### Physical Layer

Chapter 3 Summary Ed Crowley

## Topics

- Network Circuits
- Simplex, Duplex, Half Duplex
- Multiplexer
- Communications Media
- Media Attributes
- Digital Transmission
- Analog Transmission

### **Network Circuits**

Point-to-point networks

• Separate circuit from each client to the host Multipoint networks

• Multiple clients share the same circuit.



## Simplex, Duplex, and Half-duplex

Mainframe a. Simplex	Direction of data	Monitor
Station b. Half-duplex	Direction of data at time 1 Direction of data at time 2	Station
Station c. Full-duplex	Direction of data all the time	Station

### Simplex

• Data flows one direction only

### Half duplex

• Data flows either one direction or the other .

Full Duplex

 Data flows in both directions simultaneously

## Multiplexer

- Device that combines several simultaneous low-speed circuits on one higher-speed circuit.
  - Each low-speed circuit believes it has a separate circuit.
- In general, transmission capacity of the high-speed circuit must equal or exceed the sum of the low-speed circuits.



# **Communication Media**

- Guided or Unguided media categories
- Signal travels through a physical cable (guided)
  - Twisted pair wires
  - Coaxial cable
  - Fiber-optic cable



# Wireless signals broadcast through air (unguided)



### Media Attributes

Among guided media:

- Fiber-optic cable can transmit data the fastest with the fewest errors and offers greater security but costs the most...
- Twisted pair wire cheapest
  - Most commonly used.

Choice of wireless media depends more on distance than any other factor;

- Radio is cheapest for short distances
- Microwave is cheapest for moderate distances
- Satellite is cheapest for long distances.

# **Digital Transmission**

#### Baseband transmission

- Digital Transmission of Digital Data Digital transmission is done by sending a series of electrical (or light) pulses through the media.
- Digital transmission is preferred to analog transmission because:
  - It produces fewer errors; is more efficient
  - Permits higher maximum transmission rates
  - Is more secure
  - Simplifies the integration of voice, video, and data on the same circuit.
- Ethernet uses Manchester encoding.

# Analog Transmission of Digital Data

- Modems used to translate the digital data produced by computers into the analog signals for transmission in today's voice communication circuits.
- Both the sender and receiver need to have a modem.
  - Data transmitted by changing (or modulating) a carrier sound wave's amplitude (height), frequency (length), or phase (shape) to indicate a binary 1 or 0.
  - For example, in amplitude modulation, one amplitude is defined to be a 1 and another amplitude is defined to be a 0. It is possible to send more than 1 bit on every symbol (or wave).
- For example, with amplitude modulation, you could send 2 bits on each wave by defining four amplitude levels.
- The capacity or maximum data rate that a circuit can transmit is determined by multiplying the symbol rate (symbols per second) by the number of bits per symbol.

# **Digital Transmission of Analog Data**

- Because digital transmission is better, analog voice data is sometimes converted to digital transmission.
- Pulse code modulation (PCM) is the most commonly used technique.
- PCM samples the amplitude of the incoming voice signal 8,000 times per second and uses 8 bits to represent the signal.
- PCM produces a reasonable approximation of the human voice, but more sophisticated techniques are needed to adequately reproduce more complex sounds such as music.

### Questions?