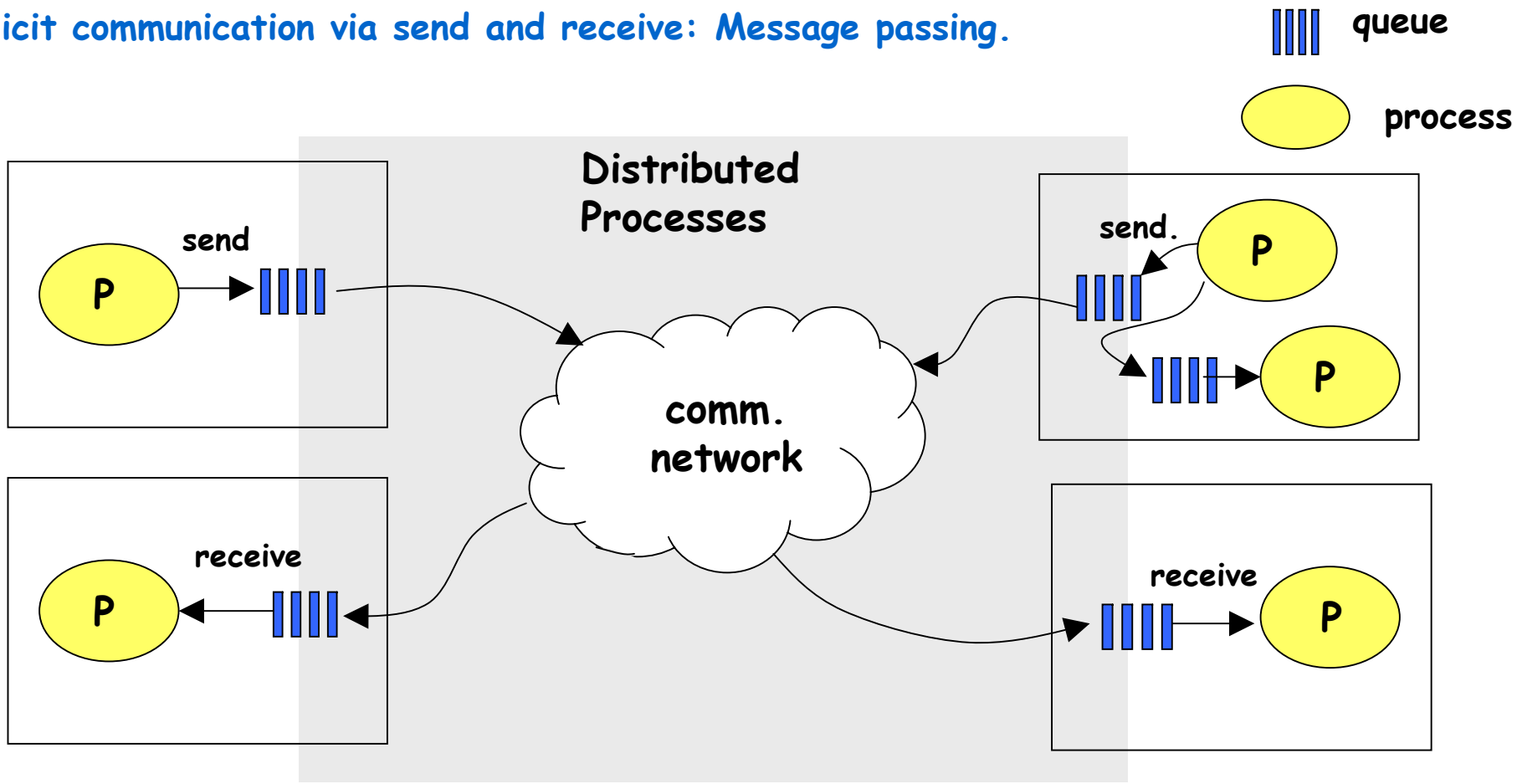
IPC
Inter Process Communication

Principles of distributed computations

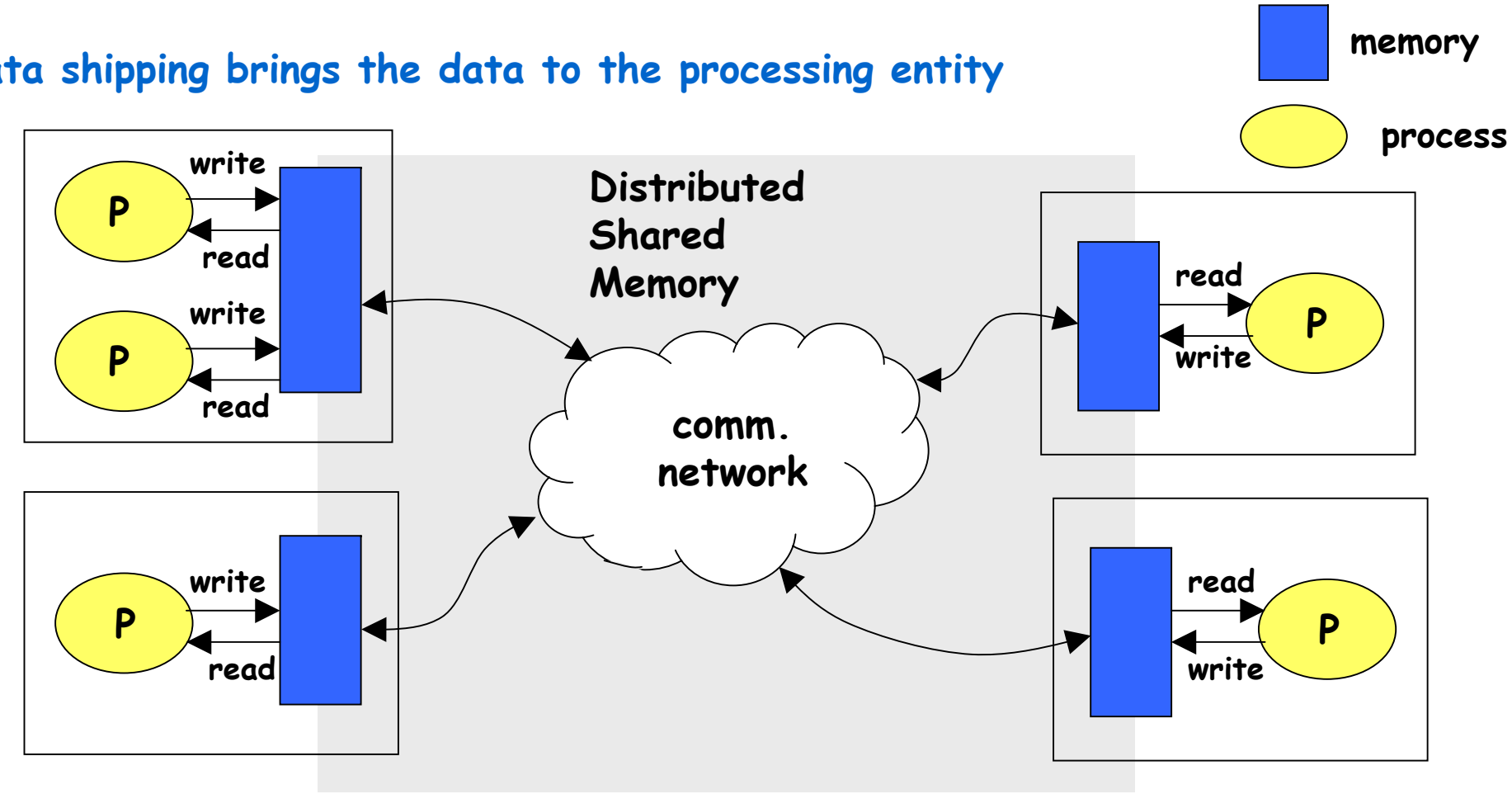
Explicit communication via send and receive: Message passing.



Problem: very low level, very general, poorly defined semantics of communication

Principles of distributed computations

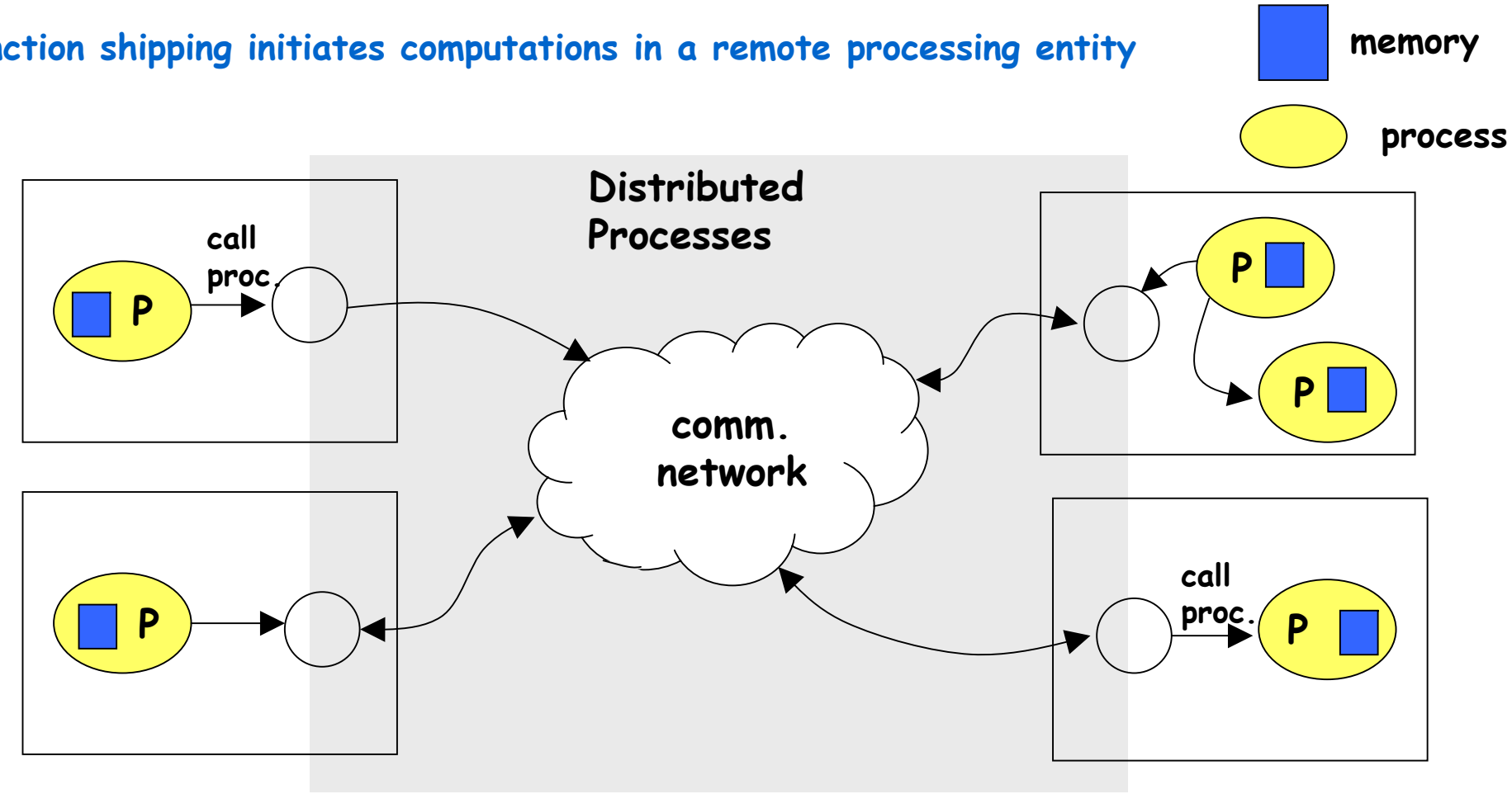
Data shipping brings the data to the processing entity



Problem: Consistency in the presence of concurrency and communcation delays

Principles of distributed computations

Function shipping initiates computations in a remote processing entity



Problem: computation bottlenecks, more complex programming model, references.

abstractions for communication

- Distributed shared memory
- Message passing
- Remote Procedure Call
- Remote Object Invocation
- Notifications
- Publish Subscribe
- Shared data spaces

Types of interaction

explicit	Message-oriented interaction
implicit	Distributed shared memory
request/reply	Client-Server oriented interaction
producer/consumer	Peer-to-Peer interaction

abstractions for communication

Dimensions of Dependencies:

Flow coupling: Control transfer with communication

Defines whether there is a control transfer coupled with a message transfer.
E.g. if the sender blocks until a message is correctly received.

Space Coupling: References nust be known

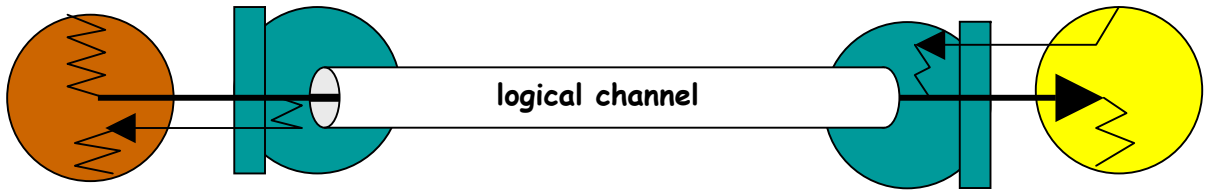
Explicit specification of the destination, i.e. producer must know where to send the message. Message contains an ID specifying an address or name.

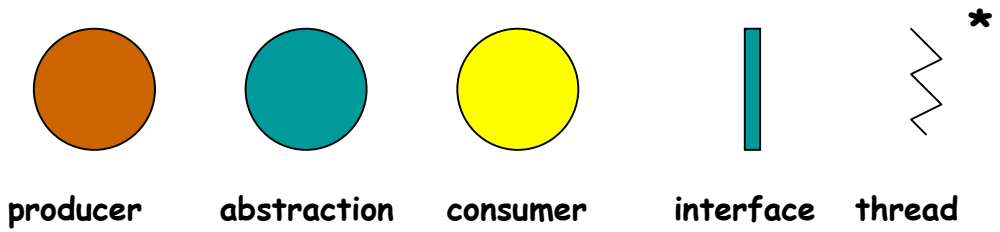
Coupling in time: Both sides must be active

Communication can only take place if all partners are up and active.

Message passing

Connected socket, e.g. TCP





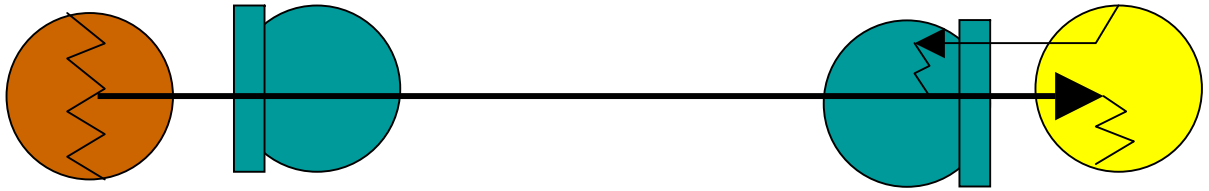
primitives: send (), receive ()

Coupling: time, space, flow

* Notation acc. P. Eugster: Type-Based Publish Subscribe, PhD-thesis, EPFL, Nr. 2503, 2001

Message passing

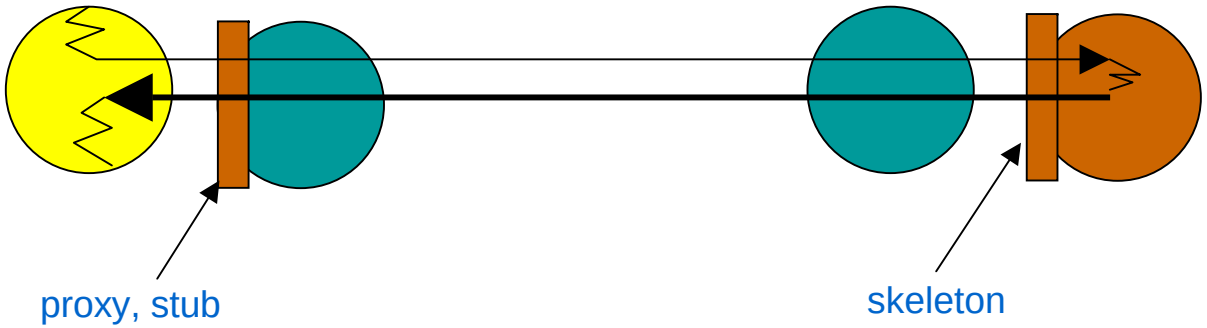
Unconnected socket, e.g. UDP



primitives: send (), receive ()

Coupling: time, space, (flow? unsuccessful if flow is not coordinated)

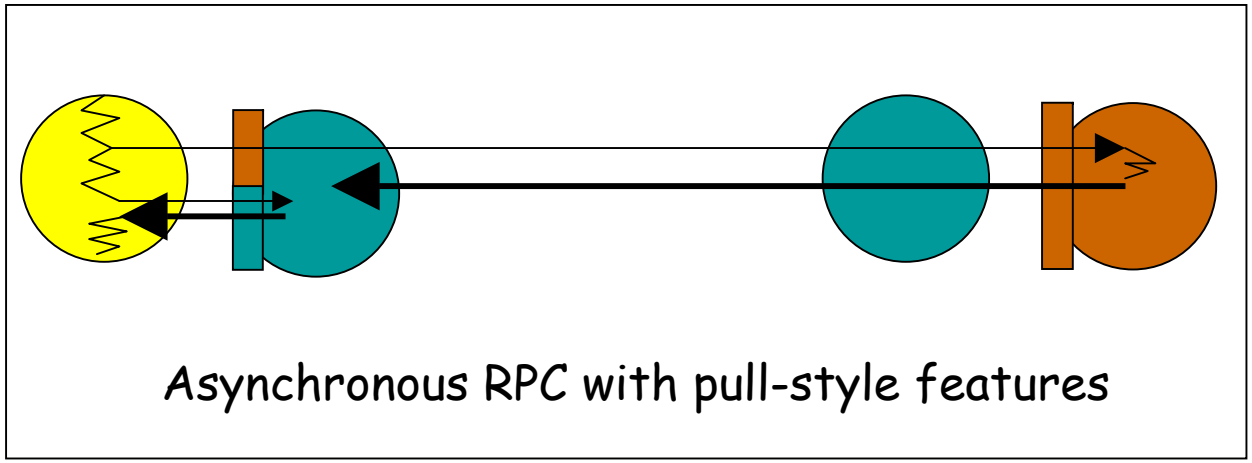
Remote Procedure Call (RPC)



Relation: one-to-one

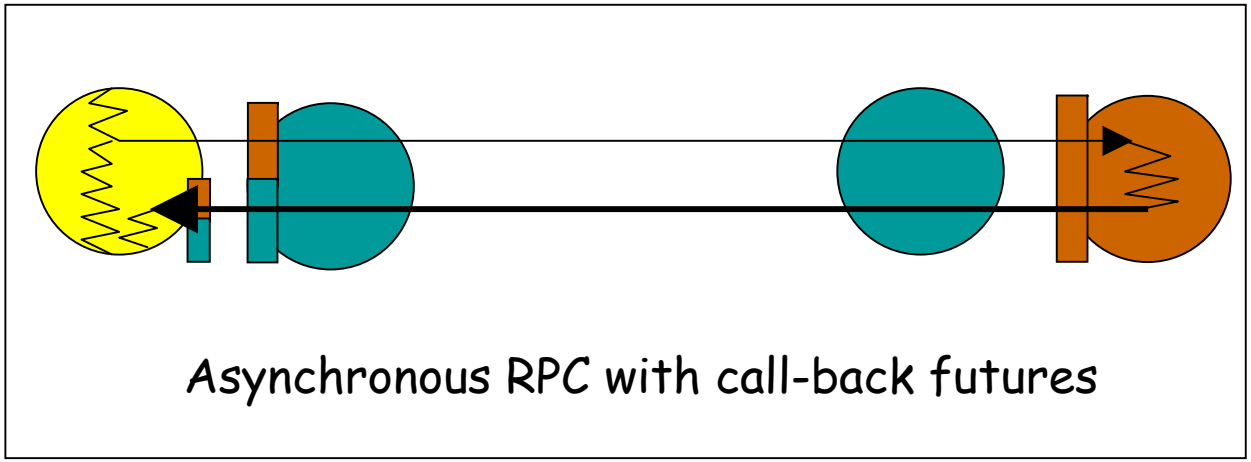
Coupling:
Space: destination is explicitely specified
Flow: blocks until message is delivered
Time: both sides must be active

Variations of RPC



Asynchronous RPC with pull-style features

Example: Concurrent Smalltalk



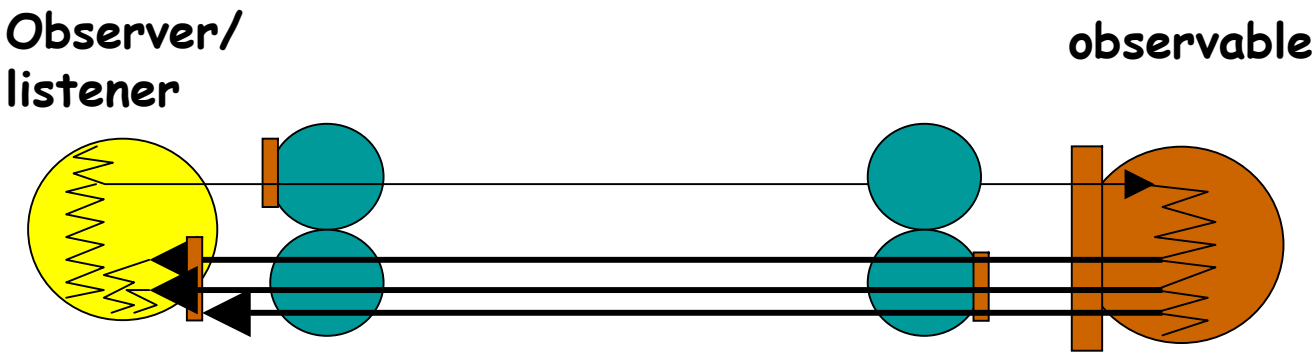
Asynchronous RPC with call-back futures

Relation: one-to-one

Coupling:
Space: destination is explicitely specified
Flow: no flow coupling
Time: both sides must be active

Example: Eiffel

Notification

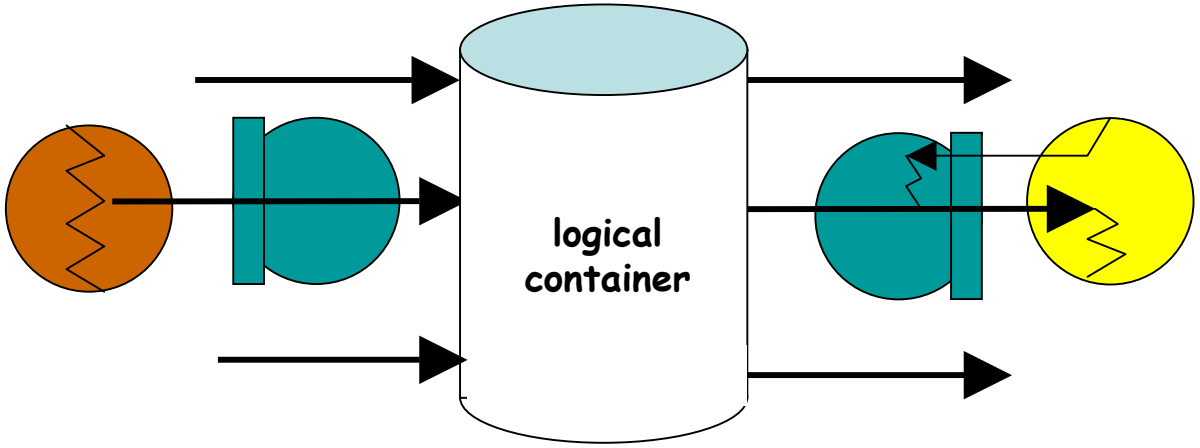


Examles:
Java

Relation: one-to-many

Coupling:
Space: Yes (Observable/Observer pattern (delegation))
Flow: none
Time: both sides must be active (notification performed by RMI)

Shared Data Spaces

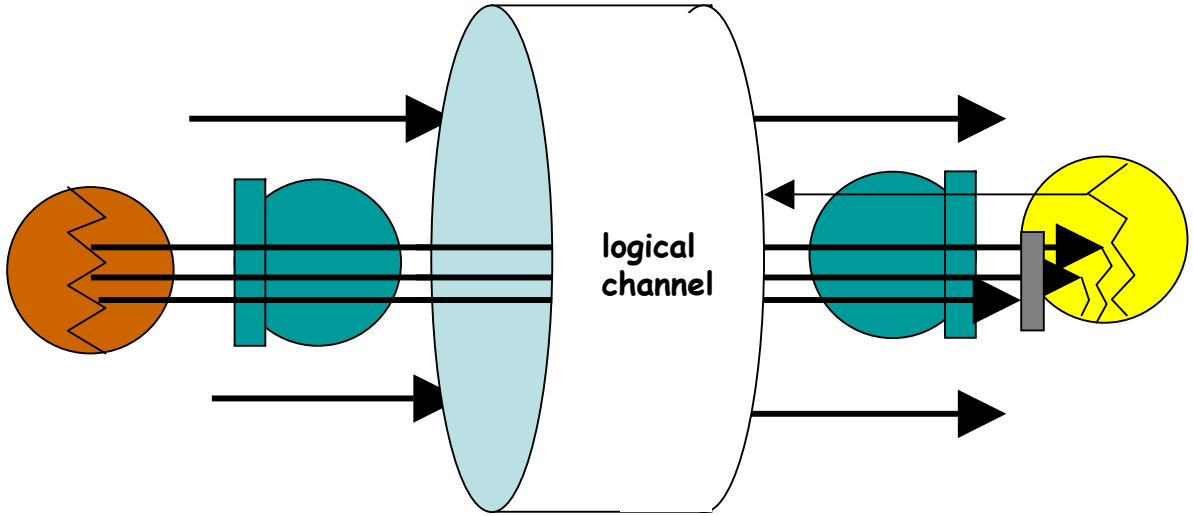


Relation: many-to-many

Coupling:
Space: none
Flow: consumer side
Time: none

Examples:
Linda tuple Space
Java Spaces
ADS Data field

Publish/Subscribe



Relation: many-to-many

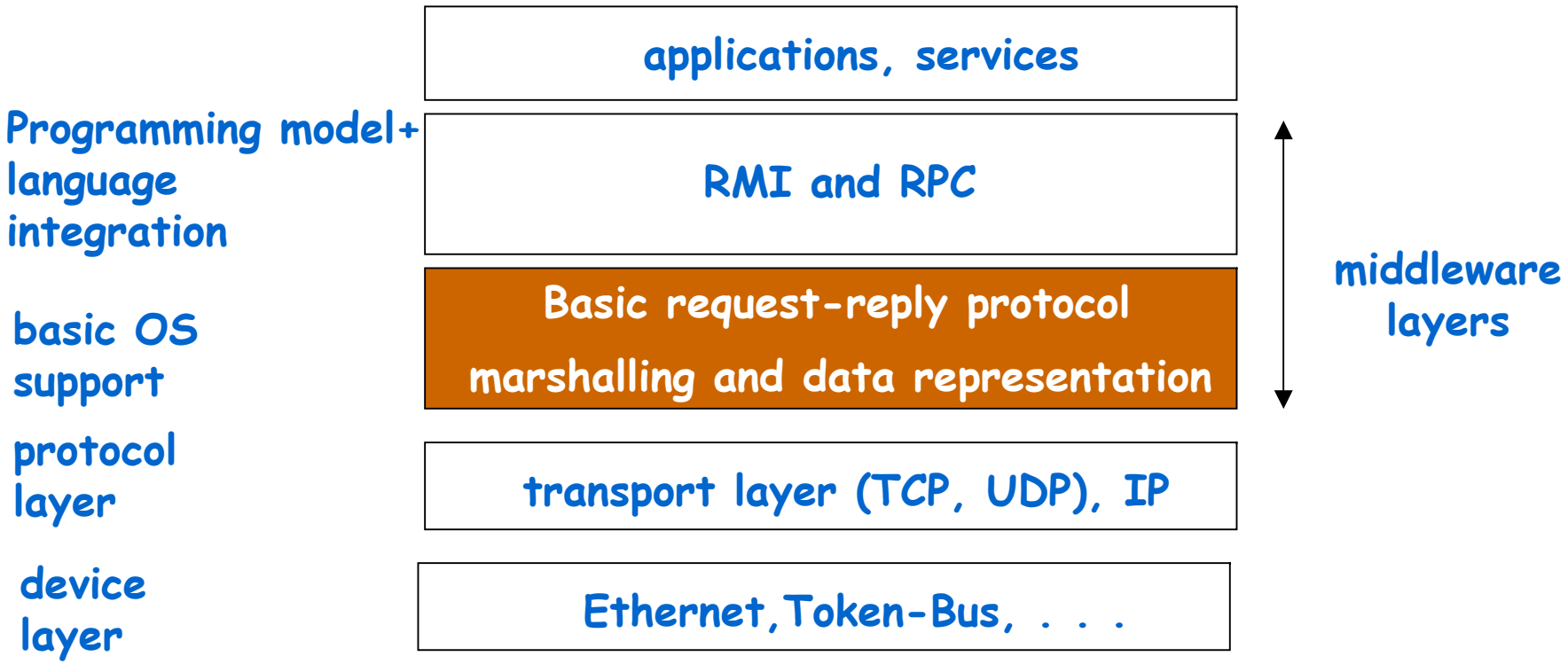
Coupling:
Space: none/indirect
Flow: none
Time: none

Examples:
Information Bus
NDDS
Real-Time P/S
COSMIC
....
....

Overview

Abstraction	Space Coupling	Time Coupling	Flow Coupling
• Connected Sockets	Yes	Yes	Yes
• Unconnected Sockets	Yes	Yes	Consumer
• RPC	Yes	Yes	Consumer
• Oneway RPC	Yes	Yes	No
• Explicit Future (Pull)	Yes	Yes	No
• Explicit FutureCallback)	Yes	Yes	No
• Implicit Future	Yes	Yes	No
• Notications (Observer Design Pattern)	Yes	Yes	No
• Tuple Spaces (Pull)	No	No	Consumer
• Message Queues (Pull)	No	No	Consumer
• Subject-Based P/S	No	No	No
• Content-Based P/S	No	No	No

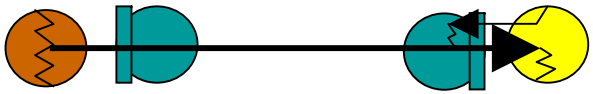
Building IPC from bottom-up



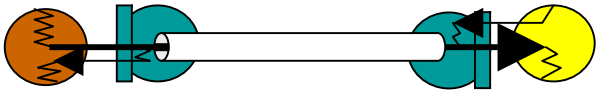
abstractions of the transport layer

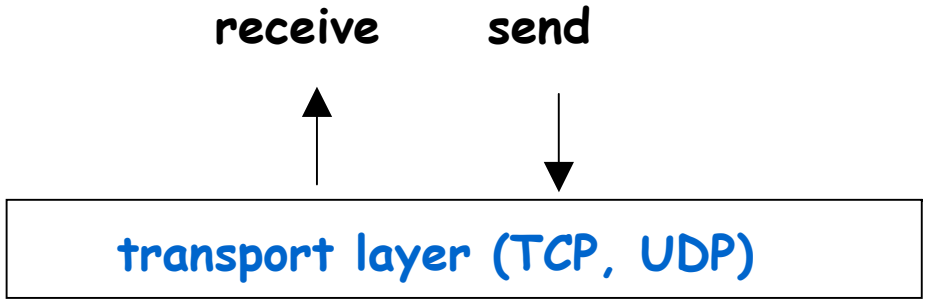
OS-abstraction: socket
Protocols: TCP, UDP

UDP: unconnected sockets, single messages
→ datagramm coomunication

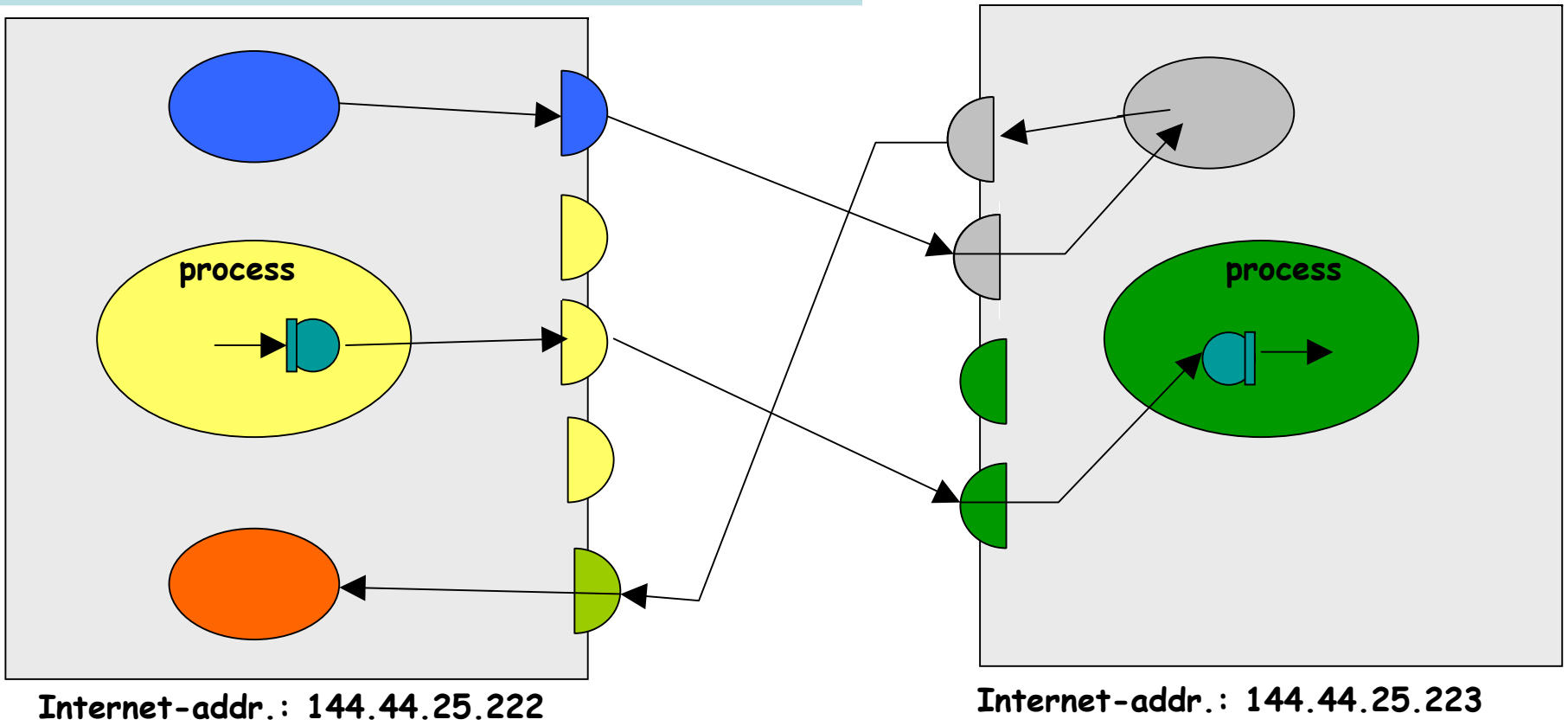


TCP: conn. sockets, two-way message streams between process pairs.
→ stream communication





sockets and ports



How to route a message to a process?
- IP-Adress addresses a computer.
- Port: is associated with a process

sockets and ports

What is needed to send/receive a message through a socket?

1. Internet-address of the local node.
2. Local port (every computer has a large number (2^{16}) of possible port numbers).
3. A binding mechanism.

Example: datagram sockets in Unix

```
s = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM, 0)
.
.
bind (s, client_address)
.
.
.
sento(s, message, server_address)
```

```
s = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM, 0)
.
.
bind (s, server_address)
.
.
.
amount = recvfrom(s, buffer, from)
```

socket: system call to create a socket data structure and obtain the resp. descriptor
- **AF_INET:** communication domain as Internet domain
- **SOCK-DGRAM:** type of communication: datagram communication
- **0:** optional specification of the protocol. If "0" is specified, the protocol is automatically selected. Default: UDP for datagram comm., TCP for stream comm.

bind: system call to asociate the socket "s" with a socket address <IP address, port number>.

sento: system call to send a message via socket "s" to the specified server socket "server_address".

recfrom: system call to receive a message from socket "s" and put it at memory location "buffer". "from" specifies the pointer to the data structure which contains the sending socket's address. recvfrom takes the first elemet from a queue and blocks if the queue is empty.

Example: stream sockets in Unix

```
s = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0)
.
.
connect (s, server_address)
.
.
.
write(s, message, msg_length)
```

```
s = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0)
.
bind(s, server_address);
listen(s,5);
.
sNew = accept(s, client_address);
.
n = read(sNew, buffer, amount)
```

Differences to the datagram communication interface:

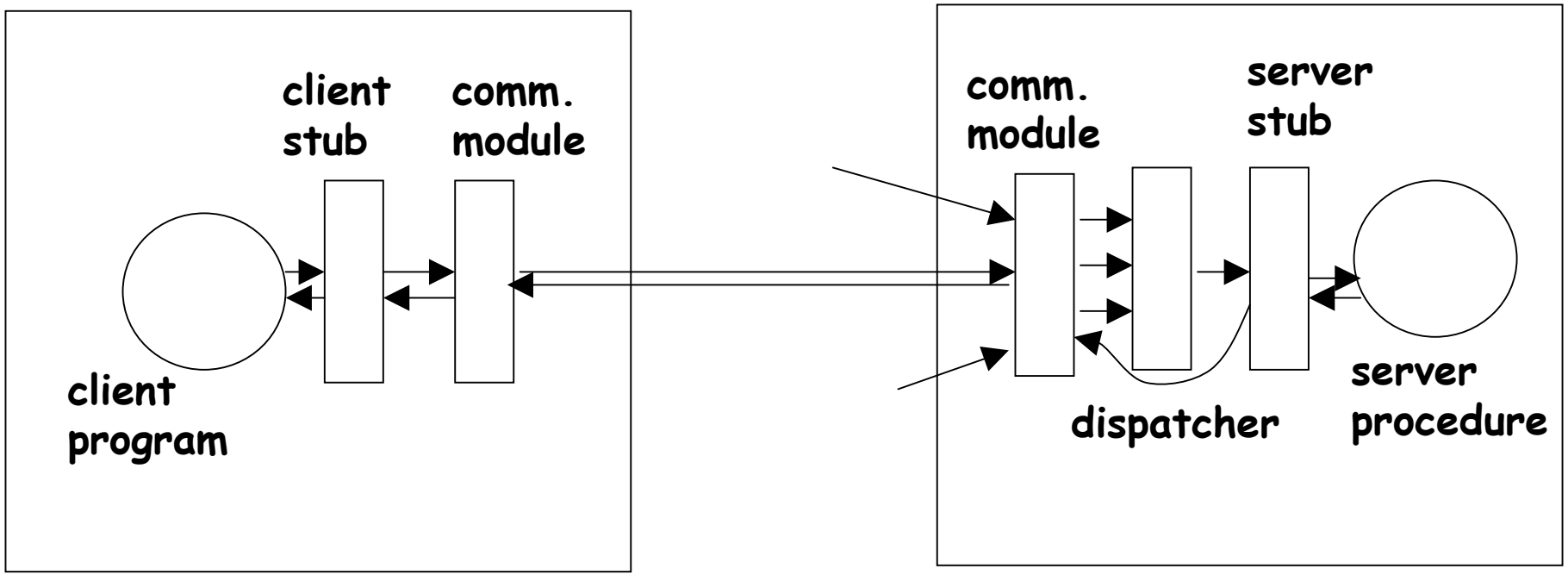
SOCK_STREAM:	type of communication: datagram communication
listen:	server waits for a connection request of a client. "5" specifies the max. number of requested connections waiting for acceptance.
acccept:	system call to accept a new connection and create a new dedicated socketfor this connection.
connect:	requests a connection with the specified server via the previously specified socket.
read/write:	after the connection is established, write and read calls on the sockets can be used to send and receive byte streams. write forwards the byte stream to the underlying protocol and returns number of bytes sent successfully. read receives a byte stream in the respective buffer and returns the number of received bytes.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Archtitecture: defines layers and interfaces between layers

Organization: defines components, behaviour and interaction

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)



Interface-definition-language (e.g.XDR)
Binding (Server - Portnr.)
Authentication

Inter-Process-Communication (IPC)

multiple processes cooperate

Advantages: performance by concurent activities
structuring of application

Message oriented communication

Explicit message exchange between processes

Shared memory

Access to a set of memory cells

Classification of message-oriented IPC:

Abstractions:

- channels (Pipes)
- Communication end points (Sockets, Ports)
- Mailboxes, Queues
- Signals

Channel classification

- unidirektional
- bidirektional (full-duplex, half-duplex)