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Packet Switching

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These notes are intended for internal distribution only.

PACKET SWITCHING

- PUBLIC / PRIVATE DATA NETWORK
- PSDN - AN INSTRUMENT FOR PUBLIC POLICY, BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT.
- PSDN -- SWITCHING, LEASED LINE
- DESIGN FOR DIFFERENT KIND OF USERS & TERMINALS
 - synchronous / Asynchronous, Packet Mode
 - interworkability
 - CCITT standards

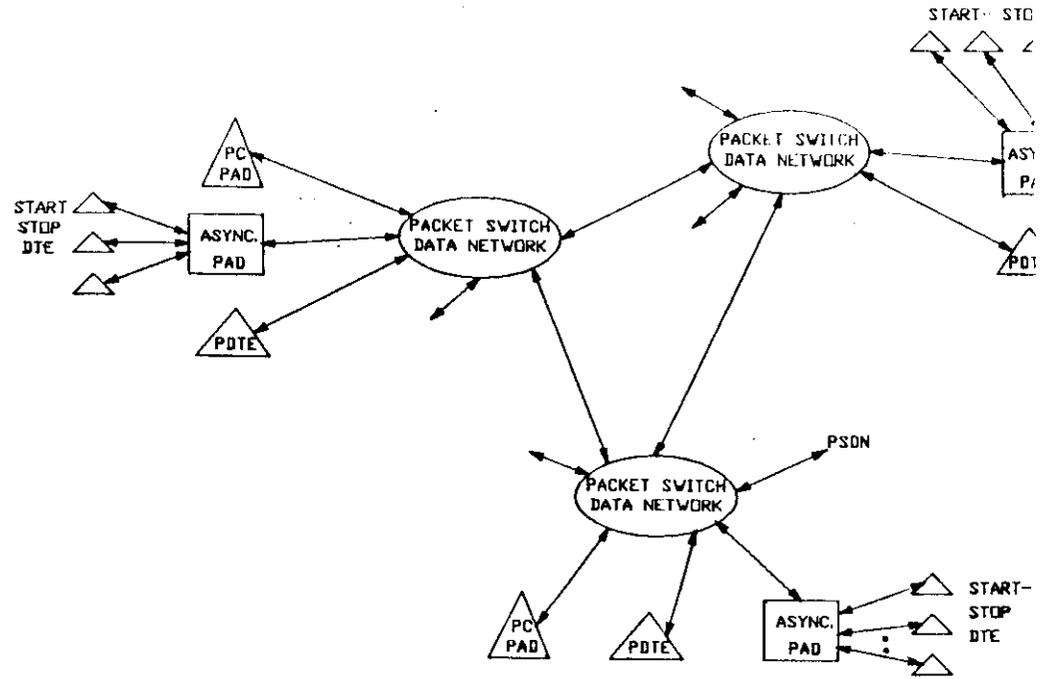


FIG.1 : PACKET SWITCHED DATA NETWORK

DIGITAL SWITCHING

- CIRCUIT SWITCHING
- MESSAGE SWITCHING
- PACKET SWITCHING

CIRCUIT SWITCHING

- SWITCHING AS IN TELEPHONE NETWORK
- CIRCUIT ESTABLISHED FROM ONE SUBSCRIBER TO ANOTHER
- CIRCUIT BEING HELD FOR DURATION OF CALL

MESSAGE SWITCHING

- MESSAGES - MOVED FROM NODE TO NODE
- MESSAGE SWITCH AT A NODE
- STORE AND FORWARD MECHANISM.

PACKET SWITCHING

- MESSAGES - BROKEN INTO LIMITED SIZE PACKETS
- TRANSMITTED SEPARATELY THROUGH THE NETWORK
- PACKETS - RECONSTITUTED FOR MESSAGES.

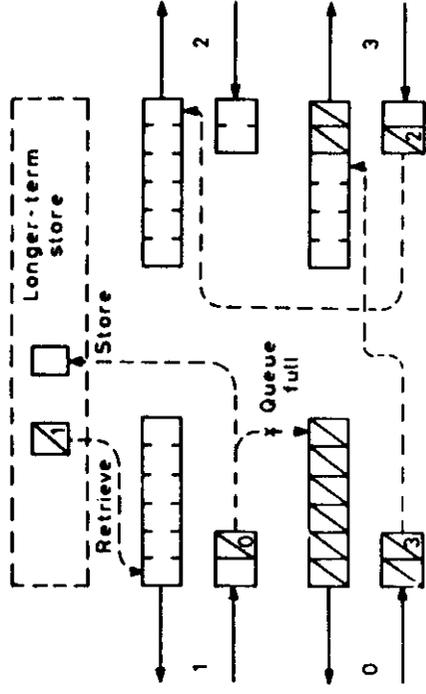


Figure 2.5 Queuing system of a message switch

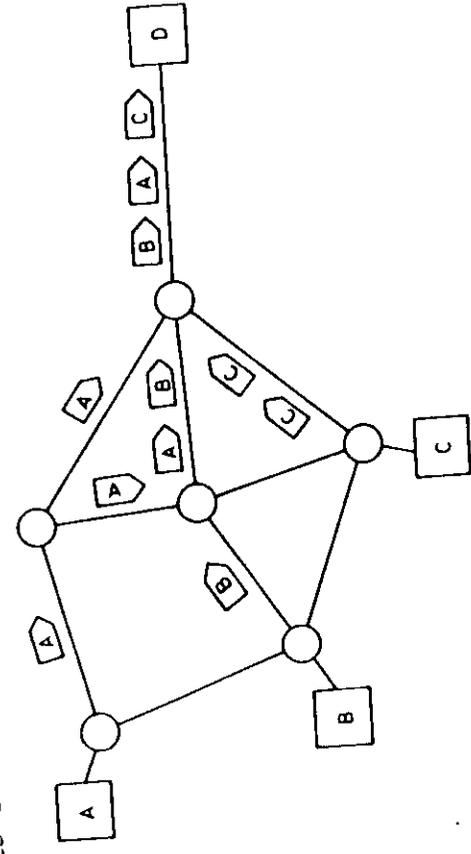


Figure 2.8 Packet switched network as a demand multiplexer

| CIRCUIT SWITCHING | MESSAGE SWITCHING | PACKET SWITCHING |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Equivalent of a direct connection between subscribers</p> <p>Real time interaction possible</p> <p>Messages are not stored</p> <p>Call held for entire transaction</p> <p>Delay in call set up & delay in transmission</p> | <p>No direct electrical connection</p> <p>Two slow for real-time interaction</p> <p>Messages are filed for later retrieval</p> <p>Route established for individual message</p> <p>substantial delay in message delivery</p> | <p>No direct electrical connection.</p> <p>Fast enough for real time interaction</p> <p>Messages are stored until delivered but not filed.</p> <p>Route for every packet</p> <p>less delay in call set up moderate delay in packet delivery</p> |

| CIRCUIT SWITCHING | MESSAGE SWITCHING | PACKET SWITCHING |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Prone to over load</p> <p>Blocking</p> <p>No effect on established connection</p> <p>Speed of messages - end user responsibility</p> <p>Speed or code version</p> <p>nominal with low traffic volume</p> | <p>- increase delivery delay</p> <p>Network Responsibility</p> <p>Can do speed and code conversion</p> <p>moderate traffic</p> | <p>increased delivery delay (short) blocking on saturation.</p> <p>Some protection - end user protection. ab</p> <p>can do</p> <p>High traffic volume.</p> |

Advantages of Packet Switching

- Two different aspects
 - switching & Routing
 - storage & message manipulation by interface computer.

switching & Routing

- fast response time
- High availability due to distributed routing
- High speed burst & low speed requirement can be handled.
- no blocking except when the network storage is entirely flooded.

Advantages of interface computer

- protocol converters
- buffering enables different speed computer.
- End to end protection against error and message loss.
- the network technique is can be made transparent to the host computer.

cost

- High speed lines are needed. to meet large burst, fast response time etc.
- distributed network are needed for reliability criteria
- Hence, expensive but attractive for high volume
- Telenet charges \$0.60 for 1000 packets access port charges \$0.9 to \$1.4 / hour.

TERMINALS

- Packet switch meant for bursty traffic
- Not suited for simple terminals
- Terminal handler / protocol converters.
- packet mode terminals (PDT)
- need for PAD, & PAD characteristics
- PC based PADs.

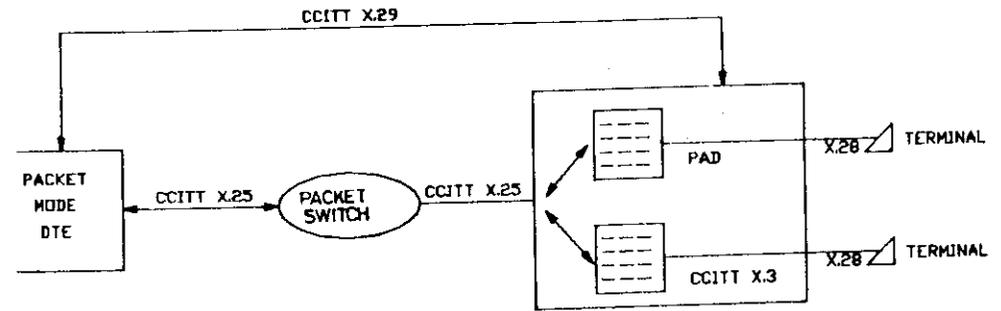


FIG. 3: PACKET ASSEMBLER & DISASSEMBLER

Basic Functions of PAD

- Assembly of characters from the terminal into packets for the PDTE
- Disassembly of packets into characters for start-stop terminals.
- setting up, interrupting, reset up and clearing of virtual calls.
- generation of service signals for the character terminal
- Forwarding of packets on buffer full, time out etc.

Objectives

- Single entity
- Well defined simple interface to user
- Transparent to user
- Rapid and reliable delivery of packets:

Design Features

• NETWORK STRUCTURE

- usually mesh structure
- Distributed connection
- more fault tolerant & reliable
- Node & sub node concept for minimum disturbance.

Addressing & Routing

- Packet header has destination address - forms the specification of route.
- Routing decision at node
- Routing table with failure node and alternative routing node.
- small network - collection of alternative route stored.
- Adaptive method of calculating routing table is generally followed.

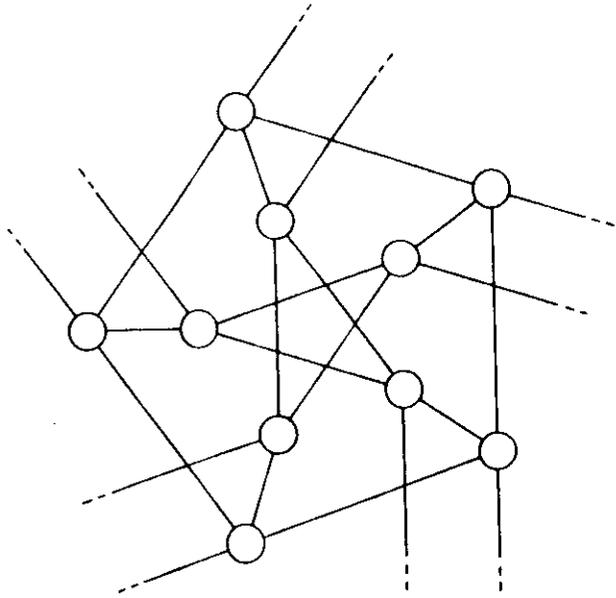
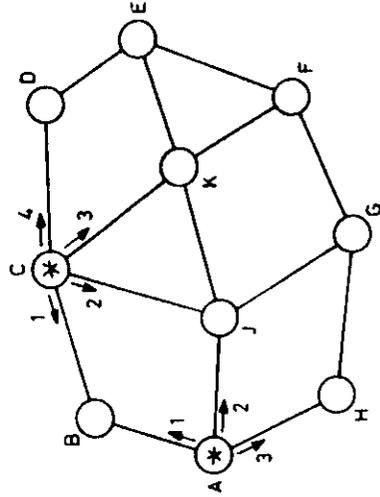


Figure 2.10 Internal structure of a multiple node



Routing table at A Routing table at C

| Destination | Route | Alternative |
|-------------|-------|-------------|
| B | 1 | 2 |
| C | 1 | 2 |
| D | 2 | 1 |
| E | 2 | 1 |
| F | 3 | 2 |
| G | 3 | 2 |
| H | 3 | 2 |
| J | 2 | 3 |
| K | 2 | 3 |

| Destination | Route | Alternative |
|-------------|-------|-------------|
| A | 1 | 2 |
| B | 1 | 2 |
| D | 4 | 3 |
| E | 4 | 3 |
| F | 3 | 4 |
| G | 2 | 3 |
| H | 2 | 1 |
| J | 2 | 3 |
| K | 3 | 2 |

Figure 2.11 Examples of routing tables

FLOW CONTROL

- store and forward enables terminals with different speed.
- Flow of data packets from sender mismatches with receiver.
- Good design is full utilisation of full capacity without congestion.

MESSAGE ASSEMBLY

- Message divided to packets, which may be transmitted/delivered before the complete message is loaded.
- ARPA has a packet of 1024 bits, 8 packets per message
- one message at a time in transit at the network for better flow control.

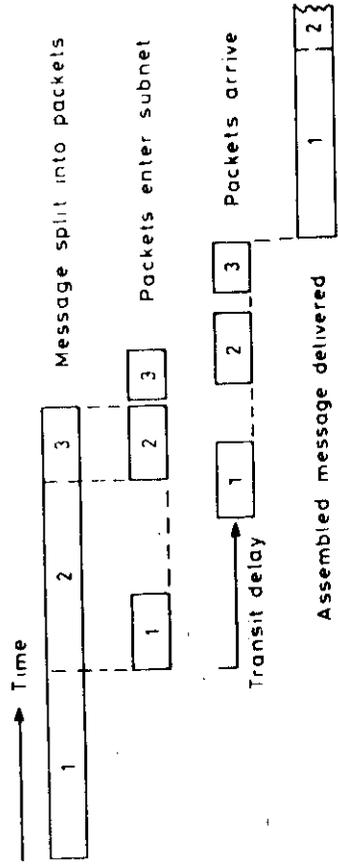


Figure 2.12 Message splitting and reassembly

- packets arrival out of their true sequence
- Restoring correct sequence is to be implement at user/network level.
- private network - user's responsibility
- Public network resulted in introducing virtual circuit

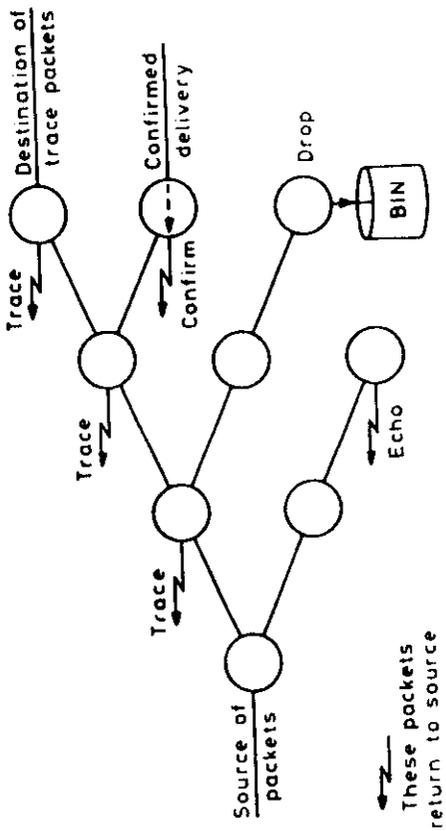


Figure 2.15 Special network features

special Features in Network

- Delivery confirmation
- Trace packets
 - diagnostic tool - all node involved
- ECHO
 - Loop back facility
- DROP
 - Load test mainly on transmitter procedure.
- Network statistics
 - Traffic levels
 - occupancy of queues
 - use of Buffer space
 - error rate, redundancy, etc.
- network diagnostic centre.

X.29 Specifications

| Message from PDTE to PAD Type/Parameters | Action taken by the PAD | Message from PAD to PDTE Type/Parameters |
|--|--|---|
| Set/none | Reset all parameters to the initial profile | None |
| Set/parameter nos. and values | Set selected parameters to values given | None or error/parameter nos. in error |
| Set and read/none | Reset all parameters to the initial profile | /list all parameters and current values |
| Set and read/nos. and values | Set selected parameters to values given | /list selected parameter and current values |
| Read/none | None | /list all parameters and current values |
| Read/parameter nos. and values | None | /list selected parameter and current values |
| Invitation to break | Informs s/s DTE | |
| Invitation to clear | Clears call when data has been sent to s/s DTE | Clear/clearing cause |

Figure 8.21 Some PAD control messages and responses

TERMINALS IN THE NETWORK

| Message | Meaning |
|-----------|---|
| RESET DTE | Remote DTE has reset the call |
| RESET ERR | Call reset due to local procedural error |
| RESET NC | Call reset due to network congestion |
| PAD | Identification service signal (further study) |
| ERROR | Identification of an incorrect command |
| COM | Call connection |
| CLR | Call cleared—qualified as below |
| -OCC | Called number engaged |
| -NC | Network congested |
| -INV | Invalid facility requested |
| -NA | Access barred |
| -ERR | Local procedural error |
| -RPE | Remote procedural error |
| -NP | Not obtainable |
| -DER | Called number out of order |
| -PAD | Cleared by PDTE |

Figure 8.20 Additional messages from the PAD

| Terminal commands | Purpose | Response from PAD |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| STAT | Requests status of call to PDTE | FREE or ENGAGED |
| CLR | Requests PAD to clear down a call | CLR CONF or CLR ERR |
| PAR? (list) | Requests values of parameters listed | PAR (list & values) |
| SET? (list & values) | Requests a change to values given & a reply | PAR (list & values) |
| PROF (identifier) | To give standard set of parameters | --- |
| RESET | To reset the call to a PDTE | --- |
| INT or INTD | To interrupt the call to a PDTE | --- |
| SET (list & values) | Requests a change without a reply | --- |
| Selection command | To set up a call to a PDTE | --- |
| Break signal | Out of band signal to recall command level | --- |

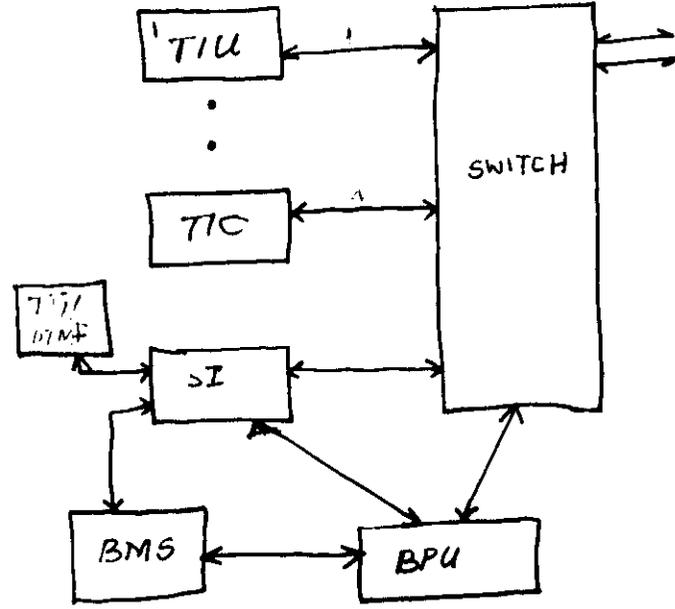
Figure 8.19 Terminal commands and PAD responses

X.28 defines the interface and protocol between the start-stop DTE and the PAD.

Four sections

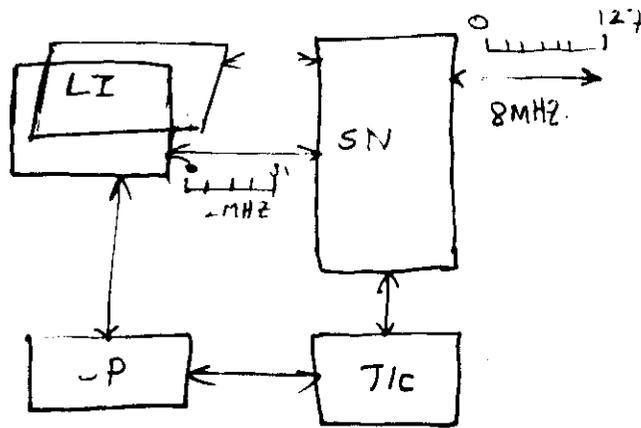
- Establishing connection
- initialisation
- exchange of characters
- exchange of commands.

ARCHITECTURE OF CDOT 512 P EXCHANGE



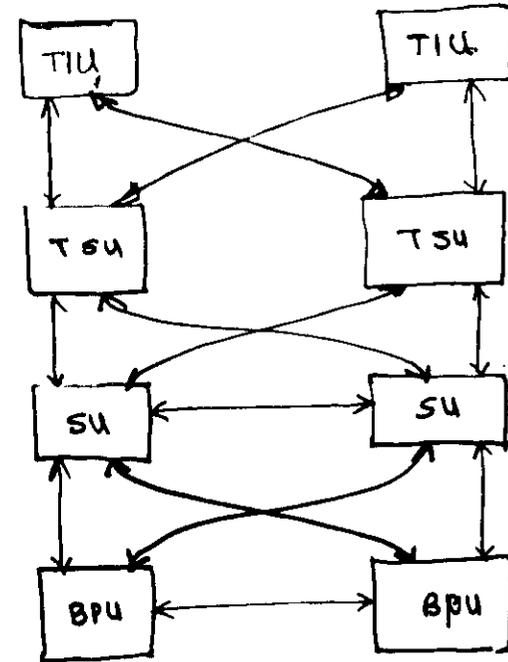
- Terminal Interface - TIU
- service circuits interface - SI
- Base message switch - BMS
- Base processor unit - BPU

Terminal unit interface



- Line Interface - LI
- signal processor - SP
- Terminal interface controller - TIC
- SWITCH network - SP.

Redundancy scheme



- Base processor unit
- service unit
- Time Switch Unit
- Terminal Interface Unit

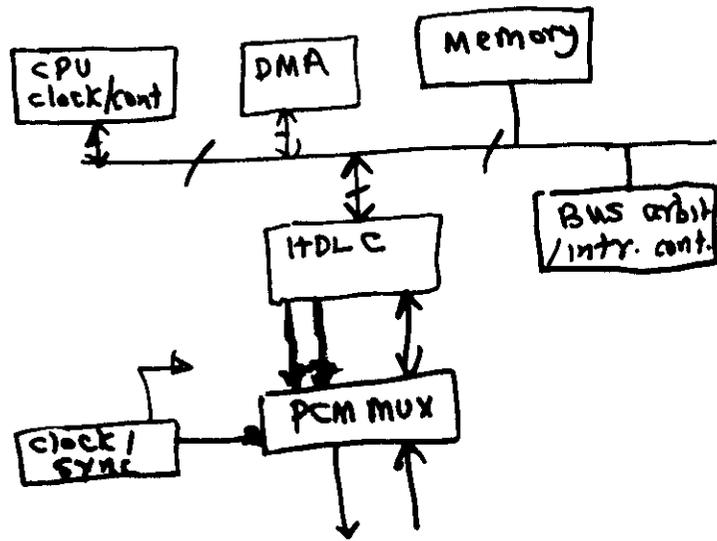
Message switch

- Message handling mainly for
 - Signalling on telephonic events.
 - Diagnostic and reconfiguration
- 32 ports - synchronous links each operating at 64 kps. Protocol used skeleton version of X.25.
- 16 bit processor for message handling.
- Real time transfer of messages through DMA.
- Sufficient buffers for message handling.
- Watch-dog for duplication monitoring.

Message switch -(cont)

- Implemented as three cards, two card types
- Message switch controller (MSC)
 - one unit
- Message switch device card (MSD)
 - - Two units.
- MSC has the processor, memory bus arbitration, interrupt, control, etc along with six HDLC with 3 DMA
- MSD has all ~~the~~ other 16 HDLC components with 8 DMA channels in each card.
- All links operates at 64 kps, multiplexed to form a 2Mbps 32 channel PCM High way - to be connected to terminal interface

Message Switch Architecture.

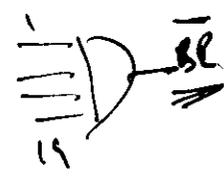
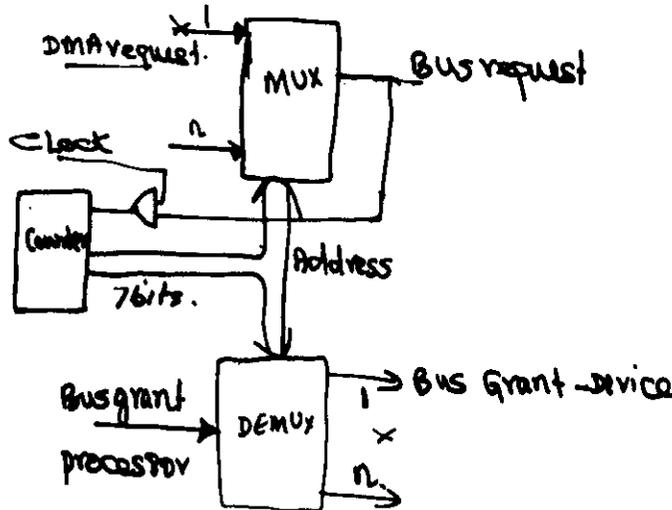


Functional Block

- Processor, control and memory
- Link controllers
 - Characteristic of HDLC
 - Total no of HDLC - need for faster service
- Error handling. Abort, overrun, frame error etc.
- Interface details
 - Processor interface
 - DMA interface
 - Modem & link interface
- DMA controllers.
 - Characteristic of DMA - number of channels, registers, priority of service,
 - Speed of DMA - byte transfer.
- Interface details
 - Processor interface

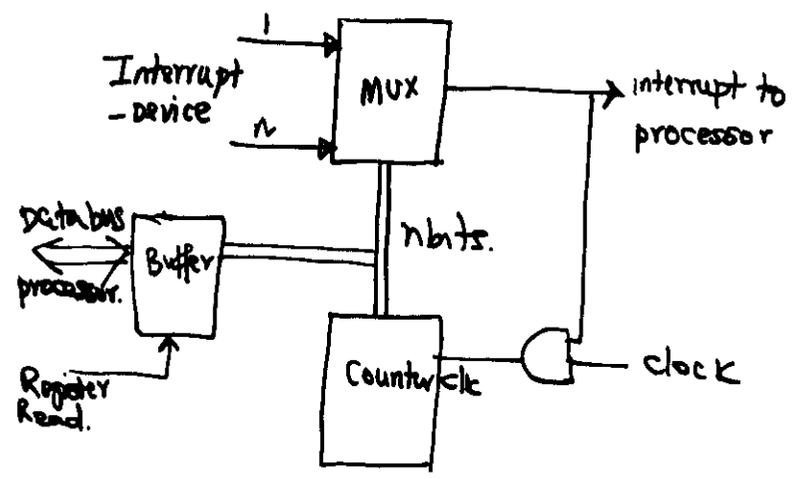
Bus arbitration

- Too many bus masters.
- Round Robin priority scheme
- Multiplexing of Bus Request and demultiplexing Bus Grant.
- Bus mastership with DMA till the last channel is serviced.



Interrupt logic

- Faster service on interrupt - especially on receiver.
- Too many interrupts to handle
- scanning interrupt - status not possible
- Address of HDLC/DMA - interrupting is hardware generated.



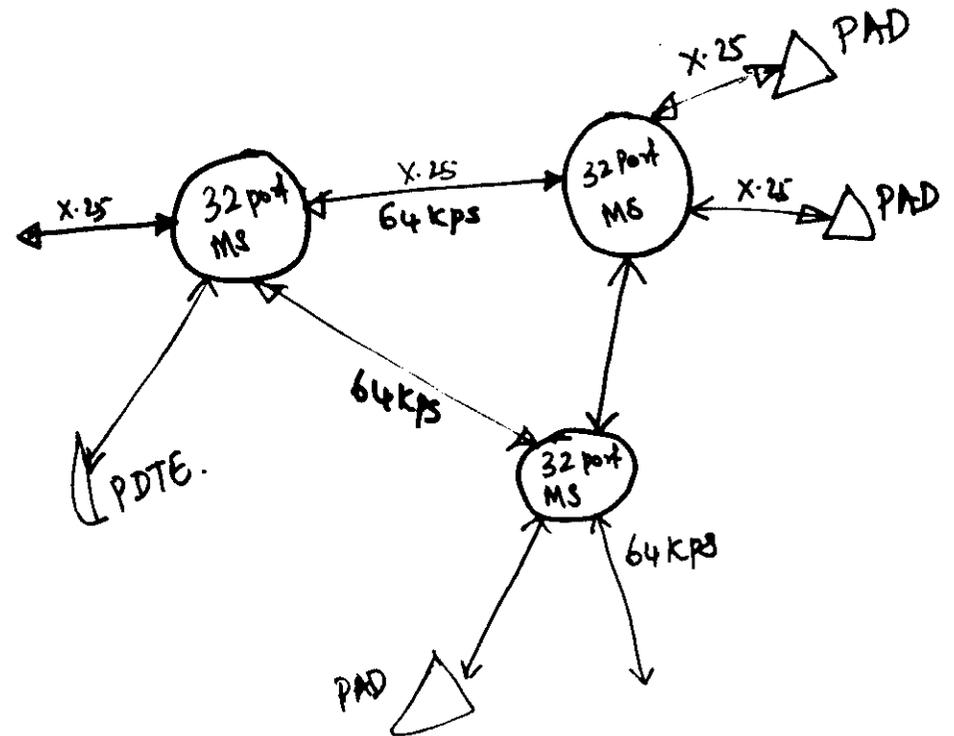
Packet switch implementation

Two approaches

- Use of 32 port message switch as node
- Use of message switch in 512 circuit switch and get 512 port packet switch.

Approach 1

- sufficient for immediate use
- Good for software development and experiment it in field.
- limited users and limited inter-node connectivity.



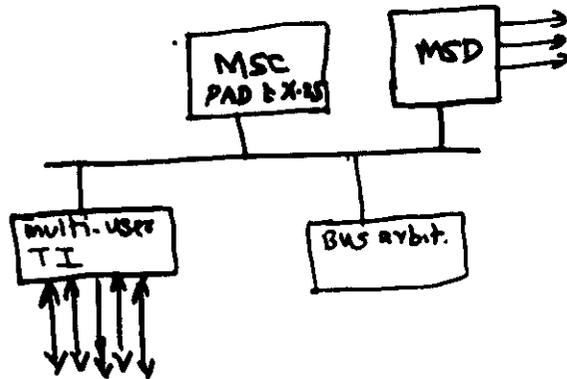
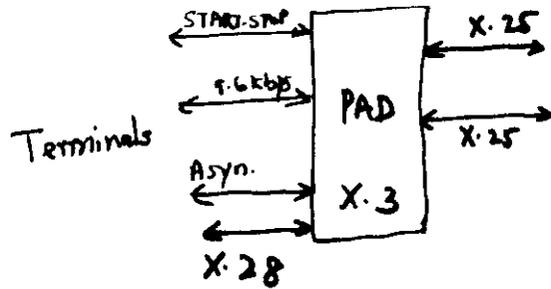
Approach II

- Design of a 128 port Terminal Interface Unit using message switches
- Message switch complex consists of four cards 1 MSC - 3 MSD
- 32 ports serial synchronous links at max 9.6 Kbps.
- 16 ports serial synchronous links at 64 Kbps towards the Terminal Interface Switch
- Four such terminal interface units for 512 ports switch
- One time slot in each unit for signalling.
- PAD and PDTE connection for
with modem PR22 RS422 option

Approach II (cont)

- 325 protocol on message switch
- Call processing software on BPCU
- Inter exchange connection is through MODEM or PCM highway 64 kbps / 2 Mbps.
- Administration software and Maintenance software in BPU as on now.

PAD design



References

- computer networks and Their Protocol - DAVIES, BARBER - A WILEY interscience Publication.
- Technical Aspects of data comm. - John Mc Namara - Digital Equipment corporation, Maynard Massachusetts 1977.

