TDTS06: Computer Networks

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Notes derived from "Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach", by Jim Kurose and Keith Ross, Addison-Wesley.

The slides are adapted and modified based on slides from the book's companion Web site, as well as modified slides by Anirban Mahanti and Carey Williamson.

Scalable Content Delivery Motivation

- □ Use of Internet for content delivery is massive ... and becoming more so (e.g., majority of all IP traffic is video content)
- □ Variety of approaches: HTTP-based Adaptive Streaming (HAS), broadcast/multicast, batching, replication/caching (e.g. CDNs), P2P, peer-assisted, ...
- □ In these slides, we only provide a few high-level examples

Why Study Multimedia Networking?

□ Exciting and fun!

□ Multimedia is everywhere

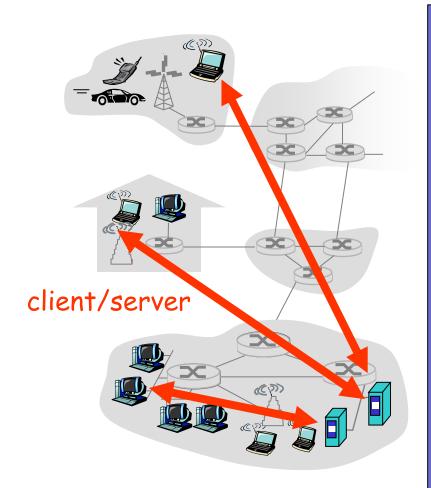
□ Industry-relevant research topic

Lots of open research problems

Service models

Client-server architecture

Client/server model has well-defined roles.



server:

- always-on host
- o permanent IP address
- o server farms for scaling

clients:

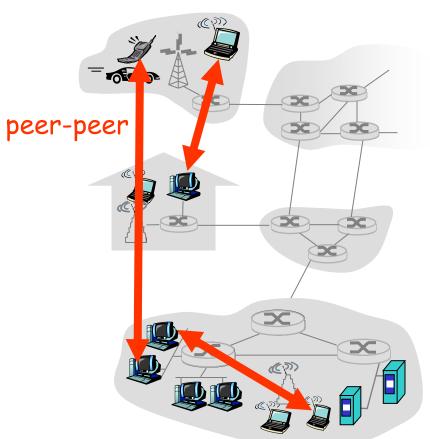
- o communicate with server
- may be intermittently connected
- may have dynamic IP addresses
- do not communicate
 directly with each other

Pure P2P architecture

No fixed clients or servers: Each host can act as both client and

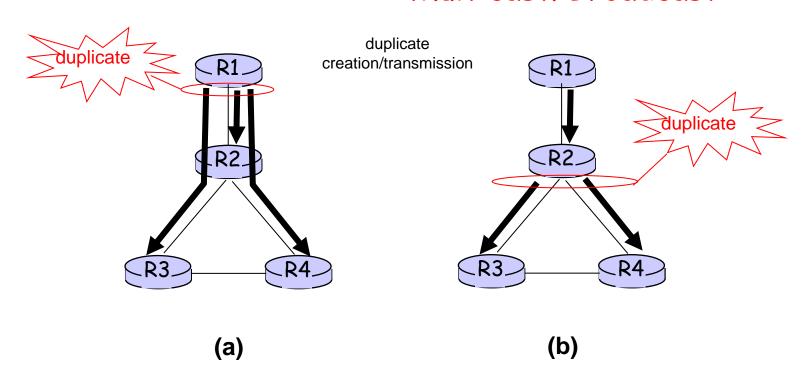
server at any time

- □ *no* always-on server
- □ arbitrary end systems directly communicate
- peers are intermittently connected and change IP addresses



Additional Multimedia Support

Multicast/Broadcast



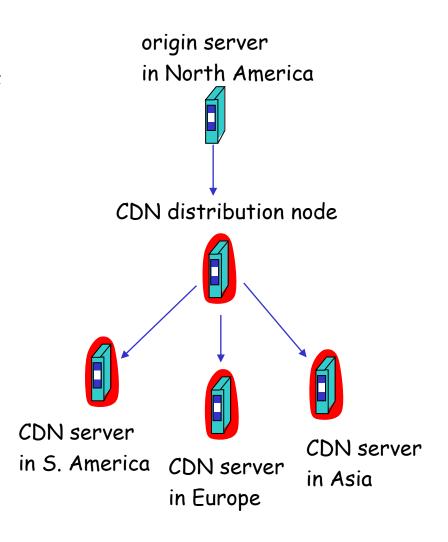
Source-duplication versus in-network duplication. (a) source duplication, (b) in-network duplication

Also, application-layer multicast ...

Content distribution networks (CDNs)

Content replication

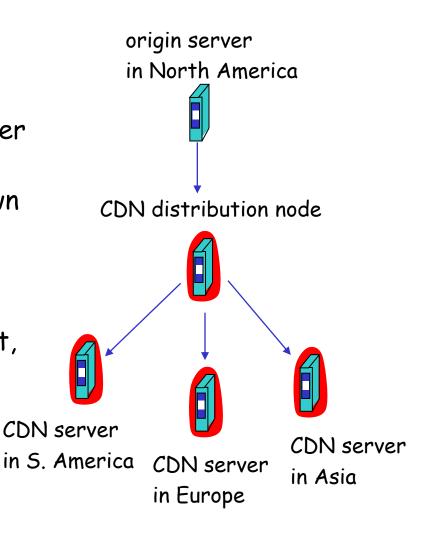
- replicate content at hundreds of servers throughout Internet (often in edge/access network)
- content "close" to user reduce impairments (loss, delay) of sending content over long paths

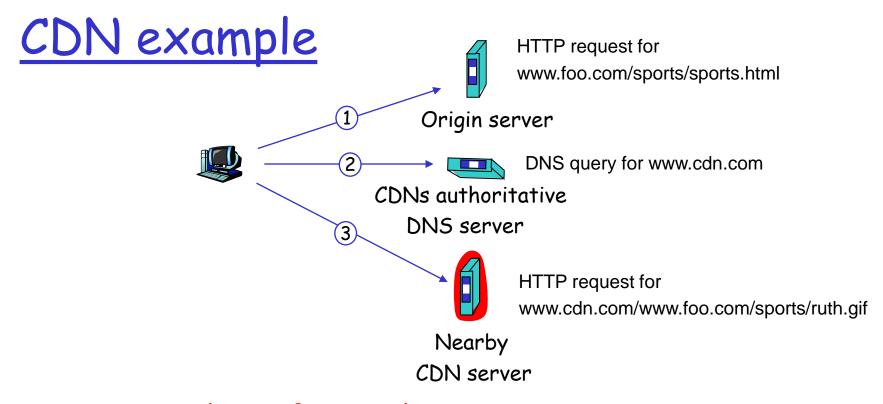


Content distribution networks (CDNs)

Content replication

- CDN (e.g., Akamai, Limewire)
 customer is the content provider
 (e.g., CNN)
- Other companies build their own CDN (e.g., Google)
- CDN replicates customers' content in CDN servers.
- When provider updates content, CDN updates servers





origin server (www.foo.com)

- distributes HTML
- □ replaces:

http://www.foo.com/sports.ruth.gif

with

http://www.cdn.com/www.foo.com/sports/ruth.gif

CDN company (cdn.com)

- distributes gif files
- uses its authoritative DNS server to route redirect requests

More about CDNs

routing requests

- CDN creates a "map", indicating distances from leaf
 ISPs and CDN nodes
- □ when query arrives at authoritative DNS server:
 - server determines ISP from which query originates
 - o uses "map" to determine best CDN server
- CDN nodes create application-layer overlay network

Multimedia Networking

Principles

- Classify multimedia applications
- Identify the network services the apps need
- Making the best of "best effort" service
- □ Mechanisms for providing QoS

Protocols and Architectures

- Specific protocols for best effort delivery
- Architectures for QoS

Multimedia Networking

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Protocols and Architectures

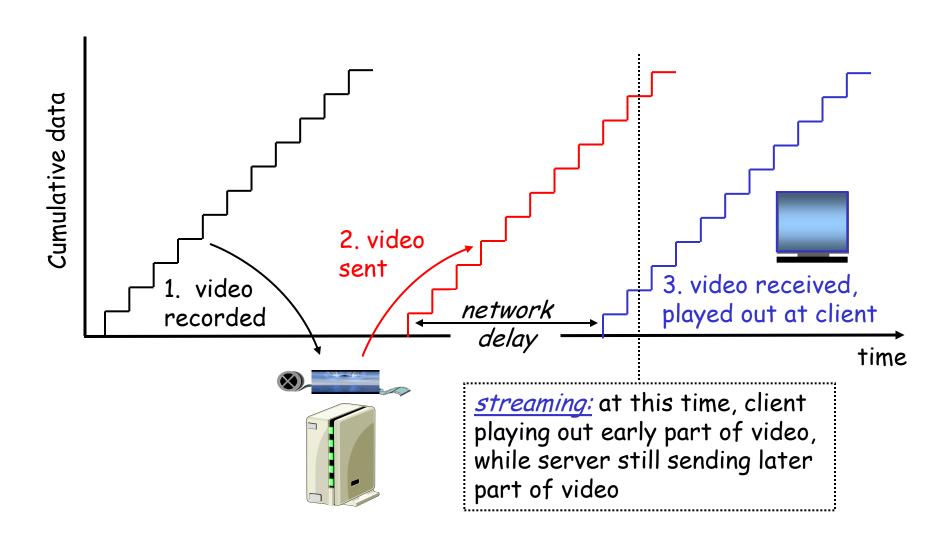
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Classes of MM applications:

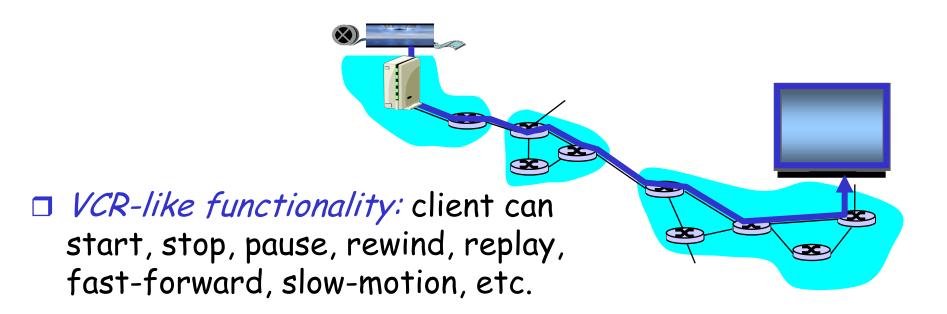
Classes of MM applications:

- 1) Streaming stored audio and video
- 2) Streaming live audio and video
- 3) Real-time interactive audio and video

Streaming Stored Multimedia (1/2)



Streaming Stored Multimedia (2/2)



Streaming Stored Multimedia (2/2)



- 10 sec initial delay OK
- 1-2 sec until command effect OK
- need a separate control protocol?
- □ timing constraint for data that is yet to be transmitted: must arrive in time for playback

Streaming Live Multimedia

Examples:

- □ Internet radio talk show
- □ Live sporting event

Streaming Live Multimedia

Examples:

- Internet radio talk show
- □ Live sporting event

Streaming

- playback buffer
- playback can lag tens of seconds after transmission
- still have timing constraint

Interactivity

- fast-forward is not possible
- rewind and pause possible!

Interactive, Real-time Multimedia

applications: IP telephony, video conference, distributed interactive worlds

Interactive, Real-time Multimedia

- applications: IP telephony, video conference, distributed interactive worlds
- end-end delay requirements:
 - o audio: < 150 msec good, < 400 msec OK
 - includes application-layer (packetization) and network delays
 - higher delays noticeable, impair interactivity
- session initialization
 - callee must advertise its IP address, port number, frame rate, encoding algorithms

Fundamental characteristics:

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 - o end-to-end delay
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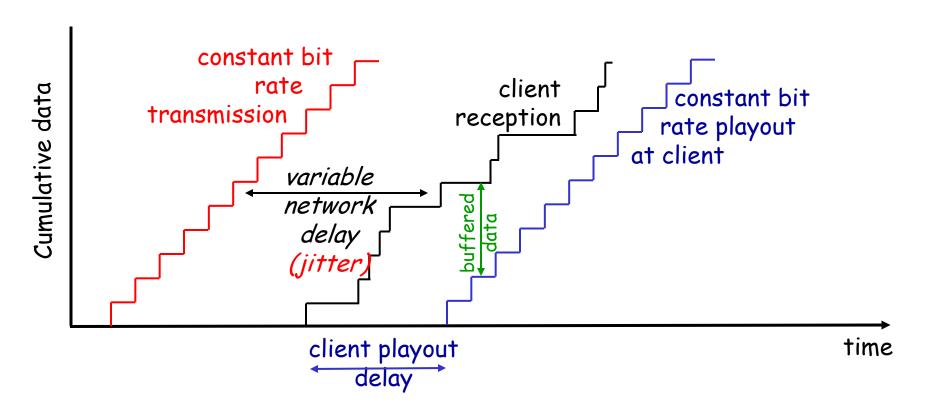
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- But loss-tolerant: infrequent losses cause minor transient glitches
- Unlike data apps, which are often delaytolerant but loss-sensitive.

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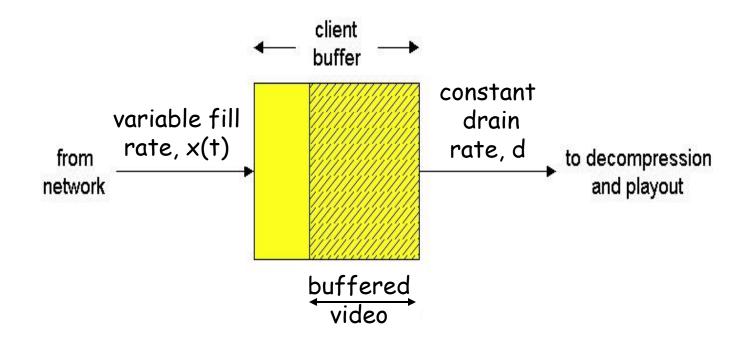
Jitter is the variability of packet delays within the same packet stream

Delay Jitter



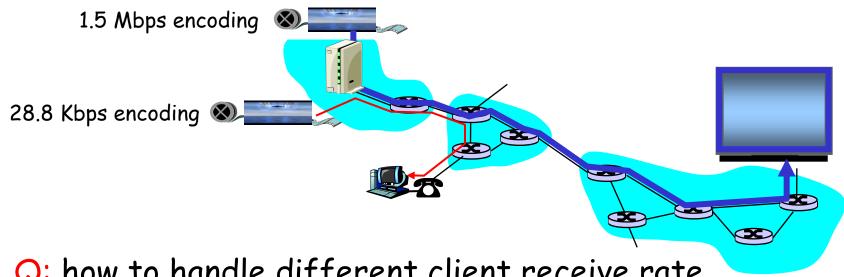
 consider end-to-end delays of two consecutive packets: difference can be more or less than 20 msec (transmission time difference)

Streaming Multimedia: Client Buffering



Client-side buffering, playout delay compensate for network-added delay, delay jitter

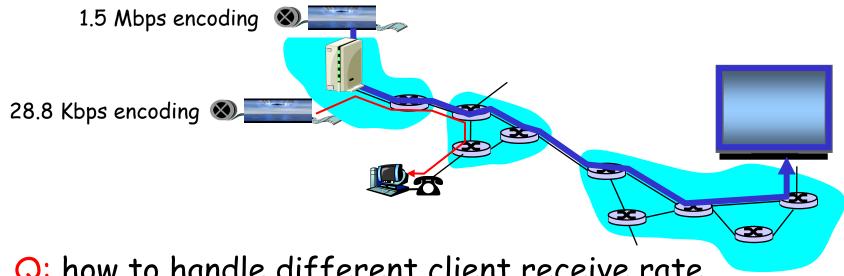
Streaming Multimedia: client rate(s)



Q: how to handle different client receive rate capabilities?

- 28.8 Kbps dialup
- 100 Mbps Ethernet

Streaming Multimedia: client rate(s)



- Q: how to handle different client receive rate capabilities?
 - 28.8 Kbps dialup
 - 100 Mbps Ethernet
- <u>A1:</u> server stores, transmits multiple copies of video, encoded at different rates
- A2: layered and/or dynamically rate-based encoding

<u>Consider first ...</u> <u>Streaming Stored Multimedia</u>

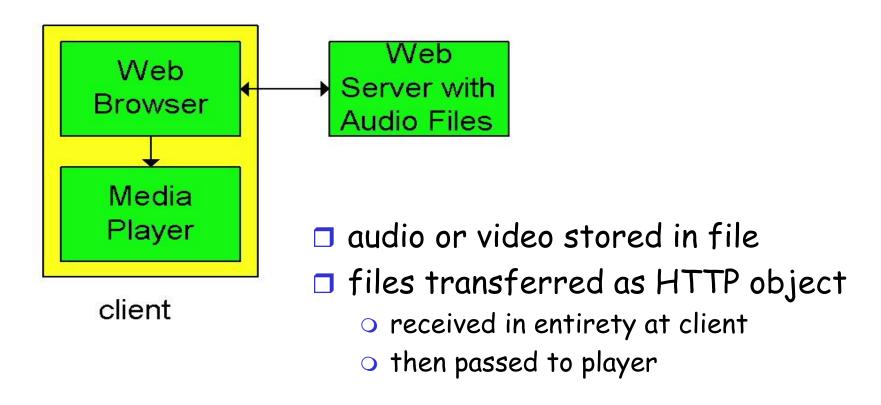
application-level streaming techniques for making the best out of best effort service:

- o client-side buffering
- use of UDP versus TCP
- multiple encodings of multimedia

Media Player

- jitter removal
- decompression
- error concealment
- graphical user interface w/ controls for interactivity

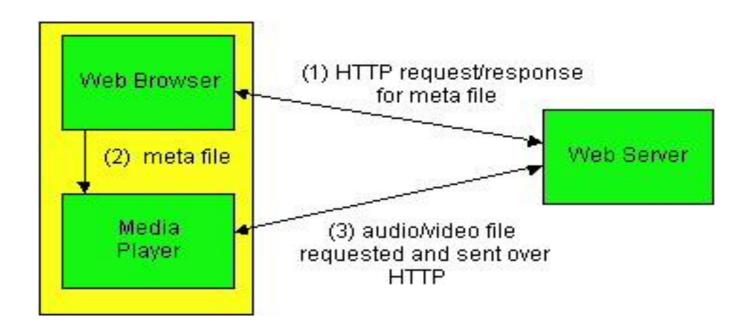
Internet multimedia: simplest approach



audio, video is downloaded, not streamed:

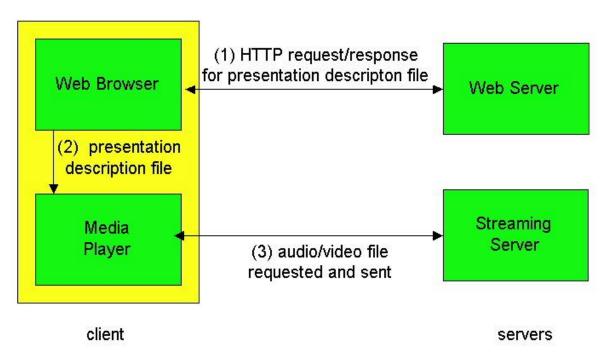
long delays until playout, since no pipelining!

Progressive Download



- □ browser retrieves metafile using HTTP GET
- □ browser launches player, passing metafile to it
- media player contacts server directly
- server downloads audio/video to player

Streaming from a Streaming Server



- This architecture allows for non-HTTP protocol between server and media player
- Can also use UDP instead of TCP.

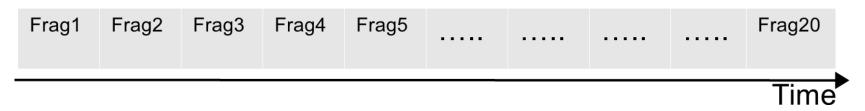
Streaming Multimedia: UDP or TCP?

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TCP

- send at maximum possible rate under TCP
- fill rate fluctuates due to TCP congestion control
- □ larger playout delay: smooth TCP delivery rate
- □ HTTP/TCP passes more easily through firewalls

HTTP-based streaming



- HTTP-based streaming
 - Allows easy caching, NAT/firewall traversal, etc.
 - Use of TCP provides natural bandwidth adaptation
 - Split into fragments, download sequentially
 - Some support for interactive VoD

HTTP-based adaptive streaming (HAS)

Quality

Frag1	Frag2	Frag3	Frag4	Frag5	 	 	@1300 Kbit/s
Frag1	Frag2	Frag3	Frag4	Frag5	 	 	@850 Kbit/s
Frag1	Frag2	Frag3	Frag4	Frag5	 	 	@500 Kbit/s
Frag1	Frag2	Frag3	Frag4	Frag5	 	 	@250 Kbit/s

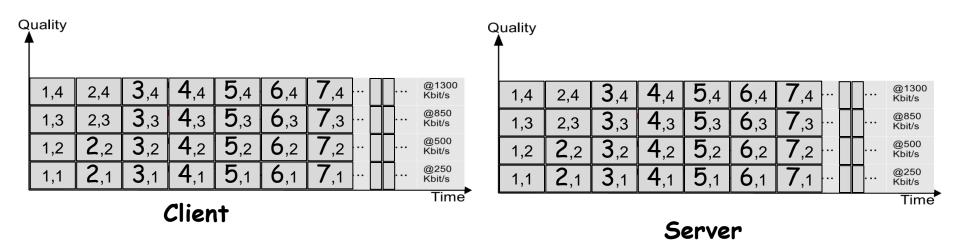
Time

- HTTP-based adaptive streaming
 - Multiple encodings of each fragment (defined in manifest file)
 - Clients adapt quality encoding based on (buffer and network) conditions

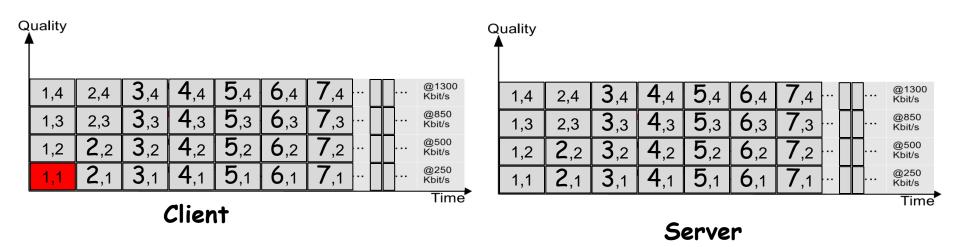
Chunk-based streaming

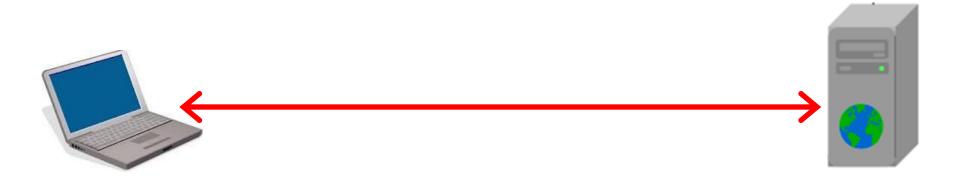
- Chunks begin with keyframe so independent of other chunks
- Playing chunks in sequence gives seamless video
- Hybrid of streaming and progressive download:
 - Stream-like: sequence of small chunks requested as needed
 - Progressive download-like: HTTP transfer mechanism, stateless servers

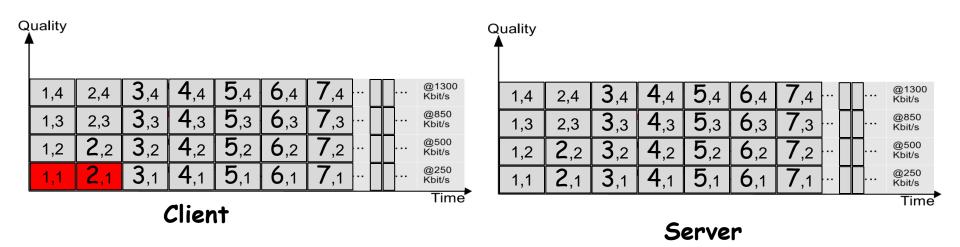




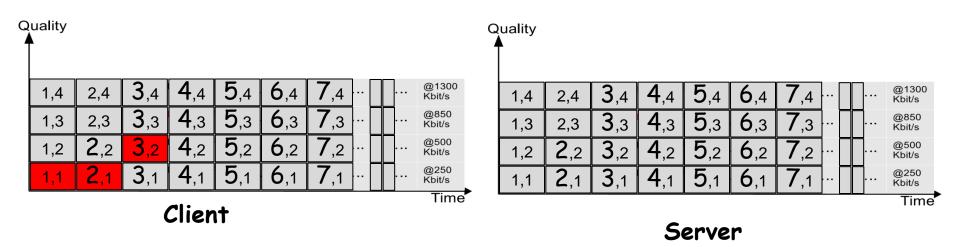




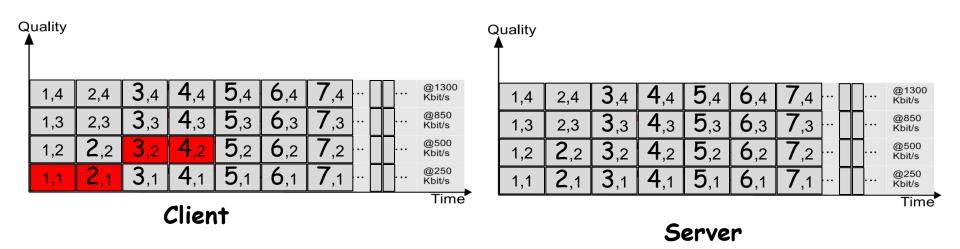




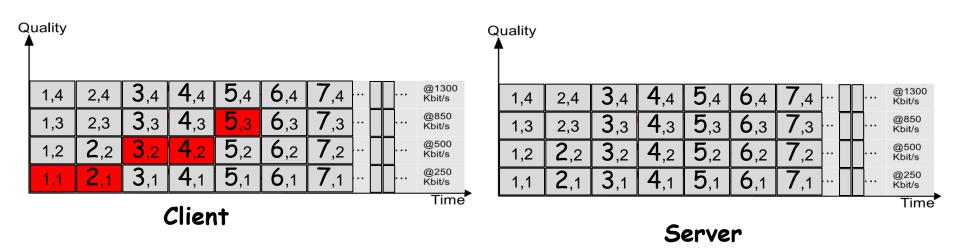




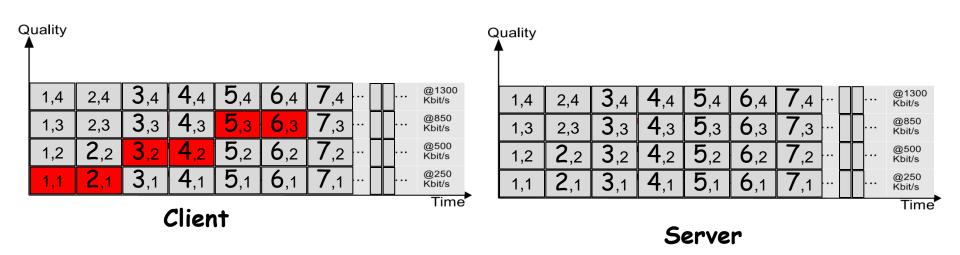




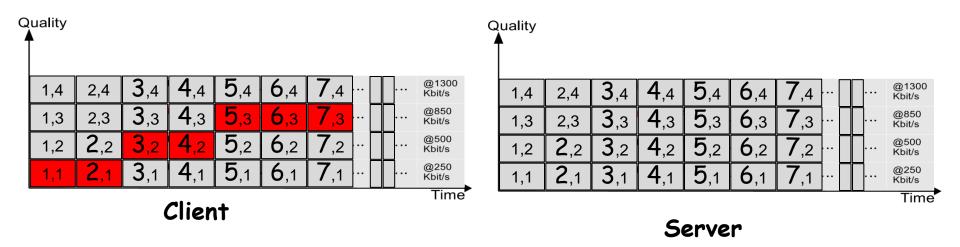












HTTP-based Adaptive Streaming (HAS)

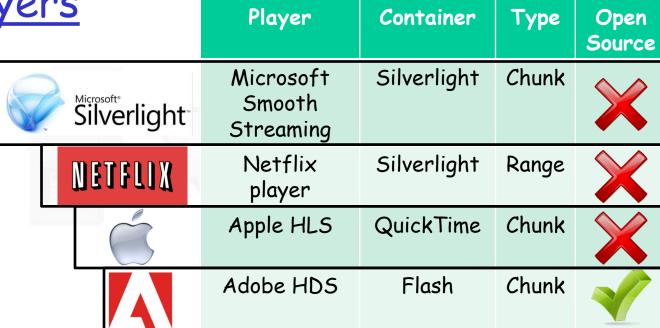
- Other terms for similar concepts: Adaptive Streaming, Smooth Streaming, HTTP Chunking
- Probably most important is return to stateless server and TCP basis of 1st generation
- Actually a series of small progressive downloads of chunks (or range requests)
- No standard protocol ...

HTTP-based Adaptive Streaming (HAS)

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- □ No standard protocol ...
 - Apple HLS: HTTP Live Streaming
 - Microsoft IIS Smooth Streaming: part of Silverlight
 - Adobe: Flash Dynamic Streaming
 - DASH: Dynamic Adaptive Streaming over HTTP

Example players











Clients' want

- High playback quality
- □ Small stall times
- ☐ Few buffer interruptions
- ☐ Few quality5 switches

HTTP Streaming (2)

Adaptation:

- Encode video at different levels of quality/bandwidth
- Client can adapt by requesting different sized chunks
- Chunks of different bit rates must be synchronized: All encodings have the same chunk boundaries and all chunks start with keyframes, so you can make smooth splices to chunks of higher or lower bit rates

Evaluation:

- Easy to deploy: it's just HTTP, caches/proxies/CDN all work
- Fast startup by downloading lowest quality/smallest chunk
- Bitrate switching is seamless
- Many small files

Chunks can be

- Independent files -- many files to manage for one movie
- Stored in single file container -- client or server must be able to access chunks, e.g. using range requests from client.

Examples: Netflix & Silverlight

- Netflix servers allow users to search & select movies
- Netflix manages accounts and login
- Movie represented as an XML encoded "manifest" file with URL for each copy of the movie:
 - Multiple bitrates
 - Multiple CDNs (preference given in manifest)
- Microsoft Silverlight DRM manages access to decryption key for movie data
- CDNs do no encryption or decryption, just deliver content via HTTP.
- ☐ Clients use "Range-bytes=" in HTTP header to stream the movie in chunks.

Slides from: V. Krishnamoorthi et al. "Helping Hand or Hidden Hurdle: Proxy-assisted HTTP-based Adaptive Streaming Performance", Proc. IEEE MASCOTS, 2013





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HAS is increasingly responsible for larger traffic volumes ... proxies to reduce traffic??

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Network providers' want

High QoE of customers/clients

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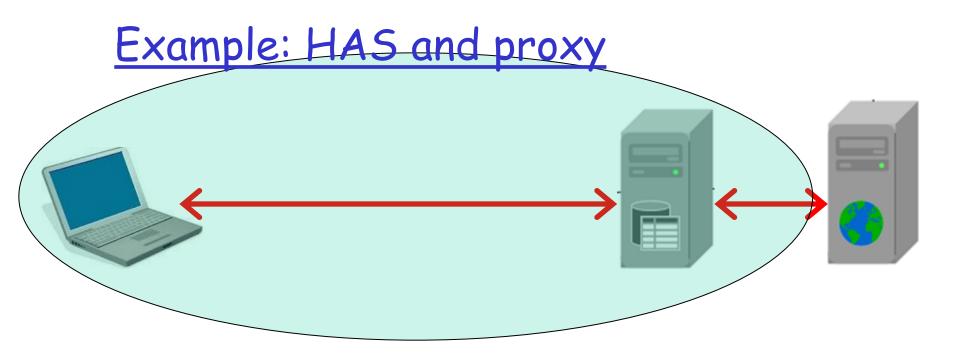


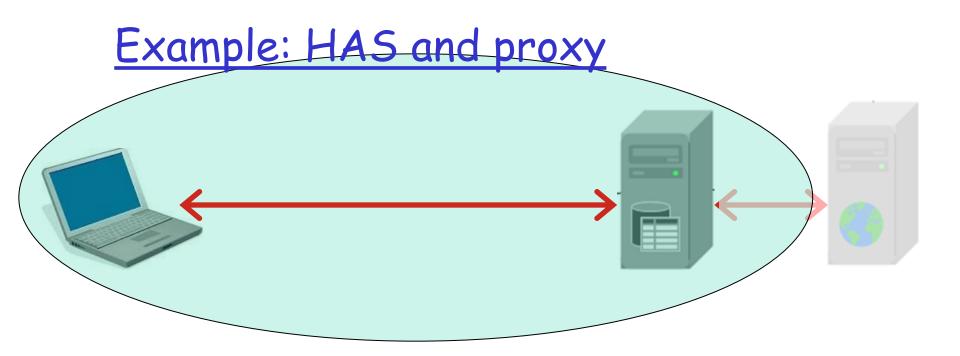


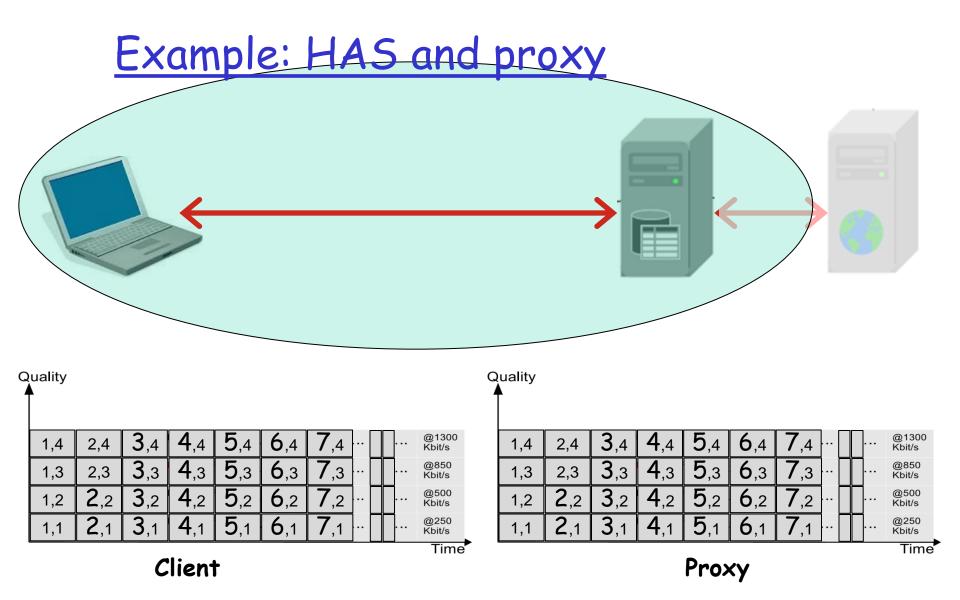


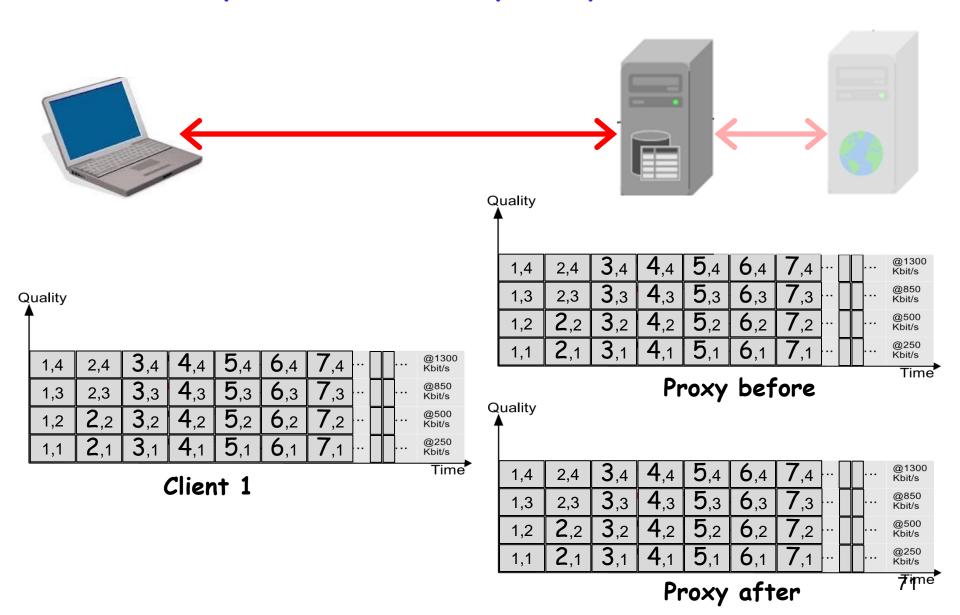
Proxy example ...

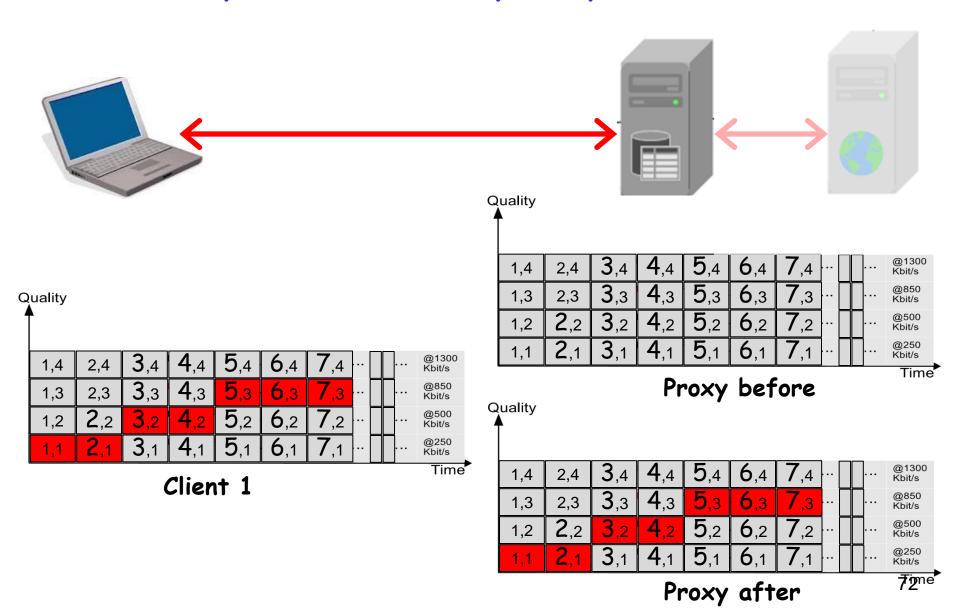


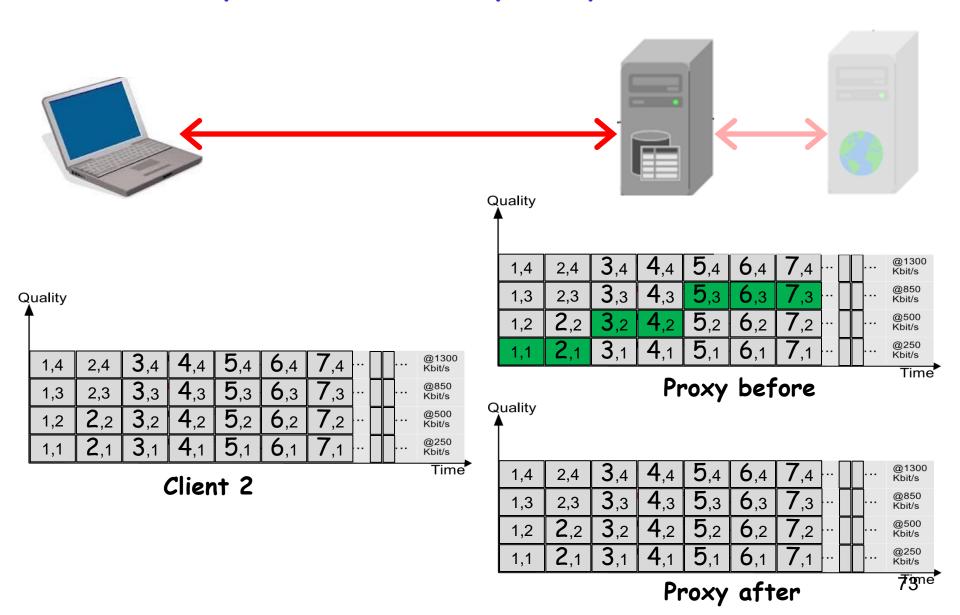


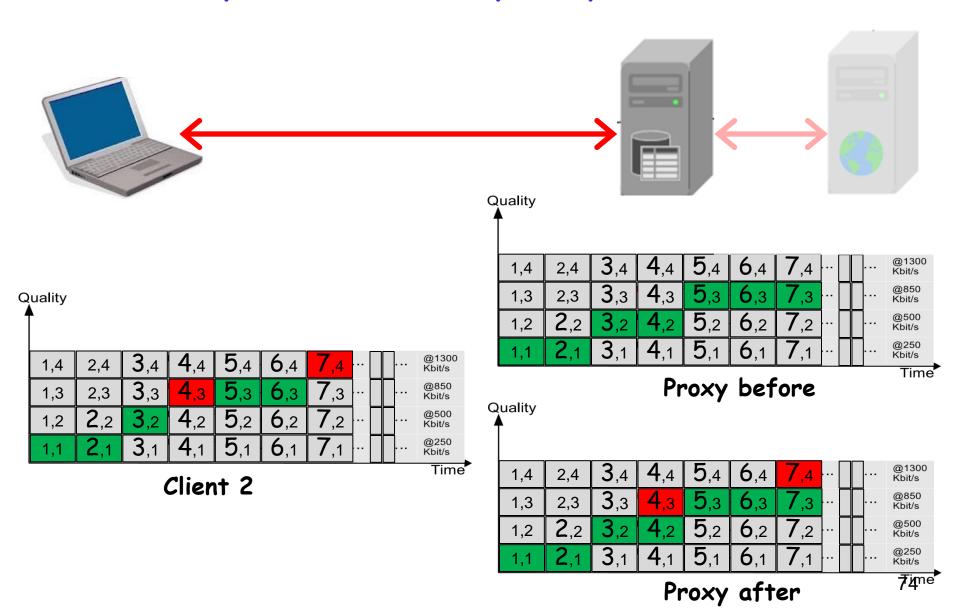


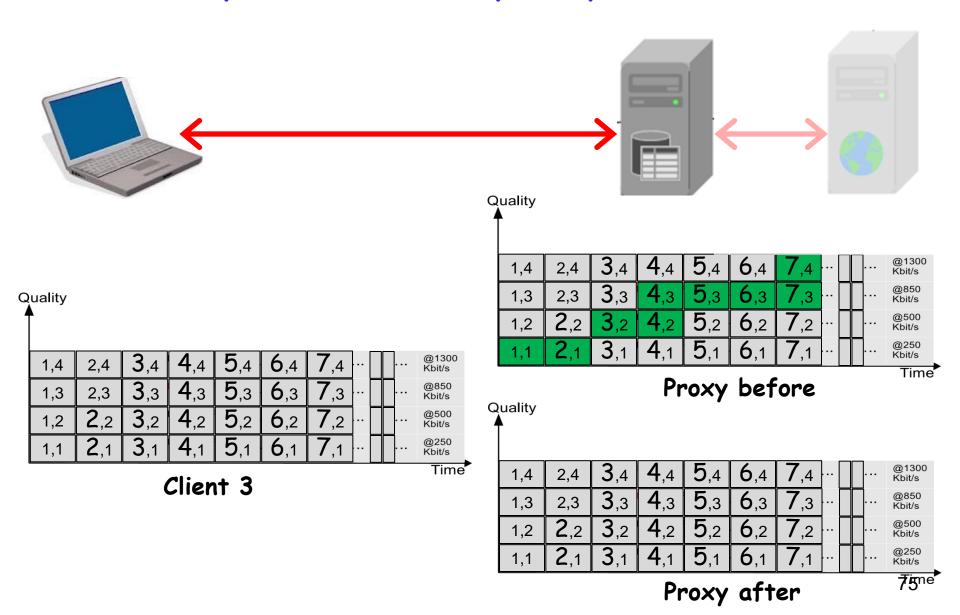


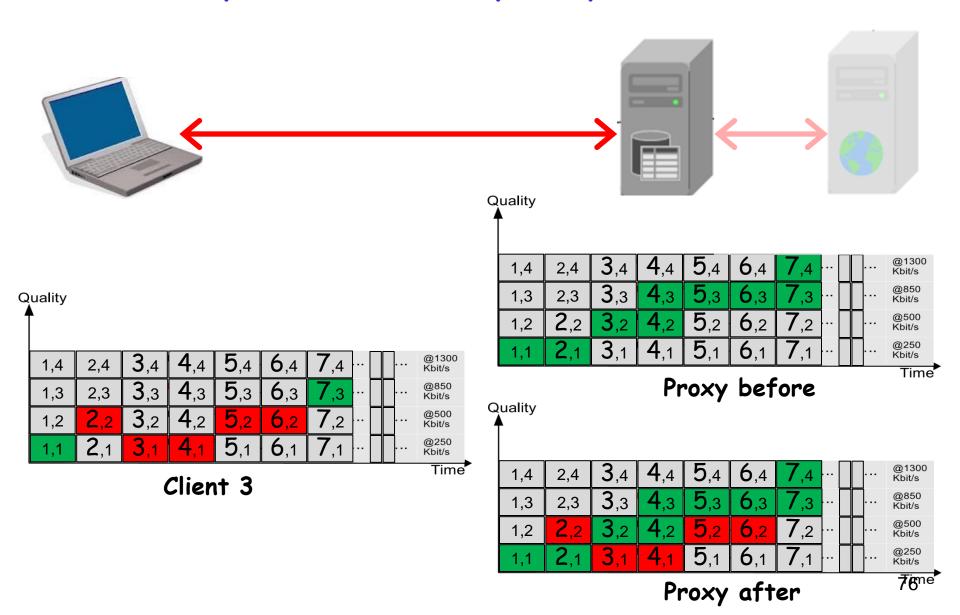












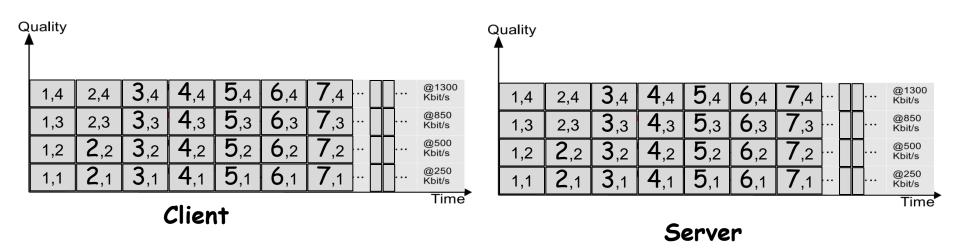
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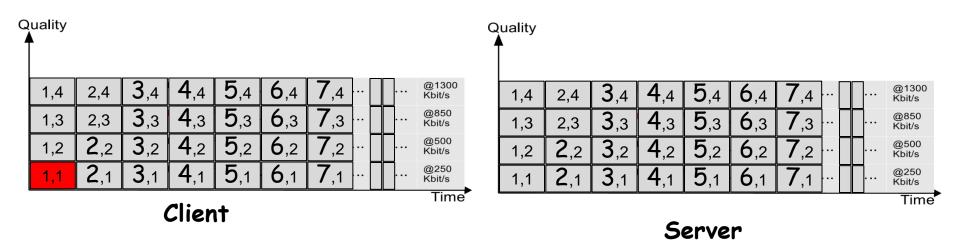
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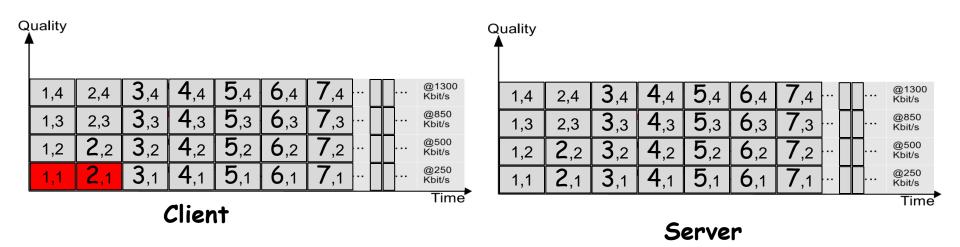




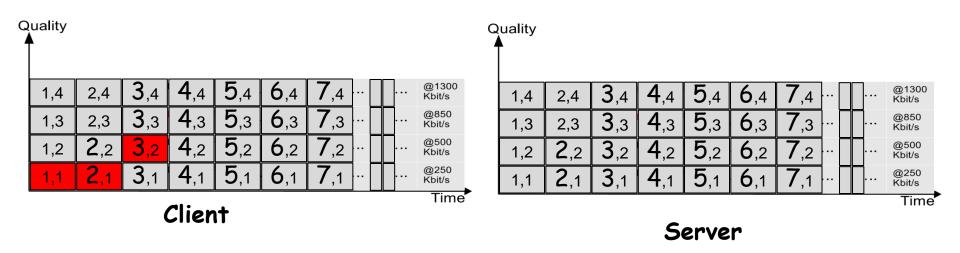




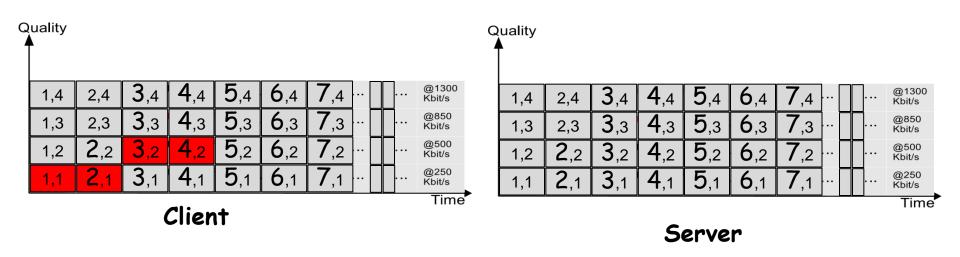




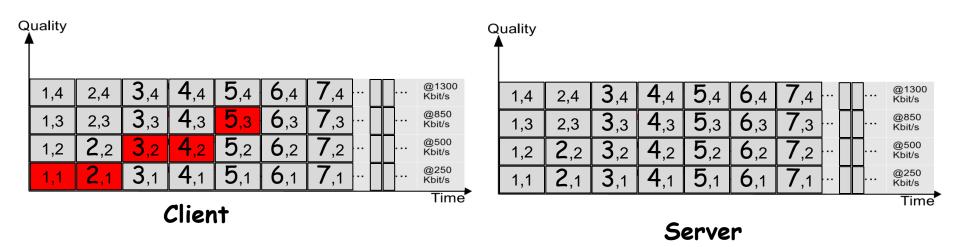




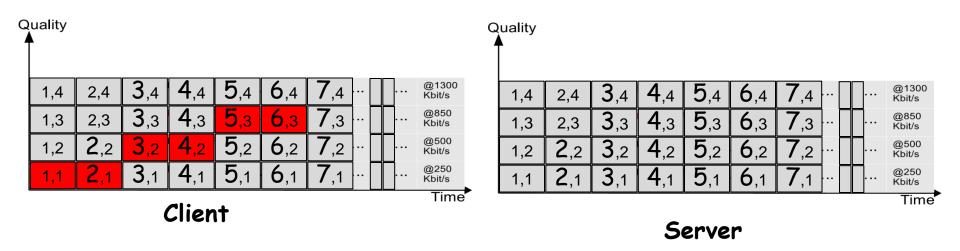




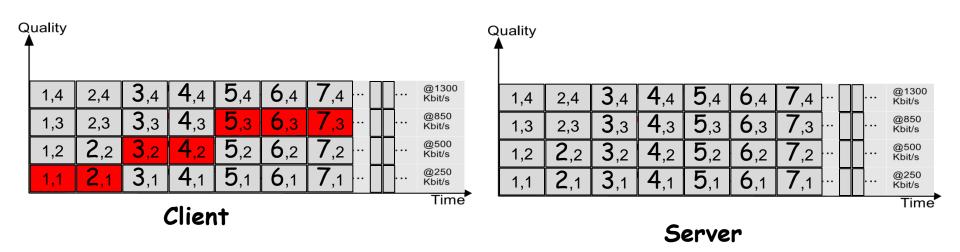




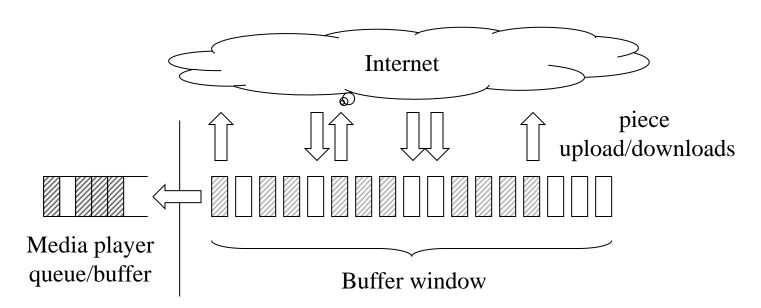








<u>Live Streaming</u> <u>using Bittorrent-like systems</u>

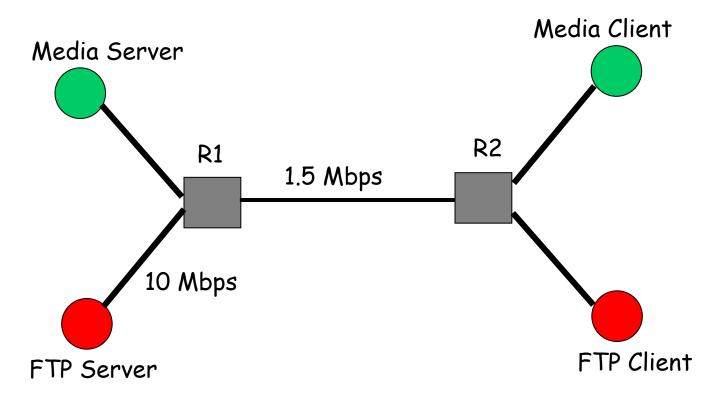


- □ Live streaming (e.g., CoolStreaming)
 - All peers at roughly the same play/download position
 - · High bandwidth peers can easily contribute more ...
 - o (relatively) Small buffer window
 - · Within which pieces are exchanged

Peer-assisted VoD streaming

- Can BitTorrent-like protocols provide scalable ondemand streaming?
- How sensitive is the performance to the application configuration parameters?
 - Piece selection policy (rarest vs. in-order tradeoff)
 - Peer selection policy
 - Upload/download bandwidth
- What is the user-perceived performance?
 - Start-up delay
 - Probability of disrupted playback

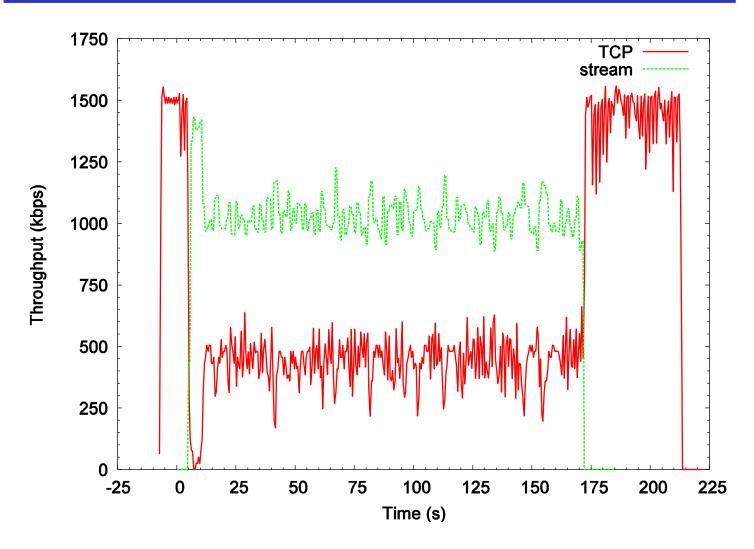
Fairness of UDP Streams (1/2)



- ·R1-R2 is the bottleneck link
- ·Streaming uses UDP at the transport layer; requested media encoded at 1 Mbps
- ·What fraction of the bottleneck is available to FTP?

Credit: MSc thesis work by Sean Boyden (2006)

Fairness of RealVideo Streams (2/2)



A protocol family for streaming

- RTSP
- □ RTP
- □ RTCP

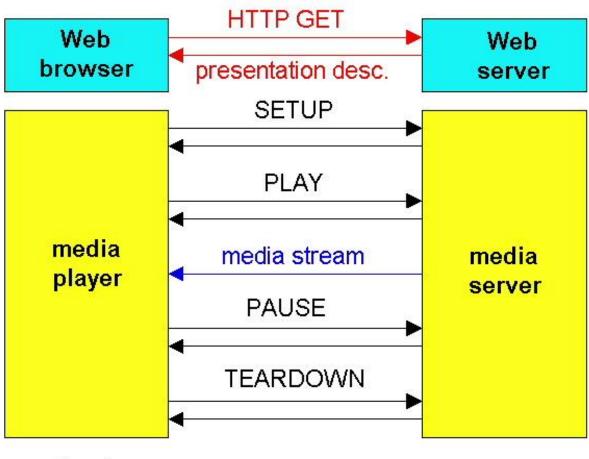
RTSP Example

Scenario:

- metafile communicated to web browser
- browser launches player
- player sets up an RTSP control connection, data connection to streaming server

RTSP Operation

- RTSP out-of-band control messages
 - Port 554
- media stream is considered "in-band"



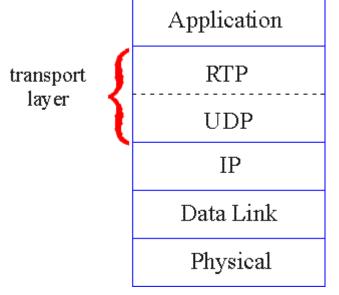
client

server

Real-Time Protocol (RTP)

- RTP specifies packet structure for packets carrying audio, video data
- □ RFC 3550

- □ RTP runs in end systems
- RTP packets encapsulated in UDP segments



Payload Sequence Timestamp Synorhronization Miscellaneous Fields

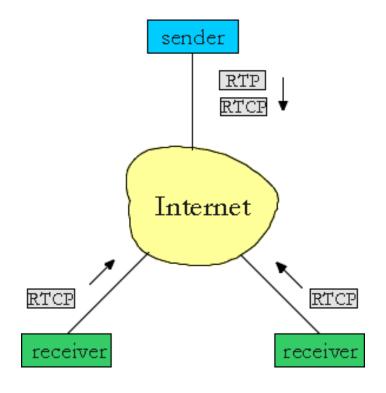
Real-time Control Protocol (RTCP)

Receiver report packets:

fraction of packets lost, last sequence number, average interarrival jitter

Sender report packets:

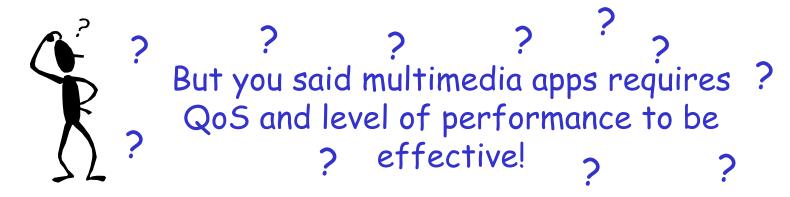
SSRC of RTP stream, current time, number of packets sent, number of bytes sent



 RTCP attempts to limit its traffic to 5% of session bandwidth

Multimedia Over "Best Effort" Internet

□ TCP/UDP/IP: no guarantees on delay, loss





Today's multimedia applications implement functionality at the app. layer to mitigate (as best possible) effects of delay, loss

Packet Loss

- network loss: IP datagram lost due to network congestion (router buffer overflow) or losses at wireless link(s)
- delay loss: IP datagram arrives too late for playout at receiver (effectively the same as if it was lost)
 - delays: processing, queueing in network; end-system (sender, receiver) delays
 - Tolerable delay depends on the application
- □ How can packet loss be handled?
 - We will discuss this next ...

Receiver-based Packet Loss Recovery

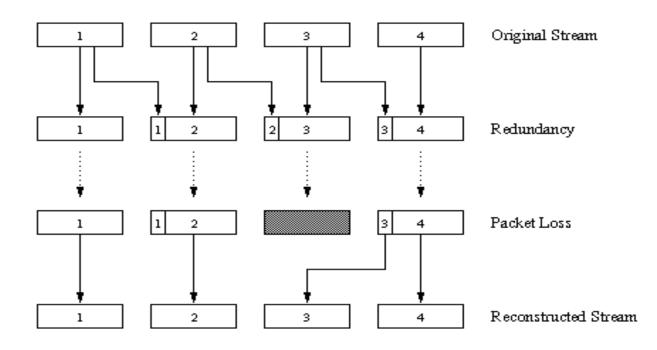
- □ Generate replacement packet
 - Packet repetition
 - Interpolation
 - Other sophisticated schemes
- Works when audio/video streams exhibit short-term correlations (e.g., self-similarity)
- Works for relatively low loss rates (e.g., < 5%)</p>
- Typically, breaks down on "bursty" losses

Forward Error Correction (FEC)

- For every group of n actual media packets, generate k additional redundant packets
- Send out n+k packets, which increases the bandwidth consumption by factor k/n.
- □ Receiver can reconstruct the original n media packets provided at most k packets are lost from the group
- □ Works well at high loss rates (for a proper choice of k)
- □ Handles "bursty" packet losses
- Cost: increase in transmission cost (bandwidth)

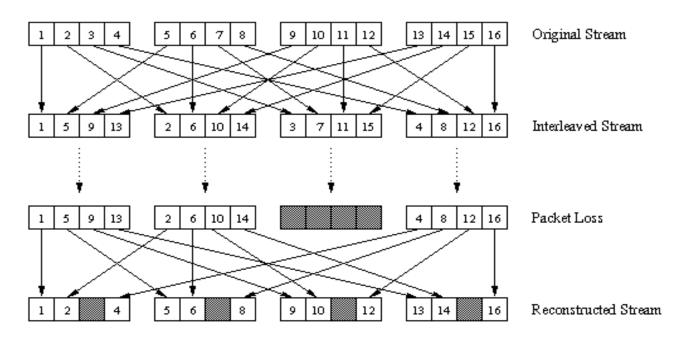
Another FEC Example

"piggyback lower quality stream"



- Whenever there is non-consecutive loss, the receiver can conceal the loss.
- · Can also append (n-1)st and (n-2)nd low-bit rate chunk

Interleaving: Recovery from packet loss



Interleaving

- Intentionally alter the sequence of packets before transmission
- Better robustness against "burst" losses of packets
- Results in increased playout delay from inter-leaving

More slides

Outline

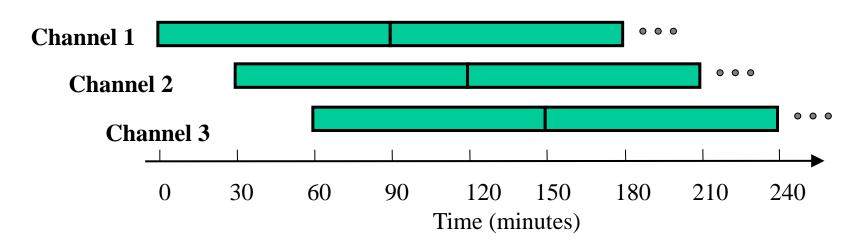
- Multimedia Networking Applications
- □ Streaming stored audio and video
- Scalable Streaming Techniques
- Content Distribution Networks
- □ Beyond Best Effort

Streaming Popular Content

- Consider a popular media file
 - Playback rate: 1 Mbps
 - Duration: 90 minutes
 - Request rate: once every minute
- □ How can a video server handle such high loads?
 - Approach 1: Start a new "stream" for each request
 - Allocate server and disk I/O bandwidth for each request
 - Bandwidth required at server= 1 Mbps x 90

Streaming Popular Content using Batching

- Approach 2: Leverage the multipoint delivery capability of modern networks
- □ Playback rate = 1 Mbps, duration = 90 minutes
- Group requests in non-overlapping intervals of 30 minutes:
 - Max. start-up delay = 30 minutes
 - Bandwidth required = 3 channels = 3 Mbps

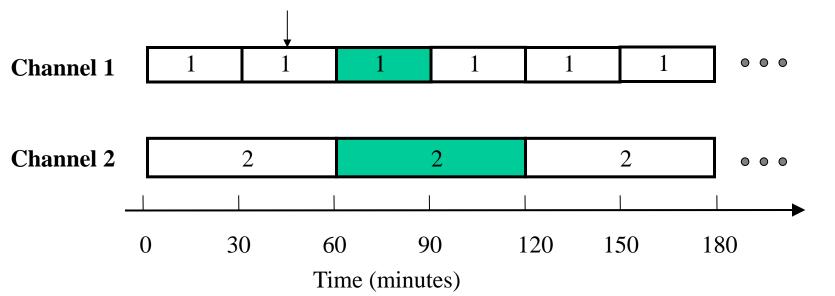


Batching Issues

- Bandwidth increases linearly with decrease in start-up delays
- □ Can we reduce or eliminate "start-up" delays?
 - Periodic Broadcast Protocols
 - Stream Merging Protocols

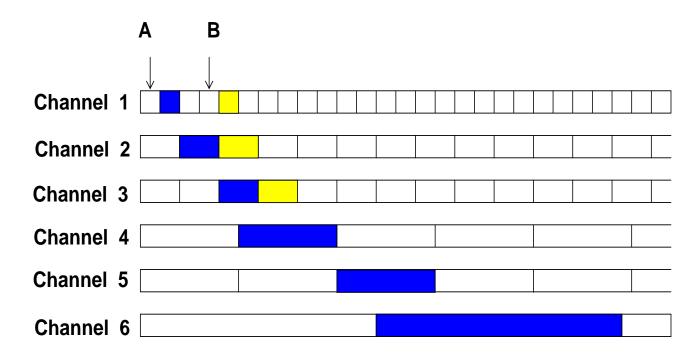
Periodic Broadcast Example

- □ Partition the media file into 2 segments with relative sizes {1, 2}. For a 90 min. movie:
 - Segment 1 = 30 minutes, Segment 2 = 60 minutes
- Advantage:
 - Max. start-up delay = 30 minutes
 - Bandwidth required = 2 channels = 2 Mbps
- Disadvantage: Requires increased client capabilities



Skyscraper Broadcasts (SB)

- \square Divide the file into K segments of increasing size
 - Segment size progression: 1, 2, 2, 5, 5, 12, 12, 25, ...
- Multicast each segment on a separate channel at the playback rate
- Aggregate rate to clients: 2 x playback rate



Comparing Batching and SB

Server	Start-up Delay	
Bandwidth	Batching	SB
1 Mbps	90 minutes	90 minutes
2 Mbps	45 minutes	30 minutes
6 Mbps	15 minutes	3 minutes
10 Mbps	9 minutes	30 seconds

- □ Playback rate = 1 Mbps, duration = 90 minutes
- □ Limitations of Skyscraper:
 - Ad hoc segment size progress
 - Does not work for low client data rates

Reliable Periodic Broadcasts (RPB)

[Mahanti et al. 2001, 2003, 2004]

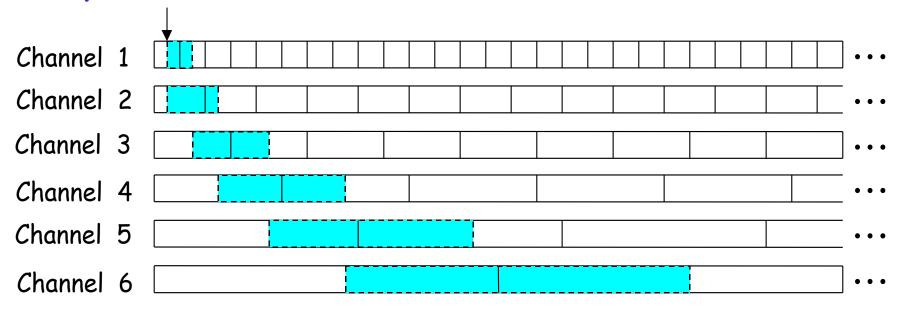
- Optimized PB protocols (no packet loss recovery)
 - o client fully downloads each segment before playing
 - o required server bandwidth near minimal
 - Segment size progression is not ad hoc
 - Works for client data rates < 2 x playback rate
- extend for packet loss recovery
- extend for "bursty" packet loss
- extend for client heterogeneity

Reliable Periodic Broadcasts (RPB)

[Mahanti et al. 2001, 2003, 2004]

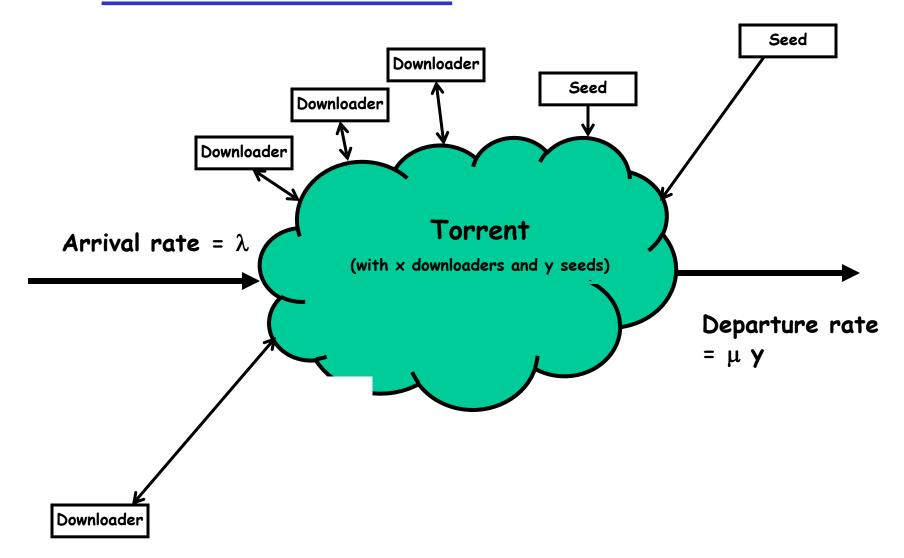
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Optimized Periodic Broadcasts

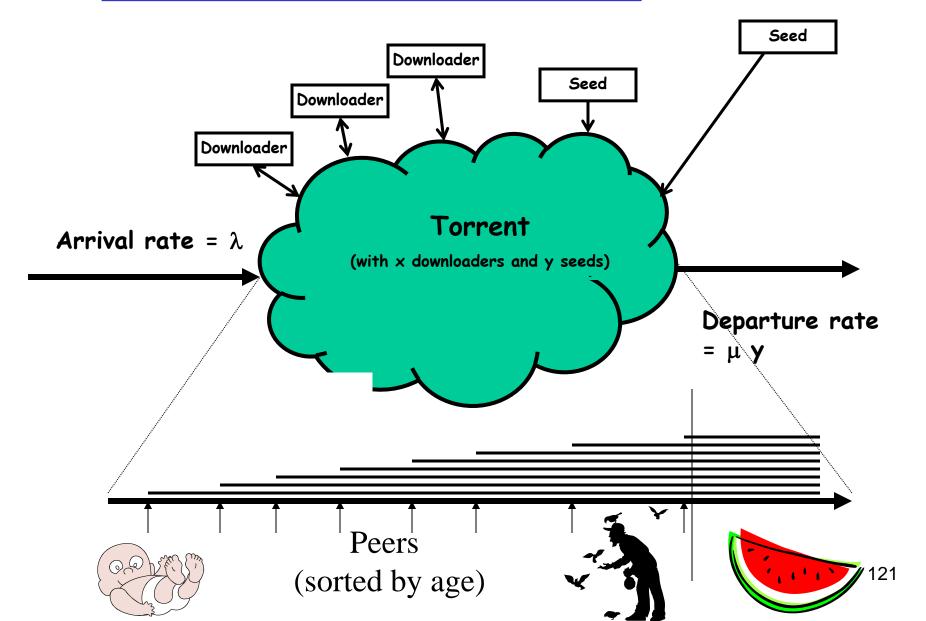


- r = segment streaming rate = 1
- \Box s = maximum # streams client listens to concurrently = 2
- \Box b = client data rate = $s \times r = 2$
- □ length of first s segments: $\frac{1}{r}l_k = \frac{1}{r}l_1 + \sum_{j=1}^{k-1}l_j$
- □ length of segment k > s: $\frac{1}{r}l_k = \sum_{j=k-s}^{k-1} l_j$

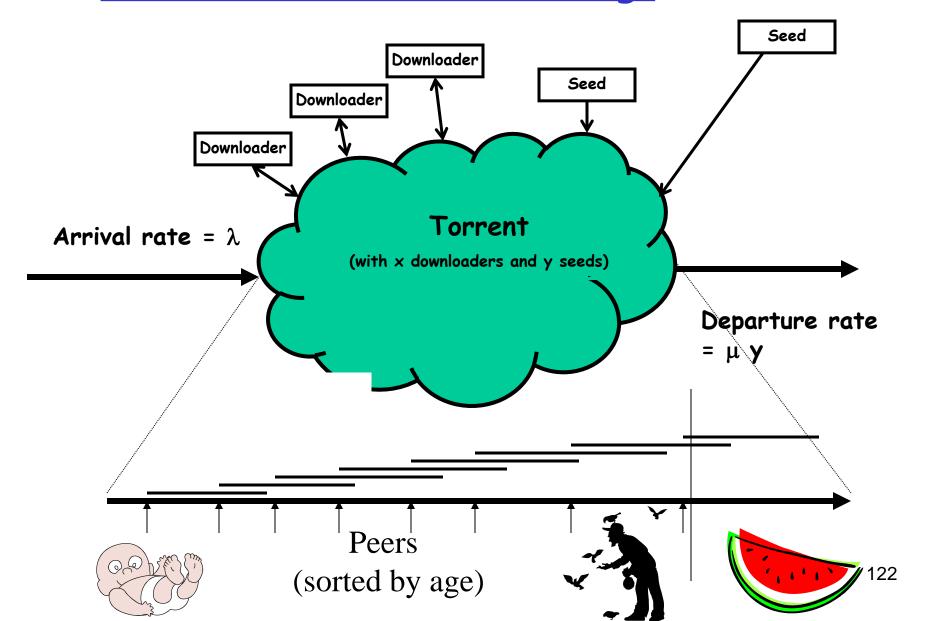
BitTorrent Model



BitTorrent Model (random)



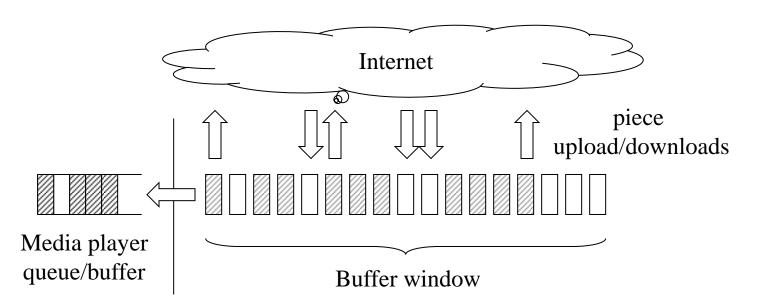
BitTorrent Model (chaining)



Peer-assisted VoD streaming Some research questions ...

- Can BitTorrent-like protocols provide scalable ondemand streaming?
- How sensitive is the performance to the application configuration parameters?
 - Piece selection policy (rarest vs. in-order tradeoff)
 - Peer selection policy
 - Upload/download bandwidth
- What is the user-perceived performance?
 - Start-up delay
 - Probability of disrupted playback

Live Streaming using BT-like systems



- □ Live streaming (e.g., CoolStreaming)
 - All peers at roughly the same play/download position
 - · High bandwidth peers can easily contribute more ...
 - o (relatively) Small buffer window
 - · Within which pieces are exchanged

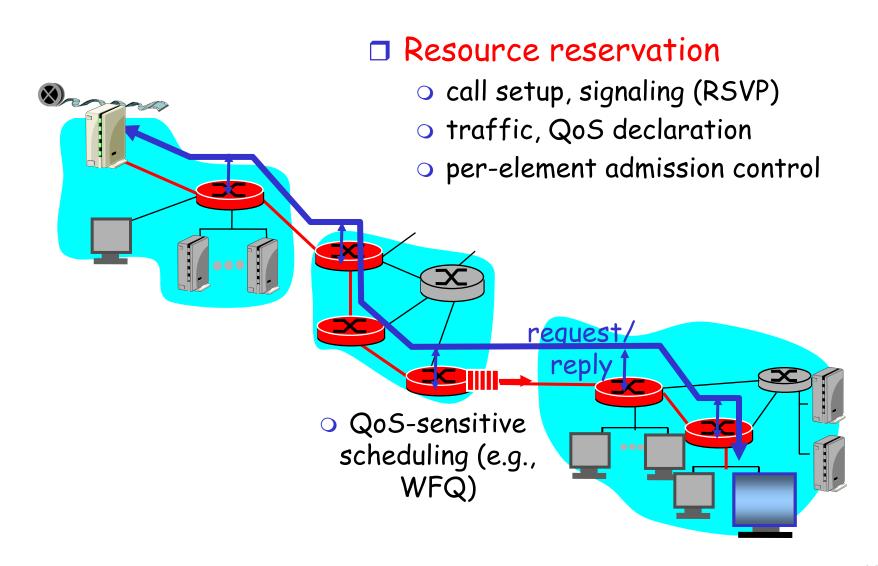
Outline

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Integrated Services (IntServ) Architecture

- architecture for providing QOS guarantees in IP networks for individual flows
- flow: a distinguishable stream of distinct IP datagrams
 - Unidirectional
 - Multiple recipient
- Components of this architecture:
 - Admission control
 - Reservation protocol
 - Routing protocol
 - Classifier and route selection
 - Packet scheduler

Intserv: QoS guarantee scenario



Call Admission

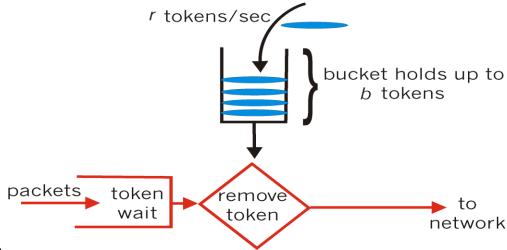
Arriving session must:

- declare its QoS requirement
 - R-spec: defines the QoS being requested
- characterize traffic it will send into network
 - T-spec: defines traffic characteristics
- □ signaling protocol: needed to carry R-spec and T-spec to routers (where reservation is required)
 - O RSVP

Need Scheduling and Policing Policies to provide QoS

Policing: Token Bucket

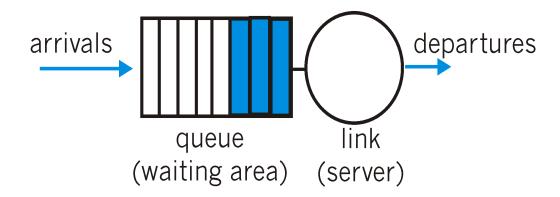
Token Bucket: limit input to specified Burst Size and Average Rate.



- bucket can hold b tokens
- tokens generated at rate r token/sec unless bucket full
- over interval of length t: number of packets admitted less than or equal to (r t + b).

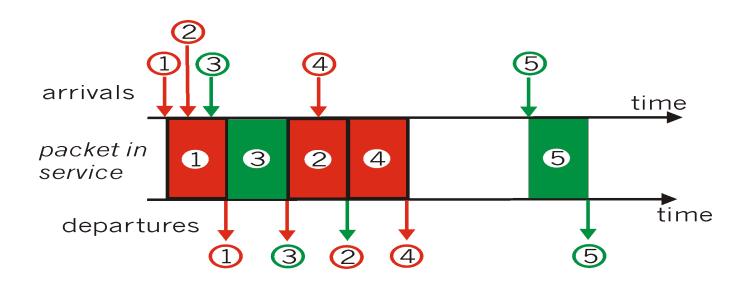
Link Scheduling

- scheduling: choose next packet to send on link
- ☐ FIFO (First In First Out) scheduling: send in order of arrival to queue
 - o discard policy: if packet arrives to full queue: who to discard?
 - DropTail: drop arriving packet
 - Priority: drop/remove on priority basis
 - Random: drop/remove randomly (e.g., RED)



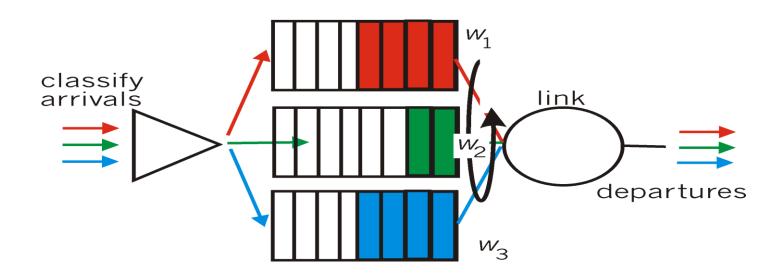
Round Robin

- multiple classes
- cyclically scan class queues, serving one from each class (if available)



Weighted Fair Queuing

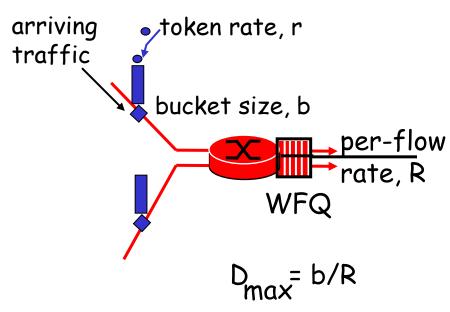
- generalized Round Robin
- each class gets weighted amount of service in each cycle



IntServ QoS: Service models [rfc2211, rfc 2212]

Guaranteed service:

- Assured data rate
- A specified upper bound on queuing delay



Controlled load service:

- "a quality of service closely approximating the QoS that same flow would receive from an unloaded network element."
- Similar to behavior best effort service in an unloaded network

Differentiated Services

Concerns with IntServ:

- Scalability: signaling, maintaining per-flow router state difficult with large number of flows
- ☐ Flexible Service Models: Intserv has only two classes. Desire "qualitative" service classes
 - E.g., Courier, xPress, and normal mail
 - E.g., First, business, and cattle class ©

DiffServ approach:

- simple functions in network core, relatively complex functions at edge routers (or hosts)
- Don't define service classes, just provide functional components to build service classes

DiffServ Architecture

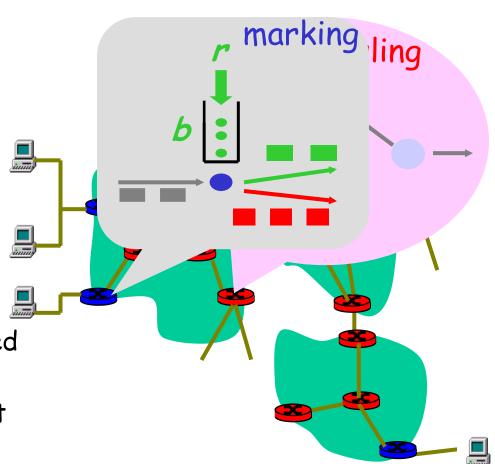
Edge router:

- per-flow traffic management
- □ Set the DS field; value determines type of service (PHB: Per-Hop Behavior)

Core router:



- buffering and scheduling based on marking at edge
- per-class traffic management



Traffic Classification/Conditioning

- How can packet markings be carried in IPv4 datagrams?
- Sender may agree to conform to a "traffic profile", thus a leaky bucket policer may be used at the network edge to enforce
 - Peak rate
 - Average rate
 - Burst size
- What happens when traffic profile is violated?
 - Employ traffic shaping?

Deployment Issues

- □ Single administrative domain
- □ Incremental deployment
- □ Traffic policing/shaping complexity
- Charging models

Signaling in the Internet

```
connectionless
(stateless)
forwarding by IP
routers

hest effort
service

signaling protocols
in initial IP
design
```

- New requirement: reserve resources along end-to-end path (end system, routers) for QoS for multimedia applications
- RSVP: Resource reSerVation Protocol [RFC 2205]
 - " ... allow users to communicate requirements to network in robust and efficient way." i.e., signaling!
- earlier Internet Signaling protocol: ST-II [RFC 1819]

RSVP Design Goals

- accommodate heterogeneous receivers (different bandwidth along paths)
- 2. accommodate different applications with different resource requirements
- 3. make multicast a first class service, with adaptation to multicast group membership
- 4. leverage existing multicast/unicast routing, with adaptation to changes in underlying unicast, multicast routes
- 5. control protocol overhead to grow (at worst) linear in # receivers
- 6. modular design for heterogeneous underlying technologies

RSVP: does not ...

- specify how resources are to be reserved
 - □ rather: a mechanism for communicating needs
- determine routes packets will take
 - that's the job of routing protocols
 - signaling decoupled from routing
- interact with forwarding of packets
 - separation of control (signaling) and data (forwarding) planes

Multimedia Networking: Summary

- multimedia applications and requirements
- making the best of today's "best effort" service
- scheduling and policing mechanisms
- next generation Internet: IntServ, RSVP, DiffServ, IPv6, IP-Qo5