Chapter 1: Introduction

Our goal:

- get "feel" and terminology
- more depth, detail *later* in course
- approach:
  - use Internet as example

Overview:

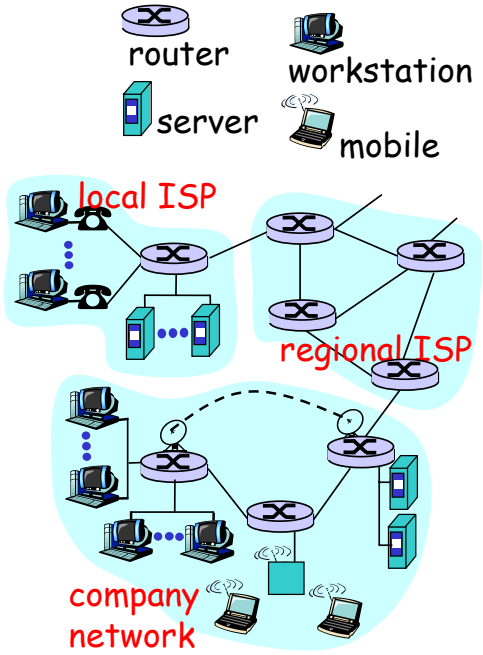
- what's the Internet
- what's a protocol?
- network edge
- network core
- access net, physical media
- Internet/ISP structure
- performance: loss, delay
- protocol layers, service models
- network modeling

Chapter 1: roadmap

1.1 What *is* the Internet?
1.2 Network edge
1.3 Network core
1.4 Network access and physical media
1.5 Internet structure and ISPs
1.6 Delay & loss in packet-switched networks
1.7 Protocol layers, service models
1.8 History

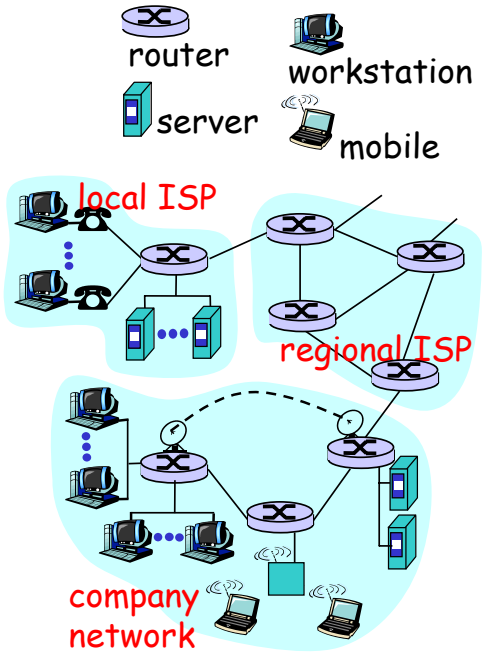
What's the Internet: "nuts and bolts" view

- millions of connected computing devices: *hosts = end systems*
- running *network apps*
- *communication links*
  - fiber, copper, radio, satellite
  - transmission rate = ***bandwidth***
- *routers:* forward packets (chunks of data)



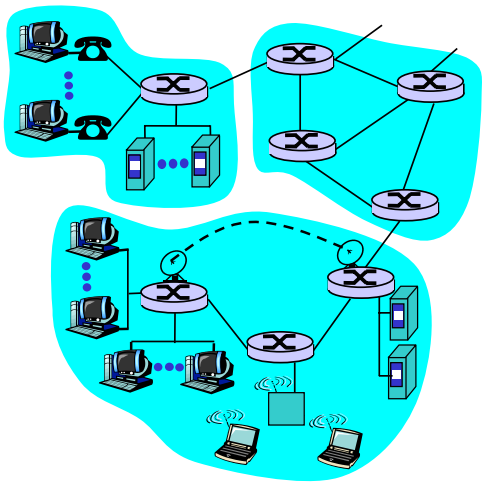
What's the Internet: "nuts and bolts" view

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



What's the Internet: a service view

- communication *infrastructure* enables distributed applications:
  - Web, email, games, e-commerce, file sharing
- communication services provided to apps:
  - Connectionless unreliable
  - connection-oriented reliable



What's 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

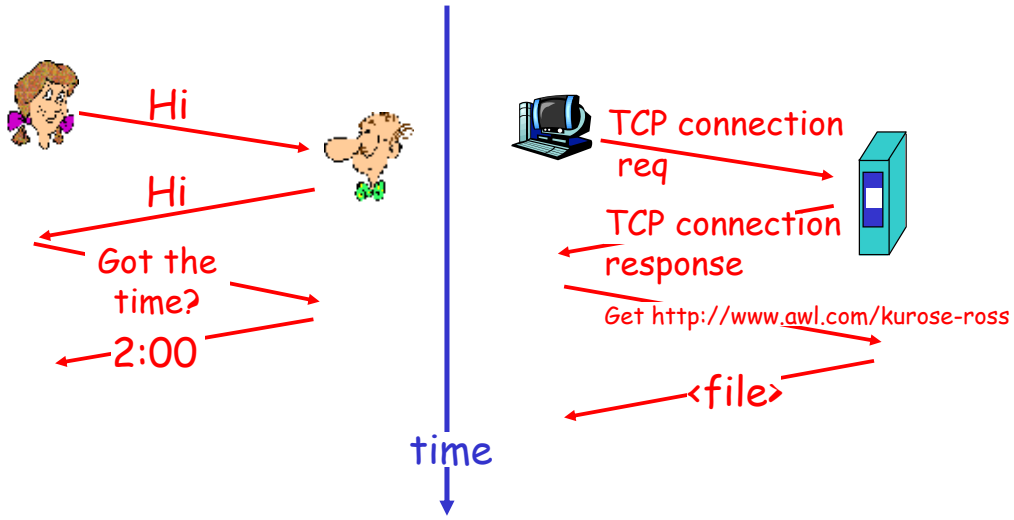
network protocols:

- 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

What's a protocol?

a human protocol and a computer network protocol:



Q: Other human protocols?

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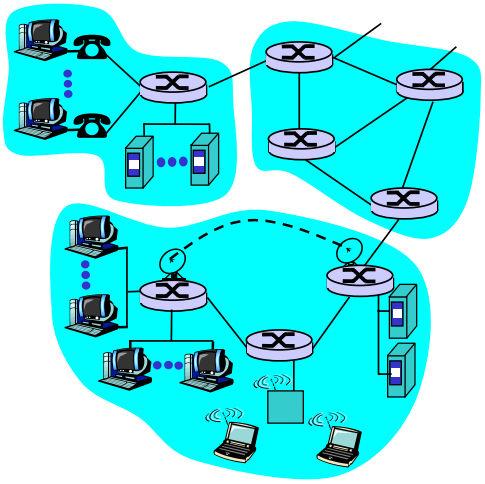
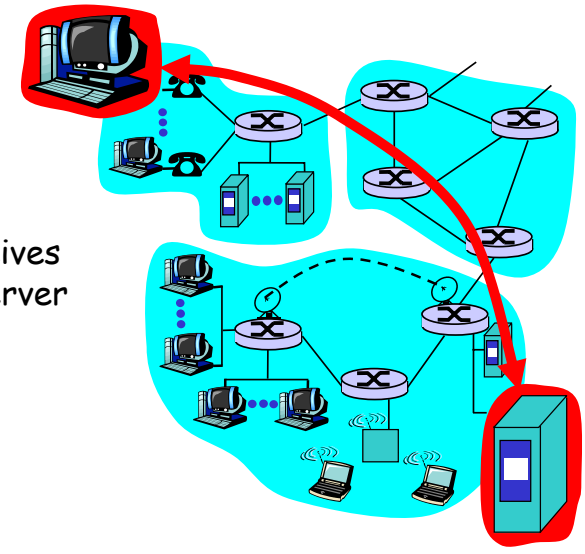
A closer look at network structure:

- network edge: applications and hosts
- network core:
  - routers
  - network of networks
- access networks, physical media: communication links



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. Gnutella, KaZaA



Network edge: connection-oriented service

Goal: data transfer between end systems

- *handshaking:* setup (prepare for) data transfer ahead of time
  - Hello, hello back human protocol
  - *set up "state"* in two communicating hosts
- TCP - Transmission Control Protocol
  - Internet's connection-oriented service

TCP service [RFC 793]

- *reliable, in-order* byte-stream data transfer
  - loss: acknowledgements and retransmissions
- *flow control:*
  - sender won't overwhelm receiver
- *congestion control:*
  - senders "slow down sending rate" when network congested

Network edge: connectionless service

Goal: data transfer between end systems

- same as before!
- UDP - User Datagram Protocol [RFC 768]:
  - connectionless
  - unreliable data transfer
  - no flow control
  - no congestion control

App's using TCP:

- HTTP (Web), FTP (file transfer), Telnet (remote login), SMTP (email)

App's using UDP:

- streaming media, teleconferencing, DNS, Internet telephony

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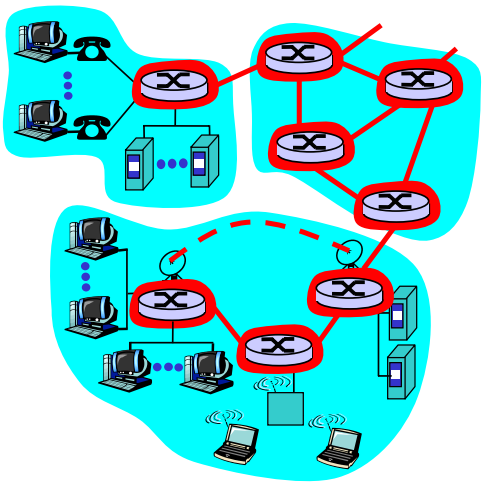
The Network Core

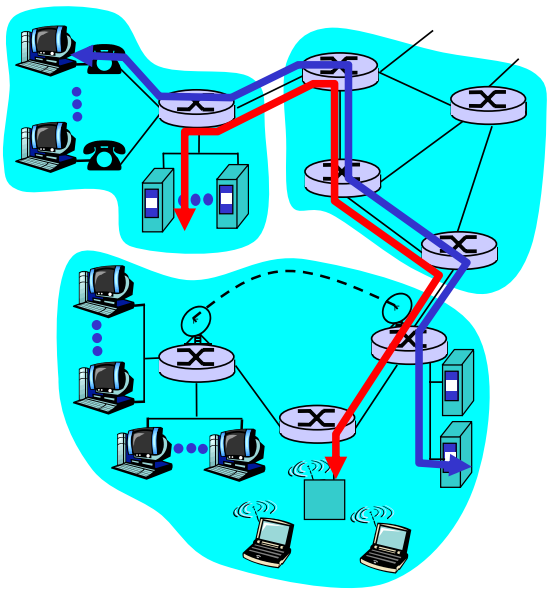
- mesh of interconnected routers
- *the* fundamental question: how is data transferred through net?
  - circuit switching: dedicated circuit per call: telephone net
  - packet-switching: data sent thru net in discrete "chunks"



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



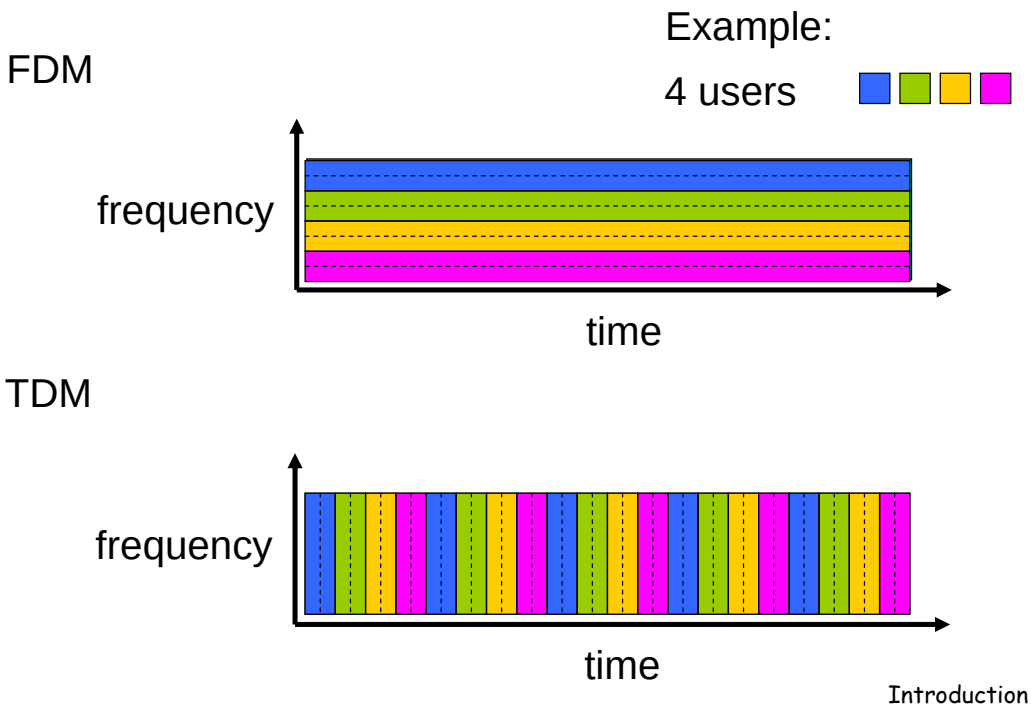
Network Core: Circuit Switching

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

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

- dividing link bandwidth into "pieces"
  - frequency division
  - time division

Circuit Switching: FDM and TDM



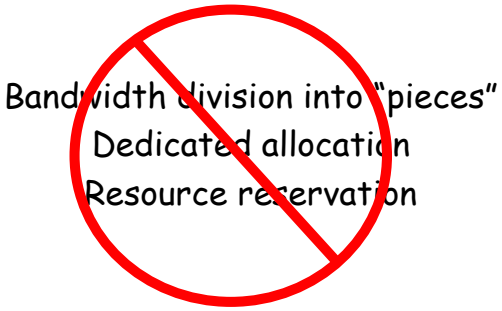
Numerical example

- 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
  - 500 msec to establish end-to-end circuit

Network Core: Packet Switching

each end-end data stream divided into *packets*

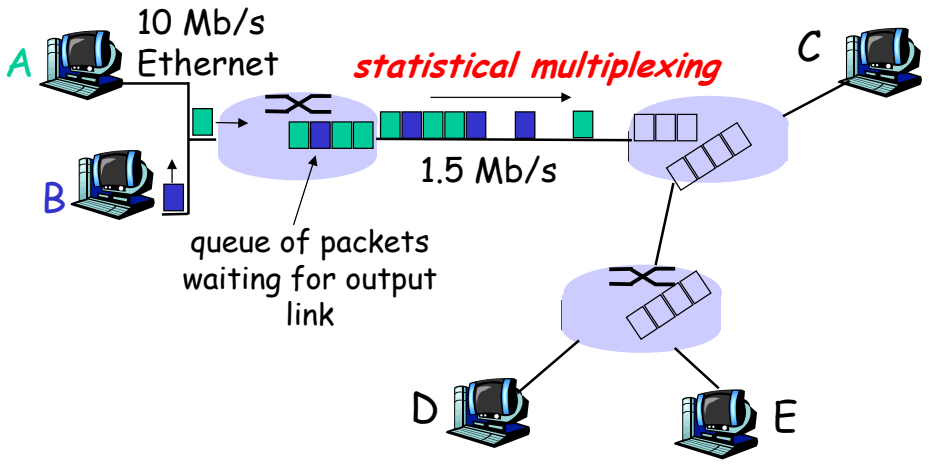
- user A, B packets *share* network resources
- each packet uses full link bandwidth
- resources used *as needed*



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

Packet Switching: Statistical Multiplexing



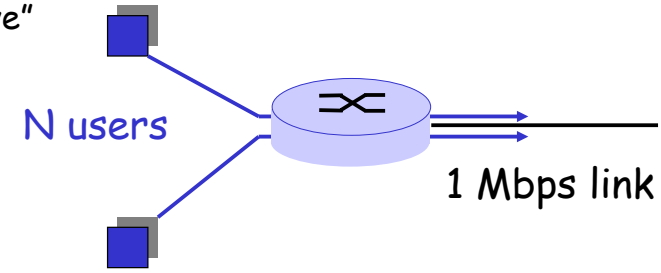
Sequence of A & B packets does not have fixed pattern ➔ ***statistical multiplexing***.

In TDM each host gets same slot in revolving TDM frame.

Packet switching versus circuit switching

Packet switching allows 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 less than .0004

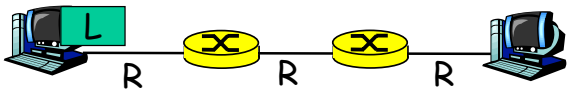


Packet switching versus circuit switching

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 an unsolved problem (chapter 6)

Packet-switching: store-and-forward



- Takes L/R seconds to transmit (push out) packet of L bits on to link with capacity of R bps
- Entire packet must arrive at router before it can be transmitted on next link: *store and forward*
- delay = 3L/R

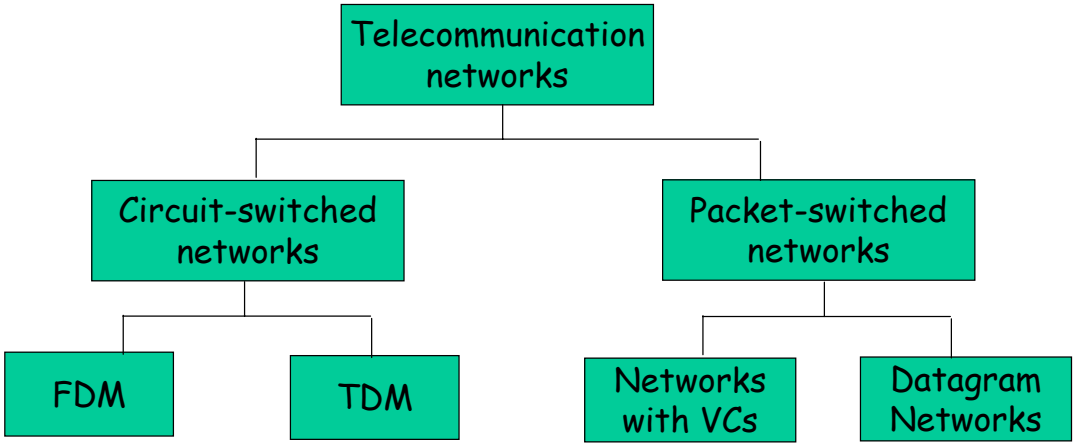
Example:

- L = 7.5 Mbits
- R = 1.5 Mbps
- delay = 15 sec

Packet-switched networks: forwarding

- *Goal:* move packets through routers from source to destination
  - we'll study several path selection (i.e. routing) algorithms (chapter 4)
- datagram network:
  - *destination address* in packet determines next hop
  - routes may change during session
  - analogy: driving, asking directions
- virtual circuit network:
  - each packet carries tag (virtual circuit ID), tag determines next hop
  - fixed path determined at *call setup time*, remains fixed thru call
  - *routers maintain per-call state*

Network Taxonomy



- Datagram network is *not* either connection-oriented or connectionless.
- Internet provides both connection-oriented (TCP) and connectionless services (UDP) to apps.