

Chapter 3

Transport Layer

Chapter 3: Transport Layer

Our goals:

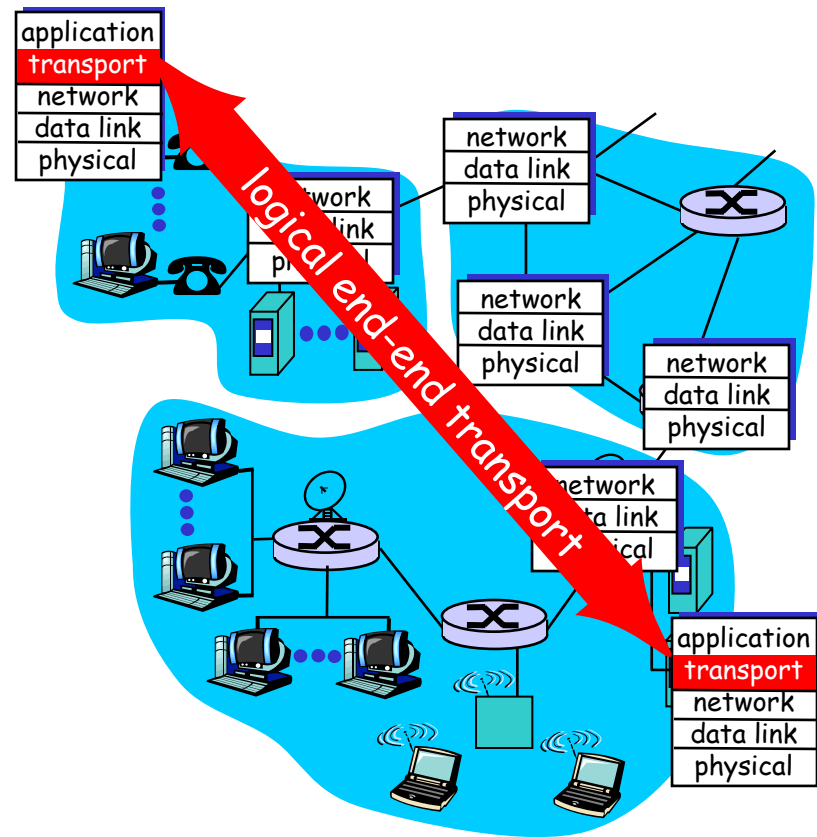
- understand principles behind transport layer services:
 - multiplexing/demultiplexing
 - reliable data transfer
 - flow control
 - congestion control
- learn about transport layer protocols in the Internet:
 - UDP: connectionless transport
 - TCP: connection-oriented transport
 - TCP congestion control

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
 - segment structure
 - reliable data transfer
 - flow control
 - connection management
- ❑ 3.6 Principles of congestion control
- ❑ 3.7 TCP congestion control

Transport services and protocols

- ❑ provide *logical communication* between app processes running on different hosts
- ❑ transport protocols run in end systems
 - send side: breaks app messages into *segments*, passes to network layer
 - rcv side: reassembles segments into messages, passes to app layer
- ❑ more than one transport protocol available to apps
 - Internet: TCP and UDP



Transport vs. network layer

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

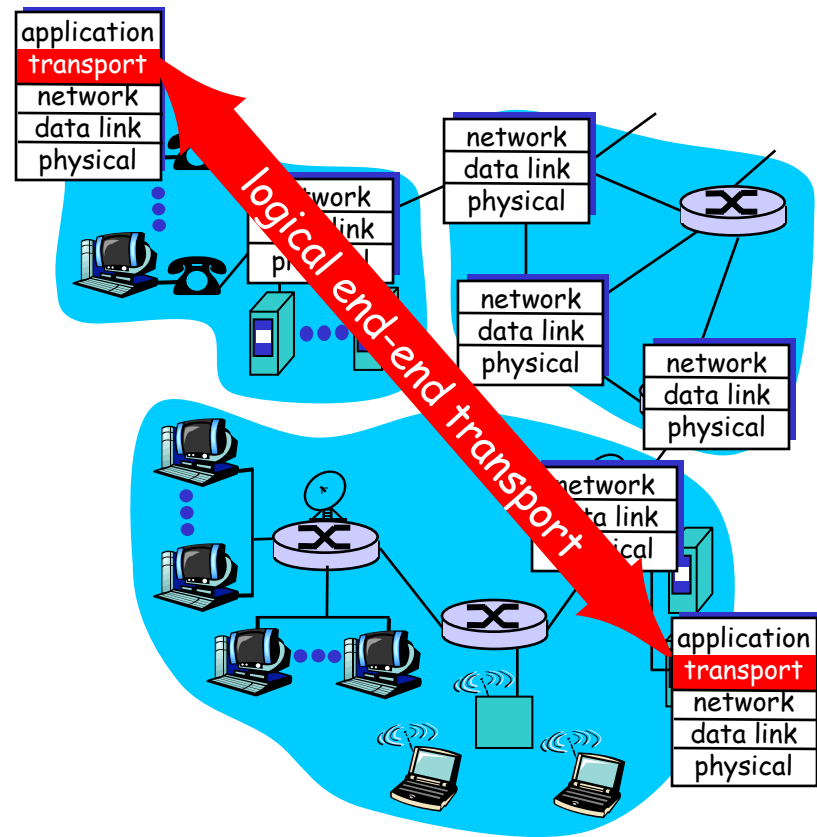
Household analogy:

12 kids sending letters to 12 kids

- ❑ processes = kids
- ❑ app messages = letters in envelopes
- ❑ hosts = houses
- ❑ transport protocol = Ann and Bill
- ❑ network-layer protocol = postal service

Internet transport-layer protocols

- ❑ reliable, in-order delivery (TCP)
 - congestion control
 - flow control
 - connection setup
- ❑ unreliable, unordered delivery: UDP
 - no-frills extension of "best-effort" IP
- ❑ services not available:
 - delay guarantees
 - bandwidth guarantees



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Multiplexing/demultiplexing

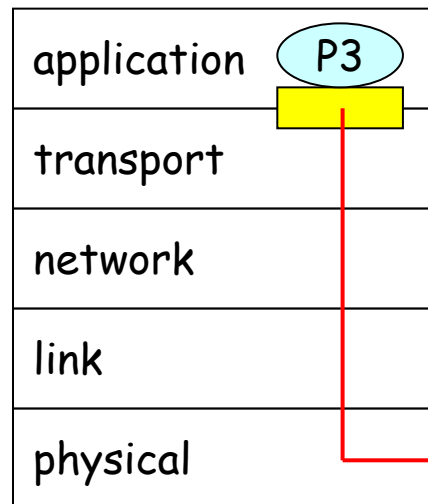
Demultiplexing at rcv host:

delivering received segments to correct socket

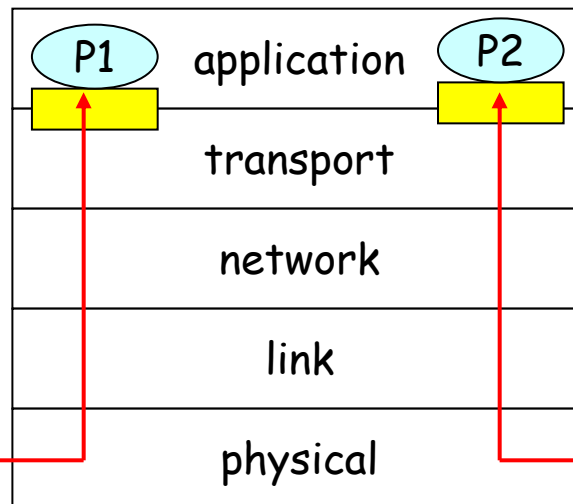
Multiplexing at send host:

gathering data from multiple sockets, enveloping data with header (later used for demultiplexing)

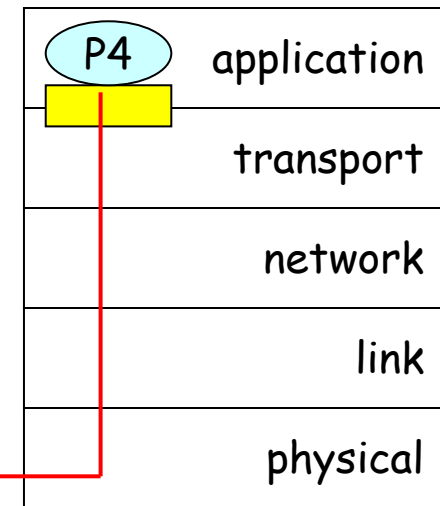
■ = socket ○ = process



host 1



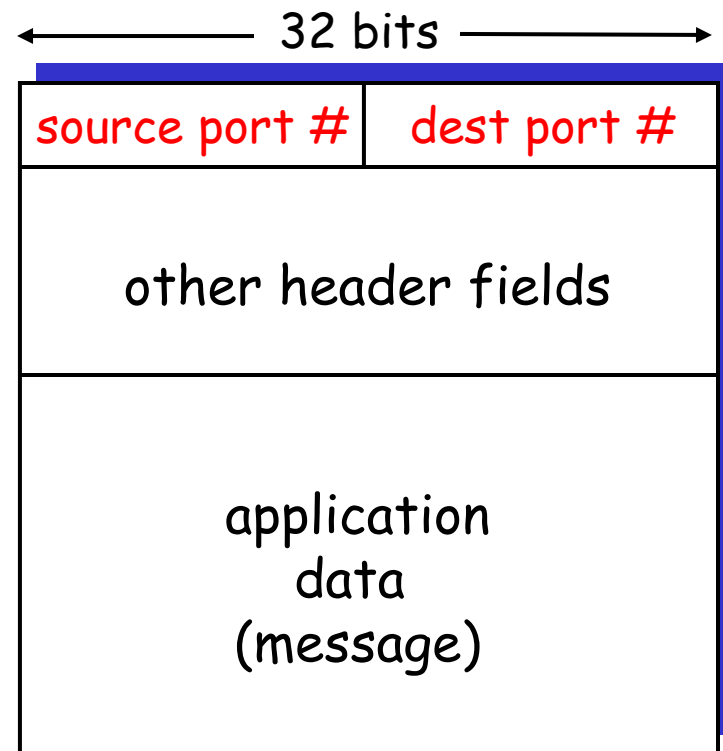
host 2



host 3

How demultiplexing works

- **host receives IP datagrams**
 - each datagram has source IP address, destination IP address
 - each datagram carries 1 transport-layer segment
 - each segment has source, destination port number (recall: well-known port numbers for specific applications)
- **host uses IP addresses & port numbers to direct segment to appropriate socket**



TCP/UDP segment format

Connectionless demultiplexing

- ❑ Create sockets with port numbers:

```
DatagramSocket mySocket1 = new  
    DatagramSocket(99111);
```

```
DatagramSocket mySocket2 = new  
    DatagramSocket(99222);
```

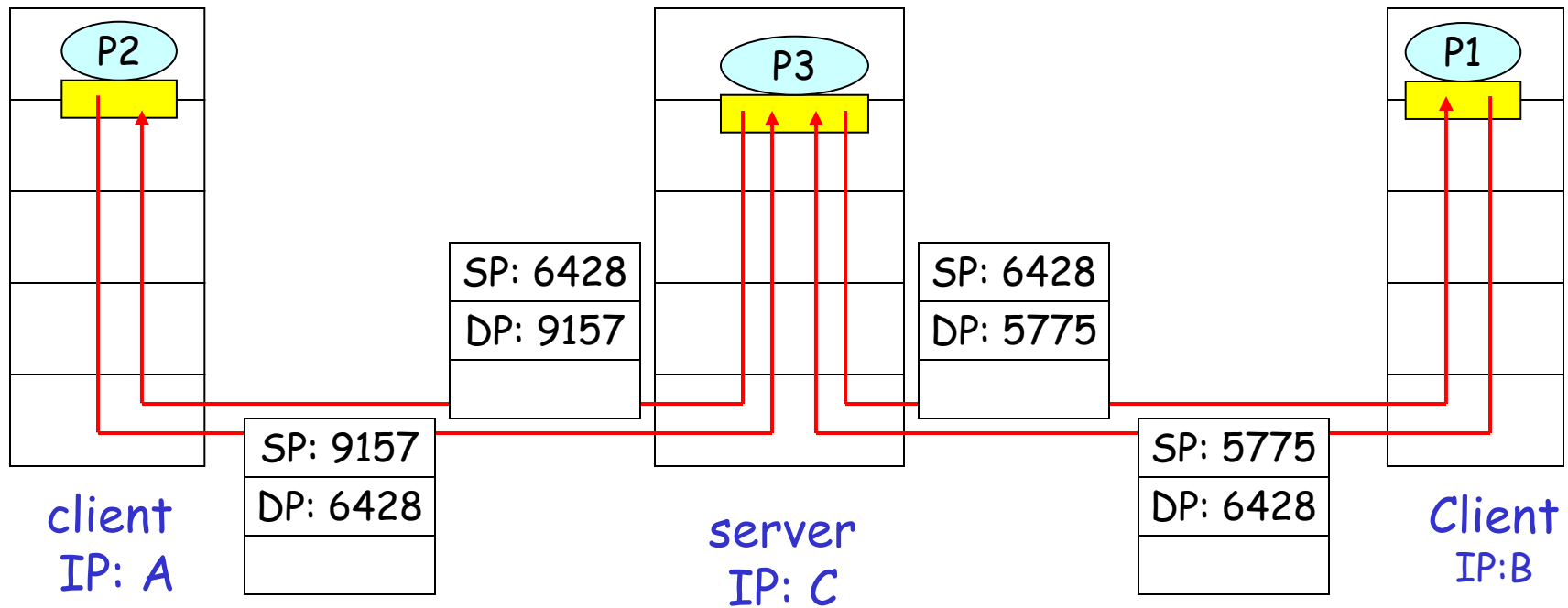
- ❑ UDP socket identified by two-tuple:

(dest IP address, dest port number)

- ❑ When host receives UDP segment:
 - checks destination port number in segment
 - directs UDP segment to socket with that port number
- ❑ IP datagrams with different source IP addresses and/or source port numbers directed to same socket

Connectionless demux (cont)

```
DatagramSocket serverSocket = new DatagramSocket(6428);
```

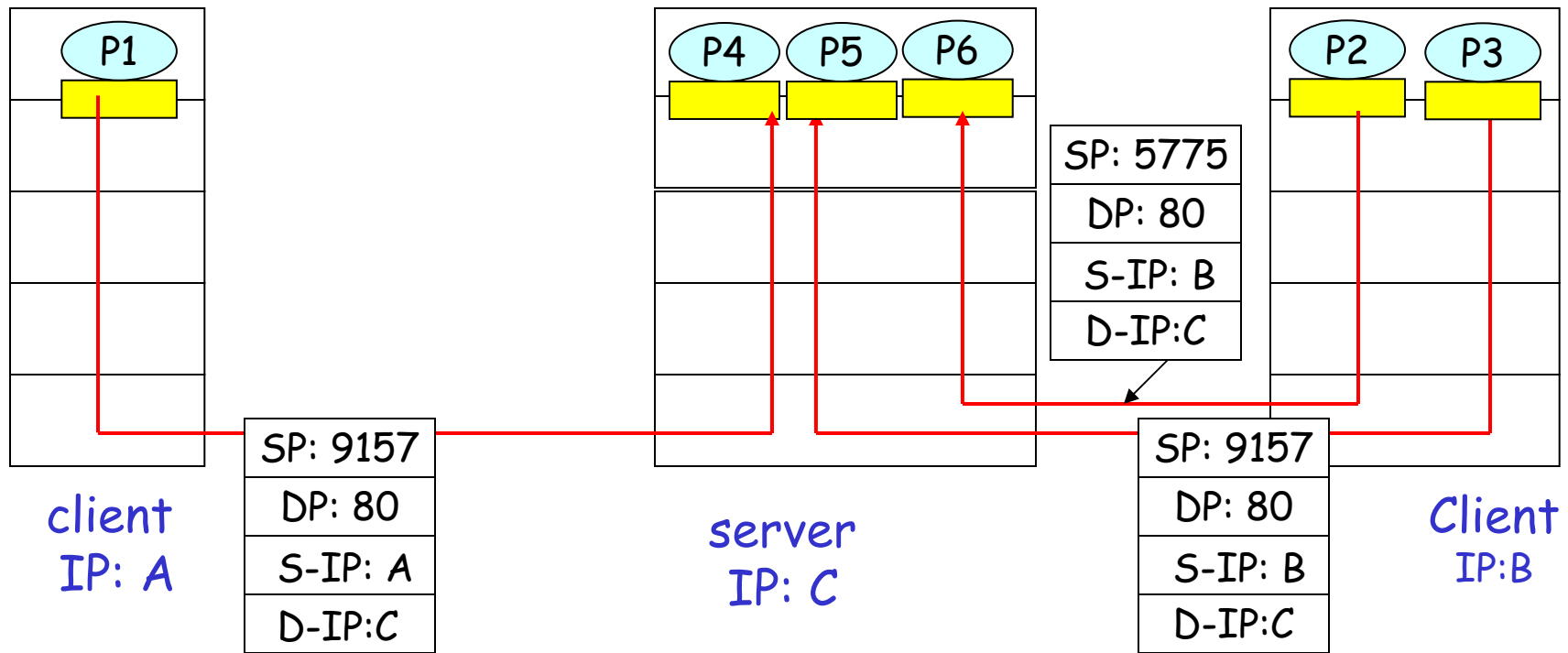


SP provides "return address"

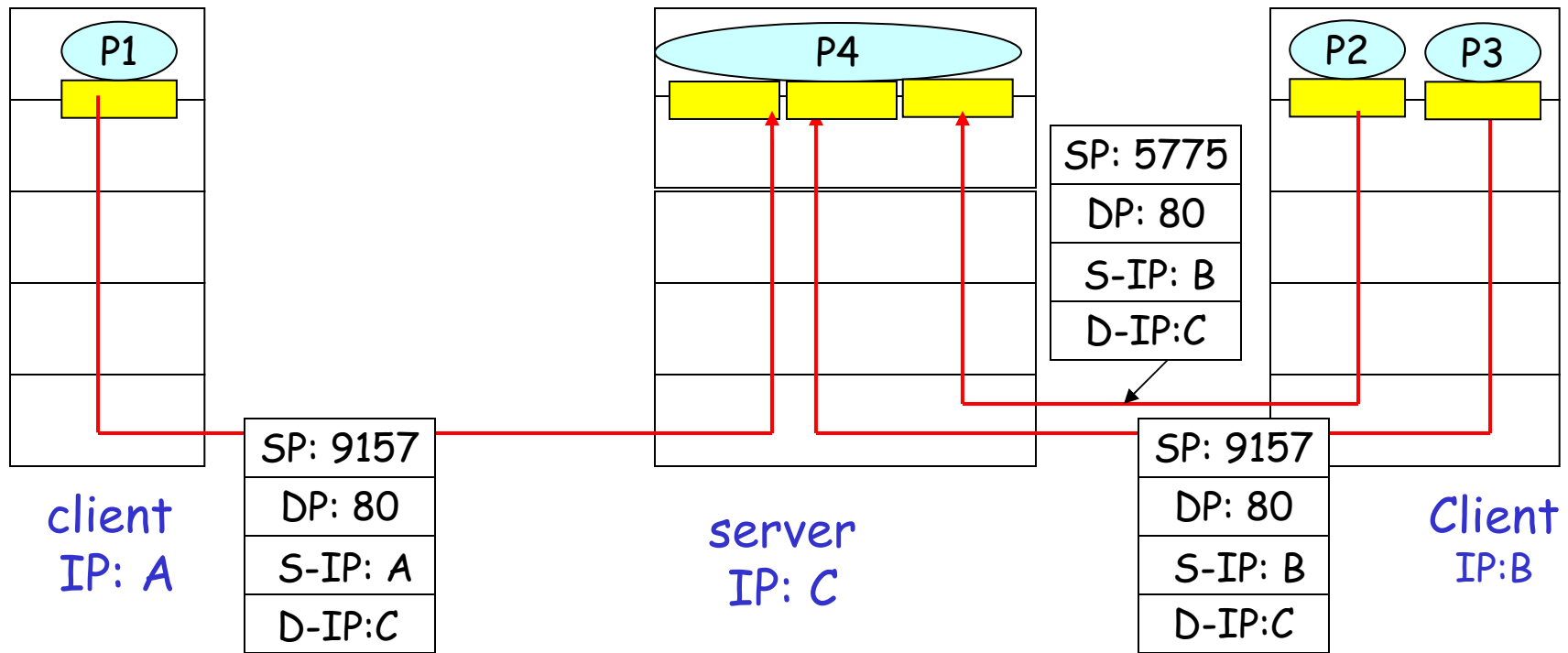
Connection-oriented demux

- ❑ TCP socket identified by 4-tuple:
 - source IP address
 - source port number
 - dest IP address
 - dest port number
- ❑ recv host uses all four values to direct segment to appropriate socket
- ❑ Server host may support many simultaneous TCP sockets:
 - each socket identified by its own 4-tuple
- ❑ Web servers have different sockets for each connecting client
 - non-persistent HTTP will have different socket for each request

Connection-oriented demux (cont)



Connection-oriented demux: Threaded Web Server



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UDP: User Datagram Protocol [RFC 768]

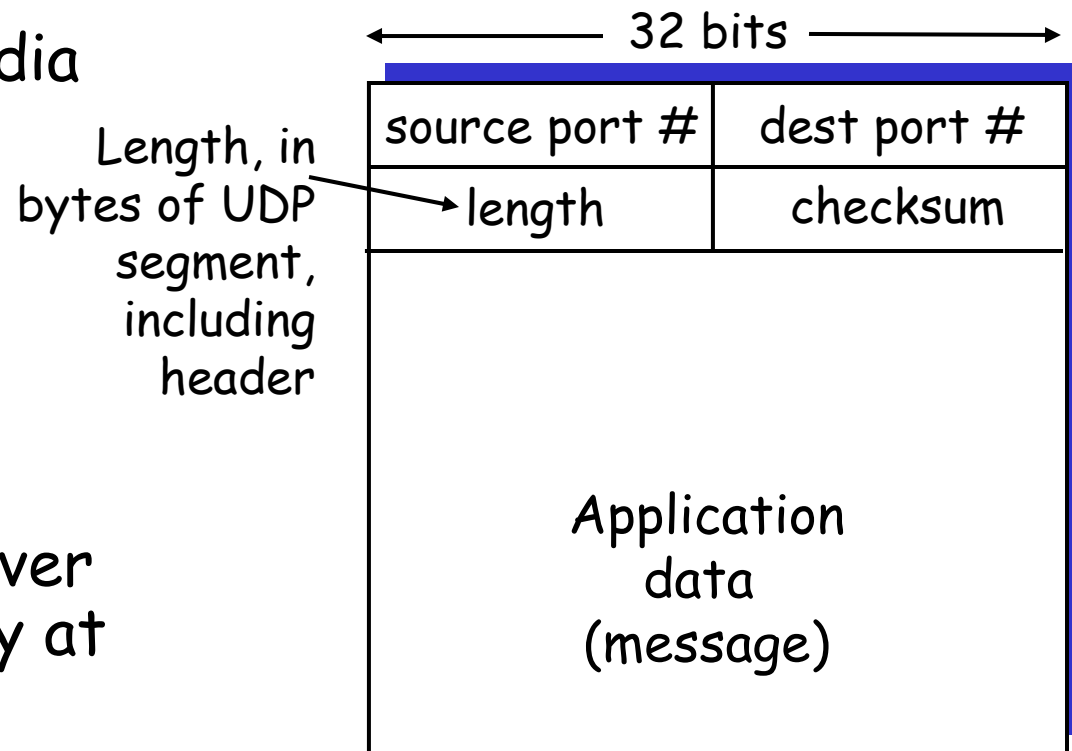
- ❑ “no frills,” “bare bones” Internet transport protocol
- ❑ “best effort” service, UDP segments may be:
 - lost
 - delivered out of order to app
- ❑ *connectionless*:
 - no handshaking between UDP sender, receiver
 - each UDP segment handled independently of others

Why is there a UDP?

- ❑ no connection establishment (which can add delay)
- ❑ simple: no connection state at sender, receiver
- ❑ small segment header
- ❑ no congestion control: UDP can blast away as fast as desired

UDP: more

- often used for streaming multimedia apps
 - loss tolerant
 - rate sensitive
- other UDP uses
 - DNS
- reliable transfer over UDP: add reliability at application layer
 - application-specific error recovery!



UDP segment format

UDP checksum

Goal: detect "errors" (e.g., flipped bits) in transmitted segment

Sender:

- ❑ treat segment contents as sequence of 16-bit integers
- ❑ checksum: addition (1's complement sum) of segment contents
- ❑ sender puts checksum value into UDP checksum field

Receiver:

- ❑ compute checksum of received segment
 - ❑ check if computed checksum equals checksum field value:
 - NO - error detected
 - YES - no error detected.
But maybe errors nonetheless? More later
-

Internet Checksum Example

□ Note

- When adding numbers, a carryout from the most significant bit needs to be added to the result

□ Example: add two 16-bit integers

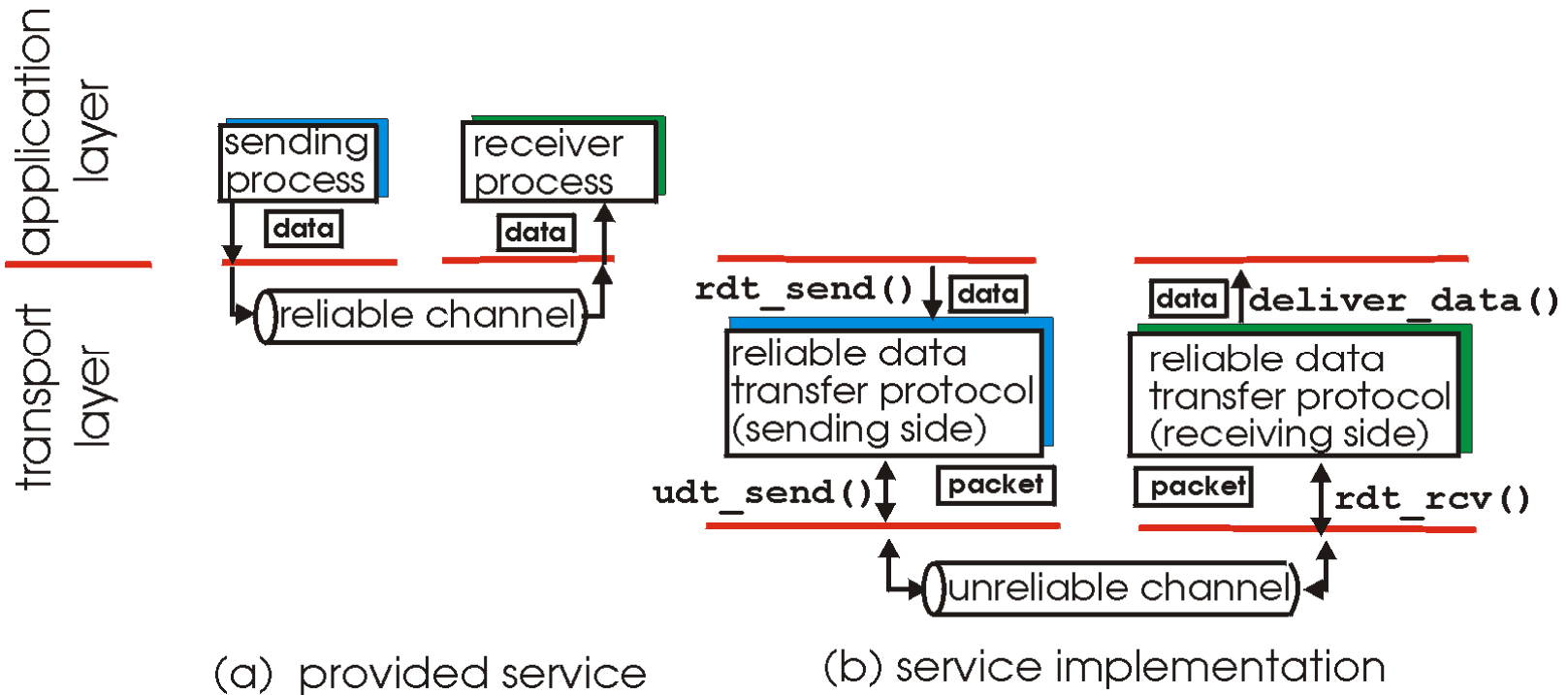
	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	
	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	
<hr/>																	
wraparound	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
<hr/>																	
sum	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	
checksum	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	

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Principles of Reliable data transfer

- important in app., transport, link layers
- top-10 list of important networking topics!

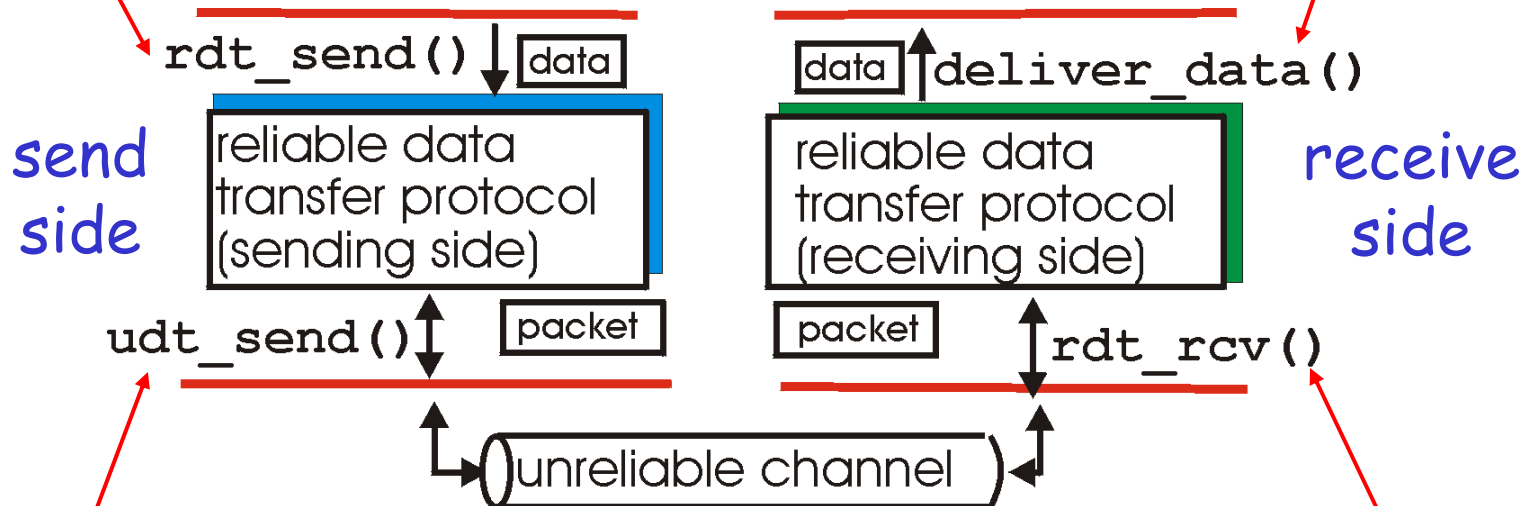


- characteristics of unreliable channel will determine complexity of reliable data transfer protocol (rdt)

Reliable data transfer: getting started

rdt_send(): called from above, (e.g., by app.). Passed data to deliver to receiver upper layer

deliver_data(): called by rdt to deliver data to upper



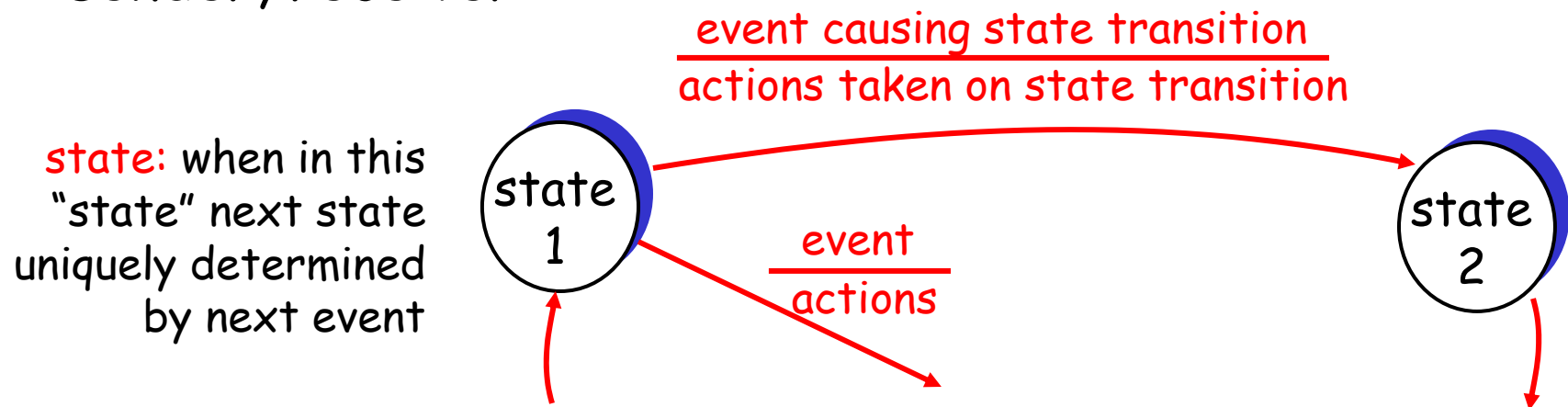
udt_send(): called by rdt, to transfer packet over unreliable channel to receiver

rdt_rcv(): called when packet arrives on rcv-side of channel

Reliable data transfer: getting started

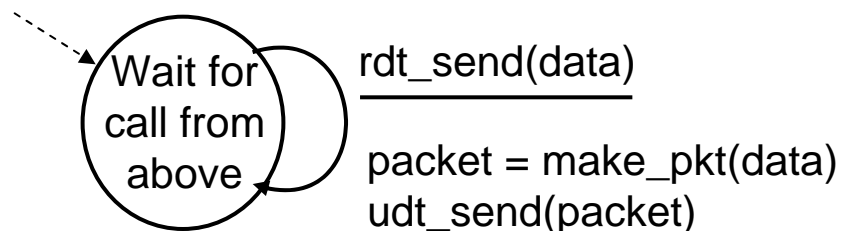
We'll:

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

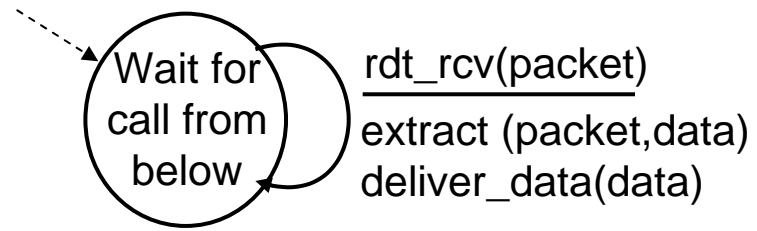


Rdt1.0: reliable transfer over a reliable channel

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



sender

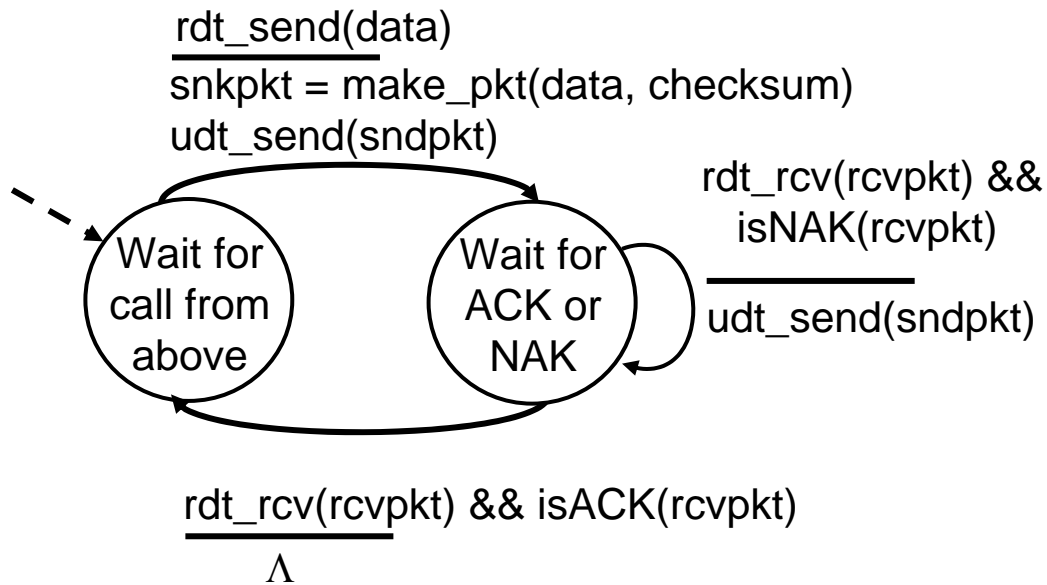


receiver

Rdt2.0: channel with bit errors

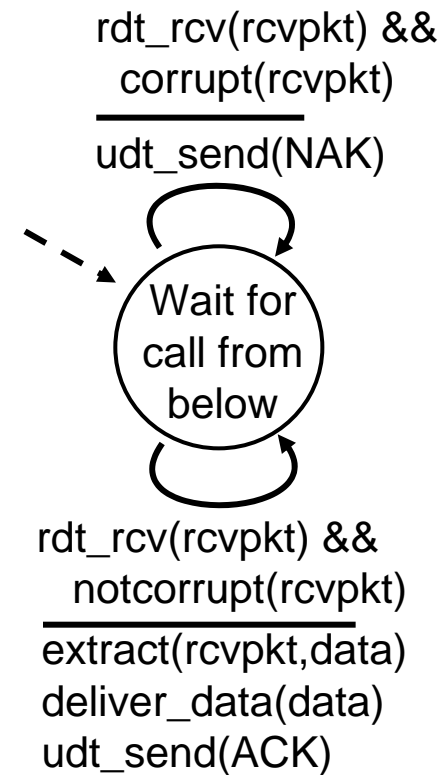
- underlying channel may flip bits in packet
 - checksum to detect bit errors
- *the question: how to recover from errors:*
 - *acknowledgements (ACKs):* receiver explicitly tells sender that pkt received OK
 - *negative acknowledgements (NAKs):* receiver explicitly tells sender that pkt had errors
 - sender retransmits pkt on receipt of NAK
- new mechanisms in rdt2.0 (beyond rdt1.0):
 - error detection
 - receiver feedback: control msgs (ACK,NAK) rcvr->sender

rdt2.0: FSM specification

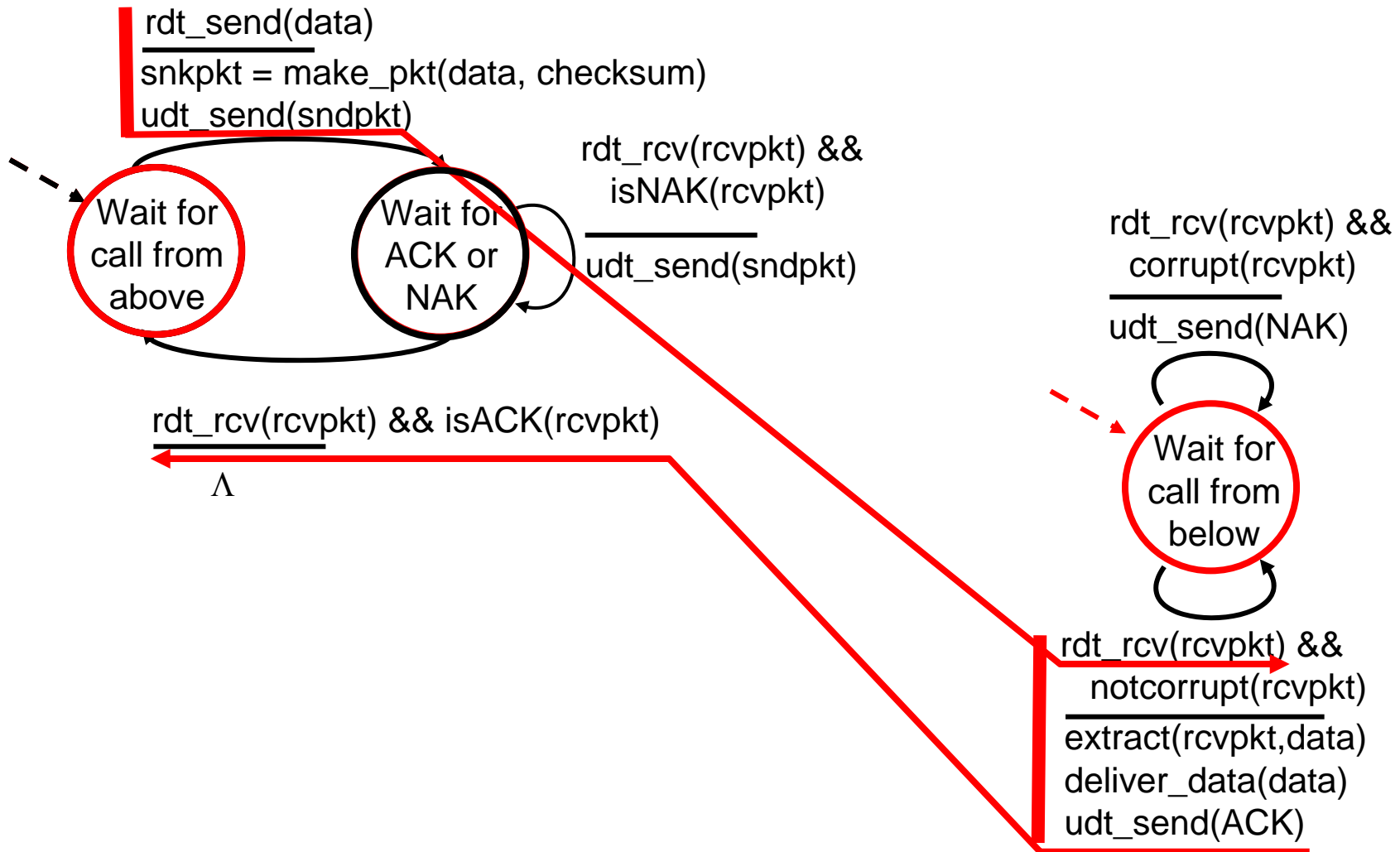


sender

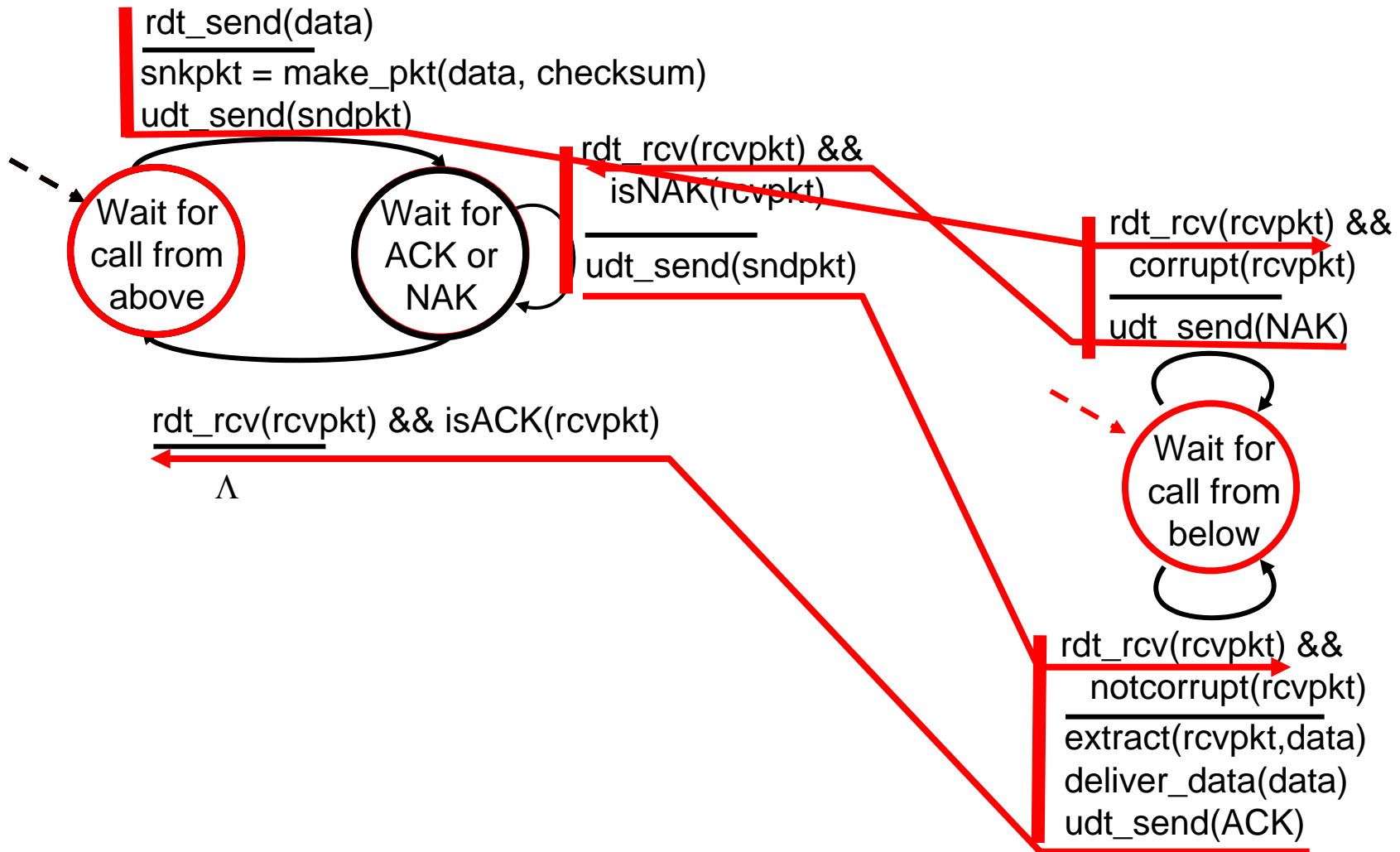
receiver



rdt2.0: operation with no errors



rdt2.0: error scenario



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

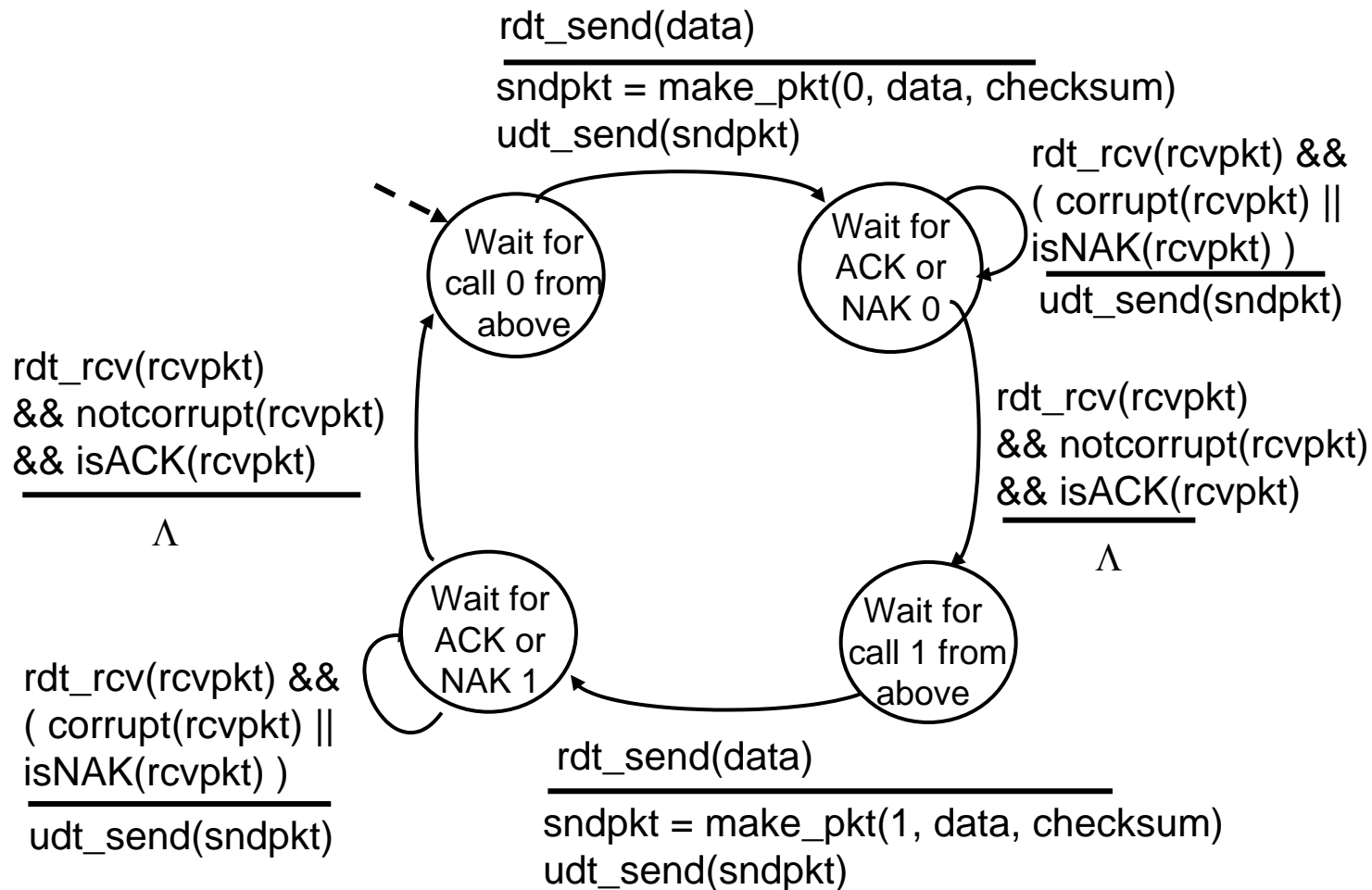
Handling duplicates:

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

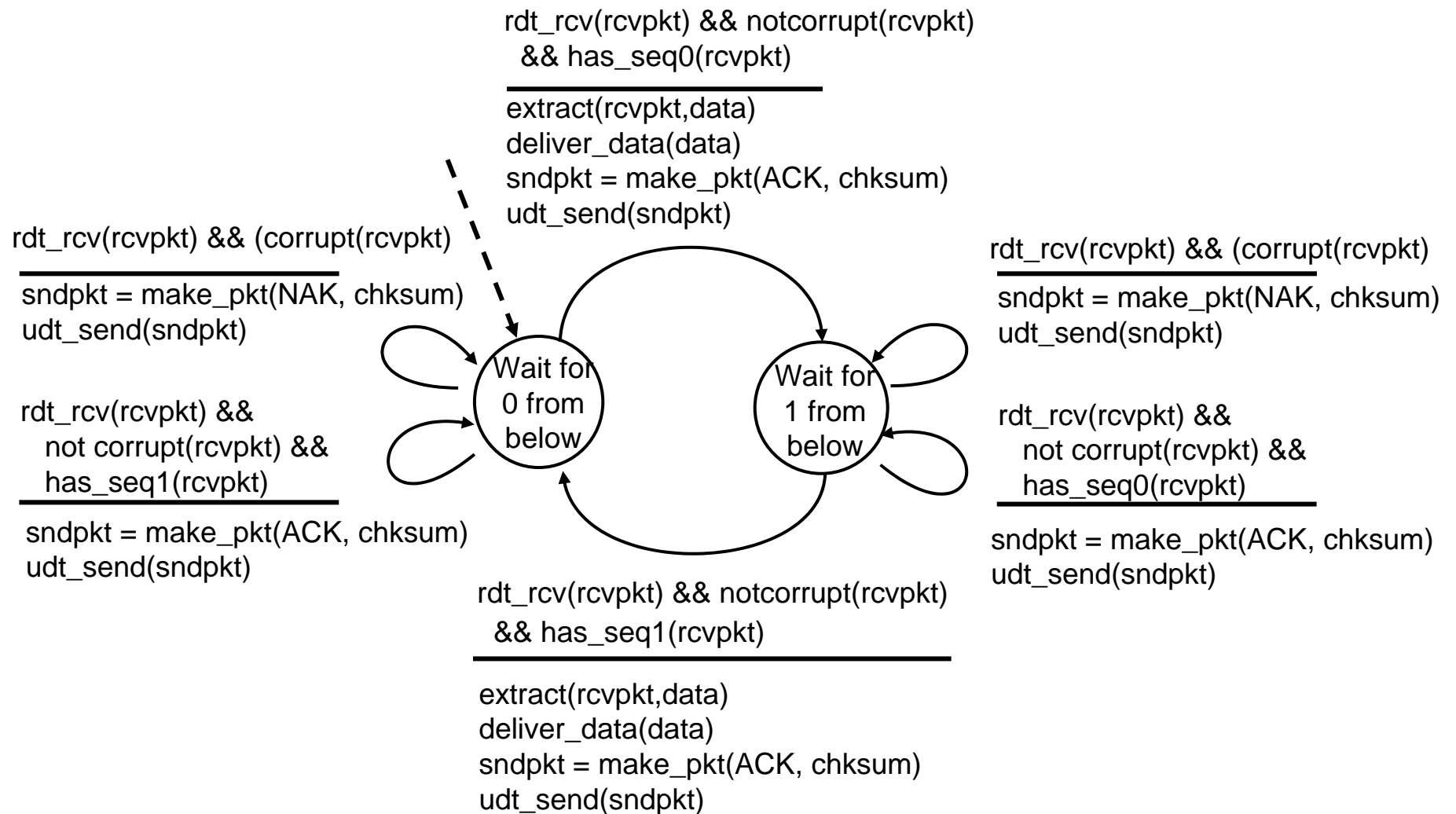
stop and wait

Sender sends one packet, then waits for receiver response

rdt2.1: sender, handles garbled ACK/NAKs



rdt2.1: receiver, handles garbled ACK/NAKs



rdt2.1: discussion

Sender:

- ❑ seq # added to pkt
- ❑ two seq. #'s (0,1) will suffice. Why?
- ❑ must check if received ACK/NAK corrupted
- ❑ twice as many states
 - state must "remember" whether "current" pkt has 0 or 1 seq. #

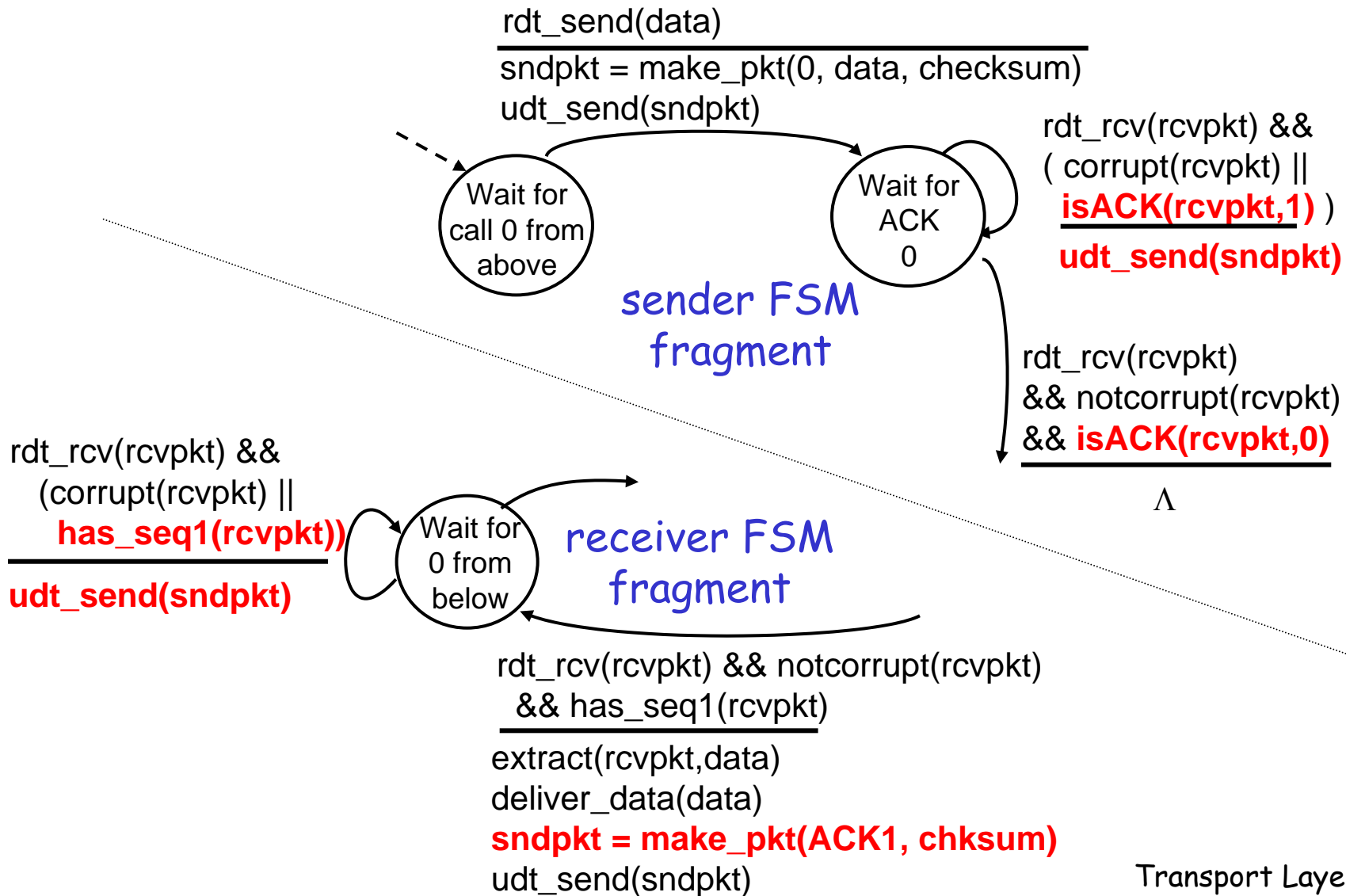
Receiver:

- ❑ must check if received packet is duplicate
 - state indicates whether 0 or 1 is expected pkt seq #
- ❑ note: receiver can *not* know if its last ACK/NAK received OK at sender

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*

rdt2.2: sender, receiver fragments



rdt3.0: channels with errors *and* loss

New assumption:

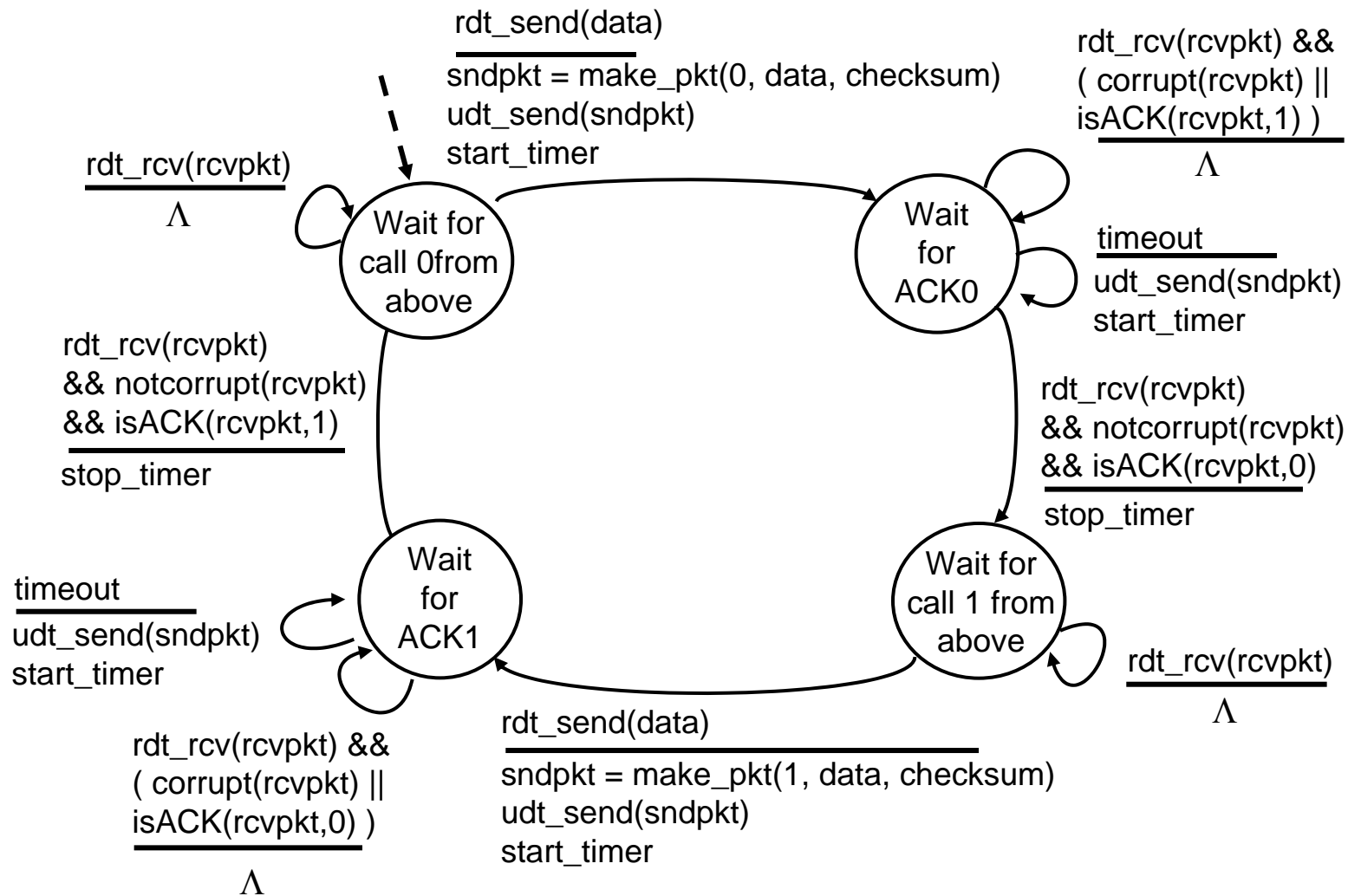
underlying channel can also lose packets (data or ACKs)

- checksum, seq. #, ACKs, retransmissions will be of help, but not enough

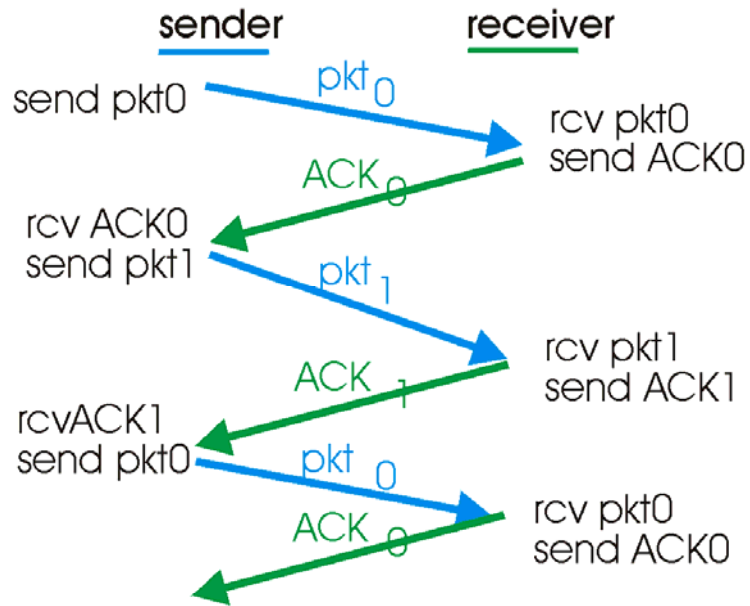
Approach: sender waits "reasonable" amount of time for ACK

- retransmits if no ACK received in this time
- if pkt (or ACK) just delayed (not lost):
 - retransmission will be duplicate, but use of seq. #'s already handles this
 - receiver must specify seq # of pkt being ACKed
- requires countdown timer

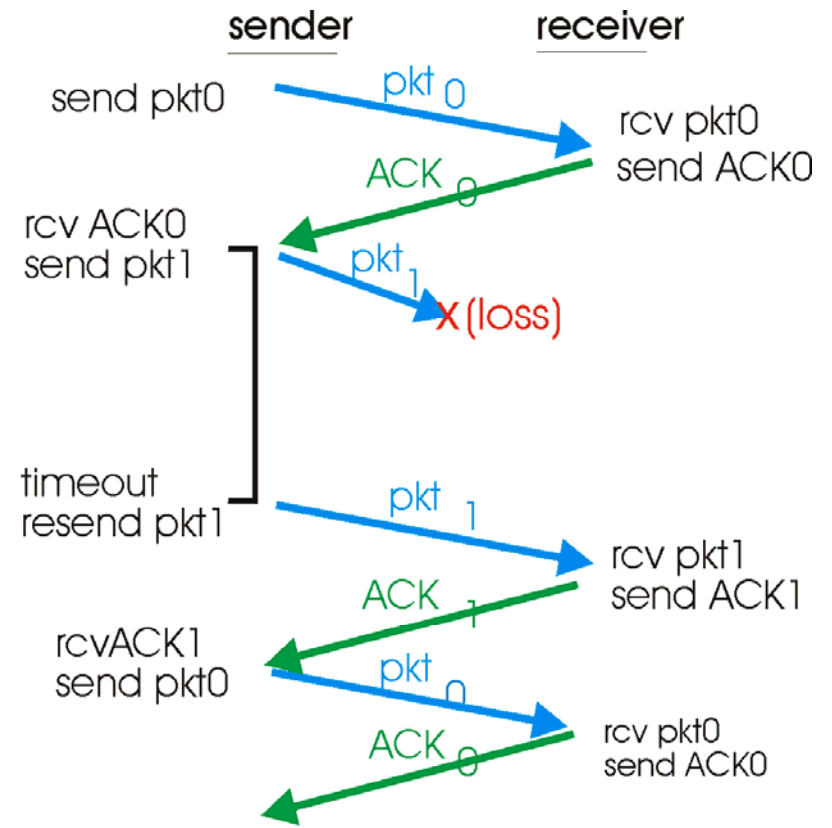
rdt3.0 sender



rdt3.0 in action

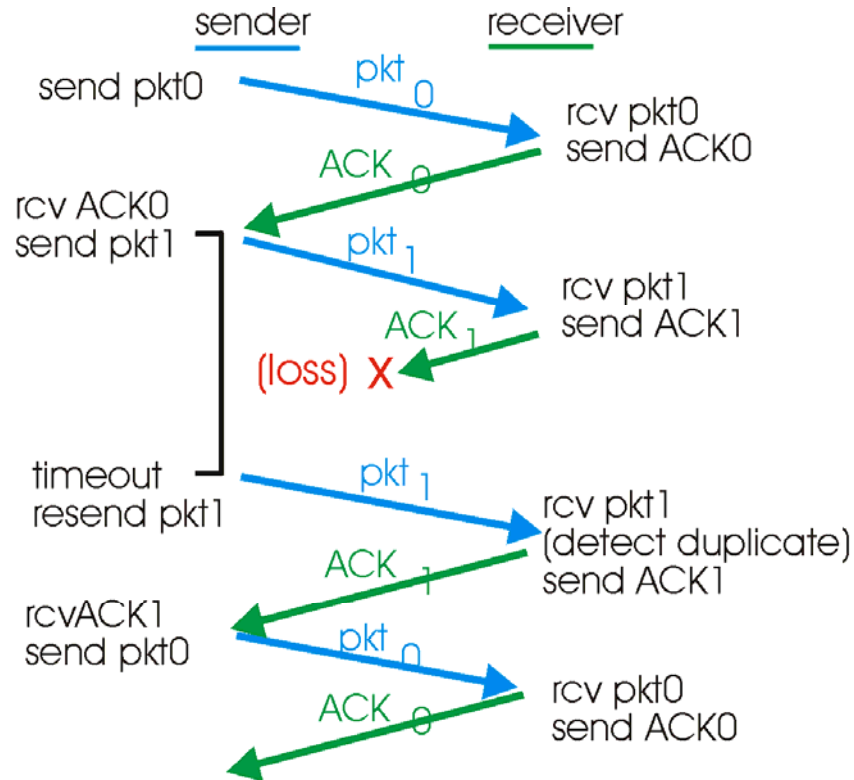


(a) operation with no loss

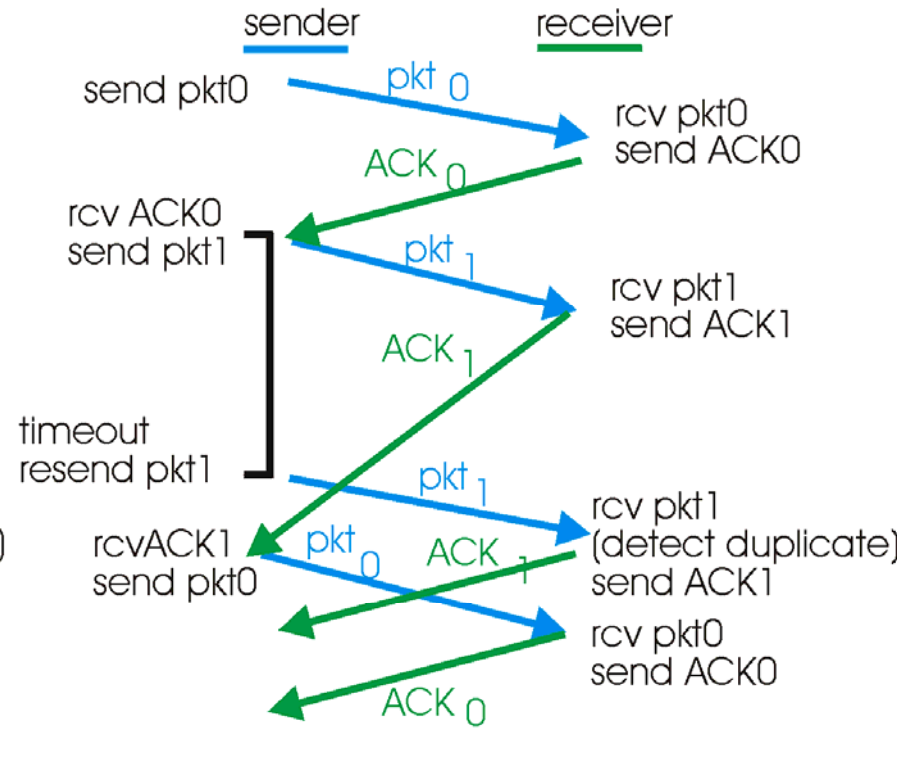


(b) lost packet

rdt3.0 in action



(c) lost ACK



(d) premature timeout

Performance of rdt3.0

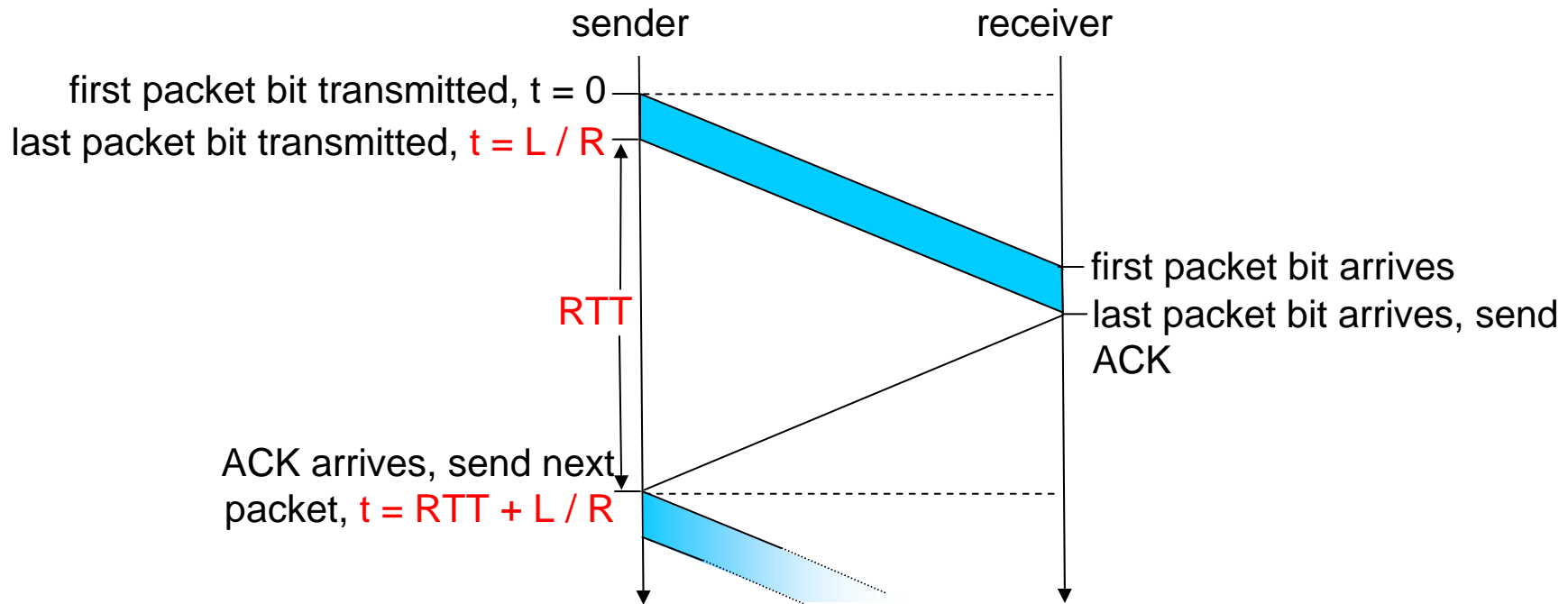
- ❑ rdt3.0 works, but performance stinks
- ❑ example: 1 Gbps link, 15 ms e-e prop. delay, 1KB packet:

$$T_{\text{transmit}} = \frac{L \text{ (packet length in bits)}}{R \text{ (transmission rate, bps)}} = \frac{8\text{kb/pkt}}{10^{**9} \text{ b/sec}} = 8 \text{ microsec}$$

$$U_{\text{sender}} = \frac{L / R}{RTT + L / R} = \frac{.008}{30.008} = 0.00027$$

- U_{sender} : **utilization** - fraction of time sender busy sending
- 1KB pkt every 30 msec -> 33kB/sec thrupt over 1 Gbps link
- network protocol limits use of physical resources!

rdt3.0: stop-and-wait operation

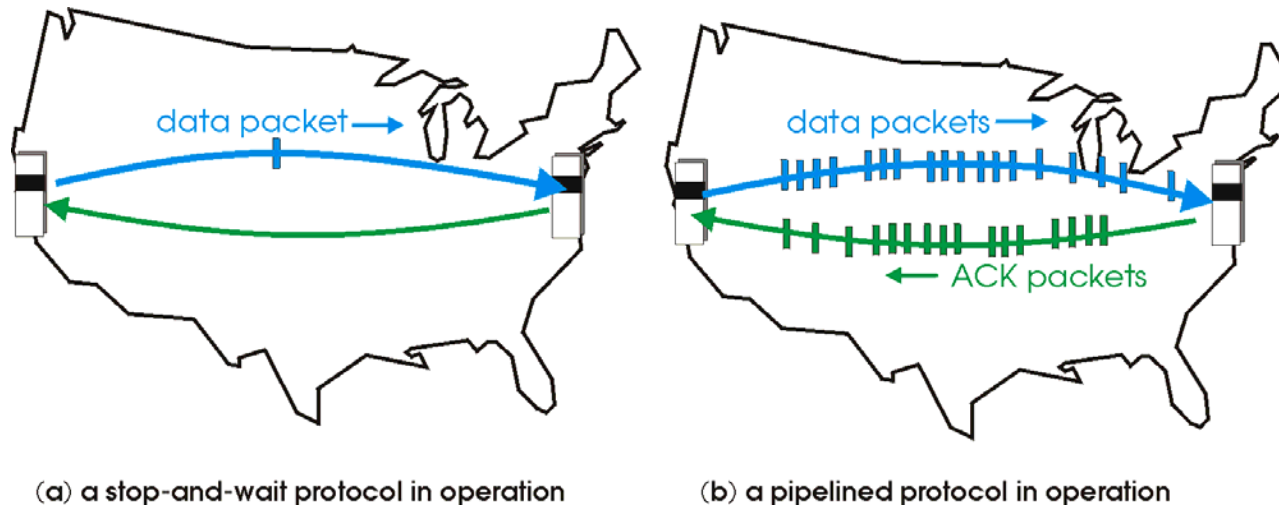


$$U_{\text{sender}} = \frac{L/R}{RTT + L/R} = \frac{.008}{30.008} = 0.00027$$

Pipelined protocols

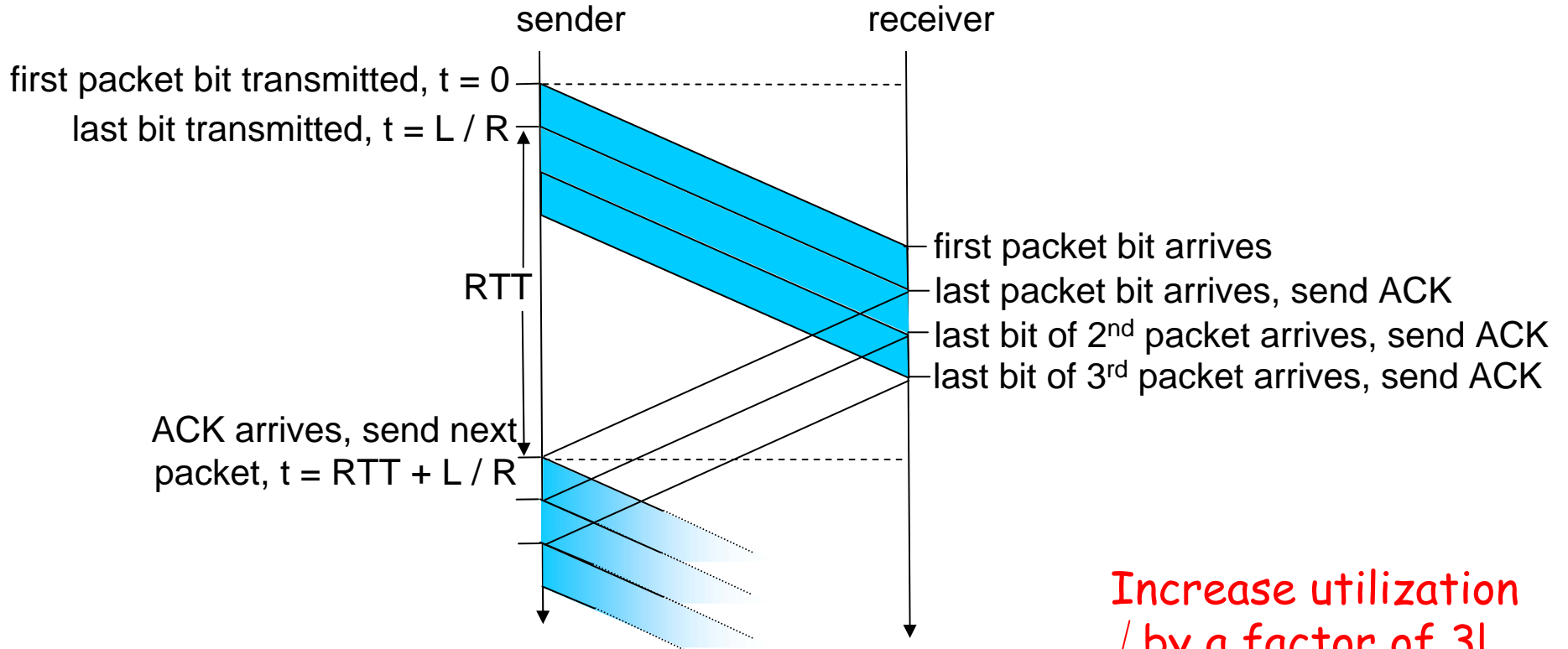
Pipelining: sender allows multiple, "in-flight", yet-to-be-acknowledged pkts

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



- Two generic forms of pipelined protocols: *go-Back-N*, *selective repeat*

Pipelining: increased utilization



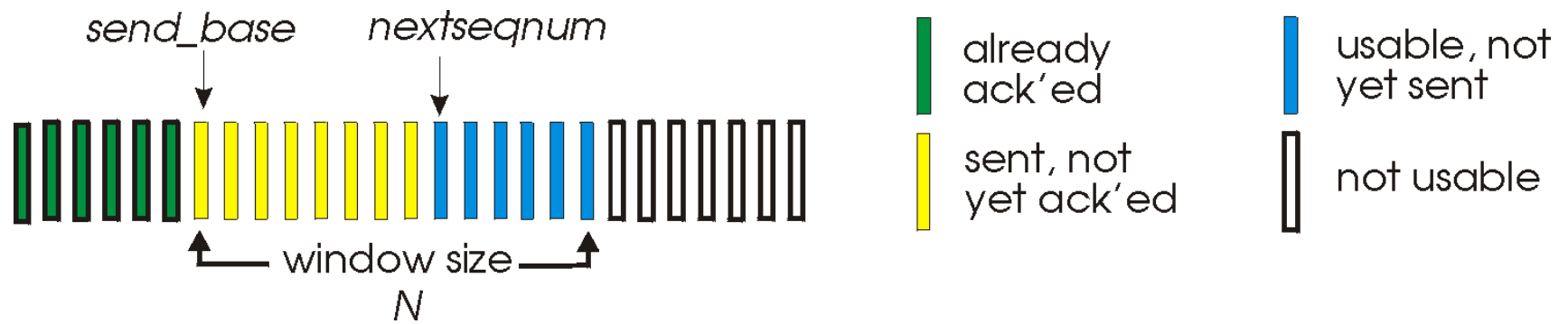
Increase utilization
by a factor of 3!

$$U_{\text{sender}} = \frac{3 * L / R}{RTT + L / R} = \frac{.024}{30.008} = 0.0008$$

Go-Back-N

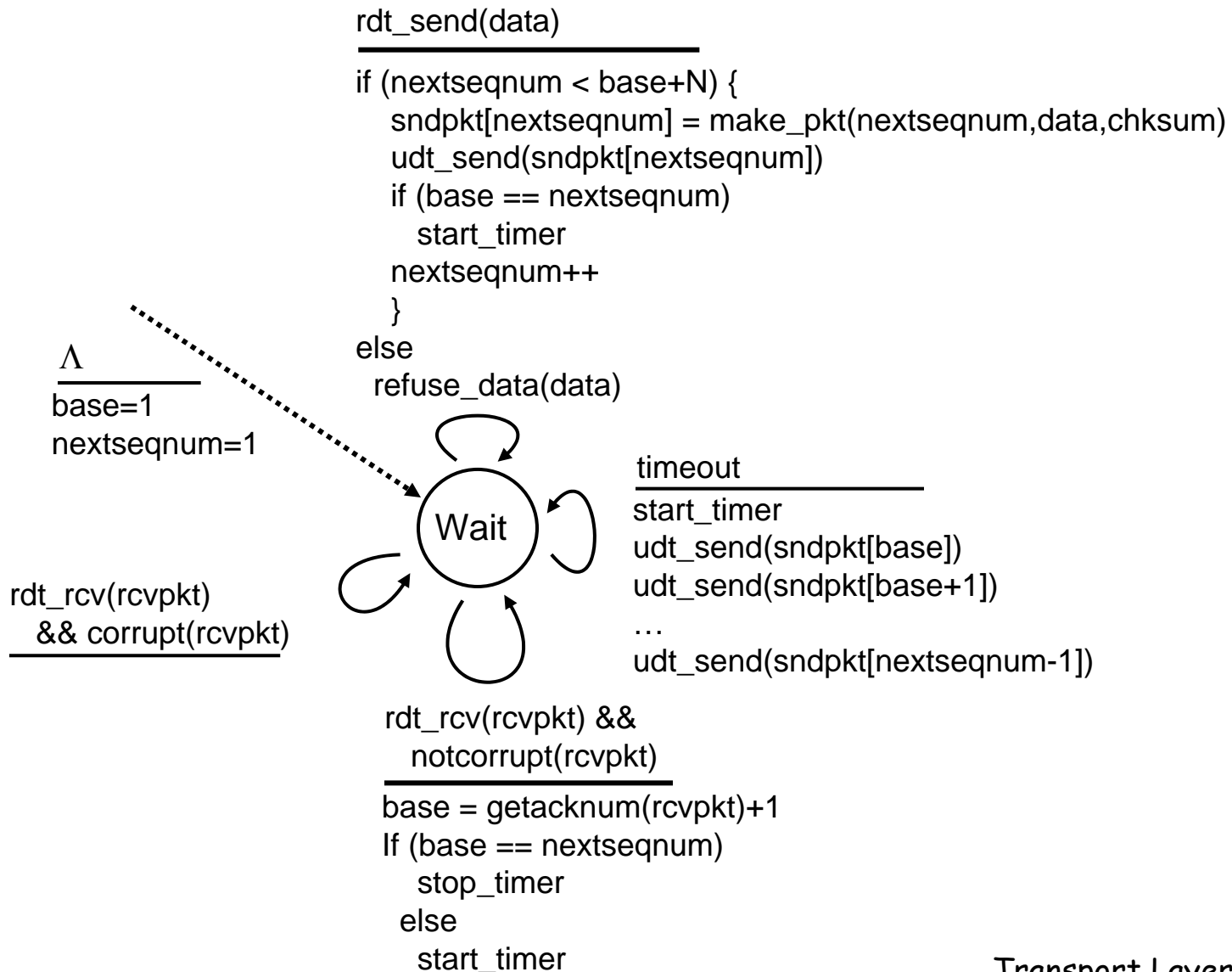
Sender:

- k-bit seq # in pkt header
- "window" of up to N, consecutive unack'ed pkts allowed

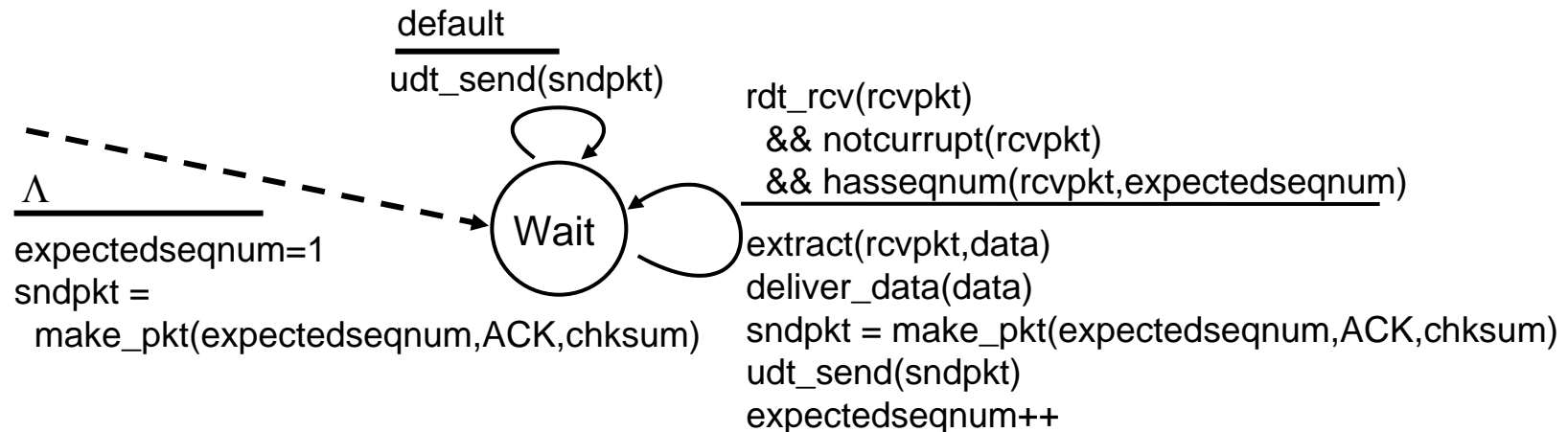


- ACK(n): ACKs all pkts up to, including seq # n - "cumulative ACK"
 - may receive duplicate ACKs (see receiver)
- timer for each in-flight pkt
- *timeout(n)*: retransmit pkt n and all higher seq # pkts in window

GBN: sender extended FSM



GBN: receiver extended FSM



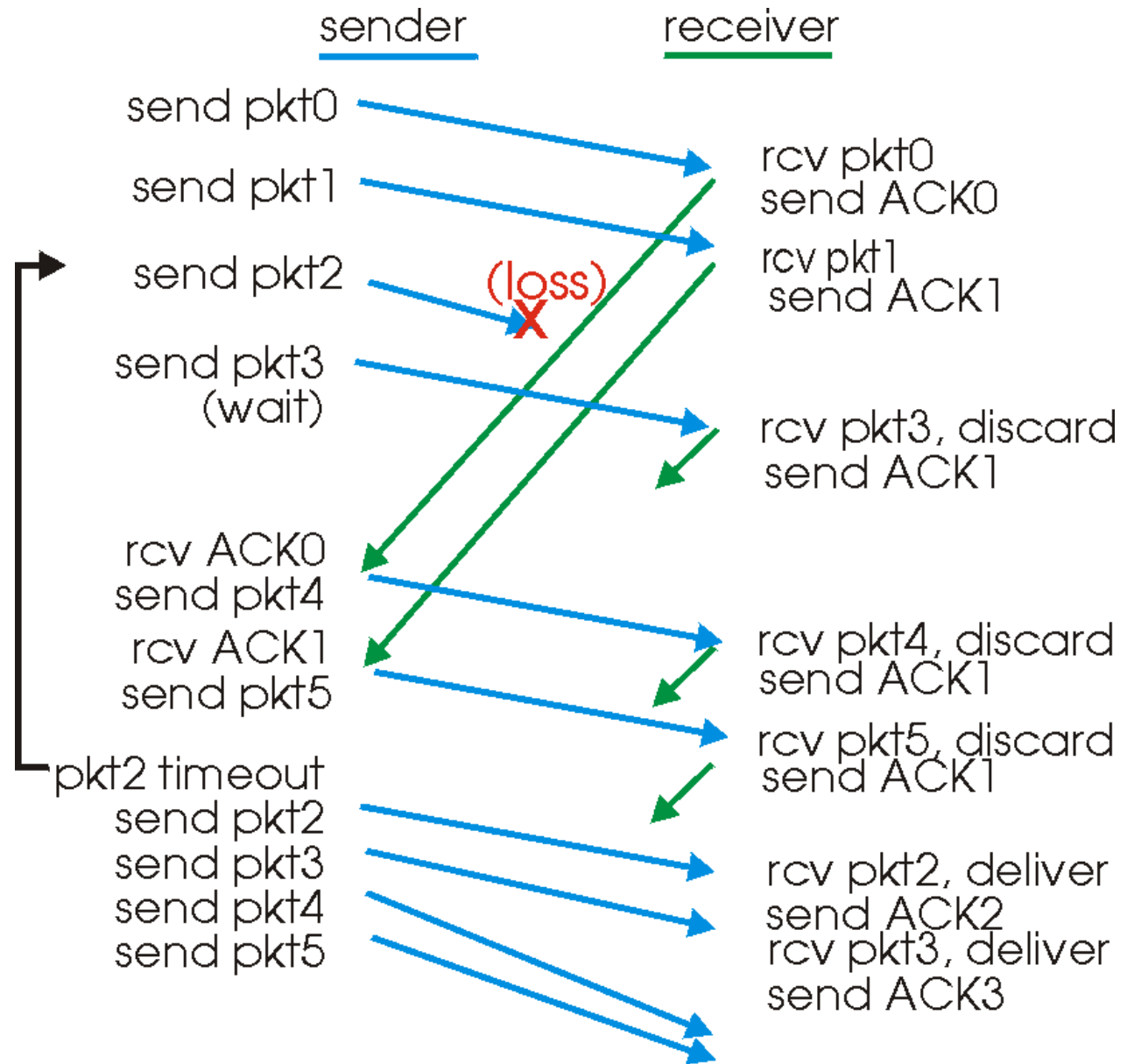
ACK-only: always send ACK for correctly-received pkt with highest *in-order* seq #

- may generate duplicate ACKs
- need only remember `expectedseqnum`

□ out-of-order pkt:

- discard (don't buffer) -> **no receiver buffering!**
- Re-ACK pkt with highest in-order seq #

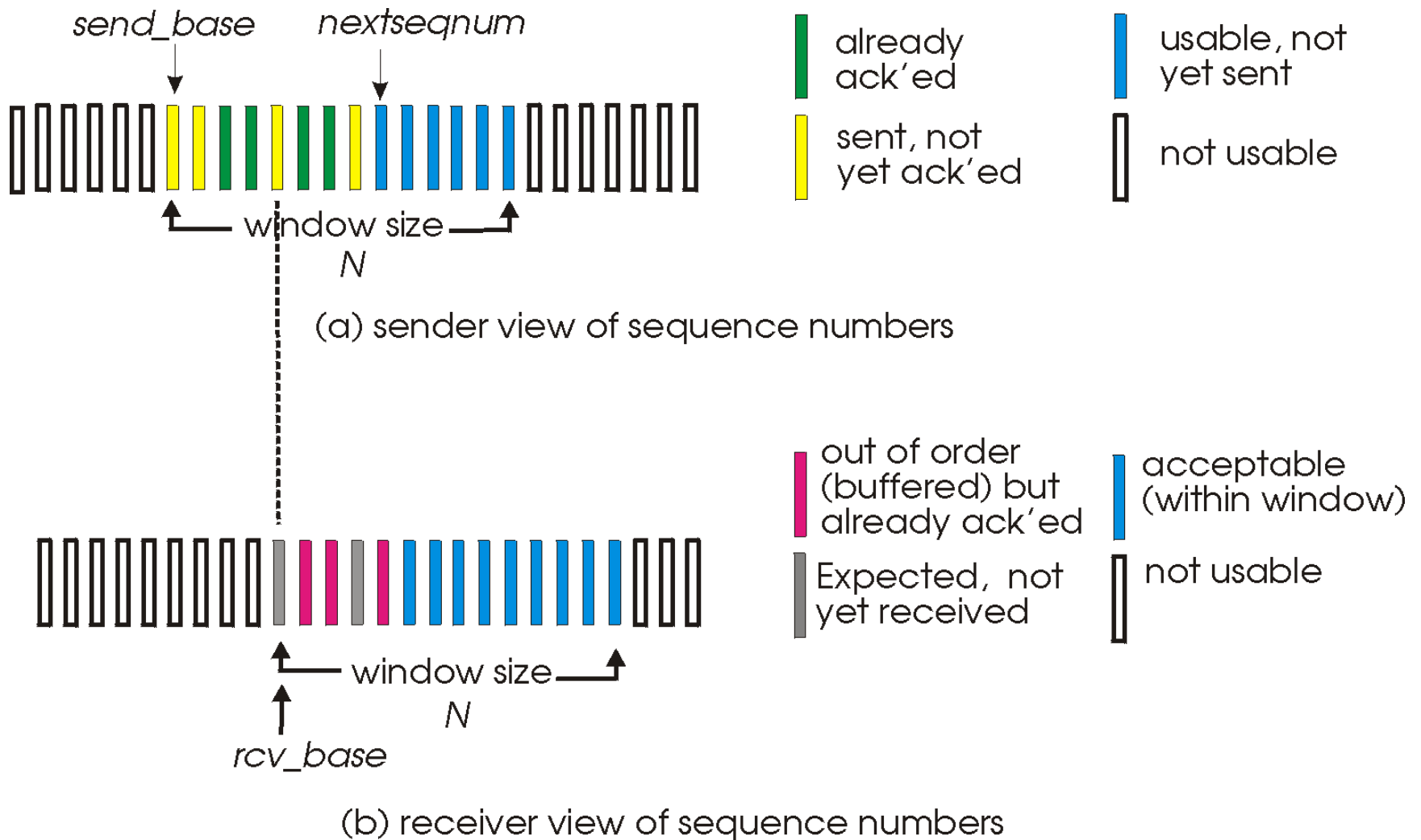
GBN in action



Selective Repeat

- ❑ receiver *individually* acknowledges all correctly received pkts
 - buffers pkts, as needed, for eventual in-order delivery to upper layer
- ❑ sender only resends pkts for which ACK not received
 - sender timer for each unACKed pkt
- ❑ sender window
 - N consecutive seq #'s
 - again limits seq #'s of sent, unACKed pkts

Selective repeat: sender, receiver windows



Selective repeat

sender

data from above :

- ❑ if next available seq # in window, send pkt

timeout(n):

- ❑ resend pkt n, restart timer

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

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

receiver

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

- ❑ send ACK(n)
- ❑ out-of-order: buffer
- ❑ in-order: deliver (also deliver buffered, in-order pkts), advance window to next not-yet-received pkt

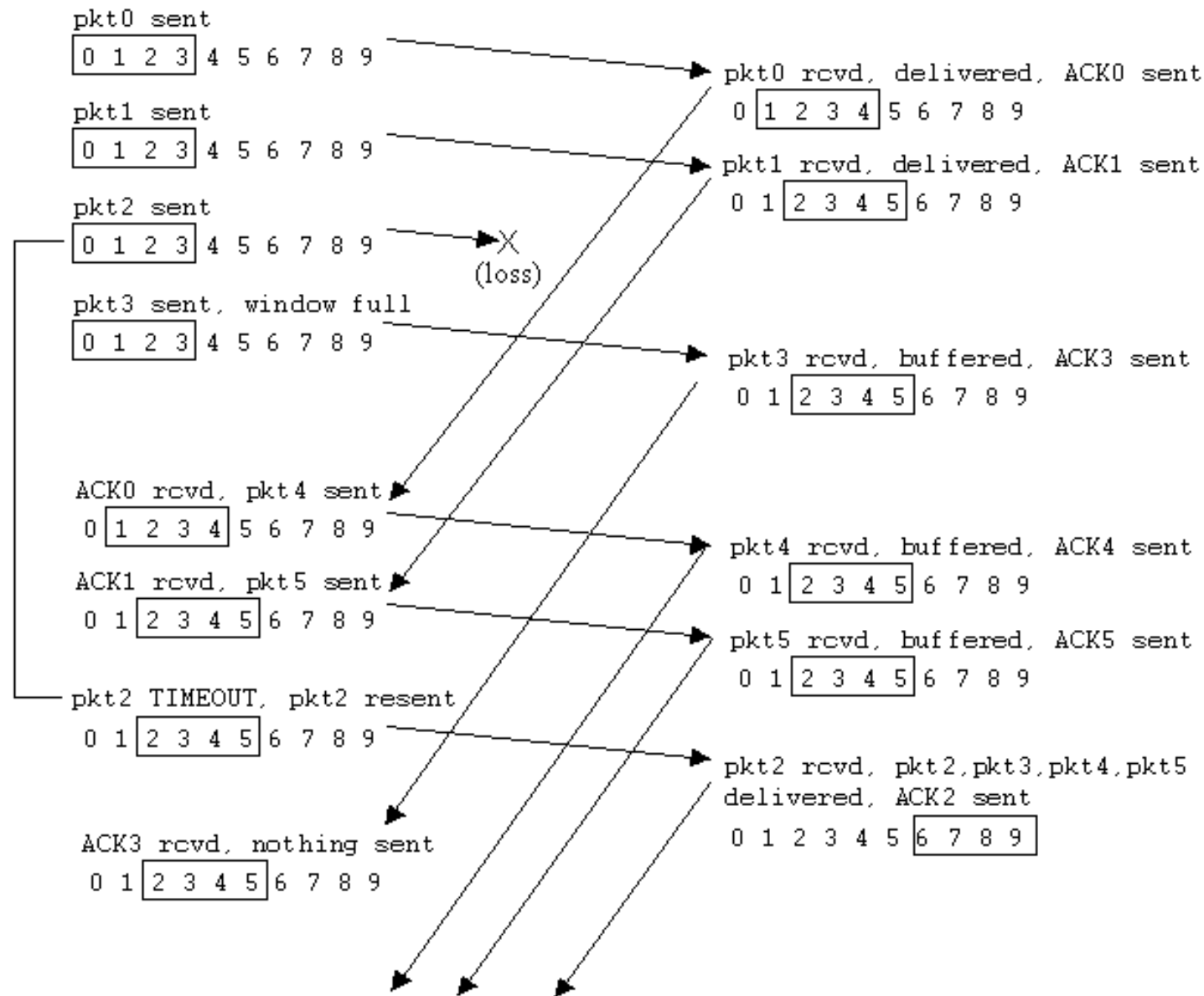
pkt n in [rcvbase-N,rcvbase-1]

- ❑ ACK(n)

otherwise:

- ❑ ignore

Selective repeat in action



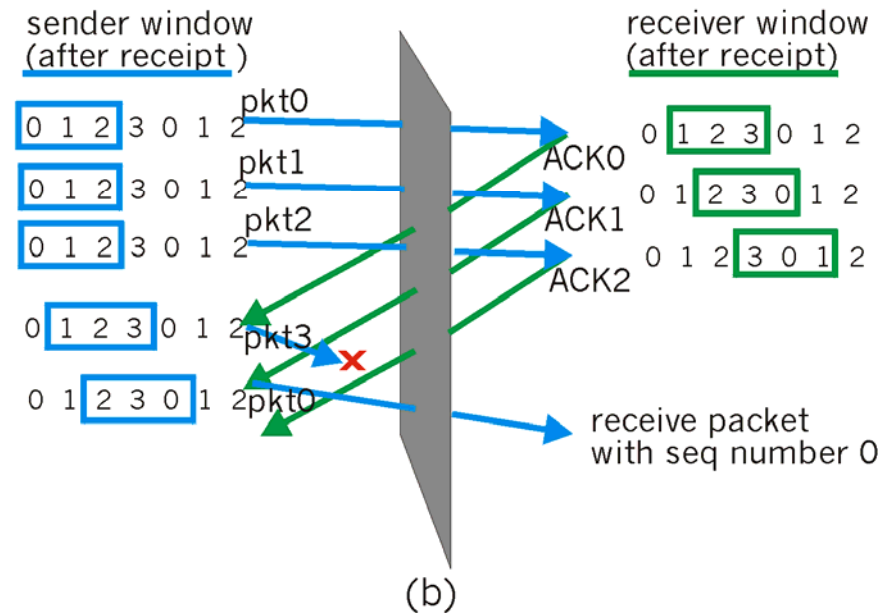
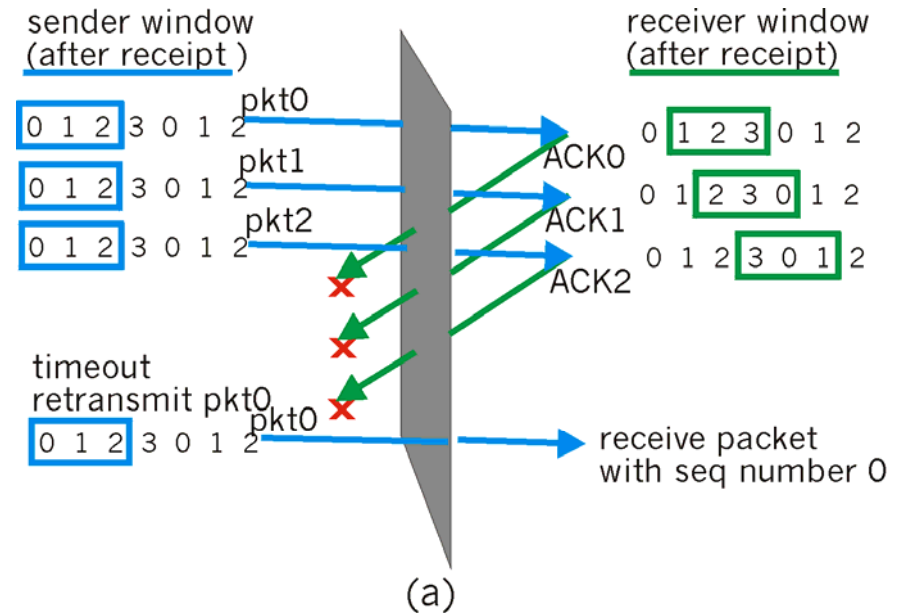
Selective repeat: dilemma

Example:

- seq #'s: 0, 1, 2, 3
- window size=3

- receiver sees no difference in two scenarios!
- incorrectly passes duplicate data as new in (a)

Q: what relationship between seq # size and window size?



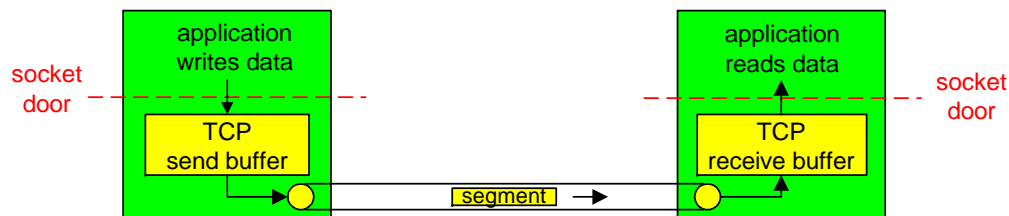
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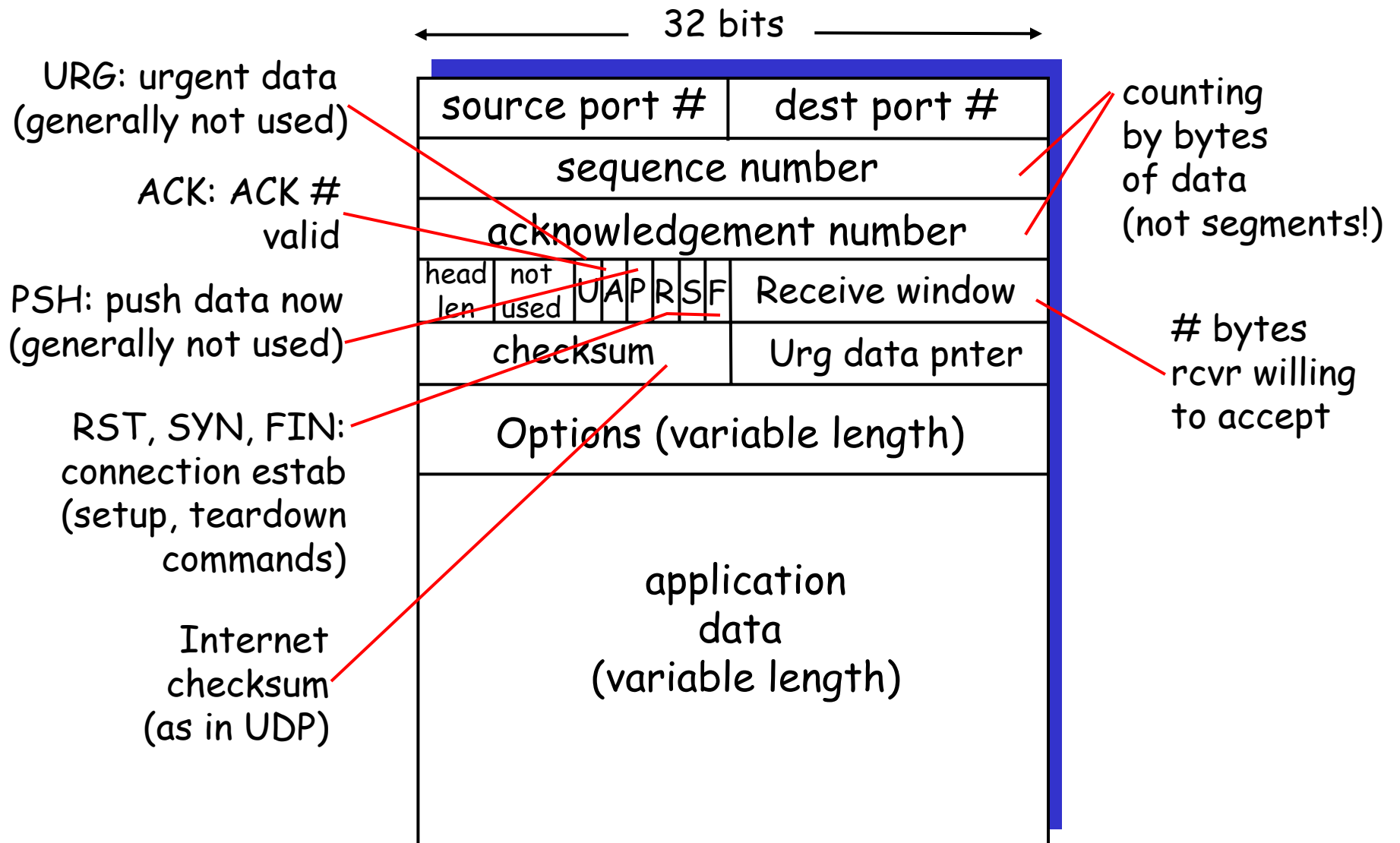
TCP: Overview

RFCs: 793, 1122, 1323, 2018, 2581

- ❑ **point-to-point:**
 - one sender, one receiver
 - ❑ **reliable, in-order *byte stream*:**
 - no "message boundaries"
 - ❑ **pipelined:**
 - TCP congestion and flow control set window size
 - ❑ ***send & receive buffers***
- ❑ **full duplex data:**
 - bi-directional data flow in same connection
 - MSS: maximum segment size
 - ❑ **connection-oriented:**
 - handshaking (exchange of control msgs) init's sender, receiver state before data exchange
 - ❑ **flow controlled:**
 - sender will not overwhelm receiver



TCP segment structure



TCP seq. #'s and ACKs

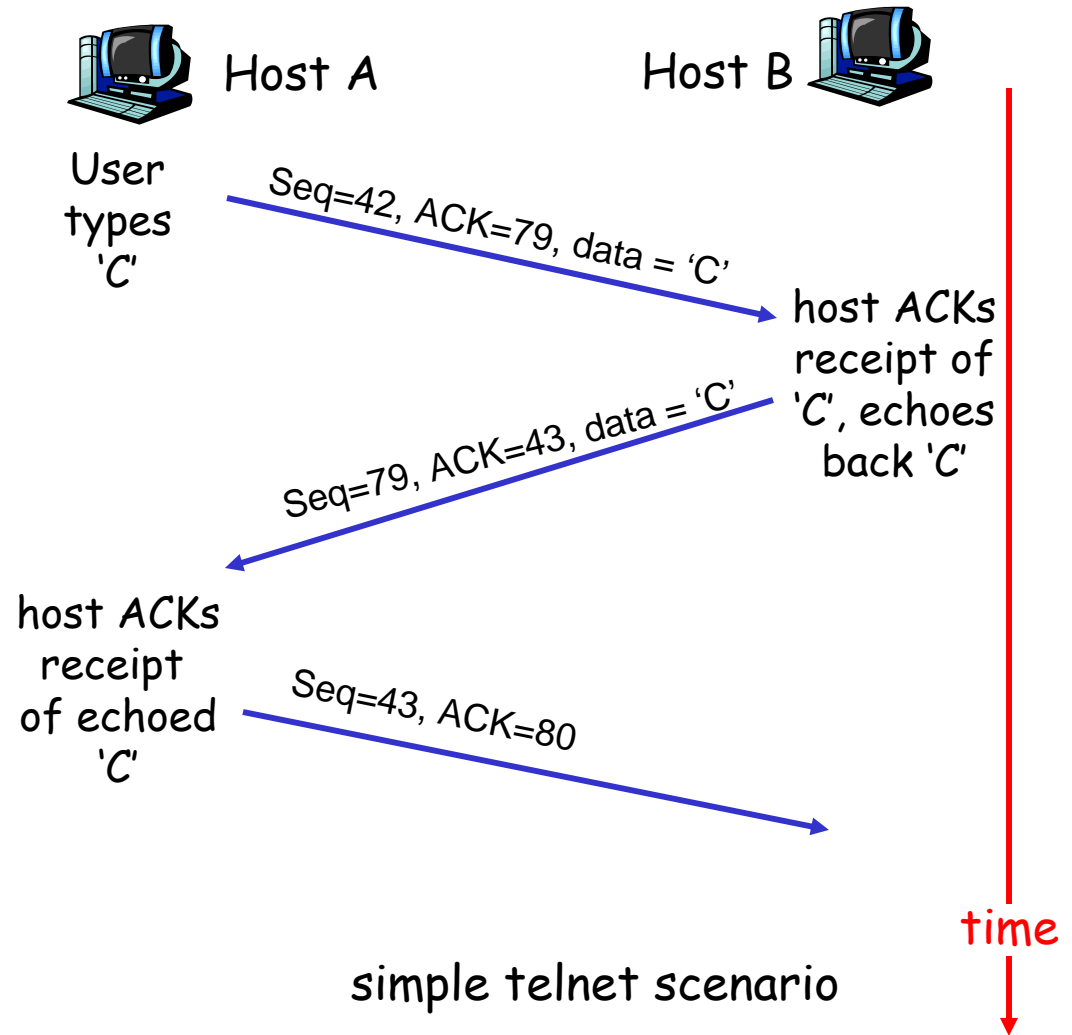
Seq. #'s:

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

ACKs:

- seq # of next byte expected from other side
- cumulative ACK

- Q:** how receiver handles out-of-order segments
- A: TCP spec doesn't say, - up to implementor



TCP Round Trip Time and Timeout

Q: how to set TCP timeout value?

- ❑ longer than RTT
 - but RTT varies
- ❑ too short: premature timeout
 - unnecessary retransmissions
- ❑ too long: slow reaction to segment loss

Q: how to estimate RTT?

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

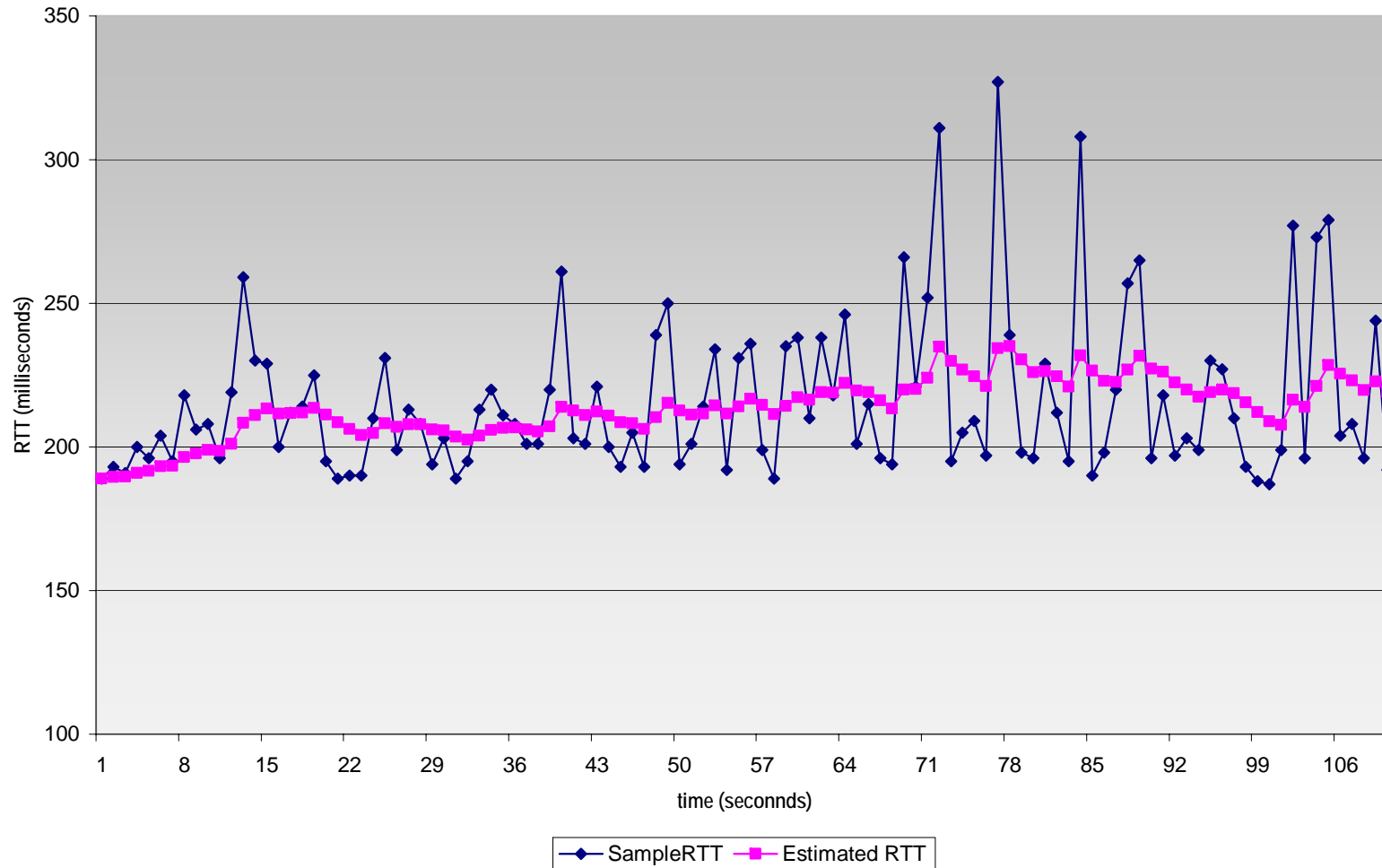
TCP Round Trip Time and Timeout

$\text{EstimatedRTT} = (1 - \alpha) * \text{EstimatedRTT} + \alpha * \text{SampleRTT}$

- ❑ Exponential weighted moving average
- ❑ influence of past sample decreases exponentially fast
- ❑ typical value: $\alpha = 0.125$

Example RTT estimation:

RTT: gaia.cs.umass.edu to fantasia.eurecom.fr



TCP Round Trip Time and Timeout

Setting the timeout

- EstimatedRTT plus "safety margin"
 - large variation in EstimatedRTT -> larger safety margin
- first estimate of how much SampleRTT deviates from EstimatedRTT:

$$\text{DevRTT} = (1-\beta) * \text{DevRTT} + \beta * |\text{SampleRTT} - \text{EstimatedRTT}|$$

(typically, $\beta = 0.25$)

Then set timeout interval:

$$\text{TimeoutInterval} = \text{EstimatedRTT} + 4 * \text{DevRTT}$$

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TCP reliable data transfer

- ❑ TCP creates rdt service on top of IP's unreliable service
- ❑ Pipelined segments
- ❑ Cumulative acks
- ❑ TCP uses single retransmission timer
- ❑ Retransmissions are triggered by:
 - timeout events
 - duplicate acks
- ❑ Initially consider simplified TCP sender:
 - ignore duplicate acks
 - ignore flow control, congestion control

TCP sender events:

data rcvd from app:

- ❑ 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

timeout:

- ❑ retransmit segment that caused timeout
- ❑ restart timer

Ack rcvd:

- ❑ If acknowledges previously unacked segments
 - update what is known to be acked
 - start timer if there are outstanding segments

```
NextSeqNum = InitialSeqNum
SendBase = InitialSeqNum
```

```
loop (forever) {
  switch(event)
```

```
  event: data received from application above
    create TCP segment with sequence number NextSeqNum
    if (timer currently not running)
      start timer
    pass segment to IP
    NextSeqNum = NextSeqNum + length(data)
```

```
  event: timer timeout
    retransmit not-yet-acknowledged segment with
      smallest sequence number
    start timer
```

```
  event: ACK received, with ACK field value of y
    if (y > SendBase) {
      SendBase = y
      if (there are currently not-yet-acknowledged segments)
        start timer
    }
```

```
} /* end of loop forever */
```

TCP sender (simplified)

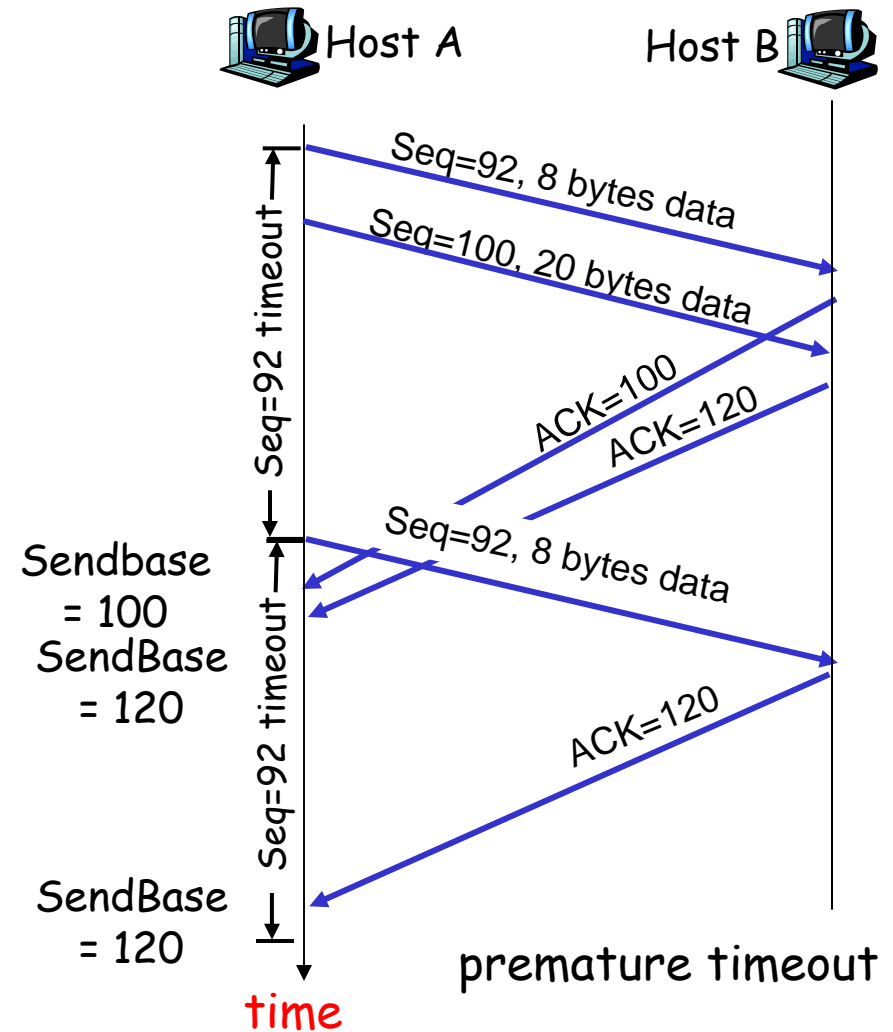
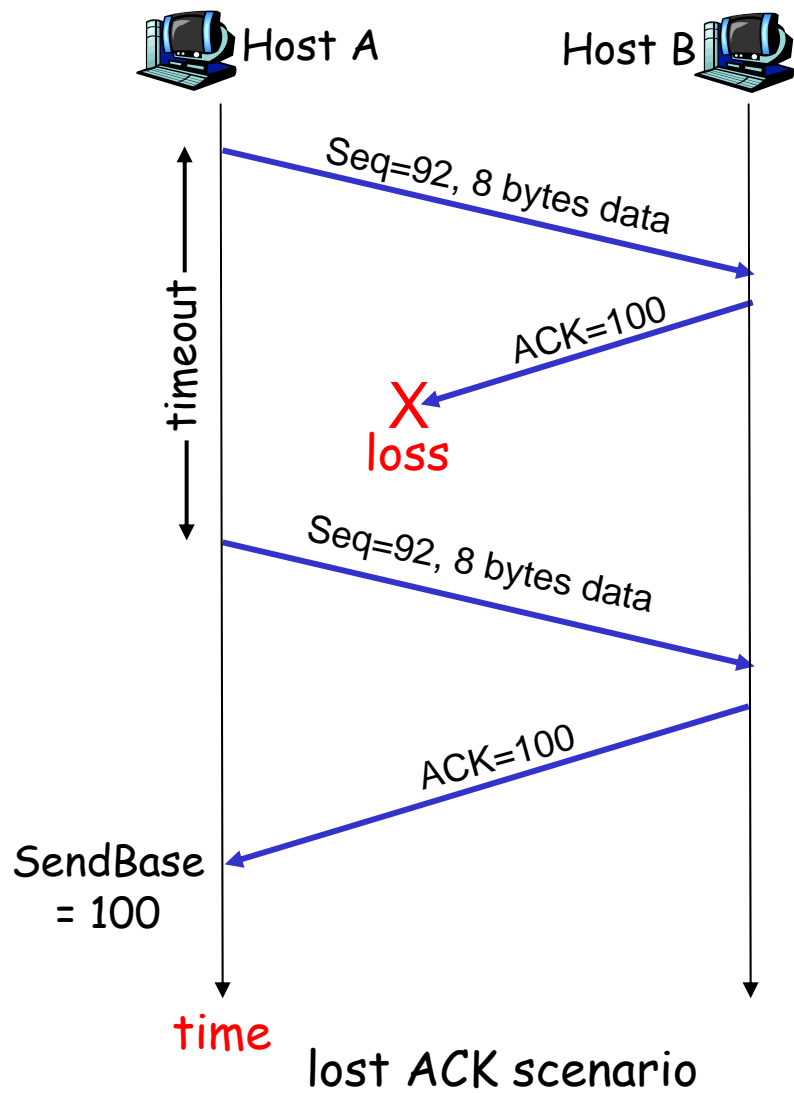
Comment:

- $SendBase-1$: last cumulatively ack'ed byte

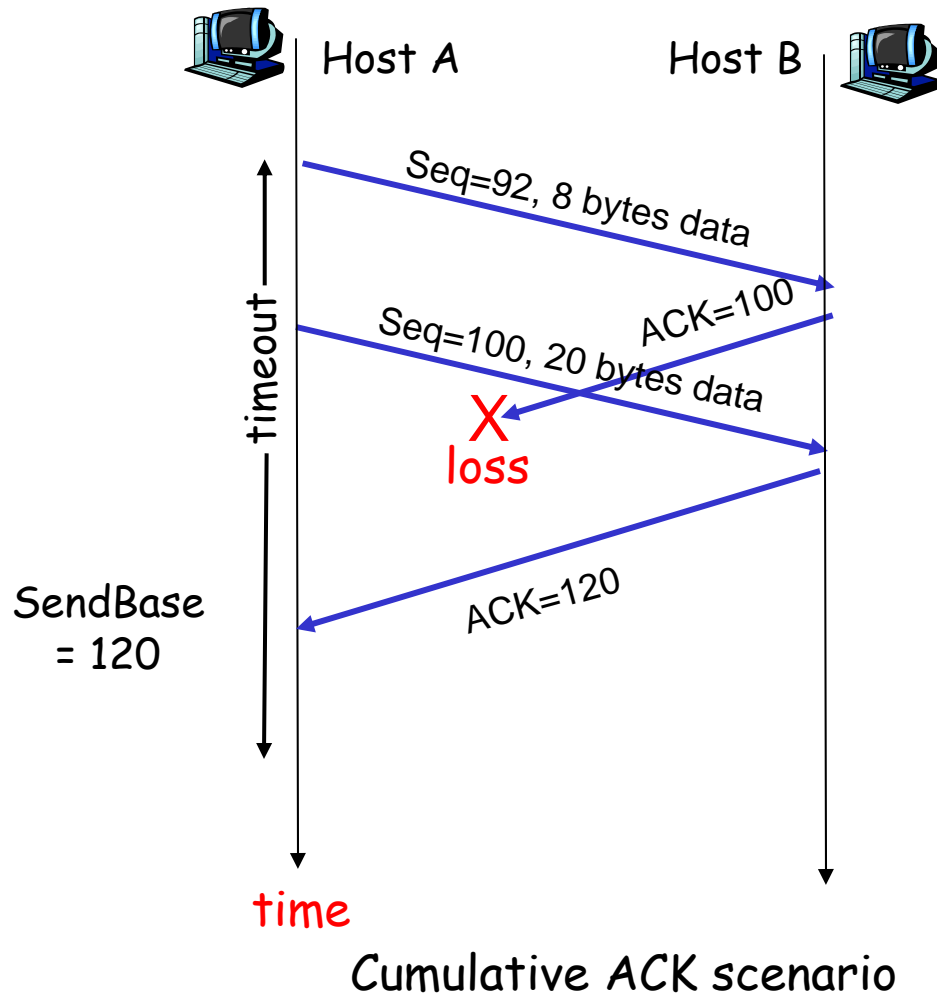
Example:

- $SendBase-1 = 71$;
 $y = 73$, so the rcvr wants $73+$;
 $y > SendBase$, so that new data is acked

TCP: retransmission scenarios



TCP retransmission scenarios (more)



TCP ACK generation [RFC 1122, RFC 2581]

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-expected seq. # . Gap detected

Immediately send duplicate ACK, indicating seq. # of next expected byte

Arrival of segment that partially or completely fills gap

Immediate send ACK, provided that segment starts at lower end of gap

Fast Retransmit

- Time-out period often relatively long:
 - long delay before resending lost packet
- Detect lost segments via duplicate ACKs.
 - Sender often sends many segments back-to-back
 - If segment is lost, there will likely be many duplicate ACKs.
- If sender receives 3 ACKs for the same data, it supposes that segment after ACKed data was lost:
 - fast retransmit: resend segment before timer expires

Fast retransmit algorithm:

```
event: ACK received, with ACK field value of y
  if (y > SendBase) {
    SendBase = y
    if (there are currently not-yet-acknowledged segments)
      start timer
  }
  else {
    increment count of dup ACKs received for y
    if (count of dup ACKs received for y = 3) {
      resend segment with sequence number y
    }
  }
```

a duplicate ACK for
already ACKed segment

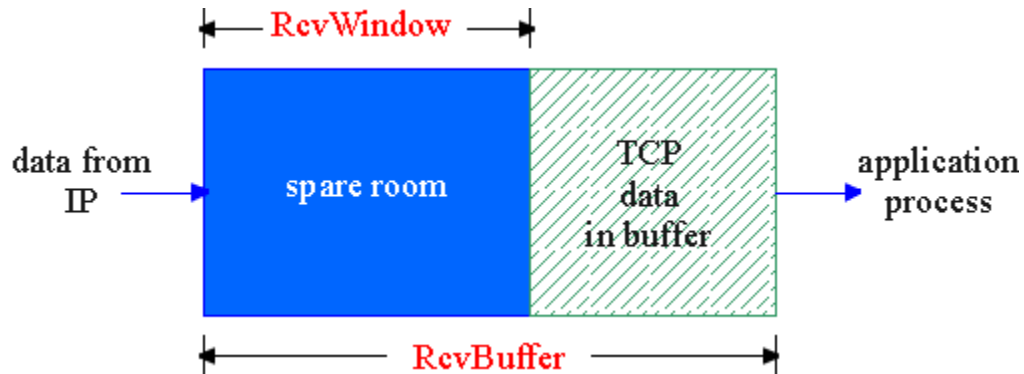
fast retransmit

Chapter 3 outline

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TCP Flow Control

- receive side of TCP connection has a receive buffer:

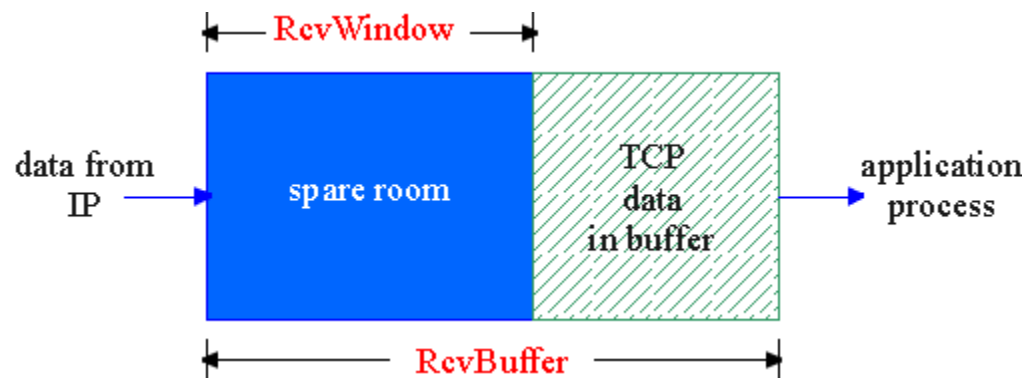


- app process may be slow at reading from buffer

flow control
sender won't overflow receiver's buffer by transmitting too much, too fast

- speed-matching service: matching the send rate to the receiving app's drain rate

TCP Flow control: how it works



(Suppose TCP receiver discards out-of-order segments)

- spare room in buffer
- = RcvWindow
- = $\text{RcvBuffer} - [\text{LastByteRcvd} - \text{LastByteRead}]$

- Rcvr advertises spare room by including value of RcvWindow in segments
- Sender limits unACKed data to RcvWindow
 - guarantees receive buffer doesn't overflow

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TCP Connection Management

Recall: TCP sender, receiver establish "connection" before exchanging data segments

- initialize TCP variables:
 - seq. #s
 - buffers, flow control info (e.g. RcvWindow)
- *client*: connection initiator

```
Socket clientSocket = new
Socket("hostname", "port
number");
```
- *server*: contacted by client

```
Socket connectionSocket =
welcomeSocket.accept();
```

Three way handshake:

Step 1: client host sends TCP SYN segment to server

- specifies initial seq #
- no data

Step 2: server host receives SYN, replies with SYNACK segment

- server allocates buffers
- specifies server initial seq. #

Step 3: client receives SYNACK, replies with ACK segment, which may contain data

TCP Connection Management (cont.)

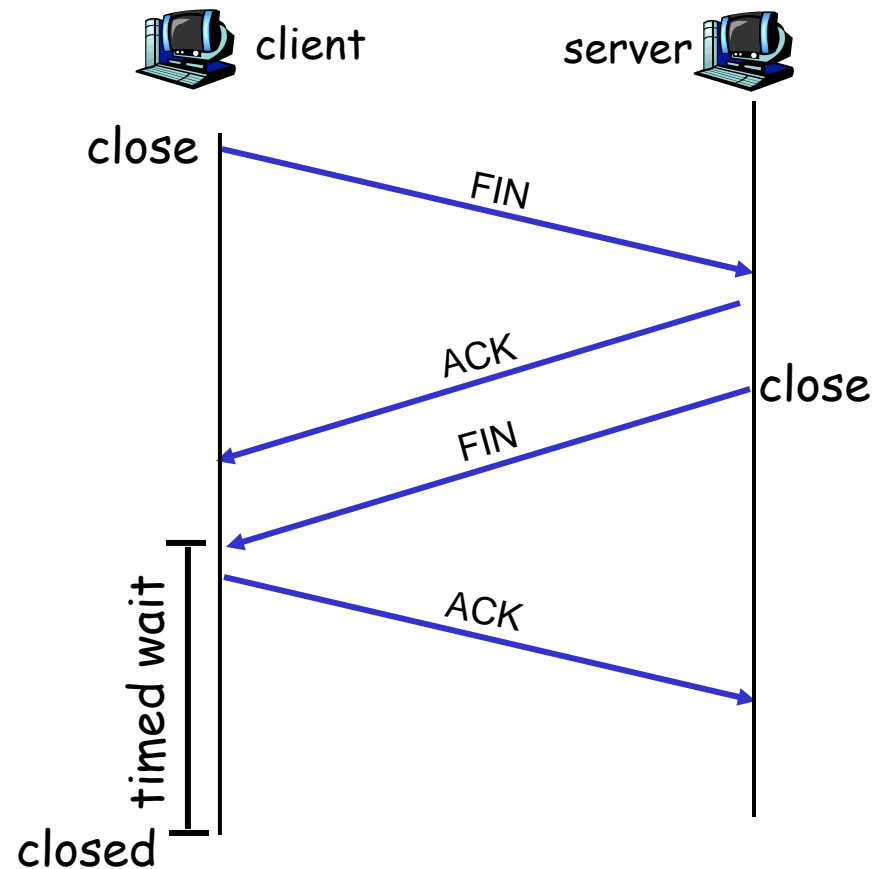
Closing a connection:

client closes socket:

```
clientSocket.close();
```

Step 1: client end system sends TCP FIN control segment to server

Step 2: server receives FIN, replies with ACK. Closes connection, sends FIN.



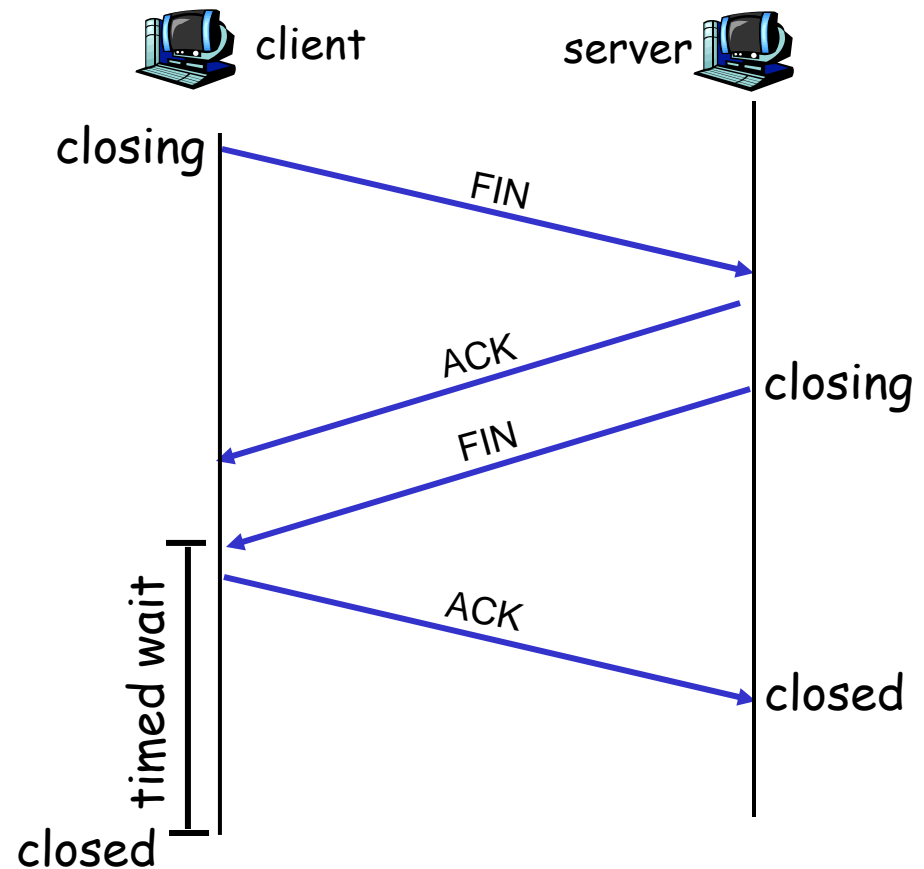
TCP Connection Management (cont.)

Step 3: client receives FIN, replies with ACK.

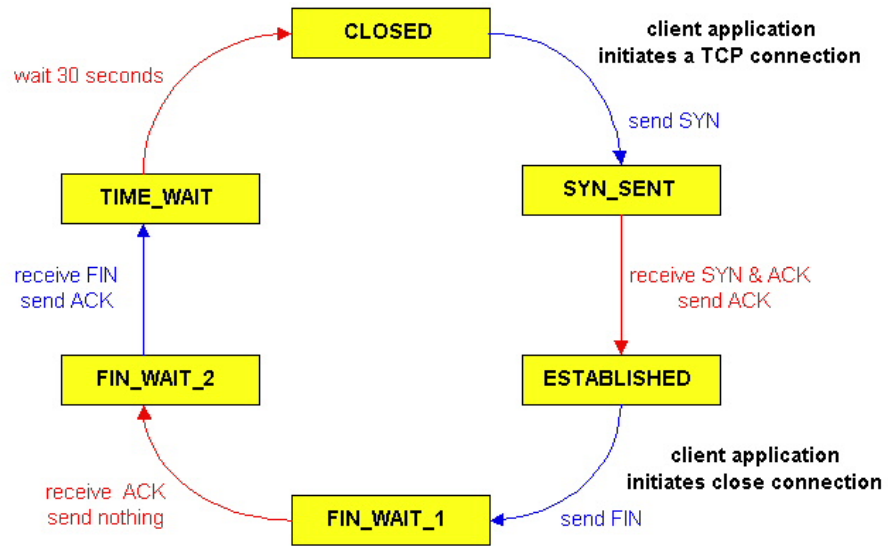
- Enters "timed wait" - will respond with ACK to received FINs

Step 4: server, receives ACK. Connection closed.

Note: with small modification, can handle simultaneous FINs.

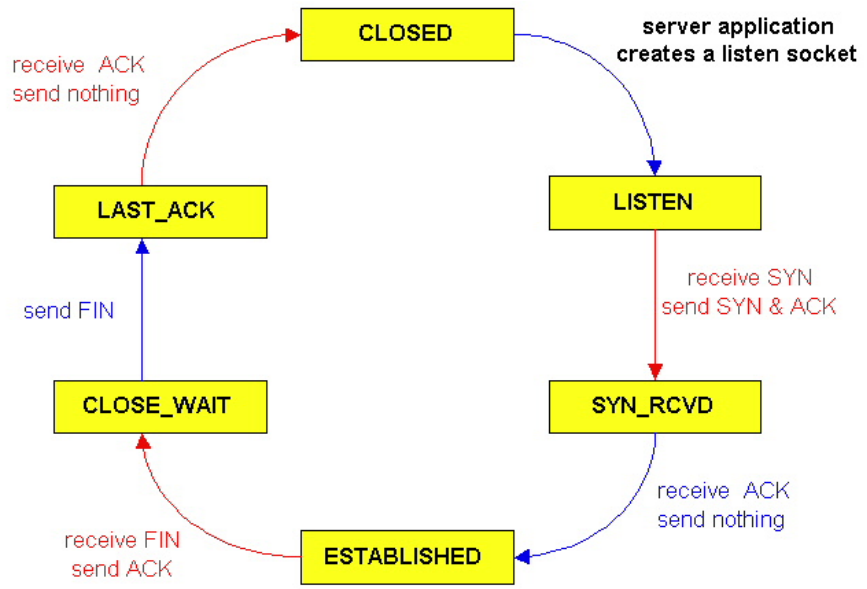


TCP Connection Management (cont)



TCP client lifecycle

TCP server lifecycle



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- ❑ 3.5 Connection-oriented transport: TCP
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 - flow control
 - connection management
- ❑ 3.6 Principles of congestion control
- ❑ 3.7 TCP congestion control

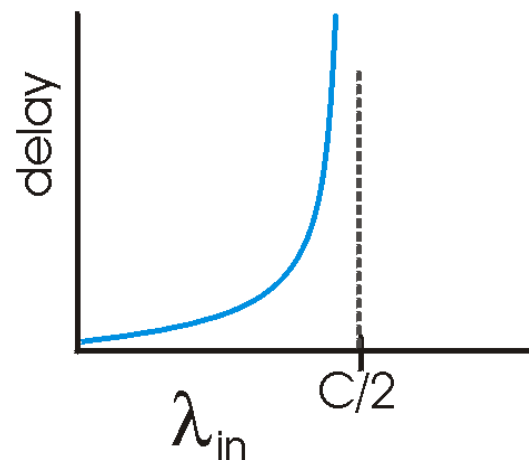
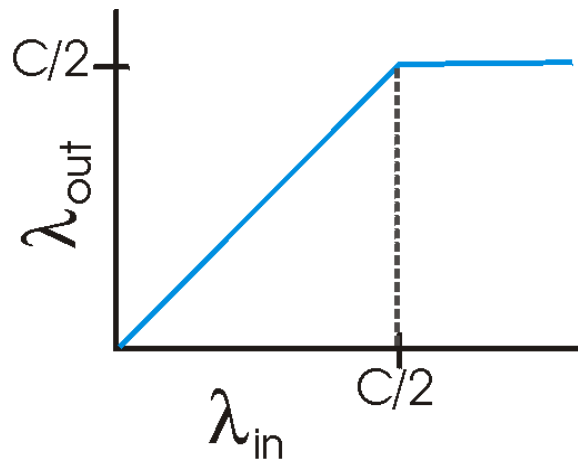
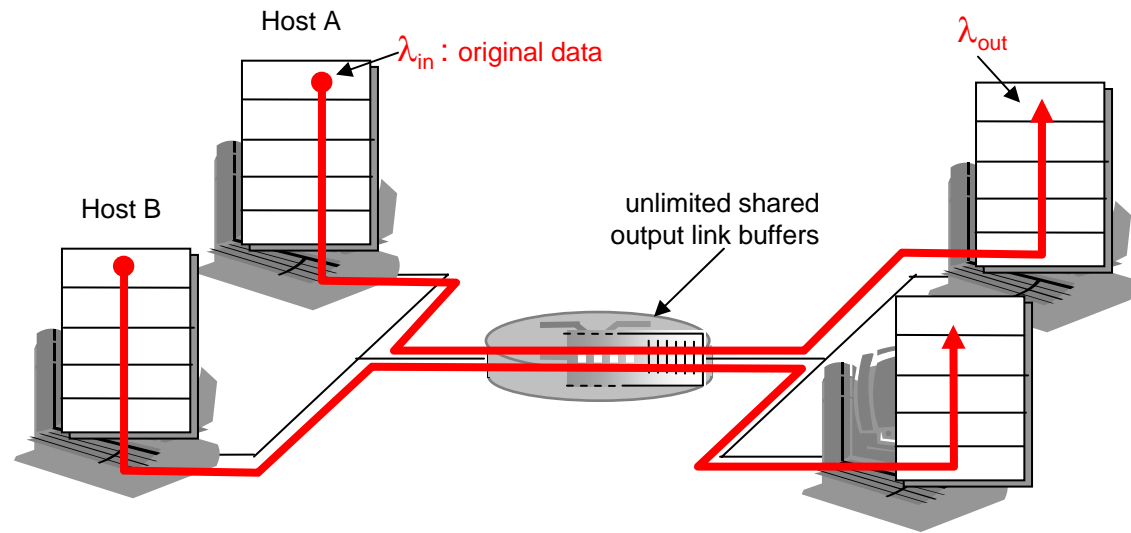
Principles of Congestion Control

Congestion:

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

Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 1

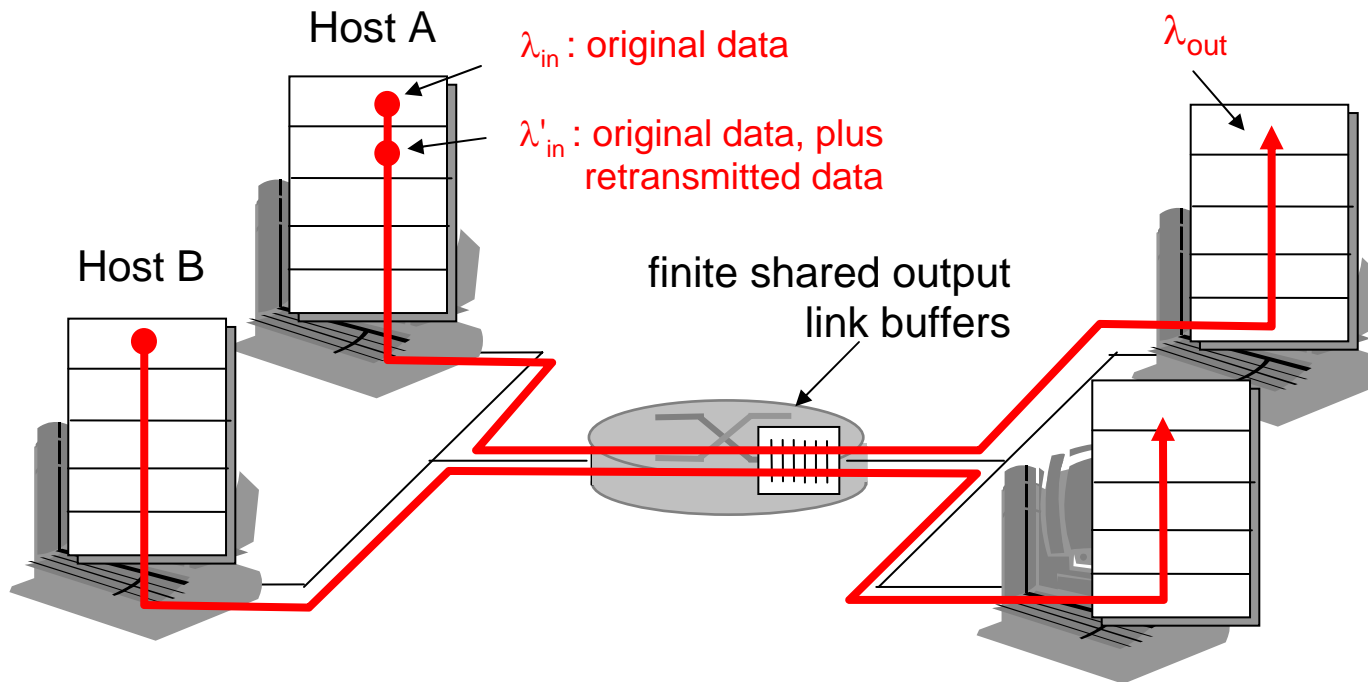
- two senders, two receivers
- one router, infinite buffers
- no retransmission



- large delays when congested
- maximum achievable throughput

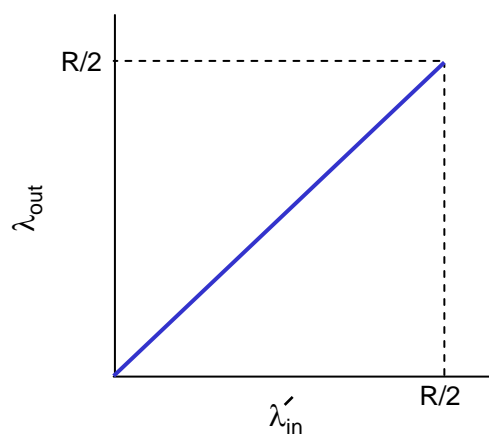
Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

- one router, *finite* buffers
- sender retransmission of lost packet

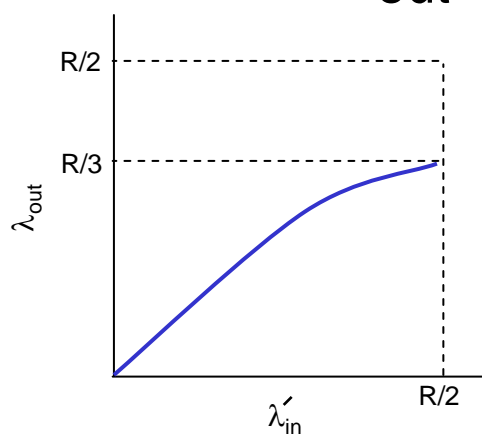


Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

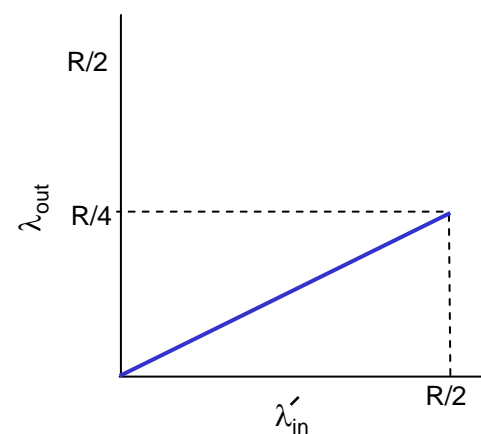
- always: $\lambda_{in} = \lambda_{out}$ (goodput)
- "perfect" retransmission only when loss: $\lambda'_{in} > \lambda_{out}$
- retransmission of delayed (not lost) packet makes λ'_{in} larger (than perfect case) for same λ_{out} (timeout)



a.



b.



c.

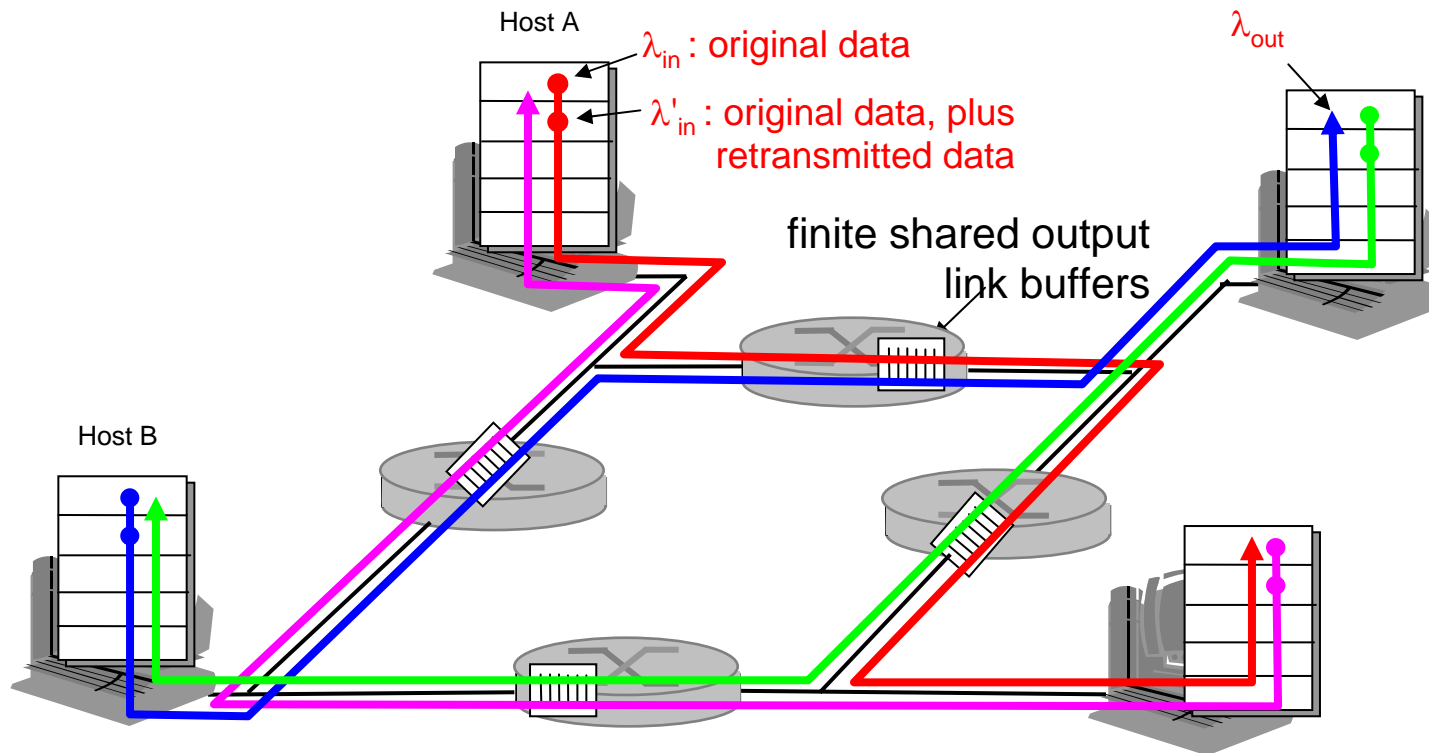
"costs" of congestion:

- more work (retrans) for given "goodput"
- unneeded retransmissions: link carries multiple copies of pkt

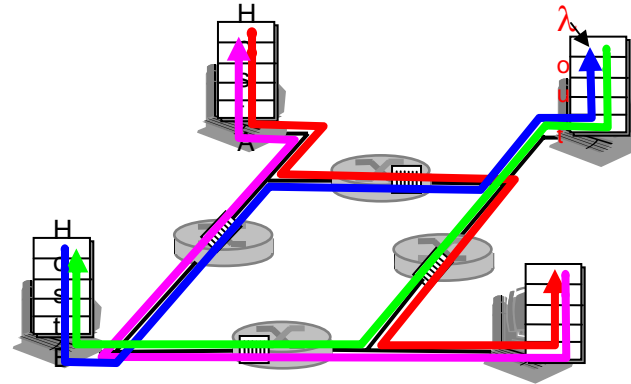
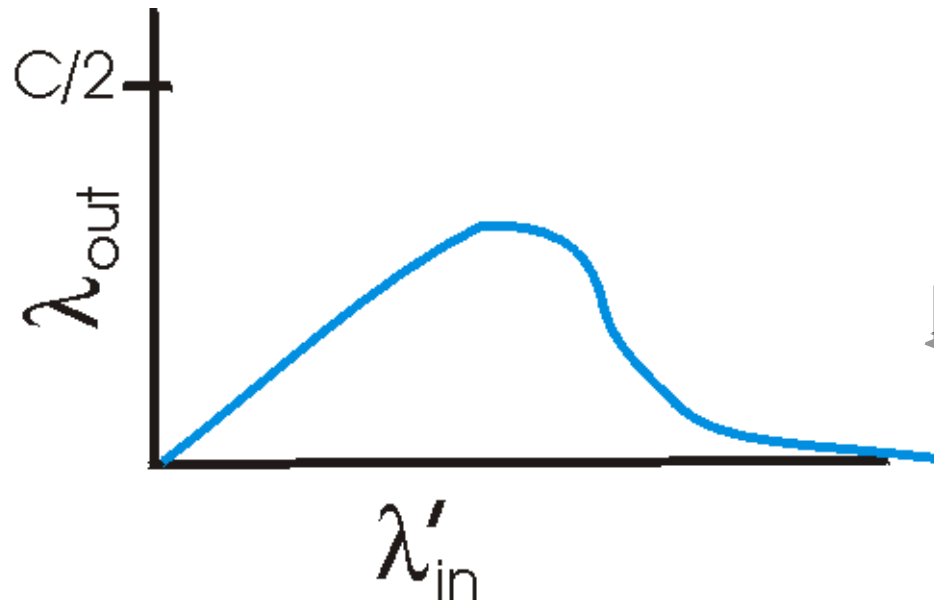
Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 3

- ❑ four senders
- ❑ multihop paths
- ❑ timeout/retransmit

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



Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 3



Another "cost" of congestion:

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

Approaches towards congestion control

Two broad approaches towards congestion control:

End-end congestion control:

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

Network-assisted congestion control:

- ❑ routers provide feedback to end systems
 - single bit indicating congestion (SNA, DECbit, TCP/IP ECN, ATM)
 - explicit rate sender should send at

Case study: ATM ABR congestion control

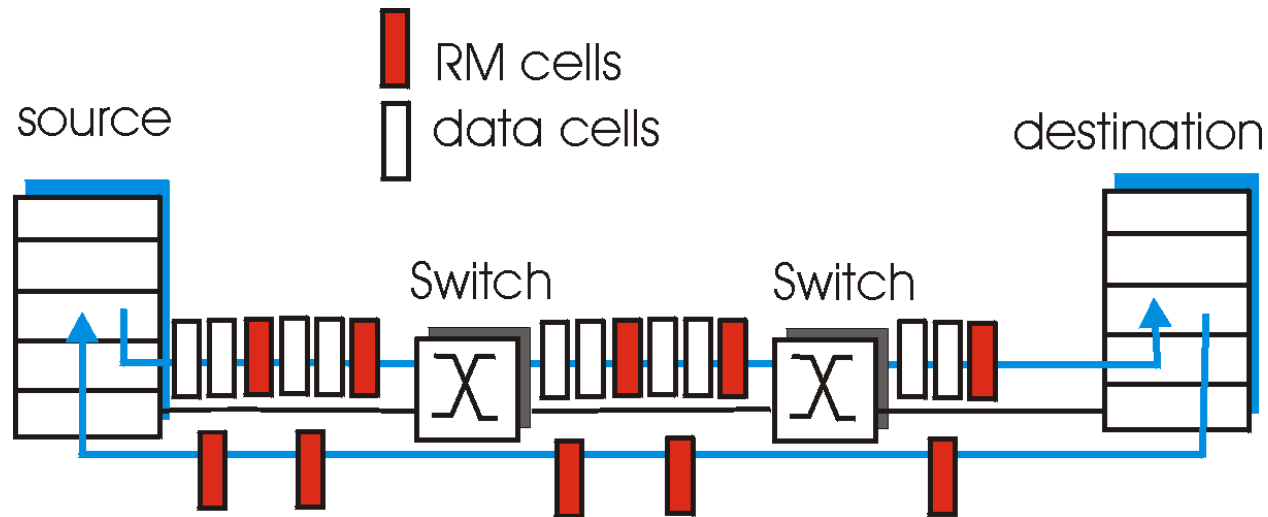
ABR: available bit rate:

- "elastic service"
- if sender's path "underloaded":
 - sender should use available bandwidth
- if sender's path congested:
 - sender throttled to minimum guaranteed rate

RM (resource management) cells:

- sent by sender, interspersed with data cells
- bits in RM cell set by switches ("*network-assisted*")
 - NI bit: no increase in rate (mild congestion)
 - CI bit: congestion indication
- RM cells returned to sender by receiver, with bits intact

Case study: ATM ABR congestion control



- two-byte ER (explicit rate) field in RM cell
 - congested switch may lower ER value in cell
 - sender' send rate thus minimum supportable rate on path
- EFCI bit in data cells: set to 1 in congested switch
 - if data cell preceding RM cell has EFCI set, sender sets CI bit in returned RM cell

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TCP Congestion Control

- ❑ end-end control (no network assistance)
- ❑ sender limits transmission:
 $\text{LastByteSent} - \text{LastByteAcked} \leq \text{CongWin}$
- ❑ Roughly,

$$\text{rate} = \frac{\text{CongWin}}{\text{RTT}} \text{ Bytes/sec}$$

- ❑ CongWin is dynamic, function of perceived network congestion

How does sender perceive congestion?

- ❑ loss event = timeout *or* 3 duplicate acks
- ❑ TCP sender reduces rate (CongWin) after loss event

three mechanisms:

- AIMD
- slow start
- conservative after timeout events

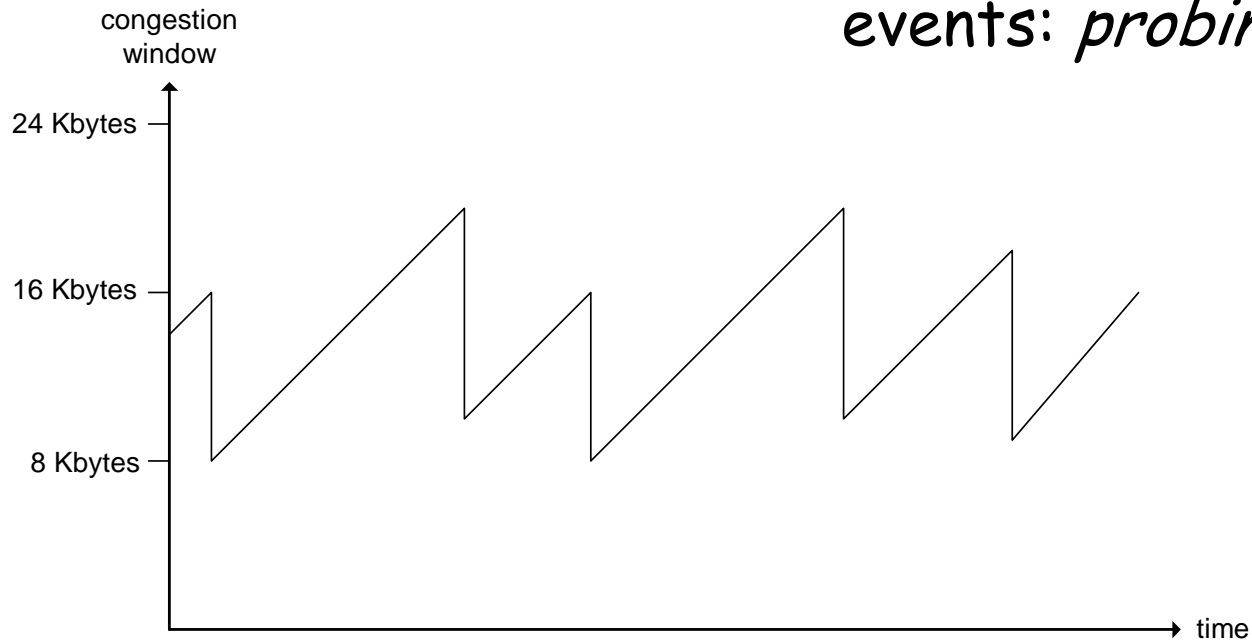
TCP AIMD

multiplicative decrease:

cut CongWin in half
after loss event

additive increase:

increase CongWin by
1 MSS every RTT in
the absence of loss
events: *probing*



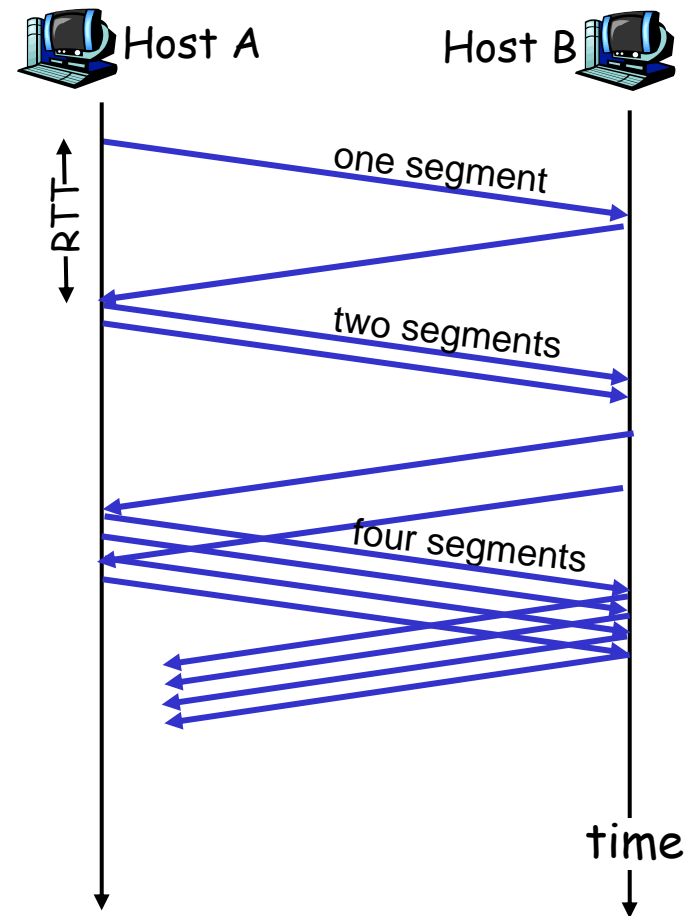
Long-lived TCP connection

TCP Slow Start

- When connection begins, CongWin = 1 MSS
 - Example: MSS = 500 bytes & RTT = 200 msec
 - initial rate = 20 kbps
- available bandwidth may be \gg MSS/RTT
 - desirable to quickly ramp up to respectable rate
- When connection begins, increase rate exponentially fast until first loss event

TCP Slow Start (more)

- When connection begins, increase rate exponentially until first loss event:
 - double CongWin every RTT
 - done by incrementing CongWin for every ACK received
- Summary: initial rate is slow but ramps up exponentially fast



Refinement

- After 3 dup ACKs:
 - CongWin is cut in half
 - window then grows linearly
- But after timeout event:
 - CongWin instead set to 1 MSS;
 - window then grows exponentially
 - to a threshold, then grows linearly

Philosophy:

- 3 dup ACKs indicates network capable of delivering some segments
- timeout before 3 dup ACKs is "more alarming"

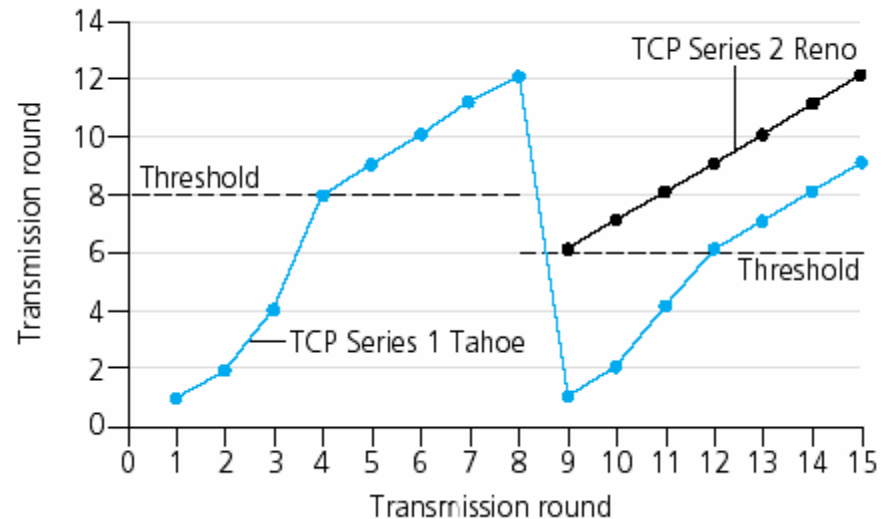
Refinement (more)

Q: When should the exponential increase switch to linear?

A: When `CongWin` gets to 1/2 of its value before timeout.

Implementation:

- ❑ Variable Threshold
- ❑ At loss event, Threshold is set to 1/2 of `CongWin` just before loss event



Summary: TCP Congestion Control

- ❑ When CongWin is below Threshold, sender in **slow-start** phase, window grows exponentially.
- ❑ When CongWin is above Threshold, sender is in **congestion-avoidance** phase, window grows linearly.
- ❑ When a **triple duplicate ACK** occurs, Threshold set to $\text{CongWin}/2$ and CongWin set to Threshold.
- ❑ When **timeout** occurs, Threshold set to $\text{CongWin}/2$ and CongWin is set to 1 MSS.

TCP sender congestion control

Event	State	TCP Sender Action	Commentary
ACK receipt for previously unacked data	Slow Start (SS)	CongWin = CongWin + MSS, If (CongWin > Threshold) set state to "Congestion Avoidance"	Resulting in a doubling of CongWin every RTT
ACK receipt for previously unacked data	Congestion Avoidance (CA)	CongWin = CongWin + MSS * (MSS / CongWin)	Additive increase, resulting in increase of CongWin by 1 MSS every RTT
Loss event detected by triple duplicate ACK	SS or CA	Threshold = CongWin / 2, CongWin = Threshold, Set state to "Congestion Avoidance"	Fast recovery, implementing multiplicative decrease. CongWin will not drop below 1 MSS.
Timeout	SS or CA	Threshold = CongWin / 2, CongWin = 1 MSS, Set state to "Slow Start"	Enter slow start
Duplicate ACK	SS or CA	Increment duplicate ACK count for segment being acked	CongWin and Threshold not changed

TCP throughput

- ❑ What's the average throughput of TCP as a function of window size and RTT?
 - Ignore slow start
- ❑ Let W be the window size when loss occurs.
- ❑ When window is W , throughput is W/RTT
- ❑ Just after loss, window drops to $W/2$, throughput to $W/2RTT$.
- ❑ Average throughput: $.75 W/RTT$

TCP Futures

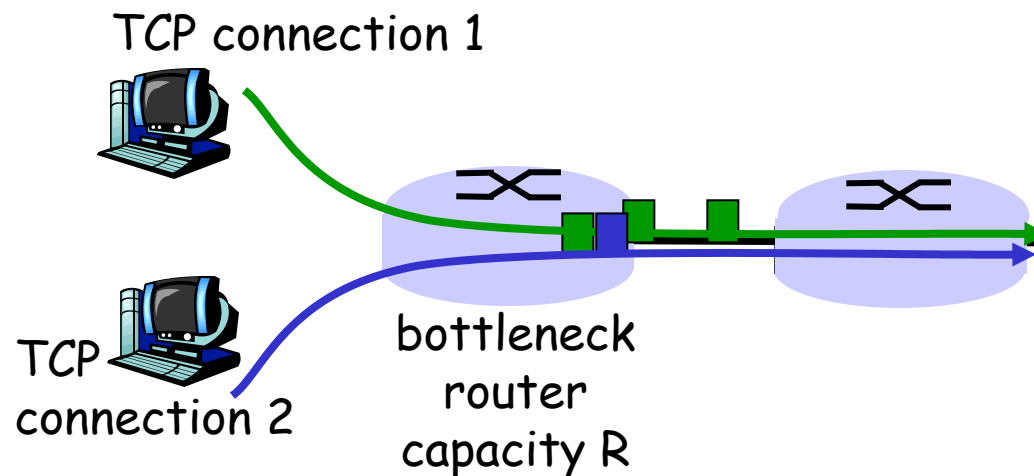
- ❑ Example: 1500 byte segments, 100ms RTT, want 10 Gbps throughput
- ❑ Requires window size $W = 83,333$ in-flight segments
- ❑ Throughput in terms of loss rate:

$$\frac{1.22 \cdot MSS}{RTT \sqrt{L}}$$

- ❑ $\rightarrow L = 2 \cdot 10^{-10}$ *Wow*
- ❑ New versions of TCP for high-speed needed!

TCP Fairness

Fairness goal: if K TCP sessions share same bottleneck link of bandwidth R , each should have average rate of R/K



Why is TCP fair?

Two competing sessions:

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



Fairness (more)

Fairness and UDP

- ❑ Multimedia apps often do not use TCP
 - do not want rate throttled by congestion control
- ❑ Instead use UDP:
 - pump audio/video at constant rate, tolerate packet loss
- ❑ Research area: TCP friendly

Fairness and parallel TCP connections

- ❑ nothing prevents app from opening parallel connections between 2 hosts.
- ❑ Web browsers do this
- ❑ Example: link of rate R supporting 9 connections;
 - new app asks for 1 TCP, gets rate $R/10$
 - new app asks for 11 TCPs, gets $R/2$!

Delay modeling

Q: How long does it take to receive an object from a Web server after sending a request?

Ignoring congestion, delay is influenced by:

- ❑ TCP connection establishment
- ❑ data transmission delay
- ❑ slow start

Notation, assumptions:

- ❑ Assume one link between client and server of rate R
- ❑ S : MSS (bits)
- ❑ O : object size (bits)
- ❑ no retransmissions (no loss, no corruption)

Window size:

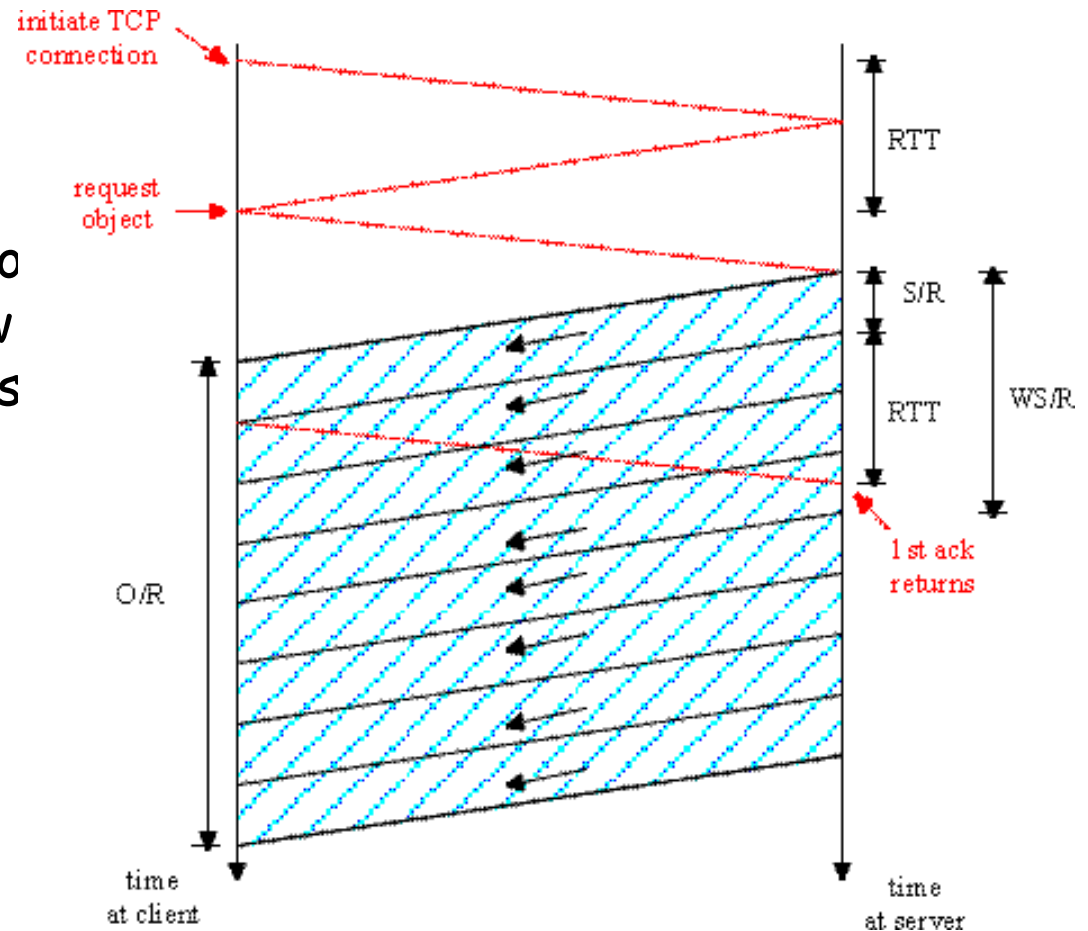
- ❑ First assume: fixed congestion window, W segments
- ❑ Then dynamic window, modeling slow start

Fixed congestion window (1)

First case:

$WS/R > RTT + S/R$: ACK for first segment in window returns before window's worth of data sent

$$\text{delay} = 2RTT + O/R$$

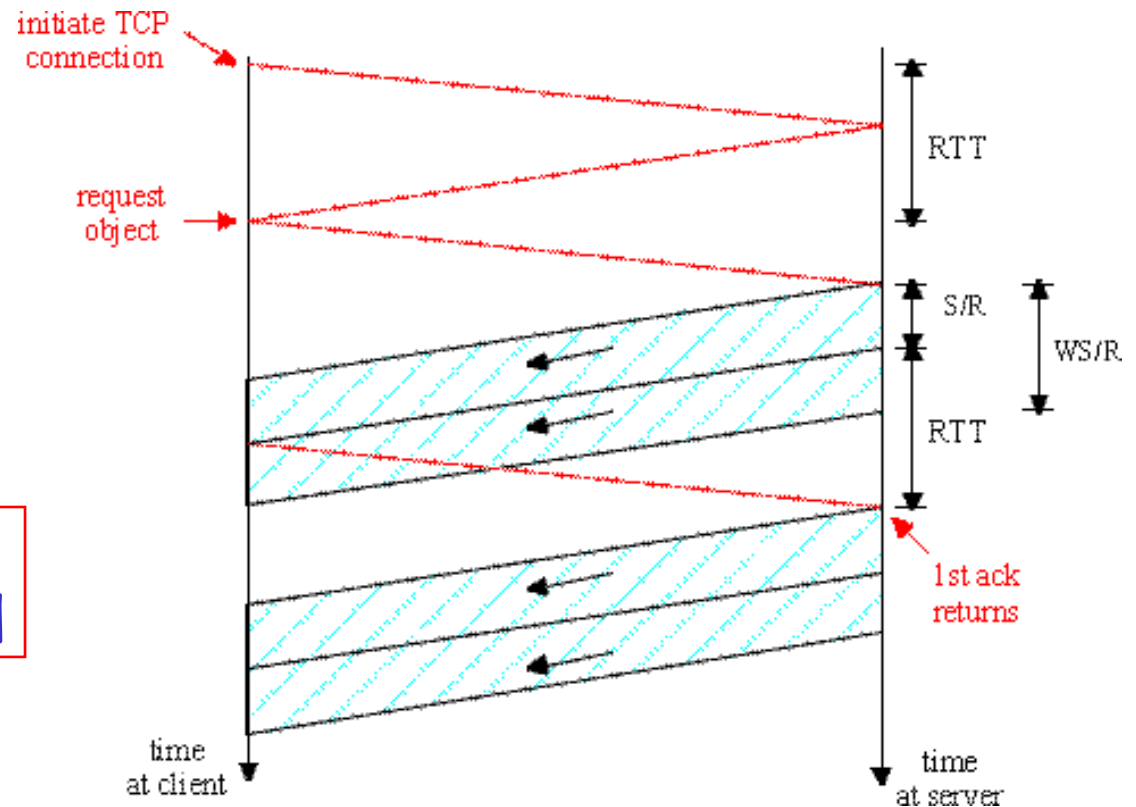


Fixed congestion window (2)

Second case:

- $WS/R < RTT + S/R$: wait for ACK after sending window's worth of data sent

$$\text{delay} = 2RTT + O/R + (K-1)[S/R + RTT - WS/R]$$



TCP Delay Modeling: Slow Start (1)

Now suppose window grows according to slow start

Will show that the delay for one object is:

$$Latency = 2RTT + \frac{O}{R} + P \left[RTT + \frac{S}{R} \right] - (2^P - 1) \frac{S}{R}$$

where P is the number of times TCP idles at server:

$$P = \min\{Q, K - 1\}$$

- where Q is the number of times the server idles if the object were of infinite size.
- and K is the number of windows that cover the object.

TCP Delay Modeling: Slow Start (2)

Delay components:

- 2 RTT for connection estab and request
- O/R to transmit object
- time server idles due to slow start

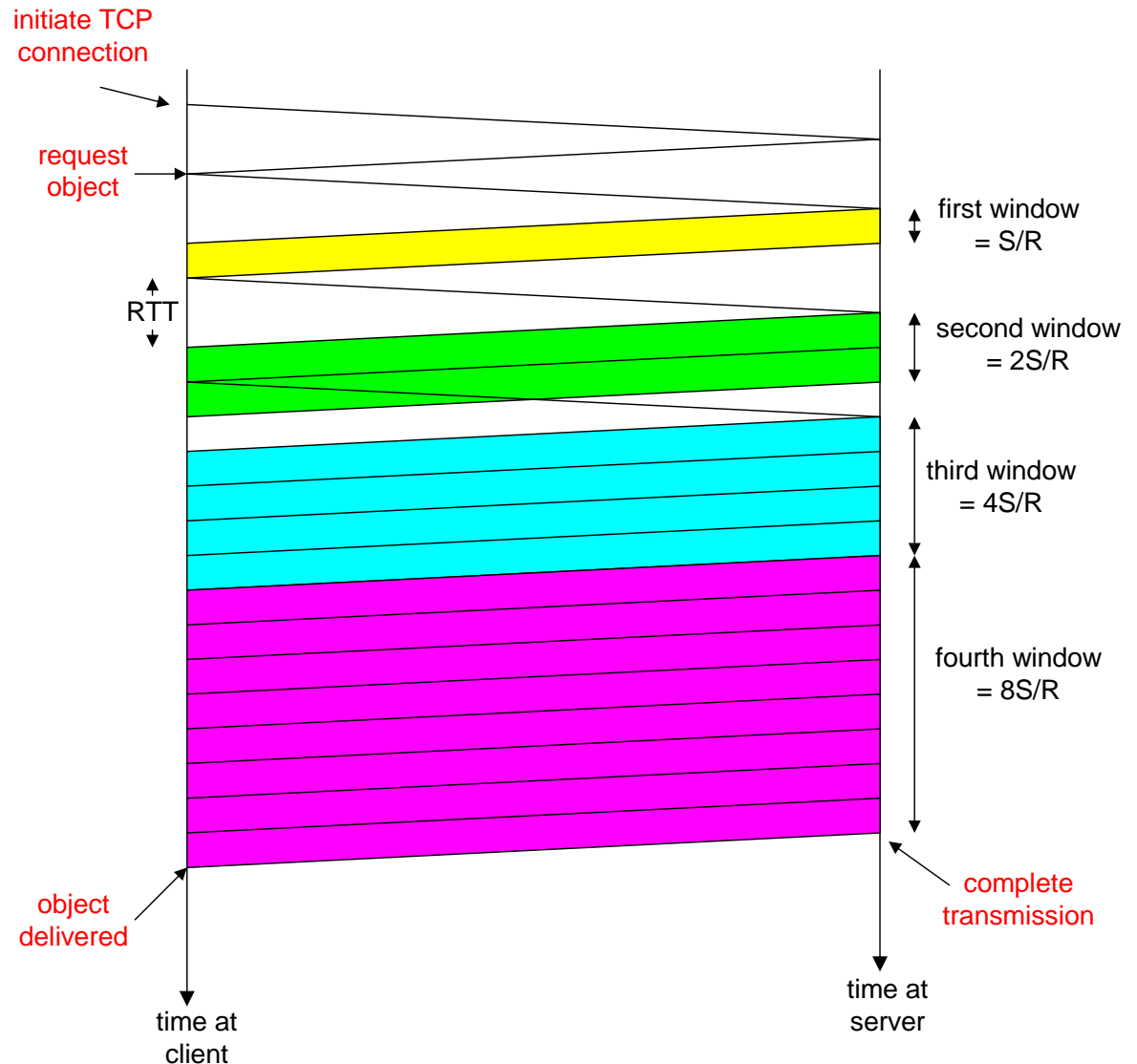
Server idles:

$$P = \min\{K-1, Q\} \text{ times}$$

Example:

- $O/S = 15$ segments
- $K = 4$ windows
- $Q = 2$
- $P = \min\{K-1, Q\} = 2$

Server idles $P=2$ times



TCP Delay Modeling (3)

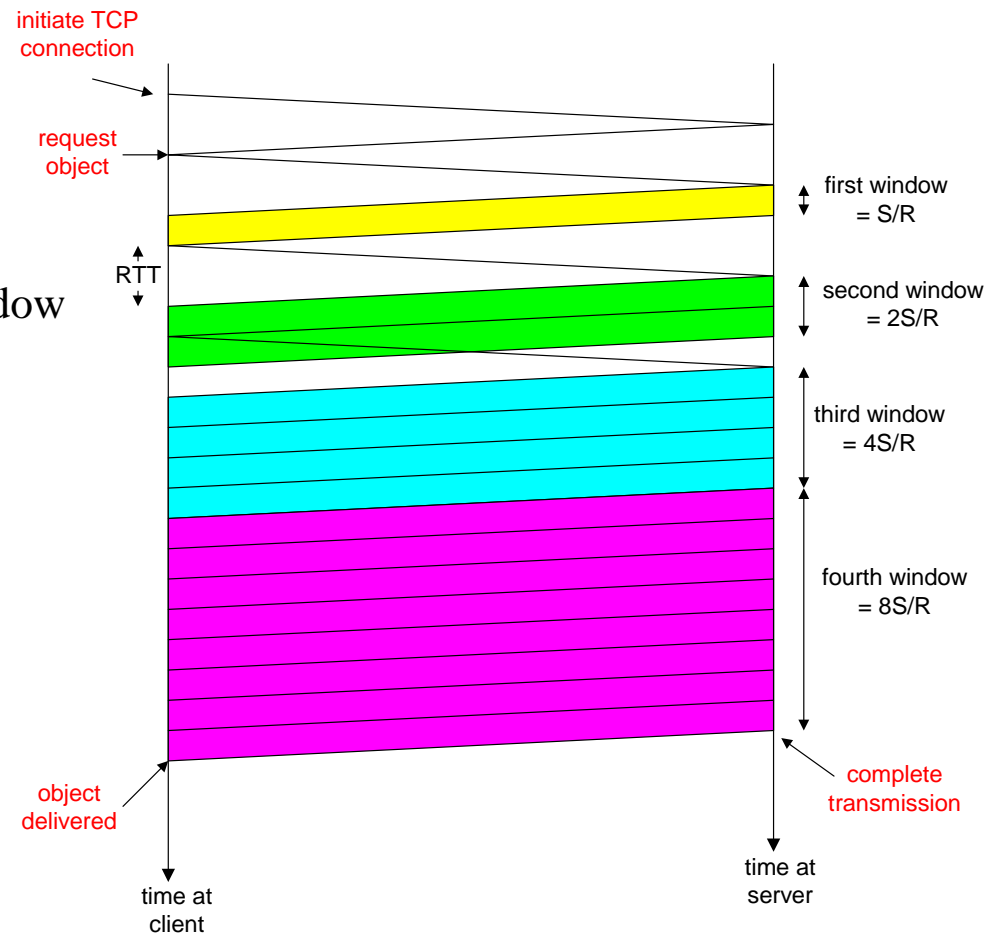
$\frac{S}{R} + RTT =$ time from when server starts to send segment

until server receives acknowledgement

$2^{k-1} \frac{S}{R} =$ time to transmit the k th window

$\left[\frac{S}{R} + RTT - 2^{k-1} \frac{S}{R} \right]^+ =$ idle time after the k th window

$$\begin{aligned} \text{delay} &= \frac{O}{R} + 2RTT + \sum_{p=1}^P \text{idleTime}_p \\ &= \frac{O}{R} + 2RTT + \sum_{k=1}^P \left[\frac{S}{R} + RTT - 2^{k-1} \frac{S}{R} \right] \\ &= \frac{O}{R} + 2RTT + P \left[RTT + \frac{S}{R} \right] - (2^P - 1) \frac{S}{R} \end{aligned}$$



TCP Delay Modeling (4)

Recall K = number of windows that cover object

How do we calculate K ?

$$\begin{aligned} K &= \min\{k : 2^0 S + 2^1 S + \dots + 2^{k-1} S \geq O\} \\ &= \min\{k : 2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^{k-1} \geq O/S\} \\ &= \min\{k : 2^k - 1 \geq \frac{O}{S}\} \\ &= \min\{k : k \geq \log_2(\frac{O}{S} + 1)\} \\ &= \left\lceil \log_2(\frac{O}{S} + 1) \right\rceil \end{aligned}$$

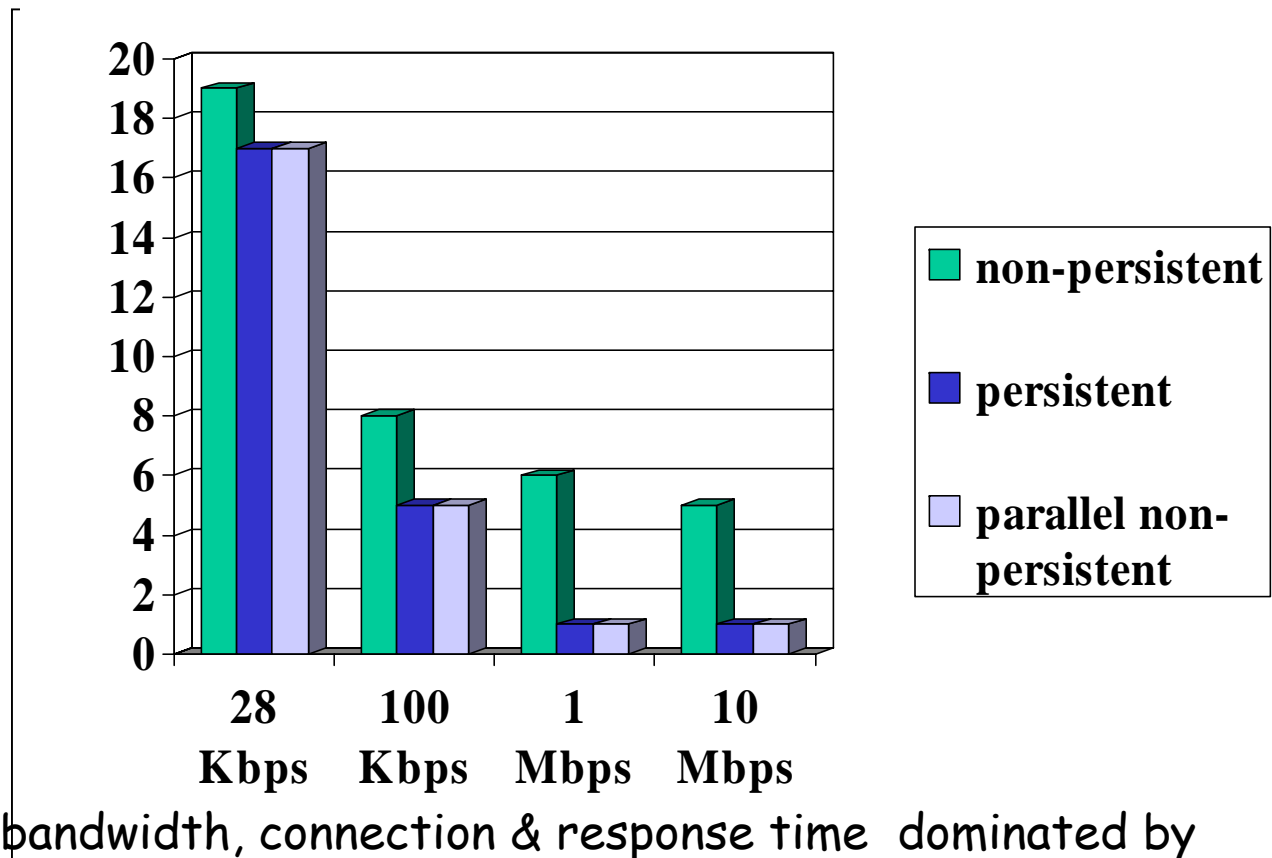
How do we calculate P ?

HTTP Modeling

- Assume Web page consists of:
 - 1 base HTML page (of size O bits)
 - M images (each of size O bits)
- Non-persistent HTTP:
 - $M+1$ TCP connections in series
 - *Response time = $(M+1)O/R + (M+1)2RTT + \text{sum of idle times}$*
- Persistent HTTP:
 - $2 RTT$ to request and receive base HTML file
 - $1 RTT$ to request and receive M images
 - *Response time = $(M+1)O/R + 3RTT + \text{sum of idle times}$*
- Non-persistent HTTP with X parallel connections
 - Suppose M/X integer.
 - 1 TCP connection for base file
 - M/X sets of parallel connections for images.
 - *Response time = $(M+1)O/R + (M/X + 1)2RTT + \text{sum of idle times}$*

HTTP Response time (in seconds)

RTT = 100 msec, O = 5 Kbytes, M=10 and X=5

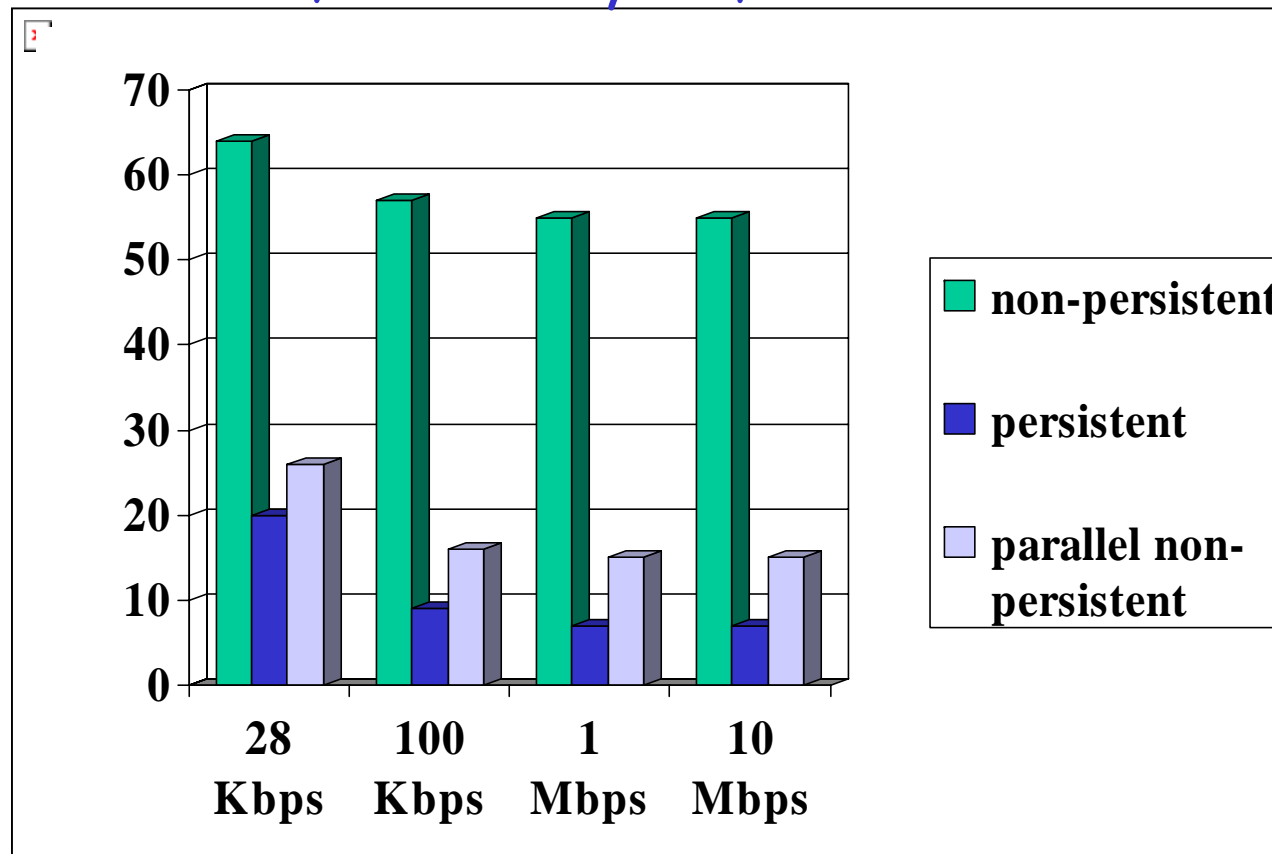


For low bandwidth, connection & response time dominated by transmission time.

Persistent connections only give minor improvement over parallel connections.

HTTP Response time (in seconds)

RTT = 1 sec, O = 5 Kbytes, M=10 and X=5



For larger RTT, response time dominated by TCP establishment & slow start delays. Persistent connections now give important improvement: particularly in high delay•bandwidth networks.

Chapter 3: Summary

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

Next:

- ❑ leaving the network "edge" (application, transport layers)
- ❑ into the network "core"