Captchas & The Net

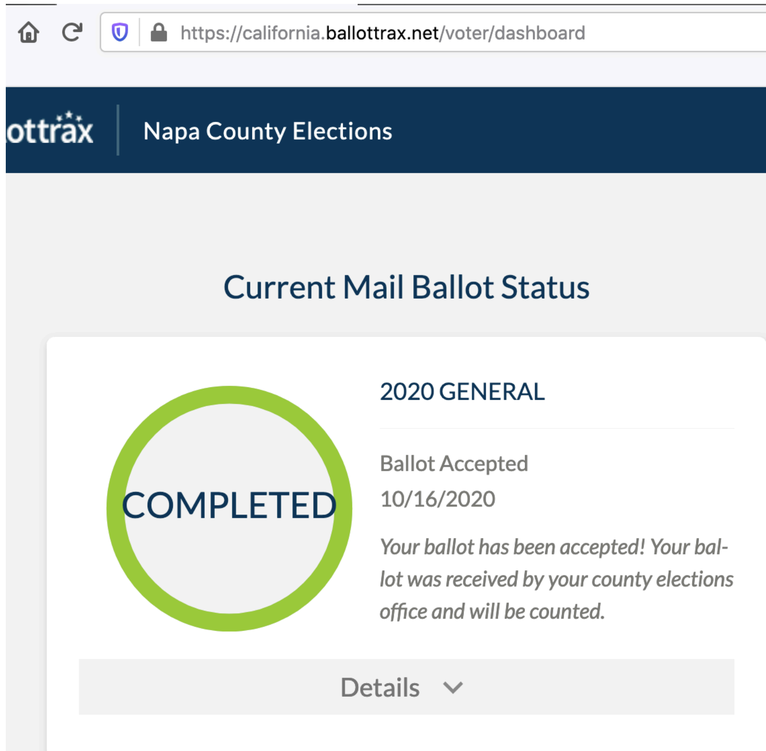
And We Call It "Machine Learning"

Announcements:

- Midterm grades released
- HW4 due Friday, October 23, 11:59 PM PT
- Project 2 design doc draft due Wednesday, October 28, 11:59 PM PT
- Really happy with the high grades on the midterm...
  - But for those unhappy, we ***will allow clobbering***:
    Your scaled final grade will replace the midterm
    - The final is expected to be harder, so we want to scale your final grade as appropriate for midterm clobbering purposes
- Lets also "lock in" some additional constraints on the final curve...
  - Already present: Target GPA of 3.5...
    If it goes over, 🤷
  - Add in: Minimum bin size: 3.333% per step:
    So 90% = A- guaranteed, 80% = B- guaranteed, 70% = C- guaranteed
    In shifting down the bin size won't shrink, only expand

Election Week Planning...

- Yes, things are still shaping up for a 🦇💩-crazy week...
  - Prepare now: ***VOTE NOW***!
- Tension in the class: Maintain "normalcy" vs "omg we all want to curl up in a ball..."
- Compromise:
  - Lecture will still happen, ***but it will be the dealers-choice lectures (not tested on the final)***
  - Discussion will still happen, ***but they will be just vent/chat sessions***
  - Attendance ***will not be taken***



From Last Year: Bug Of The Day…

- Yet Another Buffer overflow…
  - You think we'd be bored of them by now
- But…
  - The operating system and device drivers are special…
- They need very low level access
  - As they are working in a world where everything ***is*** just a big pile of bits!
- Perhaps you could use rust…
  - But you would need to rewrite a huge amount of code:
    So most drivers are in C/C++


ars TECHNICA

NOTICE OF ABSENCE —

Unpatched Linux bug may open devices to serious attacks over Wi-Fi

Buffer overflow can be triggered in Realtek Wi-Fi chips, no user interaction needed.

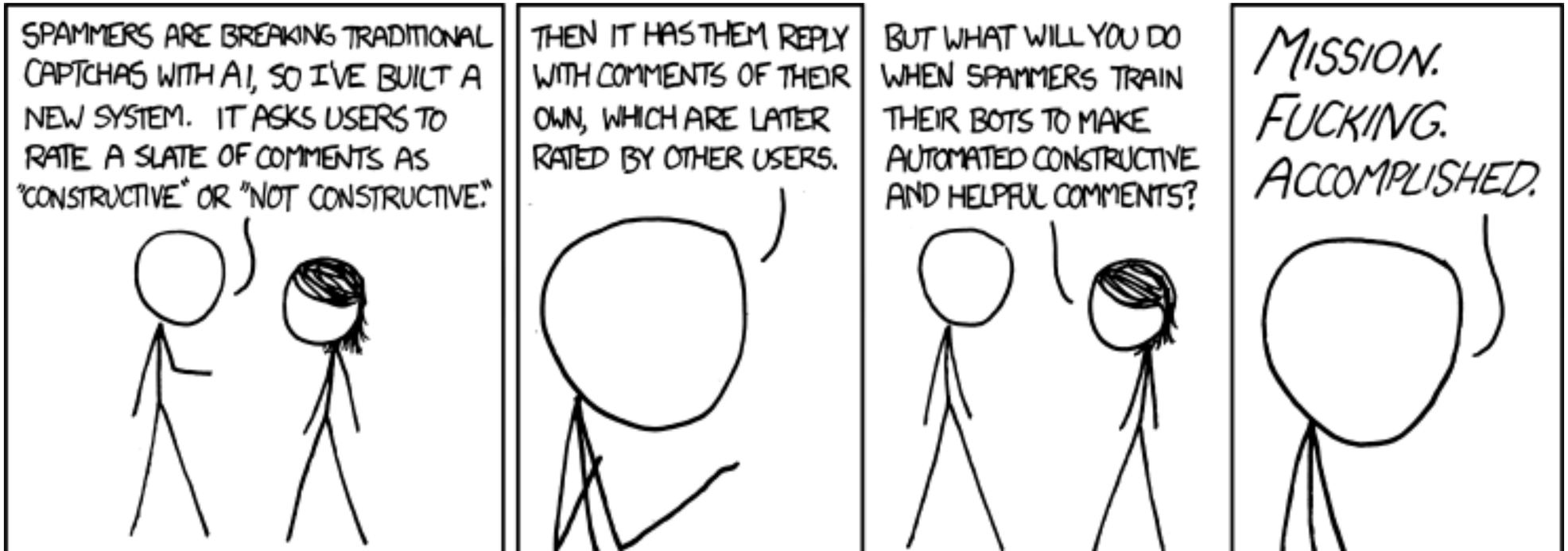
DAN GOODIN - 10/17/2019, 2:35 PM

The Problem: Automation…

- You host some website…
- It is intended for ***human*** usage
  - One person, one mouse, one clickstream of behavior…
- But you want to lock out ***robot*** usage
- Why?
  - Selling something
  - Offering something for free
  - Dealing with load from an attack
- Enter the CAPTCHA:
  A way to go "Is this a human?"

CAPTCHAs: How Lazy Cryptographers Do AI

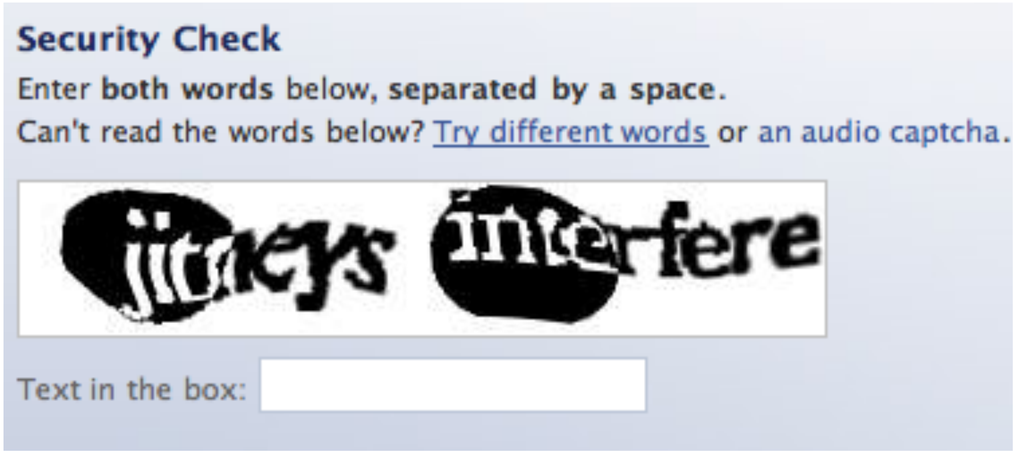
- The whole point of CAPCHAs is ***not*** just to solve "is this human"...
  - But leverage bad guys to force them to solve hard problems
  - Primarily focused on machine vision problems

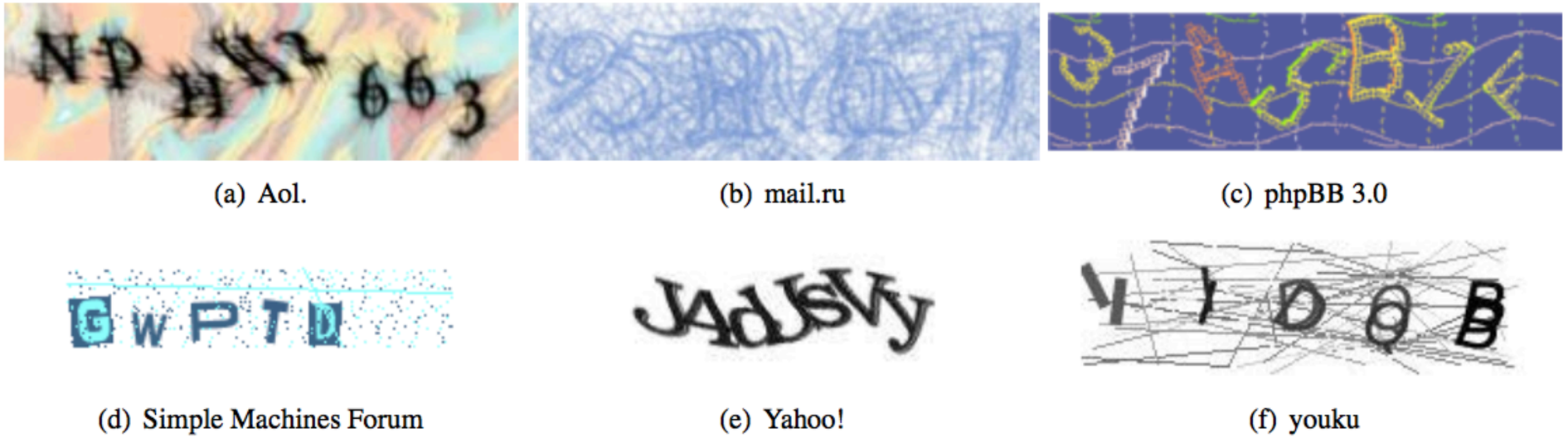



Visual code | Audio code
Help
Type the code shown
Try a new code
By clicking the "Create My Account" button below, I certify that I have read and agree to the Yahoo! Terms of Service, Yahoo! Privacy Policy and Communication Terms of Service, and to receive account related communications from Yahoo! electronically. Yahoo! automatically identifies items such as words, links, people, and subjects from your Yahoo! communications services to deliver product features and relevant advertising.
Create My Account

CAPTCHAs

- *Reverse Turing Test*: present "user" a challenge that's easy for a human to solve, hard for a program to solve
- One common approach: distorted text that's difficult for character-recognition algorithms to decipher





(a) Aol. (b) mail.ru (c) phpBB 3.0

(d) Simple Machines Forum (e) Yahoo! (f) youku

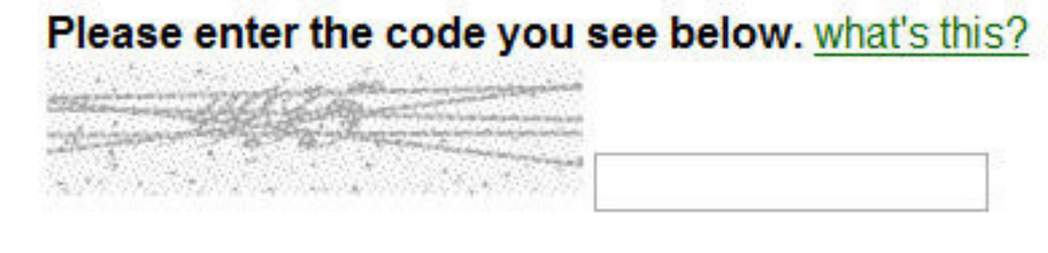
Figure 1: Examples of CAPTCHAs from various Internet properties.

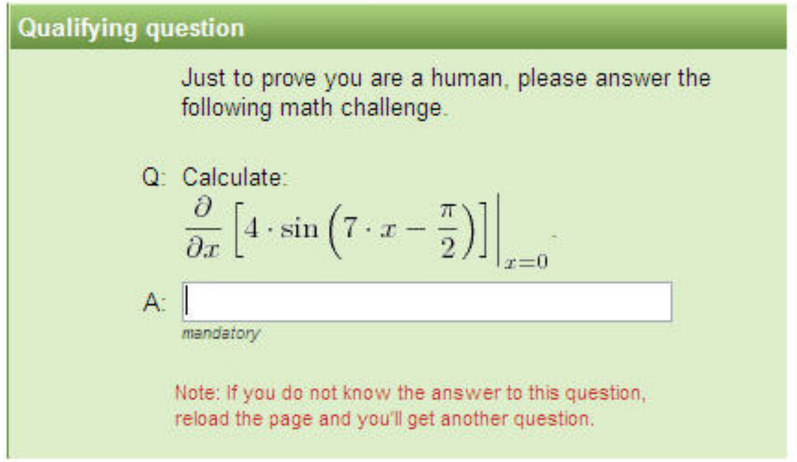
Problems?


reCAPTCHA™
stop spam.
read books.


Verify Your Registration
* Enter the code shown:
More info
This helps prevent automated registrations.


fuck CloudFlare


Please enter the code you see below. what's this?


Qualifying question
Just to prove you are a human, please answer the following math challenge.
Q: Calculate:
$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left[4 \cdot \sin\left(7 \cdot x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right]\Big|_{x=0}$
A:
mandatory
Note: If you do not know the answer to this question, reload the page and you'll get another question.

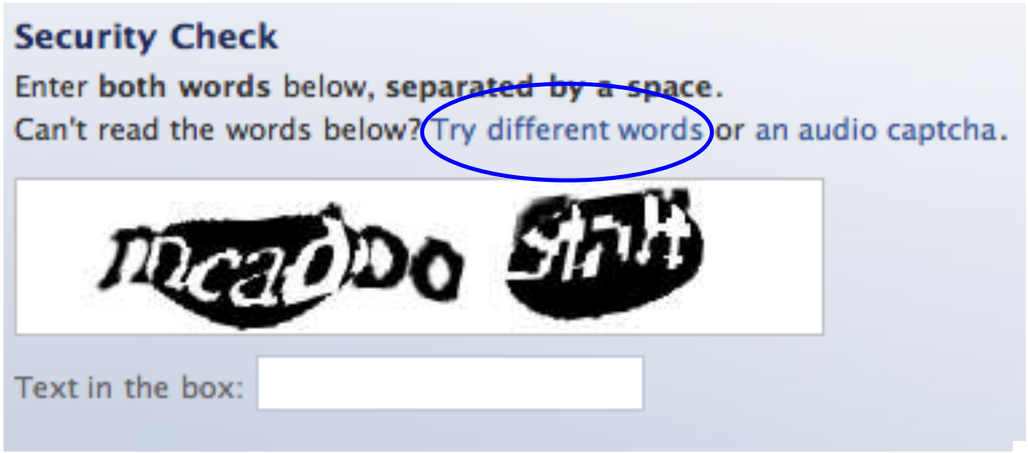
Issues with CAPTCHAs

- Inevitable arms race: as solving algorithms get better, defense erodes

Figure 4: Examples of images from the hard CAPTCHA puzzles dataset.

Issues with CAPTCHAs

- Inevitable arms race: as solving algorithms get better, defense erodes, or gets harder for humans



Asirra

Asirra is a human interactive proof that asks users to identify photos of cats and dogs. It's powered by over ***two million photos*** *from our unique partnership with Petfinder.com. Protect your web site with Asirra — free!*

Please click on the images that show cats:


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me


adopt me

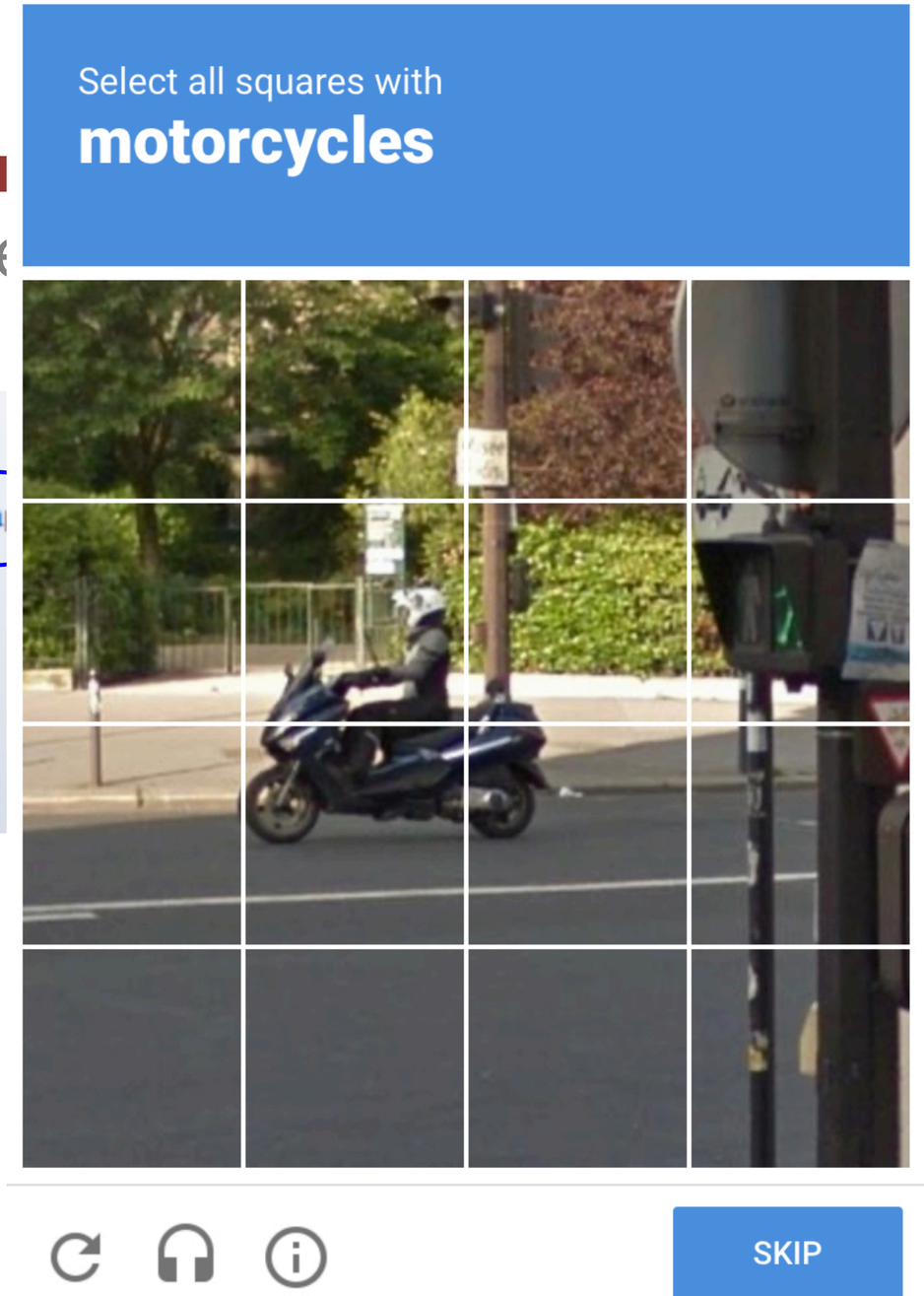

adopt me


adopt me

Score Test

Issues with CAPTCHAs

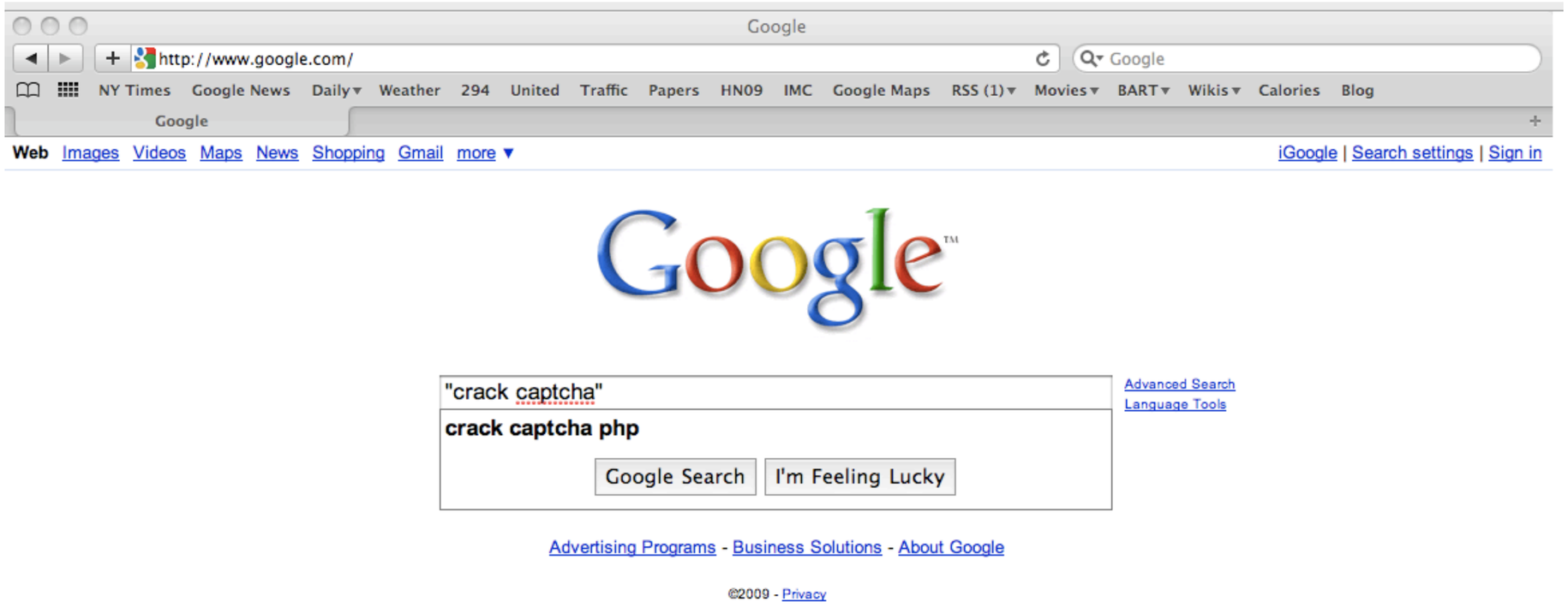
- Inevitable arms race: as solving algorithms ge
  or gets harder for humans



- *Accessibility*: not all humans can see
- *Granularity*: not all bots are bad (e.g., crawlers)
- *Ambiguity*: No clear solution!

Issues with CAPTCHAs, con't

- Deepest problem: CAPTCHAs are inherently vulnerable to *outsourcing* attacks
  - Attacker gets real humans to solve them


Google
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NY Times Google News Daily Weather 294 United Traffic Papers HN09 IMC Google Maps RSS (1) Movies BART Wikis Calories Blog
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I'm Feeling Lucky
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Advertising Programs - Business Solutions - About Google
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https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=captcha+solving

captcha solving

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About 5,360,000 results (0.40 seconds)

Ad · www.2captcha.com/fast/recognition

Captcha solving service - Always Cheap

Stable quality service. Even for difficult to recognize images. Start use now! Try the quality of our service right now and enjoy. API in all languages. **Solution** time 9 seconds. Steps: Register, Implement Our API, Send Us Your **CAPTCHAs**, Get Your Answer As Text.

Ad · www.anti-captcha.com/

Captcha Solving Service - API

GitHub/npm/pip3 code packages, education tutorials, browser plugin, local payment methods. $0.5 per 1000 image **captchas**, $1.5 for Recaptcha v2/v3. Huge amounts of trained workers. View Documentation.

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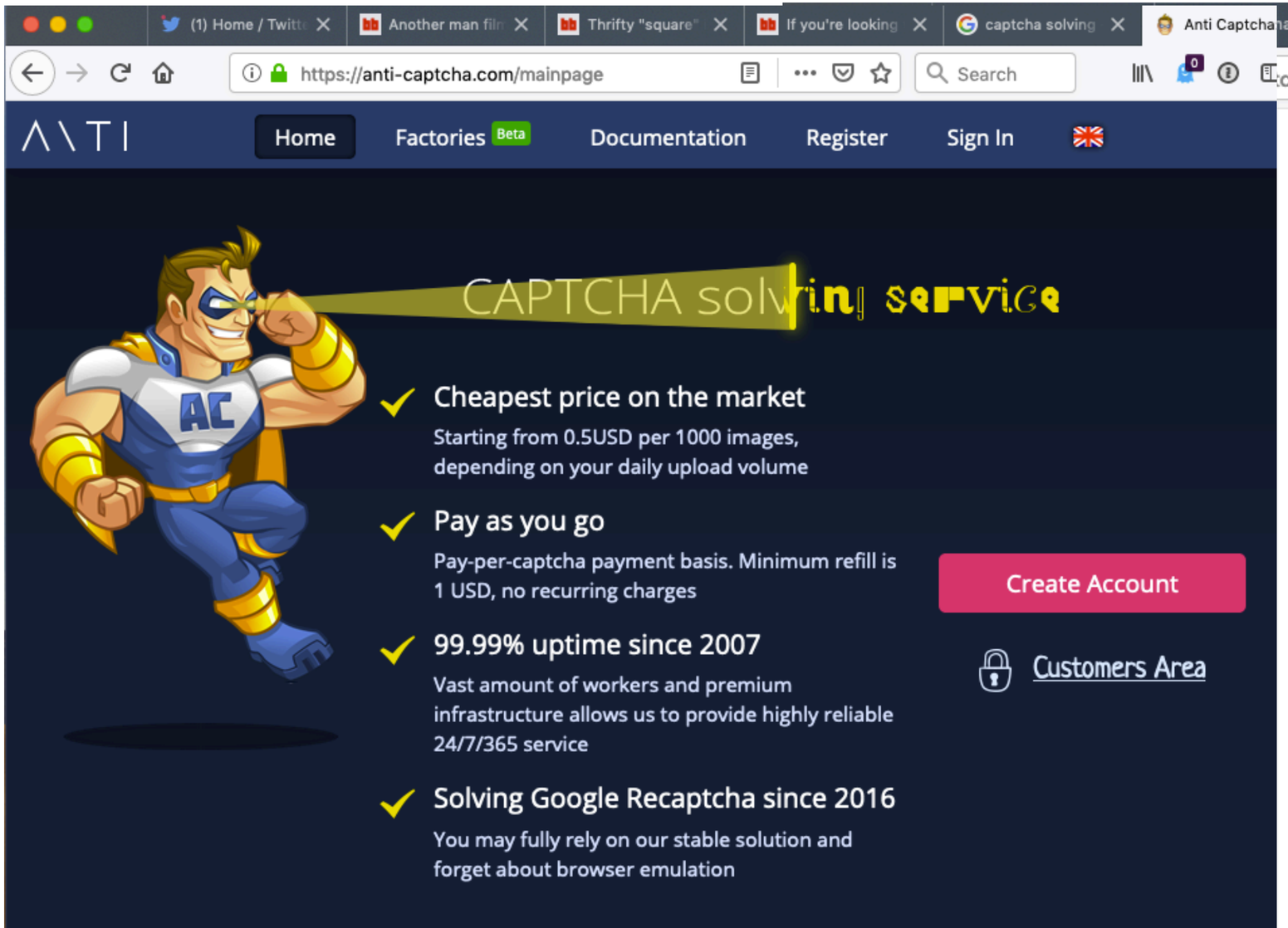
Top 10 Captcha Solving Services Compared – ProWebScraper

1. Anticaptcha. Anticaptcha. Powered by 99% success rate and 7 seconds response time, Anticaptcha provides ...

Dec 19, 2017 · Uploaded by ProWebScraper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Thrifty "square"
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captcha solving
Anti Captcha
https://anti-captcha.com/mainpage
Search
Home
Factories Beta
Documentation
Register
Sign In
CAPTCHA solving service
Cheapest price on the market
Starting from 0.5USD per 1000 images, depending on your daily upload volume
Pay as you go
Pay-per-captcha payment basis. Minimum refill is 1 USD, no recurring charges
99.99% uptime since 2007
Vast amount of workers and premium infrastructure allows us to provide highly reliable 24/7/365 service
Solving Google Recaptcha since 2016
You may fully rely on our stable solution and forget about browser emulation
Create Account
Customers Area


Thrifty "square"
If you're looking
captcha solving
atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/API
Search
API
Documentation in English
Created by Administrator
Last updated Oct 17, 2018
About version 2.0
API version 2 works on address https://api.anti-captcha.com/ and it works only via HTTP methods, data format is JSON.
To solve a captcha, you need:
1. Create captcha task via via createTask method which will return task ID.
2. Wait a few seconds to let system assign captcha to an employee and retrieve resu
3. Request captcha solution with getTaskResult method. If captchas is not solved ye step #2.
createTask
- NoCaptchaTask
- NoCaptchaTaskProxyless
- ImageToTextTask
wait 5-10s
getTaskResult

Language	Example	AG	BC	BY	CB	DC	IT	All
English	one two three	51.1	37.6	4.76	40.6	39.0	62.0	39.2
Chinese (Simp.)	一 二 三	48.4	31.0	0.00	68.9	26.9	35.8	35.2
Chinese (Trad.)	一 二 三	52.9	24.4	0.00	63.8	30.2	33.0	34.1
Spanish	uno							
Italian	uno							
Tagalog	isá							
Portuguese	um							
Russian	один							
Tamil	ஒன்று							
Dutch	een							
Hindi	एक							
German	eins							
Malay	satu dua tiga	0.00	1.42	0.00	0.00	0.55	29.4	5.23
Vietnamese	một hai ba	0.46	2.07	0.00	0.00	1.74	18.1	3.72
Korean	일 이 삼	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.2	3.37
Greek	ένα δύο τρία	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.5	2.65
Arabic	واحد اثنين ثلاثة	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.3	2.56
Bengali	এক দুই তিন	0.45	0.00	9.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.72
Kannada	ಒಂದು ಎರಡು ಮೂರು	0.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.55	6.14	1.26
Klingon		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.12	0.19
Farsi	یک دو سه	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08

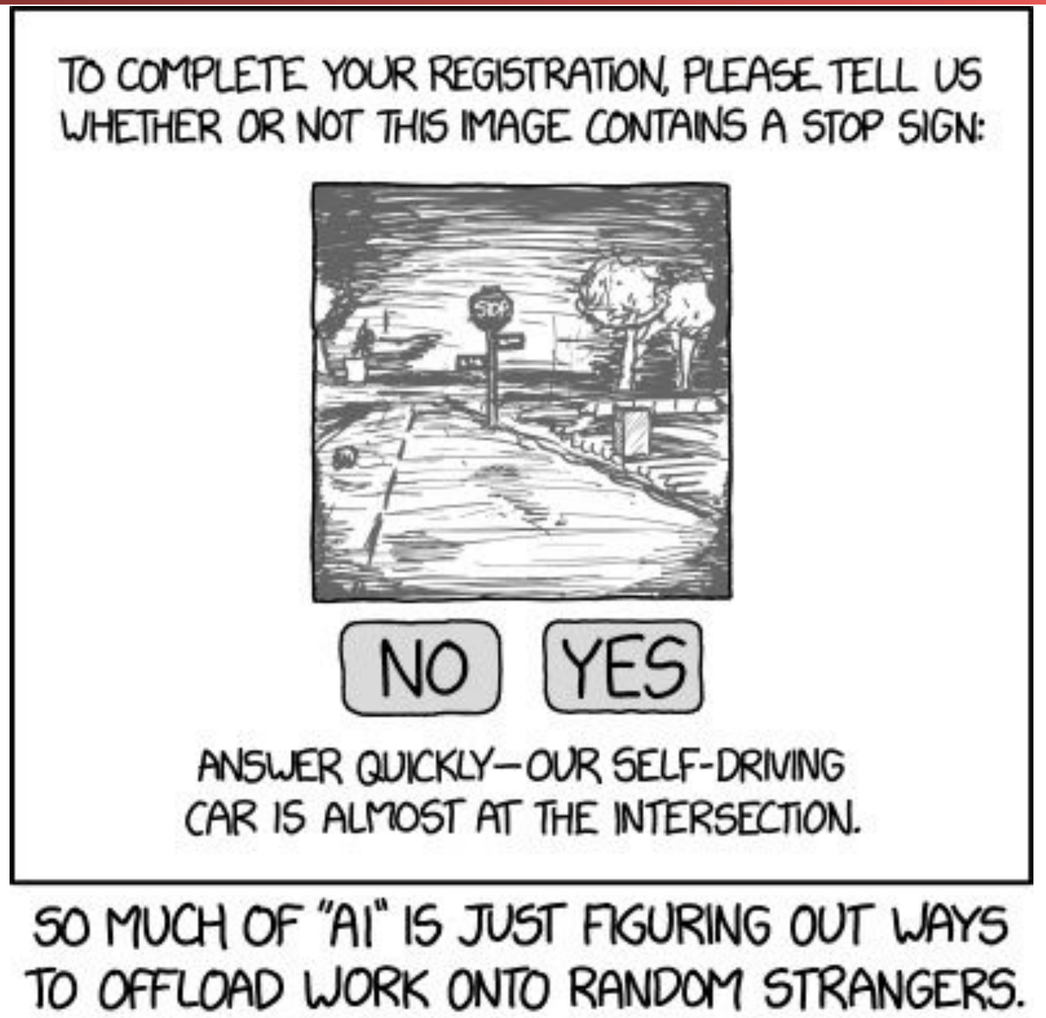
Re: CAPTCHAs – Understanding CAPTCHA-Solving Services in an Economic Context

Marti Motoyama, Kirill Levchenko, Chris Kanich, Damon McCoy,
Geoffrey M. Voelker and Stefan Savage
University of California, San Diego
{mmotoyam, klevchen, ckanich, dlmccoy, voelker, savage}@cs.ucsd.edu

Table 2: Percentage of responses from the services with correct answers for the language CAPTCHAs.

These Days: CAPTCHAs are ways of ***training*** AI systems

- Plus are all about an economic protection
  - Even the best CAPTCHA doesn't say "Is this a human or a bot"…
  - but…
  - "Is this a human or a bot willing to spend a couple pennies?"
- Acts as a hard limit on what a CAPTCHA can really protect!



Network Security

- Why study network security?
  - Networking greatly extends our overall attack surface
    - Networking = the Internet
  - Opportunity to see *how large-scale design affects security issues*
  - Protocols a great example of *mindless agents* in action
- This lecture + next: sufficient background in networking to then explore security issues in next ~8 lectures
- Complex topic with many facets
  - We will omit concepts/details that aren't very security-relevant
    - But to no small extent we are speed running about 1/2 a dozen worth of "networking" lectures!
  - By all means, ask questions when things are unclear

Protocols

- A protocol is an agreement on how to communicate
- Includes syntax and semantics
  - How a communication is specified & structured
    - Format, order messages are sent and received
  - What a communication means
    - Actions taken when transmitting, receiving, or timer expires
- E.g.: making a comment in lecture in the Before Times?
  1. Raise your hand.
  2. Wait to be called on.
  3. Or: wait for speaker to **pause** and vocalize
  4. If unrecognized (after timeout): vocalize w/ “excuse me”

So Let's Do A Google Search...

- Walk into a coffee shop
- Open a laptop
- Search google...

Coffee Shop

Coffee Shop

1. Join the wireless network

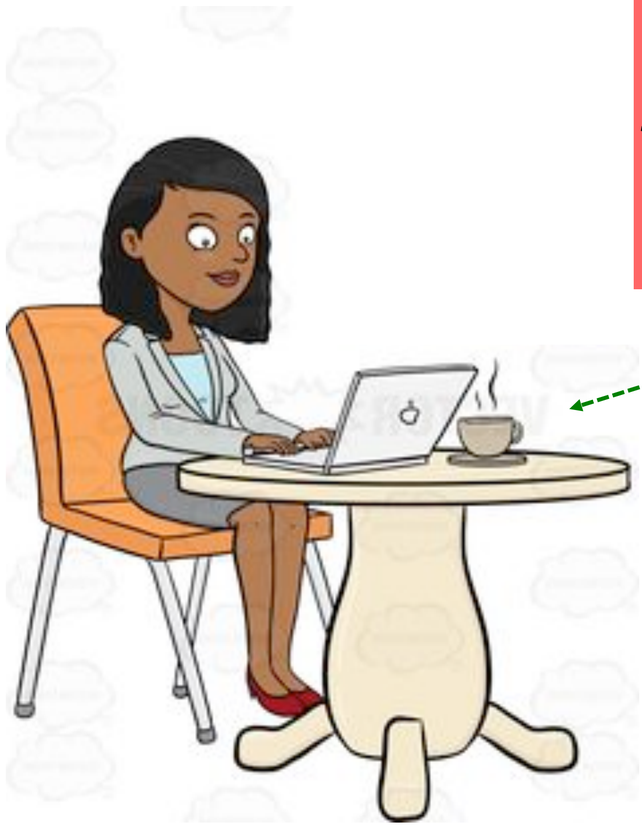
Coffee Shop

1. Join the wireless network

Wireless access point(s) continually shout:
HEY, I'M WIRELESS NETWORK Y, JOIN ME!

Coffee Shop

1. Join the wireless network

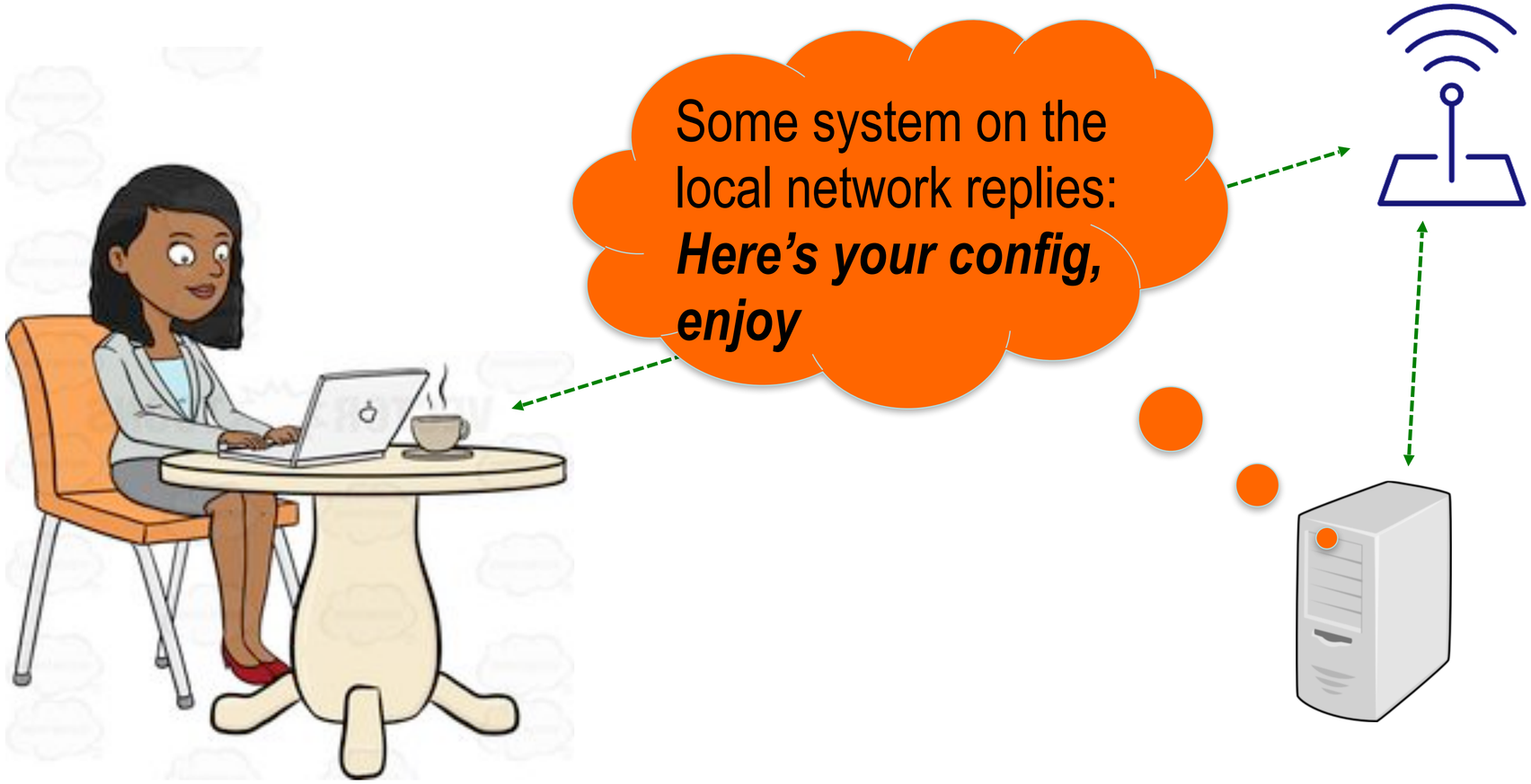


If either match up, your laptop joins the network. Optionally performs a cryptographic exchange.

Coffee Shop

2. Configure your connection

2. Configure your connection



Coffee Shop

2. Configure your connection

192.168.1.14

The configuration includes:

(1) An Internet address (**IP address**) your laptop should use; typ. 32 bits (IPv4). May also include 64b of the 128b IPv6 address

(2) The address of a "**gateway**" system to use to access ***hosts*** beyond the local network

(3) The address of a **DNS server** ("***resolver***") to map names like `google.com` to IP addresses

Coffee Shop

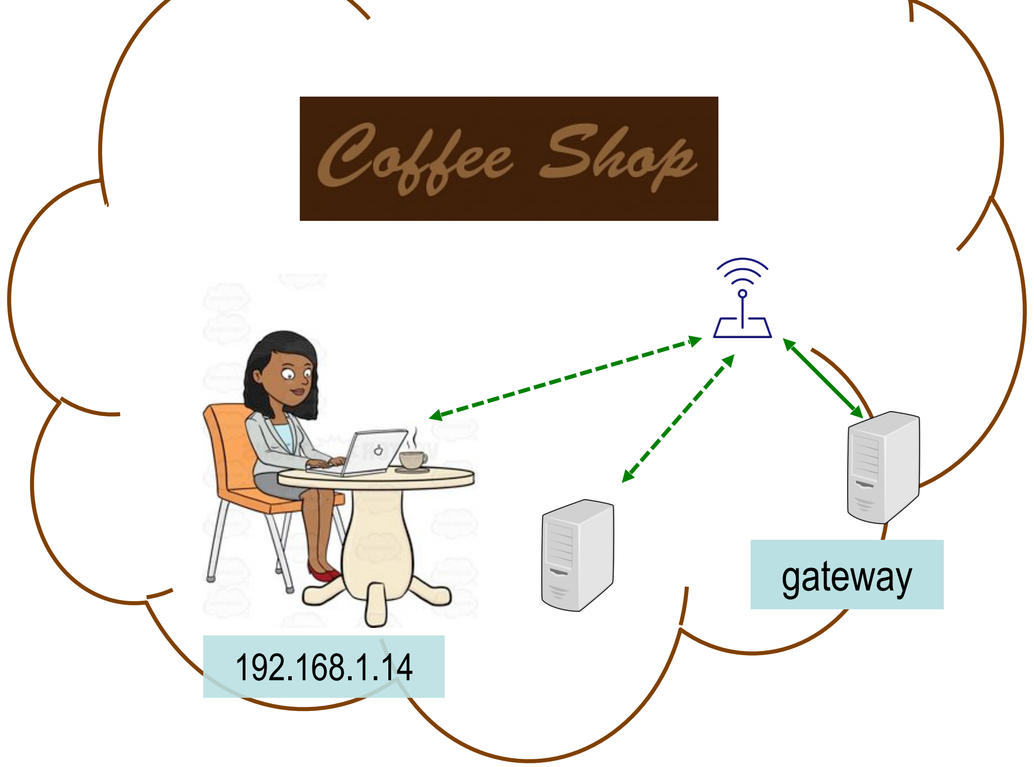
3. Find the address of **`google.com`**

192.168.1.14

Your laptop sends a **DNS** request asking: "***address for `google.com`***?"

It's transmitted using the **UDP** protocol (lightweight, unreliable).

The DNS **resolver** might not be on the local network.



3. Find the address of google.com

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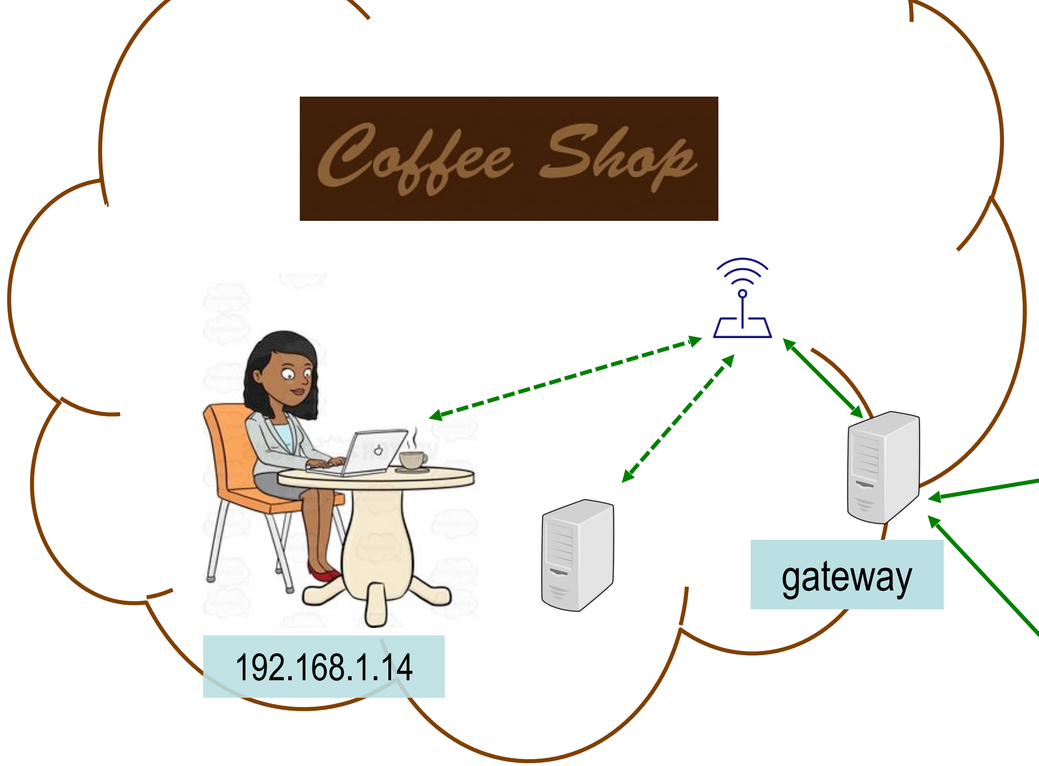


192.168.1.14

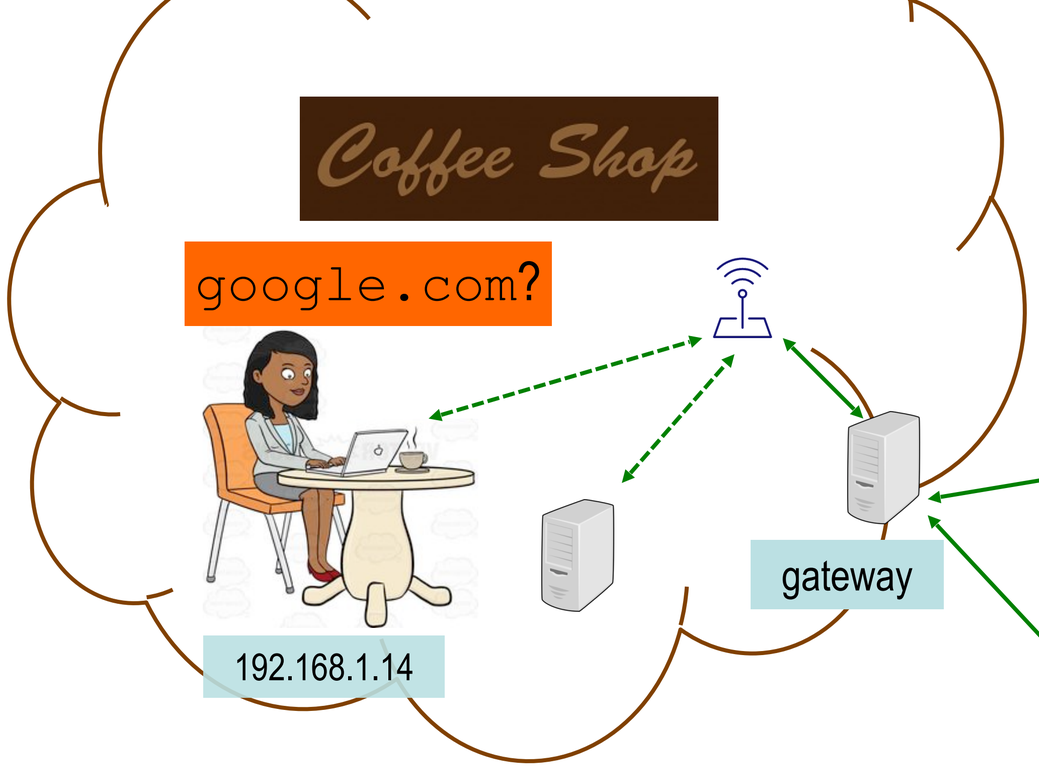
gateway

resolver

router

The Rest of the Internet

3. Find the address of google.com



gateway

resolver

router

The Rest of the Internet

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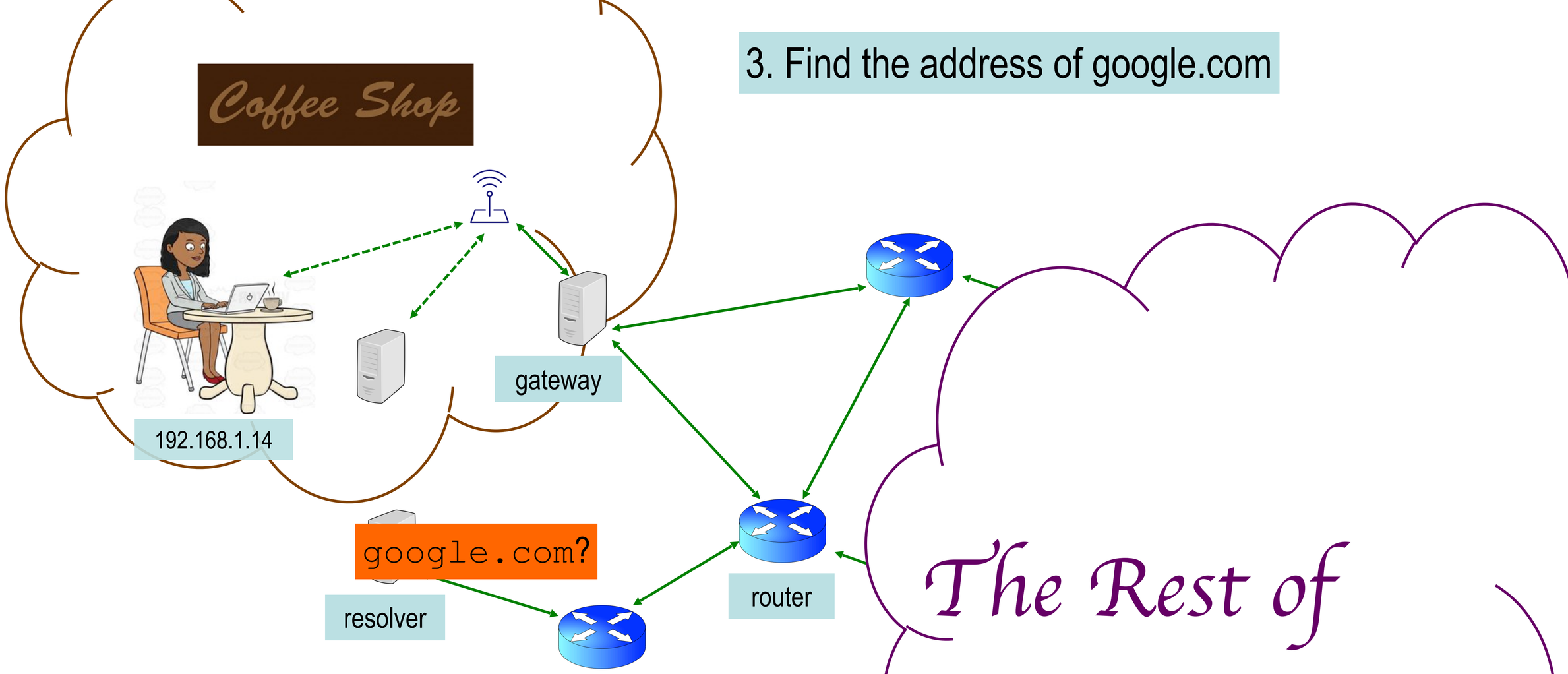
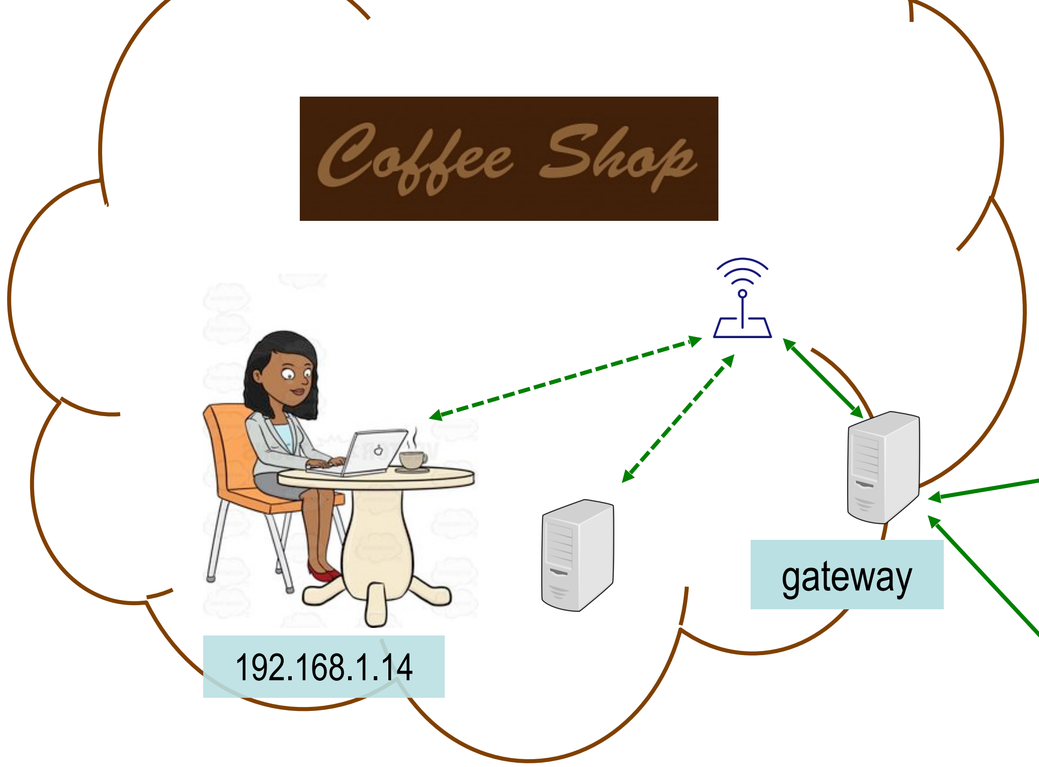


(The resolver now itself uses DNS queries to other DNS servers to figure out the address associated with `google.com`.)

3. Find the address of google.com



192.168.1.14

gateway

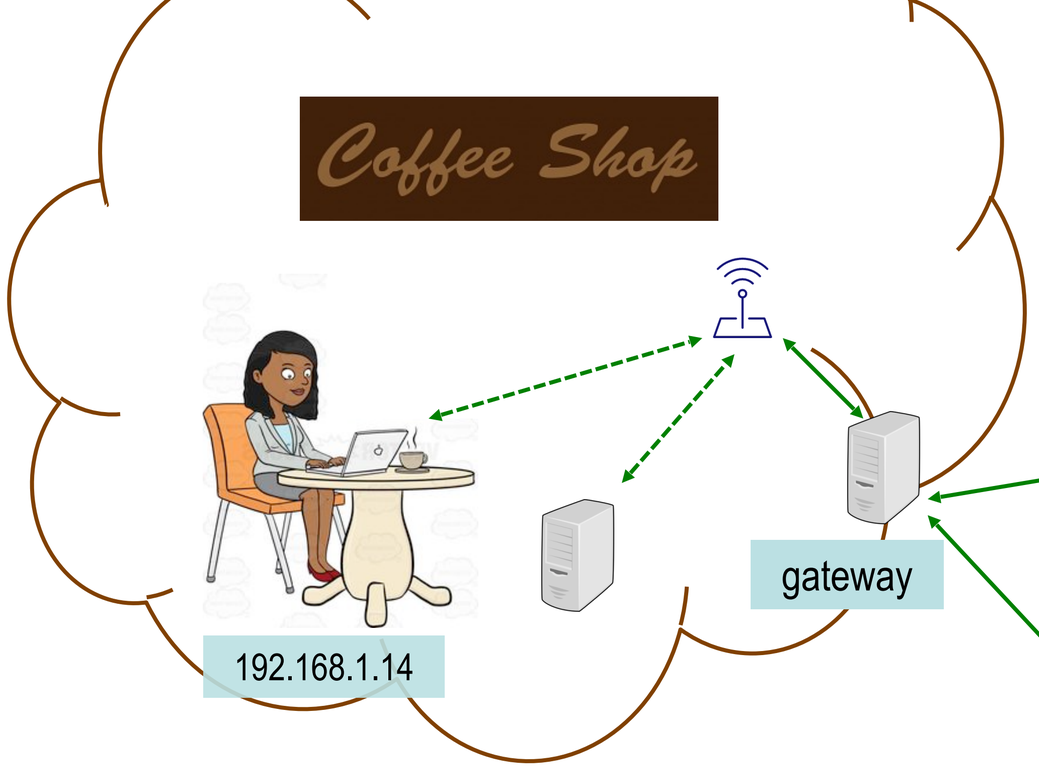
resolver

router

The Rest of the Internet

google.com's address is 172.217.6.78

4. Connect to `google.com` server



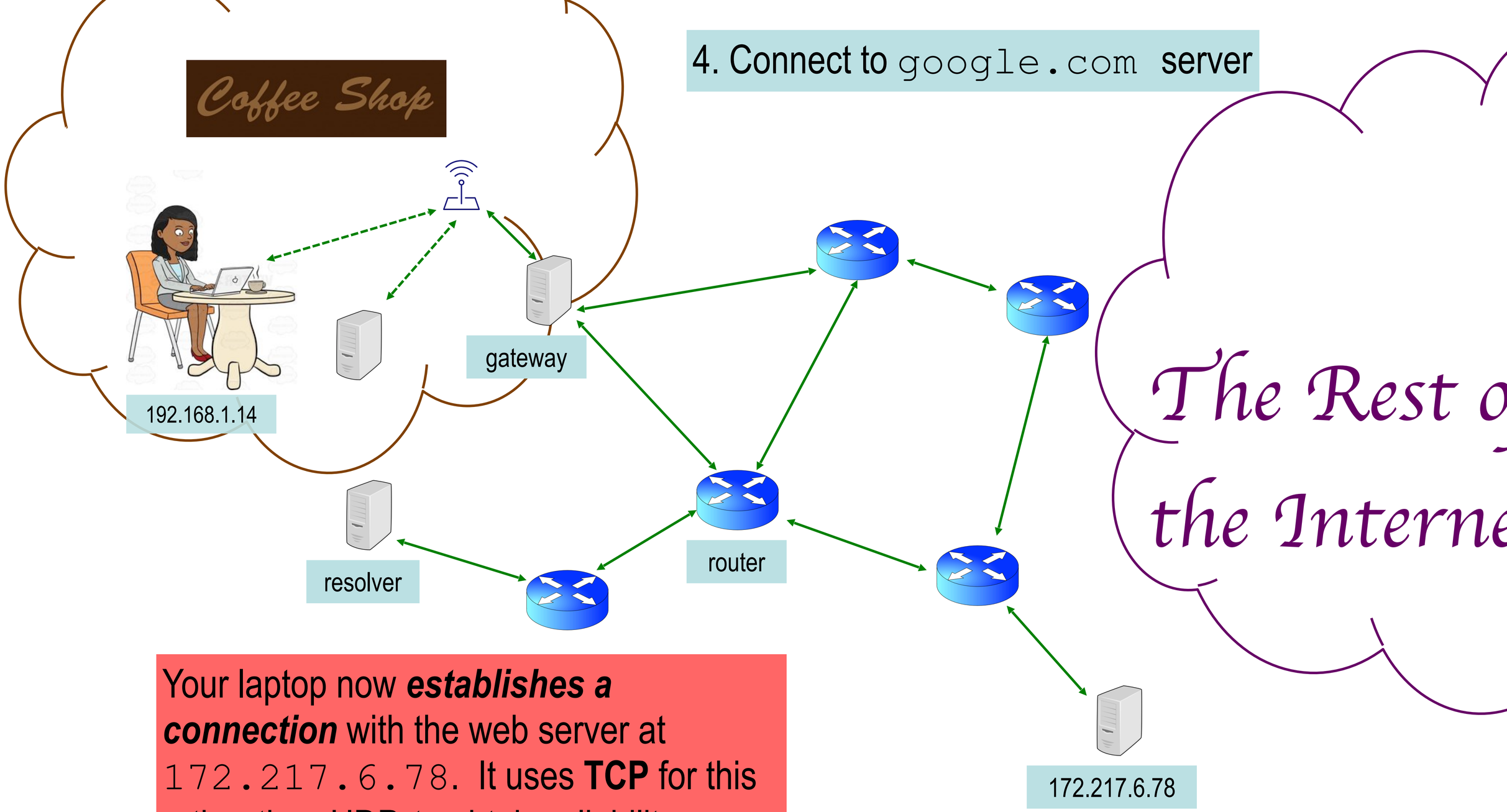
gateway

resolver

router

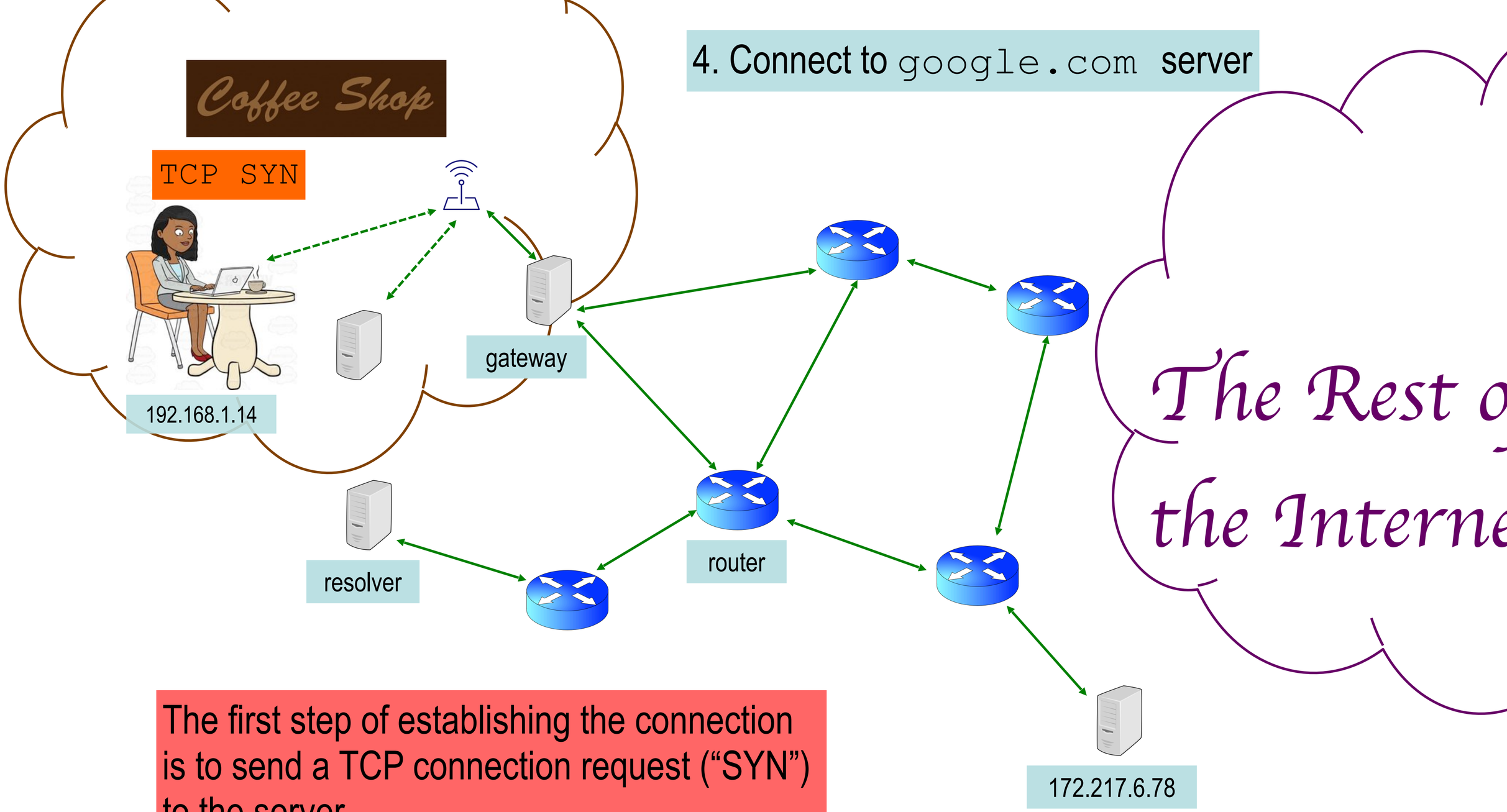
The Rest of the Internet

4. Connect to `google.com` server

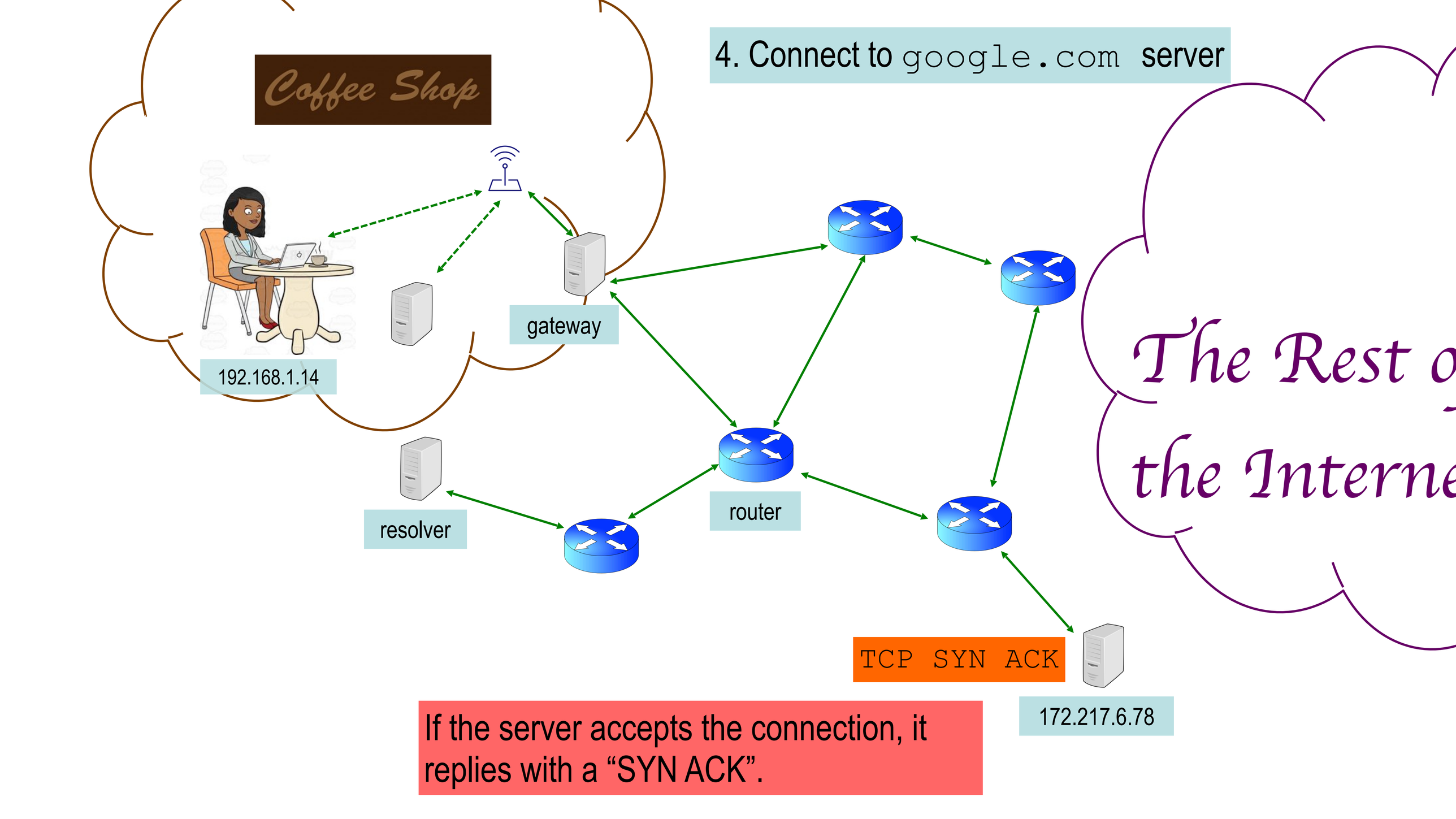


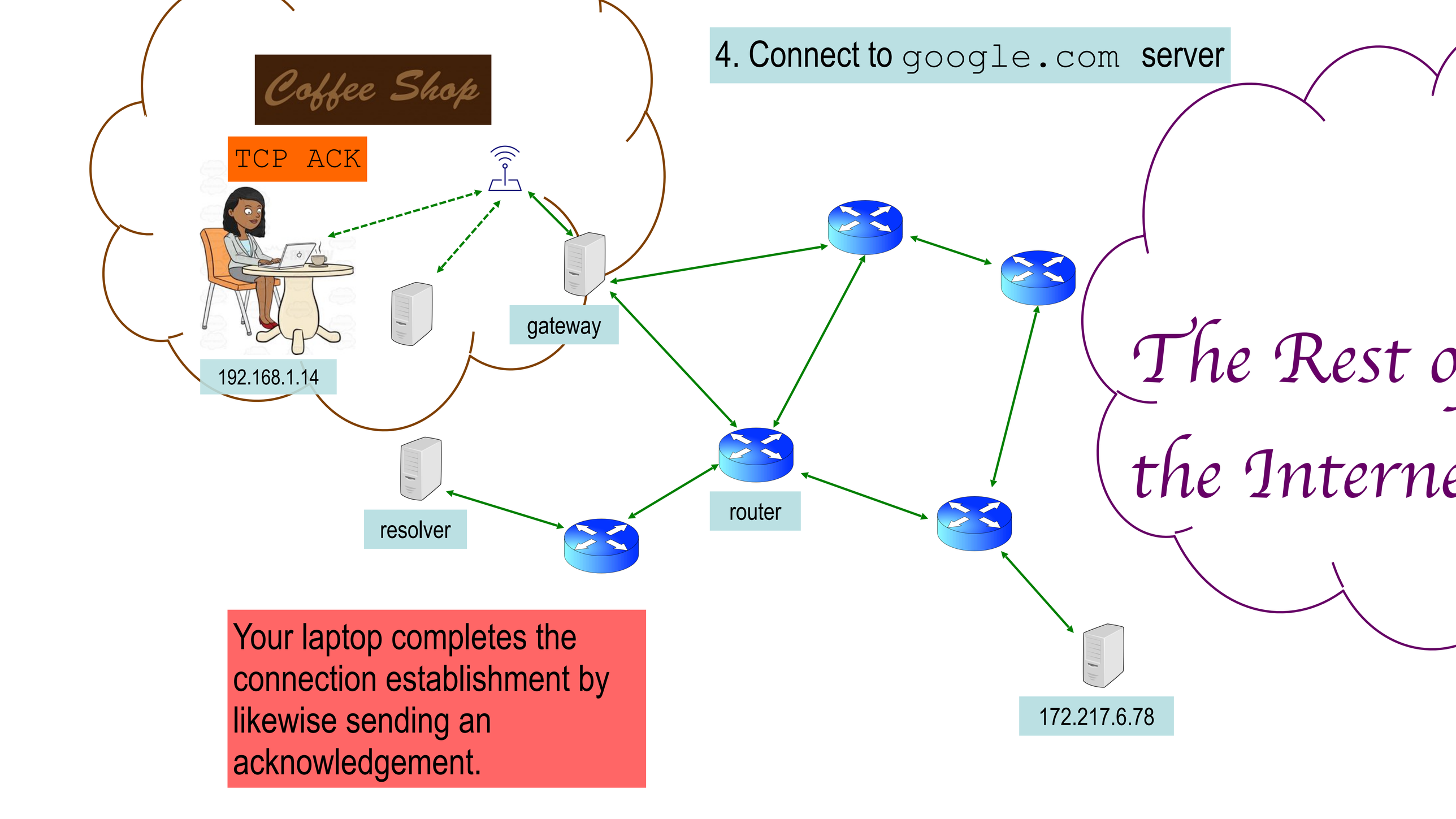
Your laptop now ***establishes a connection*** with the web server at `172.217.6.78`. It uses **TCP** for this rather than UDP, to obtain reliability.

4. Connect to `google.com` server

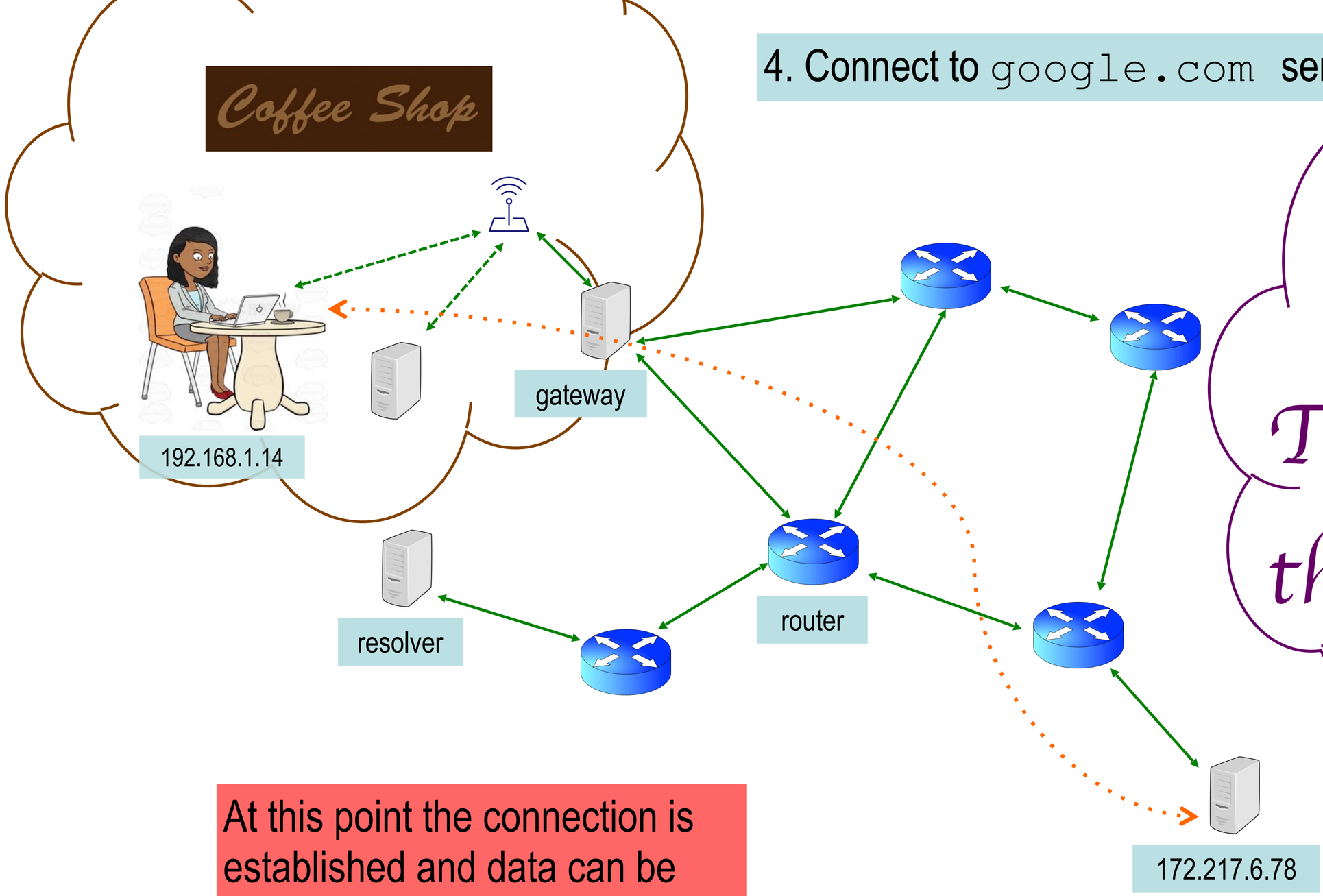


The first step of establishing the connection is to send a TCP connection request (“SYN”) to the server.

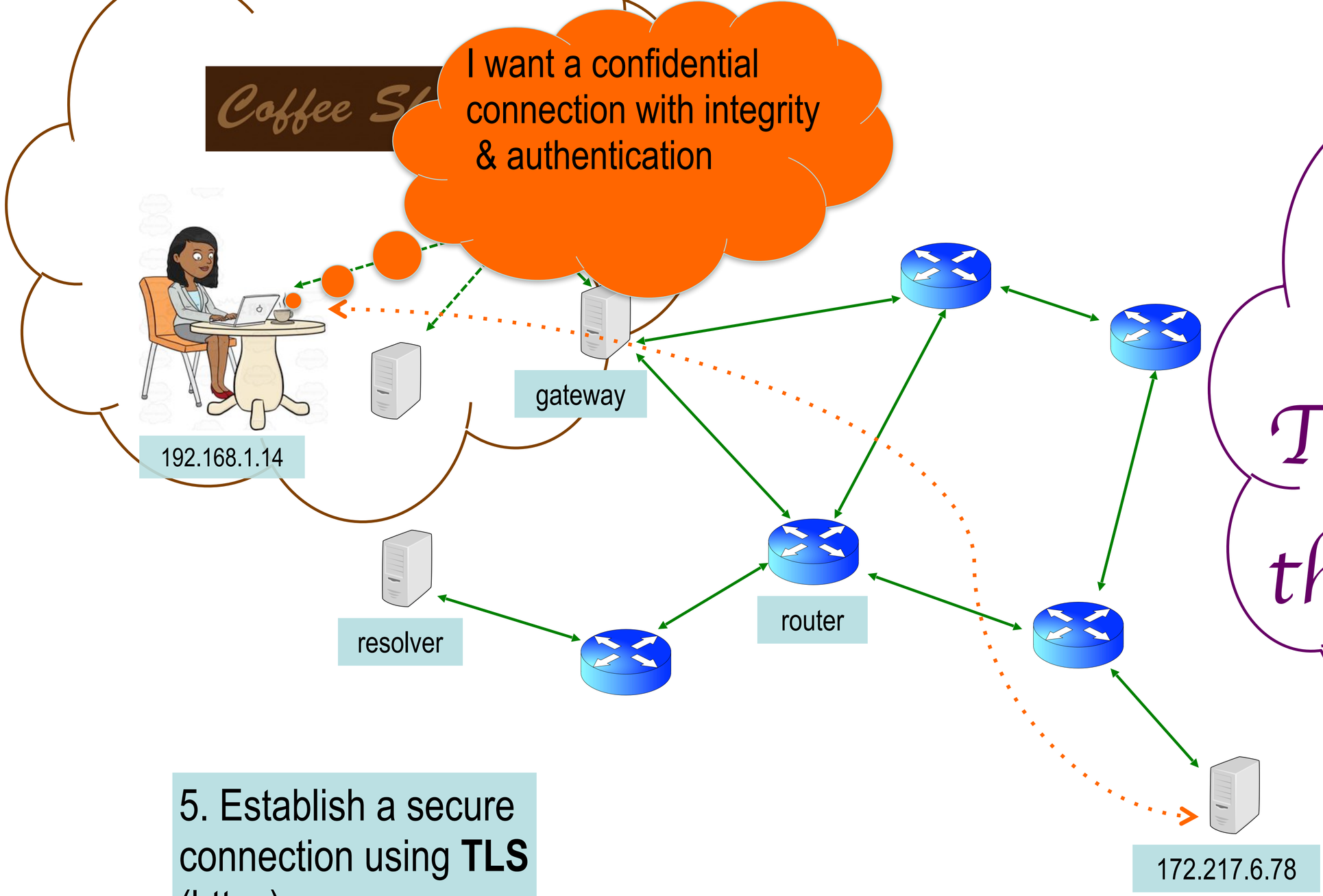

4. Connect to google.com server
Coffee Shop
192.168.1.14
gateway
resolver
router
TCP SYN ACK
172.217.6.78
If the server accepts the connection, it replies with a “SYN ACK”.


4. Connect to google.com server
Coffee Shop
TCP ACK
192.168.1.14
gateway
resolver
router
172.217.6.78
The Rest o
the Interne
Your laptop completes the connection establishment by likewise sending an acknowledgement.

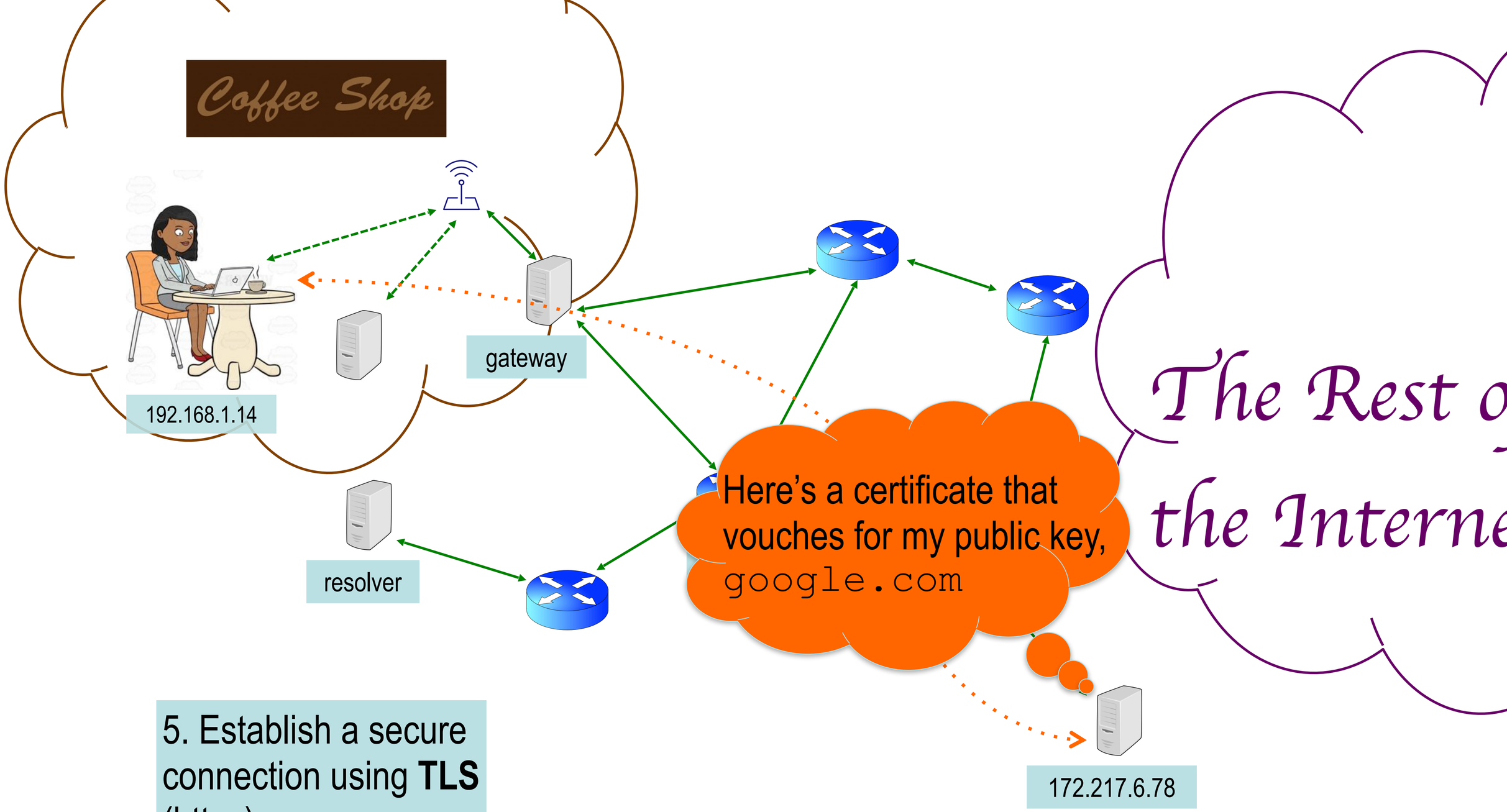
4. Connect to `google.com` server



At this point the connection is established and data can be (reliably) exchanged.



5. Establish a secure connection using **TLS** (https)



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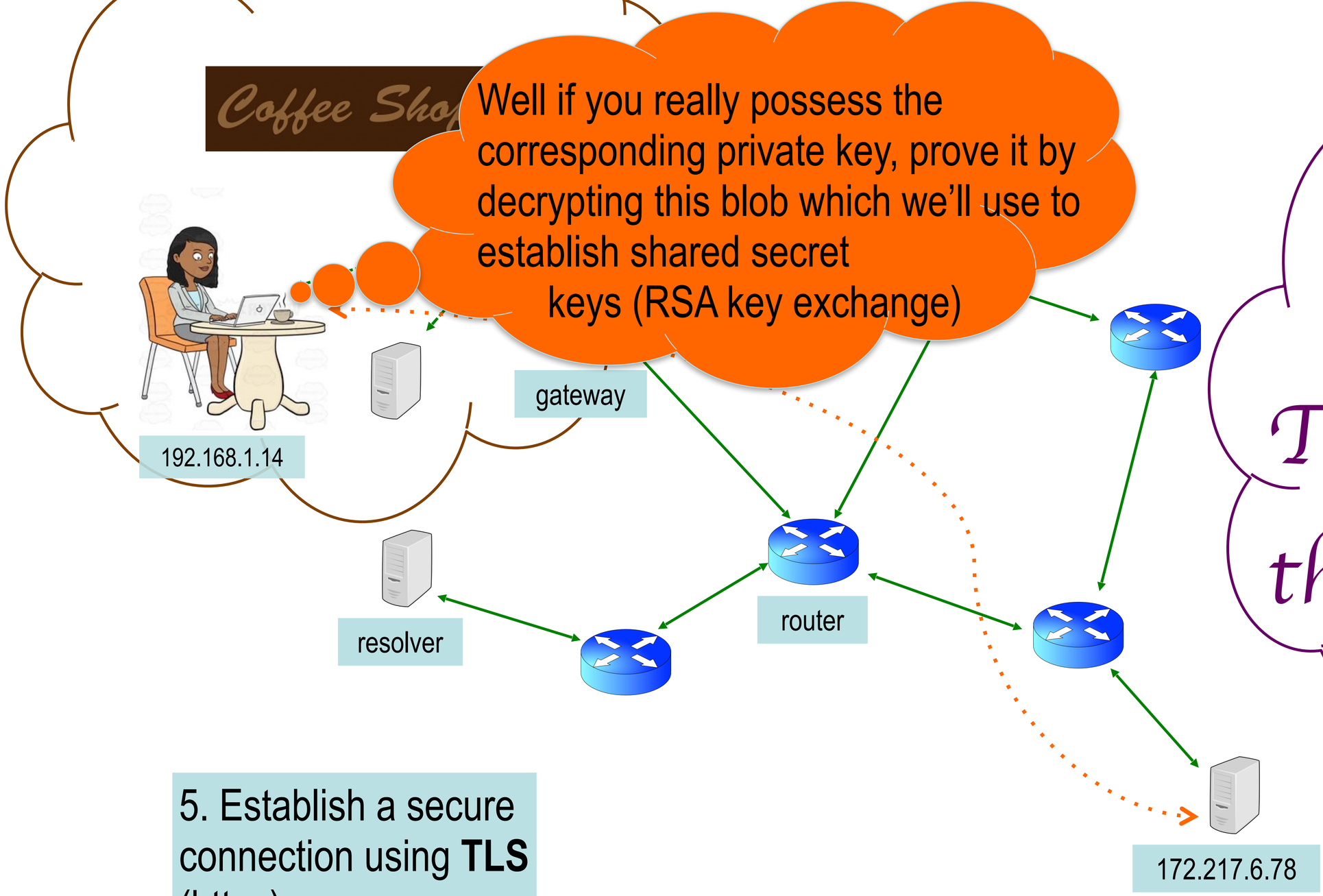

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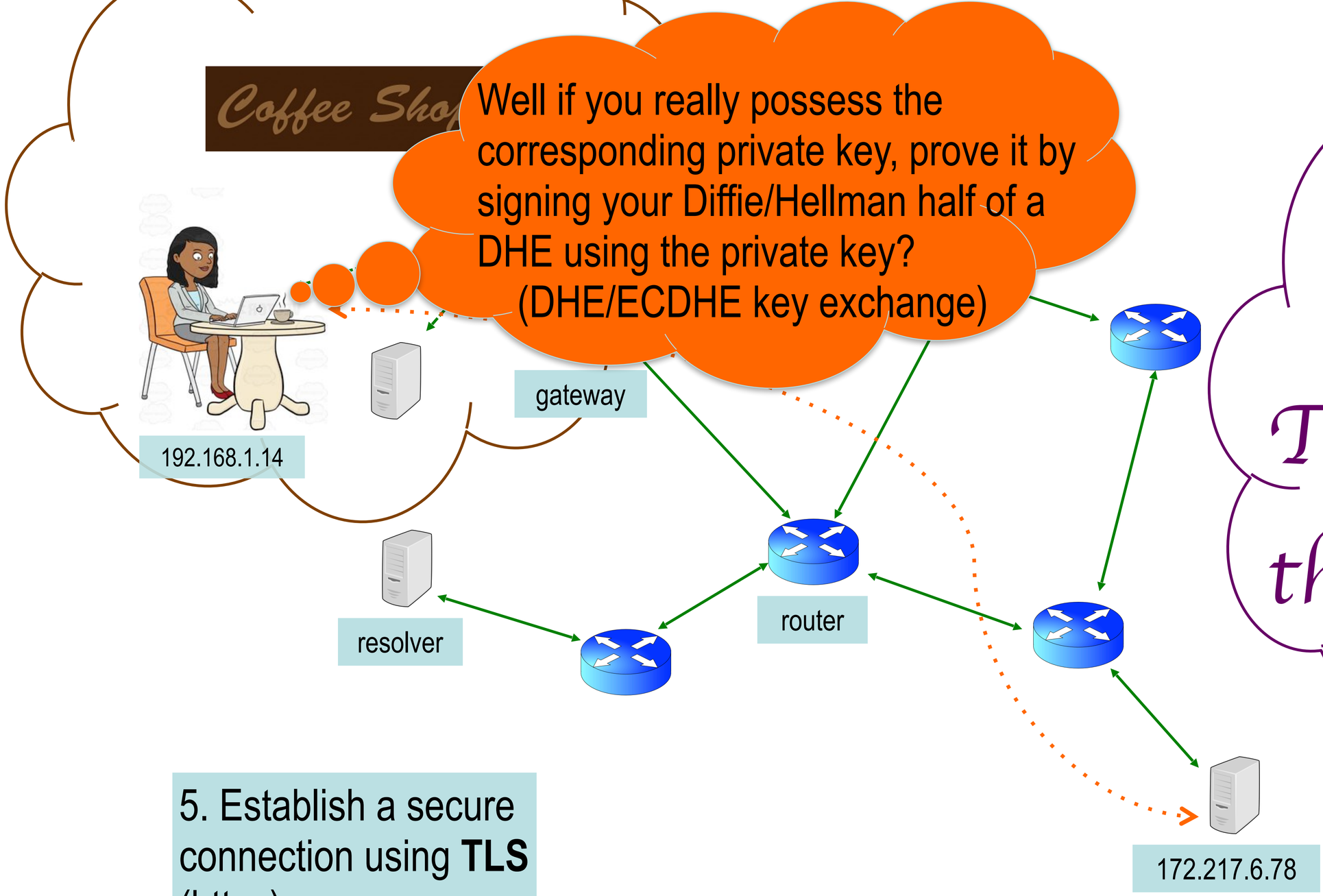

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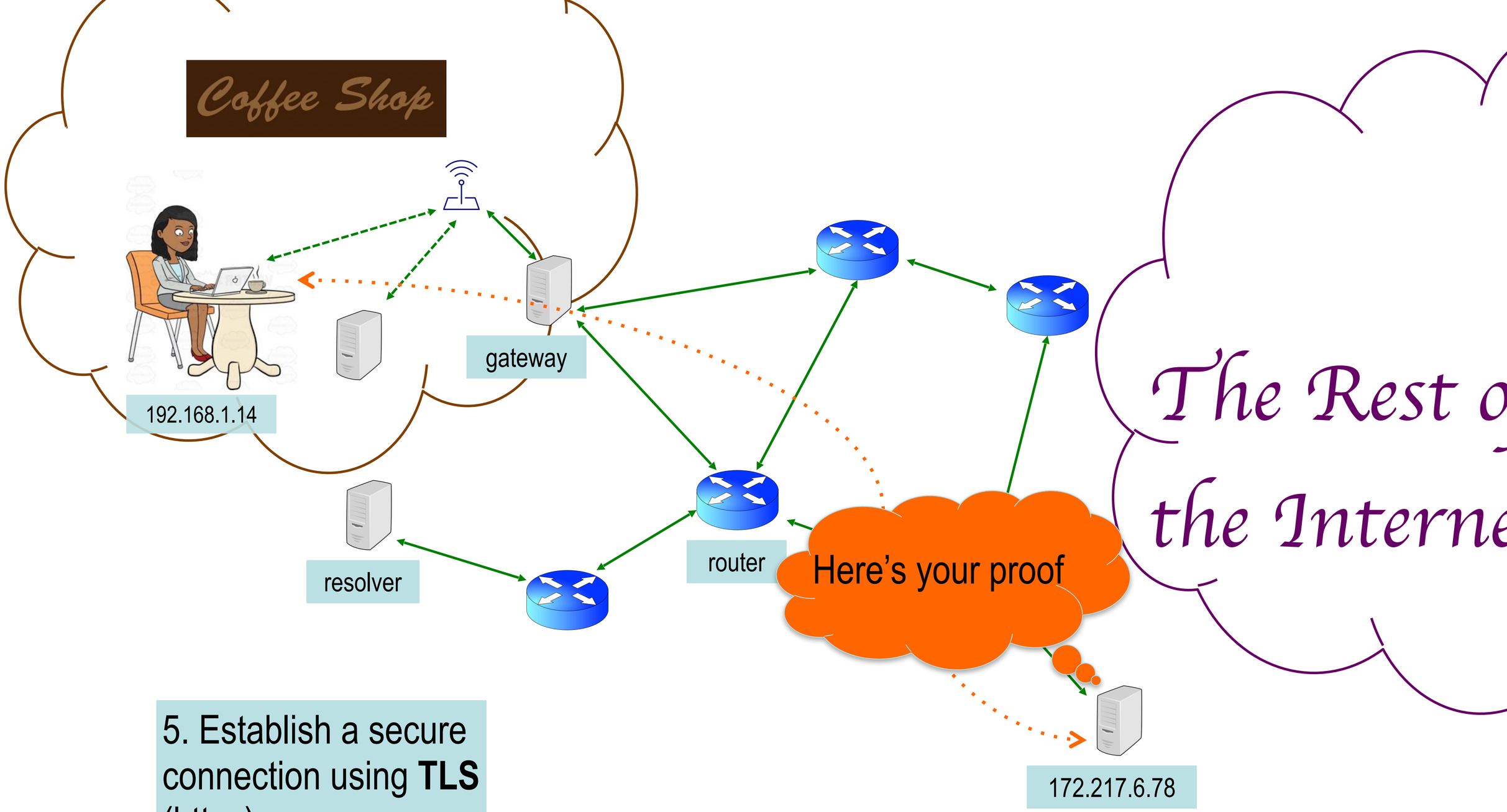
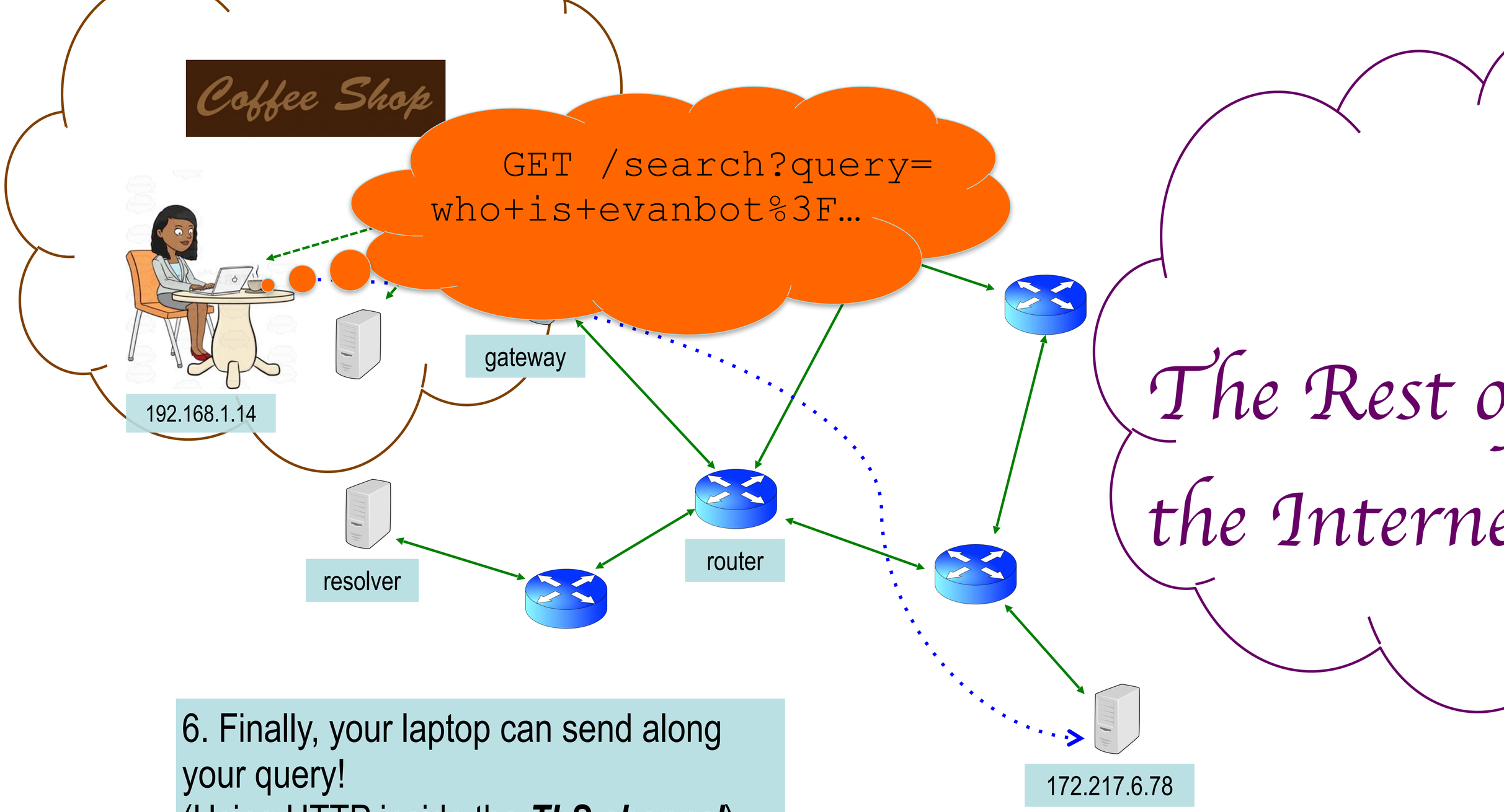


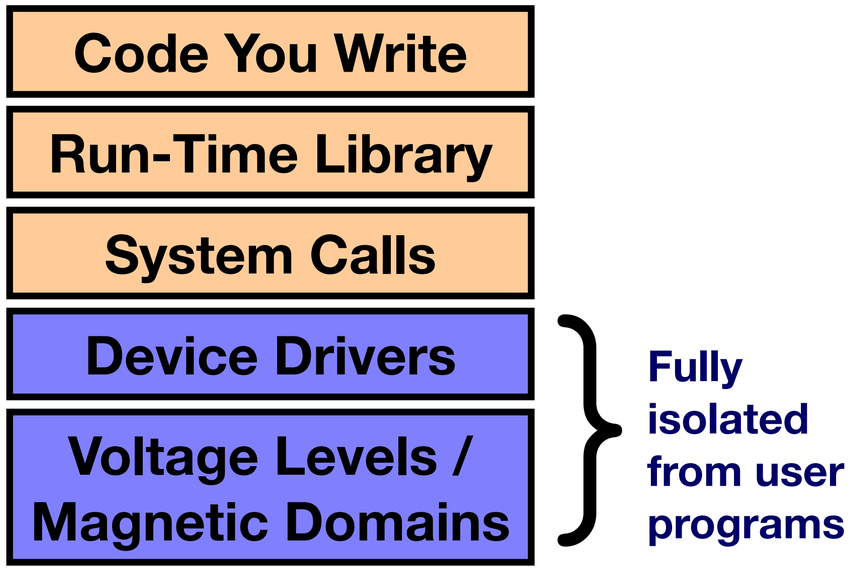
5. Establish a secure connection using **TLS** (https)



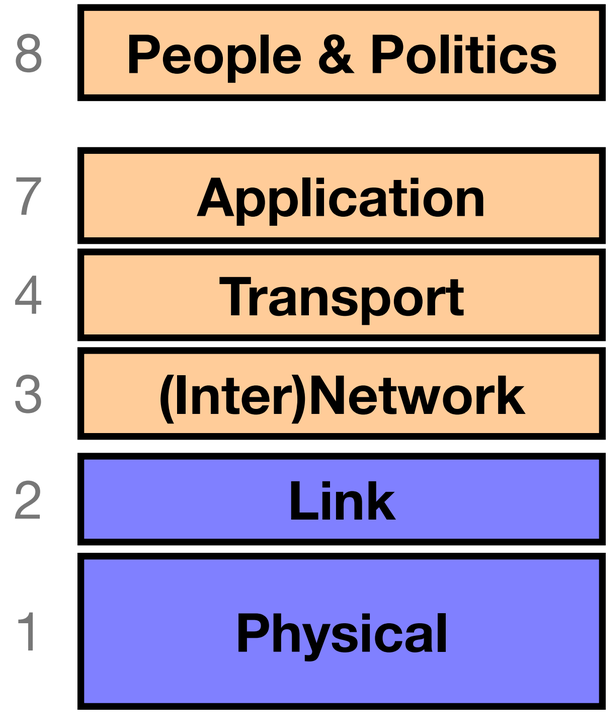
6. Finally, your laptop can send along your query!
(Using HTTP inside the ***TLS channel***)

Layering

- Internet design is strongly partitioned into layers
  - Each layer relies on services provided by next layer below …
  - … and provides services to layer above it
- Analogy:
  - Consider structure of an application you've written and the "services" each layer relies on / provides



Internet Layering ("Protocol Stack"/"**OSI Model**")



Note on a point of potential confusion: these diagrams are always drawn with lower layers **below** higher layers …

But diagrams showing the layouts of packets are often the *opposite*, with the lower layers at the **top** since their headers precede those for higher layers

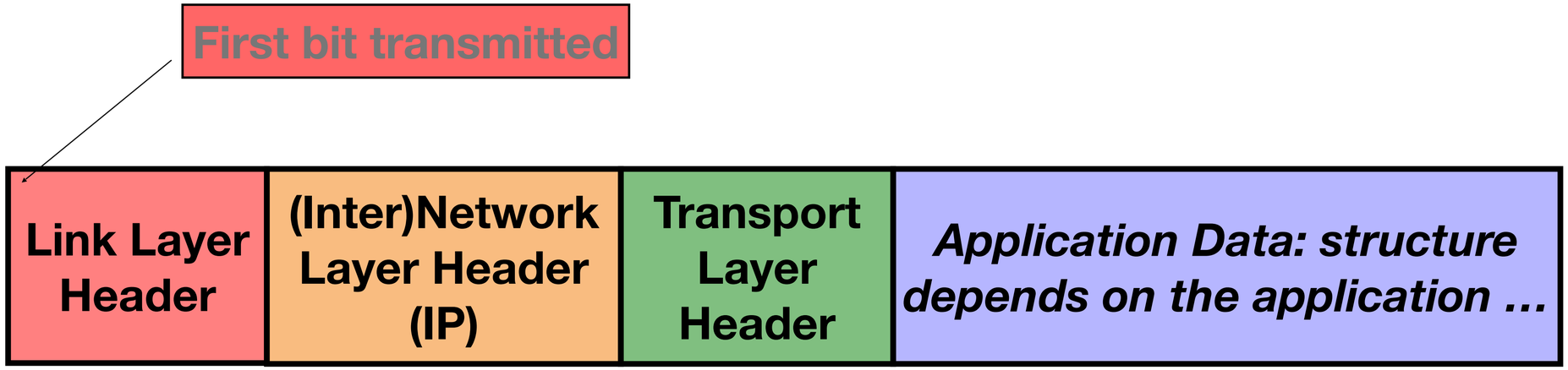
(And nobody remembers what layers 5 and 6 are for ("Session" and "Presentation) for the trivia buffs because they aren't really used)

(also, layer 8 is a "joke", but really is important)

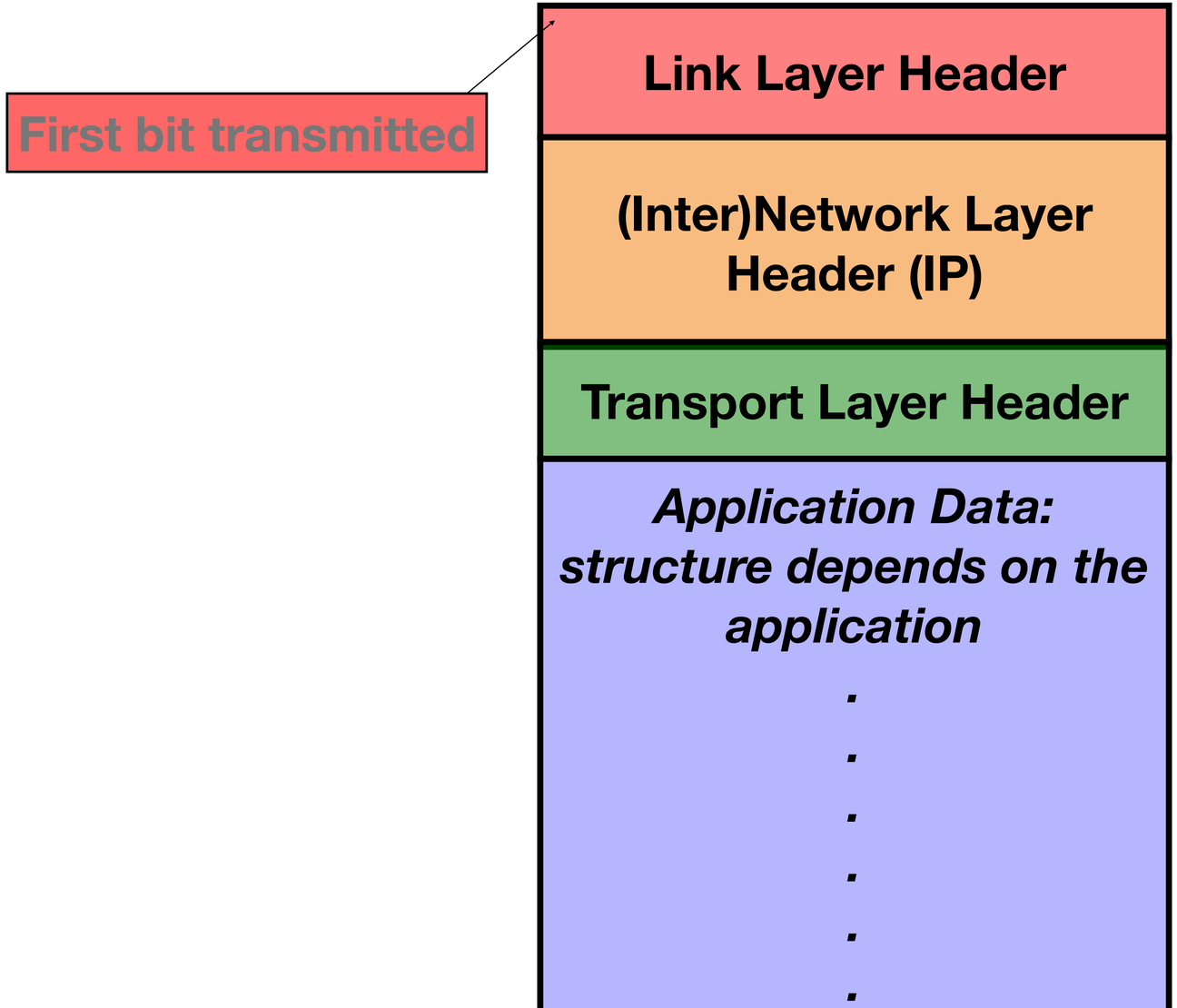
Packets and The Network

- Modern networks break communications up into packets
  - For our purposes, packets contain a variable amount of data up to a maximum specified by the particular network
- The sending computer breaks up the message and the receiving computer puts it back together
  - So the software doesn't actually see the packets per-se
  - Network itself is ***packet switched***: sending each packet on towards its next destination
- Other properties:
  - Packets are received ***correctly*** or not at all in the face of ***random*** errors
    - The network does not enforce correctness in the face of adversarial inputs: They are checksums not cryptographic MACs.
  - Packets may be ***unreliable*** and "dropped"
    - Its up to higher-level protocols to make the connection Reliable

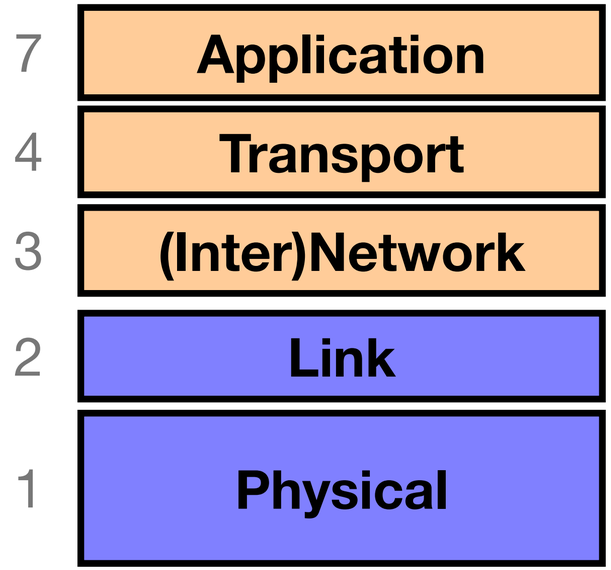
Horizontal View of a Single Packet



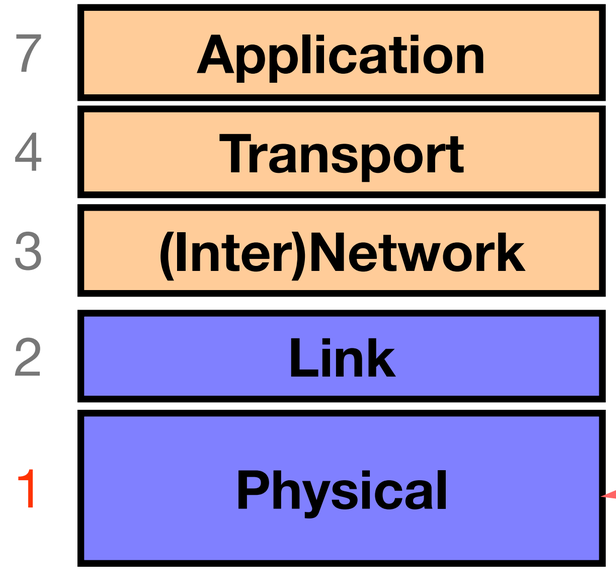
Vertical View of a Single Packet



Internet Layering (“Protocol Stack”)



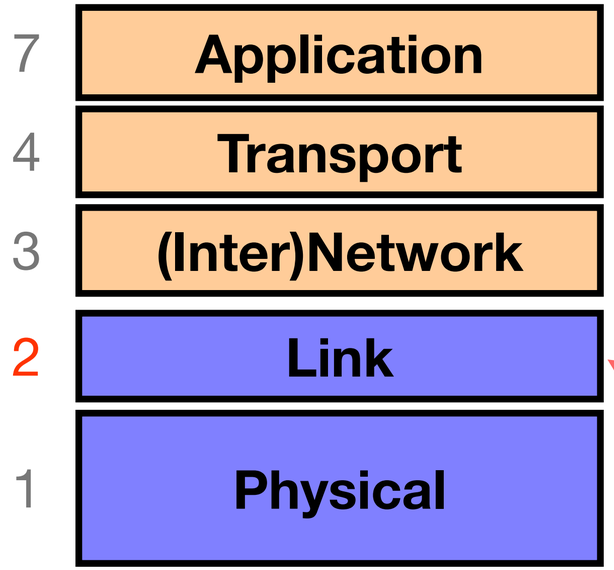
Layer 1: Physical Layer



Encoding bits to send them over a single **physical link**

e.g. patterns of *voltage levels / photon intensities / RF modulation*

Layer 2: Link Layer

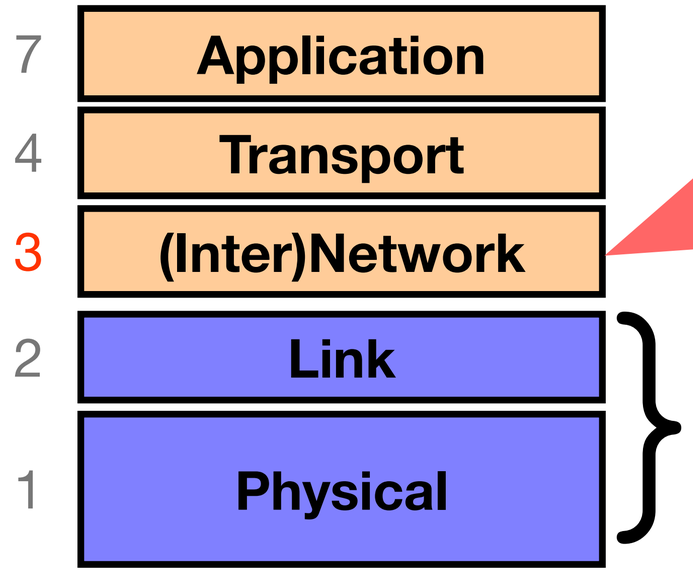


Framing and transmission of a collection of bits into individual messages sent across a single "subnetwork" (one physical technology)

Might involve multiple *physical links* (e.g., modern Ethernet)

Often technology supports broadcast transmission (**every** "node" connected to subnet receives)

Layer 3: (Inter)Network Layer *(IP)*



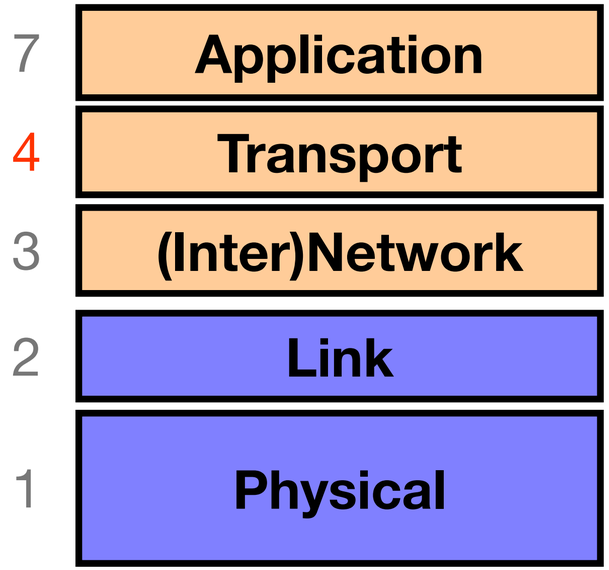
Bridges multiple "subnets" to provide *end-to-end* internet connectivity between nodes

- Provides global addressing

Works across different link technologies

***Different* for each Internet "hop"**

Layer 4: Transport Layer

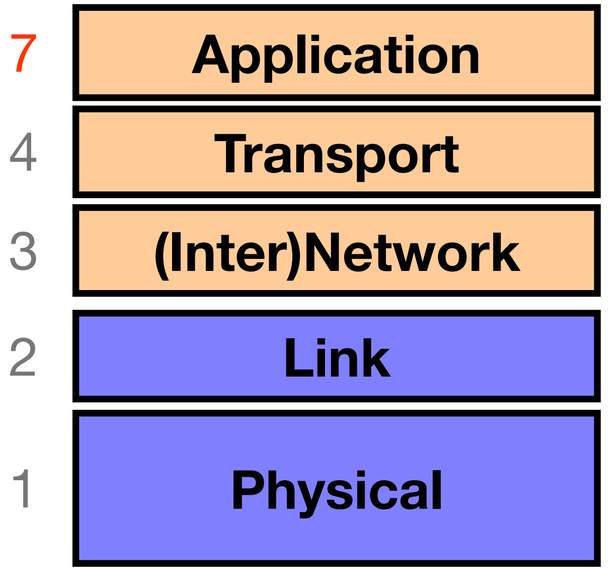


End-to-end communication between processes

Different services provided:
- TCP = reliable *byte stream*
- UDP = unreliable *datagrams*

(Datagram = single packet message)

Layer 7: Application Layer



Communication of whatever you wish

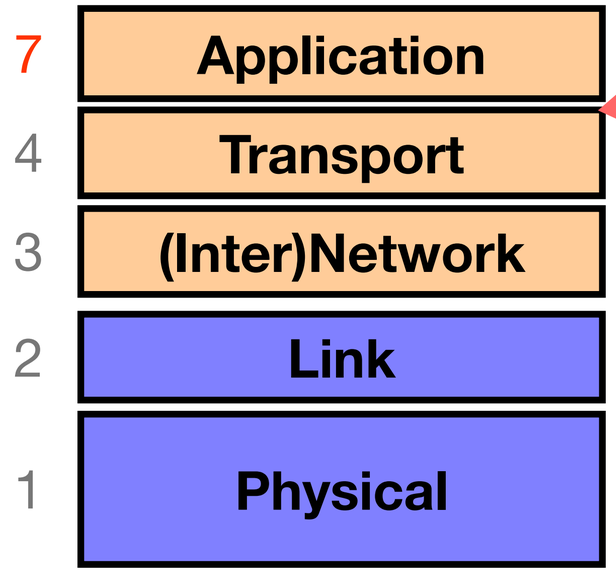
Can use whatever transport(s) is convenient

Freely structured

E.g.:

Skype, SMTP (email), HTTP (Web), Halo, BitTorrent

4.5: Some Crypto…

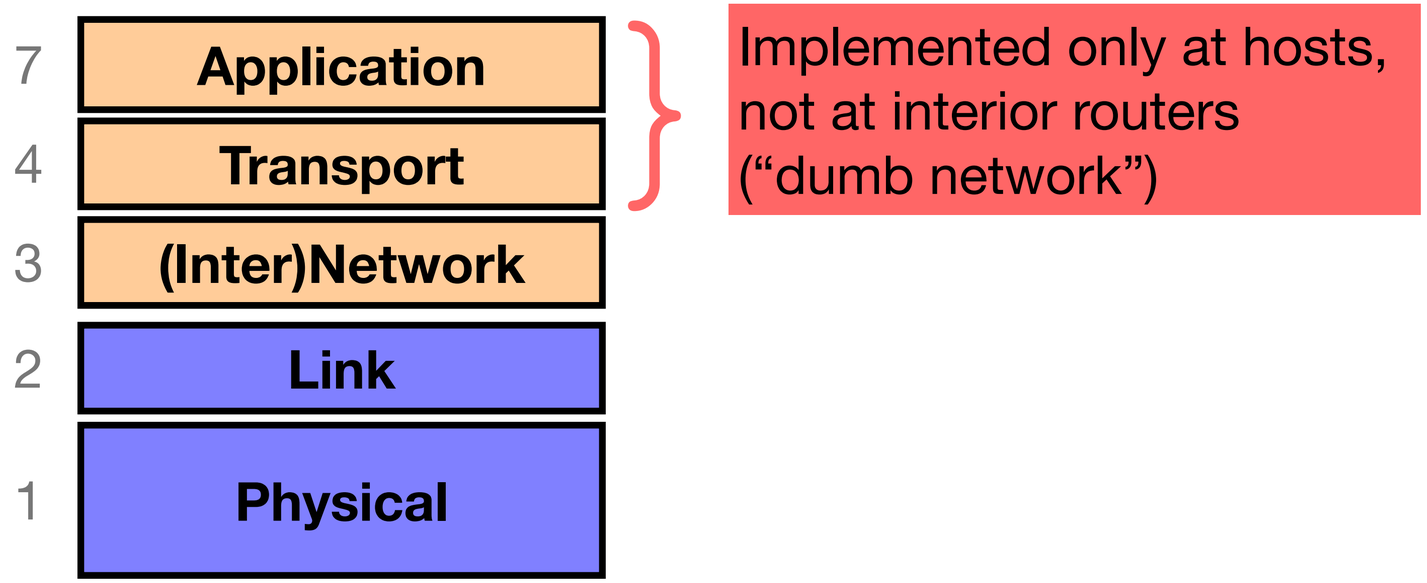


TLS cryptography
(aka the ’s’ in HTTPS)

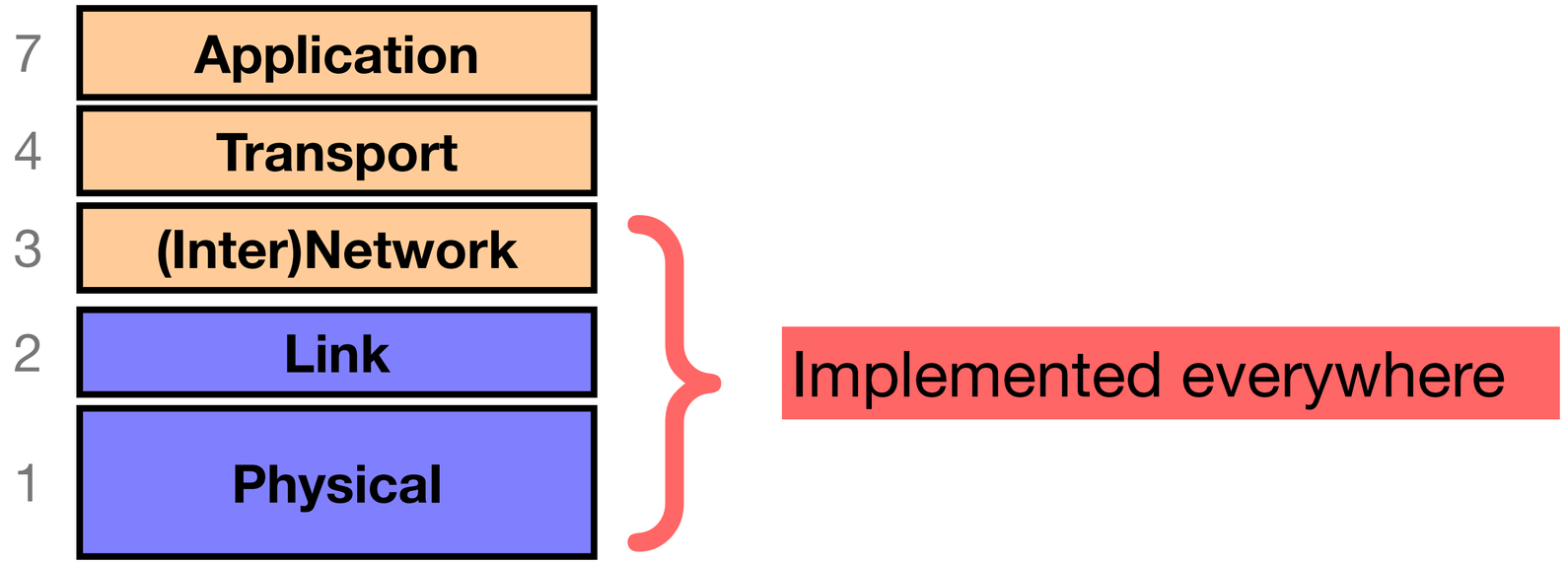
Often basically used as a “layer 4.5” transport layer to encrypt otherwise unencrypted network connections

Other times crypto may be at the application layer (e.g. ssh

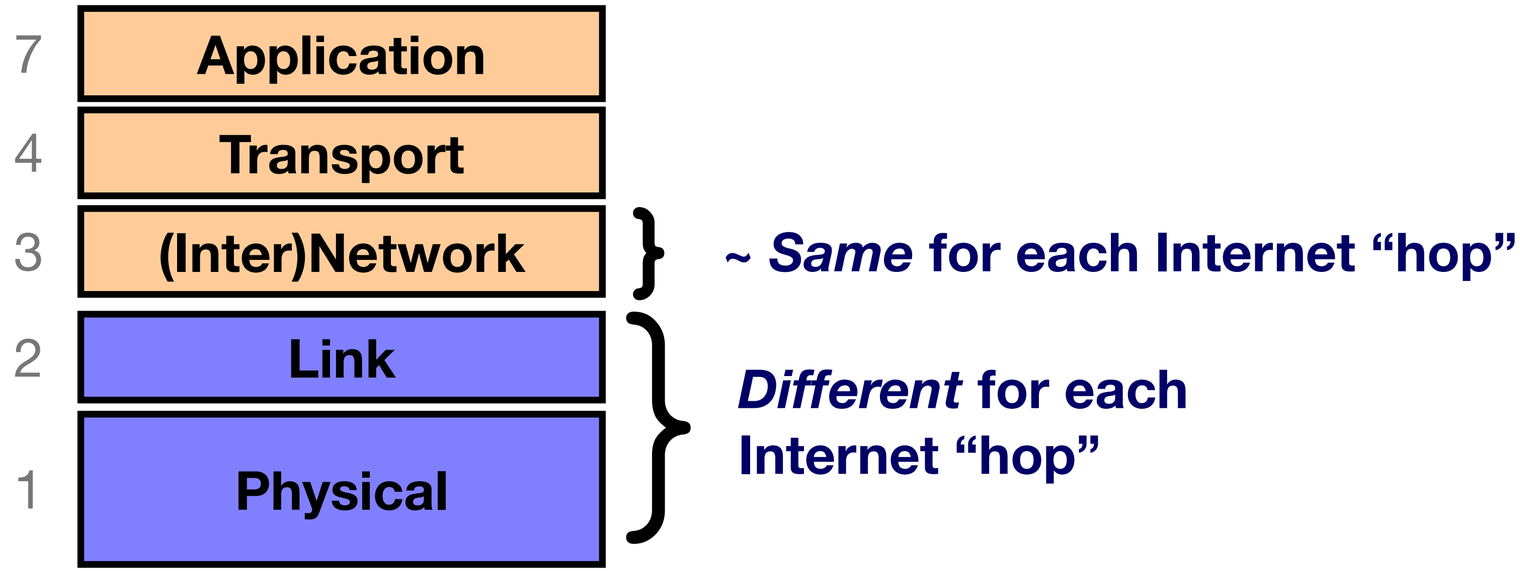
Internet Layering (“Protocol Stack”)



Internet Layering ("Protocol Stack")

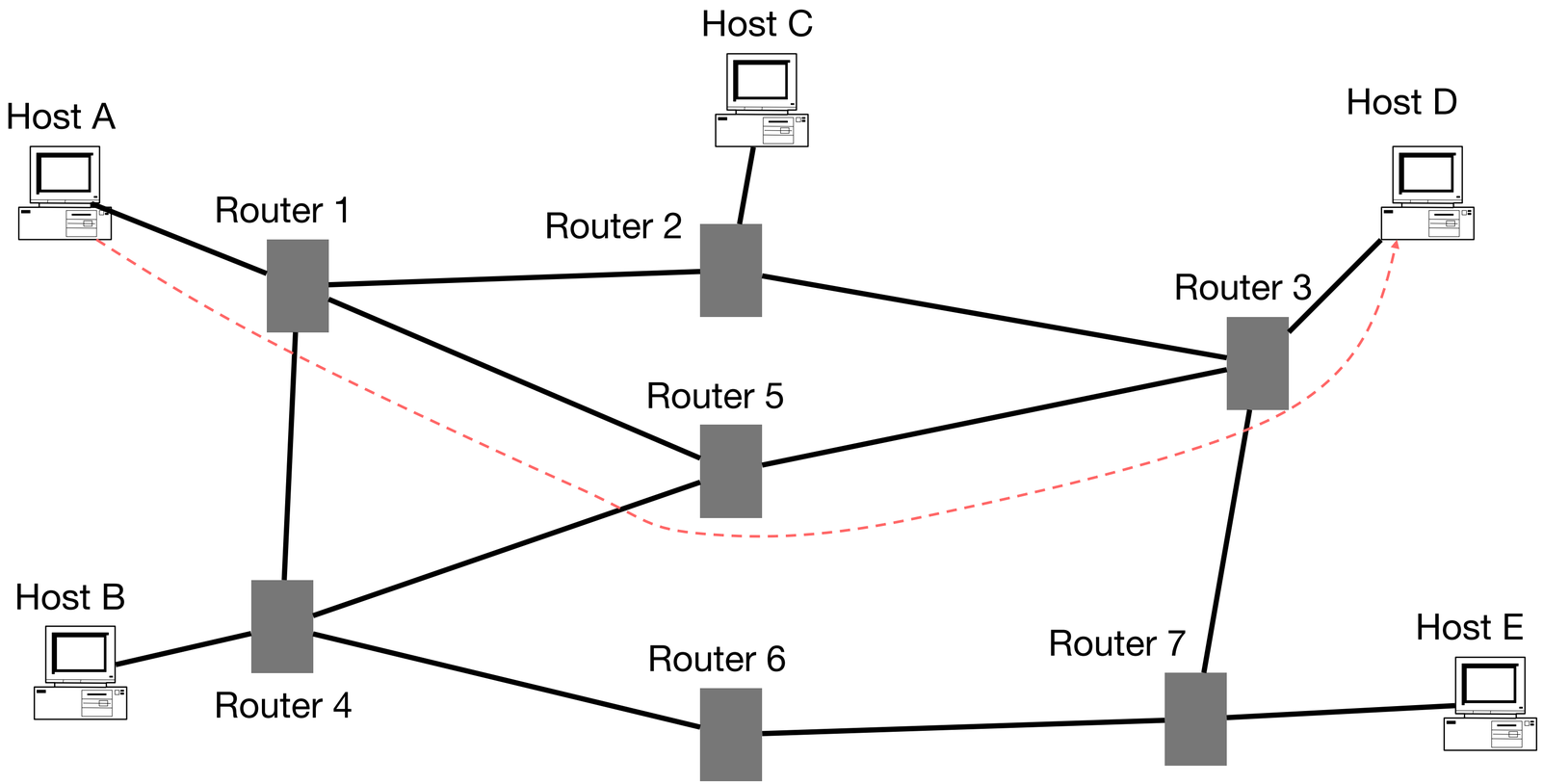


Internet Layering ("Protocol Stack")

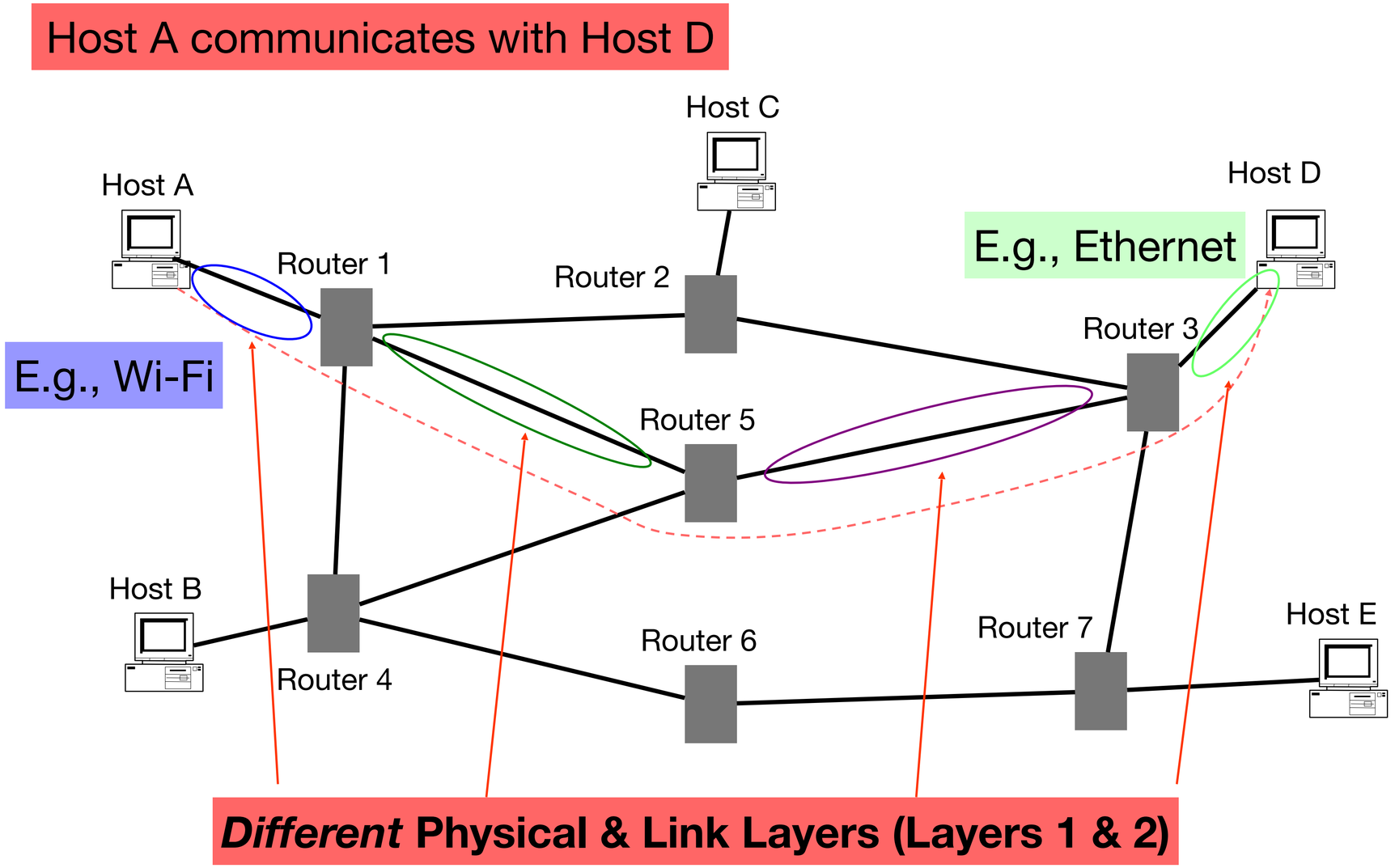


Hop-By-Hop vs. End-to-End Layers

Host A communicates with Host D

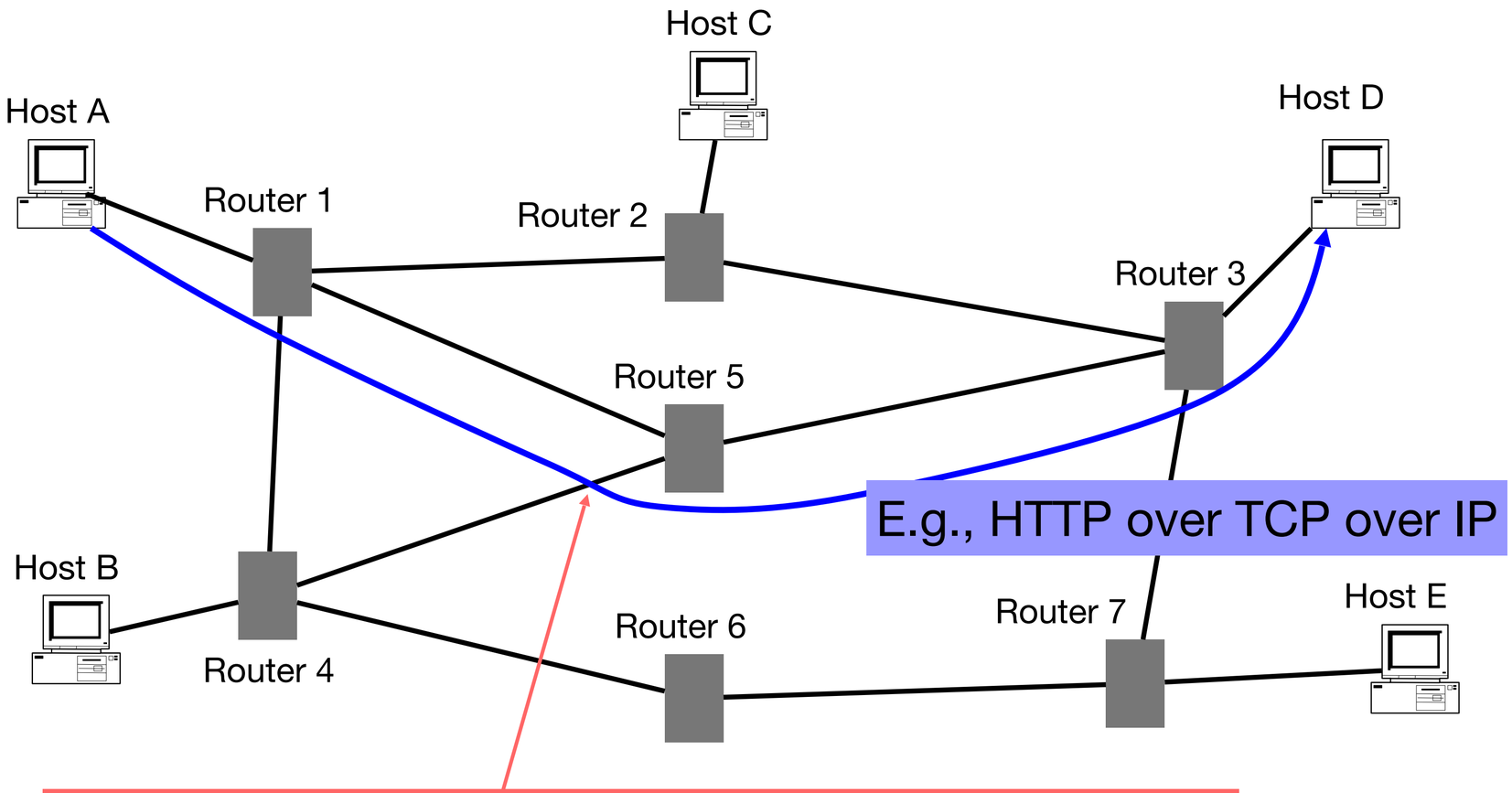


Hop-By-Hop vs. End-to-End Layers



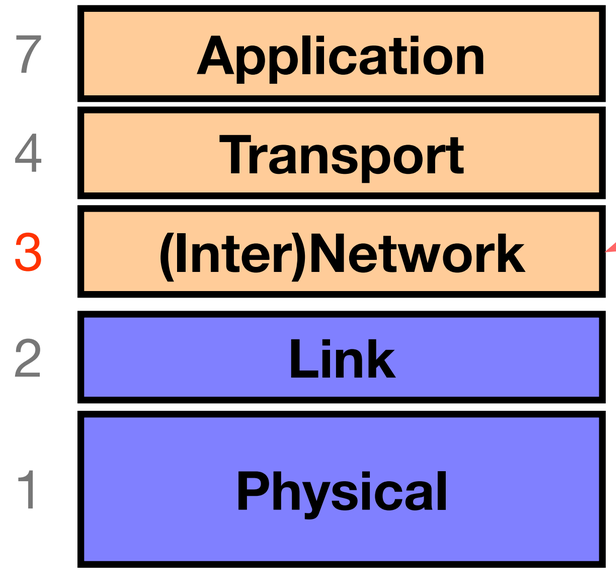
Hop-By-Hop vs. End-to-End Layers

Host A communicates with Host D



Same Network / Transport / Application Layers (3/4/7)
(Routers **ignore** Transport & Application layers)

Layer 3: (Inter)Network Layer *(IP)*

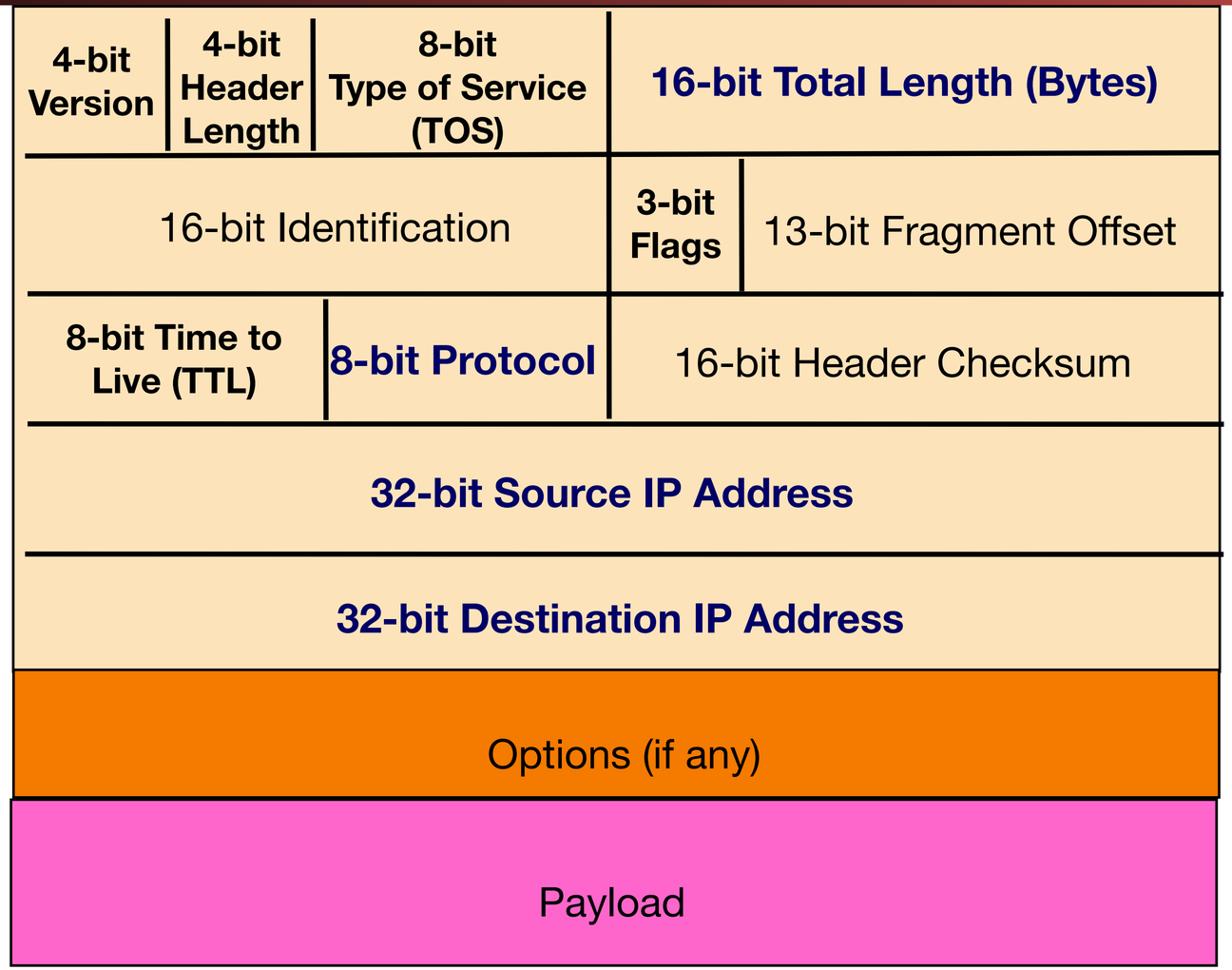


Bridges multiple "subnets" to provide *end-to-end* internet connectivity between nodes

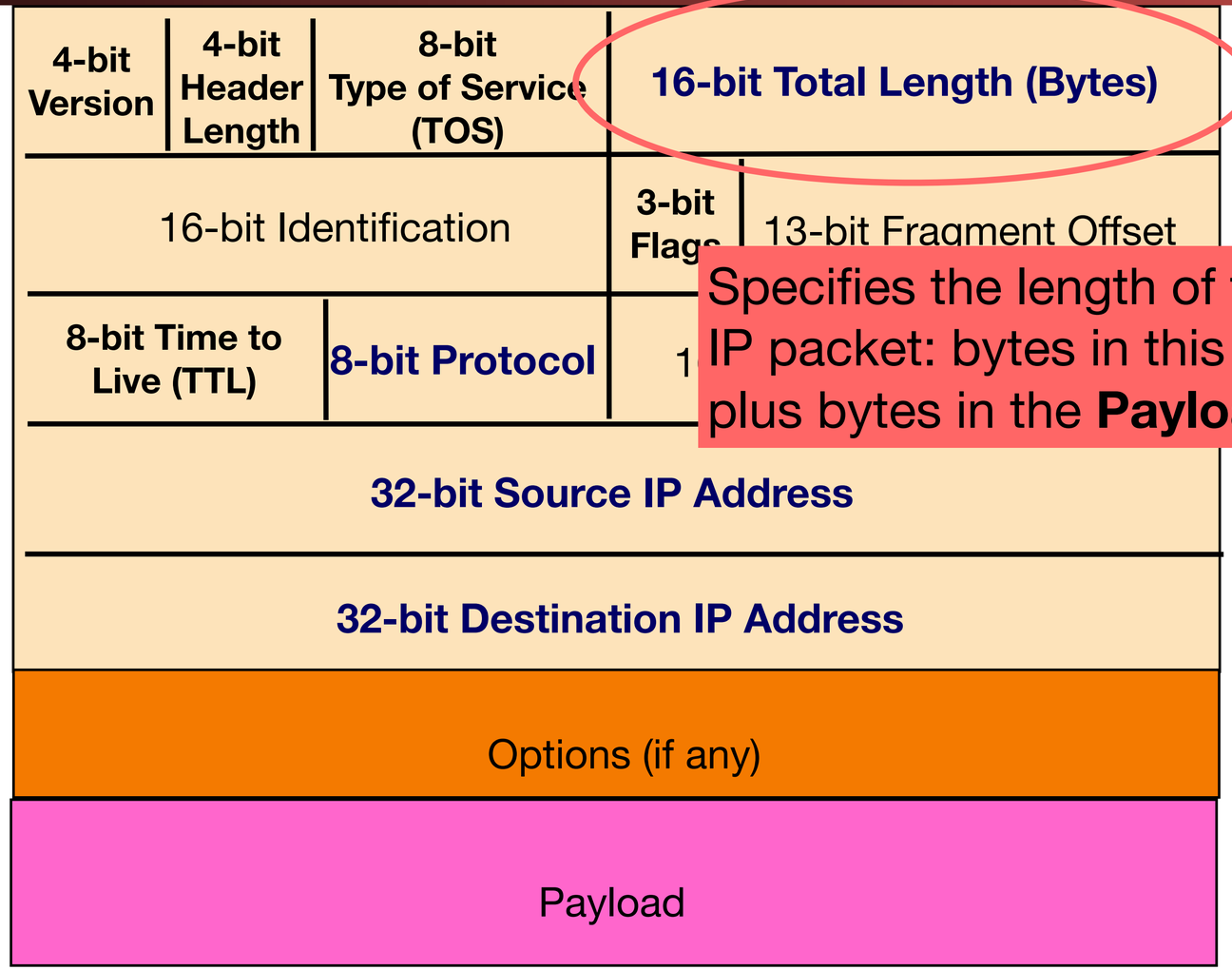
- Provides global addressing

Works across different link technologies

IPv4 Packet Structure (IP version 6 is different)

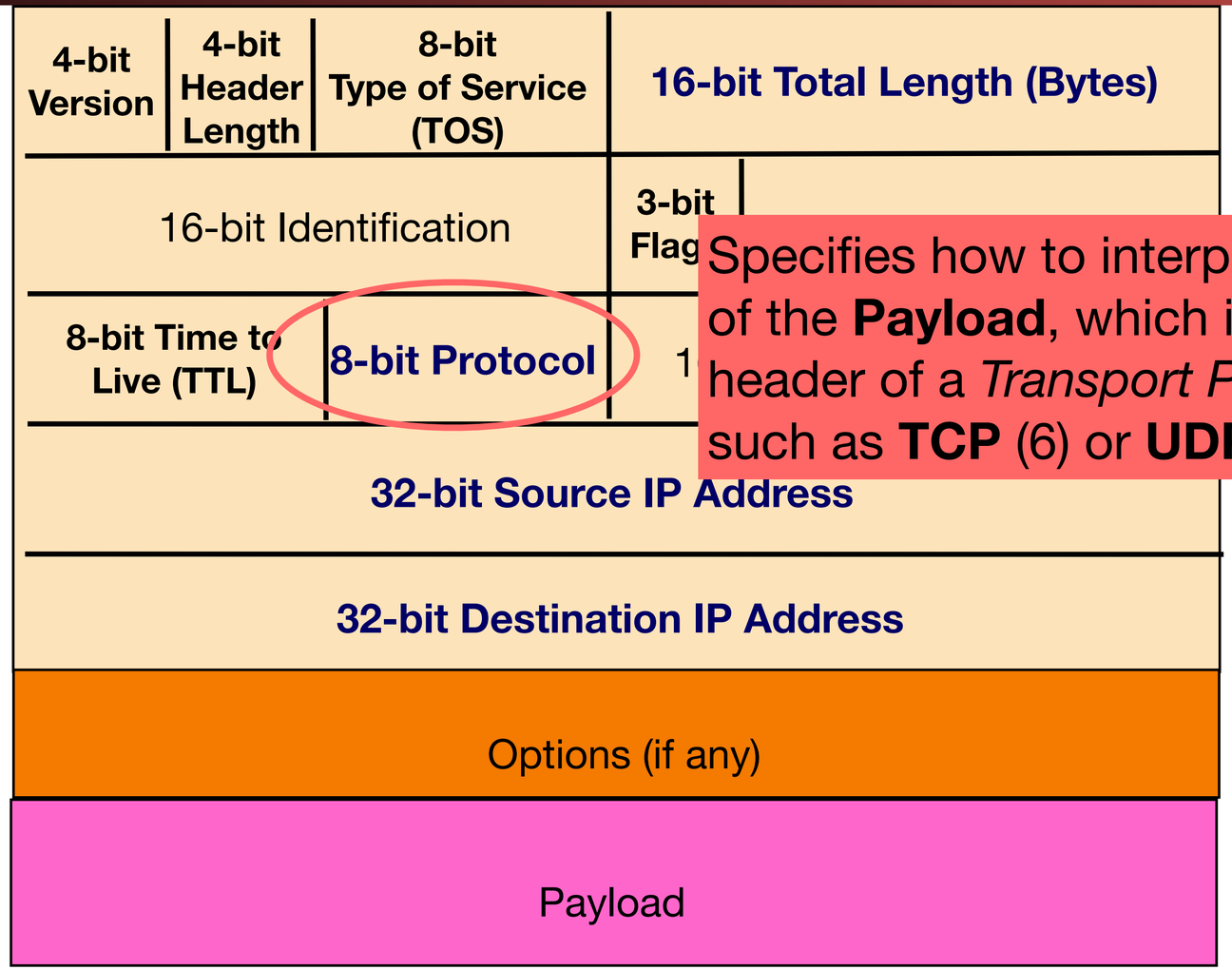


IP Packet Structure



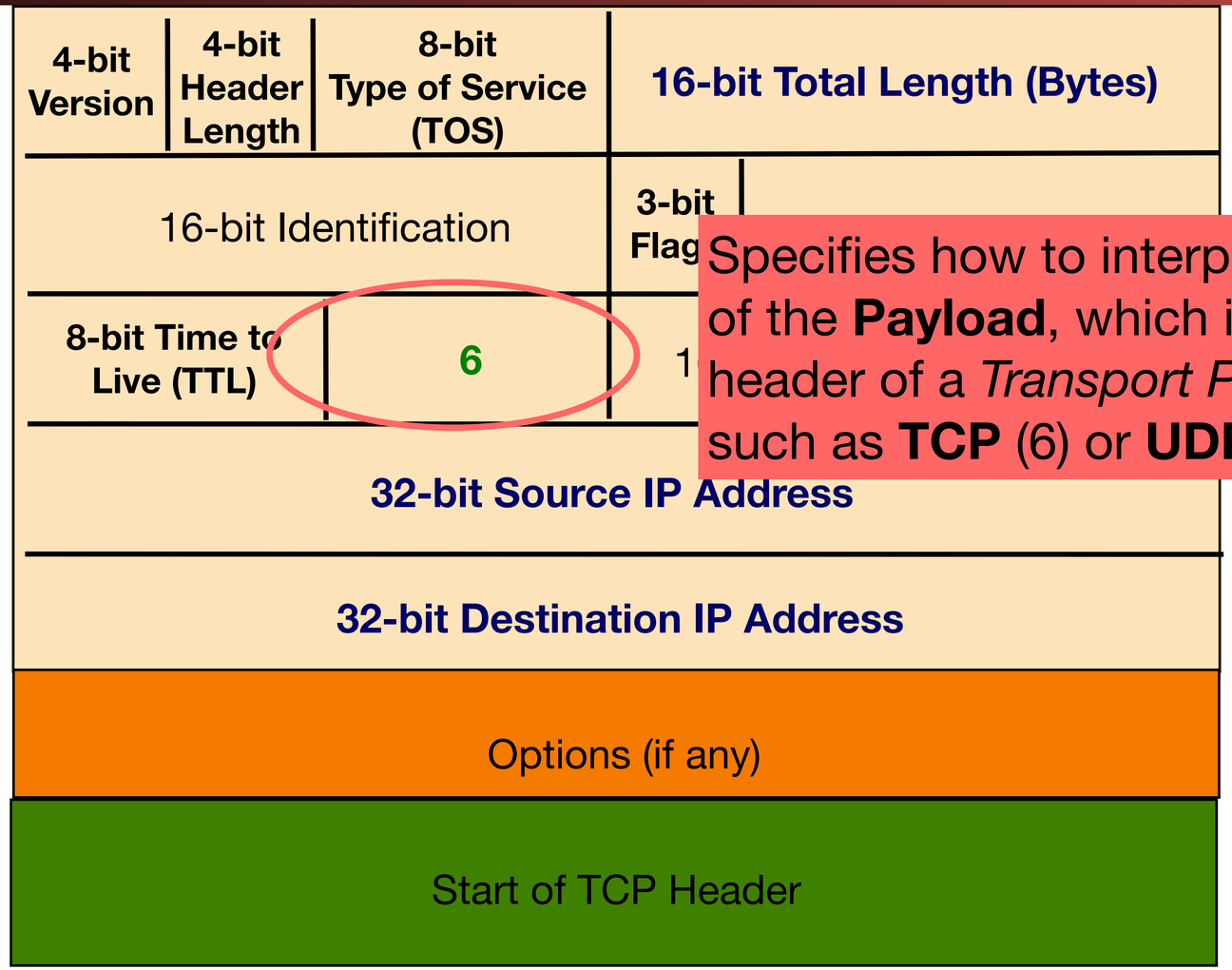
Specifies the length of the entire IP packet: bytes in this header plus bytes in the **Payload**

IP Packet Structure



Specifies how to interpret the start of the **Payload**, which is the header of a *Transport Protocol* such as **TCP** (6) or **UDP** (17)

IP Packet Structure



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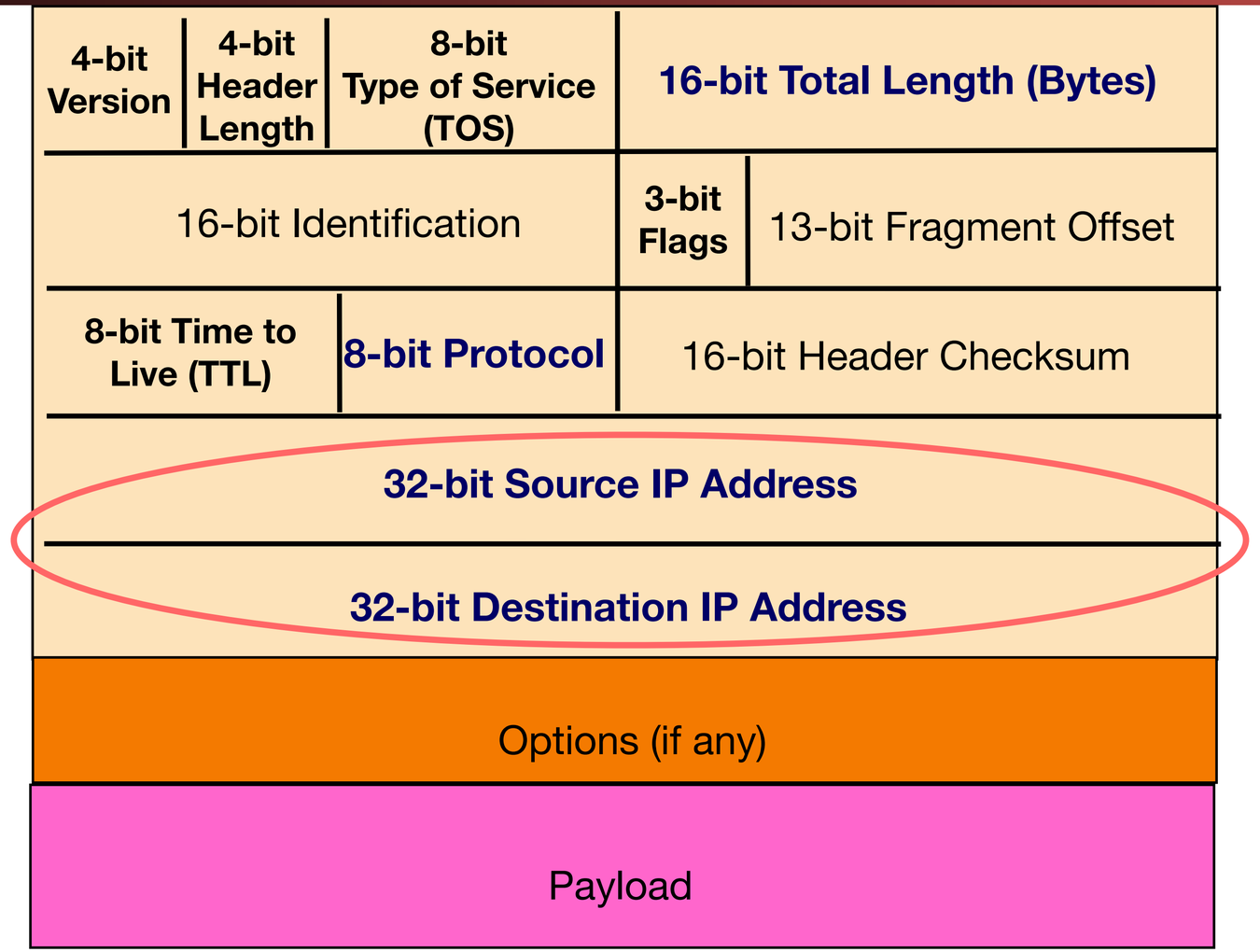
IP Packet Structure



IP Packet Header (Continued)

- Two IP addresses
  - Source IP address (32 bits in main IP version, IPv4)
  - Destination IP address (32 bits, likewise)
- Destination address
  - Unique identifier/locator for the receiving host
  - Allows each node to make forwarding decisions
- Source address
  - Unique identifier/locator for the sending host
  - Recipient can decide whether to accept packet
  - Enables recipient to send reply back to source

The Basic Ethernet Packet: The near-universal Layer 2

- An Ethernet Packet contains:
  - A preamble to synchronize data on the wire
    - We normally ignore this when talking about Ethernet
  - 6 bytes of destination MAC address
    - In this case, MAC means media access control address, not message authentication code!
  - 6 bytes of source MAC address
  - Optional 4-byte VLAN tag
  - 2 bytes length/type field
  - 46-1500B of payload

The MAC Address

- The MAC acts as a device identifier
  - The upper 3 bytes are assigned to a manufacturer
    - Can usually identify product with just the MAC address
  - The lower 3 bytes are assigned to a specific device
    - Making the MAC a de-facto serial #
- Usually written as 6 bytes in hex:
  - e.g. `13:37:ca:fe:f0:0d`
- A device ***should ignore*** all packets that aren't to itself or to the broadcast address (`ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff`)
  - But almost all devices can go into ***promiscuous mode***
    - This is also known as "sniffing traffic"
- A device generally should only send with its own address
  - But this is enforced with software and can be trivially bypassed when you need to write "raw packets"