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# Week 2 – Physical Layer Contd

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COMP90007  
Internet Technologies

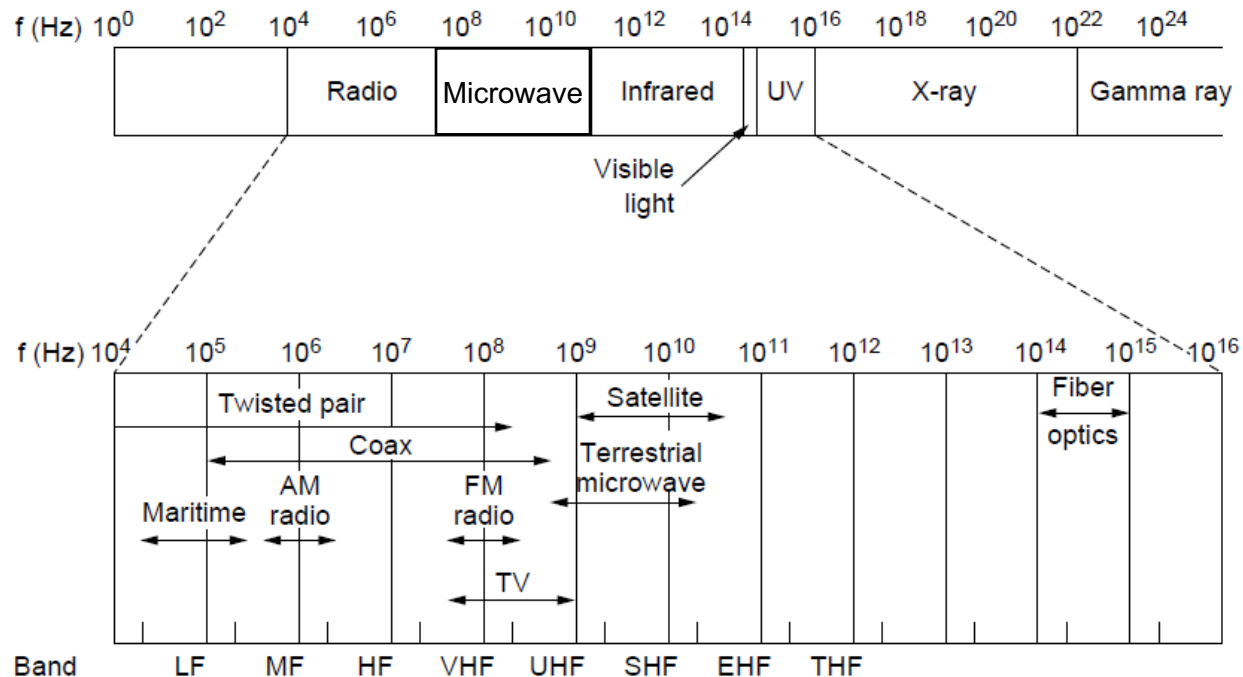
# Wireless Transmission

- Mobile users requires a **mobility enabled network** - contrast with the wired networks
- Wireless networks can provide advantages even in fixed location environments
- There are many types of wireless data transmission networks, but they all have a common basis – **electromagnetic wave propagation**
- Unlike previous mediums wireless signals are **broadcasted over a region**
- Potential signal collisions >> Need regulations

# Electromagnetic Spectrum

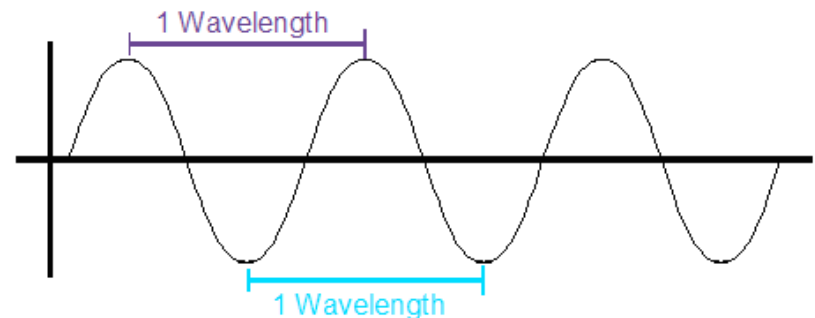
Variety of sets of frequencies are for different things:

- Radio: wide-area broadcast;
- Infrared/Light: line-of-sight
- Microwave: LANs and 3G/4G;



# ElectroMagnetic (EM) Spectrum

- Number of oscillations per second of a wave is called frequency, measured in Hertz (Hz).
- Distance between two consecutive minima or maxima is called wavelength.
- All EM waves travel at same speed (speed of light)
- Fundamental relationship:
  - Wavelength x Frequency = Speed of Light
  - Units: (m) x (1/s) = (m/s)



# Wireless vs. Wires/Fiber

## Wireless:

- + Easy and inexpensive to deploy
- + Naturally supports mobility
- + Naturally supports broadcast
- Transmissions interfere and must be managed
- Signal strengths hence data rates vary greatly

## Wires/Fiber:

- + Easy to engineer a fixed data rate over point-to-point links
- Can be expensive to deploy, esp. over distances
- Doesn't readily support mobility or broadcast

# Communication Satellites

Satellites are effective for broadcast distribution and anywhere/anytime communications

- Kinds of Satellites

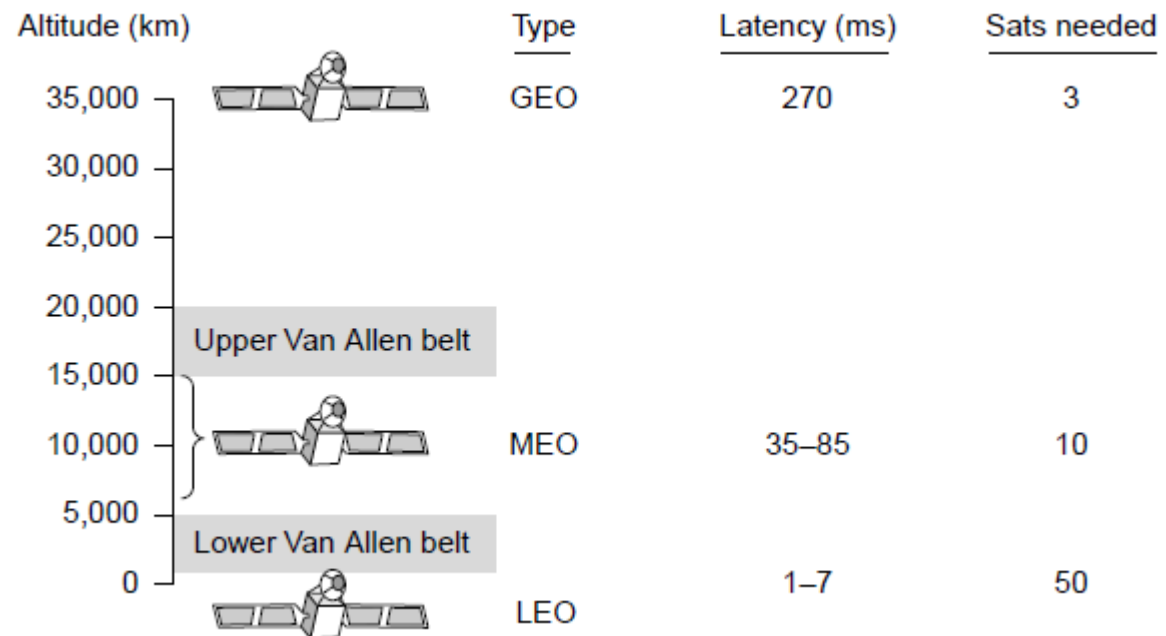
- Geostationary (GEO) Satellites
- Medium-Earth Orbit (MEO) Satellites
- Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) Satellites

- Satellites vs. Fiber is a key comparison

# Kinds of Satellites

Satellites and their properties vary by altitude:  
Geostationary (GEO), Medium-Earth Orbit, (MEO), and Low-Earth Orbit (LEO)

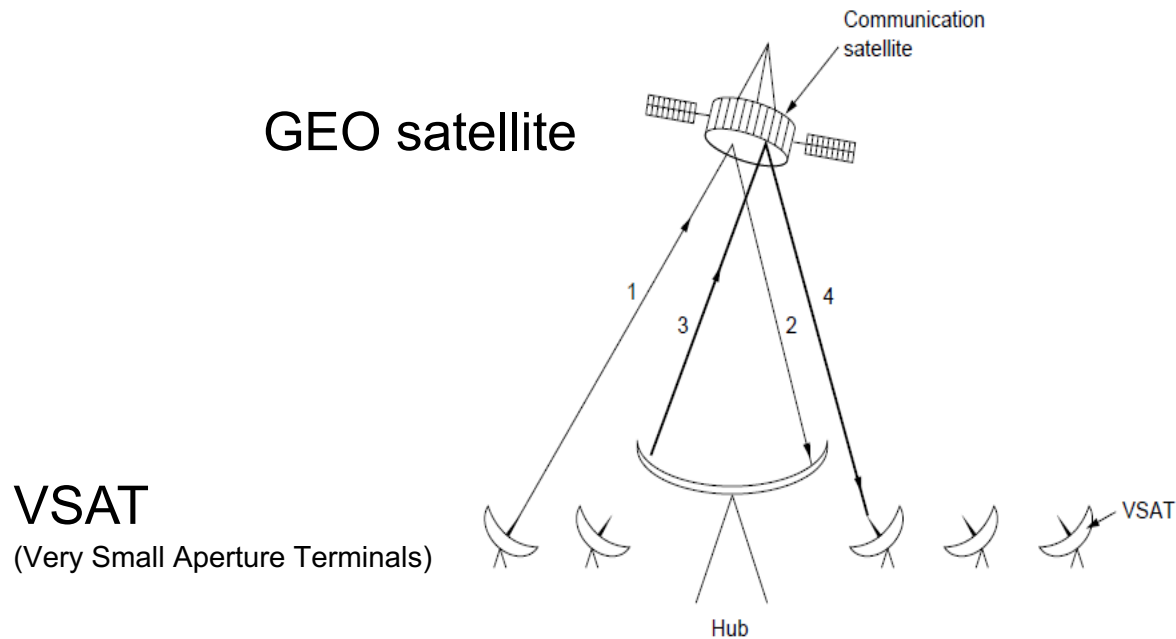
Sats needed for  
global coverage



# Geostationary Satellites

GEO satellites orbit 35,000 km above a fixed location

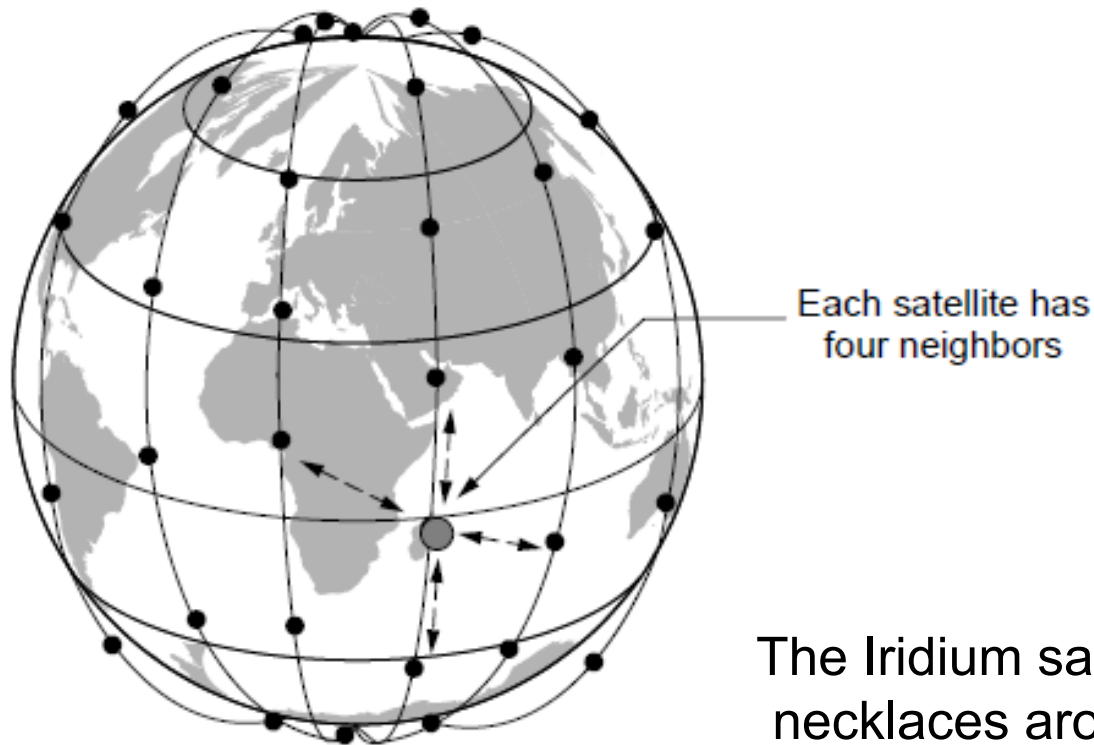
- VSAT (computers) can communicate with the help of a hub
- Different bands (L, S, C, Ku, Ka) in the GHz are in use but may be crowded or susceptible to rain.





# Low-Earth Orbit Satellites

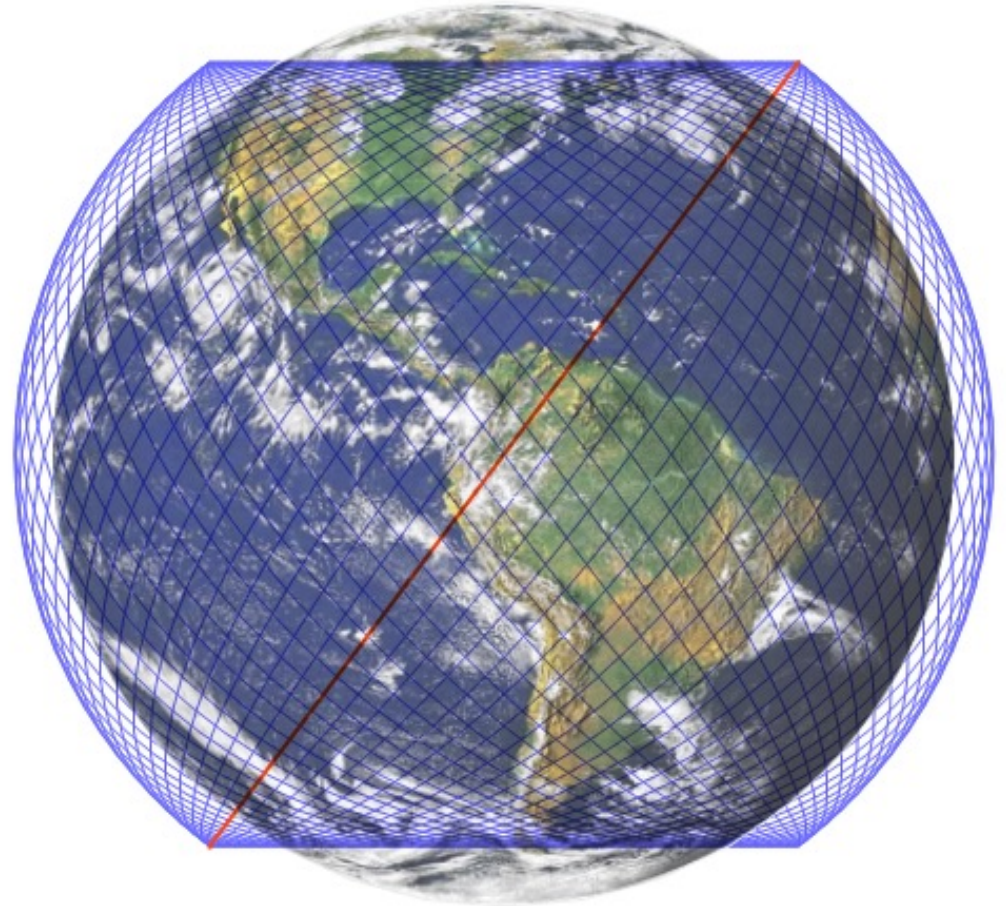
Systems such as Iridium use many low-latency satellites for coverage and route communications via them



# Starlink constellation phase 1

First orbital shell:  
72 orbits with 22  
each = 1584  
sattelites.

3 more shells  
active in phase 1  
also!



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# Satellite vs. Fiber

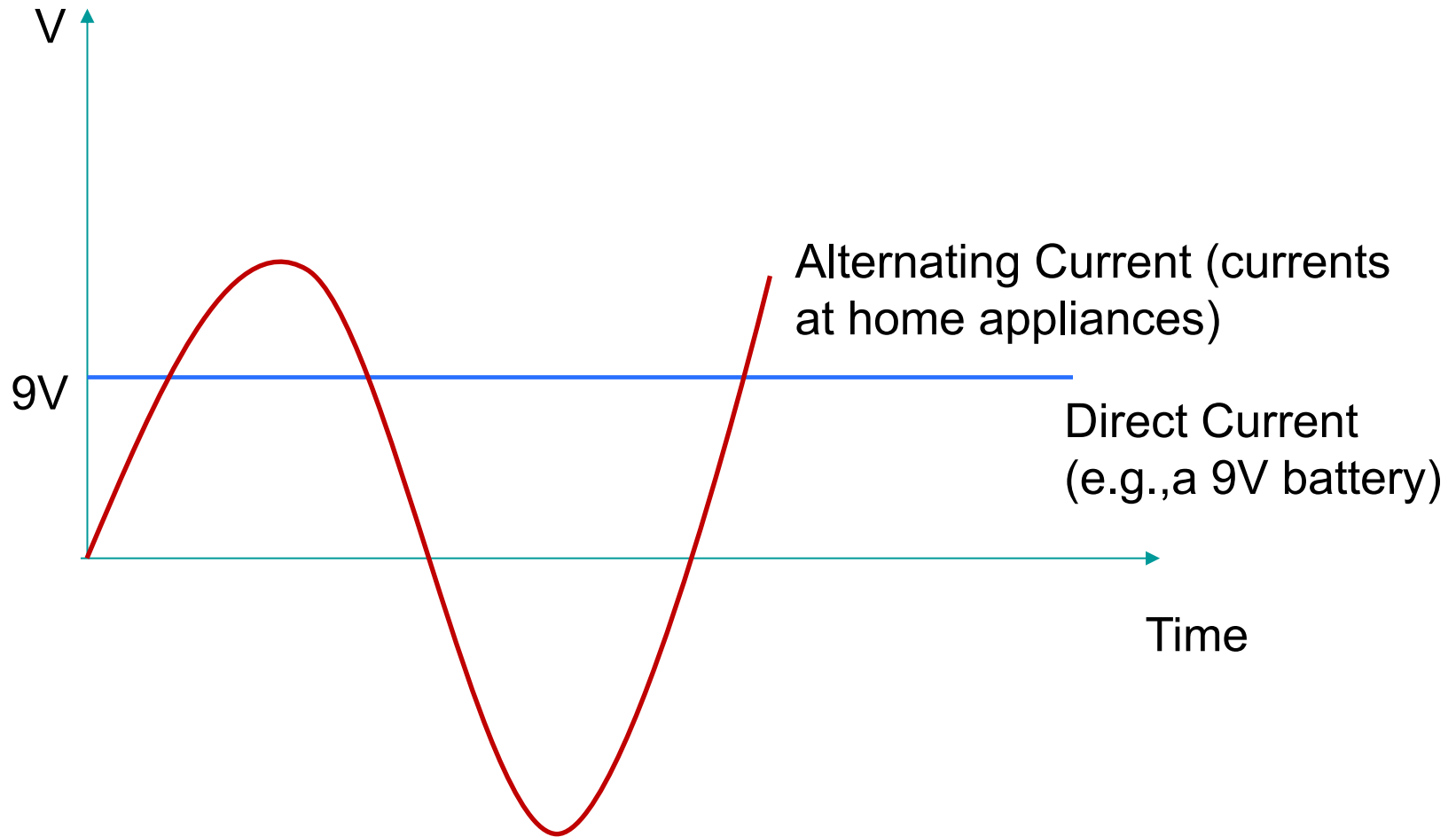
## Satellite:

- + Can rapidly set up anywhere/anytime communications (after satellites have been launched)
- + Can broadcast to large regions
- Limited bandwidth and interference to manage

## Fiber:

- + Enormous bandwidth over long distances
  - Installation can be more expensive/difficult
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# Lets Look at Further Details: Putting Signals on a Copper Wire



# Who found out Electromagnetic Waves?



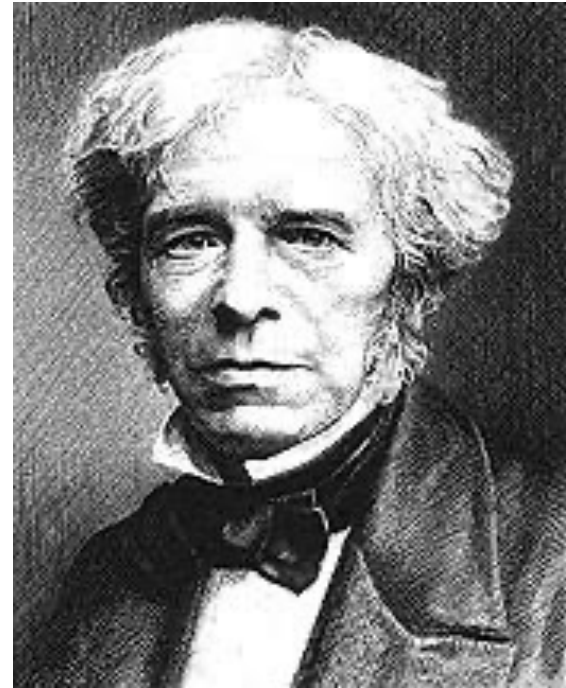
- Electromagnetism was first predicted by Maxwell



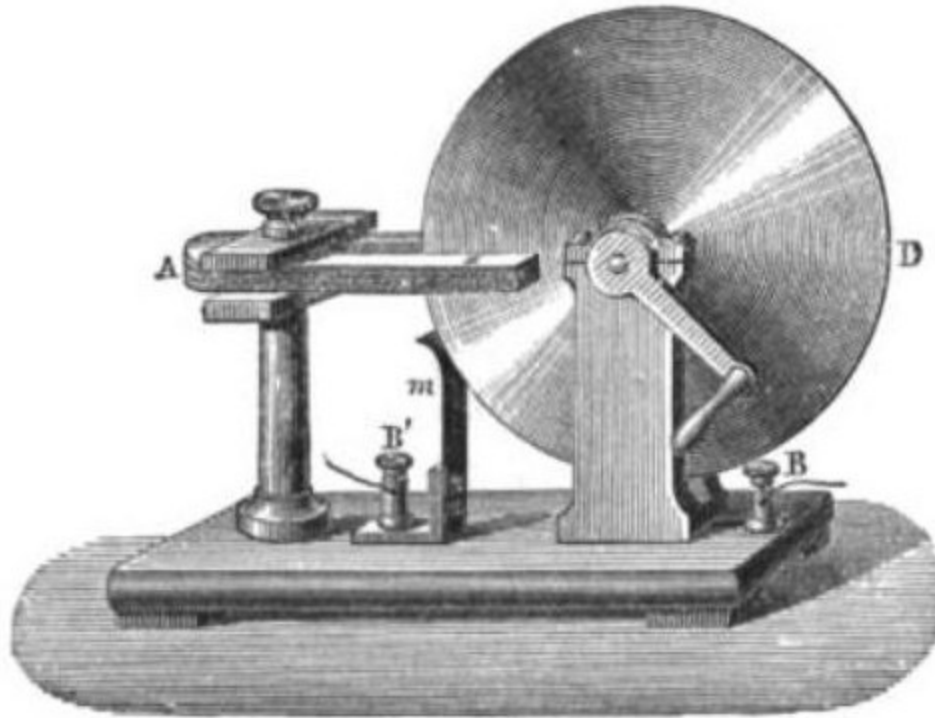
- Later **Hertz** has proved they exist
- His name is used as a unit of frequency now

# Origins of Electrical Signals

- Electromagnetic induction is at the origins of putting signals on to a wire
- Michael Faraday is the father of this
- All these famous scientists lived in 19<sup>th</sup> century

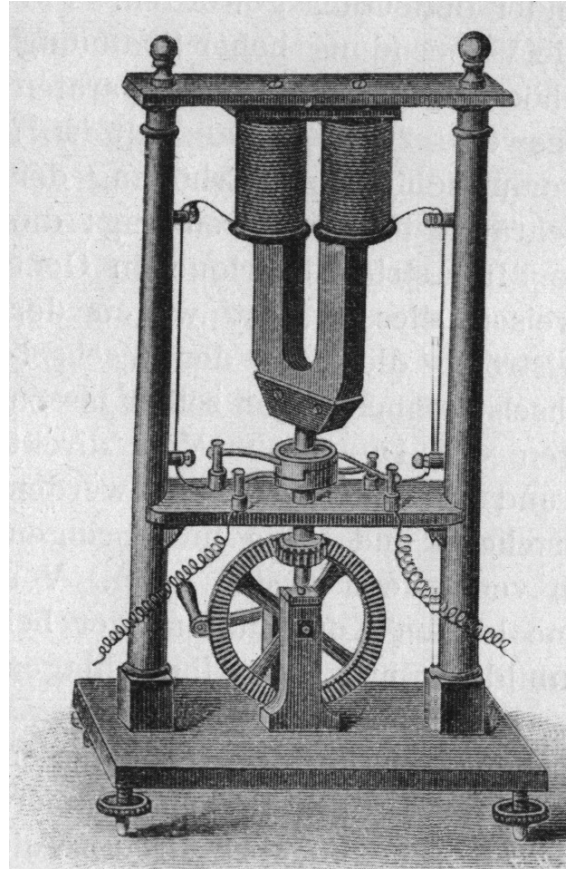


# Faraday Disk as An Electric Generator



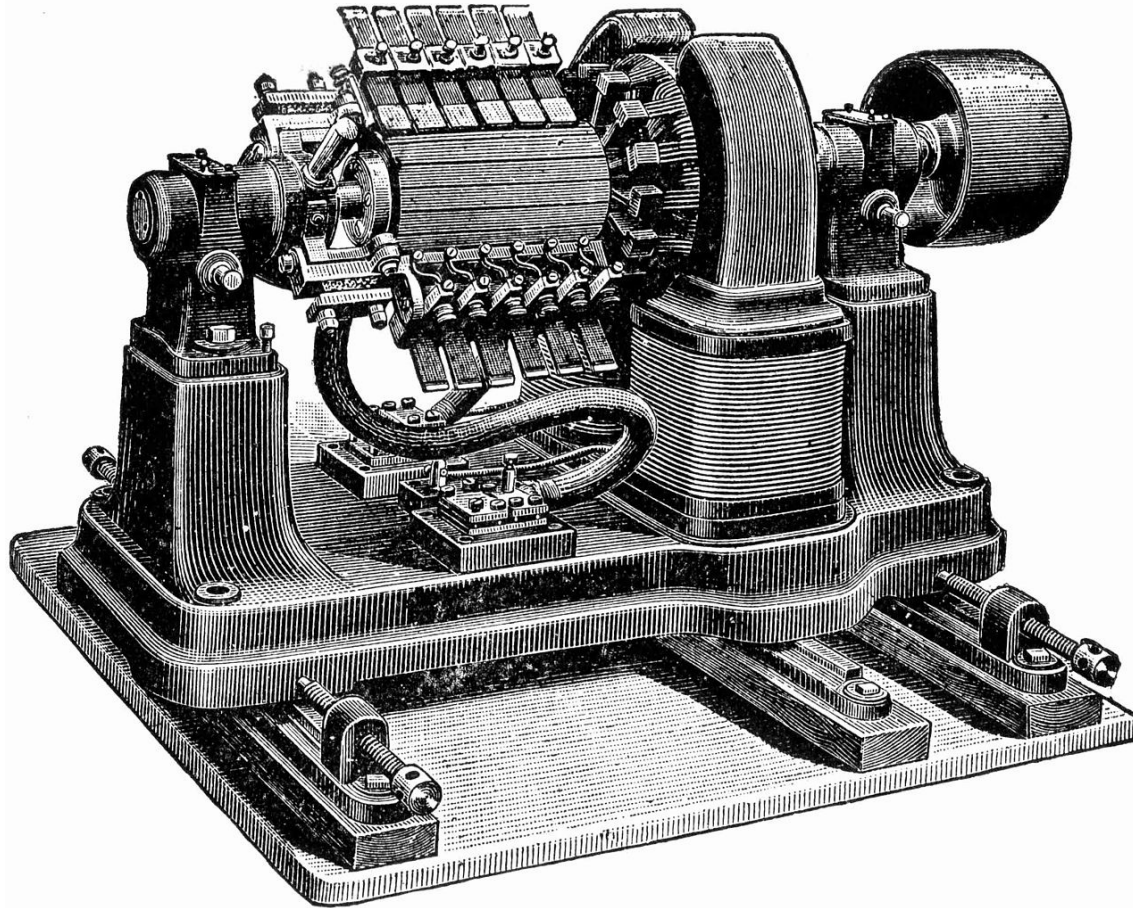


# An Early Dynamo

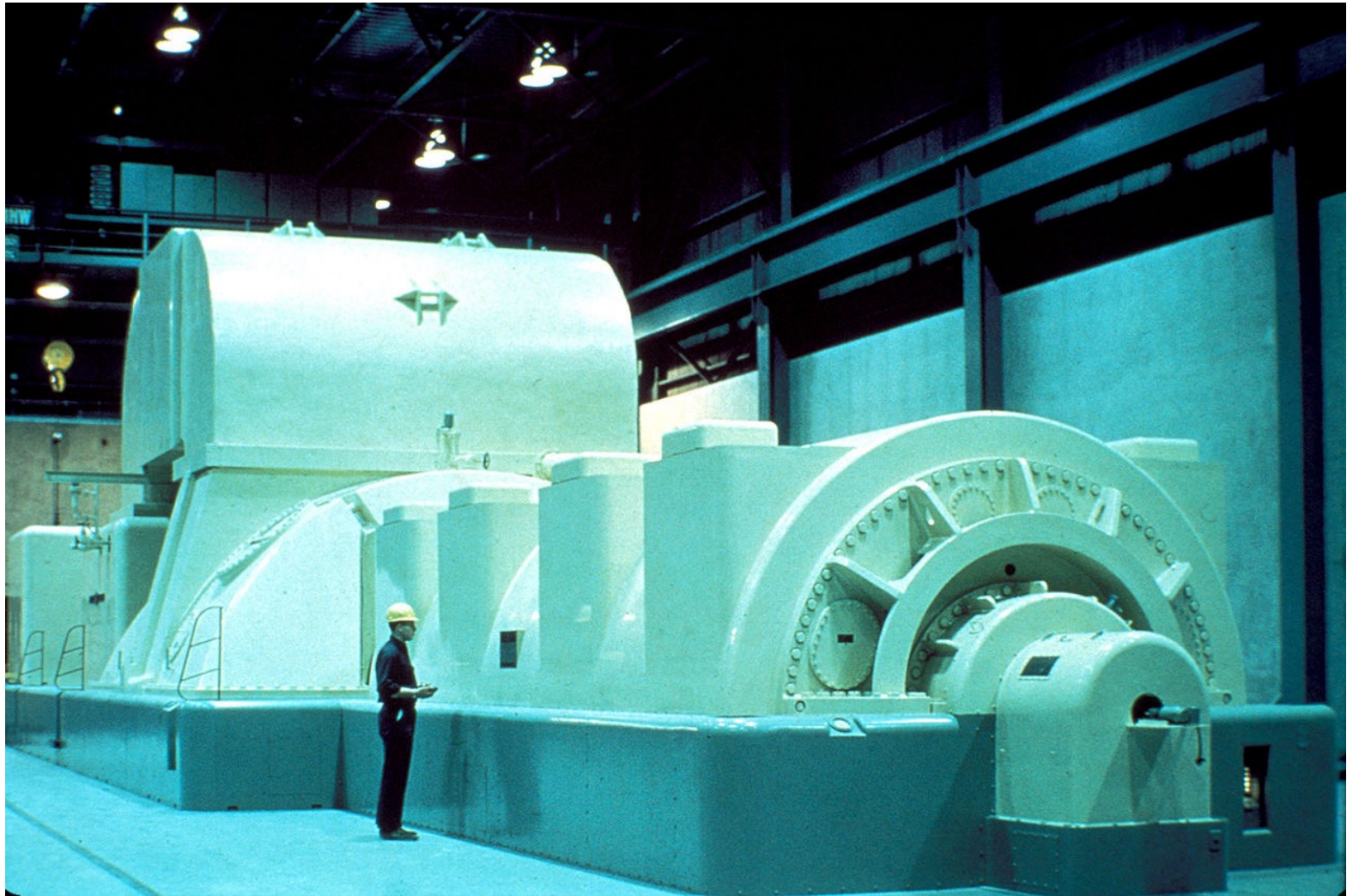




# Another Example



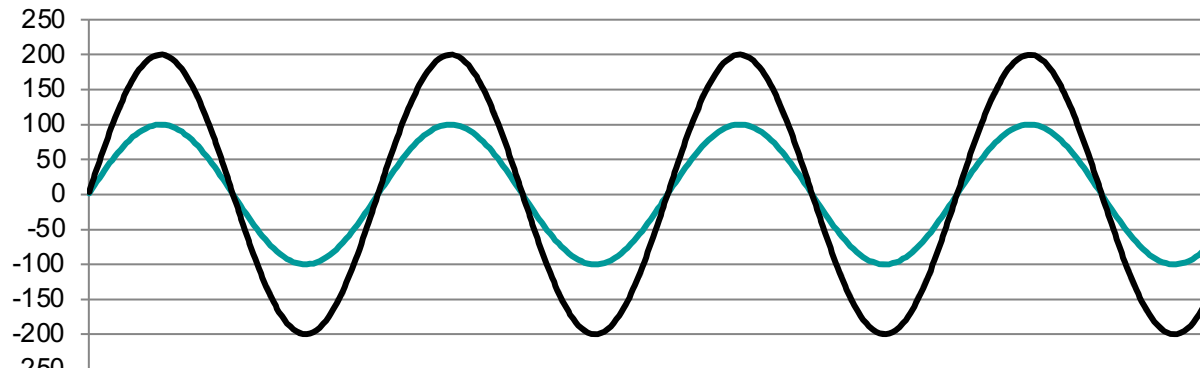
# A Turbine



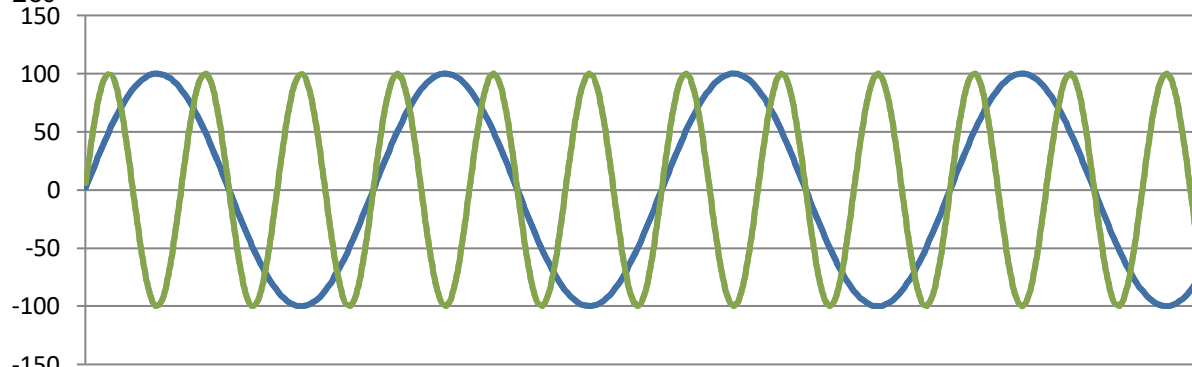
# But How Bits Look as a Signal

- Information on wire transmitted by **varying a physical property** e.g., voltage, current etc
- Generating a periodic function is needed, imagine a simple Sine function for example
- E.g., the sine function:  $c \cdot \sin(ax+b)$ :
  - ▣ Three things can change the behaviour of this function: c: Amplitude, a:Frequency and b:Phase

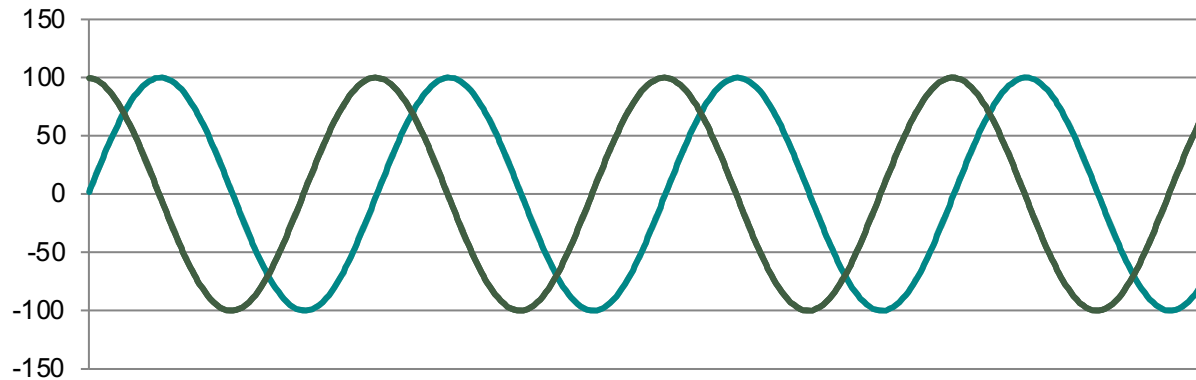
# Change in Amplitude, Frequency, & Phase



Change in  
Amplitude



Change in  
Frequency

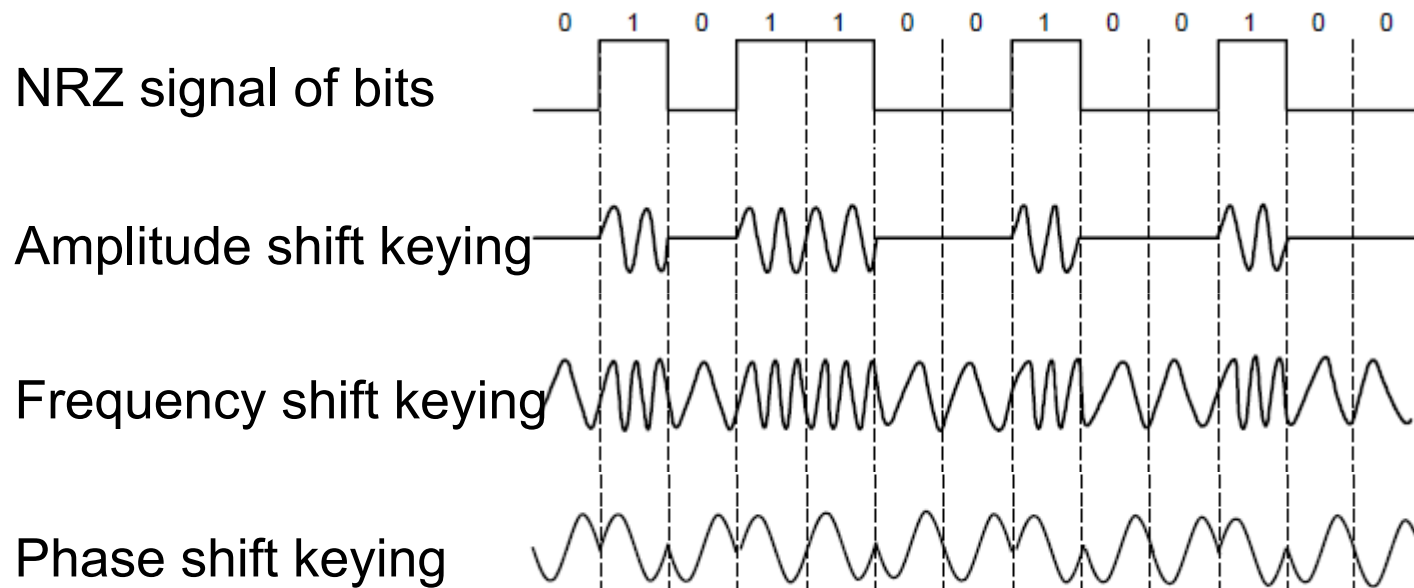


Change in  
Phase



# Modulation is the term used

Modulating the amplitude, frequency/phase of a carrier signal sends bits in a (non-zero) frequency range



# What Kind of Links We Can Have

## Full-duplex link

- ❑ Used for transmission in both directions at once
- ❑ e.g., use different twisted pairs for each direction

## Half-duplex link

- ❑ Both directions, but not at the same time
- ❑ e.g., senders take turns on a channel

## Simplex link

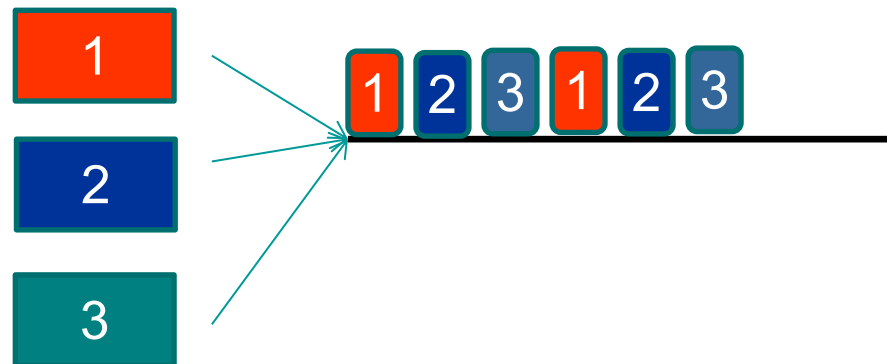
- ❑ Only one fixed direction at all times; not common in communications

# Multiplexing is used for sharing

- When multiple sources want to put things on to a medium
  - ❑ Time Division Multiplexing
  - ❑ Frequency Division Multiplexing
  - ❑ Statistical Multiplexing (for curious readers)
  - ❑ Code Division Multiple Access (we will mention later)

# Time Division Multiplexing

- Users can send according to a fixed schedule
- Slotted access to the full speed of the media





# Frequency Division Multiplexing

- Users can only use specific frequencies to send their data

