

# Networking: IPv4 - AF\_INET



# Topics

- How can we use sockets on a network (AF\_INET)?
- How do different computer architectures agree on a data format?

# AF\_INET Data Structure

# AF\_INET and AF\_INET6

- IP Addresses
  - IPv4: AF\_INET uses 4 bytes for IP addresses:  
e.g., 192.168.7.2
  - IPv6: AF\_INET6 uses 16 bytes for IP addresses.  
e.g., 2F10:C203:A135:DC3F:35:6F2:1:F603
  - More info:  
man 7 ip  
man 7 ipv6
  - We'll focus on AF\_INET.

- AF\_INET addresses use struct sockaddr\_in

- ..

```
struct in_addr {  
    in_addr_t s_addr;  
};  
  
struct sockaddr_in {  
    sa_family_t    sin_family;  
    in_port_t      sin_port;  
    struct in_addr sin_addr;  
    unsigned char  __pad[X];  
}
```

# sockaddr\_in Field: sin\_addr

- Binary Format
  - Humans write IPv4 addresses as “192.168.7.1”
  - ..
- Convert address
  - inet\_pton()           “192.168.0.1” --> binary
  - ..
  - inet\_ntop()           binary --> “192.168.0.1”
  - ..

These handle both IPv4 and IPv6

- Presentation String Lengths
  - Max string length defined in `<netinet/in.h>`
  - IPv4: `INET_ADDRSTRLEN`
  - IPv6: `INET6_ADDRSTRLEN`

```
struct in_addr {
    in_addr_t s_addr;
};

struct sockaddr_in {
    sa_family_t    sin_family;
    in_port_t      sin_port;
    struct in_addr sin_addr;
    unsigned char  __pad[X];
}
```

# sin\_addr - Two special addresses

- loopback address: 127.0.0.1  
    `sin_addr.s_addr = INADDR_LOOPBACK;`
  - Local communication, similar to UNIX domain sockets.
  - ..  
    i.e., nothing onto network.
- Wildcard address  
    `sin_addr.s_addr = INADDR_ANY;`
  - A machine can have multiple network cards,  
    e.g., wireless & wired (Ethernet) card:  
        each with an IP address.
  - ..

```
struct in_addr {
    in_addr_t s_addr;
};

struct sockaddr_in {
    sa_family_t    sin_family;
    in_port_t      sin_port;
    struct in_addr sin_addr;
    unsigned char  __pad[X];
}
```

# sockaddr\_in Field: sin\_port

- bind() needs IP address and port
  - ..
  - Some ports are well known, such as:
    - SSH: 22
    - HTTP: 80

Clients know to look at these ports.

- ..
  - If we don't bind() our socket to a specific port, then TCP or UDP picks an unused "random" port.

```
struct in_addr {
    in_addr_t s_addr;
};

struct sockaddr_in {
    sa_family_t    sin_family;
    in_port_t      sin_port;
    struct in_addr sin_addr;
    unsigned char  __pad[X];
}
```

# Byte Order & Hosts



# Byte Order

- Different computer architectures use different byte orders:
  - e.g., consider the number  $12345 = 0x3039$
  - Little Endian:
    - ..
  - Big Endian:
    - Store the big part (MSB) first (at lower address).
- Network Byte Order
  - Different computers communicate, so network must have established byte order.
  - ..
  - E.g., port number and the IP address are multi byte, so they are sent MSB first.

# Network Byte Order

- Byte-order translation functions  
man byteorder

```
#include <arpa/inet.h>
uint32_t htonl(uint32_t hostlong);
uint16_t htons(uint16_t hostshort);
uint32_t ntohl(uint32_t netlong);
uint16_t ntohs(uint16_t netshort);
```

– ..

- Only for multi-byte values
  - single byte data (chars) just sent one at a time.

# Host Names

- Can use a host name instead of an IP address
  - Host name is the computer name.
  - `getaddrinfo()`  
Converts host name (string) to set of all possible options (structs containing an IP and a port number)
  - `getnameinfo()`  
performs reverse---IP to host name.

# Activity

- Create two programs, server and client.
  - Implement the socket sequence (TCP stream) using AF\_INET
  - Send messages from the client and print them out from the server.
  - Use port 8000 on the server.
- Recall
  - AF\_INET uses sockaddr\_in

```
struct in_addr {
    in_addr_t s_addr;
};

struct sockaddr_in {
    sa_family_t    sin_family;
    in_port_t      sin_port;
    struct in_addr sin_addr;
    unsigned char  __pad[X];
}
```

# recv() and send()

- `ssize_t recv(int sockfd, void *buf, size_t len, int flags);`
  - Similar to `read()` but socket specific.
  - Provides more control, e.g.:
    - `MSG_DONTWAIT`: Non-blocking
    - `MSG_PEEK`: read but don't remove
- `ssize_t send(int sockfd, const void *buf, size_t len, int flags);`
  - Similar to `write()` but socket specific.
  - Provides more control  
e.g.: `MSG_DONTWAIT`: Non-blocking

# Summary

- Use AF\_INET for IPv4

```
struct in_addr {
    in_addr_t s_addr;
};

struct sockaddr_in {
    sa_family_t    sin_family;
    in_port_t      sin_port;
    struct in_addr sin_addr;
    unsigned char  __pad[X];
}
```

- Network Byte Order
  - Big-Endian: Biggest byte is first.