CSC4200/5200 – COMPUTER NETWORKING
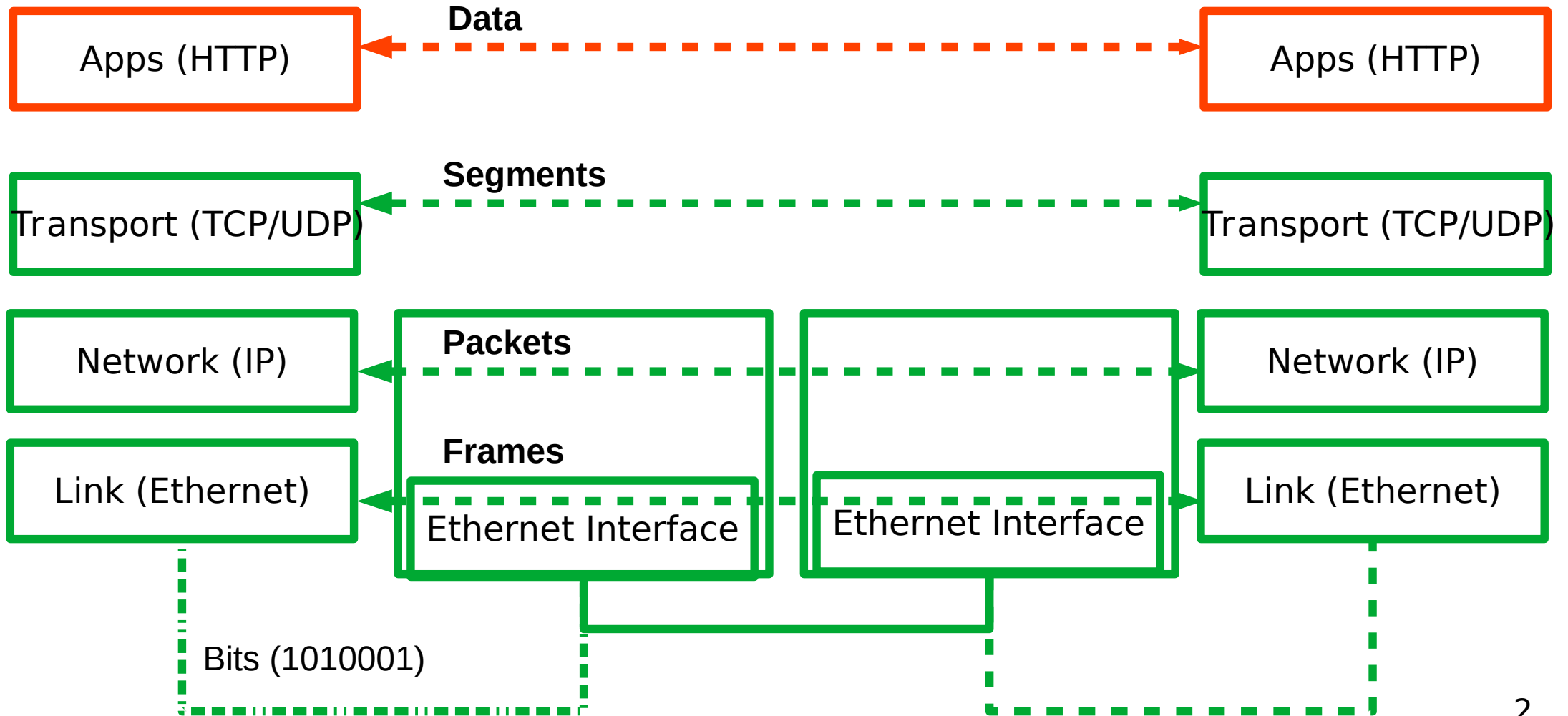
Instructor: Susmit Shannigrahi
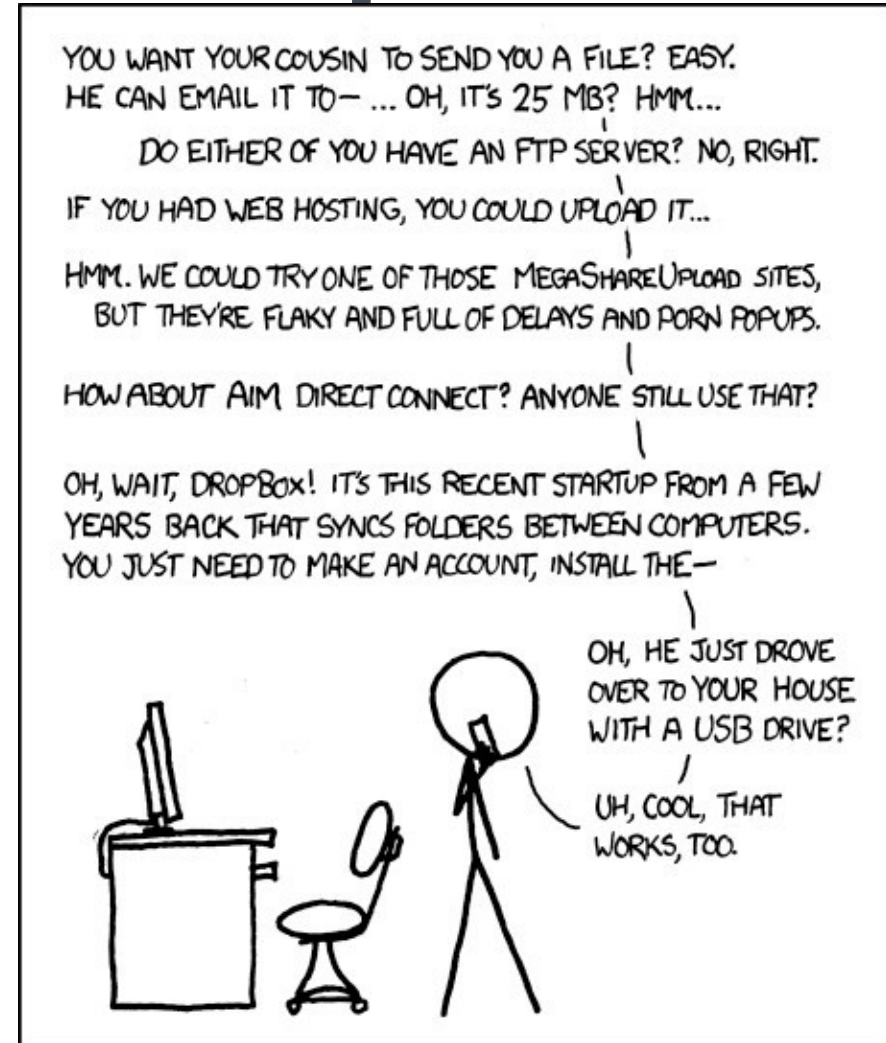
NETWORKED APPLICATIONS – EMAIL AND DNS

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Tennessee
TECH

Apps (HTTP) ← **Data** → Apps (HTTP)

Transport (TCP/UDP) ← **Segments** → Transport (TCP/UDP)

Network (IP) ← **Packets** → Network (IP)

Link (Ethernet) ← **Frames** → Link (Ethernet)

Ethernet Interface | Ethernet Interface

Bits (1010001)

2

How do you send the cat picture?

Looked at Web
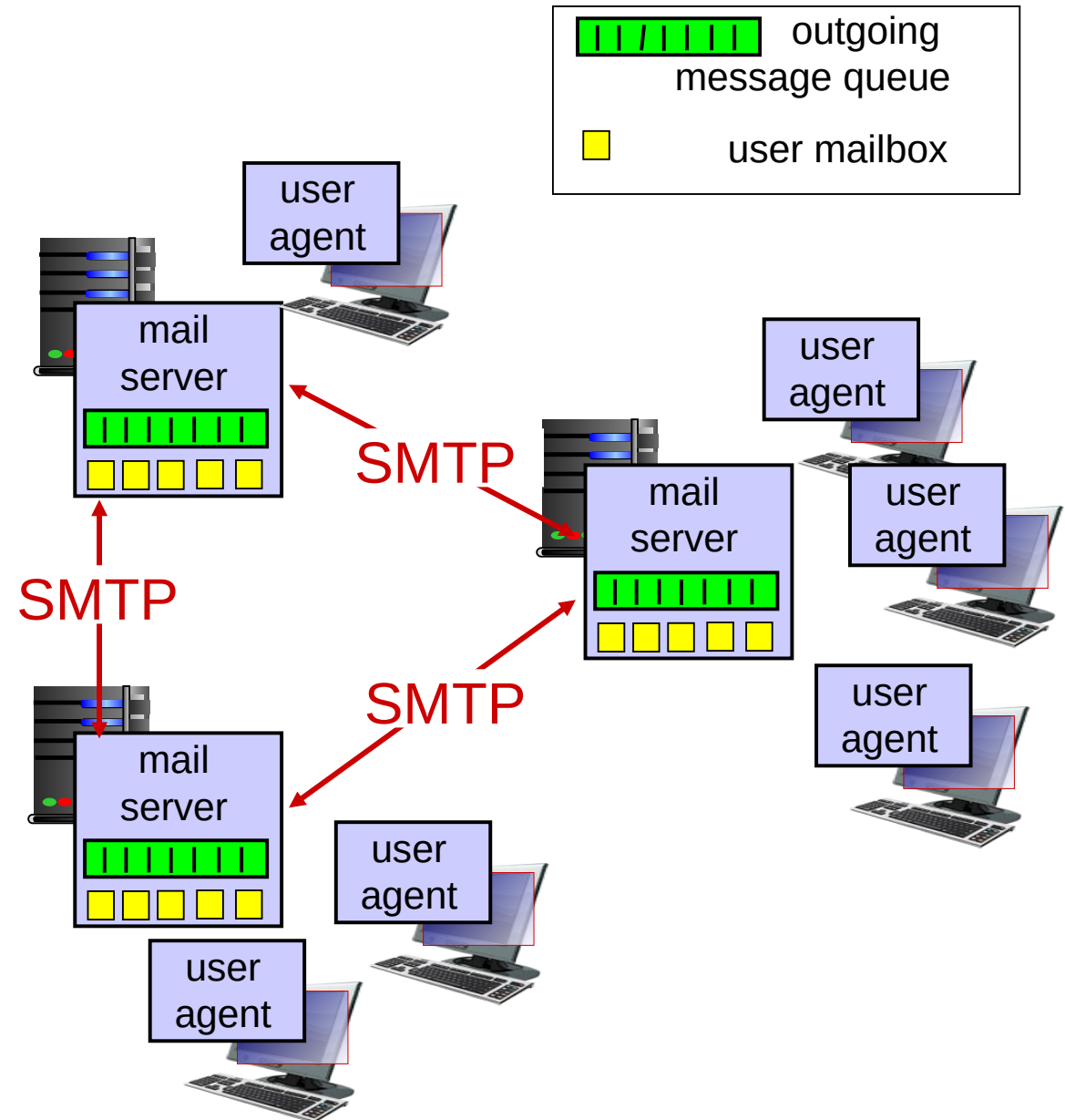- How about email?

https://xkcd.com/949/

Electronic mail

Three major components:

- user agents
- mail servers
- simple mail transfer protocol: SMTP

User Agent

- a.k.a. "mail reader"
- composing, editing, reading mail messages
- e.g., Outlook, Thunderbird, iPhone mail client
- outgoing, incoming messages stored on server

4

Electronic Mail: SMTP [RFC 2821]

- uses TCP to reliably transfer email message from client to server, port 25
- direct transfer: sending server to receiving server
- three phases of transfer
  - handshaking (greeting)
  - transfer of messages
  - closure
- command/response interaction (like HTTP, FTP)
  - commands: ASCII text
  - response: status code and phrase
- messages must be in 7-bit ASCI

Scenario: Alice sends message to Bob

1) Alice uses UA to compose message "to" bob@someschool.edu
2) Alice's UA sends message to her mail server; message placed in message queue
3) client side of SMTP opens TCP connection with Bob's mail server

4) SMTP client sends Alice's message over the TCP connection
5) Bob's mail server places the message in Bob's mailbox
6) Bob invokes his user agent to read message

Alice's mail server

Bob's mail server
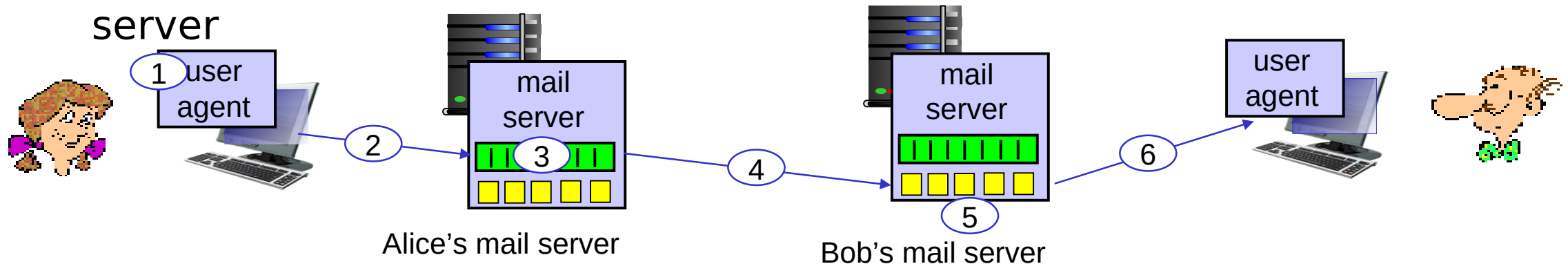
Sample SMTP interaction

```
S: 220 hamburger.edu
C: HELO crepes.fr
S: 250  Hello crepes.fr, pleased to meet you
C: MAIL FROM: <alice@crepes.fr>
S: 250 alice@crepes.fr... Sender ok
C: RCPT TO: <bob@hamburger.edu>
S: 250 bob@hamburger.edu ... Recipient ok
C: DATA
S: 354 Enter mail, end with "." on a line by itself
C: Do you like ketchup?
C: How about pickles?
C: .
S: 250 Message accepted for delivery
C: QUIT
S: 221 hamburger.edu closing connection
```
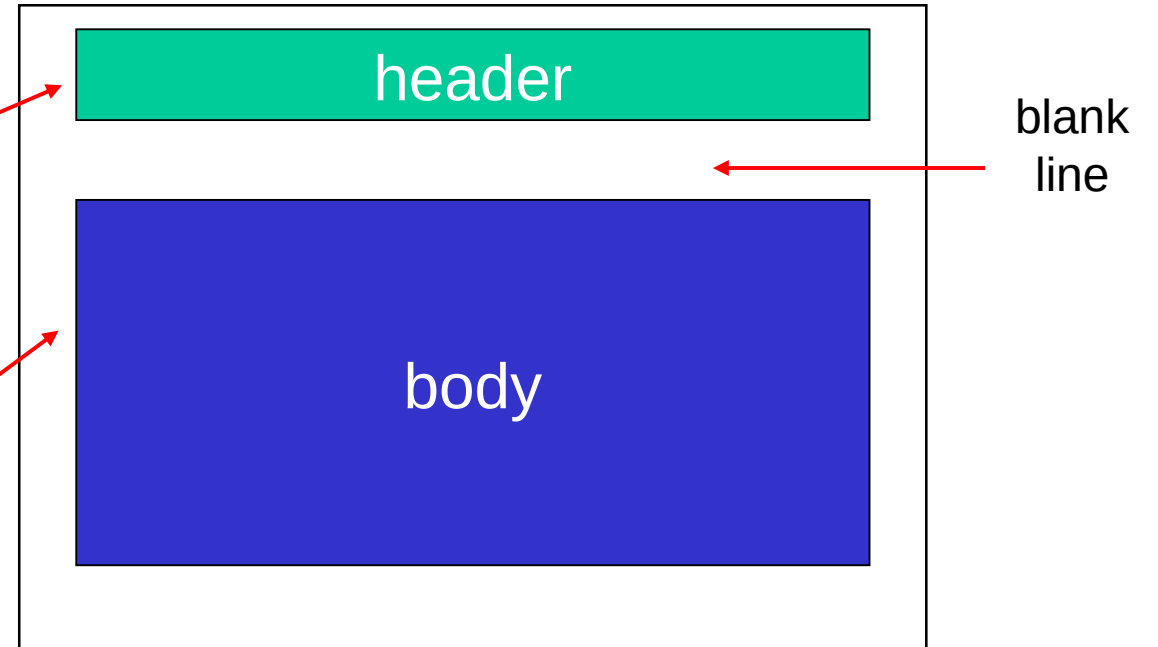
Mail message format

SMTP: protocol for exchanging email msgs
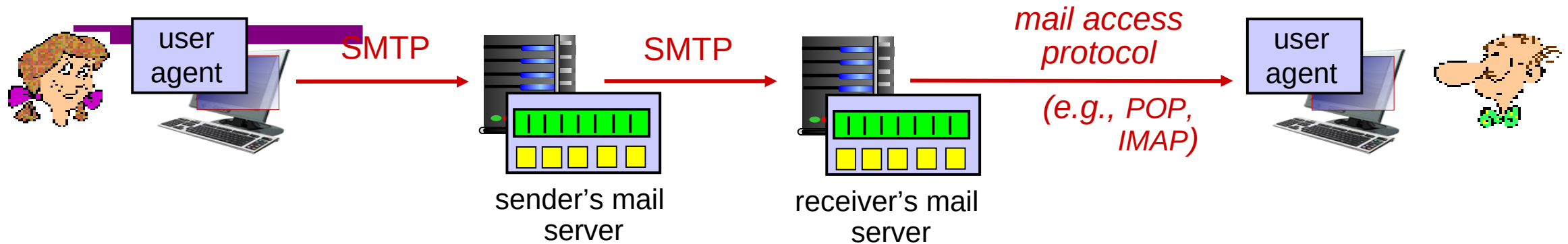
RFC 822: standard for text message format:

- header lines, e.g.,
  - To:
  - From:
  - Subject:

  different from SMTP MAIL
  FROM, RCPT TO: commands!

- Body: the "message"
  - ASCII characters only

header

body

blank line

Mail access protocols
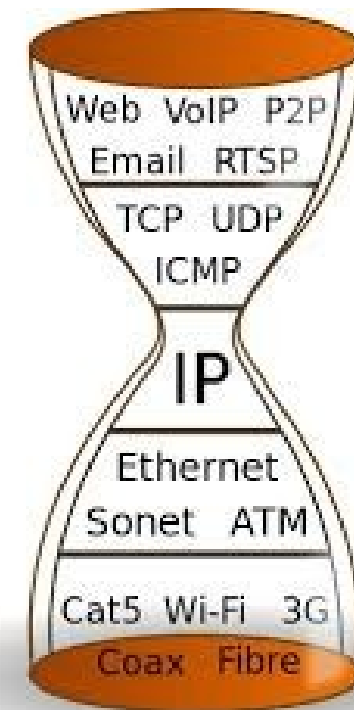

- **SMTP:** delivery/storage to receiver's server
- mail access protocol: retrieval from server
  - **POP:** Post Office Protocol [RFC 1939]: authorization, download
  - **IMAP:** Internet Mail Access Protocol [RFC 1730]: more features, including manipulation of stored msgs on server
  - **HTTP:** gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo! Mail, etc.

IP Based Communication

youtube.com/catvideo1

IP Based Communication

GET google.com/index.html

Lookup google.com

216.58.217.46

Get Data

google.com
216.58.217.46

google.com
216.58.217.49
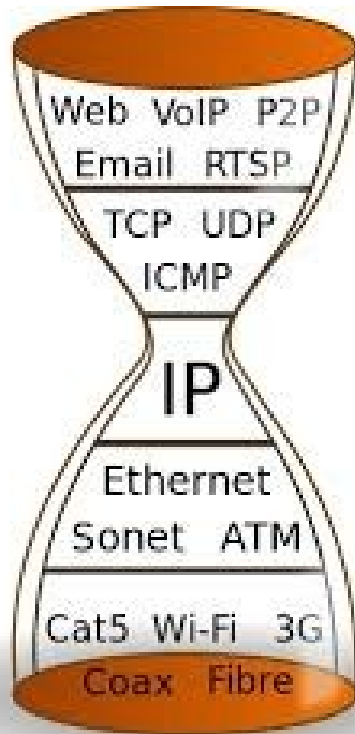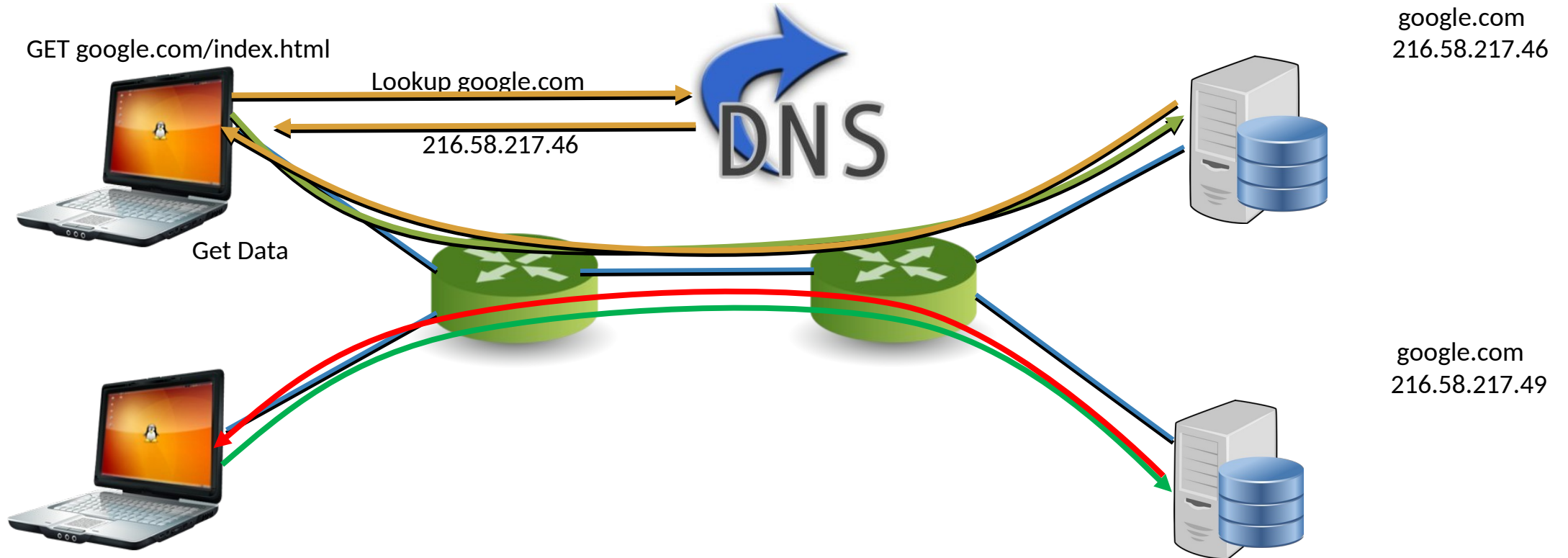
DNS – IP to Name

People: Good with names
Machines: Good with numbers

Ask a person to remember 100s of Ips
   - May not work well

DNS maps IP addresses to human readable names.

DNS: a distributed, hierarchical database

Root DNS Servers

...   ...

com DNS servers   org DNS servers   edu DNS servers

yahoo.com
DNS servers   amazon.com
DNS servers   pbs.org
DNS servers   poly.edu
DNS servers   umass.edu
DNS servers
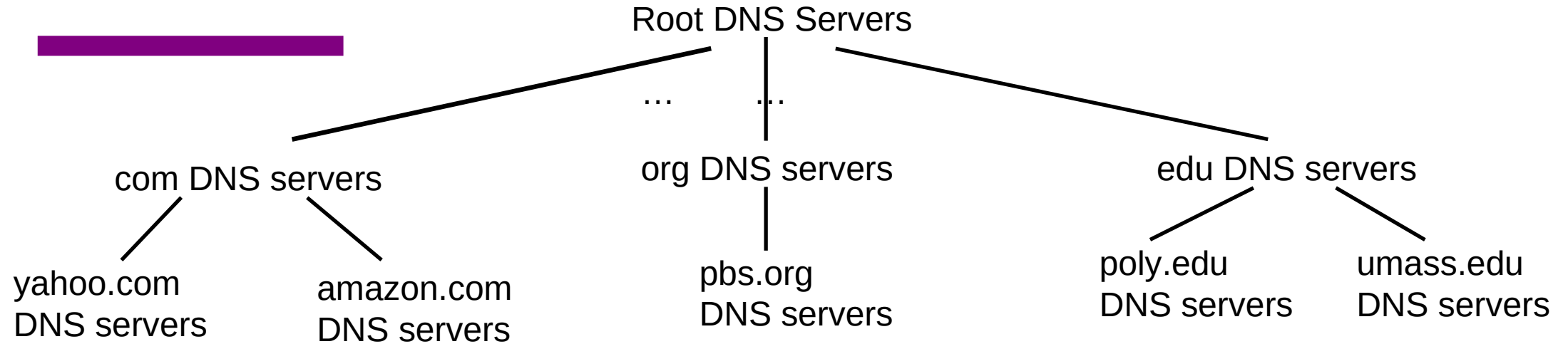
client wants IP for www.amazon.com;

1)client queries root server to find com DNS server

2)client queries .com DNS server to get amazon.com DNS server

3)client queries amazon.com DNS server to get IP address for
    www.amazon.com

DNS: root name servers

- contacted by local name server that can not resolve name
- root name server:
  - contacts authoritative name server if name mapping not known
  - gets mapping
  - returns mapping to local name server

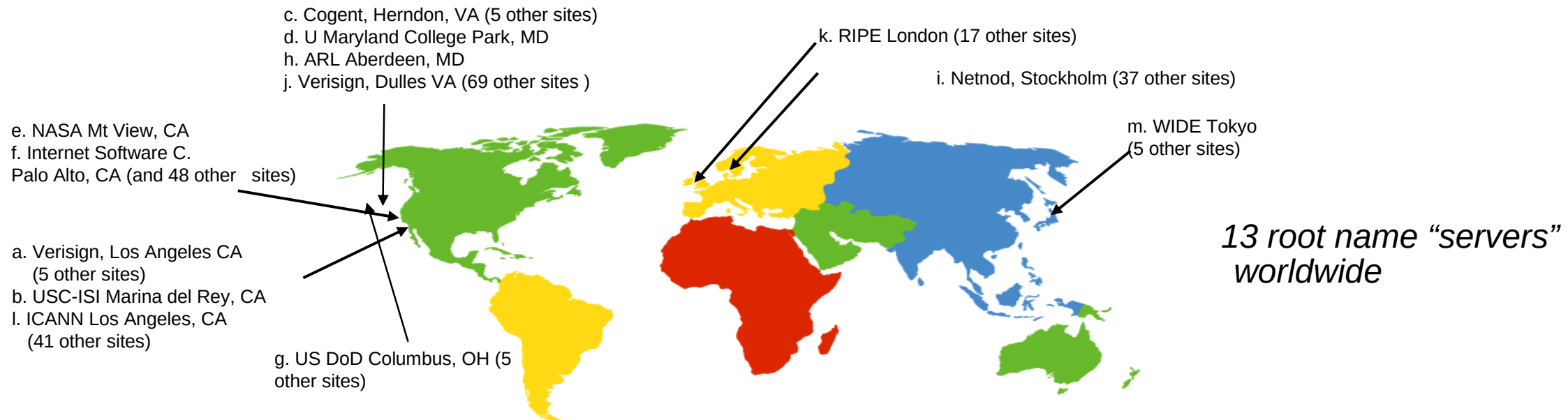c. Cogent, Herndon, VA (5 other sites)
d. U Maryland College Park, MD
h. ARL Aberdeen, MD
j. Verisign, Dulles VA (69 other sites)

k. RIPE London (17 other sites)

i. Netnod, Stockholm (37 other sites)

e. NASA Mt View, CA
f. Internet Software C.
Palo Alto, CA (and 48 other   sites)

m. WIDE Tokyo
(5 other sites)

a. Verisign, Los Angeles CA
   (5 other sites)
b. USC-ISI Marina del Rey, CA
l. ICANN Los Angeles, CA
   (41 other sites)

g. US DoD Columbus, OH (5 other sites)

13 root name "servers" worldwide

TLD, authoritative servers

top-level domain (TLD) servers:

- – responsible for com, org, net, edu, aero, jobs, museums, and all top-level country domains, e.g.: uk, fr, ca, jp
- – Network Solutions maintains servers for .com TLD
- – Educause for .edu TLD

authoritative DNS servers:

- – organization's own DNS server(s), providing authoritative hostname to IP mappings for organization's named hosts
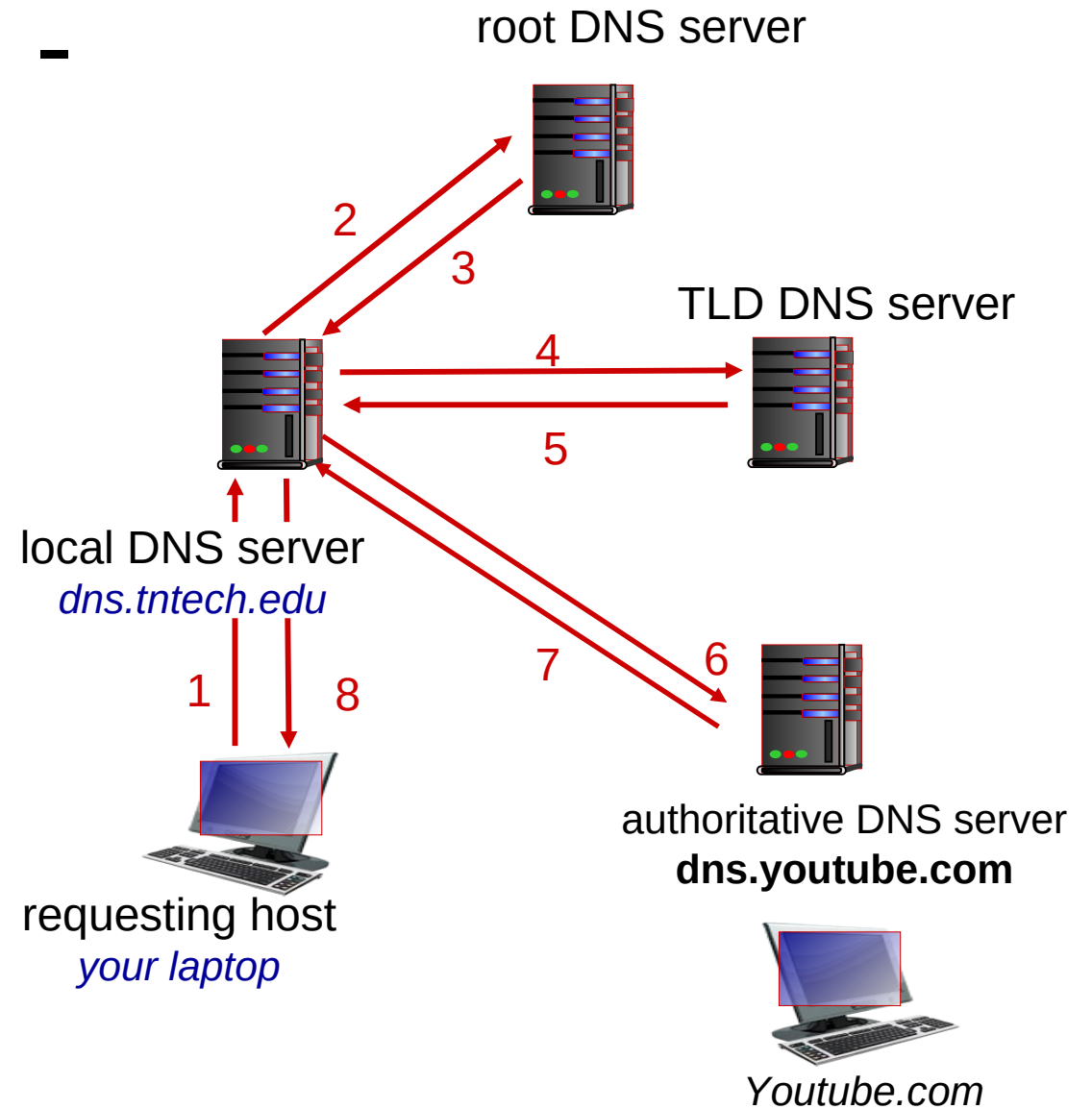- – can be maintained by organization or service provider

Local DNS name server

- does not strictly belong to hierarchy
- each ISP (residential ISP, company, university) has one
  - also called "default name server"
- when host makes DNS query, query is sent to its local DNS server
  - Served from cache
  - Looked up
  - Attack?

DNS name resolution example - <u>Iterative</u>

- host at tntech.edu wants IP address for youtube.com

iterated query:

- contacted server replies with name of server to contact
- "I don't know this name, but ask this server"

root DNS server

2
3

TLD DNS server

4
5

local DNS server
dns.tntech.edu

7   6

1   8

authoritative DNS server
dns.youtube.com

requesting host
your laptop

Youtube.com

DNS name resolution example- Recursive

recursive query:

- puts burden of name resolution on contacted name server
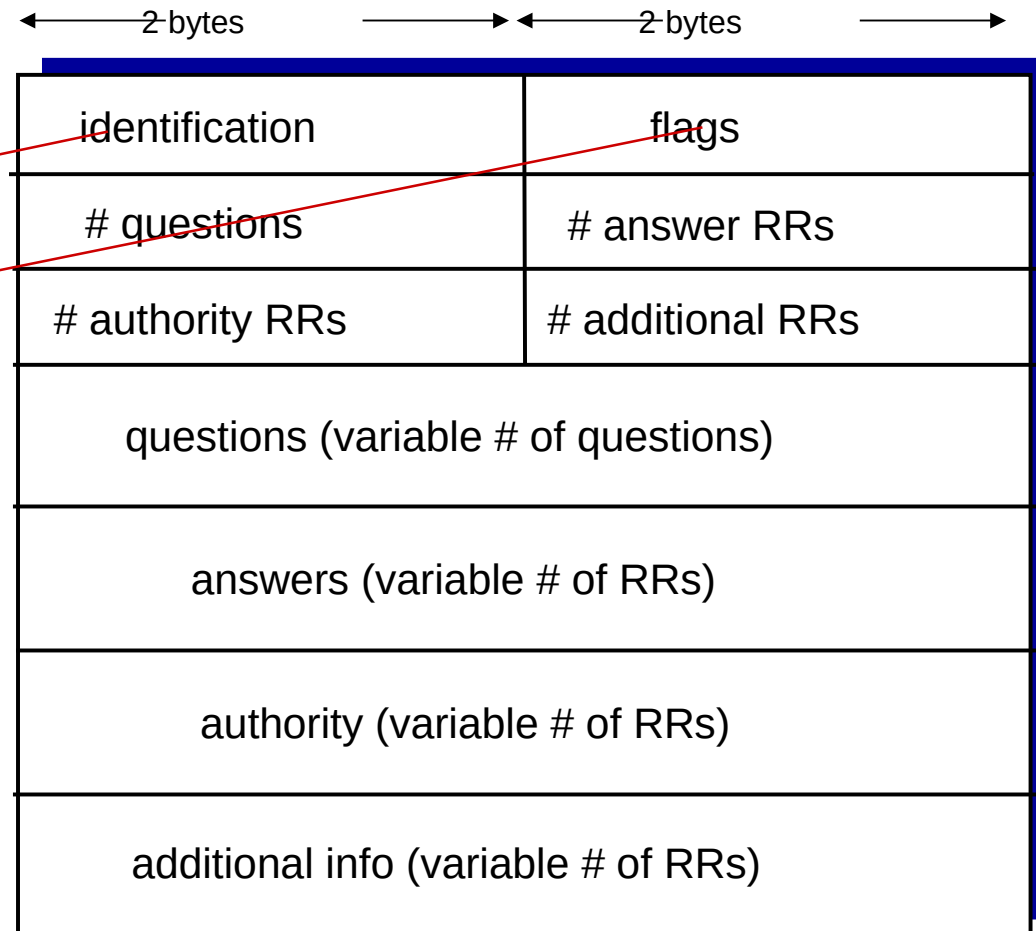
- heavy load at upper levels of hierarchy?

root DNS server

2

7

3

6

local DNS server
dns.poly.edu

TLD DNS server

1

8

5

4

requesting host
cis.poly.edu

authoritative DNS server
dns.cs.umass.edu

gaia.cs.umass.edu
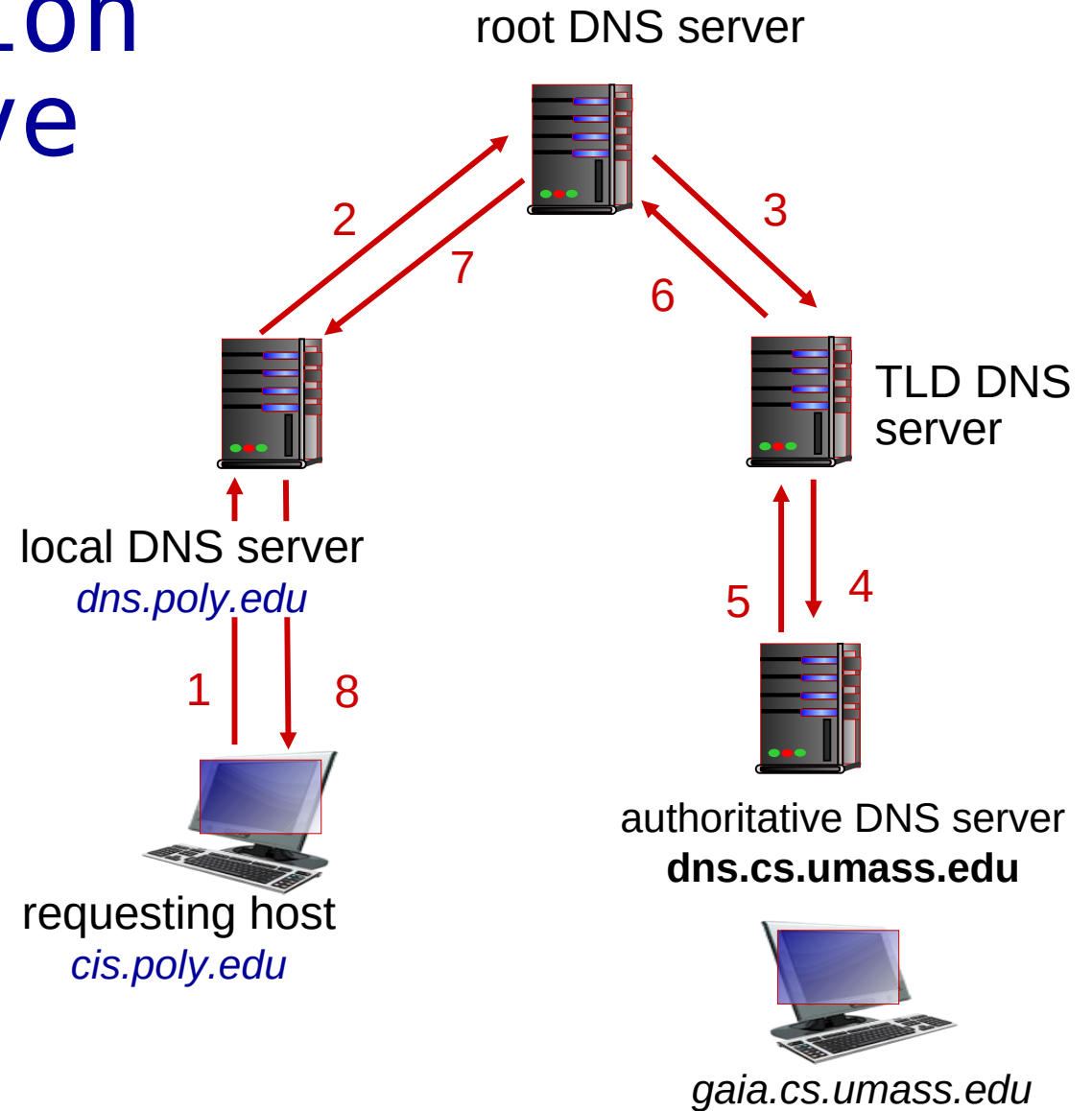
DNS protocol, messages

- *query* and *reply* messages, both with same *message format*

`msg header`

- `identification:` 16 bit # for query, reply to query uses same #

- `flags:`
  - query or reply
  - recursion desired
  - recursion available
  - reply is authoritative

2 bytes	2 bytes
identification	flags
# questions	# answer RRs
# authority RRs	# additional RRs
questions (variable # of questions)	
answers (variable # of RRs)	
authority (variable # of RRs)	
additional info (variable # of RRs)	

Inserting records into DNS

example: new startup "tornadogurard"

- register name tornadoguard.com at *DNS registrar* (godaddy, gandi.net)
  - Tell them the IP of your local DNS server and name
  - registrar inserts two RRs into .com TLD server

Attacking DNS

DDoS attacks

- Bombard root servers with traffic
  - Not successful to date
  - Traffic Filtering
  - Local DNS servers cache IPs of TLD servers, allowing root server bypass
- Bombard TLD servers
  - Potentially more dangerous

Redirect attacks

- Man-in-middle
  - Intercept queries
- DNS poisoning
  - Send bogus relies to DNS server, which caches

Exploit DNS for DDoS

- Send queries with spoofed source address: target IP
- Requires amplification