



University of  
Nottingham

UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

# COMP1047: Systems and Architecture

Dr. Fazl Ullah (Khan)

AY2023-24, Spring Semester  
Week 6

Computer Networks Part. Fundamental  
Concepts



# Introduction

- Most of the slides are based on the Books

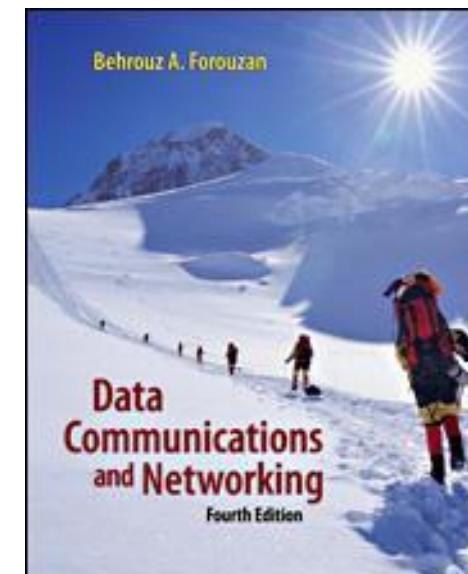
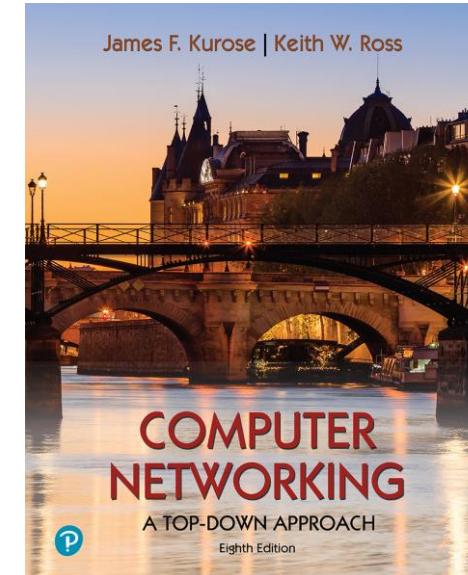
## ***1. Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach***

8<sup>th</sup> edition by Jim Kurose, Keith Ross

and

## ***2. Data Communication and Networking***

4<sup>th</sup> edition by Behrouz A. Forouzan





# Overview

## *Learning Outcomes:*

- Learn the basic of networks and networking terminologies
- Understand the types of networks and how they are designed
- the basics of Internet



## *Overview/roadmap:*

- Data and Communication
- Network and its types
- Topologies
- the Internet
- Protocol
- Network Edge
- Network Core

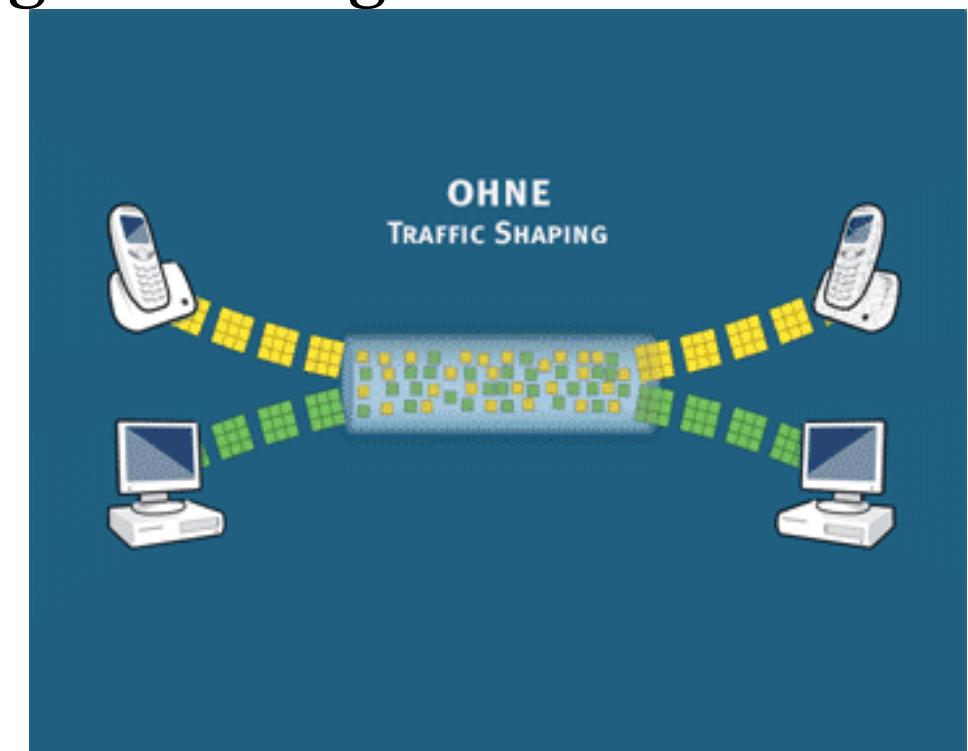
*Our goal here is to paint a broad picture and set the context for the rest of the lectures, to see the forest through the trees.*

*We'll cover a lot of ground in this introductory chapter and discuss a lot of the pieces of a computer network, without losing sight of the big picture.*



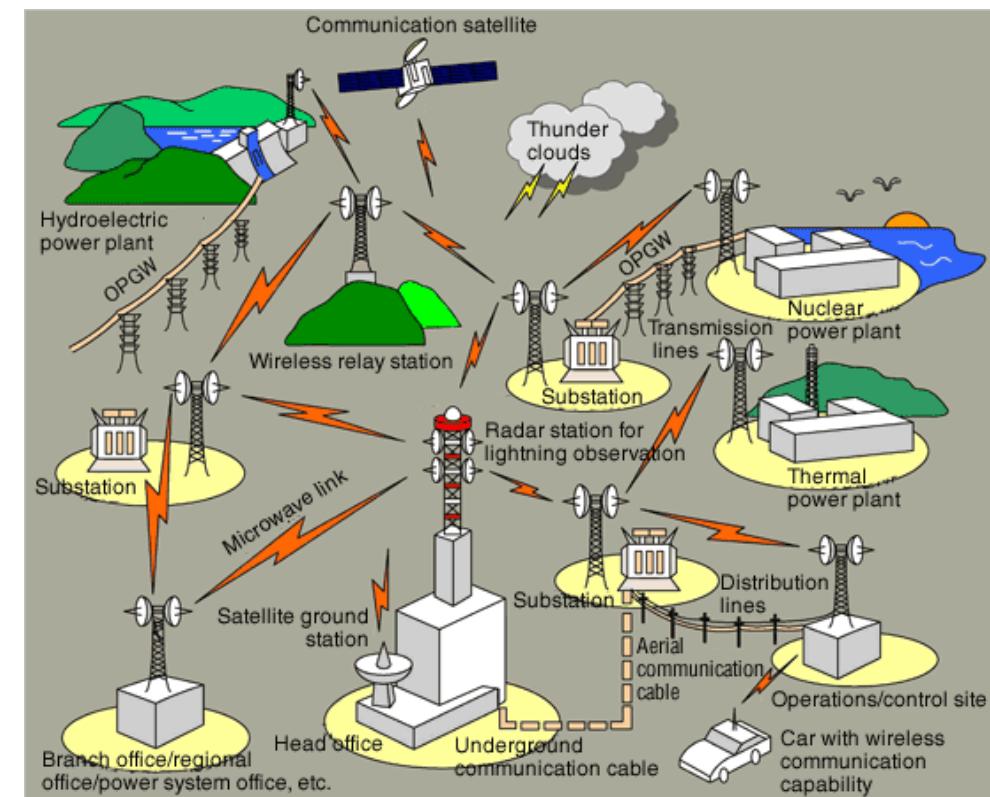
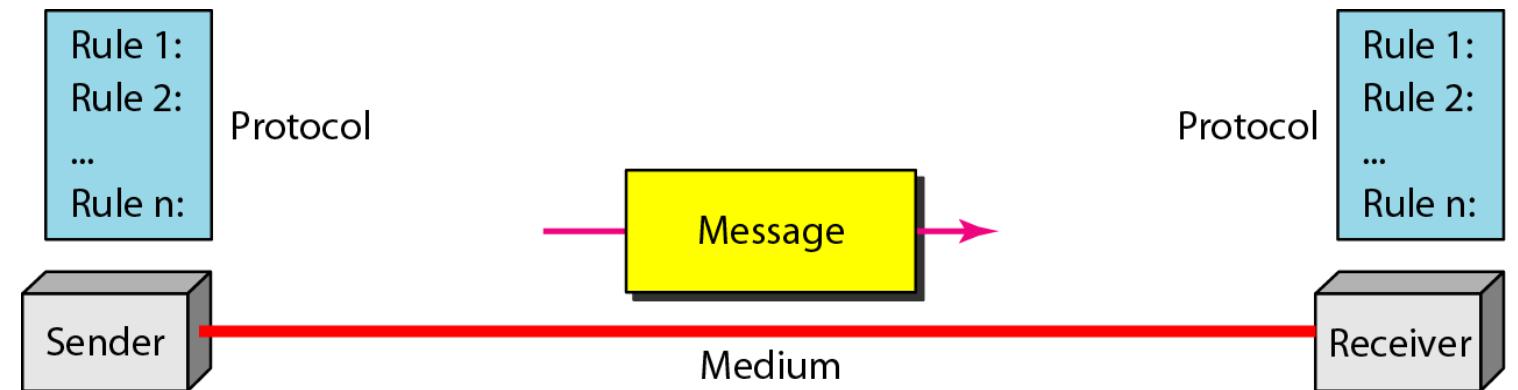
# Data Communication

- *Data communications* are the exchange of data between two devices via some form of transmission medium.
- The word *data* refers to information presented in whatever form is agreed upon by the parties creating and using the data
- The term *telecommunication* means communication at a distance



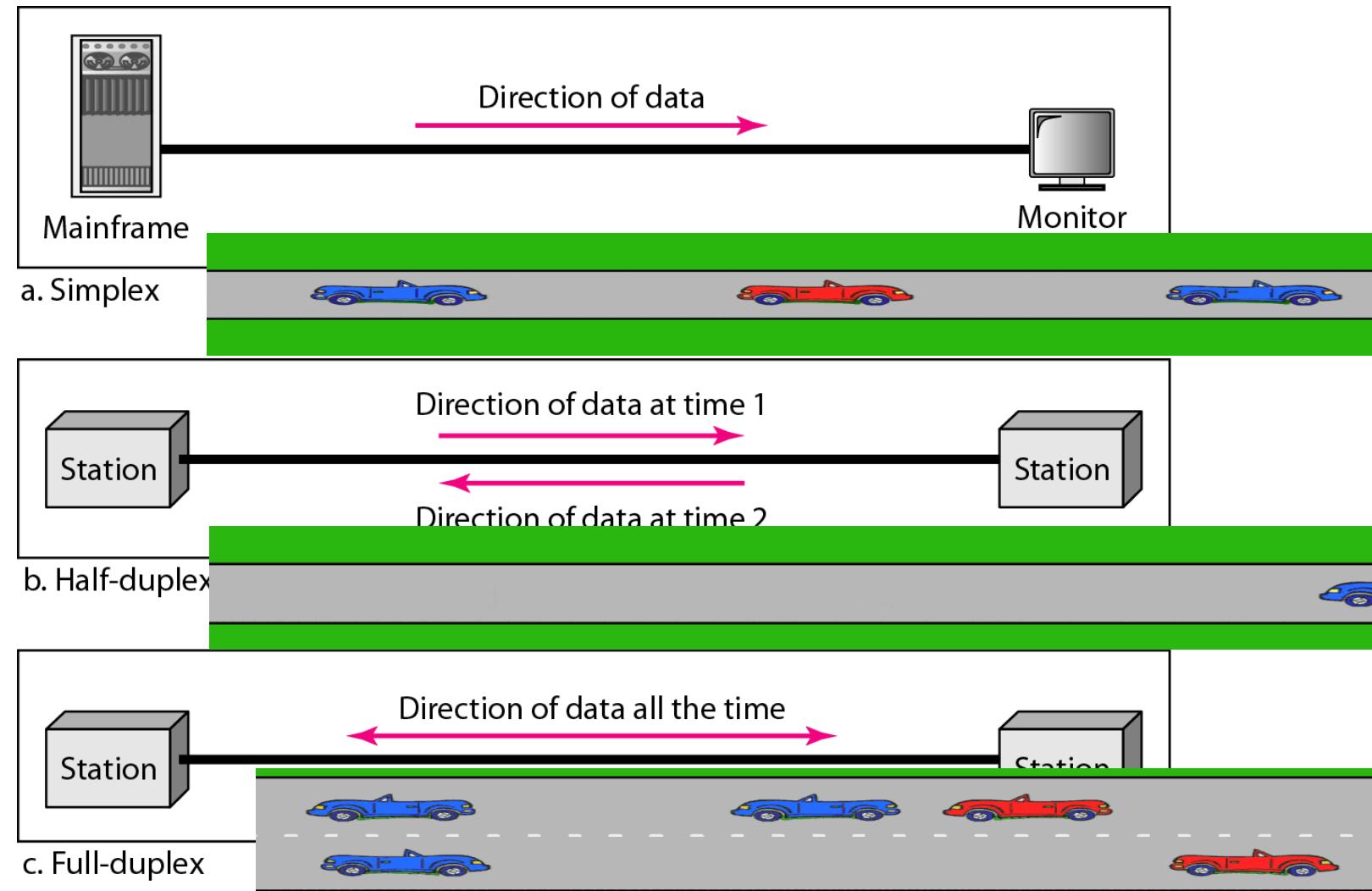
# Components of a Communication System

- **Sender:** The node sending a message
- **Receiver:** The node receiving a message
- **Medium:** A channel through which message is transmitted
- **Message:** Any piece of data or information
- **Protocol:** The system of rules to communicate



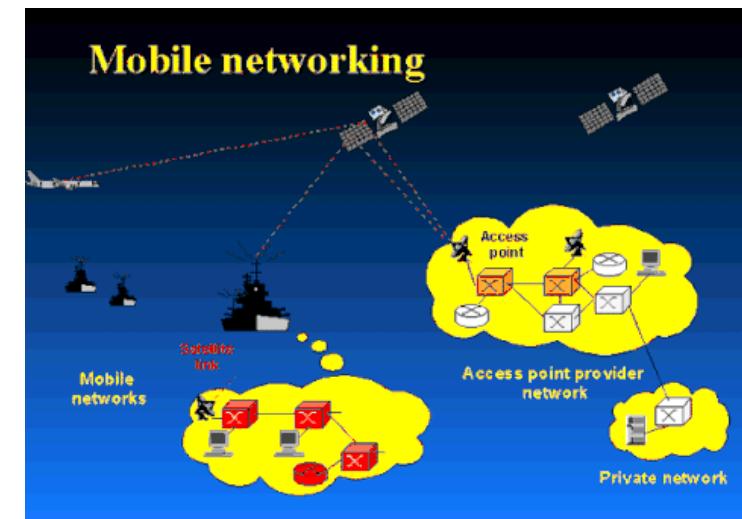
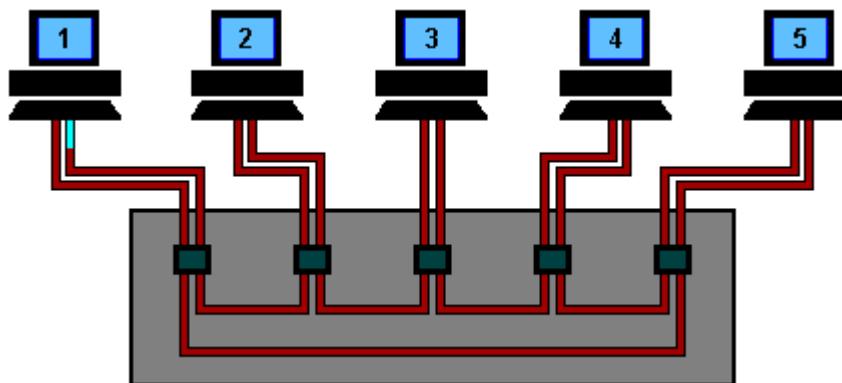
# Data Flow

- *Data Flow: The route that data takes from sender to receiver*
- *Simplex:*
  - Keyboard
  - Traditional Monitor
- *Half-duplex:*
  - Walkie-Talkie
- *Full-duplex:*
  - Workstations
  - Upload/Download



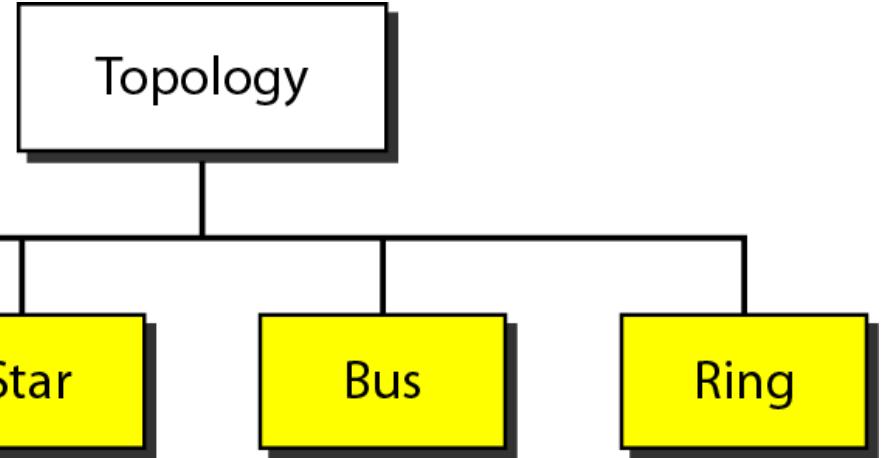
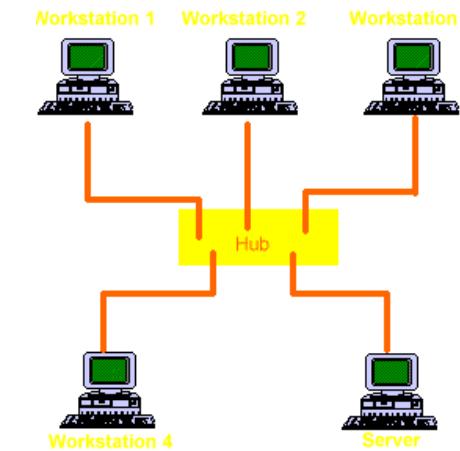
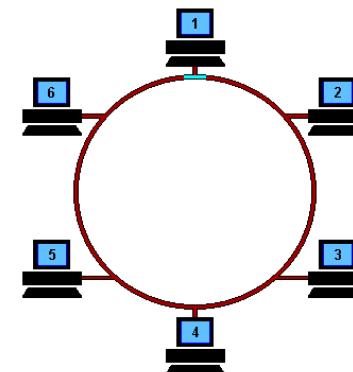
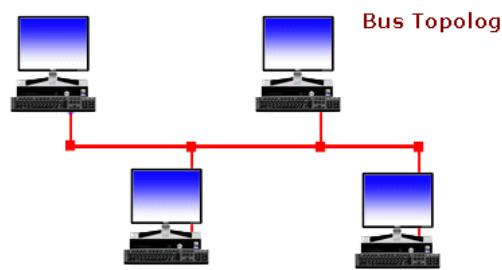
# Networks

- A *network* is a set of devices (often referred to as *nodes*) connected by communication *links*
- A *node* can be a computer, printer, or any other device
  - It is capable of sending/receiving data generated by other nodes on the network
- A *link* can be a cable, air, optical fiber, or any medium which can transport a signal carrying information.



# Network Topology

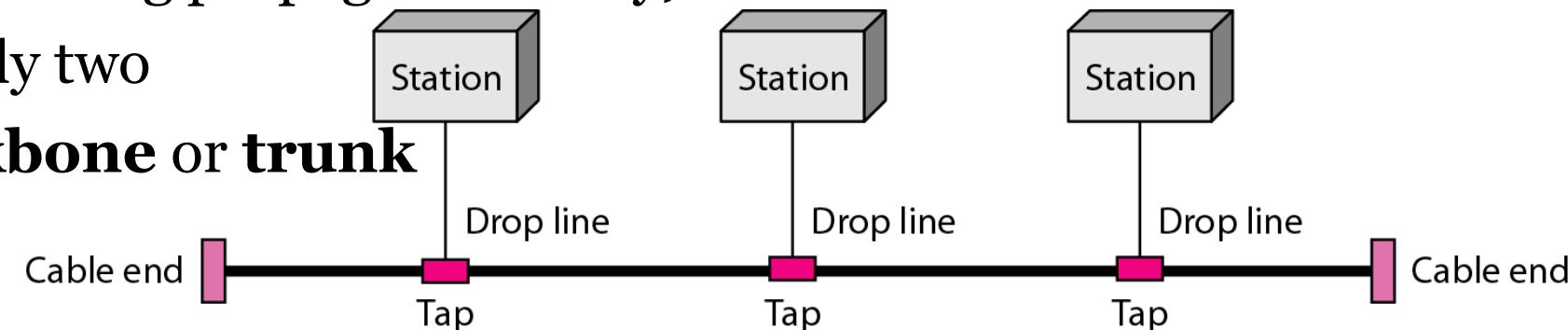
- **Topology:**
  - *The physical layout of a network*
- **Types**
  - *Bus*
  - *Ring*
  - *Star*
  - *Mesh*
  - *Hybrid etc*



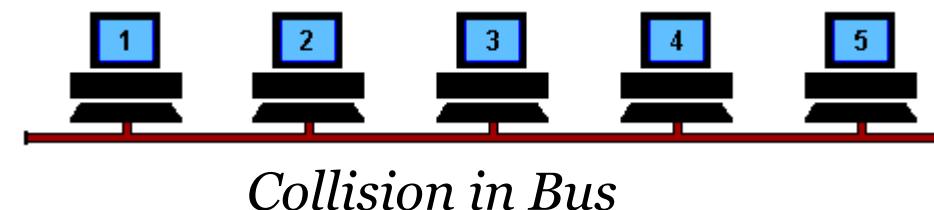
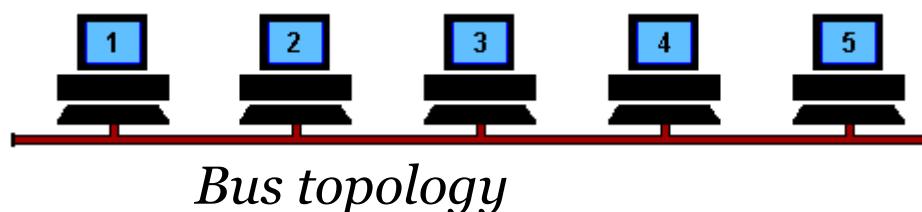
[Further details about Network Topologies](#)

# Bus Topology

- *Three stations Bus*
  - All data are transmitted over the common transmission medium
  - All data are able to be received by all nodes in the network virtually simultaneously (disregarding propagation delay)
  - The medium has exactly two endpoints called **backbone** or **trunk**

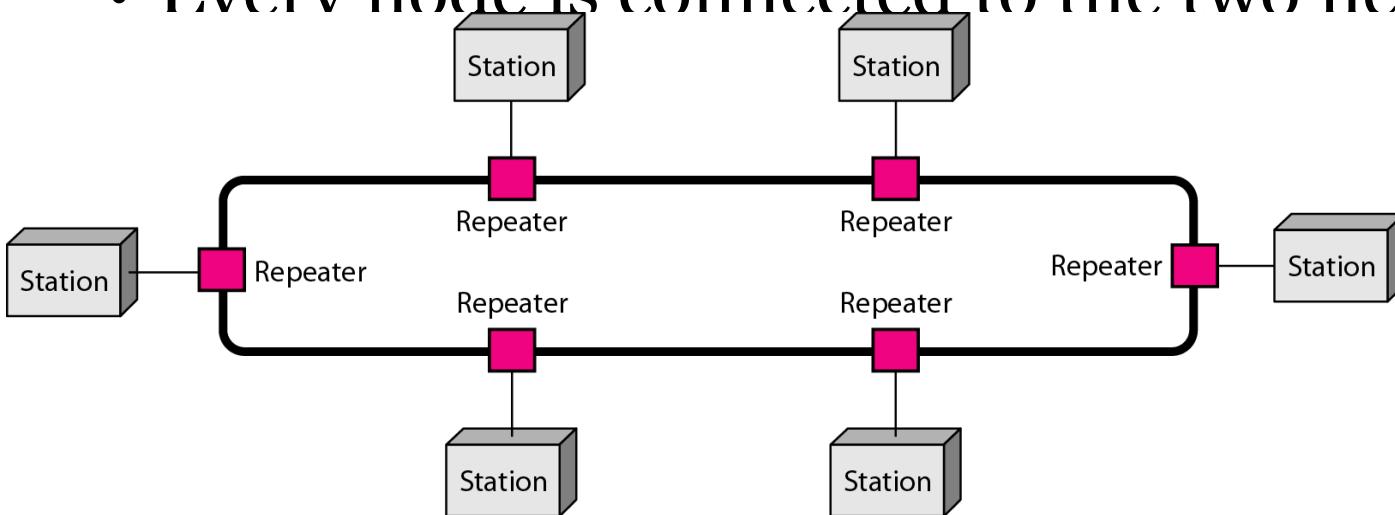


- *Five stations Bus with/without collision*
  - Connected to a single cable

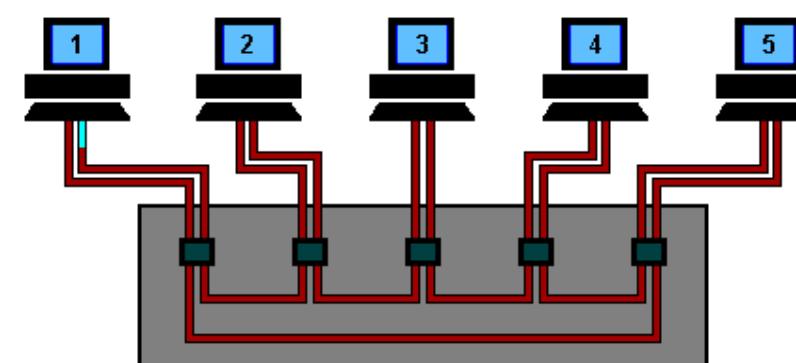


# Ring Topology

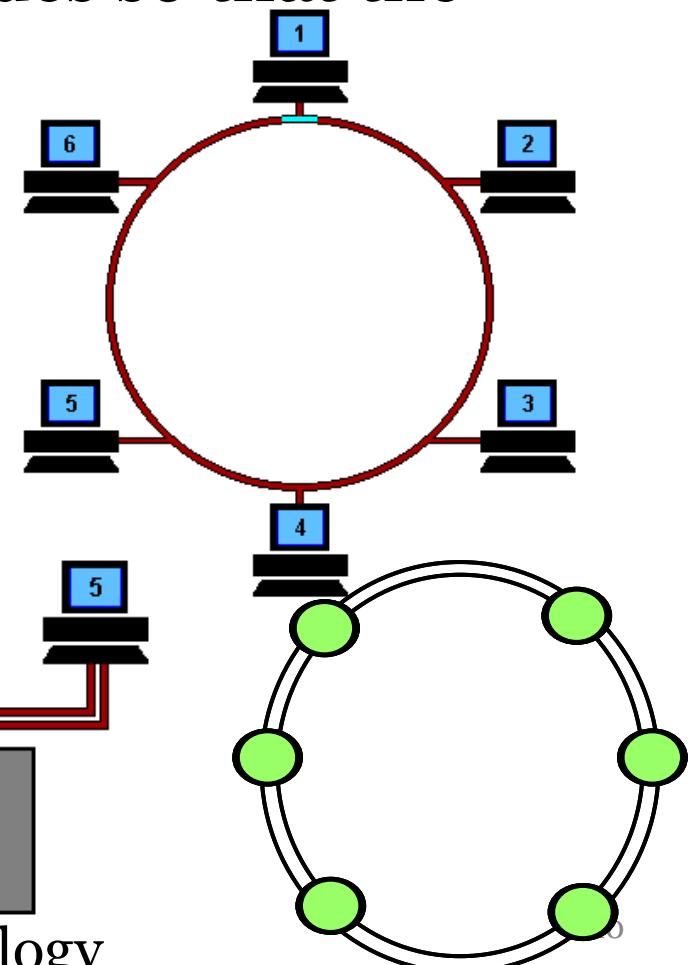
- *A ring topology connecting six stations*
- Every node is connected to the two nearest nodes so that the



- Simple and Dual Ring
  - The dual ring has twice the capacity as data can travel in both directions simultaneously

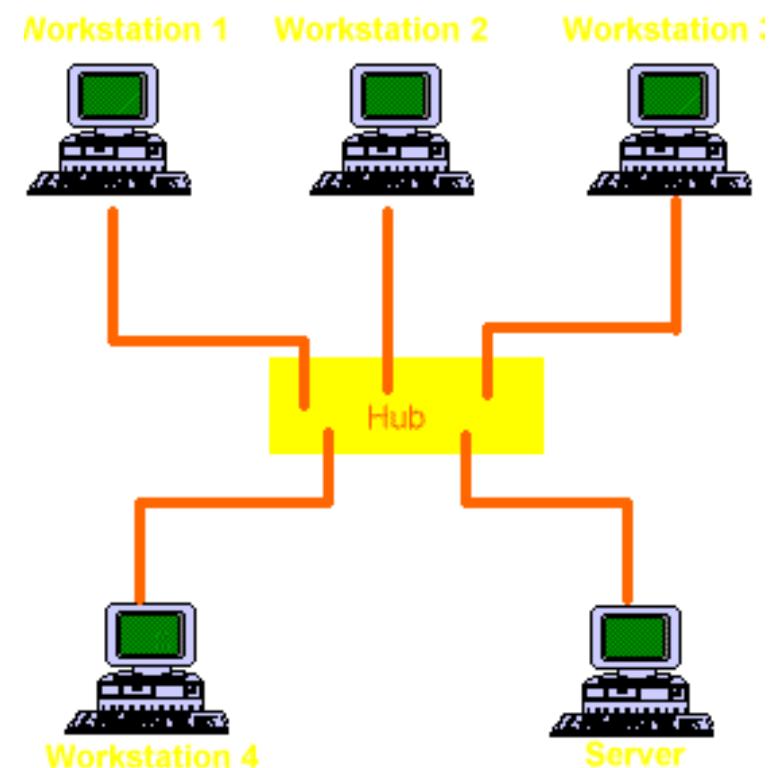
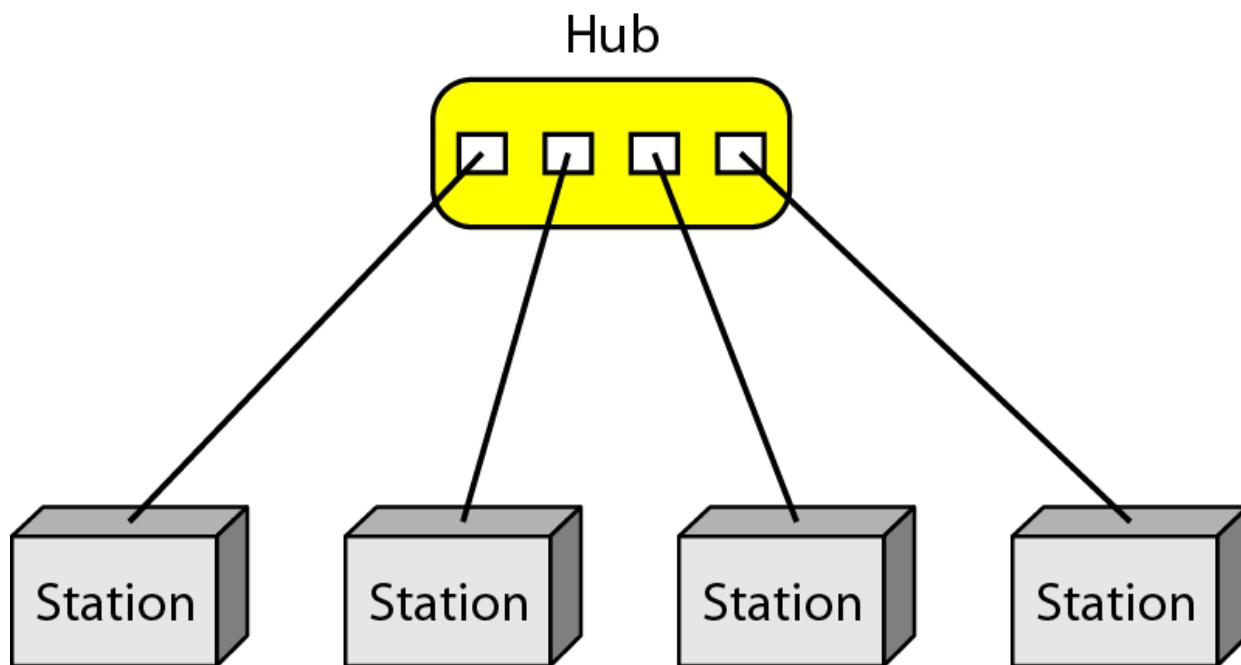


A token in the ring topology



# Star Topology

- *Four stations star*
  - connected to a centralized device (*hub/switch/router*)



# Star Topology-Variants

- *Simple Star*

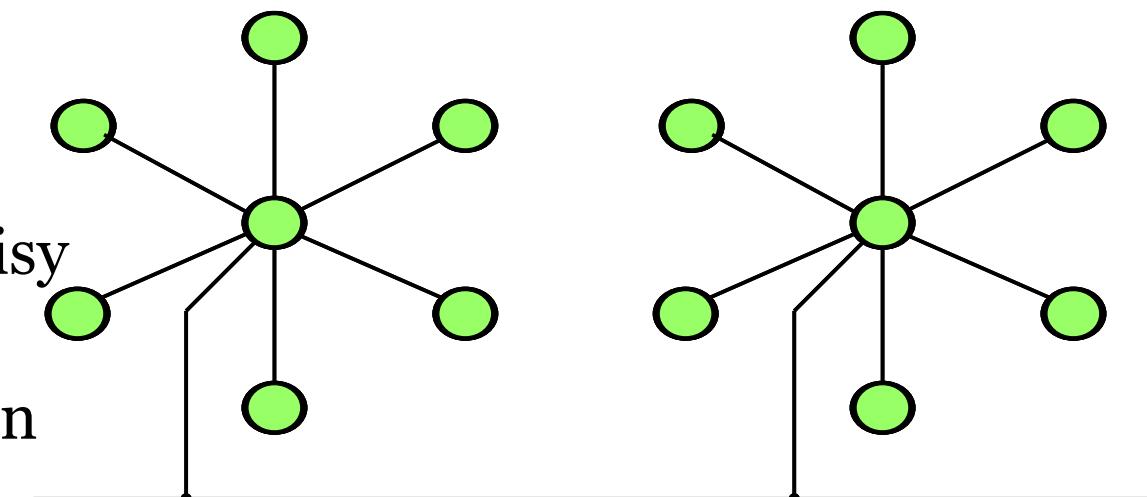
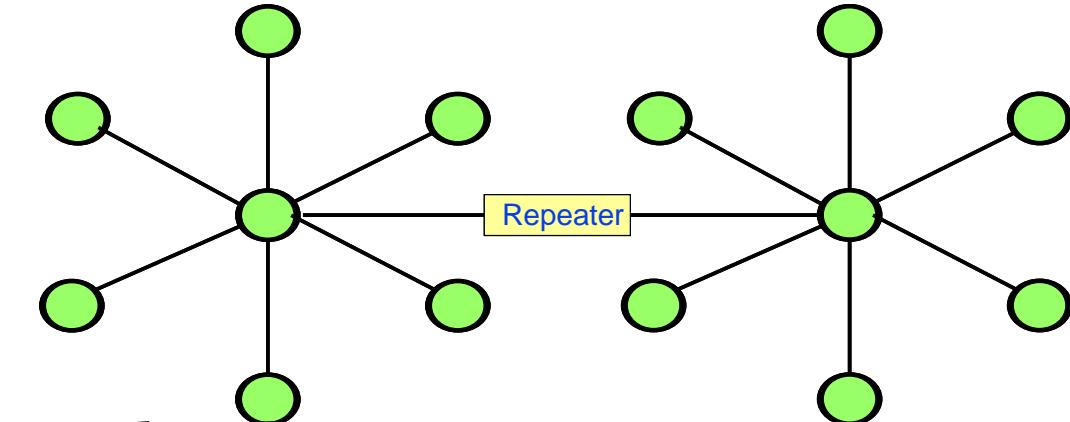
- Already discussed

- *Extended Star*

- Has one or more repeaters between the central node
- Repeater is used to extend the maximum transmission of the simple star network

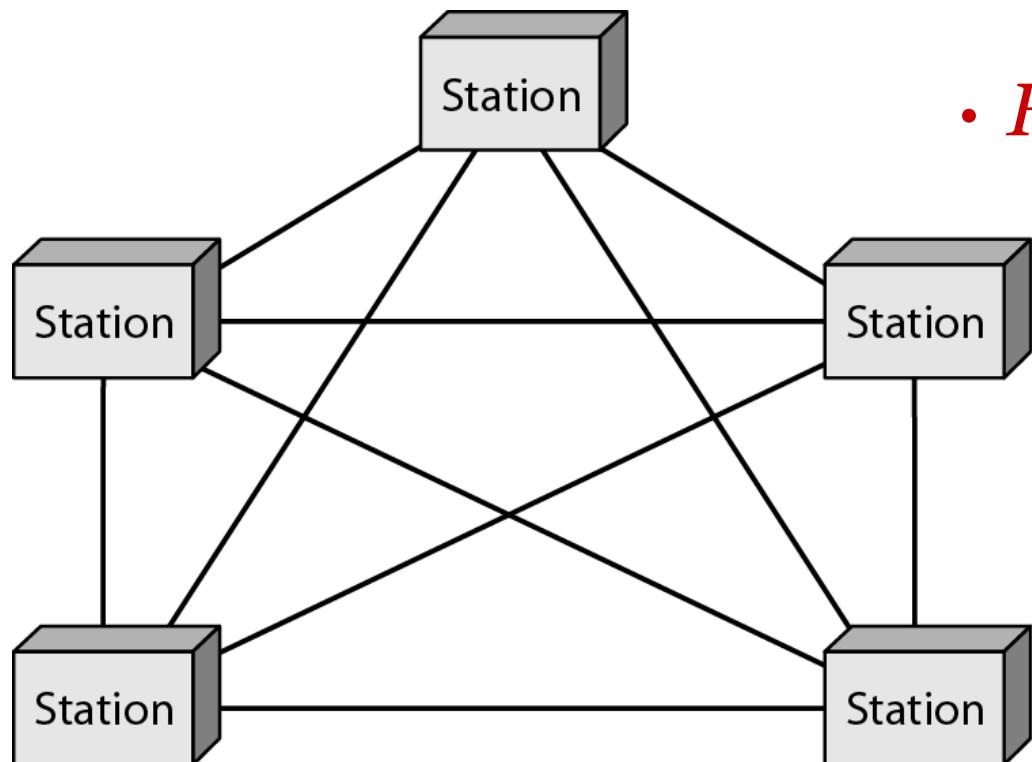
- *Distributed Start*

- Connects multiple star networks with a daisy chain in a linear fashion
- Has no hierarchy and no central connection



# Mesh Topology

- *Five nodes Mesh:*
  - A fully connected Mesh topology with 5 nodes
  - *Number of Connections Required are  $n(n-1)/2$*



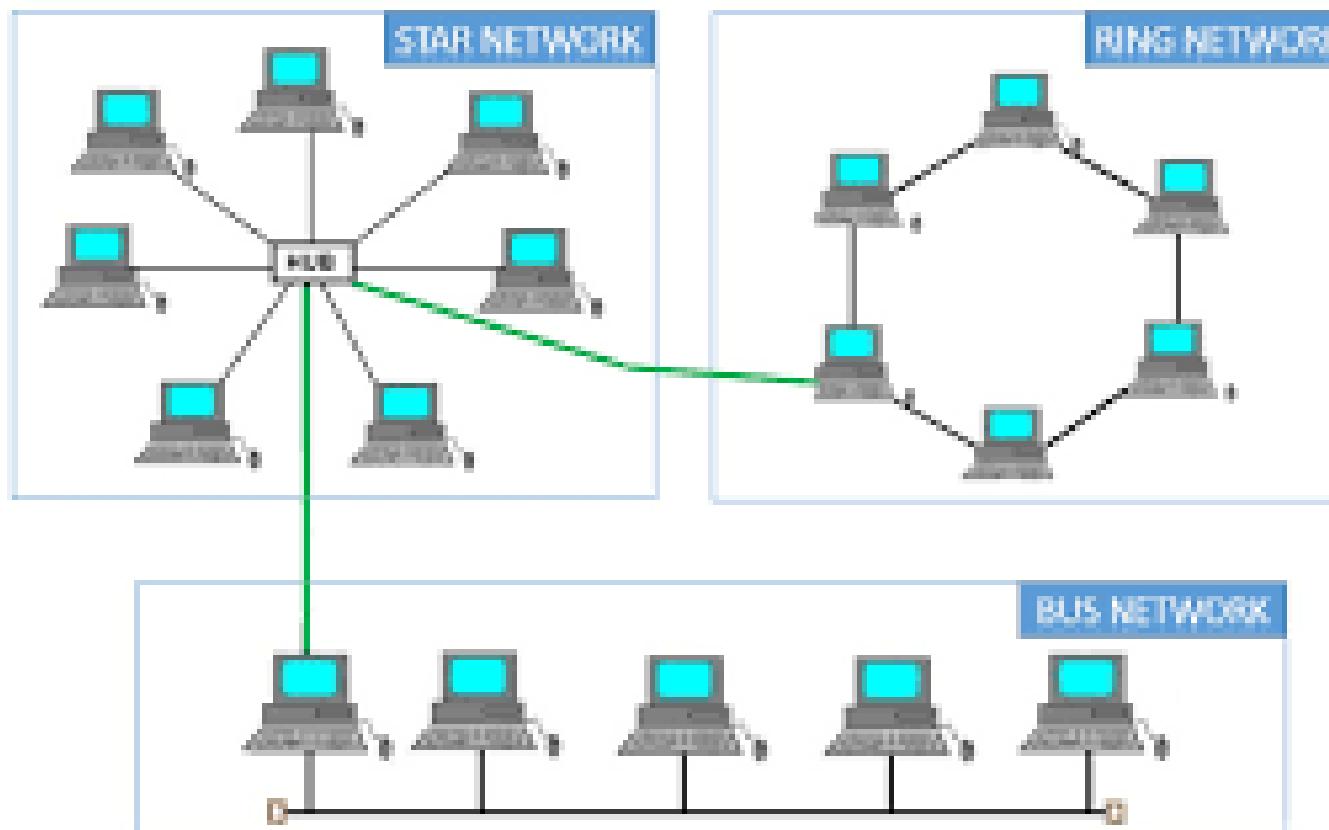
- *Further details*

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/advantage-and-disadvantage-of-mesh-topology/>



# Hybrid Topology

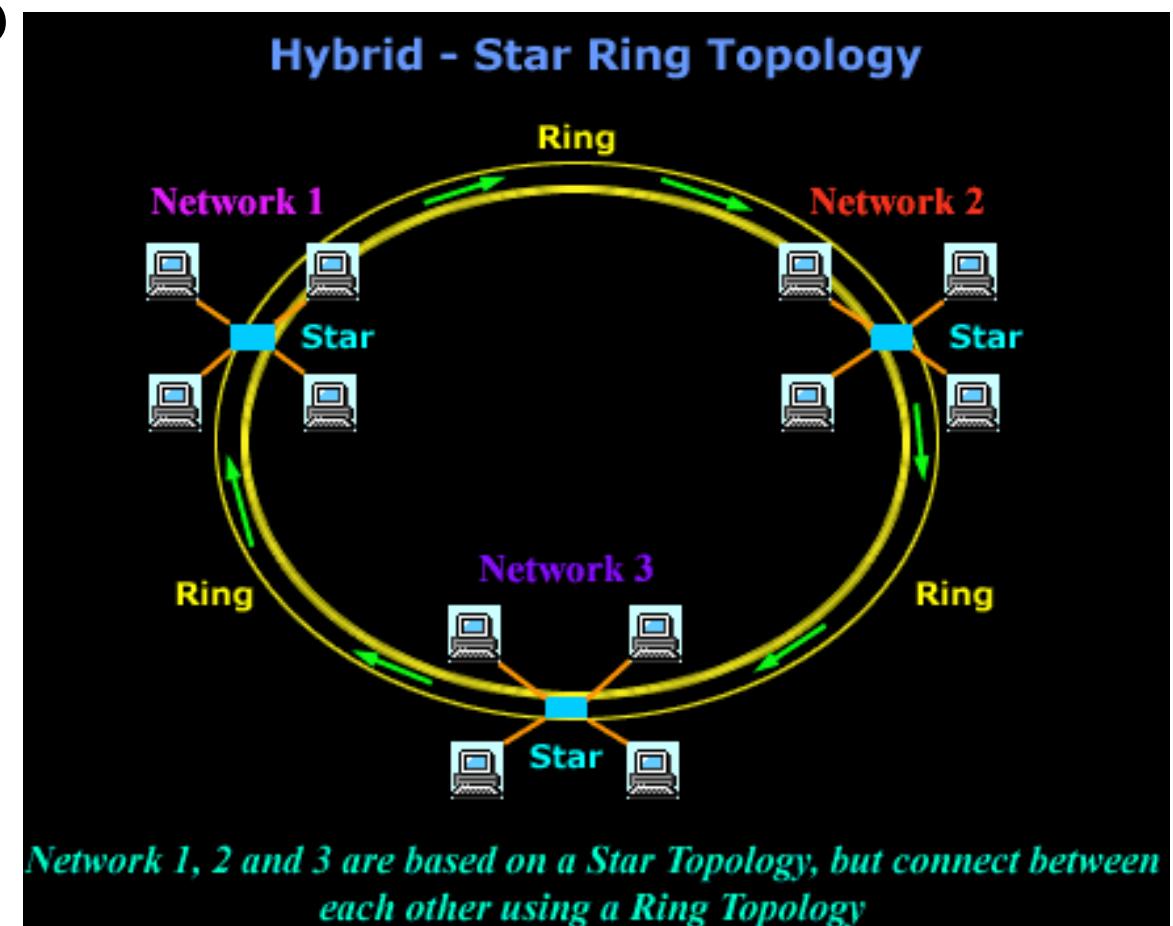
- *Hybrid Topology:*
  - A hybrid topology consists of Star, Ring, and Bus



# Start Ring topology

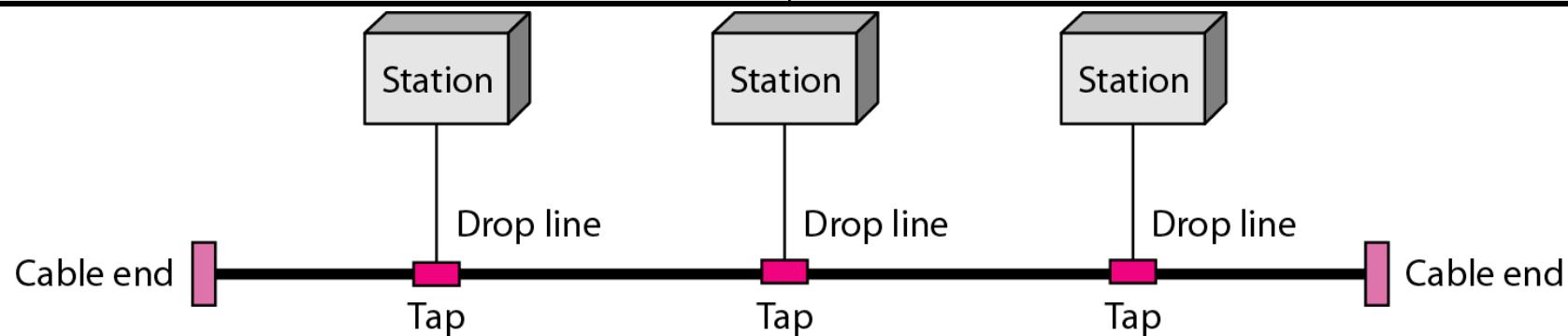
- A star ring network consists of two or more star topologies connected using a multi-station access unit (MU) as a centralized hub

*Question: Can you give an example of star ring network topology? [15 seconds time]*



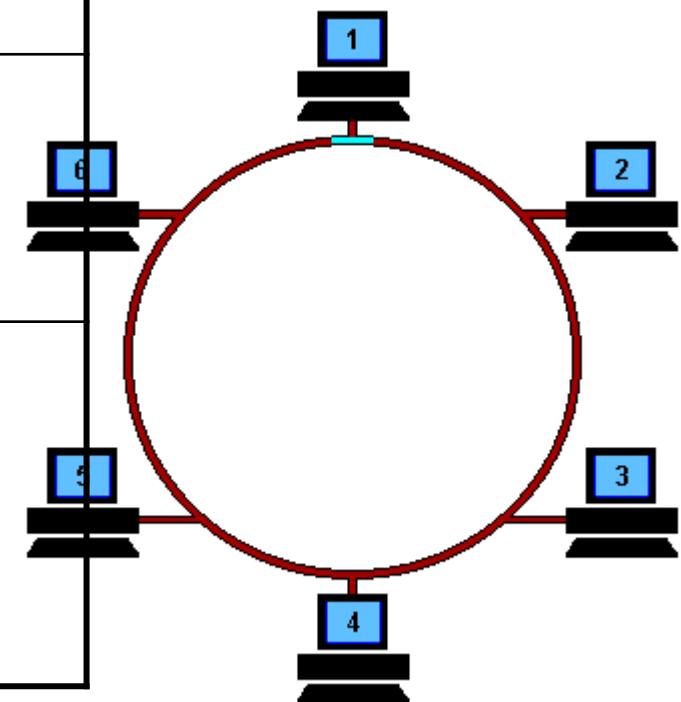
# Bus Topology-(Dis)Advantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
Cheap and easy to implement.	Network disruption when computers are added or removed.
Require less cable.	A break in the cable will prevent all systems from accessing the network.
Does not use any specialized network to troubleshoot.	Difficult to troubleshoot.



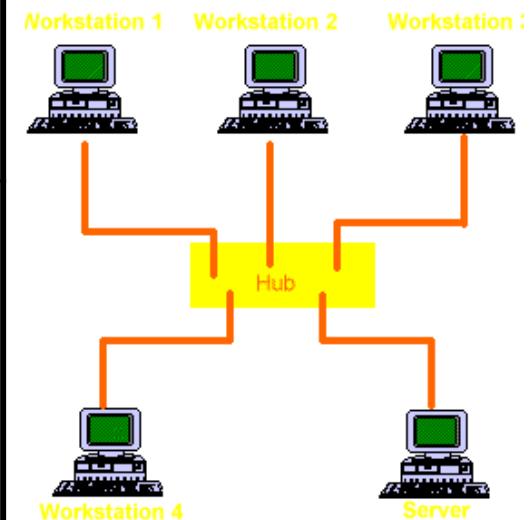
# Ring Topology-(Dis)Advantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
Cable faults are easily located, making troubleshooting easier.	Expansion to the network can cause network disruption.
Ring networks are moderately easy to Install.	A single break in the cable can disrupt the entire network.



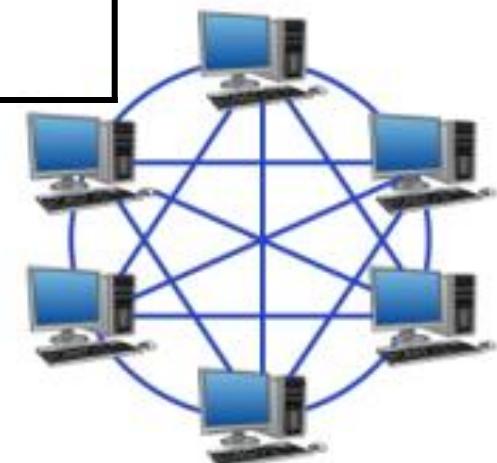
# Star Topology-(Dis)Advantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
Easily expanded without disruption.	Requires more cable.
Cable failure affects only a single User.	A break in the cable of central node will prevent all systems from accessing the network.
Easy to troubleshoot and isolate problems.	More difficult to implement.



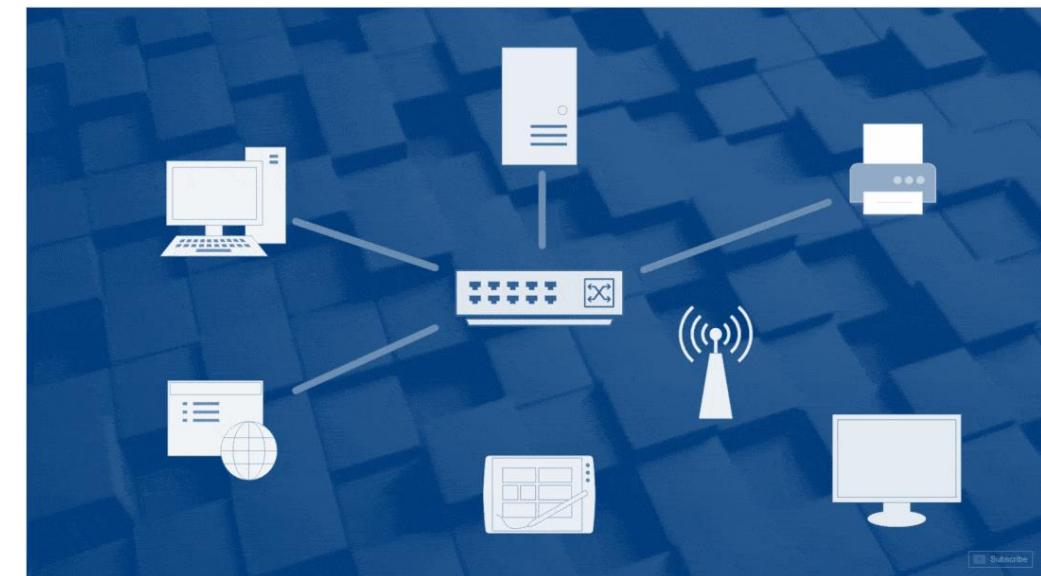
# Mesh Topology-(Dis)Advantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
Provides redundant paths between Devices.	Requires more cable than the other LAN topologies.
The network can be expanded without disruption to current users.	Complicated implementation.



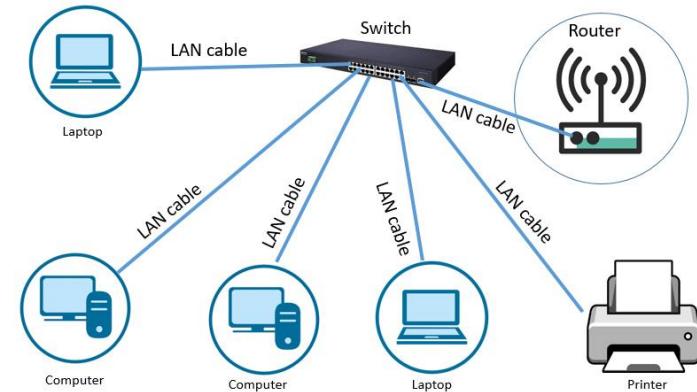
# Networks Categories

- Networks are categorized based on different factors,
- *Geographical span:*
  - Local Area Networks (LANs)
  - Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs)
  - Wide Area Networks (WANs)
- *Structure:*
  - Client-server
  - Peer-to-peer
- *Type of connections:*
  - Wired
  - Wireless

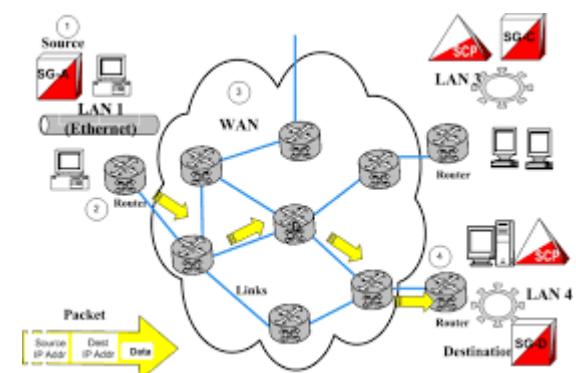
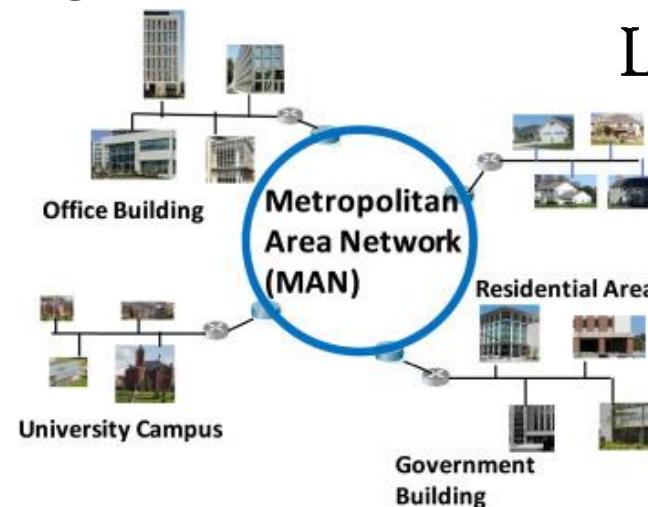


# Geographical Networks

- *Local Area Networks (LANs)*
  - Short distances
  - Designed to provide local interconnectivity
- *Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs)*
  - Provide connectivity over multiple buildings
- *Wide Area Networks (WANs)*
  - Long distances
  - Provide connectivity over large area
- *Other Categories*
  - *Personal Area Network (PAN)*
  - *Storage/System Area Networks (SAN)*
  - *Body Area Network (BAN)*
  - *Campus Are Network (CAN), etc.*



Local Area Network



# Geographical Networks-Classifications

Interprocessor distance	Processors located in same	Example
1 m	Square meter	Personal area network
10 m	Room	
100 m	Building	Local area network
1 km	Campus	
10 km	City	Metropolitan area network
100 km	Country	
1000 km	Continent	Wide area network
10,000 km	Planet	The Internet



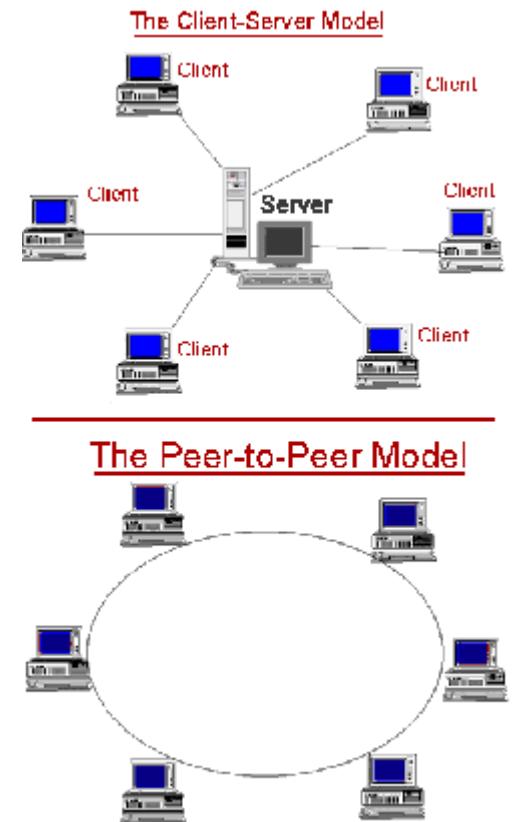
# Network Structure

- *Client -server:*

- Acts as a medium to access services and resources from a central computer using a WAN or LAN
- The Client-server network is mainly used for game hosting, web services, and personal networks

- *Peer-to-peer:*

- Authorizes to link computers to a single system
- A distributed application architecture that splits tasks between peers
- A peer is a node that delivers the exact functionality as another
  - For example, two PCs in a network are peers.



# Network Connections-Wired

- *Ethernet Networks:*

- The most common type for creating LANs
- They employ Ethernet cables, which are usually made up of copper, to connect devices like computers, routers, and switches.

- *Fiber Optic Networks:*

- They use light signals to transmit data over thin strands of glass or plastic known as fiber optic cables
- They are known for their high-speed data transfer capability

- *Coaxial Cable Networks:*

- These were used in cable television and early computer networks

# Network Connections-Wireless

- *Wi-Fi Networks:*
  - The most well-known type of wireless networks
  - It uses radio waves to connect devices to the internet or each other
- *Bluetooth Networks:*
  - They enable communication between devices over short distances
  - They're typically used for connecting peripherals like wireless mice, keyboards, or headphones to a computer or smartphone.
- *Cellular Networks:*
  - These are used by mobile phones and some IoT devices
  - They have a large network of fixed-location cell towers
  - These networks support voice calls, SMS, and data services, such as 4G and 5G internet access.



# Overview

## *Learning Outcomes:*

- Learn the basic of networks and networking terminologies
- the types of networks and how they are designed
- the basics of Internet

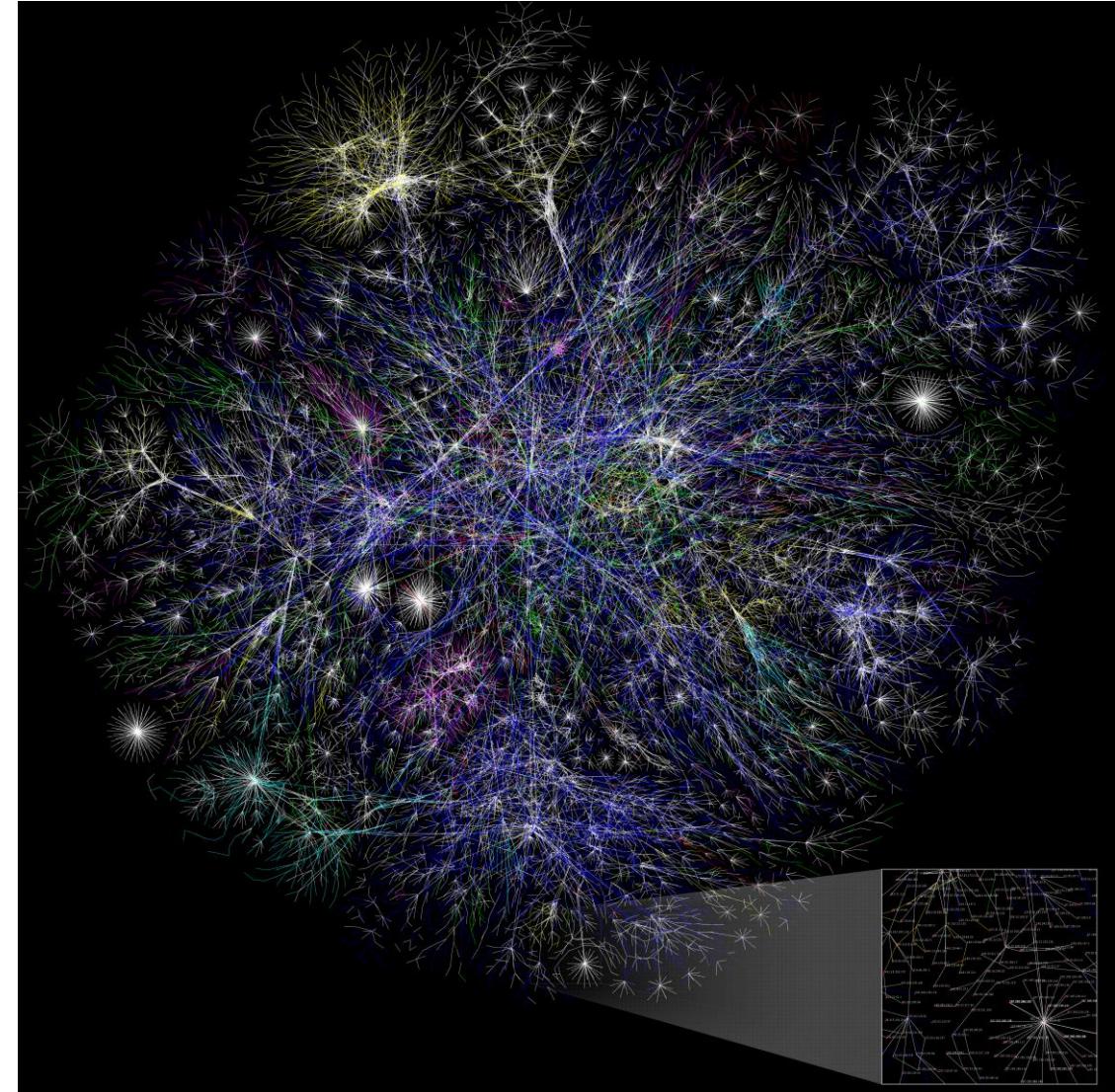


## *Overview/roadmap:*

- We talked about
  - Data and Communication
  - Network and its types
  - Topologies
- Next we discuss
  - the Internet
  - Protocol
  - End Systems
  - Access Networks and Physical Media
  - Network Functions

# The Internet

- The network of networks is called the *Internet*
- It has revolutionized many aspects of our daily lives
- The Internet is a communication system
  - that has brought a wealth of information to our fingertips
  - and organized it for our use.



# The Internet: a “nuts and bolts” view



Billions of connected computing *devices*:

- *hosts* = *end systems*
- running *network apps* at Internet's “edge”

*Packet switches*: forward packets (chunks of data)

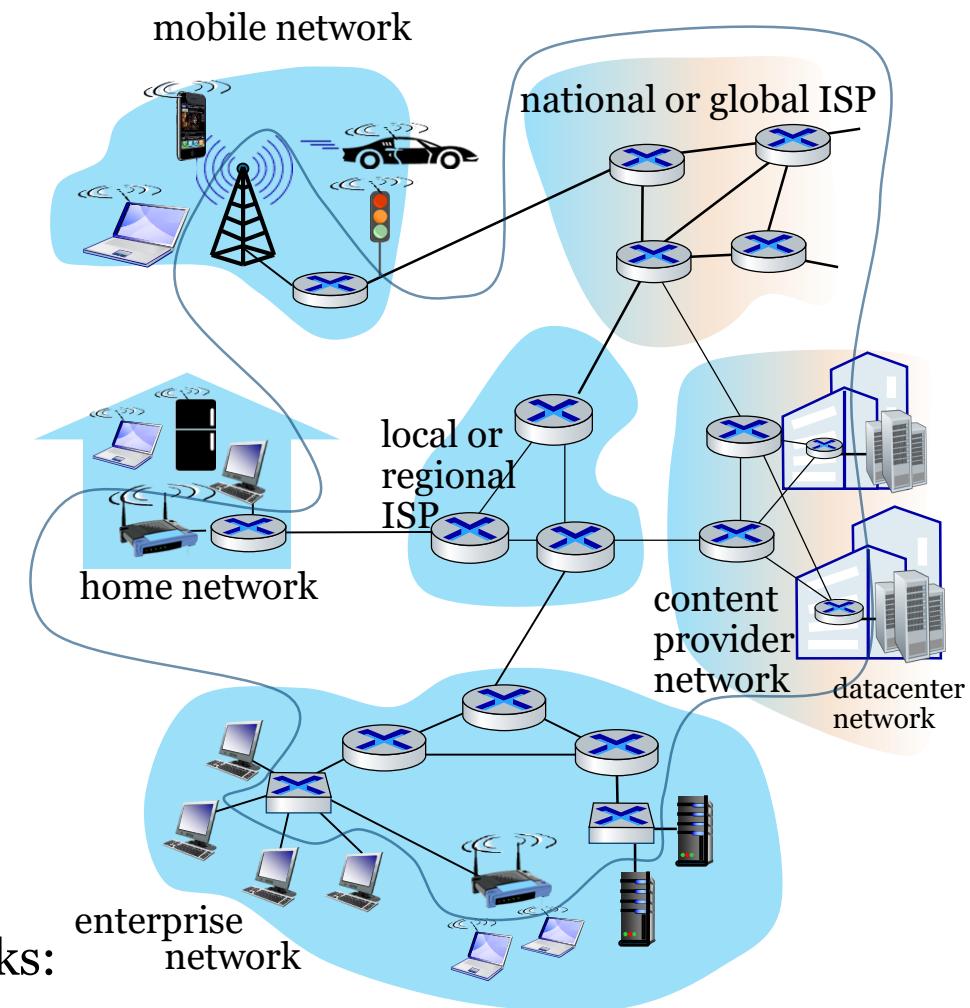
- *routers, switches*

*Communication links*

- fiber, copper, radio, satellite
- transmission rate: *bandwidth*

*Networks*

- collection of devices, routers, links: managed by an organization





# “Fun” Internet-connected devices



Amazon Echo



Internet refrigerator



Security Camera



Internet phones



IP picture frame



Slingbox: remote control cable TV



Gaming devices



sensorized bed mattress



Fitbit



diapers



Pacemaker & Monitor



Web-enabled toaster + weather forecaster



Tweet-a-watt:  
monitor energy use

bikes



cars

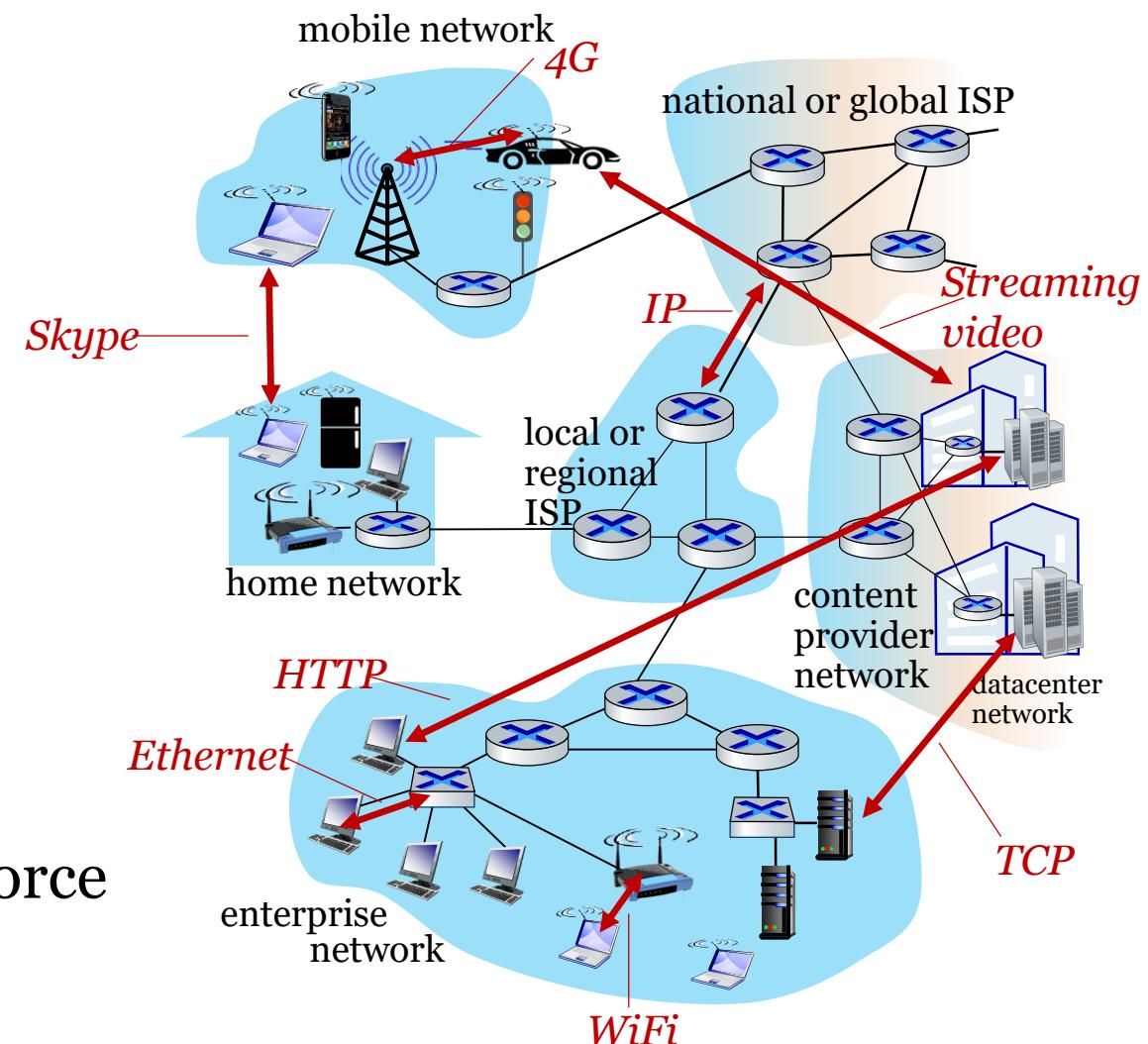


scooters

Others?

# The Internet: a “nuts and bolts” view

- *Internet: “network of networks”*
  - Interconnected ISPs
    - Internet Service Providers
- *Protocols are everywhere*
  - control sending, receiving of messages
  - e.g., HTTP (Web), streaming video, Skype, TCP, IP, WiFi, 4/5G, Ethernet
- *Internet standards*
  - RFC: Request for Comments
  - IETF: Internet Engineering Task Force





# What's a protocol?

## *Human protocols:*

- “what’s the time?”
- “I have a question”
- introductions

Rules for:

- ... specific messages sent
- ... specific actions taken when message received, or other events

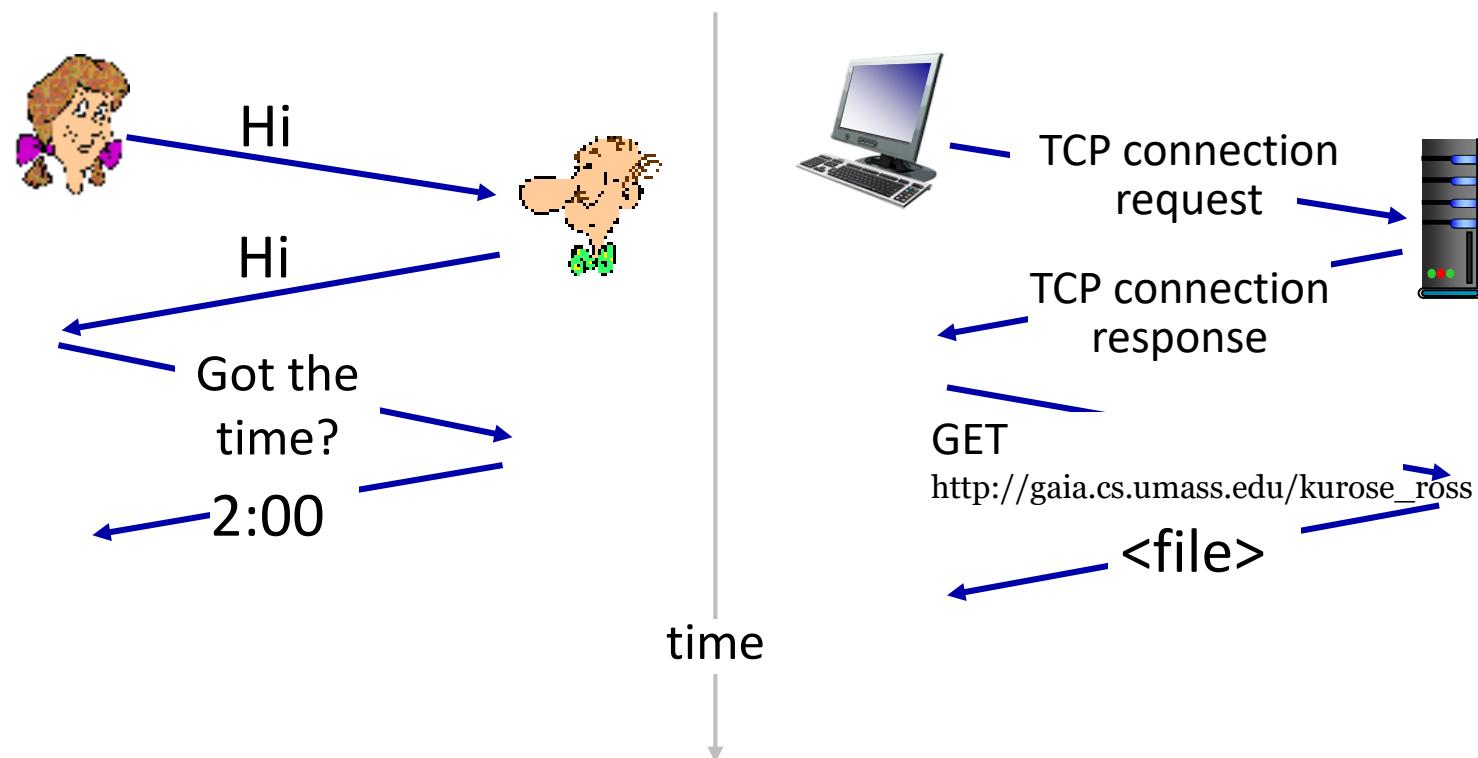
## *Network protocols:*

- computers (devices) rather than humans
- all communication activity in Internet governed by protocols

*Protocols define the format, order of messages sent and received among network entities, and actions taken on message transmission, receipt*

# What's a protocol?

A human protocol and a computer network protocol:

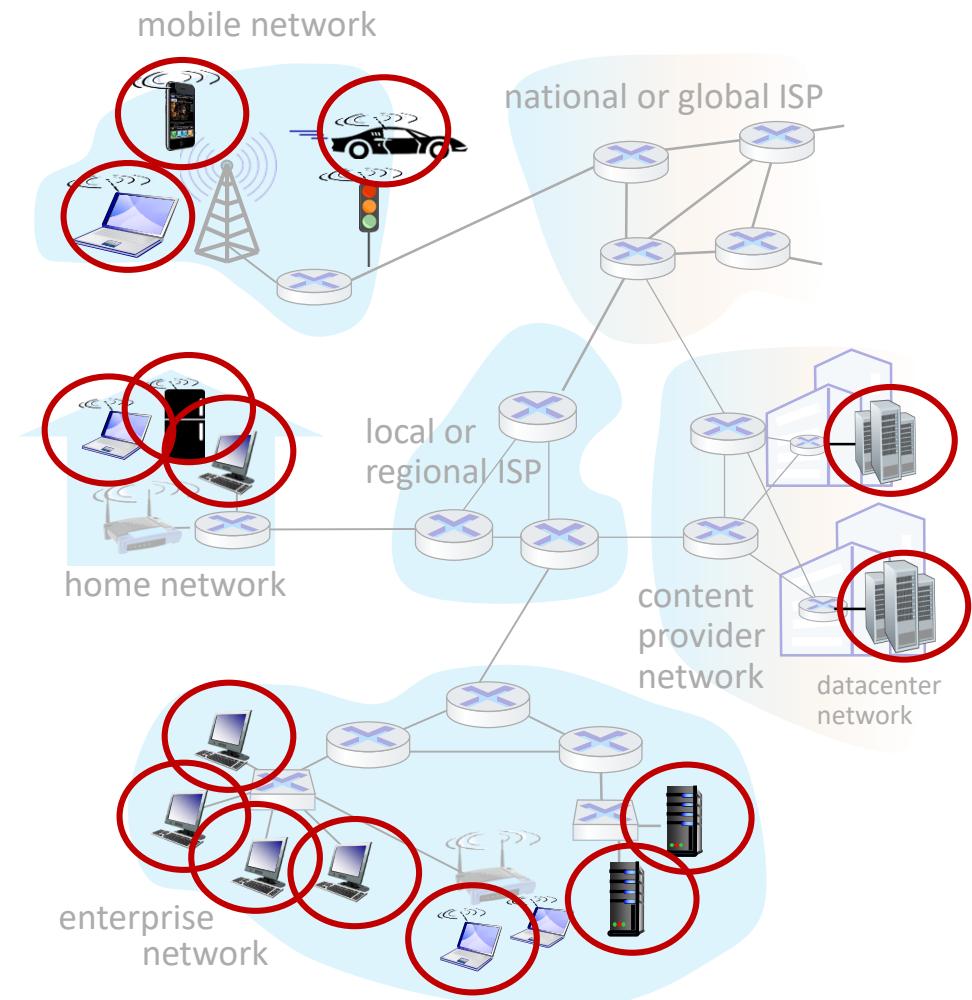


*Q:* other human protocols?

# A closer look at Internet structure

## Network edge:

- hosts: clients and servers
- servers often in data centers



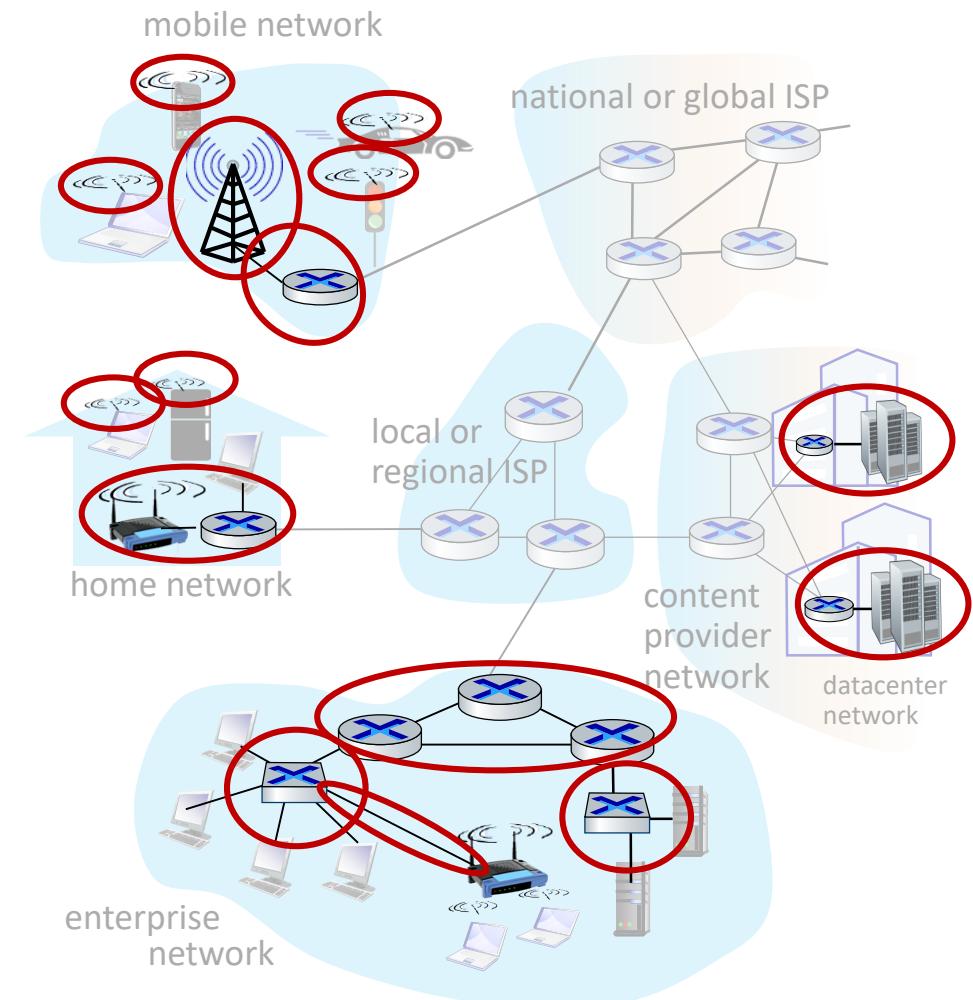
# A closer look at Internet structure

## Network edge:

- hosts: clients and servers
- servers often in data centers

## Access networks, physical media:

- wired, wireless communication links



# A closer look at Internet structure

## Network edge:

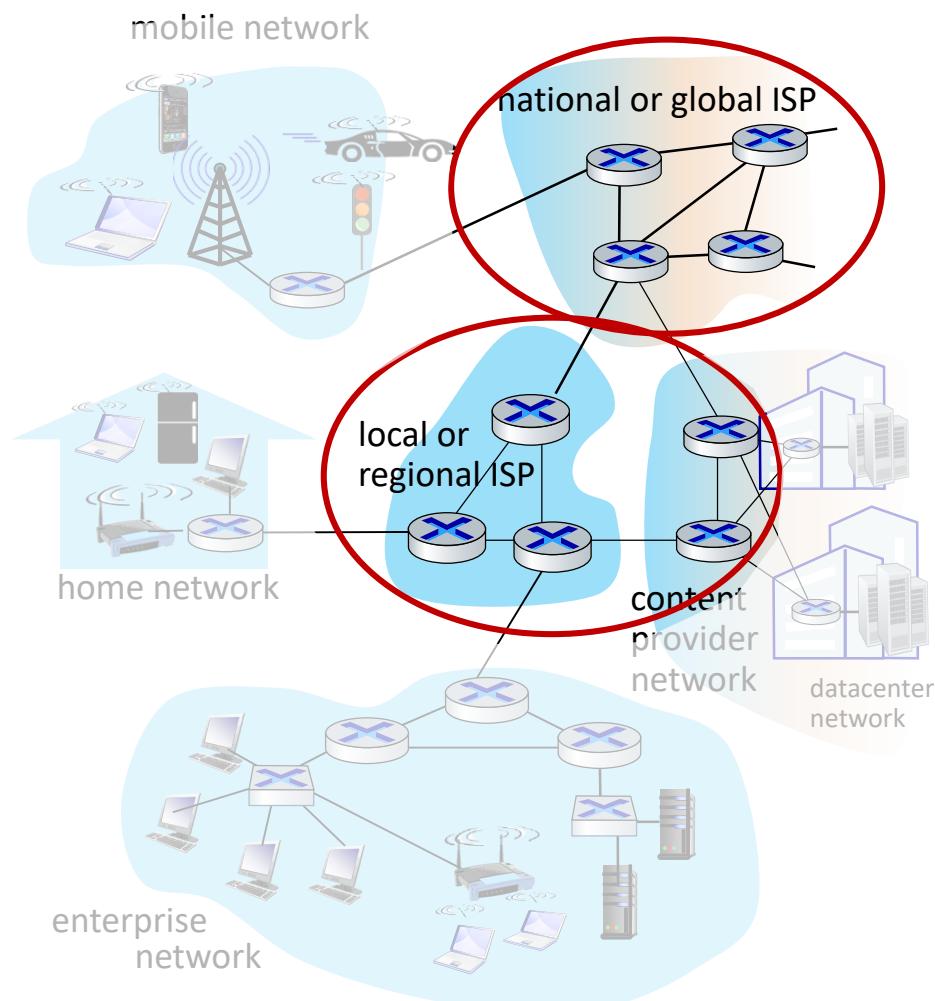
- hosts: clients and servers
- servers often in data centers

## Access networks, physical media:

- wired, wireless communication links

## Network core:

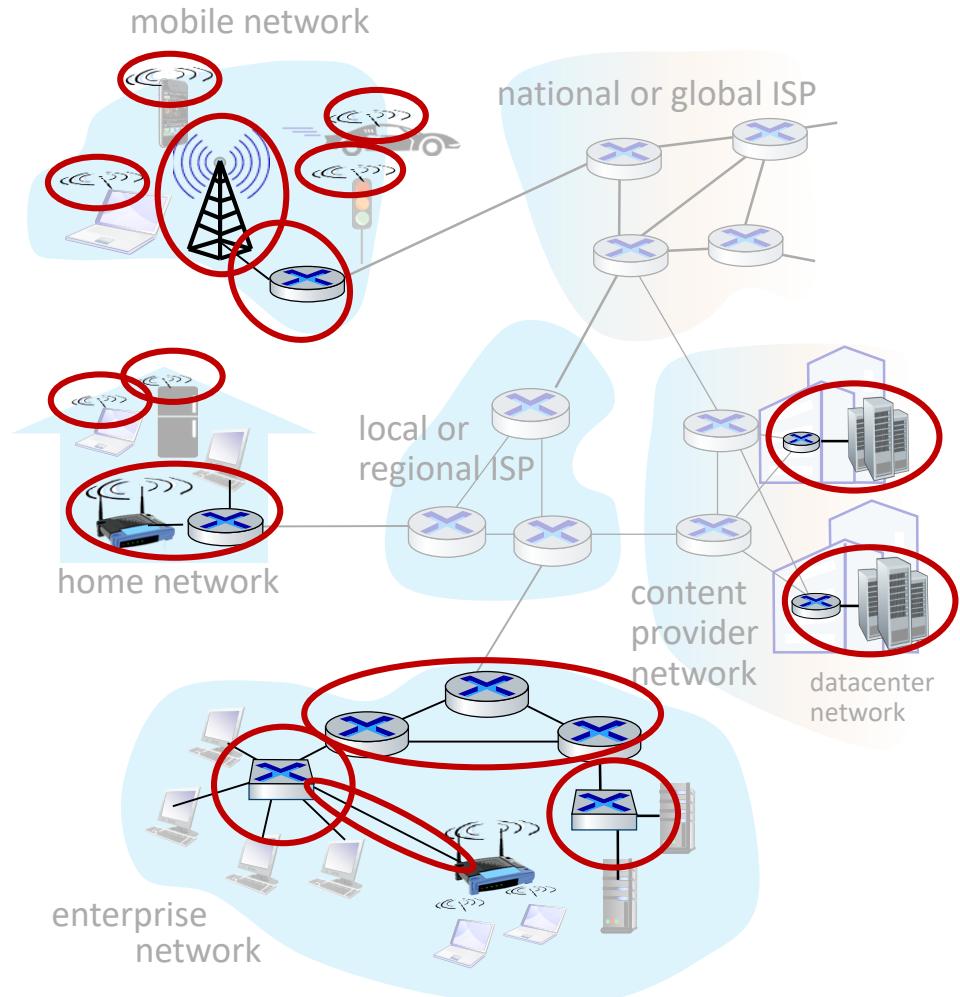
- interconnected routers
- network of networks



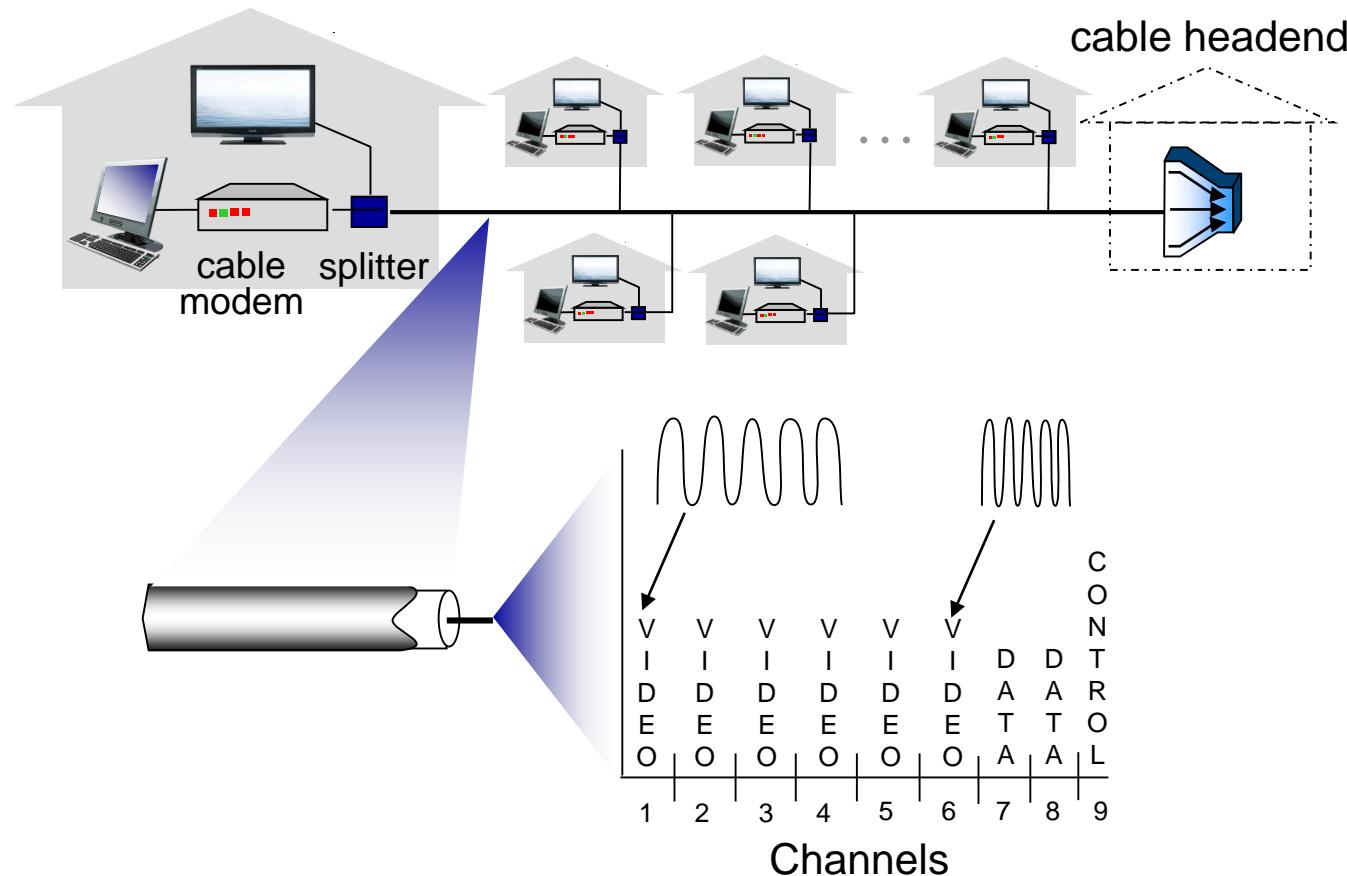
# Access networks and physical media

*Q: How to connect end systems to edge router?*

- residential access nets
- institutional access networks (school, company)
- mobile access networks (WiFi, 4G/5G)

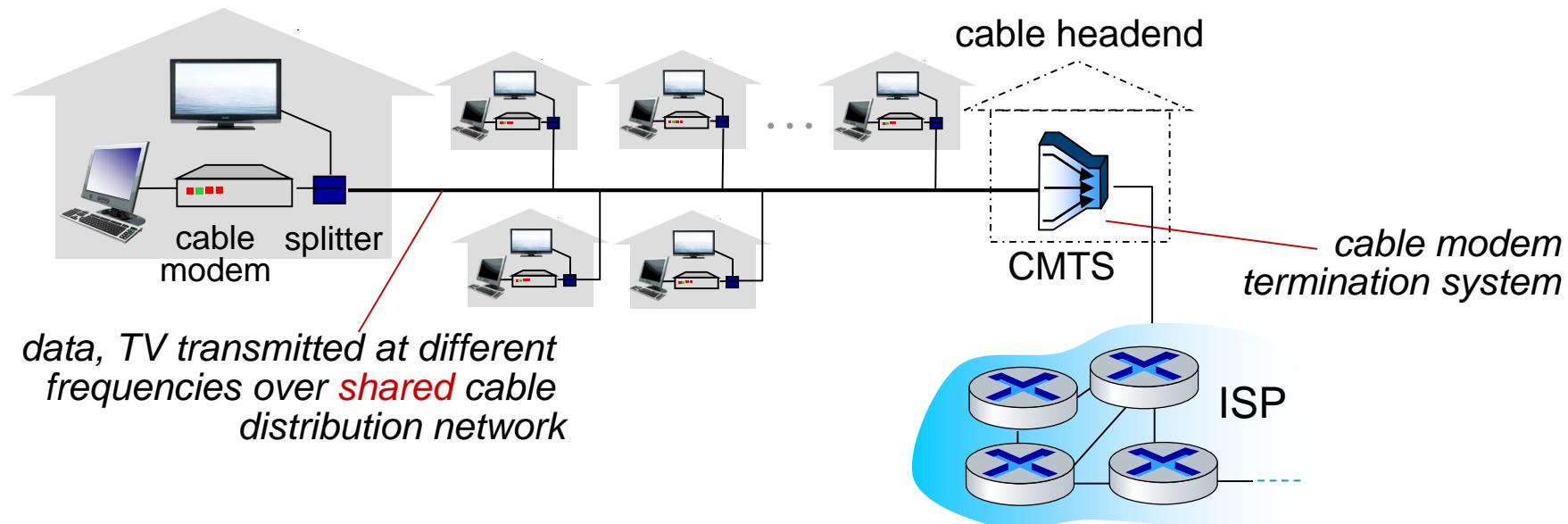


# Access networks: cable-based access



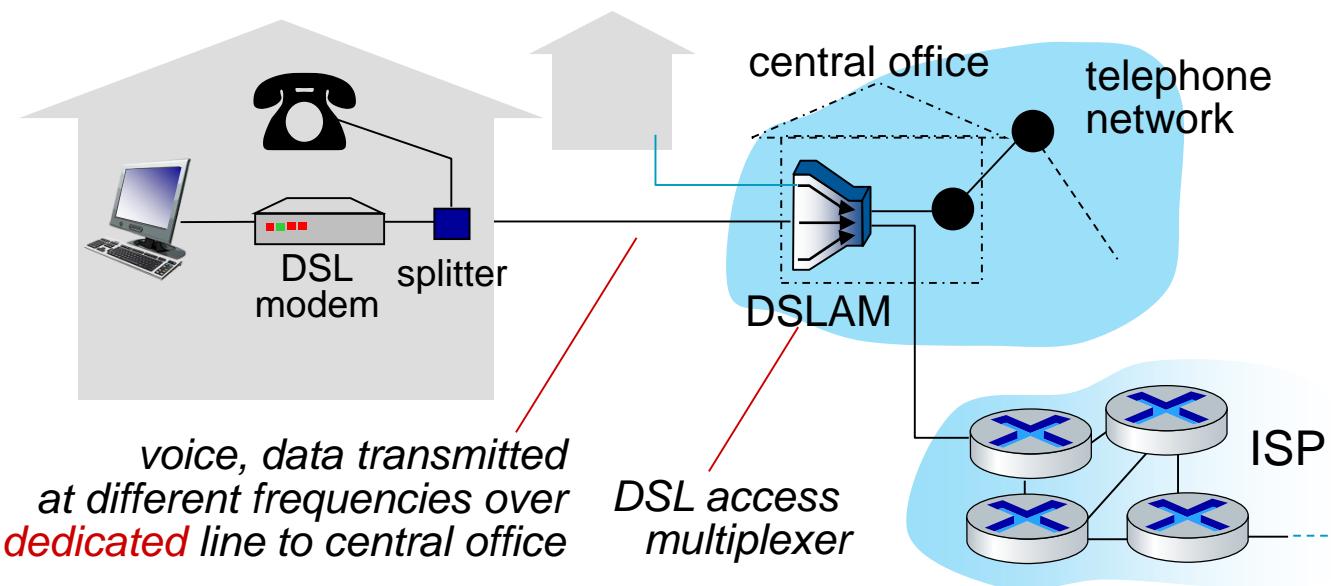
*frequency division multiplexing (FDM)*: different channels transmitted in different frequency bands

# Access networks: cable-based access



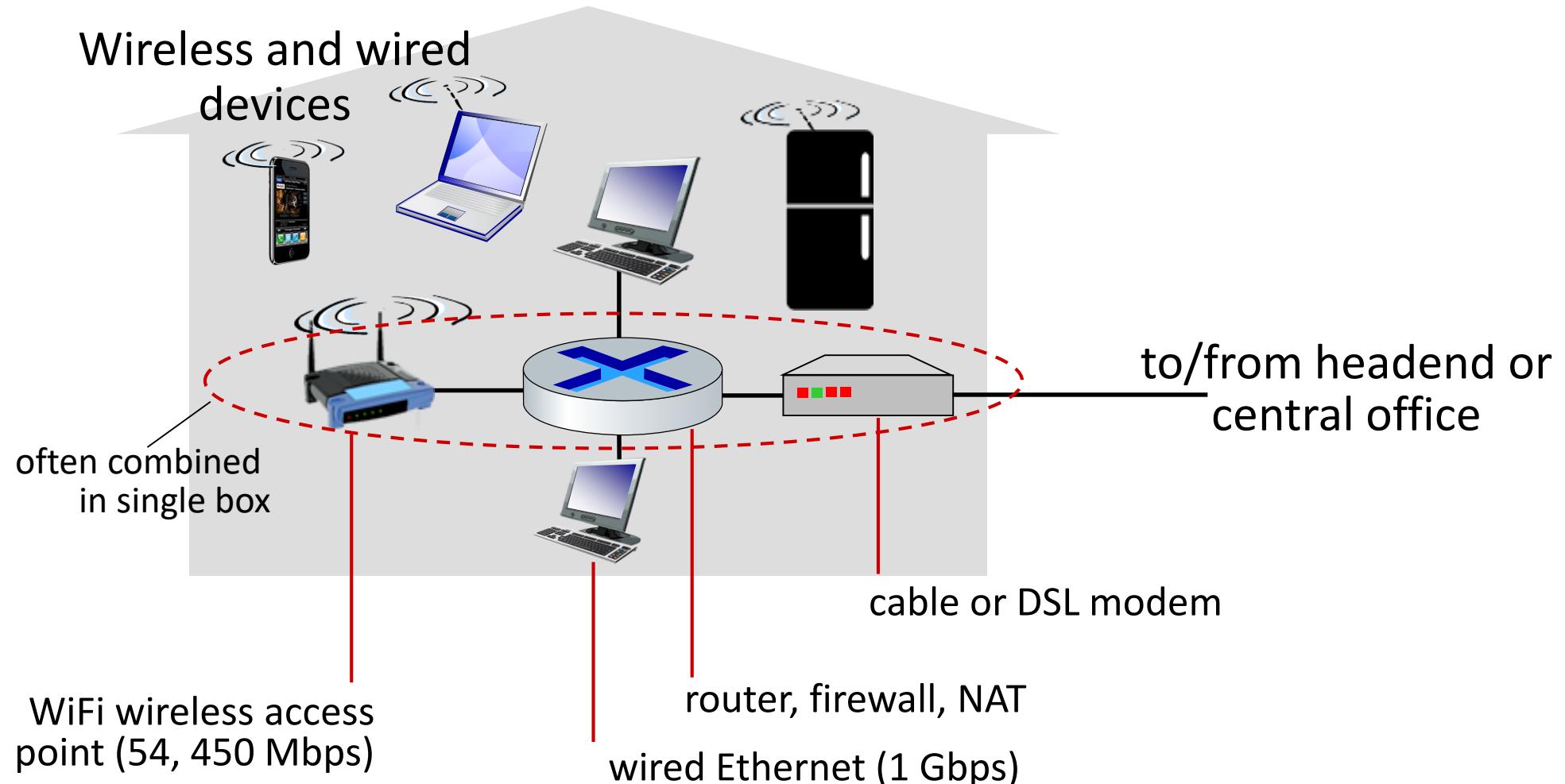
- HFC: hybrid fiber coax
  - asymmetric: up to 40 Mbps – 1.2 Gbps downstream transmission rate, 30-100 Mbps upstream transmission rate
- network of cable, fiber attaches homes to ISP router
  - homes **share access network** to cable headend

# Access networks: digital subscriber line (DSL)



- use *existing* telephone line to central office DSLAM
  - data over DSL phone line goes to Internet
  - voice over DSL phone line goes to telephone net
- 24-52 Mbps dedicated downstream transmission rate
- 3.5-16 Mbps dedicated upstream transmission rate

# Access networks: home networks

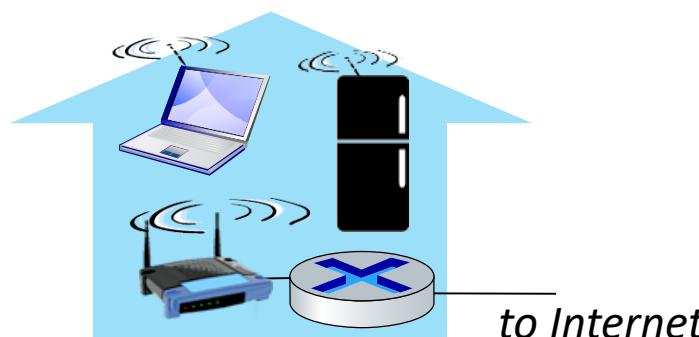


# Wireless access networks

- Shared *wireless* access network connects end system to router via base station aka “access point”

## Wireless local area networks (WLANs)

- typically within or around building (~100 ft)
- 802.11b/g/n (WiFi): 11, 54, 450 Mbps transmission rate

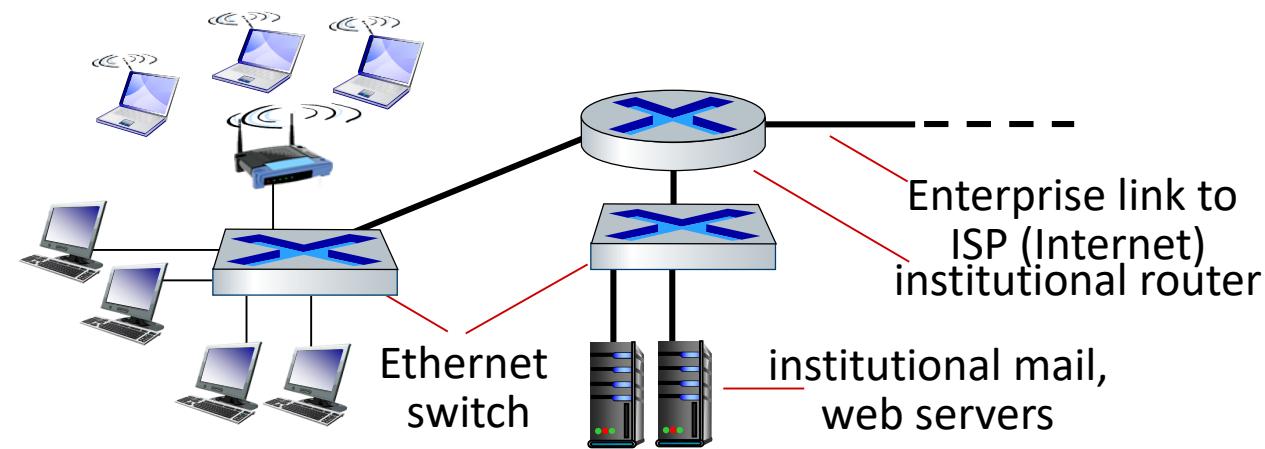


## Wide-area cellular access networks

- provided by mobile, cellular network operator (10's km)
- 10's Mbps
- 4G/5G cellular networks



# Access networks: enterprise networks



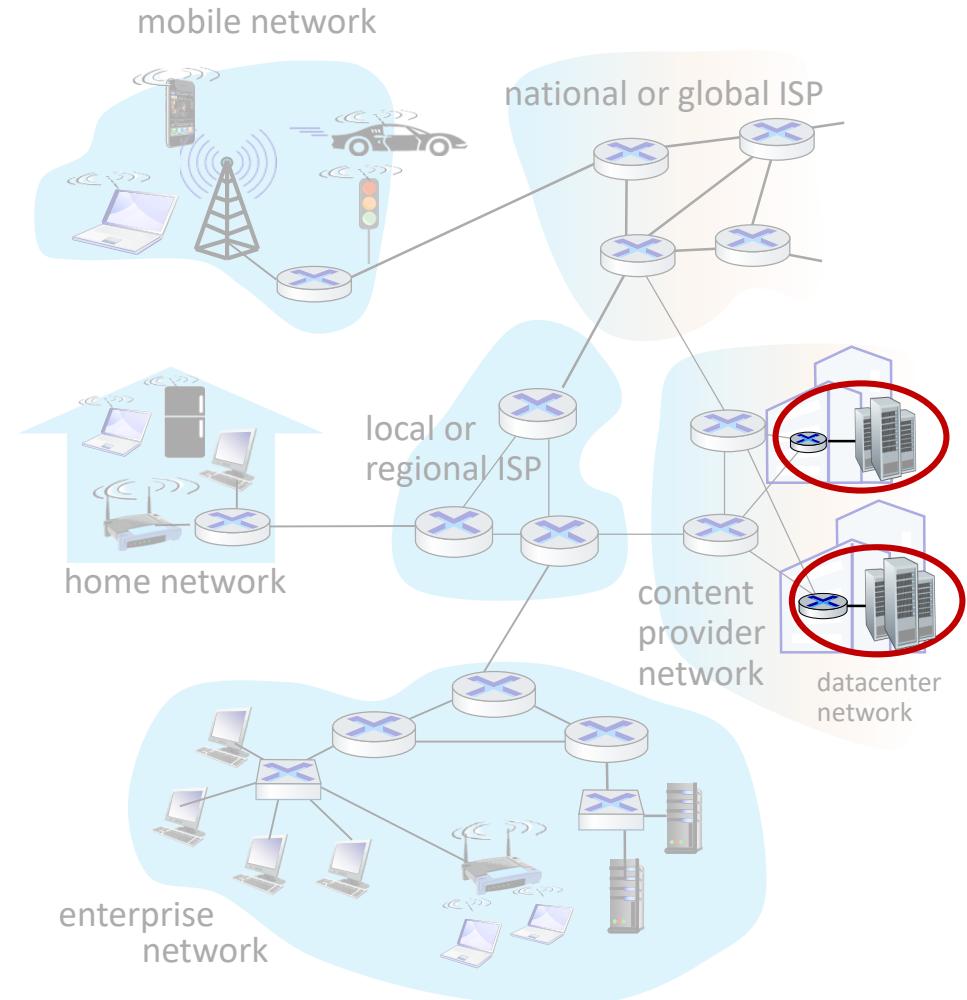
- companies, universities, etc.
- mix of wired, wireless link technologies, connecting a mix of switches and routers
- Ethernet: wired access at 100Mbps, 1Gbps, 10Gbps
- WiFi: wireless access points at 11, 54, 450 Mbps

# Access networks: data center networks

- high-bandwidth links (10s to 100s Gbps) connect hundreds to thousands of servers together, and to Internet



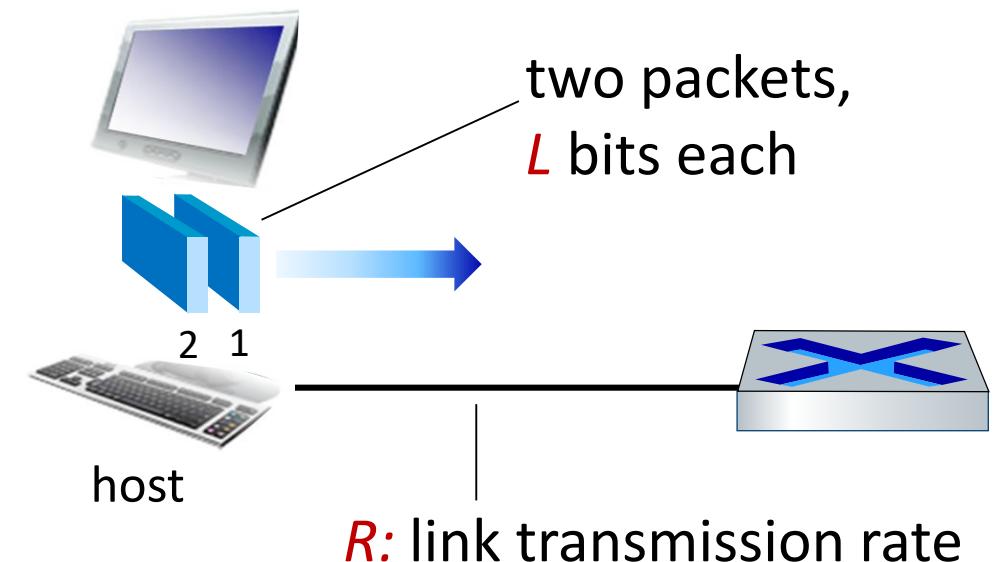
Courtesy: Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center ([mghpcc.org](http://mghpcc.org))



# Host: sends 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*



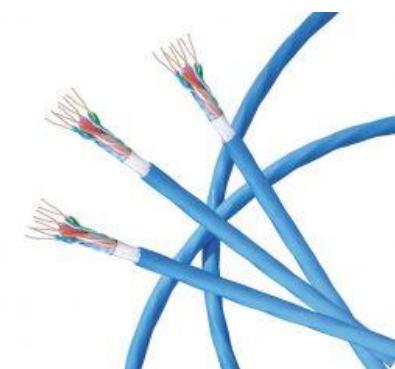
$$\text{packet transmission delay} = \frac{\text{time needed to transmit } L\text{-bit packet into link}}{R \text{ (bits/sec)}} = \frac{L \text{ (bits)}}{R \text{ (bits/sec)}}$$

# Links: 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



# Links: physical media

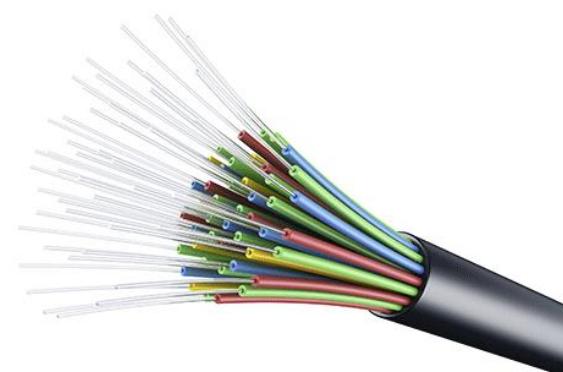
## Coaxial cable:

- 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



# Links: physical media

## Wireless radio

- signal carried in various “bands” in electromagnetic spectrum
- no physical “wire”
- broadcast, “half-duplex” (sender to receiver)
- propagation environment effects:
  - reflection
  - obstruction by objects
  - Interference/noise

## Radio link types:

- **Wireless LAN (WiFi)**
  - 10-100's Mbps; 10's of meters
- **Wide-area** (e.g., 4G/5G cellular)
  - 10's Mbps (4G) over ~10 Km
- **Bluetooth**: cable replacement
  - short distances, limited rates
- **Terrestrial microwave**
  - point-to-point; 45 Mbps channels
- **Satellite**
  - up to < 100 Mbps (Starlink) downlink
  - 270 msec end-end delay (geostationary)



# Overview

## *Learning Outcomes:*

- Learn the basic of networks and networking terminologies
- the types of networks and how they are designed
- the basics of Internet

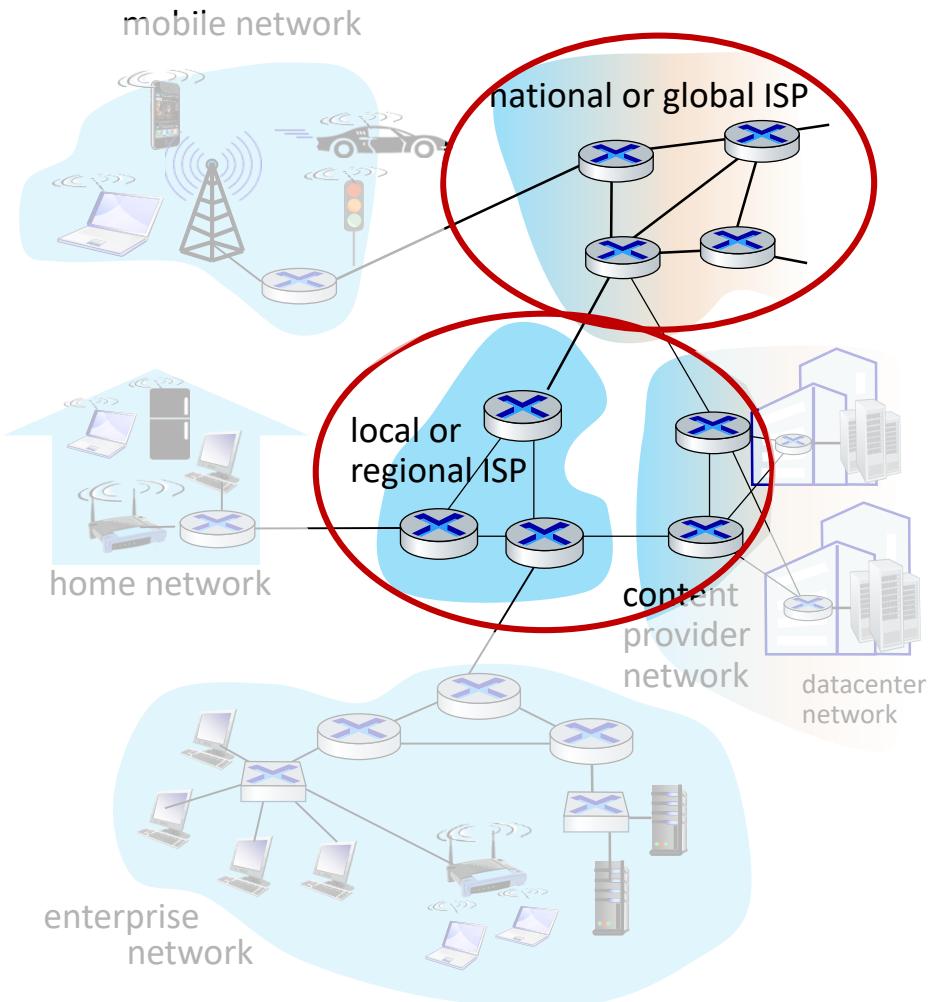


## *Overview/roadmap:*

- We talked about
  - Data and Communication
  - Network and its types
  - Topologies
  - the Internet
  - Protocol
  - End Systems
  - Access Networks and Physical Media
- Next we discuss
  - Network Functions

# The network core

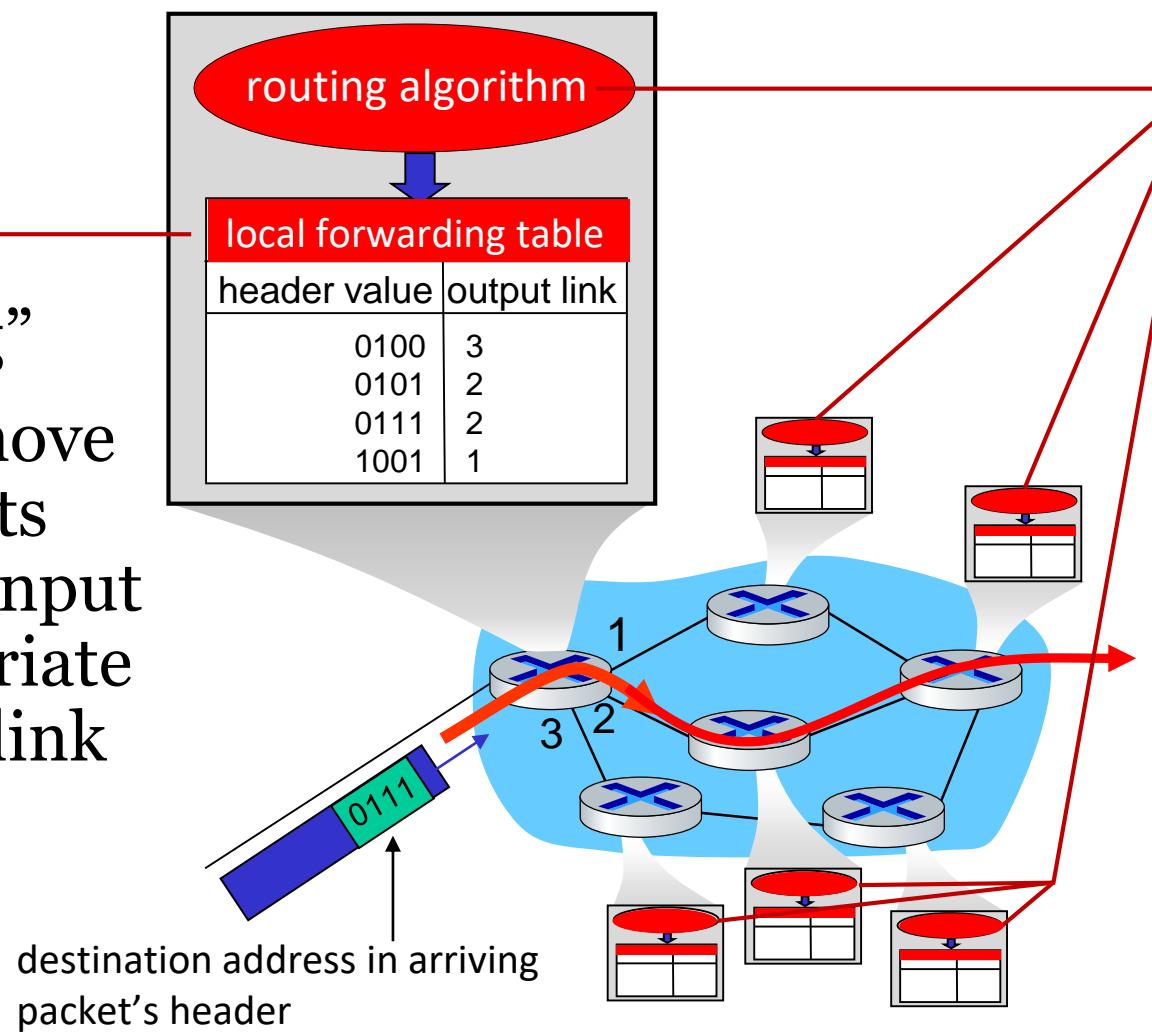
- mesh of interconnected routers
- **packet-switching:** hosts break application-layer messages into *packets*
  - network **forwards** packets from one router to the next, across links on path from **source to destination**



# Two key network-core functions

## Forwarding:

- aka “switching”
- *local* action: move arriving packets from router’s input link to appropriate router output link



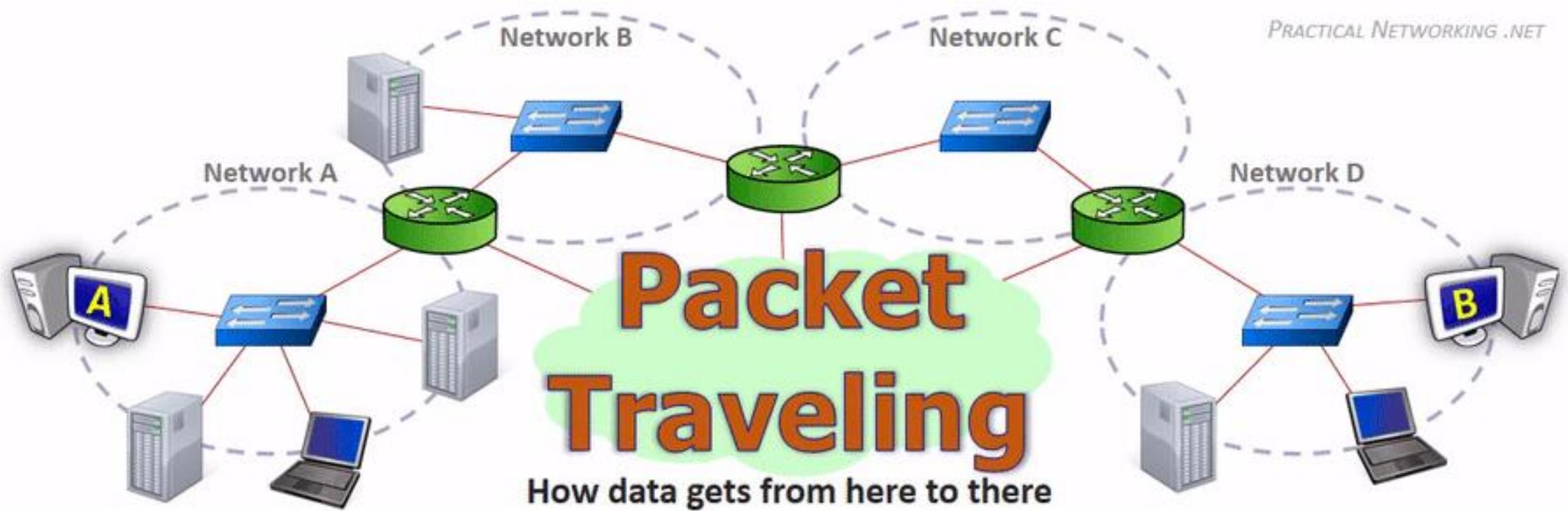
## Routing:

- *global* action: determine source-destination paths taken by packets
- routing algorithms

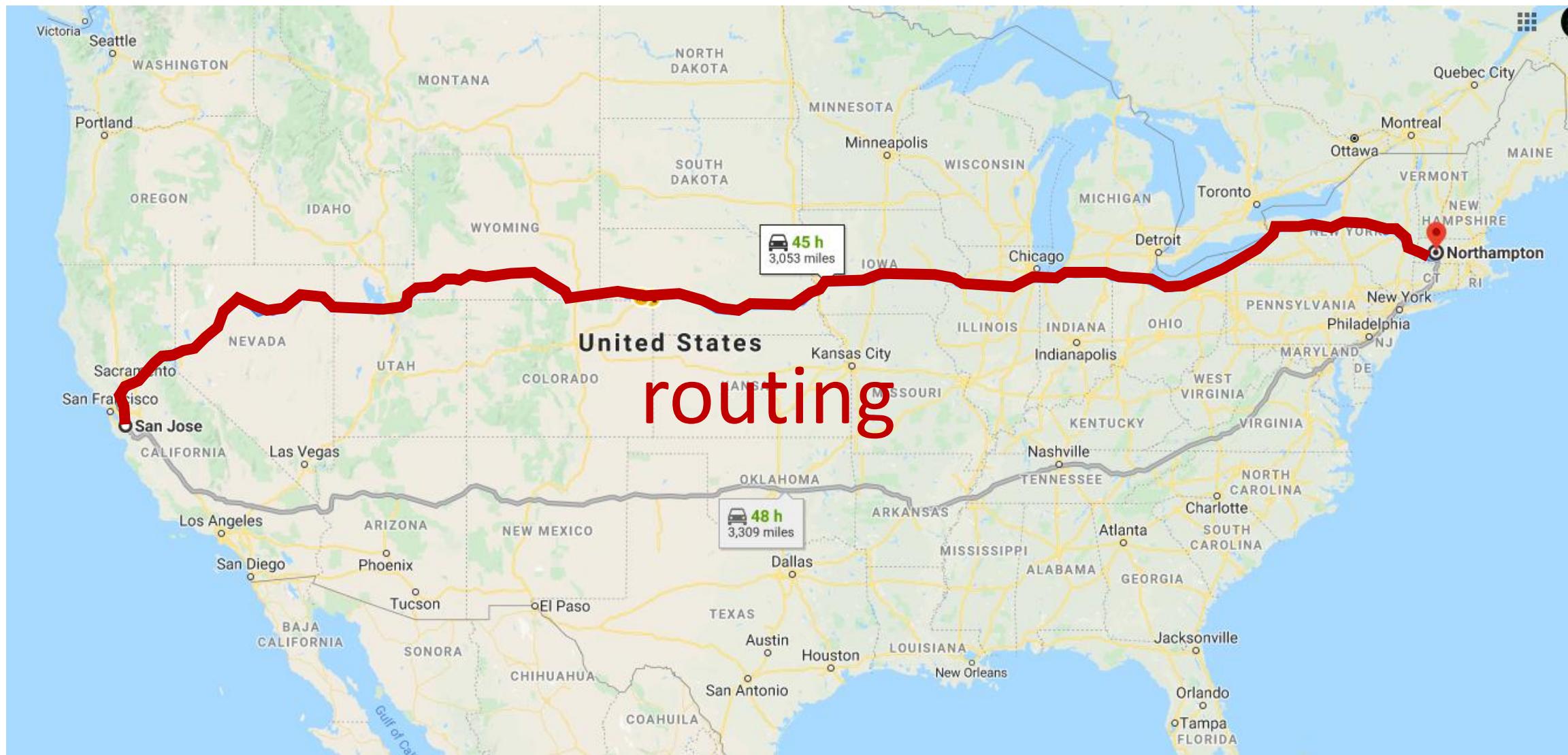
# Packet Traveling

Tracert/Traceroute Format

Hop RTT1 RTT2 RTT3 Domain Name [IP Address]



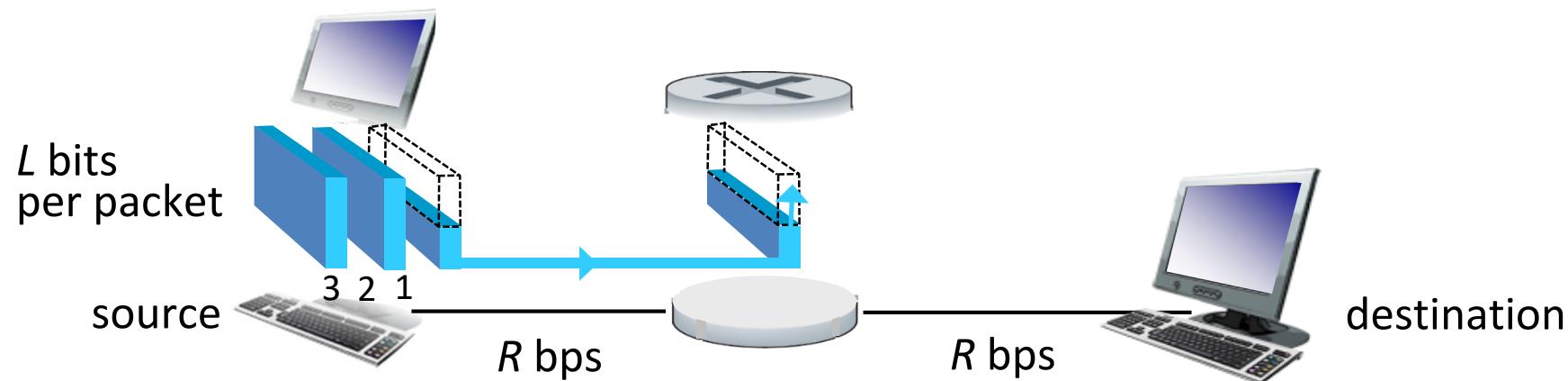
# Routing



# Forwarding



# Packet-switching: store-and-forward

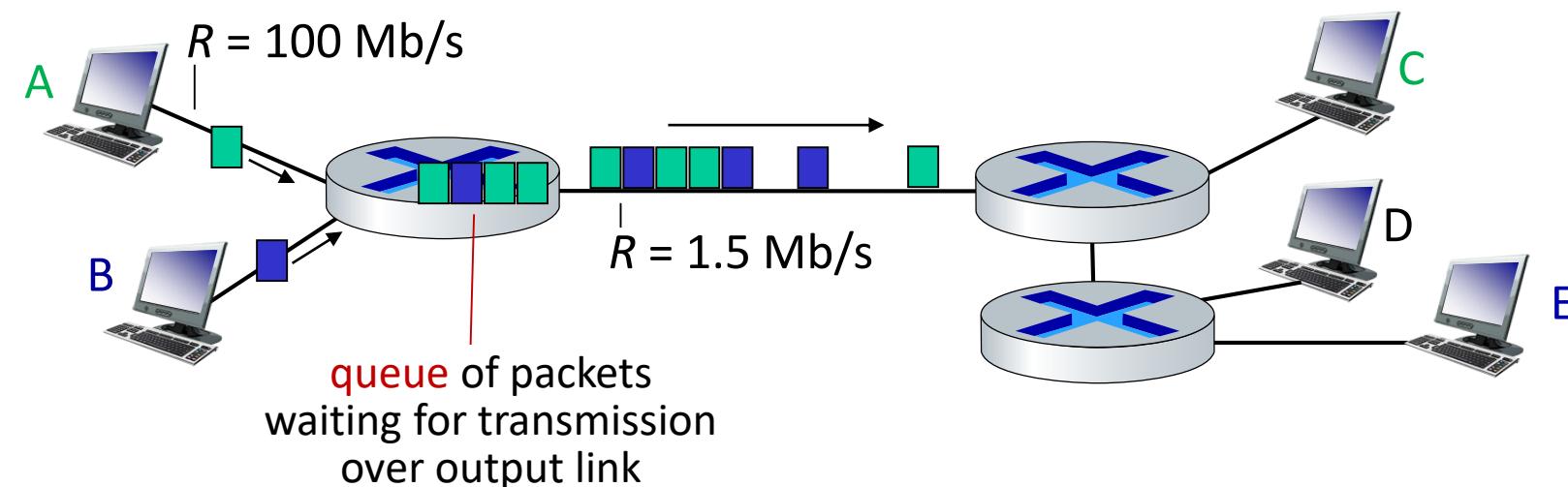


- **packet transmission delay:** takes  $L/R$  seconds to transmit (push out)  $L$ -bit packet into link at  $R$  bps
- ***store and forward:*** entire packet must arrive at router before it can be transmitted on next link

*One-hop numerical example:*

- $L = 10$  Kbits
- $R = 100$  Mbps
- one-hop transmission delay = 0.1 msec

# Packet-switching: queueing



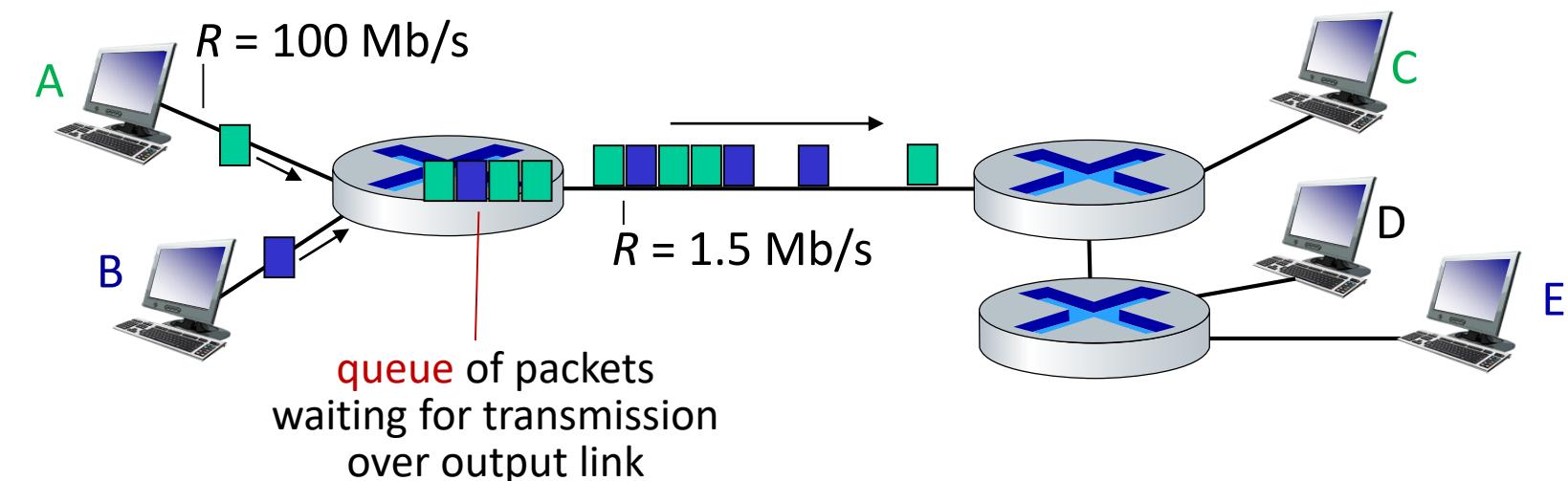
**Queueing** occurs when work arrives faster than it can be serviced:



# Packet-switching: queueing

## *In the context of Queuing System*

- arrival rate is  $\lambda$
- service rate is  $\mu$



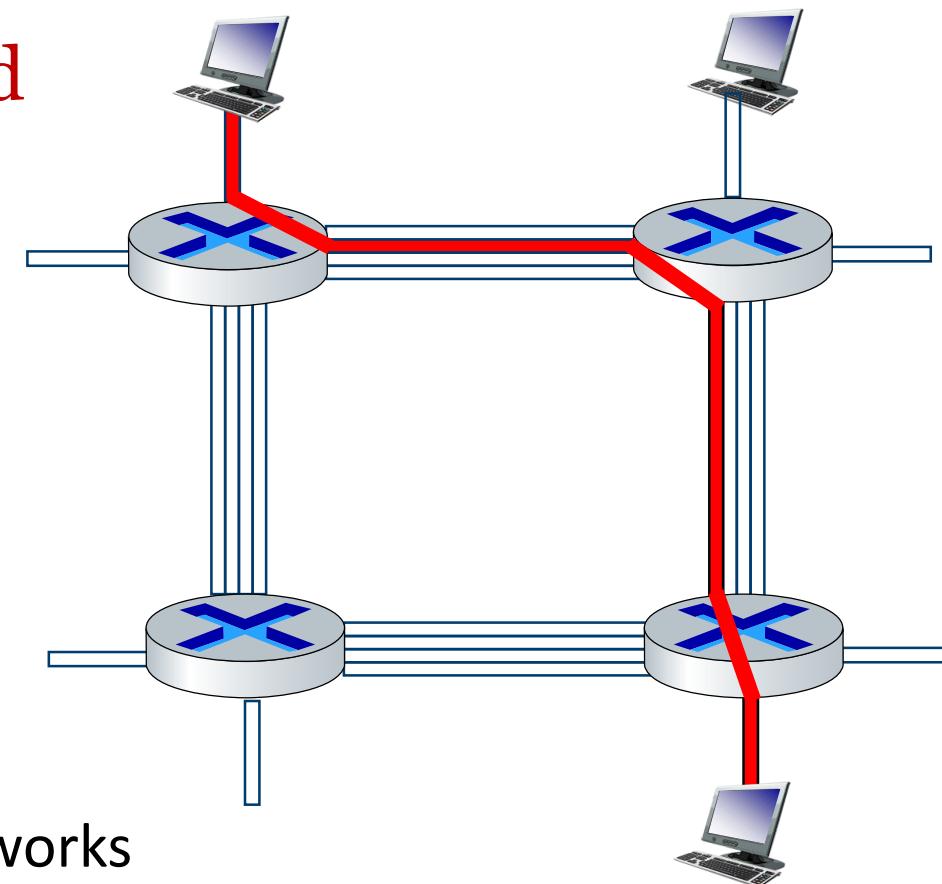
*Packet queuing and loss:* if arrival rate (in bps) to link exceeds transmission rate (bps) of link for some period of time:

- packets will queue, waiting to be transmitted on output link
- packets can be dropped (lost) if memory (buffer) in router fills up

# Alternative to packet switching: circuit switching

end-end resources allocated to,  
reserved for “call” between source and  
destination

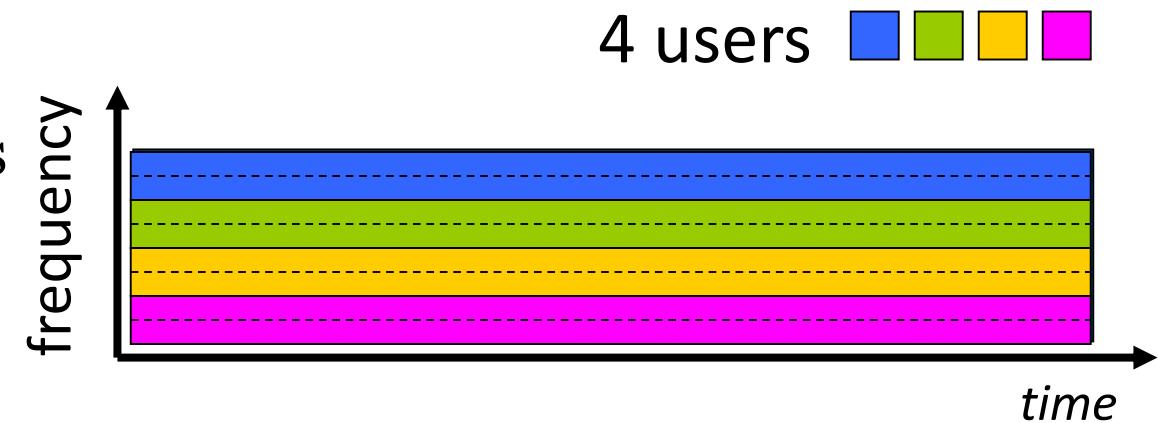
- in diagram, each link has four circuits.
  - call gets 2<sup>nd</sup> circuit in top link and 1<sup>st</sup> circuit in right link.
- dedicated resources: no sharing
  - circuit-like (guaranteed) performance
- circuit segment idle if not used by call (no sharing)
  - commonly used in traditional telephone networks



# Circuit switching: FDM and TDM

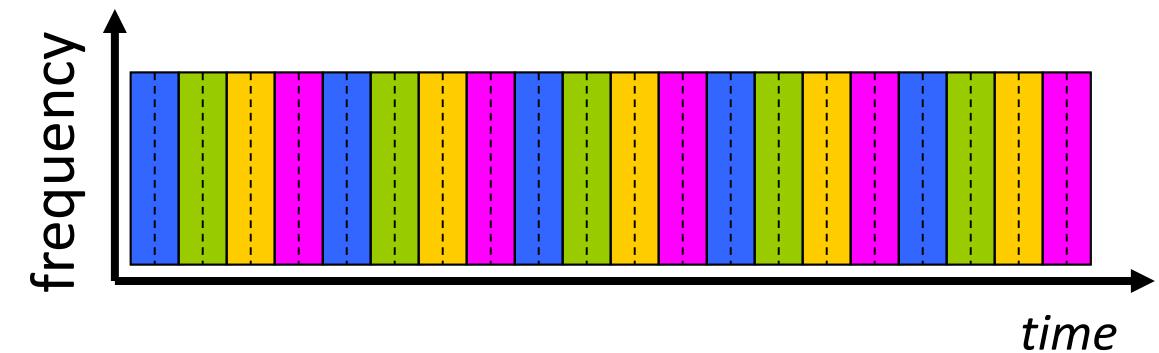
## Frequency Division Multiplexing

- optical, electromagnetic frequencies divided into (narrow) frequency bands
- each call allocated its own band, can transmit at max rate of that narrow band



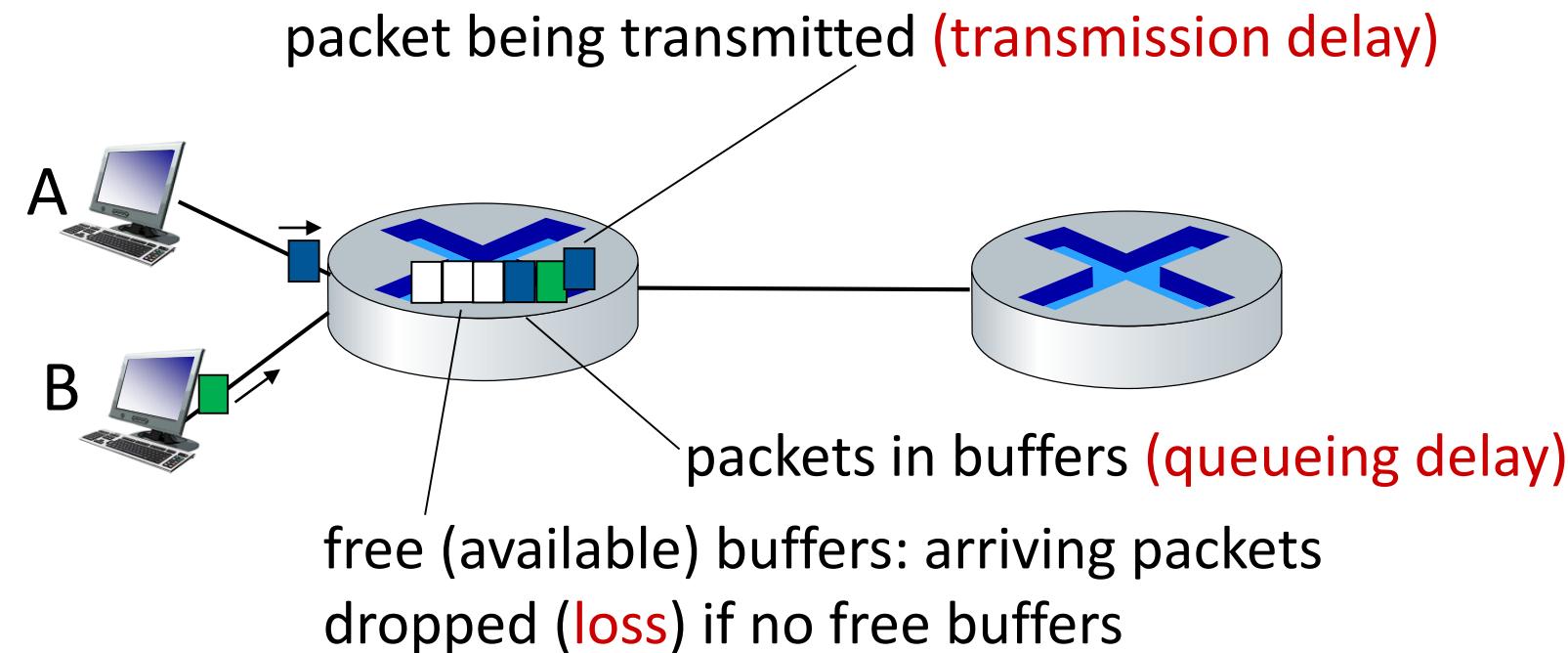
## Time Division Multiplexing

- time divided into slots
- each call allocated periodic slot(s), can transmit at maximum rate of (wider) frequency band (only) during its time slot(s)

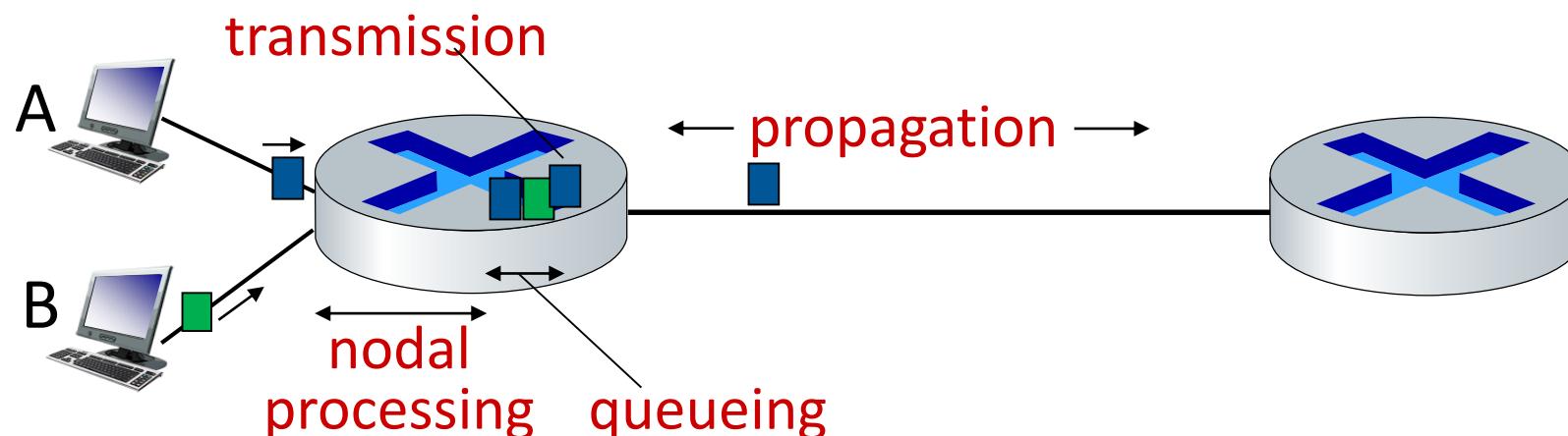


# How do packet delay and loss occur?

- packets *queue* in router buffers, waiting for turn for transmission
  - queue length grows when arrival rate to link (temporarily) exceeds output link capacity
- packet *loss* occurs when memory to hold queued packets fills up



# Packet delay: four sources



$$d_{\text{nodal}} = d_{\text{proc}} + d_{\text{queue}} + d_{\text{trans}} + d_{\text{prop}}$$

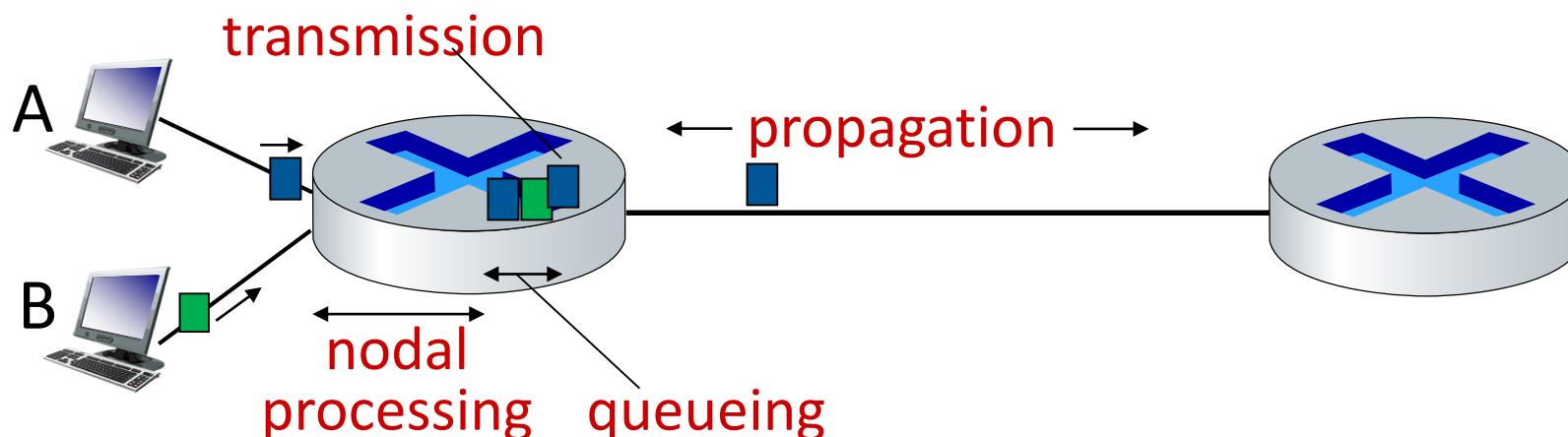
$d_{\text{proc}}$ : nodal processing

- check bit errors
- determine output link
- typically < microsecs

$d_{\text{queue}}$ : queueing delay

- time waiting at output link for transmission
- depends on congestion level of router

# Packet delay: four sources



$$d_{\text{nodal}} = d_{\text{proc}} + d_{\text{queue}} + d_{\text{trans}} + d_{\text{prop}}$$

$d_{\text{trans}}$ : transmission delay:

- $L$ : packet length (bits)
- $R$ : link *transmission rate (bps)*

$$\boxed{d_{\text{trans}} = L/R}$$

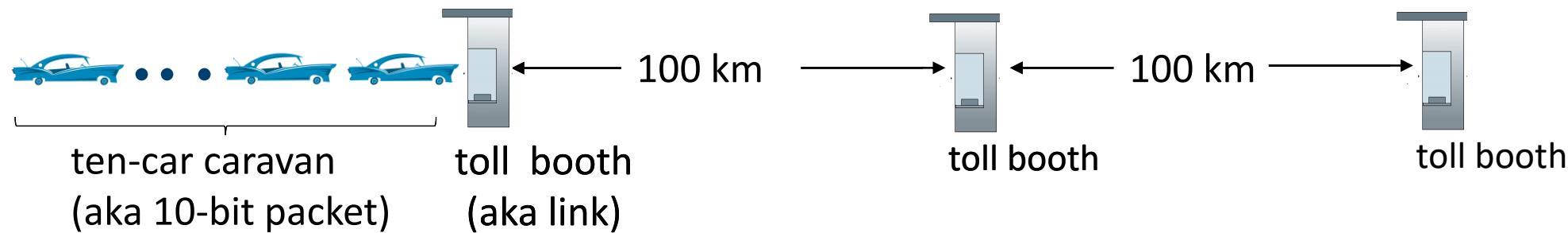
$d_{\text{trans}}$  and  $d_{\text{prop}}$   
very different

$d_{\text{prop}}$ : propagation delay:

- $d$ : length of physical link
- $s$ : propagation speed ( $\sim 2 \times 10^8$  m/sec)

$$\boxed{d_{\text{prop}} = d/s}$$

# Caravan analogy

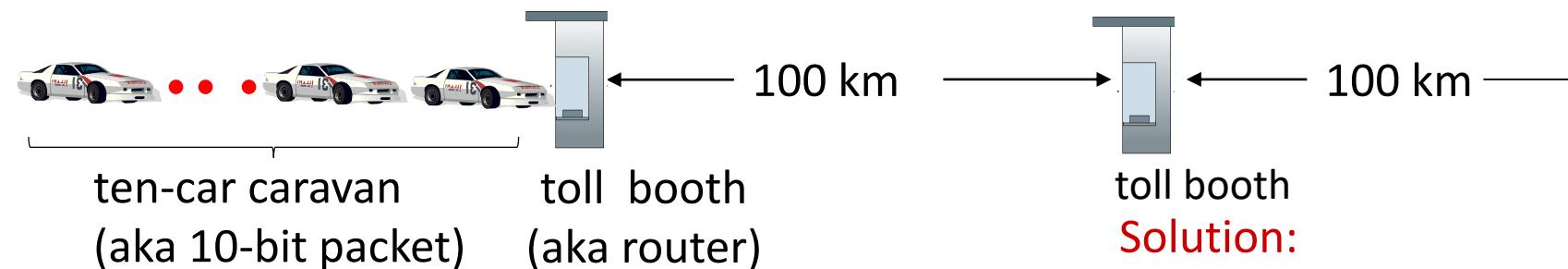


- car ~ bit; caravan ~ packet; toll service ~ link transmission
- toll booth takes 12 sec to service car (bit transmission time)
- “propagate” at 100 km/hr
- **Q: How long until caravan is lined up before 2nd toll booth?**

## Solution:

- time to “push” entire caravan through toll booth onto highway =  $12 * 10 = 120$  sec
- time for last car to propagate from 1st to 2nd toll both:  $100\text{km}/(100\text{km/hr}) = 1$  hr
- **A: 62 minutes**

# Caravan analogy



- suppose cars now “propagate” at 1000 km/hr
- and suppose toll booth now takes one min to service a car
- ***Q: Will cars arrive to 2nd booth before all cars serviced at first booth?***

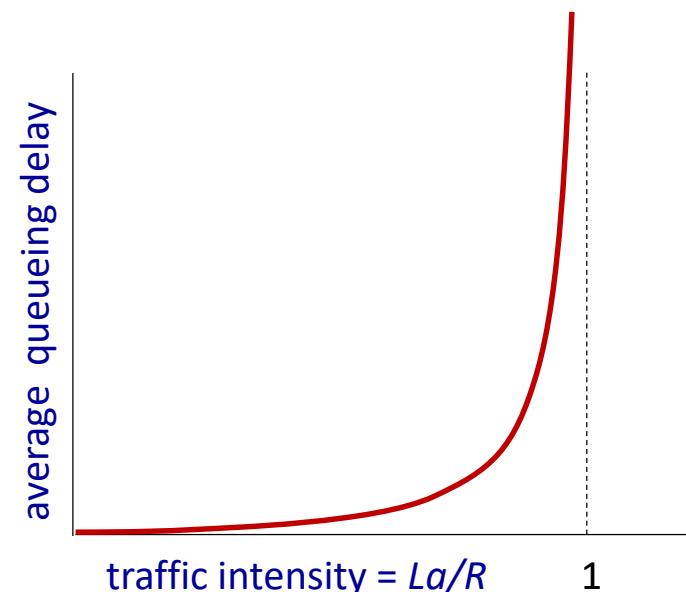
**A: Yes!** after 7 min, first car arrives at second booth;  
three cars still at first booth

# Packet queueing delay (revisited)

- $a$ : average packet arrival rate
- $L$ : packet length (bits)
- $R$ : link bandwidth (bit transmission rate)

$$\frac{L \cdot a}{R} : \frac{\text{arrival rate of bits}}{\text{service rate of bits}}$$

*“traffic intensity”*

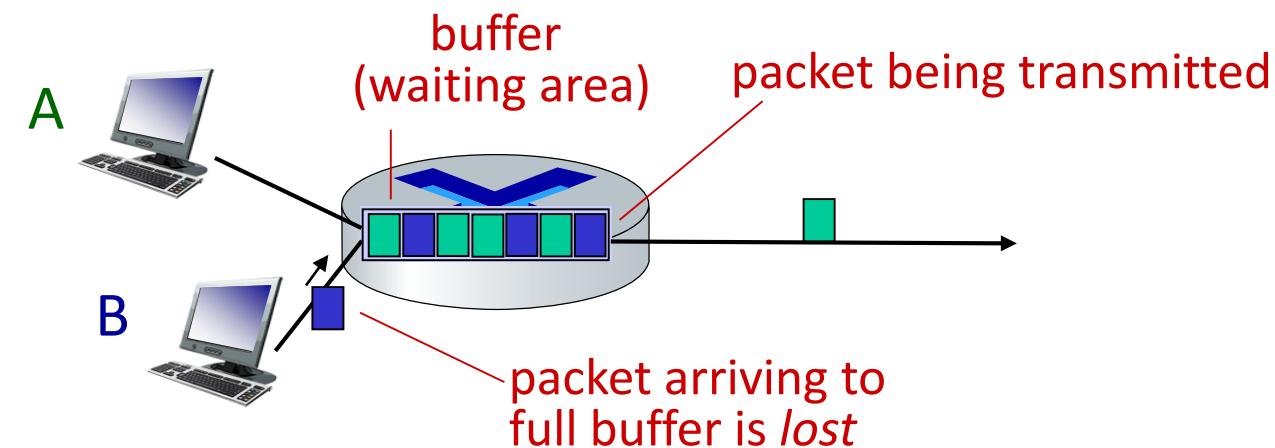


- $La/R \sim 0$ : avg. queueing delay small
- $La/R < 1$ : avg. queueing delay large
- $La/R \Rightarrow 1$ : more “work” arriving is more than can be serviced - average delay infinite!



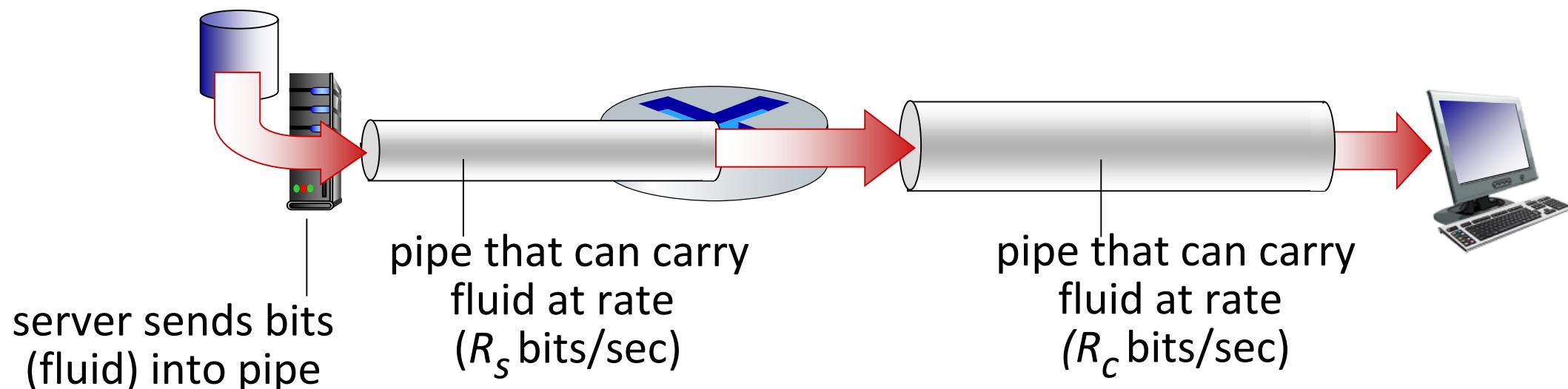
# Packet loss

- queue (aka buffer) preceding link in buffer has finite capacity
- packet arriving to full queue dropped (aka lost)
- lost packet may be retransmitted by previous node, by source end system, or not at all



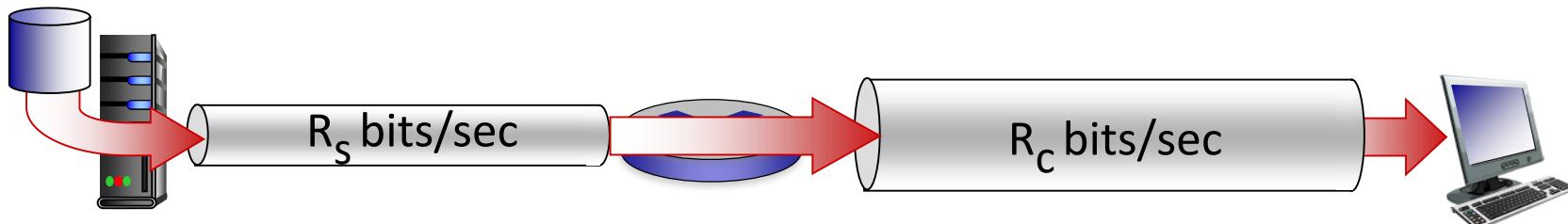
# Throughput

- **throughput:** rate (bits/time unit) at which bits are being sent from sender to receiver
  - *instantaneous:* rate at given point in time
  - *average:* rate over longer period of time



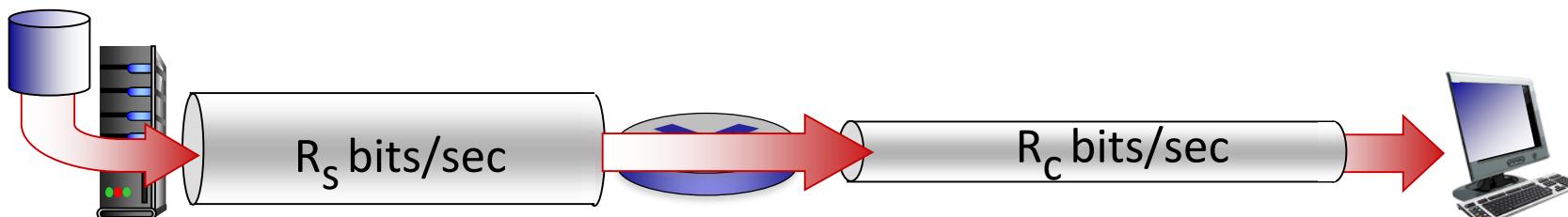
# Throughput

$R_s < R_c$  What is average end-end throughput?



$$\min\{R_s, R_c\}$$

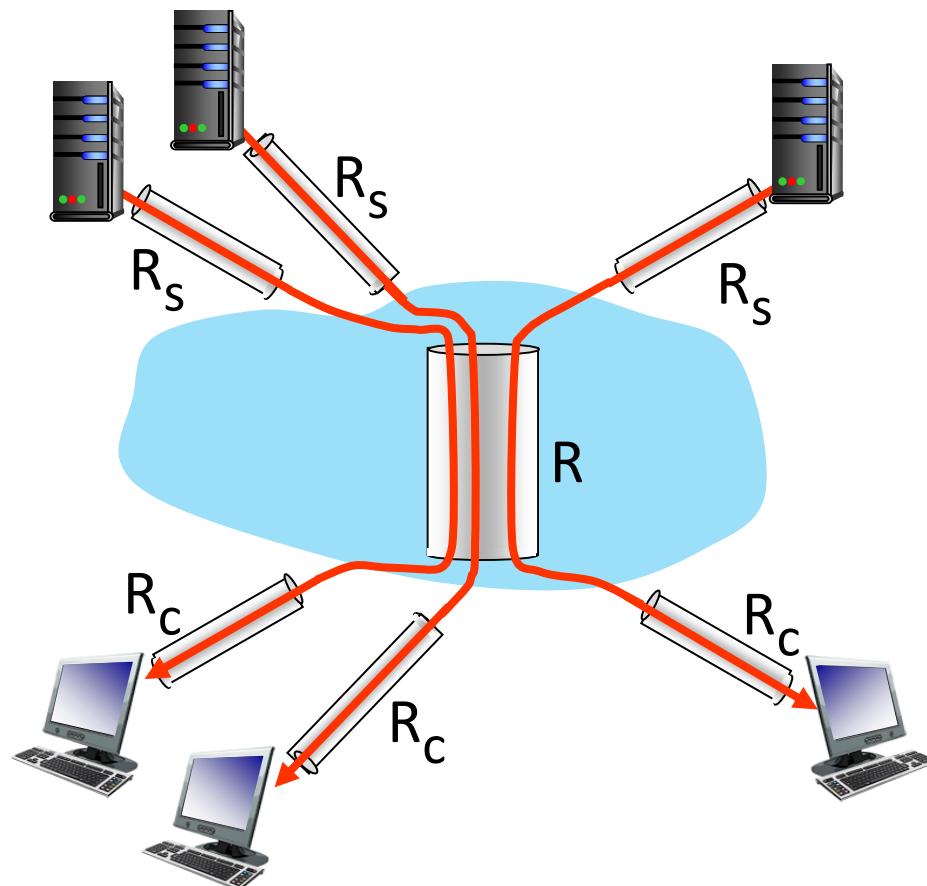
$R_s > R_c$  What is average end-end throughput?



*bottleneck link*

link on end-end path that constrains end-end throughput

# Throughput: network scenario



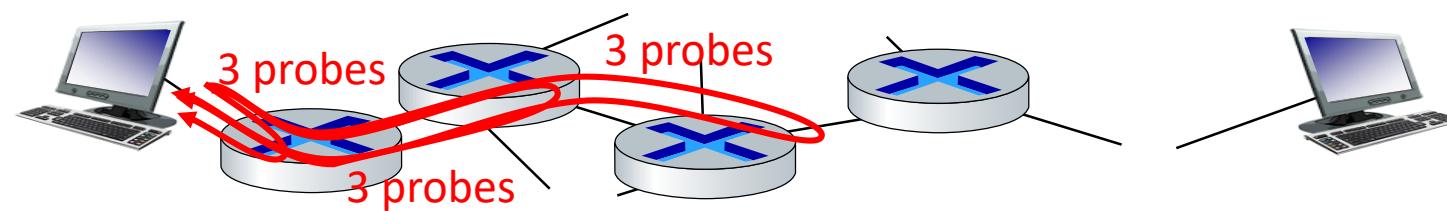
10 connections (fairly) share  
backbone bottleneck link  $R$  bits/sec

- per-connection end-end throughput:  $\min(R_c, R_s, R/10)$
- in practice:  $R_c$  or  $R_s$  is often bottleneck

# “Real” Internet delays and routes

Traceroute  
command

- What do “real” Internet delay & loss look like?
- **traceroute** program: provides delay measurement from source to router along end-end Internet path towards destination. For all  $i$ :
  - sends three packets that will reach router  $i$  on path towards destination (with time-to-live field value of  $i$ )
  - router  $i$  will return packets to sender
  - sender measures time interval between transmission and reply





A photograph of Earth at night, viewed from space. The horizon is visible, showing the bright glow of city lights in Europe and Africa against the dark blue of the atmosphere. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the upper portion of the image, containing the word "Thanks".

Thanks