

How the Web Works

Chapter 2

Randy Connolly and Ricardo Hoar

Fundamentals of Web Development

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Chapter 2

1 Internet
Protocols

2 Domain Name
System

3 Uniform Resource
Locators

4 Hypertext Transfer
Protocol

5 Web Browsers

6 Web Servers

7 Summary

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Internet Protocols

A Layered Architecture

TCP/IP.

These protocols have been implemented in every operating system, and make fast web development possible.

Networking is it's own entire discipline.

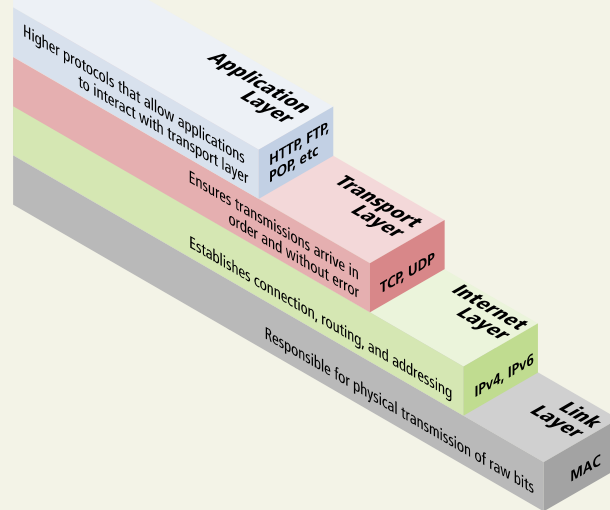
Web developer needs general awareness of what the suite of Internet protocols does

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Internet Protocols

A Layered Architecture



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Internet Protocols

Link Layer

- Responsible for
 - physical transmission of data across media (both wired and wireless) and
 - Establishing logical links.

It handles issues like packet creation, transmission, reception, error detection, collisions, line sharing, and more.

Much more to learn in Networking courses outside of web development.

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Internet Protocols

Internet Layer

The Internet layer provides “best effort” communication.

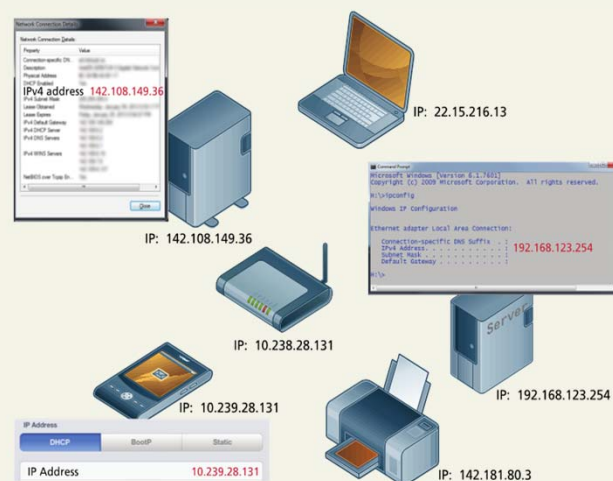
Makes use of IP addresses

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Internet Protocols

Internet Layer (IP)

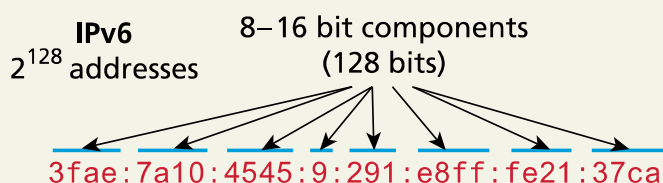
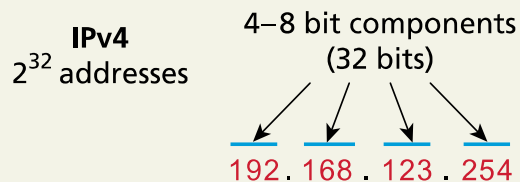


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Internet Protocols

IP addresses



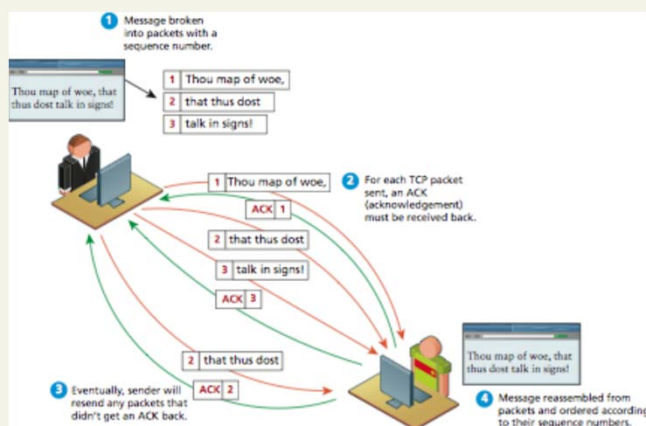
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Internet Protocols

Transport Layer (TCP)

- Ensures transmissions arrive in order and without error



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Internet Protocols

Application Layer

There are **many** application layer protocols. Web developers should be aware of :

- **HTTP.** The Hypertext Transfer Protocol is used for web communication.
- **SSH.** The Secure Shell Protocol allows remote command-line connections to servers.
- **FTP.** The File Transfer Protocol is used for transferring files between computers.
- **POP/IMAP/SMTP.** Email-related protocols for transferring and storing email.
- **DNS.** The Domain Name System protocol used for resolving domain names to IP addresses.

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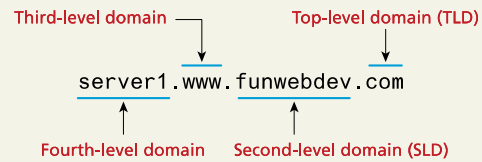
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Domain Name System

Name Levels

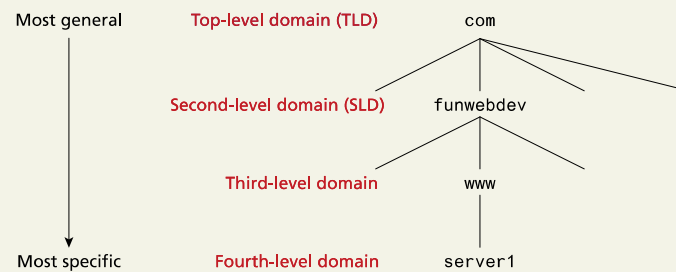
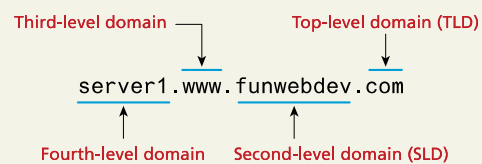


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Domain Name System

Name Levels

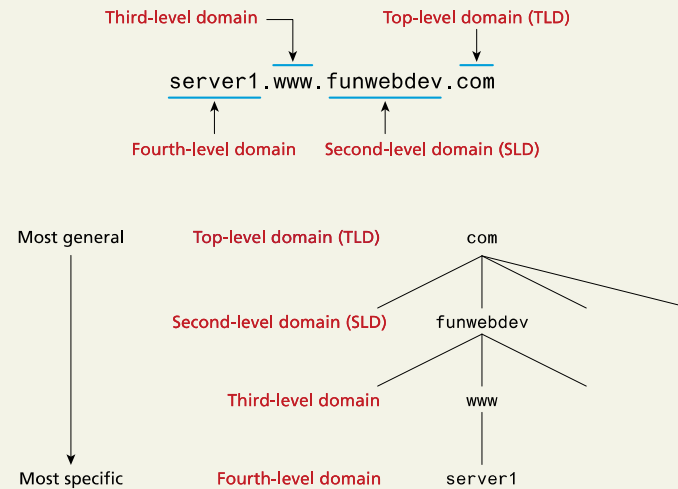


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Domain Name System

Name Levels



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Domain Name System

Types of Top Level Domains

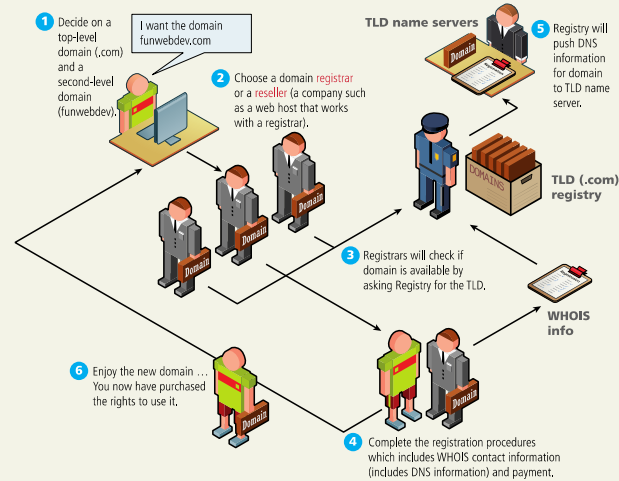
- Generic top-level domain (gTLD)
 - Unrestricted. TLDs include .com, .net, .org, and .info.
 - Sponsored. TLDs including .gov, .mil, .edu, and others.
 - New TLDs.
- Country code top-level domain (ccTLD)
 - TLDs include .us, .ca, .uk, and .au.
 - Internationalized Domain Names
- arpa

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Domain Name System

Name Registration

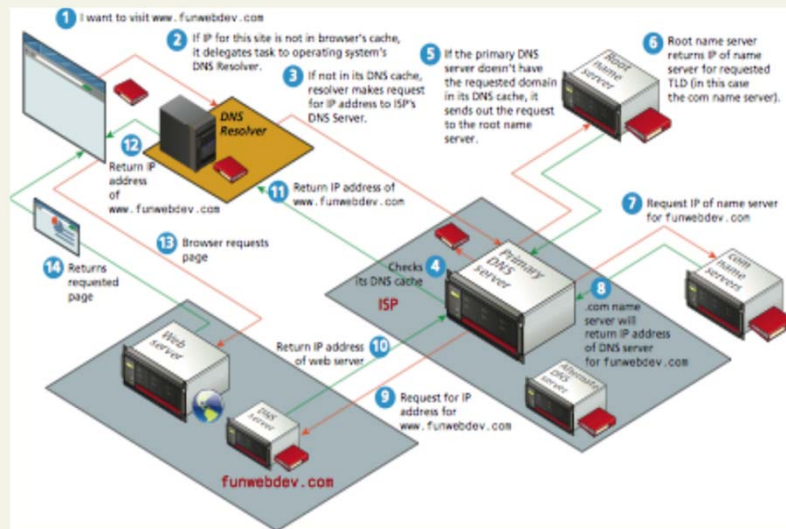


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Domain Name System

Address Resolution



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Uniform Resource Locators

Overview

<http://www.funwebdev.com/index.php?page=17#article>

Protocol

Domain

Path

Query String

Fragment

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Uniform Resource Locators

Protocol

Recall that in Section 2.1, we listed several application layer protocols on the TCP/IP stack. FTP, SSH, HTTP, POP, IMAP, DNS, ...

Requesting

- **ftp**://example.com/abc.txt → sends out an FTP request on port 21, while
- **http**://example.com/abc.txt → transmits an HTTP request on port 80.

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Uniform Resource Locators

Domain

- The domain identifies the server from which we are requesting resources.
- Since the DNS system is case insensitive, this part of the URL is case insensitive.
- Alternatively, an IP address can be used for the domain

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Uniform Resource Locators

Port

- The optional port attribute allows us to specify connections to ports other than the defaults
- Add a colon after the domain, then specify an integer port number.

Uniform Resource Locators

Path

Familiar concept to anyone who has ever used a computer file system.

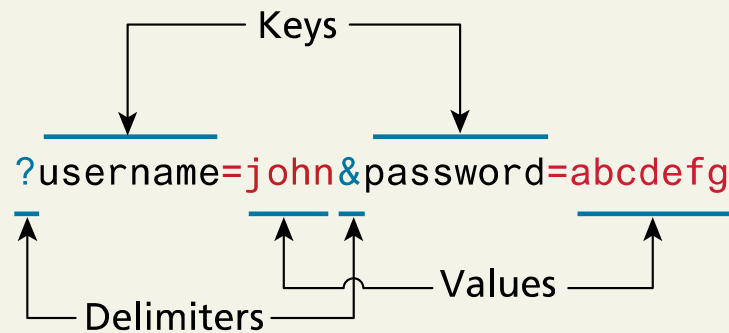
The root of a web server corresponds to a folder somewhere on that server.

- On many Linux servers that path is `/var/www/html/`
- On Windows IIS machines it is often `/inetpub/wwwroot/`

The path is optional. However, when requesting a folder or the top-level page, the web server will decide which file to send you.

Uniform Resource Locators

Query String



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Uniform Resource Locators

Fragment

A way of requesting a portion of a page.

- Browsers will see the fragment in the URL, seek out the tag anchor in the HTML, and scroll the website to it.

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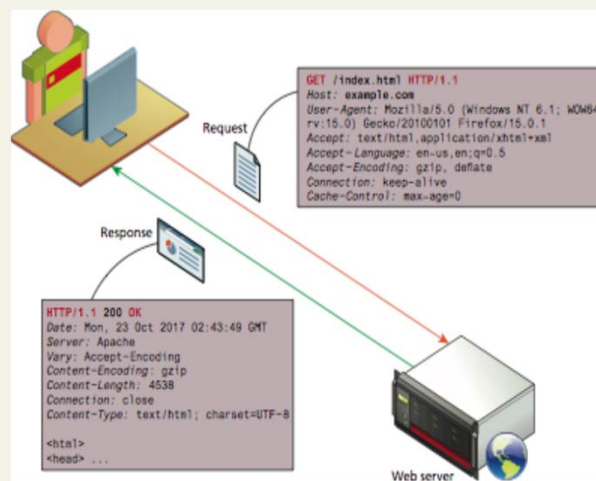
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Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Headers



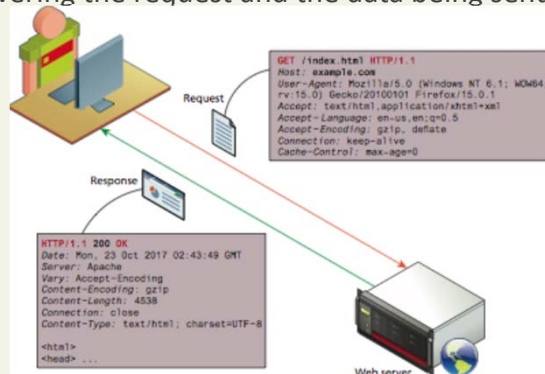
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Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Headers

- **Request headers** include data about the client machine.
- **Response headers** have information about the server answering the request and the data being sent

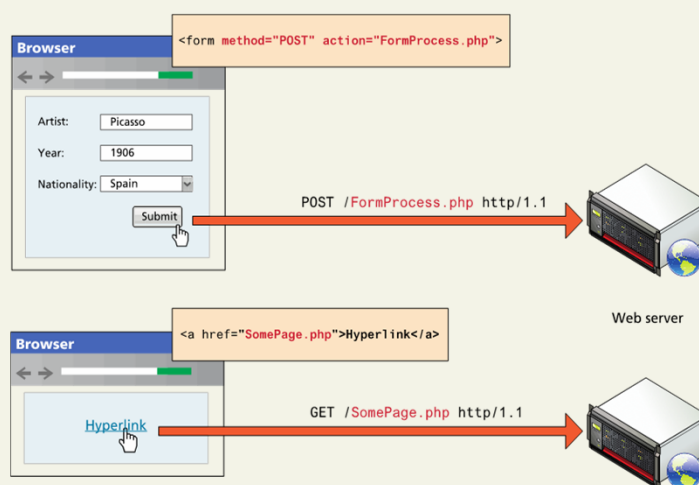


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Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Request Methods



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Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Response Codes

- 2## codes are for successful responses,
- 3## are for redirection-related responses,
- 4## codes are **client** errors,
- 5## codes are **server** errors.

Hypertext Transfer Protocol

(Some) Response Codes

200: OK
301: Moved Permanently
304: Not Modified
307: Temporary redirect
400: Bad Request
401: Unauthorized
404: Not found
414: Request URI too long
500: Internal server error

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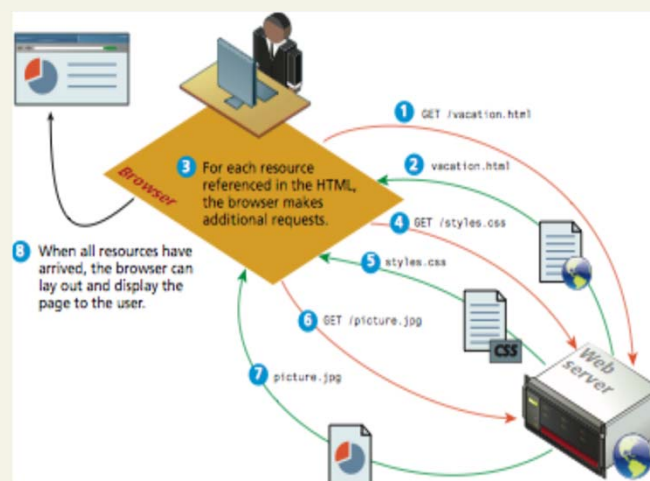
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Web Browsers

Fetching a Web Page

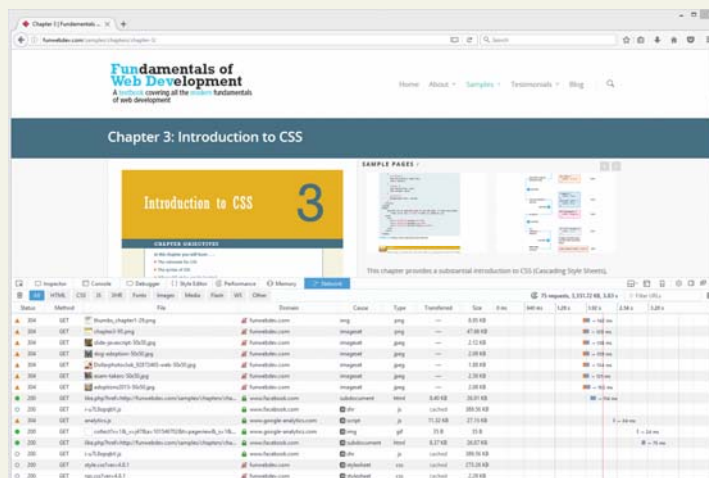


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Web Browsers

Fetching a Web Page – Load Times and Cascades



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Web Browsers

Browser Rendering

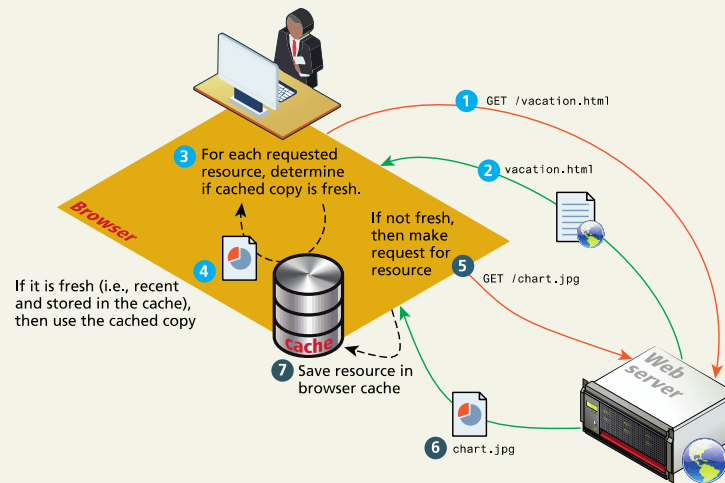
- Interpreting the entire HTML markup together with the image and other assets into a grid of pixels for display within the browser window is called rendering the webpage.
- Implemented differently for each browser (Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Explorer, and Opera)

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Web Browsers

Browser Caching



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Web Browsers

Browser Features

- search engine integration,
- URL autocompletion,
- Form autocompletion,
- cloud caching of user history/bookmarks,
- phishing website detection,
- secure connection visualization,
- and much more

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Web Browsers

Browser Extensions

Can change what is shown to the end user. Newer challenge for web developers.

For developers, extensions like

- Firebug and
- Yslow

For the general public:

- Adblock
- Third Party Plugins

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Web Servers

Operating Systems

- A **web server** is nothing more than a computer that responds to HTTP requests.
- Real-world web servers are often more powerful than your own desktop computer
- Webservers must choose an **application stack** to run a website. This application stack will include an
 - operating system,
 - web server software,
 - a database,
 - and a scripting language for dynamic requests

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Web Servers

Application Stacks

We will rely on the LAMP software stack ,which refers to

- L inux operating system,
- A pache web server,
- M ySQL database, and
- P HP scripting language

Other stacks include WAMP, WISA, MEAN, ...

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Web Servers

Operating Systems

- Linux
- Windows

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Web Servers

Web Server Software

- Apache
- Nginx
- IIS

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Web Servers

Database Software

- MySQL
- PostgreSQL
- Sqlite
- Oracle
- IBM DB2
- Microsoft SQL Server
- MongoDB

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Web Servers

Scripting Software

- PHP
- ASP.NET
- Python
- Node.js
- ...

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Summary

Key Terms

address resolution	GET request	link layer
Apache	HTTP	MAC addresses
Application stack	Internet Corporation for	MEAN software stack
application layer	Assigned Names and	packet
country code top-level	Numbers (ICANN)	protocol
domain (ccTLD)	Internet Assigned	port
DNS resolver	Numbers Authority	POST request
DNS server	(IANA)	protocol
domain names	internationalized top-level	request
domain name registrars	domain name (IDN)	request headers
Domain Name System	Internet layer	response codes
(DNS)	Internet Protocol (IP)	response headers
FTP	IP address	reverse DNS lookups
four-layer network model	IPv4	root name server
generic top-level domain	IPv6	second-level domain
(gTLD)	LAMP software stack	SFTP

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Summary

Key Terms (Continued)

SSH	Transmission Control	Uniform Resource
subdomain	Protocol (TCP)	Locator (URL)
TCP/IP (Transmission	top-level domain (TLD)	web server
Control Protocol/	TLD name server	WISA software stack
Internet Protocol)	User Datagram	
transport layer	Protocol (UDP)	

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Questions?

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