

Network Layers

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COS 316 Guest Lecture



Modularity in System Design



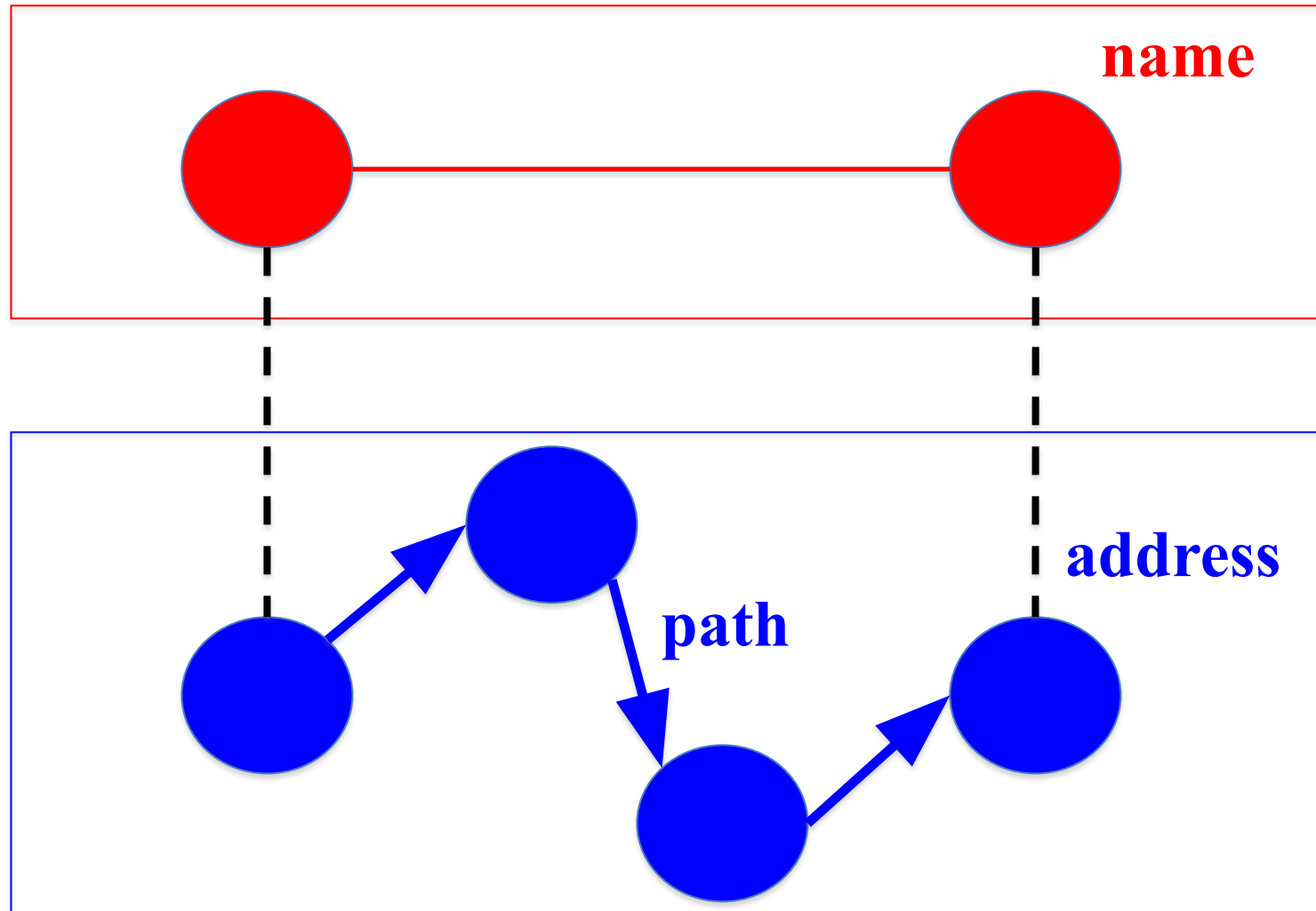
Barbara Liskov,
MIT

“Modularity based on abstraction is the way things get done.”

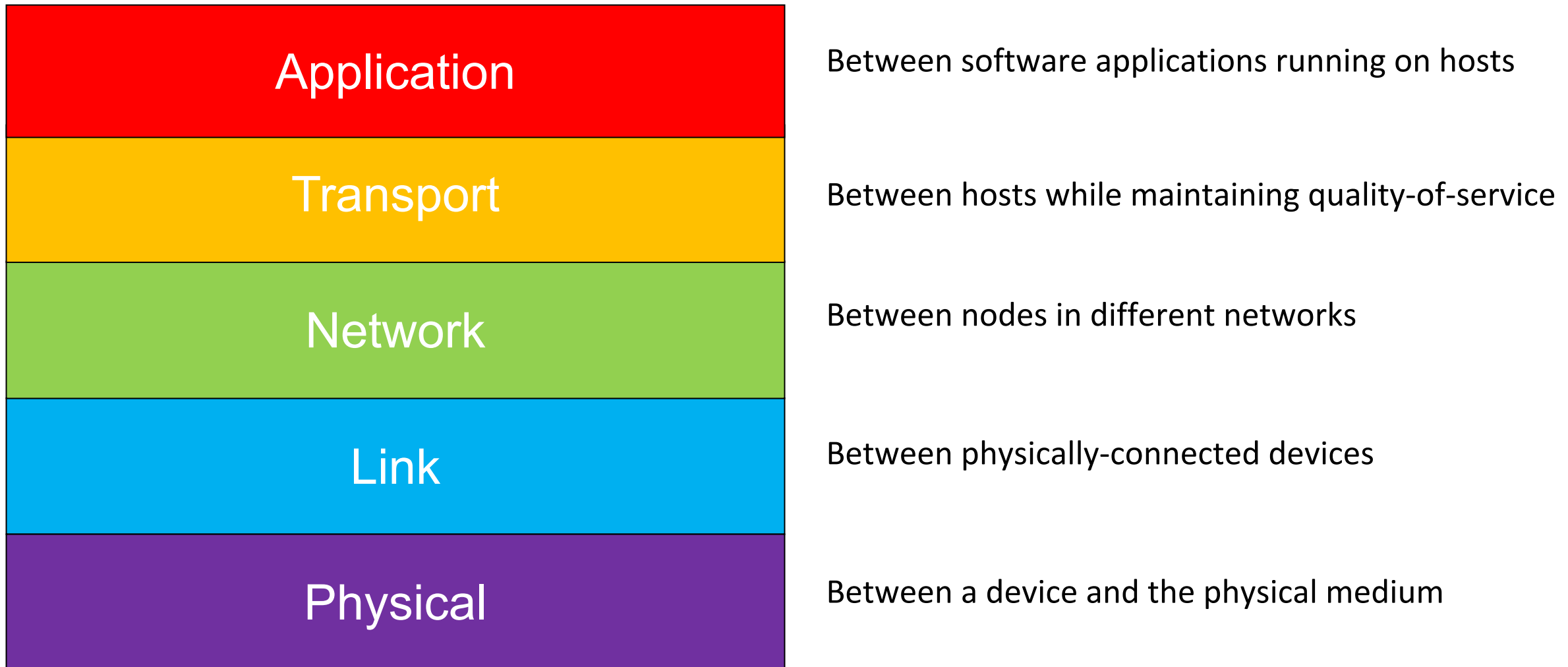
Modularity Through Layering

Or, “Can I Explain How the Internet Works in One Lecture?”

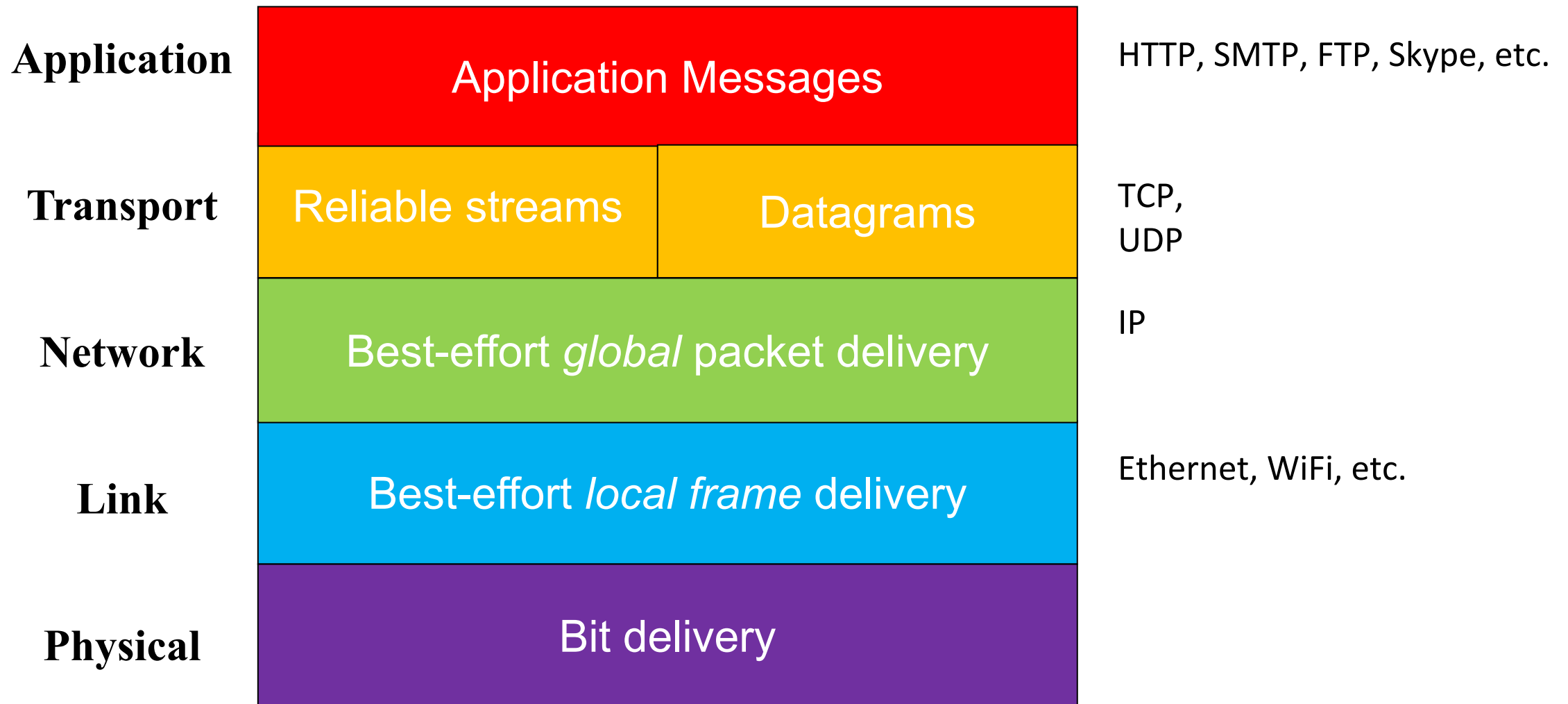
Modularity Through Protocol Layering



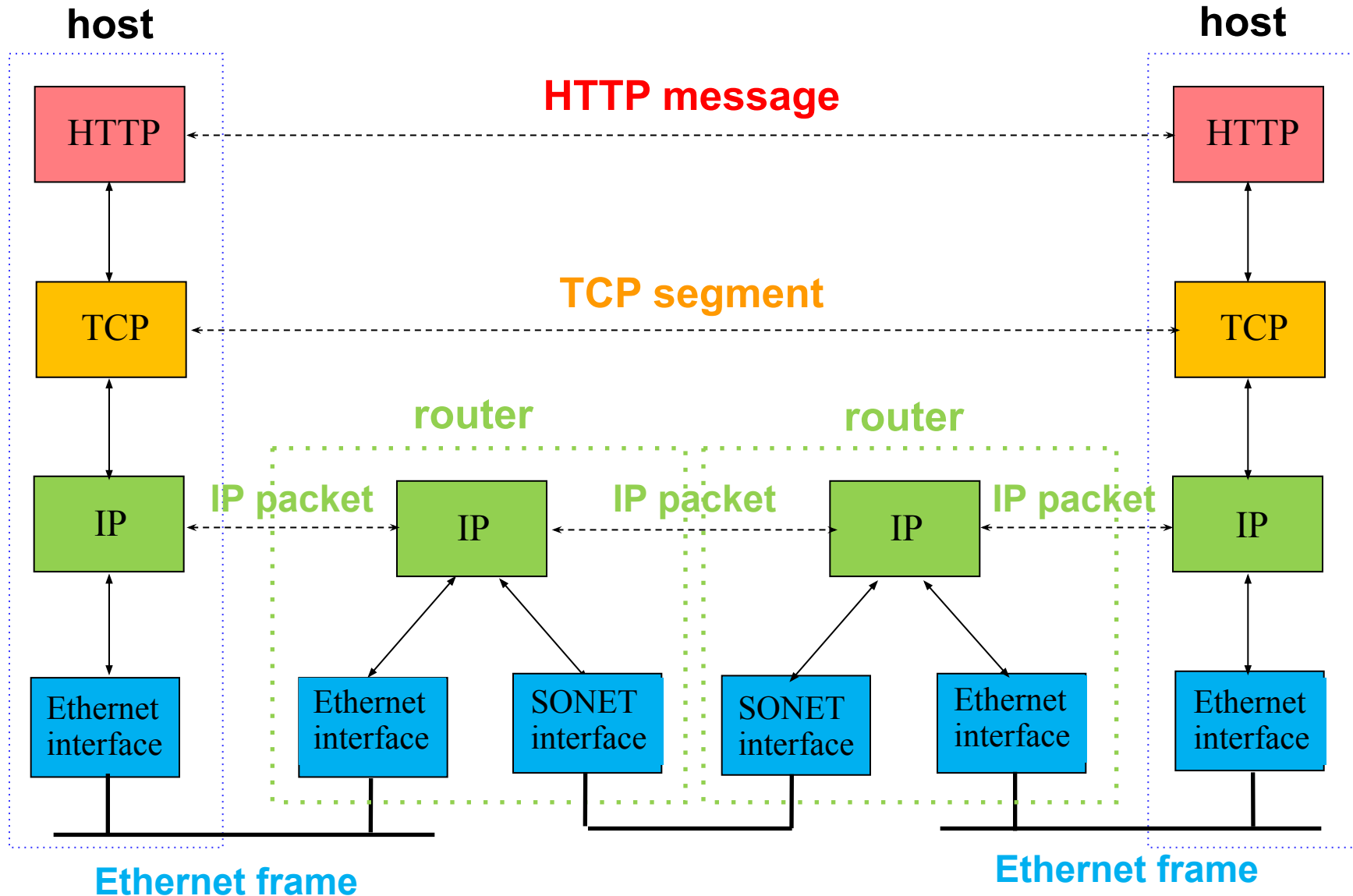
Internet Protocol Layers



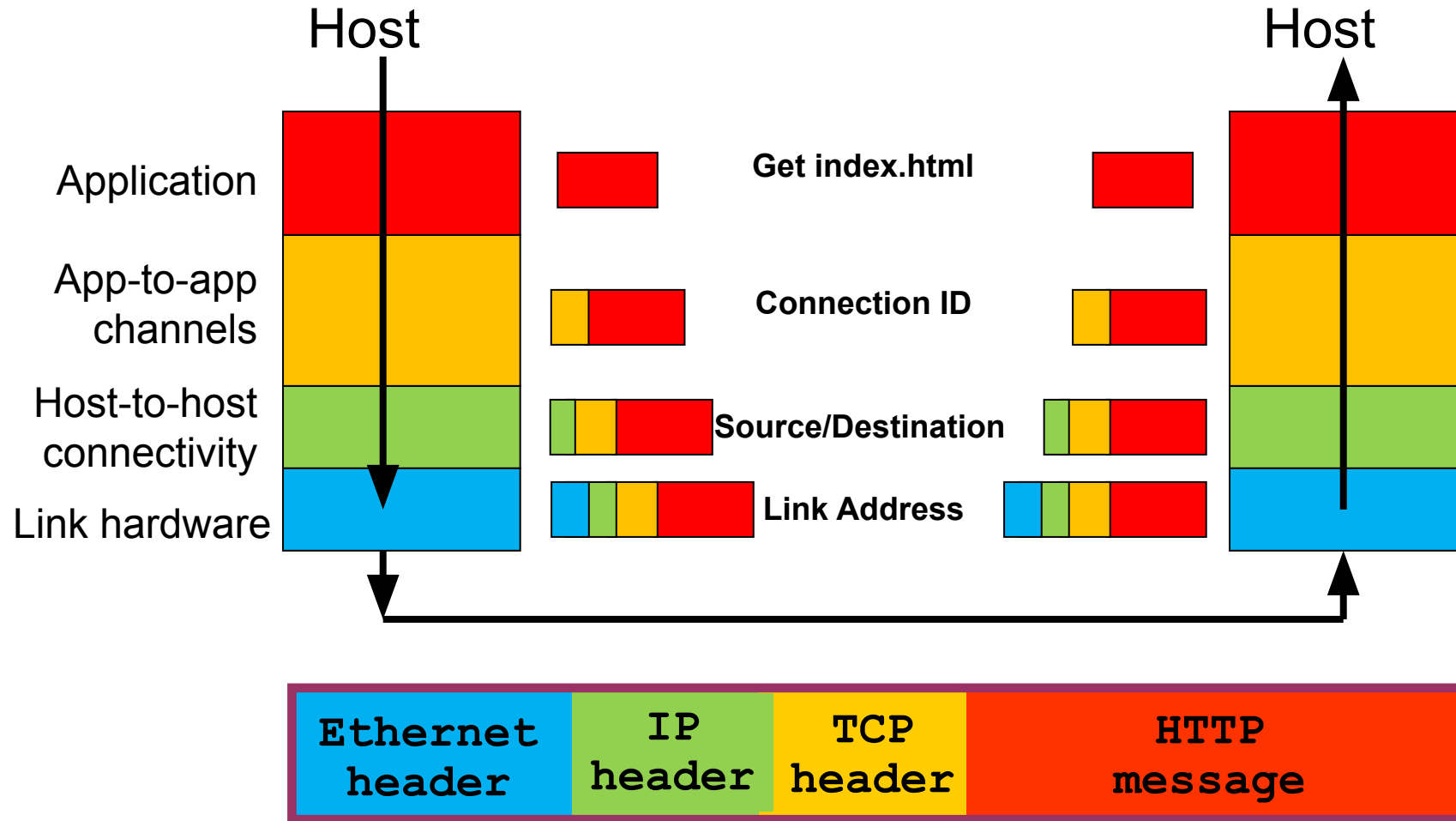
Internet Protocol Layers



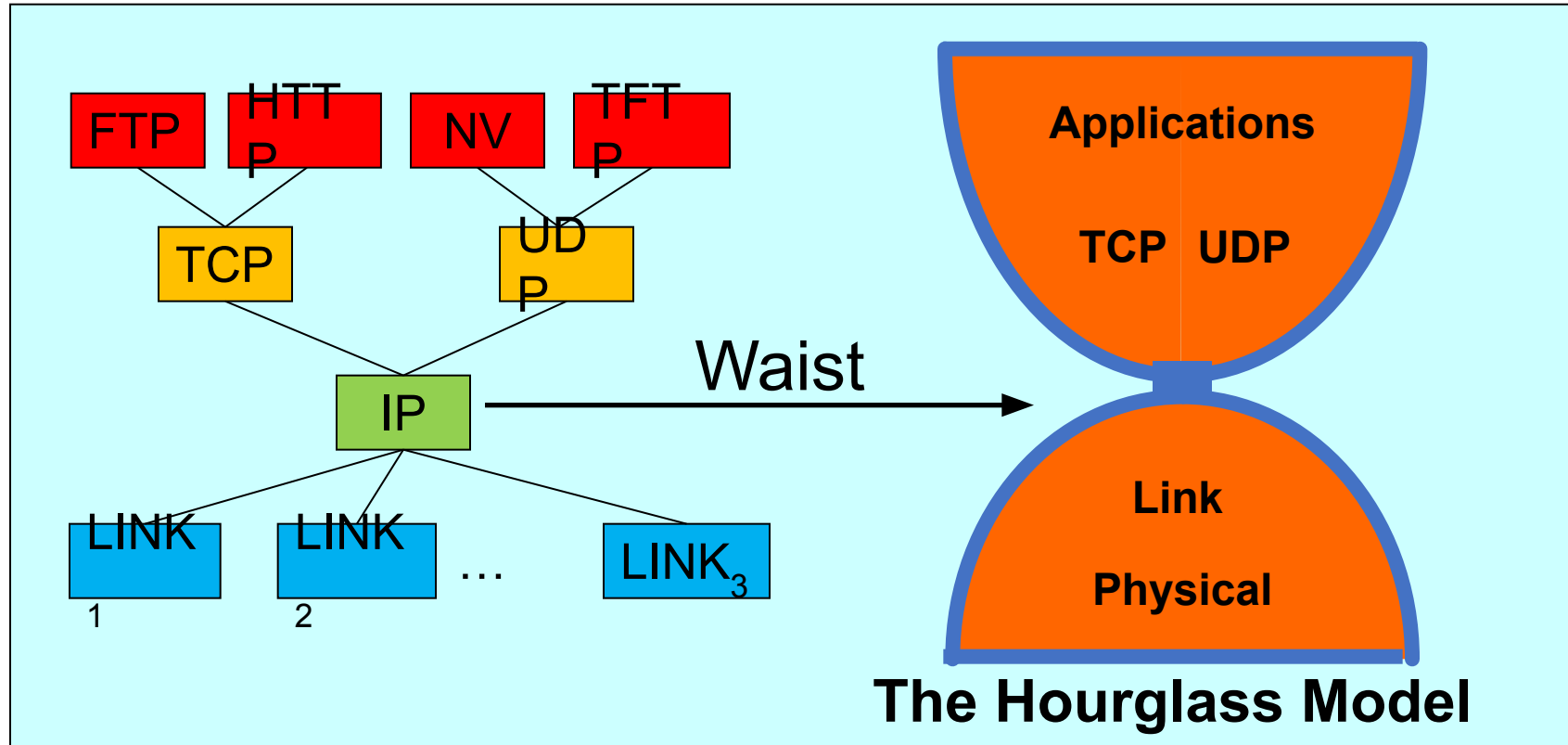
Layers in Action



Encapsulation: Layers of Headers



The Internet Hourglass with “Narrow Waist”



The “narrow waist” facilitates interoperability

Network Protocols

What is a Network Protocol?

- Rules that govern communication
 - How to identify the devices and establish connectivity
 - Message format (syntax) and meaning (semantics)
- A distributed solution to a problem
 - Deliver an ordered, reliable stream of bytes to another end-point
 - Share network bandwidth fairly
 - Compute shortest paths on a graph
 - Automatically learn how to reach remote hosts
 - Share an individual link's bandwidth fairly

Application: HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP)

Request

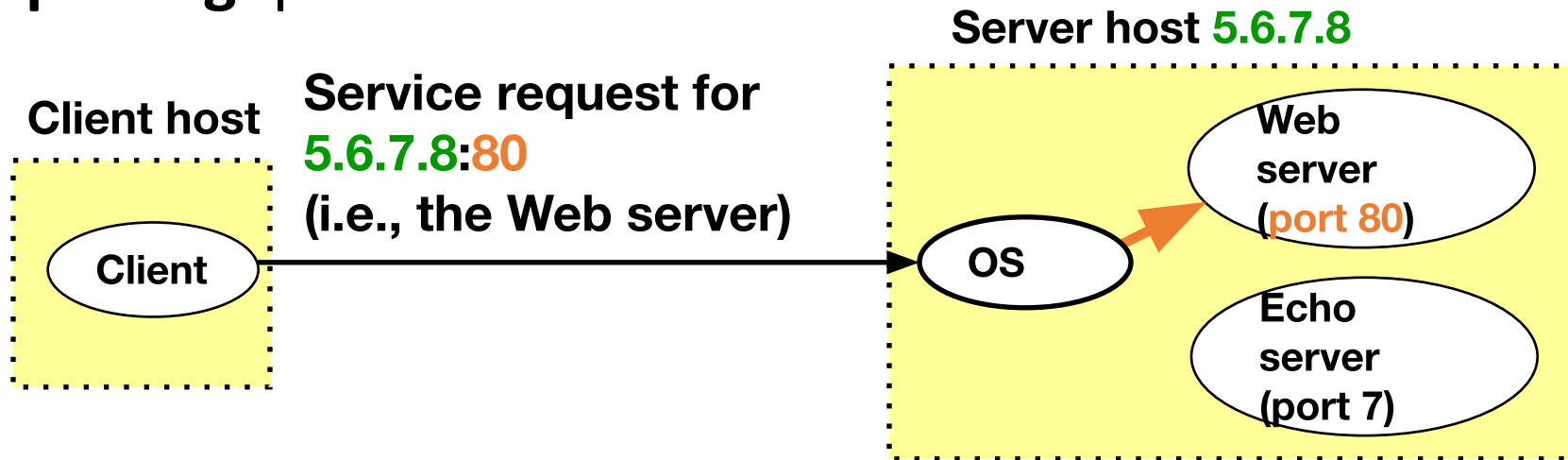
```
GET /courses/archive/spr12/cos461/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.princeton.edu
User-Agent: Mozilla/4.03
CRLF
```

Response

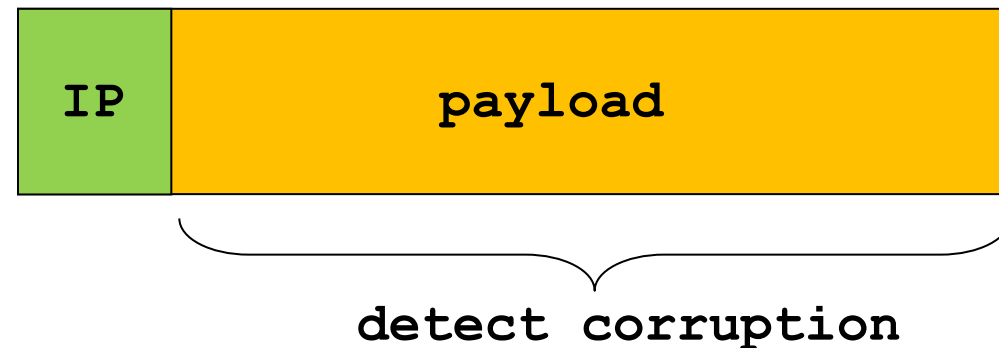
```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 6 Feb 2012 13:09:03 GMT
Server: Netscape-Enterprise/3.5.1
Last-Modified: Mon, 7 Feb 2011 11:12:23 GMT
Content-Length: 21
CRLF
Site under construction
```

Transport Protocols: TCP and UDP

- **Demultiplexing:** port numbers



- **Error detection:** checksums



Transport: Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)

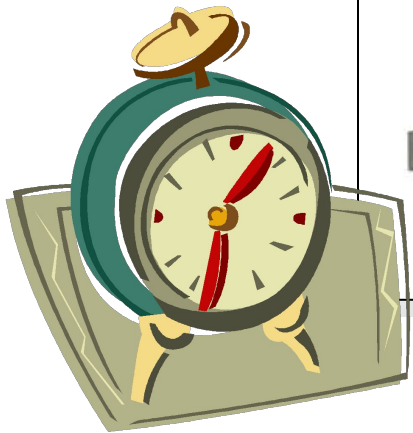
- Ordered, reliable stream of bytes
 - Built on top of best-effort packet delivery at the network layer (IP)
- Challenges with IP
 - Lost or delayed packets
 - Corrupted packets
 - Out-of-order packet arrivals
 - Receiver that runs out of space
 - Network that cannot handle the load

TCP: Lost or Delayed Packets

Problem: Lost or Delayed Data

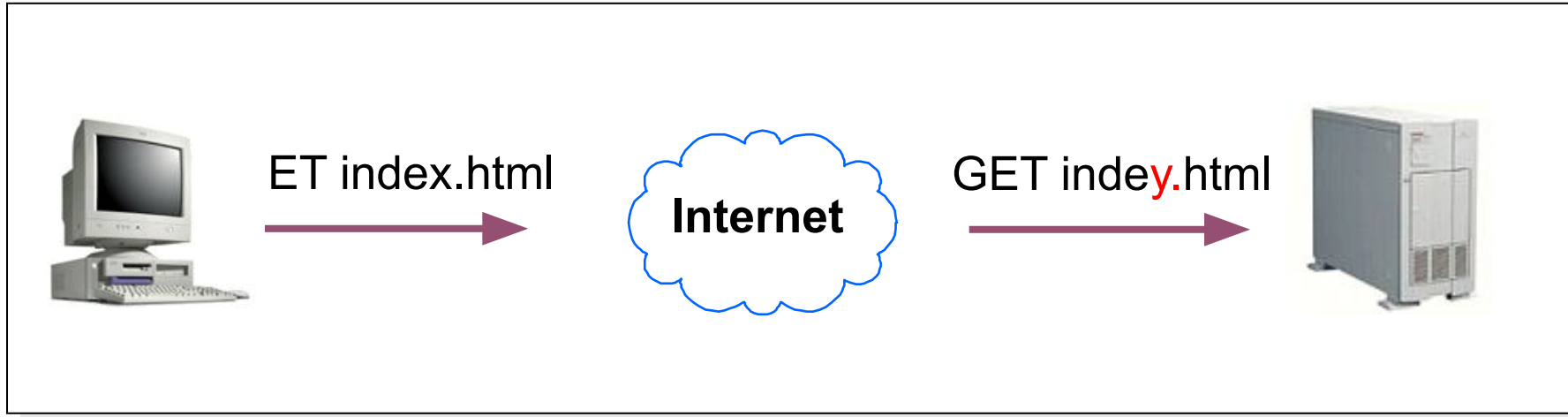


Solution: Timeout and Retransmit



Waiting for an
acknowledgment

TCP: Corrupted Data



- Sender computes a checksum
 - Sender sums up all of the bytes
 - And sends the sum to the receive

$$\begin{array}{r} 134 \\ + 212 \\ \hline = 346 \end{array}$$

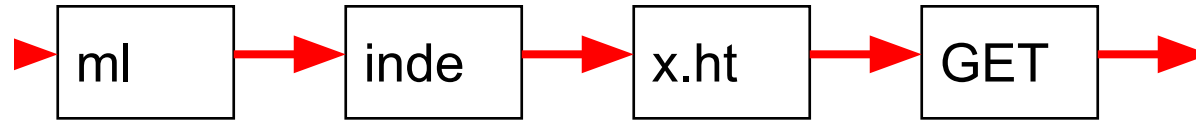
Then what?

- Receiver checks the checksum
 - Received sums up all of the bytes
 - And compares against the checksum

$$\begin{array}{r} 134 \\ + 216 \\ \hline = 350 \end{array}$$

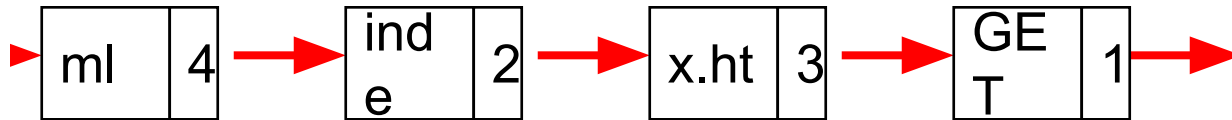
TCP: Out-of-Order Packet Arrivals

Problem: Out of Order



GET x.htindeml

Solution: Add Sequence Numbers



GET index.html

TCP: Receiver that Runs Out of Space



?



- Receiver maintains a *window size*
 - Amount of data it can buffer
- Advertises window to the sender
 - Amount sender can send without acknowledgment
- Ensures that sender does not send too much
 - While still sending as much as possible

Flow control!

Network that Cannot Handle the Load

- Some TCP senders need to slow down...
- TCP congestion control (future lecture)!

Network Layer: Internet Protocol (IP)

- Best-effort global packet delivery
 - Packet delivery: each packet handled independently
 - Best-effort: allow loss, delay, corruption, and out-of-order delivery



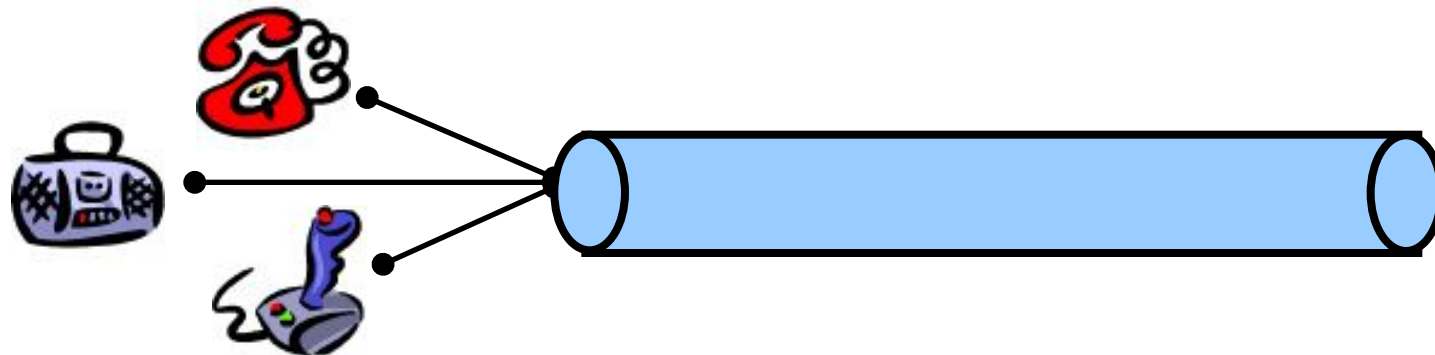
IP: Best-Effort Packet Delivery is Simpler

- Never having to say you're sorry...
 - Don't reserve bandwidth and memory
 - Don't do error detection and correction
 - Don't remember anything from one packet to next
- Easier to survive failures
 - Transient disruptions are okay during failover
- Can run on nearly any link technology
 - Greater interoperability and evolution



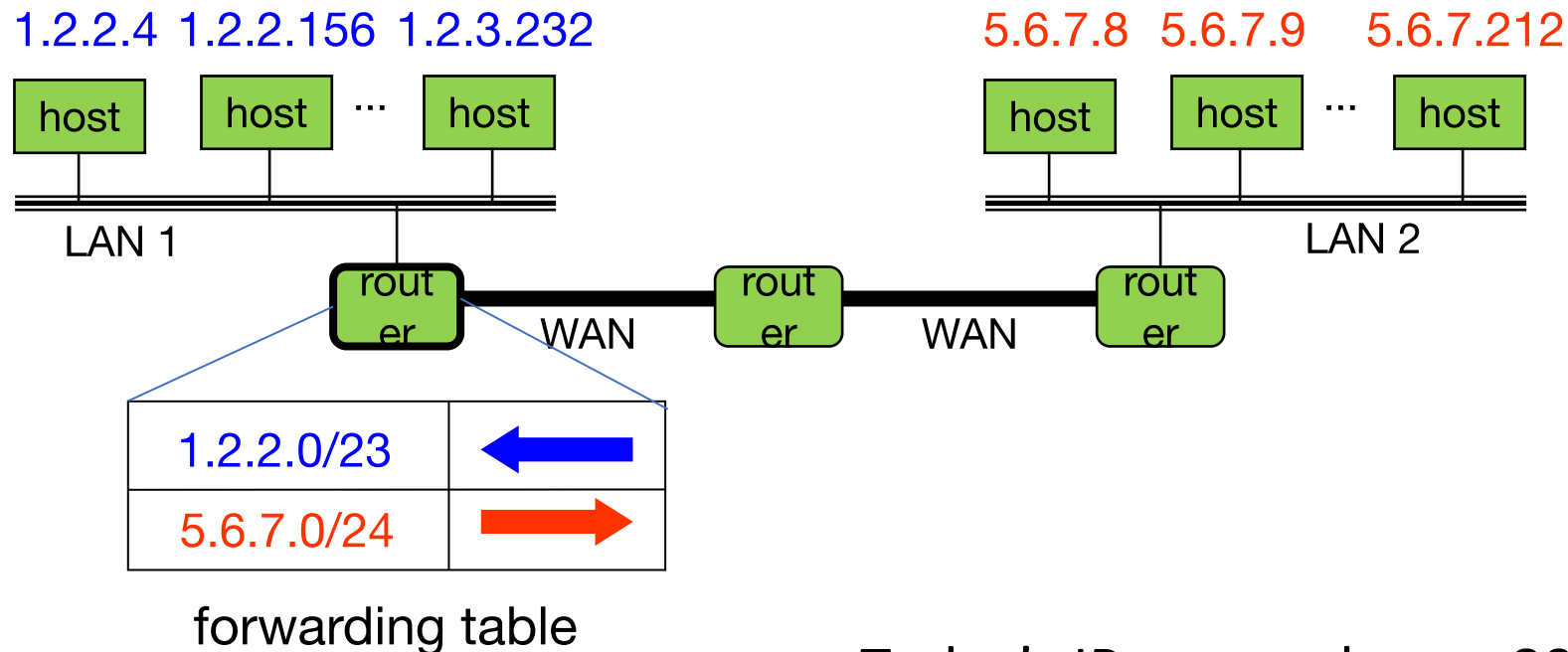
IP: Statistical Multiplexing

- Data traffic is bursty
 - Logging in to remote machines
 - Exchanging e-mail messages
- Don't waste bandwidth
 - No traffic exchanged during idle periods
- Better to allow multiplexing
 - Different transfers share access to same links



IP: Scalable Global Packet Delivery

- Hierarchical IP addresses (“zip code”)
 - Variable-length prefix, identified by mask length

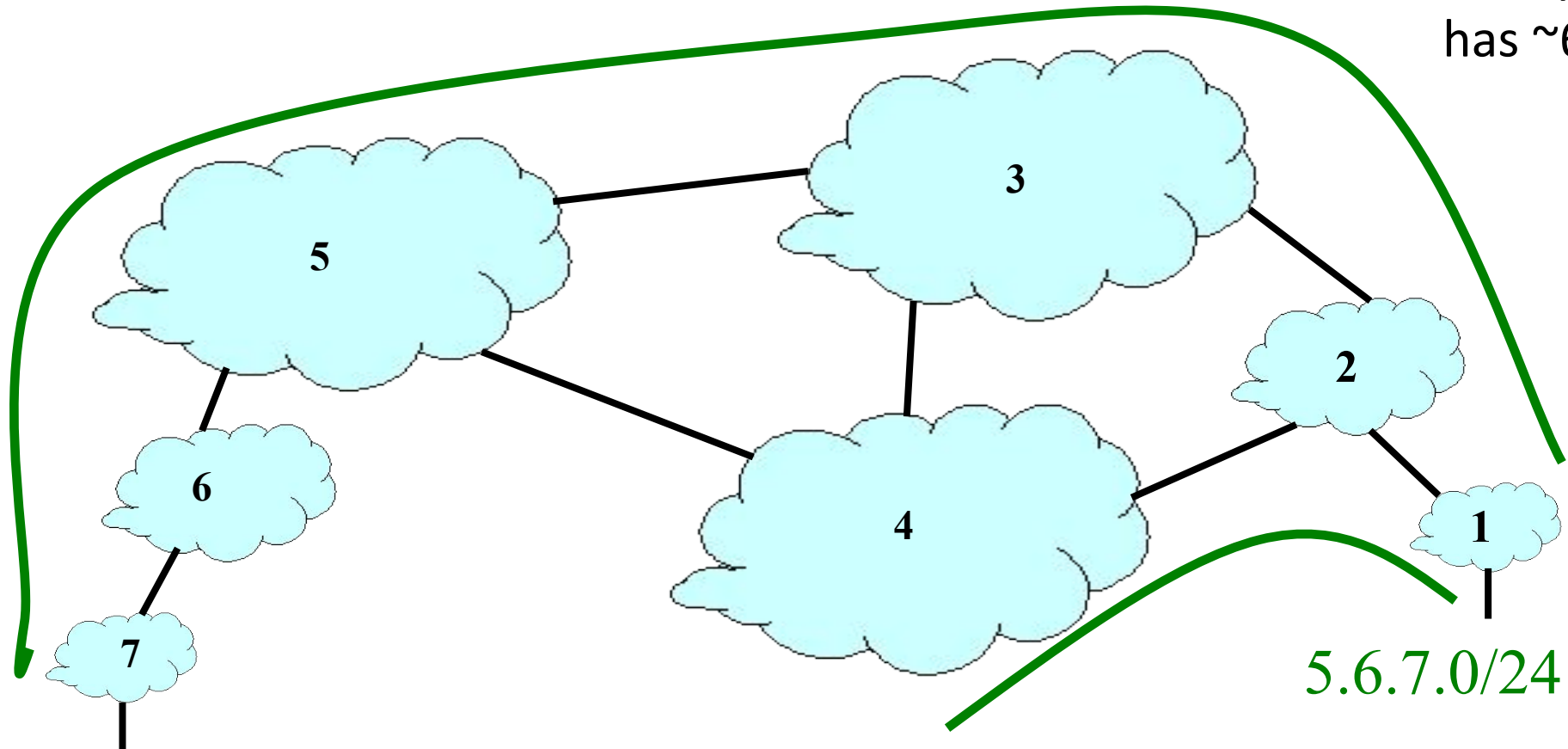


Today's IP routers have ~800,000 prefixes

IP: Scalable Global Packet Delivery

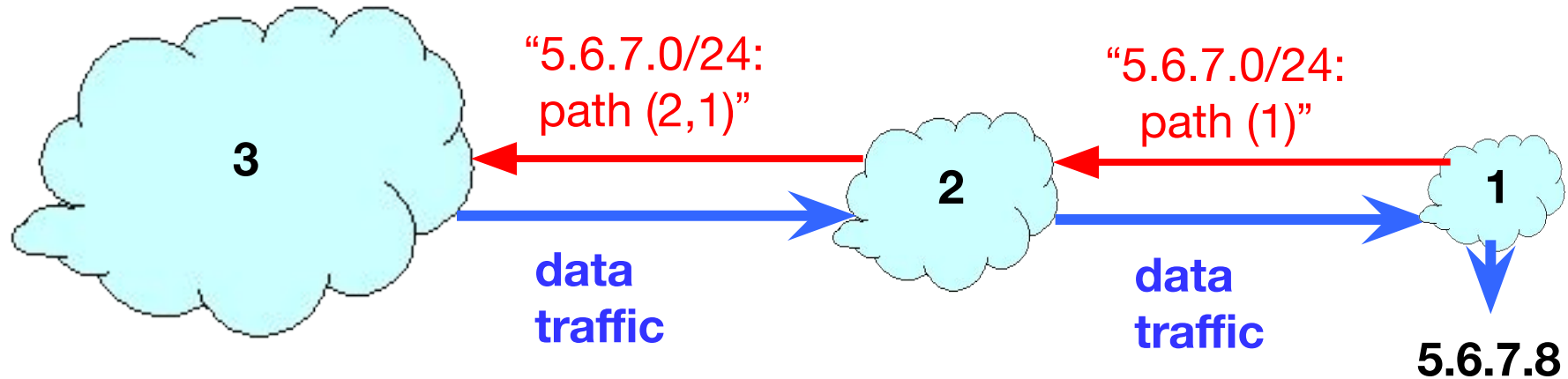
- Distributed global IP routing
 - Internet: a “network of networks” (Autonomous Systems)

Today's Internet
has ~60,000 ASes



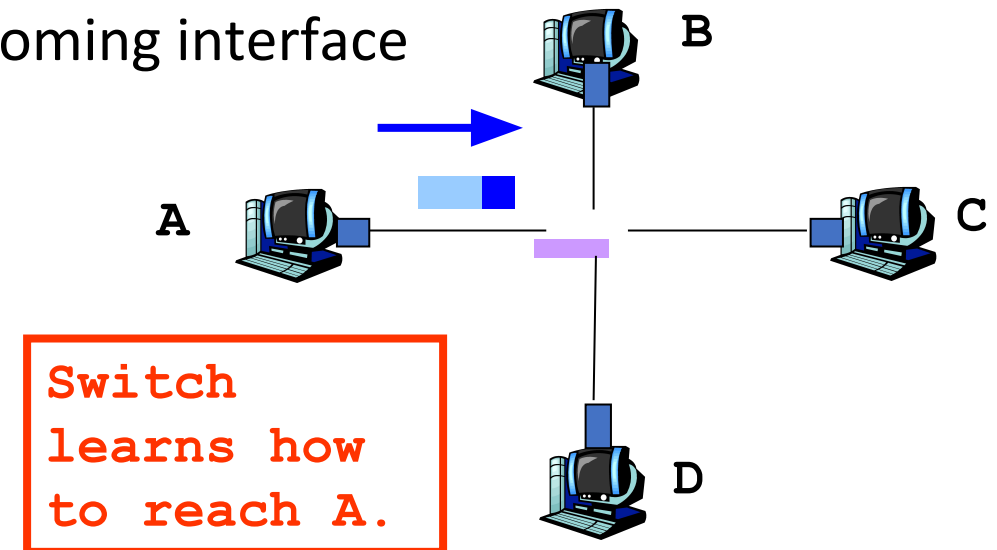
IP: Scalable Global Packet Delivery

- Distributed, policy-based IP routing
 - Interdomain routing: diffusion of IP prefixes (Border Gateway Protocol)



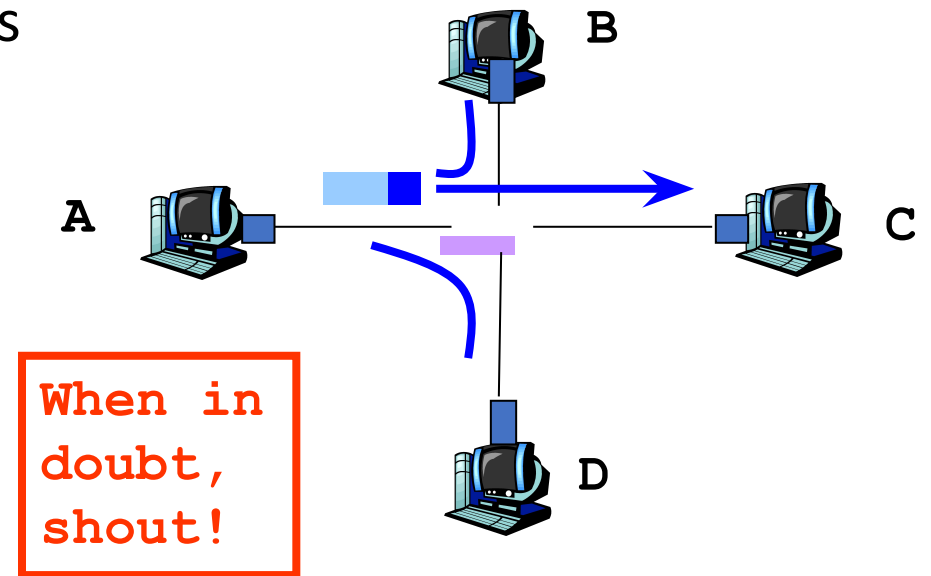
Link Layer: Ethernet Local Area Networks

- Automatic bootstrapping of best-effort local frame delivery
 - MAC address in end-host network interface card
 - MAC learning to reach other hosts in the LAN
- When an Ethernet frame arrives
 - Switch inspects the *source MAC* address
 - ... and associates the address with the incoming interface



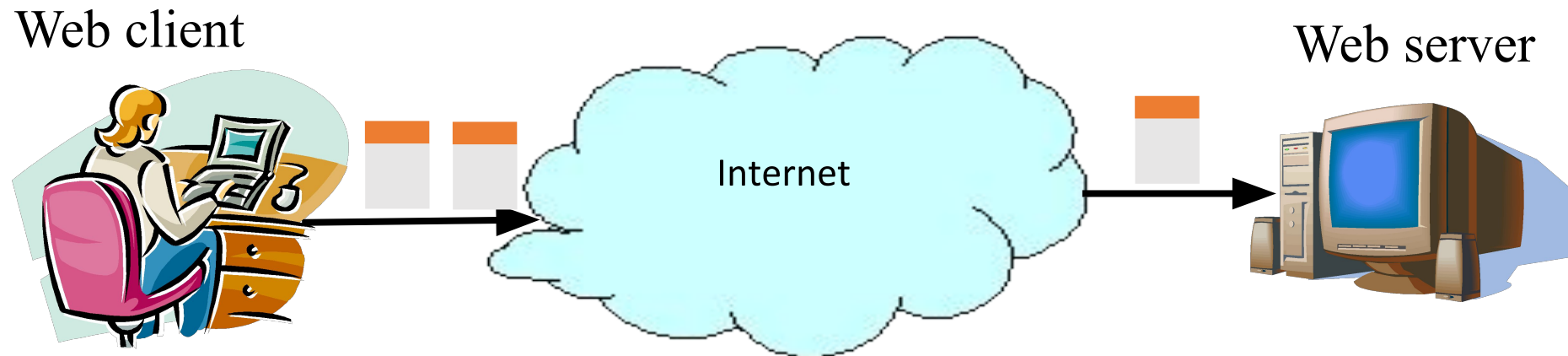
Link Layer: Ethernet Local Area Networks

- Automatic bootstrapping of best-effort local frame delivery
 - MAC address in end-host network interface card
 - MAC learning and flooding to reach other hosts in the LAN
- When the frame has an unfamiliar *destination*
 - Switch forwards the frame out all interfaces
 - ... except the incoming interface



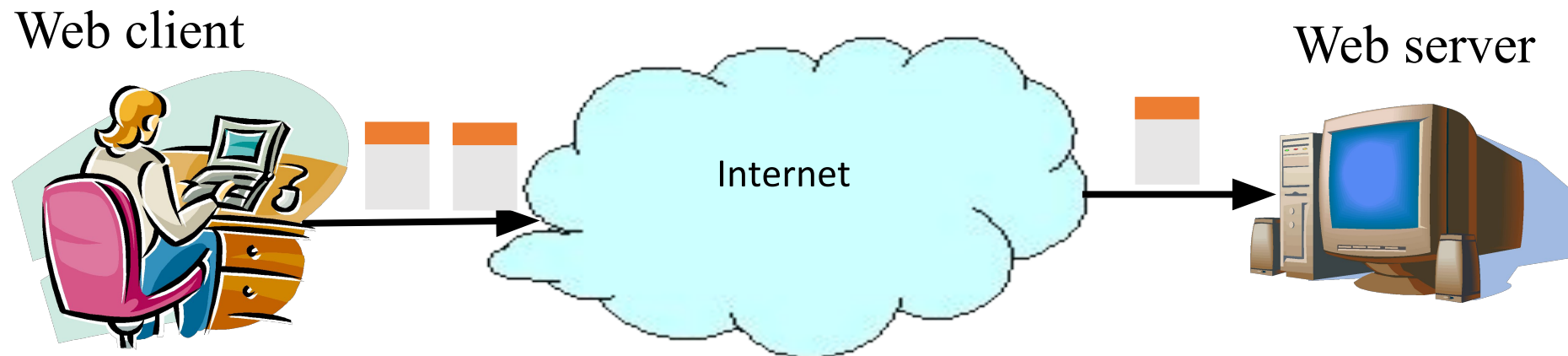
Putting it All Together: Crossing the Layers

- Crossing the layers
 - Application: HTTP request and response messages
 - Transport: TCP ordered reliable byte stream
 - Network: best-effort global IP packet delivery
 - Link: best-effort local Ethernet frame delivery



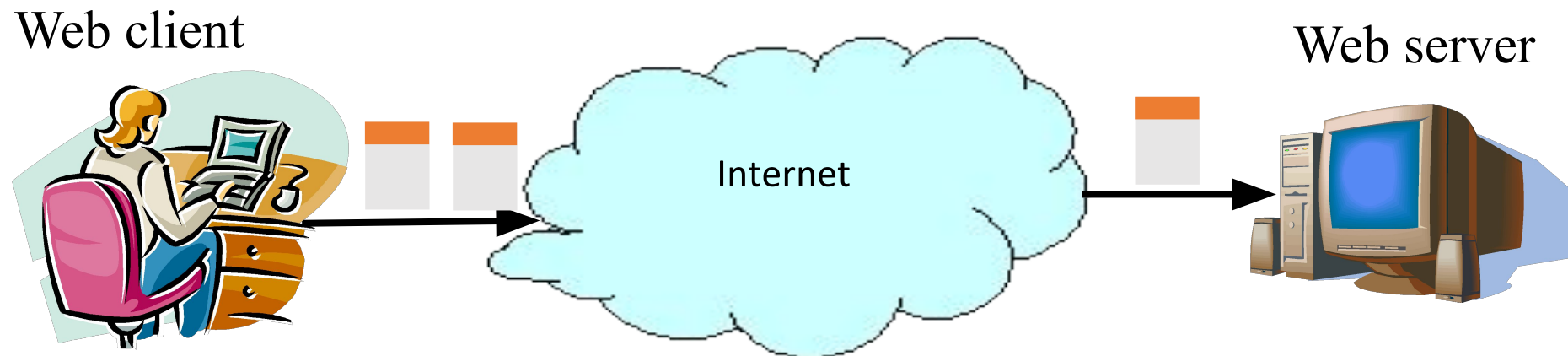
Putting it All Together: Crossing the Layers

- Naming at different layers
 - Application: <http://www.cs.princeton.edu/courses/archive/spr12/cos461/>
 - Transport: TCP connection to IP address 5.6.7.8 on port 80
 - Network: server host interface with IP address 5.6.7.8
 - Link: server host interface with MAC address 00:15:C5:49:04:A9



Putting it All Together: Crossing the Layers

- Routing at different layers
 - Application: maps request to local object `/courses/archive/spr12/cos461/`
 - Transport: directs TCP segments to specific transport port (e.g., port 80)
 - Network: directs IP packets toward IP destination prefix `5.6.7.0/24`
 - Link: directs Ethernet frames to MAC address `00:15:C5:49:04:A9`



Conclusion

- Modularity
 - The way to build and manage large systems
 - Protocol layering in computer networks
- Network protocol layers
 - Application, transport, network, link, and physical
 - Internet “hourglass” model with IP as the “narrow waist”
- Customized protocol designs
 - Separation of concerns that are unique to each layer
 - Content naming and delivery, ordered reliable byte stream, scalable best-effort delivery, autoconfiguration of best-effort frame delivery