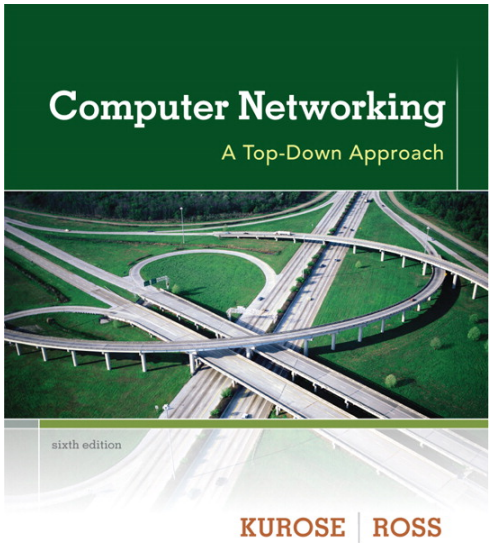
Chapter 6
Wireless and Mobile Networks



Reti degli Elaboratori
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a.a. 2013/2014

Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach
6th edition
Jim Kurose, Keith Ross
Addison-Wesley
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We thank for the support material Prof. Kurose-Ross

Chapter 6 outline

6.1 Introduction

Wireless

- 6.2 Wireless links, characteristics
- 6.3 IEEE 802.11 wireless LANs ("wi-fi")
- 6.4 Cellular Internet Access
  - architecture
  - standards (e.g., GSM)

Mobility

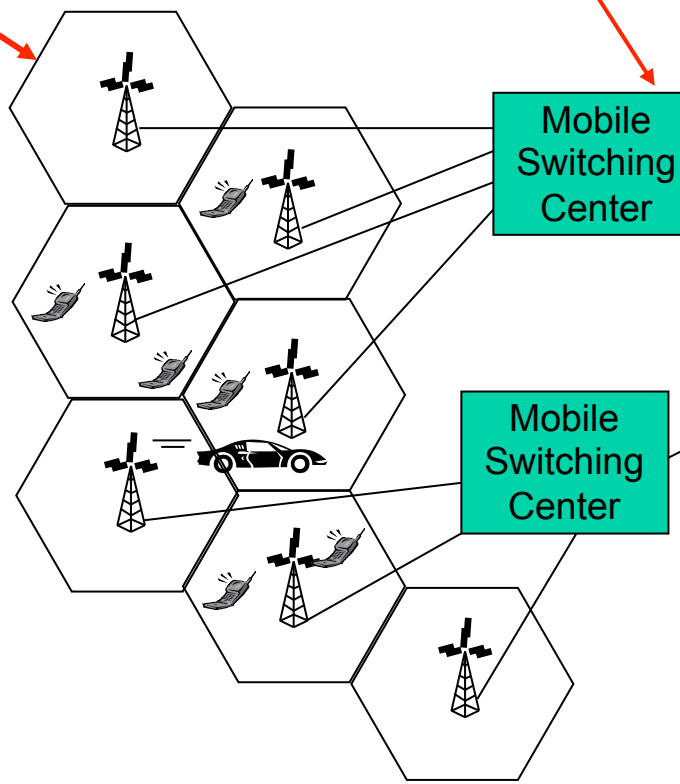
- 6.5 Principles: addressing and routing to mobile users
- 6.6 Mobile IP
- 6.7 Handling mobility in cellular networks
- 6.8 Mobility and higher-layer protocols

6.9 Summary

Components of cellular network architecture

MSC
- connects cells to wide area net
- manages call setup (more later!)
- handles mobility (more later!)

cell
- covers geographical region
- *base station* (BS) analogous to 802.11 AP
- *mobile users* attach to network through BS
- *air-interface:* physical and link layer protocol between mobile and BS



Mobile Switching Center

Mobile Switching Center

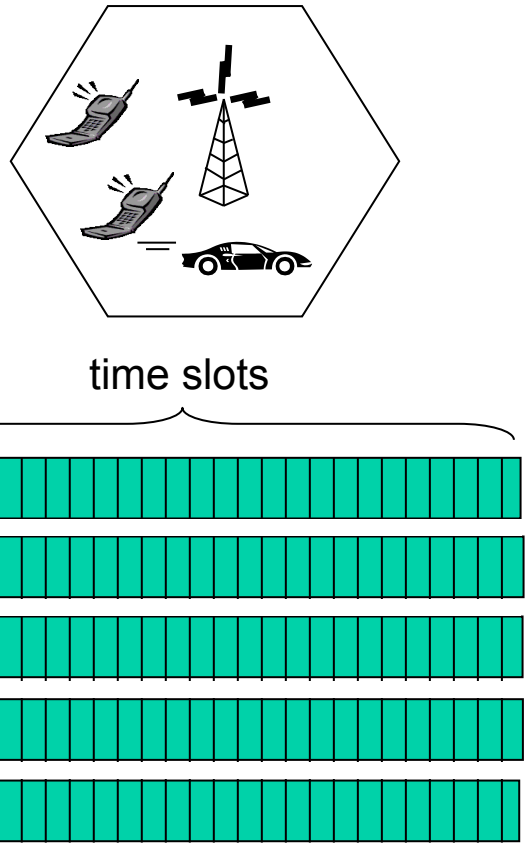
Public telephone network, and Internet

wired network

Cellular networks: the first hop

Two techniques for sharing mobile-to-BS radio spectrum

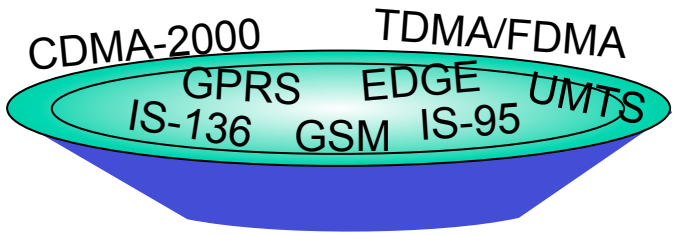
- combined FDMA/TDMA: divide spectrum in frequency channels, divide each channel into time slots
- CDMA: code division multiple access



Cellular standards: brief survey

2G systems: voice channels

- IS-136 TDMA: combined FDMA/TDMA (north america)
- GSM (global system for mobile communications): combined FDMA/TDMA
  - most widely deployed
- IS-95 CDMA: code division multiple access



Don't drown in a bowl of alphabet soup: use this for reference only

Cellular standards: brief survey

2.5 G systems: voice and data channels

- for those who can't wait for 3G service: 2G extensions
- general packet radio service (GPRS)
  - evolved from GSM
  - data sent on multiple channels (if available)
- enhanced data rates for global evolution (EDGE)
  - also evolved from GSM, using enhanced modulation
  - data rates up to 384K
- CDMA-2000 (phase 1)
  - data rates up to 144K
  - evolved from IS-95

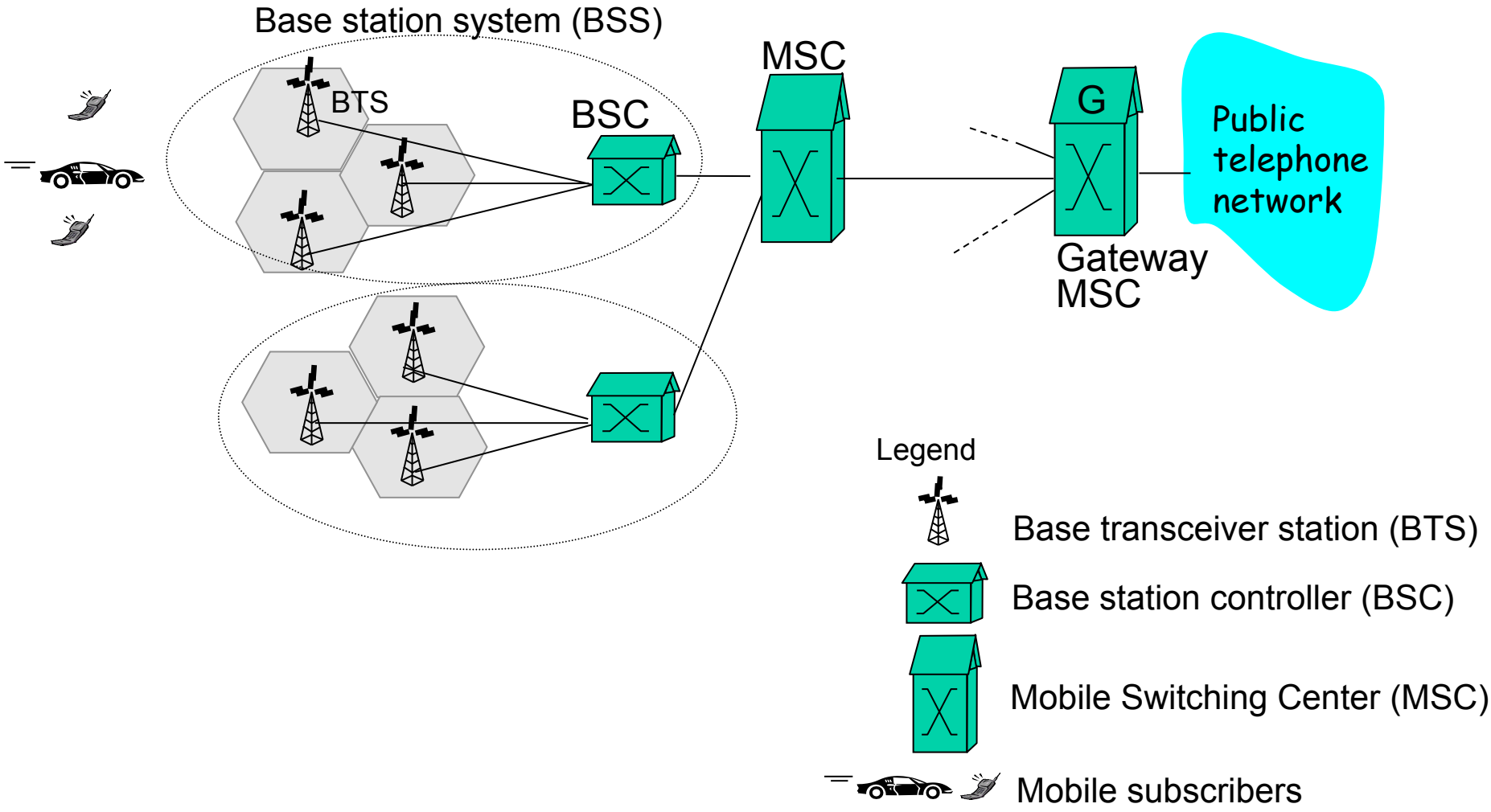
Cellular standards: brief survey

3G systems: voice/data

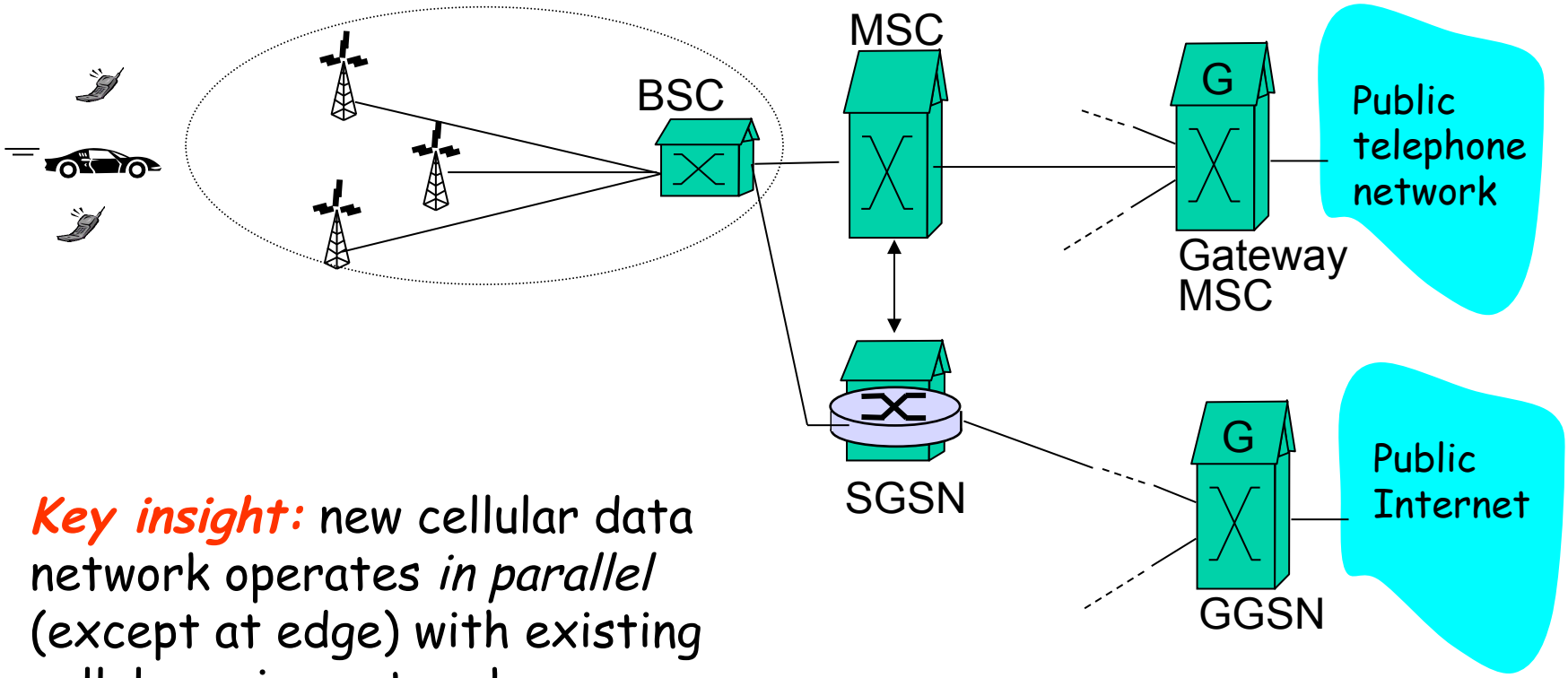
- Universal Mobile Telecommunications Service (UMTS)
  - data service: High Speed Uplink/Downlink packet Access (HSDPA/HSUPA): 3 Mbps
- CDMA-2000: CDMA in TDMA slots
  - data service: 1xEvolution Data Optimized (1xEVDO) up to 14 Mbps

….. more (and more interesting) cellular topics due to mobility (stay tuned for details)

2G (voice) network architecture



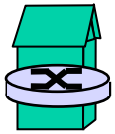
2.5G (voice+data) network architecture



Key insight: new cellular data network operates *in parallel* (except at edge) with existing cellular voice network

- voice network unchanged in core
- data network operates in parallel


Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN)


Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN)

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- 6.5 Principles: addressing and routing to mobile users
- 6.6 Mobile IP
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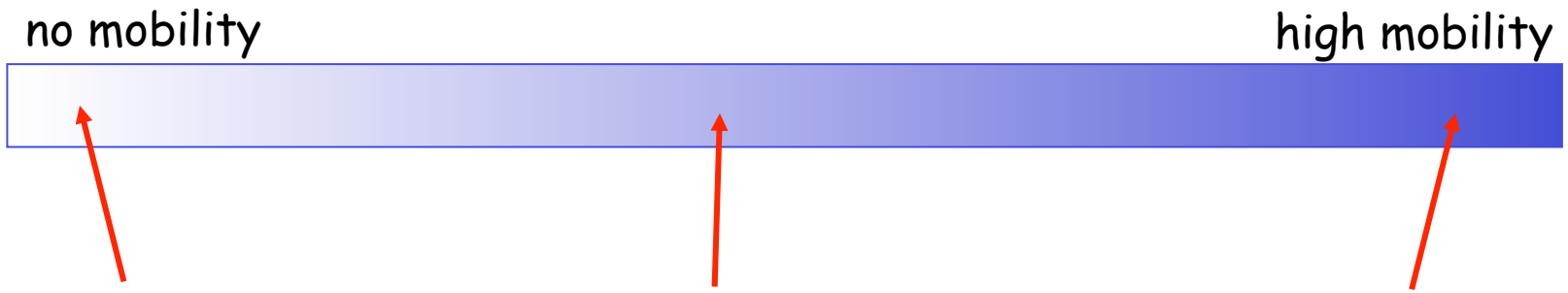
What is mobility?

- spectrum of mobility, from the *network* perspective:



mobile wireless user, using same access point

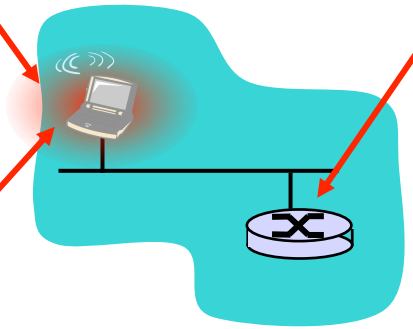
mobile user, connecting/ disconnecting from network using DHCP.

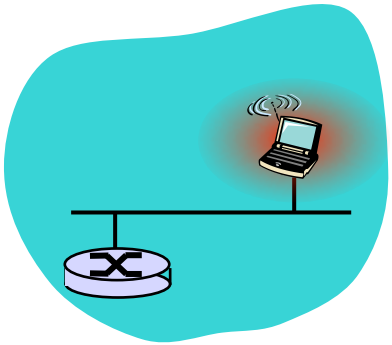
mobile user, passing through multiple access point while maintaining ongoing connections (like cell phone)

Mobility: Vocabulary

home network: permanent "home" of mobile (e.g., 128.119.40/24)

home agent: *entity that will perform mobility functions on behalf of mobile, when mobile is remote*





wide area network

Permanent address: address in home network, *can always* be used to reach mobile e.g., 128.119.40.186

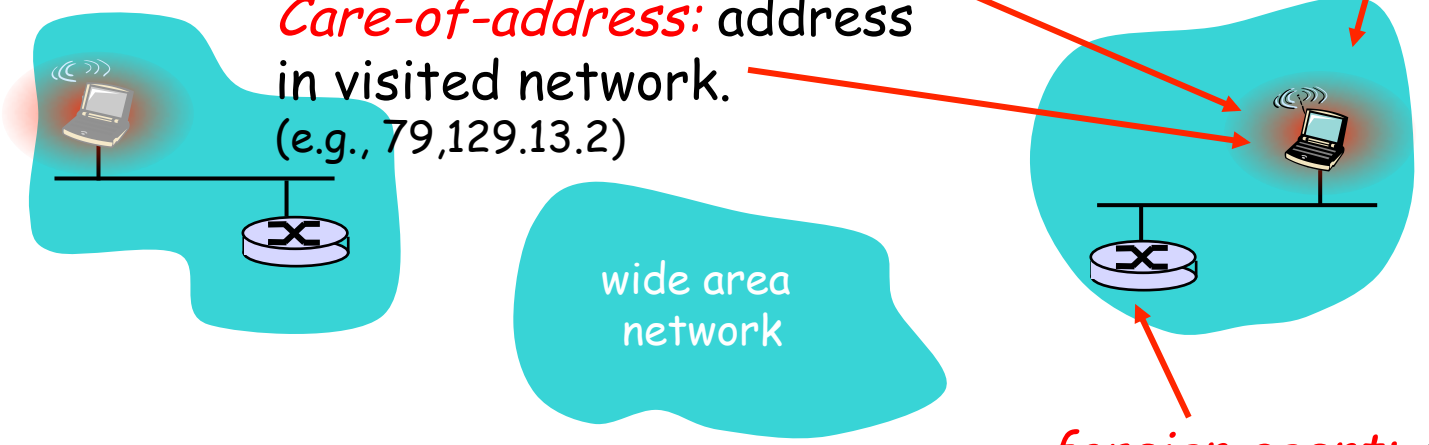
correspondent

Mobility: more vocabulary

Permanent address: remains constant (e.g., 128.119.40.186)

visited network: network in which mobile currently resides (e.g., 79.129.13/24)

Care-of-address: address in visited network. (e.g., 79,129.13.2)



correspondent: *wants to communicate with mobile*

foreign agent: *entity in visited network that performs mobility functions on behalf of mobile.*

How do *you* contact a mobile friend:

Consider friend frequently changing addresses, how do you find her?

- search all phone books?
- call her parents?
- expect her to let you know where he/she is?

Mobility: approaches

- *Let routing handle it:* routers advertise permanent address of mobile-nodes-in-residence via usual routing table exchange.
  - routing tables indicate where each mobile located
  - no changes to end-systems
- *Let end-systems handle it:*
  - *indirect routing:* communication from correspondent to mobile goes through home agent, then forwarded to remote
  - *direct routing:* correspondent gets foreign address of mobile, sends directly to mobile

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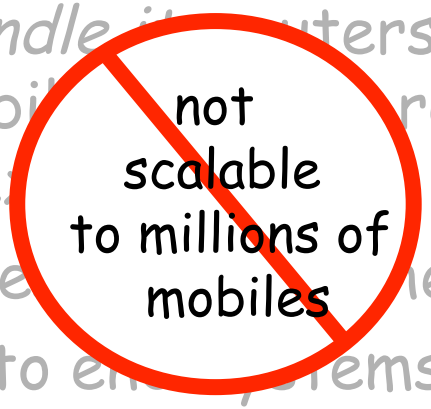
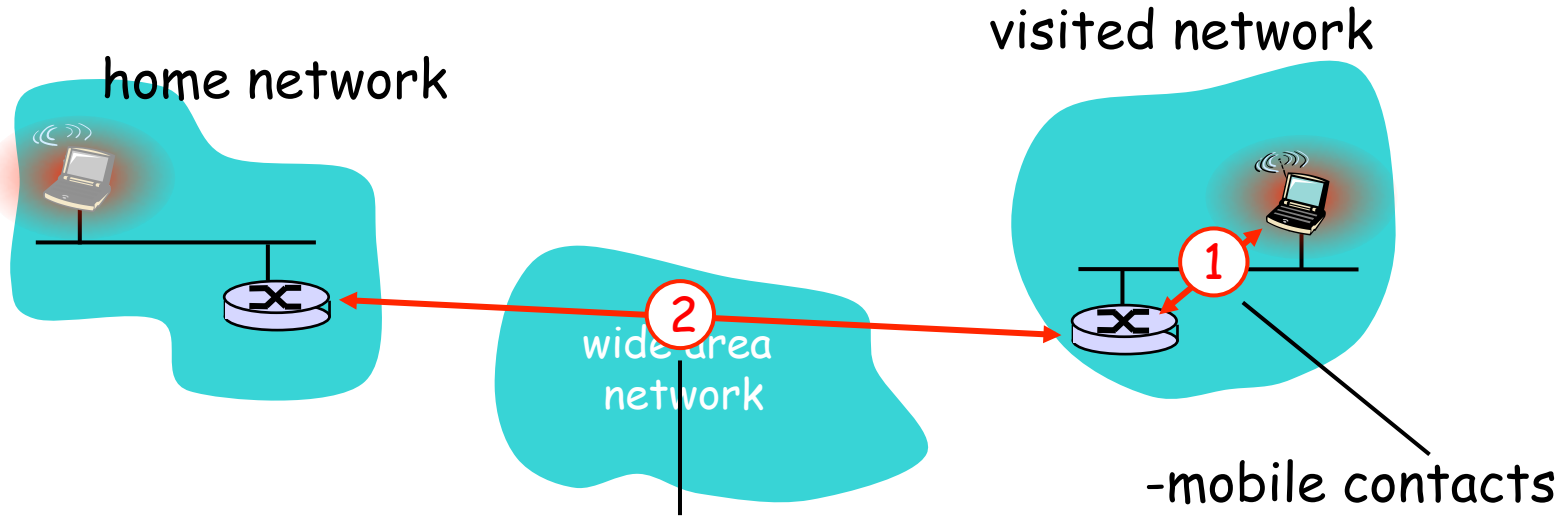


Mobility: registration



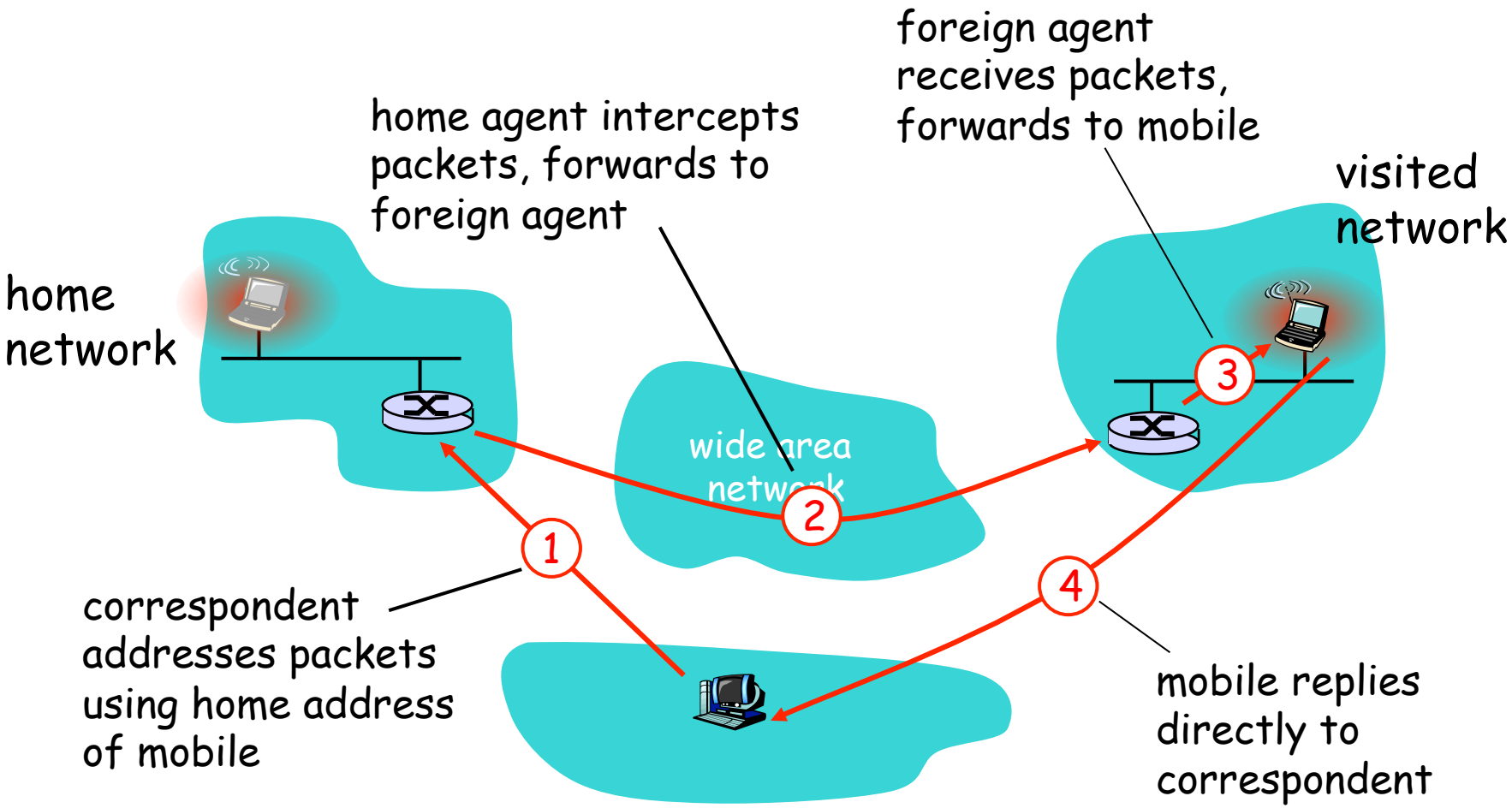
-foreign agent contacts home agent home: "this mobile is resident in my network"
-COA communicated

-mobile contacts foreign agent on entering visited network
-a Care of Address is assigned

End result:

- Foreign agent knows about mobile
- Home agent knows location of mobile

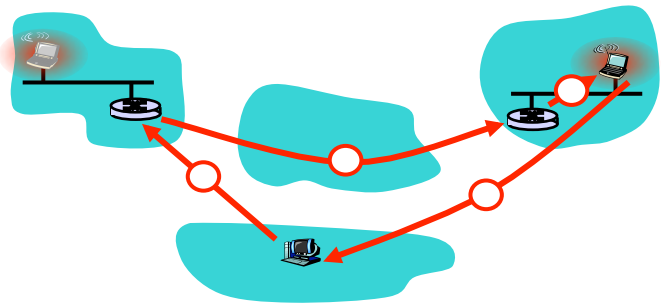
Mobility via Indirect Routing



Step 2: datagram transmitted by sources is encapsulated in a datagram transmitted by the home agent to the COA

Indirect Routing: comments

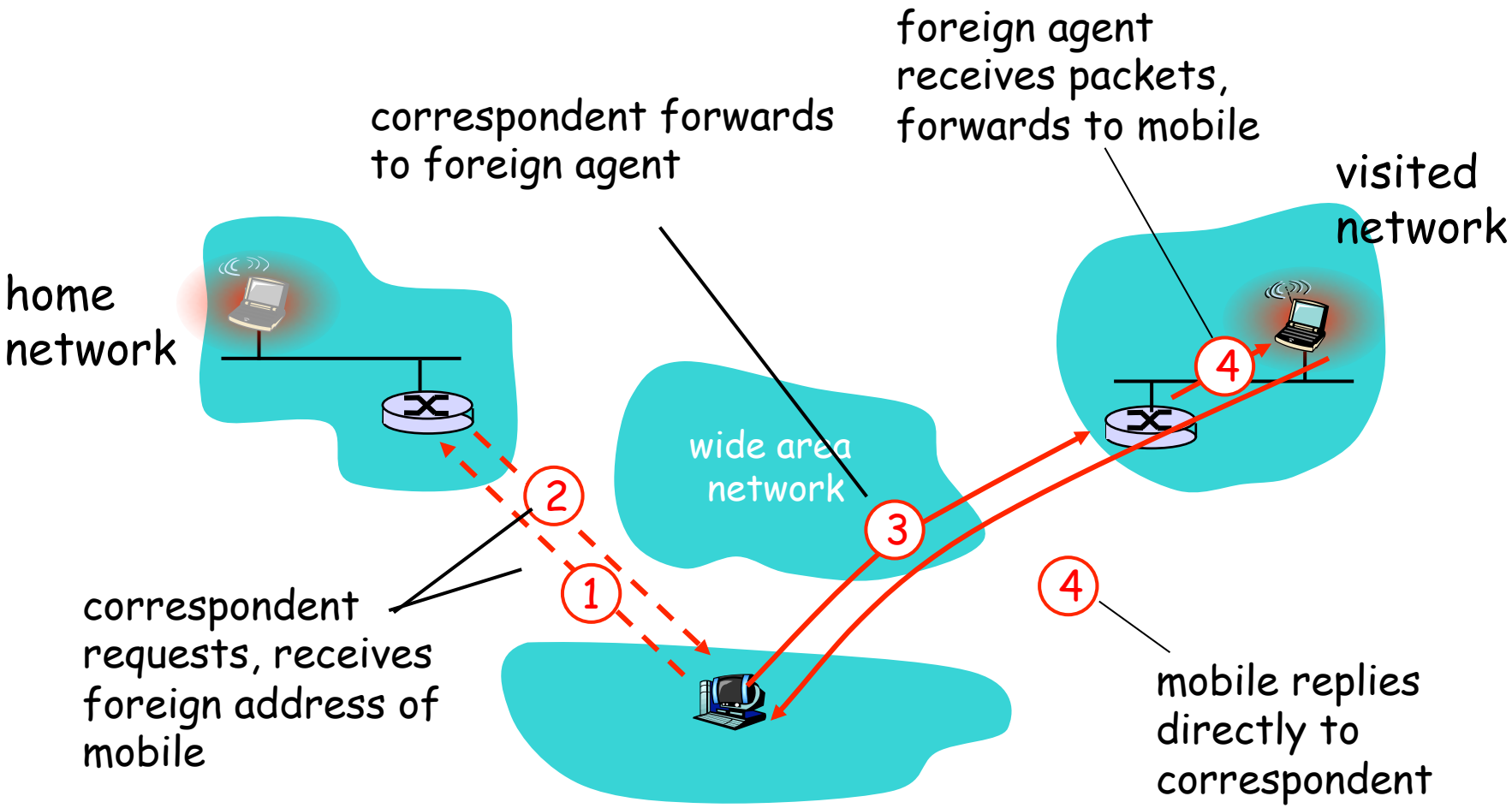
- Mobile uses two addresses:
  - permanent address: used by correspondent (hence mobile location is *transparent* to correspondent)
  - care-of-address: used by home agent to forward datagrams to mobile
- foreign agent functions may be done by mobile itself
- triangle routing: correspondent-home-network-mobile
  - inefficient when correspondent, mobile are in same network



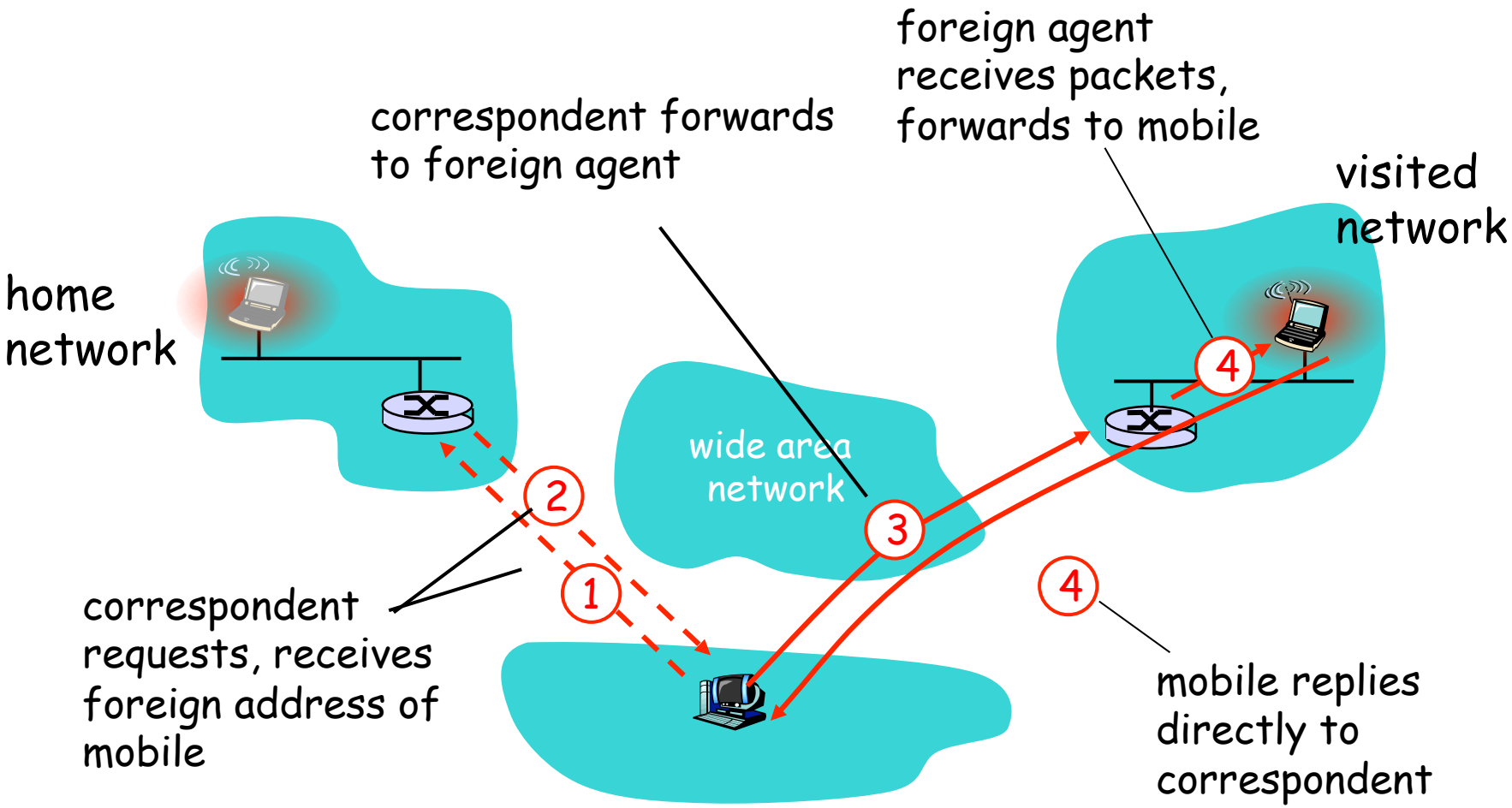
Indirect Routing: moving between networks

- suppose mobile user moves to another network
  - registers with new foreign agent
  - new foreign agent registers with home agent
  - home agent update care-of-address for mobile
  - packets continue to be forwarded to mobile (but with new care-of-address)
- mobility, changing foreign networks transparent: *on going connections can be maintained!*

Mobility via Direct Routing



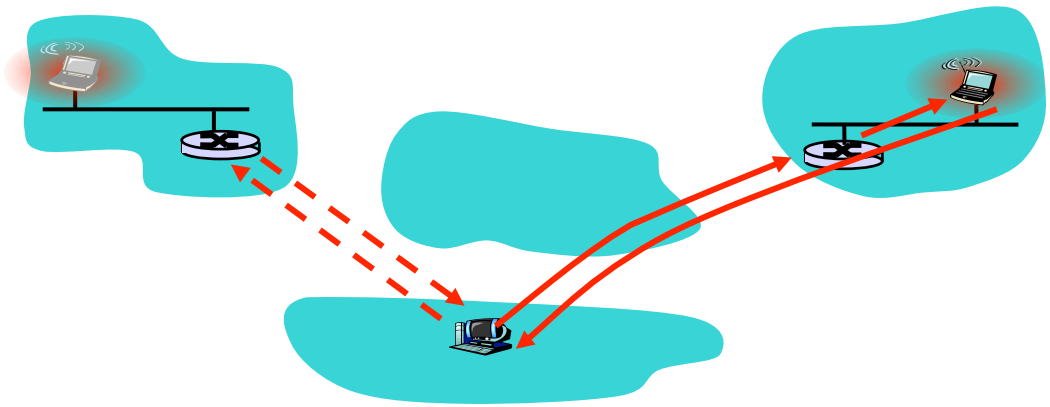
Mobility via Direct Routing



Mobile can act as foreign agent
Correspondent can act as corresponding agent

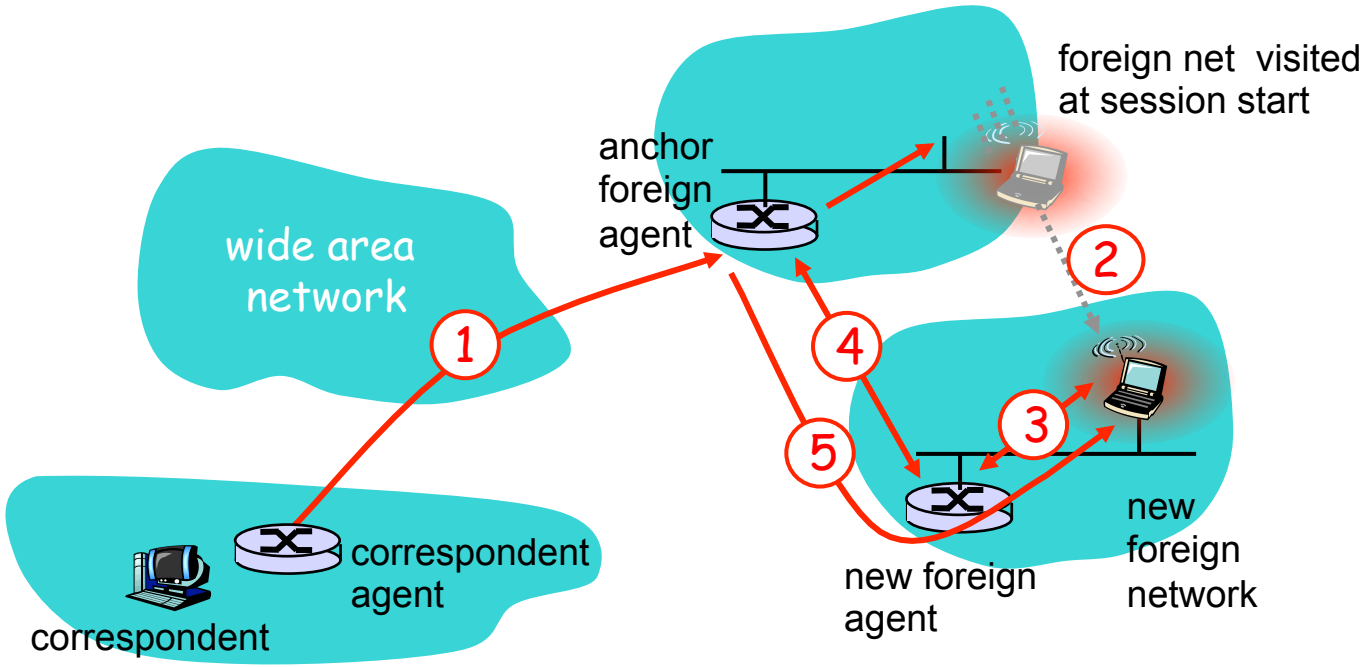
Mobility via Direct Routing: comments

- overcome triangle routing problem
- non-transparent to correspondent: correspondent must get care-of-address from home agent
  - what if mobile changes visited network?



Accommodating mobility with direct routing

- anchor foreign agent: FA in first visited network
- data always routed first to anchor FA
- when mobile moves: new FA arranges to have data forwarded from old FA (chaining)



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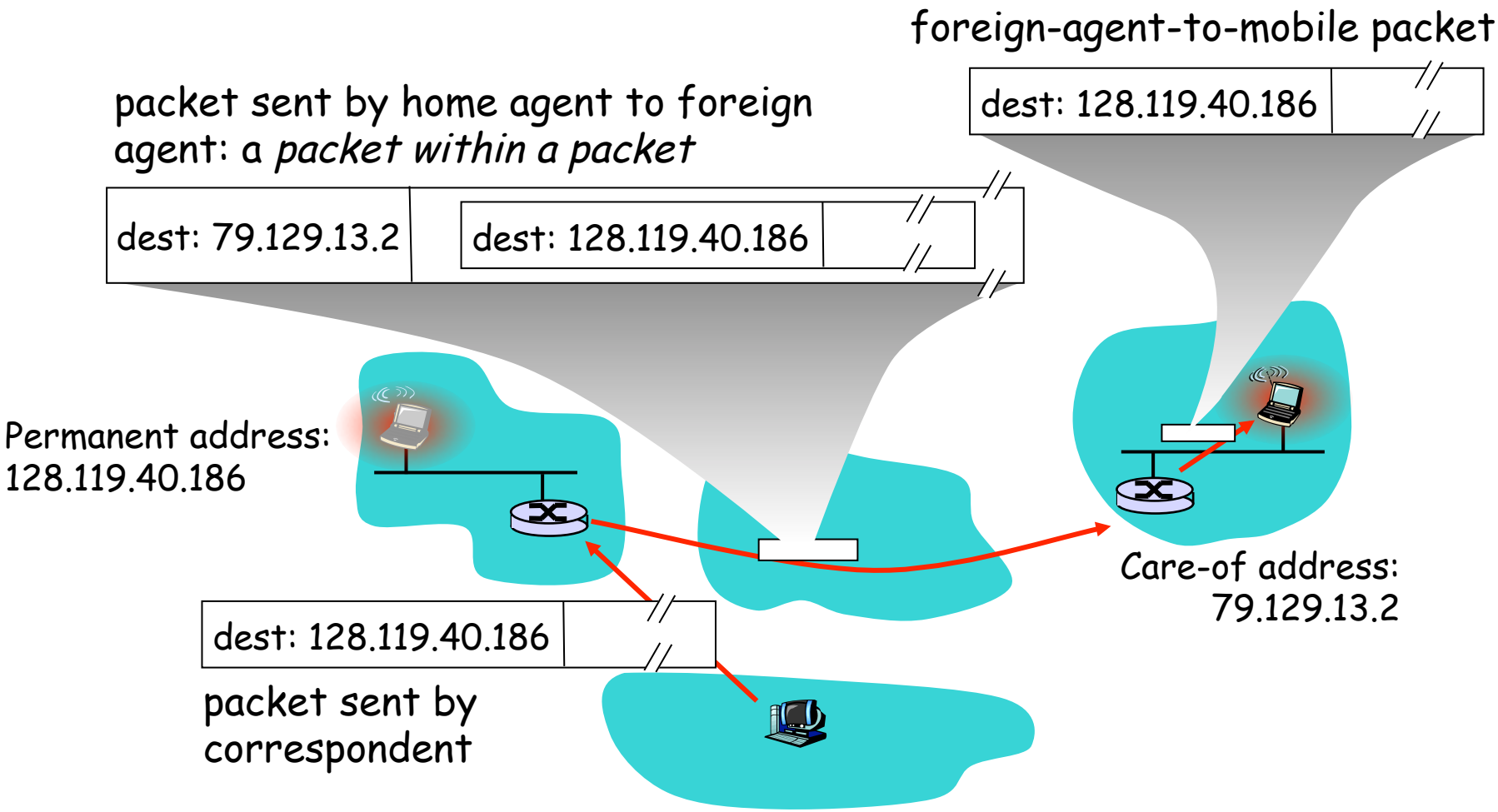
Mobile IP

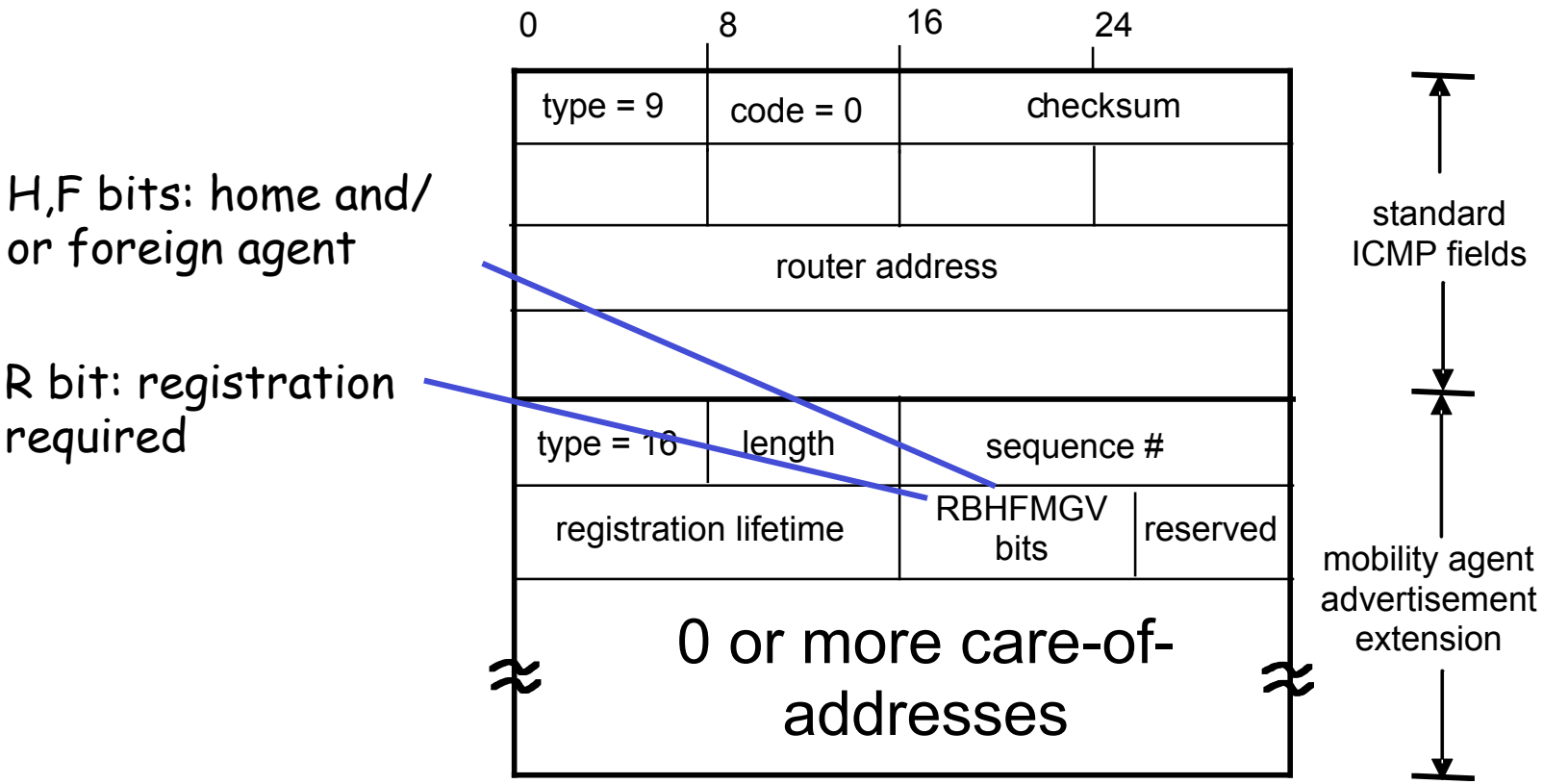
- RFC 3344
- has many features we've seen:
  - home agents, foreign agents, foreign-agent registration, care-of-addresses, encapsulation (packet-within-a-packet)
- three components to standard:
  - indirect routing of datagrams
  - agent discovery
  - registration with home agent

Mobile IP: indirect routing

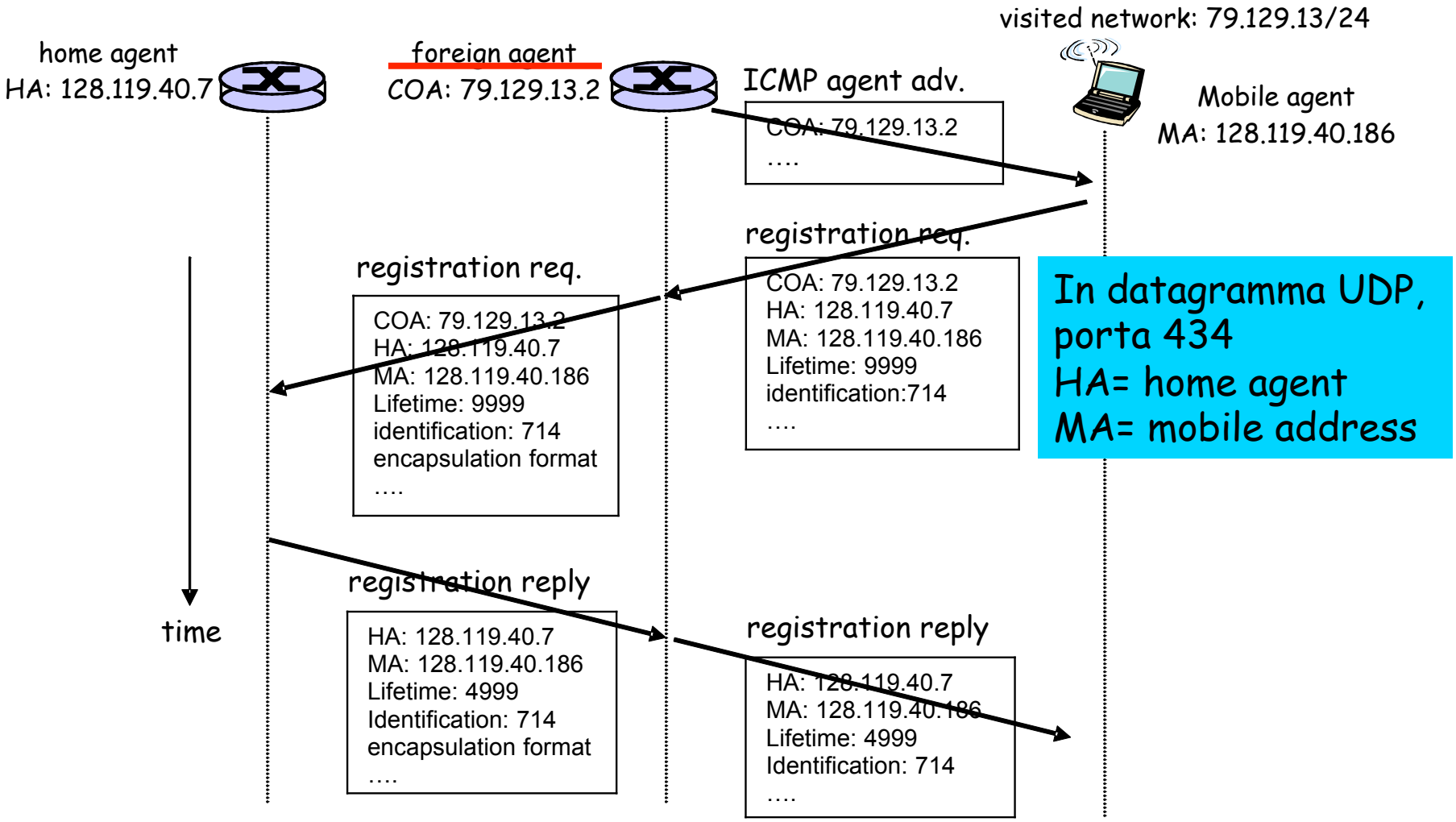


Mobile IP: agent discovery

- agent advertisement: foreign/home agents advertise service by broadcasting ICMP messages (typefield = 9)

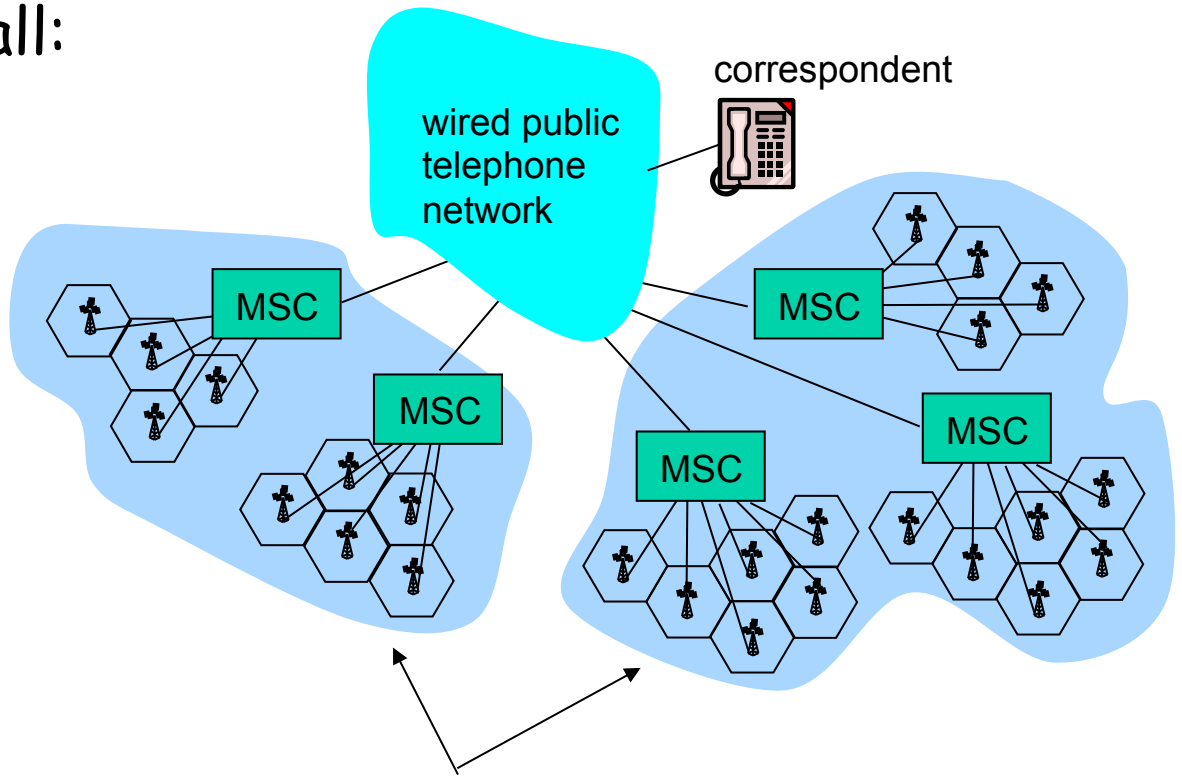


Mobile IP: registration example



Components of cellular network architecture

recall:

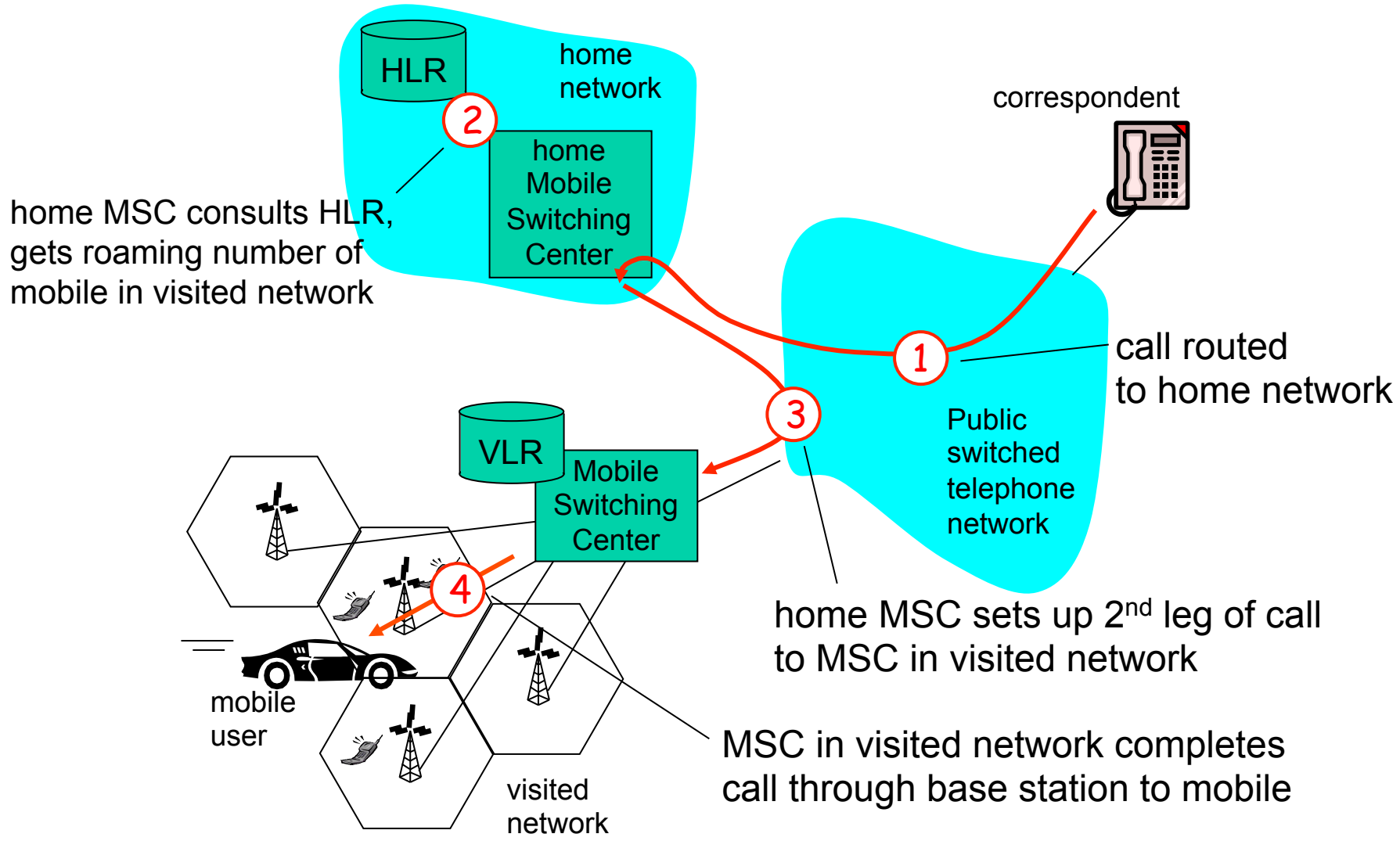


different cellular networks,
operated by different providers

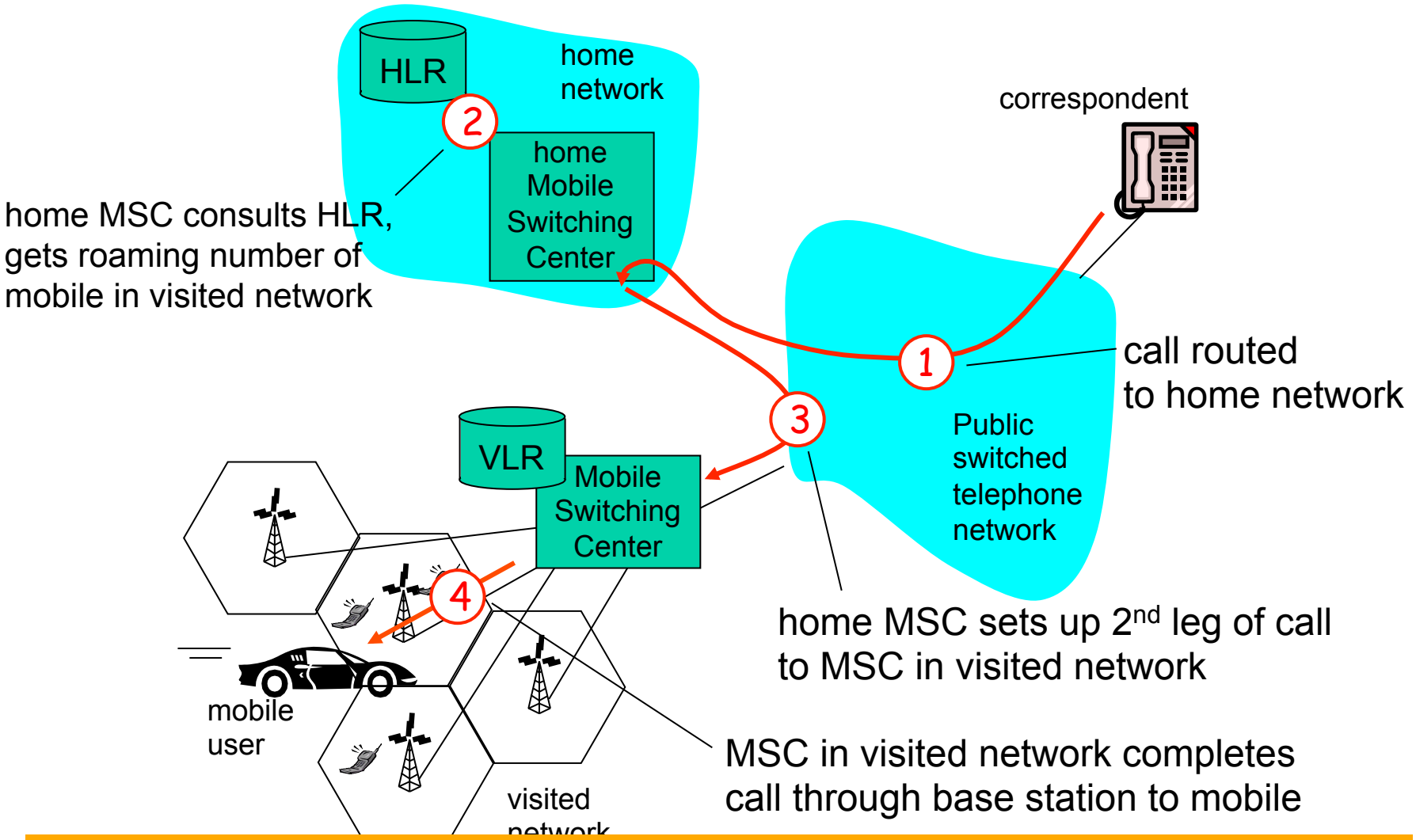
Handling mobility in cellular networks

- *home network:* network of cellular provider you subscribe to (e.g., Sprint PCS, Verizon)
  - *home location register (HLR):* database in home network containing permanent cell phone #, profile information (services, preferences, billing), information about current location (could be in another network)
- *visited network:* network in which mobile currently resides
  - *visitor location register (VLR):* database with entry for each user currently in network
  - could be home network

GSM: indirect routing to mobile

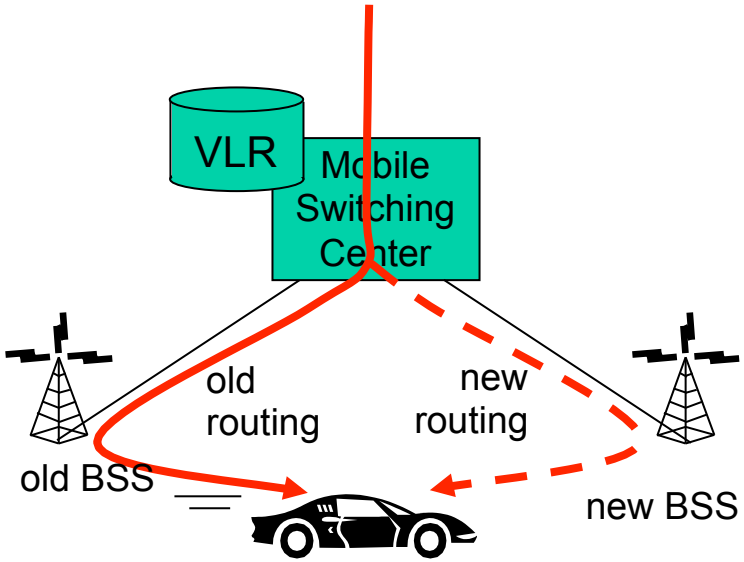


GSM: indirect routing to mobile



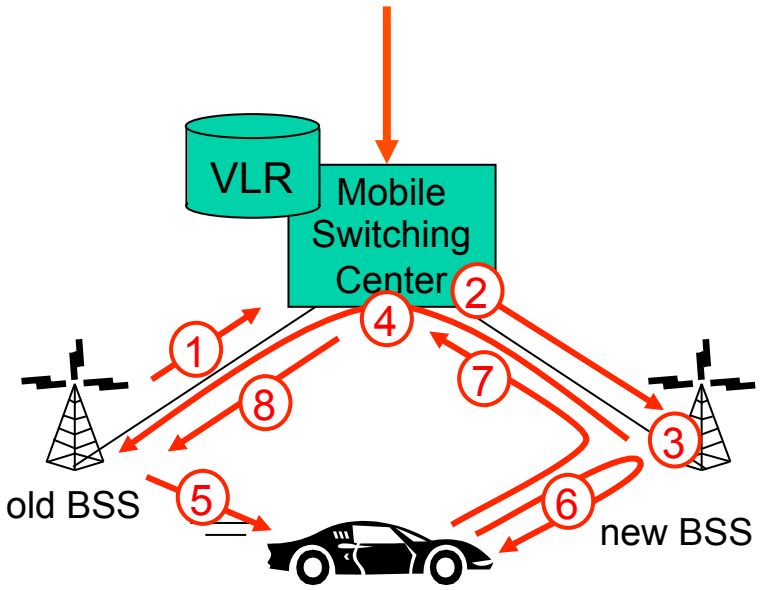
When MU switches on cell in the new network must register with VLR which communicates affiliation to HLR

GSM: handoff with common MSC



- Handoff goal: route call via new base station (without interruption)
- reasons for handoff:
  - stronger signal to/from new BSS (continuing connectivity, less battery drain)
  - load balance: free up channel in current BSS
  - GSM doesn't mandate why to perform handoff (policy), only how (mechanism)
- handoff initiated by old BSS

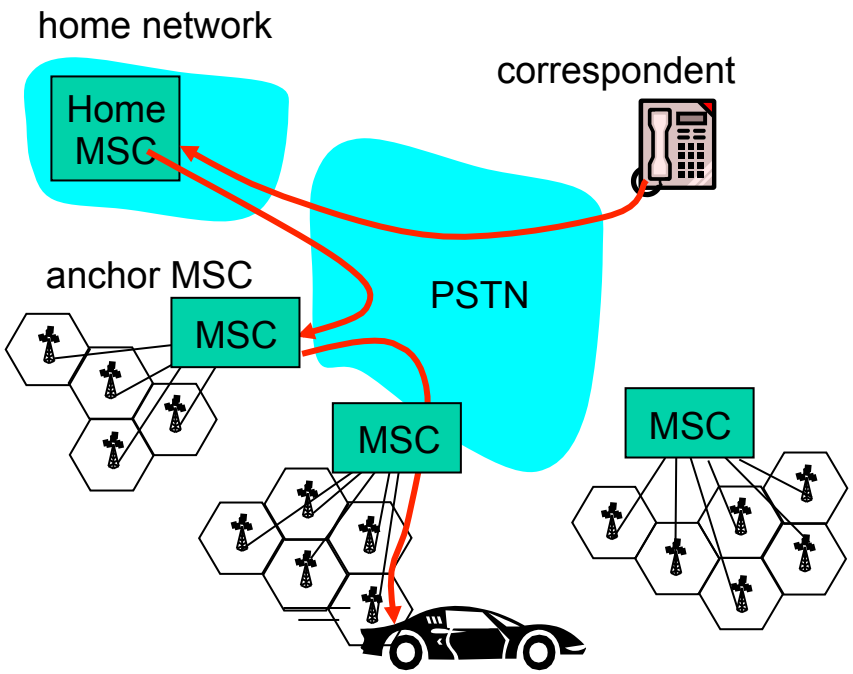
GSM: handoff with common MSC



1. old BSS informs MSC of impending handoff, provides list of 1+ new BSSs
2. MSC sets up path (allocates resources) to new BSS
3. new BSS allocates radio channel for use by mobile
4. new BSS signals MSC, old BSS: ready
5. old BSS tells mobile: perform handoff to new BSS
6. mobile, new BSS signal to activate new channel
7. mobile signals via new BSS to MSC: handoff complete. MSC reroutes call

8 MSC-old-BSS resources released

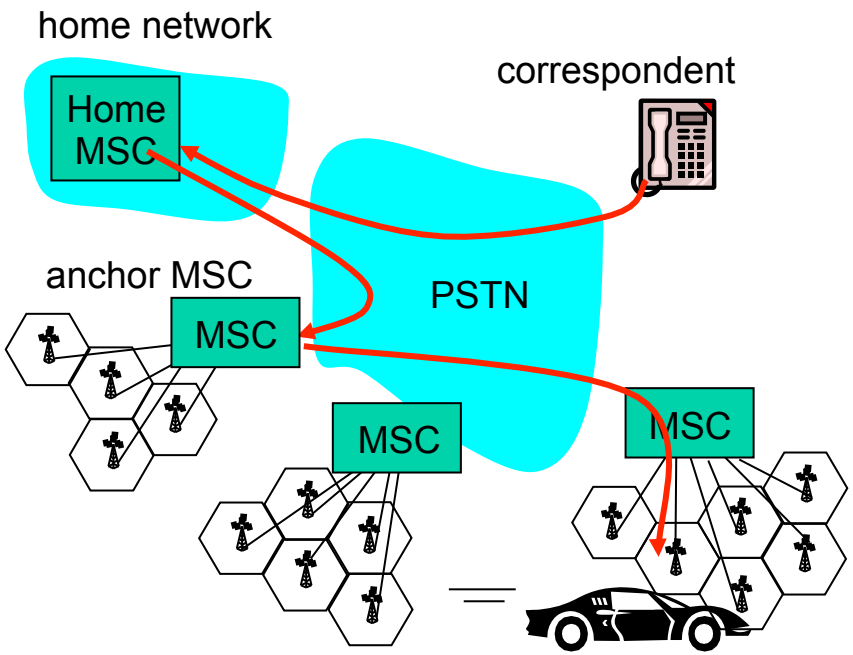
GSM: handoff between MSCs



(a) before handoff

- *anchor MSC:* first MSC visited during call
  - call remains routed through anchor MSC
- new MSCs add on to end of MSC chain as mobile moves to new MSC
- IS-41 allows optional path minimization step to shorten multi-MSC chain

GSM: handoff between MSCs



(b) after handoff

- *anchor MSC:* first MSC visited during call
  - call remains routed through anchor MSC
- new MSCs add on to end of MSC chain as mobile moves to new MSC
- IS-41 allows optional path minimization step to shorten multi-MSC chain

Mobility: GSM versus Mobile IP

GSM element	Comment on GSM element	Mobile IP element
Home system	Network to which mobile user's permanent phone number belongs	**Home network**
Gateway Mobile Switching Center, or "home MSC". Home Location Register (HLR)	Home MSC: point of contact to obtain routable address of mobile user. HLR: database in home system containing permanent phone number, profile information, current location of mobile user, subscription information	**Home agent**
Visited System	Network other than home system where mobile user is currently residing	**Visited network**
Visited Mobile services Switching Center. Visitor Location Record (VLR)	Visited MSC: responsible for setting up calls to/from mobile nodes in cells associated with MSC. VLR: temporary database entry in visited system, containing subscription information for each visiting mobile user	**Foreign agent**
Mobile Station Roaming Number (MSRN), or "roaming number"	Routable address for telephone call segment between home MSC and visited MSC, visible to neither the mobile nor the correspondent.	**Care-of-address**

Wireless, mobility: impact on higher layer protocols

- logically, impact *should* be minimal …
  - best effort service model remains unchanged
  - TCP and UDP can (and do) run over wireless, mobile
- … but performance-wise:
  - packet loss/delay due to bit-errors (discarded packets, delays for link-layer retransmissions), and handoff
  - TCP interprets loss as congestion, will decrease congestion window un-necessarily
  - delay impairments for real-time traffic
  - limited bandwidth of wireless links
    - ARQ based solutions
    - splitting of transport session (wired section/wireless section)
    - transparent approaches (e.g. TCP Westwood)

Chapter 6 Summary

Wireless

- wireless links:
  - capacity, distance
  - channel impairments
  - CDMA
- IEEE 802.11 ("wi-fi")
  - CSMA/CA reflects wireless channel characteristics
- cellular access
  - architecture
  - standards (e.g., GSM, CDMA-2000, UMTS)

Mobility

- principles: addressing, routing to mobile users
  - home, visited networks
  - direct, indirect routing
  - care-of-addresses
- case studies
  - mobile IP
  - mobility in GSM
- impact on higher-layer protocols