COMPUTER NETWORKS

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Computer Networks and the Internet

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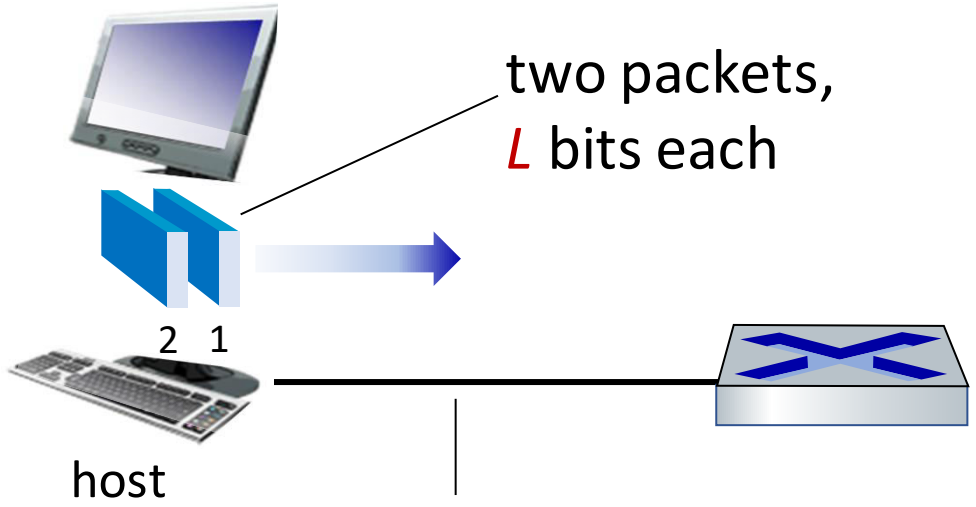
Hosts: Send packets of data

Host sending function:

- takes application message
- breaks into smaller chunks, known as *packets*, of length *L* bits
- transmits packet into access network at *transmission rate R*
  - link transmission rate, aka link *capacity, aka link bandwidth*



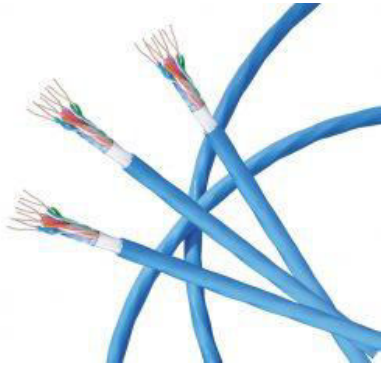
$$\text{packet transmission delay} = \text{time needed to transmit } L\text{-bit packet into link} = \frac{L \text{ (bits)}}{R \text{ (bits/sec)}}$$

Network Edge: Physical media

- bit: propagates between transmitter/receiver pairs
- physical link: what lies between transmitter & receiver
- guided media:
  - signals propagate in solid media: copper, fiber, coax
- unguided media:
  - signals propagate freely, e.g., radio

Twisted pair (TP)

- two insulated copper wires
  - Category 5: 100 Mbps, 1 Gbps Ethernet
  - Category 6: 10Gbps Ethernet



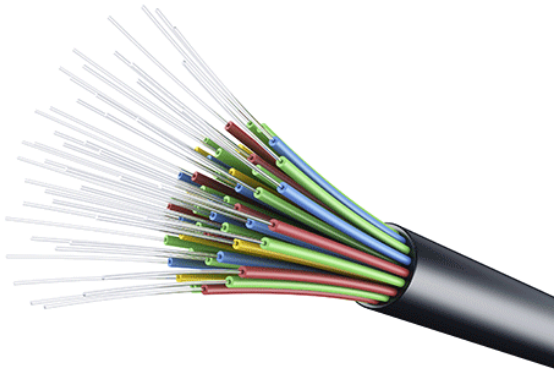
Network Edge: Physical media

Coaxial cable:

- two concentric copper conductors
- bidirectional
- broadband:
  - multiple frequency channels on cable
  - 100's Mbps per channel

Fiber optic cable:

- glass fiber carrying light pulses, each pulse a bit
- high-speed operation:
  - high-speed point-to-point transmission (10's-100's Gbps)
- low error rate:
  - repeaters spaced far apart
  - immune to electromagnetic noise



Network Edge: Physical media

Wireless radio

- signal carried in electromagnetic spectrum
- no physical “wire”
- broadcast and “half-duplex” (sender to receiver)
- propagation environment effects:
  - reflection
  - obstruction by objects
  - interference

Radio link types:

- terrestrial microwave
  - up to 45 Mbps channels
- Wireless LAN (WiFi)
  - Up to 100’s Mbps
- wide-area (e.g., cellular)
  - 4G cellular: ~ 10’s Mbps
- satellite
  - up to 45 Mbps per channel
  - 270 msec end-end delay
  - geosynchronous versus low-earth-orbit

Queries

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Thank You
For Your Attention

THANK YOU

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