Network Layer

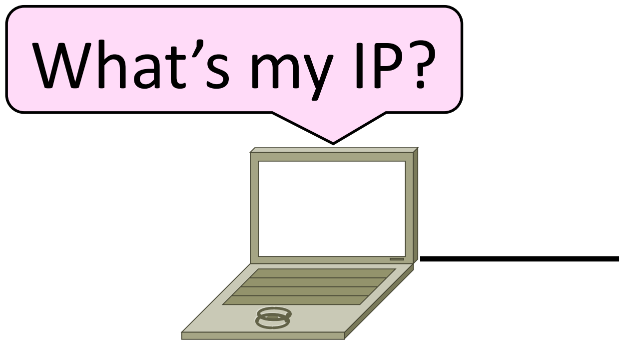
Topics

- Network service models
  - Datagrams (packets), virtual circuits
- IP (Internet Protocol)
  - Internetworking
  - Forwarding (Longest Matching Prefix)
  - Helpers: ARP and DHCP
  - Fragmentation and MTU discovery
  - Errors: ICMP (traceroute!)
  - IPv6, scaling IP to the world
  - NAT, and “middleboxs”
- Routing Algorithms

Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)

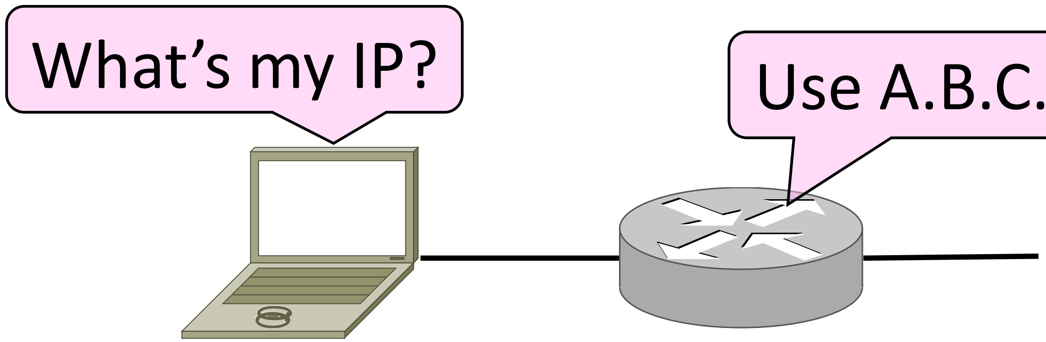
Bootstrapping

- Problem:
  - A node wakes up for the first time …
  - What is its IP address? What's the IP address of its router?
  - At least Ethernet address is on NIC



Bootstrapping (2)

1. Manual configuration (old days)
   - Can't be factory set, depends on use
2. DHCP: Automatically configure addresses
   - Shifts burden from users to IT folk

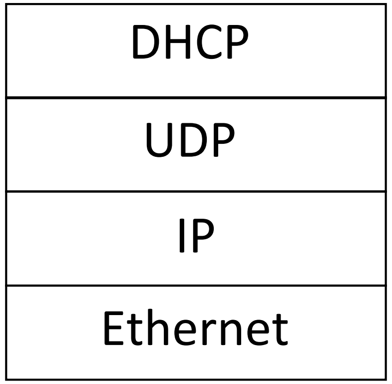


DHCP

- DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol), from 1993, widely used
- It leases IP address to nodes
- Provides other parameters too
  - Network prefix
  - Address of local router
  - DNS server, time server, etc.

DHCP Protocol Stack

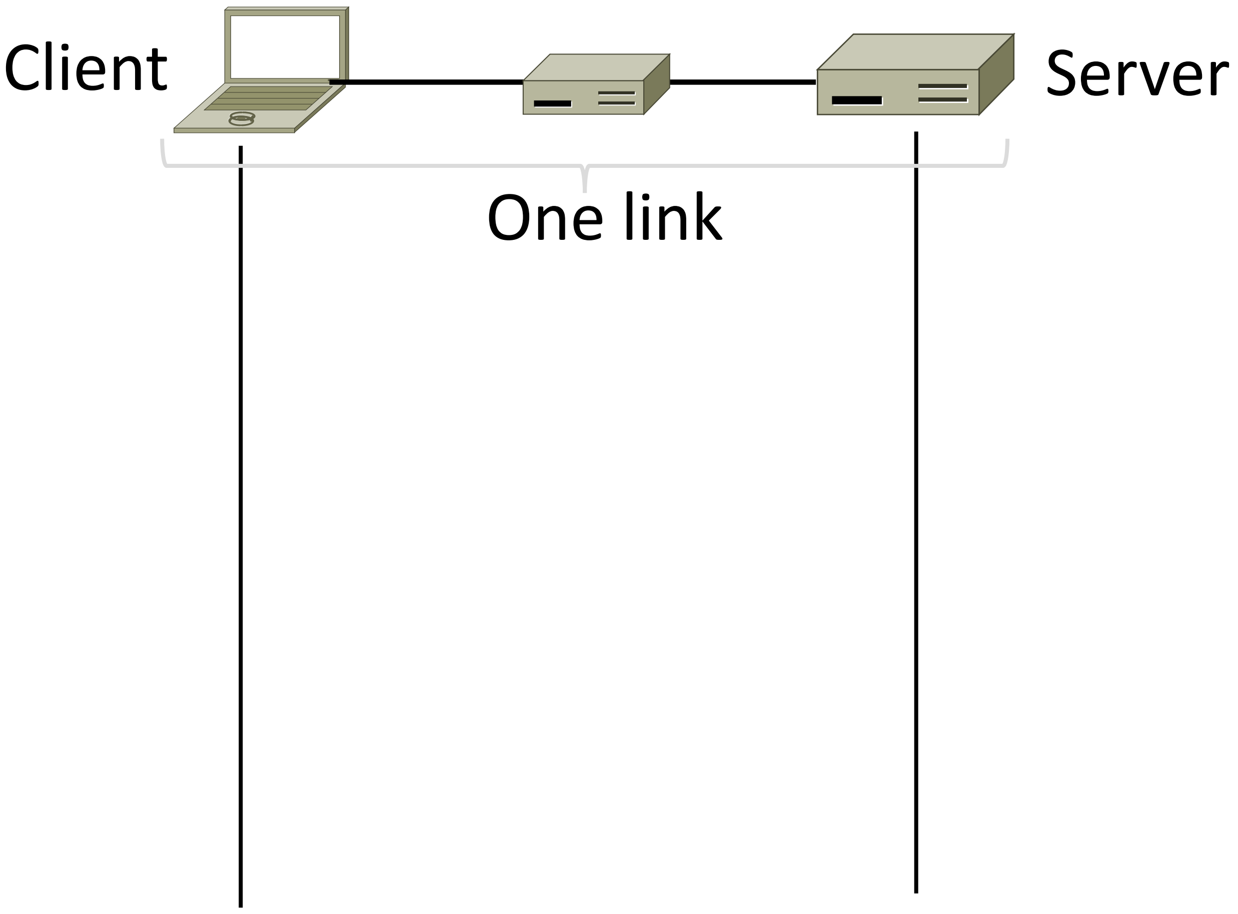
- DHCP is a client-server application
  - Uses UDP ports 67, 68



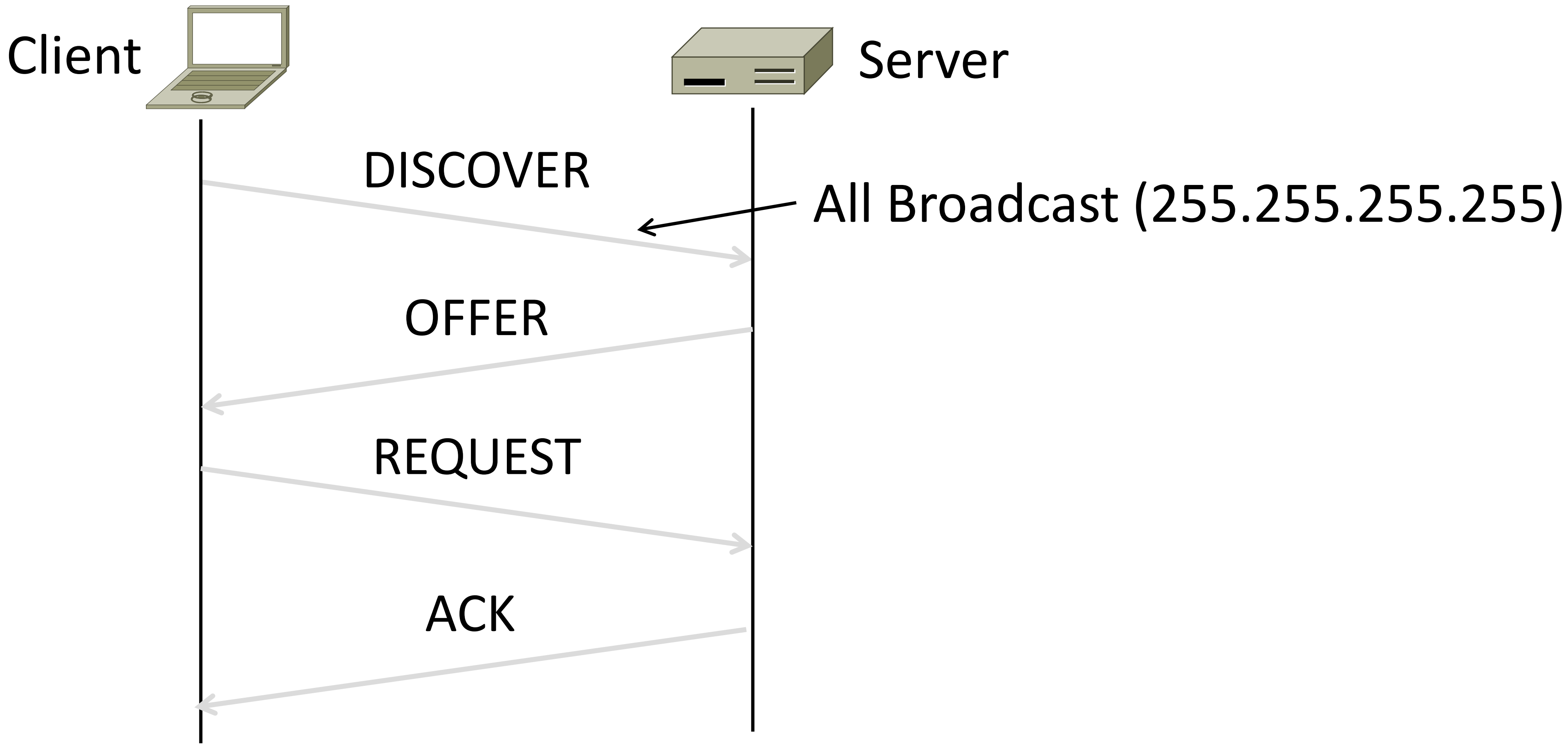
DHCP Addressing

- Bootstrap issue:
  - How does node send a message to DHCP server before it is configured?
- Answer:
  - Node sends broadcast messages that delivered to all nodes on the network
  - Broadcast address is all 1s
  - IP (32 bit): 255.255.255.255
  - Ethernet (48 bit): ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff

DHCP Messages



DHCP Messages (2)



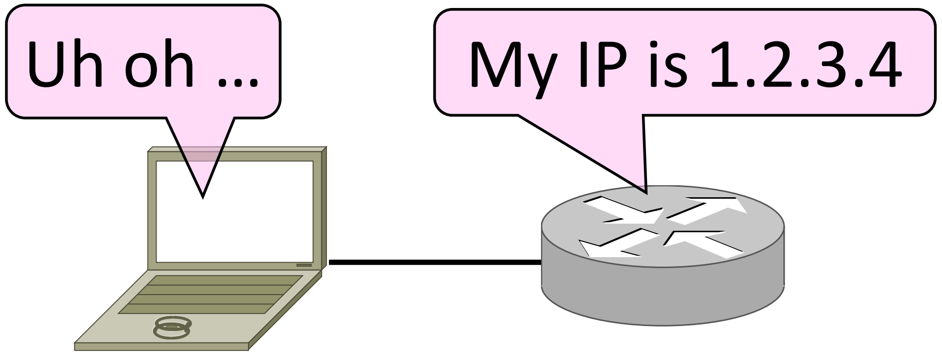
DHCP Messages (3)

- To renew an existing lease, an abbreviated sequence is used:
  - REQUEST, followed by ACK
- Protocol also supports replicated servers for reliability

Address Resolution Protocol (ARP)

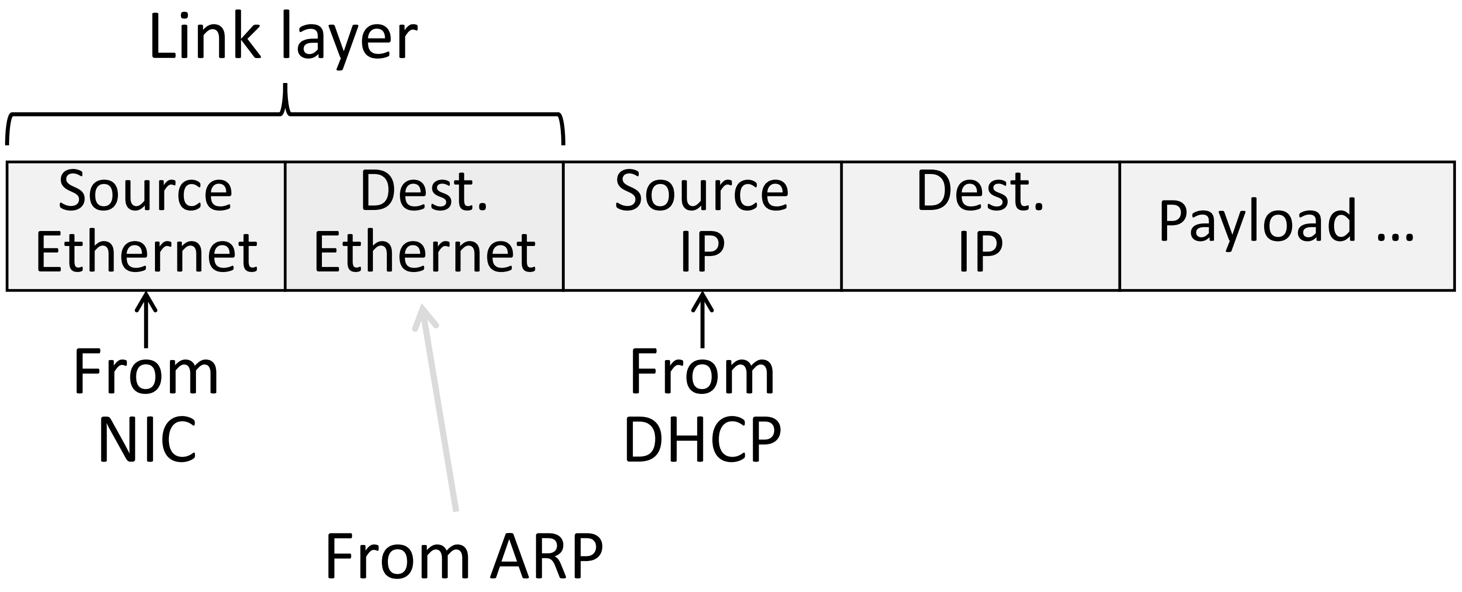
Sending an IP Packet

- Problem:
  - A node needs Link layer addresses to send a frame over the local link
  - How does it get the destination link address from a destination IP address?



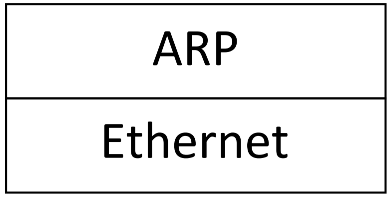
ARP (Address Resolution Protocol)

- Node uses to map a local IP address to its Link layer addresses

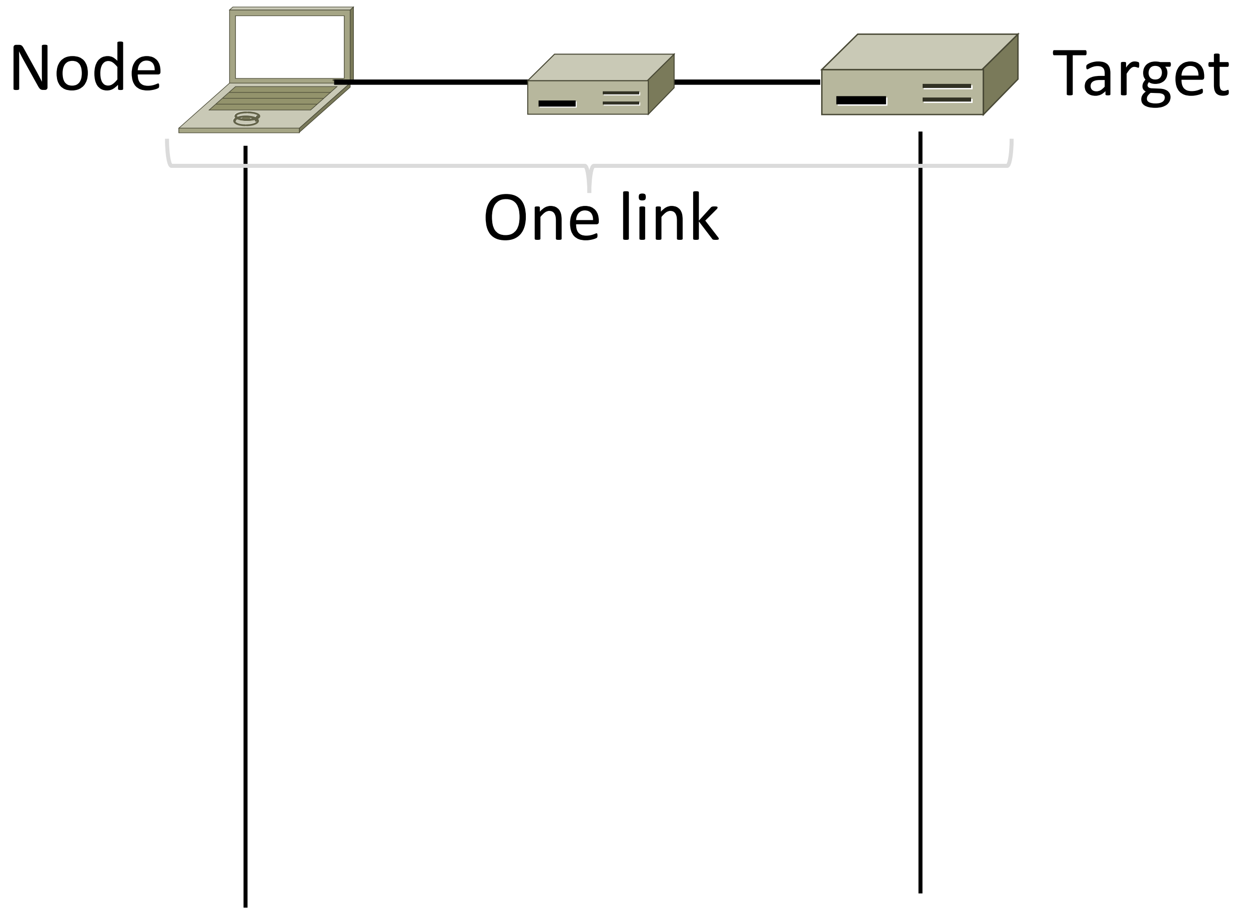


ARP Protocol Stack

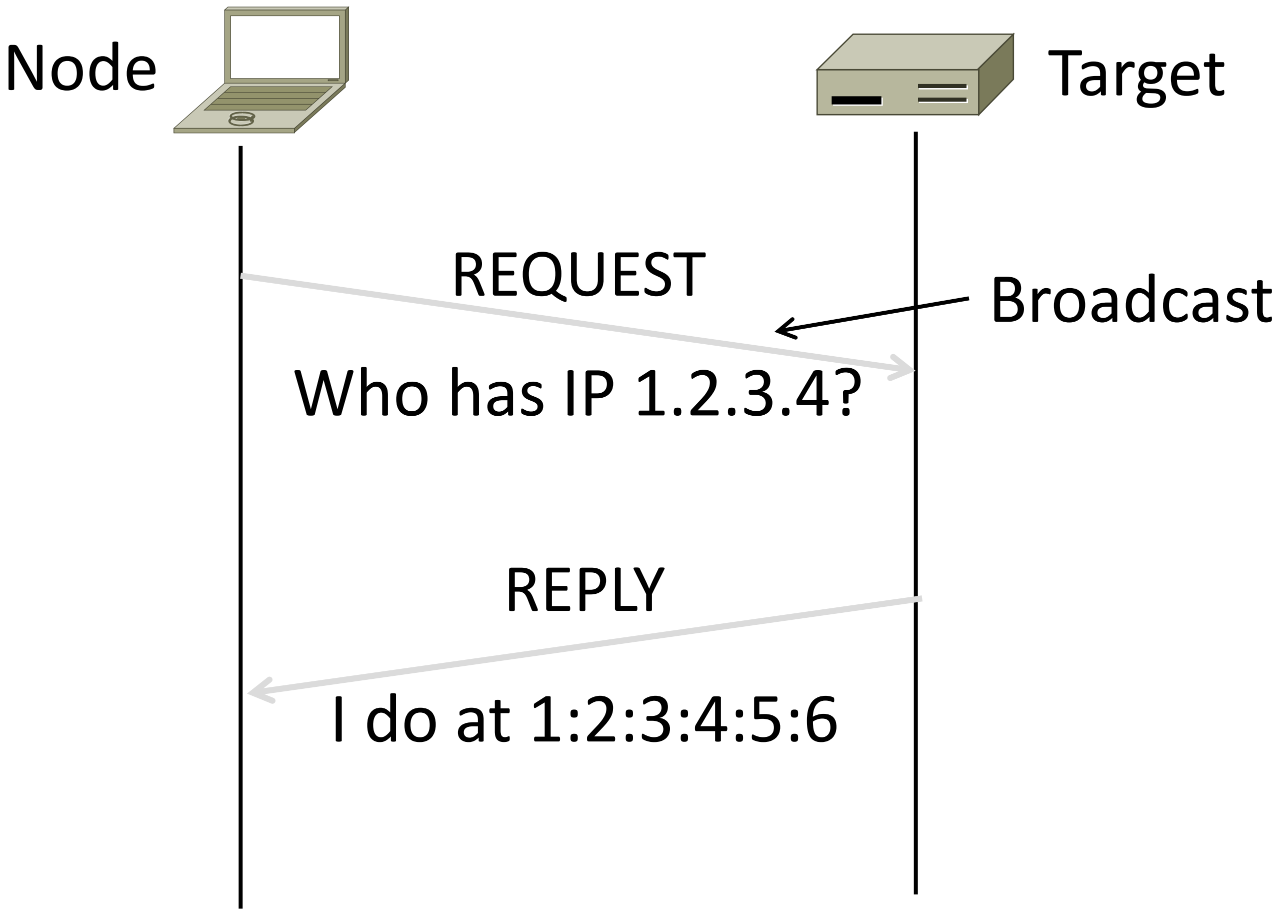
- ARP sits right on top of link layer
  - No servers, just asks node with target IP to identify itself
  - Uses broadcast to reach all nodes



ARP Messages



ARP Messages (2)




```
[root@host ~]# tcpdump -lni any arp & ( sleep 1; arp -d 10.0.0.254; ping -c1 -n 10.0.0.254 )

listening on any, link-type LINUX_SLL (Linux cooked), capture size 96 bytes

17:58:02.155495 arp who-has 10.2.1.224 tell 10.2.1.253

17:58:02.317444 arp who-has 10.0.0.96 tell 10.0.0.253

17:58:02.370446 arp who-has 10.3.1.12 tell 10.3.1.61
```

ARP Table

```
# arp -an | grep 10
? (10.241.1.114) at 00:25:90:3e:dc:fc [ether] on vlan241
? (10.252.1.8) at 00:c0:b7:76:ac:19 [ether] on vlan244
? (10.252.1.9) at 00:c0:b7:76:ae:56 [ether] on vlan244
? (10.241.1.111) at 00:30:48:f2:23:fd [ether] on vlan241
? (10.252.1.6) at 00:c0:b7:74:fb:9a [ether] on vlan244
? (10.241.1.121) at 00:25:90:2c:d4:f7 [ether] on vlan241
[...]
```

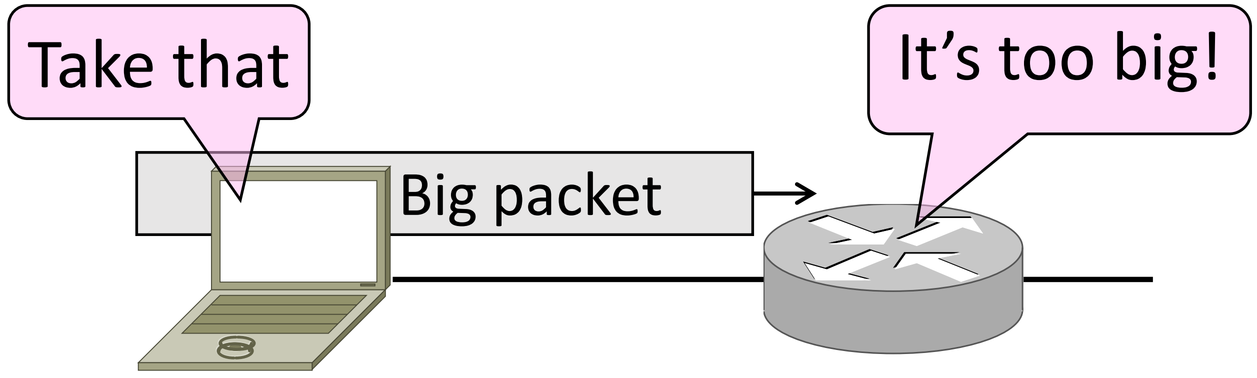
Discovery Protocols

- Help nodes find each other
  - There are more of them!
    - E.g., eroconf, Bonjour
- Often involve broadcast
  - Since nodes aren't introduced
  - Very handy glue

Fragmentation

Fragmentation

- Problem: How do we connect networks with different maximum packet sizes?
  - Need to split up packets, or discover the largest size to use



Packet Size Problem

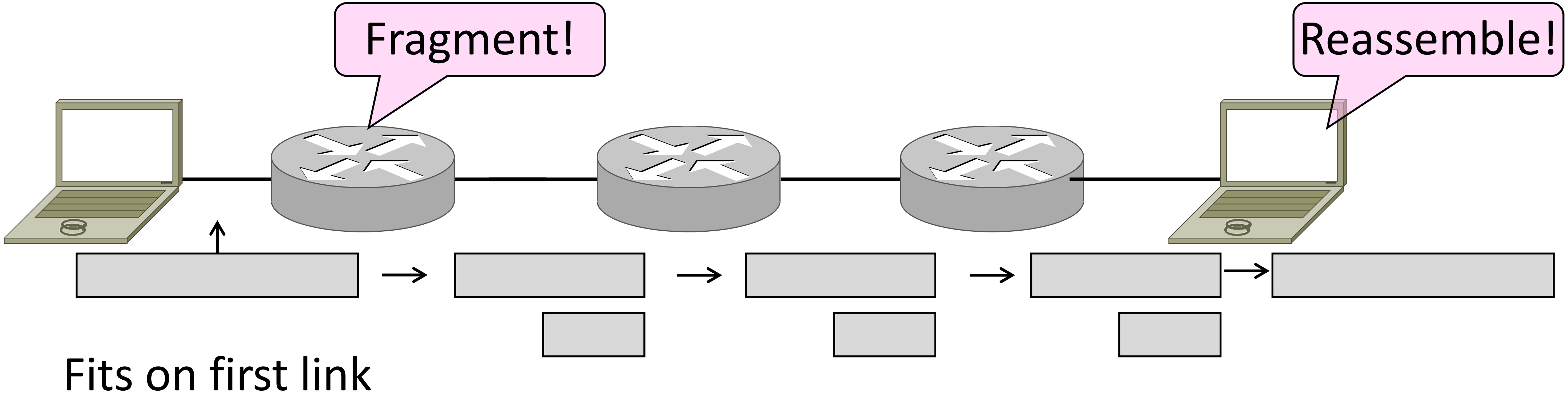
- Different networks have different max packet sizes
  - Or MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit)
  - E.g., Ethernet 1.5K, WiFi 2.3K
- Prefer large packets for efficiency
  - But what size is too large?
  - Difficult as node doesn't know complete network path

Packet Size Solutions

- Fragmentation (now)
  - Split up large packets in if they are too big to send
  - Classic method, dated
- Discovery (next)
  - Find the largest packet that fits on the network path
  - IP uses today instead of fragmentation

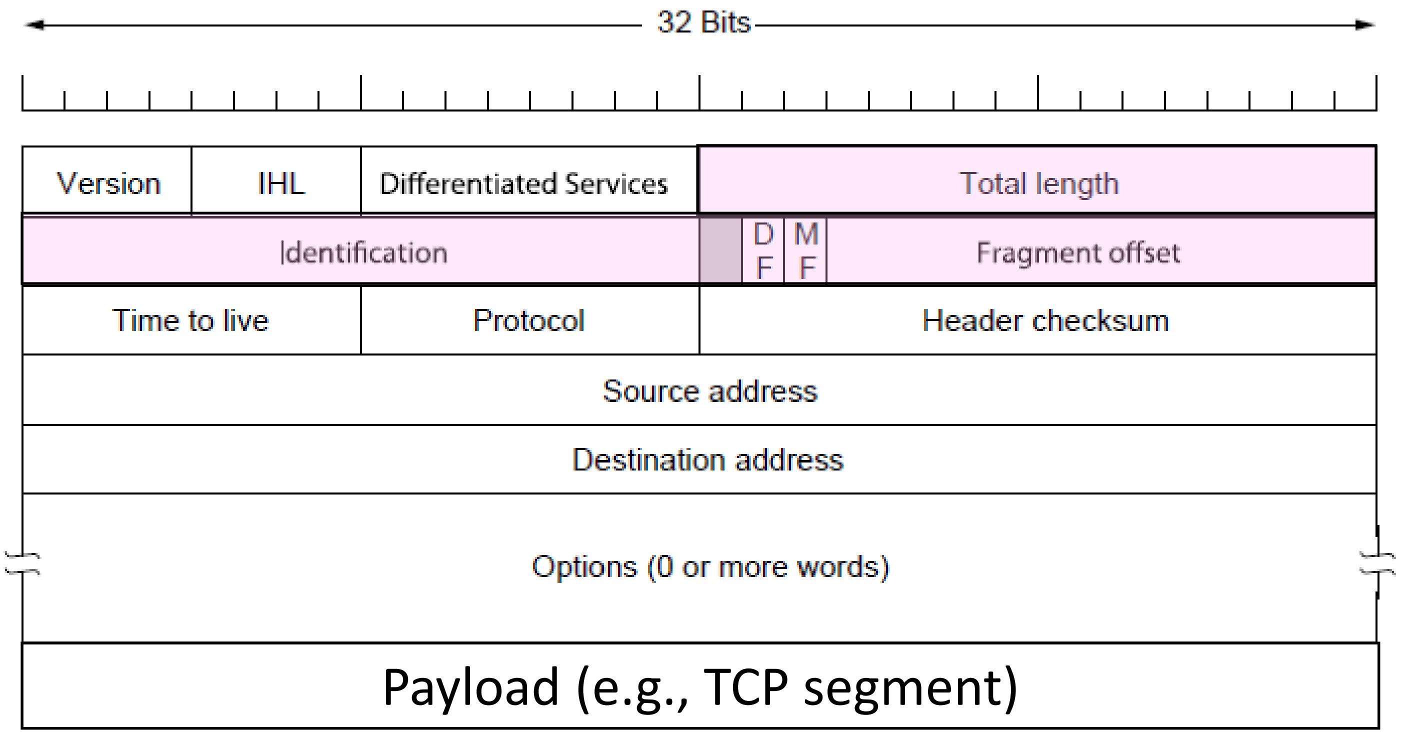
IPv4 Fragmentation

- Routers fragment packets too large to forward
- Receiving host reassembles to reduce load on routers



IPv4 Fragmentation Fields

- Header fields used to handle packet size differences
  - Identification, Fragment offset, MF/DF control bits



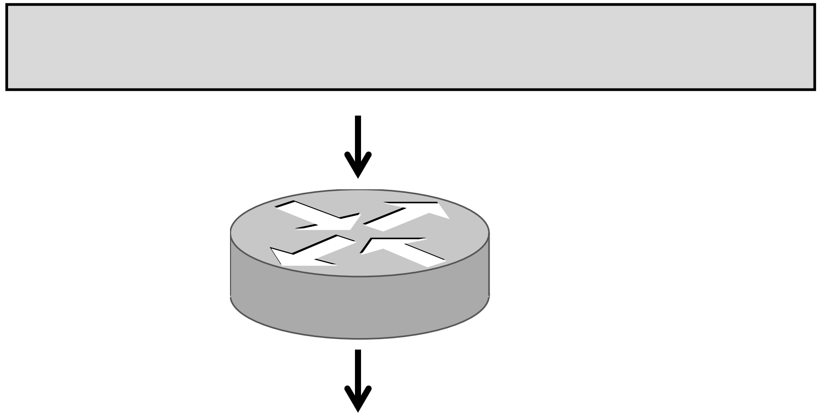
IPv4 Fragmentation Procedure

- Routers split a packet that is too large:
  - Typically break into large pieces
  - Copy IP header to pieces
  - Adjust length on pieces
  - Set offset to indicate position
  - Set MF (More Fragments) on all pieces except last
- Receiving hosts reassembles the pieces:
  - Identification field links pieces together, MF tells receiver when complete

IPv4 Fragmentation (2)

Before
MTU = 2300

ID = 0x12ef
Data Len = 2300
Offset = 0
MF = 0



(Ignore length of headers)

After
MTU = 1500

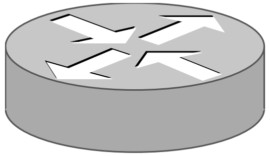
ID =
Data Len =
Offset =
MF =

ID =
Data Len =
Offset =
MF =

IPv4 Fragmentation (3)

Before
MTU = 2300

ID = 0x12ef
Data Len = 2300
Offset = 0
MF = 0



After
MTU = 1500

ID = 0x12ef
Data Len = 1500
Offset = 0
MF = 1

ID = 0x12ef
Data Len = 800
Offset = 1500
MF = 0

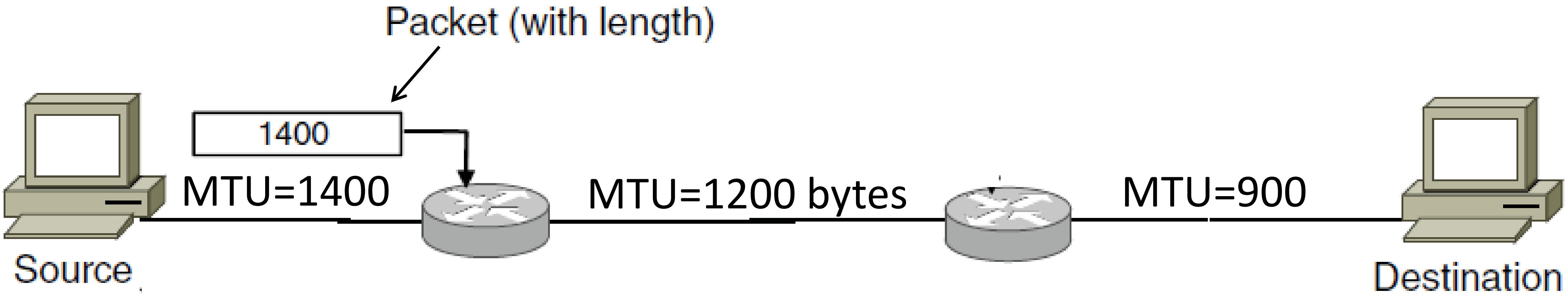
IPv4 Fragmentation (4)

- It works!
  - Allows repeated fragmentation
- But fragmentation is undesirable
  - More work for routers, hosts
  - Tends to magnify loss rate
  - Security vulnerabilities too

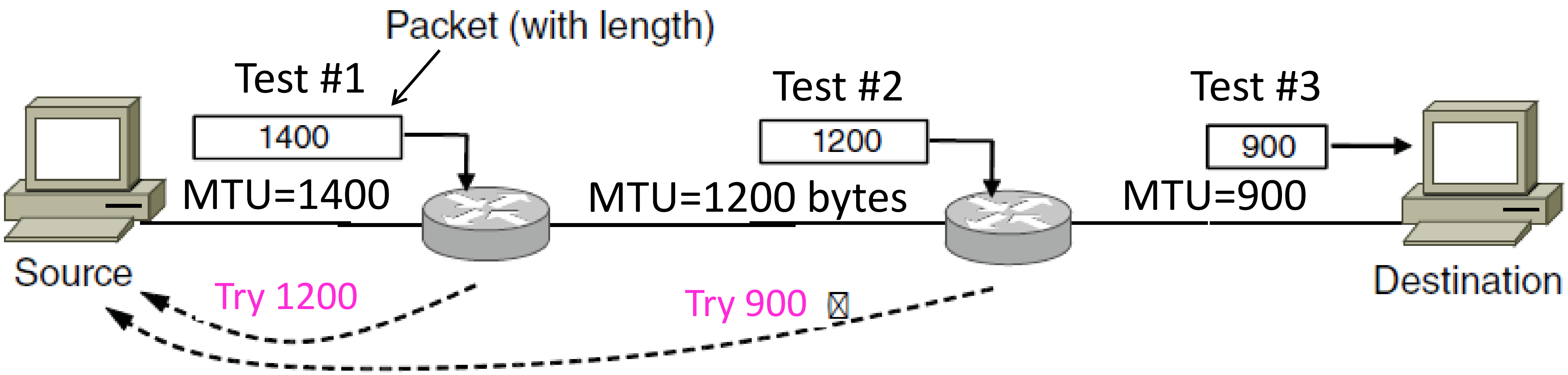
Path MTU Discovery

- Discover the MTU that will fit
  - So we can avoid fragmentation
  - The method in use today
- Host tests path with large packet
  - Routers provide feedback if too large; they tell host what size would have fit

Path MTU Discovery (2)



Path MTU Discovery (3)



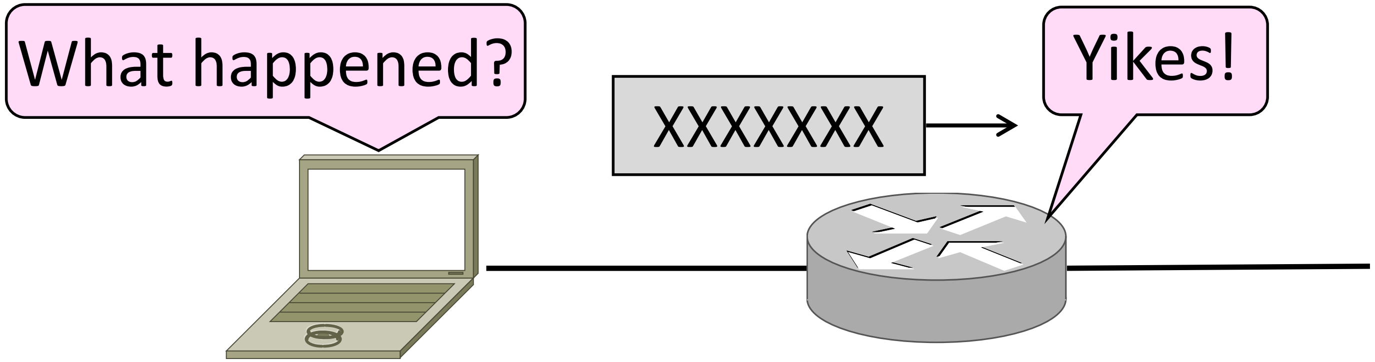
Path MTU Discovery (4)

- Process may seem involved
  - But usually quick to find right size
  - MTUs smaller on edges of network
- Path MTU depends on the path and can change
  - Search is ongoing
- Implemented with ICMP (next)
  - Set DF (Don't Fragment) bit in IP header to get feedback

Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP)

Topic

- Problem: What happens when something goes wrong during forwarding?
  - Need to be able to find the problem

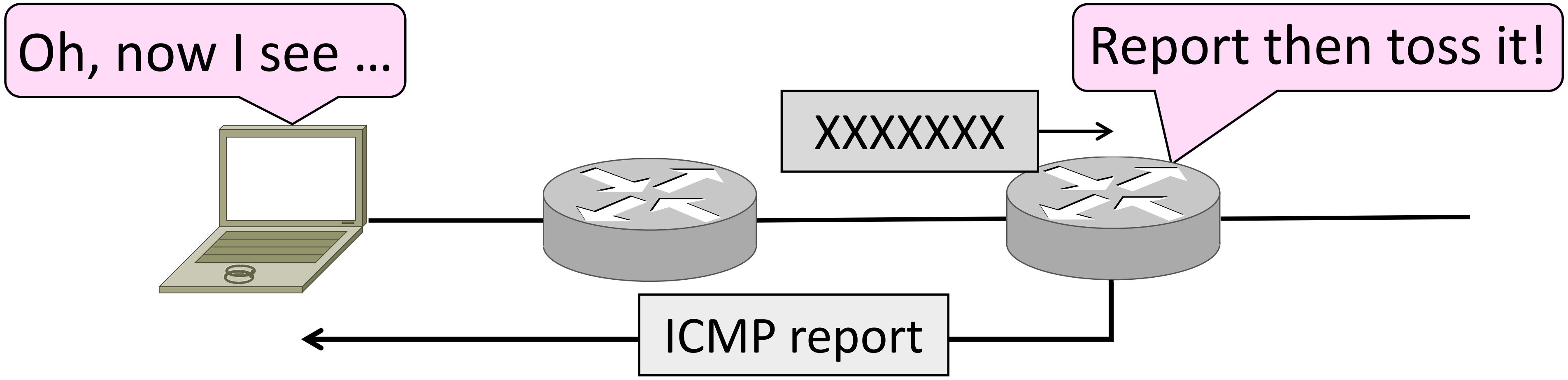


Internet Control Message Protocol

- ICMP is a companion protocol to IP
  - They are implemented together
  - Sits on top of IP (IP Protocol=1)
- Provides error report and testing
  - Error is at router while forwarding
  - Also testing that hosts can use

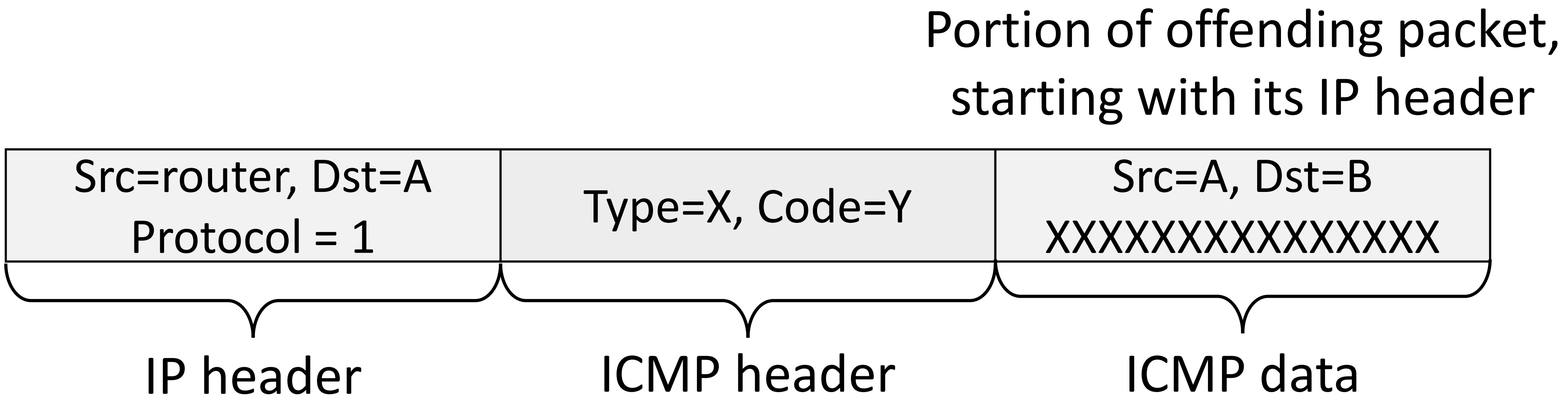
ICMP Errors

- When router encounters an error while forwarding:
  - It sends an ICMP error report back to the IP source
  - It discards the problematic packet; host needs to rectify



ICMP Message Format (2)

- Each ICMP message has a Type, Code, and Checksum
- Often carry the start of the offending packet as payload
- Each message is carried in an IP packet



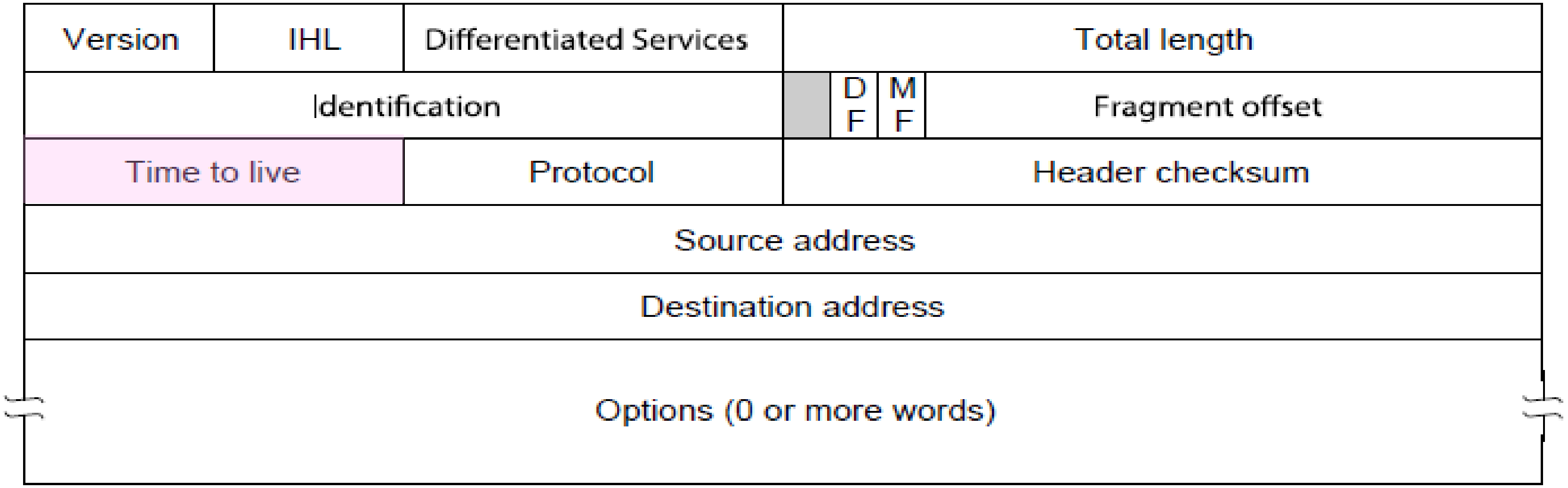
Example ICMP Messages

Name	Type / Code	Usage
Dest. Unreachable (Net or Host)	3 / 0 or 1	Lack of connectivity
Dest. Unreachable (Fragment)	3 / 4	Path MTU Discovery
Time Exceeded (Transit)	11 / 0	Traceroute
Echo Request or Reply	8 or 0 / 0	Ping

Testing, not a forwarding error: Host sends Echo Request, and destination responds with an Echo Reply

Traceroute

- IP header contains TTL (Time to live) field
  - Decremented every router hop, with ICMP error at zero
  - Protects against forwarding loops



Traceroute (2)

- Traceroute repurposes TTL and ICMP functionality
  - Sends probe packets increasing TTL starting from 1
  - ICMP errors identify routers on the path