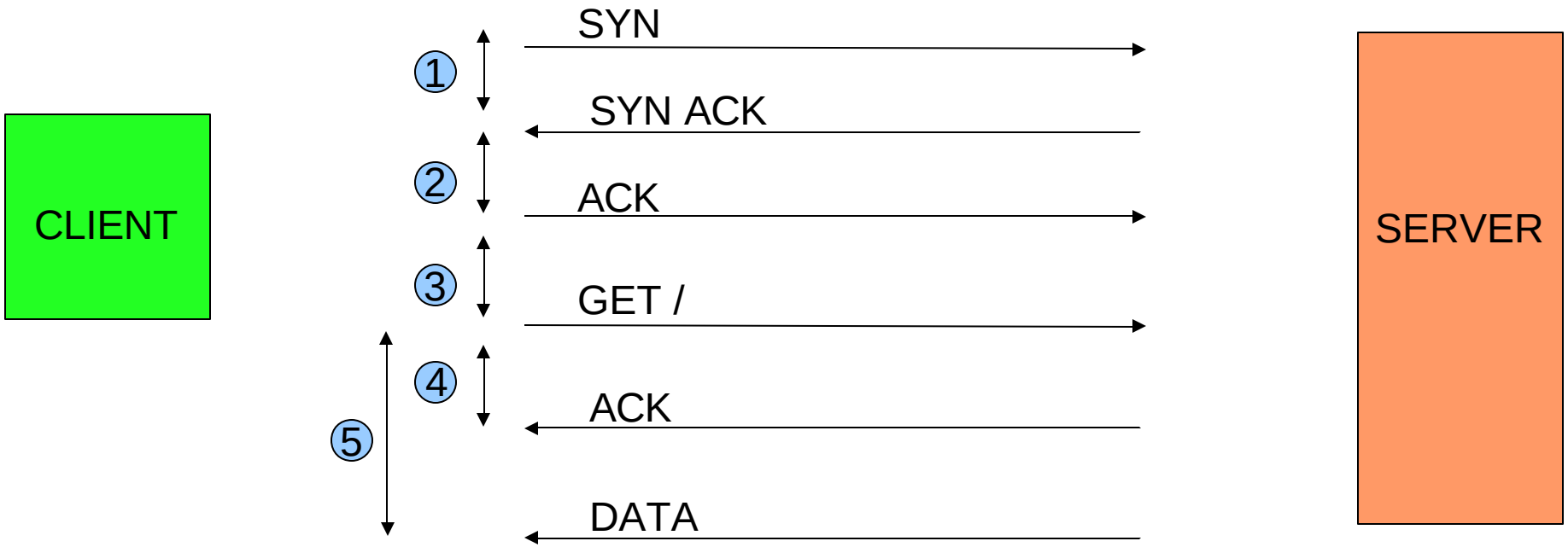
Time Between Packets: What Latency Times Mean to You (Hub out at client in this example.)



1. Time between the SYN and SYN ACK indicates the roundtrip wire latency time. If this takes a long time on average, consider looking at devices along the network path that might be introducing latencies.

2. Time between the SYN ACK and the ACK indicates the speed of the client in responding – this only relates to the client's TCP/IP stack, not their ability to process applications.

3. Time between the ACK and the GET command (or whatever command is sent next) indicates the speed of the client's application to make requests. If this takes too long, the application could be a dog or the processor is overloaded by something else. How long does it take the client to send commands (during automated processes – not when user keyboard input is required)?

4. Time between the GET command and the ACK indicates wire latency again. If this takes a long time, then look at the network path again.

5. Time from the GET command to the actual return of data indicates the time required by the server to process the request and get the data back to the client. If this number is really high (but #4 is low), then we'd look at the server as the slow one in this connection.