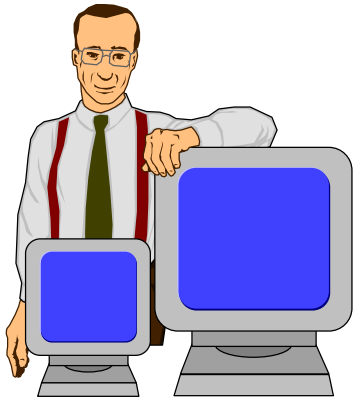
ATM Traffic Management

Dollar Day Sale



One Megabit memory, One Megabyte disk, One Mbps link, One MIP processor, one dollar each.....

Raj Jain
Professor of Computer and Info. Sciences
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH 43210-1277
Jain@ACM.Org
http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/~jain/

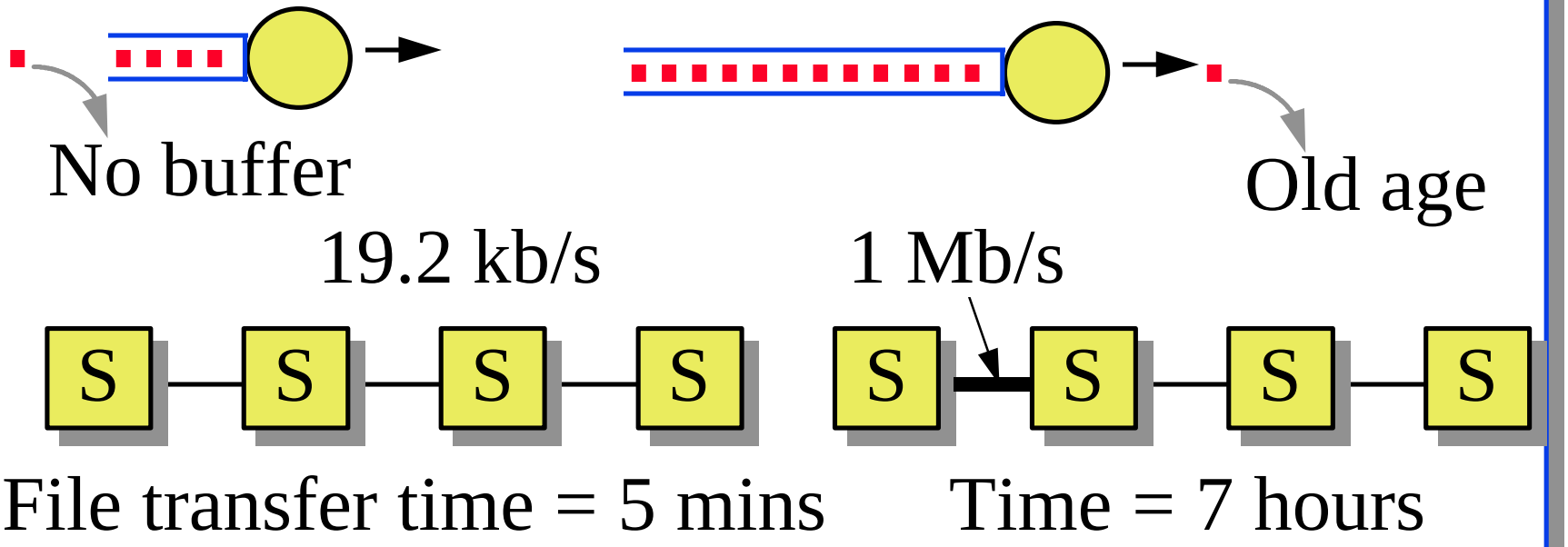
- Why worry about congestion?
- Congestion schemes for ATM
- Explicit Rate-based Control
- ABR Traffic Management

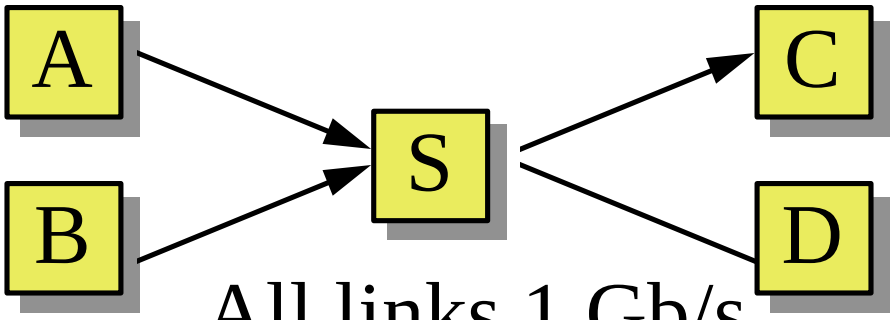
Why Worry About Congestion?

Q: Will the congestion problem be solved when:

- Memory becomes cheap (infinite memory)?
- Links become cheap (very high speed links)?
- Processors become cheap?

A: None of the above.





Conclusions:

- Congestion is a dynamic problem.
  Static solutions are not sufficient
- Bandwidth explosion
  ⇒ More unbalanced networks
- Buffer shortage is a symptom not the cause.

Economic Reasons

- Network is a shared resource
  Because it is expensive and needed occasionally
  (Like airplanes, emergency rooms)
- Most costs are fixed.
  Cost for fiber, switches, laying fiber and maintaining them does not depend upon usage
  $\Rightarrow$ Underutilization is expensive
- But overutilization leads to user dissatisfaction.
- Need a way to keep the network maximally utilized

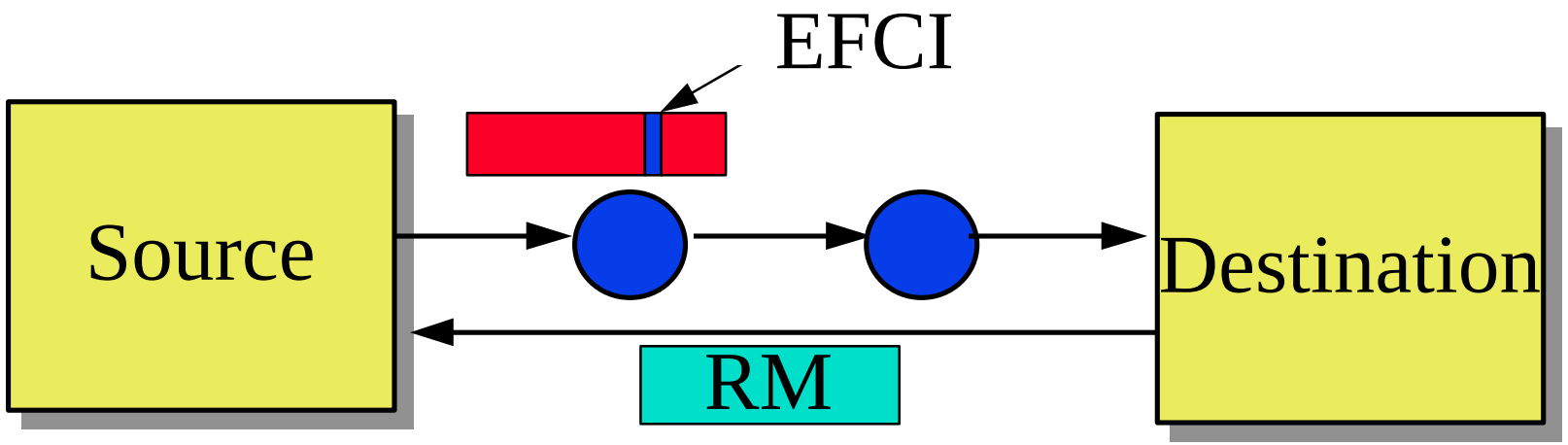
Classes of Service

- CBR (Constant bit rate): User declares required rate. Throughput, delay and delay variation guaranteed.
- VBR (Variable bit rate): User declares average and max rate.
  - rt-VBR (Real-time variable bit rate): Conferencing. Max delay and delay variation guaranteed.
  - nrt-VBR (non-real time variable bit rate): Stored video. Mean delay guaranteed.
- ABR (Available bit rate): Follows feedback instructions. Network gives maximum throughput with minimum loss.
- UBR (Unspecified bit rate): User sends whenever it wants. No feedback mechanism. No guarantee. Cells may be dropped during congestion.
  -

Traffic Management Functions

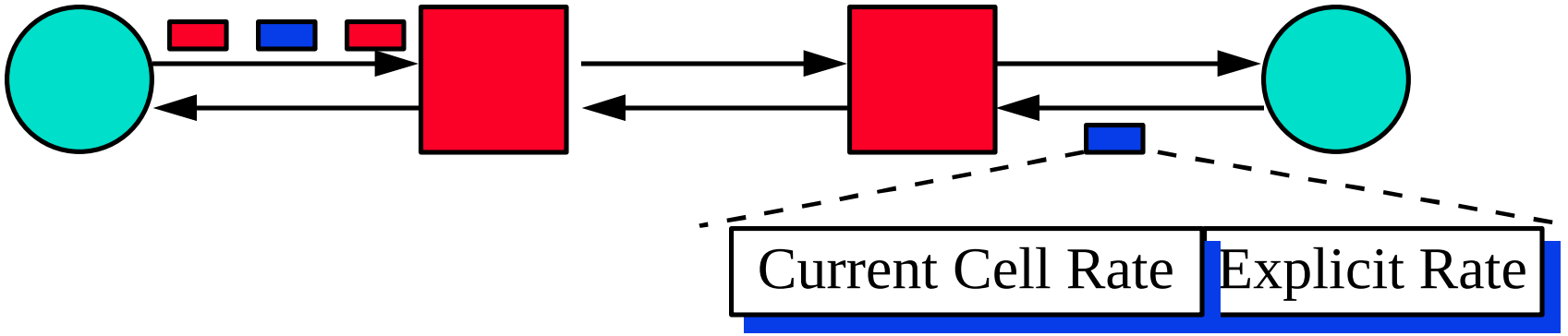
- Connection Admission Control (CAC):
  Can requested bandwidth and quality of service be supported?
- Traffic Shaping: Limit burst length. Space-out cells.
- Usage Parameter Control (UPC):
  Monitor and control traffic at the network entrance.
- Network Resource Management:
  Scheduling, Queueing, virtual path resource reservation
- Selective cell discard:
  Cell Loss Priority (CLP) = 1 cells may be dropped
  Cells of non-complient connections may be dropped
- Frame Discarding
- Feedback Controls: Network tells the source to increase or decrease its load.

Initial Binary Rate-based Scheme



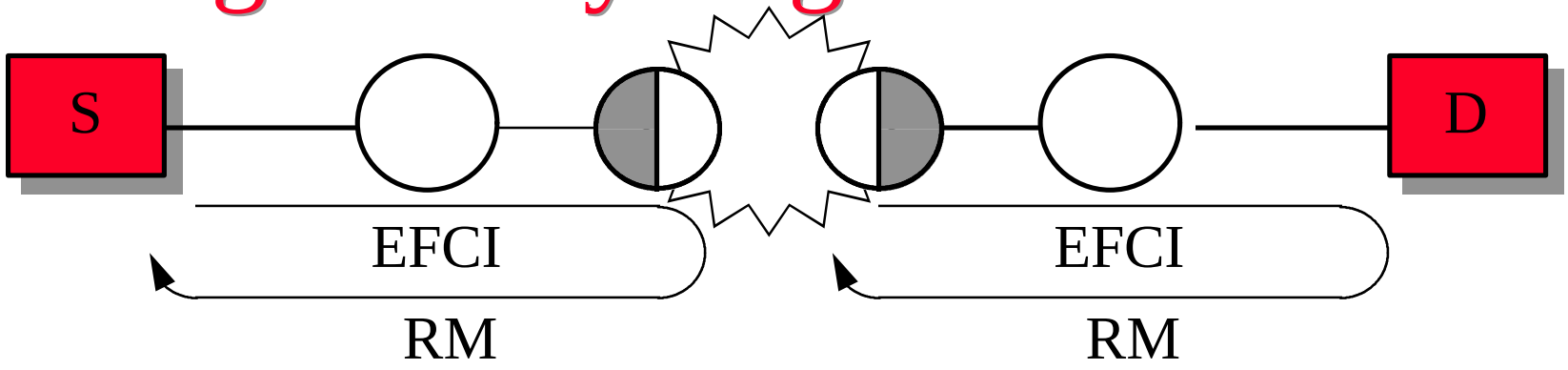
- *Based on DECbit scheme (1986). Implemented in many standards since 1986.*
- *Forward explicit congestion notification (FECN) in Frame relay*
- Explicit forward congestion indicator (EFCI) set to 0 at source. Congested switches set EFCI to 1
- Every *n*th cell, destination sends an resource management (RM) cell to the source indicating increase amount or decrease factor

The Explicit Rate Scheme

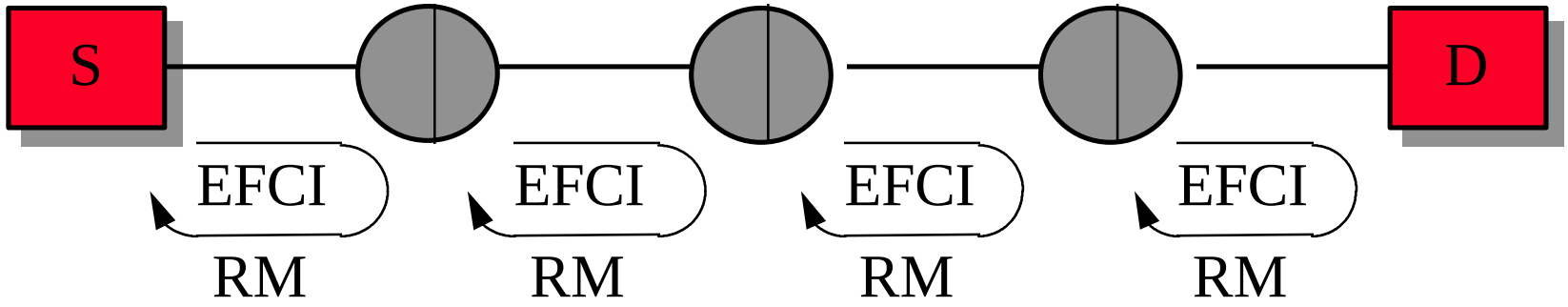


- Sources send one RM cell every n cells
- The RM cells contain "Explicit rate"
- Destination returns the RM cell to the source
- The switches adjust the rate down
- Source adjusts to the specified rate

Segment-by-Segment Control

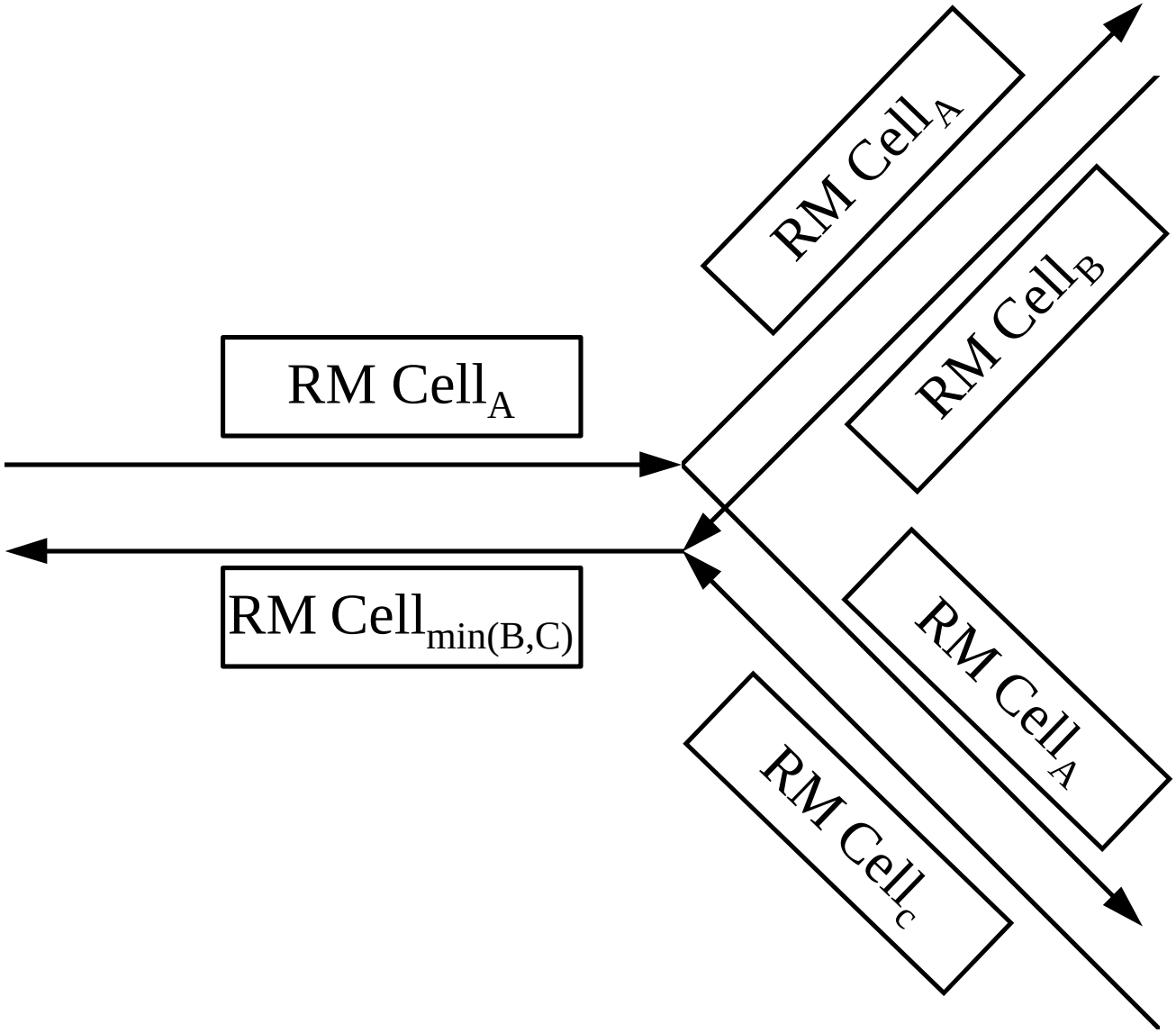


- Virtual source/virtual destinations follow all notification/control rules
- Can be hop-by-hop



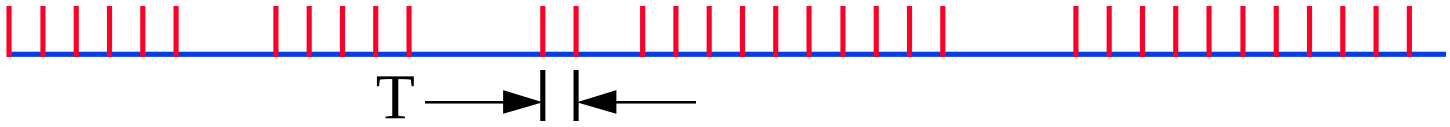
- Virtual dest/sources maintain per-VC queues.

Multicast



Traffic Contract Parameters

- Peak Cell Rate (PCR): 1/T



- Cell Transfer Delay (CTD): First bit in to last bit out
- Cell Delay Variation (CDV): $\simeq$ Max CTD - Min CTD
  - Peak-to-peak CDV
- Cell Delay Variation Tolerance (CDVT) τ
  = GCRA parameter wrt PCR $\Rightarrow$ GCRA(T, τ)

- Sustained Cell Rate (SCR): Average over a long period
- Burst Tolerance (BT) τ_s : GCRA parameter wrt SCR
  GCRA($1/T_s$, τ_s)
  Maximum Burst Size (MBS) = $\lfloor 1+BT/(1/SCR-1/PCR) \rfloor$
  $BT \in [(MBS-1)(1/SCR-1/PCR), MBS(1/SCR-1/PCR)]$
- Cell Loss Ratio (CLR): Cells lost /Totals cells sent
- Minimum cell rate (MCR)
- Cell error ratio (CER)*
- Severely Errored Cell Block Ratio (SECBR)*
  (Block=Sequence of N cells. M or more lost, errored, or inserted cells in a block $\Rightarrow$ Serverely-Errored cell block)
- Cell Misinsertion Rate (CMR)*
  (Cell received with no corresponding transmitted cell)

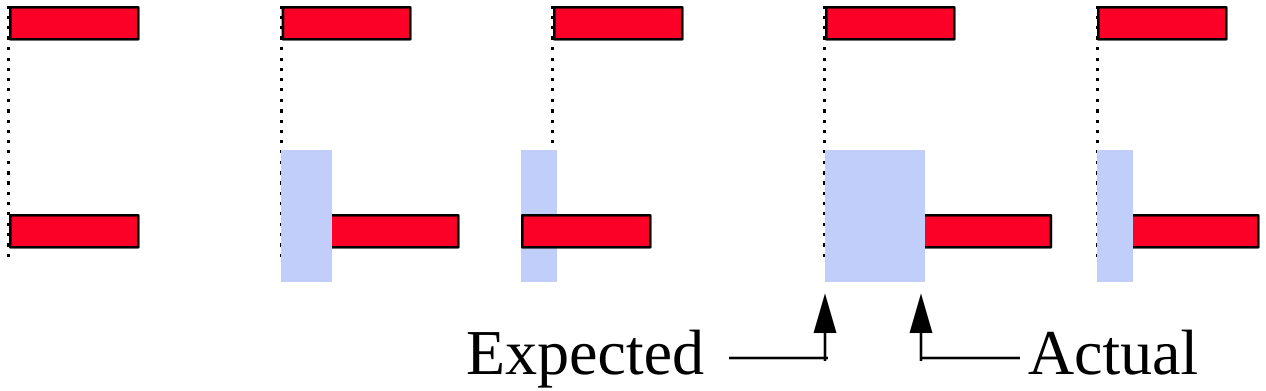
* Not negotiated

Cell Delay Variation

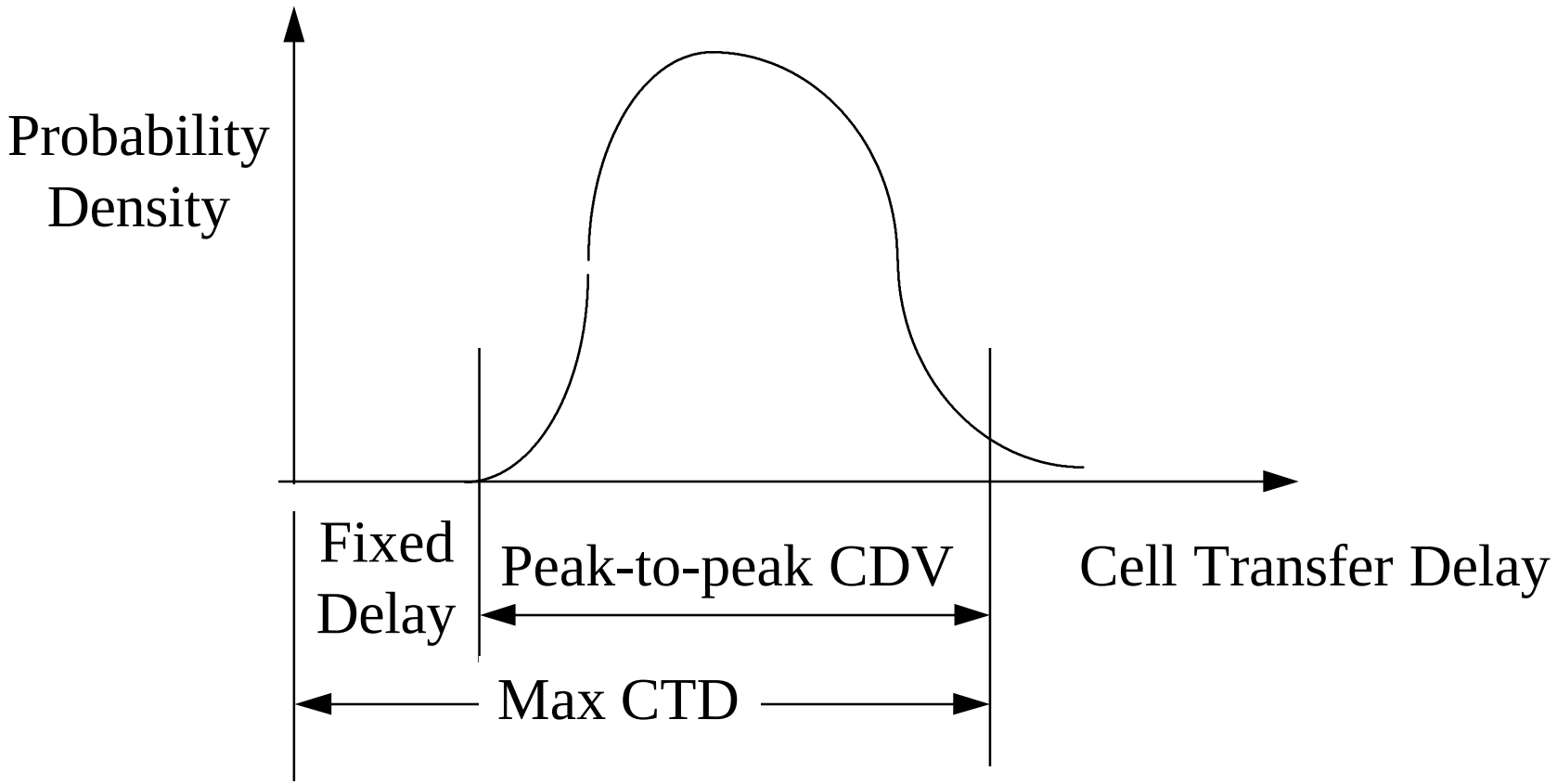
- Cell Transfer Delay (CTD): First bit out to last bit in
- Cell Delay Variation (CDV) = CTD_{max} - CTD_{min}
  - Peak-to-peak CDV
  - Instantaneous CDV

Instantaneous CDV

- I-CDV= Actual-Expected arrival time
- Expected = Emission + Nominal delay
- Cell Delay Variation Window (CDV-W)
  CDV-W = |I-CDV(Max)| + |I-CDV(Min)|
- Cells arriving outside window are considered lost
- Large CDV ⇒ Large buffers ⇒ Higher cost



Peak-to-Peak CDV



Service Categories

Attribute	CBR	rt-VBR	nrt-VBR	UBR	ABR
PCR, CDVT[4,5]	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified[2]	Specified[3]
SCR,MBS, CDVT[4,5]	N/A	Specified	Specified	N/A	N/A
MCR[4]	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Specified
Peak-to-peak CDV	Specified	Specified	Unspecified	Unspecified	Unspecified
Max CTD	Specified	Specified	Unspecified	Unspecified	Unspecified
CLR[4]	Specified	Specified	Specified	Unspecified	Specified[1]
Feedback	Unspecified	Unspecified	Unspecified	Unspecified	Specified[6]

[1]Network specific

[2]Not subject to CAC/UPC

[3]PCR $\Rightarrow$ Max ACR

[4]Explicitly/implicitly specified for PVC/SVC

[5]Not signaled. Different values may apply at different interfaces along the path.

[6]Follow ABR rules

Congestion: Summary

- Traffic Management is key to success of ATM
- Several different methods: CAC, Shaping, UPC, Scheduling, ...
- Service categories:CBR, VBR, ABR, UBR
- Binary feedback too slow for rate control. Especially for satellites.
- ER switches provide much better performance than EFCI.

References

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