Chapter 1

Introduction

Overview

- what's the Internet?
- Network edge:
  - Access networks
- Network core:
  - Packet/Circuit switching,
  - Internet structure
- Network performance:
  - Loss, Delay, Throughput

Internet

Internet is a computer network that interconnects hundreds of millions of computing devices throughout the world.

INTERNET APPLIANCES

IP picture frame
http://www.ceiva.com/

Web-enabled toaster +
weather forecaster

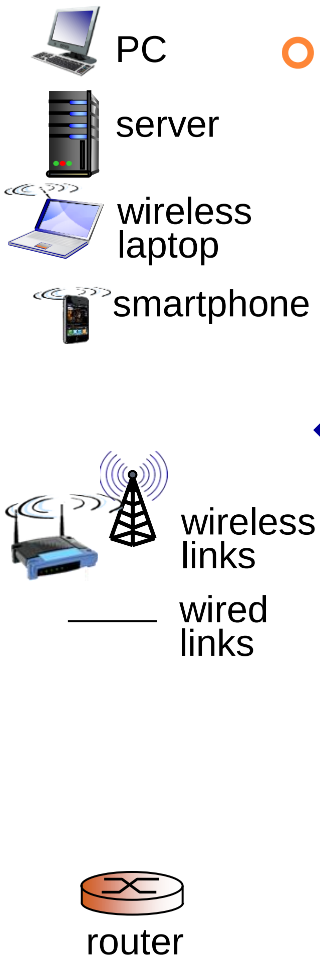
Tweet-a-watt:
monitor energy use

Internet
refrigerator

Slingbox: watch,
control cable TV remotely

Internet phones

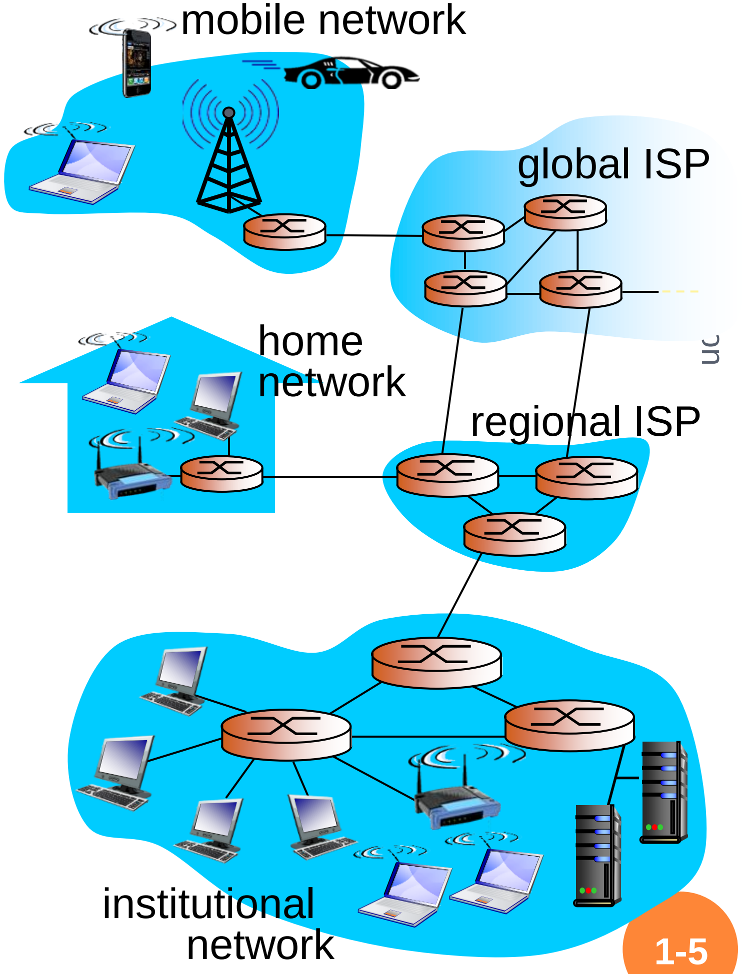
INTERNET : "nuts and bolts" view



- millions of connected computing devices:
  - *hosts = end systems*
  - running *network apps*

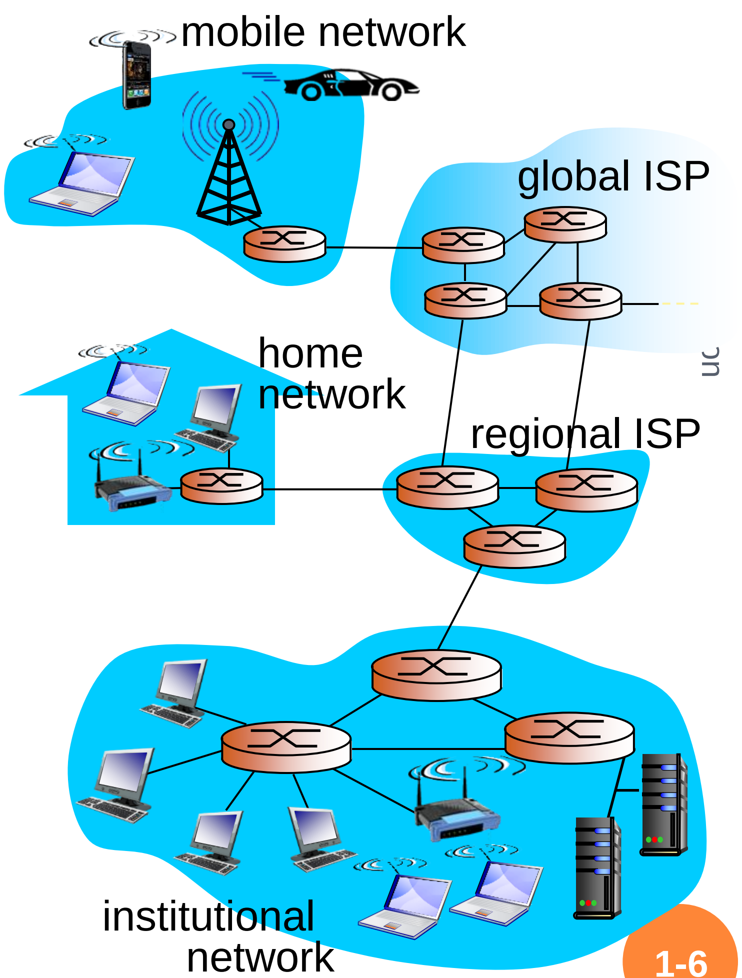
- *communication links*
  - fiber, copper, radio, satellite
  - transmission rate: *bandwidth*

- *Packet switches:* forward packets (chunks of data)
  - *routers* and *switches*



INTERNET : "nuts and bolts" view

- *Internet:* "network of networks"
  - Interconnected ISPs
- *protocols* control sending, receiving of msgs
  - e.g., TCP, IP, HTTP, Skype, 802.11
- *Internet standards*
  - RFC: Request for comments
  - IETF: Internet Engineering Task Force



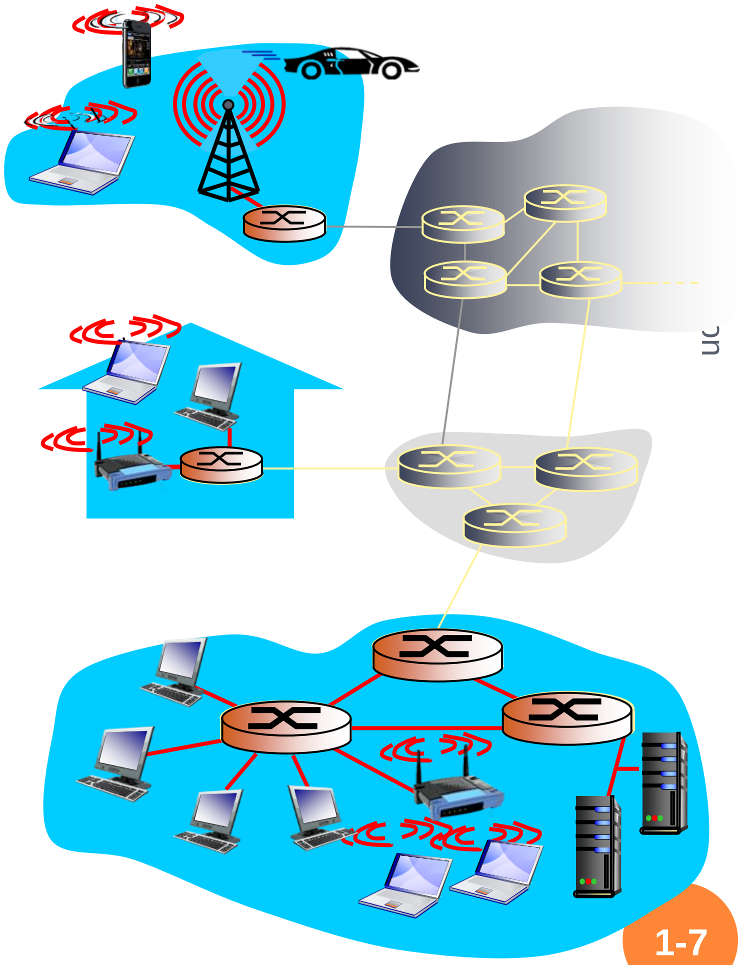
ACCESS NETWORKS

Q: How to connect end systems to edge router?

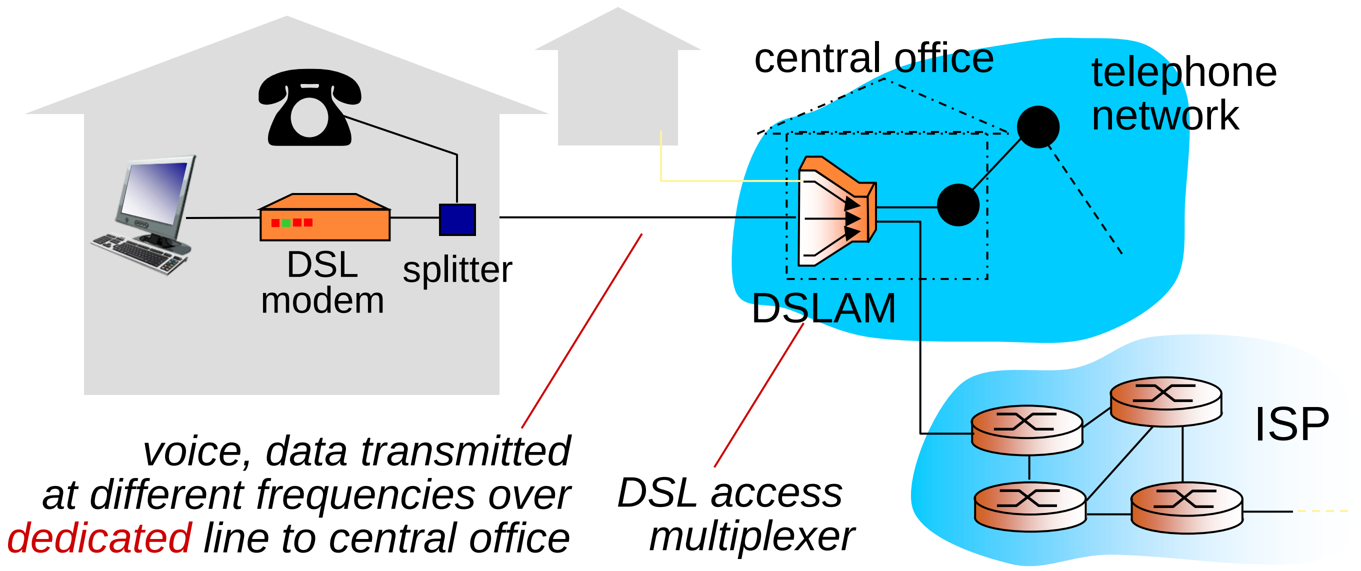
- residential access nets
- institutional access networks (school, company)
- mobile access networks

keep in mind:

- bandwidth (bits per second) of access network?
- shared or dedicated?



DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER LINE (DSL)



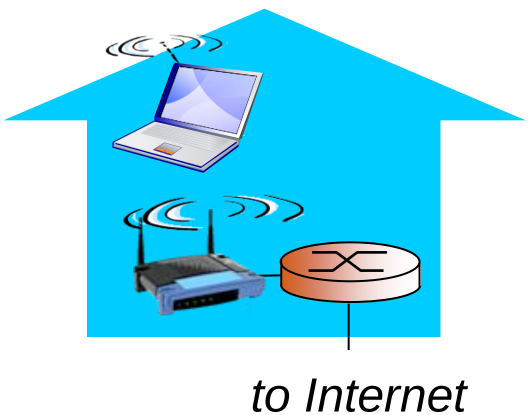
- use *existing* telephone line to central office DSLAM
  - data over DSL phone line goes to Internet
  - voice over DSL phone line goes to telephone net
- < 2.5 Mbps upstream transmission rate (typically < 1 Mbps)
- < 24 Mbps downstream transmission rate (typically < 10 Mbps)

Wireless access networks

- shared *wireless* access network connects end system to router
  - via base station aka "access point"

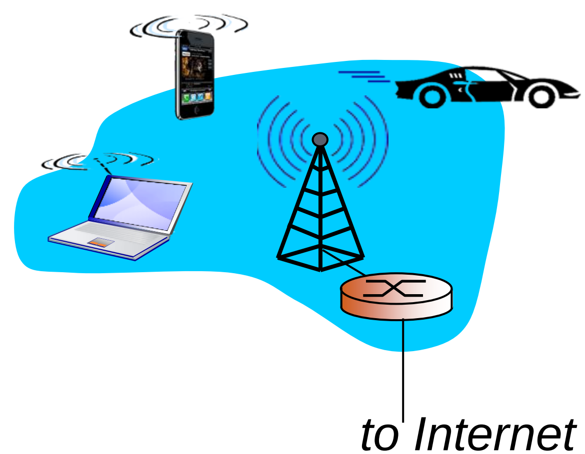
wireless LANs:

- within building (100 ft)
- 802.11b/g (WiFi): 11, 54 Mbps transmission rate

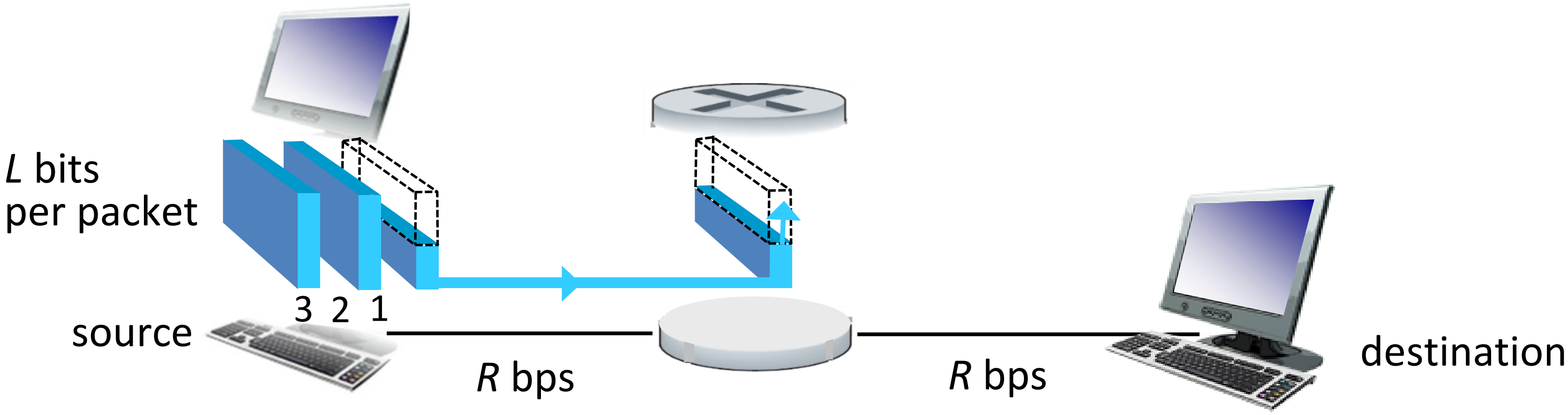


wide-area wireless access

- provided by telco (cellular) operator, 10's km
- between 1 and 10 Mbps
- 3G, 4G: LTE



Packet-switching: store-and-forward



- 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:

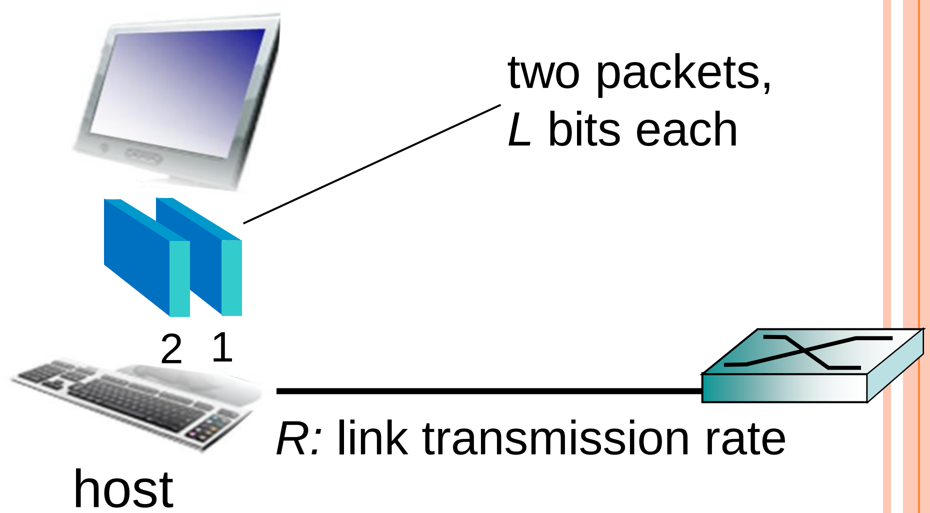
- $L = 7.5$ Mbits
- $R = 1.5$ Mbps
- one-hop transmission delay = 5 sec

❖ End-end delay = N**L*/*R* (assuming zero propagation delay)

Delay

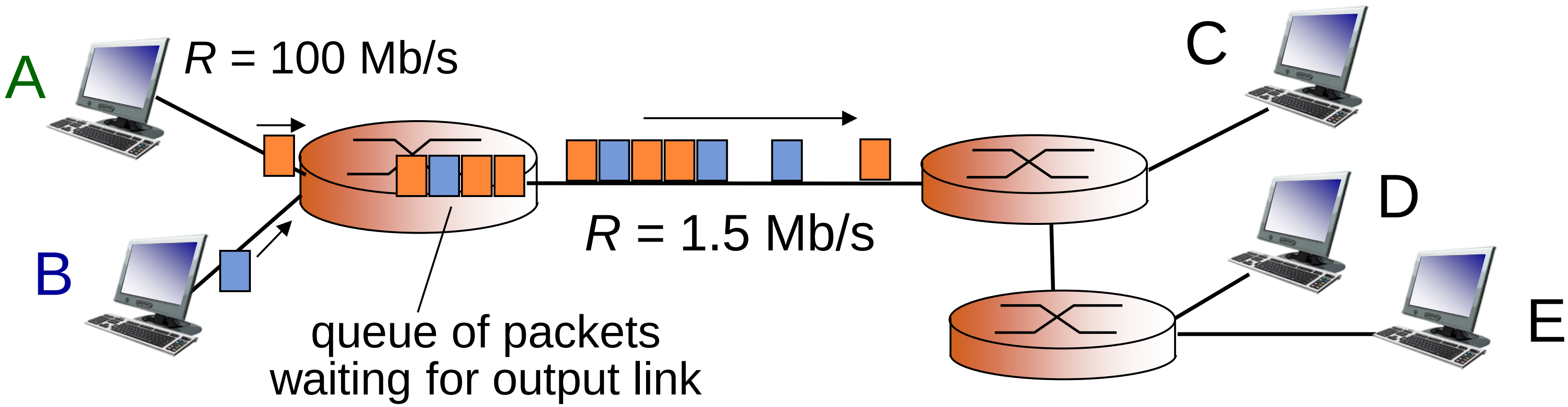
host sending function:

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



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

PACKET SWITCHING: QUEUING DELAY, LOSS



queuing and loss:

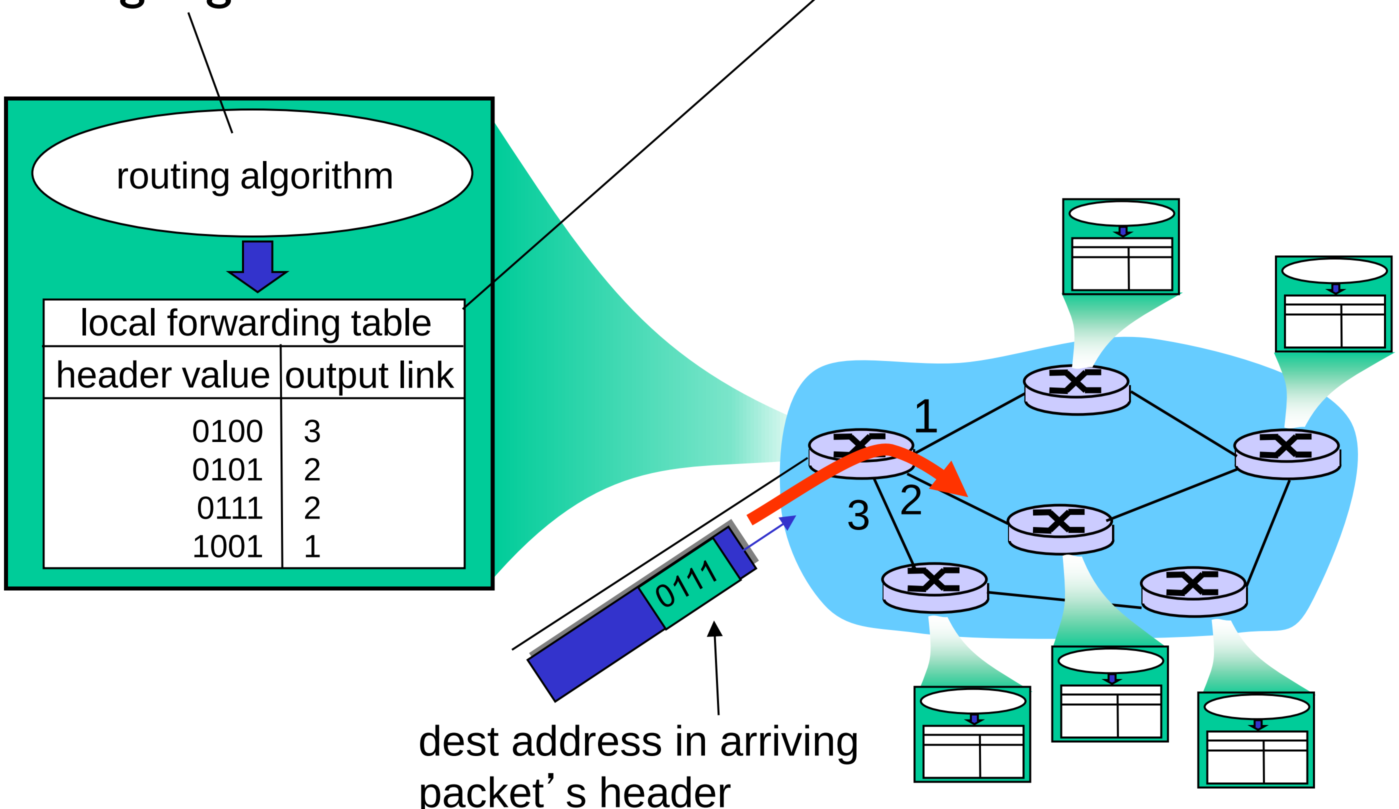
- If arrival rate (in bits) to link exceeds transmission rate of link for a period of time:
  - packets will queue, wait to be transmitted on link
  - packets can be dropped (lost) if memory (buffer) fills up

Two key network-core functions

routing: determines source-destination route taken by packets

- *routing algorithms*

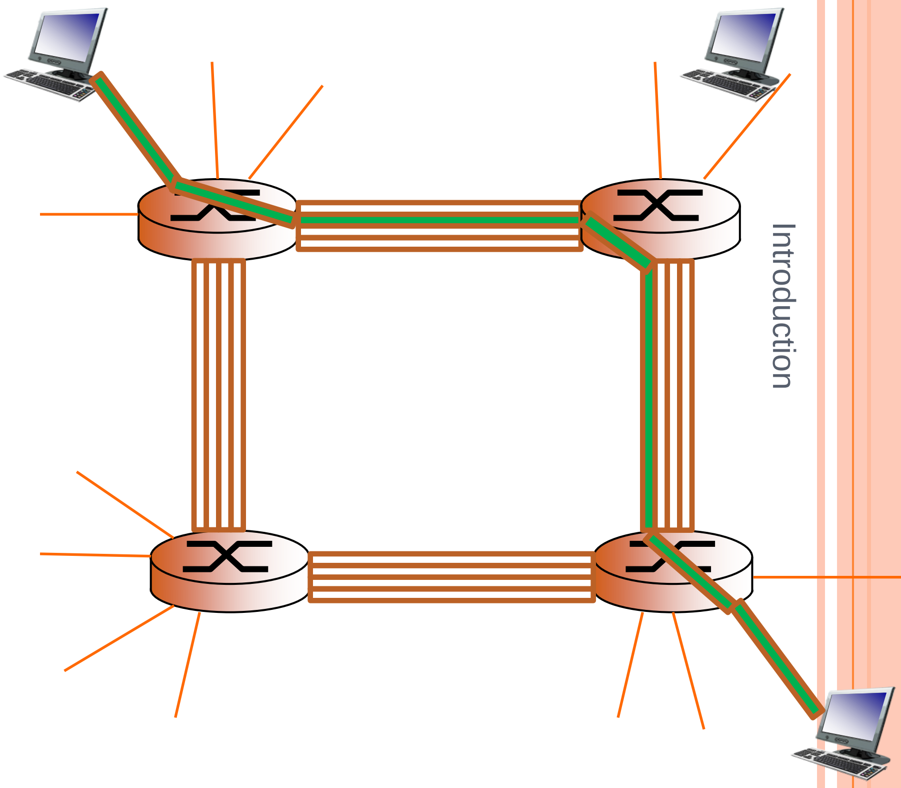
forwarding: move packets from router's input to appropriate router output



CIRCUIT SWITCHING

end-end resources allocated to, reserved for "call" between source & dest:

- In diagram, each link has four circuits.
  - call gets 2nd circuit in top link and 1st 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

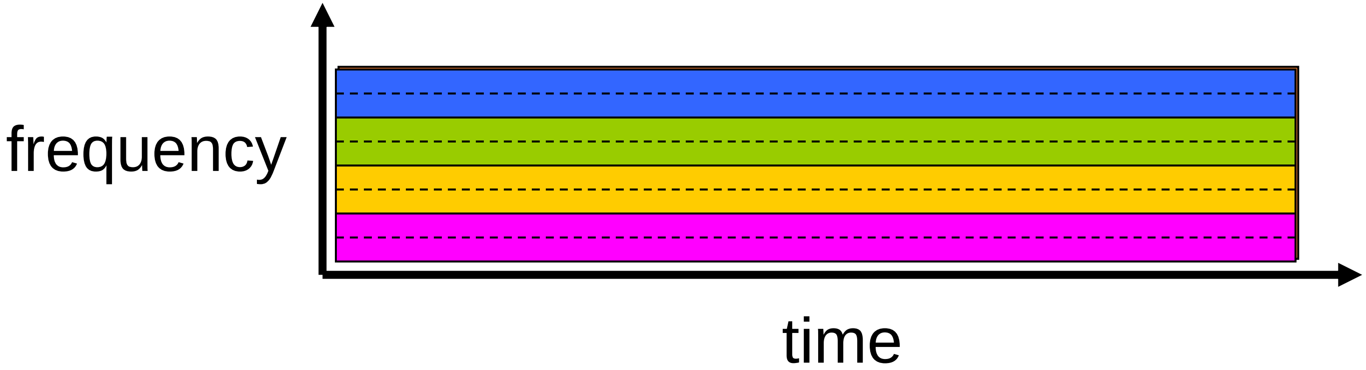


Circuit switching: FDM versus TDM

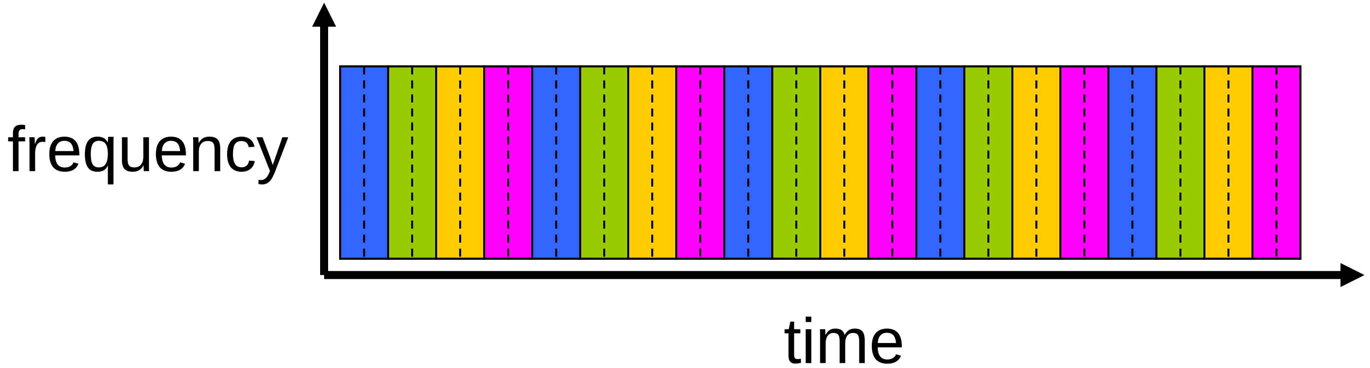
Example:

4 users

FDM



TDM

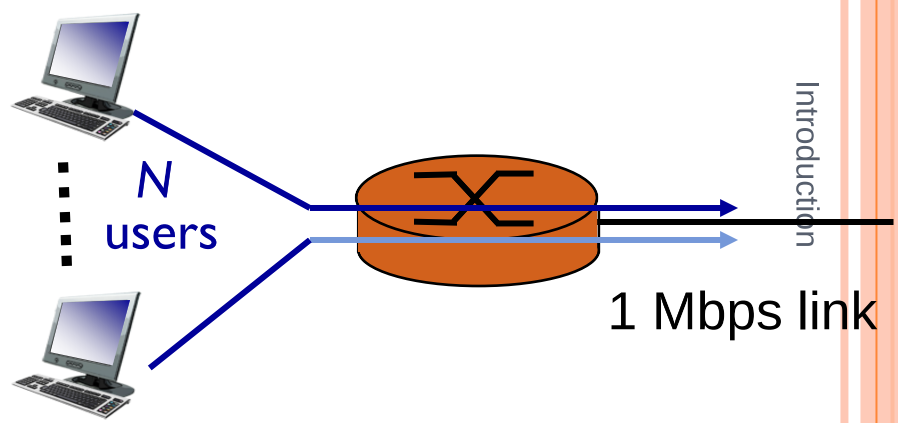


PACKET SWITCHING VERSUS CIRCUIT SWITCHING

packet switching allows more users to use network!

example:

- 1 Mb/s link
- each user:
  - 100 kb/s when "active"
  - active 10% of time



- *circuit-switching:*
  - 10 users
- *packet switching:*
  - with 35 users, probability > 10 active at same time is less than .0004 *

Q: how did we get value 0.0004?

Q: what happens if > 35 users ?

* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples

Packet switching versus circuit switching

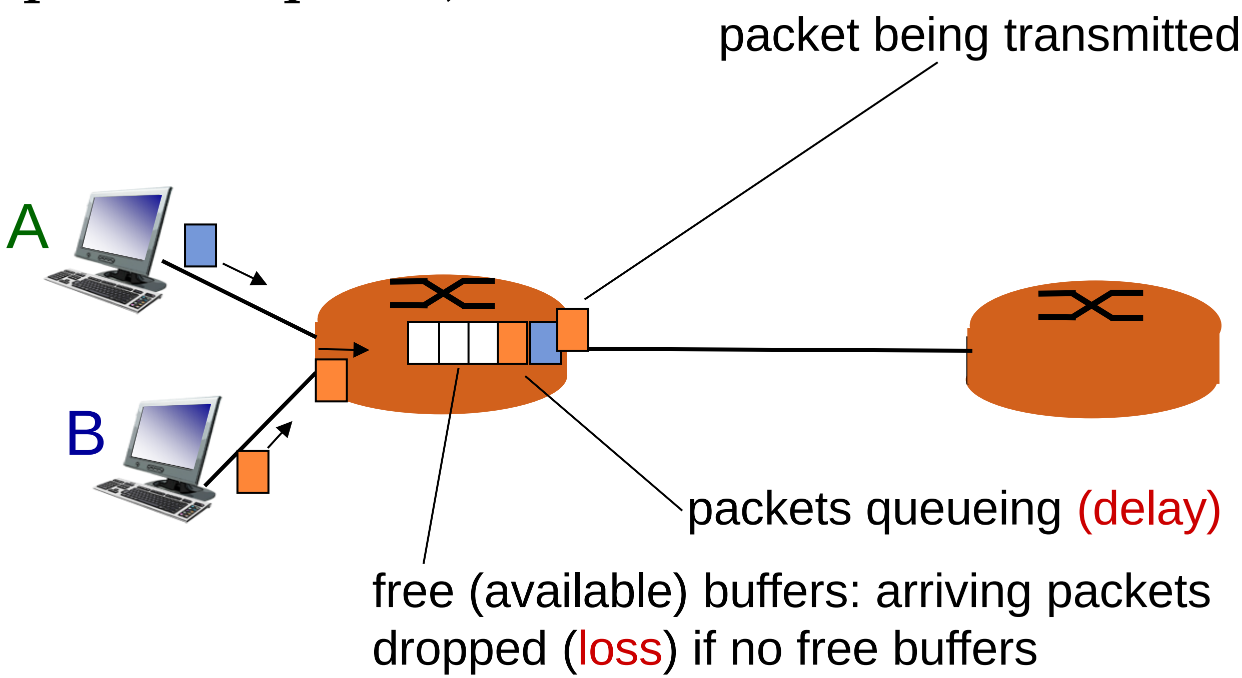
Packet switching

- great for bursty data
  - resource sharing
  - simpler, no call setup
- excessive congestion possible: packet delay and loss
  - protocols needed for reliable data transfer, congestion control
- *Q:* How to provide circuit-like behavior?
  - bandwidth guarantees needed for audio/video apps

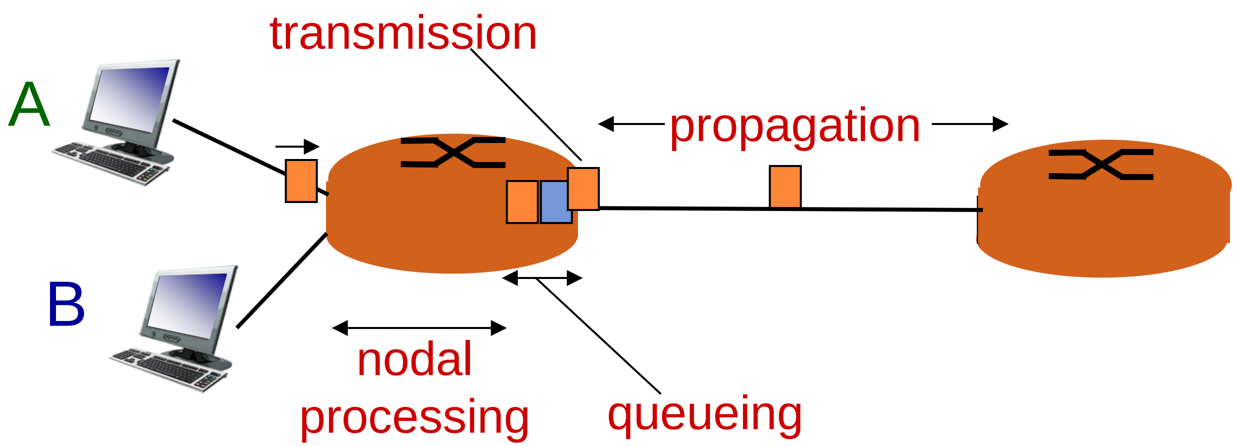
How do loss and delay occur?

packets *queue* in router buffers

- packet arrival rate to link (temporarily) exceeds output link capacity
- packets queue, wait for turn



FOUR SOURCES OF PACKET DELAY

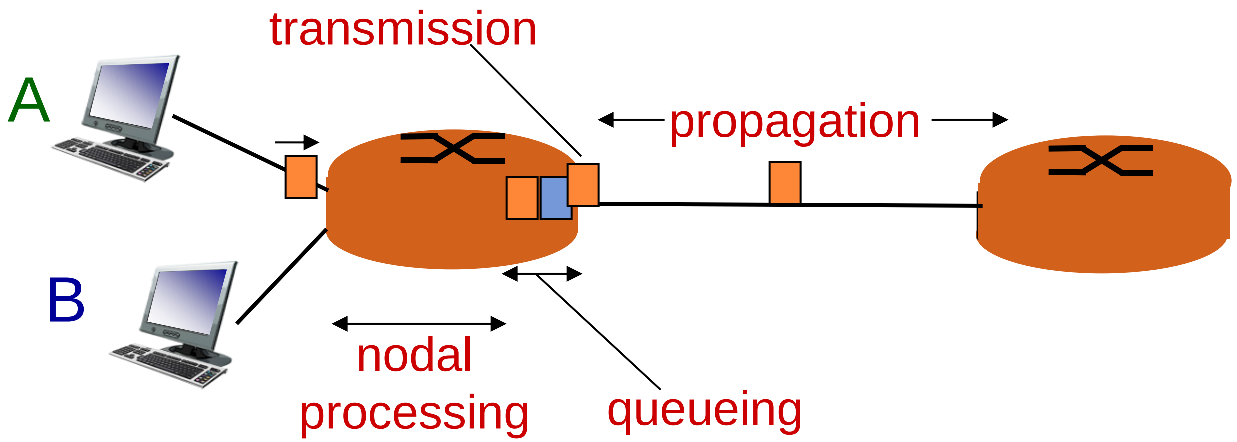


$$d_{nodal} = d_{proc} + d_{queue} + d_{trans} + d_{prop}$$

d_{proc}: nodal processing
- check bit errors
- determine output link
- typically < msec

d_{queue}: **queueing delay**
- time waiting at output link for transmission
- depends on congestion level of router

FOUR SOURCES OF PACKET DELAY



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

d_{trans}: transmission delay:

- *L*: packet length (bits)
- *R*: link *bandwidth (bps)*
- $d_{trans} = L/R$

d_{prop}: propagation delay:

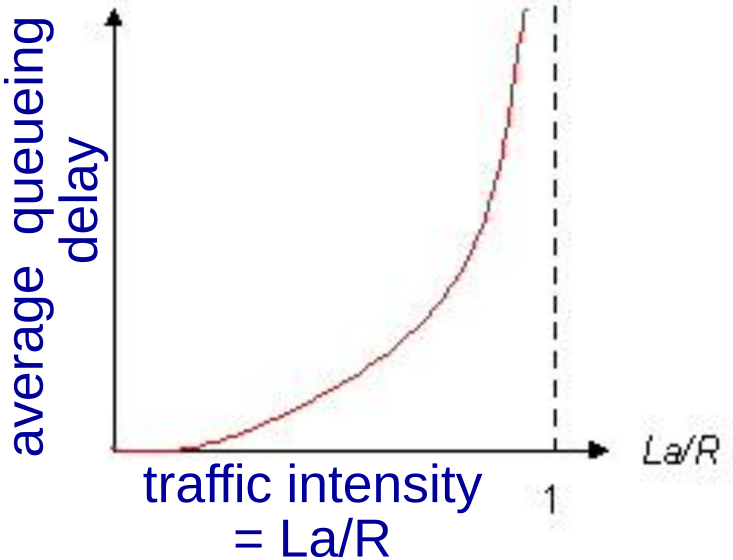
- *d*: length of physical link
- *s*: propagation speed in medium (~2x10^8 m/sec)
- $d_{prop} = d/s$

d_{trans} and d_{prop} *very* different

* Check out the Java applet for an interactive animation on trans vs. prop delay

QUEUEING DELAY

- *R:* link bandwidth (bps)
- *L:* packet length (bits)
- a: average packet arrival rate



- *La/R* ~ 0: avg. queueing delay small
- *La/R* -> 1: avg. queueing delay large
- *La/R* > 1: more "work" arriving than can be serviced, average delay infinite!

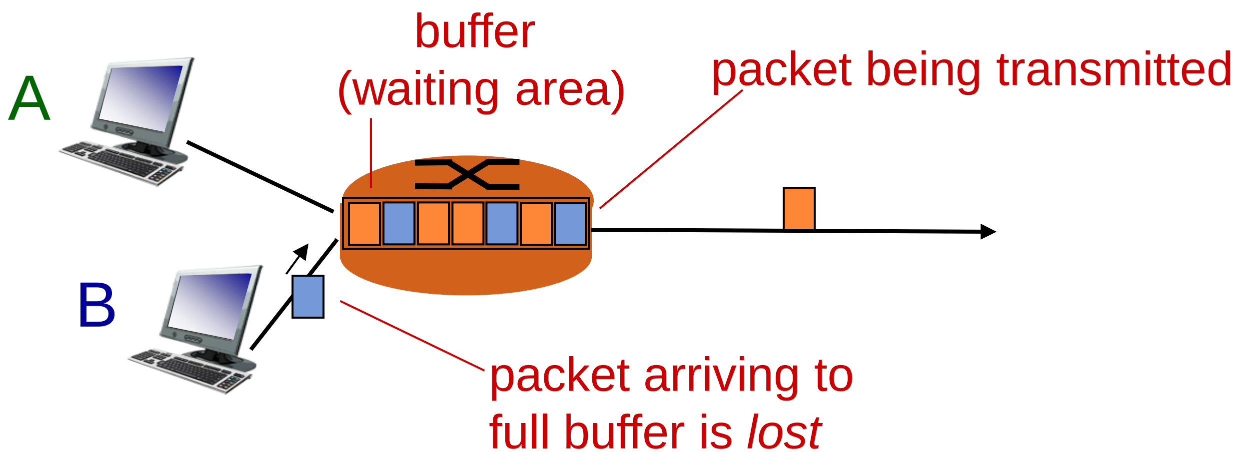
La/R ~ 0

La/R -> 1

* Check out the Java applet for an interactive animation on queuing and loss

PACKET LOSS

- queue (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



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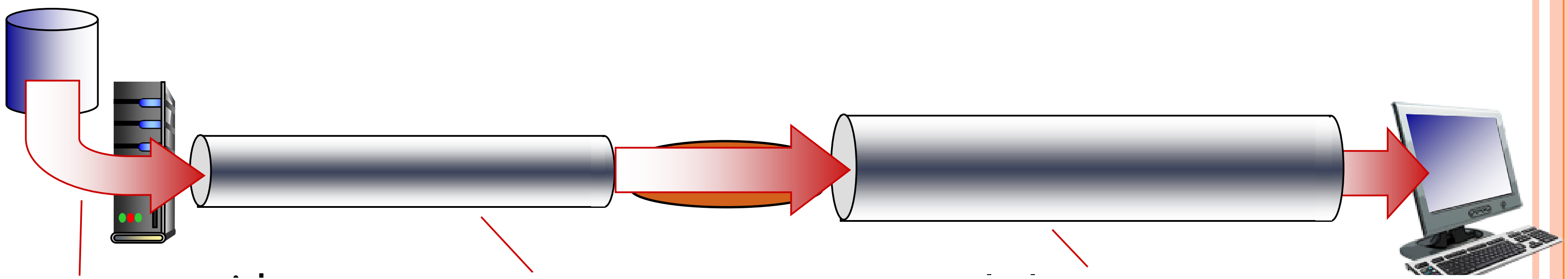
THROUGHPUT

- *throughput:* rate (bits/time unit) at which bits transferred between sender/receiver
  - *instantaneous:* rate at given point in time
  - *average:* rate over longer period of time



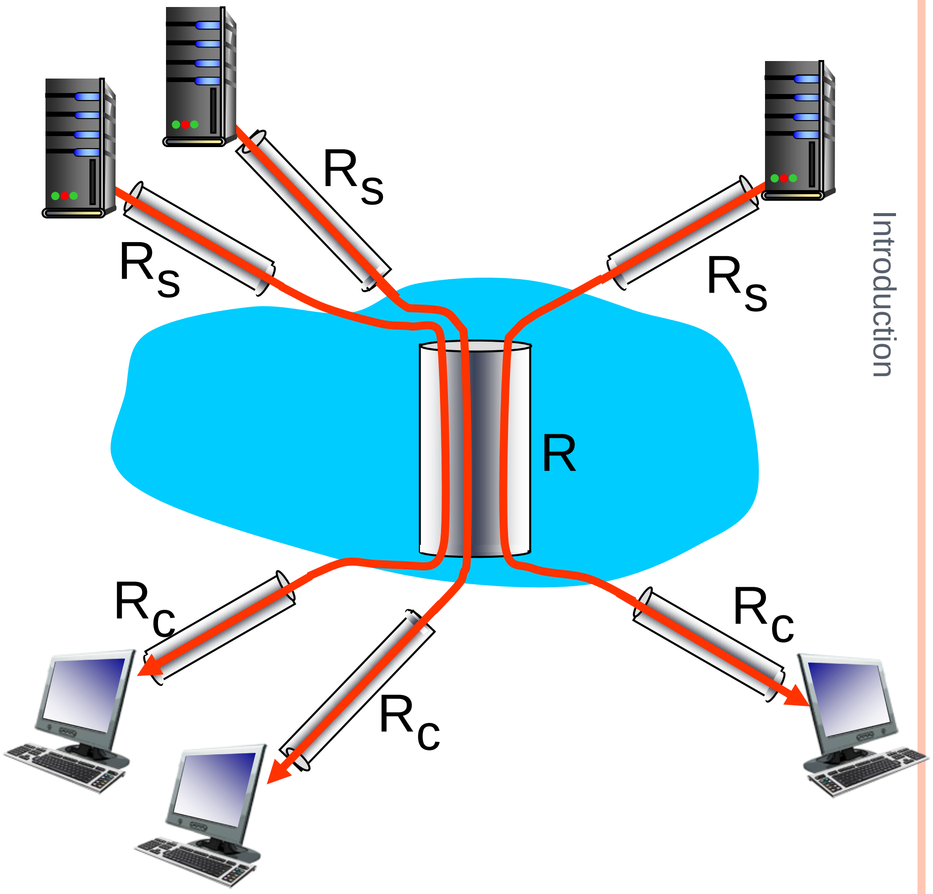
server sends bits (fluid) into pipe

pipe that can carry fluid at rate R_s bits/sec)

pipe that can carry fluid at rate R_c bits/sec)

THROUGHPUT: INTERNET SCENARIO

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



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