CS 455/555 Intro to Networks and Communications

# Applications & Application-Layer Protocols: The Web & HTTP

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### **Application-Layer Protocols Outline**

- The architecture of distributed systems
  - » Client/Server computing
  - » P2P computing
  - » Hybrid (Client/Server and P2P) systems
- The programming model used in constructing distributed systems
  - » Socket programming
- Example client/server systems and their application-layer protocols
  - » The World-Wide Web (HTTP)
  - » Reliable file transfer (FTP)
  - » E-mail (SMTP & POP)
  - » Internet Domain Name System (DNS)



### The Web & HTTP Outline

◆ Terminology (KR 2.2.1) ◆ Authentication

### HTTP protocol

- » message format (KR 2.23)
- » non-persistent and persistent connections (KR 2.2.2)
- » pipelining

- Cookies (KR 2.2.4)
- Web caches (KR 2.2.5-2.2.6)
- Security (KR 8.1-8.3)

### **Application-Layer Protocols** The Web

- User agent (client) for the Web is called a *browser*
  - » Google Chrome
  - » Mozilla Firefox
  - » Apple Safari
  - » MS Internet Explorer
- Server for the Web is called a Web server
  - » Apache (public domain)
  - » MS Internet Information Server (IIS)





### **Application-Layer Protocols** Web terminology

- Web page:
  - » Addressed by a URL
  - » Consists of "objects"

#### Most Web pages consist of:

- » Base HTML page
- » Embedded objects



### **Application-Layer Protocols** Web terminology



# Web Terminology URLs (Universal Resource Locators)



#### URL components

- » Server address
- » (Optional port number)
- » Path name

### Web Terminology

**The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)** 

- 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 2616



### **The Hypertext Transfer Protocol** HTTP Overview

- HTTP uses TCP sockets
   » Browser initiates TCP connection to server (on port 80)
- HTTP messages (application layer protocol messages) exchanged between browser and Web server
- HTTP/1.0: RFC 1945
   » One request/response interaction per connection
- HTTP/1.1: RFC 2616
   » Persistent connections
  - » Pipelined connections

### HTTP is "stateless"

 » Server maintains no information about past browser requests

#### -aside-

- Protocols that maintain "state" are complex!
  - » Past history (state) must be maintained
  - » If server or client crashes, their views of "state" may be inconsistent and must be reconciled

### **The Hypertext Transfer Protocol** HTTP example

- User enters URL www.someSchool.edu/someDept/home.index
  - » Referenced object contains HTML text and references 10 JPEG images
- Browser sends an HTTP "GET" request to the server
   www.someSchool.edu
- Server will retrieve and send the HTML file
- Browser will read the file and sequentially make 10 separate requests for the embedded JPEG images



# HTTP 1.0 Example

URL www.someschool.edu/someDept/home.index



## HTTP 1.0 Example

URL www.someschool.edu/someDept/home.index



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### **The Hypertext Transfer Protocol** HTTP message format

Two types of HTTP message formats: *request* and *response* » ASCII (human-readable format)

### ◆ HTTP request message:

» Request line	method <sp> path <sp> version <cr><lf></lf></cr></sp></sp>							
» Optional header lines	header field name ":" value <cr><lf></lf></cr>							
	header field name ":" value <cr><lf></lf></cr>							
	<pre></pre>							
<ul> <li>Present only for some methods</li> </ul>	entity body							
(e.g., POST)								

### **HTTP Message Format** Chrome and Safari request examples

How does Chrome process: http://www.cs.odu.edu:8080/~mweigle/?

```
GET /~mweigle/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu:8080
Connection: keep-alive
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/
xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10 8 2)
AppleWebKit/537.17 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/24.0.1312.56
Safari/537.17
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate,sdch
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.3
Cookie: SESSID=TkZCQjBROTI2NjY4; __utma=35744766....
```

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### **HTTP Message Format** Chrome and Safari request examples

How does Safari process:

http://www.cs.odu.edu:8080/~mweigle/?

```
GET /~mweigle/ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cs.odu.edu:8080
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_8_2)
AppleWebKit/536.26.17 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/6.0.2
Safari/536.26.17
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/
xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-us
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie: __utma=256360345.1846808915.1...
```

# HTTP Message Format General response message format

- Response messages
   » ASCII (human-readable format)
- Message structure:

» Status line	version <sp> code <sp> phrase <cr><lf> header field name ":" value <cr><lf></lf></cr></lf></cr></sp></sp>
» Optional header lines	
	header field name ":" value <cr><lf></lf></cr>
» Requested	<cr><lf></lf></cr>
object, error message message, etc.	entity body
	r

# **HTTP Message Format**

### **Telnet example**

$\begin{array}{c} \text{Connect to HTTP} & \longrightarrow \\ \text{server port} & \\ \text{Telnet output} & \end{array}$	<pre>% telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80 Trying 128.82.4.2 Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu. Escape character is '^1'</pre>
Type GET command	GET /~mweigle/files/foo.txt HTTP/1.0
HTTP response $\longrightarrow$	HTTP/1.1 200 OK
status line HTTP response headers plus blank line	Date: Wed, 30 Jan 2013 01:44:23 GMT Server: Apache/2.2.17 (Unix) PHP/5.3.5 Last-Modified: Thu, 19 May 2011 19:23:43 GMT ETag: "5c-4a3a5f178cdd0" Accept-Ranges: bytes Content-Length: 92 Connection: close Content-Type: text/plain
Object content	This test file is stored in the UNIX file system at /home/mweigle/public_html/files/foo.txt
Telnet output $\longrightarrow$	Connection closed by foreign host.

### **HTTP Message Format** Telnet example (2)

Connect to HTTP server port Telnet output Type GET command plus blank line	<pre>% telnet www.msnbc.com 80 Trying 65.55.53.235 Connected to www.msnbc.com. Escape character is '^]'. HEAD /notexist.html HTTP/1.0</pre>
HTTP response status line HTTP response headers plus blank line	HTTP/1.1 404 NotFound Cache-Control: private Content-Length: 52017 Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8 Server: Microsoft-IIS/7.5 X-AspNet-Version: 2.0.50727 X-Powered-By: ASP.NET Date: Wed, 30 Jan 2013 02:00:20 GMT Connection: close
Telnet output	Connection closed by foreign host.

**HTTP Message Format** HTTP response status codes

• Sample response 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
  - » Request message not understood by server
- 404 Not Found
  - » Requested document not found on this server
- 505 HTTP Version Not Supported

### **HTTP Message Format** Typical Request and Response Headers

	Connection: Keep-Alive					
	User-Agent: Mozilla/4.74 [en] (WinNT; U)					
Request headers	Host: www.cs.odu.edu:8080					
	Accept: image/gif, image/x-xbitmap, image/jpeg,					
	<pre>image/pjpeg, image/png, */*</pre>					
	Accept-Encoding: gzip					
	Accept-Language: en					
	Accept-Charset: iso-8859-1,*,utf-8					
	Cookie: SITESERVER=ID=8a064b785a043146e4599174a3d970					

Date: Fri, 02 Feb 2001 19:10:11 GMTServer: Apache/1.3.9 (Unix) (Red Hat/Linux)Last-Modified: Tue, 30 Jan 2001 21:48:14 GMTETag: "1807135e-67-3a77369e"headersAccept-Ranges: bytesContent-Length: 103Connection: closeContent-Type: text/plain

# **HTTP Protocol Design**

**Non-persistent connections** 

- The default browser/server behavior in HTTP/1.0 is for the connection to be closed after the completion of the request
  - » Server parses request, responds, and closes TCP connection
  - » The Connection: keep-alive header allows for persistent connections
- With non-persistent connections at least 2 RTTs are required to fetch every object
  - » 1 RTT for TCP handshake
  - » 1 RTT for request/response



# **Non-Persistent Connections**

Performance



# **HTTP Protocol Design**

Persistent v. non-persistent connections

#### Non-persistent

- » HTTP/1.0
- » Server parses request, responds, and closes TCP connection
- » At least 2 RTTs to fetch every object

#### Persistent

- » Default for HTTP/1.1 (negotiable in 1.0)
- » Client sends requests for multiple objects on one TCP connection
- » Server, parses request, responds, parses next request, responds...
- » Fewer RTTs

### **Non-Persistent vs. Persistent Connections Performance Example**

- A base page with five embedded images located on the same web server
- How many TCP connections to download the page with non-persistent connections?
  - » How many round-trip times (RTTs)?
- How many TCP connections to download the page with persistent connections?
  - » How many RTTs?

### **Non-Persistent vs. Persistent Connections Performance Example**

- A base page with five embedded images located on the same web server
- How many TCP connections to download the page with *non-persistent* connections?
  - » 1 TCP connection to download the base page
  - » 1 TCP connection to download each of the 5 embedded images
  - » Total: 6 TCP connections

#### How many round-trip times (RTTs)?

- » Each TCP connection requires a handshake: 1 RTT
- » Once connection is setup, it takes 1 RTT to download an object (send HTTP request, receive HTTP response)
- » Can only download one object per connection (*non-persistent*), so 2 RTTs per connection
- » Total: 2 RTTs \* 6 connections = 12 RTTs

### **Non-Persistent vs. Persistent Connections Performance Example**

- A base page with five embedded images located on the same web server
  How many TCP connections to download the page with *persistent* connections?
  » 1 TCP connection to download the base page
  - » Since all 5 embedded images are at the same web server as the base page, no more TCP connections are needed
  - » Total: **1 TCP connection**

#### • How many round-trip times (RTTs)?

- » Each TCP connection requires a handshake: 1 RTT
- » Once connection is setup, it takes 1 RTT to download an object (send HTTP request, receive HTTP response)
- » There are 6 objects (base page + 5 images) to download
- » Total: 1 RTT (TCP handshake) + 6 RTTs (download all objects) = 7 RTTs

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# **Non-Persistent Connections**

Performance



- <u>Example</u>: A 1 KByte base page with five 1.5 KByte embedded images coming from the West coast on an OC-48 link
  - » 1 RTT for TCP handshake = 50 ms
  - $\gg$  1 RTT for request/response = 50 ms
- Page download time with non-persistent connections?
- Page download time with a persistent connection?

### **Non-Persistent vs. Persistent Connections Your Turn**

 A base page with 3 embedded images located on the same web server

» RTT from client to web server is 50 ms

» slowest link on the path is 2 Mbps

\* other links are high-speed, so transmission delay is negligible

- » base page is 1000 bytes
- » each image is 3000 bytes
- What is the total time (propagation + transmission delays) needed to download the entire web page with non-persistent HTTP connections?

### **Non-Persistent vs. Persistent Connections Your Turn**

- A base page with 3 embedded images located on the same web server
  - » RTT from client to web server is 50 ms
  - » slowest link on the path is 2 Mbps
    - \* other links are high-speed, so transmission delay is negligible
  - » base page is 1000 bytes
  - » each image is 3000 bytes
- What is the total time (propagation + transmission delays) needed to download the entire web page with *persistent* HTTP connections?

# **Non-Persistent Connections**

### **Parallel connections**

• To improve performance a browser can issue multiple requests in parallel to a server (or servers)

» Server parses request, responds, and closes TCP connection



- $\approx$  2 parallel connections =
- » 4 parallel connections =

### **Persistent Connections Persistent connections with pipelining**

Persistent without pipelining:

- Client issues new request only when previous response has been received
- At least one RTT for each embedded object

### Persistent with pipelining:

- Default in HTTP/1.1
- Client sends requests as soon as it encounters a embedded object
- As little as one RTT for all the embedded objects

# **Persistent Connections**

#### Without Pipelining



# **Persistent Connections**

With Pipelining



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# **HTTP User-Server Interaction**

#### Authentication



# **HTTP User-Server Interaction**

### Cookies



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# **Caching on the Web**

Web caches (Proxy servers)

- Web caches are used to satisfy client requests without contacting the origin server
- Users configure browsers to send all requests through a shared *proxy* server
  - » Proxy server is a large cache of web objects
- Browsers send *all* HTTP requests to proxy
  - » If object in cache, proxy returns object in HTTP response
  - » Else proxy requests object from origin server, then returns it in HTTP response to browser



# Why do Proxy Caching?

link or a proxy server?

The performance implications of caching origin servers Consider a cache that is "close" to client public Internet » *E.g.*, on the same LAN Nearby caches mean: 1.5 Mbps access link » Smaller response times » Decreased traffic on egress campus networ 10 Mbps I link to institutional ISP (often the primary bottleneck) To improve Web response times proxy server should one buy a 10 Mbps access

# Why Do Proxy Caching?

**Delay in packet-switched networks (review)** 



- Packets experience variable delays along the path from source to destination
- Four sources of delay at each hop
  - » Queuing delay depends on the load ("traffic intensity") on the network

# Why Do Proxy Caching?

**Traffic Intensity, or Utilization** 

*L* = packet length (bits/packet)

R = link speed (bps)

- *a* = average packet arrival rate (packets/second)
- *La* = average *bit* arrival rate (bits/second)

### *La/R* = traffic intensity

= number of bits arriving per second / number of bits that can be transmitted per second

### What happens when La/R > 1?







# Why Do Proxy Caching?

**Delay in packet-switched networks (review)** 

- Understand queuing delay in terms of traffic intensity La/R
  - » R = link transmission speed (bps)
  - » *L* = packet length (bits/packet)
  - » a = average packet arrival rate
    (packets/second)



- If  $La/R \sim 0$ : Average queuing delay small
- As  $La/R \Rightarrow 1$ : Delays become large
- If La/R > 1: Work arrives faster than it can be serviced
   » Average delay goes to infinity!



- Upgrade the access link to 10 Mbps
  - » Response time = ??
  - » Queuing is negligible hence response time  $\sim 1 s$
- Leave access link at 1.5 Mbps but add a proxy cache with 40% hit ratio and 10 *ms* access time
  - » Cache access time includes time to send request to proxy, time to search cache, and time to send response back to client
  - » Response time = ??
  - » Traffic intensity on access link =  $0.6 \times 0.97 = 0.58$
  - » Response time =

 $0.4 \times 10 ms + 0.6 \times 1,010 ms = 610 ms$ 

A proxy cache lowers response time, lowers access link utilization, and saves money!

campus networ

public Internet

1.5 Mbps access link

### **Cache Performance for HTTP Requests** What determines the hit ratio?

- Cache size
- *Locality* of references
   » How often the same web object is requested
- How long objects remain "fresh" (unchanged)

### Object references that can't be cached at all

- » Dynamically generated content
- » Protected content
- » Content purchased for each use
- » Content that must always be up-to-date
- » Advertisements ("pay-per-click" issues)

# Why Do Proxy Caching?

The case for proxy caching

- Lower latency for user's web requests
- Reduced traffic at all network levels
- Reduced load on servers
- Some level of fault tolerance (network, servers)
- Reduced costs to ISPs, content providers, *etc.*, as web usage continues to grow exponentially
- More rapid distribution of content



# **HTTP User-Server Interaction**

#### **The conditional GET**



# **HTTP Message Format**

#### **Telnet example**

Connect to HTTP $\rightarrow$ server port	<pre>% telnet www.cs.odu.edu 80 Trying 128.82.4.2</pre>
Telnet output	Connected to xenon.cs.odu.edu.
1	Escape character is '^]'.
Type GET command	GET /~mweigle/files/foo.txt HTTP/1.0
HTTP response $\longrightarrow$	HTTP/1.1 200 OK
status line	Date: Wed, 30 Jan 2013 01:44:23 GMT Server: Apache/2.2.17 (Unix) PHP/5.3.5
	Last-Modified: Thu, 19 May 2011 19:23:43 GMT
	ETag: "5c-4a3a5f178cdd0"
HTTP response	Accept-Ranges: bytes
neaders plus	Content-Length: 92
blank line	Connection: close
	Content-Type: text/plain
	This test file is stored in the UNIX file
Object content $\prec$	system at
	/home/mweigle/public_html/files/foo.txt
Telnet output $\longrightarrow$	Connection closed by foreign host.

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### Security HTTPS

- ◆ HTTP over Secure Socket Layer
  - » Secure version of HTTP
  - » Encrypts the session data
    - Using either the SSL (Secure Socket Layer) protocol or the TLS (Transport Layer Security) protocol
  - » SSL and TLS work above TCP but below application protocols (HTTP, SMTP, etc.)
- Transferred using HTTP, encrypted
   » with default TCP/IP port 443
- For Web pages, the URL begins with https://
- Provides server authentication and encrypted communication

### **Security** Authentication vs. Encryption

### Authentication

- » to confirm the sender is who they say they are
- » using a digital certificate issued by a trusted third party

### Encryption

- » to prevent others from reading the message
- » using a cipher (encryption-decryption algorithm)
- » with symmetric or asymmetric (related public and private) keys

### **Security Encryption and Decryption**

- Symmetric cryptography
  - » Same key for encryption and decryption
    - ✤ would be efficient as long as the key is pre-agreed and secure
  - » Not suitable for the Web

### Asymmetric-key cryptography (also called Publickey cryptography)

- » Using a pair of related public and private keys. Encryption and decryption are asymmetric.
- » Used in HTTPS



*symmetric key crypto:* sender, receiver keys *identical public-key crypto:* encryption key *public*, decryption key *secret* 

### **Principles of Cryptography** Symmetric key cryptography

Substitution cipher: substituting one thing for another

» Caesar cipher: substitute one letter for another by shifting alphabet k letters

plai	.ntext:	abco 	lefghi	Ĺjk	lmnor	oqrstu	IVWXYZ
ciphe	ertext:	↓ lmnc	pqrst	tuv	wxyza	bcdef	↓ ghijk
<u>E.g.:</u>	Plaint	ext:	bob.	i	love	you.	alice
	ciphert	ext:	mzm.	t	wzgp	jzf.	lwtnp

### **Principles of Cryptography** Symmetric key cryptography

plai	.ntext:	abco 	lefghi	Ŀjk	lmnor	oqrstu	IVWXYZ
ciphe	ertext:	↓ mnbv	/cxzas	sdf	[ghjk]	poiuy	ytrewq
<u>E.g.:</u>	Plaint ciphert	ext: ext:	bob. nkn.	i s	love gktc	you. wky.	alice mgsbc

# **Principles of Cryptography**

Symmetric key cryptography



Symmetric key crypto: Bob and Alice know same key, K<sub>A-B</sub>

# E.g.: Key is knowing substitution pattern in monoalphabetic substitution cipher

# **Principles of Cryptography**

**Public Key Cryptography** 

- Symmetric key cryptography
  - » requires sender and receiver to know shared secret key
- Public key cryptography
  - » sender and receiver do not share secret key
  - » public encryption key known to all
  - » private decryption key known only to receiver

# **Principles of Cryptography**

**Public Key Cryptography** 



### **Public Key Cryptography Algorithms Requirements**

### Need $K^+_{B}(m)$ and $K^-_{B}(m)$ such that

- 1.  $K_{B}^{-}(K_{B}^{+}(m)) = m$
- 2. Given public key  $K_{B}^{+}$ , it should be impossible to compute private key  $K_{B}^{-}$

RSA: Rivest, Shamir, Adelson algorithm

### **RSA** Another Important Property

The following property will be very useful later:

$$\underbrace{K_{B}^{-}(K_{B}^{+}(m))}_{H} = m = K_{B}^{+}(K_{B}^{-}(m))$$

use public key first, followed by private key

use private key first, followed by public key

Result is the same!

### **Public Key Cryptography** How To Bind a Public Key to Its User?

### Public-key infrastructure (PKI)

- » Provide a trusted third party (Certifying Authority) to use identity *certificates* to bind public keys to users
- » PKI may refer to the software that manages certificates in a large-scale setting

#### • A certificate may be revoked

» check the certificate revocation list (CRL)

### **Public Key Cryptography**

How to Generate a Certificate?

- Generate a public-private key pair from a large random number
- Keep the private key, send the public key and identifying information to a Certificate Authority (CA)
- Pay a fee to the CA
- The CA verifies the identity
- The CA creates a certificate (including all ID information and the URL of the web site)
- The CA signs the certificate (encoded with its own private key) and sends the signed certificate to you

# Key Distribution and Certification

### **Certification Authorities**



### **Key Distribution and Certification Certification Authorities**

When Alice wants Bob's public key:

- » get Bob's certificate (Bob or elsewhere).
- » apply CA's public key to Bob's certificate, get Bob's public key
  - web browsers and other apps are pre-loaded with public keys for various CAs



### **HTTPS Putting Everything Together**

 Server has obtained a certificate validating that it is who it says it is.

» certificate contains: CA<sup>-</sup> (S<sup>+</sup>, ID information)

- Server sends: m, S<sup>-</sup>(m), CA<sup>-</sup> $(S^+$ , ID information)
- Client uses CA's public key to open certificate, then gets server's public key.
- Client uses server's public key S<sup>+</sup> to open encrypted message S<sup>-</sup>(m)
- Client compares message to unencrypted message m
- Once authenticated, client can encrypt its messages with the server's public key, S<sup>+</sup>.

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