Computer Networking

Michaelmas/Lent Term M/W/F 11:00-12:00 LT1 in Gates Building

Slide Set 6

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Topic 6 – Applications

Overview

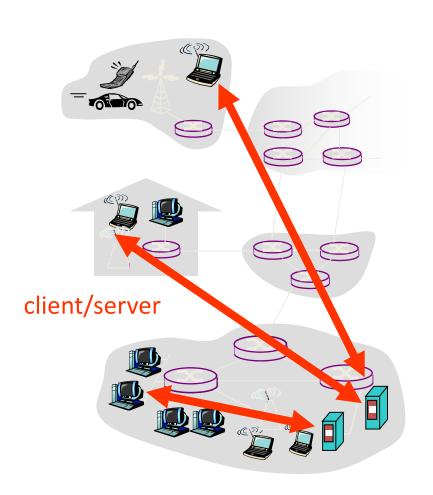
Infrastructure Services (DNS)

Traditional Applications (web)

Multimedia Applications (SIP)

P2P Networks

Client-server architecture



server:

- always-on host
- permanent IP address
- server farms for scaling

clients:

- communicate with server
- may be intermittently connected
- may have dynamic IP addresses
- do not communicate directly with each other

Pure P2P architecture

- no always-on server
- arbitrary end systems directly communicate
- peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses

peer-peer

Highly scalable but difficult to manage

Hybrid of client-server and P2P

Skype

- voice-over-IP P2P application
- centralized server: finding address of remote party:
- client-client connection: direct (not through server)

Instant messaging

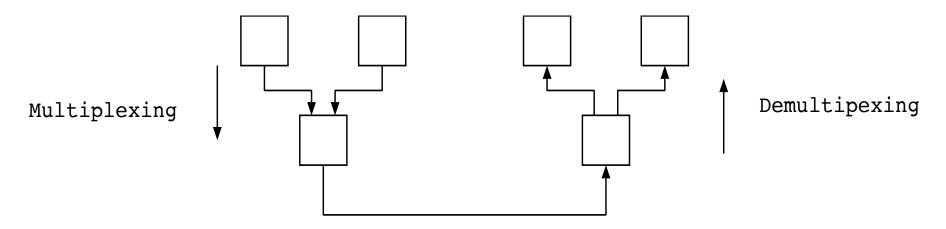
- chatting between two users is P2P
- centralized service: client presence detection/location
 - user registers its IP address with central server when it comes online
 - user contacts central server to find IP addresses of buddies

Addressing processes

- to receive messages, process must have identifier
- host device has unique 32bit IP address
- Q: does IP address of host on which process runs suffice for identifying the process?
 - A: No, many processes can be running on same host

- identifier includes both IP address and port numbers associated with process on host.
- Example port numbers:
 - HTTP server: 80
 - Mail server: 25
- to send HTTP message to yuba.stanford.edu web server:
 - IP address: 171.64.74.58
 - Port number: 80
- more shortly...

Recall: Multiplexing is a service provided by (each) layer too!



Lower channel

Application: one web-server multiple sets of content

Host: one machine multiple services

Network: one physical box multiple addresses (like vns.cl.cam.ac.uk)

• • • •

UNIX: /etc/protocols = examples of different transport-protocols on top of IP

UNIX: /etc/services = examples of different (TCP/UDP) services – by port

(These files are an example of a (static) approach to name services)

App-layer protocol defines

- Types of messages exchanged,
 - e.g., request, response
- Message syntax:
 - what fields in messages & how fields are delineated
- Message semantics
 - meaning of information in fields
- Rules for when and how processes send & respond to messages

Public-domain protocols:

- defined in RFCs
- allows for interoperability
- e.g., HTTP, SMTP

Proprietary protocols:

e.g., Skype

What transport service does an app need?

Data loss

- some apps (e.g., audio) can tolerate some loss
- other apps (e.g., file transfer, telnet) require 100% reliable data transfer

Timing

 some apps (e.g., Internet telephony, interactive games) require low delay to be "effective"

Throughput

- some apps (e.g., multimedia) require minimum amount of throughput to be "effective"
- other apps ("elastic apps") make use of whatever throughput they get

Security

Encryption, data integrity, ...

Mysterious secret of *Transport*

There is more than sort of transport layer

Shocked?

I seriously doubt it...

Recall the two most common TCP and UDP

Naming

- Internet has one global system of addressing: IP
 - By explicit design
- And one global system of naming: DNS
 - Almost by accident
- At the time, only items worth naming were hosts
 - A mistake that causes many painful workarounds
- Everything is now named relative to a host
 - Content is most notable example (URL structure)

Logical Steps in Using Internet

- Human has name of entity she wants to access
 - Content, host, etc.
- Invokes an application to perform relevant task
 - Using that name
- App invokes DNS to translate name to address
- App invokes transport protocol to contact host
 - Using address as destination

Addresses vs Names

- Scope of relevance:
 - App/user is primarily concerned with names
 - Network is primarily concerned with addresses
- Timescales:
 - Name lookup once (or get from cache)
 - Address lookup on each packet
- When moving a host to a different subnet:
 - The address changes
 - The name does not change
- When moving content to a differently named host
 - Name and address both change!

Relationship Between Names&Addresses

- Addresses can change underneath
 - Move www.bbc.co.uk to 212.58.246.92
 - Humans/Apps should be unaffected
- Name could map to multiple IP addresses
 - www.bbc.co.uk to multiple replicas of the Web site
 - Enables
 - Load-balancing
 - Reducing latency by picking nearby servers
- Multiple names for the same address
 - E.g., aliases like www.bbc.co.uk and bbc.co.uk
 - Mnemonic stable name, and dynamic canonical name
 - Canonical name = actual name of host

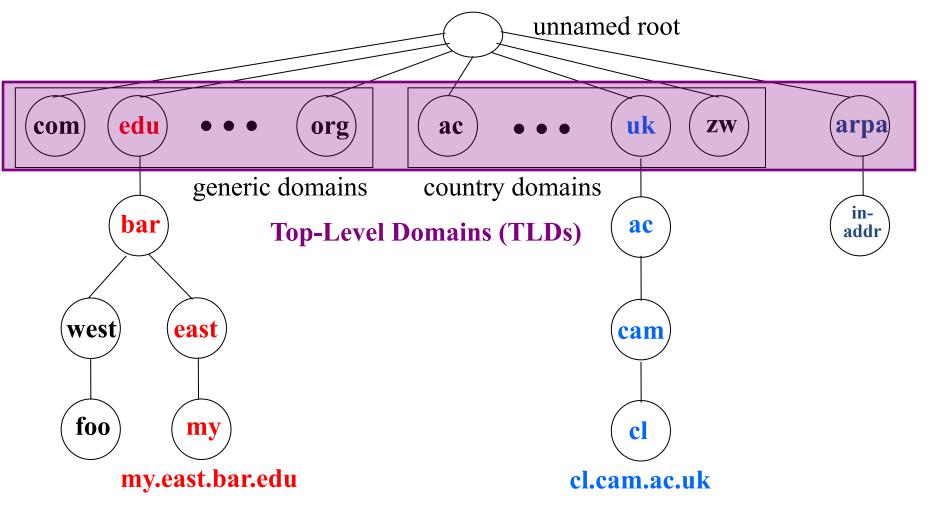
Mapping from Names to Addresses

- Originally: per-host file /etc/hosts
 - SRI (Menlo Park) kept master copy
 - Downloaded regularly
 - Flat namespace
- Single server not resilient, doesn't scale
 - Adopted a distributed hierarchical system
- Two intertwined hierarchies:
 - Infrastructure: hierarchy of DNS servers
 - Naming structure: www.bbc.co.uk

Domain Name System (DNS)

- Top of hierarchy: Root
 - Location hardwired into other servers
- Next Level: Top-level domain (TLD) servers
 - .com, .edu, etc.
 - uk, .au, .to, etc.
 - Managed professionally
- Bottom Level: Authoritative DNS servers
 - Actually do the mapping
 - Can be maintained locally or by a service provider

Distributed Hierarchical Database



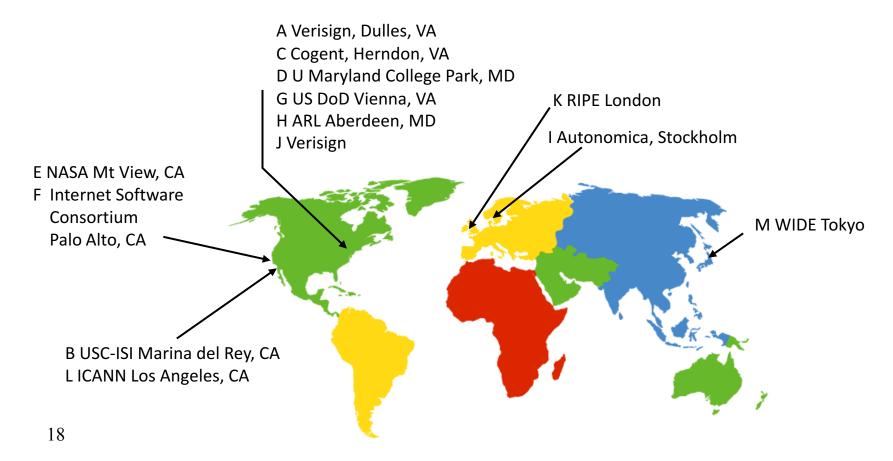
DNS Root

- Located in Virginia, USA
- How do we make the root scale?



DNS Root Servers

- 13 root servers (see http://www.root-servers.org/)
 - Labeled A through M
- Does this scale?



DNS Root Servers

- 13 root servers (see http://www.root-servers.org/)
 - Labeled A through M
- Replication via any-casting (localized routing for addresses)



Using DNS

- Two components
 - Local DNS servers
 - Resolver software on hosts
- Local DNS server ("default name server")
 - Usually near the endhosts that use it
 - Local hosts configured with local server (e.g., /etc/resolv.conf) or learn server via DHCP
- Client application
 - Extract server name (e.g., from the URL)
 - Do gethostbyname() to trigger resolver code

How Does Resolution Happen?

(Iterative example)

root DNS server Host at cl.cam.ac.uk wants IP address for www.stanford.edu TLD DNS server local DNS server dns.cam.ac.uk iterated query: Host enquiry is delegated to local DNS server Consider transactions 2 – 7 only contacted server replies with name of next server authoritative DNS server to contact dns.stanford.edu "I don't know this name, requesting host

cl.cam.ac.uk



www.stanford.edu

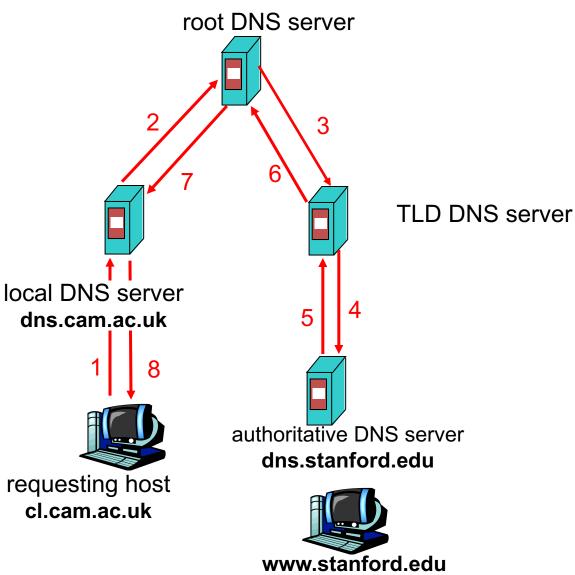
but ask this server"

DNS name resolution recursive example

recursive query:

puts burden of name resolution on contacted name server

☐ heavy load?



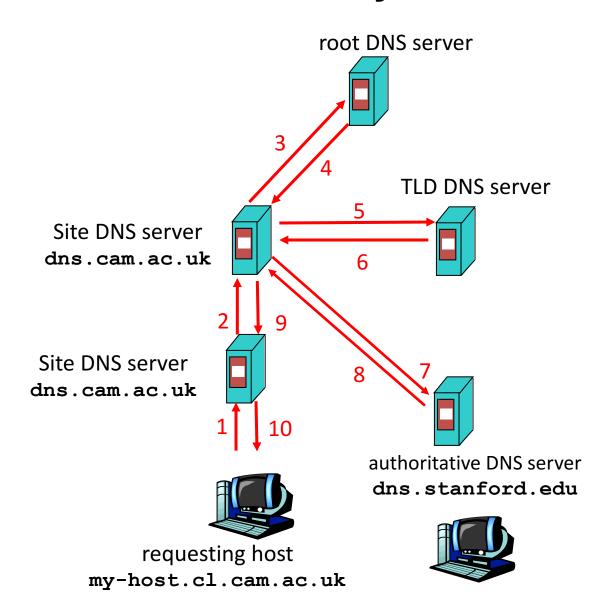
Recursive and Iterative Queries - Hybrid case

Recursive query

- Ask server to get answer for you
- E.g., requests 1,2and responses9,10

Iterative query

- Ask server who to ask next
- E.g., all other request-response pairs



DNS Caching

- Performing all these queries takes time
 - And all this before actual communication takes place
 - E.g., 1-second latency before starting Web download
- Caching can greatly reduce overhead
 - The top-level servers very rarely change
 - Popular sites (e.g., www.bbc.co.uk) visited often
 - Local DNS server often has the information cached
- How DNS caching works
 - DNS servers cache responses to queries
 - Responses include a "time to live" (TTL) field
 - Server deletes cached entry after TTL expires

Negative Caching

- Remember things that don't work
 - Misspellings like bbcc.co.uk and www.bbc.com.uk
 - These can take a long time to fail the first time
 - Good to remember that they don't work
 - ... so the failure takes less time the next time around

- But: negative caching is optional
 - And not widely implemented

Reliability

- DNS servers are replicated (primary/secondary)
 - Name service available if at least one replica is up
 - Queries can be load-balanced between replicas
- Usually, UDP used for queries
 - Need reliability: must implement this on top of UDP
 - Spec supports TCP too, but not always implemented
- Try alternate servers on timeout
 - Exponential backoff when retrying same server
- Same identifier for all queries
 - Don't care which server responds

DNS and Security

- No way to verify answers
 - Opens up DNS to many potential attacks
 - DNSSEC fixes this
- Most obvious vulnerability: recursive resolution
 - Using recursive resolution, host must trust DNS server
 - When at Starbucks, server is under their control
 - And can return whatever values it wants
- More subtle attack: Cache poisoning
 - Those "additional" records can be anything!

Why is the web so successful?

- What do the web, youtube, facebook, tumblr, twitter, flickr, have in common?
 - The ability to self-publish
- Self-publishing that is easy, independent, free
- No interest in collaborative and idealistic endeavor
 - People aren't looking for Nirvana (or even Xanadu)
 - People also aren't looking for technical perfection
- Want to make their mark, and find something neat
 - Two sides of the same coin, creates synergy
 - "Performance" more important than dialogue....

Web Components

- Infrastructure:
 - Clients
 - Servers
 - Proxies
- Content:
 - Individual objects (files, etc.)
 - Web sites (coherent collection of objects)
- Implementation
 - HTML: formatting content
 - URL: naming content
 - HTTP: protocol for exchanging content Any content not just HTML!

HTML: HyperText Markup Language

- A Web page has:
 - Base HTML file
 - Referenced objects (e.g., images)

- HTML has several functions:
 - Format text
 - Reference images
 - Embed hyperlinks (HREF)

URL Syntax

protocol://hostname[:port]/directorypath/resource

protocol	http, ftp, https, smtp, rtsp, etc.
hostname	DNS name, IP address
port	Defaults to protocol's standard port e.g. http: 80 https: 443
directory path	Hierarchical, reflecting file system
resource	Identifies the desired resource
	Can also extend to program executions: http://us.f413.mail.yahoo.com/ym/ShowLetter?box=%4 0B%40Bulk&MsgId=2604_1744106_29699_1123_1261_0_289 17_3552_1289957100&Search=&Nhead=f&YY=31454ℴ= down&sort=date&pos=0&view=a&head=b

HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP)

- Request-response protocol
- Reliance on a global namespace
- Resource metadata
- Stateless
- ASCII format

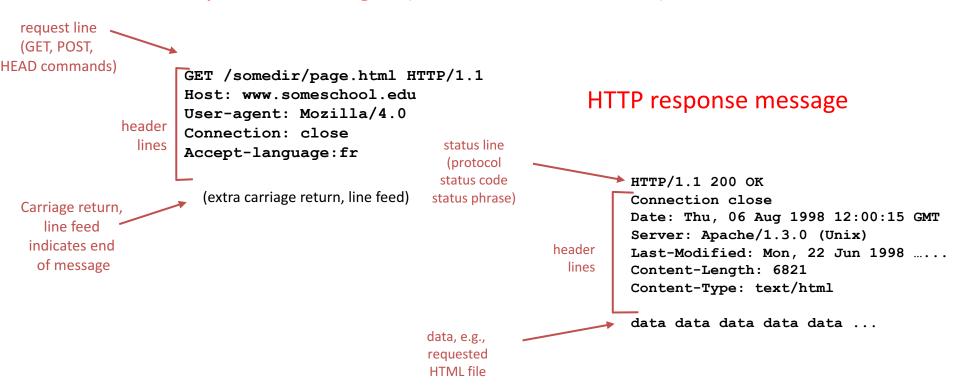
\$ telnet www.cl.cam.ac.uk 80 GET /~awm22/win HTTP/1.0 <black line, i.e., CRLF>

Steps in HTTP Request

- HTTP Client initiates TCP connection to server
 - SYN
 - SYNACK
 - ACK
- Client sends HTTP request to server
 - Can be piggybacked on TCP's ACK
- HTTP Server responds to request
- Client receives the request, terminates connection
- TCP connection termination exchange
 How many RTTs for a single request?

Client-Server Communication

- two types of HTTP messages: request, response
- HTTP request message: (GET POST HEAD)



Different Forms of Server Response

- Return a file
 - URL matches a file (e.g., /www/index.html)
 - Server returns file as the response
 - Server generates appropriate response header

- Generate response dynamically
 - URL triggers a program on the server
 - Server runs program and sends output to client

Return meta-data with no body

HTTP Resource Meta-Data

- Meta-data
 - Info about a resource, stored as a separate entity
- Examples:
 - Size of resource, last modification time, type of content
- Usage example: Conditional GET Request
 - Client requests object "If-modified-since"
 - If unchanged, "HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified"
 - No body in the server's response, only a header

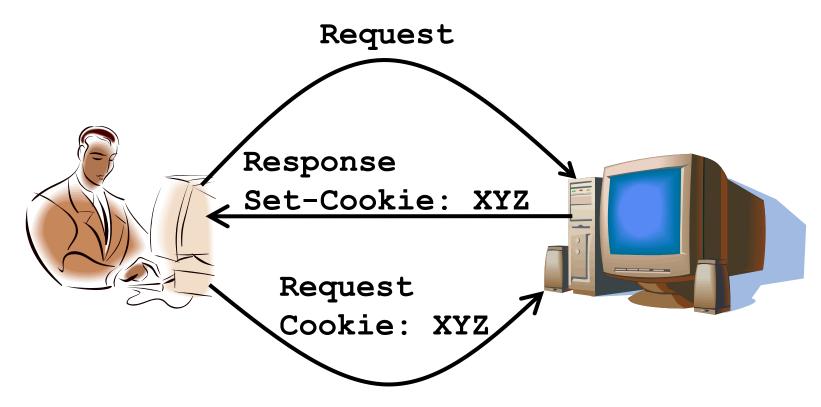
HTTP is Stateless

- Each request-response treated independently
 - Servers not required to retain state
- Good: Improves scalability on the server-side
 - Failure handling is easier
 - Can handle higher rate of requests
 - Order of requests doesn't matter
- Bad: Some applications need persistent state
 - Need to uniquely identify user or store temporary info
 - e.g., Shopping cart, user profiles, usage tracking, ...

State in a Stateless Protocol:

Cookies

- Client-side state maintenance
 - Client stores small⁽²⁾ state on behalf of server
 - Client sends state in future requests to the server
- Can provide authentication

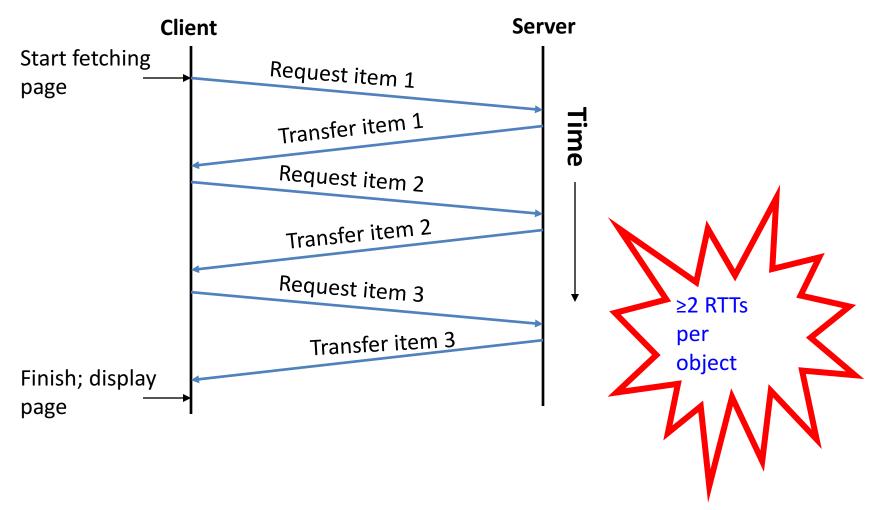


HTTP Performance

- Most Web pages have multiple objects
 - − e.g., HTML file and a bunch of embedded images

- How do you retrieve those objects (naively)?
 - One item at a time
- Put stuff in the optimal place?
 - Where is that precisely?
 - Enter the Web cache and the CDN

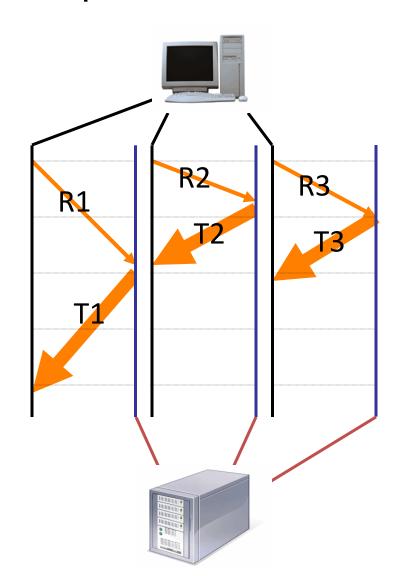
Fetch HTTP Items: Stop & Wait



Concurrent Requests & Responses

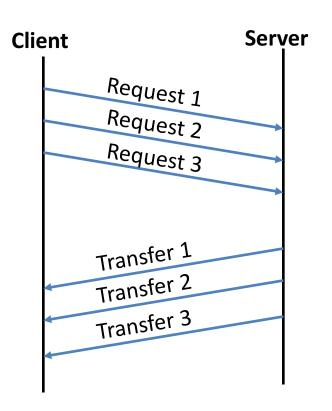
- Use multiple connections in parallel
- Does not necessarily maintain order of responses

- Client = 🙂
- Server = 🙂
- Network = Why?



Pipelined Requests & Responses

- Batch requests and responses
 - Reduce connection overhead
 - Multiple requests sent in a single batch
 - Maintains order of responses
 - Item 1 always arrives before item 2
- How is this different from concurrent requests/responses?
 - Single TCP connection



Persistent Connections

- Enables multiple transfers per connection
 - Maintain TCP connection across multiple requests
 - Including transfers subsequent to current page
 - Client or server can tear down connection
- Performance advantages:
 - Avoid overhead of connection set-up and tear-down
 - Allow TCP to learn more accurate RTT estimate
 - Allow TCP congestion window to increase
 - i.e., leverage previously discovered bandwidth
- Default in HTTP/1.1

HTTP evolution

- 1.0 one object per TCP: simple but slow
- Parallel connections multiple TCP, one object each: wastes b/w, may be svr limited, out of order
- 1.1 pipelining aggregate retrieval time: ordered, multiple objects sharing single TCP
- 1.1 persistent aggregate TCP overhead: lower overhead in time, increase overhead at ends (e.g., when should/do you close the connection?)

Scorecard: Getting n Small Objects

Time dominated by latency

- One-at-a-time: ~2n RTT
- Persistent: ~ (n+1)RTT
- M concurrent: ~2[n/m] RTT
- Pipelined: ~2 RTT
- Pipelined/Persistent: ~2 RTT first time, RTT later

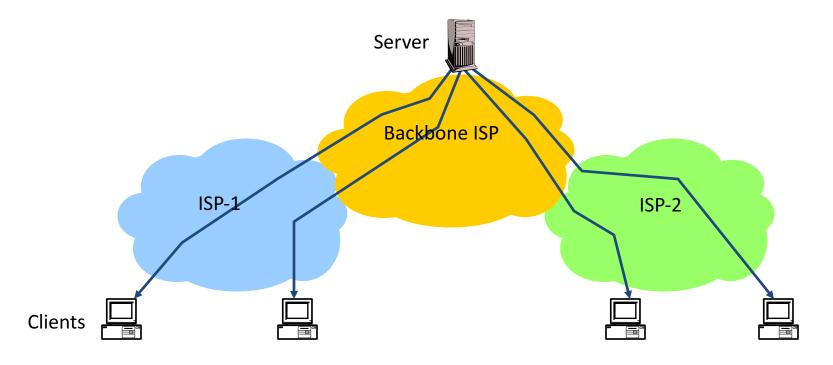
Scorecard: Getting n Large Objects

Time dominated by bandwidth

- One-at-a-time: ~ nF/B
- M concurrent: ~ [n/m] F/B
 - assuming shared with large population of users
- Pipelined and/or persistent: ~ nF/B
 - The only thing that helps is getting more bandwidth..

Caching

- Many clients transfer same information
 - Generates redundant server and network load
 - Clients experience unnecessary latency



Caching: How

- Modifier to GET requests:
 - If-modified-since returns "not modified" if resource not modified since specified time
- Response header:
 - Expires how long it's safe to cache the resource
 - No-cache ignore all caches; always get resource directly from server

Caching: Why

- Motive for placing content closer to client:
 - User gets better response time
 - Content providers get happier users
 - Time is money, really!
 - Network gets reduced load
- Why does caching work?
 - Exploits locality of reference
- How well does caching work?
 - Very well, up to a limit
 - Large overlap in content
 - But many unique requests

Caching on the Client

Example: Conditional GET Request

Return resource only if it has changed at the server

Request from client to server:

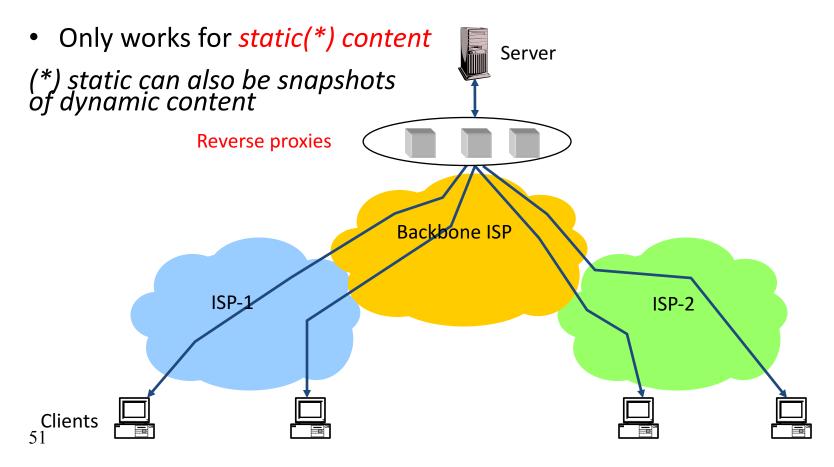
```
GET /~awm22/win HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cl.cam.ac.uk
User-Agent: Mozilla/4.03
If-Modified-Since: Sun, 27 Aug 2006 22:25:50 GMT
<CRLF>
```

- HOW!
 - Client specifies "if-modified-since" time in request
 - Server compares this against "last modified" time of desired resource
 - Server returns "304 Not Modified" if resource has not changed
 - or a "200 OK" with the latest version otherwise

Caching with Reverse Proxies

Cache documents close to server

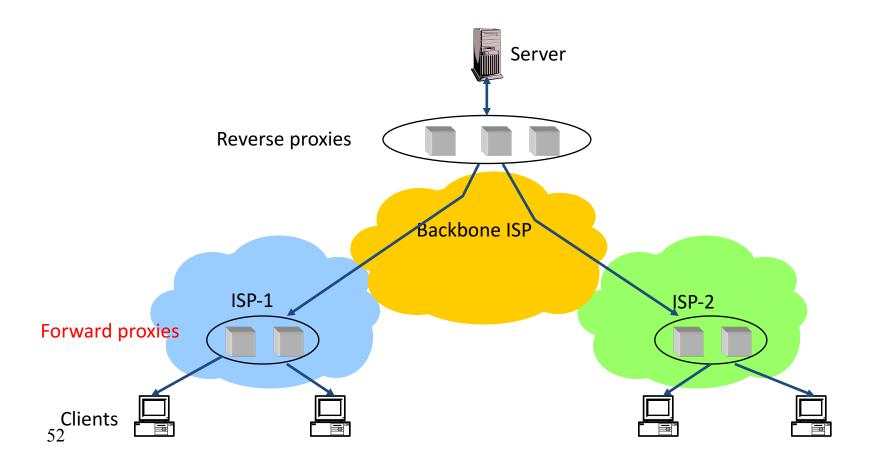
- → decrease server load
- Typically done by content providers



Caching with Forward Proxies

Cache documents close to clients

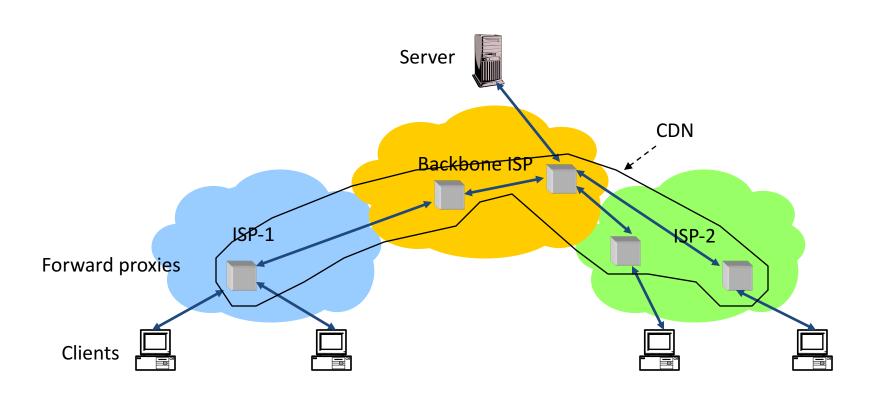
- → reduce network traffic and decrease latency
- Typically done by ISPs or corporate LANs



Caching w/ Content Distribution Networks

- Integrate forward and reverse caching functionality
 - One overlay network (usually) administered by one entity
 - e.g., Akamai
- Provide document caching
 - Pull: Direct result of clients' requests
 - Push: Expectation of high access rate
- Also do some processing
 - Handle dynamic web pages
 - Transcoding
 - Maybe do some security function watermark IP

Improving HTTP Performance: Caching with CDNs (cont.)



CDN Example – Akamai

- Akamai creates new domain names for each client content provider.
 - e.g., a128.g.akamai.net
- The CDN's DNS servers are authoritative for the new domains
- The client content provider modifies its content so that embedded URLs reference the new domains.
 - "Akamaize" content
 - e.g.: http://www.bbc.co.uk/popular-image.jpg becomes http://a128.g.akamai.net/popular-image.jpg
- Requests now sent to CDN's infrastructure...

Hosting: Multiple Sites Per Machine

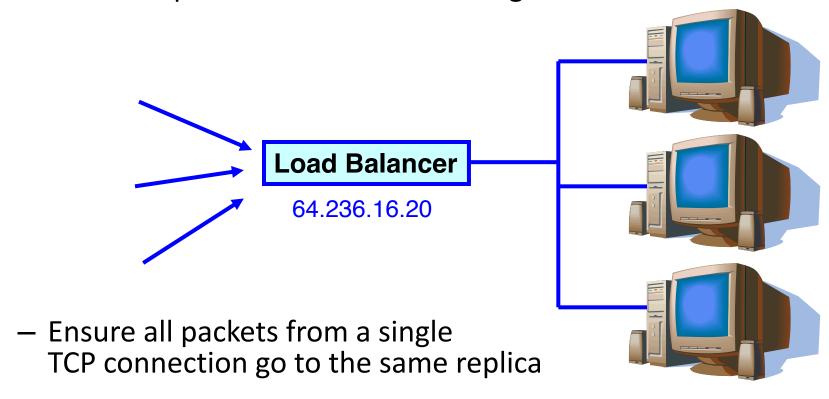
- Multiple Web sites on a single machine
 - Hosting company runs the Web server on behalf of multiple sites (e.g., www.foo.com and www.bar.com)
- Problem: GET /index.html
 - www.foo.com/index.html Or www.bar.com/index.html?
- Solutions:
 - Multiple server processes on the same machine
 - Have a separate IP address (or port) for each server
 - Include site name in HTTP request
 - Single Web server process with a single IP address
 - Client includes "Host" header (e.g., Host: www.foo.com)
 - Required header with HTTP/1.1

Hosting: Multiple Machines Per Site

- Replicate popular Web site across many machines
 - Helps to handle the load
 - Places content closer to clients
- Helps when content isn't cacheable
- Problem: Want to direct client to particular replica
 - Balance load across server replicas
 - Pair clients with nearby servers

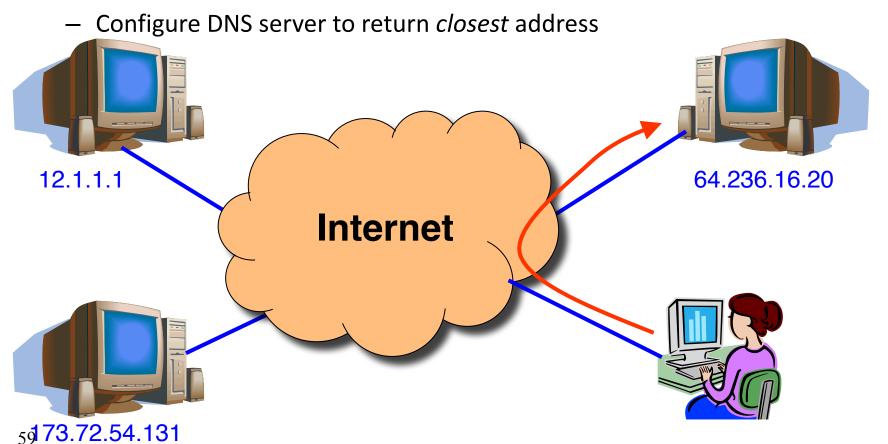
Multi-Hosting at Single Location

- Single IP address, multiple machines
 - Run multiple machines behind a single IP address



Multi-Hosting at Several Locations

- Multiple addresses, multiple machines
 - Same name but different addresses for all of the replicas



CDN examples round-up

CDN using DNS
 DNS has information on loading/distribution/location

 CDN using anycast same address from DNS name but local routes

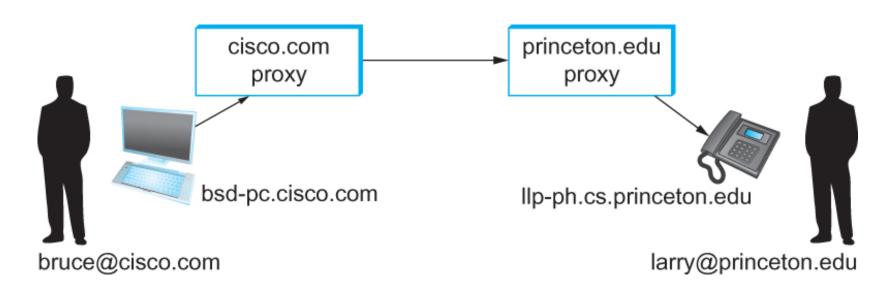
CDN based on rewriting HTML URLs
 (akami example just covered – akami uses DNS too)

SIP – Session Initiation Protocol

Session?

Anyone smell an OSI / ISO standards document burning?

SIP - VoIP



Establishing communication through SIP proxies.



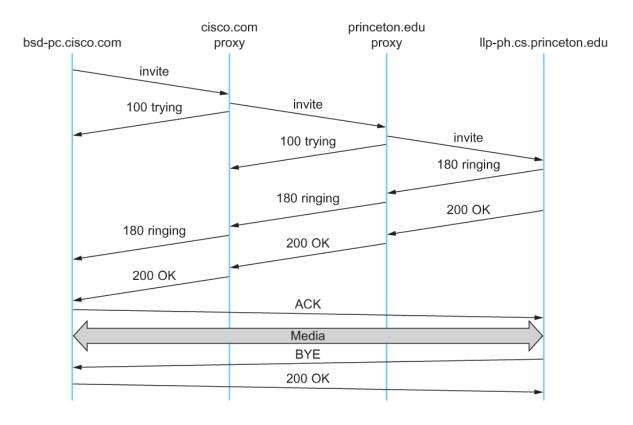
SIP?

- SIP bringing the fun/complexity of telephony to the Internet
 - User location
 - User availability
 - User capabilities
 - Session setup
 - Session management
 - (e.g. "call forwarding")

H.323 - ITU

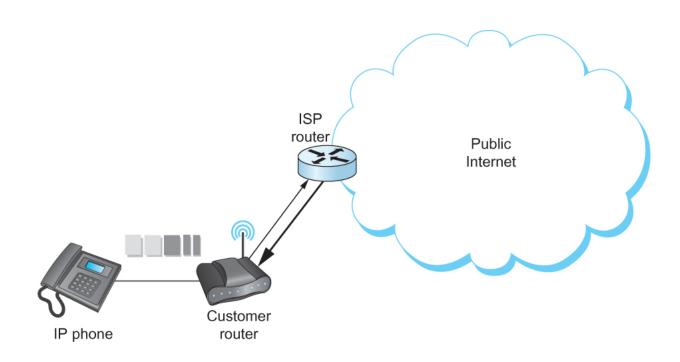
- Why have one standard when there are at least two....
- The full H.323 is hundreds of pages
 - The protocol is known for its complexity an ITU hallmark
- SIP is not much better
 - IETF grew up and became the ITU....

Multimedia Applications



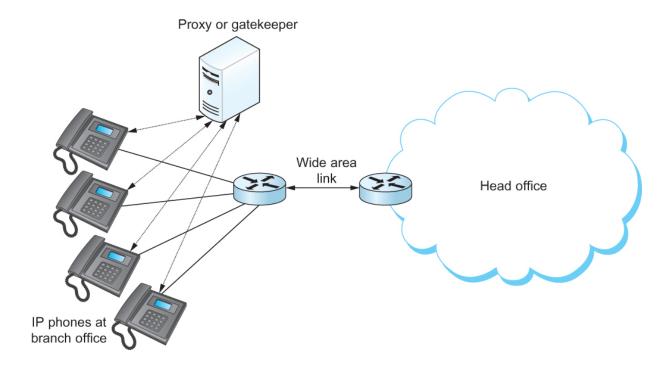
Message flow for a basic SIP session

The (still?) missing piece: Resource Allocation for Multimedia Applications



I can 'differentiate' VoIP from data but...
I can only control data going into the Internet

Multimedia Applications Resource Allocation for Multimedia Applications

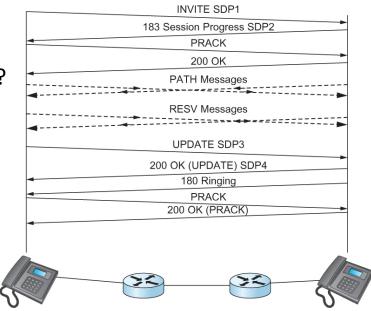


Admission control using session control protocol.

Resource Allocation for Multimedia Applications

Coming soon... 1995
2000
2010
who are we kidding??

Co-ordination of SIP signaling and resource reservation.



So where does it happen?

Inside single institutions or domains of control.... (Universities, Hospitals, big corp...)

What about my aDSL/CABLE/etc it combines voice and data? Phone company **controls** the multiplexing on the line and throughout their own network too......

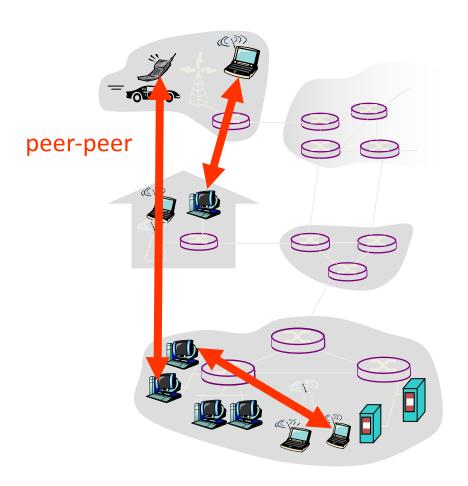
P2P – efficient network use that annoys the ISP

Pure P2P architecture

- no always-on server
- arbitrary end systems directly communicate
- peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses

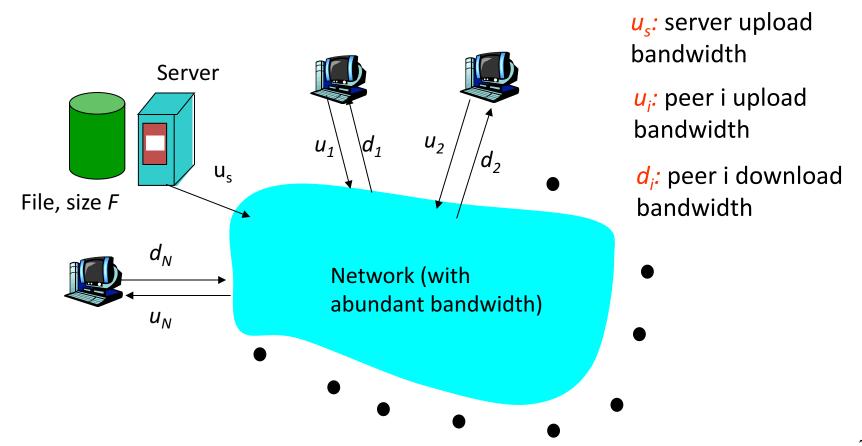
Three topics:

- File distribution
- Searching for information
- Case Study: Skype



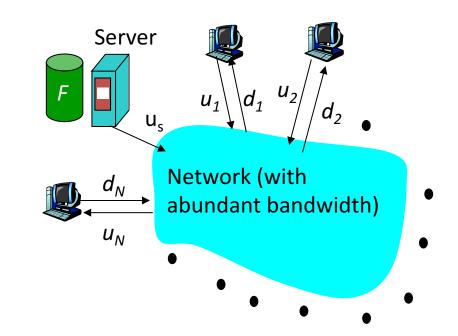
File Distribution: Server-Client vs P2P

<u>Question</u>: How much time to distribute file from one server to *N* peers?



File distribution time: server-client

- server sequentially sends N copies:
 - $-NF/u_s$ time
- client i takes F/d_i
 time to download

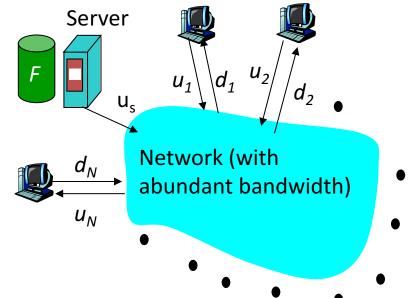


Time to distribute Fto N clients using = $d_{cs} = max \{ NF/u_s, F/min(d_i) \}$ client/server approach

increases linearly in N (for large N)

File distribution time: P2P

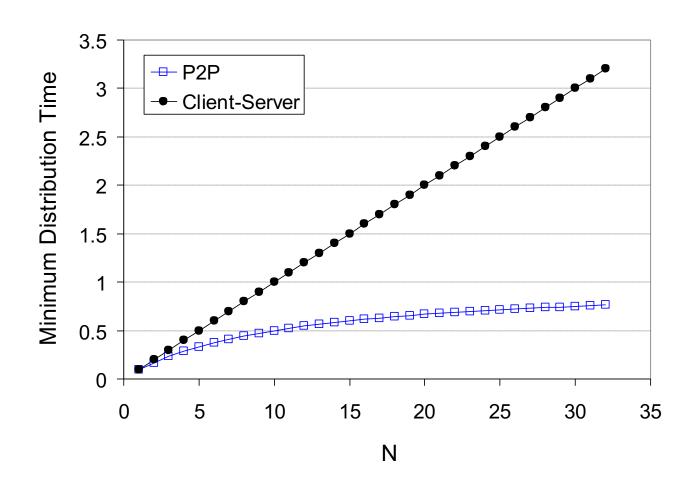
- server must send one copy:
 F/u_s time
- client i takes F/d_i time to download
- NF bits must be downloaded (aggregate)
 - \Box fastest possible upload rate: $u_s + \sum u_i$



$$d_{P2P} = \max \{ F/u_s, F/\min(d_i), NF/(u_s + \sum_i u_i) \}$$

Server-client vs. P2P: example

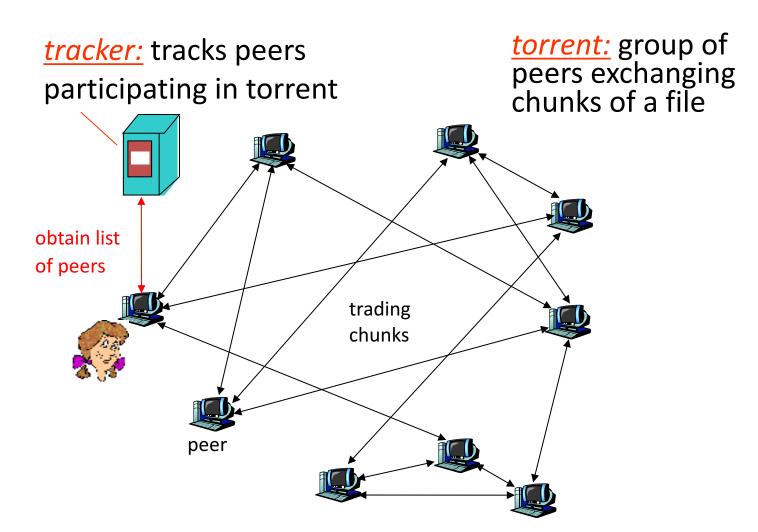
Client upload rate = u, F/u = 1 hour, $u_s = 10u$, $d_{min} \ge u_s$

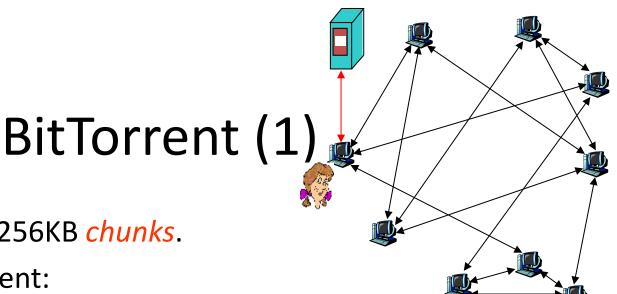


File distribution: BitTorrent*

*rather old BitTorrent

P2P file distribution





- file divided into 256KB chunks.
- peer joining torrent:
 - has no chunks, but will accumulate them over time
 - registers with tracker to get list of peers, connects to subset of peers ("neighbors")
- while downloading, peer uploads chunks to other peers.
- peers may come and go
- once peer has entire file, it may (selfishly) leave or (altruistically) remain

BitTorrent (2)

Pulling Chunks

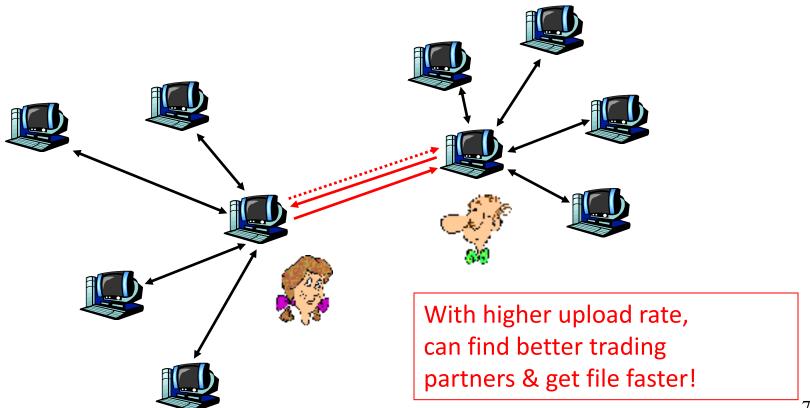
- at any given time, different peers have different subsets of file chunks
- periodically, a peer (Alice)
 asks each neighbor for list
 of chunks that they have.
- Alice sends requests for her missing chunks
 - rarest first

Sending Chunks: tit-for-tat

- Alice sends chunks to four neighbors currently sending her chunks at the highest rate
- re-evaluate top 4 every 10 secs
 every 30 secs: randomly select another peer, starts sending chunks
 - newly chosen peer may join top 4
 - "optimistically unchoke"

BitTorrent: Tit-for-tat

- (1) Alice "optimistically unchokes" Bob
- (2) Alice becomes one of Bob's top-four providers; Bob reciprocates
- (3) Bob becomes one of Alice's top-four providers



Distributed Hash Table (DHT)

- DHT = distributed P2P database
- Database has (key, value) pairs;
 - key: ss number; value: human name
 - key: content type; value: IP address
- Peers query DB with key
 - DB returns values that match the key
- Peers can also insert (key, value) peers

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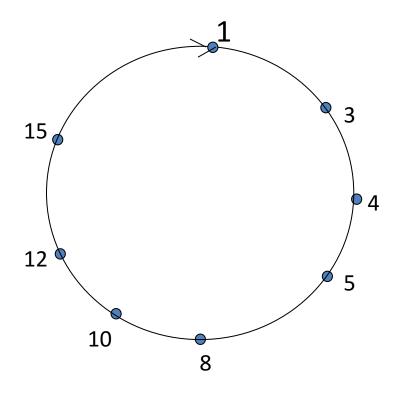
DHT Identifiers

- Assign integer identifier to each peer in range [0,2ⁿ-1].
 - Each identifier can be represented by n bits.
- Require each key to be an integer in same range.
- To get integer keys, hash original key.
 - eg, key = h("Game of Thrones season 4")
 - This is why they call it a distributed "hash" table

How to assign keys to peers?

- Central issue:
 - Assigning (key, value) pairs to peers.
- Rule: assign key to the peer that has the closest ID.
- Convention in lecture: closest is the immediate successor of the key.
- Ex: n=4; peers: 1,3,4,5,8,10,12,14;
 - key = 13, then successor peer = 14
 - key = 15, then successor peer = 1

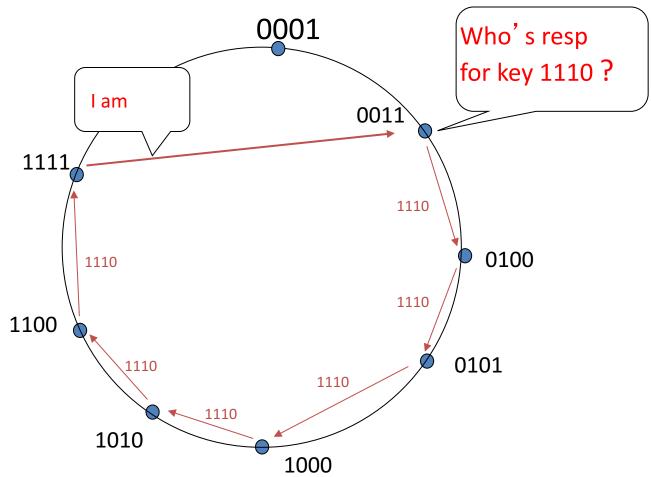
Circular DHT (1)



- Each peer *only* aware of immediate successor and predecessor.
- "Overlay network"

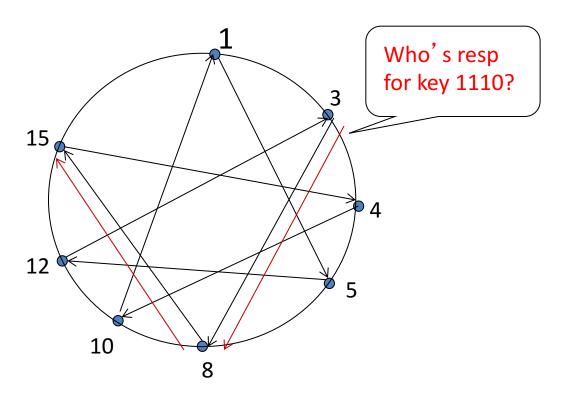
Circle DHT (2)

O(N) messages on avg to resolve query, when there are N peers



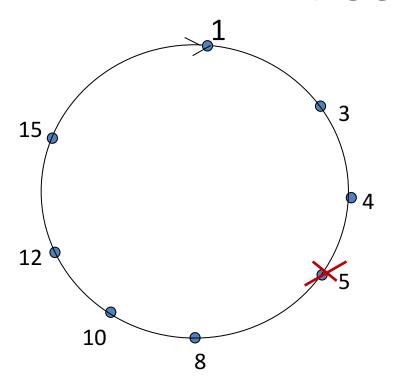
Define <u>closest</u> as closest successor

Circular DHT with Shortcuts



- Each peer keeps track of IP addresses of predecessor, successor, short cuts.
- Reduced from 6 to 2 messages.
- Possible to design shortcuts so O(log N) neighbors, O(log N) messages in query

Peer Churn

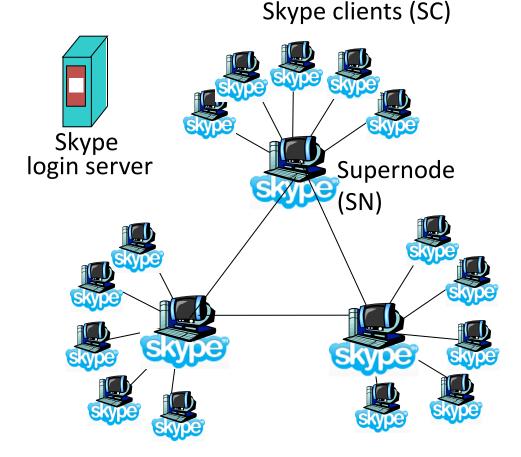


- •To handle peer churn, require each peer to know the IP address of its two successors.
- Each peer periodically pings its two successors to see if they are still alive.

- Peer 5 abruptly leaves
- Peer 4 detects; makes 8 its immediate successor; asks 8 who its immediate successor is; makes 8's immediate successor its second successor.
- What if peer 13 wants to join?

P2P Case study: Skype (pre-Microsoft)

- inherently P2P: pairs of users communicate.
- proprietary applicationlayer protocol (inferred via reverse engineering)
- hierarchical overlay with SNs
- Index maps usernames to IP addresses; distributed over SNs

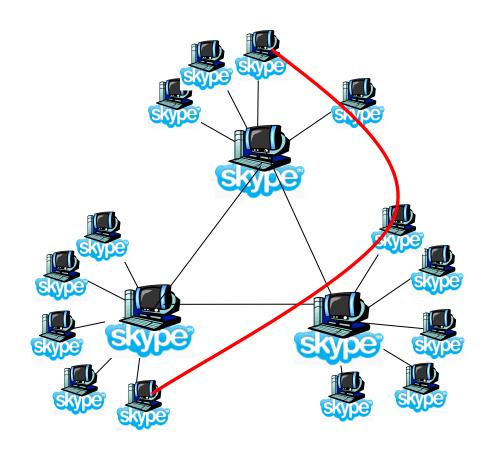


Peers as relays

- Problem when both Alice and Bob are behind "NATs".
 - NAT prevents an outside peer from initiating a call to insider peer

Solution:

- Using Alice's and Bob's SNs, Relay is chosen
- Each peer initiates session with relay.
- Peers can now communicate through NATs via relay



Summary.

- Apps need protocols too
- We covered examples from
 - Traditional Applications (web)
 - Scaling and Speeding the web (CDN/Cache tricks)
- Infrastructure Services (DNS)
 - Cache and Hierarchy
- Multimedia Applications (SIP)
 - Extremely hard to do better than worst-effort
- P2P Network examples