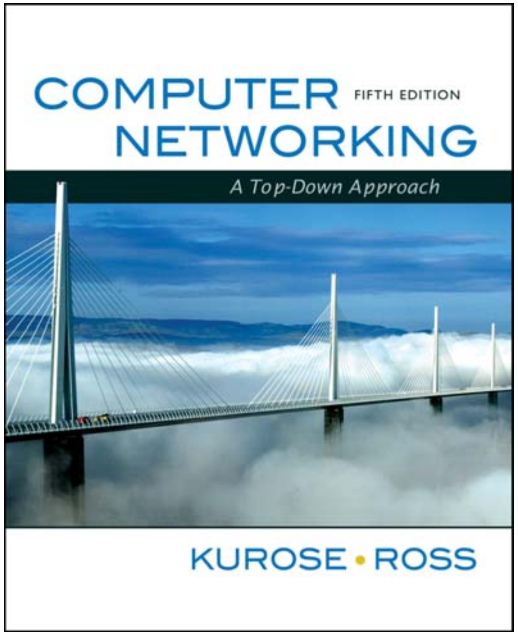
Chapter 3
Transport Layer



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Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach
5th edition.
Jim Kurose, Keith Ross
Addison-Wesley, April 2009.

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

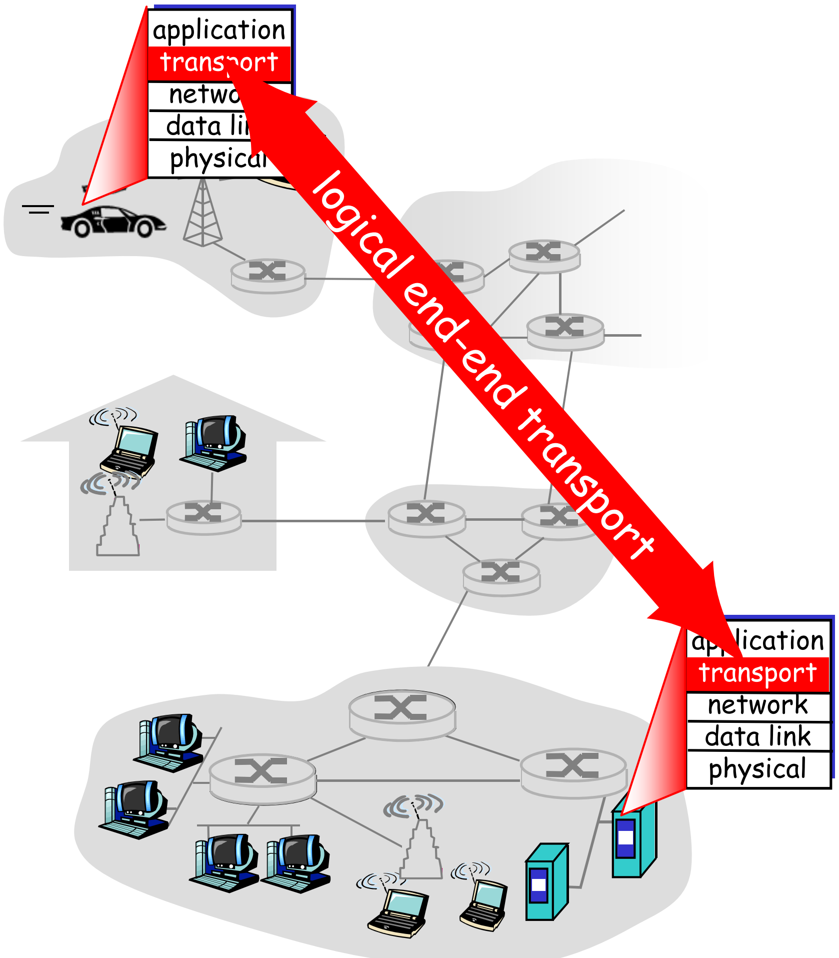
3.5 Connection-oriented transport: TCP
- segment structure
- reliable data transfer
- flow control
- connection management

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

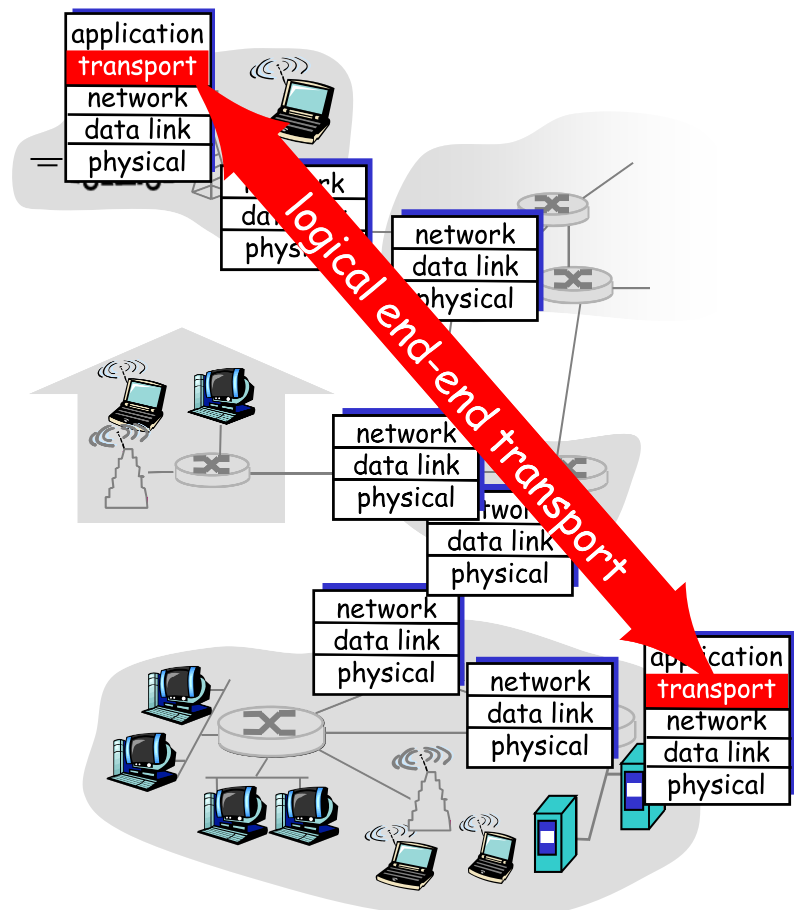
Household analogy:

12 kids sending letters to 12 kids

- processes = kids
- app messages = letters in envelopes
- hosts = houses
- transport protocol = Ann and Bill who demux to in-house siblings
- 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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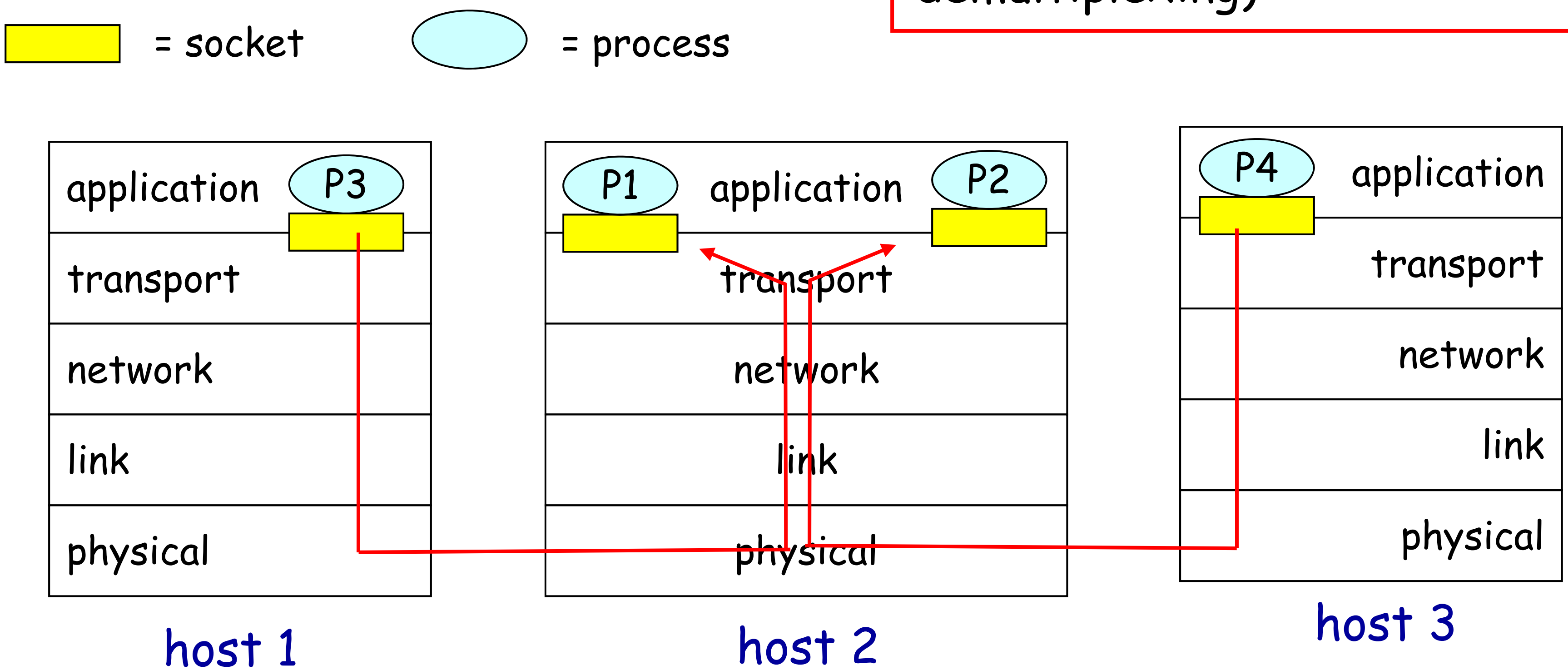
Multiplexing/demultiplexing

Demultiplexing at rcv host:

delivering received segments to correct socket

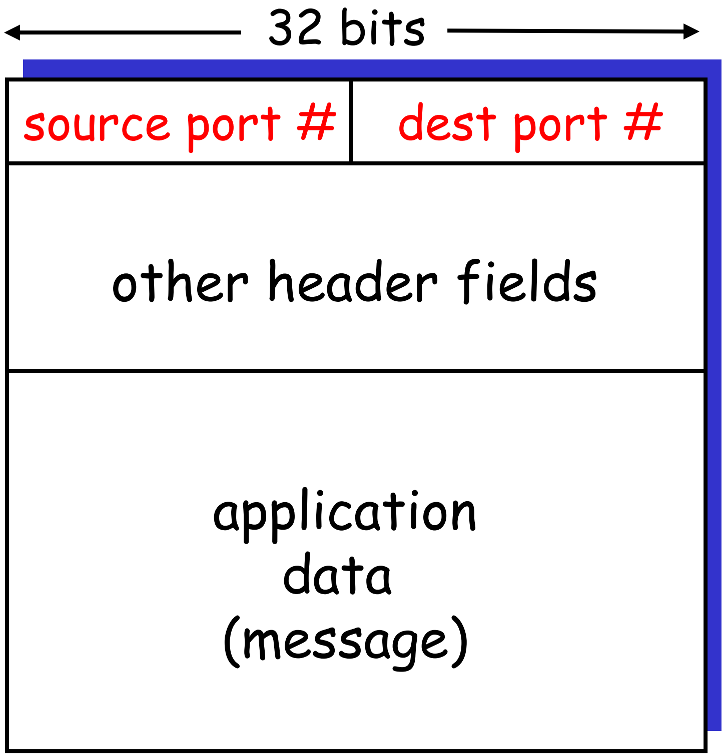
Multiplexing at send host:

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



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
- host uses IP addresses & port numbers to direct segment to appropriate socket



TCP/UDP segment format

Connectionless demultiplexing

- *recall:* create sockets with host-local port numbers:

```
DatagramSocket mySocket1 = new
   DatagramSocket(12534);
DatagramSocket mySocket2 = new
   DatagramSocket(12535);
```

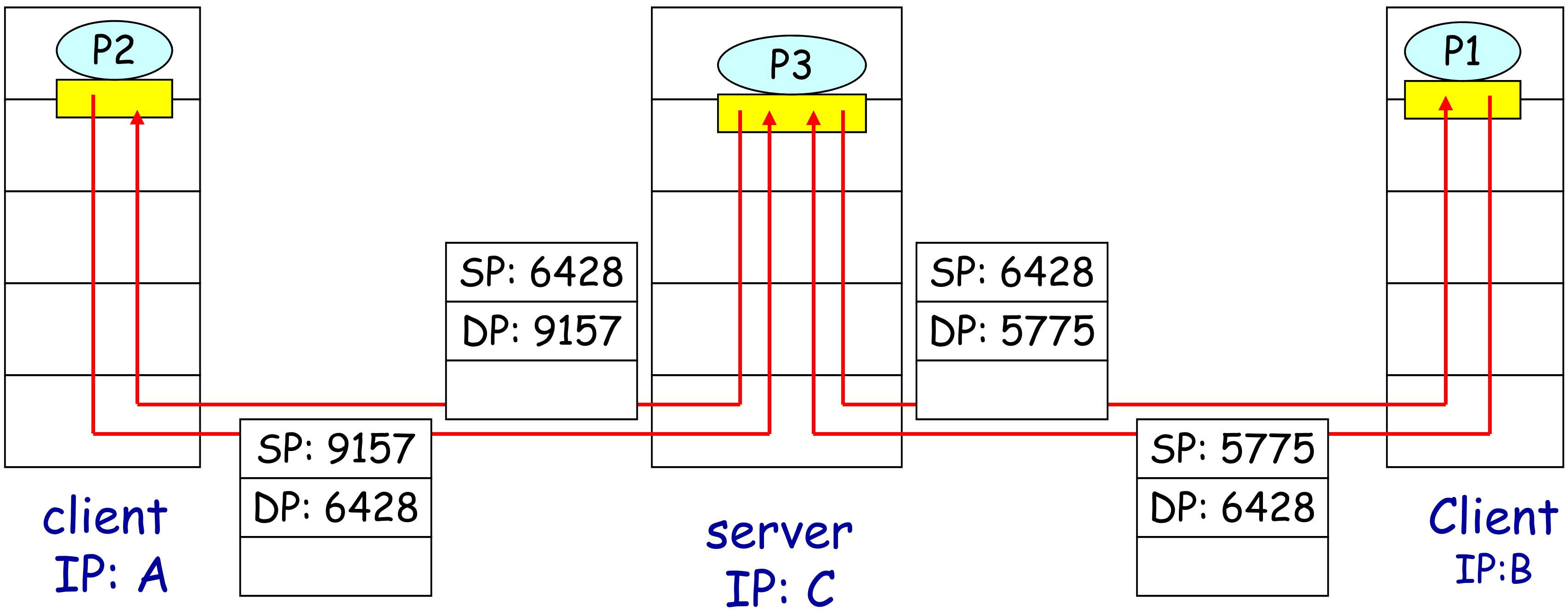
- *recall:* when creating datagram to send into UDP socket, must specify

(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);
```

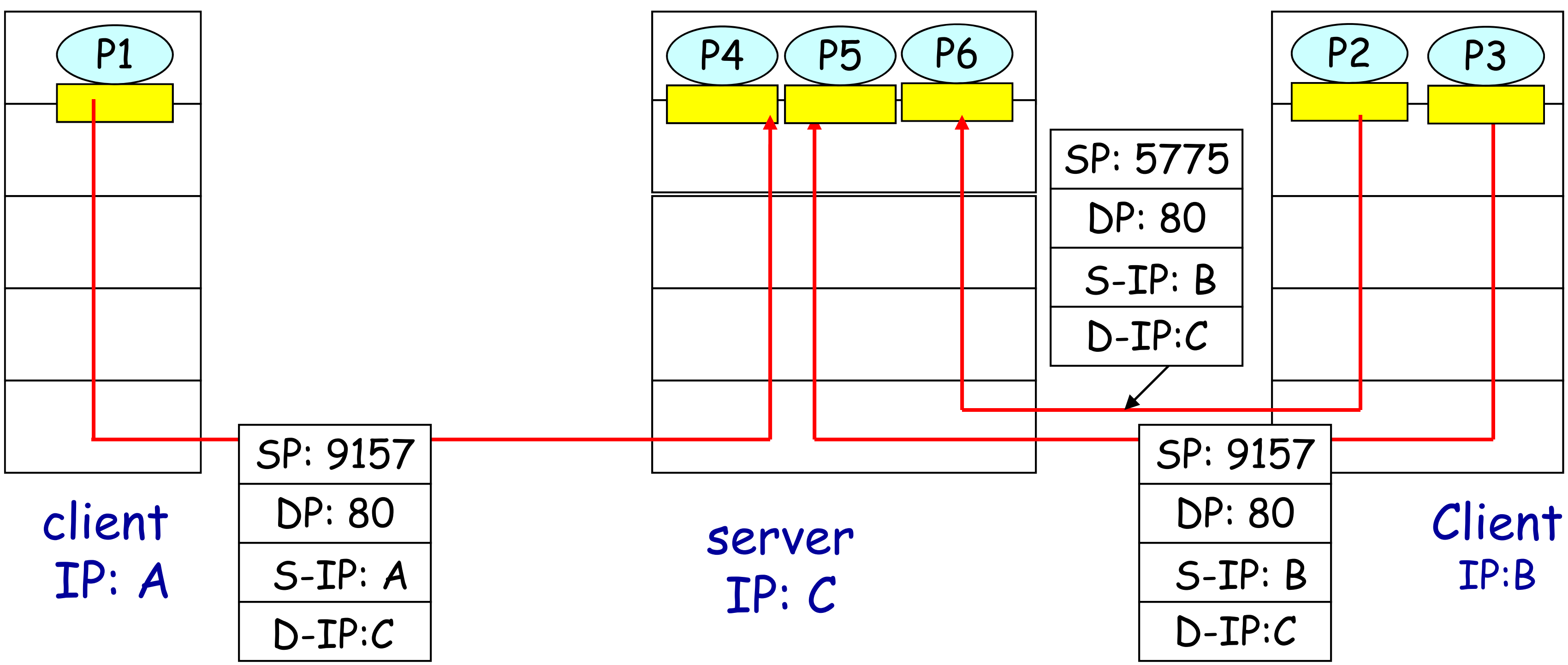


SP provides "return address"

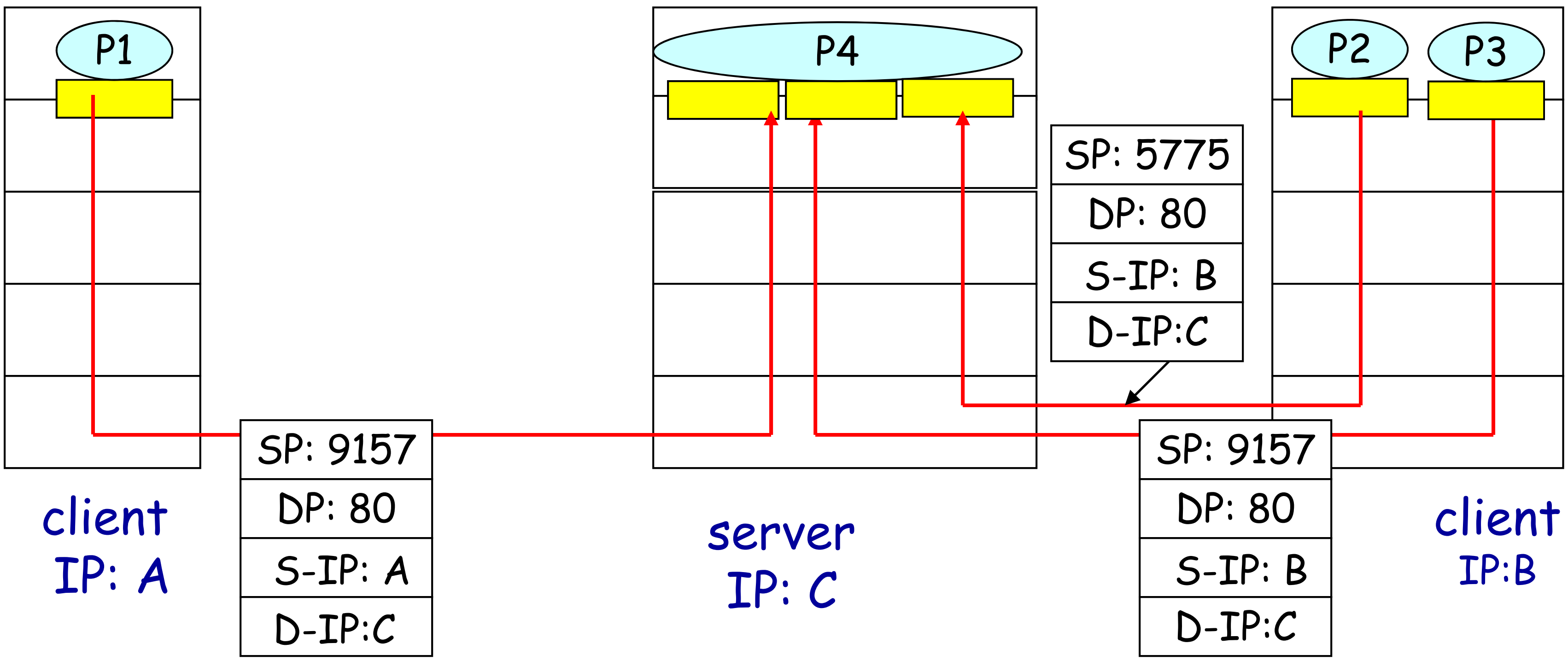
Connection-oriented demux

- 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]

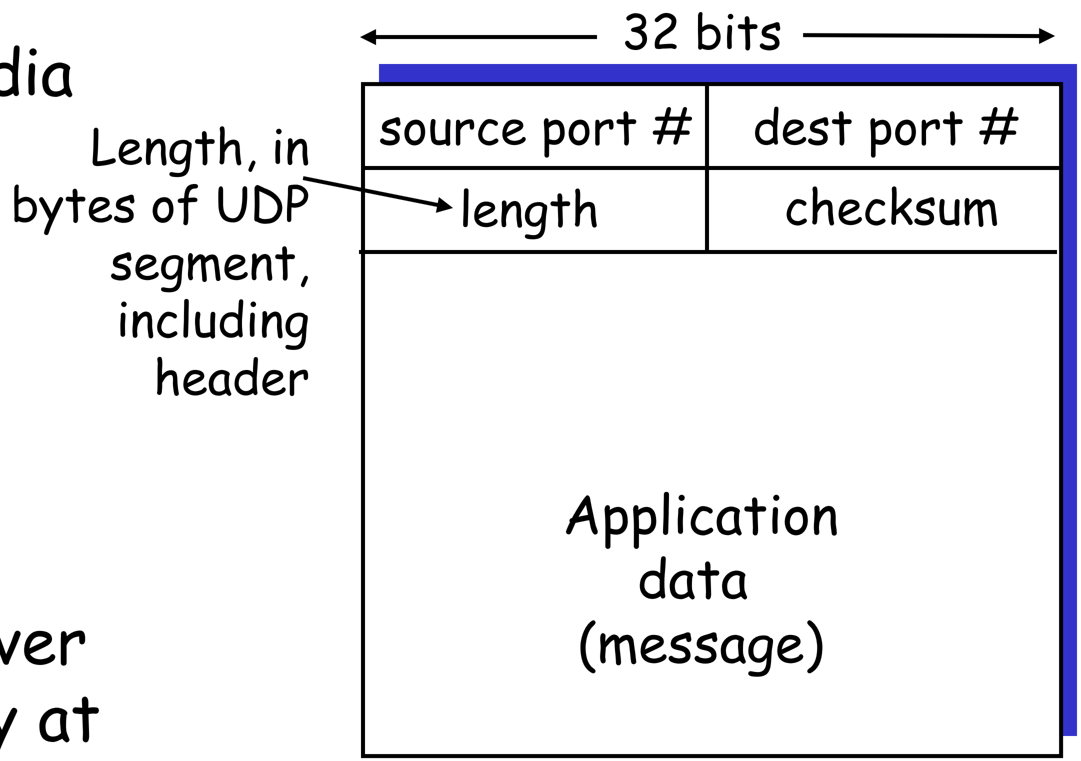
- "no frills," "bare bones" Internet transport protocol
- "best effort" service, UDP segments may be:
  - lost
  - delivered out of order to app
- *connectionless:*
  - no handshaking between UDP sender, receiver
  - each UDP segment handled independently of others

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
  - SNMP
- 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
wraparound	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
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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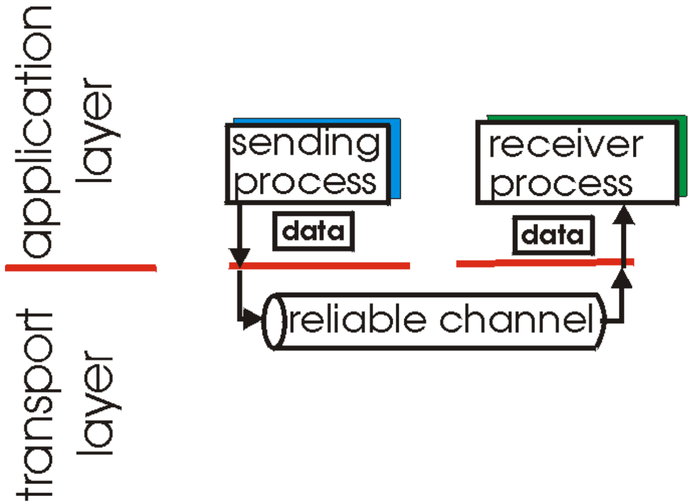
Principles of Reliable data transfer

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

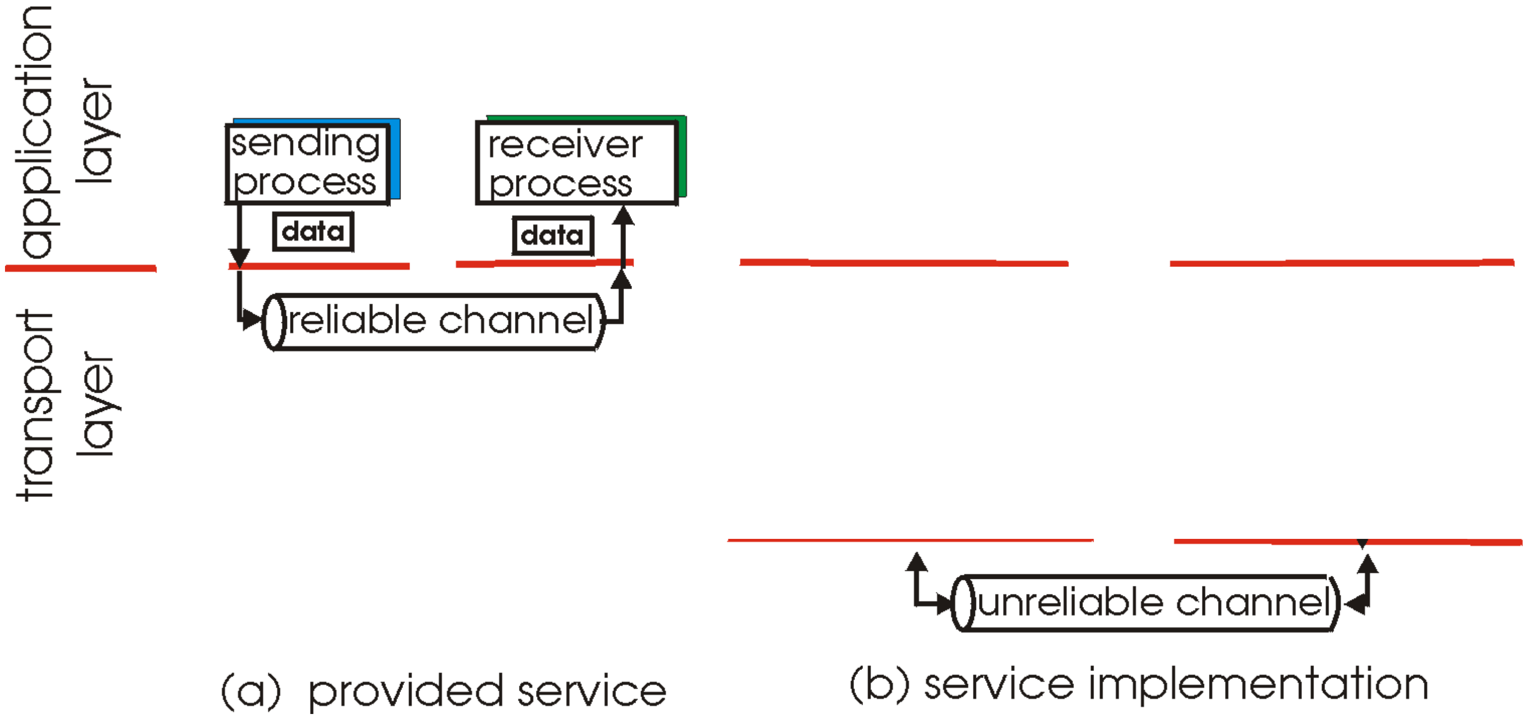


(a) provided service

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

Principles of Reliable data transfer

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



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Principles of Reliable data transfer

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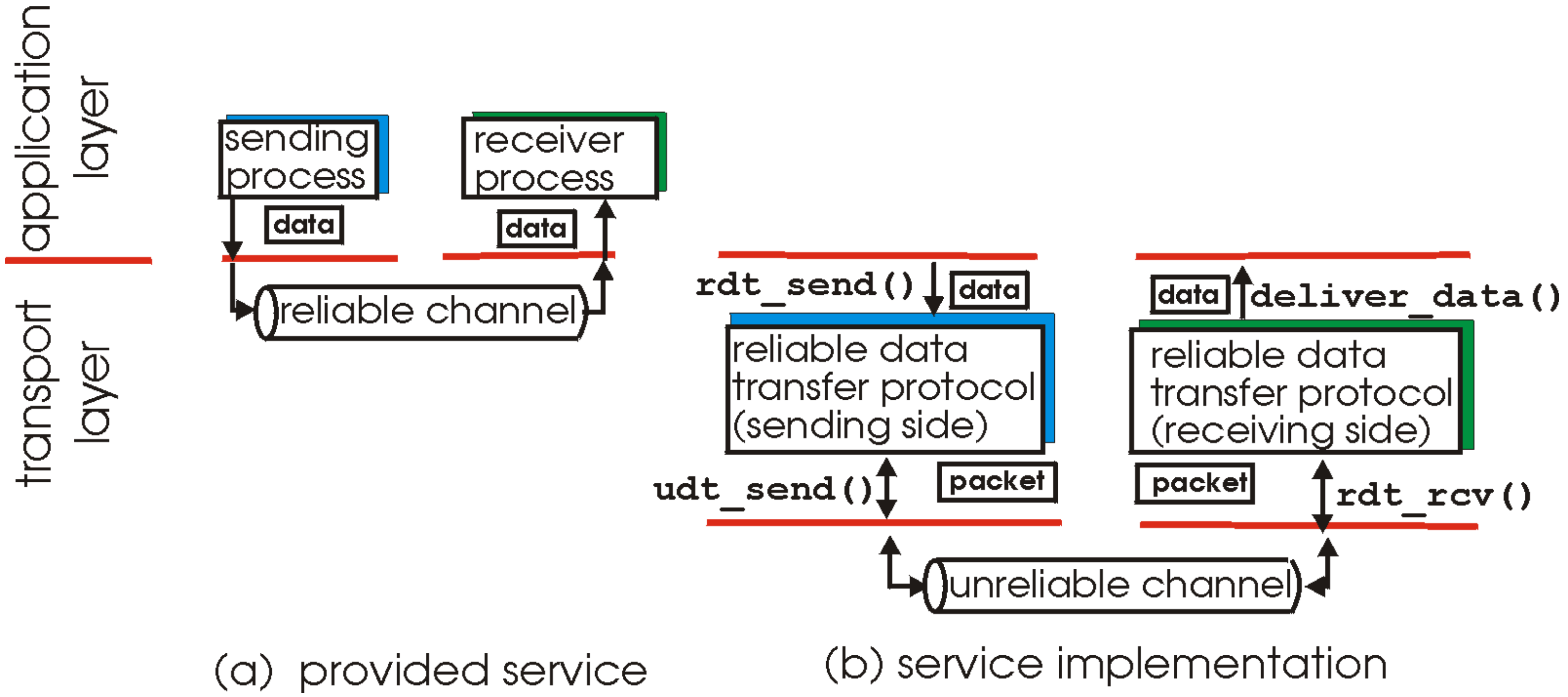
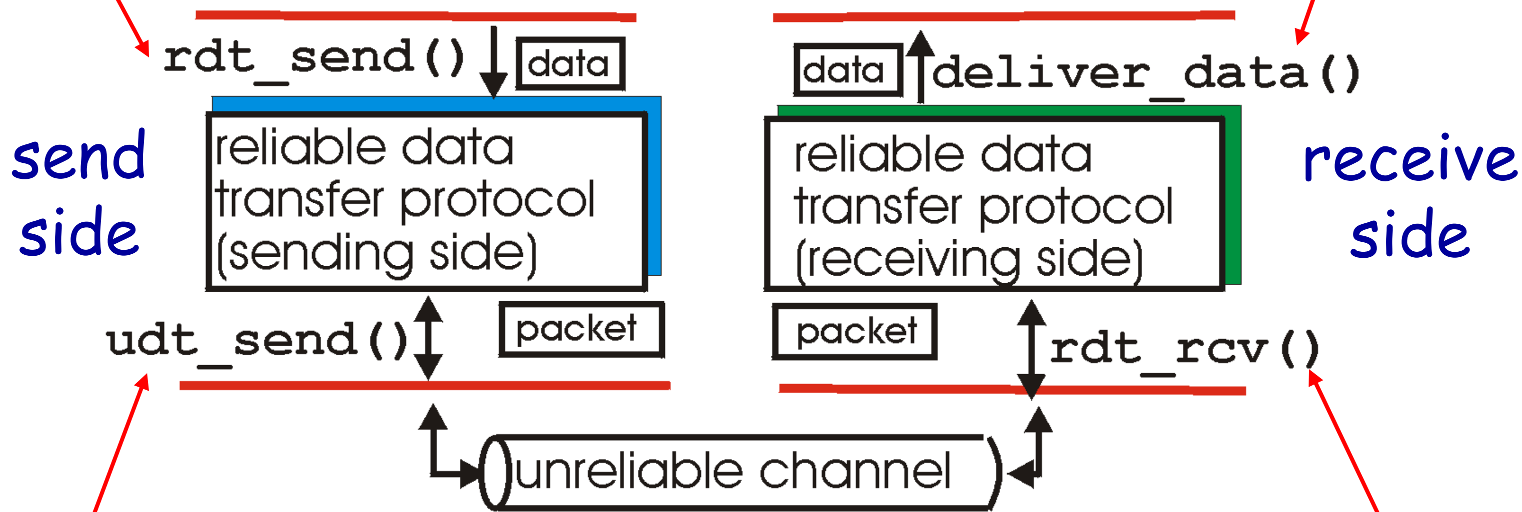


- characteristics of unreliable channel will determine complexity of reliable data transfer protocol (rdt)

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

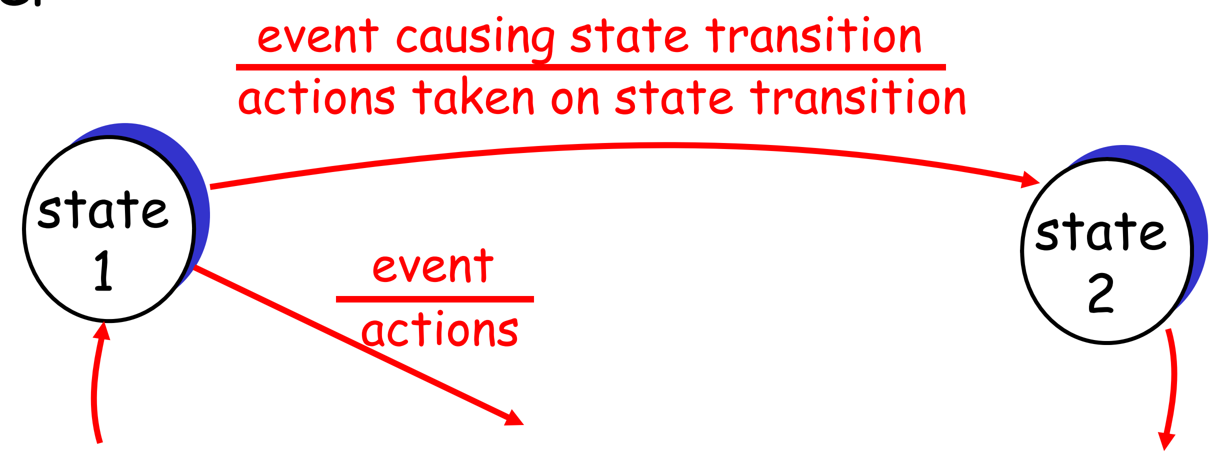
rdt_rcv(): called when packet arrives on rcv-side of channel

Reliable data transfer: getting started

We'll:

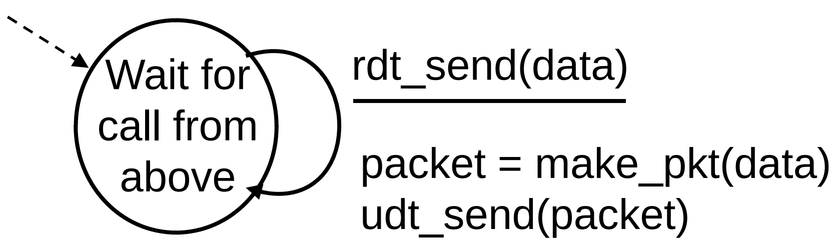
- incrementally develop sender, receiver sides of reliable data transfer protocol (rdt)
- consider only unidirectional data transfer
  - but control info will flow on both directions!
- use finite state machines (FSM) to specify sender, receiver

state: when in this "state" next state uniquely determined by next event

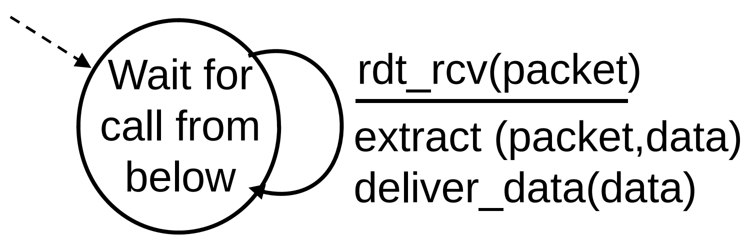


Rdt1.0: reliable transfer over a reliable channel

- 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

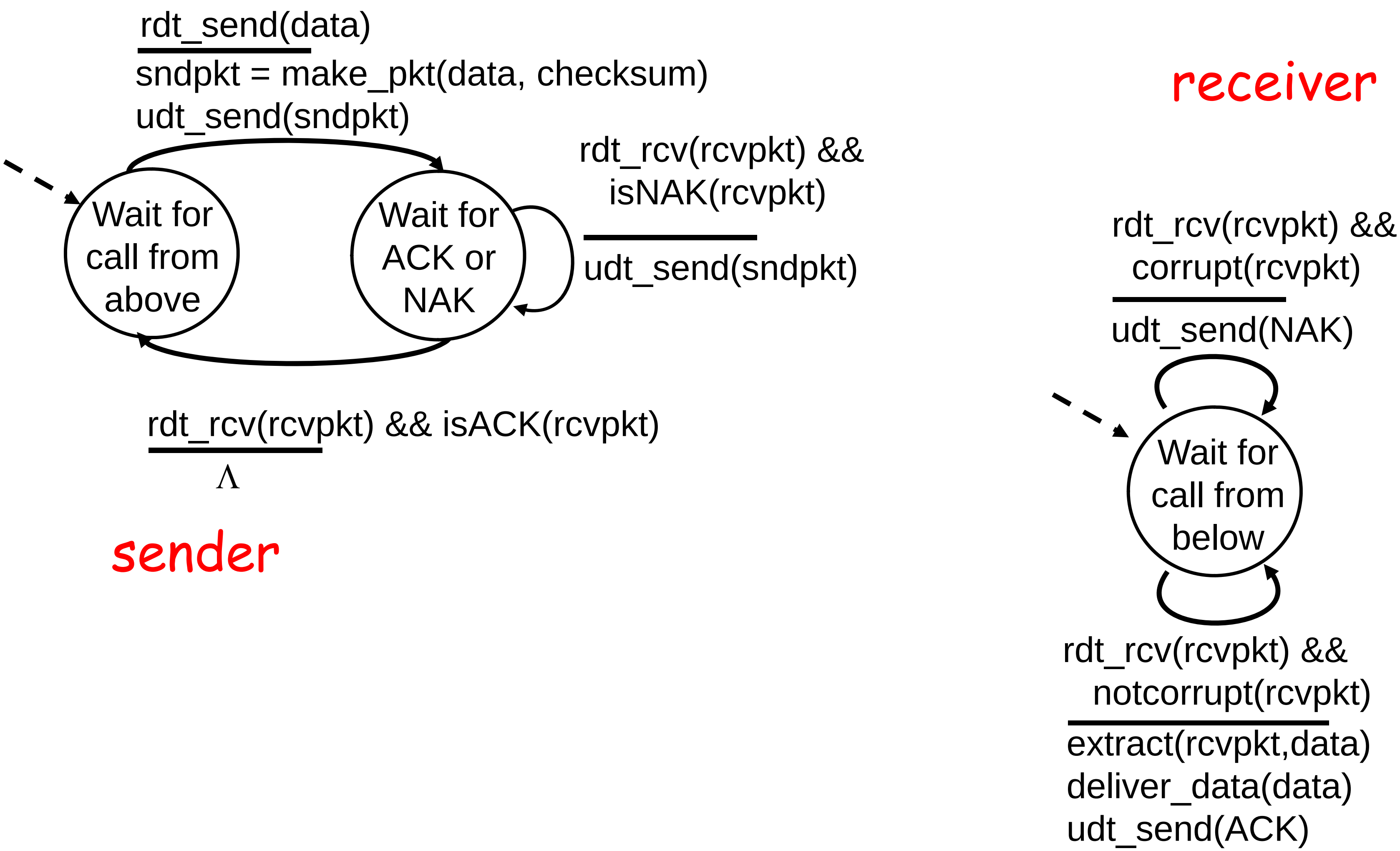
- underlying channel may flip bits in packet
  - checksum to detect bit errors
- *the* question: how to recover from errors:

How do humans recover from "errors" during conversation?

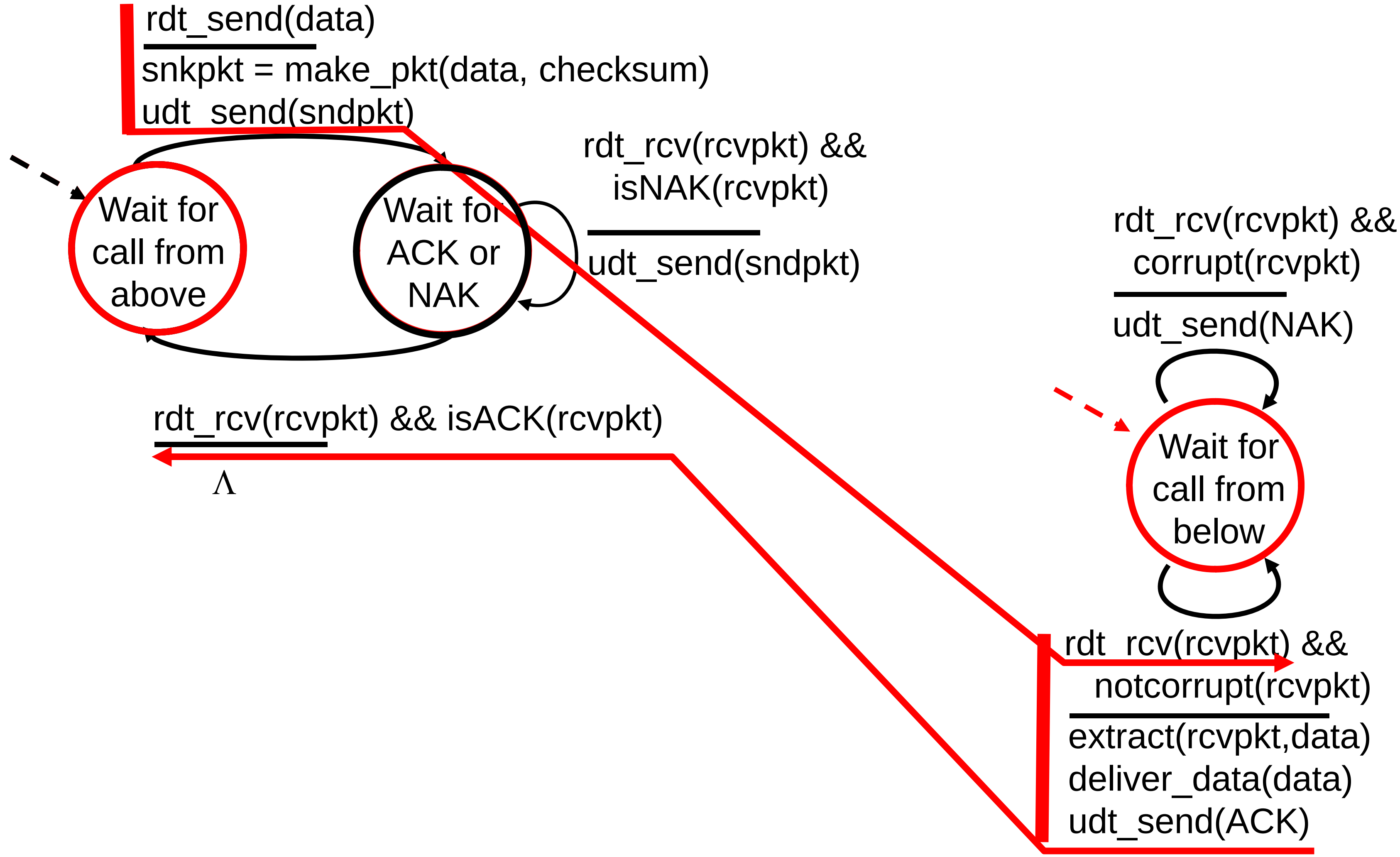
Rdt2.0: channel with bit errors

- 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

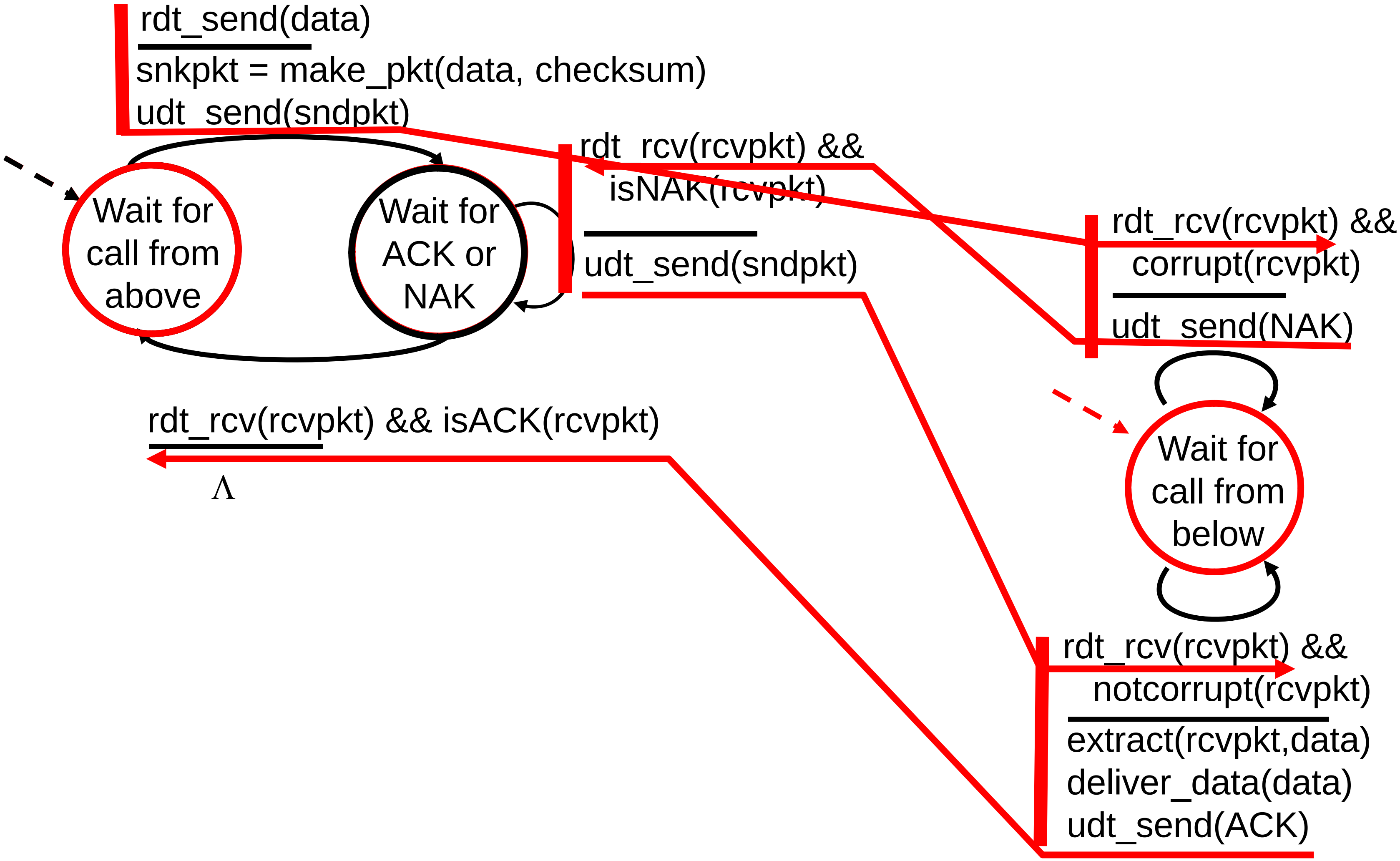
rdt2.0: FSM specification



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

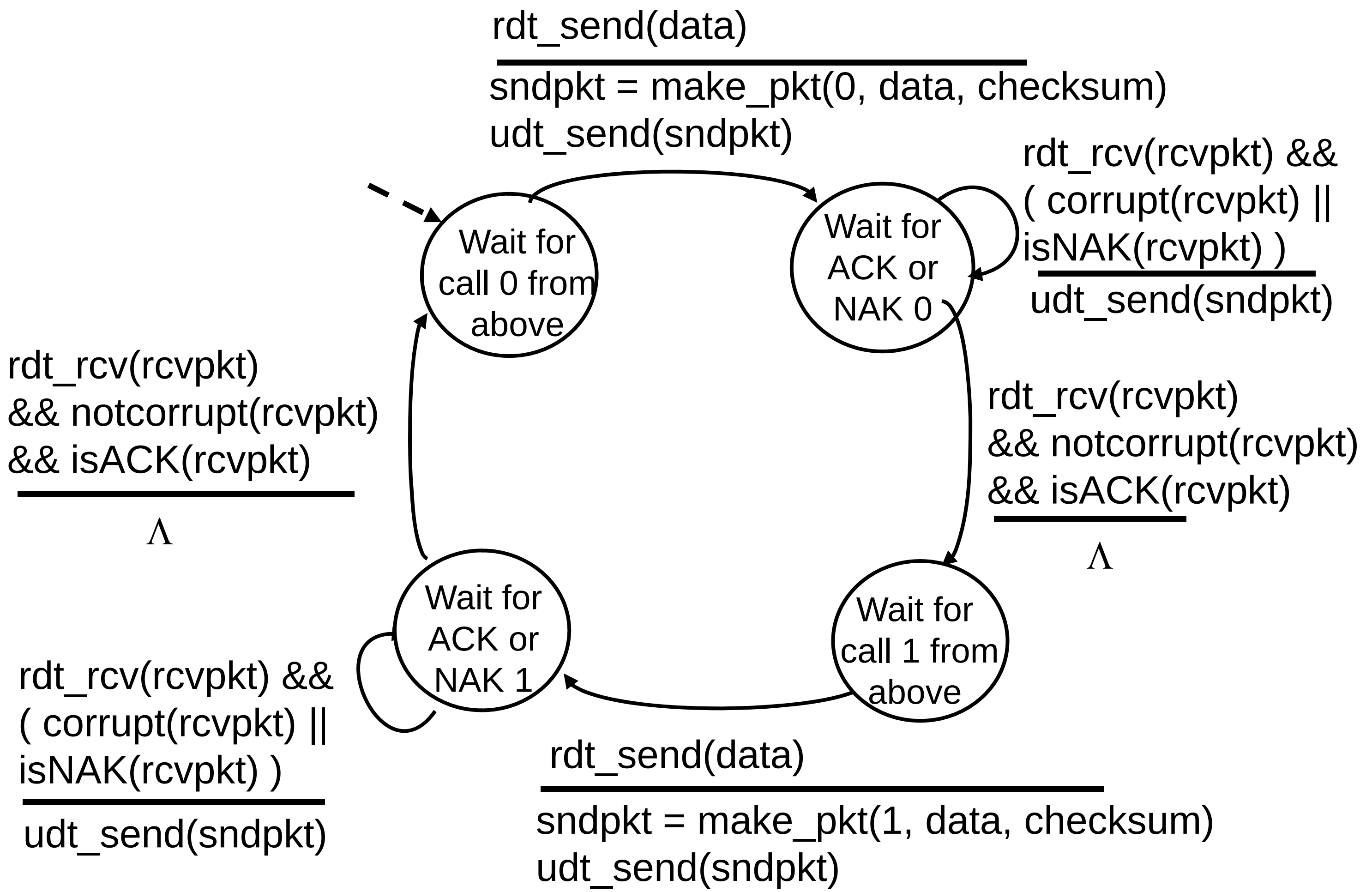
Handling duplicates:

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

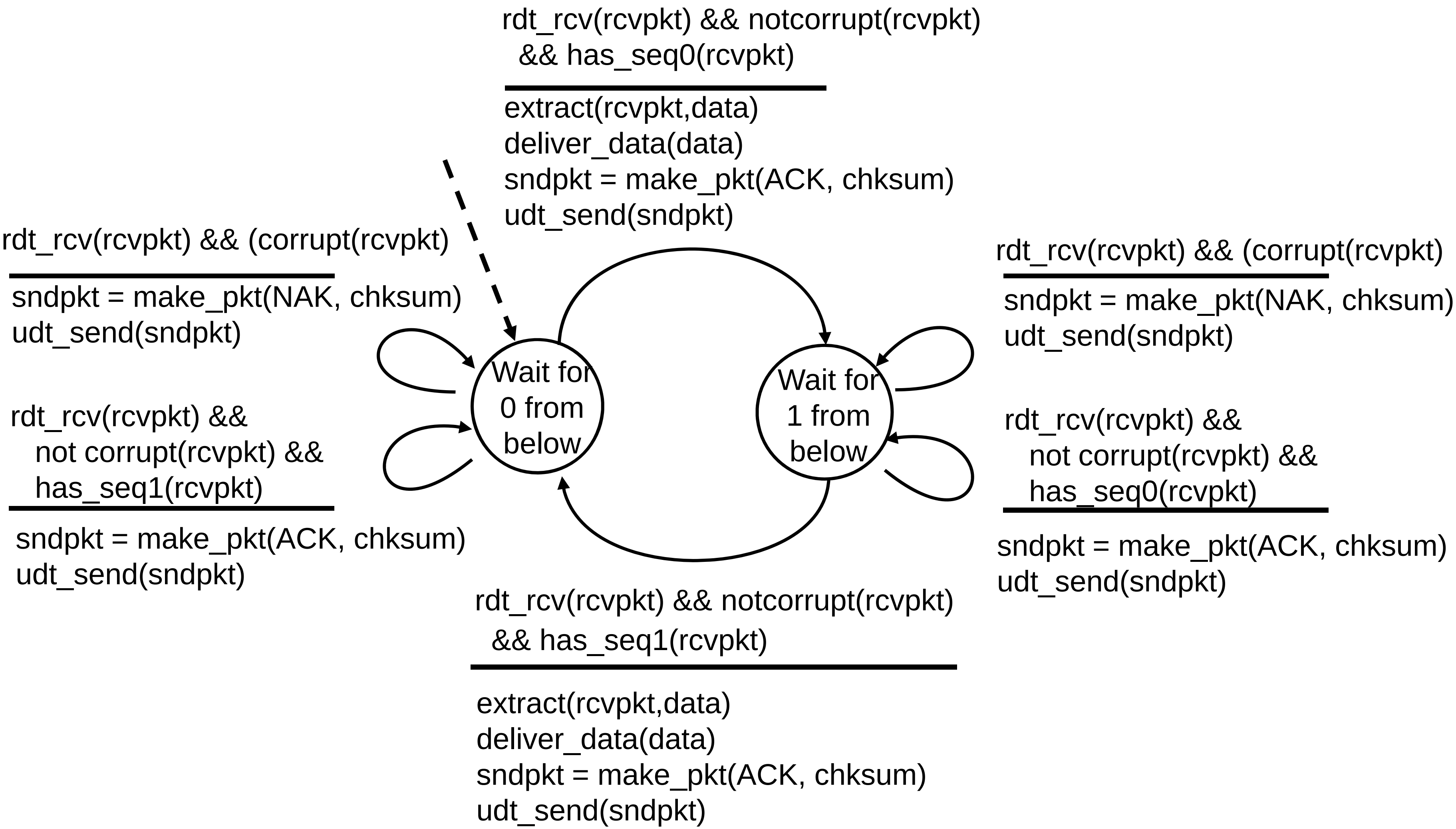
stop and wait

Sender sends one packet, then waits for receiver response

rdt2.1: 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. #

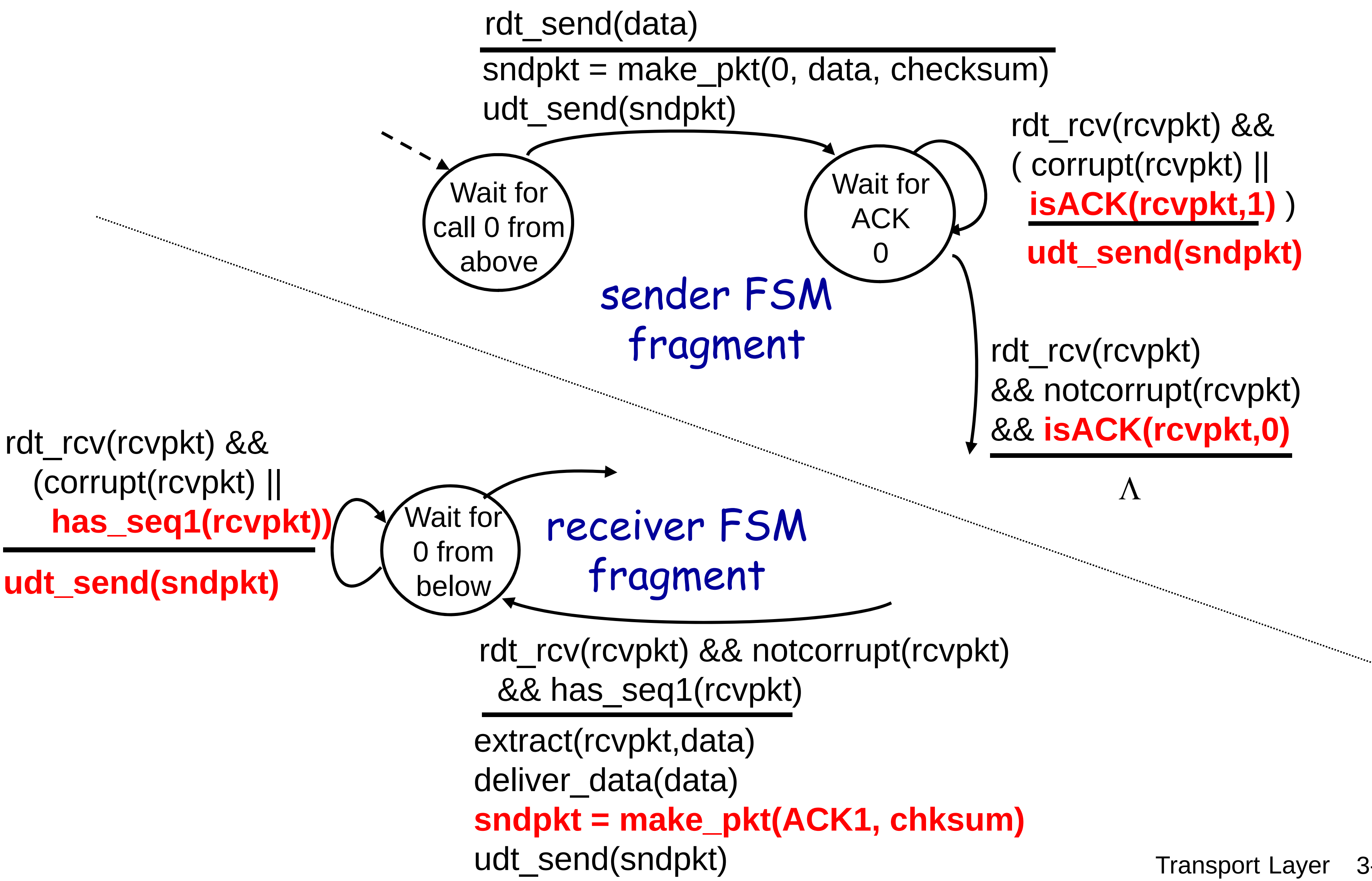
Receiver:

- 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

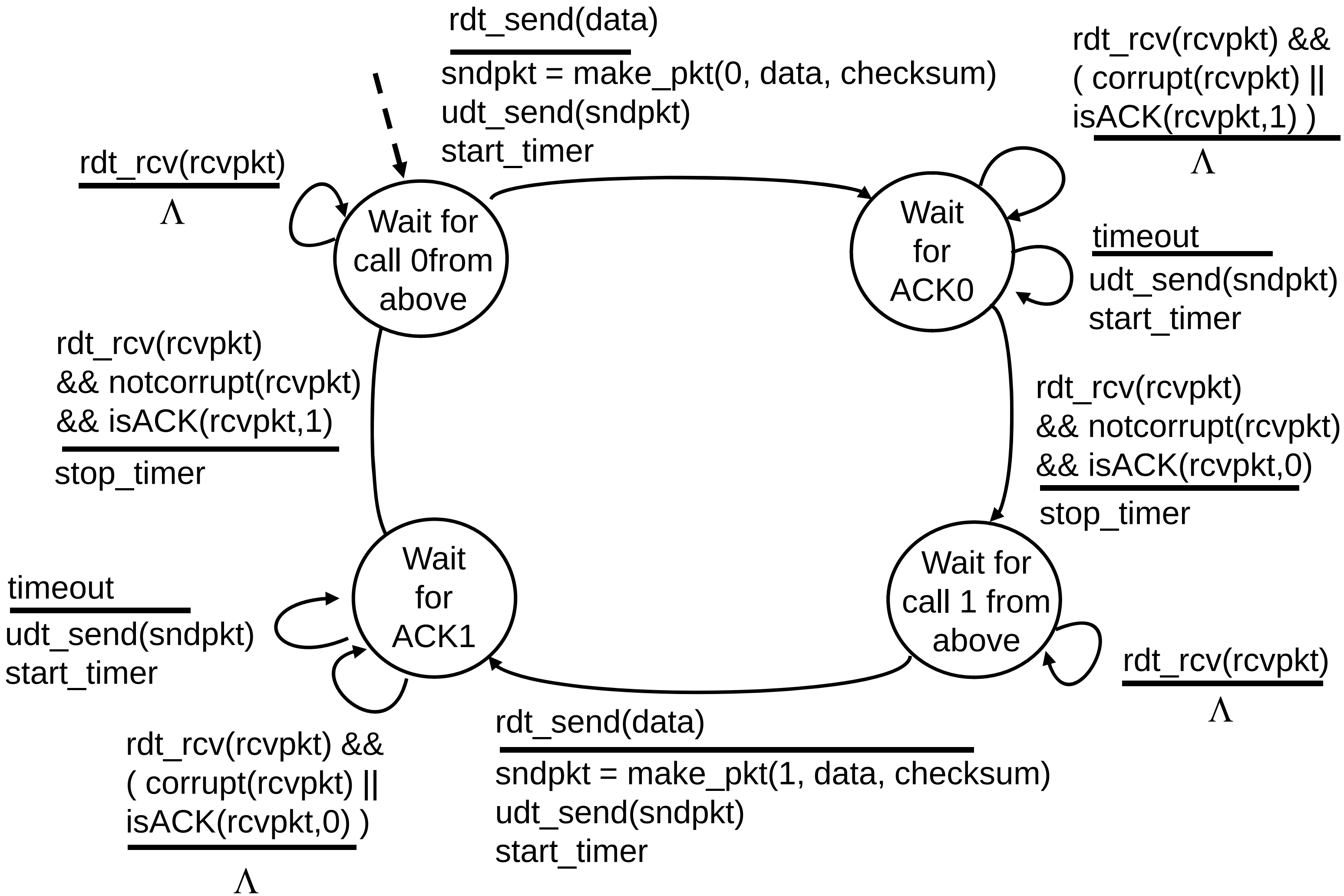
New assumption: underlying channel can also lose packets (data or ACKs)

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

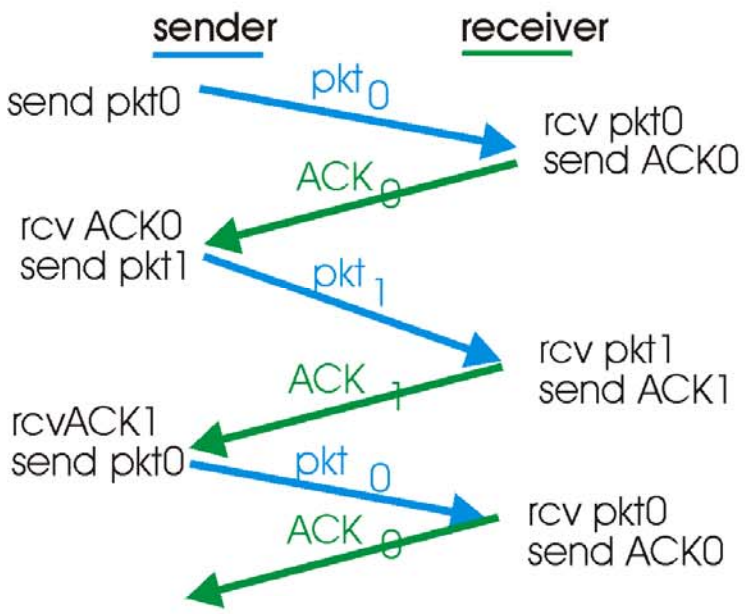
Approach: sender waits "reasonable" amount of time for ACK

- 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

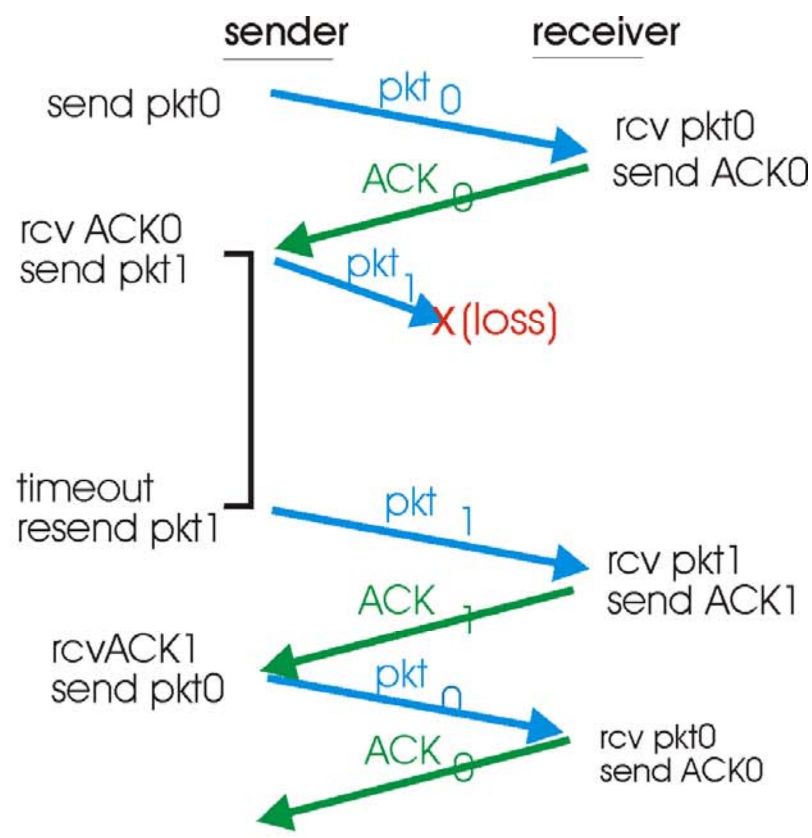
rdt3.0 sender



rdt3.0 in action

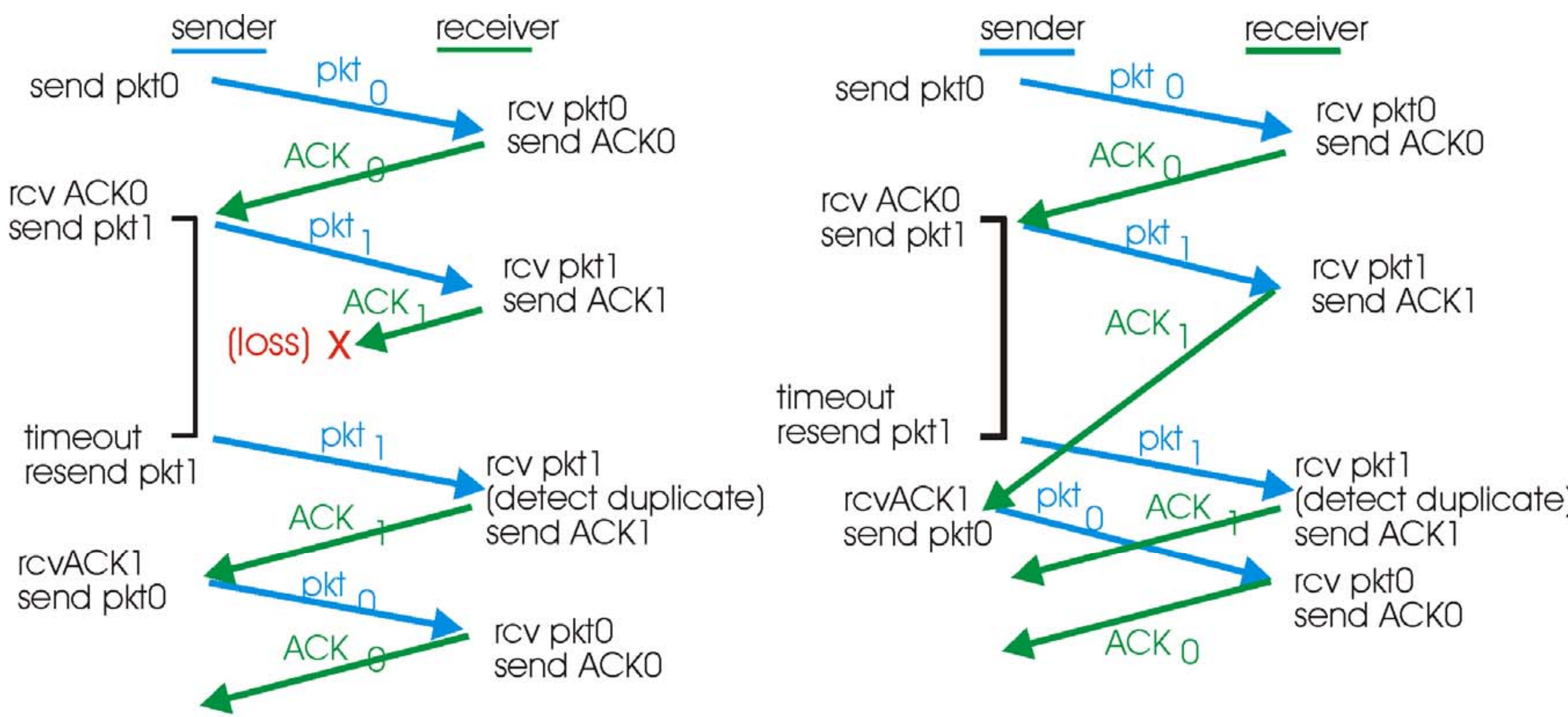


(a) operation with no loss



(b) lost packet

rdt3.0 in action



(c) lost ACK

(d) premature timeout

Performance of rdt3.0

- rdt3.0 works, but performance stinks
- ex: 1 Gbps link, 15 ms prop. delay, 8000 bit packet:

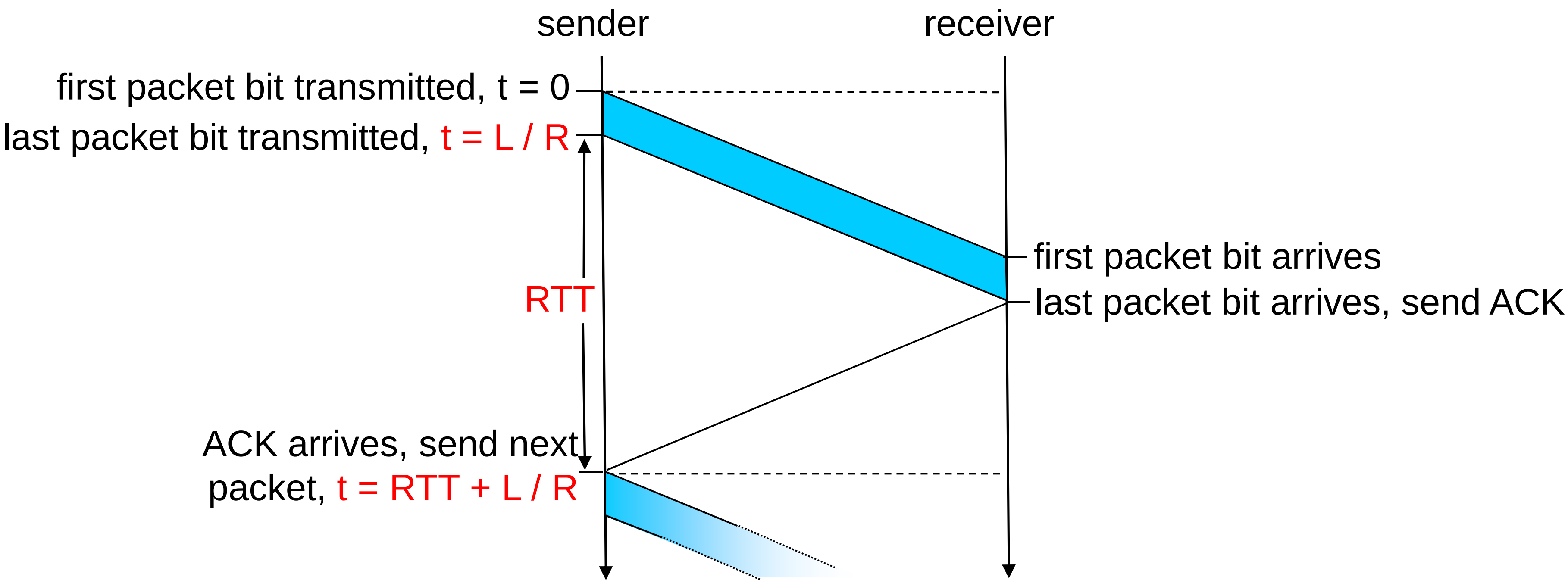
$$d_{trans} = \frac{L}{R} = \frac{8000\text{bits}}{10^9\text{bps}} = 8\,\text{microseconds}$$

- U_{sender}: utilization – fraction of time sender busy sending

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

- if RTT=30 msec, 1KB pkt every 30 msec -> 33kB/sec thruput over 1 Gbps link
- network protocol limits use of physical resources!

rdt3.0: stop-and-wait operation

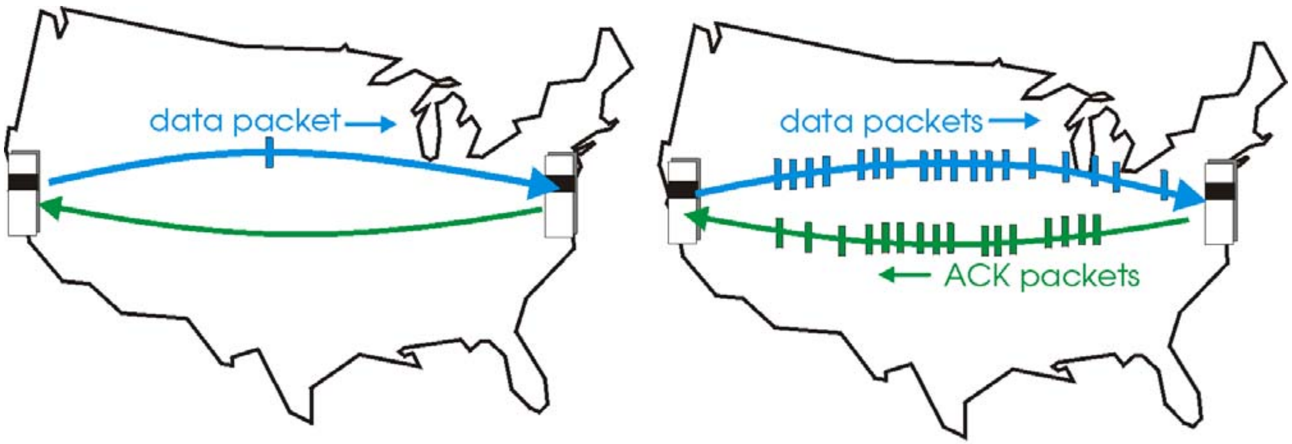


$$U_{sender} = \frac{L / R}{RTT + L / R} = \frac{.008}{30.008} = 0.00027$$

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

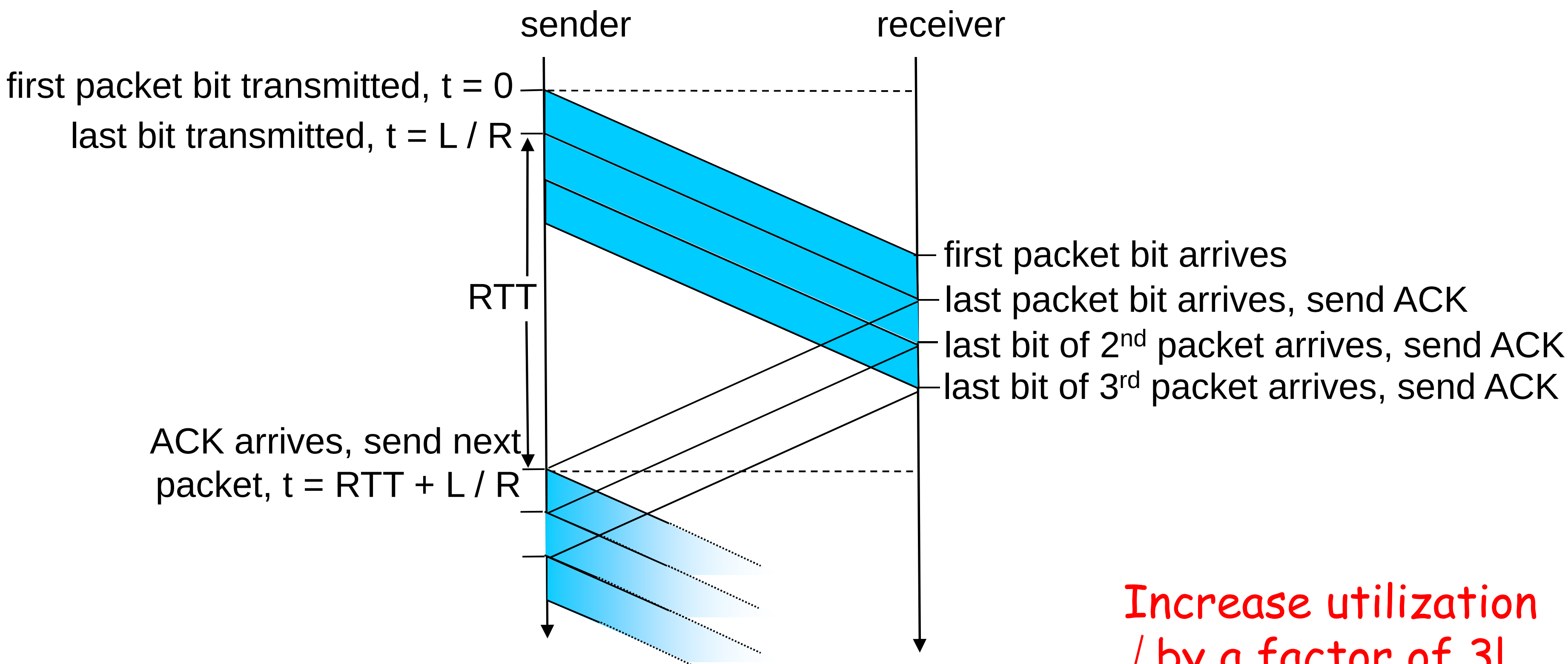


(a) a stop-and-wait protocol in operation

(b) a pipelined protocol in operation

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

Pipelining: increased utilization



Increase utilization by a factor of 3!

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

Pipelined Protocols

Go-back-N: big picture:

- sender can have up to N unacked packets in pipeline
- rcvr only sends *cumulative* acks
  - doesn't ack packet if there's a gap
- sender has timer for oldest unacked packet
  - if timer expires, retransmit all unack'ed packets

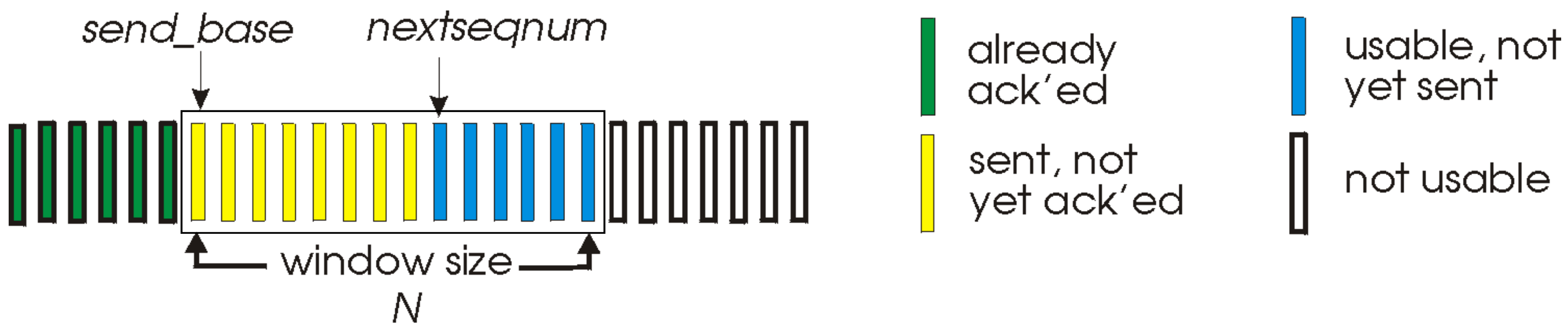
Selective Repeat: big pic

- sender can have up to N unack'ed packets in pipeline
- rcvr sends *individual ack* for each packet
- sender maintains timer for each unacked packet
  - when timer expires, retransmit only unack'ed packet

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

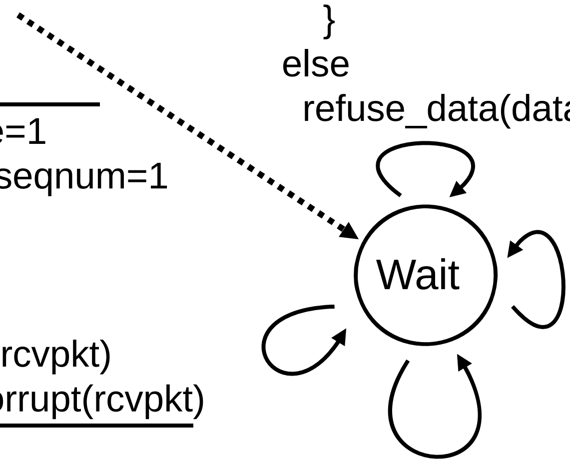
rdt_send(data)

```
if (nextseqnum < base+N) {
    sndpkt[nextseqnum] = make_pkt(nextseqnum,data,chksum)
    udt_send(sndpkt[nextseqnum])
    if (base == nextseqnum)
       start_timer
    nextseqnum++
    }
else
  refuse_data(data)
```

Λ

---

base=1
nextseqnum=1



timeout

```
start_timer
udt_send(sndpkt[base])
udt_send(sndpkt[base+1])
…
udt_send(sndpkt[nextseqnum-1])
```

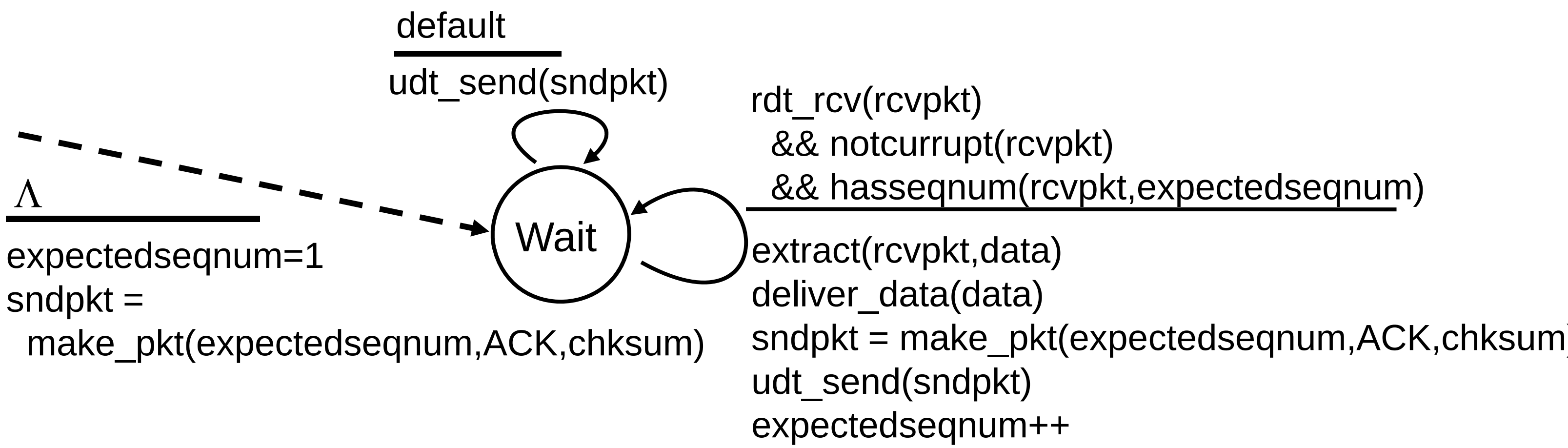
rdt_rcv(rcvpkt)
  && corrupt(rcvpkt)

---

rdt_rcv(rcvpkt) &&
  notcorrupt(rcvpkt)

```
base = getacknum(rcvpkt)+1
If (base == nextseqnum)
    stop_timer
  else
    start_timer
```

GBN: receiver extended FSM

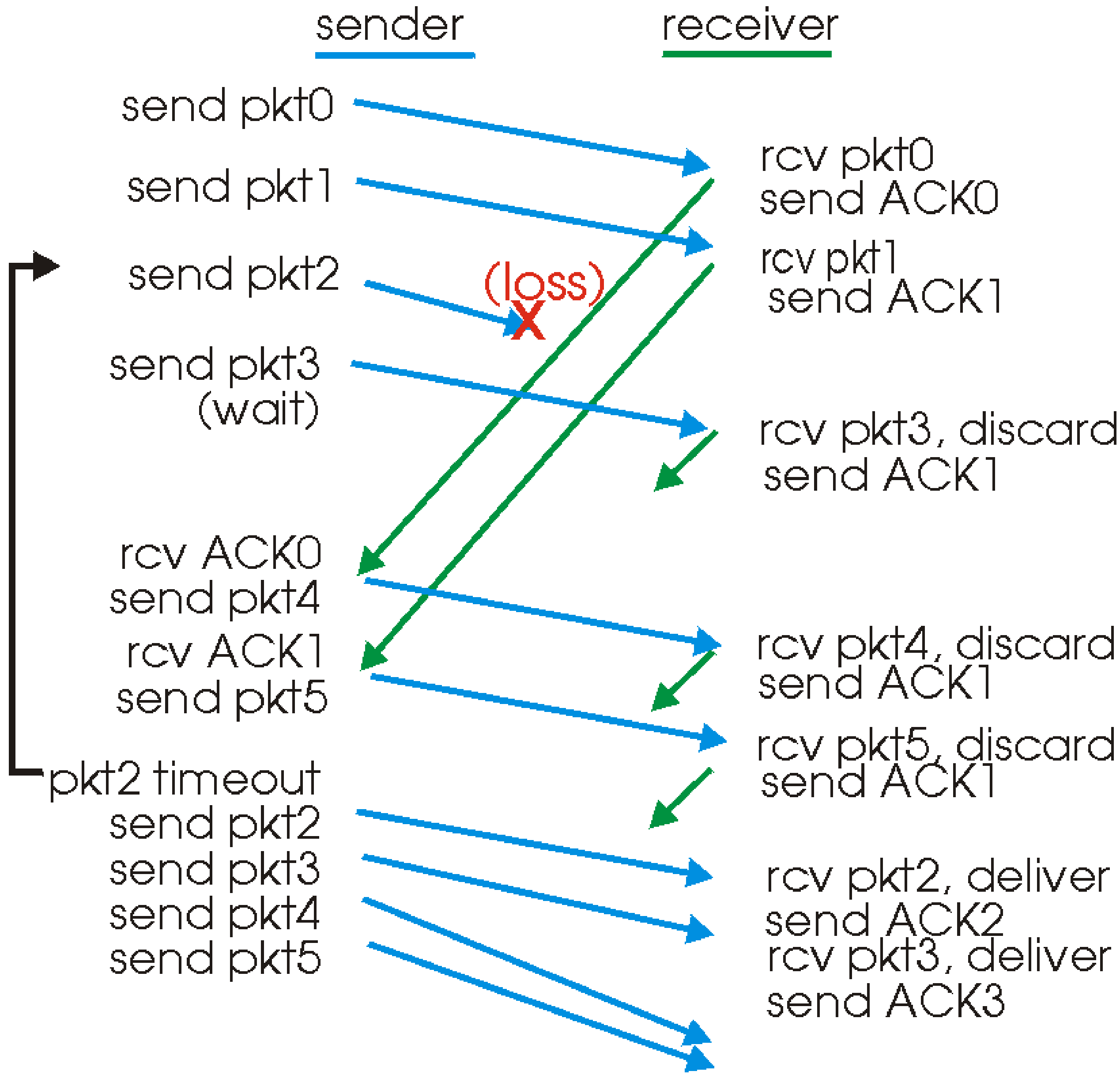


ACK-only: always send ACK for correctly-received pkt with highest *in-order* seq #

- 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 #

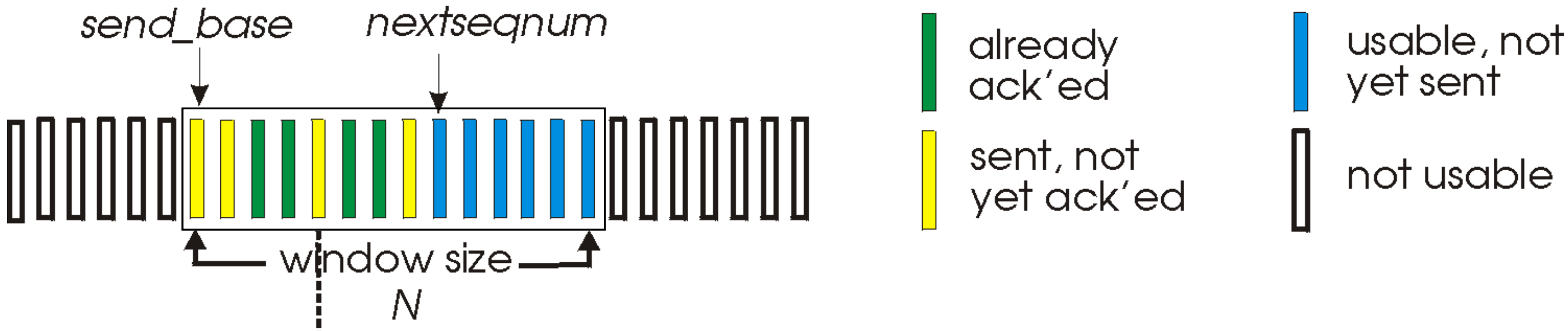
GBN in action



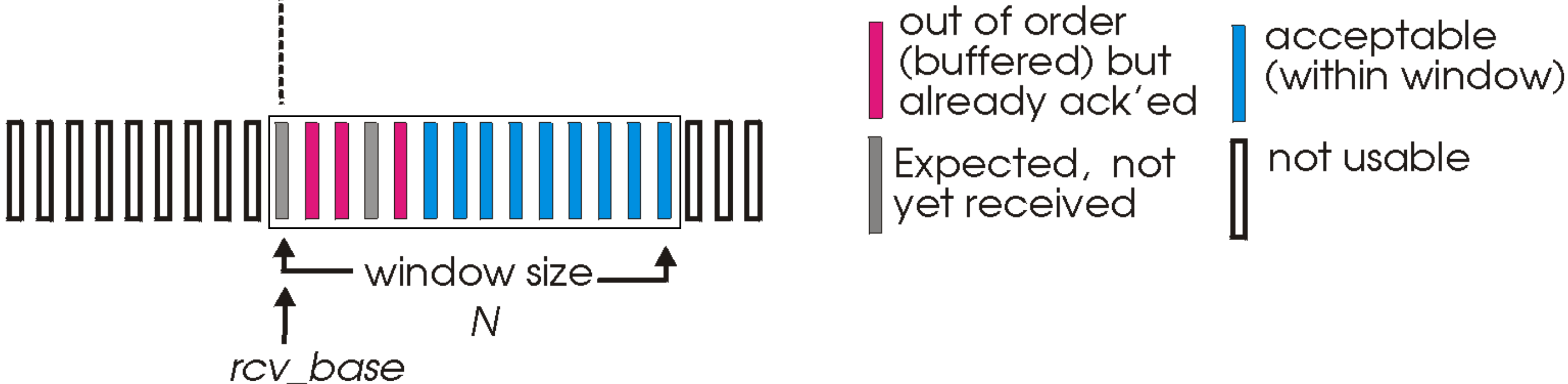
Selective Repeat

- 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, unACK'ed pkts

Selective repeat: sender, receiver windows



(a) sender view of sequence numbers



(b) receiver view of sequence numbers

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

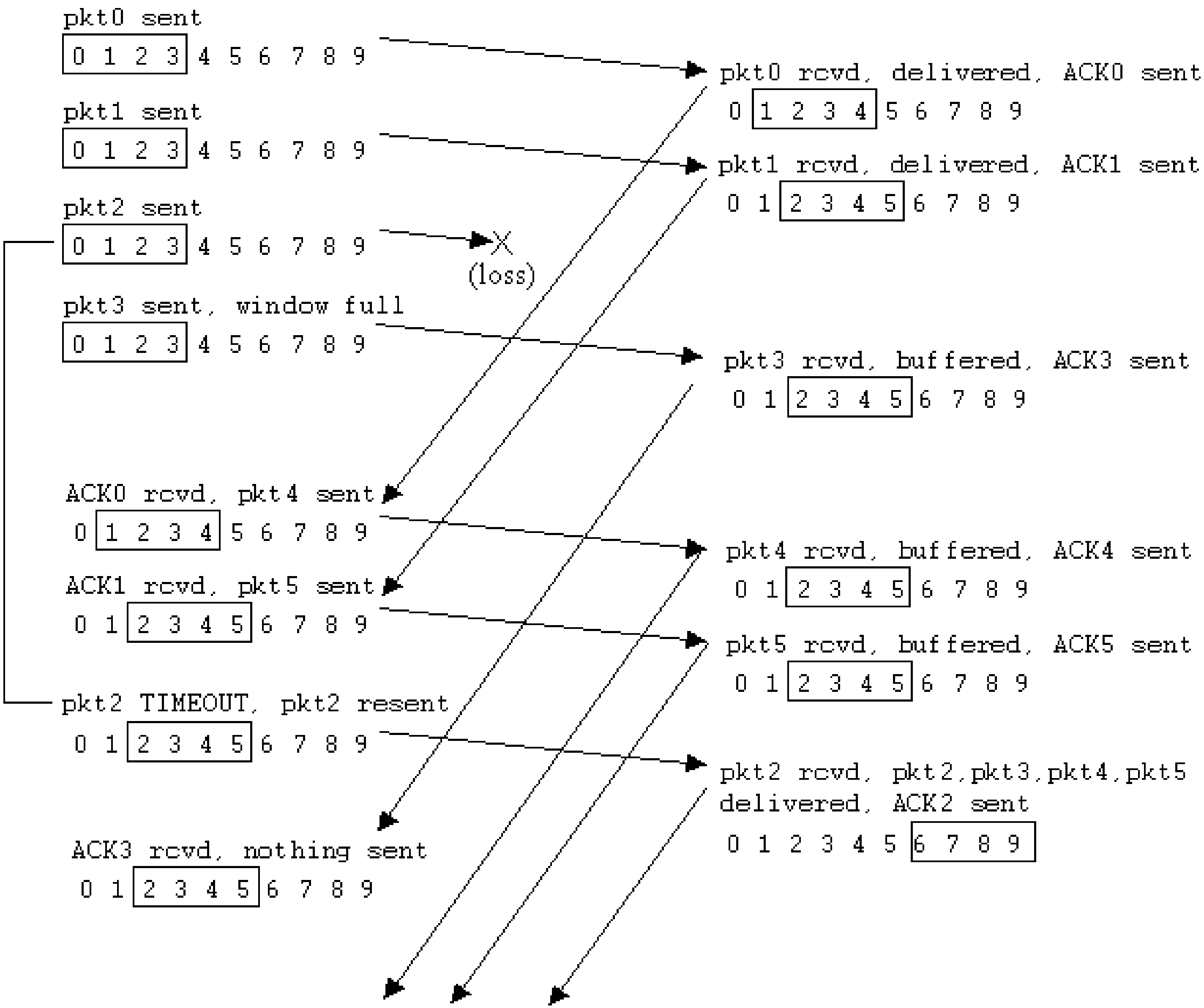
pkt n in [rcvbase-N,rcvbase-1]

- ACK(n)

otherwise:

- ignore

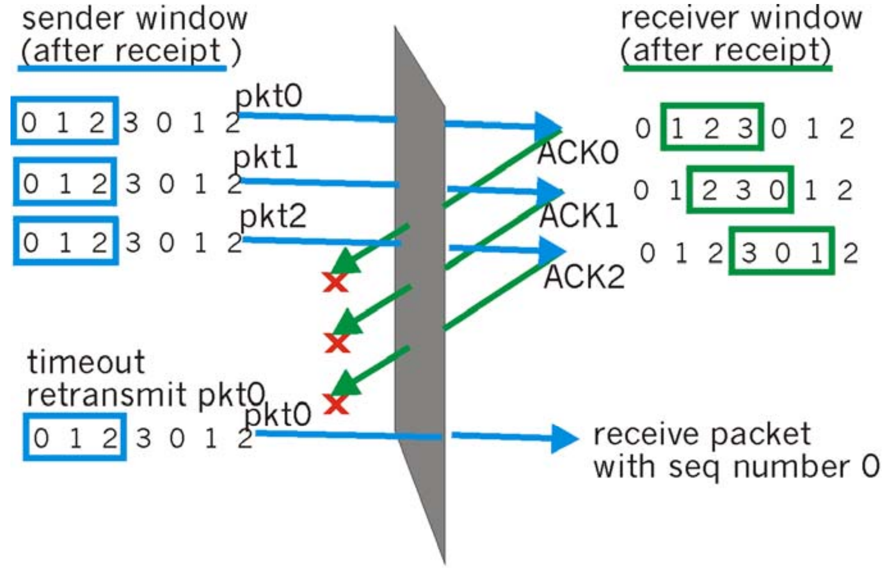
Selective repeat in action



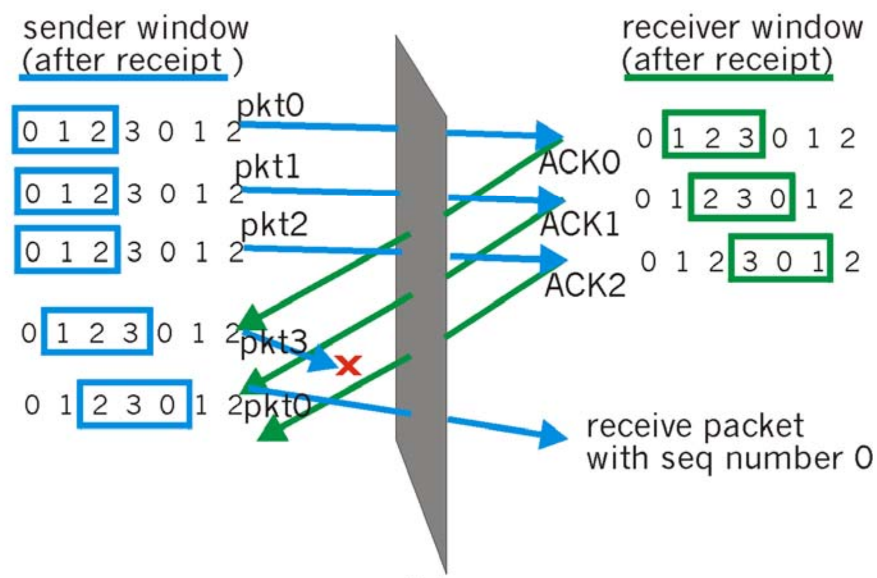
Selective repeat: dilemma

Example:

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



(a)



(b)

- 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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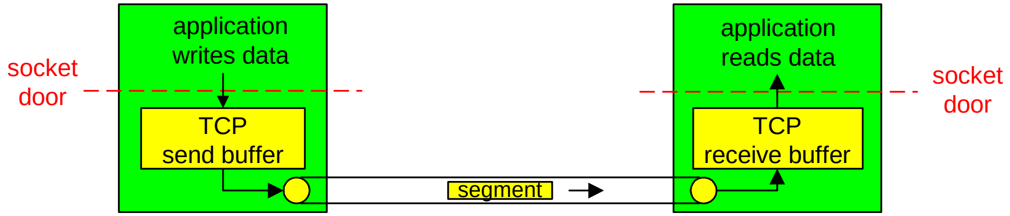
TCP: Overview

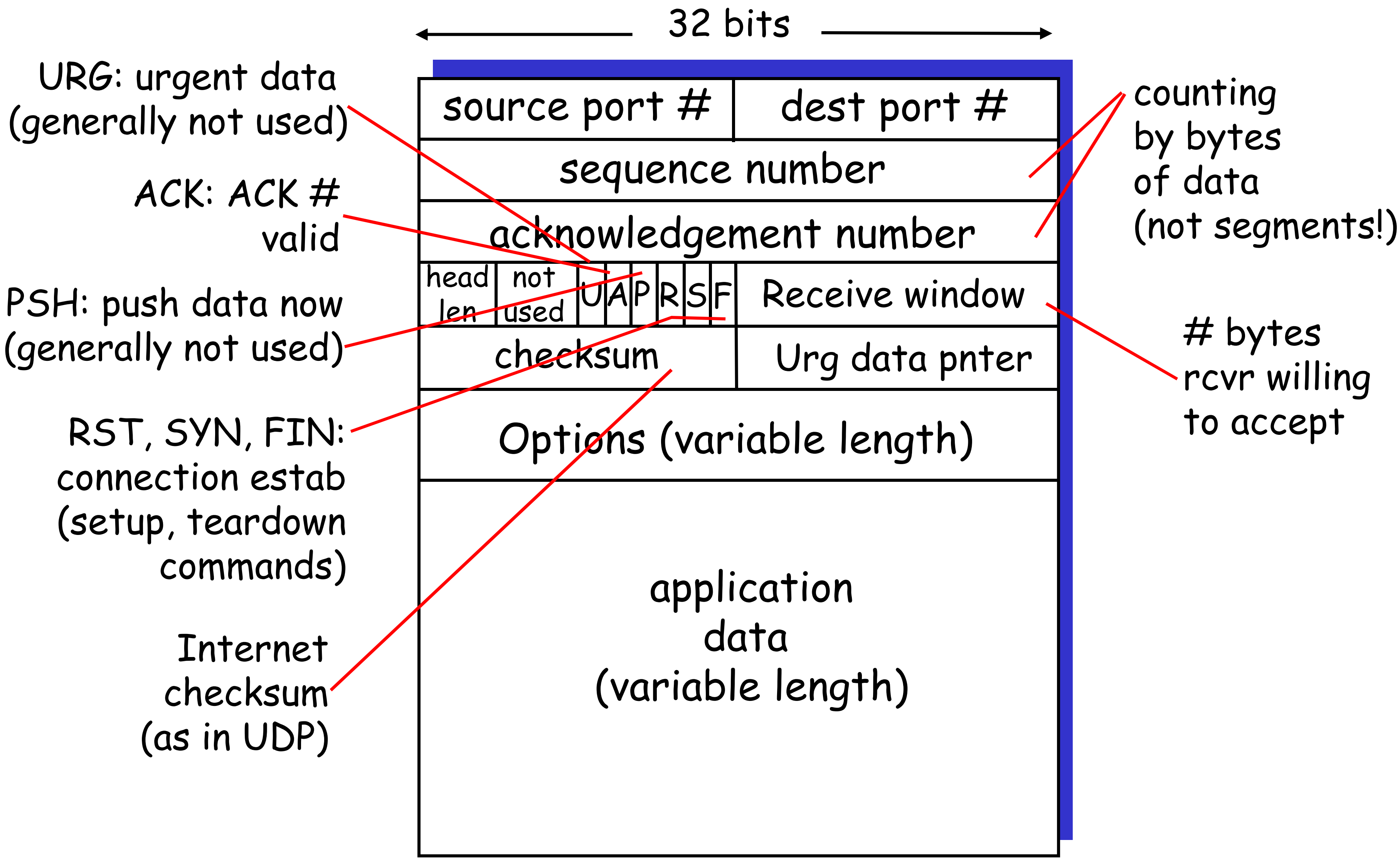
RFCs: 793, 1122, 1323, 2018, 2581

- point-to-point:
  - one sender, one receiver
- reliable, in-order *byte steam:*
  - 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) inits sender, receiver state before data exchange
- flow controlled:
  - sender will not overwhelm receiver

TCP segment structure



TCP seq. #'s and ACKs

Seq. #'s:

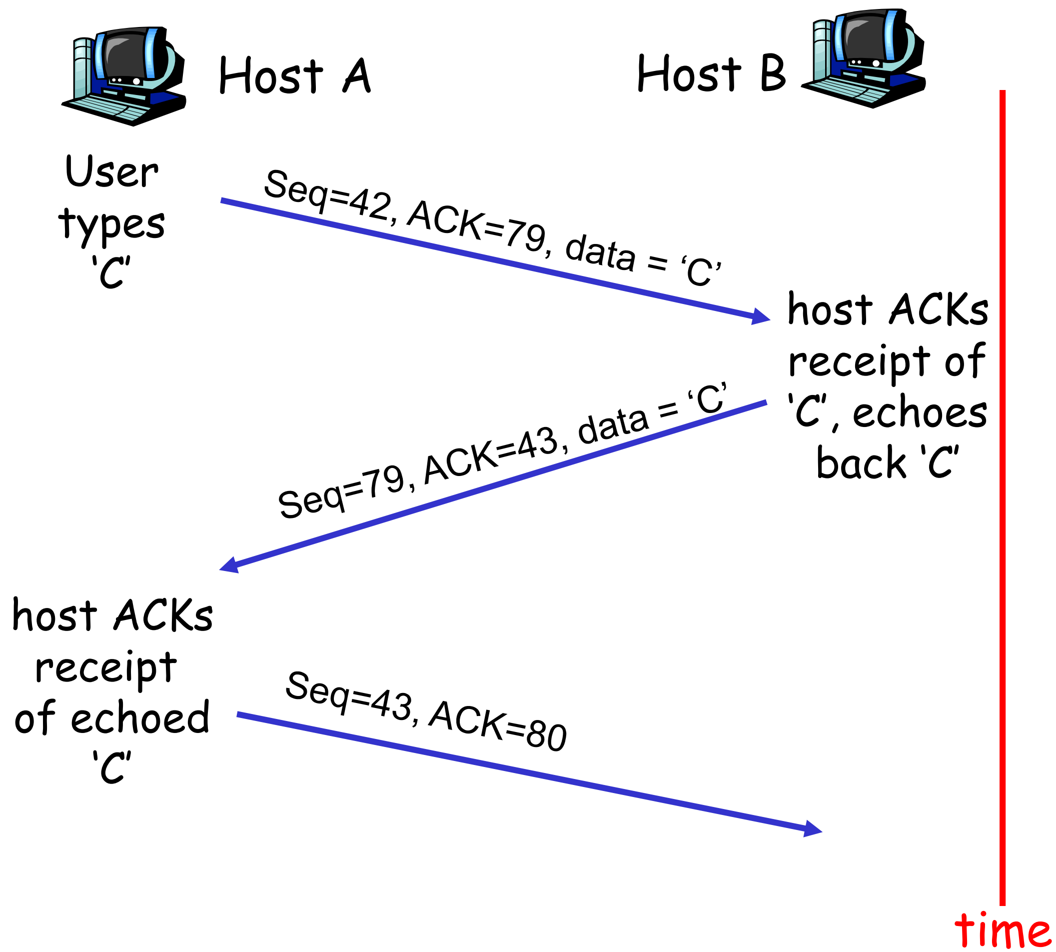
- byte stream "number" of first byte in segment's data

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



simple telnet scenario

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?

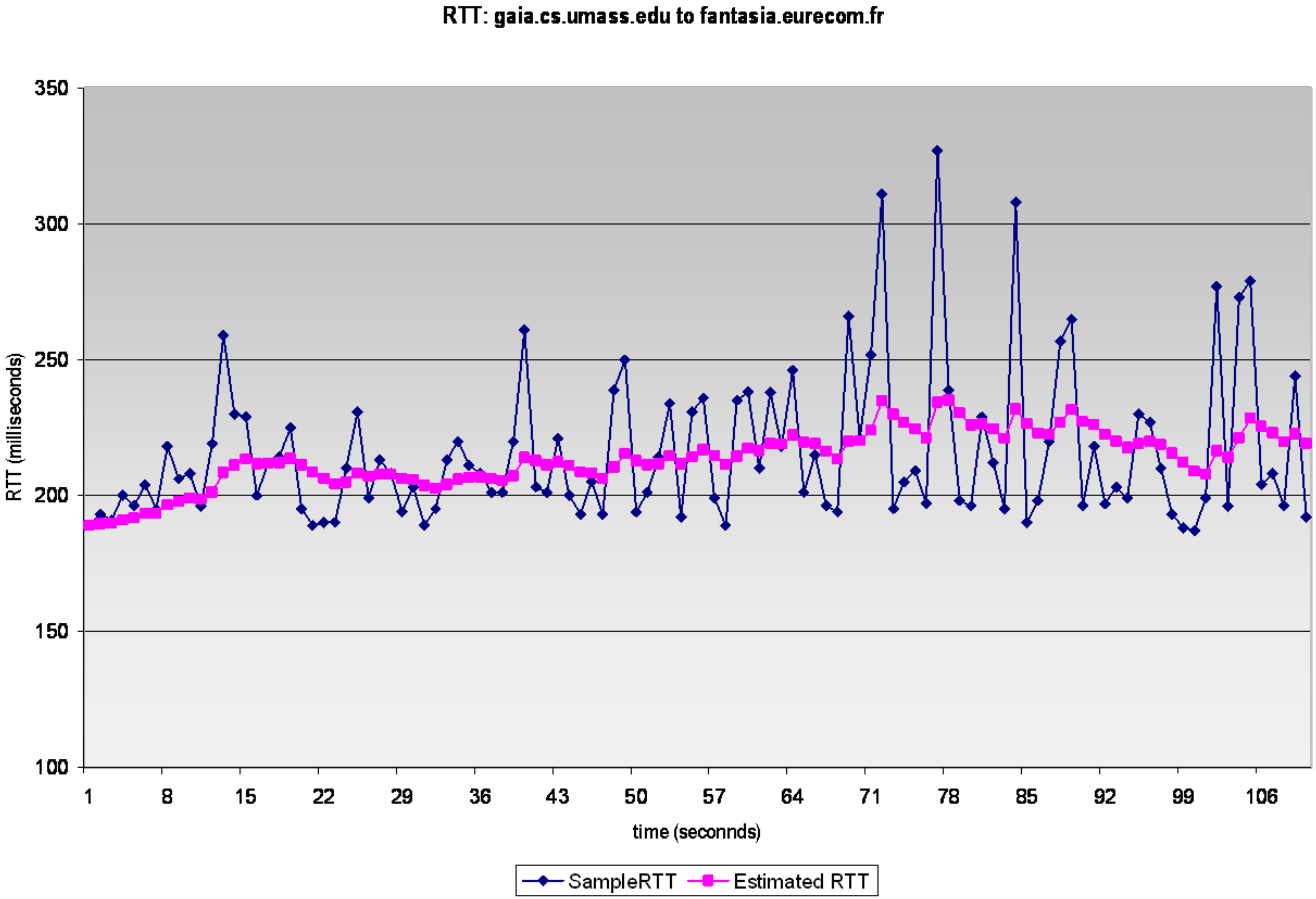
- **`SampleRTT`**: measured time from segment transmission until ACK receipt
  - ignore retransmissions
- **`SampleRTT`** will vary, want estimated RTT "smoother"
  - average several recent measurements, not just current **`SampleRTT`**

TCP Round Trip Time and Timeout

EstimatedRTT = (1- α)*EstimatedRTT + α*SampleRTT

- Exponential weighted moving average
- influence of past sample decreases exponentially fast
- typical value: α = 0.125

Example RTT estimation:



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:

```
DevRTT = (1-β)*DevRTT +
               β*|SampleRTT-EstimatedRTT|

(typically, β = 0.25)
```

Then set timeout interval:

```
TimeoutInterval = EstimatedRTT + 4*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

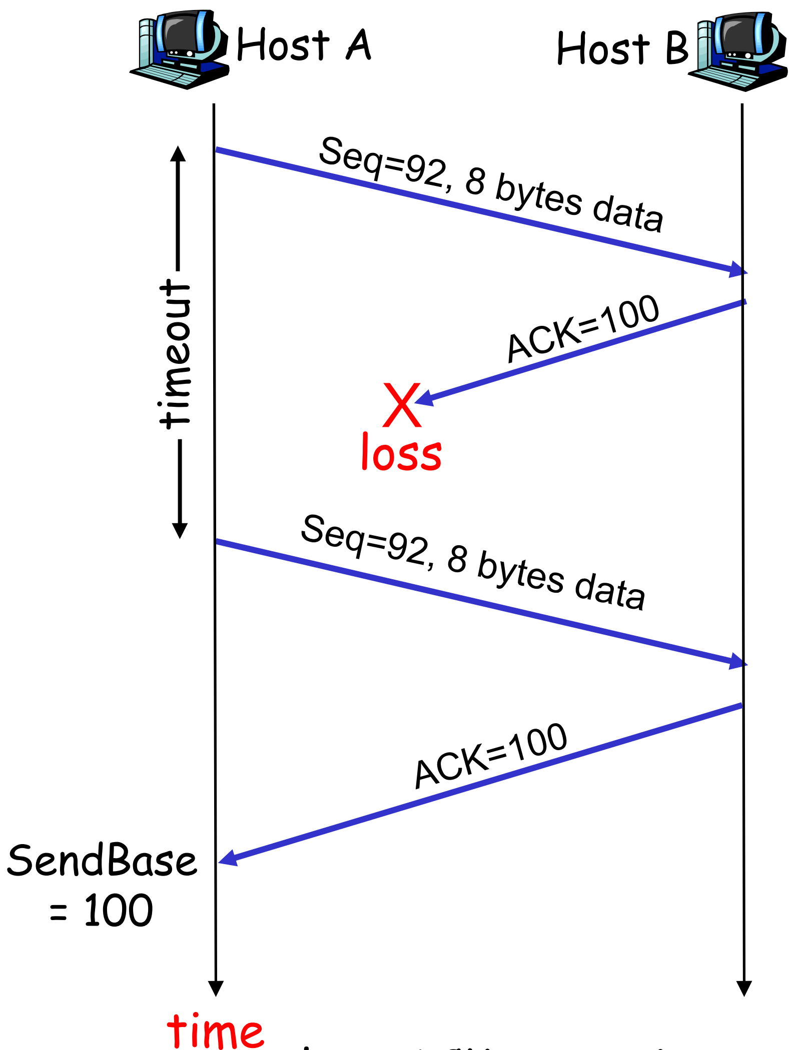
TCP sender (simplified)

```
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 */
```

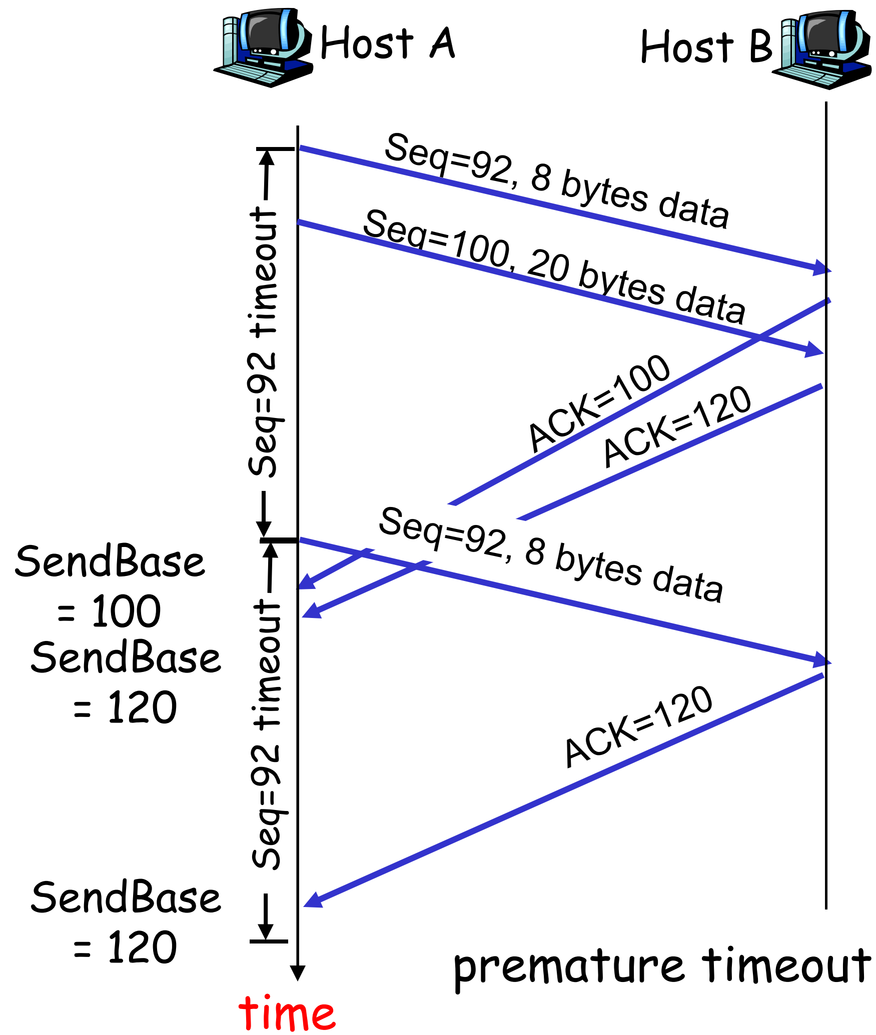
<u>Comment:</u>
- SendBase-1: last cumulatively acked byte

<u>Example:</u>
- SendBase-1 = 71; y= 73, so the rcvr wants 73+ ; y > SendBase, so that new data is acked

TCP: retransmission scenarios

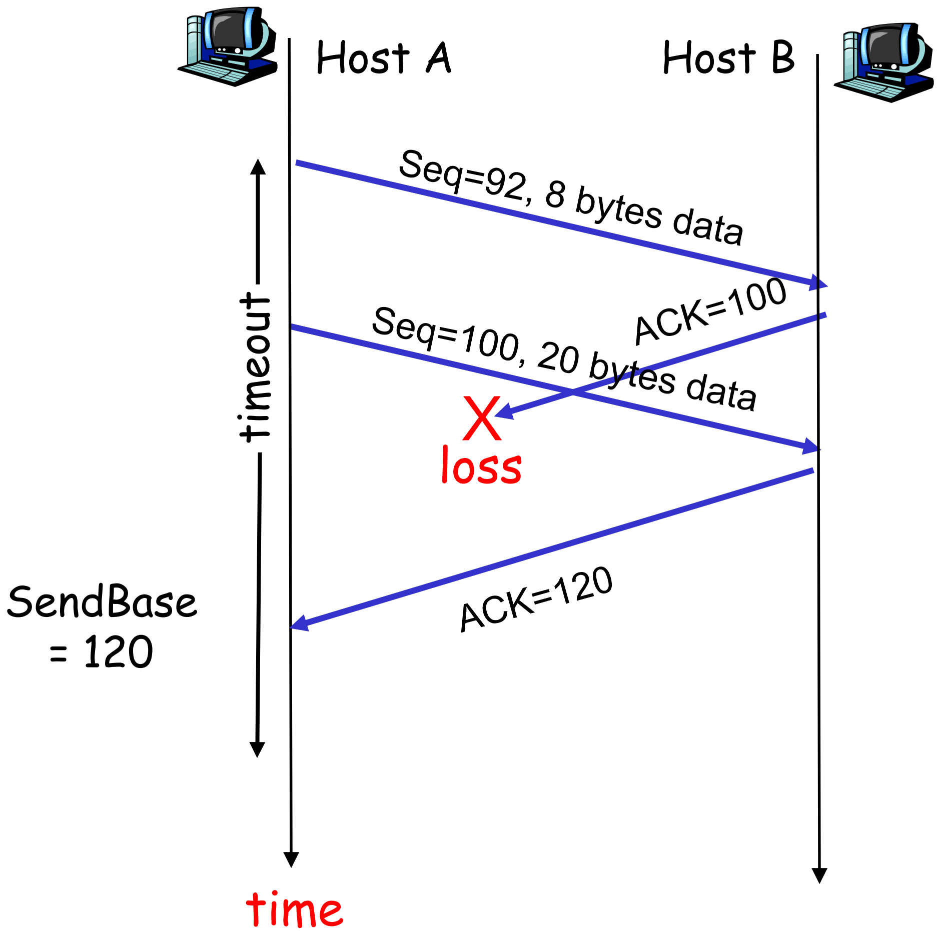


lost ACK scenario



premature timeout

TCP retransmission scenarios (more)



Cumulative ACK scenario

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-expect 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

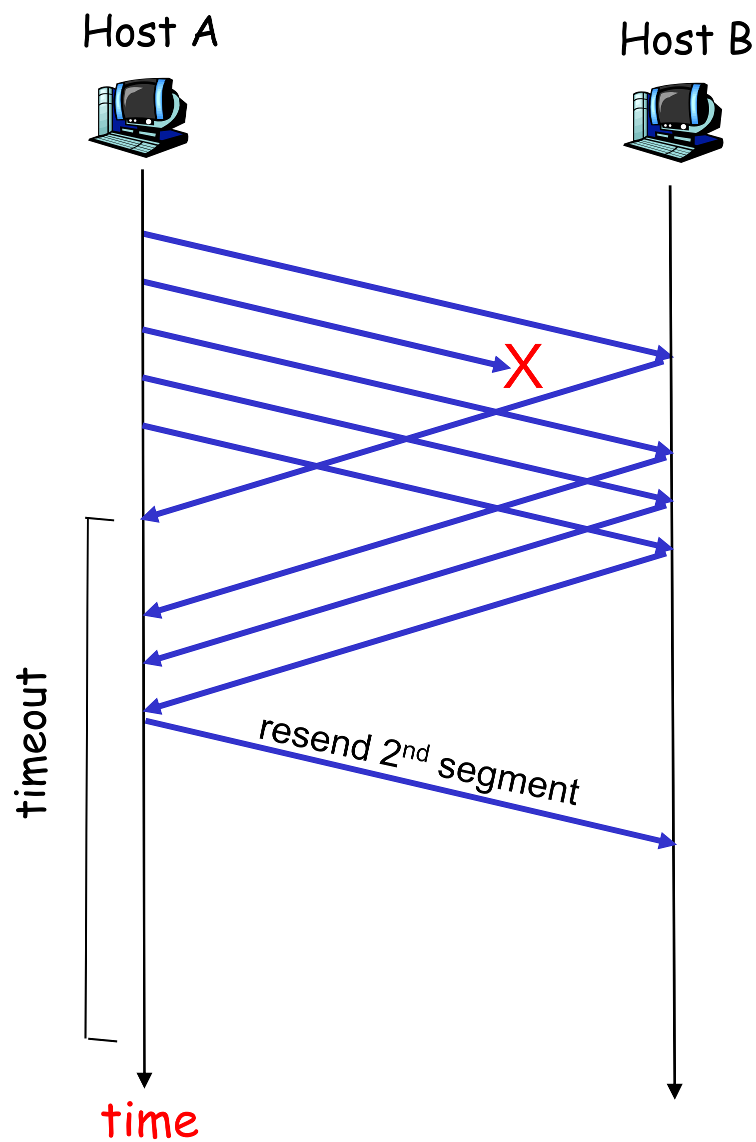


Figure 3.37 Resending a segment after triple duplicate ACK

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

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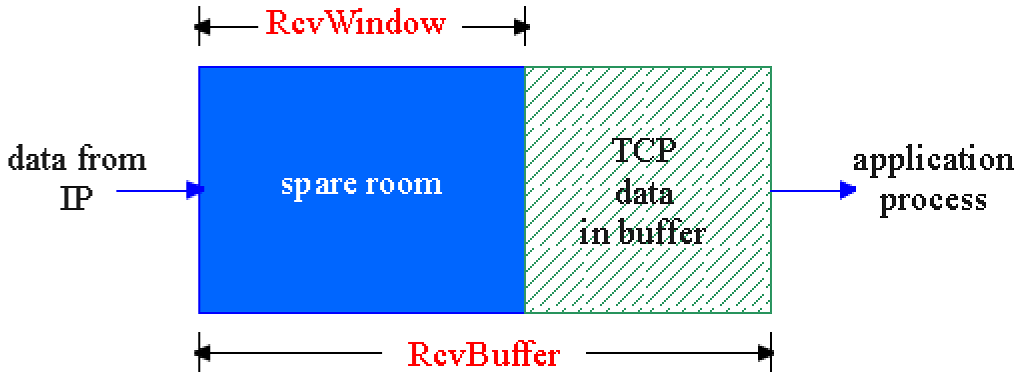
TCP Flow Control

- receive side of TCP connection has a receive buffer:

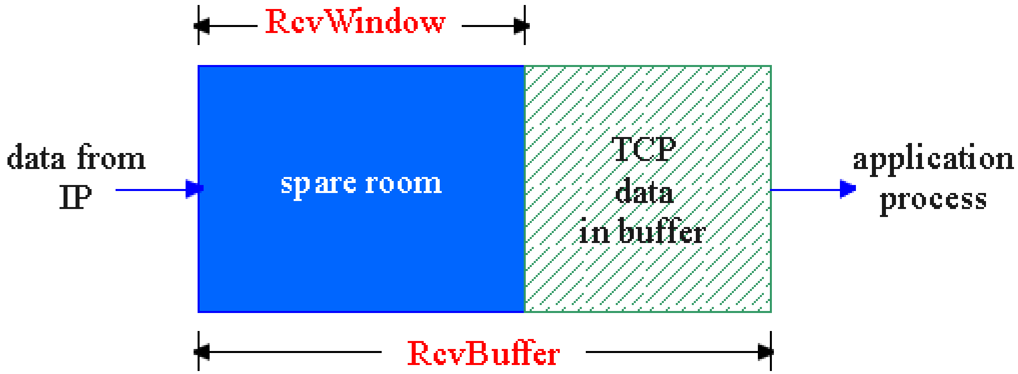


- app process may be slow at reading from buffer

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**

= **RcvBuffer-[LastByteRcvd - 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

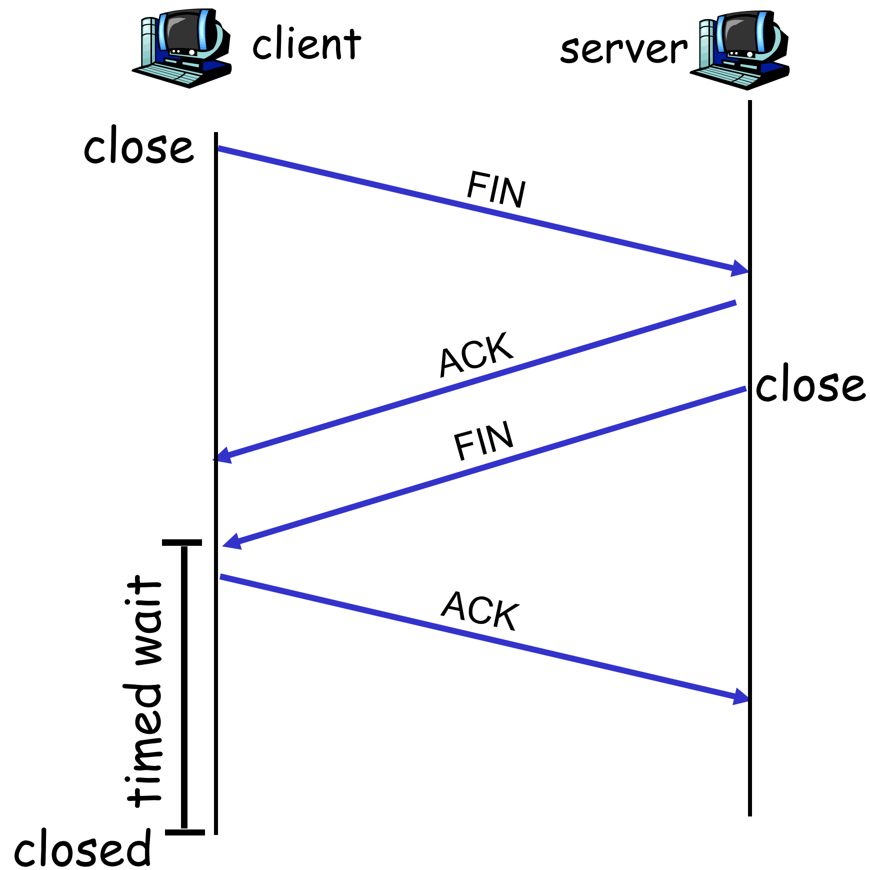
TCP Connection Management (cont.)

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.



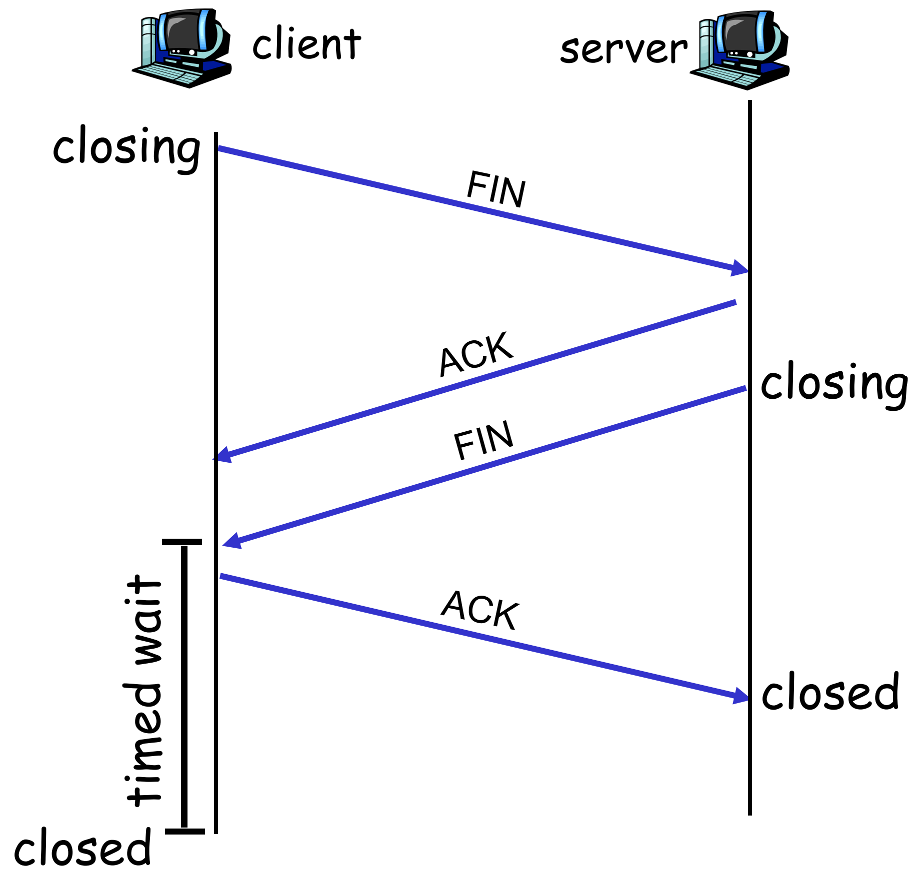
TCP Connection Management (cont.)

Step 3: client receives FIN, replies with ACK.

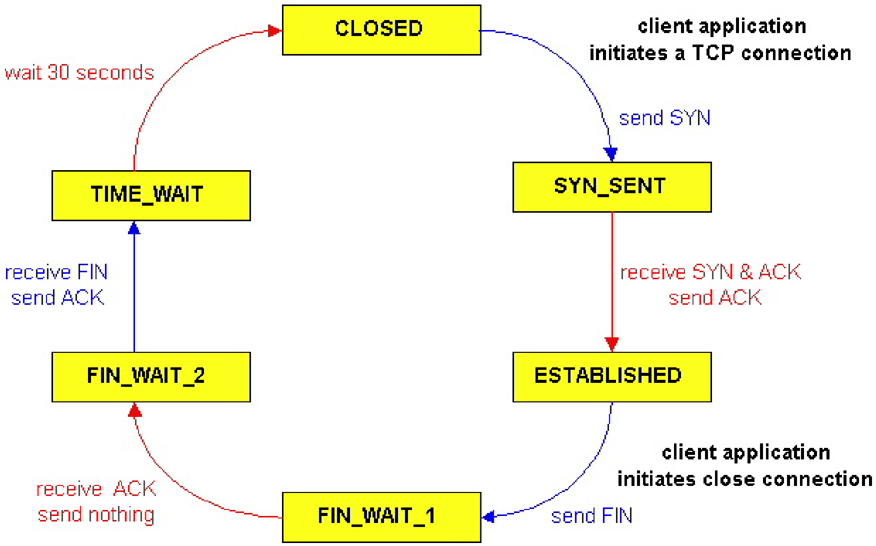
- Enters "timed wait" - will respond with ACK to received FINs

Step 4: server, receives ACK. Connection closed.

Note: with small modification, can handle simultaneous FINs.

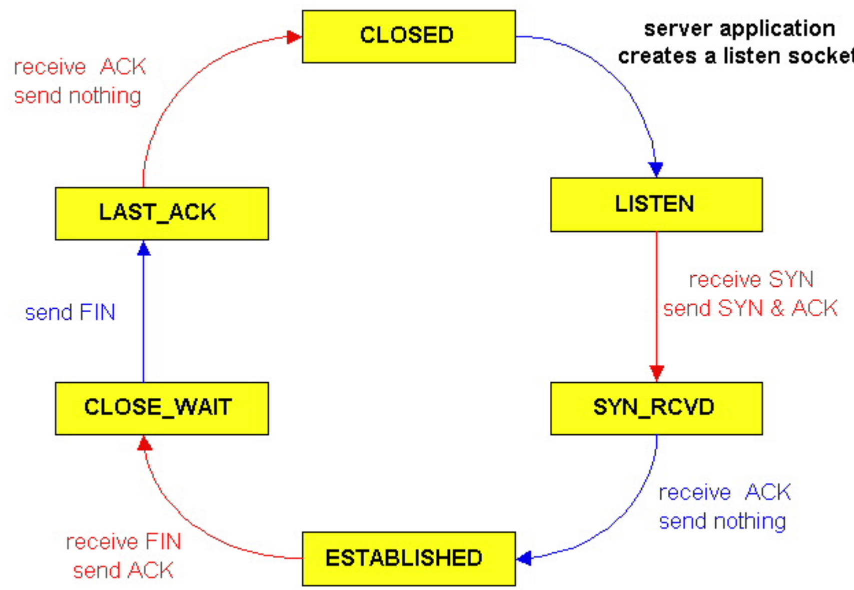


TCP Connection Management (cont)



TCP client lifecycle

TCP server lifecycle



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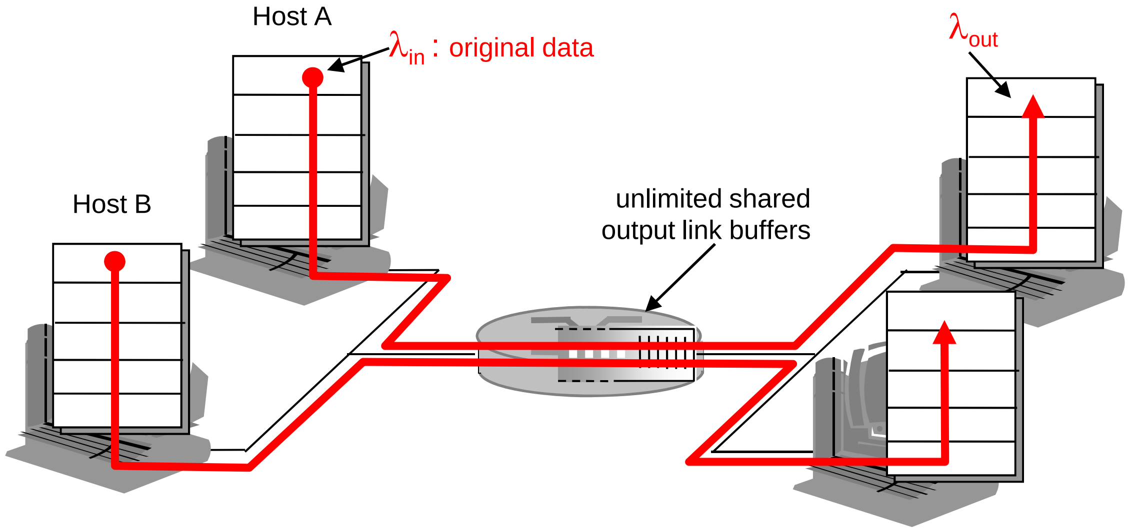
Principles of Congestion Control

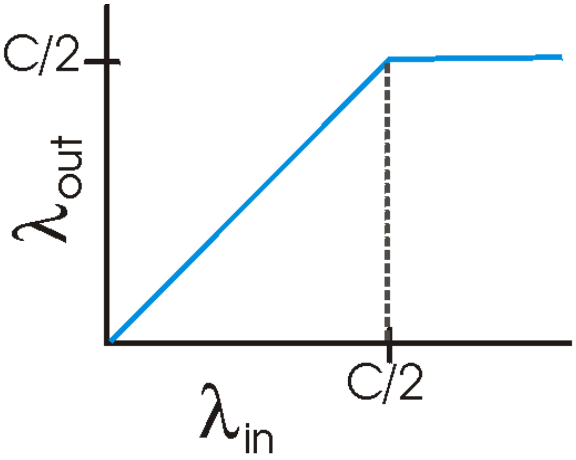
Congestion:

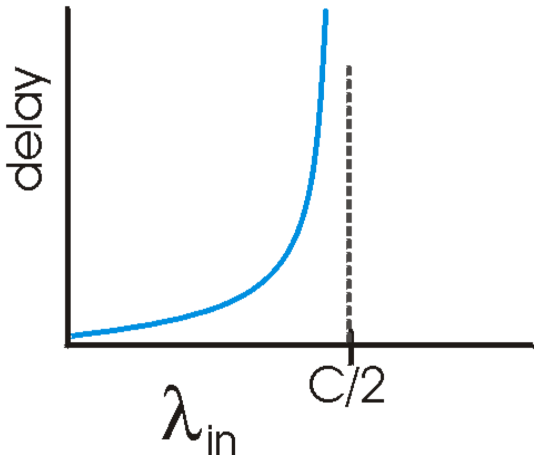
- informally: "too many sources sending too much data too fast for *network* to handle"
- different from flow control!
- manifestations:
  - lost packets (buffer overflow at routers)
  - long delays (queueing in router buffers)
- a top-10 problem!

Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 1

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



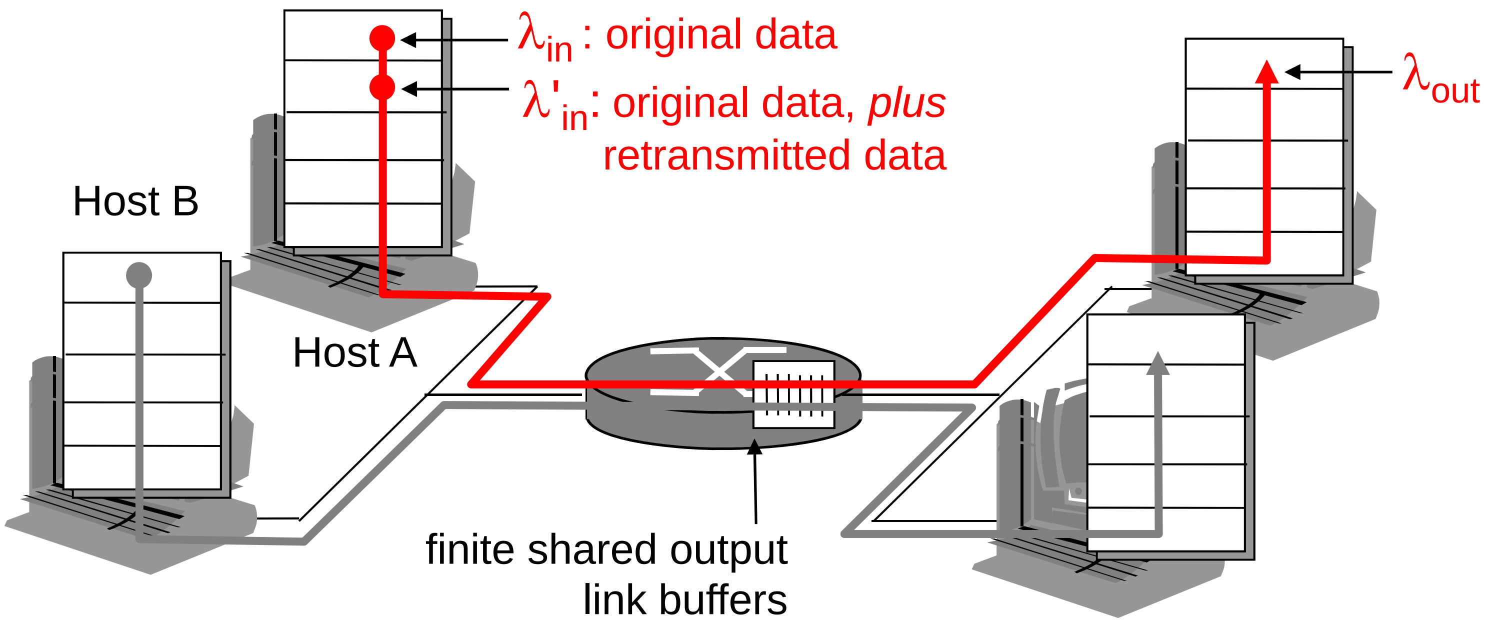




- large delays when congested
- maximum achievable throughput

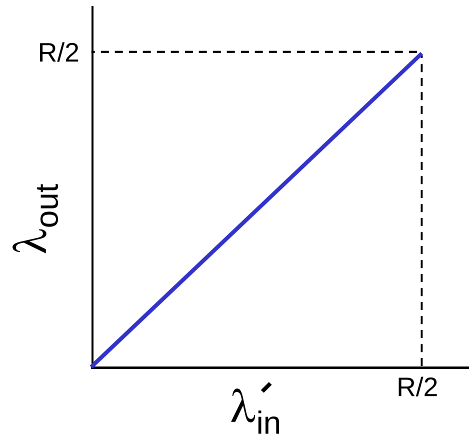
Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

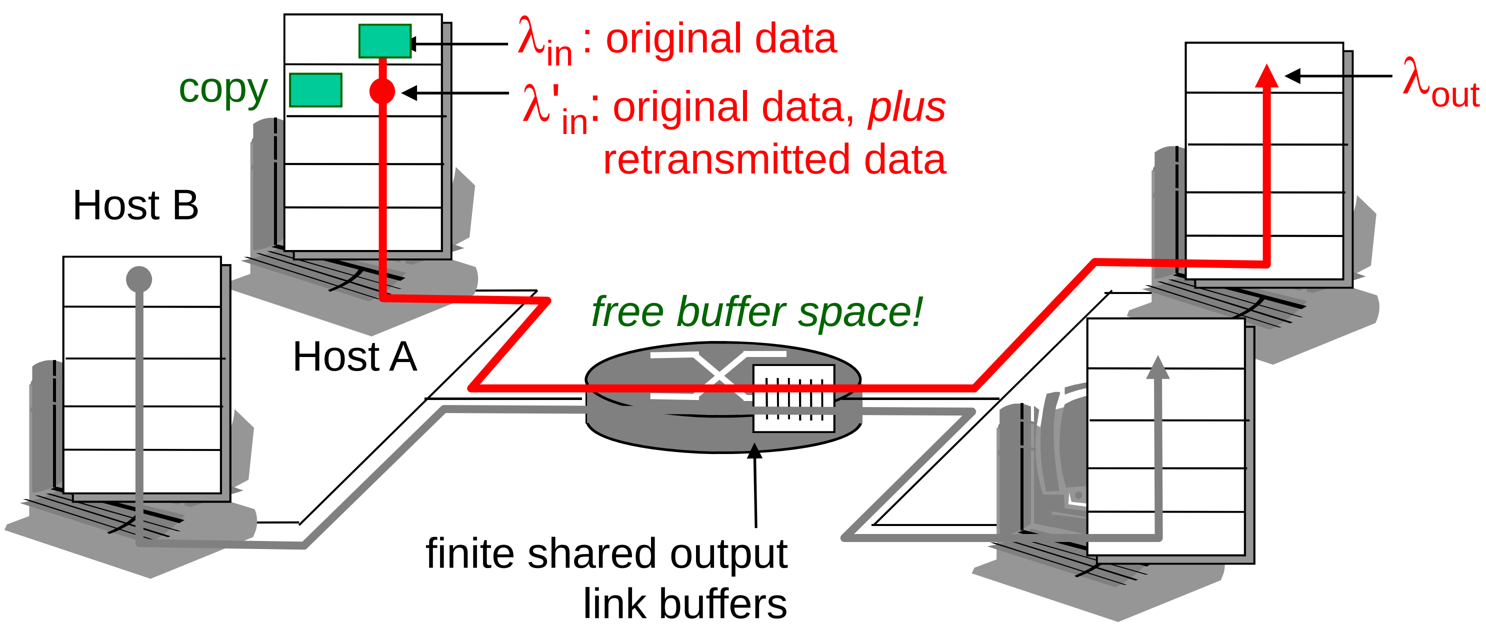
- one router, *finite* buffers
- sender retransmission of timed-out packet
  - application-layer input = application-layer output: $\lambda_{in} = \lambda_{out}$
  - transport-layer input includes *retransmissions* : $\lambda'_{in} \geq \lambda_{in}$



Congestion scenario 2a: ideal case

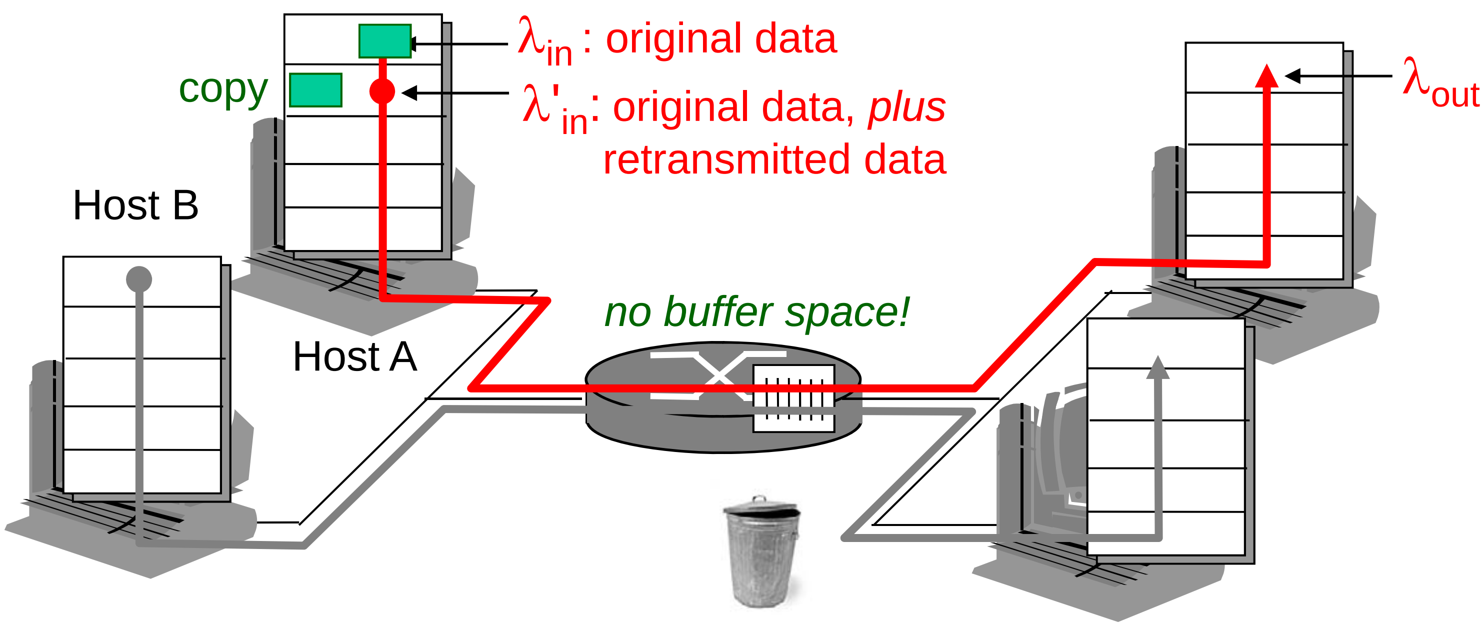
- sender sends only when router buffers available





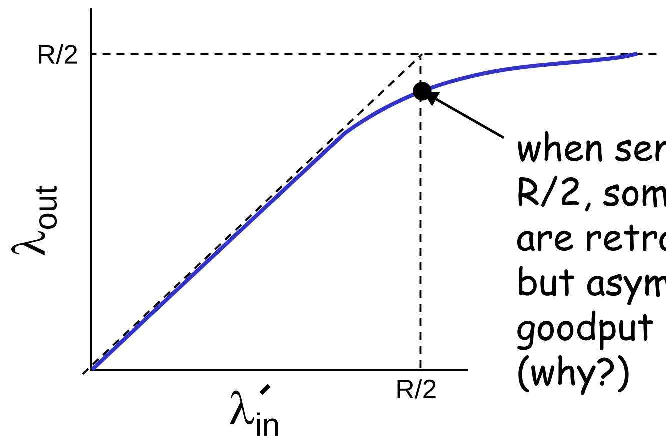
Congestion scenario 2b: *known* loss

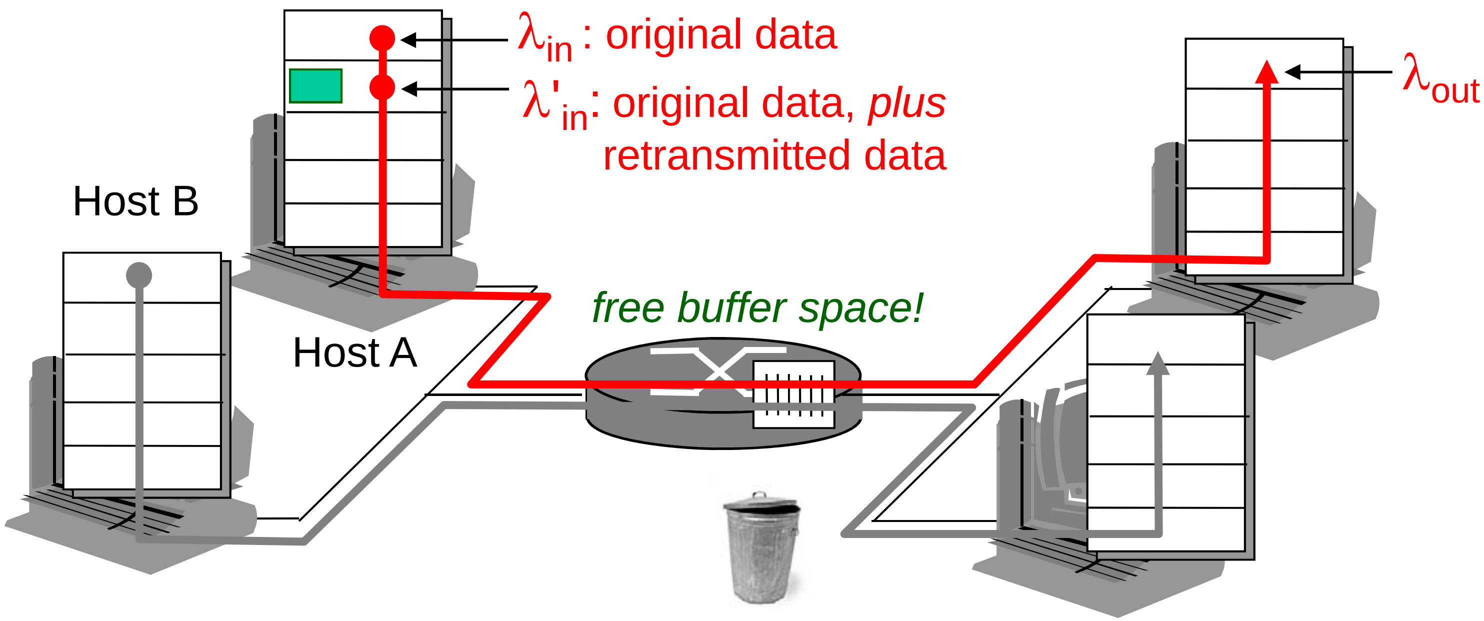
- packets may get dropped at router due to full buffers
  - sometimes lost
- sender only resends if packet *known* to be lost (admittedly idealized)



Congestion scenario 2b: *known* loss

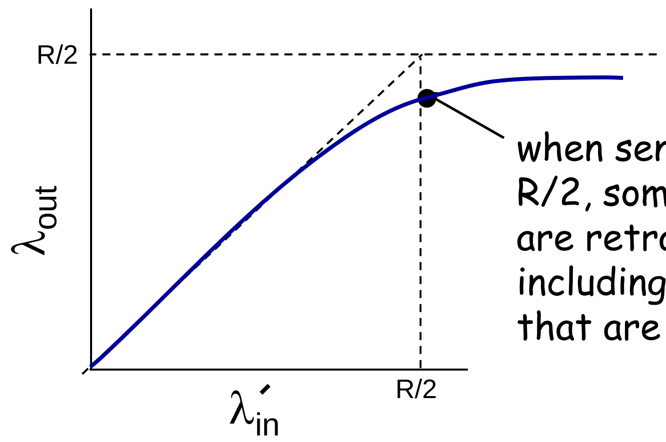
- packets may get dropped at router due to full buffers
  - sometimes not lost
- sender only resends if packet *known* to be lost (admittedly idealized)

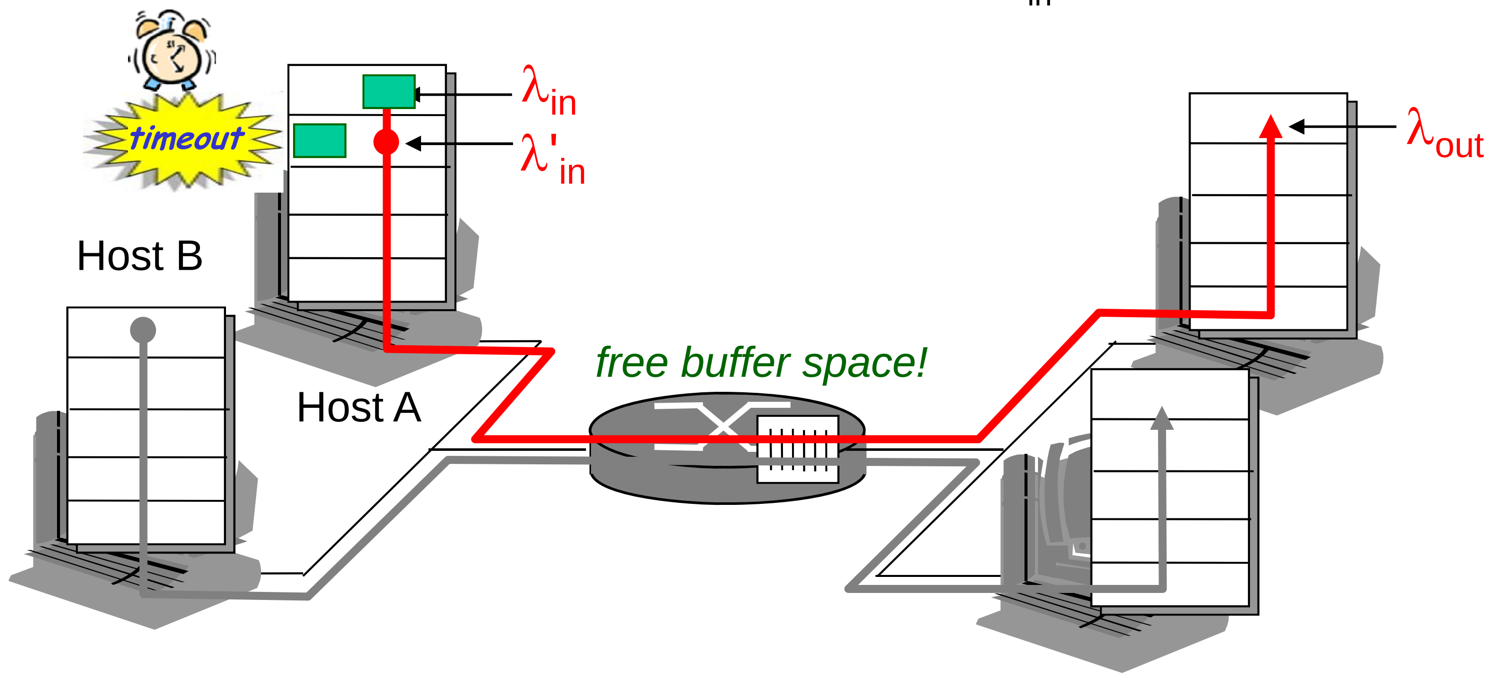




Congestion scenario 2c: *duplicates*

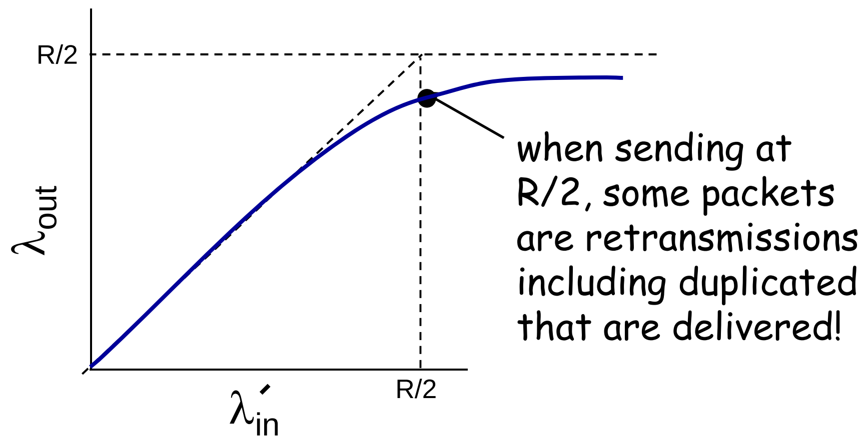
- packets may get dropped at router due to full buffers
- sender times out prematurely, sending *two* copies, both of which are delivered





Congestion scenario 2c: *duplicates*

- packets may get dropped at router due to full buffers
- sender times out prematurely, sending *two* copies, both of which are delivered



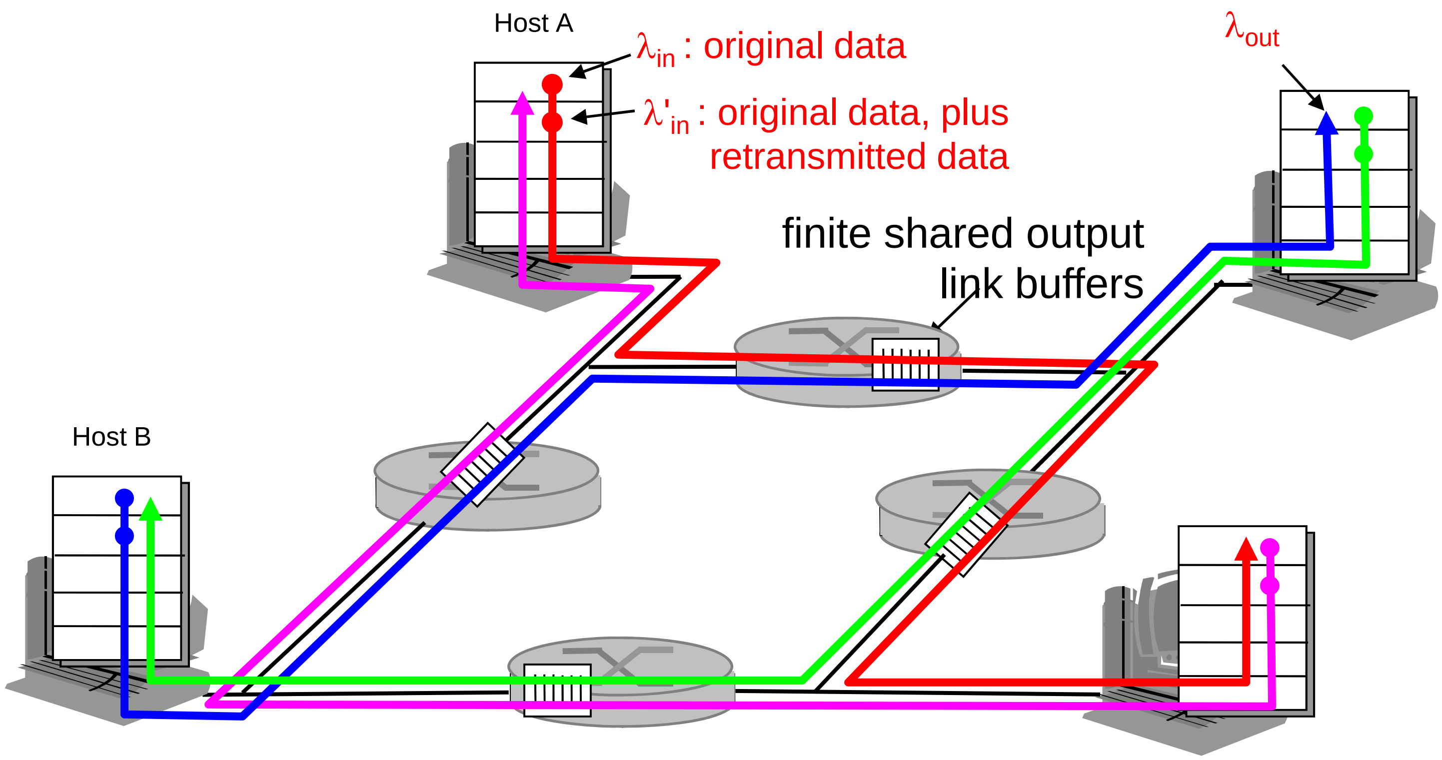
"costs" of congestion:

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

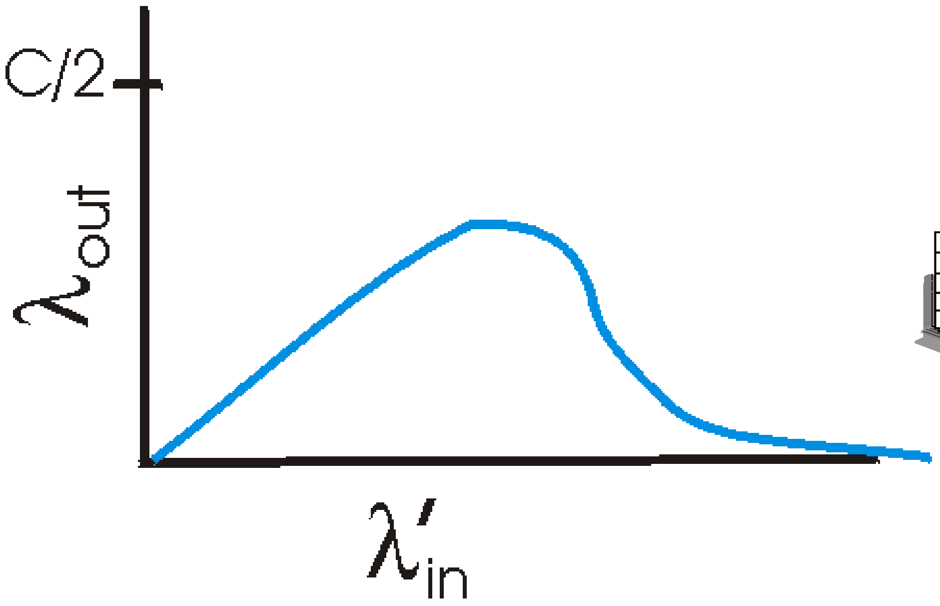
Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 3

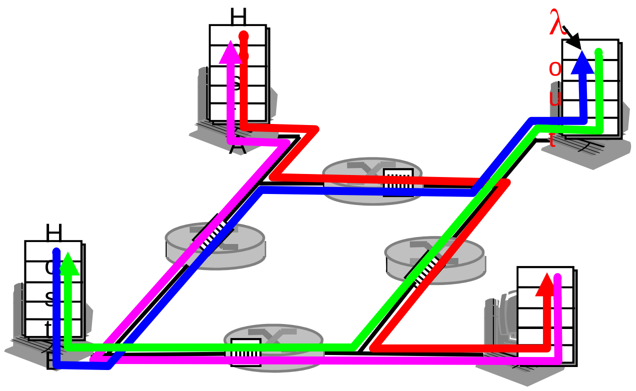
- four senders
- multihop paths
- timeout/retransmit

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

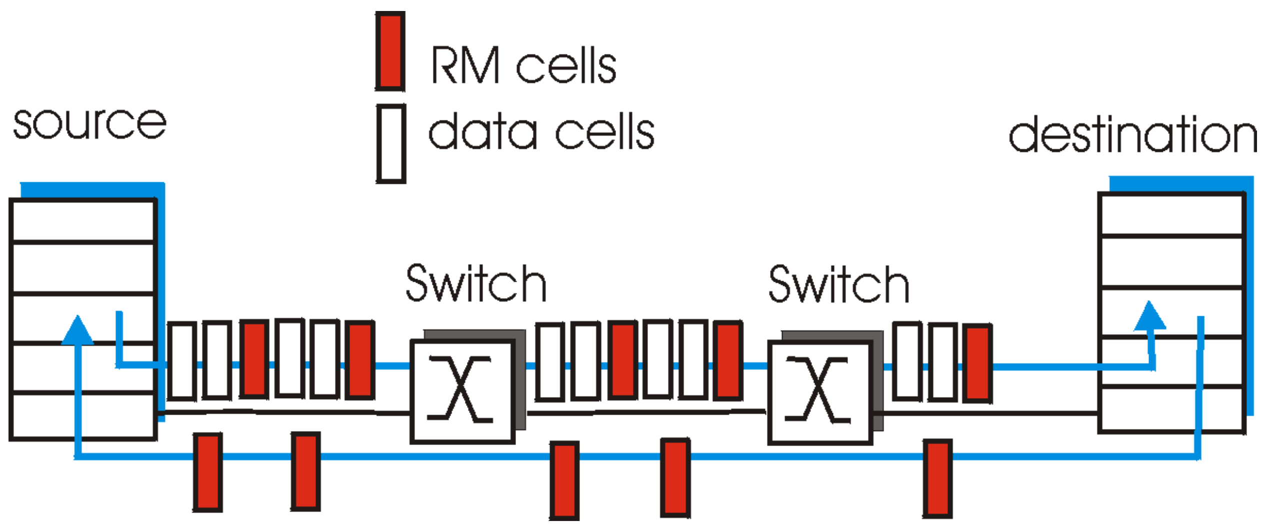
ABR: available bit rate:

- "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 maximum 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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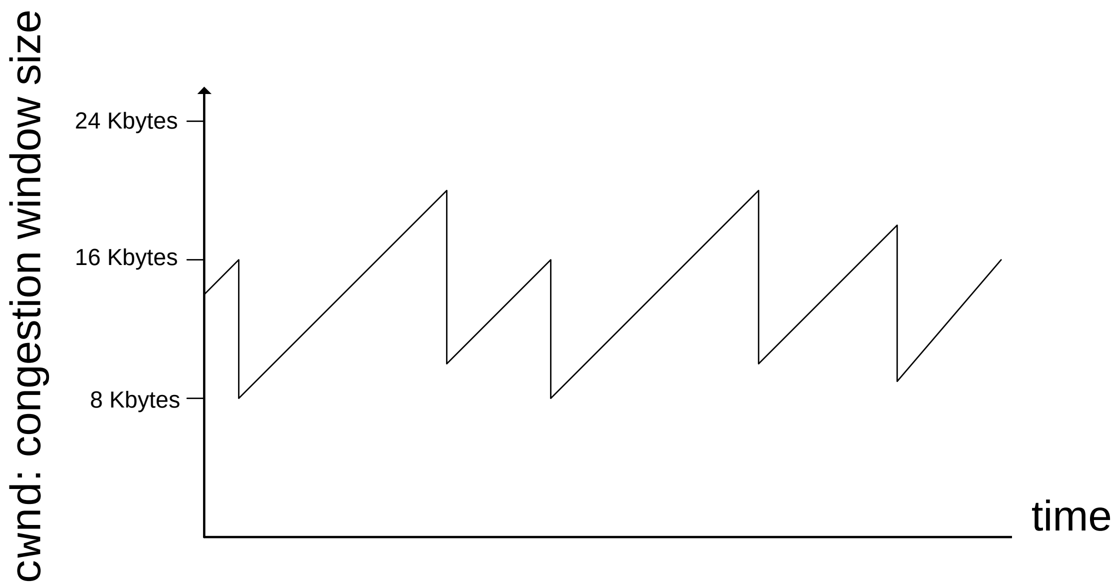
TCP congestion control: additive increase, multiplicative decrease

- *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** in half after loss

saw tooth behavior: probing for bandwidth



TCP Congestion Control: details

- sender limits transmission:

  LastByteSent-LastByteAcked

  $\leq$ **cwnd**

- roughly,

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

- **cwnd** is dynamic, function of perceived network congestion

How does sender perceive congestion?

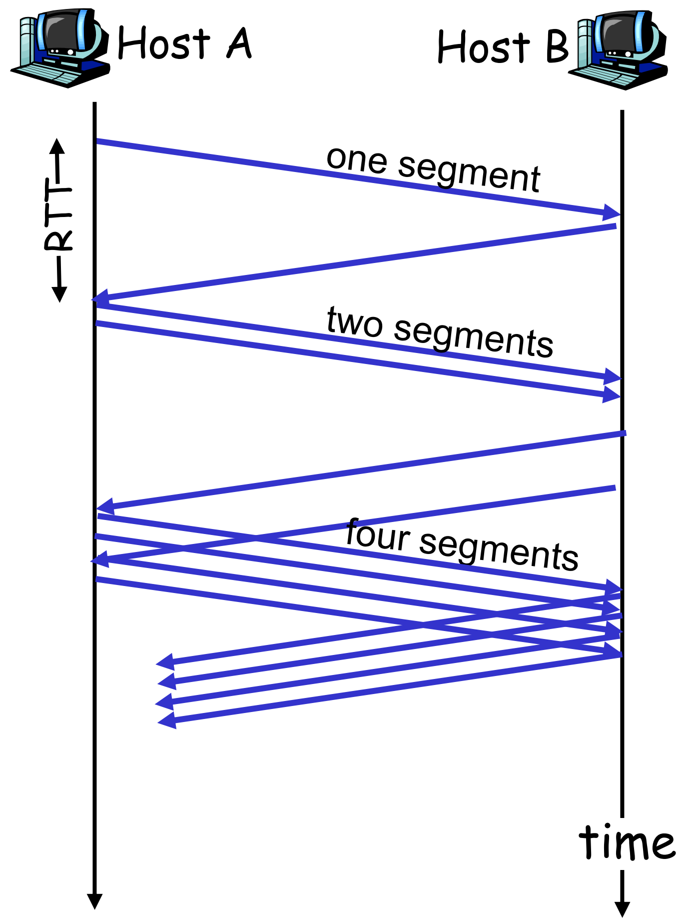
- loss event = timeout *or* 3 duplicate acks
- TCP sender reduces rate (**cwnd**) after loss event

three mechanisms:

- AIMD
- slow start
- conservative after timeout events

TCP Slow Start

- when connection begins, increase rate exponentially until first loss event:
  - initially **cwnd** = 1 MSS
  - double **cwnd** every RTT
  - done by incrementing **cwnd** for every ACK received
- summary: initial rate is slow but ramps up exponentially fast



Refinement: inferring loss

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

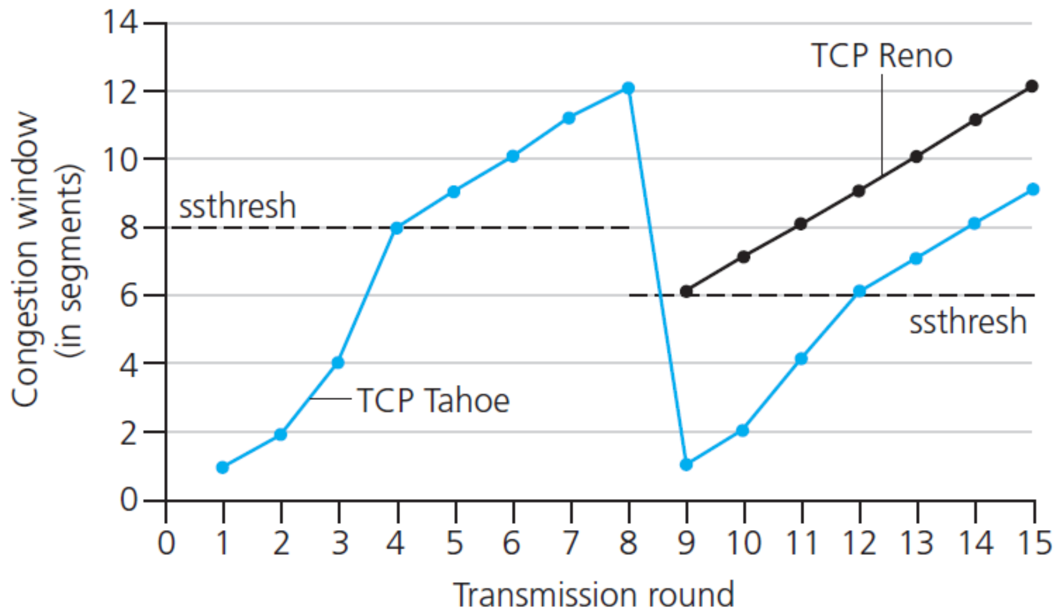
Philosophy:

- 3 dup ACKs indicates network capable of delivering some segments
- timeout indicates a "more alarming" congestion scenario

Refinement

Q: when should the exponential increase switch to linear?

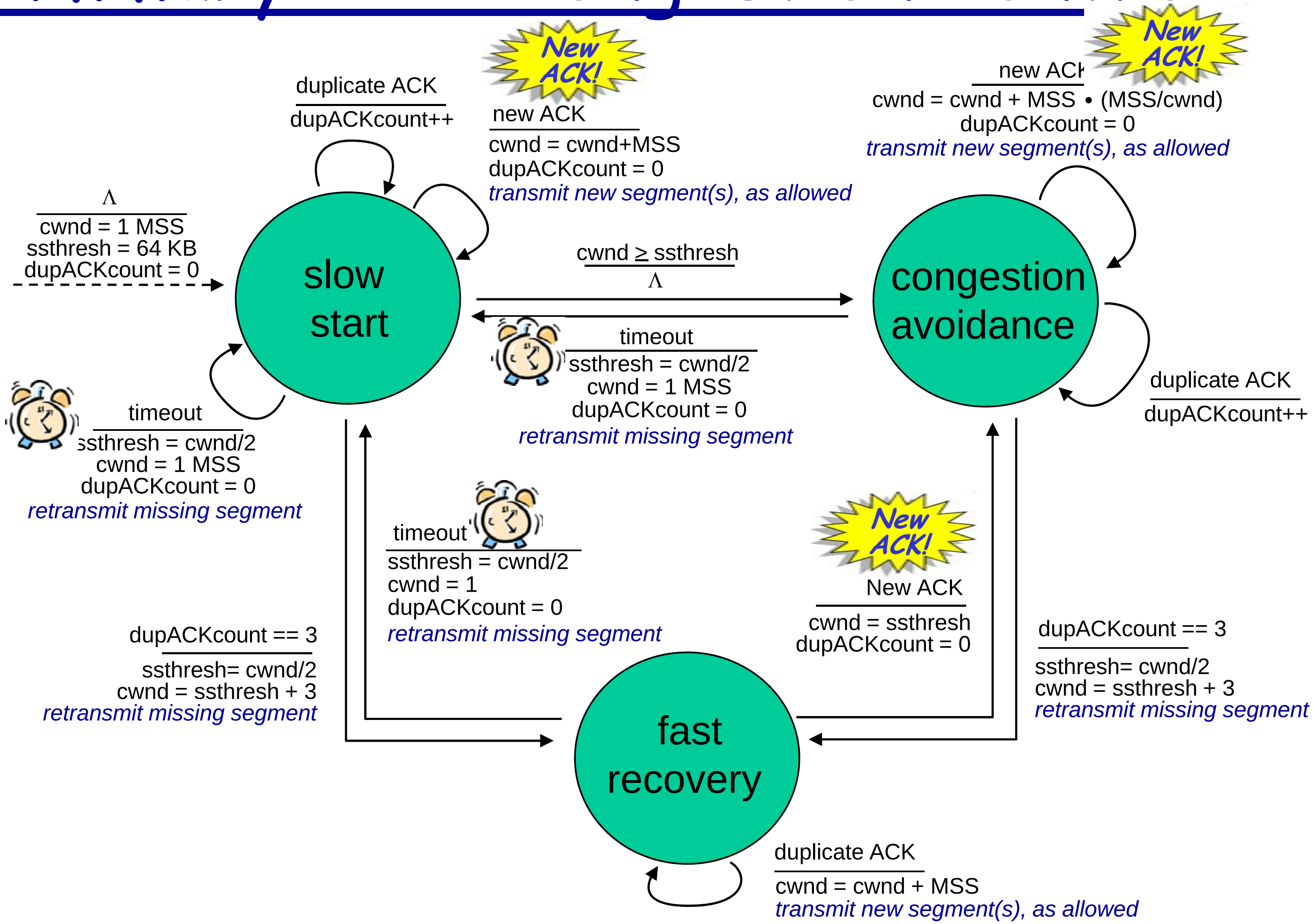
A: when **cwnd** gets to 1/2 of its value before timeout.



Implementation:

- variable **ssthresh**
- on loss event, **ssthresh** is set to 1/2 of **cwnd** just before loss event

Summary: TCP Congestion Control



TCP throughput

- what’s the average throughout 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 throughout: .75 W/RTT

TCP Futures: TCP over "long, fat pipes"

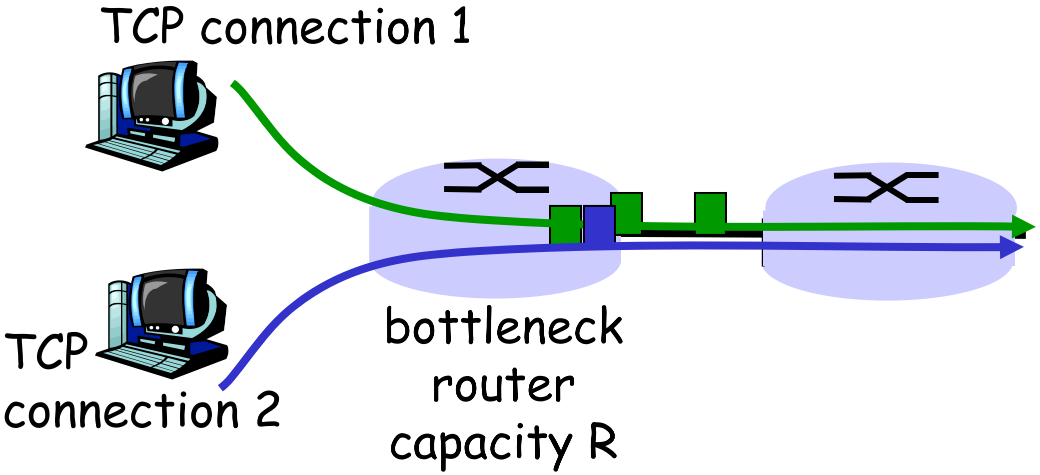
- example: 1500 byte segments, 100ms RTT, want 10 Gbps throughput
- requires window size W = 83,333 in-flight segments
- throughput in terms of loss rate:

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

- ➜ $L = 2 \cdot 10^{-10}$ *Wow – a very small loss rate!*
- new versions of TCP for high-speed

TCP Fairness

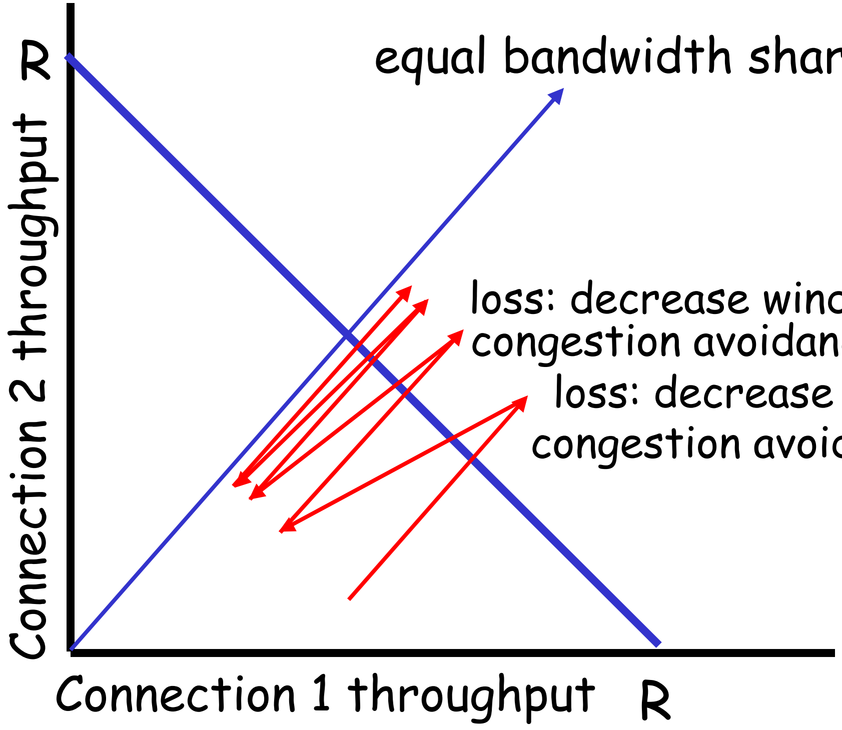
fairness goal: if K TCP sessions share same bottleneck link of bandwidth R, each should have average rate of R/K



Why is TCP fair?

two competing sessions:

- additive increase gives slope of 1, as throughout 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

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 !

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"