



College of Information Studies

University of Maryland Hornbake Library Building College Park, MD 20742-4345

TCP

Session 9

INST 346

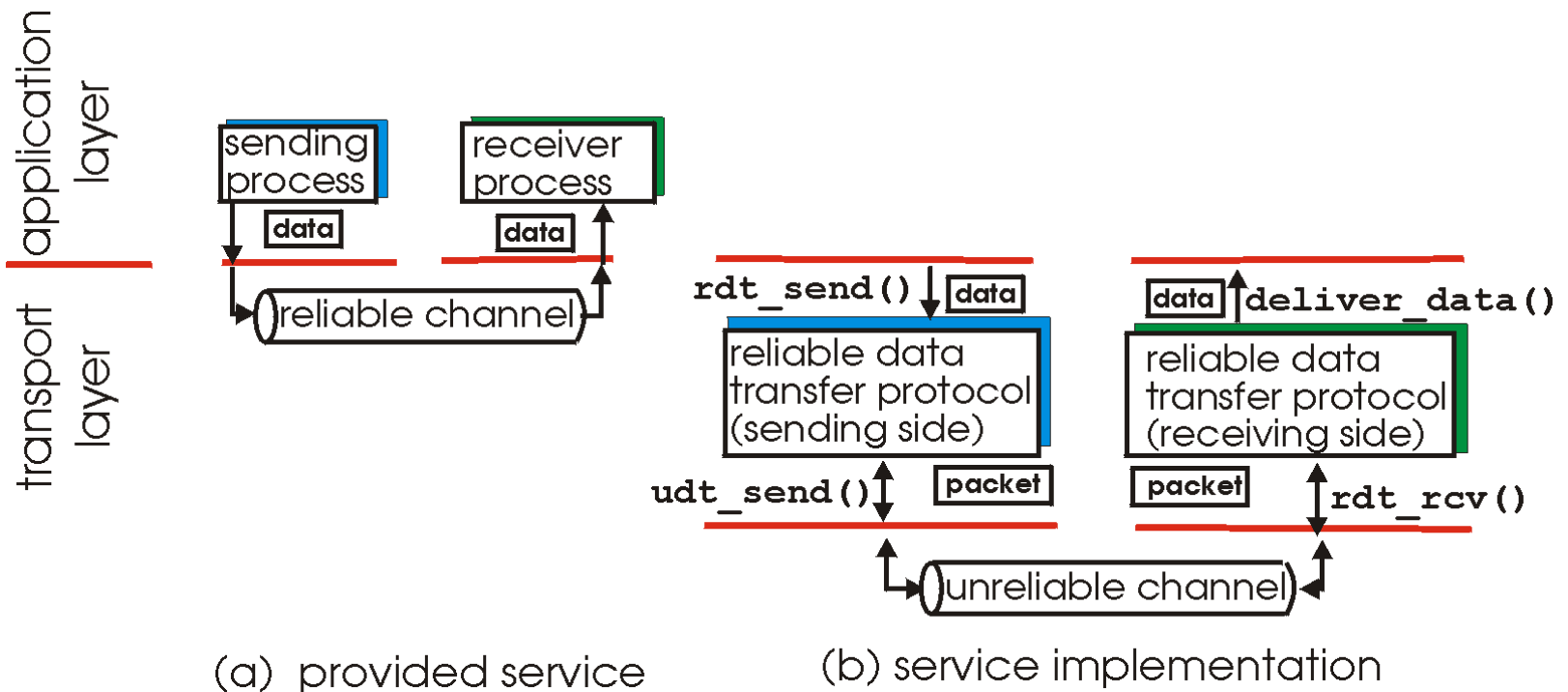
Technologies, Infrastructure and Architecture

Goals for Today

- Remarks on H2
- TCP Part 2

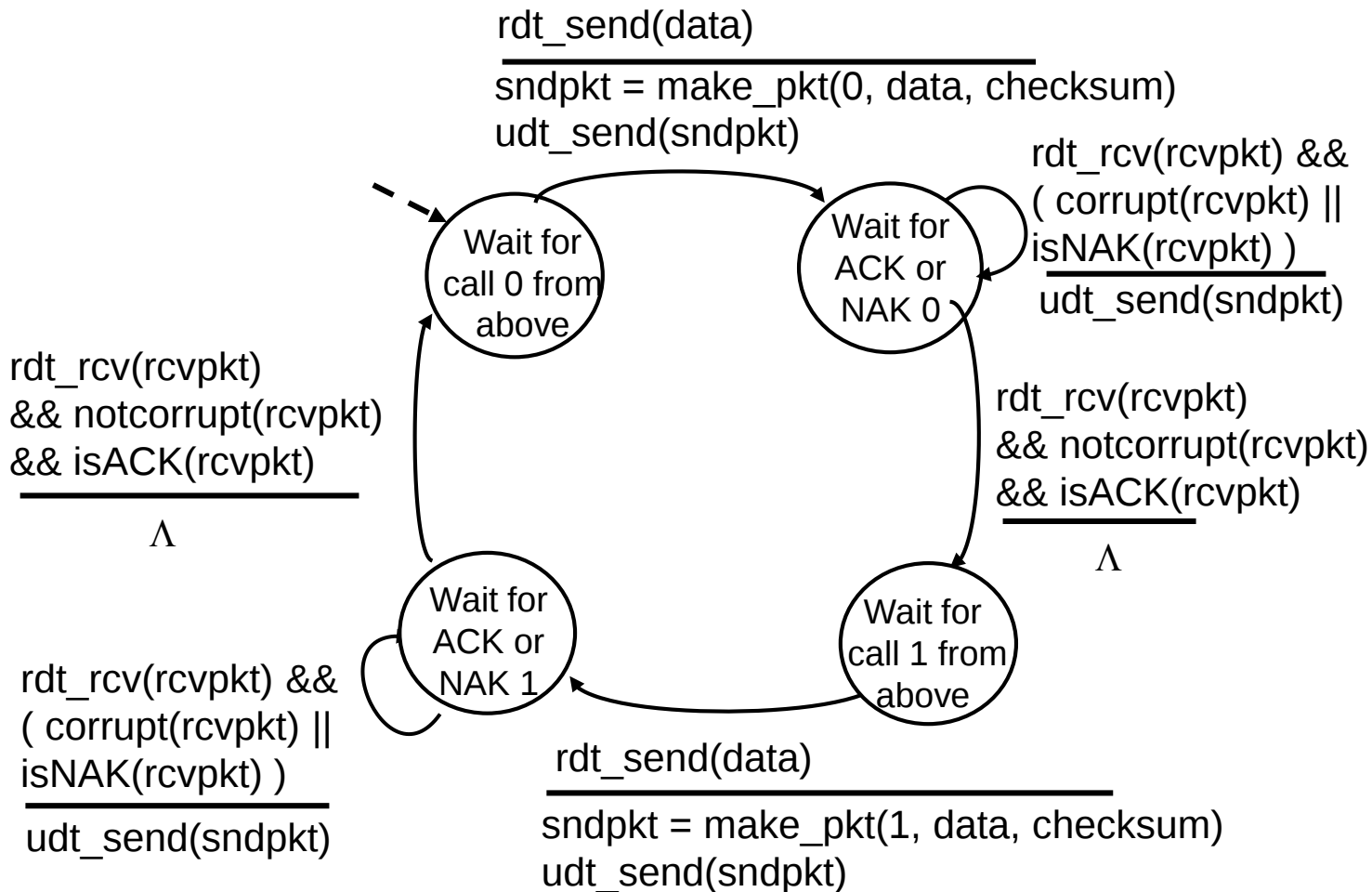
Principles of reliable data transfer

- important in application, transport, link layers
 - top-10 list of important networking topics!

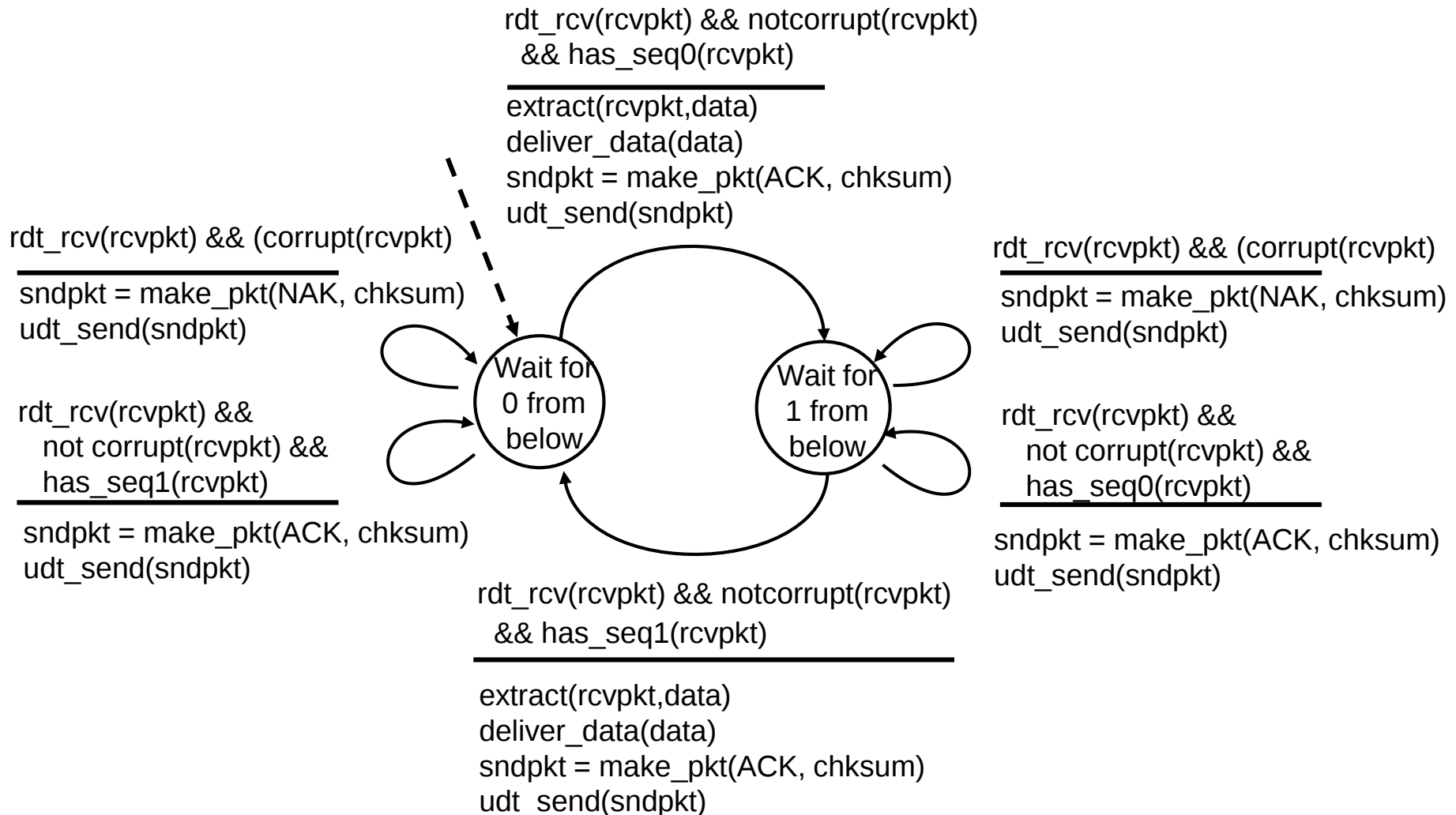


- characteristics of unreliable channel will determine complexity of reliable data transfer protocol (rdt)

rdt2.1: sender, handles garbled ACK/NAKs



rdt2.1: receiver, handles garbled ACK/NAKs



rdt2.1: discussion

sender:

- seq # added to pkt
- two seq. #'s (0,1) will suffice. Why?
- must check if received ACK/NAK corrupted
- twice as many states
 - state must “remember” whether “expected” pkt should have seq # of 0 or 1

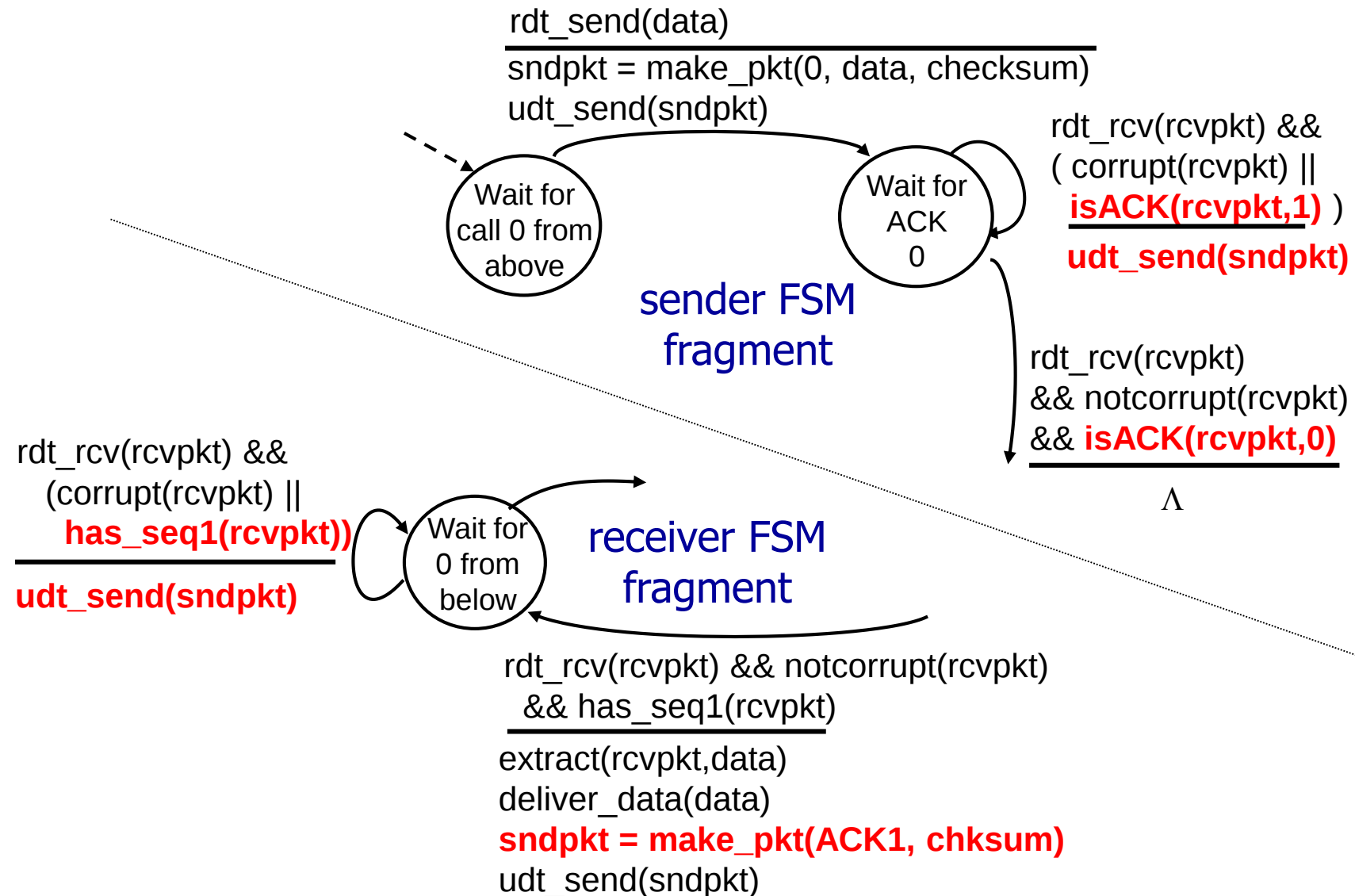
receiver:

- must check if received packet is duplicate
 - state indicates whether 0 or 1 is expected pkt seq #
- note: receiver can *not* know if its last ACK/NAK received OK at sender

rdt2.2: a NAK-free protocol

- same functionality as rdt2.1, using ACKs only
- instead of NAK, receiver sends ACK for last pkt received OK
 - receiver must *explicitly* include seq # of pkt being ACKed
- duplicate ACK at sender results in same action as NAK: *retransmit current pkt*

rdt2.2: sender, receiver fragments



rdt3.0: channels with errors *and* loss

new assumption:

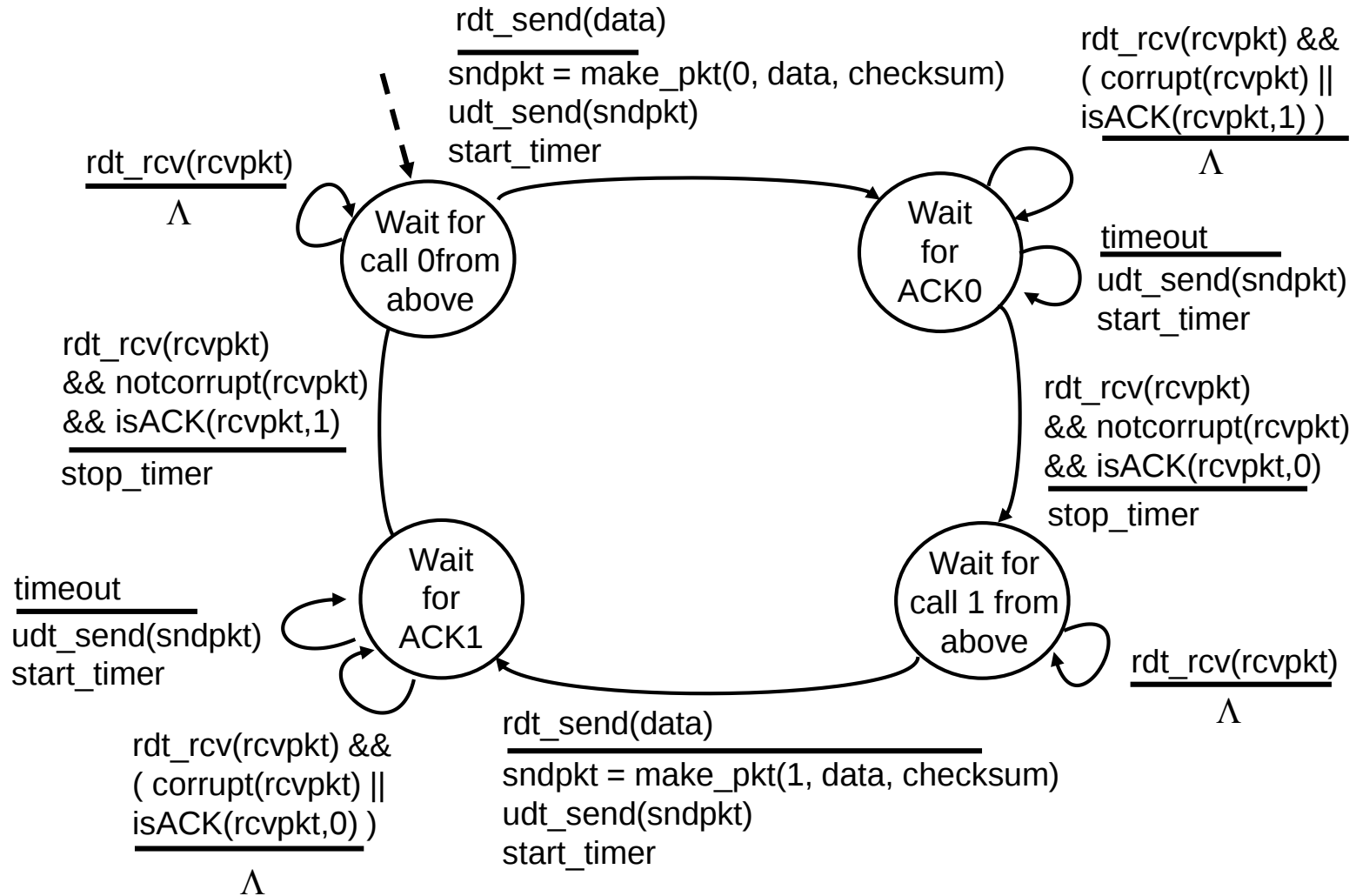
underlying channel can also lose packets (data, ACKs)

- checksum, seq. #, ACKs, retransmissions will be of help ... but not enough

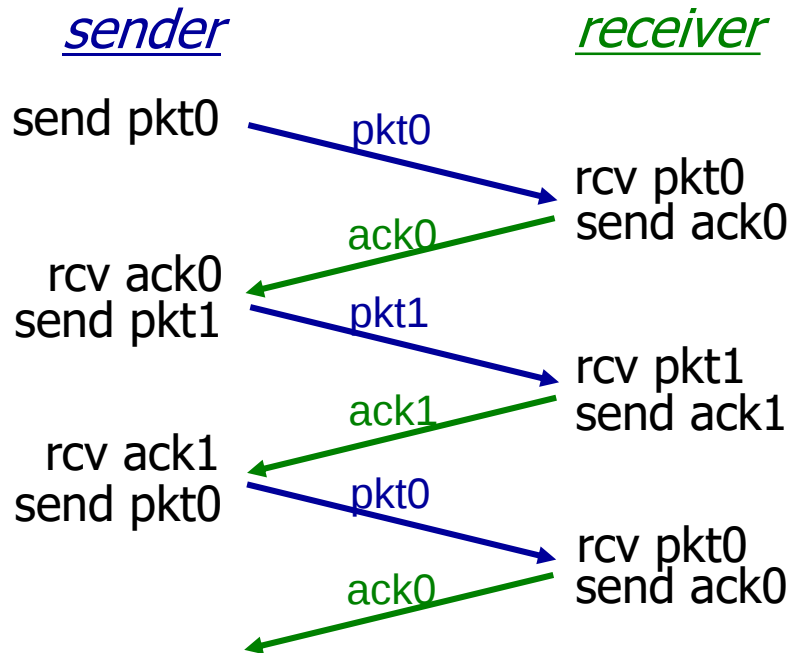
approach: sender waits “reasonable” amount of time for ACK

- retransmits if no ACK received in this time
- if pkt (or ACK) just delayed (not lost):
 - retransmission will be duplicate, but seq. #'s already handles this
 - receiver must specify seq # of pkt being ACKed
- requires countdown timer

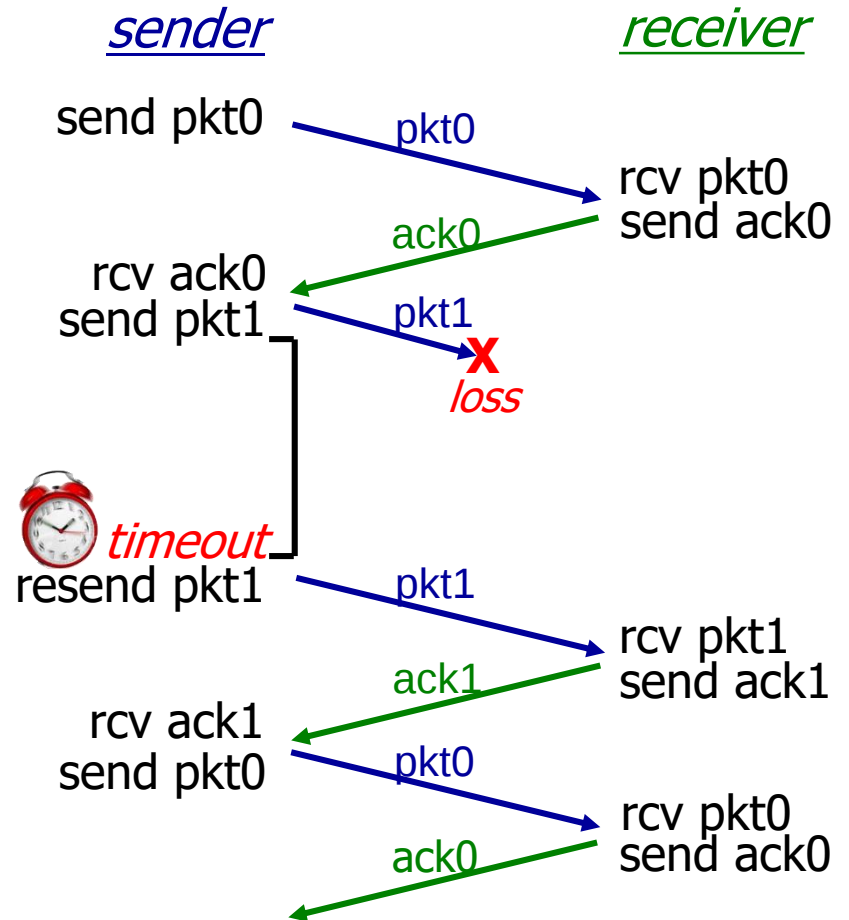
rdt3.0 sender



rdt3.0 in action

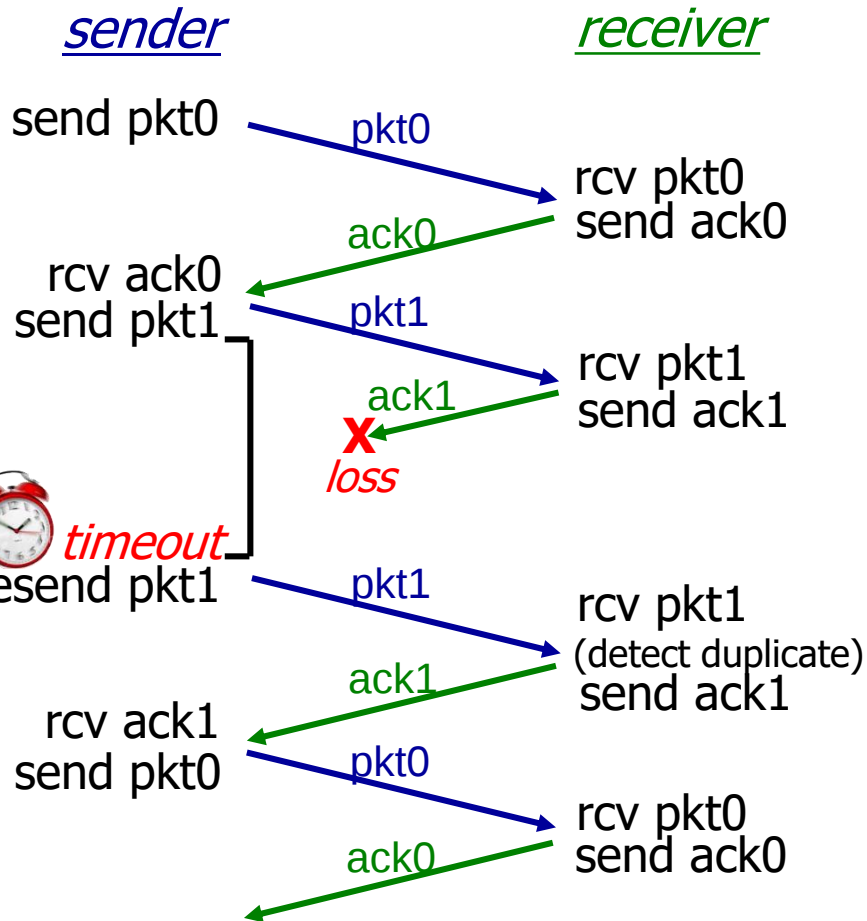


(a) no loss

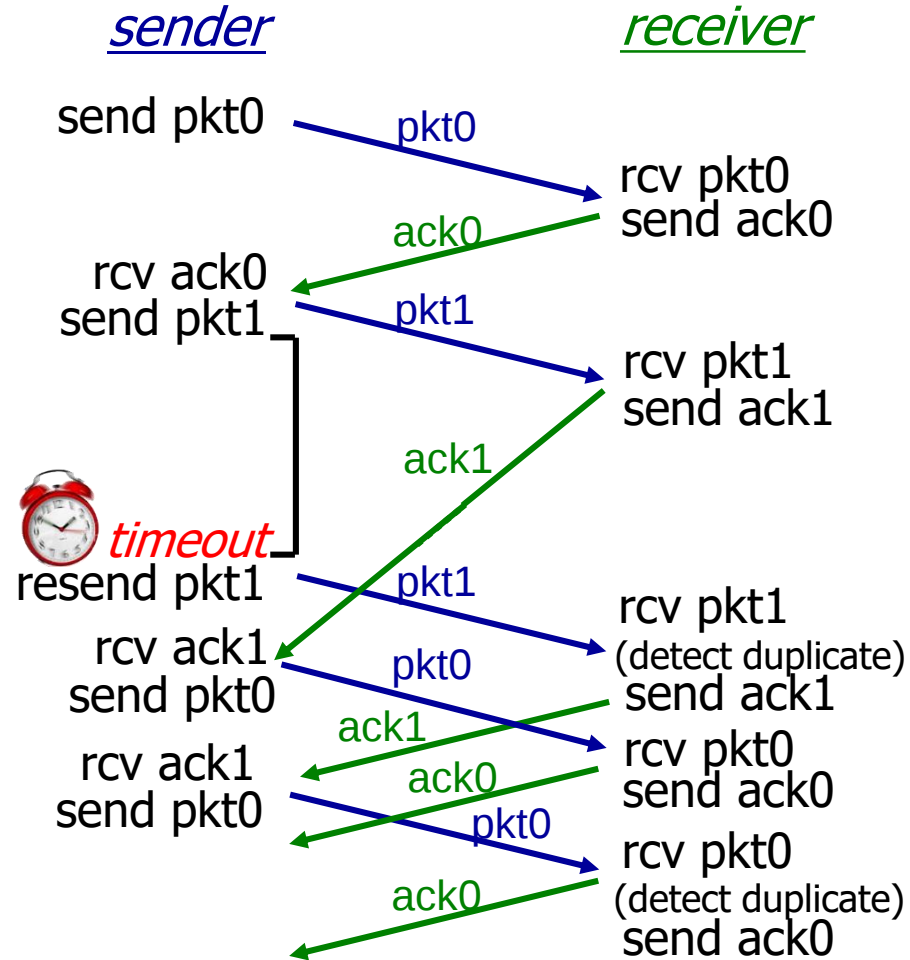


(b) packet loss

rdt3.0 in action



(c) ACK loss

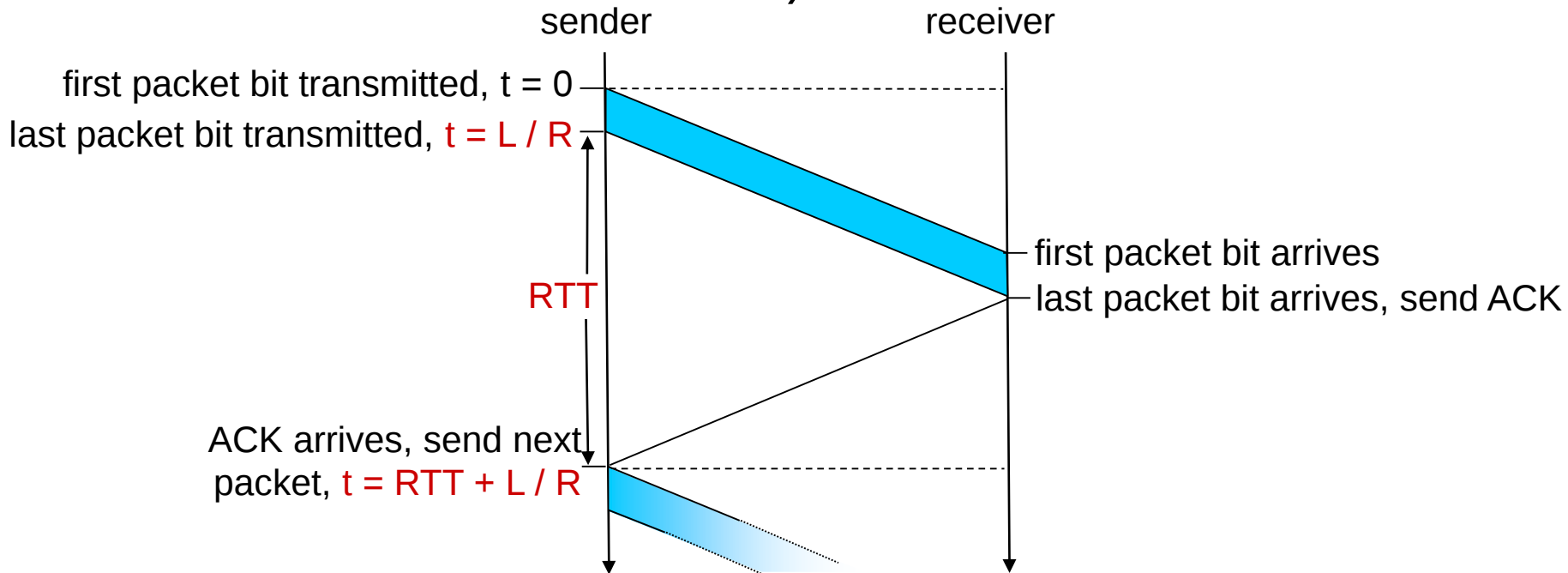


(d) premature timeout/ delayed ACK

Performance of rdt3.0

- rdt3.0 is correct, but way too slow to use in practice
- e.g.: 1 Gbps link, 15 ms prop. delay, 8000 bit packet:

$$D_{trans} = \frac{L}{R} = \frac{8000 \text{ bits}}{10^9 \text{ bits/sec}} = 8 \text{ microseconds}$$

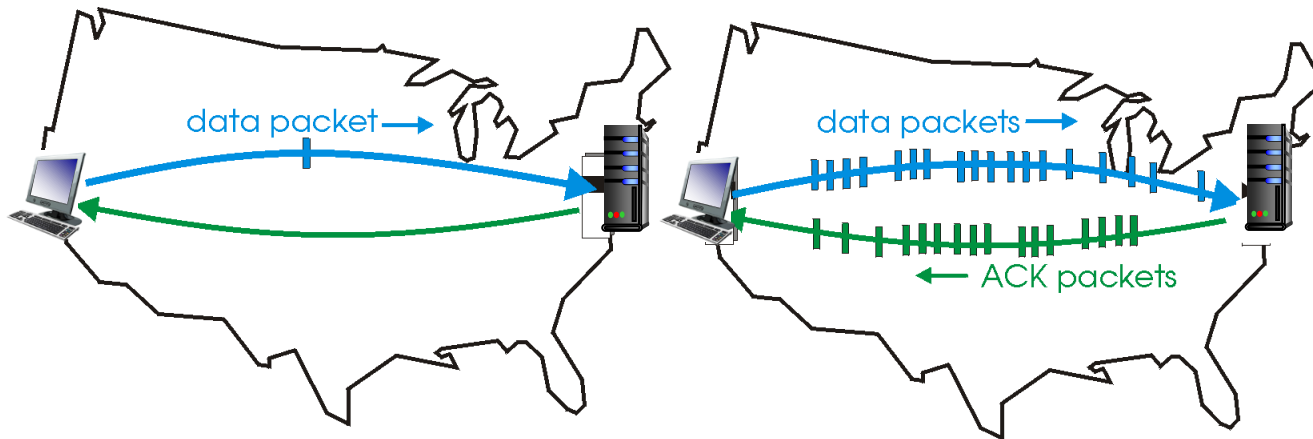


$$U_{sender} = \frac{L/R}{RTT + L/R} = \frac{.008}{30.008} = 0.00027$$

Pipelined protocols

pipelining: sender allows multiple, “in-flight”, yet-to-be-acknowledged pkts

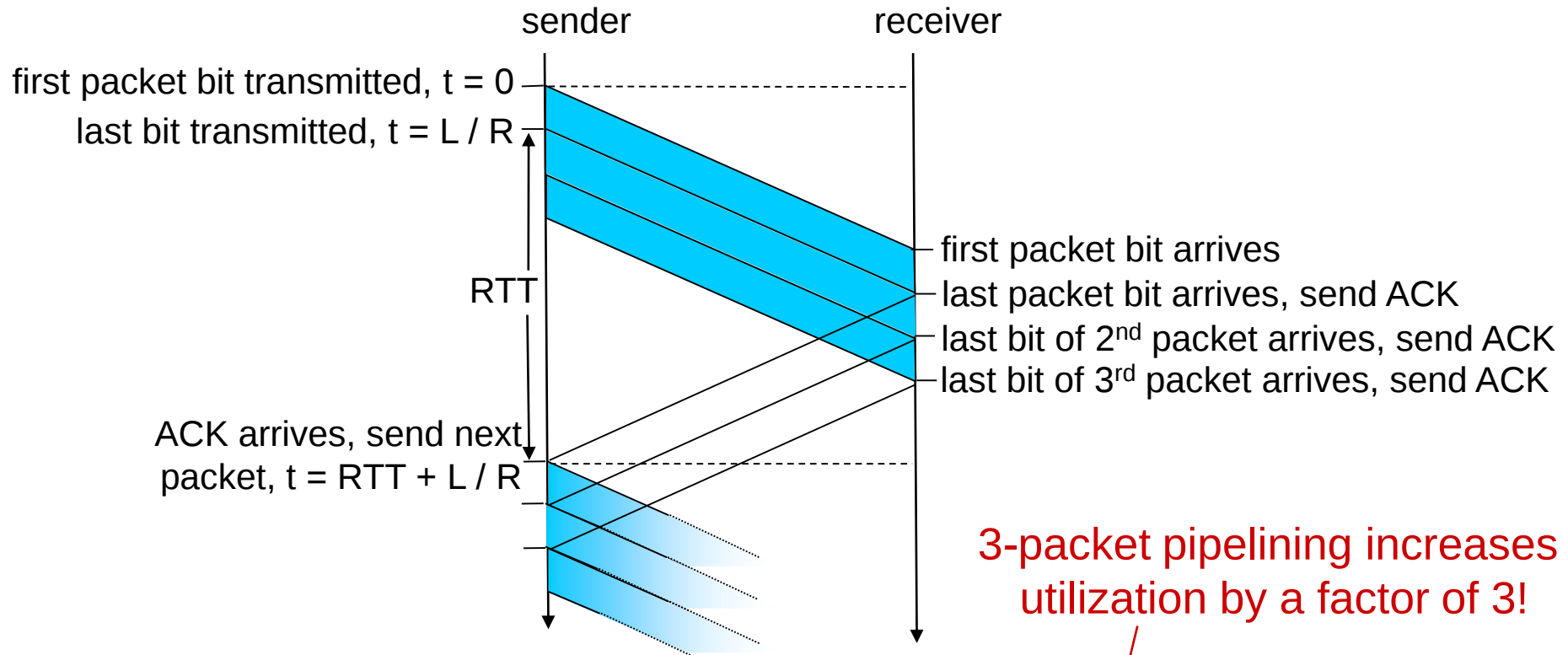
- range of sequence numbers must be increased
- buffering at sender and/or receiver



(a) a stop-and-wait protocol in operation

(b) a pipelined protocol in operation

Pipelining: increased utilization



3-packet pipelining increases utilization by a factor of 3!

$$U_{\text{sender}} = \frac{3L / R}{RTT + L / R} = \frac{.0024}{30.008} = 0.00081$$

Pipelined protocols: overview

Go-back-N:

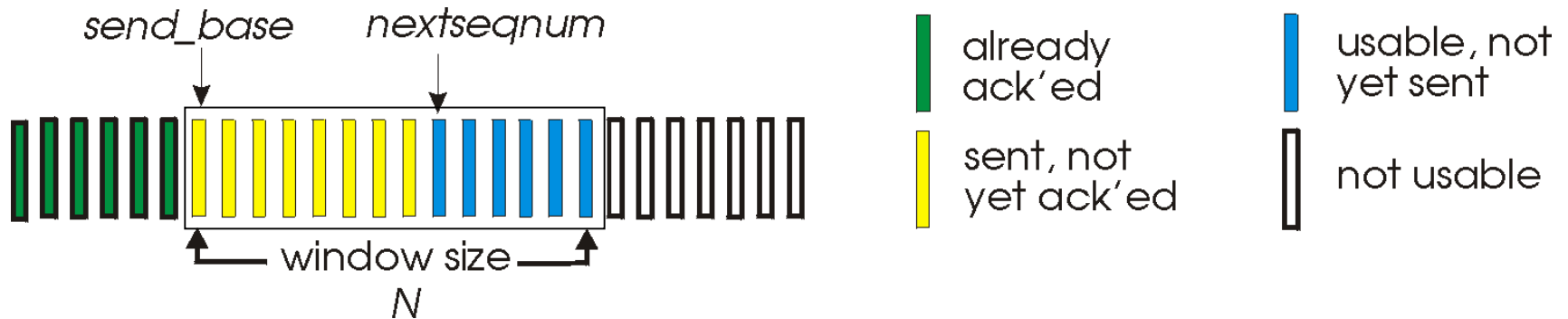
- sender can have up to N unacked packets in pipeline
- receiver only sends *cumulative ack*
 - doesn't ack packet if there's a gap
- sender has timer for oldest unacked packet
 - when timer expires, retransmit *all* unacked packets

Selective Repeat:

- sender can have up to N unack'ed packets in pipeline
- rcvr sends *individual ack* for each packet
- sender maintains timer for each unacked packet
 - when timer expires, retransmit only that unacked packet

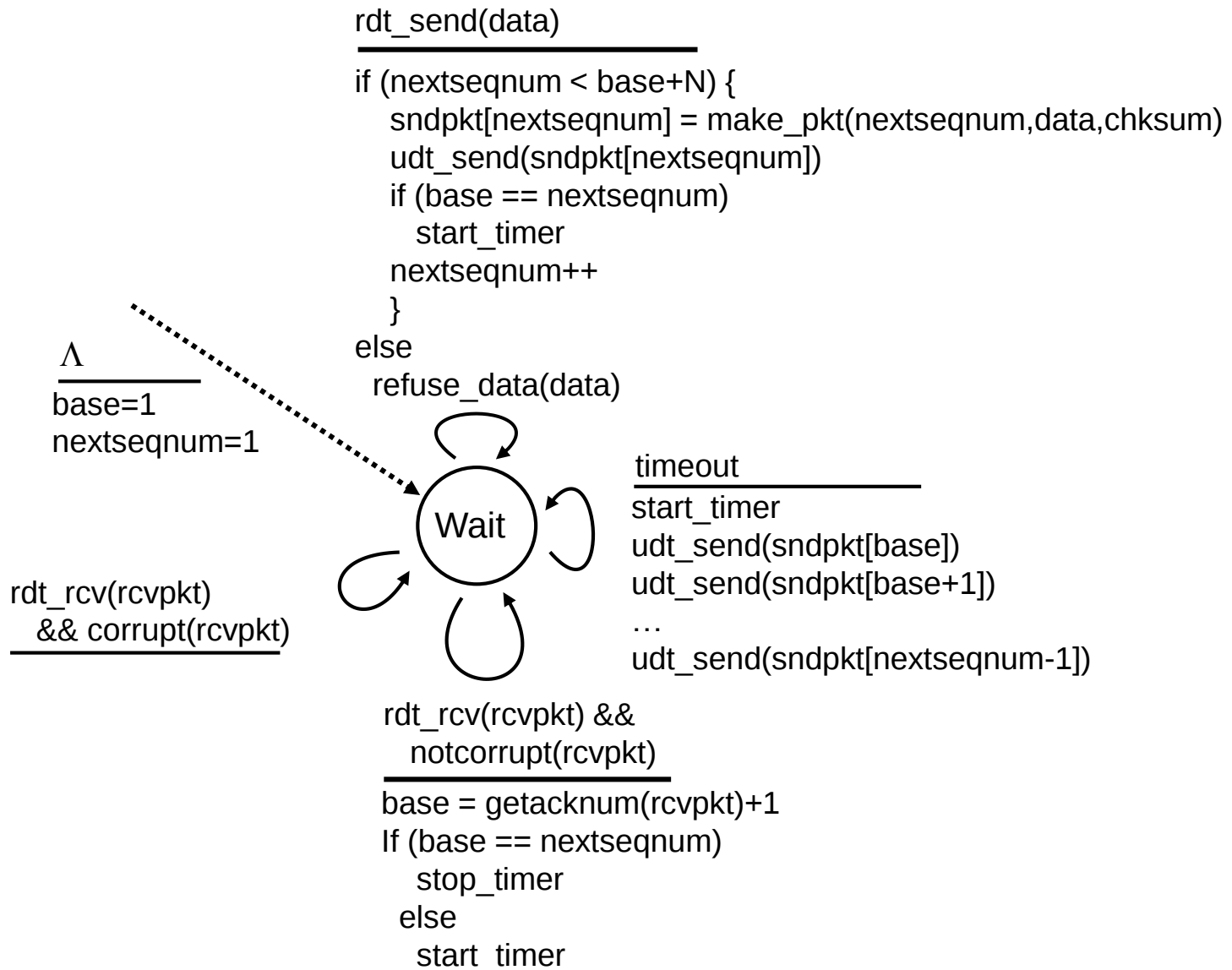
Go-Back-N: sender

- k-bit seq # in pkt header
- “window” of up to N, consecutive unack’ed pkts allowed

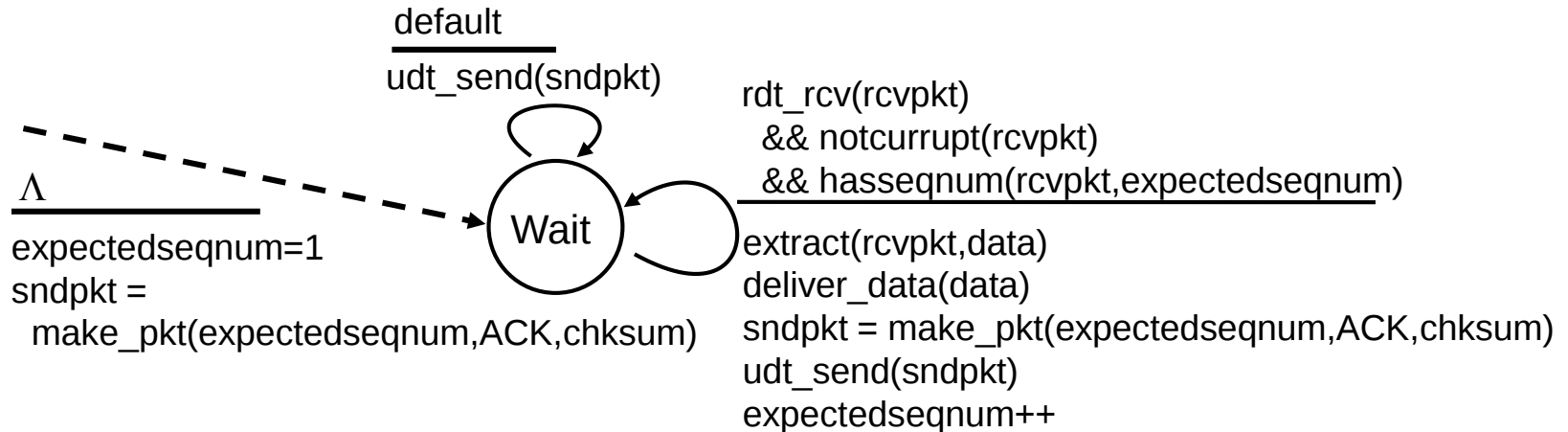


- ACK(n): ACKs all pkts up to, including seq # n - “*cumulative ACK*”
 - may receive duplicate ACKs (see receiver)
- timer for oldest in-flight pkt
- *timeout(n)*: retransmit packet n and all higher seq # pkts in window

GBN: sender extended FSM



GBN: receiver extended FSM



ACK-only: always send ACK for correctly-received pkt with highest *in-order* seq #

- may generate duplicate ACKs
- need only remember **expectedseqnum**
- out-of-order pkt:
 - discard (don't buffer): *no receiver buffering!*
 - re-ACK pkt with highest in-order seq #

GBN in action

sender window (N=4)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

sender

send pkt0
send pkt1
send pkt2
send pkt3
(wait)

rcv ack0, send pkt4
rcv ack1, send pkt5

ignore duplicate ACK



pkt 2 timeout

send pkt2
send pkt3
send pkt4
send pkt5

receiver

receive pkt0, send ack0
receive pkt1, send ack1

receive pkt3, discard,
(re)send ack1

receive pkt4, discard,
(re)send ack1

receive pkt5, discard,
(re)send ack1

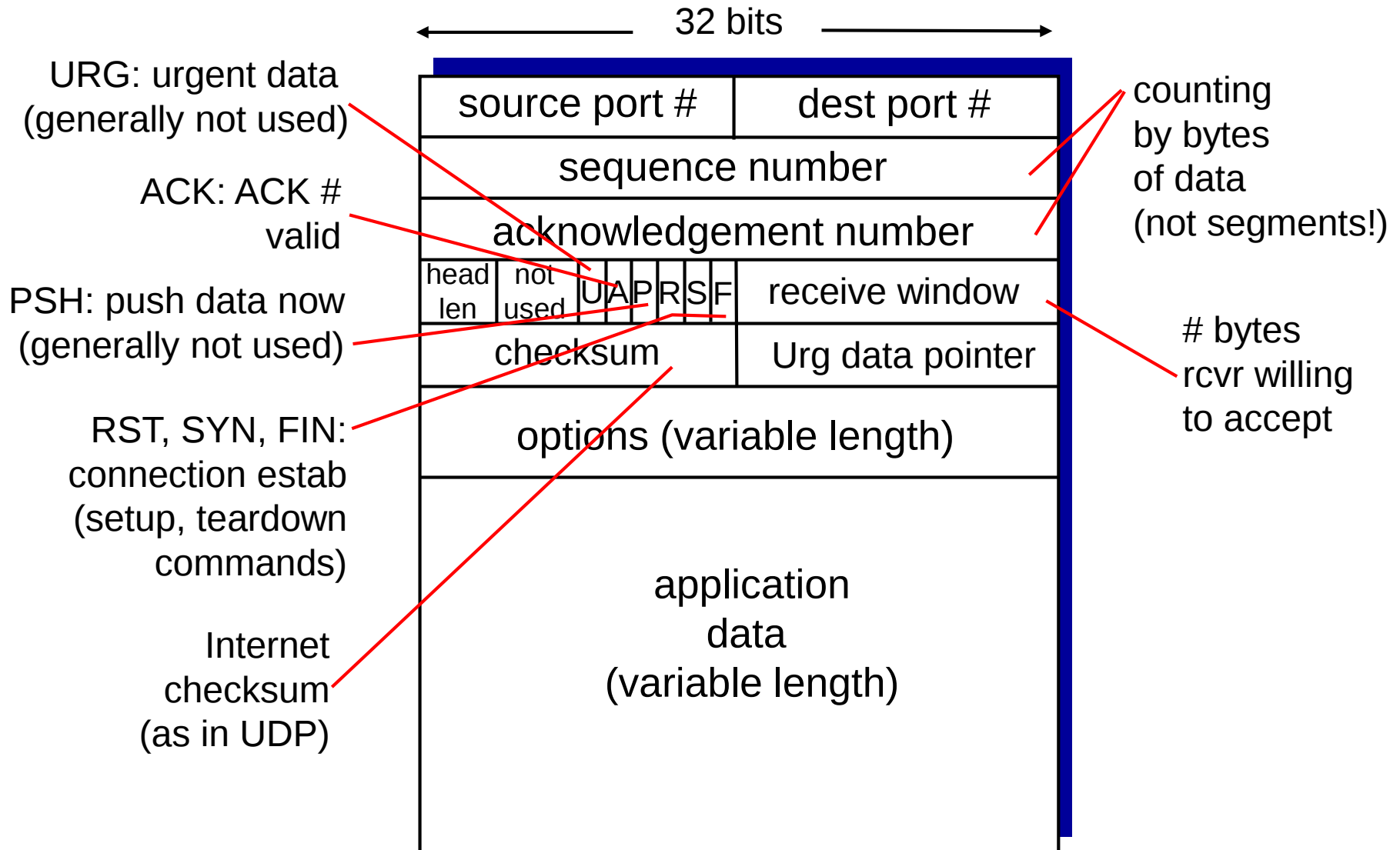
rcv pkt2, deliver, send ack2
rcv pkt3, deliver, send ack3
rcv pkt4, deliver, send ack4
rcv pkt5, deliver, send ack5

TCP: Overview

RFCs: 793, 1122, 1323, 2018, 2581

- **point-to-point:**
 - one sender, one receiver
- **reliable, in-order *byte stream*:**
 - no “message boundaries”
- **pipelined:**
 - TCP congestion and flow control set window size
- **full duplex data:**
 - bi-directional data flow in same connection
 - MSS: maximum segment size
- **connection-oriented:**
 - handshaking (exchange of control msgs) initializes sender, receiver state before data exchange
- **flow controlled:**
 - sender will not overwhelm receiver

TCP segment structure



TCP seq. numbers, ACKs

sequence numbers:

- byte stream “number” of first byte in segment’s data

acknowledgements:

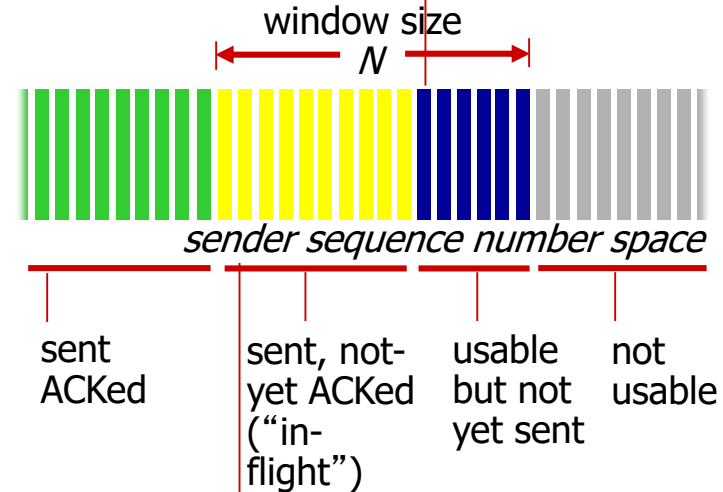
- seq # of next byte expected from other side
- cumulative ACK

Q: how receiver handles out-of-order segments

- **A:** TCP spec doesn’t say,
- up to implementor

outgoing segment from sender

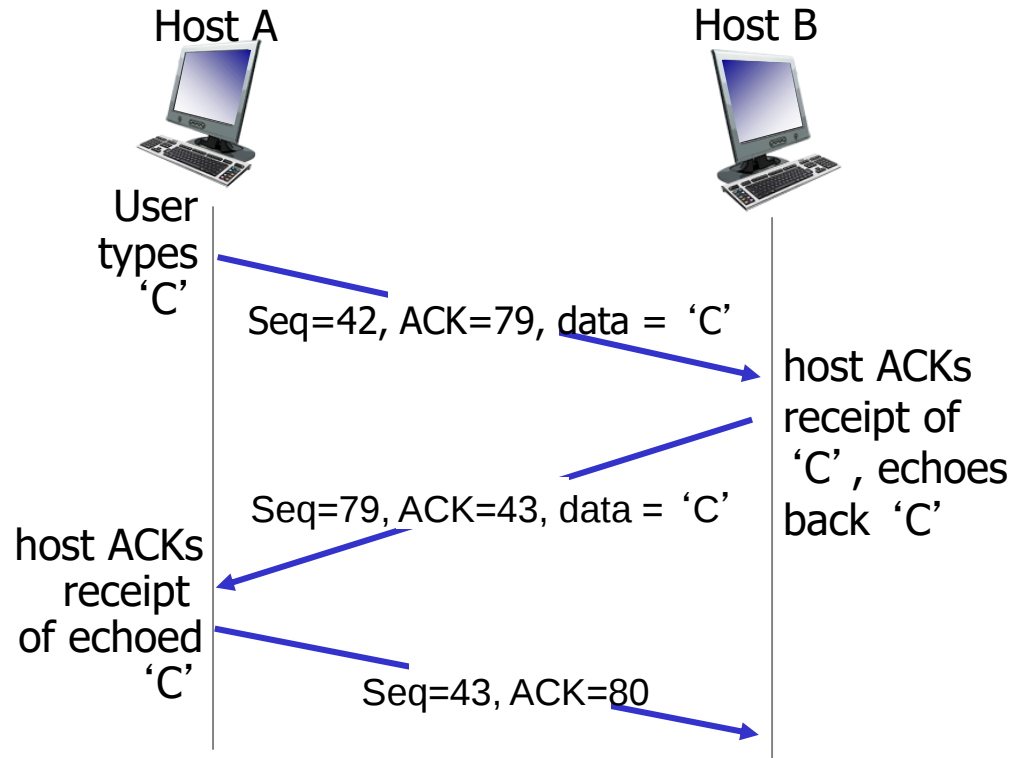
source port #	dest port #
sequence number	
acknowledgement number	
	rwnd
checksum	urg pointer



incoming segment to sender

source port #	dest port #
sequence number	
acknowledgement number	
	A
checksum	urg pointer

TCP seq. numbers, ACKs



simple telnet scenario

TCP round trip time, timeout

Q: how to set TCP timeout value?

- longer than RTT
 - but RTT varies
- *too short*: premature timeout, unnecessary retransmissions
- *too long*: slow reaction to segment loss

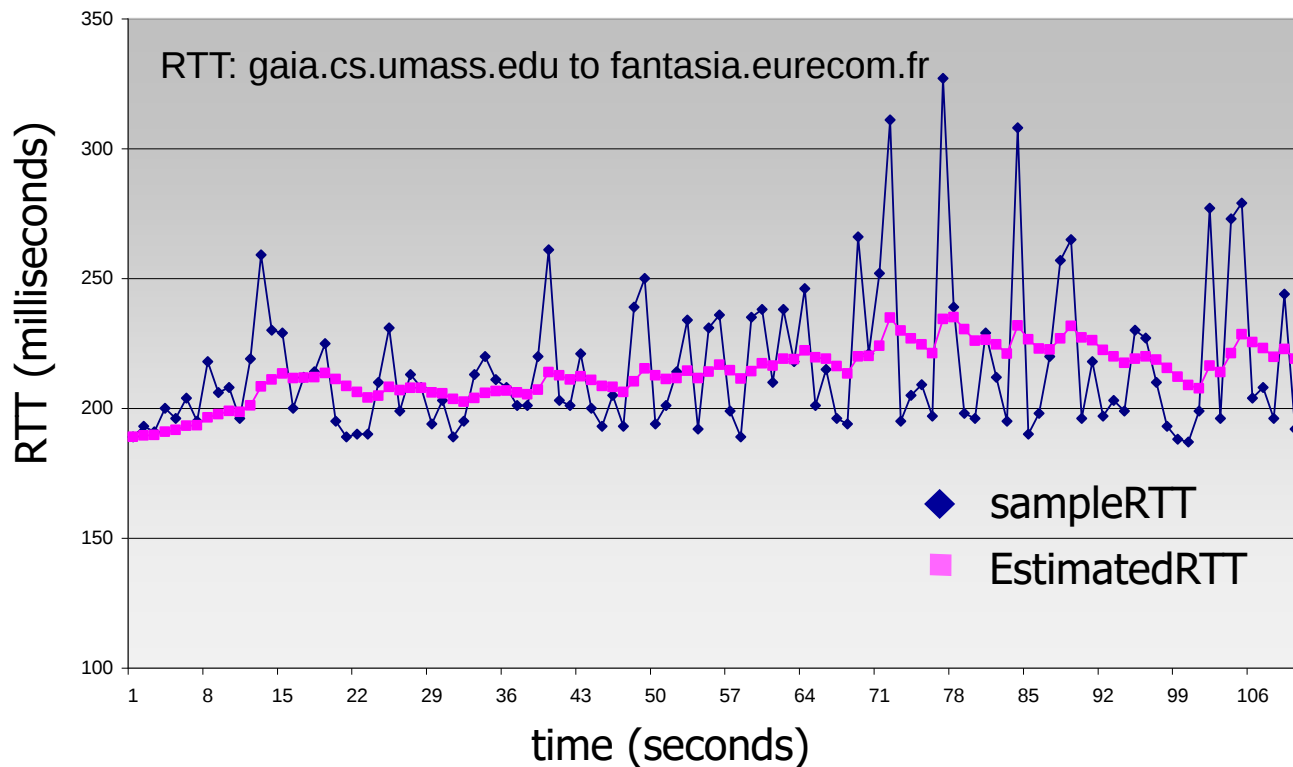
Q: how to estimate RTT?

- **SampleRTT**: measured time from segment transmission until ACK receipt
 - ignore retransmissions
- **SampleRTT** will vary, want estimated RTT “smoother”
 - average several *recent* measurements, not just current **SampleRTT**

TCP round trip time, timeout

$$\text{EstimatedRTT} = (1 - \alpha) * \text{EstimatedRTT} + \alpha * \text{SampleRTT}$$

- exponential weighted moving average
- influence of past sample decreases exponentially fast
- typical value: $\alpha = 0.125$



TCP round trip time, timeout

- **timeout interval:** **EstimatedRTT** plus “safety margin”
 - large variation in **EstimatedRTT** -> larger safety margin
- estimate SampleRTT deviation from EstimatedRTT:

$$\text{DevRTT} = (1-\beta) * \text{DevRTT} + \beta * |\text{SampleRTT} - \text{EstimatedRTT}|$$

(typically, $\beta = 0.25$)

$$\text{TimeoutInterval} = \text{EstimatedRTT} + 4 * \text{DevRTT}$$



↑
estimated RTT

↑
“safety margin”

TCP reliable data transfer

- TCP creates rdt service on top of IP's unreliable service
 - pipelined segments
 - cumulative acks
 - single retransmission timer
- retransmissions triggered by:
 - timeout events
 - duplicate acks

let's initially consider simplified TCP sender:

- ignore duplicate acks
- ignore flow control, congestion control

TCP sender events:

data rcvd from app:

- create segment with seq #
- seq # is byte-stream number of first data byte in segment
- start timer if not already running
 - think of timer as for oldest unacked segment
 - expiration interval: `TimeoutInterval`

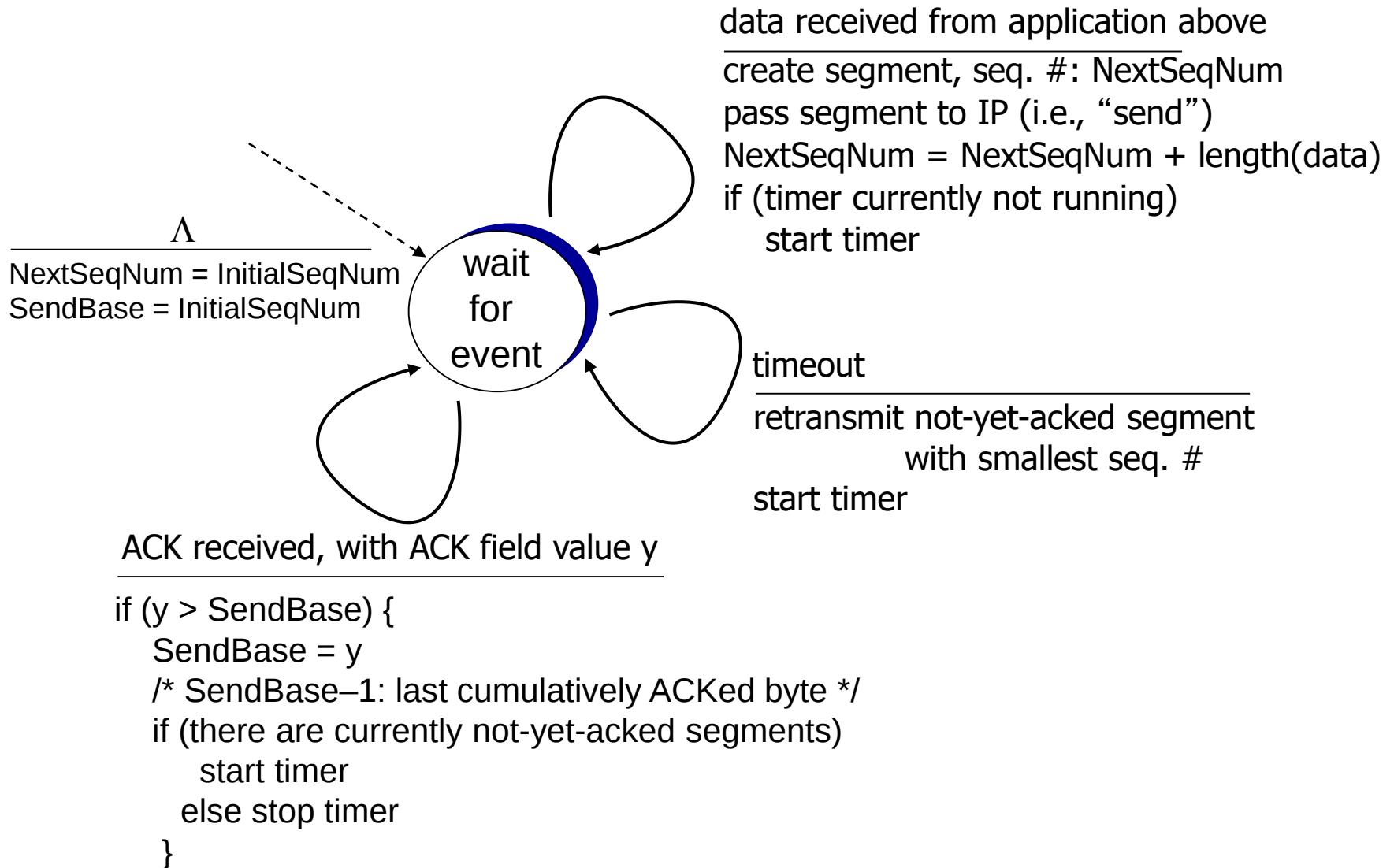
timeout:

- retransmit segment that caused timeout
- restart timer

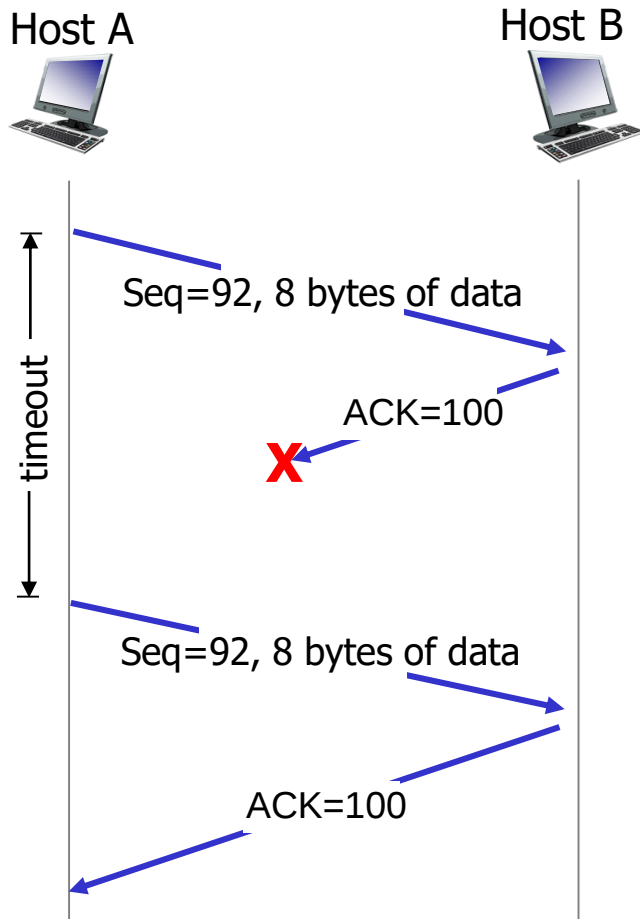
ack rcvd:

- if ack acknowledges previously unacked segments
 - update what is known to be ACKed
 - start timer if there are still unacked segments

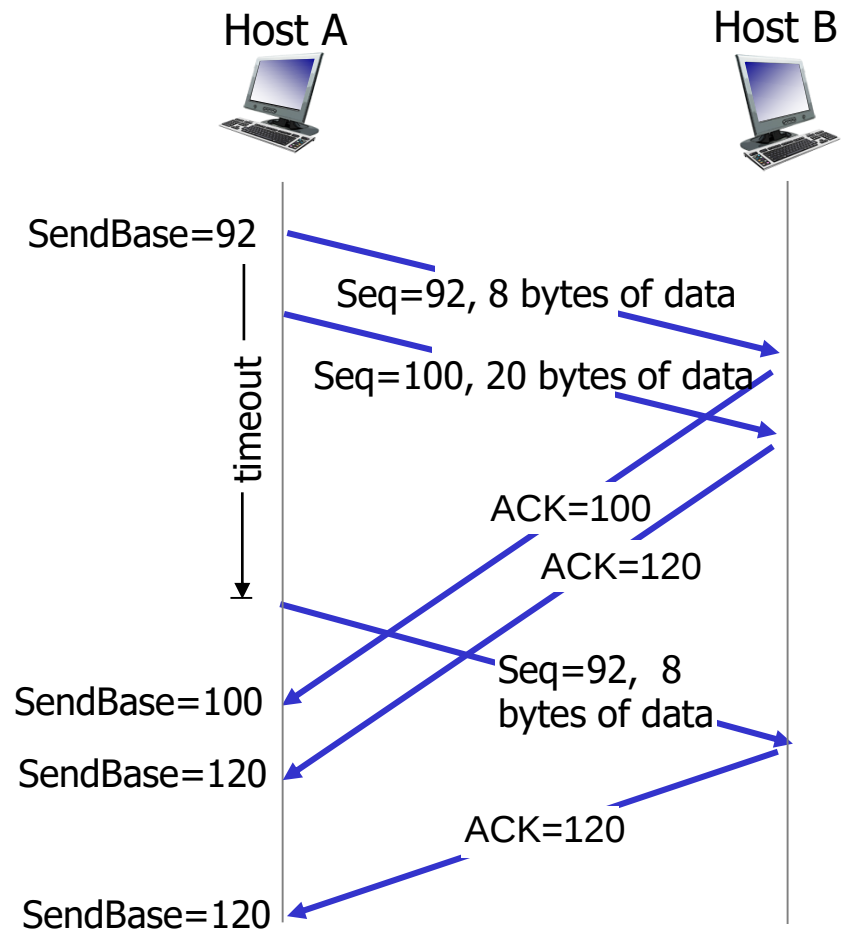
TCP sender (simplified)



TCP: retransmission scenarios

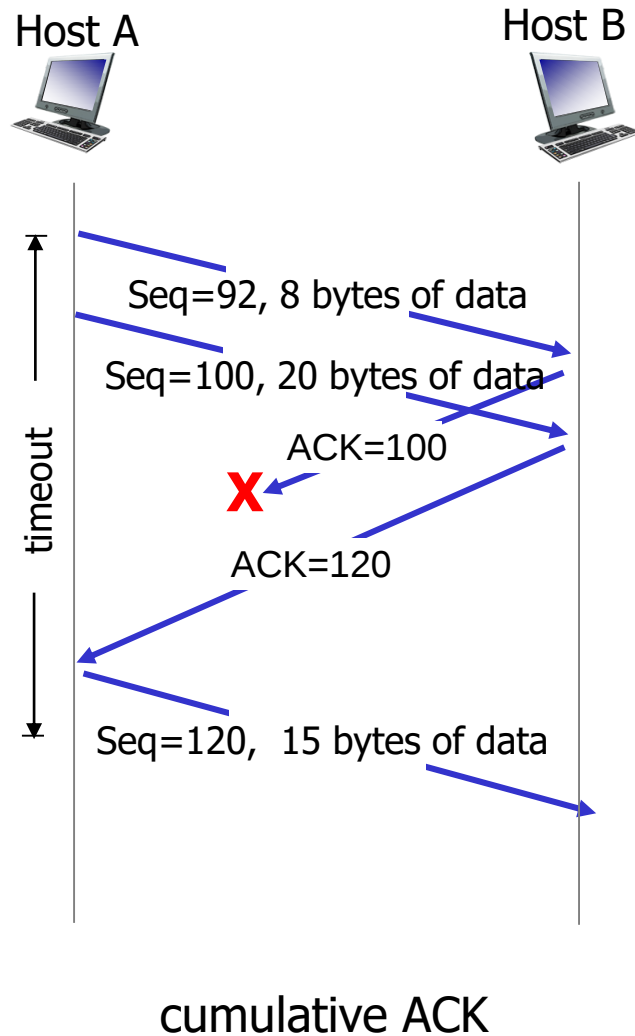


lost ACK scenario



premature timeout

TCP: retransmission scenarios



TCP ACK generation [RFC 1122, RFC 2581]

<i>event at receiver</i>	<i>TCP receiver action</i>
arrival of in-order segment with expected seq #. All data up to expected seq # already ACKed	delayed ACK. Wait up to 500ms for next segment. If no next segment, send ACK
arrival of in-order segment with expected seq #. One other segment has ACK pending	immediately send single cumulative ACK, ACKing both in-order segments
arrival of out-of-order segment higher-than-expect seq. # . Gap detected	immediately send <i>duplicate ACK</i> , indicating seq. # of next expected byte
arrival of segment that partially or completely fills gap	immediate send ACK, provided that segment starts at lower end of gap

TCP fast retransmit

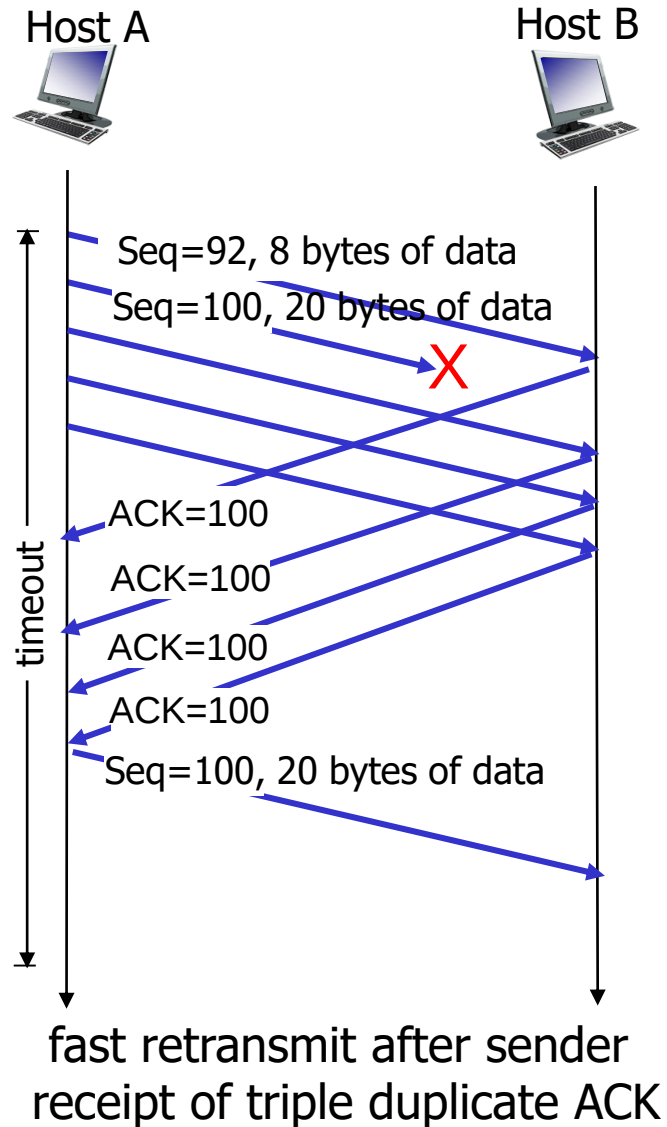
- time-out period often relatively long:
 - long delay before resending lost packet
- detect lost segments via duplicate ACKs.
 - sender often sends many segments back-to-back
 - if segment is lost, there will likely be many duplicate ACKs.

TCP fast retransmit

if sender receives 3 ACKs for same data (“triple duplicate ACKs”), resend unacked segment with smallest seq #

- likely that unacked segment lost, so don't wait for timeout

TCP fast retransmit

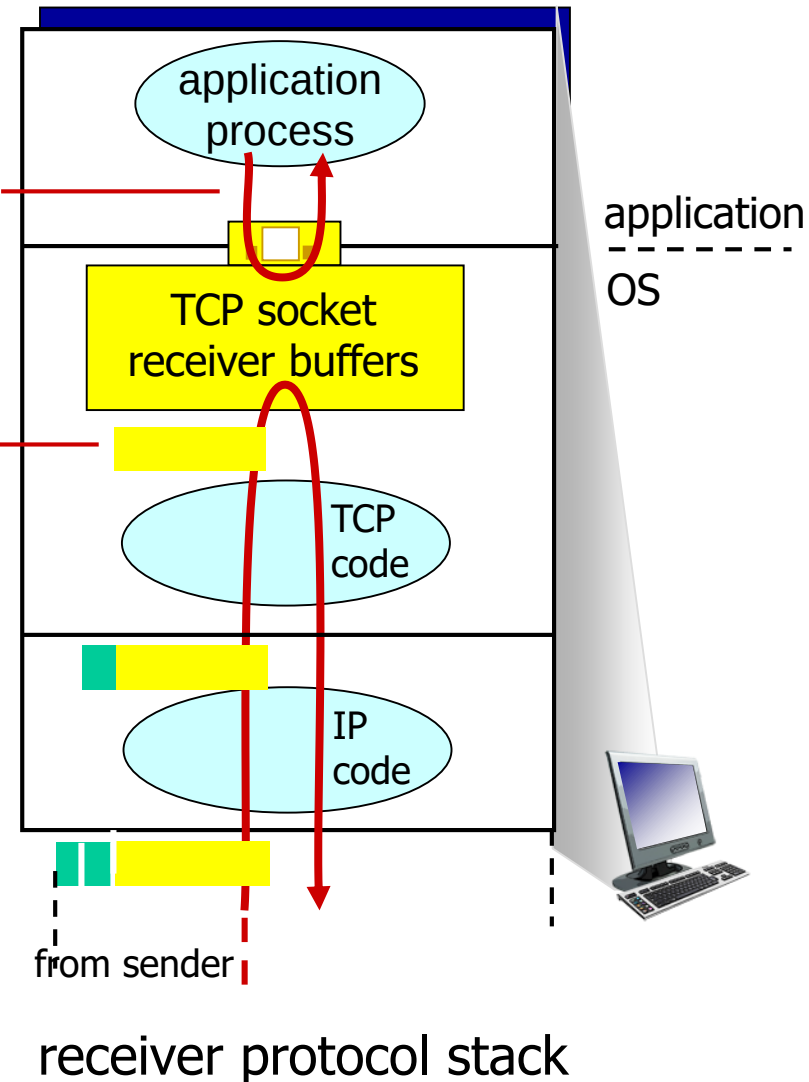


TCP flow control

application may
remove data from
TCP socket buffers

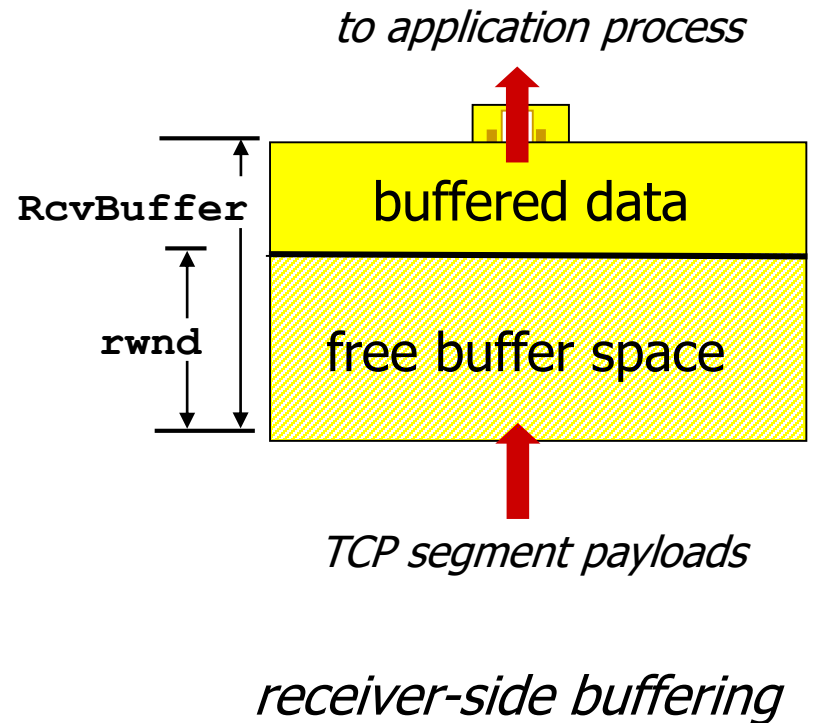
... slower than TCP
receiver is delivering
(sender is sending)

flow control
receiver controls sender, so
sender won't overflow
receiver's buffer by transmitting
too much, too fast



TCP flow control

- receiver “advertises” free buffer space by including **rwnd** value in TCP header of receiver-to-sender segments
 - **RcvBuffer** size set via socket options (typical default is 4096 bytes)
 - many operating systems autoadjust **RcvBuffer**
- sender limits amount of unacked (“in-flight”) data to receiver’s **rwnd** value
- guarantees receive buffer will not overflow



Before You Go

On a sheet of paper, answer the following (ungraded) question (no names, please):

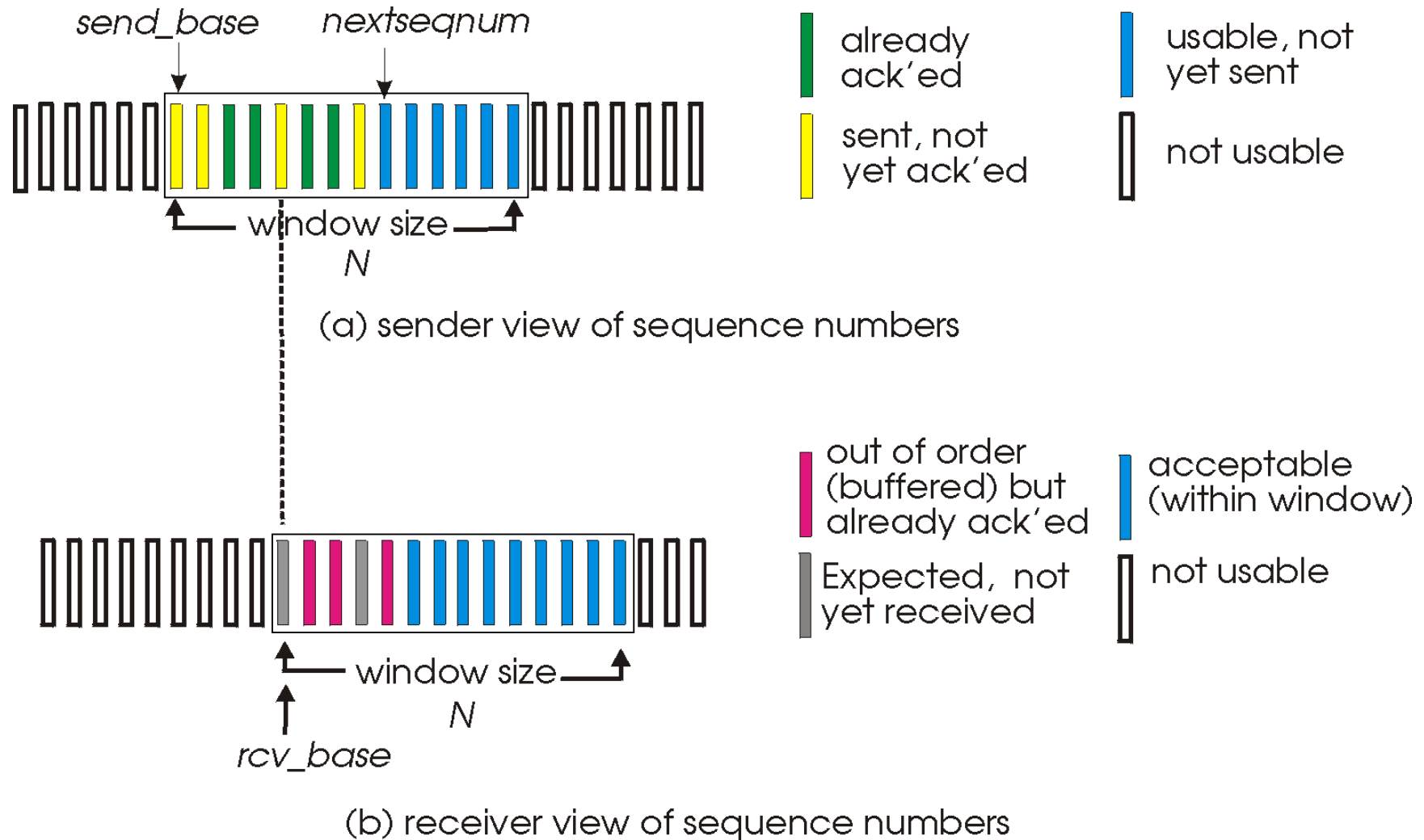
What was the muddiest point in today's class?

Backup Slides

Selective repeat

- receiver *individually* acknowledges all correctly received pkts
 - buffers pkts, as needed, for eventual in-order delivery to upper layer
- sender only resends pkts for which ACK not received
 - sender timer for each unACKed pkt
- sender window
 - N consecutive seq #'s
 - limits seq #s of sent, unACKed pkts

Selective repeat: sender, receiver windows



Selective repeat

— sender —

data from above:

- if next available seq # in window, send pkt

timeout(n):

- resend pkt n, restart timer

ACK(n) in [sendbase, sendbase+N]:

- mark pkt n as received
- if n smallest unACKed pkt, advance window base to next unACKed seq #

— receiver —

pkt n in [rcvbase, rcvbase+N-1]

- send ACK(n)
- out-of-order: buffer
- in-order: deliver (also deliver buffered, in-order pkts), advance window to next not-yet-received pkt

pkt n in [rcvbase-N, rcvbase-1]

- ACK(n)

otherwise:

- ignore

Selective repeat in action

sender window (N=4)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

sender

send pkt0

send pkt1

send pkt2

send pkt3

(wait)

rcv ack0, send pkt4

rcv ack1, send pkt5

record ack3 arrived



pkt 2 timeout

send pkt2

record ack4 arrived

record ack5 arrived

receiver

receive pkt0, send ack0

receive pkt1, send ack1

receive pkt3, buffer,
send ack3

receive pkt4, buffer,
send ack4

receive pkt5, buffer,
send ack5

rcv pkt2; deliver pkt2,
pkt3, pkt4, pkt5; send ack2

Q: what happens when ack2 arrives?

Selective repeat: dilemma

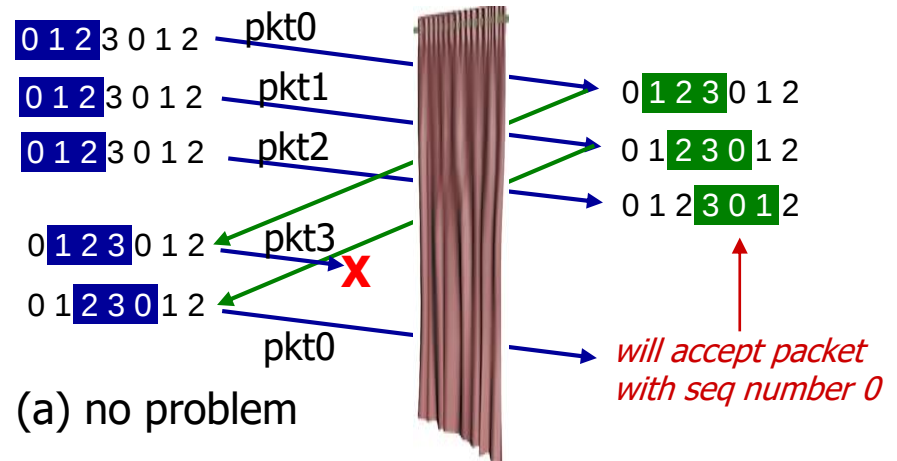
example:

- seq #'s: 0, 1, 2, 3
- window size=3
- receiver sees no difference in two scenarios!
- duplicate data accepted as new in (b)

Q: what relationship between seq # size and window size to avoid problem in (b)?

sender window
(after receipt)

receiver window
(after receipt)



*receiver can't see sender side.
receiver behavior identical in both cases!
something's (very) wrong!*

