



Cross-Layer Optimisations for Survivable Networking

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Protocol Layering

- Traditional strict layer boundaries
 - good architectural abstraction
 - layers based on network roles
 - separation of concerns
 - e.g. IP over any link layer (802.n, SONET,...)
- Strict layering results in poor performance
 - too much information hiding
 - need translucency between layers
 - implicit assumptions \Rightarrow improper response
 - e.g. TCP over wireless throttles on corruption
 - limits cross-layer modular-reuse of functions

Cross-Layer Optimisations

- Relax layer semantics: fuzzy boundaries
 - improve performance and survivability
 - while retaining most benefits of layering
- Cross-layer control loops
 - dials expose characteristics below
 - knobs influence behaviour
 - e.g. error control based on loss characteristics
- Composable protocol functionality
 - new modules (e.g. FEC, ARQ) as needed
 - functionality may reused by multiple layers



