

UNIT 1

❖ Computer Network

- A network consists of two or more computers that are linked in order to share resources (such as printers and CDs), exchange files, or allow electronic communications. The computers on a network may be linked through cables, telephone lines, radio waves, satellites, or infrared light beams.
- A **computer network** is a set of connected computers. Computers on a network are called **nodes**. The connection between computers can be done via cabling. Connected computers can share resources, like access to the Internet, printers, file servers. A network is a multipurpose connection, which allows a single computer to do more.

❖ Uses Of Computer Network

- **Resource sharing:** Resource sharing is the sharing of resources such as programs, printers, and data among the users on the network without the requirement of the physical location of the resource and user.
- **Server-Client model:** Computer networking is used in the **server-client model**. A server is a central computer used to store the information and maintained by the system administrator. Clients are the machines used to access the information stored in the server remotely.
- **Communication medium:** Computer network behaves as a communication medium among the users. For example, a company contains more than one computer has an email system which the employees use for daily communication.
- **E-commerce:** Computer network is also important in businesses. We can do the business over the internet. For example, amazon.com is doing their business over the internet,

❖ Components of a computer network

Following are some of the important components of a computer network.

1. Two or more computers.
2. Cables (coaxial, twisted pair or fiber optic) as links between the computers.
3. A network interfacing card on each computer and switches.

4. A software called network operating system.

❖ **Advantages of computer network**

1. Increased speed.

- Network provides a very fast means for sharing and transfer of files.
- If the computer networks would not have been there, then we would have to copy the files on floppy discs and send them to the other computers.

2. Reduced cost.

- Many popular versions of networkable software are now available at a considerably reduced costs as compared to individual licensed copies.
- In addition to this it is also possible to share a program on a network. It is also possible to upgrade the program

3. Improved security.

- It is possible to produce to protect the programs and files from illegal copying.
- By allotting password the access can be restricted to authorized users only.

4. Centralized software managements.

- Due to the use of computer networks, all the software can be loaded on one computer.
- All the other computers can make use of this centralized software. It is not necessary to waste time and energy in installing updates and tracking files on independent computers.

5. Electronic – mail.

- The computer network makes the hardware available which is necessary to install an e-mail system.
- The person to person communication is improved due to a presence of e-mail system.

6. Flexible access.

- It is possible for the authorized users to access their files from any computer connected on the network. This provides tremendous flexibility in accessing.

❖ **Disadvantages of network**

1. High cost of installation

- Cost of a computer network is high. This is due to the cost of cables, network cards, computer, printers and various software that are required to be installed.
- The cost of services of technicians may also get added.

2. Requires time for administration

- Computer networks need proper and careful administration and maintenance. This is a time consuming job.

3. Failure of server

- If the file servers “goes down” then the entire network comes to a standstill.
- If this happens then the entire organization can lose access to the necessary program and files.

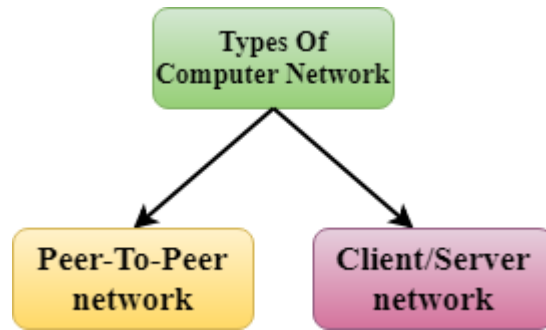
4. Cable fault

- The computers in a network are interconnected with the help of connecting cables.

❖ **Computer Network Architecture**

Computer Network Architecture is defined as the physical and logical design of the software, hardware, protocols, and media of the transmission of data. Simply we can say that how computers are organized and how tasks are allocated to the computer.

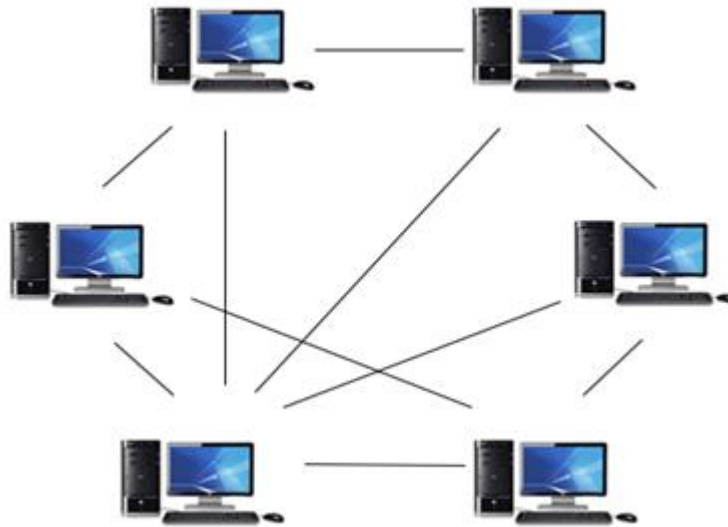
The two types of network architectures are used:



- Peer-To-Peer network
- Client/Server network

❖ **Peer-To-Peer network**

- Peer-To-Peer network is a network in which all the computers are linked together with equal privilege and responsibilities for processing the data.
- Peer-To-Peer network is useful for small environments, usually up to 10 computers.
- Peer-To-Peer network has no dedicated server.
- Special permissions are assigned to each computer for sharing the resources, but this can lead to a problem if the computer with the resource is down.



Advantages Of Peer-To-Peer Network:

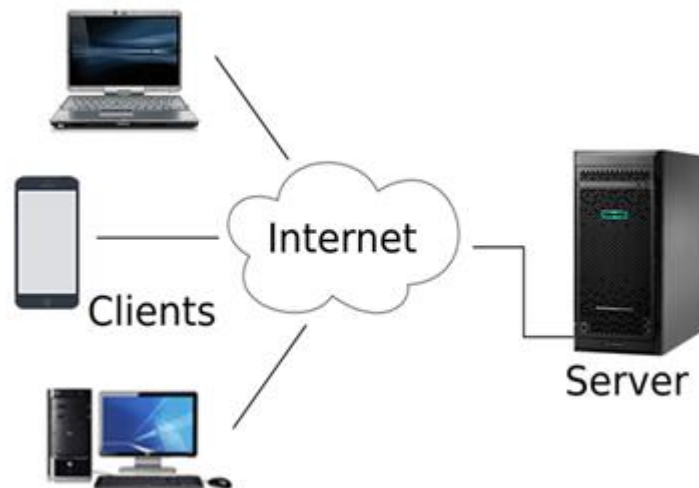
- It is less costly as it does not contain any dedicated server.
- If one computer stops working but, other computers will not stop working.
- It is easy to set up and maintain as each computer manages itself.

Disadvantages Of Peer-To-Peer Network:

- In the case of Peer-To-Peer network, it does not contain the centralized system. Therefore, it cannot back up the data as the data is different in different locations.
- It has a security issue as the device is managed itself.

Client/Server Network

- Client/Server network is a network model designed for the end users called clients, to access the resources such as songs, video, etc. from a central computer known as Server.
- The central controller is known as a **server** while all other computers in the network are called **clients**.
- A server performs all the major operations such as security and network management.
- A server is responsible for managing all the resources such as files, directories, printer, etc.
- All the clients communicate with each other through a server. For example, if client1 wants to send some data to client 2, then it first sends the request to the server for the permission. The server sends the response to the client 1 to initiate its communication with the client 2.



Advantages Of Client/Server network:

- A Client/Server network contains the centralized system. Therefore we can back up the data easily.
- A Client/Server network has a dedicated server that improves the overall performance of the whole system.
- Security is better in Client/Server network as a single server administers the shared resources.
- It also increases the speed of the sharing resources.

Disadvantages Of Client/Server network

- Client/Server network is expensive as it requires the server with large memory.
- A server has a Network Operating System(NOS) to provide the resources to the clients, but the cost of NOS is very high.
- It requires a dedicated network administrator to manage all the resources

❖ Types of Computer Network

❖ Local Area Network

A **local area network**, or **LAN**, consists of a computer network at a single site, typically an individual office building. A LAN is very useful for sharing resources, such as data storage and printers. LANs can be built with relatively inexpensive hardware, such as hubs, network adapters and Ethernet cables.

The smallest LAN may only use two computers, while larger LANs can accommodate thousands of computers. A LAN typically relies mostly on wired connections for increased speed and security, but wireless connections can also be part of a LAN. High speed and relatively low cost are the defining characteristics of LANs.

LANs are typically used for single sites where people need to share resources among themselves but not with the rest of the outside world. Think of an office building where everybody should be able to access files on a central server or be able to print a document to one or more central printers. Those tasks should be easy for everybody working in the same office, but you would not want somebody just walking outside to be able to send a document to the printer from their cell phone! If a local area network, or LAN, is entirely wireless, it is referred to as a wireless local area network, or WLAN.

Applications of LAN

- One of the computer in a network can become a server serving all the remaining computers called clients. Software can be stored on the server and it can be used by the remaining clients.
- Connecting Locally all the workstations in a building to let them communicate with each other locally without any internet access.
- Sharing common resources like printers etc are some common applications of LAN.

Advantages of LAN

- **Resource Sharing:** Computer resources like printers, modems, DVD-ROM drives and hard disks can be shared with the help of local area networks. This reduces cost and hardware purchases.
- **Software Applications Sharing:** It is cheaper to use same software over network instead of purchasing separate licensed software for each client a network.
- **Easy and Cheap Communication:** Data and messages can easily be transferred over networked computers.
- **Centralized Data:** The data of all network users can be saved on hard disk of the server computer. This will help users to use any workstation in a network to access their data. Because data is not stored on workstations locally.
- **Data Security:** Since, data is stored on server computer centrally, it will be easy to manage data at only one place and the data will be more secure too.
- **Internet Sharing:** Local Area Network provides the facility to share a single internet connection among all the LAN users. In Net Cafes, single internet connection sharing system keeps the internet expenses cheaper.

Disadvantages of LAN

- **High Setup Cost:** Although the LAN will save cost over time due to shared computer resources, but the initial setup costs of installing Local Area Networks is high.
- **Privacy Violations:** The LAN administrator has the rights to check personal data files of each and every LAN user. Moreover he can check the internet history and computer use history of the LAN user.
- **Data Security Threat:** Unauthorised users can access important data of an organization if centralized data repository is not secured properly by the LAN administrator.
- **LAN Maintenance Job:** Local Area Network requires a LAN Administrator because, there are problems of software installations or hardware failures or

cable disturbances in Local Area Network. A LAN Administrator is needed at this full time job.

- **Covers Limited Area:** Local Area Network covers a small area like one office, one building or a group of nearby buildings.

❖ **Metropolitan Area Network**

A **metropolitan area network**, or **MAN**, consists of a computer network across an entire city, college campus or small region. A MAN is larger than a LAN, which is typically limited to a single building or site.

Depending on the configuration, this type of network can cover an area from several miles to tens of miles. A MAN is often used to connect several LANs together to form a bigger network.

When this type of network is specifically designed for a college campus, it is sometimes referred to as a campus area network, or CAN.

- A metropolitan area network is a network that covers a larger geographic area by interconnecting a different LAN to form a larger network.
- Government agencies use MAN to connect to the citizens and private industries.
- In MAN, various LANs are connected to each other through a telephone exchange line.
- The most widely used protocols in MAN are RS-232, Frame Relay, ATM, ISDN, OC-3, ADSL, etc.
- It has a higher range than Local Area Network(LAN).

Uses Of Metropolitan Area Network:

- MAN is used in communication between the banks in a city.
- It can be used in an Airline Reservation.
- It can be used in a college within a city.
- It can also be used for communication in the military.

Advantages of MAN

- Extremely efficient and provide fast communication via high-speed carriers, such as fibre optic cables.
- It provides a good back bone for large network and provides greater access to WANs.

- The dual bus used in MAN helps the transmission of data in both directions simultaneously.
- A MAN usually encompasses several blocks of a city or an entire city.

Disadvantages of MAN

- More cable required for a MAN connection from one place to another.
- It is difficult to make the system secure from hackers and industrial espionage(spying) graphical regions.

❖ Wide Area Network

A **wide area network**, or **WAN**, occupies a very large area, such as an entire country or the entire world. A WAN can contain multiple smaller networks, such as LANs or MANs. The Internet is the best-known example of a public WAN.

- A Wide Area Network is a network that extends over a large geographical area such as states or countries.
- A Wide Area Network is quite bigger network than the LAN.
- A Wide Area Network is not limited to a single location, but it spans over a large geographical area through a telephone line, fibre optic cable or satellite links.
- The internet is one of the biggest WAN in the world.
- A Wide Area Network is widely used in the field of Business, government, and education.

Examples Of Wide Area Network:

- **Mobile Broadband:** A 4G network is widely used across a region or country.
- **Private network:** A bank provides a private network that connects the 44 offices. This network is made by using the telephone leased line provided by the telecom company.

Advantages Of Wide Area Network:

Following are the advantages of the Wide Area Network:

- **Geographical area:** A Wide Area Network provides a large geographical area. Suppose if the branch of our office is in a different city then we can

connect with them through WAN. The internet provides a leased line through which we can connect with another branch.

- **Centralized data:** In case of WAN network, data is centralized. Therefore, we do not need to buy the emails, files or back up servers.
- **Get updated files:** Software companies work on the live server. Therefore, the programmers get the updated files within seconds.
- **Exchange messages:** In a WAN network, messages are transmitted fast. The web application like Facebook, Whatsapp, Skype allows you to communicate with friends.
- **Sharing of software and resources:** In WAN network, we can share the software and other resources like a hard drive, RAM.
- **Global business:** We can do the business over the internet globally.
- **High bandwidth:** If we use the leased lines for our company then this gives the high bandwidth. The high bandwidth increases the data transfer rate which in turn increases the productivity of our company.

Disadvantages of Wide Area Network:

The following are the disadvantages of the Wide Area Network:

- **Security issue:** A WAN network has more security issues as compared to LAN and MAN network as all the technologies are combined together that creates the security problem.
- **Needs Firewall & antivirus software:** The data is transferred on the internet which can be changed or hacked by the hackers, so the firewall needs to be used. Some people can inject the virus in our system so antivirus is needed to protect from such a virus.
- **High Setup cost:** An installation cost of the WAN network is high as it involves the purchasing of routers, switches.
- **Troubleshooting problems:** It covers a large area so fixing the problem is difficult.

❖ Internetwork

- An internetwork is defined as two or more computer network LANs or WAN or computer network segments are connected using devices, and they are configured by a local addressing scheme. This process is known as **internetworking**.
- An interconnection between public, private, commercial, industrial, or government computer networks can also be defined as **internetworking**.
- An internetworking uses the **internet protocol**.
- The reference model used for internetworking is **Open System Interconnection(OSI)**.

❖ Types Of Internetwork:

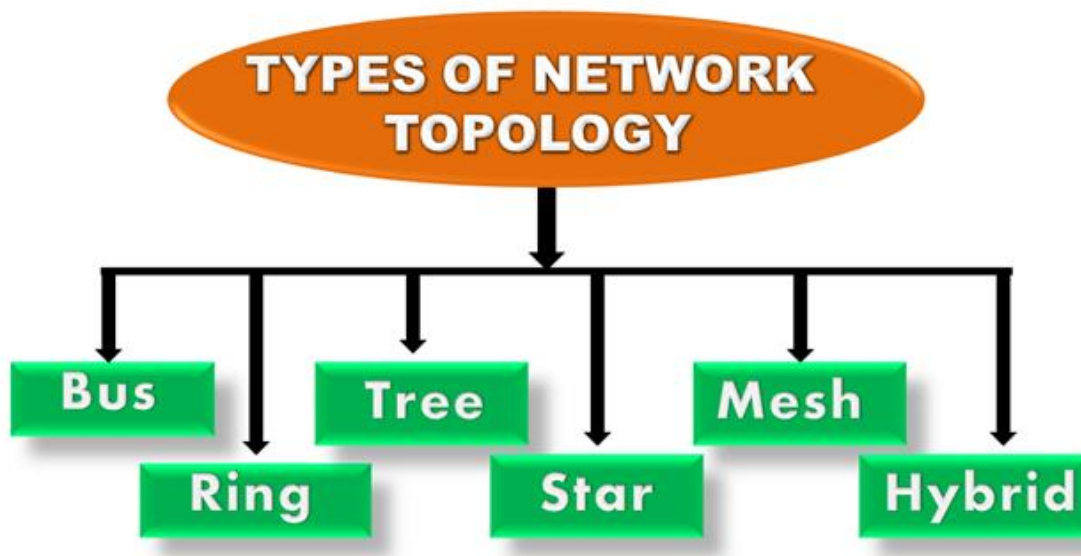
1. **Extranet:** An extranet is a communication network based on the internet protocol such as **Transmission Control protocol** and **internet protocol**. It is used for information sharing. The access to the extranet is restricted to only those users who have login credentials. An extranet is the lowest level of internetworking. It can be categorized as **MAN, WAN** or other computer networks. An extranet cannot have a single **LAN**, atleast it must have one connection to the external network.

2. **Intranet:** An intranet is a private network based on the internet protocol such as **Transmission Control protocol** and **internet protocol**. An intranet belongs to an organization which is only accessible by the **organization's employee** or members. The main aim of the intranet is to share the information and resources among the organization employees. An intranet provides the facility to work in groups and for teleconferences.

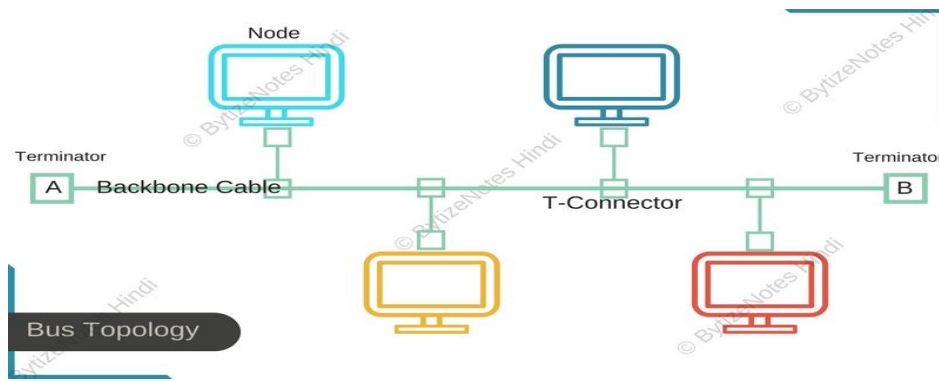
What is Topology?

Topology defines the structure of the network of how all the components are interconnected to each other. There are two types of topology: physical and logical topology.

Physical topology is the geometric representation of all the nodes in a network.



1. **Bus Topology**



- The bus topology is designed in such a way that all the stations are connected through a single cable known as a backbone cable.
- Each node is either connected to the backbone cable by drop cable or directly connected to the backbone cable.
- When a node wants to send a message over the network, it puts a message over the network. All the stations available in the network will receive the message whether it has been addressed or not.
- The bus topology is mainly used in 802.3 (ethernet) and 802.4 standard networks.
- The configuration of a bus topology is quite simpler as compared to other topologies.
- The backbone cable is considered as a "**single lane**" through which the message is broadcast to all the stations.
- The most common access method of the bus topologies is **CSMA** (Carrier Sense Multiple Access).

CSMA: It is a media access control used to control the data flow so that data integrity is maintained, i.e., the packets do not get lost. There are two alternative ways of handling the problems that occur when two nodes send the messages simultaneously.

- **CSMA CD: CSMA CD (Collision detection)** is an access method used to detect the collision. Once the collision is detected, the sender will stop transmitting the data. Therefore, it works on "**recovery after the collision**".
- **CSMA CA: CSMA CA (Collision Avoidance)** is an access method used to avoid the collision by checking whether the transmission media is busy or not. If busy, then the sender waits until the media becomes idle. This technique effectively reduces the possibility of the collision. It does not work on "recovery after the collision".

Advantages of Bus topology:

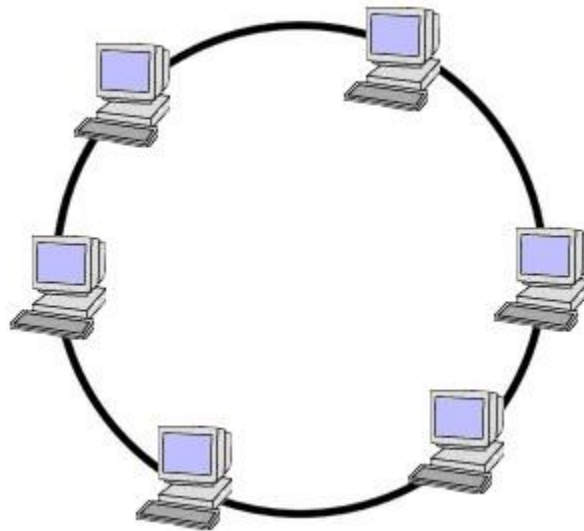
- **Low-cost cable:** In bus topology, nodes are directly connected to the cable without passing through a hub. Therefore, the initial cost of installation is low.

- **Moderate data speeds:** Coaxial or twisted pair cables are mainly used in bus-based networks that support upto 10 Mbps.
- **Familiar technology:** Bus topology is a familiar technology as the installation and troubleshooting techniques are well known, and hardware components are easily available.
- **Limited failure:** A failure in one node will not have any effect on other nodes.

Disadvantages of Bus topology:

- **Extensive cabling:** A bus topology is quite simpler, but still it requires a lot of cabling.
- **Difficult troubleshooting:** It requires specialized test equipment to determine the cable faults. If any fault occurs in the cable, then it would disrupt the communication for all the nodes.
- **Signal interference:** If two nodes send the messages simultaneously, then the signals of both the nodes collide with each other.
- **Reconfiguration difficult:** Adding new devices to the network would slow down the network.
- **Attenuation:** Attenuation is a loss of signal leads to communication issues. Repeaters are used to regenerate the signal.

2. Ring Topology



- Ring topology is like a bus topology, but with connected ends.
- The node that receives the message from the previous computer will retransmit to the next node.
- The data flows in one direction, i.e., it is unidirectional.
- The data flows in a single loop continuously known as an endless loop.
- It has no terminated ends, i.e., each node is connected to other node and having no termination point.
- The data in a ring topology flow in a clockwise direction.

- The most common access method of the ring topology is **token passing**.
 - **Token passing:** It is a network access method in which token is passed from one node to another node.
 - **Token:** It is a frame that circulates around the network.

Working of Token passing

- A token moves around the network, and it is passed from computer to computer until it reaches the destination.
- The sender modifies the token by putting the address along with the data.
- The data is passed from one device to another device until the destination address matches. Once the token received by the destination device, then it sends the acknowledgment to the sender.
- In a ring topology, a token is used as a carrier.

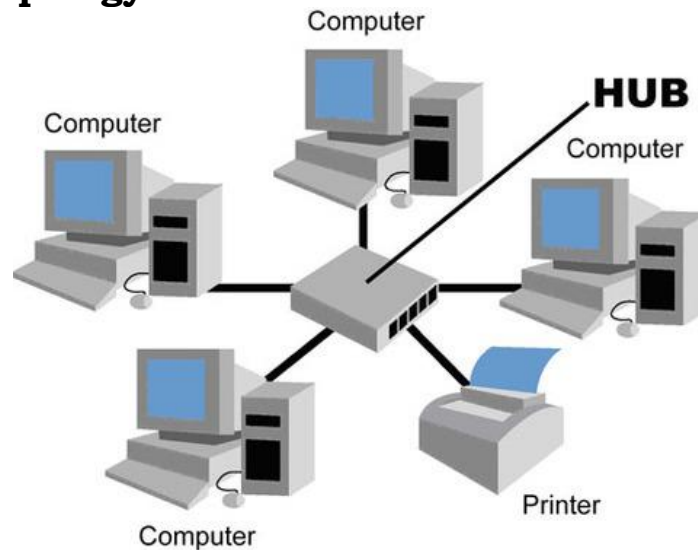
Advantages of Ring topology:

- **Network Management:** Faulty devices can be removed from the network without bringing the network down.
- **Product availability:** Many hardware and software tools for network operation and monitoring are available.
- **Cost:** Twisted pair cabling is inexpensive and easily available. Therefore, the installation cost is very low.
- **Reliable:** It is a more reliable network because the communication system is not dependent on the single host computer.

Disadvantages of Ring topology:

- **Difficult troubleshooting:** It requires specialized test equipment to determine the cable faults. If any fault occurs in the cable, then it would disrupt the communication for all the nodes.
- **Failure:** The breakdown in one station leads to the failure of the overall network.
- **Reconfiguration difficult:** Adding new devices to the network would slow down the network.
- **Delay:** Communication delay is directly proportional to the number of nodes. Adding new devices increases the communication delay.

3. Star Topology



- Star topology is an arrangement of the network in which every node is connected to the central hub, switch or a central computer.
- The central computer is known as a **server**, and the peripheral devices attached to the server are known as **clients**.
- Coaxial cable or RJ-45 cables are used to connect the computers.
- Hubs or Switches are mainly used as connection devices in a **physical star topology**.
- Star topology is the most popular topology in network implementation.

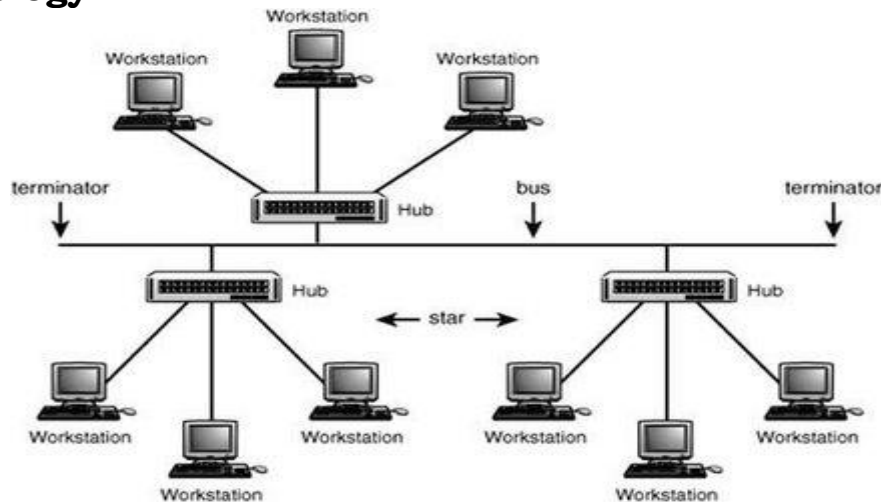
Advantages of Star topology

- **Efficient troubleshooting:** Troubleshooting is quite efficient in a star topology as compared to bus topology. In a bus topology, the manager has to inspect the kilometers of cable. In a star topology, all the stations are connected to the centralized network. Therefore, the network administrator has to go to the single station to troubleshoot the problem.
- **Network control:** Complex network control features can be easily implemented in the star topology. Any changes made in the star topology are automatically accommodated.
- **Limited failure:** As each station is connected to the central hub with its own cable, therefore failure in one cable will not affect the entire network.
- **Familiar technology:** Star topology is a familiar technology as its tools are cost-effective.
- **Easily expandable:** It is easily expandable as new stations can be added to the open ports on the hub.
- **Cost effective:** Star topology networks are cost-effective as it uses inexpensive coaxial cable.
- **High data speeds:** It supports a bandwidth of approx 100Mbps. Ethernet 100BaseT is one of the most popular Star topology networks.

Disadvantages of Star topology

- **A Central point of failure:** If the central hub or switch goes down, then all the connected nodes will not be able to communicate with each other.
- **Cable:** Sometimes cable routing becomes difficult when a significant amount of routing is required.

4. Tree topology



Tree topology combines the characteristics of bus topology and star topology.

- A tree topology is a type of structure in which all the computers are connected with each other in hierarchical fashion.
- The top-most node in tree topology is known as a root node, and all other nodes are the descendants of the root node.
- There is only one path exists between two nodes for the data transmission. Thus, it forms a parent-child hierarchy.

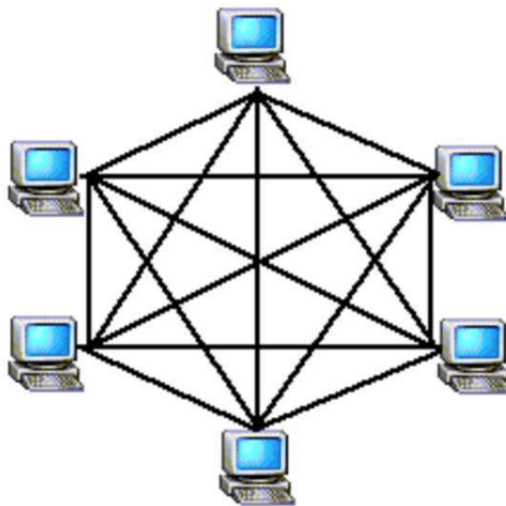
Advantages of Tree topology

- **Support for broadband transmission:** Tree topology is mainly used to provide broadband transmission, i.e., signals are sent over long distances without being attenuated.
- **Easily expandable:** We can add the new device to the existing network. Therefore, we can say that tree topology is easily expandable.
- **Easily manageable:** In tree topology, the whole network is divided into segments known as star networks which can be easily managed and maintained.
- **Error detection:** Error detection and error correction are very easy in a tree topology.
- **Limited failure:** The breakdown in one station does not affect the entire network.
- **Point-to-point wiring:** It has point-to-point wiring for individual segments.

Disadvantages of Tree topology

- **Difficult troubleshooting:** If any fault occurs in the node, then it becomes difficult to troubleshoot the problem.
- **High cost:** Devices required for broadband transmission are very costly.
- **Failure:** A tree topology mainly relies on main bus cable and failure in main bus cable will damage the overall network.
- **Reconfiguration difficult:** If new devices are added, then it becomes difficult to reconfigure.

5. Mesh topology

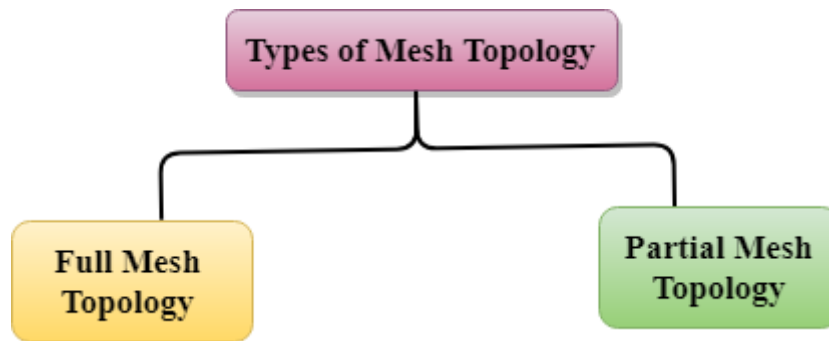


- Mesh technology is an arrangement of the network in which computers are interconnected with each other through various redundant connections.
- There are multiple paths from one computer to another computer.
- It does not contain the switch, hub or any central computer which acts as a central point of communication.
- The Internet is an example of the mesh topology.
- Mesh topology is mainly used for WAN implementations where communication failures are a critical concern.
- Mesh topology is mainly used for wireless networks.
- Mesh topology can be formed by using the formula:
Number of cables = $(n*(n-1))/2$;

Where n is the number of nodes that represents the network.

Mesh topology is divided into two categories:

- Fully connected mesh topology
- Partially connected mesh topology



- **Full Mesh Topology:** In a full mesh topology, each computer is connected to all the computers available in the network.
- **Partial Mesh Topology:** In a partial mesh topology, not all but certain computers are connected to those computers with which they communicate frequently.

Advantages of Mesh topology:

- **Reliable:** The mesh topology networks are very reliable as if any link breakdown will not affect the communication between connected computers.
- **Fast Communication:** Communication is very fast between the nodes.
- **Easier Reconfiguration:** Adding new devices would not disrupt the communication between other devices.

Disadvantages of Mesh topology

- **Cost:** A mesh topology contains a large number of connected devices such as a router and more transmission media than other topologies.
- **Management:** Mesh topology networks are very large and very difficult to maintain and manage. If the network is not monitored carefully, then the communication link failure goes undetected.
- **Efficiency:** In this topology, redundant connections are high that reduces the efficiency of the network.

The logical topology, in contrast, is the way that the signals act on the network media, or the way that the data passes through the network from one device to the next without regard to the physical interconnection of the devices.

Logical topologies are bound to the network protocols that direct how the data moves across a network.

A network's logical topology can also be referred to as its signal topology. This type of topology is not interested in how devices on the network are connected but how they communicate with each other.

Logical topologies are created by the network protocols on NICs that determine the movement of data on the physical topology.

Examples of these are:

- Ethernet - logical bus topology
- LocalTalk - logical bus or star topology
- IBM Token Ring - logical ring.

Terminologies (Intranet, Internet, Unicast, Broadcast, Multicast)

Intranet

- It is a worldwide/global system of interconnected computer networks. It uses the standard Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). Every computer in Internet is identified by a unique IP address. IP Address is a unique set of numbers (such as 110.22.33.114) which identifies a computer's location.
- A special computer DNS (Domain Name Server) is used to provide a name to the IP Address so that the user can locate a computer by a name.



Internet is accessible to every user all over the world.

Internet

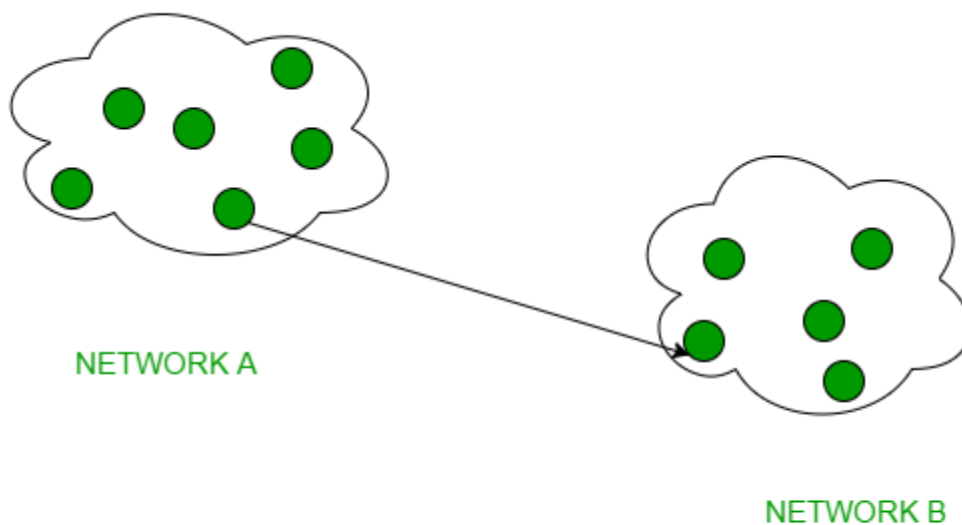
Intranet is the system in which multiple PCs are connected to each other. PCs in intranet are not available to the world outside the intranet. Usually each organization has its own Intranet network and members/employees of that organization can access the computers in their intranet.



Each computer in Intranet is also identified by an IP Address which is unique among the computers in that Intranet.

Unicast

This type of information transfer is useful when there is a participation of a single sender and a single recipient. So, in short, you can term it a one-to-one transmission. For example, if a device having IP address 10.1.2.0 in a network wants to send the traffic stream(data packets) to the device with IP address 20.12.4.2 in the other network, then unicast comes into the picture. This is the most common form of data transfer over networks.



UNICAST EXAMPLE

Definition - A communication where a message is sent from one sender to one receiver.

Transmission - Data is sent to a single recipient

Addressing - Uses a unique destination address

Delivery - Guaranteed delivery

Network Traffic - Generates the least amount of network traffic

Security - More secure because data is sent to a specific recipient

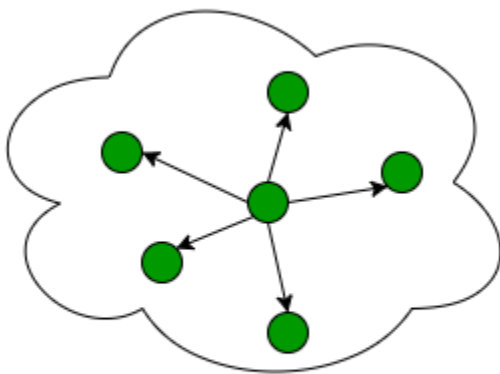
Examples - Email, file transfer

Destination - Single receiver

Broadcast

Broadcasting transfer (one-to-all) techniques can be classified into two types:

Limited Broadcasting: Suppose you have to send a stream of packets to all the devices over the network that your reside, this broadcasting comes in handy. For this to achieve, it will append 255.255.255.255 (all the 32 bits of IP address set to 1) called **Limited Broadcast Address** in the destination address of the datagram (packet) header which is reserved for information transfer to all the recipients from a single client (sender) over the network.



NETWORK CLUSTER

Definition - A communication where a message is sent from one sender to all receivers.

Transmission - Data is sent to all recipients in a network

Addressing - Uses a special broadcast address

Delivery - Not all devices may be interested in the data

Network Traffic - Generates the most amount of network traffic

Security - Less secure because data is sent to all devices in the network

Examples - DHCP requests, ARP requests

Destination - All receivers

Multicast

In multicasting, one/more senders and one/more recipients participate in data transfer traffic. In this method traffic recline between the boundaries of unicast (one-to-one) and broadcast (one-to-all). Multicast lets servers direct single copies of data streams that are then simulated and routed to hosts that request it. IP multicast requires the support of some other protocols like **IGMP (Internet Group Management Protocol)**, **Multicast routing** for its work. Also in Classful IP addressing **Class D** is reserved for multicast groups.

Definition - A communication where a message is sent from one sender to a group of receivers

Transmission - Data is sent to a group of recipients

Addressing - Uses a special multicast address

Delivery - Not all devices may be interested in the data

Network Traffic - Generates moderate network traffic

Security - Moderately secure because data is sent to a specific group of devices

Examples - Video streaming, online gaming

Destination - Group of receivers