Case study: ATM ABR congestion control

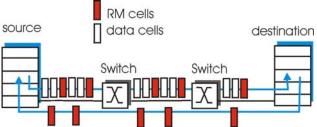
ABR: available bit rate:

- "elastic service"
- if sender's path "underloaded":
 - sender should use available bandwidth
- if sender's path congested:
 - sender throttled to minimum guaranteed rate

RM (resource management) cells:

- sent by sender, interspersed with data cells
- bits in RM cell set by switches ("network-assisted")
 - NI bit: no increase in rate (mild congestion)
 - CI bit: congestion indication
- RM cells returned to sender by receiver, with bits intact

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- two-byte ER (explicit rate) field in RM cell
 - congested switch may lower ER value in cell
 - sender' send rate thus minimum supportable rate on path
- EFCI bit in data cells: set to 1 in congested switch
 - if data cell preceding RM cell has EFCI set, sender sets CI bit in returned RM cell