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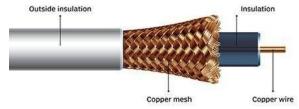
Physical Media

Coaxial Cable
Twisted-Pair Cable
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Media Converters



Coaxial Cable

A type of copper cable specially built with a metal shield and other components engineered to block signal interference



- Inexpensive
 - / Easy to install
 - Easy to expand
- 🗸 Resistance to EMI
- Up to 10 Mbps
- Durable

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Coaxial Cable

There are two types of coaxial cable:





Thicknet (10Base5)

Thinnet (10Base2)

Thicknet and thinnet are used in Ethernet implementations



Twisted-Pair Cable



The most common type of network medium used in LAN today



UTP - Unshielded Twisted pair



STP - Shielded Twisted pair



Cheaper





Easy to work High transmission



Twisted-Pair Cable



N <Signaling> X

N: Signaling rate in Mbps

<Signaling>: Signalling type (baseband or broadband)

X: Unique identifier

Examples:

10Base-T: 10Mb or 10Megabits twisted pair

100Base-F: 100Mb or 100Megabits fiber



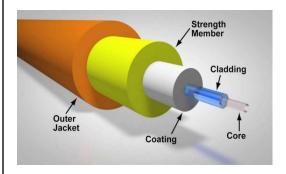
Twisted-Pair Cable

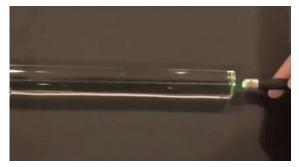


UTP Categories - Copper Cable							
UTP Category	Data Rate	Max. Length	Cable Type	Application			
CAT1	Up to 1Mbps	-	Twisted Pair	Old Telephone Cable			
CAT2	Up to 4Mbps	-	Twisted Pair	Token Ring Networks			
CAT3	Up to 10Mbps	100m	Twisted Pair	Token Rink & 10BASE-T Ethernet			
CAT4	Up to 16Mbps	100m	Twisted Pair	Token Ring Networks			
CAT5	Up to 100Mbps	100m	Twisted Pair	Ethernet, FastEthernet, Token Ring			
CAT5e	Up to 1 Gbps	100m	Twisted Pair	Ethernet, FastEthernet, Gigabit Ethernet			
CAT6	Up to 10Gbps	100m	Twisted Pair	GigabitEthernet, 10G Ethernet (55 meters)			
CAT6a	Up to 10Gbps	100m	Twisted Pair	GigabitEthernet, 10G Ethernet (55 meters)			
CAT7	Up to 10Gbps	100m	Twisted Pair	GigabitEthernet, 10G Ethernet (100 meters			

Fiber-Optic Cable

Very thin strand of pure glass that acts as a waveguide for light over long distances





Total internal reflection



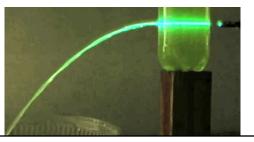
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Fiber-Optic Cable



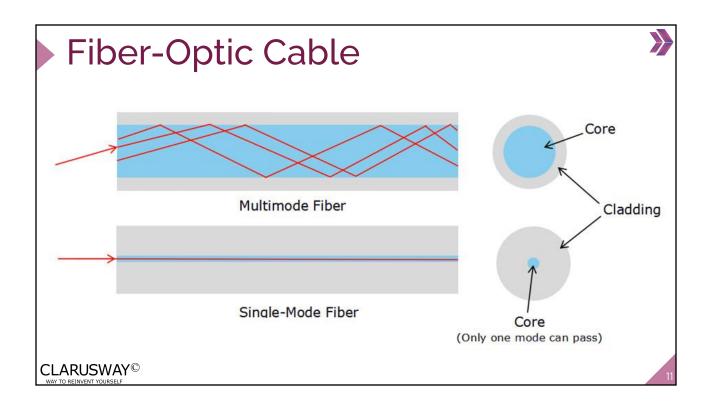
- Immune to EMI and RFI*
- Very long range
- Broad bandwidth (Tbits/s or THz)
- Low transmission loss
- Not dissipate heat

- Difficult to install
- More expensive than TP
- Troubleshooting equipment is more expensive then TP test equipment
- Harder to troubleshoot



*EMI: Electromagnetic interference RFI: Radio frequency interference





Media Converters

Converts Ethernet or other communication protocols from one cable type to another type

Main types:

- Fiber-to-Ethernet
- Fiber-to-Coaxial
- Fiber-to-Fiber
- Ethernet-to-Coaxial



Fiber-to-Ethernet converter



Cable Properties



Cable Properties



Transmission Speeds

Based on the type of cable or fiber, network administrators can control the speed of a network to meet the network's traffic demands

Media Type	Bandwidth	Performance: Typical Error Rate	
Twisted-pair for analog voice applications	1 MHz	Poor to fair (10 ⁻⁵)	
Coaxial cable	1 GHz	Good (10 ⁻⁷ to 10 ⁻⁹)	
Microwave	100 GHz	Good (10 ⁻⁹)	
Satellite	100 GHz	Good (10 ⁻⁹)	
Fiber	75 THz	Great (10 ⁻¹¹ to 10 ⁻¹³)	

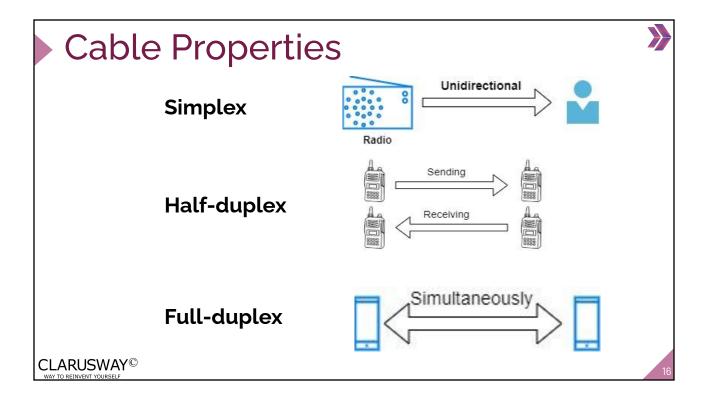
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Cable Properties

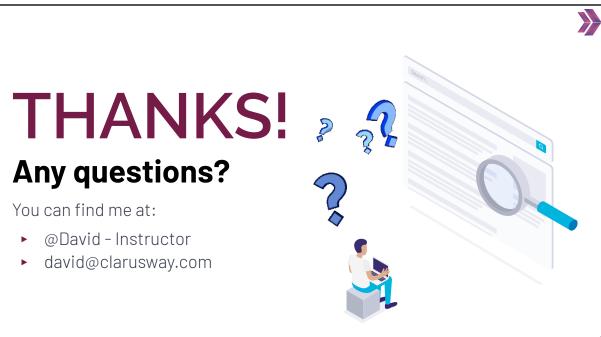
Distance

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Standard	Data Rate	Max Distance	Cable Type
10Base2	10 Mbps	185 m	Coaxial
10Base5	10 Mbps	500 m	Coaxial
10BaseT	10 Mbps	100 m	Ethernet
100BaseT	100 Mbps	100 m	Ethernet
1000BaseT	1 Gbps	100 m	Ethernet
10BaseFL	10 Mbps	2 km	Fiber (Multi Mode)
100BaseSX	100 Mbps	300 m	Fiber (Multi Mode)
100BaseLX	100 Mbps	100 km	Fiber (Single Mode)
1000BaseLH	1 Gbps	70 km	Fiber (Single Mode)







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