



# computer science illuminated

## Networks

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**(adaptation by Michael Goldwasser)**



# Chapter Goals

- Describe the core issues related to computer networks
- List various types of networks and their characteristics
- Explain various topologies of local-area networks
- Explain why network technologies are best implemented as open systems



# Chapter Goals (cont.)

- Compare and contrast various technologies for home Internet connections
- Explain packet switching
- Describe the basic roles of various network protocols
- Explain the role of a firewall
- Compare and contrast network hostnames and IP addresses
- Explain the domain name system



# Networking

- A **computer network** is a collection of computing devices that are connected in various ways in order to communicate and share resources
- Usually, the connections between computers in a network are made using physical wires or cables
  - However, some connections are **wireless**, using radio waves or infrared signals



# Networking

- The generic term **node** or **host** to refer to any device on a network
- A key issue related to computer networks is the **data transfer rate**, the speed with which data is moved from one place on a network to another



# Networking

- Computer networks have opened up an entire frontier in the world of computing called the **client/server model**

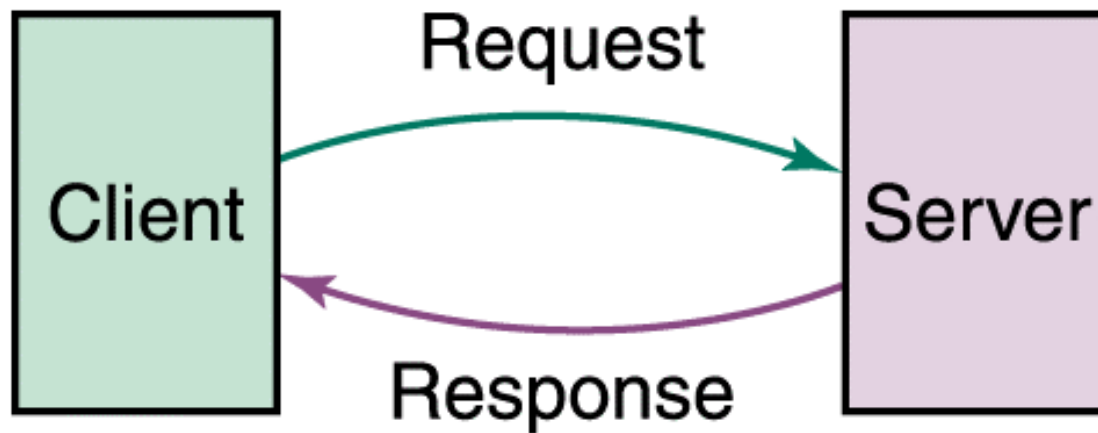


Figure 15.1 Client/Server interaction



# Networking

- A **file server** is a computer that stores and manages files for multiple users on a network
- A **Web server** is a computer dedicated to responding to requests (from the browser client) for Web pages



# Types of Networks

- A **local-area network (LAN)** connects a relatively small number of machines in a relatively close geographical area



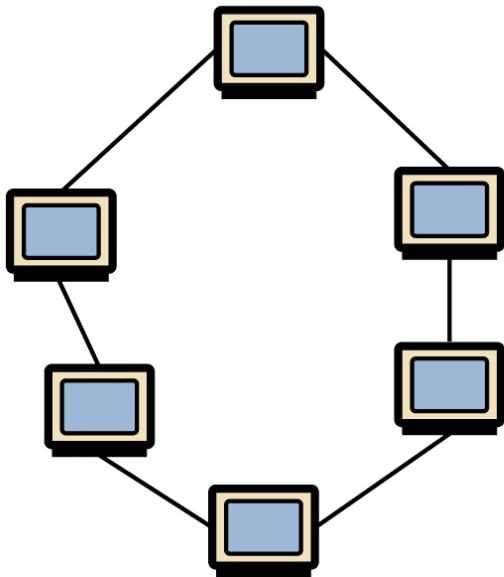


# Types of Networks

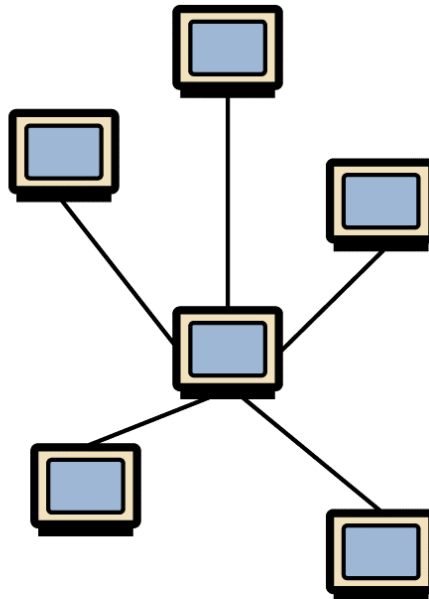
- Various configurations, called topologies, have been used to administer LANs
  - A **ring topology** connects all nodes in a closed loop on which messages travel in one direction
  - A **star topology** centers around one node to which all others are connected and through which all messages are sent
  - In a **bus topology**, all nodes are connected to a single communication line that carries messages in both directions



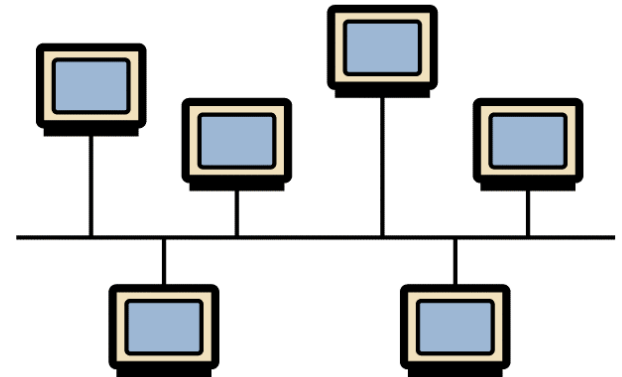
# Types of Networks



Ring topology



Star topology



Bus topology

**Figure 15.2** Various network topologies

- A bus technology called **Ethernet** has become the industry standard for local-area networks



# Types of Networks

- A **wide-area network (WAN)** connects two or more local-area networks over a potentially large geographic distance
  - Often one particular node on a LAN is set up to serve as a **gateway** to handle all communication going between that LAN and other networks
- Communication between networks is called internetworking
  - The **Internet**, as we know it today, is essentially the ultimate wide-area network, spanning the entire globe

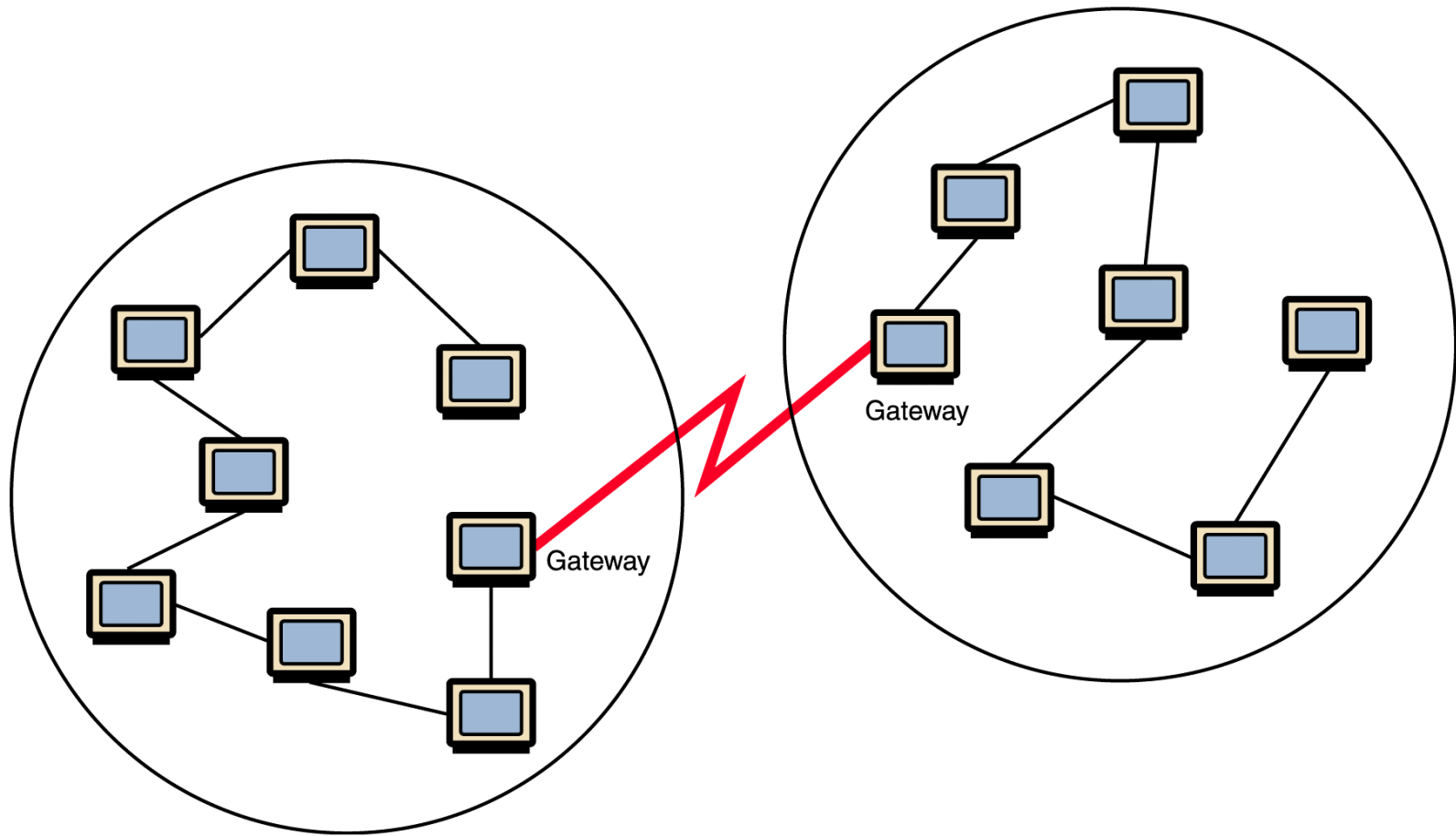


# Types of Networks

- Recently, the term **metropolitan-area network (MAN)** has been adopted to refer to the communication infrastructures that have been developed in and around large cities



# Types of Networks



**Figure 15.1** Local-area networks connected across a distance to create a wide-area network



# Internet Connections

- The **Internet backbone** is a term used to refer to a set of high-speed networks that carry Internet traffic
- These networks are provided by companies such as AT&T, GTE, and IBM
- An **Internet service provider (ISP)** is a company that provides other companies or individuals with access to the Internet



# Internet Connections

- There are various technologies available that you can use to connect a home computer to the Internet
  - A **phone modem** converts computer data into an analog audio signal for transfer over a telephone line, and then a modem at the destination converts it back again into data
  - A **digital subscriber line (DSL)** uses regular copper phone lines to transfer digital data to and from the phone company's central office
  - **Cable modem**—in this approach, the data is transferred on the same line that your cable TV signals come in on



# Internet Connections

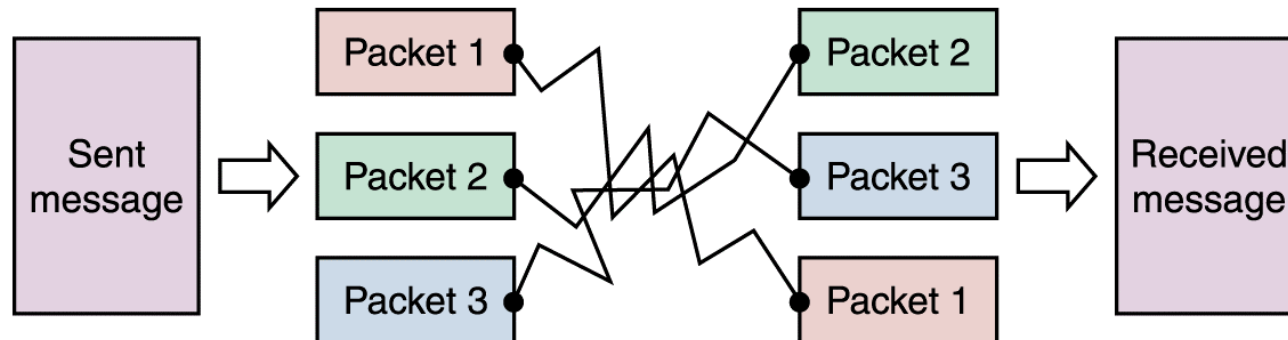
- Both DSL connections and cable modems fall under the category of **broadband** connections, which generally mean speeds faster than 128 kilobytes per second
- For both DSL and cable modems, the speed for **downloads** (getting data from the Internet to your home computer) may not be the same as **uploads** (sending data from your home computer to the Internet)





# Packet Switching

- To improve the efficiency of transferring information over a shared communication line, messages are divided into fixed-sized, numbered **packets**
- Network devices called routers are used to direct packets between networks



**Figure 15.4**  
Messages  
sent by  
packet  
switching

Message is divided  
into packets

Packets are sent over the Internet  
by the most expedient route

Packets are reordered  
and then reassembled



# Open Systems

- As network technologies grew, the need for **interoperability** became clear
- We needed a way for computing systems made by different vendors to communicate
- An **open system** is one based on a common model of network architecture and a suite of protocols used in its implementation



# Open Systems

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 7 | Application layer  |
| 6 | Presentation layer |
| 5 | Session layer      |
| 4 | Transport layer    |
| 3 | Network layer      |
| 2 | Data Link layer    |
| 1 | Physical layer     |

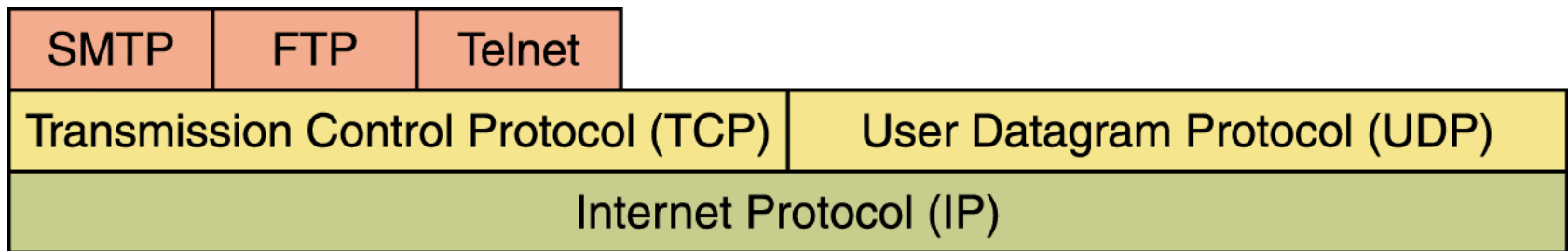
**Figure 15.5** The layers of the OSI Reference Model

- The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) established the **Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Reference Model**
- Each layer deals with a particular aspect of network communication



# Network Protocols

- Network protocols are layered such that each one relies on the protocols that underlie it
- Sometimes referred to as a **protocol stack**



**Figure 15.6** Layering of key network protocols



# TCP/IP

- IP stands for **Internet Protocol**
  - IP software deals with the routing of packets through the maze of interconnected networks to their final destination
- TCP stands for **Transmission Control Protocol**
  - TCP software breaks messages into packets, hands them off to the IP software for delivery, and then orders and reassembles the packets at their destination



# TCP/IP (cont.)

- UDP stands for **User Datagram Protocol**
  - It is an alternative to TCP
  - The main difference is that TCP is highly reliable, at the cost of decreased performance, while UDP is less reliable, but generally faster



# High-Level Protocols

- Other protocols build on the foundation established by the TCP/IP protocol suite
  - Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP)
  - File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
  - Telnet
  - Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (http)



# Protocols & Ports

| Protocol                              | Port |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Echo                                  | 7    |
| File Transfer Protocol (FTP)          | 21   |
| Telnet                                | 23   |
| Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP)  | 25   |
| Domain Name Service (DNS)             | 53   |
| Gopher                                | 70   |
| Finger                                | 79   |
| Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP)   | 80   |
| Post Office Protocol (POP3)           | 110  |
| Network News Transfer Protocol (NNTP) | 119  |
| Internet Relay Chat (IRC)             | 6667 |

**Figure 15.7**  
Some protocols  
and the ports  
they use





# MIME Types

- Related to the idea of network protocols and standardization is the concept of a file's MIME type
  - MIME stands for **Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension**
  - Based on a document's MIME type, an application program can decide how to deal with the data it is given

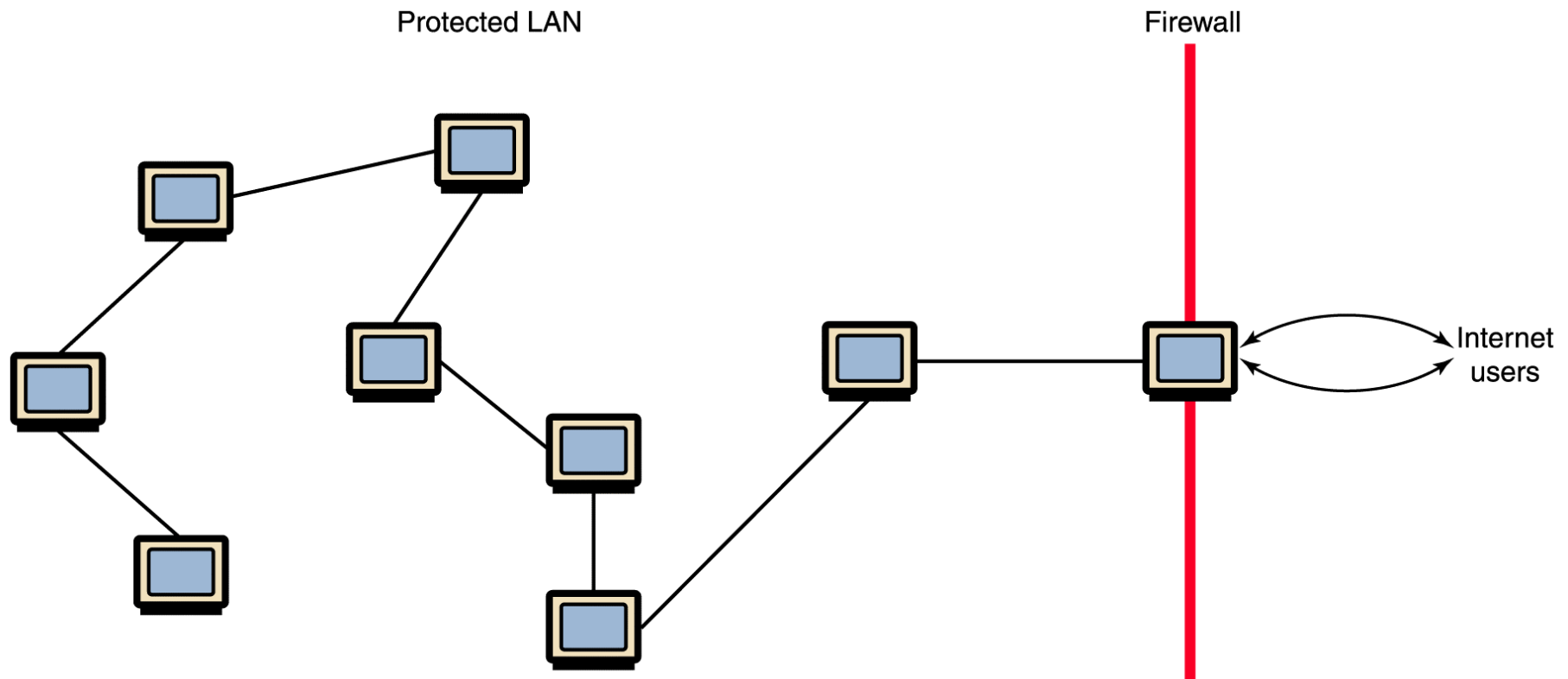


# Firewalls

- A **firewall** is a machine and its software that serve as a special gateway to a network, protecting it from inappropriate access
  - Filters the network traffic that comes in, checking the validity of the messages as much as possible and perhaps denying some messages altogether
  - Enforces an organization's **access control policy**



# Firewalls



**Figure 15.8** A firewall protecting a LAN



# Network Addresses

- A **hostname** is a unique identification that specifies a particular computer on the Internet
- For example  
    matisse.csc.villanova.edu  
    condor.develocorp.com



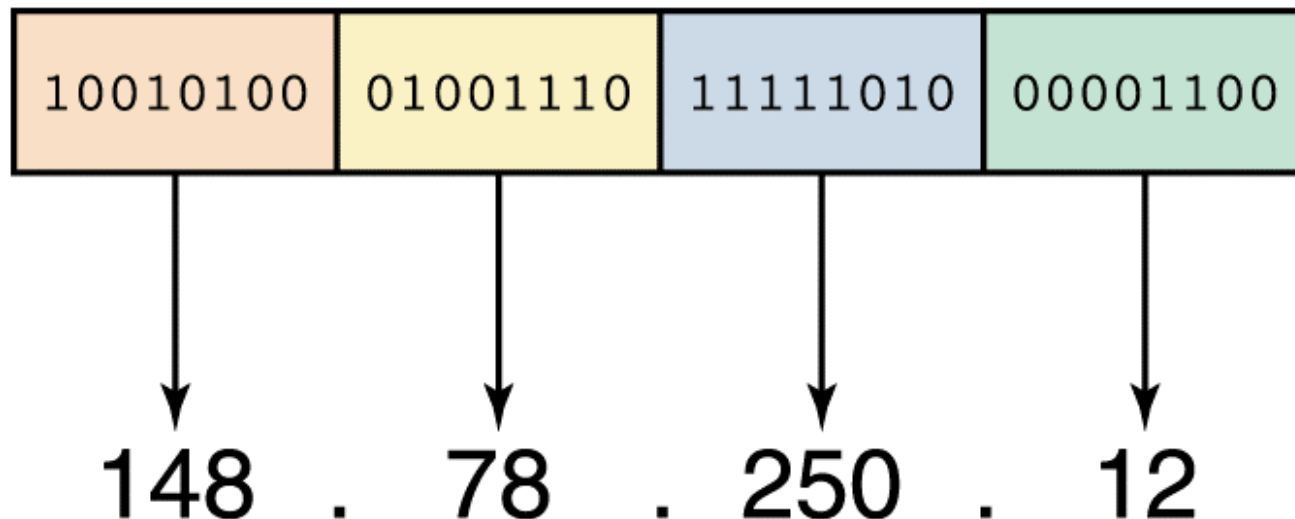
# Network Addresses

- Network software translates a hostname into its corresponding IP address
- For example  
205.39.145.18



# Network Addresses

- An **IP address** can be split into
  - **network address**, which specifies a specific network
  - **host number**, which specifies a particular machine in that network



**Figure 15.9**  
An IP address is stored in four bytes



# Domain Name System

- A hostname consists of the computer name followed by **the domain name**
- csc.villanova.edu is the domain name
  - A domain name is separated into two or more sections that specify the organization, and possibly a subset of an organization, of which the computer is a part
  - Two organizations can have a computer named the same thing because the domain name makes it clear which one is being referred to



# Domain Name System

- The very last section of the domain is called its **top-level domain (TLD)** name

| Top-Level Domain | General Purpose        | New TLDs | General Purpose    |
|------------------|------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| .com             | U.S. Commercial        | .biz     | Business           |
| .net             | Network                | .info    | Information        |
| .org             | Nonprofit organization | .pro     | Professional       |
| .edu             | U.S. Educational       | .museum  | Museums            |
| .int             | International          | .aero    | Aerospace industry |
| .mil             | U.S. Military          | .coop    | Cooperative        |
| .gov             | U.S. Government        |          |                    |

**Figure 15.10** Top-level domains, including some relatively new ones





# Domain Name System

- Organizations based in countries other than the United States use a top-level domain that corresponds to their two-letter country codes

| Country Code TLD | Country            |
|------------------|--------------------|
| .au              | Australia          |
| .br              | Brazil             |
| .ca              | Canada             |
| .gr              | Greece             |
| .in              | India              |
| .ru              | Russian Federation |
| .uk              | United Kingdom     |

**Figure 15.11**

Some of the top-level domain names based on country codes



# Domain Name System

- The **domain name system** (DNS) is chiefly used to translate hostnames into numeric IP addresses
  - DNS is an example of a distributed database
  - If that server can resolve the hostname, it does so
  - If not, that server asks another domain name server



# Ethical Issues: Cybersquatting

- Cybersquatting refers to registering an Internet domain name for the purpose of selling it later
- The Anti-cyber Piracy Act establishes that someone registering a domain name may be liable to the owner of a trademark or to others that may be affected by the “bad faith” of the domain name registrant



# Ethical Issues: Cybersquatting

- In 1998 the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), a technical coordination body for the Internet, issued the Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy  
  
“Under the policy, most types of trademark-based domain-name disputes must be resolved by agreement, court action, or arbitration before a registrar will cancel, suspend, or transfer a domain name...”