Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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# Network Technology 2 -

#### Lennart Franked email:lennart.franked@miun.se Tel:060-148683

#### 2013-03-25

Introduction - LAN	Design	and	switching	concepts
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# Introduction

Network Design - Local Networks

What is your network layout?

## Good design?

How do you know if you have a well designed network?

- When you already know how to expand your network with for example another building, an extra WAN-link et cetera.
- When an addition to the network is done, only the directly attached devices will be affected.
- The network size should be able to get twice or three times the size without having to redesign the network.
- When troubleshooting you do not have to think about complex protocols and how they interact with eachother.

#### -Dr Peter Welcher

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# Flat design

# What characterizes a flat network topology?

- One broadcast domain.
- Every network device have the same function.
- Often no redundancy.



Figure 1 : Example of a flat topology

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# Pro et Contra - flat design

#### Advantages with a flat design:

- Simple.
- Optimal for smaller networks.

- Not scalable.
- Difficult troubleshooting.

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# Hierarchical design



- Multiple broadcast domains.
- Divided into layers (Core, Distribution, Access).
- A hierarchy.



A Hierarchical Network in a Medium-Sized Business

Figure 2 : Example of an hierarchical topology

Questions?

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A Hierarchical Network in a Medium-Sized Business

Figure 2 : Example of an hierarchical topology

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## Access layer

Access layers task is to provide the end nodes with a connection to the network. Due to this, the access layer must support a variety of features.

- Port Security, limit access to the network.
- VLAN, for separating traffic, for example VoIP and data traffic.
- PoE, Power over Ethernet.
- Link aggregation.
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Figure 3 : Access layer

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Distributions layers function is to aggregate traffic from the access layer, and if needed forward the data up to the core layer. The following features should be supported in the distribution layer:

- VLAN.
- Layer 3 switching.
  - Inter-VLAN routing
  - Access Control Lists.
- High speed interfaces.
- Redundancy.
- link aggregation towards both access layer and core layer.
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Figure 4 : Distribution layer

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#### Core layer

The core layers function is to be a high-speed backbone and only forward traffic between different distribution layer switches, or towards the gateway. The Following features are needed at the core layer.

- Lager 3 switching.
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Figure 5 : Core layer

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Figure 5 : Core layer

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#### Advantages with a hierarchical network.

- Scalable.
- Redundant.
- Performance.
- Security, easy to control access at the access layer.
- Manageable. Since all the switches in the same layer has the same function.
- Maintenance.
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### Disadvantages

#### Disadvantages with a hierarchical topology:

- Redundancy require some version of STP to protect against layer 2 loops.
- Due to this, there will exist unused links in the network.

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### Aggregation with EtherChannel

Bandwidth aggregation or port aggregation allows us to use multiple physical interfaces to increase bandwidth and add redundancy.

- Links must have the same speed.
- Which link that will be used is based on the layer 2,3 or 4 address (And IOS version)
- XORing the addresses decides which link will be used.

# Links	Distribution
8	1:1:1:1:1:1:1:1
7	2:1:1:1:1:1
6	2:2:1:1:1:1
5	2:2:2:1:1
4	2:2:2:2
3	3:3:2
2	4:4

 Table 1 :
 EtherChannel - Allocating the data traffic



Figure 6 : Deciding link use

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References

# Ethernet

### Two different versions of Ethernet. IEEE 802.2 and IEEE 802.3. DIX Ethernet. What is what?

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# **DIX Ethernet**

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#### • Developed by Robert Metcalf mid 70s.

- Xerox PARC (Paolo Alto Research Center).
- Inspired by ALOHA that Metcalf worked with before he started at PARC.
- This protocol quickly gained popularity that Xerox together with Intel and Digital developed the DIX Ethernet standard.
- Published 1980.
- Preamble, Destination, Source, Type, Data, Pad, Checksum.
- Information about length is retrieved by looking into the data portion of the frame.
- This standard is the de-facto standard in today's NICs noder.

8	6	6	2	46-1500		4
Preamble	Destination address	Source address	Туре	Data	Pad	Checksum (FCS)

#### Figure 7 : Ethernet DIX - header

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	Preamble	Destination address	Source address	Туре	Data	Pad	Checksum (FCS)	[2]

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# Ethertype



#### Figure 8 : Ethernet Type field

#### • 2 byte field

• Identifies the layer 3 protocol.

Ethertype #	Protocol
0800	IPv4
0806	ARP
86DD	IPv6

Table 2 : EtherType - Examples

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# **IEEE** Ethernet

# IEEE 802.3 and 802.2

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### IEEE 802.3

Published 1983 and is based on the DIX standard, with some few exceptions.

- Start of Frame Informs that the frame will now start.
- Length instead of type
- More true to the layer model than DIX.
- Did not include information about the higher layer protocol.
- "Solved" with IEEE 802.2

	7	1	6	6	2	46-1500		4
P	reamble	s o f	Destination address	Source address	Length	Data	Pad	Checksum (FCS)

#### Figure 9 : Ethernet 802.3

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Preamble S Destination Source address Length Data Pad Checksum (FCS)	7	1	6	6	2	46-1500		4
	Preamble	s o f	Destination address	Source address	Length	Data	Pad	Checksum (FCS)

#### Figure 9 : Ethernet 802.3

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

Questions?

References

# IEEE 802.3

Published 1983 and is based on the DIX standard, with some few exceptions.

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Preamble o ddress	on Source address	Length	Data	Pad	Checksum (FCS)	[8]

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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- Control Field Indicates whether the connection is connection-less or connection-oriented, reliable or unreliable.
- Information field, Used for extra information, used by SNAP.



Figure 10 : LLC header

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DSAP address field		SSAP a	ddress field			
-		~		>		_
I/G	DDDDDDD	C/R	SSSSSSS	Control field	Information field	
(			C Protocol D	ata Unit		>
	1/G =	Address ty actual add	pe designation resses)	bit (indicating individual or	group	
	C/R =	1 = Group	aal DSAP DSAP end/response is	Sentifier bit		
		0 = Comm 1 = Respo	and} nse}	The value of the C/R bit i operation of the LLC prot	s set by the acol	
	DDDC S888	DDD=D 888 = S	estination actua ource actual ad	í address Idress		
ote	i. A complete LL II. The leftmost b II. The Informatio	C PDU is shi it of each tiek n field is not	win so that the ai d is the least sign present in all LLC	tóress fields can be seen in c ficant bit. PDUs	ontext.	[4]

Figure 10 : LLC header

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DSAP address field		SSAP a	ddress field			
$\sim$		<u> </u>				
I/G	DDDDDDD	C/R	SSSSSSS	Control field	Information field	
$\leq$					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		LL	C Protocol Da	ta Unit		
	I/G =	Address ty actual add	pe designation b lresses)	et (indicating individual or	group	
		0 = Individi 1 = Group	ual DSAP DSAP			
	C/R =	The comm	and/response id	entifier bit		
		0 = Comm 1 = Respo	and} nse}	The value of the C/R bit i operation of the LLC pro	s set by the locol	
	D D D D 8 8 8 8	DDD=D 888 = S	estination <i>actual</i> ource <i>actual ad</i> d	address fress		
Note	i. A complete LL II. The leftmost b II. The information	.C PDU is shi at of each field in field is not	own so that the add d is the least signif present in all LLC I	áress fields can be seen in c cant bit. *DUs	ontext.	[4]

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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I/G	DDDDDDD	C/R	SSSSSSS	Control field	Information field	
-					>	
			C Protocol Da	ta Unit		
	WG =	Address ty actual add	/pe designation b (resses)	et (indicating individual or	group	
		0 = Individ 1 = Group	ual DSAP DSAP			
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	DDDD SSSS	0 D D D = D 8 8 8 = 9	estination actual ource actual add	address fress		
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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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#### SNAP Sub Network Access Point

#### • Supplement to 802.2

- Increases the number of protocols that 802.2 can support.
- Vendor code identifies the organization responsible for the protocol.
- Type (Ethertype)



Figure 11 : SNAP header



Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

Questions?

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# IEEE 802.3 compromise

#### • Gave up 1997.

- Type is now used as both length and type, hence Type/Length.
- Since all the Ethertype values used in 1997 had values above 1500.
- If Length/Type field is less than or equal to 1500 the field is interpreted as length.
- If Length/Type field is larger than 1500, it will be interpreted as Type.

7	.1	6	6	2	46-1500		4
Preamble	e o	Destination address	Source address	Length/ Type	Data	Pad	Checksum (FCS)

#### Figure 12 : Ethernets compromise

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# Back to CCNA3

# Back to CCNA3 - LAN Switching and Wireless

Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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References

# Switch MAC address table

- MAC address table contains which MAC addresses that can be reached on a certain port.
- Inspects source MAC on the receiving frames and add this to its table.
- If the destination address is not in the table, the frame will be broadcasted.
- When the destination frame responds, its MAC address will be added to the table.
- The switch already knows since step 2 which port the destination address can be reached on.





Port #	MAC
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Table 3 : Switch MAC Address Table

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

Questions?

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Port #	MAC
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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Port #	MAC
1	
2	00-05-9A-02-02-02
3	
4	
5	



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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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Port #	MAC
1	
2	00-05-9A-02-02-02
3	
4	
5	00-05-9A-05-05-05

Table 6 : Switch MAC Address Table

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Port #	MAC
1	
2	00-05-9A-02-02-02
3	
4	
5	00-05-9A-05-05-05

Table 6 : Switch MAC Address Table

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

Questions?

References

# Switching fabrics

- Switching fabric is the mechanism that will take the frame from the incoming queue and places it in the correct outgoing queue.
- Switching via memory.
- Switching via a bus.
- Switching via a crossbar.



Figure 17 : Switching fabric

Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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Figure 17 : Switching fabric

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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### Switching via memory

- Most common type of switching, used primarily in regular computers and in some Cisco switches.
- The processor will handle the switching as a common I/O operation.
- When a frame is places in an incoming interfaces buffer, an interrupt will be sent.
- The frame will be copied into the memory and the destination will be checked, after which it will be places in the correct outgoing queue buffer.
- Can only handle one frame at a time.
- Speed is limited by the memory's bandwidth





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Figure 18 : Switching fabric - Memory

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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- Incoming frames will be places in the incoming queue buffer on the interface.
- The destination will be inspected and an internal header will be added to the frame.
- The frame will be sent to all outgoing interfaces using a shared bus.
- Only the interface that has been given in the internal header will accept the frame.
- Only one frame can be handled at one time.
- Usually a high speed bus are used. (Cisco 5600 have a bus speed of 32Gbps)
- Forwarding speed is limited by the speed of the bus.



Figure 19 : Switching fabric - bus

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Basic Switch Concepts and Configuration

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# Switching via crossbar

# • A network of N incoming ports and N outgoing ports.

- Every port has its own bus, that can be interconnected when needed, that is 2N busses.
- An incoming frame is analysed and once the destination port has been found, the incoming bus will be connected to the outgoing bus.
- Allows multiple frames to be sent in parallel
- If two frames are destined for the same outgoing interface, one must be queued.
- This technique is used in the more advanced switches (Catalyst 12000)





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### Switching via crossbar

- A network of N incoming ports and N outgoing ports.
- Every port has its own bus, that can be interconnected when needed, that is 2N busses.
- An incoming frame is analysed and once the destination port has been found, the incoming bus will be connected to the outgoing bus.
- Allows multiple frames to be sent in parallel
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References

# Switch forwarding methods

- Two types of switch forwarding methods.
- Store-and-forward.
- Cut-Through Switching.

### Store-and-forward

#### • Stores the entire frame in a buffer.

- Calculates the frame checksum.
- If the frame is corrupted it will discard the frame.
- Decrease the number of corrupt frames sent on the network.
- Most commonly used method.
- Must be used when QoS is run.

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## Cut-Through Switching

### Two variants

#### • Fast Forward

- Only the first 14 bytes will be read (To find out the destination)
- Once the destination has been known, the frame will be forwarded.
- Low processing time.
- Will send corrupted frames as well.

- Will store the first 64 bytes of a frame.
- Most of the collisions happen within the time it takes to send the first 64 bytes of the frame.
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#### Two techniques are used for storing frames in a switch/router.

#### Memory based

- All ports will share the same memory.
- Allows for larger frames, since the memory is dynamically allocated to each port.
- Allows asymmetric switching, where frames arrive faster than they can be sent.
- One connection might utilize the entire memory.

#### • Port based

- Every port have its own buffer.
- One frame can block an incoming interface, if the outgoing interface is busy.





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## Layer 2 and Layer 3 switching

#### • Lager 2 switches will only forward based on MAC address.

- Lager 3 switches will also use the IP-address.
- Difference between a layer 3 switch and a router?

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  - Router supports both NAT/PAT, can establish connections.
  - This functionality has started to show up on L3 switches as well.

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Epost:lennart.franked@miun.se Tel: 060-148683



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