# CS 356: Computer Network Architectures

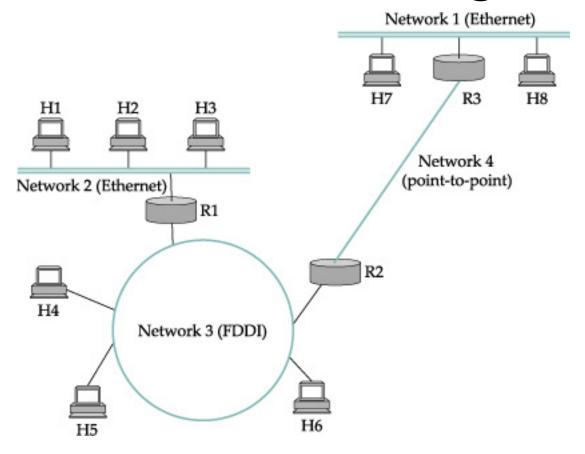
Lecture 10: The Internet Protocol
(IP)
Ch 3.2

Xiaowei Yang xwy@cs.duke.edu

### Overview

- IP header format
- IP addressing
- IP forwarding
  - Forwarding algorithm
  - Fragmentation

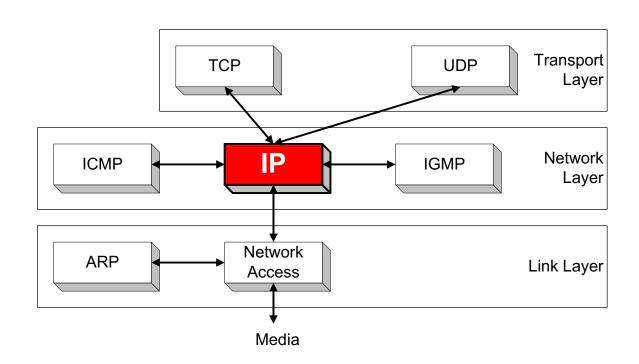
# Inter-networking



- One level of indirection
  - Routers interface different networks
- Uniform addressing (IP)
- Routers send packets to their destination IP addresses

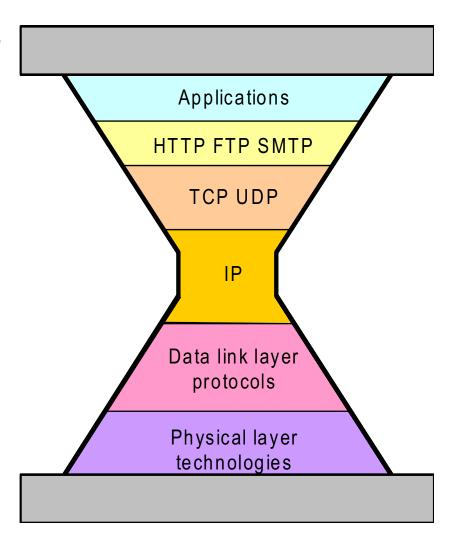
### Internet Protocol

- IP (Internet Protocol) is a Network Layer Protocol
- IP's current version is Version 4 (IPv4). It is specified in RFC 791.
- IPv6 is also deployed



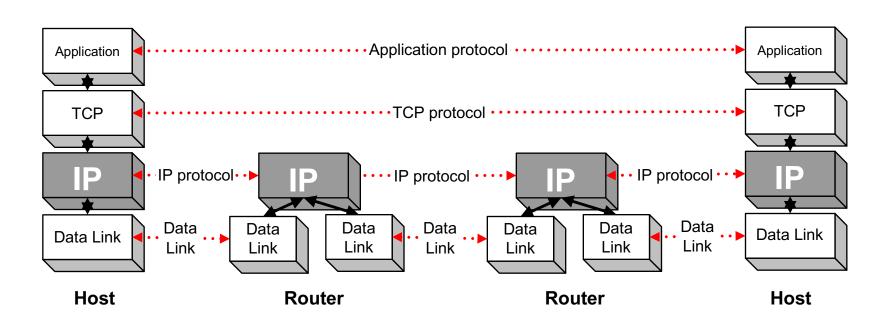
# IP: the thin waist of the hourglass

- IP is the waist of the hourglass of the Internet protocol architecture
- Multiple higher-layer protocols
- Multiple lower-layer protocols
- Only one protocol at the network layer.
- What is the advantage of this architecture?
  - To avoid the N \* M problem

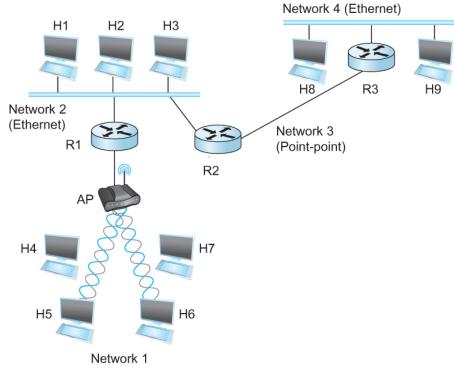


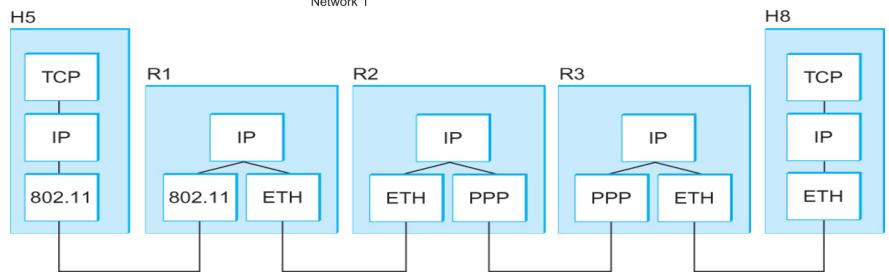
# Application protocol

• Routers look at a packet's IP header and link layer header



# A simple network





### IP Service Model

- Delivery service of IP is minimal
- IP provides an unreliable connectionless best effort service (also called: "datagram service").
  - Unreliable
  - Connectionless
  - Best effort
- Consequences
  - Loss, out of order, and duplicate must be handled at the upper layer

### Basic IP router functions

- Things you need to understand to do lab2
  - Internet protocol
    - IP header
    - IP addressing
    - IP forwarding
  - Address resolution protocol
  - Error reporting and control
    - Internet Control Message Protocol

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• 20 bytes fixed length header + variable length options

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• Version: v4

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- Internet Header Length (IHL 4 bits): the length of header in 32-bit words
  - Maximum header length?

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- DSCP (Differentiated Services Code Point 6 bits): old Type of Service
  - Real-time, VoIP

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- Explicit Congestion Notification (ECN)
  - Early Congestion notice

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- Total length (16 bits): packet length in bytes, including the header
  - 65535 bytes
  - Fragmentation and reassembly

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32	256																			

- **Identification (16 bits):** Unique datagram identifier from a host
  - Incremented whenever a datagram is transmitted (in some OS)
  - Used by many researchers for various purposes

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# • Flags (3 bits):

- -First bit always set to 0
- -DF bit (Do not fragment)
- -MF bit (More fragments)

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- Fragment offset (13 bits)
- Identification, Flags, Fragment offset
  - -fragmentation and assembly

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# • Identification, Flags, Fragment offset

-fragmentation and assembly

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#### • Time To Live (TTL) (1byte):

- Specifies the longest path before a datagram is dropped
- Role of TTL field: Ensure that a packet is eventually dropped when a routing loop occurs

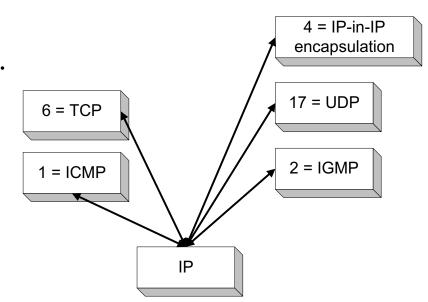
#### Used as follows:

- Sender sets the value (e.g., 64)
- Each router decrements the value by 1
- When the value reaches 0, the datagram is dropped

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### Protocol (1 byte):

- Specifies the higher-layer protocol.
- De-multiplexing to higher layers.



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- Header checksum (16 bits): header checksum
  - Header only
  - Must be computed at every hop!

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- Source & destination IP addresses
  - 32 bit address length in IPv4

### Fields of the IP Header

### Options:

- Record Route: each router that processes the packet adds its IP address to the header.
- Timestamp: each router that processes the packet adds its IP address and time to the header.
- (loose) Source Routing: specifies a list of routers that must be traversed.
- (strict) Source Routing: specifies a list of the only routers that can be traversed.
- IP options increase routers processing overhead
- **Padding:** Padding bytes are added to ensure that header ends on a 4-byte boundary

# Global IP addresses

### What is an IP Address?

- An IP address is a unique global identifier for a network interface
  - An IP address uniquely identifies a network location

 Routers forwards a packet based on the destination address of the packet

Uniqueness ensures global reachability

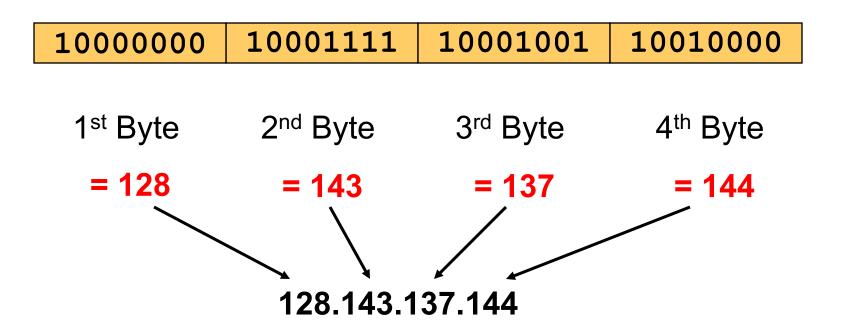
### IP versions

- IPv4 (32-bit)
  - Classful IP addresses (obsolete)
  - Classless inter-domain routing (CIDR) (RFC 854, current standard)

• IP Version 6 addresses (128-bit)

#### **Dotted Decimal Notation**

• Each byte is identified by a decimal number in the range [0...255]:



# Structure of an IP address

network prefix

host number

- An IP address has a structure
  - Network prefix identifies a network
  - Host number identifies a specific host interface
- Improves the scalability of routing
  - Scales better than flat addresses

# How long is a network prefix?

• Before 1993: The network prefix is implicitly defined (class-based addressing)

• After 1993: The network prefix is indicated by a netmask

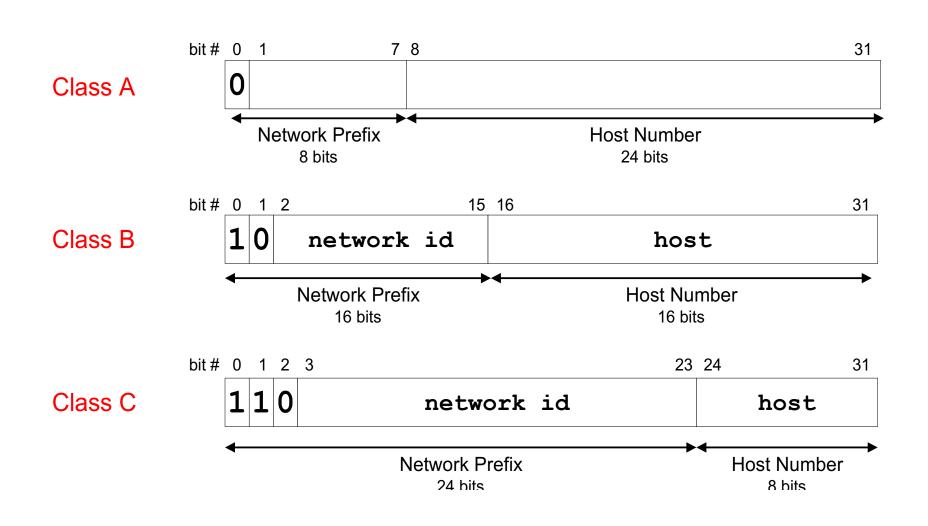
### Before 1993: Class-based addressing

- The Internet address space was divided up into classes:
  - Class A: Network prefix is 8 bits long
  - Class B: Network prefix is 16 bits long
  - Class C: Network prefix is 24 bits long
  - Class D is multicast address
  - Class E is reserved

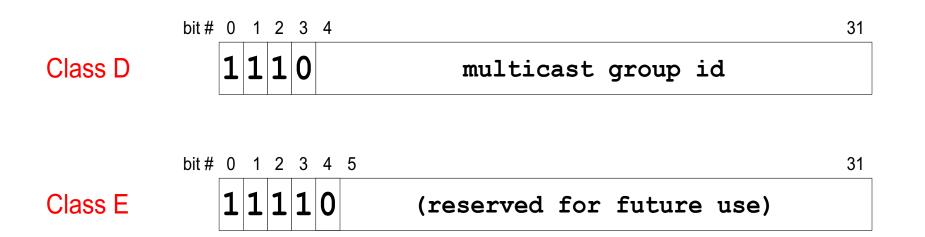
# Classful IP Addresses (Until 1993)

- Each IP address contained a key which identifies the class:
  - Class A: IP address starts with "0"
  - Class B: IP address starts with "10"
  - Class C: IP address starts with "110"
  - Class D: IP address starts with "1110"
  - Class E: IP address starts wit "11110"

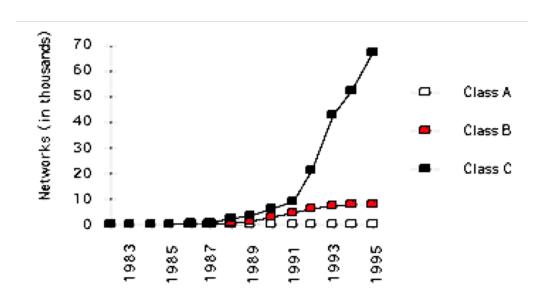
# Classful IP Addresses (before 1993)



# Classful IP Addresses (before 1993)



#### Problems with Classful IP Addresses



- Fast growing routing table size
  - Each router must have an entry for every network prefix
  - A,B too large, C too small
    - $\sim 2^{21} = 2,097,152$  class C networks
  - In 1993, the size of routing tables started to outgrow the capacity of routers
- Local admins must request another network number before installing a new network at their site

### Solution: Classless Inter-domain routing (CIDR)

- Network prefix is of variable length
  - No rigid class boundary
- Addresses are allocated hierarchically

• Routers can aggregate multiple address prefixes into one routing entry

Hierarchy is the key

#### Hierarchical IP Address Allocation

Internet Assigned Numbers Authority Regional Internet Registries (Five of them) Internet Service Providers

- American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN)
- RIPE, APNIC, LACNIC, AfriNIC

#### CIDR network prefix has variable length

	128	143	137	144
Addr	10000000	10001111	10001001	10010000
	255	255	255	0
Mask	11111111	11111111	1111111	00000000

• A network mask specifies the number of bits used to identify a network in an IP address.

#### CIDR notation

- CIDR notation of an IP address:
  - -128.143.137.144/24
  - /24 is the prefix length. It states that the first 24 bits are the network prefix of the address (and the remaining 8 bits are available for specific host addresses)
- CIDR notation can nicely express blocks of addresses
  - An address block

```
[128.195.0.0, 128.195.255.255]
```

can be represented by an address prefix 128.195.0.0/16

- How many IP addresses are there in a /x address block?
  - 2 (32-x)

# Using ifconfig (or ipconfig) to find out your laptop's address

```
en0: flags=8863<UP, BROADCAST, SMART, RUNNING, SIMPLEX, MULTICAST> mtu 1500
```

ether a8:66:7f:16:02:08

inet6 fe80::10cf:731b:1d54:e775%en0 prefixlen 64 secured scopeid 0x5

inet 10.194.131.251 netmask 0xffffe000 broadcast 10.194.159.255

nd6 options=201<PERFORMNUD, DAD>

media: autoselect

status: active

## IP Forwarding

## Forwarding of IP datagrams

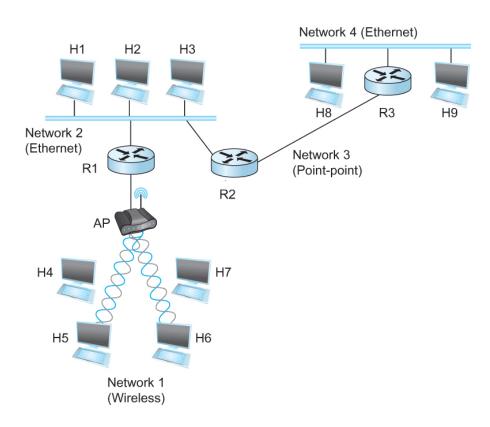
- There are two distinct processes to delivering IP datagrams:
  - 1. Forwarding (data plane): How to pass a packet from an input interface to the output interface?
  - 2. Routing (control plane): How to find and setup the forwarding tables?

## Key points

- Each IP datagram contains the IP destination address
- The "network part" of an IP address identifies a single physical network
- All hosts and routers that share the same network part of their address are connected to the same physical network

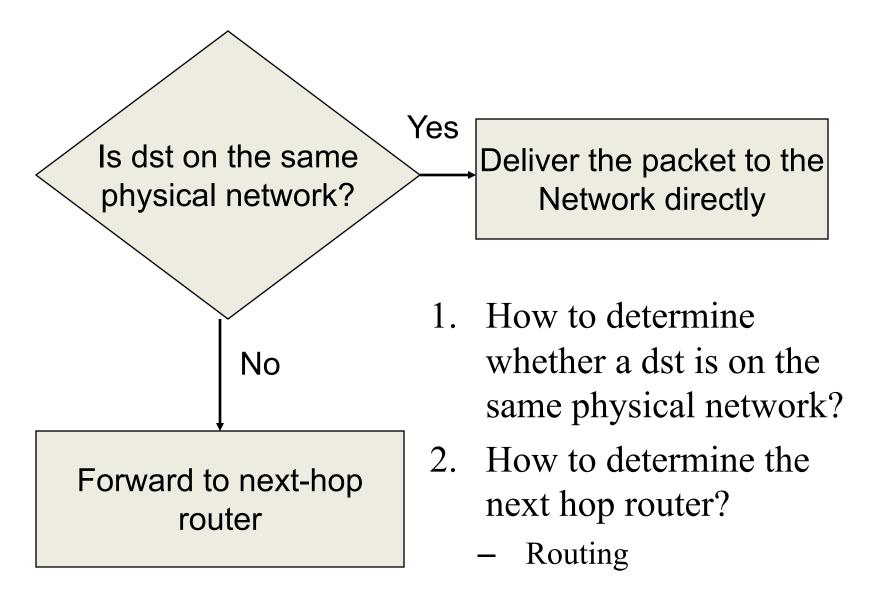
• Each physical network on the Internet has at least one router that connects this network to other physical networks

#### Forwarding basics



- Routers forward according to network prefixes
- All interfaces on the same network have the same network prefixes

## Forwarding algorithm



## Detailed forwarding algorithm

- If (networkNum == networkNum of one of my interfaces) then
  - Deliver packet over the interface

- Else
  - if (NetworkNum is in my forwarding table) then
    - Deliver to the NextHop router
  - Else
    - Deliver packet to the default router

# How does a host/router determine the network number of a destination address?

Destination address & network mask =
 NetworkNumOfDestination

- If (NetworkNumOfDestination == my network Number) then
  - Send through my direct interfaces

#### Forwarding table lookup

- Forwarding table lookup: Use the IP destination address as a key to search the routing table
- Result of the lookup is the IP address of a next hop router, and/or the name of a network interface

Destination address	Next hop/ interface
network prefix	IP address of
or	next hop router
host IP address	
or	or
loopback address	
or	Name of a
default route	network
	interface

## Type of forwarding table entries

#### Network route

- Destination addresses is a network address (e.g., 10.0.2.0/24)
- Most entries are network routes

#### Host route

- Destination address is an interface address (e.g., 10.0.1.2/32)
- Used to specify a separate route for certain hosts

#### Default route

Used when no network or host route matches

#### Loopback address

- Routing table for the loopback address (127.0.0.1)
- The next hop lists the loopback (lo0) interface as outgoing interface

#### Unified forwarding algorithm

#### • Observation:

- A directly physical network can be an entry in the forwarding table
- A default route can be an entry

- 1. Look up destination address in the forwarding table using longest prefix match
- 2. Forward the packet to the next hop indicated by the matched entry

# The longest prefix matching algorithm

- 1. Search for a match on all 32 bits
- 2. Search for a match for 31 bits

. . . . .

32. Search for a match on 0 bits

Host route, loopback entry

→ 32-bit prefix match

Default route is represented as 0.0.0.0/0

→ 0-bit prefix match

## Why longest prefix match?

- Longest → smallest network
- Network prefixes may be aggregated

#### Example

128.143.71.21



Destination addre	ssNext hop
10.0.0.0/8	eth0
128.143.0.0/16	R2
128.143.64.0/20	R3
128.143.192.0/20	R3
128.143.71.0/24	R4
128.143.71.55/32	R3
0.0.0.0/0 (default)	R5



The longest prefix match for 128.143.71.21 is for 24 bits with entry 128.143.71.0/24

Datagram will be sent to R4

#### Summary

- IP header format
- IP addressing
- IP forwarding
  - Forwarding algorithm