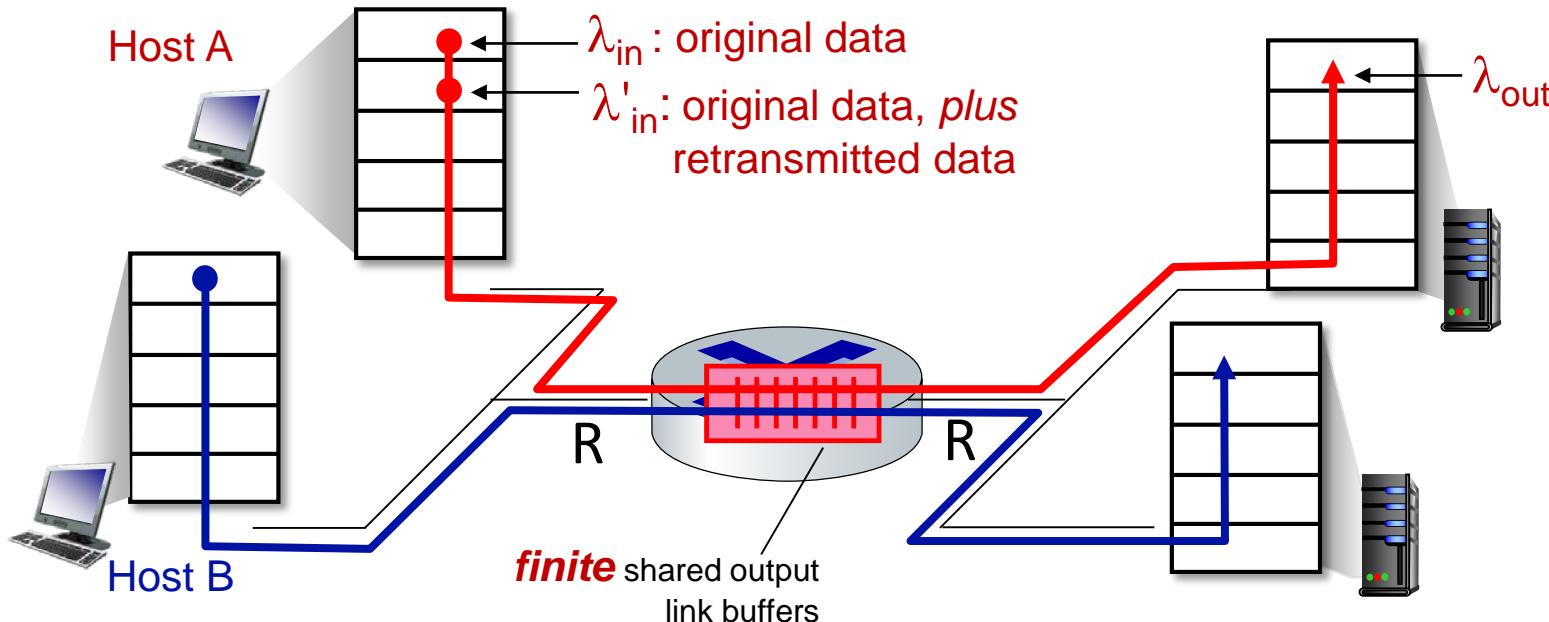


Q: What happens as arrival rate λ_{in} approaches $R/2$?



Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

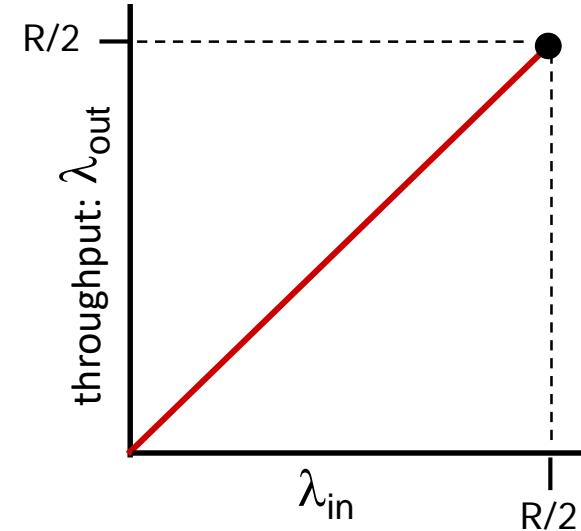
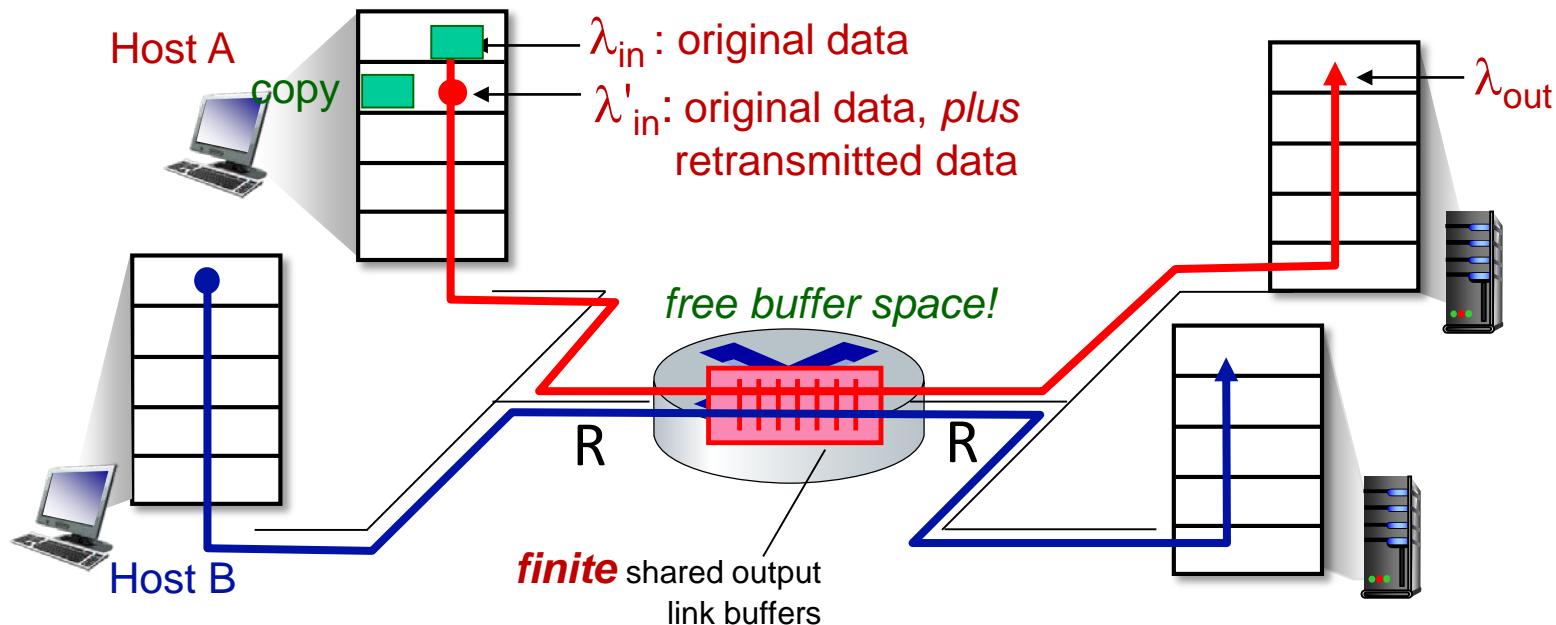
- one router, *finite* buffers
- sender retransmits lost, timed-out packet
 - application-layer input = application-layer output: $\lambda_{in} = \lambda_{out}$
 - transport-layer input includes *retransmissions* : $\lambda'_{in} \geq \lambda_{in}$



Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

Idealization: perfect knowledge

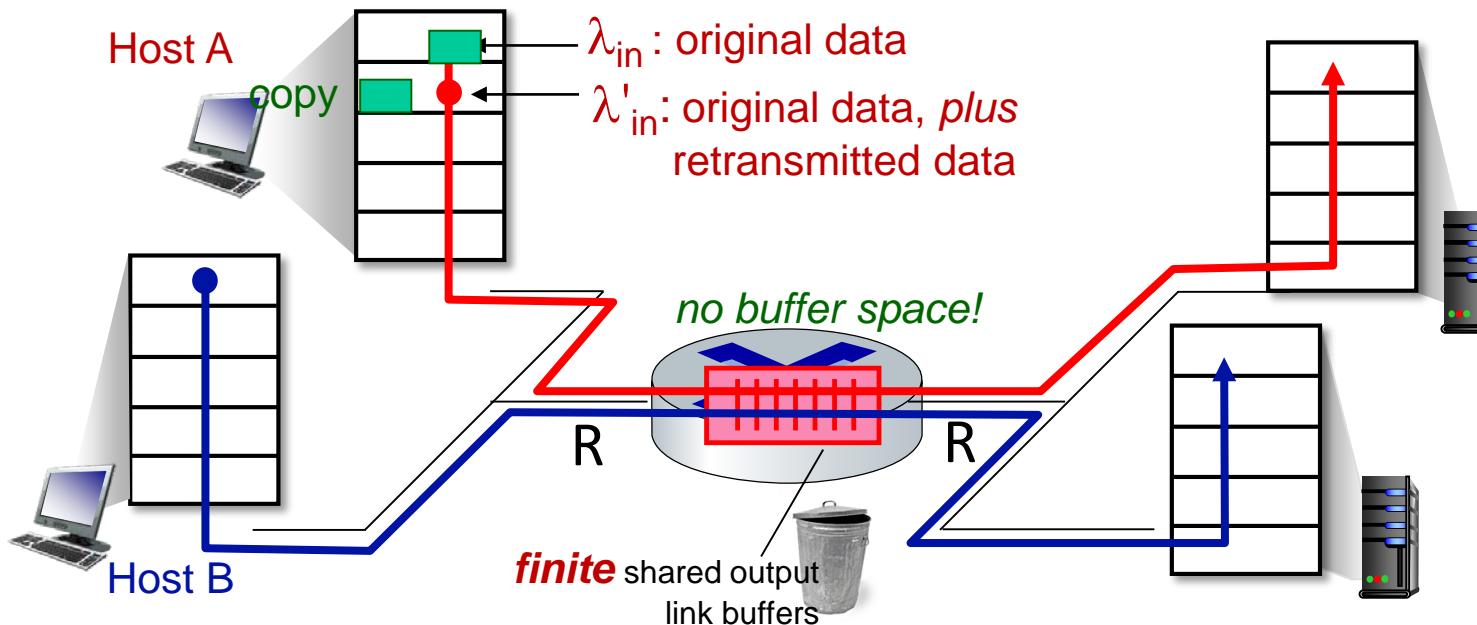
- sender sends only when router buffers available



Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

Idealization: *some* perfect knowledge

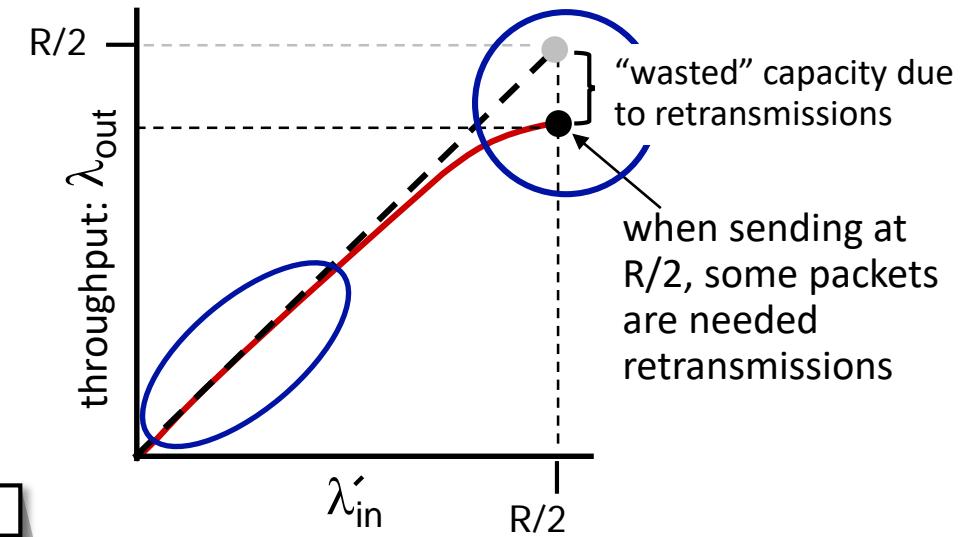
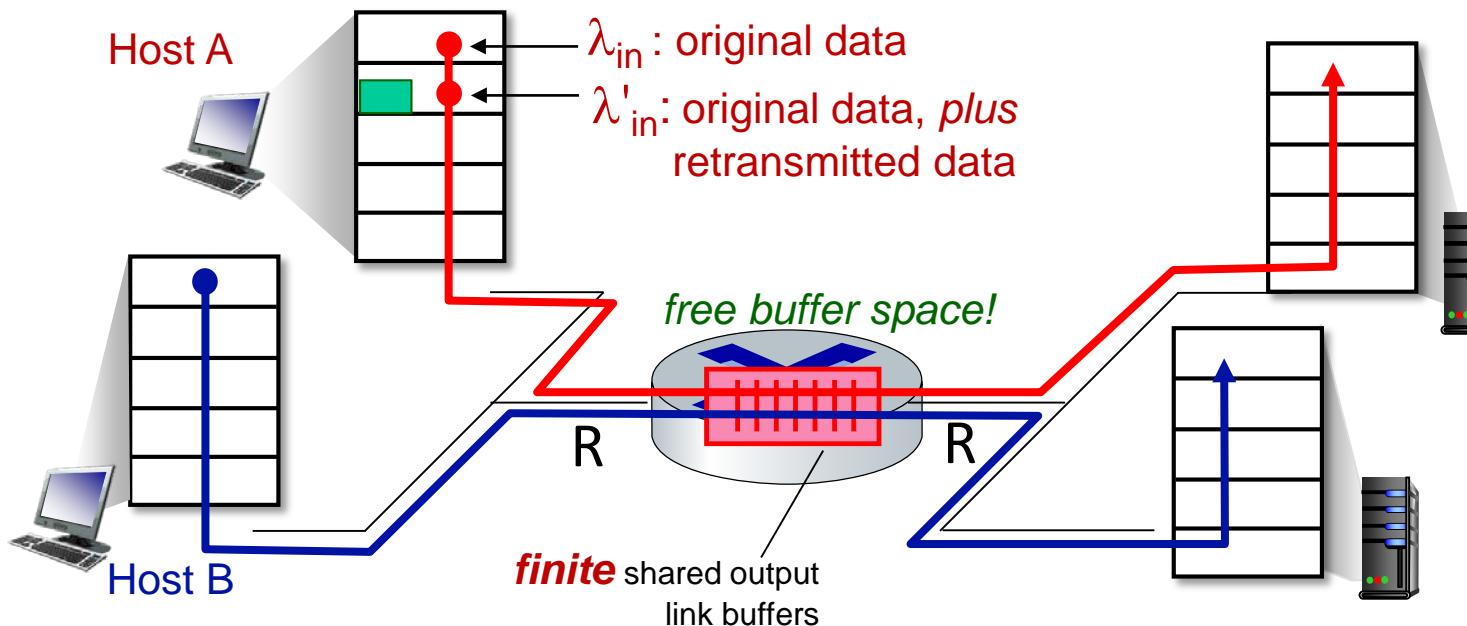
- packets can be lost (dropped at router) due to full buffers
- sender knows when packet has been dropped: only resends if packet *known* to be lost



Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

Idealization: *some* perfect knowledge

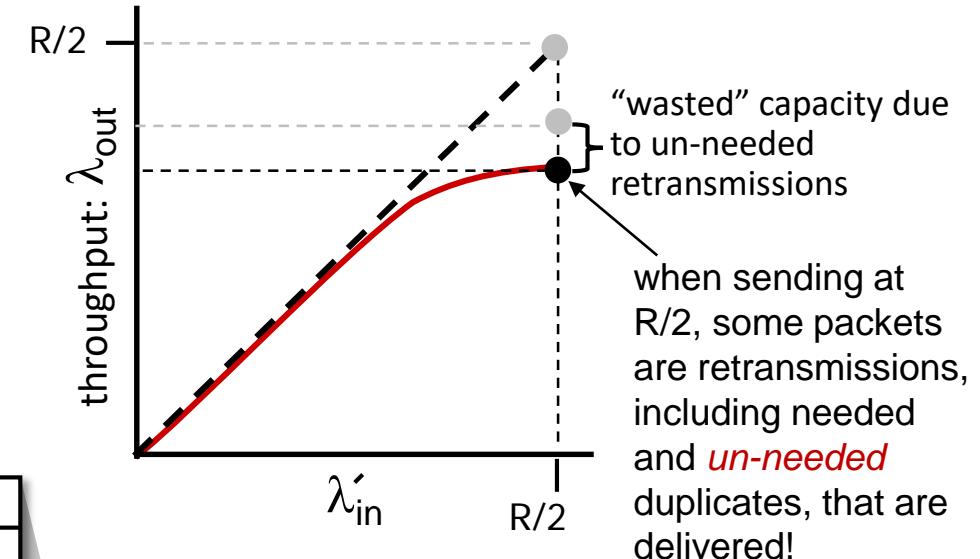
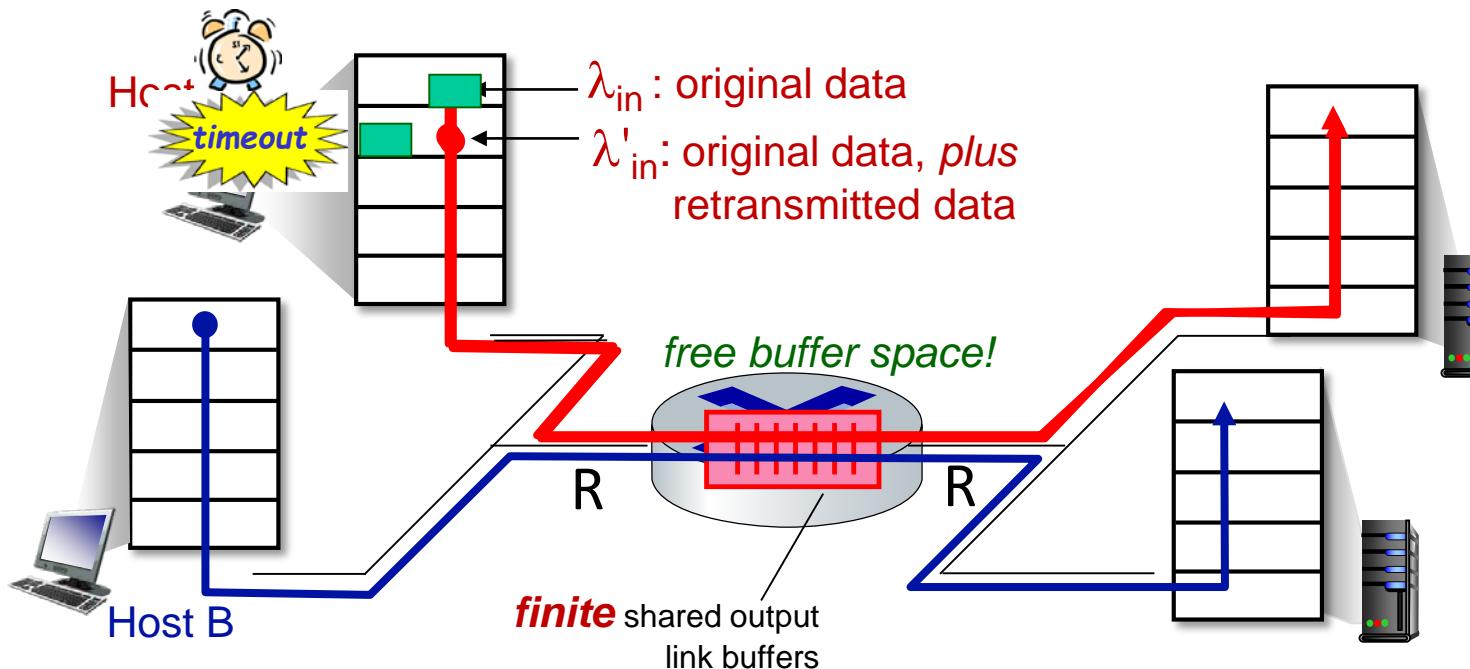
- packets can be lost (dropped at router) due to full buffers
- sender knows when packet has been dropped: only resends if packet *known* to be lost



Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

Realistic scenario: *un-needed duplicates*

- packets can be lost, dropped at router due to full buffers – requiring retransmissions
- but sender times can time out prematurely, sending *two* copies, *both* of which are delivered



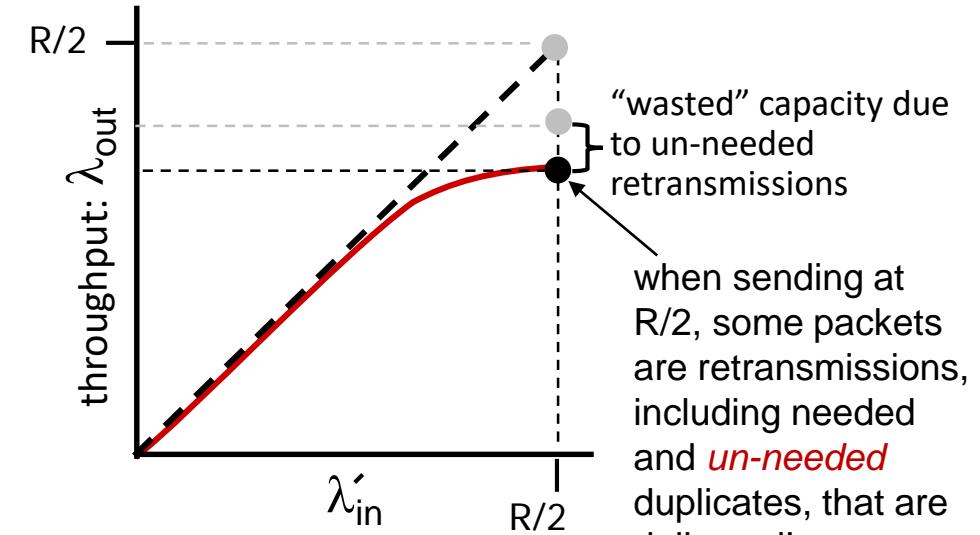
Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

Realistic scenario: *un-needed duplicates*

- packets can be lost, dropped at router due to full buffers – requiring retransmissions
- but sender timers can time out prematurely, sending *two* copies, *both* of which are delivered

“costs” of congestion:

- more work (retransmission) for given receiver throughput
- unneeded retransmissions: link carries multiple copies of a packet
 - decreasing maximum achievable throughput

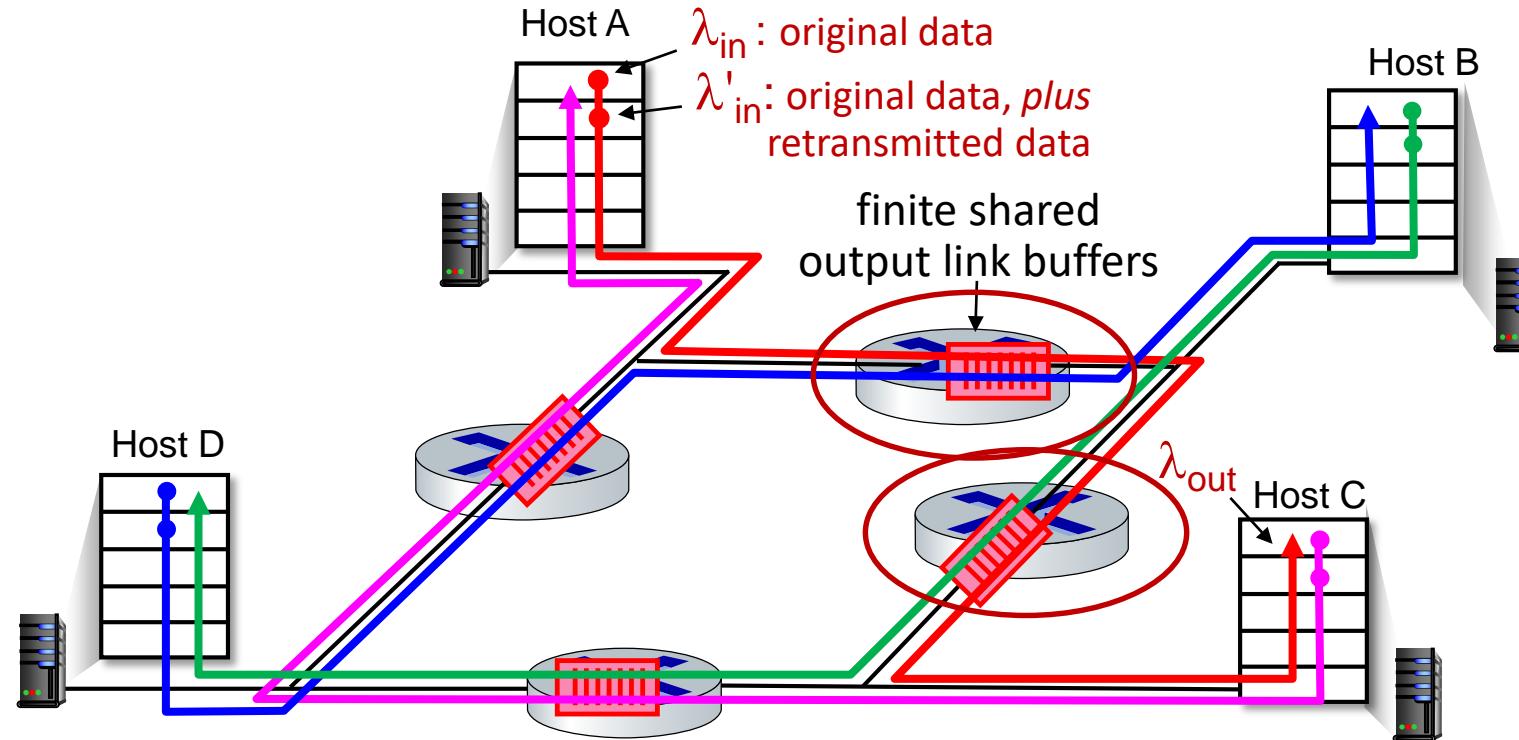


Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 3

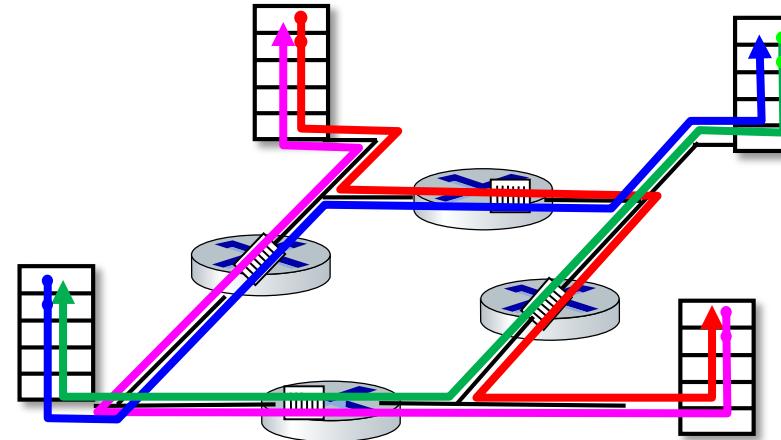
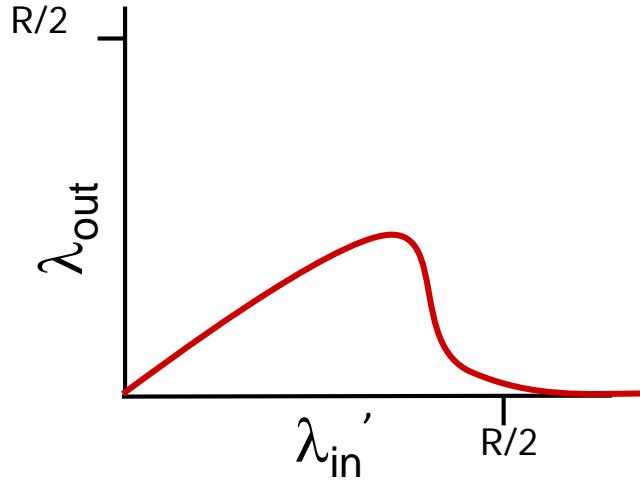
- four senders
- multi-hop paths
- timeout/retransmit

Q: what happens as λ_{in} and λ'_{in} increase ?

A: as red λ'_{in} increases, all arriving blue pkts at upper queue are dropped, blue throughput $\rightarrow 0$



Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 3

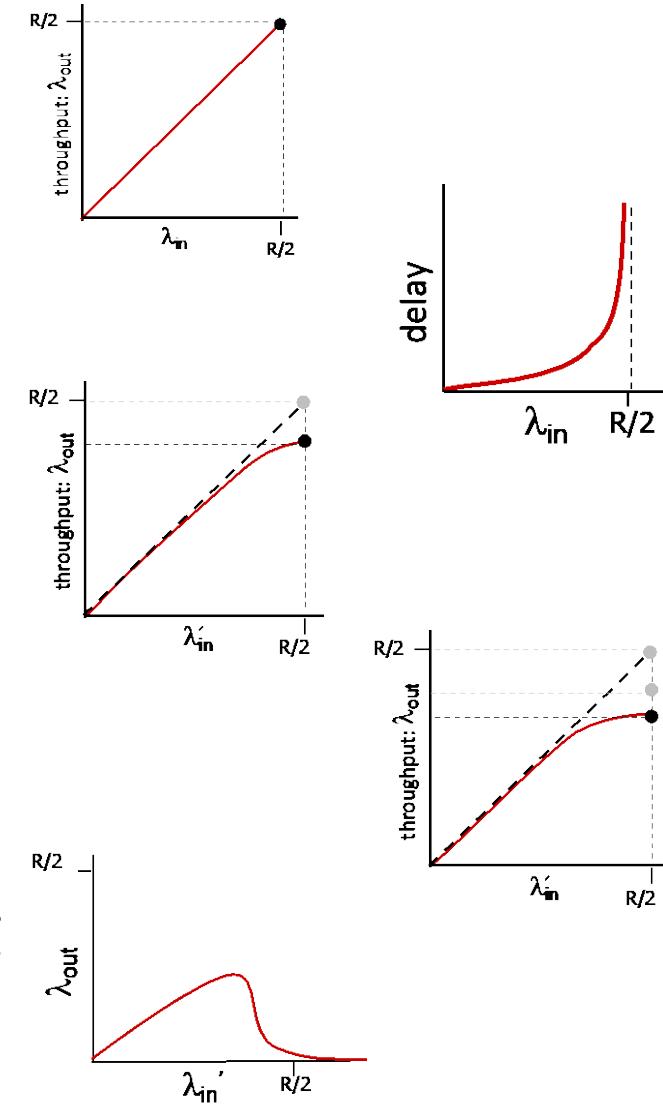


another “cost” of congestion:

- when packet dropped, any upstream transmission capacity and buffering used for that packet was wasted!

Causes/costs of congestion: insights

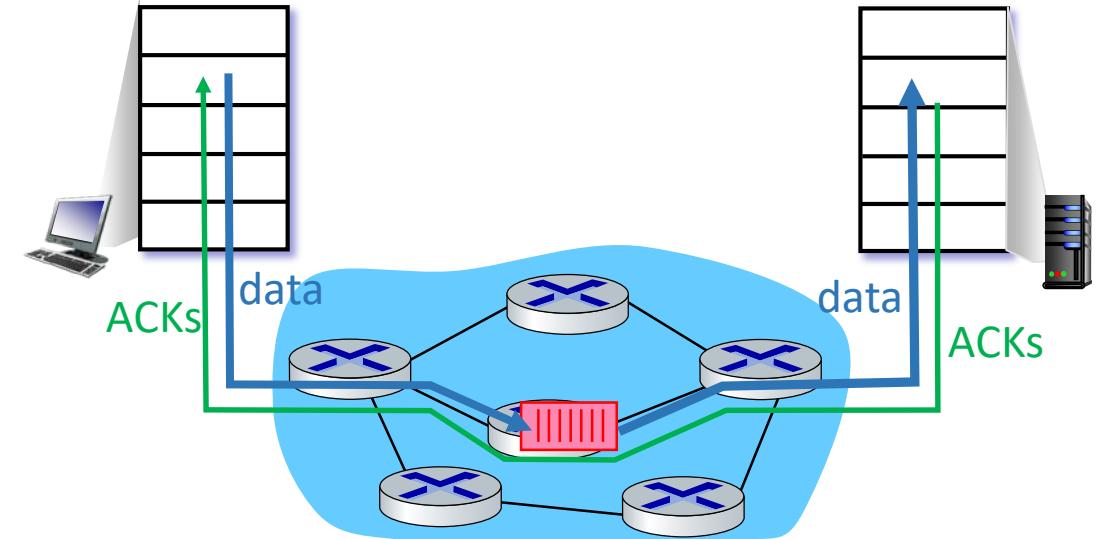
- throughput can never exceed capacity
- delay increases as capacity approached
- loss/retransmission decreases effective throughput
- un-needed duplicates further decreases effective throughput
- upstream transmission capacity / buffering wasted for packets lost downstream



Approaches towards congestion control

End-end congestion control:

- no explicit feedback from network
- congestion *inferred* from observed loss, delay
- approach taken by TCP



Approaches towards congestion control

Network-assisted congestion control:

- routers provide *direct* feedback to sending/receiving hosts with flows passing through congested router
- may indicate congestion level or explicitly set sending rate
- TCP ECN, ATM, DECbit protocols

