

# Question 4

In the 1980s and 90s, the telecommunication companies proposed an alternative to TCP/IP called “ATM” or “B-ISDN”. It had the following characteristics:

1. Virtual circuits were established end-to-end.
2. A separate control plane for establishing circuits
3. Virtual circuits carried small, fixed length packets (called “cells”)
4. Virtual circuits could have different qualities of service.

What are the pros and cons of such a design?

Why do you think it didn't succeed?