Computer Networks

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Unit 1

Data Communications

Data communications is the process of transmitting and receiving data between two devices or systems through a medium such as a wired or wireless connection. It plays a fundamental role in computer networks and is essential for information exchange. This topic covers various aspects of data communications:

1. Data Communication Components:

- Data Data refers to the information that is being transmitted. It can be in various forms, such as text, images, or videos.
- Sender The sender, also known as the transmitter, is the device or entity that initiates data transmission.
- Receiver The receiver is the device or entity that receives the data transmitted by the sender.
- Transmission Medium The transmission medium is the physical path through which data travels. It can be wired, such as copper cables or optical fibers, or wireless, such as radio waves or microwaves.
- Protocol A protocol is a set of rules and conventions that govern the data communication process, ensuring data integrity, reliability, and proper synchronization between sender and receiver.

2. Types of Data Communication:

Data communication can be classified into two main types:

- Analog Communication In analog communication, data is transmitted in continuous, variable waveforms. Examples include analog telephones and AM/FM radio.
- Digital Communication Digital communication involves transmitting data in discrete, binary form. Digital communication is widely used in modern computer networks and includes techniques like digital modulation and encoding.

3. Data Transmission Modes:

• Simplex - In simplex mode, data flows in one direction only, from sender to receiver. This mode is unidirectional, much like a TV broadcast.

- Half-Duplex Half-duplex mode allows data to flow in both directions, but not simultaneously. Devices take turns transmitting and receiving, similar to a walkietalkie.
- Full-Duplex Full-duplex mode enables simultaneous bidirectional communication, where both sender and receiver can transmit and receive data concurrently. This mode is commonly used in modern networking.

4. Data Transmission Techniques:

- Baseband Transmission Baseband transmission sends digital signals directly without modulation. It's used in Ethernet networks.
- Broadband Transmission Broadband transmission uses modulation to send analog signals over a wide range of frequencies. Cable TV and DSL use broadband transmission.

5. Data Transmission Errors:

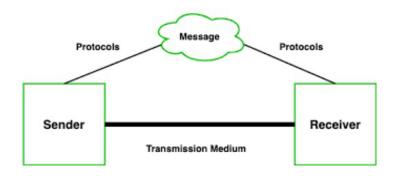
 Noise - Noise refers to unwanted signals that can distort or disrupt the data being transmitted. It's essential to have error detection and correction mechanisms in place to deal with noise.

6. Data Communication Protocols:

- *TCP/IP* The Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol is the foundation of the internet. It ensures reliable data delivery between devices.
- *HTTP/HTTPS* Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and its secure version (HTTPS) are used for transmitting web content.
- *SMTP/POP3/IMAP* Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP), Post Office Protocol (POP3), and Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP) are used for email communication.

These are the fundamental concepts related to data communications. If you have any specific questions or need more details on any subtopic, feel free to ask.

Data Communications Components



Data communication involves the transmission of digital data between devices or systems. Several components play crucial roles in enabling this process. These components can be broadly categorized into the following:

- 1. **Message**: The message is the information that needs to be transmitted from one point to another. It can be in the form of text, images, audio, video, or any other digital data.
- 2. **Sender**: The sender, also known as the transmitter or source, is the device or entity that originates and initiates the data transmission. It is responsible for encoding and sending the message.
- 3. **Receiver**: The receiver is the device or entity at the receiving end, which decodes and processes the transmitted data. Its role is to extract the message from the received signals.
- 4. **Transmission Medium**: The transmission medium is the physical or logical path through which data is transmitted from the sender to the receiver. It can be wired (e.g., copper cables, optical fibers) or wireless (e.g., radio waves, microwaves).
- 5. **Protocol**: Protocols are a set of rules and conventions that govern the format and timing of data transmission, ensuring compatibility and successful communication between sender and receiver.
- 6. **Modem (Modulator-Demodulator)**: Modems are used when data transmission involves both analog and digital signals. They modulate digital data into analog signals for transmission and demodulate incoming analog signals back into digital data.
- 7. **Multiplexers/Demultiplexers (MUX/DEMUX)**: Multiplexers are devices that combine multiple data streams into one signal for transmission, while demultiplexers split the combined signal into individual data streams at the receiving end.

- 8. **Switches/Routers**: In network communication, switches are used to connect devices within a local area network (LAN), while routers are responsible for directing data between different networks, ensuring it reaches the correct destination.
- 9. **Gateway**: A gateway connects networks with different protocols, allowing data to flow between them. It translates data from one network format to another.
- 10. Data Terminal Equipment (DTE) and Data Circuit-Terminating Equipment (DCE): DTE represents devices like computers, while DCE represents equipment like modems. These two work together to establish data connections.
- 11. **Physical Interface**: The physical interface provides the connection point for the transmission medium and ensures that the signals are compatible with the medium used.
- 12. **Error Detection and Correction**: Techniques and mechanisms for detecting and correcting errors that may occur during data transmission, ensuring data integrity.
- 13. Flow Control: Flow control mechanisms manage the rate of data transmission to avoid overwhelming the receiver and maintain data synchronization between sender and receiver.
- 14. **Multiplexing Techniques**: Multiplexing methods such as time-division multiplexing (TDM) and frequency-division multiplexing (FDM) allow multiple signals to share a single transmission medium.
- 15. **Network Topology**: The physical or logical layout of devices and their connections in a network, which can be in the form of bus, star, ring, or mesh topologies.

These are the fundamental components of data communication. Understanding their roles and interactions is essential for designing and maintaining effective data communication systems.

Networks

In the context of computer networks, there are various components and concepts to consider:

1. Network Types:

 Local Area Network (LAN): A LAN is a network that covers a small geographical area, like an office, building, or campus. It typically uses Ethernet

technology.

- Wide Area Network (WAN): A WAN covers a larger geographical area and can connect LANs over long distances, often using technologies like the Internet or leased lines.
- Metropolitan Area Network (MAN): A MAN falls between LAN and WAN in terms of geographic scope, typically covering a city or large campus.

2. Network Topologies:

- Bus Topology: In a bus topology, all devices are connected to a single central cable.
- Star Topology: In a star topology, all devices are connected to a central hub or switch.
- Ring Topology: Devices are connected in a circular manner, with data passing from one device to the next in a ring.
- Mesh Topology: In a mesh topology, every device is connected to every other device, providing redundancy.

3. Networking Devices:

- Router: A router connects different networks and forwards data between them.
- Switch: A switch connects devices within a single network and uses MAC addresses to forward data.
- Hub: Hubs are less intelligent and simply broadcast data to all devices on a network.
- **Gateway**: A gateway connects different networks with different protocols.

4. Network Protocols:

- **TCP/IP**: The Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol is the foundation of the internet.
- HTTP/HTTPS: Hypertext Transfer Protocol and its secure version are used for web communication.
- **FTP**: File Transfer Protocol is used for transferring files.
- SMTP/POP3/IMAP: These are email protocols for sending and receiving emails.

5. Network Addressing:

- **IP Address**: An IP address is a unique identifier for devices on an IP network.
- MAC Address: A MAC address is a hardware address for devices on a local network.
- 6. **Subnetting and CIDR**: Subnetting allows the division of IP networks into smaller, manageable subnetworks. CIDR (Classless Inter-Domain Routing) is used to allocate IP addresses more efficiently.
- 7. **DNS (Domain Name System)**: DNS translates human-readable domain names into IP addresses, making it easier to locate resources on the internet.
- 8. **Firewalls**: Firewalls are used to secure networks by controlling incoming and outgoing network traffic based on an organization's previously established security policies.
- 9. **Wireless Networks**: Wireless networks use radio waves to connect devices without physical cables. Common standards include Wi-Fi (802.11) and cellular networks.

10. Network Security:

- Authentication: Proving the identity of users or devices.
- **Encryption**: Protecting data by converting it into a code.
- Firewalls: Network firewalls filter incoming and outgoing traffic.

11. Network Troubleshooting:

 Identifying and resolving network issues, such as connectivity problems and slow data transmission.

12. Network Management:

 Tools and practices for monitoring and managing network resources and performance.

The Internet

The Internet is a global network of interconnected computer networks that allows for the exchange of data, information, and communication across the world. It is a vast and complex system with several key components and concepts:

1. World Wide Web (WWW):

• The World Wide Web is a system of interconnected webpages, websites, and web applications accessible through the internet.

2. Internet Service Providers (ISPs):

• ISPs are companies or organizations that provide internet access to users. They connect your local network to the global internet.

3. Web Browsers:

 Web browsers are software applications that allow users to access and view web content. Common examples include Chrome, Firefox, and Safari.

4. URL (Uniform Resource Locator):

• A URL is a web address used to identify resources on the internet. It consists of a protocol (e.g., HTTP, HTTPS), domain name, and resource path.

5. **IP Addresses**:

• IP addresses are unique numerical identifiers assigned to devices on the internet. They can be IPv4 (e.g., 192.168.1.1) or IPv6 (e.g., 2001:0db8:85a3:0000:0000:8a2e:0370:7334).

6. Web Servers:

 Web servers are computers or software that host websites and respond to requests from web browsers. They deliver web content to users.

7. Web Hosting:

 Web hosting services provide the infrastructure and services needed to make websites accessible on the internet.

8. HTML (Hypertext Markup Language):

 HTML is the standard markup language used to create webpages and structure web content.

9. HTTP and HTTPS:

• HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) is the protocol used for transmitting data between a web browser and a web server. HTTPS is a secure version of HTTP, encrypting data transmission for increased security.

10. Search Engines:

• Search engines like Google and Bing help users find information on the internet by indexing and ranking web content.

11. E-commerce:

 E-commerce refers to online buying and selling of products and services, including platforms like Amazon and eBay.

12. Social Media:

 Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram enable users to connect and share content with others online.

13. Cloud Computing:

 Cloud services provide on-demand access to computing resources, data storage, and applications over the internet.

14. Cybersecurity:

• Cybersecurity is the practice of protecting data and systems from cyber threats and attacks, including viruses, malware, and hacking.

15. Streaming Services:

 Streaming services like Netflix and YouTube allow users to watch videos and other media content over the internet in real-time.

The Internet is a dynamic and ever-evolving entity, constantly expanding and changing. It has transformed the way we access information, communicate, and conduct business on a global scale.

Protocols and Standards

In the realm of computer networks and communication, protocols and standards play a fundamental role in ensuring that devices can effectively communicate and share data. Here are key points related to protocols and standards:

1. **Protocol Definition**: A protocol is a set of rules and conventions that govern how data is transmitted, received, and processed in a network. It ensures that devices can understand and work together.

- Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Model: The OSI model is a conceptual framework that standardizes network communication into seven layers, each responsible for a specific aspect of communication, from physical transmission to application-level interactions.
 - Layer 1: Physical Layer
 - Layer 2: Data Link Layer
 - Layer 3: Network Layer
 - Layer 4: Transport Layer
 - Layer 5: Session Layer
 - Layer 6: Presentation Layer
 - Layer 7: Application Layer
- 3. **TCP/IP Protocol Suite**: The TCP/IP protocol suite is the foundation of the internet. It includes protocols like:
 - TCP (Transmission Control Protocol): Ensures reliable data transmission.
 - IP (Internet Protocol): Manages addressing and routing of data packets.
 - UDP (User Datagram Protocol): Provides faster, but less reliable, data transmission.
 - ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol): Used for network diagnostics and error reporting.
- 4. **HTTP and HTTPS**: Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and its secure version (HTTPS) define how web browsers and web servers communicate. HTTPS adds encryption for secure data exchange.

5. Email Protocols:

- SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol): Sending emails.
- POP3 (Post Office Protocol Version 3) and IMAP (Internet Message Access Protocol): Retrieving emails from servers.
- 6. **Ethernet**: Ethernet is a widely used standard for LANs, specifying how data packets are framed, addressed, and transmitted over the physical network.

7. Wireless Protocols:

- Wi-Fi (802.11 standards): Specify wireless LAN communication.
- Bluetooth: Used for short-range wireless connections between devices.
- 8. **DNS (Domain Name System)**: DNS protocols translate domain names to IP addresses, facilitating web address resolution.

9. Security Standards:

- TLS/SSL (Transport Layer Security/Secure Sockets Layer): Ensure data encryption and secure communication.
- IPsec (Internet Protocol Security): Provides secure communication at the network layer.
- 10. **VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol)**: Standards and protocols for transmitting voice and multimedia over the internet.

11. Web Services Standards:

- XML (eXtensible Markup Language) and JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) for data interchange.
- SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) and REST (Representational State Transfer) for web services communication.
- 12. **ITU-T and IEEE Standards**: Organizations like ITU-T (International Telecommunication Union Telecommunication Standardization Sector) and IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) develop and maintain various networking standards.
- 13. **RFCs (Request for Comments)**: RFCs are documents that specify internet standards, protocols, and procedures. They are created and maintained by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF).

Understanding and adhering to these protocols and standards is critical for ensuring that diverse devices and systems can communicate effectively in a networked world. They enable interoperability and reliable data transmission across the internet and other communication systems.

Network Models: The OSI Model

The Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model is a conceptual framework used to understand and standardize network communication. It divides the complex process of network communication into seven distinct layers, each with its own specific functions and responsibilities. Here's an overview of the OSI model:

1. Physical Layer (Layer 1):

- Responsibilities: The physical layer deals with the physical medium and transmission of raw bits over the network. It focuses on electrical, mechanical, and functional characteristics of the hardware.
- Examples: Cables, connectors, network interface cards (NICs).

2. Data Link Layer (Layer 2):

- Responsibilities: This layer is responsible for framing, addressing, and error detection in data transmission. It ensures reliable point-to-point and local network communication.
- Examples: Ethernet, MAC addresses.

3. Network Layer (Layer 3):

- Responsibilities: The network layer deals with routing and forwarding data packets between devices across different networks. It assigns logical addresses (IP addresses) and makes routing decisions.
- Examples: IP (Internet Protocol), routers.

4. Transport Layer (Layer 4):

- Responsibilities: The transport layer ensures end-to-end communication by segmenting, reassembling, and controlling data flow. It provides reliability through error detection and correction.
- Examples: TCP (Transmission Control Protocol), UDP (User Datagram Protocol).

5. Session Layer (Layer 5):

- Responsibilities: The session layer manages and controls the dialog between devices, establishing, maintaining, and terminating connections. It ensures synchronization and checkpointing.
- Examples: NetBIOS, RPC (Remote Procedure Call).

6. Presentation Layer (Layer 6):

- Responsibilities: The presentation layer deals with data translation, encryption, and compression. It ensures data is presented in a format that applications can understand.
- Examples: SSL/TLS, JPEG, ASCII.

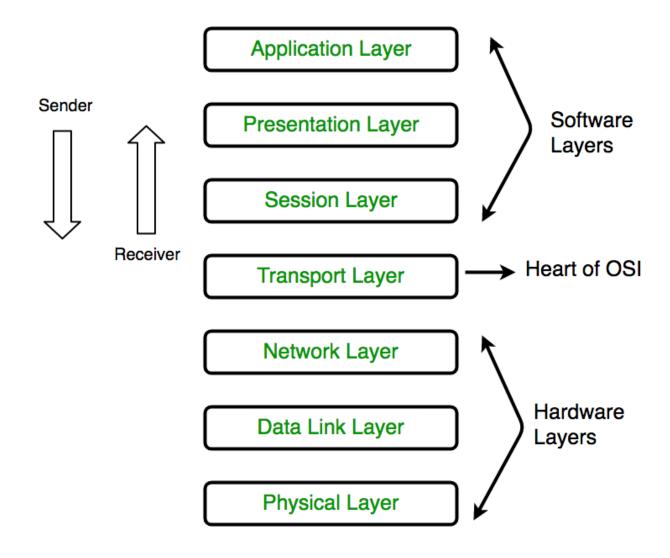
7. Application Layer (Layer 7):

- Responsibilities: The application layer is the topmost layer and is closest to the end-user. It provides network services directly to applications and users, such as file transfer, email, and web browsing.
- Examples: HTTP, SMTP, FTP.

Key Points:

- The OSI model provides a common framework for understanding and discussing network protocols and their functions.
- Each layer has its unique role and interacts with adjacent layers to ensure data is transmitted reliably and accurately.
- While the OSI model is a theoretical model, it helps in designing and troubleshooting network systems.
- Real-world networking standards, such as the TCP/IP suite, do not always align perfectly with the OSI model but are often used alongside it for practical implementation.

Understanding the OSI model is essential for network professionals as it helps in diagnosing network issues, designing networks, and comprehending how different protocols work together to facilitate communication in complex network environments.



TCP/IP Protocol Suite

The TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) suite is a fundamental set of networking protocols that underlies the functionality of the internet and most modern networks. It is divided into four primary layers, and it serves as the basis for internet communication. Here's an overview of the TCP/IP Protocol Suite:

1. Network Interface Layer (Link Layer):

- Responsibilities: The lowest layer is responsible for the physical and data link aspects of network communication. It interacts directly with the hardware and deals with addressing at the MAC (Media Access Control) layer. It includes protocols for Ethernet, Wi-Fi, and others.
- Examples: Ethernet, Wi-Fi (802.11), ARP (Address Resolution Protocol).

2. Internet Layer:

- Responsibilities: This layer focuses on routing packets across different networks and provides logical addressing (IP addresses) to devices. It is responsible for routing decisions and addressing.
- Examples: IPv4 (Internet Protocol version 4), IPv6 (Internet Protocol version 6), ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol).

3. Transport Layer:

- Responsibilities: The transport layer ensures end-to-end communication between devices. It segments and reassembles data, offers flow control, and provides error detection and correction. It's responsible for the reliability of data transmission.
- Examples: TCP (Transmission Control Protocol), UDP (User Datagram Protocol).

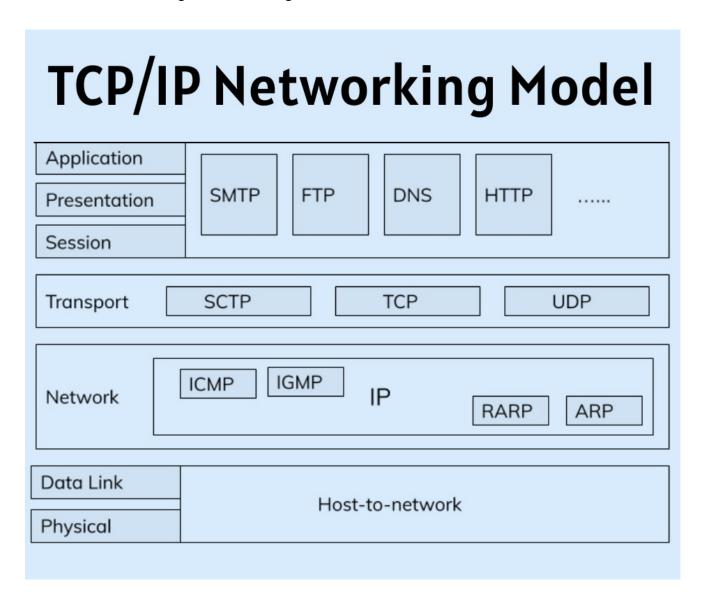
4. Application Layer:

- Responsibilities: The application layer interacts directly with end-user applications and provides network services to them. It covers a wide range of applications and protocols, including web browsing, email, file transfer, and more.
- Examples: HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol), FTP (File Transfer Protocol),
 SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

Key Points:

- The TCP/IP suite is modular and can adapt to various networking technologies, making it versatile and widely used.
- IPv4 and IPv6 are the primary internet layer protocols. IPv6 was introduced to address the exhaustion of IPv4 addresses and offers enhanced features.
- TCP is connection-oriented and ensures reliable data delivery, while UDP is connectionless and used when speed and efficiency are more critical than reliability.
- The application layer encompasses a broad range of protocols, each tailored to specific services and applications.

The TCP/IP Protocol Suite is the foundation of internet communication and is extensively used in local and wide area networks. Understanding these protocols is essential for anyone working with networking, as they form the basis for most network interactions, including web browsing, email, and data transfer.



A Comparison of the OSI and TCP/IP Reference Models

The OSI (Open Systems Interconnection) and TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) reference models are two frameworks used to conceptualize and standardize network communication. Here's a comparison of the two models:

1. Number of Layers:

- OSI: The OSI model has seven layers, which are designed to provide a comprehensive and detailed breakdown of network communication functions.
- TCP/IP: The TCP/IP model has four layers, providing a more concise representation of the networking process.

2. Layers and Functions:

- OSI:
 - 1. Physical Layer
 - 2. Data Link Layer
 - 3. Network Layer
 - 4. Transport Layer
 - Session Layer
 - 6. Presentation Layer
 - 7. Application Layer
- TCP/IP:
 - 1. Network Interface Layer (Link Layer)
 - 2. Internet Layer
 - 3. Transport Layer
 - 4. Application Layer

3. Adoption and Practical Use:

- OSI: The OSI model is more of a theoretical concept and is less commonly implemented directly in networking technologies. However, it serves as a valuable reference for understanding network principles and interactions.
- TCP/IP: The TCP/IP model is the basis for the internet and is more practically used in real-world networking. It directly influences the design and operation of the internet and most modern networks.

4. Historical Context:

OSI: The OSI model was developed in the late 1970s by the International
 Organization for Standardization (ISO) and was intended to provide a universal

framework for networking.

 TCP/IP: The TCP/IP model predates the OSI model and was developed as part of the ARPANET project in the 1970s, with a focus on creating a practical networking system.

5. Layer Correspondence:

- OSI and TCP/IP layers do not align perfectly. They have different names and slightly different functionalities in some cases, but there is a general mapping:
 - OSI Application Layer aligns with the TCP/IP Application Layer.
 - OSI Transport Layer aligns with the TCP/IP Transport Layer.
 - OSI Network Layer aligns with the TCP/IP Internet Layer.
 - OSI Data Link and Physical Layers roughly align with the TCP/IP Network Interface Layer.

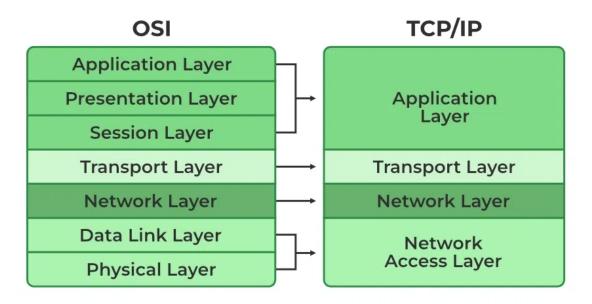
6. Real-World Use:

- OSI is mainly used for educational and theoretical purposes.
- TCP/IP is used for practical networking implementations.

7. Simplification vs. Detail:

- OSI provides a more detailed and granular breakdown of networking functions.
- TCP/IP offers a more streamlined and practical representation of networking.

In summary, while both the OSI and TCP/IP models serve as valuable tools for understanding network communication, the TCP/IP model is more widely used in practical networking applications, including the internet. The OSI model offers a more detailed and comprehensive framework for learning and theoretical discussions but is less commonly used in real-world networking.



Addressing

Addressing is a critical aspect of network communication, enabling devices to locate and interact with each other within a network. Addressing can refer to various types of identifiers and schemes used in networking:

1. IP Addressing (Internet Protocol Addressing):

- IPv4: IPv4 addresses are 32-bit numerical identifiers, typically written in dotteddecimal format (e.g., 192.168.0.1). These addresses are used to identify devices on an IPv4 network.
- **IPv6**: IPv6 addresses are 128-bit hexadecimal identifiers (e.g., 2001:0db8:85a3:0000:0000:8a2e:0370:7334). They were introduced to address the limitations of IPv4 and provide a vastly larger address space.

2. MAC Address (Media Access Control Address):

 MAC addresses are hardware-based addresses associated with network interface cards (NICs) and are used at the data link layer to identify devices on a local network.

3. URL (Uniform Resource Locator):

• A URL is a web address that identifies the location of a resource on the internet. It typically consists of a protocol (e.g., http://), a domain name (e.g.,

<u>www.example.com</u>), and a resource path (e.g., /page).

4. Port Numbers:

 Port numbers are used in transport layer protocols (TCP and UDP) to distinguish between different services running on the same device. For example, port 80 is commonly used for HTTP (web), while port 25 is used for SMTP (email).

5. Email Address:

 An email address uniquely identifies an individual or entity for email communication. It typically consists of a local part (e.g., username) and a domain part (e.g., domain.com).

6. **Domain Name**:

Domain names are human-readable labels used to map to IP addresses. They
are essential for translating URLs into IP addresses, making it easier for users
to access resources on the internet.

7. Hostnames:

 Hostnames are labels assigned to devices on a network, allowing them to be identified by name instead of an IP address.

8. Subnet Mask:

• Subnet masks define the range of IP addresses within a network. They are used for subnetting and organizing IP addresses into smaller subnetworks.

9. **Gateways**:

 A gateway, such as a router, serves as an intermediary between networks. It routes data between different networks and provides a connection point for devices to access external networks.

10. DNS (Domain Name System):

 DNS is a system for translating human-readable domain names into IP addresses, allowing users to access resources on the internet by using familiar names.

11. Logical Addressing:

 Logical addressing includes addressing schemes that are used within specific protocols or technologies, such as IP addressing in the internet or VLAN IDs in local area networks.

12. Public and Private Addresses:

 Public addresses are routable on the global internet, while private addresses are used within local networks and are not directly reachable from the internet.

Effective addressing is essential for data routing and communication in networks. Different types of addressing schemes are used at various layers of the networking stack to ensure that data reaches its intended destination accurately and efficiently.

Physical Layer: Analog and Digital Signals

The physical layer of the OSI model deals with the actual transmission of data over the physical medium, whether it's wired or wireless. One fundamental aspect of the physical layer is the distinction between analog and digital signals:

1. Analog Signals:

• **Definition**: Analog signals are continuous and vary smoothly over time. They can take any value within a range and represent information as a wave or continuous signal.

Characteristics:

- Infinite possible values within a range.
- Susceptible to noise and interference.
- Used in older technologies like analog telephones and AM/FM radio.
- **Examples**: A classic example is the audio signal produced by a microphone, which varies continuously in response to sound waves.

2. Digital Signals:

- **Definition**: Digital signals are discrete and represent information in a binary format, using only two values (0 and 1). They are more resilient to noise and interference.
- Characteristics:

- Limited to two distinct values (0 and 1).
- Robust against noise, as they can be easily regenerated.
- Used in modern computer and telecommunications systems.
- **Examples**: Digital signals are used in digital devices, computers, and most modern communication technologies, such as the internet.

Conversion between Analog and Digital Signals:

- Modulation: To transmit digital information over an analog medium, modulation is used to encode digital data into an analog signal. For example, in modems, digital data is modulated into analog signals for transmission over telephone lines.
- Demodulation: At the receiving end, demodulation is used to convert the analog signal back into digital data.

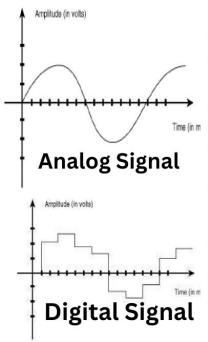
Advantages of Digital Signals:

- Reduced susceptibility to noise and distortion during transmission.
- Easier to regenerate and amplify, which improves signal quality.
- Can carry more information per unit of bandwidth.

Advantages of Analog Signals:

- Useful for representing continuous, real-world phenomena like sound and light.
- Can carry an infinite range of values and can be more accurate for some applications.

In practice, modern telecommunications systems, including the internet, predominantly use digital signals due to their robustness and efficiency. However, analog signals are still used in specific applications where continuous, real-world data representation is necessary. Understanding the differences between these signal types is fundamental in the study of the physical layer in networking and telecommunications.



Header label	Analog Signal	Digital Signal
Signal	1) In an Analog, signals are continuous.	1) In a Digital, Signals are discrete.
Transformation	In analog systems electronic circuits are used for the transformation of signals.	In Digital Signals, the transformation is done using the logic circuit.
Transmission	Data transmission is not of high quality.	3) Data transmission has high quality.
Flexibility	4) In an Analog signal, their hardware is not flexible.	4) In Digital signals, their hardware is not flexible.
Noise	5) Analog signals are more likely to get affected and result in reduced accuracy.	5) Digital signals are discrete time signals that are generated by digital modulation.
Power Consumptions	6) Analog signals use more power.	Digital signals use less power compared to analog.
Waves	7) It is denoted by the sine waves.	7) It is denoted by the square form.
Example	8) Human Voice, Tape recorder, Temperature, etc.	8) Mp3 players, Digital phones, computers, etc.

Transmission Modes

In data communication and networking, transmission modes describe how data is transmitted between devices or systems. There are three primary transmission modes:

1. Simplex Mode:

- **Definition**: In simplex mode, communication occurs in only one direction, with data flowing from the sender to the receiver, but not in the reverse direction.
- **Example**: One-way radio broadcast is a classic example of simplex communication. The radio station transmits data (audio) to the listeners, but the listeners cannot send data back to the station through the same channel.

2. Half-Duplex Mode:

- **Definition**: Half-duplex mode allows communication in both directions, but not simultaneously. Devices can either send or receive data at a given time but not both simultaneously.
- **Example**: Walkie-talkies use half-duplex communication. When one person is speaking, the other person cannot transmit their voice until the first person finishes speaking and releases the button.

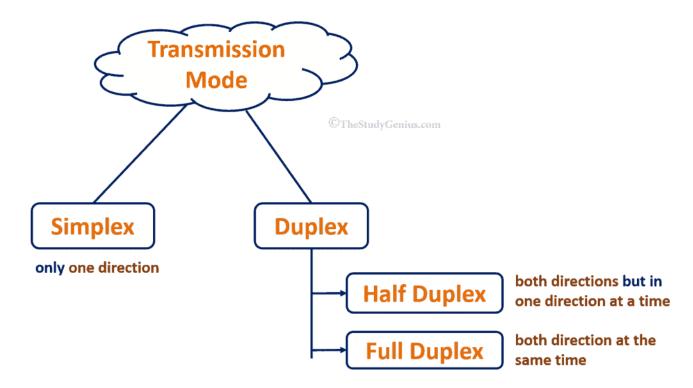
3. Full-Duplex Mode:

- Definition: Full-duplex mode enables simultaneous two-way communication.
 Devices can send and receive data concurrently, allowing for real-time and bidirectional communication.
- **Example**: Most telephone conversations are in full-duplex mode. Both parties can speak and listen at the same time, providing a natural conversational experience.

Key Points:

- The choice of transmission mode depends on the specific communication needs of a system or application.
- Simplex is useful for situations where data only needs to flow in one direction.
- Half-duplex is suitable when data needs to be sent and received, but not simultaneously, as in walkie-talkies.
- Full-duplex is common in many modern communication systems, including most network connections, telephony, and video conferencing.

Understanding transmission modes is essential in network design and communication systems to ensure that data flows in a manner that meets the requirements of the application or service.



Transmission Media: Guided Media and Unguided Media

In networking and data communication, transmission media refers to the physical pathways through which data is transmitted from one device to another. There are two primary categories of transmission media: guided media (wired) and unguided media (wireless).

Guided Media (Wired):

1. Twisted Pair Cable:

- **Description**: Twisted pair cables consist of pairs of insulated copper wires twisted together. They are commonly used for telephone lines and local area networks (LANs).
- Variants: Unshielded Twisted Pair (UTP) and Shielded Twisted Pair (STP).

2. Coaxial Cable:

- Description: Coaxial cables have a central conductor surrounded by an insulating layer, a metallic shield, and an outer insulating layer. They are used for cable television and broadband internet connections.
- Advantages: Good bandwidth and resistance to interference.

3. Fiber-Optic Cable:

- **Description**: Fiber-optic cables use thin strands of glass or plastic to transmit data using light signals. They provide very high bandwidth and are immune to electromagnetic interference.
- Advantages: High data transmission rates and long-distance capabilities.

Unguided Media (Wireless):

1. Radio Waves:

- **Description**: Radio waves are electromagnetic waves used for wireless communication, including radio broadcasting, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth.
- Advantages: Wide coverage area, suitable for mobile and wireless devices.

2. Microwaves:

- **Description**: Microwaves are high-frequency radio waves used in point-to-point communication, such as microwave links for long-distance data transmission.
- Advantages: High data rates and long-distance connectivity.

3. Infrared Waves:

- **Description**: Infrared waves are used for short-range wireless communication, such as in remote controls and IrDA (Infrared Data Association) connections.
- Advantages: Suitable for short-range, line-of-sight communication.

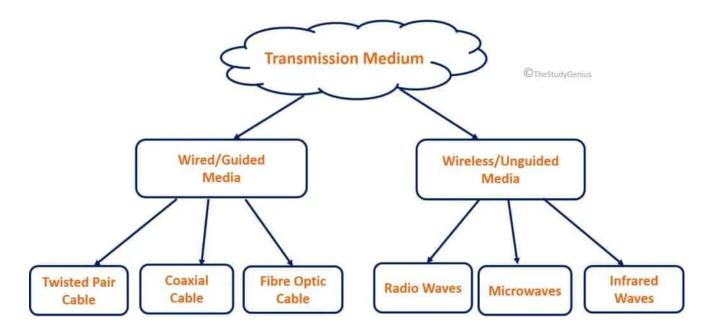
4. Satellite Communication:

- **Description**: Satellite communication uses geostationary or low Earth orbit satellites to relay data over long distances. It is commonly used for global communication, including television broadcasting and internet access.
- Advantages: Global coverage and long-distance connectivity.

Key Points:

- Guided media rely on physical cables to transmit data and are typically more secure and reliable.
- Unguided media use wireless signals and are suitable for mobile and remote communication but can be subject to interference and signal degradation.
- The choice of transmission media depends on factors such as distance, bandwidth requirements, mobility, and environmental conditions.

Understanding the characteristics and uses of different transmission media is crucial in network design and selecting the appropriate medium for specific communication needs.



Error Detection and Correction Codes

Error detection and correction codes are essential techniques in data communication and storage systems. They help ensure data integrity and reliability by identifying and, in some cases, correcting errors that can occur during transmission or storage. Here's an overview of these codes:

Error Detection:

1. Parity Bit:

- **Description**: Parity bit is a simple error detection method. An extra bit is added to a data word (usually 7 or 8 bits) to make the total number of 1s even (even parity) or odd (odd parity). If the parity bit doesn't match the received data, an error is detected.
- **Use**: Commonly used in memory systems and basic communication.

2. Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC):

- Description: CRC is a more sophisticated error detection technique. It uses
 polynomial division to generate a checksum, which is appended to the data. The
 receiver performs the same calculation and checks if the received checksum
 matches the calculated one. If not, an error is detected.
- **Use**: Commonly used in network communication and storage systems.

Error Correction:

1. Hamming Code:

- Description: Hamming codes are a type of error-correcting code. They add redundant bits to the data in a way that allows the correction of single-bit errors and the detection of two-bit errors.
- Use: Used in computer memory systems and data transmission where error correction is critical.

2. Reed-Solomon Code:

- Description: Reed-Solomon codes are widely used for error correction, particularly in data storage and transmission. They can correct multiple errors and are highly resilient.
- **Use**: Common in applications like CDs, DVDs, and QR codes.

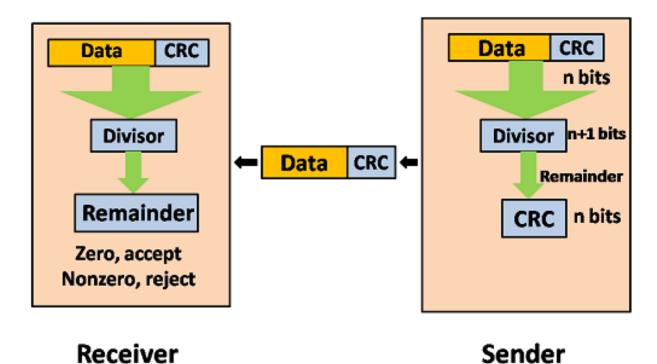
3. Turbo Codes and LDPC (Low-Density Parity-Check) Codes:

- Description: These advanced error correction codes are used in modern wireless communication and satellite transmission. They offer very efficient error correction.
- **Use**: Applied in 4G and 5G mobile networks, deep-space communication, and high-speed internet.

Key Points:

- Error detection codes identify errors but do not correct them, while error correction codes both detect and correct errors.
- Parity and CRC are simple error detection methods, whereas Hamming, Reed-Solomon, Turbo, and LDPC codes are advanced error correction techniques.
- The choice of error correction code depends on the specific application, its error tolerance, and the complexity of implementation.

Error detection and correction codes are critical in ensuring data integrity in various communication and storage systems, from basic memory to advanced wireless networks. The appropriate choice of code depends on the level of error protection required for a given application.



Switching: Circuit Switching (Space-Division, Time Division, and Space-Time Division)

Circuit switching is one of the fundamental techniques for establishing a dedicated communication path between two devices in a network. It is commonly associated with traditional telephone networks but has variations to address different requirements. Here's an overview of circuit switching methods:

1. Space-Division Circuit Switching:

- Description: In space-division circuit switching, physical pathways, or switches, are used to establish a dedicated connection between the calling and receiving devices. It means that a physical circuit is dedicated for the entire duration of the communication, even if no data is being transmitted.
- **Use**: This approach is often found in early telephone networks and some legacy communication systems.

2. Time-Division Circuit Switching:

• **Description**: Time-division circuit switching breaks a communication channel into time slots. Each user is allocated a specific time slot during which they can send data. The channel is shared among multiple users in a time-division multiplexing (TDM) fashion.

• **Use**: Time-division circuit switching is more efficient than space-division because it allows multiple users to share the same channel. It is commonly used in digital telephone networks (T1 and E1 lines) and some legacy systems.

3. Space-Time Division Circuit Switching:

- Description: Space-time division circuit switching combines the concepts of both space-division and time-division switching. It uses a combination of physical pathways and time slots to establish dedicated connections.
- **Use**: Space-time division circuit switching is used in complex telecommunication systems that require both space and time division capabilities.

Key Points:

- Circuit switching is characterized by the establishment of a dedicated communication path for the entire duration of the conversation.
- Space-division circuit switching is inefficient and expensive, as it dedicates a physical circuit for each connection.
- Time-division circuit switching is more efficient, allowing multiple users to share a single communication channel by dividing it into time slots.
- Space-time division circuit switching combines space and time division methods to accommodate complex network requirements.

Circuit switching is less common in modern digital networks and has largely been replaced by packet switching, which is more flexible and efficient. However, circuit switching is still used in specific applications, such as dedicated communication paths in some telecommunications systems.

Packet Switching: Virtual Circuit and Datagram Approach

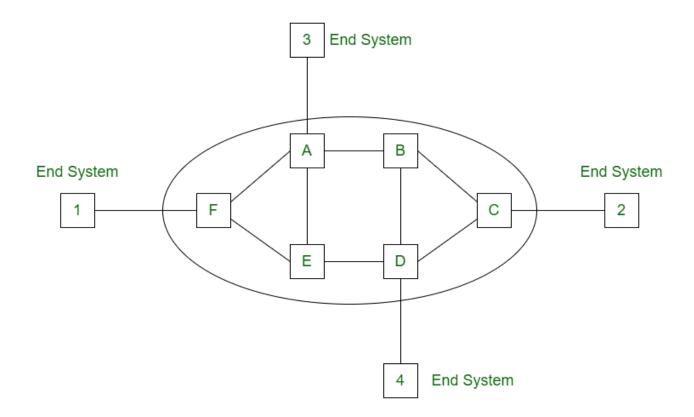
Packet switching is a fundamental technique in data communication, particularly in modern computer networks. It involves breaking data into packets, which are small units, and then routing these packets independently to their destination. Two common approaches to packet switching are the virtual circuit approach and the datagram approach:

Virtual Circuit Approach:

1. **Description**: In the virtual circuit approach, a logical path is established before data transmission. This logical path is called a "virtual circuit." It resembles the concept of a dedicated circuit, like in circuit switching, but it's a logical connection rather than a physical one.

2. Characteristics:

- The setup phase: A connection is established before data transmission begins.
 During this phase, a route is determined, and resources are allocated for the duration of the connection.
- Packets are identified by a connection identifier, which simplifies routing.
- Sequencing and flow control are more straightforward because packets are sent in a predetermined order.
- Use: The virtual circuit approach is used in technologies like Frame Relay and ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode) networks, where a stable, predictable connection is required.

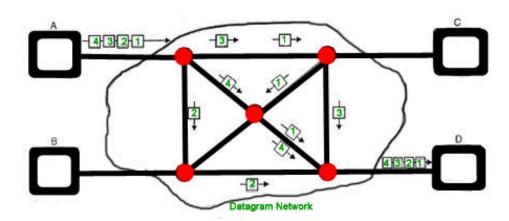


Datagram Approach:

1. **Description**: In the datagram approach, each packet is treated independently, and there is no prior establishment of a connection or predefined route. Packets are routed individually based on the destination address in each packet.

2. Characteristics:

- No setup phase: No connection is established beforehand. Each packet includes destination information for routing.
- Packets can take different paths to reach the destination, providing network redundancy.
- Greater flexibility but can lead to out-of-order delivery or packet loss.
- 3. **Use**: The datagram approach is the foundation of the Internet Protocol (IP) in the context of the global internet and local area networks.



Datagram Packet Switching

Key Points:

- The virtual circuit approach is connection-oriented, providing a stable and predictable path for data transmission, while the datagram approach is connectionless, offering more flexibility.
- Virtual circuit networks are suitable for applications that require predictable, consistent communication paths, while datagram networks are more flexible and often used in the public internet.

In practice, both approaches coexist in networking, with virtual circuit networks being more common in specific applications and datagram networks being the foundation of

the global internet. The choice between these approaches depends on the specific requirements of the application or network.

Message Switching

Message switching is a communication technique that predates modern packet switching and circuit switching. It involves the transmission of complete messages or data units, rather than breaking data into smaller packets as in packet switching. Here's an overview of message switching:

1. Message-Based Communication:

- In message switching, the entire message is treated as a unit of data for transmission. This message can be of arbitrary size and can contain text, voice, or other forms of data.
- Messages can include routing information to guide their path through the network.

2. Store-and-Forward Process:

- When a sender wants to transmit a message to a receiver, the message is first stored at the source node. The source node then forwards the entire message to the next hop in the network.
- Each node in the network stores the complete message before forwarding it to the next node, hence the term "store-and-forward."

3. Message Handling:

- Message switching networks use message switches, which are specialized devices responsible for routing, storing, and forwarding messages.
- Each message switch examines the routing information within the message to determine the next destination.

4. Message Queuing:

 Messages may need to wait in queues at each node if the next hop is not immediately available. This queuing mechanism can introduce delays.

5. Completion-Based Communication:

• In message switching, the sender considers the transmission successful when the entire message reaches its destination. There is no division of data into packets or datagrams, as in packet switching.

Advantages and Disadvantages:

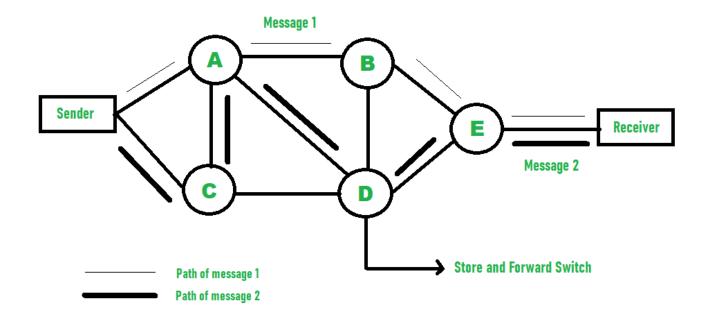
Advantages:

- Simplicity: Message switching is conceptually simple, as it operates on complete messages.
- Suitable for low-data-rate applications: It can be efficient for low-volume, storeand-forward applications.

Disadvantages:

- Inefficiency: Message switching can be inefficient for handling large volumes of data, as the entire message must be stored and forwarded.
- Longer Delays: Due to the store-and-forward process and message queuing,
 message switching can introduce longer delays compared to packet switching.
- Lack of Scalability: It is not as scalable or adaptable as packet switching for modern, high-speed networks.

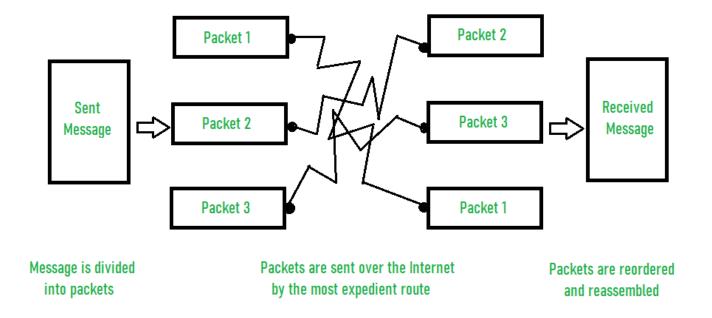
Message switching was more common in earlier communication networks and was used in some early telegraph and telex systems. However, it has largely been supplanted by packet switching, which offers greater efficiency, flexibility, and speed.



Difference between Message and Packet Switching

Aspect	Message Switching	Packet Switching
Data Unit	A complete message is passed across a network.	Message is broken into smaller units known as Packets.
Data Representation	Uses computer languages like ASCII, Baudot, Morse code.	In packet switching, binary data is used.
Block Size	There is no limit on block size.	Packet switching places a tight upper limit on block size.
Message Location	A message exists in only one location in the network.	Parts (i.e., packets) of the message exist in many places in the network.
Examples	Hop-by-hop Telex forwarding and UUCP (UNIX-to-UNIX Copy Protocol).	Examples include Frame Relay, IP (Internet Protocol), and X.25.
Link Allocation	Physical links are allocated dynamically.	Virtual links are made simultaneously.
Storage Location	Access time is reduced due to an increase in performance as packets are stored on disk.	Packets are stored in main memory.

packet switching:



Unit 2

Data Link Layer: Design Issues

The Data Link Layer is the second layer of the OSI model, and it plays a crucial role in the reliable transmission of data over a physical medium. There are several design issues to consider when implementing the Data Link Layer. Let's explore these issues:

1. Framing:

- **Issue**: Data sent over a network can be of varying lengths. Framing involves dividing the data into manageable frames for transmission. The challenge is to determine where one frame ends and the next begins.
- **Solution**: Framing techniques like character counting, byte stuffing, and flag bytes are used to delineate frames within a data stream.

2. Error Detection and Correction:

• **Issue**: Data can get corrupted during transmission due to noise or interference. The Data Link Layer must include mechanisms to detect and correct these errors.

 Solution: Error detection codes like CRC (Cyclic Redundancy Check) and error correction codes like Hamming codes are employed to ensure data integrity.

3. Flow Control:

- **Issue**: The sender and receiver may operate at different speeds, leading to a potential overflow of data at the receiver. Flow control mechanisms are needed to regulate the data flow.
- Solution: Flow control techniques like Stop-and-Wait, Sliding Window, and credit-based flow control ensure that the sender does not overwhelm the receiver.

4. Addressing and Identification:

- **Issue**: Each device on a network needs a unique identifier. The Data Link Layer must include address fields to specify the source and destination.
- Solution: MAC (Media Access Control) addresses are used to identify devices on the same network, and logical addresses may be used for addressing at higher layers.

5. Media Access Control (MAC):

- **Issue**: In shared media networks, multiple devices may attempt to transmit data simultaneously. MAC protocols determine how devices access the medium without causing collisions.
- **Solution**: MAC protocols like CSMA/CD (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection) and CSMA/CA (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Avoidance) help manage access to the medium.

6. Switching:

- Issue: In networks with multiple segments or nodes, switches are used to forward frames to the correct destination. Switching techniques determine how frames are forwarded efficiently.
- **Solution**: Techniques like store-and-forward and cut-through switching are used to determine how frames are processed within switches.

7. Error Handling:

- **Issue**: When errors are detected, the Data Link Layer must decide how to handle them, whether by requesting retransmission or dropping the frame.
- **Solution**: Error handling involves setting flags in frames to indicate errors, prompting retransmission, or discarding frames with errors.

8. Duplexing:

- **Issue**: Data links can support either full-duplex (simultaneous transmission in both directions) or half-duplex (transmit or receive at one time). The choice impacts network efficiency.
- **Solution**: Duplexing modes are determined by the hardware and network design, with full-duplex becoming increasingly common in modern networks.

9. Protocols and Standards:

- Issue: The Data Link Layer operates using various protocols and standards.
 Compatibility and adherence to these standards are essential for seamless communication.
- **Solution**: Standardization bodies like IEEE and ISO define protocols such as Ethernet and PPP (Point-to-Point Protocol) to ensure interoperability.

Designing the Data Link Layer involves addressing these issues to create a reliable, efficient, and error-resistant communication system. The specific solutions chosen depend on the network's requirements and the technologies in use.

Data Link Control and Protocols: Flow and Error Control, Stop-and-Wait ARQ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIX1NfaUpsU&list=PLxCzCOWd7aiGFBD2-2joCpWOLUrDLvVV_&index=23&pp=iAQB

Data Link Control (DLC) is a sublayer within the Data Link Layer that ensures reliable data transmission over a physical medium. It includes techniques for flow control and error control. One of the simplest and fundamental Automatic Repeat reQuest (ARQ) protocols for error control is Stop-and-Wait ARQ. Let's explore each of these aspects in detail:

1. Flow Control:

Flow control is a mechanism that ensures the sender doesn't overwhelm the receiver with data. It regulates the rate of data transmission to match the receiver's processing capability. There are various flow control techniques:

- Stop-and-Wait Flow Control: In Stop-and-Wait, the sender transmits a data frame
 and then waits for an acknowledgment (ACK) from the receiver before sending the
 next frame. This process ensures that the sender doesn't send data faster than the
 receiver can process it.
- **Sliding Window Flow Control**: Sliding Window allows the sender to transmit multiple frames before waiting for acknowledgments. The receiver maintains a window that tracks the sequence numbers of the frames it expects to receive. This allows for better utilization of the network's bandwidth.

2. Error Control:

Error control mechanisms are designed to detect and correct errors that occur during data transmission. Common error control techniques include:

- Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC): CRC is a widely used error detection technique. A polynomial division is performed on the data, and the remainder is included in the frame. The receiver performs the same division and checks if the remainder matches. If not, an error is detected.
- **Hamming Codes**: Hamming codes are a type of error correction code. They add redundancy to the data, allowing the receiver to correct errors. Hamming codes are particularly useful in applications where error correction is essential.

3. Stop-and-Wait ARQ:

Stop-and-Wait Automatic Repeat reQuest (ARQ) is a simple error control protocol that ensures the reliable delivery of data frames. It works as follows:

Sender's Role:

- 1. The sender transmits a data frame to the receiver.
- 2. The sender waits for an acknowledgment (ACK) from the receiver.
- 3. If the sender receives the ACK within a timeout period, it assumes successful transmission and proceeds to send the next frame.

4. If no ACK is received within the timeout, the sender assumes the frame was lost or corrupted and retransmits it.

Receiver's Role:

- 1. The receiver receives the data frame.
- 2. It checks the frame for errors (using techniques like CRC).
- 3. If the frame is error-free, the receiver sends an ACK to the sender.
- 4. If the frame contains errors, the receiver discards it.

Characteristics:

- Simple and easy to implement.
- Ensures that frames are delivered reliably.
- Has a drawback of low efficiency, as the sender waits for the ACK before sending the next frame, leading to underutilization of the network's bandwidth.

Stop-and-Wait ARQ is suitable for low-error-rate and low-bandwidth networks. In scenarios where higher efficiency and throughput are required, more advanced ARQ techniques like Go-Back-N or Selective Repeat ARQ may be used.

In summary, Data Link Control and Protocols, including flow control and error control, are essential components of reliable data communication. Stop-and-Wait ARQ is a simple yet effective error control protocol that ensures the successful delivery of data frames with low overhead, making it suitable for specific network scenarios.

Sliding Window Protocol, Go-Back-N ARQ, and Selective Repeat ARQ

These are advanced communication techniques and protocols used in the Data Link Layer to improve the efficiency of data transmission and error control. Let's delve into each of them:

1. Sliding Window Protocol:

The Sliding Window Protocol is a flow control mechanism that allows for multiple, unacknowledged frames to be in transit simultaneously. It is used to optimize network efficiency by keeping the sender busy while ensuring that the receiver processes data at its own pace. Key features include:

- Sender and Receiver Windows: The sender maintains a "sending window," which
 is a range of sequence numbers for frames that can be transmitted. The receiver
 maintains a "receiving window," which is a range of sequence numbers for frames it
 expects to receive.
- **Acknowledgments**: The receiver sends cumulative acknowledgments to the sender. For example, if the receiver acknowledges frame 5, it implicitly acknowledges all frames up to 5.
- **Selective Repeat**: Some implementations of the Sliding Window Protocol employ a selective repeat mechanism, allowing the receiver to acknowledge frames individually, rather than cumulatively.
- **Efficiency**: Sliding Window increases network efficiency by allowing the sender to have multiple unacknowledged frames in transit. This minimizes idle time and optimizes bandwidth utilization.

2. Go-Back-N Automatic Repeat reQuest (ARQ):

Go-Back-N ARQ is an error control protocol that improves the efficiency of data retransmission in cases of frame loss. Key characteristics include:

- **Sender Behavior**: The sender can transmit multiple frames before waiting for acknowledgments. It maintains a send window of frames. If an acknowledgment is not received for a particular frame, all subsequent frames in the window are retransmitted, hence "Go Back" to the beginning of the window.
- Receiver Behavior: The receiver acknowledges frames as they arrive. However, it
 may discard out-of-sequence frames and only delivers frames to the network layer
 in the correct order.
- **Efficiency**: Go-Back-N is efficient for networks with a low error rate, as it minimizes the impact of occasional lost frames.

3. Selective Repeat Automatic Repeat reQuest (ARQ):

Selective Repeat ARQ is another error control protocol, but it is more efficient in handling errors than Go-Back-N. Key features include:

• **Sender Behavior**: The sender can transmit multiple frames before waiting for acknowledgments. It maintains a send window of frames. If an acknowledgment is

not received for a particular frame, only that frame is retransmitted, while the rest continue to advance.

- **Receiver Behavior**: The receiver acknowledges frames as they arrive and buffers out-of-sequence frames. Once missing frames are received, they are delivered to the network layer in the correct order.
- **Efficiency**: Selective Repeat is efficient in networks with a higher error rate, as it only retransmits frames that were not successfully received.

Comparison:

- Go-Back-N ARQ is suitable for networks with relatively low error rates and is simpler to implement. However, it may lead to inefficiency in high-error scenarios.
- Selective Repeat ARQ is more efficient in networks with higher error rates, as it avoids retransmitting frames unnecessarily.

Both Go-Back-N and Selective Repeat are used in various data link layer protocols, including those in wireless communication and Ethernet networks, to improve reliability and efficiency. The choice between them depends on the specific network conditions and requirements.

High-Level Data Link Control (HDLC)

High-Level Data Link Control (HDLC) is a widely used data link layer protocol that standardizes the framing, addressing, and error-checking procedures for reliable and efficient data transmission. HDLC is considered a foundation for many other data link layer protocols. Here's an overview of HDLC:

1. Framing:

- HDLC frames data for transmission. It uses a special flag sequence (01111110) to delineate frames. This flag sequence helps identify the start and end of a frame.
- The frame structure includes fields for address, control, data, and error-checking (FCS or Frame Check Sequence).

2. Addressing:

 HDLC supports both point-to-point and multipoint communication. For point-to-point communication, a single address field is used. For multipoint communication, each station has its unique address.

 Stations in a multipoint configuration listen to all traffic but only respond to frames addressed to them.

3. Control Field:

- The control field in an HDLC frame carries information about frame types, such as data frames, acknowledgment frames, or supervisory frames (used for flow control).
- HDLC defines several frame types, including I-frames (Information frames), S-frames (Supervisory frames), and U-frames (Unnumbered frames).

4. Error Checking:

- HDLC uses the Frame Check Sequence (FCS) field to perform error checking. A
 cyclic redundancy check (CRC) algorithm is often used to calculate the FCS.
- The receiver checks the FCS to detect any errors in the received frame.

5. Flow Control:

- HDLC provides flow control mechanisms, allowing the sender to adjust the rate of transmission based on the receiver's ability to process data.
- Supervisory frames (S-frames) are used for flow control, including acknowledgments, negative acknowledgments, and requests to send.

6. Modes of Operation:

- HDLC operates in several modes, including Normal Response Mode (NRM), Asynchronous Balanced Mode (ABM), and Asynchronous Unbalanced Mode (AUM).
- NRM is commonly used for point-to-point communication, while ABM is suitable for multipoint communication.

7. Variants:

- Several variants of HDLC exist, including SDLC (Synchronous Data Link Control), LAPB (Link Access Procedure, Balanced), and LAPM (Link Access Procedure for Modems).
- SDLC is a proprietary version of HDLC developed by IBM and used in mainframe environments.

Applications:

 HDLC has been used in various applications, including wide-area networking (WAN), Local Area Networks (LAN), and communication between devices within a network.

Standardization:

 HDLC is an ITU-T (formerly CCITT) standard, defined in recommendations like X.25 and V.42. Variants and extensions of HDLC are used in a wide range of network technologies.

HDLC's simplicity and robustness make it a foundation for various data link layer protocols and a fundamental element in data communication and networking.

Point-to-Point Access, PPP (Point-to-Point Protocol), and PPP Stack

Point-to-Point (PPP) is a network protocol commonly used for establishing direct connections between two network nodes, typically over serial communication links. It's widely used in scenarios such as dial-up internet connections, serial connections between routers, and more. Let's explore PPP and the PPP stack:

1. Point-to-Point Access:

- **Definition**: Point-to-Point access refers to a network configuration where two network devices communicate directly without the need for any intermediate devices. It's a simple, dedicated connection between two endpoints.
- Use Cases: Point-to-Point connections are common in scenarios like dial-up connections between a user's computer and an Internet Service Provider (ISP), dedicated lines connecting two routers, or serial communication between devices in industrial applications.

2. PPP (Point-to-Point Protocol):

 Definition: PPP is a widely used data link layer protocol for establishing and maintaining direct connections between two nodes in a network. It offers a standard method for encapsulating and transmitting multi-protocol data over point-to-point links.

Features:

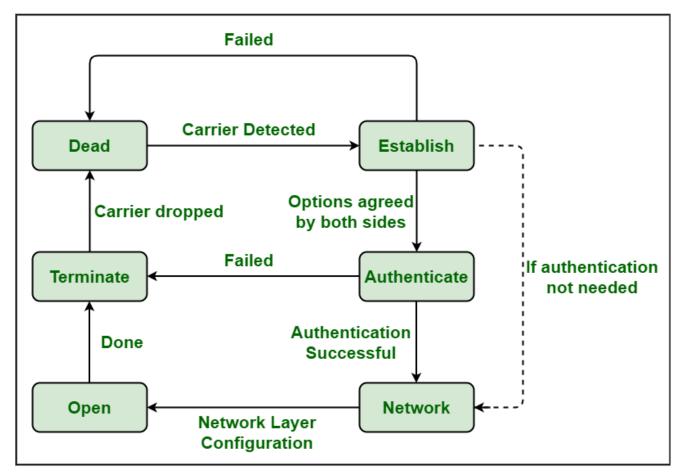
- Error Detection: PPP includes error-checking mechanisms like CRC to ensure data integrity.
- Authentication: It provides various methods for authenticating the two endpoints, such as PAP (Password Authentication Protocol) and CHAP (Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol).
- Multi-Protocol Support: PPP can transmit multiple network layer protocols, making it versatile for various types of traffic.
- Network Layer Negotiation: PPP allows both endpoints to negotiate and agree on the network layer protocol to be used, such as IP, IPv6, or IPX.

3. PPP Stack:

- The PPP stack refers to the layered structure of protocols and components involved in PPP communications. It consists of the following layers:
 - PPP Frame: The PPP frame is the basic unit of data transfer. It includes flags for frame delineation, control information, data, and error-checking (CRC).
 - Link Control Protocol (LCP): LCP is responsible for establishing, configuring, and testing the data link connection. It negotiates options and parameters for the link, including authentication and error detection protocols.
 - Authentication Protocols: PPP supports various authentication protocols, including PAP (Password Authentication Protocol) and CHAP (Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol), which can be used for authenticating the endpoints.
 - Network Control Protocols (NCPs): NCPs are used to configure and manage network layer protocols. For example, the Internet Protocol Control Protocol (IPCP) is used to negotiate IP address and related parameters.
- The PPP stack operates on the data link layer (Layer 2) of the OSI model, allowing it to work with various network layer protocols (Layer 3), such as IP, IPv6, and IPX.
- In addition to the core components, PPP can also include security features, quality
 of service (QoS) settings, and other options to meet the specific requirements of the
 network connection.

PPP is a versatile and widely used protocol for point-to-point connections, offering flexibility and reliability for various applications, including dial-up networking, serial

connections between routers, and more. The PPP stack defines a standardized structure for establishing and maintaining these connections while supporting multiple network layer protocols.



Transition Phases

Medium Access Sublayer: Channel Allocation Problem

The Medium Access Control (MAC) sublayer is part of the Data Link Layer and is responsible for managing access to the shared communication medium in a network. One of the critical challenges it addresses is the Channel Allocation Problem, which involves deciding how devices share the communication channel efficiently. This problem is particularly relevant in shared media networks, such as Ethernet or wireless LANs. Here's an overview:

1. Channel Allocation Problem:

 In shared media networks, multiple devices share a common communication channel, and they need a mechanism to avoid interference, collisions, and congestion. The Channel Allocation Problem addresses how devices decide when and how to access the channel.

2. Methods for Channel Allocation:

There are various methods for solving the Channel Allocation Problem:

• 1. Contention-Based Access:

- Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA): Devices listen to the channel and wait for it to be idle before transmitting. If multiple devices sense an idle channel simultaneously, they may contend to transmit. CSMA is used in Ethernet networks.
- CSMA/CD (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection): Used in older Ethernet networks, devices can detect collisions and take action to resolve them.
- CSMA/CA (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Avoidance): Used in wireless networks, devices try to avoid collisions by using mechanisms like Request-to-Send (RTS) and Clear-to-Send (CTS) before transmitting.

2. Controlled Access:

- Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA): Devices are allocated specific time slots during which they can transmit. This is common in cellular networks.
- Frequency Division Multiple Access (FDMA): Devices are assigned specific frequency bands to use for communication. It's used in some radio and satellite networks.

• 3. Polling:

 In a polling-based approach, a central device (e.g., a master station) controls access to the channel and polls individual devices, allowing them to transmit when it's their turn.

4. Reservation-Based:

 Devices request reservations for specific time slots or frequency bands, and the central authority grants or denies these requests. Used in some satellite and

wireless networks.

3. Challenges:

The Channel Allocation Problem poses several challenges:

- **Efficiency**: The method chosen must ensure efficient use of the channel and minimize idle time while avoiding excessive collisions.
- **Fairness**: Fair allocation is essential to ensure that no device dominates the channel, and all devices get a chance to transmit.
- **Scalability**: The method should scale well with an increasing number of devices on the network.
- Collision Avoidance: Techniques like CSMA/CA aim to prevent collisions and retransmissions that can reduce efficiency.
- Quality of Service (QoS): In some networks, it's crucial to prioritize certain types of traffic, so the channel allocation method must accommodate QoS requirements.

The choice of channel allocation method depends on the specific network type, requirements, and technologies in use. Different network technologies use various combinations of these methods to manage the channel efficiently and provide reliable communication.

Controlled Access in Network Communication

Controlled access is a method of channel allocation used in network communication. It involves a controlled, organized approach to determining which devices on a network are allowed to transmit data at any given time. Unlike contention-based methods like Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA), where devices contend for access to the medium, controlled access methods rely on predefined schedules or controlled mechanisms for device access. One of the most common examples of controlled access is Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA).

Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA):

- Definition: TDMA is a controlled access method used in both wired and wireless networks. It divides the communication channel into time slots or frames, and devices are allocated specific time slots during which they can transmit data.
- Operation:

- The channel is divided into a series of time slots or frames.
- Each device is assigned a dedicated time slot within the frame.
- Devices can transmit their data exclusively during their allocated time slots.
- Devices wait for their specific time slot to send data and avoid transmitting outside of their allocated time.

Advantages:

- Predictable: TDMA provides a predictable schedule for device access, reducing collisions and ensuring each device gets its turn to transmit.
- Efficient: TDMA allows devices to utilize the channel fully, and there is no contention for access.
- Suitable for Real-Time Applications: TDMA is ideal for time-sensitive applications, such as voice communication in cellular networks.

Applications:

 TDMA is commonly used in various wireless communication systems, including cellular networks (2G, 3G, and 4G), satellite communication, and some radio systems. It's also used in some wired communication systems.

Frequency Division Multiple Access (FDMA):

 Definition: FDMA is another controlled access method used in network communication. Instead of dividing the channel into time slots, FDMA divides it into frequency bands. Each device is assigned a specific frequency band for its transmissions.

Operation:

- The channel's frequency spectrum is divided into multiple bands or channels.
- Each device is assigned a specific frequency band.
- Devices transmit their data within their allocated frequency band.
- There is no contention for the channel because devices are assigned separate frequency bands.

Advantages:

- Non-Interfering: FDMA ensures that devices do not interfere with each other because they have their dedicated frequency bands.
- Used in Radio and Satellite Communication: FDMA is commonly used in radio communication and some satellite communication systems.

Controlled access methods like TDMA and FDMA are employed in scenarios where predictable and organized access to the communication channel is required. These methods help manage network traffic efficiently and minimize the chances of collisions and interference, making them suitable for various applications in both wired and wireless communication.

Channelization in Network Communication

Channelization is a technique used in network communication to divide a communication medium into multiple, smaller, independent channels. Each channel operates as a separate communication path, allowing multiple devices or conversations to occur simultaneously without interference. Channelization is particularly relevant in scenarios where shared communication mediums need to accommodate various data streams efficiently. There are various methods and approaches to channelization:

1. Frequency Division Multiplexing (FDM):

- **Definition**: FDM is a channelization technique that divides a communication medium, typically a frequency band or spectrum, into multiple sub-channels, each allocated to a different user or data stream.
- Operation: Each channel in FDM is allocated a specific range of frequencies.
 Devices or signals are assigned to individual sub-channels based on their frequency range. This technique is widely used in cable television and radio broadcasting.
- Advantages: Efficient use of the available bandwidth, each sub-channel operates independently, and multiple users or data streams can coexist without interference.

2. Time Division Multiplexing (TDM):

• **Definition**: TDM is a channelization technique that divides the communication medium into time slots. Each channel or user is allocated a specific time slot during which it can transmit data.

- Operation: Time slots are cyclically allocated to different users or data streams.
 In a TDM frame, each user's data is transmitted during their designated time slot. TDM is commonly used in digital telephony (e.g., T1 and E1 lines).
- Advantages: Efficient utilization of time slots, predictable schedule for device access, and low chance of interference among users.

3. Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA):

- Definition: CDMA is a channelization technique used in wireless communication. Instead of dividing the communication medium by frequency or time, CDMA assigns a unique code to each user or device.
- Operation: Each user's data is transmitted using a unique spreading code.
 These codes are designed to be orthogonal, allowing multiple signals to coexist in the same frequency range without significant interference. CDMA is commonly used in 3G and 4G cellular networks.
- Advantages: Efficient use of available bandwidth, high capacity, and robustness against interference.

4. Wavelength Division Multiplexing (WDM):

- Definition: WDM is a channelization technique used in optical fiber communication. It divides the optical spectrum into multiple wavelength channels, allowing multiple data streams to be transmitted simultaneously.
- Operation: Each wavelength channel is allocated to a different data stream.
 Devices and signals are assigned to specific wavelength channels for transmission. WDM is used in high-speed optical networks.
- Advantages: Efficient use of optical bandwidth, enabling high-speed data transmission.

Channelization allows network designers to efficiently allocate resources and share communication mediums among multiple users or data streams. The choice of channelization method depends on the specific application, the medium being used, and the communication requirements.

Multiple Access Protocols in Network Communication

Multiple Access Protocols are used to manage how multiple devices or users share a common communication medium, such as a network channel or a wireless frequency band. These protocols determine how devices access the medium, avoid collisions, and ensure efficient data transmission. There are several multiple access methods, each with its own characteristics and applications:

1. Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA):

- **CSMA**: In CSMA, devices listen to the medium to check if it's idle before transmitting. If the medium is busy, they wait until it's clear. CSMA can be divided into several variants:
 - CSMA/CD (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection):
 Used in Ethernet networks, devices listen for collisions while transmitting and can detect them to take appropriate action.
 - CSMA/CA (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Avoidance):
 Common in wireless networks, this method attempts to reduce collisions by using mechanisms like Request-to-Send (RTS) and Clear-to-Send (CTS) before transmitting.
- **Advantages**: Simple and widely used. It allows devices to share the medium without colliding, which reduces data loss.

2. Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA):

- TDMA: TDMA divides the medium into time slots, with each device allocated a specific time slot during which they can transmit. This is common in cellular networks.
- Advantages: Predictable and efficient. Devices have dedicated time slots, which minimizes contention and collisions.

3. Frequency Division Multiple Access (FDMA):

- FDMA: FDMA divides the medium into frequency bands, and each device is assigned a specific frequency band for transmission. This is used in some radio and satellite networks.
- Advantages: Non-interfering. Devices do not share the same frequencies, reducing the chance of collisions.

4. Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA):

- CDMA: CDMA assigns a unique code to each device, allowing them to transmit simultaneously over the same frequency. This is common in 3G and 4G cellular networks.
- Advantages: Efficient use of bandwidth, high capacity, and robustness against interference.

5. Token Passing:

- Token Passing: In this method, devices take turns to transmit data by passing a token from one device to the next. Only the device holding the token is allowed to transmit.
- Advantages: Ensures fair access and avoids collisions. Common in token ring networks.

6. Polling:

- Polling: A central device (e.g., a master station) controls device access. The central device polls individual devices and grants them permission to transmit.
- Advantages: Predictable and controlled access. Useful in scenarios where a central authority manages device access.

7. Random Access:

- Random Access: In this category, protocols like ALOHA and its variants allow devices to transmit data at random times. Devices monitor the medium for collisions and retransmit if necessary.
- Advantages: Simple and suitable for low-traffic scenarios. However, it can lead to higher collision rates.

The choice of a multiple access protocol depends on factors such as the network type, technology, traffic patterns, and requirements. Each protocol has its strengths and weaknesses, making it suitable for specific scenarios. Network designers select the most appropriate protocol to optimize network performance and reliability.

IEEE Standards for LANs and WLANs: 802.3 (Ethernet) and 802.11 (Wi-Fi)

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) has developed several standards for Local Area Networks (LANs) and Wireless Local Area Networks (WLANs) to ensure interoperability and efficient communication. Two of the most significant IEEE standards in this context are IEEE 802.3 (commonly known as Ethernet) for wired LANs and IEEE 802.11 (commonly known as Wi-Fi) for wireless LANs. Here's an overview of these standards:

IEEE 802.3 (Ethernet) for LANs:

1. **Definition**: IEEE 802.3, commonly referred to as Ethernet, is the most widely used LAN technology for wired network communication. It defines the physical and data link layers of the OSI model and is known for its reliability and simplicity.

2. Key Features:

- CSMA/CD: Ethernet initially used Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection (CSMA/CD) as its access method. However, modern Ethernet networks, such as Gigabit Ethernet and 10 Gigabit Ethernet, typically use fullduplex communication without collision detection.
- Data Link Layer: Ethernet operates at the Data Link Layer (Layer 2) of the OSI model and uses MAC (Media Access Control) addresses to identify devices on the network.
- **Copper and Fiber**: Ethernet supports various physical media, including twisted-pair copper cables (e.g., Cat 5, Cat 6) and fiber optics.
- **Frame Format**: Ethernet frames contain source and destination MAC addresses, a type field specifying the upper-layer protocol (e.g., IPv4, IPv6), and the data payload.

3. Variants:

- **10/100/1000/10G/25G/40G/100G Ethernet**: Ethernet has evolved to support various speeds, including 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 1 Gbps, 10 Gbps, and even higher data rates.
- **Ethernet Switching**: Ethernet switches are common in modern networks, providing high-speed, collision-free communication by learning and forwarding frames based on MAC addresses.

IEEE 802.11 (Wi-Fi) for WLANs:

 Definition: IEEE 802.11, commonly referred to as Wi-Fi, is the standard for wireless LANs. It defines how devices communicate over radio frequencies without the need for physical cables. Wi-Fi enables wireless Internet access, networking, and device connectivity.

2. Key Features:

- Wireless Communication: Wi-Fi uses radio waves to transmit data between devices. It operates in unlicensed frequency bands, such as 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz.
- WLAN Configuration: Wi-Fi networks typically consist of Access Points (APs) that provide wireless connectivity to client devices like laptops, smartphones, and IoT devices.
- **Security Features**: Wi-Fi standards include various security protocols, such as WEP, WPA, and WPA2/WPA3, to protect the network from unauthorized access.
- **Multiple Standards**: IEEE 802.11 has evolved with multiple amendments (e.g., 802.11b, 802.11g, 802.11n, 802.11ac, and 802.11ax) to improve data rates, range, and network efficiency.

3. Variants:

- Wi-Fi 4 (802.11n): Introduced MIMO (Multiple-Input Multiple-Output) technology for improved performance.
- Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac): Enhanced speed and performance, including support for multi-user MIMO (MU-MIMO).
- Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax): Provides higher data rates, lower latency, and better performance in congested environments.
- Wi-Fi 6E: An extension of Wi-Fi 6 that utilizes the 6 GHz band for even greater capacity and less interference.

Both IEEE 802.3 (Ethernet) and IEEE 802.11 (Wi-Fi) are integral to modern networking, offering wired and wireless solutions to cater to a wide range of networking needs. The choice between them depends on factors like network design, coverage area, and device mobility.

high-speed LANs

High-speed LANs (Local Area Networks) refer to networking environments that are designed to provide fast data transmission rates within a limited geographical area, typically within a building, campus, or data center. These networks are crucial for supporting the increasing demands for bandwidth and performance, particularly in businesses and organizations. High-speed LANs are characterized by their ability to handle large volumes of data, support multiple users, and ensure low latency. Here are some key aspects and technologies associated with high-speed LANs:

- Ethernet: High-speed LANs often rely on Ethernet technology, which has evolved to
 offer various speeds, including 1 Gigabit Ethernet (1 GbE), 10 Gigabit Ethernet (10
 GbE), 25 Gigabit Ethernet (25 GbE), 40 Gigabit Ethernet (40 GbE), and 100 Gigabit
 Ethernet (100 GbE). These high-speed Ethernet variants allow for efficient data
 transfer within LAN environments.
- Fiber Optic Cabling: To achieve high data rates, many high-speed LANs use fiber optic cabling. Fiber optics can transmit data at very high speeds and over longer distances compared to traditional copper cabling.
- 3. **Switching**: Switches are fundamental components in high-speed LANs. They provide intelligent traffic management and ensure that data is forwarded only to the appropriate destination, reducing collision and enhancing network performance.
- 4. **Virtual LANs (VLANs)**: VLANs are used to segment LANs into multiple logical networks, enabling improved network organization and security. They are essential in larger high-speed LANs.
- 5. **Quality of Service (QoS)**: QoS mechanisms are employed to prioritize specific types of network traffic, ensuring that time-sensitive data, like voice and video, receive the necessary bandwidth and low latency.
- 6. Wireless LANs (Wi-Fi): While Wi-Fi is often associated with wireless networks, it can also provide high-speed LAN connectivity when using technologies like Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac) and Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax). These standards offer increased data rates and improved network capacity.
- 7. **Network Management**: High-speed LANs require robust network management tools to monitor, optimize, and troubleshoot network performance. Network management solutions help ensure smooth operation and minimize downtime.

- Redundancy: Redundant components and failover mechanisms are often implemented in high-speed LANs to enhance reliability and fault tolerance. This ensures that network outages are minimized, critical for business-critical applications.
- 9. **Jumbo Frames**: Some high-speed LANs make use of jumbo frames, which are larger than standard Ethernet frames. Jumbo frames can reduce overhead and improve data transfer efficiency.
- 10. **10GBASE-T**: This is a high-speed Ethernet standard that uses copper cabling (like Cat 6a or Cat 7) to support 10 Gbps data rates. It's commonly used for high-speed LANs in data centers and enterprise networks.
- 11. Data Center LANs: High-speed LANs are especially prevalent in data centers, where massive amounts of data need to be efficiently managed and transmitted. Technologies like 100 Gigabit Ethernet (100 GbE) are often used to meet these demands.

High-speed LANs play a crucial role in supporting the growing demands of businesses and organizations for fast and reliable data transfer within their local environments. These networks are designed to ensure that data-intensive applications, cloud services, and multimedia content can be accessed and transmitted with minimal delay and high performance.

Token Ring and Token Bus

Token Ring and Token Bus are two older network technologies that were used for local area networks (LANs) in the past. They are based on the concept of token passing, which is a method for controlling access to the network medium. Here's an overview of both:

Token Ring:

• **Definition**: Token Ring is a LAN technology where devices are connected in a physical ring or star-wired ring topology. A token is continuously circulated around the network, and a device can only transmit data when it holds the token.

Operation:

 Devices are connected in a physical ring, but the actual data transmission can occur in a star-wired configuration.

- A token, a special data packet, circulates on the network. Only the device holding the token can transmit data.
- When a device completes its transmission, it releases the token, allowing the next device in the ring to access the network.

Advantages:

- Predictable access: Since devices must wait for the token to transmit, collisions are minimized.
- Fairness: Token Ring provides fair access to all devices on the network.
- Reliability: It is known for its reliability, as it eliminates the possibility of data collisions.

Disadvantages:

- Slower adoption: Token Ring had slower adoption compared to Ethernet.
- More complex cabling: Setting up a physical ring network could be more complex than Ethernet's star topology.
- Limited scalability: Token Ring networks had limitations in terms of scalability.

Token Bus:

• **Definition**: Token Bus is another LAN technology where devices are connected in a linear bus topology. Like Token Ring, a token is used to control access to the network.

Operation:

- Devices are connected in a linear bus topology.
- A token is circulated along the bus, and only the device with the token can transmit data.
- When a device is done transmitting, it releases the token, allowing the next device on the bus to access the network.

Advantages:

 Simple cabling: Token Bus used a simpler linear bus topology compared to the ring.

 Predictable access: Collisions are minimized since devices must wait for the token.

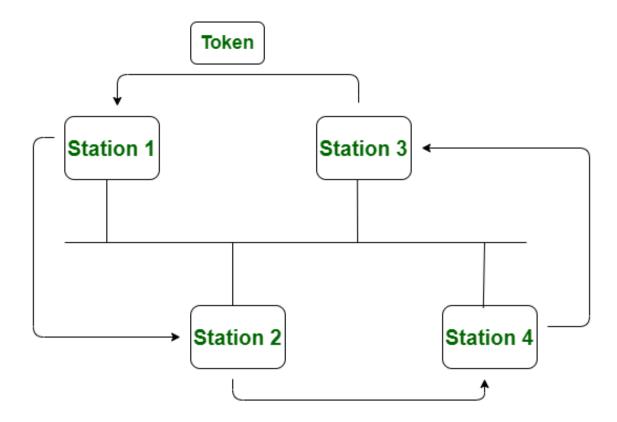
• Disadvantages:

- Slower adoption: Token Bus had limited adoption and was largely overshadowed by Ethernet.
- Limited scalability: Like Token Ring, Token Bus had limitations in terms of scalability.
- Lack of flexibility: The linear bus topology made it less flexible for network expansion.

Both Token Ring and Token Bus were early attempts to address the problem of medium access control in LANs. However, they were largely superseded by Ethernet, which offered higher speeds and easier scalability. Ethernet's dominant position in the LAN market led to its widespread adoption, while Token Ring and Token Bus became less common over time.

Token Bus network is a standard in which tokens are passed along a virtual ring. In the token bus network bus topology is used as physical media.

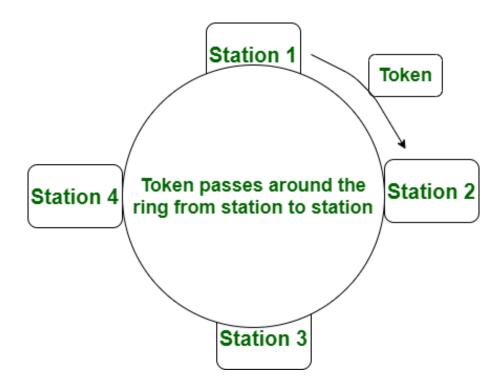
In this, the virtual ring is created with stations and therefore tokens are subsequently passed from a station during a sequence with this virtual ring. Every station or node in the token bus network knows the address of its predecessor station and its successor station. A node (station) can transmit the data if and only if it has a token. Its working rule is analogous to the token ring network.



Token Bus

Token Ring is defined by the IEEE 802.5 standard. In the token ring network, the token is passed over a physical ring instead of a virtual ring.

In this, a token is a special frame and a station can transmit the data frame if and only if it has a token. And The tokens are issued on successful receipt of the data frame.



Token Ring comparison between Token Bus and Token Ring networks:

S. No.	Token Bus Network	Token Ring Network
1.	In the token bus network, the token is passed along a virtual ring.	While in the token ring network, the token is passed over a physical ring.
2.	The token bus network is simply designed for large factories.	While the token ring network is designed for offices.
3.	The token bus network is defined by the IEEE 802.4 standard.	While the token ring network is defined by the IEEE 802.5 standard.
4.	Token bus network provides better bandwidth.	While the token ring network does not provide better bandwidth as compared to the token bus.
5.	In a token bus network, Bus topology is used.	While in token ring network, Star topology is used.
6.	The maximum time it takes to reach the last station in a token bus network cannot be calculated.	While the maximum time to reach the last station in the token ring network can be calculated.
7.	In a token bus network, coaxial cable is used.	In token ring network, twisted pair and fiber optic are used.

8.	In a token bus network, the cable length is 200m to 500m.	In a token ring network, the cable length is 50m to 1000m.
9.	In token bus network, distributed algorithms provide maintenance.	In a token ring network, a designated monitor station performs station maintenance.
10.	The priority handling mechanism is not associated with the transmission of data through workstations with this network.	The priority handling mechanism is associated with the transmission of data through workstations with this network.
11.	These networks are not much reliable.	These networks are reliable.
12.	It does not keep routing details.	It keeps the information of routing.
13.	The network is less expensive compared to the Token Ring network.	It is expensive.

Fiber Distributed Data Interface (FDDI)-Based LAN

Fiber Distributed Data Interface (FDDI) is a high-speed, robust, and reliable technology used for building local area networks (LANs) and metropolitan area networks (MANs). FDDI is particularly well-suited for environments where high data transfer rates, fault tolerance, and redundancy are crucial. Here's an overview of FDDI-based LANs:

1. Topology:

FDDI LANs are typically configured in a dual-ring topology. This means that
data travels in two counter-rotating rings, providing redundancy and fault
tolerance. If a break in one ring occurs, the network can still operate on the
other.

2. Data Rates:

• FDDI supports data transfer rates of 100 Mbps (megabits per second), making it significantly faster than traditional Ethernet LANs.

3. Media:

 FDDI networks use fiber optic cabling, which provides high bandwidth and is immune to electromagnetic interference. This makes FDDI well-suited for environments where reliability is essential.

4. Token Passing:

 Similar to Token Ring, FDDI networks use token passing to control access to the network. A token is passed between devices, and only the device holding the token can transmit data.

5. Fault Tolerance:

FDDI is known for its built-in fault tolerance. In the event of a cable break or
other failure, the network can continue to operate by using the secondary ring.
This redundancy is essential for applications that require high availability.

6. Management:

 FDDI networks typically include management features for monitoring the health of the network and identifying and isolating faults.

7. Standards:

• FDDI is standardized by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

8. Applications:

 FDDI LANs are often used in critical applications such as data centers, financial institutions, and other environments where network reliability and high-speed data transfer are essential.

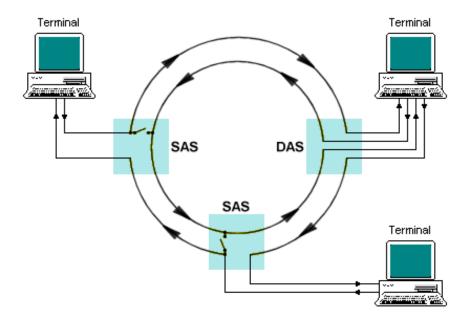
9. Data Link Layer:

 FDDI operates at the data link layer (Layer 2) of the OSI model and uses MAC (Media Access Control) addresses for device identification.

10. Legacy Technology:

 While FDDI was once a popular LAN technology, it has largely been replaced by Ethernet in most modern LAN environments due to Ethernet's widespread adoption and cost-effectiveness.

FDDI-based LANs are a prime example of how technology has evolved to meet the demands of specific applications and industries. While they are no longer as commonly deployed in new installations, FDDI networks continue to operate in certain environments where high reliability and fault tolerance are critical.



Network Devices: Repeaters, Hubs, Switches, and Bridges

These network devices play essential roles in connecting and managing data traffic within a local area network (LAN). Each device has specific features and functions that impact the efficiency and performance of the network. Let's explore them in detail:

1. Repeater:

• **Function**: A repeater is a simple device that operates at the physical layer of the OSI model. It amplifies and regenerates data signals before sending them to the next segment of a network. Its primary function is to extend the range of a network by boosting signal strength.

Use Cases:

- Extending Cable Length: Repeaters are used to extend the maximum cable length in a network, especially in Ethernet networks where cable length limitations exist.
- Reducing Signal Loss: They help overcome signal attenuation in long cable runs.

2. **Hub**:

• **Function**: A hub, also known as a network hub or Ethernet hub, operates at the physical layer of the OSI model. It's a central connecting point for multiple

network devices. Unlike a switch, a hub does not intelligently manage traffic. Instead, it broadcasts data to all devices connected to it.

Use Cases:

- Small Networks: Hubs are suitable for small networks with minimal data traffic.
- Monitoring and Packet Capture: They are used for network monitoring and packet capture, where all network traffic is required to be visible.

3. Switch:

Function: A switch operates at the data link layer (Layer 2) of the OSI model. It
intelligently forwards data to the specific device on the network by using MAC
addresses. Switches are more efficient than hubs because they don't broadcast
data to all devices. Instead, they create a MAC address table to make
forwarding decisions.

Use Cases:

- Larger Networks: Switches are used in larger networks with multiple devices due to their efficiency.
- Reduced Network Congestion: They minimize network congestion by only sending data to the intended recipient.
- VLAN Support: Switches often support virtual LANs (VLANs) to logically segment a network.

4. Bridge:

• **Function**: A bridge operates at the data link layer (Layer 2) and is used to connect and filter traffic between two or more network segments. It is primarily used to divide a network into smaller segments to reduce broadcast domains and improve network performance.

Use Cases:

- Segmenting a Network: Bridges are used to divide large networks into segments to control traffic and reduce collision domains.
- Isolating Network Issues: They help isolate network issues by preventing broadcast storms from spreading to other segments.

In summary:

- Repeater: Extends network range by amplifying and regenerating signals. Typically used for long cable runs.
- **Hub**: Central connecting point for devices in a network. Broadcasts data to all connected devices. Suitable for small networks or monitoring purposes.
- Switch: Efficiently forwards data to specific devices using MAC addresses. Ideal for larger networks and critical for reducing network congestion.
- **Bridge**: Connects and filters traffic between network segments. Segmenting networks and isolating network issues are its primary functions.

In modern networks, switches are the most common and essential devices for managing LAN traffic efficiently, while repeaters and hubs are less commonly used due to their limited capabilities. Bridges are still relevant in certain scenarios where network segmentation is necessary.

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