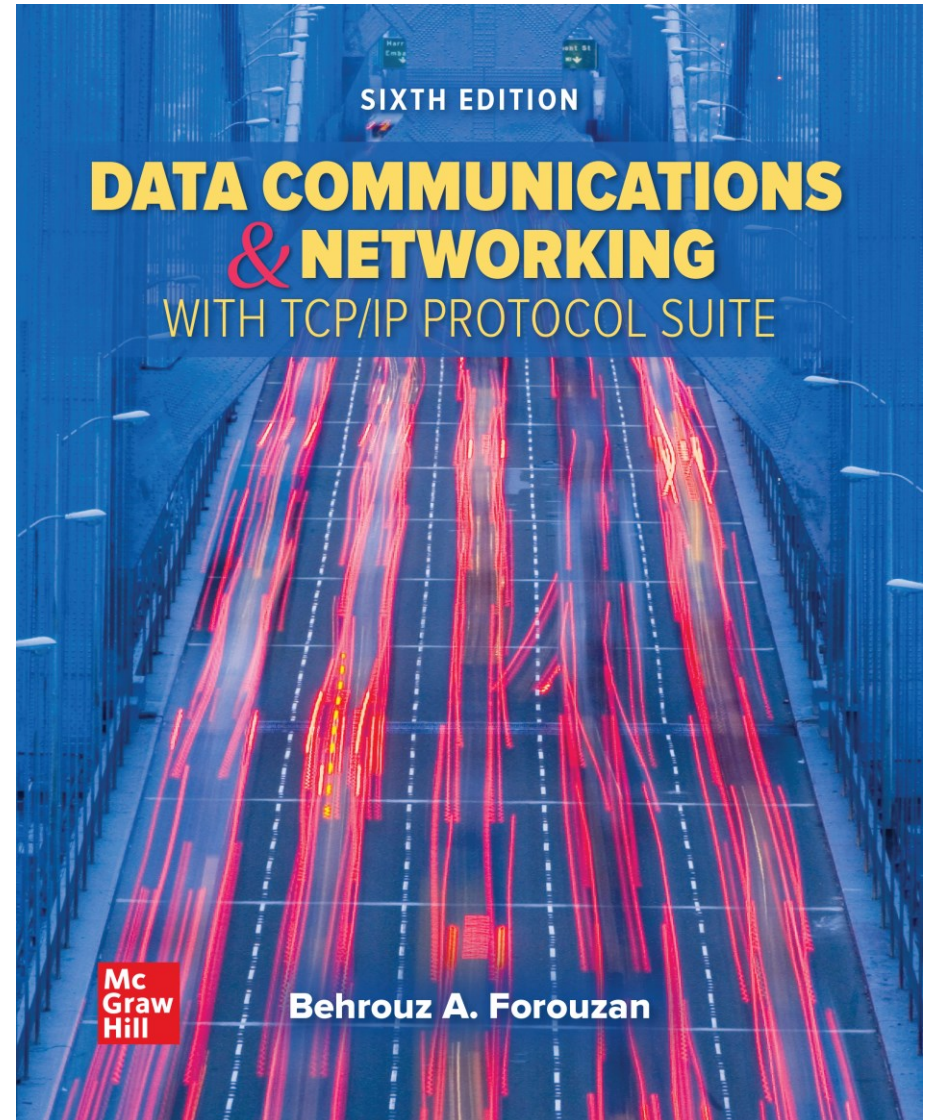# Chapter 01

Introduction

Data Communications and Networking, With TCP/IP protocol suite
Sixth Edition
Behrouz A. Forouzan

Chapter 1: Outline

1.1 DATA COMMUNICATIONS

1.2 NETWORKS

1.3 NETWORK TYPES

1.4 PROTOCOL LAYERING

1.5 TCP/IP PROTOCOL SUITE

1.6 THE OSI MODEL

1.1 DATA COMMUNICATIONS

Data communication is the exchange of data between two devices via some form of transmission media. It depends on four characteristics:
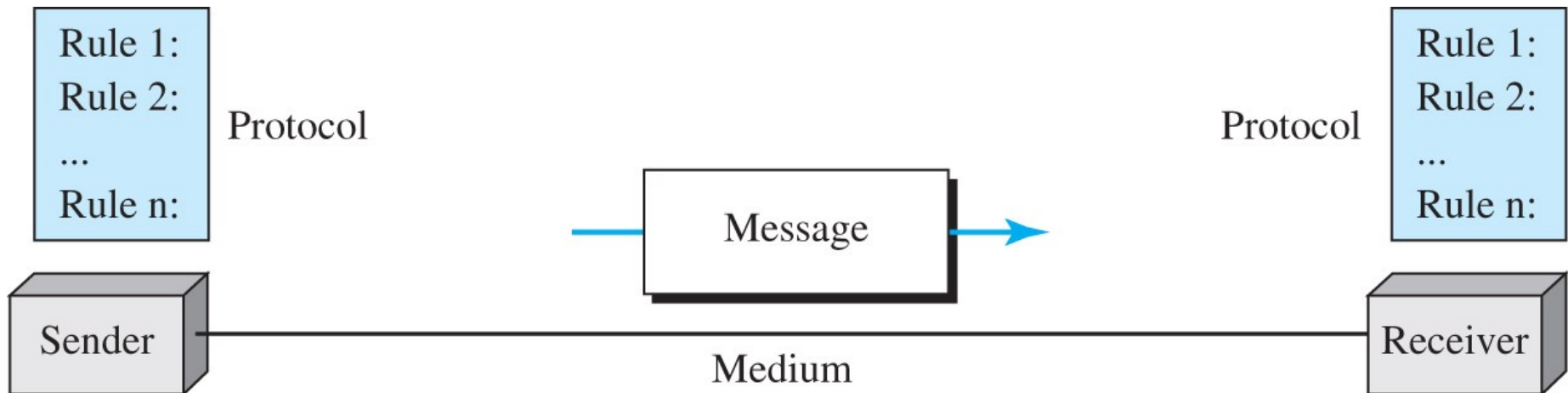
1. *Delivery*

2. *Accuracy*

3. *Timeliness*

4. *Jitter*

1.1.1 Components

A data communications system has five components:

1.   Message

2.   Sender

3.   Receiver

4.   Transmission Medium

5.   Protocol

(Figure 1.1)

Figure 1.1 Five components of data communication

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1.1.2 Message

Information today comes in different forms such as text, numbers, images, audio, and video.

Text

Text is represented as a bit pattern using Unicode.

Numbers

Numbers are represented in binary.

Images

Images are represented as bit patterns using either RGB or YCM.

Audio

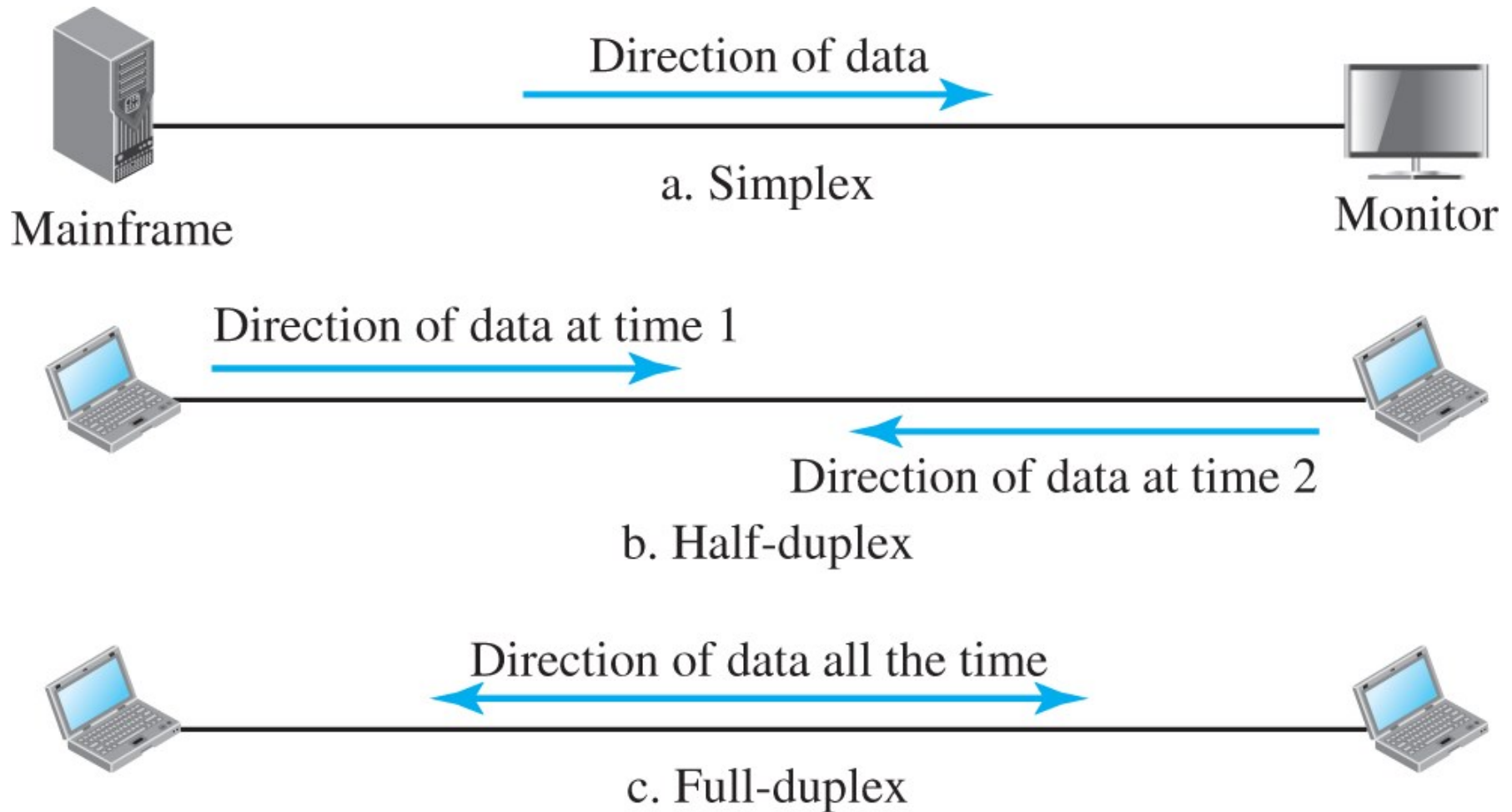*Audio refers to the recording or broadcasting of sound or music, represented as analog or digital signals.*

Video

Videos can be a continues images or a combination of images.

1.1.3 Data Flow

Communication between two devices can be simplex, half-duplex, and duplex as shown in Figure 1.2.

Figure 1.2 Data flow (simplex, half-duplex, full-duplex)

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Simplex

In simplex mode the communication is in one direction. Only one of the two connected devices can send or receive.

Half-Duplex

In half-duplex, each station can send or receive, but not at the same time.

Full-Duplex

In full-duplex, both stations can send or receive at the same time.

1-2 NETWORKS

A network is the interconnection of a set of devices capable of communication. In this definition, a device can be a host 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 a switch, a modem that changes the form of data, and so on.

1.2.1 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.

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.

1.2.2 Physical Structures

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

Types 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. There are two possible types of connections: point-to-point and multipoint (see Figure 1.3)

Figure 1.3 Types of connection

Link

a. Point-to-point

Mainframe

Link

b. Multipoint
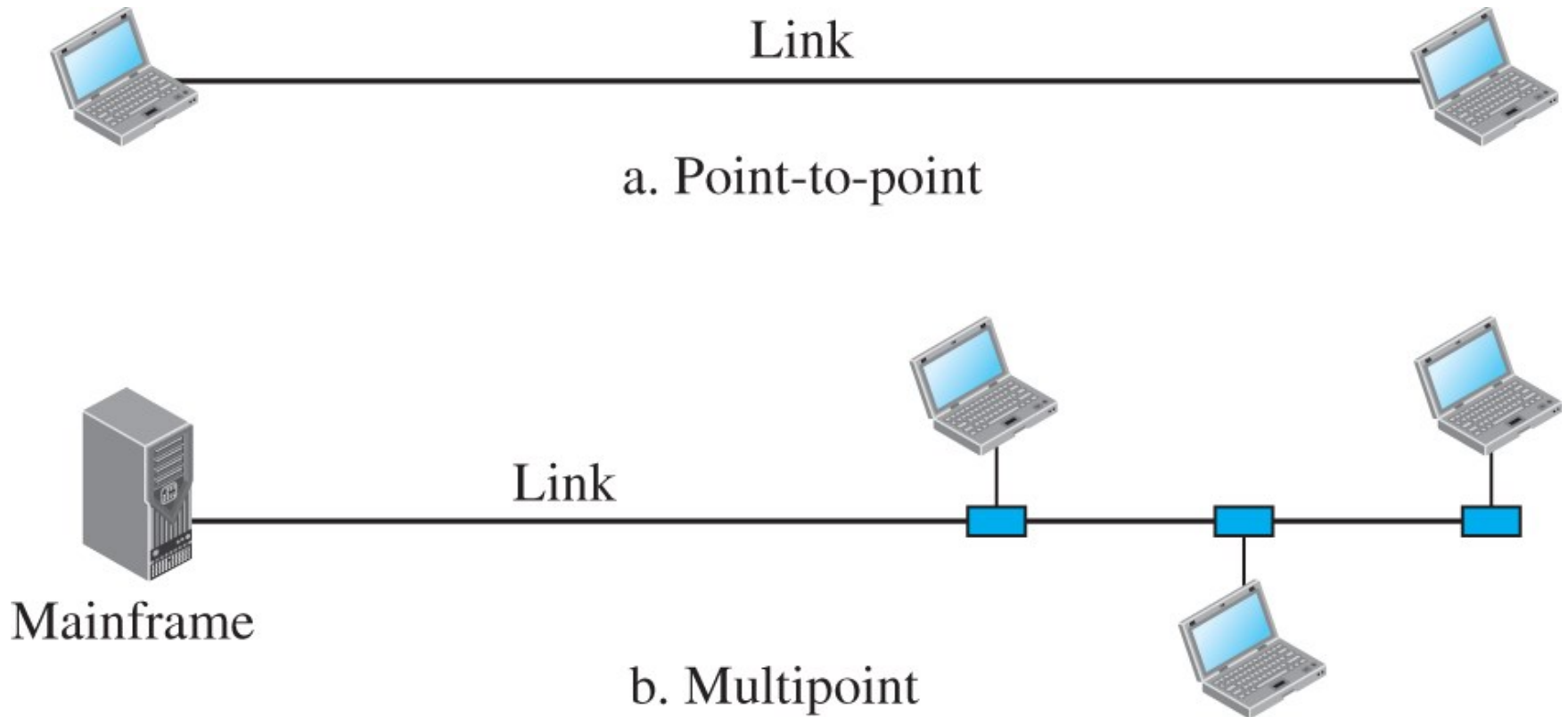
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Physical Topology

The term physical topology refers to the way in which a network is laid out physically. Two or more devices connect to a link; two or more links form a topology. The topology of a network is the geometric representation of the relationship of all the links and linking devices (usually called nodes) to one another. There are four basic topologies possible: mesh, star, bus, and ring.
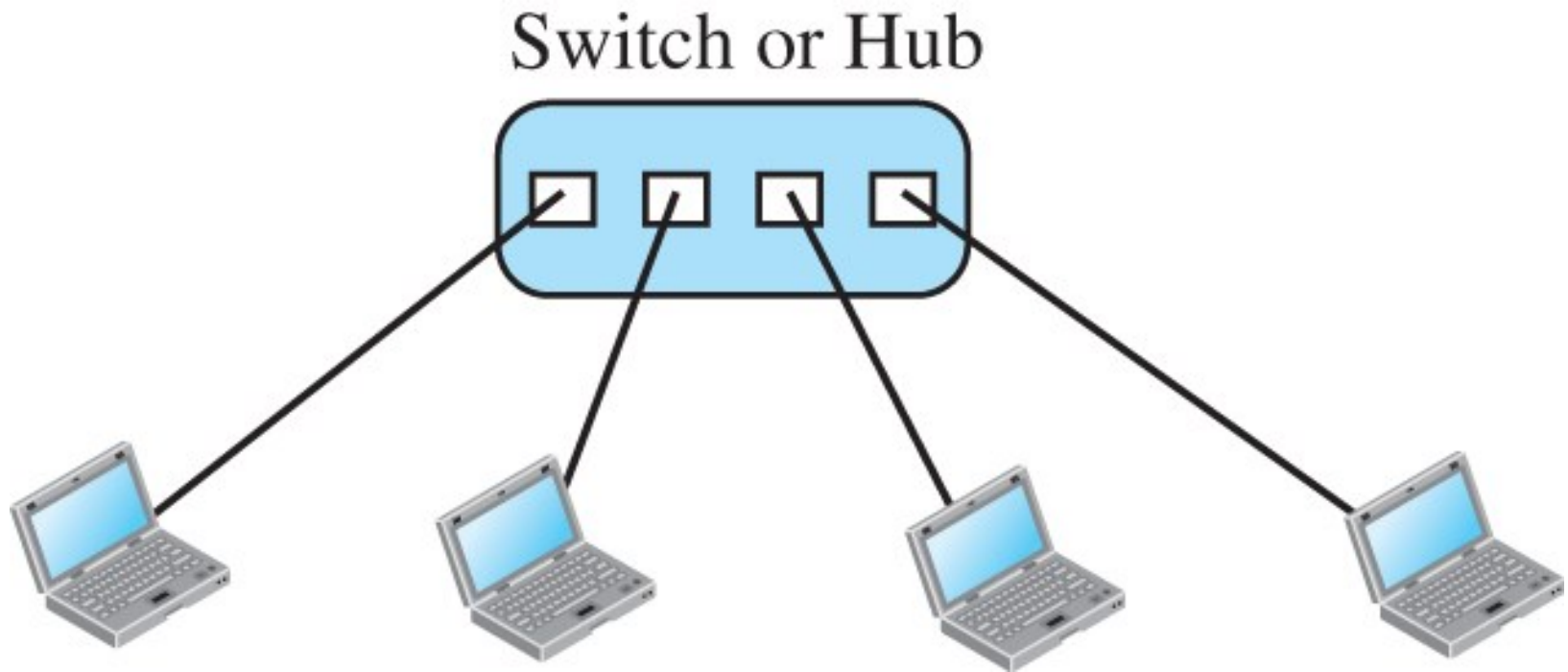
Figure 1.4 A fully connected mesh topology

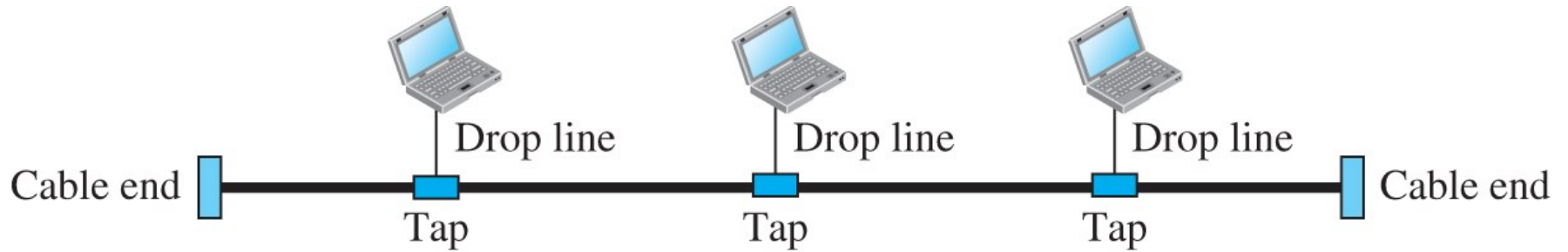**n = 5**   **10 links**
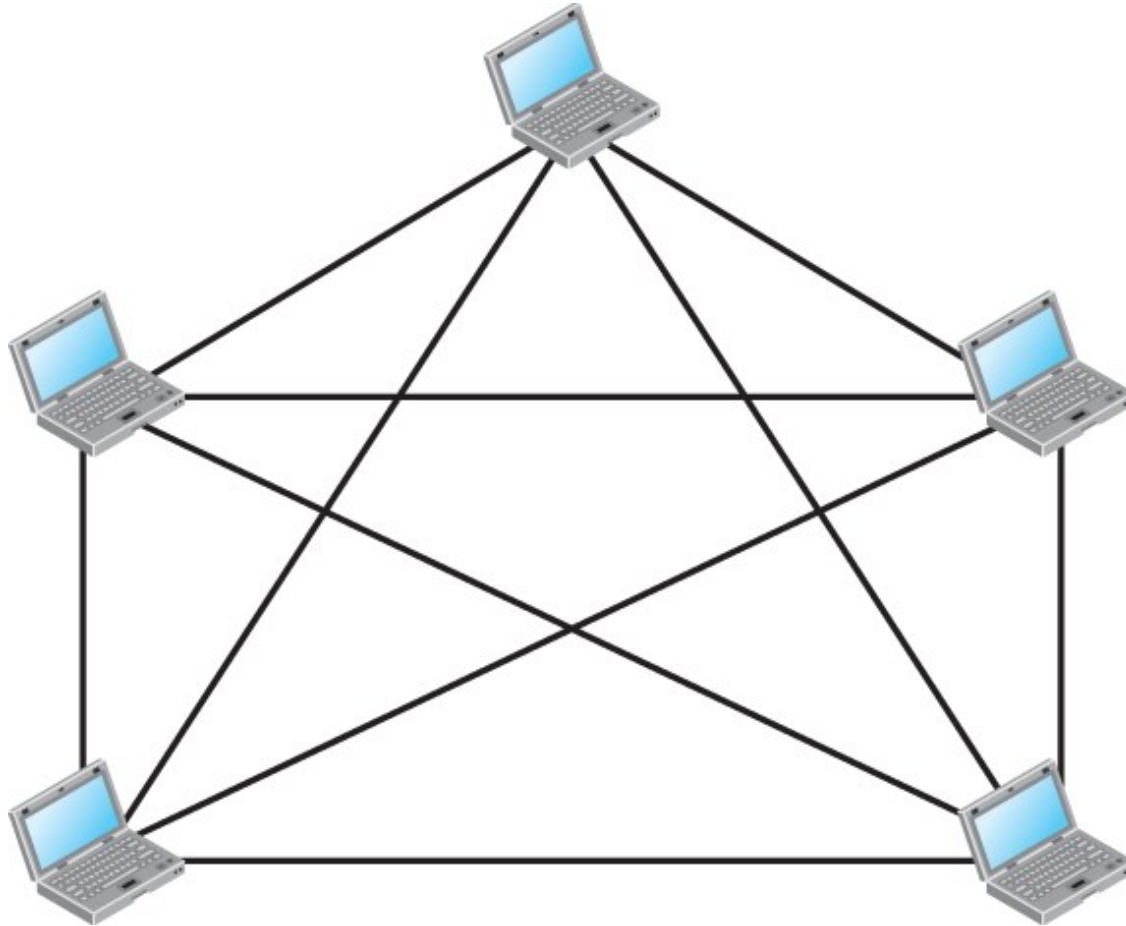
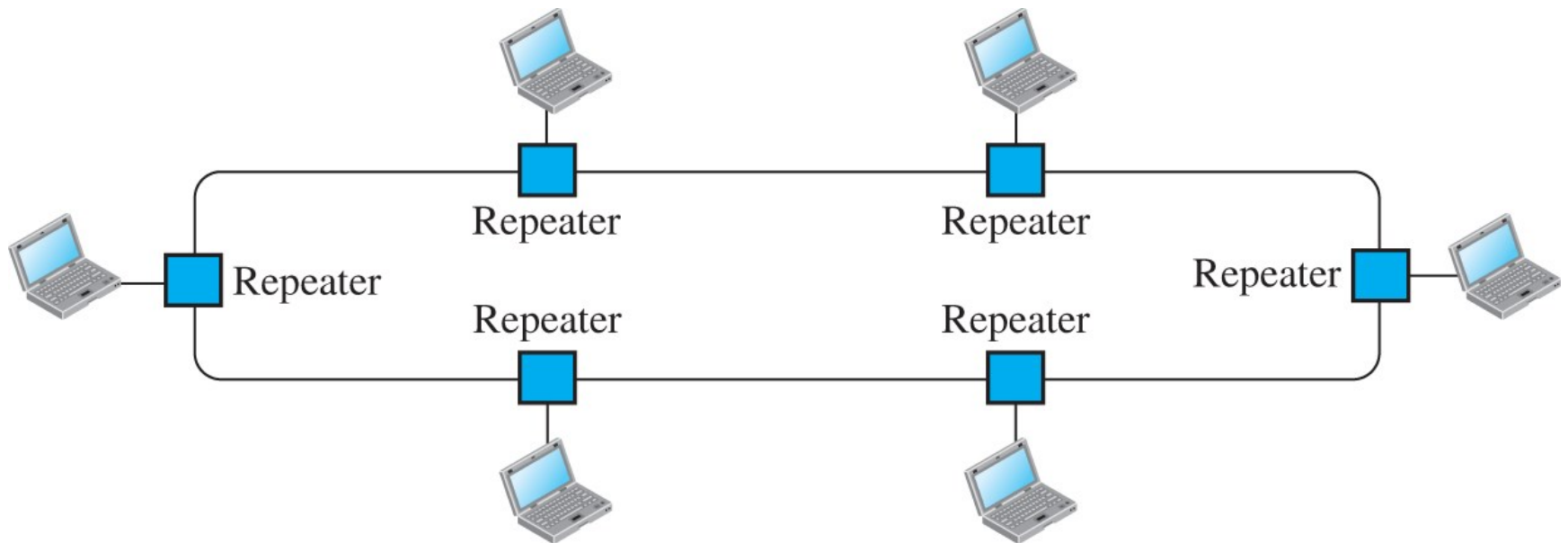*Access the text alternative for slide images.*

Figure 1.5 A star topology

Figure 1.6 A bus topology

Cable end | Drop line — Tap | Drop line — Tap | Drop line — Tap | Cable end

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Figure 1.7 A ring topology

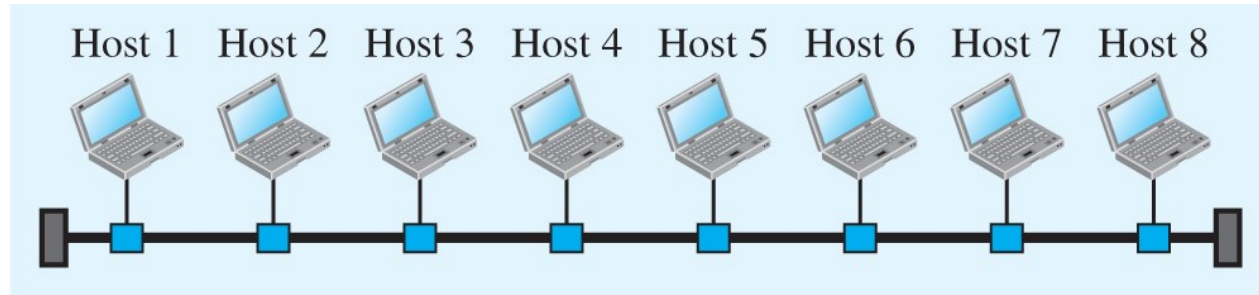# 1-3 NETWORK TYPES

A network can be of two types: LANs and WANs
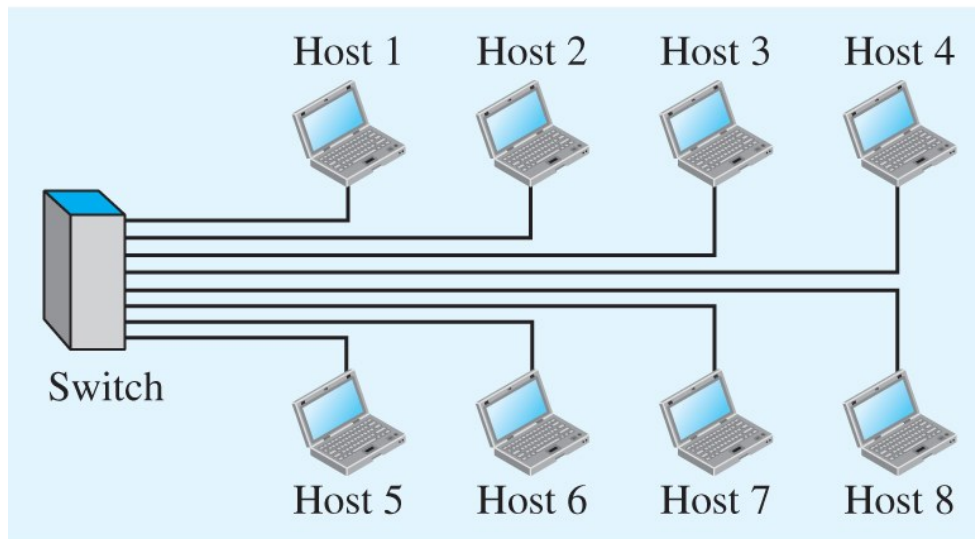
1.3.1 Local Area Network (LAN)

A local area network (LAN) is usually privately owned and connects some hosts in a single office, building, or campus.

Figure 1.8 An isolated LAN in the past and today

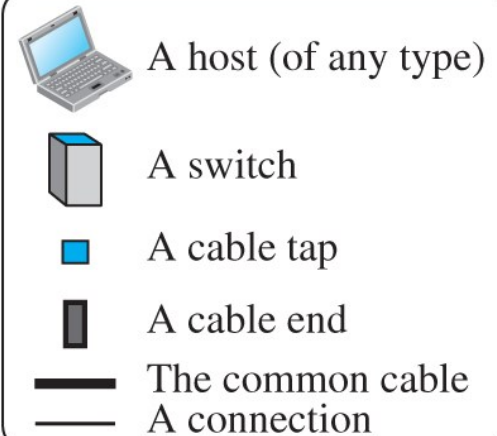
a. LAN with a common cable (past)

b. LAN with a switch (today)

Legend

- A host (of any type)
- A switch
- A cable tap
- A cable end
- The common cable
- A connection

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1.3.2 Wide Area Network (WAN)

A wide area network (WAN) is also a connection of devices capable of communication. a WAN has a wider geographical span, spanning a town, a state, a country, or even the world.

Point-to-Point WAN

A point-to-point WAN is a network that connects two communicating devices through a transmission media (cable or air). Figure 1.9 shows an example of a point-to-point WAN.

Figure 1.9 A point-to-point WAN

Legend
- A connecting device
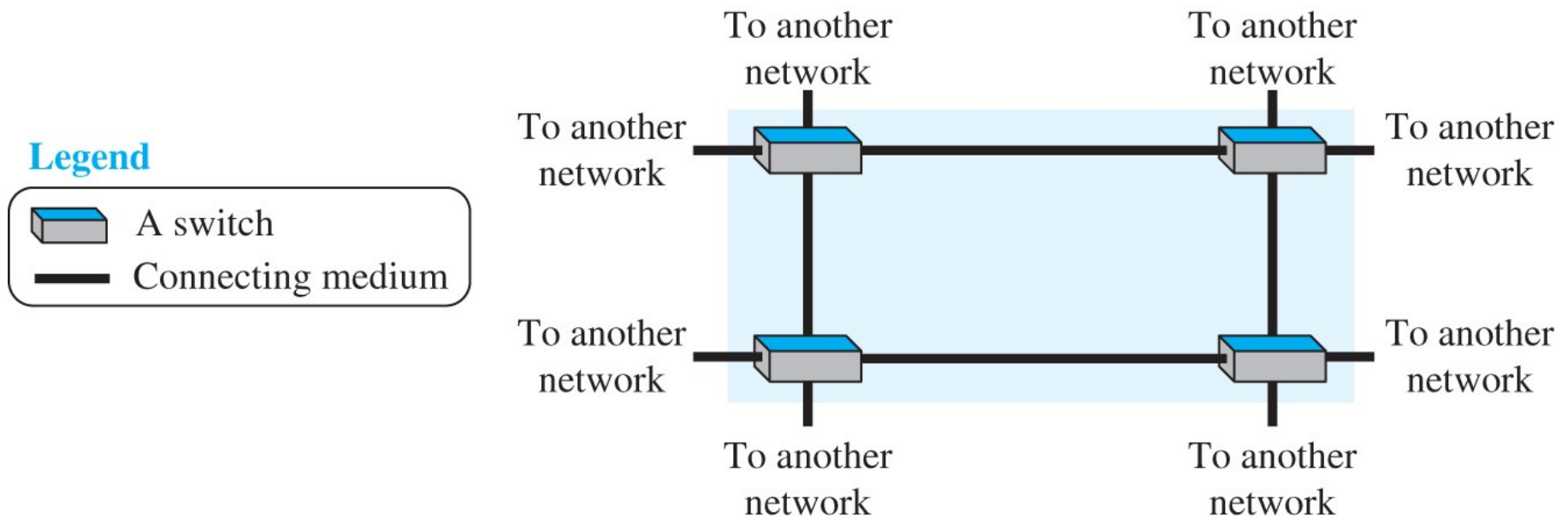- Connecting medium

To another network

To another network
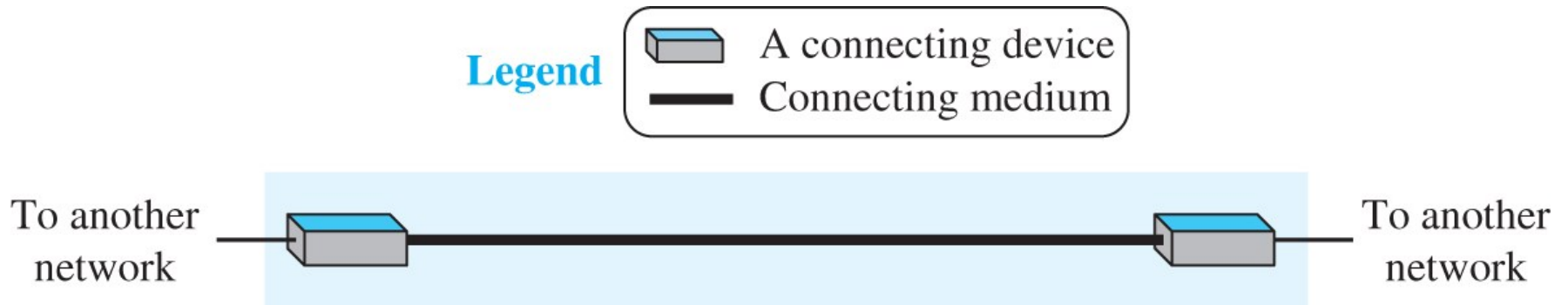
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Switched WAN

A switched WAN is a network with more than two ends. A switched WAN is used in the backbone of global communication today. Figure 1.10 shows an example of a switched WAN.
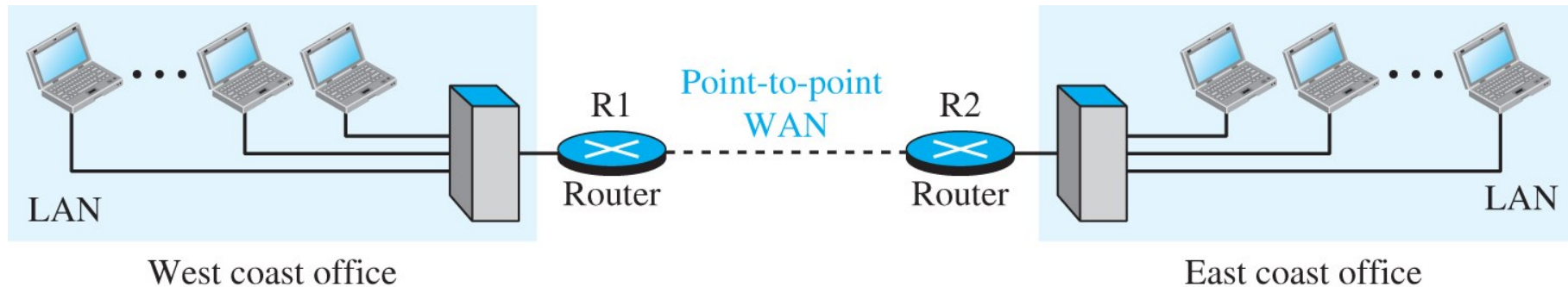
Figure 1.10 A switched WAN

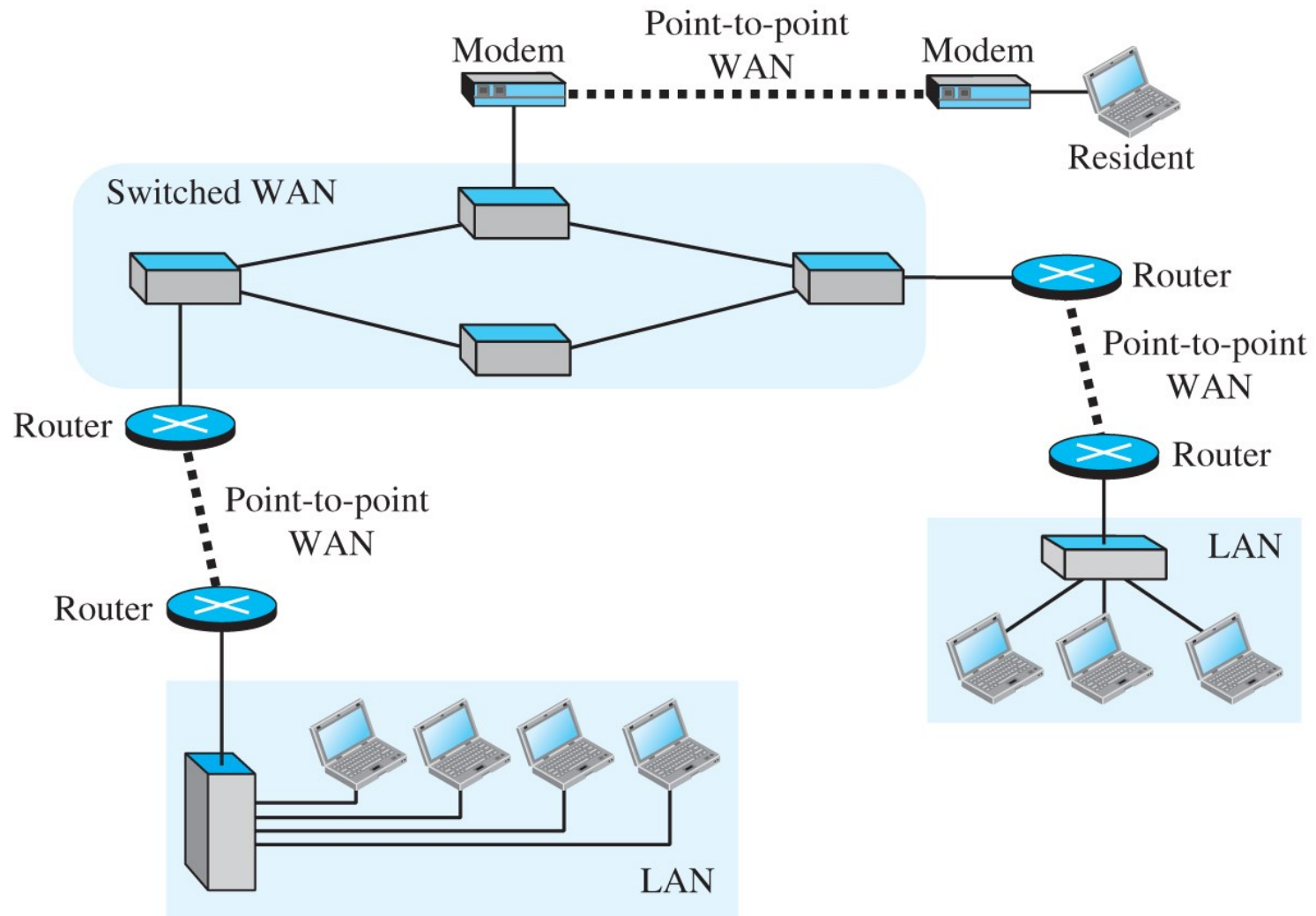Access the text alternative for slide images.

Internetwork

Today, it is very rare to see a LAN or a WAN in isolation; they are connected to one another. When two or more networks are connected, they make an internetwork, or internet.

Figure 1.11 An internetwork made of two LANs and one WAN

Figure 1.12 A heterogeneous network made of WANs and LANs

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1.3.3 The Internet

An internet (note the lowercase i) is two or more networks that can communicate with each other. The most notable internet is called the Internet (uppercase I) and is composed of millions of interconnected networks. Figure 1.13 shows a conceptual (not geographical) view of the Internet.

Figure 1.13 The Internet today
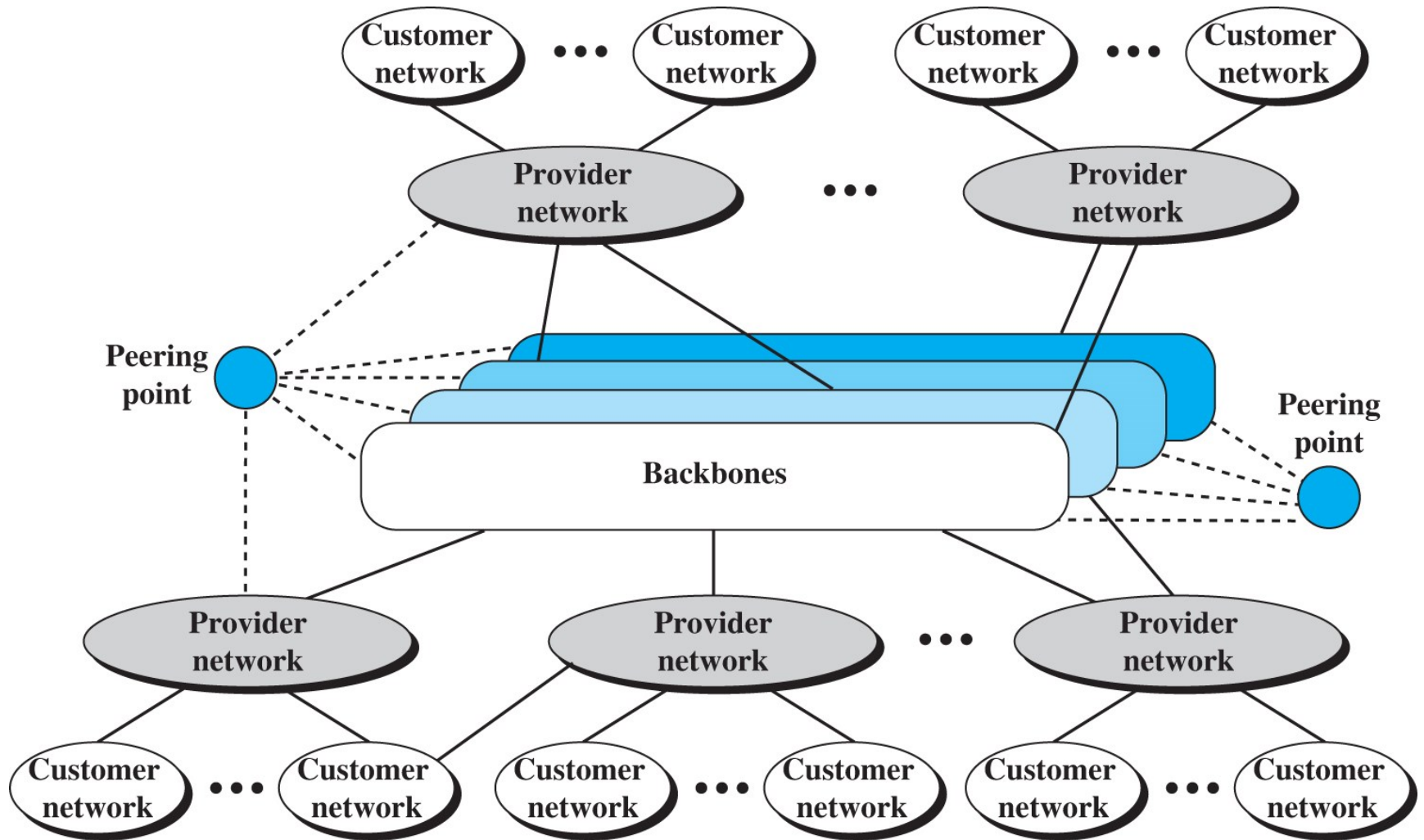
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1.3.4 Accessing the Internet

The Internet today is an internetwork that allows any user to become part of it. The user, however, needs to be physically connected to an ISP. The physical connection is normally done through a point-to-point WAN.

Using Telephone Networks

Today most residences and small businesses have telephone service, which means they are connected to a telephone network. Since most telephone networks have already connected themselves to the Internet, one option for residences and small businesses to connect to the Internet is to change the voice line between the residence or business and the telephone center to a point-to-point WAN.

Using Cable Networks

More and more residents over the last two decades have begun using cable TV services instead of antennas to receive TV broadcasting. The cable companies have been upgrading their cable networks and connecting to the Internet. A residence or a small business can be connected to the Internet by using this service.

Using Wireless Networks

Wireless connectivity has recently become increasingly popular. A household or a small business can use a combination of wireless and wired connections to access the Internet. With the growing wireless WAN access, a household or a small business can be connected to the Internet through a wireless WAN.

Direct Connection to the Internet

A large organization or a large corporation can itself become a local ISP and be connected to the Internet. This can be done if the organization or the corporation leases a high-speed WAN from a carrier provider and connects itself to a regional ISP. For example, a large university with several campuses can create an internetwork and then connect the internetwork to the Internet.

1-4 PROTOCOL LAYERING

We defined the term protocol before. 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 directly.

1.4.1 Scenarios

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

First Scenario

A large organization or a large corporation can itself become a local ISP and be connected to the Internet. This can be done if the organization or the corporation leases a high-speed WAN from a carrier provider and connects itself to a regional ISP.

Figure 1.14 A single-layer protocol

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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. They decide to continue their conversion 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 use an encryption/decryption technique.

Figure 1.15 A three-layer protocol
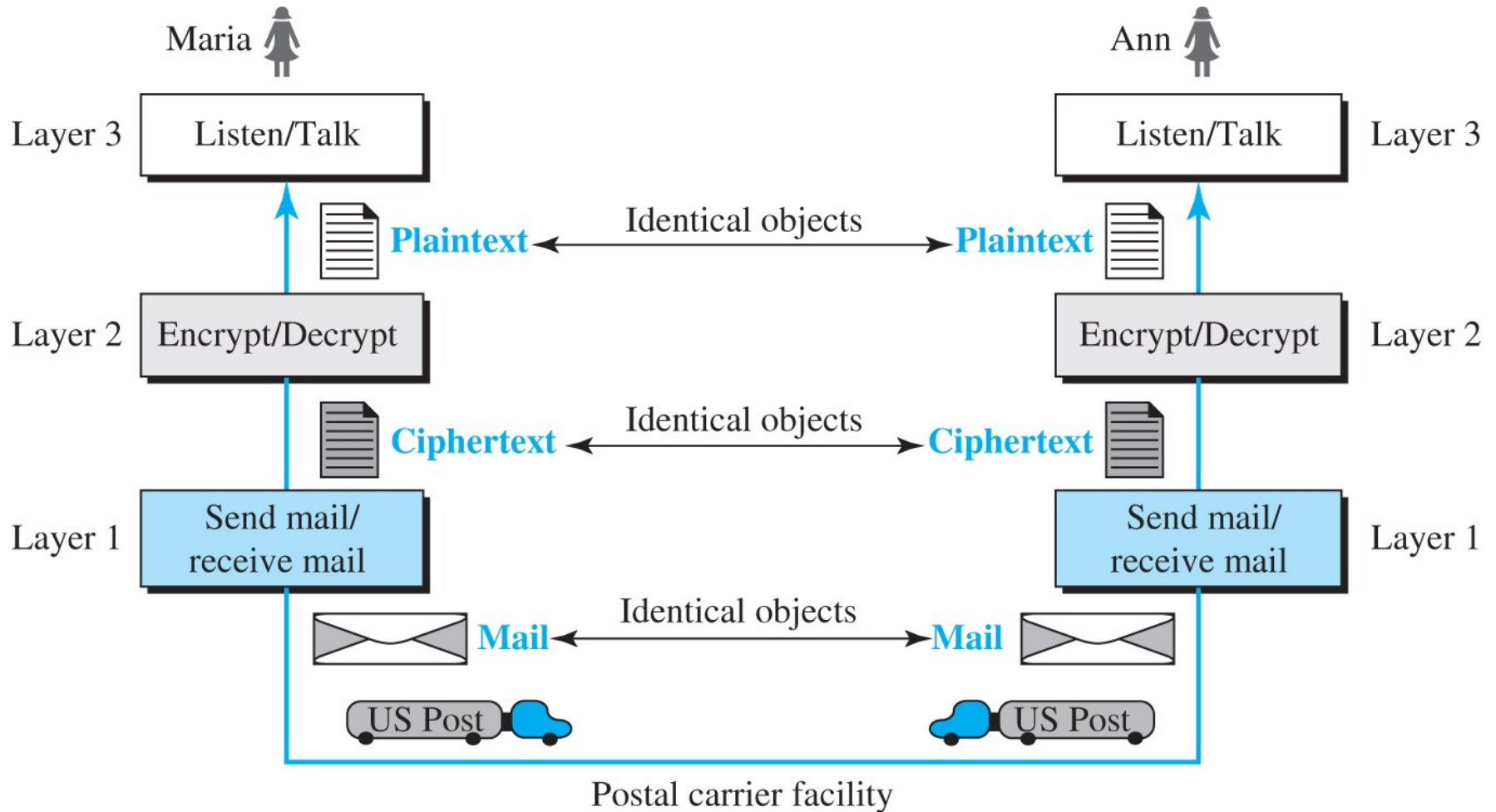
1.4.2 Principles of Protocol Layering

Let us discuss two principles of protocol layering.

First Principle

The first principle dictates that we need to make each layer to perform two opposite task in each direction.
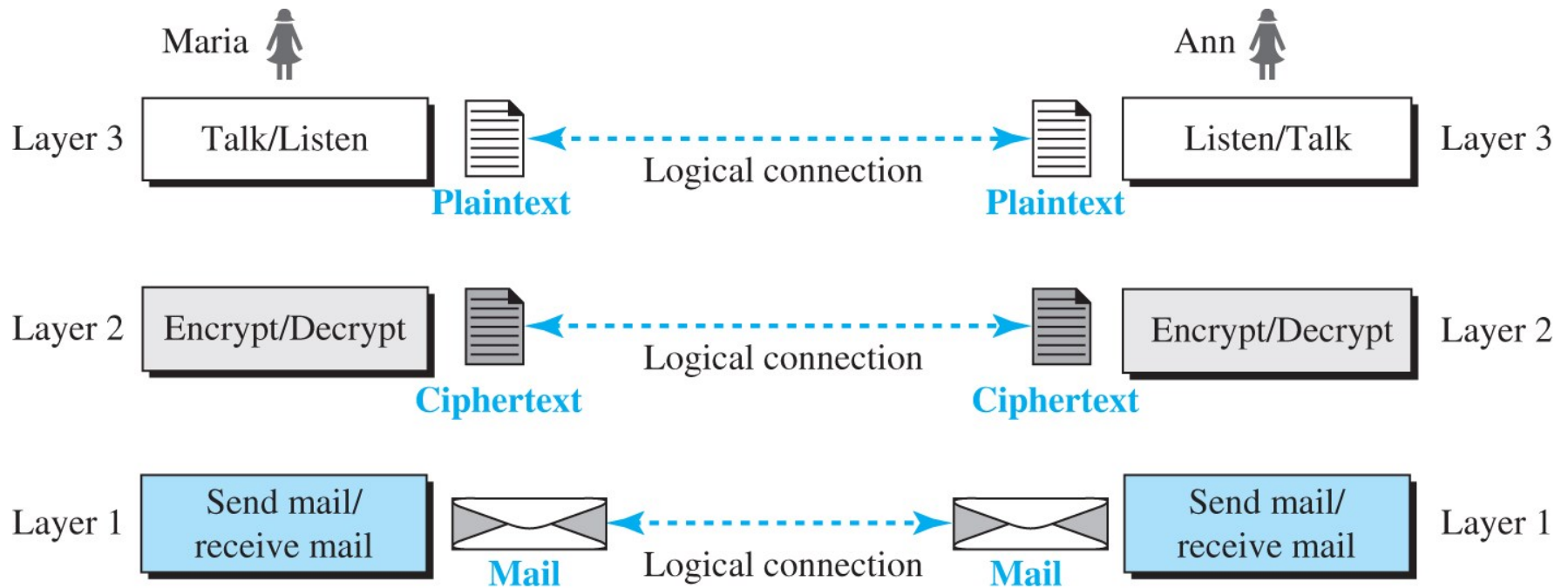
Second Principle

The second principle dictates that two objects under each layer should be identical.

1.4.3 Logical Connections

After following the above two principles, we can think about logical connection between each layer as shown in Figure 1.16.

Figure 1.16 Logical connection between peer layers

1-5 TCP/IP PROTOCOL SUITE
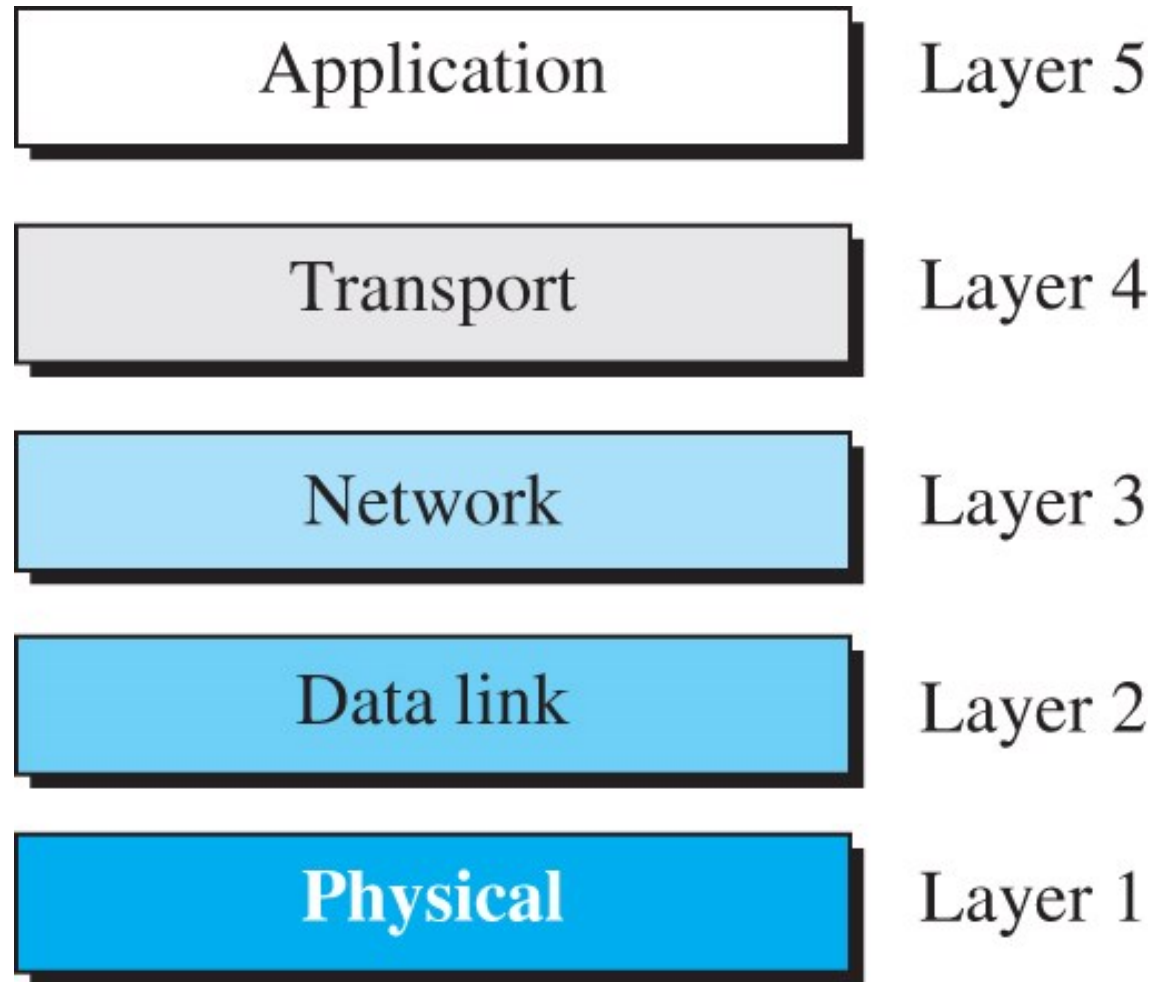
Now we can introduce the TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol / Internet Protocol). This is the protocol suite used in the Internet today.

Figure 1.17 Layers in the TCP/IP protocol suite
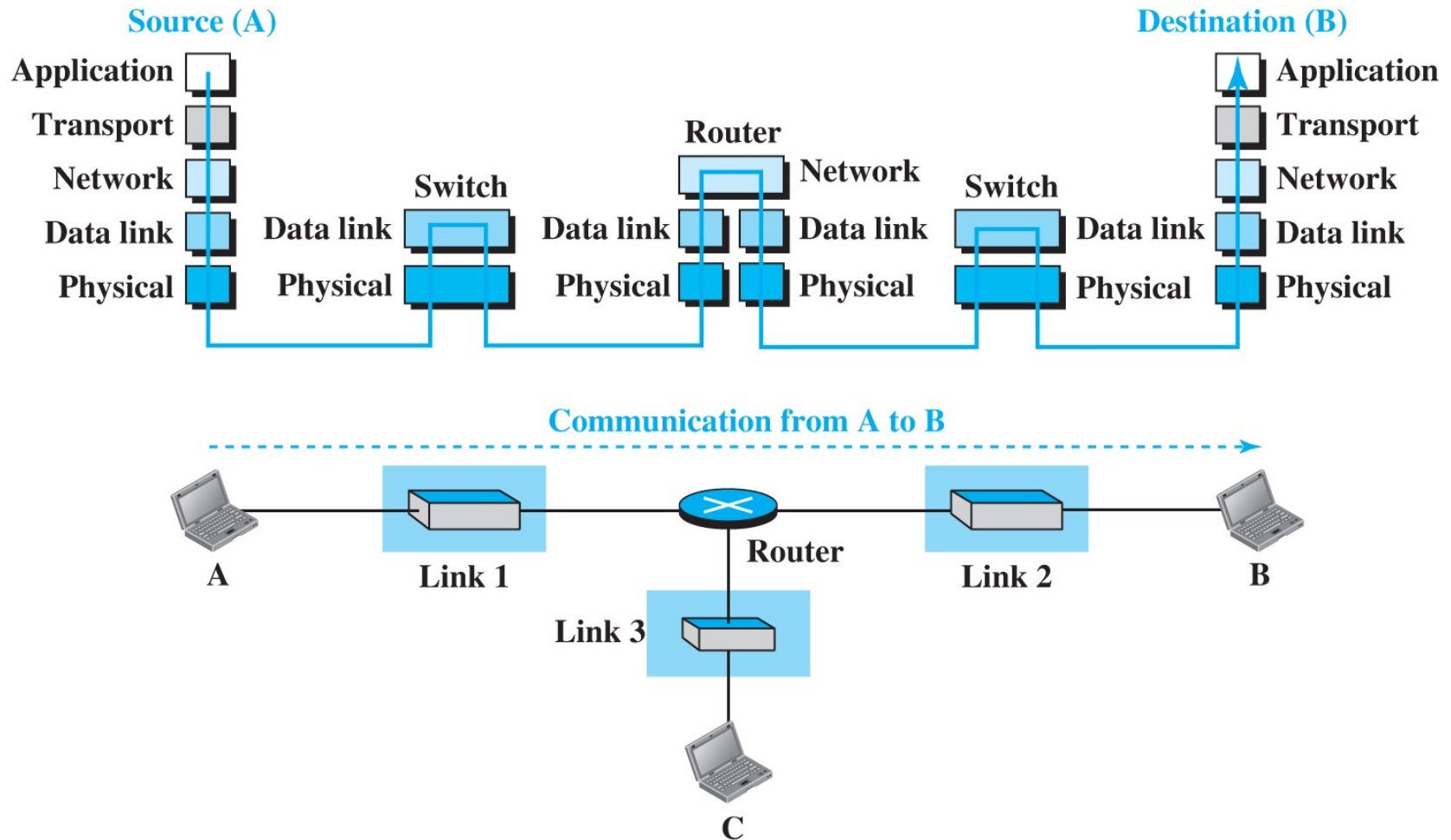

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1.5.1 Layered Architecture

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 Figure 1.18.

Figure 1.18 Communication through an internet

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1.5.2 Brief Description of Layers

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. Figure 1.19 shows logical connections in our simple internet.

Figure 1.19 Logical connections between layers in TCP/IP
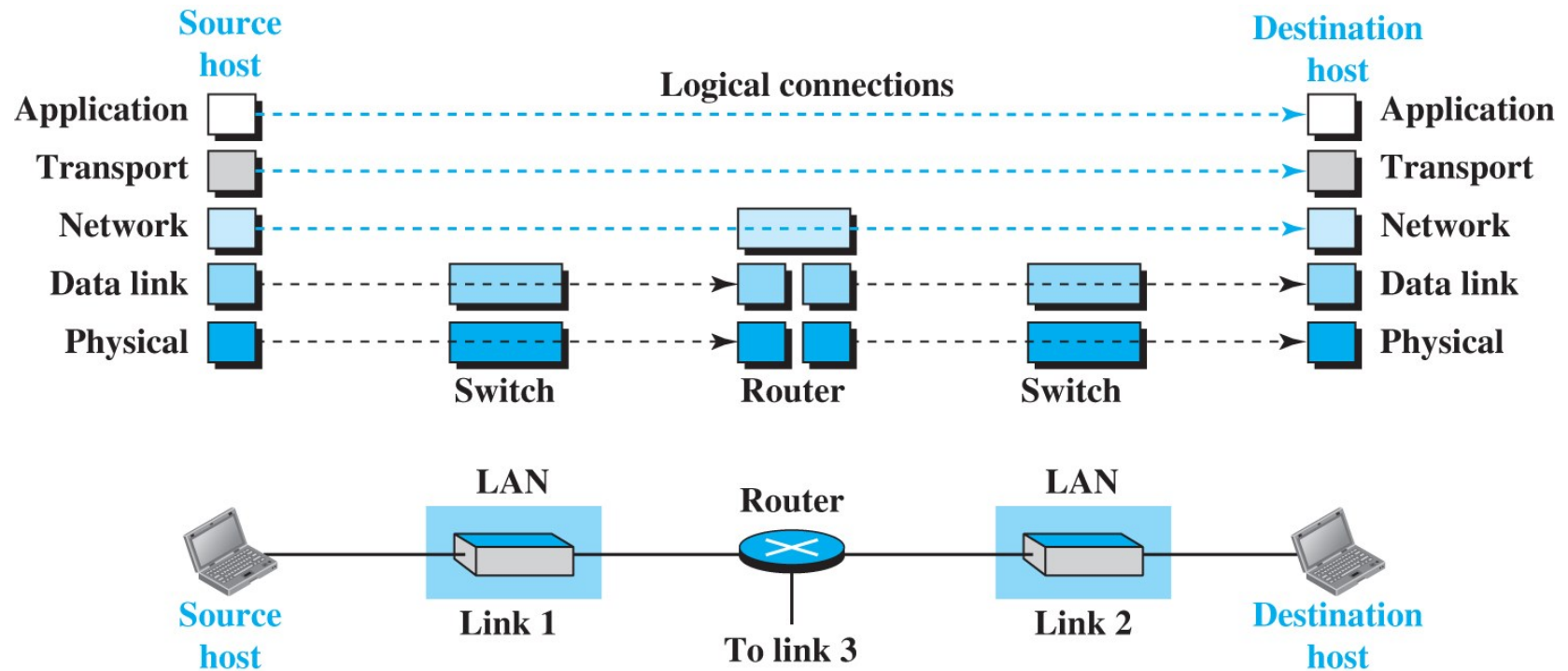
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Figure 1.20 Identical objects in the TCP/IP protocol suite
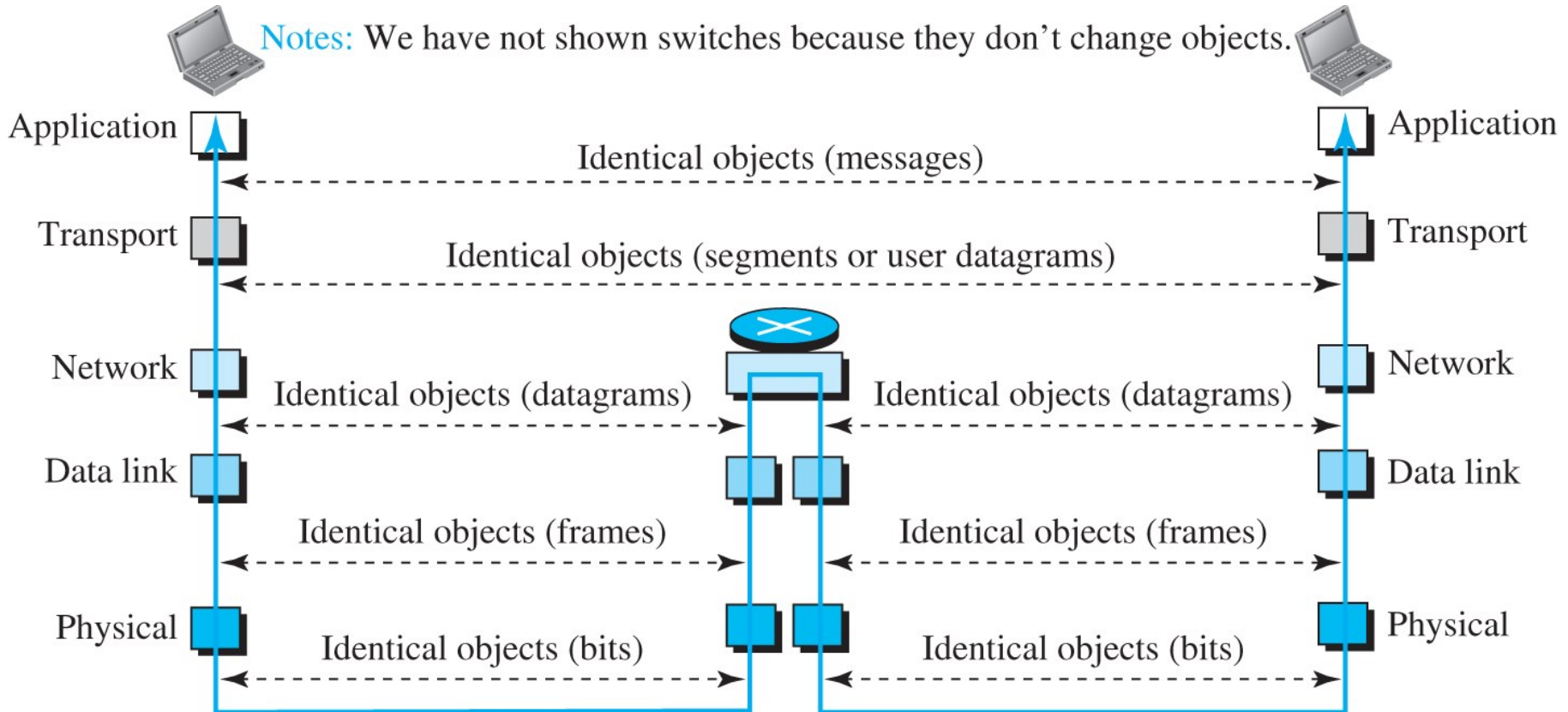
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1.5.3 Description of Each Layer

After understanding the concept of logical communication, we are ready to briefly discuss the duty of each layer. Our discussion in this chapter will be very brief, but we come back to the duty of each layer in next five parts of the book.

Physical Layer

We can say that the physical layer is responsible for carrying individual bits in a frame across the link. The physical layer is the lowest level in the TCP/IP 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. We discuss Physical Layer in Chapter 2.

Data Link Layer

We have seen that an internet is made up of several links (LANs and WANs) connected by routers. 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. We discuss Data-Link Layer in Chapter 3.

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 discuss Network Layer in Chapter 4.

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. 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. transmits user datagrams without first creating a logical connection. We discuss Transport Layer in Chapter 9.
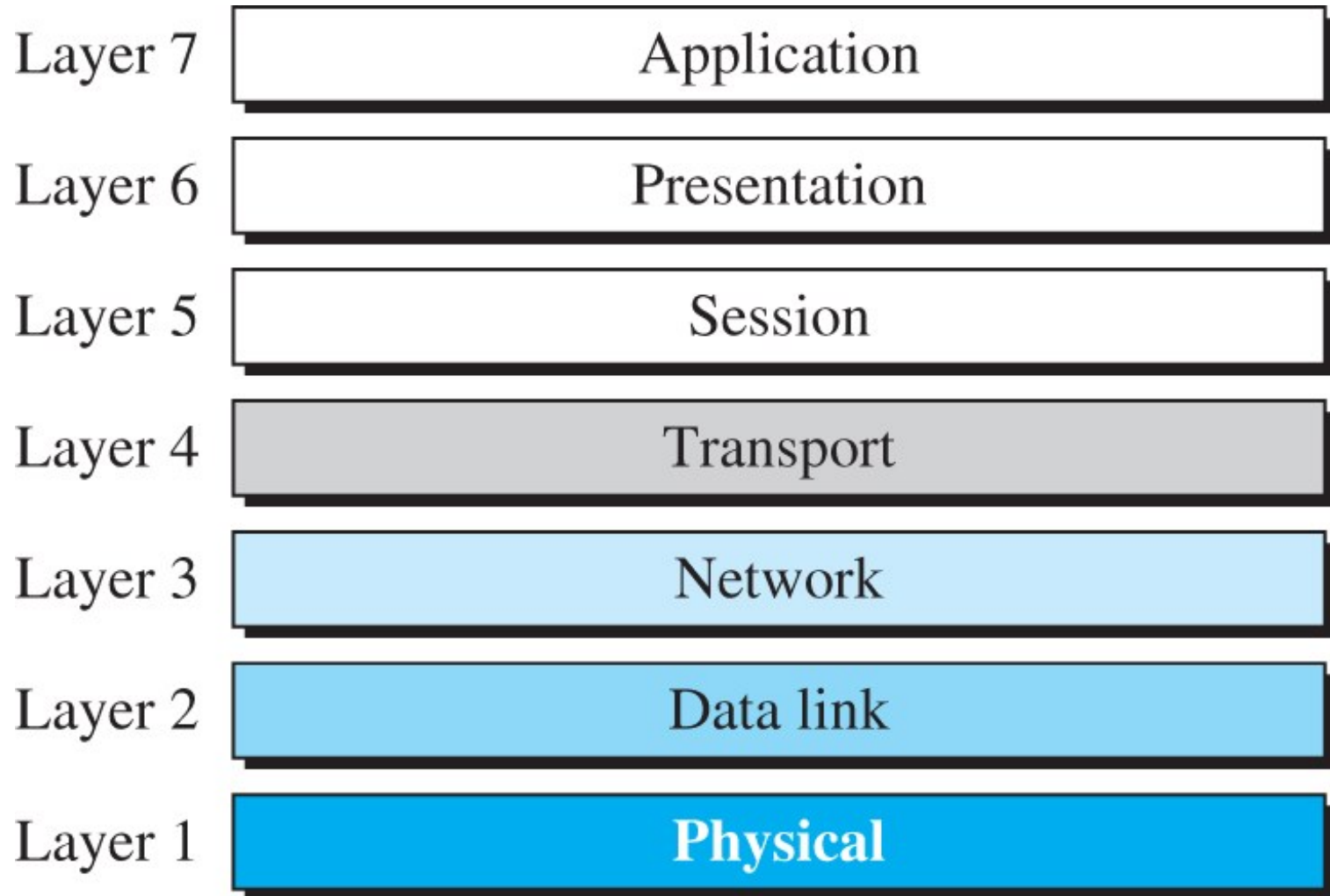
Application Layer

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. We discuss Application Layer in Chapter 10.

1-6 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.

Figure 1.21 The OSI model

Layer 7	Application
Layer 6	Presentation
Layer 5	Session
Layer 4	Transport
Layer 3	Network
Layer 2	Data link
Layer 1	**Physical**

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1.6.1 OSI versus TCP/IP

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, as shown in Figure 1.22.

Figure 1.22 TCP/IP and OSI model
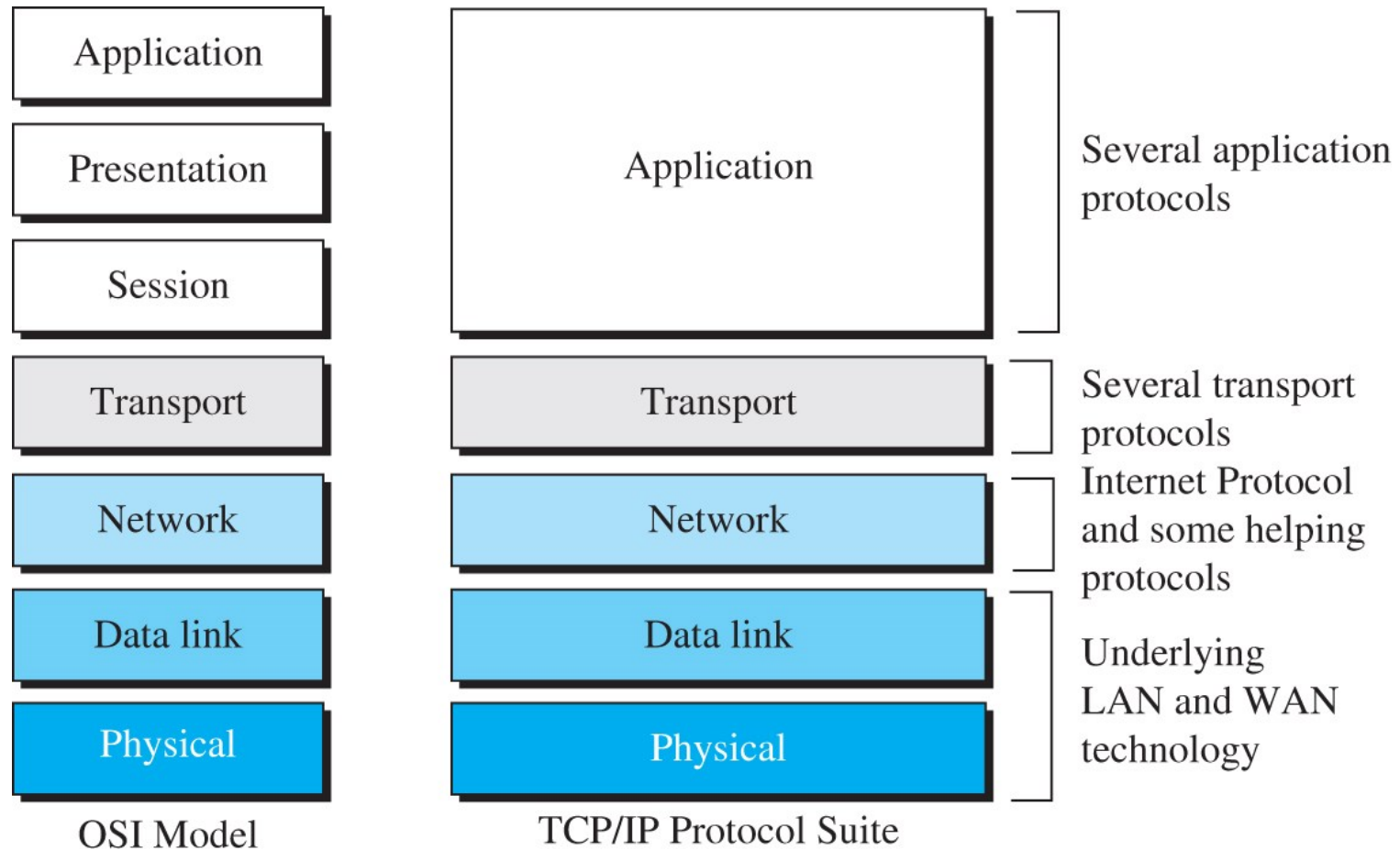
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1.6.2 Lack of OSI Model's Success

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.

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