# Protocols

- precise rules that govern communication between two parties
- TCP/IP: the basic Internet protocols
- IP: Internet protocol  (bottom level)
  - all packets shipped from network to network as IP packets
  - no guarantees on quality of service or reliability: "best effort"
  - each physical network has its own format for carrying IP packets
- TCP: transmission control protocol
  - creates a reliable 2-way data stream using IP
    errors are detected and corrected
  - most things we think of as "Internet" use TCP
- "application-level" protocols, mostly built from TCP
  - HTTP (web), SMTP (mail), SSH (secure login), FTP (file transfer), …

- UDP: user datagram protocol
  - simple unreliable datagram protocol (errors not detected)
  - used in DNS, remote file systems, ...

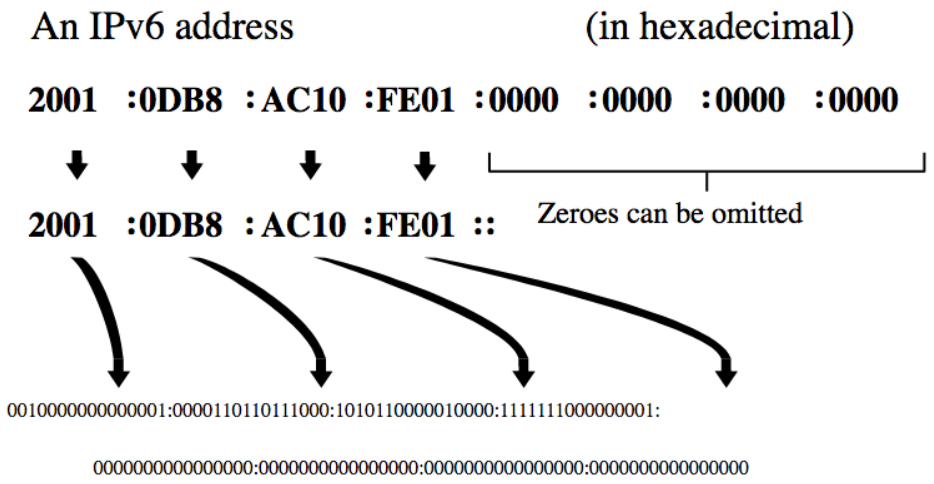
# Packets

- packet: a sequence of bytes carrying information
  - usually over a network connection
- bytes have a specific sequence, format, organization
  - usually as specified in a protocol
- typical network packet includes
  - source (where it comes from)
  - destination (where it goes to)
  - size or length information (how big is the data part)
  - miscellaneous information (type, version, info to detect errors, ...)
  - the data itself ("payload")
- typical sizes range from
  - a few bytes
  - 150-1500 (Ethernet packets)
  - 100-65000 (IP packets)

# What's in an IP packet

- a "header" that contains
  - protocol version, type of packet, length of header, length of data
  - fragmentation info in case it was broken into pieces
  - time to live: maximum number of hops before packet is discarded
    each gateway decreases this by 1
  - source & destination addresses (32 bits for IPv4, 128 bits for IPv6)
  - checksum of header information
    redundant info to detect errors in header information only, not data itself
  - etc.; about 20-40 bytes in header
- actual data
  - up to 64 KB of payload
  - IPv4:

# IPv6 header




**Fixed header format**

| *Offsets* | Octet | 0 | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | 3 | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Octet | Bit | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 0 | 0 | *Version* | | | | *Traffic Class* | | | | | | | | *Flow Label* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 32 | *Payload Length* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | *Next Header* | | | | | | | | *Hop Limit* | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 64 | *Source Address* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | 96 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | 128 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | 160 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | 192 | *Destination Address* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 | 224 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 32 | 256 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 36 | 288 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

# IP: Internet Protocol

- IP provides an unreliable connectionless packet delivery service
  - every packet has full source & destination addresses
  - every packet is independent of all others
- IP packets are *datagrams*
  - individually addressed packages, like postcards in the postal system
    "connectionless"
  - stateless: no memory from one packet to next
    each packet is independent of others, even if in sequence and going same place
  - unreliable: packets can be lost or duplicated ("best effort" delivery)
  - packets can be delivered out of order
  - contents can be wrong (though error rates are usually very low)
  - no speed control: packets can arrive too fast to be processed
  - limited size: long messages have to be split up and then reassembled

- higher level protocols use IP packets to carry information
- IP packets are carried on a wide variety of physical media

# TCP: Transmission Control Protocol

- a reliable 2-way byte stream built with IP
- a TCP connection is established to a specific host
  - and a specific "port" at that host
- each port provides a specific service
  - SSH = 22, SMTP = 25, HTTP = 80, ...

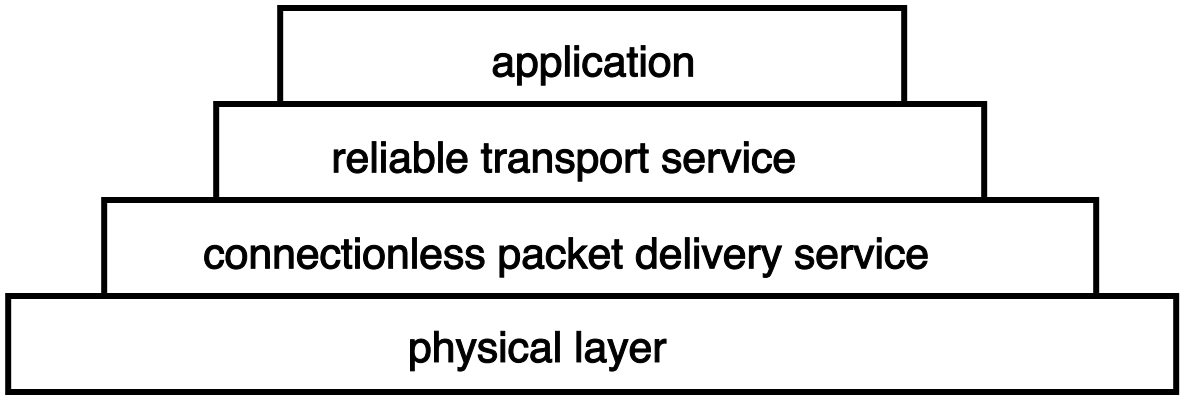
- a message is broken into 1 or more segments
- each TCP segment has a header (src, dest, etc) + data
  - header includes checksum for error detection, and sequence number to preserve order and detect missing or duplicated packets
- each TCP segment is wrapped in an IP packet and sent
  - has to be positively acknowledged to ensure that it arrived safely

    otherwise, re-send it after a time interval

- TCP is the basis of most higher-level protocols

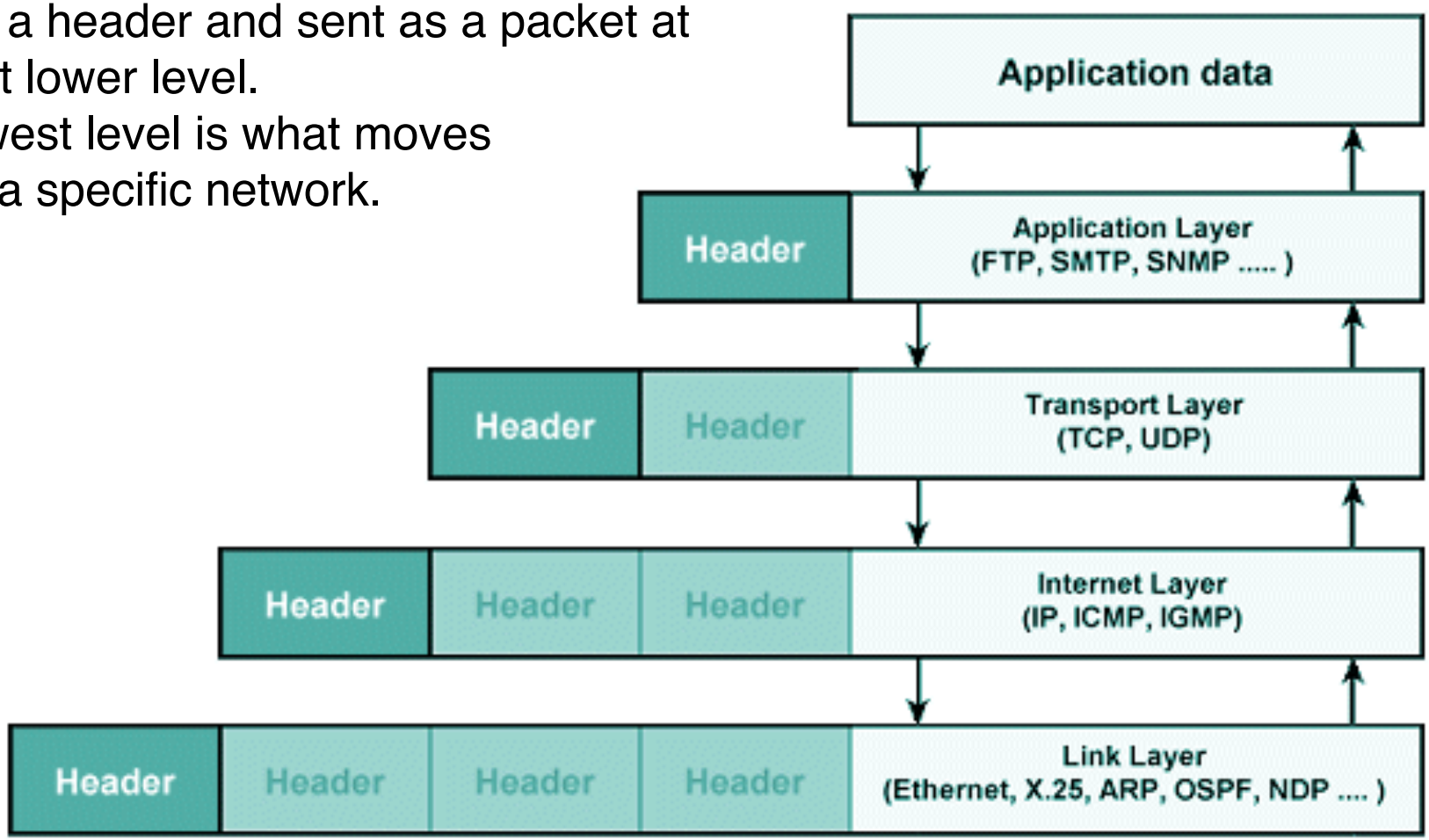
# Higher level protocols

- SSH: secure login
- SMTP: mail transfer
- HTTP: hypertext transfer -> Web
- protocol layering:
  - a single protocol can't do everything
  - higher-level protocols build elaborate operations out of simpler ones
  - each layer uses only the services of the one directly below
  - and provides the services expected by the layer above
  - all communication is between peer levels: layer N destination receives exactly the object sent by layer N source



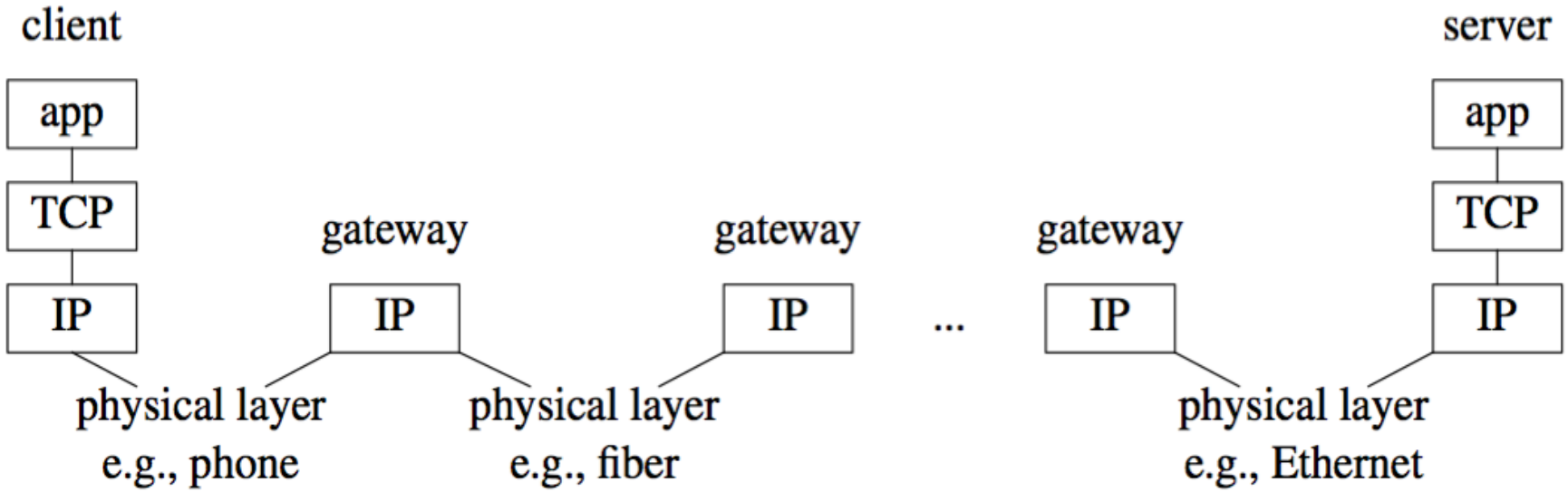
# Encapsulation

Each piece of data at one level is wrapped up with a header and sent as a packet at the next lower level.
The lowest level is what moves across a specific network.




http://www.technologyuk.net/the_internet/

# How information flows



# How things are connected

- local nets connected to local Internet Service Provider (ISP)
- these in turn connect to regional ISPs
- and then to larger ones like Comcast, Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, …
- traffic exchanged at Internet exchanges (IXP)
  - large and small, formal and informal, profit and non-profit

- bandwidth (bit-carrying capacity) of connections is usually higher for larger ISPs
  - cable, DSL: maybe 10-100 Mbps (you to your ISP)
  - optical fiber: 100 Mbps and up (large carriers)

# Coping with bandwidth limits

- data flows no faster than the slowest link

- limits to how much data can pass per unit time
  - no guarantees about packet delivery
  - no guarantees about bandwidth, delay or quality of service
    IP telephony is hard because voice traffic requires limited delay and jitter
    video is somewhat easier but needs a lot more bandwidth

- caching
  - save previous data so it doesn't have to be retrieved again

- compression, encoding
  - to improve use of available bandwidth
  - don't send redundant or unnecessary information
    text, code, etc., can be compressed and recreated exactly
    music, pictures, movies are compressed with some information discarded

# Internet Ideas

- packets versus circuits
  - different models (mail vs phone)
- names and addresses
  - what is a computer called, how to find it
- routing
  - how to get from here to there
- protocols and standards
  - Internet works because of IP as common mechanism
    - higher level protocols all use IP
    - specific hardware technologies carry IP packets
- layering
  - divide system into layers
    - each of which provides services to next higher level
    - while calling on service of next lower level
  - a way to organize and control complexity, hide details