

Chapter 7 Packet-Switching Networks



Network Services and Internal Network Operation Packet Network Topology

Datagrams and Virtual Circuits

Routing in Packet Networks

Shortest Path Routing

ATM Networks

Traffic Management

Chapter 7 Packet-Switching Networks

Network Services and Internal Network Operation



Network Layer



- Network Layer: the most complex layer
 - Requires the coordinated actions of multiple, geographically distributed network elements (switches & routers)
 - Must be able to deal with very large scales
 - Billions of users (people & communicating devices)
 - Biggest Challenges
 - Addressing: where should information be directed to?
 - Routing: what path should be used to get information there?



- Transfer of information as payload in data packets
- Packets undergo random delays & possible loss
- Different applications impose differing requirements on the transfer of information



- Network layer can offer a variety of services to transport layer
- Connection-oriented service or connectionless service
- Best-effort or delay/loss guarantees

Network Service vs. Operation



Network Service

- Connectionless
 - Datagram Transfer
- Connection-Oriented
 - Reliable and possibly constant bit rate transfer

Internal Network Operation

- Connectionless
 - IP
- Connection-Oriented
 - Telephone connection
 - ATM

Various combinations are possible

- Connection-oriented service over Connectionless operation
- Connectionless service over Connection-Oriented operation
- Context & requirements determine what makes sense



The End-to-End Argument for System Design



- An end-to-end function is best implemented at a higher level than at a lower level
 - End-to-end service requires all intermediate components to work properly
 - Higher-level better positioned to ensure correct operation
- Example: stream transfer service
 - Establishing an explicit connection for each stream across network requires all network elements (NEs) to be aware of connection; All NEs have to be involved in reestablishment of connections in case of network fault
 - In connectionless network operation, NEs do not deal with each explicit connection and hence are much simpler in design

Network Layer Functions



Essential

- **Routing**: mechanisms for determining the set of best paths for routing packets requires the collaboration of network elements
- Forwarding: transfer of packets from NE inputs to outputs
- Priority & Scheduling: determining order of packet transmission in each NE
- Optional: congestion control, segmentation & reassembly, security

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Packet Network Topology



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End-to-End Packet Network



- Packet networks very different than telephone networks
- Individual packet streams are highly bursty
 - Statistical multiplexing is used to concentrate streams
- User demand can undergo dramatic change
 - Peer-to-peer applications stimulated huge growth in traffic volumes
- Internet structure highly decentralized
 - Paths traversed by packets can go through many networks controlled by different organizations
 - No single entity responsible for end-to-end service



- Packet traffic from users multiplexed at access to network into aggregated streams
- DSL traffic multiplexed at DSL Access Mux
- Cable modem traffic multiplexed at Cable Modem Termination System

Oversubscription



- Access Multiplexer
 - N subscribers connected @ c bps to mux
 - Each subscriber active r/c of time
 - Mux has C=nc bps to network
 - Oversubscription rate: N/n
 - Find n so that at most 1% overflow probability

Feasible oversubscription rate increases with size

N	r/c	n	N/n	
10	0.01	1	10	10 extremely lightly loaded users
10	0.05	3	3.3	10 very lightly loaded user
10	0.1	4	2.5	10 lightly loaded users
20	0.1	6	3.3	20 lightly loaded users
40	0.1	9	4.4	40 lightly loaded users
100	0.1	18	5.5 🔻	100 lightly loaded users



Home LANs





Home Router

- LAN Access using Ethernet or WiFi (IEEE 802.11)
- Private IP addresses in Home (192.168.0.x) using Network Address Translation (NAT)
- Single global IP address from ISP issued using Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)



 LAN Hubs and switches in the access network also aggregate packet streams that flows into switches and routers







- Network Access Points: set up during original commercialization of Internet to facilitate exchange of traffic
- Private Peering Points: two-party inter-ISP agreements to exchange traffic



Key Role of Routing



How to get packet from here to there?

- Decentralized nature of Internet makes routing a major challenge
 - Interior gateway protocols (IGPs) are used to determine routes within a domain
 - Exterior gateway protocols (EGPs) are used to determine routes across domains
 - Routes must be consistent & produce stable flows
- Scalability required to accommodate growth
 - Hierarchical structure of IP addresses essential to keeping size of routing tables manageable

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Datagrams and Virtual Circuits

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The Switching Function

- Dynamic interconnection of inputs to outputs
- Enables dynamic sharing of transmission resource
- Two fundamental approaches:
 - Connectionless
 - Connection-Oriented: Call setup control, Connection control





Packet Switching Network





Packet switching network

- Transfers packets between users
- Transmission lines + packet switches (routers)
- Origin in message switching

Two modes of operation:

- Connectionless
- Virtual Circuit

Message Switching





- Message switching invented for telegraphy
- Entire messages multiplexed onto shared lines, stored & forwarded
- Headers for source & destination addresses
- Routing at message switches
- Connectionless



Additional queueing delays possible at each link



How many bits need to be transmitted to deliver message?

- Approach 1: send 1 Mbit message
- Probability message arrives correctly

$$P_c = (1 - 10^{-6})^{10^6} \approx e^{-10^6 10^{-6}} = e^{-1} \approx 1/3$$

- On average it takes about 3 transmissions/hop
- Total # bits transmitted ≈ 6 Mbits

- Approach 2: send 10 100-kbit packets
- Probability packet arrives correctly

 $P_c' = (1 - 10^{-6})^{10^5} \approx e^{-10^5 10^{-6}} = e^{-0.1} \approx 0.9$

- On average it takes about
 1.1 transmissions/hop
- Total # bits transmitted ≈
 2.2 Mbits

Packet Switching - Datagram

- Messages broken into smaller units (packets)
- Source & destination addresses in packet header
- Connectionless, packets routed independently (datagram)
- Packet may arrive out of order
- Pipelining of packets across network can reduce delay, increase throughput
- Lower delay that message switching, suitable for interactive traffic



Packet Switching Delay



Assume three packets corresponding to one message traverse same path



► Delay →

Minimum Delay = 3τ + 5(T/3) (single path assumed)

Additional queueing delays possible at each link Packet pipelining enables message to arrive sooner



Routing Tables in Datagram Networks





- Route determined by table lookup
- Routing decision involves finding next hop in route to given destination
- Routing table has an entry for each destination specifying output port that leads to next hop
- Size of table becomes impractical for very large number of destinations

Example: Internet Routing

- Internet protocol uses datagram packet switching across networks
 - Networks are treated as data links
- Hosts have two-port IP address:
 - Network address + Host address
- Routers do table lookup on network address
 - This reduces size of routing table
- In addition, network addresses are assigned so that they can also be aggregated
 - Discussed as CIDR in Chapter 8



Packet Switching – Virtual Circuit



- Call set-up phase sets ups pointers in fixed path along network
- All packets for a connection follow the same path
- Abbreviated header identifies connection on each link
- Packets queue for transmission
- Variable bit rates possible, negotiated during call set-up
- Delays variable, cannot be less than circuit switching





- Signaling messages propagate as route is selected
- Signaling messages identify connection and setup tables in switches
- Typically a connection is identified by a local tag, Virtual Circuit Identifier (VCI)
- Each switch only needs to know how to relate an incoming tag in one input to an outgoing tag in the corresponding output
- Once tables are setup, packets can flow along path



Connection Setup Delay



- Connection setup delay is incurred before any packet can be transferred
- Delay is acceptable for sustained transfer of large number of packets
- This delay may be unacceptably high if only a few packets are being transferred

Virtual Circuit Forwarding Tables



Input VCI	Output port	Output VCI
12	13	44
15	15	23
27	13	16
58	7	34

- Each input port of packet switch has a forwarding table
- Lookup entry for VCI of incoming packet
- Determine output port (next hop) and insert VCI for next link
- Very high speeds are possible
- Table can also include priority or other information about how packet should be treated



Cut-Through switching



- Some networks perform error checking on header only, so packet can be forwarded as soon as header is received & processed
- Delays reduced further with cut-through switching
Message vs. Packet Minimum Delay



- Message:
 - $L \tau + L T = L \tau + (L-1) T + T$
- Packet
 - $L \tau + L P + (k-1) P = L \tau + (L-1) P + T$
- Cut-Through Packet (Immediate forwarding after header)

 $= L \tau + T$

Above neglect header processing delays

Example: ATM Networks



- All information mapped into short fixed-length packets called *cells*
- Connections set up across network
 - Virtual circuits established across networks
 - Tables setup at ATM switches
- Several types of network services offered
 - Constant bit rate connections
 - Variable bit rate connections

Chapter 7 Packet-Switching Networks



Structure of a Packet Switch



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Packet Switch: Intersection where Traffic Flows Meet



- Inputs contain multiplexed flows from access muxs & other packet switches
- Flows demultiplexed at input, routed and/or forwarded to output ports
- Packets buffered, prioritized, and multiplexed on output lines

Generic Packet Switch



"Unfolded" View of Switch

- Ingress Line Cards
 - Header processing
 - Demultiplexing
 - Routing in large switches
- Controller
 - Routing in small switches
 - Signalling & resource allocation
- Interconnection Fabric
 - Transfer packets between line cards
- Egress Line Cards
 - Scheduling & priority
 - Multiplexing





- Network header processing
- Physical layer across fabric + framing

Shared Memory Packet Switch





Small switches can be built by reading/writing into shared memory

Crossbar Switches





- Large switches built from crossbar & multistage space switches
- Requires centralized controller/scheduler (who sends to whom when)
- Can buffer at input, output, or both (performance vs complexity)

Self-Routing Switches



- Self-routing switches do not require controller
- Output port number determines route
- $101 \rightarrow (1)$ lower port, (2) upper port, (3) lower port



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Routing in Packet Networks

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- Three possible (loopfree) routes from 1 to 6:
 - 1-3-6, 1-4-5-6, 1-2-5-6
- Which is "best"?
 - Min delay? Min hop? Max bandwidth? Min cost? Max reliability?

Creating the Routing Tables



- Need information on state of links
 - Link up/down; congested; delay or other metrics
- Need to distribute link state information using a routing protocol
 - What information is exchanged? How often?
 - Exchange with neighbors; Broadcast or flood
- Need to compute routes based on information
 - Single metric; multiple metrics
 - Single route; alternate routes

Routing Algorithm Requirements

- Responsiveness to changes
 - Topology or bandwidth changes, congestion
 - Rapid convergence of routers to consistent set of routes
 - Freedom from persistent loops
- Optimality
 - Resource utilization, path length
- Robustness
 - Continues working under high load, congestion, faults, equipment failures, incorrect implementations
- Simplicity
 - Efficient software implementation, reasonable processing load



Centralized vs Distributed Routing

- Centralized Routing
 - All routes determined by a central node
 - All state information sent to central node
 - Problems adapting to frequent topology changes
 - Does not scale
- Distributed Routing
 - Routes determined by routers using distributed algorithm
 - State information exchanged by routers
 - Adapts to topology and other changes
 - Better scalability



Static vs Dynamic Routing



- Static Routing
 - Set up manually, do not change; requires administration
 - Works when traffic predictable & network is simple
 - Used to override some routes set by dynamic algorithm
 - Used to provide default router
- Dynamic Routing
 - Adapt to changes in network conditions
 - Automated
 - Calculates routes based on received updated network state information

Routing in Virtual-Circuit Packet Networks





- Route determined during connection setup
- Tables in switches implement forwarding that realizes selected route

Routing Tables in VC Packet Networks





• Example: VCI from A to D

• From A & VCI 5 \rightarrow 3 & VCI 3 \rightarrow 4 & VCI 4

•
$$\rightarrow$$
 5 & VCI 5 \rightarrow D & VCI 2

Routing Tables in Datagram Packet Networks





Non-Hierarchical Addresses and Routing



- No relationship between addresses & routing proximity
- Routing tables require 16 entries each





- Prefix indicates network where host is attached
- Routing tables require 4 entries each



Flat vs Hierarchical Routing

- Flat Routing
 - All routers are peers
 - Does not scale
- Hierarchical Routing
 - Partitioning: Domains, autonomous systems, areas...
 - Some routers part of routing backbone
 - Some routers only communicate within an area
 - Efficient because it matches typical traffic flow patterns
 - Scales

Specialized Routing



- Flooding
 - Useful in starting up network
 - Useful in propagating information to all nodes
- Deflection Routing
 - Fixed, preset routing procedure
 - No route synthesis

Flooding



Send a packet to all nodes in a network

- No routing tables available
- Need to broadcast packet to all nodes (e.g. to propagate link state information)

Approach

- Send packet on all ports except one where it arrived
- Exponential growth in packet transmissions



Flooding is initiated from Node 1: Hop 1 transmissions





Flooding is initiated from Node 1: Hop 2 transmissions



Flooding is initiated from Node 1: Hop 3 transmissions

Limited Flooding

- Time-to-Live field in each packet limits number of hops to certain diameter
- Each switch adds its ID before flooding; discards repeats
- Source puts sequence number in each packet; switches records source address and sequence number and discards repeats

Deflection Routing



- Network nodes forward packets to preferred port
- If preferred port busy, deflect packet to another port
- Works well with regular topologies
 - Manhattan street network
 - Rectangular array of nodes
 - Nodes designated (i,j)
 - Rows alternate as one-way streets
 - Columns alternate as one-way avenues
- Bufferless operation is possible
 - Proposed for optical packet networks
 - All-optical buffering currently not viable





Tunnel from last column to first column or vice versa



Example: Node (0,2)→(1,0)



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Shortest Paths & Routing



- Many possible paths connect any given source and to any given destination
- Routing involves the selection of the path to be used to accomplish a given transfer
- Typically it is possible to attach a cost or distance to a link connecting two nodes
- Routing can then be posed as a shortest path problem

Routing Metrics

Means for measuring desirability of a path

- Path Length = sum of costs or distances
- Possible metrics
 - Hop count: rough measure of resources used
 - Reliability: link availability; BER
 - Delay: sum of delays along path; complex & dynamic
 - Bandwidth: "available capacity" in a path
 - Load: Link & router utilization along path
 - Cost: \$\$\$



Shortest Path Approaches



Distance Vector Protocols

- Neighbors exchange list of distances to destinations
- Best next-hop determined for each destination
- Ford-Fulkerson (distributed) shortest path algorithm

Link State Protocols

- Link state information flooded to all routers
- Routers have complete topology information
- Shortest path (& hence next hop) calculated
- Dijkstra (centralized) shortest path algorithm



Distance Vector

Local Signpost

- Direction
- Distance

Routing Table

For each destination list:

- Next Node
- Distance

dest	next	dist

Table Synthesis

- Neighbors exchange table entries
- Determine current best next hop
- Inform neighbors
 - Periodically
 - After changes


Shortest Path to SJ



But we don't know the shortest paths





Bellman-Ford Algorithm

- Consider computations <u>for one destination</u> d
- Initialization
 - Each node table has 1 row for destination d
 - Distance of node *d* to itself is zero: $D_d = 0$
 - Distance of other node *j* to *d* is infinite: $D_j = \infty$, for $j \neq d$
 - Next hop node $n_i = -1$ to indicate not yet defined for $j \neq d$
- Send Step
 - Send new distance vector to immediate neighbors across local link
- Receive Step
 - At node *j*, find the next hop that gives the minimum distance to *d*,
 - $Min_{j} \{ C_{ij} + D_{j} \}$
 - Replace old $(n_j, D_j(d))$ by new $(n_j^*, D_j^*(d))$ if new next node or distance
 - Go to send step



Bellman-Ford Algorithm



- Now consider parallel computations <u>for all destinations</u> d
- Initialization
 - Each node has 1 row for each destination d
 - Distance of node *d* to itself is zero: $D_d(d)=0$
 - Distance of other node *j* to *d* is infinite: $D_j(d) = \infty$, for $j \neq d$
 - Next node $n_i = -1$ since not yet defined
- Send Step
 - Send new distance vector to immediate neighbors across local link
- Receive Step
 - For each destination d, find the next hop that gives the minimum distance to d,
 - Min_j { C_{ij}+ D_j(d) }
 - Replace old (n_j, D_i(d)) by new (n_j*, D_j*(d)) if new next node or distance found
 - Go to send step



Iteration	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	Node 4	Node 5
Initial	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1 , ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1 , ∞)
1	(-1 , ∞)	(-1, ∞)	((6,1))	(-1 , ∞)	((6,2))
2					
3					



Iteration	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	Node 4	Node 5
Initial	(-1 , ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)
1	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(6, 1)	(-1, ∞)	(6,2)
2	((3,3))	(5,6)	(6, 1)	((3,3))	(6,2)
3					



Iteration	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	Node 4	Node 5
Initial	(-1 , ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)
1	(-1 , ∞)	(-1, ∞)	(6, 1)	(-1, ∞)	(6,2)
2	(3,3)	(5,6)	(6, 1)	(3,3)	(6,2)
3	(3,3)	((4,4))	(6, 1)	(3,3)	(6,2)



Iteration	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	Node 4	Node 5
Initial	(3,3)	(4,4)	(6, 1)	(3,3)	(6,2)
1	(3,3)	(4,4)	((4, 5))	(3,3)	(6,2)
2					
3					





Network disconnected; Loop created between nodes 3 and 4

Iteration	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	Node 4	Node 5
Initial	(3,3)	(4,4)	(6, 1)	(3,3)	(6,2)
1	(3,3)	(4,4)	(4, 5)	(3,3)	(6,2)
2	((3,7))	(4,4)	(4, 5)	(5,5)	(6,2)
3					





Node 4 could have chosen 2 as next node because of tie

Iteration	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	Node 4	Node 5
Initial	(3,3)	(4,4)	(6, 1)	(3,3)	(6,2)
1	(3,3)	(4,4)	(4, 5)	(3,3)	(6,2)
2	(3,7)	(4,4)	(4, 5)	(5,5)	(6,2)
3	(3,7)	((4,6))	((4, 7))	(5,5)	(6,2)



Node 2 could have chosen 5 as next node because of tie

Iteration	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	Node 4	Node 5
1	(3,3)	(4,4)	(4, 5)	(3,3)	(6,2)
2	(3,7)	(4,4)	(4, 5)	(2,5)	(6,2)
3	(3,7)	(4,6)	(4, 7)	(5,5)	(6,2)
4	((2,9))	(4,6)	(4, 7)	(5,5)	(6,2)



Node 1 could have chose 3 as next node because of tie

Counting to Infinity Problem



Nodes believe best path is through each other

(Destination is node 4)

Update	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3
Before break	(2,3)	(3,2)	(4, 1)
After break	(2,3)	(32)	(2)3)
1	(2,3)	(3,4)	(2,3)
2	(2,5)	(3,4)	(2,5)
3	(2,5)	(3,6)	(2,5)
4	(2,7)	(3,6)	(2,7)
5	(2,7)	(3,8)	(2,7)
	•••	•••	•••



Problem: Bad News Travels Slowly



Remedies

- Split Horizon
 - Do not report route to a destination to the neighbor from which route was learned
- Poisoned Reverse
 - Report route to a destination to the neighbor from which route was learned, but with infinite distance
 - Breaks erroneous direct loops immediately
 - Does not work on some indirect loops

Split Horizon with Poison Reverse







Nodes believe best path is through each other

Update	Node 1	Node 2	Node 3	
Before break	(2, 3)	(3, 2)	(4, 1)	
After break	(2, 3)	(3, 2)	(-1, ∞)	Node 2 advertizes its route to 4 to node 3 as having distance infinity; node 3 finds there is no route to 4
1	(2, 3)	(-1, ∞)	(-1, ∞)	Node 1 advertizes its route to 4 to node 2 as having distance infinity; node 2 finds there is no route to 4
2	(-1 , ∞)	(-1 , ∞)	(-1, ∞)	Node 1 finds there is no route to 4

Link-State Algorithm



- Basic idea: two step procedure
 - Each source node gets a map of all nodes and link metrics (link state) of the entire network
 - Find the shortest path on the map from the source node to all destination nodes
- Broadcast of link-state information
 - Every node *i* in the network broadcasts to every other node in the network:
 - ID's of its neighbors: \mathcal{N}_i =set of neighbors of i
 - Distances to its neighbors: $\{C_{ij} \mid j \in N_i\}$
 - Flooding is a popular method of broadcasting packets

Dijkstra Algorithm: Finding shortest paths in order



Find shortest paths from Closest node to s is 1 hop away source s to all other 2nd closest node to *s* is 1 hop destinations away from s or $w^{"}$ 3rd closest node to *s* is 1 hop W away from s, w", or χ ${\cal Z}$ W \mathcal{X} S Z w''

Dijkstra's algorithm



- N: set of nodes for which shortest path already found
- Initialization: (Start with source node s)
 - $N = \{s\}, D_s = 0, "s \text{ is distance zero from itself"}$
 - $D_i = C_{si}$ for all $j \neq s$, distances of directly-connected neighbors
- Step A: (*Find next closest node i*)
 - Find *i* ∉ N such that
 - $D_i = \min D_j$ for $j \notin N$
 - Add *i* to N
 - If N contains all the nodes, stop
- Step B: (update minimum costs)

 - Go to Step A

• $D_j = \min(D_j, D_i + C_{ij})$ • Control of D_i $D_i + C_{ij}$



Iteration	Ν	D_2	D_3	D_4	D_5	D_6
Initial	{1}	3	2 🗸	5	∞	∞
1	{1,3}	3 🗸	2	4	×	* 3
2	{1,2,3}	3	2	4	7	3 🗸
3	{1,2,3,6}	3	2	4 🗸	5	3
4	{1,2,3,4,6}	3	2	4	5 🗸	3
5	{1,2,3,4,5,6}	3	2	4	5	3



Reaction to Failure



- If a link fails,
 - Router sets link distance to infinity & floods the network with an update packet
 - All routers immediately update their link database & recalculate their shortest paths
 - Recovery very quick
- But watch out for old update messages
 - Add time stamp or sequence # to each update message
 - Check whether each received update message is new
 - If new, add it to database and broadcast
 - If older, send update message on arriving link

Why is Link State Better?



- Fast, loopless convergence
- Support for precise metrics, and multiple metrics if necessary (throughput, delay, cost, reliability)
- Support for multiple paths to a destination
 - algorithm can be modified to find best two paths

Source Routing



- Source host selects path that is to be followed by a packet
 - Strict: sequence of nodes in path inserted into header
 - Loose: subsequence of nodes in path specified
- Intermediate switches read next-hop address and remove address
- Source host needs link state information or access to a route server
- Source routing allows the host to control the paths that its information traverses in the network
- Potentially the means for customers to select what service providers they use



Example



Chapter 7 Packet-Switching Networks





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Asynchronous Tranfer Mode (ATM)

- Packet multiplexing and switching
 - Fixed-length packets: "cells"
 - Connection-oriented
 - Rich Quality of Service support
- Conceived as end-to-end
 - Supporting wide range of services
 - Real time voice and video
 - Circuit emulation for digital transport
 - Data traffic with bandwidth guarantees
- Detailed discussion in Chapter 9



ATM Networking





- End-to-end information transport using cells
- 53-byte cell provide low delay and fine multiplexing granularity
- Support for many services through ATM Adaptation Layer

TDM vs. Packet Multiplexing



	Variable bit			
	rate	Delay	Burst traffic	Processing
TDM	Multirate only	Low, fixed✓	Inefficient	Minimal, very high speed
Packet	Easily 🗸 handled	Variable	Efficient 🗸	Header & packet* processing required

In mid-1980s, packet processing mainly in software and hence slow; By late 1990s, very high speed packet processing possible



ATM Switching

Switch carries out table translation and routing



ATM switches can be implemented using shared memory, shared backplanes, or self-routing multi-stage fabrics



ATM Virtual Connections

- Virtual connections setup across network
- Connections identified by locally-defined tags
- ATM Header contains virtual connection information:
 - 8-bit Virtual Path Identifier
 - 16-bit Virtual Channel Identifier
- Powerful traffic grooming capabilities
 - Multiple VCs can be bundled within a VP
 - Similar to tributaries with SONET, except variable bit rates possible





VPI/VCI switching & multiplexing



- Connections a,b,c bundled into VP at switch 1
 - Crossconnect switches VP without looking at VCIs
 - VP unbundled at switch 2; VC switching thereafter
- VPI/VCI structure allows creation virtual networks

MPLS & ATM



- ATM initially touted as more scalable than packet switching
- ATM envisioned speeds of 150-600 Mbps
- Advances in optical transmission proved ATM to be the less scalable: @ 10 Gbps
 - Segmentation & reassembly of messages & streams into 48-byte cell payloads difficult & inefficient
 - Header must be processed every 53 bytes vs. 500 bytes on average for packets
 - Delay due to 1250 byte packet at 10 Gbps = 1 μsec; delay due to 53 byte cell @ 150 Mbps ≈ 3 μsec
- MPLS (Chapter 10) uses tags to transfer packets across virtual circuits in Internet

Chapter 7 Packet-Switching Networks





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Traffic Management



Vehicular traffic management

- Traffic lights & signals control flow of traffic in city street system
- Objective is to maximize flow with tolerable delays
- Priority Services
 - Police sirens
 - Cavalcade for dignitaries
 - Bus & High-usage lanes
 - Trucks allowed only at night

Packet traffic management

- Multiplexing & access mechanisms to control flow of packet traffic
- Objective is make efficient use of network resources & deliver QoS
- Priority
 - Fault-recovery packets
 - Real-time traffic
 - Enterprise (highrevenue) traffic
 - High bandwidth traffic
Time Scales & Granularities



- Packet Level
 - Queueing & scheduling at multiplexing points
 - Determines relative performance offered to packets over a short time scale (microseconds)
- Flow Level
 - Management of traffic flows & resource allocation to ensure delivery of QoS (milliseconds to seconds)
 - Matching traffic flows to resources available; congestion control
- Flow-Aggregate Level
 - Routing of aggregate traffic flows across the network for efficient utilization of resources and meeting of service levels
 - "Traffic Engineering", at scale of minutes to days



End-to-End QoS



- A packet traversing network encounters delay and possible loss at various multiplexing points
- End-to-end performance is accumulation of per-hop performances

Scheduling & QoS

- End-to-End QoS & Resource Control
 - Buffer & bandwidth control \rightarrow Performance
 - Admission control to regulate traffic level
- Scheduling Concepts
 - fairness/isolation
 - priority, aggregation,
- Fair Queueing & Variations
 - WFQ, PGPS
- Guaranteed Service
 - WFQ, Rate-control
- Packet Dropping
 - aggregation, drop priorities



FIFO Queueing





- All packet flows share the same buffer
- Transmission Discipline: First-In, First-Out
- Buffering Discipline: Discard arriving packets if buffer is full (Alternative: random discard; pushout head-of-line, i.e. oldest, packet)

FIFO Queueing



- Cannot provide differential QoS to different packet flows
 - Different packet flows interact strongly
- Statistical delay guarantees via load control
 - Restrict number of flows allowed (connection admission control)
 - Difficult to determine performance delivered
- Finite buffer determines a maximum possible delay
- Buffer size determines loss probability
 - But depends on arrival & packet length statistics
- Variation: packet enqueueing based on queue thresholds
 - some packet flows encounter blocking before others
 - higher loss, lower delay

FIFO Queueing with Discard Priority





HOL Priority Queueing



- High priority queue serviced until empty
- High priority queue has lower waiting time
- Buffers can be dimensioned for different loss probabilities
- Surge in high priority queue can cause low priority queue to saturate



HOL Priority Features





Per-class loads

- Provides differential QoS
- Pre-emptive priority: lower classes invisible
- Non-preemptive priority: lower classes impact higher classes through residual service times
- High-priority classes can hog all of the bandwidth & starve lower priority classes
- Need to provide some isolation between classes

Earliest Due Date Scheduling





- Queue in order of "due date"
 - packets requiring low delay get earlier due date
 - packets without delay get indefinite or very long due dates

Fair Queueing / Generalized Processor Sharing





- Each flow has its own logical queue: prevents hogging; allows differential loss probabilities
- C bits/sec allocated equally among non-empty queues
 - transmission rate = C / n(t), where n(t)=# non-empty queues
- Idealized system assumes fluid flow from queues
- Implementation requires approximation: simulate fluid system; sort packets according to completion time in ideal system







Packetized GPS/WFQ





- Compute packet completion time in ideal system
 - add tag to packet
 - sort packet in queue according to tag
 - serve according to HOL

Bit-by-Bit Fair Queueing

- Assume n flows, n queues
- 1 round = 1 cycle serving all n queues
- If each queue gets 1 bit per cycle, then 1 round = # active queues
- Round number = number of cycles of service that have been completed



• If packet arrives to idle queue:

Finishing time = round number + packet size in bits

• If packet arrives to active queue:

Finishing time = finishing time of last packet in queue + packet size



Number of rounds = Number of bit transmission opportunities



Differential Service:

If a traffic flow is to receive twice as much bandwidth as a regular flow, then its packet completion time would be half



Computing the Finishing Time



- F(i,k,t) = finish time of *k*th packet that arrives at time *t* to flow *i*
- *P*(*i*,*k*,*t*) = size of *k*th packet that arrives at time t to flow *i*
- *R*(*t*) = round number at time *t*



Generalize so R(t) continuous, not discrete

R(t) grows at rate inversely proportional to *n(t)*

• Fair Queueing:

```
F(i,k,t) = max{F(i,k-1,t), R(t)} + P(i,k,t)
```

• Weighted Fair Queueing:

 $F(i,k,t) = max{F(i,k-1,t), R(t)} + P(i,k,t)/w_i$

WFQ and Packet QoS



- WFQ and its many variations form the basis for providing QoS in packet networks
- Very high-speed implementations available, up to 10 Gbps and possibly higher
- WFQ must be combined with other mechanisms to provide end-to-end QoS (next section)

Buffer Management



- Packet drop strategy: Which packet to drop when buffers full
- Fairness: protect behaving sources from misbehaving sources
- Aggregation:
 - Per-flow buffers protect flows from misbehaving flows
 - Full aggregation provides no protection
 - Aggregation into classes provided intermediate protection
- Drop priorities:
 - Drop packets from buffer according to priorities
 - Maximizes network utilization & application QoS
 - Examples: layered video, policing at network edge
- Controlling sources at the edge

Early or Overloaded Drop



Random early detection:

- drop pkts if short-term avg of queue exceeds threshold
- pkt drop probability increases linearly with queue length
- mark offending pkts
- improves performance of cooperating TCP sources
- increases loss probability of misbehaving sources

Random Early Detection (RED)

- Packets produced by TCP will reduce input rate in response to network congestion
- Early drop: discard packets before buffers are full
- Random drop causes some sources to reduce rate before others, causing gradual reduction in aggregate input rate

Algorithm:

- Maintain running average of queue length
- If Q_{avg} < minthreshold, do nothing
- If Q_{avg} > maxthreshold, drop packet
- If in between, drop packet according to probability
- Flows that send more packets are more likely to have packets dropped



Packet Drop Profile in RED



Chapter 7 Packet-Switching Networks

Traffic Management at the Flow Level



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Approaches to Congestion Control:

- Preventive Approaches: Scheduling & Reservations
- Reactive Approaches: Detect & Throttle/Discard



Ideal effect of congestion control: Resources used efficiently up to capacity available





Open-Loop Control



- Network performance is guaranteed to all traffic flows that have been admitted into the network
- Initially for connection-oriented networks
- Key Mechanisms
 - Admission Control
 - Policing
 - Traffic Shaping
 - Traffic Scheduling

Admission Control



Time

Typical bit rate demanded by a variable bit rate information source

- Flows negotiate contract with network
- Specify requirements:
 - Peak, Avg., Min Bit rate
 - Maximum burst size
 - Delay, Loss requirement
- Network computes resources needed
 - "Effective" bandwidth
- If flow accepted, network allocates resources to ensure QoS delivered as long as source conforms to contract

Policing



- Network monitors traffic flows continuously to ensure they meet their traffic contract
- When a packet violates the contract, network can discard or tag the packet giving it lower priority
- If congestion occurs, tagged packets are discarded first
- Leaky Bucket Algorithm is the most commonly used policing mechanism
 - Bucket has specified leak rate for average contracted rate
 - Bucket has specified depth to accommodate variations in arrival rate
 - Arriving packet is *conforming* if it does not result in overflow

Leaky Bucket algorithm can be used to police arrival rate of a packet stream





Leak rate corresponds to long-term rate

Bucket depth corresponds to maximum allowable burst arrival

1 packet per unit time Assume constant-length packet as in ATM

Let X = bucket content at last conforming packet arrival Let t_a – last conforming packet arrival time = depletion in bucket

Leaky Bucket Algorithm





Non-conforming packets not allowed into bucket & hence not included in calculations

Policing Parameters

T = 1 / peak rateMBS = maximum burst sizeI = nominal interarrival time = 1 / sustainable rate

$$MBS = 1 + \left[\frac{L}{I - T}\right]$$





Dual Leaky Bucket



Dual leaky bucket to police PCR, SCR, and MBS:



Traffic Shaping





- Networks police the incoming traffic flow
- Traffic shaping is used to ensure that a packet stream conforms to specific parameters
- Networks can shape their traffic prior to passing it to another network

Leaky Bucket Traffic Shaper



- Buffer incoming packets
- Play out periodically to conform to parameters
- Surges in arrivals are buffered & smoothed out
- Possible packet loss due to buffer overflow
- Too restrictive, since conforming traffic does not need to be completely smooth



- Token rate regulates transfer of packets
- If sufficient tokens available, packets enter network without delay
- K determines how much burstiness allowed into the network
Token Bucket Shaping Effect

The token bucket constrains the traffic from a source to be limited to b + r t bits in an interval of length t







- Assume fluid flow for information
- Token bucket allows burst of b bytes 1 & then r bytes/second
 - Since R>r, buffer content @ 1 never greater than b byte
 - Thus delay @ mux < b/R
- Rate into second mux is r<R, so bytes are never delayed

Delay Bounds with WFQ / PGPS

- Assume
 - traffic shaped to parameters b & r
 - schedulers give flow at least rate R>r
 - H hop path
 - m is maximum packet size for the given flow
 - M maximum packet size in the network
 - R_i transmission rate in jth hop
- Maximum end-to-end delay that can be experienced by a packet from flow i is:

$$D \leq \frac{b}{R} + \frac{(H-1)m}{R} + \sum_{j=1}^{H} \frac{M}{R_j}$$



Scheduling for Guaranteed Service



- Suppose guaranteed bounds on end-to-end delay across the network are to be provided
- A call admission control procedure is required to allocate resources & set schedulers
- Traffic flows from sources must be shaped/regulated so that they do not exceed their allocated resources
- Strict delay bounds can be met







Closed-Loop Flow Control



- Congestion control
 - feedback information to regulate flow from sources into network
 - Based on buffer content, link utilization, etc.
 - Examples: TCP at transport layer; congestion control at ATM level
- End-to-end vs. Hop-by-hop
 - Delay in effecting control
- Implicit vs. Explicit Feedback
 - Source deduces congestion from observed behavior
 - Routers/switches generate messages alerting to congestion

End-to-End vs. Hop-by-Hop Congestion Control







Traffic Engineering



- Management exerted at flow aggregate level
- Distribution of flows in network to achieve efficient utilization of resources (bandwidth)
- Shortest path algorithm to route a given flow not enough
 - Does not take into account requirements of a flow, e.g. bandwidth requirement
 - Does not take account interplay between different flows
- Must take into account aggregate demand from all flows





Shortest path routing congests link 4 to 8

Better flow allocation distributes flows more uniformly