

Overview

- Circuit-switched vs Packet-switched
- Difference between switch and router
 - Switch: within a Local Area Network (LAN), only in layer 2 protocols.
 - Router: between different LANs or even larger networks, only in layer 3 protocols.
- Forwarding and Routing
 - Packet: data chunk + header
 - Forwarding: transmit a packet towards the destination using forwarding table
 - Routing: the process of establishing forwarding table
- Multiplexing:
 - time division multiplexing (TDM): allocating time slices
 - frequency division multiplexing (FDM): allocating frequency
 - statistical multiplexing: queueing packets. Possible problem: congestion, packet loss.
- Protocol
 - Definition: specification for interface between modules on different machines
 - Characteristics: data format, rules for information exchange, service implemented
- Internet layered architecture

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L5: Application -> define interactions with users
L4: Transport   -> define logical channels between apps and the network
L3: Network     -> define how packets move (routing + forwarding)
L2: Link        -> define how hosts access physical layer
L1: Physical    -> cabal and bit representations
  
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| | Data unit | Protocols |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Application | message | HTTP, FTP, Email, ... |
| Transport | message | TCP, UDP |
| Network | packet | IP |
| Link | frame | Ethernet, ... |
| Physical | bit | Cabel |

- Routers use up to network layer, while switches use only up to link layer.
- Packet and frame are just different names for the same thing.
- Encapsulation & Decapsulation

- Encapsulation: Adding headers when data moving down the stack
- Decapsulation: Removing headers when data moving up the stack