# Last Lecture: Network Layer

- 1. Design goals and issues 🖌
- 2. Basic Routing Algorithms & Protocols 🖌
  - Packet Forwarding
  - Shortest-Path Algorithms
  - Routing Protocols
- 3. Addressing, fragmentation and reassembly
- 4. Internet Routing Protocols and Inter-networking
- 5. Router design
- 6. Congestion Control, Quality of Service
- 7. More on the Internet's Network Layer

# This Lecture: Network Layer

- 1. Design goals and issues
- 2. Basic Routing Algorithms & Protocols
- 3. Addressing, Fragmentation and reassembly 🖌
  - Hierarchical addressing
  - Address allocation & CIDR
  - *IP fragmentation and reassembly*
- 4. Internet Routing Protocols and Inter-networking
- 5. Router design
- 6. Congestion Control, Quality of Service
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# **1**. IP Addressing

Dotted-quad notation: here's timberlake.cse's IP



- *Theoretically*, up to  $2^{3^2} \approx 4$  billion hosts
- *Practically*, about 768 millions (Jul 2010, ISC Survey), still huge!
- Routing table with 768M entries? No no.

Hierarchical Addressing: Rough Idea

- Each "network" assigned a prefix
- Foreign routers' routing tables only need an entry for the entire "network"
  - The entry points to the network's "gateway(s)"



# Subnet Mask: Extracting the Network Prefix

Address



# Scalability Improved

- Routing tables are smaller (but still too big)
- No need to update the routers when new host added
  - E.g., adding a new host 5.6.7.213 on the right
  - Doesn't require adding a new forwarding-table entry



# **Address Allocation**

- How to partition the address space into "blocks"
- Who gets which block?

# Classful Allocation (The Old Way)



#### This is why dotted-quad notation is used



# **CIDR: Reduce Routing Table Sizes**

#### About 350K entries to date



### (BGP) Routing Table Size Growth



SUNY at Buffalo; CSE 489/589 – Modern Networking Concepts; Fall 2010; Instructor: Hung Q. Ngo

# Scalability: Address Aggregation



Routers in the rest of the Internet just need to know how to reach 201.10.0.0/21. The provider can direct the IP packets to the appropriate customer.

# But, Aggregation Not Always Possible



*Multi-homed* customer with 201.10.6.0/23 has two providers. Other parts of the Internet need to know how to reach these destinations through *both* providers.

#### CIDR Not a Free Lunch

ISPs-R-Us has a more specific route to Organization 1



# Requires routers to do *longest prefix match*, per packet, every few nanosecond

# 2. IP Fragmentation and Reassembly



- A packet may hit networks with different MTUs
- Fragmentation needed at networks whose MTUs are smaller than the packet
- *Reassemble* the packet after getting out

# Where to do Reassembly

At end nodes or routers?

#### • At routers:

- Con: How much buffer space required at routers?
- Con: What if routes in network change? Or there are multiple paths to the same destination?

#### • At end (receiving) nodes

- Pro: avoids unnecessary work where large packets are fragmented multiple times
- Pro: at routers, less buffer space & less computation
- Con: if any fragment missing, retransmit entire packet through entire path, wasting bandwidth
- TCP/IP takes this approach

# **IP Packet Format**



- Length
  - Length of IP fragment
- Identifier
  - To match up with other fragments
- Flags
  - Don't fragment flag
  - More fragments flag
- Fragment offset
  - Where this fragment lies in entire IP datagram
  - Measured in 8 octet units (13 bit field)

#### IP Fragmentation Example #1





## IP Fragmentation Example #2



#### IP Fragmentation Example #3



# **IP** Reassembly



- Fragments might arrive out-oforder
  - Don't know how much memory required until receive final fragment
- Some fragments may be duplicated
  - Keep only one copy
- Some fragments may never arrive
  - After a while, give up entire process

Fragmentation and Reassembly Concepts

- *Decentralized*: Every network can choose MTU
- Connectionless
  - Each (fragment of a) packet contains full routing information
  - Fragments travel independently
- Best effort
  - Fail by dropping packet
  - Destination can give up on reassembly
  - No need to signal sender that failure occurred
- E2E principle
  - Reassembly at endpoints
- These are key networking principles!

# Fragmentation is Harmful

- Uses resources poorly
  - Forwarding costs per packet
  - Best if we can send large chunks of data
  - Worst case: packet just bigger than MTU
- Poor end-to-end performance
- Solution: *Path MTU discovery* protocol
- Common theme in system design
  - Assure correctness by implementing complete protocol
  - Optimize common cases to avoid full complexity