Sockets

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Internet Connections (1)

- **Connection**
  - Clients and servers communicate by sending streams of bytes over connections:
    - Point-to-point, full-duplex, and reliable.
  - A **socket** is an endpoint of a connection
    - Socket address is an `<IP address : port>` pair
  - A **port** is a 16-bit integer that identifies a process
    - Ephemeral port: assigned automatically on client when client makes a connection request
    - Well-known port: associated with some service provided by a server (e.g. port 80 is associated with web servers.)
  - A connection is uniquely identified by the socket addresses of its endpoints (**socket pair**)
    - `<client IP:client port, server IP:server port>`
Internet Connections (2)

Client socket address
\[128.2.194.242:51213\]

Server socket address
\[208.216.181.15:80\]

Note: \textit{51213} is an ephemeral port allocated by the kernel.

Client host address
\[128.2.194.242\]

Server host address
\[208.216.181.15\]

Note: \textit{80} is a well-known port associated with Web servers.
Client-Server Model

- Most network application is based on the client-server model:
  - A **server** process and one or more **client** processes
    - Clients and servers are processes running on hosts (can be the same or different hosts)
  - Server manages some **resource**
  - Server provides **service** by manipulating resource for clients

1. **Client sends request**
2. **Server handles request**
3. **Server sends response**
4. **Client handles response**
Clients

- **Examples of client programs**
  - Web browsers, ftp, telnet, ssh

- **How does a client find the server?**
  - The IP address in the server socket address identifies the host.
  - The (well-known) port in the server socket address identifies the service, and thus implicitly identifies the server process that performs that service.
  - Examples of well-known ports (cf. `/etc/services`)
    - Port 21: ftp
    - Port 23: telnet
    - Port 25: mail
    - Port 80: web
Using Ports

Client host

Client host

Service request for 128.2.194.242:80 (i.e., the Web server)

Server host 128.2.194.242

Kernel

Web server (port 80)

Echo server (port 7)

Client host

Client

Client host

Client

Service request for 128.2.194.242:7 (i.e., the echo server)

Server host 128.2.194.242

Kernel

Web server (port 80)

Echo server (port 7)
Servers

- Servers are long-running processes (daemons)
  - Created at boot-time (typically) by the init process (process 1)
  - Run continuously until the machine is turned off.

- Each server waits for requests to arrive on a well-known port associated with a particular service
  - Port 21: ftp server
  - Port 23: telnet server
  - Port 25: mail server
  - Port 80: HTTP server

- A machine that runs a server process is also often referred to as a "server"
Sockets (1)

- Sockets interface
  - Introduced in BSD4.1 UNIX, 1981.
  - Provides a user-level interface to the network.
  - Explicitly created, used, released by applications.
  - Based on client/server paradigm
  - Two types of transport service
    - Unreliable datagram
    - Reliable, connection-oriented byte stream
  - Underlying basis for all Internet applications
Sockets (2)

- What is a socket?
  - A host-local, application-created/owned, OS-controlled interface to network (a “door”)
    - To the kernel, a socket is an endpoint of communication.
    - To an application, a socket is a file descriptor.
      » Applications read/write from/to the network using the file descriptor.
      » Remember: All Unix I/O devices, including networks, are modeled as files.
  - Clients and servers communicate with each by reading from and writing to socket descriptors.
    - The main distinction between regular file I/O and socket I/O is how the application “opens” the socket descriptors.
Sockets (3)

- Hardware/Software organization of an Internet application

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**Internet client host**

- **Sockets interface** (system calls)
- **TCP/IP**
- **Network adapter**

**Internet server host**

- **Sockets interface** (system calls)
- **TCP/IP**
- **Network adapter**

**Global IP Internet**

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**User code**

**Kernel code**

**Hardware and firmware**
Sockets (4)

Connection-oriented service

Server
socket()
bind()
listen()
accept()

Client
socket()
connect()
write()
read()

Connectionless service

Server
socket()
bind()
recvfrom()

Client
socket()
bind()
sendto()
recvfrom()
sendto()
Socket Address Structure

- **Generic socket address**
  - For address arguments to `connect()`, `bind()`, and `accept()`

```c
struct sockaddr {
    unsigned short sa_family; /* protocol family */
    char sa_data[14]; /* address data. */
};
```

- **Internet-specific socket address**
  - Must cast `(sockaddr_in *)` to `(sockaddr *)` for `connect()`, `bind()`, and `accept()`

```c
struct sockaddr_in {
    unsigned short sin_family; /* address family (always AF_INET) */
    unsigned short sin_port; /* port num in network byte order */
    struct in_addr sin_addr; /* IP addr in network byte order */
    unsigned char sin_zero[8]; /* pad to sizeof(struct sockaddr) */
};
```
socket()

- **int socket (int family, int type, int protocol)**
  - **socket()** creates a socket descriptor.
  - **family** specifies the protocol family.
    - **AF_UNIX**: Local Unix domain protocols
    - **AF_INET**: IPv4 Internet protocols
  - **type** specifies the communication semantics.
    - **SOCK_STREAM**: provides sequenced, reliable, two-way, connection-based byte streams
    - **SOCK_DGRAM**: supports datagrams (connectionless, unreliable messages of a fixed maximum length)
    - **SOCK_RAW**: provides raw network protocol access
  - **protocol** specifies a particular protocol to be used with the socket.
**connect()**

- int connect (int sockfd, const struct sockaddr *servaddr, socklen_t addrlen)
  - Used by a TCP client to establish a connection with a TCP server.
  - **servaddr** contains <IP address, port number> of the server.
  - The client does not have to call **bind()** before calling **connect()**.
    - The kernel will choose both an ephemeral port and the source IP address if necessary.
  - Client process suspends (blocks) until the connection is created.
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/socket.h>
#include <netdb.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <strings.h>

#define MAXLINE 80

int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int n, cfd;
    struct hostent *h;
    struct sockaddr_in saddr;
    char buf[MAXLINE];
    char *host = argv[1];
    int port = atoi(argv[2]);

    if ((cfd = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0)) < 0) {
        printf("socket() failed.\n");
        exit(1);
    }
if ((h = gethostbyname(host)) == NULL) {
    printf("invalid hostname %s\n", host);
    exit(2);
}

bzero((char *)&saddr, sizeof(saddr));
saddr.sin_family = AF_INET;
bcopy((char *)h->h_addr, (char *)&saddr.sin_addr.s_addr, h->h_length);
saddr.sin_port = htons(port);

if (connect(cfd,(struct sockaddr *)&saddr,sizeof(saddr)) < 0) {
    printf("connect() failed.\n");
    exit(3);
}

while ((n = read(0, buf, MAXLINE)) > 0) {
    write(cfd, buf, n);
    n = read(cfd, buf, MAXLINE);
    write(1, buf, n);
}

close(cfd);
**bind()**

- **int bind (int sockfd, struct sockaddr *myaddr, socklen_t addrlen)**
  - `bind()` gives the socket `sockfd` the local address `myaddr`.
  - `myaddr` is `addrlen` bytes long.
  - Servers bind their well-known port when they start.
  - If a TCP server binds a specific IP address to its socket, this restricts the socket to receive incoming client connections destined only to that IP address.
  - Normally, a TCP client let the kernel choose an ephemeral port and a client IP address.
- **listen()**
  - **listen()** converts an unconnected socket into a passive socket, indicating that the kernel should accept incoming connection requests.
    - When a socket is created, it is assumed to be an active socket, that is, a client socket that will issue a `connect()`.
  - **backlog** specifies the maximum number of connections that the kernel should queue for this socket.
  - Historically, a backlog of 5 was used, as that was the maximum value supported by 4.2BSD.
    - Busy HTTP servers must specify a much larger backlog, and newer kernels must support larger values.
accept() (1)

- int accept (int sockfd, struct sockaddr *cliaddr, socklen_t *addrlen)
  - accept() blocks waiting for a connection request.
  - accept() returns a connected descriptor with the same properties as the listening descriptor.
    - The kernel creates one connected socket for each client connection that is accepted.
    - Returns when the connection between client and server is created and ready for I/O transfers.
    - All I/O with the client will be done via the connected socket.
  - The cliaddr and addrlen arguments are used to return the address of the connected peer process (the client)
accept() (2)

1. Server blocks in accept, waiting for connection request on listening descriptor listenfd.

2. Client makes connection request by calling and blocking in connect.

3. Server returns connfd from accept. Client returns from connect. Connection is now established between clientfd and connfd.
accept() (3)

- **Listening descriptor**
  - End point for client connection requests
  - Created once and exists for lifetime of the server

- **Connected descriptor**
  - End point of the connection between client and server
  - A new descriptor is created each time the server accepts a connection request from a client.
  - Exists only as long as it takes to service client.

- **Why the distinction?**
  - Allows for concurrent servers that can communicate over many client connections simultaneously.
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/socket.h>
#include <netdb.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <strings.h>
#include <arpa/inet.h>

#define MAXLINE 80

int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int n, listenfd, connfd, caddrlen;
    struct hostent *h;
    struct sockaddr_in saddr, caddr;
    char buf[MAXLINE];
    int port = atoi(argv[1]);

    if ((listenfd = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0)) < 0) {
        printf("socket() failed.\n");
        exit(1);
    }
}
bzero((char *)&saddr, sizeof(saddr));
saddr.sin_family = AF_INET;
saddr.sin_addr.s_addr = htonl(INADDR_ANY);
saddr.sin_port = htons(port);
if (bind(listenfd, (struct sockaddr *)&saddr,
        sizeof(saddr)) < 0) {
    printf("bind() failed.\n");
    exit(2);
}
if (listen(listenfd, 5) < 0) {
    printf("listen() failed.\n");
    exit(3);
}
while (1) {
caddrlen = sizeof(caddr);
    if ((connfd = accept(listenfd, (struct sockaddr *)&caddr,
                          &caddrlen)) < 0) {
        printf("accept() failed.\n");
        continue;
    }
h = gethostbyaddr((const char *)&caddr.sin_addr.s_addr,
    sizeof(caddr.sin_addr.s_addr), AF_INET);
printf("server connected to %s (%s)\n",
    h->h_name,
    inet_ntoa(*(struct in_addr *)&caddr.sin_addr));

    // echo
    while ((n = read(connfd, buf, MAXLINE)) > 0) {
        printf("got %d bytes from client.\n", n);
        write(connfd, buf, n);
    }

    printf("connection terminated.\n");
    close(connfd);
}
Echo Server (4)

Client

socket

connect

write

read

close

Server

socket

bind

listen

accept

read

write

close

Connection request

Await connection request from next client

EOF