Cybersecurity- Network Architecture

NASA Hunch

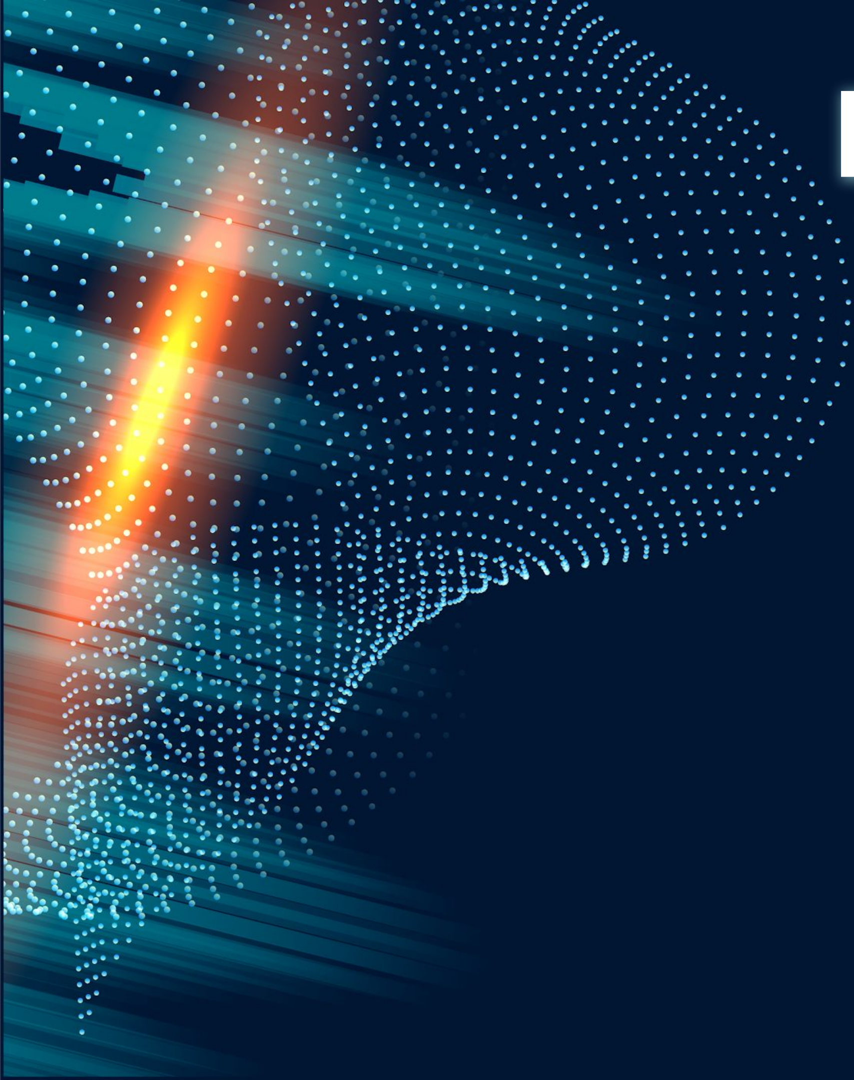
By: Lexon Schexnider and Ethan Arena
Teacher: Jacob Laberteaux and Tracy Henry
School: Beau Chene High

Objective:

- Design a **reliable, redundant, and secure** network to transport data, video, telemetry, and voice from the moon's Smart Building to a Control Center(s) on Earth.

Goals

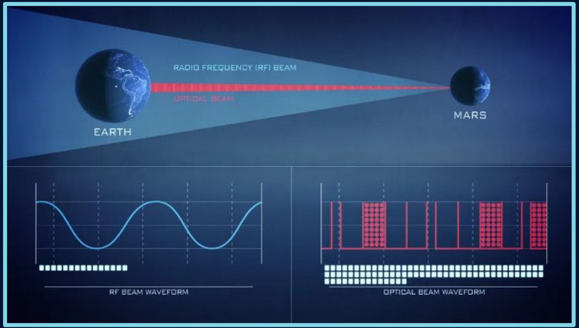
1. **Reliable-** Design a system capable of consistently transporting data.
2. **Redundant-** Design redundancy into the code and fail safes into the hardware.
3. **Secure-** Design a security system into the code to protect sensitive communications.

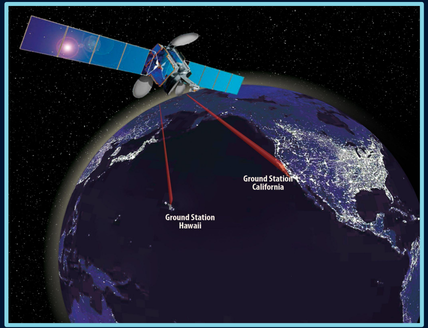


Requirements:

- At least 3 network designs.
- A simulation/network model that demonstrates the networks.
- A recommendations on the best network design and the rationale for each component.
- Take into account the loss of data due to the speed of light and radiation.

Research



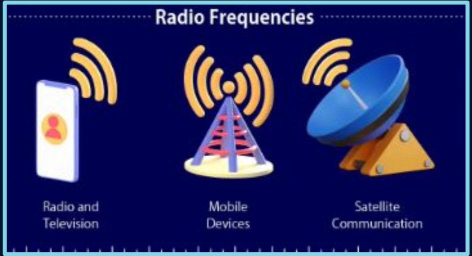


Laser Beam Communication:

- **Laser Transmitters and Receivers**: Each communication node, whether it's the Smart Building on the moon or a ground station on Earth, is equipped with a laser transmitter and receiver. These components are responsible for emitting and detecting laser beams for communication.
- **Data Encoding and Modulation:** Before transmission, data from the Smart Building (or other sources) is encoded and modulated onto the laser beam. This typically involves converting digital data into optical signals that can be transmitted via the laser.
- **Point-to-Point Communication:** Laser-based communication is typically point-to-point, meaning that each communication link is established between two specific nodes. For example, a laser link may be established between the Smart Building and a particular ground station.
- **Line-of-Sight Communication:** Laser communication requires an unobstructed line of sight between the transmitting and receiving nodes. This means that there should be no obstacles, such as mountains or buildings, blocking the path of the laser beam.
- **Precise Pointing and Tracking:** Laser communication systems employ precise pointing and tracking mechanisms to ensure accurate alignment between the transmitting and receiving nodes. This is crucial for maintaining a stable and reliable communication link, especially over long distances.
- **High Bandwidth and Low Latency:** Laser-based communication offers high bandwidth and low latency, making it suitable for transmitting large amounts of data quickly and with minimal delay. This is advantageous for applications requiring real-time or high-definition data transmission, such as video streaming or telemetry.
- **Challenges and Considerations:** Despite its advantages, laser communication also faces challenges, such as atmospheric turbulence, optical scattering, and signal degradation over long distances. Mitigating these challenges may involve adaptive optics, error correction techniques, and redundancy in communication links.

Research

RF Communication

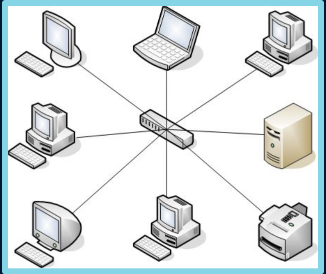


RF Communication:

- **Frequency Bands:** RF communication operates within specific frequency bands of the electromagnetic spectrum, typically ranging from a few kilohertz (kHz) to several gigahertz (GHz). Different frequency bands are allocated for various applications, such as AM/FM radio, television broadcasting, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, cellular networks, and satellite communication.
- **Modulation:** In RF communication, data is modulated onto a carrier wave by varying one or more of its characteristics, such as amplitude (AM), frequency (FM), or phase (PM). Modulation allows data to be encoded into the radio wave for transmission and decoded at the receiver to recover the original information.
- **Transmitters and Receivers:** RF communication systems consist of transmitters and receivers. The transmitter modulates the data onto an RF carrier wave and transmits it through an antenna. The receiver receives the transmitted signal using another antenna, demodulates the signal to extract the original data, and passes it to the destination device.
- **Antennas:** Antennas are essential components of RF communication systems. They convert electrical signals into electromagnetic waves for transmission and vice versa for reception. Antennas come in various forms, such as dipole antennas, patch antennas, and parabolic antennas, depending on the application and frequency band.
- **Propagation:** RF signals propagate through the air or other transmission medium and can travel over long distances, depending on factors such as frequency, transmit power, antenna characteristics, and environmental conditions. RF signals can be omnidirectional, radiating in all directions from the transmitter, or directional, focused in a specific direction by directional antennas.
- **Applications:** RF communication is widely used in numerous applications, including:
    - Wireless LANs (Wi-Fi) and personal area networks (Bluetooth)
    - Cellular and mobile networks for voice and data communication
    - Satellite communication for broadcasting, navigation, and remote sensing
    - RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) for asset tracking and identification
    - IoT (Internet of Things) devices for smart home automation, industrial monitoring, and environmental sensing
- **Challenges:** RF communication systems may face challenges such as interference from other RF sources, attenuation due to obstacles or distance, multipath propagation, and susceptibility to environmental factors like weather conditions and electromagnetic interference (EMI). These challenges can affect signal quality, reliability, and range.

Research

Star Topology



Star Topology:

- In a star topology, all nodes (devices) in the network are connected to a central hub or switch.
- Each node communicates directly with the central hub, and data transmissions between nodes are routed through the hub.
- The central hub acts as a focal point for all communication within the network, managing the flow of data between nodes.
- Nodes in a star topology are typically connected to the central hub using point-to-point links, such as Ethernet cables or wireless connections.
- Examples of star topology networks include traditional Ethernet LANs (Local Area Networks) and many home Wi-Fi networks.

Advantages of Star Topology:

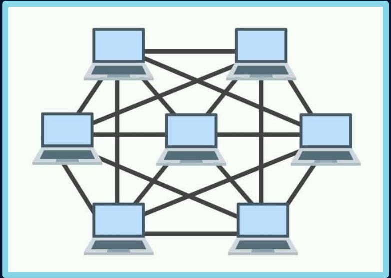
- Simplified management and troubleshooting: The central hub facilitates easy monitoring and management of network connections.
- Scalability: New nodes can be added to the network by connecting them to the central hub without affecting existing nodes.
- Fault isolation: If a node or connection fails, it typically only affects communication between that node and the central hub, minimizing network downtime.

Disadvantages of Star Topology:

- Dependency on the central hub: The central hub is a single point of failure, and if it fails, the entire network may become inaccessible.
- Limited scalability in terms of the number of nodes that can be supported by the central hub's capacity.
- Higher infrastructure costs compared to other topologies due to the need for a central hub and point-to-point connections.

Research

Mesh Topology



Mesh Topology:

- In a mesh topology, each node in the network is connected to every other node, forming a fully interconnected network.
- There are two main types of mesh topologies: full mesh and partial mesh.
- In a full mesh topology, every node has a direct connection to every other node in the network.
- In a partial mesh topology, only some nodes have direct connections to other nodes, while others are connected indirectly through intermediate nodes.
- Mesh topologies can be implemented using wired or wireless connections, depending on the specific requirements and constraints of the network.
- Examples of mesh topology networks include peer-to-peer (P2P) networks, sensor networks, and some types of Wide Area Networks (WANs).

Advantages of Mesh Topology:

- Robustness and fault tolerance: Multiple communication paths between nodes provide redundancy and resilience against node or link failures.
- Scalability: Mesh networks can easily scale to accommodate a large number of nodes by adding new connections between nodes.
- Flexibility: Mesh topologies offer flexibility in terms of routing paths and can adapt to changes in network topology dynamically.

Disadvantages of mesh topology:

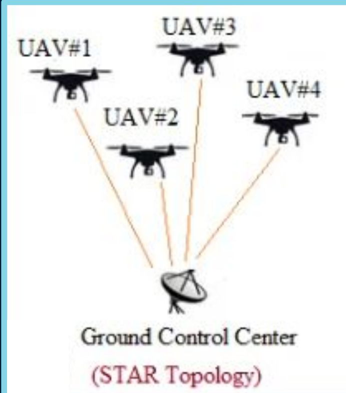
- Higher infrastructure and configuration complexity compared to other topologies, especially in full mesh configurations with many nodes.
- Increased cost and resource requirements due to the need for multiple connections between nodes.
- Potential for higher latency and overhead in data transmission compared to centralized topologies like star topology.

Concept One:

Combine Star Topology with Rf Communication

- Central hub on the Moon where all nodes connect.
- Communication utilizes radio frequency(RF) to transmit data between the Moon and Earth.
- Redundancy: Multiple ground stations on Earth.
- Advantages: Easy to implement, moderate speed for transporting data, centralized management with control.
- Disadvantages: Easy failures at a centralized location, limited on scalability for large networks, and RF interferes with other RF waves.

UAVs connect to a central hub and receive information from RF waves.

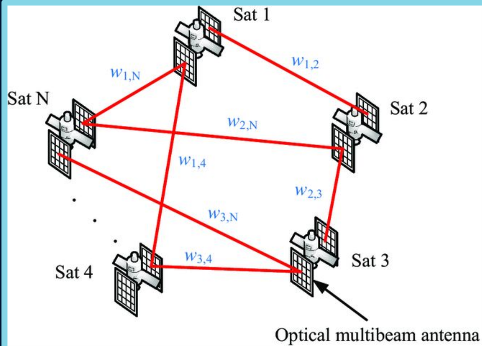


Concept Two:

Combine Mesh Topology with Optical Communication

- All nodes connect to one another; Therefore the network has no central point.
- Communication utilizes optical communication(Laser-Based) to transmit data between the Moon and Earth.
- Redundancy: Multiple ground stations on Earth.
- Advantages: High-scalability, no single-point failures, high speed data transmission, low latency, can be implemented in complex and dynamic environments.
- Disadvantages: Complicated to implement, cost more money, requires precise alignment and calibration for optical links to correctly receive data.

Optical multi-beam antennas connect in a mesh topology style and sends information by breaking data in small bits and transmitting it through lasers.

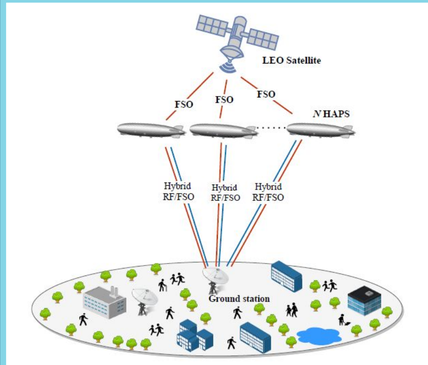


Concept Three:

Hybrid Topology with RF and Optical Communication:

- Combines Star and Mesh Topology for centralized control and redundancy.
- Central location for network monitoring and management.
- Decentralized components ensure multiple communication paths for redundancy.
- Prioritizes specific data transmission through star topology and lasers.
- Redundancy provided by multiple ground stations and satellites.
- Advantages: Moderate scalability, no single-point failures, high or moderate-speed data transmission, low latency, reliable, redundant, secure, and flexible.
- Disadvantages: Complex implementation, moderate cost, requires management oversight.

This represents a future design for 6G . It utilizes a FSO(Laser) satellite to send signal to a clear-sight blimp. The blimp then send FSO and RF to a central station.



Final Concept:

Best Network-

Hybrid Topology:

- Integrates star and mesh topologies for centralized control and resilience.
- Combines star's management benefits with mesh's redundancy.
- Ensures high availability and fault tolerance.

Star Topology for Ground Stations:

- Each ground station on Earth serves as a central hub.
- Simplifies management and control.
- Enables reliable data transmission to the Smart Building.

Mesh Topology for Lunar Communication:

- Utilizes RF communication links.
- Provides redundant paths for enhanced reliability.
- Enables automatic rerouting in case of failures.

Final Concept:

Satellite Relay Nodes:

- Introduce satellite relay nodes in the mesh topology for extended communication coverage.
- Overcome long-distance communication challenges and line-of-sight limitations.
- Enhance network resilience and scalability by expanding communication coverage.

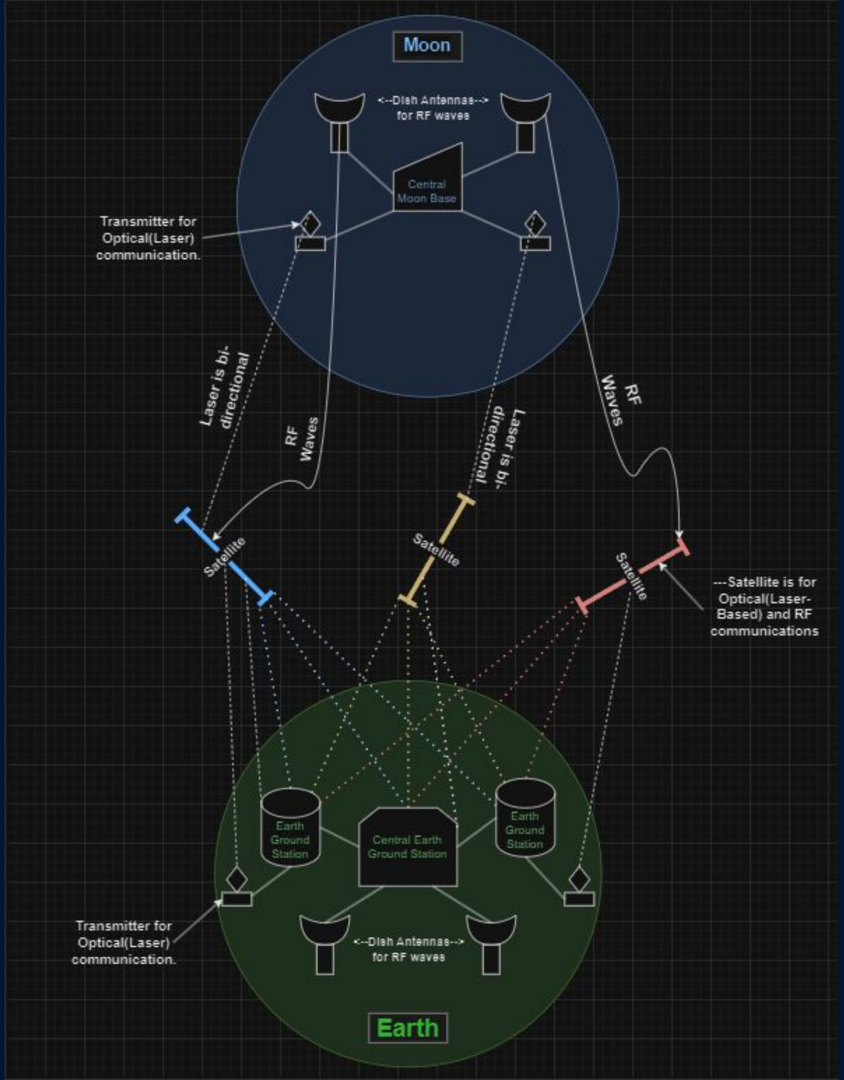
Encryption and Authentication:

- Implement AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) with a 256-bit key length for data encryption to ensure robust protection against unauthorized access.
- Utilize TLS (Transport Layer Security) version 1.3 for secure communication channels, providing encryption and authentication between the Smart Building and Control Center(s).
- Configure Access Control Lists (ACLs) on network devices to restrict access to sensitive data and resources based on user roles and permissions.
- Deploy Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems (IDPS) such as Snort or Suricata to monitor network traffic for known attack patterns and suspicious activities.

Redundant Power Supply:

- Equip network infrastructure with redundant power supply systems. (Solar)
- Ensure continuous operation during power outages or disruptions.
- Enhance reliability and resilience of the network with backup power sources like solar panels.

Designed Model of a Hybrid Topology Network:



Loss of Data:

Speed of Light Latency:

- The average distance between the Earth and the moon is approximately 384,400 kilometers.
- The speed of light in a vacuum is approximately 299,792 kilometers per second.
- Using the formula: Latency = Distance / Speed of Light
- Latency = 384,400 km / 299,792 km/s ≈ **1.28 seconds (one-way)**

Data Loss Mitigation:

- Assuming a conservative estimate of **1% error** rate due to radiation effects on data transmission over long distances in space.

Data Loss Estimate:

- Given the latency of approximately **1.28 seconds** for one-way communication between the Earth and the moon, data loss due to latency alone would not occur.
- However, considering a **1% error** rate due to radiation effects, approximately **1% of transmitted data packets** may experience errors during transmission.
- This 1% error rate would result in the **loss or corruption** of a small portion of the transmitted data.

Overall Impact:

- While the latency due to the speed of light does not directly cause data loss, it can impact real-time communication applications by introducing **delays**.
- Radiation effects can lead to **errors** in transmitted data, but the actual impact would depend on the effectiveness of error detection and correction mechanisms implemented in the communication system.
- To mitigate data loss, robust error detection and correction techniques, along with redundancy in communication links, can be employed.

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