San José State University
Electrical Engineering Department
EE281, Internetworking, Section 02, Fall 2017
(Homework #1)

Date: 08/30/2017
Due Date: 09/11/2017

1. What is the difference between a host and an end system? List several different types of end systems. Is a Web server an end system?

2. The word protocol is often used to describe diplomatic relations. How does Wikipedia describe diplomatic protocol?

3. Why are standards important for protocols?

4. List six access technologies. Classify each one as home access, enterprise access, or wide-area wireless access.

5. Is HFC transmission rate dedicated or shared among users? Are collisions possible in a downstream HFC channel? Why or why not?

6. List the available residential access technologies in your city. For each type of access, provide the advertised downstream rate, upstream rate, and monthly price.

7. What is the transmission rate of Ethernet LANs?

8. What are some of the physical media that Ethernet can run over?

9. Dial-up modems, HFC, DSL and FTTH are all used for residential access. For each of these access technologies, provide a range of transmission rates and comment on whether the transmission rate is shared or dedicated.

10. Describe the most popular wireless Internet access technologies today. Compare and contrast them.

11. Suppose there is exactly one packet switch between a sending host and a receiving host. The transmission rates between the sending host and the switch and between the switch and the receiving host are R1 and R2, respectively. Assuming that the switch uses store-and-forward packet switching, what is the total end-to-end delay to send a packet of length L? (Ignore queuing, propagation delay, and processing delay.)

12. What advantage does a circuit-switched network have over a packet-switched network? What advantages does TDM have over FDM in a circuit-switched network?

13. Suppose users share a 2 Mbps link. Also suppose each user transmits continuously at 1 Mbps when transmitting, but each user transmits only 20 percent of the time.
     a. When circuit switching is used, how many users can be supported?
     b. For the remainder of this problem, suppose packet switching is used. Why will there be essentially no queuing delay before the link if two or fewer users transmit at the same time? Why will there be a queuing delay if three users transmit at the same time?
     c. Find the probability that a given user is transmitting.
     d. Suppose now there are three users. Find the probability that at any given time, all three users are transmitting simultaneously. Find the fraction of time during which the queue grows.

14. Why will two ISPs at the same level of the hierarchy often peer with each other? How does an IXP earn money?

15. Some content providers have created their own networks. Describe Google's network. What motivates content providers to create these networks?

16. How is the network performance measured?

17. Consider sending a packet from a source host to a destination host over a fixed route. List the delay components in the end-to-end delay. Which of these delays are constant and which are variable?

18. How long does it take a packet of length 1,000 bytes to propagate over a link of distance 2,500 km, propagation speed 2.5×10^8 m/s, and transmission rate 2 Mbps? More generally, how long does it take a packet of length L to propagate over a link of distance d, propagation speed s, and transmission rate R bps? Does this delay depend on packet length? Does this delay depend on transmission rate?

19. Suppose Host A wants to send a large file to Host B. The path from Host A to Host B has three links, of rates R1 = 500 kbps, R2 = 2 Mbps, and R3 = 1 Mbps.
     a. Assuming no other traffic in the network, what is the throughput for the file transfer?
     b. Suppose the file is 4 million bytes. Dividing the file size by the throughput, roughly how long will it take to transfer the file to Host B?
     c. Repeat (a) and (b), but now with R2 reduced to 100 kbps.

20. Suppose end system A wants to send a large file to end system B. At a very high level, describe how end system A creates packets from the file. When one of these packets arrives to a packet switch, what information in the packet does the switch use

to determine the link onto which the packet is forwarded? Why is packet switching in the Internet analogous to driving from one city to another and asking directions along the way?

21. List five tasks that a layer can perform. Is it possible that one (or more) of these tasks could be performed by two (or more) layers?

22. What are the five layers in the Internet protocol stack? What are the principal responsibilities of each of these layers?

23. What is an application-layer message? A transport-layer segment? A network-layer datagram? A link-layer frame?

24. Which layers in the Internet protocol stack does a router process? Which layers does a link-layer switch process? Which layers does a host process?