
Lecture 13

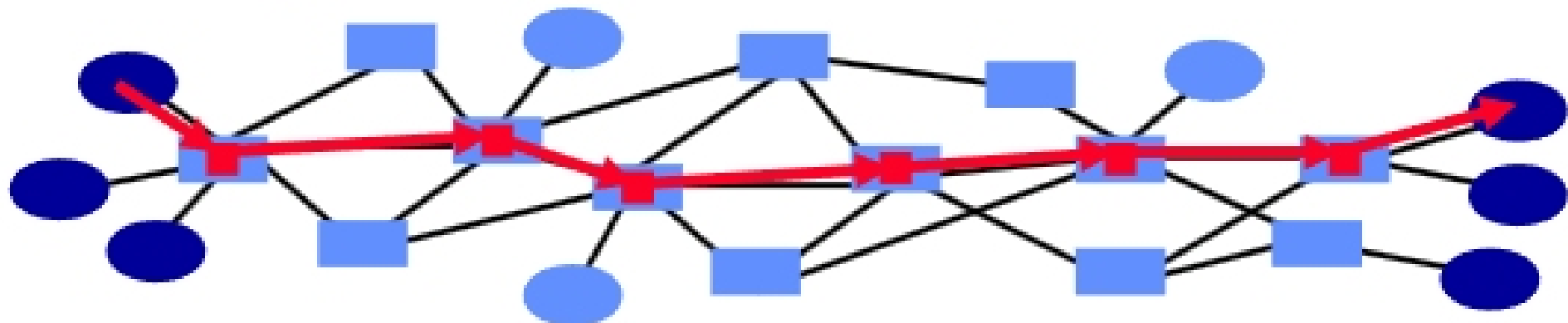
Virtual Circuits, ATM

15-441 Networking, Fall 2007

These slides swiped, with pride, from Dave Anderson, 15-441 Spring 2006

Packet Switching

- **Source sends information as self-contained packets that have an address.**
 - » Source may have to break up single message in multiple
- **Each packet travels independently to the destination host.**
 - » Routers and switches use the address in the packet to determine how to forward the packets
- **Destination recreates the message.**
- **Analogy: a letter in surface mail.**



Circuit Switching

- **Source first establishes a connection (circuit) to the destination.**
 - » Each router or switch along the way may reserve some bandwidth for the data flow
- **Source sends the data over the circuit.**
 - » No need to include the destination address with the data since the routers know the path
- **The connection is torn down.**
- **Example: telephone network.**

