## 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

(a) Metropolitan network A viewed as Network A of Access Subnetworks

(b) National network viewed as Network of Regional Subnetworks (including A)

Very highspeed lines


Network of Access Subnetworks

## Chapter 4 Circuit-Switching Networks

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.
(a)



## Frequency-Division Multiplexing

- Channel divided into frequency slots

(a) Individual
signals occupy
$\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{u}} \mathrm{Hz}$

- Guard bands required
- AM or FM radio stations
- TV stations in air or cable
(b) Combined
signal fits into channel bandwidth

- Analog telephone systems


## Time-Division Multiplexing

- High-speed digital channel divided into time slots

(a) Each signal transmits 1 unit every $3 T$ seconds

(b) Combined signal transmits 1 unit every $T$ seconds

- 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 $\times 8000$ samples $/ \mathrm{sec} .=64 \mathrm{kbps}$
- T-1 carrier carries Digital Signal 1 (DS-1) that combines 24 voice channels into a digital stream:


Bit Rate $=8000$ frames/sec. $\times(1+8 \times 24)$ bits/frame

$$
=1.544 \mathrm{Mbps}
$$

# North American Digital Multiplexing Hierarchy 



24 DSO

- DS0, 64 Kbps channel
- DS1, 1.544 Mbps channel
- DS2, 6.312 Mbps channel
- DS3, 44.736 Mbps channel

- DS4, 274.176 Mbps channel


## CCITT Digital Hierarchy

- CCITT digital hierarchy based on 30 PCM channels

- E1, 2.048 Mbps channel
- E2, 8.448 Mbps channel
- E3, 34.368 Mbps channel
- E4, 139.264 Mbps channel


## Clock Synch \& Bit Slips

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

Slow clock results in late bit arrival and bit slip


## Pulse Stuffing

- Pulse Stuffing: synchronization to avoid data loss due to slips
- 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.


Muxing of equal-rate signals requires perfect synch


## Wavelength-Division Multiplexing

- 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



## Chapter 4 Circuit-Switching Networks

SONET


## SONET: Overview

- Synchronous Optical NETwork
- North American TDM physical layer standard for optical fiber communications
- 8000 frames $/ \mathrm{sec}$. ( $\mathrm{T}_{\text {frame }}=125 \mu \mathrm{sec}$ )
- 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 simplifies multiplexing

Pre-SONET multiplexing: Pulse stuffing required demultiplexing all channels


SONET Add-Drop Multiplexing: Allows taking individual channels in and out without full demultiplexing


## 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 <br> Signal | Optical Signal | Bit Rate (Mbps) | SDH <br> 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 <br> Transport Signal | OC: Optical Channel |  | STM: Synchronous <br> 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


## Special OH octets:

A1, A2 Frame Synch


9 rows


B1 Parity on Previous Frame (BER monitoring)
J0 Section trace (Connection Alive?)
H1, H2, H3 Pointer Action K1, K2 Automatic Protection Switching

|  | A1 | A2 | J0 | J1 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | B1 | E1 | F1 | B3 |  |
|  | D1 | D2 | D3 | C2 |  |
|  | H1 | H2 | H3 | G1 |  |
| 9 rows | B2 | K1 | K2 | F2 |  |
|  | D4 | D5 | D6 | H4 |  |
|  | D7 | D8 | D9 | Z3 |  |
|  | D10 | D11 | D12 | Z4 |  |
|  | S1 | M0/1 | E2 | N1 |  |

3 Columns of Synchronous Payload Envelope (SPE) Transport OH 1 column of Path $\mathrm{OH}+8$ data columns
$\square$ Section Overhead $\square$ Path Overhead
$\square$ Line Overhead $\square$ Data

## Chapter 4 Circuit-Switching Networks

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 ADM Networks



- 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


Three ADMs connected in physical ring topology
(b)


Logical fully connected topology

## 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



No spatial re-use Each path uses $2 x$ bw

## w

W = Working Paths

## UPSR path recovery



## 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



## BLSR Span Switching



## BLSR Span Switching



## 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 



## 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


## Chapter 4

Circuit-Switching Networks


## 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

- $N \times N$ array of crosspoints
- Connect an input to an output by closing a crosspoint
- Nonblocking: Any input can connect to idle output
- Complexity: $N^{2}$ 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 $\mathrm{n}-1$ middle switches
- If $\boldsymbol{k}=\mathbf{2 n} \mathbf{- 1}$, 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 $\times 144$ outputs, 3.125 Gbps/line
- Aggregate Crossbar chip throughput: 450 Gbps
- Clos Nonblocking Design for $1152 \times 1152$ switch
- $\mathrm{N}=1152, \mathrm{n}=8, \mathrm{k}=16$
- $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{n}=1448 \times 16$ switches in first stage
- $16144 \times 144$ in centre stage
- $14416 \times 8$ in third stage
- Aggregate Throughput: 3.6 Tbps!

- Note: the $144 \times 144$ 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 $=125 \mu \mathrm{sec} /(2 \times$ memory cycle time $)$


Time-slot interchange

## 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 $768 \times 768$ 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 $2 \times 2$ or $4 \times 4$
- MEMs and Electro-optic switching devices
- Wavelength switches
- Very interesting designs when space switching is combined with wavelength conversion devices


## Chapter 4

Circuit-Switching Networks

The Telephone Network


## 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

Local Loop: "Last Mile"

- Copper pair from telephone to CO
- Pedestal to SAI to Main Distribution Frame (MDF)
- 2700 cable pairs in a feeder cable
- MDF connects
- voice signal to telephone switch
- DSL signal to routers

Local telephone office

Feeder
cable
For interesting pictures of switches \& MDF, see web.mit.edu/is/is/delivery/5ess/photos.htmb www.museumofcommunications.org/coe.html

# 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 <br> Mbps | 4500 feet, 1.4 km |
| $1 / 2$ STS-1 | 25.920 <br> Mbps | 3000 feet, 0.9 km |
| STS-1 | 51.840 <br> 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
- $\operatorname{B}$ channel $=64 \mathrm{kbps}$, D channel $=16 \mathrm{kbps}$
- ISDN defined interface to network
- Network consisted of separate networks for voice, data, signaling



## Chapter 4 Circuit-Switching Networks



## 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
- 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


SSP = service switching point (signal to message)
STP = signal transfer point (packet switch)
SCP = service control point (processing)

## Signaling System Protocol Stack

| Application layer |
| :--- |
| Presentation layer |
| Session layer |
| Transport layer |
| Network layer |
| Data link layer |
| Physical layer |



- 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

MTP = message transfer part
TCAP = transaction capabilities part

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



## Traffic and Overload Control in Telephone Networks

## 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


## Traffic concentration



- Traffic fluctuates as calls initiated \& terminated
- 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: $\lambda$ requests per second
- In a very small time interval $\Delta$,
- Prob[ new request ] = $\lambda \Delta$
- Prob[no new request] $=1-\lambda \Delta$
- The resulting random process is a Poisson arrival process:

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

- Holding time: Time a user maintains a connection
- $\quad X$ 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

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

- The utilization is the average \# of trunks in use

$$
\text { Utilization }=\lambda\left(1-P_{b}\right) E[X] / c=\left(1-P_{b}\right) a / c
$$

## Blocking Performance

\# trunks


To achieve 1\% blocking probability:
$a=5$ Erlangs requires 11 trunks
$a=10$ Erlangs requires 18 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 | 42 | 0.56 |
| 30 | 64 | 0.71 |
| 50 | 75 | 0.78 |
| 60 | 106 | 0.80 |
| 90 | 117 | 0.85 |
| 100 |  | 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
(a)


10 Erlangs between each pair
17 trunks for 10 Erlangs
$9 \times 17=153$ trunks
Efficiency $=90 / 153=53 \%$


106 trunks for 90 Erlangs
Efficiency $=85 \%$

## Alternative Routing



- 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

Overload Situations

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

Strategies

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


## Chapter 4

 Circuit-Switching Networks
## Cellular Telephone Networks

## 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



## Cellular Network Protocol Stack

| CM |
| :---: |
| MM |
| RRM |
| LAPD |
| Radio |

Mobile station

Radio Air Interface ( $\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{m}}$ )

- $\mathrm{LAPD}_{\mathrm{m}}$ is data link control adapted to mobile
- RRM deals with setting up of radio channels \& handover


## Cellular Network Protocol Stack

$\mathrm{A}_{\text {bis }}$ Interface

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


## Cellular Network Protocol Stack



Mobile station


Base station controller

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

