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# Network Layer: Link Layer; Course Summary

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<https://sngroup.org.cn/courses/cnns-xmuf25/index.shtml>

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# Recap: IP Addressing Scheme: Requirements

- ❑ Uniqueness: We need an address to **uniquely** identify each destination
- ❑ Aggregability : Routing scalability needs flexibility in **aggregation** of destination addresses
  - we want to aggregate as a large set of destinations as possible in BGP announcements
- ❑ Current: the unit of routing in the Internet is a classless interdomain routing (CIDR) address

# Recap: Network Forwarding: Putting it Together

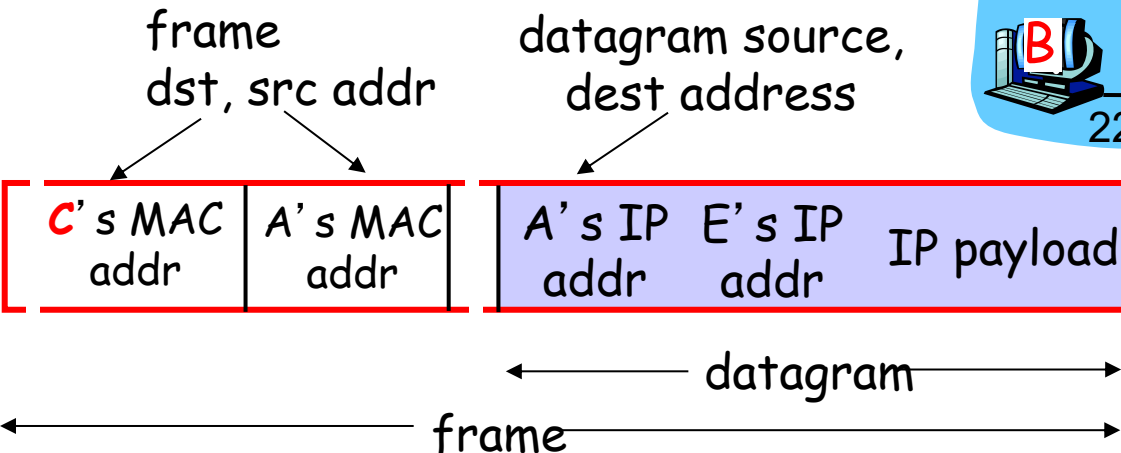
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- ❑ Forwarding is also called the fast path (upon receiving each packet)
- ❑ Slow path: not per packet
  - Get IP address (DHCP, or static)
  - Setup/compute routing table

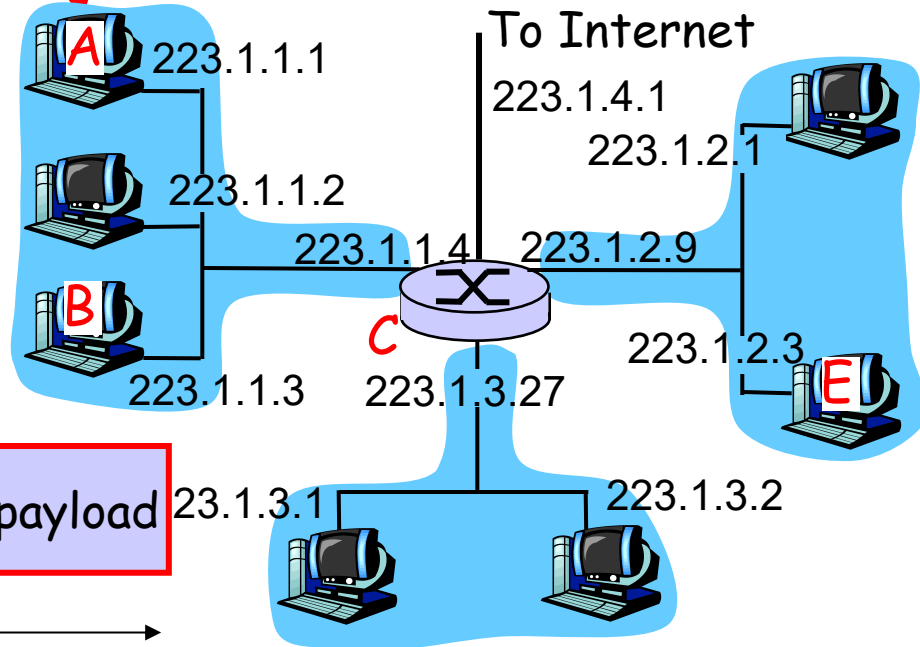
## Recap: Putting it Together: Example 2 (Different Networks): A->E

misc fields	223.1.1.1	223.1.2.3	data
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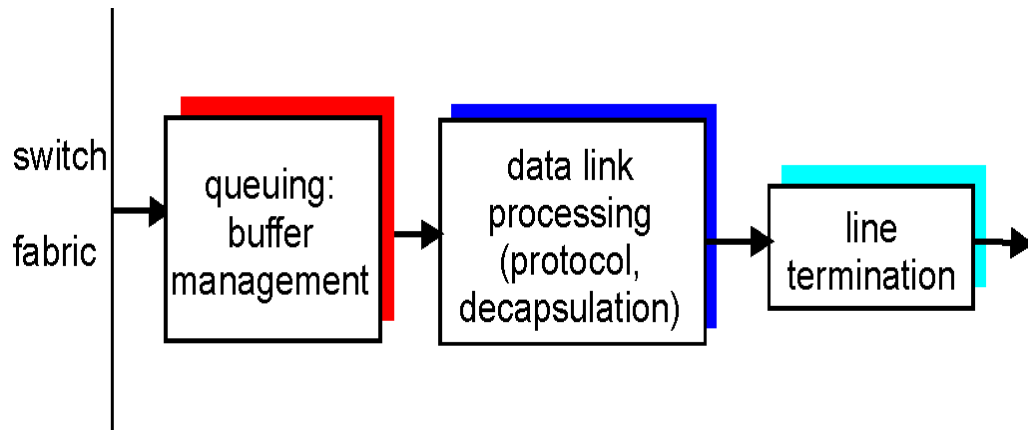
- ❑ Setting: Host A network layer receives a packet above.
- ❑ Action:
  - Host A looks up destination in routing table
    - Find next hop should be 223.1.1.4
  - Hand datagram to link layer to send inside a link-layer frame



Dest. Net.	next router	Nhops
223.1.1/24		1
223.1.2/24	223.1.1.4	2
223.1.3/24	223.1.1.4	2
0.0.0.0/0	223.1.1.4	-



# Recap: Look Inside a Router: Output Port



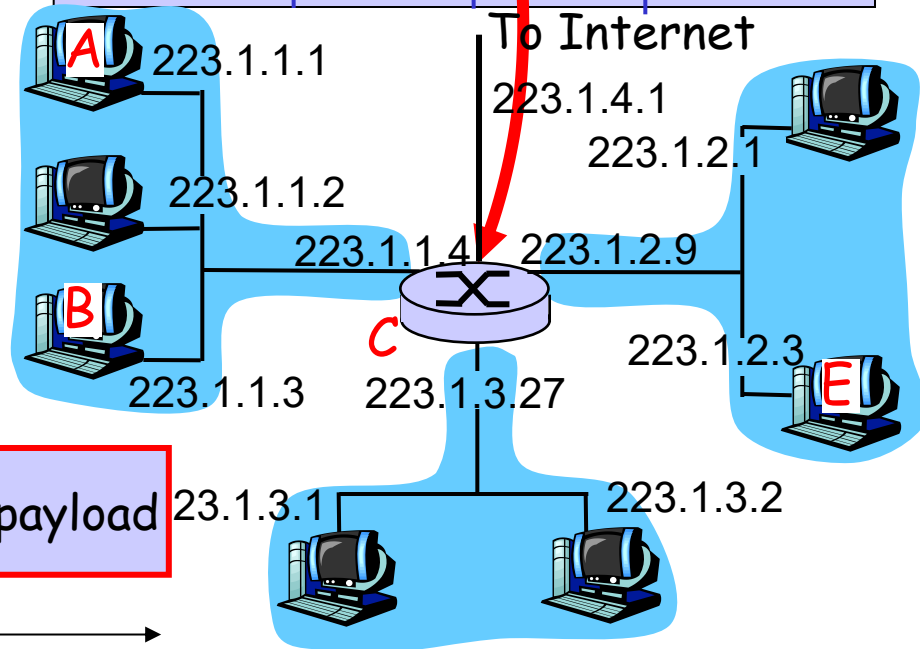
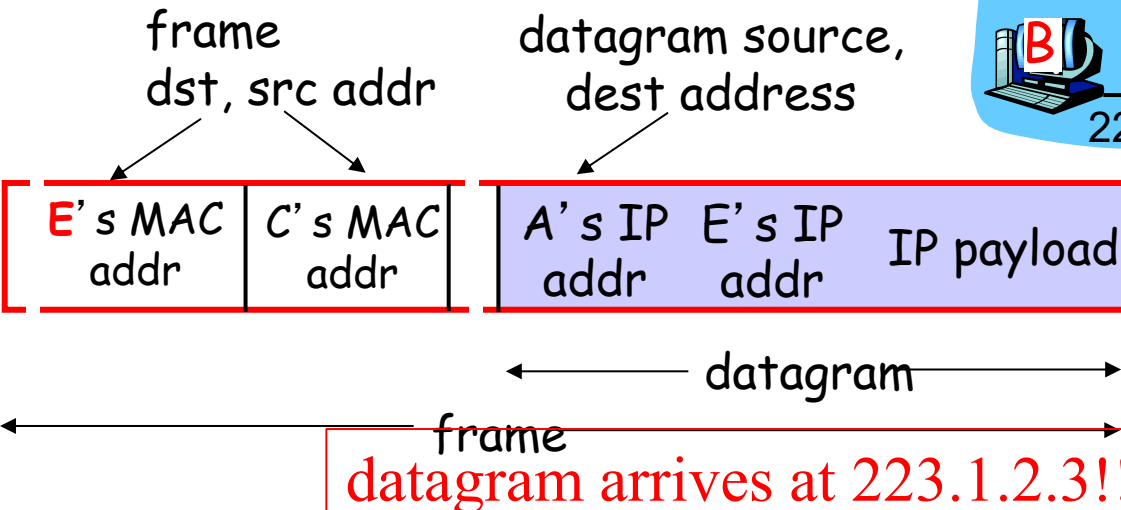
- ❑ *Buffering* required when datagrams arrive from fabric faster than the transmission rate
- ❑ *Queueing (delay) and loss* due to output port buffer overflow !
- ❑ *Scheduling and queue/buffer management* choose among queued datagrams for transmission

## Recap: Putting it Together: Example 2 (Different Networks): A-> E

misc fields	223.1.1.1	223.1.2.3	data
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- ❑ Setting: Packet above arrives at Router C's network layer.
- ❑ Action:
  - Router C conducts standard router actions
    - Assume packet correct, find next hop should be 223.1.2.9
  - Hand datagram to link layer to send inside a link-layer frame

forwarding table in router			
Dest. Net	router	Nhops	interface
223.1.1/24	-	1	223.1.1.4
223.1.2/24	-	1	223.1.2.9
223.1.3/24	-	1	223.1.3.27
0.0.0.0/0	-	-	223.1.4.1



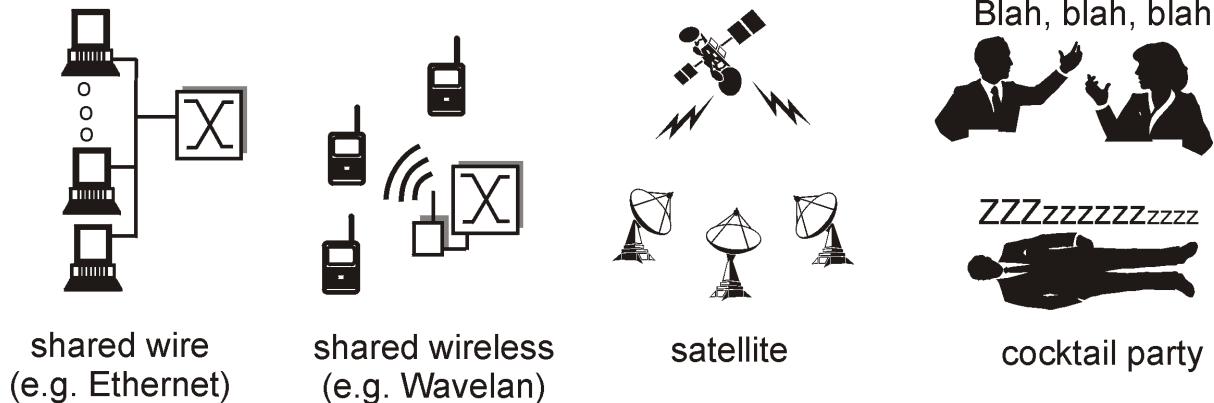
# Outline

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- ❑ Admin and recap
- ❑ Network layer
- ❑ Link layer
  - Overview
  - Media access
  - Link layer forwarding

## Multiple Access Links and Protocols

- ❑ Many link layers use **broadcast** (shared wire or medium)
  - traditional Ethernet; Cable networks
  - 802.11 wireless LAN; cellular networks
  - satellite



- ❑ Problem: if two or more simultaneous transmissions, due to **interference**, only one node can send successfully at a time (see CDMA later for an exception)



# Multiple Access Protocol

- ❑ Protocol that determines how nodes share channel, i.e., determines when nodes can transmit
- ❑ Communication about channel sharing must use channel itself !
- ❑ Discussion: properties of an ideal multiple access protocol.

# Ideal Multiple Access Protocol

## Broadcast channel of rate $R$ bps

- ❑ Efficiency: when only one node wants to transmit, it can send at full rate  $R$
- ❑ Rate allocation:
  - simple fairness: when  $N$  nodes want to transmit, each can send at average rate  $R/N$
  - we may need more complex rate control
- ❑ Decentralized:
  - no special node to coordinate transmissions
  - no synchronization of clocks
- ❑ Simple

# MAC Protocols

## Goals

- ❑ efficient, fair, decentralized, simple

## Three broad classes:

- ❑ non-partitioning
  - random access
    - allow collisions
  - “taking-turns”
    - a token coordinates shared access to avoid collisions
- ❑ channel partitioning
  - divide channel into smaller “pieces”  
(time slot, frequency, code)

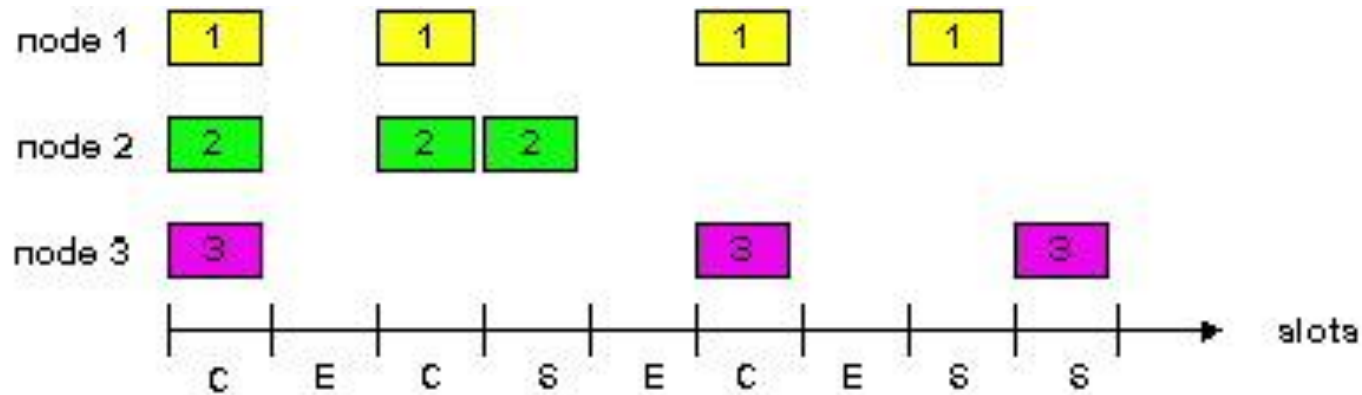
# Focus: Random Access Protocols

- ❑ Examples of random access MAC protocols:
  - slotted ALOHA and pure ALOHA
  - CSMA and CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA
  - Ethernet, WiFi 802.11
  
- ❑ Key design points:
  - when to access channel?
  - how to detect collisions?
  - how to recover from collisions?

# Slotted Aloha [Norm Abramson]



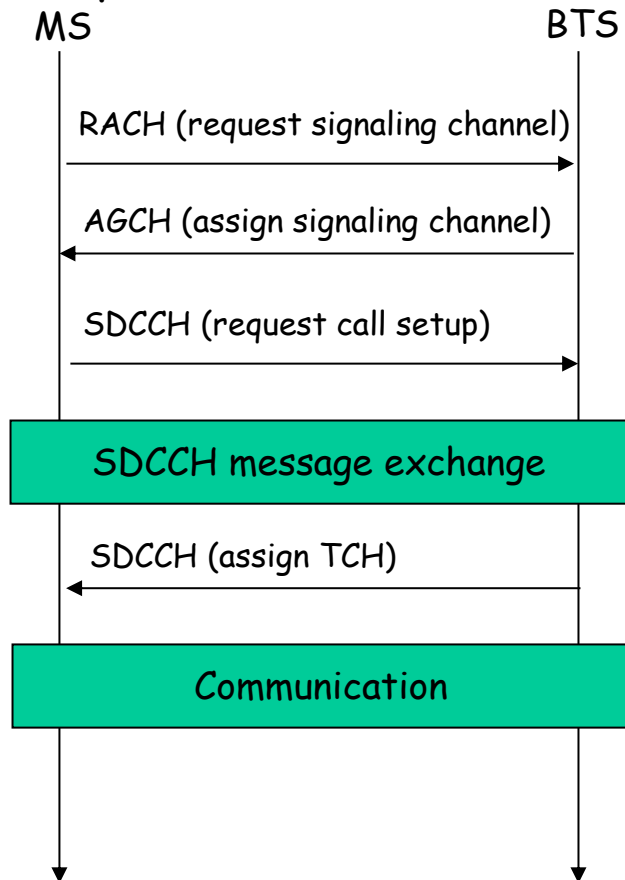
- ❑ Time is divided into equal size slots (= pkt trans. time)
- ❑ Node with new arriving pkt: transmit at beginning of next slot
- ❑ If collision: retransmit pkt in future slots with probability  $p$ , until successful.



Success (S), Collision (C), Empty (E) slots

# Slotted Aloha in Real Life

## ❑ call setup in GSM



## ❑ Notations:

- Broadcast control channel (BCCH): from base station, announces cell identifier, synchronization
- Random access channel (RACH): MSs for initial access, **slotted Aloha**
- access grant channel (AGCH): BTS informs an MS its allocation
- standalone dedicated control channel (SDCCH): signaling and short message between MS and an MS
- Traffic channels (TCH)

# Slotted Aloha Efficiency

Q: What is the fraction of successful slots?

suppose  $n$  stations have packets to send

suppose each transmits in a slot with probability  $p$

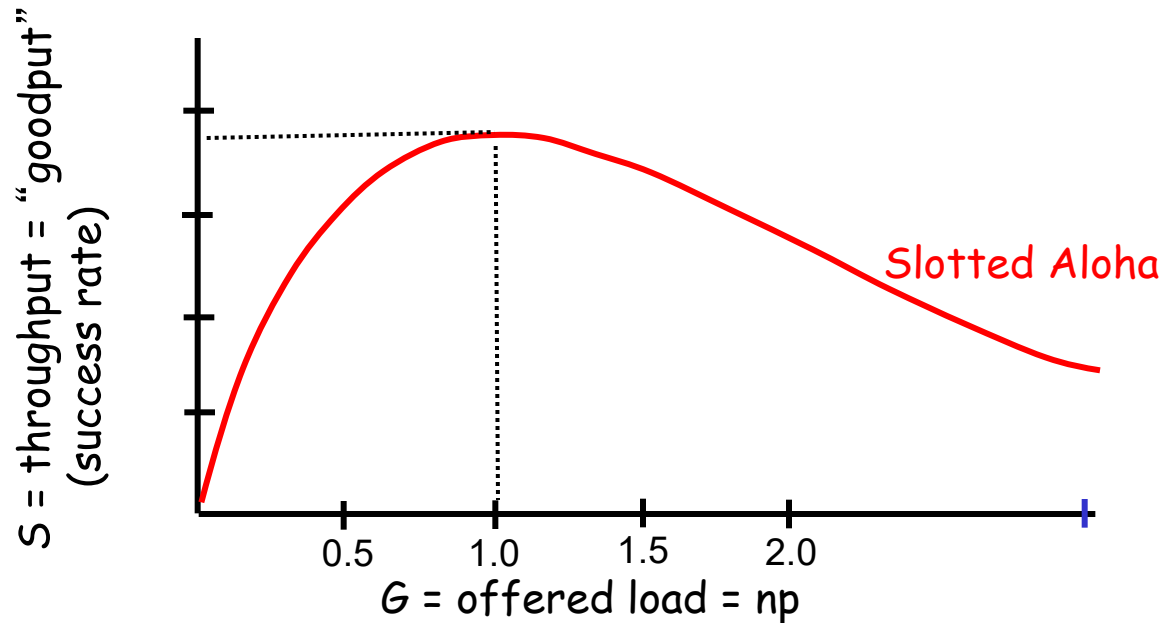
- prob. of succ. by a specific node:  $p (1-p)^{(n-1)}$

- prob. of succ. by any one of the  $N$  nodes

$$S(p) = n * \text{Prob (only one transmits)}$$

$$= n p (1-p)^{(n-1)}$$

# Goodput vs. Offered Load for Slotted Aloha



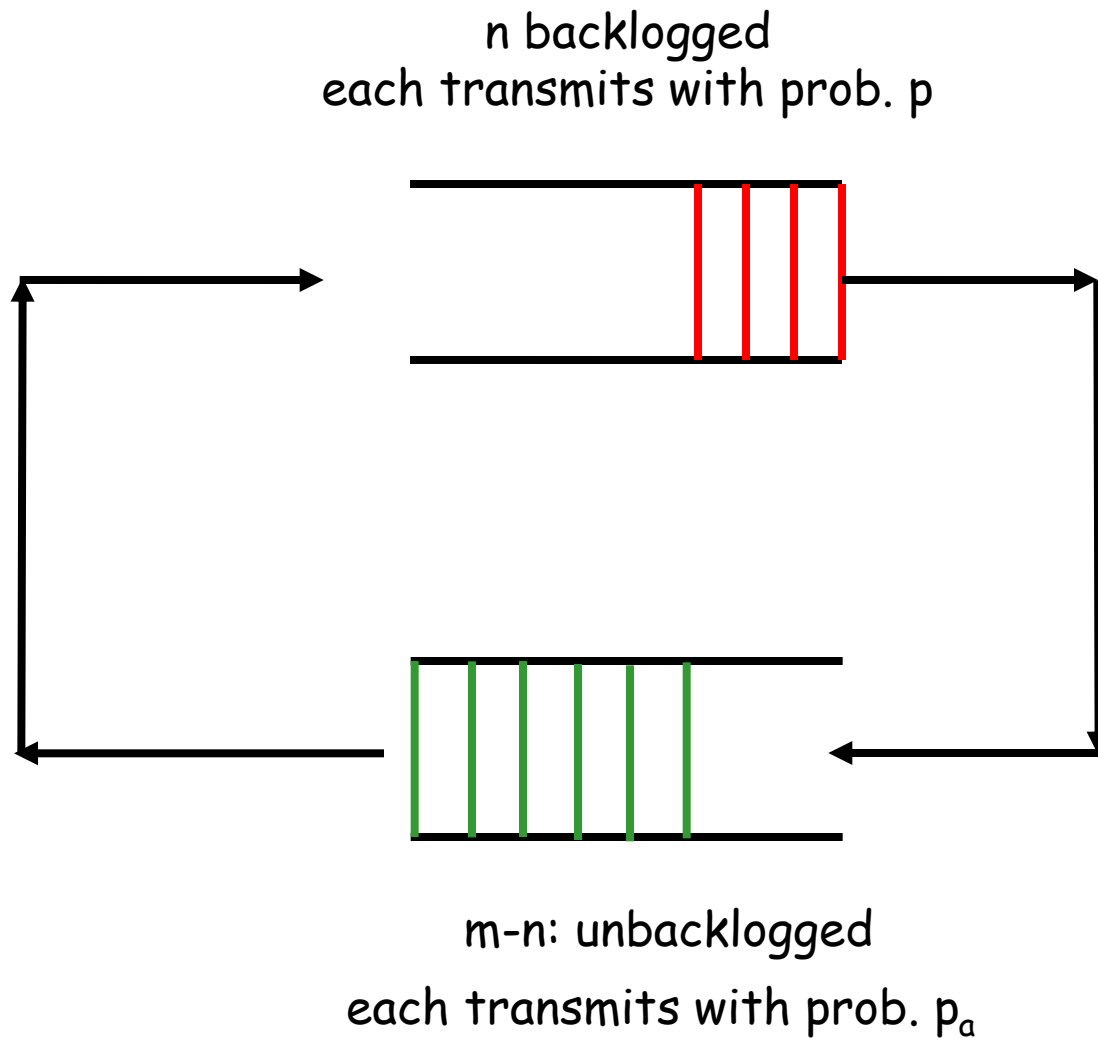
- ❑ when  $p n < 1$ , as  $p$  (or  $n$ ) increases
  - probability of empty slots reduces
  - probability of collision is still low, thus goodput increases
- ❑ when  $p n > 1$ , as  $p$  (or  $n$ ) increases,
  - probability of empty slots does not reduce much, but
  - probability of collision increases, thus goodput decreases
- ❑ goodput is optimal when  $p n = 1$ ,  $n \rightarrow \text{infinite}$ ,  $S \rightarrow 1/e$  (~37%)



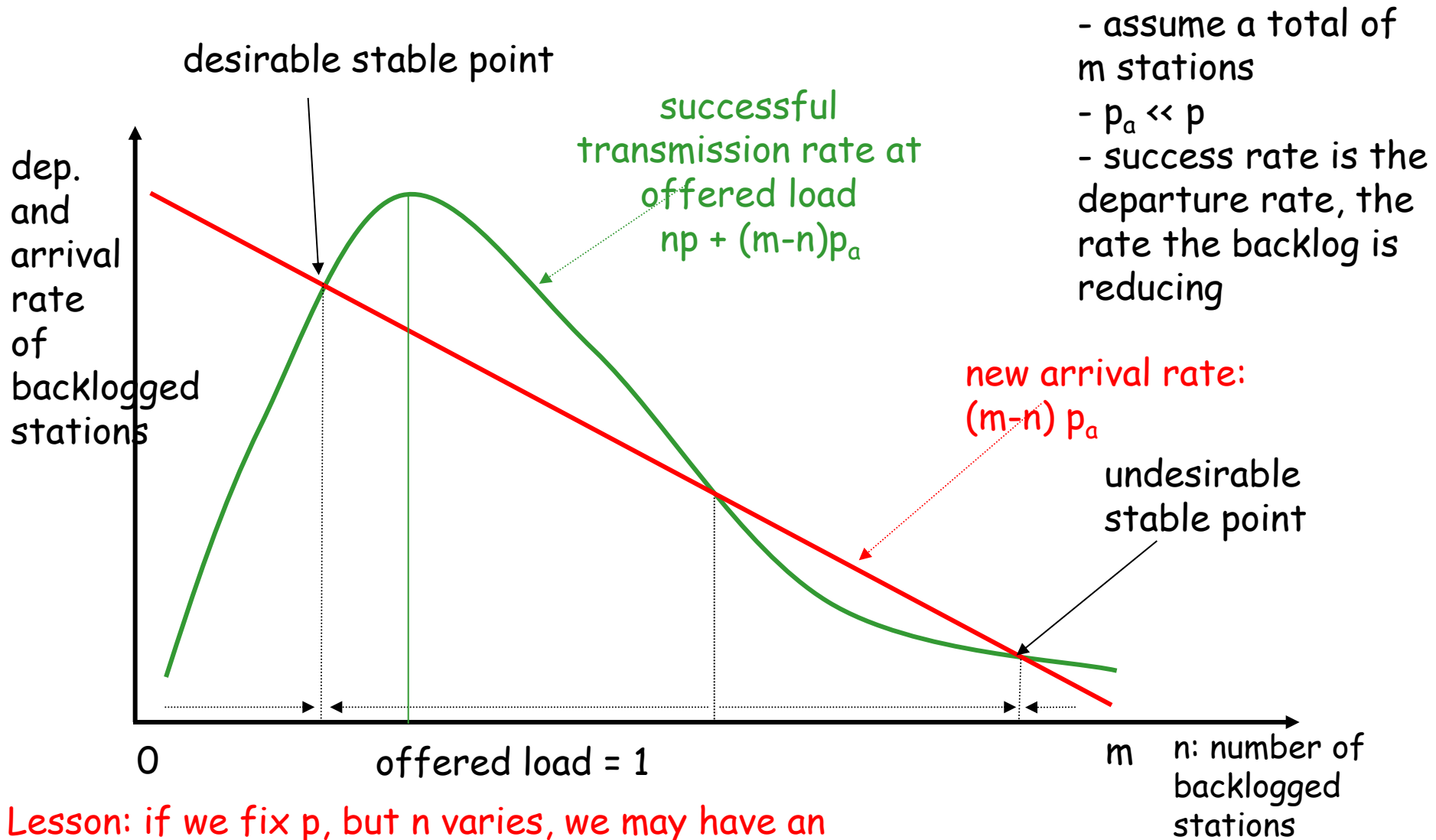
# Dynamics of (Slotted) Aloha

- ❑ Slotted Aloha has maximum throughput when  $np = 1$ 
  - Implies we need to adjust  $p$  as the number of backlog stations varies.
- ❑ Early design question: what is the effect if we do not change  $p$ --use a fixed  $p$ 
  - Assume we have a total of  $m$  stations (the machines on a LAN):
    - $n$  of them are currently backlogged, each tries with a (fixed) probability  $p$
    - the remaining  $m-n$  stations are not backlogged. They may start to generate packets with a probability  $p_a$ , where  $p_a$  is much smaller than  $p$

# Model



# Dynamics of Aloha: Effects of Fixed Probability



Lesson: if we fix  $p$ , but  $n$  varies, we may have an undesirable stable point

# Summary of Problems of Aloha Protocols

## ❑ Problems

- slotted Aloha has better efficiency than pure Aloha but clock synchronization is hard to achieve
- Aloha protocols have low efficiency due to collision or empty slots
  - when offered load is optimal ( $p = 1/N$ ), the goodput is only about 37%
  - when the offered load is not optimal, the goodput is even lower
- undesirable steady state at a fixed transmission rate, when the number of backlogged stations varies

## ❑ Ethernet design: address the problems:

- optimal transmission rate

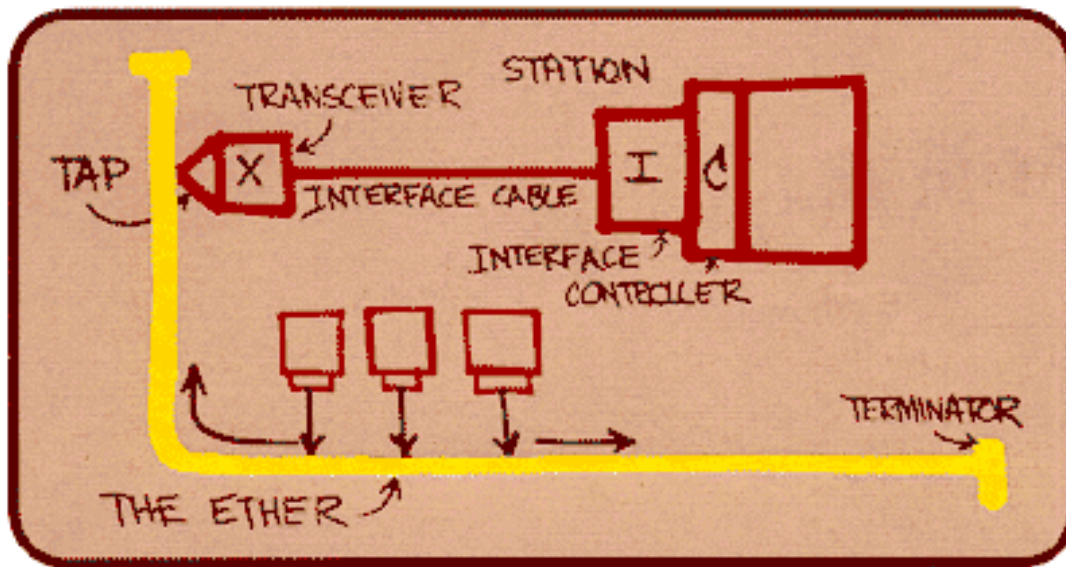
# The Basic MAC Mechanisms of Ethernet

```
get a packet from upper layer;
K := 0; n := 0; // K: control wait time; n: no. of collisions
repeat:
  wait for K * 512 bit-time;
  while (network busy) wait;
  wait for 96 bit-time after detecting no signal;
  transmit and detect collision;
  if detect collision
    stop and transmit a 48-bit jam signal;
    n ++;
    m := min(n, 10), where n is the number of collisions
    choose K randomly from {0, 1, 2, ..., 2m-1}.
    if n < 16 goto repeat
    else give up
```

# Ethernet

“Dominant” LAN technology:

- ❑ First widely used LAN technology
- ❑ Kept up with speed race: 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 1 Gbps, 10 Gbps



Metcalfe's Ethernet sketch

# Outline

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- ❑ Admin and recap
- ❑ Link layer
  - Ethernet switch

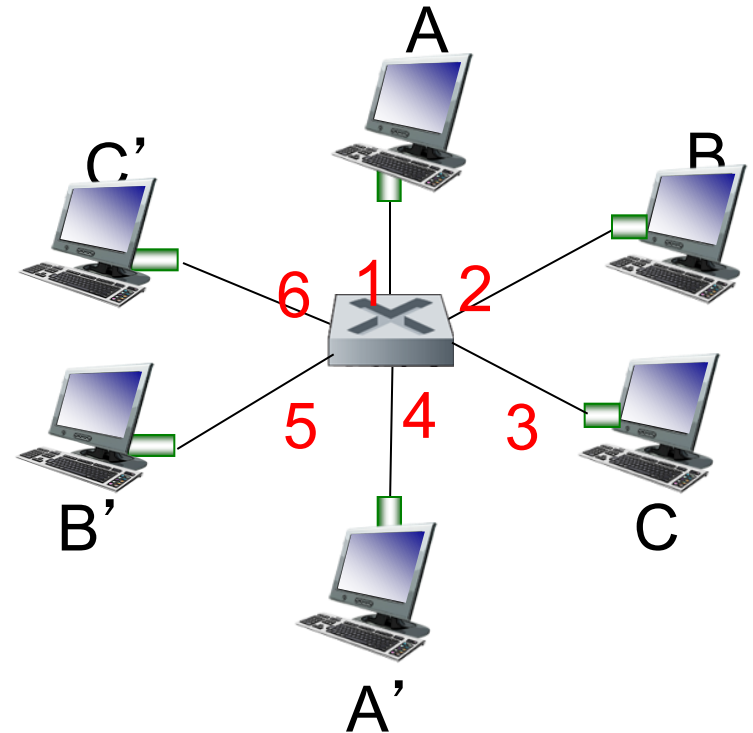
# Ethernet Switch

- ❑ *link-layer device: takes an active role*
  - store, forward Ethernet frames
  - examine incoming frame's MAC address, *selectively* forward frame to one-or-more outgoing links when frame is to be forwarded on segment, uses CSMA/CD to access segment
- ❑ *transparent*
  - hosts are unaware of presence of switches
- ❑ *plug-and-play, self-learning*
  - switches do not need to be configured



# Switch: Multiple Simultaneous Transmissions

- ❑ hosts have dedicated, direct connection to switch
- ❑ switches buffer packets
- ❑ Ethernet protocol used on each incoming link, but no collisions; full duplex
  - each link is its own collision domain
- ❑ *switching*: A-to-A' and B-to-B' can transmit simultaneously, without collisions



switch with six interfaces  
(1,2,3,4,5,6)

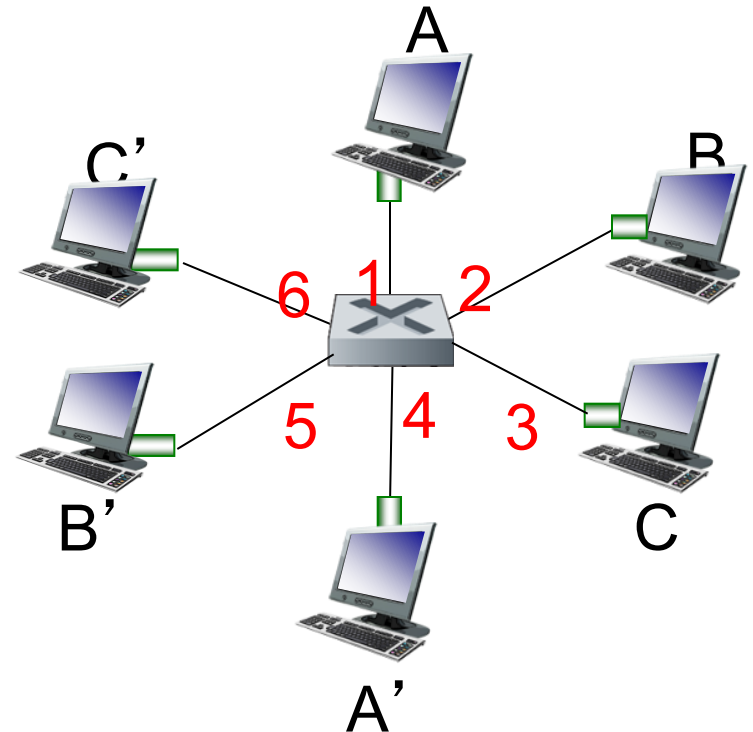
# Switch Forwarding Table

Q: how does switch know A' reachable via interface 4, B' reachable via interface 5?

- A: each switch has a **switch table**, each entry:
  - (MAC address of host, interface to reach host, time stamp)
  - looks like a routing table!

Q: how are entries created, maintained in switch table?

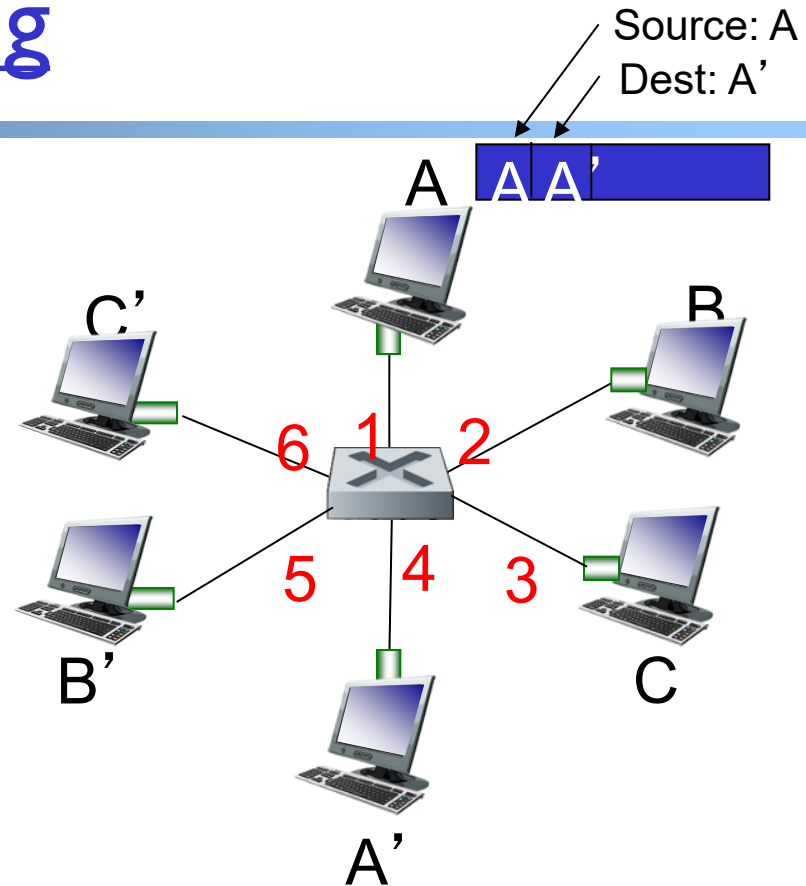
- something like a routing protocol?



*switch with six interfaces  
(1,2,3,4,5,6)*

# Switch: Self-Learning

- switch *learns* which hosts can be reached through which interfaces
  - when frame received, switch “learns” location of sender: incoming LAN segment
  - records sender/location pair in switch table



MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60

*Switch table  
(initially empty)*

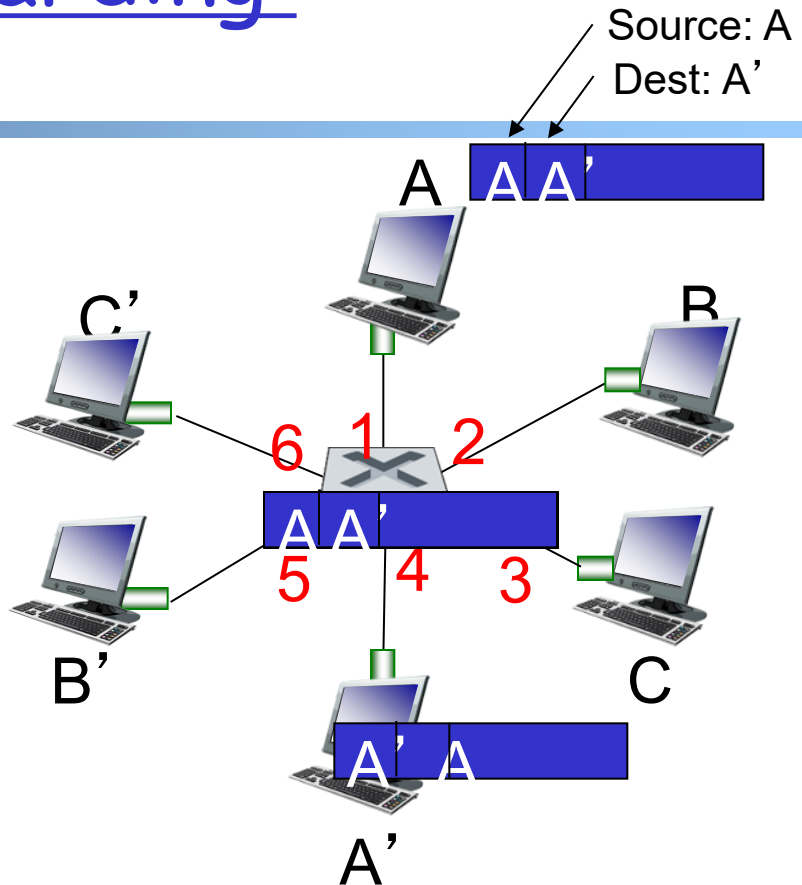
# Switch: Frame Filtering /Forwarding

when frame received at switch:

1. record incoming link, MAC address of sending host
2. index switch table using MAC destination address
3. **if** entry found for destination  
    **then** {  
        **if** destination on segment from which frame arrived  
        **then** drop frame  
        **else** forward frame on interface indicated by entry  
    }  
    **else** flood /\* forward on all interfaces except arriving  
                interface \*/

# Self-Learning, Forwarding: Example

- ❑ frame destination, A',  
location unknown: *flood*
- ❑ destination A location  
known: *selectively send*  
*on just one link*

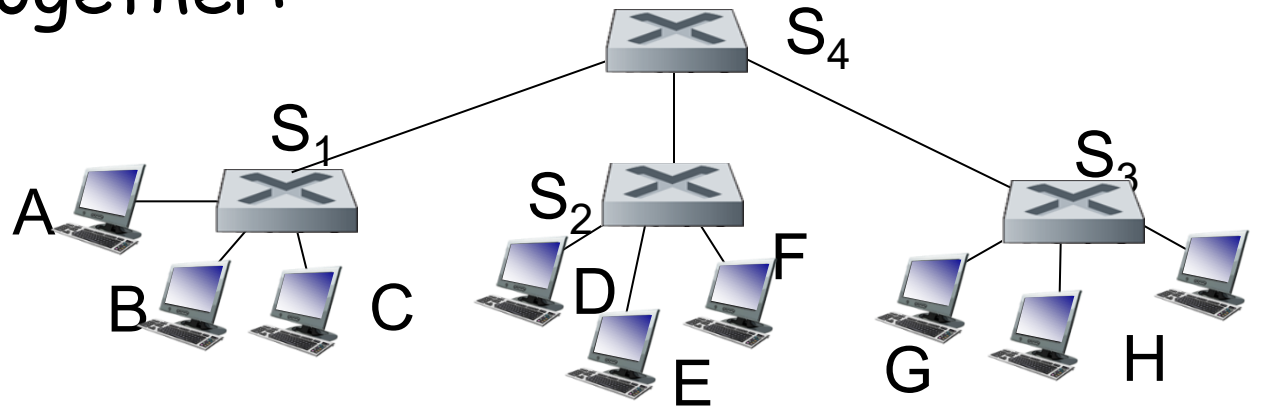


MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60
A'	4	60

*switch table*  
*(initially empty)*

# Interconnecting Switches

self-learning switches can be connected together:

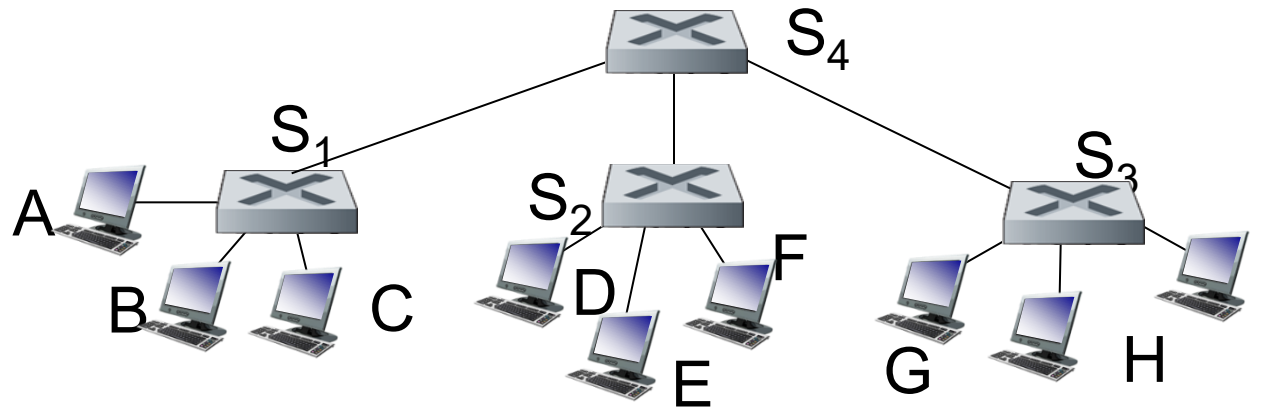


**Q:** sending from A to G - how does S<sub>1</sub> know to forward frame destined to G via S<sub>4</sub> and S<sub>3</sub>?

- **A:** self learning! (works exactly the same as in single-switch case!)

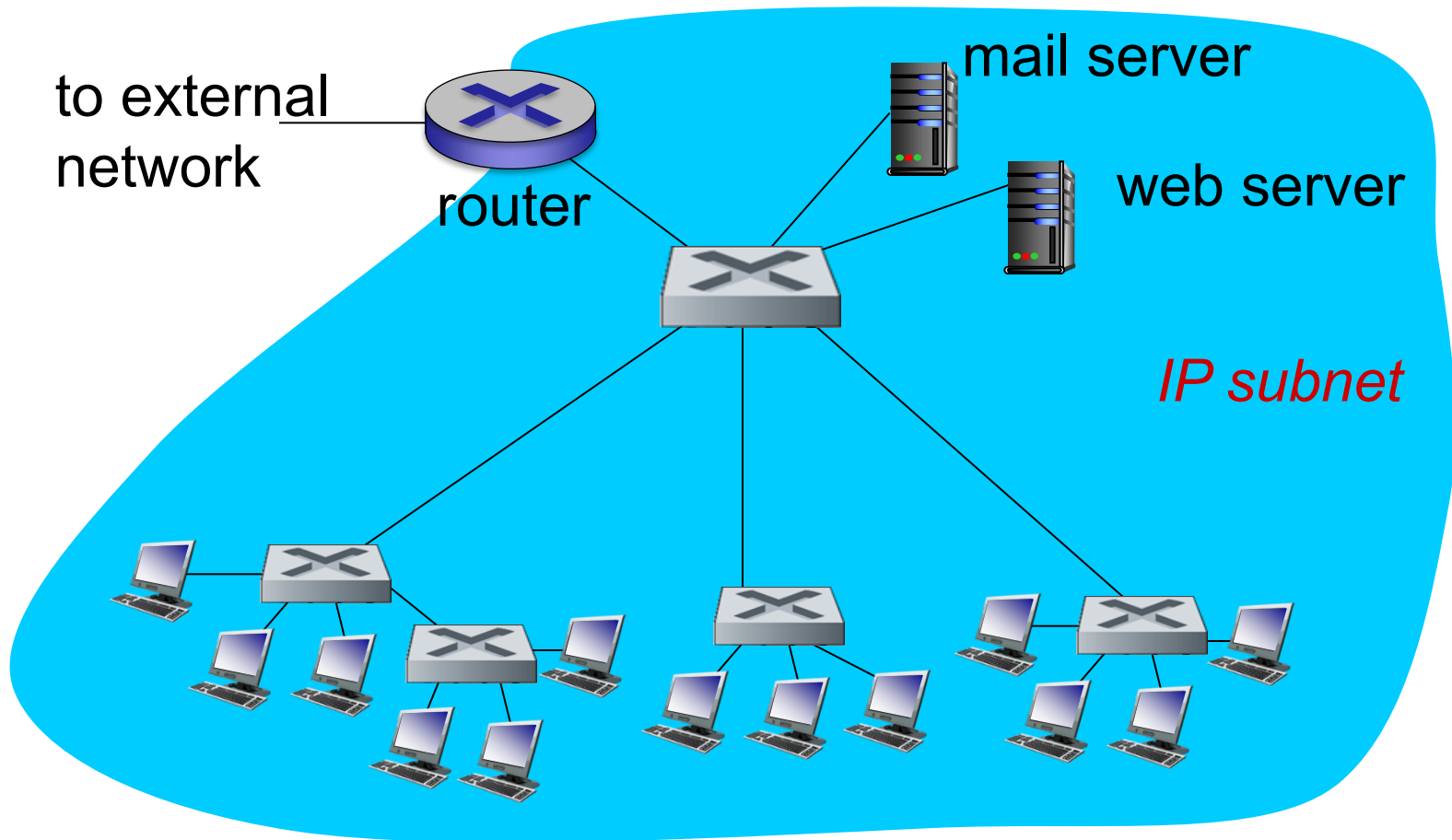
# Self-Learning Multi-switch Example

Suppose *C* sends frame to *I*, *I* responds to *C*



- Offline Exercise: show switch tables and packet forwarding in  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $S_3$ ,  $S_4$

# Institutional Network





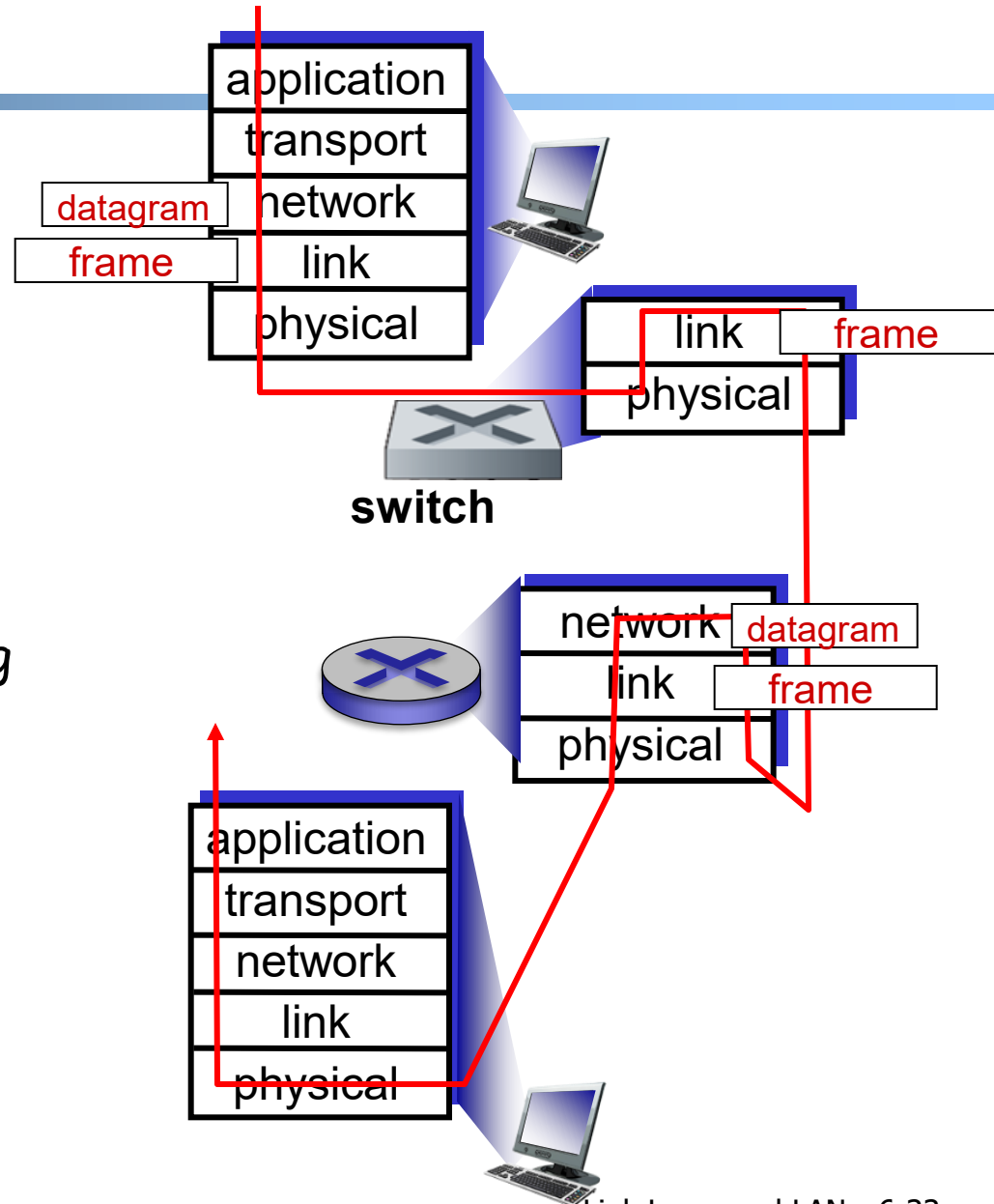
# Switches vs. Routers

both are store-and-forward:

- **routers:** network-layer devices (examine network-layer headers)
- **switches:** link-layer devices (examine link-layer headers)

both have forwarding tables:

- **routers:** compute tables using routing algorithms, IP addresses
- **switches:** learn forwarding table using flooding, learning, MAC addresses



# Outline

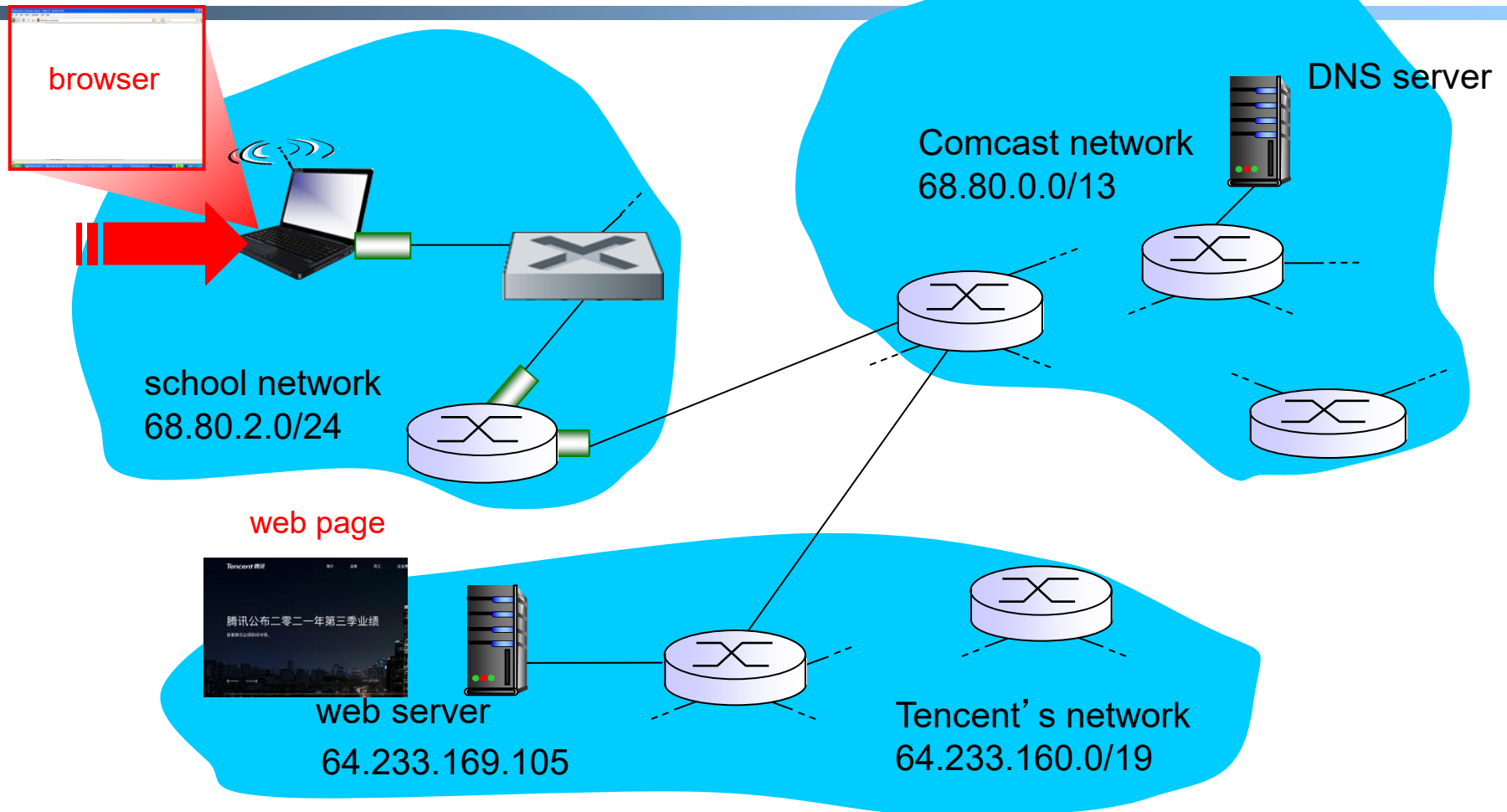
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- Course Summary

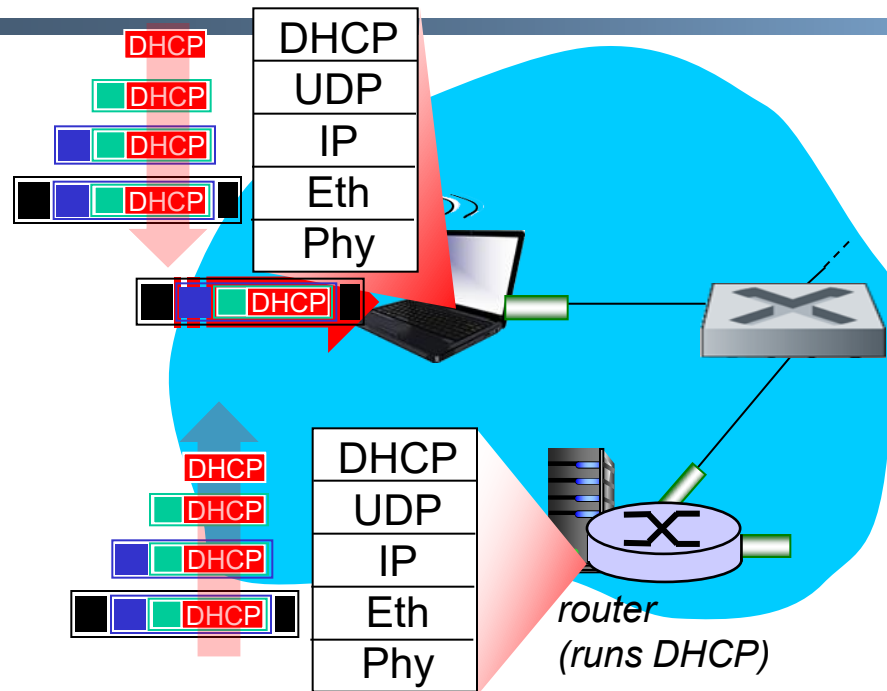
# Synthesis: A Day in the Life of a Web Request

- ❑ journey down protocol stack complete!
  - application, transport, network, link
- ❑ putting-it-all-together: synthesis!
  - *goal*: identify, review, understand protocols (at all layers) involved in seemingly simple scenario: requesting www page
  - *scenario*: student attaches laptop to campus network, requests/receives `www.tencent.com`

# A Day in the Life: Scenario

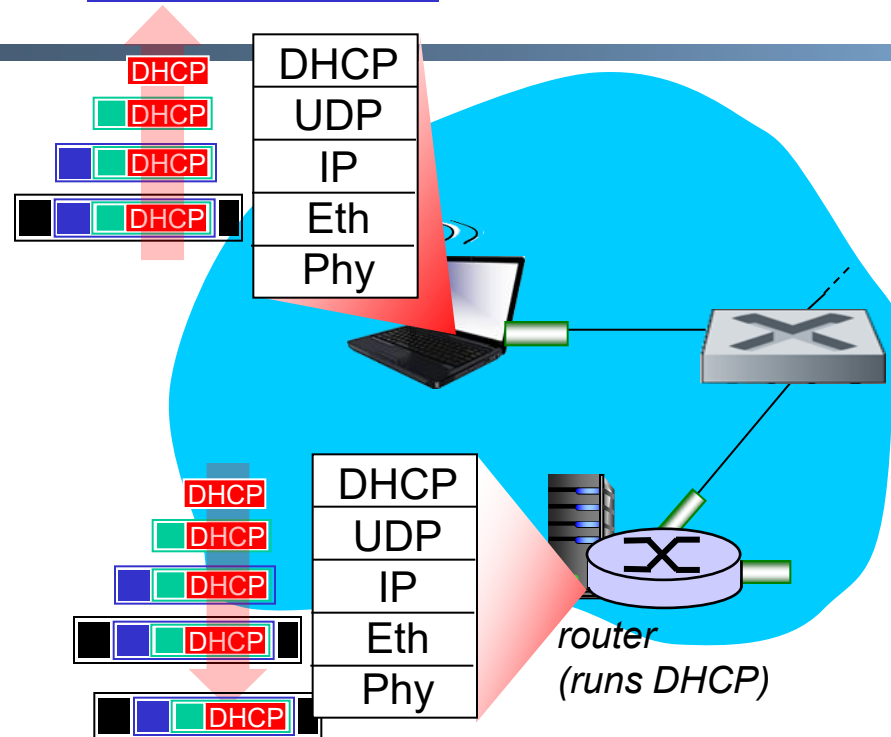


# A Day in the Life... Connecting to the Internet



- connecting laptop needs to get its own IP address, addr of first-hop router, addr of DNS server: use **DHCP**
- DHCP request **encapsulated** in **UDP**, encapsulated in **IP**, encapsulated in **802.3** Ethernet
- Ethernet frame **broadcast** (dest: FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF) on LAN, received at router running **DHCP** server
- Ethernet **demuxed** to IP demuxed, UDP demuxed to DHCP

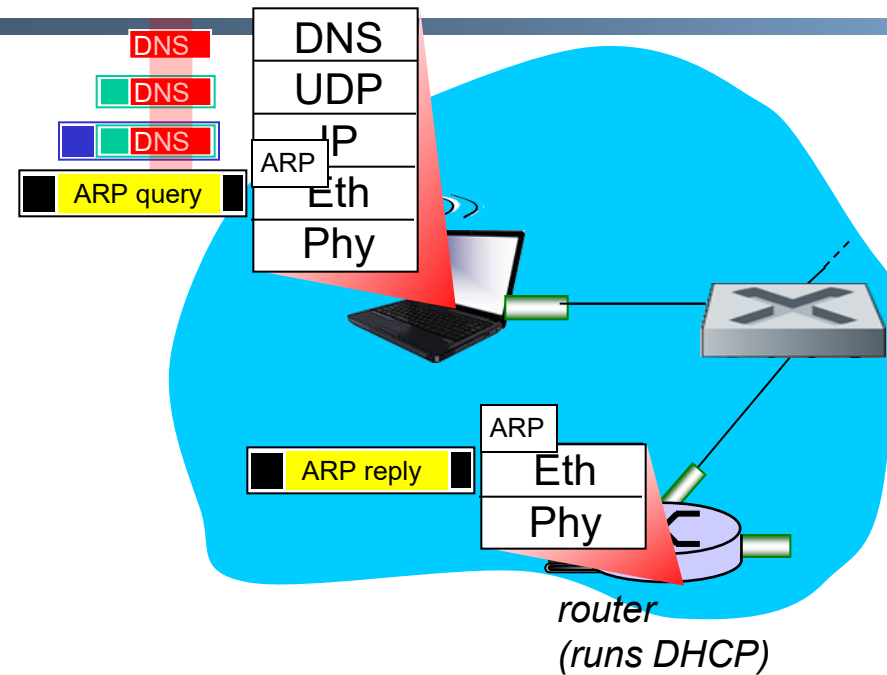
# A Day in the Life... Connecting to the Internet



- ❑ DHCP server formulates **DHCP ACK** containing client's IP address, IP address of first-hop router for client, name & IP address of DNS server
- ❑ encapsulation at DHCP server, frame forwarded (**switch learning**) through LAN, demultiplexing at client
- ❑ DHCP client receives DHCP ACK reply

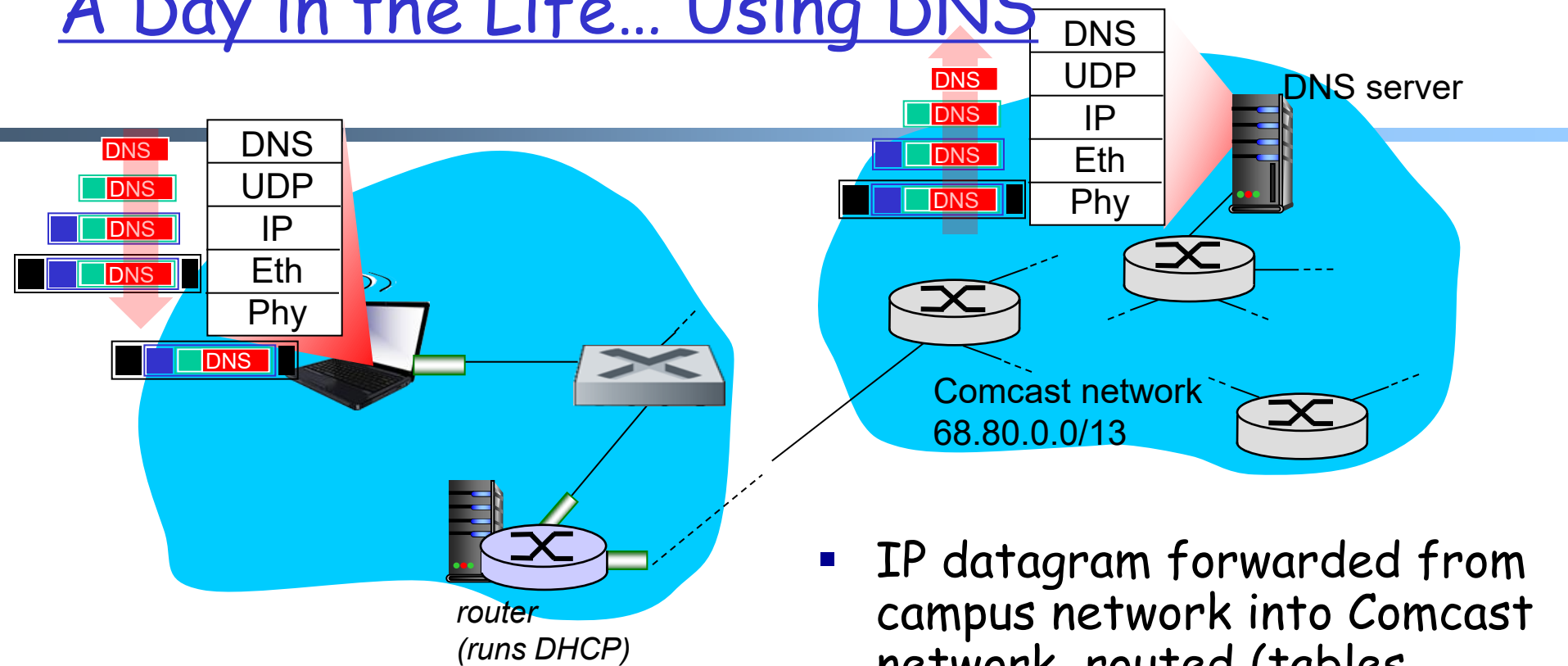
*Client now has IP address, knows name & addr of DNS server, IP address of its first-hop router*

# A Day in the life... ARP (before DNS, before HTTP)



- before sending *HTTP* request, need IP address of *www.tencent.com*: *DNS*
- DNS query created, encapsulated in UDP, encapsulated in IP, encapsulated in Eth. To send frame to router, need MAC address of router interface: *ARP*
- *ARP query* broadcast, received by router, which replies with *ARP reply* giving MAC address of router interface
- client now knows MAC address of first hop router, so can now send frame containing DNS query

# A Day in the Life... Using DNS

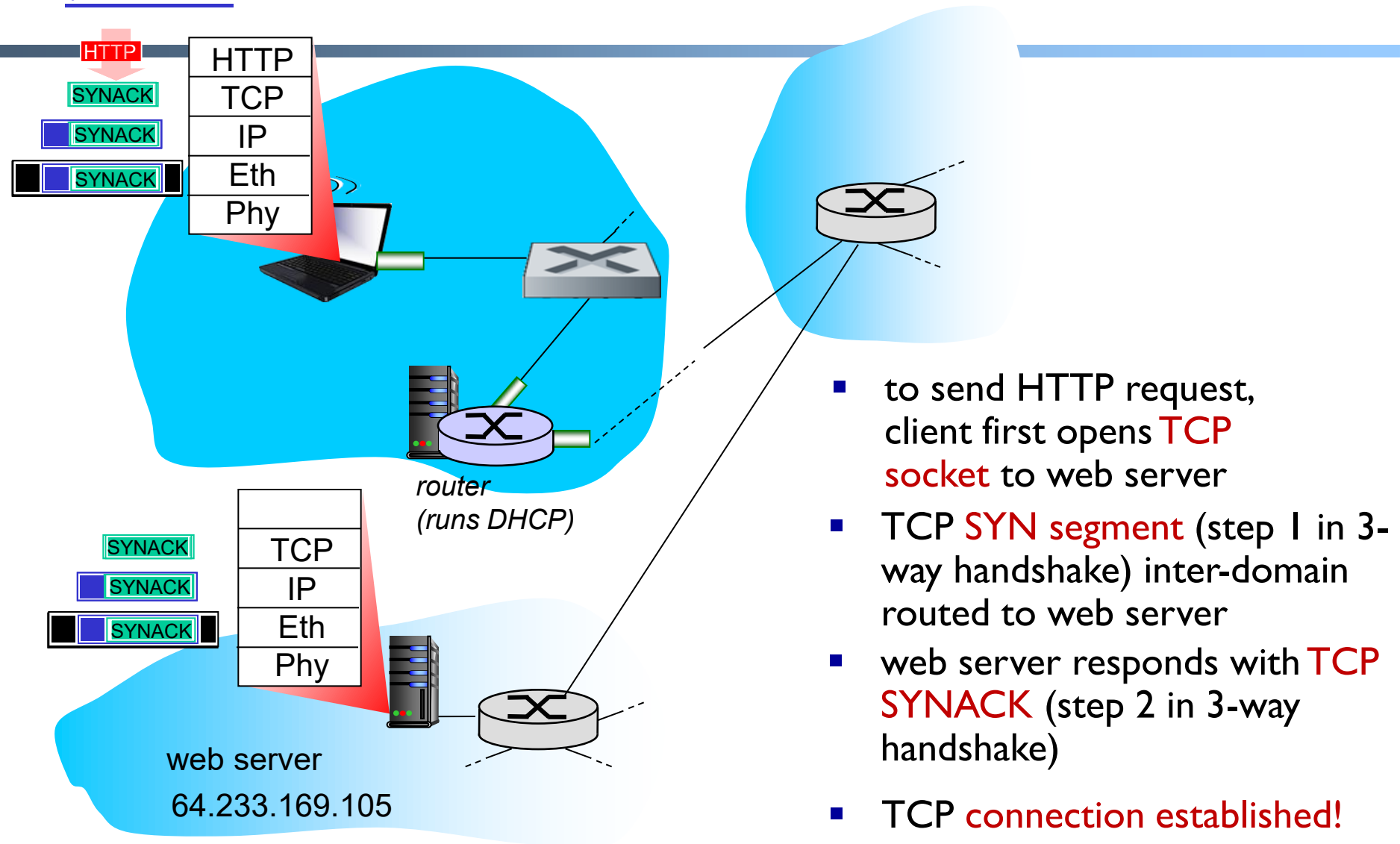


- IP datagram containing DNS query forwarded via LAN switch from client to 1<sup>st</sup> hop router

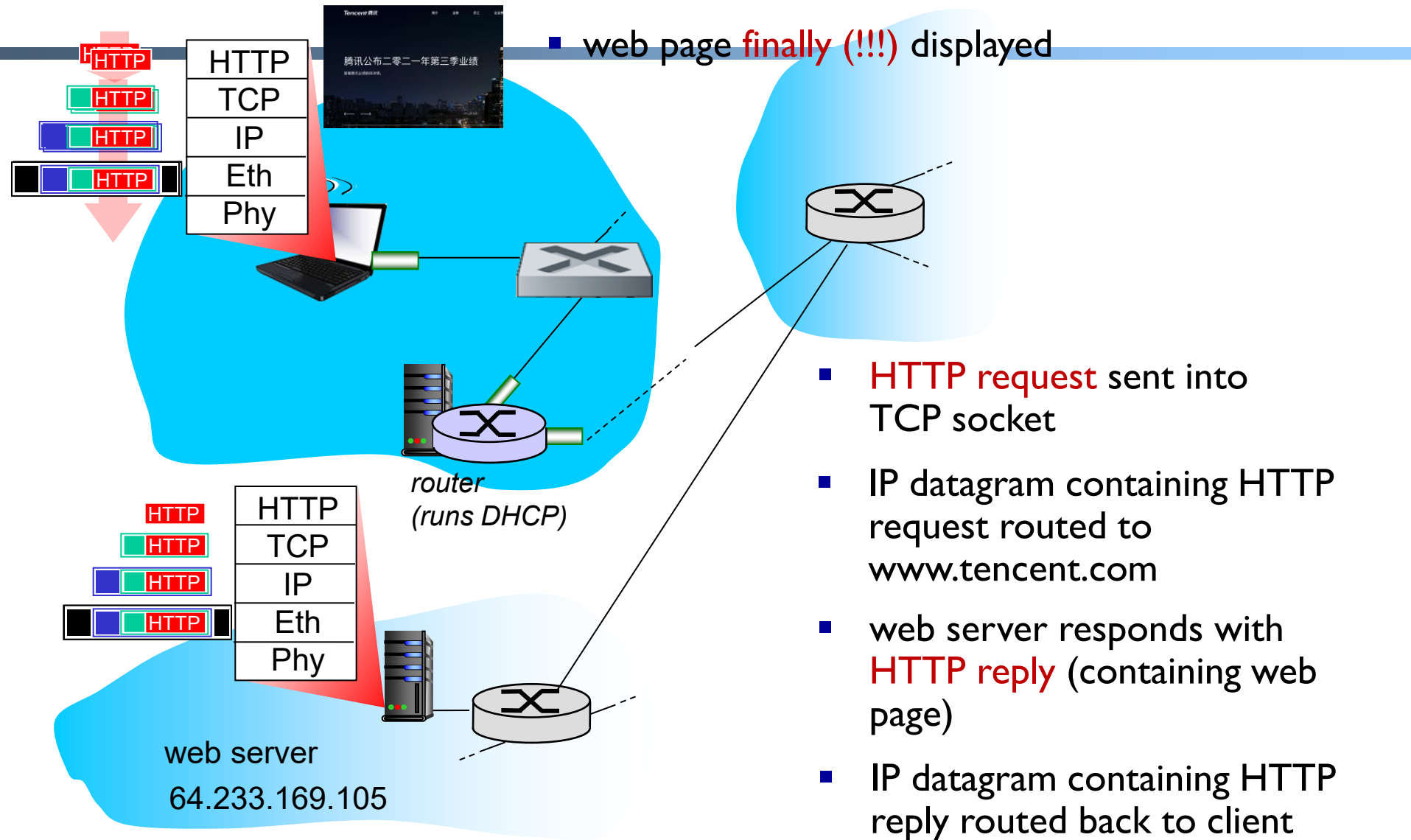
- IP datagram forwarded from campus network into Comcast network, routed (tables created by **RIP**, **OSPF**, **IS-IS** and/or **BGP** routing protocols) to DNS server
- demuxed to DNS server
- DNS server replies to client with IP address of **www.tencent.com**



# A Day in the Life...TCP Connection Carrying HTTP



# A Day in the Life... HTTP Request/Reply



# Course Topics Summary

- ❑ The Internet is a general-purpose, large-scale, distributed computer network
- ❑ Major design features/principles
  - packet switching/statistical multiplexing
    - time-reversibility, queueing theory and performance analysis
  - layered architecture, hour-glass architecture
    - end-to-end principle
  - decentralized (social-technocal) architecture
    - e.g., DNS (hierarchy delegation), interdomain routing (peer-to-peer)
  - resource allocation framework
    - axiom-based design (NBS); optimization decomposition through duality
  - adaptive control
    - e.g., sliding window self clocking, AIMD adaptation, Ethernet exp backoff
  - tradeoff between theoretical impossibility and practice

# First-Day Class: What is a Network Protocol?



- A **network protocol** defines the **format** and the **order** of messages exchanged between two or more communicating entities, as well as the **actions** taken on the transmission and/or receipt of a message or other **events**.

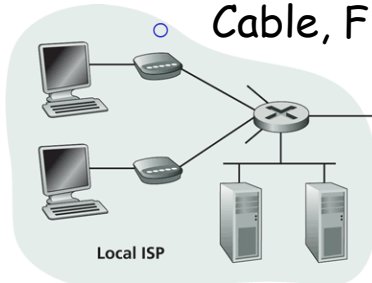
Protocols that we have touched on?

# First-Day Class: Internet Physical Infrastructure



## Residential access

- Cable, Fiber, DSL, Wireless

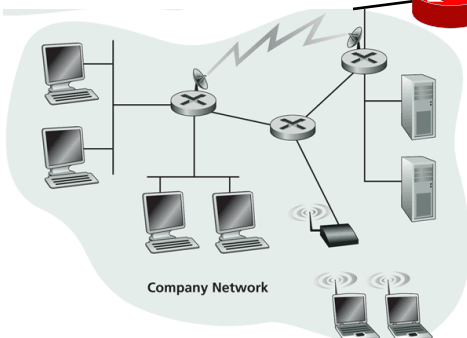


Local ISP

ISP

Backbone ISP

ISP

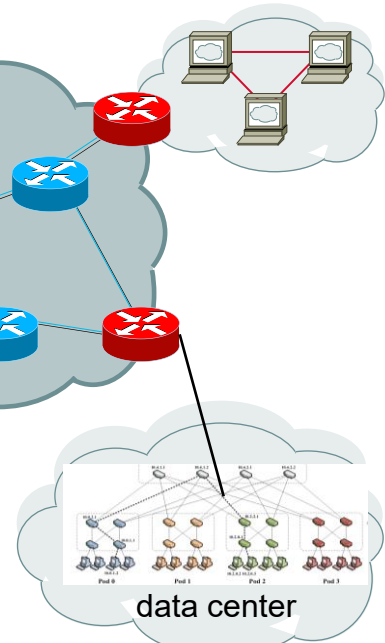


Company Network

Campus access,  
e.g.,

- Ethernet
- Wireless

- ❑ The Internet is a network of networks
- ❑ Each individually administrated network is called an Autonomous System (AS)



data center

# First-Day Class: General Complexity



- **Complexity** in highly organized systems arises primarily from design strategies intended to create **robustness to uncertainty** in their environments and component parts.
  - **Scalability** is robustness to changes to the size and complexity of a system as a whole.
  - **Evolvability** is robustness of lineages to large changes on various (usually long) time scales.
  - **Reliability** is robustness to component failures.
  - **Efficiency** is robustness to resource scarcity.
  - **Modularity** is robustness to component rearrangements.

# First-Day Class: Evolution

- ❑ Driven by Technology, Infrastructure, Policy, Applications (usage), and Understanding:
  - technology
    - e.g., wireless/optical communication technologies and device miniaturization (sensors)
  - infrastructure
    - e.g., cloud computing vs local computing
  - applications (usage)
    - e.g., mobile computing, content distribution, game, tele presence, sensing
  - understanding
    - e.g., resource sharing principle, routing principles, mechanism design, optimal stochastic control (randomized access)
- ❑ Complexity comes from evolution.
- ❑ Don't be afraid to challenge the foundation and redesign!