Lecture 2: Sockets Programming

CS/ECE 438: Communication Networks Prof. Matthew Caesar January 22, 2010

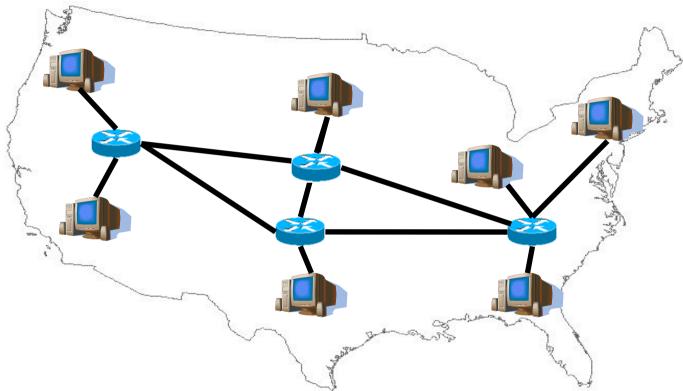
Network Programming with Sockets

- Sockets API:
 - An interface to the transport layer
 - Introduced in 1981 by BSD 4.1
 - Implemented as library and/or system calls
 - Similar interfaces to TCP and UDP
 - Can also serve as interface to IP (for superuser); known as "raw sockets"

Network Programming

- How should two hosts communicate with each other over the Internet?
 - The "Internet Protocol" (IP)
 - Transport protocols: TCP, UDP
- How should programmers interact with the protocols?
 - Sockets API application programming interface
 - De facto standard for network programming

How can many hosts communicate?

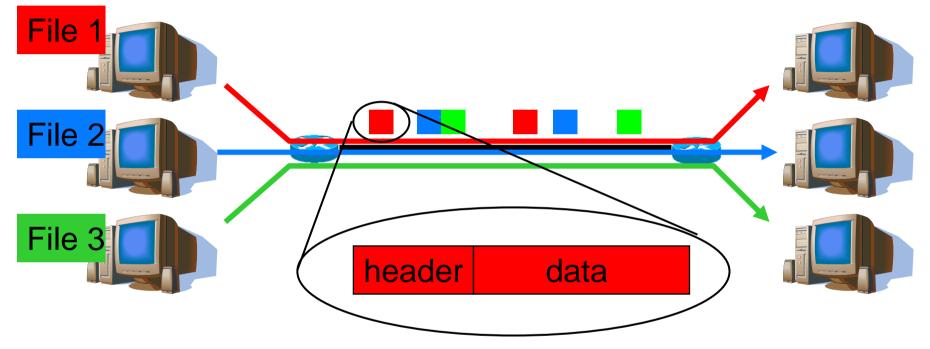


- Multiplex traffic with routers
- Question: How to identify the destination?
- Question: How to share bandwidth across different flows?

Identifying hosts with *Addresses* and *Names*

- IP addresses
 - Easily handled by routers/computers
 - Fixed length
 - E.g.: 128.121.146.100
- But how do you know the IP address?
- Internet domain names
 - Human readable, variable length
 - E.g.: twitter.com
- But how do you get the IP address from the domain name?
 - Domain Name System (DNS) maps between them

How can many hosts share network resources?



- Solution: divide traffic into "IP packets"
 - At each router, the entire packet is received, stored, and then forwarded to the next router
 - Use packet "headers" to denote which connection the packet belongs to
 - Contains src/dst address/port, length, checksum, time-to-live, protocol, flags, type-of-service, etc

Is IP enough?

- What if host runs multiple applications? Or if contents get corrupted?
- Solution: User Datagram Protocol (UDP)
 - 16-bit "Port numbers" in header distinguishes traffic from different applications
 - "Checksum" covering data, UDP header, and IP header detects flipped bits
 - Unit of Transfer is "datagram" (a variable length packet)
 - Properties:
 - Unreliable (no guaranteed delivery)
 - *Unordered* (no guarantee of maintained order of delivery)
 - Unlimited Transmission (no flow control)

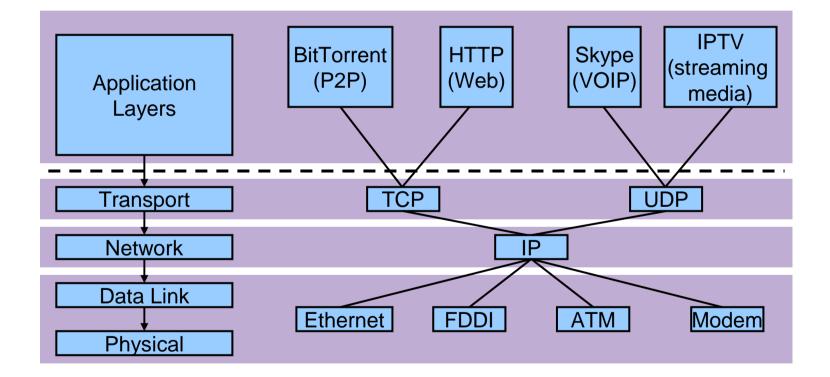
Is UDP enough?

- What if network gets congested? Or packets get lost/reordered/duplicated?
- Solution: Transport Control Protocol (TCP)
 - Uses "sequence numbers" and guarantees reliability, ordering, and integrity
 - Backs off when there is congestion
 - Connection-oriented (Set up connection before communicating, Tear down connection when done)
 - Gives 'byte-stream" abstraction to application
 - Also has ports, but different namespace from UDP
- Which one is better, TCP or UDP?
- Why not other hybrid design points?

TCP Service

- Reliable Data Transfer
 - Guarantees delivery of all data
 - Exactly once if no catastrophic failures
- Sequenced Data Transfer
 - Guarantees in-order delivery of data
 - If A sends M1 followed by M2 to B, B never receives M2 before M1
- Regulated Data Flow
 - Monitors network and adjusts transmission appropriately
 - Prevents senders from wasting bandwidth
 - Reduces global congestion problems
- Data Transmission
 - Full-Duplex byte stream

Internet Protocols



Next question: How should people program networked apps?

 How can we compose together programs running on different machines?

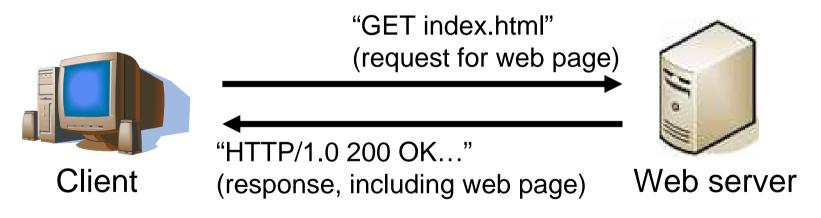
– Client-server model

• What sort of interfaces should we reveal to the programmer?

– Sockets API

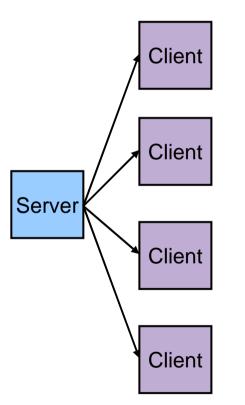
Client-Server Model

- A client initiates a request to a well-known server
- Example: the web



• Other examples: FTP, SSH/Telnet, SMTP (email), Print servers, File servers

Client-Server Model



- Asymmetric Communication
 - Client sends requests
 - Server sends replies
- Server/Daemon
 - Well-known name and port
 - Waits for contact
 - Processes requests, sends replies
- Client
 - Initiates contact
 - Waits for response
- Can you think of any network apps that are not client/server?

Server-side service models

- Concurrent:
 - Server processes multiple clients' requests simultaneously
- Sequential:
 - Server processes only one client's requests at a time
- Hybrid:
 - Server maintains multiple connections, but processes responses sequentially
- Which one is best?

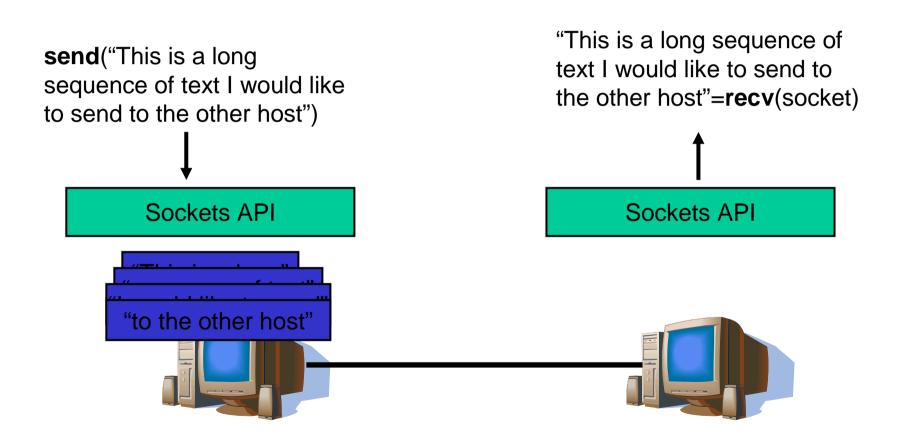
Wanna See Real Clients and Servers?

- Apache Web server
 - Open source server first released in 1995
 - Name derives from "a patchy server" ;-)
 - Software available online at http://www.apache.org
- Mozilla Web browser
 - http://www.mozilla.org/developer/
- Sendmail
 - http://www.sendmail.org/
- BIND Domain Name System
 - Client resolver and DNS server
 - <u>http://www.isc.org/index.pl?/sw/bind/</u>
- ...

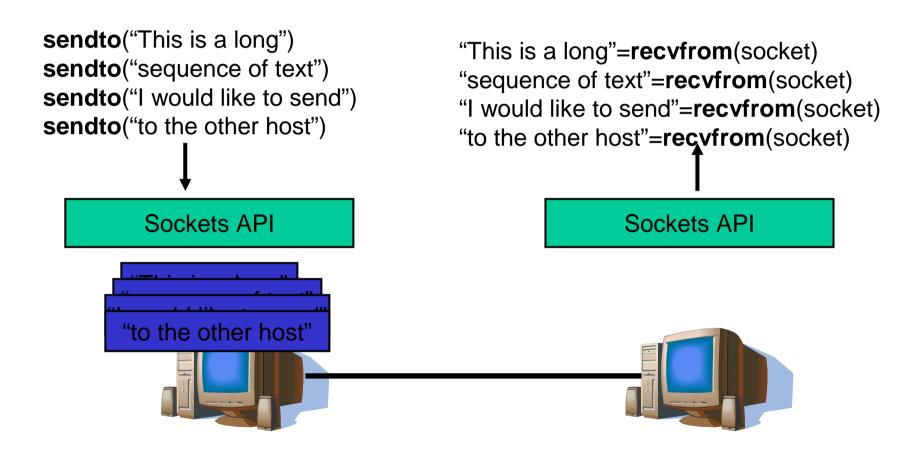
What interfaces to expose to programmer?

- Stream vs. Datagram sockets
- Stream sockets
 - Abstraction: send a long stream of characters
 - Typically implemented on top of TCP
- Datagram sockets
 - Abstraction: send a single packet
 - Typically implemented on top of UDP

Stream sockets



Datagram sockets



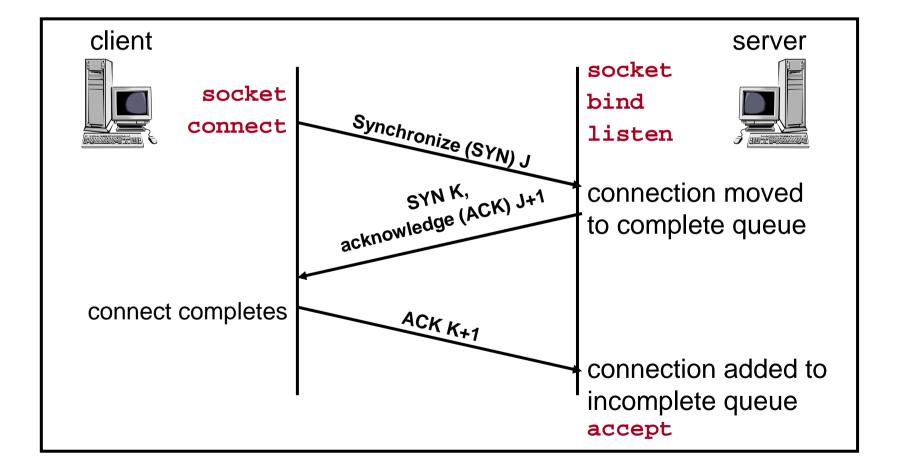
What specific functions to expose?

- Data structures to *store information about connections and hosts*
- Functions to *create and bind* "socket descriptors"
- Functions to *establish and teardown connections*
- Functions to *send and receive data over connections*

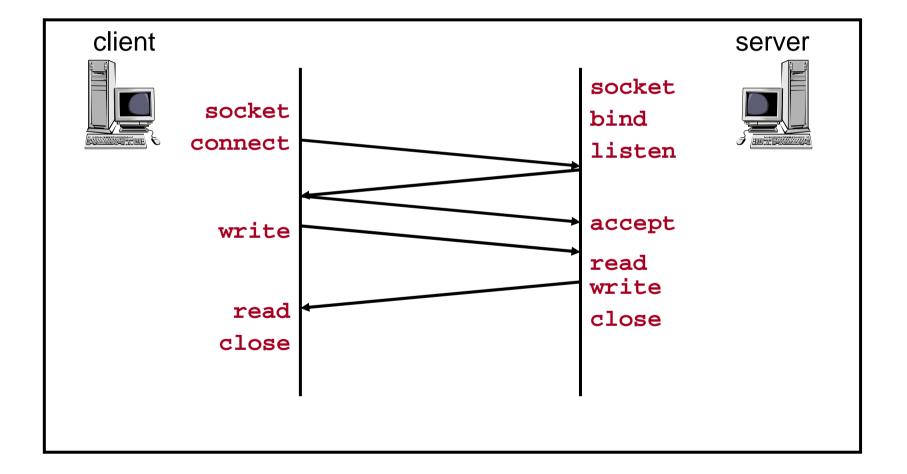
Example: TCP streaming client

- 1. Client specifies an IP address and port it wants to connect to.
- The sockets library takes care of the connection setup details, and returns back a unique integer (a "socket").
- 3. When the application wants to send data, it specifies the socket number, and a pointer to the data it wants to send.
- 4. The library looks up in a table the IP/port information corresponding to that socket number, constructs a packet, puts that IP/port in the header, and sends the packet.

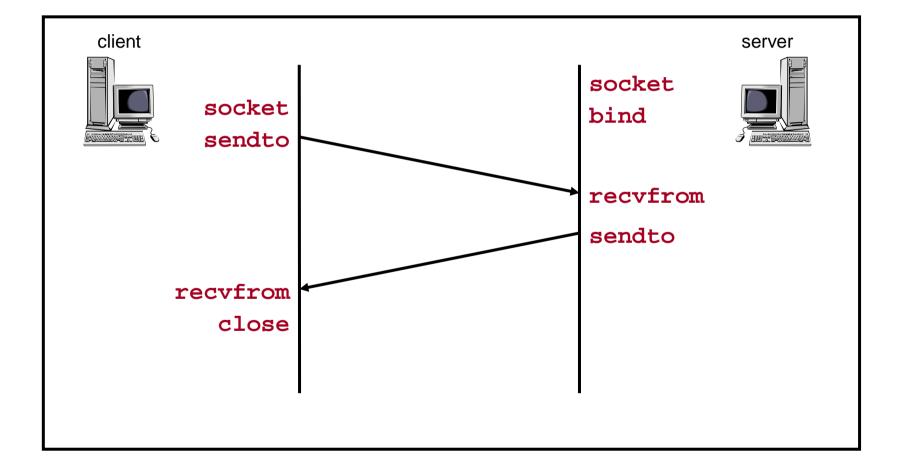
TCP Connection Setup

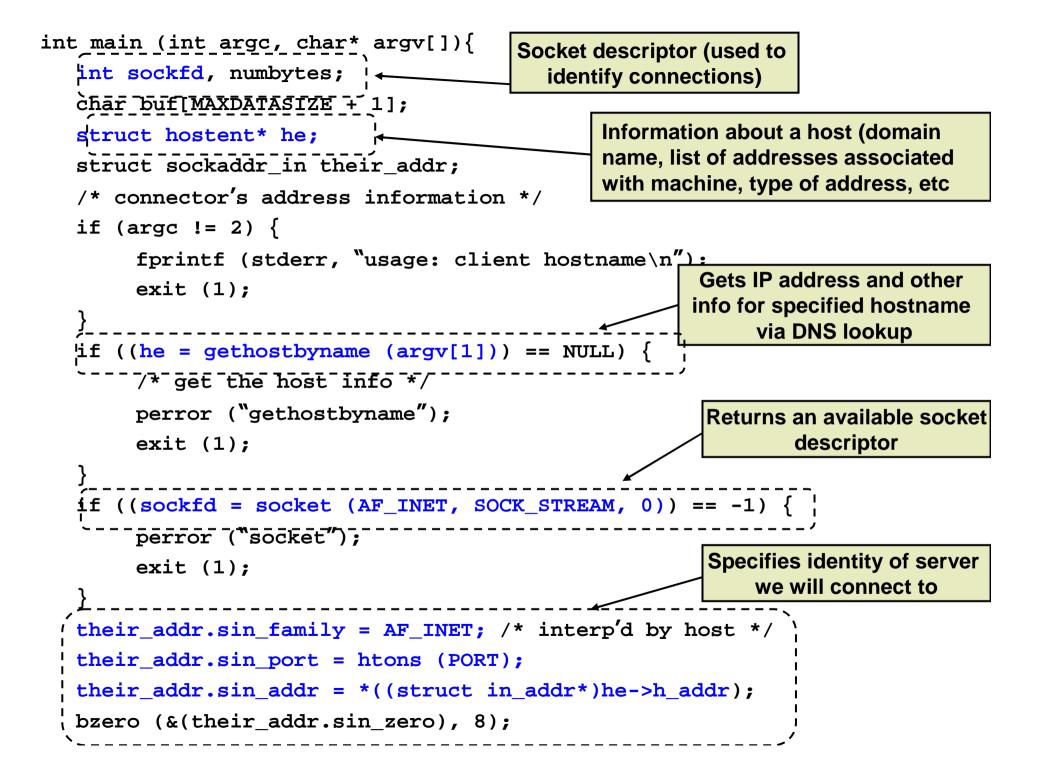


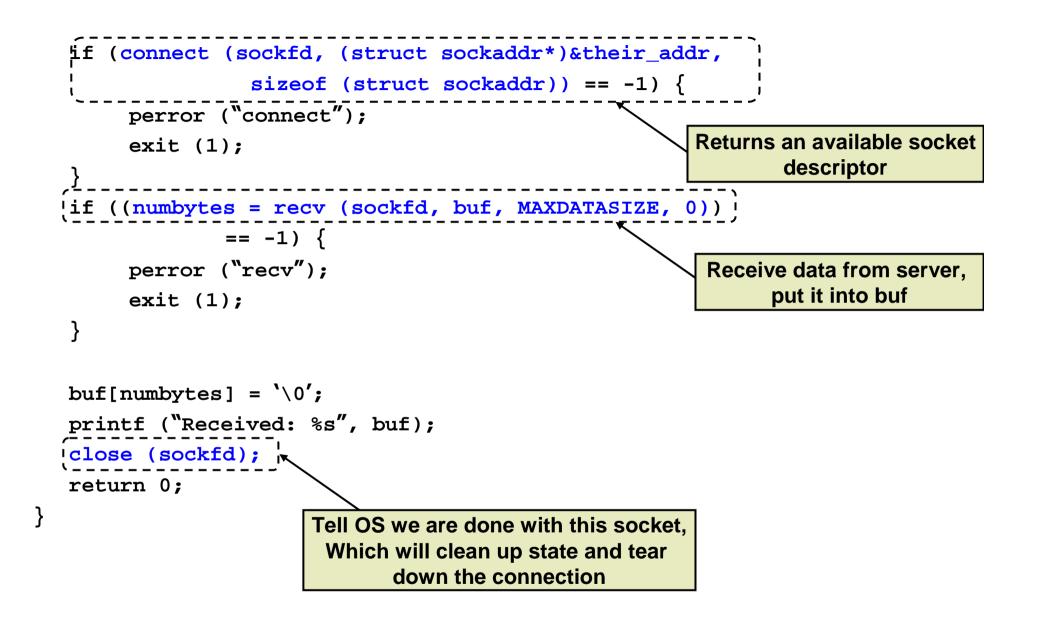
TCP Connection Example



UDP Connection Example







```
// SERVER CODE
main()
                        Socket descriptors (used to
                          identify connections)
  int sockfd, new fd;
  struct sockaddr in my addr; /* my address
                                                    */
  struct sockaddr in their addr; /* connector
                                              Returns an available socket
  int sin size;
                                                    descriptor
  perror("socket");
                                            Specifies identity of server's
      exit(1);
                                               end of the connection
  my addr.sin family = AF INET; /* host byte order */
  my addr.sin port = htons(MYPORT); /* short, network
                                       byte order
                                                    */
  my addr.sin addr.s addr = htonl(INADDR ANY);
  /* automatically fill with my IP
                                                   * /
  bzero(&(my addr.sin zero), 8); /* zero struct */ /
  if (bind(sockfd, (struct sockaddr *)&my_addr,
           sizeof(struct sockaddr)) == -1) {
      perror("bind");
      exit(1);
                                               Associates that identity
                                                   to the socket
```

```
// SERVER CODE (continued)
                                                 Tell OS that we are we are willing
                                                To accept connections on this socket
   if (listen(sockfd, BACKLOG) == -1) {
       perror("listen");
        exit(1);
                                             Associate "new fd" with the next client
                                               that connects (block until one does)
  while(1) { /* main accept() loop */
        sin size = sizeof(struct sockaddr in);
       if ((new fd = accept(sockfd, (struct sockaddr*)
                           &their addr,&sin size)) == -1) {
               perror("accept");
                continue;
        printf("server: got connection from %s\n",
        inet ntoa(their addr.sin addr));
        if (!fork()) { /* this is the child process */
               if (send(new fd, "Hello, world!\n", 14, 0)
                                == -1)
                        perror("send");
                close(new fd);
                                                     Send "hello world" to the
                exit(0);
                                                     client connected to new fd
       [close(new_fd); /* parent doesn't need this */
       /* clean up all child processes */
       while(waitpid(-1, NULL, WNOHANG) > 0);
                         Tell OS we are done with this socket, which
                      will clean up state and tear down the connection
```

Sockets API details

- Data structures to store/convert information about hosts/connections
 - inet_ntoa, inet_aton, gethostbyname,
- Functions to create and bind socket descriptors
 socket, bind, listen
- Functions to establish and teardown connections
 - connect, accept, close, shutdown
- Functions to send and receive data
 - send, sendto, write, recv, recvfrom, read

One tricky issue...

- Different processor architectures store data in different "byte orderings"
 - What is 200 in binary? 1100 1001? Or 1001 1100?

• Big Endian vs. Little Endian

- Little Endian (Intel, DEC):
 - Least significant byte of word is stored in the lowest memory address
- Big Endian (Sun, SGI, HP, PowerPC):
 - Most significant byte of word is stored in the lowest memory address
- Host Byte Order can be Big or Little Endian
- Network Byte Order = Big Endian
 - Allows both sides to communicate
 - Must be used for some data (i.e. IP Addresses)

Converting byte orderings

Solution: use byte ordering functions to convert. E.g.:

```
int m, n;
short int s,t;
m = ntohl (n) net-to-host long (32-bit) translation
s = ntohs (t) net-to-host short (16-bit) translation
n = htonl (m) host-to-net long (32-bit) translation
t = htons (s) host-to-net short (16-bit) translation
```

Why Can't Sockets Hide These Details?

- Dealing with endian differences is tedious
 - Couldn't the socket implementation deal with this
 - … by swapping the bytes as needed?
- No, swapping depends on the data type
 - Two-byte short int: (byte 1, byte 0) vs. (byte 0, byte 1)
 - Four-byte long int: (byte 3, byte 2, byte 1, byte 0) vs. (byte 0, byte 1, byte 2, byte 3)
 - String of one-byte charters: (char 0, char 1, char 2, ...) in both cases
- Socket layer doesn't know the data types
 - Sees the data as simply a buffer pointer and a length
 - Doesn't have enough information to do the swapping

How to handle concurrency?

- Process requests serially
 - Slow what if you're processing another request? What if you're blocked on accept()?
- Multiple threads/processes (e.g. Apache web server)
 - Each thread handles one request
 - fork(), pthreads
- Synchronous I/O (e.g. Squid web proxy cache)
 - Maintain a "set" of file descriptors, whenever one has an "event", process it and put it back onto the set
 - select(), poll()

Select

- int select (int num_fds, fd_set* read_set, fd_set*
 write_set, fd_set* except_set, struct timeval*
 timeout);
- Wait for readable/writable file descriptors.
- Return:
 - Number of descriptors ready
 - -1 on error, sets errno
- Parameters:
 - num_fds:
 - number of file descriptors to check, numbered from 0
 - read_set, write_set, except_set:
 - Sets (bit vectors) of file descriptors to check for the specific condition
 - timeout:
 - Time to wait for a descriptor to become ready

File Descriptor Sets

int select (int num_fds, fd_set* read_set,
 fd_set* write_set, fd_set* except_set, struct
 timeval* timeout);

- Bit vectors
 - Only first num_fds checked
 - Macros to create and check sets

```
fds_set myset;
void FD_ZERO (&myset); /* clear all bits */
void FD_SET (n, &myset); /* set bits n to 1 */
void FD_CLEAR (n, &myset); /* clear bit n */
int FD_ISSET (n, &myset); /* is bit n set? */
```

File Descriptor Sets

- Three conditions to check for
 - Readable:
 - Data available for reading
 - Writable:
 - Buffer space available for writing
 - Exception:
 - Out-of-band data available (TCP)

Timeout

• Structure

```
struct timeval {
   long tv_sec; /* seconds */
   long tv_usec;/* microseconds */
};
```

Select

- High-resolution sleep function
 - All descriptor sets NULL
 - Positive timeout
- Wait until descriptor(s) become ready
 - At least one descriptor in set
 - timeout NULL
- Wait until descriptor(s) become ready or timeout occurs
 - At least one descriptor in set
 - Positive timeout
- Check descriptors immediately (poll)
 - At least one descriptor in set
 - 0 timeout

Select: Example

```
fd_set my_read;
FD_ZERO(&my_read);
FD_SET(0, &my_read);
if (select(1, &my_read, NULL, NULL) == 1) {
    ASSERT(FD_ISSET(0, &my_read);
    /* data ready on stdin */
}
```

• Question: which is better, pthreads or select?

Advanced Sockets

int yes = 1;

setsockopt (fd, SOL_SOCKET, SO_REUSEADDR,

(char *) &yes, sizeof (yes));

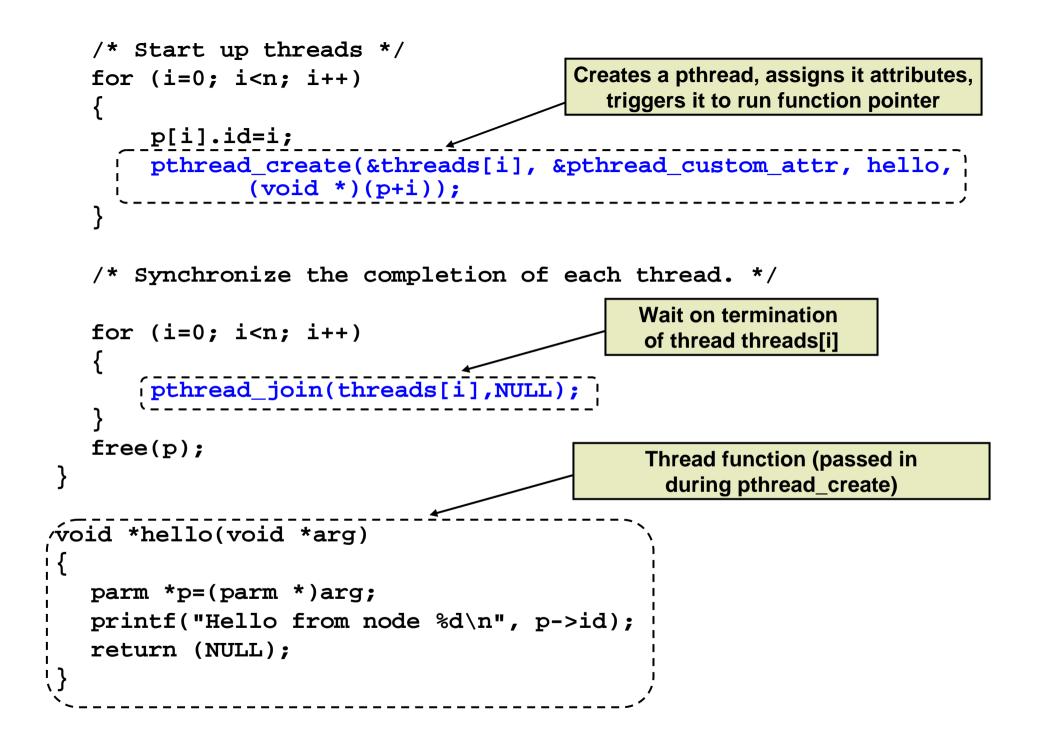
- Call just before bind
- Allows bind to succeed despite the existence of existing connections in the requested TCP port
- Connections in limbo (e.g. lost final ACK) will cause bind to fail

Concurrent programming with Posix Threads (pthreads)

- When coding
 - Include <pthread.h> first in all source files
- When compiling
 - Use compiler flag D_REENTRANT
- When linking
 - Link library -lpthread

```
// PTHREADS EXAMPLE
```

```
Contains thread information, acts
void main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
                                                     as handle for thread
   int n,i;
  pthread t *threads;
  pthread_attr_t pthread_custom_attr;
                                              Specifies "attributes" for thread, like
  parm *p;
                                                Scheduling policy/priority and
                                                         stack size
   if (argc != 2)
   {
        printf ("Usage: s n n where n is no. of threads n, argv[0]);
        exit(1);
   }
  n=atoi(argv[1]);
   if ((n < 1) || (n > MAX_THREAD))
   ł
        printf ("The no of thread should between 1 and
                        %d.\n",MAX THREAD);
        exit(1);
   }
   threads=(pthread t *)malloc(n*sizeof(*threads));
  ipthread_attr_init(&pthread_custom_attr);
                                              Initializes attributes to
  p=(parm *)malloc(sizeof(parm)*n);
                                              default values (NULL)
```



pthread Creation

int pthread_create (pthread_t* tid, pthread_attr_t*
 attr, void*(child_main), void* arg);

- Spawn a new posix thread
- Parameters:
 - tid:
 - Unique thread identifier returned from call
 - attr:
 - Attributes structure used to define new thread
 - Use NULL for default values
 - child_main:
 - Main routine for child thread
 - Takes a pointer (void*), returns a pointer (void*)
 - arg:
 - Argument passed to child thread

Sockets API details

- Data structures to store/convert information about hosts/connections
 - inet_ntoa, inet_aton, gethostbyname,
- Functions to create and bind socket descriptors
 - socket, bind, listen
- Functions to establish and teardown connections
 - connect, accept, close, shutdown
- Functions to send and receive data
 - send, sendto, write, recv, recvfrom, read

Socket Address Structure

IP address:
 struct in_addr {
 in_addr_t s_addr;
 };

```
in_addr_t s_addr; /* 32-bit IP address */
```

• all but sin_family in network byte order

Address Access/Conversion Functions

• All binary values are network byte ordered

struct hostent* gethostbyname (const char*
 hostname);

- Translate DNS host name to IP address (uses DNS)

struct hostent* gethostbyaddr (const char* addr, size_t len, int family);

Translate IP address to DNS host name (not secure)

char* inet_ntoa (struct in_addr inaddr);

Translate IP address to ASCII dotted-decimal notation (e.g., "128.32.36.37"); not thread-safe

Address Access/Conversion Functions

in_addr_t inet_addr (const char* strptr);

 Translate dotted-decimal notation to IP address; returns -1 on failure, thus cannot handle broadcast value "255.255.255.255"

int inet_aton (const char* strptr, struct in_addr inaddr);

 Translate dotted-decimal notation to IP address; returns 1 on success, 0 on failure

int gethostname (char* name, size_t namelen);

- Read host's name (use with gethostbyname to find local IP)

Socket Creation and Setup

- Include file <sys/socket.h>
- Create a socket
 - int socket (int family, int type, int protocol);
 - Returns file descriptor or -1.
- Bind a socket to a local IP address and port number
 - int bind (int sockfd, struct sockaddr* myaddr, int addrlen);
- Put socket into passive state (wait for connections rather than initiate a connection).
 - int listen (int sockfd, int backlog);

Functions: socket

- int socket (int family, int type, int
 protocol);
- Create a socket.
 - Returns file descriptor or -1. Also sets errno on failure.
 - family: address family (namespace)
 - **AF_INET** for IPv4
 - other possibilities: AF_INET6 (IPv6), AF_UNIX or AF_LOCAL (Unix socket), AF_ROUTE (routing)
 - type: style of communication
 - SOCK_STREAM for TCP (with AF_INET)
 - SOCK_DGRAM for UDP (with AF_INET)
 - protocol: protocol within family
 - typically 0

Function: bind

- int bind (int sockfd, struct sockaddr*
 myaddr, int addrlen);
- Bind a socket to a local IP address and port number
 - Returns 0 on success, -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - myaddr: includes IP address and port number
 - IP address: set by kernel if value passed is **INADDR_ANY**, else set by caller
 - port number: set by kernel if value passed is 0, else set by caller
 - addrlen: length of address structure
 - = sizeof (struct sockaddr_in)

TCP and UDP Ports

- Allocated and assigned by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority
 - see RFC 1700 or

ftp://ftp.isi.edu/in-notes/iana/assignments/port-numbers

1-512	 standard services (see /etc/services) super-user only 		
513-1023	 registered and controlled, also used for identity verification 		
	super-user only		
1024-49151	 registered services/ephemeral ports 		
49152-65535	private/ephemeral ports		

Reserved Ports

Keyword	Decimal	Description			
	0/tcp	Reserved			
	0/udp	Reserved	Keyword	Decimal	Description
tcpmux	1/tcp	TCP Port Service			
tcpmux	1/udp	TCP Port Service	time	37/tcp	Time
echo	7/tcp	Echo	time	37/udp	Time
echo	7/udp	Echo	name	42/tcp	Host Name Server
systat	11/tcp	Active Users	name	42/udp	Host Name Server
systat	11/udp	Active Users	nameserver	42/tcp	Host Name Server
daytime	13/tcp	Daytime (RFC 867)	nameserver	42/udp	Host Name Server
daytime	13/udp	Daytime (RFC 867)	nicname	43/tcp	Who Is
qotd	17/tcp	Quote of the Day	nicname	43/udp	Who Is
qotd	17/udp	Quote of the Day	domain	53/tcp	Domain Name Server
chargen	19/tcp	Character Generator	domain	53/udp	Domain Name Server
chargen	19/udp	Character Generator	whois++	63/tcp	whois++
ftp-data	20/tcp	File Transfer Data	whois++	63/udp	whois++
ftp-data	20/udp	File Transfer Data	gopher	70/tcp	Gopher
ftp	21/tcp	File Transfer Ctl	gopher	70/udp	Gopher
ftp	21/udp	File Transfer Ctl	finger	79/tcp	Finger
ssh	22/tcp	SSH Remote Login	finger	79/udp	Finger
ssh	22/udp	SSH Remote Login	http	80/tcp	World Wide Web HTTP
telnet	23/tcp	Telnet	http	80/udp	World Wide Web HTTP
telnet	23/udp	Telnet	www	80/tcp	World Wide Web HTTP
smtp	25/tcp	Simple Mail Transfer	www	80/udp	World Wide Web HTTP
smtp	25/udp	Simple Mail Transfer	www-http	80/tcp	World Wide Web HTTP
			www-http	80/udp	World Wide Web HTTP
			kerberos	88/tcp	Kerberos

kerberos

88/udp

Kerberos

Functions: listen

int listen (int sockfd, int backlog);

- Put socket into passive state (wait for connections rather than initiate a connection)
 - Returns 0 on success, -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - backlog: bound on length of unaccepted connection queue (connection backlog); kernel will cap, thus better to set high

Establishing a Connection

- Include file <sys/socket.h>
- int connect (int sockfd, struct sockaddr*
 servaddr, int addrlen);
 - Connect to another socket.
- int accept (int sockfd, struct sockaddr*
 cliaddr, int* addrlen);
 - Accept a new connection. Returns file descriptor or -1.

Functions: connect

int connect (int sockfd, struct sockaddr*
 servaddr, int addrlen);

- Connect to another socket.
 - Returns 0 on success, -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - servaddr: IP address and port number of server
 - addrlen: length of address structure
 - = sizeof (struct sockaddr_in)
- Can use with UDP to restrict incoming datagrams and to obtain asynchronous errors

Functions: accept

- Accept a new connection
 - Returns file descriptor or -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - cliaddr: IP address and port number of client (returned from call)
 - addrlen: length of address structure = pointer to int set to sizeof (struct sockaddr_in)
- addrlen is a **value-result** argument
 - the caller passes the size of the address structure, the kernel returns the size of the client's address (the number of bytes written)

Sending and Receiving Data

- int write (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t
 nbytes);
 - Write data to a stream (TCP) or "connected" datagram (UDP) socket.
 - Returns number of bytes written or -1.

int read (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t
 nbytes);

- Read data from a stream (TCP) or "connected" datagram (UDP) socket.
 - Returns number of bytes read or -1.

Sending and Receiving Data

- int sendto (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t
 nbytes, int flags, struct sockaddr*
 destaddr, int addrlen);
 - Send a datagram to another UDP socket.
 - Returns number of bytes written or -1.

int recvfrom (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t nbytes, int flags, struct sockaddr* srcaddr, int* addrlen);

- Read a datagram from a UDP socket.
 - Returns number of bytes read or -1.

Functions: write

- int write (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t
 nbytes);
- Write data to a stream (TCP) or "connected" datagram (UDP) socket
 - Returns number of bytes written or -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - buf: data buffer
 - nbytes: number of bytes to try to write
- Some reasons for failure or partial writes
 - process received interrupt or signal
 - kernel resources unavailable *(e.g., buffers)*

Functions: read

int read (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t nbytes);

- Read data from a stream (TCP) or "connected" datagram (UDP) socket
 - Returns number of bytes read or -1 and sets errno on failure
 - Returns 0 if socket closed
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - buf: data buffer
 - nbytes: number of bytes to try to read

Functions: sendto

- int sendto (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t nbytes, int flags, struct sockaddr* destaddr, int addrlen);
- Send a datagram to another UDP socket
 - Returns number of bytes written or -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - buf: data buffer
 - nbytes: number of bytes to try to read
 - flags: see man page for details; typically use 0
 - **destaddr**: IP address and port number of destination socket
 - addrlen: length of address structure
 - = sizeof (struct sockaddr_in)

Functions: recvfrom

- int recvfrom (int sockfd, char* buf, size_t
 nbytes, int flags, struct sockaddr* srcaddr,
 int* addrlen);
- Read a datagram from a UDP socket.
 - Returns number of bytes read (0 is valid) or -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - buf: data buffer
 - nbytes: number of bytes to try to read
 - **flags**: see man page for details; typically use 0
 - srcaddr: IP address and port number of sending socket (returned from call)
 - addrlen: length of address structure = pointer to int set to sizeof (struct sockaddr_in)

Tearing Down a Connection

int close (int sockfd);

- Close a socket.
 - Returns 0 on success, -1 and sets errno on failure.

int shutdown (int sockfd, int howto);

- Force termination of communication across a socket in one or both directions.
 - Returns 0 on success, -1 and sets errno on failure.

Functions: close

int close (int sockfd);

- Close a socket
 - Returns 0 on success, -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
- Closes communication on socket in both directions
 - All data sent before close are delivered to other side (although this aspect can be overridden)
- After close, sockfd is not valid for reading or writing

Functions: shutdown

int shutdown (int sockfd, int howto);

- Force termination of communication across a socket in one or both directions
 - Returns 0 on success, -1 and sets errno on failure
 - sockfd: socket file descriptor (returned from socket)
 - howto:
 - **SHUT_RD** to stop reading
 - **SHUT_WR** to stop writing
 - **SHUT_RDWR** to stop both
- **shutdown** overrides the usual rules regarding duplicated sockets, in which TCP teardown does not occur until all copies have closed the socket

Summary

- Transport protocols
 TCP, UDP
- Network programming - Sockets API, pthreads