

Audiovisual Multimedia Services (AMS)

Raj Jain

Professor of Computer and Information Science

**Raj Jain is now at
Washington University in Saint Louis
Jain@cse.wustl.edu
<http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/>**

Multimedia over ATM

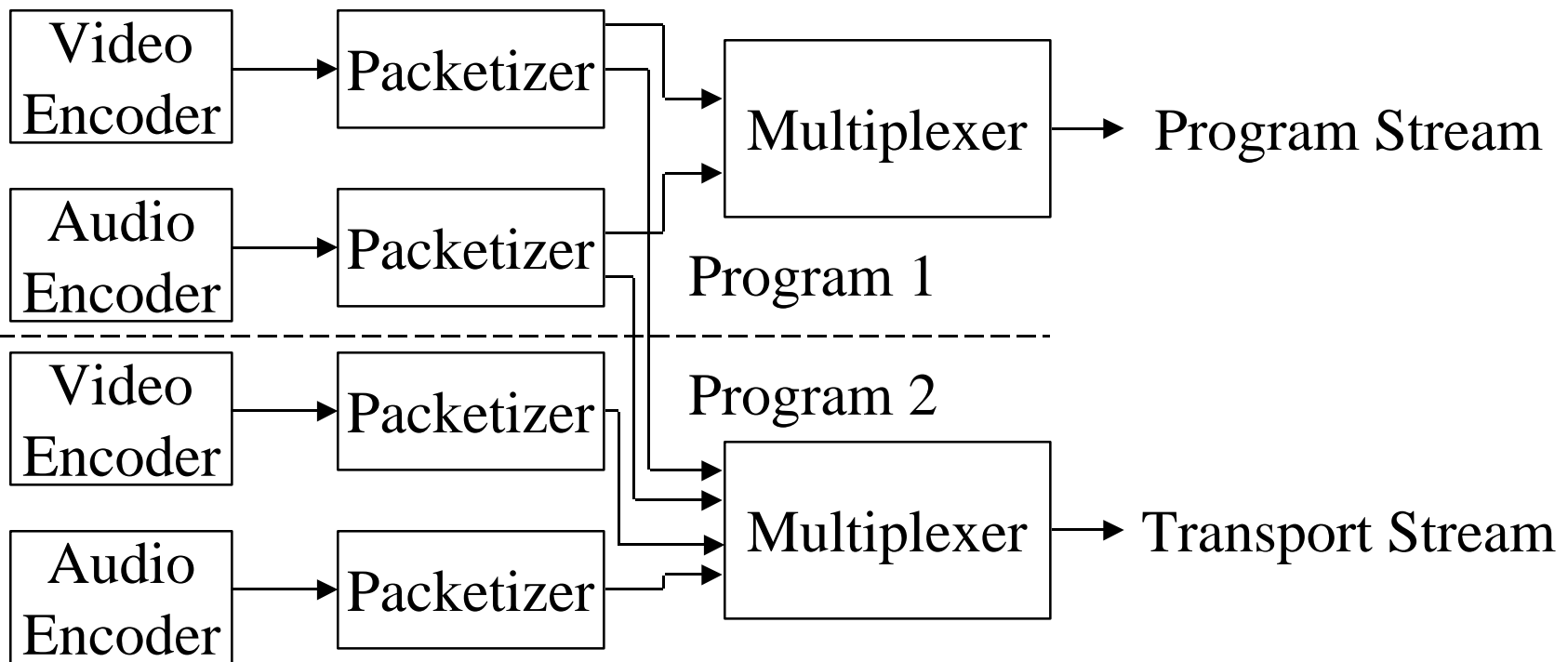
- q Service Aspects and Applications (SAA) Group
 - q Audiovisual Multimedia Services Phase 1: MPEG2 over ATM
- q Key Issues:
 - q What Applications?
 - q Which Service? CBR or VBR?
 - q Transport stream or program stream?
 - q Which ATM Adaptation Layer (AAL)?
 - q How to divide stream into AAL PDUs?
 - q What QoS parameter values to signal?

What Applications?

- q MPEG-1 for VCR-quality video/audio
- q MPEG-2 for theater-quality video/audio
- q Video on Demand \Rightarrow High-quality \Rightarrow MPEG-2

Program and Transport Streams

- q Program = multiple media with a common time base
- q Program stream = one program
- q Transport stream = Multiple programs, e.g., cable TV



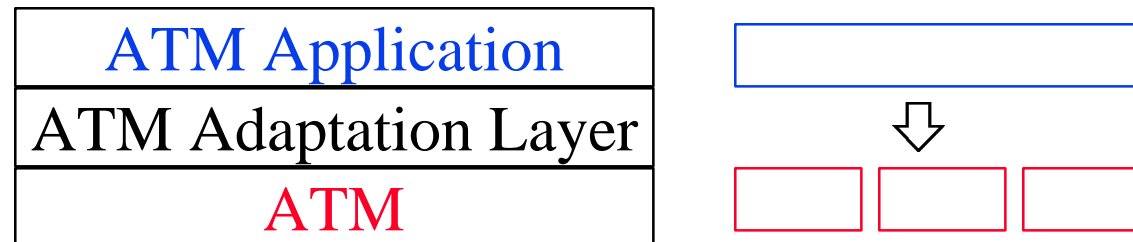
Streams (Cont)

- q Program stream
 - q Variable length packets.
 - q Designed for lossless local video
- q Transport stream
 - q Fixed length 188-byte packets
 - q Designed to sustain errors/loss in remote transmission
 - q Contains program clock reference (PCR) for clock synch
 - q Signal scrambling and transmission of encryption keys
 - q Facilities to address individual set-top boxes
 - q TS is a complete stand-alone transmission system
 - ⇒ Can work without ATM

CBR vs VBR

- q VBR encoding saves bandwidth
- q VBR bandwidth allocation is more difficult
- q Variance also causes more delay jitter
- q CBR encoded MPEG-2 transport streams are most common
⇒ Use CBR

Which AAL?



- q AAL1: Designed for CBR. Provides clock synchronization through synchronous residual timestamps (SRTS)
 - q Sequence numbers for lost cell detection
 - q Forward error correction option
 - q Less overhead than AAL5 for small PDUs
 - q Ideal fit: 188 byte MPEG-2 transport packet = 4 cells
 - q Common clock required for SRTS not always available
⇒ MPEG-2 has its own clock synchronization

- q AAL5: Used for signaling and LAN emulation
Implemented universally \Rightarrow Low cost
- q ATM Forum chose AAL5 for MPEG-2 over ATM
ETSI chose AAL1 for MPEG-2 over ATM
 \Rightarrow ITU-T H.222.1 allows both options

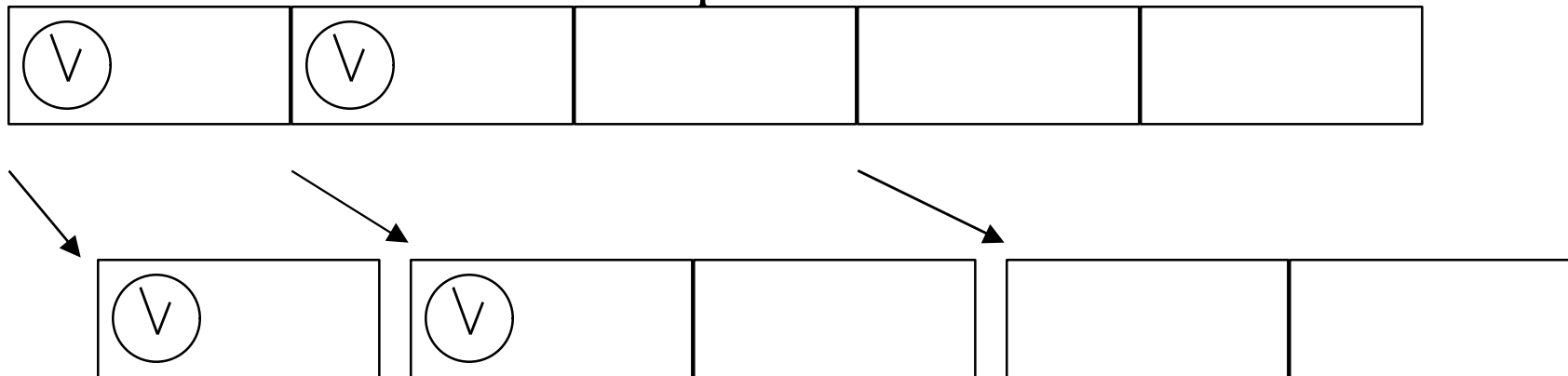
MPEG-2 Clock Synchronization

- q To maintain audio/video synchronization (inter-media synchronization), video streams contain presentation timestamps
- q MPEG-2 Clock = 42-bit counter incremented at 27 MHz
⇒ Upper 33 bits increment at 90 kHz
90 kHz works well for both 25 and 30 frames/s systems.
- q The clock at receiver must run at the same rate as the sender
⇒ Clock counter values sent periodically with the data
⇒ Program Clock Reference (PCR)
- q A Phase-lock loop used at the receiver to synchronize
⇒ If PCR is larger than local time, speed up local clock and vice versa

AAL PDUs

- q MPEG-2 clock synchronization designed for fixed delay pipes
- q A few ms variation can affect quality
 - ⇒ Packets with PCRs are sent immediately
 - ⇒ PCRs occupy the last position in AAL5 PDU
- q This is known as *1-N PCR aware* scheme

MPEG2 Transport Stream



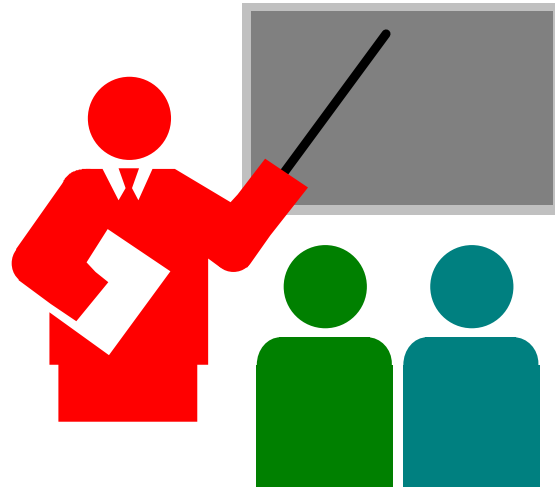
AMS Phase 1: Key Decisions

- q First application = Video on demand \Rightarrow High quality
- q CBR encoded MPEG-2 transport stream over AAL5 CBR
- q N MPEG-2 transport stream packets on a single AAL5 PDU. N negotiated using signaling. Default = 2.
- q Optionally corrupted AAL5 PDUs are passed on to application with indication

AMS Phase 2

- q Video conferencing, distance learning, multimedia desktop
- q VBR-encoded MPEG-2 over ATM
- q Interworking

Summary



- q AMS Phase 1 focused on VOD
- q CBR encoded MPEG-2 transport stream over AAL5 CBR
- q ATM forum selected AAL5. ETSI selected AAL1.
⇒ ITU-T (H.222.1) allows both.
- q AMS Phase 2 on videoconferencing

Acronyms: MPEG-2 over ATM

- q AMS Audiovisual Multimedia Services
- q BCOB-X Broadband connection-oriented bearer service class X
- q PCR Program clock reference
- q PES Packetized elementary stream
- q PTS Presentation time stamp
- q SRTS Synchronous residual timestamp
- q STC System time clock
- q VCO Voltage controlled oscillator

References: MPEG-2 over ATM

- q AMS VOD Spec V1.0
- q ITU-T H.310, Broadband audiovisual communication systems and terminals, January 1996.
- q H.222.0, Generic coding of moving pictures and associated audio information
- q H.222.1, Multimedia multiplex and synchronization for audiovisual communication in ATM environments, November 1995.
- q ANSI/TIA xxxx, Multimedia premises reference architecture, draft 1.0, September 1995.
- q H.221, Frame structure for a 64 to 1920 kbps channel in audiovisual teleservices, 1995.

- q Hewlett Packard, "MPEG-2 Digital Video Technology & Testing," BSTS Solution Note 5963-7511E, 1995. Call 800-452-4844.
- q S. Dixit and Paul Skelly, "MPEG-2 over ATM," IEEE Network, September/October 1995, pp. 30-40.
- q F. Fluckinger, "Back to Basics: Networking Requirements of audio and motion video," ConneXtions, January 1996, pp. 15-23.
- q D. M. Alley, I. Y. Kim, and A. Atkinson, "Audio services for an asynchronous transfer mode network," BT Journal, Vol. 13, No. 3, July 1995.