

## UNIT-I

### Overview of the Internet, Physical Layer and Data Link Layer

A network is the interconnection of a set of devices capable of communication. In this definition, a device can be a host (or an *end system* as it is sometimes called) such as a large computer, desktop, laptop, workstation, cellular phone, or security system. A device in this definition can also be a connecting device such as a router, which connects the network to other networks, a switch, which connects devices together, a modem (modulator-demodulator), which changes the form of data, and so on. These devices in a network are connected using wired or wireless transmission media such as cable or air. When we connect two computers at home using a plug- and-play router, we have created a network, although very small.

#### Network Criteria

A network must be able to meet a certain number of criteria. The most important of these are performance, reliability, and security.

#### Performance

Performance can be measured in many ways, including transit time and response time. Transit time is the amount of time required for a message to travel from one device to another. Response time is the elapsed time between an inquiry and a response. The performance of a network depends on a number of factors, including the number of users, the type of transmission medium, the capabilities of the connected hardware, and the efficiency of the software. Performance is often evaluated by two networking metrics: throughput and delay. We often need more throughputs and less delay. However, these two criteria are often contradictory. If we try to send more data to the network, we may increase throughput but we increase the delay because of traffic congestion in the network.

#### Reliability

In addition to accuracy of delivery, network reliability is measured by the frequency of failure, the time it takes a link to recover from a failure, and the network's robustness in a catastrophe.

#### Security

Network security issues include protecting data from unauthorized access, protecting data from damage and development, and implementing policies and procedures for recovery from breaches and data losses.

#### Physical Structures

Before discussing networks, we need to define some network attributes.

#### Type of Connection

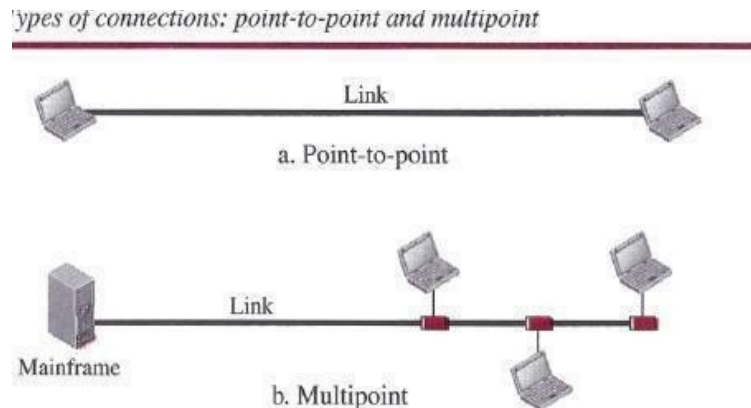
A network is two or more devices connected through links. A link is a communications pathway that transfers data from one device to another. For visualization purposes, it is simplest to imagine any link as a line drawn between two points. For communication to occur, two devices must be connected in some way to the same link at the same time. There are two possible types of connections: point-to-point and multipoint.

## Point-to-Point

A point-to-point connection provides a dedicated link between two devices. The entire capacity of the link is reserved for transmission between those two devices. 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. When we change television channels by infrared remote control, we are establishing a point-to-point connection between the remote control and the television's control system.

## Multipoint

A multipoint (also called multidrop) connection is one in which more than two specific devices share a single link.



In a multipoint environment, the capacity of the channel is shared, either spatially or temporally. If several devices can use the link simultaneously, it is a *spatially shared* connection. If users must take turns, it is a *timeshared* connection.

## PROTOCOL LAYERING

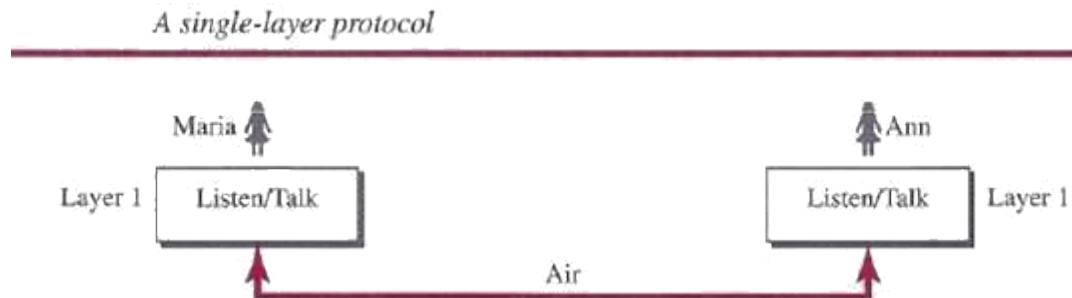
We defined the term *protocol* in Chapter 1. In data communication and networking, a protocol defines the rules that both the sender and receiver and all intermediate devices need to follow to be able to communicate effectively. When communication is simple, we may need only one simple protocol; when the communication is complex, we may need to divide the task between different layers, in which case we need a protocol at each layer, or protocol layering.

## Scenarios

Let us develop two simple scenarios to better understand the need for protocol layering.

### First Scenario

In the first scenario, communication is so simple that it can occur in only one layer. Assume Maria and Ann are neighbors with a lot of common ideas. Communication between Maria and Ann takes place in one layer, face to face, in the same language, as shown in Figure.

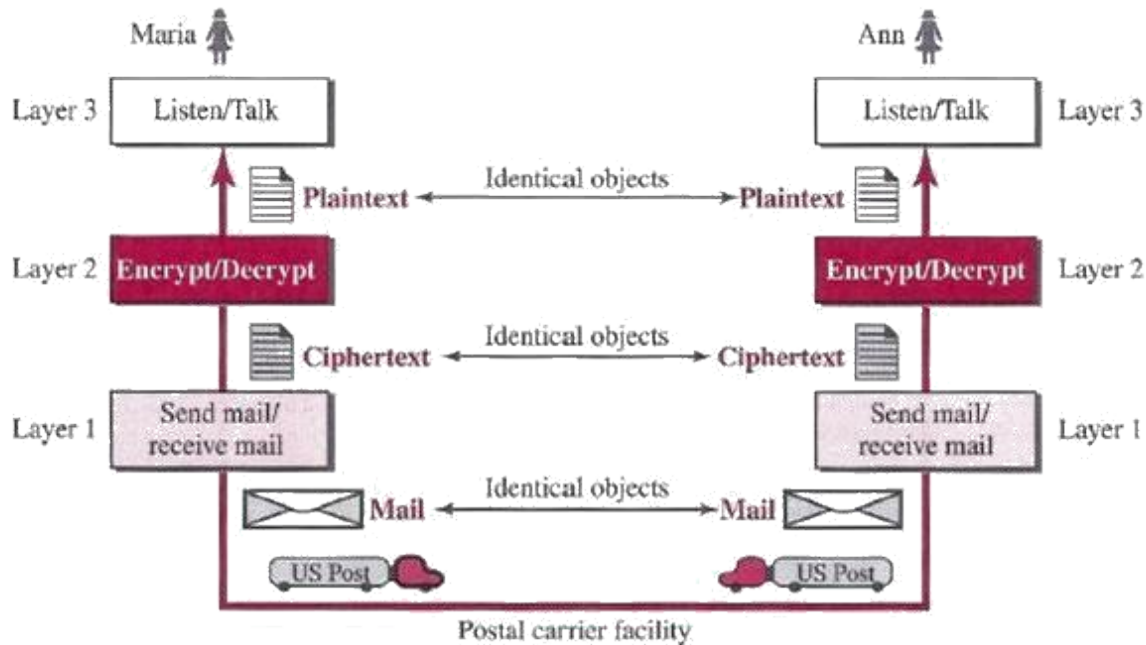


Even in this simple scenario, we can see that a set of rules needs to be followed. First, Maria and Ann know that they should greet each other when they meet. Second, they know that they should confine their vocabulary to the level of their friendship. Third, each party knows that she should refrain from speaking when the other party is speaking. Fourth, each party knows that the conversation should be a dialog, not a monolog: both should have the opportunity to talk about the issue. Fifth, they should exchange some nice words when they leave. We can see that the protocol used by Maria and Ann is different from the communication between a professor and the students in a lecture hall. The communication in the second case is mostly monolog; the professor talks most of the time unless a student has a question, a situation in which the protocol dictates that she should raise her hand and wait for permission to speak. In this case, the communication is normally very formal and limited to the subject being taught.

### Second Scenario

In the second scenario, we assume that Ann is offered a higher-level position in her company, but needs to move to another branch located in a city very far from Maria. The two friends still want to continue their communication and exchange ideas because they have come up with an innovative project to start a new business when they both retire. They decide to continue their conversation using regular mail through the post office. However, they do not want their ideas to be revealed by other people if the letters are intercepted. They agree on an encryption/decryption technique. The sender of the letter encrypts it to make it unreadable by an intruder; the receiver of the letter decrypts it to get the original letter. We discuss the encryption/decryption methods in Chapter 31, but for the moment we assume that Maria and Ann use one technique that makes it hard to decrypt the letter if one does not have the key for doing so. Now we can say that the communication between Maria and Ann takes place in three layers, as shown in Figure. We assume that Ann and Maria each have three machines (or robots) that can perform the task at each layer.

### A three-layer protocol



Principles of Protocol Layering  
Let us discuss two principles of protocol layering.

#### First Principle

The first principle dictates that if we want bidirectional communication, we need to make each layer so that it is able to perform two opposite tasks, one in each direction. For example, the third layer task is to listen (in one direction) and *talk* (in the other direction). The second layer needs to be able to encrypt and decrypt. The first layer needs to send and receive mail.

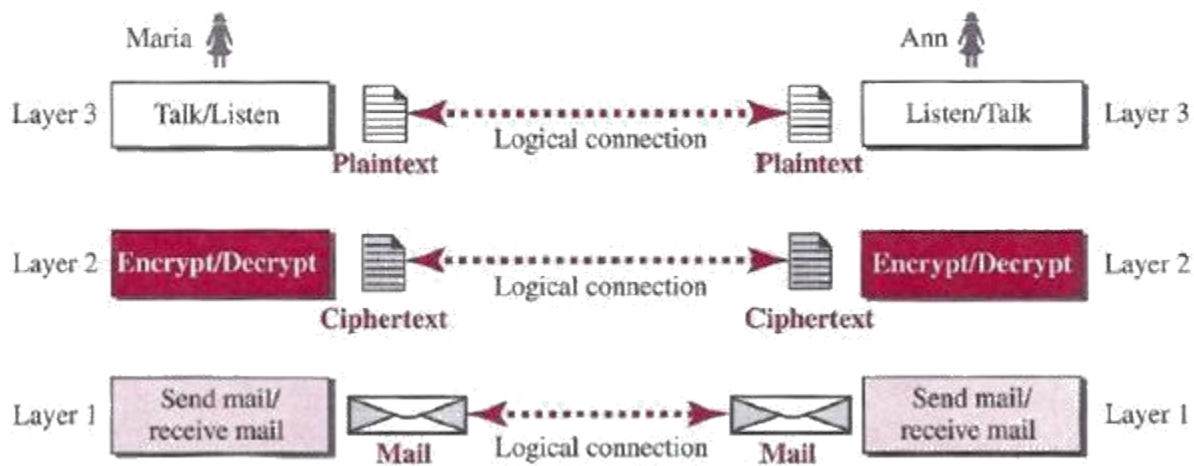
#### Second Principle

The second principle that we need to follow in protocol layering is that the two objects under each layer at both sites should be identical. For example, the object under layer 3 at both sites should be a plaintext letter. Both sites should be a cipher text letter. The object under layer 1 at both sites should be a piece of mail.

### Logical Connections

After following the above two principles, we can think about logical connection between each layer as shown in below figure. This means that we have layer-to-layer communication. Maria and Ann can think that there is a logical (imaginary) connection at each layer through which they can send the object created from that layer. We will see that the concept of logical connection will help us better understand the task of layering. We encounter in data communication and networking.

### Logical connection between peer layers



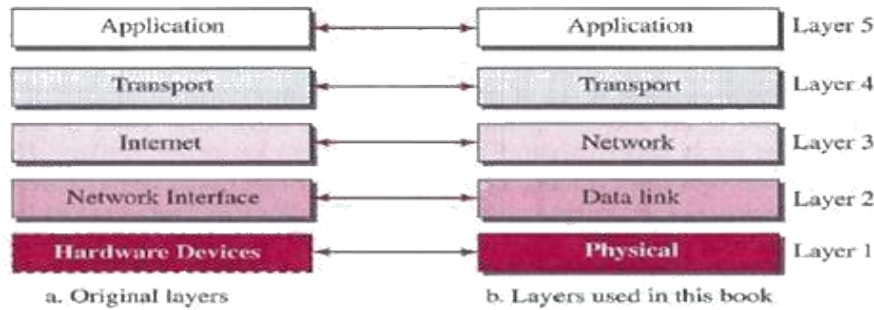
## TCP/IP PROTOCOL SUITE

Now that we know about the concept of protocol layering and the logical communication between layers in our second scenario, we can introduce the *TCP/IP* (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol). *TCP/IP* is a protocol suite (a set of protocols organized in different layers) used in the Internet today. It is a hierarchical protocol made up of interactive modules, each of which provides a specific functionality. The term *hierarchical* means that each upper level protocol is supported by the services provided by one or more lower level protocols. The original *TCP/IP* protocol suite was defined as four software layers built upon the hardware. Today, however, *TCP/IP* is thought of as a five-layer model. Following figure shows both configurations.

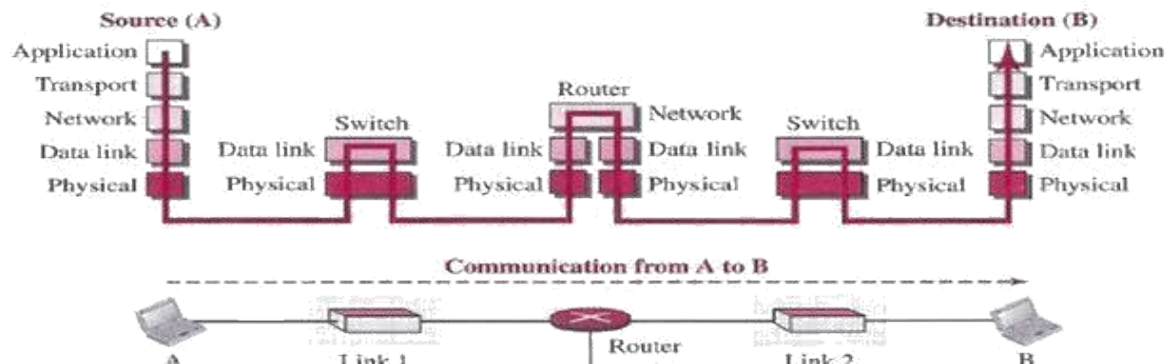
### Layered Architecture

To show how the layers in the *TCP/IP* protocol suite are involved in communication between two hosts, we assume that we want to use the suite in a small internet made up of three LANs (links), each with a link-layer switch. We also assume that the links are connected by one router, as shown in below Figure.

### Layers in the TCP/IP protocol suite



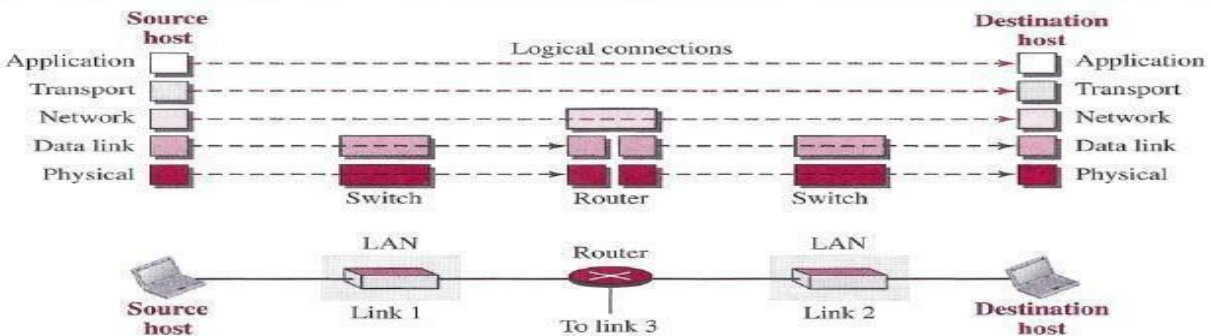
### Communication through an internet



### the TCP/IP Protocol Suite

After the above introduction, we briefly discuss the functions and duties of layers in the *TCP/IP* protocol suite. Each layer is discussed in detail in the next five parts of the book. To better understand the duties of each layer, we need to think about the logical connections between layers. Below figure shows logical connections in our simple internet.

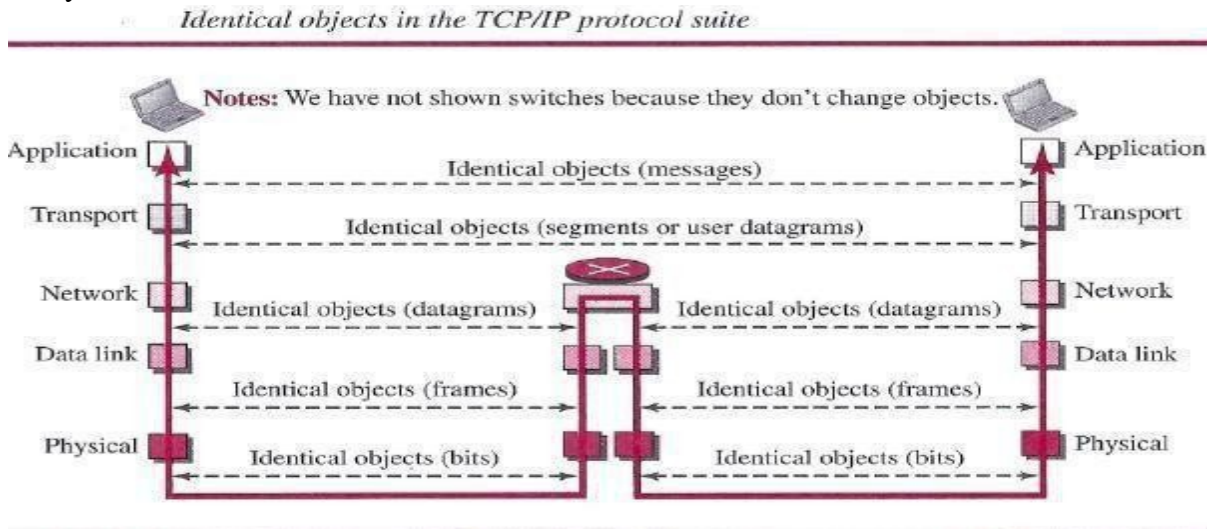
### Logical connections between layers of the TCP/IP protocol suite



Using logical connections makes it easier for us to think about the duty of each layer. As the figure shows, the duty of the application, transport, and network layers is end-to-end. However, the duty of the data-link and physical layers is hop-to-hop, in which a hop is a host or router. In



other words, the domain of duty of the top three layers is the internet, and the domain of duty of the two lower layers is the link. Another way of thinking of the logical connections is to think about the data unit created from each layer. In the top three layers, the data unit (packets) should not be changed by any router or link-layer switch. In the bottom two layers, the packet created by the host is changed only by the routers, not by the link-layer switches. Below figure shows the second principle discussed previously for protocol layering. We show the identical objects below each layer related to each device.



Note that, although the logical connection at the network layer is between the two hosts, we can only say that identical objects exist between two hops in this case because a router may fragment the packet at the network layer and send more packets than received (see fragmentation in Chapter 19). Note that the link between two hops does not change the object.

## Description of Each Layer

After understanding the concept of logical communication, we are ready to briefly discuss the duty of each layer.

### Physical Layer

We can say that the physical layer is responsible for carrying individual bits in a frame across the link. Although the physical layer is the lowest level in the TCPIIP protocol suite, the communication between two devices at the physical layer is still a logical communication because there is another, hidden layer, the transmission media, under the physical layer. Two devices are connected by a transmission medium (cable or air). We need to know that the transmission medium does not carry bits; it carries electrical or optical signals. So the bits received in a frame from the data-link layer are transformed and sent through the transmission media, but we can think that the logical unit between two physical layers in two devices is a *bit*. There are several protocols that transform a bit to a signal.

### Data-link Layer

We have seen that an internet is made up of several links (LANs and WANs) connected by routers. There may be several overlapping sets of links that a datagram can travel from the host

to the destination. The routers are responsible for choosing the *best* links. However, when the next link to travel is determined by the router, the data-link layer is responsible for taking the datagram and moving it across the link. The link can be a wired LAN with a link-layer switch, a wireless LAN, a wired WAN, or a wireless WAN. We can also have different protocols used with any link type. In each case, the data-link layer is responsible for moving the packet through the link. *TCP/IP* does not define any specific protocol for the data-link layer. It supports all the standard and proprietary protocols. Any protocol that can take the datagram and carry it through the link suffices for the network layer. The data-link layer takes a datagram and encapsulates it in a packet called «*frame*. Each link-layer protocol may provide a different service. Some link-layer protocols provide complete error detection and correction, some provide only error correction.

### Network Layer

The network layer is responsible for creating a connection between the source computer and the destination computer. The communication at the network layer is host-to-host. However, since there can be several routers from the source to the destination, the routers in the path are responsible for choosing the best route for each packet. We can say that the network layer is responsible for host-to-host communication and routing the packet through possible routes. Again, we may ask ourselves why we need the network layer. We could have added the routing duty to the transport layer and dropped this layer. One reason, as we said before, is the separation of different tasks between different layers. The second reason is that the routers do not need the application and transport layers.

### Transport Layer

The logical connection at the transport layer is also end-to-end. The transport layer at the source host gets the message from the application layer, encapsulates it in a transport layer packet (called a *segment* or a *user datagram* in different protocols) and sends it, through the logical (imaginary) connection, to the transport layer at the destination host. In other words, the transport layer is responsible for giving services to the application layer: to get a message from an application program running on the source host and deliver it to the corresponding application program on the destination host. We may ask why we need an end-to-end transport layer when we already have an end-to-end application layer. The reason is the separation of tasks and duties, which we discussed earlier. The transport layer should be independent of the application layer. In addition, we will see that we have more than one protocol in the transport layer, which means that each application program can use the protocol that best matches its requirement.

#### *Application Layer*

The logical connection between the two application layers is end to-end. The two application layers exchange *messages* between each other as though there were a bridge between the two layers. However, we should know that the communication is done through all the layers. Communication at the application layer is between two *processes* (two programs running at this layer). To communicate, a process sends a request to the other process and receives a response. Process-to-process communication is the duty of the application layer. The application layer in the Internet includes many predefined protocols, but a user can also create a pair of processes to be run at the two hosts.



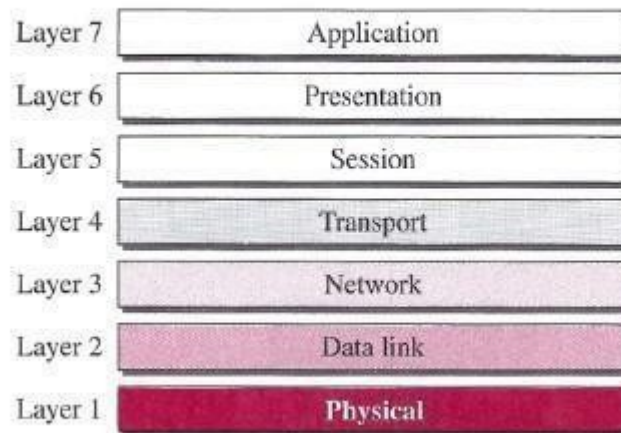
## THE OSI MODEL

Although, when speaking of the Internet, everyone talks about the *TCP/IP* protocol suite, this suite is not the only suite of protocols defined. Established in 1947, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is a multinational body dedicated to worldwide agreement on international standards. Almost three-fourths of the countries in the world are represented in the ISO. An ISO standard that covers all aspects of network communications is the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model. It was first introduced in the late 1970s.

### ISO is the organization; OSI is the model

The OSI model is a layered framework for the design of network systems that allows communication between all types of computer systems. It consists of seven separate but related layers, each of which defines a part of the process of moving information across a network

*The OSI model*



## INTERNET HISTORY

Now that we have given an overview of the Internet, let us give a brief history of the internet. This brief history makes it clear how the Internet has evolved from a private network to a global one in less than 40 years.

### Early History

There were some communication networks, such as telegraph and telephone networks, before 1960. These networks were suitable for constant-rate communication at that time, which means that after a connection was made between two users, the encoded message (telegraphy) or voice (telephony) could be exchanged.

### ARPANET

In the mid-1960s, mainframe computers in research organizations were stand-alone devices. Computers from different manufacturers were unable to communicate with one another. The Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) in the Department of Defense (DOD) was interested in finding a way to connect computers so that the researchers they funded could share their findings, thereby reducing costs and eliminating duplication of effort. In 1967, at an Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) meeting, ARPA presented its ideas for the

Advanced Research Projects Agency Network (ARPANET), a small network of connected computers. The idea was that each host computer (not necessarily from the same manufacturer) would be attached to a specialized computer, called an *interface message processor* (IMP). The IMPs, in turn, would be connected to each other. Each IMP had to be able to communicate with other IMPs as well as with its own attached host.

## **Birth of the Internet**

In 1972, Vint Cerf and Bob Kahn, both of whom were part of the core ARPANET group, collaborated on what they called the *Internetting Project*. *TCPI/P* Cerf and Kahn's landmark 1973 paper outlined the protocols to achieve end-to-end delivery of data. This was a new version of NCP. This paper on transmission control protocol (TCP) included concepts such as encapsulation, the datagram, and the functions of a gateway. Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and Internet Protocol (IP). IP would handle datagram routing while TCP would be responsible for higher level functions such as segmentation, reassembly, and error detection. The new combination became known as TCPIP.

## **MILNET**

In 1983, ARPANET split into two networks: Military Network (MILNET) for military users and ARPANET for nonmilitary users.

## **CSNET**

Another milestone in Internet history was the creation of CSNET in 1981. Computer Science Network (CSNET) was a network sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

## **NSFNET**

With the success of CSNET, the NSF in 1986 sponsored the National Science Foundation Network (NSFNET), a backbone that connected five supercomputer centers located throughout the United States.

## **ANSNET**

In 1991, the U.S. government decided that NSFNET was not capable of supporting the rapidly increasing Internet traffic. Three companies, IBM, Merit, and Verizon, filled the void by forming a nonprofit organization called Advanced Network & Services (ANS) to build a new, high-speed Internet backbone called Advanced Network Services Network (ANSNET). Internet Today

Today, we witness a rapid growth both in the infrastructure and new applications. The Internet today is a set of peer networks that provide services to the whole world. What has made the internet so popular is the invention of new applications.

## **World Wide Web**

The 1990s saw the explosion of Internet applications due to the emergence of the World Wide Web (WWW). The Web was invented at CERN by Tim Berners-Lee. This invention has added the commercial applications to the Internet.

## Multimedia

Recent developments in the multimedia applications such as voice over IP (telephony), video over IP (Skype), view sharing (YouTube), and television over IP (PPLive) has increased the number of users and the amount of time each user spends on the network.

## Peer-to-Peer Applications

Peer-to-peer networking is also a new area of communication with a lot of potential.

## STANDARDS AND ADMINISTRATION

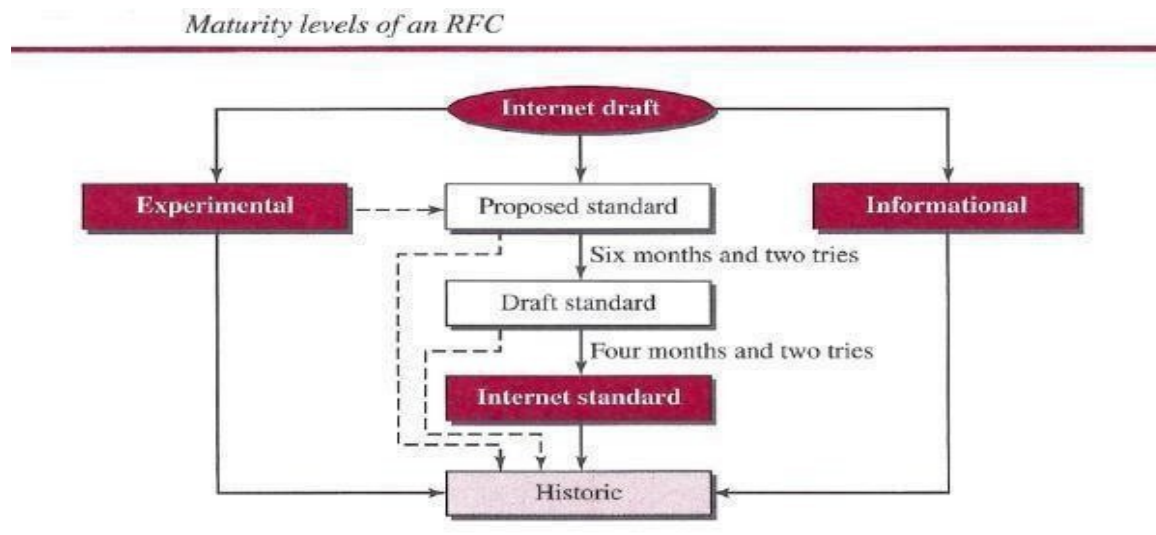
In the discussion of the Internet and its protocol, we often see a reference to a standard or an administration entity. In this section, we introduce these standards and administration entities for those readers that are not familiar with them; the section can be skipped if the reader is familiar with them.

## INTERNET STANDARDS

An Internet standard is a thoroughly tested specification that is useful to and adhered to by those who work with the Internet. It is a formalized regulation that must be followed. There is a strict procedure by which a specification attains Internet standard status. A specification begins as an Internet draft. An Internet draft is a working document (a work in progress) with no official status and a six-month lifetime. Upon recommendation from the Internet authorities, a draft may be published as a Request for Comment (RFC). Each RFC is edited, assigned a number, and made available to all interested parties. RFCs go through maturity levels and are categorized according to their requirement level.

## Maturity Levels

An RFC, during its lifetime, falls into one of six *maturity levels*: proposed standard, draft standard, Internet standard, historic, experimental, and informational. *Proposed Standard*. A proposed standard is a specification that is stable, well understood, and of sufficient interest to the Internet community. At this level, the specification is usually tested and implemented by several different groups.



**Draft Standard.** A proposed standard is elevated to draft standard status after at least two successful independent and interoperable implementations. Barring difficulties, a draft standard, with modifications if specific problems are encountered, normally becomes an Internet standard.

**Internet Standard.** A draft standard reaches Internet standard status after demonstrations of successful implementation.

**Historic** The historic RFCs are significant from a historical perspective. They either have been superseded by later specifications or have never passed the necessary maturity levels to become an Internet standard.

**Experimental** An RFC classified as experimental describes work related to an experimental situation that does not affect the operation of the Internet. Such an RFC should not be implemented in any functional Internet service.

**Informational** An RFC classified as informational contains general, historical, or tutorial information related to the Internet. It is usually written by someone in a non-Internet organization, such as a vendor.

### Requirement Levels

RFCs are classified into five *requirement levels*: required, recommended, elective, limited use, and not recommended.

**Required** An RFC is labeled *required* if it must be implemented by all Internet systems to achieve minimum conformance. For example, IP and ICMP are required protocols.

**Recommended** An RFC labeled recommended is not required for minimum conformance; it is recommended because of its usefulness. For example, FTP and TELNET are recommended protocols.

**Elective** An RFC labeled elective is not required and not recommended. However, a system can use it for its own benefit.

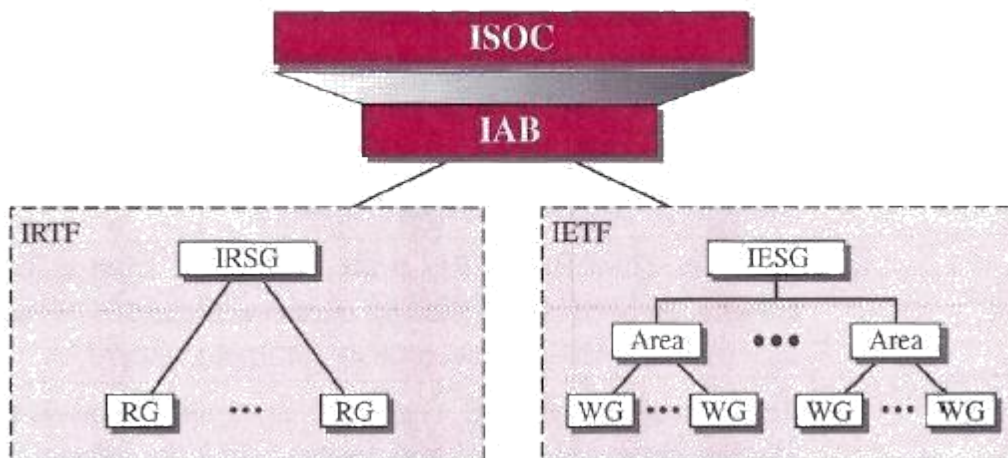
**Limited Use** An RFC labeled limited use should be used only in limited situations. Most of the experimental RFCs fall under this category.

**Not Recommended** An RFC labeled not recommended is inappropriate for general use. Normally a historic (deprecated) RFC may fall under this category.

## INTERNET ADMINISTRATION

The Internet, with its roots primarily in the research domain, has evolved and gained a broader user base with significant commercial activity. Various groups that coordinate Internet issues have guided this growth and development. Appendix G gives the addresses, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers for some of these groups. Shows the general organization of Internet

administration. E-mail addresses and telephone numbers for some of these groups. Below figure shows the general organization of Internet administration.



## Isoc

The Internet Society (ISOC) is an international, nonprofit organization formed in 1992 to provide support for the Internet standards process. ISOC accomplishes this through maintaining and supporting other Internet administrative bodies such as IAB, IETF, IRTF, and IANA (see the following sections). ISOC also promotes research and other scholarly activities relating to the Internet.

## IAB

The Internet Architecture Board (IAB) is the technical advisor to the ISOC. The main purposes of the IAB are to oversee the continuing development of the *TCP/IP* Protocol Suite and to serve in a technical advisory capacity to research members of the Internet community. IAB accomplishes this through its two primary components, the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the Internet Research Task Force (IRTF). Another responsibility of the IAB is the editorial management of the RFCs, described earlier. IAB is also the external liaison between the Internet and other standards organizations and forums.

## IETF

The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) is a forum of working groups managed by the Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG). IETF is responsible for identifying operational problems and proposing solutions to these problems. IETF also develops and reviews specifications intended as Internet standards. The working groups are collected into areas, and each area concentrates on a specific topic. Currently nine areas have been defined. The areas include applications, protocols, routing, network management next generation (IPng), and security.

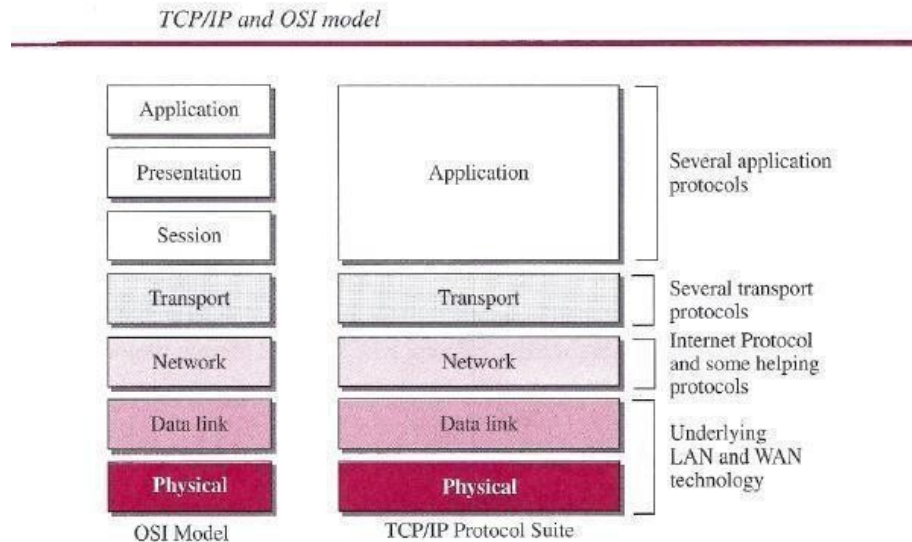
## IRTF

The Internet Research Task Force (IRTF) is a forum of working groups managed by the Internet Research Steering Group (IRSG). IRTF focuses on long-term research topics related to Internet protocols, applications, architecture, and technology.



## COMPARISION OF OSI AND TCP/IP REFERENCE MODEL

When we compare the two models, we find that two layers, session and presentation, are missing from the *TCP/IP* protocol suite. These two layers were not added to the *TCP/IP* protocol suite after the publication of the OSI model. The application layer in the suite is usually considered to be the combination of three layers in the OSI model.



Two reasons were mentioned for this decision. First, *TCP/IP* has more than one transport-layer protocol. Some of the functionalities of the session layer are available in some of the transport-layer protocols. Second, the application layer is not only one piece of software. Many Applications can be developed at this layer. If some of the functionalities mentioned in the session and presentation layers are needed for a particular application, they can be included in the development of that piece of software.

### Lack of OSI Model's Success

The OSI model appeared after the *TCP/IP* protocol suite. Most experts were at first excited and thought that the *TCP/IP* protocol would be fully replaced by the OSI model. This did not happen for several reasons, but we describe only three, which are agreed upon by all experts in the field. First, OSI was completed when *TCP/IP* was fully in place and a lot of time and money had been spent on the suite; changing it would cost a lot. Second, some layers in the OSI model were never fully defined. For example, although the services provided by the presentation and the session layers were listed in the document, actual protocols for these two layers were not fully defined, nor were they fully described, and the corresponding software was not fully developed. Third, when OSI was implemented by an organization in a different application, it did not show a high enough level of performance to entice the Internet authority to switch from the *TCP/IP* protocol suite to the OSI model.

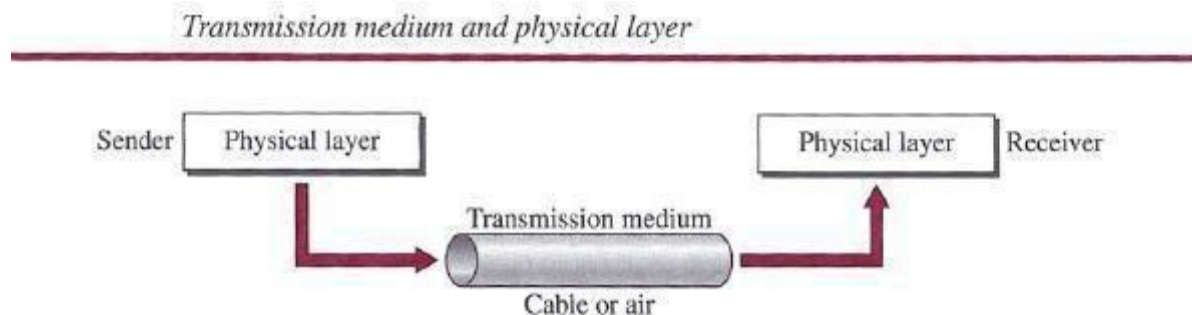
### PHYSICAL LAYER

One of the major functions of the physical layer is to move data in the form of electromagnetic signals across a transmission medium. Whether you are collecting numerical statistics from another computer, sending animated pictures from a design workstation, or causing a bell to ring at a distant control center, you are working with the transmission of **data** across network connections. Generally, the data usable to a person or application are not in a form that can be

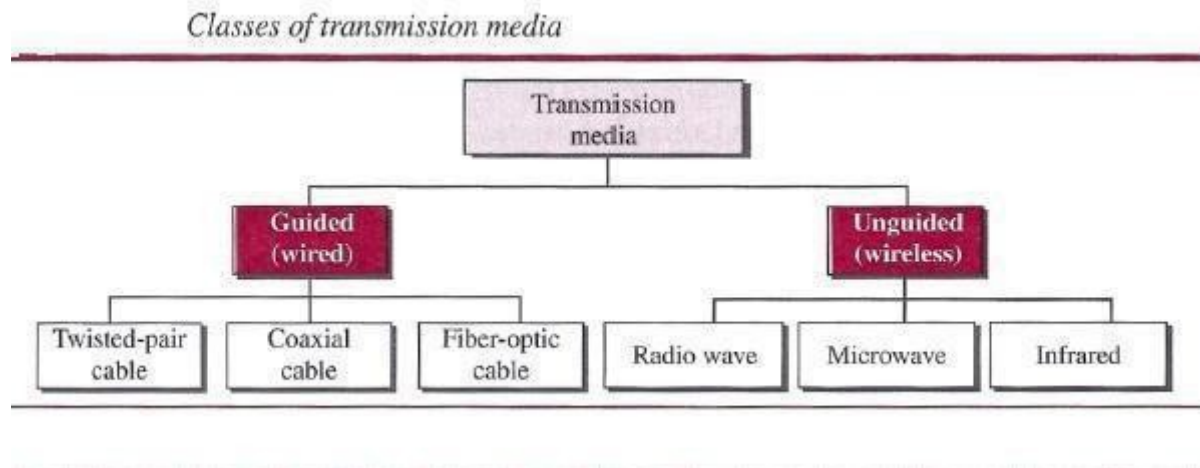
transmitted over a network. For example, a photograph must first be changed to a form that transmission media can accept. Transmission media work by conducting energy along a physical path. For transmission, data needs to be changed to **signals**.

## TRANSMISSION MEDIA

Transmission media are actually located below the physical layer and are directly controlled by the physical layer. We could say that transmission media belong to layer zero. Below figure shows the position of transmission media in relation to the physical layer.



In telecommunications, transmission media can be divided into two broad categories: guided and unguided. Guided media include twisted-pair cable, coaxial cable, and fiber-optic cable. Unguided medium is free space.

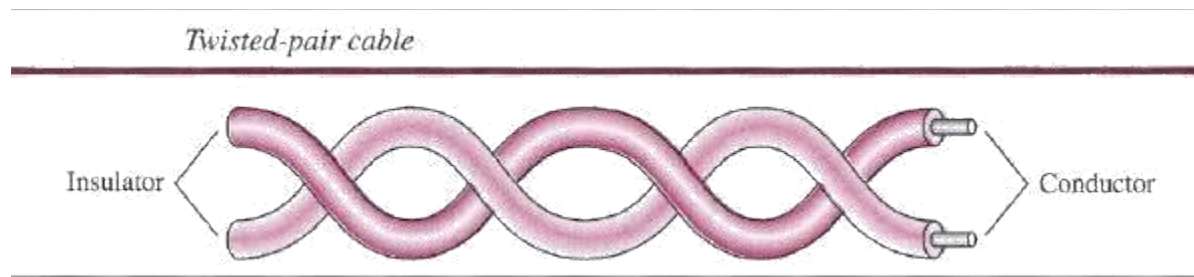


## GUIDED MEDIA

Guided media, which are those that provide a conduit from one device to another, include twisted-pair cable, coaxial cable, and fiber-optic cable. A signal traveling along any of these media is directed and contained by the physical limits of the medium. Twisted-pair and coaxial cable use metallic (copper) conductors that accept and transport signals in the form of electric current. Optical fiber is a cable that accepts and transports signals in the form of light.

### Twisted-Pair Cable

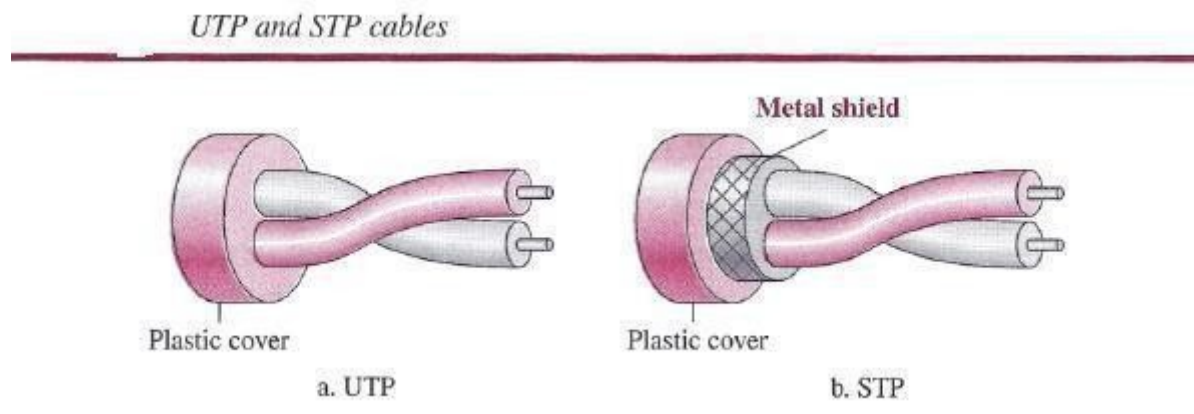
A twisted pair consists of two conductors (normally copper), each with its own plastic insulation, twisted together, as shown in following figure.



One of the wires is used to carry signals to the receiver, and the other is used only as a ground reference. The receiver uses the difference between the two. In addition to the signal sent by the sender on one of the wires, interference (noise) and crosstalk may affect both wires and create unwanted signals. If the two wires are parallel, the effect of these unwanted signals is not the same in both wires because they are at different locations relative to the noise or crosstalk sources (e.g., one is closer and the other is farther). This results in a difference at the receiver. By twisting the pairs, a balance is maintained. For example, suppose in one twist, one wire is closer to the noise source and the other is farther; in the next twist, the reverse is true. Twisting makes it probable that both wires are equally affected by external influences (noise or crosstalk). This means that the receiver, which calculates the difference between the two, receives no unwanted signals. The unwanted signals are mostly canceled out. From the above discussion, it is clear that the number of twists per unit of length (e.g., inch) has some effect on the quality of the cable.

### Unshielded Versus Shielded Twisted-Pair Cable

The most common twisted-pair cable used in communications is referred to as *unshielded twisted-pair* (UTP). IBM has also produced a version of twisted-pair cable for its use, called *shielded twisted-pair* (STP). STP cable has a metal foil or braided mesh covering that encases each pair of insulated conductors. Although metal casing improves the quality of cable by preventing the penetration of noise or crosstalk, it is bulkier and more expensive. Below figure



### Categories

The Electronic Industries Association (EIA) has developed standards to classify unshielded twisted-pair cable into seven categories. Categories are determined by cable quality, with 1 as the lowest and 7 as the highest. Each EIA category is suitable for specific uses. Table below shows these categories.

### Categories of unshielded twisted-pair cables

Category	Specification	Data Rate (Mbps)	Use
1	Unshielded twisted-pair used in telephone	< 0.1	Telephone
2	Unshielded twisted-pair originally used in T lines	2	T-1 lines
3	Improved CAT 2 used in LANs	10	LANs
4	Improved CAT 3 used in Token Ring networks	20	LANs
5	Cable wire is normally 24 AWG with a jacket and outside sheath	100	LANs

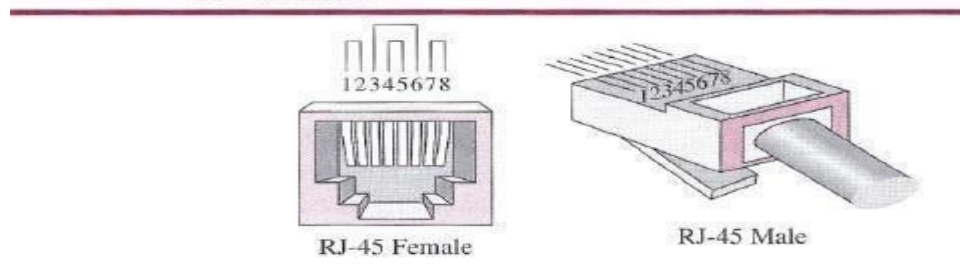
### Categories of unshielded twisted-pair cables (continued)

Category	Specification	Data Rate (Mbps)	Use
5E	An extension to category 5 that includes extra features to minimize the crosstalk and electromagnetic interference.	125	LANs
6	A new category with matched components coming from the same manufacturer. The cable must be tested at a 200-Mbps data rate.	200	LANs
7	Sometimes called <i>SSTP</i> (shielded screen twisted-pair). Each pair is individually wrapped in a helical metallic foil followed by a metallic foil shield in addition to the outside sheath. The shield decreases the effect of crosstalk and increases the data rate.	600	LANs

### Connectors

The most common UTP connector is **RJ45** (RJ stands for registered jack), as shown in below figure. The RJ45 is a keyed connector, meaning the connector can be inserted in only one way.

UTP connector



### Performance

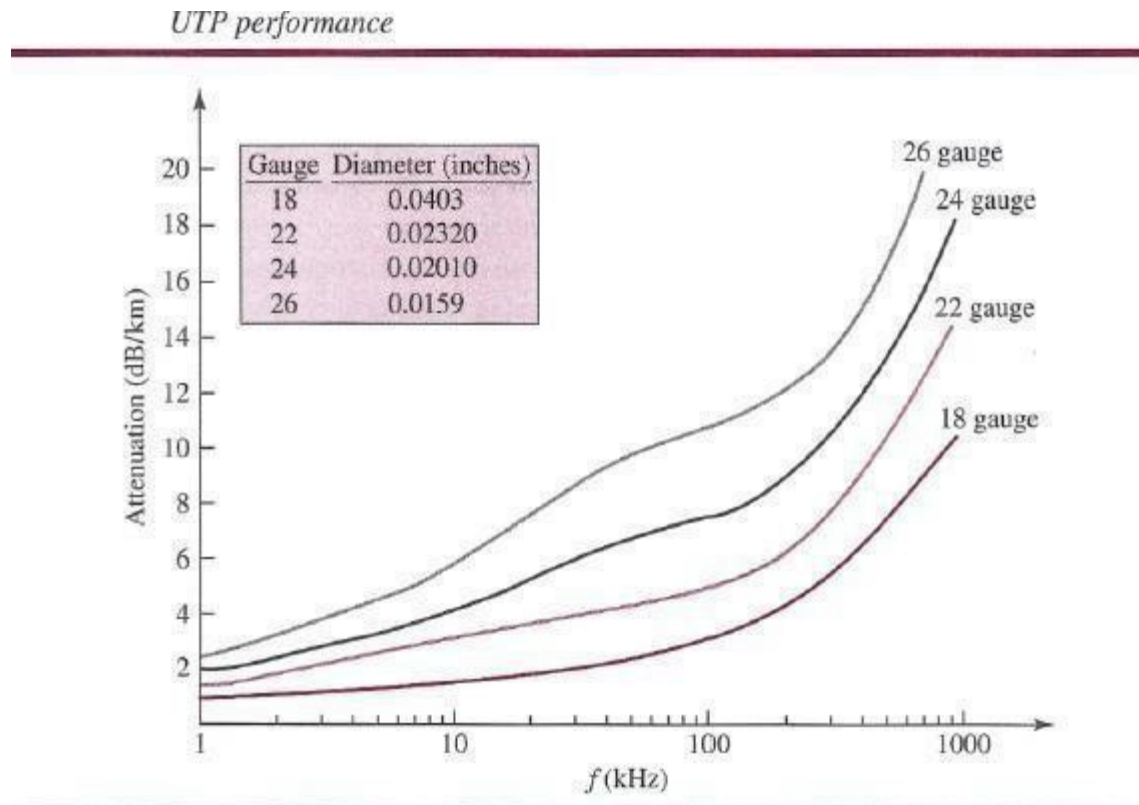
One way to measure the performance of twisted-pair cable is to compare attenuation versus frequency and distance. A twisted-pair cable can pass a wide range of frequencies. However, below figure shows that with increasing frequency, the attenuation, measured in decibels per

kilometer (dB/km), sharply increases with frequencies above 100 kHz. Note that *gauge* is a measure of the thickness of the wire.

### Applications

Twisted-pair cables are used in telephone lines to provide voice and data channels. The local loop—the line that connects subscribers to the central telephone office commonly consists of unshielded twisted-pair cables.

The DSL lines that are used by the telephone companies to provide high-data-rate connections also use the high-bandwidth capability of unshielded twisted-pair cables.



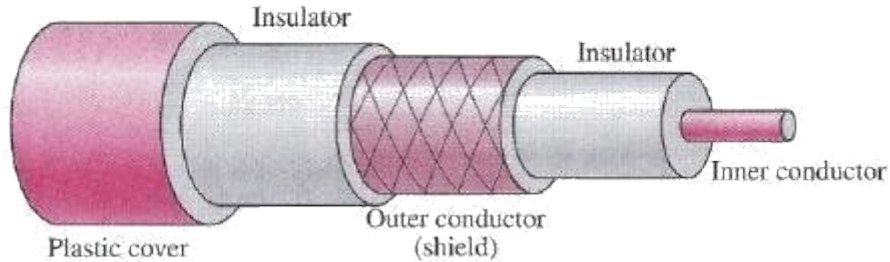
Local-area networks, such as 10Base-T and 100Base-T, also use twisted-pair cables.

### Coaxial Cable

Coaxial cable (or *coax*) carries signals of higher frequency ranges than those in twisted pair cable, in part because the two media are constructed quite differently. Instead of having two wires, coax has a central core conductor of solid or stranded wire (usually copper) enclosed in an insulating sheath, which is, in turn, encased in an outer conductor of metal foil, braid, or a combination of the two. The outer metallic wrapping serves both as a shield against noise and as the second conductor, which completes the circuit. This outer conductor is also enclosed in an insulating sheath, and the whole cable is protected by a plastic cover.



## Coaxial cable



### Coaxial Cable Standards

Coaxial cables are categorized by their Radio Government (RG) ratings. Each RG number denotes a unique set of physical specifications, including the wire gauge of the inner conductor, the thickness and type of the inner insulator, the construction of the shield, and the size and type of the outer casing. Each cable defined by an RG rating is adapted for a specialized function, as shown in below table.

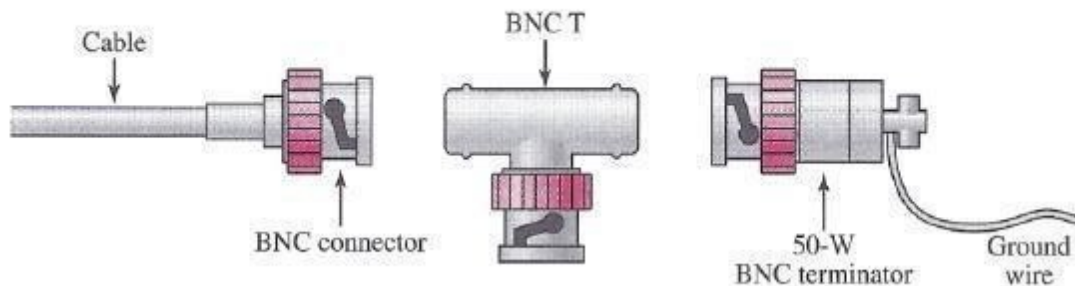
*Categories of coaxial cables*

Category	Impedance	Use
RG-59	75 $\Omega$	Cable TV
RG-58	50 $\Omega$	Thin Ethernet
RG-11	50 $\Omega$	Thick Ethernet

### Coaxial Cable Connectors

To connect coaxial cable to devices, we need coaxial connectors. The most common type of connector used today is the Bayonet Neill-Concelman (BNC) connector. Below figure shows three popular types of these connectors: the BNC connector, the BNC T connector, and the BNC terminator.

*BNC connectors*



The BNC connector is used to connect the end of the cable to a device, such as a TV set. The BNC T connector is used in Ethernet networks (see Chapter 13) to branch out to a connection to a computer or other device. The BNC terminator is used at the end of the cable to prevent the reflection of the signal.



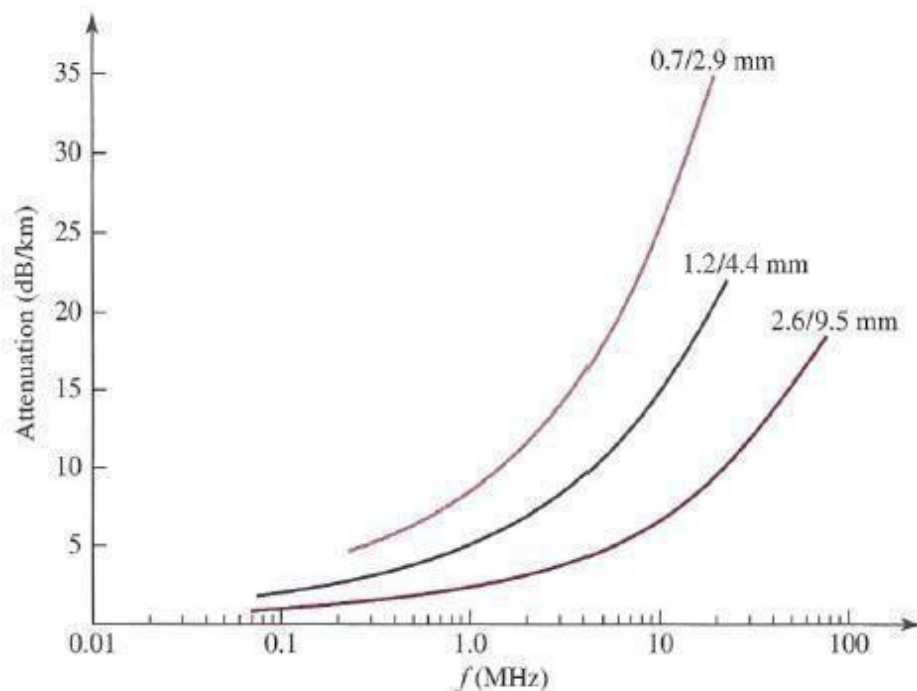
## Performance

As we did with twisted-pair cable, we can measure the performance of a coaxial cable. We notice in Figure 7.9 that the attenuation is much higher in coaxial cable than in twisted-pair cable. In other words, although coaxial cable has a much higher bandwidth, the signal weakens rapidly and requires the frequent use of repeaters.

## Applications

Coaxial cable was widely used in analog telephone networks where a single coaxial network could carry 10,000 voice signals. Later it was used in digital telephone networks where a single coaxial cable could carry digital data up to 600 Mbps. However, coaxial cable in telephone networks has largely been replaced today with fiber optic cable.

*Coaxial cable performance*



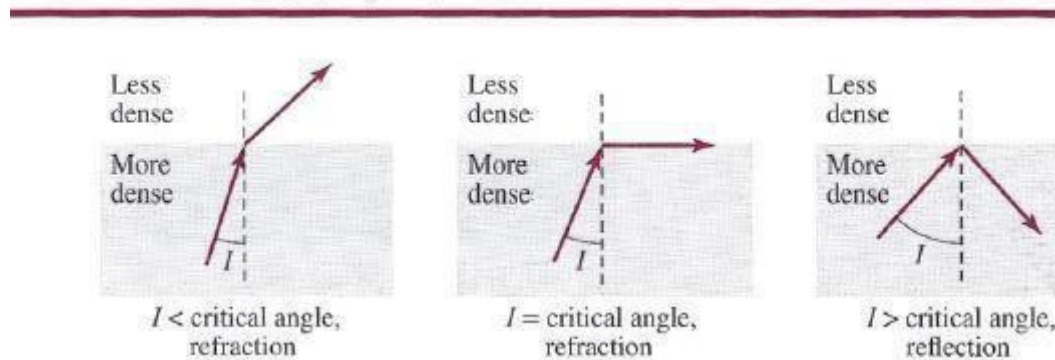
Cable TV networks also use coaxial cables. In the traditional cable TV network, the entire network used coaxial cable. Later, however, cable TV providers replaced most of the media with fiber-optic cable; hybrid networks use coaxial cable only at the network boundaries, near the consumer premises. Cable TV uses RG-59 coaxial cable. Another common application of coaxial cable is in traditional Ethernet LANs (see Because of its high bandwidth, and consequently high data rate, coaxial cable was chosen for digital transmission in early Ethernet LANs. The 10Base-2, or Thin Ethernet, uses RG-58 coaxial cable with BNC connectors to transmit data at 10 Mbps with a range of 185 m. The 10Base5, or Thick Ethernet, uses RG-11 (thick coaxial cable) to transmit 10 Mbps with a range of 5000 m. Thick Ethernet has specialized connectors.

## Fiber-Optic Cable

A fiber-optic cable is made of glass or plastic and transmits signals in the form of light. To understand optical fiber, we first need to explore several aspects of the nature of light. Light travels in a straight line as long as it is moving through a single uniform substance. If a ray of

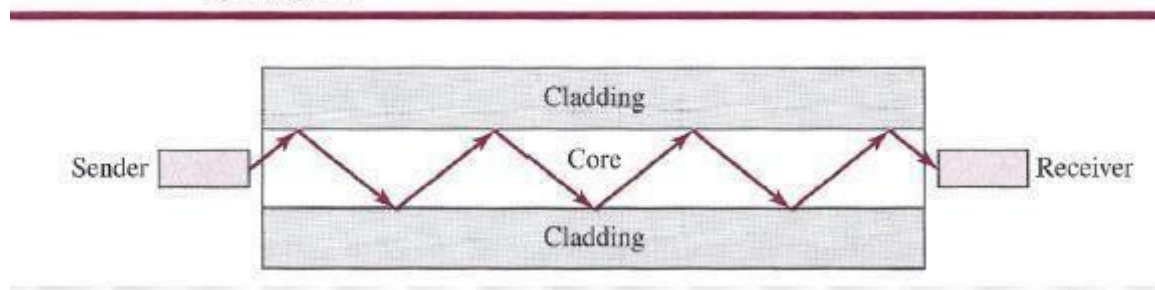
light traveling through one substance suddenly enters another substance (of a different density), the ray changes direction. Below figure shows how a ray of light changes direction when going from a denser to a less dense substance. As the figure shows, if the angle **of incidence**  $I$  (the angle the ray makes with the line perpendicular to the interface between the two substances) is less than the **critical angle**, the ray **refracts** and moves closer to the surface. If the angle of incidence is equal to the critical angle, the light bends along the interface. If the angle is greater than the critical angle, the ray **reflects** (makes a turn) and travels again in the denser

*Bending of light ray*



substance. Note that the critical angle is a property of the substance, and its value differs from one substance to another. Optical fibers use reflection to guide light through a channel. A glass or plastic core is surrounded by a cladding of less dense glass or plastic. The difference in density of the two materials must be such that a beam of light moving through the core is reflected off the cladding instead of being refracted into it. See below figure.

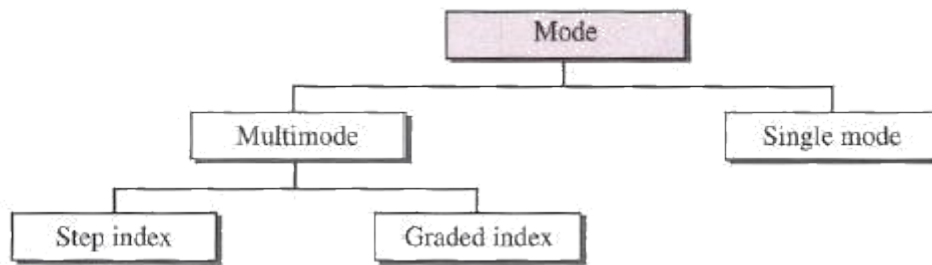
*Optical fiber*



### Propagation Modes

Current technology supports two modes (multimode and single mode) for propagating light along optical channels, each requiring fiber with different physical characteristics. Multimode can be implemented in two forms: step-index or graded-index.

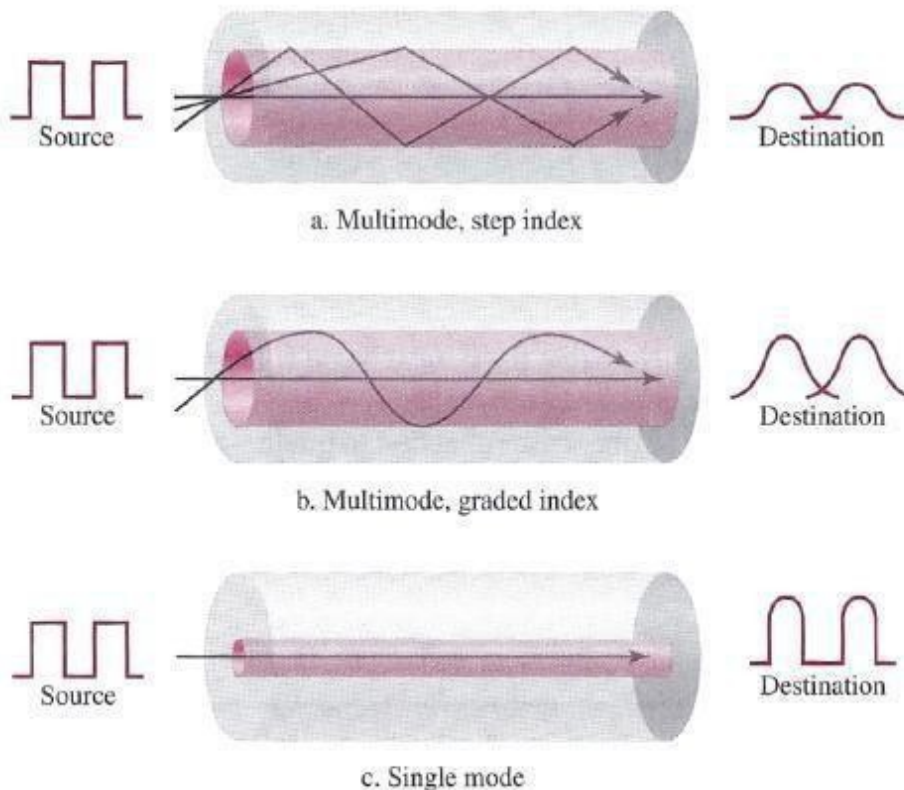
## Propagation modes



### Multimode

Multimode is so named because multiple beams from a light source move through the core in different paths. How these beams move within the cable depends on the structure of the core.

### Modes



In **multimode step-index fiber**, the density of the core remains constant from the center to the edges. A beam of light moves through this constant density in a straight line until it reaches the interface of the core and the cladding. A second type of fiber, called **multimode graded-index fiber**, decreases this distortion of the signal through the cable. The word *index* here refers to the index of refraction. As we saw above, the index of refraction is related to density. *Single-Mode* uses step-index fiber and a highly focused source of light that limits beams to a small range of angles, all close to the horizontal. The **single-mode fiber itself** is manufactured with a much smaller diameter than that of multimode fiber, and with substantially lower density (index of refraction). The decrease in density results in a critical angle that is close enough to  $90^\circ$

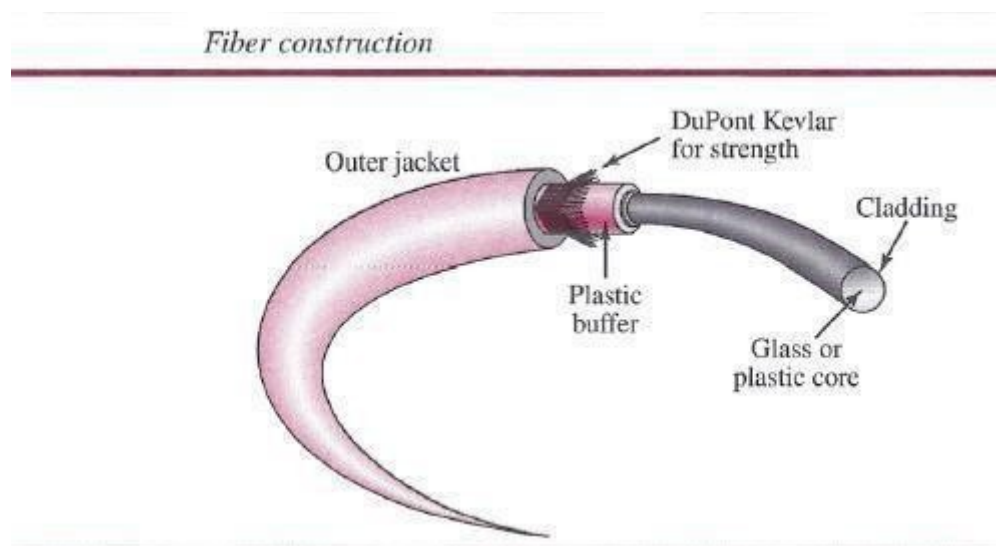
to make the propagation of beams almost horizontal. In this case, propagation of different beams is almost identical, and delays are negligible. All the beams arrive at the destination "together" and can be recombined with little distortion to the signal.

### Fiber Sizes

Optical fibers are defined by the ratio of the diameter of their core to the diameter of their cladding, both expressed in micrometers. The common sizes are shown in below table. Note that the last size listed is for single-mode only.

### Cable Composition

Following figure shows the composition of a typical fiber-optic cable. The outer jacket is made of either pvc or Teflon. Inside the jacket are Kevlar strands to strengthen the cable. Kevlar is a strong material used in the fabrication of bulletproof vests. Below the Kevlar is another plastic coating to cushion the fiber. The fiber is at the center of the cable, and it consists of cladding and core.



### Fiber-Optic Cable Connectors

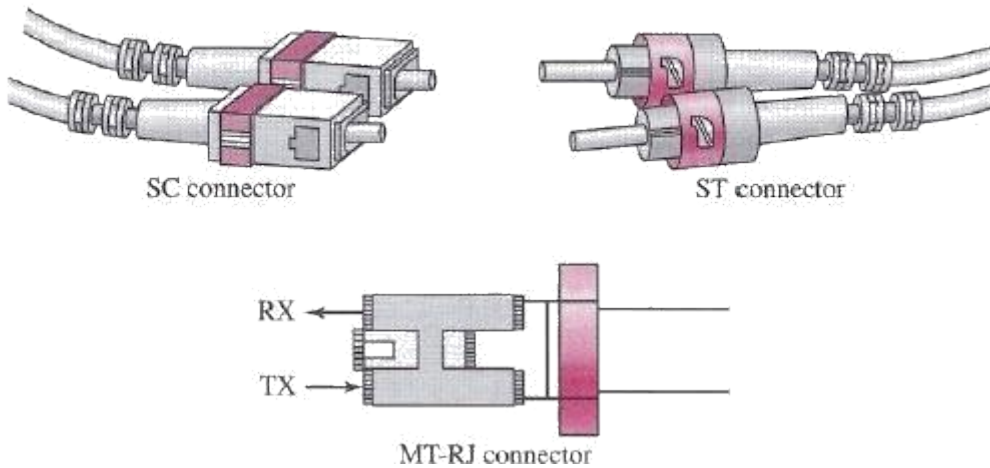
There are three types of connectors for fiber-optic cables, as shown in below figure. The subscriber channel (SC) connector is used for cable TV. It uses a push/pull locking system. The straight-tip (ST) connector is used for connecting cable to networking devices. It uses a bayonet locking system and is more reliable than sc. MT-RJ is a connector that is the same size as RJ45.

### Performance

The plot of attenuation versus wavelength in Figure 7.16 shows a very interesting phenomenon in fiber-optic cable. Attenuation is flatter than in the case of twisted-pair cable and coaxial cable. The performance is such that we need fewer (actually one tenth as many) repeaters when we use fiber-optic cable.

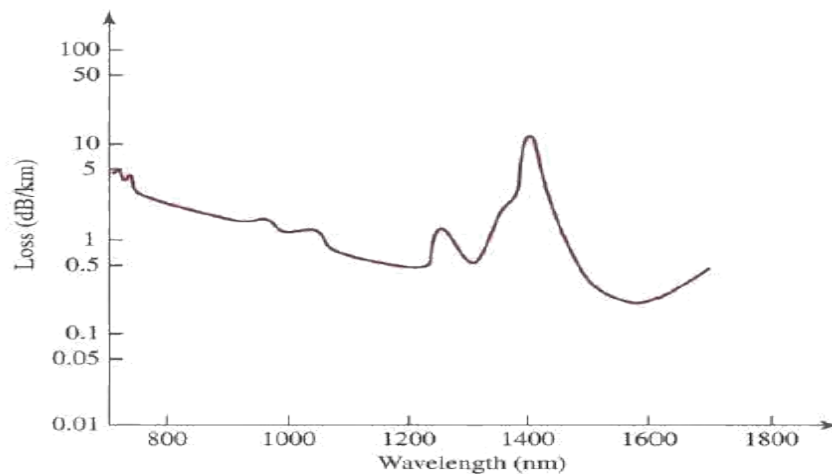
### *Fiber-optic cable connectors*

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### *Optical fiber performance*

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### Applications

Fiber-optic cable is often found in backbone networks because its wide bandwidth is cost-effective. Today, with wavelength-division multiplexing (WDM), we can transfer data at a rate of 1600 Gbps. The SONET network that we discuss in Chapter 14 provides such a backbone. Some cable TV companies use a combination of optical fiber and coaxial cable, thus creating a hybrid network. Optical fiber provides the backbone structure while coaxial cable provides the connection to the user premises. This is a cost-effective configuration since the narrow bandwidth requirement at the user end does not justify the use of optical fiber. Local-area networks such as 100Base-FX network (Fast Ethernet) and 1000Base-X also use fiber-optic cable.

## Advantages and Disadvantages of Optical Fiber

### **Advantages**

Fiber-optic cable has several advantages over metallic cable (twisted-pair or coaxial).

- Higher bandwidth. Fiber-optic cable can support dramatically higher bandwidths (and hence data rates) than either twisted-pair or coaxial cable. Currently, data rates and bandwidth utilization over fiber-optic cable are limited not by the medium but by the signal generation and reception technology available.
- Less signal attenuation. Fiber-optic transmission distance is significantly greater than that of other guided media. A signal can run for 50 km without requiring regeneration. We need repeaters every 5 km for coaxial or twisted-pair cable.
- Immunity to electromagnetic interference. Electromagnetic noise cannot affect fiber-optic cables.
- Resistance to corrosive materials. Glass is more resistant to corrosive materials than copper.
- Light weight. Fiber-optic cables are much lighter than copper cables.
- Greater immunity to tapping. Fiber-optic cables are more immune to tapping than copper cables. Copper cables create antenna effects that can easily be tapped.

### Disadvantages

There are some disadvantages in the use of optical fiber.

- Installation and maintenance. Fiber-optic cable is a relatively new technology. Its installation and maintenance require expertise that is not yet available everywhere. o Unidirectional light propagation. Propagation of light is unidirectional. If we need bidirectional communication, two fibers are needed.
- Cost. The cable and the interfaces are relatively more expensive than those of other guided media. If the demand for bandwidth is not high, often the use of optical fiber cannot be justified.

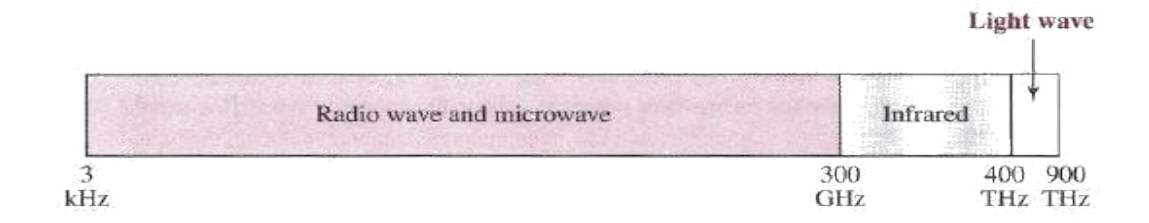
## **UNGUIDED MEDIA: WIRELESS**

Unguided medium transport electromagnetic waves without using a physical conductor. This type of communication is often referred to as *wireless communication*. Signals are normally broadcast through free space and thus are available to anyone who has a device capable of receiving them. Below figure 7.17 shows the part of the electromagnetic spectrum, ranging from 3 kHz to 900

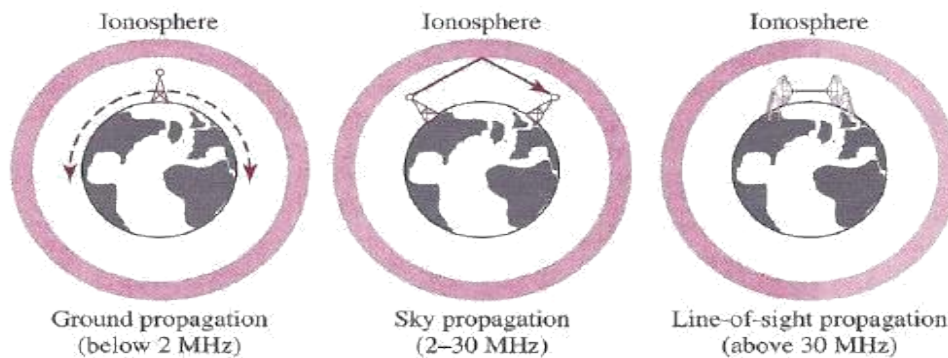


THz, used for wireless communication. Unguided signals can travel from the source to the destination in several ways: ground propagation, sky propagation, and line-of-sight propagation, as shown in below figure.

## Electromagnetic spectrum for wireless communication



## Propagation methods



In **ground propagation**, radio waves travel through the lowest portion of the atmosphere, hugging the earth. These low-frequency signals emanate in all directions from the transmitting antenna and follow the curvature of the planet. Distance depends on the amount of power in the signal: The greater the power, the greater the distance. In **sky propagation**, higher-frequency radio waves radiate upward into the ionosphere (the layer of atmosphere where particles exist as ions) where they are reflected back to earth. This type of transmission allows for greater distances with lower output power. In **line-of-sight propagation**, very high-frequency signals are transmitted in straight lines directly from antenna to antenna.

The section of the electromagnetic spectrum defined as radio waves and microwaves is divided into eight ranges, called *bands*, each regulated by government authorities. These bands are rated from *very low frequency* (VLF) to *extremely high frequency* (EHF). Below table lists these bands, their ranges, propagation methods, and some applications

<i>Band</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>Propagation</i>	<i>Application</i>
middle frequency (MF)	300 kHz–3 MHz	Sky	AM radio
high frequency (HF)	3–30 MHz	Sky	Citizens band (CB), ship/aircraft
very high frequency (VHF)	30–300 MHz	Sky and line-of-sight	VHF TV, FM radio
ultrahigh frequency (UHF)	300 MHz–3 GHz	Line-of-sight	UHF TV, cellular phones, paging, satellite
superhigh frequency (SHF)	3–30 GHz	Line-of-sight	Satellite
extremely high frequency (EHF)	30–300 GHz	Line-of-sight	Radar, satellite
<i>Band</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>Propagation</i>	<i>Application</i>
very low frequency (VLF)	3–30 kHz	Ground	Long-range radio navigation
low frequency (LF)	30–300 kHz	Ground	Radio beacons and navigational locators

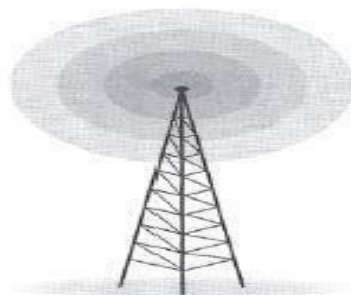
## Radio Waves

Although there is no clear-cut demarcation between radio waves and microwaves, electromagnetic waves ranging in frequencies between 3 kHz and 1 GHz are normally called radio waves; waves ranging in frequencies between 1 and 300 GHz are called microwaves. However, the behavior of the waves, rather than the frequencies, is a better criterion for classification. Radio waves, for the most part, are Omni-directional. When an antenna transmits radio waves, they are propagated in all directions. This means that the sending and receiving antennas do not have to be aligned. A sending antenna sends waves that can be received by any receiving antenna. The Omni-directional property has a disadvantage, too. The radio waves transmitted by one antenna are susceptible to interference by another antenna that may send signals using the same frequency or band. Radio waves, particularly those waves that propagate in the sky mode, can travel long distances. This makes radio waves a good candidate for long-distance broadcasting such as AM radio.

### Omni directional Antenna

Radio waves use Omni directional antennas that send out signals in all directions. Based on the wavelength, strength, and the purpose of transmission, we can have several types of antennas. Below Figure shows an Omni directional antenna.

*Omnidirectional antenna*



## Applications

The Omni directional characteristics of radio waves make them useful for multicasting, in which there is one sender but many receivers. AM and FM radio, television, maritime radio, cordless phones, and paging are examples of multicasting.

**Radio waves are used for multicast communications, such as radio and television, and paging systems.**

## Microwaves

Electromagnetic waves having frequencies between 1 and 300 GHz are called microwaves. Microwaves are unidirectional. When an antenna transmits microwaves, they can be narrowly focused. This means that the sending and receiving antennas need to be aligned. The unidirectional property has an obvious advantage. A pair of antennas can be aligned without interfering with another pair of aligned antennas.

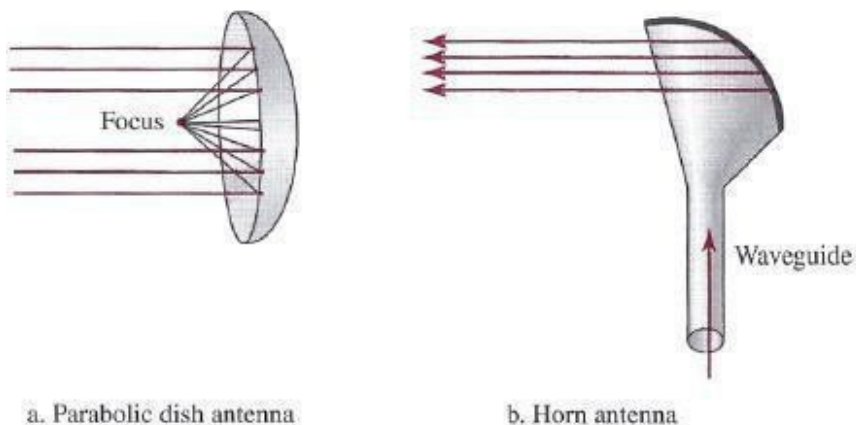
The following describes some characteristics of microwave propagation:

- Microwave propagation is line-of-sight. Since the towers with the mounted antennas need to be in direct sight of each other, towers that are far apart need to be very tall. The curvature of the earth as well as other blocking obstacles does not allow two short towers to communicate by using microwaves. Repeaters are often needed for long distance communication.
- Very high-frequency microwaves cannot penetrate walls. This characteristic can be a disadvantage if receivers are inside buildings.
- The microwave band is relatively wide, almost 299 GHz. Therefore wider sub bands can be assigned, and a high data rate is possible.
- Use of certain portions of the band requires permission from authorities.

## Unidirectional Antenna

Microwaves need unidirectional antennas that send out signals in one direction. Two types of antennas are used for microwave communications: the parabolic dish and the horn .

### Unidirectional antennas



A parabolic dish antenna is based on the geometry of a parabola: Every line parallel to the line of symmetry (line of sight) reflects off the curve at angles such that all the lines intersect in a common point called the focus. The parabolic dish works as a funnel, catching a wide range of waves and directing them to a common point. In this way, more of the signal is recovered than would be possible with a single-point receiver.

Outgoing transmissions are broadcast through a horn aimed at the dish. The microwaves hit the dish and are deflected outward in a reversal of the receipt path. A horn antenna looks like a gigantic scoop. Outgoing transmissions are broadcast up a stem (resembling a handle) and deflected outward in a series of narrow parallel beams by the curved head. Received transmissions are collected by the scooped shape of the horn, in a manner similar to the parabolic dish, and are deflected down into the stem.

### Applications

Microwaves, due to their unidirectional properties, are very useful when unicast (one to- one) communication is needed between the sender and the receiver. They are used in cellular phone, satellite networks, and wireless LANs

**Microwaves are used for unicast communication such as cellular telephones, satellite networks, and wireless LANs.**

### Infrared

Infrared waves, with frequencies from 300 GHz to 400 THz (wavelengths from 1 mm to 770 nm), can be used for short-range communication. Infrared waves, having high frequencies, cannot penetrate walls. This advantageous characteristic prevents interference between one system and another; a short-range communication system in one room cannot be affected by another system in the next room. When we use our infrared remote control, we do not interfere with the use of the remote by our neighbors. However, this same characteristic makes infrared signals useless for long-range communication. In addition, we cannot use infrared waves outside a building because the sun's rays contain infrared waves that can interfere with the communication.

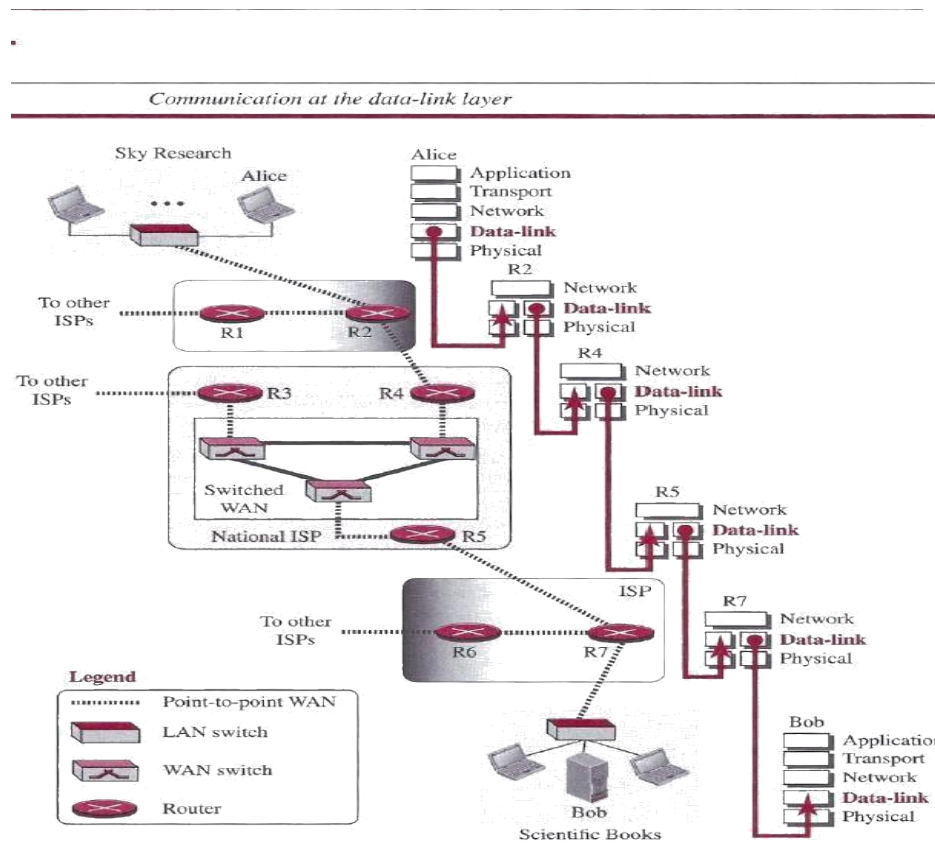
### Applications

The infrared band, almost 400 THz, has an excellent potential for data transmission. Such a wide bandwidth can be used to transmit digital data with a very high data rate. The *Infrared Data Association* (IrDA), an association for sponsoring the use of infrared waves, has established standards for using these signals for communication between devices such as keyboards, mice, PCs, and printers. For example, some manufacturers provide a special port called the IrDA port that allows a wireless keyboard to communicate with a PC. The standard originally defined a data rate of 75 kbps for a distance up to 8 m. The recent standard defines a data rate of 4 Mbps.

Infrared signals defined by IrDA transmit through line of sight; the IrDA port on the keyboard needs to point to the PC for transmission to occur. Infrared signals can be used for short-range communication in a closed area using line-of-sight propagation.

## DATA-LINK LAYER

The Internet is a combination of networks glued together by connecting devices (routers or switches). If a packet is to travel from a host to another host, it needs to pass through these networks. Below figure shows the same scenario. Communication at the data-link layer is made up of five separate logical connections between the data-link layers in the path.



The data-link layer at Alice's computer communicates with the data-link layer at router R2. The data-link layer at router R2 communicates with the data-link layer at router R4.

## Design Issues:

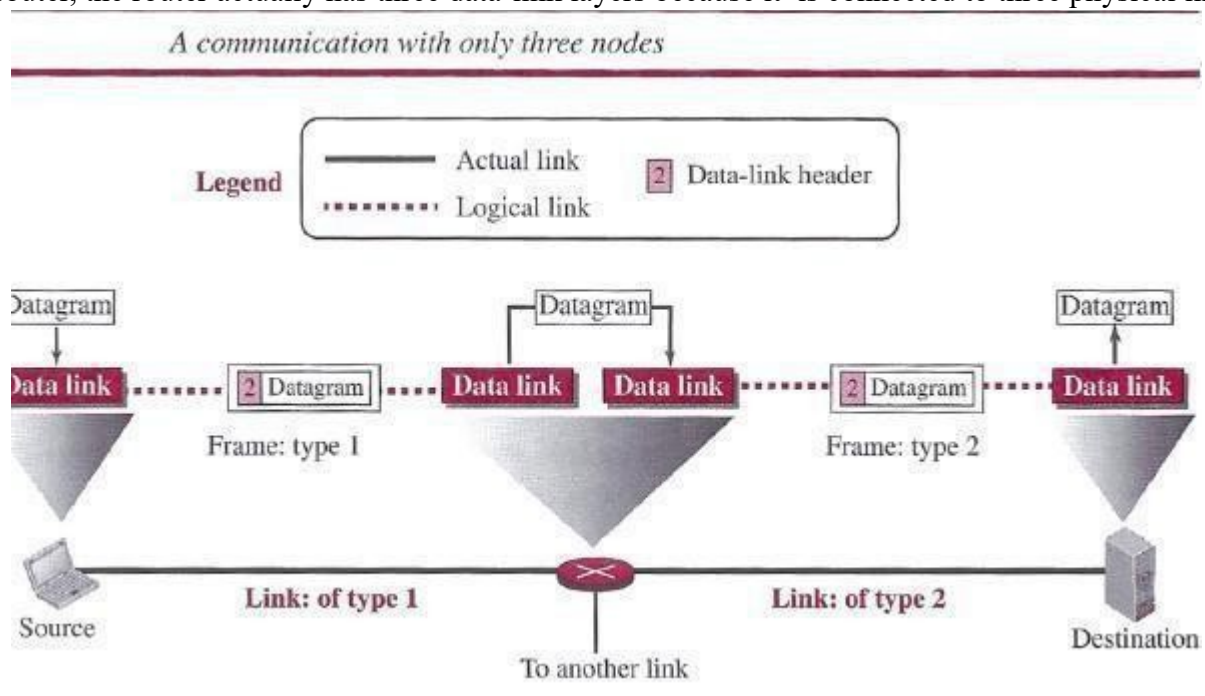
The data-link layer is located between the physical and the network layers. The data link layer provides services to the network layer; it receives services from the physical layer. Let us discuss services provided by the data-link layer. The duty scope of the data-link layer is node-to-node. When a packet is travelling in the Internet, the data-link layer of a node (host or router) is responsible for delivering a datagram to the next node in the path.

For this purpose, the data-link layer of the sending node needs to encapsulate the datagram received from the network in a frame, and the data-link layer of the receiving node needs to decapsulate the datagram from the frame. In other words, the data-link layer of the source host needs only to encapsulate, the data-link layer of the destination host needs to decapsulate, but each intermediate node needs to both encapsulate and decapsulate. One may ask why we need encapsulation and decapsulation at each intermediate node. The reason is that each link may be using a different protocol with a different frame format. Even if one link and the next are using the same protocol, encapsulation and decapsulation are needed because the link-layer addresses are normally different. An analogy may help in this case. Assume a person needs to travel from her home to her friend's home in another city.

The traveller can use three transportation tools. She can take a taxi to go to the train station in her own city, then travel on the train from her own city to the city where her friend lives, and finally



reach her friend's home using another taxi. Here we have a source node, a destination node, and two intermediate nodes. The traveller needs to get into the taxi at the source node, get out of the taxi and get into the train at the first intermediate node (train station in the city where she lives), get out of the train and get into another taxi at the second intermediate node (train station in the city where her friend lives), and finally get out of the taxi when she arrives at her destination. A kind of encapsulation occurs at the source node, encapsulation and decapsulation occur at the intermediate nodes, and decapsulation occurs at the destination node. For simplicity, we have assumed that we have only one router between the source and destination. The datagram received by the data-link layer of the source host is encapsulated in a frame. The frame is logically transported from the source host to the router. The frame is decapsulated at the data-link layer of the router and encapsulated at another frame. The new frame is logically transported from the router to the destination host. Note that, although we have shown only two data-link layers at the router, the router actually has three data-link layers because it is connected to three physical links.



## Framing

Definitely, the first service provided by the data-link layer is framing. The data-link layer at each node needs to encapsulate the datagram (packet received from the network layer) in a frame before sending it to the next node. The node also needs to decapsulate the datagram from the frame received on the logical channel. Although we have shown only a header for a frame, we will see in future chapters that a frame may have both a header and a trailer. Different data-link layers have different formats for framing. A packet at the data-link layer is normally called *a frame*.

## Flow Control

Whenever we have a producer and a consumer, we need to think about flow control. If the producer produces items that cannot be consumed, accumulation of items occurs. The sending data-link layer at the end of a link is a producer of frames; the receiving data-link layer at the

other end of a link is a consumer. If the rate of produced frames is higher than the rate of consumed frames, frames at the receiving end need to be buffered while waiting to be consumed (processed). Definitely, we cannot have an unlimited buffer size at the receiving side. We have two choices. The first choice is to let the receiving data-link layer drop the frames if its buffer is full. The second choice is to let the receiving data-link layer send a feedback to the sending data-link layer to ask it to stop or slow down. Different data-link-layer protocols use different strategies for flow control. Since flow control also occurs at the transport layer, with a higher degree of importance, we discuss this issue in Chapter 23 when we talk about the transport layer.

### Error Control

At the sending node, a frame in a data-link layer needs to be changed to bits, transformed to electromagnetic signals, and transmitted through the transmission media. At the receiving node, electromagnetic signals are received, transformed to bits, and put together to create a frame. Since electromagnetic signals are susceptible to error, a frame is susceptible to error. The error needs first to be detected. After detection, it needs to be either corrected at the receiver node or discarded and retransmitted by the sending node. Since error detection and correction is an issue in every layer (node-to node or host-to-host).

### Congestion Control

Although a link may be congested with frames, which may result in frame loss, most data-link-layer protocols do not directly use a congestion control to alleviate congestion, although some wide-area networks do. In general, congestion control is considered an issue in the network layer or the transport layer because of its end-to-end nature.

## CYCLIC CODES

Cyclic codes are special linear block codes with one extra property. In a cyclic code, if a codeword is cyclically shifted (rotated), the result is another codeword. For example, if 1011000 is a codeword and we cyclically left-shift, then 0110001 is also a codeword. In this case, if we call the bits in the first word  $a_0$  to  $a_6$ , and the bits in the second word  $b_0$  to  $b_6$ , we can shift the bits by using the following: In the rightmost equation, the last bit of the first word is wrapped around and becomes the first bit of the second word.

### Cyclic Redundancy Check

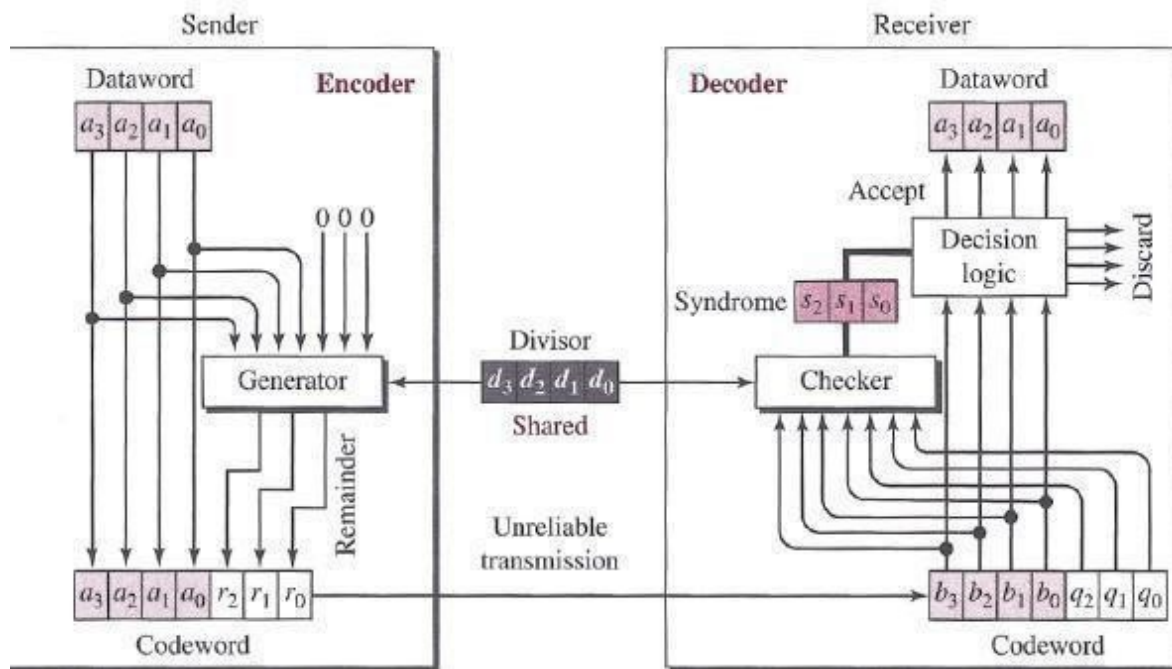
We can create cyclic codes to correct errors. However, the theoretical background required is beyond the scope of this book. In this section, we simply discuss a subset of cyclic codes called the cyclic redundancy check (CRC), which is used in networks such as LANs and WANs. Table below shows an example of a CRC code. We can see both the linear and cyclic properties of this code.

A CRC code with  $C(7, 4)$

Dataword	Codeword	Dataword	Codeword
0000	0000000	1000	1000101
0001	0001011	1001	1001110
0010	0010110	1010	1010011
0011	0011101	1011	1011000
0100	0100111	1100	1100010
0101	0101100	1101	1101001
0110	0110001	1110	1110100
0111	0111010	1111	1111111

Figure below shows one possible design for the encoder and decoder.

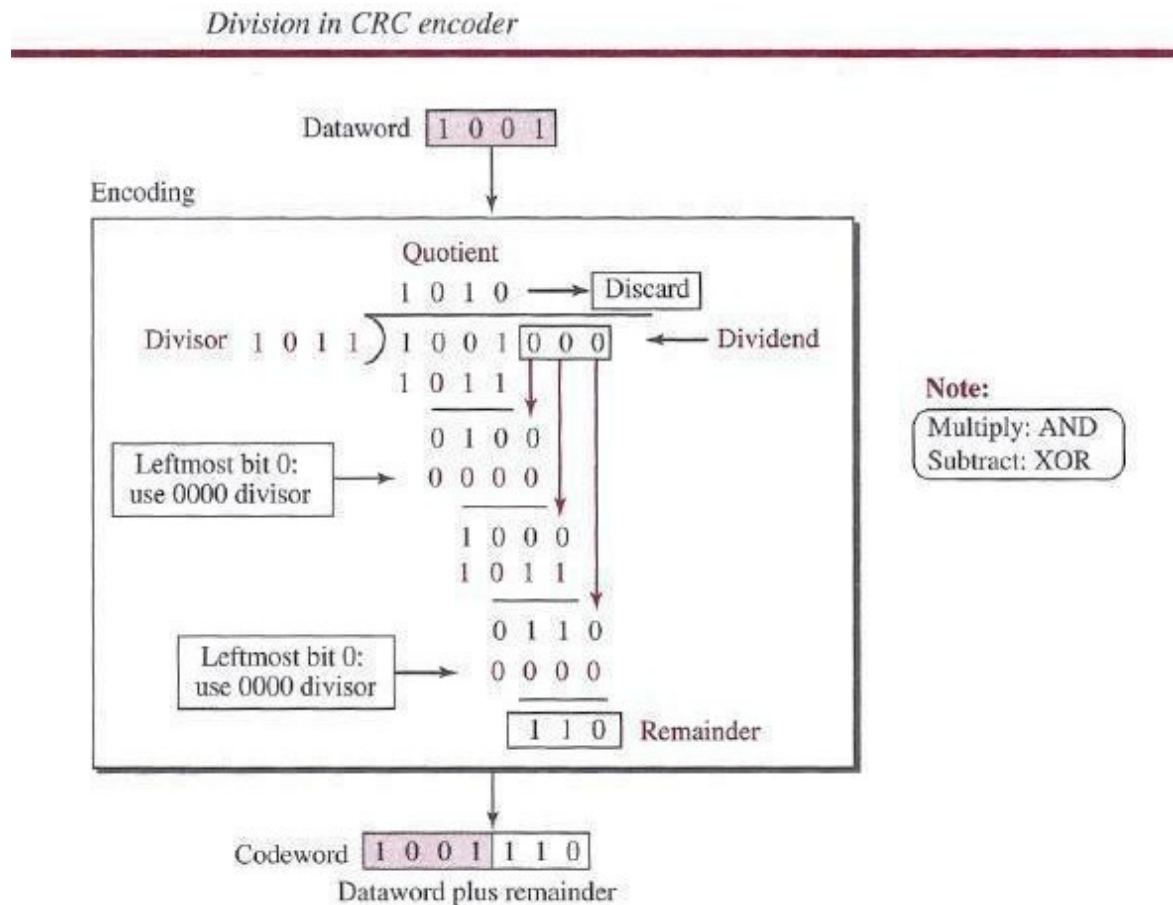
CRC encoder and decoder



In the encoder, the data word has  $k$  bits (4 here); the codeword has  $n$  bits (7 here). The size of the data word is augmented by adding  $n - k$  (3 here) 0s to the right-hand side of the word. The  $n$ -bit result is fed into the generator. The generator uses a divisor of size  $n - k + 1$  (4 here), predefined and agreed upon. The generator divides the augmented data word by the divisor (modulo-2 division). The quotient of the division is discarded; the remainder ( $r_2r_1r_0$ ) is appended to the data word to create the codeword. The decoder receives the codeword (possibly corrupted in transition). A copy of all  $n$  bits is fed to the checker, which is a replica of the generator. The remainder produced by the checker is a syndrome of  $n - k$  (3 here) bits, which is fed to the decision logic analyzer. The analyzer has a simple function. If the syndrome bits are all 0s, the 4 leftmost bits of the codeword are accepted as the data word (interpreted as no error); otherwise, the 4 bits are discarded (error).

## Encoder

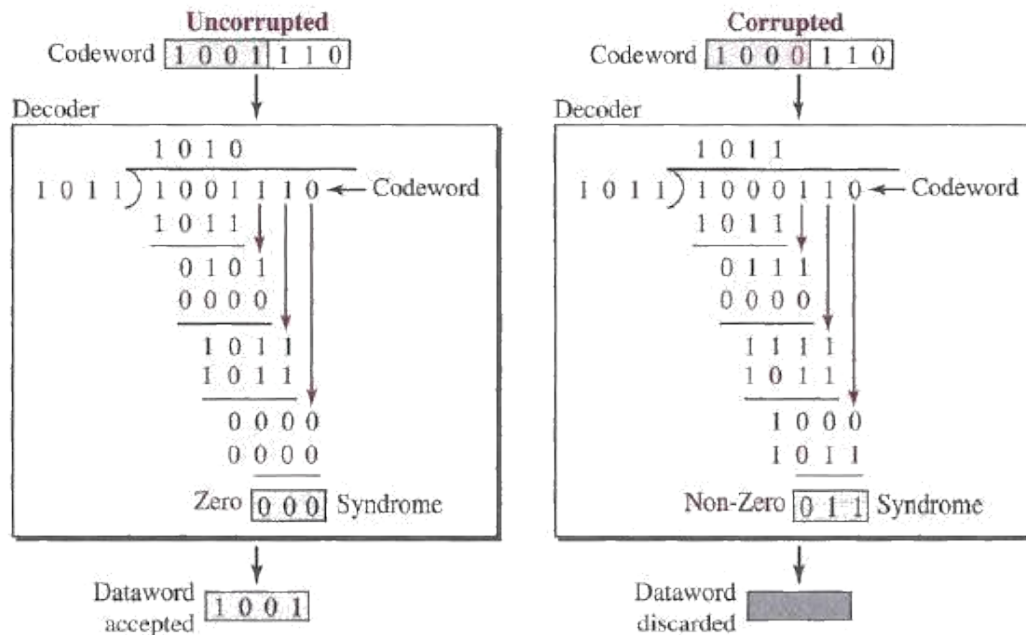
Let us take a closer look at the encoder. The encoder takes a data word and augments it with  $n - k$  number of Os. It then divides the augmented data word by the divisor, as shown in below figure.



## Decoder

The codeword can change during transmission. The decoder does the same division process as the encoder. The remainder of the division is the syndrome. If the syndrome is all Os, there is no error with a high probability; the data word is separated from the received codeword and accepted. Otherwise, everything is discarded. Figure 10.7 shows two cases: The left-hand figure shows the value of the syndrome when no error has occurred; the syndrome is 000. The right-hand part of the figure shows the case in which there is a single error. The syndrome is not all Os (it is 011).

### Division in the CRC decoder for two cases



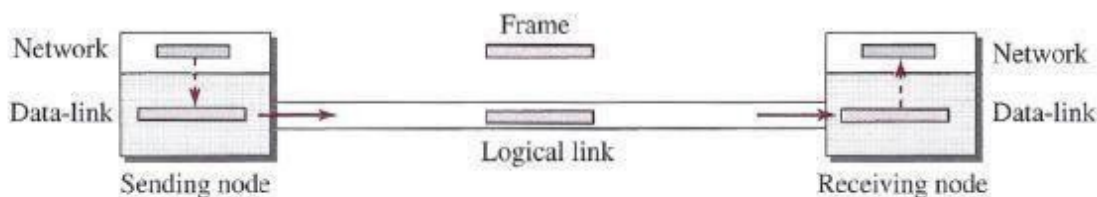
## ELEMENT DATA LINK PROTOCOLS AND SLIDING WINDOW PROTOCOL

Traditionally four protocols have been defined for the data-link layer to deal with flow and error control: Simple, Stop-and-Wait, Go-Back-N, and Selective-Repeat. Although the first two protocols still are used at the data-link layer, the last two have disappeared.

### Simple Protocol

Our first protocol is a simple protocol with neither flow nor error control. We assume that the receiver can immediately handle any frame it receives. In other words, the receiver can never be overwhelmed with incoming frames. Below figure shows the layout for this protocol.

Simple protocol

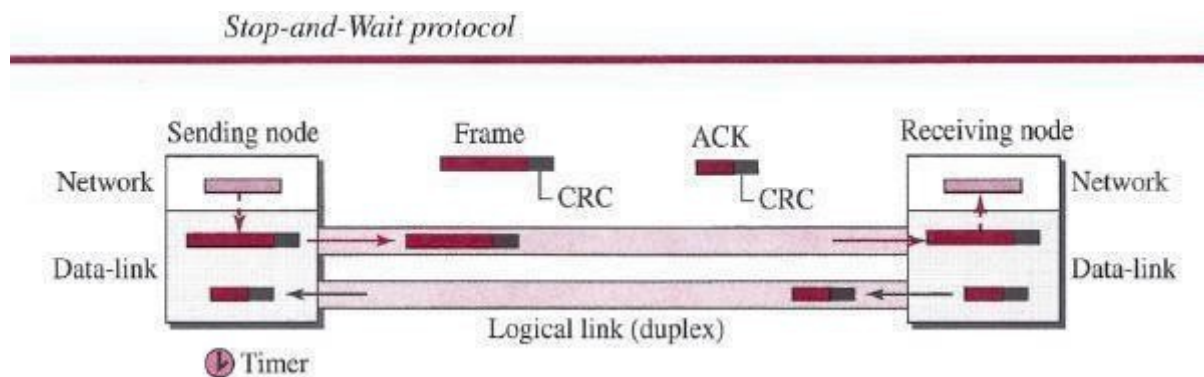


The data-link layer at the sender gets a packet from its network layer, makes a frame out of it, and sends the frame. The data-link layer at the receiver receives a frame from the link, extracts the packet from the frame, and delivers the packet to its network layer. The data-link layers of the sender and receiver provide transmission services for their network layers.



## Stop-and- Wait Protocol

Our second protocol is called the Stop-and- Wait protocol, which uses both flow and error control. We show a primitive version of this protocol here, but we discuss the more sophisticated version in Chapter 23 when we have learned about sliding windows. In this protocol, the sender sends one frame at a time and waits for an acknowledgment before sending the next one. To detect corrupted frames, we need to add a CRC to each data frame. When a frame arrives at the receiver site, it is checked. If its CRC is incorrect, the frame is corrupted and silently discarded. The silence of the receiver is a signal for the sender that a frame was either corrupted or lost. Every time the sender sends a frame, it starts a timer. If an acknowledgment arrives before the timer expires, the timer is stopped and the sender sends the next frame (if it has one to send). If the timer expires, the sender resends the previous frame, assuming that the frame was either lost or corrupted. This means that the sender needs to keep a copy of the frame until its acknowledgment arrives. When the corresponding acknowledgment arrives, the sender discards the copy and sends the next frame if it is ready. Below figure shows the outline for the Stop-and- Wait protocol. Note that only one frame and one acknowledgment can be in the channels at any time.



## HDLC

High-level Data Link Control (HDLC) is a bit-oriented protocol for communication over point-to-point and multipoint links. It implements the Stop-and- Wait protocol we discussed earlier. Although this protocol is more a theoretical issue than practical, most of the concept defined in this protocol is the basis for other practical protocols such as PPP, which we discuss next, or the Ethernet protocol.

## Configurations and Transfer Modes

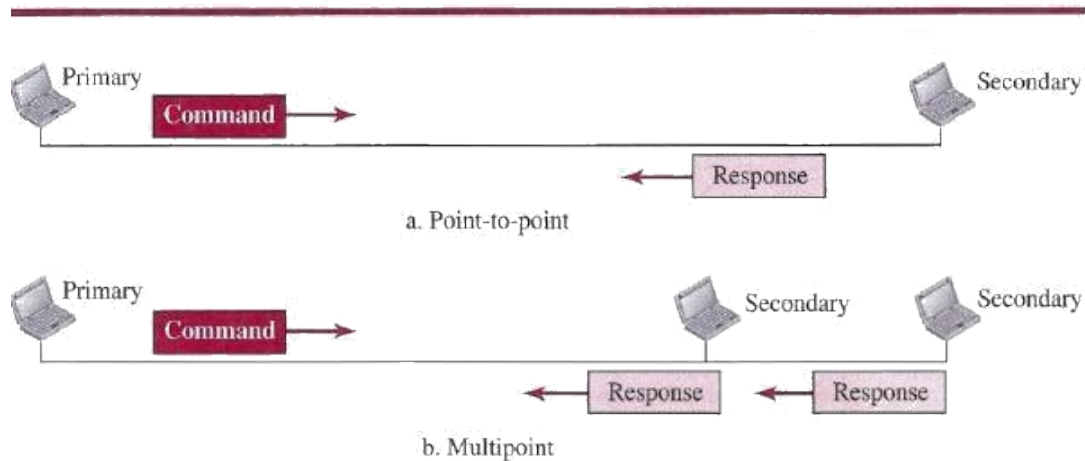
HDLC provides two common transfer modes that can be used in different configurations:

### Normal response mode (NRM) and Asynchronous balanced mode (ABM)

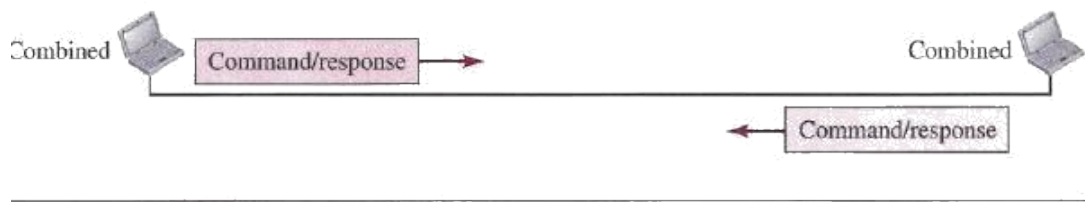
In *normal response mode (NRM)*, the station configuration is unbalanced. We have one primary station and multiple secondary stations. A *primary station* can send commands; a *secondary station* can only respond. The NRM is used for both point-to-point and multipoint links, as shown in below Figure. In ABM, the configuration is balanced. The link is point-to-point, and each station can function as a primary and a secondary (acting as peers) this is the common mode today.



### Normal response mode

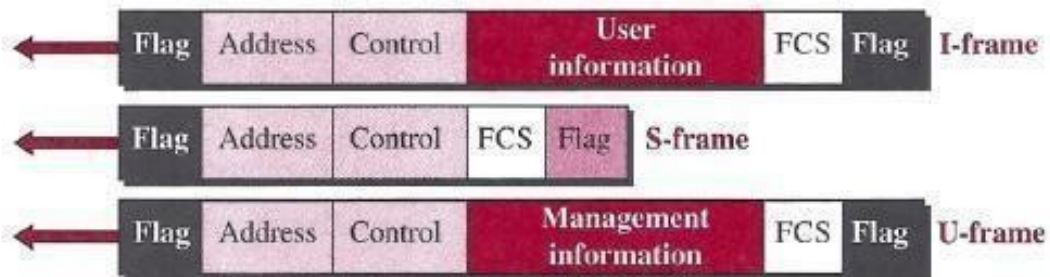


**Figure 11.15** Asynchronous balanced mode



link itself. Each frame in HDLC may contain up to six fields: a beginning flag field, an address field, a control field, an information field, a frame check sequence (FCS) field, and an ending flag field. In multiple-frame transmissions, the ending flag of one frame can serve as the beginning flag of the next frame.

### HDLC frames



Let us now discuss the fields and their use in different frame types.



*D Flag field.* This field contains synchronization pattern 01111110, which identifies both the beginning and the end of a frame.

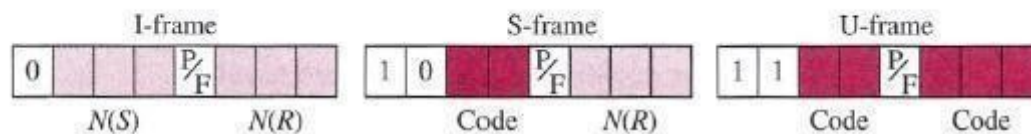


*D Address field.* This field contains the address of the secondary station. If a primary station created the frame, it contains a *to* address. If a secondary station creates the frame, it contains a *from* address. The address field can be one byte or several bytes long, depending on the needs of the network.

- *Control field.* The control field is one or two bytes used for flow and error control.
- *Information field.* The information field contains the user's data from the network layer or management information. Its length can vary from one network to another.
- *FCS field.* The frame check sequence (FCS) is the HDLC error detection field. It can contain either a 2- or 4-byte CRC.

The control field determines the type of frame and defines its functionality. So let us discuss the format of this field in detail. The format is specific for the type of frame, as shown in below Figure.

*Control field format for the different frame types*



#### Control Field for I-Frames

I- frames are designed to carry user data from the network layer. In addition, they can include flow- and error-control information (piggybacking). The subfields in the control field are used to define these functions. The first bit defines the type. If the first bit of the control field is 0, this means the frame is an I-frame. The next 3 bits, called  $N(S)$ , define the sequence number of the frame. Note that with 3 bits, we can define a sequence number between 0 and 7. The last 3 bits, called  $N(R)$ , correspond to the acknowledgment number when piggybacking is used. The single bit between  $N(S)$  and  $N(R)$  is called the *PIF* bit. The *PIF* field is a single bit with a dual purpose. It has meaning only when it is set (bit = 1) and can mean *poll* or *final*. It means *poll* when the frame is sent by a primary station to a secondary (when the address field contains the address of the receiver). It means *final* when the frame is sent by a secondary to a primary (when the address field contains the address of the sender).

#### Control Field for S-Frames

Supervisory frames are used for flow and error control whenever piggybacking is either impossible or inappropriate. S-frames do not have information fields. If the first 2 bits of the control field are 10, this means the frame is an S-frame. The last 3 bits, called  $N(R)$ , correspond to the acknowledgment number (ACK) or negative acknowledgment number (NAK), depending on the type of S-frame. The 2 bits called *code* are used to define the type of S-frame itself. With 2 bits, we can have four types of S-frames, as described below:

- **Receive ready (RR)** If the value of the code subfield is 00, it is an RR S-frame. This kind of frame acknowledges the receipt of a safe and sound frame or group of frames. In this case, the value of the  $N(R)$  field defines the acknowledgment number.
- **Receive not ready (RNR)** If the value of the code subfield is 10, it is an RNR S frame. This kind of frame is an RR frame with additional functions. It acknowledges the receipt of a frame or group of frames, and it announces that the receiver is busy and cannot receive more frames. It acts as a kind of congestion- control mechanism by asking the sender to slow down. The value of  $N(R)$  is the acknowledgment number.
- **Reject (REJ)** If the value of the code subfield is 01, it is an REJ S-frame. This is a NAK frame, but not like the one used for Selective Repeat ARQ. It is a NAK that can be used in *Go-Back-N* ARQ to improve the efficiency of the process by informing the sender, before the sender timer expires, that the last frame is lost or damaged. The value of  $N(R)$  is the negative acknowledgment number.
- **Selective reject (SREJ)** If the value of the code subfield is 11, it is an SREJ S frame. This is a NAK frame used in Selective Repeat ARQ. Note that the HDLC Protocol uses the term *selective reject* instead of *selective repeat*. The value of  $N(R)$  is the negative acknowledgment number.

### Control Field or V-Frames

Unnumbered frames are used to exchange session management and control information between connected devices. Unlike S-frames, U-frames contain an information field, but one used for system management information, not user data. As with S-frames, however, much of the information carried by If-frames is contained in codes included in the control field. If-frame codes are divided into two sections: a 2-bit prefix before the *PI* F bit and a 3-bit suffix after the *PIP* bit. Together, these two segments (5 bits) can be used to create up to 32 different types of U-frames.

### Control Field for V-Frames

Unnumbered frames are used to exchange session management and control information between connected devices. Unlike S-frames, U-frames contain an information field, but one used for system management information, not user data. As with S-frames, however, much of the information carried by U-frames is contained in codes included in the control field. U-frame codes are divided into two sections: a 2-bit prefix before the *PIP* bit and a 3-bit suffix after the *P/F* bit. Together, these two segments (5 bits) can be used to create up to 32 different types of If- frames.

## POINT-TO-POINT PROTOCOL (PPP)

One of the most common protocols for point-to-point access is the **Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP)**. Today, millions of Internet users who need to connect their home computers to the server of an Internet service provider use PPP. The majority of these users have a traditional modem; they are connected to the Internet through a telephone line, which provides the services of the physical layer. But to control and manage the transfer of data, there is a need for a point-to-point protocol at the data-link layer. PPP is by far the most common.

## Services

The designers of PPP have included several services to make it suitable for a point-to-point protocol, but have ignored some traditional services to make it simple.

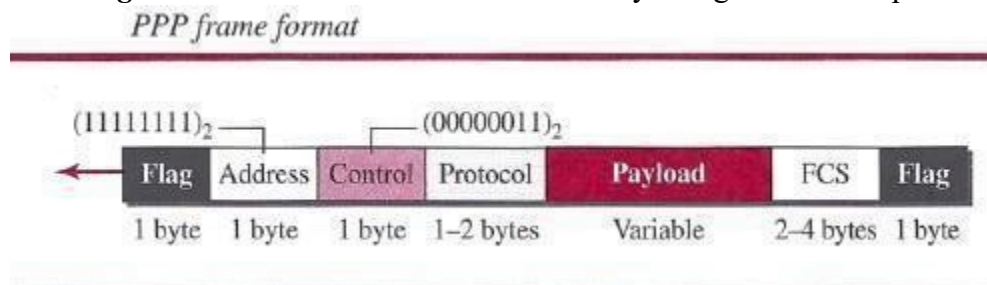
### Services Provided by PPP

PPP defines the format of the frame to be exchanged between devices. It also defines how two devices can negotiate the establishment of the link and the exchange of data. PPP is designed to accept payloads from several network layers (not only IP). Authentication is also provided in the protocol, but it is optional. The new version of PPP, called *Multilink PPP*, provides connections over multiple links. One interesting feature of PPP is that it provides network address configuration. This is particularly useful when a home user needs a temporary network address to connect to the Internet.

## Framing

PPP uses a character-oriented (or byte-oriented) frame. Below figure shows the format of a PPP frame. The description of each field follows:

- **Flag** A PPP frame starts and ends with a 1-byte flag with the bit pattern 01111110.



- o **Address** The address field in this protocol is a constant value and set to 11111111 (broadcast address).

- **D Control** This field is set to the constant value 00000011 (imitating unnumbered frames in HDLC). As we will discuss later, PPP does not provide any flow control. Error control is also limited to error detection.
- **Protocol** The protocol field defines what is being carried in the data field: either user data or other information. This field is by default 2 bytes long, but the two parties can agree to use only 1 byte.
- **Payload field** This field carries either the user data or other information that we will discuss shortly. The data field is a sequence of bytes with the default of a maximum of 1500 bytes; but this can be changed during negotiation. The data field is byte-stuffed if the flag byte pattern appears in this field. Because there is no field defining the size of the data field, padding is needed if the size is less than the maximum default value or the maximum negotiated value D FCS. The frame check sequence (FCS) is simply a 2-byte or 4-byte standard CRC.

### Byte Stuffing

Since PPP is a byte-oriented protocol, the flag in PPP is a byte that needs to be escaped whenever it appears in the data section of the frame. The escape byte is 01111101, which means that every time the flag like pattern appears in the data, this extra byte is stuffed to tell the receiver that the next byte is not a flag. Obviously, the escape byte itself should be stuffed with another escape byte.