Chapter 2 Application Layer

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Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach Featuring the Internet, 3rd edition. Jim Kurose, Keith Ross Addison-Wesley, July 2004.

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Chapter 2: Application layer

2.1 Principles of network applications
2.2 Web and HTTP
2.3 FTP
2.4 Electronic Mail

SMTP, POP3, IMAP

2.5 DNS **2.6** P2P file sharing

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Chapter 2: Application Layer

Our goals:

- conceptual, implementation aspects of network application protocols
 - transport-layer service models
 - client-server
 paradigm
 - peer-to-peer
 paradigm

- learn about protocols by examining popular application-level protocols

 HTTP
 - FTP
 - SMTP / POP3 / IMAP
 - O DNS
- programming network applications
 - o socket API

Some network apps

- 🗖 E-mail
- 🗖 Web
- Instant messaging
- Remote login
- P2P file sharing
- Multi-user network games
- Streaming stored video clips

- Internet telephone
- Real-time video conference
- Massive parallel computing

Creating a network app

Write programs that

- run on different end systems and
- communicate over a network.
- e.g., Web: Web server software communicates with browser software

No software written for devices in network core

- Network core devices do not function at app layer
- This design allows for rapid app development



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Application architectures

Client-server
Peer-to-peer (P2P)
Hybrid of client-server and P2P

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<u>Client-server architecture</u>



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
- 🗖 example: Gnutella

Highly scalable

But difficult to manage



Hybrid of client-server and P2P

Napster

- File transfer P2P
- File search centralized:
 - Peers register content at central server
 - Peers query same central server to locate content

Instant messaging

- Chatting between two users is P2P
- Presence detection/location centralized:
 - User registers its IP address with central server when it comes online
 - User contacts central server to find IP addresses of buddies

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Processes communicating

Process: program running within a host.

- within same host, two processes communicate using inter-process communication (defined by OS).
- processes in different hosts communicate by exchanging messages

Client process: process that initiates communication

Server process: process that waits to be contacted

Note: applications with P2P architectures have client processes & server processes

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Sockets

process sends/receives messages to/from its socket

- socket analogous to door
 - sending process shoves message out door
 - sending process relies on transport infrastructure on other side of door which brings message to socket at receiving process



API: (1) choice of transport protocol; (2) ability to fix a few parameters (lots more on this later)

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Addressing processes

- For a process to receive messages, it must have an identifier
- A host has a unique32bit IP address
- Q: does the IP address of the host on which the process runs suffice for identifying the process?
- Answer: No, many processes can be running on same host

- Identifier includes both the IP address and port numbers associated with the process on the host.
- Example port numbers:
 HTTP server: 80
 Mail server: 25
- More on this later

<u>App-layer protocol defines</u>

- Types of messages exchanged, eg, request & response messages
- Syntax of message types: what fields in messages & how fields are delineated
- Semantics of the fields, ie, meaning of information in fields
- Rules for when and how processes send & respond to messages

Public-domain protocols:
defined in RFCs
allows for interoperability
eg, HTTP, SMTP
Proprietary protocols:

🗖 eg, KaZaA

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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"

Bandwidth

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

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Transport service requirements of common apps

	Application	Data loss	Bandwidth	Time Sensitive
	file transfer	no loss	elastic	no
_	e-mail	no loss	elastic	no
V	Veb documents	no loss	elastic	no
real-ti	me audio/video	loss-tolerant	audio: 5kbps-1Mbps video:10kbps-5Mbps	yes, 100's msec
sto	red audio/video	loss-tolerant	same as above	yes, few secs
int	eractive games	loss-tolerant	few kbps up	yes, 100's msec
ins	tant messaging	no loss	elastic	yes and no

Internet transport protocols services

TCP service:

- connection-oriented: setup required between client and server processes
- reliable transport between sending and receiving process
- flow control: sender won't overwhelm receiver
- congestion control: throttle sender when network overloaded
- does not provide: timing, minimum bandwidth guarantees

UDP service:

- unreliable data transfer between sending and receiving process
- does not provide: connection setup, reliability, flow control, congestion control, timing, or bandwidth guarantee
- Q: why bother? Why is there a UDP?

Internet apps: application, transport protocols

A	pplication	Application layer protocol	Underlying transport protocol
	.,		
	e-mail	SMTP [RFC 2821]	ТСР
remote term	inal access	Telnet [RFC 854]	TCP
	Web	HTTP [RFC 2616]	TCP
	file transfer	FTP [RFC 959]	TCP
streaming	multimedia	proprietary	TCP or UDP
-		(e.g. RealNetworks)	
Interne	t telephony	proprietary	
		(e.g., Dialpad)	typically UDP

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Web and HTTP

First some jargon

- Web page consists of objects
- Object can be HTML file, JPEG image, Java applet, audio file,...
- Web page consists of base HTML-file which includes several referenced objects
- Each object is addressable by a URL
- **Example URL:**

www.someschool.edu/someDept/pic.gif

host name

path name

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HTTP overview

HTTP: hypertext transfer protocol

- Web's application layer protocol
- client/server model
 - client: browser that requests, receives, "displays" Web objects

server: Web server sends objects in response to requests
 HTTP 1.0: RFC 1945
 HTTP 1.1: RFC 2068



HTTP overview (continued)

Uses TCP:

- client initiates TCP connection (creates socket) to server, port 80
- server accepts TCP connection from client
- HTTP messages (applicationlayer protocol messages) exchanged between browser (HTTP client) and Web server (HTTP server)
- TCP connection closed

HTTP is "stateless"

 server maintains no information about past client requests

Protocols that maintain "state" are complex!

- past history (state) must be maintained
- if server/client crashes, their views of "state" may be inconsistent, must be reconciled

HTTP connections

Nonpersistent HTTP

- At most one object is sent over a TCP connection.
- HTTP/1.0 uses nonpersistent HTTP

Persistent HTTP

- Multiple objects can be sent over single TCP connection between client and server.
- HTTP/1.1 uses persistent connections in default mode

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Nonpersistent HTTP (cont.)



 HTTP server closes TCP connection.

- HTTP client receives response message containing html file, displays html. Parsing html file, finds 10 referenced jpeg objects
- 6. Steps 1-5 repeated for each of 10 jpeg objects

time

Nonpersistent HTTP

(contains text, Suppose user enters URL references to 10 www.someSchool.edu/someDepartment/home.index jpeg images) 1a. HTTP client initiates TCP connection to HTTP server 1b. HTTP server at host (process) at www.someSchool.edu waiting www.someSchool.edu on port 80 for TCP connection at port 80. "accepts" connection, notifying client 2. HTTP client sends HTTP request message (containing URL) into TCP connection . 3. HTTP server receives request socket. Message indicates message, forms *response* that client wants object *message* containing requested someDepartment/home.index_ object, and sends message into its socket time 2: Application Layer 22

Response time modeling

Definition of RRT: time to

send a small packet to travel from client to server and back.

Response time:

 one RTT to initiate TCP connection

- one RTT for HTTP request and first few bytes of HTTP response to return
- □ file transmission time

total = 2RTT+transmit time



Persistent HTTP

Nonpersistent HTTP issues:

- requires 2 RTTs per object
- OS must work and allocate host resources for each TCP connection
- but browsers often open parallel TCP connections to fetch referenced objects

Persistent HTTP

- server leaves connection open after sending response
- subsequent HTTP messages between same client/server are sent over connection

Persistent without pipelining:

- client issues new request only when previous
- response has been received
- one RTT for each referenced object

Persistent with pipelining:

- default in HTTP/1.1
- client sends requests as soon as it encounters a referenced object
- as little as one RTT for all the referenced objects

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HTTP request message

two types of HTTP messages: request, response
 HTTP request message:

 ASCII (human-readable format)

 request line



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HTTP request message: general format



Uploading form input

Post method:

of message

- Web page often includes form input
- Input is uploaded to server in entity body

URL method:

- Uses GET method
- Input is uploaded in URL field of request line:

www.somesite.com/animalsearch?monkeys&banana

Method types

<u>HTTP/1.0</u>

- 🗖 GET
- POST
- HEAD
 - asks server to leave requested object out of response

<u>HTTP/1.1</u>

- GET, POST, HEAD
- 🗖 PUT
 - uploads file in entity body to path specified in URL field

DELETE

 deletes file specified in the URL field

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HTTP response message

status line (protocol status code status phrase) header lines	<pre>HTTP/1.1 200 OK Connection close Date: Thu, 06 Aug 1998 12:00:15 GMT Server: Apache/1.3.0 (Unix) Last-Modified: Mon, 22 Jun 1998 Content-Length: 6821 Content-Type: text/html</pre>	•
data, e.g., requested HTML file	data data data data	

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HTTP response status codes

In first line in server->client response message. A few sample codes:

200 OK

• request succeeded, requested object later in this message

301 Moved Permanently

- requested object moved, new location specified later in this message (Location:)
- 400 Bad Request
 - \circ request message not understood by server
- 404 Not Found
 - requested document not found on this server
- 505 HTTP Version Not Supported

Trying out HTTP (client side) for yourself

1. Telnet to your favorite Web server:

telnet cis.poly.edu 80

Opens TCP connection to port 80 (default HTTP server port) at cis.poly.edu. Anything typed in sent to port 80 at cis.poly.edu

2. Type in a GET HTTP request:

GET /~ross/ HTTP/1.1 Host: cis.poly.edu By typing this in (hit carriage return twice), you send this minimal (but complete) GET request to HTTP server

3. Look at response message sent by HTTP server!

<u>User-server state: cookies</u>

Many major Web sites use cookies

Four components:

- 1) cookie header line in the HTTP response message
- 2) cookie header line in HTTP request message
- cookie file kept on user's host and managed by user's browser
- back-end database at Web site

- <u>Example:</u>
 - Susan access Internet always from same PC
 - She visits a specific ecommerce site for first time
 - When initial HTTP requests arrives at site, site creates a unique ID and creates an entry in backend database for ID

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aside

Cookies: keeping "state" (cont.)



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Cookies (continued)

What cookies can bring:

- authorization
- shopping carts
- recommendations
- user session state (Web e-mail)

Cookies and privacy:

- cookies permit sites to learn a lot about you
- you may supply name and e-mail to sites
- search engines use redirection & cookies to learn yet more
- advertising companies obtain info across sites

Web caches (proxy server)

Goal: satisfy client request without involving origin server

- user sets browser: Web accesses via cache
- browser sends all HTTP requests to cache
 - object in cache: cache returns object
 - else cache requests object from origin server, then returns object to client



More about Web caching

- Cache acts as both client and server
- Typically cache is installed by ISP (university, company, residential ISP)

Why Web caching?

- Reduce response time for client request.
- Reduce traffic on an institution's access link.
- Internet dense with caches enables "poor" content providers to effectively deliver content (but so does P2P file sharing)

Caching example

Assumptions

- average object size = 100,000 bits
- avg. request rate from institution's browsers to origin servers = 15/sec
- delay from institutional router to any origin server and back to router = 2 sec

Consequences

- □ utilization on LAN = 15%
- utilization on access link = 100%
- total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay
- = 2 sec + minutes + milliseconds



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Caching example (cont)

Possible solution

 increase bandwidth of access link to, say, 10 Mbps

Consequences

- utilization on LAN = 15%
- utilization on access link = 15%
- Total delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay
- = 2 sec + msecs + msecs
- often a costly upgrade



Caching example (cont)

Install cache

□ suppose hit rate is .4

Consequence

- 40% requests will be satisfied almost immediately
 60% requests satisfied by
- 60% requests satisfied origin server
- utilization of access link reduced to 60%, resulting in negligible delays (say 10 msec)
- total avg delay = Internet delay + access delay + LAN delay = .6*(2.01) secs + milliseconds < 1.4 secs</p>



Conditional GET



FTP: the file transfer protocol



- transfer file to/from remote host
- client/server model
 - client: side that initiates transfer (either to/from remote)
 - server: remote host
- ftp: RFC 959
- □ ftp server: port 21

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FTP: separate control, data connections

- FTP client contacts FTP server at port 21, specifying TCP as transport protocol
- Client obtains authorization over control connection
- Client browses remote directory by sending commands over control connection.
- When server receives a command for a file transfer, the server opens a TCP data connection to client
- After transferring one file, server closes connection.



- Server opens a second TCP data connection to transfer another file.
- Control connection: "out of band"
- FTP server maintains "state": current directory, earlier authentication

FTP commands, responses

Sample commands:

- sent as ASCII text over control channel
- USER username
- PASS password
- LIST return list of file in current directory
- RETR filename retrieves (gets) file
- STOR filename stores (puts) file onto remote host

Sample return codes

- status code and phrase (as in HTTP)
- 331 Username OK, password required
- 125 data connection already open; transfer starting
- 425 Can't open data connection
- 452 Error writing file

Electronic Mail

Three major components:

- user agents
- mail servers
- □ simple mail transfer protocol: SMTP

User Agent

- □ a.k.a. "mail reader"
- composing, editing, reading mail messages
- e.g., Eudora, Outlook, elm, Netscape Messenger
- outgoing, incoming messages stored on server



Electronic Mail: mail servers

Mail Servers

- mailbox contains incoming messages for user
- message queue of outgoing (to be sent) mail messages
- SMTP protocol between mail servers to send email messages
 - client: sending mail server
 - "server": receiving mail server



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Electronic Mail: SMTP [RFC 2821]

- uses TCP to reliably transfer email message from client to server, port 25
- direct transfer: sending server to receiving server
- three phases of transfer
 - handshaking (greeting)
 - transfer of messages
 - o closure
- command/response interaction
 - o commands: ASCII text
 - o response: status code and phrase
- messages must be in 7-bit ASCII

Scenario: Alice sends message to Bob

- 1) Alice uses UA to compose message and "to" bob@someschool.edu
- 2) Alice's UA sends message to her mail server; message placed in message gueue
- 3) Client side of SMTP opens TCP connection with Bob's mail server
- 4) SMTP client sends Alice's message over the TCP connection
- 5) Bob's mail server places the message in Bob's mailbox
- 6) Bob invokes his user agent to read message



Sample SMTP interaction

s:	220 hamburger.edu
C:	HELO crepes.fr
s:	250 Hello crepes.fr, pleased to meet you
C:	MAIL FROM: <alice@crepes.fr></alice@crepes.fr>
s:	250 alice@crepes.fr Sender ok
C:	RCPT TO: <bob@hamburger.edu></bob@hamburger.edu>
s:	250 bob@hamburger.edu Recipient ok
C:	DATA
s:	354 Enter mail, end with "." on a line by itself
C:	Do you like ketchup?
C:	How about pickles?
C:	
s:	250 Message accepted for delivery
C:	QUIT
s:	221 hamburger.edu closing connection

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Try SMTP interaction for yourself:

- □ telnet servername 25
- □ see 220 reply from server
- enter HELO, MAIL FROM, RCPT TO, DATA, QUIT commands

above lets you send email without using email client (reader)

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SMTP: final words

- SMTP uses persistent connections
- SMTP requires message (header & body) to be in 7bit ASCII
- SMTP server uses CRLF.CRLF to determine end of message

Comparison with HTTP:

- HTTP: pull
- SMTP: push
- both have ASCII command/response interaction, status codes
- HTTP: each object encapsulated in its own response msg
- SMTP: multiple objects sent in multipart msg

Mail message format



Message format: multimedia extensions

- MIME: multimedia mail extension, RFC 2045, 2056
- additional lines in msg header declare MIME content type

MIME version	From: alice@crepes.fr To: bob@hamburger.edu
method used to encode data	Subject: Picture of yummy crepe. MIME-Version: 1.0 Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64 Content-Type: image/ipeg
multimedia data type, subtype, parameter declaration	base64 encoded data
encoded data	base64 encoded data

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Mail access protocols



- Mail access protocol: retrieval from server
 - POP: Post Office Protocol [RFC 1939]
 - authorization (agent <-->server) and download
 - IMAP: Internet Mail Access Protocol [RFC 1730]
 - more features (more complex)
 - manipulation of stored msgs on server
 - HTTP: Hotmail , Yahoo! Mail, etc.

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POP3 protocol

authorization phase -

- client commands:
 - user: declare username
 - o pass: password
- server responses
 - 🔾 +ОК
 - -ERR

transaction phase, client:

- □ list: list message numbers
- retr: retrieve message by
 number
- 🗖 dele: delete
- 🗖 quit

s:	+OK POP3 server ready
C:	user bob
s:	+OK
C:	pass hungry
s:	+OK user successfully logged on
C:	list
s:	1 498
s:	2 912
s:	•
C:	retr 1
s:	<message 1="" contents=""></message>
s:	•
C:	dele 1
C:	retr 2
s:	<message 1="" contents=""></message>
s:	•
C:	dele 2
C:	quit
s:	+OK POP3 server signing off

POP3 (more) and IMAP

More about POP3

- Previous example uses "download and delete" mode.
- Bob cannot re-read email if he changes client
- "Download-and-keep": copies of messages on different clients
- POP3 is stateless across sessions

IMAP

- Keep all messages in one place: the server
- Allows user to organize messages in folders
- IMAP keeps user state across sessions:
 - names of folders and mappings between message IDs and folder name

DNS: Domain Name System

People: many identifiers:

SSN, name, passport #

Internet hosts, routers:

- IP address (32 bit) used for addressing datagrams
- "name", e.g., ww.yahoo.com - used by humans
- <u>Q:</u> map between IP addresses and name ?

Domain Name System:

- distributed database implemented in hierarchy of many name servers
- application-layer protocol host, routers, name servers to communicate to resolve names (address/name translation)
 - note: core Internet function, implemented as application-layer protocol
 - complexity at network's "edge"

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<u>DNS</u>

DNS services

- Hostname to IP address translation
- 🗖 Host aliasing
 - Canonical and alias names
- Mail server aliasing
- Load distribution
 - Replicated Web servers: set of IP addresses for one canonical name

Why not centralize DNS?

- □ single point of failure
- traffic volume
- distant centralized database
- maintenance

doesn't scale!

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Distributed, Hierarchical Database



<u>Client wants IP for www.amazon.com; 1st approx:</u>

- Client queries a root server to find com DNS server
- Client queries com DNS server to get amazon.com DNS server
- Client queries amazon.com DNS server to get IP address for www.amazon.com

DNS: Root name servers

- contacted by local name server that can not resolve name
- root name server:
 - o contacts authoritative name server if name mapping not known
 - gets mapping
 - returns mapping to local name server



TLD and Authoritative Servers

Top-level domain (TLD) servers: responsible for com, org, net, edu, etc, and all top-level country domains uk, fr, ca, jp.

Network solutions maintains servers for com TLD
 Educause for edu TLD

Authoritative DNS servers: organization's DNS servers, providing authoritative hostname to IP mappings for organization's servers (e.g., Web and mail).

 Can be maintained by organization or service provider

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Local Name Server

- Does not strictly belong to hierarchy
- Each ISP (residential ISP, company, university) has one.
 - Also called "default name server"
- When a host makes a DNS query, query is sent to its local DNS server
 - Acts as a proxy, forwards query into hierarchy.

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DNS: caching and updating records

- once (any) name server learns mapping, it caches mapping
 - cache entries timeout (disappear) after some time
 - TLD servers typically cached in local name servers
 - Thus root name servers not often visited
- update/notify mechanisms under design by IETF
 - RFC 2136
 - http://www.ietf.org/html.charters/dnsind-charter.html

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DNS records

DNS: distributed db storing resource records (RR)

RR format: (name, value, type, ttl)

□ Type=A

name is hostname • value is IP address

- □ Type=NS
 - name is domain (e.g. foo.com)
 - value is IP address of □ Type=MX authoritative name server for this domain

□ Type=CNAME

- name is alias name for some "cannonical" (the real) name www.ibm.com is really servereast.backup2.ibm.com
- value is cannonical name

• value is name of mailserver associated with name

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DNS protocol, messages

DNS protocol : query and reply messages, both with same message format



DNS protocol, messages



Inserting records into DNS

- Example: just created startup "Network Utopia"
- Register name networkuptopia.com at a registrar (e.g., Network Solutions)
 - Need to provide registrar with names and IP addresses of your authoritative name server (primary and secondary)
 - Registrar inserts two RRs into the com TLD server:

(networkutopia.com, dnsl.networkutopia.com, NS)
(dnsl.networkutopia.com, 212.212.212.1, A)

Put in authoritative server Type A record for www.networkuptopia.com and Type MX record for networkutopia.com

How do people get the IP address of your Web site?

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P2P file sharing

<u>Example</u>

- Alice runs P2P client application on her notebook computer
- Intermittently connects to Internet; gets new IP address for each connection
- □ Asks for "Hey Jude"
- Application displays other peers that have copy of Hey Jude.

- Alice chooses one of the peers, Bob.
- File is copied from Bob's PC to Alice's notebook: HTTP
- While Alice downloads, other users uploading from Alice.
- Alice's peer is both a Web client and a transient Web server.
- All peers are servers = highly scalable!

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P2P: centralized directory

original "Napster" design 1) when peer connects, it informs central server: • IP address • content

- Alice queries for "Hey Jude"
- 3) Alice requests file from Bob



P2P: problems with centralized directory

- □ Single point of failure
- Performance bottleneck
- Copyright infringement

file transfer is decentralized, but locating content is highly decentralized

Query flooding: Gnutella

 fully distributed

 no central server

 public domain protocol
 many Gnutella clients implementing protocol overlay network: graph

- edge between peer X and Y if there's a TCP connection
- all active peers and edges is overlay net
- Edge is not a physical link
- Given peer will typically be connected with < 10 overlay neighbors

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Gnutella: protocol



Gnutella: Peer joining

- 1. Joining peer X must find some other peer in Gnutella network: use list of candidate peers
- 2. X sequentially attempts to make TCP with peers on list until connection setup with Y
- 3. X sends Ping message to Y; Y forwards Ping message.
- 4. All peers receiving Ping message respond with Pong message
- 5. X receives many Pong messages. It can then setup additional TCP connections

Peer leaving: see homework problem!

Exploiting heterogeneity: KaZaA

- Each peer is either a group leader or assigned to a group leader.
 - TCP connection between peer and its group leader.
 - TCP connections between some pairs of group leaders.
- Group leader tracks the content in all its children.



KaZaA: Querying

- Each file has a hash and a descriptor
- Client sends keyword query to its group leader
- □ Group leader responds with matches: • For each match: metadata, hash, IP address
- □ If group leader forwards guery to other group leaders, they respond with matches
- Client then selects files for downloading
 - HTTP requests using hash as identifier sent to peers holding desired file

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Kazaa tricks

- Limitations on simultaneous uploads
- Request queuing
- Incentive priorities
- Parallel downloading

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Chapter 2: Summary

Our study of network apps now complete!

- □ specific protocols: Application architectures **O HTTP** o client-server • FTP **O** P2P o hybrid O DNS application service requirements: reliability, bandwidth, delay
- □ Internet transport service model
 - connection-oriented, reliable: TCP
 - o unreliable, datagrams: UDP

○ SMTP, POP, IMAP socket programming

Chapter 2: Summary

Most importantly: learned about protocols

- typical request/reply message exchange:
 - client requests info or service
 - server responds with data. status code
- message formats:
 - headers: fields giving info about data
 - data: info being communicated

- control vs. data msgs in-band, out-of-band
- centralized vs. decentralized
- stateless vs. stateful
- reliable vs. unreliable msg transfer
- "complexity at network" edge"