## Packet Switching

- Not all nodes connected to each other
- Need Switches
- Packet Switches
- Enable packets to go from one host to another that is not directly connected



## Switch: Multi-input Multi-output



## Switches: Functions

- Receive incoming packets on incoming ports
- Forward on to outgoing ports
- Not forward all traffic
- Switch must have aggregate capacity
- Help build large networks


## Switches: Functions

- Switching
- Connectionless (datagram)
- Using destination address in packet consult forwarding table to decide how to forward packet
- Connection oriented (virtual circuit)
- First establish a circuit from source to destination
- Then forward packets on this circuit
for switching
Switch 2

| Destination | Port |
| :---: | :---: |
| a | 3 |
| b | 0 |
| c | 3 |
| d | 3 |
| e | 2 |
| f | 1 |
| g | 0 |
| h | 0 |

## Bridges and LAN Switches


a node acts as a filter


- Bridge is also a switch


## Source Routing Bridges

- Sender knows the location of destination address
- LAN number, Bridge number
- Example:
- H11 on LAN1 wants to talk to H21 on LAN3
- Route packets LAN1, B3, LAN2, B4
- Each LAN has a unique number and each bridge on a LAN has a unique number


## Source Routing



Entire route from source to destination in packet header

## Virtual Circuit Switching

- host a wants to communicate with b



## VC Tables

- An incoming interface
- An incoming virtual circuit identifier (VCI) for incoming packet
- An outgoing interface
- An outgoing virtual circuit identifier (VCI) for outgoing packet
- New Connection
- Assign VCI not in table
- Incoming VCI and outgoing VCI not globally unique


## Setting up VCs

- Dynamic setting up of VC
- Setup message all the way from a to $b$ and back
- Choose unused VCI 4 a to S1
- Choose VCI 10 from S1 to S2
- Choose VCI 6 from S2 to S3
- Choose VCI 4 from S3 to b
- When connection not required - tear down connection, free VCI, switches updated
- Other VCs
- Permanent - set by network administration
- Temporary - setup for duration of connection


## VC Tables

- VC Tables setup before data transmission
- VC Table S1:

| - | In IF | In VCI | Out IF |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - Out VCI |  |  |  |
| - | 3 | 4 | 2 |

## VC Switching Issues

- Delays due to circuit setup
- Connection request full destination address
- Switch or link failure
- New one has to be established again
- Route known before data being sent
- Requires flow control


## VC Switching Advantages

- QoS guarantees
- Switches set aside resources
- Generally queues do not build up
- Since traffic is delay sensitive
- Examples: X.25, Frame Relay (VPN), ATM

