PRACTICAL - 1

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AIM 1(a): Introduction to Computer Networking.

Computer Networking: A computer network is a system that connects many independent computers to share information (data) and resources. A computer network is a collection of two or more computer systems that are linked together. A network connection can be established using either cable or wireless media.

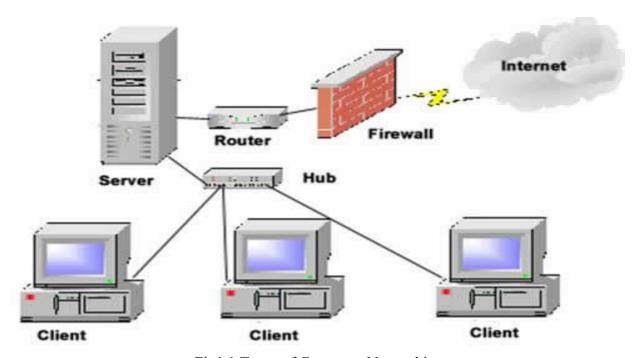


Fig1.1 Types of Computer Networking

Types of Computer Networking: There are five main types of Computer Networks.

- 1) LAN(Local Area Network) : Systems connected in a small network like in a building or a small office
- 2) PAN(Private Area Network): Devices may be connected through Bluetooth or other infra-red enables devices. It has a connectivity range of upto 10 metres.
- 3) WAN(Wide Area Network): A network which covers over a country or a larger range of people.

- 4) MAN(Metropolitan Area Network): A network that can be connected within a city, for example, cable TV Connection.
- 5) VPN(Virtual Private Network): A network which is constructed by using public wires to connect to a private network.

Data Flow: Transmission mode or Data Flow means transferring data between two devices. It is also known as a communication mode. Buses and networks are designed to allow communication to occur between individual devices that are interconnected. There are three types of transmission modes:

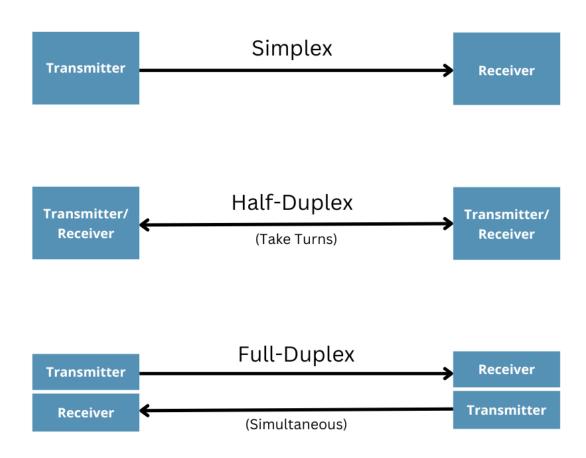


Fig1.2 Data Flow

Applications of Computer Networking:

- Business applications: Computer networks are often used by businesses to
 ensure impact communication, to share resources, and to allow their
 employees to access the whole system and applications from remote
 locations.
- Educational applications: Online networks are widely employed educational institutions allowing students to access educational possibilities, share knowledge, and collaborate with their professors.
- **Healthcare applications:** The healthcare sector has benefited a lot from the computer networks, which are used to store and share patient details thus allowing healthcare providers to provide more personalized treatment.
- Entertainment applications: Besides that with computer networks, you can entertain yourself with online games, streaming movies and music, or utilization of social media.
- **Military applications:** Military networks are often closed and not used for general communication, which ensures the safety of military information.
- **Scientific applications:** Scientific research heavily depends on computer networks because they will help establish collaboration among researchers and facilitate the sharing of data and information.
- Transportation applications: Computer networks are used to monitor a transit system in various ways, by managing the traffic, tracking vehicles as well as even improving efficiency in transportation.

Tab 2