

# Computer Networks

## CS3001

### (Section BDS-7A)

## Lecture 02

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24 August, 2023

# Administrative Information

- Course Website (Google Classroom):
  - BDS-7A → <https://classroom.google.com/u/1/c/NjE4OTM2ODgzMDk1>
  - Invite Link: <https://classroom.google.com/c/NjE4OTM2ODgzMDk1?cjc=6mep63p>
  - Code: 6mep63p
- Class Schedule:
  - BDS-7A -- Tuesdays & Thursdays 08:30 – 10:00 (Venue: CS-2)

# What's a protocol?

## *Human protocols:*

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

Rules for:

- ... specific messages sent
- ... specific actions taken  
when message received,  
or other events

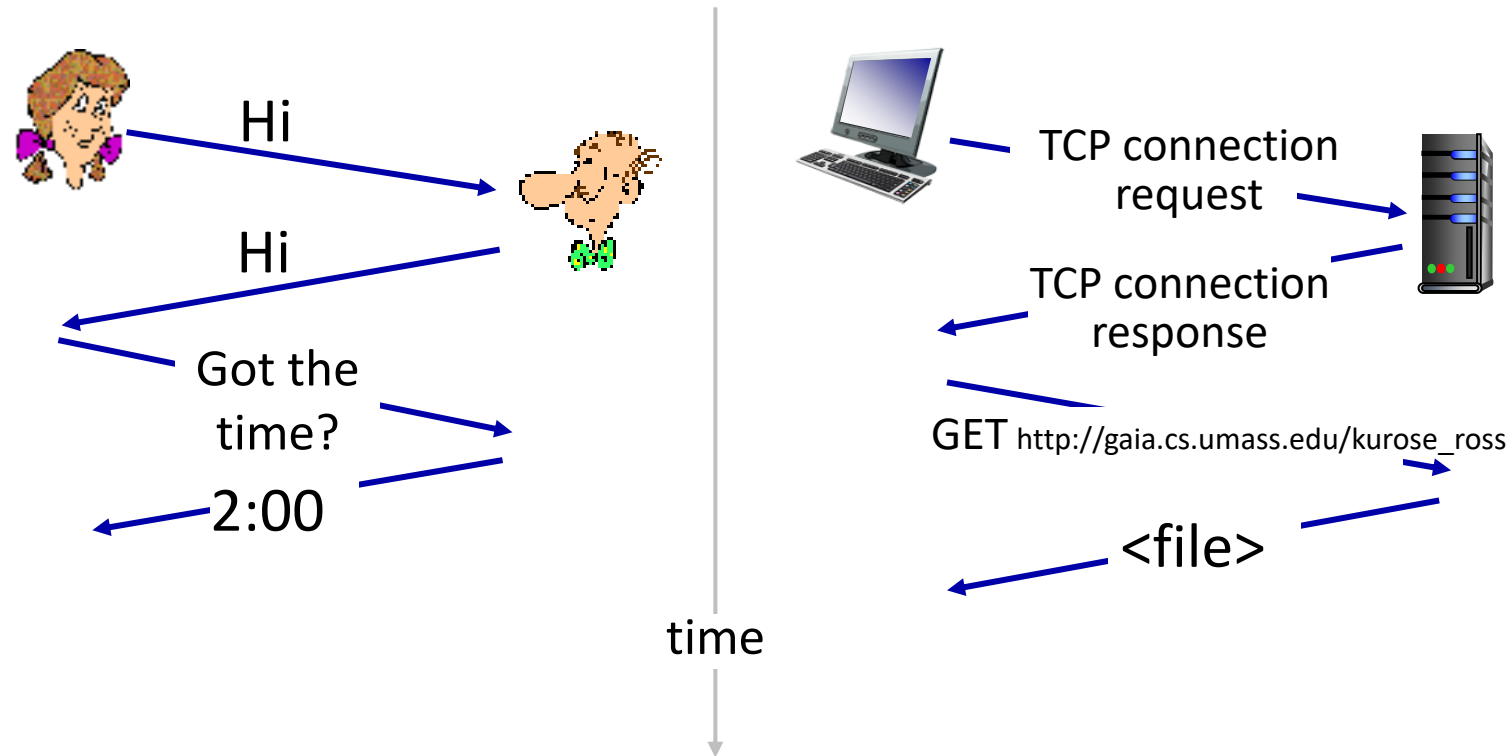
## *Network protocols:*

- computers (devices) rather than humans
- all communication activity in Internet  
governed by protocols

*Protocols define the **format, order** of  
**messages sent and received** among  
network entities, and **actions taken**  
on message transmission, receipt*

# What's a protocol?

A human protocol and a computer network protocol:



**Q:** other human protocols?

# Chapter 1: roadmap

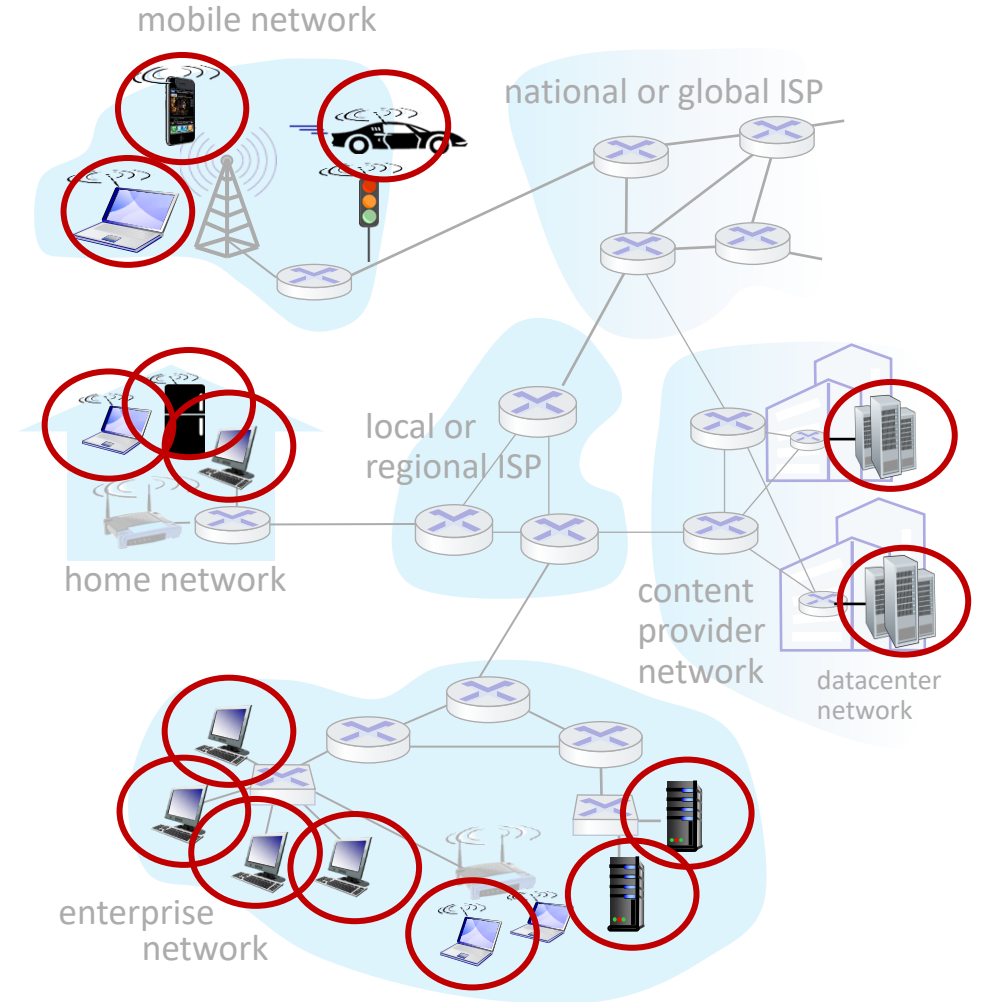
- What *is* the Internet?
- What *is* a protocol?
- **Network edge:** hosts, access network, physical media
- Network core: packet/circuit switching, internet structure
- Performance: loss, delay, throughput
- Security (*might be excluded*)
- Protocol layers, service models
- History (*might be excluded*)



# A closer look at Internet structure

## Network edge:

- hosts: clients and servers
- servers often in data centers



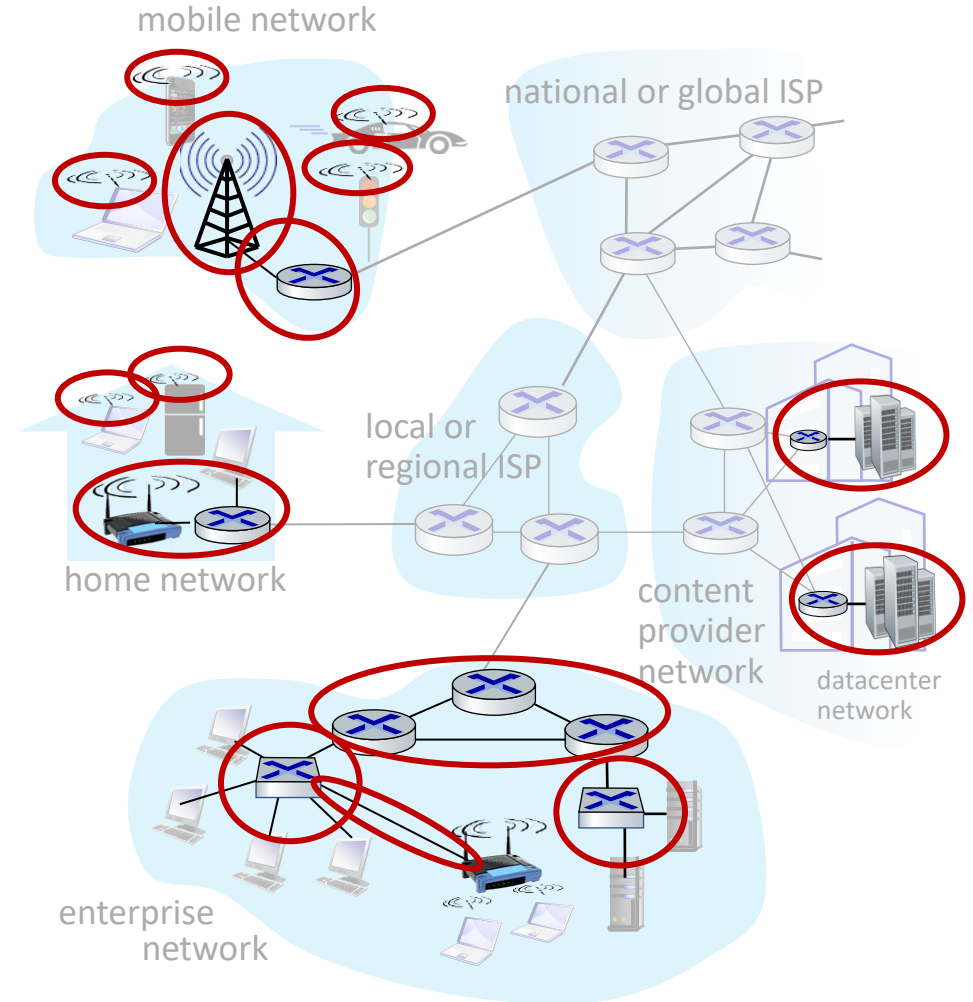
# A closer look at Internet structure

## Network edge:

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## Access networks, physical media:

- wired, wireless communication links



# A closer look at Internet structure

## Network edge:

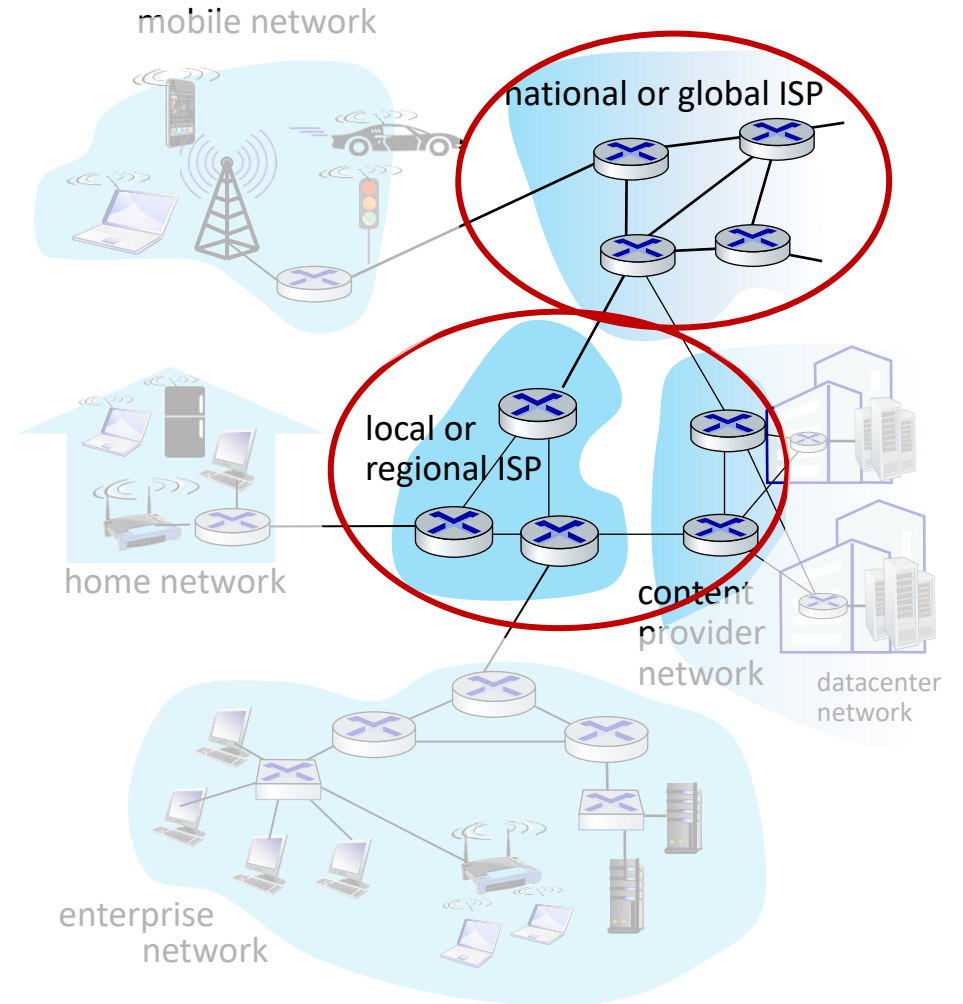
- hosts: clients and servers
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## Access networks, physical media:

- wired, wireless communication links

## Network core:

- interconnected routers
- network of networks

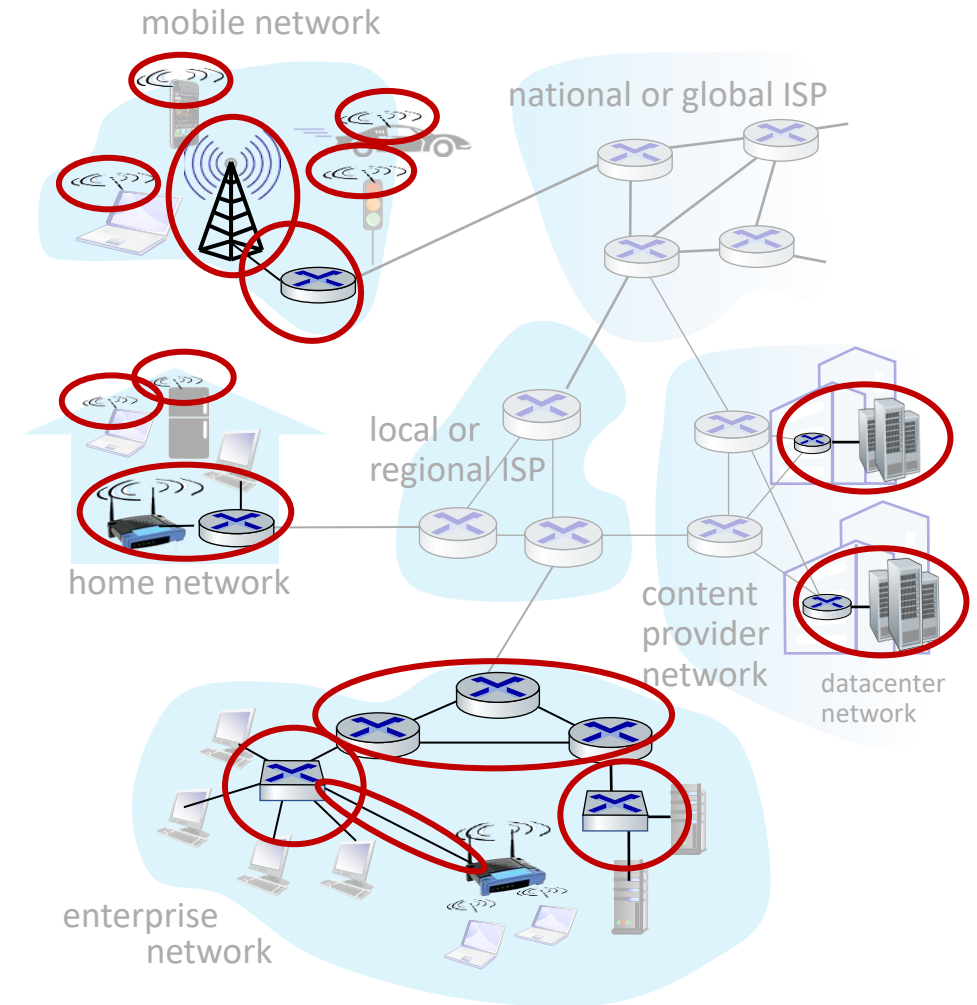




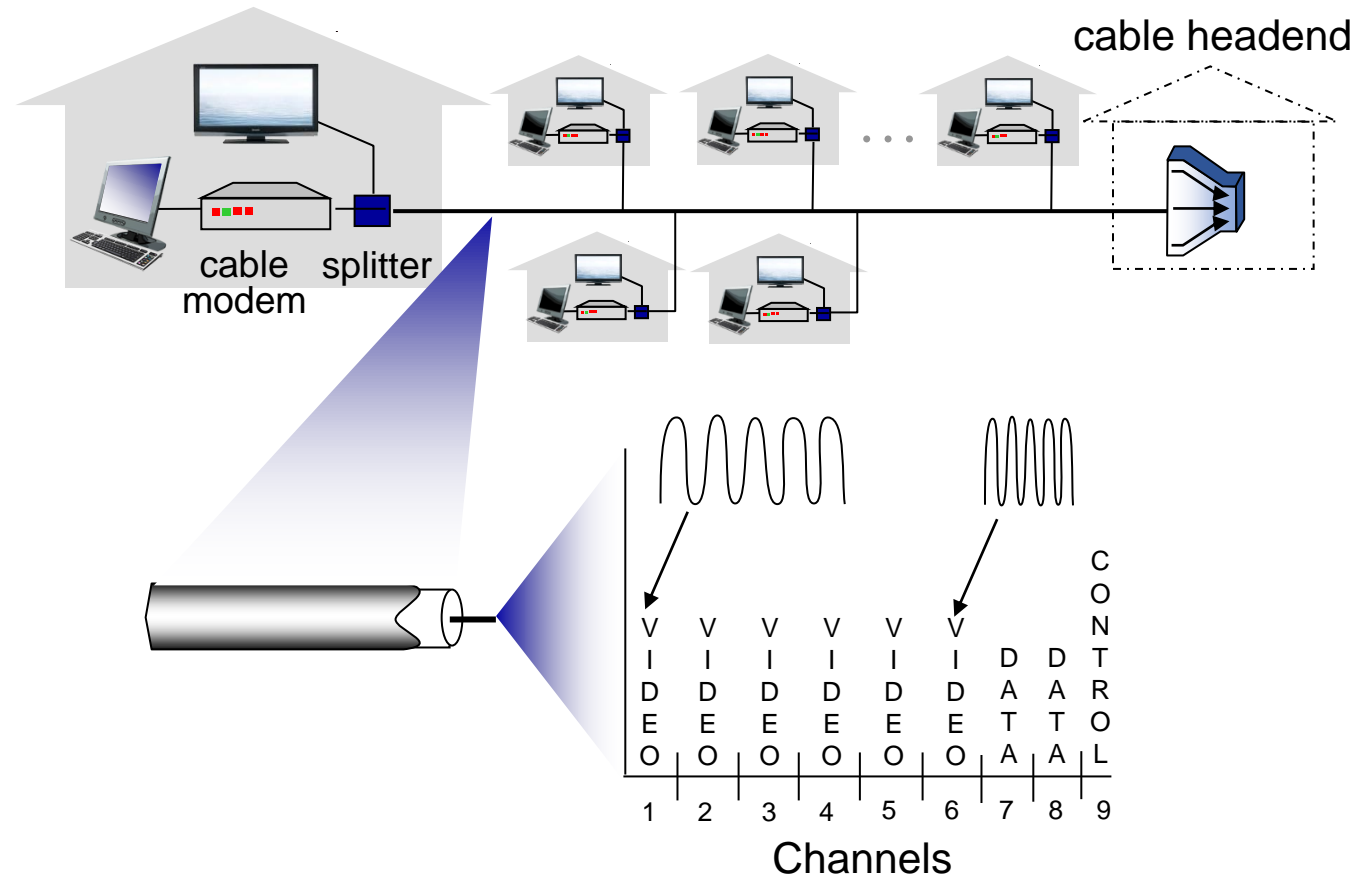
# Access networks and physical media

*Q: How to connect end systems to edge router?*

- residential access nets
- institutional access networks (school, company)
- mobile access networks (WiFi, 4G/5G)

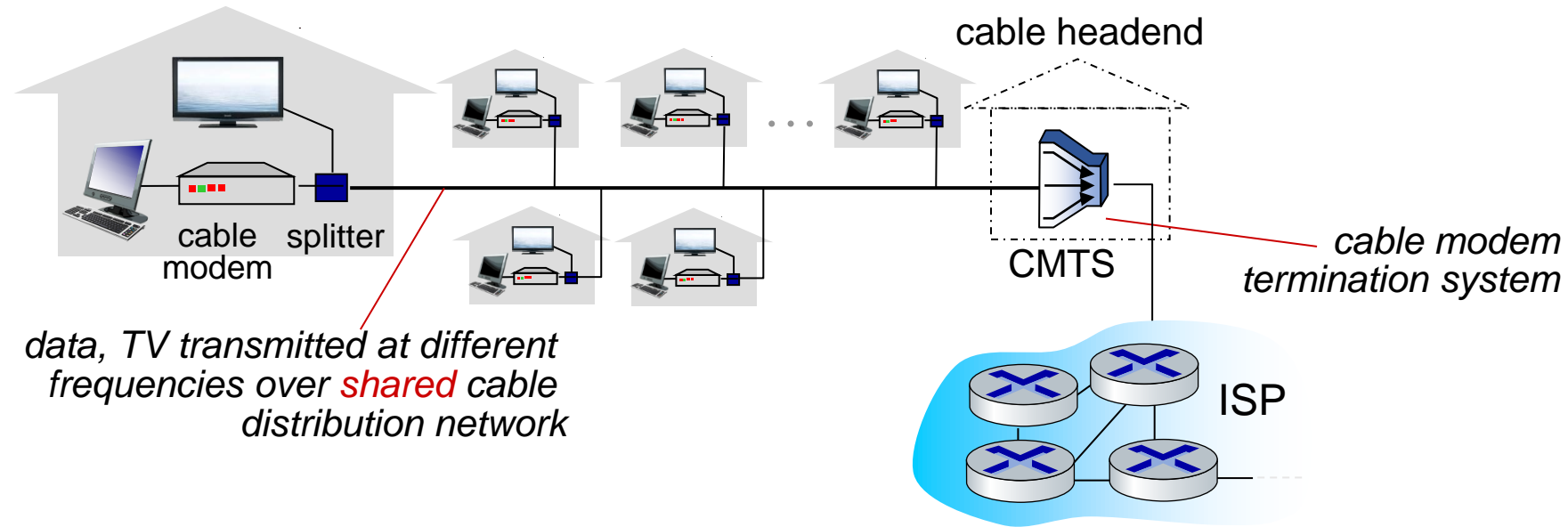


# Access networks: cable-based access



*frequency division multiplexing (FDM):* different channels transmitted in different frequency bands

# Access networks: cable-based access



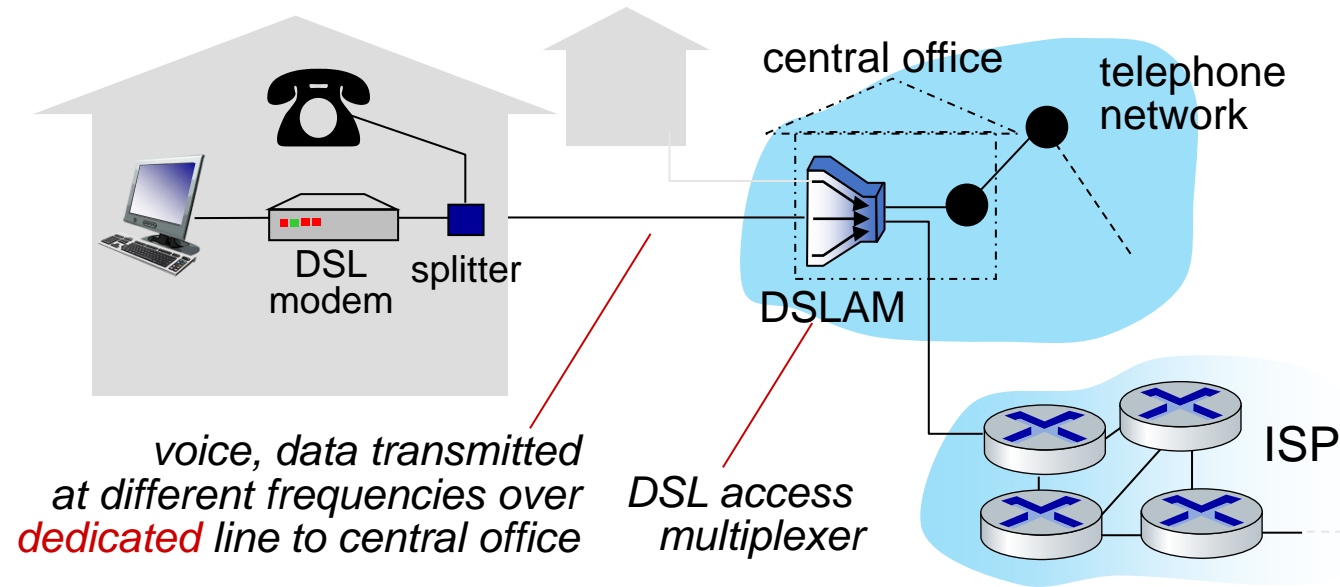
## ■ HFC: hybrid fiber coax

- asymmetric: up to 40 Mbps – 1.2 Gbps downstream transmission rate, 30-100 Mbps upstream transmission rate

## ■ network of cable, fiber attaches homes to ISP router

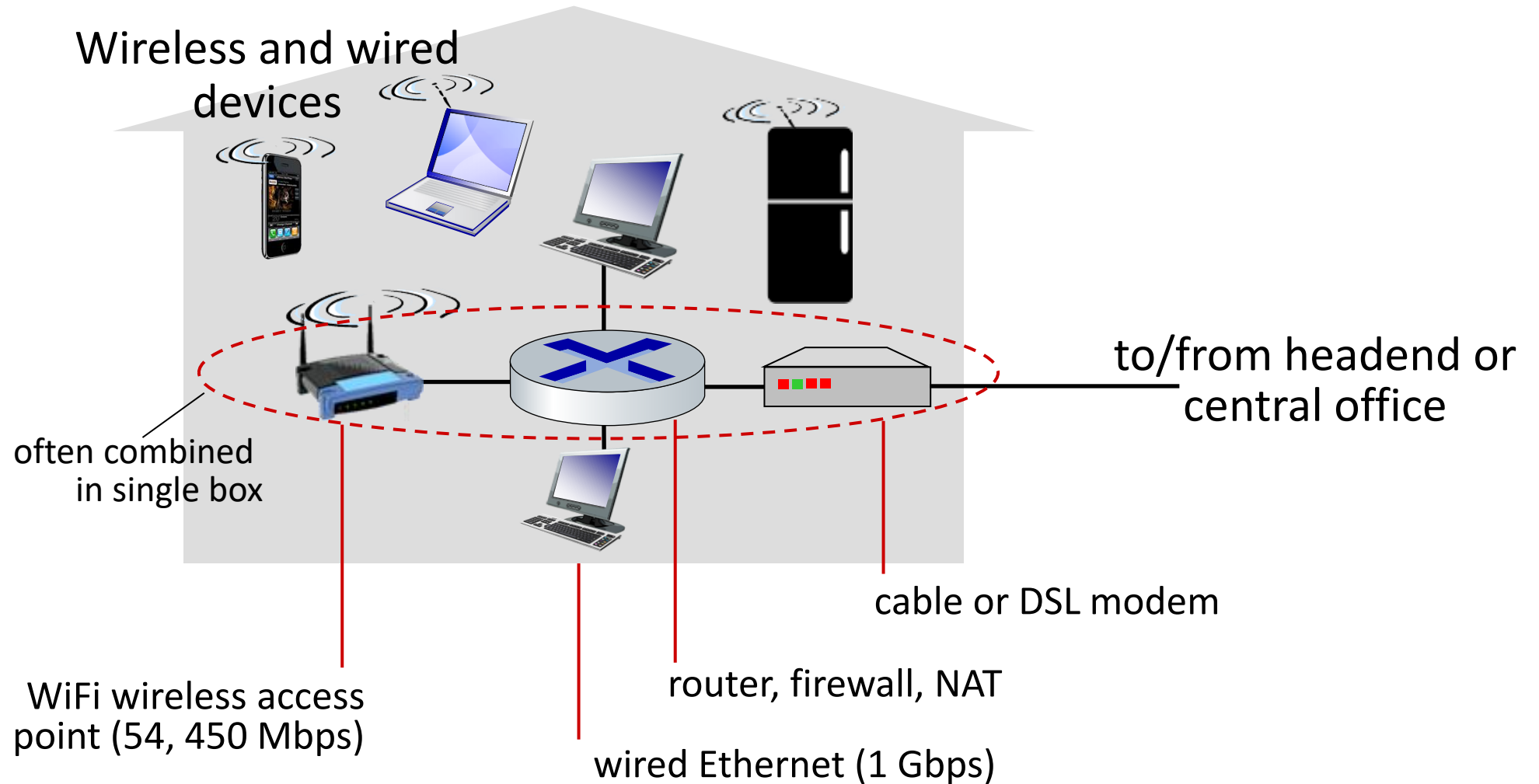
- homes *share access network* to cable headend

# Access networks: digital subscriber line (DSL)



- use *existing* telephone line to central office DSLAM
  - data over DSL phone line goes to Internet
  - voice over DSL phone line goes to telephone net
- 24-52 Mbps dedicated downstream transmission rate
- 3.5-16 Mbps dedicated upstream transmission rate

# Access networks: home networks



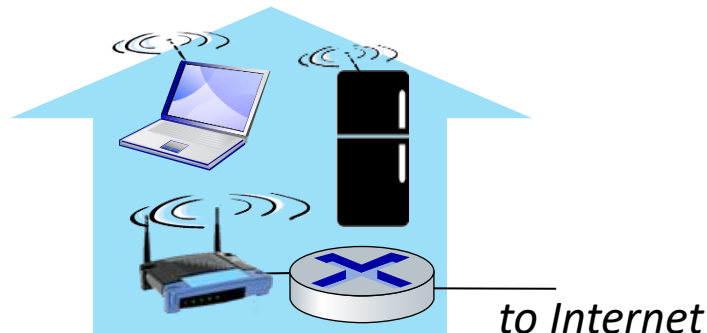
# Wireless access networks

Shared *wireless* access network connects end system to router

- via base station aka “access point”

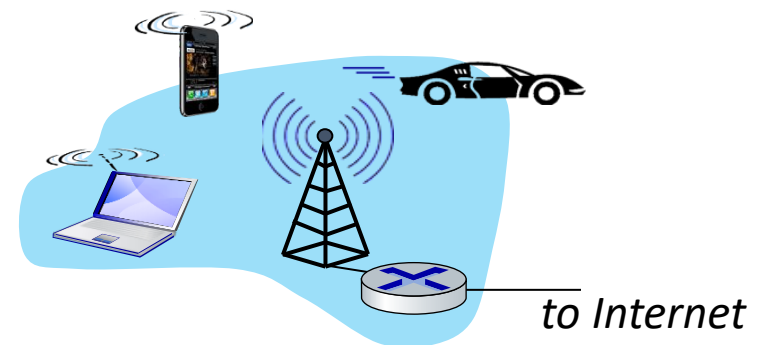
## Wireless local area networks (WLANs)

- typically within or around building (~100 ft)
- 802.11b/g/n (WiFi): 11, 54, 450 Mbps transmission rate

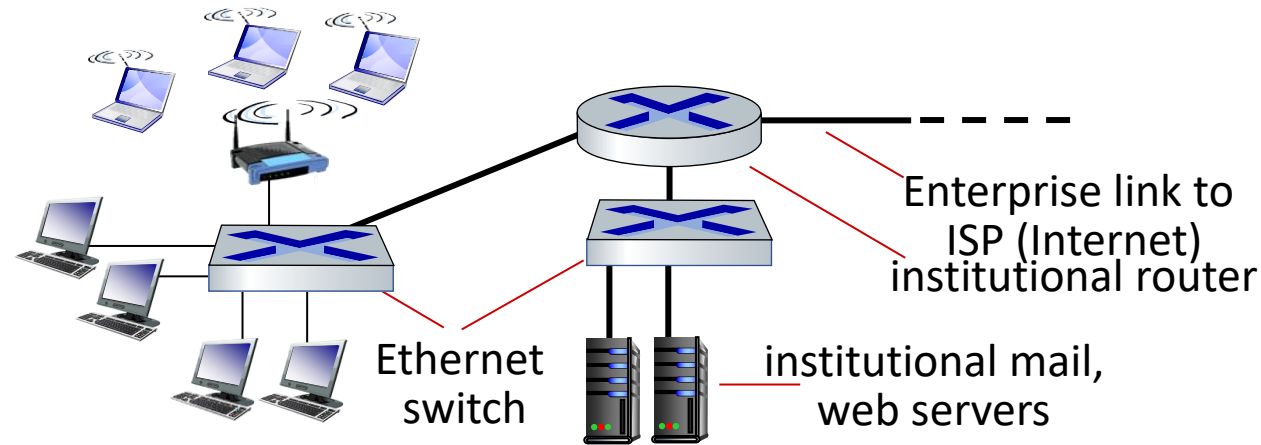


## Wide-area cellular access networks

- provided by mobile, cellular network operator (10's km)
- 10's Mbps
- 4G/5G cellular networks



# Access networks: enterprise networks



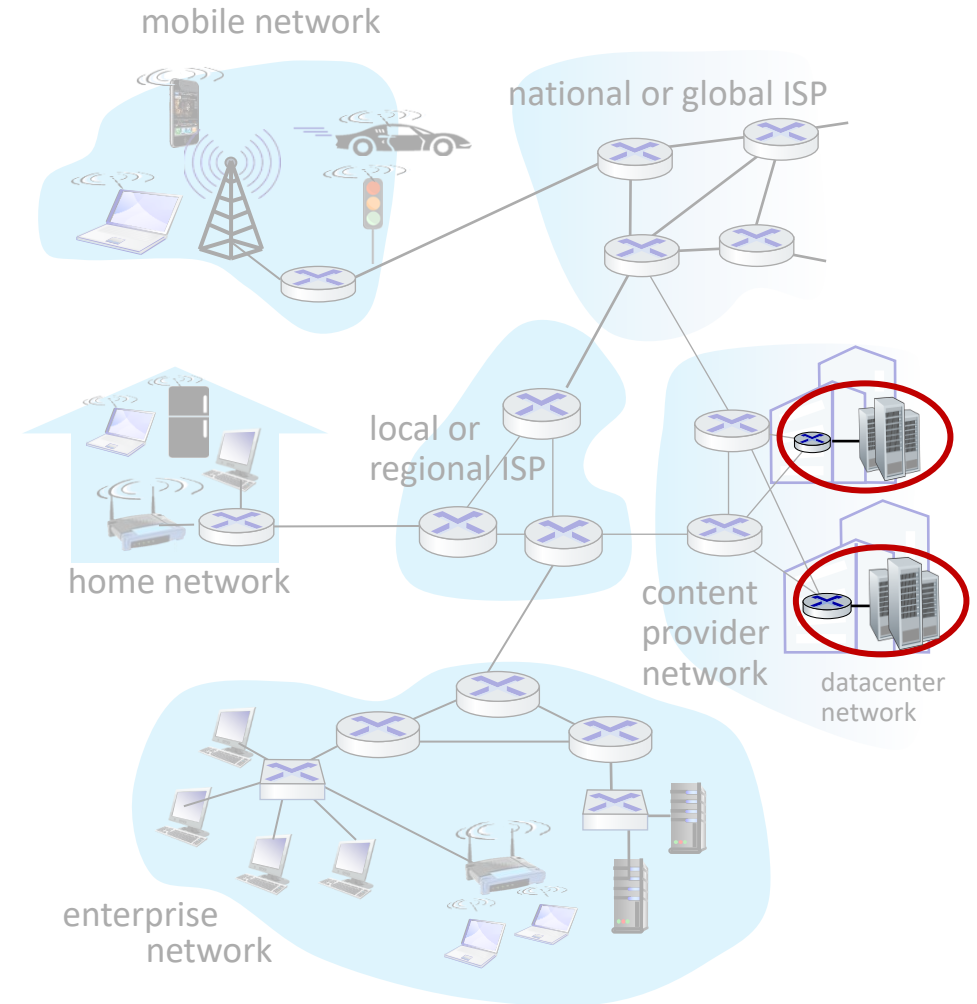
- companies, universities, etc.
- mix of wired, wireless link technologies, connecting a mix of switches and routers (we'll cover differences shortly)
  - Ethernet: wired access at 100Mbps, 1Gbps, 10Gbps
  - WiFi: wireless access points at 11, 54, 450 Mbps

# Access networks: data center networks

- high-bandwidth links (10s to 100s Gbps) connect hundreds to thousands of servers together, and to Internet



Courtesy: Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center ([mghpcc.org](http://mghpcc.org))

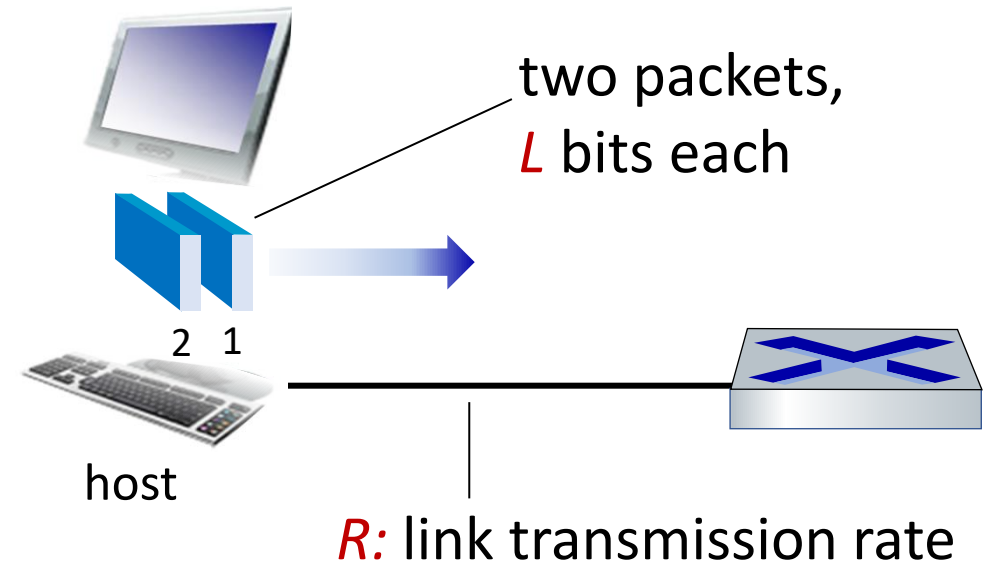




# Host: sends *packets* of data

host sending function:

- takes application message
- breaks into smaller chunks, known as *packets*, of length  $L$  bits
- transmits packet into access network at *transmission rate*  $R$ 
  - link transmission rate, aka link *capacity, aka link bandwidth*



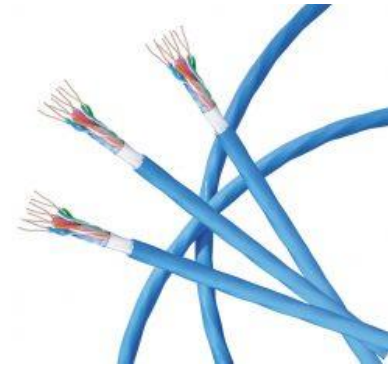
$$\begin{array}{l} \text{packet} \\ \text{transmission} \\ \text{delay} \end{array} = \begin{array}{l} \text{time needed to} \\ \text{transmit } L\text{-bit} \\ \text{packet into link} \end{array} = \frac{L \text{ (bits)}}{R \text{ (bits/sec)}}$$

# Links: physical media

- **bit**: propagates between transmitter/receiver pairs
- **physical link**: what lies between transmitter & receiver
- **guided media**:
  - signals propagate in solid media: copper, fiber, coax
- **unguided media**:
  - signals propagate freely, e.g., radio

## Twisted pair (TP)

- two insulated copper wires
  - Category 5: 100 Mbps, 1 Gbps Ethernet
  - Category 6: 10Gbps Ethernet



# Links: physical media

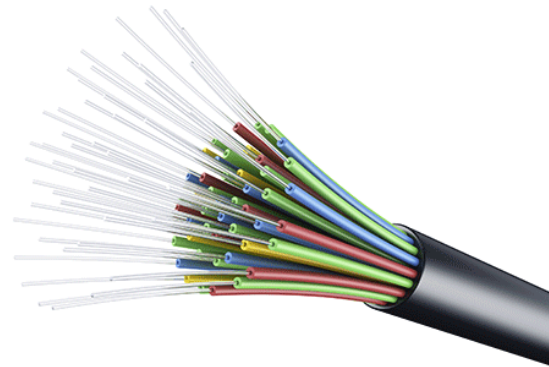
## Coaxial cable:

- two concentric copper conductors
- bidirectional
- broadband:
  - multiple frequency channels on cable
  - 100's Mbps per channel



## Fiber optic cable:

- glass fiber carrying light pulses, each pulse a bit
- high-speed operation:
  - high-speed point-to-point transmission (10's-100's Gbps)
- low error rate:
  - repeaters spaced far apart
  - immune to electromagnetic noise



# Links: physical media

## Wireless radio

- signal carried in various “bands” in electromagnetic spectrum
- no physical “wire”
- broadcast, “half-duplex” (sender to receiver)
- propagation environment effects:
  - reflection
  - obstruction by objects
  - Interference/noise

## Radio link types:

- **Wireless LAN (WiFi)**
  - 10-100’s Mbps; 10’s of meters
- **wide-area** (e.g., 4G/5G cellular)
  - 10’s Mbps (4G) over ~10 Km
- **Bluetooth**: cable replacement
  - short distances, limited rates
- **terrestrial microwave**
  - point-to-point; 45 Mbps channels
- **satellite**
  - up to < 100 Mbps (Starlink) downlink
  - 270 msec end-end delay (geostationary)

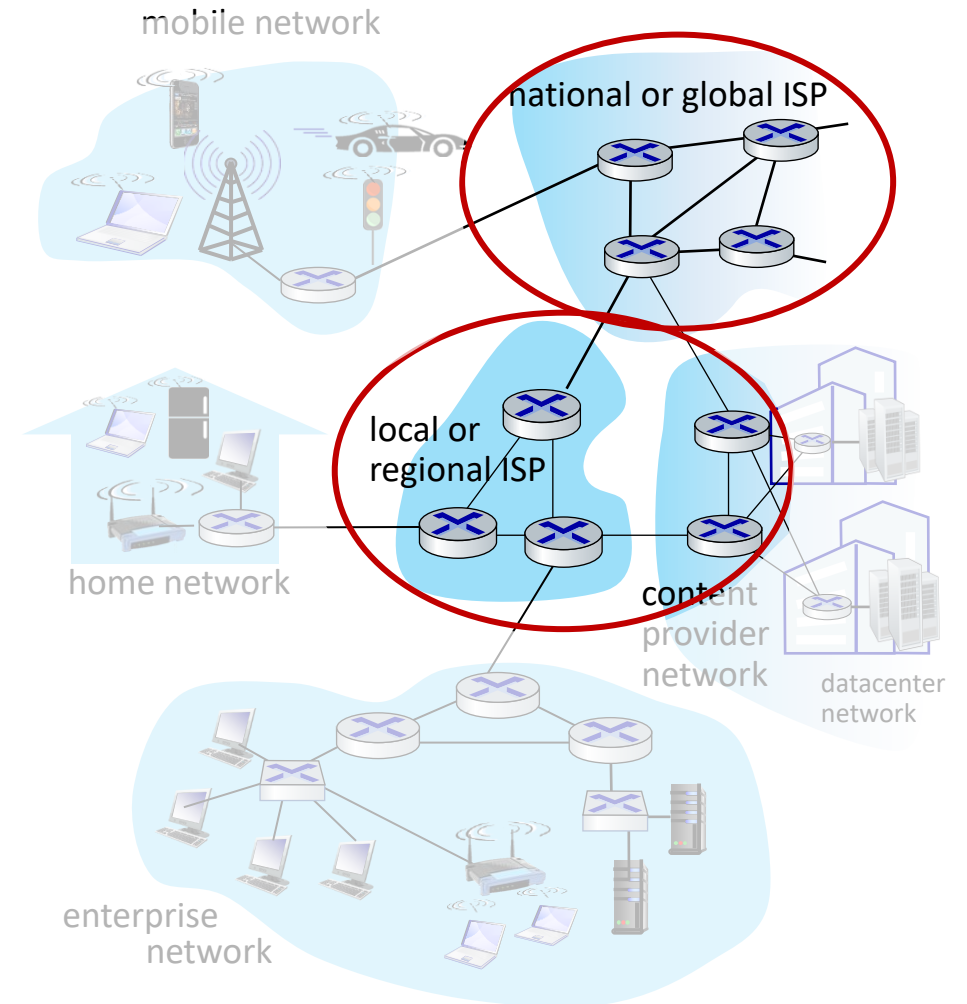
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# The network core

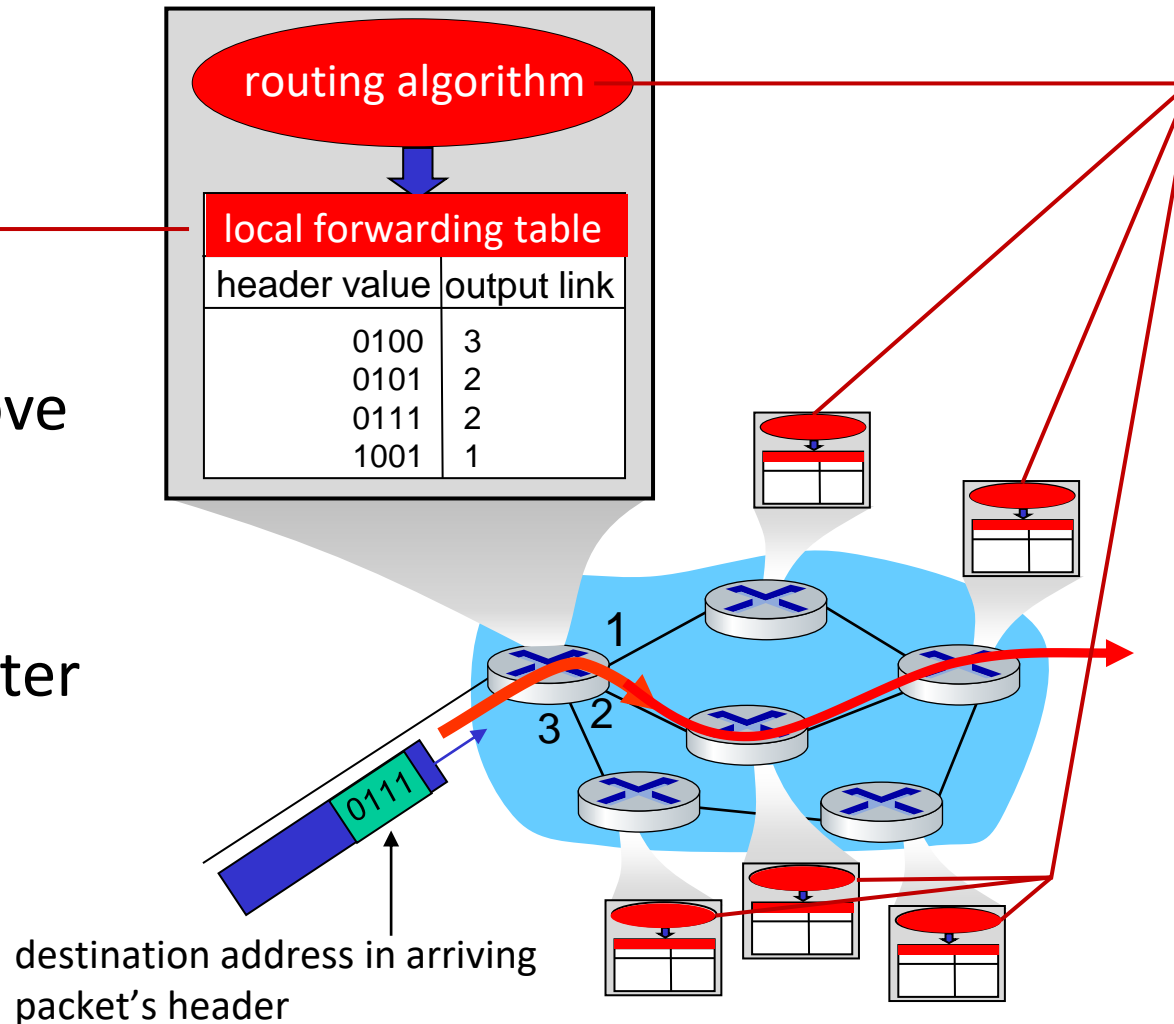
- mesh of interconnected routers
- **packet-switching**: hosts break application-layer messages into *packets*
- network **forwards** packets from one router to the next, across links on path from **source to destination**



# Two key network-core functions

## *Forwarding:*

- aka “switching”
- *local* action: move arriving packets from router’s input link to appropriate router output link



## *Routing:*

- *global* action: determine source-destination paths taken by packets
- routing algorithms







