Analog Transmission

To send the digital data over an analog media, it needs to be converted into analog signal.There can be two cases according to data formatting.

Bandpass: The filters are used to filter and pass frequencies of interest. A bandpass is a band of frequencies which can pass the filter.

Low-pass: Low-pass is a filter that passes low frequencies signals.

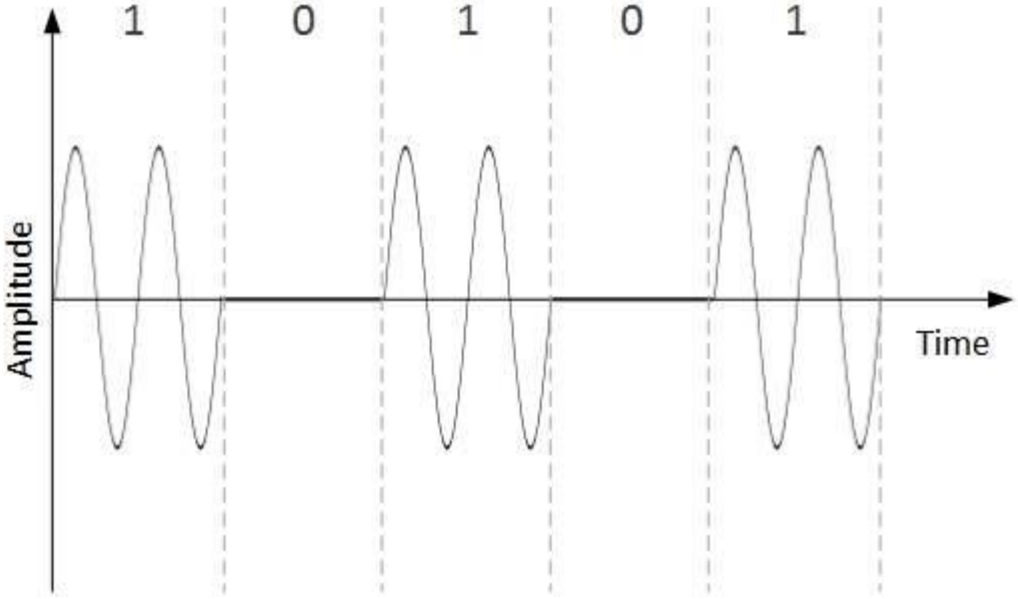
When digital data is converted into a bandpass analog signal, it is called digital-to-analog conversion. When low-pass analog signal is converted into bandpass analog signal, it is called analog-to-analog conversion.

Digital-to-Analog Conversion

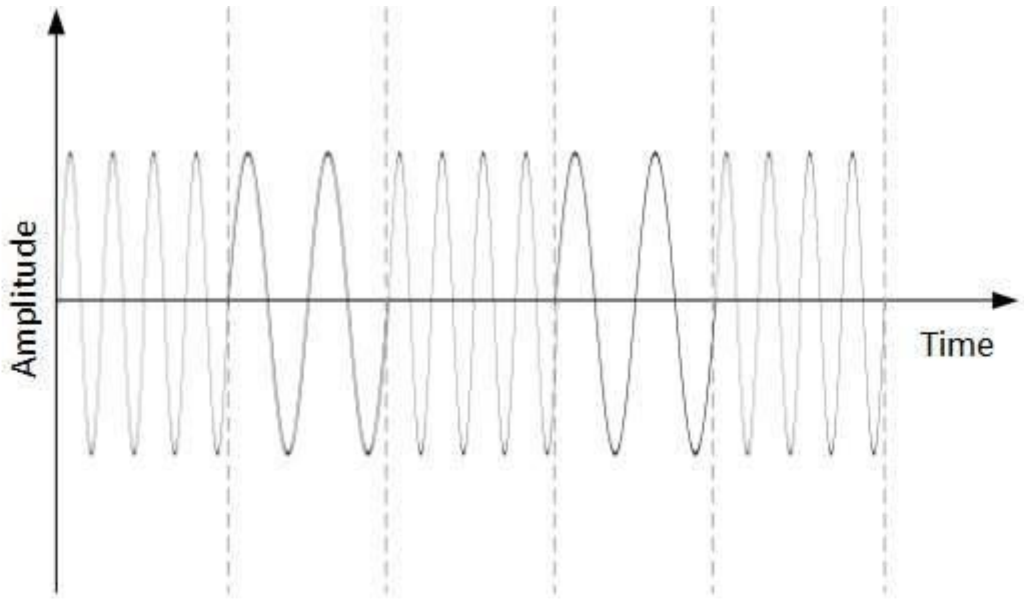
When data from one computer is sent to another via some analog carrier, it is first converted into analog signals. Analog signals are modified to reflect digital data.

An analog signal is characterized by its amplitude, frequency, and phase. There are three kinds of digital-to-analog conversions:

- **Amplitude Shift Keying**
  In this conversion technique, the amplitude of analog carrier signal is modified to reflect binary data.

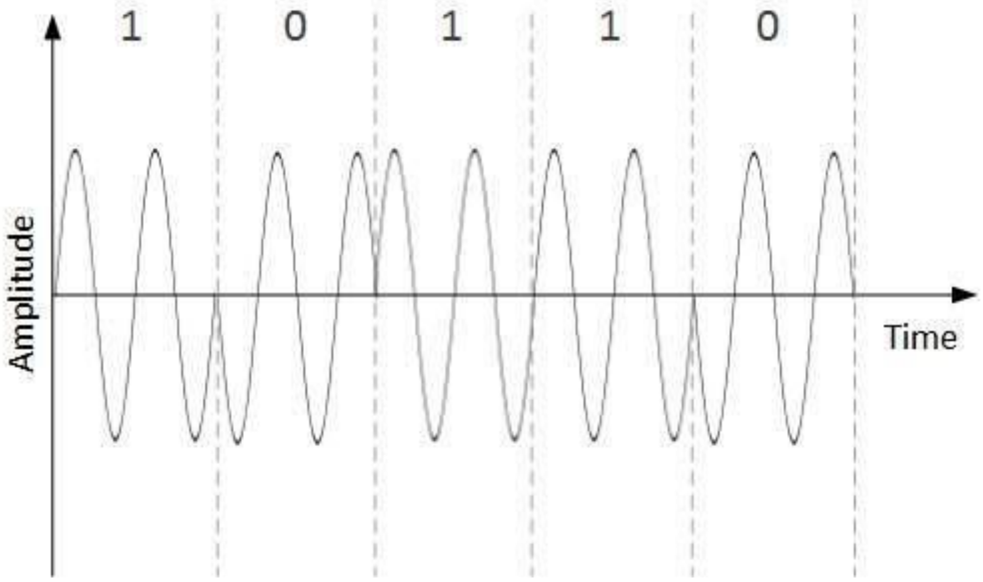
  

  When binary data represents digit 1, the amplitude is held; otherwise it is set to 0. Both frequency and phase remain same as in the original carrier signal.
- **Frequency Shift Keying**
  In this conversion technique, the frequency of the analog carrier signal is modified to reflect binary data.



This technique uses two frequencies, f1 and f2. One of them, for example f1, is chosen to represent binary digit 1 and the other one is used to represent binary digit 0. Both amplitude and phase of the carrier wave are kept intact.

- **Phase Shift Keying**
  In this conversion scheme, the phase of the original carrier signal is altered to reflect the binary data.

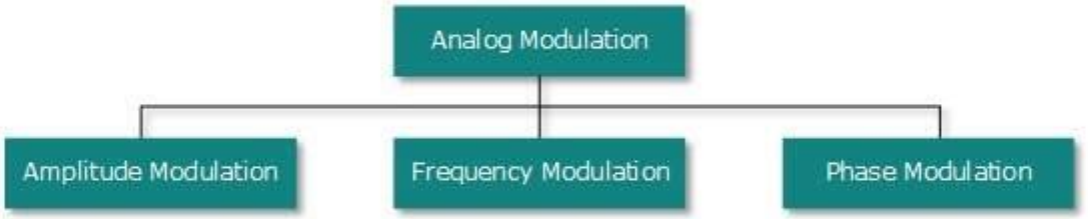


When a new binary symbol is encountered, the phase of the signal is altered. Amplitude and frequency of the original carrier signal is kept intact.

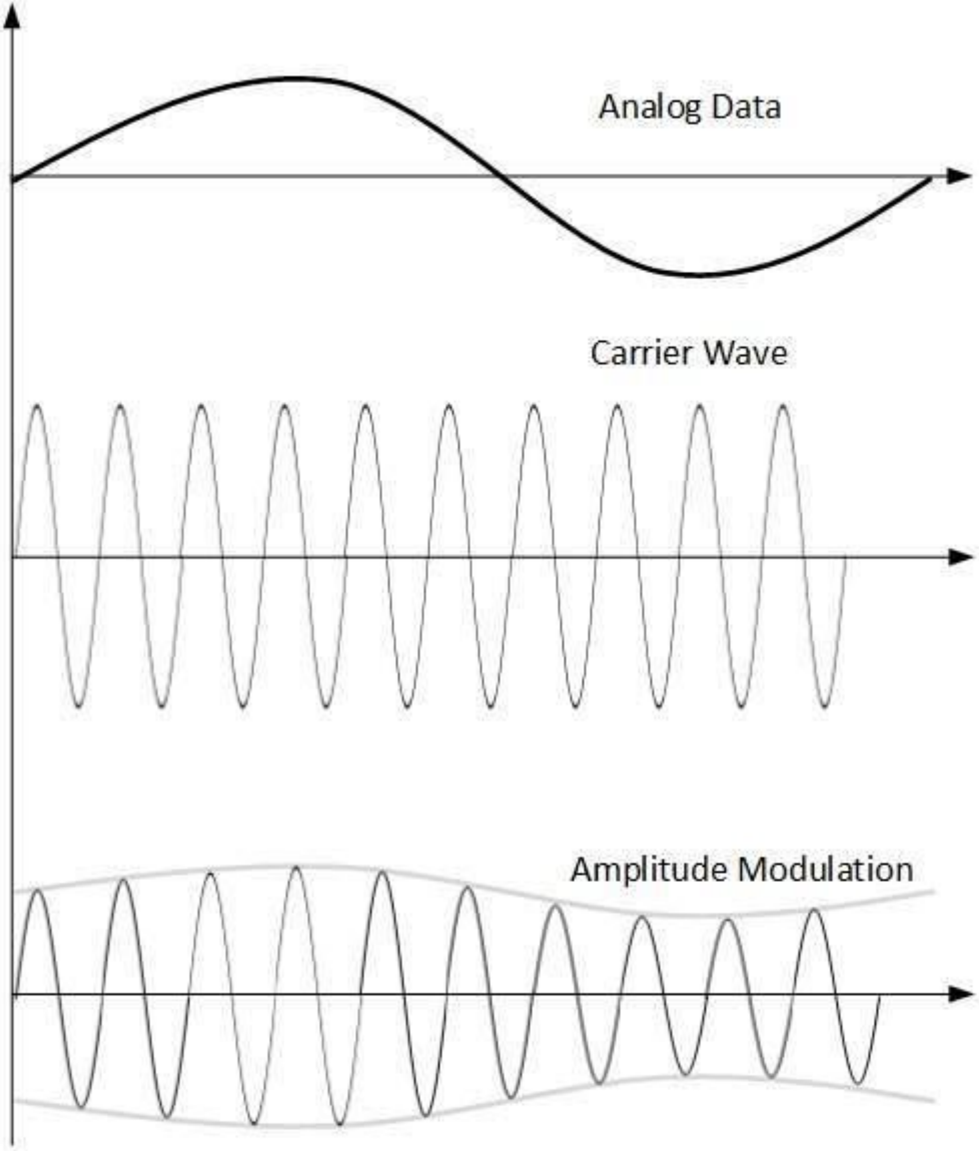
- **Quadrature Phase Shift Keying**
  QPSK alters the phase to reflect two binary digits at once. This is done in two different phases. The main stream of binary data is divided equally into two sub-streams. The serial data is converted in to parallel in both sub-streams and then each stream is converted to digital signal using NRZ technique. Later, both the digital signals are merged together.

Analog-to-Analog Conversion

Analog signals are modified to represent analog data. This conversion is also known as Analog Modulation. Analog modulation is required when bandpass is used. Analog to analog conversion can be done in three ways:

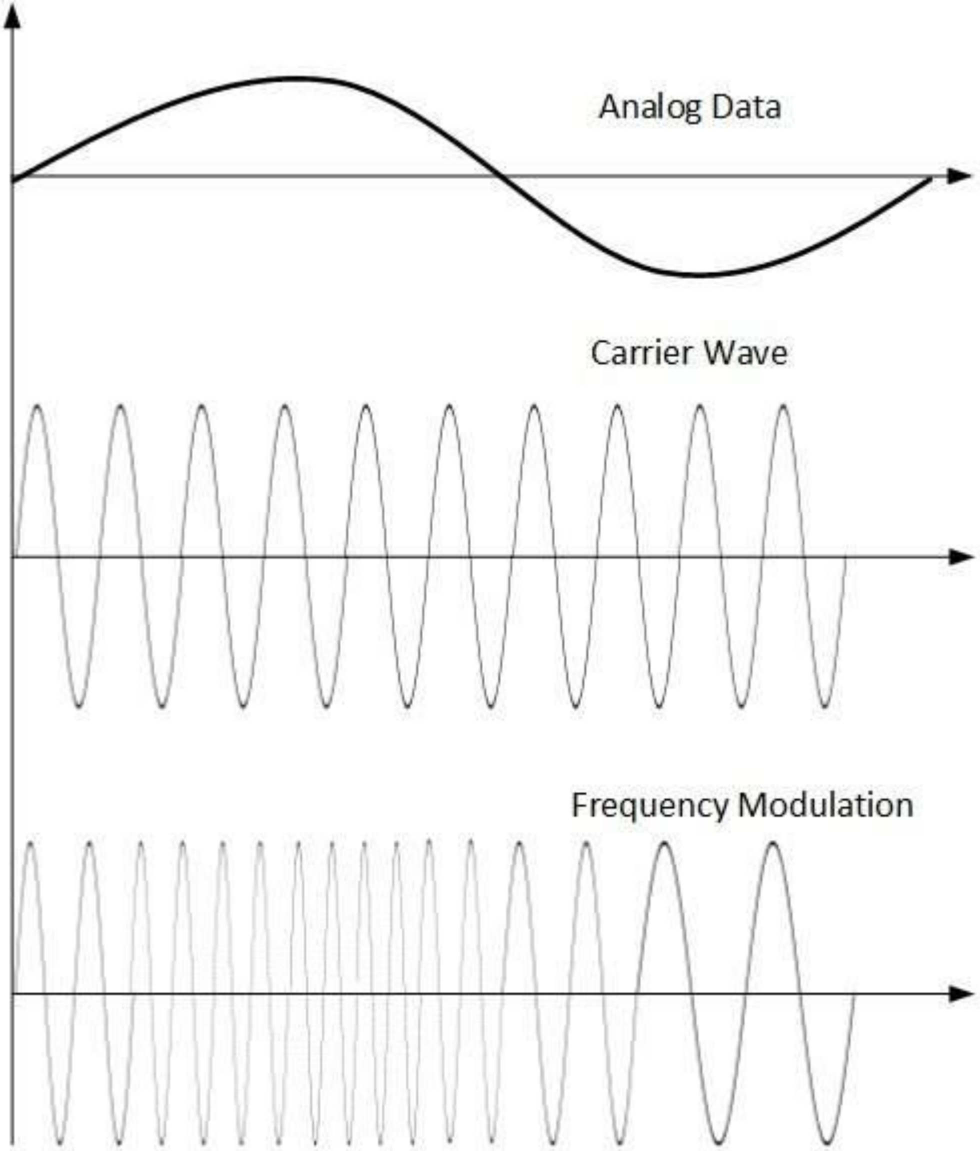


- **Amplitude Modulation**
  In this modulation, the amplitude of the carrier signal is modified to reflect the analog data.



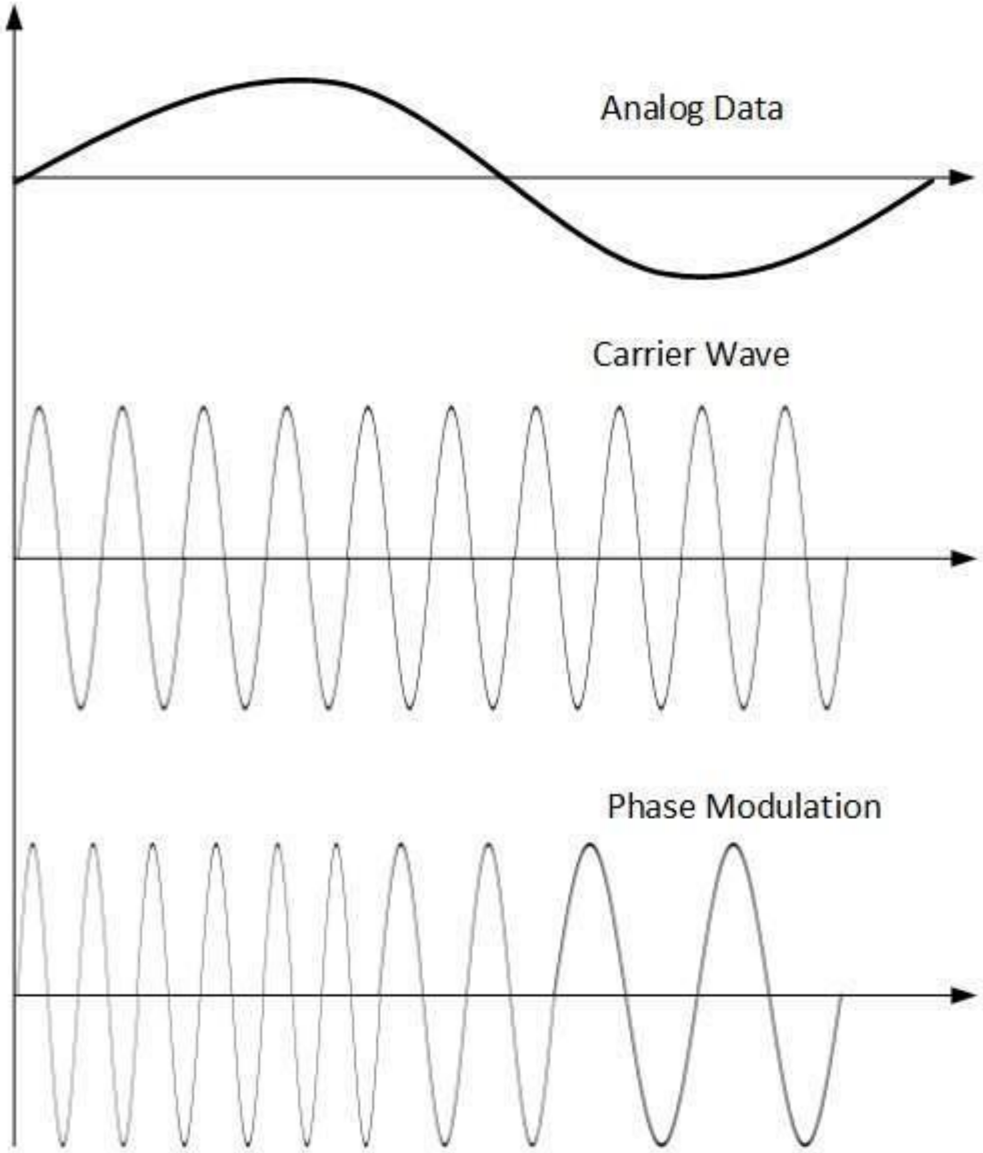
Amplitude modulation is implemented by means of a multiplier. The amplitude of modulating signal (analog data) is multiplied by the amplitude of carrier frequency, which then reflects analog data.
The frequency and phase of carrier signal remain unchanged.

- **Frequency Modulation**
  In this modulation technique, the frequency of the carrier signal is modified to reflect the change in the voltage levels of the modulating signal (analog data).



The amplitude and phase of the carrier signal are not altered.

- **Phase Modulation**
  In the modulation technique, the phase of carrier signal is modulated in order to reflect the change in voltage (amplitude) of analog data signal.



Phase modulation is practically similar to Frequency Modulation, but in Phase modulation frequency of the carrier signal is not increased. Frequency of carrier is signal is changed (made dense and sparse) to reflect voltage change in the amplitude of modulating signal.

Digital Transmission

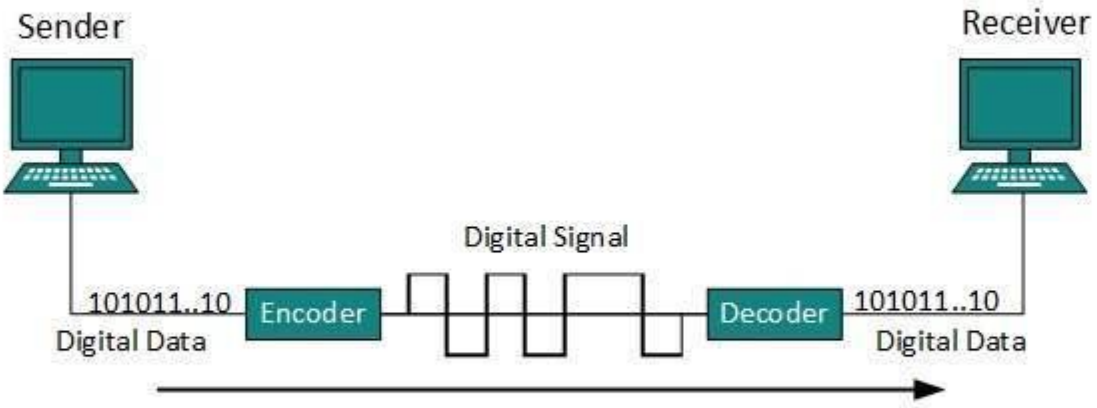
Data or information can be stored in two ways, analog and digital. For a computer to use the data, it must be in discrete digital form.Similar to data, signals can also be in analog and digital form. To transmit data digitally, it needs to be first converted to digital form.

Digital-to-Digital Conversion

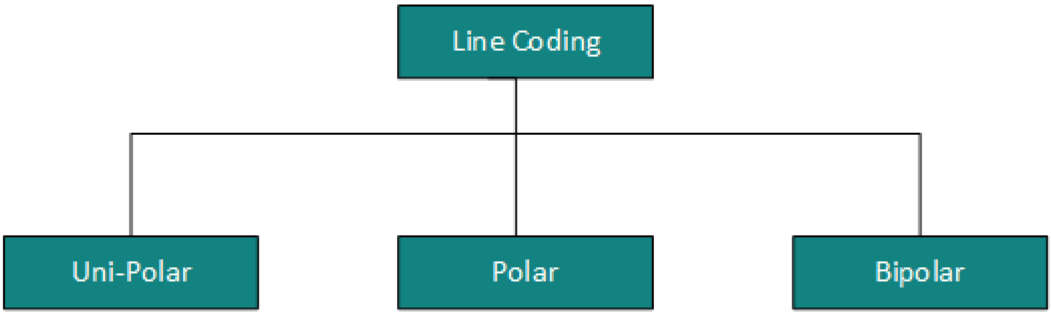
This section explains how to convert digital data into digital signals. It can be done in two ways, line coding and block coding. For all communications, line coding is necessary whereas block coding is optional.

Line Coding

The process for converting digital data into digital signal is said to be Line Coding. Digital data is found in binary format.It is represented (stored) internally as series of 1s and 0s.

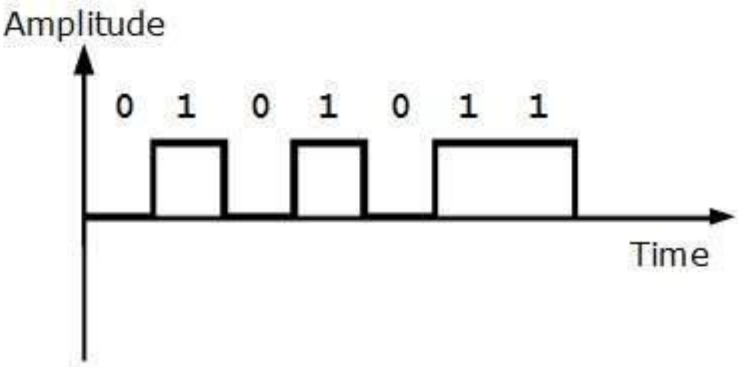


Digital signal is denoted by discreet signal, which represents digital data.There are three types of line coding schemes available:



Uni-polar Encoding

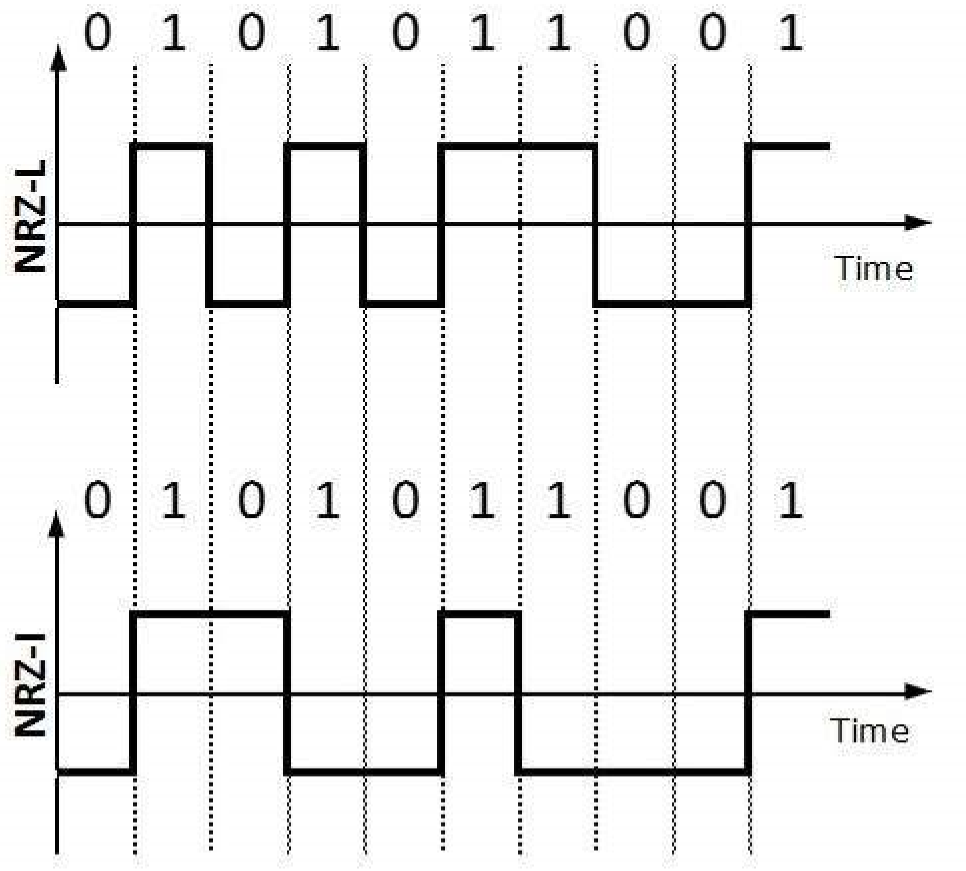
Unipolar encoding schemes use single voltage level to represent data. In this case, to represent binary 1, high voltage is transmitted and to represent 0, no voltage is transmitted. It is also called Unipolar-Non-return-to-zero, because there is no rest condition i.e. it either represents 1 or 0.



Polar Encoding

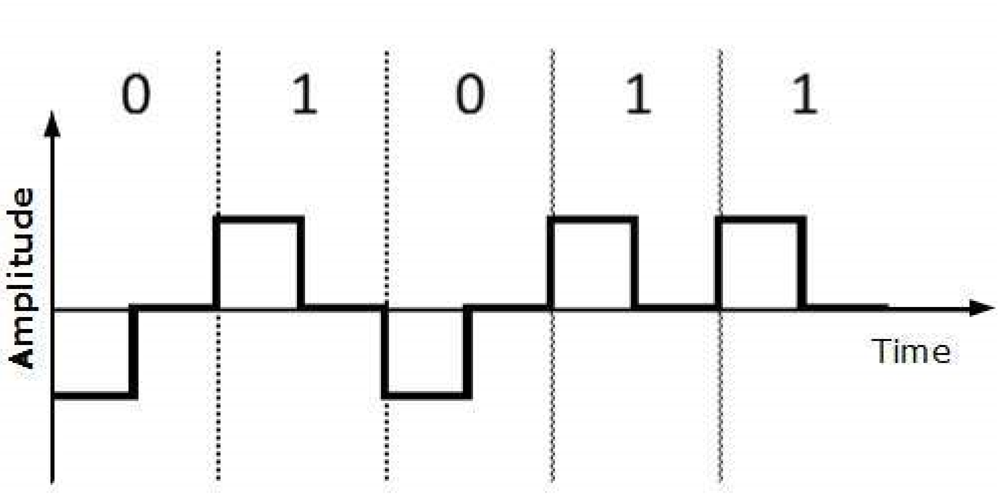
Polar encoding scheme uses multiple voltage levels to represent binary values. Polar encodings is available in four types:

- Polar Non-Return to Zero (Polar NRZ)
  It uses two different voltage levels to represent binary values. Generally, positive voltage represents 1 and negative value represents 0. It is also NRZ because there is no rest condition.
  NRZ scheme has two variants: NRZ-L and NRZ-I.



  NRZ-L changes voltage level at when a different bit is encountered whereas NRZ-I changes voltage when a 1 is encountered.

- **Return to Zero (RZ)**
  Problem with NRZ is that the receiver cannot conclude when a bit ended and when the next bit is started, in case when sender and receiver's clock are not synchronized.



RZ uses three voltage levels, positive voltage to represent 1, negative voltage to represent 0 and zero voltage for none. Signals change during bits not between bits.

- **Manchester**

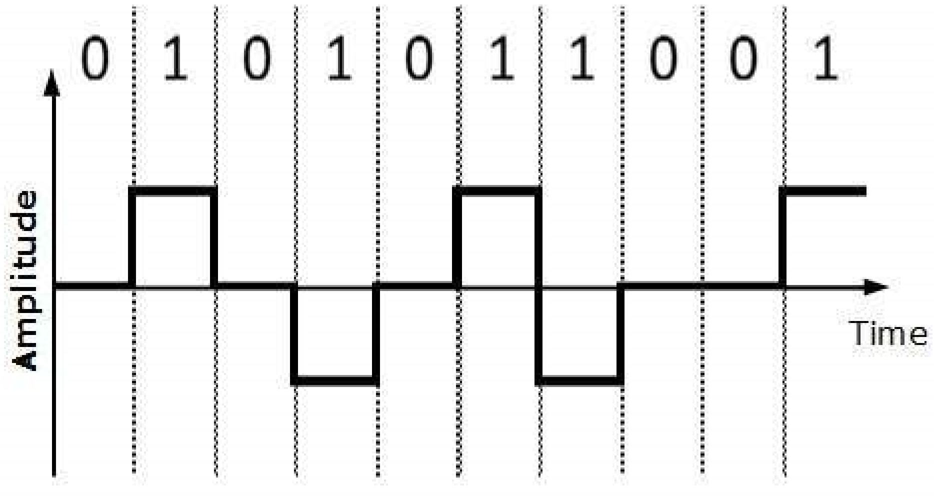
  This encoding scheme is a combination of RZ and NRZ-L. Bit time is divided into two halves. It transits in the middle of the bit and changes phase when a different bit is encountered.

- **Differential Manchester**

  This encoding scheme is a combination of RZ and NRZ-I. It also transit at the middle of the bit but changes phase only when 1 is encountered.

Bipolar Encoding

Bipolar encoding uses three voltage levels, positive, negative and zero. Zero voltage represents binary 0 and bit 1 is represented by altering positive and negative voltages.



Block Coding

To ensure accuracy of the received data frame redundant bits are used. For example, in even-parity, one parity bit is added to make the count of 1s in the frame even. This way the original number of bits is increased. It is called Block Coding.

Block coding is represented by slash notation, mB/nB.Means, m-bit block is substituted with n-bit block where n > m. Block coding involves three steps:

- Division,
- Substitution
- Combination.

After block coding is done, it is line coded for transmission.

Analog-to-Digital Conversion

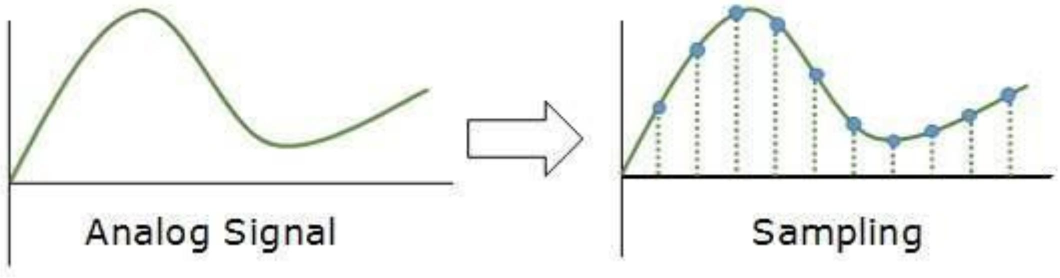
Microphones create analog voice and camera creates analog videos, which are treated is analog data. To transmit this analog data over digital signals, we need analog to digital conversion.

Analog data is a continuous stream of data in the wave form whereas digital data is discrete. To convert analog wave into digital data, we use Pulse Code Modulation (PCM).

PCM is one of the most commonly used method to convert analog data into digital form. It involves three steps:

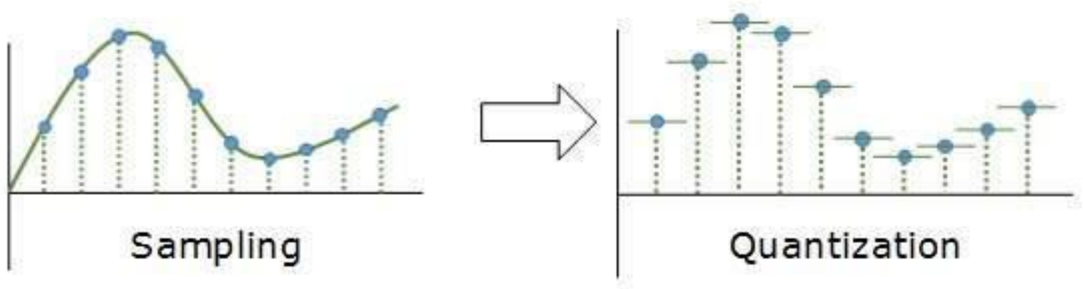
- Sampling
- Quantization
- Encoding.

Sampling



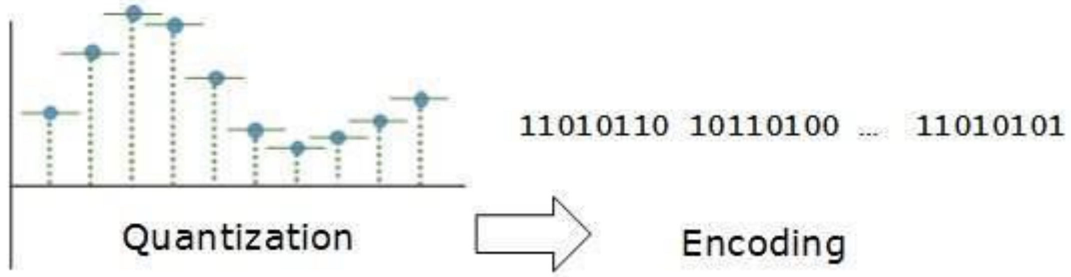
The analog signal is sampled every T interval. Most important factor in sampling is the rate at which analog signal is sampled. According to Nyquist Theorem, the sampling rate must be at least two times of the highest frequency of the signal.

Quantization



Sampling yields discrete form of continuous analog signal. Every discrete pattern shows the amplitude of the analog signal at that instance. The quantization is done between the maximum amplitude value and the minimum amplitude value. Quantization is approximation of the instantaneous analog value.

Encoding

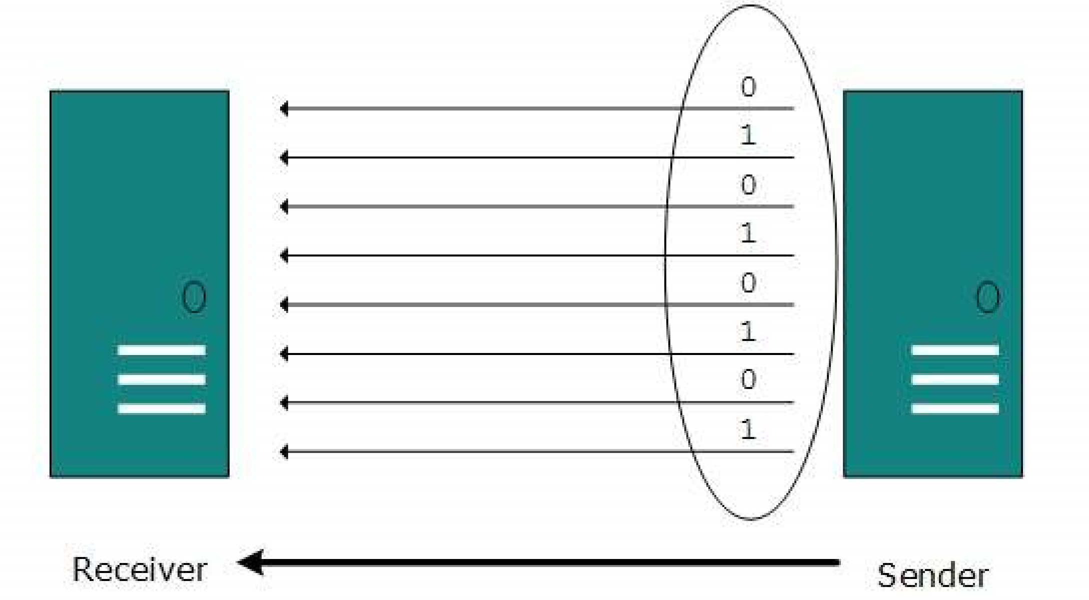


In encoding, each approximated value is then converted into binary format.

Transmission Modes

The transmission mode decides how data is transmitted between two computers.The binary data in the form of 1s and 0s can be sent in two different modes: Parallel and Serial.

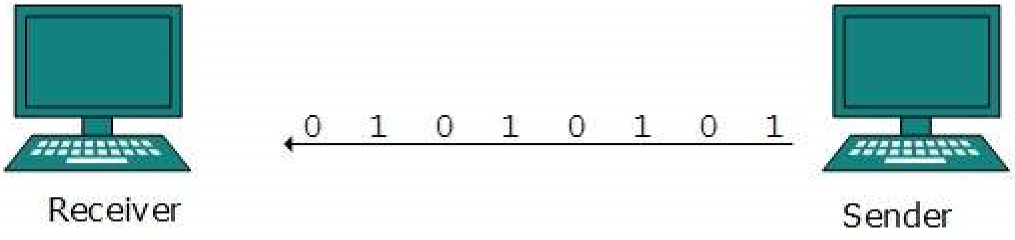
Parallel Transmission



The binary bits are organized in-to groups of fixed length. Both sender and receiver are connected in parallel with the equal number of data lines. Both computers distinguish between high order and low order data lines. The sender sends all the bits at once on all lines.Because the data lines are equal to the number of bits in a group or data frame, a complete group of bits (data frame) is sent in one go. Advantage of Parallel transmission is high speed and disadvantage is the cost of wires, as it is equal to the number of bits sent in parallel.

Serial Transmission

In serial transmission, bits are sent one after another in a queue manner. Serial transmission requires only one communication channel.



Serial transmission can be either asynchronous or synchronous.

Asynchronous Serial Transmission

It is named so because there'is no importance of timing. Data-bits have specific pattern and they help receiver recognize the start and end data bits.For example, a 0 is prefixed on every data byte and one or more 1s are added at the end.

Two continuous data-frames (bytes) may have a gap between them.

Synchronous Serial Transmission

Timing in synchronous transmission has importance as there is no mechanism followed to recognize start and end data bits.There is no pattern or prefix/suffix method. Data bits are sent in burst mode without maintaining gap between bytes (8-bits). Single burst of data bits may contain a number of bytes. Therefore, timing becomes very important.

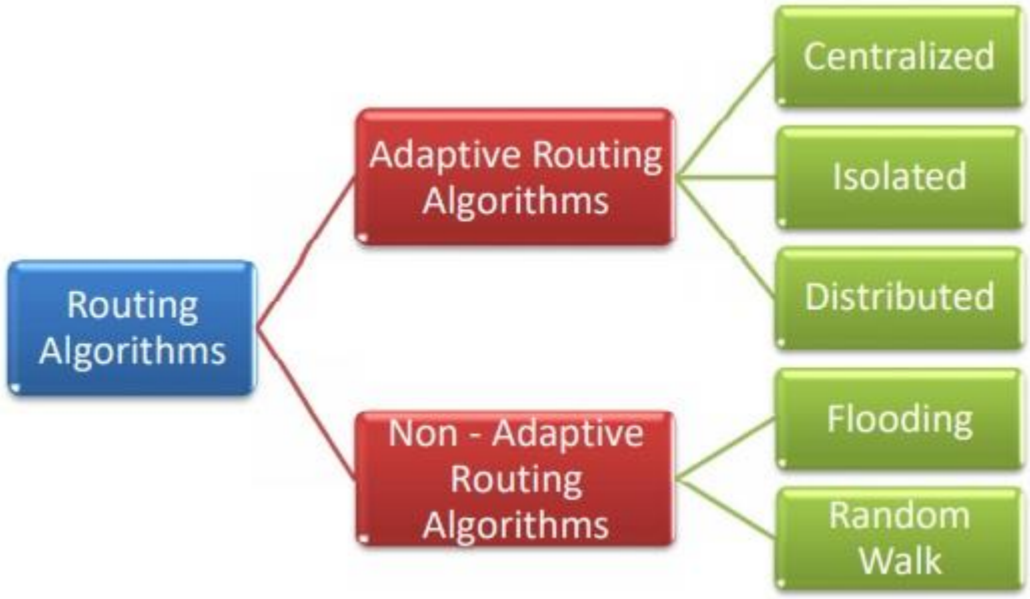
It is up to the receiver to recognize and separate bits into bytes.The advantage of synchronous transmission is high speed, and it has no overhead of extra header and footer bits as in asynchronous transmission.

What is a Routing Algorithm in Computer Network?

A routing algorithm is a procedure that lays down the route or path to transfer data packets from source to the destination. They help in directing Internet traffic efficiently. After a data packet leaves its source, it can choose among the many different paths to reach its destination. Routing algorithm mathematically computes the best path, i.e. “least – cost path” that the packet can be routed through.

Types of Routing Algorithms

Routing algorithms can be broadly categorized into two types, adaptive and nonadaptive routing algorithms. They can be further categorized as shown in the following diagram −



Adaptive Routing Algorithms

Adaptive routing algorithms, also known as dynamic routing algorithms, makes routing decisions dynamically depending on the network conditions. It constructs the routing table depending upon the network traffic and topology. They try to compute the optimized route depending upon the hop count, transit time and distance.

The three popular types of adaptive routing algorithms are −

- **Centralized algorithm −** It finds the least-cost path between source and destination nodes by using global knowledge about the network. So, it is also known as global routing algorithm.
- **Isolated algorithm −** This algorithm procures the routing information by using local information instead of gathering information from other nodes.
- **Distributed algorithm −** This is a decentralized algorithm that computes the least-cost path between source and destination iteratively in a distributed manner.

Non – Adaptive Routing Algorithms

Non-adaptive Routing algorithms, also known as static routing algorithms, construct a static routing table to determine the path through which packets are to be sent. The static routing table is constructed based upon the routing information stored in the routers when the network is booted up.

The two types of non – adaptive routing algorithms are −

- **Flooding −** In flooding, when a data packet arrives at a router, it is sent to all the outgoing links except the one it has arrived on. Flooding may be uncontrolled, controlled or selective flooding.
- **Random walks −** This is a probabilistic algorithm where a data packet is sent by the router to any one of its neighbours randomly.

What is Congestion Control Algorithm?

Congestion causes choking of the communication medium. When too many packets are displayed in a method of the subnet, the subnet's performance degrades. Hence, a network's communication channel is called congested if packets are traversing the path and experience delays mainly over the path's propagation delay.

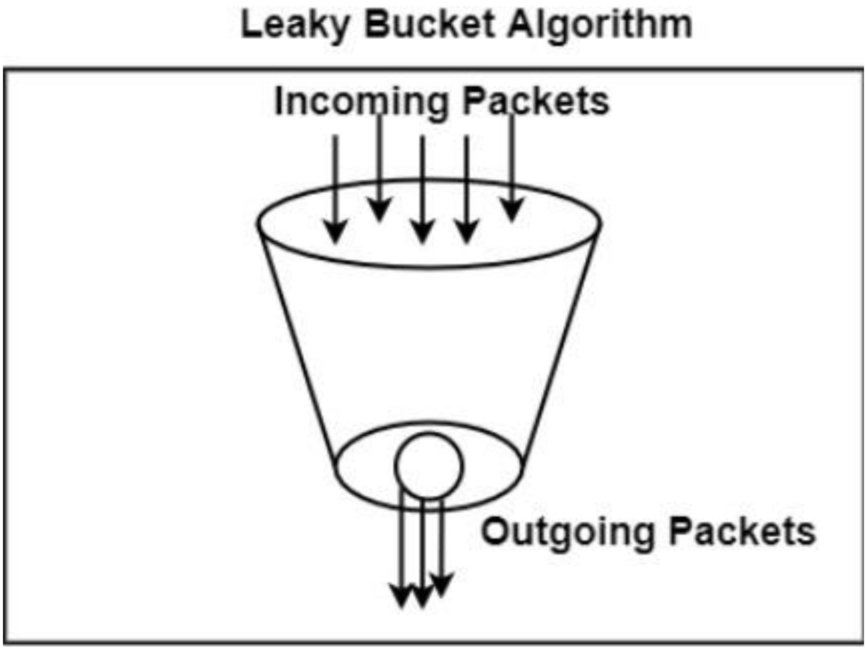
There is two congestion control algorithm which is as follows:

Leaky Bucket

The leaky bucket algorithm discovers its use in the context of network traffic shaping or rate-limiting. The algorithm allows controlling the rate at which a record is injected into a network and managing burstiness in the data rate.

A leaky bucket execution and a token bucket execution are predominantly used for traffic shaping algorithms. This algorithm is used to control the rate at which traffic is sent to the network and shape the burst traffic to a steady traffic stream.

The figure shows the leaky bucket algorithm.



In this algorithm, a bucket with a volume of, say, b bytes and a hole in the Notes bottom is considered. If the bucket is null, it means b bytes are available as storage. A packet with a size smaller than b bytes arrives at the bucket and will forward it. If the packet's size increases by more than b bytes, it will either be discarded or queued. It is also considered that the bucket leaks through the hole in its bottom at a constant rate of r bytes per second.

The outflow is considered constant when there is any packet in the bucket and zero when it is empty. This defines that if data flows into the bucket faster than data flows out through the hole, the bucket overflows.

The disadvantages compared with the leaky-bucket algorithm are the inefficient use of available network resources. The leak rate is a fixed parameter. In the case of the traffic, volume is deficient, the large area of network resources such as bandwidth is not being used effectively. The leaky-bucket algorithm does not allow individual flows to burst up to port speed to effectively consume network resources when there would not be resource contention in the network.

Token Bucket Algorithm

The leaky bucket algorithm has a rigid output design at the average rate independent of the bursty traffic. In some applications, when large bursts arrive, the output is allowed to speed up. This calls for a more flexible algorithm, preferably one that never loses information. Therefore, a token bucket algorithm finds its uses in network traffic shaping or rate-limiting.

It is a control algorithm that indicates when traffic should be sent. This order comes based on the display of tokens in the bucket. The bucket contains tokens. Each of the tokens defines a packet of predetermined size. Tokens in the bucket are deleted for the ability to share a packet.

When tokens are shown, a flow to transmit traffic appears in the display of tokens. No token means no flow sends its packets. Hence, a flow transfers traffic up to its peak burst rate in good tokens in the bucket.

Thus, the token bucket algorithm adds a token to the bucket each 1 / r seconds. The volume of the bucket is b tokens. When a token appears, and the bucket is complete, the token is discarded. If a packet of n bytes appears and n tokens are deleted from the bucket, the packet is forwarded to the network.

When a packet of n bytes appears but fewer than n tokens are available. No tokens are removed from the bucket in such a case, and the packet is considered non-conformant. The non-conformant packets can either be dropped or queued for subsequent transmission when sufficient tokens have accumulated in the bucket.

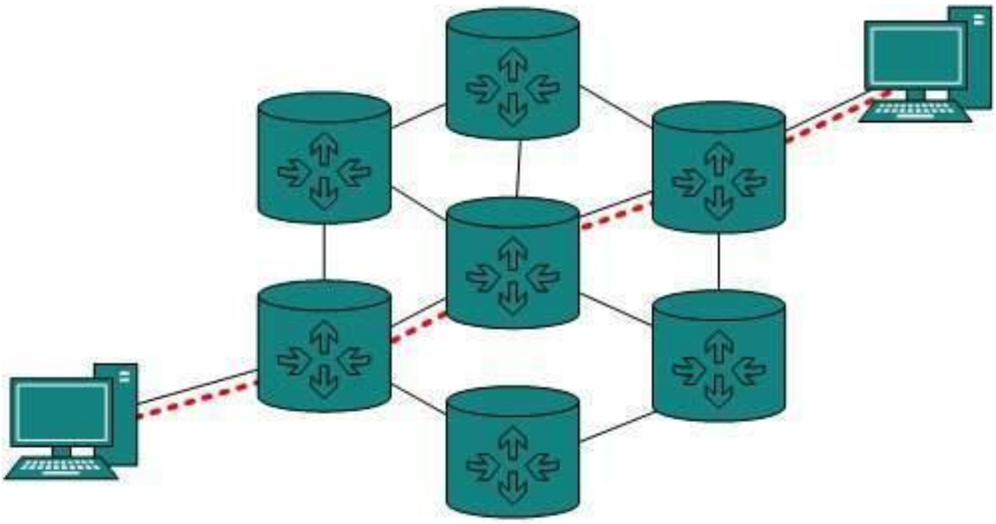
They can also be transmitted but marked as being non-conformant. The possibility is that they may be dropped subsequently if the network is overloaded.

Internetworking in Computer Network

In real world scenario, networks under same administration are generally scattered geographically. There may exist requirement of connecting two different networks of same kind as well as of different kinds. Routing between two networks is called internetworking.

Networks can be considered different based on various parameters such as, Protocol, topology, Layer-2 network and addressing scheme.

In internetworking, routers have knowledge of each other’s address and addresses beyond them. They can be statically configured go on different network or they can learn by using internetworking routing protocol.

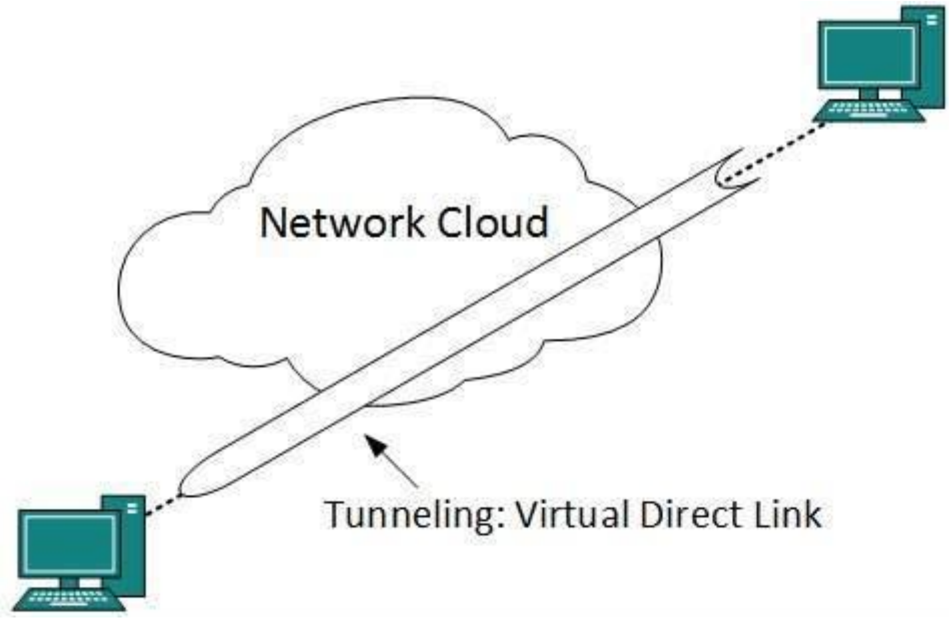


Routing protocols which are used within an organization or administration are called Interior Gateway Protocols or IGP. RIP, OSPF are examples of IGP. Routing between different organizations or administrations may have Exterior Gateway Protocol, and there is only one EGP i.e. Border Gateway Protocol.

Tunneling

If they are two geographically separate networks, which want to communicate with each other, they may deploy a dedicated line between or they have to pass their data through intermediate networks.

Tunneling is a mechanism by which two or more same networks communicate with each other, by passing intermediate networking complexities. Tunneling is configured at both ends.



When the data enters from one end of Tunnel, it is tagged. This tagged data is then routed inside the intermediate or transit network to reach the other end of Tunnel. When data exists the Tunnel its tag is removed and delivered to the other part of the network.

Both ends seem as if they are directly connected and tagging makes data travel through transit network without any modifications.

Packet Fragmentation

Most Ethernet segments have their maximum transmission unit (MTU) fixed to 1500 bytes. A data packet can have more or less packet length depending upon the application. Devices in the transit path also have their hardware and software capabilities which tell what amount of data that device can handle and what size of packet it can process.

If the data packet size is less than or equal to the size of packet the transit network can handle, it is processed neutrally. If the packet is larger, it is broken into smaller pieces and then forwarded. This is called packet fragmentation. Each fragment contains the same destination and source address and routed through transit path easily. At the receiving end it is assembled again.

If a packet with DF (don’t fragment) bit set to 1 comes to a router which can not handle the packet because of its length, the packet is dropped.

When a packet is received by a router has its MF (more fragments) bit set to 1, the router then knows that it is a fragmented packet and parts of the original packet is on the way.

If packet is fragmented too small, the overhead is increases. If the packet is fragmented too large, intermediate router may not be able to process it and it might get dropped.

Network Layer

- The Network Layer is the third layer of the OSI model.
- It handles the service requests from the transport layer and further forwards the service request to the data link layer.
- The network layer translates the logical addresses into physical addresses
- It determines the route from the source to the destination and also manages the traffic problems such as switching, routing and controls the congestion of data packets.
- The main role of the network layer is to move the packets from sending host to the receiving host.

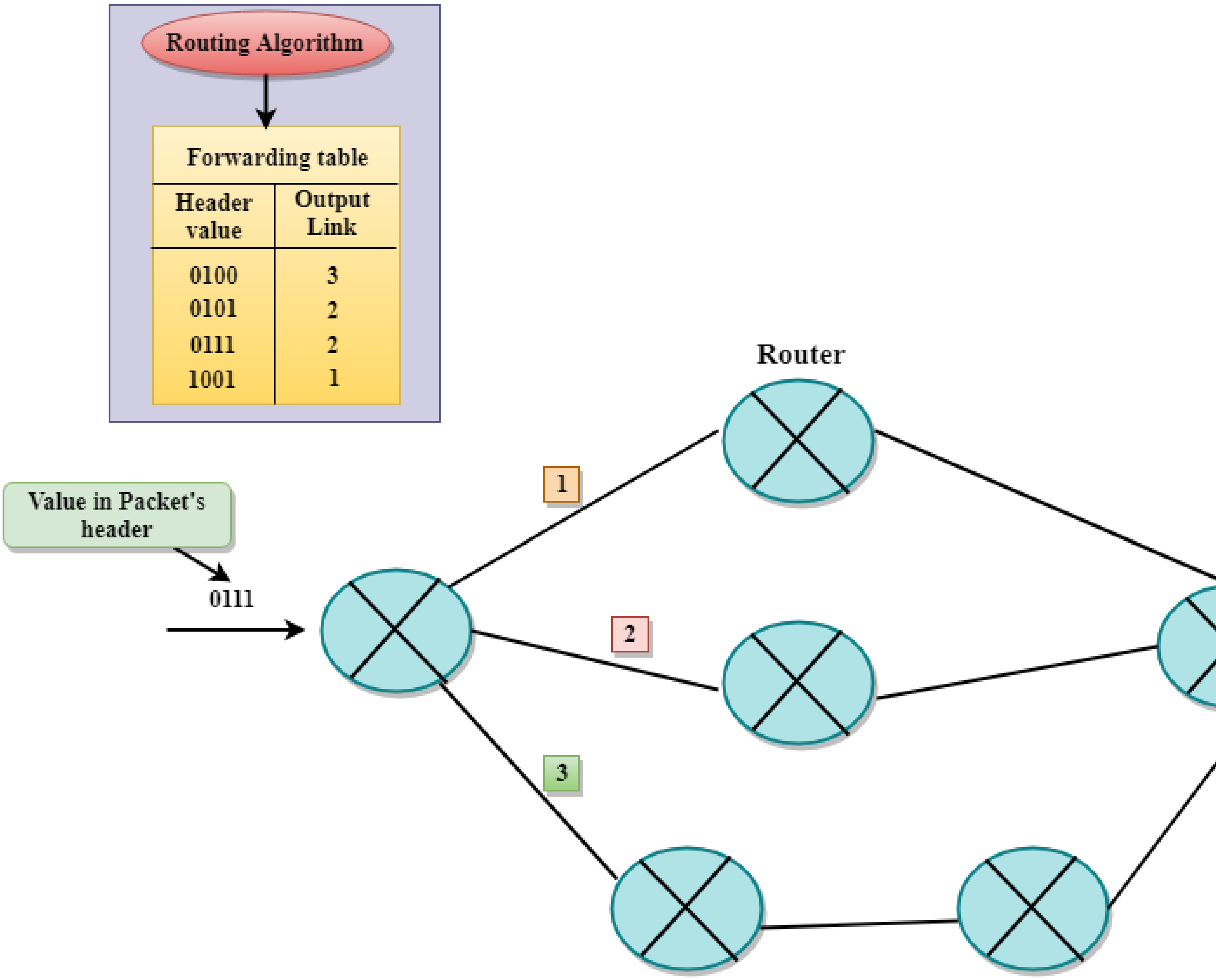
The main functions performed by the network layer are:

- **Routing:** When a packet reaches the router's input link, the router will move the packets to the router's output link. For example, a packet from S1 to R1 must be forwarded to the next router on the path to S2.
- **Logical Addressing:** The data link layer implements the physical addressing and network layer implements the logical addressing. Logical addressing is also used to distinguish between source and destination system. The network layer adds a header to the packet which includes the logical addresses of both the sender and the receiver.
- **Internetworking:** This is the main role of the network layer that it provides the logical connection between different types of networks.
- **Fragmentation:** The fragmentation is a process of breaking the packets into the smallest individual data units that travel through different networks.

Forwarding & Routing

In Network layer, a router is used to forward the packets. Every router has a forwarding table. A router forwards a packet by examining a packet's header field and then using the header field value to index into the forwarding table. The value stored in the forwarding table corresponding to the header field value indicates the router's outgoing interface link to which the packet is to be forwarded.

For example, the router with a header field value of 0111 arrives at a router, and then router indexes this header value into the forwarding table that determines the output link interface is 2. The router forwards the packet to the interface 2. The routing algorithm determines the values that are inserted in the forwarding table. The routing algorithm can be centralized or decentralized.



Forwarding table

Header value	Output Link
0100	3
0101	2
0111	2
1001	1

Routing algorithms determine the values in forwarding table

Services Provided by the Network Layer

- **Guaranteed delivery:** This layer provides the service which guarantees that the packet will arrive at its destination.
- **Guaranteed delivery with bounded delay:** This service guarantees that the packet will be delivered within a specified host-to-host delay bound.
- **In-Order packets:** This service ensures that the packet arrives at the destination in the order in which they are sent.
- **Guaranteed max jitter:** This service ensures that the amount of time taken between two successive transmissions at the sender is equal to the time between their receipt at the destination.

- **Security services:** The network layer provides security by using a session key between the source and destination host. The network layer in the source host encrypts the payloads of datagrams being sent to the destination host. The network layer in the destination host would then decrypt the payload. In such a way, the network layer maintains the data integrity and source authentication services.