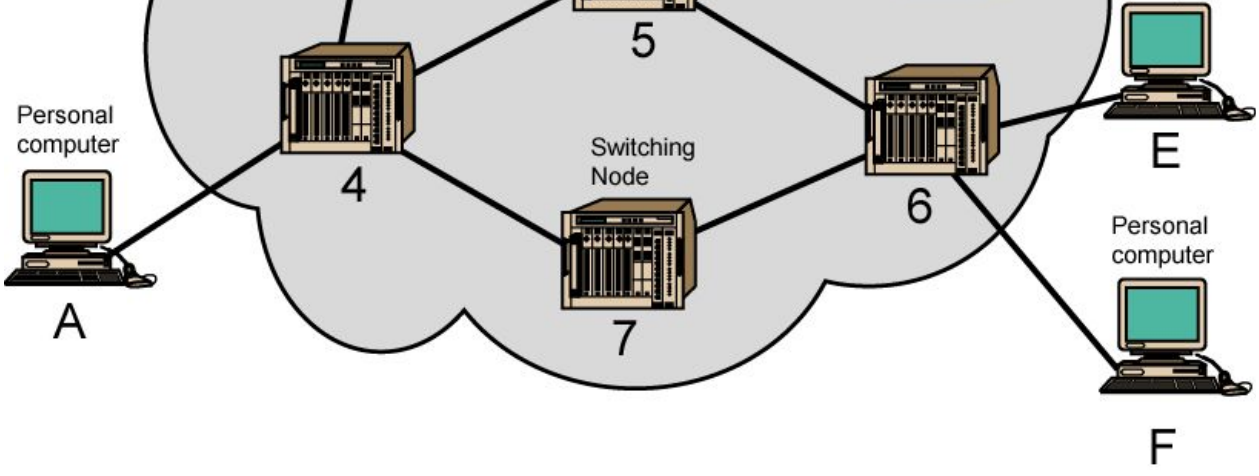
- Two types of packet switching:
  - Datagram (such as today's Internet)
  - Virtual circuit (such as Frame Relay, ATM)

communications network.

- In a switched communications network, data entering the network from a station are **routed** to the destination by being switched from node to node.


Personal
computer
A
4
5
Switching
Node
7
6
E
Personal
computer
F

- Circuit switching
- Packet switching

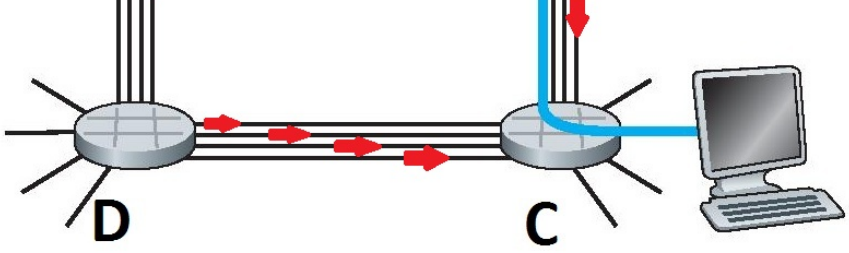


Figure 1.13 ♦ A simple circuit-switched network consisting of four switches and four links

- **Data transfer phase**
- Circuit disconnect/ **teardown phase**
  - Deallocate the dedicated resources

- The switches must know how to find the route to the destination and how to allocate bandwidth (channel) to establish a connection.

period of connection

control information
(packet header)
packet
Network

- Priorities can be used

destination?

- Two approaches
  - **Datagram** approach
  - **Virtual circuit** approach