Chapter 3: Transport Layer

last revised 23/03/04

Chapter goals:

- understand principles behind transport layer services:
  - multiplexing/demultiplexing
  - reliable data transfer
  - flow control
  - congestion control
- instantiation and implementation in the Internet

Chapter Overview:

- transport layer services
- multiplexing/demultiplexing
- connectionless transport: UDP
- principles of reliable data transfer
- connection-oriented transport: TCP
  - reliable transfer
  - flow control
  - connection management
- principles of congestion control
- 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
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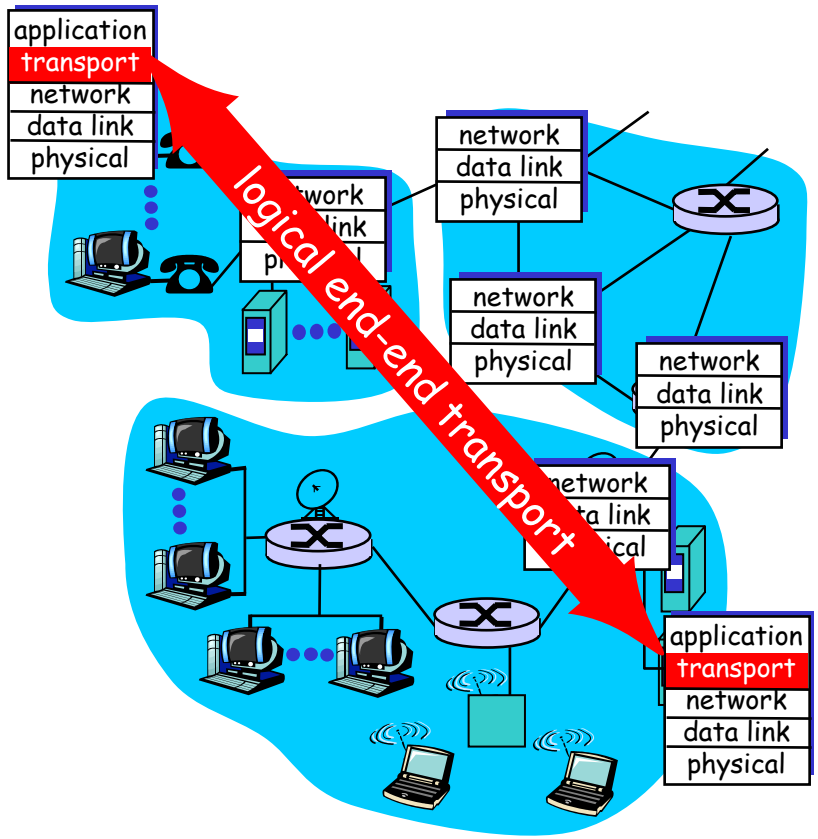
- 3.6 Principles of congestion control
- 3.7 TCP congestion control

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:

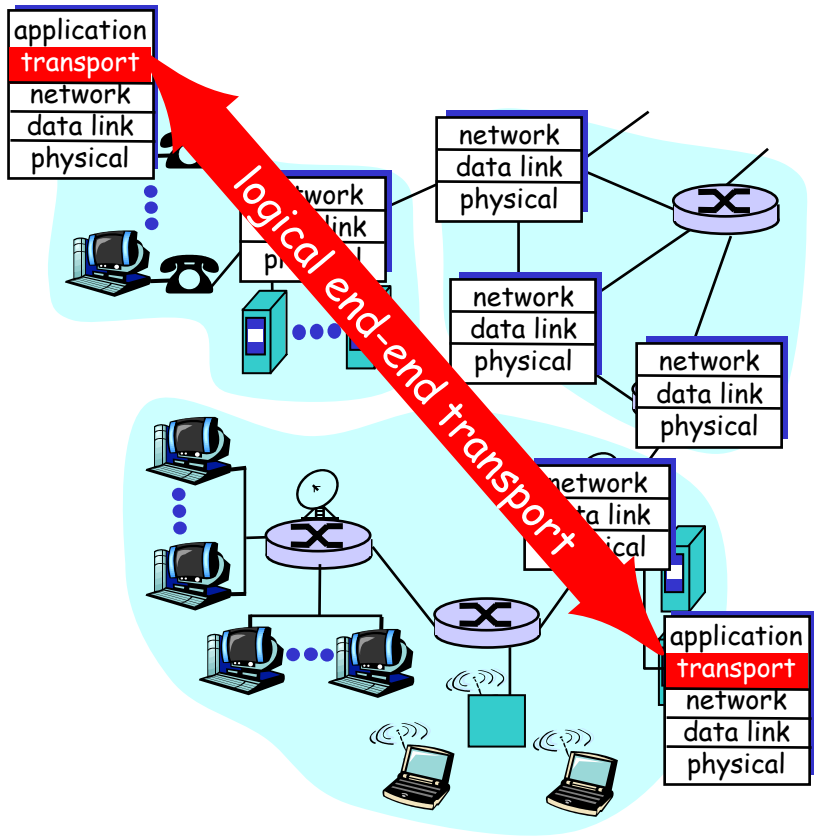
12 kids sending letters to 12 kids

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

Transport-layer protocols

Internet transport services:

- reliable, in-order unicast delivery (TCP)
  - congestion
  - flow control
  - connection setup
- unreliable ("best-effort"), unordered unicast or multicast delivery: UDP
- services not available:
  - real-time
  - bandwidth guarantees
  - reliable multicast



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Multiplexing/demultiplexing

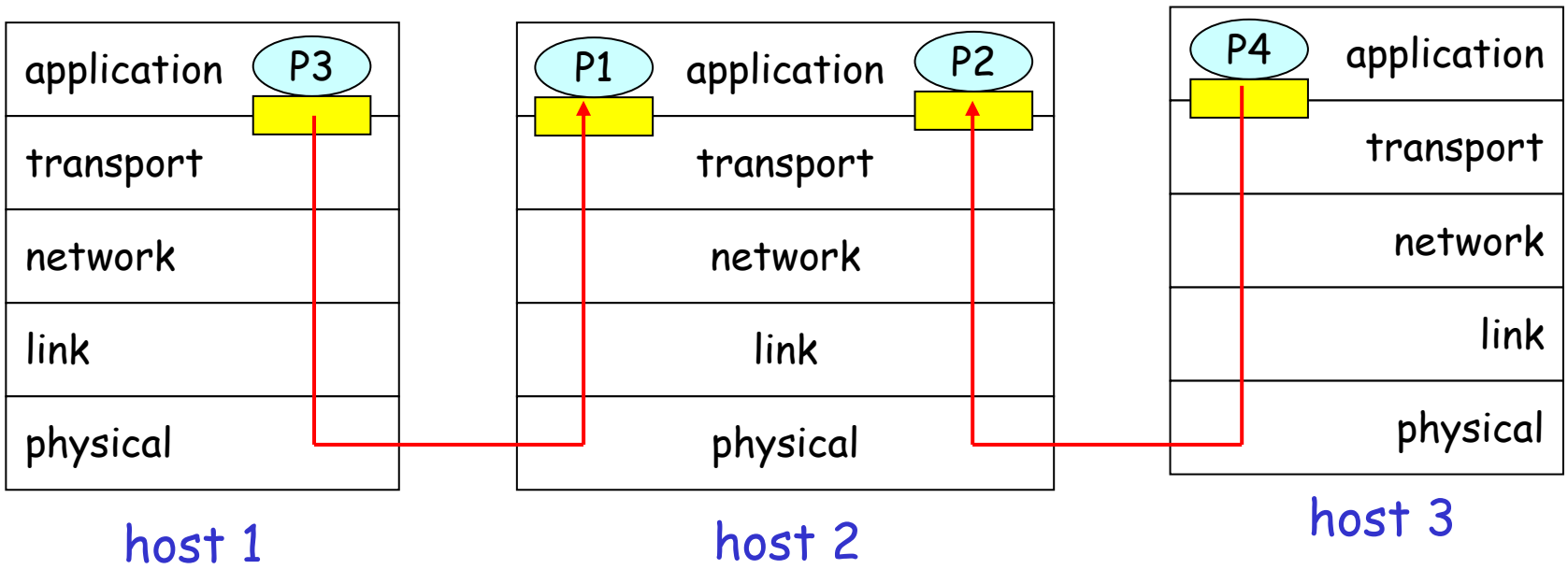
Demultiplexing at rcv host:

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

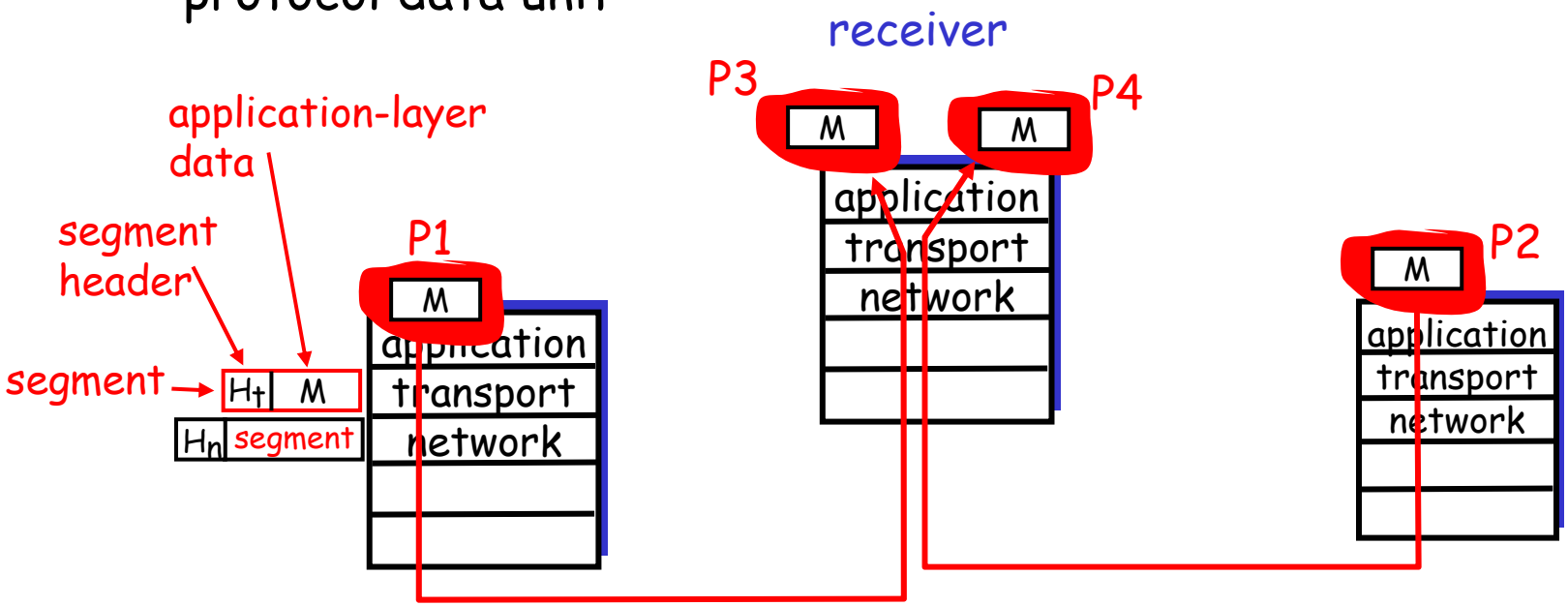


Multiplexing/demultiplexing

segment - unit of data exchanged between transport layer entities

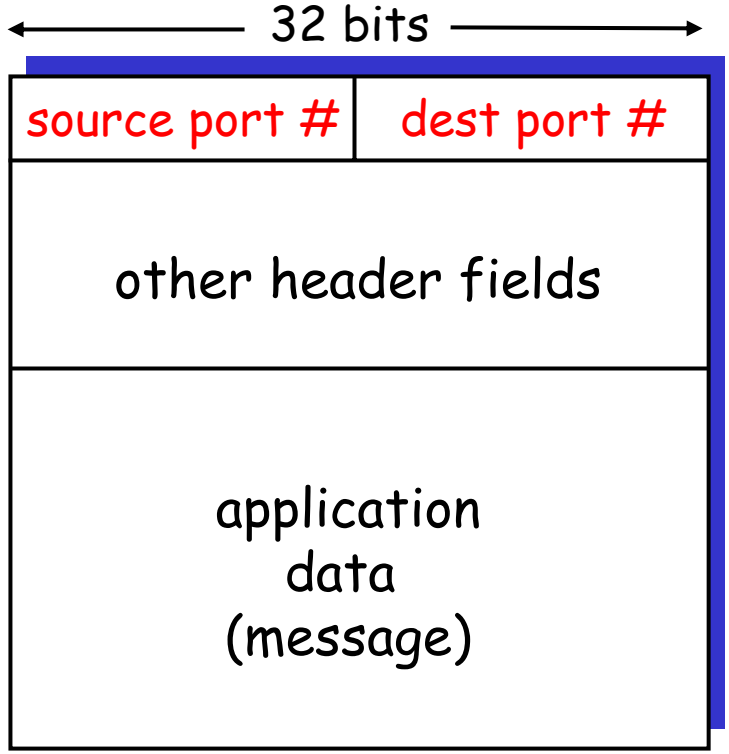
- aka TPDU: transport protocol data unit

Demultiplexing: delivering received segments to correct app layer processes



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);
```

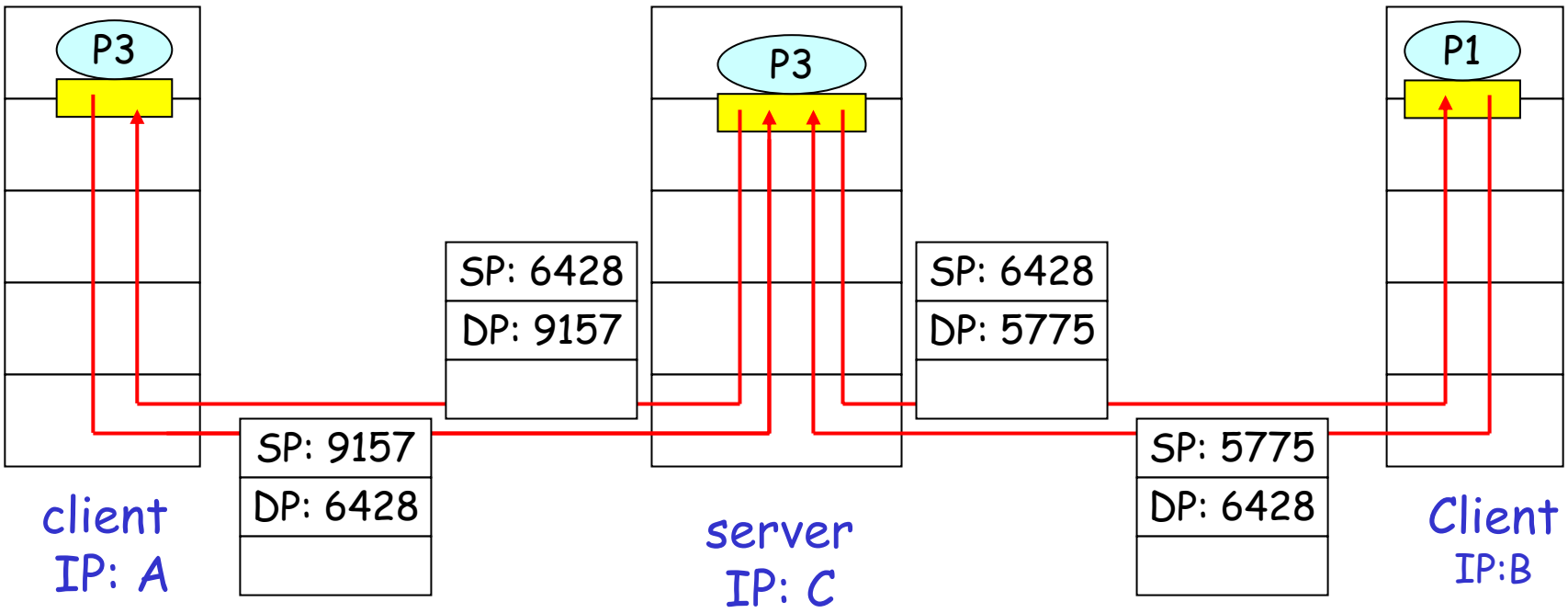
- UDP socket identified by two-tuple:

(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);
```

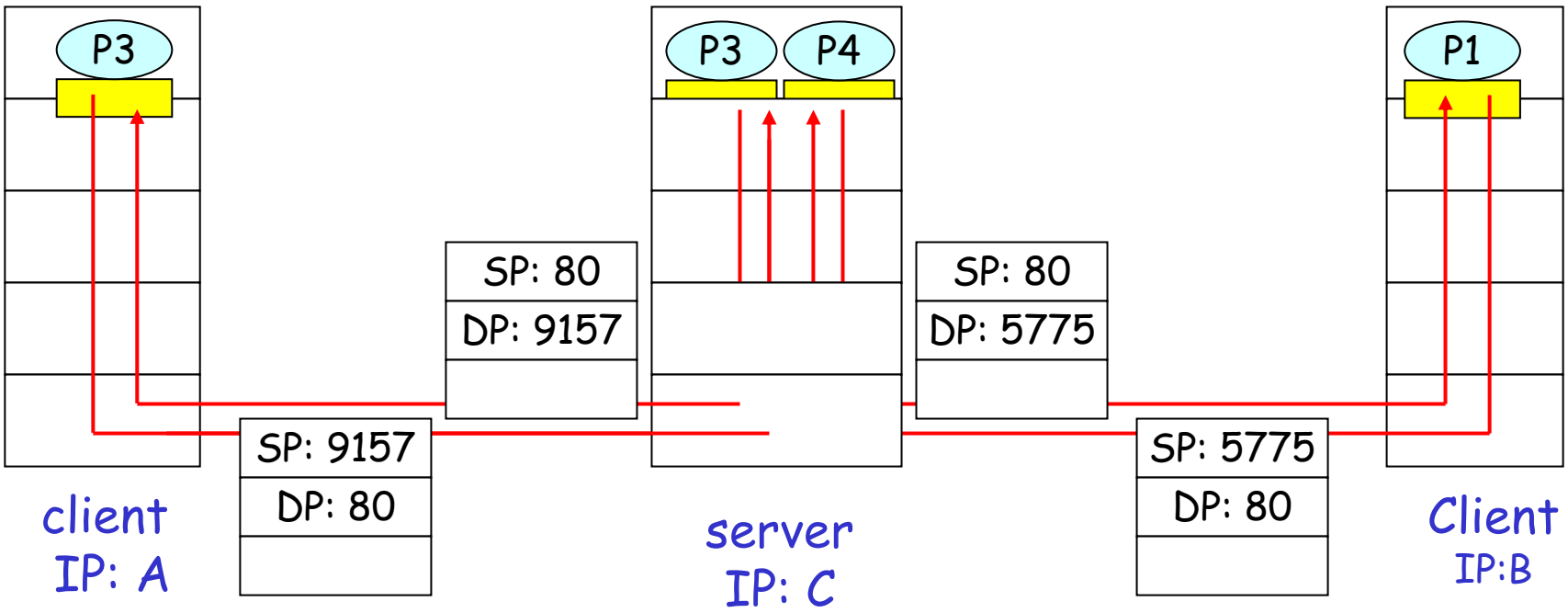


SP provides "return address"

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)



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UDP: User Datagram Protocol [RFC 768]

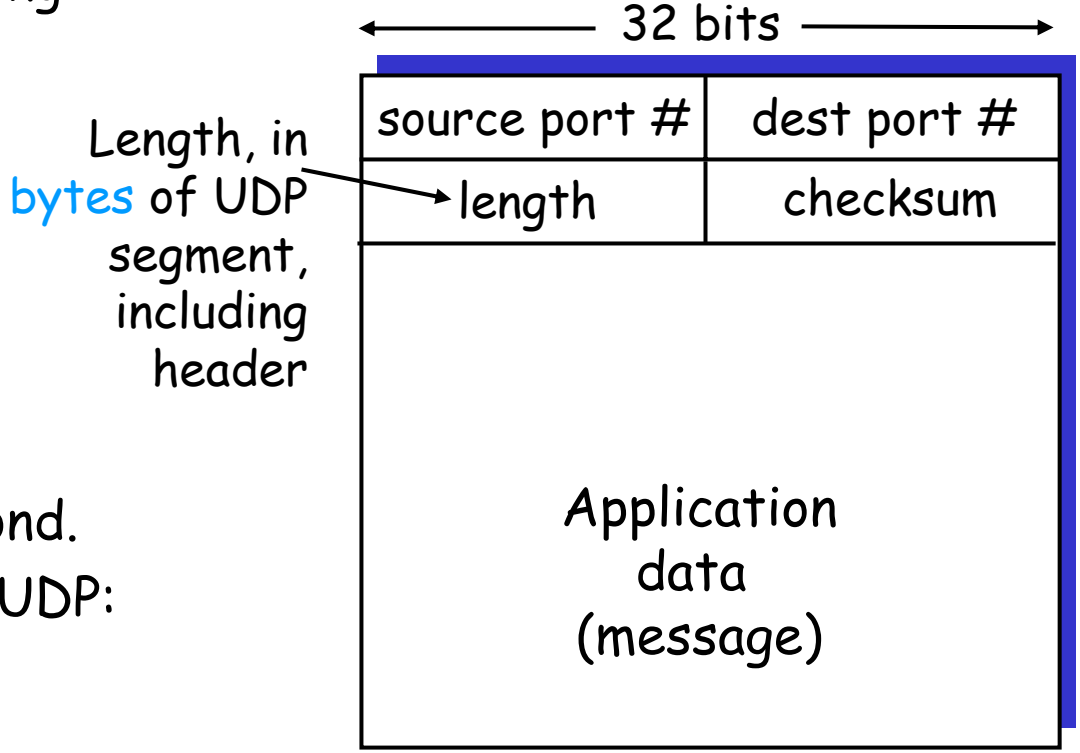
- "no frills," "bare bones" Internet transport protocol
- "best effort" service, UDP segments may be:
  - lost
  - delivered out of order to app
- *connectionless:*
  - no handshaking between UDP sender, receiver
  - each UDP segment handled independently of others

Why is there a UDP?

- no connection establishment (which can add delay)
- simple: no connection state at sender, receiver
- small segment header (8 Bytes)
- 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 (why?):
  - DNS: small delay
  - SNMP: stressful cond.
- reliable transfer over UDP: add reliability at application layer
  - application-specific error recover!



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 ..
- Receiver may choose to discard segment or send a warning to app in case error

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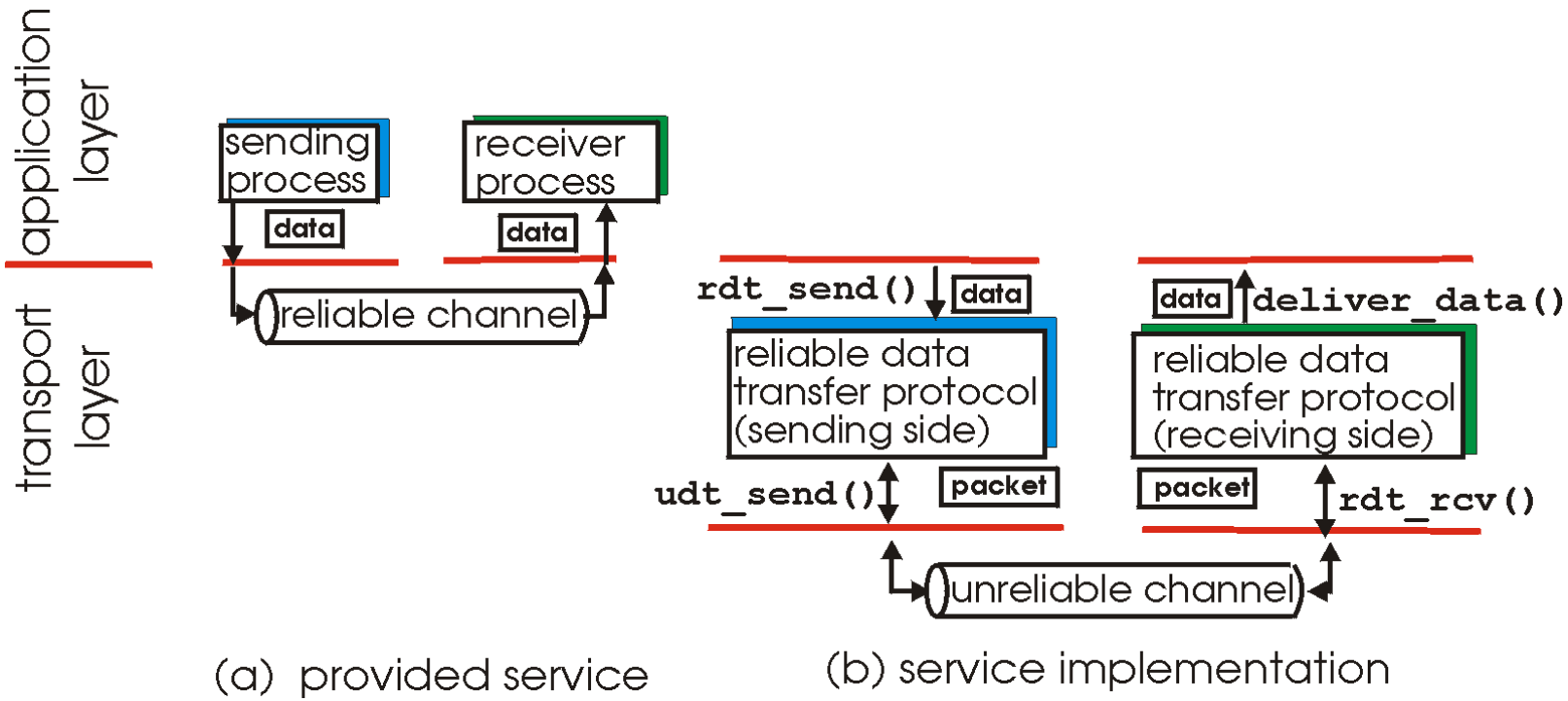
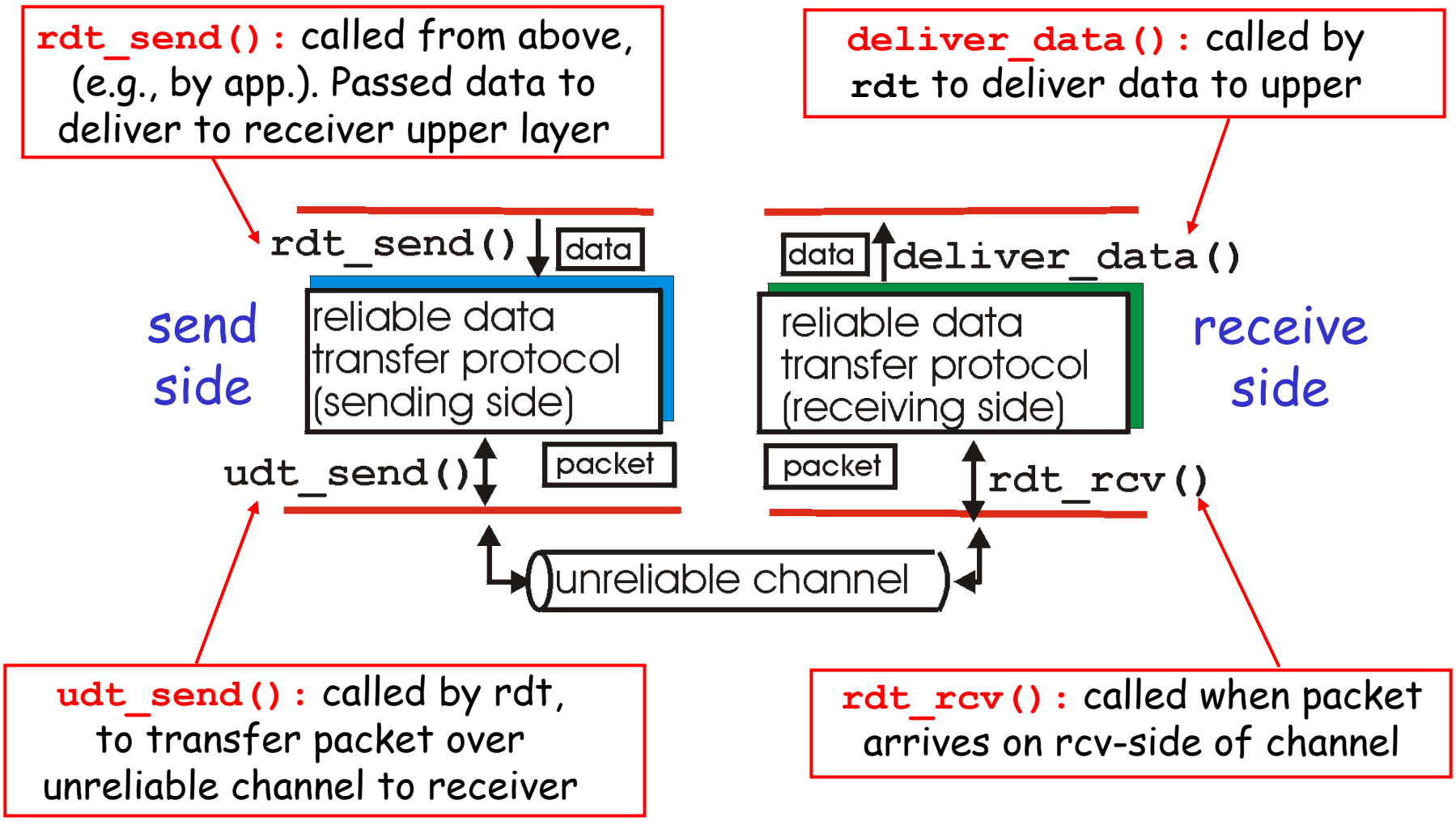
Principles of Reliable data transfer

- 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

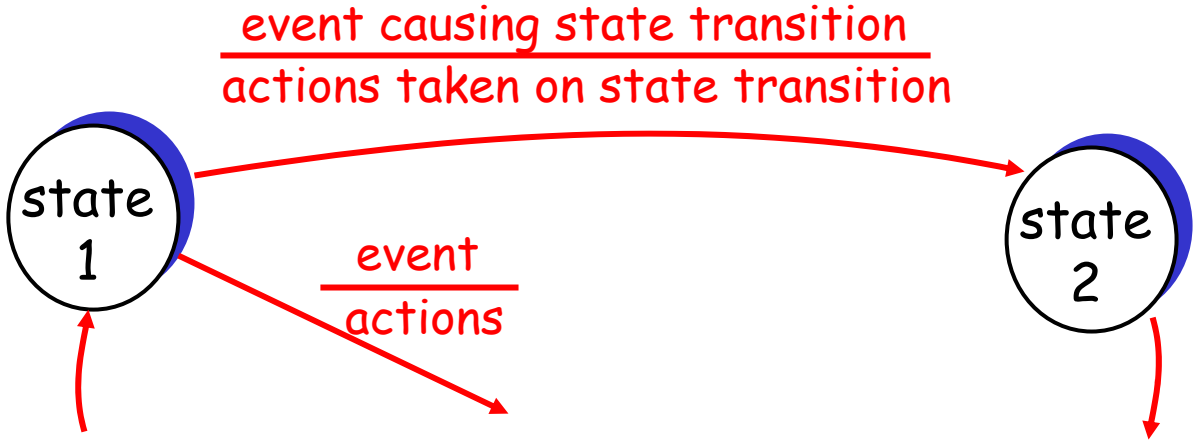


Reliable data transfer: getting started

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

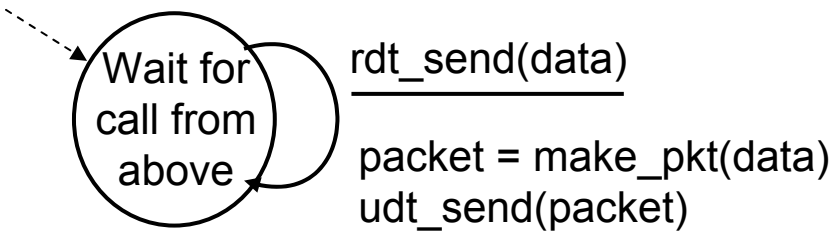


Incremental Improvements

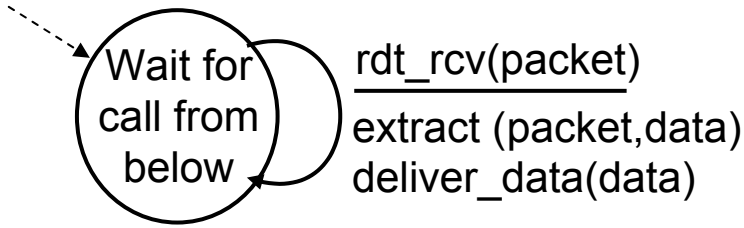
- rdt1.0: assumes every packet sent arrives, and no errors introduced in transmission
- rdt2.0: assumes every packet sent arrives, but some errors (bit flips) can occur within a packet. Introduces concept of ACK and NAK
- rdt2.1: deals with corrupted ACKS/NAKS
- rdt2.2: like rdt2.1 but does not need NAKs
- Rdt3.0: Allows packets to be lost

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

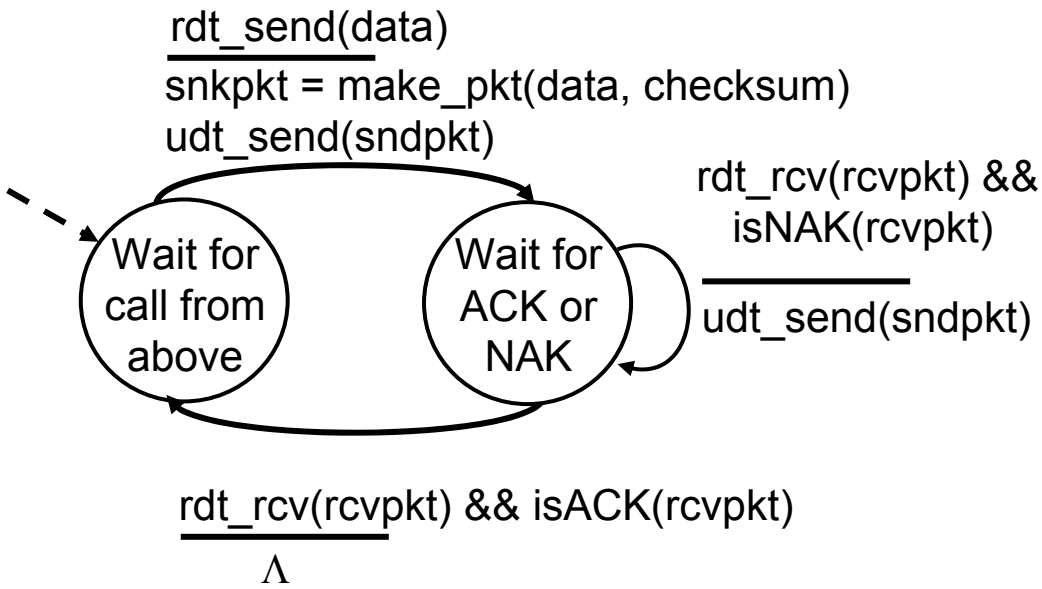


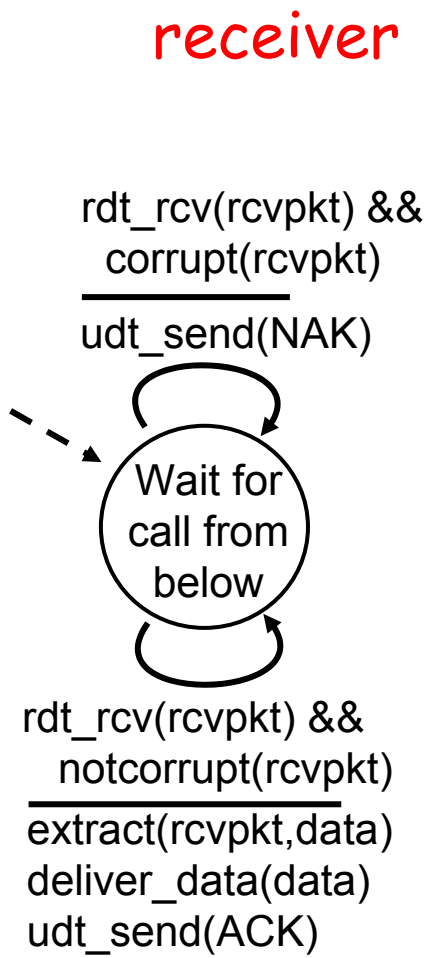
receiver

Rdt2.0: channel with bit errors

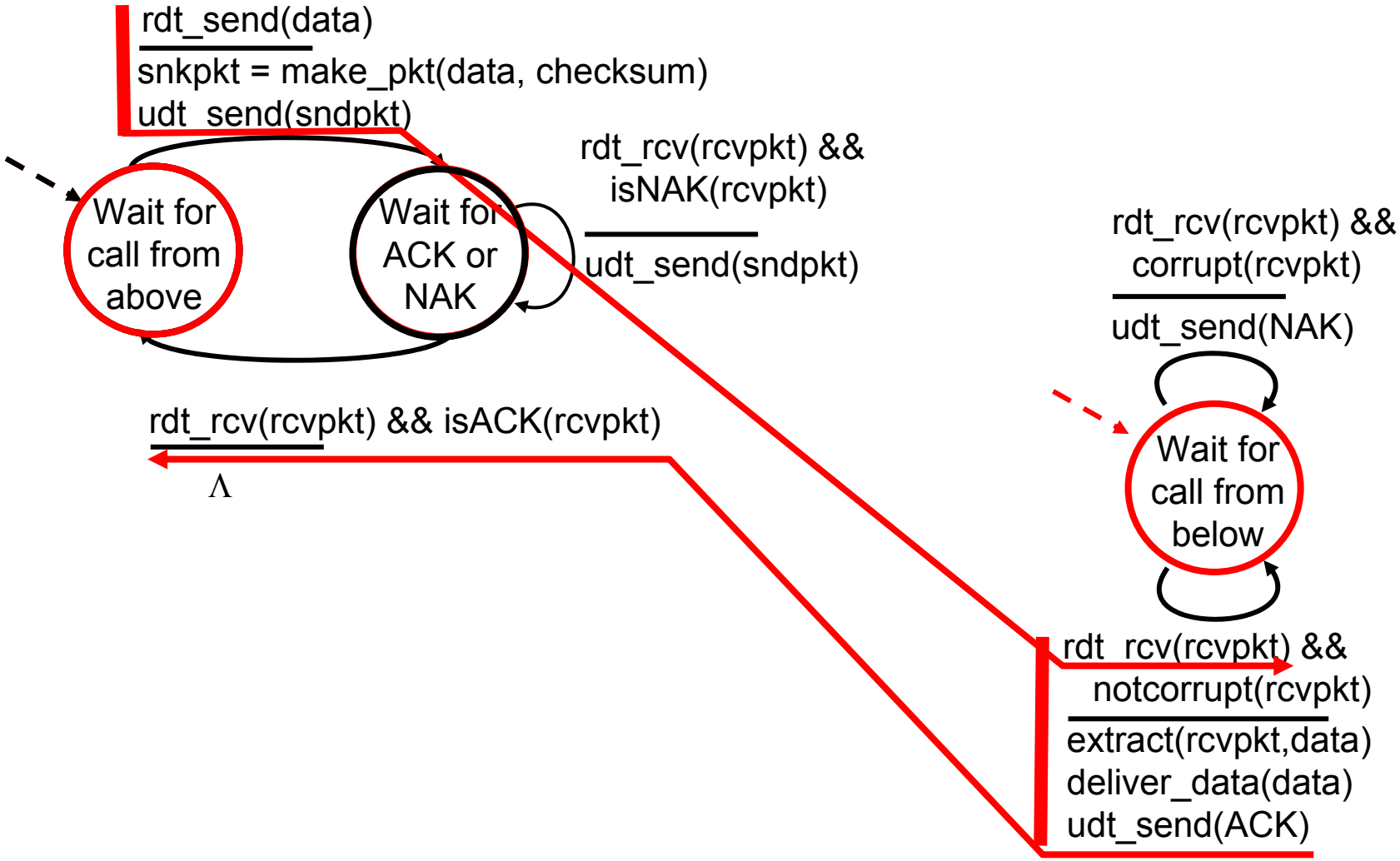
- underlying channel may flip bits in packet
  - recall: UDP checksum to detect bit errors
- *the* question: how to recover from errors:
  - *acknowledgements (ACKs):* receiver explicitly tells sender that pkt received OK
  - *negative acknowledgements (NAKs):* receiver explicitly tells sender that pkt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

rdt2.0: FSM specification

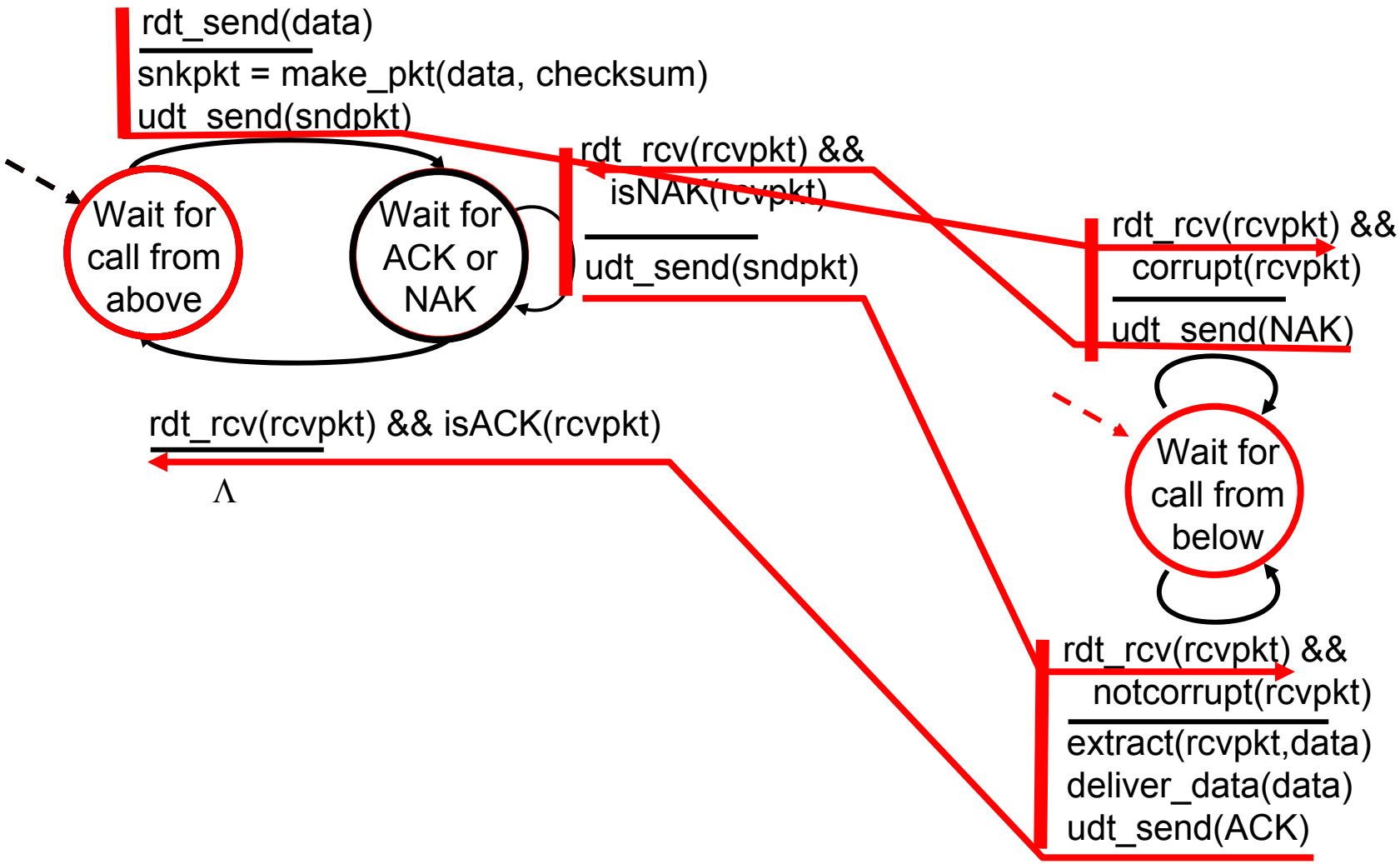




rdt2.0: operation with no errors



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.
  But receiver waiting!

What to do?

- sender ACKs/NAKs receiver's ACK/NAK? What if sender ACK/NAK corrupted?
- retransmit, but this might cause retransmission of correctly received pkt!
- Receiver won't know about duplication!

Handling duplicates:

- sender adds *sequence number* (0/1) to each pkt
- sender retransmits current pkt if ACK/NAK garbled
- receiver discards (doesn't deliver up) duplicate pkt
- Duplicate packet is one with same sequence # as previous packet

stop and wait

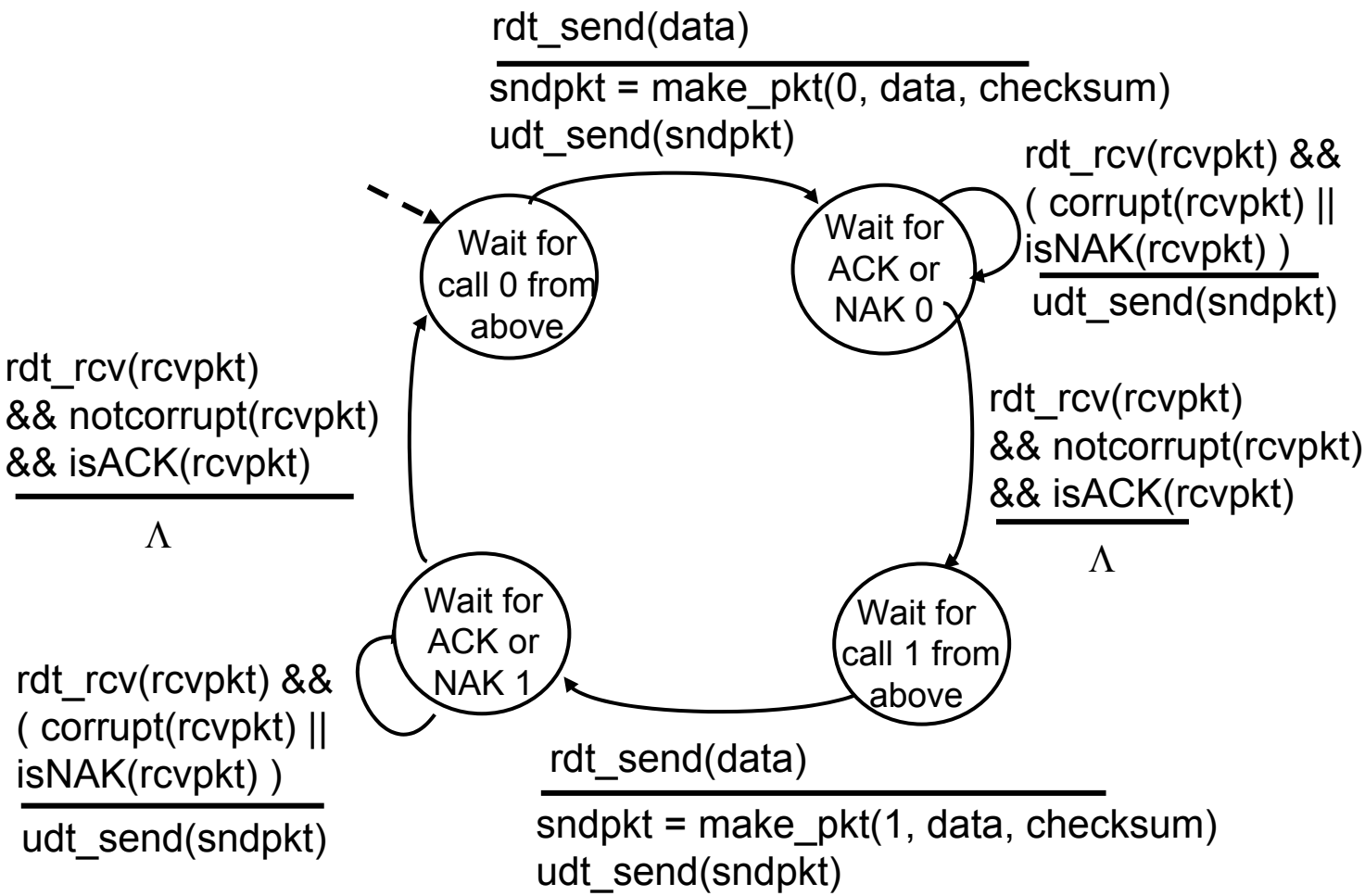
Sender sends one packet, then waits for receiver response

- Sender: whenever sender receives control message it sends a packet to receiver.
  - A valid ACK: Sends next packet (if exists) with new sequence #
  - A NAK or corrupt response: resends old packet

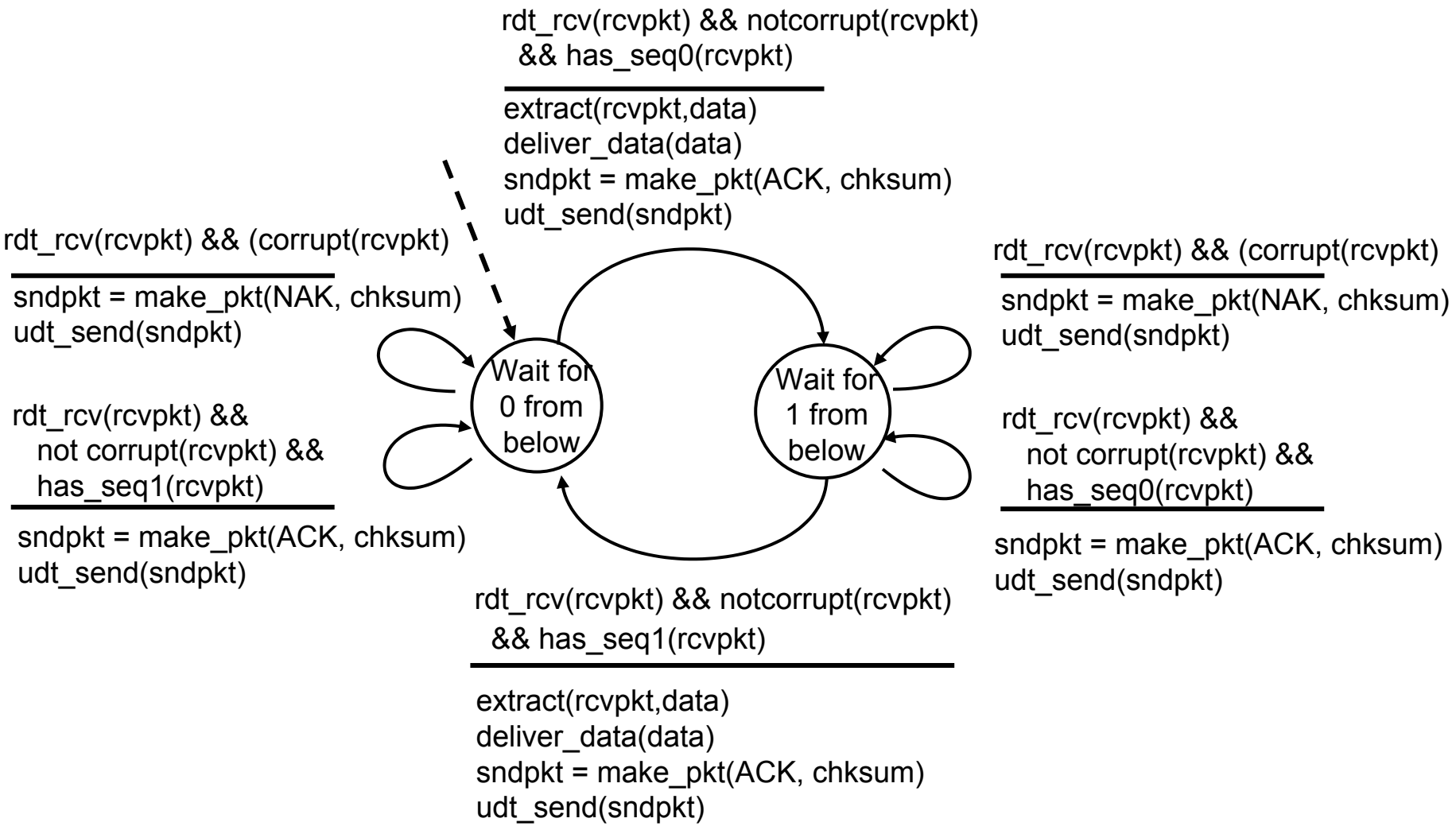
- Receiver: sends ACK/NAK to sender
  - If received packet is corrupt: send NAK
  - If received packet is valid and has different sequence # as prev packet: send ACK and deliver new data up.
  - If received packet is valid and has same sequence # as prev packet, i.e., is a retransmission of duplicate: send ACK

- Note: ACK/NAK **do not** contain sequence #.

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. #

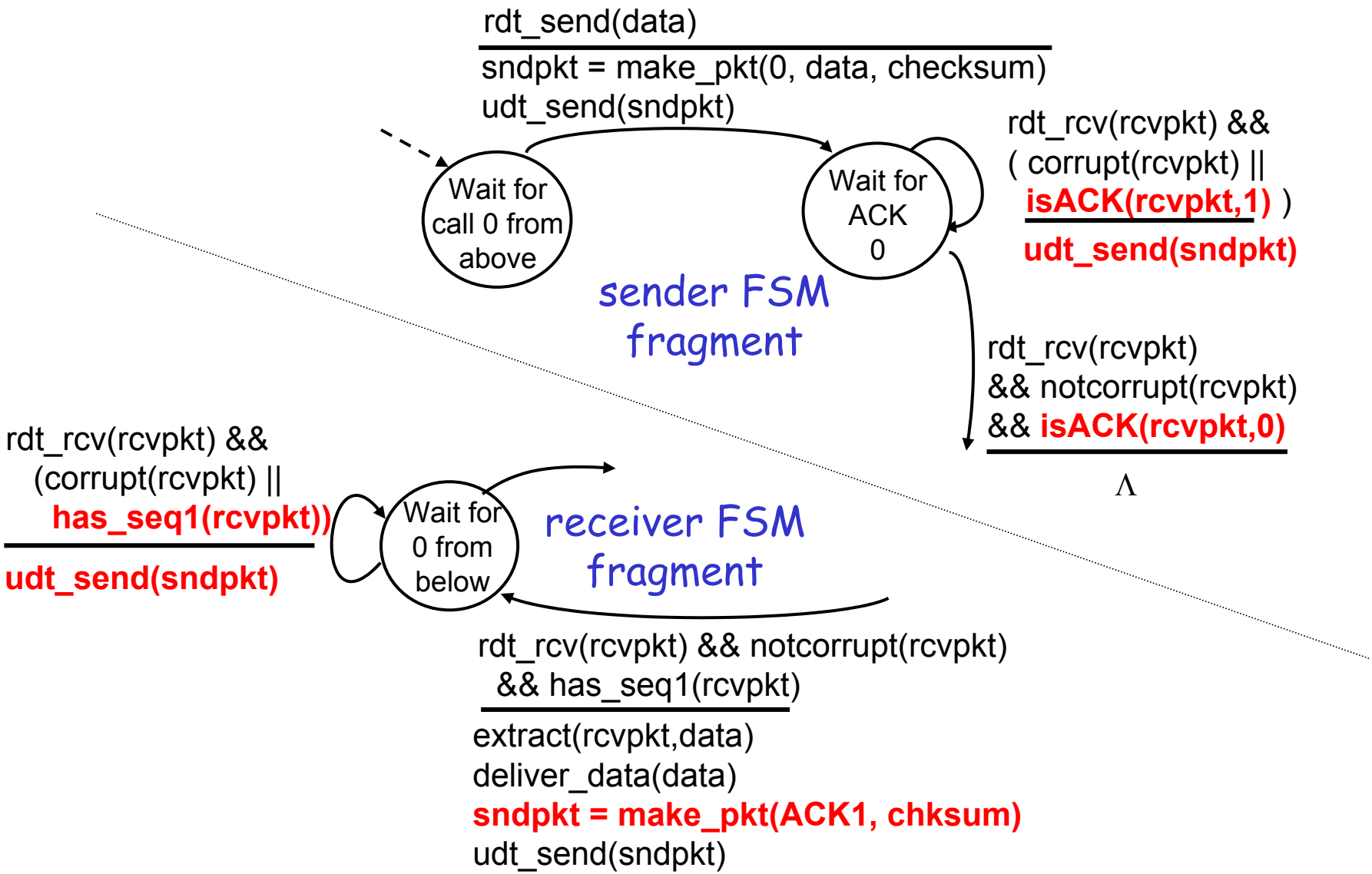
Receiver:

- 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

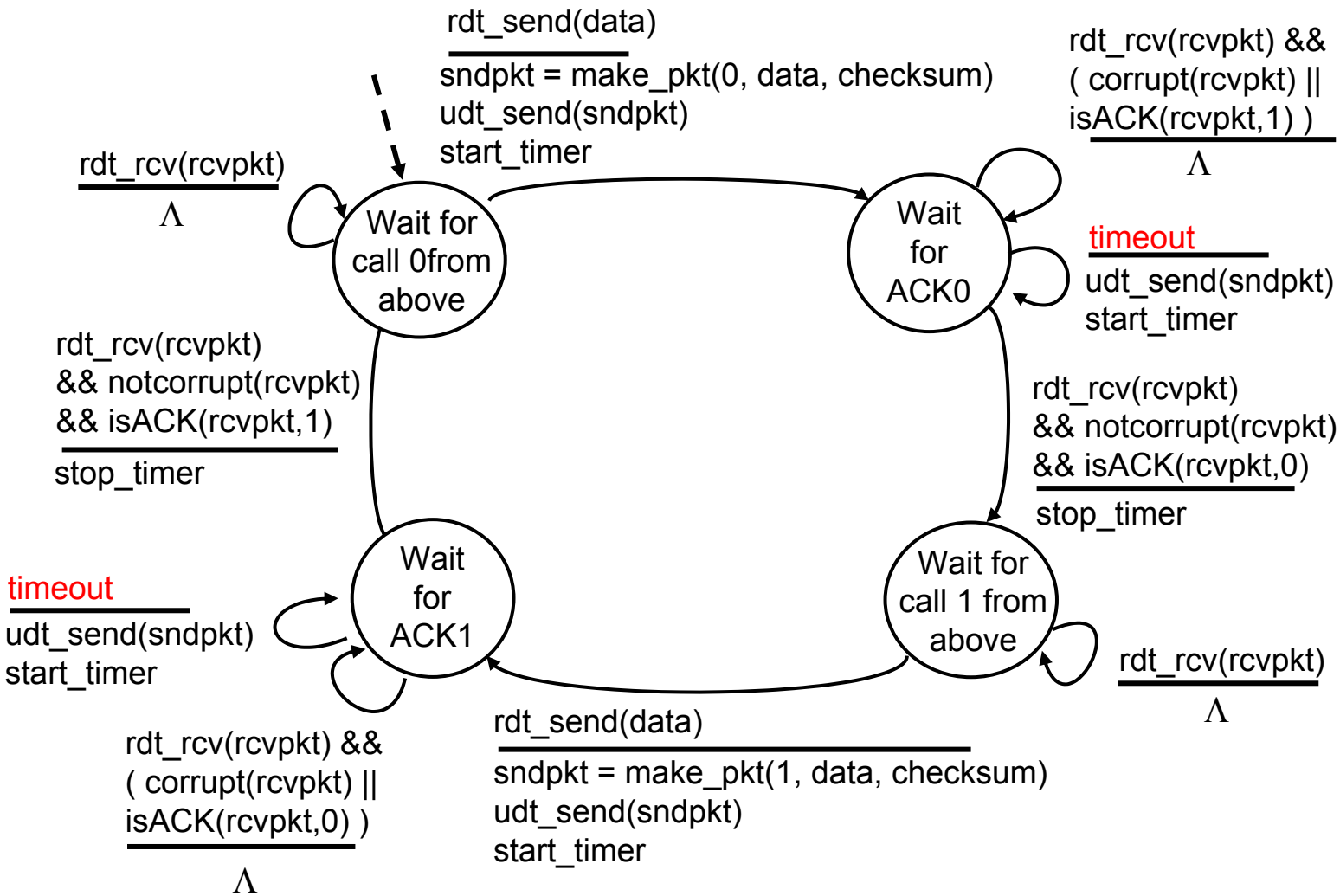
Q: how to deal with loss?

- sender waits until certain data or ACK lost, then retransmits
- yuck: drawbacks?

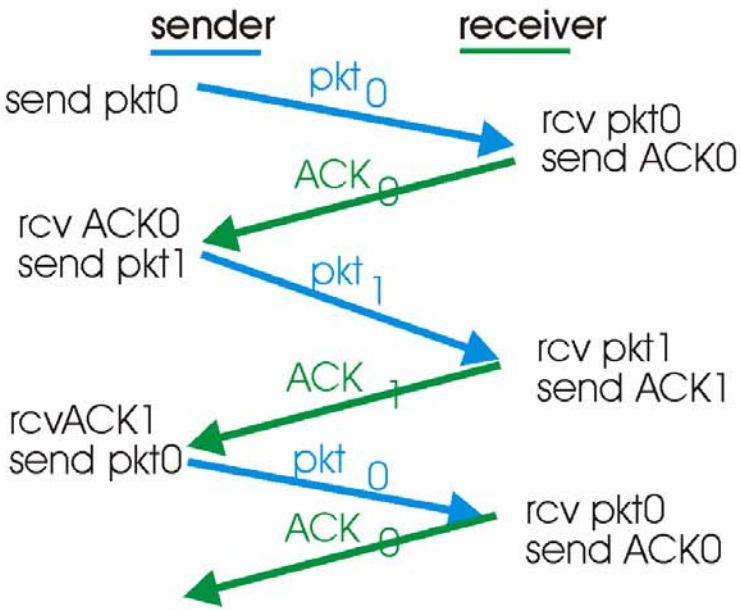
Approach: sender waits "reasonable" amount of time for ACK

- 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

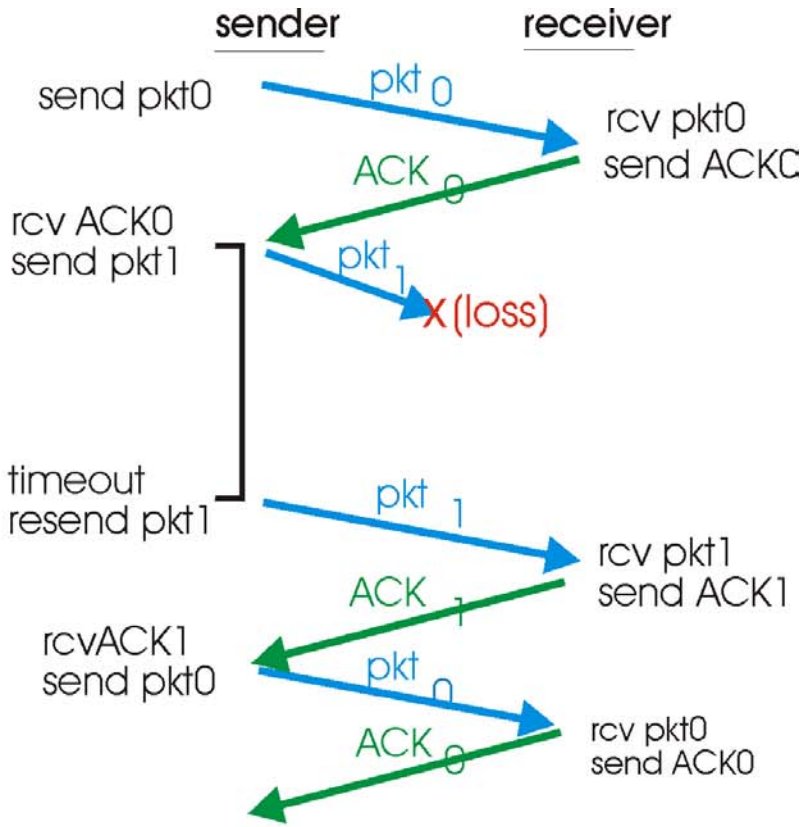
rdt3.0 sender



rdt3.0 in action

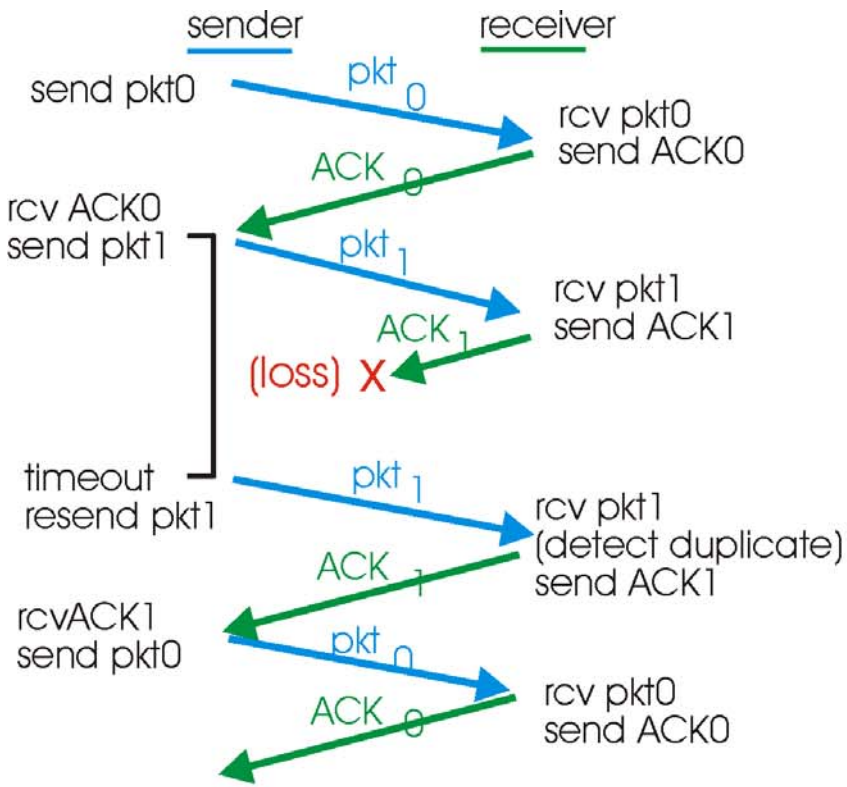


(a) operation with no loss

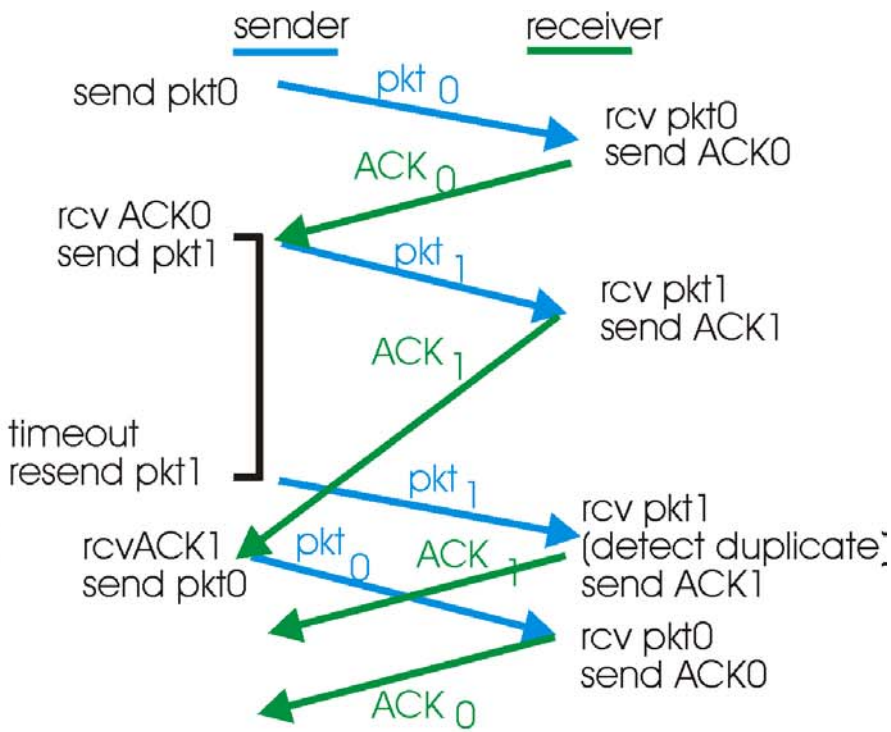


(b) lost packet

rdt3.0 in action



(c) lost ACK



(d) premature timeout

Performance of rdt3.0

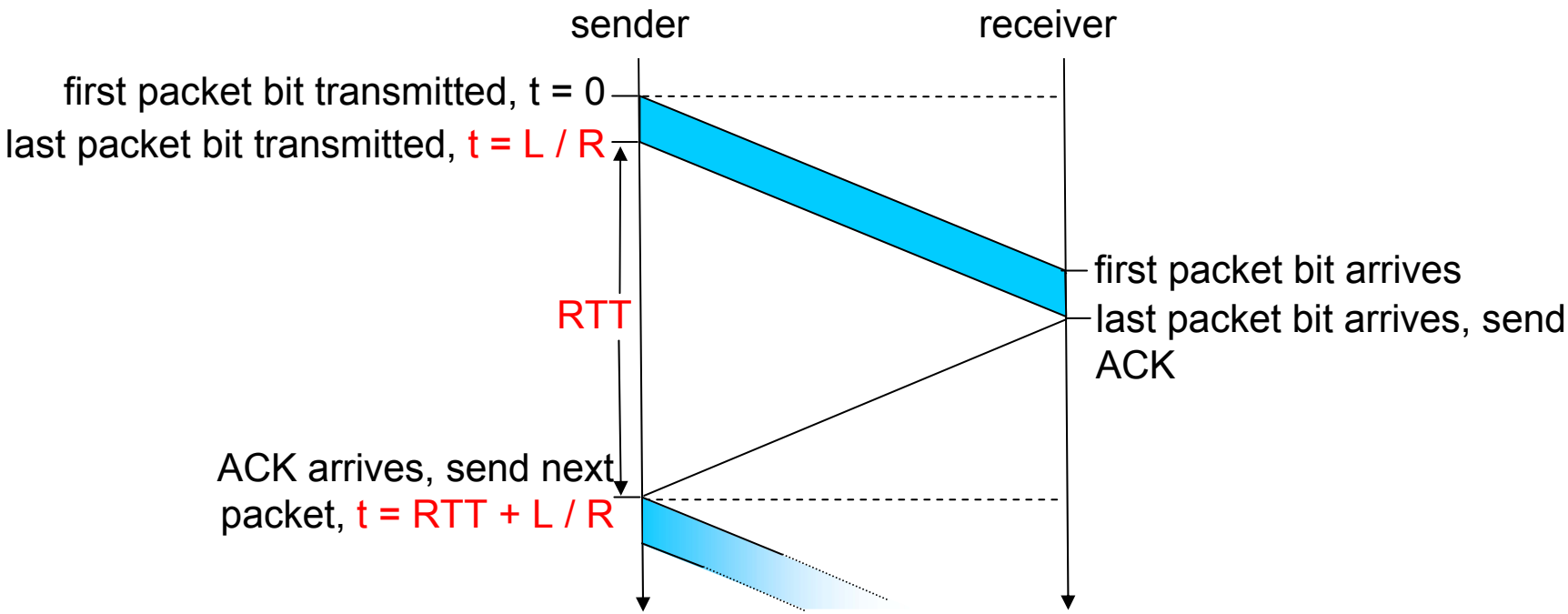
- rdt3.0 works, but performance stinks
- example: 1 Gbps link, 15 ms e-e prop. delay, 1KB packet:

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

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

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

rdt3.0: stop-and-wait operation

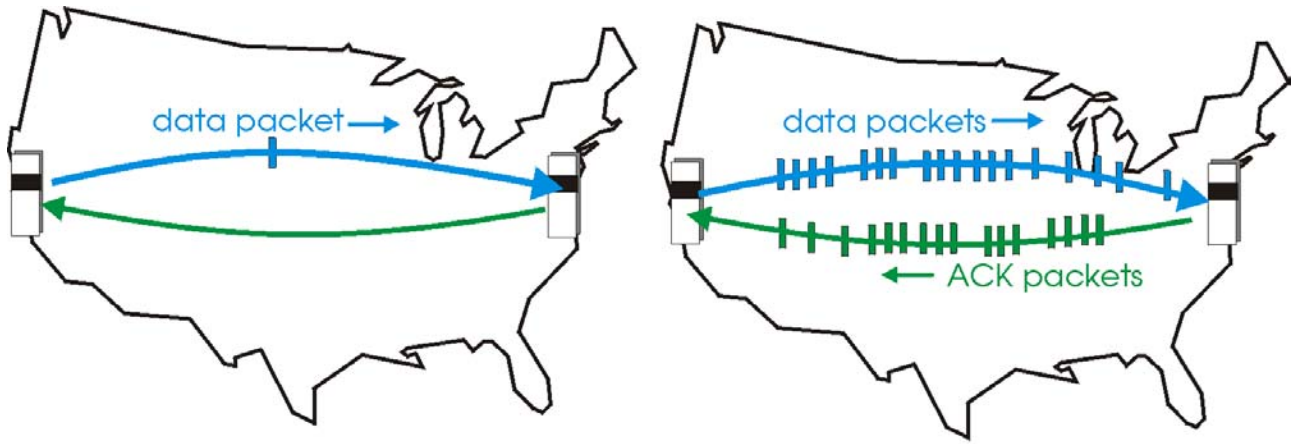


$$U_{sender} = \frac{L / R}{RTT + L / R} = \frac{.008}{30.008} = 0.00027$$

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

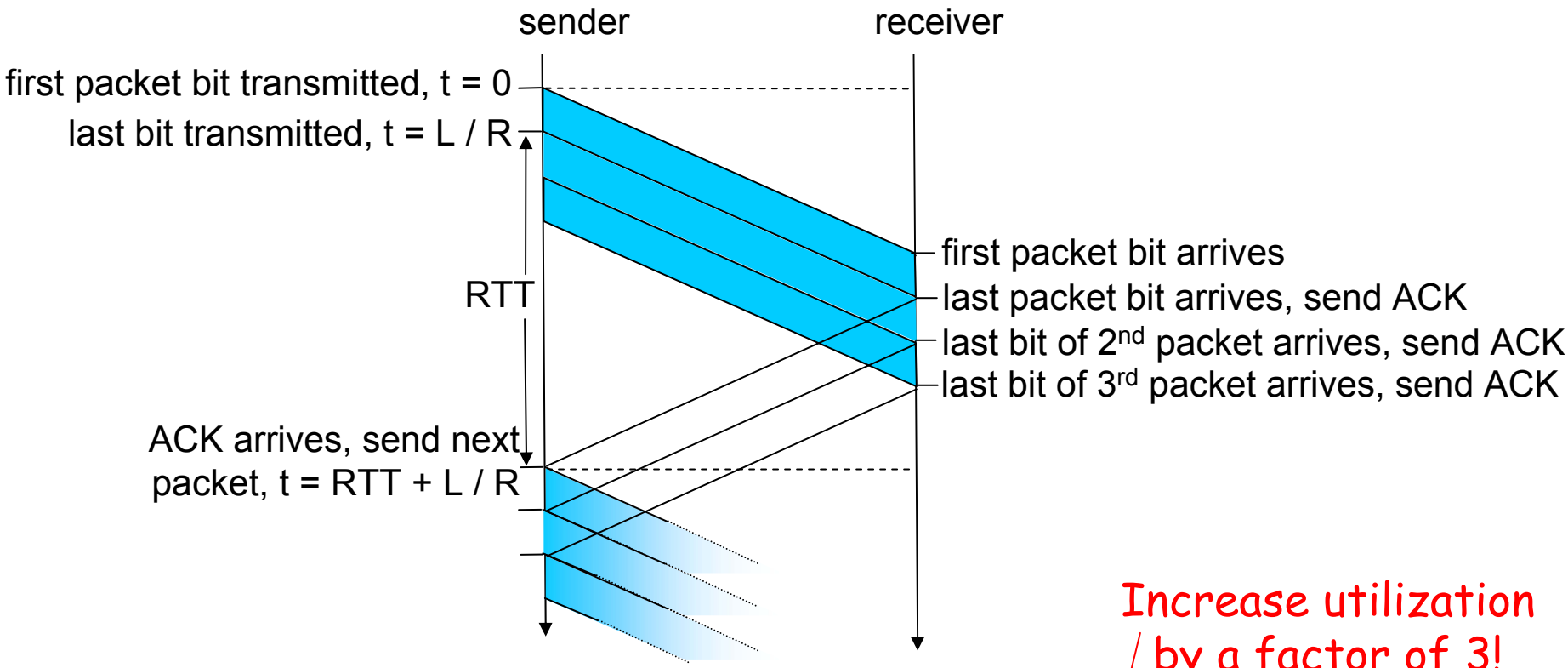
Pipelined protocols

- Advantage: much better bandwidth utilization than stop-and-wait

- Disadvantage: More complicated to deal with reliability issues, e.g., corrupted, lost, out of order data.
  - Two generic approaches to solving this
    - *go-Back-N protocols*
    - *selective repeat protocols*

- Note: *TCP is not exactly either*

Pipelining: increased utilization



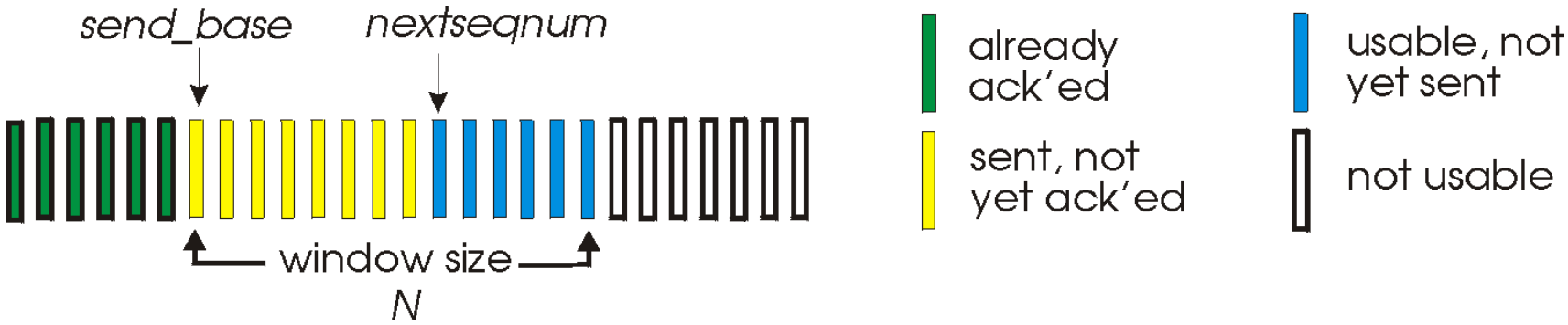
Increase utilization by a factor of 3!

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

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)
- Only one timer: for oldest unacknowledged pkt
- *timeout(n):* retransmit pkt n and all higher seq # pkts in window
- Called a sliding-window protocol

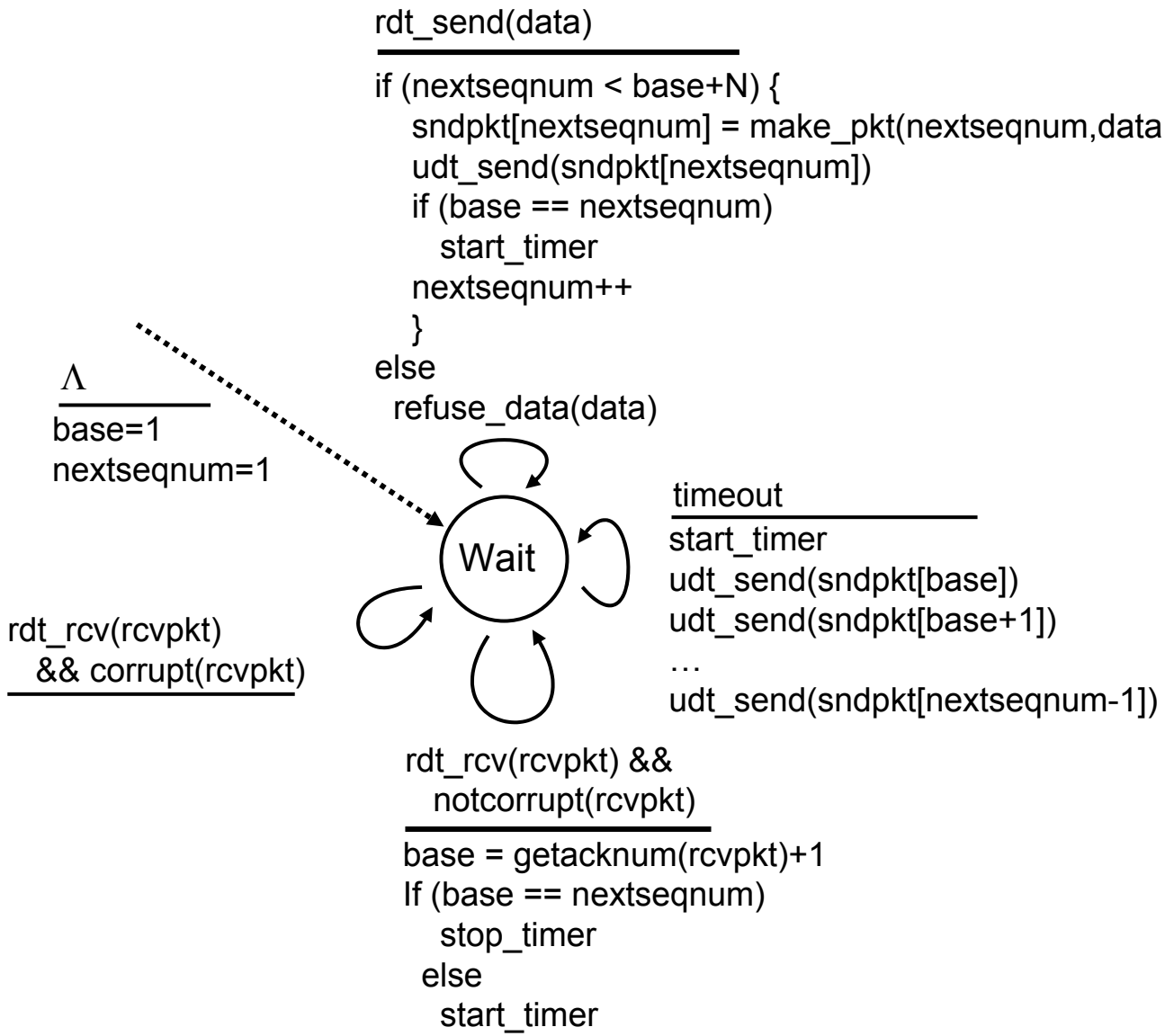
GBN: Sender

- rdt_Send() called: checks to see if window is full.
  - No: send out packet
  - Yes: return data to application level

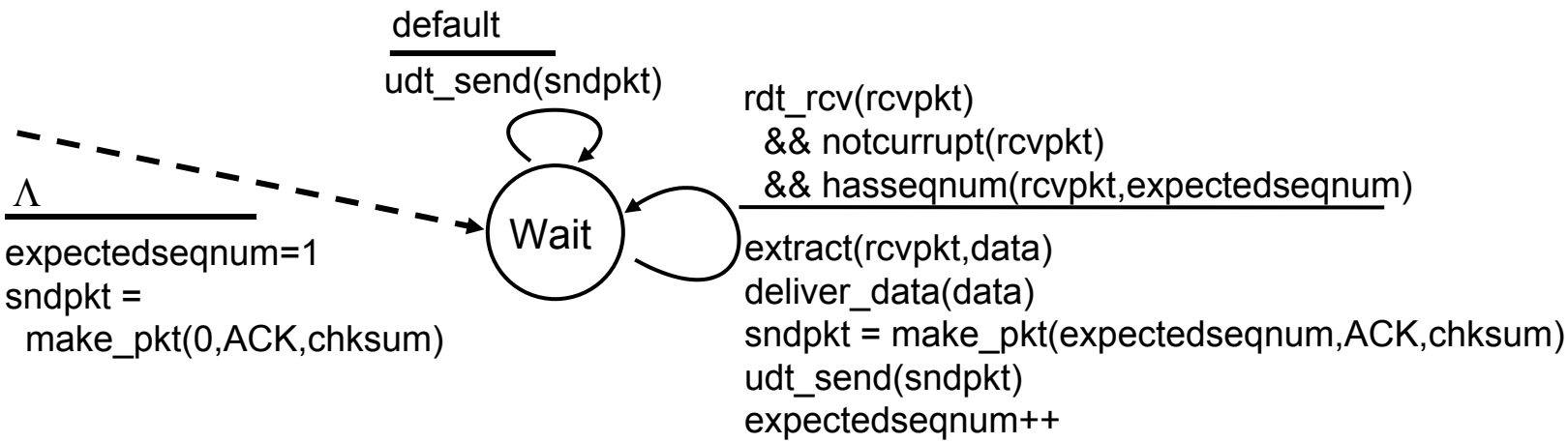
- Receipt of ACK(n): cumulative acknowledgement that all packets up to and including *n* have been received. Updates window accordingly.

- Timeout: resends ALL packets that have been sent but not yet acknowledged.

GBN: sender extended FSM



GBN: receiver extended FSM

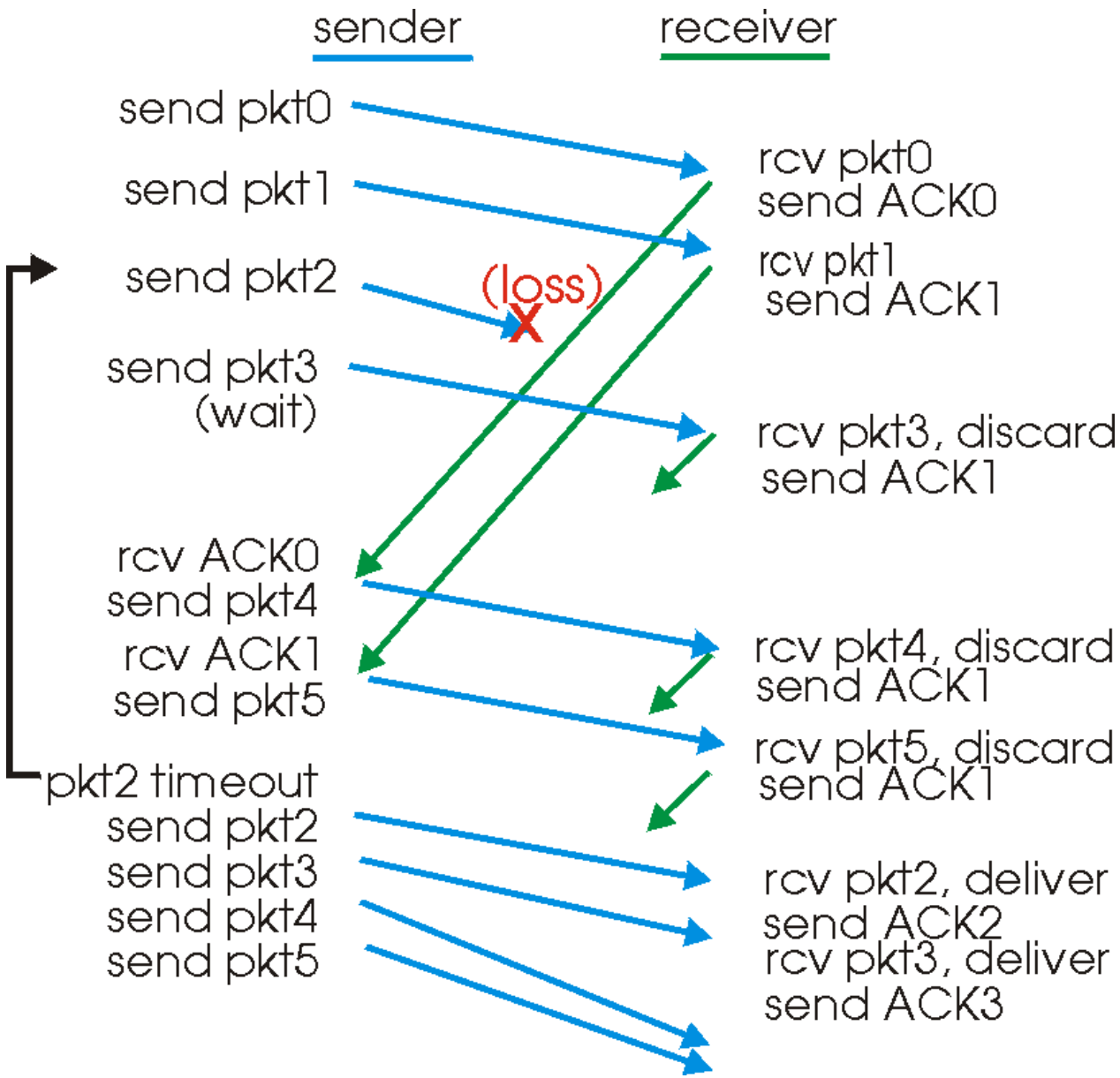


- If expected packet received:
  - Send ACK and deliver packet packet upstairs
- If out-of-order packet received:
  - discard (don't buffer) -> no receiver buffering!
  - Re-ACK pkt with highest in-order seq #
  - may generate duplicate ACKs

More on receiver

- The receiver always sends ACK for last correctly received packet with highest *in-order* seq #
- Receiver only sends ACKS (no NAKs)
- Can generate duplicate ACKs
- need only remember **`expectedseqnum`**

GBN in action



GBN is easy to code but might have performance problems.

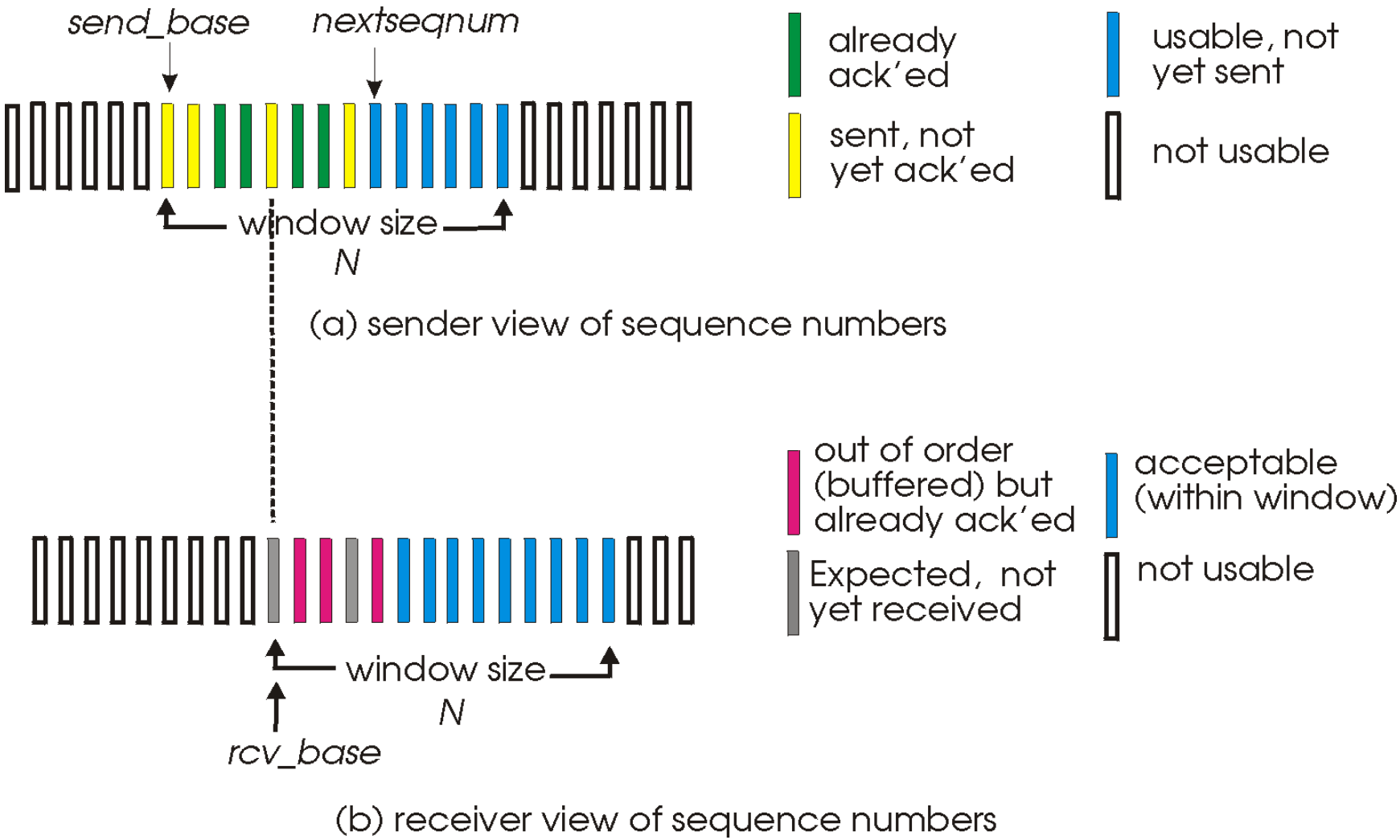
In particular, if many packets are in pipeline at one time (bandwidth-delay product large) then one error can force retransmission of huge amounts of data!

Selective Repeat protocol allows receiver to buffer data and only forces retransmission of required packets.

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
  - Compare to GBN which only had timer for base packet
- sender window
  - N consecutive seq #'s
  - again limits seq #s of sent, unACKed pkts
  - Important: Window size < seq # range

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

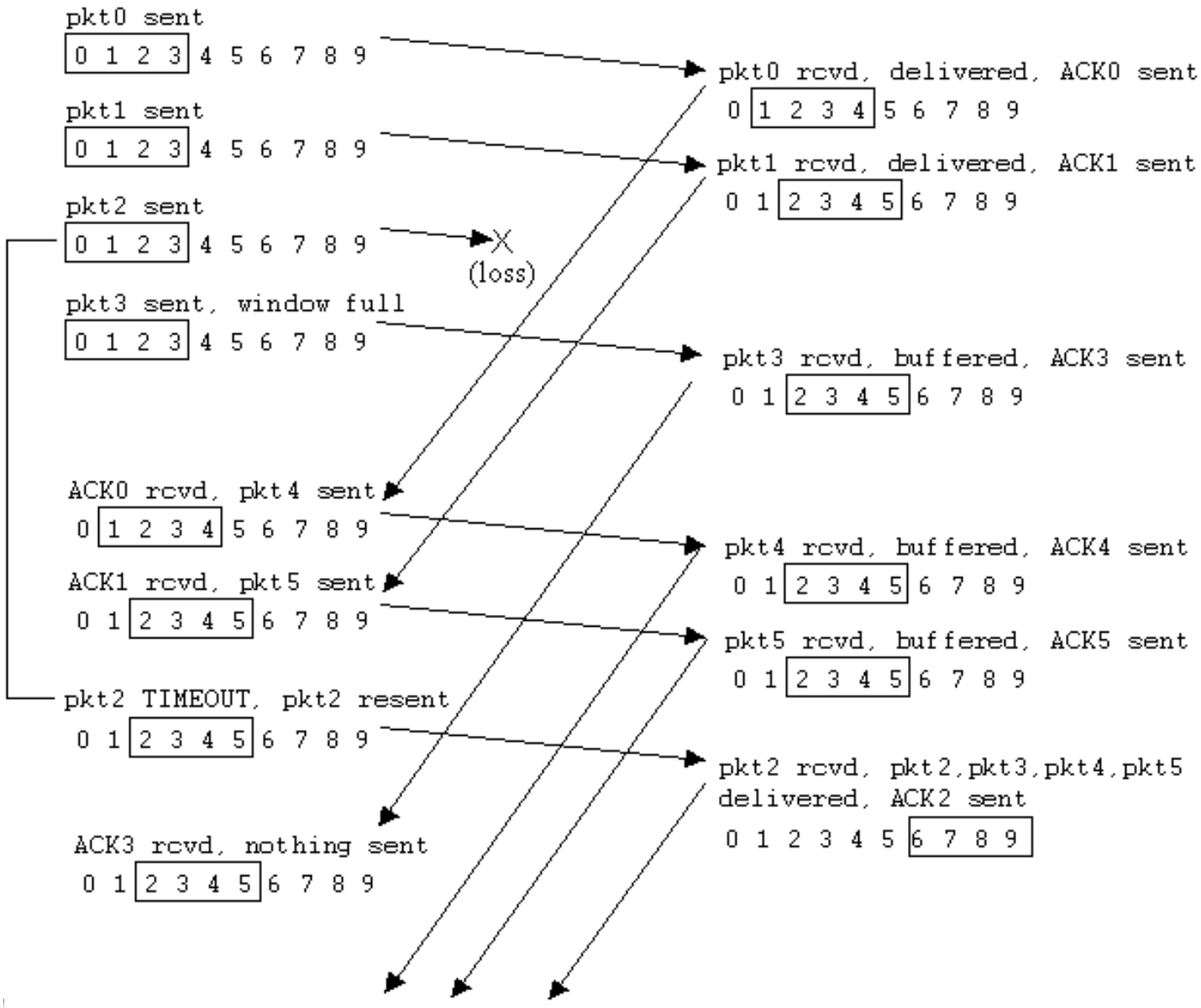
pkt n in [rcvbase-N,rcvbase-1]

- ACK(n) (note this is a reACK)

otherwise:

- ignore

Selective repeat in action



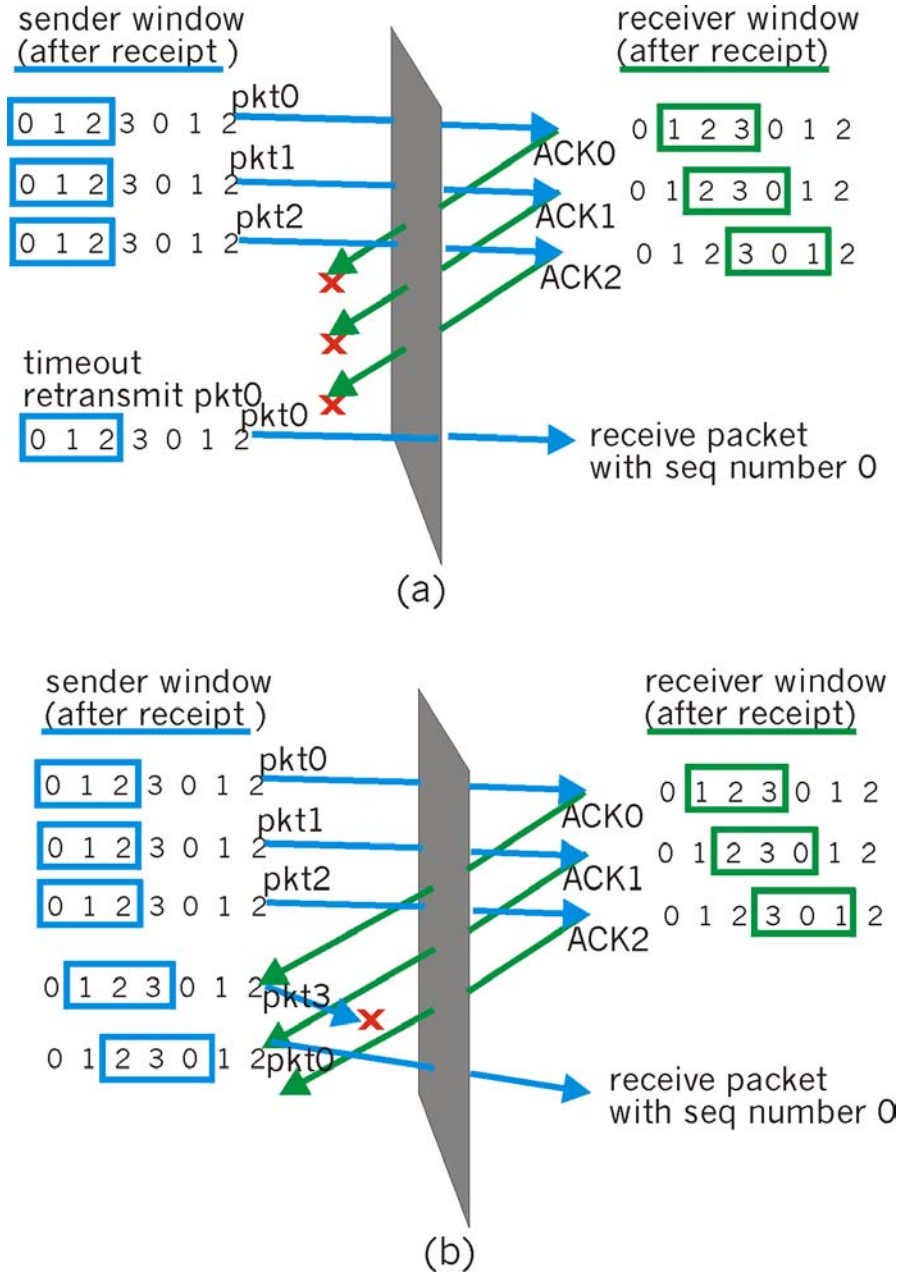
Selective repeat: dilemma

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 is relationship between seq # size and window size?



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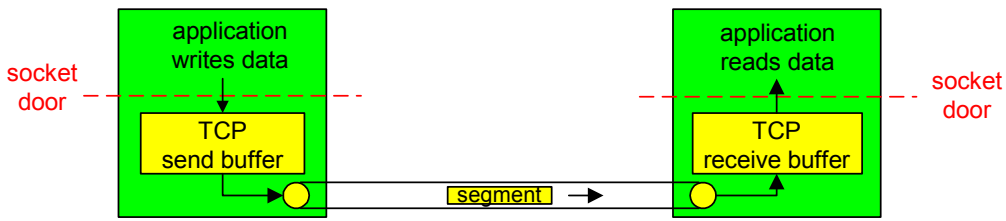
TCP: Overview

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) init's sender, receiver state before data exchange
- flow controlled:
  - sender will not overwhelm receiver

More TCP Details

- Maximum Segment Size (MSS)
  - Depends upon implementation (can often be set)
  - The Max amount of application-layer data in segment
- Application Data + TCP Header = TCP Segment

- Three way Handshake
  - Client sends special TCP segment to server requesting connection. No payload (Application data) in this segment.
  - Server responds with second special TCP segment
    (again no payload)
  - Client responds with third special segment
    This can contain payload

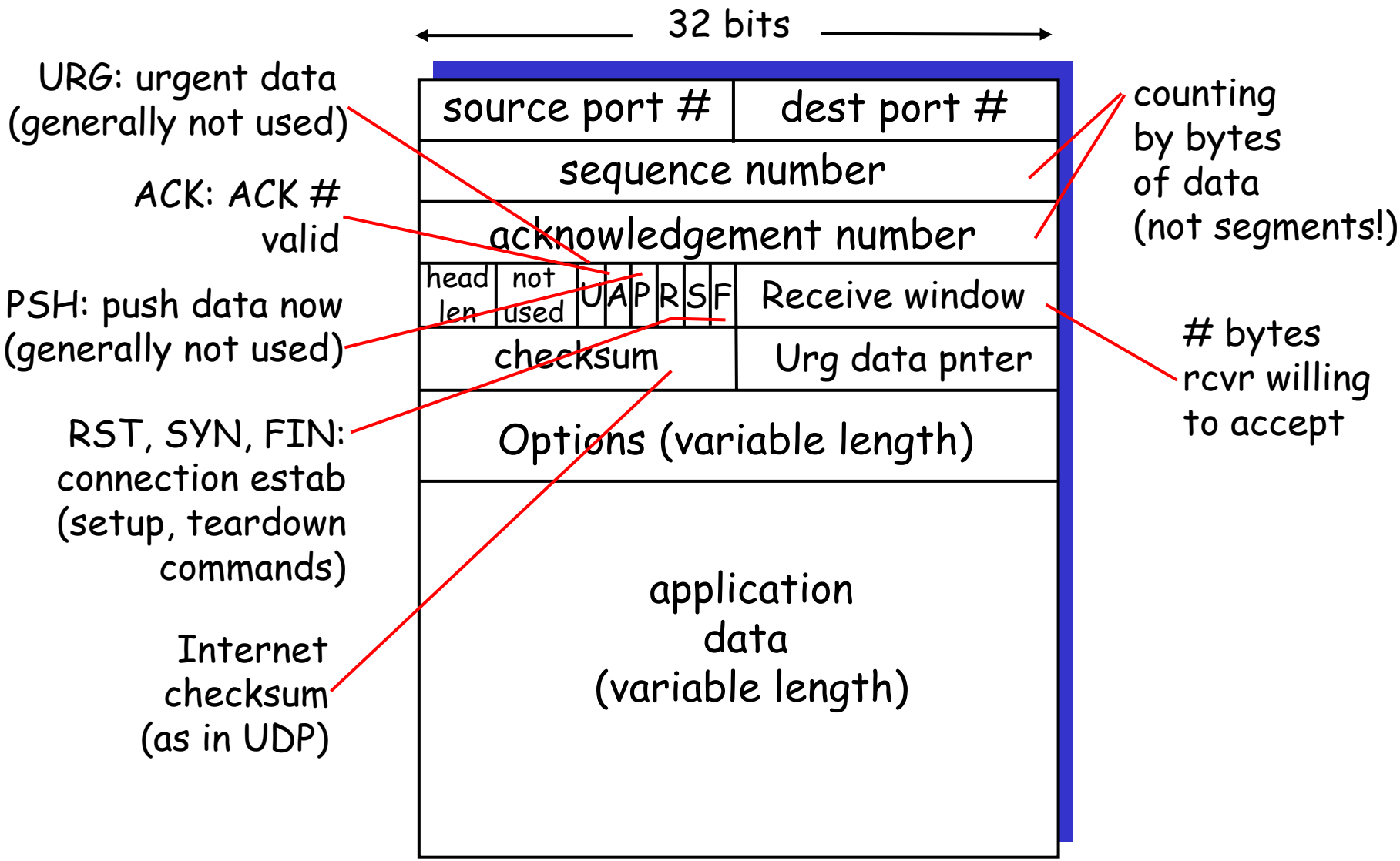
Even More TCP Details

- A TCP connection between client and server creates, in both client and server
  - (i) buffers
  - (ii) variables and
  - (iii) a socket connection to process.

- TCP only exists in the two end machines.

  No buffers and variables allocated to the connection in any of the network elements between the host and server.

TCP segment structure



TCP seq. #'s and ACKs

Seq. #'s:

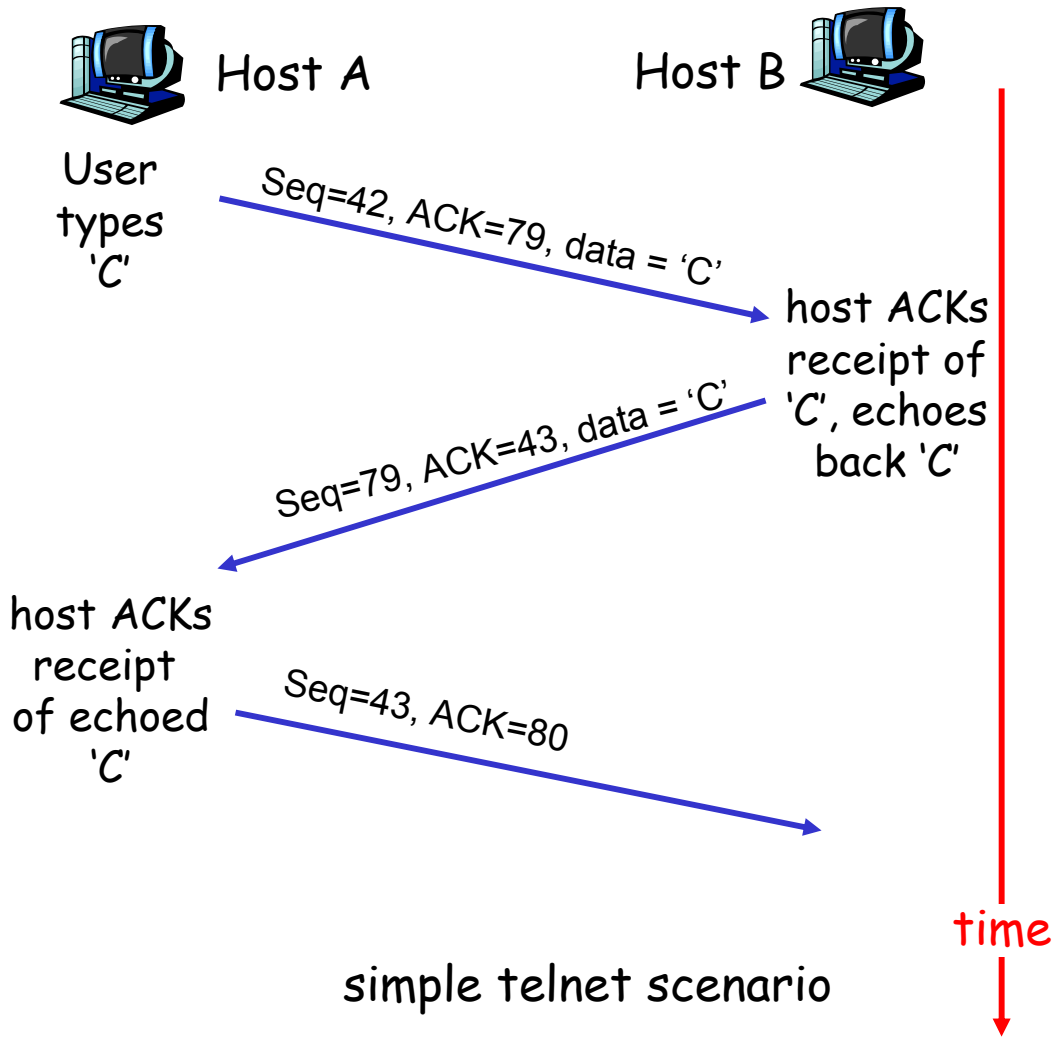
- byte stream "number" of first byte in segment's data

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 implementer



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?

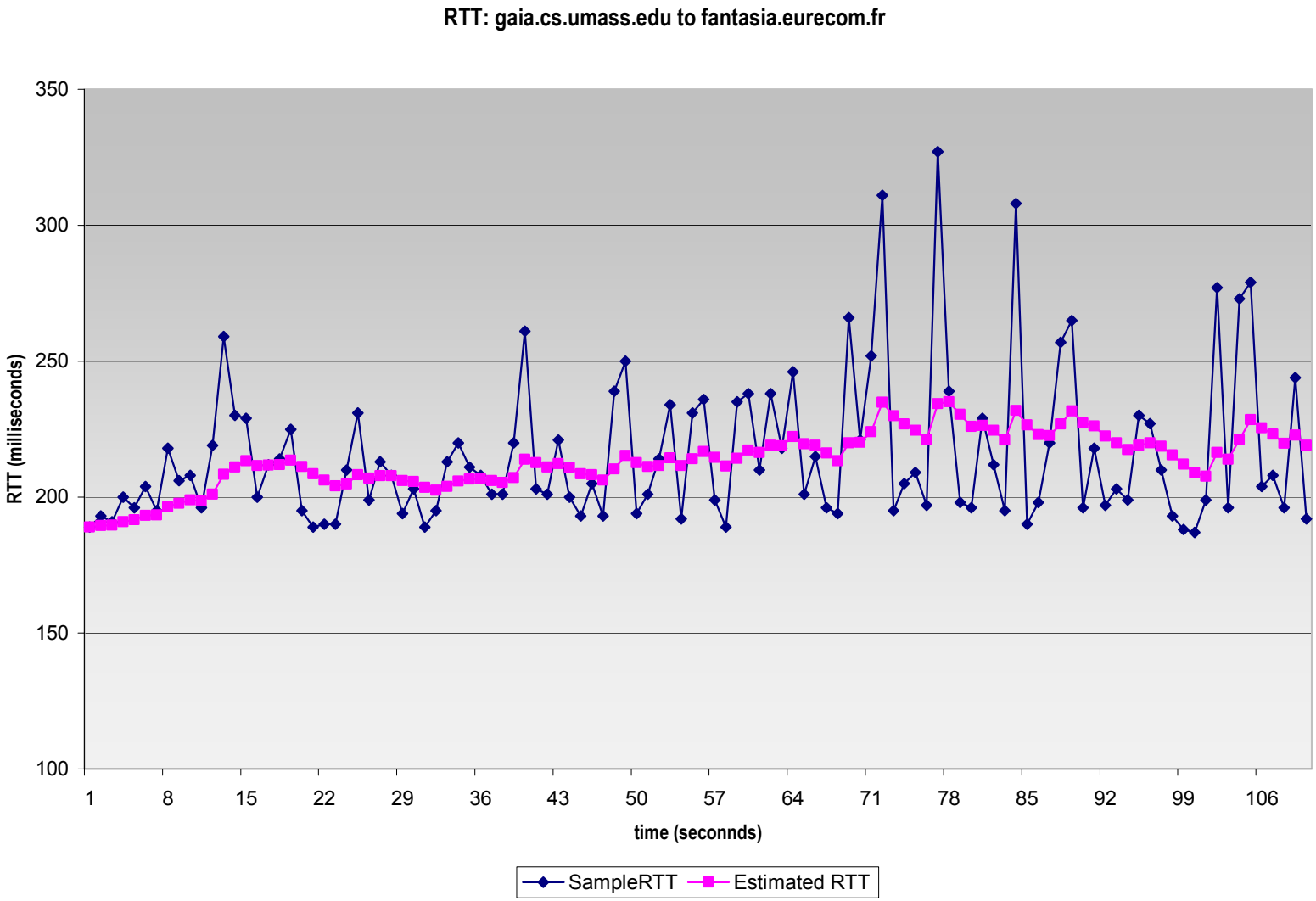
- **SampleRTT**: measured time from segment transmission until ACK receipt
  - ignore retransmissions
- **SampleRTT** will vary, want estimated RTT "smoother"
  - average several recent measurements, not just current **SampleRTT**

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: $\alpha = 0.125$

Example RTT estimation:



TCP Round Trip Time and Timeout

Setting the timeout

- **EstimtedRTT** 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

```
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)

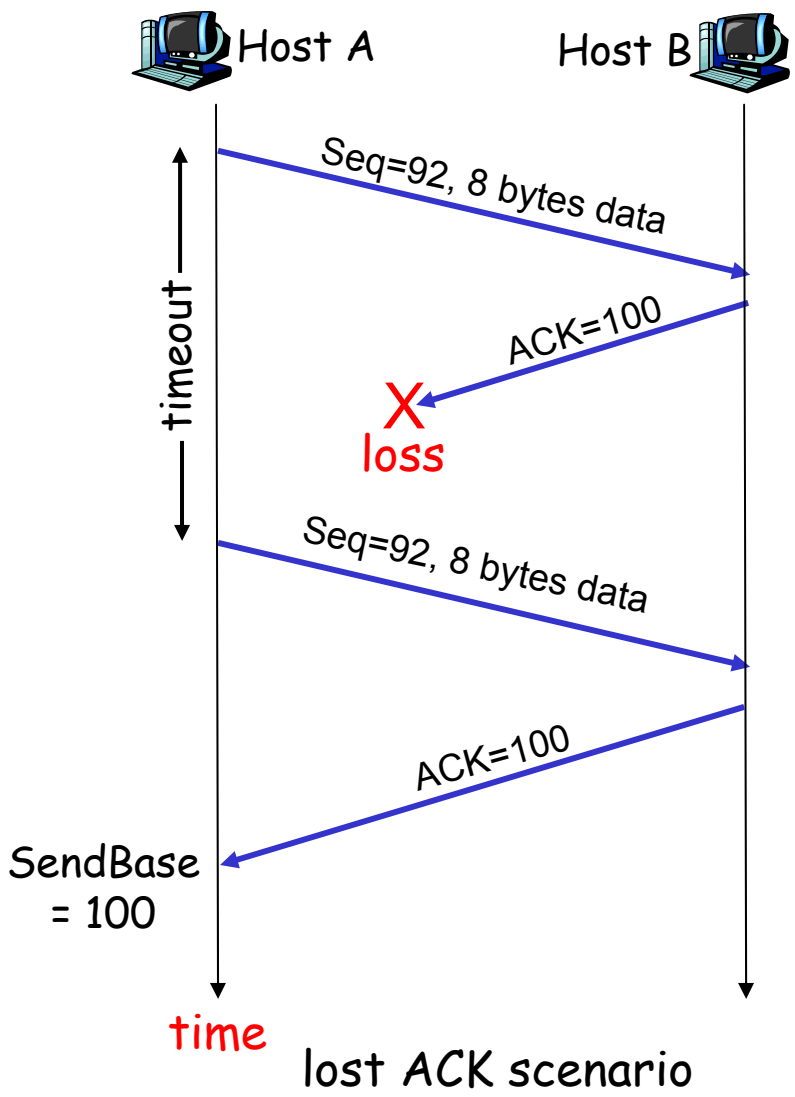
Comment:

- SendBase-1: last cumulatively ack'ed byte

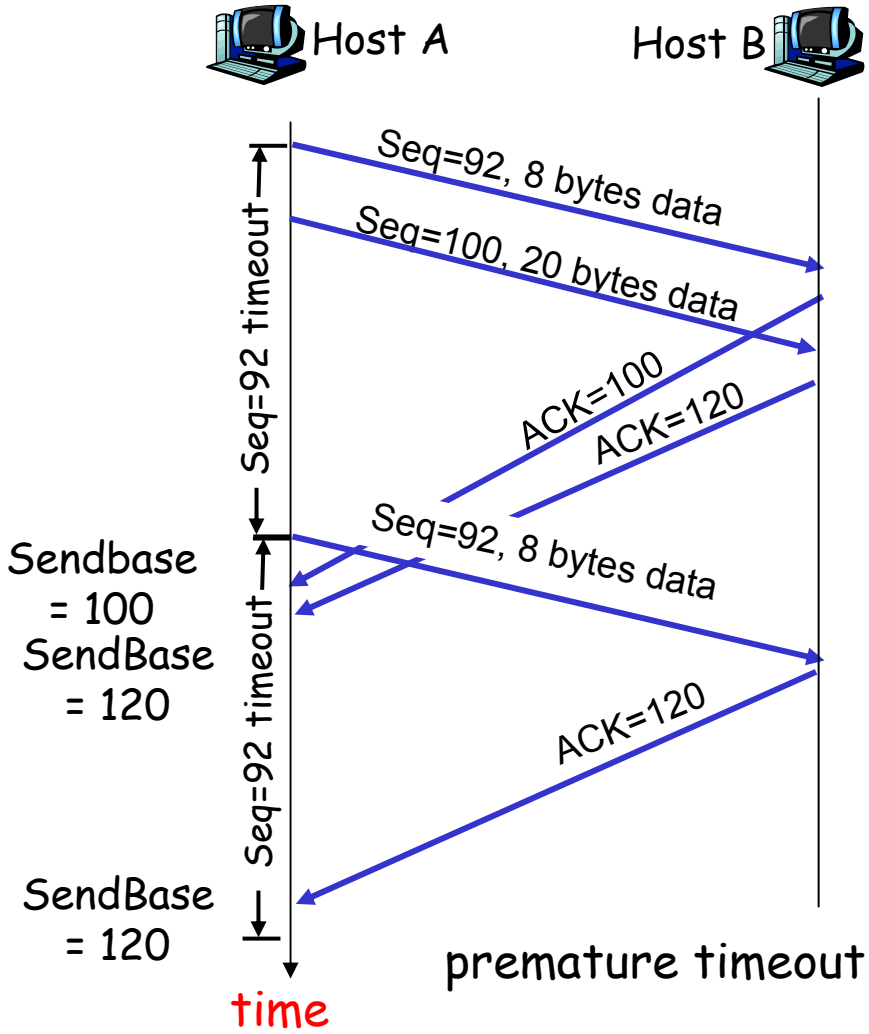
Example:

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

TCP: retransmission scenarios

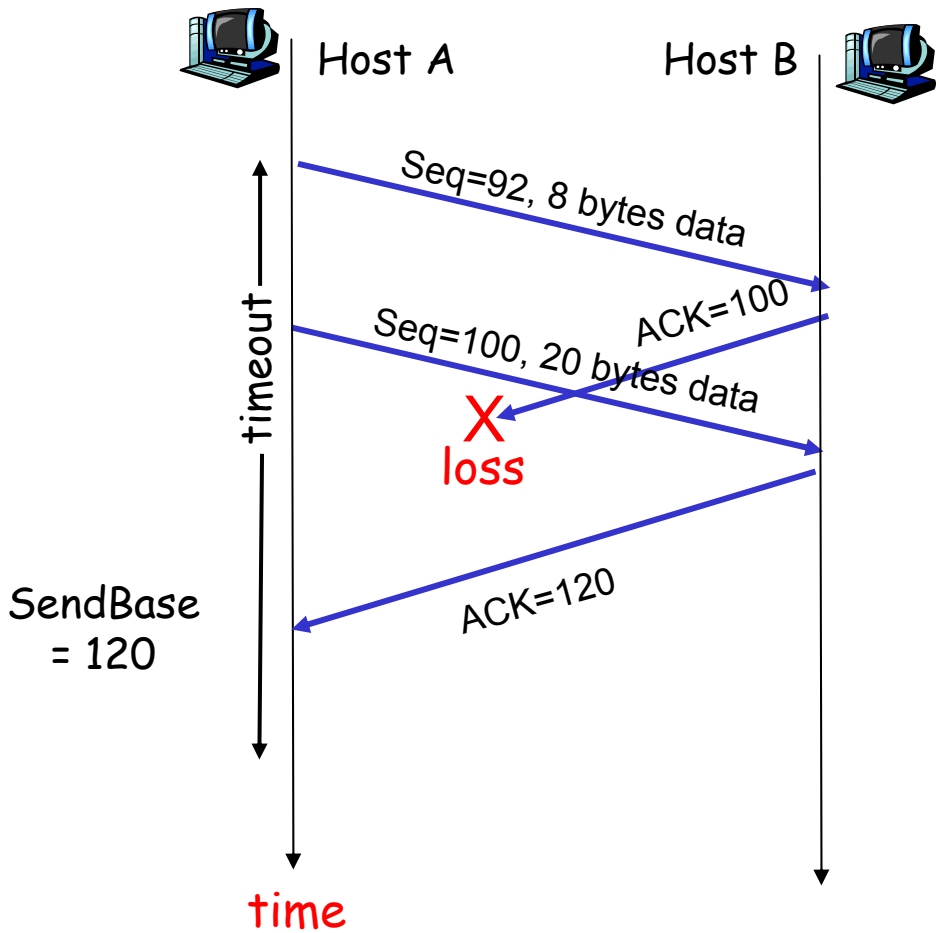


lost ACK scenario



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

More on Sender Policies

- Doubling the Timeout Interval
  - Used by most TCP implementations
  - If **timeout occurs** then, after retransmisison, Timeout Interval is doubled
  - Intervals grow exponentially with each consecutive timeout
  - When Timer restarted because of (i) new data from above or (ii) ACK received, then Timeout Interval is reset as described previously using Estimated RTT and DevRTT.
  - Limited form of **Congestion Control**

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

TCP: GBN or Selective Repeat?

- Basic TCP looks a lot like GBN
- Many TCP implementations will buffer received out-of-order segments and then ACK them all after filling in the range
  - This looks a lot like Selective Repeat
- TCP is a hybrid

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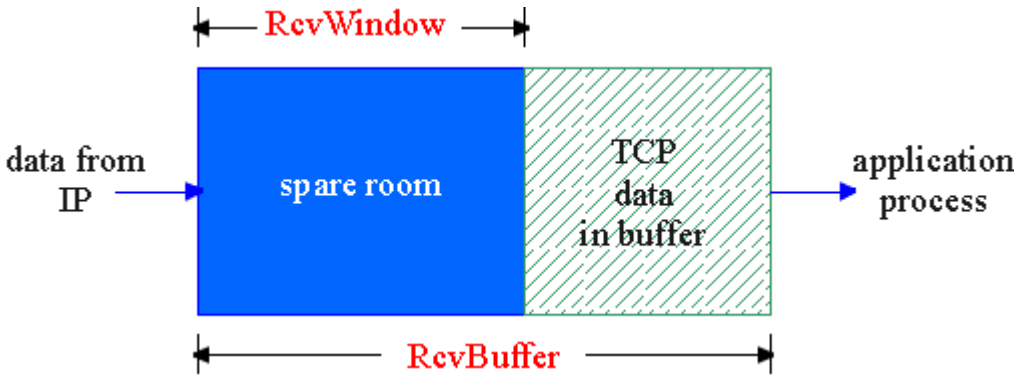
TCP Flow Control

- Sender should not overwhelm receiver's capacity to receive data
- If necessary, sender should slow down transmission rate to accommodate receiver's rate.
- Different from Congestion Control whose purpose was to handle congestion in network. (But both congestion control and flow control work by slowing down data transmission)

TCP Flow Control

- receive side of TCP connection has a receive buffer:



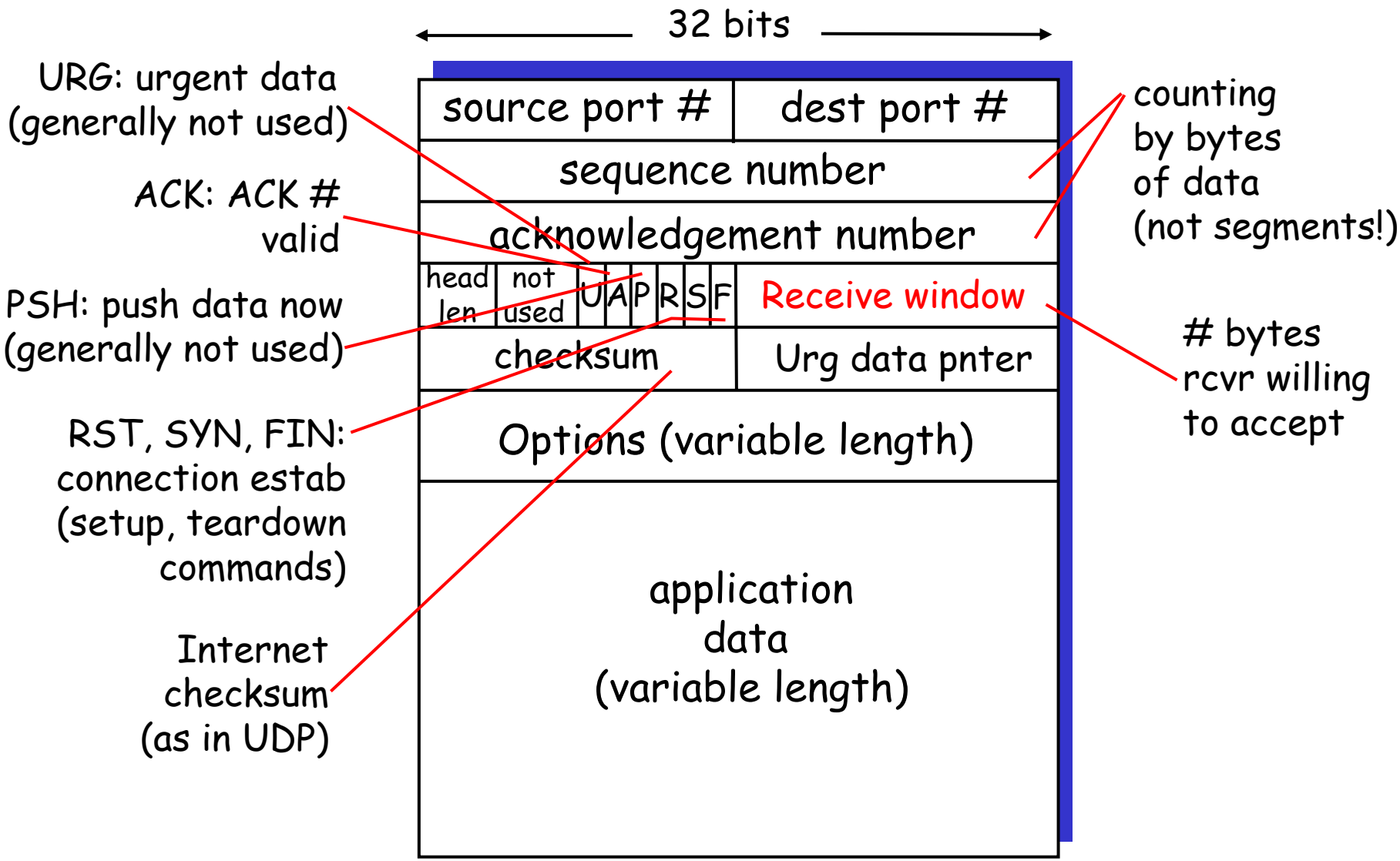
- app process may be slow at reading from buffer

flow control

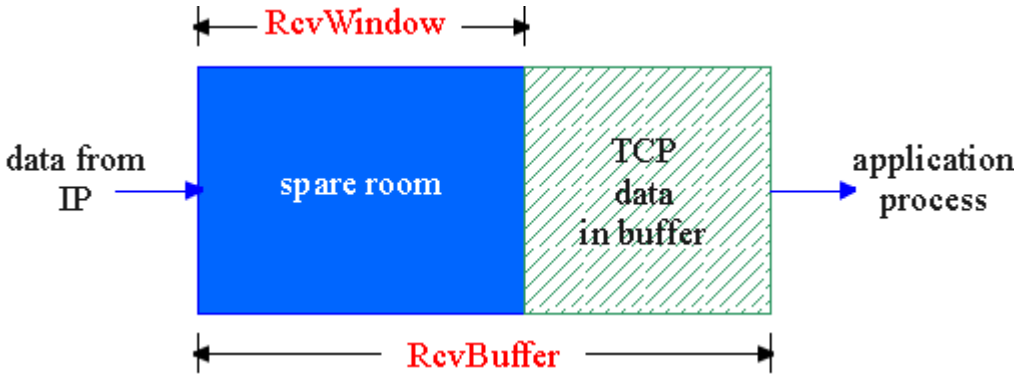
sender won't overflow receiver's buffer by transmitting too much, too fast

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

TCP segment structure



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

Technical Issue

- Suppose RcvWindow=0 and that receiver has already ACK'd ALL packets in buffer
- Sender does not transmit new packets until it hears RcvWindow>0.
- Receiver never sends RcvWindow>0 since it has no new ACKS to send to Sender
- **DEADLOCK**

- Solution: TCP specs require sender to continue sending packets with one data byte while RcvWindow=0, just to keep receiving ACKS from B. At some point the receiver's buffer will empty and RcvWindow>0 will be transmitted back to sender.

Note on UDP

UDP has no flow control!

UDP appends packets to receiving socket's buffer. If buffer is full then packets are lost!

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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 end system sends TCP SYN control segment to server
- specifies client_isn, the initial seq #
- No application data

Step 2: server end system receives SYN, replies with SYNACK control segment
- ACKs received SYN
- allocates buffers
- Replies with client_isn+1 in ACK field to signal synchronization
- Specifies server_isn
- No application data

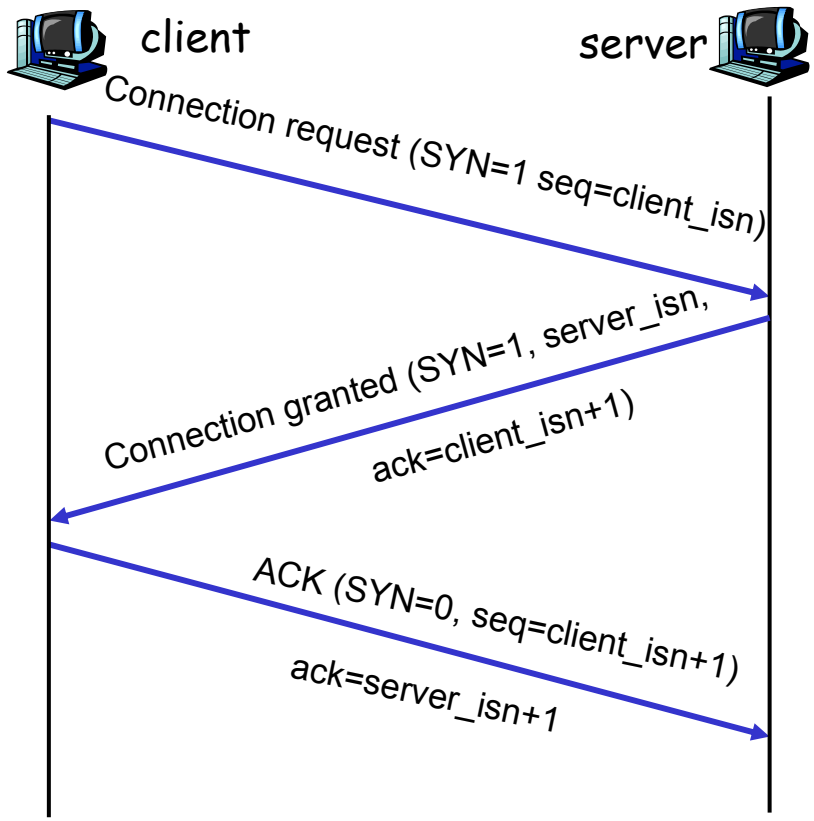
TCP Connection Management (cont.)

Step 3: client end system receives SYNACK, replies with SYN=0 and server_isn+1

- Allocate buffers
- Allocates buffers
- Can include application data

SYN=0 signals that connection established

server_isn+1 signals that # is synchronized



TCP Connection Management (cont.)

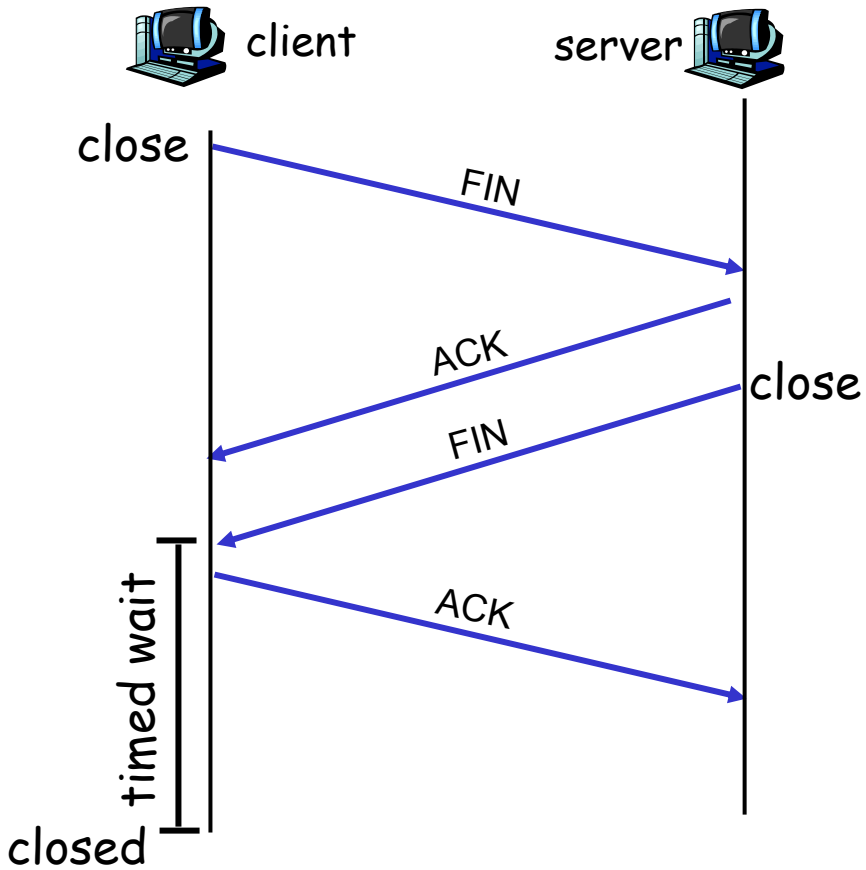
Closing a connection:

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.



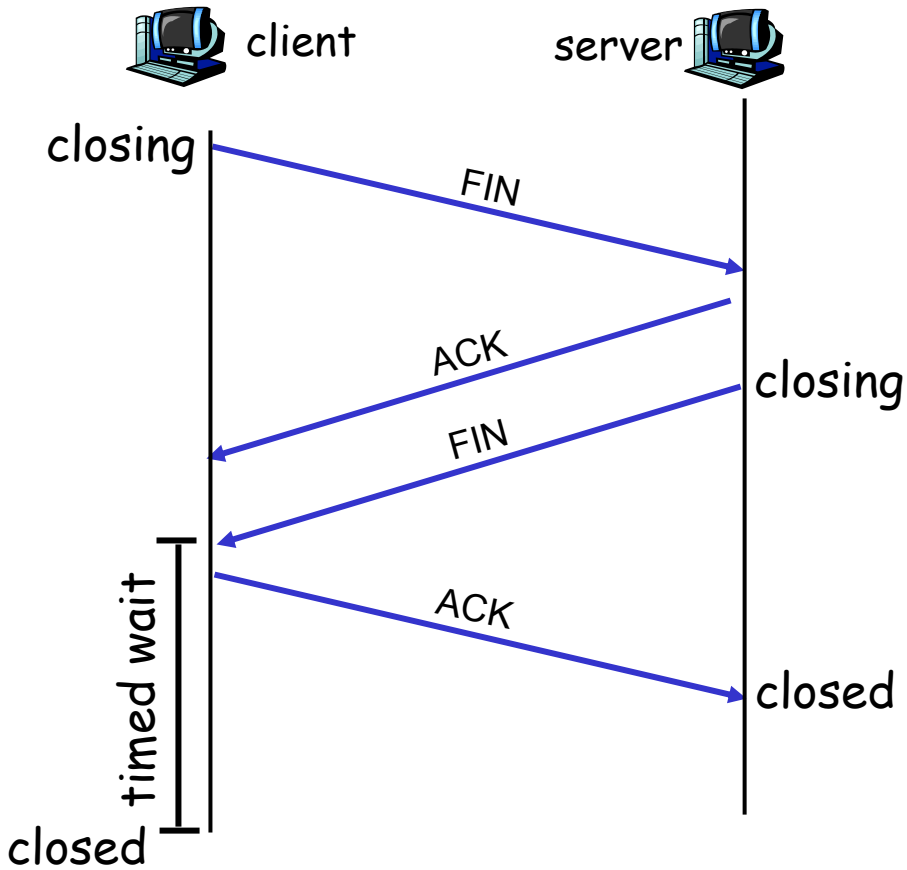
TCP Connection Management (cont.)

Step 3: client receives FIN, replies with ACK.

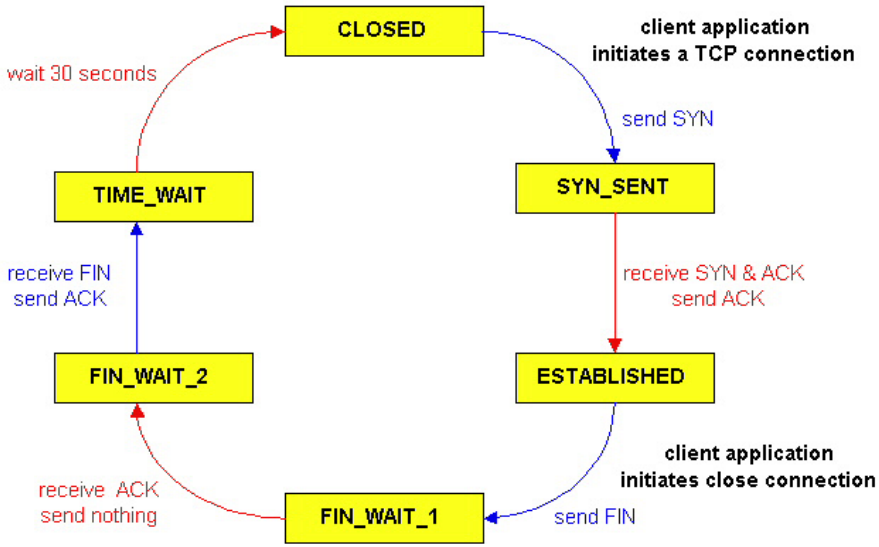
- Enters "timed wait" - during which will respond with ACK to received FINs (that might arrive if ACK gets lost).
- Closes down after timed-wait

Step 4: server, receives ACK. Connection closed.

Note: with small modification, can handle simultaneous FINs.

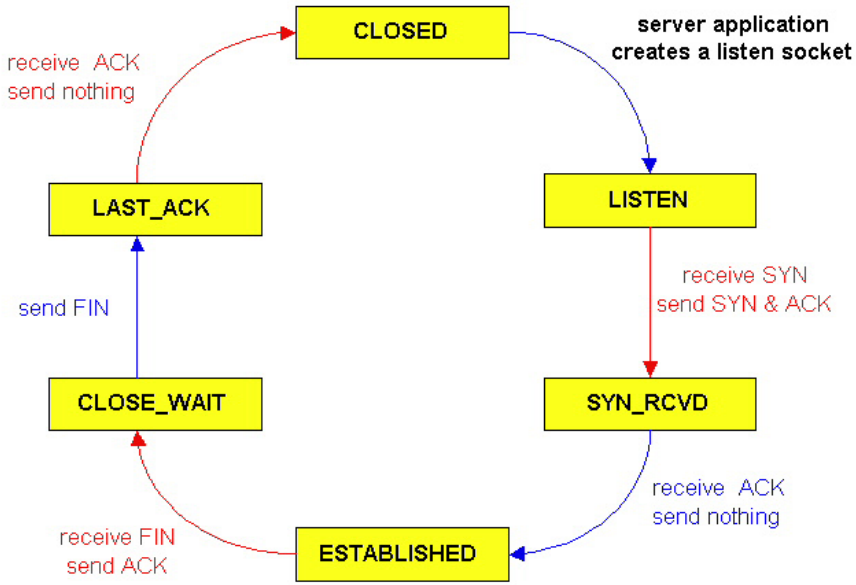


TCP Connection Management (cont)



Example TCP client lifecycle

Example TCP server lifecycle



A few special cases

- Have not discussed what happens if both client and server decide to close down connection at same time.
- It is possible that first ACK (from server) and second FIN (also from server) are sent in same segment

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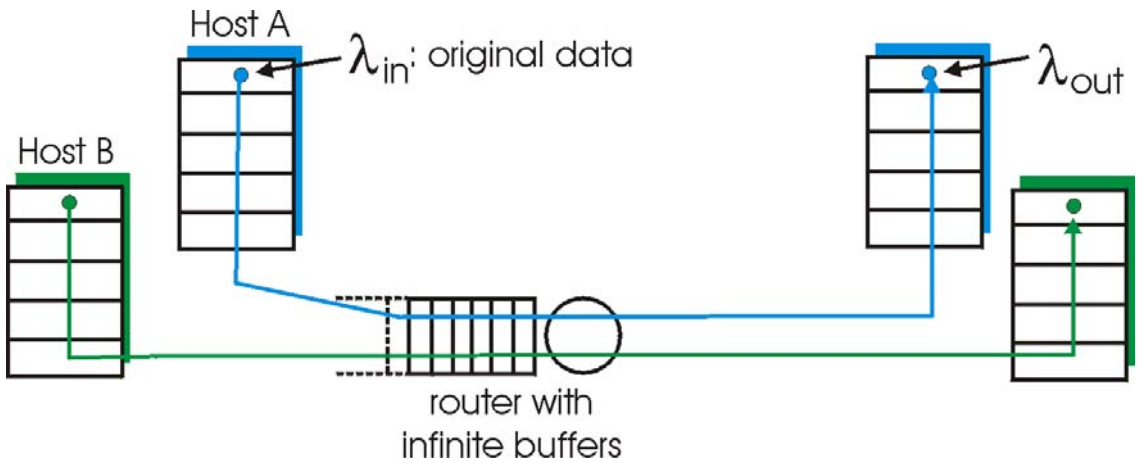
Principles of Congestion Control

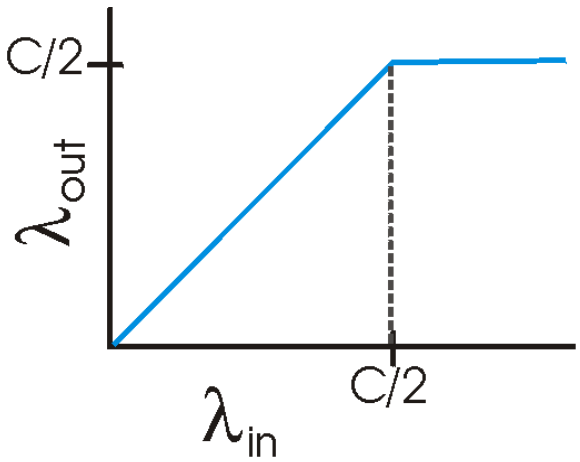
Congestion:

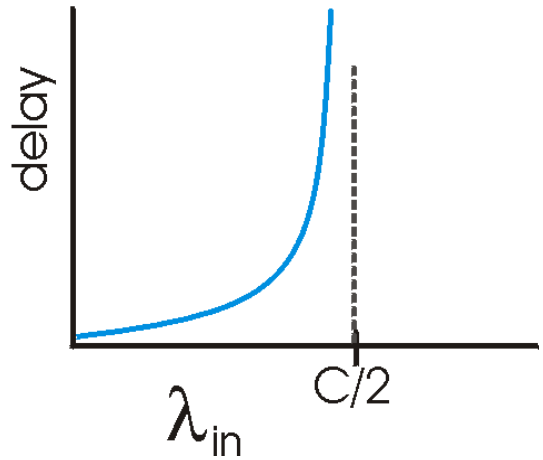
- informally: "too many sources sending too much data too fast for *network* to handle"
- different from flow control!
- manifestations:
  - lost packets (buffer overflow at routers)
  - long delays (queuing in router buffers)
- a top-10 problem!

Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 1

- two senders, two receivers
- one router, infinite buffers
- no retransmission
- Send rate 0-C/2



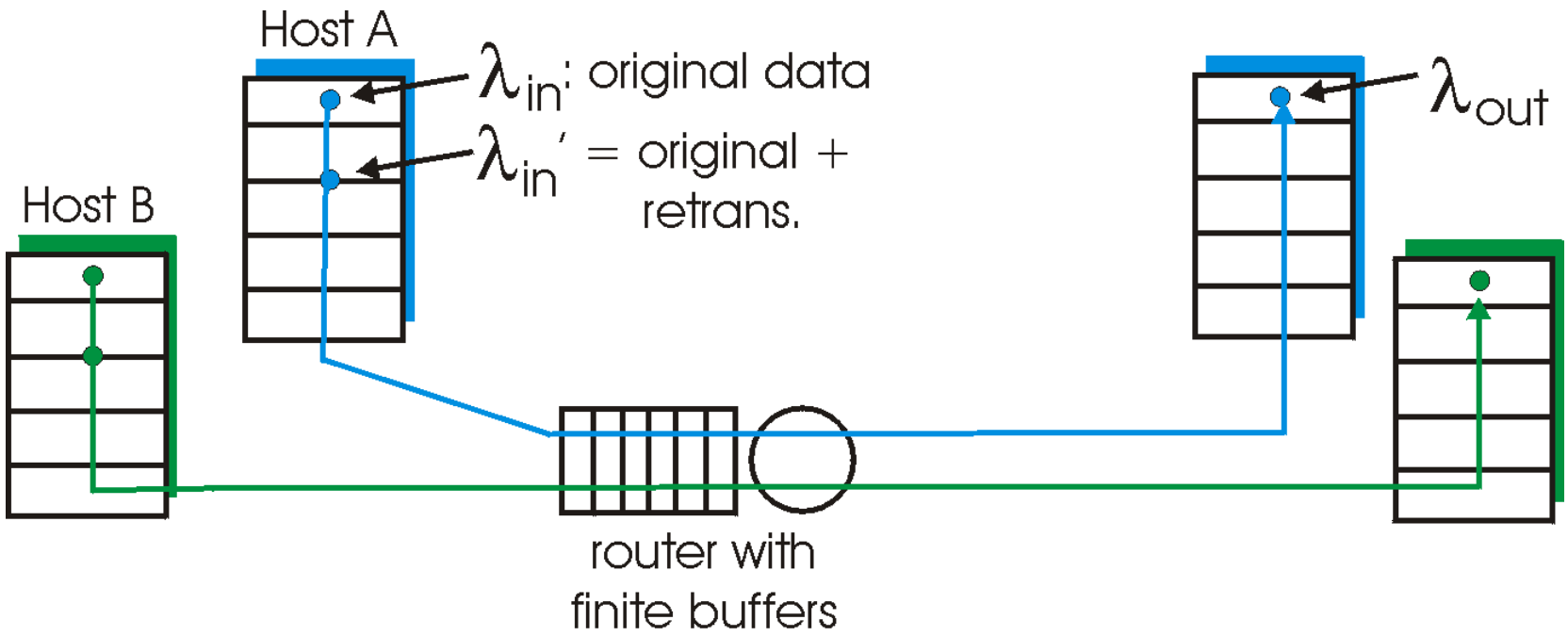




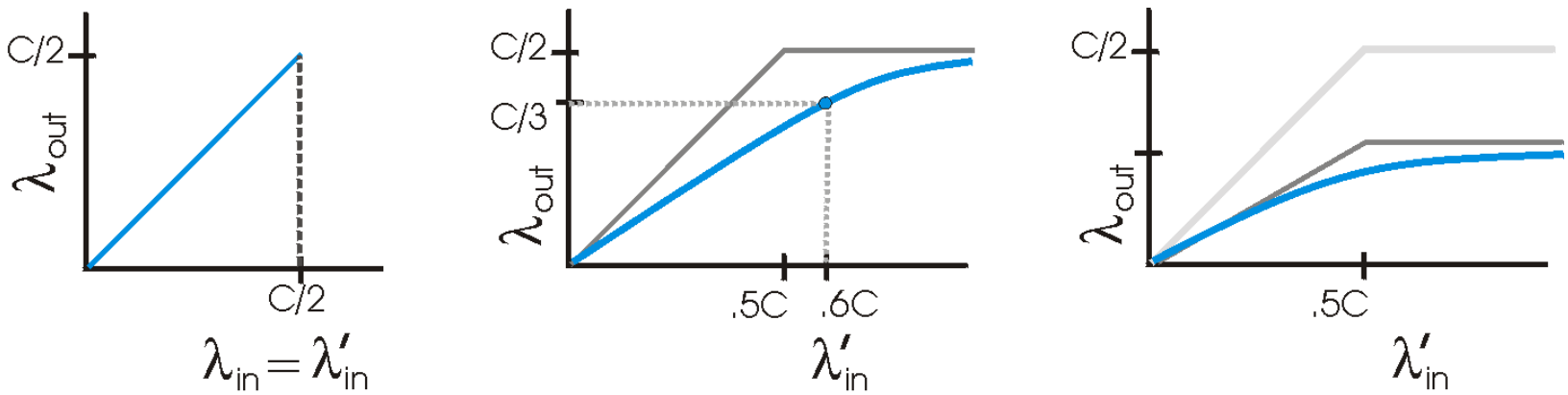
- large delays when congested
- maximum achievable throughput

Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 2

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



- always: $\lambda_{in} = \lambda_{out}$ (goodput)
- Magic transmission; only send when there's space in buffer
- "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}



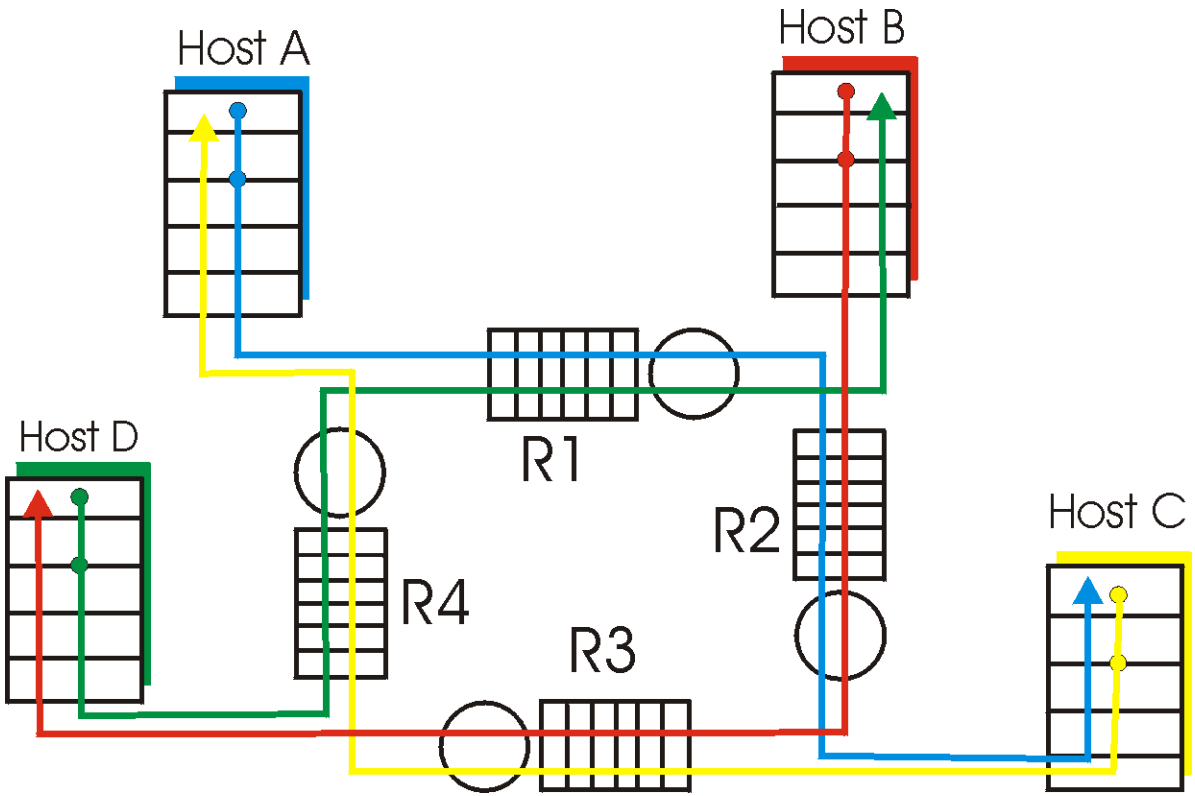
"costs" of congestion:

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

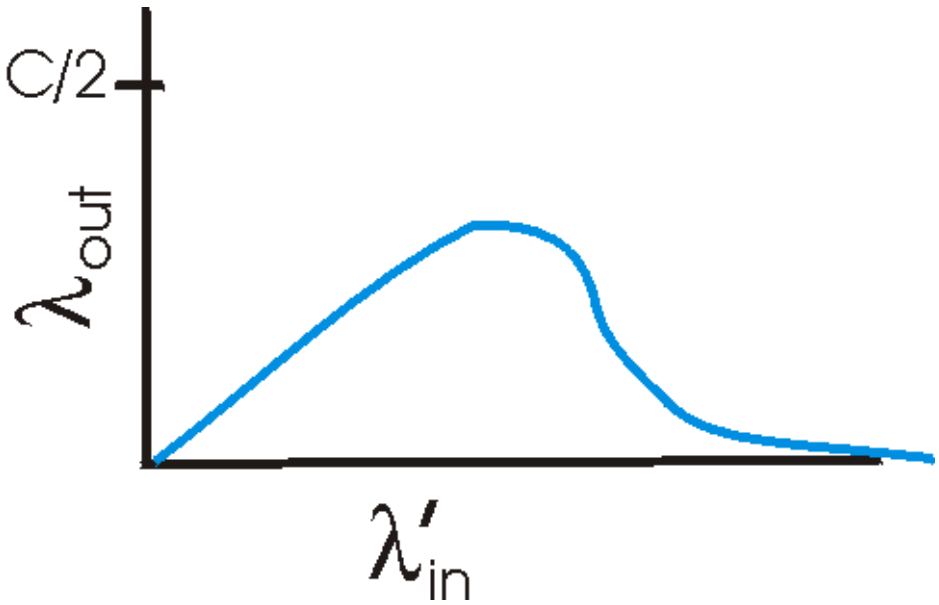
Causes/costs of congestion: scenario 3

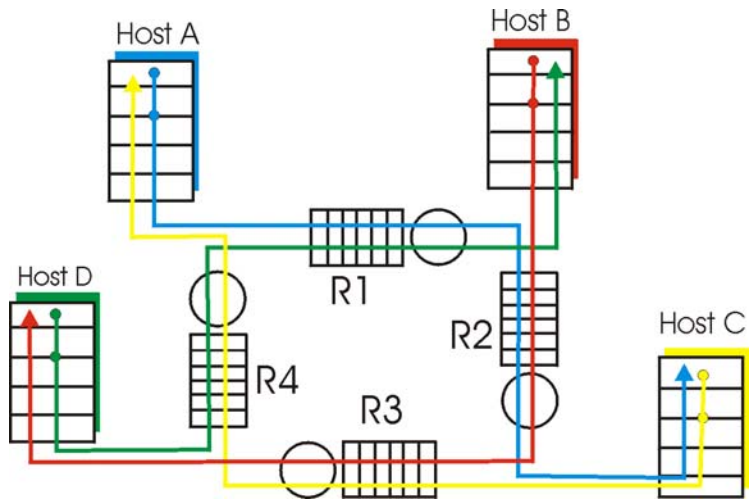
- four senders
- multihop paths
- timeout/retransmit

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:

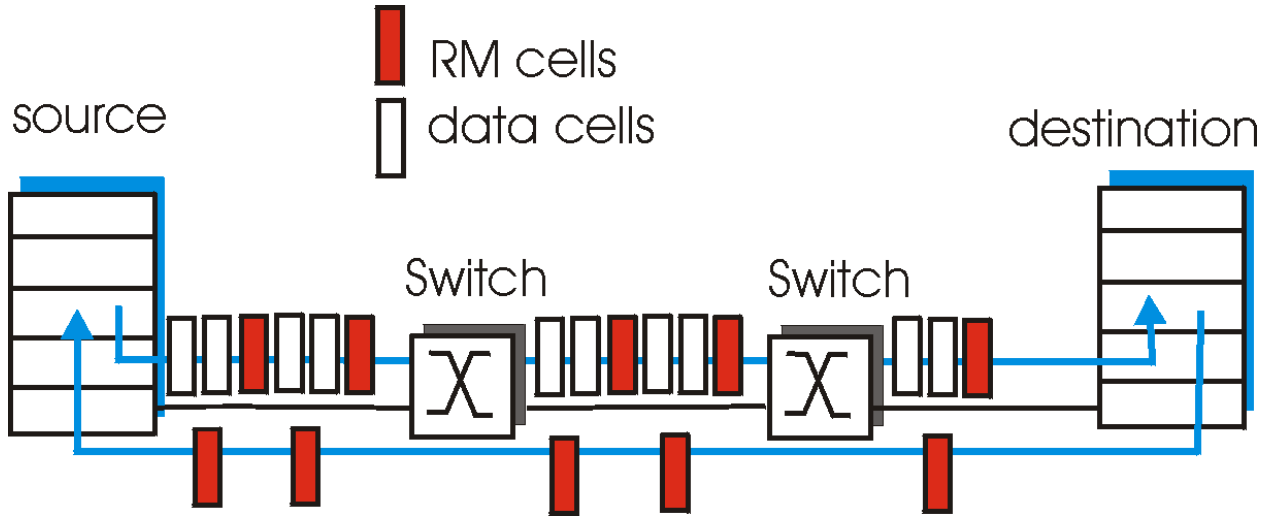
- "elastic service"
- if sender's path "underloaded":
  - sender should use available bandwidth
- if sender's path congested:
  - sender throttled to minimum guaranteed rate

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: severe congestion indicator
- RM cells returned to sender by receiver, with bits intact

  small exception – see next page

Case study: ATM ABR congestion control



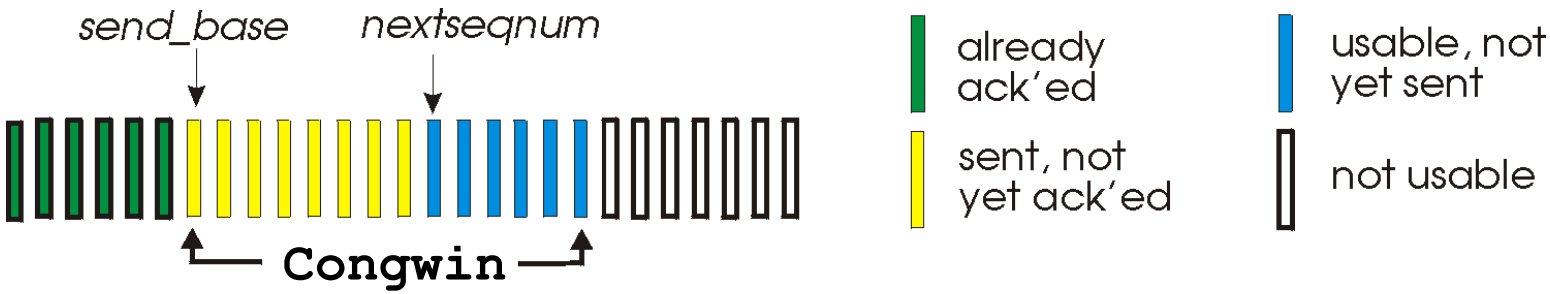
- two-byte ER (explicit rate) field in RM cell
  - congested switch may lower ER value in cell
  - sender's send rate thus minimum supportable rate on path
- EFCI bit in data cells: set to 1 by congested switch
  - Signals congestion
  - if data cell preceding RM cell has EFCI=1, destination sets CI bit=1 before returning RM cell to source.

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

TCP Congestion Control

- end-end control (no network assistance)
- transmission rate limited by congestion window size, **Congwin**, over segments. Congwin dynamically modified to reflect perceived congestion.



- w segments, each with MSS bytes sent in one RTT:

$$\text{throughput} = \frac{w * MSS}{RTT} \text{ Bytes/sec}$$

- To simplify presentation we assume that RcvBuffer is large enough that it will not overflow

- Tools are "similar" to flow control.
  sender limits transmission using:

  LastByteSent-LastByteAcked ≤ CongWin

How does sender perceive congestion?

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

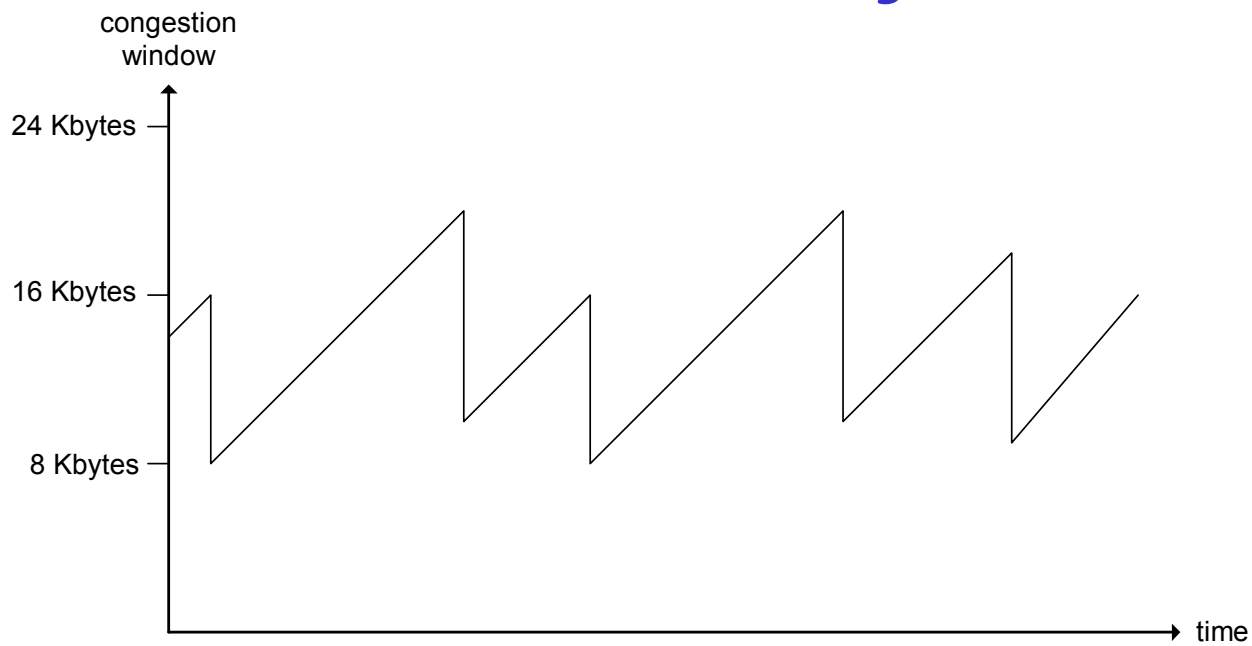
three mechanisms:

  - AIMD = *Additive Increase Multiplicative Decrease*
  - slow start = **CongWin** set to 1 and then grows exponentially
  - 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* also known as *congestion avoidance*



Long-lived TCP connection

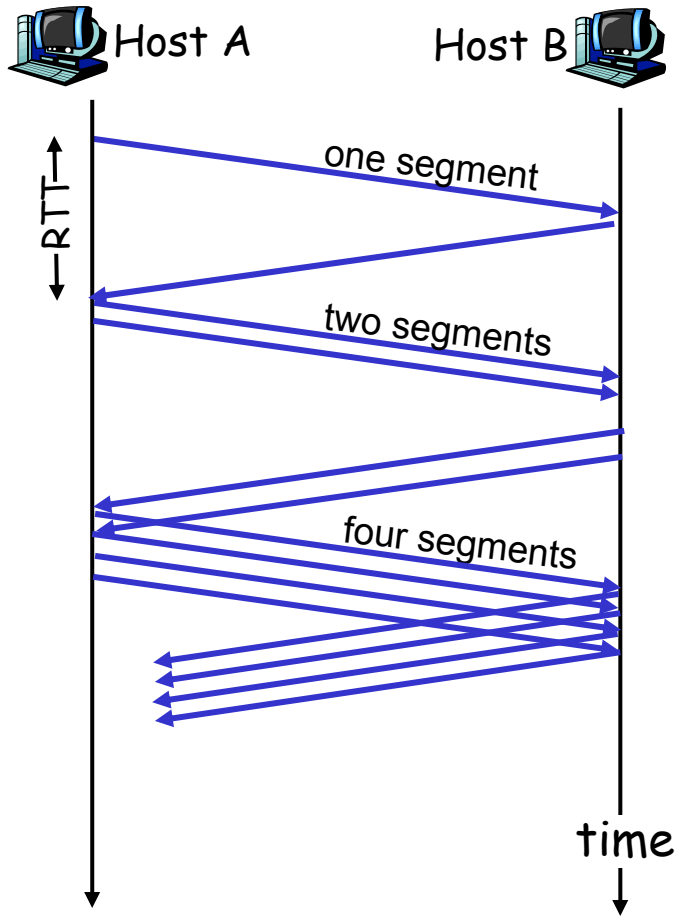
TCP Slow Start

- When connection begins, **`CongWin`** = 1 MSS
  - Example: MSS = 500 bytes & RTT = 200 msec
  - initial rate = 20 kbps
- available bandwidth may be >> 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



- So Far
  - Slow-Start: ramps up exponentially
  - Followed by AIMD: sawtooth pattern

- Reality (TCP Reno)
  - Introduce new variable **threshold**
  - **threshold** initially very large
  - Slow-Start exponential growth stops when reaches **threshold** and then switches to AIMD
  - Two different types of loss events
    - 3 dup ACKS: cut **CongWin** in half and set **threshold=CongWin** (now in standard AIMD)
    - Timeout: set **threshold=CongWin/2**, **CongWin=1** and switch to Slow-Start

- Reason for treating 3 dup ACKS differently than timeout is that 3 dup ACKs indicates network capable of delivering some segments while timeout before 3 dup ACKs is "more alarming".

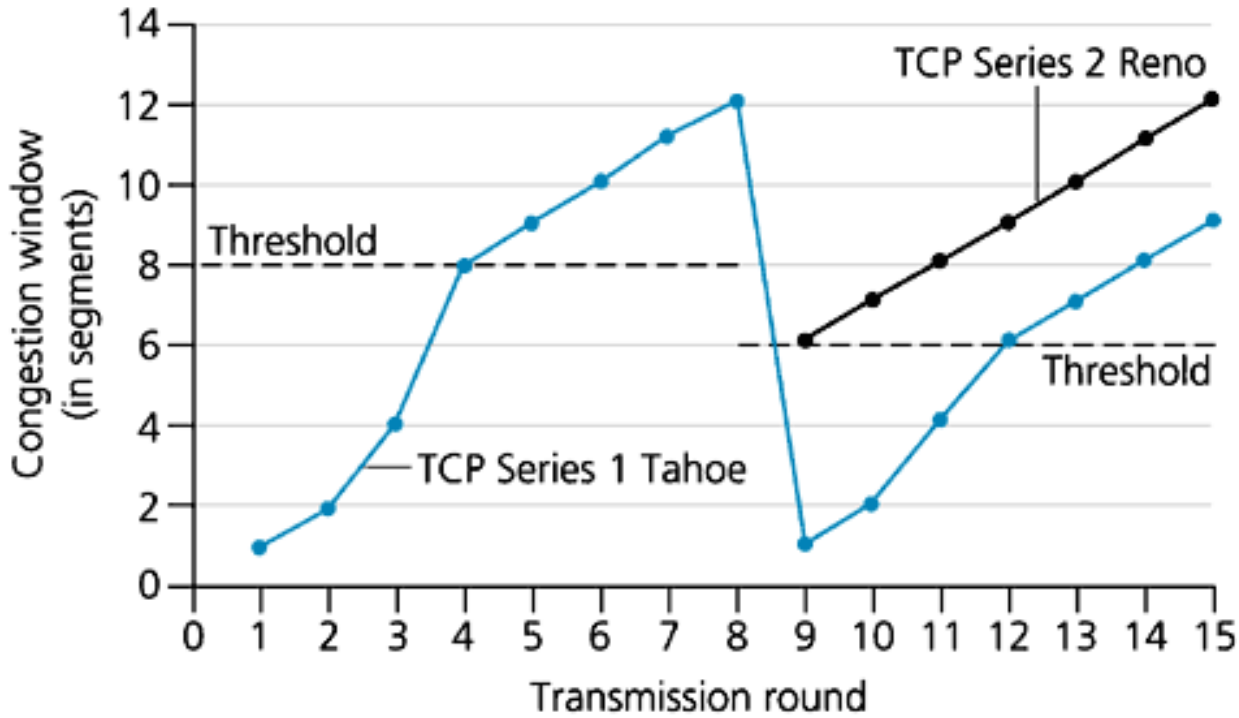
- Note that older protocol, TCP Tahoe, treated both types of loss events the same and **always** goes to slowstart with Congwin=1 after a loss event.

- TCP Reno's skipping of the slow start for a 3-DUP-ACK loss event is known as fast-recovery.

Summary: TCP Congestion Control

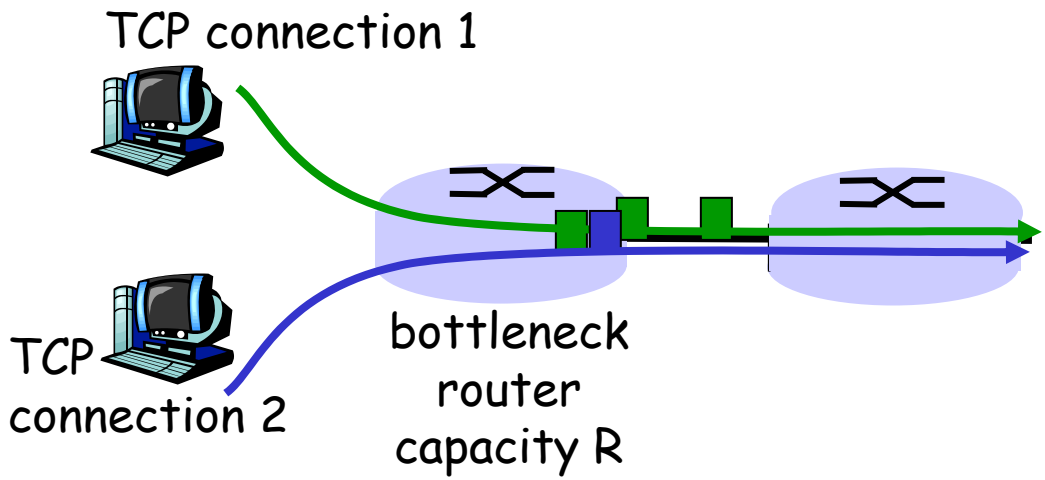
- When **CongWin** is below **Threshold**, sender in slow-start phase, window grows exponentially.
- When **CongWin** is above **Threshold**, sender is in congestion-avoidance phase, window grows linearly.
- When a triple duplicate ACK occurs, **Threshold** set to **CongWin/2** and **CongWin** set to **Threshold**. *(only in TCP Reno)*
- When timeout occurs, **Threshold** set to **CongWin/2** and **CongWin** is set to 1 MSS.
  (TCP Tahoe does this for 3 Dup Acks as well)

The Big Picture



TCP Fairness

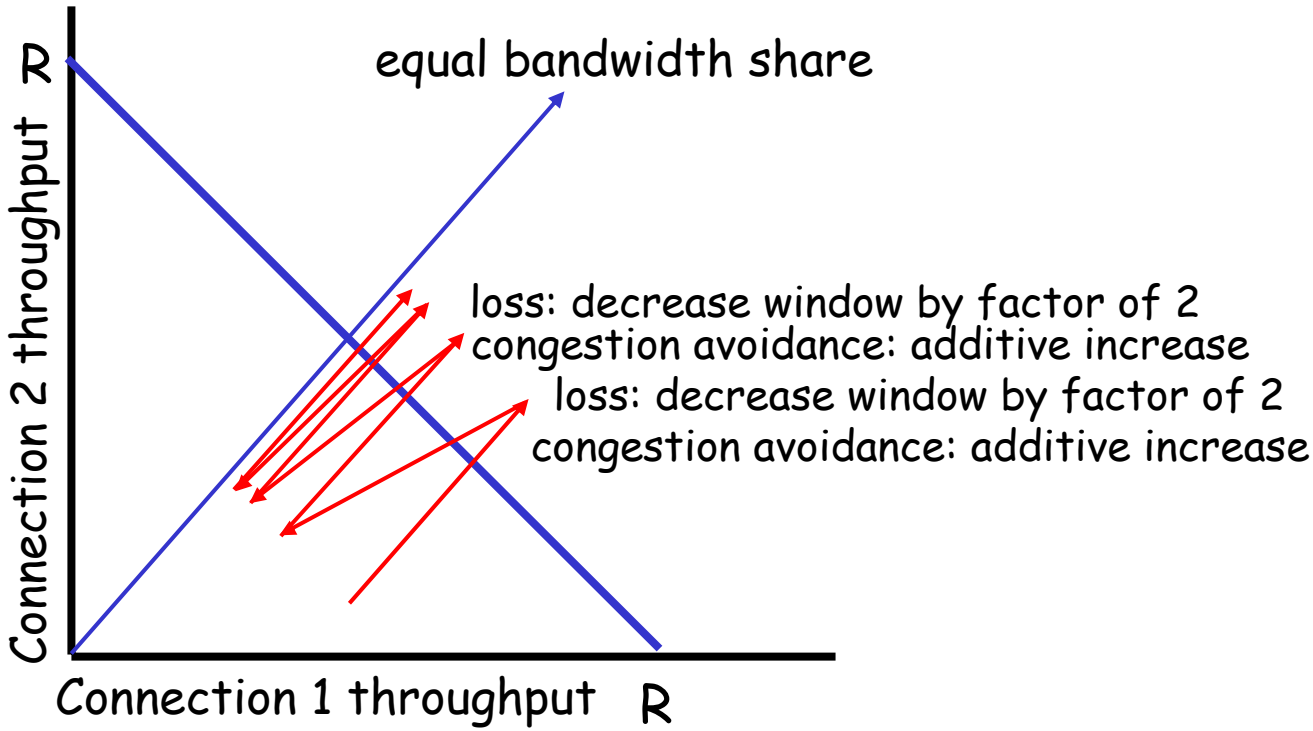
Fairness goal: if K TCP sessions share same bottleneck link of bandwidth R, each should have average rate of R/K



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
- Current Research area:
  - How to keep UDP from congesting the internet.

Fairness and parallel TCP connections

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

TCP Latency Modeling

Q: How long does it take to completely receive an object from a Web server after sending a request?
This is known as the latency of the (request for the) object.

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 (W)

Two cases

1. WS/R > RTT + S/R:

   ACK for first segment in window returns before window's worth of data sent

   Latency = 2RTT + O/R

2. WS/R < RTT + S/R:

   ACK for first segment in window returns after window's worth of data sent

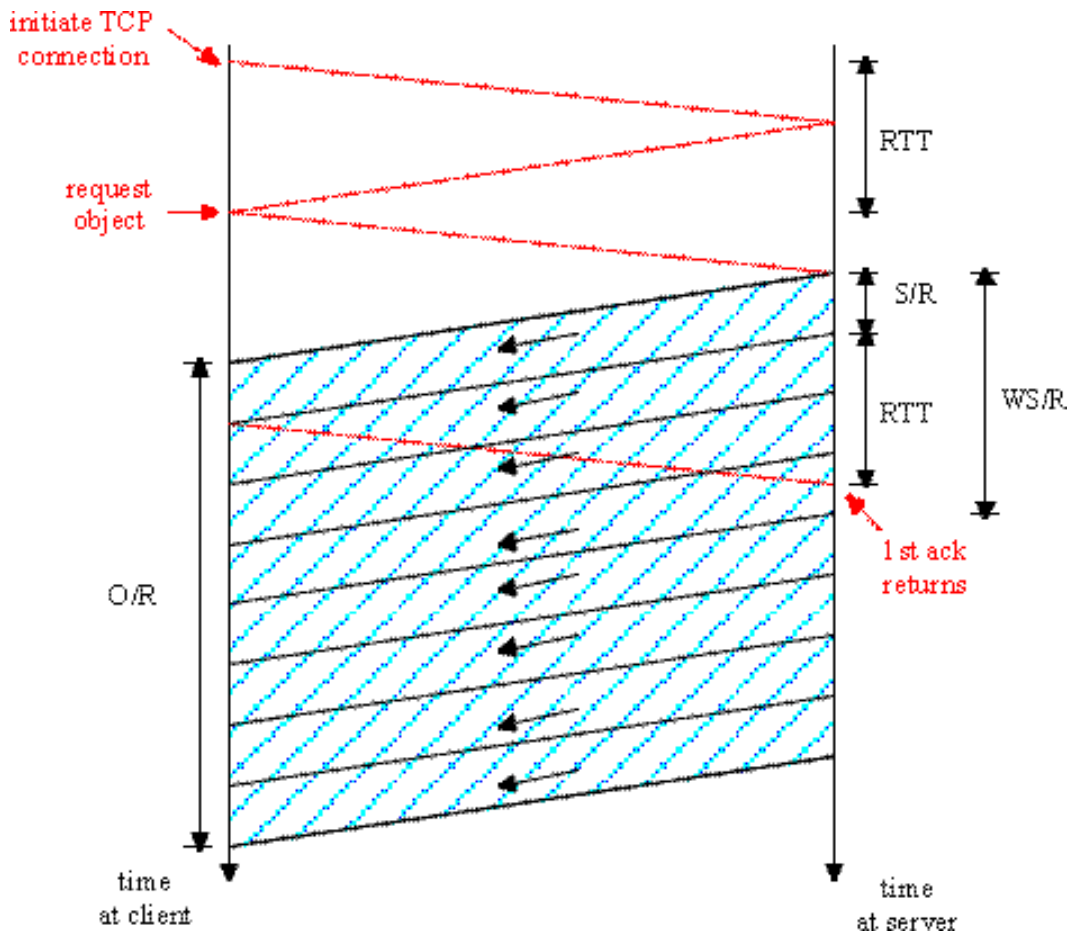
   Latency = 2RTT + O/R + (K-1)[S/R + RTT - WS/R]

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

latency = 2RTT + O/R

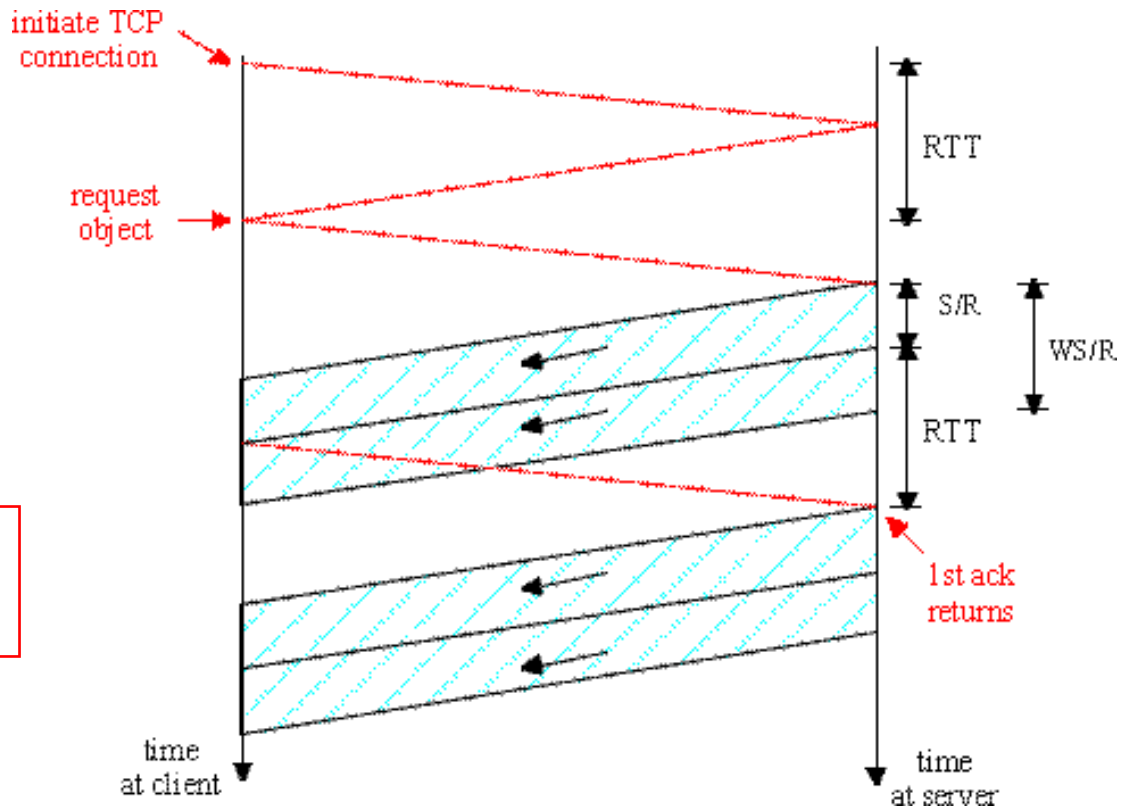


Fixed congestion window (2)

Second case:

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

latency = 2RTT + O/R
+ (K-1)[S/R + RTT - WS/R]



TCP Latency Modeling: Slow Start (1)

Now suppose window grows according to slow start
(with no threshold and no loss events)

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 Latency Modeling: Slow Start (2)

Delay components:

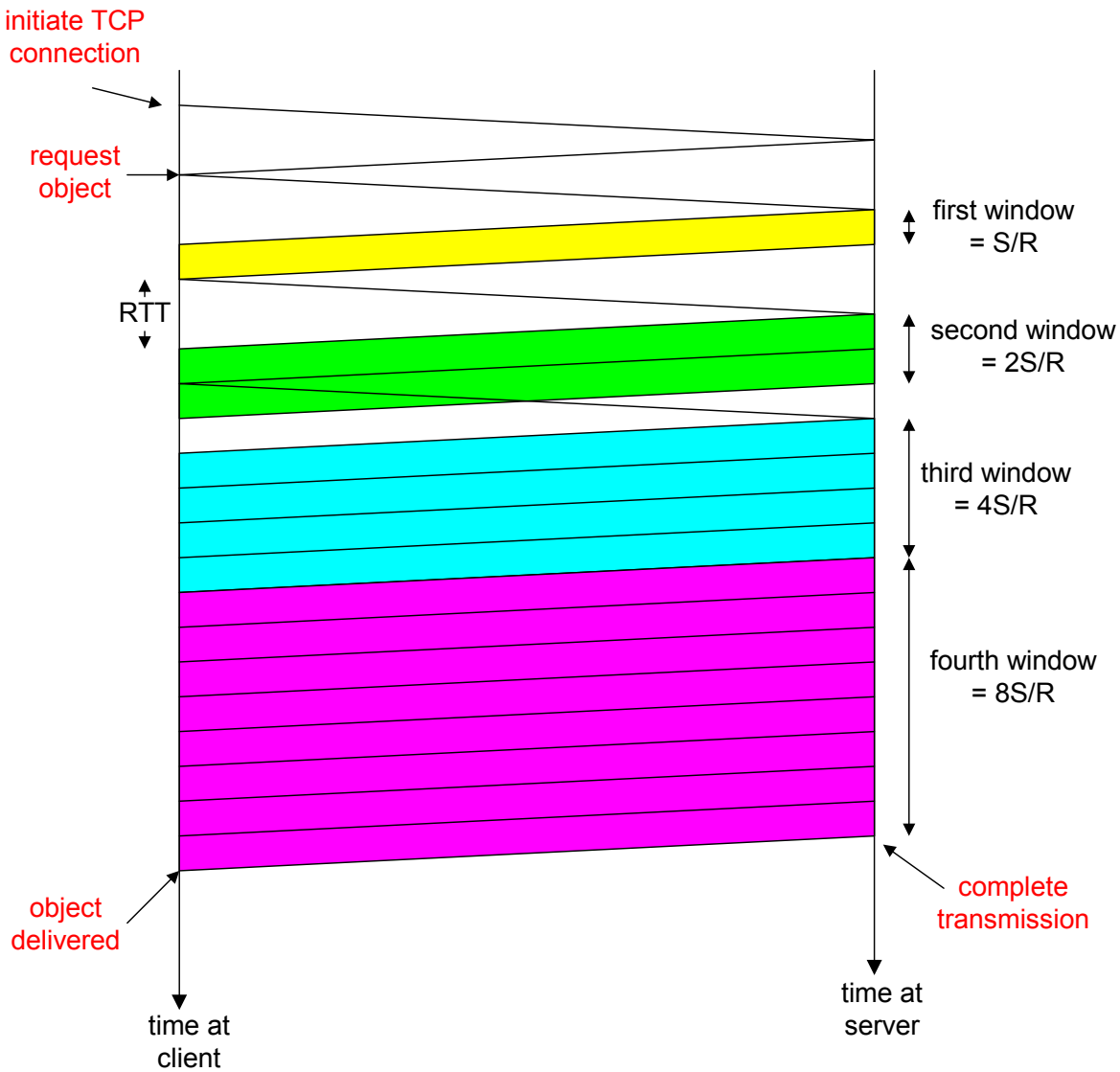
- 2 RTT for connection estab and request
- O/R to transmit object
- time server idles due to slow start

Server idles:
P = min{K-1,Q} times

Example:

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

Server idles P=2 times



TCP Latency Modeling (3)

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

until server receives acknowledgement

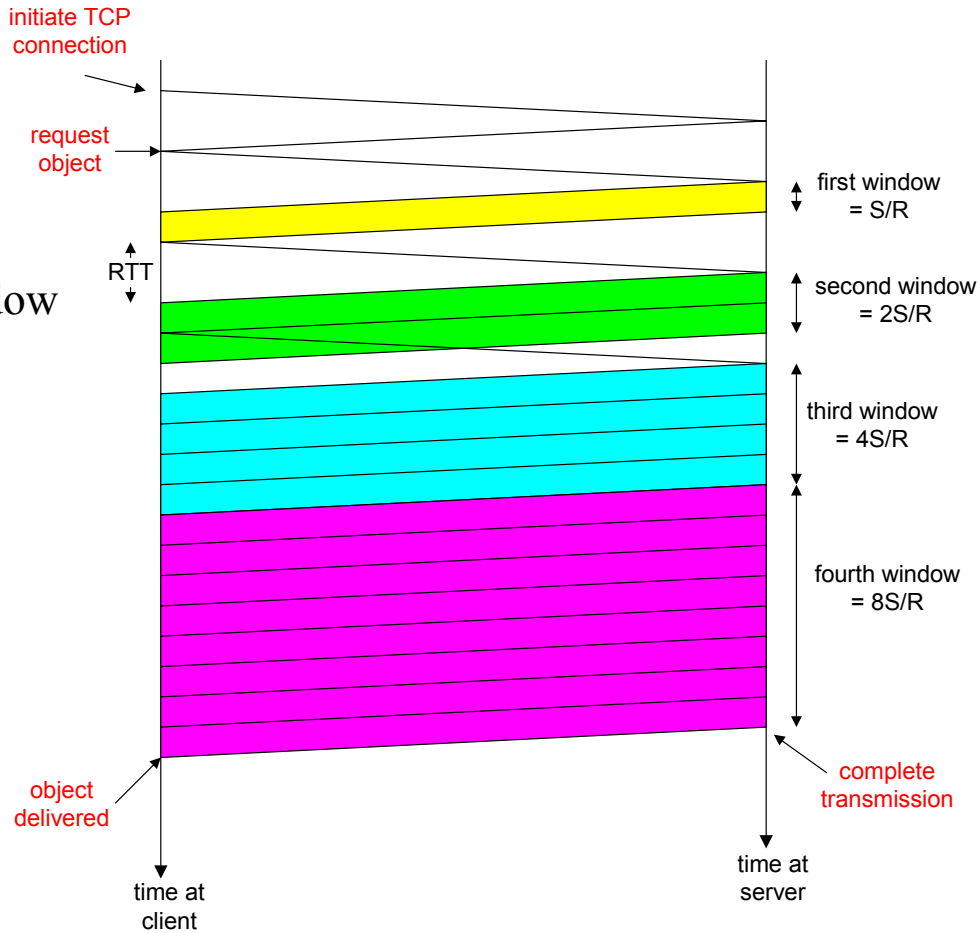
$2^{k-1}\frac{S}{R} =$ time to transmit the kth window

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

$$\text{delay} = \frac{O}{R} + 2RTT + \sum_{p=1}^{P} idleTime_p$$

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

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



TCP Latency Modeling (4)

Recall K = number of windows that cover object

How do we calculate K ?

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

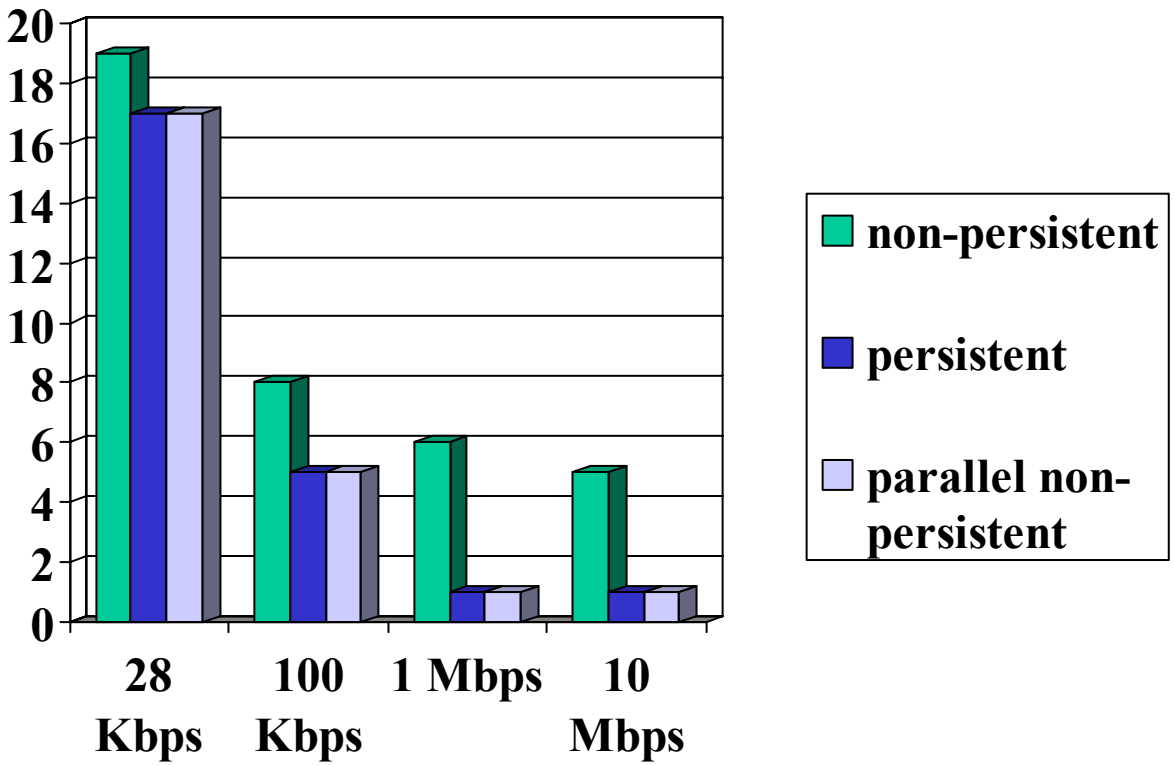
Calculation of Q, number of idles for infinite-size object, is similar.

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 + 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 + 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 + sum of idle times*

HTTP Response time (in seconds)

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

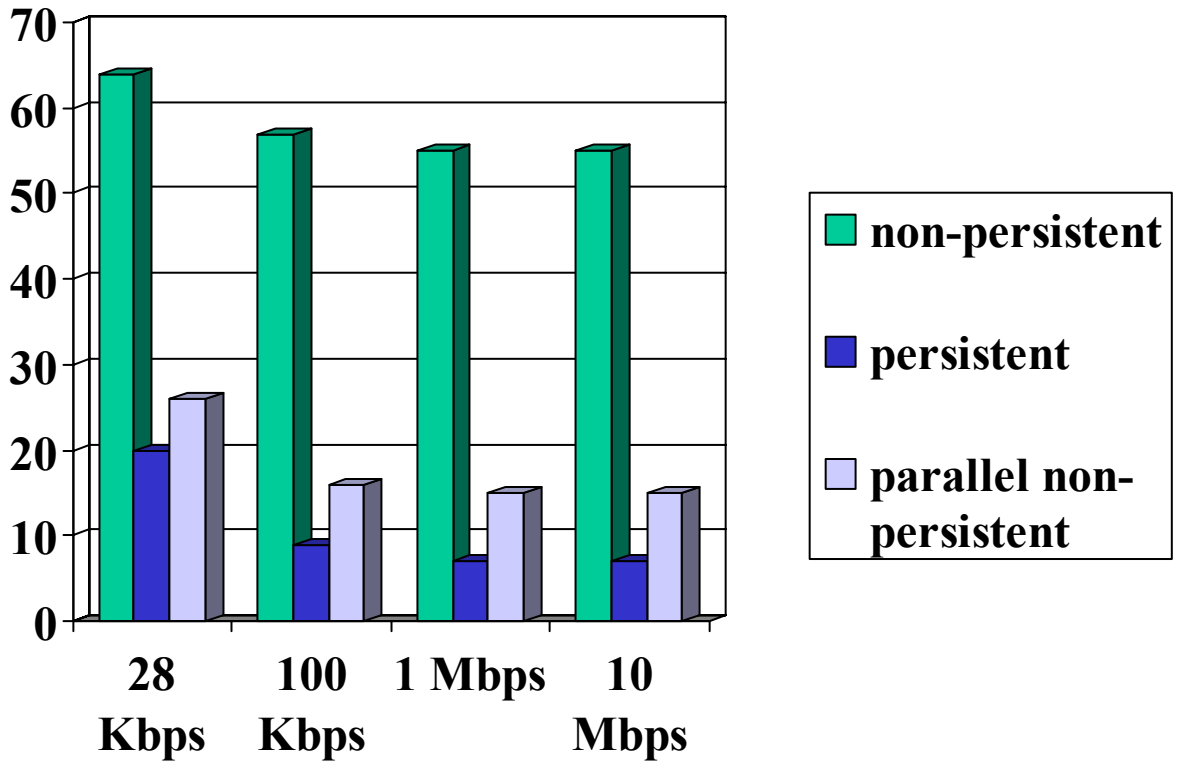


For low bandwidth, connection & response time dominated by transmission time.

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"