

Network Architecture: Layers

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Some slides are from lectures by Nick McKeown, Ion Stoica, Frans Kaashoek, Hari Balakrishnan, and Sam Madden

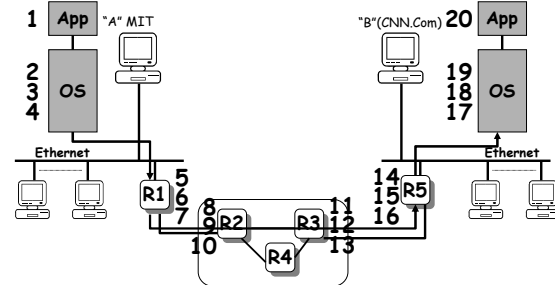
Last Lecture

- ❖ We learned how to share the network infrastructure between many connections/flows
- ❖ We also learned about the implications of the sharing scheme (circuit or packet switching) on the service that the traffic receives

This Lecture

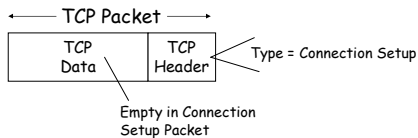
- ➔ ❖ An Example: HTTP
- ❖ Layering (read 7.B)
- ❖ Link Layer (read 7.C)

Example: HTTP over the Internet Using TCP/IP and Ethernet



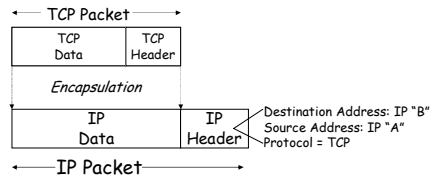
In the sending host

- 1. Application-Programming Interface (API)**
 - ❖ Application requests TCP connection with "B"
- 2. Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)**
 - ❖ Creates TCP "Connection setup" packet
 - ❖ TCP requests IP packet to be sent to "B"



In the sending host (2)

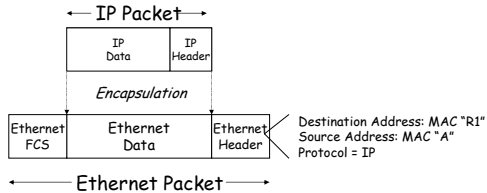
- 3. Internet Protocol (IP)**
 - ❖ Creates IP packet with correct addresses.
 - ❖ IP requests packet to be sent to router.



In the sending host (3)

4. Link ("MAC" or Ethernet) Protocol

- ❖ Creates MAC frame.
- ❖ Wait for access to the line.
- ❖ Send each bit of the frame.

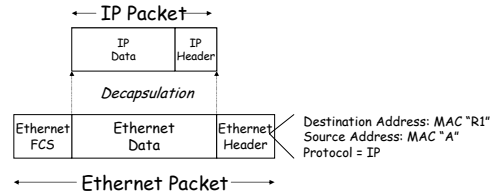


7

In Router R1

5. Link ("MAC" or Ethernet) Protocol

- ❖ Accept MAC frame, check address and Frame Check Sequence (FCS) to ensure no bit errors.
- ❖ Pass data to IP Protocol.

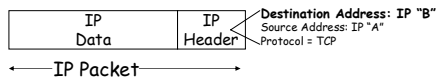


8

In Router R1

6. Internet Protocol (IP)

- ❖ Use IP destination address to decide where to send packet next ("next-hop routing").
- ❖ Request Link Protocol to transmit packet.

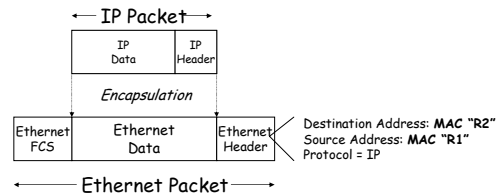


9

In Router R1

7. Link ("MAC" or Ethernet) Protocol

- ❖ Creates MAC frame.
- ❖ Wait for access to the line.
- ❖ Send each bit of the frame.



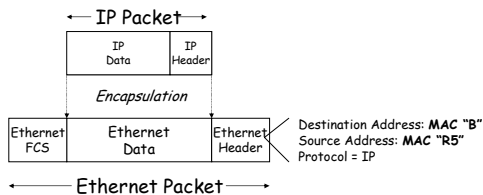
10

Steps 8-15 are the same as before ...

In Router R5

16. Link ("MAC" or Ethernet) Protocol

- ❖ Creates MAC frame.
- ❖ Wait for access to the line.
- ❖ Send each bit of the frame.

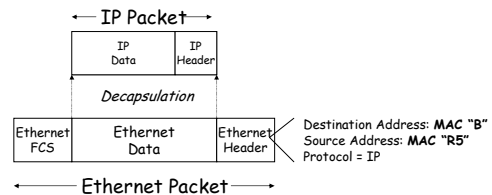


11

In the receiving host

17. Link ("MAC" or Ethernet) Protocol

- ❖ Accept MAC frame, check address and Frame Check Sequence (FCS) for bit errors.
- ❖ Pass data to IP Protocol.

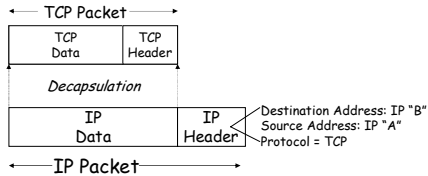


12

In the receiving host (2)

18. Internet Protocol (IP)

- ❖ Verify IP address.
- ❖ Extract/decapsulate TCP packet from IP packet.
- ❖ Pass TCP packet to TCP Protocol.



13

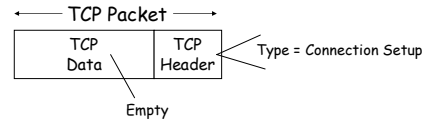
In the receiving host (3)

19. Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)

- ❖ Accepts TCP "Connection setup" packet
- ❖ Establishes connection by sending "Ack".

20. Application-Programming Interface (API)

- ❖ Application receives request for TCP connection with "A".



14

This Lecture

- ❖ An Example: HTTP
- ➔ ❖ Layering
- ❖ Link Layer

15

Network Architecture

Problem

- ❖ Networks are complex (heterogeneity, distributed, delay, losses, reordering, ...)
- ❖ How do we organize a network implementation?

Solution

- ❖ To deal with complexity → use layering

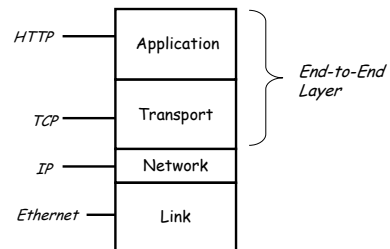
16

Layering

- ❖ Layering is a particular form of abstraction
- ❖ The system is broken into a vertical hierarchy of logically distinct entities (layers)
- ❖ The service provided by one layer is based solely on the service provided by layer below

17

Layering: Our HTTP Example



The 4-layer Internet model

18

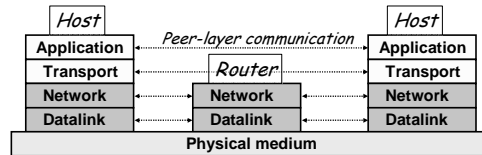
Who Does What?

- ❖ **Link Layer:**
 - ❖ Delivers data from one end of a link to the other
- ❖ **Network Layer**
 - ❖ Routes packets and delivers them to their destination
- ❖ **Transport Layer**
 - ❖ Provides useful abstractions: stream, message
 - ❖ Can provide reliability
 - ❖ Can provide congestion control
- ❖ **Application Layer**
 - ❖ Your application: HTTP, FTP, etc.

19

Where are these layers?

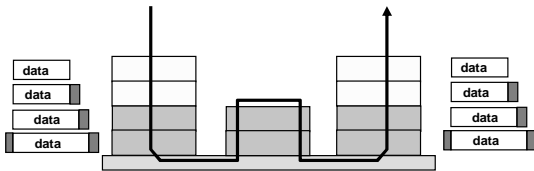
- ❖ Link and network layers are implemented everywhere
- ❖ The end-to-end layer (i.e., transport and application) is implemented only at hosts



20

Encapsulation

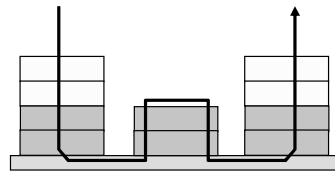
- ❖ A layer can use only the service provided by the layer immediate below it
- ❖ Each layer may change and add a header to data packet



21

Interface

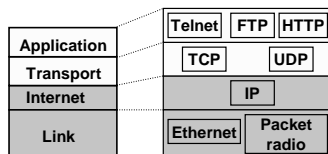
- ❖ Higher layer calls lower layer
 - ❖ e.g., Link_Send(this_data, this_link)
- ❖ Lower layer uses an up-call function to inform the higher layer of data arrival
 - ❖ e.g., Network_Handle()



22

Multiplexing in the Internet

- ❖ Many possible applications, transports, and link layers
- ❖ But they all use IP at the network layer



23

This Lecture

- ❖ An Example: HTTP
- ❖ Layering
- ➔ ❖ Link Layer

24

Link Layer



Problem:

Deliver data from one end of the link to the other

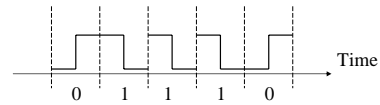
Need to address:

- ❖ Bits → Analog → Bits
- ❖ Framing
- ❖ Errors
- ❖ Medium Access Control (The Ethernet Paper)

25

Sending bits

- ❖ Bits → Analog → Bits
- ❖ Receiver needs to detect the value of the bits
- ❖ Manchester Encoding: each bit is a transition
 - ❖ Having a transition in each bit allows the receiver to synchronize to the sender's clock



26

Framing

- ❖ Receiver needs to detect the beginning and the end of a frame
- ❖ Use special bit-patterns at the beginning and the end of the frame
- ❖ Bit stuffing is used to ensure that a special pattern does not occur in the data
 - ❖ E.g., pattern is 1111111 (7 ones)
 - ❖ Bit stuffing: whenever the sender sees a sequence of 6 ones in the data, it inserts a zero (reverse this operation at receiver)

27

Error Handling

- ❖ Detection:
 - ❖ Use error detection codes, which add some redundancy to allow detecting errors
- ❖ When errors are detected
 - ❖ Correction:
 - Some codes allow for correction
 - ❖ Retransmission:
 - Can have the link layer retransmit the frame (rare)
 - ❖ Discard:
 - Most link layers just discard the frame and rely on higher layers to retransmit

28

This Lecture

- ❖ To cope with the complexity, the network architecture is organized into layers
- ❖ The link layer delivers data between two machines that are directly connected using a link

29