# Network: Wide Area Networks

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#### Reference

William Stalling, Data and Computer Communications 10/E, Prentice Hall

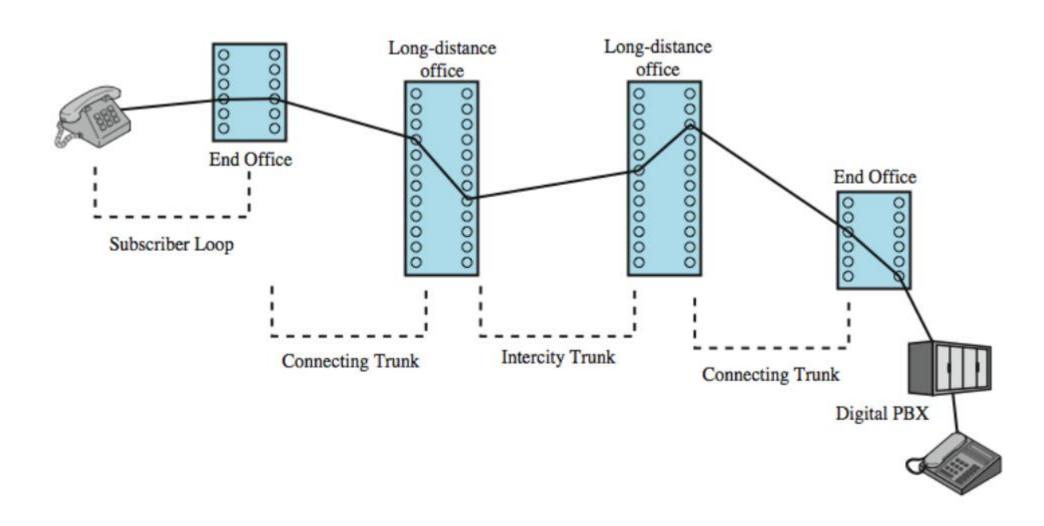
#### WAN Technology and Protocols

- Switched communications networks
  - Switching nodes : provide a switching facility that move data between nodes
  - Stations: devices attached to the network
  - Nodes: switching devices that provide communication
  - Communications network : collection of nodes
  - Switched network : data entering the network from a station are routed to the destination by being switched from node to node

### Circuit Switching

- Uses a dedicated path between two stations
- Has three phases
  - Establish
  - Transfer
  - disconnect
- Inefficient
  - Channel capacity dedicated for duration of connection
  - If no data, capacity wasted
- Set up (connection) takes time
- Once connected, transfer is transparent

#### Public Circuit Switched Network

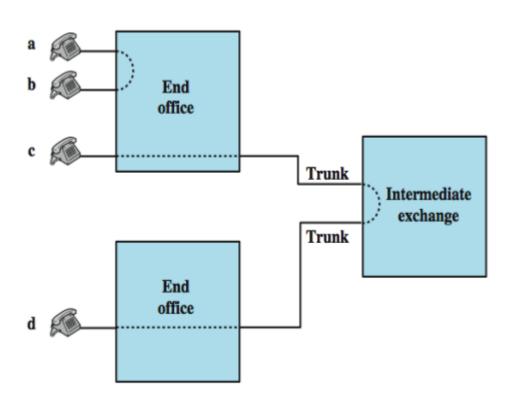


## Circuit-Switching Technology

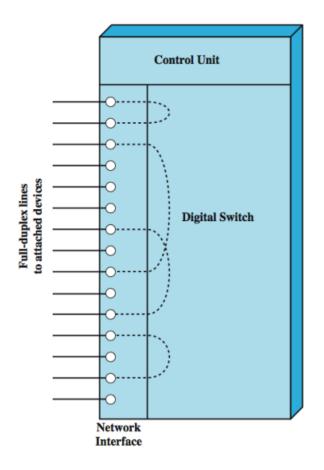
- Driven by application that handle voice traffic
  - Key requirements is no transmission delay and no variation in delay
  - Efficient for analog trans. Of voice signals but, inefficient for digital trans.
- Transparent
  - Once a circuit is established, it appears as a direct connection no special logic is needed
- Telecommunication components
  - Subscriber : devices attached to network
  - Local loop : subscriber loop
  - Exchange : switching centers
  - Trunks : branched between exchanges

#### Circuit Switch Elements

Circuit establishment



• Circuit switch elements



## Blocking or Non-blocking

#### Blocking network

- May be unable to connect stations because all paths are in use
- Used on voice systems because it is expected to be of short duration and that a fraction of the phoned will be engaged at any one time

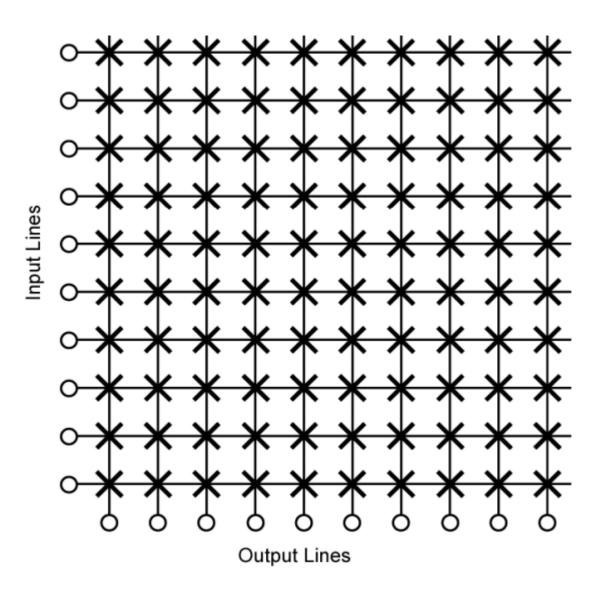
#### Non-blocking network

- Permits all stations to connect at once
- Grants all possible connection requests as long as the called party is free
- On using data connections, terminals can be continuously connected for long periods of time so nonblocking configurations are required

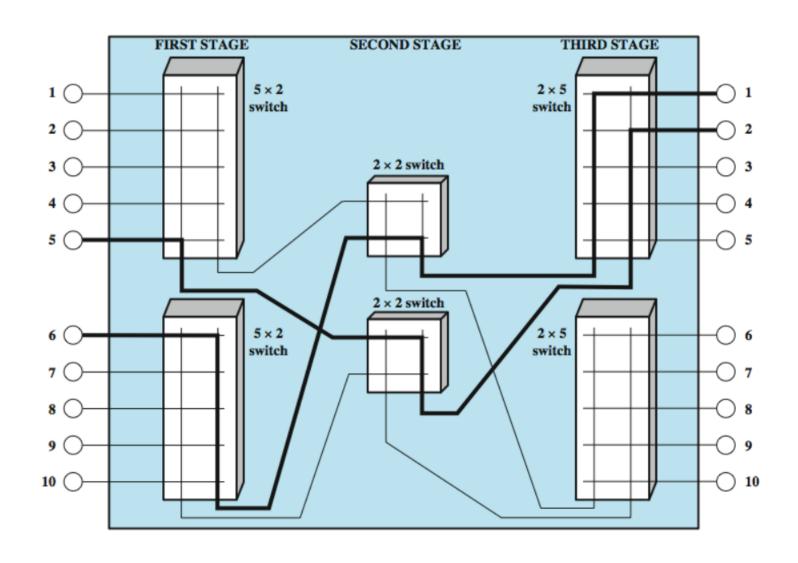
### Space Division Switching

- Originally developed for analog environment
  - Signal paths are physically separate from one another
- Crossbar switch
  - Number of crosspoints grows as square of number of stations
  - Loss of crosspoint prevents connection
  - Inefficient : all stations connected, only a few crosspoints in use
- Multistage switch
  - Reduced number of crosspoints
  - More than one path through network, so increased reliability
  - More complex control
  - May be blocking

#### Crossbar Matrix

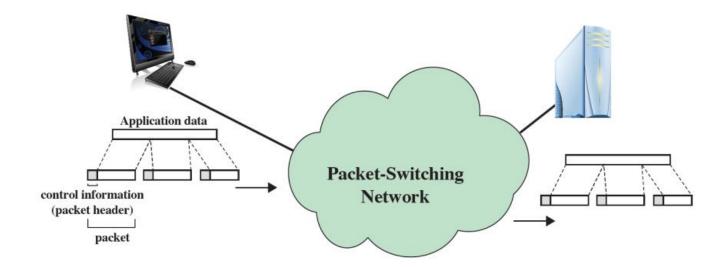


## Three Stage Space-Division Switch



### Packet Switching

- While circuit switching was designed for voice, packet switching was designed for data
- Transmitted in small packets
  - Packets contains user data and control information
  - Packets are received, stored and past on to the next node



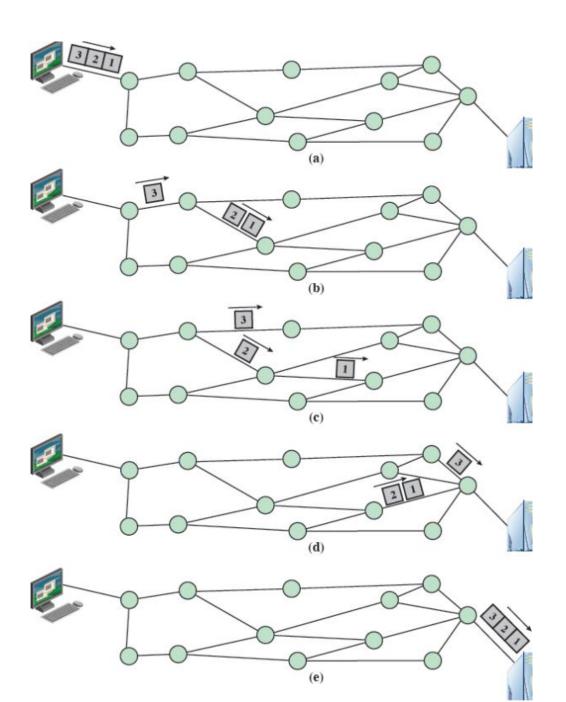
### Advantages

- Line efficiency
  - Single link is shared by many packets over time
  - Packets queues and transmitted as fast as possible
- Data rate conversion
  - Each station connects to the local node at proper speed
  - Nodes buffer data if required to equalize rates
- No blocking of calls
  - Packets are accepted even when network is busy
  - Delivery may slow down delivery delay increases
- Priorities can be used

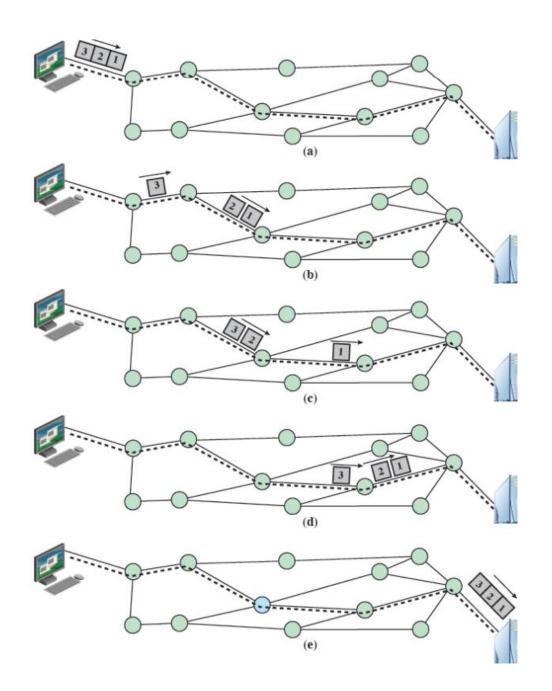
## Switching Technique

- Station breaks long message into packets
- Packets sent one at a time to the network
- Packets handled in two ways
  - Datagram : each packet is treated independently with no reference to previous packets
  - Virtual circuit: a preplanned route is established before any packets are sent

# Datagram Approach



# Virtual Circuit Approach



### Virtual Circuits vs. Datagram

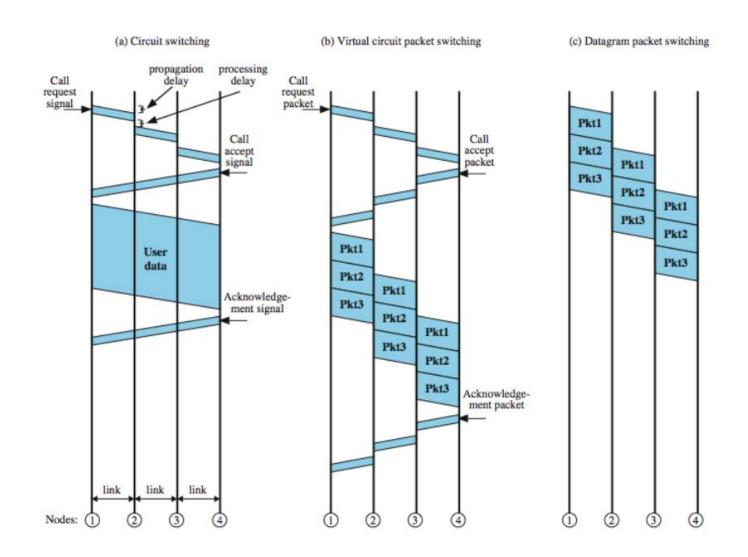
#### Virtual circuits

- Network can provide sequencing and error control
- Packets are forwarded more quickly (no routing decisions to make)
- Less reliable (failure of a node lose all circuits through that node)

#### Datagram

- No call setup phase (better if few packets)
- More flexible (routing can be used to avoid congested parts of the network)
- More reliable (if a node fails, find an alternate route)

## Event Timing



#### Effect of Packet Size

- There is a significant relationship between packet size and transmission time
  - data pass through X to Y,
  - packet size 43 octets (40 data, 3 control)

