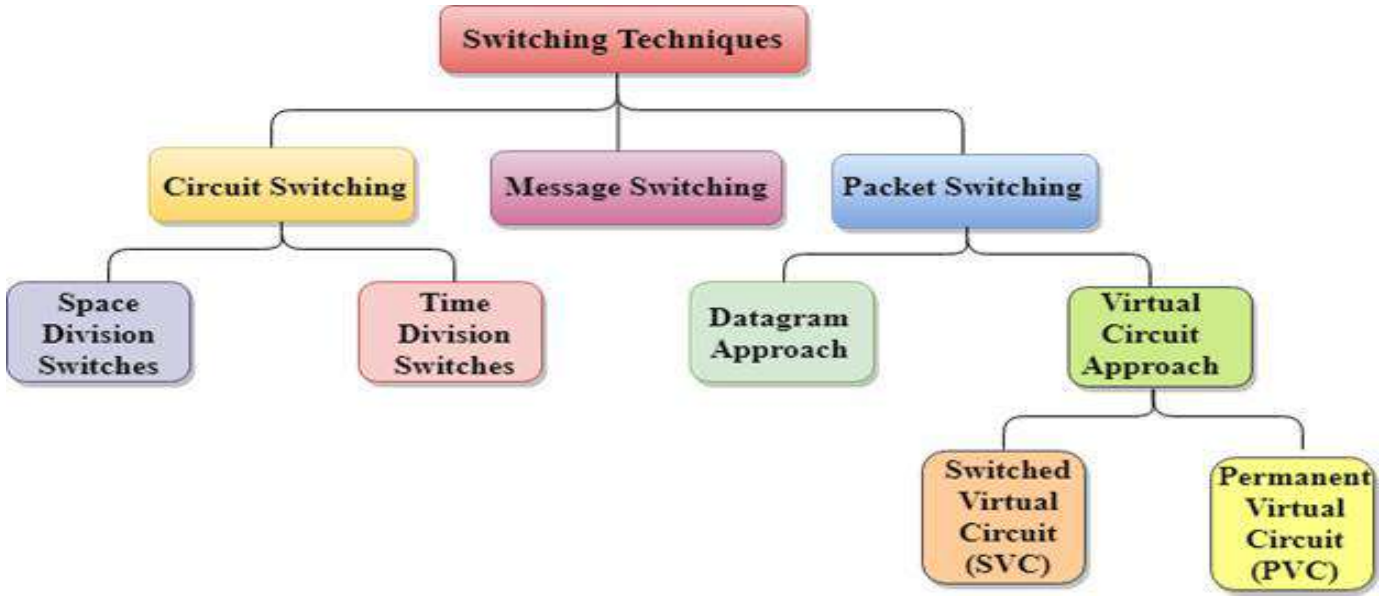
Switching techniques

- In large networks, there can be multiple paths from sender to receiver. The switching technique will decide the best route for data transmission.
- Switching technique is used to connect the systems for making one-to-one communication.

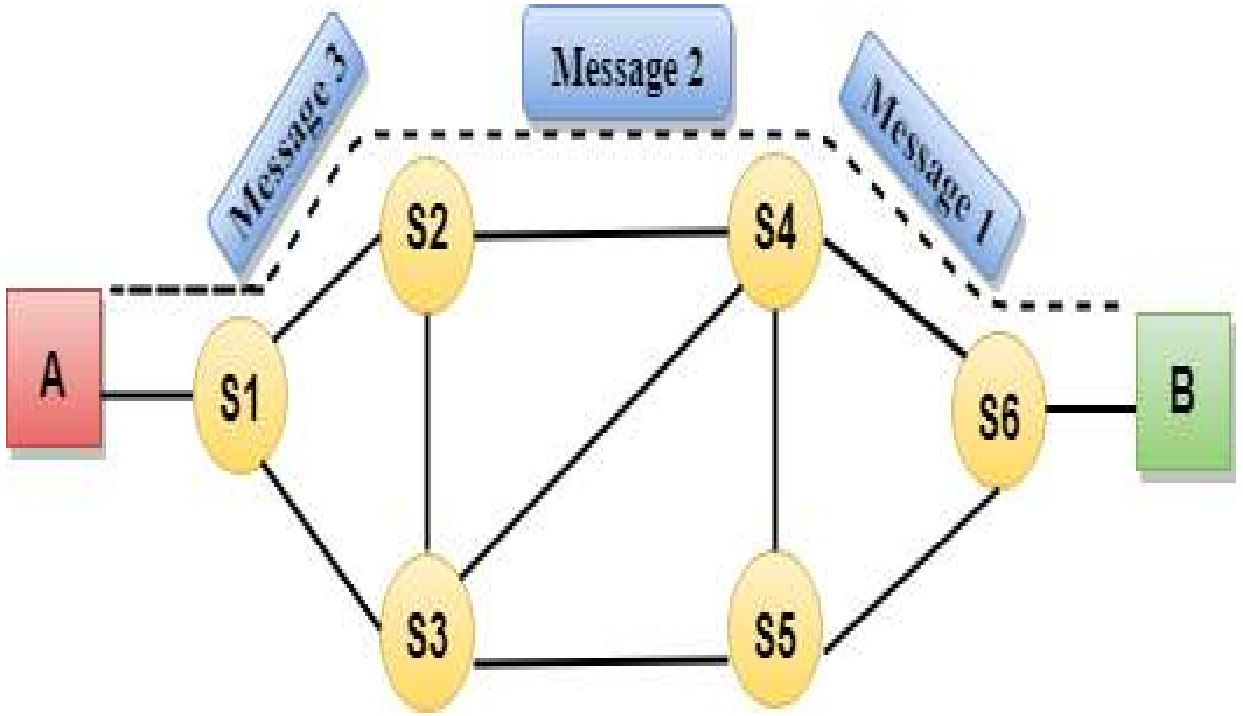
Classification Of Switching Techniques



Circuit Switching

- Circuit switching is a switching technique that establishes a dedicated path between sender and receiver.
- In the Circuit Switching Technique, once the connection is established then the dedicated path will remain to exist until the connection is terminated.
- Circuit switching in a network operates in a similar way as the telephone works.
- A complete end-to-end path must exist before the communication takes place.
- In case of circuit switching technique, when any user wants to send the data, voice, video, a request signal is sent to the receiver then the receiver sends back the acknowledgment to ensure the availability of the dedicated path. After receiving the acknowledgment, dedicated path transfers the data.
- Circuit switching is used in public telephone network. It is used for voice transmission.
- Fixed data can be transferred at a time in circuit switching technology.

- **Communication through circuit switching has 3 phases:**
- Circuit establishment
- Data transfer
- Circuit Disconnect



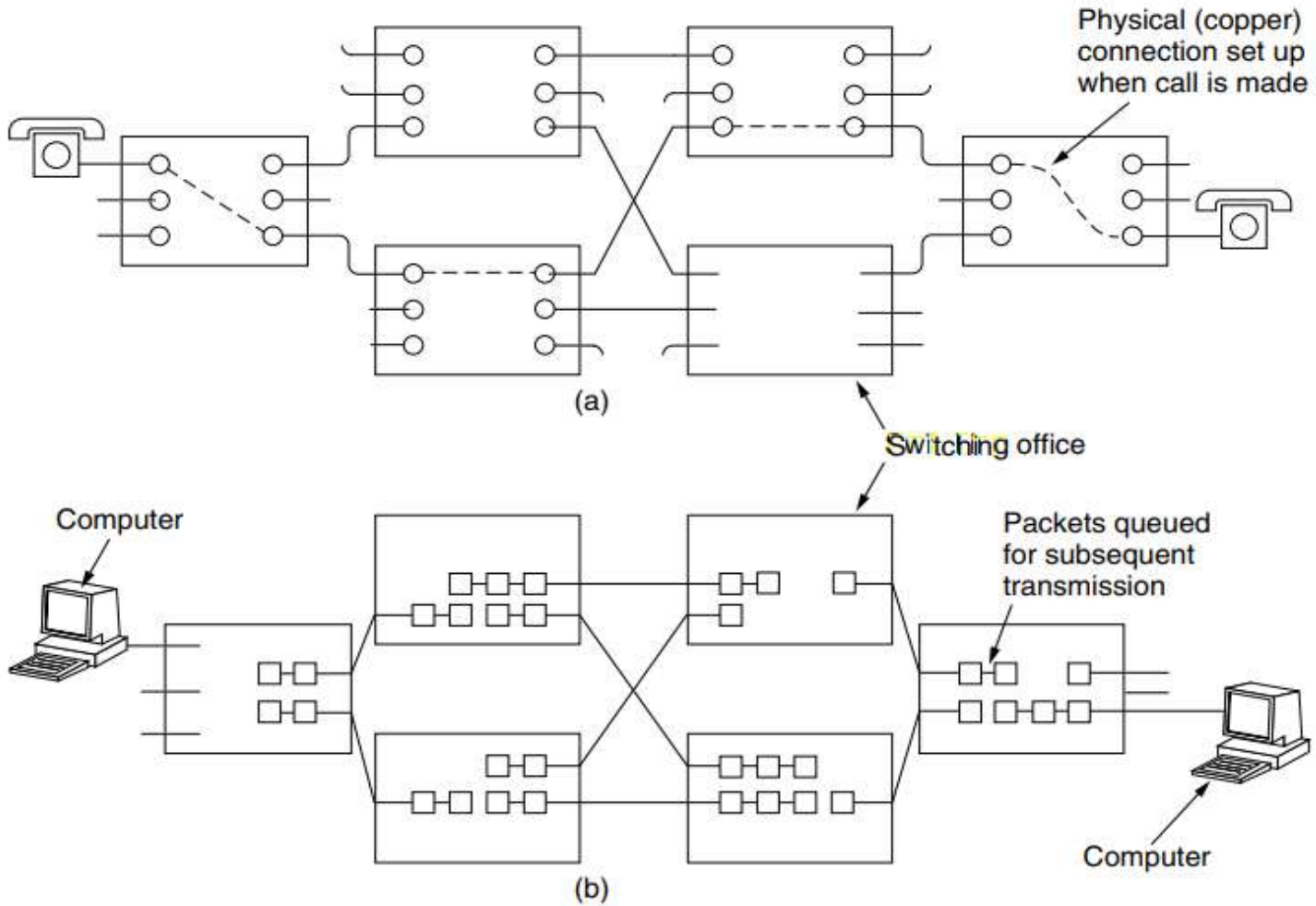
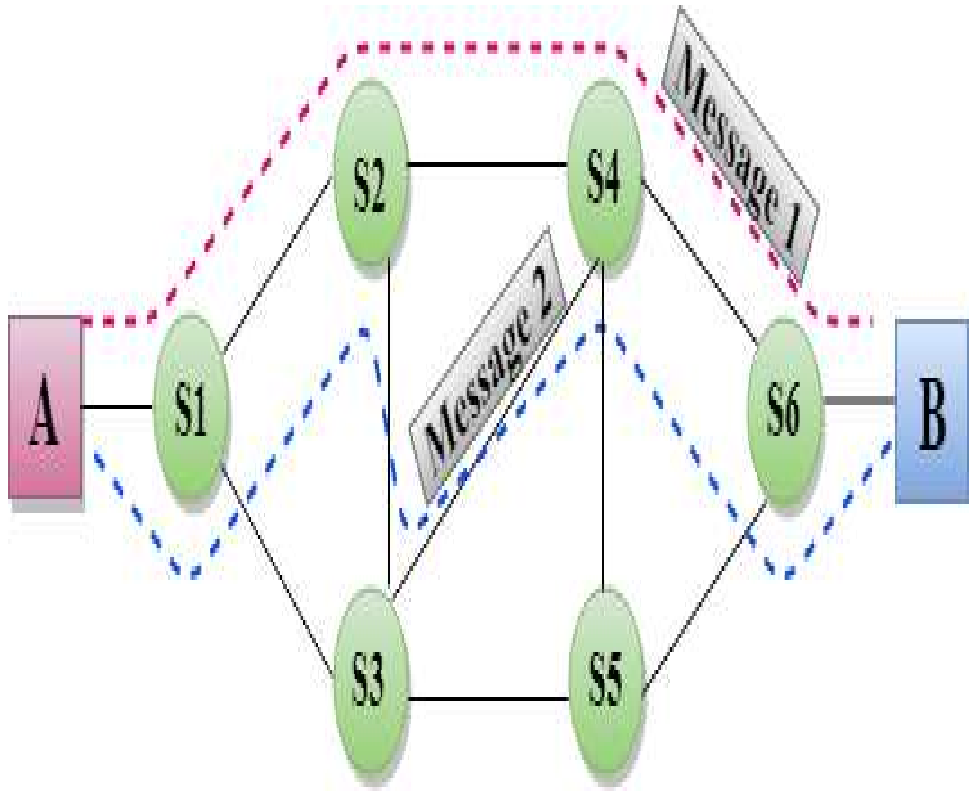


Figure 2-42. (a) Circuit switching. (b) Packet switching.

Message switching

- Message Switching is a switching technique in which a message is transferred as a complete unit and routed through intermediate nodes at which it is stored and forwarded.
- In Message Switching technique, there is no establishment of a dedicated path between the sender and receiver.
- The destination address is appended to the message. Message Switching provides a dynamic routing as the message is routed through the intermediate nodes based on the information available in the message.
- Message switches are programmed in such a way so that they can provide the most efficient routes.
- Each and every node stores the entire message and then forward it to the next node. This type of network is known as **store and forward network.**
- Message switching treats each message as an independent entity.



Advantages of message switching

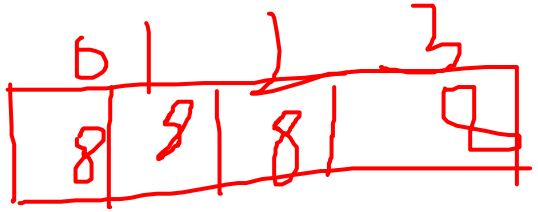
- Data channels are shared among the communicating devices that improve the efficiency of using available bandwidth.
- Traffic congestion can be reduced because the message is temporarily stored in the nodes.
- Message priority can be used to manage the network.
- The size of the message which is sent over the network can be varied. Therefore, it supports the data of unlimited size.

Disadvantages of message switching

- The message switches must be equipped with sufficient storage to enable them to store the messages until the message is forwarded.
- The Long delay can occur due to the storing and forwarding facility provided by the message switching technique.

Packet switching

- The packet switching is a switching technique in which the message is sent in one go, but it is divided into smaller pieces, and they are sent individually.
- The message splits into smaller pieces known as packets and packets are given a unique number to identify their order at the receiving end.
- Every packet contains some information in its headers such as source address, destination address and sequence number.
- Packets will travel across the network, taking the shortest path as possible.
- All the packets are reassembled at the receiving end in correct order.
- If any packet is missing or corrupted, then the message will be sent to resend the message.
- If the correct order of the packets is reached, then the acknowledgment message will be sent.



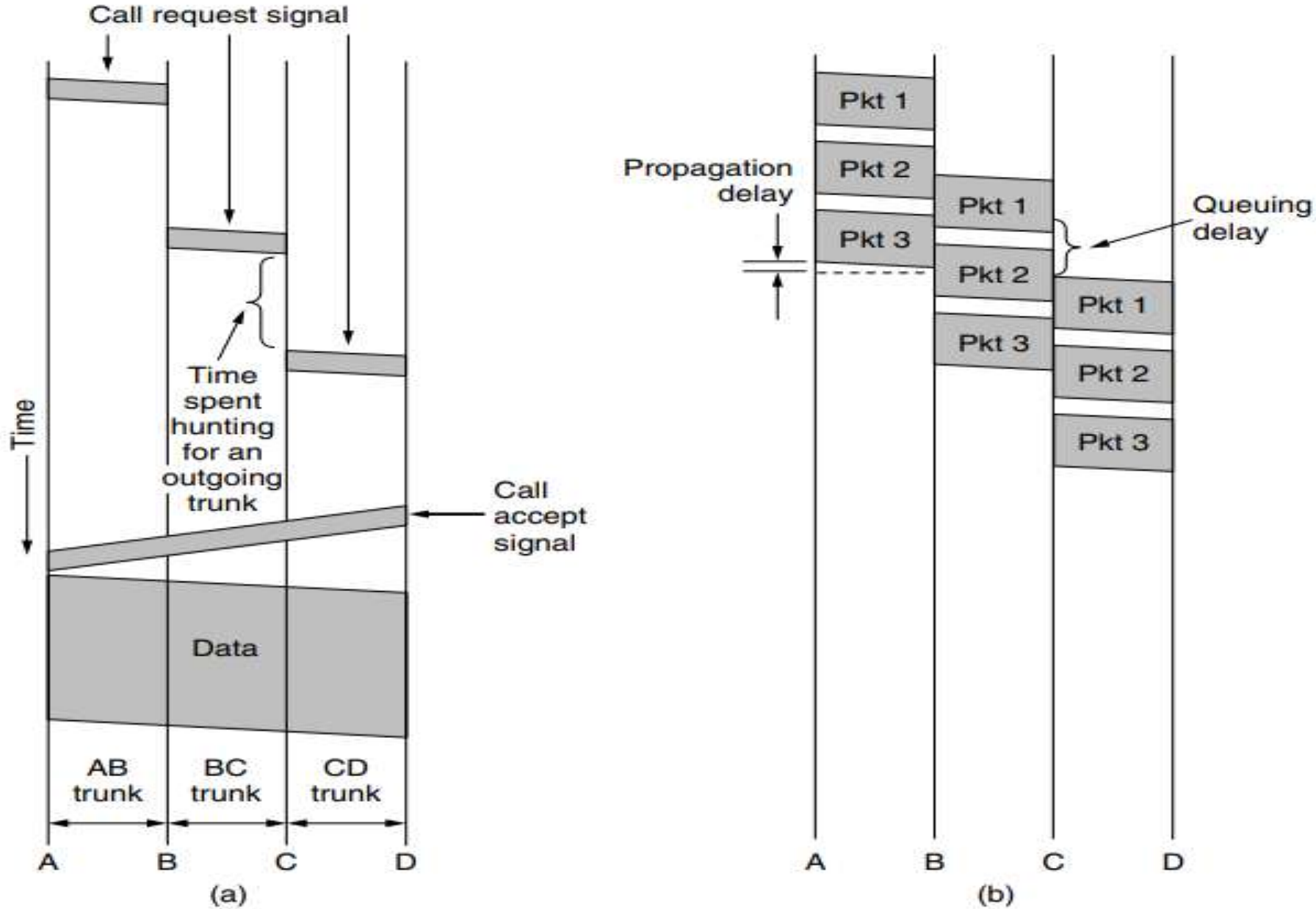
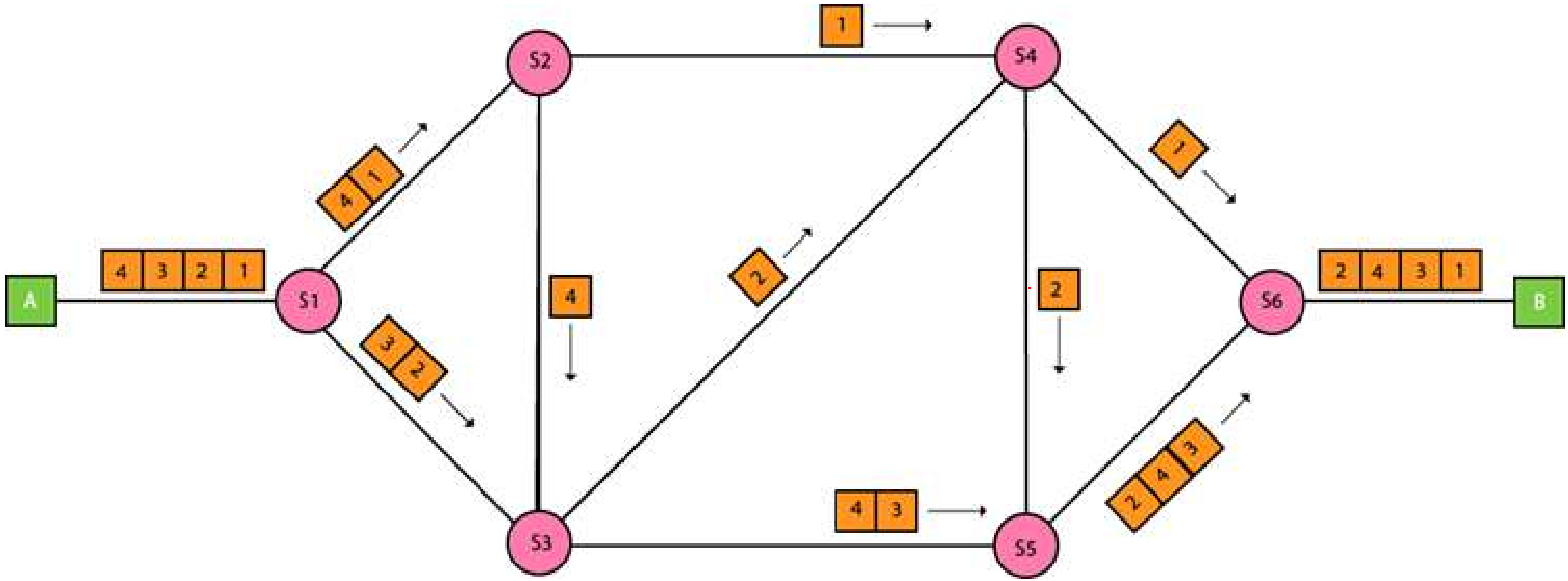


Figure 2-43. Timing of events in (a) circuit switching, (b) packet switching.


A
S1
S2
S3
S4
S5
S6
B
4 3 2 1
4 1
3 2
4
2
1
2
1
2 4 3 1
4 3
2 4 3

Advantages of packet switching:

- **Cost-effective:** In packet switching technique, switching devices do not require massive secondary storage to store the packets, so cost is minimized to some extent. Therefore, we can say that the packet switching technique is a cost-effective technique.
- **Reliable:** If any node is busy, then the packets can be rerouted. This ensures that the Packet Switching technique provides reliable communication.
- **Efficient:** Packet Switching is an efficient technique. It does not require any established path prior to the transmission, and many users can use the same communication channel simultaneously, hence makes use of available bandwidth very efficiently.

Disadvantages of packet switching:

- Packet Switching technique cannot be implemented in those applications that require low delay and high-quality services.
- The protocols used in a packet switching technique are very complex and requires high implementation cost.
- If the network is overloaded or corrupted, then it requires retransmission of lost packets. It can also lead to the loss of critical information if errors are nor recovered.

Packet Switching: Virtual Circuit

- In the virtual circuit approach, a preplanned route is established before any data packets are sent.
- A logical connection is established when
  - a sender send a "call request packet" to the receiver and the receiver send back an acknowledge packet "call accepted packet" to the sender if the receiver agrees on conversational parameters.
- The conversational parameters can be maximum packet sizes, path to be taken, and other variables necessary to establish and maintain the conversation.
- Virtual circuits imply acknowledgements, flow control, and error control, so virtual circuits are reliable.
- That is, they have the capability to inform upper-protocol layers if a transmission problem occurs.

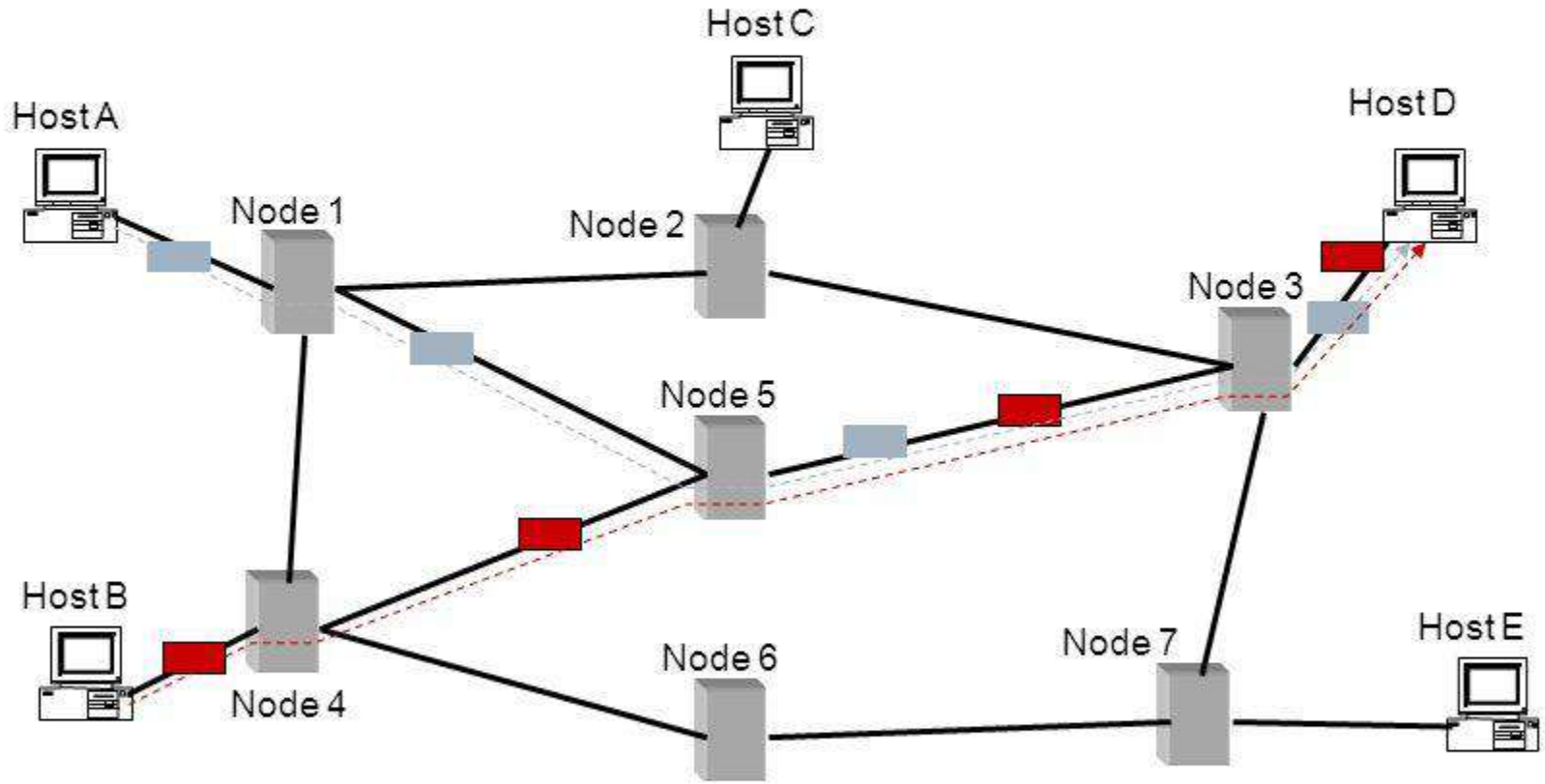
Packet Switching: Virtual Circuit

- In virtual circuit, the route between stations does not mean that this is a dedicated path, as in circuit switching.
- A packet is still buffered at each node and queued for output over a line.
- The difference between virtual circuit and datagram approaches:

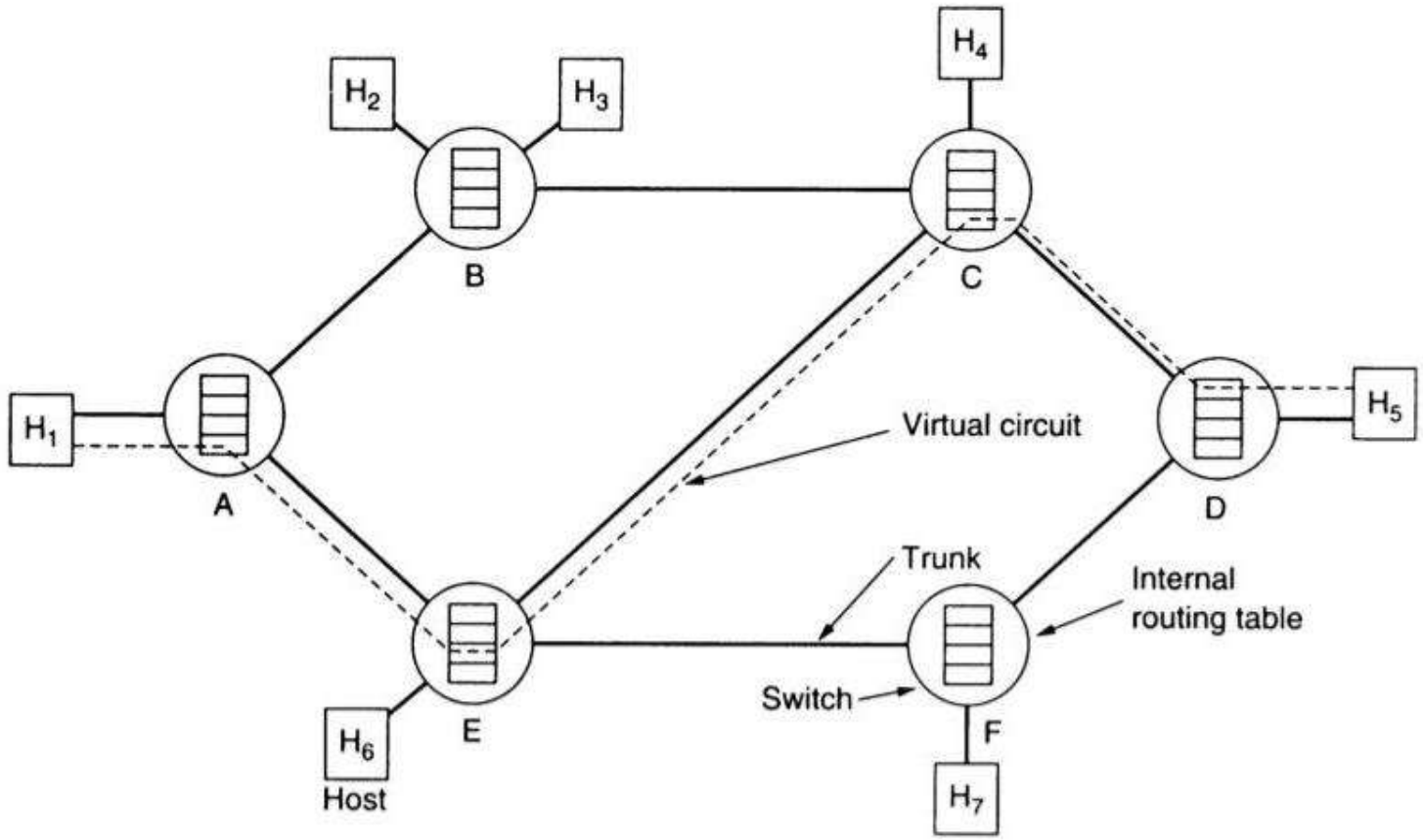
➢ With virtual circuit, the node does not need to make a routing decision for each packet.

➢ It is made only once for all packets using that virtual circuit.

Virtual-Circuit Packet Switching



Virtual Circuit Packet Switching

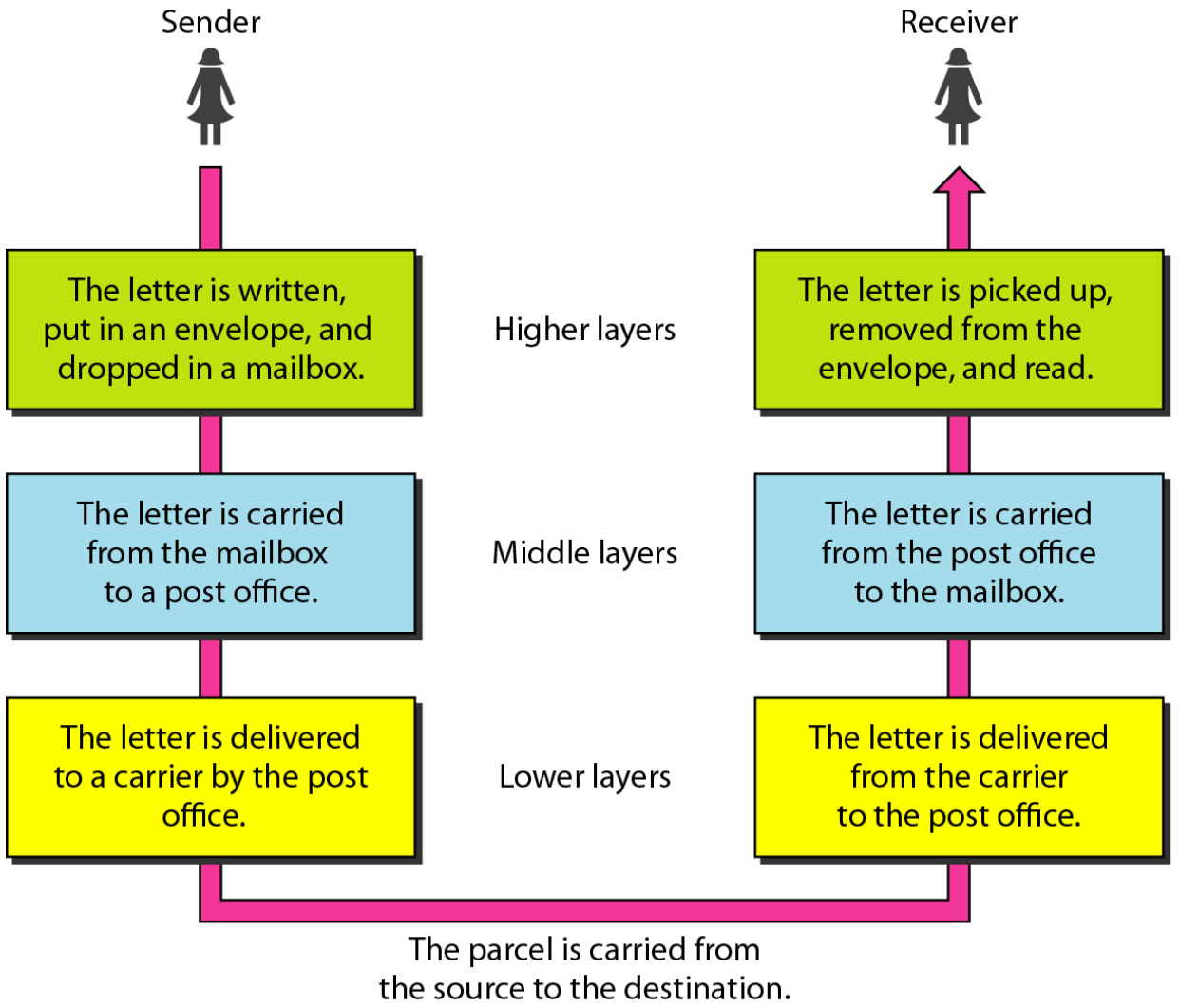


Packet Switching: Virtual Circuit

VC's offer guarantees that

- the packets sent arrive in the order sent with no duplicates or omissions with no errors (with high probability)regardless of how they are implemented internally.

Tasks involved in sending a letter



1-5.1 THE OSI MODEL

Established in 1947, the International Standards Organization (ISO) is a multinational body dedicated to worldwide agreement on international standards.

An ISO is the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model is the standard that covers all aspects of network communications from ISO. It was first introduced in the late 1970s.