Chapter 3: Transport Layer

Applications ... built on ...

Reliable (or unreliable) transport ... built on ...

Best-effort global packet delivery ... built on ... Best-effort local packet delivery ... built on ...

Physical transfer of bits



Modified from Scott Shenker (UC Berkeley): The Future of Networking, and the Past of Protocols

Chapter 3: Our Goals

- understand principles behind transport layer services:
 - multiplexing, de-multiplexing
 - reliable data transfer
 - flow control
 - congestion control
- Learn about transport layer protocols:
 - UDP: connectionless transport
 - TCP: connection-oriented reliable transport
 - TCP congestion control

Chapter 3: Outline

- 3.1 Transport-layer services
 3.2 Multiplexing and demultiplexing
 3.3 Connectionless transport: UDP
 3.4 Principles of reliable data transfer
 3.5 Connection-oriented transport: TCP
- 3.6 Principles of congestion control
- 3.7 TCP congestion control

3.8 Evolution of transport-layer functionality



Transport services and protocols

- provide logical communication between application processes running on different hosts
- transport protocols actions in end systems:
 - sender: breaks application messages into *segments*, passes to network layer
 - receiver: reassembles segments into messages, passes to application layer
- two transport protocols available to Internet applications
 - TCP, UDP



Transport Layer Actions



Sender:

- is passed an applicationlayer message
- determines segment header fields values
- creates segment
- passes segment to IP



Transport Layer Actions



Receiver:

- receives segment from IP
- checks header values
- extracts application-layer message
- demultiplexes message up to application via socket

application	
transport network (IP)	
link physical	



Transport vs. network layer services and protocols

- network layer: logical communication between hosts
- transport layer: logical communication between processes
 - relies on, enhances, network layer services

– household analogy:

- 12 kids in Ann's house sending letters to 12 kids in Bill's house:
- hosts = houses
- processes = kids
- app messages = letters in envelopes

Two principal Internet transport protocols

TCP: Transmission Control Protocol

- reliable, in-order delivery
- congestion control
- flow control
- connection setup

UDP: User Datagram Protocol

- unreliable, unordered delivery
- no-frills extension of "best-effort" IP
- services not available:
 - delay guarantees
 - bandwidth guarantees



Chapter 3: roadmap

- Transport-layer services
- Multiplexing and demultiplexing
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Multiplexing/demultiplexing



How demultiplexing works

- host receives IP datagrams
 - each datagram has source IP address, destination IP address
 - each datagram carries one transport-layer segment
 - each segment has source, destination port number
- host uses IP addresses & port numbers to direct segment to appropriate socket



TCP/UDP segment format

Connectionless demultiplexing

Recall:

when creating socket, must specify *host-local* port #:

DatagramSocket mySocket1
 = new DatagramSocket(12534);

- when creating datagram to send into UDP socket, must specify
 - destination IP address
 - destination port #

when receiving host receives UDP segment:

- checks destination port # in segment
- directs UDP segment to socket with that port #

IP/UDP datagrams with *same dest. port #,* but different source IP addresses and/or source port numbers will be directed to *same socket* at receiving host

Connectionless demultiplexing: an example



Connection-oriented demultiplexing

- TCP socket identified by 4-tuple:
 - source IP address
 - source port number
 - dest IP address
 - dest port number
- demux: receiver uses all four values (4-tuple) to direct segment to appropriate socket

- server may support many simultaneous TCP sockets:
 - each socket identified by its own 4-tuple
 - each socket associated with a different connecting client

Connection-oriented demultiplexing: example



Three segments, all destined to IP address: B, dest port: 80 are demultiplexed to *different* sockets

Summary

- Multiplexing, demultiplexing:
 - based on segment, datagram header field values

• UDP:

demultiplexing using destination port number (only)

• TCP:

 demultiplexing using 4-tuple: source and destination IP addresses, and port numbers

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UDP: User Datagram Protocol

- "no frills," "bare bones"
 Internet transport protocol
- <u>"best effort"</u> service, UDP segments may be:
 - lost
 - delivered out-of-order to app
- connectionless:
 - no handshaking between UDP sender, receiver
 - each UDP segment handled independently of others

Why is there a UDP?

- no connection establishment (which can add RTT delay)
- simple: no connection state at sender, receiver
- small header size
- no congestion control
 - UDP can blast away as fast as desired!
 - can function in the face of congestion

UDP: User Datagram Protocol

- UDP used by:
 - streaming multimedia apps (loss tolerant, rate sensitive)
 - DNS
 - SNMP
 - HTTP/3
- if reliable transfer needed over UDP (e.g., HTTP/3):
 - add needed reliability at application layer
 - add congestion control at application layer
- [RFC 768]: User Datagram Protocol

UDP segment header



UDP checksum

Goal: detect errors (*i.e.*, flipped bits) in transmitted segment



UDP checksum

Goal: detect errors (*i.e.*, flipped bits) in transmitted segment

sender:

- treat contents of UDP segment (including UDP header fields and IP addresses) as sequence of 16-bit integers
- checksum: addition (one's complement sum) of segment content
- checksum value put into UDP checksum field

receiver:

- compute checksum of received segment
- check if computed checksum equals checksum field value:
 - Not equal error detected
 - Equal no error detected. *But maybe errors nonetheless?* More later

Internet checksum: an example

example: add two 16-bit integers 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 11 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 wraparound 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 Ω 0 0 0sum checksum 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0

Note: when adding numbers, a carryout from the most significant bit needs to be added to the result

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

Internet checksum: weak protection!



In-class practice: UDP checksum

- **1**st: 0110
- 2nd: 0101
- **3**rd: 1000
- Calculate UDP checksum of 1st + 2nd + 3rd
- sum = 10011, -> 0011 + 1 (carryout) = 0100
- checksum = 1s complement = 1011
- Check: receiving 1011? Passed the check
- Check: receiving 1001? Failed. Error for sure.
- Errors if receiving 1011?? Maybe(if two bits flipped)

Summary: UDP

- "no frills" protocol:
 - segments may be lost, delivered out of order
 - best effort service: "send and hope for the best"
- UDP has its plusses:
 - no setup/handshaking needed (no RTT incurred)
 - can function when network service is compromised
 - helps with reliability (checksum)
- build additional functionality on top of UDP in application layer (e.g., HTTP/3)

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- Important @ application, transport, link layers
 - Reliable transport of packets
 - A single sender and a single receiver
 - Packet delivery imperfect
 - With bit errors, dropping packets, out-of-order delivery, duplicate copies, long delay,



Packet delivery misbehaviors



reliable service *abstraction*



reliable service *implementation*



reliable service *implementation*

Complexity of reliable data transfer protocol will depend (strongly) on characteristics of unreliable channel (lose, corrupt, reorder data?)
Principles of reliable data transfer

Sender, receiver do *not* know the "state" of each other, e.g., was a message received?

 unless communicated via a message



Reliable data transfer protocol (rdt): interfaces



Reliable data transfer: getting started

We will:

- incrementally develop sender, receiver sides of <u>reliable</u> data transfer protocol (rdt)
- consider only unidirectional data transfer
 - but control info will flow in both directions!
- use finite state machines (FSM) to specify sender, receiver



rdt1.0: reliable transfer over a reliable channel

- underlying channel perfectly reliable
 - no bit errors
 - no loss of packets
- separate FSMs for sender, receiver:
 - sender sends data into underlying channel
 - receiver reads data from underlying channel







"Stop and Wait" Scenario

Simple setting: <u>one packet at a time (stop and wait</u>)

- One sender, one receiver
- sender has infinite number of packets to transfer to the receiver
- sender starts one-packet transmission at a time, and will not proceed with the next new packet transmission until the current packet has been successfully received & acknowledged by the receiver.



"Stop and Wait" Scenario

- We progressively consider more complex cases
 - Bit errors

• • • • •

- Packet loss
- Duplicate copies of the same packet
- Long delay (thus also out of order)
- Designs: rdt2.0 (initial) → rdt3.0 (stop & wait) sender receiver



Packet delivery misbehaviors

rdt2.0: channel with bit errors

• underlying channel may flip bits in packet

- checksum (e.g., Internet checksum) to detect bit errors
- the question: how to recover from errors?

How do humans recover from "errors" during conversation?

rdt2.0: channel with bit errors

- How to detect bit errors in packet?
 - Internet checksum algorithm
- How to recover from errors?
 - acknowledgements (ACKs): receiver explicitly tells sender that pkt received OK
 - negative acknowledgements (NAKs): receiver explicitly tells sender that pkt had errors
 - sender retransmits packet upon receiving NAK
- new mechanisms in rdt2.0 (beyond rdt1.0):
 - Error detection at receiver
 - <u>Feedback from receiver</u>: control messages (ACK,NAK) from receiver to sender
 - <u>Retransmission at the sender upon NAK feedback</u>

rdt2.0: FSM specifications



rdt2.0: FSM specification



Note: "state" of receiver (did the receiver get my message correctly?) isn't known to sender unless somehow communicated from receiver to sender

that's why we need a protocol!



rdt2.0: operation with no errors



rdt2.0: corrupted packet scenario



rdt2.0 in action



(b) packet with bit errors

rdt2.0 has a fatal flaw!

- what happens if ACK/NAK corrupted?
 - sender doesn't know what happened at receiver!
 - can't just retransmit: possible duplicate

handling duplicates:

- sender retransmits current pkt if ACK/NAK corrupted
- sender adds sequence number to each pkt
- receiver discards (doesn't deliver up) duplicate pkt

— stop and wait

sender sends one packet, then waits for receiver response

rdt2.0's flaw: garbled ACK/NACK



(a) Corrupted ack

(b) Corrupted NACK

Simply retransmitting upon corrupted ACK/NACK is not sufficient!

<u>Sender cannot tell whether the corrupted message is ACK or NACK!</u> <u>Receiver cannot tell whether the received message is a new packet or a retransmitted packet!</u>

rdt2.1: need seq #!



rdt2.1: sender, handles garbled ACK/NAKs



rdt2.1: receiver, handles garbled ACK/NAKs



rdt2.1: 1-bit seq # is enough!



(b) packet with bit errors

Summary: reliable data transfer (so far)

Version	Channel	Mechanism
rdt1.0	Reliable channel	nothing
rdt2.0	bit errors (no loss)	(1) <u>error detection via checksum</u> (2) <u>receiver feedback (ACK/NAK)</u> (3) <u>retransmission upon NAK</u>
rdt2.1	Same as 2.0	handling fatal flaw with rdt 2.0: (4) <u>need seq #. for each packet</u>

rdt2.2: a NAK-free protocol

- same functionality as rdt2.1, using ACKs only
- Instead of NAK, receiver sends ACK for last pkt received OK
 - receiver must *explicitly* include seq # of pkt being ACKed
- duplicate ACK at sender results in same action as NAK: retransmit current pkt

As we will see, TCP uses this approach to be NAK-free

rdt2.2: NAK-free



(a) Corrupted ack

(b) dup ack for garbled pkt

rdt2.2: sender, receiver fragments



Summary: reliable data transfer (so far)

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rdt2.0	bit errors (no loss)	 (1)<u>error detection via checksum</u> (2)<u>receiver feedback (ACK/NAK)</u> (3)<u>retransmission upon NAK</u>
rdt2.1	Same as 2.0 (fatal flaw)	(4) <u>seq# (1 bit, 0/1) for each pkt</u>
rdt2.2	Same as 2.0	A variant to rdt2.1 (no NAK) <u>Duplicate ACK = NAK</u>

rdt3.0: channels with errors and loss

New channel assumption: underlying channel can also *lose* packets (data, ACKs)

 checksum, sequence #s, ACKs, retransmissions will be of help ... but not quite enough

Q: How do *humans* handle lost sender-to-receiver words in conversation?

rdt3.0: channels with errors and loss

Approach: sender waits "reasonable" amount of time for ACK

- retransmits if no ACK received in this time
- if pkt (or ACK) just delayed (not lost):
 - retransmission will be duplicate, but seq #s already handles this!
 - receiver must specify seq # of packet being ACKed
- use countdown timer to interrupt after "reasonable" amount of time



rdt3.0 sender



rdt3.0 sender



Example: rdt3.0 in action





(b) packet loss

rdt3.0 in action





(d) premature timeout/ delayed ACK

Summary: reliable data transfer (so far)

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rdt1.0	Reliable channel	nothing
rdt2.0	bit errors (no loss)	 (1)<u>error detection via checksum</u> (2)<u>receiver feedback (ACK/NAK)</u> (3)<u>retransmission upon NAK</u>
rdt2.1	Same as 2.0	(4) <u>seq# (1 bit</u>) for each pkt
rdt2.2	Same as 2.0	A variant to rdt2.1 (no NAK) Unexpected ACK = NAK ACK0 = ACK for pkt0, NAK for pkt1
Rdt3.0	Bit errors + loss	(5) <u>retransmission upon timeout</u> No NAK, only ACK

Performance of rdt3.0 (stop-and-wait)

- U sender: utilization fraction of time sender busy sending
- example: 1 Gbps link, 15 ms prop. delay, 8000 bit packet
 - time to transmit packet into channel: $D_{trans} = \frac{L}{R} = \frac{8000 \text{ bits}}{10^9 \text{ bits/sec}} = 8 \text{ microsecs}$

rdt3.0: stop-and-wait operation



rdt3.0: stop-and-wait operation



- rdt 3.0 protocol performance stinks!
- Protocol limits performance of underlying infrastructure (channel)

Mechanisms for reliable data transfer

Error detection

- via algorithms such as Internet checksum (in UDP), CRC (later in Chapter 6)
- Receiver feedback via (ACK + sequence #)
 - Duplicate ACK = negative acknowledgment
- Timer & sequence # for each transmitted packet
 - Number of seq. $#: \ge 2$ for stop & wait protocol
 - Timeout not too small, not too big ($\approx RTT$)
- Retransmission upon timeout or duplicate ACK (i.e., negative ACK)

rdt3.0: pipelined protocols operation

pipelining: sender allows multiple, "in-flight", yet-to-be-acknowledged
packets

- range of sequence numbers must be increased
- buffering at sender and/or receiver



(a) a stop-and-wait protocol in operation
Pipelining: increased utilization



Go-Back-N: sender

- sender: "window" of up to N, consecutive transmitted but unACKed pkts
 - k-bit seq # in pkt header



- cumulative ACK: ACK(n): ACKs all packets up to, including seq # n
 - on receiving ACK(*n*): move window forward to begin at *n*+1
- timer for oldest in-flight packet
- timeout(n): retransmit packet n and all higher seq # packets in window

Go-Back-N: receiver

- ACK-only: always send ACK for correctly-received packet so far, with highest *in-order* seq #
 - may generate duplicate ACKs
 - need only remember rcv base
 - on receipt of out-of-order packet:
 - can discard (don't buffer) or buffer: an implementation decision
 - re-ACK pkt with highest in-order seq #





Go-Back-N in action: No loss



Go-Back-N in action: Loss



Selective repeat

receiver individually acknowledges all correctly received packets

 buffers packets, as needed, for eventual in-order delivery to upper layer

sender times-out/retransmits individually for unACKed packets

- sender maintains timer for each unACKed pkt
- sender window
 - *N* consecutive seq #s
 - limits seq #s of sent, unACKed packets

Selective repeat: sender, receiver windows



Selective repeat: sender and receiver

- sender — data from above:

 if next available seq # in window, send packet

timeout(n):

resend packet n, restart timer

ACK(n) in [sendbase,sendbase+N]:

- mark packet n as received
- if n smallest unACKed packet, advance window base to next unACKed seq #

-receiver

packet n in [rcvbase, rcvbase+N-1]

- send ACK(n)
- out-of-order: buffer
- in-order: deliver (also deliver buffered, in-order packets), advance window to next not-yetreceived packet

packet n in [rcvbase-N,rcvbase-1]

ACK(n)

otherwise:

ignore

Selective Repeat in action



In-class Practice: GBN vs SR

- How many unique seq# may appear in GBN and SR, respectively?
 - N = 2
 - GBN: sender [4,5], what is the expected number at the receiver? 4, 5, or 6
 - No error
 - ACK 4 is lost
 - ACK 4 and ACK 5 are lost

GBN: give the expected number x, the sender window will be [x-2, x-1], [x-1, x], [x, x+1]

- Given the expected number 6, how to infer the sender window?
- How about SR (expected window)? [4,5], [5,6], [6,7]
- What if we have N+1 sequence numbers for SR?

Selective repeat: a dilemma!

example:

- seq #s: 0, 1, 2, 3 (base 4 counting)
- window size=3





Selective repeat: a dilemma!

example:

- seq #s: 0, 1, 2, 3 (base 4 counting)
- window size=3

Q: what relationship is needed between sequence # size and window size to avoid problem in scenario (b)?



Selective repeat: dilemma (N+1)

example:

- window size=3
- seq #' s: 0, 1, 2, 3
- receiver sees no difference in two scenarios!
- duplicate data accepted as new in (b)
- Q: what relationship between seq # size and window size to avoid problem in (b)?

2N



receiver can't see sender side. receiver behavior identical in both cases! something's (very) wrong!



Summary: reliable data transfer (final)

Version	Channel	Mechanism
rdt1.0	No error/loss	nothing
rdt2.0	bit errors (no loss)	(1) <u>error detection via checksum</u> (2) <u>receiver feedback (ACK/NAK)</u> (3) <u>retransmission upon NAK</u>
rdt2.1	Same as 2.0	(4) <u>seq# (1 bit</u>) for each pkt
rdt2.2	Same as 2.0	(no NAK): Unexpected ACK = NAK
Rdt3.0	errors + <mark>loss</mark>	(5) <u>Retransmission upon timeout; ACK-only</u>

Performance issue: low utilization

Goback-N	Same as 3.0	N sliding window (pipeline) Discard out-of-order pkts (recovery)
Selective Repeat	Same as 3.0	N sliding window, selective recovery

Chapter 3: roadmap

- Transport-layer services
- Multiplexing and demultiplexing
- Connectionless transport: UDP
- Principles of reliable data transfer
- Connection-oriented transport: TCP
 - segment structure
 - reliable data transfer
 - flow control
 - connection management
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TCP: overview RFCs: 793,1122, 2018, 5681, 7323

- point-to-point:
 - one sender, one receiver
- reliable, in-order byte steam:
 - no "message boundaries"
- full duplex data:
 - bi-directional data flow in same connection
 - MSS: maximum segment size

cumulative ACKs

pipelining:

- TCP congestion and flow control set window size
- connection-oriented:
 - handshaking (exchange of control messages) initializes sender, receiver state before data exchange
- flow controlled:
 - sender will not overwhelm receiver

TCP segment structure



TCP sequence numbers, ACKs

Sequence numbers:

 byte stream "number" of first byte in segment's data

Acknowledgements:

- seq # of next byte expected from other side
- cumulative ACK
- <u>Q</u>: how receiver handles out-oforder segments
 - <u>A:</u> TCP spec doesn't say, up to implementor





TCP sequence numbers, ACKs



simple telnet scenario

TCP round trip time, timeout

- <u>Q</u>: how to set TCP timeout value?
- Ionger than RTT, but RTT varies!
- too short: premature timeout, unnecessary retransmissions
- too long: slow reaction to segment loss

<u>Q</u>: how to estimate RTT?

- SampleRTT: measured time from segment transmission until ACK receipt
 - ignore retransmissions (why?)
- SampleRTT will vary, want estimated RTT "smoother"
 - average several *recent* measurements, not just current SampleRTT

TCP round trip time, timeout

EstimatedRTT = $(1 - \alpha)$ *EstimatedRTT + α *SampleRTT

- <u>exponential</u> <u>w</u>eighted <u>m</u>oving <u>a</u>verage (EWMA)
- influence of past sample decreases exponentially fast
- typical value: $\alpha = 1/8$



TCP round trip time, timeout

timeout interval: EstimatedRTT plus "safety margin"

• large variation in **EstimatedRTT**: want a larger safety margin

TimeoutInterval = EstimatedRTT + 4*DevRTT

• **DevRTT**: EWMA of **SampleRTT** deviation from **EstimatedRTT**:

DevRTT = (1-\beta)*DevRTT + \beta*|SampleRTT-EstimatedRTT| (typically, $\beta = 1/4$)

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

TCP Sender (simplified)

event: data received from application

- create segment with seq #
- seq # is byte-stream number of first data byte in segment
- start timer if not already running
 - think of timer as for oldest unACKed segment
 - expiration interval:
 TimeOutInterval

event: timeout

- retransmit segment that caused timeout
- restart timer

event: ACK received

- if ACK acknowledges previously unACKed segments
 - update what is known to be ACKed
 - start timer if there are still unACKed segments

TCP Receiver: ACK generation [RFC 5681]

Event at receiver	TCP receiver action
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TCP Receiver: ACK generation [RFC 5681]

Event at receiver	TCP receiver action
arrival of in-order segment with expected seq #. All data up to expected seq # already ACKed	delayed ACK. Wait up to 500ms for next segment. If no next segment, send ACK
arrival of in-order segment with expected seq #. One other segment has ACK pending	immediately send single cumulative ACK, ACKing both in-order segments
arrival of out-of-order segment higher-than-expect seq. # . Gap detected	immediately send <i>duplicate ACK,</i> indicating seq. # of next expected byte

TCP: retransmission scenarios



TCP: retransmission scenarios



TCP fast retransmit

TCP fast retransmit

if sender receives 3 additional ACKs for same data ("triple duplicate ACKs"), resend unACKed segment with smallest seq #

 likely that unACKed segment lost, so don't wait for timeout



Receipt of three duplicate ACKs indicates 3 segments received after a missing segment – lost segment is likely. So retransmit!

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<u>Q</u>: What happens if network layer delivers data faster than application layer removes data from socket buffers?



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<u>Q</u>: What happens if network layer delivers data faster than application layer removes data from socket buffers?

-flow control

receiver controls sender, so sender won't overflow receiver's buffer by transmitting too much, too fast



receiver protocol stack

- TCP receiver "advertises" free buffer space in **rwnd** field in TCP header
 - **RcvBuffer** size set via socket options (typical default is 4096 bytes)
 - many operating systems autoadjust
 RcvBuffer
- sender limits amount of unACKed ("in-flight") data to received **rwnd**
- guarantees receive buffer will not overflow



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TCP segment format

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TCP connection management

before exchanging data, sender/receiver "handshake":

- agree to establish connection (each knowing the other willing to establish connection)
- agree on connection parameters (e.g., starting seq #s)



```
Socket clientSocket =
    newSocket("hostname","port number");
```



Socket connectionSocket =
welcomeSocket.accept();
Agreeing to establish a connection

2-way handshake:



<u>Q</u>: will 2-way handshake always work in network?

- variable delays
- retransmitted messages (e.g. req_conn(x)) due to message loss
- message reordering
- can't "see" other side

TCP 3-way handshake

Server state



How to set SYNC, ACK bit?



Closing a TCP connection

- client, server each close their side of connection
 - send TCP segment with FIN bit = 1
- respond to received FIN with ACK
 - on receiving FIN, ACK can be combined with own FIN
- simultaneous FIN exchanges can be handled



Transport Layer: 3-130

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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

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: more scenarios

- More motivation scenarios in the textbook (optional)
 - Queuing theory (Internet as a connected graph, each router with a queue)
 - 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

#1: End-end congestion control:

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



Approaches towards congestion control

- #2: 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



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Idea

- Assumes best-effort network
- Each source determines network capacity for itself
- Implicit feedback via ACKs or timeout events
 - Feedback control system in practice
- ACKs pace transmission (self-clocking)

♦ Challenge

- Determining initial available capacity
- Adjusting to changes in capacity in a timely manner

Assumptions for congestion control

- TCP pipelined reliable data transfer (SR in the common cases)
- Works with TCP flow control
- All losses of TCP segments are due to Internet congestion
 - Ignore the transmission errors (since link quality is good in general)
- Mechanism: Window-based congestion control
 - Adjust the window size for SR to change the TCP sending rate
- Changes in congestion window size (cwnd)
 - Slow increases to absorb new bandwidth
 - Quick decreases to eliminate congestion

sender limits transmission: LastByteSent-LastByteAcked

≤ cwnd



r cwnd is dynamic, function of perceived network congestion

How does sender perceive congestion?

- r loss event = timeout or 3
 duplicate acks
- r TCP sender reduces rate(cwnd) after loss event

three mechanisms:

- m AIMD: how to grow cwnd
- m slow start: startup
- m conservative after loss
 (timeout, duplicate ACKs)
 events

AIMD Rule: additive increase, multiplicative decrease

- Approach:_increase transmission rate (window size), probing for usable bandwidth, until loss occurs
 - additive increase: increase cwnd by 1 MSS every RTT until loss detected
 - *multiplicative decrease*: cut **cwnd** by 50% after loss



What AIMD? TCP Fairness

Two competing sessions:

- Additive increase gives slope of 1, as throughout increases
- multiplicative decrease decreases throughput proportionally



TCP Congestion Control (RFC 5681)

How to implement TCP Congestion Control?

Multiple algorithms work together:

- slow start: how to jump-start
- congestion avoidance: <u>additive increase</u>

 fast retransmit/fast recovery: recover from single packet loss: <u>multiplicative decrease</u>

retransmission upon timeout: conservative loss/failure handling

TCP Congestion Control Summary

Algoritms	condition	Design	action
Slow Start	cwnd <= ssthresh;	cwnd doubles per RTT	cwnd+=1MSS per ACK
Congestion		cwnd++ per RTT (additive	cwnd+=(MSS/cwnd) * MSS
Avoidance	cwnd > ssthresh	increase)	per ACK
			<pre>ssthresh = max(cwnd/2,2MSS)</pre>
fast		reduce the cwnd by half	cwnd = ssthresh + 3 MSS;
retransmit	3 duplicate ACK	(multicative decreasing)	retx the lost packet
		finish the 1/2 reduction of	
	receiving a new ACK	cwnd in fast retx/fast	cwnd = ssthresh;
fast recovery	after fast retx	recovery	tx if allowed by cwnd
	upon a dup ACK after		cwnd +=1MSS;
	fast retx before fast	("transition phrase)	Note: it is different from slow
	recovery		start.
			ssthresh = max(cwnd/2,2MSS)
			cwnd = 1MSS;
RTO timeout	time out	Reset everything	retx the lost packet

TCP Slow Start

- When connection begins, cwnd
 2 MSS, typically, set cwnd = 1MSS
 - Example: MSS = 500 bytes & RTT = 200 msec
 - initial rate = 20 kbps
- available bandwidth may be >> MSS/RTT
 - desirable to quickly ramp up to respectable rate

- When connection begins, increase rate exponentially fast until cwnd reaches a threshold value: slow-start-threshold <u>ssthresh</u>
 - cwnd < ssthresh</p>

TCP Slow Start (more)

- When connection begins, increase rate exponentially when <u>cwnd<ssthresh</u>
 - Goal: double cwnd every RTT by setting
 - <u>Action: cwnd += 1 MSS</u> for every ACK received
- Summary: initial rate is slow but ramps up exponentially fast



Congestion Avoidance

- Goal: increase cwnd by 1 MSS per RTT until congestion (loss) is detected
 - Conditions: when cwnd > ssthresh and no loss occurs
 - Actions: cwnd += (MSS/cwnd)*MSS (bytes) upon every incoming nonduplicate ACK



Algoritms	condition	Design	action
Slow Start	cwnd <= ssthresh;	cwnd doubles per RTT	cwnd+=1MSS per ACK
Congestion		cwnd++ per RTT (additive	cwnd+=(MSS/cwnd) * MSS
Avoidance	cwnd > ssthresh	increase)	per ACK
			<pre>ssthresh = max(cwnd/2,2MSS)</pre>
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	fast retx before fast	("transition phrase)	Note: it is different from slow
	recovery		start.
			ssthresh = max(cwnd/2,2MSS)
			cwnd = 1MSS;
RTO timeout	time out	Reset everything	retx the lost packet

When loss occurs

Detecting losses and reacting to them:

- through duplicate ACKs
 - fast retransmit / fast recovery
 - Goal: multiplicative decrease cwnd upon loss
- through retransmission timeout
 - Goal: reset everything

Fast Retransmit/Fast Recovery

- <u>fast retransmit</u>: to detect and repair loss, based on incoming duplicate ACKs
 - **use** 3 duplicate ACKs to infer packet loss
 - set ssthresh = max(cwnd/2, 2MSS)
 - cwnd = ssthresh + 3MSS
 - retransmit the lost packet
- <u>fast recovery</u>: governs the transmission of new data until a non-duplicate ACK arrives
 - **increase** cwnd by 1 MSS upon every duplicate ACK

Philosophy:

- 3 dup ACKs to infer losses and differentiate from transient out-of-order
- delivery
- What about only 1 or 2
- dup ACKs?
 - Do nothing; this allows for transient out-of-order delivery

receiving each duplicate
ACK indicates one more
packet left the network and
arrived at the receiver

Algorithm for fast rexmit/fast recovery

- Initially, fastretx = false;
- If upon 3rd duplicate ACK
 - ssthresh = max (cwnd/2, 2*MSS)
 - cwnd = ssthresh + 3*MSS
 - why add 3 packets here?
 - retransmit the lost TCP packet
 - Set fastretx = true;
- If fastretx == true; upon each <u>additional</u> duplicate ACK
 - cwnd += 1 MSS
 - transmit a new packet if allowed
 - by the updated cwnd and rwnd
- If fastretx == true; upon a new (i.e., non-duplicate) ACK
 - cwnd = ssthresh
 - Fastretx = false; // After fast retx/fast recovery, cwnd decreases by half

Retransmission Timeout

when retransmission timer expires

- ssthresh = max (cwnd/2, 2*MSS)
 - cwnd should be flight size to be more accurate
 - see RFC 2581
- cwnd = 1 MSS
- retransmit the lost TCP packet
- why resetting?
 - heavy loss detected

TCP Congestion Window Trace



Time

TCP Congestion Control Summary

Algoritms	condition	Design	action
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	fast retx before fast	("transition phrase)	Note: it is different from slow
	recovery		start.
			ssthresh = max(cwnd/2,2MSS)
			cwnd = 1MSS;
RTO timeout	time out	Reset everything	retx the lost packet Transport Layer: 3-176

Putting Things Together in TCP

How Selective repeat, congestion control, flow control work together:

- use <u>selective repeat</u> to do reliable data transfer for a window of packets <u>win</u> at any time
- update win = min (cwnd, rwnd)
 - cwnd is updated by TCP <u>congestion control</u>
 - rwnd is updated by TCP <u>flow control</u>
- Example: cwnd = 20; rwnd = 10
 - Then *win*=10

Illustrative Example

Example Setting

- Use all following TCP congestion control algorithms:
 - Slow start
 - Congestion avoidance (CA)
 - Fast retransmit/fast recovery
 - Retransmission timeout (say, RTO=500ms)
- When cwnd=ssthresh, use slow start algorithm (instead of CA)
- Assume rwnd is always large enough, then the send window size min(rwnd,cwnd) =cwnd
- Assume 1 acknowledgement per packet (i.e., no delayed ACK is used), and we use TCP cumulative ACK (i.e., ACK # = (largest sequence # received in order at the receiver + 1))
- Assume each packet size is 1 unit (1B) for simple calculation
- TCP sender has infinite packets to send, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,....
- Assume packet #5 is lost once
- Assume that the receiver will buffer out of order packets (like selective repeat)

We will how TCP congestion control algorithms work together





Transport layer: roadmap

- Transport-layer services
- Multiplexing and demultiplexing
- Connectionless transport: UDP
- Principles of reliable data transfer
- Connection-oriented transport: TCP
- Principles of congestion control
- TCP congestion control
- Evolution of transport-layer functionality



Evolving transport-layer functionality

- TCP, UDP: principal transport protocols for 40 years
- different "flavors" of TCP developed, for specific scenarios:

Scenario	Challenges
Long, fat pipes (large data	Many packets "in flight"; loss shuts down
transfers)	pipeline
Wireless networks	Loss due to noisy wireless links, mobility;
	TCP treat this as congestion loss
Long-delay links	Extremely long RTTs
Data center networks	Latency sensitive
Background traffic flows	Low priority, "background" TCP flows

moving transport–layer functions to application layer, on top of UDP

• HTTP/3: QUIC
QUIC: Quick UDP Internet Connections

- application-layer protocol, on top of UDP
 - increase performance of HTTP
 - deployed on many Google servers, apps (Chrome, mobile YouTube app)



HTTP/2 over TCP

QUIC: Quick UDP Internet Connections

adopts approaches we've studied in this chapter for connection establishment, error control, congestion control

- error and congestion control: "Readers familiar with TCP's loss detection and congestion control will find algorithms here that parallel well-known TCP ones." [from QUIC specification]
- **connection establishment:** reliability, congestion control, authentication, encryption, state established in one RTT
- multiple application-level "streams" multiplexed over single QUIC connection
 - separate reliable data transfer, security
 - common congestion control

QUIC: Connection establishment





TCP (reliability, congestion control state) + TLS (authentication, crypto state)

2 serial handshakes

QUIC: reliability, congestion control, authentication, crypto state

1 handshake

QUIC: streams: parallelism, no HOL blocking



(a) HTTP 1.1

application

transport

Chapter 3: summary

- principles behind transport layer services:
 - multiplexing, demultiplexing
 - reliable data transfer
 - flow control
 - congestion control
- instantiation, implementation in the Internet
 - UDP
 - TCP

Up next:

- leaving the network "edge" (application, transport layers)
- into the network "core"
- two network-layer chapters:
 - data plane
 - control plane