Concepts and fundamental notions

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Content

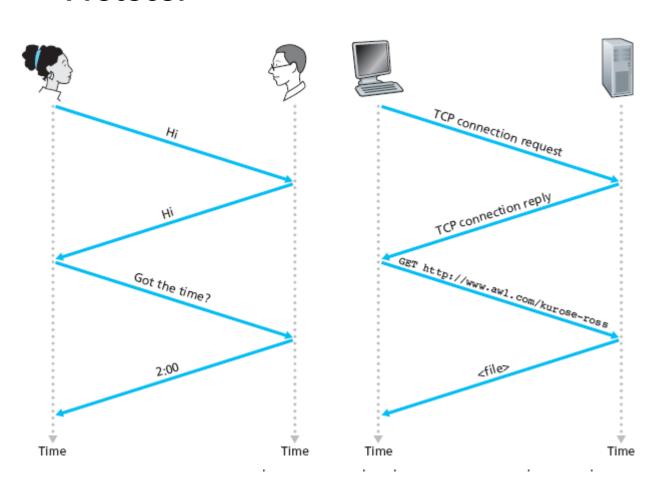
- Concepts
- Definitions
- Computer networks necessity and use
- Classification
- Topologies
- Components

Concepts

- Information: anything that can be represented using bits
- Resource: generic term that can signify data, equipment et. al.
- Package: a way of storing data
- Link: a connection among network members
- Node: a computer from the network which has an address
- Protocol: rules used to communicate
- Communication: information exchanges between network nodes

Concepts

Protocol



A protocol defines the format and the order of messages exchanged between two or more communicating entities, as well as the actions taken on the transmission and/or receipt of a message or other event.

Figure. Protocol

[Computer networking : a top-down approach James F. Kurose, Keith W. Ross]

Computer Network

Definitions:

- Interconnected collection of autonomous computers
- A network may be defined recursively as two or more nodes physically connected, as well as two or several networks connected through one or more nodes.

• Aspects:

- Hardware: connect computers from a physical point of view
- Software: Protocols specify services provided by the network

Computer Network

Necessity:

- Resource sharing (physical, data)
- Reliability
- Reduced costs
- Impact in real life:
 - Remote information access
 - Interactive entertainment
 - E-Commerce
 - - ...

- After the spatial arrangement:
 - PAN (Personal Area Network)
 - LAN (Local Area Network)
 - MAN (Metropolitan Area Network)
 - WAN (Wide Area Network)
 - Internet

After the spatial arrangement :

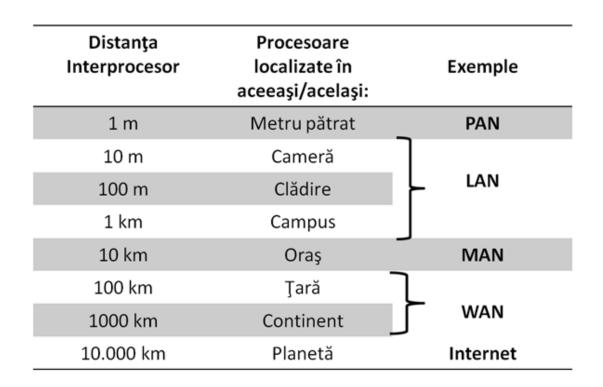


Figure. Classification after spatial arrangement

[conform Computer Networks, 2010 – Andrew S. Tanenbaum, et. al.]

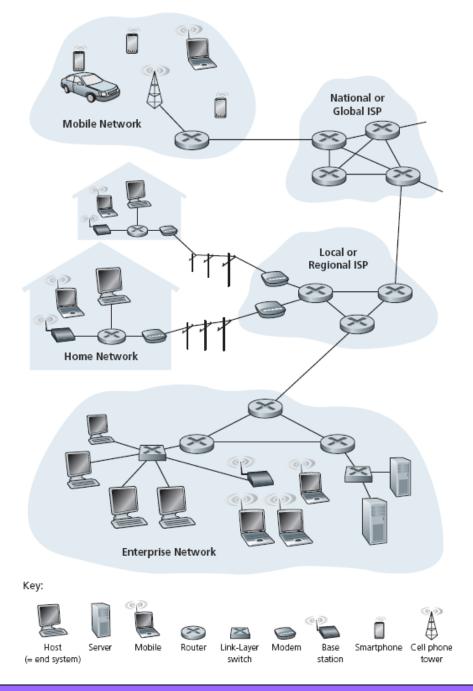


Figure. Some pieces of the Internet

[Computer networking : a top-down approach James F. Kurose, Keith W. Ross]

- Depending on transmission technology:
 - Broadcast networks (one channel to communicate)
 - broadcast, multicast
 - Point-to-point networks
 - unicast

Network topologies

Physical topology: the way computers are connected in the network

Logical topology: the way in which data are transferd from one computer to other

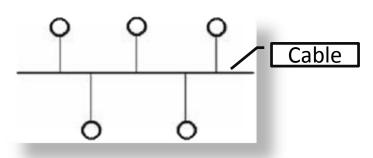
Possible physical topologies for:

- Broadcast networks LAN
 - Bus
 - Ring
- Point-to-point networks
 - Star
 - Ring
 - Tree
 - Mesh

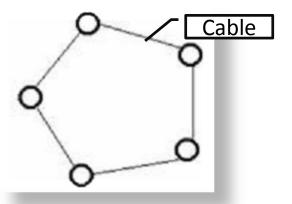
Network topologies

Broadcast networks - LAN

Magistrala (bus)



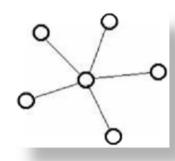
Inel (ring)



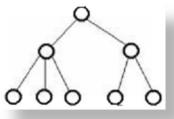
Network topologies

Point-to-point networks

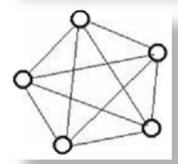
- Star



- Tree



- Mesh



- Depending on the hardware technology (and software) used for interconnection:
 - Networks using wired transmission medium
 - Networks using wireless transmission medium (future course)

- Depending on the components:
 - Homogeneous: the computer networks use similar configurations and protocols
 - Example: A network using Microsoft Windows via TCP/IP
 - Heterogeneous: the network contains different types of computers, operating systems and/or different protocols
 - Example: a LAN that connects a smart phone with an Android and an Apple Machintosh computer

Components

Host – it's a computational system connected to the Internet

Hub Network – a device (often a signal booster) used to connect multiple devices => network segment



Switch - a device which filters network packets and resends them

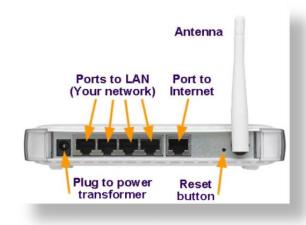




Leonard-Kleinrock -> IMP (Interface Message Processor) 1969

Components

 Router – device providing connectivity between networks, perform routing packets between these networks



- Bridge device that connects two LANs or two segments of the same LAN
- Gateway is a connection point of two networks that that use different base protocols
- Repeater device that receives signals that it rebroadcast at a higher level or higher power, so that the signal can cover large areas without degrading its quality

Summary

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Questions?