

# COMP 333 I/933 I: Computer Networks and Applications

Week 5

Transport Layer (Continued)

Reading Guide: Chapter 3, Sections: 3.5 – 3.7

# Transport Layer 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

# Recall: Components of a solution for reliable transport

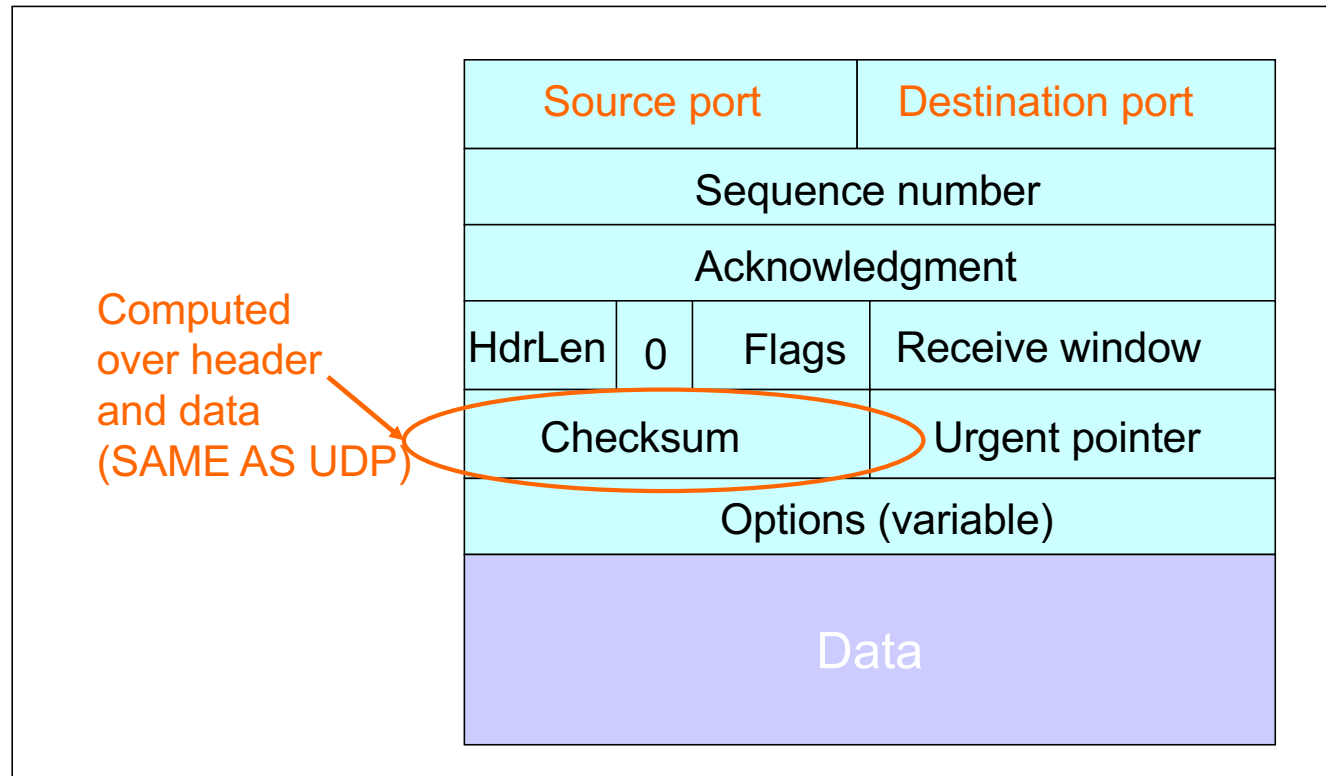
- ❖ Checksums (for error detection)
- ❖ Timers (for loss detection)
- ❖ Acknowledgments
  - Cumulative
  - Selective
- ❖ Sequence numbers (duplicates, windows)
- ❖ Sliding Windows (for efficiency)
  - Go-Back-N (GBN)
  - Selective Repeat (SR)

# What does TCP do?

Many of our previous ideas, but some key differences

- ❖ Checksum

# TCP Header



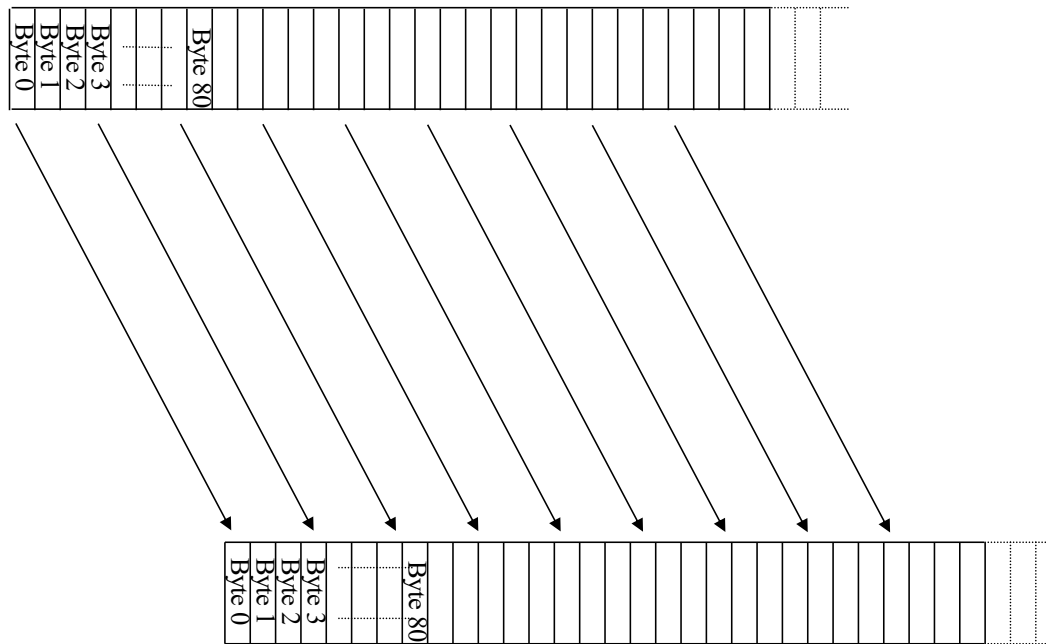
# What does TCP do?

Many of our previous ideas, but some key differences

- ❖ Checksum
- ❖ **Sequence numbers are byte offsets**

# TCP “Stream of Bytes” Service ..

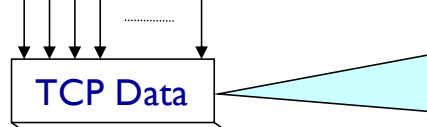
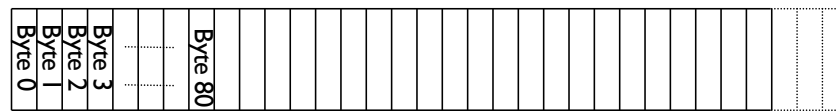
Application @ Host A



Application @ Host B

# .. Provided Using TCP “Segments”

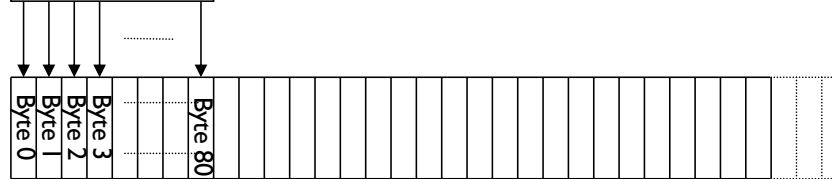
Host A



**Segment sent when:**

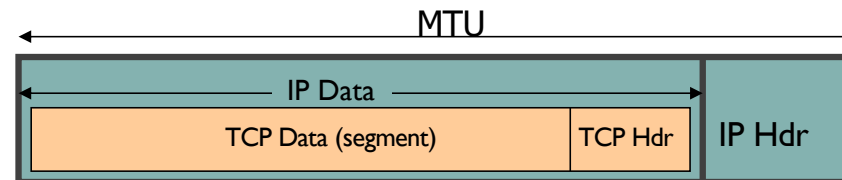
1. Segment full (Max Segment Size),
2. Not full, but instructed by the Application e.g.,  
I byte in Telnet

Host B



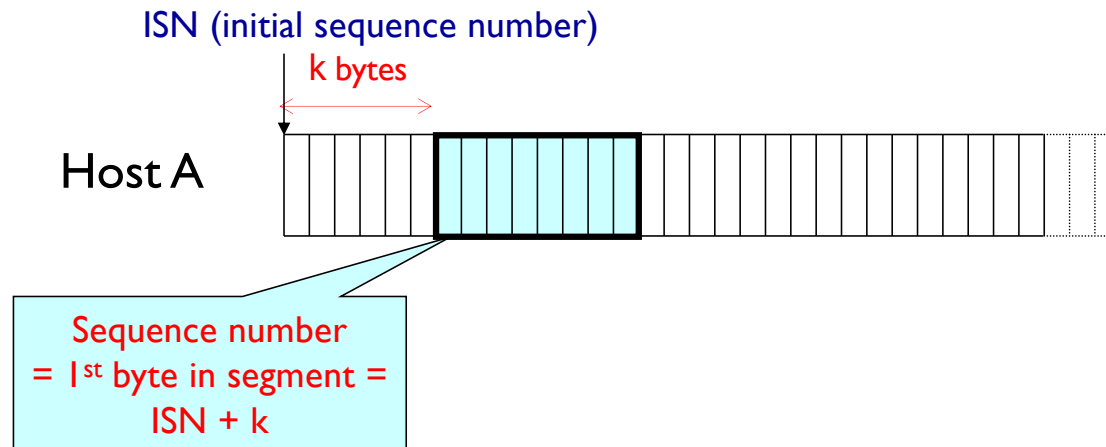


# TCP Maximum Segment Size



- ❖ IP packet
  - No bigger than Maximum Transmission Unit (MTU)
  - E.g., up to 1500 bytes with Ethernet
- ❖ TCP packet
  - IP packet with a TCP header and data inside
  - TCP header  $\geq 20$  bytes long
- ❖ TCP **segment**
  - No more than **Maximum Segment Size** (MSS) bytes
  - E.g., up to 1460 consecutive bytes from the stream
  - $MSS = MTU - 20$  (min IP header)  $- 20$  (min TCP header)

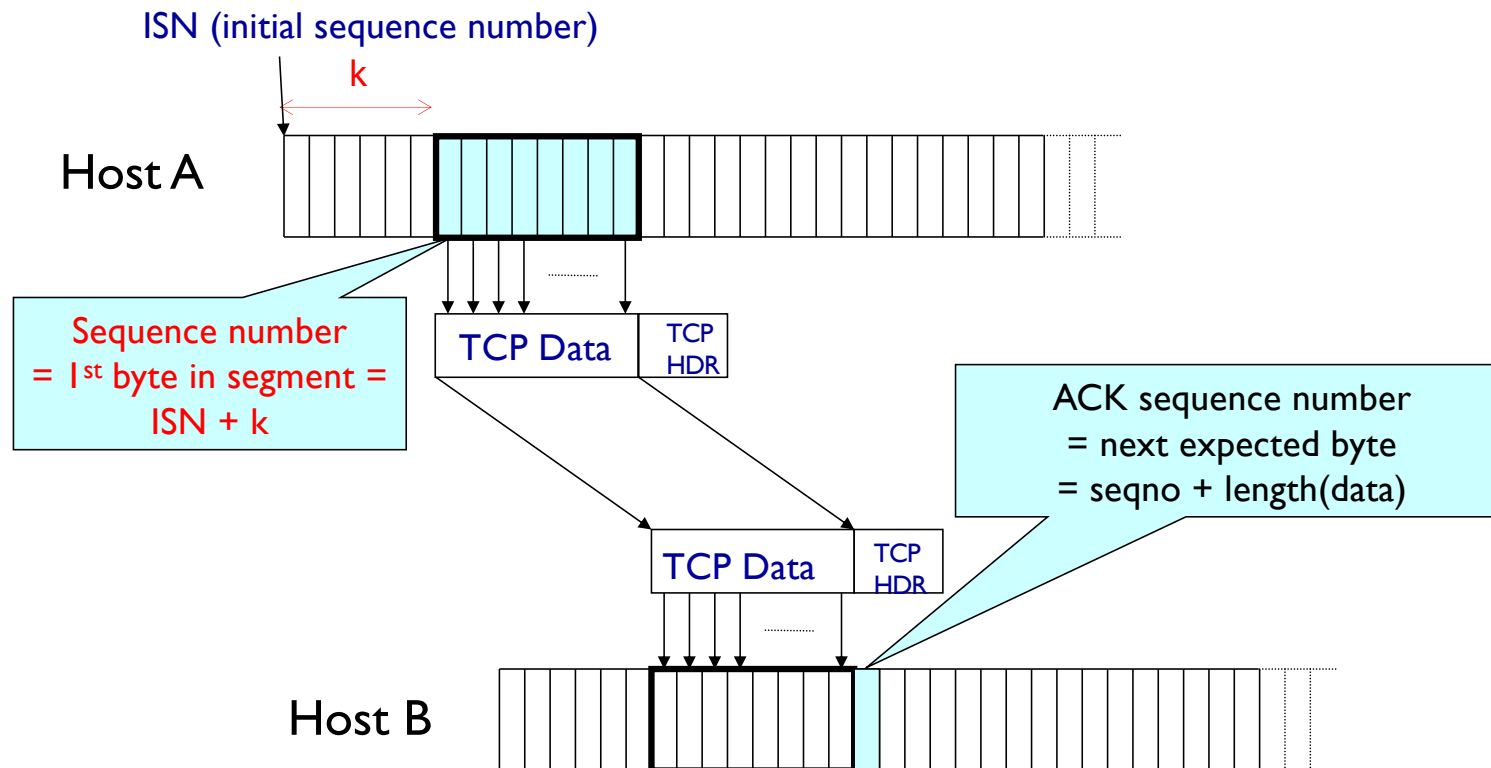
# Sequence Numbers



## Sequence numbers:

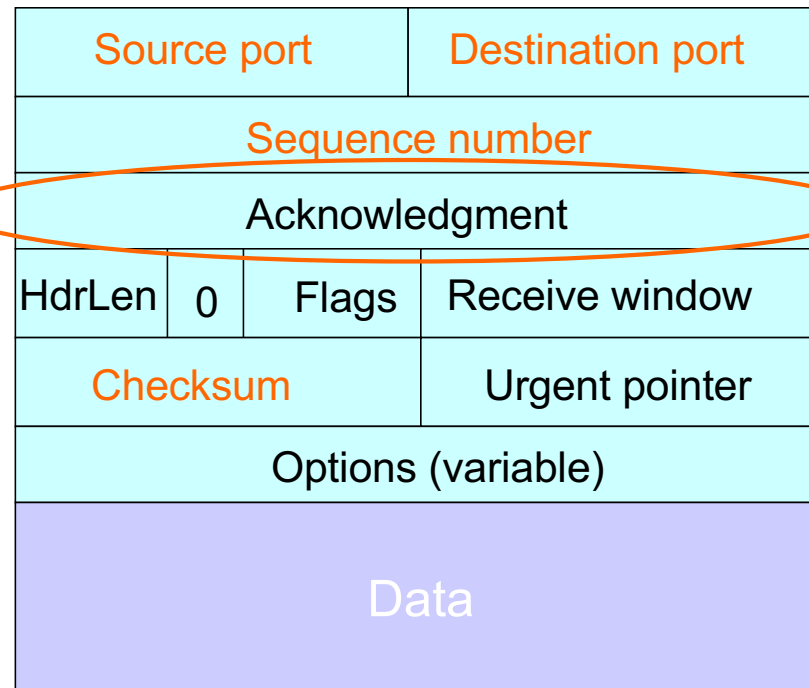
- byte stream “number” of first byte in segment’s data

# Sequence & Ack Numbers



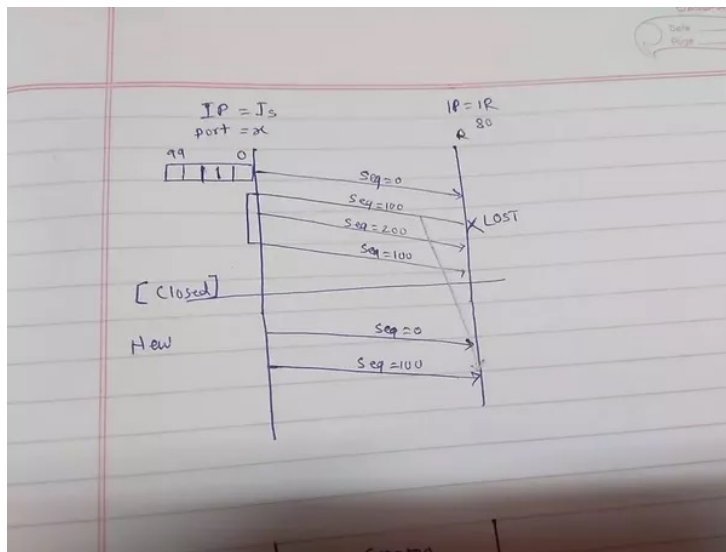
# TCP Header

Acknowledgment gives seqno just beyond highest seqno received **in order** (*“What Byte is Next”*)

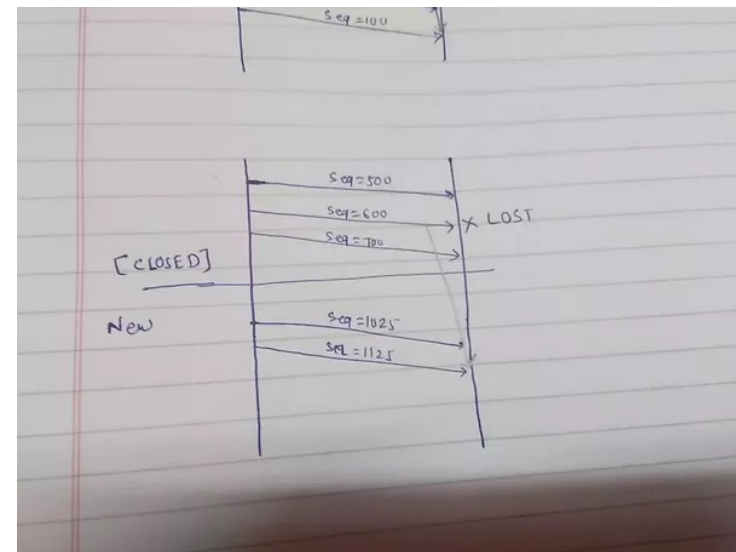


# Why choose random ISN?

- ❖ Avoids ambiguity with back-to-back connections between same end-points



(a) When ISN=0



(b) When ISN is random

- ❖ Potential security issue if the ISN is known

# What does TCP do?

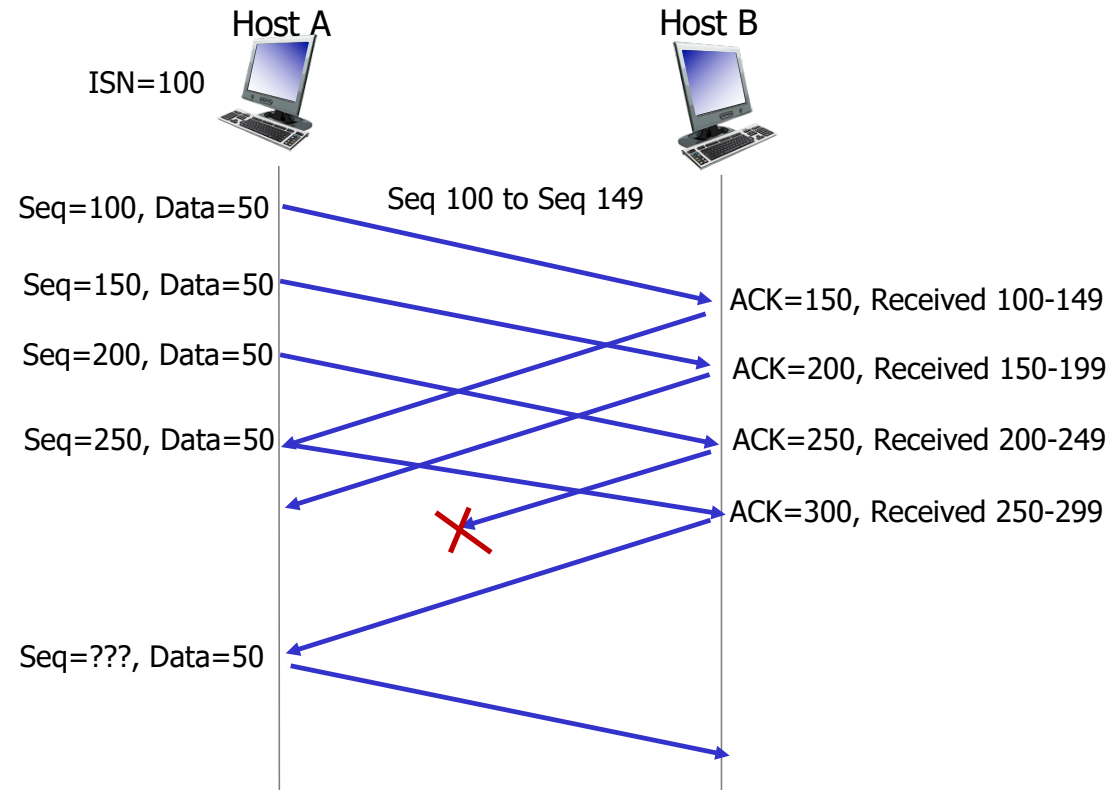
Most of our previous tricks, but a few differences

- ❖ Checksum
- ❖ Sequence numbers are byte offsets
- ❖ Receiver sends cumulative acknowledgements (like GBN)

# ACKing and Sequence Numbers

- ❖ Sender sends packet
  - Data starts with sequence number  $X$
  - Packet contains  $B$  bytes  $[X, X+1, X+2, \dots, X+B-1]$
- ❖ Upon receipt of packet, receiver sends an ACK
  - If all data prior to  $X$  already received:
    - ACK acknowledges  $X+B$  (because that is next expected byte)
  - If highest in-order byte received is  $Y$  s.t.  $(Y+1) < X$ 
    - ACK acknowledges  $Y+1$
    - Even if this has been ACKed before

# An Example

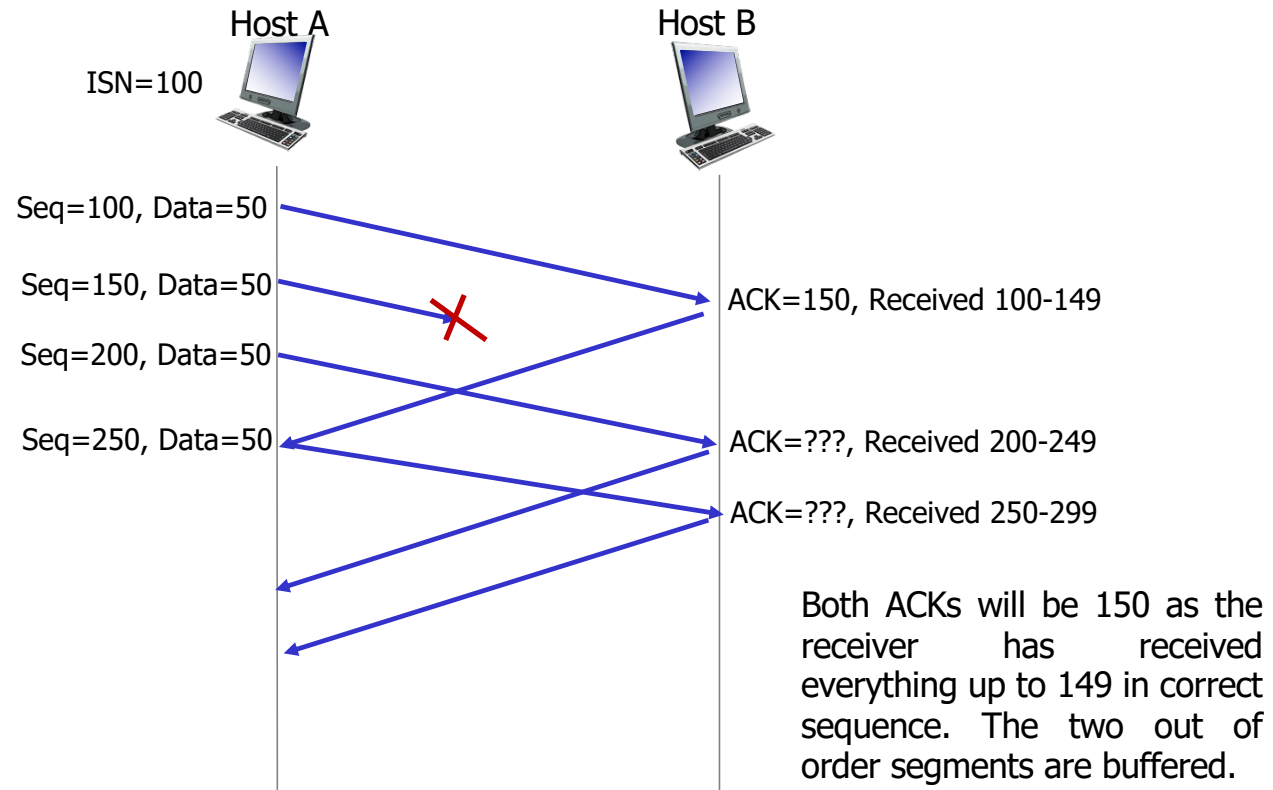


Seq = 300 (new segment)

Since TCP uses cumulative ACKs, the receipt of ACK 300 before a timeout (for seg with sequence number 200) implies the receiver has received all 4 segments sent above

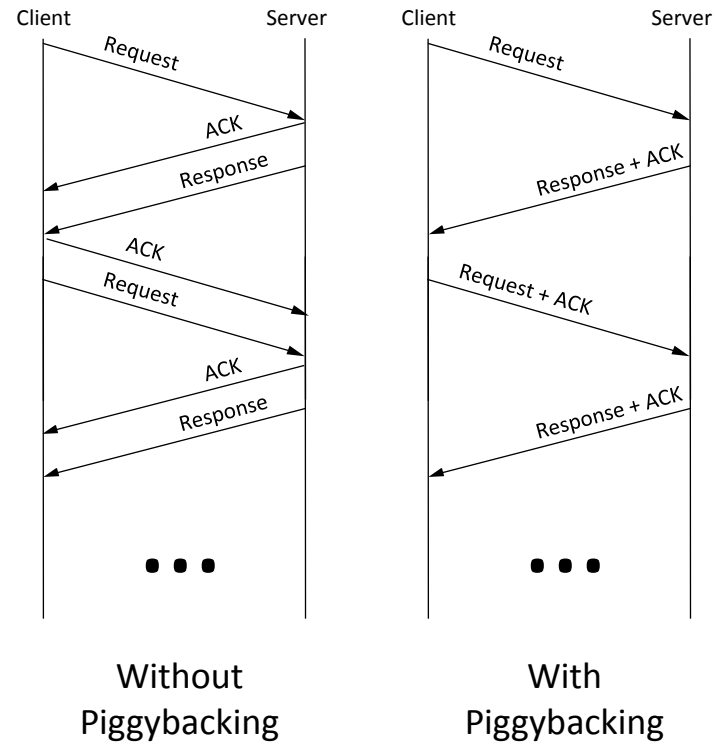


# Another Example

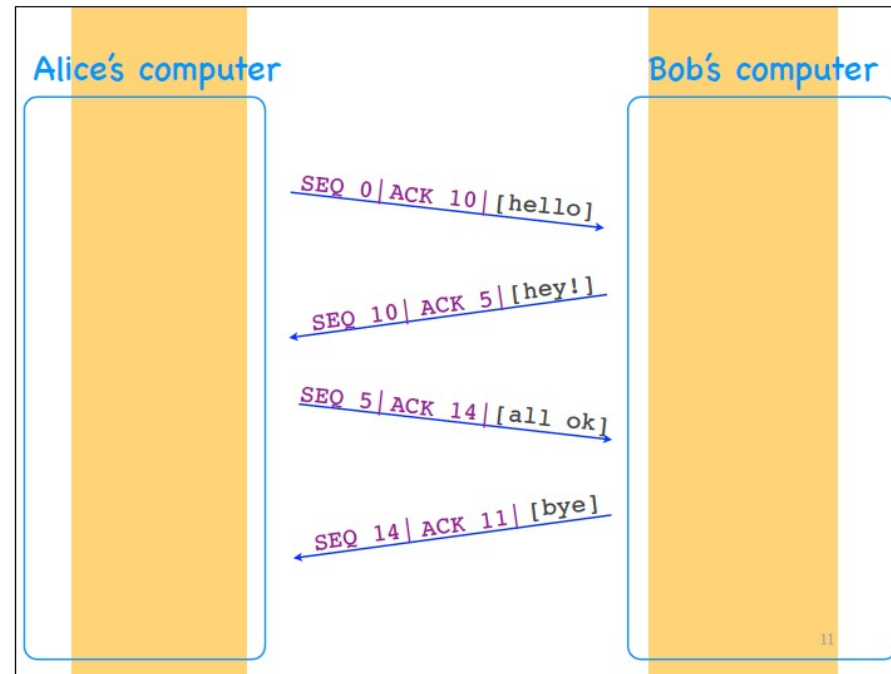


# Piggybacking

- ❖ So far, we've assumed distinct "sender" and "receiver" roles
- ❖ Usually both sides of a connection send some data

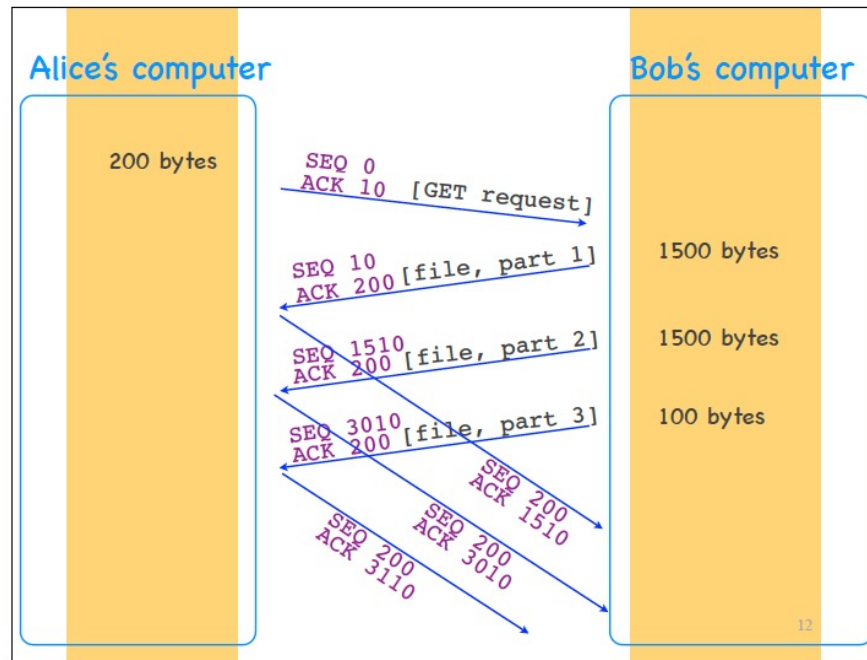


# Example



Note: Connection establishment not shown. Alice's end point selects the initial sequence number as 0 while Bob's end point selects the initial sequence number as 10

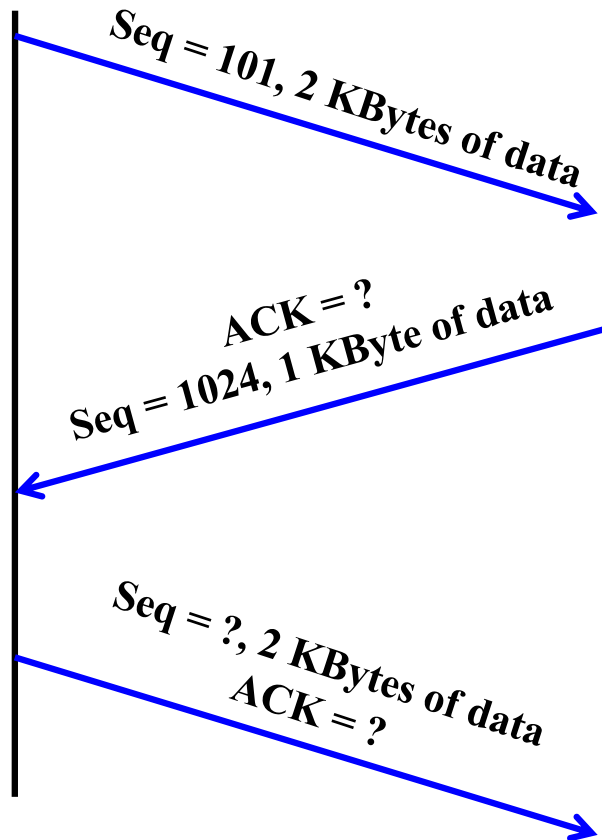
# Another Example



Note: Connection establishment not shown. Alice's end point selects the initial sequence number as 0 while Bob's end point selects the initial sequence number as 10

HTTP response split into 3 segments (MSS = 1500 bytes)

# Quiz



$$\text{ACK} = 101 + 2048 = 2149$$

$$\text{Seq} = 2149$$

$$\text{ACK} = 1024 + 1024 = 2048$$

# What does TCP do?

Most of our previous tricks, but a few differences

- ❖ Checksum
- ❖ Sequence numbers are byte offsets
- ❖ Receiver sends cumulative acknowledgements (like GBN)
- ❖ Receivers **can** buffer out-of-sequence packets (like SR)

## Loss with cumulative ACKs

- ❖ Sender sends packets with 100 bytes and sequence numbers:
  - 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, ...
- ❖ Assume the fifth packet (seq. no. 500) is lost, but no others
- ❖ 6th packet onwards are buffered
- ❖ Stream of ACKs will be:
  - 200, 300, 400, 500, 500, 500, 500, ...

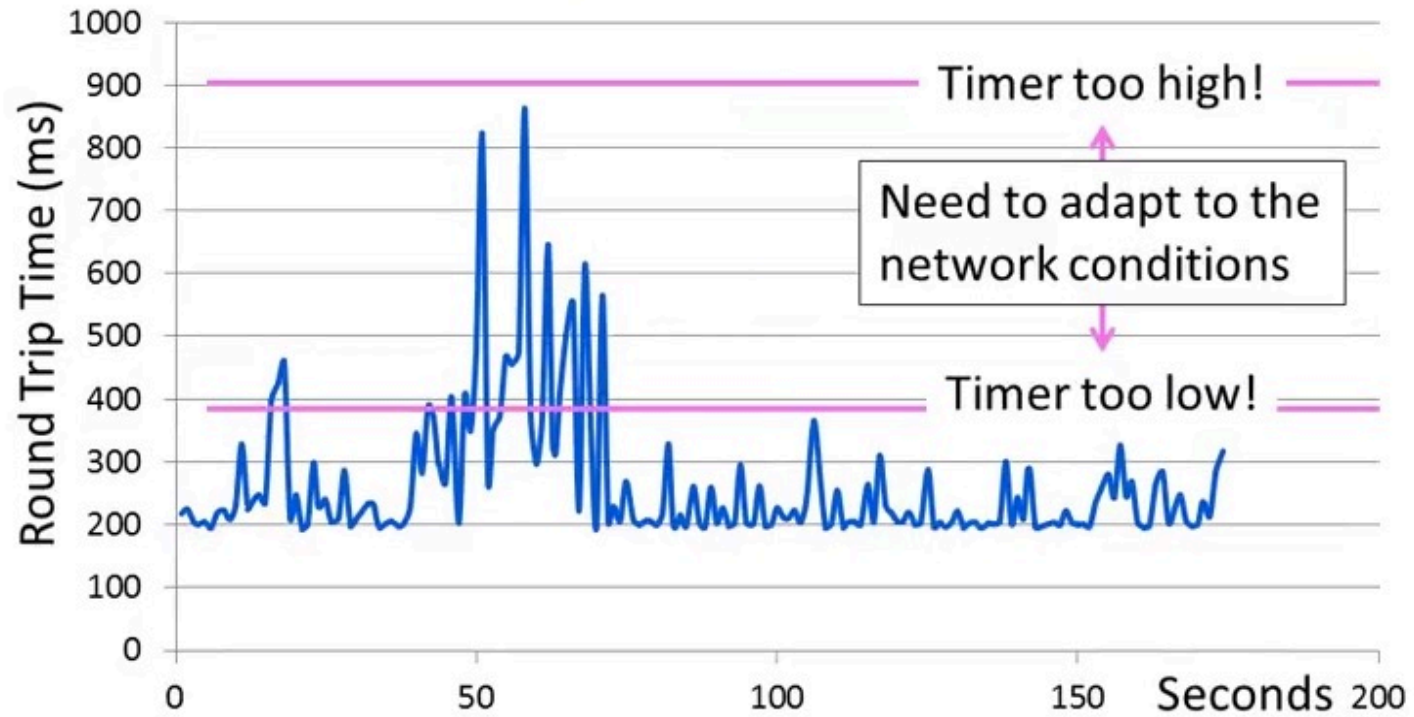
# What does TCP do?

Most of our previous tricks, but a few differences

- ❖ Checksum
- ❖ Sequence numbers are byte offsets
- ❖ Receiver sends cumulative acknowledgements (like GBN)
- ❖ Receivers do not drop out-of-sequence packets (like SR)
- ❖ Sender maintains a single retransmission timer (like GBN) and retransmits on timeout (*how much?*)



# TCP round trip time, timeout



# TCP round trip time, 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

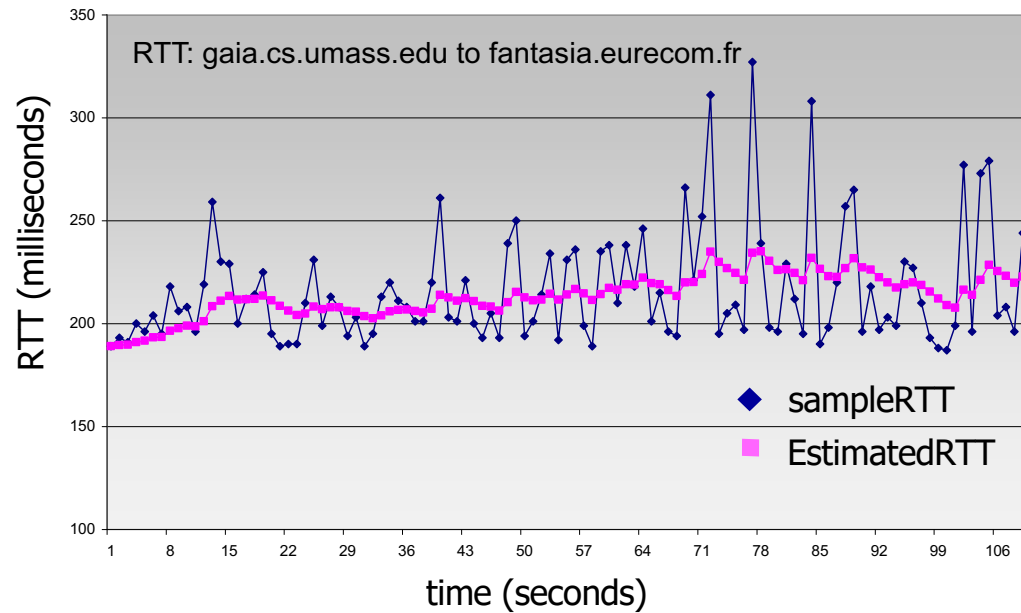
Q: how to estimate RTT?

- `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, timeout

$$\text{EstimatedRTT} = (1 - \alpha) * \text{EstimatedRTT} + \alpha * \text{SampleRTT}$$

- exponential weighted moving average (EWMA)
- influence of past sample decreases exponentially fast
- typical value:  $\alpha = 0.125$



# TCP round trip time, timeout

- timeout interval: **EstimatedRTT** plus “safety margin”
  - large variation in **EstimatedRTT**: want a larger safety margin

$$\text{TimeoutInterval} = \text{EstimatedRTT} + 4 * \text{DevRTT}$$



↑  
estimated RTT

↑  
“safety margin”

- **DevRTT**: EWMA of **SampleRTT** deviation from **EstimatedRTT**:

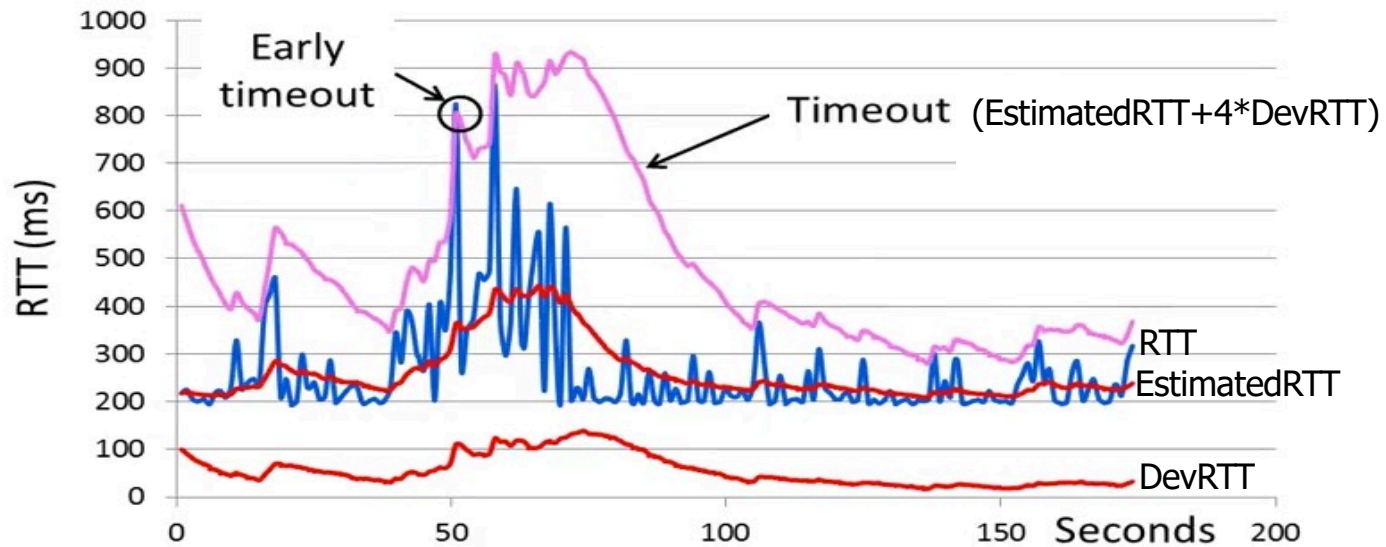
$$\text{DevRTT} = (1 - \beta) * \text{DevRTT} + \beta * |\text{SampleRTT} - \text{EstimatedRTT}|$$

(typically,  $\beta = 0.25$ )

Practice Problem:

[http://wps.pearsoned.com/ecs\\_kurose\\_compnetw\\_6/216/55463/14198700.cw/index.html](http://wps.pearsoned.com/ecs_kurose_compnetw_6/216/55463/14198700.cw/index.html)

# TCP round trip time, timeout



$$\text{TimeoutInterval} = \text{EstimatedRTT} + 4 * \text{DevRTT}$$



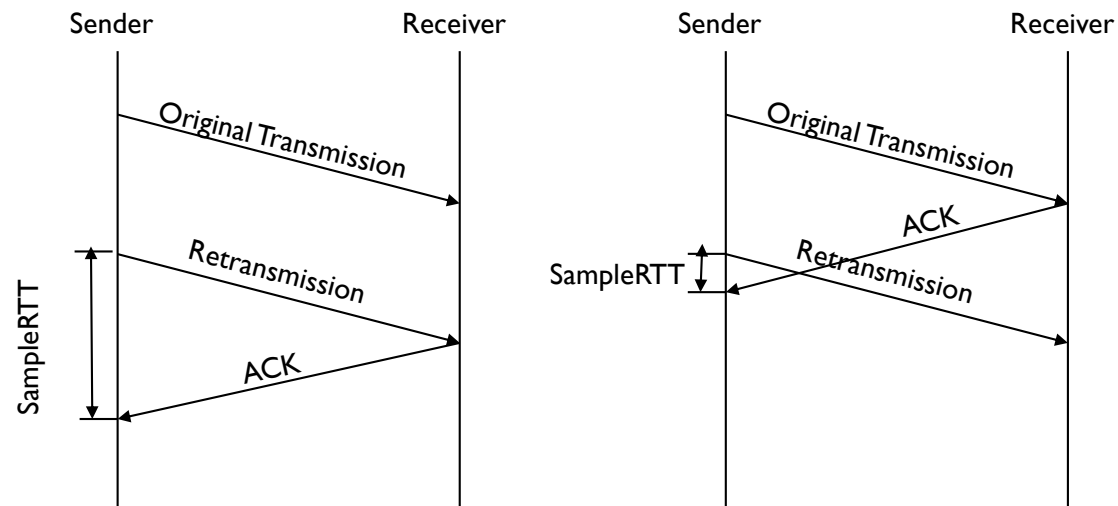
↑  
estimated RTT

↑  
“safety margin”

Figure: Credits Prof David Wetherall UoW

# Why exclude retransmissions in RTT computation?

- ❖ How do we differentiate between the real ACK, and ACK of the retransmitted packet?



# TCP Sender (simplified)

PUTTING IT  
TOGETHER

*event: data received from application*

- 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**

*event: timeout*

- retransmit segment that caused timeout
- restart timer

*event: ACK received*

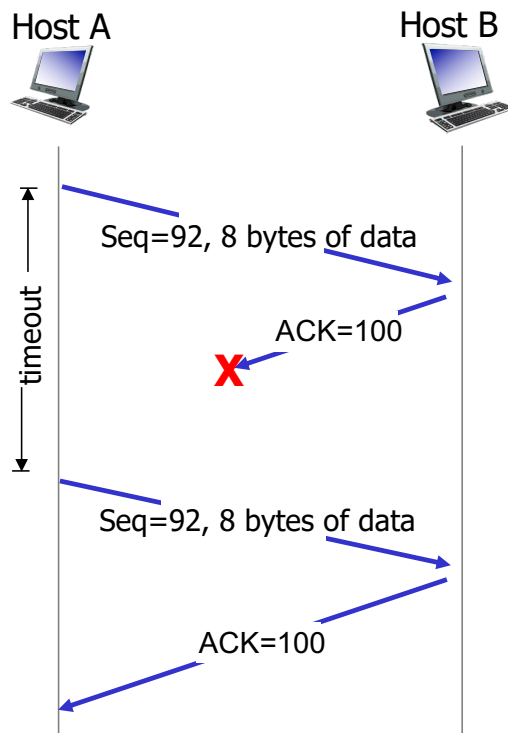
- if ACK acknowledges previously unACKed segments
  - update what is known to be ACKed
  - start timer if there are still unACKed segments

# TCP ACK generation [RFC 1122, RFC 2581]

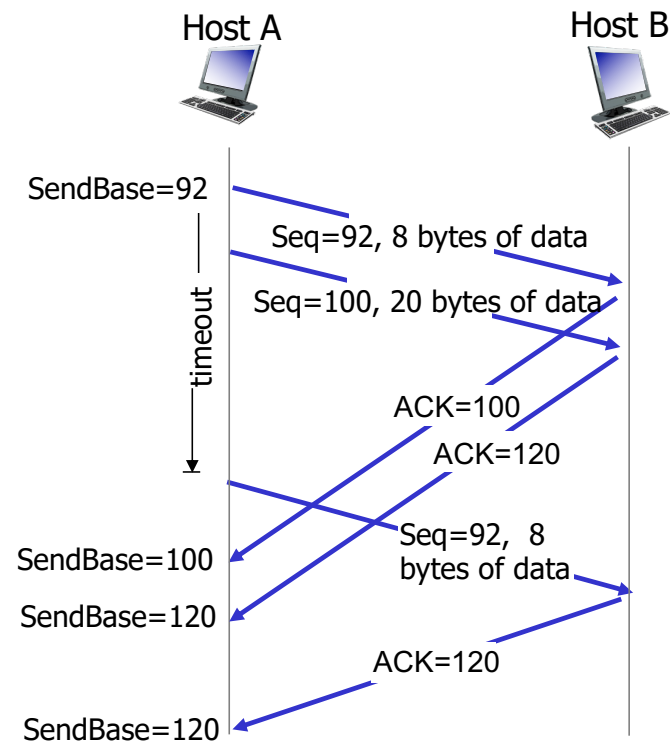
<i>event at receiver</i>	<i>TCP receiver action</i>
arrival of in-order segment with expected seq #. All data up to expected seq # already ACKed	<b>delayed ACK</b> . Wait up to 500ms for next segment. If no next segment, send ACK
arrival of in-order segment with expected seq #. One other segment has ACK pending	immediately send single <b>cumulative ACK</b> , ACKing both in-order segments
arrival of out-of-order segment higher-than-expected seq. # . Gap detected	immediately send <b>duplicate ACK</b> , 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



# TCP: retransmission scenarios

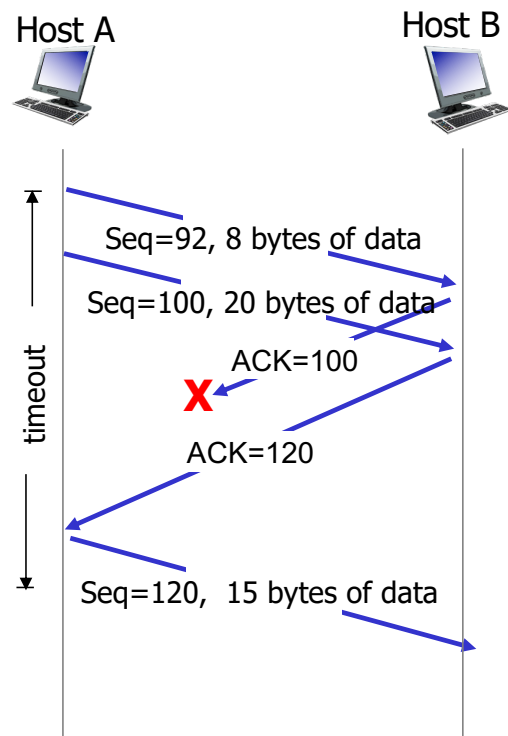


lost ACK scenario

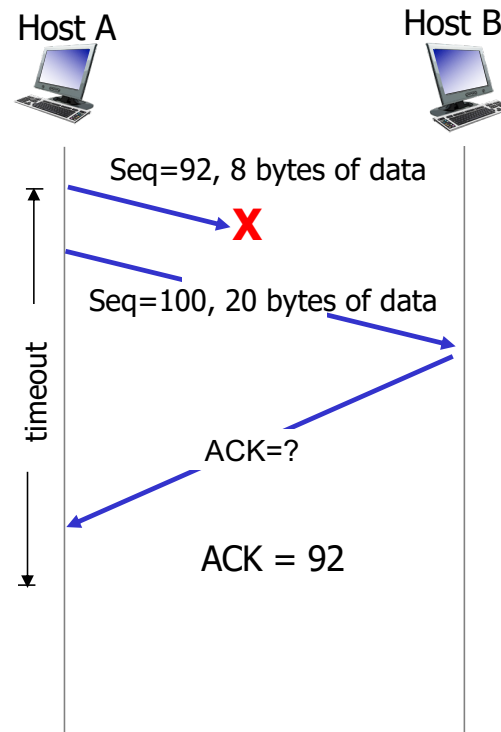


premature timeout

# TCP: retransmission scenarios



cumulative ACK



cumulative ACK

# What does TCP do?

Most of our previous tricks, but a few differences


- ❖ Checksum
- ❖ Sequence numbers are byte offsets
- ❖ Receiver sends cumulative acknowledgements (like GBN)
- ❖ Receivers may not drop out-of-sequence packets (like SR)
- ❖ Sender maintains a single retransmission timer (like GBN) and retransmits on timeout
- ❖ Introduces **fast retransmit**: optimisation that uses duplicate ACKs to trigger early retransmission

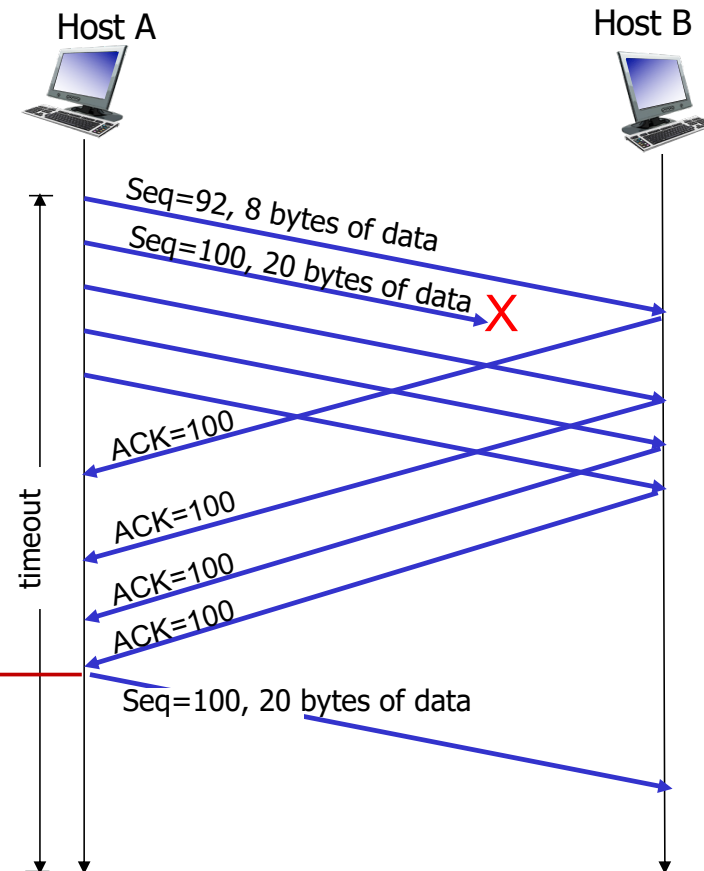
# TCP fast retransmit

## *TCP fast retransmit*

if sender receives 3 additional ACKs for same data (“triple duplicate ACKs”), resend unACKed segment with smallest seq #

- likely that unACKed segment lost, so don't wait for timeout

 Receipt of three duplicate ACKs indicates 3 segments received after a missing segment – lost segment is likely. So retransmit!





## Quiz: TCP Sequence Numbers?

A TCP Sender is about to send a segment of size 100 bytes with sequence number 1234 and ack number 436. What is the highest sequence number up to (and including) which this sender has received from the receiver?

- A. 1233
- B. 436
- C. 435
- D. 1334
- E. 536

**Answer : C**  
**Cumulative ACK**

## Quiz: TCP Sequence Numbers?



A TCP Sender is about to send a segment of size 100 bytes with sequence number 1234 and ack number 436. Is it possible that the receiver has received byte number 1335?

- A. Yes
- B. No

**Answer: A. Possible this packet being transmitted may be a retransmission and the next packet (in sequence) may have been already received**

## Quiz: TCP Sequence Numbers?



The following statement is true about the TCP sliding window protocol for implementing reliable data transfer

- A. It exclusively uses the ideas of Go-Back-N
- B. It exclusively uses the ideas of Selective Repeat
- C. It uses a combination of ideas of Go-Back-N and Selective-Repeat
- D. It uses none of the ideas of Go-Back-N and Selective-Repeat

**Answer: C**

# Transport Layer 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

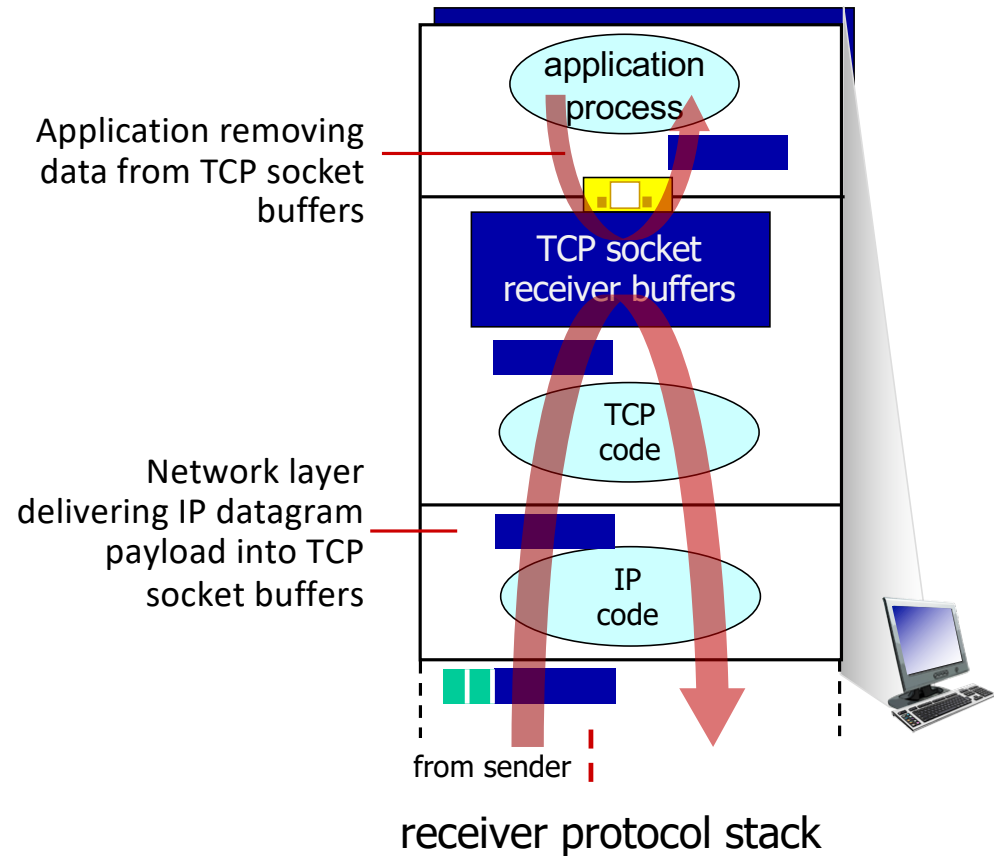
3.6 principles of congestion control

3.7 TCP congestion control



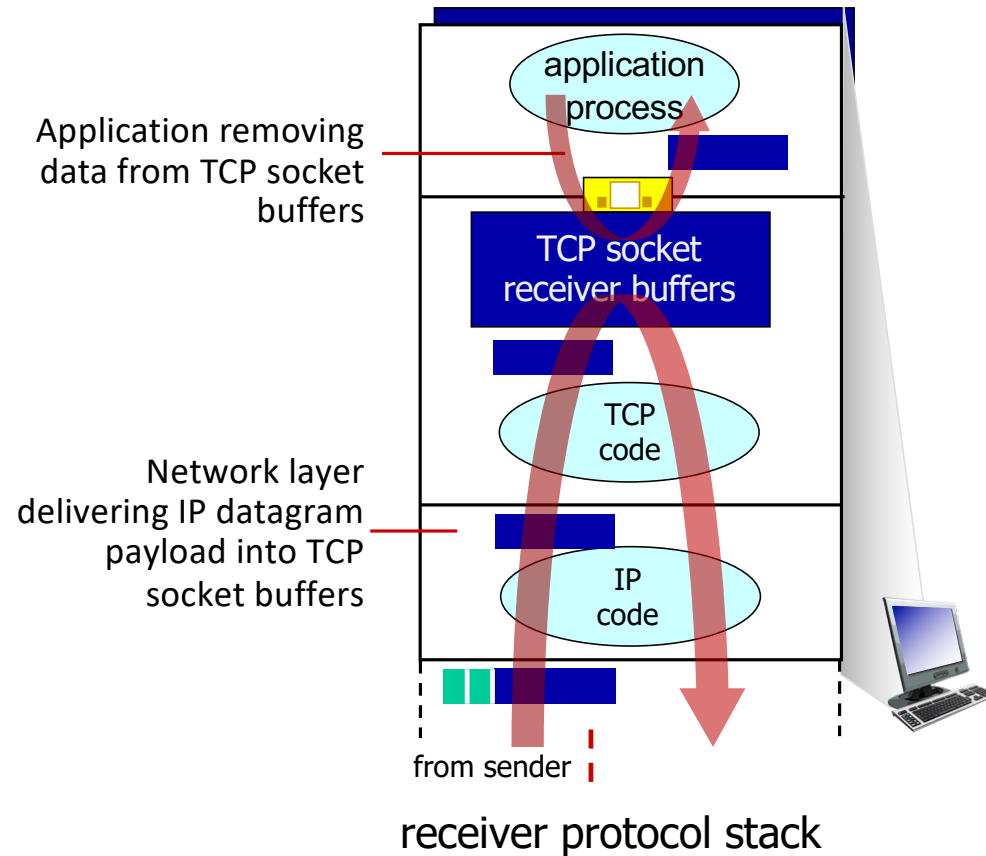
# TCP flow control

Q: What happens if network layer delivers data faster than application layer removes data from socket buffers?



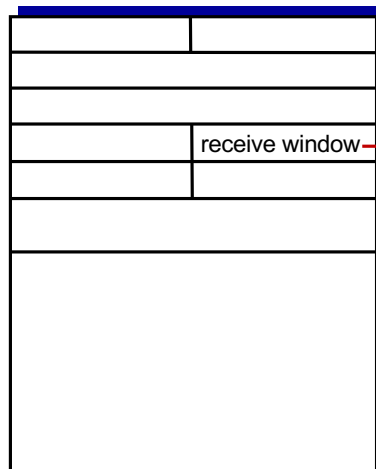
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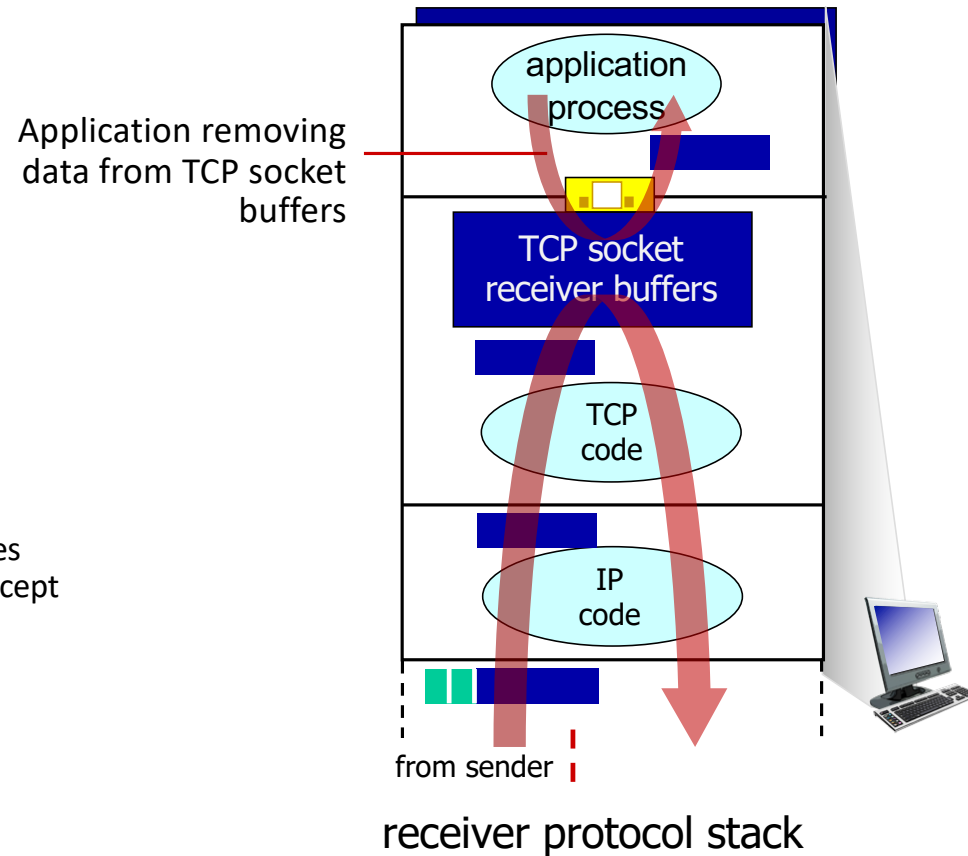


# TCP flow control

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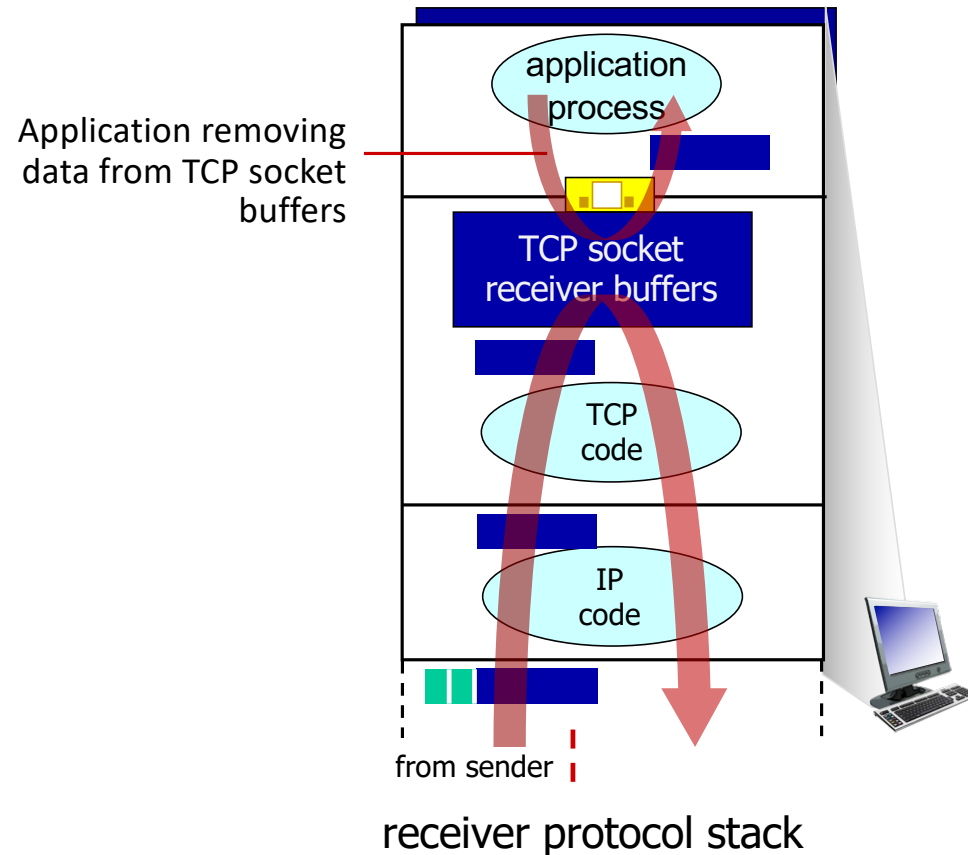
flow control: # bytes receiver willing to accept



# TCP flow control

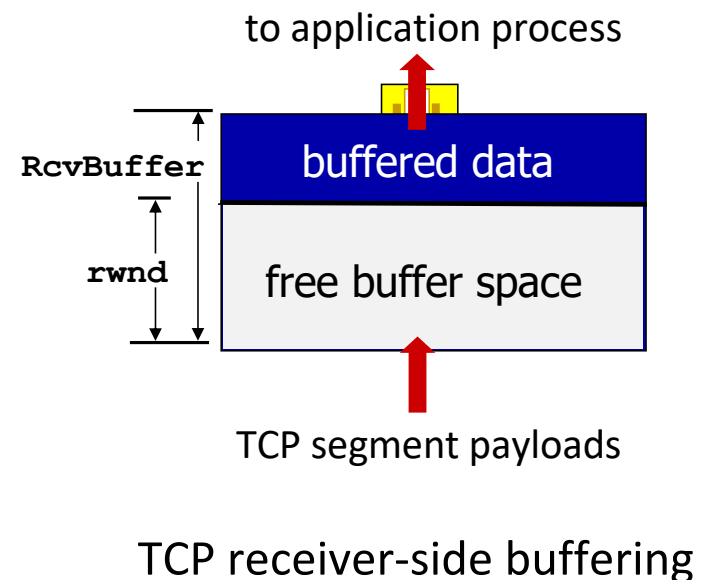
Q: What happens if network layer delivers data faster than application layer removes data from socket buffers?

**flow control**  
receiver controls sender, so sender won't overflow receiver's buffer by transmitting too much, too fast



# TCP flow control

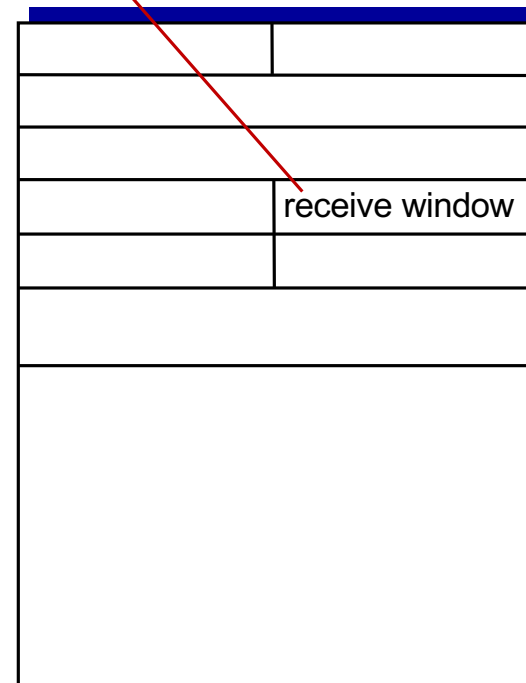
- TCP receiver “advertises” free buffer space in **rwnd** field in TCP header
  - **RcvBuffer** size set via socket options (typical default is 4096 bytes)
  - many operating systems autoadjust **RcvBuffer**
- sender limits amount of unACKed (“in-flight”) data to received **rwnd**
- guarantees receive buffer will not overflow



# TCP flow control

- TCP receiver “advertises” free buffer space in **rwnd** field in TCP header
  - **RcvBuffer** size set via socket options (typical default is 4096 bytes)
  - many operating systems autoadjust **RcvBuffer**
- sender limits amount of unACKed (“in-flight”) data to received **rwnd**
- guarantees receive buffer will not overflow

flow control: # bytes receiver willing to accept



TCP segment format

# TCP flow control

- ❖ What if `rwnd = 0`?
  - Sender would stop sending data
  - Eventually the receive buffer would have space when the application process reads some bytes
  - But how does the receiver advertise the new `rwnd` to the sender?
- ❖ Sender keeps sending TCP segments with one data byte to the receiver
- ❖ These segments are dropped but acknowledged by the receiver with a zero-window size
- ❖ Eventually when the buffer empties, non-zero window is advertised

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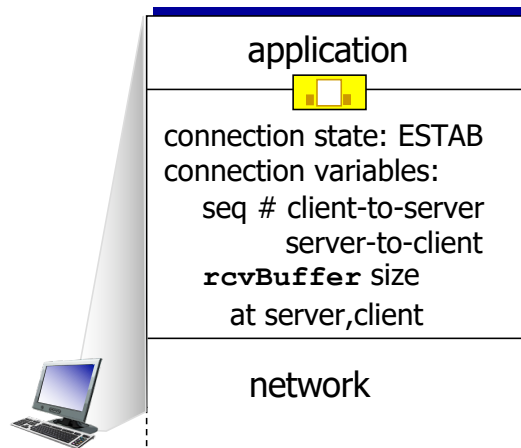
3.7 TCP congestion control



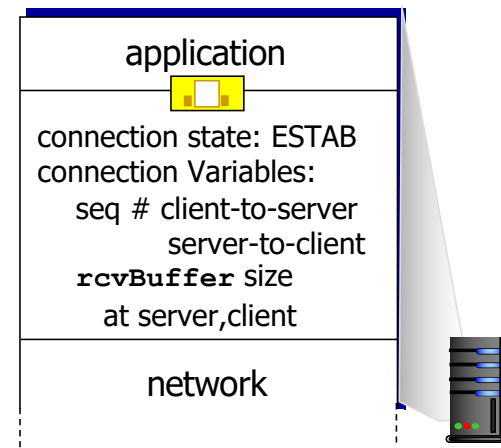
# TCP connection management

before exchanging data, sender/receiver “handshake”:

- agree to establish connection (each knowing the other willing to establish connection)
- agree on connection parameters (e.g., starting seq #s)



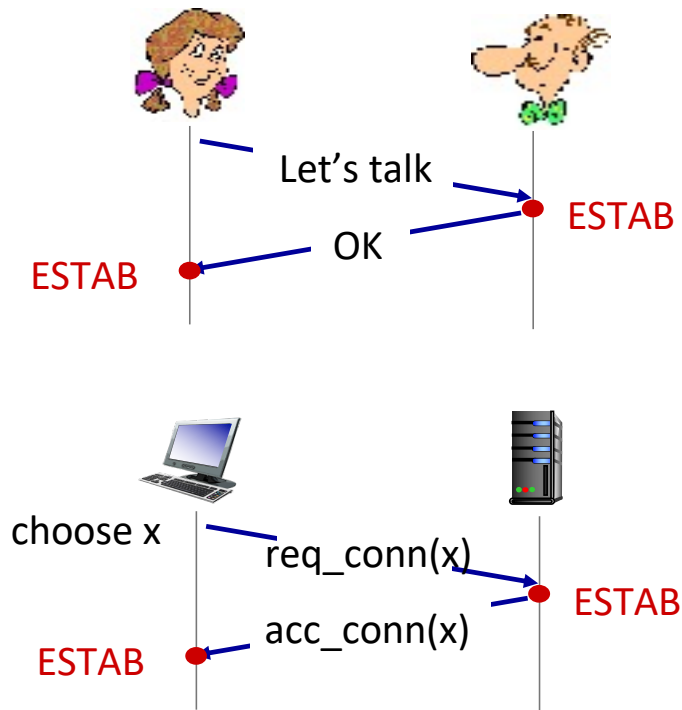
```
Socket clientSocket =  
    newSocket("hostname", "port number");
```



```
Socket connectionSocket =  
    welcomeSocket.accept();
```

# Agreeing to establish a connection

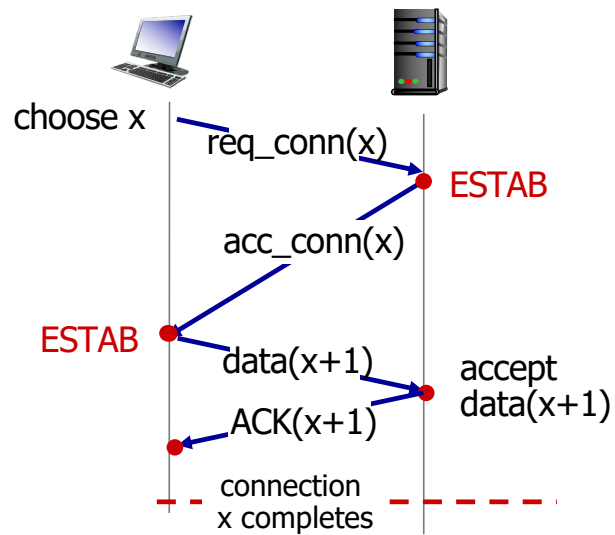
2-way handshake:



Q: will 2-way handshake always work in network?

- variable delays
- retransmitted messages (e.g. req\_conn(x)) due to message loss
- message reordering
- can't "see" other side

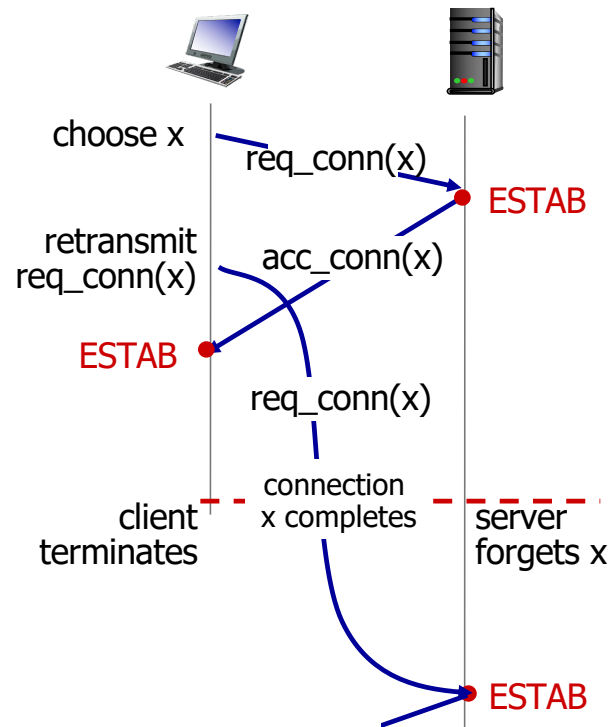
# 2-way handshake scenarios



No problem!

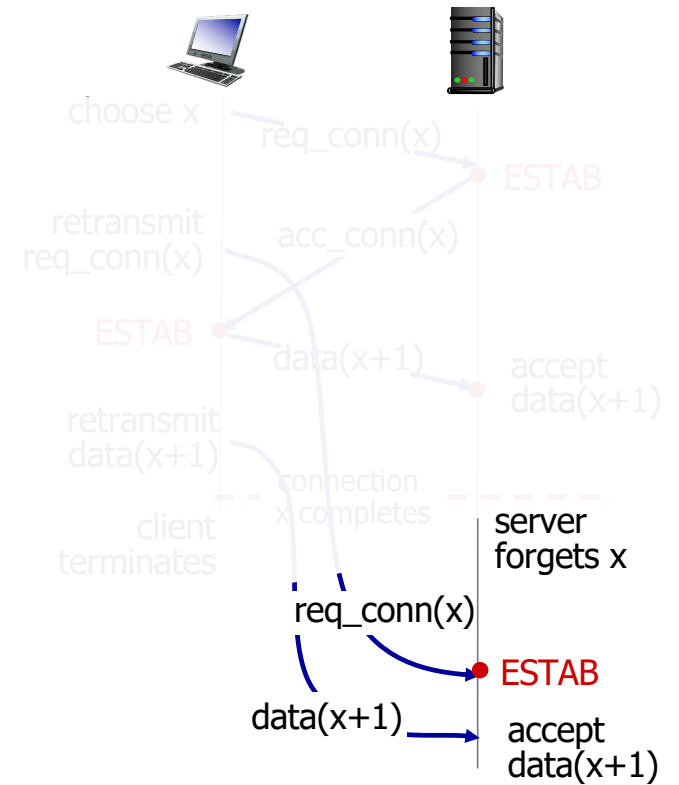


# 2-way handshake scenarios



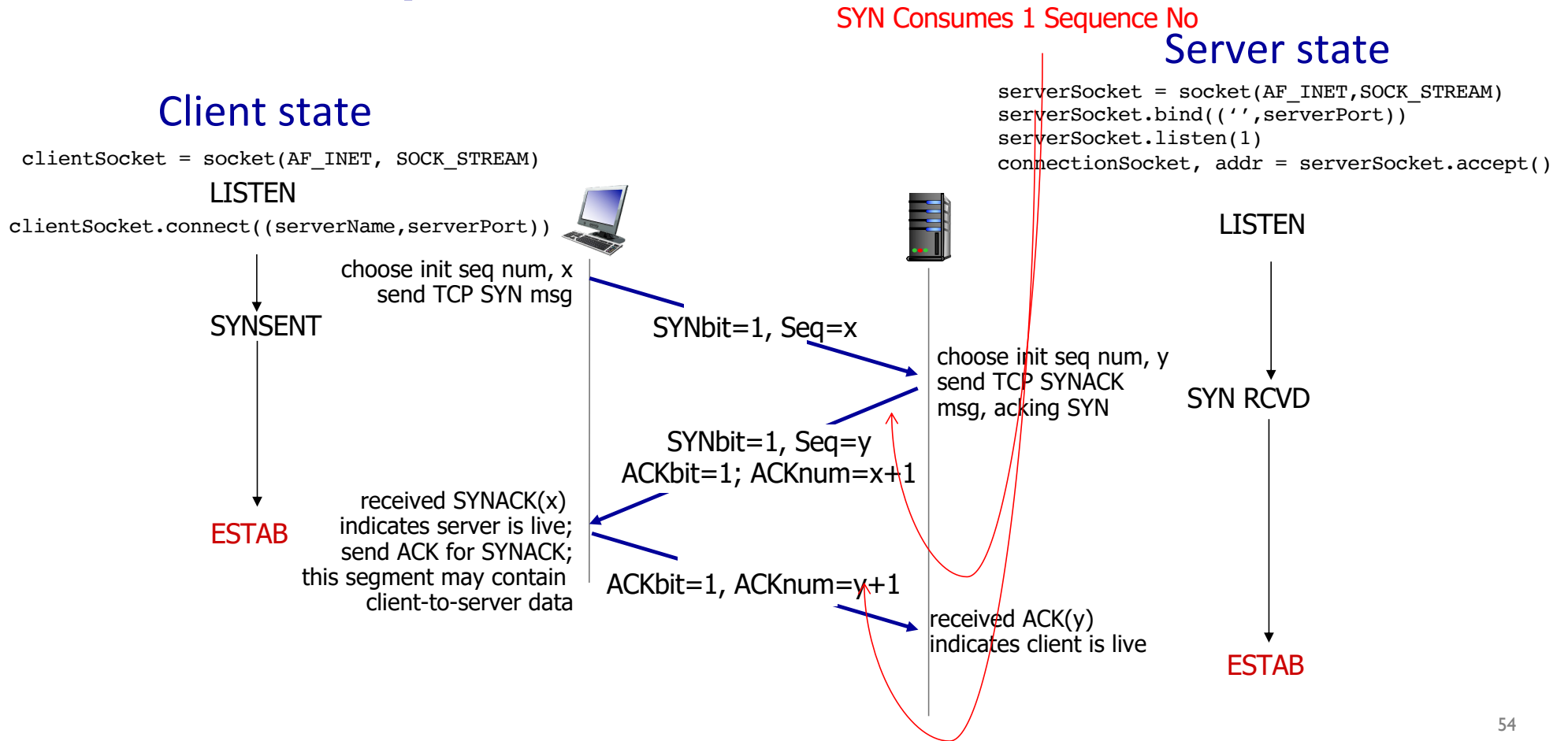
**X** Problem: half open connection! (no client)

# 2-way handshake scenarios



**X** Problem: dup data accepted!

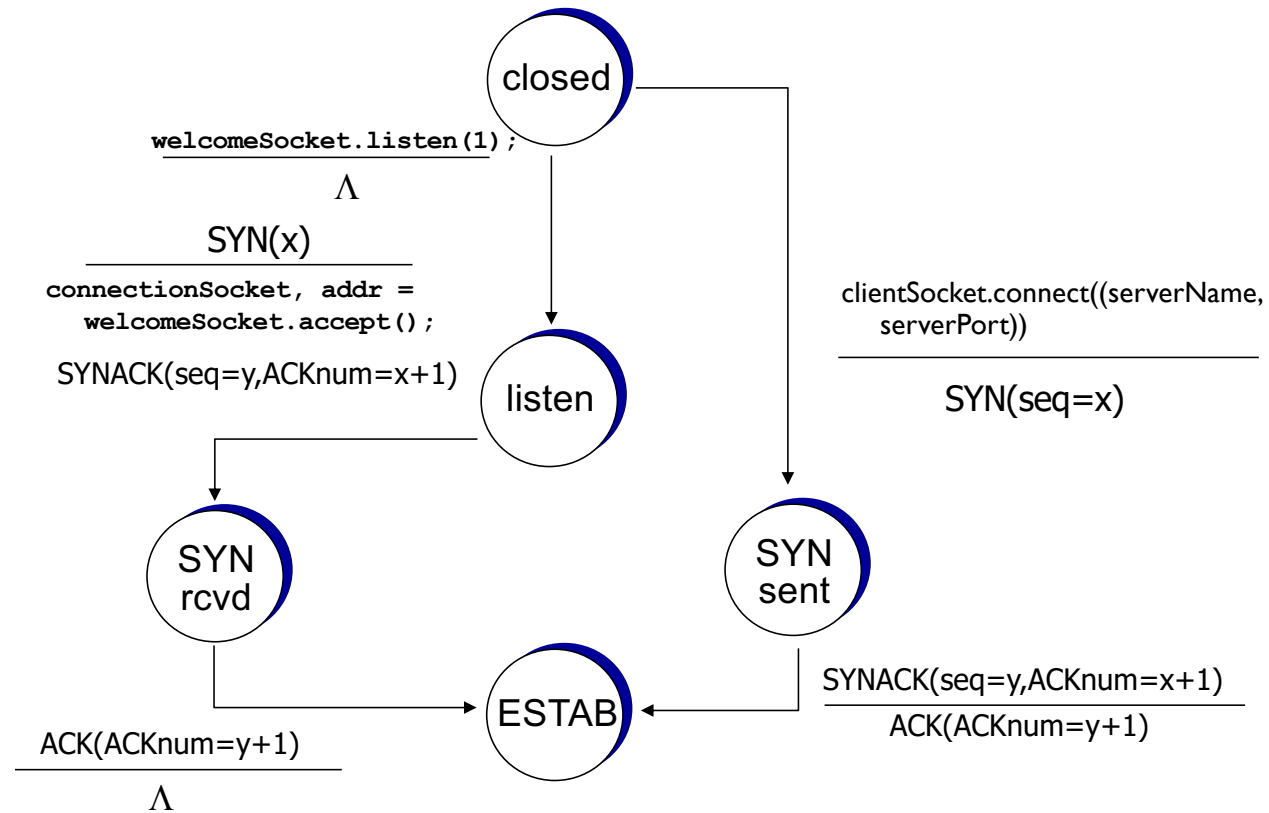
# TCP 3-way handshake



# A human 3-way handshake protocol



# TCP 3-way handshake: Partial state machine





# What if the SYN Packet Gets Lost?

- ❖ Suppose the SYN packet gets lost
  - Packet is lost inside the network, or:
  - Server **discards** the packet (e.g., it's too busy)
- ❖ Eventually, no SYN-ACK arrives
  - Sender sets a **timer** and **waits** for the SYN-ACK
  - ... and retransmits the SYN if needed
- ❖ How should the TCP sender set the timer?
  - Sender has **no idea** how far away the receiver is
  - Hard to guess a reasonable length of time to wait
  - **SHOULD** (RFCs 1122,2988) use default of **3 second**, RFC 6298 use default of **1 second**

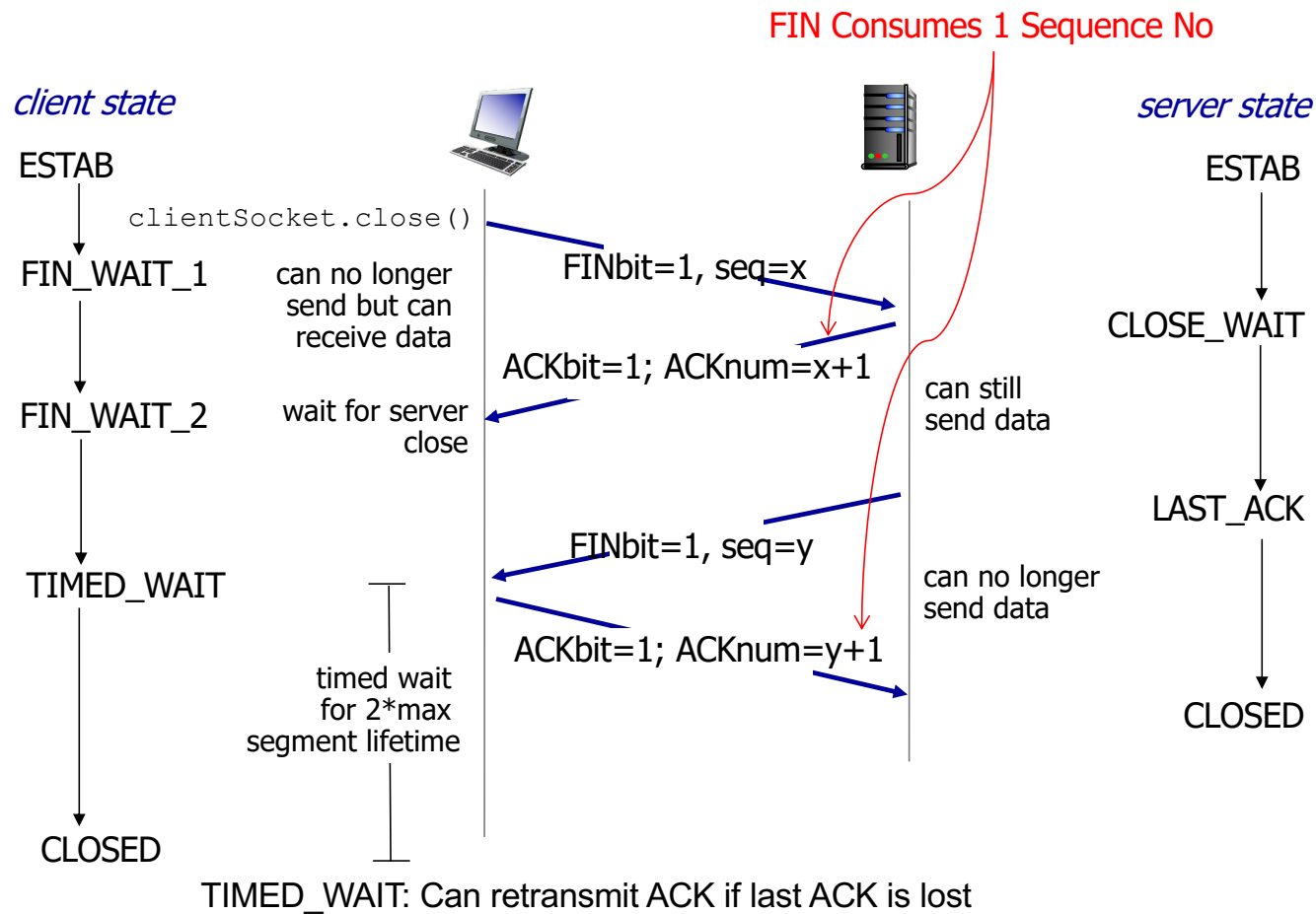
# SYN Loss and Web Browsing

- ❖ User clicks on a hypertext link
  - Browser creates a socket and does a “connect”
  - The “connect” triggers the OS to transmit a SYN
- ❖ If the SYN is lost...
  - 1-3 seconds of delay: can be **very long**
  - User may become impatient
  - ... and click the hyperlink again, or click “reload”
- ❖ User triggers an “abort” of the “connect”
  - Browser creates a **new** socket and another “connect”
  - Essentially, forces a faster send of a new SYN packet!
  - Sometimes very effective, and the page comes quickly

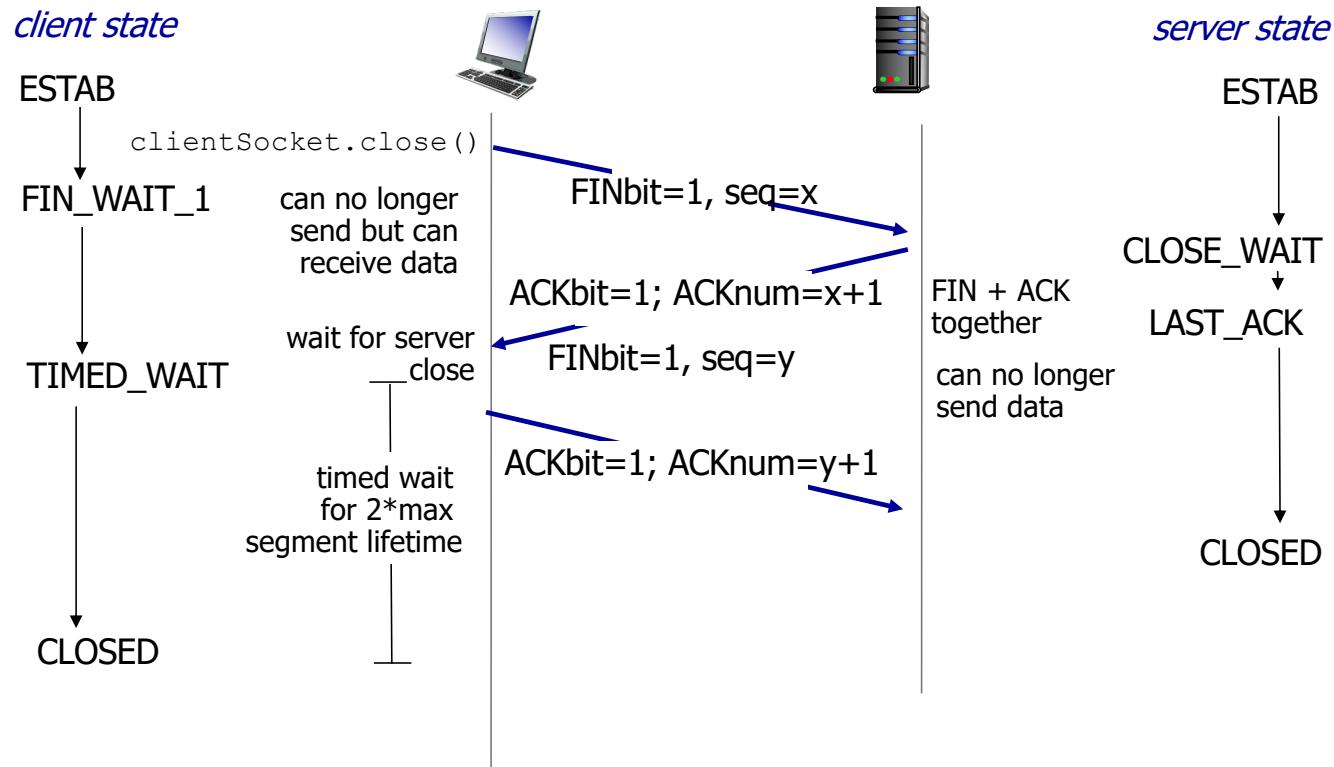
# TCP: closing a connection

- ❖ client, server each close their side of connection
  - send TCP segment with FIN bit = 1
- ❖ respond to received FIN with ACK
  - on receiving FIN, ACK can be combined with own FIN
- ❖ simultaneous FIN exchanges can be handled

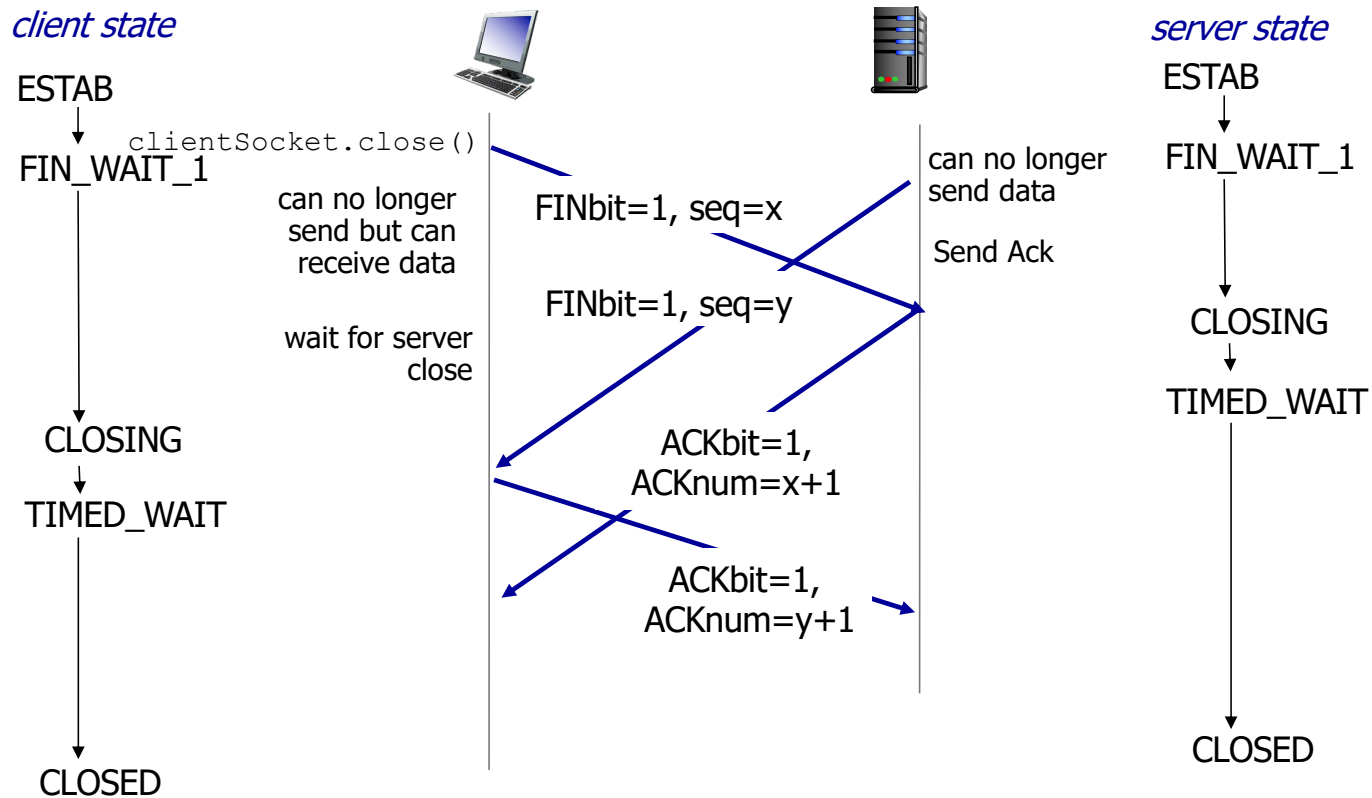
# Normal Termination, One at a Time



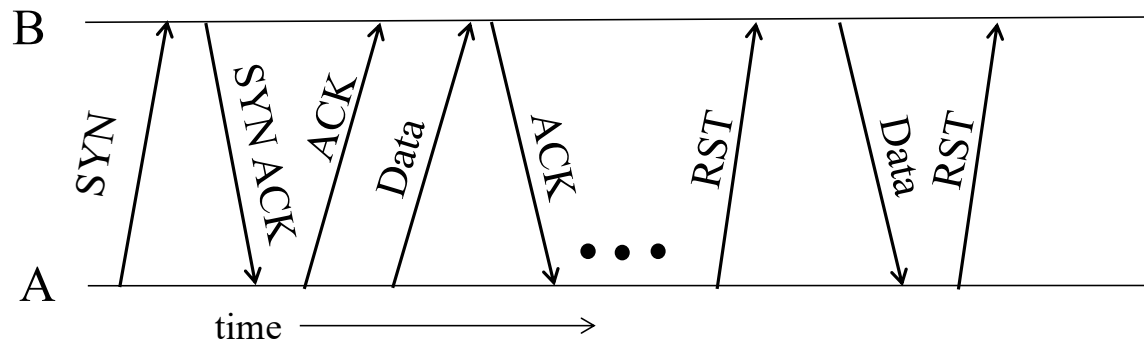
# Normal Termination, Both Together



# Simultaneous Closure

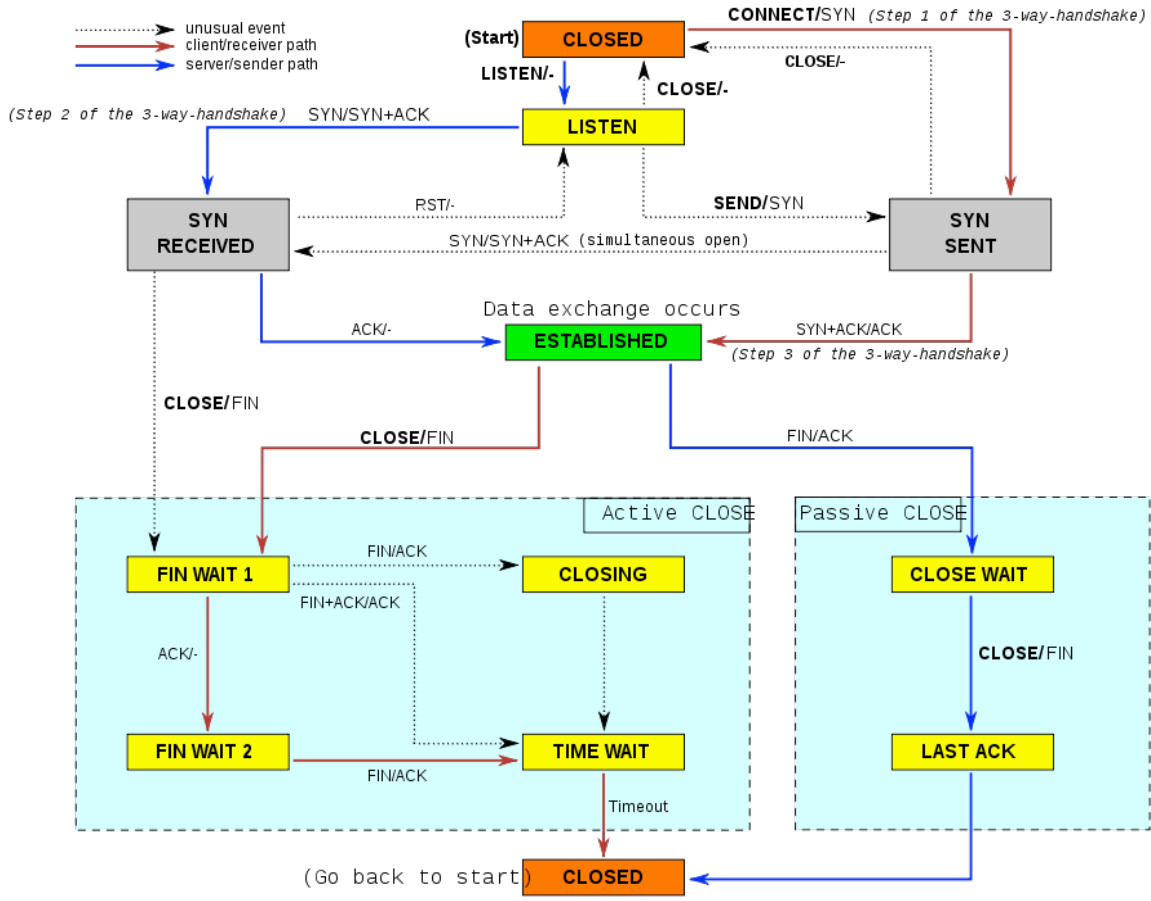


# Abrupt Termination



- ❖ A sends a RESET (**RST**) to B
  - E.g., because application process on A **crashed**
- ❖ **That's it**
  - B does **not** ack the **RST**
  - Thus, **RST** is **not** delivered **reliably**
  - And: any data in flight is **lost**
  - But: if B sends anything more, will elicit **another RST**

# TCP Finite State Machine





# TCP SYN Attack (SYN flooding)

- ❖ Miscreant creates a fake SYN packet
  - Destination is IP address of victim host (usually some server)
  - Source is some spoofed IP address
- ❖ Victim host on receiving creates a TCP connection state i.e allocates buffers, creates variables, etc and sends SYN ACK to the spoofed address (half-open connection)
- ❖ ACK never comes back
- ❖ After a timeout connection state is freed
- ❖ However for this duration the connection state is unnecessarily created
- ❖ Further miscreant sends large number of fake SYNs
  - Can easily overwhelm the victim
- ❖ Solutions:
  - Increase size of connection queue
  - Decrease timeout wait for the 3-way handshake
  - Firewalls: list of known bad source IP addresses
  - TCP SYN Cookies (explained on next slide)

# TCP SYN Cookie

- ❖ On receipt of SYN, server does not create connection state
- ❖ It creates an initial sequence number (*init\_seq*) that is a hash of source & dest IP address and port number of SYN packet (secret key used for hash)
  - Replies back with SYN ACK containing *init\_seq*
  - Server does not need to store this sequence number
- ❖ If original SYN is genuine, an ACK will come back
  - Same hash function run on the same header fields to get the initial sequence number (*init\_seq*)
  - Checks if the ACK is equal to (*init\_seq*+1)
  - Only create connection state if above is true
- ❖ If fake SYN, no harm done since no state was created

<http://etherealmind.com/tcp-syn-cookies-ddos-defence/>

## Quiz: TCP Connection Management?



Assume that one end of a TCP connection selects an initial sequence number 120. The first TCP segment containing data sent by this end point will have a sequence number of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. 120
- B. 121
- C. 122
- D. 128
- E. 0

**ANSWER: B (because SYN uses 1 seq no.)**



## Quiz: TCP Connection Management?

Assume that one end point of the TCP connection sends a FIN segment. If it never receives an ACK, what should it do?

- A. Assume that the connection is closed and do nothing
- B. Retransmit the FIN
- C. Transmit an ACK
- D. Start crying

**ANSWER: B**

# Transport Layer: 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

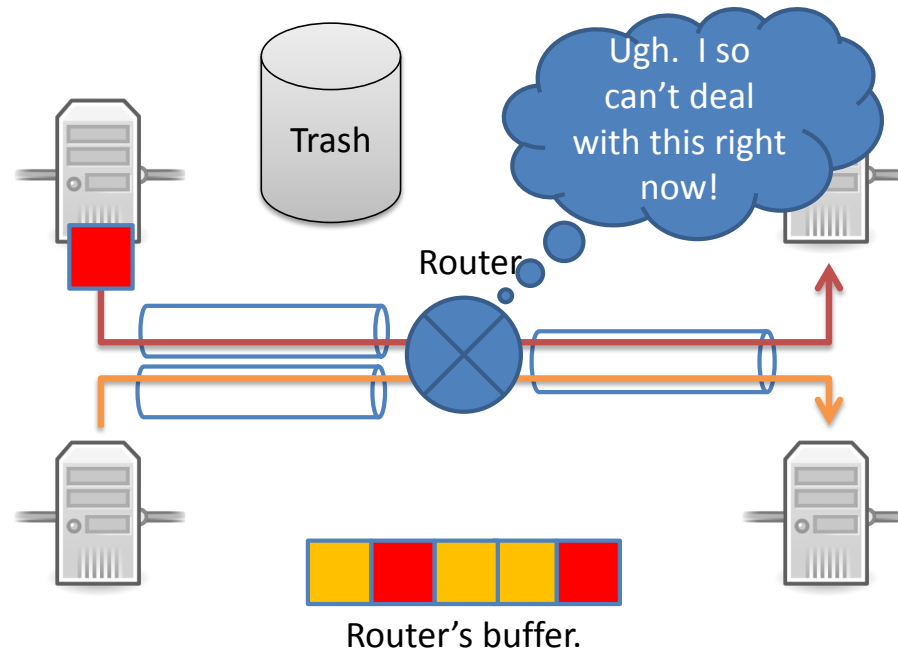
3.7 TCP congestion control

# Principles of congestion control

## *congestion:*

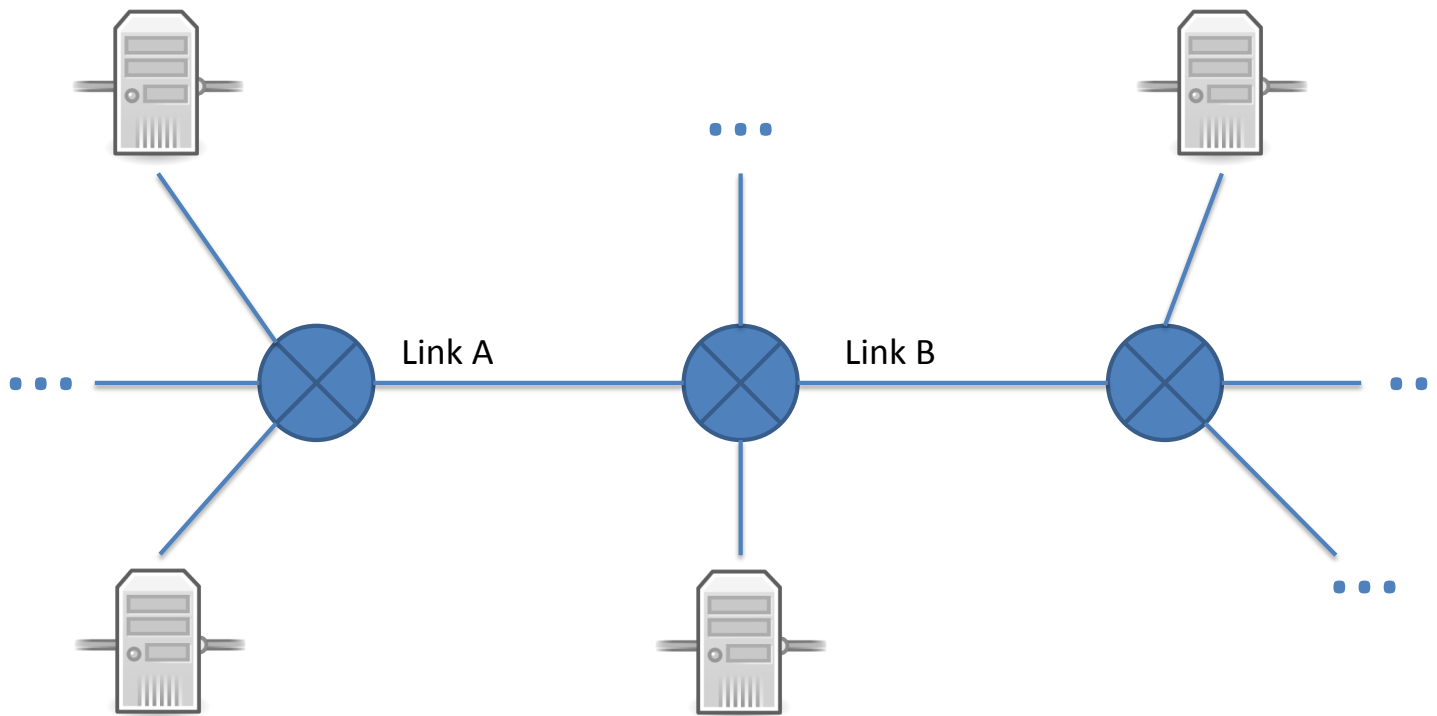
- ❖ informally: “too many sources sending too much data too fast for *network* to handle”
- ❖ different from flow control!
- ❖ manifestations:
  - lost packets (buffer overflow at routers)
  - long delays (queueing in router buffers)
- ❖ a top-10 problem!

# Congestion



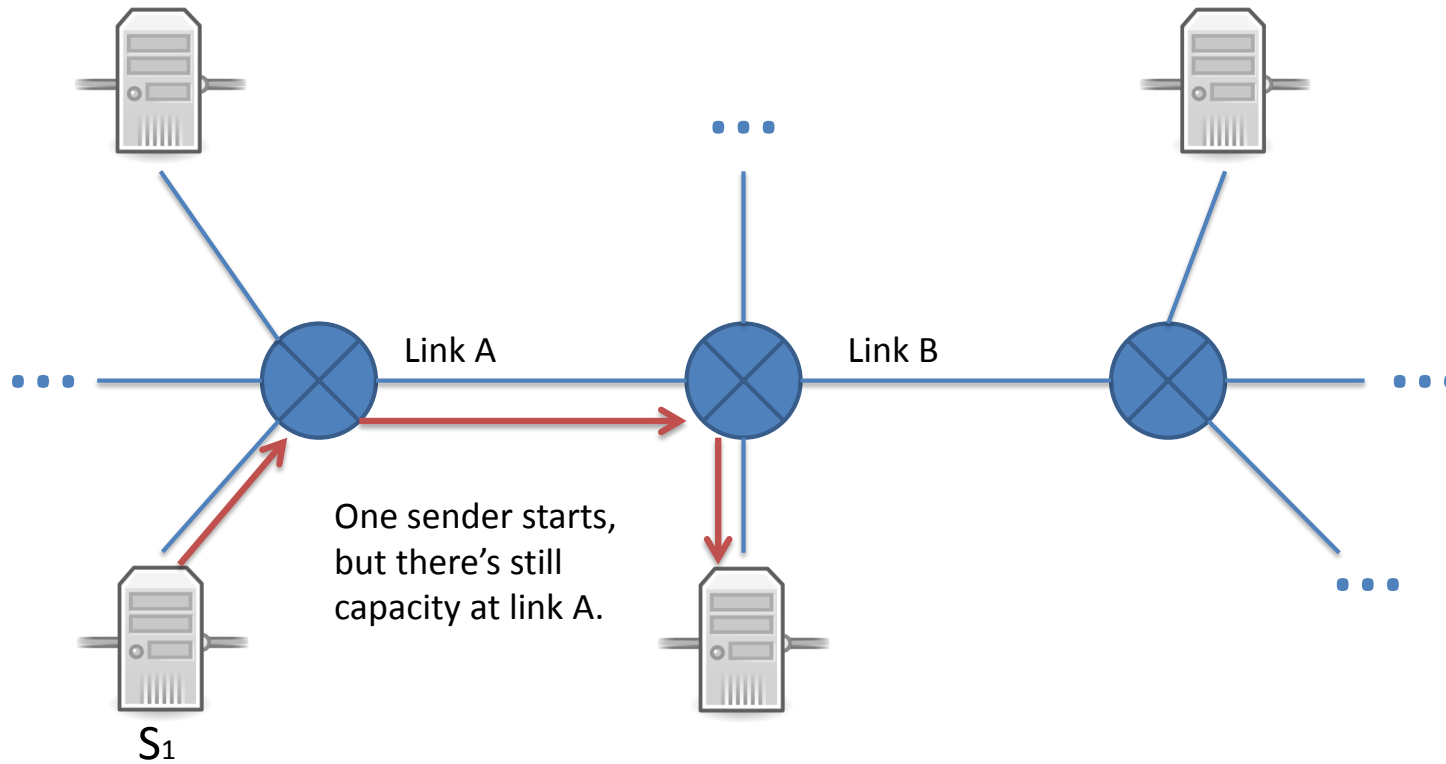
Incoming rate is faster than outgoing link can support.

# Congestion Collapse

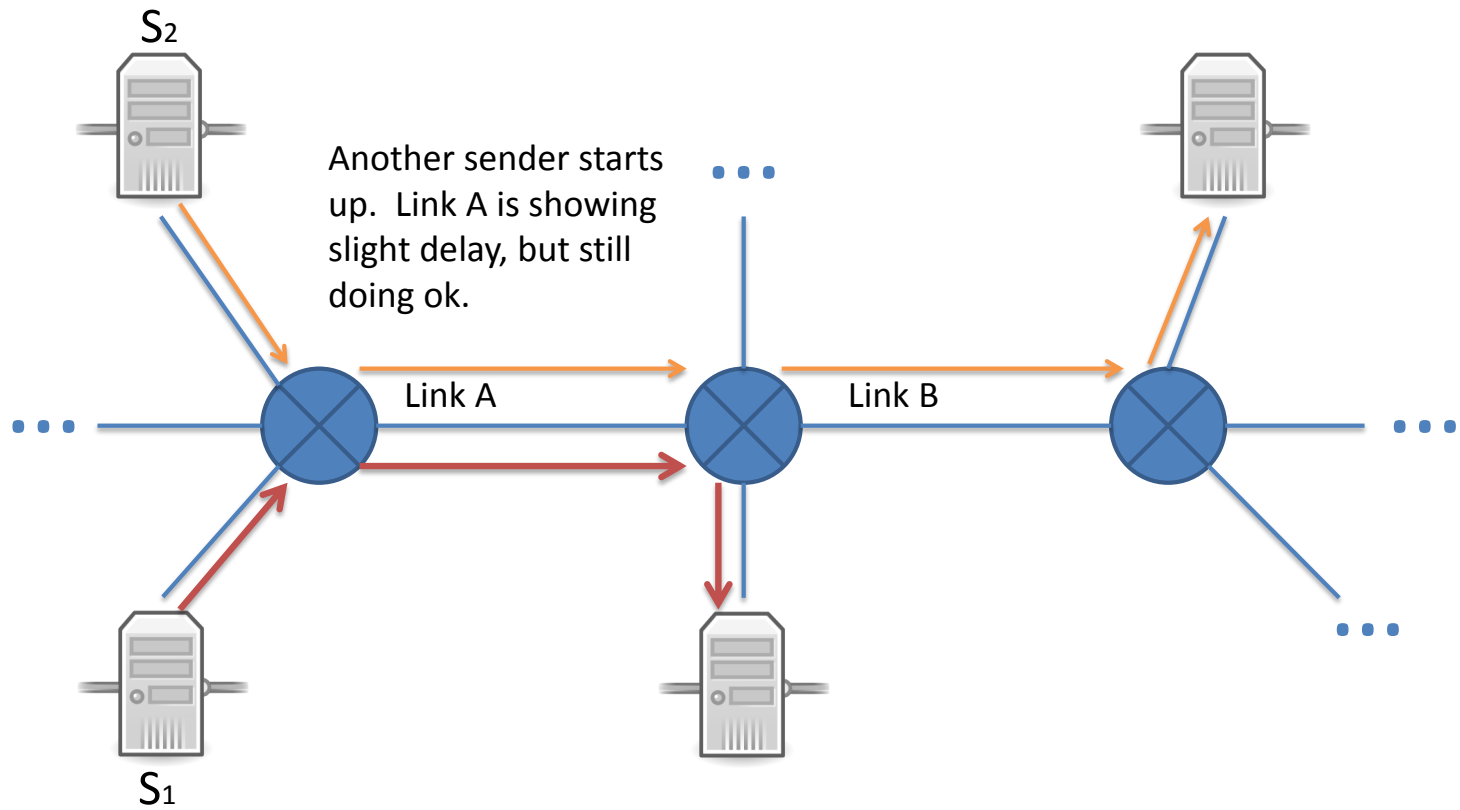




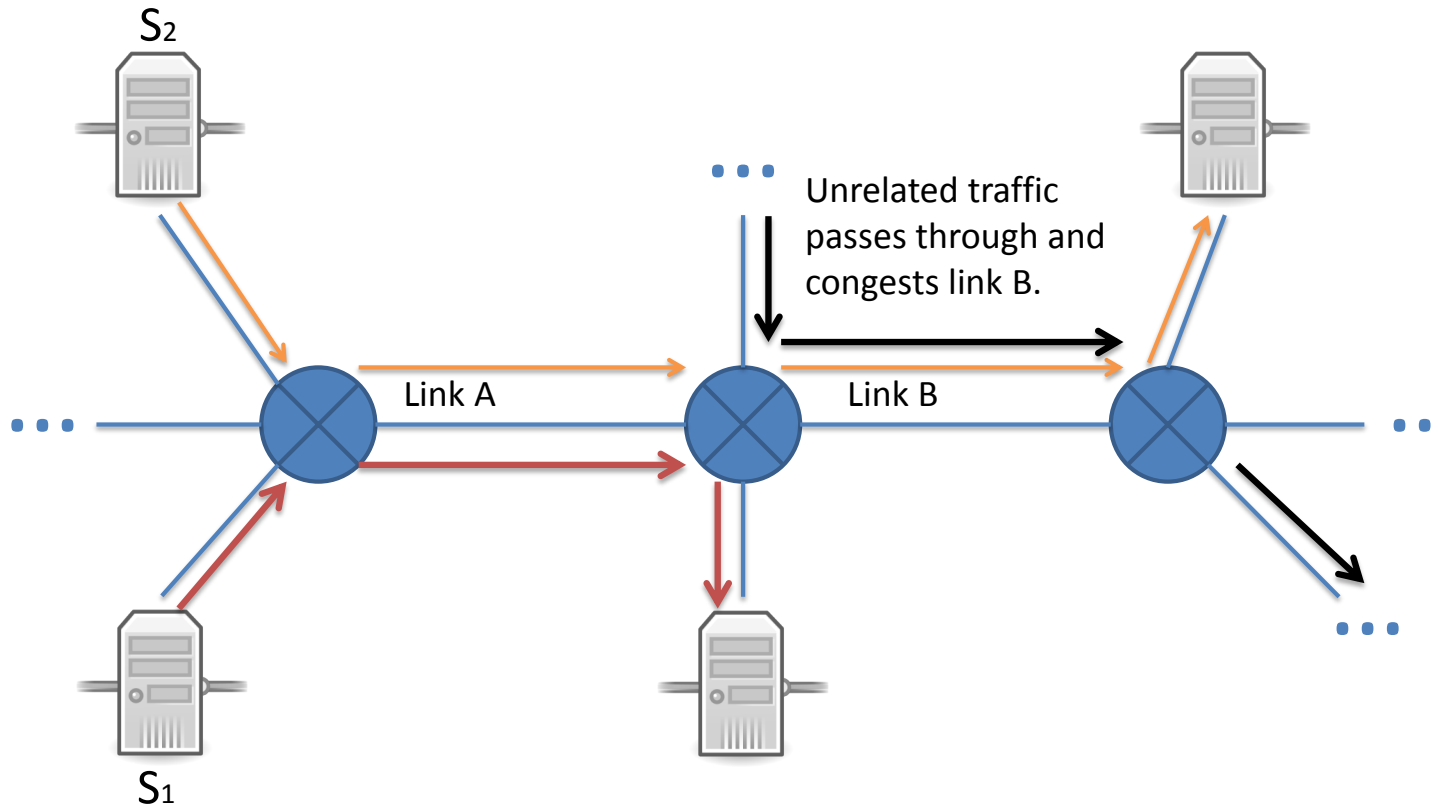
# Congestion Collapse



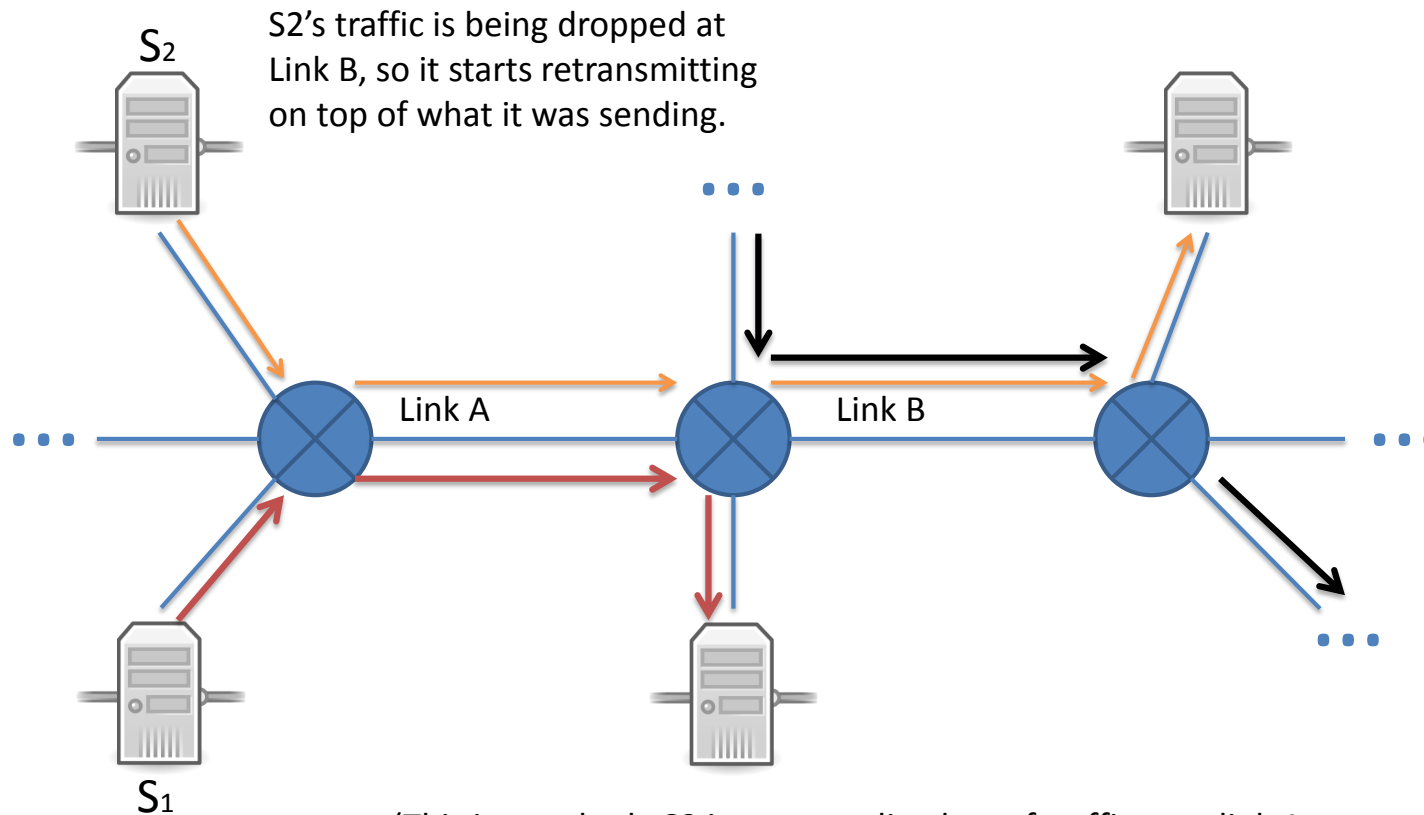
# Congestion Collapse



# Congestion Collapse

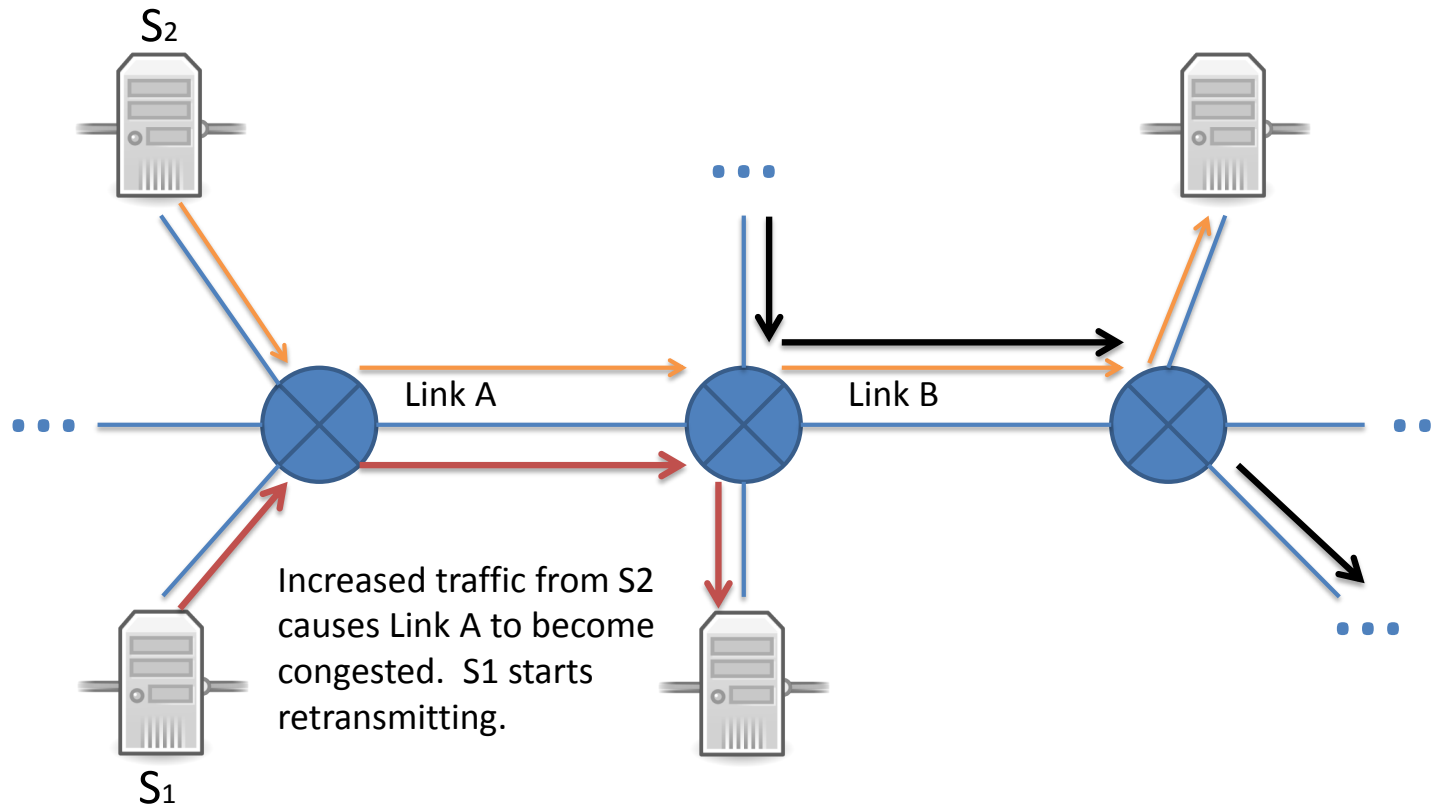


# Congestion Collapse

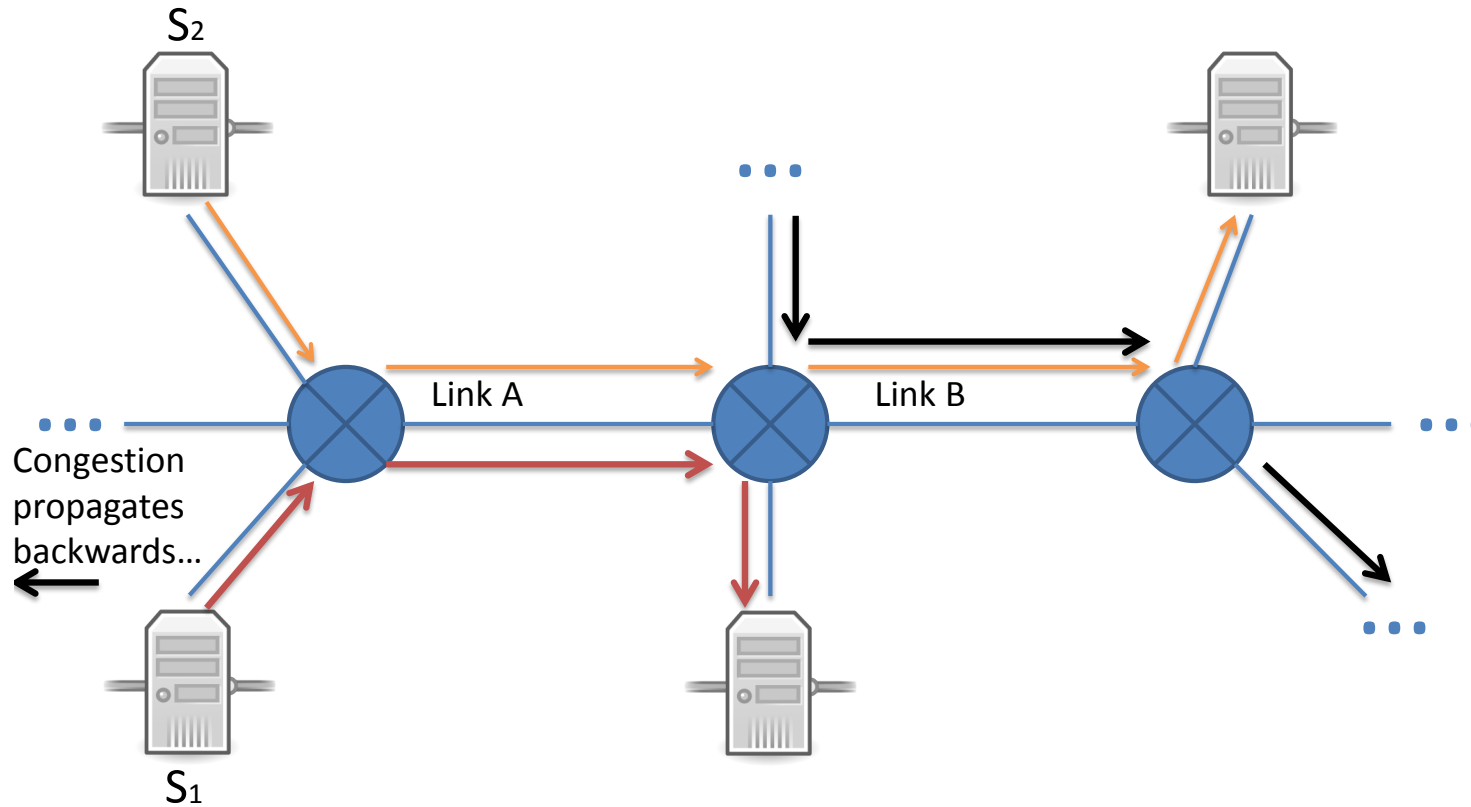


(This is very bad. S<sub>2</sub> is now sending lots of traffic over link A that has no hope of crossing link B.)

# Congestion Collapse



# Congestion Collapse



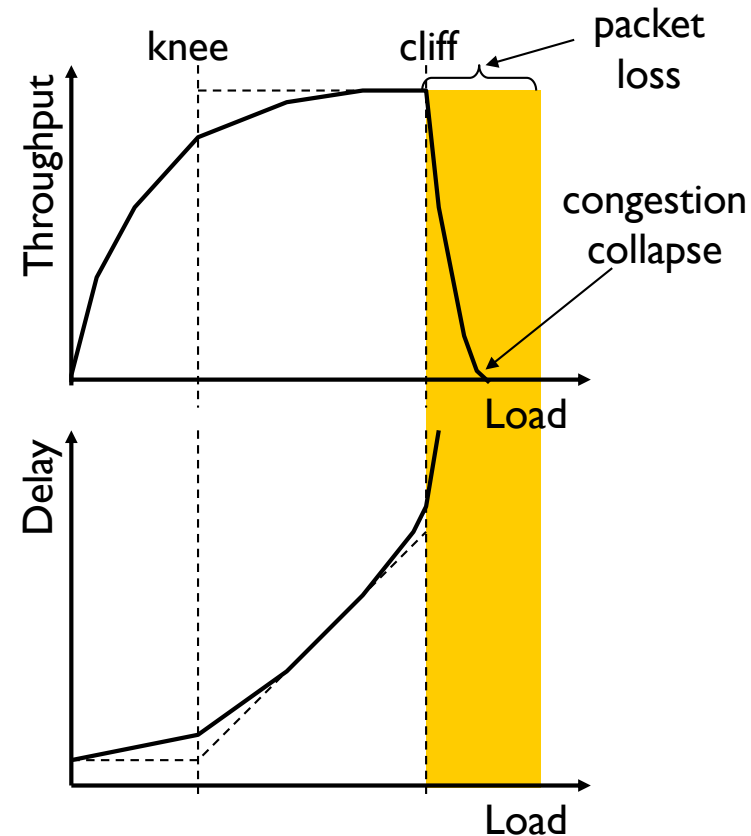
# Without congestion control

## *congestion:*

- ❖ Increases delays
  - If delays  $>$  RTO, sender retransmits
- ❖ Increases loss rate
  - Dropped packets also retransmitted
- ❖ Increases retransmissions, many unnecessary
  - Wastes capacity of traffic that is never delivered
  - Increase in load results in decrease in useful work done
- ❖ Increases congestion, cycle continues ...

# Cost of Congestion

- ❖ Knee – point after which
  - Throughput increases slowly
  - Delay increases fast
- ❖ Cliff – point after which
  - Throughput starts to drop to zero (congestion collapse)
  - Delay approaches infinity





# Congestion Collapse

*This happened to the Internet (then NSFnet) in 1986*

- ❖ Rate dropped from a *blazing* 32 Kbps to 40bps
- ❖ This happened on and off for *two years*
- ❖ In 1988, Van Jacobson published “Congestion Avoidance and Control”
- ❖ The fix: senders voluntarily limit sending rate

# 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 for sender to send at

# Transport Layer: Outline

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- segment structure
- reliable data transfer
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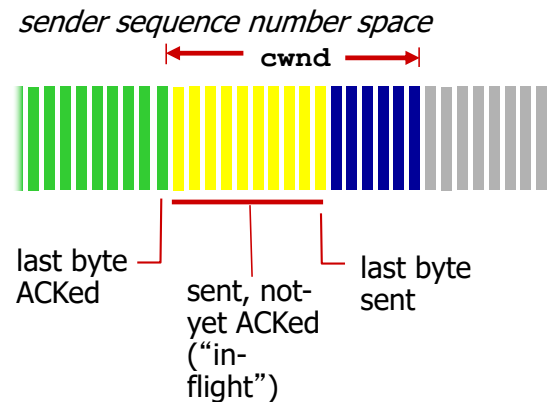
3.6 principles of congestion control

3.7 TCP congestion control

# TCP's Approach in a Nutshell

- ❖ TCP connection maintains a window
  - Controls number of packets in flight
- ❖ *TCP sending rate:*
  - *roughly:* send cwnd bytes, wait RTT for ACKs, then send more bytes

$$\text{rate} \approx \frac{\text{cwnd}}{\text{RTT}} \text{ bytes/sec}$$



- ❖ **Vary window size to control sending rate**

# All These Windows...

- ❖ Congestion Window: **CWND**
  - How many bytes can be sent without overflowing routers
  - Computed by the sender using congestion control algorithm
- ❖ Flow control window: **Advertised / Receive Window (RWND)**
  - How many bytes can be sent without overflowing receiver's buffers
  - Determined by the receiver and reported to the sender
- ❖ Sender-side window = **minimum**{**CWND**, **RWND**}
  - Assume for this discussion that  $RWND \gg CWND$

# CWND

- ❖ This lecture will talk about CWND in units of MSS
  - (Recall MSS: Maximum Segment Size, the amount of payload data in a TCP packet)
  - This is only for pedagogical purposes
  
- ❖ Keep in mind that real implementations maintain CWND in bytes

# Two Basic Questions

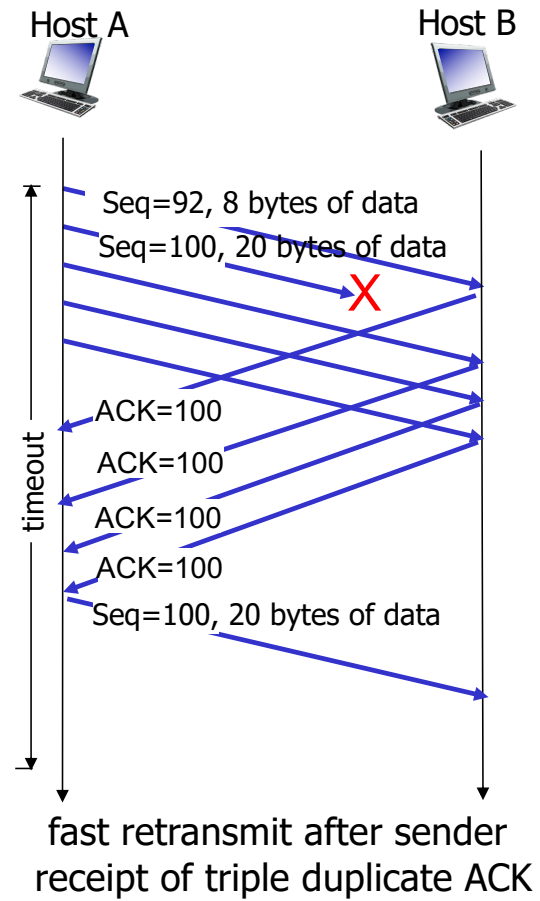
- ❖ How does the sender detect congestion?
- ❖ How does the sender adjust its sending rate?

# Detection Congestion: Infer Loss

- ❖ Duplicate ACKs: isolated loss
  - dup ACKs indicate network capable of delivering some segments
- ❖ Timeout: much more serious
  - Not enough dup ACKs
  - Must have suffered several losses
- ❖ Will adjust rate differently for each case



# RECAP: TCP fast retransmit (dup acks)

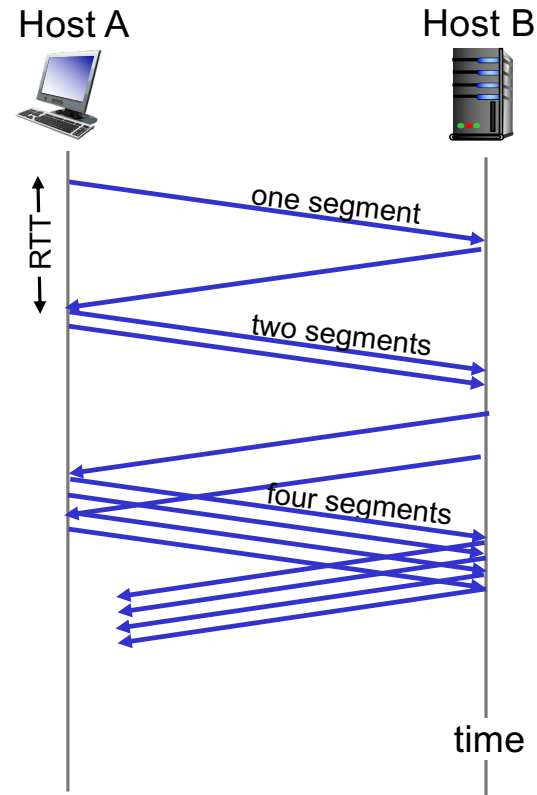


# Rate Adjustment

- ❖ Basic structure:
  - Upon receipt of ACK (of new data): increase rate
  - Upon detection of loss: decrease rate
- ❖ How we increase/decrease the rate depends on the phase of congestion control we're in:
  - Discovering available bottleneck bandwidth vs.
  - Adjusting to bandwidth variations

# TCP Slow Start (Bandwidth discovery)

- ❖ when connection begins, increase rate **exponentially** until **first loss event**:
  - initially **cwnd** = 1 MSS
  - double **cwnd** every RTT (full ACKs)
  - Simpler implementation achieved by incrementing **cwnd** for every ACK received
    - $cwnd += 1$  for each ACK
- ❖ **summary**: initial rate is slow but ramps up exponentially fast



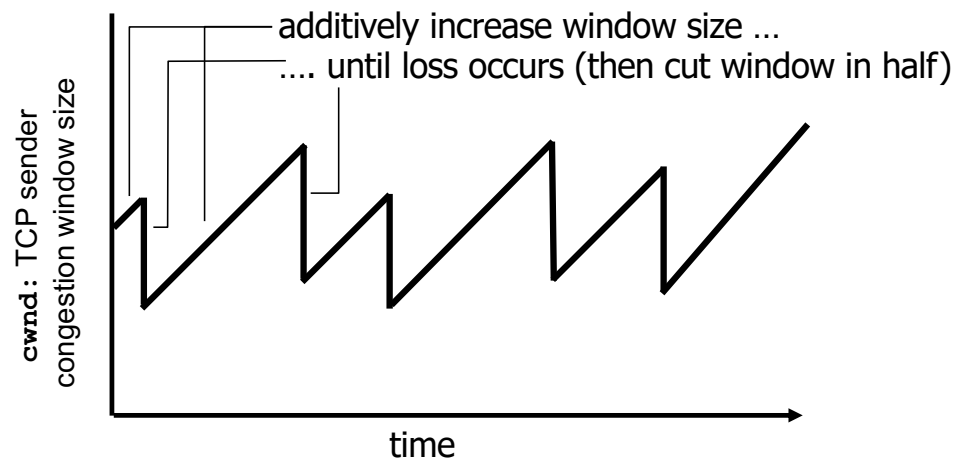
# Adjusting to Varying Bandwidth

- ❖ Slow start gave an estimate of available bandwidth
- ❖ Now, want to track variations in this available bandwidth, oscillating around its current value
  - Repeated probing (rate increase) and backoff (rate decrease)
  - Known as Congestion Avoidance (CA)
- ❖ TCP uses: “Additive Increase Multiplicative Decrease” (AIMD)

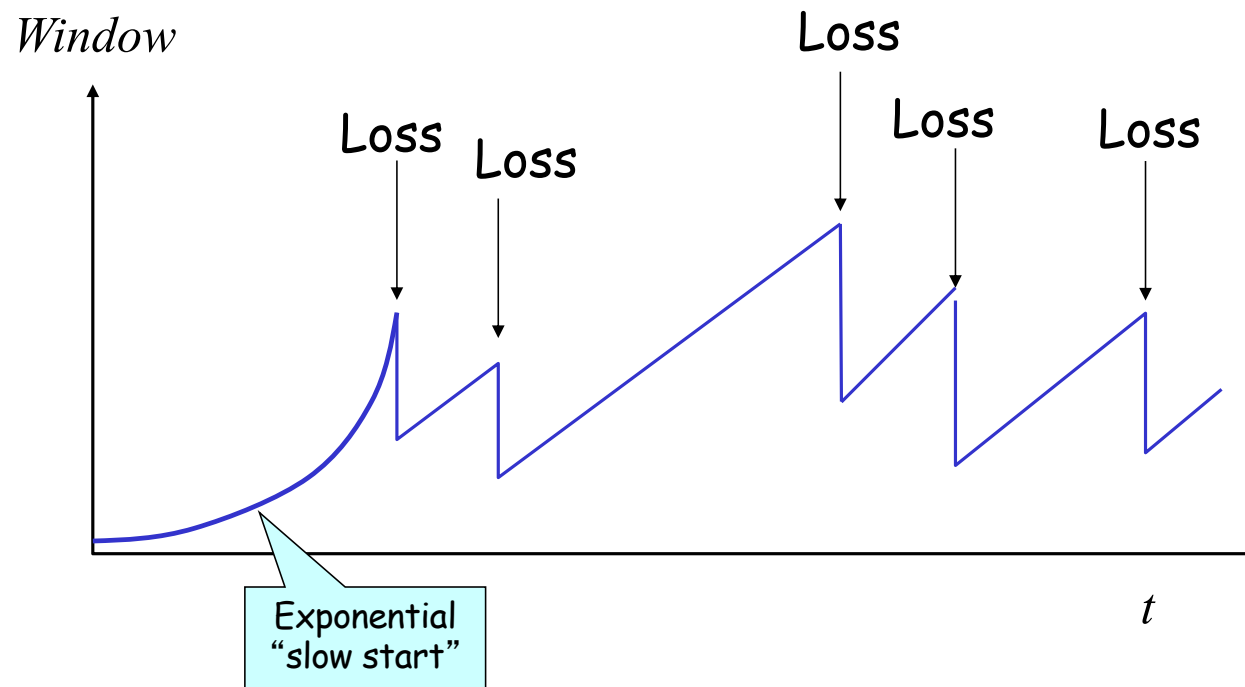
# AIMD

- ❖ *approach*: sender increases transmission rate (window size), probing for usable bandwidth, until another congestion event occurs
  - *additive increase*: increase **cwnd** by 1 MSS every RTT until loss detected
    - For each successful RTT (all ACKS),  $\text{cwnd} = \text{cwnd} + 1$  (in multiples of MSS)
    - Simple implementation: for each ACK,  $\text{cwnd} = \text{cwnd} + 1/\text{cwnd}$  (since there are  $\text{cwnd}/\text{MSS}$  packets in a window)
  - *multiplicative decrease*: cut **cwnd** in half after loss

AIMD saw tooth behavior: probing for bandwidth



# Leads to the TCP “Sawtooth”



# Slow-Start vs. AIMD

- ❖ When does a sender stop Slow-Start and start Congestion Avoidance?
- ❖ Introduce a “slow start threshold” (**ssthresh**)
  - Initialized to a large value
- ❖ Convert to CA when  $cwnd = ssthresh$ , sender switches from slow-start to AIMD-style increase
  - On timeout,  $ssthresh = CWND/2$

# Implementation

## ❖ State at sender

- **CWND** (initialized to a small constant)
- **ssthresh** (initialized to a large constant)
- [Also **dupACKcount** and **timer**, as before]

## ❖ Events

- ACK (new data)
- dupACK (duplicate ACK for old data)
- Timeout



## Event: ACK (new data)

- ❖ If  $CWND < ssthresh$ 
  - $CWND += 1$

- Hence after one RTT (All ACKs with no drops):  
 $CWND = 2 \times CWND$

## Event: ACK (new data)

- ❖ If  $CWND < ssthresh$ 
  - $CWND += 1$

} *Slow start phase*

- ❖ Else
  - $CWND = CWND + 1/CWND$

} *“Congestion Avoidance” phase  
(additive increase)*

- Hence after one RTT (All ACKs with no drops):  
 $CWND = CWND + 1$

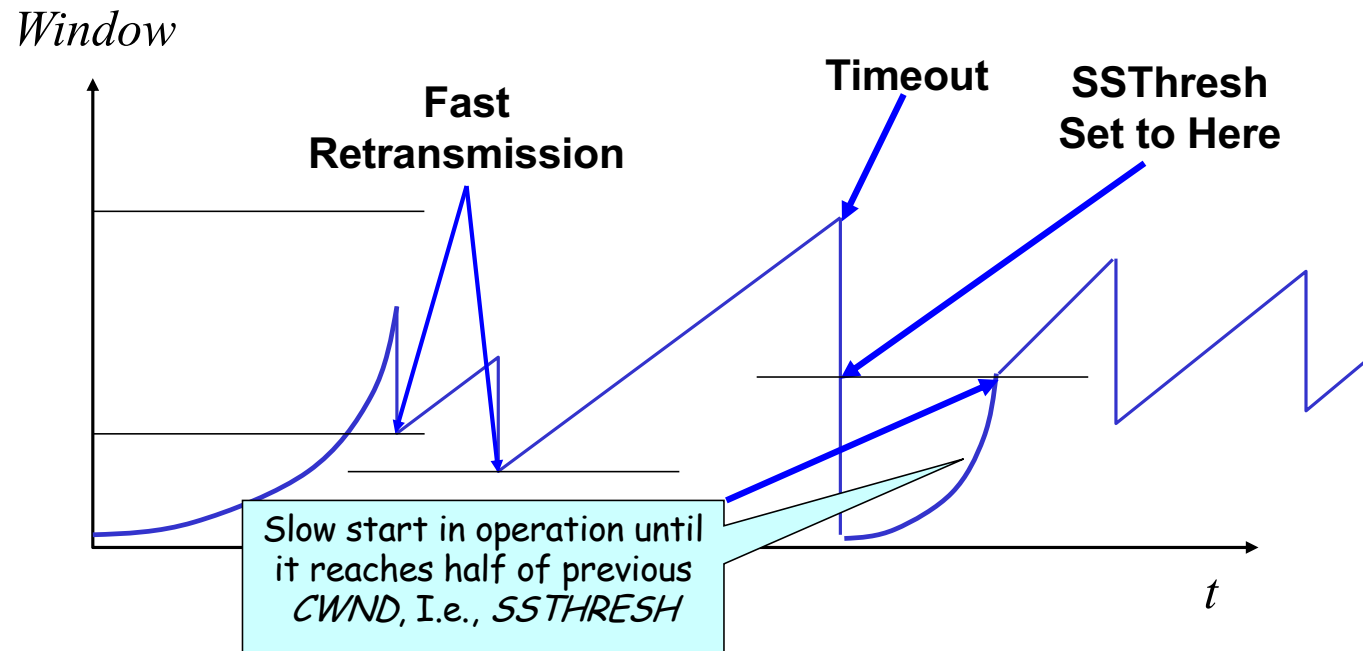
# Event: dupACK

- ❖ dupACKcount ++
- ❖ If dupACKcount = 3 /\* fast retransmit \*/
  - ssthresh = CWND/2
  - **CWND = CWND/2**

# Event: TimeOut

- ❖ On Timeout
  - $ssthresh \leftarrow CWND/2$
  - $CWND \leftarrow 1$

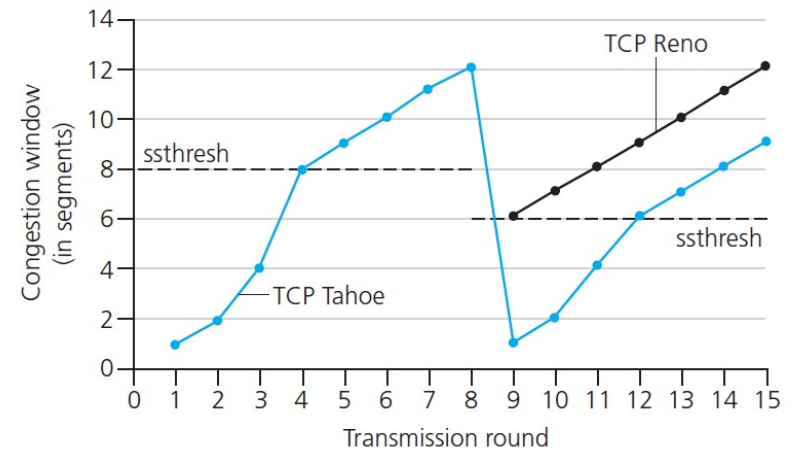
# Example



Slow-start restart: Go back to CWND = 1 MSS, but take advantage of knowing the previous value of CWND

# TCP Flavours

- ❖ TCP-Tahoe
  - $cwnd = 1$  on triple dup ACK & timeout
- ❖ TCP-Reno
  - $cwnd = 1$  on timeout
  - $cwnd = cwnd/2$  on triple dup ACK
- ❖ TCP-newReno
  - TCP-Reno + improved fast recovery (SKIPPED)
- ❖ TCP-SACK (NOT COVERED IN THE COURSE)
  - incorporates selective acknowledgements





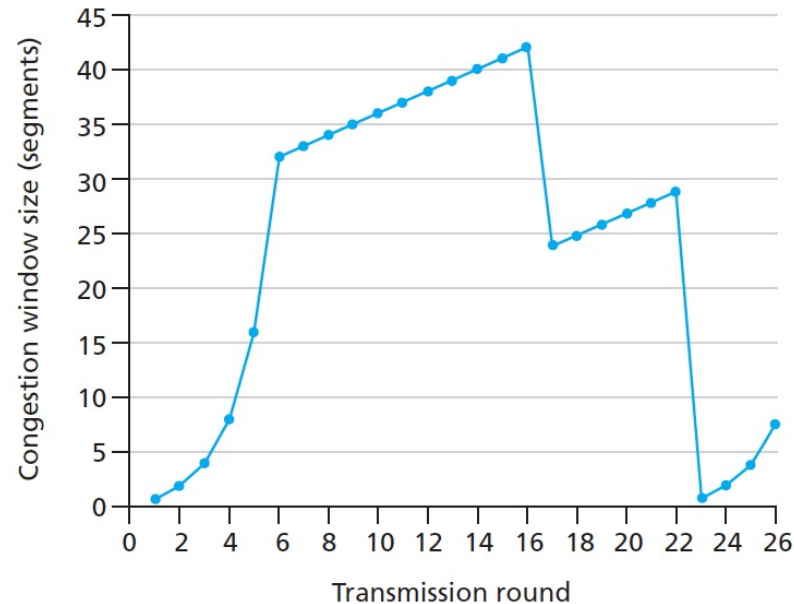
## Quiz: TCP Congestion Control?

In the figure how many congestion avoidance intervals can you identify?

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4

**Answer: C**  
**6 to 16, 17 to 22**

Note: the transition at round 17 is not entirely accurate, the window should reduce to 21 (currently 24)



## Quiz: TCP Congestion Control?

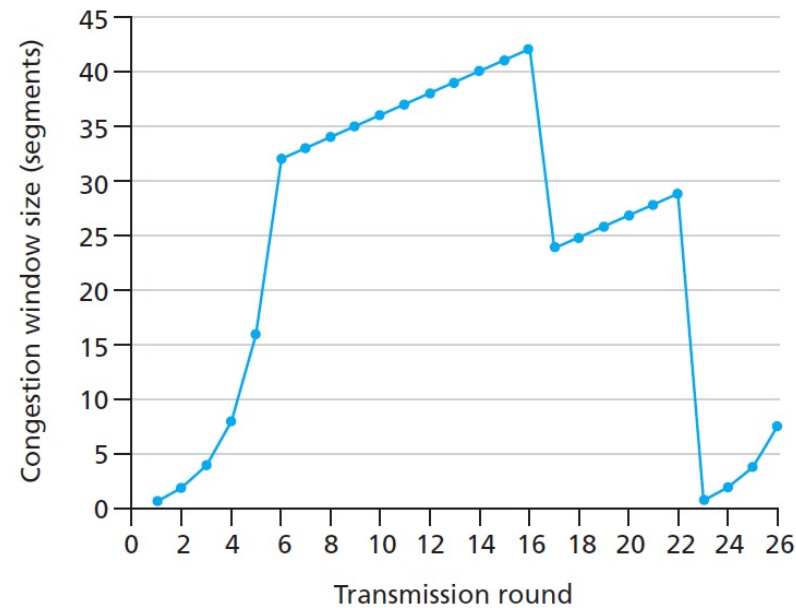


In the figure how many slow start intervals can you identify?

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4

**Answer: C**

**Round 1 – 6, and Round 23-26**





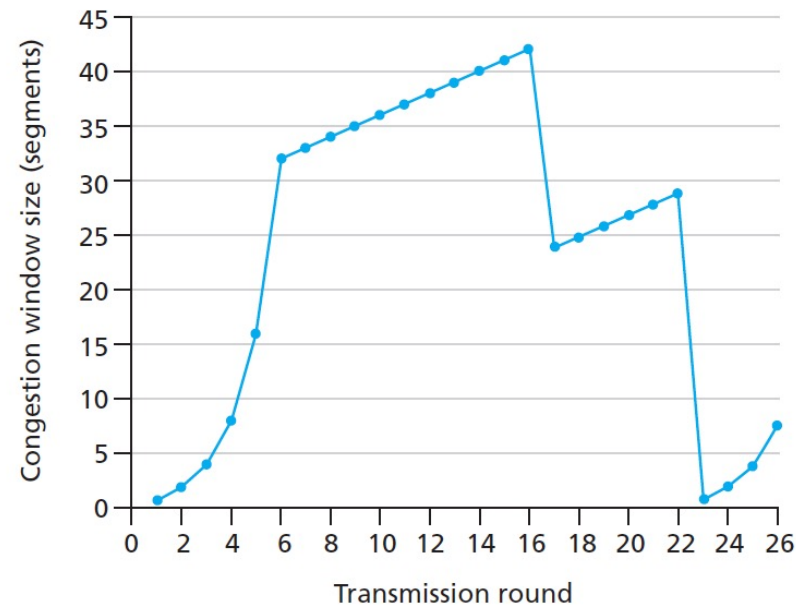


## Quiz: TCP Congestion Control?

In the figure after the 16<sup>th</sup> transmission round, segment loss is detected by \_\_\_\_\_ ?

- A. Triple Dup Ack
- B. Timeout

**Answer: A as the window is cut to half the previous value**



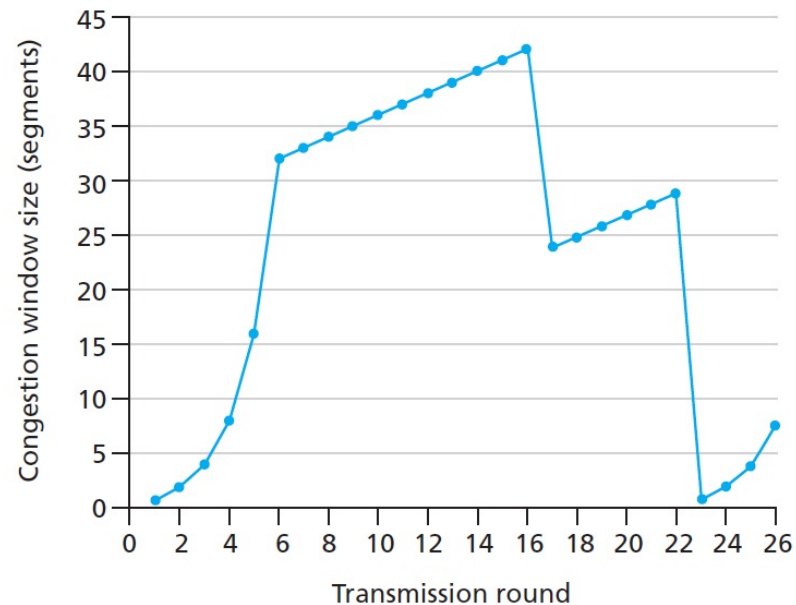
# Quiz: TCP Congestion Control?



In the figure what is the initial value of  $ssthresh$  (steady state threshold)?

- A. 0
- B. 28
- C. 32
- D. 42
- E. 64

**Answer: C** (In Round 6, there is a transition from slow start to Congestion avoidance when the window is equal to 32 ( $ssthresh$ ))



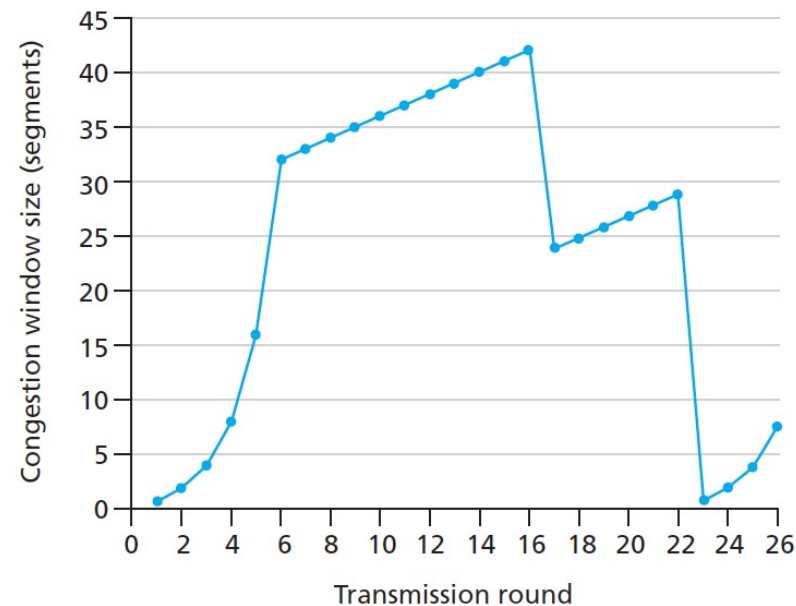


## Quiz: TCP Congestion Control?

In the figure what is the value of  $ssthresh$  (steady state threshold) at the 18<sup>th</sup> round?

- A. 1
- B. 32
- C. 42
- D. 21
- E. 20

**Answer: D**  
( $ssthresh$  is set to 21 when a triple dup ack event is encountered in the 16<sup>th</sup> round)



# Evolving transport-layer functionality

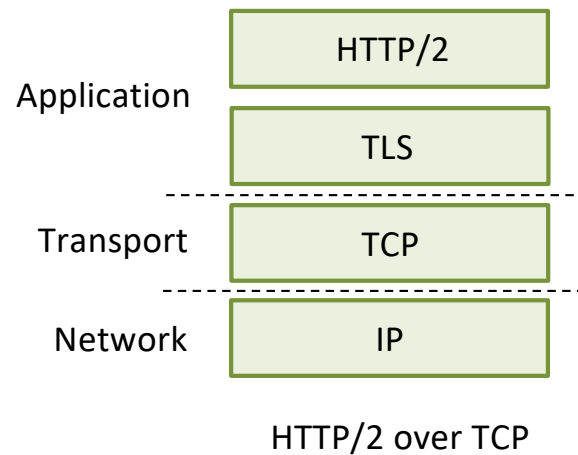
- ❖ TCP, UDP: principal transport protocols for 40 years
- ❖ different “flavors” of TCP developed, for specific scenarios:

Scenario	Challenges
Long, fat pipes (large data transfers)	Many packets “in flight”; loss shuts down pipeline
Wireless networks	Loss due to noisy wireless links, mobility; TCP treat this as congestion loss
Long-delay links	Extremely long RTTs
Data center networks	Latency sensitive
Background traffic flows	Low priority, “background” TCP flows

- moving transport-layer functions to application layer, on top of UDP
  - HTTP/3: QUIC

# QUIC: Quick UDP Internet Connections

- ❖ application-layer protocol, on top of UDP
  - increase performance of HTTP
  - deployed on many Google servers, apps (Chrome, mobile YouTube app)

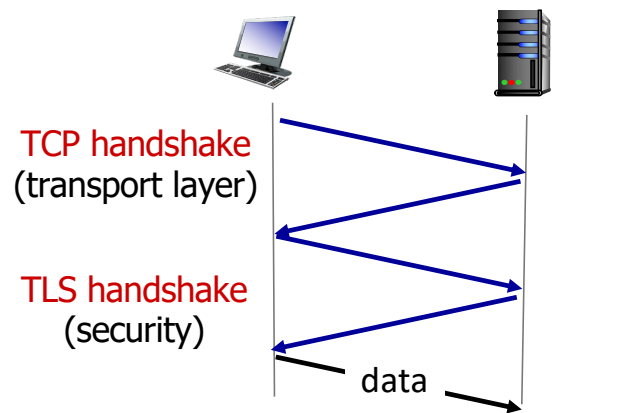


# QUIC: Quick UDP Internet Connections

adopts approaches we've studied in this chapter for connection establishment, error control, congestion control

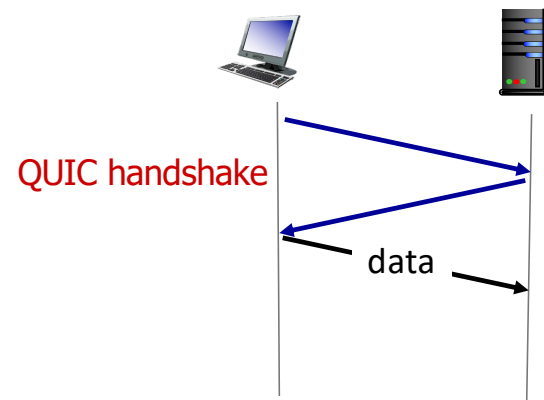
- **error and congestion control:** “Readers familiar with TCP’s loss detection and congestion control will find algorithms here that parallel well-known TCP ones.” [from QUIC specification]
- **connection establishment:** reliability, congestion control, authentication, encryption, state established in one RTT
- ❖ multiple application-level “streams” multiplexed over single QUIC connection
  - separate reliable data transfer, security
  - common congestion control

# QUIC: Connection establishment



TCP (reliability, congestion control state) + TLS (authentication, crypto state)

- 2 serial handshakes

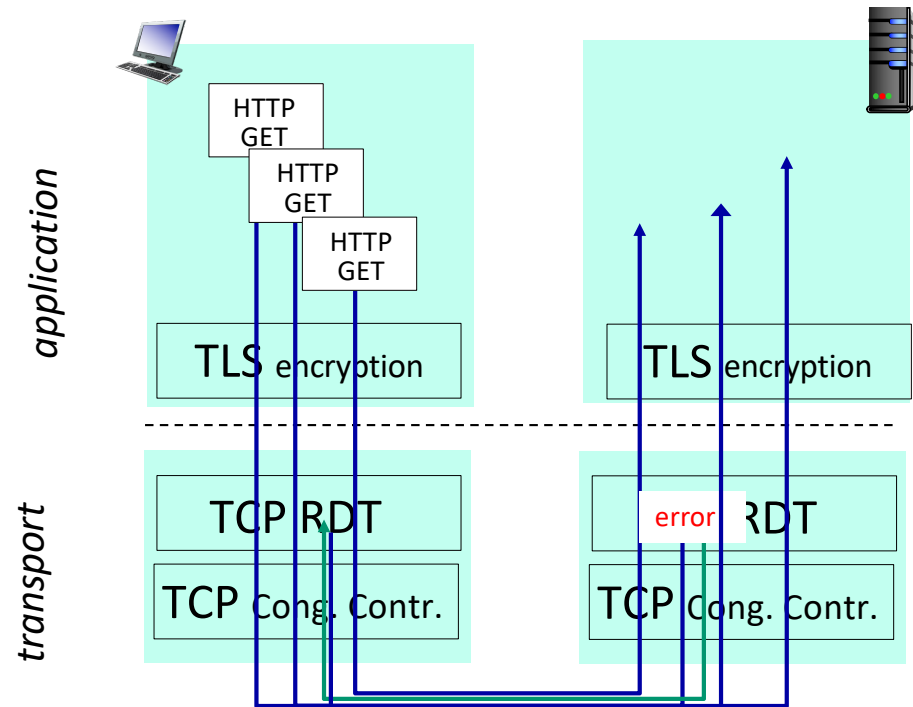


QUIC: reliability, congestion control, authentication, crypto state

- 1 handshake

NOT ON EXAM

# QUIC: streams: parallelism, no HOL blocking



(a) HTTP 1.1



# Transport Layer: Summary

- ❖ principles behind transport layer services:
  - multiplexing, demultiplexing
  - reliable data transfer
  - flow control
  - congestion control
- ❖ instantiation, implementation in the Internet
  - UDP
  - TCP

## next:

- ❖ leaving the network “edge” (application, transport layers)
- ❖ into the network “core”