

Computer Networking

Lent Term M/W/F 11-midday
LT1 in Gates Building

Slide Set 1

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Topic 1 Foundation

- Administrivia
- Multiplexing
- Abstraction
- Layering
- Layers and Communications
- Entities and Peers
- Channels
- The Internet
- What is a protocol?
- Network edge; hosts, access net, physical media
- Network core: packet/circuit switching, Internet structure
- Performance: loss, delay, throughput

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Course Administration

Commonly Available Texts

- ❑ Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach
Kurose and Ross, 6th edition 2013, Addison-Wesley
(5th edition is also commonly available)
- ❑ Computer Networks: A Systems Approach
Peterson and Davie, 5th edition 2011, Morgan-Kaufman

Other Selected Texts (non-representative)

- ❑ Internetworking with TCP/IP, vol. I + II
Comer & Stevens, Prentice Hall
- ❑ UNIX Network Programming, Vol. I
Stevens, Fenner & Rudoff, Prentice Hall



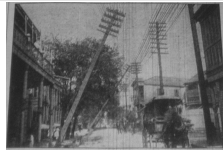
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Thanks

- Slides are a fusion of material from
Ian Leslie, Richard Black, Jim Kurose, Keith Ross, Larry Peterson,
Bruce Davie, Jen Rexford, Ion Stoica, Vern Paxson, Scott Shenker,
Frank Kelly, Stefan Savage, Jon Crowcroft, Mark Handley and
Adam Greenhalgh (and to those others I've forgotten, sorry.)
- Supervision material is largely drawn from
Stephen Kell, Andy Rice
- Practical material remains Beta for this year
But would be impossible without Nick McKeown, David Underhill,
Andrew Ryrie and Antanas Uršulis
- Finally thanks to the Part 1b students past and Andrew Rice
for all the tremendous feedback.

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Multiplexing



Sharing makes things efficient (cost less)

- One airplane/train for 100 people
- One telephone for many calls
- One lecture theatre for many classes
- One computer for many tasks
- One network for many users

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Multiplexing

Disadvantages of Multiplexing?

- Might have to wait
- Might not know how long you have to wait
- Might never get served

Multiplexing is the *action* of sharing of resources
in contrast

Concurrency is all about *how* resources are shared

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Abstraction

A mechanism for breaking down a problem

what not how

- eg Specification *versus* implementation
- eg Modules in programs

Allows replacement of implementations without affecting system behavior

Vertical versus Horizontal

“Vertical” what happens in a box “How does it attach to the network?”

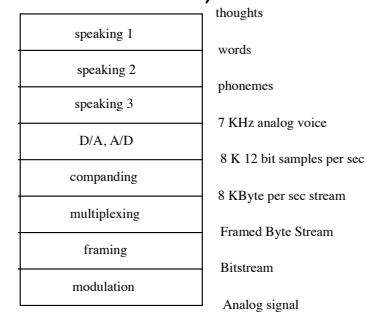
“Horizontal” the communications paths running through the system

Hint: paths are build on top of (“layered over”) other paths

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Layering

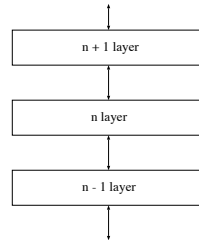
- A restricted form of abstraction: system functions are divided into layers, one built upon another
- Often called a *stack*; but not a data structure!



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Layers and Communications

- Interaction only between adjacent layers
- *layer n* uses services provided by *layer n-1*
- *layer n* provides service to *layer n+1*
- Bottom layer is physical media
- Top layer is application



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Entities and Peers

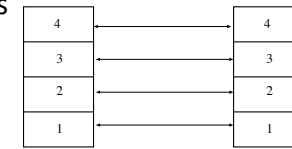
Entity – a *thing* (an independent existence)

Entities *interact* with the layers above and below

Entities *communicate* with *peer* entities

- same level but different place (eg different person, different box, different host)

Communications between peers is supported by entities at the lower layers



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Entities and Peers

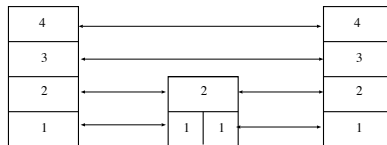
Entities usually do something useful

- Encryption – Error correction – Reliable Delivery
- Nothing at all is also reasonable

Not all communications is end-to-end

Examples for things in the middle

- IP Router – Mobile Phone Cell Tower
- Person translating French to English



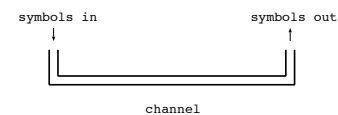
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Channels

(This channel definition is very abstract)

- Peer entities communicate over channels
- Peer entities provide higher-layer peers with higher-layer channels

A channel is that into which an entity puts symbols and which causes those symbols (or a reasonable approximation) to appear somewhere else at a later point in time.



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Channel Characteristics

Symbol type: bits, packets, waveform
Capacity: bandwidth, data-rate, packet-rate
Delay: fixed or variable
Fidelity: signal-to-noise, bit error rate, packet error rate

Cost: per attachment, for use
Reliability
Security: privacy, unforgeability
Order preserving: always, almost, usually
Connectivity: point-to-point, to-many, many-to-many

- Examples:
- Fibre Cable
 - 1 Gb/s channel in a network
 - Sequence of packets transmitted between hosts
 - A telephone call (handset to handset)
 - The audio channel in a room
 - Conversation between two people

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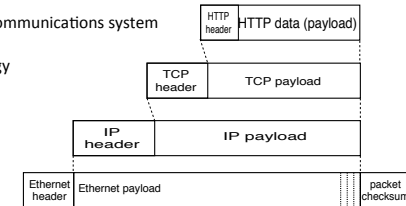
Layering and Embedding

In Computer Networks we often see higher-layer information embedded within lower-layer information

- Such embedding can be considered a form of layering
- Higher layer information is generated by stripping off headers and trailers of the current layer
- eg an IP entity only looks at the IP headers

BUT embedding is not the only form of layering

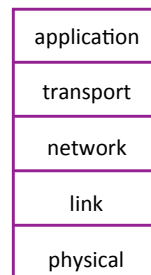
Layering is to help understand a communications system
NOT
 determine implementation strategy



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Internet protocol stack

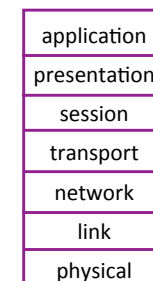
- **application:** supporting network applications
 - FTP, SMTP, HTTP
- **transport:** process-process data transfer
 - TCP, UDP
- **network:** routing of datagrams from source to destination
 - IP, routing protocols
- **link:** data transfer between neighboring network elements
 - Ethernet
- **physical:** bits “on the wire”



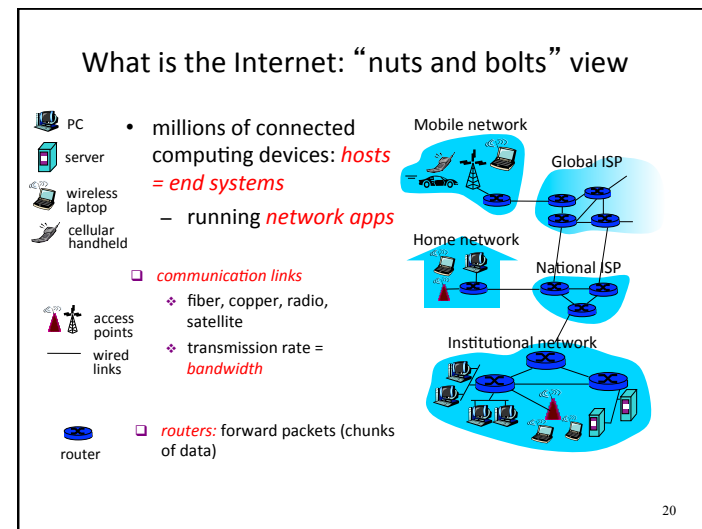
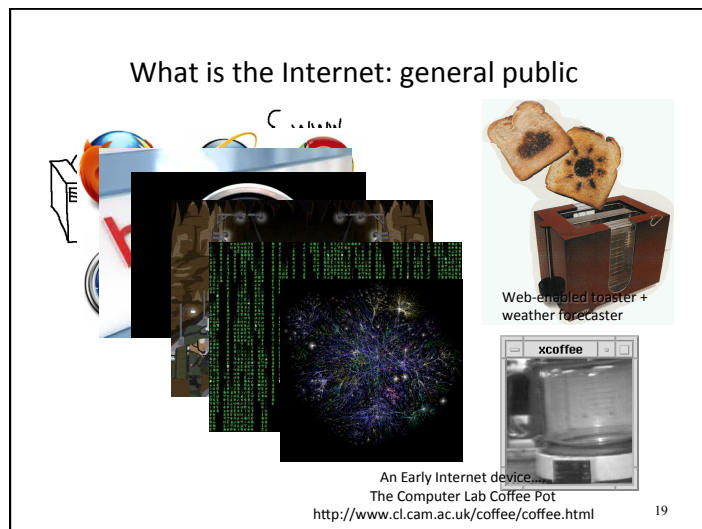
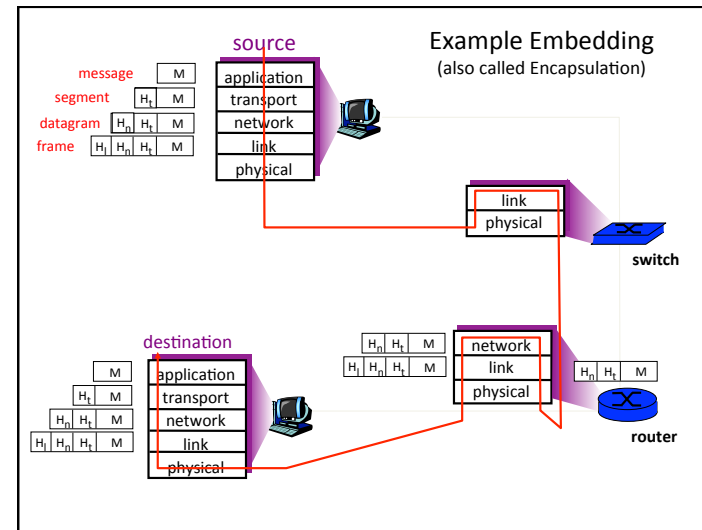
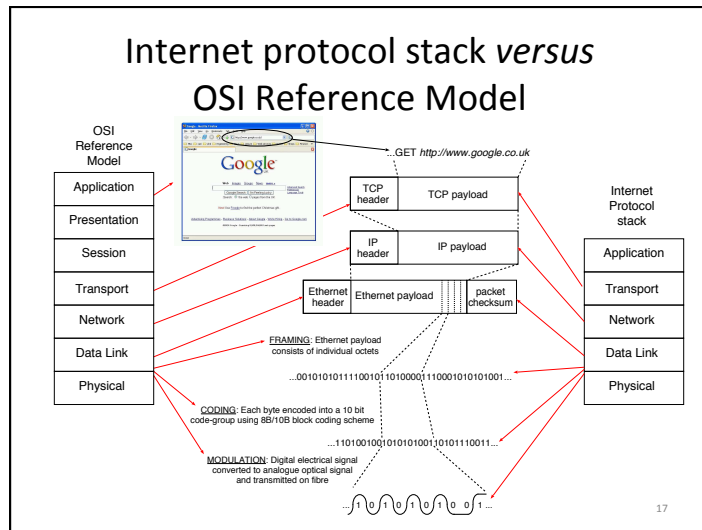
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ISO/OSI reference model

- **presentation:** allow applications to interpret meaning of data, e.g., encryption, compression, machine-specific conventions
- **session:** synchronization, checkpointing, recovery of data exchange
- Internet stack “missing” these layers!
 - these services, *if needed*, must be implemented in application
 - needed?

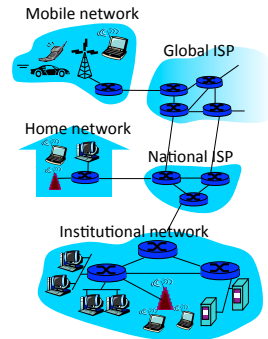


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What is the Internet: “nuts and bolts” view

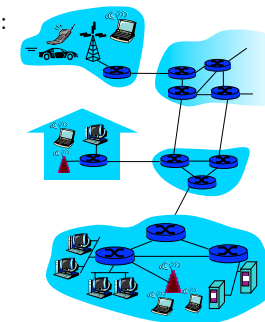
- **protocols** control sending, receiving of msgs
 - e.g., TCP, IP, HTTP, Skype, Ethernet
- **Internet: “network of networks”**
 - loosely hierarchical
 - public Internet versus private intranet
- Internet standards
 - RFC: Request for comments
 - IETF: Internet Engineering Task Force



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What is the Internet: a service view

- **communication infrastructure** enables distributed applications:
 - Web, VoIP, email, games, e-commerce, file sharing
- **communication services provided to apps:**
 - reliable data delivery from source to destination
 - “best effort” (unreliable) data delivery



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What is a protocol?

human protocols:

- “what’s the time?”
- “I have a question”
- introductions

... specific msgs sent

... specific actions taken when msgs received, or other events

network protocols:

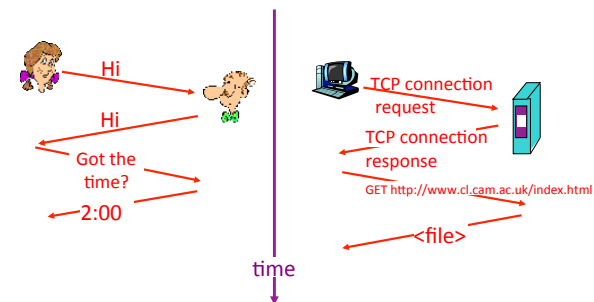
- machines rather than humans
- all communication activity in Internet governed by protocols

protocols define format, order of msgs sent and received among network entities, and actions taken on msg transmission, receipt

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What is a protocol?

a human protocol and a computer network protocol:

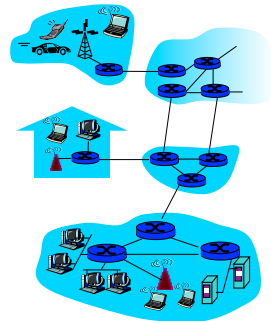


Q: Other human protocols?

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A closer look at network structure:

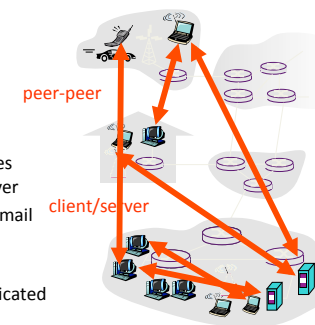
- **network edge:**
applications and hosts
- **access networks,**
physical media: wired,
wireless
communication links
- **network core:**
 - ❖ interconnected routers
 - ❖ network of networks



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The network edge:

- **end systems (hosts):**
 - run application programs
 - e.g. Web, email
 - at “edge of network”
- **client/server model**
 - ❖ client host requests, receives service from always-on server
 - ❖ e.g. Web browser/server; email client/server
- **peer-peer model:**
 - ❖ minimal (or no) use of dedicated servers
 - ❖ e.g. Skype, BitTorrent



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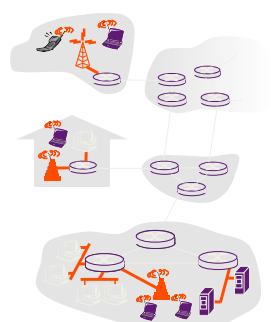
Access networks and physical media

Q: How to connect end systems to edge router?

- residential access nets
- institutional access networks (school, company)
- mobile access networks

Keep the channel in mind:

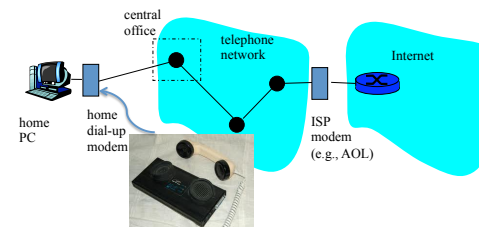
- Access bandwidth?
- shared or dedicated?



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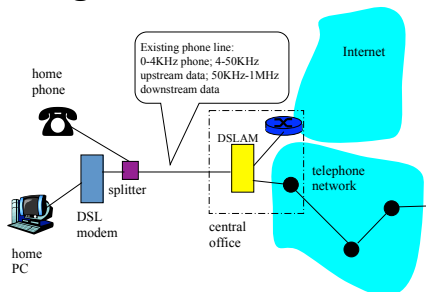
Dial-up Modem

(archeology – unless you travel a lot)



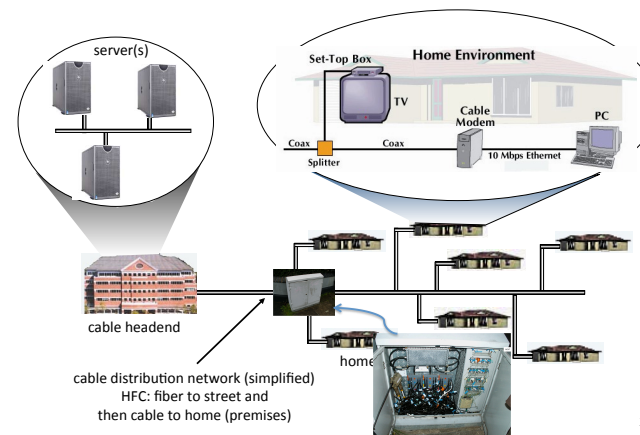
- ❖ Uses existing telephony infrastructure
 - ❖ Home is connected to **central office**
- ❖ up to 64Kbps direct access to router (often less)
- ❖ Can't surf and phone at same time: not **“always on”**

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL)



- ❖ Also uses existing telephone infrastructure
- ❖ up to 1 Mbps upstream (today typically < 256 kbps)
- ❖ up to 8 Mbps downstream (today typically < 1 Mbps)
- ❖ dedicated physical line to telephone central office

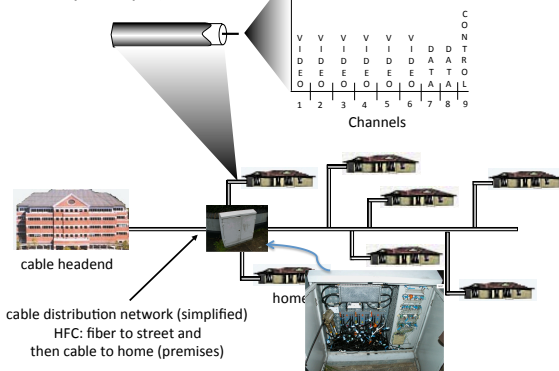
Cable Network Architecture: Overview



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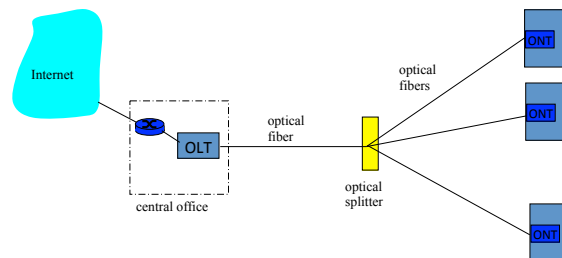
Cable Network Architecture: Overview

Frequency Division Multiplexing
(more in a later Topic):



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Fiber to the Home



- Optical links from central office to the home
- Two competing optical technologies:
 - Passive Optical network (PON)
 - Active Optical Network (PAN)
- Much higher Internet rates; fiber also carries television and phone services

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Physical Channels

also known as *Physical Media*

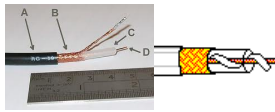
Twisted Pair (TP)

- two insulated copper wires
 - Category 3: traditional phone wires, 10 Mbps Ethernet
 - Category 6: 1Gbps Ethernet
- Shielded (STP)
- Unshielded (UTP)



Coaxial cable:

- two concentric copper conductors
- bidirectional
- baseband:
 - single channel on cable
 - legacy Ethernet
- broadband:
 - multiple channels on cable
 - HFC (Hybrid Fiber Coax)



Fiber optic cable:

- high-speed operation
- point-to-point transmission
- (10' s-100' s Gps)
- low error rate
- immune to electromagnetic noise



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Physical media: radio

- Bidirectional and multiple access
- propagation environment effects:
 - reflection
 - obstruction by objects
 - interference

Radio link types:

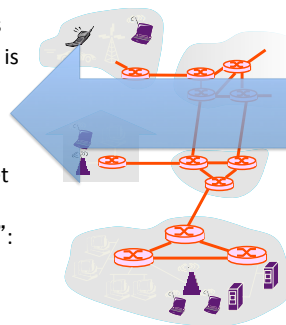
- terrestrial microwave
 - e.g. 45 Mbps channels
- LAN (e.g., Wifi)
 - 11Mbps, 54 Mbps, 200 Mbps
- wide-area (e.g., cellular)
 - 3G cellular: ~ 1 Mbps
- satellite
 - Kbps to 45Mbps channel (or multiple smaller channels)
 - 270 msec end-end delay
 - geosynchronous versus low altitude



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The Network Core

- mesh of interconnected routers
- the fundamental question:** how is data transferred through each channel?
 - circuit switching:** dedicated circuit per call: telephone net
 - packet-switching:** data sent thru net in discrete "chunks": postal service



**Packet-switching =
Asynchronous Time
Division Multiplexing**

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Network Core: Circuit Switching

End-end resources reserved for "call"

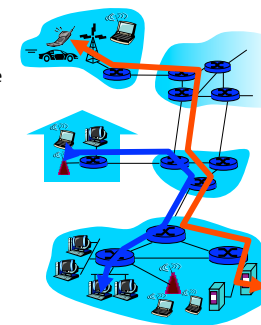
- link bandwidth, switch capacity
- dedicated resources: no sharing
- circuit-like (guaranteed) performance
- call setup required

network resources (e.g., bandwidth) are divided into "pieces"

- pieces allocated to calls
- resource piece *idle* if not used by owning call (no sharing)

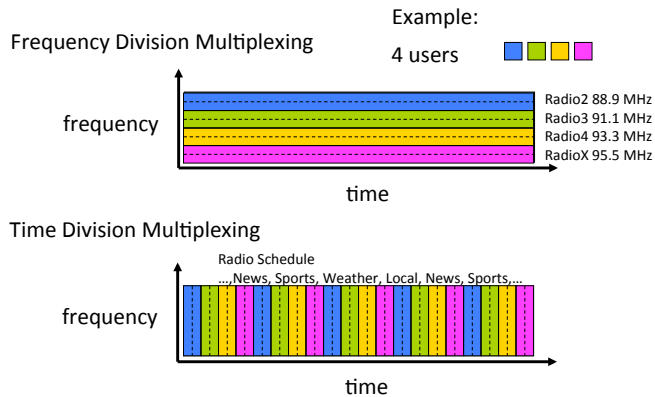
How?

- frequency division multiplexing
- time division multiplexing



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Circuit Switching: FDM and TDM



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Numerical example

- How long does it take to send a file of 640,000 bits from host A to host B over a circuit-switched network?
 - All links are 1.536 Mbps
 - Each link uses TDM with 24 slots/sec
 - 500 msec to establish end-to-end circuit

Let's work it out!

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Network Core: Packet Switching

each end-end data stream divided into packets (datagrams)

- user A&B packets share network resources
- each packet uses full link bandwidth
- resources used as needed

resource contention:

- aggregate resource demand can exceed amount available
- congestion: packets queue, wait for link use
- store and forward: packets move one hop at a time
 - Node receives complete packet before forwarding

Fun new problems/properties

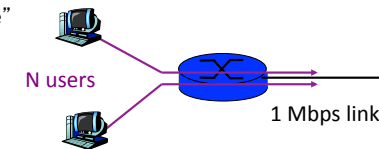
1. How does a program(mer) compute available resources e.g., bandwidth, delay, variation in delay (jitter)?
2. Sharing resources (contention-resolution) is now done by protocol (and precedent) – and all that this implies...

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Packet switching versus circuit switching

Packet switching may (does!) allow more users to use network

- 1 Mb/s link
- each user:
 - 100 kb/s when “active”
 - active 10% of time
- circuit-switching:
 - 10 users
- packet switching:
 - with 35 users, probability > 10 active at same time is less than .0004



Q: how did we get value 0.0004?

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Packet switching versus circuit switching

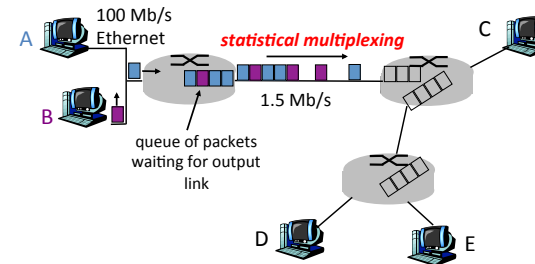
Q: how did we get value 0.0004?

- 1 Mb/s link
- each user:
 - 100 kb/s when “active”
 - active 10% of time
- **circuit-switching:**
 - 10 users
- **packet switching:**
 - with 35 users, probability > 10 active at same time is less than .0004

HINT: Binomial Distribution

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Packet Switching: Statistical Multiplexing

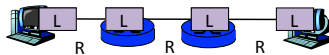


Sequence of A & B packets does not have fixed pattern, bandwidth shared on demand → **statistical multiplexing.**

(Recall in TDM: each host gets same slot in revolving TDM frame)

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Packet Switching: store-and-forward



- takes L/R seconds to transmit (push out) packet of L bits on to link at R bps
 - **store and forward:** entire packet must arrive at each hop before it can be transmitted on next link
 - delay = $3L/R$ (assuming zero propagation delay)
- Example:
- $L = 7.5$ Mbits
 - $R = 1.5$ Mbps
 - transmission delay = 15 sec
- } more on delay shortly ...

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Packet switching versus circuit switching

Is packet switching a “slam dunk winner?”

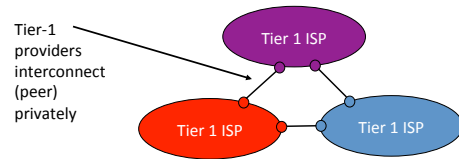
- great for bursty data
 - resource sharing
 - simpler, no call setup
- **excessive congestion:** packet delay and loss
 - protocols needed for reliable data transfer, congestion control
- Q: How to provide circuit-like behavior?
 - bandwidth guarantees needed for audio/video apps
 - still a problem (KR: Ch7 PD: Sec 6.5)

Q: human analogies of reserved resources (circuit switching) versus on-demand allocation (packet-switching)?

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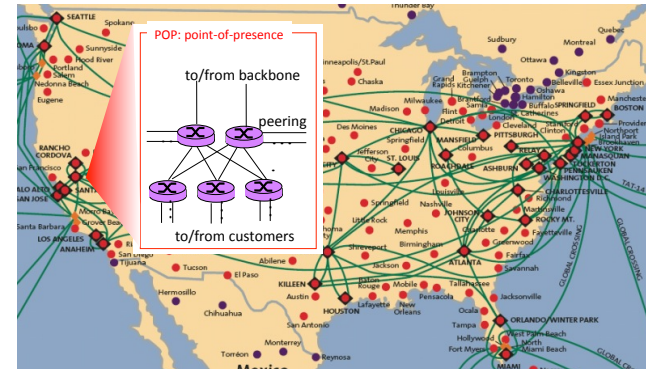
Internet structure: network of networks

- roughly hierarchical
- at center: “tier-1” ISPs (e.g., Verizon, Sprint, AT&T, Cable and Wireless), national/international coverage
 - treat each other as equals



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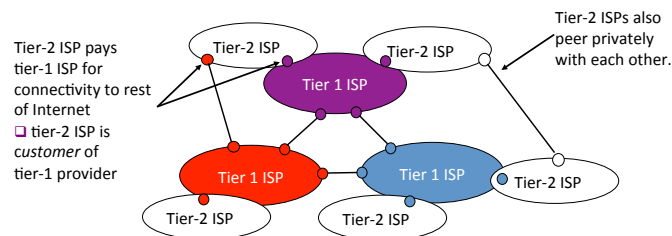
Tier-1 ISP: e.g., Sprint



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Internet structure: network of networks

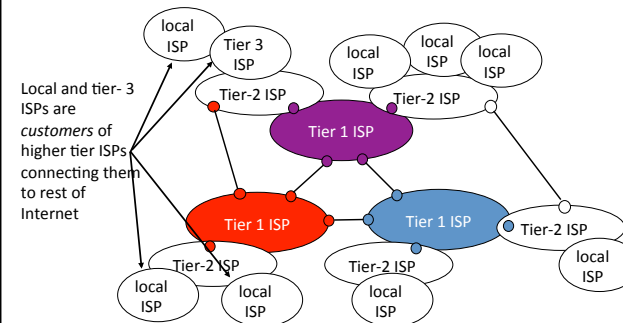
- “Tier-2” ISPs: smaller (often regional) ISPs
 - Connect to one or more tier-1 ISPs, possibly other tier-2 ISPs



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Internet structure: network of networks

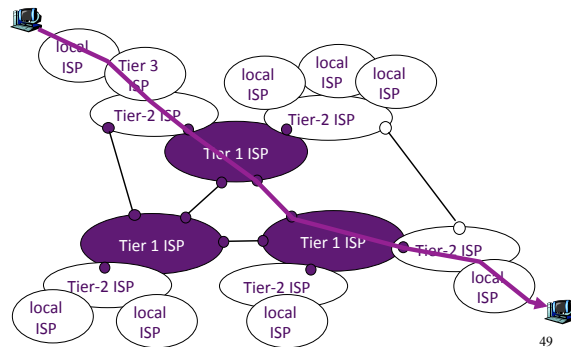
- “Tier-3” ISPs and local ISPs
 - last hop (“access”) network (closest to end systems)



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Internet structure: network of networks

- a packet passes through many networks!



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“Real” Internet delays and routes

traceroute: gaia.cs.umass.edu to www.eurecom.fr

Three delay measurements from gaia.cs.umass.edu to cs-gw.cs.umass.edu

```

1 cs-gw (128.119.240.254) 1 ms 1 ms 2 ms
2 border-rt-fa5-1-0.gw.umass.edu (128.119.3.145) 1 ms 1 ms 2 ms
3 cht-vbns.gw.umass.edu (128.119.3.130) 6 ms 5 ms 5 ms
4 jn1-at1-0-0-19.wor.vbns.net (204.147.132.129) 16 ms 11 ms 13 ms
5 jn1-so7-0-0-0.wae.vbns.net (204.147.136.136) 21 ms 18 ms 18 ms
6 abilene-vbns.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.11.9) 22 ms 18 ms 22 ms
7 nycm-wash.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.46) 22 ms 22 ms 22 ms
8 62.40.103.253 (62.40.103.253) 104 ms 109 ms 106 ms
9 de2-1.de1.de.geant.net (62.40.96.129) 109 ms 102 ms 104 ms
10 de.fr1.fr.geant.net (62.40.96.50) 113 ms 121 ms 114 ms
11 renater-gw.fr1.fr.geant.net (62.40.103.54) 112 ms 114 ms 112 ms
12 nio-n2.cssi.renater.fr (193.51.206.13) 111 ms 114 ms 116 ms
13 nice.cssi.renater.fr (195.220.98.102) 123 ms 125 ms 124 ms
14 r3t2-nice.cssi.renater.fr (195.220.98.110) 126 ms 126 ms 124 ms
15 eurecom-valbonne.r3t2.ft.net (193.48.50.54) 135 ms 128 ms 133 ms
16 194.214.211.25 (194.214.211.25) 126 ms 128 ms 126 ms
17 ***
18 ***
19 fantasia.eurecom.fr (193.55.113.142) 132 ms 128 ms 136 ms
    
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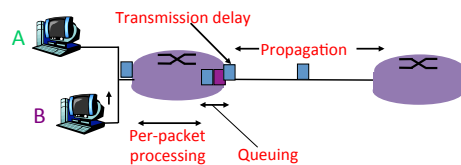
trans-oceanic link

means no response (probe lost, router not replying)

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Four sources of packet delay

- Per-packet processing:** errors check & lookup output link depends on per-packet overhead
- Queuing delay:** time waiting for output link (depends on link-congestion)
- Transmission delay:** packet length / link bandwidth
- Propagation:** length of physical link / propagation speed in medium (e.g. 2×10^8 m/sec)

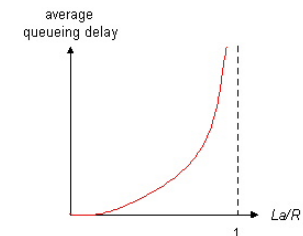


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2. Queuing delay

- R = link bandwidth (bps)
- L = packet length (bits)
- a = average packet arrival rate

$$\text{traffic intensity} = La/R$$



- $La/R \sim 0$: average queuing delay small
- $La/R \rightarrow 1$: delays become large
- $La/R > 1$: more “work” arriving than can be serviced, average delay infinite!

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Queuing Delay

Does not happen if

- packets are evenly spaced
- And arrival rate is less than service rate

Smooth Arrivals = No Queuing Delays

$\lambda a/R \sim 0$: average queuing delay small



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Queuing Delay

- Queuing delay caused by “packet interference”
 - Burstiness of arrival schedule
 - Variations in packet lengths



There is significant queuing delay even though link is underutilized

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Queuing Delay

- Does not happen if packets are evenly spaced
 - And arrival rate is less than service rate
- Queuing delay caused by “packet interference”
 - Burstiness of arrival schedule
 - Variations in packet lengths
- Made worse at high load
 - Less “idle time” to absorb bursts
 - Think about traffic jams in rush hour....

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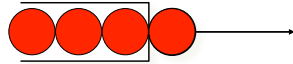
Jitter

- Difference between minimum and maximal delay
- **Latency plays no role in jitter**
 - Nor does transmission delay for **same sized packets**
- Jitter typically just differences in queuing delay
- Why might an application care about jitter?

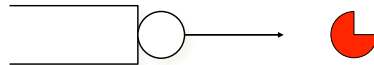
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Packet Loss

Packet Loss due to a full queue
Statistical Multiplexing at High Load *may* lead to packet loss



Packet Loss due to corruption

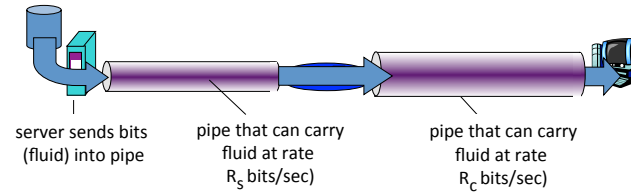


Recall the delay due to per-packet processing;
This processing detect/discards corruption

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Throughput

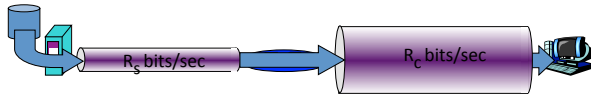
- **throughput**: rate (bits/time unit) at which bits transferred between sender/receiver
 - *instantaneous*: rate at given point in time
 - *average*: rate over longer period of time



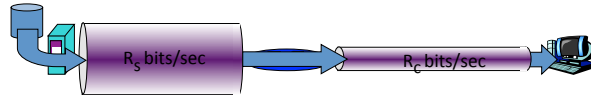
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Throughput (more)

- $R_s < R_c$ What is average end-end throughput?



- $R_s > R_c$ What is average end-end throughput?



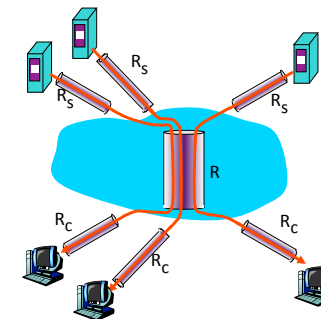
bottleneck link

link on end-end path that constrains end-end throughput

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Throughput: Internet scenario

- per-connection end-end throughput: $\min(R_c, R_s, R/10)$
- in practice: R_c or R_s is often bottleneck

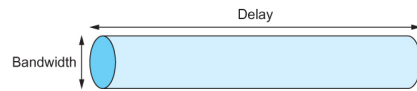


10 connections (fairly) share backbone
bottleneck link R bits/sec

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(Propagation) Delay × Bandwidth also called Bandwidth Delay Product

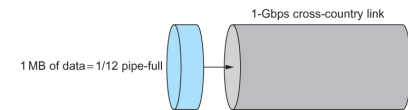
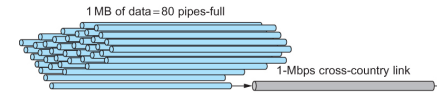
- Consider the channel between entities as a pipe
- Properties:
 - Propagation delay due to length of the pipe, and
 - Bandwidth aka the width of the pipe



- Delay of 50 ms and bandwidth of 45 Mbps
 $\Rightarrow 50 \times 10^{-3} \text{ seconds} \times 45 \times 10^6 \text{ bits/second}$
 $\Rightarrow 2.25 \times 10^6 \text{ bits} = 280 \text{ KB data}$

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Relationship between bandwidth and link-latency



A MB file would fill the Mbps link 80 times,
but only fill the Gbps link 1/12 of one time





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Performance

Second order effects

- Image/Audio quality

Other metrics...

- Network efficiency (good-put *versus* throughput)
- User Experience? (World Wide Wait)   
- Network connectivity expectation 
- Others?



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Lessons to take away

- Multiplexing is the key
- Lots of 'definitions'
- Consider the Task not the Technology
- Internet is an example of a packet network
- Why are we waiting? – Delay
- Where did my data go? – Loss
- Bandwidth vs Throughput
- Bandwidth delay product

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