

# Internet: A Brief Overview

# Chapter I: introduction

## *our goal:*

- get “feel” and terminology
- more depth, detail  
*later in course*
  
- approach:
  - use the Internet as the example

## *overview:*

- what’s the Internet?
- what’s a protocol?
- network edge; hosts, access net, physical media
- network core: packet/circuit switching, Internet structure
- performance: loss, delay, throughput
- protocol layers, service models

# Chapter I: roadmap

I.1 what *is* the Internet?

I.2 network edge

- end systems, access networks, links

I.3 network core

- packet switching, circuit switching, network structure

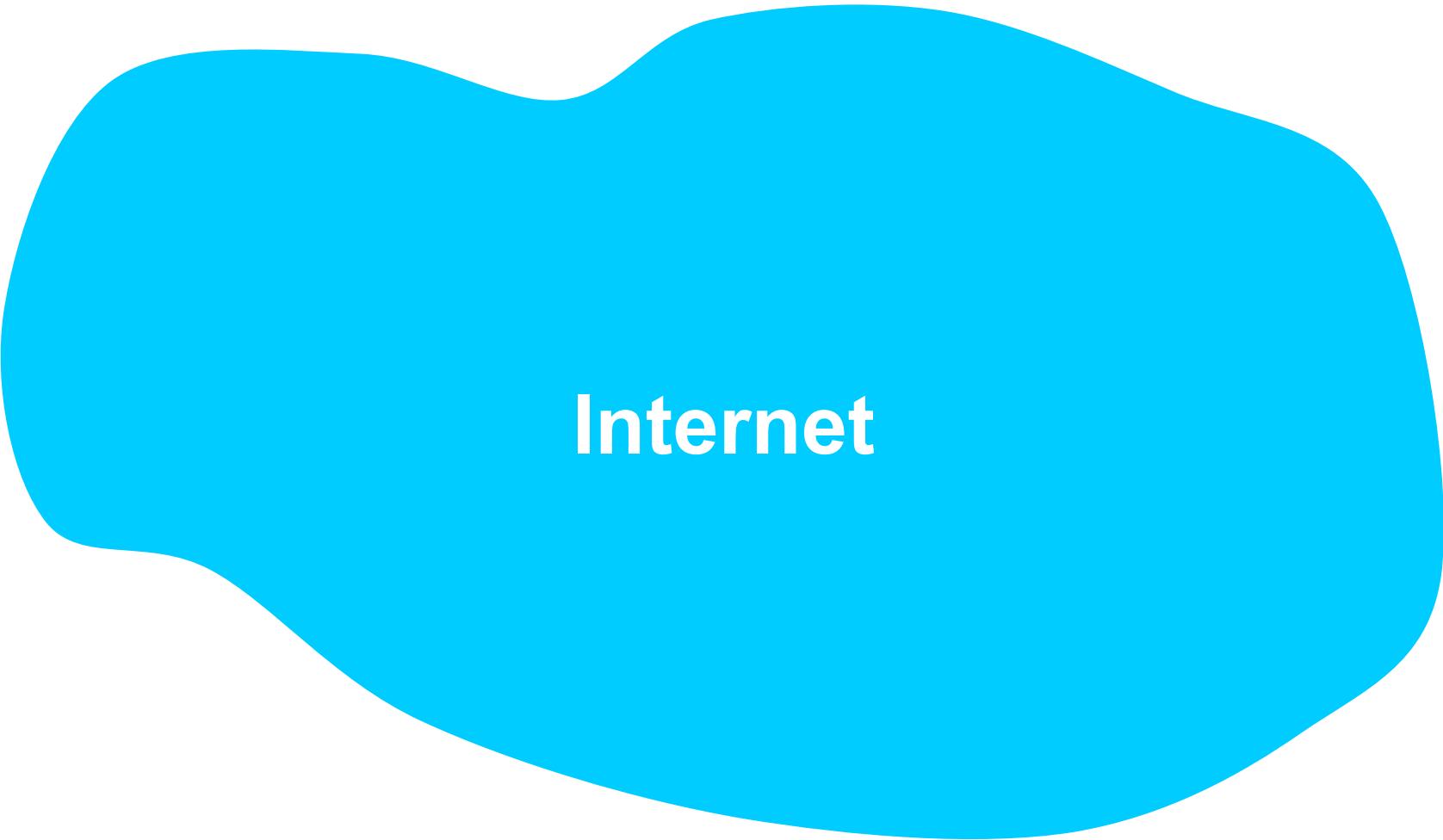
I.4 delay, loss, throughput in networks

I.5 protocol layers, service models

~~I.6 networks under attack: security~~

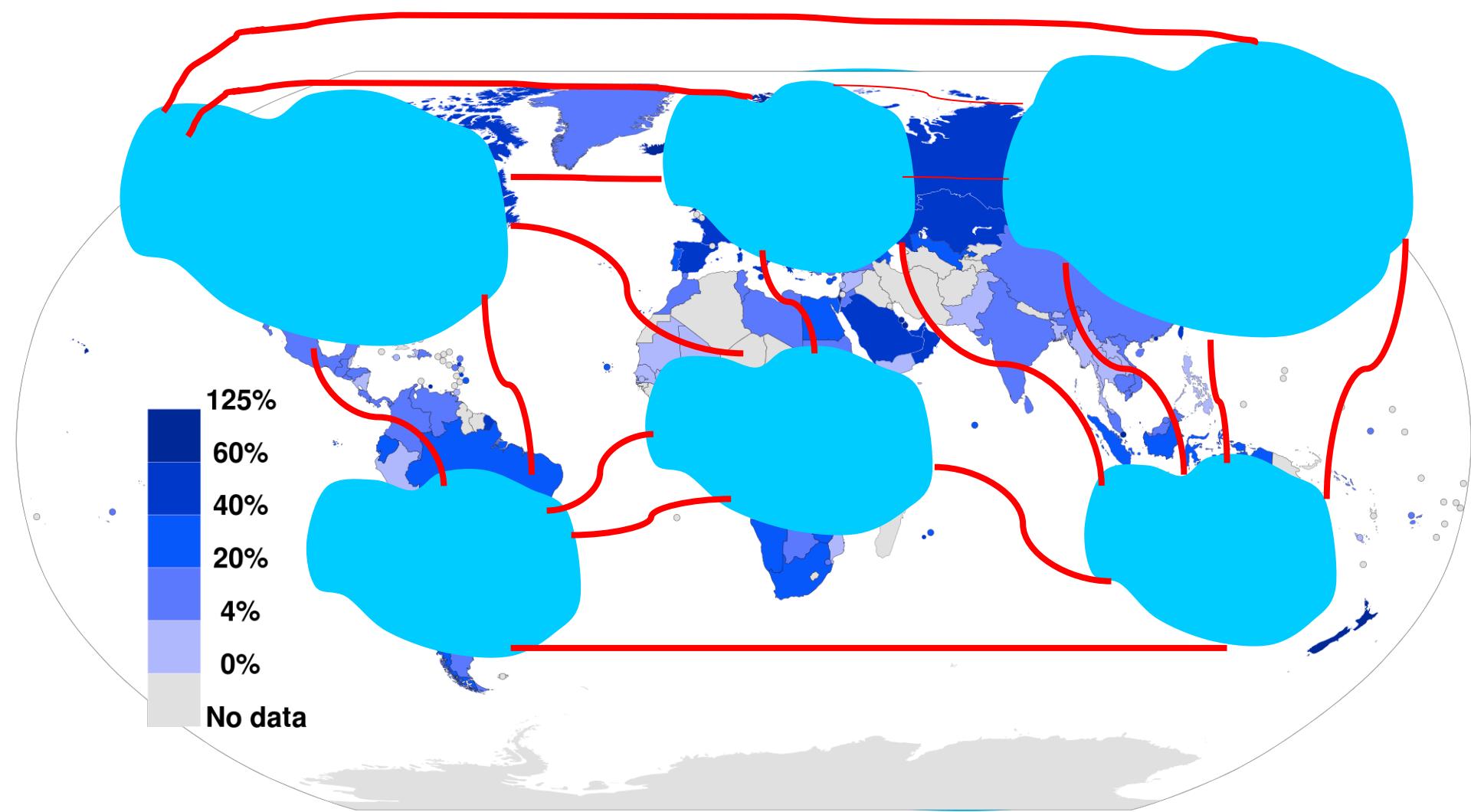
~~I.7 history~~

# I.I What is the Internet?

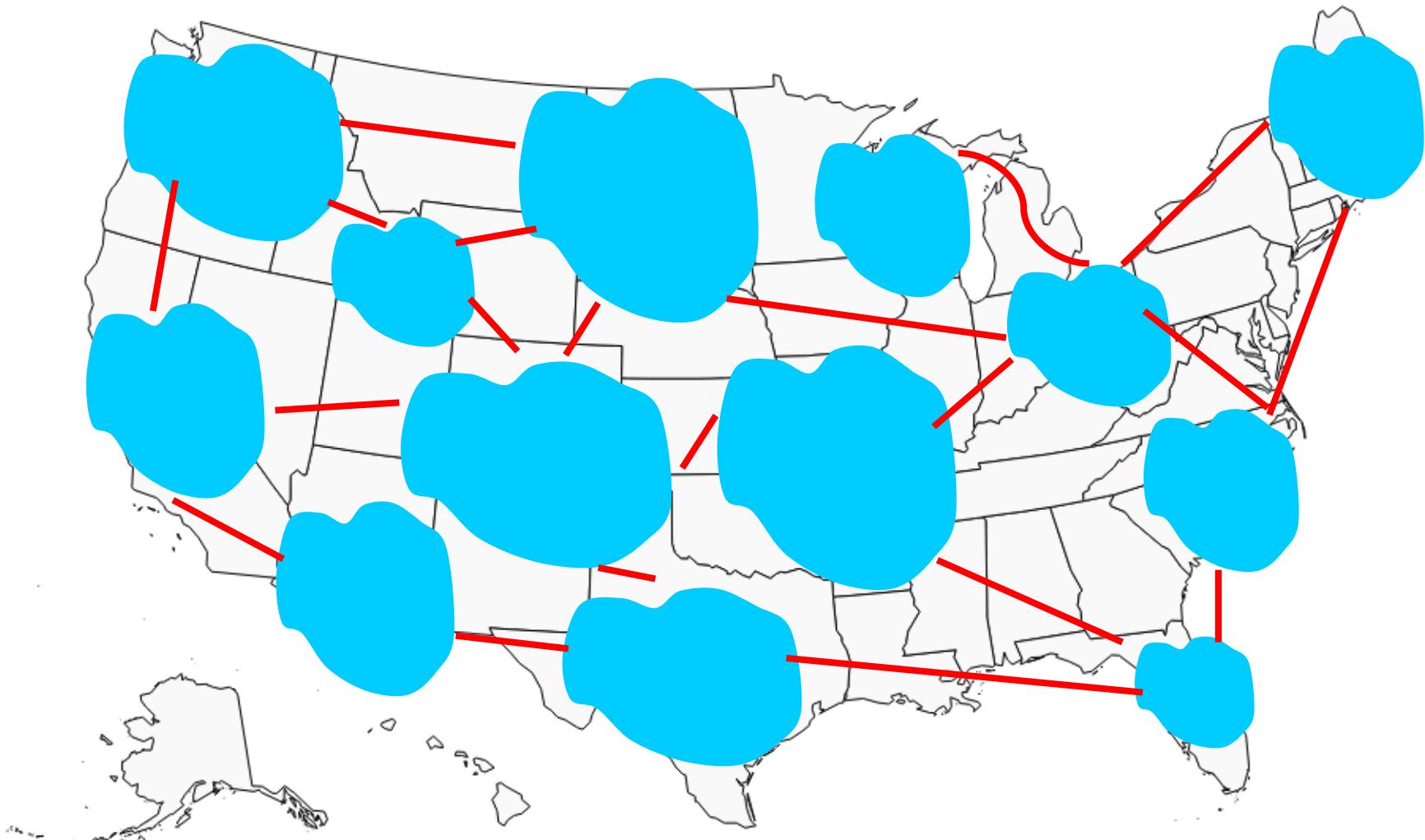


Internet

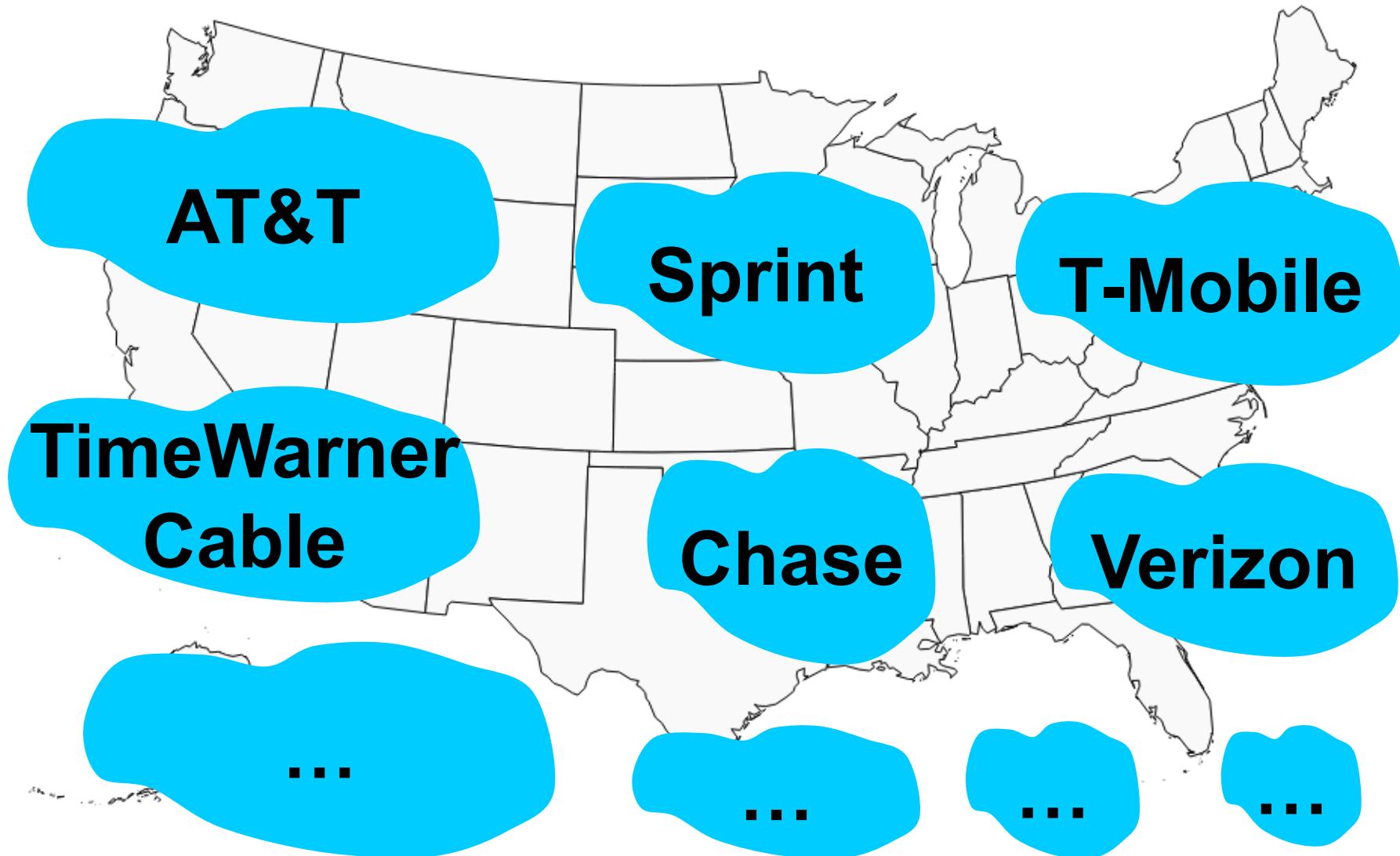
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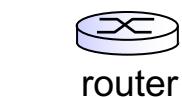
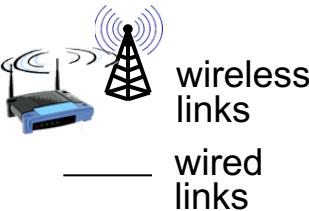
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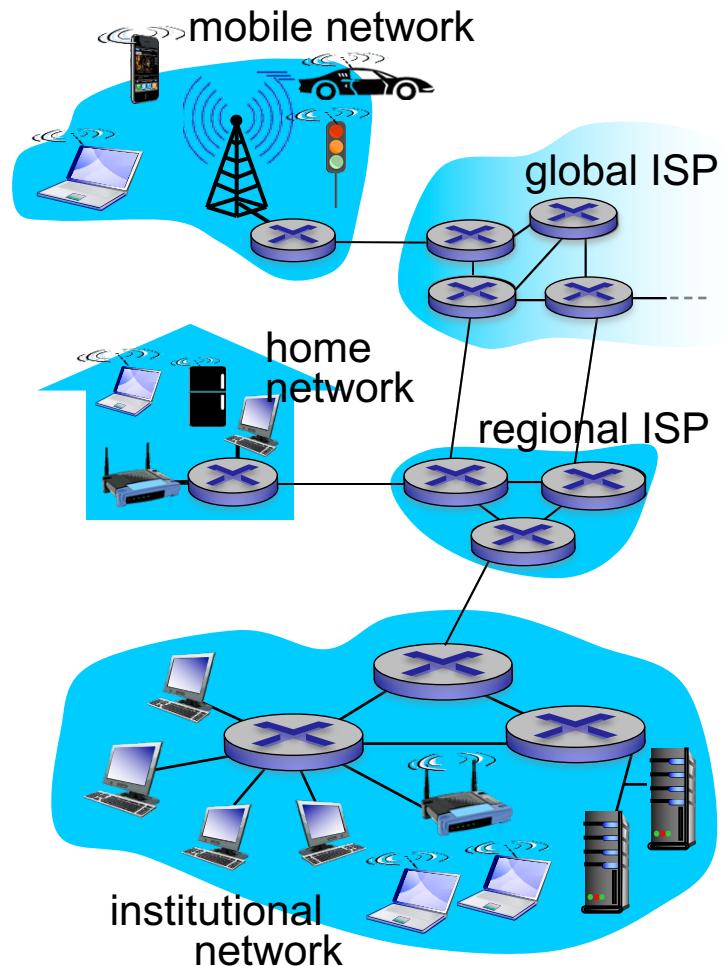
# I.I What is the Internet?



# What's the Internet: “nuts and bolts” view



- ***hosts = end systems***
  - running *network apps*
  - *Billions of connected computing devices*
  
- ***communication links***
  - fiber, copper, radio, ...
  - transmission rate: *bandwidth*
  
- ***Routers and switches***
  - *packet switching:* forward packets (chunks of data)



# Questions on hosts, links, routers

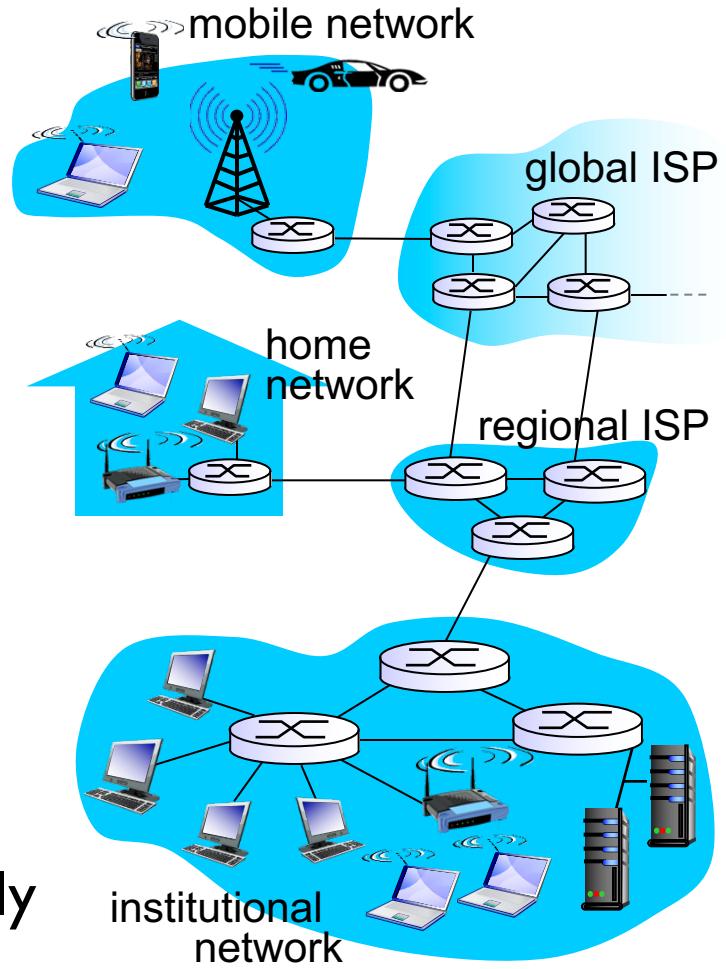
❖ What else are hosts?

❖ Are they comm. Links?

- Phone-wireless AP?
- Phone-base station?
- Router-to-router?
- Router-to-server?

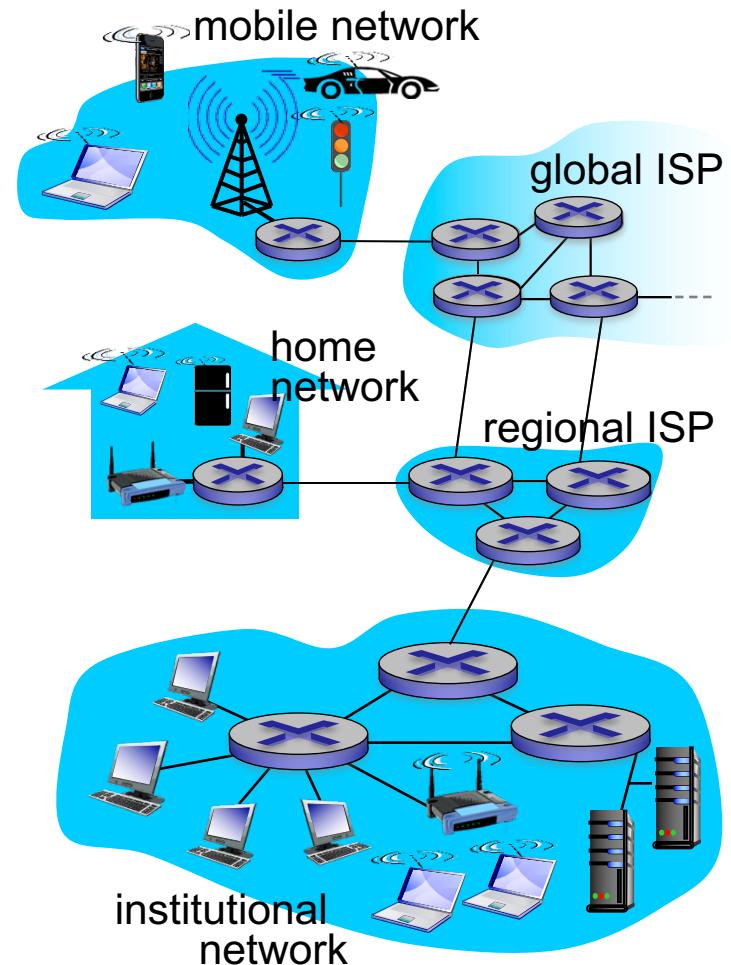
❖ How to differ routers and switches from end-hosts?

- Routers: in-between
- No network apps running (only interconnection, no web/email/etc)



# A closer look at network structure:

- ***network edge:***
  - hosts: clients and servers
  - servers often in data centers
- ***access networks, physical media:*** wired, wireless communication links
- ***network core:***
  - interconnected routers
  - network of networks



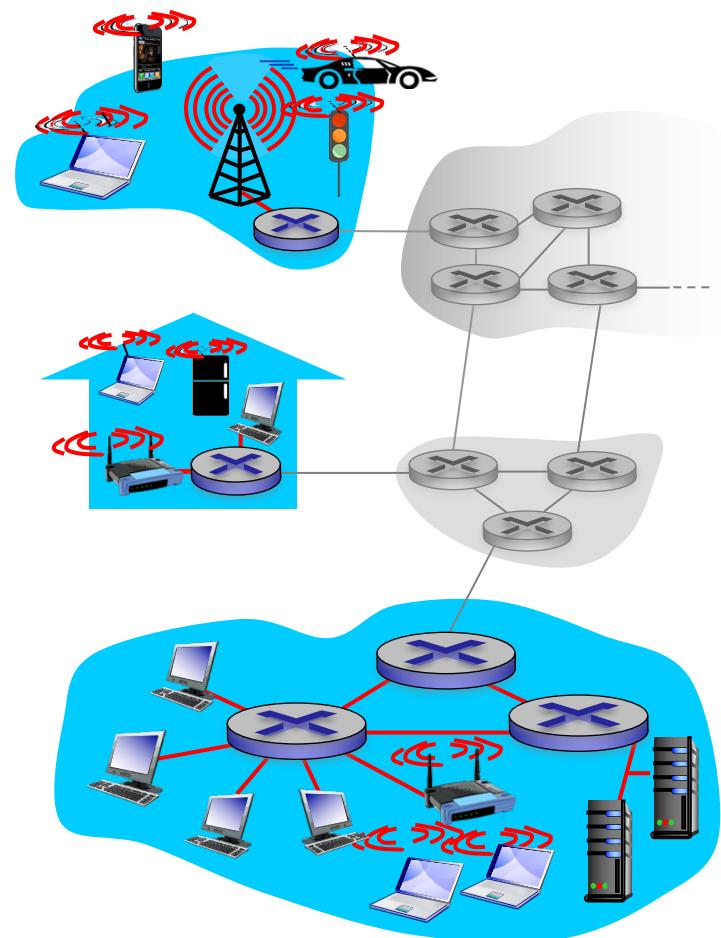
# Access networks and physical media

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

- residential access nets
- institutional access networks (school, company)
- mobile access networks

*keep in mind:*

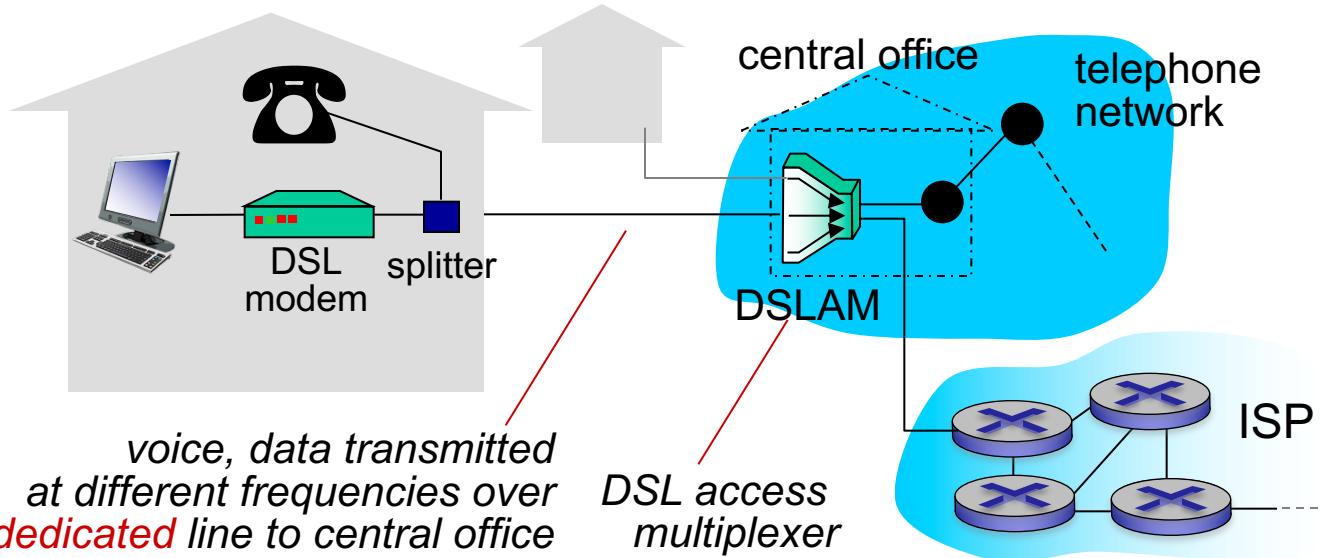
- bandwidth (bits per second) of access network?
- shared or dedicated?



# Common Access Networks

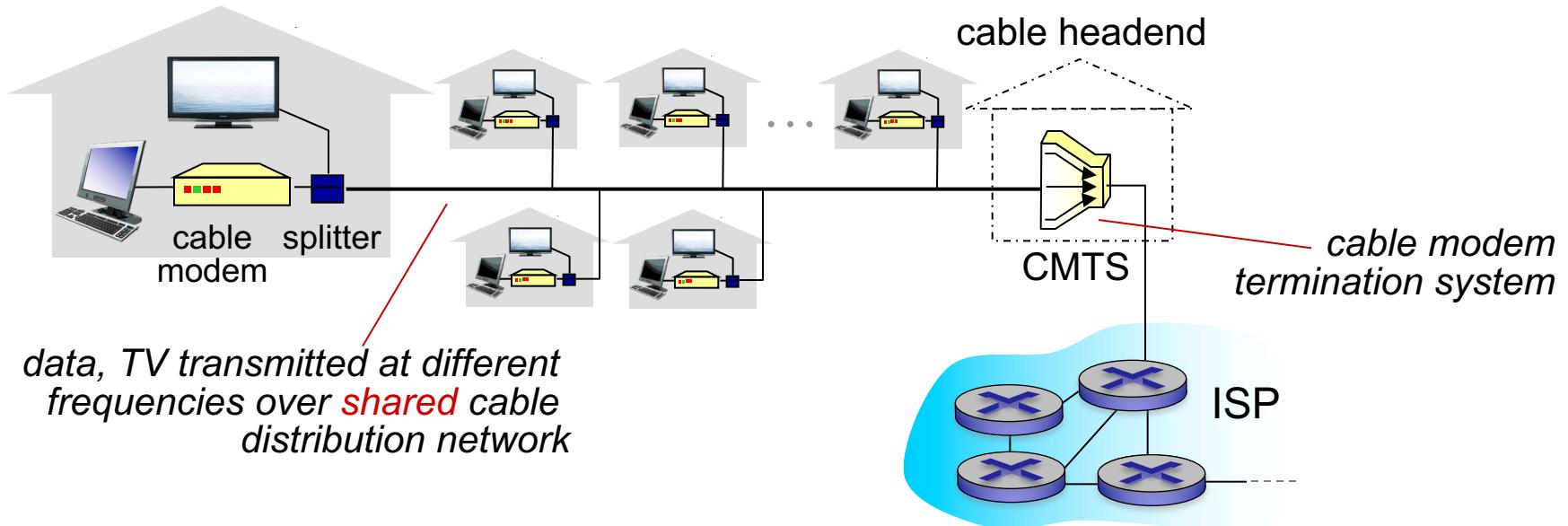
- Cable network
- Digital subscriber line (DSL)
- Home Wi-Fi Network
- Cellular (mobile) network
- Ethernet
- Fiber (optics network)
- ...
- **Read Chapter I.2 for details**

# Access network: digital subscriber line (DSL)



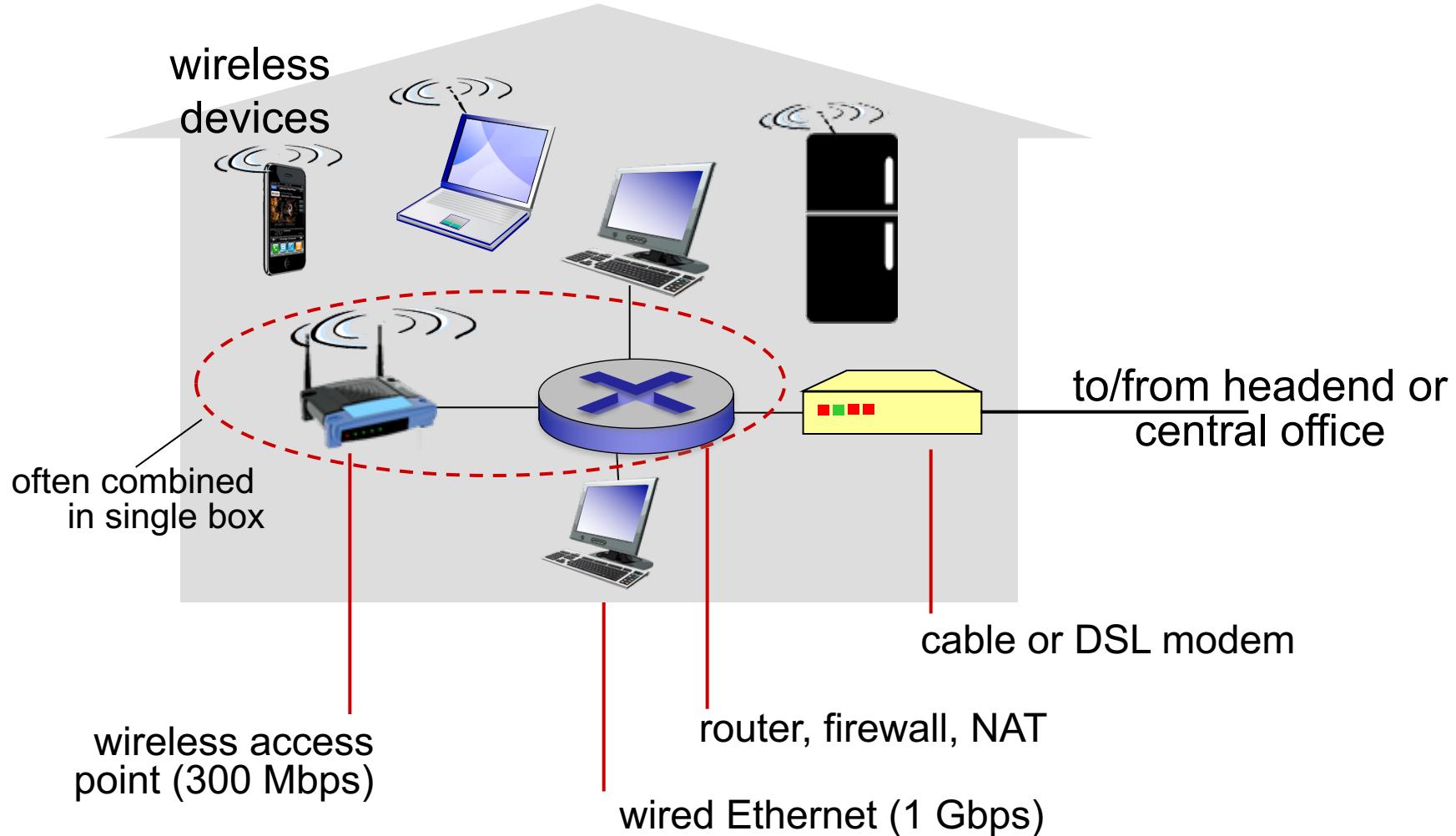
- use **existing** telephone line to central office DSLAM
  - data over DSL phone line goes to Internet
  - voice over DSL phone line goes to telephone net
- < 2.5 Mbps upstream transmission rate (typically < 1 Mbps)
- < 24 Mbps downstream transmission rate (typically < 10 Mbps)

# Access network: cable network

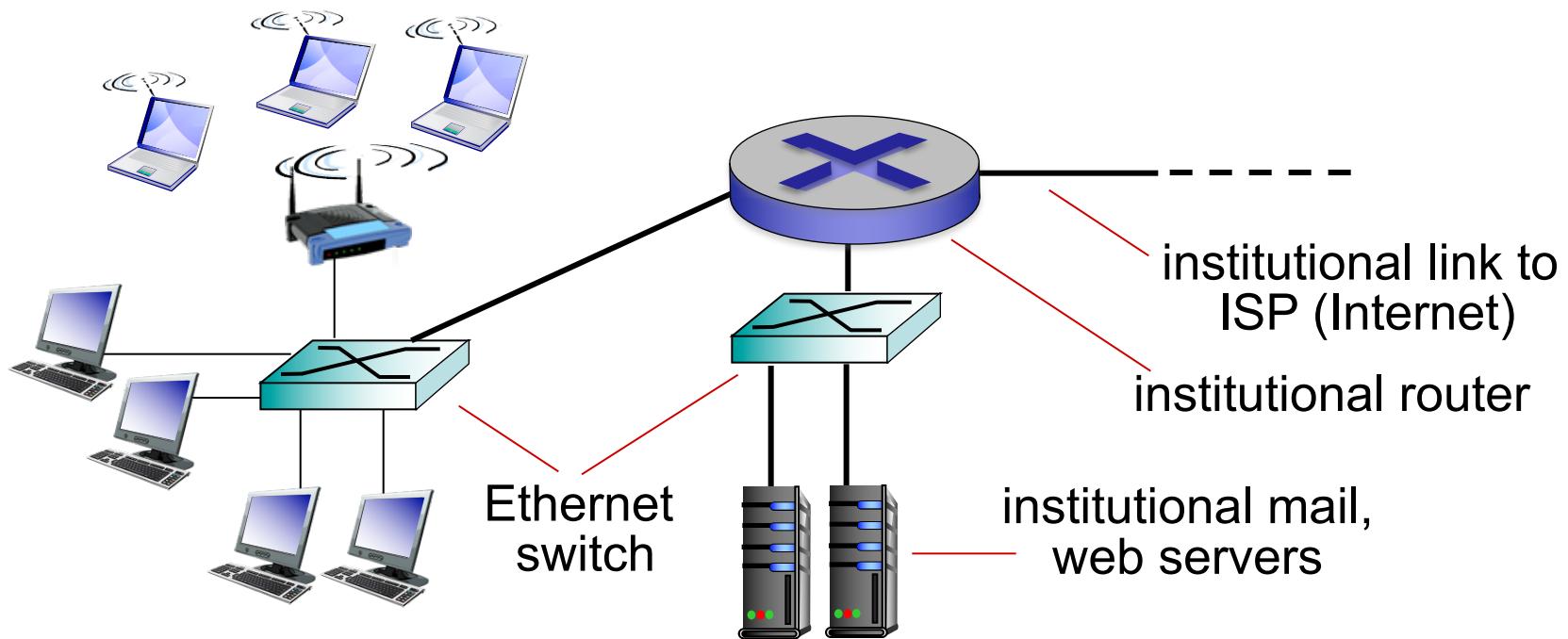


- HFC: hybrid fiber coax
  - asymmetric: up to 30Mbps downstream transmission rate, 2 Mbps upstream transmission rate
- network of cable, fiber attaches homes to ISP router
  - homes **share access network** to cable headend
  - unlike DSL, which has dedicated access to central office

# Access network: home network



# Enterprise access networks (Ethernet)



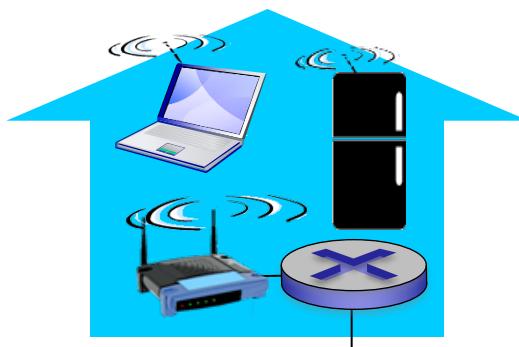
- typically used in companies, universities, etc.
- 100Mbps, 1Gbps, 10Gbps transmission rates
- today, end systems typically connect into Ethernet switch

# Wireless access networks

- shared wireless access network connects end system to router
  - via base station aka “access point”

## wireless LANs:

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



*to Internet*

## wide-area wireless access

- provided by telco (cellular) operator, 10's km
- between 1 and 10 Mbps
- 3G, 4G, 5G: 3G, LTE, LTE-A, 5G



# Physical media (optional)

Read chapter 1.2.2 if interested.



*twisted pair (TP)*

- **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



*coaxial cable*



*fiber optic cable*



*Wireless radio*

# Physical media

- **bit:** propagates between transmitter/receiver pairs
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## *twisted pair (TP)*

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



# Physical media: coax, fiber

## *coaxial cable:*

- two concentric copper conductors
- bidirectional
- broadband:
  - multiple channels on cable
  - HFC



## *fiber optic cable:*

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



# Physical media: radio

- signal carried in electromagnetic spectrum
- no physical “wire”
- bidirectional
- propagation environment effects:
  - reflection
  - obstruction by objects
  - interference

## *radio link types:*

- terrestrial microwave
  - e.g. up to 45 Mbps channels
- LAN (e.g., WiFi)
  - 54 Mbps
- wide-area (e.g., cellular)
  - 4G cellular: ~ 10 Mbps
- satellite
  - Kbps to 45Mbps channel (or multiple smaller channels)
  - 270 msec end-end delay
  - geosynchronous versus low altitude

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- end systems, access networks, links

I.3 network core

- packet switching, circuit switching, network structure

I.4 delay, loss, throughput in networks

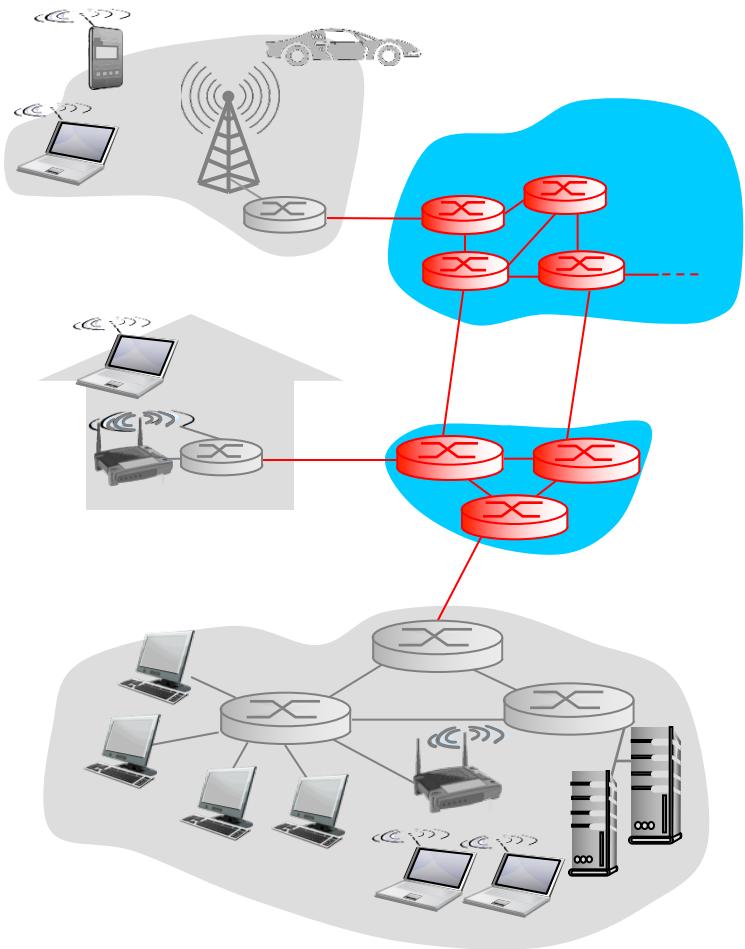
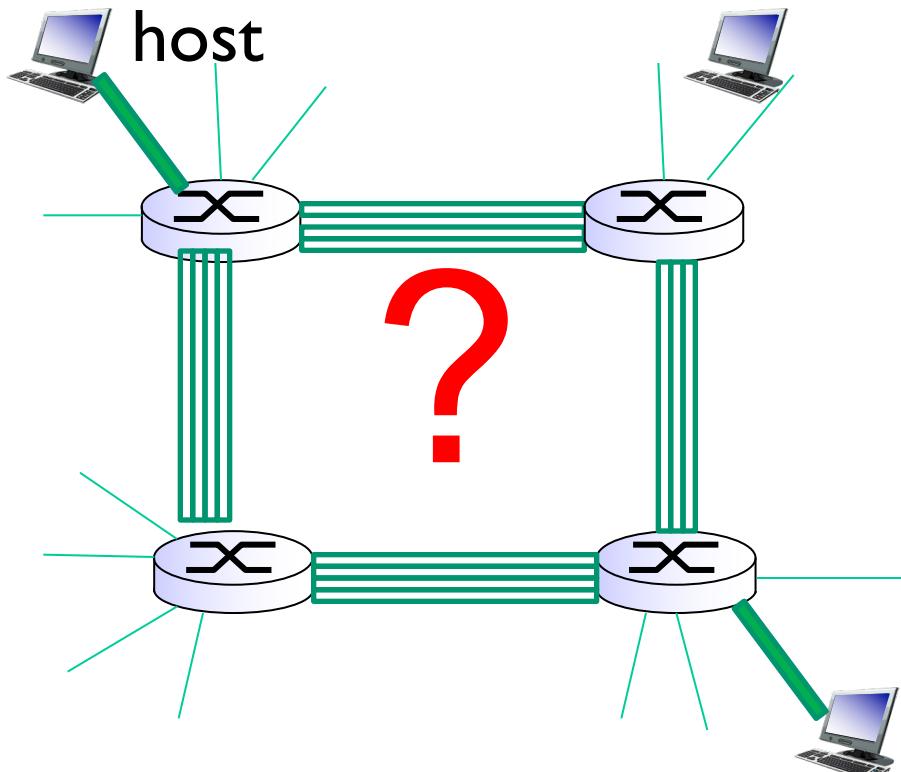
I.5 protocol layers, service models

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# Discussion: How to transfer data?

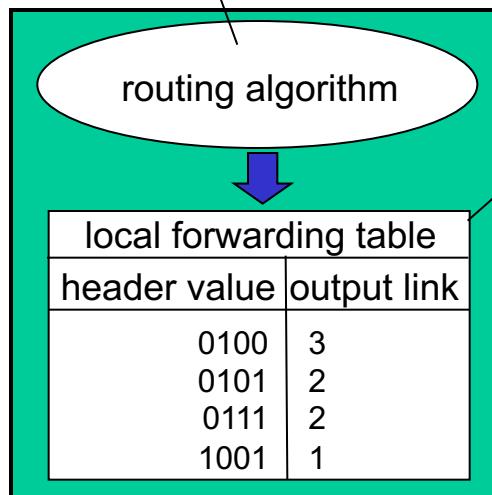
- mesh of interconnected routers
- Role: send chunks of data from one host to another host



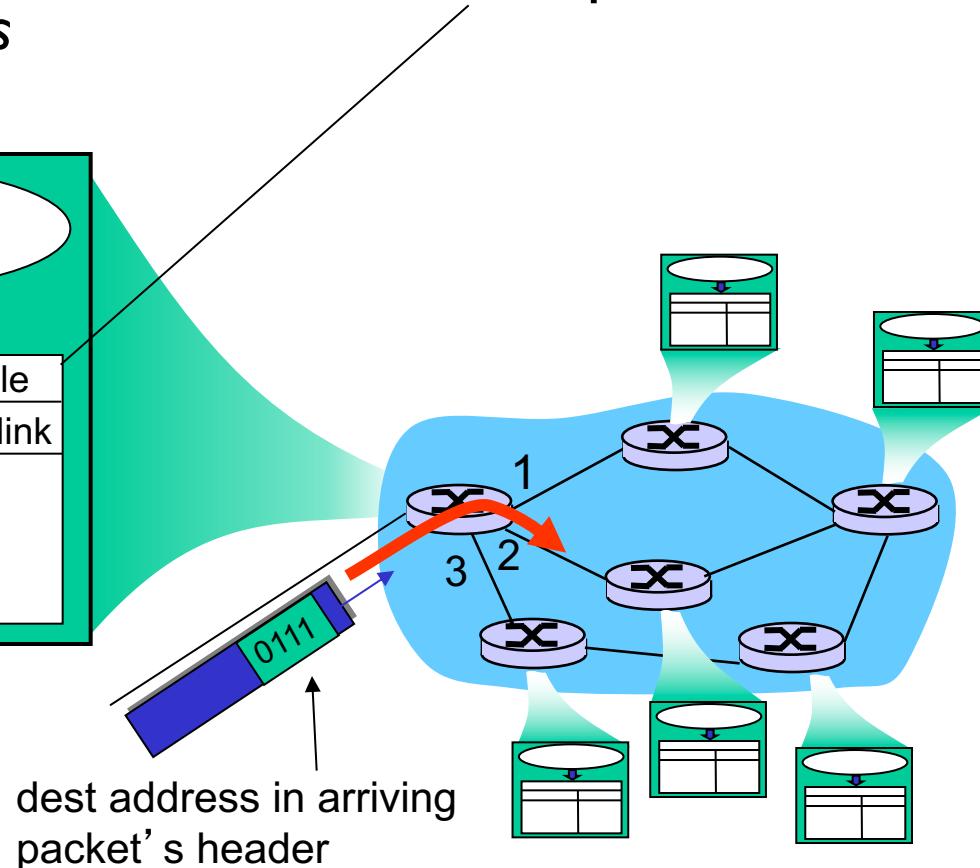
# Two key network-core functions

routing: determines source-destination route taken by packets

- *routing algorithms*

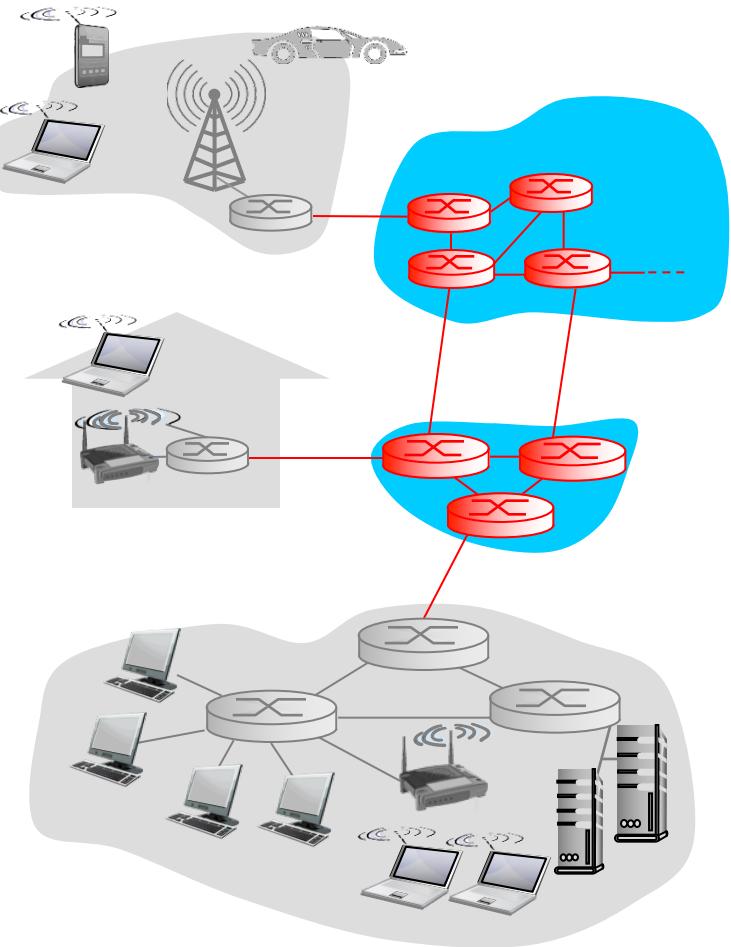


forwarding: move packets from router's input to appropriate router output



# Network core: packet-switching

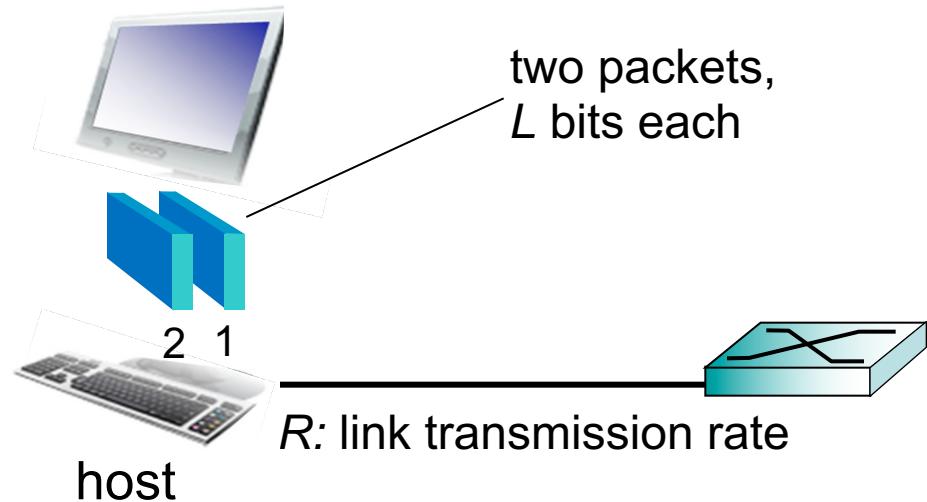
- ❖ Packet-switching: hosts break application-layer messages into packets
  - forward packets from one router to the next, across links on path from source to destination
  - each packet transmitted at **full link capacity**



# Host: sends packets of data

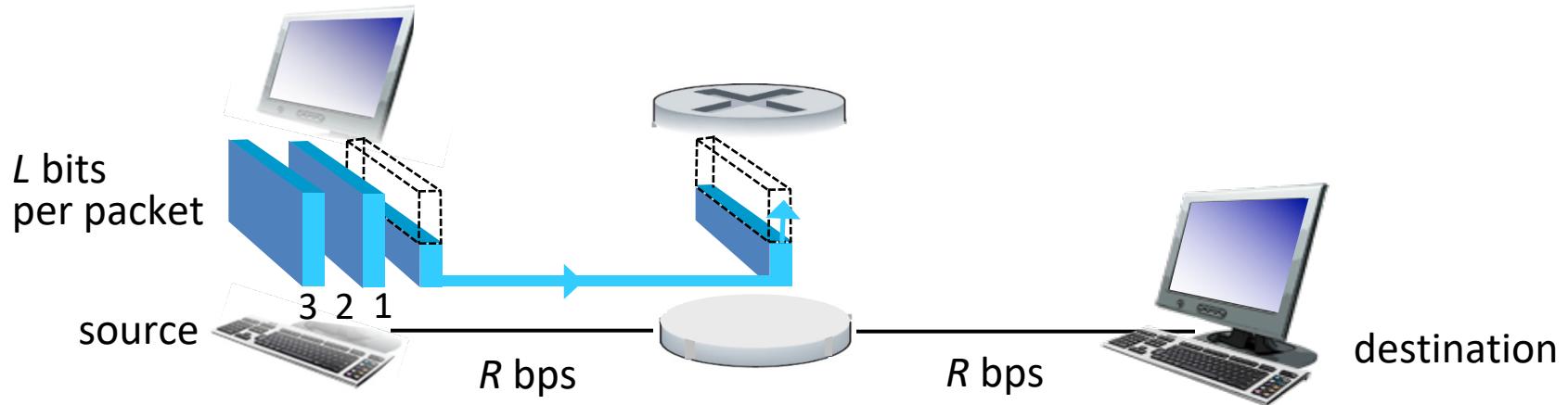
host sending function:

- ❖ 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*



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

# Packet-switching: store-and-forward



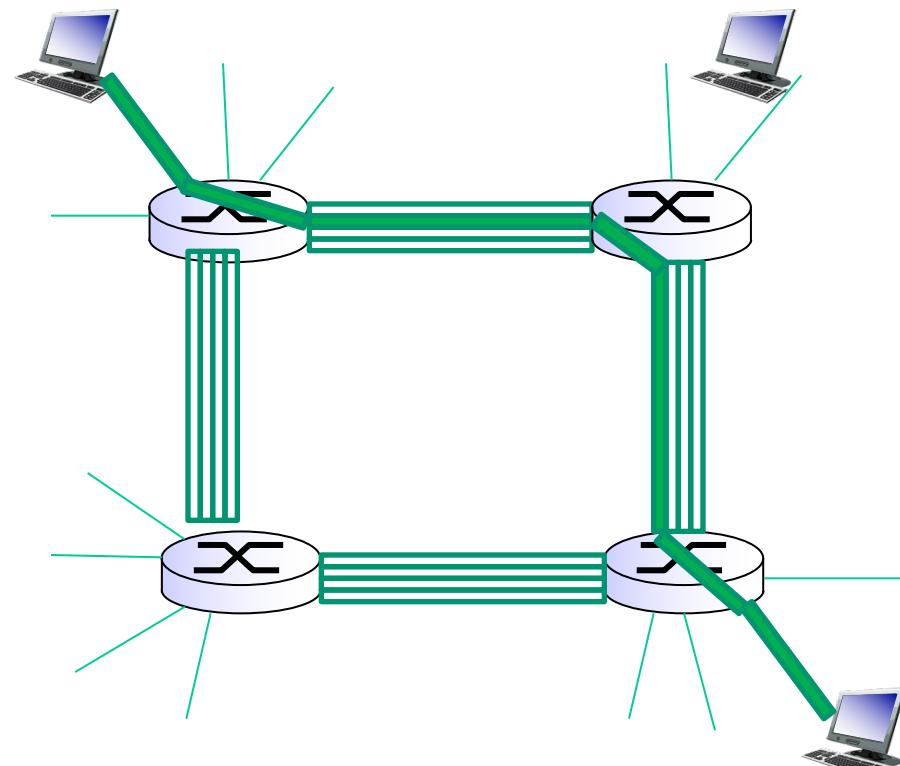
- takes  $L/R$  seconds to transmit (push out)  $L$ -bit packet into link at  $R$  bps
- **store and forward:** entire packet must arrive at router before it can be transmitted on next link
- ❖ end-end delay =  $2L/R$  (assuming zero propagation delay)

- one-hop numerical example:*
- $L = 7.5$  Mbits
  - $R = 1.5$  Mbps
  - one-hop transmission delay = 5 sec
- } more on delay shortly ...

# Alternative core: circuit switching

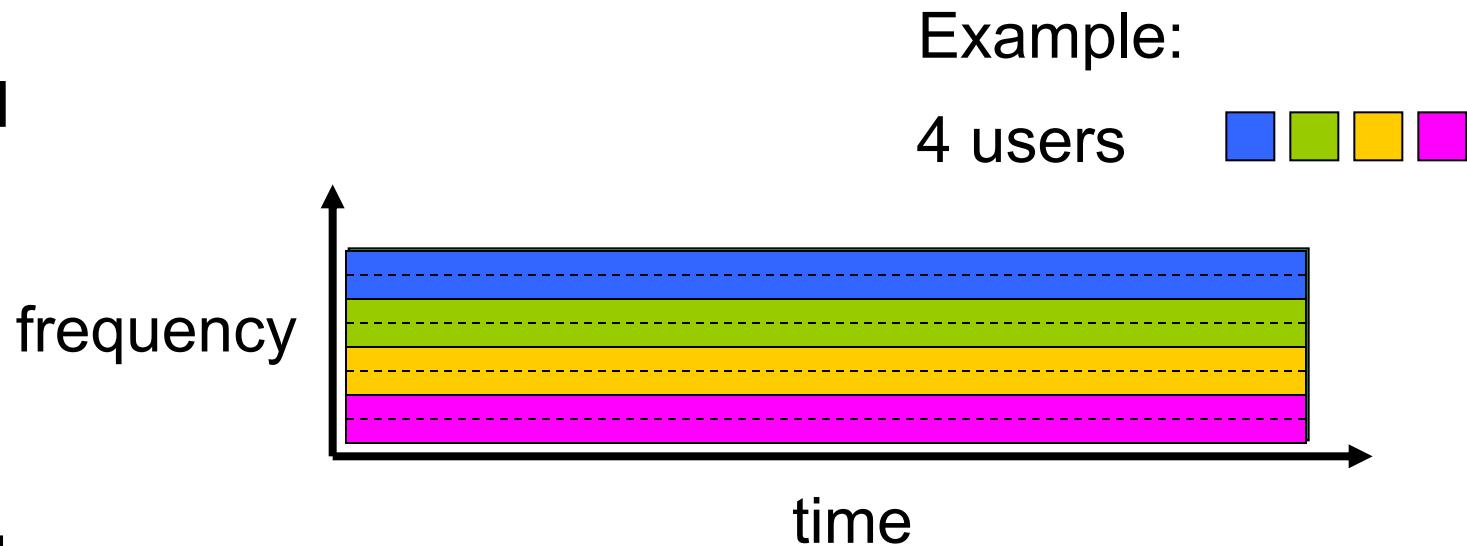
end-end resources allocated  
to, reserved for voice  
“call” btw. source & dest

- Example: each link has four circuits.
  - call gets 2<sup>nd</sup> circuit in top link and 1<sup>st</sup> circuit in right link.
- dedicated resources: no sharing
  - circuit-like (guaranteed) performance
- circuit segment idle if not used by call (*no sharing*)
- Commonly used in traditional telephone networks

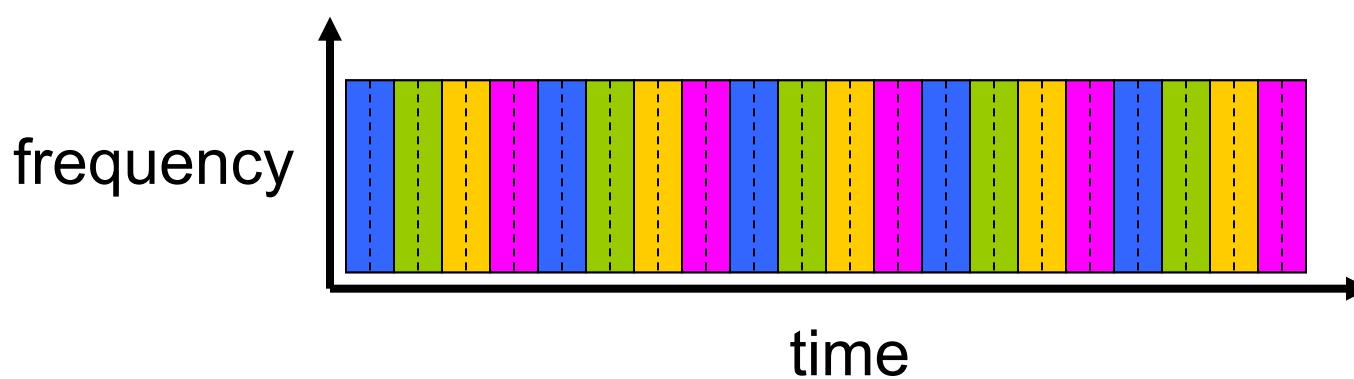


# Circuit switching: FDM versus TDM

FDM



TDM



## Discussion:

# Packet switching vs. circuit switching

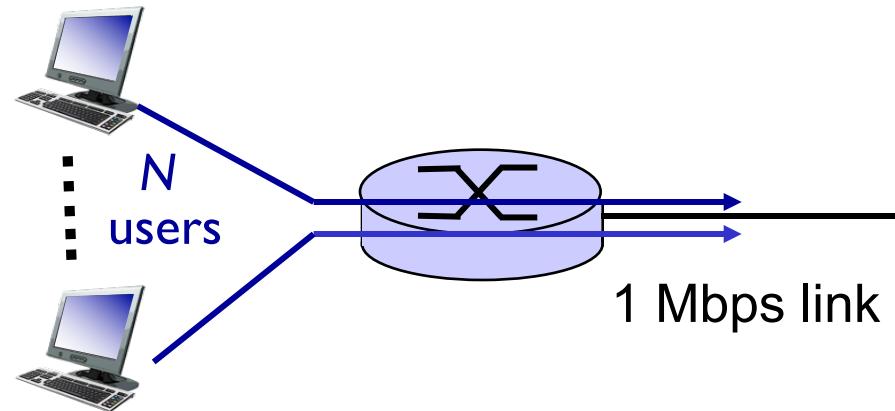
Q: Why packet switching is chosen  
by the Internet?

# Packet switching versus circuit switching

*packet switching allows more users to use network!*

example:

- 1 Mb/s link
- each user:
  - 100 kb/s when “active”
  - active 10% of time
- *circuit-switching*:
  - 10 users
- *packet switching*:
  - with 35 users, probability > 10 active at same time is less than .0004 \*



Q: how did we get value 0.0004?

Q: what happens if > 35 users ?

\* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples

# How to calculate N in the example?

- Given N users, the probability that x users are active is  $P(N,x)$

$$P(N,x) = \binom{N}{x} p^x (1-p)^{N-x}$$

- In order to afford N users, the probability that more than 11 (including 11) users are active at the same should be extremely small (e.g., < 0.1%)
- Therefore,

$$\sum_{x=0}^{10} P(N,x) \geq (1 - 0.1\%) = 0.999$$

# More on “how to calculate N?”

- Given  $N$ , we can obtain the probability of no more than  $x$  active users at the same time
  - Calculator
  - Program (sum them up)
- Given the maximal probability of no more than  $x$  active users at the same time, how to calculate  $N$ ?
  - Approach #1: program (for loop, and increment  $N$  by 1 until it meets the threshold)
  - Approach #2: Approximation via central limit theorem (optional; see the hidden slides for details)

# Packet switching vs circuit switching

Q: is packet switching a “slam dunk winner?”

- ❖ great for bursty data
  - resource sharing
  - simpler, no call setup
- ❖ **excessive congestion possible:** packet delay and loss (see the following slides)
  - protocols needed for reliable data transfer, congestion control

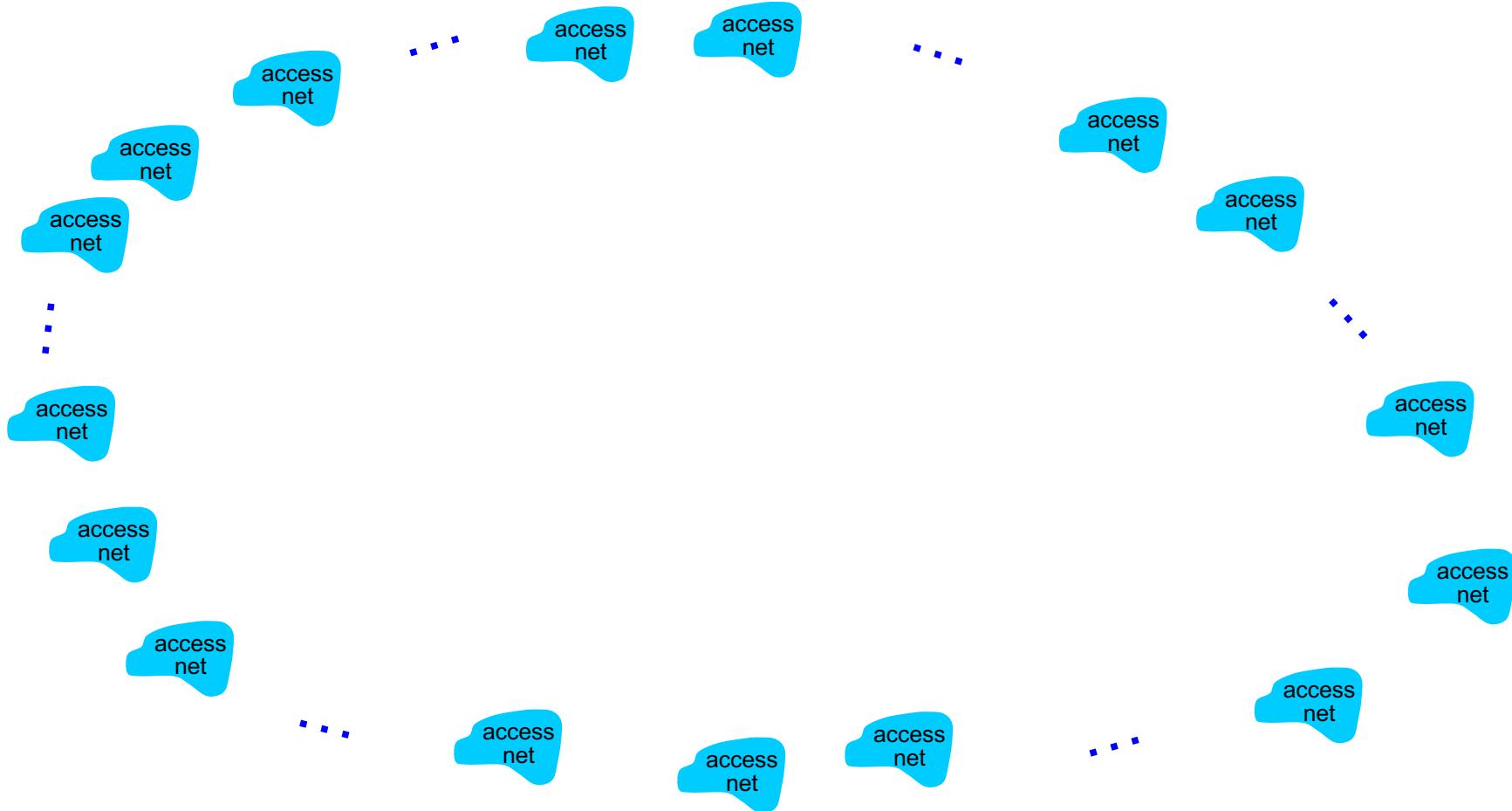
Q: human analogies of reserved resources (circuit switching) versus on-demand allocation (packet-switching)?

# Finally,

- Let us see how to build the Internet: network of networks.
- **Optional.** Read Chapter I.3.3

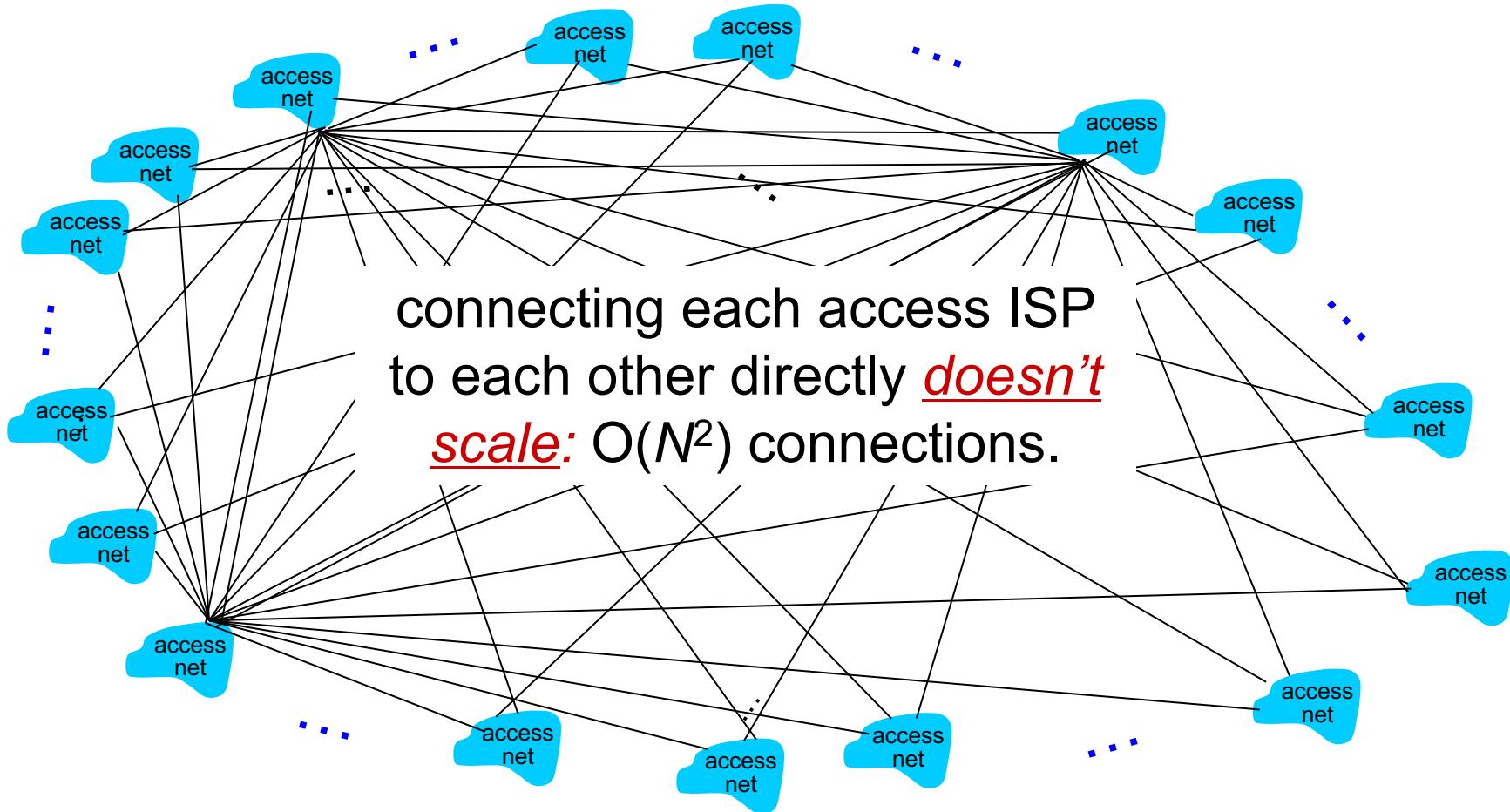
# Internet structure (Optional)

**Question:** given *millions* of access ISPs, how to connect them together?



# Option I: all inter-connected?

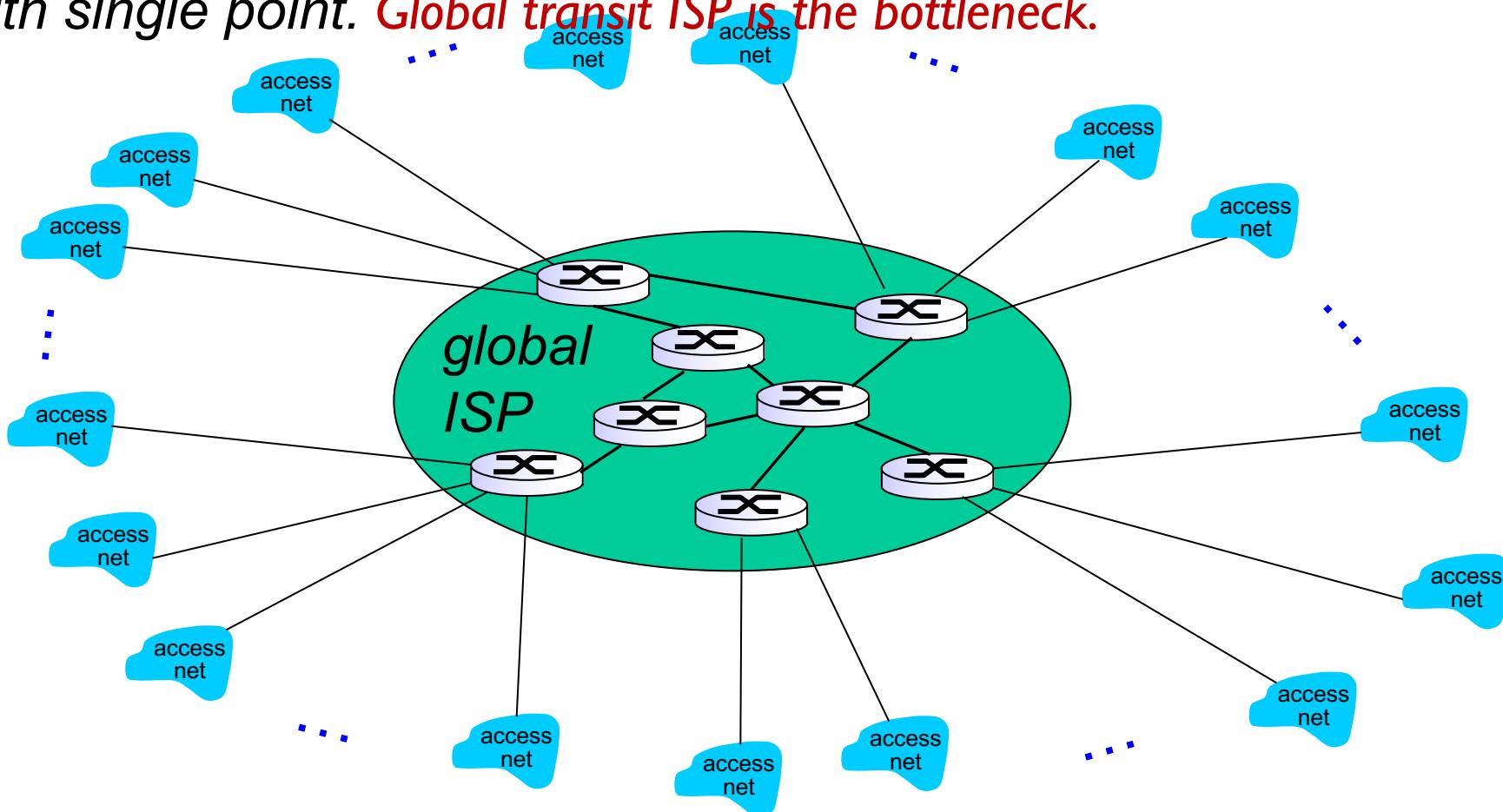
*Option:* connect each access ISP to every other access ISP?



# Option 2: one Global ISP?

*Option:* connect each access ISP to a global transit ISP?

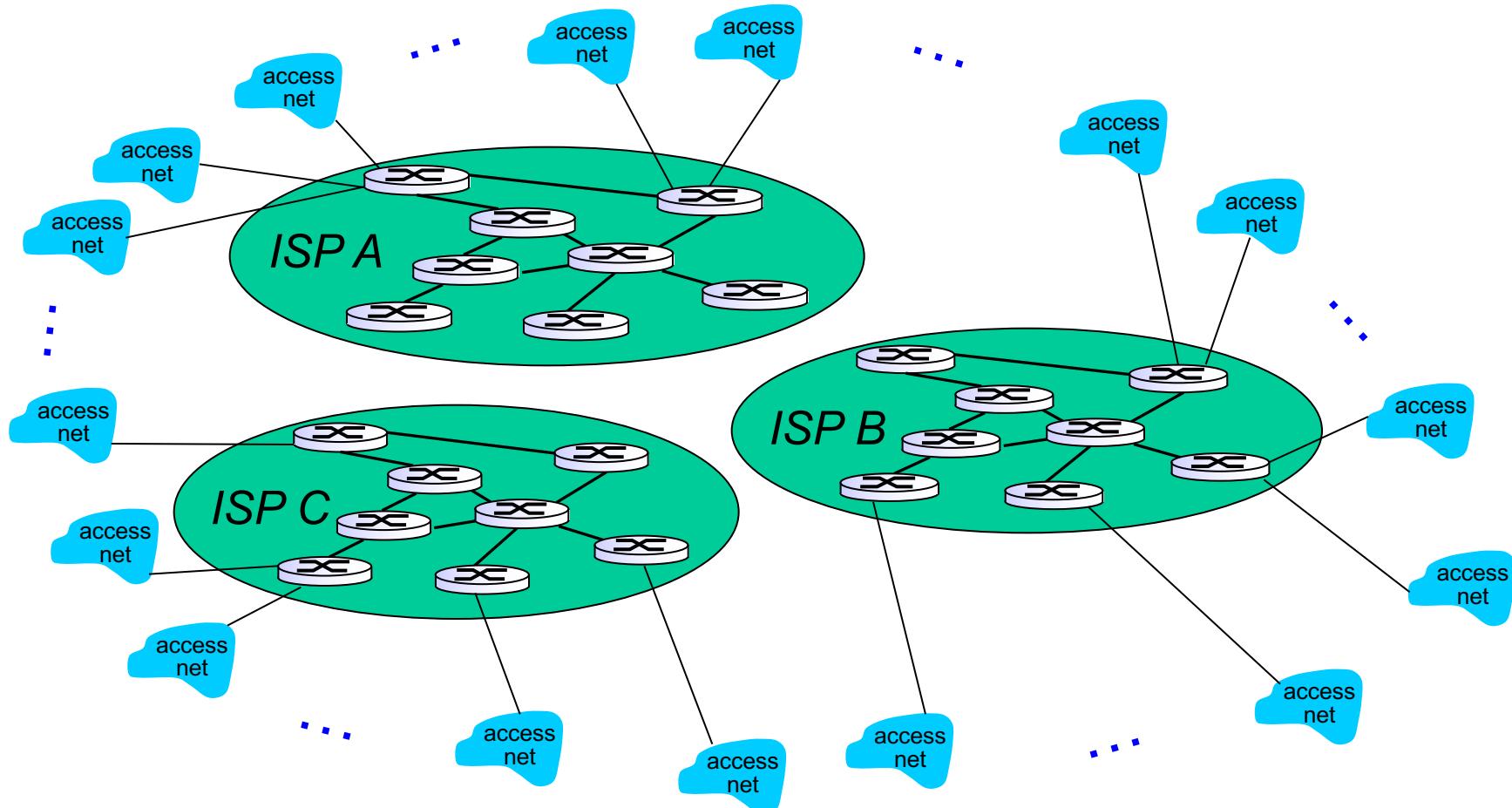
*But, Customer and provider ISPs have economic agreement with single point. Global transit ISP is the bottleneck.*



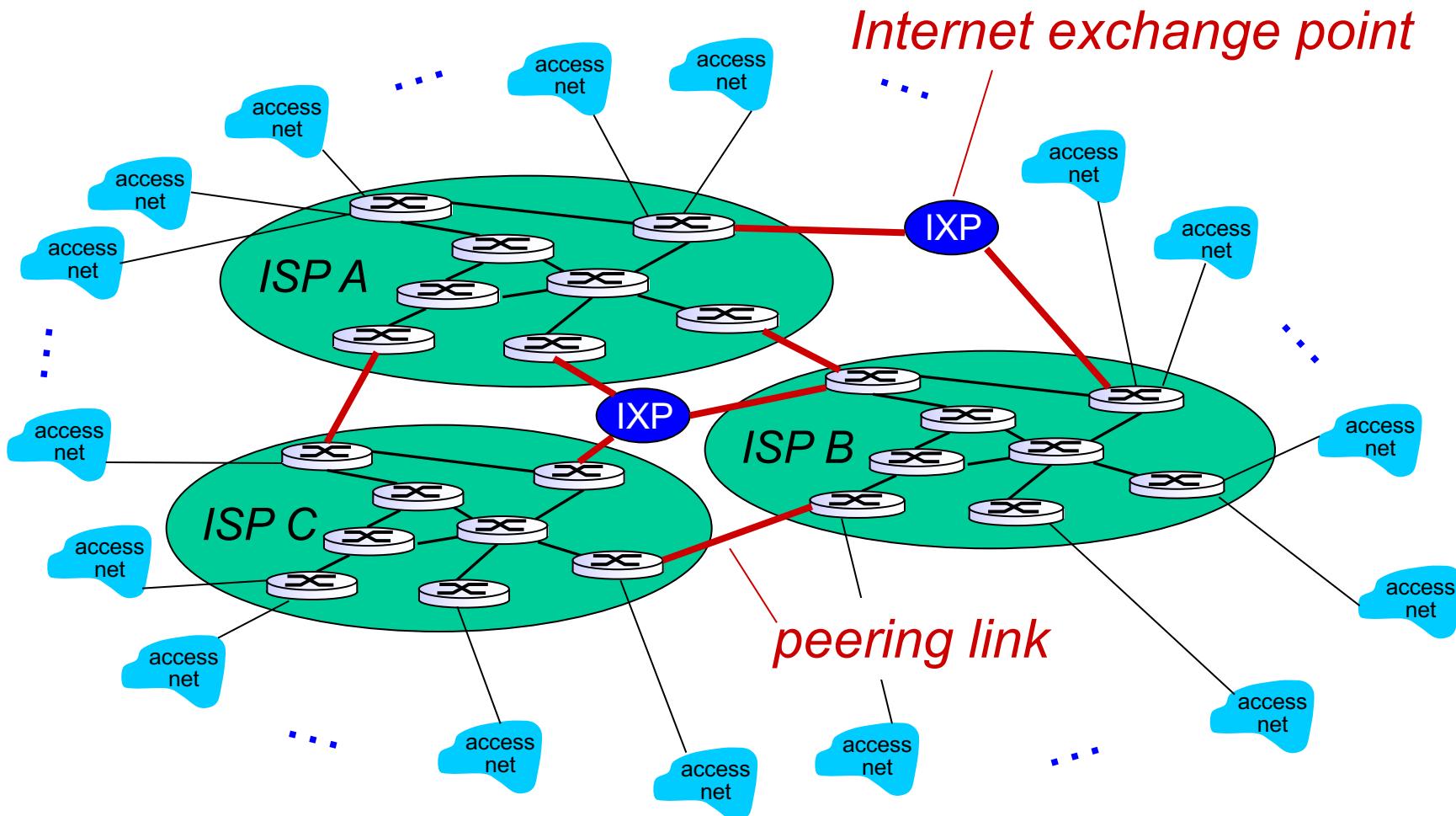
# Option 2\*: multiple Global ISPs?

But if one global ISP is viable business, there will be competitors

....

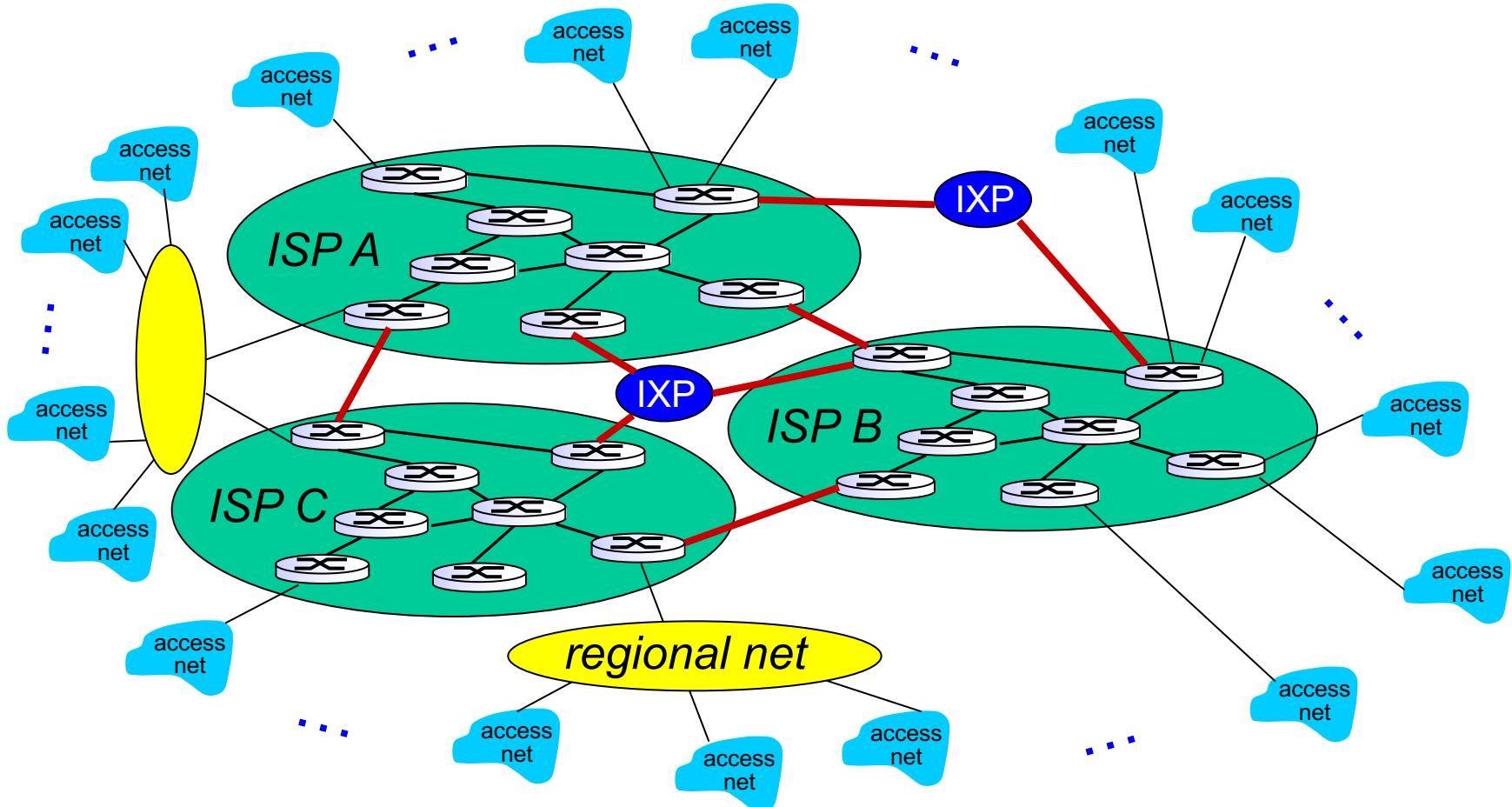


But if one global ISP is viable business, there will be competitors  
.... which must be interconnected



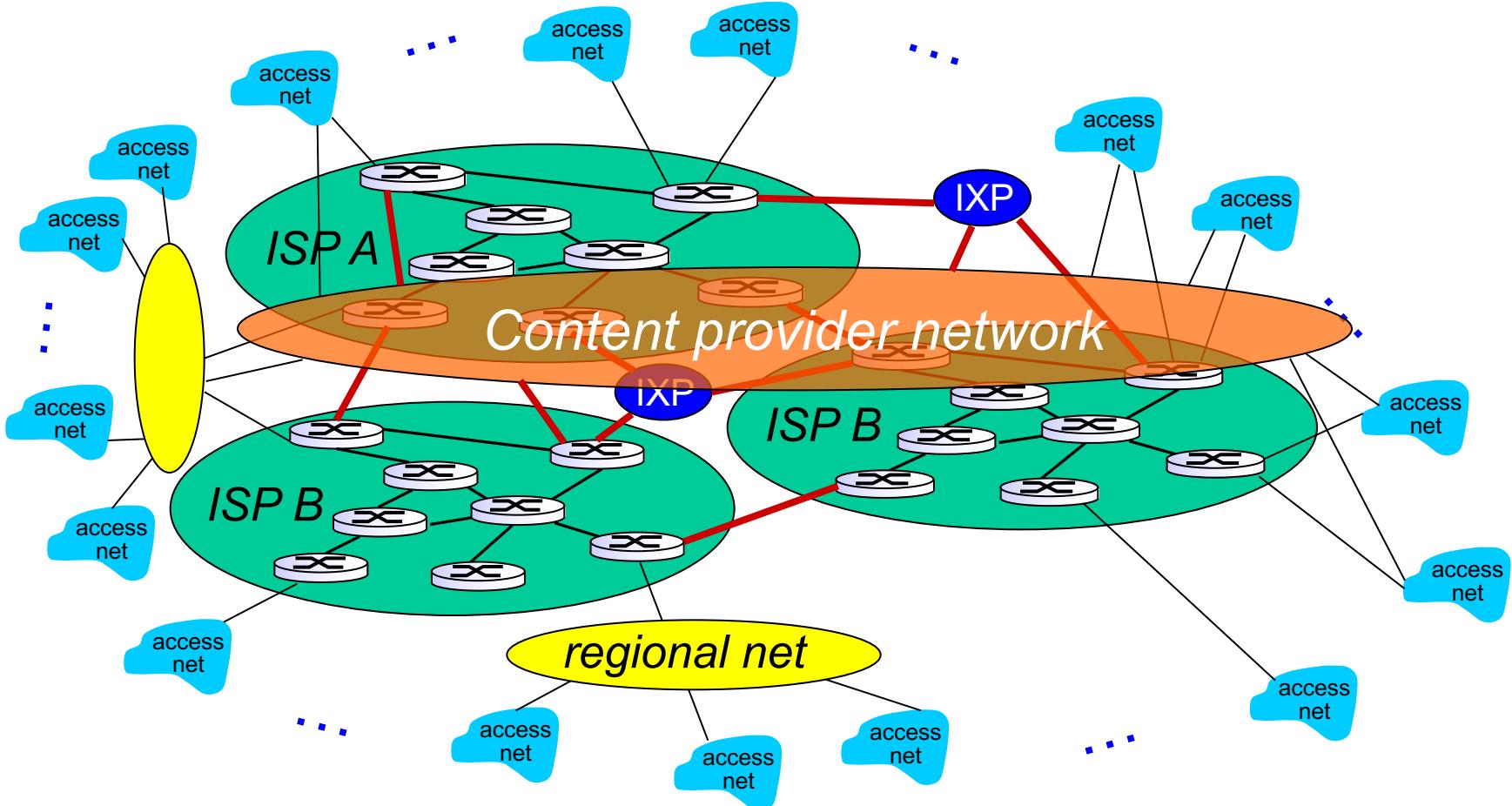
# Option 3: Hierarchical structure

... and regional networks may arise to connect access nets to ISPs

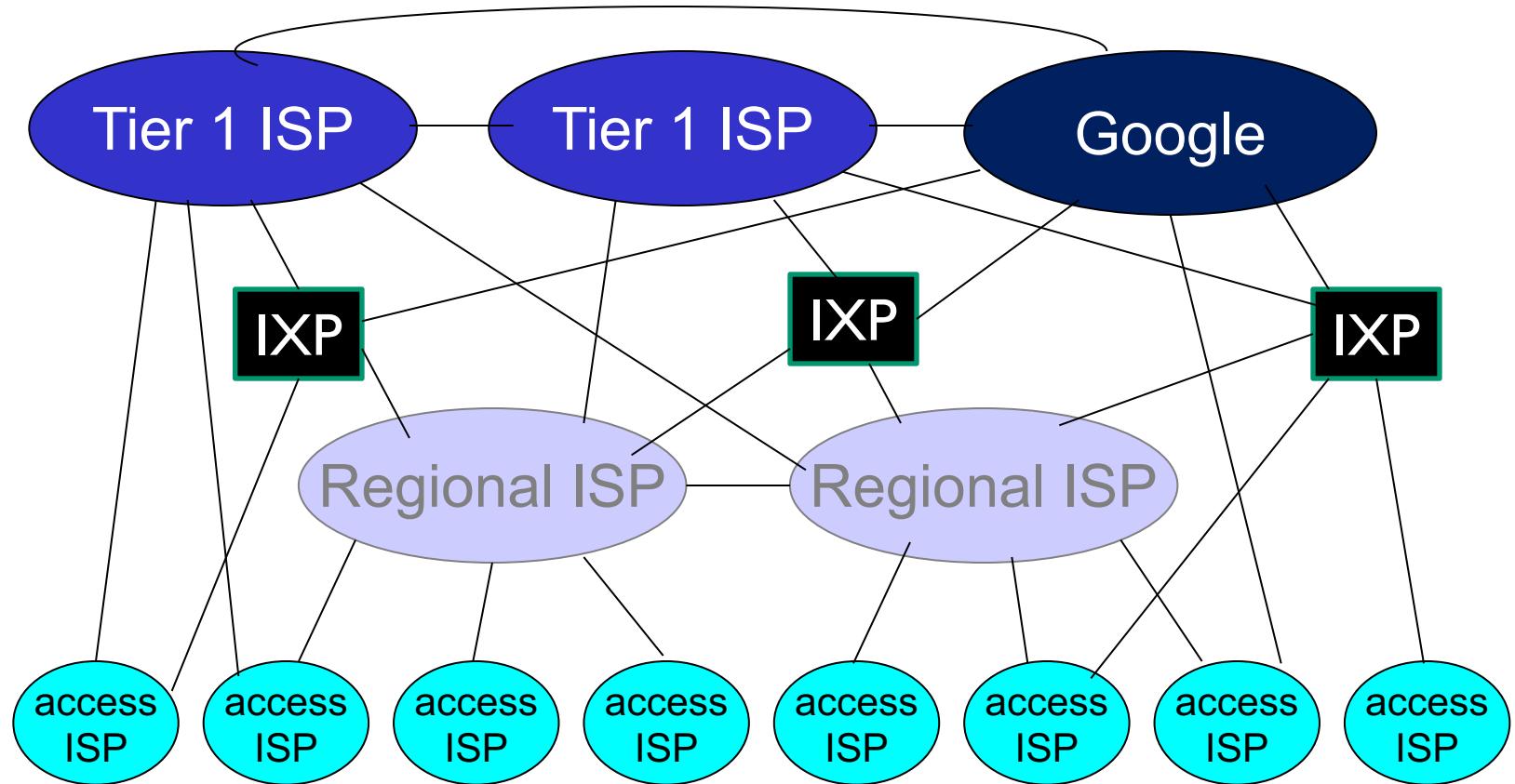


# Internet structure: network of networks

... and content provider networks (e.g., Google, Microsoft, Akamai) may run their own network, to bring services, content close to end users



# Internet structure: network of networks



- at center: **small # of well-connected large networks**
  - “**tier-1**” **commercial ISPs** (e.g., Level 3, Sprint, AT&T, NTT), national & international coverage
  - **content provider network** (e.g, Google): private network that connects its data centers to Internet, often bypassing tier-1, regional ISPs

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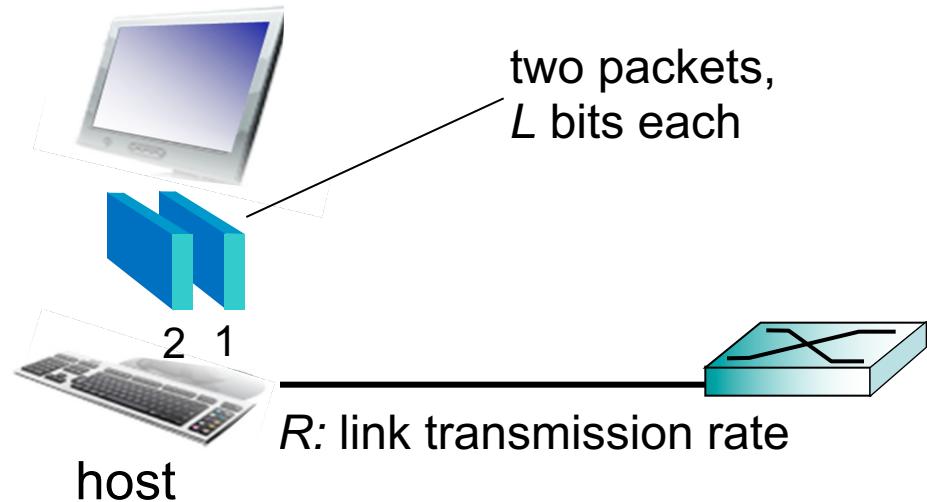
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# Host: sends packets of data (Recap)

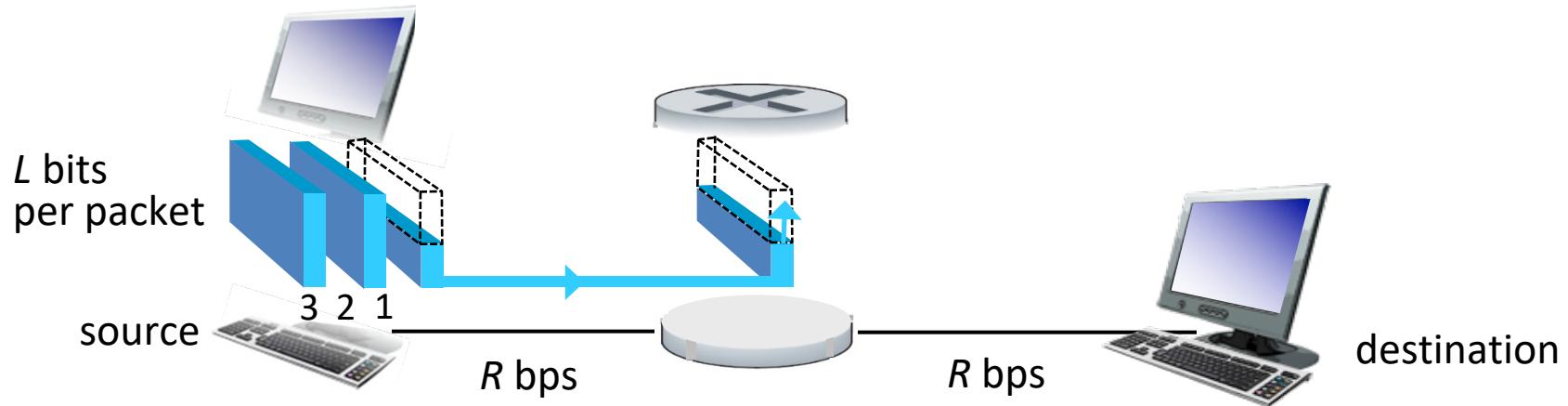
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# Store-and-forward: transmission delay



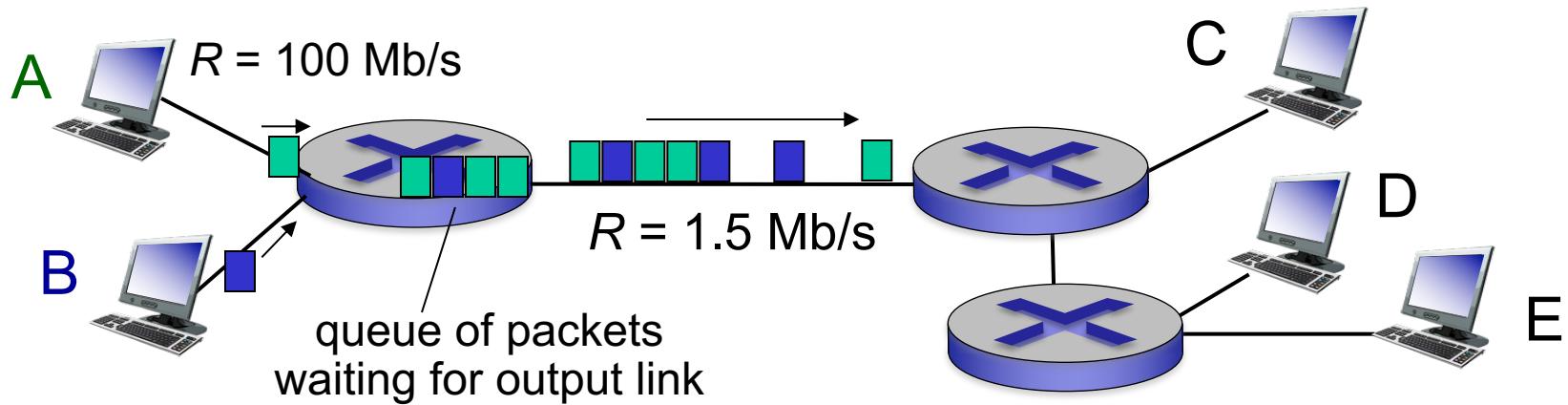
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- one-hop numerical example:*
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# Follow-up questions

- What if we have  $N$  hops?
- What if we have  $P$  packets?
  - Back-to-back

# Packet Switching: queueing delay, loss



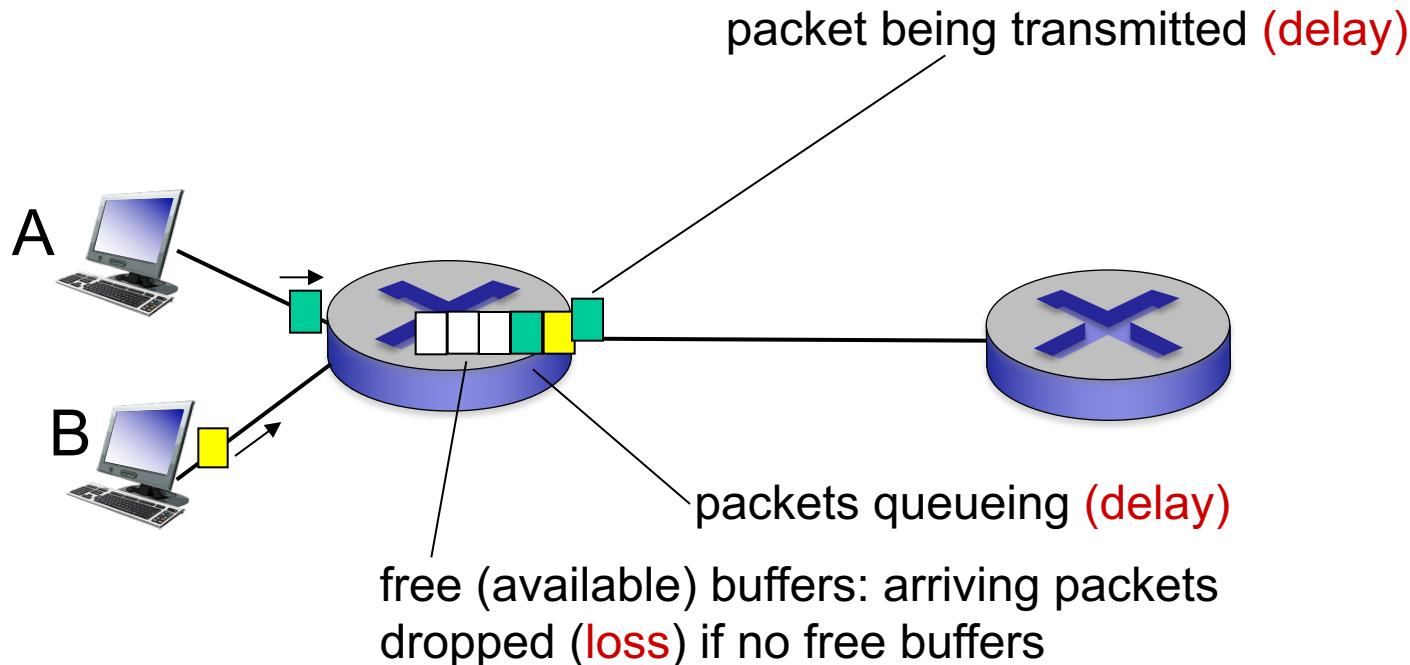
## queuing and loss:

- if arrival rate (in bits) to link exceeds transmission rate of link for a period of time:
  - packets will queue, wait to be transmitted on link
  - packets can be dropped (lost) if memory (buffer) fills up

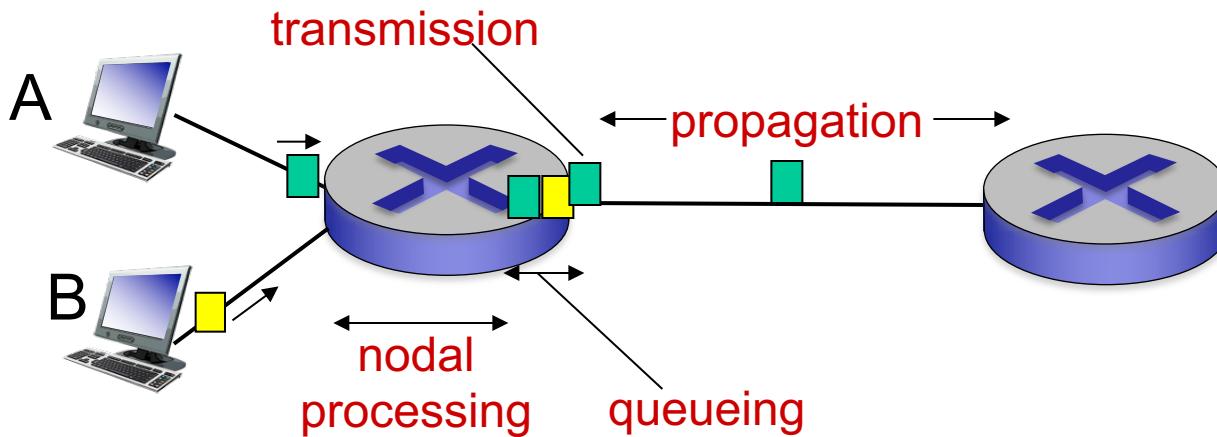
# How do loss and delay occur?

packets queue in router buffers

- packet arrival rate to link (temporarily) exceeds output link capacity
- packets queue, wait for turn



# Four sources of packet delay



$$d_{\text{nodal}} = d_{\text{proc}} + d_{\text{queue}} + d_{\text{trans}} + d_{\text{prop}}$$

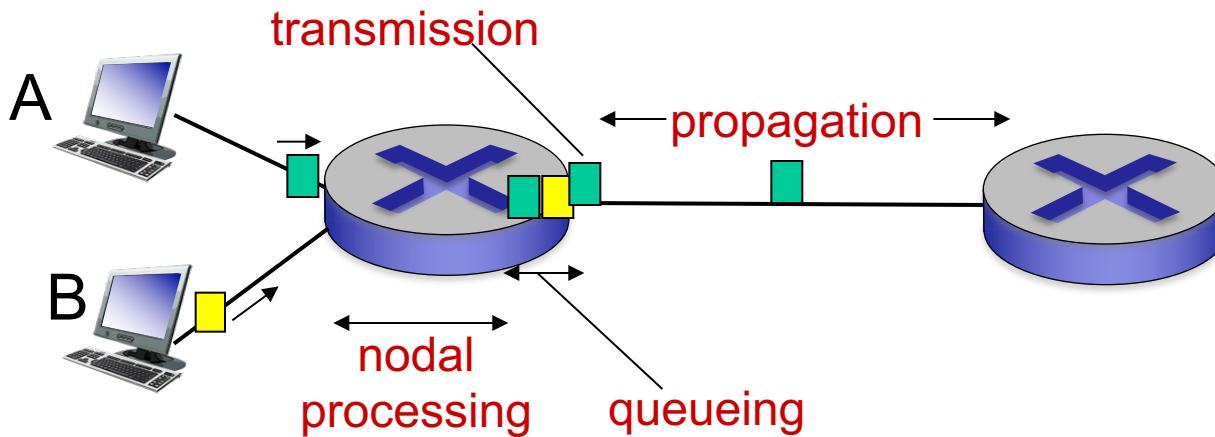
$d_{\text{proc}}$ : nodal processing

- check bit errors
- determine output link
- typically < msec

$d_{\text{queue}}$ : queueing delay

- time waiting at output link for transmission
- depends on congestion level of router

# Four sources of packet delay



$$d_{\text{nodal}} = d_{\text{proc}} + d_{\text{queue}} + d_{\text{trans}} + d_{\text{prop}}$$

$d_{\text{trans}}$ : transmission delay:

- $L$ : packet length (bits)
- $R$ : link bandwidth ( $\text{bps}$ )
- $d_{\text{trans}} = L/R$

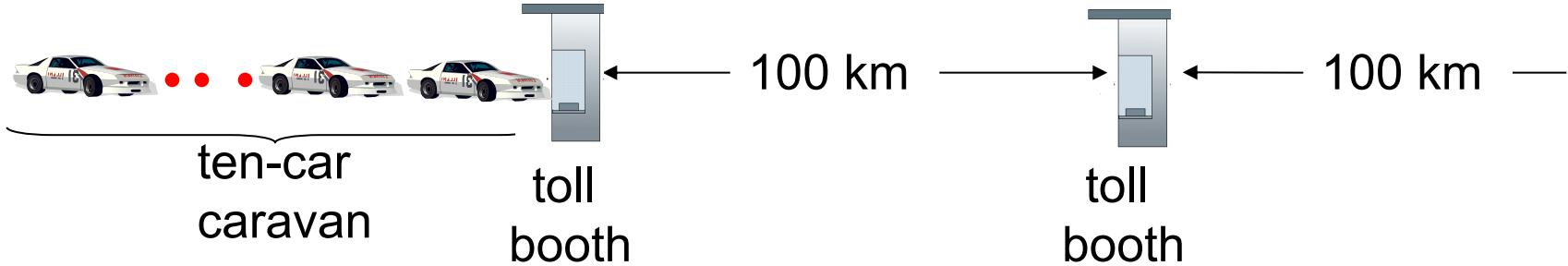
$d_{\text{trans}}$  and  $d_{\text{prop}}$   
very different

$d_{\text{prop}}$ : propagation delay:

- $d$ : length of physical link
- $s$ : propagation speed ( $\sim 2 \times 10^8$  m/sec)
- $d_{\text{prop}} = d/s$

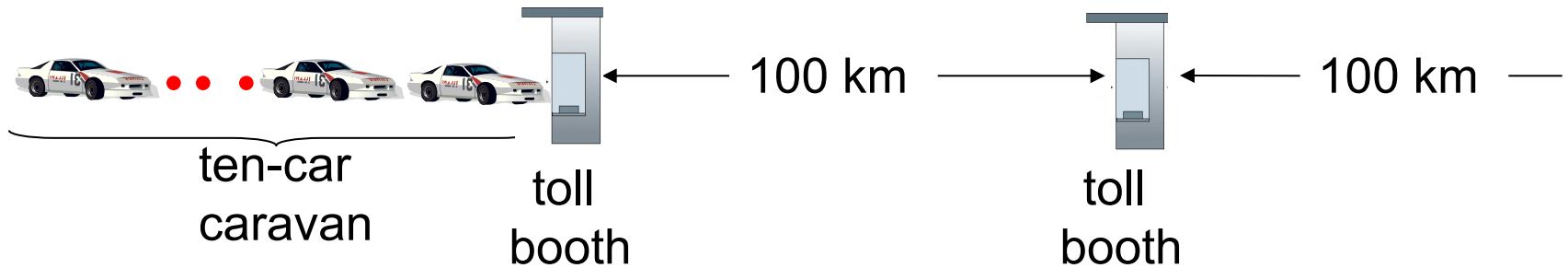
- \* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: [http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose\\_ross/interactive/](http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/)
- \* Check out the Java applet for an interactive animation on trans vs. prop delay

# Caravan analogy



- cars “propagate” at 100 km/hr
- toll booth takes 12 sec to service car (bit transmission time)
- car ~ bit; caravan ~ packet
- Q: How long until caravan is lined up before 2nd toll booth?  
A: 62 minutes
- time to “push” entire caravan through toll booth onto highway =  $12*10 = 120$  sec
- time for last car to propagate from 1st to 2nd toll both:  
 $100\text{km}/(100\text{km/hr})= 1\text{ hr}$

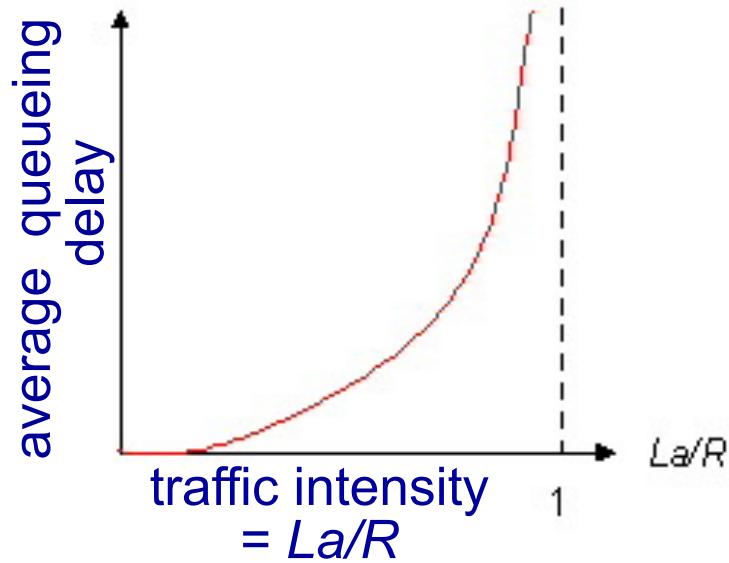
# Caravan analogy (more)



- suppose cars now “propagate” at 1000 km/hr
- and suppose toll booth now takes one min to service a car
- **Q: Will cars arrive to 2nd booth before all cars serviced at first booth?**
  - **A: Yes!** after 7 min, first car arrives at second booth; three cars still at first booth

# Queueing delay (revisited)

- $R$ : link bandwidth (bps)
- $L$ : packet length (bits)
- $a$ : average packet arrival rate



- $La/R \sim 0$ : avg. queueing delay small
- $La/R \rightarrow 1$ : avg. queueing delay large
- $La/R > 1$ : more “work” arriving than can be serviced, average delay infinite!



$La/R \sim 0$

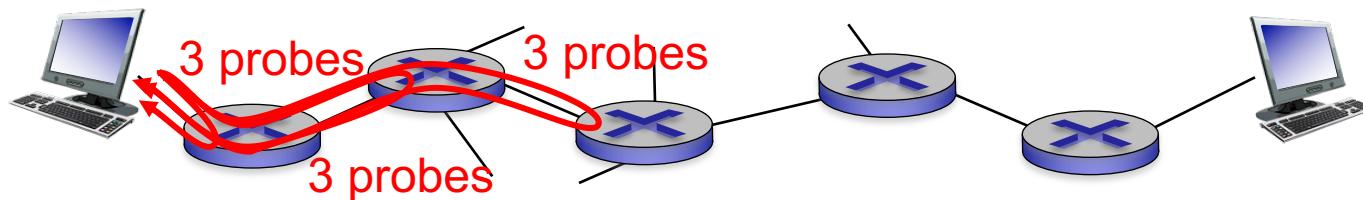


$La/R \rightarrow 1$

\* Check online interactive animation on queuing and loss

# “Real” Internet delays and routes

- what do “real” Internet delay & loss look like?
- **traceroute** program: provides delay measurement from source to router along end-end Internet path towards destination. For all  $i$ :
  - sends three packets that will reach router  $i$  on path towards destination
  - router  $i$  will return packets to sender
  - sender times interval between transmission and reply.



# “Real” Internet delays, routes

traceroute: gaia.cs.umass.edu to www.eurecom.fr

3 delay measurements from  
gaia.cs.umass.edu to cs-gw.cs.umass.edu

1	cs-gw (128.119.240.254)	1 ms	1 ms	2 ms
2	border1-rt-fa5-1-0.gw.umass.edu (128.119.3.145)	1 ms	1 ms	2 ms
3	cht-vbns.gw.umass.edu (128.119.3.130)	6 ms	5 ms	5 ms
4	jn1-at1-0-0-19.wor.vbns.net (204.147.132.129)	16 ms	11 ms	13 ms
5	jn1-so7-0-0-0.wae.vbns.net (204.147.136.136)	21 ms	18 ms	18 ms
6	abilene-vbns.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.11.9)	22 ms	18 ms	22 ms
7	nycm-wash.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.46)	22 ms	22 ms	22 ms
8	62.40.103.253 (62.40.103.253)	104 ms	109 ms	106 ms
9	de2-1.de1.de.geant.net (62.40.96.129)	109 ms	102 ms	104 ms
10	de.fr1.fr.geant.net (62.40.96.50)	113 ms	121 ms	114 ms
11	renater-gw.fr1.fr.geant.net (62.40.103.54)	112 ms	114 ms	112 ms
12	nio-n2.cssi.renater.fr (193.51.206.13)	111 ms	114 ms	116 ms
13	nice.cssi.renater.fr (195.220.98.102)	123 ms	125 ms	124 ms
14	r3t2-nice.cssi.renater.fr (195.220.98.110)	126 ms	126 ms	124 ms
15	eurecom-valbonne.r3t2.ft.net (193.48.50.54)	135 ms	128 ms	133 ms
16	194.214.211.25 (194.214.211.25)	126 ms	128 ms	126 ms
17	***			
18	***	* means no response (probe lost, router not replying)		
19	fantasia.eurecom.fr (193.55.113.142)	132 ms	128 ms	136 ms

trans-oceanic link

\* Do some traceroutes from exotic countries at [www.traceroute.org](http://www.traceroute.org)

# Demo in Class

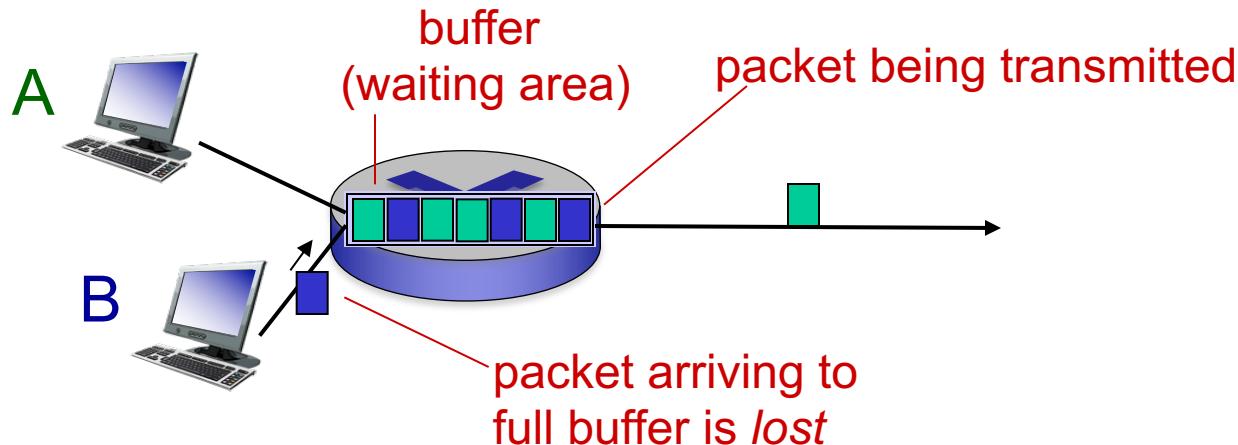
1. traceroute www.google.com

2. traceroute europa.eu

- What are differences you can see?
- Can you see the link across the ocean?
- Why?

# Packet loss

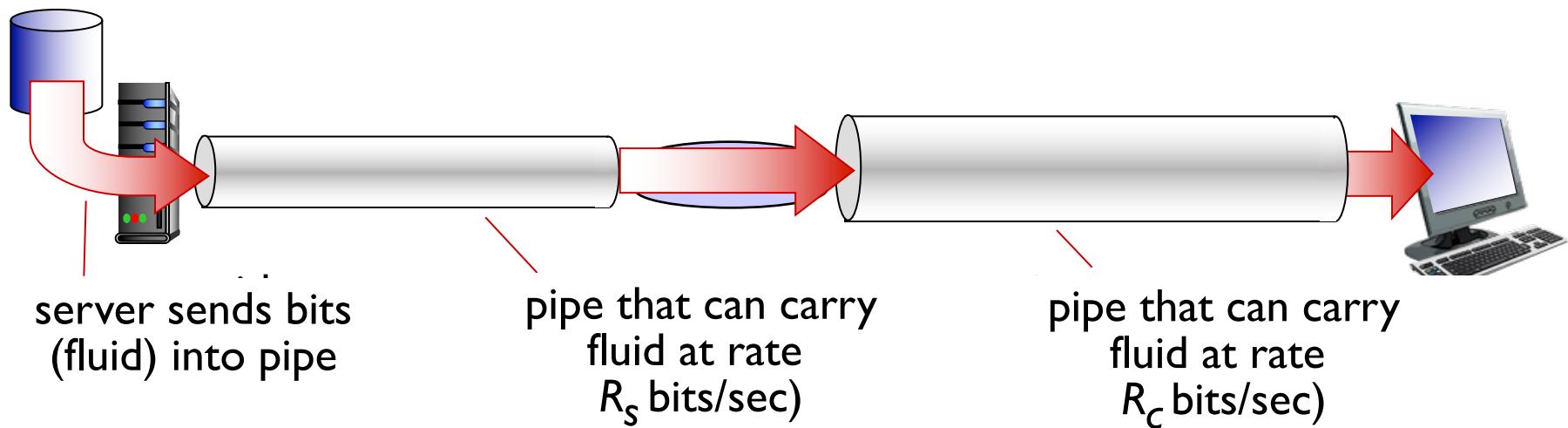
- queue (aka buffer) preceding link in buffer has finite capacity
- packet arriving to full queue dropped (aka lost)
- lost packet may be retransmitted by previous node, by source end system, or not at all



\* Check out the Java applet for an interactive animation on queuing and loss

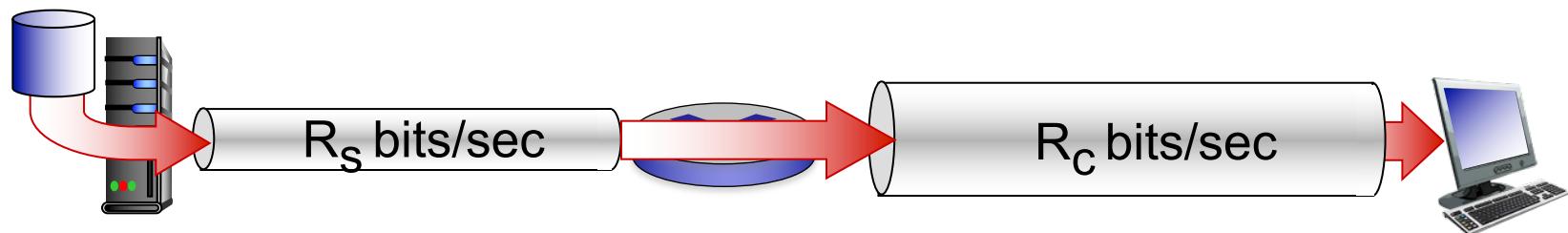
# Throughput

- **throughput:** rate (bits/time unit) at which bits transferred between sender/receiver
  - *instantaneous:* rate at given point in time
  - *average:* rate over longer period of time

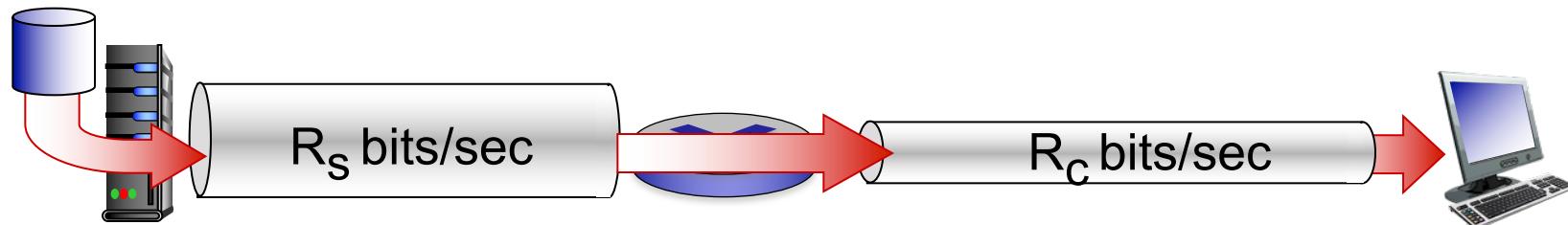


# Throughput (more)

- $R_s < R_c$  What is average end-end throughput?



- $R_s > R_c$  What is average end-end throughput?

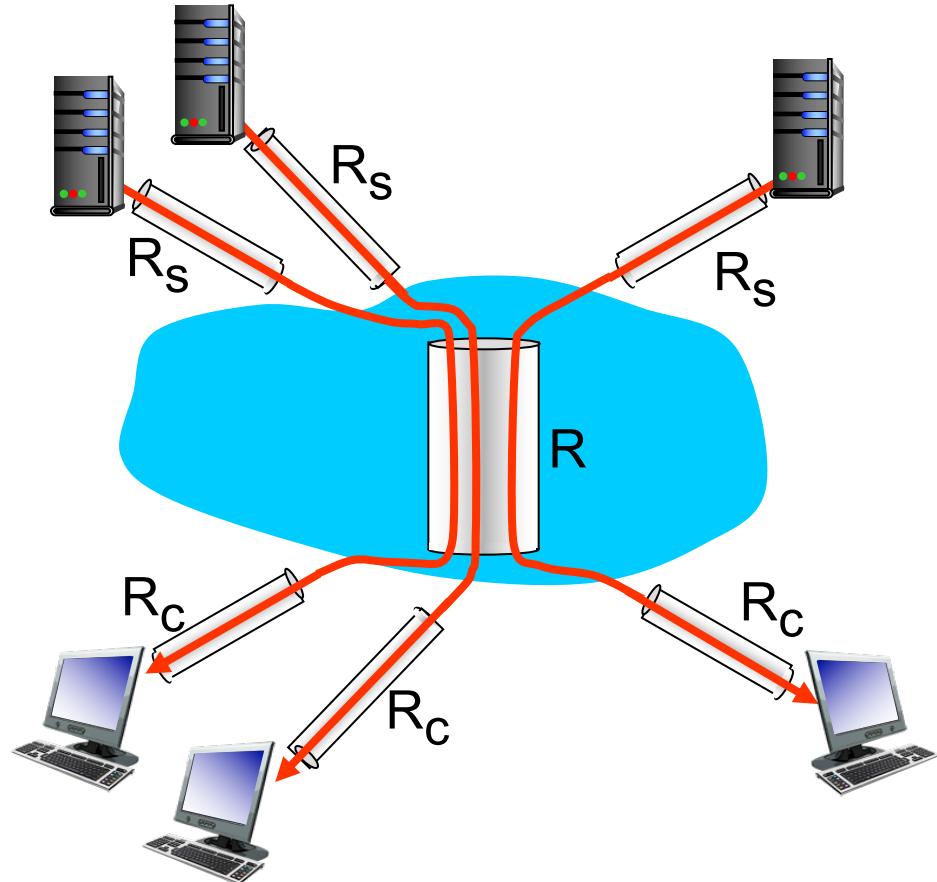


*bottleneck link*

link on end-end path that constrains end-end throughput

# Throughput: Internet scenario

- per-connection end-end throughput:  
 $\min(R_o R_s R / 10)$
- in practice:  $R_c$  or  $R_s$  is often bottleneck



10 connections (fairly) share backbone bottleneck link  $R$  bits/sec

\* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: [http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose\\_ross/interactive/](http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/)

# Chapter I: roadmap

I.1 what *is* the Internet?

I.2 network edge

- end systems, access networks, links

I.3 network core

- packet switching, circuit switching, network structure

I.4 delay, loss, throughput in networks

I.5 protocol layers, service models

I.6 ~~networks under attack: security~~

I.7 ~~history~~

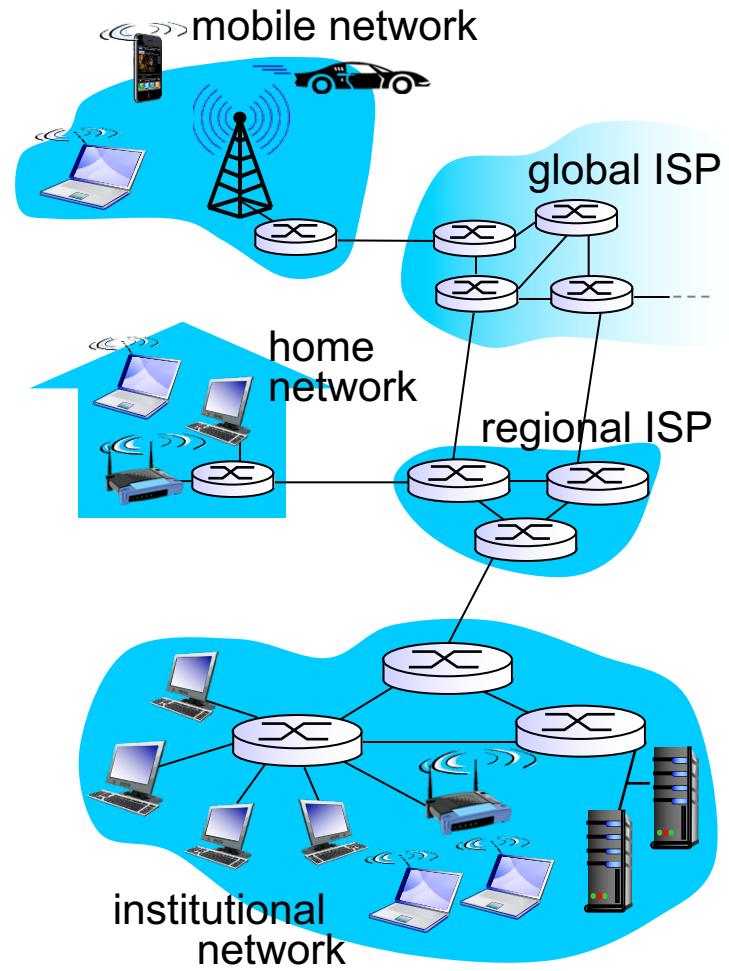
# What's the Internet: a software view

❖ *protocols* control sending,  
receiving msgs

- e.g., HTTP, Skype, TCP,  
IP, 802.11

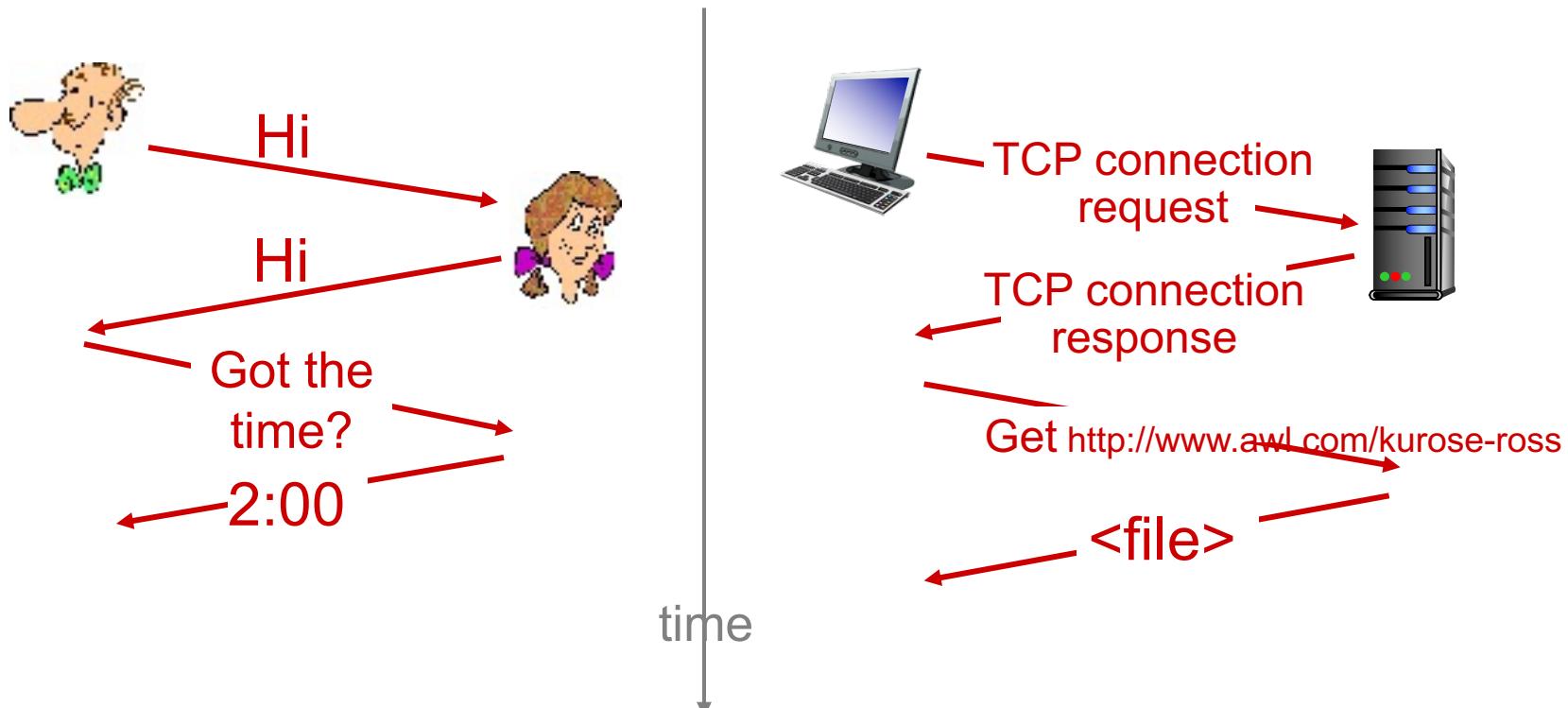
❖ *Internet standards:*  
*standardize protocol  
specifications*

- RFC: Request for  
comments
- IETF: Internet Engineering  
Task Force



# What's a protocol?

a human protocol and a computer network protocol:



**3 elements: format, order of msgs, and actions**

# What's a protocol?

## *human protocols:*

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

... specific msgs sent

... in a specific order

... specific actions taken  
when msgs received, or  
other events

## *network protocols:*

- machines rather than humans
- all communication activity in Internet governed by protocols

*protocols define format, order  
of msgs sent and received  
among network entities,  
and actions taken on msg  
transmission, receipt*

# Protocol “layers”

*Networks are complex,  
with many “pieces”:*

- hosts
- routers
- links of various media
- applications
- protocols
- hardware, software

*Question:*

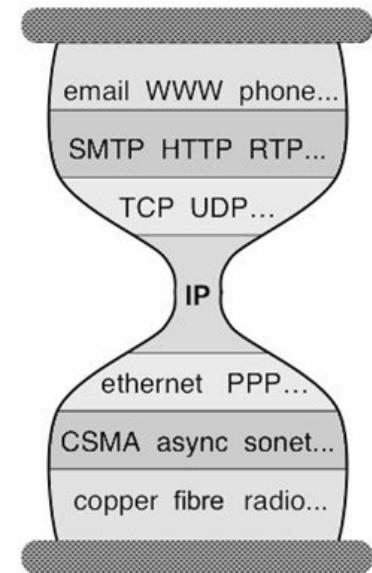
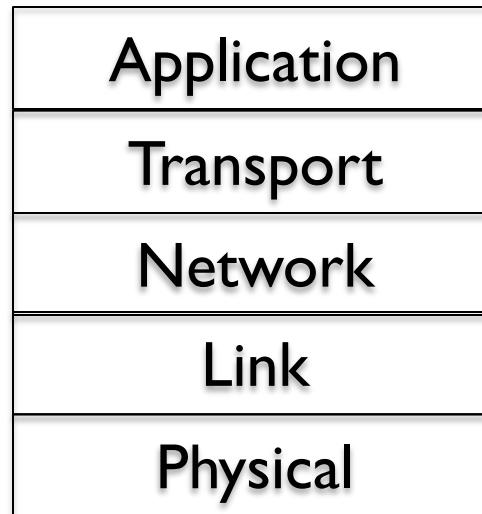
is there any hope of  
organizing structure of  
network?

.... or at least our  
discussion of networks?

# Internet Protocol “layers”

*Networks are complex,  
with many “pieces”:*

- hosts
- routers
- links of various media
- applications
- protocols
- hardware, software

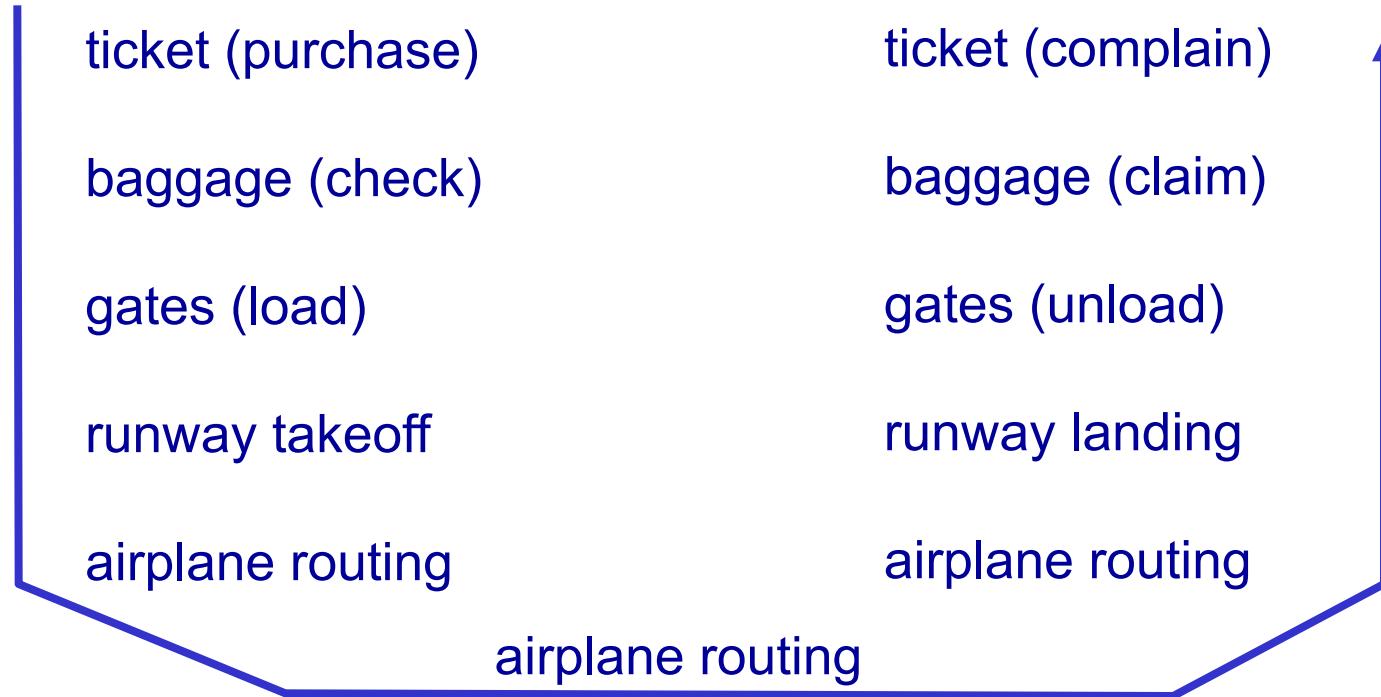


# Why Layering?

Decomposed complex delivery into fundamental components

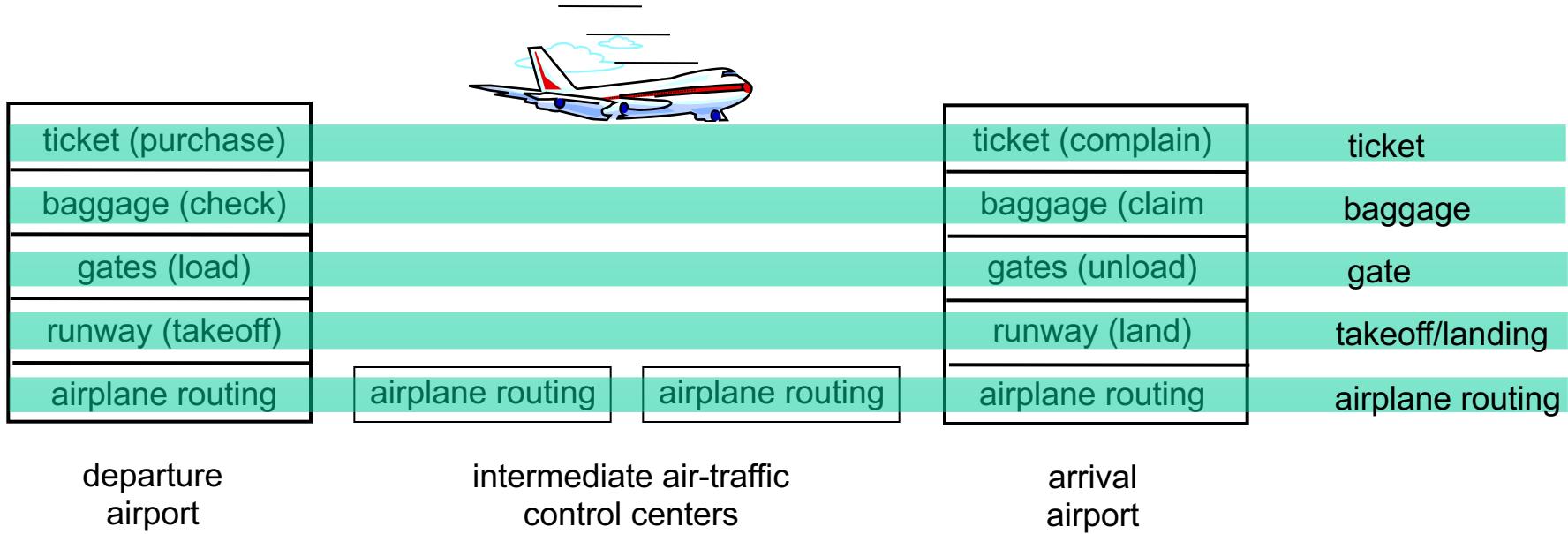
- **Explicit** structure allows identification, relationship of complex system's pieces
  - layered *reference model* for discussion
- **Modularization** eases maintenance, updating of system
  - change of implementation of layer's service transparent to the rest of system

# Analog: air travel



- a series of steps

# Layering of airline functionality



*layers:* each layer implements a service

- via its own internal-layer actions
- relying on services provided by layer below

# Layering in Internet protocol stack

Applications

*... built on ...*

Reliable (or unreliable) transport

*... built on ...*

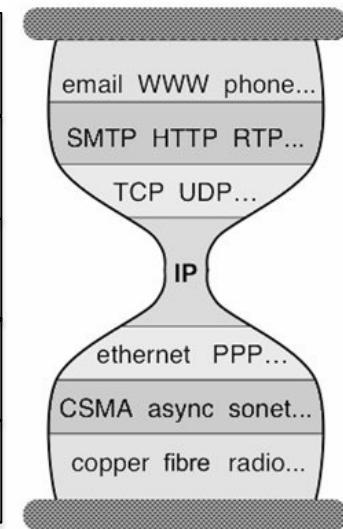
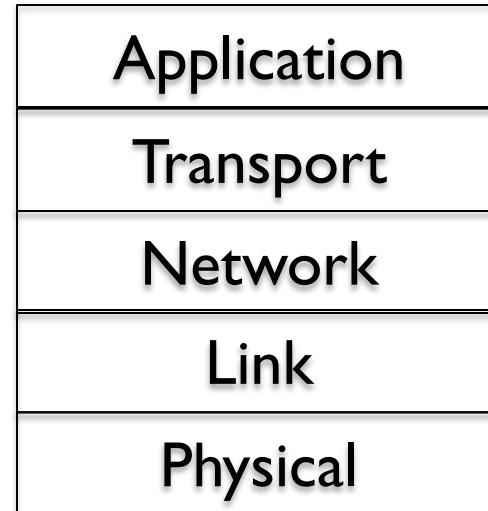
Best-effort global packet delivery

*... built on ...*

Best-effort local packet delivery

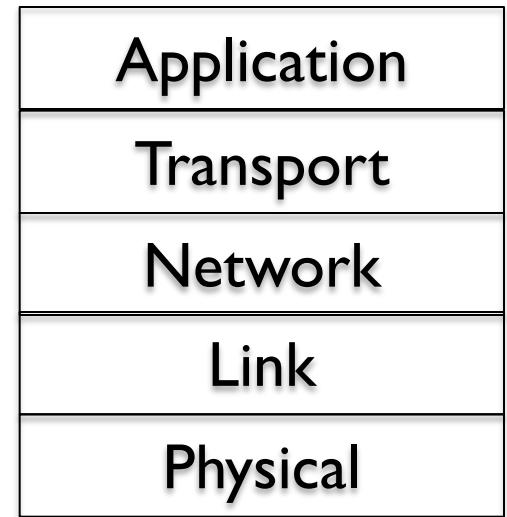
*... built on ...*

Physical transfer of bits



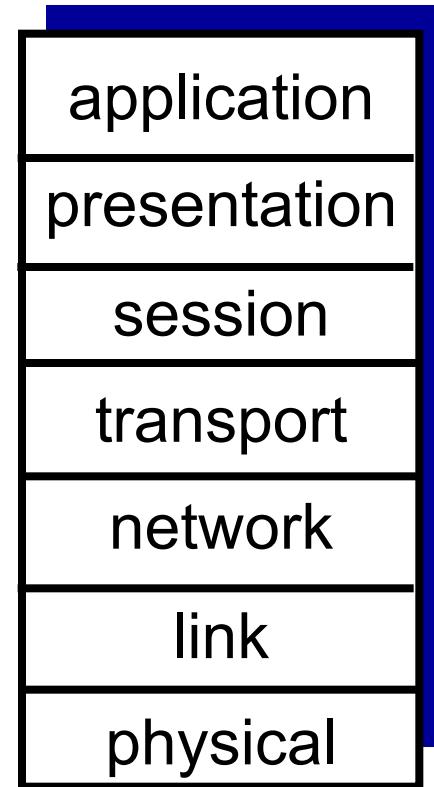
# Layering in Internet protocol stack

- *application*: supporting network applications
  - FTP, SMTP, HTTP
- *transport*: process-process data transfer
  - TCP, UDP
- *network*: routing of datagrams from source to destination
  - IP, routing protocols
- *link*: data transfer between neighboring network elements
  - Ethernet, 802.111 (WiFi), PPP
- *physical*: bits “on the wire”

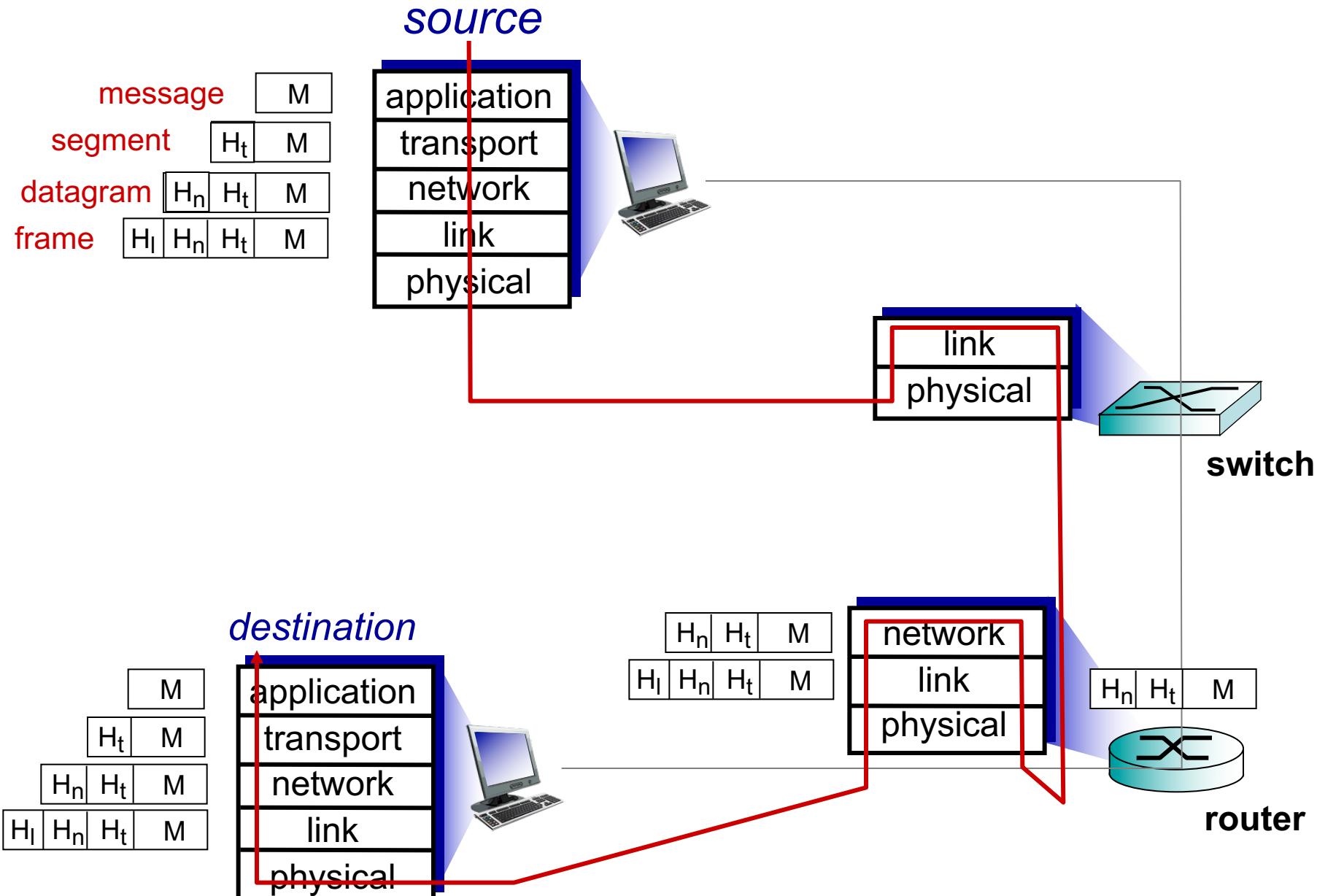


# ISO/OSI reference model

- ***presentation:*** allow applications to interpret meaning of data, e.g., encryption, compression, machine-specific conventions
- ***session:*** synchronization, checkpointing, recovery of data exchange
- Internet stack “missing” these layers!
  - these services, *if needed*, must be implemented in application
  - Q: are they needed?



# Encapsulation & Decapsulation



# Advanced topics (optional)

If you are interested, you can download and study the following Internet tools:

- Packet sniffer and analyzer
  - **tcpdump** (command)
    - > tcpdump -i en0
    - > tcpdump -i en0 -c 10 -w test.cap
    - > tcpdump -r test.cap
  - More usage via Google “tcpdump”
- **wireshark** (UI)

# Chapter I: Summary

- what's the Internet?
- network edge
  - hosts, access network
- network core
  - Packet switching versus. circuit switching
- performance: loss, delay, throughput
- what's a protocol?
  - protocol layers, service models

You now have overview, “feel” of the Internet

- more depth, detail *to follow!*