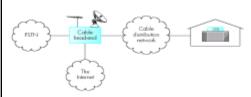
Sixth Semester B.E./B.Tech. Degree Examination, June/July 2025 Multimedia Communication

Time: 3 hrs. Max. Marks: 100

Note: 1. Answer any FIVE full questions, choosing ONE full question from each module.

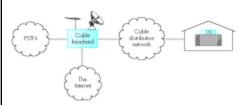
2. M: Marks, L: Bloom's level, C: Course outcomes.

Q 1 a) Explain broadcast television network and ISDN.

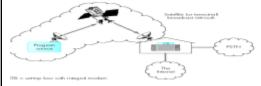


CO1, L2 10M

Broadcast television networks support the diffusion of analogue television programs to a wider geographical area via a cable distribution network, a satellite network .A cable modem integrated into the STB (set-top-box) provides both a low bit rate channel (connects the subscriber to the PSTN)and a high bit rate channel (connects to the Internet) from the subscriber back to the cable head-end.



A set-top box is a device that enables a television set to become a user interface to the Internet and also enables a television set to receive and decode digital television (<u>DTV</u>) broadcasts. DTV set-top boxes are sometimes called receivers.

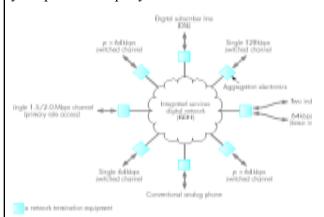


In Satellite and broadcast networks by integrating an H-S modem into the STB a range of interactive services can be supported. This is the origin of the term "interactive television.

Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) in concept is the integration of both analogue or voice data together with digital data over the same network.

ISDN is a set of ITU standards for digital transmission over ordinary telephone copper wire as well as over other media. Home and business users who install an ISDN adapter (in place of a modem) can see

highly-graphic Web pages arriving very quickly (up to 128 Kbps). ISDN requires adapters at both ends of the transmission so your access provider also needs an ISDN adapter. ISDN is generally available from your phone company.



DSL supports two 64 kbps channels that can be used independently or as a single combined 128kbps channel (additional box of electronics). This is known as the aggregation function.

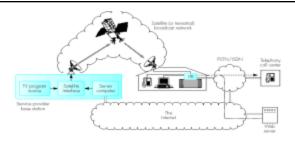
Broadband – Circuits associate with a call could have bit rates in excess of the maximum bit rate of 2Mbps – 30X64 kbps – provided by ISDN Broadband integrated services digital network (B-ISDN) – All different media types are converted in the source equipment into a digital form, integrated togeather and divided into multiple fixed-sized packets (cells) Broadband – Circuits associate with a call could have bit rates in excess of the maximum bit rate of 2Mbps – 30X64 kbps – prvided by ISDN Broadband integrated services digital network (B-ISDN) – All different media types are converted in the source equipment into a digital form, integrated togeather and divided into multiple fixed-sized packets (cells). Broadband – Circuits associate with a call could have bit rates in excess of the maximum bit rate of 2Mbps – 30X64 kbps – prvided by ISDN Broadband integrated services digital network (B-ISDN) – All different media types are converted in the source equipment into a digital form, integrated togeather and divided into multiple fixed-sized packets (cells)

Q 1 b) Explain Interactive television application for both cable and satellite networks.

Interactive Television:Satellite Network

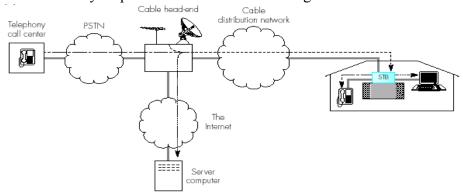
The set-top box (STB) provides both a low bit rate connection to the PSTN and a high bit rate connection to the internet. Through the connection to the PSTN, the subscriber is able to actively respond to the information being broadcast

CO1, L2 10M



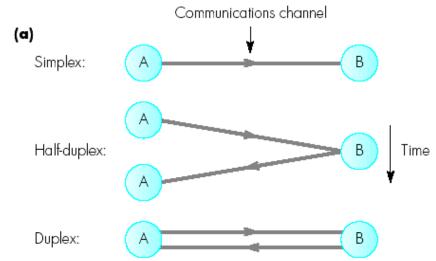
Interactive Television: Cable Network

- The set-top box (STB) provides both a low bit rate connection to the PSTN and a high bit rate connection to the internet
- Through the connection to the PSTN, the subscriber is able to actively respond to the information being broadcast



Q 2 a) With a neat diagram, explain the modes of communication.

CO1, L2 10M

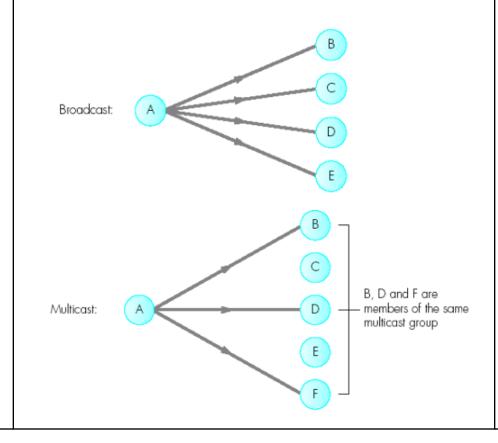


Simplex: The information associated with the application flows in one direction only. Half-Duplex: Information flows in both directions but alternatively (two-way alternative). Full Duplex: Information flows in both directions simultaneously (Two-way simultaneous).

Unicast is a one-to-one communication method where data is sent from a single sender to a single receiver. This is the most common form of data transfer over networks. Examples of unicast transmission include web surfing and file transfers.

Broadcast: The information output by a single node is received by all the other nodes connected to the same network

Multicast: The information output by the source is received by only a specific subset of the nodes (Latter form known as multicast group)



Q 2 b) CO1, L3 10M Determine the propagation delay associated with the following communication channels: (i) a connection through a private telephone network of 1 km, (ii) a connection through a PSTN of 200 km, (iii) a connection over a satellite channel of 50 000 km. Assume that the velocity of propagation of a signal in the case of (i) and (ii) is 2×10^8 ms⁻¹ and in the case of (iii) 3×10^8 ms⁻¹. Propagation delay T_p = physical separation/velocity of propagation $T_{\rm p} = \frac{10^3}{2 \times 10^8} = 5 \times 10^{-6} \,\mathrm{s}$ (ii) $T_{\rm p} = \frac{200 \times 10^3}{2 \times 10^8} = 10^{-3} \,\mathrm{s}$ (iii) $T_{\rm p} = \frac{5 \times 10^7}{3 \times 10^8} = 1.67 \times 10^{-1} \,\mathrm{s}$ Q 3 a) CO2, L2 With an example, explain different types of text representation in multimedia. 10M Unformatted text: Known as plain text; enables pages to be created which comprise strings of fixed-sized characters from a limited character Formatted Text: Known as richtext; enables pages to be created which comprise of strings of characters of different styles, sizes and shape with tables, graphics, and images inserted at appropriate points Hypertext: Enables an integrated set of documents (Each comprising formatted text) to be created which have defined linkages between them · Unformatted Text-Basic ASCII Character set Control characters (Back space, escape, delete, form feed etc) Printable characters

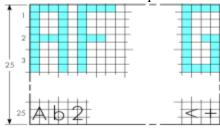
(alphabetic, numeric, and punctuation)

The American Standard Code for Information Interchange is one of the most widely used character sets and the table includes the binary codewords used to represent each character (7 bit binary code)

· Unformatted text supplementary set of masaic characters

The characters in columns 010/011 and 110/111 are replaced with the set of mosaic characters; and then used, together with the various uppercase characters illustrated, to create relatively simple graphical images

Unformatted Text-Examples of Videotext/Teletext



Although in practice the total page is made up of a matrix of symbols and characters which all have the same size, some simple graphical symbols and text of larger sizes can be constructed by the use of groups of the basic symbols

Formatted Text

```
<B><FONT SIZE=4><P>Formatted Text</P>
</B></FONT>
<P>This is an example of formatted text, it includes:</P>

FACE="French Script MT"><P>Different Fonts/FONT> and <PONT
SIZE=4>Font Sizes
```

Formatted text

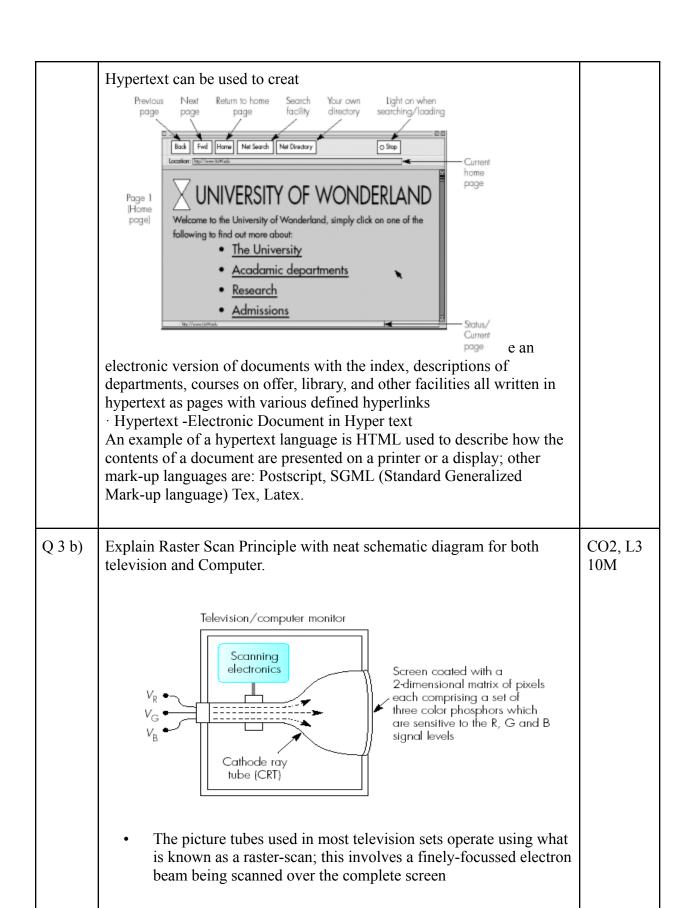
This is an example of formatted text, it includes:

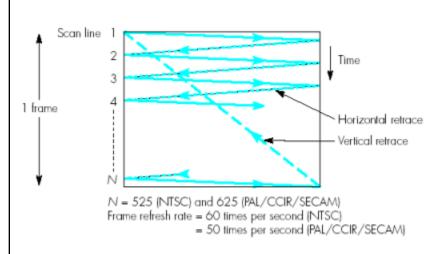
that is, Bold and Underlining Officerit finits and Font Sizes

It is produced by most word processing packages and used extensively in the publishing sector for the preparation of papers, books, magazines, journals and so on.

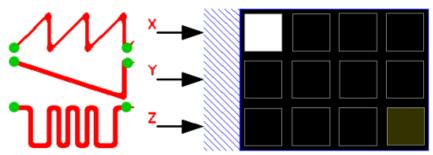
Documents of mixed type (characters, different styles, fonts, shape etc) possible.

Format control characters are used

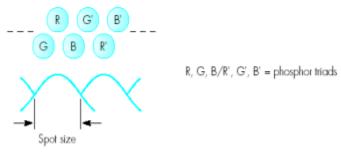




Progressive scanning is performed by repeating the scanning operation that starts at the top left corner of the screen and ends at the bottom right corner follows by the beam being deflected back again to the top left corner



The set of three related colour-sensitive phospors associated with each pixel is called a phospor triad and the typical arrangement of the triads on each scan line is shown.



OR

Q 4 a) Derive the time to transmit the following digitized image at both 64 kbps and 1.5 Mbps:

CO2, L2 10M

- i) $640 \times 480 \times 8 VGA$ compatible image
- ii) $1024 \times 768 \times 24 SVGA$ compatible image.

Answer: The size of each image in bit is as follows

a VGA image = 6404808 = 2.46Mbits an SVGA image = 102476824 =18.88Mbits The time to transmit each image is given as follows

at 64Kbps VGA =
$$\frac{2.46 \times 10^{-6}}{64 \times 10^{-3}}$$
 = 38.4 sec

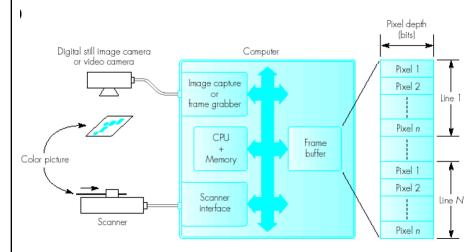
at 64Kbps SVGA =
$$\frac{18.88 \times 10^{-6}}{64 \times 10^{-3}}$$
 = 295 sec

at 1.5Mbps: VGA =
$$\frac{2.46 \times 10^{-6}}{1.5 \times 10^{-6}}$$
 = 1.64 sec

at 1.5Mbps: SVGA =
$$\frac{18.88 \times 10^{-6}}{1.5 \times 10^{-6}}$$
 = 1259 sec

Q 4 b) Explain the detailed block diagram of Digital Camera and Scanner. Answer:

CO2, L2 10M



Digital cameras and scanners:

Typical arrangement that is used to capture and store a digital image produced by a scanner or a digital camera (either a still camera or a video camera)

An image is captured within the camera/scanner using an image sensor A two-dimensional grid of light-sensitive cells called photosites A widely-used image sensor is a charge-coupled device (CCD):Image sensor that converts the level of light intensity on each photosite into an equivalent electrical charge.

Photosites: Silicon chip which consists of a two-dimensional grid of light-sensitive cells, which stores the level of intensity of the light that falls on it

For color images, the color associated with each photosite – and hence pixel position – is obtained in a number of ways. These include the three methods

(i) In this method, the surface of each photosite is coated with either a red, green, or blue filter so that its charge is determined only by the level of red, green, or blue light that falls on it. The coatings are arranged in a 3 x 3 grid structure as shown in the figure. The color associated with each photosite/pixel is then determined by the output of the photosite – R, G, or B – together with each of its 8 immediate neighbors. The levels of the two other colors in each pixel are then estimated by an interpolation procedure involving all nine values. This method is used with most consumer-quality cameras.

(ii) This method involves the use of three separate exposures of a single image sensor, the first through a red filter, the second a green filter, and the third a blue filter. The color associated with each pixel position is then determined by the charge obtained with each of the three filters – R, G, and B. Since three separate exposures are required for each image, this approach cannot be used with video cameras. It is used primarily with high-resolution still-image cameras in locations such as photographic studios where the camera can be attached to a tripod. (iii) This method uses three separate image sensors, one with all the photosites coated with a red filter, the second coated with a green filter, and the third coated with a blue filter. A single exposure is used with the incoming light split into three beams each of which exposes a separate image sensor. This method is used in professional-quality high-resolution still and moving image cameras since, in general, they are more costly owing to the use of three separate sensors and associated

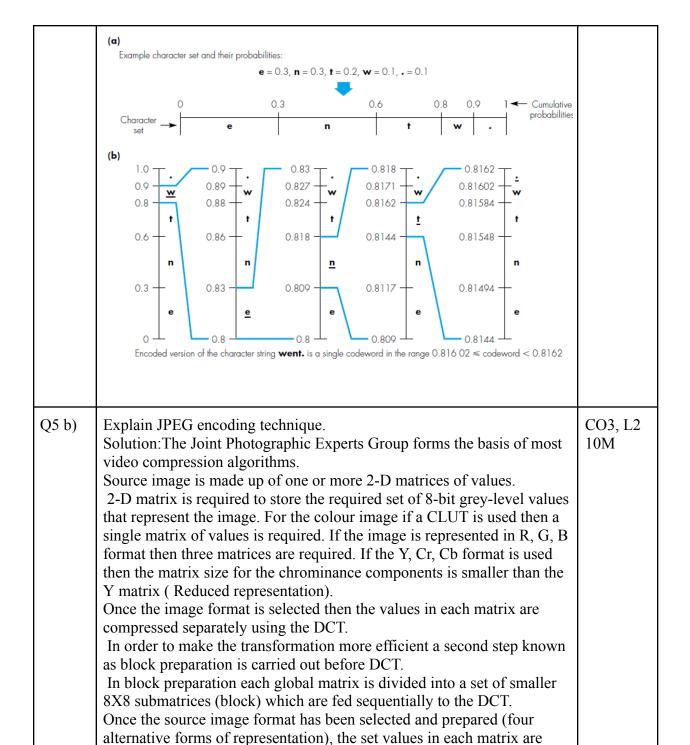
Module 3

signal processing circuits.

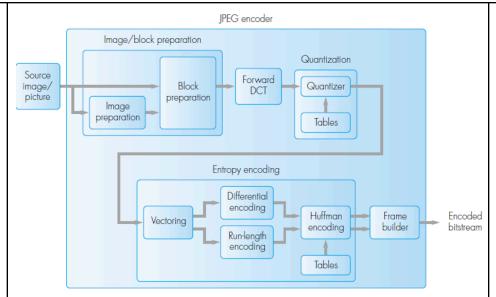
Q5 a) How the Coding Operation takes place in arithmetic Coding? Consider the transmission of a message comprising a string of characters with probabilities.

e = 0.3, n = 0.3, t = 0.2, w = 0.1, $\bullet = 0.1$ The word needed to be transmitted is Went. Solution:

CO3, L2 10M



compressed separately using the DCT).



Using DCT there is very little loss of information during the DCT phase The losses are due to the use of fixed point arithmetic .

The main source of information loss occurs during the quantization and entropy encoding stages where the compression takes place.

The human eye responds primarily to the DC coefficient and the lower frequency coefficients (The higher frequency coefficients below a certain threshold will not be detected by the human eye).

This property is exploited by dropping the spatial frequency coefficients in the transformed matrix (dropped coefficients cannot be retrieved during decoding).

In addition to classifying the spatial frequency components the quantization process aims to reduce the size of the DC and AC coefficients so that less bandwidth is required for their transmission (by using a divisor).

The sensitivity of the eye varies with spatial frequency and hence the amplitude threshold below which the eye will detect a particular frequency also varies.

The threshold values vary for each of the 64 DCT coefficients and these are held in a 2-D matrix known as the quantization table with the threshold value to be used with a particular DCT coefficient in the corresponding position in the matrix.

From the quantization table and the DCT and quantization coefficients number of observations can be made:

- The computation of the quantized coefficients involves rounding the quotients to the nearest integer value.
- The threshold values used increase in magnitude with increasing spatial frequency.
 - The DC coefficient in the transformed matrix is largest.
- Many of the higher frequency coefficients are zero Entropy encoding consists of four stages.

Vectoring – The entropy encoding operates on a one-dimensional string of values (vector). However the output of the quantization is a 2-D matrix and hence this has to be represented in a 1-D form. This is known as vectoring. In order to exploit the presence of the large number of zeros in the quantized matrix, a zig-zag of the matrix is used

Differential Encoding:In this section only the difference in magnitude of the DC coefficient in a quantized block relative to the value in the preceding block is encoded. This will reduce the number of bits required to encode the relatively large magnitude.

Run length encoding: The 63 values in the vector are the AC coefficients. Because of the large number of 0's in the AC coefficients they are encoded as string of pairs of values. Each pair is made up of (skip, value) where skip is the number of zeros in the run and value is the next non-zero coefficient.

Huffman encoding: Significant levels of compression can be obtained by replacing long strings of binary digits by a string of much shorter codewords. The length of each codeword is a function of its relative frequency of occurrence. Normally, a table of codewords is used with the set of codewords precomputed using the Huffman coding algorithm. The role of the frame builder is to encapsulate all the information relating to an encoded image/picture

Q 6 a) Explain the concept of run-length coding and statistical coding. Answer:

CO3, L2 10M

Run-length coding: Examples of run-length encoding are when the source information comprises long substrings of the same character or binary digit. In this the source string is transmitted as a different set of codewords which indicates only the character but also the number of bits in the substring, providing the destination knows the set of codewords being used, it simply interprets each codeword received and outputs the appropriate number of characters/bits

e.g. output from a scanner in a Fax Machine

0000001111111111110000011 will be represented as 0,7 1,10 0,5 1,2 If we ensure the first substring is always 0, then the string could be represented as 7,10,5,2.

The values in the vector which are run length encoded are the AC coefficients and it consists of a large number of 0. Because of the large number of 0's in the AC coefficients they are encoded as a string of pairs of values. Each pair is made up of (skip, value) where skip is the number of zeros in the run and value is the next non-zero coefficient

63	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	 0	0	0	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	7	6	12

The above will be encoded as

(0,6) (0,7) (0,3)(0,3)(0,3) (0,2)(0,2)(0,2)(0,2)(0,0)

Final pair indicates the end of the string for this block. statistical encoding:

A set of ASCII codewords are often used for the transmission of strings of characters.

However, the symbols and hence the codewords in the source information do not occur with the same frequency. E.g A may occur more frequently than P which may occur more frequently than Q

The statistical coding uses this property by using a set of variable length codewords – the shortest being the one representing the most frequently appearing symbol.

It is necessary to ensure that a shorter codeword in the set does not form the start of a longer code word.

Otherwise, the decoder will interpret the string on the wrong codeword boundaries.

A code word set that avoids this happening is said to process the prefix property

e.g. Code words that have this property are Huffman encoding algorithm.

Q 6 b) Explain GIF and TIFF format

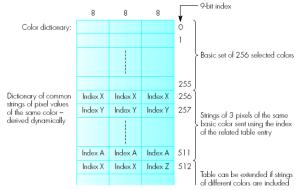
Solution:

Although colour images comprising 24-bit pixels are supported GIF reduces the number of possible colours that are present by choosing 256 entries from the original set of 224 colours that match closely to the original image

Hence instead of sending as 24-bit colour values only 8-bit index to the table entry that contains the closest match to the original is sent. This results in a 3:1 compression ratio

The contents of the table are sent in addition to the screen size and aspect ratio information

The image can also be transferred over the network using the interlaced mode



.The LZW can be used to obtain further levels of compression

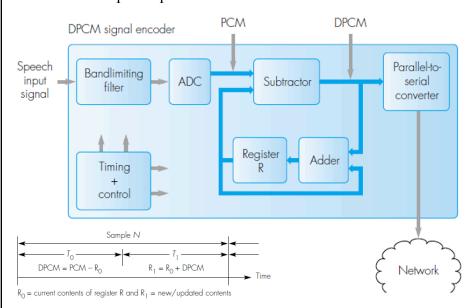
CO3, L2 10M

GIF also allows an image to be stored and subsequently transferred over the network in an interlaced mode; useful over either low bit rate channels or the Internet which provides a variable transmission rate The compression image data is organized so that the decompressed image is built up in a progressive way as the data arrives

TIFF is a flexible and highly detailed image format developed by Aldus Corporation (now owned by Adobe). Unlike GIF, TIFF supports very high image quality with color depths of up to 24 bits or more, making it ideal for storing photographs, scanned documents, and high-resolution graphics. TIFF can use lossless compression methods like LZW or ZIP, or it can be stored uncompressed, depending on the application's requirements. This format supports multiple layers and pages, and is commonly used in desktop publishing, printing, medical imaging, and professional photography due to its ability to preserve fine details. TIFF files tend to be large in size, reflecting their high-quality nature. They are not well-suited for web use due to their size and lack of browser support, but are excellent for archiving and printing purposes.

Q 7 a) Explain the working principle of DPCM.

Answer: DPCM is a derivative of standard PCM For most audio signals, the range of the differences in amplitude between successive samples of the audio waveform is less than the range of the actual sample amplitudes.

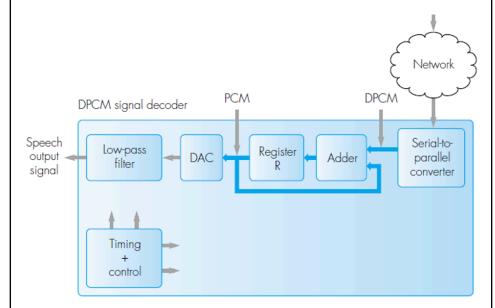


The previous digitized sample value is held in reg R(temp storage reg.) Subtractor- Difference signal is computed by subtracting (Ro) from the digitized sample of ADC

CO4, L2 10M Adder -helps in updating the new register value by adding the computed difference with the prev. actual to calculate the current actual amplitude Reg R is updated with the difference signal

The decoder adds the DPCM with previously computed signal in the reg The o/p of ADC is also known as residual signal.

There are schemes to predict the more accurate previous signal The proportions used are determined by predictor coefficients Decoding: Typical savings of DPCM are limited to just 1 bit for a PCM voice signal which reduces the bit rate requirement from 64 kbps to 56kbps.



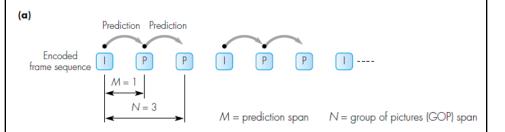
As the output of ADC is directly used, the accuracy of each computed diff (residual signal) is determined by the accuracy of the prev signal/value held in the register

Therefore, previous value held in the register is only an approximation. Hence a technique developed for estimating a more accurate version of the previous value. (Predictive DPCM).

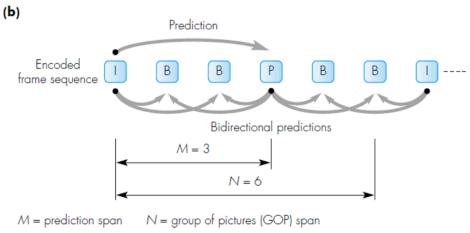
Q7 b) With example frame sequences. Explain the meaning of the following type compressed frame and the reasons for their use:

i) I – frame are Intracoded.I-frames are encoded without reference to any other frames. The number of frames between successive I-frames are called as group of pictures. Error in I-frame would affect a complete loss of scene. So I-frames are inserted frequently i) I – frame iii) P – frame iii) B – frame

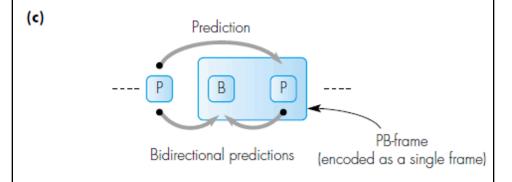
CO4, L2 10M



ii) P – frame: Predictive frame (unidirectional). Encoding of a P-frame is relative to the contents of either a preceding I-frame or a preceding P-frame bidirectional (B-frames) are used in fast moving objects in the frames. The number of P-frames between I-frame is limited since any errors present in the first P-frame will be propagated to the next. The no. of frames between P-frame and I-frame is predictive span. Combination of I-frame and P-frame works well for small movements in scenes.



iii) B – frame: Predictive frames (Bidirectional): their contents are predicted using search regions in both past and future frames. For fast movement of objects in scenes a second predictive frame B-frame is inserted. Two neighboring P- and B-frames are encoded as if they were a single frame, PB-Frame.



Q8 a) With a neat diagram, explain H.261 video encoder principle.

Answer:

Defined for the provision of video telephony and videoconferencing services over an ISDN

Transmission channels are multiples of 64kbps

Digitization format used is either the common intermediate format(CIF) or the quarter CIF(QCIF)

CIF: Y=352X288, Cb=Cr=176X144 QCIF:Y=176X144, Cb=Cr= 88X72

Progressive scanning used with frame refresh rate of 30 fps for CIF and 15 or 7.5 fps for QCIF

Input Video Frame

Raw frames are fed into the encoder one by one.

Motion Estimation and Compensation (Inter-frame coding)

Compares current frame with previous one to find motion vectors (how objects move).

Only **difference information** (residuals) is encoded, reducing redundancy.

Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT)

Each frame is divided into 8×8 blocks.

DCT converts spatial data into frequency domain (high/low frequencies).

Ouantization

DCT coefficients are **quantized** to reduce precision and size (lossy step).

Higher quantization \rightarrow lower quality but better compression.

Zig-Zag Scanning and Run-Length Encoding

Coefficients are reordered (zig-zag) to group zeros together.

Run-length encoding compresses repeated values.

Variable Length Coding (VLC)

Huffman coding is used for further compression.

Bitstream Multiplexer

Combines motion vectors, quantized DCT coefficients, and control data into a final compressed bitstream.

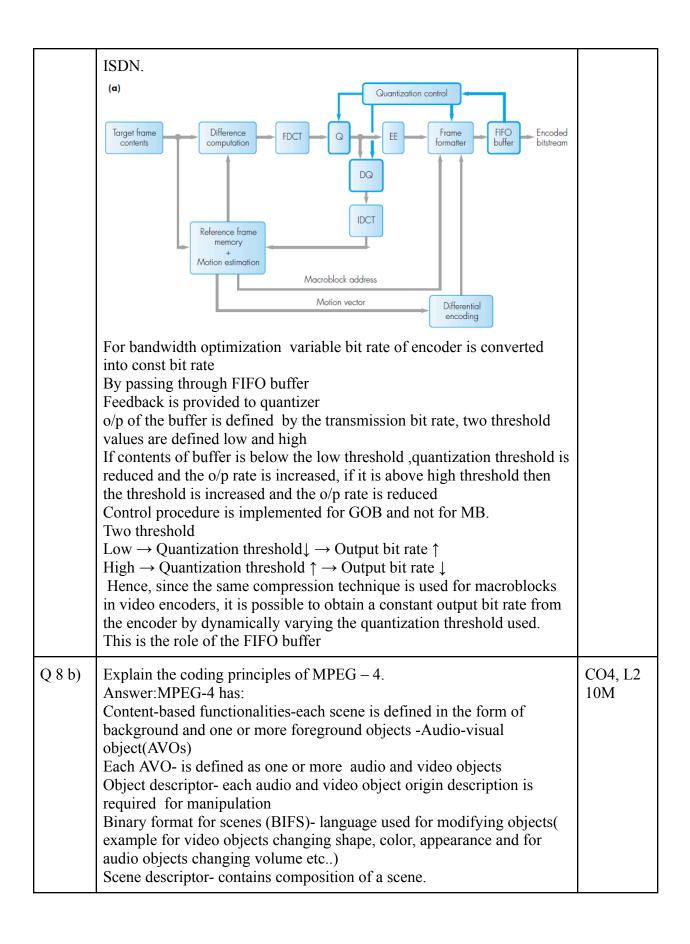
FIFO Buffer & Rate Control

Data is stored temporarily in a First-In-First-Out (FIFO) buffer.

Maintains **constant output bitrate** by adjusting quantization levels dynamically.

Ensures compatibility with fixed bandwidth channels like 64 kbps

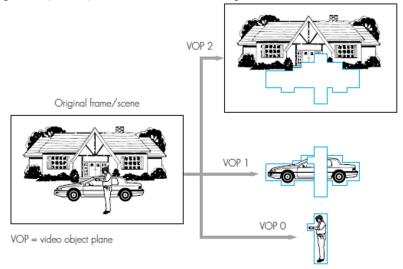
10M



Defines how the various AVOs are related to each other in the context of the complete scene

Figure below- A frame/scene is defined in the form of a number of AVOs

Each video frame is segmented into a number of Video object planes(VOPs), each of which corresponds to an AVO of interest



In the example frame is shown as consisting of three VOPs:

VOP 0 – To represent the person approaching the car

VOP 1 – the remainder of the car parked outside the house

VOP 2 – the remainder of the background

Each VOP is encoded separately based on its shape, motion and texture Each VOP is encapsulated within a rectangle. It is chosen so that it completely covers the related AVO using the minimum number of macroblocks

EACH VOP in the rectangle which refers to the related AVO WITH min MB

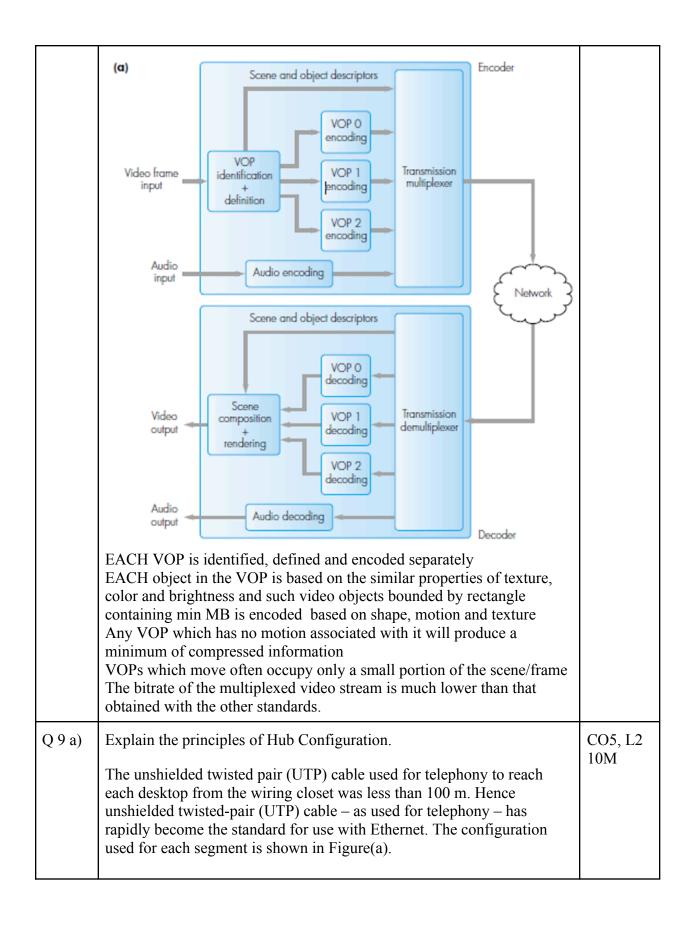
The motion and texture of each VOP is also encoded and the bitstream is multiplexed together with related object and screen descriptor Information.

At the receiver the bitstream is demultiplexed and individual stream decoded

Decompressed information, screen descriptor and object information together creates the video frame

AUDIO AND VIDEO COMPRESSION

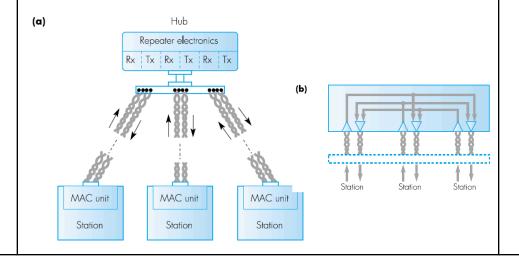
Audio associated with an AVO is compressed using one of the audio compression algorithms and it depends on the available bandwidth/ bit rate of the transmission channel and the sound quality required. Different algorithms like G.723.1, DOLBY AC3, MPEG LAYER 2 USED for different applications



Since the cable forms a physical bus, both thick and thin wire coaxial cable installations involve the cable passing near to each attached station. As we can see in the figure, however, with twisted-pair cable a star configuration is used with the hub located in the wiring closet and each station connected to it by means of twisted-pair drop cables. Normally, category three (CAT3) UTP cable is used for telephony. Each cable contains four separate twisted pairs. In the case of Ethernet, just two pairs are used: one pair for transmissions from the station to the hub and the second pair for transmissions in the reverse direction.

To emulate the broadcast mode of working associated with CSMA/CD as shown in Figure (b), the repeater electronics within the hub repeats and broadcasts out the signal received from each of the input pairs onto all of the other output pairs. Hence the signal output by any of the stations is received by all the other stations and, as a result, the carrier sense function still involves the MAC unit within each station determining whether a signal is currently being received on its input pair. Similarly, the collision detect function involves the station determining if a signal arrives on its input while it is transmitting a frame on the output pair.

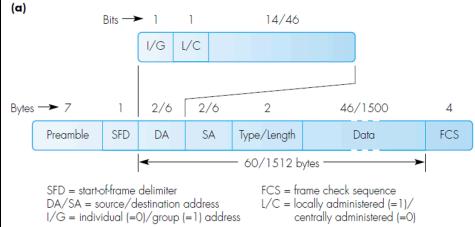
Because of their mode of operation, this type of hub is called a repeater hub and typical numbers of attached stations – and hence sockets – are from 8 through to 16. Above this number multiple hubs are stacked together and connected by repeaters or, as we shall explain in Section 8.5, bridges. As with coaxial cable, the maximum length of cable between any two stations – including the 100 m drop cables – must not exceed 1.5 km. To achieve this, in the emulated broadcast mode, normally it is necessary to use a central hub.



Q 9 b) Explain the frame format and operation parameters of Ethernet/IEEE 802.3.

Answer:Ethernet/IEEE802.3 characteristics: (a) frame format;

CO5, L2 10M



Preamble field- sent at the head of all frames, for synchronization of bits Start of frame delimiter after preamble, single byte and informs the valid frame start

Destination and source address – MAC address as used by MAC layer First bit in the destination address specifies the address is individual or group address

Type of grouping is specified in second bit and can be locally or centrally administered

Group address is used for multicasting

Two byte type field indicates network layer protocol Length field indicates number of bytes in the data field

Maximum size of data field – MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit)

FCS – Frame Check Sequence used for error detection

Ethernet/IEEE802.3 characteristics: operational parameters.

Bit rate	10 Mbps (Manchester encoded)					
Slot time	512-bit times					
Interframe gap	9.6 microseconds					
Attempt limit	16					
Back off limit	10					
Jam size	32 bits					
Maximum frame size (including	1518 bytes					
FCS)						
Minimum frame size (including	512 bits					
FCS)						

Q 10 a) Explain token Ring principle.

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Answer:

IEEE 802.5 TOKEN RING

Proposed in 1969 and initially referred to as a Newhall ring.

Token ring: a number of stations connected by transmission links in a ring topology. Information flows in one direction along the ring from source to destination and back to source. Can both be implemented using star as well as ring topologies but basically it uses ring topology logically and star topology physically.

Medium access control :: is provided by a small frame, **the token**, that circulates around the ring when all stations are idle. Only the station possessing the token is allowed to transmit at any given time.

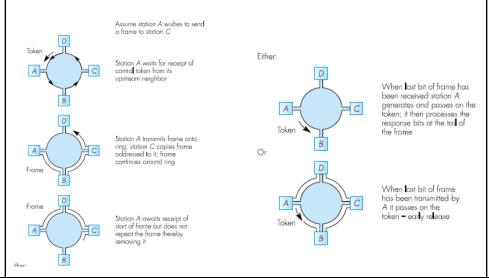
Physical Layer Topology: Ring

Stations connected in a loop. There is a point to point link between stations that form a ring. All the stations are connected together by a set of unidirectional links in the form of a ring and all frame transmissions between any of the stations take place over it by circulating the frame around the ring.

Signals go in only one direction, station-to-station. Only one frame transfer can be in progress over the ring at a time. In a token ring a special bit format called a token circulated around all the stations. When a station wishes to transmit, it must wait for the token to pass by and seize the token.

The data frame circles the ring and is removed by the transmitting station.

Each station interrogates the passing frame. If destined for a station, it copies the frame into local buffer.



Q 10 b)

Write a short note on FDDI network components.

Answer

FDDI uses two rings- primary and secondary, secondary for additional transmission path / back up

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Two stations- dual attach station(DAS), single attach station(SAS)

DAS-attached to both rings

SAS- attached to primary ring

User stations attached through wiring concentrators

For LAN used as backbone attached stations are bridges

Failure and reconfiguration of LAN as single ring is by beaconing procedure

Beacon MAC frame is used to indicate ring failure and the token passing protocol is suspended. Until the affected failure domain has been located and repaired.

