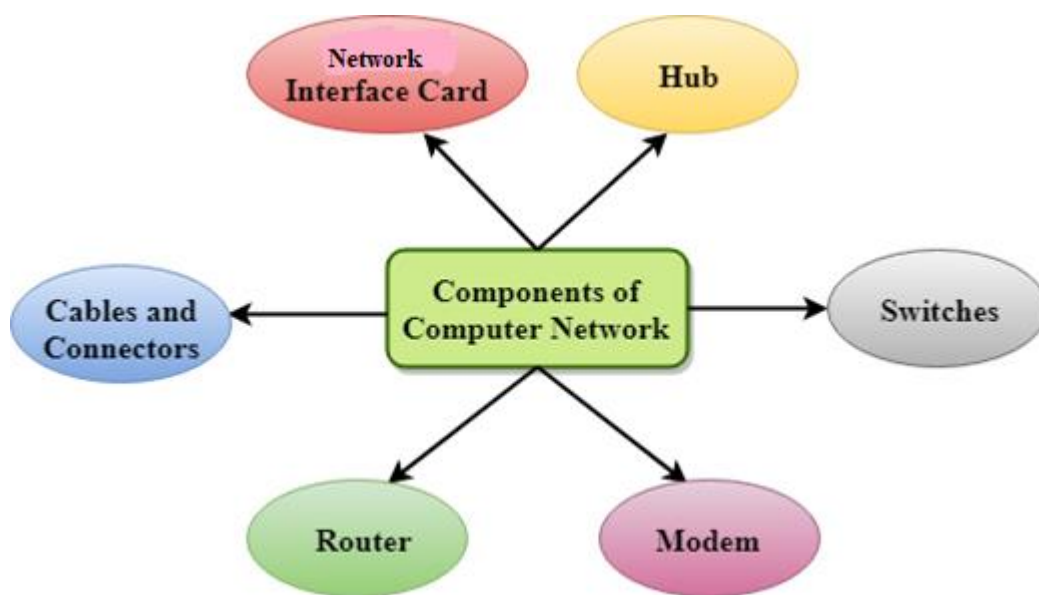


What is a Computer Network?

- **Computer Network** is a group of computers connected with each other through wires, optical fibres or optical links so that various devices can interact with each other through a network.
- The aim of the computer network is the sharing of resources among various devices.
- In the case of computer network technology, there are several types of networks that vary from simple to complex level.

Components of Computer Network:



Major components of a computer network are:

NIC (Network interface card)

NIC is a device that helps the computer to communicate with another device. The network interface card contains the hardware addresses, the data-link layer protocol uses this address to identify the system on the network so that it transfers the data to the correct destination.

- NIC is a hardware component used to connect a computer with another computer onto a network
- It can support a transfer rate of 10,100 to 1000 Mb/s.
- The MAC address or physical address is encoded on the network card chip which is assigned by the IEEE to identify a network card uniquely. The MAC address is stored in the PROM (Programmable read-only memory).

There are two types of NIC: wireless NIC and wired NIC.

- **Wireless NIC:** All the modern laptops use the wireless NIC. In Wireless NIC, a connection is made using the antenna that employs the **radio wave technology**.
- **Wired NIC:** Cables use the **wired NIC** to transfer the data over the medium.

Hub

Hub is a central device that splits the network connection into multiple devices. When computer requests for information from a computer, it sends the request to the Hub. Hub distributes this request to all the interconnected computers.

Switches

Switch is a networking device that groups all the devices over the network to transfer the data to another device. A switch is better than Hub as it does not broadcast the message over the network, i.e., it sends the message to the device for which it belongs to. Therefore, we can say that switch sends the message directly from source to the destination.

Cables and connectors

Cable is a transmission media that transmits the communication signals. **There are three types of cables:**

- **Twisted pair cable:** It is a high-speed cable that transmits the data over **1Gbps** or more.
- **Coaxial cable:** Coaxial cable resembles like a TV installation cable. Coaxial cable is more expensive than twisted pair cable, but it provides the high data transmission speed.
- **Fibre optic cable:** Fibre optic cable is a high-speed cable that transmits the data using light beams. It provides high data transmission speed as compared to other cables. It is more expensive as compared to other cables, so it is installed at the government level.

Router

Router is a device that connects the LAN to the internet. The router is mainly used to connect the distinct networks or connect the internet to multiple computers.

Modem

Modem connects the computer to the internet over the existing telephone line. A modem is not integrated with the computer motherboard. A modem is a separate part on the PC slot found on the motherboard.

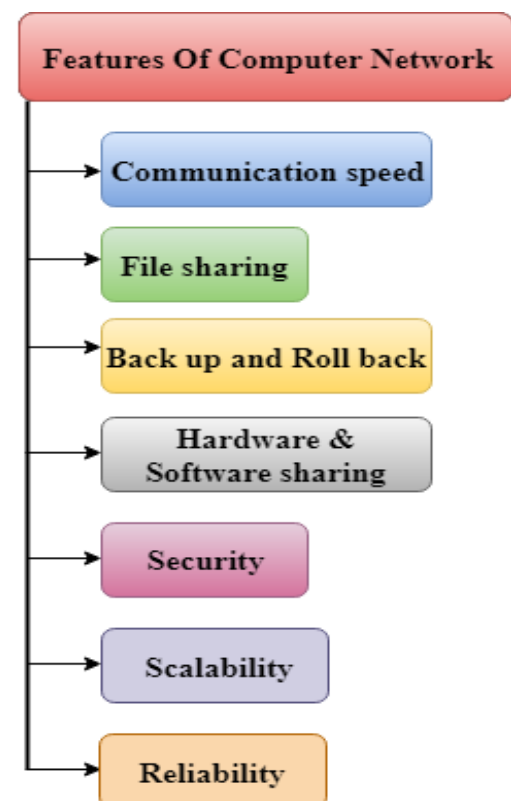
Uses of Computer Network

- **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, i.e., they are doing their business over the internet.

Features of Computer network

A list Of Computer network features is given below.

- Communication speed
- File sharing
- Back up and Roll back is easy
- Software and Hardware sharing
- Security
- Scalability
- Reliability



Communication speed

Network provides us to communicate over the network in a fast and efficient manner. For example, we can do video conferencing, email messaging, etc. over the internet. Therefore, the computer network is a great way to share our knowledge and ideas.

File sharing

File sharing is one of the major advantages of the computer network. Computer network provides us to share the files with each other.

Back up and Roll back is easy

Since the files are stored in the main server which is centrally located. Therefore, it is easy to take the back up from the main server.

Software and Hardware sharing

We can install the applications on the main server; therefore, the user can access the applications centrally. So, we do not need to install the software on every machine. Similarly, hardware can also be shared.

Security

Network allows the security by ensuring that the user has the right to access the certain files and applications.

Scalability

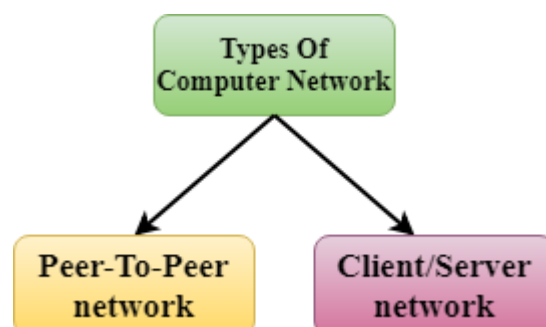
Scalability means that we can add the new components on the network. Network must be scalable so that we can extend the network by adding new devices. But it decreases the speed of the connection and data of the transmission speed also decreases, this increases the chances of error occurring. This problem can be overcome by using the routing or switching devices.

Reliability

Computer network can use the alternative source for the data communication in case of any hardware failure.

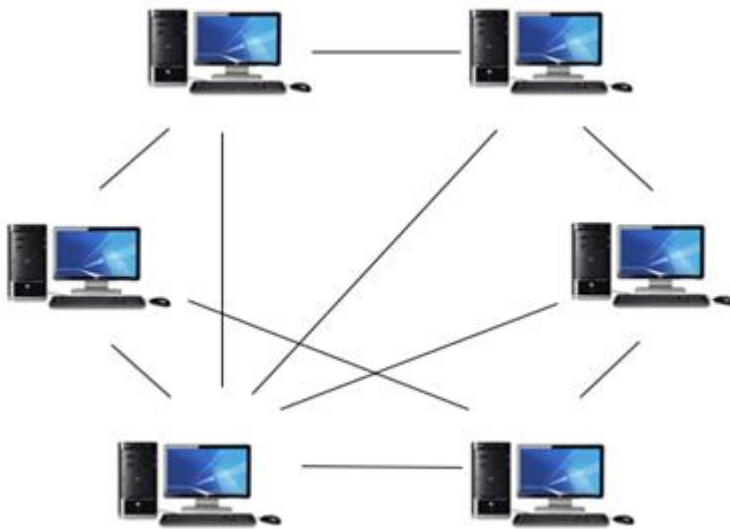
Computer Network Architecture

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.



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:

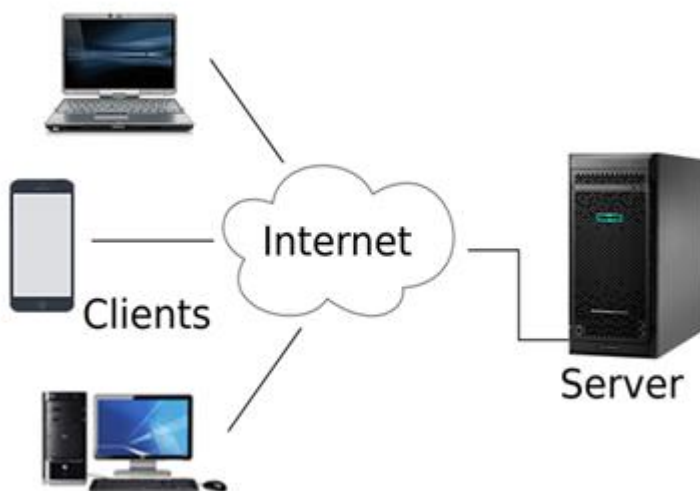
- It is less costly as it does not contain any dedicated server.
- If one computer stops working but, other computers will not stop working.
- It is easy to set up and maintain as each computer manages itself.

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.

Line Configuration in Computer Networks

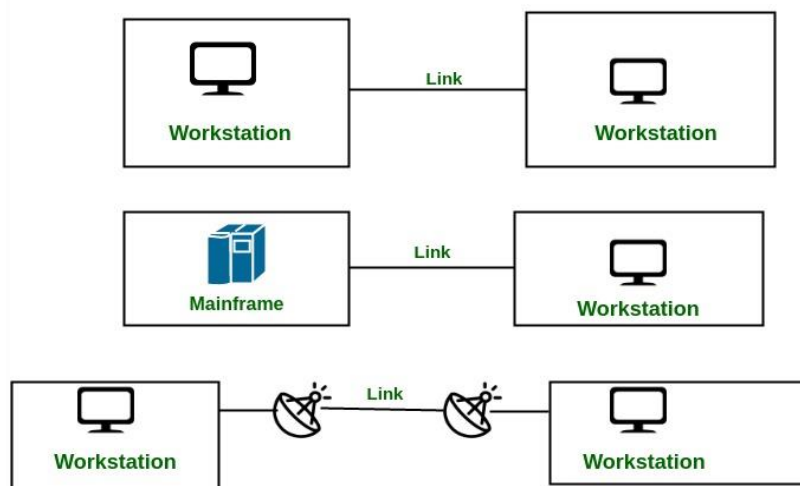
A network is two or more devices connected through a link. A link is a communication pathway that transfer data from one device to another. Devices can be a computer, printer or any other device that is capable to send and receive data. For visualization purpose, imagine any link as a line drawn between two points. For communication to occur, two devices must be connected in some way to the same link at the same time. There are two possible types of connections:

1. **Point-to-Point Connection**
2. **Multipoint Connection**

Point-to-Point Connection:

1. A point-to-point connection provides a dedicated link between two devices.
2. The entire capacity of the link is reserved for transmission between those two devices.
3. Most point-to-point connections use an actual length of wire or cable to connect the two ends, but other options such as microwave or satellite links are also possible.
4. Point to point network topology is considered to be one of the easiest and most conventional networks topologies.
5. It is also the simplest to establish and understand.

Example: Point-to-Point connection between remote control and Television for changing the channels.

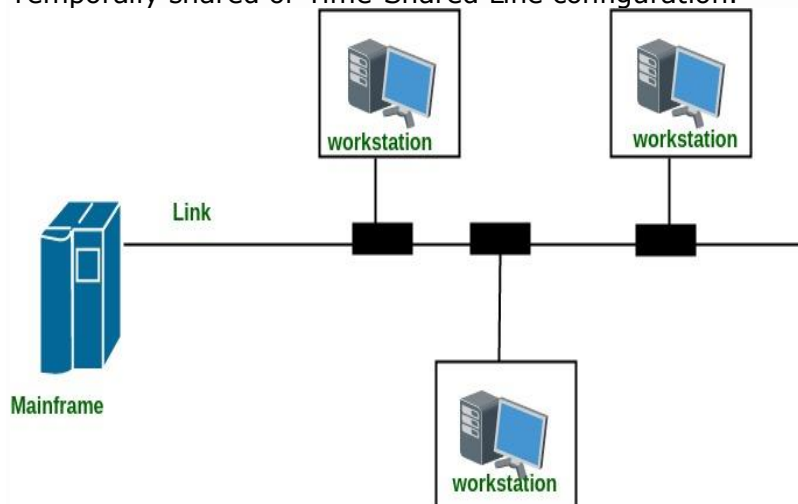


Multipoint Connection:

1. It is also called Multidrop configuration. In this connection two or more devices share a single link.
2. More than two devices share the link that is the capacity of the channel is shared now. With shared capacity, there can be two possibilities in a Multipoint Line configuration:

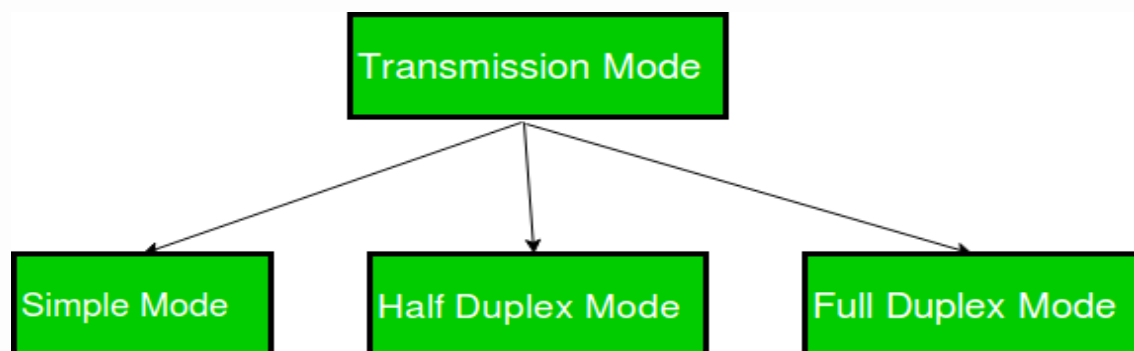
Spatial Sharing: If several devices can share the link simultaneously, it's called Spatially shared line configuration.

Temporal (Time) Sharing: If users must take turns using the link, then it's called Temporally shared or Time-Shared Line configuration.

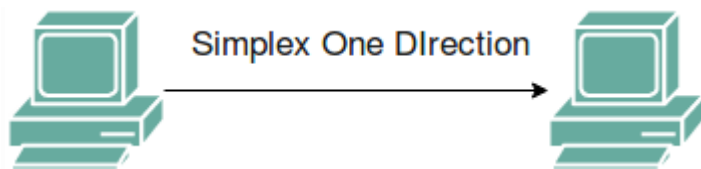


Transmission Modes in Computer Networks (Simplex, Half-Duplex and Full-Duplex)

Transmission mode means transferring of data between two devices. It is also known as communication mode. Buses and networks are designed to allow communication to occur between individual devices that are interconnected. There are three types of transmission mode: -

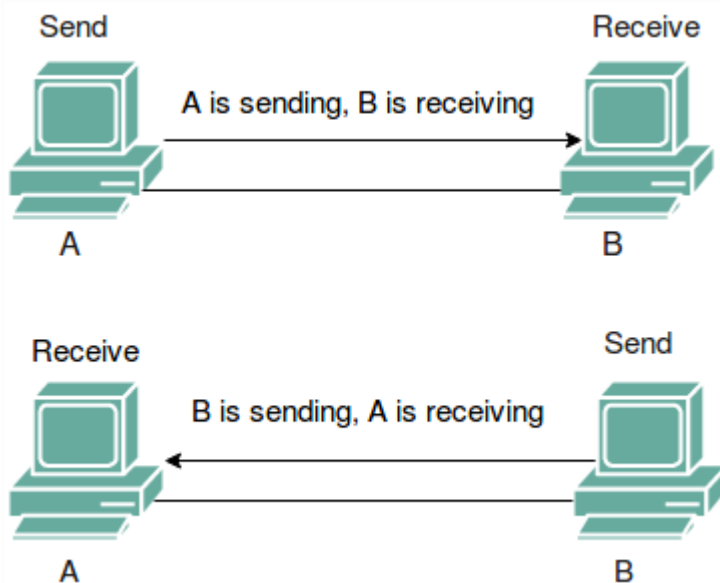
**Simplex Mode**

In Simplex mode, the communication is unidirectional, as on a one-way street. Only one of the two devices on a link can transmit, the other can only receive. The simplex mode can use the entire capacity of the channel to send data in one direction. Example: Keyboard and traditional monitors. The keyboard can only introduce input, the monitor can only give the output.



Half-Duplex Mode

In half-duplex mode, each station can both transmit and receive, but not at the same time. When one device is sending, the other can only receive, and vice versa. The half-duplex mode is used in cases where there is no need for communication in both direction at the same time. The entire capacity of the channel can be utilized for each direction. Example: Walkie- talkie in which message is sent one at a time and messages are sent in both the directions.

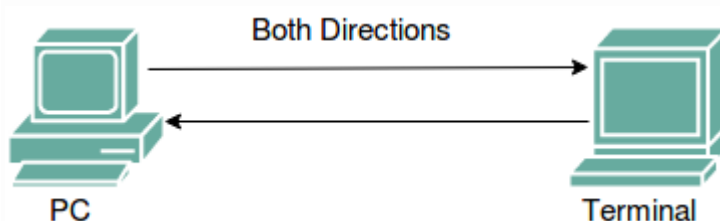


Full-Duplex Mode

In full-duplex mode, both stations can transmit and receive simultaneously. In full-duplex mode, signals going in one direction share the capacity of the link with signals going in other direction, this sharing can occur in two ways:

- Either the link must contain two physically separate transmission paths, one for sending and other for receiving.
- Or the capacity is divided between signals travelling in both directions.

Full-duplex mode is used when communication in both direction is required all the time. The capacity of the channel, however must be divided between the two directions. Example: Telephone Network in which there is communication between two persons by a telephone line, through which both can talk and listen at the same time.

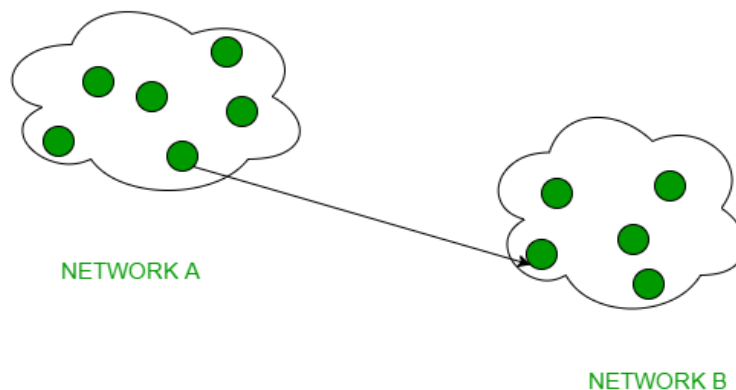


Computer Network | Difference between Unicast, Broadcast and Multicast

The **cast** term here signifies some data (stream of packets) is being transmitted to the recipient(s) from client(s) side over the communication channel that help them to communicate. Let's see some of the "cast" concepts that are prevailing in the computer networks field.

1. Unicast –

This type of information transfer is useful when there is a participation of single sender and single recipient. So, in short you can term it as a one-to-one transmission. For example, 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 picture. This is the most common form of data transfer over the networks.



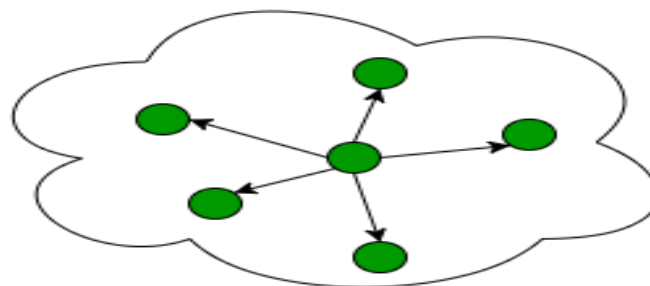
UNICAST EXAMPLE

2. Broadcast –

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

- **Limited Broadcasting –**

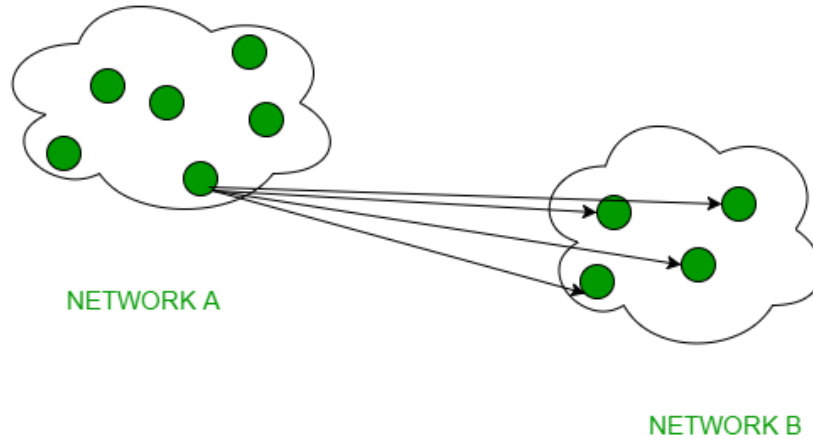
Suppose you have to send stream of packets to all the devices over the network that you reside, this broadcasting comes handy. For this to achieve, it will append 255.255.255.255 (all the 32 bits of IP address set to 1) called as **Limited Broadcast Address** in the destination address of the datagram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



NETWORK CLUSTER

- **Direct Broadcasting –**

This is useful when a device in one network wants to transfer packet stream to all the devices over the other network. This is achieved by translating all the Host ID part bits of the destination address to 1, referred as **Direct Broadcast Address** in the datagram header for information transfer.



This mode is mainly utilized by television networks for video and audio distribution. One important protocol of this class in Computer Networks is Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) that is used for resolving IP address into physical address which is necessary for underlying communication.

3. 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 server's direct single copies of data streams that are then simulated and routed to hosts that request it. IP multicast requires support of some other protocols like **IGMP (Internet Group Management Protocol)**, **Multicast routing** for its working. Also, in Classful IP addressing **Class D** is reserved for multicast groups.

Network Topologies | Computer Networks

The arrangement of a network which comprises of nodes and connecting lines via sender and receiver is referred as network topology. The various network topologies are:

a) Mesh Topology:

In mesh topology, every device is connected to another device via particular channel.

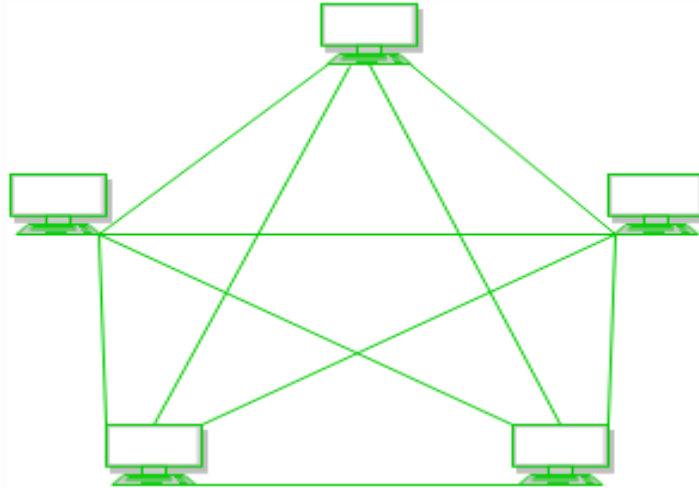


Figure 1: Every device is connected with another via dedicated channels. These channels are known as links.

- 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.

Advantages of Mesh topology:

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

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.

b) Star Topology:

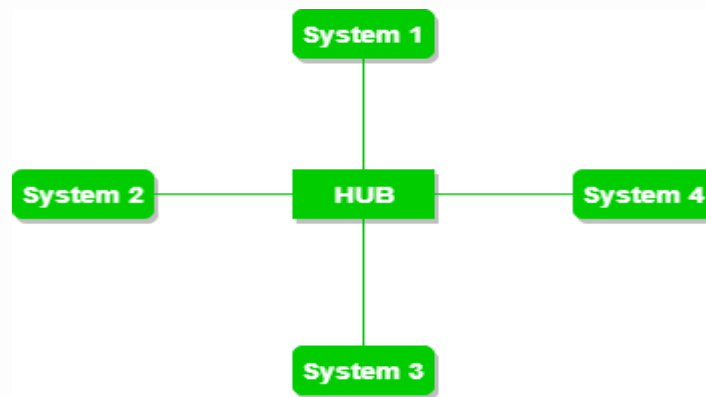


Figure 2: A star topology having four systems connected to single point of connection i.e. hub.

- 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.
- Cost of installation is high.
- Performance is based on the single concentrator i.e. hub.

c) Bus Topology:

Bus topology is a network type in which every computer and network device is connected to single cable. It transmits the data from one end to another in single direction. No bi-directional feature is in bus topology. The bus topology is mainly used in 802.3 (ethernet) and 802.4 standard networks.

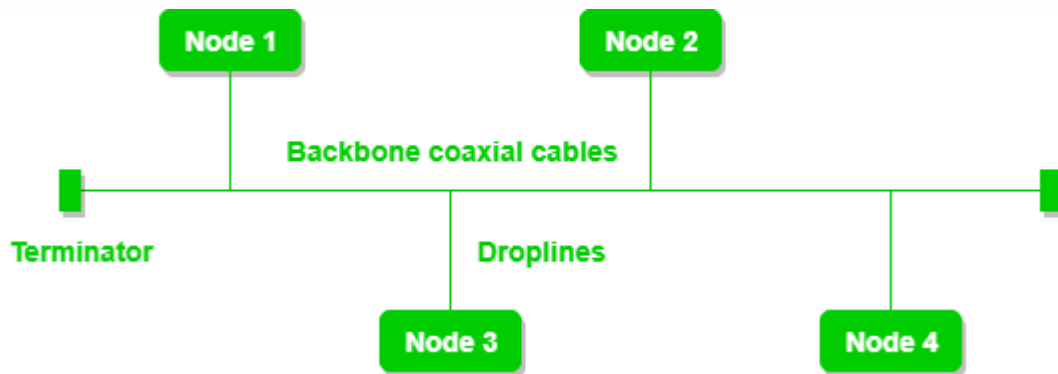


Figure 3: A bus topology with shared backbone cable. The nodes are connected to the channel via drop lines.

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.

d) Ring Topology:

In this topology, it forms a ring connecting a device with its exactly two neighbouring devices.

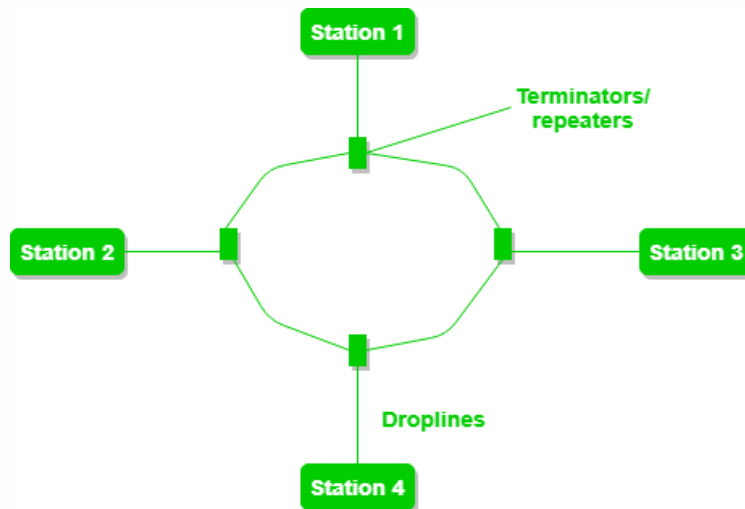


Figure 4: A ring topology comprises of 4 stations connected with each forming a ring.

The following operations takes place in ring topology are:

1. One station is known as **monitor** station which takes all the responsibility to perform the operations.
2. To transmit the data, station has to hold the token. After the transmission is done, the token is to be released for other stations to use.
3. When no station is transmitting the data, then the token will circulate in the ring.
4. There are two types of token release techniques: **Early token release** releases the token just after the transmitting the data and **Delay token release** releases the token after the acknowledgement is received from the receiver.

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.

e) Hybrid Topology:

This topology is a collection of two or more topologies which are described above. This is a scalable topology which can be expanded easily. It is reliable one but at the same it is a costly topology.

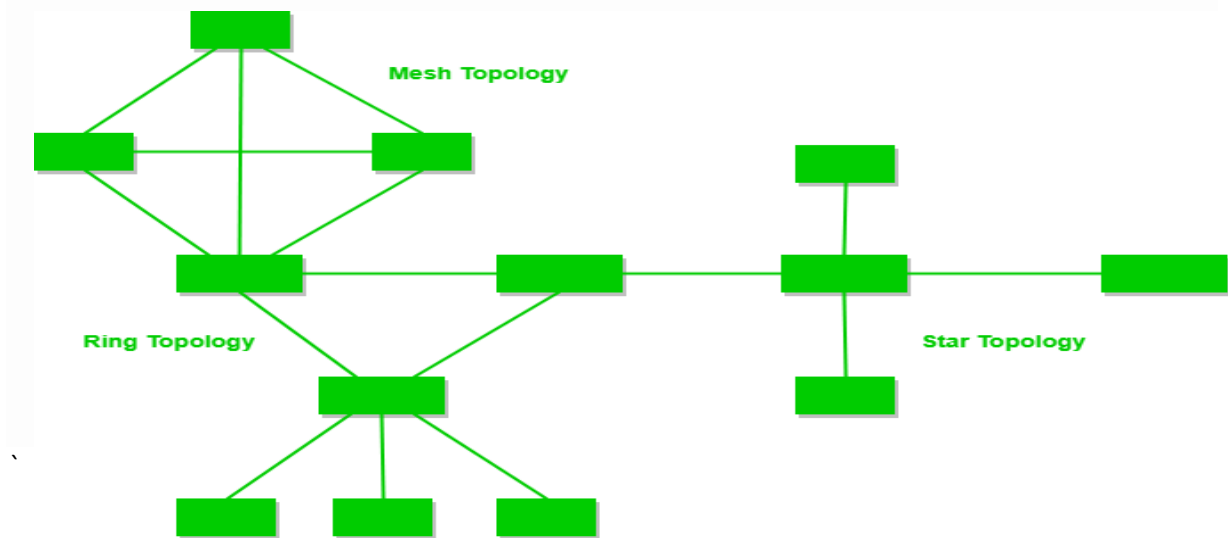


Figure - A Hybrid Topology

Advantages of Hybrid topology:

- **Reliable:** If a fault occurs in any part of the network will not affect the functioning of the rest of the network.
- **Scalable:** Size of the network can be easily expanded by adding new devices without affecting the functionality of the existing network.
- **Flexible:** This topology is very flexible as it can be designed according to the requirements of the organization.
- **Effective:** Hybrid topology is very effective as it can be designed in such a way that the strength of the network is maximized and weakness of the network is minimized.

Disadvantages of Hybrid topology:

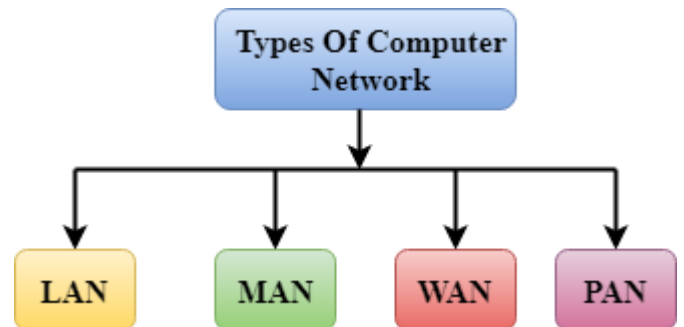
- **Complex design:** The major drawback of the Hybrid topology is the design of the Hybrid network. It is very difficult to design the architecture of the Hybrid network.
- **Costly Hub:** The Hubs used in the Hybrid topology are very expensive as these hubs are different from usual Hubs used in other topologies.
- **Costly infrastructure:** The infrastructure cost is very high as a hybrid network requires a lot of cabling, network devices, etc.

Computer Network Types

A computer network is a group of computers linked to each other that enables the computer to communicate with another computer and share their resources, data, and applications.

A computer network can be categorized by their size. A **computer network** is mainly of **four types**:

- LAN (Local Area Network)
- PAN (Personal Area Network)
- MAN (Metropolitan Area Network)
- WAN (Wide Area Network)



LAN (Local Area Network)

- Local Area Network is a group of computers connected to each other in a small area such as building, office.
- LAN is used for connecting two or more personal computers through a communication medium such as twisted pair, coaxial cable, etc.
- It is less costly as it is built with inexpensive hardware such as hubs, network adapters, and ethernet cables.
- The data is transferred at an extremely faster rate in Local Area Network.
- Local Area Network provides higher security.



PAN (Personal Area Network)

- Personal Area Network is a network arranged within an individual person, typically within a range of 10 meters.
- Personal Area Network is used for connecting the computer devices of personal use is known as Personal Area Network.
- Personal Area Network covers an area of **30 feet**.
- Personal computer devices that are used to develop the personal area network are the laptop, mobile phones, media player and play stations.



There are two types of Personal Area Network:

- Wired Personal Area Network
- Wireless Personal Area Network

Wireless Personal Area Network: Wireless Personal Area Network is developed by simply using wireless technologies such as WiFi, Bluetooth. It is a low range network.

Wired Personal Area Network: Wired Personal Area Network is created by using the USB.

Examples of Personal Area Network:

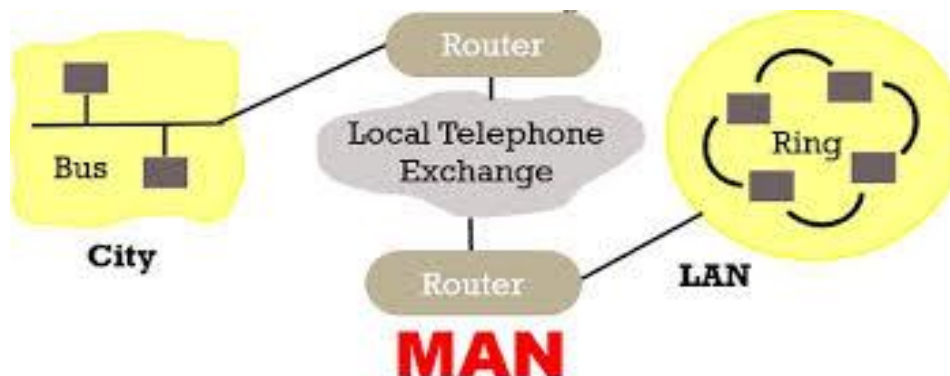
- **Body Area Network:** Body Area Network is a network that moves with a person. **For example**, a mobile network moves with a person. Suppose a person

establishes a network connection and then creates a connection with another device to share the information.

- **Offline Network:** An offline network can be created inside the home, so it is also known as a **home network**. A home network is designed to integrate the devices such as printers, computer, television but they are not connected to the internet.
- **Small Home Office:** It is used to connect a variety of devices to the internet and to a corporate network using a VPN

MAN (Metropolitan Area Network)

- 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).

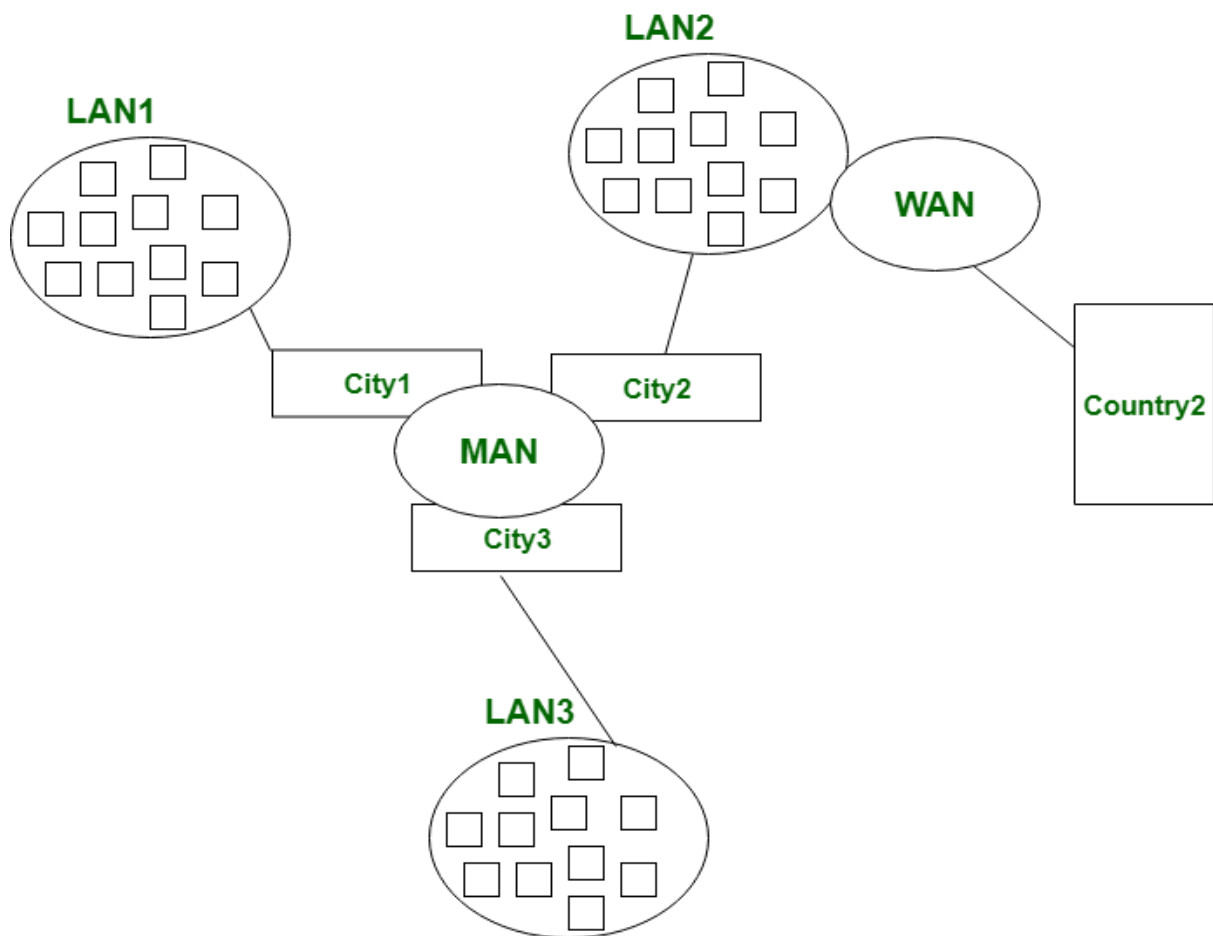


Uses of Metropolitan Area Network:

- 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.

WAN (Wide Area Network)

- 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.



Advantages of Wide Area Network:

Following are the advantages of the Wide Area Network:

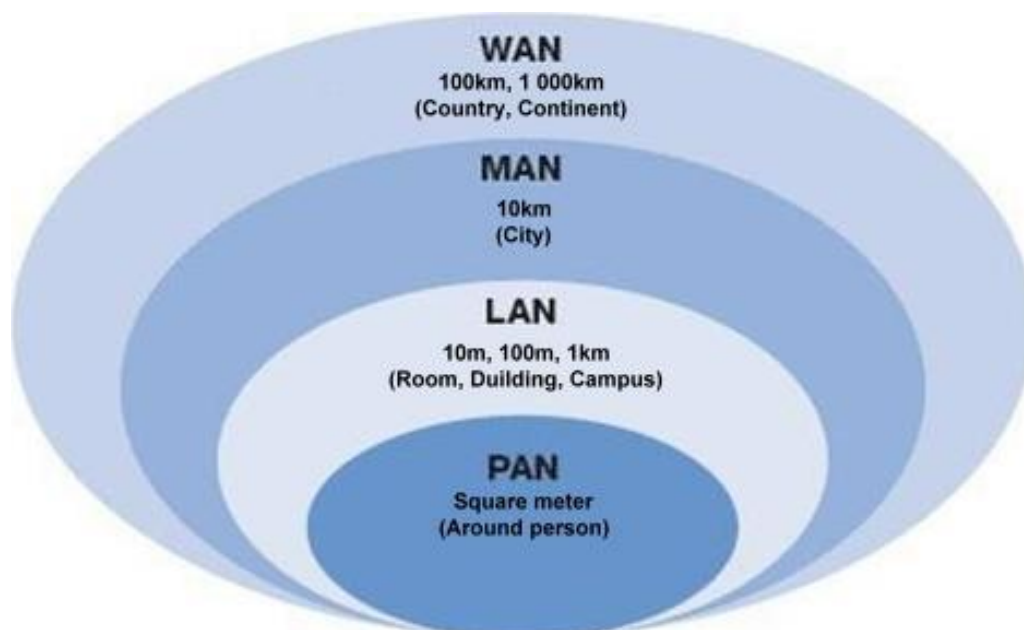
- **Geographical area:** A Wide Area Network provides a large geographical area. Suppose if the branch of our office is in a different city then we can connect with them through WAN. The internet provides a leased line through which we can connect with another branch.

- **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.



Factor	LAN	MAN	WAN
Scale	Operates in small area such as room, building or a same campus.	Operates in large area or city.	Operates in larger area such as country, continent or entire world.
Ownership	Privately owned	Private or public	Usually public owned, but some large companies have started providing the service under PPP public private partnership
Speed	High	Medium	Low
Error Rate	Low	Moderate	High
Setup Cost	Low	Moderate	High
Maintenance cost	Low	Moderate	High
Transmission Media	Coaxial cable or UTP	Telephone lines	PSTN or Satellite
Applications	Used in offices to connect users system, printer, scanners etc.	Telephone network or Cable TV network in a city.	Used to provide services of internet.

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.

Intranet advantages:

- **Communication:** It provides a cheap and easy communication. An employee of the organization can communicate with another employee through email, chat.
- **Time-saving:** Information on the intranet is shared in real time, so it is time-saving.
- **Collaboration:** Collaboration is one of the most important advantage of the intranet. The information is distributed among the employees of the organization and can only be accessed by the authorized user.
- **Platform independency:** It is a neutral architecture as the computer can be connected to another device with different architecture.
- **Cost effective:** People can see the data and documents by using the browser and distributes the duplicate copies over the intranet. This leads to a reduction in the cost.