

# Chapter 1: Introduction to Comm. Eng'g

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**AAiT**

Addis Ababa Institute of Technology

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Addis Ababa University

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Undergraduate Program  
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

# Outlines

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- Introduction to communications
  - Key Evolutions in the world of communications
- Basics of communication technologies
  - Wireless and Wired technologies
- Elements of communication system
  - Channel characteristics
  - Mathematical models of a channel
- Signals and systems – Review
- The Hilbert Transform & Bandpass Signals
- Fundamentals of Analog Transmission



# Introduction to Communication Systems

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- Any means for transmission of information from one point to another using **electrical** systems.
  - This should be done
    - as **efficiently** as possible
    - with as much **fidelity/reliability** as possible
    - as **securely** as possible
- Types of communication systems
  - Wireline and wireless
  - Digital and analog
  - Point-to-point and broadcast
  - Low frequency and high frequency
  - ....
- Examples
  - Telephone, cell phone, TV, Internet, ...



# Key Evolutions in the world of communications

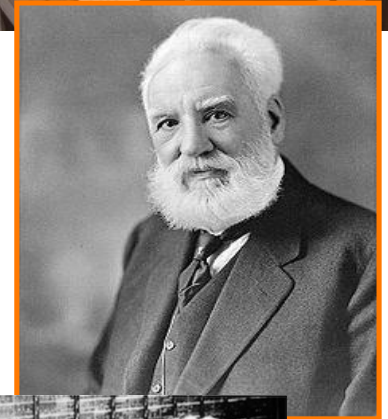
- Telegraph

- 1844, Samuel Morse,
  - “What hath God wrought” transmitted by Morse’s electric telegraph
  - Washington D.C ~ Baltimore, Maryland
  - Morse code : variable-length code (a dot, a dash, a letter space, a word space)



- Telephone

- 1875, Alexander Graham Bell
  - Invented the telephone
- 1897, A. B. Strowger
  - Devised the automatic step-by-step switch
- 28 January 1878:
  - The first commercial US telephone exchange opened in New Haven, Connecticut.



# Key Evolutions in the world of communications...

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- Radio
  - 1864, James Clerk Maxwell
    - Formulated the electromagnetic theory of light
    - Predicted the existence of radio waves
  - 1887, Heinrich Hertz
    - The existence of radio waves was confirmed experimentally
  - 1894, Oliver Lodge
    - Demo : wireless communication over a relatively short distance (150 yards)
  - 1901, Guglielmo Marconi
    - Demo : wireless communication over a long distance (1700 miles)
  - 1906, Reginald Fessenden
    - Conducting the first radio broadcast
  - 1918, Edwin H. Armstrong
    - Invented the superheterodyne radio receiver
  - 1933, Edwin H. Armstrong
    - Demonstrated another modulation scheme ( Frequency modulation)



# Key Evolutions in the world of communications ....

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- Electronics
  - 1904, John Ambrose Fleming
    - Invented the vacuum-tube diode
  - 1906, Lee de Forest
    - Invented the vacuum-tube triode
  - 1948, Walter H. Brattain, William Shockley (Bell Lab.)
    - Invented the transistor
  - 1958, Robert Noyce
    - The first silicon integrated circuit (IC) produce
- Television
  - 1928, Philo T. Farnsworth
    - First all-electronic television system
  - 1929, Vladimir K. Zworykin
    - all-electronic television system
  - 1939, BBC
    - Broadcasting television service on a commercial basis



# Key Evolutions in the world of communications ....

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- Digital Communications

- 1928, Harry Nyquist
  - The theory of signal transmission in telegraphy
- 1937, Alex Reeves
  - Invent pulse-code modulation
- 1958, (Bell Lab.)
  - First call through a stored-program system
- 1960, (Morris, Illinois)
  - The first commercial telephone service with digital switching begin.
- 1962, (Bell Lab.)
  - The first T-1 carrier system transmission was installed
- 1943, D. O. North
  - Matched filter for the optimum detection of a unknown signal in a additive white noise
- 1948, Claude Shannon
  - The theoretical foundation of digital communications were laid



# Key Evolutions in the world of communications ....

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- Computer Networks
  - 1943~1946, (Moore School of Electrical Engineering of the Univ. of Pennsylvania)
    - ENIAC : first electronic digital computer
  - 1950s
    - Computers and terminals started communicating with each other
  - 1965, Robert Lucky
    - Idea of adaptive equalization
  - 1982, G. Ungerboeck
    - Efficient modulation techniques
  - 1950~1970
    - Various studies were made on computer networks
  - 1971
    - Advanced Research Project Agency Network(APRANET) first put into service
  - 1985,
    - APRANET was renamed the Internet
  - 1990, Tim Berners-Lee
    - Proposed a hypermedia software interface to internet (World Wide Web)





# Key Evolutions in the world of communications ....

- Satellite Communications

- 1945, C. Clark
  - Studied the use of satellite for communications
- 1955, John R. Pierce
  - Proposed the use of satellite for communications
- 1957, (Soviet Union)
  - Launched Sputnik I
- 1958, (United States)
  - Launched Explorer I
- 1962, (Bell Lab.)
  - Launched Telstar I



# Key Evolutions in the world of communications ....

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- Optical Communications
  - 1966, K.C. Kao, G. A. Hockham
    - Proposed the use of a clad glass fiber as a dielectric waveguide
  - 1959~1960
    - The laser had been invented and developed



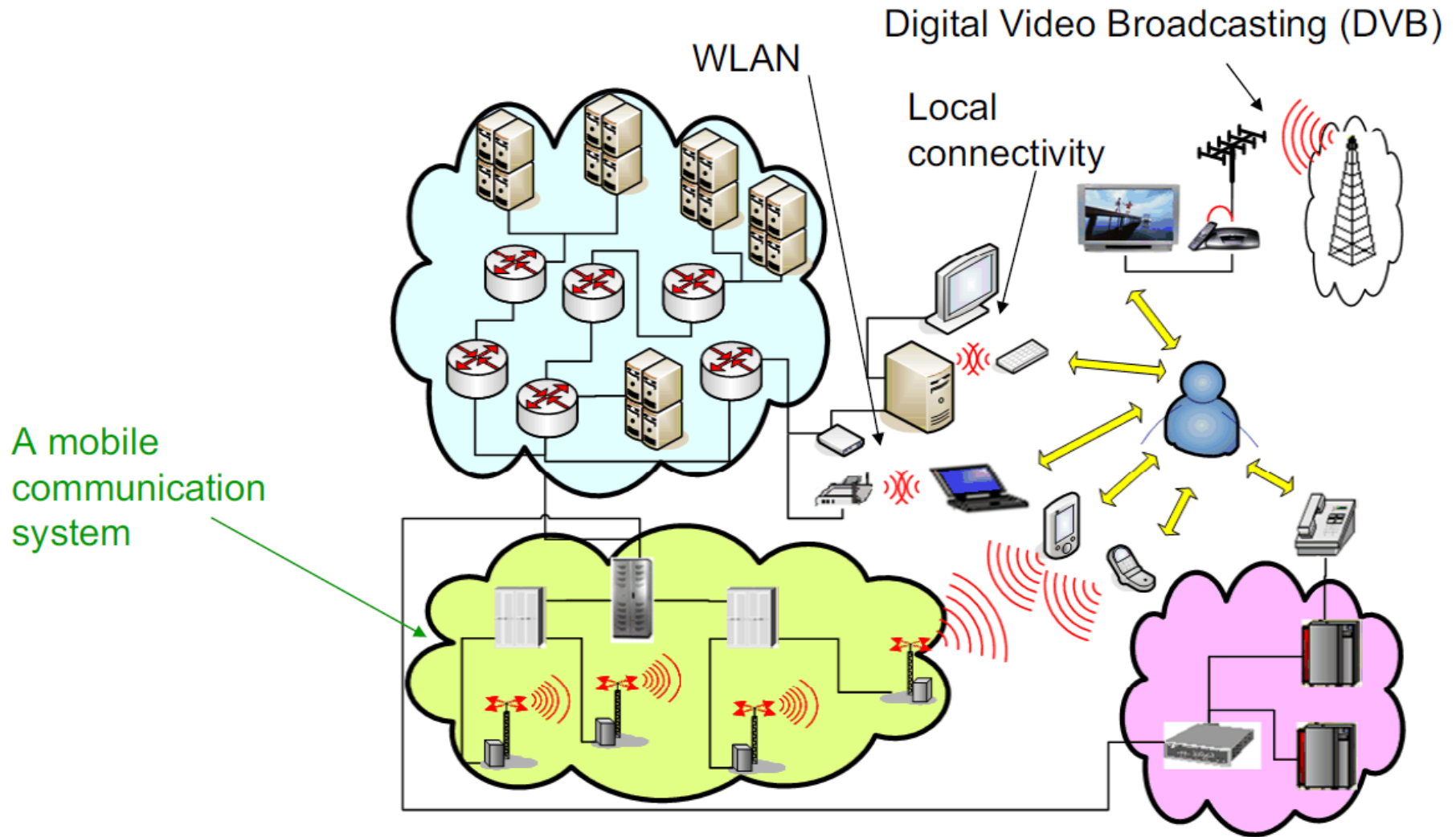
# Outlines

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- Introduction to communications
  - Key Evolutions in the world of communications
- **Basics of communication technologies**
  - **Wireless and Wired technologies**
- Elements of communication system
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# World of telecommunication



# Wired Communication

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- Transmission of data over a wire-based communication technology
  - No mobility
  - Reliable and secure data transmission
  - speed : Higher upload and download rate

## ***Wired Technologies***

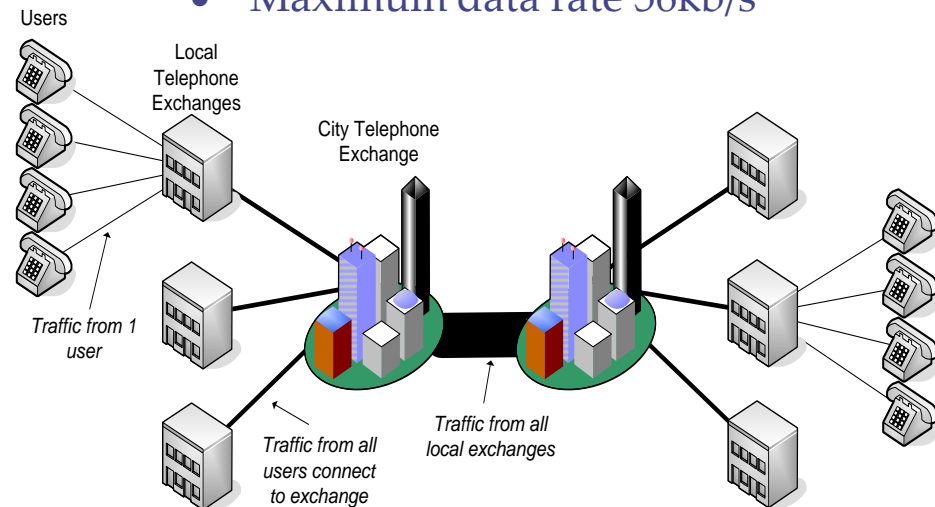


- Telephone Networks:
  - Public Switched Telecommunications Network
  - Digital Subscriber line
- Local Area Network (LAN), Ethernet
- Cable Television

# Telephone Networks

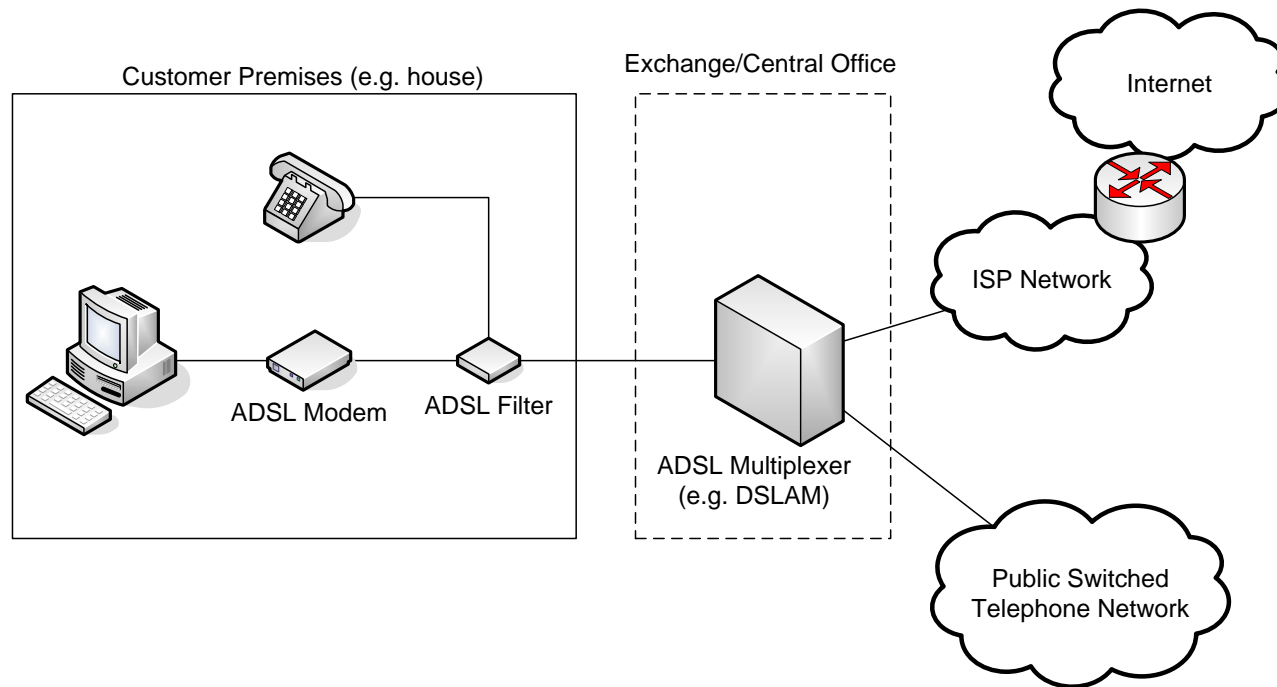
- Public Switched Telecommunications Network: Telephone Networks designed for the transmission of *voice-band Communication*
  - Real-time ; Low latency; High reliability
  - The service delivered to the end user is called the **Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS)**
- Features are :
  - Subscribers can be connected by entering *telephone numbers*
  - Multiple users connect to a local exchange via copper wires and connected in a hierarchy

- Later came *Dial-up access over telephone lines*
  - *Modem* converts digital data from computer into analog signal to be sent over telephone line (instead of analog voice)
    - Telephone system limits bandwidth to 4kHz (although copper cable can carry more)
    - Maximum data rate 56kb/s



# Telephone Networks...

- The need to communicate digital data resulted in the invention of the *Digital Subscriber line (DSL)*
  - Copper line can actually transmit about 1MHz spectrum and DSL technologies make use of most of this (except the 4kHz for voice) to provide higher-speed access to the Internet.
  - Digital signals are sent from home (modem) to exchange (multiplexer)

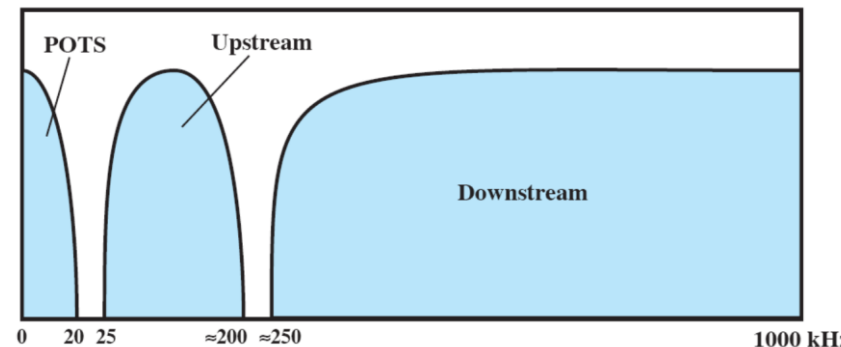


# Telephone Networks...

- *Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL)*
  - Larger bandwidth (and hence data rate) for downstream (exchange to you) than upstream (you to exchange) traffic
    - ADSL Multiplexers (in exchange) can support larger bandwidths on transmission
    - Well suited to many Internet applications, e.g. web browsing, email
  - ADSL can adapt data rate depending on amount of noise on line
    - Lower speeds for longer distances and poor quality copper cables
  - Key Features:
    - Makes use of widely installed telephone network
    - Supports basic voice and video applications

ADSL Example use of copper line spectrum

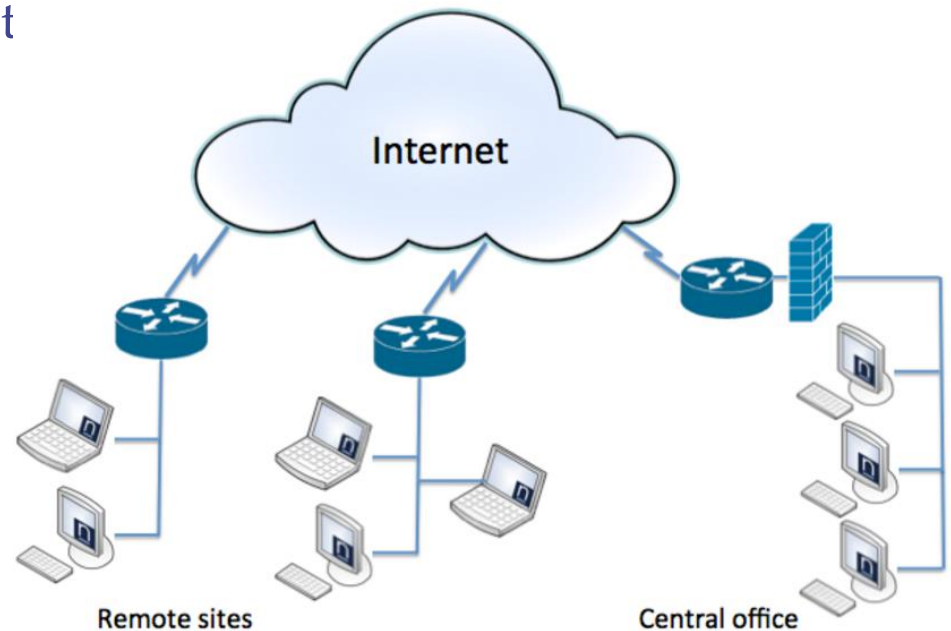
Technology	Speed	Use
HDSL	1.5Mb/s	Alternative of T1/E1
SHDSL	5.6Mb/s	Home/business
VDSL	100Mb/s	FTTC





# Wired LAN: thernet

- Operate in a limited geographical area
- Allow multiple access to high-bandwidth media
- Control the network privately under local administrative control
- Provide full time connectivity to local services
- Connect physically adjacent devices
- Provide up to Gbps connect
- WLAN, Internet



# Wireless and Mobile Networks

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- Wireless means transmitting signals using open space (atmosphere)
  - Mobility ; Reachability; Roaming Services
- Advances in wireless technology
  - *Radio & television broadcasting , Satellite communications, wireless networking (WiFi, Zegbi, IRFD), cellular technology*
- No. wireless (mobile) phone subscribers now exceeds No. wired phone subscribers
- No. wireless Internet-connected devices equals No. wireline Internet-connected devices
  - laptops, Internet-enabled phones promise anytime untethered Internet access



# Advantages and Disadvantages of wireless communication

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- Advantages:

- Mobility
- A wireless comm. network is a solution in areas where cables are impossible to install (e.g. hazardous areas, long distances etc.)
- Easier to maintain

- Disadvantages:

- Has security vulnerabilities
- High costs for setting the infrastructure
- Unlike wired comm., wireless comm. is influenced by physical obstructions, climatic conditions, interference from other wireless devices

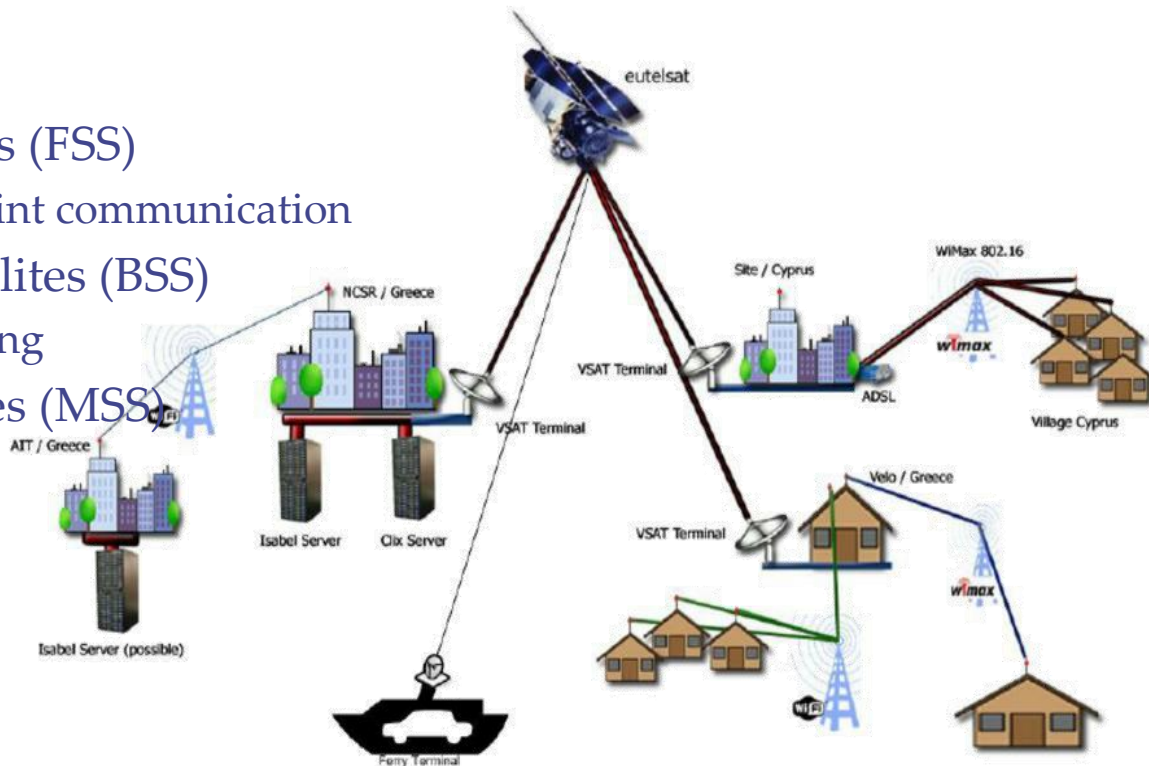


# Satellite Communication

- The devices using satellite technology to communicate directly with the orbiting satellite through radio signals.
  - Covers a very large area.
  - consists of a space segment and a ground segment.

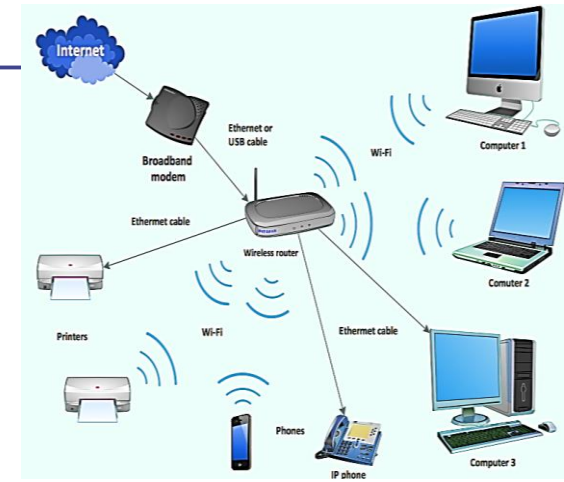
- Types:

- Fixed Services Satellites (FSS)
  - Used for point to point communication
- Broadcast Service Satellites (BSS)
  - Radio/Tv broadcasting
- Mobile Service Satellites (MSS)
  - Satellite Phones

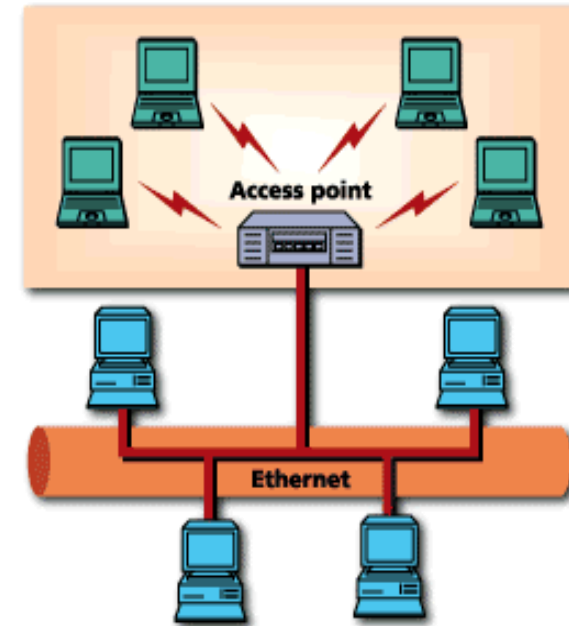


# IEEE 802.11 Wireless LAN:WIFI

- The last link with the users is wireless, to give a network connection to all users in a building or campus.
- There is a need of an access point that bridges wireless LAN traffic into the wired LAN.
- The access point (AP) can also act as a repeater for wireless nodes, effectively doubling the maximum possible distance between nodes.
- Most wireless LAN products operate in *unlicensed radio bands*
  - 2.4 GHz is most popular
  - Available in most parts of the world
  - No need for user licensing



**Network Infrastructure**



# Applications

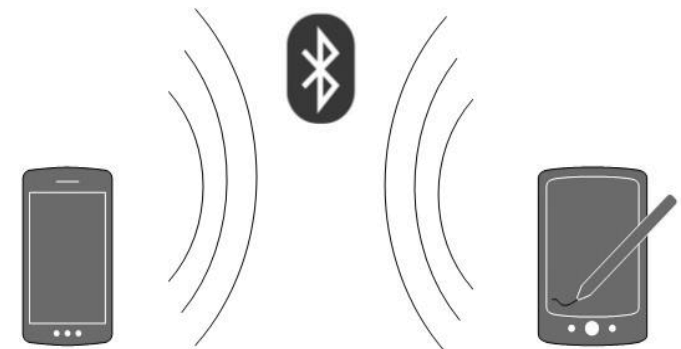
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- Building-to-building connections
- Video, audio conferencing/streaming video, and audio
- Large file transfers, such as engineering CAD drawings
- Faster Web access and browsing
- High worker density or high throughput scenarios
  - Numerous PCs running graphics-intensive applications



# Wireless Network Technologies...

- IEEE 802.15.1 Wireless Personal Area Network technology : Bluetooth
  - *Coverage Area*: less than 10 m diameter
    - replacement for cables (mouse, keyboard, headphones)
  - *Ad hoc*: No infrastructure
  - 2.4-2.5 GHz radio band
  - Throughput: up to 3Mbps



# Architecture

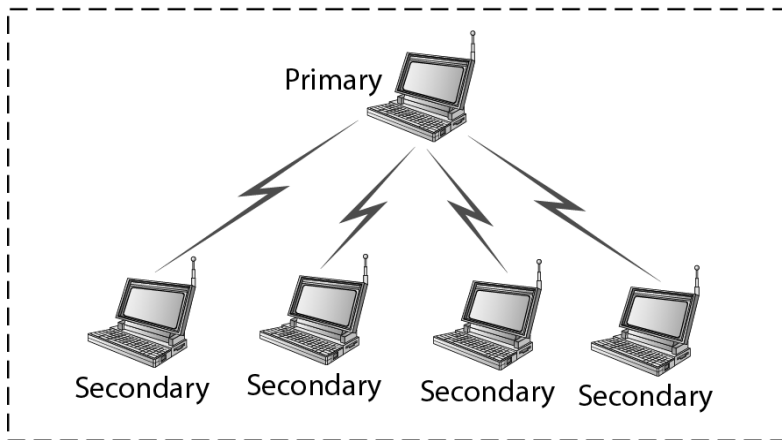
- *Piconet*

- A piconet can have up to eight stations, one of which is called the primary; the rest are called secondary's.

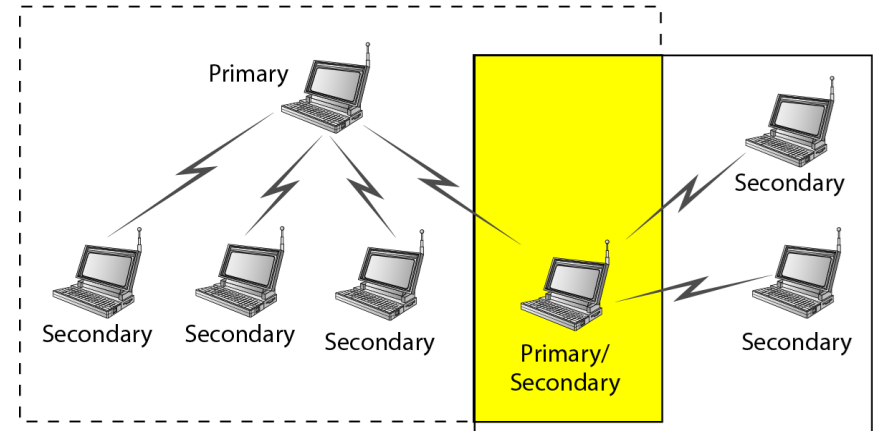
- *Scatternet*

- A secondary station in one piconet can be the primary in another piconet
- receive messages from the primary in the first piconet (as a secondary) and, acting as a primary, deliver them to secondary's in the second piconet.

Piconet



Piconet



Piconet



# Wireless Network Technologies...

- IEEE 802.15.4 for Low-Rate WPAN (LR-WPAN) : Zigbee
  - Low-to-medium bit rates
  - Moderate delays without too strict requirements
  - Low cost, low energy consumption
- Applications
  - Home automation and security systems
  - Smart metering
  - Wireless data collection

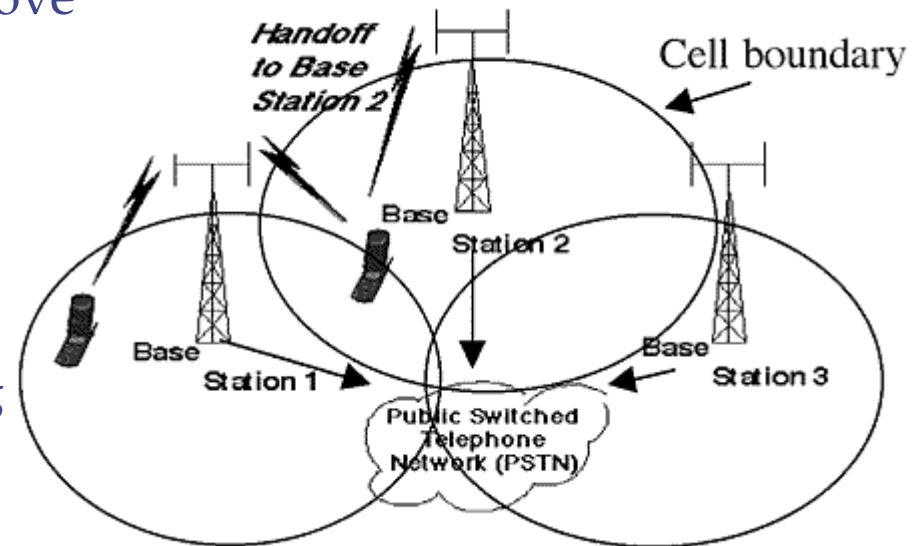


# Cellular Network

- Base stations transmit to and receive from mobiles at the assigned spectrum
  - Multiple base stations use the same spectrum (spectral reuse)
- Each mobile terminal is typically served by the 'closest' base stations
  - The service area of each base station is called a cell
  - Handoff when terminals move

- Applications:

- mobile Internet access;
- voice/video over IP;
- data collection and monitoring



# Cellular Networks

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- It is useful to think of cellular Network/telephony in terms of *generations*:
  - **1G**: First generation wireless cellular: Early 1980s
    - Analog transmission, primarily speech: AMPS (Advanced Mobile Phone Systems)
  - **2G**: Second generation wireless cellular: Late 1980s --- **GSM**
    - Digital transmission
    - Primarily speech and low bit-rate data (9.6 Kbps)
  - **2.5G**: 2G evolved to medium rate (< 100kbps) data
  - **3G**: *High-speed* digital cellular telephony (including *video telephony*)
    - 144 kbps - 384 kbps for high-mobility, high coverage
    - 2 Mbps for low-mobility and low coverage
    - **WCDMA, HSPA, HSPA+**
  - **4G** : IP-based “anytime, anywhere” voice, data, and multimedia telephony at *faster* data rates than 3G --- **LTE**
    - Wireline capability evolution ; Need for additional wireless capacity
    - Need for lower cost wireless data delivery
    - Competition of other wireless technologies (WiMax)



# With 5G Era

- **What we can expect in the 5G era**

- Cisco....“By 2025, there will be an estimated 100 billion connected devices in the industrialized world. Each person will have 10–12 connected devices.”

## Enhancing mobile broadband

Ushering in the next era of immersive experiences and hyper-connectivity



**Extreme throughput**  
multi-gigabits per second

**Ultra-low latency**  
down to 1ms e2e latency

**Uniform experience**  
with much more capacity

## Connecting the massive Internet of Things

Optimizing to connect anything, anywhere with efficient, low cost communications



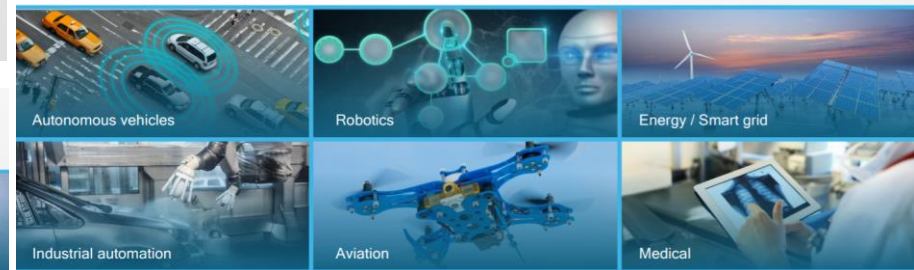
**Power efficient**  
Multi-year battery life

**Low complexity**  
Low device and network cost

**Long range**  
Deep coverage

## Enabling new mission-critical control services

With ultra-reliable, ultra-low latency communication links



**High reliability**  
Extremely low loss rate

**Ultra-low latency**  
Down to 1ms e2e latency

**High availability**  
Multiple links for failure tolerance & mobility



# Outlines

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# Elements of Communication Systems

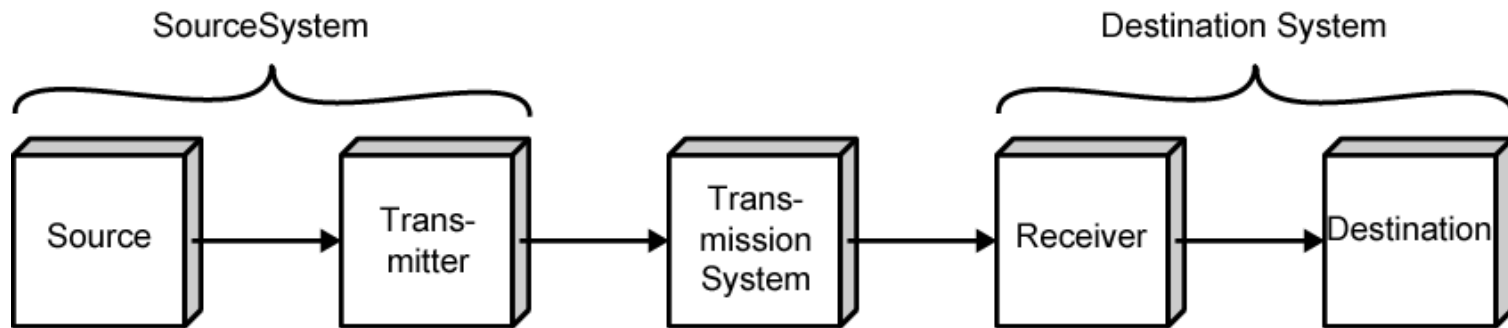
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- How do you model communication systems ?



# Elements of Communication System

- High-level block diagrams



(a) General block diagram



(b) Example

# Elements of Communication System

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- Source
  - Generates information (speech, video, text, data, etc. )
- Transducer
  - Transforms source output into electrical signal (e.g., microphone) and back (at Rx end)
- Three major parts
  - Transmitter (Tx)
  - Channel
  - Receiver (Rx)





# Transmitter

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- Converts electrical signal into a form **suitable** for transmission through the channel (physical medium)
  - The transducer output signal cannot, in most cases, be transmitted directly (does not match the channel)
  - Transmitter converts message to a suitable form
- Conversion is made through **modulation**
  - Amplitude (AM), frequency (FM) and phase (PM)
  - Examples: AM and FM radio broadcast
- Other functions: Filtering, amplification, radiation
  - Intended recipient of the message signal



# Receiver

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- Main function: to **recover** the message from the received signal
  - Somewhat **inverse** of the transmitter function
- **Demodulation**: Inverse of the modulation
- Operates in the presence of noise and interference
  - Hence, some distortions are unavoidable
- Some other functions: filtering, suppression of noise and interference



# Transmission Media (Channel)

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- *Physical medium* over which the information will be transmitted from the transmitter to the receiver
- Characterized by
  - Physical properties                      Bandwidth
  - Signaling method(s)                      Sensitivity to noise
- *Wireline channels* : a *guided medium* over which the information will be transmitted from the transmitter to the receiver
- *Wireless Channels*: an *unguided medium* where information transmission is via electromagnetic waves from antenna to antenna.

# Selecting the Transmission Media/Channel

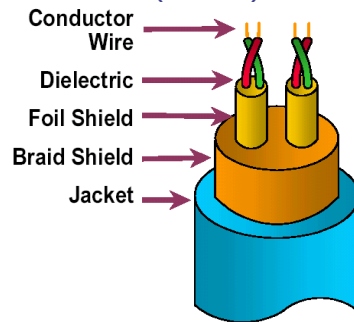
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- What is amount of *traffic* to be distributed?
- What is the *cost* we can afford?
- What is the *interference* environment?
- Point-to-point or *networking* usage?
- Capability to transfer power (for instance for repeaters)?
- Often the first selection is done between
  - Wired & Wireless
- Often one can consider if *digital* or *analog* message is to be transmitted
  - analog PSTN takes 300-3400 kHz
  - digital PCM takes 64 kbit/s
  - digital, encoded GSM speech only 13 kbit/s
  - what is the adequate compression level?

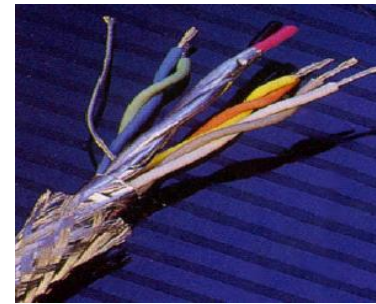


# Wireline channels: Twisted pair

- Comes in two flavors:
  - Shielded (STP) / Unshielded (UTP)

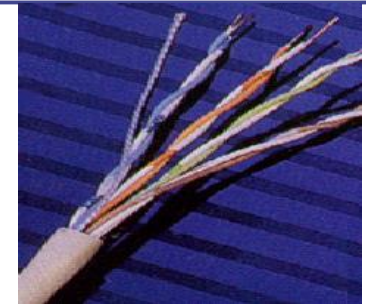


structure



STP-cable

- larger attenuation
- higher rates
- more expensive



UTP-cable

- more sensitive to interference
- easy to install and work with
- example: 10BaseT Ethernet

- Twisting reduces interference, and crosstalk (antenna-behavior)
- Applications
  - Connects *data* and especially *PSTN local loop* analog links (Intra-building telephone from wiring closet to desktop )
  - In old installations, *loading coils* added to improve quality in 3 kHz band, resulting more attenuation at higher frequencies (ADSL ⚡ )
  - *STP* used especially in *high-speed transmission* as in token ring-networks.

# Twisted pair - UTP categories in LANs

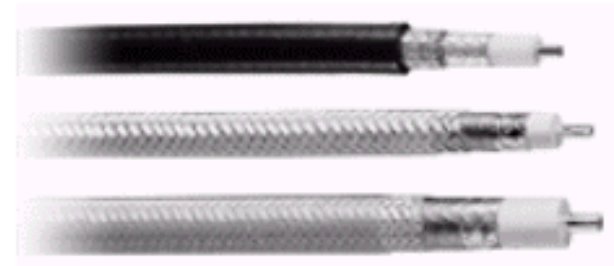
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- **Category 1:** mainly used to **carry voice** (telephone wiring prior to 1980). Not certified to carry data of any type.
- **Category 2:** used to carry data at rates up to 4Mbps. Popular for older Token-passing ring LANs using **4Mbps** specs (IEEE 802.5). Rated bandwidth 4MHz.
- **Category 3:** known as voice grade. Used primarily in older **Ethernet 10base-T LANs** (IEEE 802.3). Certified to carry **10Mbps** data. 16Mhz. 3-4 twists/feet.
- **Category 4:** primarily used for token-based or 10Base-T. 20MHz.
- **Category 5:** most popular Ethernet cabling category. Capable of carrying data at rates up to **100 Mbps (Fast Ethernet, IEEE 802.3u)** and used for 100 base-T and 10base-T networks. Rated to **100 MHz**. 3-4 twists/inch.
- .....

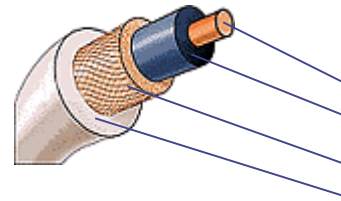


# Wireline channels: Coaxial cables

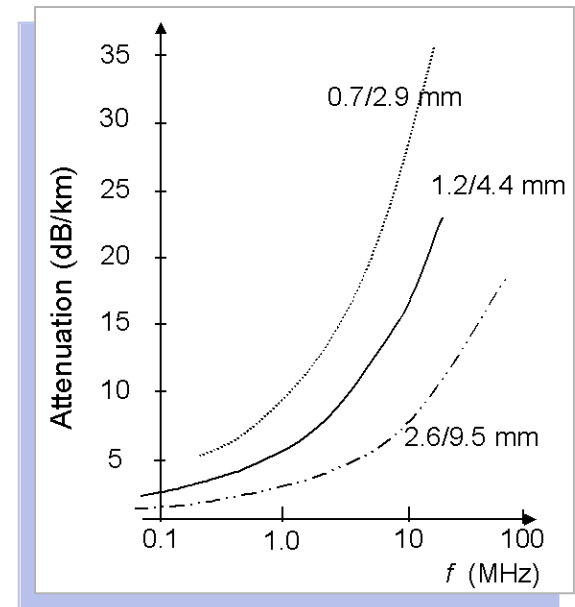
- Mechanics
  - Cylindrical braided outer conductor surrounds insulated inner wire conductor
- Properties
  - Well shielded structure -> immunity to external noise
  - High bandwidth, up to Ghz-range (distance/model)
- Applications
  - RG- 59 :CATV (Cable TV networks)
  - RG -58 :Ethernet LANs
  - RG – 11 :Earlier a backbone of PSTN



practical structures

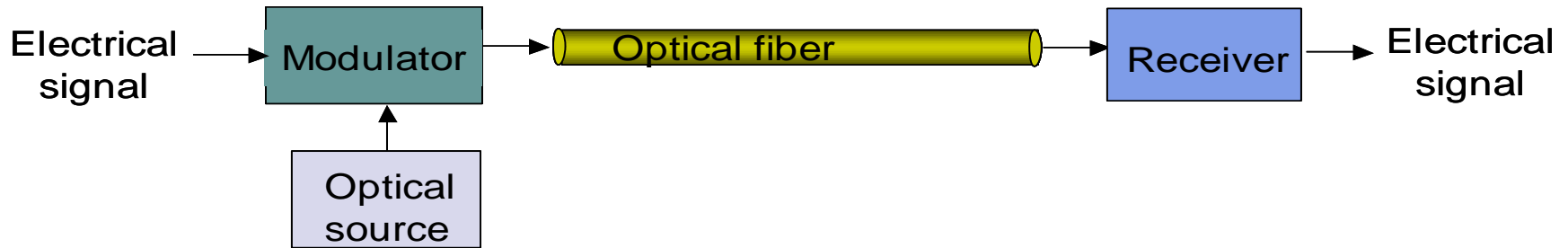


Center conductor (copper)  
Dielectric material  
Braided outer conductor (metal mesh)  
Outer cover



# Wired channels: Optical Fiber

*Source :A. Leon-Garcia, I. Widjaja: Communication Networks (instructors slide set)*



- Light sources (lasers, LEDs) generate pulses of light that are transmitted on optical fiber
  - Very long distances (>1000 km)
  - Very high speeds (>40 Gbps/wavelength)
  - Nearly error-free (BER of  $10^{-15}$ )
- Profound influence on network architecture
  - Dominates long distance transmission
  - Distance less of a cost factor in communications
  - Plentiful bandwidth for new services



# Optical Fiber Properties

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## Advantages

- ***Very low attenuation***
- ***Noise immunity***
- ***Extremely high bandwidth***
- Security: Very difficult to tap without breaking
- No corrosion
- More compact & lighter than copper wire

## Disadvantages

- New types of optical signal impairments & dispersion
  - Polarization dependence
  - Wavelength dependence
- Limited bend radius
  - If physical arc of cable too high, light lost or won't reflect
  - Will break
- Difficult to splice
- Mechanical vibration becomes signal noise



# Channel parameters

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- Characterized by
  - Attenuation [dB/Km], transfer function
  - impedance [ $\Omega$ ], matching
  - bandwidth [Hz], data rate
- *Noise* is the unwanted and beyond our control waves that attenuates the transmission of signals.
  - *Shot noise*: the electrons are discrete and are not moving in a continuous steady flow, so the current is randomly fluctuating.
  - *Thermal noise*: caused by the rapid and random motion of electrons within a conductor due to thermal agitation.  
(*Thermal Noise Power =  $KB.T.BW$* )
- *Interference*: cross-talk - leakage power from other users
- Channel parameters are a function of frequency, transmission length, temperature ...



# Radio (Wireless) Communication Channels

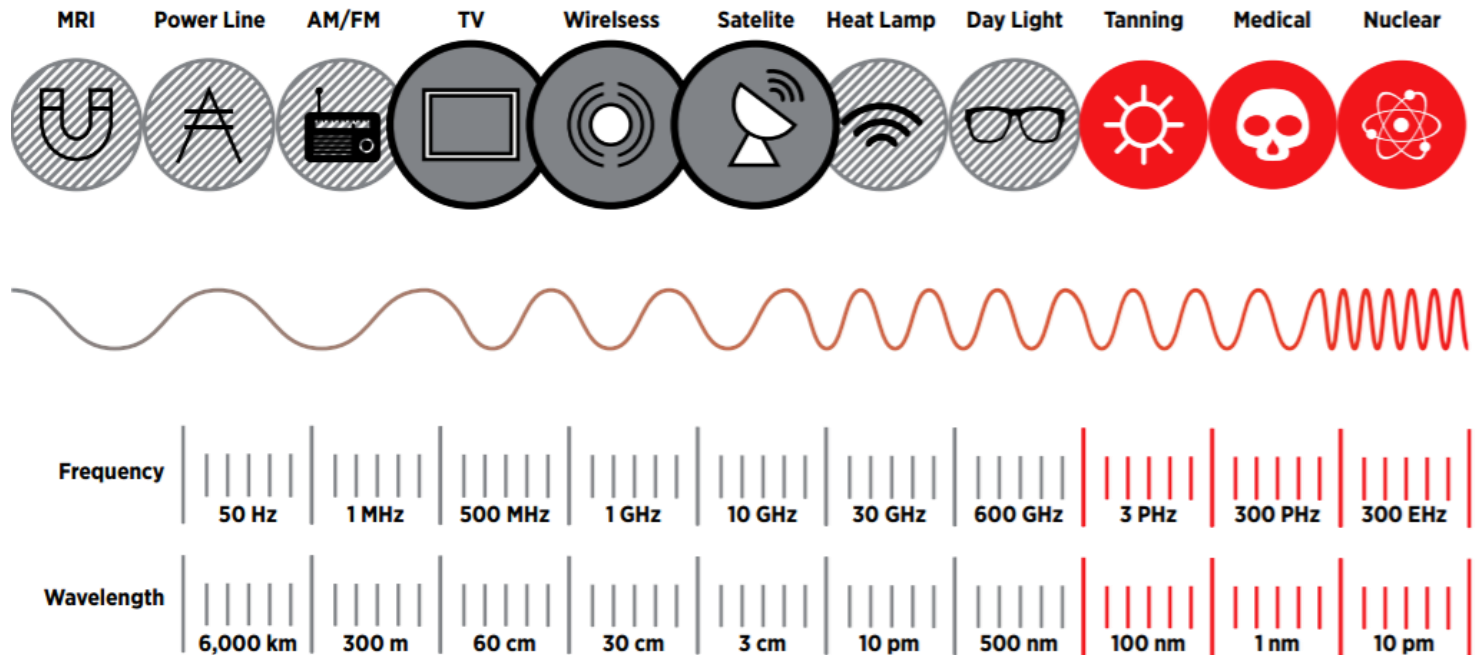
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- Unguided *electromagnetic wave*, radiated by the Tx antenna, is a carrier of the signal
- Strong **signal attenuation**
  - Up to 200 dB
  - Hence, high Tx power is required
- Antennas are required
  - Size of antenna: Comparable with wavelength



# What is Radio Spectrum?

- One portion of the entire *electromagnetic spectrum* whose frequency is low compared to others such as optical waves, X-rays or Gamma rays (9Khz -300GHz)
  - carry information wirelessly for a vast number of services ranging from television and radio broadcasting, mobile phones and Wi-Fi to communications systems for the emergency services, baby monitors, GPS and radar.



# Quiz. 1

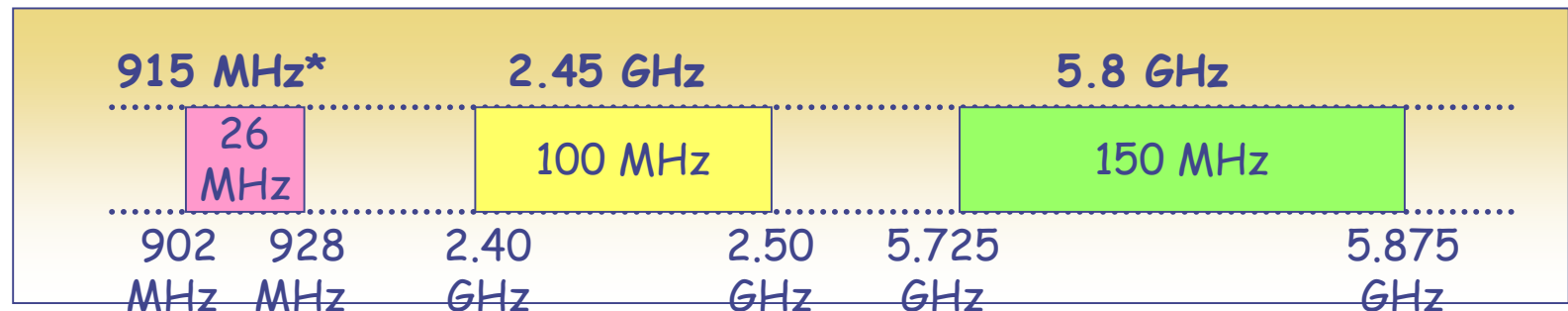
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- Explain the basic blocks communication system.
- Briefly explain the three advantages of wireless media.



# Electromagnetic Spectrum

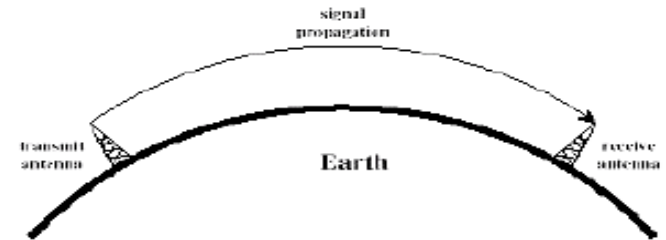
- Government **regulations** make specific ranges of the electromagnetic spectrum available for communication
- A **license** is required to operate transmission equipment in some parts of the spectrum
  - Some parts are **unlicensed**
    - Industrial, Scientific, and Medical frequency bands
    - Tx output power @ 1 watt



# Radio Wave Propagation Modes

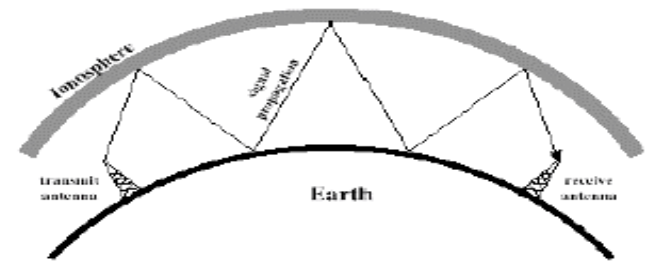
## 1. Ground Wave Propagation

- Follows contour of the earth Can Propagate considerable distances
- *Frequencies up to 2 MHz*
  - *Example : AM radio*



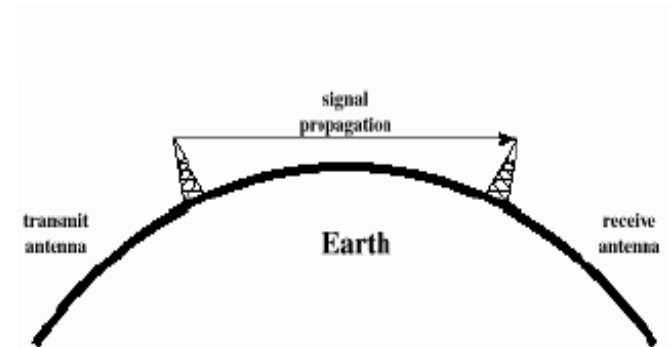
## 2. Sky Wave Propagation

- Signal reflected from ionized layer of atmosphere. Signal can travel a number of hops, back and forth
- *Examples SW radio*



## 3. Line-of-Sight Propagation

- Transmitting and receiving antennas must be within line of sight
- *Example: Satellite communication; Ground communication*



# Wireless Link Characteristics .... propagation

- Key characteristic for spectrum is its propagation through a media.
- Radio signal propagation is impacted by
  - Spreading and attenuation, absorption, reflection, diffraction, refraction and interference
  - All are *frequency dependent*
  - Different frequencies are best for different applications

Band	Frequency
HF	3 – 30 MHz
VHF	30 – 300 MHz
UHF	300 – 1000 MHz
L	1 – 2 GHz
S	2 – 4 GHz
C	4 – 8 GHz
X	8 – 12 GHz
Ku	12 – 18 GHz
K	18 – 27 GHz
Ka	27 – 40 GHz
V	40 – 75 GHz
W	75 – 110 GHz
mm	110 – 300 GHz



# Wireless Link Characteristics .... propagation

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- *Lower Frequencies.*

- Generally the “pros” of lower frequencies are that :
  - Better propagation, i.e., the radio waves travel farther.
  - Better in-building penetration (easier to pass through objects such as walls with less attenuation).
- The main “con” is that the ability of the radio waves to travel farther and through objects can be a negative when capacity is the goal (i.e. these characteristics inhibit spectrum reuse)

- *Higher Frequencies.*

- Generally the “pros” of higher frequencies are that they:
  - Allow for greater capacity by providing more contiguous bandwidth and have fewer incumbency issues.
  - Support frequency reuse because the radio waves do not travel as far as lower frequencies.
- The “con” is that to provide the same amount of coverage as for low band spectrum more infrastructure must be deployed, increasing infrastructure costs.



# Wireless Link Characteristics .... (Cont....)

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- These factors restrict the
  - Range
  - Data rate
  - Reliability of the wireless transmission.
  
- The extent to which these factors affect the transmission depends upon
  - The *environmental conditions* and
  - The *mobility* of the transmitter and receiver

# Goal of Communications Engineer

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- To design transmitters and receivers that are
  - Cost efficient
  - Bandwidth efficient
    - Maximum information transfer (message at sink is a faithful representation of the source message)
  - Power efficient (uses as little power as necessary)
- Many of the above goals are contrary to one another
  - For example, one way to improve message **fidelity** at the receiver is to increase **transmit power**
  - Therefore, **tradeoffs** are required