CSCI-1680
HTTP II

Nick DeMarinis

Based partly on lecture notes by Rodrigo Fonseca, Scott Shenker and John Jannotti

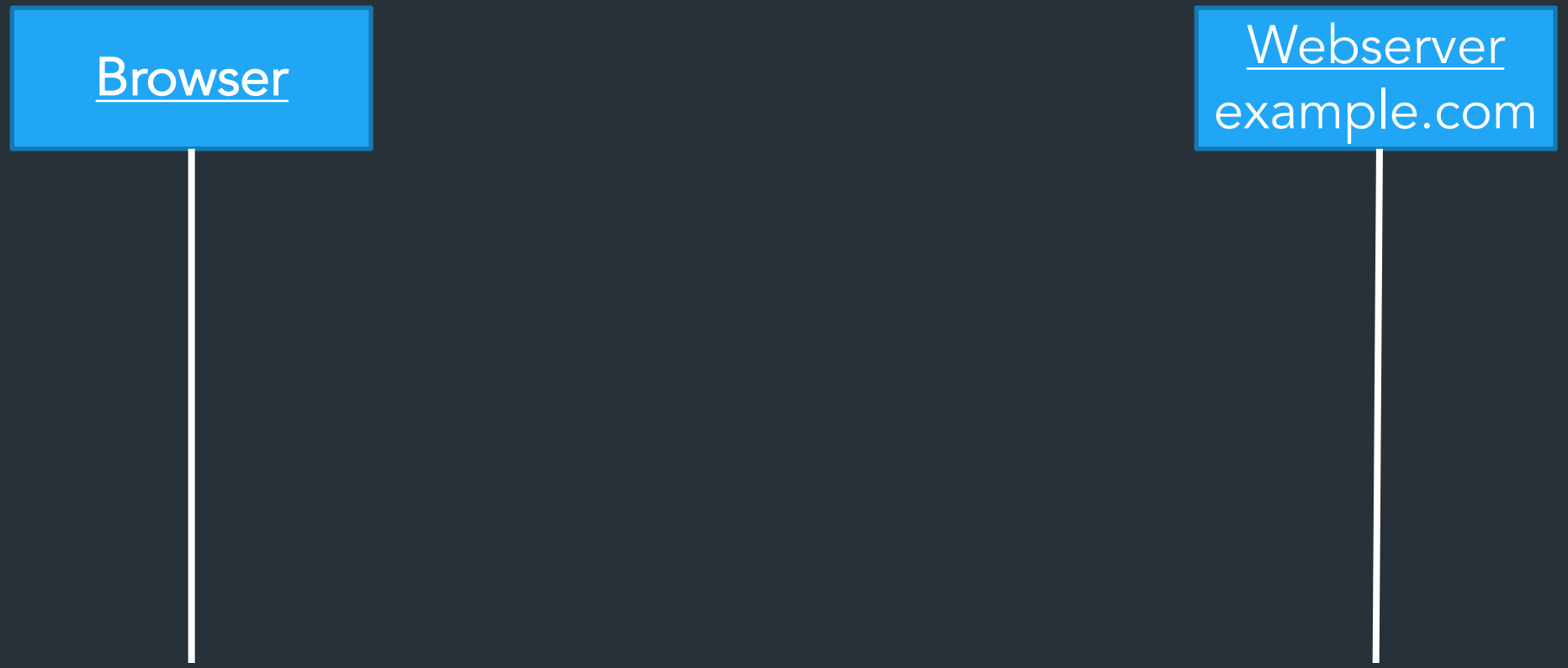
Administrivia

- Should have done your TCP Milestone II at this point
- TCP is due next Friday (11/22)
  => Look for some more testing/grading/SRC info soon
- Will announce some preliminary final project info next week

Warmup

Browser wants to fetch: http://example.com/page.html

Assuming no caching, what is the minimum number of packets the browser needs to wait for?



```
> nc cs.brown.edu 80
GET / HTTP/1.0
Host: cs.brown.edu
Content-Type: text/html
Accept-Language: en


HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Thu, 24 Mar 2011 12:58:46 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.9 (Debian) mod_ssl/2.2.9 OpenSSL/0.9.8g
Last-Modified: Thu, 24 Mar 2011 12:25:27 GMT
ETag: "840a88b-236c-49f3992853bc0"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 9068
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
   "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en”>
...
```

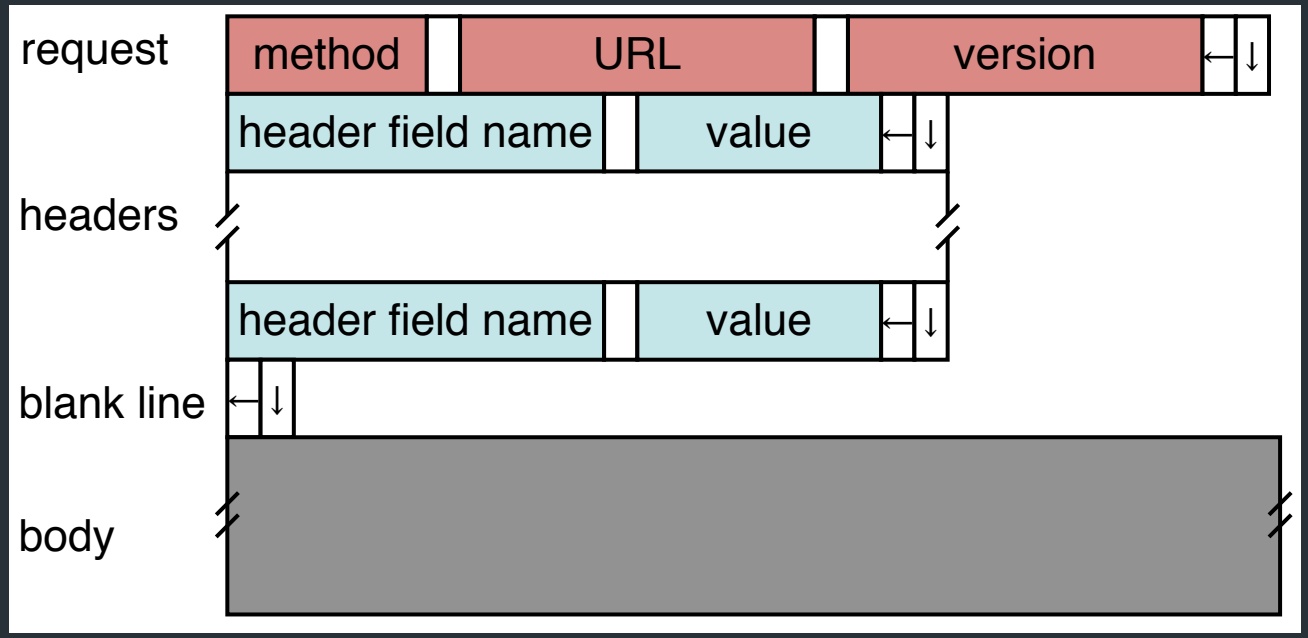
HTTP Request

Method:

- GET: current value of resource, run program
- POST: update a resource, provide input for a program. . .

Headers: useful info about request

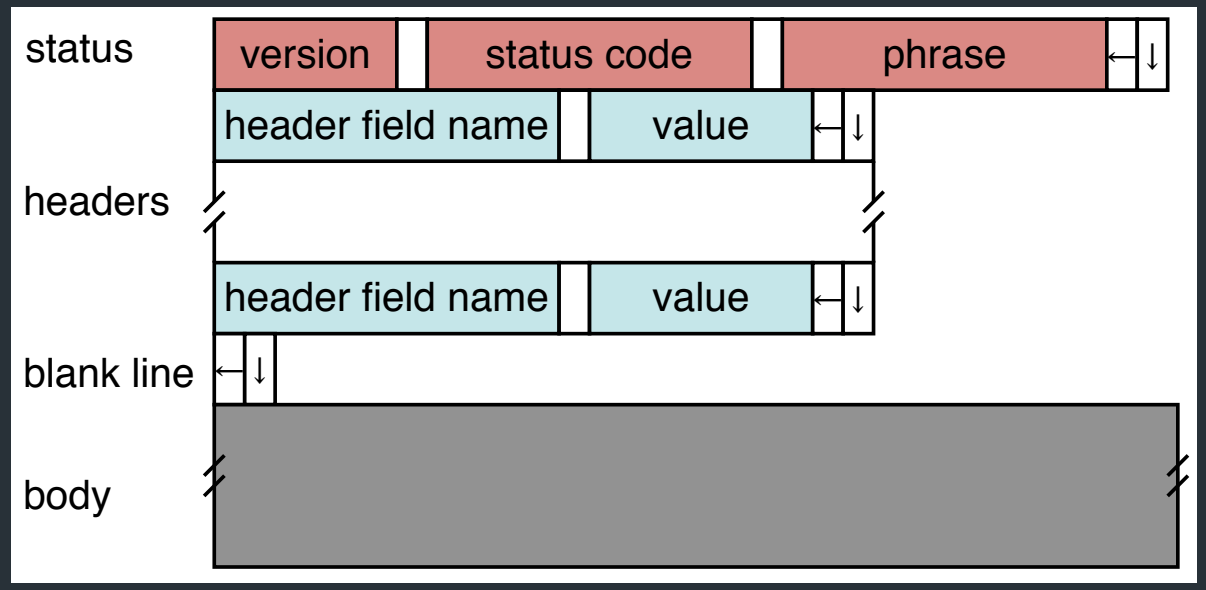
- E.g., desired language, text encoding



HTTP Responses

Status codes to indicate something about the result

- 1xx: Information e.g, 100 Continue
- 2xx: Success e.g., 200 OK
- 3xx: Redirection e.g., 302 Found (elsewhere),
- 4xx: Client Error e.g., 403 Forbidden, 404 Not Found
- 5xx: Server Error e.g, 503 Service Unavailable

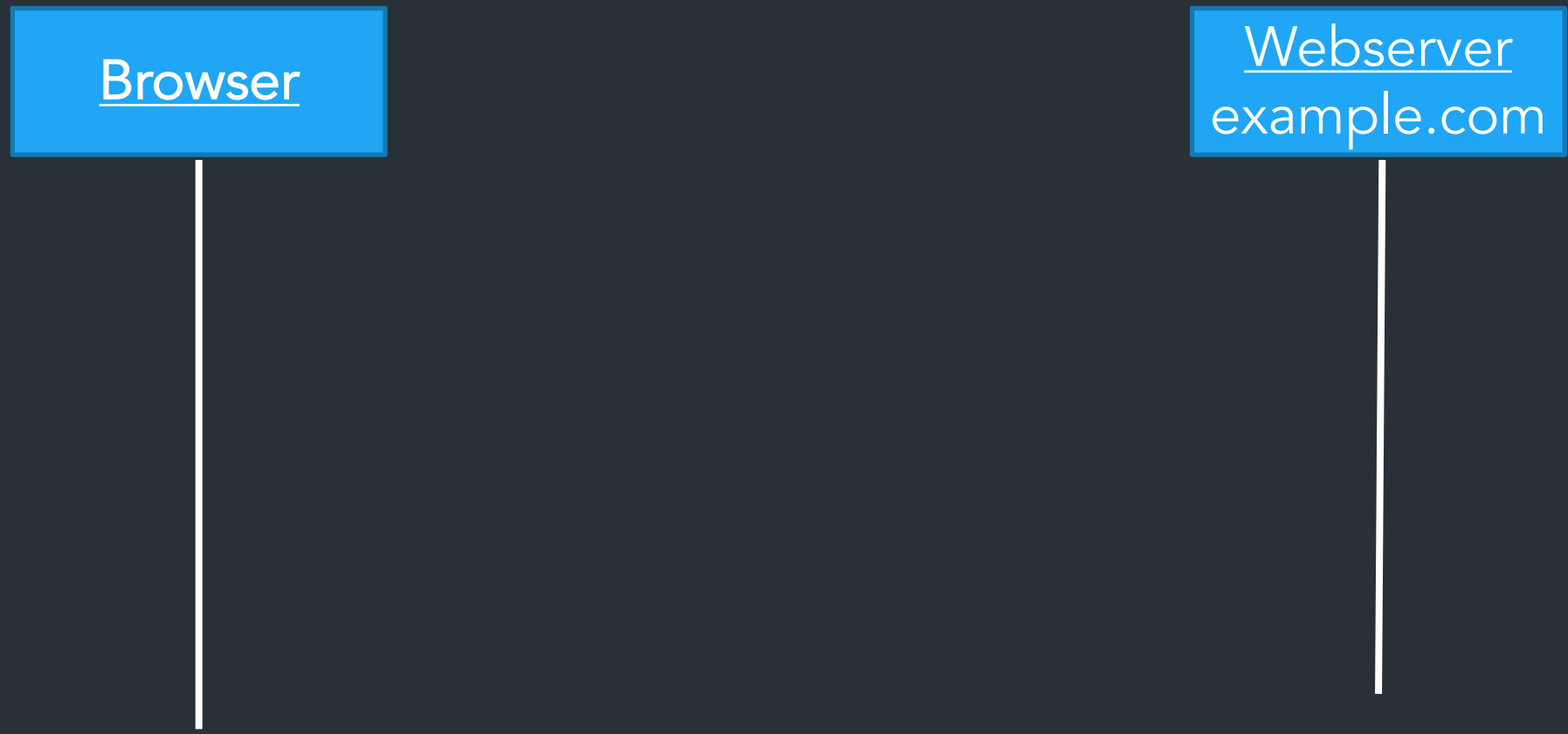


It gets worse

Modern web traffic almost always uses HTTPS: https://example.com/page.html

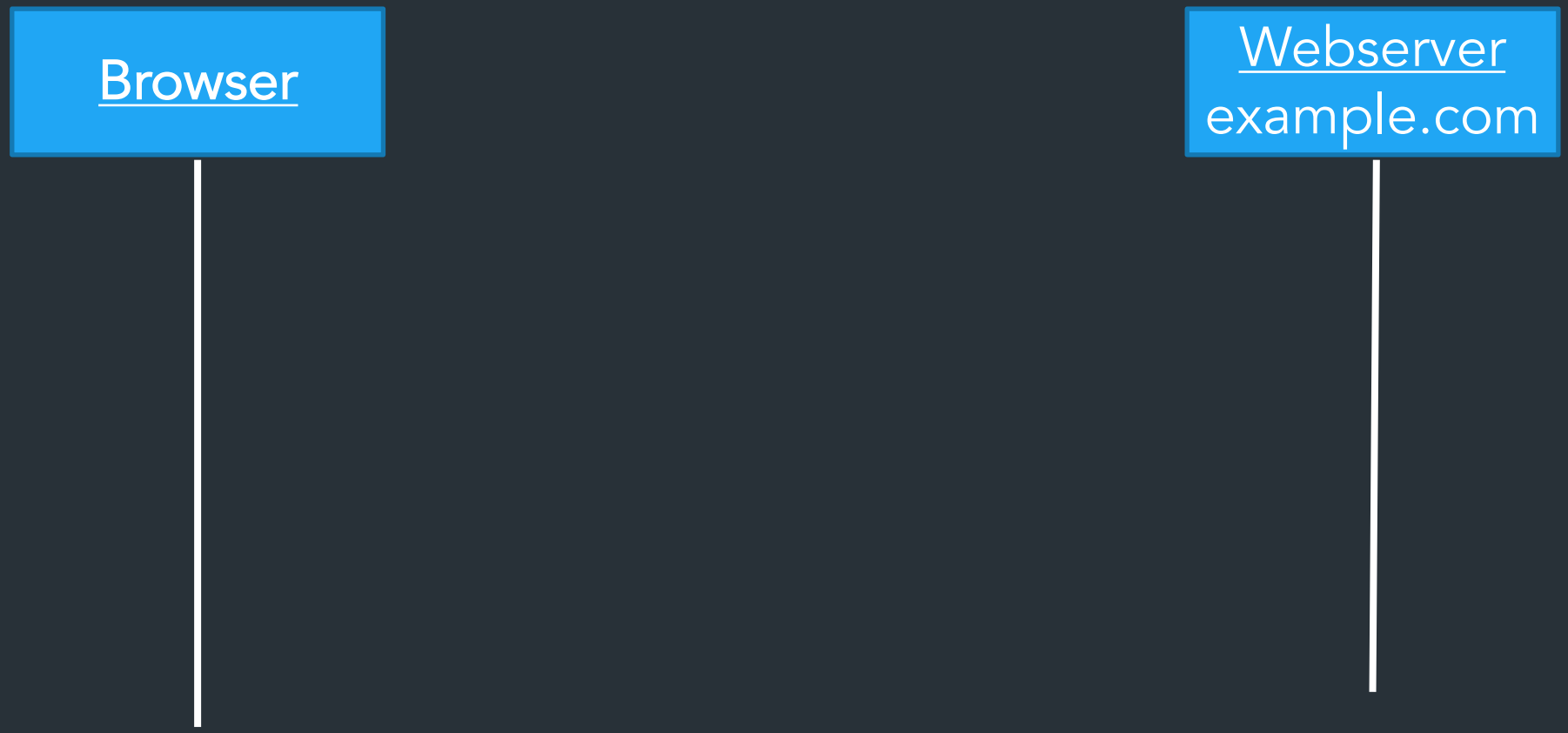
=> Creates a secure transport layer to prevent eavesdropping, etc

(more on this later)



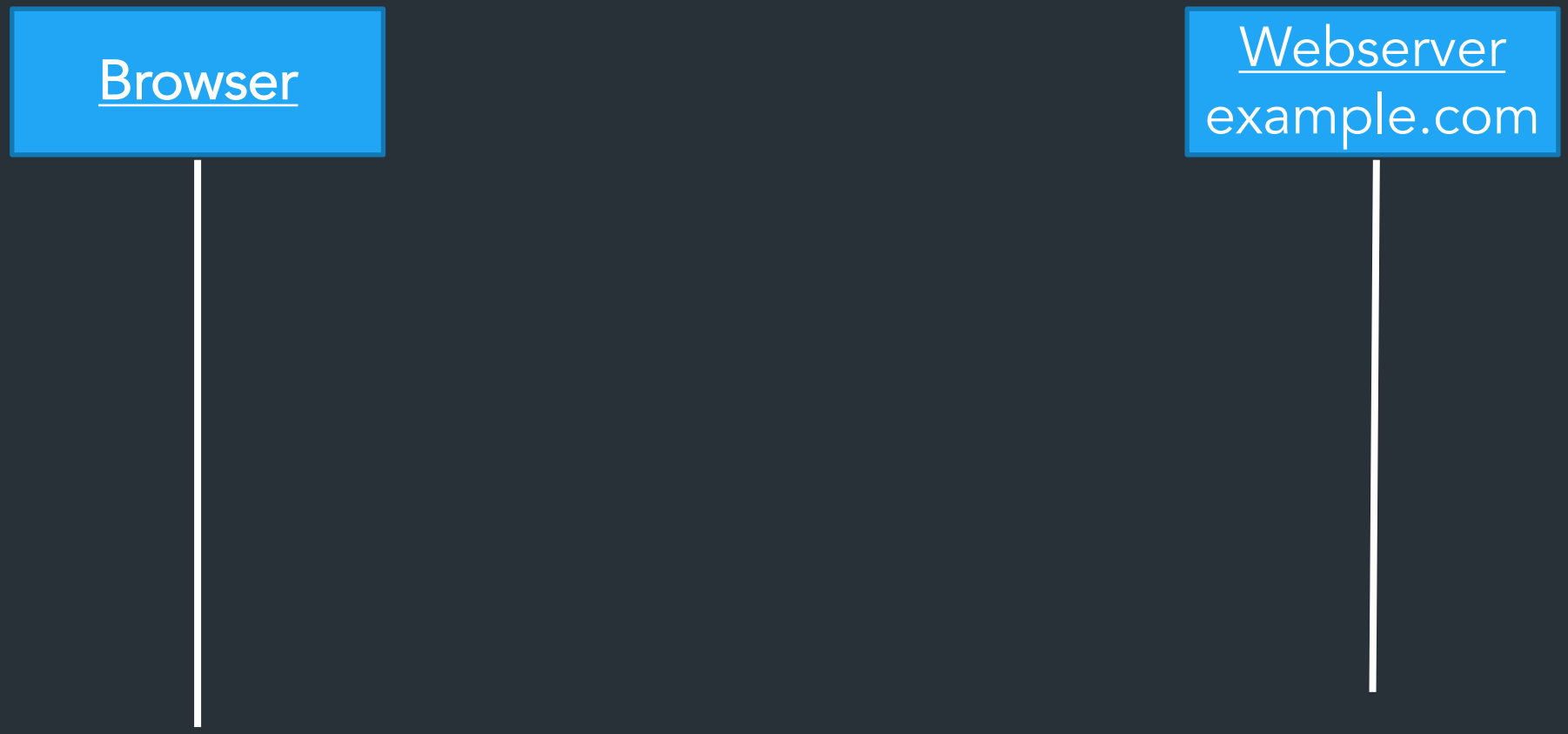
How does a browser load a page?

- Click a link, type in URL => browser fetches main page



How does a browser load a page?

- Click a link, type in URL => browser fetches main page
- Main page has links to more resources => need to fetch these too!
  - Images, CSS, Javascript, etc.

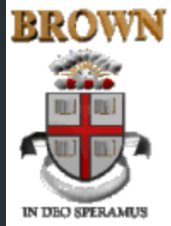


How does a browser load a page?

- Click a link, type in URL => browser fetches main page
- Main page has links to more resources => need to fetch these too!
  - Images, CSS, Javascript, etc.

- New resources might load yet more resources…

Recursive process with many dependencies!



Department of Computer Science

Welcome to the Brown University Computer Science Department Web. Information here is organized into broad categories, which are summarized in the icon bar, above. If you are visiting for th
or exploring, the rest of this page offers some details about what you'll find.

If you are visiting us in person, you'll need directions to the CIT building. If not, perhaps you just need our address, phone, fax or other vital statistics.

 Calendar of Events
Talks, conferences and soirees both at Brown and elsewhere are described.

 Programs of Study
Undergraduate concentration requirements and the masters and phd programs are described, accompanied by the relevant forms, brochures and pointers to related information elsewhere.

 Research Groups
Active research areas in computer science at Brown include graphics, geometric computing, object-oriented databases, artificial intelligence and robotics. Each group maintains a home pag
describing their research and activities and links to relevant publications.

 Publications
The Department publishes brochures, technical reports, a newsletter, *conduit!*, and, for locals, house rules.

 Courses
Many cou

Early websites: not many dependencies,
usually served by one server

Now???

amazon

Update location

Account & Lists

& Orders

Cart

All | Holiday Deals | Medical Care | Groceries | Best Sellers | Amazon Basics | Prime | Registry | New Releases | Today's Deals | Customer S | Fashion

Sign in

New customer? Start here.

Early Black Friday deals

Save up to 50% on Amazon smart home devices

Limited-time offer

Gear up for game day

Shop all teams

Try on Coach styles for free

Shop Coach with Prime Try Before You Buy

Top Deal

Up to 50% off Deal

Ring Doorbells, Cameras and Bundles

See all deals

Sign in for the best experience

Sign in securely

On a modern webpage…

On a modern webpage…

- Huge number of dependencies, external resources
  - … from many different locations, not just one server!

- Lots of asynchronous operations => loading new resources as you are using the page

- Lots of dynamic content => generated by the server specifically for you (your feed, ad data, …)

How to make this fast?

How to make this fast?

What's important for performance?

Observation: lots of small requests

Latency is a problem! Need many RTTs just to fetch one resource!

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HTTP/1.0: One TCP connection per request!

Can we do better?

HTTP/1.1 (1996): Persistent connections

=> Reuse TCP connection to for multiple requests

Problems?

Can we do better?

HTTP/1.1 (1996): Persistent connections

=> Reuse TCP connection to for multiple requests

Problems?

⇒ One big request blocks others => head of line blocking

=> Same if connection has packet loss

=> Doesn't help when fetching from multiple locations

What can be done?

HTTP/1.1 Request

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: localhost:8000
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macinto ...
Accept: text/xml,application/xm ...
Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.7
Keep-Alive: 300
Connection: keep-alive
```

What can be done?

Pipelining: have multiple “in-flight” requests at once

Two methods

- Multiple TCP connections in parallel

- Change the HTTP protocol: multiple requests per connection

What can be done?

Pipelining: have multiple “in-flight” requests at once

Two methods

- Multiple TCP connections in parallel
  => Browsers often do this (up to a limit)

- Change the HTTP protocol: multiple requests per connection
  => Newer HTTP versions: HTTP/2, HTTP/3

HTTP/2 (2015)

Adds support for multiplexed streams on one connection

What happens if a packet gets dropped?

https://www.twilio.com/blog/2017/10/http2-issues.html

HTTP/2 (2015)

Adds support for multiplexed streams on one connection

TCP provides a single, ordered byte stream
=> doesn't know about multiple connections!

https://www.twilio.com/blog/2017/10/http2-issues.html

HTTP/2 (2015)

Adds support for multiplexed streams on one connection

TCP provides a single, ordered byte stream
=> doesn't know about multiple connections!

Encumbered by TCP's semantics:
If a packet is lost, all streams suffer! 😭 😭 😭

=> Head of line blocking

https://www.twilio.com/blog/2017/10/http2-issues.html

HTTP/3 (2022): HTTP + QUIC

Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
Request for Comments: 9000
Category: Standards Track
Published: May 2021
ISSN: 2070-1721

J. Iyengar, Ed.
Fastly
M. Thomson, Ed.
Mozilla

QUIC: A UDP-Based Multiplexed and Secure Transport

Abstract

This document defines the core of the QUIC transport protocol. QUIC provides applications with flow-controlled streams for structured communication, low-latency connection establishment, and network path migration. QUIC includes security measures that ensure confidentiality, integrity, and availability in a range of deployment circumstances. Accompanying documents describe the integration of TLS for key negotiation, loss detection, and an exemplary congestion control algorithm.¶

HTTP/3 (2022): HTTP + QUIC

QUIC (RFC9000): Newer transport-layer protocol, same goals as TCP

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QUIC (RFC9000): Newer transport-layer protocol, same goals as TCP

- Supports multiple streams at once
- Various tricks to reduce message size and latency
- Integrates security by default (TLS)

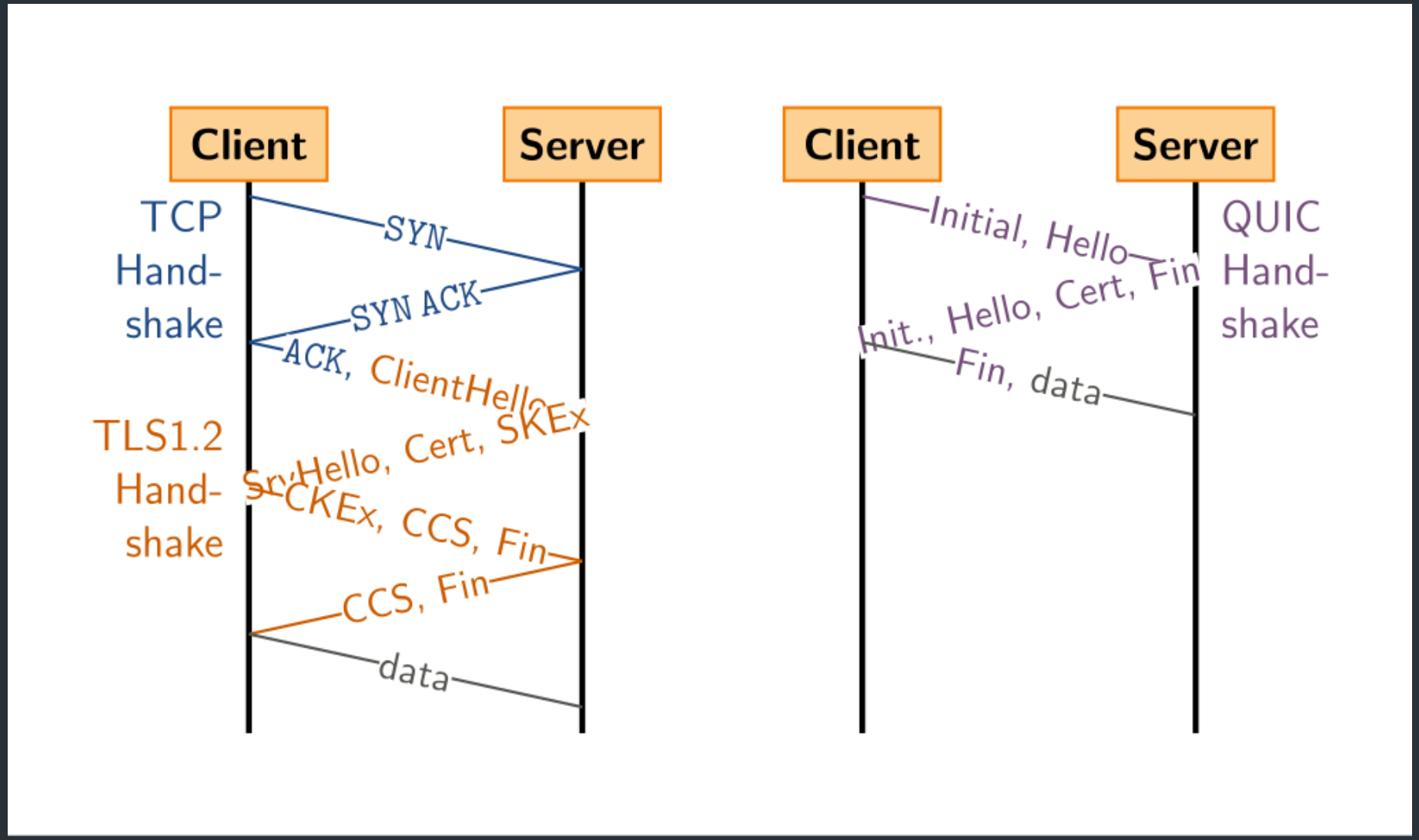
HTTP/3 (2022): HTTP + QUIC

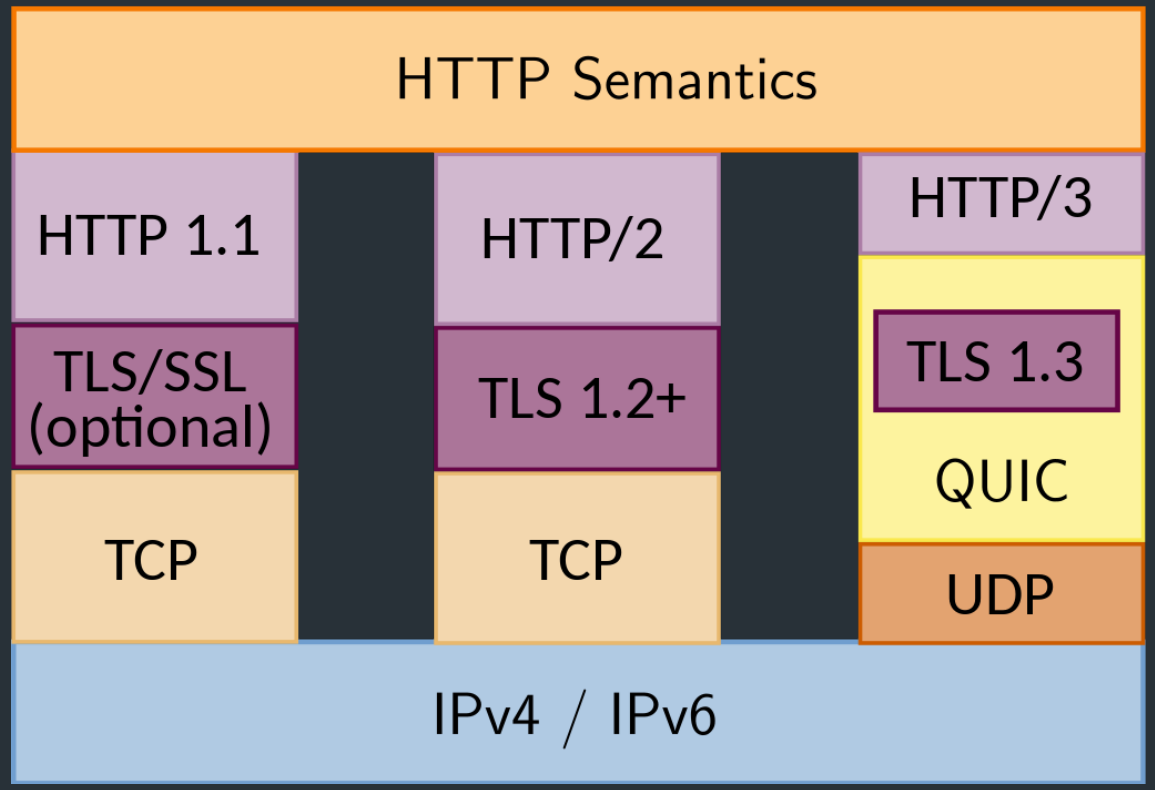
QUIC (RFC9000): Newer transport-layer protocol, same goals as TCP

- Supports multiple streams at once
- Various tricks to reduce message size and latency
- Integrates security by default (TLS)

- By moving multiplexing into the transport layer, can do so in a way that benefits HTTP (no head of line blocking!)

Comparison: QUIC's handshake

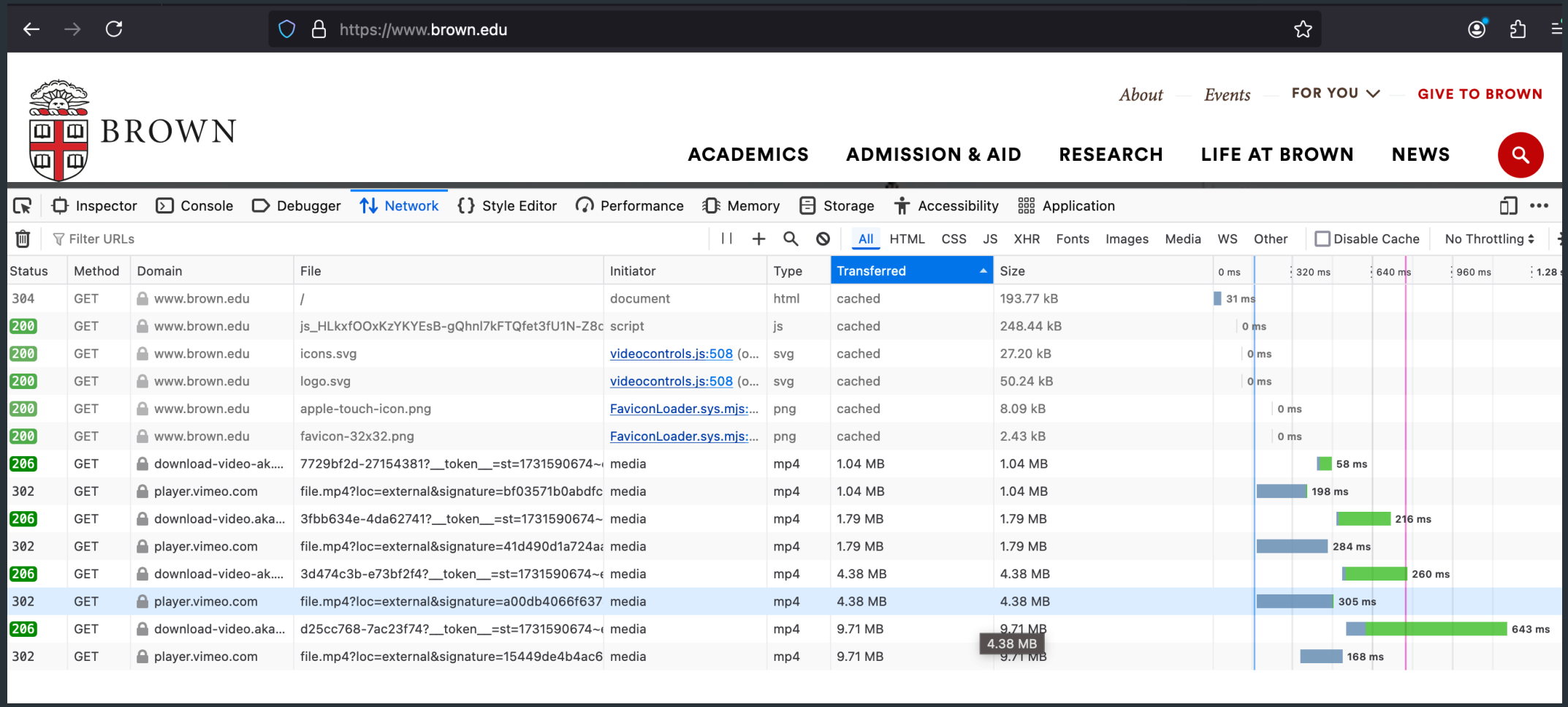




http://httpwg.org/specs/rfc7540.html

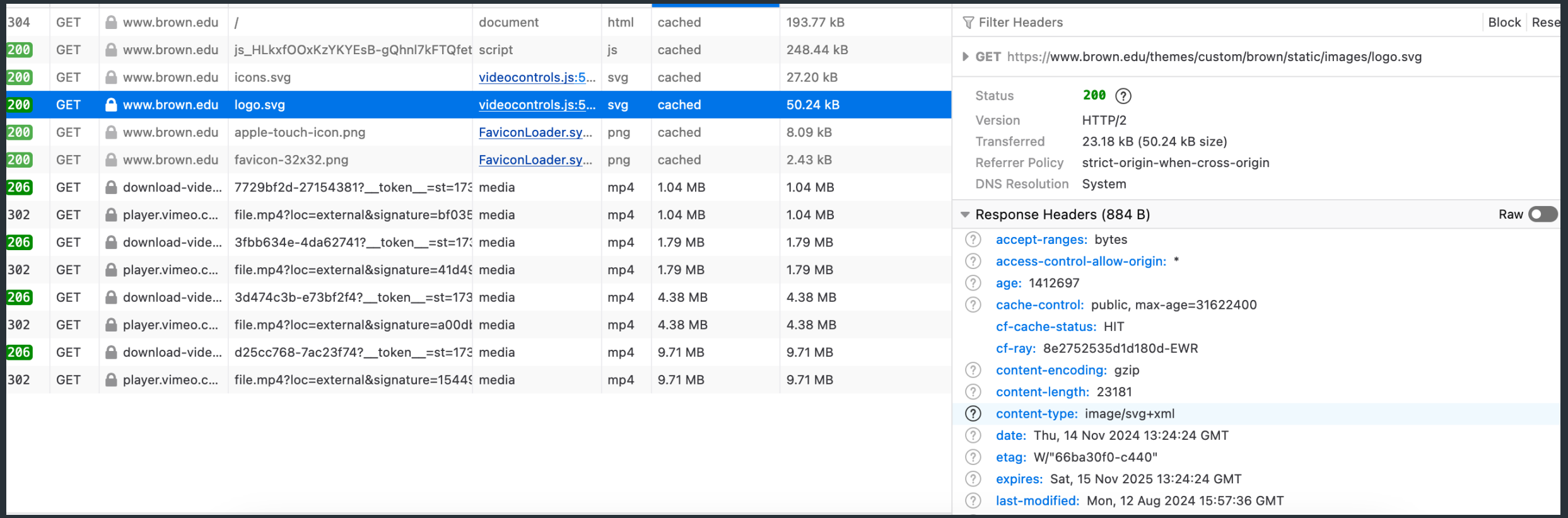
What else can we improve performance?

Caching: in the browser



What parts of this can be cached?

How do we know what to cache?



304	GET	www.brown.edu	/	document	html	cached	193.77 kB
200	GET	www.brown.edu	js_HLkxfOOxKzYKYEsB-gQhnl7kFTQfet	script	js	cached	248.44 kB
200	GET	www.brown.edu	icons.svg	videocontrols.js:5...	svg	cached	27.20 kB
200	GET	www.brown.edu	logo.svg	videocontrols.js:5...	svg	cached	50.24 kB
200	GET	www.brown.edu	apple-touch-icon.png	FaviconLoader.sy...	png	cached	8.09 kB
200	GET	www.brown.edu	favicon-32x32.png	FaviconLoader.sy...	png	cached	2.43 kB
206	GET	download-vide...	7729bf2d-27154381?__token__=st=173	media	mp4	1.04 MB	1.04 MB
302	GET	player.vimeo.c...	file.mp4?loc=external&signature=bf035	media	mp4	1.04 MB	1.04 MB
206	GET	download-vide...	3fbb634e-4da62741?__token__=st=173	media	mp4	1.79 MB	1.79 MB
302	GET	player.vimeo.c...	file.mp4?loc=external&signature=41d49	media	mp4	1.79 MB	1.79 MB
206	GET	download-vide...	3d474c3b-e73bf2f4?__token__=st=173	media	mp4	4.38 MB	4.38 MB
302	GET	player.vimeo.c...	file.mp4?loc=external&signature=a00db	media	mp4	4.38 MB	4.38 MB
206	GET	download-vide...	d25cc768-7ac23f74?__token__=st=173	media	mp4	9.71 MB	9.71 MB
302	GET	player.vimeo.c...	file.mp4?loc=external&signature=1544	media	mp4	9.71 MB	9.71 MB

Filter Headers | Block | Rese

GET https://www.brown.edu/themes/custom/brown/static/images/logo.svg

Status 200
Version HTTP/2
Transferred 23.18 kB (50.24 kB size)
Referrer Policy strict-origin-when-cross-origin
DNS Resolution System

Response Headers (884 B) Raw

accept-ranges: bytes
access-control-allow-origin: *
age: 1412697
cache-control: public, max-age=31622400
cf-cache-status: HIT
cf-ray: 8e2752535d1d180d-EWR
content-encoding: gzip
content-length: 23181
content-type: image/svg+xml
date: Thu, 14 Nov 2024 13:24:24 GMT
etag: W/"66ba30f0-c440"
expires: Sat, 15 Nov 2025 13:24:24 GMT
last-modified: Mon, 12 Aug 2024 15:57:36 GMT

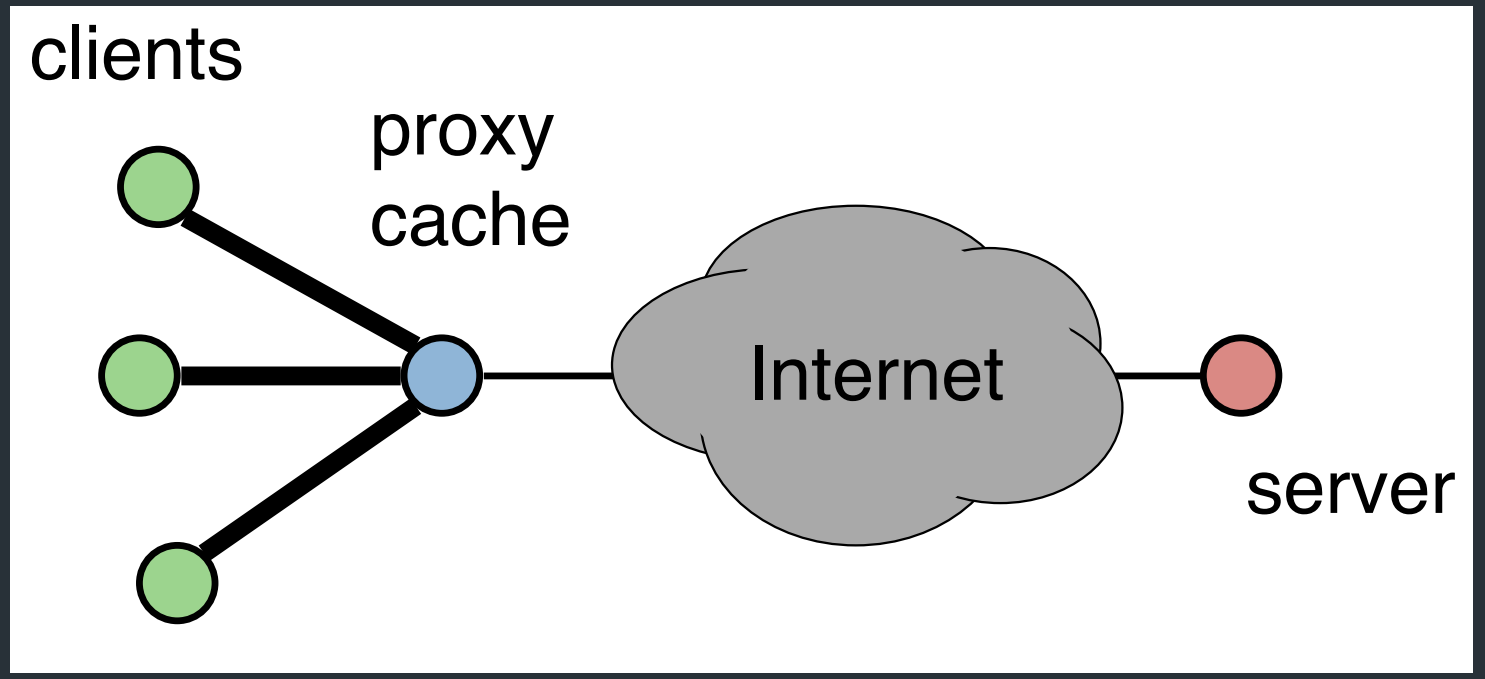
Headers returned with response
=> if caching is possible, how long to cache, etc.
=> Also possible to do conditional requests “If-Modified-Since” => server doesn’t send payload unless the resource has changed

How to Control Caching?

- Server sets options
  - **Expires** header
  - No-Cache header
- Client can do a conditional request:
  - Header option: if-modified-since
  - Server can reply with 304 NOT MODIFIED

Proxy caches

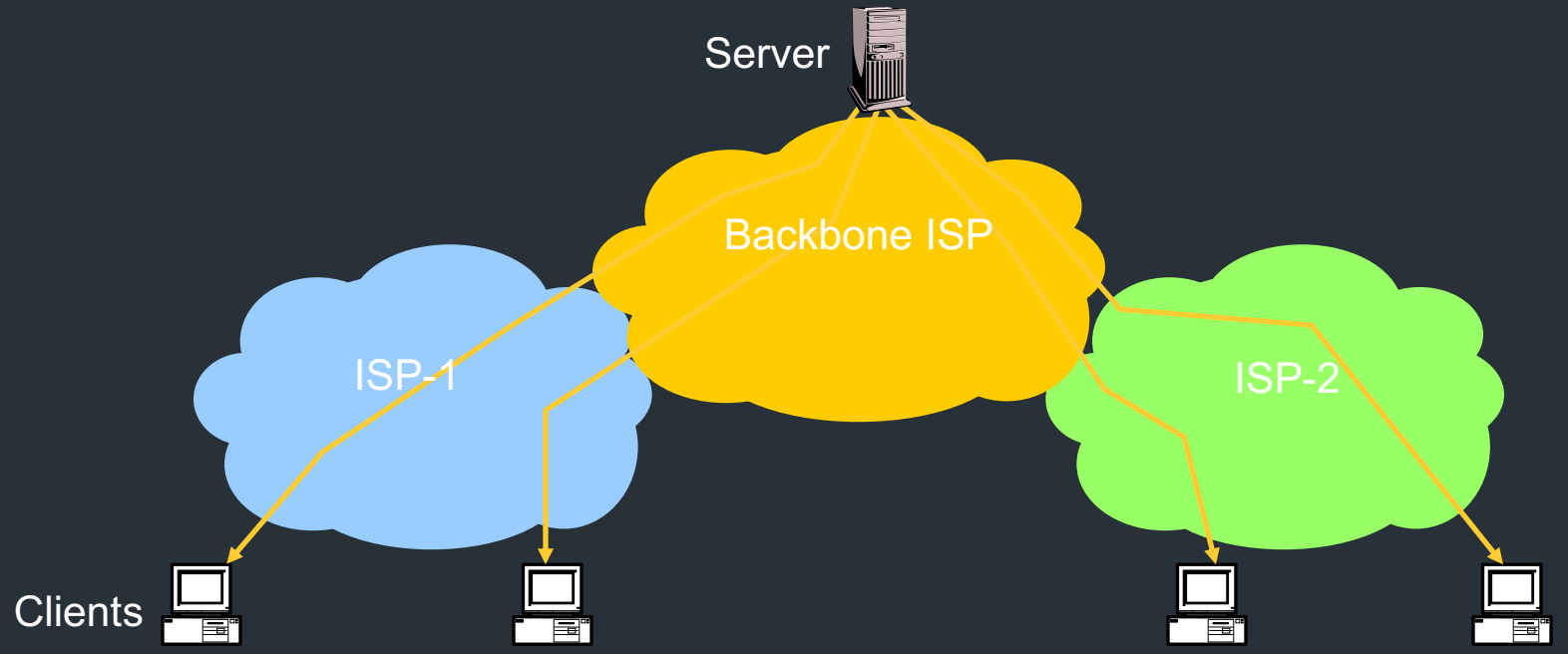
Classic way: proxy cache



⇒ Client first sends traffic to proxy server, which forwards to Internet
⇒ Proxy acts as cache

Implications
- Cache data close to clients (locality)
- Can also use to enforce security policies, or circumvent them (eg. open proxies)

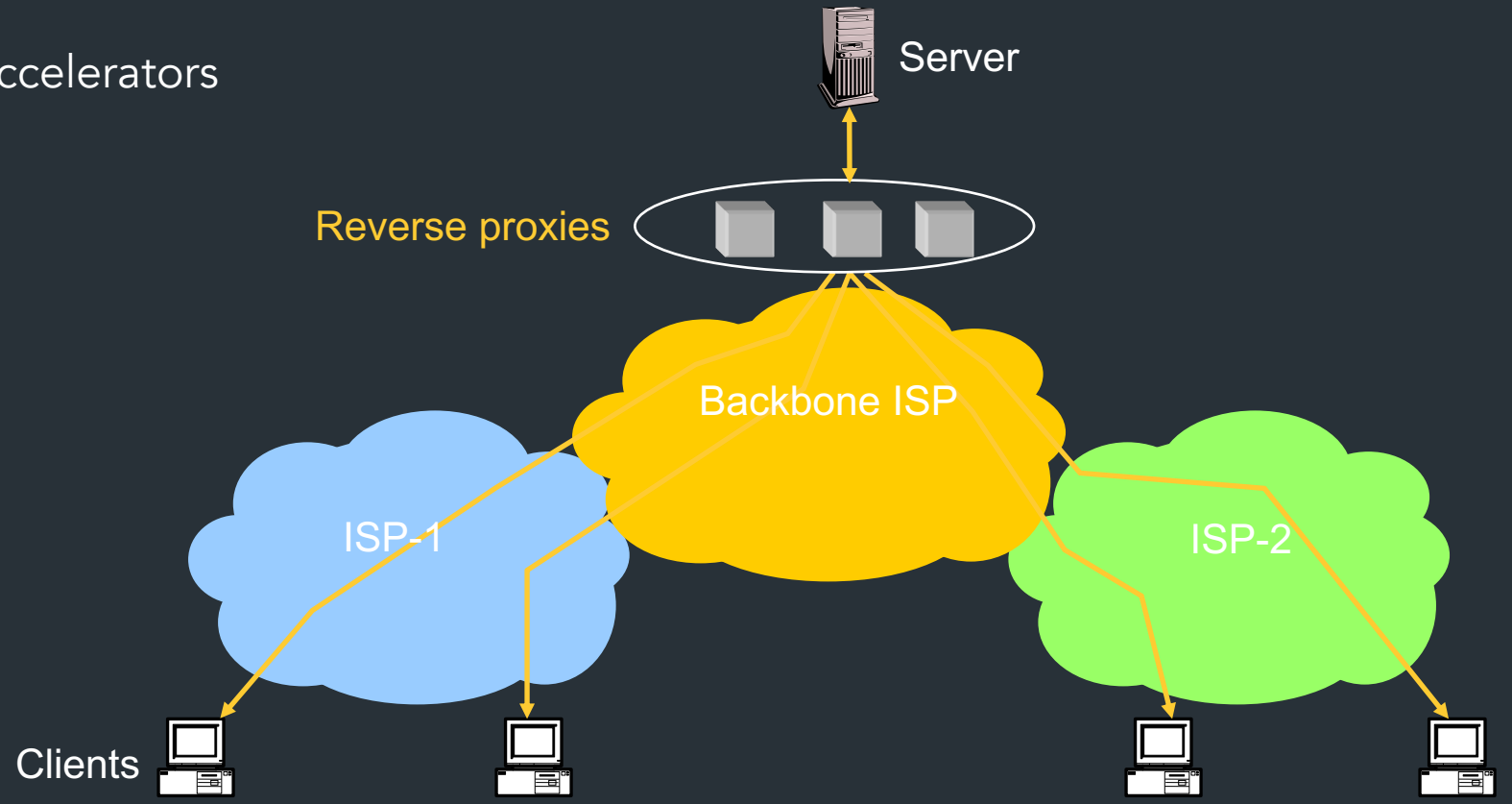
Caching *throughout* the network?



Reverse Proxies

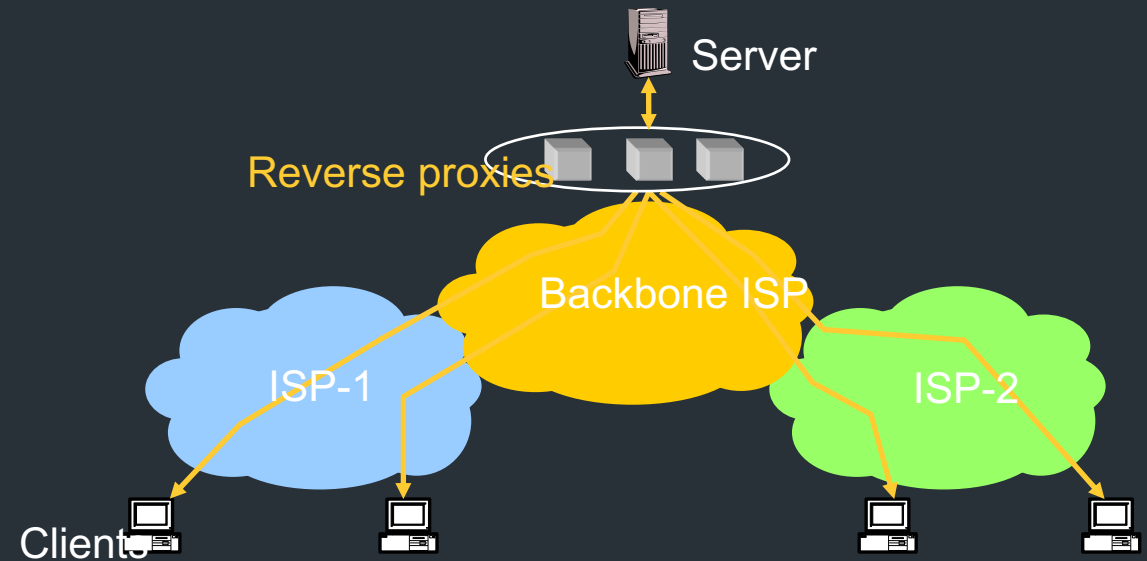
Idea: cache within network, appears like normal server
=> Reduce load on server, distribute load, do other tasks…

=> Also called accelerators



Reverse Proxies

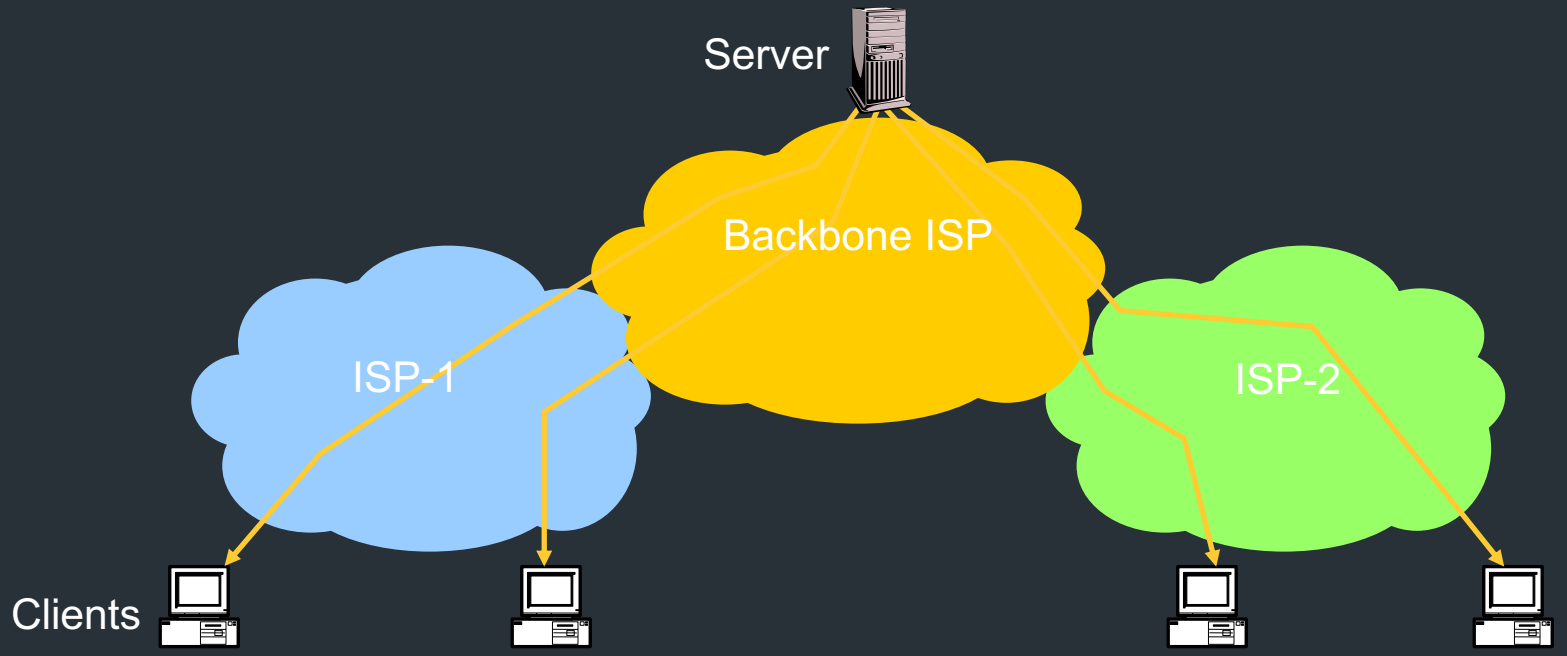
Reasons for reverse proxying



How well does caching work?

- Very well, up to a point
  - Large overlap in requested objects
  - Objects with one access place upper bound on hit ratio
- Example: Wikipedia
  - About 400 servers, 100 are HTTP Caches (Squid)
  - 85% Hit ratio for text, 98% for media

Where to cache content?



- Client (browser): avoid extra network transfers
- Server: reduce load on the server
- Service Provider: reduce external traffic

Content Distribution Networks (CDNs)

Companies that specialize in providing caching services (among other things)

=> Akamai, Cloudflare, …

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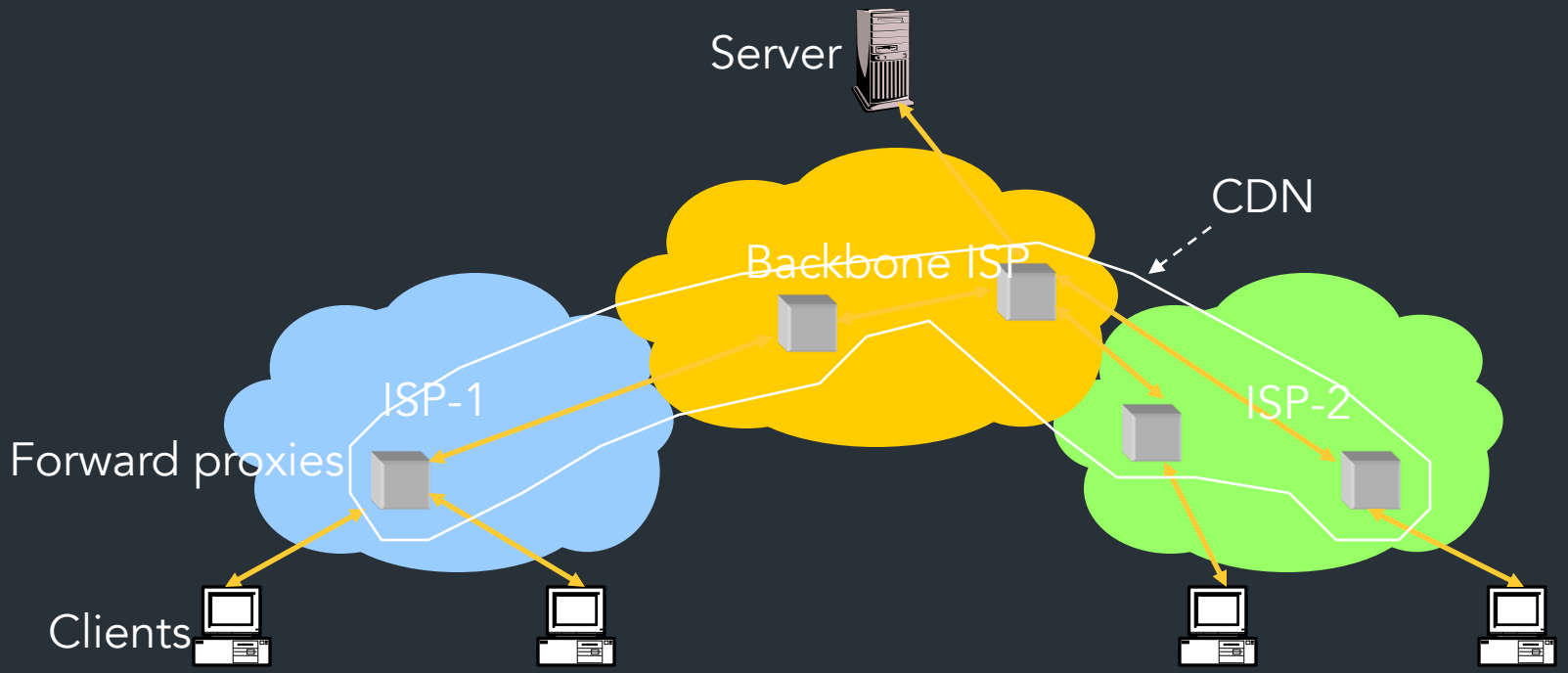
- Provides caching throughout network
- Can also do some processing

An Example CDN

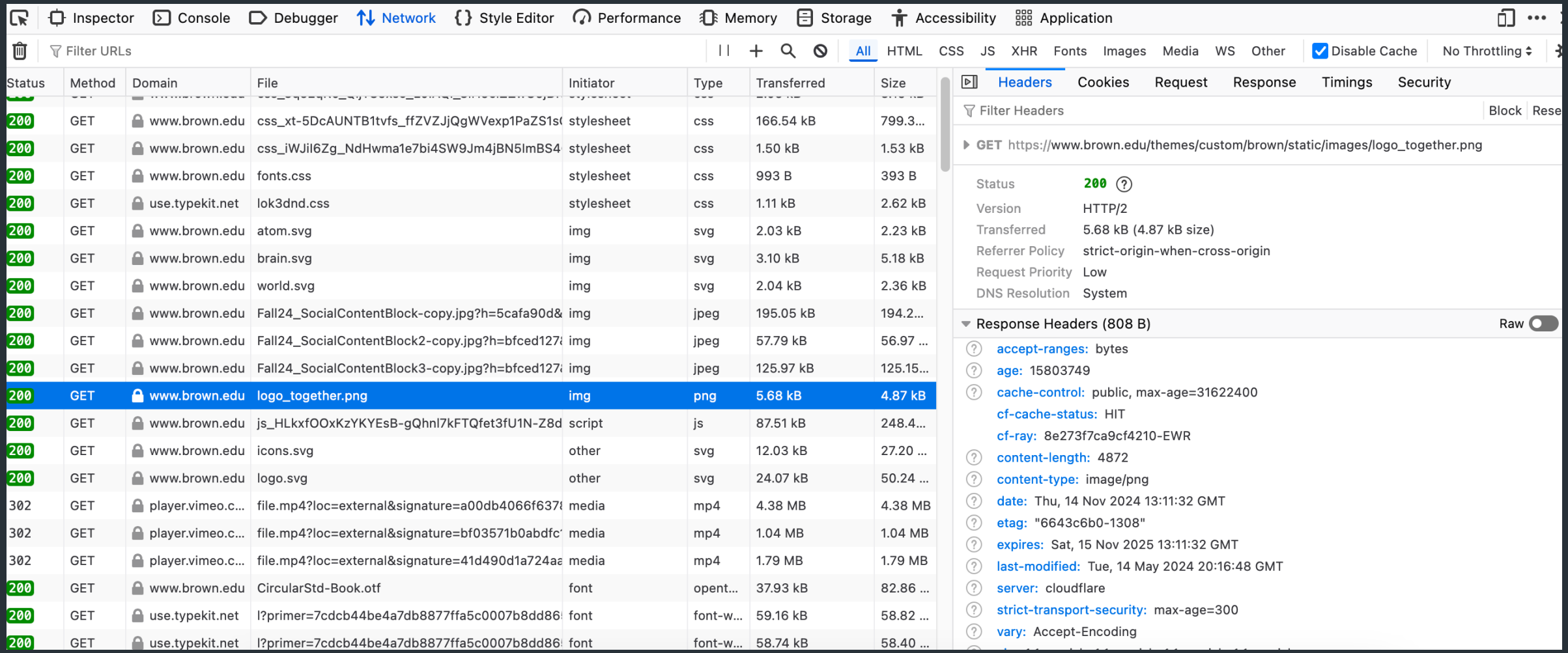


```
dig www.brown.edu @10.1.1.10

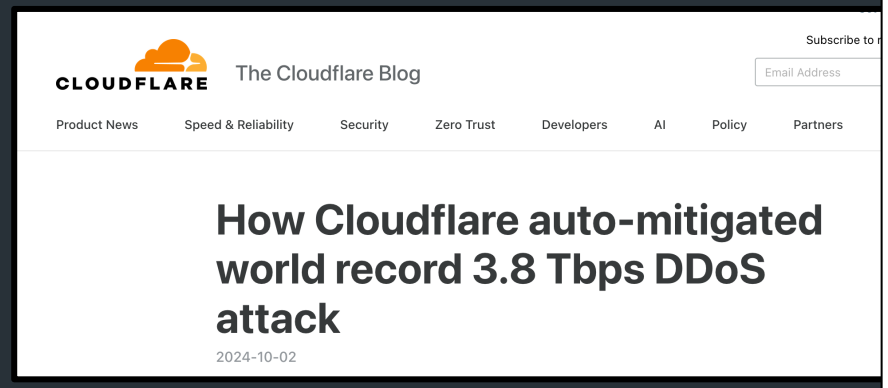


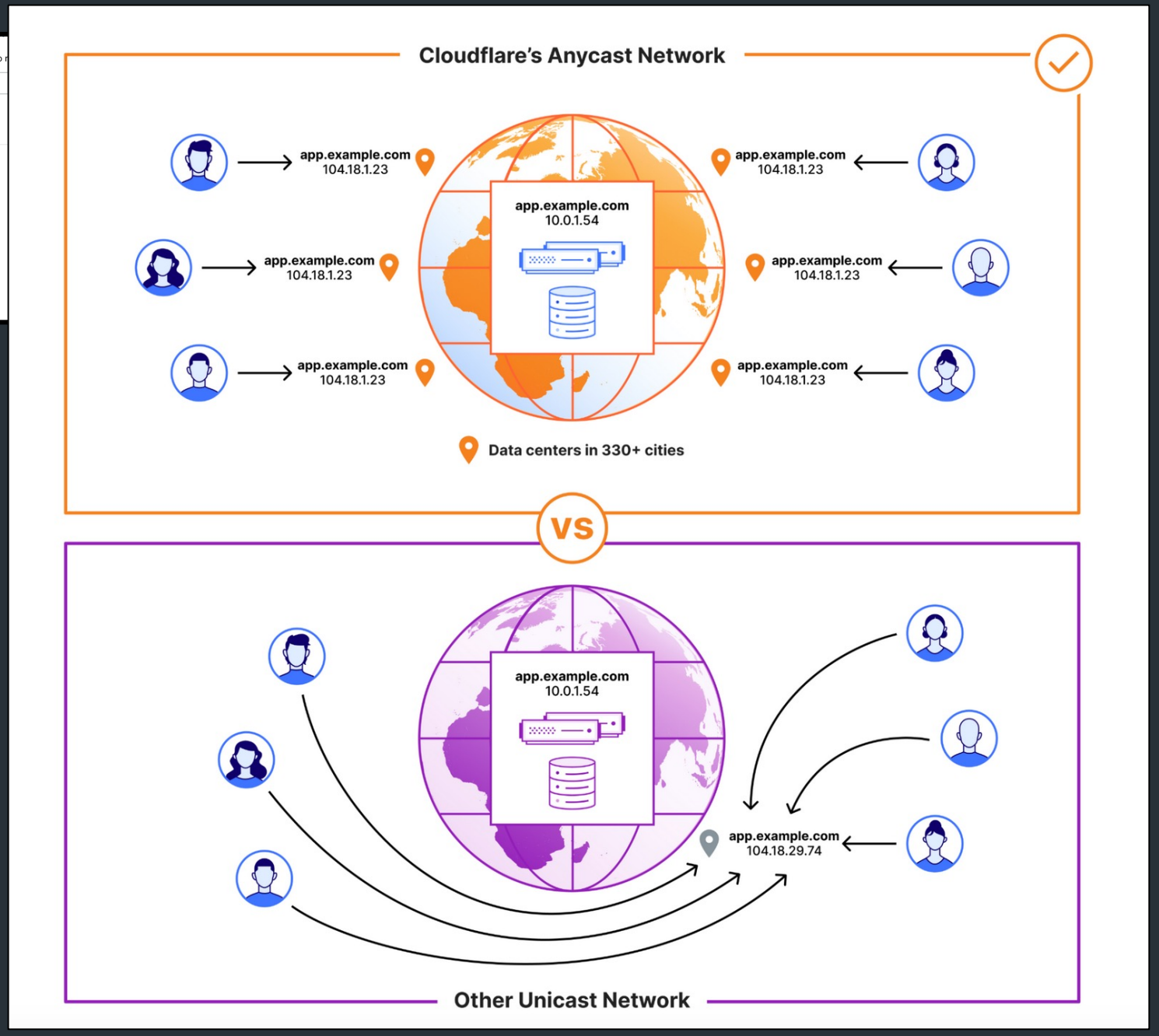
;; ANSWER SECTION:
www.brown.edu. 3600 IN CNAME www.brown.edu.cdn.cloudflare.net.
www.brown.edu.cdn.cloudflare.net. 195 IN A 104.18.2.173
www.brown.edu.cdn.cloudflare.net. 195 IN A 104.18.3.173


;; Query time: 75 msec
;; SERVER: 10.1.1.10#53(10.1.1.10)
;; WHEN: Thu Nov 14 08:14:16 EST 2024
;; MSG SIZE  rcvd: 120
```


Inspector
Console
Debugger
Network
Style Editor
Performance
Memory
Storage
Accessibility
Application
Filter URLs
All
HTML
CSS
JS
XHR
Fonts
Images
Media
WS
Other
Disable Cache
No Throttling
Status Method Domain File Initiator Type Transferred Size
200 GET www.brown.edu css_xt-5DcAUNTB1tvfs_ffZVZJjQgWVexp1PaZS1s(stylesheet css 166.54 kB 799.3...
200 GET www.brown.edu css_iWJil6Zg_NdHwma1e7bi4SW9Jm4jBN5ImBS4 stylesheet css 1.50 kB 1.53 kB
200 GET www.brown.edu fonts.css stylesheet css 993 B 393 B
200 GET use.typekit.net lok3dnd.css stylesheet css 1.11 kB 2.62 kB
200 GET www.brown.edu atom.svg img svg 2.03 kB 2.23 kB
200 GET www.brown.edu brain.svg img svg 3.10 kB 5.18 kB
200 GET www.brown.edu world.svg img svg 2.04 kB 2.36 kB
200 GET www.brown.edu Fall24_SocialContentBlock-copy.jpg?h=5cafa90d& img jpeg 195.05 kB 194.2...
200 GET www.brown.edu Fall24_SocialContentBlock2-copy.jpg?h=bfced127 img jpeg 57.79 kB 56.97 ...
200 GET www.brown.edu Fall24_SocialContentBlock3-copy.jpg?h=bfced127 img jpeg 125.97 kB 125.15...
200 GET www.brown.edu logo_together.png img png 5.68 kB 4.87 kB
200 GET www.brown.edu js_HLkxfOOxKzYKYEsB-gQhnl7kFTQfet3fU1N-Z8d script js 87.51 kB 248.4...
200 GET www.brown.edu icons.svg other svg 12.03 kB 27.20 ...
200 GET www.brown.edu logo.svg other svg 24.07 kB 50.24 ...
302 GET player.vimeo.c... file.mp4?loc=external&signature=a00db4066f637 media mp4 4.38 MB 4.38 MB
302 GET player.vimeo.c... file.mp4?loc=external&signature=bf03571b0abdfc media mp4 1.04 MB 1.04 MB
302 GET player.vimeo.c... file.mp4?loc=external&signature=41d490d1a724aa media mp4 1.79 MB 1.79 MB
200 GET www.brown.edu CircularStd-Book.otf font opent... 37.93 kB 82.86 ...
200 GET use.typekit.net l?primer=7cdcb44be4a7db8877ffa5c0007b8dd86 font font-w... 59.16 kB 58.82 ...
200 GET use.typekit.net l?primer=7cdcb44be4a7db8877ffa5c0007b8dd86 font font-w... 58.74 kB 58.40 ...
Headers
Cookies
Request
Response
Timings
Security
Filter Headers
Block
Rese
GET https://www.brown.edu/themes/custom/brown/static/images/logo_together.png
Status 200
Version HTTP/2
Transferred 5.68 kB (4.87 kB size)
Referrer Policy strict-origin-when-cross-origin
Request Priority Low
DNS Resolution System
Response Headers (808 B)
Raw
accept-ranges: bytes
age: 15803749
cache-control: public, max-age=31622400
cf-cache-status: HIT
cf-ray: 8e273f7ca9cf4210-EWR
content-length: 4872
content-type: image/png
date: Thu, 14 Nov 2024 13:11:32 GMT
etag: "6643c6b0-1308"
expires: Sat, 15 Nov 2025 13:11:32 GMT
last-modified: Tue, 14 May 2024 20:16:48 GMT
server: cloudflare
strict-transport-security: max-age=300
vary: Accept-Encoding

DDoS mitigation via CDN





[Link]

Content Distribution Networks (CDNs)

Companies that specialize in providing caching services (among other things)

=> Akamai, Cloudflare, …

- Provide both caching throughout network
  - Pull: result from client requests
  - Push: expectation of high access rates to some objects
- Can also do some processing
  - Deploy code to handle some dynamic requests
  - Can do other things, such as transcoding

How Akamai works

Akamai has cache servers deployed close to clients

- Co-located with many ISPs

- Challenge: make same domain name resolve to a proxy close to the client

- Lots of DNS tricks. BestBuy is a customer
  - Delegate name resolution to Akamai (via a CNAME)

Other CDNs

- Akamai, Limelight, Cloudflare
- Amazon, Facebook, Google, Microsoft
- Netflix
- Where to place content?
- Which content to place? Pre-fetch or cache?

DNS Resolution

```
dig www.bestbuy.com
;; ANSWER SECTION:
www.bestbuy.com. 3600     IN       CNAME    www.bestbuy.com.edgesuite.net.
www.bestbuy.com.edgesuite.net. 21600 IN    CNAME    a1105.b.akamai.net.
a1105.b.akamai.net.       20       IN       A        198.7.236.235
a1105.b.akamai.net.       20       IN       A        198.7.236.240
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
b.akamai.net.             1101     IN       NS       n1b.akamai.net.
b.akamai.net.             1101     IN       NS       n0b.akamai.net.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
n0b.akamai.net.           1267     IN       A        24.143.194.45
n1b.akamai.net.           2196     IN       A        198.7.236.236
```

- n1b.akamai.net finds an edge server close to the client's local resolver
  - Uses knowledge of network: BGP feeds, traceroutes. *Their secret sauce…*

Example

From Brown

```
dig www.bestbuy.com
;; ANSWER SECTION:
www.bestbuy.com.  3600  IN    CNAME www.bestbuy.com.edgesuite.net.
www.bestbuy.com.edgesuite.net. 21600 IN  CNAME a1105.b.akamai.net.
a1105.b.akamai.net.     20    IN    A     198.7.236.235
a1105.b.akamai.net.     20    IN    A     198.7.236.240
```

- Ping time: 2.53ms

From Berkeley, CA

```
a1105.b.akamai.net.     20    IN    A     198.189.255.200
a1105.b.akamai.net.     20    IN    A     198.189.255.207
```

- Ping time: 3.20ms

```
dig www.bestbuy.com
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;www.bestbuy.com. IN A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
www.bestbuy.com. 2530 IN CNAME www.bestbuy.com.edgekey.net.
www.bestbuy.com.edgekey.net. 85 IN CNAME e1382.x.akamaiedge.net.
e1382.x.akamaiedge.net. 16 IN A 104.88.86.223

;; Query time: 6 msec
;; SERVER: 192.168.1.1#53(192.168.1.1)
;; WHEN: Thu Nov 16 09:43:11 2017
;; MSG SIZE  rcvd: 123

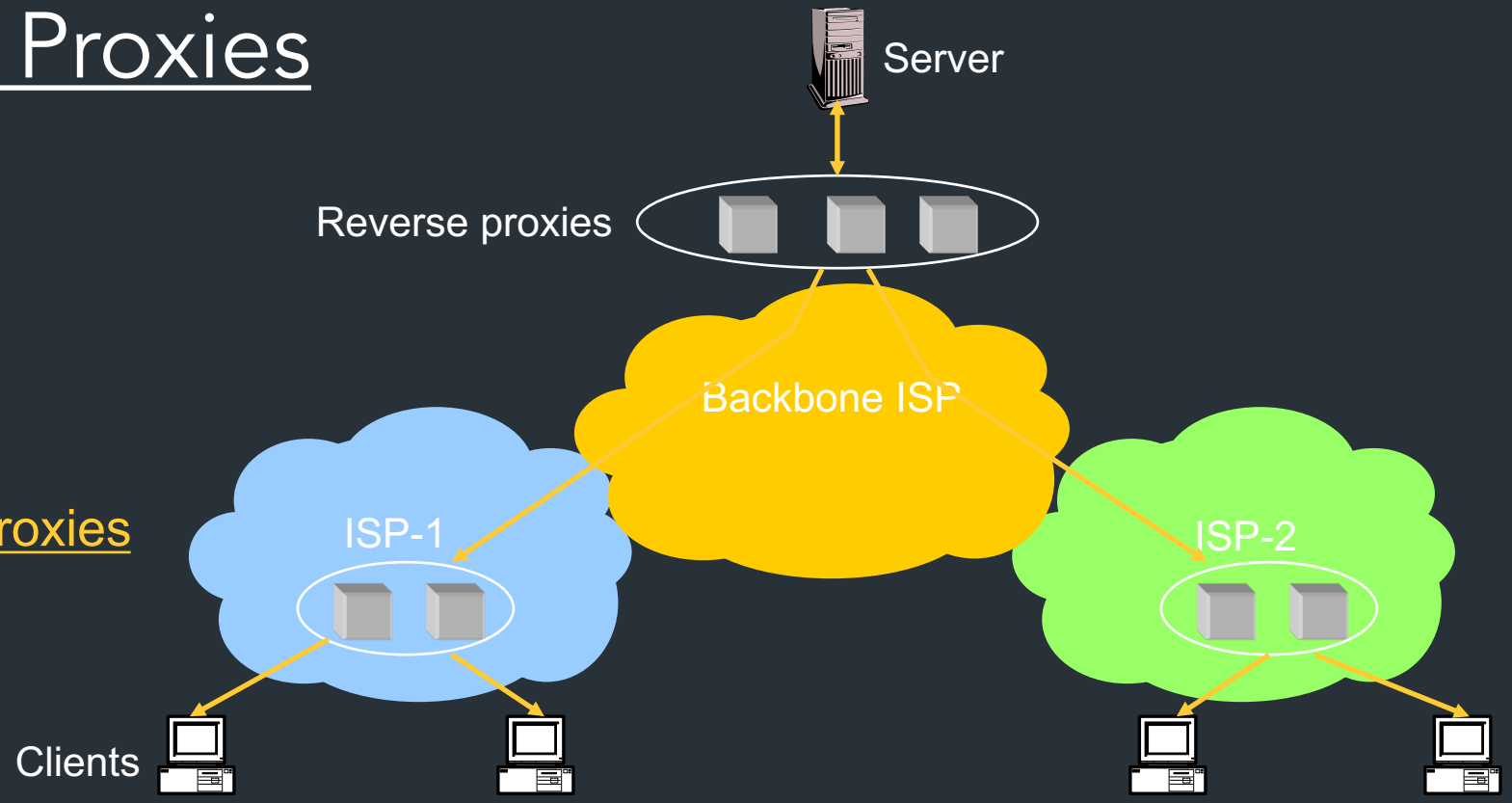
traceroute to 104.88.86.223 (104.88.86.223), 64 hops max, 52 byte packets
 1  router (192.168.1.1)  2.461 ms  1.647 ms  1.178 ms
 2  138.16.160.253 (138.16.160.253)  1.854 ms  1.509 ms  1.462 ms
 3  10.1.18.5 (10.1.18.5)  1.886 ms  1.705 ms  1.707 ms
 4  10.1.80.5 (10.1.80.5)  4.276 ms  6.444 ms  2.307 ms
 5  lsb-inet-r-230.net.brown.edu (128.148.230.6)  1.804 ms  1.870 ms  1.727 ms
 6  131.109.200.1 (131.109.200.1)  2.841 ms  2.587 ms  2.530 ms
 7  host-198-7-224-105.oshean.org (198.7.224.105)  4.421 ms  4.523 ms  4.496 ms
 8  5-1-4.bear1.boston1.level3.net (4.53.54.21)  4.099 ms  3.974 ms  4.290 ms
 9  * ae-4.r00.bstnma07.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.66.93)  4.689 ms  4.109 ms
10  ae-6.r24.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.4.114)  8.863 ms  10.205 ms  10.477 ms
11  ae-1.r08.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.5.62)  9.298 ms
    ae-1.r07.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.3.181)  10.008 ms  8.677 ms
12  ae-0.a00.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.3.94)  8.543 ms  7.935 ms
    ae-1.a00.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.6.55)  9.836 ms
13  a104-88-86-223.deploy.static.akamaitechnologies.com (104.88.86.223)  9.470 ms  8.483
ms  8.738 ms
```

```
dig www.bestbuy.com @109.69.8.51

e1382.x.akamaiedge.net. 12 IN A 23.60.221.144


traceroute to 23.60.221.144 (23.60.221.144), 64 hops max, 52 byte packets
 1  router (192.168.1.1)  44.072 ms  1.572 ms  1.154 ms
 2  138.16.160.253 (138.16.160.253)  2.460 ms  1.736 ms  2.722 ms
 3  10.1.18.5 (10.1.18.5)  1.841 ms  1.649 ms  3.348 ms
 4  10.1.80.5 (10.1.80.5)  2.304 ms  15.208 ms  2.895 ms
 5  lsb-inet-r-230.net.brown.edu (128.148.230.6)  1.784 ms  4.744 ms  1.566 ms
 6  131.109.200.1 (131.109.200.1)  3.581 ms  5.866 ms  3.238 ms
 7  host-198-7-224-105.oshean.org (198.7.224.105)  4.288 ms  6.218 ms  8.332 ms
 8  5-1-4.bear1.boston1.level3.net (4.53.54.21)  4.209 ms  6.103 ms  5.031 ms
 9  ae-4.r00.bstnma07.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.66.93)  3.982 ms  5.824 ms  4.514 ms
10  ae-6.r24.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.4.114)  9.735 ms  12.442 ms  8.689 ms
11  ae-9.r24.londen12.uk.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.2.19)  81.098 ms  81.343 ms  81.120 ms
12  ae-6.r01.mdrdsp03.es.bb.gin.ntt.net (129.250.4.138)  102.009 ms  110.595 ms  103.010
ms
13  81.19.109.166 (81.19.109.166)  99.426 ms  93.236 ms  101.168 ms
14  a23-60-221-144.deploy.static.akamaitechnologies.com (23.60.221.144)  94.884 ms  92.779
ms  93.281 ms
```

Forward Proxies



Forward proxies

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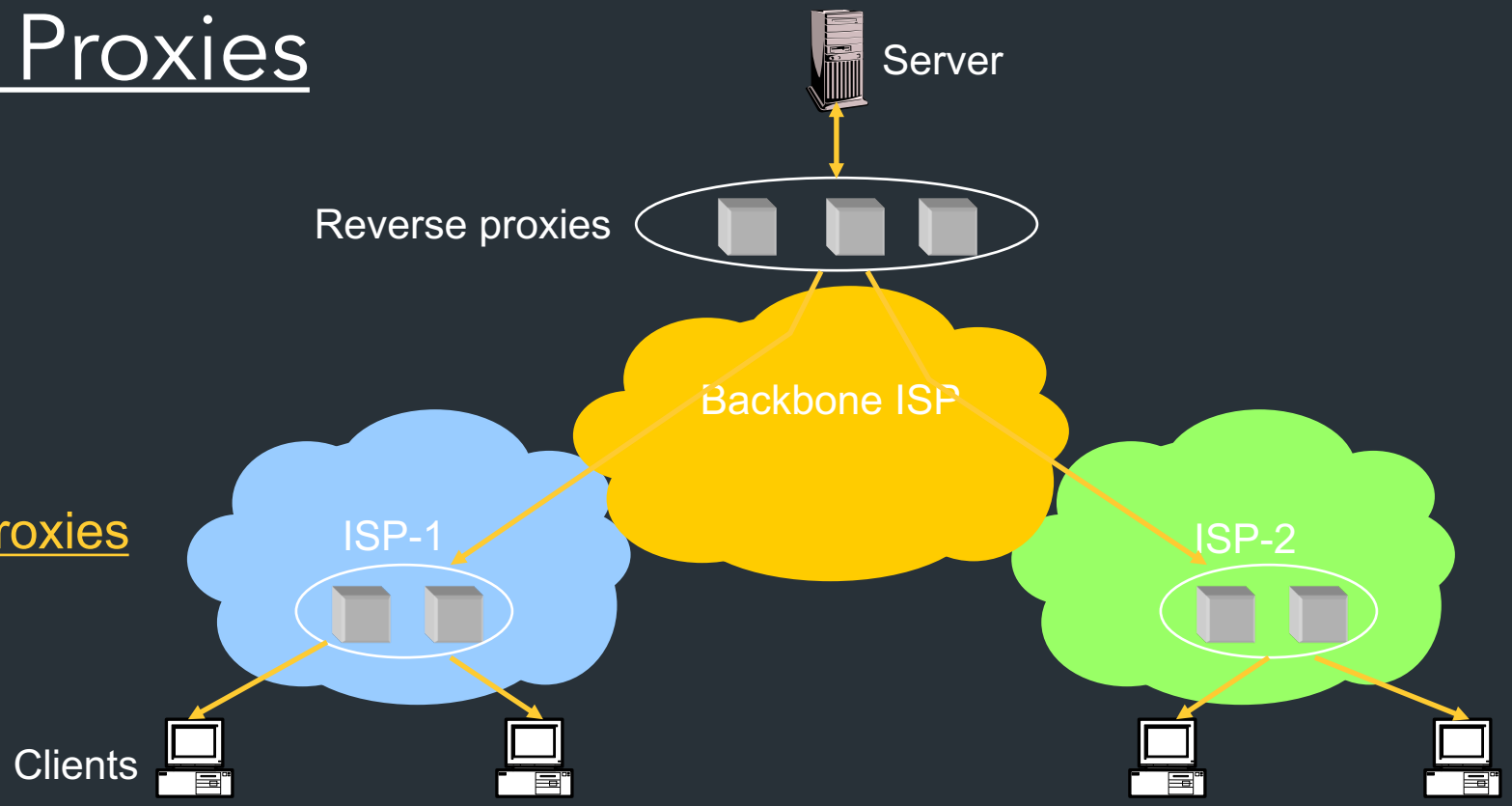
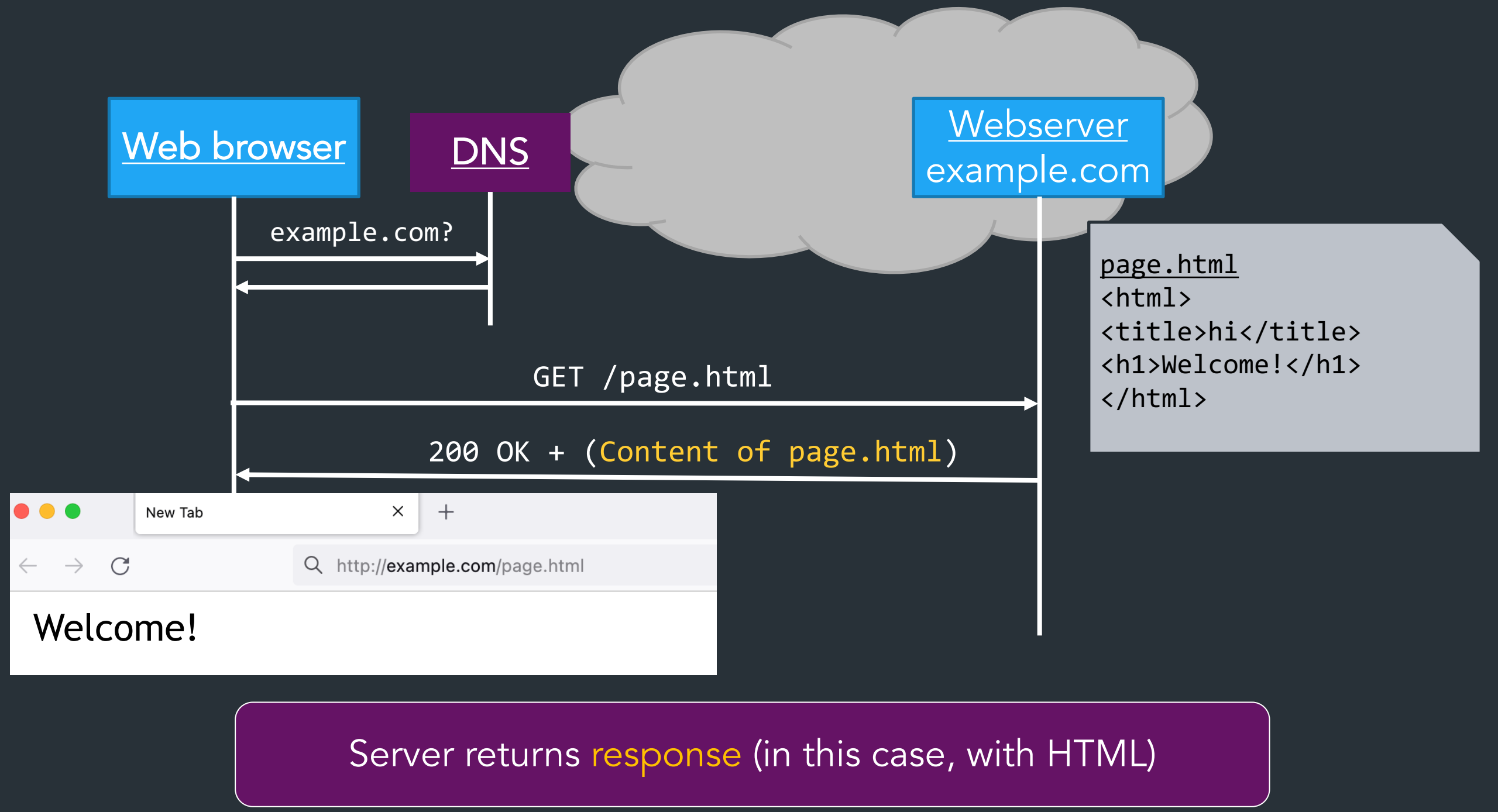


Typically done by ISPs or Enterprises

- Reduce network traffic and decrease latency
- May be transparent or configured



Server returns response (in this case, with HTML)

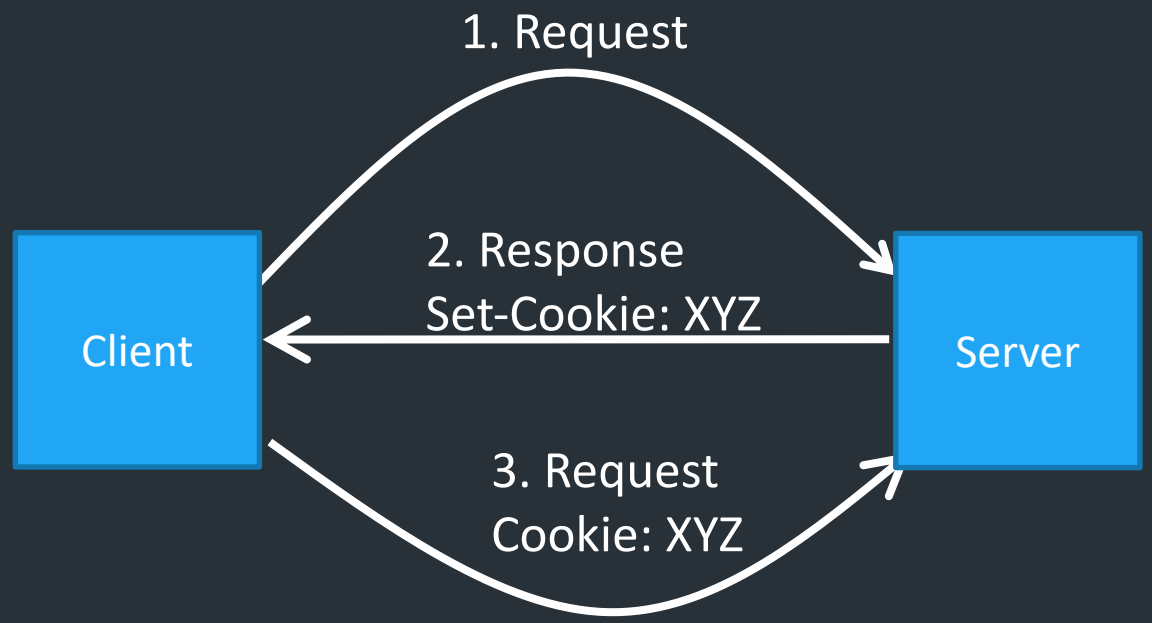
```
> telnet www.cs.brown.edu 80
Trying 128.148.32.110...
Connected to www.cs.brown.edu.
Escape character is '^]'.
GET / HTTP/1.0

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Thu, 24 Mar 2011 12:58:46 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.9 (Debian) mod_ssl/2.2.9 OpenSSL/0.9.8g
Last-Modified: Thu, 24 Mar 2011 12:25:27 GMT
ETag: "840a88b-236c-49f3992853bc0"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 9068
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
   "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en”>
...
```

HTTP Cookies

- Client-side state maintenance
  - Client stores small state on behalf of server
  - Sends request in future requests to the server
  - Cookie value is meaningful to the server (e.g., session id)
- Can provide authentication



Modern web pages and HTTP

- Web APIs: HTTP response/requests are a standard way to ask for *anything*
- *Modern web pages: use Javascript to make lots of requests without reloading page*
  - *And can use APIs for all kinds of other stuff*

Example: Github public API

```
$ curl https://api.github.com/users/ndemarinis
{
  "login": "ndemarinis",
  "id": 1191319,
  "node_id": "MDQ6VXNlcjExOTEzMTk=",
  "avatar_url": "https://avatars.githubusercontent.com/u/1191319?v=4",
  "gravatar_id": "",
  "url": "https://api.github.com/users/ndemarinis",
  "type": "User",
  "site_admin": false,
  "name": "Nick DeMarinis",
  "blog": "https://vty.sh",
  "twitter_username": null,
  "public_repos": 10,
 . . .
}
```

Modern web pages and HTTP

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  "gravatar_id": "",
  "url": "https://api.github.com/users/ndemarinis",
  "type": "User",
  "site_admin": false,
  "name": "Nick DeMarinis",
  "blog": "https://vty.sh",
  "twitter_username": null,
  "public_repos": 10,
 . . .
}
```

HTTP: What matters for performance?

Depends on type of request

- Lots of small requests (objects in a page)
- Some big requests (large download or video)

Small Requests

- Latency matters
- RTT dominates
- Major steps:
  - DNS lookup (if not cached)
  - Opening a TCP connection
  - Setting up TLS (optional, but now common)
  - Actually sending the request and receiving response

How can we reduce the number of connection setups?

- Keep the connection open and request all objects serially
  - Works for all objects coming from the same server
  - Which also means you don’t have to “open” the window each time

Persistent connections (HTTP/1.1)

Small Requests (cont)

- Second problem is that requests are serialized
  - Similar to stop-and-wait protocols!
- Two solutions
  - Pipelined requests (similar to sliding windows)
  - Parallel Connections
    - Browsers implement this differently—see “Inspect element”
  - How are these two approaches different?