CS 3700 Networks and Distributed Systems

Lecture 9: UDP/TCP

Revised 2/9/2014

Transport Layer



2



Function:

- Demultiplexing of data streams
- Optional functions:
 - Creating long lived connections
 - Reliable, in-order packet delivery
 - Error detection
 - Flow and congestion control
- Key challenges:
 - Detecting and responding to congestion
 - Balancing fairness against high utilization



UDPTCP

- Datagram network
 - No circuits
 - No connections



- 4
- Datagram network
 - No circuits
 - No connections
- Clients run many applications at the same time
 - Who to deliver packets to?



- 4
- Datagram network
 - No circuits
 - No connections
- Clients run many applications at the same time
 - Who to deliver packets to?
- IP header "protocol" field
 8 bits = 256 concurrent streams



- 4
- Datagram network
 - No circuits
 - No connections
- Clients run many applications at the same time
 - Who to deliver packets to?
- IP header "protocol" field
 8 bits = 256 concurrent streams
- Insert Transport Layer to handle demultiplexing













Endpoints identified by <src_ip, src_port, dest_ip, dest_port>

Layering, Revisited



- Lowest level end-to-end protocol (in theory)
 - Transport header only read by source and destination
 - Routers view transport header as payload

Layering, Revisited



- Lowest level end-to-end protocol (in theory)
 - Transport header only read by source and destination
 - Routers view transport header as payload

Layering, Revisited



- Lowest level end-to-end protocol (in theory)
 - Transport header only read by source and destination
 - Routers view transport header as payload

User Datagram Protocol (UDP)



- Simple, connectionless datagram
 Creakets: SOCK_DCPAM
 - C sockets: SOCK_DGRAM
- Port numbers enable demultiplexing
 - 16 bits = 65535 possible ports
 - Port 0 is invalid
- Checksum for error detection
 - Detects (some) corrupt packets
 - Does not detect dropped, duplicated, or reordered packets

Uses for UDP

8

Invented after TCPWhy?

Uses for UDP

- Invented after TCPWhy?
- Not all applications can tolerate TCP

Uses for UDP

- Invented after TCP
 Why?
- Not all applications can tolerate TCP
- Custom protocols can be built on top of UDP
 Reliability? Strict ordering?
 Flow control? Congestion control?
- Examples
 - RTMP, real-time media streaming (e.g. voice, video)
 - Facebook datacenter protocol



UDPTCP

Transmission Control Protocol

10

Reliable, in-order, bi-directional byte streams

- Port numbers for demultiplexing
- Virtual circuits (connections)
- Flow control
- Congestion control, approximate fairness

0 4	16			
Source Port		Destination Port		
Sequence Number				
Acknowledgement Number				
HLen	Flags	Advertised Window		
	Checksum	Urgent Pointer		
Options				

Transmission Control Protocol

10

Reliable, in-order, bi-directional byte streams

- Port numbers for demultiplexing
- Virtual circuits (connections)
- Flow control



Congestion control, approximate fairness

0 -	16			
Source Port		Destination Port		
Sequence Number				
Acknowledgement Number				
HLen	Flags Advertised Window			
Checksum		Urgent Pointer		
Options				

Connection Setup



Why do we need connection setup?

Connection Setup

- Why do we need connection setup?
 - To establish state on both hosts
 - Most important state: sequence numbers
 - Count the number of bytes that have been sent
 - Initial value chosen at random
 - Why?

Connection Setup

- Why do we need connection setup?
 - To establish state on both hosts
 - Most important state: sequence numbers
 - Count the number of bytes that have been sent
 - Initial value chosen at random
 - Why?
- Important TCP flags (1 bit each)
 - SYN synchronization, used for connection setup
 - ACK acknowledge received data
 - FIN finish, used to tear down connection



Each side:

Notifies the other of starting sequence number

ACKs the other side's starting sequence number



Each side:

Notifies the other of starting sequence number

ACKs the other side's starting sequence number



- Each side:
 - Notifies the other of starting sequence number
 - ACKs the other side's starting sequence number



Each side:

Notifies the other of starting sequence number

ACKs the other side's starting sequence number



- Each side:
 - Notifies the other of starting sequence number
 - ACKs the other side's starting sequence number

Connection Setup Issues

- Connection confusion
 - How to disambiguate connections from the same host?
 - Random sequence numbers

Connection Setup Issues

- Connection confusion
 - How to disambiguate connections from the same host?
 - Random sequence numbers
- Source spoofing
 - Kevin Mitnick
 - Need good random number generators!

Connection Setup Issues

- Connection confusion
 - How to disambiguate connections from the same host?
 - Random sequence numbers
- Source spoofing
 - Kevin Mitnick
 - Need good random number generators!
- Connection state management
 - Each SYN allocates state on the server
 - SYN flood = denial of service attack
 - Solution: SYN cookies

Connection Tear Down

14

Either side can initiate	Client	Server
tear down		

Connection Tear Down

14

 Either side can initiate tear down



Connection Tear Down

- Either side can initiate tear down
- Other side may continue sending data
 Half open connection
 - Half open connection
 - shutdown()


Connection Tear Down

- Either side can initiate tear down
- Other side may continue sending data
 Half open connection
 shutdown()
- Acknowledge the last FIN
 Sequence number + 1



Sequence Number Space

- TCP uses a byte stream abstraction
 - Each byte in each stream is numbered
 - 32-bit value, wraps around
 - Initial, random values selected during setup

Sequence Number Space

- TCP uses a byte stream abstraction
 - Each byte in each stream is numbered
 - 32-bit value, wraps around
 - Initial, random values selected during setup
- Byte stream broken down into segments (packets)
 Size limited by the Maximum Segment Size (MSS)
 Set to limit fragmentation

Sequence Number Space



- TCP uses a byte stream abstraction
 - Each byte in each stream is numbered
 - 32-bit value, wraps around
 - Initial, random values selected during setup
- Byte stream broken down into segments (packets)
 Size limited by the Maximum Segment Size (MSS)
 Set to limit fragmentation
- Each segment has a sequence number













Flow Control

17

Problem: how many packets should a sender transmit?
 Too many packets may overwhelm the receiver
 Size of the receivers buffers may change over time

Flow Control

- Problem: how many packets should a sender transmit?
 Too many packets may overwhelm the receiver
 Size of the receivers buffers may change over time
- Solution: sliding window
 - Receiver tells the sender how big their buffer is
 - Called the advertised window
 - For window size n, sender may transmit n bytes without receiving an ACK
 - After each ACK, the window slides forward

Flow Control

- Problem: how many packets should a sender transmit?
 Too many packets may overwhelm the receiver
 Size of the receivers buffers may change over time
- Solution: sliding window
 - Receiver tells the sender how big their buffer is
 - Called the advertised window
 - For window size n, sender may transmit n bytes without receiving an ACK
 - After each ACK, the window slides forward
- Window may go to zero!

18

Packet Sent

Src. Port		Dest. Port	
Sequence Number			
Acknowledgement Number			
HL	Flags	Window	
Checksum		Urgent Pointer	



18

Packet Sent

Src. Port		Dest. Port	
Sequence Number			
Acknowledgement Number			
HL	Flags	Window	
Checksum		Urgent Pointer	





18

Packet Sent

S	Src. Port	Dest. Port	
Sequence Number			
Acknowledgement Number			
HL	Flags	Window	
Checksum		Urgent Pointer	







18

Packet Sent

























20

1. ACK every packet

- 20
- 1. ACK every packet
- 2. Use cumulative ACK, where an ACK for sequence n implies ACKS for all k < n
- 3. Use *negative ACKs* (NACKs), indicating which packet did not arrive

- 20
- 1. ACK every packet
- 2. Use cumulative ACK, where an ACK for sequence n implies ACKS for all k < n
- 3. Use *negative ACKs* (NACKs), indicating which packet did not arrive
- 4. Use selective ACKs (SACKs), indicating those that did arrive, even if not in order
 - SACK is an actual TCP extension



- Use negative ACKs (NACKs), indicating which packet did not arrive
- 4. Use selective ACKs (SACKs), indicating those that did arrive, even if not in order
 - SACK is an actual TCP extension



- 4. Use selective ACKs (SACKs), indicating those that did arrive, even if not in order
 - SACK is an actual TCP extension

21

32 bits, unsignedWhy so big?

- 32 bits, unsignedWhy so big?
- For the sliding window you need...
 - |Sequence # Space| > 2 * |Sending Window Size|
 2³² > 2 * 2¹⁶

- 32 bits, unsignedWhy so big?
- For the sliding window you need...
 - |Sequence # Space| > 2 * |Sending Window Size|
 2³² > 2 * 2¹⁶
- Guard against stray packets
 - IP packets have a maximum segment lifetime (MSL) of 120 seconds
 - i.e. a packet can linger in the network for 3 minutes
 - Sequence number would wrap around at 286Mbps

- 32 bits, unsigned
 Why so big?
- For the sliding window you need...
 - |Sequence # Space| > 2 * |Sending Window Size|
 2³² > 2 * 2¹⁶
- Guard against stray packets
 - IP packets have a maximum segment lifetime (MSL) of 120 seconds
 - i.e. a packet can linger in the network for 3 minutes
 - Sequence number would wrap around at 286Mbps
 - What about GigE? PAWS algorithm + TCP options
Silly Window Syndrome

22

Problem: what if the window size is very small?

Silly Window Syndrome

22

Problem: what if the window size is very small?
 Multiple, small packets, headers dominate data



Silly Window Syndrome

- 22
- Problem: what if the window size is very small?
 - Multiple, small packets, headers dominate data



- Equivalent problem: sender transmits packets one byte at a time
 - 1. for (int x = 0; x < strlen(data); ++x)
 - 2. write(socket, data + x, 1);

- 1. If the window \geq MSS and available data \geq MSS: Send the data
- Elif there is unACKed data: Enqueue data in a buffer (send after a timeout)
- 3. Else: send the data

23

- If the window >= MSS and available data >= MSS: Send the data
- 2. Elif there is unACKed data: Enqueue data in a buffer (send after a timeout)
- 3. Else: send the data

Send a non-full packet if nothing else is happening





- If the window >= MSS and available data >= MSS:
 Send the data ______Send a full
- 2. Elif there is unACKed data: packet Enqueue data in a buffer (send atter a timeout)
- 3. Else: send the data

Send a non-full packet if nothing else is happening

- Problem: Nagle's Algorithm delays transmissions
 - What if you need to send a packet immediately?
 - 1. int flag = 1;
 - setsockopt(sock, IPPROTO_TCP, TCP_NODELAY, (char *) &flag, sizeof(int));

Error Detection

24

Checksum detects (some) packet corruption
 Computed over IP header, TCP header, and data

Error Detection

- Checksum detects (some) packet corruption
 Computed over IP header, TCP header, and data
- Sequence numbers catch sequence problems
 Duplicates are ignored
 - Out-of-order packets are reordered or dropped
 - Missing sequence numbers indicate lost packets

Error Detection

- Checksum detects (some) packet corruption
 Computed over IP header, TCP header, and data
- Sequence numbers catch sequence problems
 Duplicates are ignored
 - Out-of-order packets are reordered or dropped
 - Missing sequence numbers indicate lost packets
- Lost segments detected by sender
 - Use timeout to detect missing ACKs
 - Need to estimate RTT to calibrate the timeout
 - Sender must keep copies of all data until ACK

25

25



25



25





25



25



25



Round Trip Time Estimation



Round Trip Time Estimation

26



Original TCP round-trip estimator
 RTT estimated as a moving average
 new_rtt = α (old_rtt) + (1 - α)(new_sample)
 Recommended α: 0.8-0.9 (0.875 for most TCPs)
 RTO = 2 * new_rtt (i.e. TCP is conservative)















 Karn's algorithm: ignore samples for retransmitted segments