

# Lecture 1:

## Basic switching concepts

*circuit switching*  
*message switching*  
*packet switching*

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## Switching

### → Circuit Switching

- ⇒ Fixed and mobile telephone network
  - Frequency Division Multiplexing (FDM)
  - Time Division Multiplexing (TDM)
- ⇒ Optical rings (SDH) 

### → Message Switching

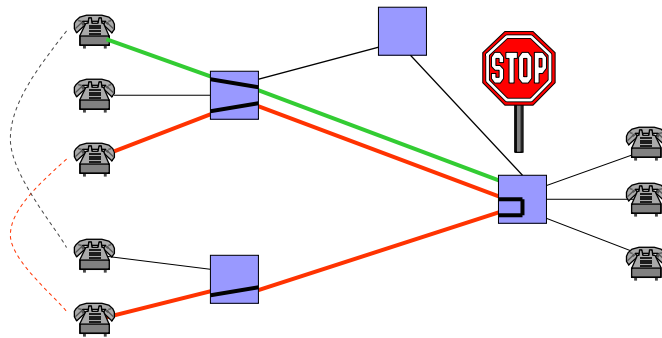
- ⇒ Not in core technology
- ⇒ Some application (e.g. SMTP) 

### → Packet Switching

- ⇒ Internet
- ⇒ Some core networking technologies (e.g. ATM)

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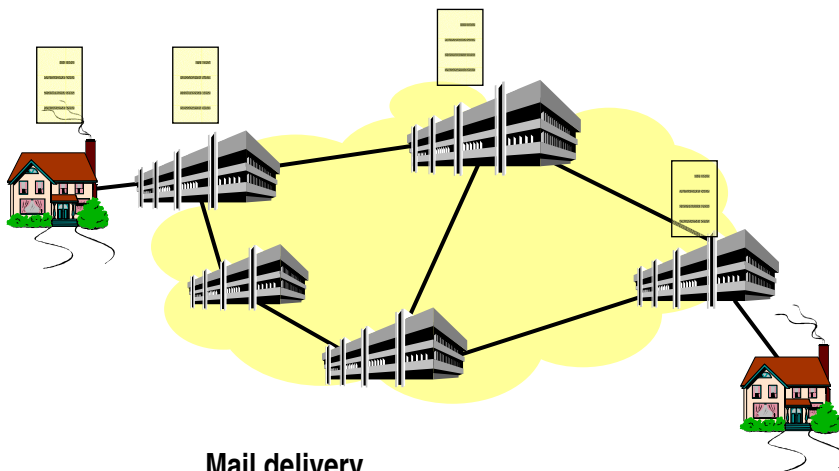
## Circuit Switching



Phone Call routing

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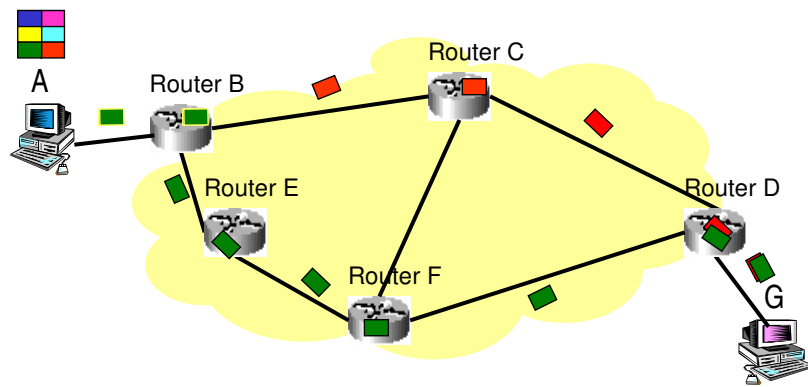
## Message Switching



Mail delivery

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## Packet Switching



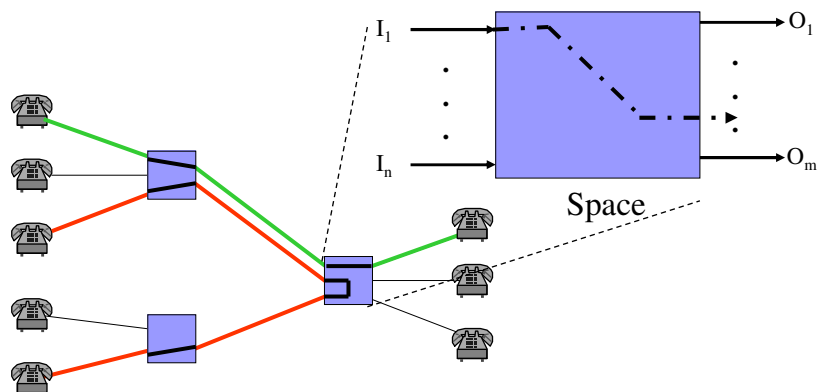
Internet routing

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## Space Division Switching (for Circuit Switching)

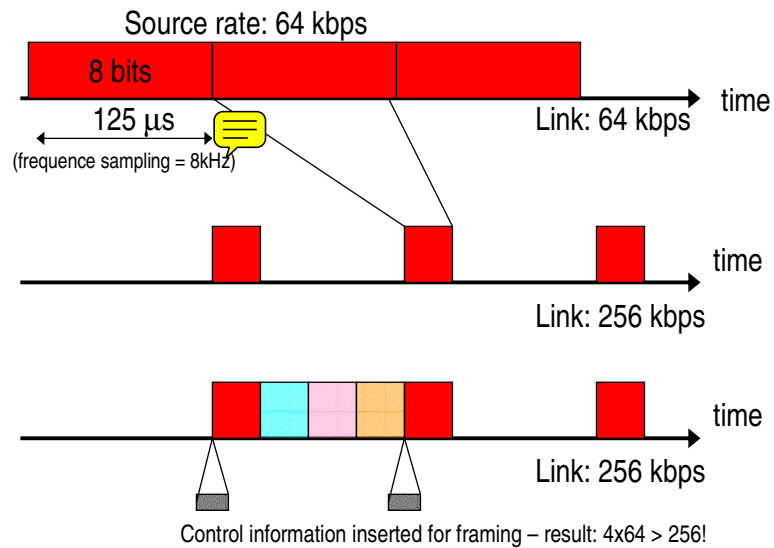
→ **Spatial mapping of inputs and outputs**

⇒ Used primarily in analog switching systems



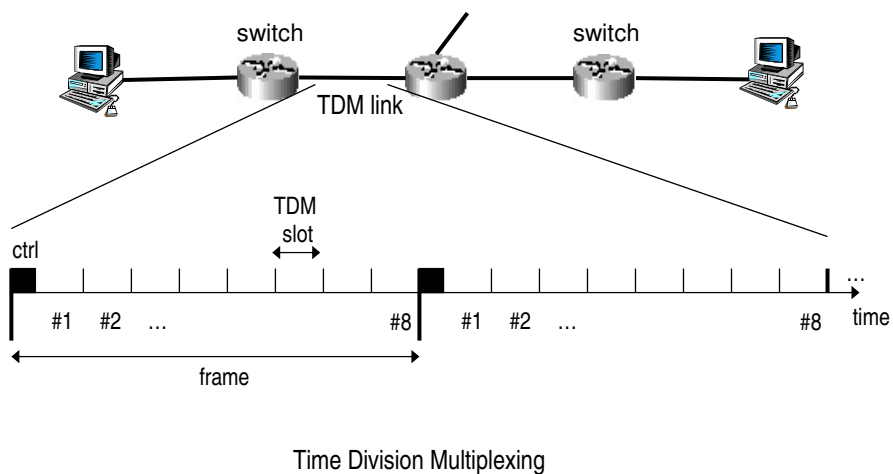
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## Time Division Multiplexing



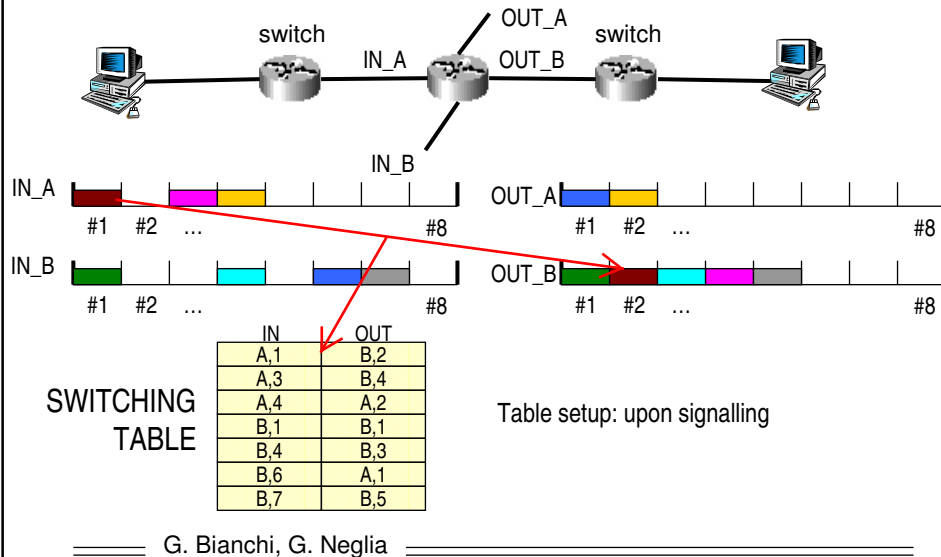
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## Circuit Switching (i)



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## Circuit Switching (ii)



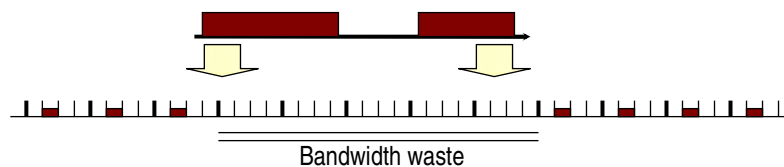
## Circuit Switching Pros & Cons

### → Advantages

- ⇒ Limited overhead
- ⇒ Very efficient switching fabrics
  - Highly parallelized

### → Disadvantages

- ⇒ Requires signalling for switching tables set-up
- ⇒ Underutilization of resources in the presence of bursty traffic and variable rate traffic



## Example of bursty traffic (ON/OFF voice flows)

On (activity) period



VOICE SOURCE MODEL for conversation (Brady):

average ON duration (talkspurt): 1 second

average OFF duration (silence): 1.35 seconds

$$activity = \frac{T_{ON}}{T_{ON} + T_{OFF}} = \frac{1}{1 + 1.35} = 42.55\% \quad (\text{before packetization})$$

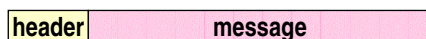
Efficiency = utilization % = source activity

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## Message vs Packet Switching

### → Message Switching

⇒ One single datagram



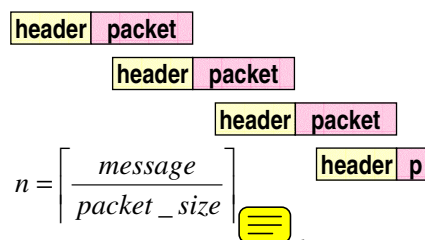
$$overhead = \frac{header}{header + message}$$

### → Packet Switching

⇒ Message chopped in small packets

⇒ Each packet includes header

→ like postal letters! Each must have a specified destination data



$$n = \left\lceil \frac{message}{packet\_size} \right\rceil$$

$$overhead = \frac{n \cdot header}{n \cdot header + message}$$

**Message switching overhead lower than packet switching**

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# Message vs Packet Switching

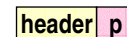
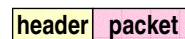
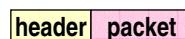
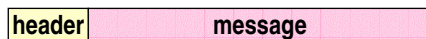
## → Message Switching

- ⇒ One single datagram
  - either received or lost
  - One single network path

## → Packet Switching

- ⇒ Many packets generated by a same node and belonging to a same destination
  - may take different paths (and packets received out of order – need sequence)
  - May lose/corrupt a subset (what happens on the message consistency?)

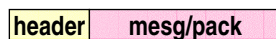
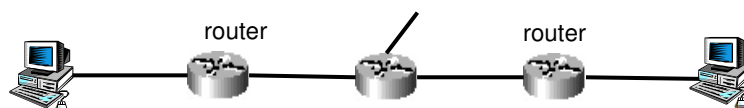
*Message switching: higher reliability, lower complexity*



*But sometimes message switching not possible  
(e.g. for real time sources such as voice)*

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# Message/packet Switching vs circuit switching



Router:

- reads header (destination address)
- selects output path

## → Advantages

- ⇒ Transmission resources used only when needed (data available)
- ⇒ No signalling needed

## → Disadvantages

- ⇒ Overhead
- ⇒ Inefficient routing fabrics (needs to select output per each packet)
- ⇒ Processing time at routers (routing table lookup)
- ⇒ Queueing at routers

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## Link delay computation

### → Delay components:

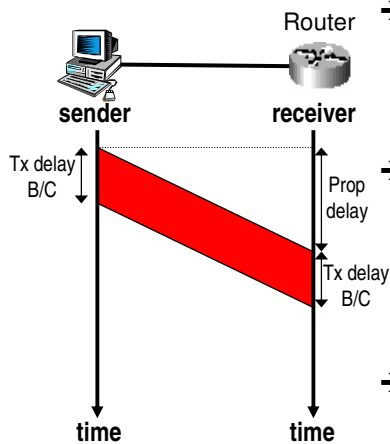
- Processing delay
- Transmission delay
- Queueing delay
- Propagation delay

### → Transmission delay:

- $C$  [bit/s] = link rate
- $B$  [bit] = packet size
- transmission delay =  $B/C$  [sec]

### → Example:

- 512 bytes packet
- 64 kbps link
- transmission delay =  $512 \cdot 8 / 64000 = 64 \text{ ms}$



### → Propagation delay - constant depending on

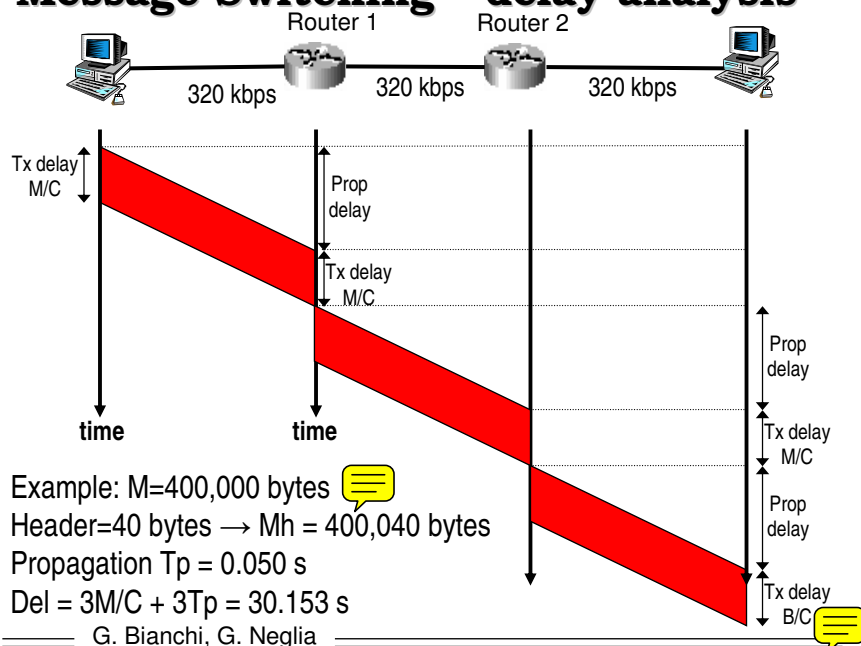
- Link length
- Electromagnetic waves propagation speed in considered media
  - 200 km/s for copper links
  - 300 km/s in air

### → other delays neglected

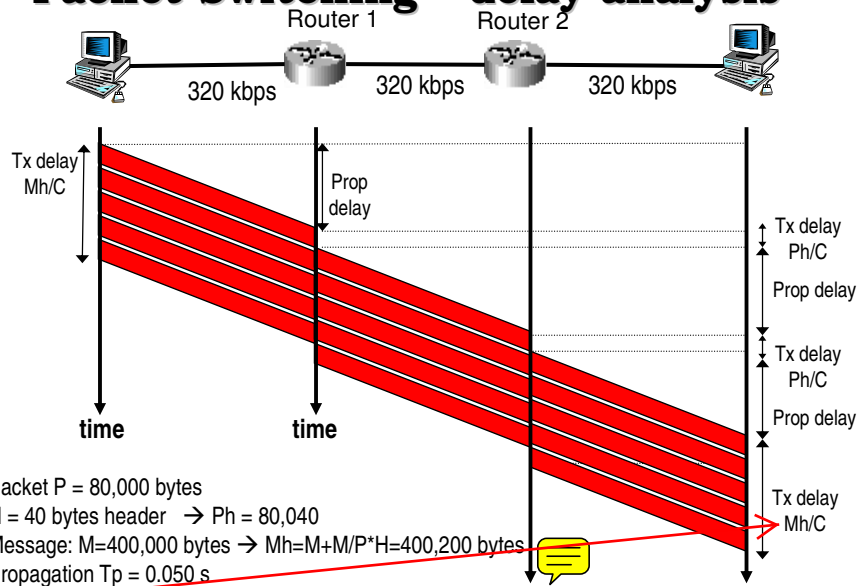
- Queueing delay
- Processing delay

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## Message Switching – delay analysis



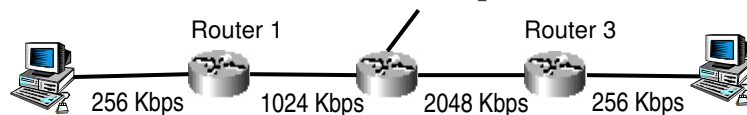
## Packet Switching – delay analysis



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But if packet size = 40 bytes, Del = 20.154s!

## Other example (different link speed)



→ Time to transmit 1 MB file

→ Message switching (assume 40 bytes header)

⇒  $1\text{MB} = 1024 \cdot 1024$  bytes = 1,048,576 bytes = 8,388,608 bits

⇒ Including 40 bytes (320 bits) header: 8,388,928

⇒ Neglecting processing, propagation & queueing delays:

→  $D = 32.76 + 8.19 + 4.10 + 32.77 = 77.83$  s

→ Packet switching (40 bytes header, 1460 bytes packet)

⇒  $718.2 \rightarrow 719$  packets

⇒ total message size including overhead = 8,618,688 bits

⇒ Just considering transmission delays (slowest link = last – try with intermediate, too)

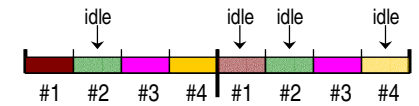
→  $D = \text{[yellow box]} + 33.67 = 33.73$  s

→ Key advantage: **pipelining reduces end to end delay versus message switching!**

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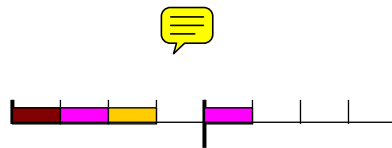
## Statistical Multiplexing the advantage of packet switching

Circuit switching:  
Each slot uniquely  
Assigned to a flow



Full capacity does not imply full utilization!!

Packet switching:  
Each packet grabs  
The first slot available



***More flows than nominal capacity may be admitted!!***

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## Packet Switching overhead vs burstiness

Overhead for voice sources at 64 kbps 

Source rate: 64 kbps

during 16 ms 128 voice samples = 1024 bit every 16 ms  $\longleftrightarrow$  62.5 packets/s

Assumption: 40 bytes header

emission rate =  $62.5 \cdot (1024 + 40 \cdot 8) = 84000$

(versus 64000 nominal rate = 31.25% overhead)

On (activity) period



**PACKETIZATION for voice sources (Brady model, activity=42.55%):**

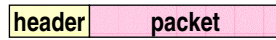
Assumptions: neglect last packet effect

average emission rate =  $62.5 \cdot (1024 + 40 \cdot 8) \cdot 0.4255 = 35745$

(versus 64000 nominal rate = 55.85%) Overhead > lower than data rate

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## Packet switching overhead



### → Header: contains lots of information

⇒ Routing, protocol-specific info, etc

⇒ Minimum: 28 bytes; in practice much more than 40 bytes

→ Overhead for every considered protocol: (for voice: 20 bytes IP, 8 bytes UDP, 12 bytes RTP)

### → Question: how to minimize header while maintaining packet switching?

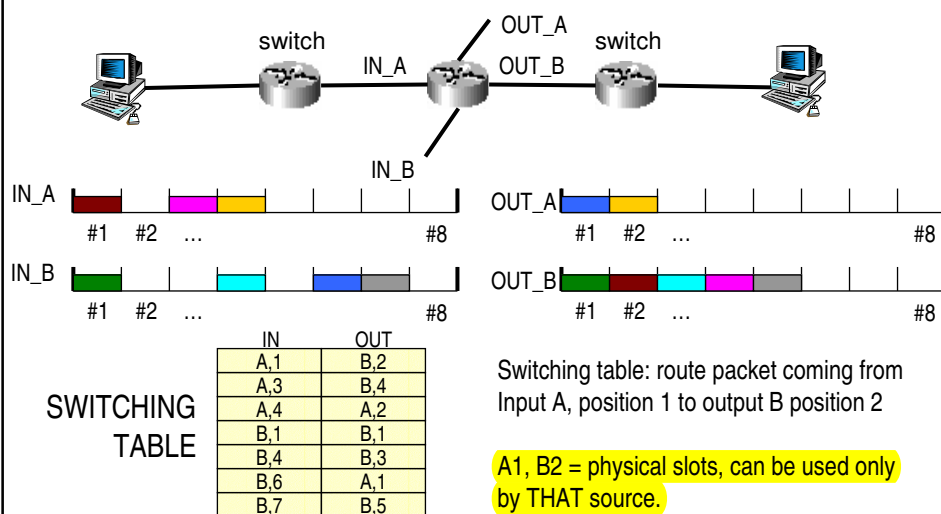
### → Solution: label switching (virtual circuit)

⇒ ATM

⇒ MPLS

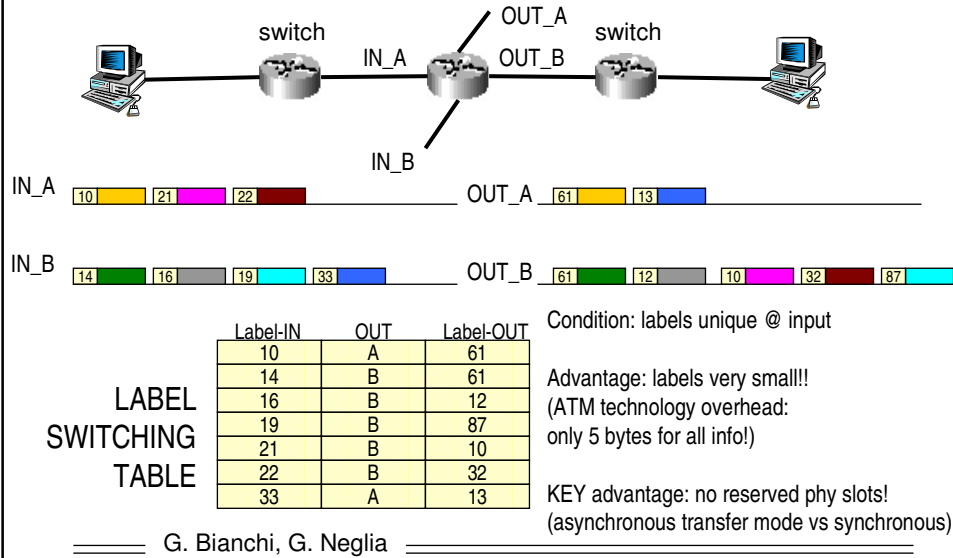
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## Circuit Switching (again)

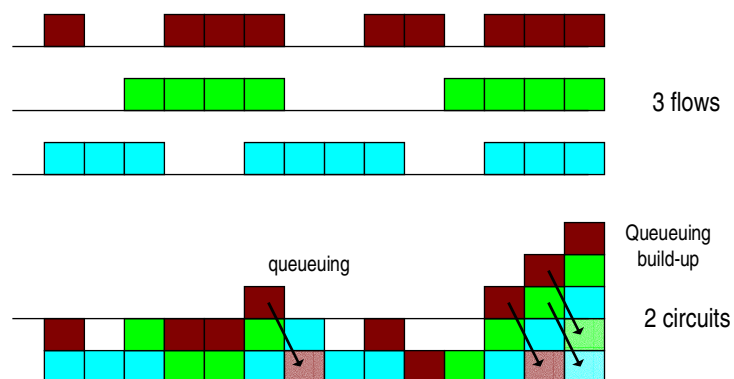


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## Label Switching (virtual circuit)



## Statistical mux efficiency (for simplicity, fixed-size packets)

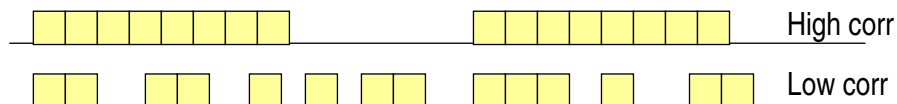


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## Statistical mux analysis

### → Very complex, when queueing considered

- ⇒ Involves queueing theory
- ⇒ Involves traffic time correlation statistics



### → Very easy, in the (worst case = conservative) assumption of unbuffered system

- ⇒ In practice, burst size long with respect to buffer size

### → Depends only on activity factor $\rho$

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(SKIP from now)

## Statistical mux analysis (i) unbuffered model

N traffic sources;      Homogeneous, same activity factor  $\rho$   
 Source rate = 1;      Link capacity = C  
 TDM: N must be  $\leq C$       Packet: N may be  $> C$

$$\text{Prob}(k \text{ sources simultaneously active}) = \binom{N}{k} \rho^k (1 - \rho)^{N-k}$$

Example: N=5; each having 20% activity

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| 0 | 32.77% |
| 1 | 40.96% |
| 2 | 20.48% |
| 3 | 5.12%  |
| 4 | 0.64%  |
| 5 | 0.03%  |

Average load =  $5 \cdot 0.2 = 1$   
 But  $C=1$  appears insufficient...

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## Statistical mux analysis (ii) unbuffered model

### → Overflow probability

- ⇒ Probability that, at a given instant of time (random), the link load is greater than the link capacity
- ⇒ Implies packet loss if buffer=0

$$\begin{aligned} \text{overflow\_prob} &= \sum_{k=C+1}^N \binom{N}{k} \rho^k (1-\rho)^{N-k} = \\ &= 1 - \sum_{k=0}^C \binom{N}{k} \rho^k (1-\rho)^{N-k} \end{aligned}$$

Example: N=5;  
each having 20% activity;

| link capacity | overflow prob |
|---------------|---------------|
| 0             | 67.23%        |
| 1             | 26.27%        |
| 2             | 5.79%         |
| 3             | 0.67%         |
| 4             | 0.03%         |
| 5             | 0.00%         |

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## Statistical mux analysis (iii) unbuffered model

### → Packet loss probability

- ⇒ Number of lost packets over number of offered packets

### → Offered packets

- ⇒ N \* average number of offered packets per source = N \* ρ

### → Lost packets:

- ⇒ If k ≤ C active sources, no packet loss
- ⇒ If k > C, k-C lost packets

### → hence

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{loss}} &= \frac{\sum_{k=C+1}^N (k-C) \binom{N}{k} \rho^k (1-\rho)^{N-k}}{N\rho} = \\ &= \frac{1}{N\rho} \sum_{k=C+1}^N k \binom{N}{k} \rho^k (1-\rho)^{N-k} - \frac{C}{N\rho} P(\text{overflow}) \end{aligned}$$

Example: N=5; each having 20% activity;  
N ρ = 1

| k or C | p(k)   | k*p(k) | overflow(C) | loss(C) |
|--------|--------|--------|-------------|---------|
| 0      | 32.77% | 0      | 67.23%      | 100.00% |
| 1      | 40.96% | 0.4096 | 26.27%      | 32.77%  |
| 2      | 20.48% | 0.4096 | 5.79%       | 6.50%   |
| 3      | 5.12%  | 0.1536 | 0.67%       | 0.70%   |
| 4      | 0.64%  | 0.0256 | 0.03%       | 0.03%   |
| 5      | 0.03%  | 0.0016 | 0.00%       | 0.00%   |

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## Loss vs overflow

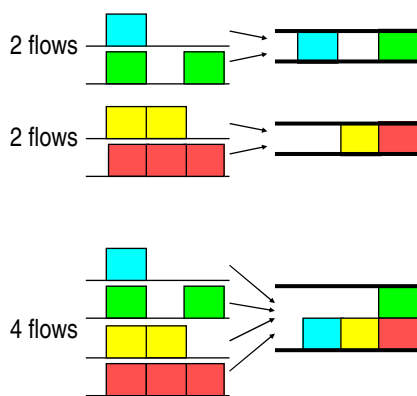
| k or C | binom     | p(k)    | k * p(k) | overflow(C) | loss(C)  |
|--------|-----------|---------|----------|-------------|----------|
| 0      | 1         | 1,2E-03 | 0,0E+00  | 9,99E-01    | 1,00E+00 |
| 1      | 30        | 9,3E-03 | 9,3E-03  | 9,89E-01    | 8,34E-01 |
| 2      | 435       | 3,4E-02 | 6,7E-02  | 9,56E-01    | 6,69E-01 |
| 3      | 4060      | 7,9E-02 | 2,4E-01  | 8,77E-01    | 5,09E-01 |
| 4      | 27405     | 1,3E-01 | 5,3E-01  | 7,45E-01    | 3,63E-01 |
| 5      | 142506    | 1,7E-01 | 8,6E-01  | 5,72E-01    | 2,39E-01 |
| 6      | 593775    | 1,8E-01 | 1,1E+00  | 3,93E-01    | 1,44E-01 |
| 7      | 2035800   | 1,5E-01 | 1,1E+00  | 2,39E-01    | 7,81E-02 |
| 8      | 5852925   | 1,1E-01 | 8,8E-01  | 1,29E-01    | 3,82E-02 |
| 9      | 14307150  | 6,8E-02 | 6,1E-01  | 6,11E-02    | 1,68E-02 |
| 10     | 30045015  | 3,5E-02 | 3,5E-01  | 2,56E-02    | 6,57E-03 |
| 11     | 54627300  | 1,6E-02 | 1,8E-01  | 9,49E-03    | 2,30E-03 |
| 12     | 86493225  | 6,4E-03 | 7,7E-02  | 3,11E-03    | 7,18E-04 |
| 13     | 119759850 | 2,2E-03 | 2,9E-02  | 9,02E-04    | 2,00E-04 |
| 14     | 145422675 | 6,7E-04 | 9,4E-03  | 2,31E-04    | 4,94E-05 |
| 15     | 155117520 | 1,8E-04 | 2,7E-03  | 5,24E-05    | 1,08E-05 |
| 16     | 145422675 | 4,2E-05 | 6,7E-04  | 1,05E-05    | 2,11E-06 |
| 17     | 119759850 | 8,6E-06 | 1,5E-04  | 1,84E-06    | 3,62E-07 |
| 18     | 86493225  | 1,6E-06 | 2,8E-05  | 2,84E-07    | 5,46E-08 |
| 19     | 54627300  | 2,5E-07 | 4,7E-06  | 3,83E-08    | 7,21E-09 |
| 20     | 30045015  | 3,4E-08 | 6,8E-07  | 4,48E-09    | 8,28E-10 |
| 21     | 14307150  | 4,0E-09 | 8,5E-08  | 4,50E-10    | 8,20E-11 |
| 22     | 5852925   | 4,1E-10 | 9,1E-09  | 3,86E-11    | 6,92E-12 |
| 23     | 2035800   | 3,6E-11 | 8,2E-10  | 2,78E-12    | 4,91E-13 |
| 24     | 593775    | 2,6E-12 | 6,3E-11  | 1,65E-13    | 2,88E-14 |
| 25     | 142506    | 1,6E-13 | 3,9E-12  | 7,82E-15    | 1,35E-15 |
| 26     | 27405     | 7,5E-15 | 2,0E-13  | 2,87E-16    | 4,91E-17 |
| 27     | 4060      | 2,8E-16 | 7,5E-15  | 7,60E-18    | 1,29E-18 |
| 28     | 435       | 7,5E-18 | 2,1E-16  | 1,30E-19    | 2,18E-20 |
| 29     | 30        | 1,3E-19 | 3,7E-18  | 1,07E-21    | 1,79E-22 |
| 30     | 1         | 1,1E-21 | 3,2E-20  | 0,00E+00    | 0,00E+00 |

Example: N=30;  
each 20% activity;  
N ρ = 6

for C>>Nρ:  
Overflow=good approx for loss.

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## Statistical Mux Gain (i)



Average load =  $4\rho$

$C = 2$

$$P_{loss_1} = \frac{1 \times 1 \times \rho^2}{2\rho} = \frac{\rho}{2}$$

Average load =  $4\rho$

$C = 2$

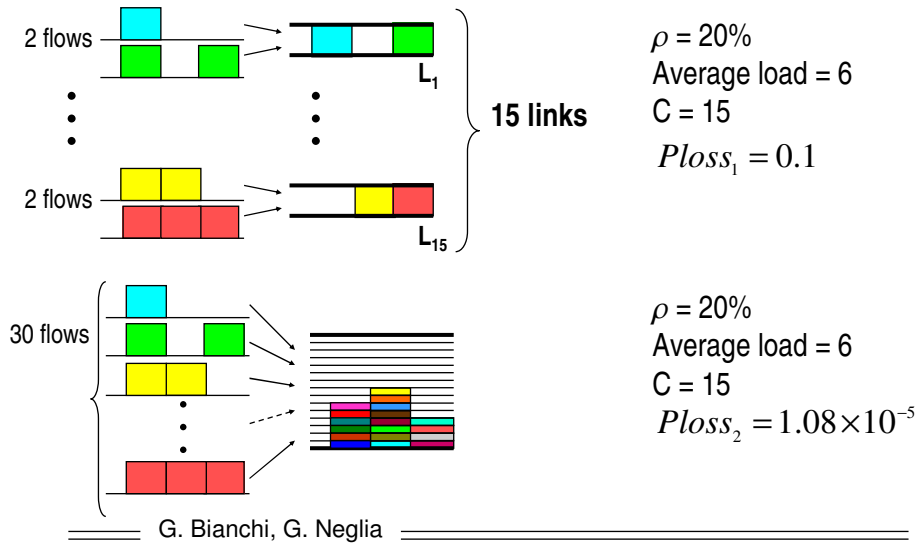
$$P_{loss_2} = \frac{1 \times 4 \times \rho^3 (1 - \rho) + 2 \times 1 \times \rho^4}{4\rho}$$

$$= \frac{\rho^2 (2 - \rho)}{2} < P_{loss_1}$$

**A sample-path argument is faster!**

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## Statistical Mux Gain (ii)



## Statistical Mux Gain (iii)

