

# Packet switching and routing - how data travels across a network

S.P.I.R.I.T

- ✓ Self-management
- ✓ Perseverance

Monday, 04 April 2022

## Learning Intention

### **To develop knowledge** by

Understanding that data travels across networks as a packet

### **To secure understanding**

Explaining the process of packet switching including advantages and disadvantages

### **To achieve excellence** by.

Describing methods of routing packets across a network, including multi routing techniques



### **Packet**

*A collection of data that is transmitted over a packet-switched network*

### **Tier 2 word -Reassembled**

*Put something back together again*

# Packets

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## What is a packet?

- A packet is a collection of data that is transmitted over a packet-switched network.
- Each packet of data is redirected by a computer system along the network, until it arrives at its destination.

**To develop knowledge** by  
Understanding that data travels  
across networks as a packet



Write that down!

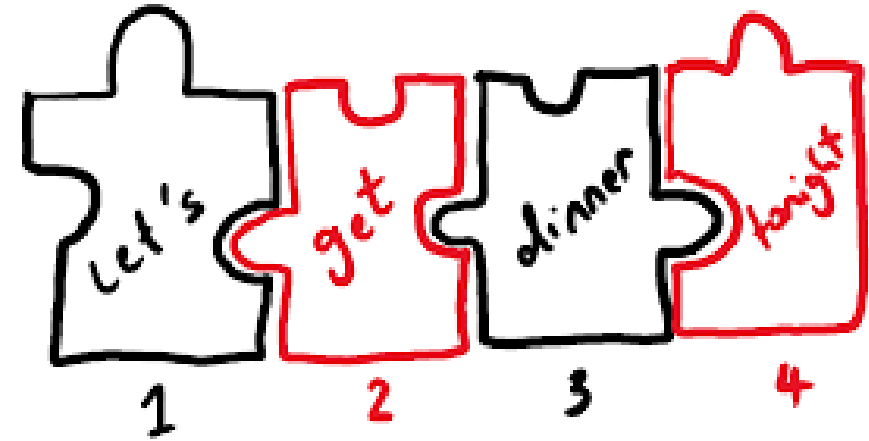


# Packets

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- Data may be split up into a number of packets.
- These packets are transmitted over a network and may take different routes to their destination.



- When all the packets have arrived, the data is reassembled.



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# Starter



1. Draw the following diagram and label it as TCP/IP Packet:
2. Leave space around your diagram and Annotate each part of the packet

**Source:**

*Where the packet came from*

The source address	The destination address
Information which enables the data to be reassembled into its original form	
Other tracking information	
The data itself	A checksum that checks that the data has not been corrupted

**Destination:**

*Where is it going to*

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\*Annotation = A note or comment to explain a diagram

# Packet switching

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- [Watch the video https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zr3yb82/revision/7](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zr3yb82/revision/7)
  - Packet switching is the ***process of delivering packets from one computer system to another*** using a designated device, such as a *switch* or a *router*.
  - Packets are provided to a network for ***delivery to a specified destination***.
  - Each packet of data is redirected by a computer system along the network, until it ***arrives at its destination***.
  - The Internet is an example of a packet-switching network.

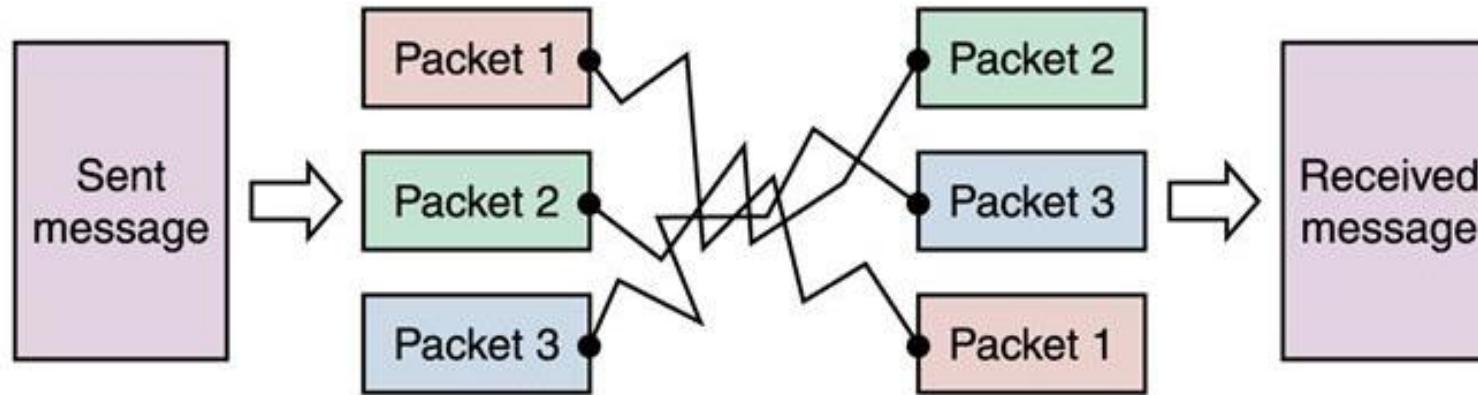
**To secure understanding** Explaining the process of packet switching including advantages and disadvantages



# Packet Switching

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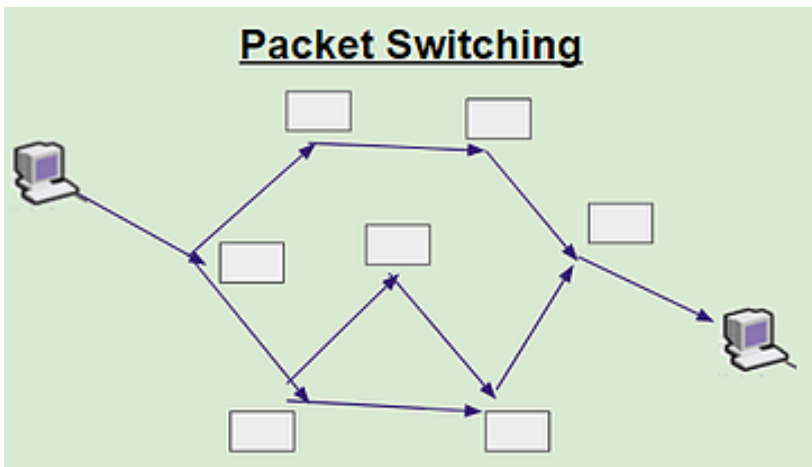


**Figure 15.4**  
Messages sent by packet switching

Message is divided into packets

Packets are sent over the Internet by the most expedient route

Packets are reordered and then reassembled



***To secure understanding*** Explaining the process of packet switching including advantages and disadvantages

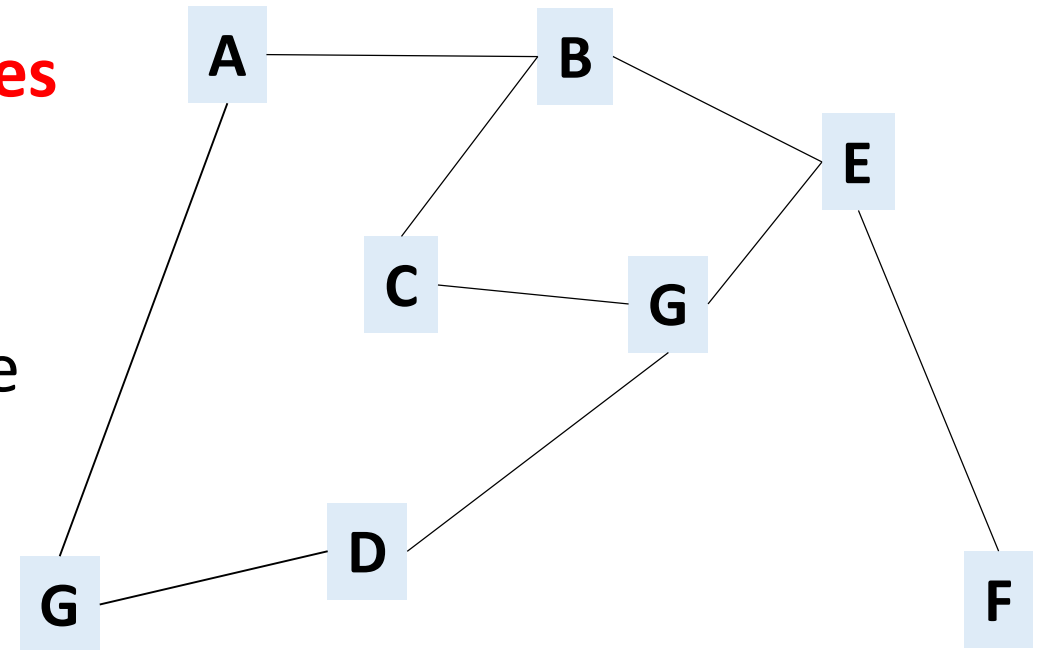
# Routing

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When routing, networks will search for **the shortest path** and the **fastest nodes** to transfer data.

Together the path between nodes and the speed of the nodes are assessed by the device transmitting data.



**Computers will look for** the route with the **lowest cost** (that is the shortest path and fastest nodes) and transmit data via this lowest cost route.

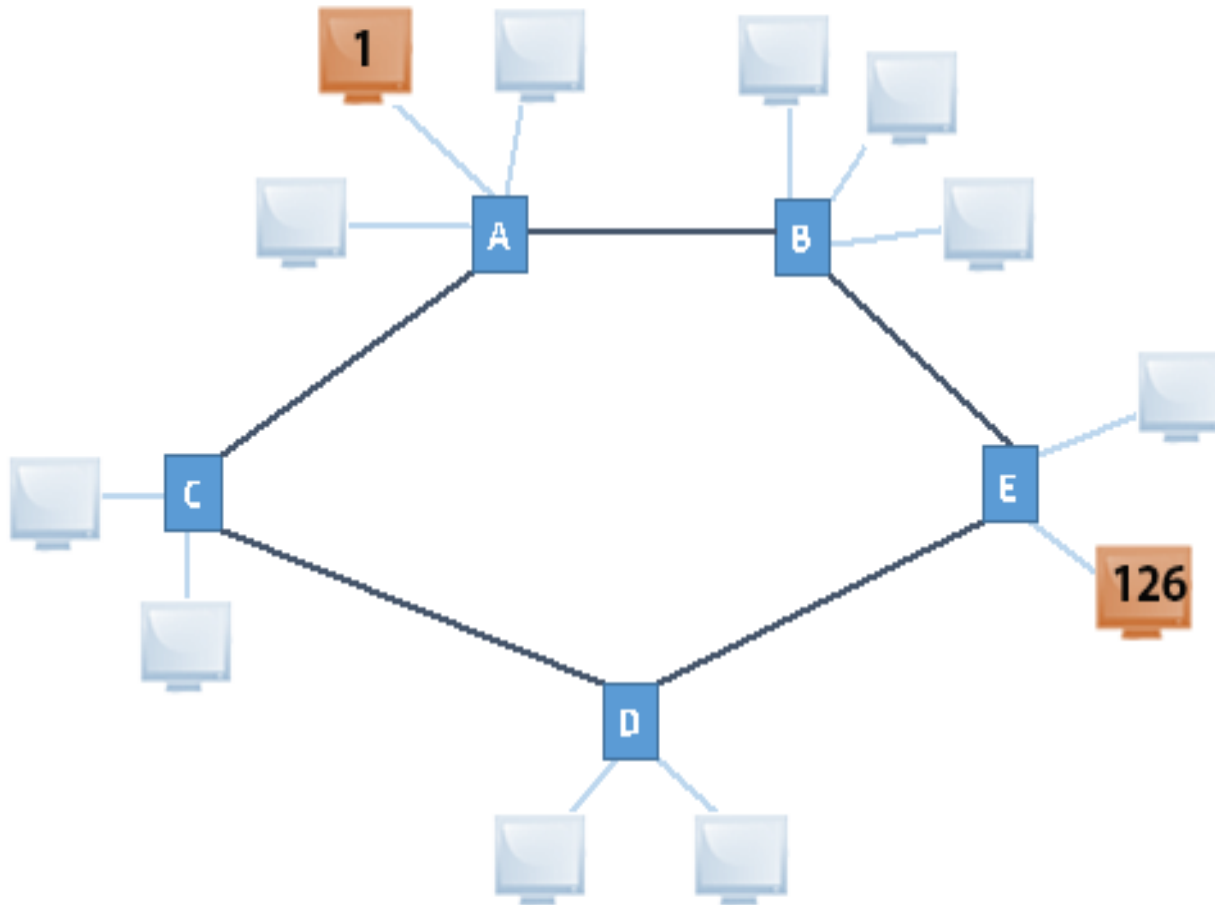
**To achieve excellence by.** Describing methods of routing packets across a network, including multi routing techniques

# Routing

## [5.1.a Routing.swf](#)

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Computer system 1 is sending a packet to computer system 126.

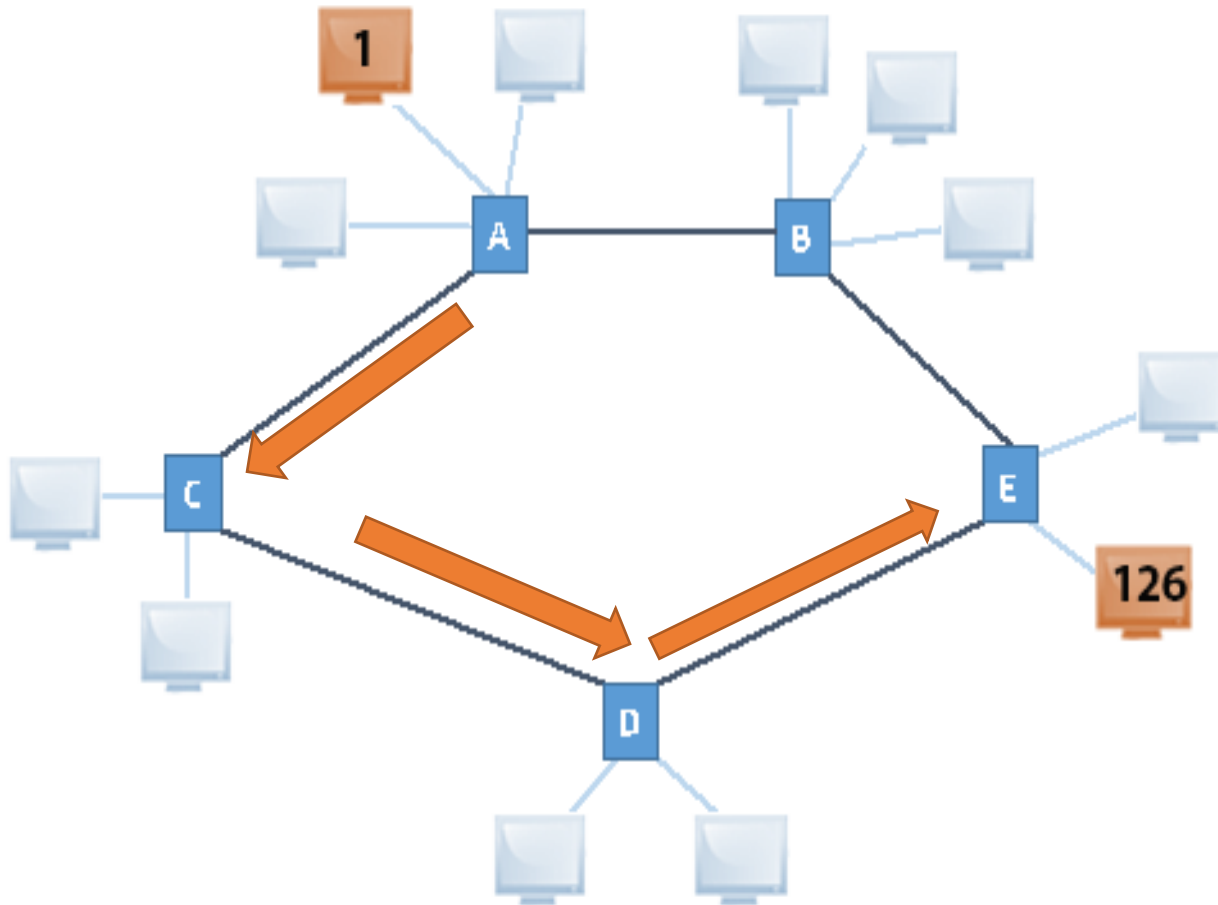


- The **quickest route** between computer 1 and 126 is from router A, on to router B followed by router E for delivery to computer system 126.
- This path would be determined by routing, using a routing table.
- Most routers work in this way and use only one network time



# Multipath routing

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- Enables **the same packets** to be sent using **multiple alternative paths at the same time**.
- So if ***Router B fails*** in the example, **the same packet would also have been sent via the alternative longer route** to ensure that the packet arrives at its destination.

# Test Route

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**Example:** When you open [www.universityofcalifornia.edu](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu) the route the packets take are as follows:



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P:\>tracert universityofcalifornia.edu

Tracing route to universityofcalifornia.edu [104.130.103.222]  
over a maximum of 30 hops:

1	2 ms	3 ms	5 ms	10.134.40.1
2	145 ms	2 ms	2 ms	10.134.32.50
3	1 ms	1 ms	1 ms	10.130.5.42
4	2 ms	2 ms	6 ms	10.129.254.134
5	3 ms	1 ms	3 ms	10.129.254.133
6	2 ms	1 ms	1 ms	10.120.224.21
7	2 ms	2 ms	4 ms	router2.net.bgfl.org [80.249.52.11]
8	2 ms	4 ms	2 ms	router1.net.bgfl.org [80.249.52.10]
9	8 ms	8 ms	8 ms	62.8.124.9
10	15 ms	15 ms	15 ms	ge-0-0-7-scr010.thn.as13285.net [78.144.3.22]
11	9 ms	9 ms	9 ms	host-78-144-13-30.as13285.net [78.144.13.30]
12	9 ms	8 ms	9 ms	81.25.207.241
13	11 ms	10 ms	9 ms	ae-6.r22.london03.uk.bb.gin.ntt.net [129.250.4.20]
14	80 ms	82 ms	80 ms	ae-5.r24.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net [129.250.2.18]
15	82 ms	83 ms	81 ms	ae-1.r25.nycmny01.us.bb.gin.ntt.net [129.250.2.207]
16	105 ms	105 ms	106 ms	ae-1.r20.chcgil09.us.bb.gin.ntt.net [129.250.2.166]
17	101 ms	100 ms	100 ms	ae-6.r05.chcgil09.us.bb.gin.ntt.net [129.250.2.190]
18	99 ms	101 ms	100 ms	ae-0.rackspace.chcgil09.us.bb.gin.ntt.net [157.238.64.42]
19	*	*	*	Request timed out.
20	101 ms	101 ms	100 ms	be42-corea.ord1.rackspace.net [50.56.6.165]
21	100 ms	101 ms	105 ms	corea-core2.ord1.rackspace.net [184.106.126.127]
22	101 ms	100 ms	101 ms	f5-3-2-core4.ord1.rackspace.net [50.56.6.87]
23	114 ms	124 ms	220 ms	104.130.103.222

Within School

Birmingham

London

New York

Chicago

Place that hosts site

Trace complete.

# Task

[http://www.teach-ict.com/technology\\_explained/packet\\_switching/packet\\_switching.html](http://www.teach-ict.com/technology_explained/packet_switching/packet_switching.html)

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1. Ensure packet diagram is complete

**Answer the following questions in FULL sentences.**

1. Draw a diagram to represent packet switching
2. Describe packet switching
3. Add 2 advantages and 2 disadvantages of packet switching

## Routing

1. Use a diagram to help explain the process of routing

## **THINK IT:**

*Add additional information about how **multi routing techniques** would affect the transmission of packets*

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