

Networking Cheat Sheet

Key Variables

R: Bandwidth in bps (bits per second)
L: Packet size in bits
d: Distance in meters
s: Propagation speed ($\approx 2 \times 10^8$ m/s, unless specified)
k: Number of active users
n: Total number of users
p: Probability a user is active (e.g., 0.1 if active 10% of the time)
rB: Required bandwidth
tB: Total bandwidth

Fundamental Formulas

Transmission Delay (d_{trans}): $d_{trans} = L / R$
Propagation Delay (d_{prop}): $d_{prop} = d / s$
Bit Time: $T_{bit} = 1 / R$
Bit Width (spatial length of one bit): $W_{bit} = s / R$
Total Transmission Time: $T_{total} = (L / R) + (d / s)$

Probability & Users

Binomial Probability: $P(k) = \binom{n}{k} * p^k * (1-p)^{(n-k)}$
Expected Active Users: $E[k] = n * p$
Variance of Active Users: $Var(k) = n * p * (1-p)$

Bandwidth Allocation

Required Bandwidth (per user): $rB \approx R$ (depends on context)
Total Bandwidth: $tB = n * rB$
Statistical Multiplexing (average required): $rB_{avg} = n * p * rB$

Extra Useful Formulas

Utilization (U): $U = (d_{trans}) / (d_{trans} + d_{prop})$
Throughput: $\min(R, \text{Window Size} / \text{RTT})$
Delay-Bandwidth Product: $D * R$ (measures 'in-flight' data)
RTT (Round Trip Time): $\text{RTT} = 2 * d / s$
Efficiency (Stop-and-Wait): $U = 1 / (1 + 2 * d_{prop} / d_{trans})$