

Chapter 4 Circuit-Switching Networks

Multiplexing SONET Transport Networks Circuit Switches The Telephone Network Signaling Traffic and Overload Control in Telephone Networks Cellular Telephone Networks

Circuit Switching Networks

- End-to-end dedicated circuits between clients
 - Client can be a person or equipment (router or switch)
- Circuit can take different forms
 - Dedicated path for the transfer of electrical current
 - Dedicated time slots for transfer of voice samples
 - Dedicated frames for transfer of Nx51.84 Mbps signals
 - Dedicated wavelengths for transfer of optical signals
- Circuit switching networks require:
 - Multiplexing & switching of circuits
 - Signaling & control for establishing circuits
- These are the subjects covered in this chapter

How a network grows

(a) A switch provides the network to a cluster of users, e.g. a telephone switch connects a local community



(b) A multiplexer connects two access networks, e.g. a high speed line connects two switches





A Network Keeps Growing





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Multiplexing

Multiplexing



- Multiplexing involves the sharing of a transmission channel (resource) by several connections or information flows
 - Channel = 1 wire, 1 optical fiber, or 1 frequency band
- Significant economies of scale can be achieved by combining many signals into one
 - Fewer wires/pole; fiber replaces thousands of cables
- Implicit or explicit information is required to demultiplex the information flows.



Frequency-Division Multiplexing

• Channel divided into frequency slots





- Guard bands required
- AM or FM radio stations
- TV stations in air or cable
- Analog telephone systems

Time-Division Multiplexing

• High-speed digital channel divided into time slots



- Framing required
- Telephone digital transmission
- Digital transmission in backbone network

T-Carrier System



- Digital telephone system uses TDM.
- PCM voice channel is basic unit for TDM
 - 1 channel = 8 bits/sample x 8000 samples/sec. = 64 kbps
- T-1 carrier carries Digital Signal 1 (DS-1) that combines 24 voice channels into a digital stream:



North American Digital Multiplexing Hierarchy



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CCITT Digital Hierarchy



CCITT digital hierarchy based on 30 PCM channels



• E4, 139.264 Mbps channel

Clock Synch & Bit Slips

- Digital streams cannot be kept perfectly synchronized
- Bit slips can occur in multiplexers





Pulse Stuffing



- Pulse Stuffing: synchronization to avoid data loss due to slip's
- Output rate > R1+R2
 - i.e. DS2, 6.312Mbps=4x1.544Mbps + 136 Kbps
- Pulse stuffing format
 - Fixed-length master frames with each channel allowed to stuff or not to stuff a single bit in the master frame.
 - Redundant stuffing specifications
 - signaling or specification bits (other than data bits) are distributed across a master frame.



Wavelength-Division Multiplexing



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- Optical fiber link carries several wavelengths
 - From few (4-8) to many (64-160) wavelengths per fiber
- Imagine prism combining different colors into single beam
- Each wavelength carries a high-speed stream
 - Each wavelength can carry different format signal
 - e.g. 1 Gbps, 2.5 Gbps, or 10 Gbps



Example: WDM with 16 wavelengths





Typical U.S. Optical Long-Haul Network







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SONET



SONET: Overview



- Synchronous Optical NETwork
- North American TDM physical layer standard for optical fiber communications
- 8000 frames/sec. ($T_{frame} = 125 \ \mu sec$)
 - compatible with North American digital hierarchy
- SDH (Synchronous Digital Hierarchy) elsewhere
 - Needs to carry E1 and E3 signals
 - Compatible with SONET at higher speeds
- Greatly simplifies multiplexing in network backbone
- OA&M support to facilitate network management
- Protection & restoration



SONET Specifications



- Defines electrical & optical signal interfaces
- Electrical
 - Multiplexing, Regeneration performed in electrical domain
 - STS Synchronous Transport Signals defined
 - Very short range (e.g., within a switch)
- Optical
 - Transmission carried out in optical domain
 - Optical transmitter & receiver
 - OC Optical Carrier

SONET & SDH Hierarchy



SONET Electrical Signal	Optical Signal	Bit Rate (Mbps)	SDH Electrical Signal
STS-1	OC-1	51.84	N/A
STS-3	OC-3	155.52	STM-1
STS-9	OC-9	466.56	STM-3
STS-12	OC-12	622.08	STM-4
STS-18	OC-18	933.12	STM-6
STS-24	OC-24	1244.16	STM-8
STS-36	OC-36	1866.24	STM-12
STS-48	OC-48	2488.32	STM-16
STS-192	OC-192	9953.28	STM-64
STS: Synchronous Transport Signal	OC: Optical Channel		STM: Synchronous Transfer Module

SONET Multiplexing





SONET Equipment

- By Functionality
 - ADMs: dropping & inserting tributaries
 - Regenerators: digital signal regeneration
 - Cross-Connects: interconnecting SONET streams
- By Signaling between elements
 - Section Terminating Equipment (STE): span of fiber between adjacent devices, e.g. regenerators
 - Line Terminating Equipment (LTE): span between adjacent multiplexers, encompasses multiple sections
 - Path Terminating Equipment (PTE): span between SONET terminals at end of network, encompasses multiple lines



Section, Line, & Path in SONET





STE = Section Terminating Equipment, e.g., a repeater/regenerator

- LTE = Line Terminating Equipment, e.g., a STS-1 to STS-3 multiplexer
- PTE = Path Terminating Equipment, e.g., an STS-1 multiplexer
 - Often, PTE and LTE equipment are the same
 - Difference is based on function and location
 - PTE is at the ends, e.g., STS-1 multiplexer.
 - LTE in the middle, e.g., STS-3 to STS-1 multiplexer.

Section, Line, & Path Layers in SONET





- SONET has four layers
 - Optical, section, line, path
 - Each layer is concerned with the integrity of its own signals
- Each layer has its own protocols
 - SONET provides signaling channels for elements within a layer

SONET STS Frame



- SONET streams carry two types of overhead
- Path overhead (POH):
 - inserted & removed at the ends
 - Synchronous Payload Envelope (SPE) consisting of Data + POH traverses network as a single unit
- Transport Overhead (TOH):
 - processed at every SONET node
 - TOH occupies a portion of each SONET frame
 - TOH carries management & link integrity information





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Transport Networks

Transport Networks

- Backbone of modern networks
- Provide high-speed connections: Typically STS-1 up to OC-192
- Clients: large routers, telephone switches, regional networks
- Very high reliability required because of consequences of failure
 - 1 STS-1 = 783 voice calls; 1 OC-48 = 32000 voice calls;







- SONET ADMs: the heart of existing transport networks
- ADMs interconnected in linear and ring topologies
- SONET signaling enables fast restoration (within 50 ms) of transport connections

Linear ADM Topology



- ADMs connected in linear fashion
- Tributaries inserted and dropped to connect clients



- Tributaries traverse ADMs transparently
- Connections create a *logical* topology seen by clients
- Tributaries from right to left are not shown



SONET Rings

- ADMs can be connected in ring topology
- Clients see *logical* topology created by tributaries





SONET Ring Options



- 2 vs. 4 Fiber Ring Network
- Unidirectional vs. bidirectional transmission
- Path vs. Link protection
- Spatial capacity re-use & bandwidth efficiency
- Signalling requirements

Two-Fiber Unidirectional Path Switched Ring

Two fibers transmit in opposite directions

- Unidirectional
 - Working traffic flows clockwise
 - Protection traffic flows counter-clockwise
 - 1+1 like
- Selector at receiver does path protection switching






UPSR Properties



- Low complexity
- Fast path protection
- 2 TX, 2 RX
- No spatial re-use; ok for hub traffic pattern
- Suitable for lower-speed access networks
- Different delay between W and P path

Four-Fiber Bidirectional Line Switched Ring



- 1 working fiber pair; 1 protection fiber pair
- Bidirectional
 - Working traffic & protection traffic use same route in working pair
 - 1:N like
- *Line* restoration provided by either:
 - Restoring a failed span
 - Switching the line around the ring







4-BLSR Properties



- High complexity: signalling required
- Fast line protection for restricted distance (1200 km) and number of nodes (16)
- 4 TX, 4 RX
- Spatial re-use; higher bandwidth efficiency
- Good for uniform traffic pattern
- Suitable for high-speed backbone networks
- Multiple simultaneous faults can be handled

Backbone Networks consist of Interconnected Rings





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From SONET to WDM

SONET

- combines multiple SPEs into high speed digital stream
- ADMs and crossconnects interconnected to form networks
- SPE paths between clients from logical topology
- High reliability through
 protection switching

WDM

- combines multiple wavelengths into a common fiber
- Optical ADMs can be built to insert and drop wavelengths in same manner as in SONET ADMS
- Optical crossconnects can also be built
- All-optical backbone networks will provide end-to-end wavelength connections
- Protection schemes for recovering from failures are being developed to provide high reliability in all-optical networks





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Circuit Switches

Network: Links & switches



- Circuit consists of dedicated resources in sequence of links & switches across network
- Circuit switch connects input links to output links



Circuit Switch Types



- Space-Division switches
 - Provide separate physical connection between inputs and outputs
 - Crossbar switches
 - Multistage switches
- Time-Division switches
 - Time-slot interchange technique
 - Time-space-time switches
- Hybrids combine Time & Space switching

Crossbar Space Switch



- *N* x *N* array of crosspoints
- Connect an input to an output by closing a crosspoint
- Nonblocking: Any input can connect to idle output
- Complexity: N² crosspoints



Multistage Space Switch

- Large switch built from multiple stages of small switches
- The n inputs to a first-stage switch share k paths through intermediate crossbar switches
- Larger k (more intermediate switches) means more paths to output
- In 1950s, Clos asked, "How many intermediate switches required to make switch nonblocking?"



Clos Non-Blocking Condition: *k*=2*n*-1



- Request connection from last input to input switch j to last output in output switch m
- Worst Case: All other inputs have seized top n-1 middle switches AND all other outputs have seized next n-1 middle switches
- If *k=2n-1*, there is another path left to connect desired input to desired output



Example: Clos Switch Design



- Circa 2002, Mindspeed offered a Crossbar chip with the following specs:
 - 144 inputs x 144 outputs, 3.125 Gbps/line
 - Aggregate Crossbar chip throughput: 450 Gbps
- Clos Nonblocking Design for 1152x1152 switch
 - N=1152, n=8, k=16
 - N/n=144 8x16 switches in first stage
 - 16 144x144 in centre stage
 - 144 16x8 in third stage
 - Aggregate Throughput: 3.6 Tbps!
 - Note: the 144x144 crossbar can be partitioned into multiple smaller switches



Time-Slot Interchange (TSI) Switching



- Write bytes from arriving TDM stream into memory
- Read bytes in permuted order into outgoing TDM stream
- Max # slots = 125 μsec / (2 x memory cycle time)



Time-Space-Time Hybrid Switch

- Use TSI in first & third stage; Use crossbar in middle
- Replace n input x k output space switch by TSI switch that takes n-slot input frame and switches it to k-slot output frame



Time-Share the Crossbar Switch





- Interconnection pattern of space switch is reconfigured every time slot
- Very compact design: fewer lines because of TDM & less space because of time-shared crossbar

Available TSI Chips circa 2002



- OC-192 SONET Framer Chips
 - Decompose 192 STS1s and perform (restricted) TSI
- Single-chip TST
 - 64 inputs x 64 outputs
 - Each line @ STS-12 (622 Mbps)
 - Equivalent to 768x768 STS-1 switch

Pure Optical Switching



- Pure Optical switching: light-in, light-out, without optical-to-electronic conversion
- Space switching theory can be used to design optical switches
 - Multistage designs using small optical switches
 - Typically 2x2 or 4x4
 - MEMs and Electro-optic switching devices
- Wavelength switches
 - Very interesting designs when space switching is combined with wavelength conversion devices

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Telephone Call



- User requests connection
- Network signaling establishes connection
- Speakers converse
- User(s) hang up
- Network releases connection resources



Call Routing





- Local calls routed through local network (In U.S. Local Access & Transport Area)
 - Long distance calls routed to long distance service provider



Telephone Local Loop





Fiber-to-the-Home or Fiber-to-the-Curve?



Table 3.5 Data rates of 24-gauge twisted pair

Standard	Data Rate	Distance
T-1	1.544 Mbps	18,000 feet, 5.5 km
DS2	6.312 Mbps	12,000 feet, 3.7 km
1/4 STS-1	12.960 Mbps	4500 feet, 1.4 km
1/2 STS-1	25.920 Mbps	3000 feet, 0.9 km
STS-1	51.840 Mbps	1000 feet, 300 m

- Fiber connection to the home provides huge amount of bandwidth, but cost of optical modems still high
- Fiber to the curve (pedestal) with shorter distance from pedestal to home can provide high speeds over copper pairs

Two- & Four-wire connections



- From telephone to CO, two wires carry signals in both directions
- Inside network, 1 wire pair per direction
- Conversion from 2-wire to 4-wire occurs at hybrid transformer in the CO
- Signal reflections can occur causing speech echo
- Echo cancellers used to subtract the echo from the voice signals



Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)

- First effort to provide end-to-end digital connections
- B channel = 64 kbps, D channel = 16 kbps
- ISDN defined interface to network
- Network consisted of separate networks for voice, data, signaling





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Signaling

Setting Up Connections



Manually

- Human Intervention
- Telephone
 - Voice commands & switchboard operators
- Transport Networks
 - Order forms & dispatching of craftpersons

Automatically

- Management Interface
 - Operator at console sets up connections at various switches
- Automatic signaling
 - Request for connection generates signaling messages that control connection setup in switches

Stored-Program Control Switches



- SPC switches (1960s)
 - Crossbar switches with crossbars built from relays that open/close mechanically through electrical control
 - Computer program controls set up opening/closing of crosspoints to establish connections between switch inputs and outputs
- Signaling required to coordinate path set up across network



Message Signaling



- Processors that control switches exchange signaling messages
- Protocols defining messages & actions defined
- Modems developed to communicate digitally over converted voice trunks



Signaling Network



- Common Channel Signaling (CCS) #7 deployed in 1970s to control call setup
- Protocol stack developed to support signaling

SCP = service control point (processing)

- Signaling network based on highly reliable packet switching network
- Processors & databases attached to signaling network enabled many new services: caller id, call forwarding, call waiting, user mobility



Signaling System Protocol Stack





- Lower 3 layers ensure delivery of messages to signaling nodes
- SCCP allows messages to be directed to applications
- TCAP defines messages & protocols between applications
- ISUP performs basic call setup & release
- TUP instead of ISUP in some countries

- ISUP = ISDN user part
- SSCP = signaling connection control part
- TUP = telephone user part

MTP = message transfer part

TCAP = transaction capabilities part

Network Intelligence

- Intelligent Peripherals provide additional service capabilities
- Voice Recognition & Voice Synthesis systems allow users to access applications via speech commands
- "Voice browsers" currently under development (See: www.voicexml.org)
- Long-term trend is for IP network to replace signaling system and provide equivalent services
- Services can then be provided by telephone companies as well as new types of service companies





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Traffic Management & Overload Control

- Telephone calls come and go
- People activity follow patterns
 - Mid-morning & mid-afternoon at office
 - Evening at home
 - Summer vacation
- Outlier Days are extra busy
 - Mother's Day, Christmas, …
- Disasters & other events cause surges in traffic
- Need traffic management & overload control






- Driven by human activity
- Providing resources so
 - Call requests *always* met is too expensive
 - Call requests met most of the time cost-effective
- Switches concentrate traffic onto shared trunks
 - Blocking of requests will occur from time to time
- Traffic engineering provisions resources to meet blocking performance targets



Fluctuation in Trunk Occupancy



Number of busy trunks



Modeling Traffic Processes



• Find the statistics of *N(t)* the number of calls in the system

Model

- Call request *arrival rate*: λ requests per second
- In a very small time interval Δ ,
 - Prob[new request] = $\lambda \Delta$
 - Prob[no new request] = 1 $\lambda\Delta$
- The resulting random process is a Poisson arrival process:

Prob(*k* arrivals in time *T*) =
$$\frac{(\lambda T)^k e^{-\lambda T}}{k!}$$

- *Holding time*: Time a user maintains a connection
 - X a random variable with mean E(X)
- Offered load: rate at which work is offered by users:
 - $a = \lambda$ calls/sec * E(X) seconds/call (Erlangs)

Blocking Probability & Utilization

- *c* = Number of Trunks
- Blocking occurs if all trunks are busy, i.e. N(t)=c
- If call requests are Poisson, then blocking probability
 P_b is given by *Erlang B Formula*

$$P_{b} = \frac{\frac{a^{c}}{c!}}{\sum_{k=0}^{c} \frac{a^{k}}{k!}}$$

• The *utilization* is the average # of trunks in use

Utilization =
$$\lambda(1 - P_b) E[X]/c = (1 - P_b) a/c$$

Blocking Performance



trunks



Multiplexing Gain

Load	Trunks@1%	Utilization
1	5	0.20
2	7	0.29
3	8	0.38
4	10	0.40
5	11	0.45
6	13	0.46
7	14	0.50
8	15	0.53
9	17	0.53
10	18	0.56
30	42	0.71
50	64	0.78
60	75	0.80
90	106	0.85
100	117	0.85



- At a given P_b, the system becomes more efficient in utilizing trunks with increasing system size
- Aggregating traffic flows to share centrally allocated resources is more efficient
- This effect is called *Multiplexing Gain*

Routing Control

- Routing control: selection of connection paths
- Large traffic flows should follow direct route because they are efficient in use of resources
- Useful to combine smaller flows to share resources
- Example: 3 close CO's & 3 other close COs
- 10 Erlangs between each pair of COs







- Deploy trunks between switches with significant traffic volume
- Allocate trunks with high blocking, say 10%, so utilization is high
- Meet 1% end-to-end blocking requirement by overflowing to longer paths over tandem switch
- Tandem switch handles overflow traffic from other switches so it can operate efficiently
- Typical scenario shown in next slide

Typical Routing Scenario



Dynamic Routing





- Traffic varies according to time of day, day of week
 - East coast of North America busy while West coast idle
- Network can use idle resources by adapting route selection dynamically
 - Route some intra-East-coast calls through West-coast switches
- Try high-usage route and overflow to alternative routes

Overload Control



Offered load

Overload Situations

- Mother's Day, Xmas
- Catastrophes
- Network Faults

Strategies

- Direct routes first
- Outbound first
- Code blocking
- Call request pacing

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Radio Communications



- 1900s: Radio telephony demonstrated
- 1920s: Commercial radio broadcast service
- 1930s: Spectrum regulation introduced to deal with interference
- 1940s: Mobile Telephone Service
 - Police & ambulance radio service
 - Single antenna covers transmission to mobile users in city
 - Less powerful car antennas transmit to network of antennas around a city
 - Very limited number of users can be supported

Cellular Communications



Two basic concepts:

- Frequency Reuse
 - A region is partitioned into *cells*
 - Each cell is covered by base station
 - Power transmission levels controlled to minimize inter-cell interference
 - Spectrum can be reused in other cells
- Handoff
 - Procedures to ensure continuity of call as user moves from cell to another
 - Involves setting up call in new cell and tearing down old one

Frequency Reuse





- Adjacent cells may not use same band of frequencies
- Frequency Reuse Pattern specifies how frequencies are reused
- Figure shows 7-cell reuse: frequencies divided into 7 groups & reused as shown
- Also 4-cell & 12-cell reuse possible
- Note: CDMA allows adjacent cells to use same frequencies (Chapter 6)

Cellular Network





Base station

- Transmits to users on *forward channels*
- Receives from users on *reverse channels*

Mobile Switching Center

 Controls connection setup within cells & to telephone network

AC = authentication center BSS = base station subsystem EIR = equipment identity register HLR = home location register MSC = mobile switching center

PSTN = public switched telephone network

- STP = signal transfer point
- VLR = visitor location register

Signaling & Connection Control



- Setup channels set aside for call setup & handoff
 - Mobile unit selects setup channel with strongest signal & monitors this channel

• Incoming call to mobile unit

- MSC sends call request to all BSSs
- BSSs broadcast request on all setup channels
- Mobile unit replies on reverse setup channel
- BSS forwards reply to MSC
- BSS assigns forward & reverse voice channels
- BSS informs mobile to use these
- Mobile phone rings

Mobile Originated Call



- Mobile sends request in reverse setup channel
- Message from mobile includes serial # and possibly authentication information
- BSS forwards message to MSC
- MSC consults Home Location Register for information about the subscriber
- MSC may consult Authentication center
- MSC establishes call to PSTN
- BSS assigns forward & reverse channel

Handoff



- Base station monitors signal levels from its mobiles
- If signal level drops below threshold, MSC notified & mobile instructed to transmit on setup channel
- Base stations in vicinity of mobile instructed to monitor signal from mobile on setup channel
- Results forward to MSC, which selects new cell
- Current BSS & mobile instructed to prepare for handoff
- MSC releases connection to first BSS and sets up connection to new BSS
- Mobile changes to new channels in new cell
- Brief interruption in connection (except for CDMA)

Roaming



- Users subscribe to roaming service to use service outside their home region
- Signaling network used for message exchange between home & visited network
- Roamer uses setup channels to register in new area
- MSC in visited areas requests authorization from users Home Location Register
- Visitor Location Register informed of new user
- User can now receive & place calls

GSM Signaling Standard

- Base station
 - Base Transceiver Station (BTS)
 - Antenna + Transceiver to mobile
 - Monitoring signal strength
 - Base Station Controller
 - Manages radio resources or 1 or more BTSs
 - Set up of channels & handoff
 - Interposed between BTS & MSC
- Mobile & MSC Applications
 - Call Management (CM)
 - Mobility Management (MM)
- Radio Resources Management (RRM) concerns mobile, BTS, BSC, and MSC







Cellular Network Protocol Stack





Radio Air Interface (U_m)

- LAPD_m is data link control adapted to mobile
- RRM deals with setting up of radio channels & handover

Cellular Network Protocol Stack





A_{bis} Interface

- 64 kbps link physical layer
- LAPD_m
- BSC RRM can handle handover for cells within its control

Cellular Network Protocol Stack



Signaling Network (A) Interface

- RRM deals handover involving cells with different BSCs
- MM deals with mobile user location, authentication
- CM deals with call setup & release using modified ISUP