Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)

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Outline

Introduction to TCP

- Sequence numbers and acknowledgment numbers
- Timeouts and RTT estimation
- Reliable data transfer in TCP
- Connection management

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 - not a circuit-switched connection, nor a virtual circuit
- Full-duplex service
 - both endpoints can both send and receive, at the same time

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Maximum transmission unit (MTU): largest link-layer frame available to the sender host

path MTU: largest link-layer frame that can be sent on all links from the sender host to the receiver host

TCP Segment Format

0			31	
source port		ort	destination port	
sequence number				
		acknowledgr	nent number	
hdrlen	unused	UAPRSF	receive window	
Internet checksum		cksum	urgent data pointer	
		optior	ns field	
		da	ita	

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- Optional and variable-length options field: may be used to negotiate protocol parameters

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- Checksum: (16-bit) used to detect transmission errors

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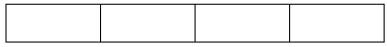
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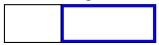
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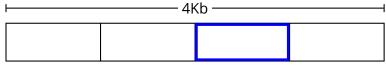
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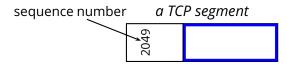
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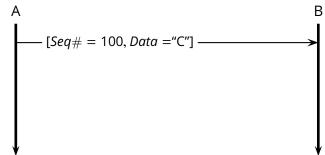
 $[Seq\# = 2200, ...], size(data) = 500 \longrightarrow$
 $[Seq\# = ..., Ack\# = 2700]$

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Acknowledgments are "piggybacked" on data segments

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 - as close as possible to the RTT
- TCP controls its timeout by continuously *estimating the current RTT*

- RTT is measured using ACKs
 - only for packets transmitted once
- Given a single sample *S* at any given time

Exponential weighted moving average (EWMA)

$$\overline{RTT} = (1 - \alpha)\overline{RTT}' + \alpha S$$

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- However, *T* should not be too far from RTT
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- TCP sets its timeouts using the estimated RTT (\overline{RTT}) and the variability estimate \overline{DevRTT} :

$$T = \overline{RTT} + 4\overline{DevRTT}$$

Reliable Data Transfer (Sender)

A simplified TCP sender

 r_send(data)
 if (timer not running) start_timer()
 u_send([data,next_seq_num])
 next_seq_num ← next_seq_num + length(data)

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u_recv([ACK,y])
if (y > base)
base ← y
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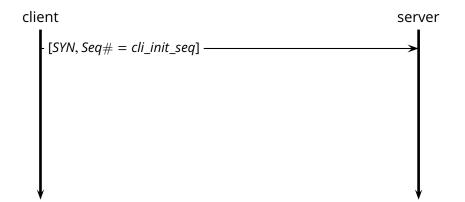
```
ack\_counter[y] \leftarrow ack\_counter[y] + 1
if (ack\_counter[y] = 3)
u_send(segment with sequence number y)
```

Three-way handshake

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client server

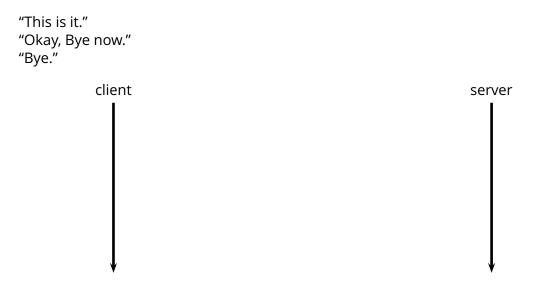
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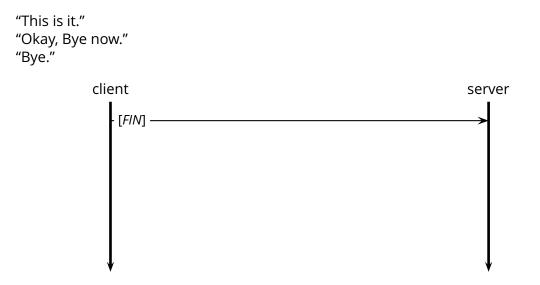


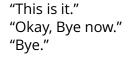
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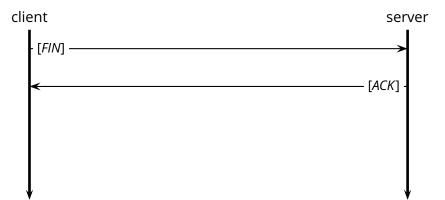
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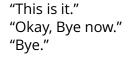
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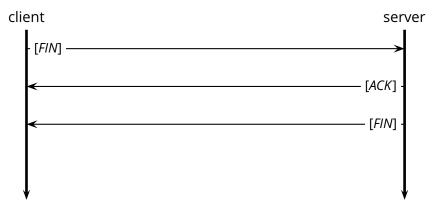












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