

COURSE
COMPUTER NETWORKS

Chapter
03

Packet

Reference: Peter L. Dordal, "An Introduction to Computer Networks," Feb 05, 2022

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1. Packet Delay

❖ **Bandwidth delay**

- The time needed for a sender to get **the packet onto the wire**.
- Ex: 1500-byte packet on 100 Mbps Ethernet,
 - Bandwidth delay = $\frac{12\,000\text{ bits}}{\frac{100\text{ bits}}{\mu s}} = 120\text{ }\mu s$.

❖ **Propagation delay**

- The time it takes for the head of the **signal to travel** from the sender to the receiver.
- The distance divided by the x speed of light.

1

Packet Delay

1. Packet Delay

Medium	Propagation speed
Thick Coax	0.77c (231,000 km/sec)
Thin Coax	0.65c (195,000 km/sec)
Twisted Pair	0.59c (177,000 km/sec)
Fiber	0.66c (198,000 km/sec)

❖ **Propagation delay**

- Ex: 1,000 *m* of Ethernet using twisted pair

○ Propagation delay = _____ = μs .

1. Packet Delay

❖ Store-and-forward delay

- The time spent reading in the entire packet before any of it can be retransmitted.

❖ Queuing delay

- Depend on competing traffic and/or the system specifications.
 - Other words, is a delay based on how long the packet has to stay around in the intermediate device (e.g., router).

1. Packet Delay

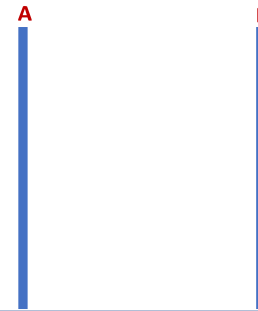
❖ Delay examples.

Assume:

- Queuing delay = 0
- Store-and-forward delay = 0

➤ Case 1: A-----B

- Propagation delay is 40 μsec
- Bandwidth is 1 byte/ μsec (1 MB/sec, 8 Mbit/sec)
- Packet size is 200 bytes (200 μsec bandwidth delay)
- One-way transmit time = μsec



1. Packet Delay

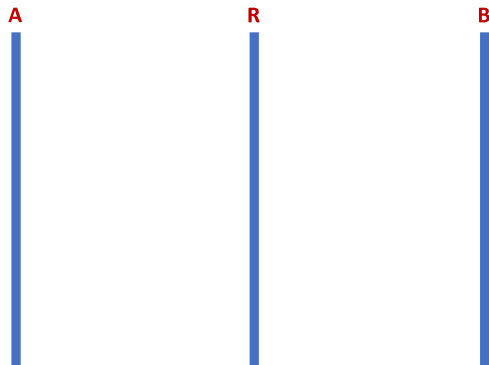
❖ Delay examples.

Assume:

- Queuing delay = 0
- Store-and-forward delay = 0

➤ Case 2: A ----- R ----- B

- Two links, each with propagation delay 40 μsec ; bandwidth and packet size as in Case 1.
- → One-way transmit time = μsec



1. Packet Delay

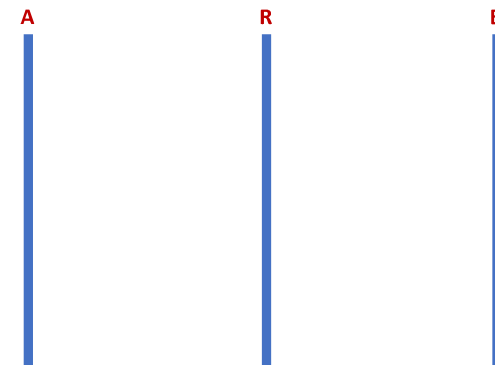
❖ Delay examples.

Assume:

- Queuing delay = 0
- Store-and-forward delay = 0

➤ Case 3: A ----- R ----- B

- The same as 3, but with data sent as two 100-byte packets.
- → One-way transmit time = μsec



1. Packet Delay

❖ Round-trip time (RTT)

- At most non-LAN scales, the delay is typically simplified to the RTT.
 - The time between sending a packet and receiving a response.
- Different delay scenarios have implications for protocols:
 - If a **network is bandwidth-limited** then protocols are easier to design. **Extra RTTs do not cost much**, so we can build in a considerable amount of back-and-forth exchange.
 - However, if a **network is delay-limited**, the protocol designer **must focus on minimizing extra RTTs**.
 - As an extreme case, consider wireless transmission to the moon (0.3 sec RTT), or to Jupiter (1 hour RTT).

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9

1. Packet Delay

❖ Bandwidth x Delay

- Represents how much we can send before we hear anything back.
- (Delay: usually involving RTT)

➤ Ex:

RTT	bandwidth	bandwidth × delay
1 ms	10 Mbps	1.2 kB
100 ms	1.5 Mbps	20 kB
100 ms	600 Mbps	8 MB
100 ms	1.5 Gbps	20 MB

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10

1. Packet Delay

❖ Packet Delay Variability

➤ **RTT is variable.**

- On Ethernet and **Wi-Fi** networks there is an **initial "contention period" before transmission** actually begins.
- Different packets are **routed via slightly different paths**.
- Different packets are **handled differently by different queues** of a parallel-processing switch.
- Mobile nodes are involved, then the **distance** and thus the **propagation delay can change**.

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11

1. Packet Delay

❖ Link's bandwidth, too, can vary dynamically.

- Shared bandwidth
- QoS (Quality of Service)
 - E.g., routers reserve a varying amount of bandwidth for
 - High-priority traffic
 - Depending on demand
 - Best-effort traffic
- **RTT_{noLoad}** to be the time it takes to transmit a packet from A to B, and receive an acknowledgment back, **with no queuing delay**.
- We will usually assume that **RTT_{noLoad} is fixed and well-defined**

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12

2

Packet Size

13

2. Packet Size

❖ Packet Size vs. Error Rates

- For relatively high error rates, it turns out to be **better to send smaller packet**, because when an error does occur then the entire packet containing it is lost.
 - Choose the packet size small enough that most packets do not encounter errors.
- To be fair, very large packets can be sent reliably on most cable links (e.g., TDM and SONET).
- Wireless, however, is more of a problem.

15

2. Packet Size

❖ How big should packets be?

- Should they be large (e.g., 64 kB)
- or small (e.g., 48 bytes)?
- Large packets would **not allow other senders timely access** to transmit.
- Large packets **waste a smaller percentage** of bandwidth on headers.
- In store-and-forward switches, **smaller packets** have **much better throughput**.

14

2. Packet Size

❖ Packet Size vs. Real-Time Traffic

- It is common to commingle **bulk traffic on the same links with real-time traffic**.
 - Real-time traffic has higher priority than bulk traffic.
 - Router does not begin forwarding a bulk-traffic packet if there are any real-time packets waiting.
 - However, once a bulk-traffic packet has begun transmission, it is impractical to interrupt it.

❖ Limited to the maximum **Ethernet packet size**.

- IPv4: 1500 bytes
- IPv6: 2 MB

16

3

Error Detection

17

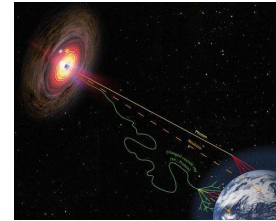
3. Error Detection

❖ **Packet error detection** is to **add some extra bits** (or called **error-detection code**)

- Allow the receiver to **determine** if the packet has been corrupted in transit.
- A corrupted packet will then be **discarded** by the receiver.

❖ **Reasons:**

- **Low-frequency bit errors** due to things like cosmic rays.
- **Interference errors**, typically generated by nearby electrical equipment.



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18

3. Error Detection

❖ **Single parity bit**: this will catch all one-bit errors.

➢ Ex:

○ Data: **1001**

▪ $\rightarrow \text{parity bit} = 1 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus 1 = 0$

○ Send: **10010**

○ Receive: 10110

$\rightarrow \text{Check: } 1 \oplus 0 \oplus 1 \oplus 1 \oplus 0 = 1 \neq 0$

\rightarrow Data is corrupted.

19

3. Error Detection

❖ **Internet checksum**: used by IP, TCP and UDP

- Taking the **one's-complement sum** of the 16-bit words of the message.

○ One's-complement sum:

- Take the sum $A+B$.
- If there is an overflow bit, add it back in as low-order bit.

- A weakness of any **error-detecting code based on sums** is that **transposing words leads to the same sum**, and the error is **not detected**.

- In particular, if a message is fragmented and the fragments are reassembled in the wrong order, the ones-complement sum will likely not detect it.

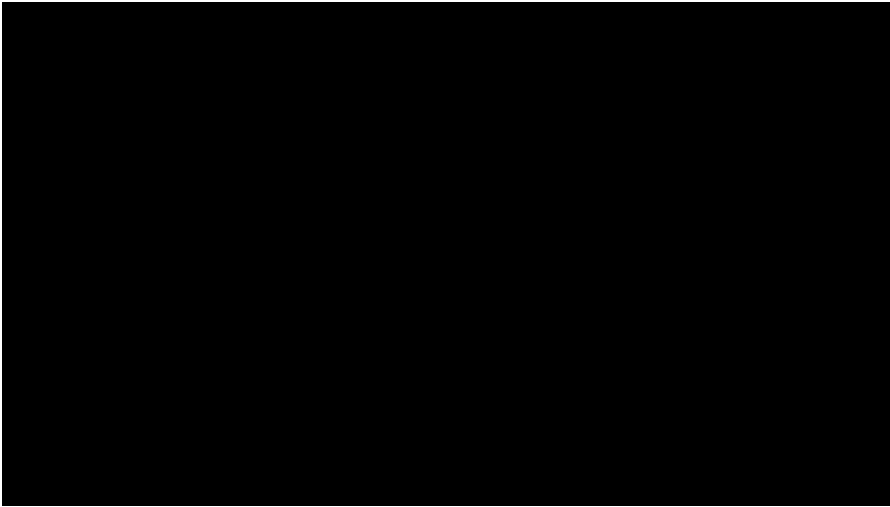
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20

3. Error Detection

❖Cyclical Redundancy Check (CRC)

- Ethernet frame.



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21

3. Error Detection

❖Error-Correcting Codes (also called forward error correction)

- That allows the receiver in many cases to figure out which bits are corrupted, and fix them.
- Mostly used in the **Physical layer**.

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22

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23