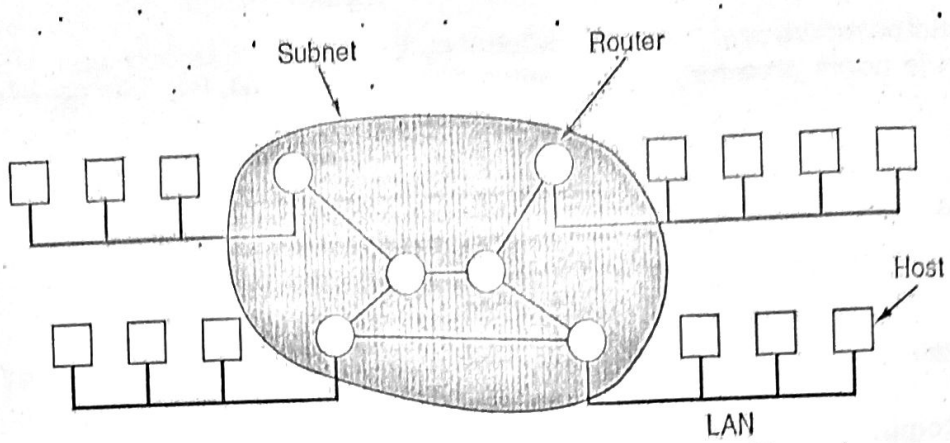

Fig . Relation between hosts on LANs and the subnet in Wide Area Network

- WAN stands for Wide Area Network. it is a network that covers very large geographical area such as country or a continent or even whole world
- It covers the distance up to 10,000 km.
- It uses high speed connection links such as satellite communication, telephone lines & microwave links.
- It interconnects several networks across the country. Machines present on network called hosts. Internet is called subnet. Subnet carries messages(data) from host - to – host
- It spans over a distance up to 10,000 km
- Speed is 1.5 MBPS.
- More expensive.
- It is a large sized network.
- These networks uses very high speed communication links like satellite communication, telephone lines and microwave links
- These networks are characterized by the slowest data communication rates and the largest distances
- A wide area network (WAN) provides long-distance transmission of data, voice, image, and video information over large geographical areas that may comprise a country, a continent, or even the whole world.
- Wide Area Network connects a group of nodes covering a wide area.
- WAN typically connects and allow communication between regions or national boundaries.
- The world's most popular example of WAN is the Internet
- To cover great distances, WANs may transmit data over leased high-speed telephone lines or wireless links such as satellites.
- The cost of sending data in a WAN may be very high because public communication systems such as telephone lines; microwave links or satellite communication are used.
- WANs can be of two types: an enterprise WAN and Global WAN.
- WAN that is wholly owned and used by a single company is often referred to as an enterprise network.
- WAN connects LANs that may be on opposite sides of a building, across the country or around the world
- Technologies used in WAN are Pocket switching, SONET, Frame relay, ATM etc.

4.Hybrid networks