

# Introduction



**Computer Networks**  
**A15**

# Introduction Outline

- Preliminary Definitions
- Internet Components
- Network Application Paradigms
- Classifying Networks
  - by transmission technology
  - by size/scale
  - by topology
- Summary

# Definitions

## computer network ::

[Tan] a collection of **autonomous** computers interconnected by a single technology.

[LG&W] communications network :: a set of equipment and facilities that provide a service.

[P&D] a network provides **connectivity** among a set of computers.

Initially, computers were directly connected over a physical medium such as copper, coaxial cable or optical fiber.

Selecting the set of computers involves security and **scalability** issues.

# Physical Connectivity

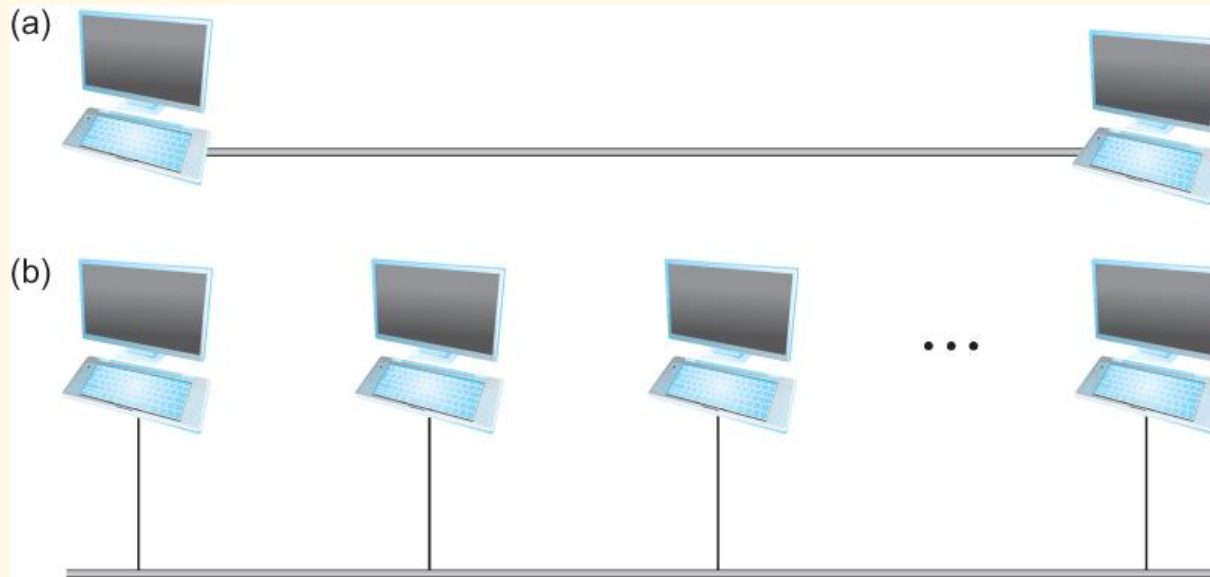


Figure 1.2 Direct links:  
(a) point-to-point  
(b) multiple access (MA)

P&D



# Other Forms of Connectivity

- Indirect connectivity through a set of cooperating nodes.
- Wireless connectivity:
  - WiFi (IEEE802.11) with MIMO
  - Cellular (3G, 4G LTE, 5G ???)
  - Bluetooth
  - Zigbee (part of IEEE802.15.4)
  - WiMAX

# Switched Network

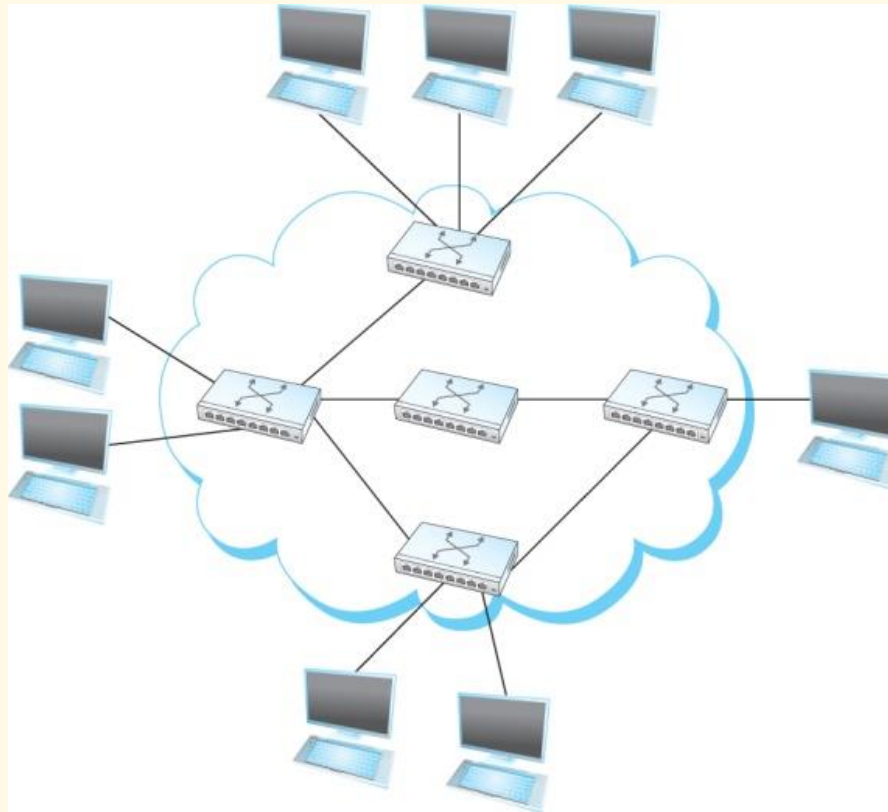


Figure 1.3 Switched network

P&D

# An internet

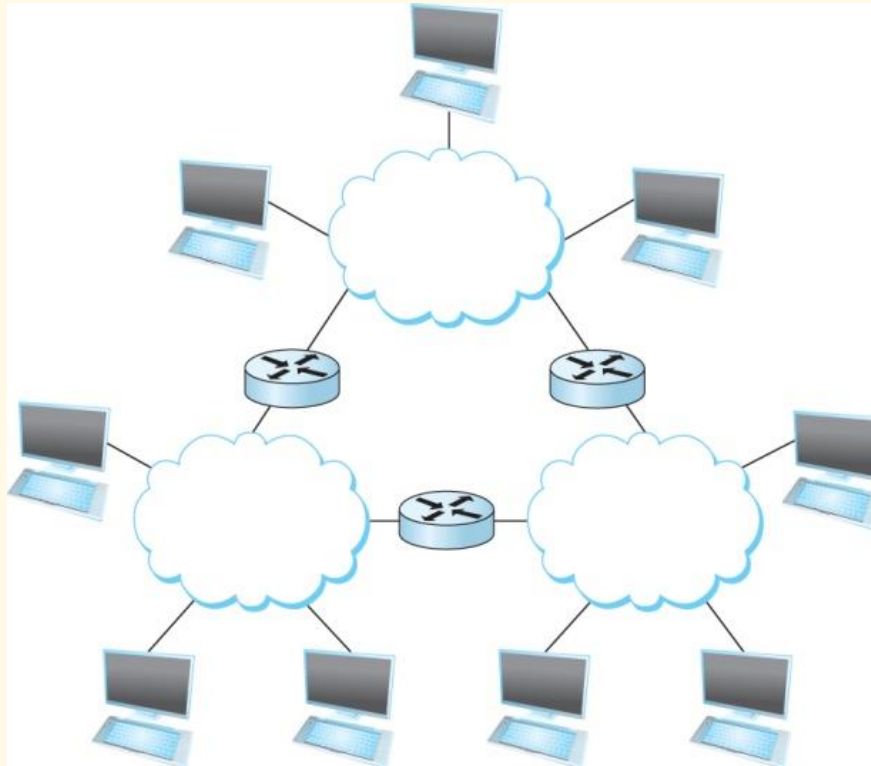


Figure 1.4 Interconnection of Networks

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# Definitions

In a **distributed system**:

the collection of independent computers appears to its users as a **single coherent system**.

Namely, the distinction between a computer network and a distribution system lies in the **transparency** in assigning tasks to computers.

Examples:

1. NFS is a distributed files system.
2. Computer networks provide host-to-host connectivity by assigning an **address** to each node.

# Application Communication

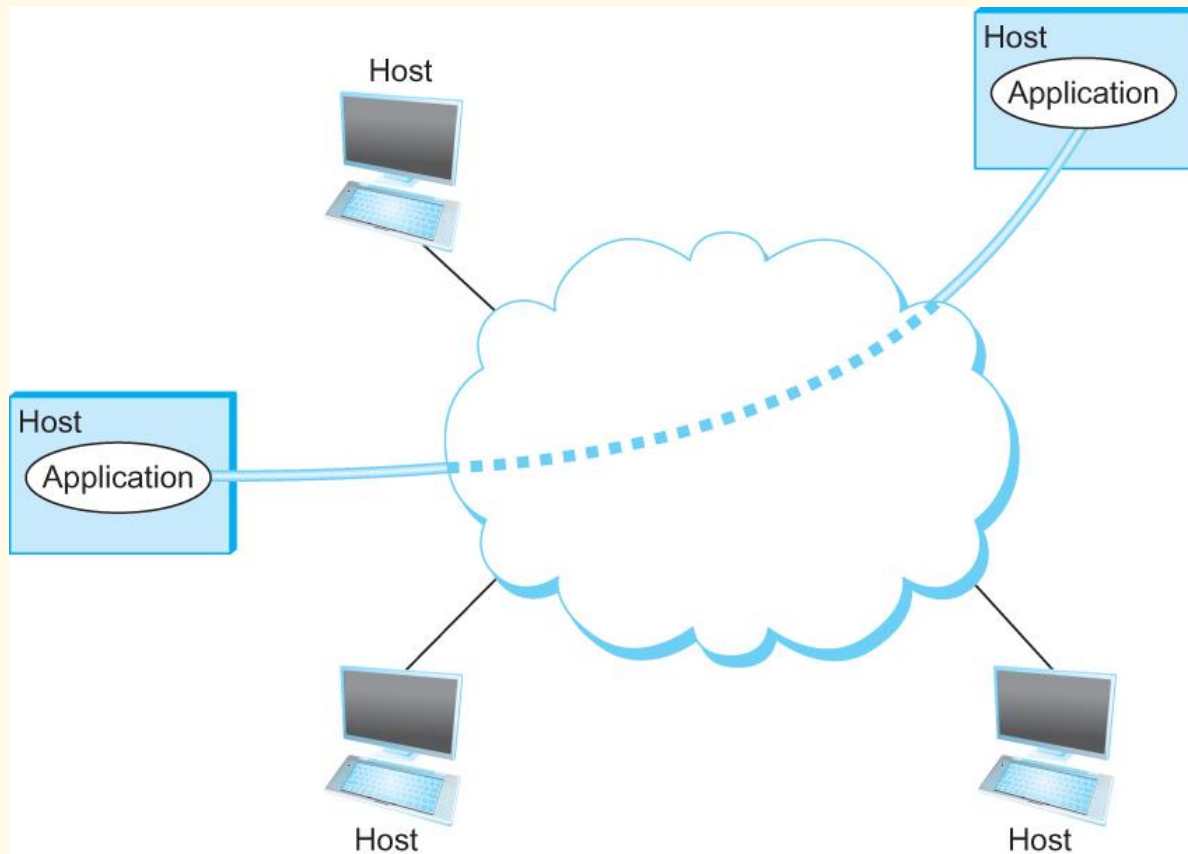
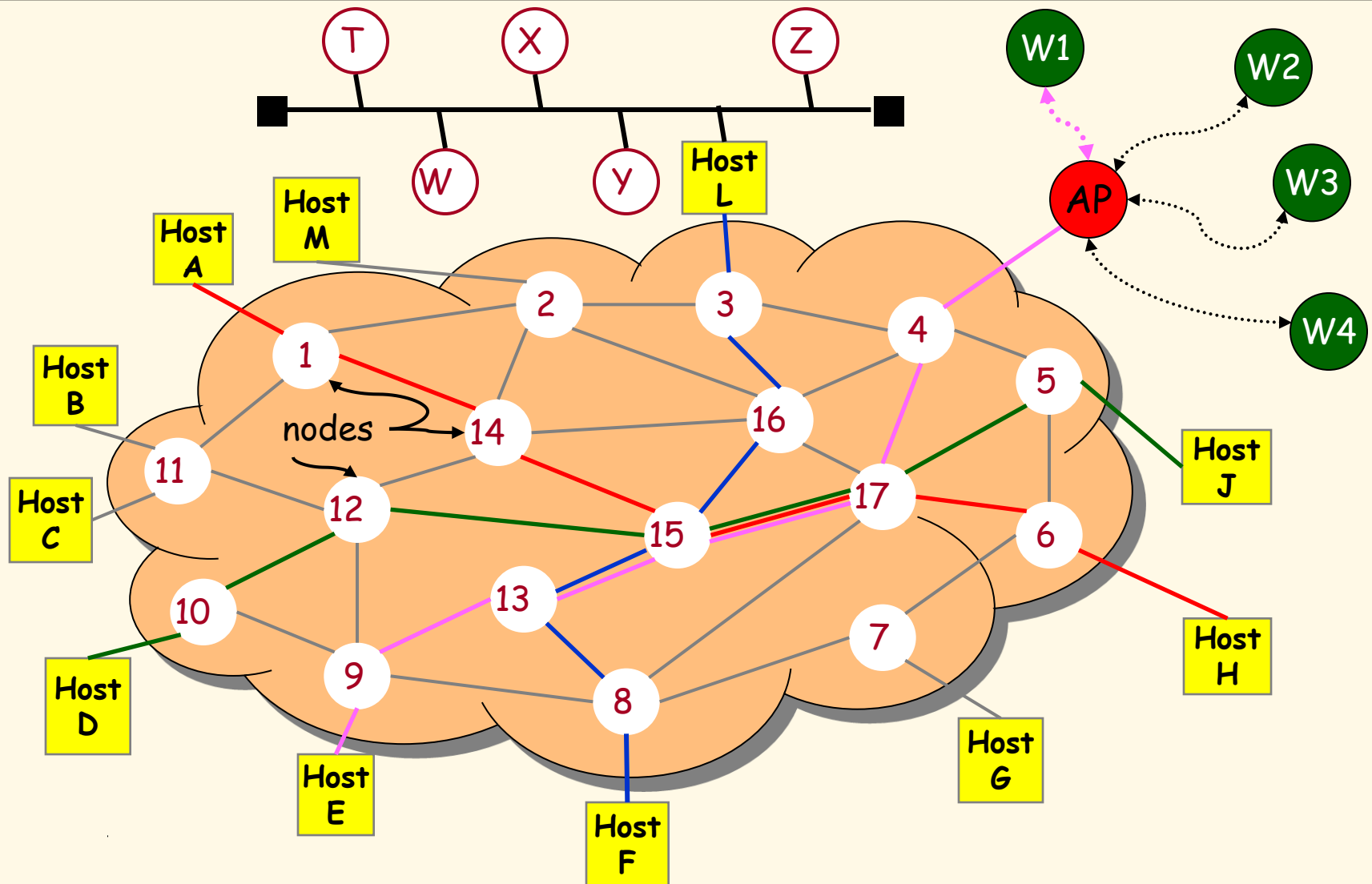


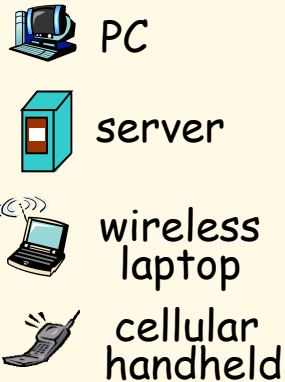
Figure 1.7 Processes communicating over an abstract channel

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# Internet Access and Flows



# The Internet: "nuts and bolts" view



billions of connected computing devices:

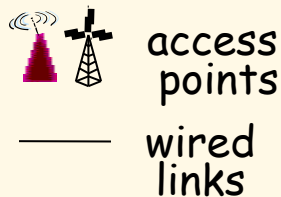
*hosts = end systems*

- running *network apps*

□ *communication links*

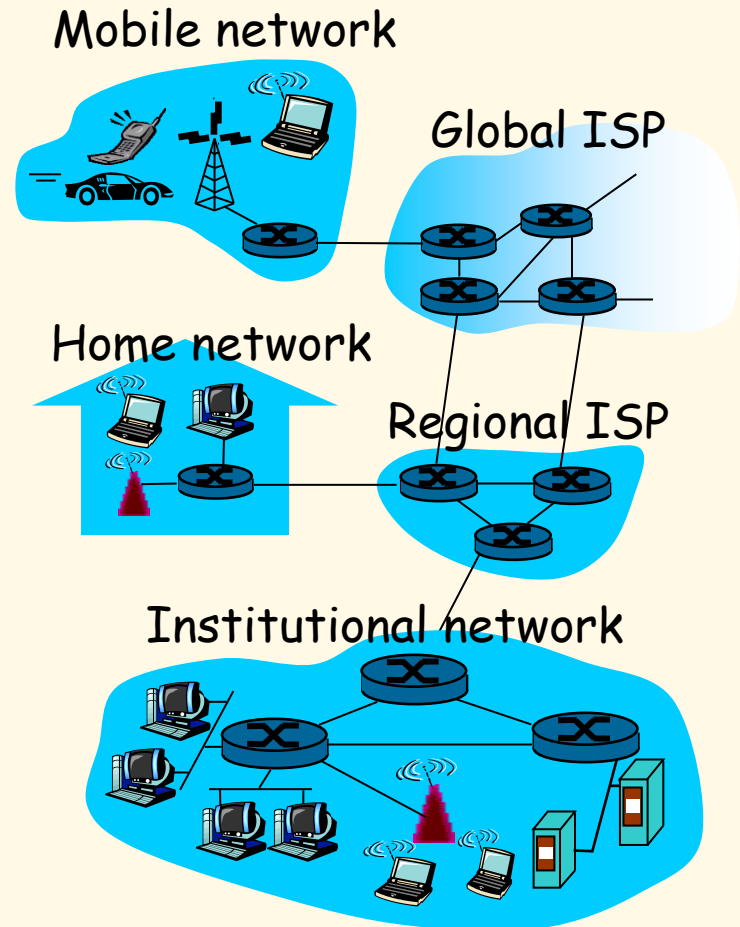
❖ fiber, copper, radio, satellite

❖ transmission rate = *capacity*

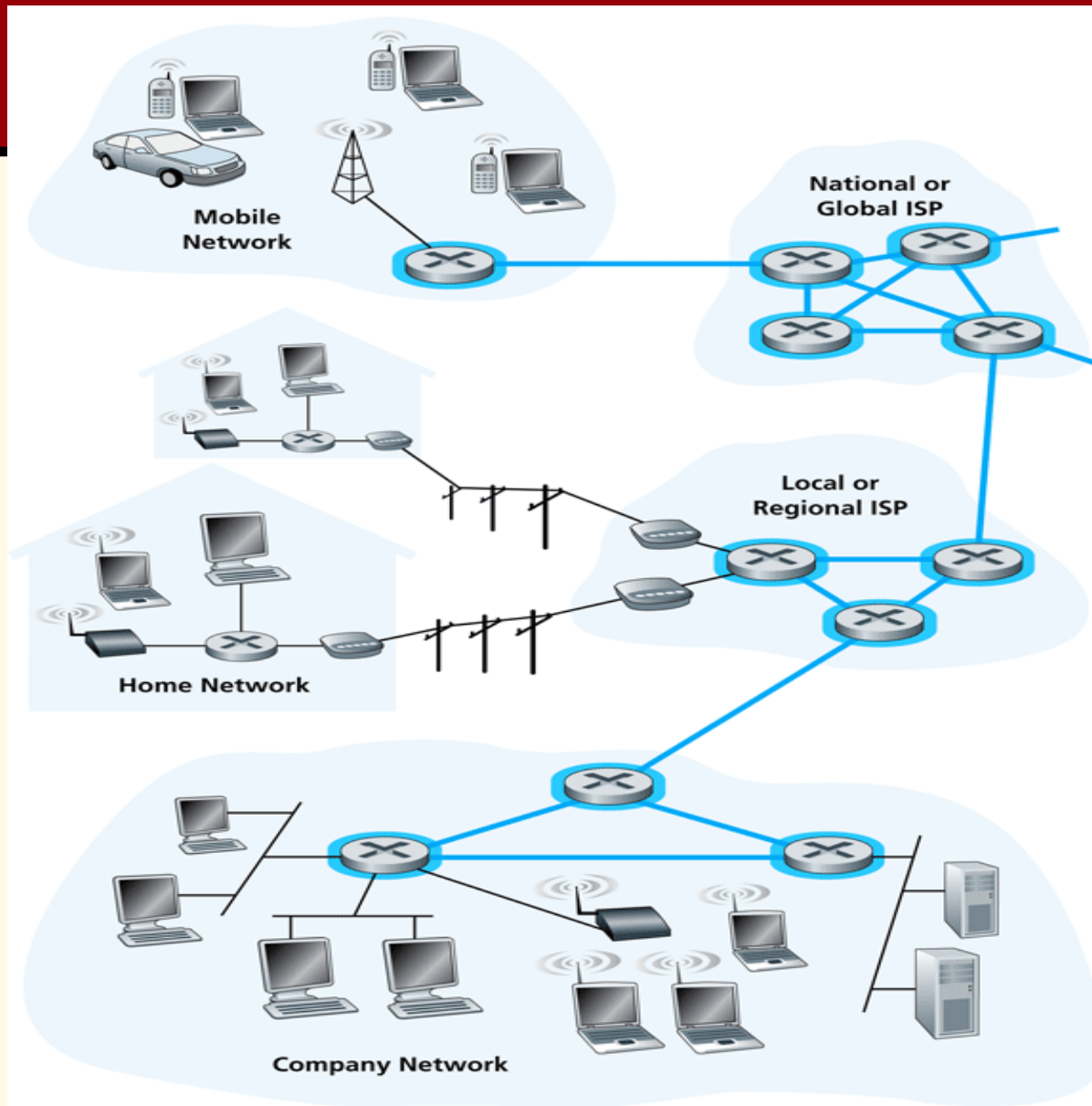


□ *routers*<sup>\*</sup>: forward packets (chunks of data)

<sup>\*</sup> Also referred to as switches or gateways.



K & R



**Figure 1.7** ♦ The network core

K & R

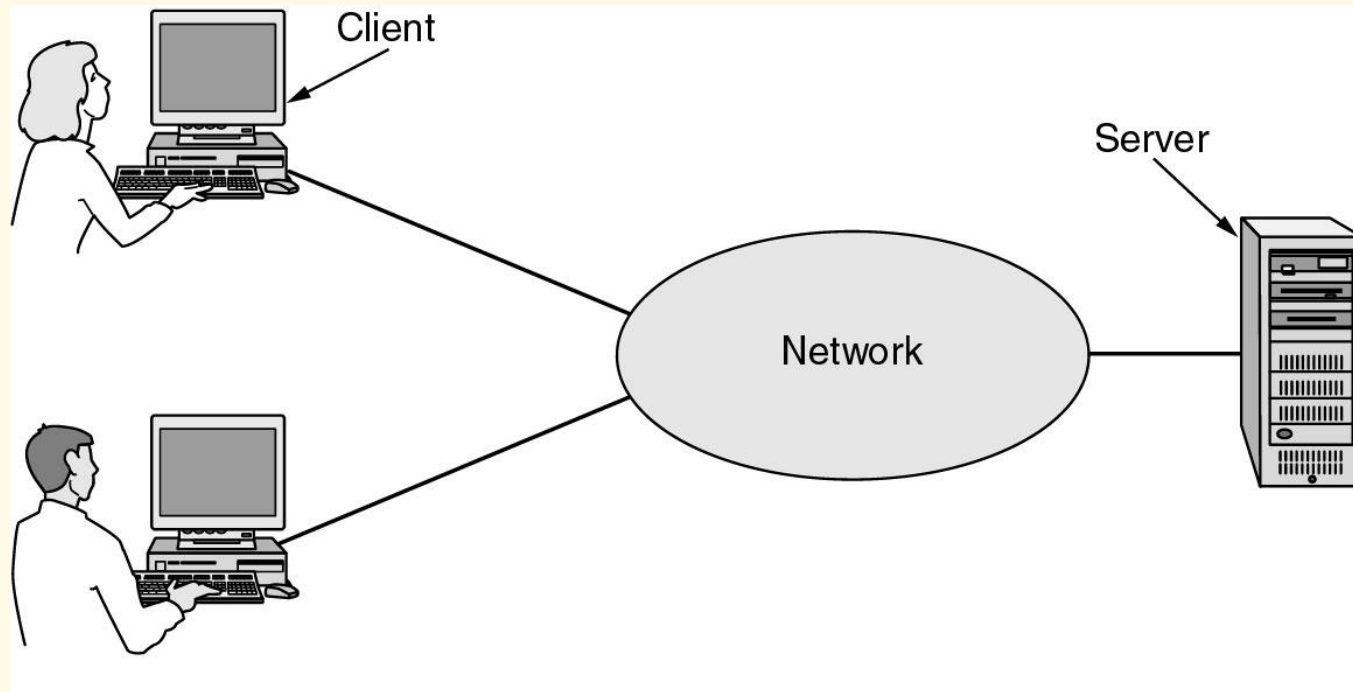


# Student Perspectives

- Application Programmer
  - List the services that an application needs with QoS (Quality of Service) delivery targets.
- Network Designer
  - Design a cost-effective network with fair resource sharing.
- Network Provider/Operator
  - List the characteristics of a system that is easy to administer and manage. Concerns include: quick fault diagnosis, correct configurability, and easy growth.

# Networking Application Paradigms

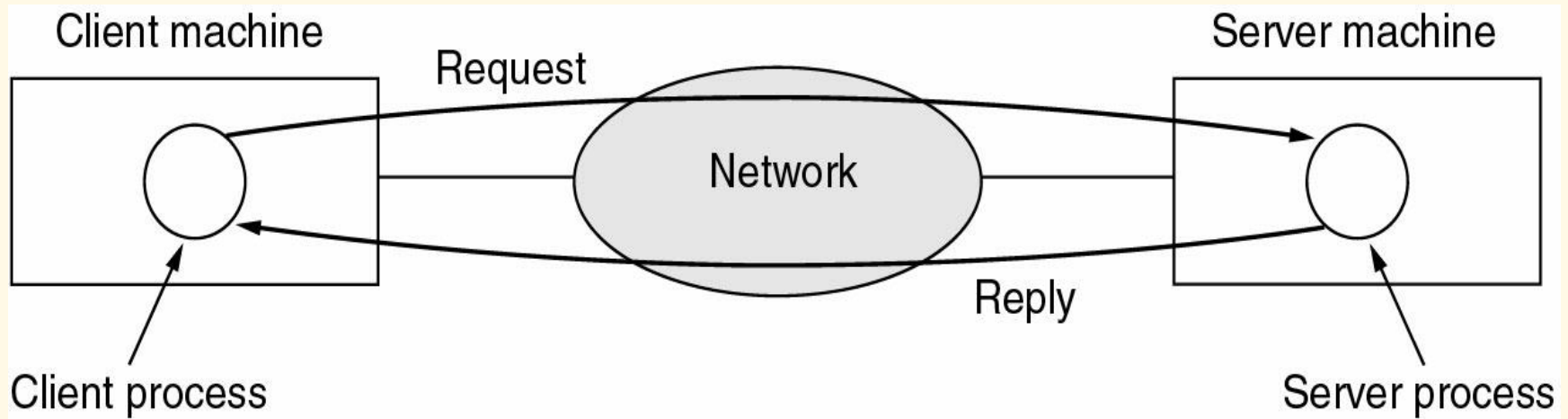
# Client-Server Applications



**Figure 1.1 A network with two clients and one server.**

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# Client-Server Model



**Figure 1-2. The client-server model involves requests and replies.**

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# Peer-to-Peer Applications

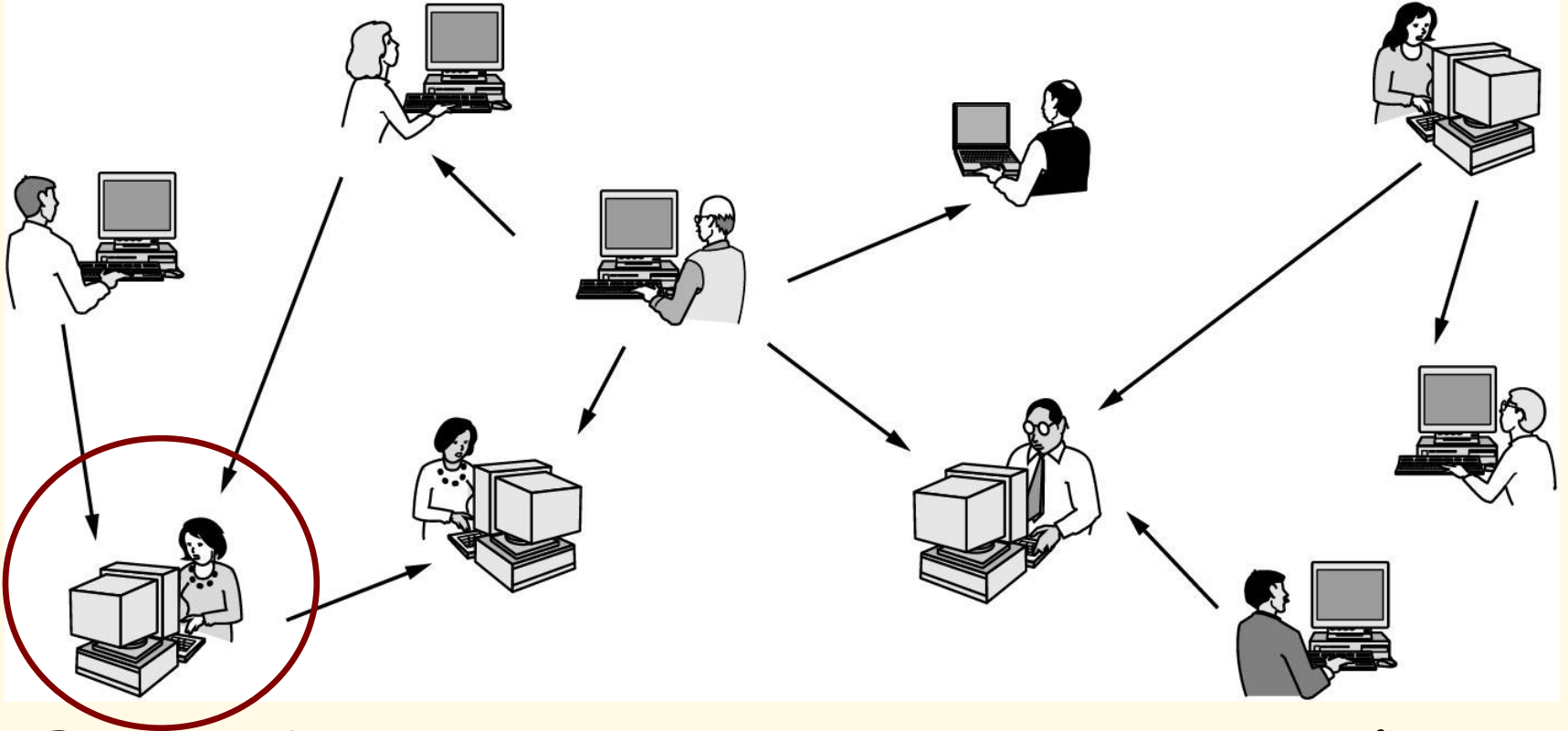
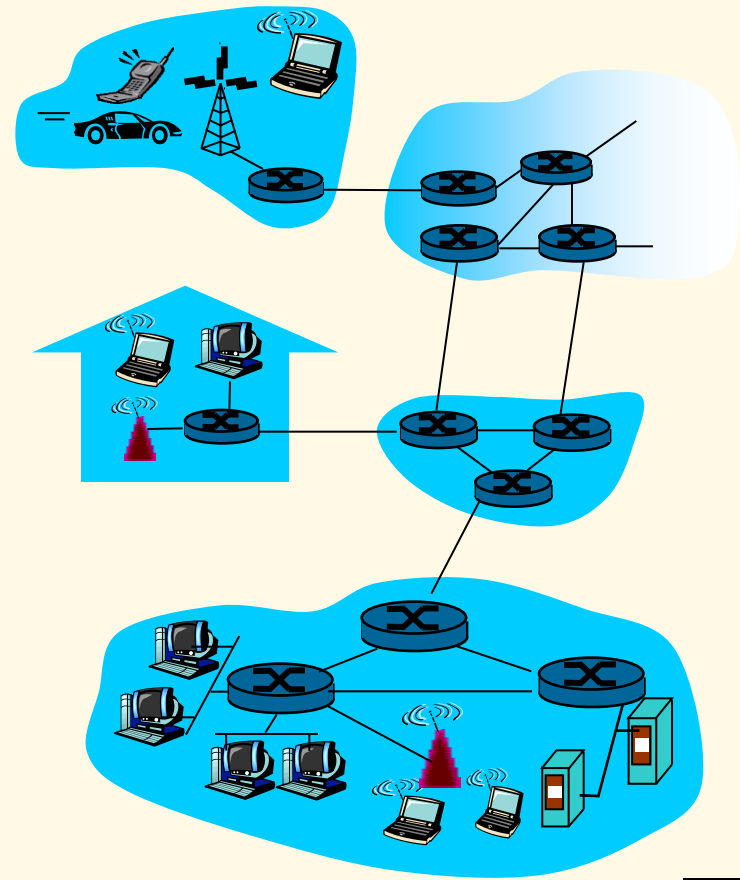


Figure 1.3 In a peer-to-peer system there are no fixed clients and servers.

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# A Closer Look at Network Structure

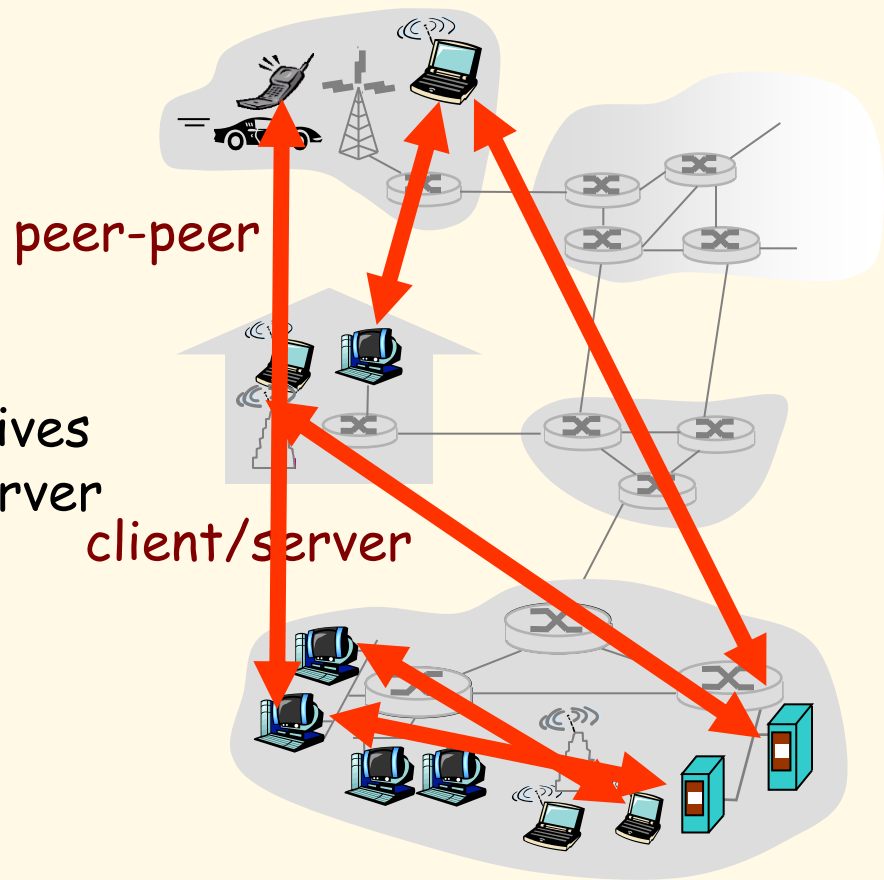
- **network edge:**  
applications and hosts
- **access networks,**  
**physical media:**  
wired, wireless communication links
- **network core:**
  - ❖ interconnected routers
  - ❖ network of networks



K & R

# The Network Edge

- **end systems (hosts)**
  - run application programs
  - e.g. Web, email
  - at “edge of network”
- **client/server model**
  - ❖ client host requests, receives service from always-on server
  - ❖ e.g. Web browser/server; email client/server
- **peer-peer model**
  - ❖ minimal (or no) use of dedicated servers
  - ❖ e.g. Skype, BitTorrent



K & R

# Wireless versus Mobile Applications

- Wireless involves transmissions through the air (type depends on frequency).
  - Residential access networks
    - Residential access points
  - Institutional access networks
    - Institutional and corporate access points or mesh networks
  - Public access networks
    - e.g., Cities, towns, libraries and coffee shops
  - Cellular networks
    - 2.5G, 3G and 4G LTE



# Wireless versus Mobile Applications

- Mobile can refer to the Hosts.
  - Laptops can be moveable and wired.
  - Laptops can be moveable and wireless.
  - Cell phones, smart phones and devices in vehicles are mobile and wireless.
- **Mobile Ad Hoc NETWORKs (MANETs)::**
  - wireless devices are both Hosts and subnet nodes (routers).
  - The distinction is that MANET nodes may relay traffic intended for other nodes (multi-hop traffic).

# Network Classifications

# Classifying by Transmission Technology

**broadcast** :: a single communications channel shared by all machines (addresses) on the network.

*Broadcast can be both a logical or a physical concept (e.g. Media Access Control (MAC) sublayer ).*

**multicast** :: communications to a **specified group**.

*This requires a group address (e.g. - multimedia multicast).*

**unicast** :: a communication involving a single sender and a single receiver.

**point-to-point** :: connections made via **links** between pairs of nodes.

# Classification by Size

Interprocessor distance	Processors located in same	Example	
1 m	Square meter	Personal area network	(PAN)
10 m	Room	Local area network	(LAN)
100 m	Building		
1 km	Campus		
10 km	City	Metropolitan area network	(MAN)
100 km	Country	Wide area network	(WAN)
1000 km	Continent		
10,000 km	Planet	The Internet	

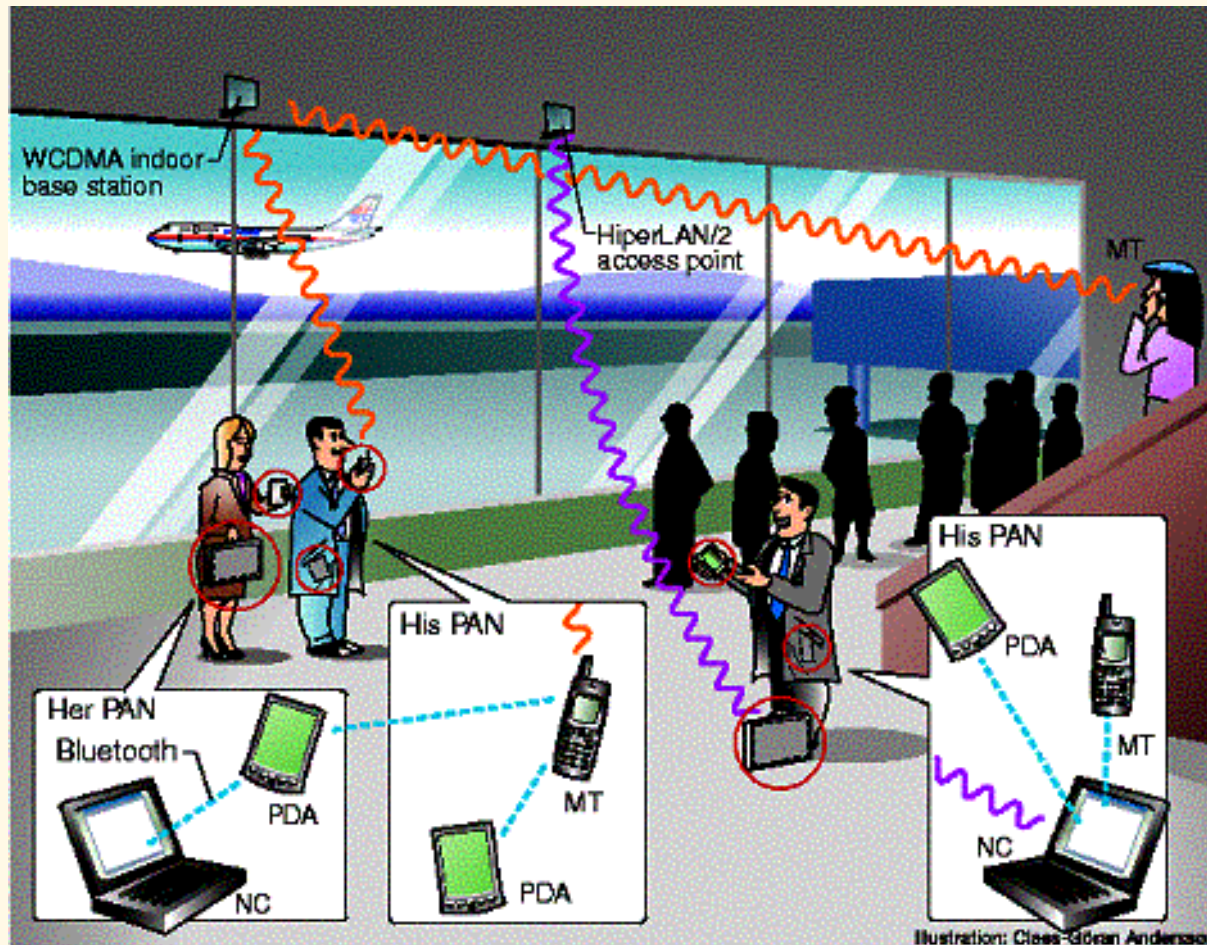
Figure 1-6. Classification of interconnected processors by scale.

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# Classification by Size

- **PANS {Personal Area Networks}**
  - Used for communication among computer devices, including smart phones and PDA's in proximity to an individual's body. [Wikipedia].
  - Reach up to meters.
  - Includes 'wearable' devices and protocols such as Bluetooth, Zigbee and UWB (Ultra Wide Band) and **BANs (Body Area Networks)**.
  - IEEE 802.15 Working Group for Wireless PANs (WPANs).

# PANs



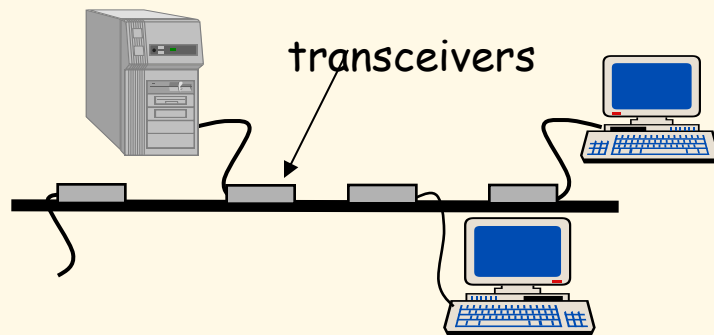
[Brunell University West London]



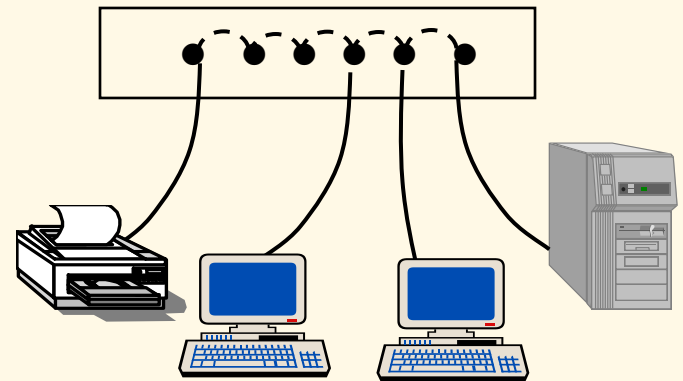
# Classification by Size

- **LANs {Local Area Networks}**
  - Wired LANs: typically physically broadcast at the MAC layer (e.g., Ethernet, Token Ring)
  - Wireless LANs (WLANs)
  - Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs)
- **MANs {Metropolitan Area Networks}**
  - campus networks connecting LANs logically or physically.
  - often have a **backbone** (e.g., FDDI, ATM or a mesh) to connect campus networks.

# Wired LANs



Ethernet bus



Ethernet hub

Leon-Garcia & Widjaja:  
*Communication Networks*



# Wireless LANs (WLANs)

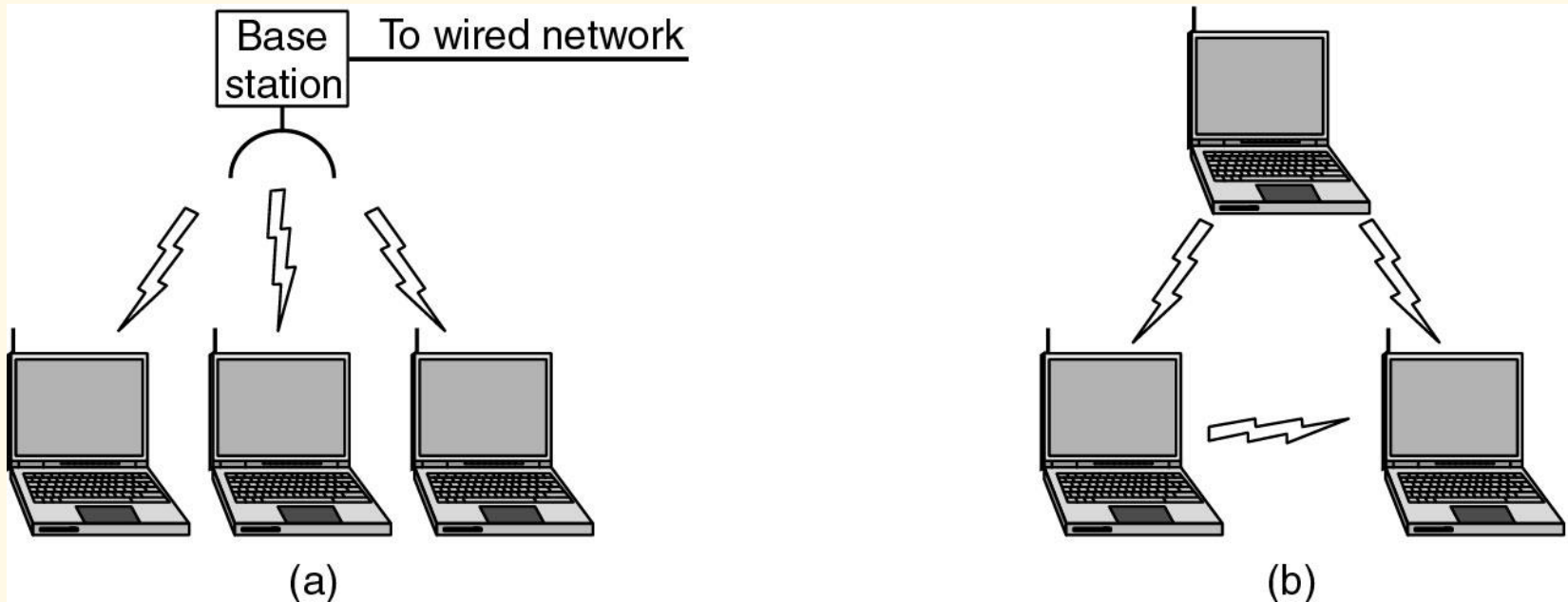


Figure 1-35. (a) Wireless networking with a base station. (b) Ad hoc networking.

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# Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs)

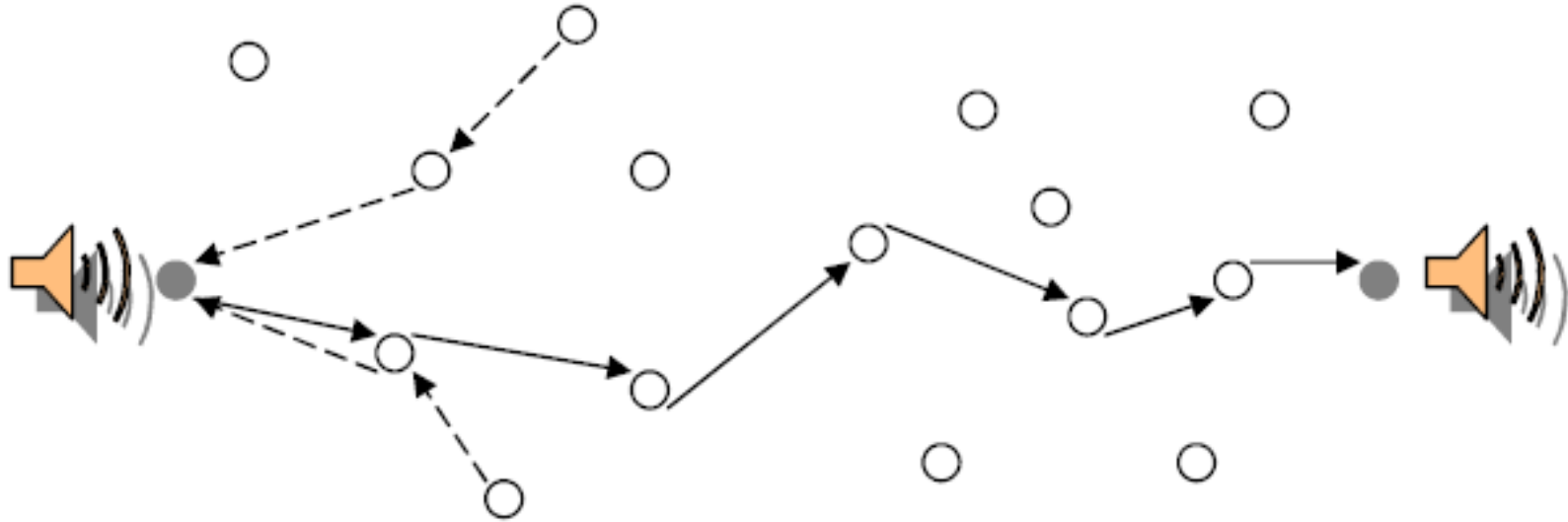


Figure 1: Routing paths for end to end and mote-to-sink.

N. Chohan

WSNs can have mobile or fixed nodes but require a routing algorithm and normally have power concerns.

# Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs)

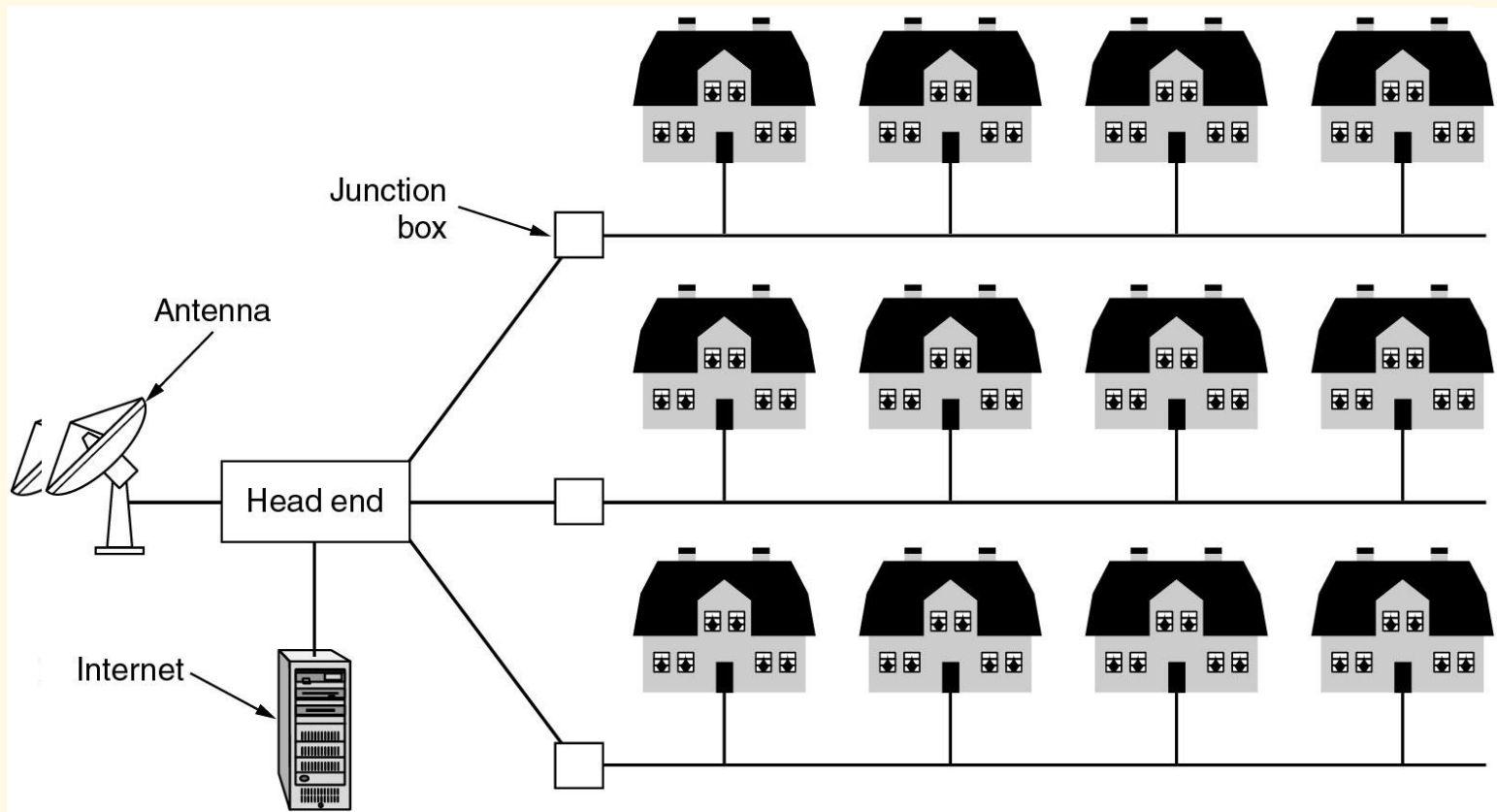
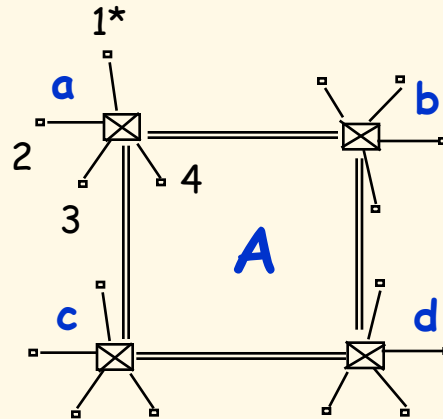


Figure 1-8. A metropolitan area network based on cable TV.

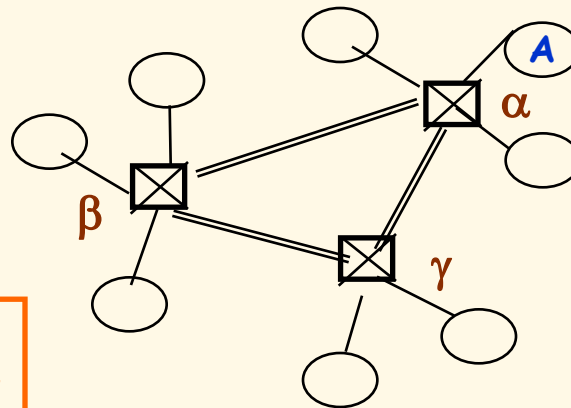
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# MANs within a Hierarchical Topology



Metropolitan network **A** consists of access subnetworks: **a**, **b**, **c**, **d**.

## Hierarchical Network Topology



National network consists of regional subnetworks:  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ .

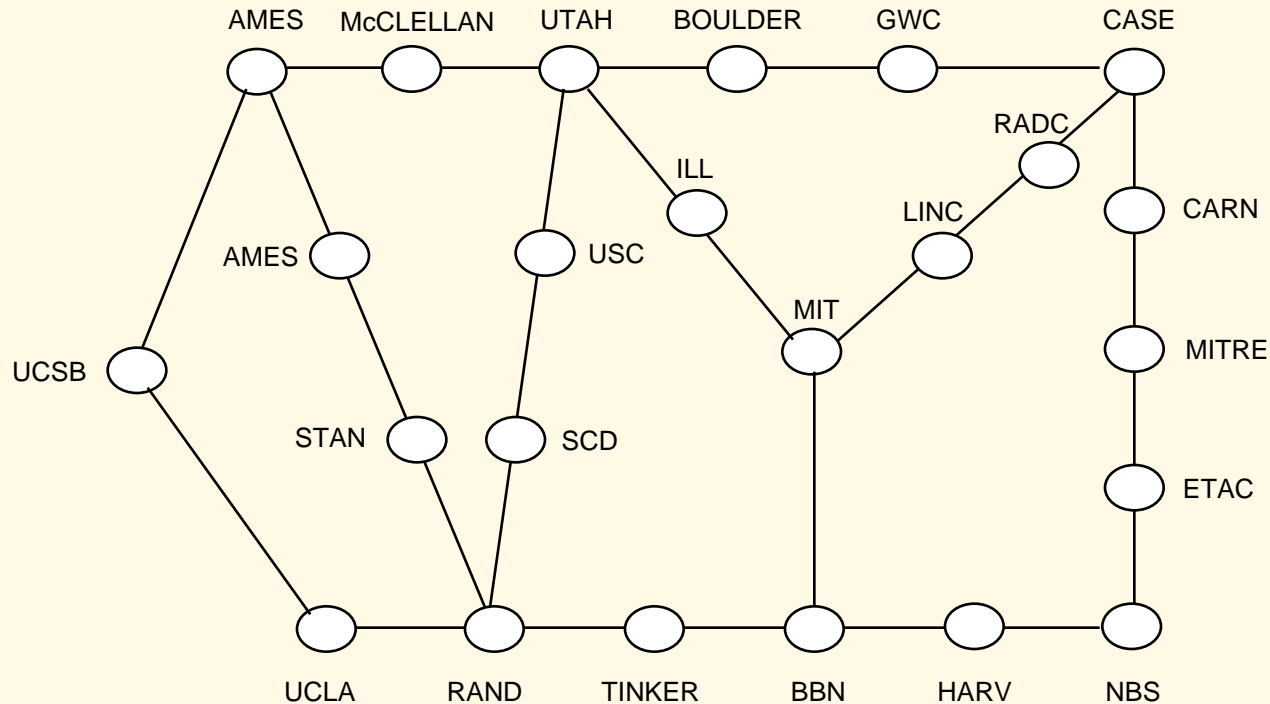
Metropolitan network **A** is part of regional subnetwork  $\alpha$ .

Leon-Garcia & Widjaja:  
*Communication Networks*

# Network Classification by Size

- WANs {Wide Area Networks}
  - *also referred to as "point-to-point" networks.*
  - ARPANET → Internet
  - usually hierarchical with a backbone.
  - Enterprise Networks, Autonomous Systems (ASs)
  - VPNs (Virtual Private Networks).

# ARPAnet circa 1972



A point-to-point network

Leon-Garcia & Widjaja:  
*Communication Networks*

# Wide Area Networks (WANs)

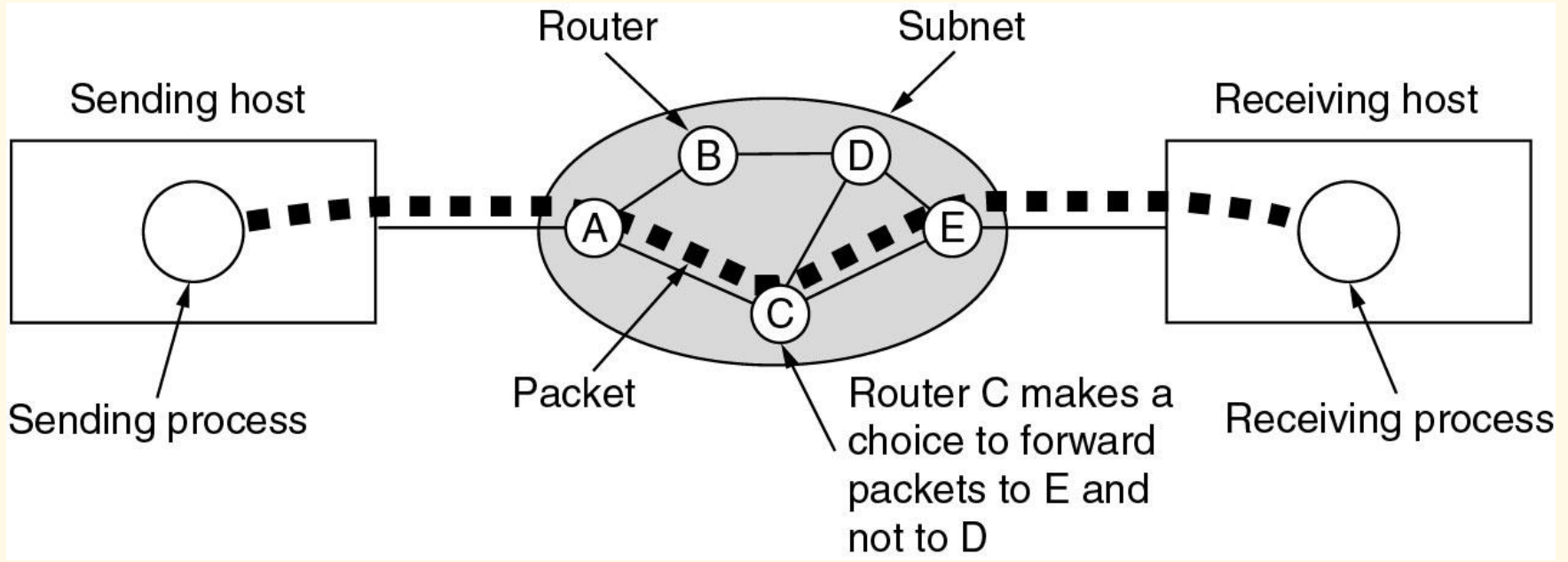
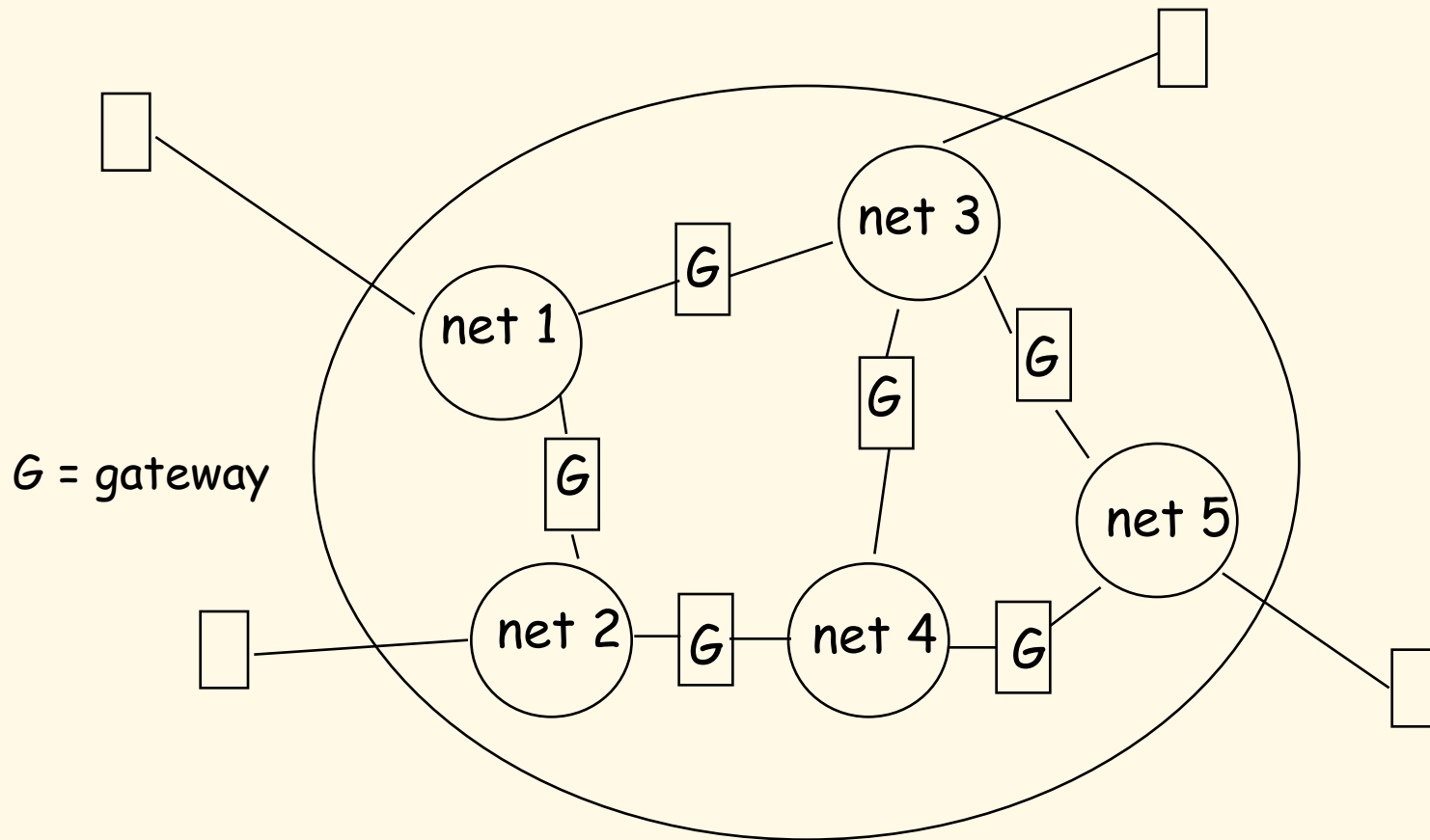


Figure 1-10. A stream of packets from sender to receiver.

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# internet

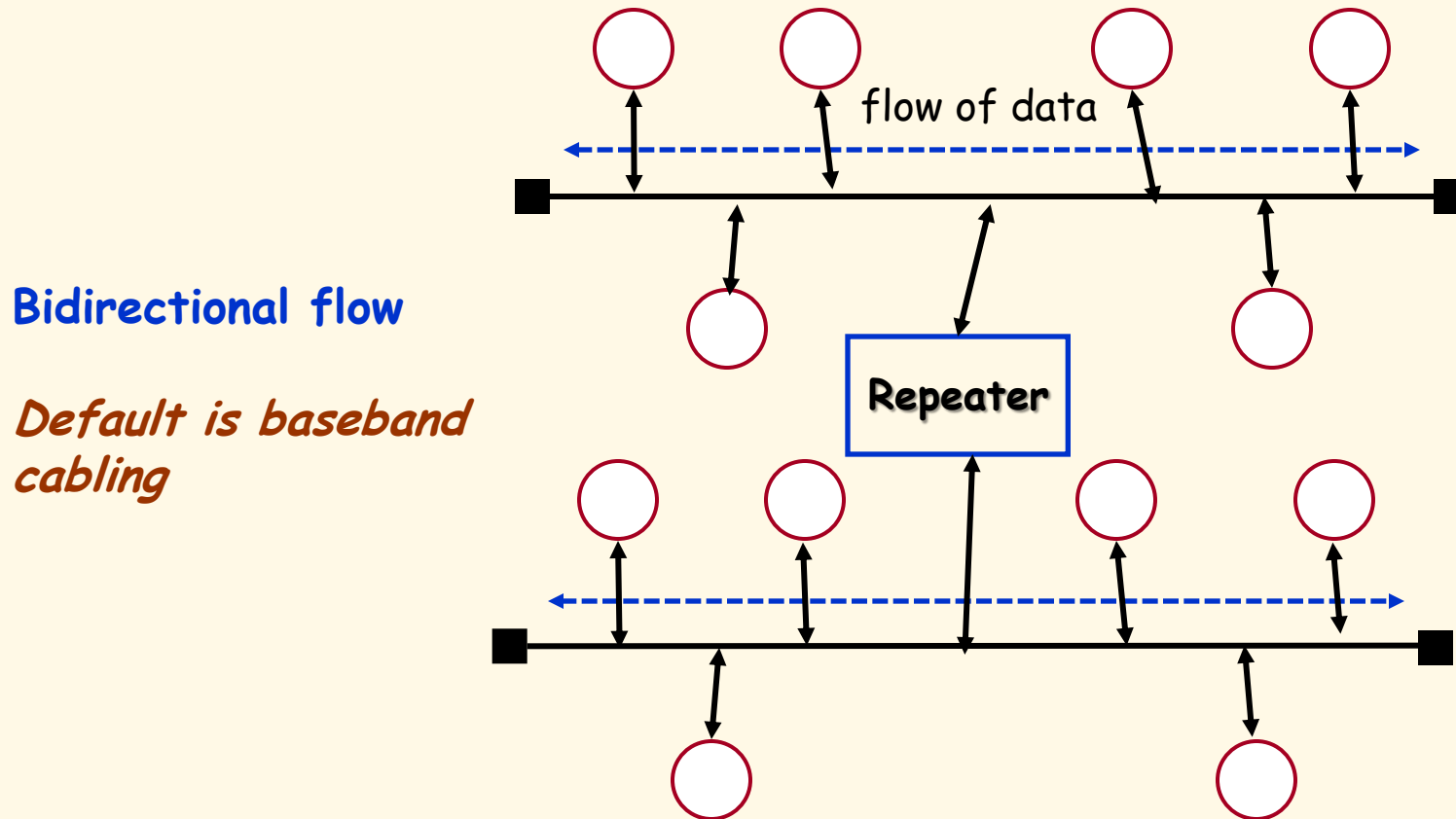


**A network of networks**

Leon-Garcia & Widjaja:  
*Communication Networks*



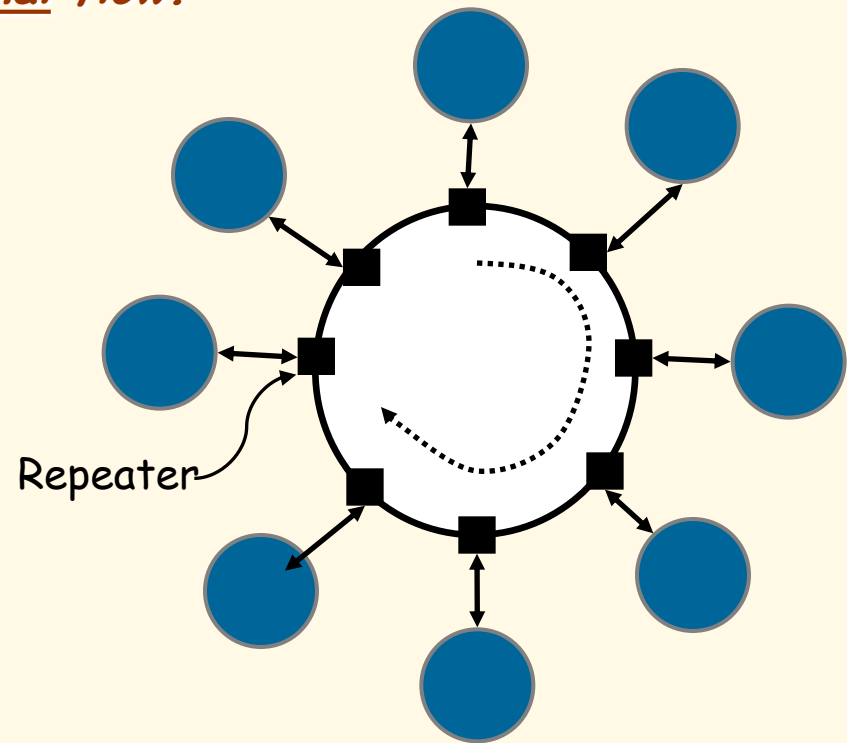
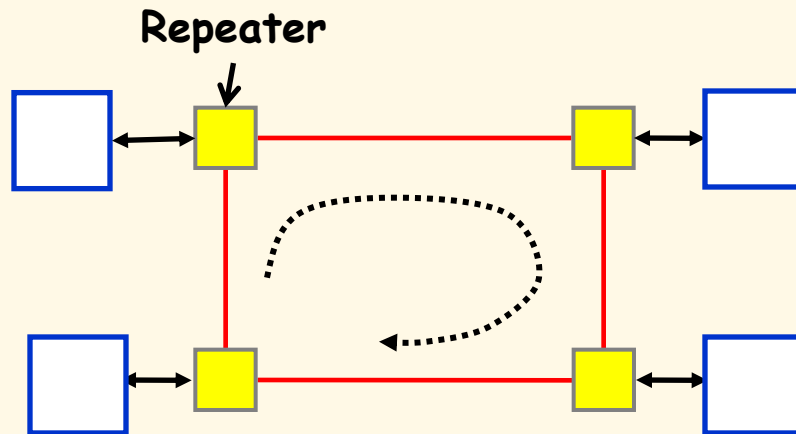
# Network Classification by Topology



Bus Topology

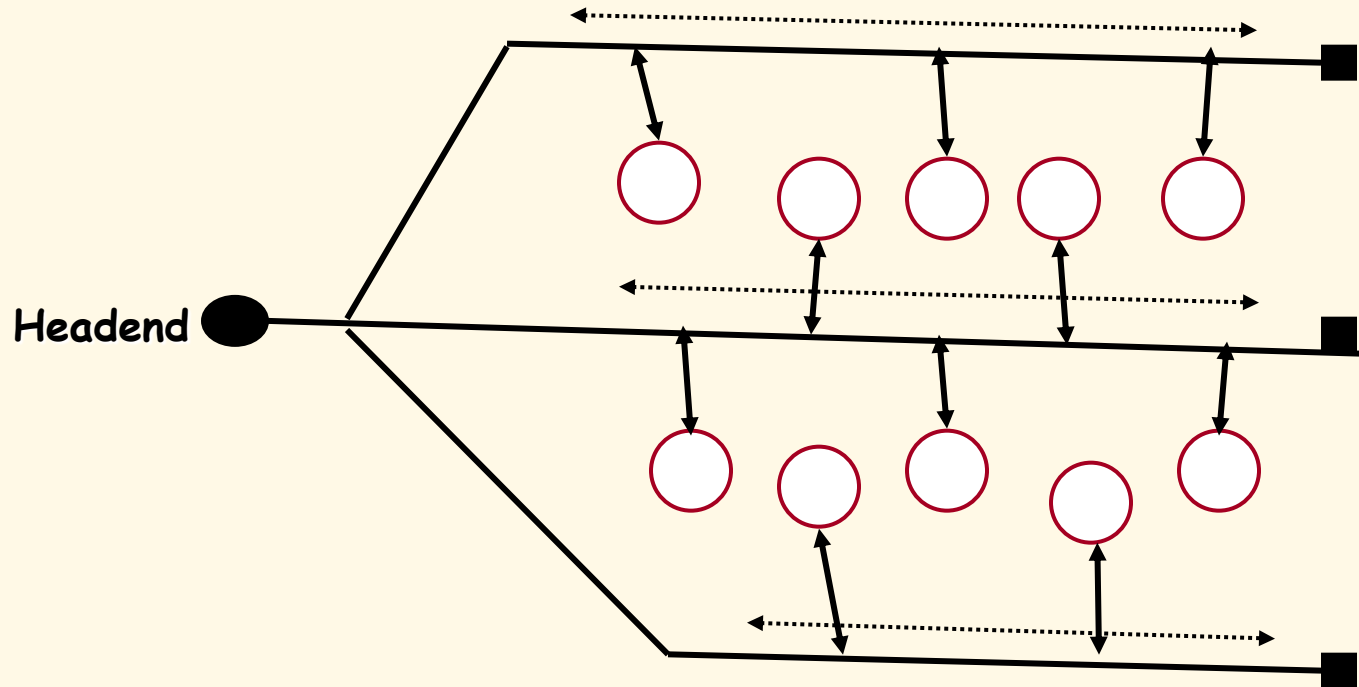
# Network Classification by Topology

Note - A ring implies unidirectional flow.



Ring Topology

# Network Classification by Topology



Tree Topology

# Tree Topology

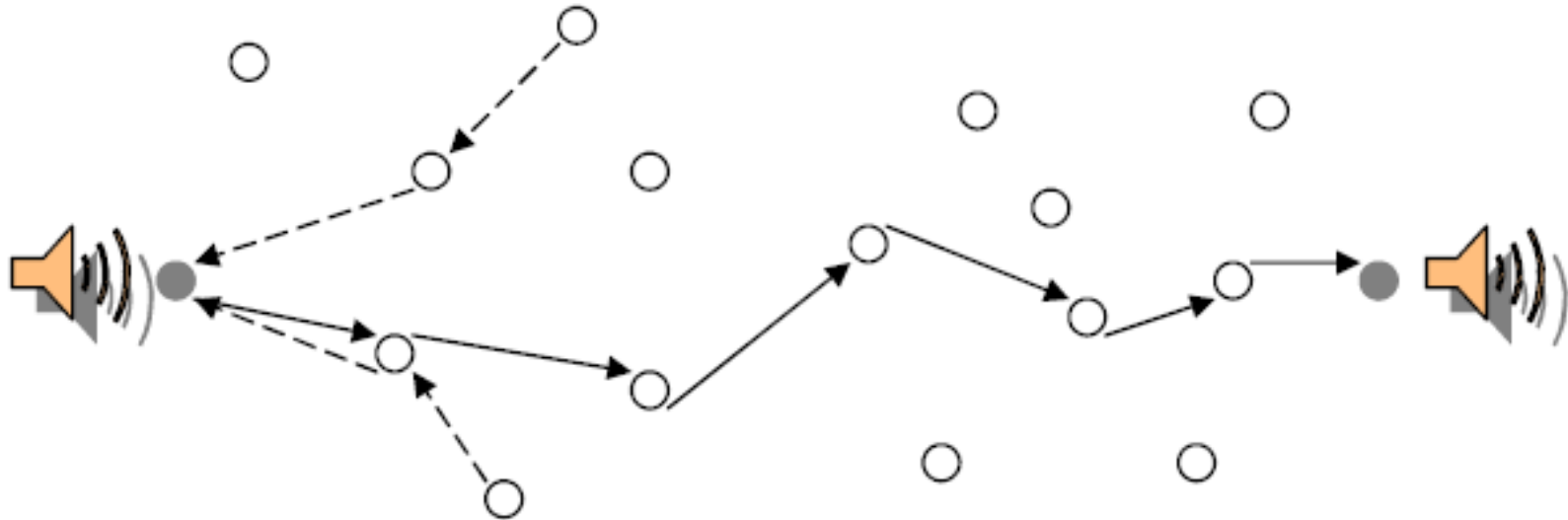
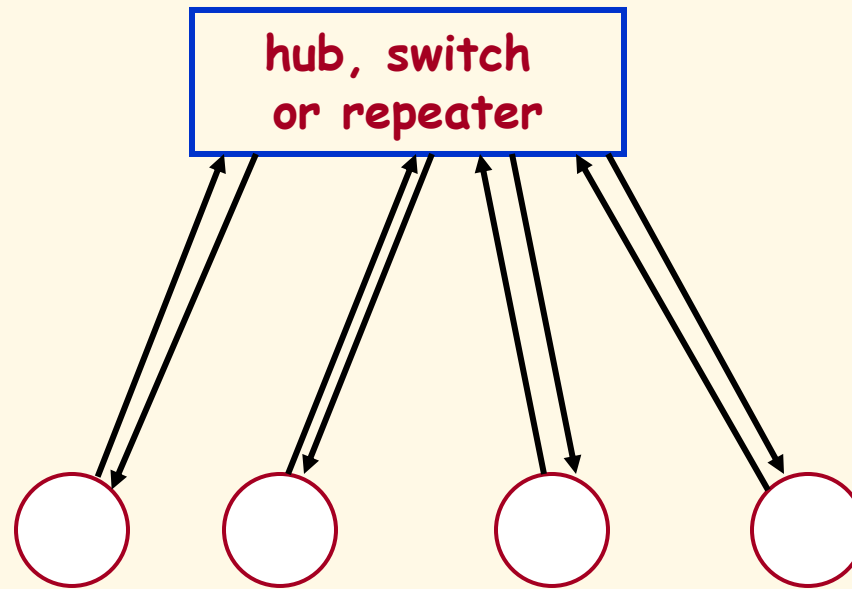


Figure 1: Routing paths for end to end and mote-to-sink.

N. Chohan

WSN end-to-end routing often employs a spanning tree for routing.

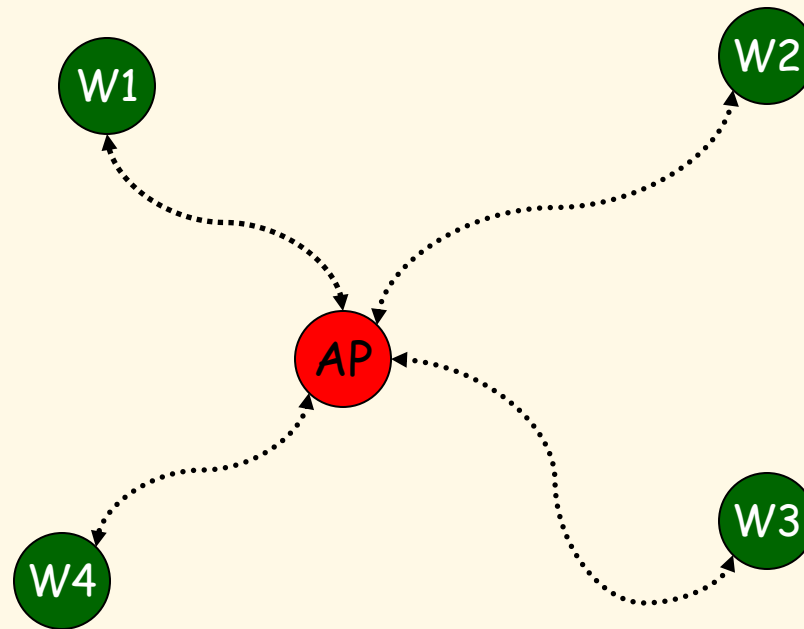
# Network Classification by Topology



Star Topology

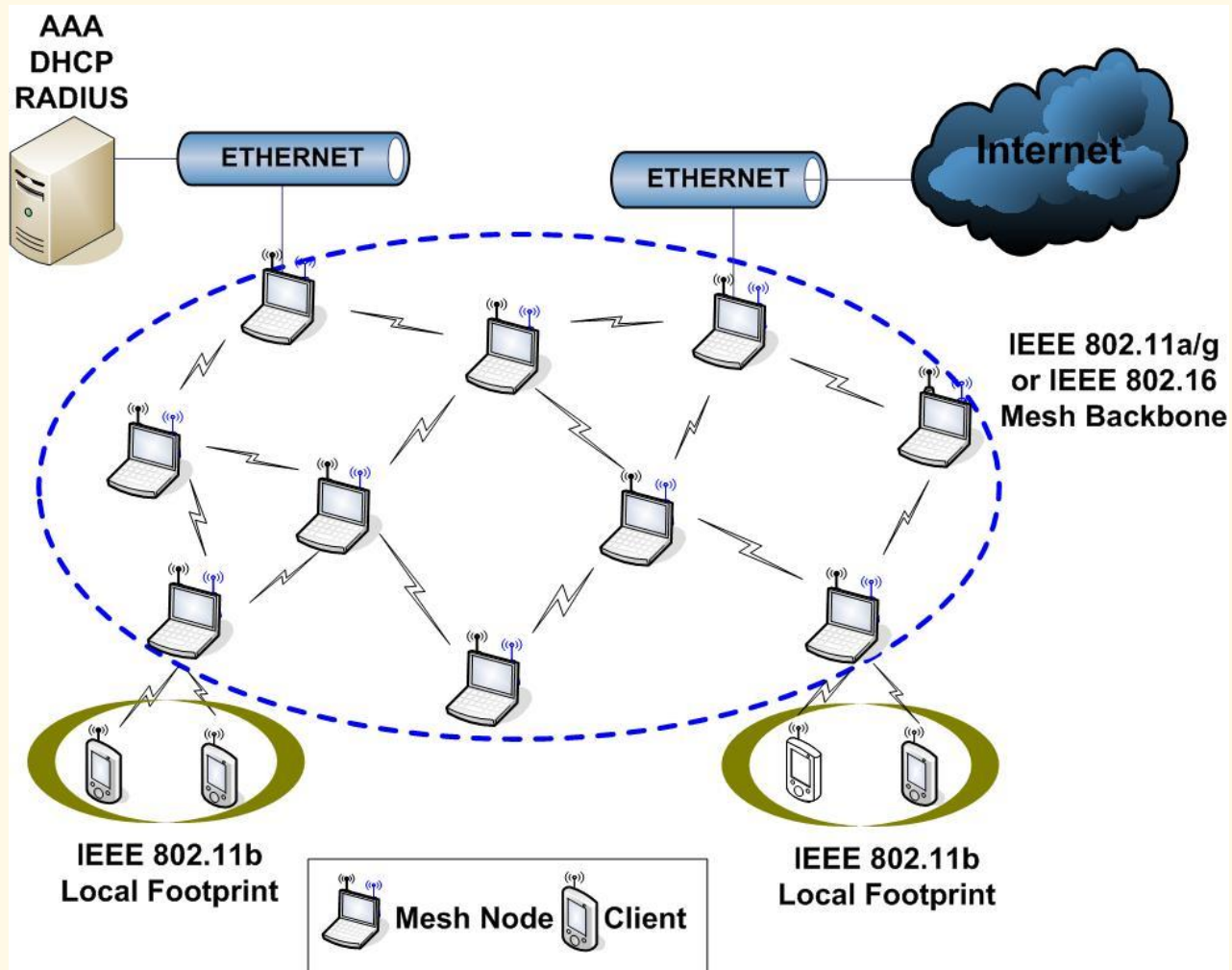
# Network Classification by Topology

Wireless Infrastructure



Star Topology

# Wireless Mesh Network



# Introduction Summary

- Define: network, distributed system, subnet, host, node, flow, channel and link.
- Paradigms: Client-Server, Peer-to-Peer, Wireless and Mobile.
- Classifications and Acronyms:
  - Broadcast, multicast, unicast
  - PAN, LAN, MAN, WAN, WLAN, WSN
  - The Internet versus an internet
  - Hierarchical, bus, ring, tree, star and mesh topology