

1.3-38

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Problem

We want to transfer a 10 Mb file from “Host 1” to “Host 2,” through 3 intermediate routers (so there are 4 links in total). We compare the total time (from the very start of sending until the last bit arrives at Host 2) under:

- Circuit switching
- Message switching
- Datagram switching

The following parameters are given:

- **File size:** 10 Mb (megabits).
- **Number of routers:** 3 (hence 4 links total).
- **Distance** between Host 1 and Host 2: 2000 km (each of the 4 links is 500 km).
- **Propagation speed:** 200,000 km/s.
- **Transmission bandwidth:** 1 Mbps (i.e. 1 Mb/s).
- **Node (router) processing delay:** 100 ms per *router* for each arriving unit (message or packet).
- **Datagram size:** 75 kb (assume 1 kb = 1000 bits, so 75 kb = 75 000 bits).

1 Key Quantities

Per-Link Propagation Delay

Each link is $\frac{2000}{4} = 500$ km, and the propagation speed is 200,000 km/s. Hence the one-way *propagation* delay per link is:

$$t_{\text{prop}} = \frac{500 \text{ km}}{200,000 \text{ km/s}} = 0.0025 \text{ s} = 2.5 \text{ ms.}$$

Transmission Times

For the entire 10 Mb file at 1 Mbps:

$$t_{\text{tx}(\text{file})} = \frac{10 \text{ Mb}}{1 \text{ Mb/s}} = 10 \text{ seconds.}$$

For a single 75 kb datagram at 1 Mbps:

$$t_{\text{tx}(\text{datagram})} = \frac{75,000 \text{ bits}}{1,000,000 \text{ bits/s}} = 0.075 \text{ s} = 75 \text{ ms.}$$

Router Processing Delay

Each router introduces a 100 ms processing time for a *message* or *datagram* after it fully arrives but before forwarding.

2 Circuit Switching

Basic assumptions:

- We first perform an *end-to-end circuit setup*, incurring:

$$(4 \text{ links of propagation}) + (3 \text{ routers' processing}).$$

If we assume the setup message is short and bandwidth is high enough, the main times are $4 \times t_{\text{prop}} + 3 \times 100 \text{ ms}$.

- Once the circuit is established, data flows as a continuous stream (no store-and-forward at intermediate routers).
- Finally, the last bit traveling across the 4 links experiences (roughly) $4 \times t_{\text{prop}}$ of propagation once it is sent.

Setup Time

$$t_{\text{setup}} = (4 \times t_{\text{prop}}) + (3 \times 0.1 \text{ s}) = 4 \times 0.0025 + 3 \times 0.1 = 0.01 + 0.3 = 0.31 \text{ s.}$$

Data Transmission + Final Propagation

Once the circuit is up, we send 10 Mb at 1 Mbps over 4 links (pipelined). The *time to pump out* the file is 10 s. The last bit, after being transmitted, still must propagate to the receiver over $4 \times t_{\text{prop}} = 0.01 \text{ s}$. Hence,

$$t_{\text{data}} + t_{\text{last.bit.prop}} = 10 \text{ s} + 0.01 \text{ s} = 10.01 \text{ s.}$$

Total (Circuit Switching)

$$t_{\text{total}(\text{circuit})} = t_{\text{setup}} + t_{\text{data}} + t_{\text{last.bit.prop}} = 0.31 + 10.01 = 10.32 \text{ s.}$$

3 Message Switching

In *message switching*, the **entire file** (treated as one large message) must be fully transmitted to each router, stored (and processed for 100 ms), then forwarded to the next router, and so on. We have 3 routers = 4 hops.

1. **At hop 1:** Send 10 Mb at 1 Mbps \Rightarrow 10 s, plus 2.5 ms propagation. Once it arrives, router processes for 100 ms.
2. **At hop 2:** Same 10 s send, 2.5 ms prop, 100 ms process.
3. **At hop 3:** Same ...
4. **At hop 4:** Same 10 s send, 2.5 ms prop, but *no* extra router processing since the destination is a host.

Putting this together:

$$\text{Time per hop} = 10 \text{ s} + 0.0025 \text{ s} \approx 10.0025 \text{ s}.$$

We do that 4 times (4 links), but we have 3 router-processing delays in between:

$$t_{\text{total(message)}} = (4 \times 10.0025) \text{ s} + (3 \times 0.1) \text{ s}.$$

Numerically,

$$4 \times 10.0025 = 40.01 \text{ s}, \quad 3 \times 0.1 = 0.3 \text{ s}.$$

$$t_{\text{total(message)}} = 40.01 + 0.3 = 40.31 \text{ s}.$$

4 Datagram (Packet) Switching

Here, the file is split into many 75 kb (kilobit) datagrams (store-and-forward *per* datagram). We have:

$$\text{File size} = 10,000,000 \text{ bits}, \quad \text{Datagram size} = 75,000 \text{ bits}.$$

$$\text{Number of datagrams} = \frac{10,000,000}{75,000} = 133.\bar{3} \approx 134.$$

(We typically round up to 134 datagrams.)

One Datagram's End-to-End Delay

For a *single* datagram:

- Transmit time per link: 0.075 s.
- Propagation per link: 0.0025 s.
- Processing at each router: 0.1 s.

Each datagram goes over 4 links (thus 3 routers in between). The store-and-forward model says each router must fully receive the datagram before forwarding it, incurring a 100 ms process time at *each* intermediate router. For each of the **first 3 links**, we have (tx + prop + process). On the **4th link**, we have tx + prop but *no extra router process* at the end.

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} t_{1 \text{ datagram}} &= 3 \times (0.075 + 0.0025 + 0.1) \text{ s} + (0.075 + 0.0025) \text{ s} \\ &= 3 \times 0.1775 + 0.0775 = 0.5325 + 0.0775 = 0.61 \text{ s}. \end{aligned}$$

Total Delay for 134134 Datagrams (Pipelined)

In datagram switching, the *sending host* transmits the 134 datagrams back to back. Each datagram has a 0.075 s transmit time on the *first* link. So after the first datagram, the second starts 0.075 s later, etc. Because of pipelining, while the n th datagram is traveling through the next stages, the $(n + 1)$ th datagram can be on the earlier link, etc.

A common formula for store-and-forward pipelines is:

$$\begin{aligned} t_{\text{total}(\text{datagram})} &= t_{1 \text{ datagram}} + (\text{NumberOfDatagrams} - 1) \times t_{\text{tx}(\text{onfirstlink})} \\ &= 0.61 \text{ s} + (134 - 1) \times 0.075 \text{ s}. \end{aligned}$$

$$= 0.61 + 133 \times 0.075 = 0.61 + 9.975 = 10.585 \text{ s}.$$

So once the first datagram has fully traversed all 4 links (0.61 s), each subsequent datagram finishes about 0.075 s after the previous one *in the steady pipeline*. By the time we have sent all 134, the total is about 10.59 s.

Final Numerical Results

- **Circuit Switching:**

$$t_{\text{total}} \approx 10.32 \text{ s}$$

- **Message Switching:**

$$t_{\text{total}} \approx 40.31 \text{ s}$$

- **Datagram Switching:**

$$t_{\text{total}} \approx 10.59 \text{ s}$$