



Computer Networks

CS3611

Network Layer-Data Plane- Part 1

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The slides are adapted from those provided by Prof. J.F Kurose and K.W. Ross.

Chapter 4: outline

4.1 Overview of Network layer

- data plane
- control plane

4.2 What's inside a router

4.3 IP: Internet Protocol

- datagram format
- fragmentation
- IPv4 addressing
- network address translation
- IPv6

4.4 Generalized Forward and SDN

- match
- action
- OpenFlow examples of match-plus-action in action

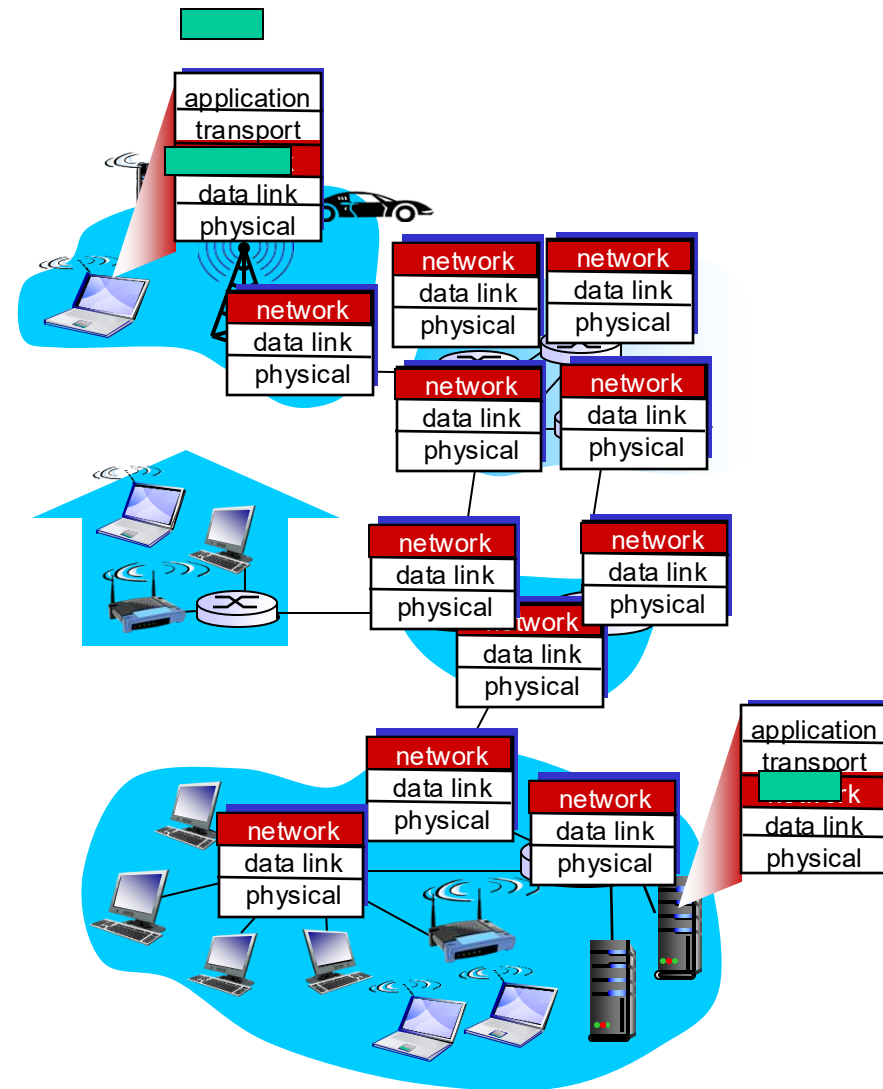
Chapter 4: network layer

chapter goals:

- understand principles behind network layer services, focusing on data plane:
 - network layer service models
 - forwarding versus routing
 - how a router works
 - generalized forwarding
- instantiation, implementation in the Internet

Network layer

- transport segment from sending to receiving host
- on sending side encapsulates segments into datagrams
- on receiving side, delivers segments to transport layer
- network layer protocols in *every* host, router
- router examines header fields in all IP datagrams passing through it



Two key network-layer functions

network-layer functions:

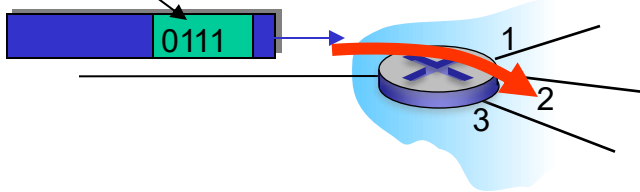
- *forwarding*: move packets from router's input to appropriate router output
- *routing*: determine route taken by packets from source to destination
 - *routing algorithms*

Network layer: data plane, control plane

Data plane

- local, per-router function
- determines how datagram arriving on router input port is forwarded to router output port
- forwarding function

values in arriving packet header

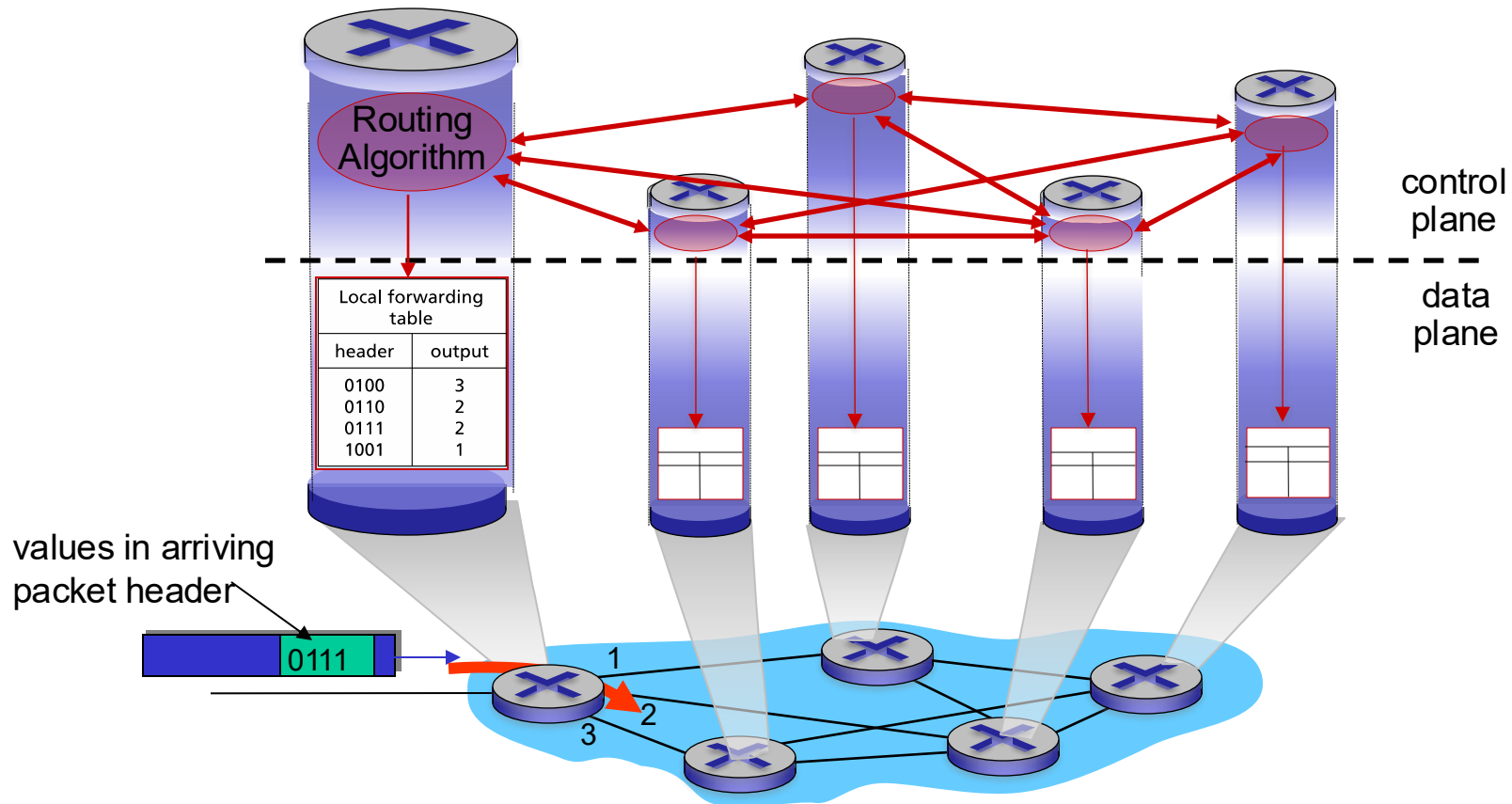


Control plane

- network-wide logic
- determines how datagram is routed among routers along end-end path from source host to destination host
- two control-plane approaches:
 - *traditional routing algorithms*: implemented in routers
 - *software-defined networking (SDN)*: implemented in (remote) servers

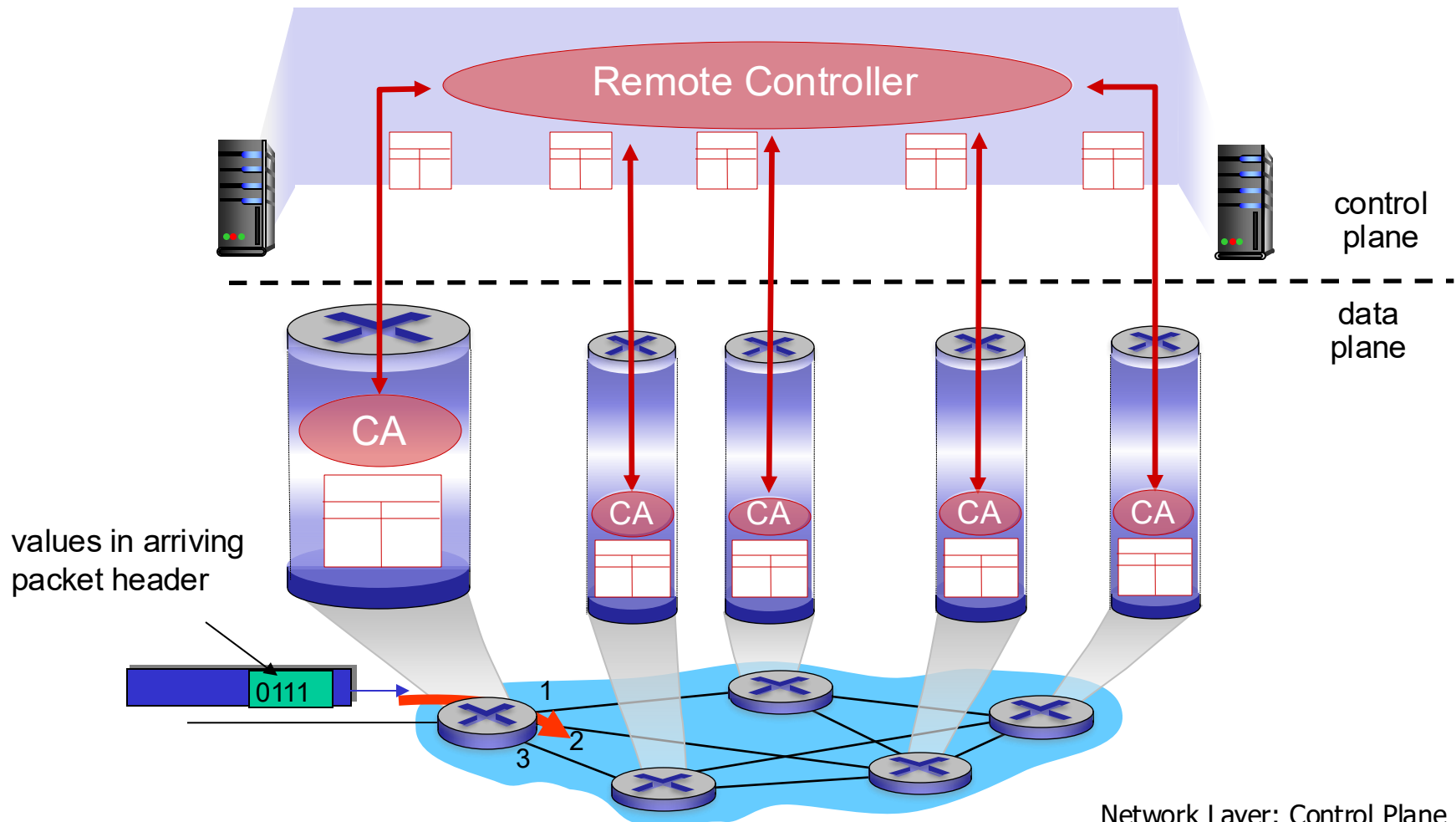
Per-router control plane

Individual routing algorithm components *in each and every router* interact in the control plane



Logically centralized control plane

A distinct (typically remote) controller interacts with local control agents (CAs)



Network layer service models:

Network Architecture	Service Model	Guarantees ?				Congestion feedback
		Bandwidth	Loss	Order	Timing	
Internet	best effort	none	no	no	no	no (inferred via loss)

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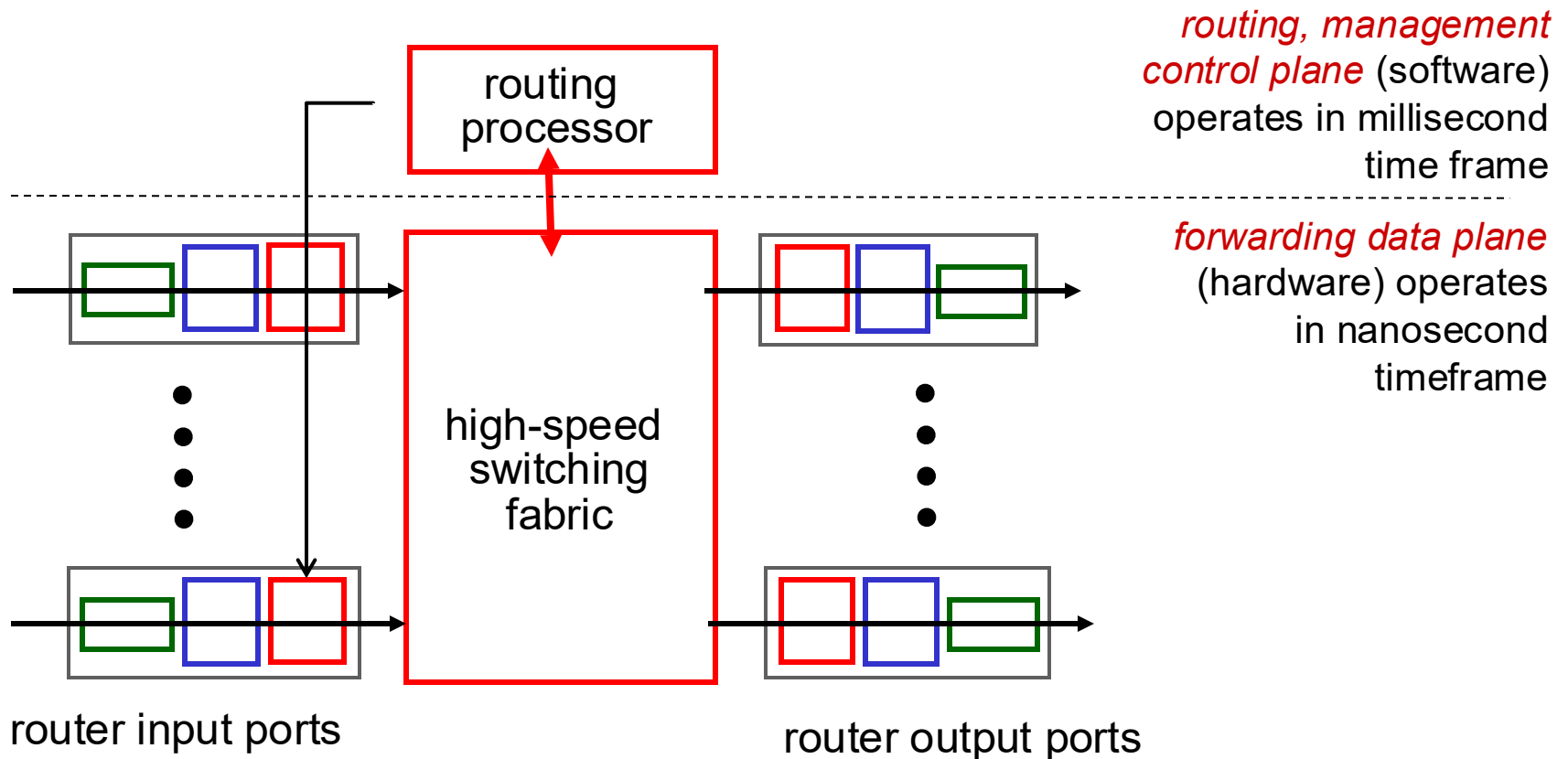
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4.4 Generalized Forward and SDN

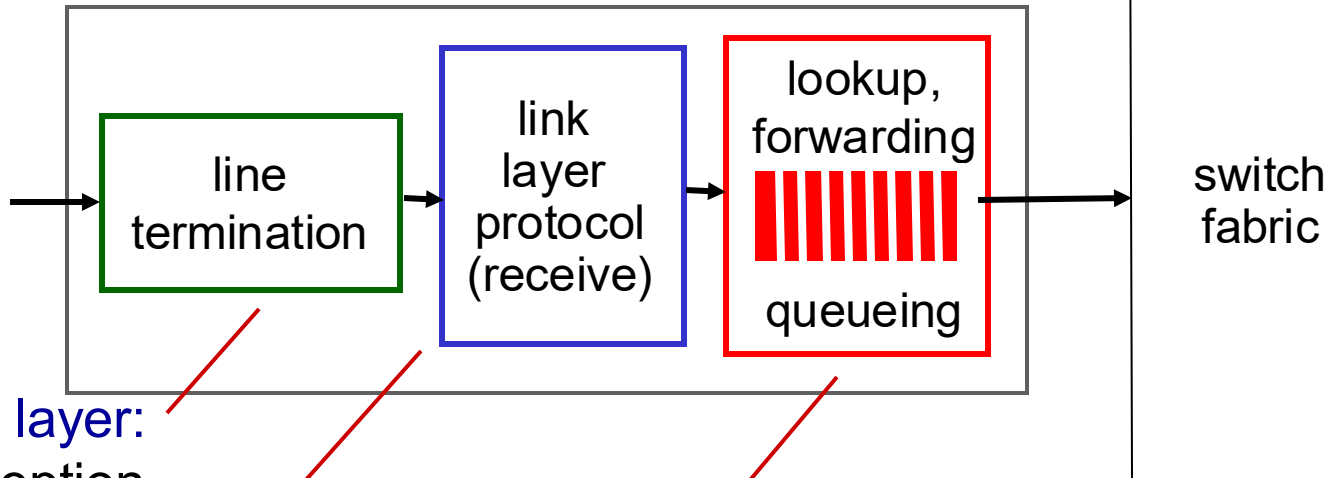
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Router architecture overview

- high-level view of generic router architecture:



Input port functions



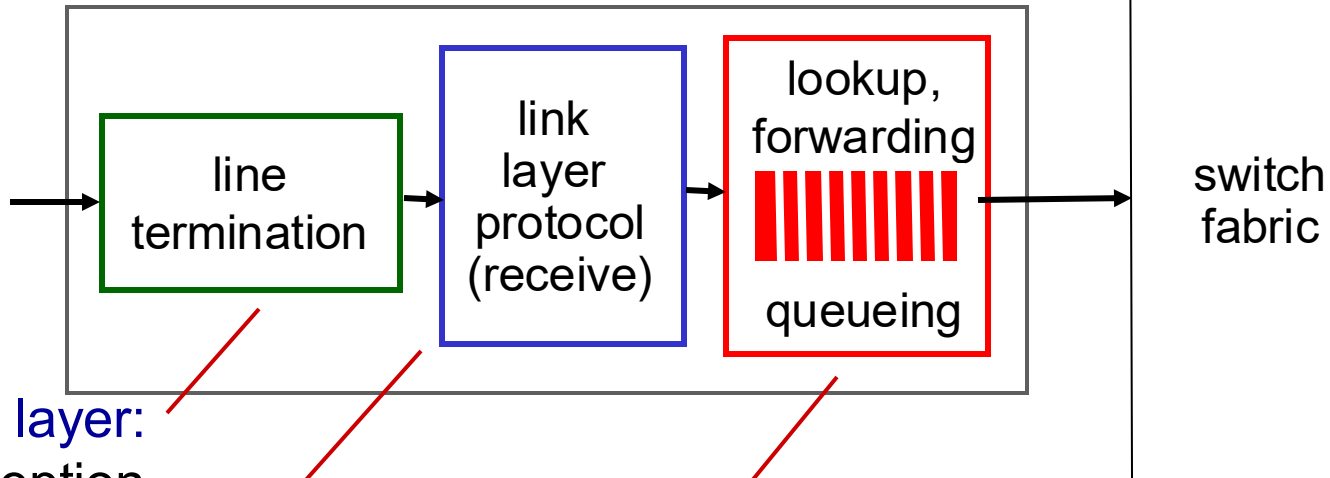
physical layer:
bit-level reception

data link layer:
e.g., Ethernet
see chapter 5

decentralized switching:

- using header field values, lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory (“*match plus action*”)
- goal: complete input port processing at ‘line speed’
- queuing: if datagrams arrive faster than forwarding rate into switch fabric

Input port functions



physical layer:
bit-level reception

data link layer:
e.g., Ethernet
see chapter 5

decentralized switching:

- using header field values, lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory (“*match plus action*”)
- **destination-based forwarding:** forward based only on destination IP address (traditional)
- **generalized forwarding:** forward based on any set of header field values

Destination-based forwarding

forwarding table

Destination Address Range	Link Interface
11001000 00010111 00010000 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00010111 11111111	0
11001000 00010111 00011000 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00011000 11111111	1
11001000 00010111 00011001 00000000 through 11001000 00010111 00011111 11111111	2
otherwise	3

Longest prefix matching

longest prefix matching

when looking for forwarding table entry for given destination address, use *longest* address prefix that matches destination address.

Destination Address Range	Link interface
11001000 00010111 00010*** *****	0
11001000 00010111 00011000 *****	1
11001000 00010111 00011*** *****	2
otherwise	3

examples:

DA: 11001000 00010111 00010110 10100001

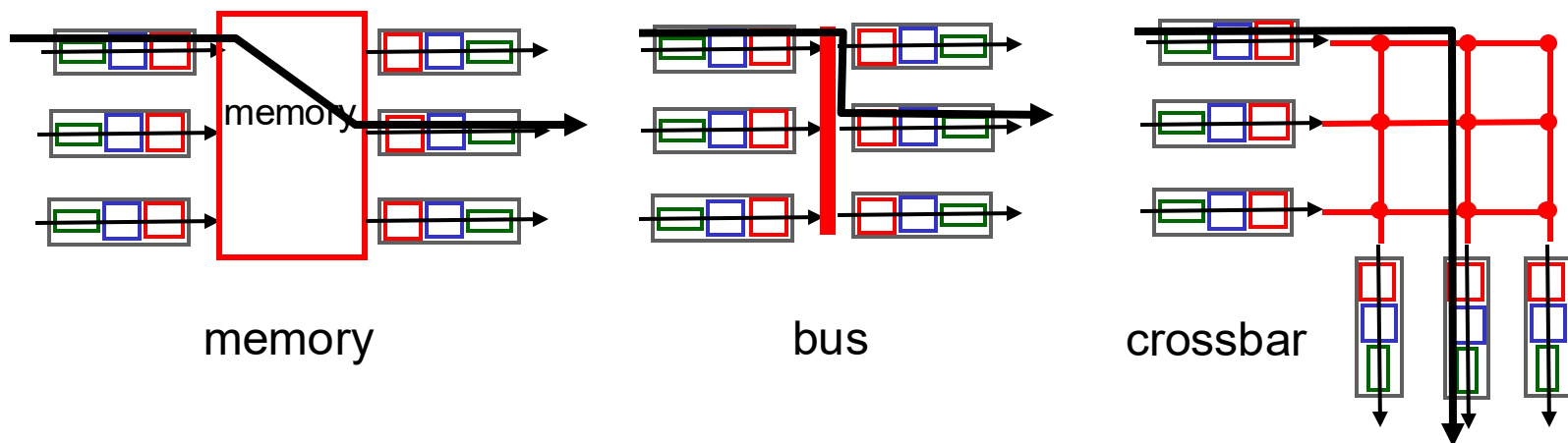
which interface?

DA: 11001000 00010111 00011000 10101010

which interface?

Switching fabrics

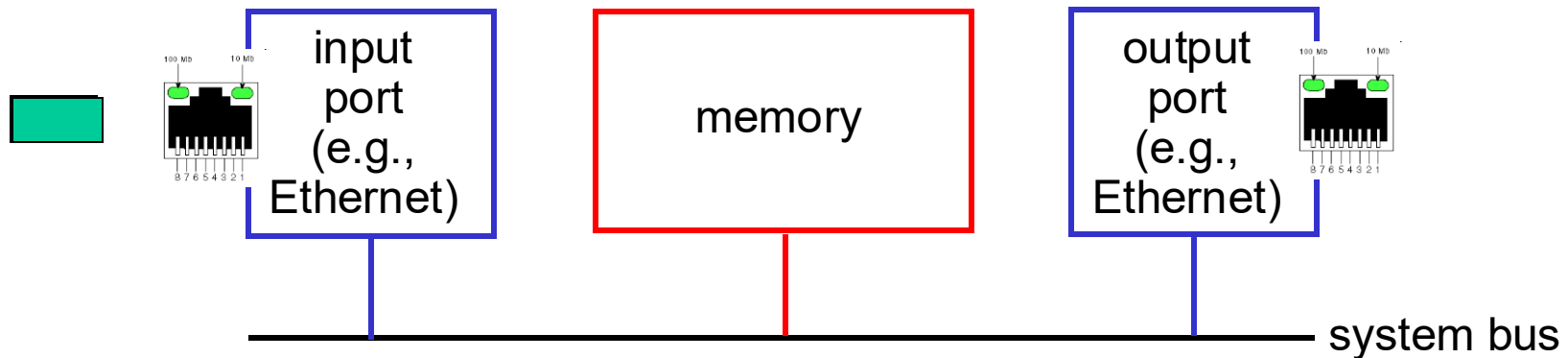
- transfer packet from input buffer to appropriate output buffer
- switching rate: rate at which packets can be transfer from inputs to outputs
 - often measured as multiple of input/output line rate
 - N inputs: switching rate N times line rate desirable
- three types of switching fabrics



Switching via memory

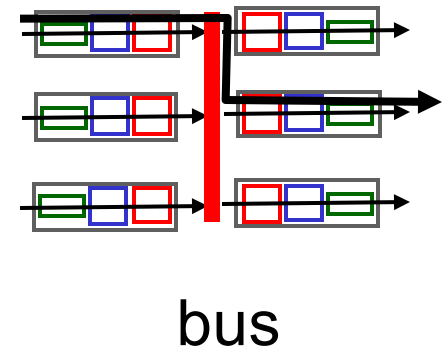
first generation routers:

- traditional computers with switching under direct control of CPU
- packet copied to system's memory
- speed limited by memory bandwidth (2 bus crossings per datagram)



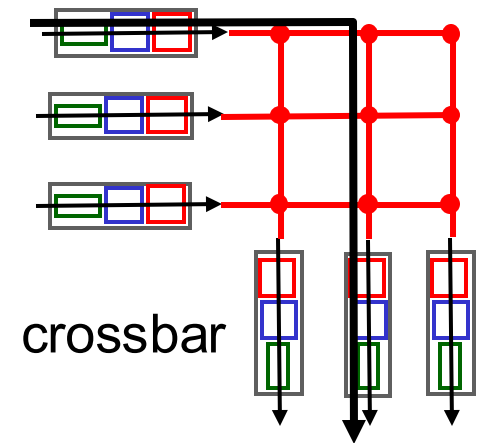
Switching via a bus

- datagram from input port memory to output port memory via a shared bus
- *bus contention*: switching speed limited by bus bandwidth
- 32 Gbps bus, Cisco 5600: sufficient speed for access and enterprise routers

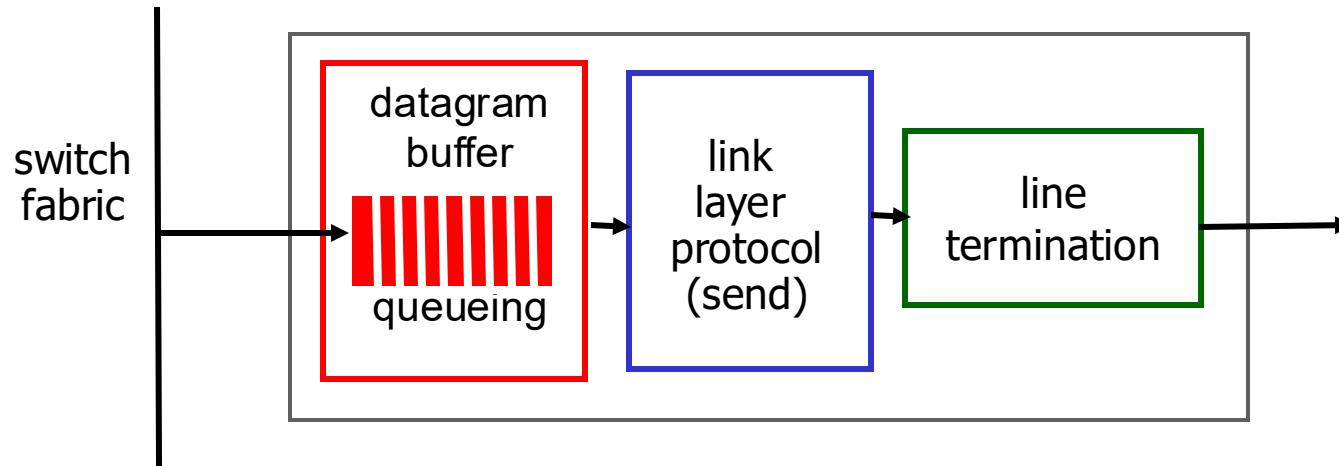


Switching via interconnection network

- overcome bus bandwidth limitations
- banyan networks, crossbar, other interconnection nets initially developed to connect processors in multiprocessor
- advanced design: fragmenting datagram into fixed length cells, switch cells through the fabric.
- Cisco I2000: switches 60 Gbps through the interconnection network



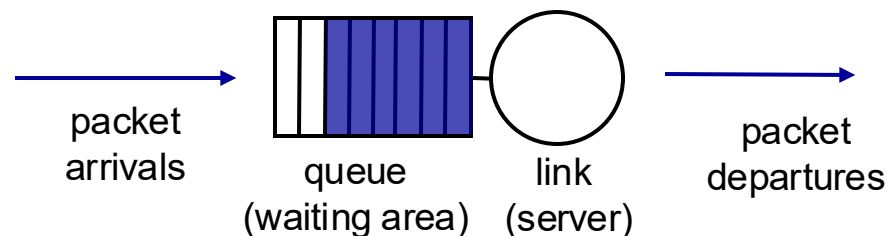
Output ports



- *buffering* required from fabric faster rate
Datagram (packets) can be lost due to congestion, lack of buffers
- *scheduling discipline* chooses among queued datagrams for transmission

Scheduling mechanisms

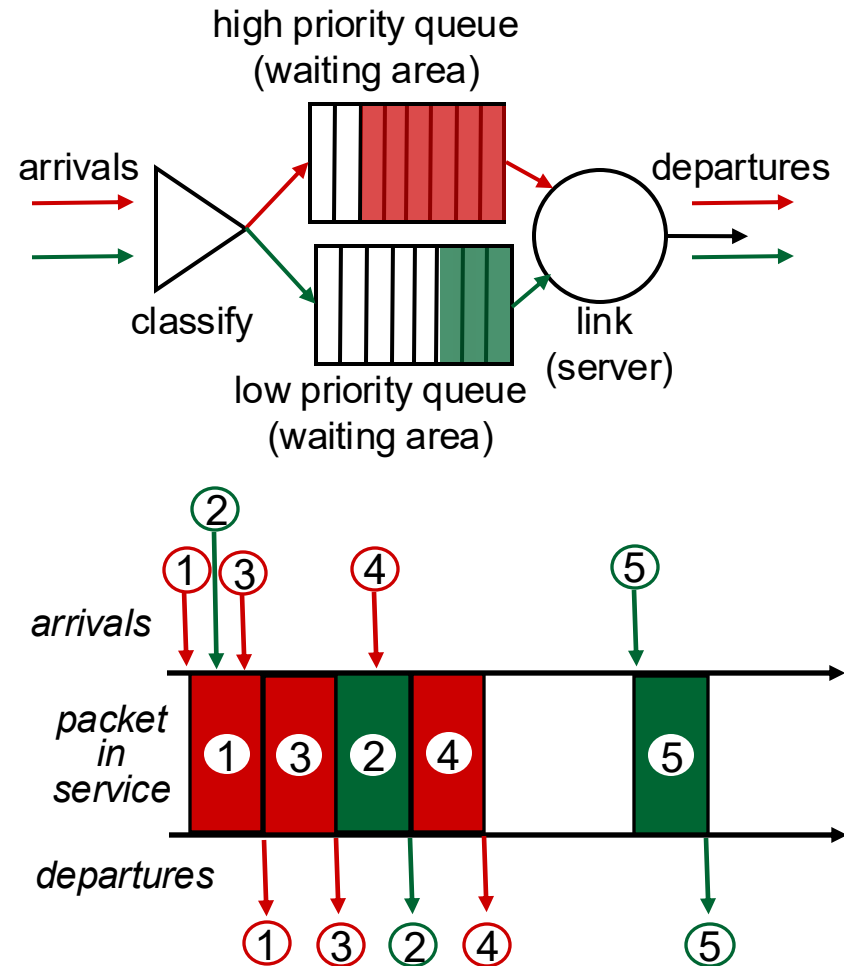
- *scheduling*: choose next packet to send on link
- *FIFO (first in first out) scheduling*: send in order of arrival to queue
 - *discard policy*: if packet arrives to full queue: who to discard?
 - *tail drop*: drop arriving packet
 - *priority*: drop/remove on priority basis
 - *random*: drop/remove randomly



Scheduling policies: priority

priority scheduling: send highest priority queued packet

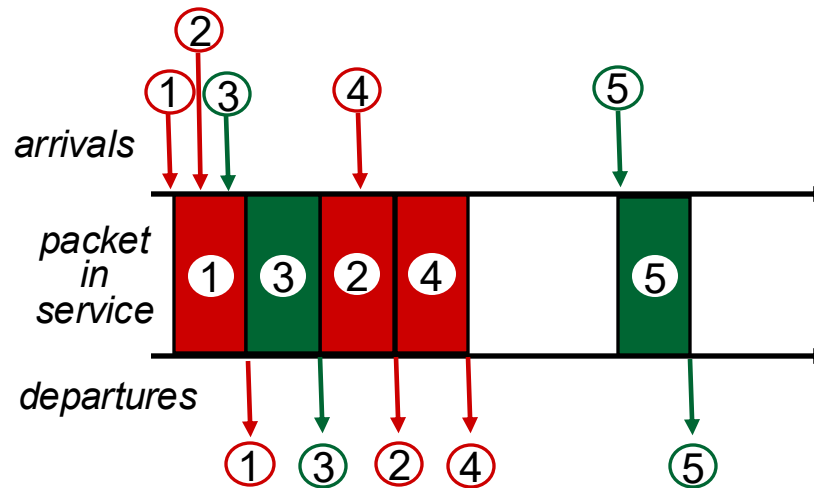
- multiple *classes*, with different priorities
 - class may depend on marking or other header info, e.g. IP source/dest, port numbers, etc.
- Without Preemption scheduling



Scheduling policies: still more

Round Robin (RR) scheduling:

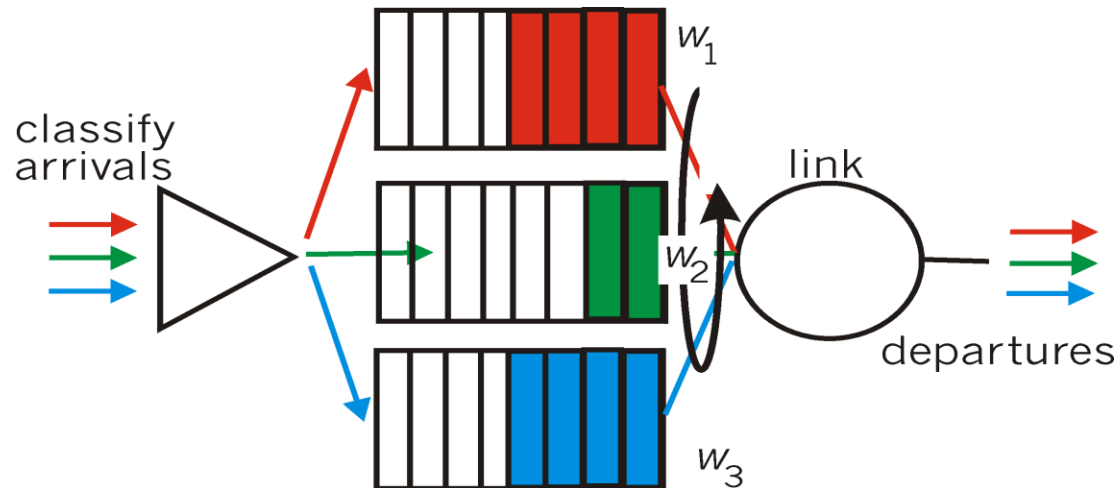
- multiple classes
- cyclically scan class queues, sending one complete packet from each class (if available)



Scheduling policies: still more

Weighted Fair Queuing (WFQ):

- generalized Round Robin
- each class gets weighted amount of service in each cycle



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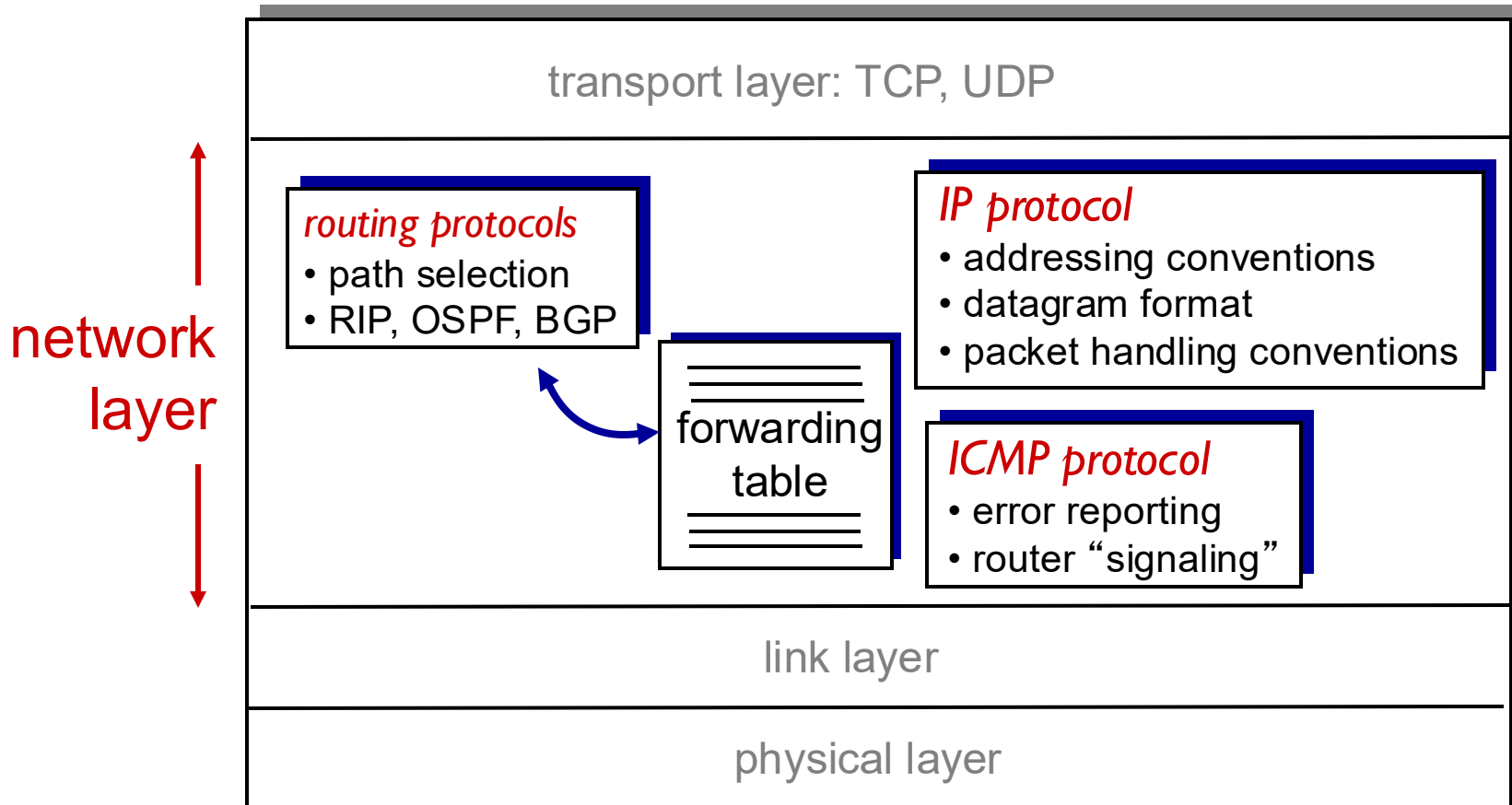
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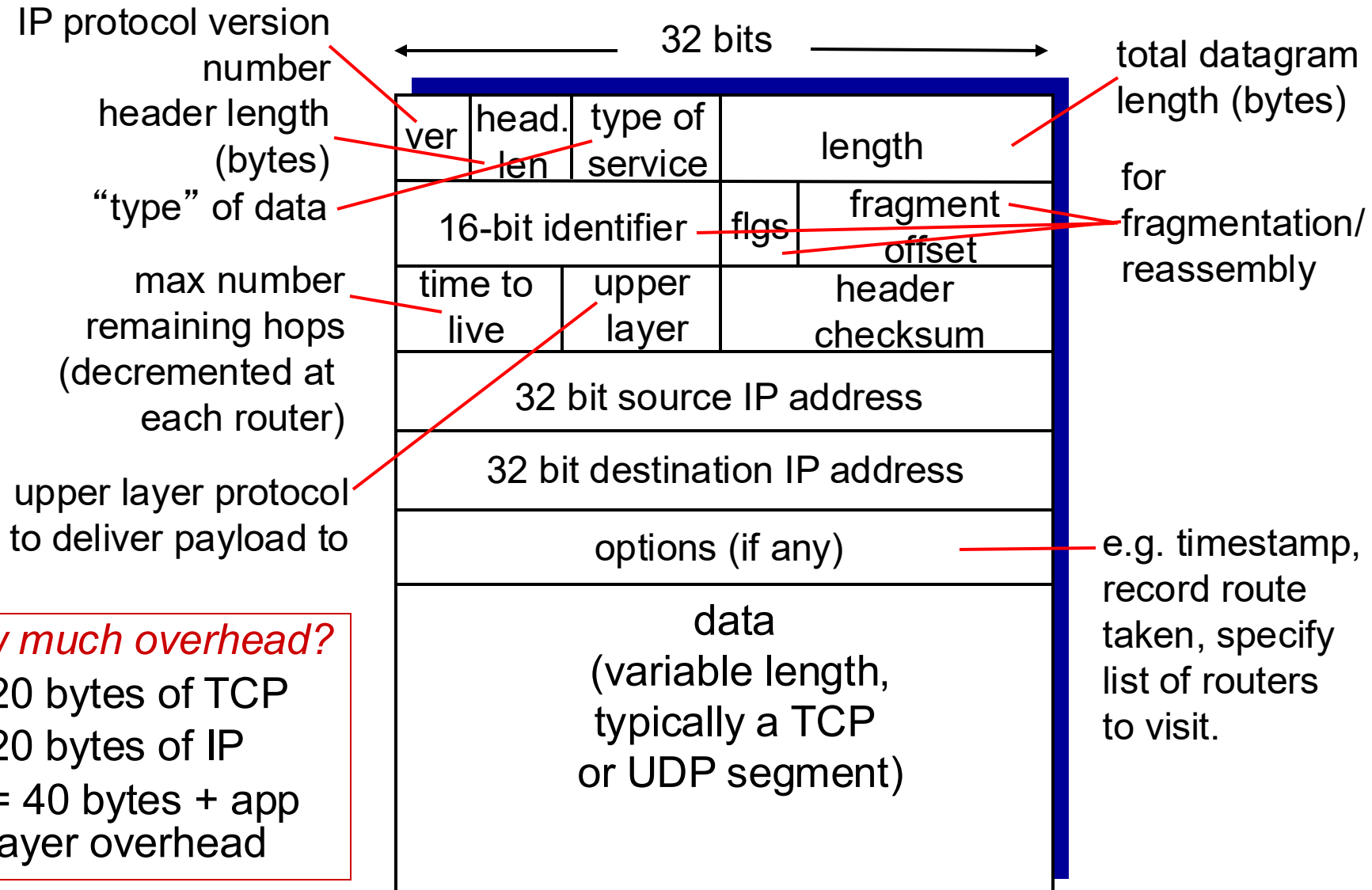
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The Internet network layer

host, router network layer functions:



IP datagram format



IP fragmentation, reassembly

- network links have MTU (max.transfer size) - largest possible link-level frame
 - different link types, different MTUs
- large IP datagram divided (“fragmented”) within net
 - one datagram becomes several datagrams
 - “reassembled” only at final destination
 - IP header bits used to identify, order related fragments

