CSE 4215/5431:
Mobile Communications

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Suprakash Datta

datta@cse.yorku.ca

Office: CSEB 3043

Phone: 416-736-2100 ext 77875

Course page: http://www.cse.yorku.ca/course/4215

Some slides are adapted from the book website

Motivation for Mobile IP

- Routing
  - based on IP destination address, network prefix (e.g. 129.13.42) determines physical subnet
  - change of physical subnet implies change of IP address to have a topological correct address (standard IP) or needs special entries in the routing tables
- Specific routes to end-systems?
  - change of all routing table entries to forward packets to the right destination
  - does not scale with the number of mobile hosts and frequent changes in the location, security problems
- Changing the IP-address?
  - adjust the host IP address depending on the current location
  - almost impossible to find a mobile system, DNS updates take to long time
  - TCP connections break, security problems

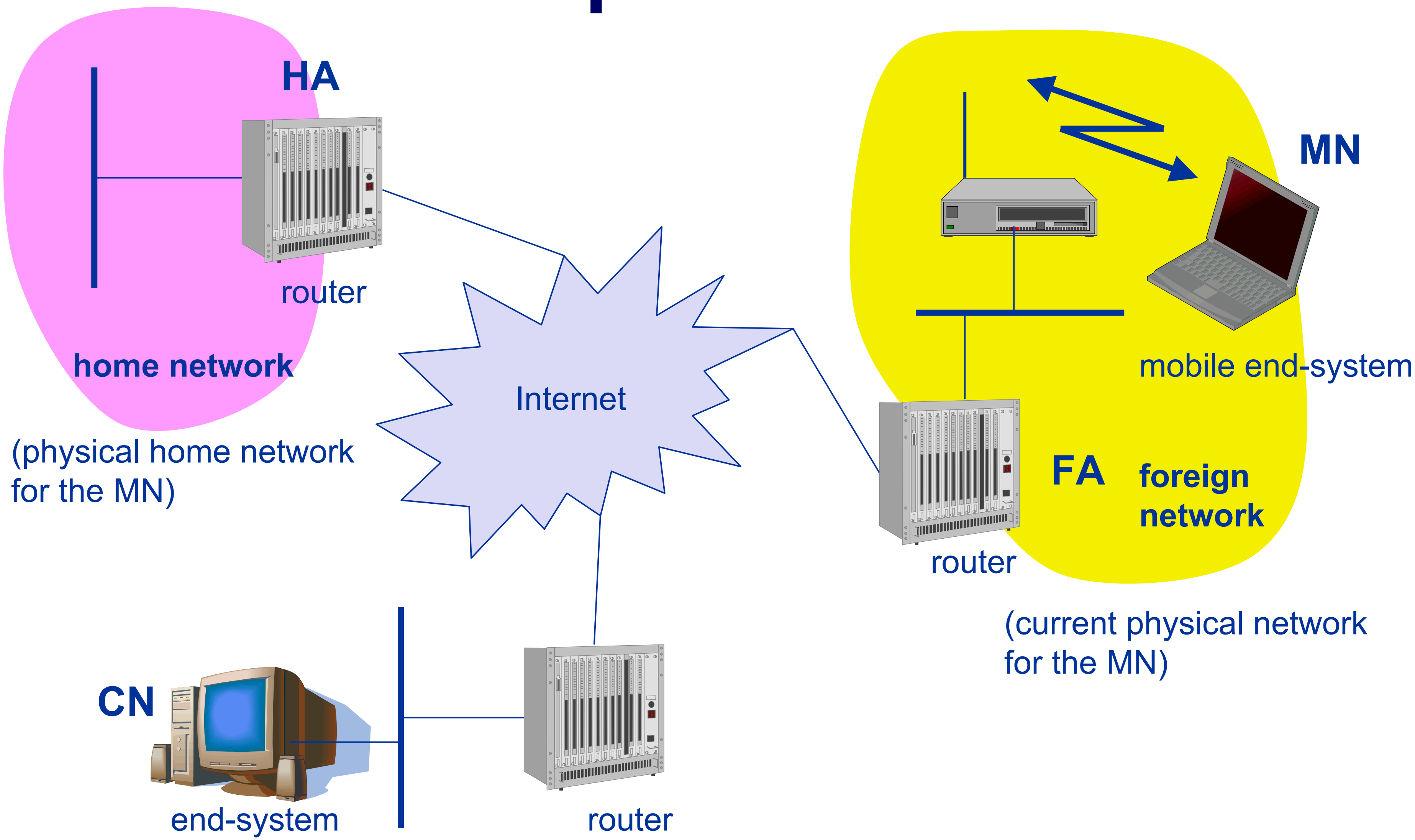
Requirements for Mobile IPv4 (RFC 3344, was: 3220, was: 2002 , updated by: 4721)

- Transparency
  - mobile end-systems keep their IP address
  - continuation of communication after interruption of link possible
  - point of connection to the fixed network can be changed
- Compatibility
  - support of the same layer 2 protocols as IP
  - no changes to current end-systems and routers required
  - mobile end-systems can communicate with fixed systems
- Security
  - authentication of all registration messages
- Efficiency and scalability
  - only little additional messages to the mobile system required (connection typically via a low bandwidth radio link)
  - world-wide support of a large number of mobile systems in the whole Internet

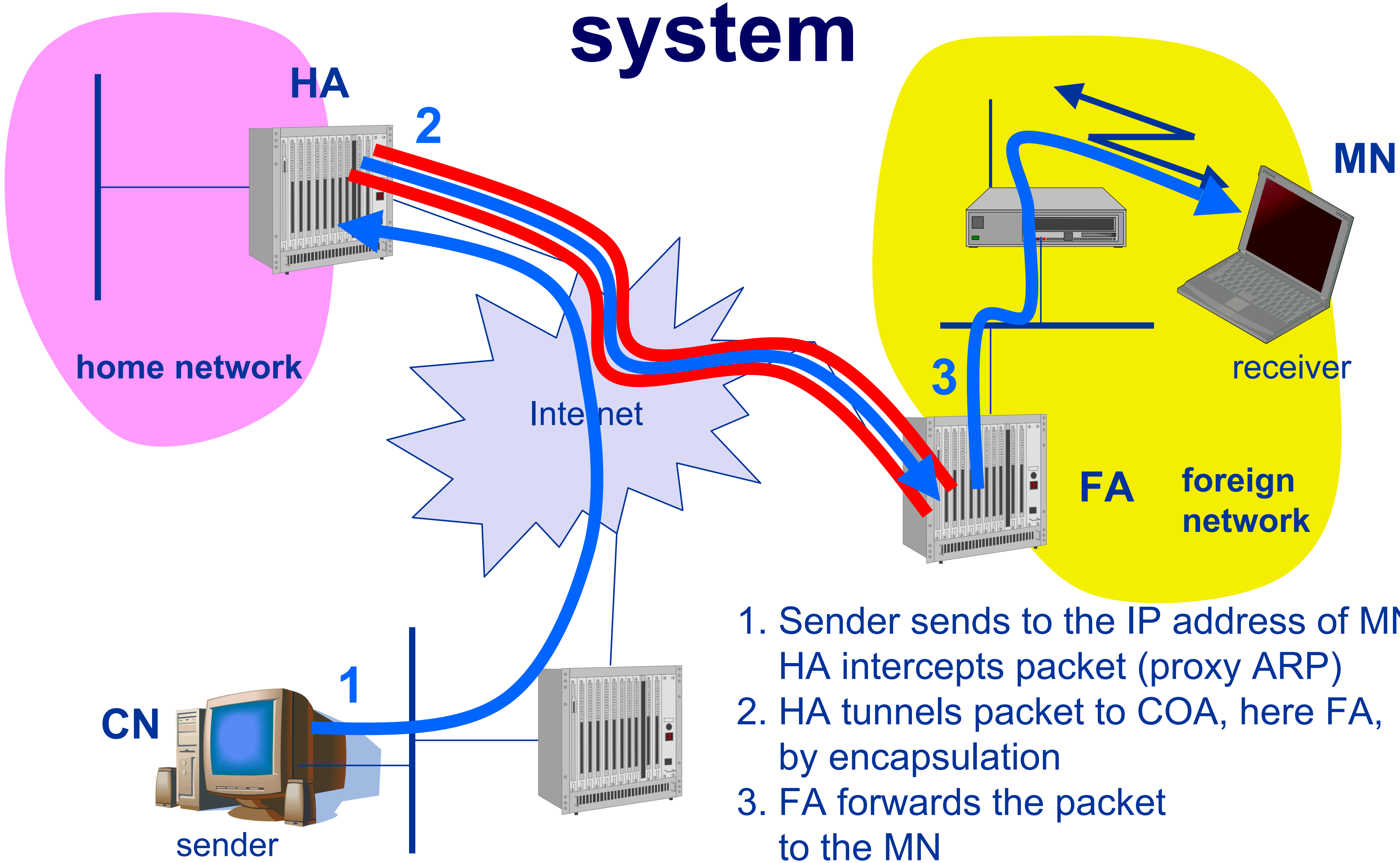
Terminology

- Mobile Node (MN)
  - system (node) that can change the point of connection to the network without changing its IP address
- Home Agent (HA)
  - system in the home network of the MN, typically a router
  - registers the location of the MN, tunnels IP datagrams to the COA
- Foreign Agent (FA)
  - system in the current foreign network of the MN, typically a router
  - forwards the tunneled datagrams to the MN, typically also the default router for the MN
- Care-of Address (COA)
  - address of the current tunnel end-point for the MN (at FA or MN)
  - actual location of the MN from an IP point of view
  - can be chosen, e.g., via DHCP
- Correspondent Node (CN)
  - communication partner

Example network

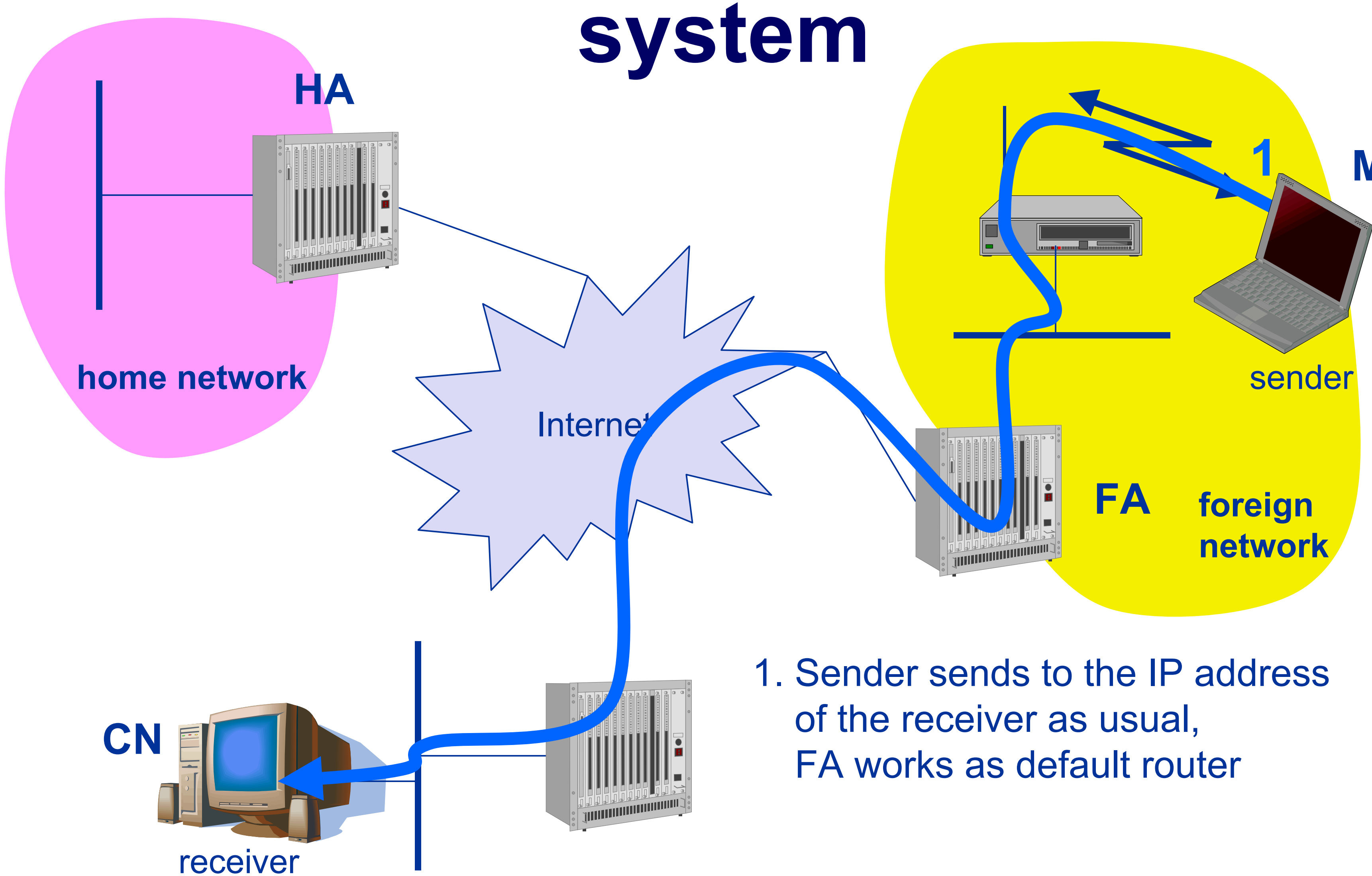


Data transfer to the mobile system



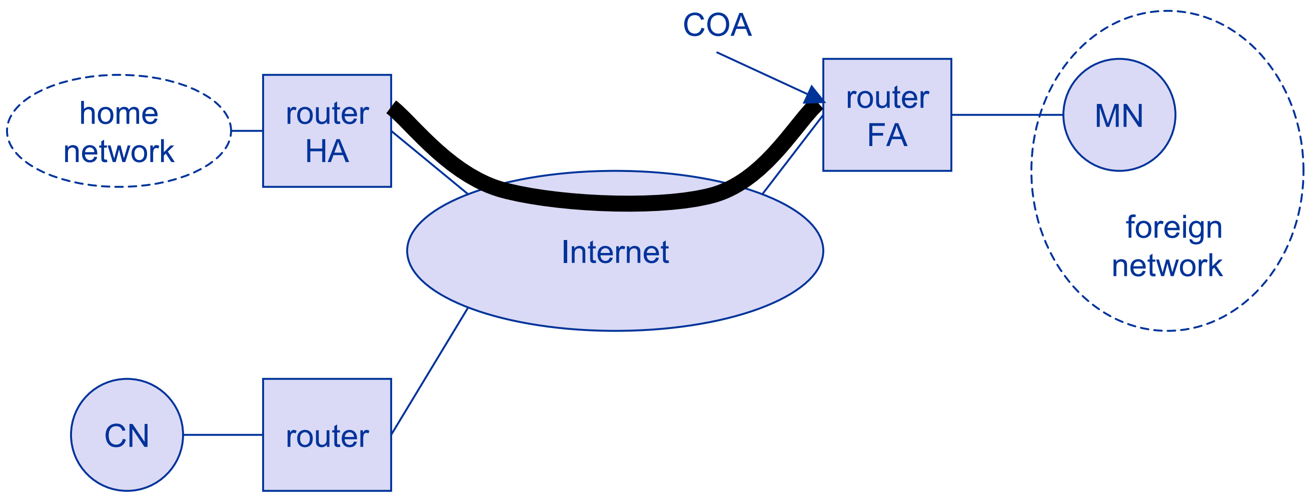
1. Sender sends to the IP address of MN, HA intercepts packet (proxy ARP)
2. HA tunnels packet to COA, here FA, by encapsulation
3. FA forwards the packet to the MN

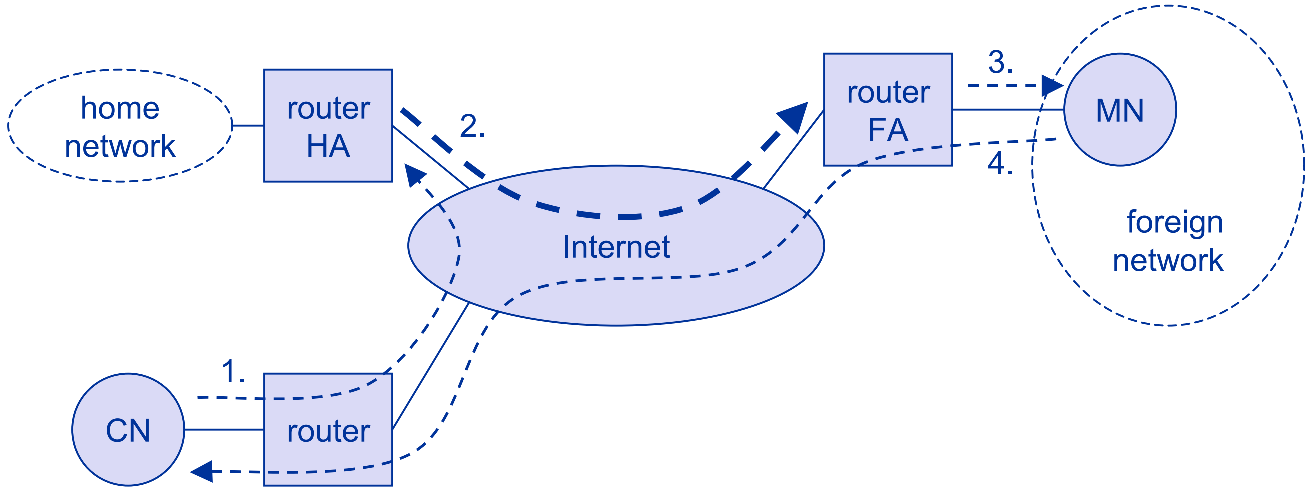
Data transfer from the mobile system



1. Sender sends to the IP address of the receiver as usual, FA works as default router

Overview

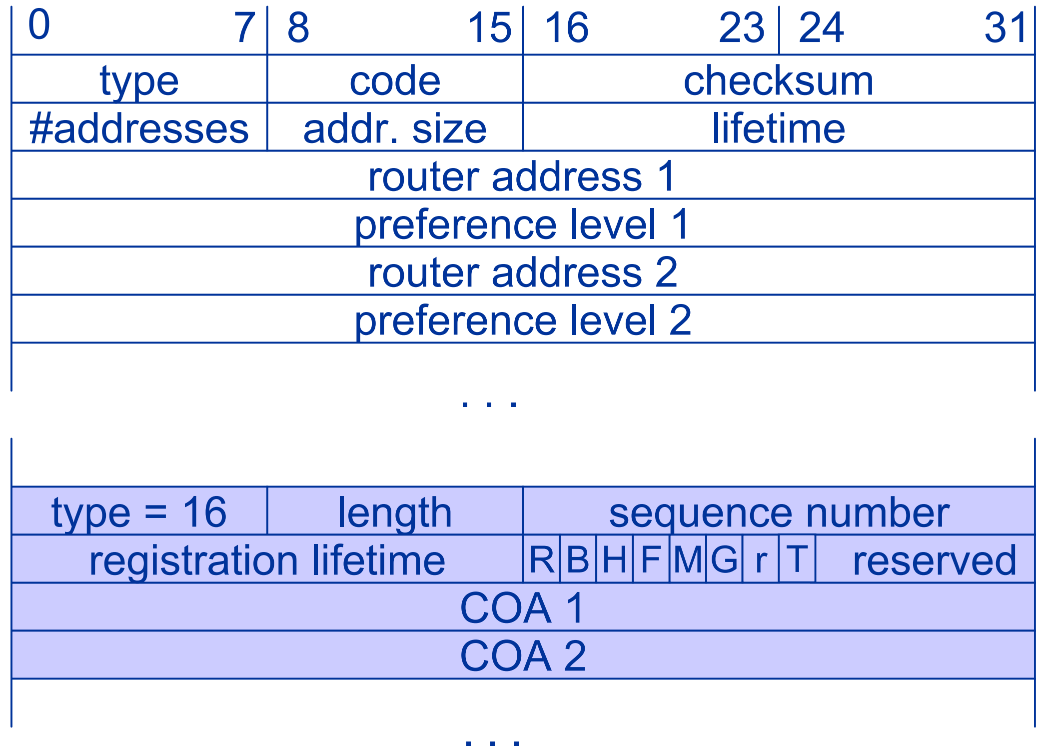

COA
home
network
router
HA
router
FA
MN
Internet
foreign
network
CN
router


home
network
router
HA
2.
router
FA
3.
MN
4.
Internet
foreign
network
1.
CN
router

Network integration

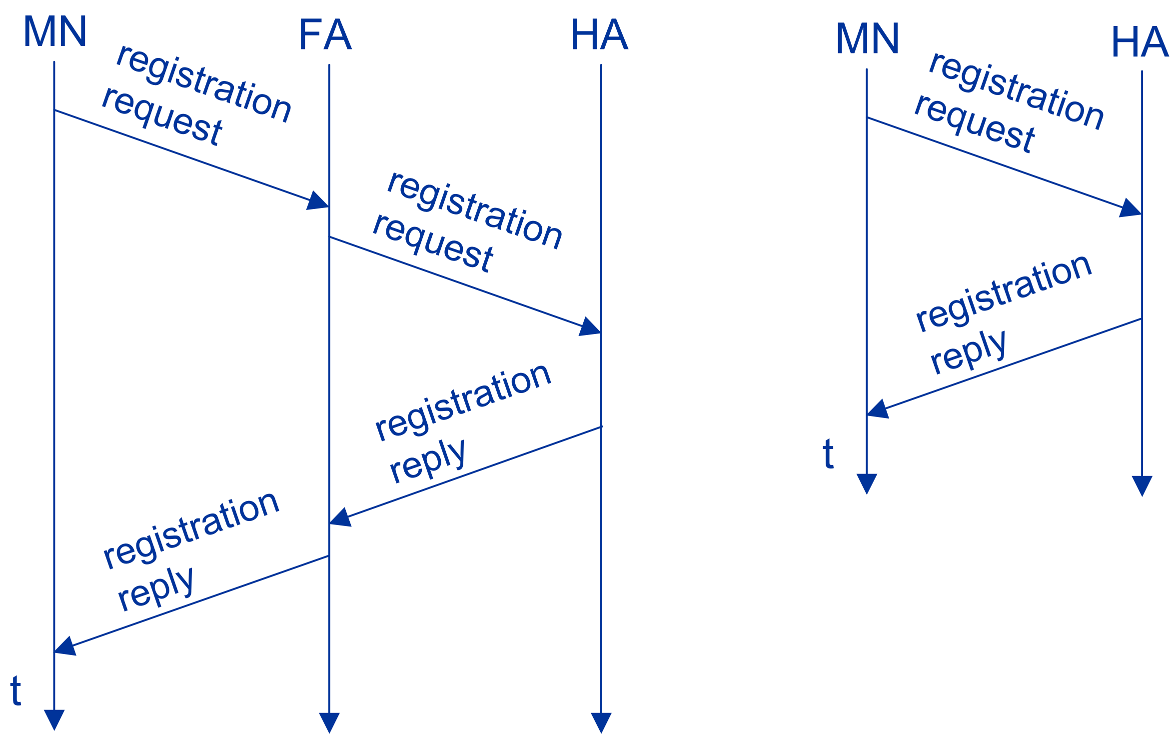
- Agent Advertisement
  - HA and FA periodically send advertisement messages into their physical subnets
  - MN listens to these messages and detects, if it is in the home or a foreign network (standard case for home network)
  - MN reads a COA from the FA advertisement messages
- Registration (always limited lifetime!)
  - MN signals COA to the HA via the FA, HA acknowledges via FA to MN
  - these actions have to be secured by authentication
- Advertisement
  - HA advertises the IP address of the MN (as for fixed systems), i.e. standard routing information
  - routers adjust their entries, these are stable for a longer time (HA responsible for a MN over a longer period of time)
  - packets to the MN are sent to the HA,
  - independent of changes in COA/FA

Agent advertisement



type = 16
length = 6 + 4 * #COAs
R: registration required
B: busy, no more registrations
H: home agent
F: foreign agent
M: minimal encapsulation
G: GRE encapsulation
r: =0, ignored (former Van Jacobson compression)
T: FA supports reverse tunneling
reserved: =0, ignored

Registration



Mobile IP registration request

0 … 7	8 … 15	16 … 23	24 … 31
type = 1	S | B | D | M | G | r | T | x	lifetime	
home address			
home agent			
COA			
identification			
extensions . . .			

S: simultaneous bindings
B: broadcast datagrams
D: decapsulation by MN
M mininal encapsulation
G: GRE encapsulation
r: =0, ignored
T: reverse tunneling requested
x: =0, ignored

Mobile IP registration reply

0 … 7	8 … 15	16 … 31
type = 3	code	lifetime
home address		
home agent		
identification		
extensions . . .		

Example codes:

registration successful

- 0 registration accepted
- 1 registration accepted, but simultaneous mobility bindings unsupported

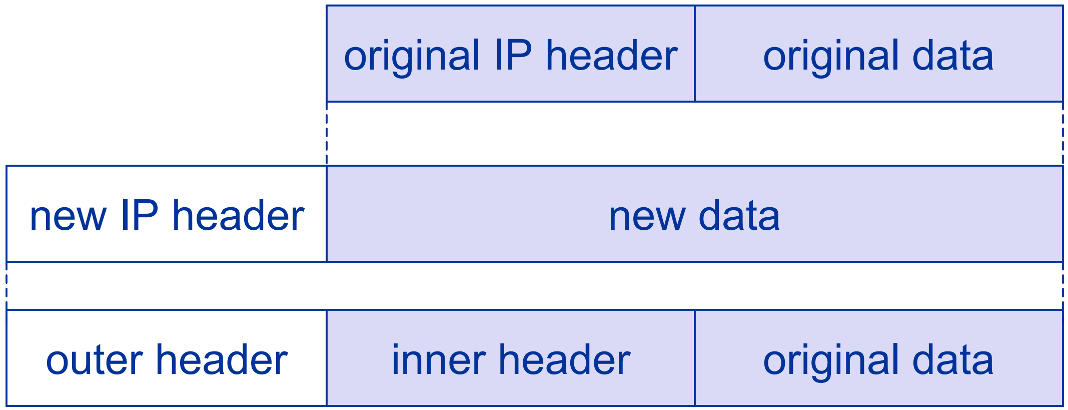
registration denied by FA

- 65 administratively prohibited
- 66 insufficient resources
- 67 mobile node failed authentication
- 68 home agent failed authentication
- 69 requested Lifetime too long

registration denied by HA

- 129 administratively prohibited
- 131 mobile node failed authentication
- 133 registration Identification mismatch
- 135 too many simultaneous mobility bindings

Encapsulation



Encapsulation I

- Encapsulation of one packet into another as payload
  - e.g. IPv6 in IPv4 (6Bone), Multicast in Unicast (Mbone)
  - here: e.g. IP-in-IP-encapsulation, minimal encapsulation or GRE (Generic Record Encapsulation)
- IP-in-IP-encapsulation (mandatory, RFC 2003)
  - tunnel between HA and COA

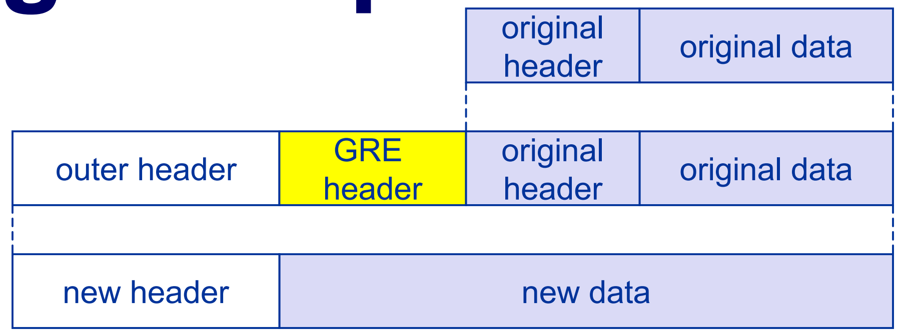
<table>
<tr><td>ver.</td><td>IHL</td><td>DS (TOS)</td><td colspan="2">length</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">IP identification</td><td>flags</td><td>fragment offset</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">TTL</td><td>IP-in-IP</td><td colspan="2">IP checksum</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">IP address of HA</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">Care-of address COA</td></tr>
<tr><td>ver.</td><td>IHL</td><td>DS (TOS)</td><td colspan="2">length</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">IP identification</td><td>flags</td><td>fragment offset</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">TTL</td><td>lay. 4 prot.</td><td colspan="2">IP checksum</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">IP address of CN</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">IP address of MN</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">TCP/UDP/ ... payload</td></tr>
</table>

Encapsulation II

- Minimal encapsulation (optional)
  - avoids repetition of identical fields
  - e.g. TTL, IHL, version, DS (RFC 2474, old: TOS)
  - only applicable for non fragmented packets, no space left for fragment identification

<table>
<tr><td>ver.</td><td>IHL</td><td colspan="2">DS (TOS)</td><td colspan="2">length</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">IP identification</td><td>flags</td><td>fragment offset</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">TTL</td><td colspan="2">min. encap.</td><td colspan="2">IP checksum</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">IP address of HA</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">care-of address COA</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">lay. 4 protoc.</td><td>S</td><td>reserved</td><td colspan="2">IP checksum</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">IP address of MN</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">original sender IP address (if S=1)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">TCP/UDP/ ... payload</td></tr>
</table>

Generic Routing Encapsulation



RFC 1701

ver.	IHL	DS (TOS)	length					
IP identification	flags	fragment offset						
TTL	*GRE*	IP checksum						
IP address of HA								
Care-of address COA								
C	R	K	S	s	rec.	rsv.	ver.	protocol
checksum (optional)	offset (optional)							
key (optional)								
sequence number (optional)								
routing (optional)								
ver.	IHL	DS (TOS)	length					
IP identification	flags	fragment offset						
TTL	lay. 4 prot.	IP checksum						
IP address of CN								
IP address of MN								
TCP/UDP/ ... payload								

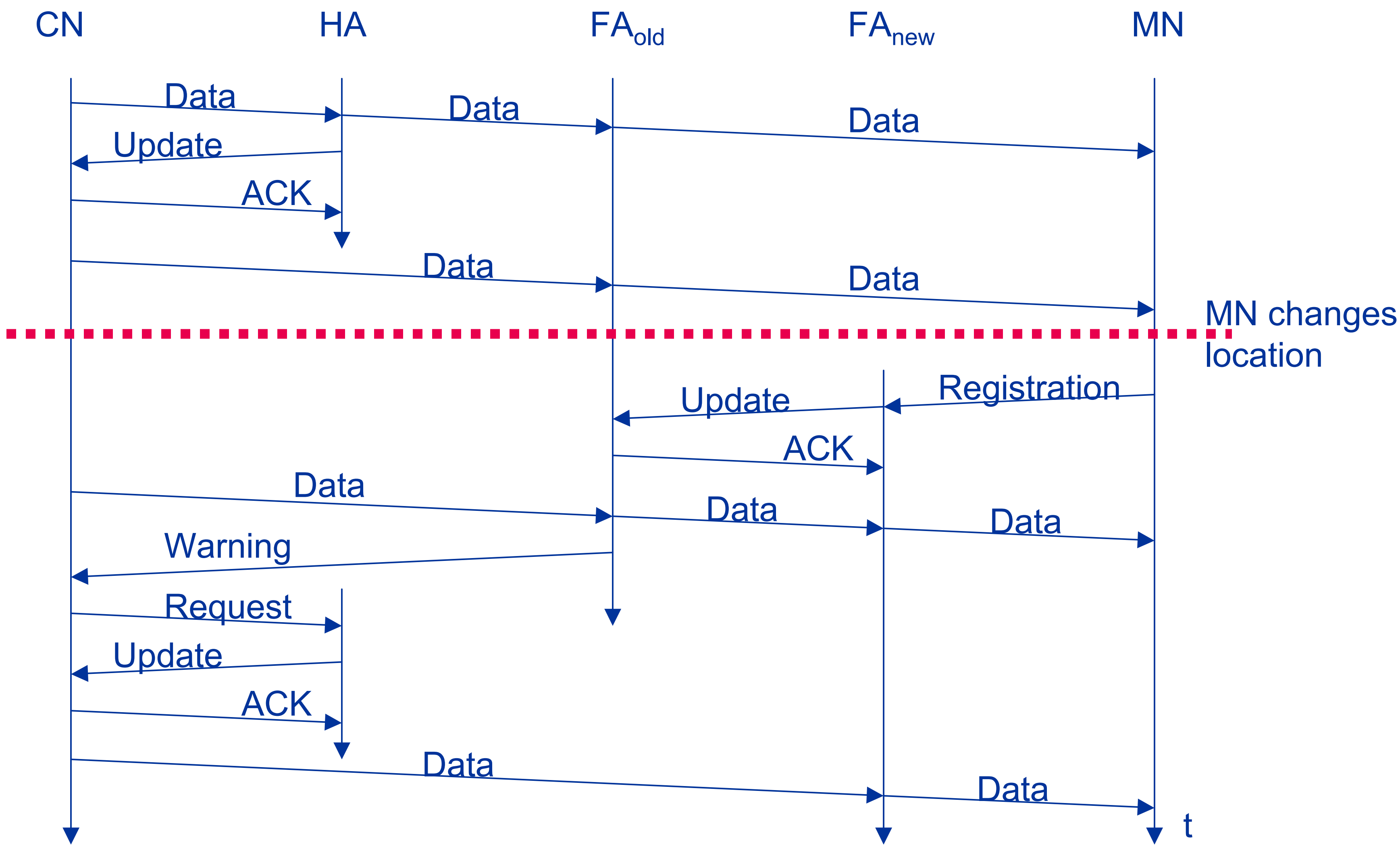
RFC 2784 (updated by 2890)

C	reserved0	ver.	protocol
checksum (optional)	reserved1 (=0)		

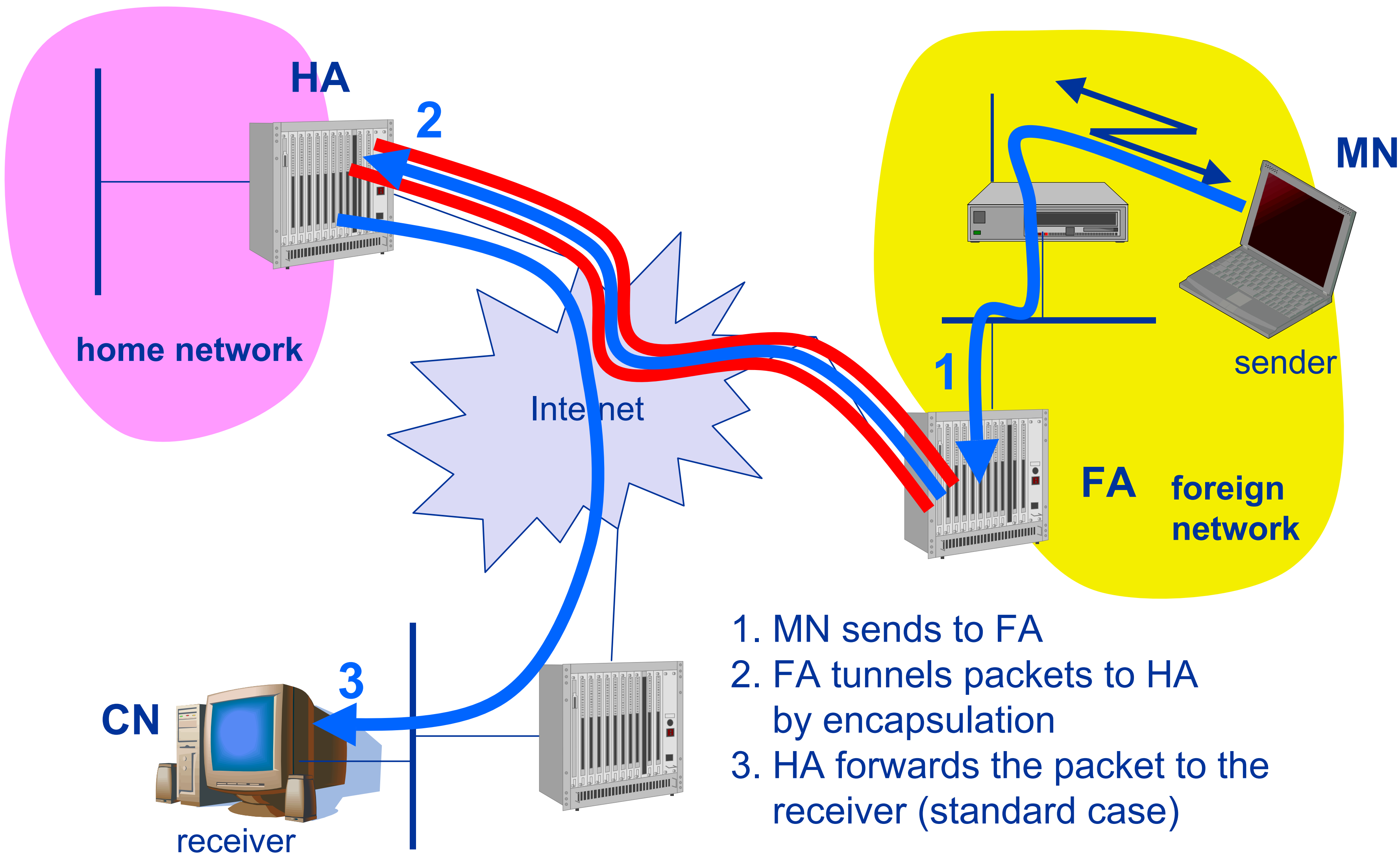
Optimization of packet forwarding

- Problem: Triangular Routing
  - sender sends all packets via HA to MN
  - higher latency and network load
- “Solutions”
  - sender learns the current location of MN
  - direct tunneling to this location
  - HA informs a sender about the location of MN
  - big security problems!
- Change of FA
  - packets on-the-fly during the change can be lost
  - new FA informs old FA to avoid packet loss, old FA now forwards remaining packets to new FA
  - this information also enables the old FA to release resources for the MN

Change of foreign agent



Reverse tunneling (RFC 3024, was: 2344)



1. MN sends to FA
2. FA tunnels packets to HA by encapsulation
3. HA forwards the packet to the receiver (standard case)

Mobile IP with reverse tunneling

- Router accept often only “topological correct“ addresses (firewall!)
  - a packet from the MN encapsulated by the FA is now topological correct
  - furthermore multicast and TTL problems solved (TTL in the home network correct, but MN is to far away from the receiver)
- Reverse tunneling does not solve
  - problems with *firewalls*, the reverse tunnel can be abused to circumvent security mechanisms (tunnel hijacking)
  - optimization of data paths, i.e. packets will be forwarded through the tunnel via the HA to a sender (double triangular routing)
- The standard is backwards compatible
  - the extensions can be implemented easily and cooperate with current implementations without these extensions
  - Agent Advertisements can carry requests for reverse tunneling

Mobile IP and IPv6 (RFC 3775)

- Mobile IP was developed for IPv4, but IPv6 simplifies the protocols
  - security is integrated and not an add-on, authentication of registration is included
  - COA can be assigned via auto-configuration (DHCPv6 is one candidate), every node has address auto-configuration
  - no need for a separate FA, **all** routers perform router advertisement which can be used instead of the special agent advertisement; addresses are always co-located
  - MN can signal a sender directly the COA, sending via HA not needed in this case (automatic path optimization)
  - „soft“ hand-over, i.e. without packet loss, between two subnets is supported
    - MN sends the new COA to its old router
    - the old router encapsulates all incoming packets for the MN and forwards them to the new COA
    - authentication is always granted

Problems with mobile IP

- Security
  - authentication with FA problematic, for the FA typically belongs to another organization
  - no protocol for key management and key distribution has been standardized in the Internet
  - patent and export restrictions
- Firewalls
  - typically mobile IP cannot be used together with firewalls, special set-ups are needed (such as reverse tunneling)
- QoS
  - many new reservations in case of RSVP
  - tunneling makes it hard to give a flow of packets a special treatment needed for the QoS
- Security, firewalls, QoS etc. are topics of research and discussions