

Networking in the '90s

CS 40th Anniversary

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1st November 2023



Context of the '90s

Based on my memories only (first mails saved in my folders are from 1997)

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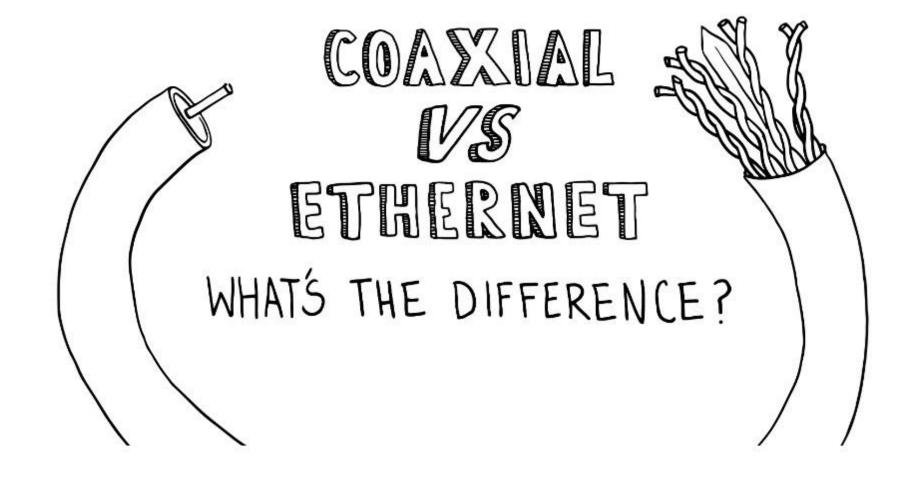
How was:

- Offices
- Communications
- Documentation/photographs
- User/server equipment
 - VAX vs PC
 - Mainframe vs server
- Cabling database



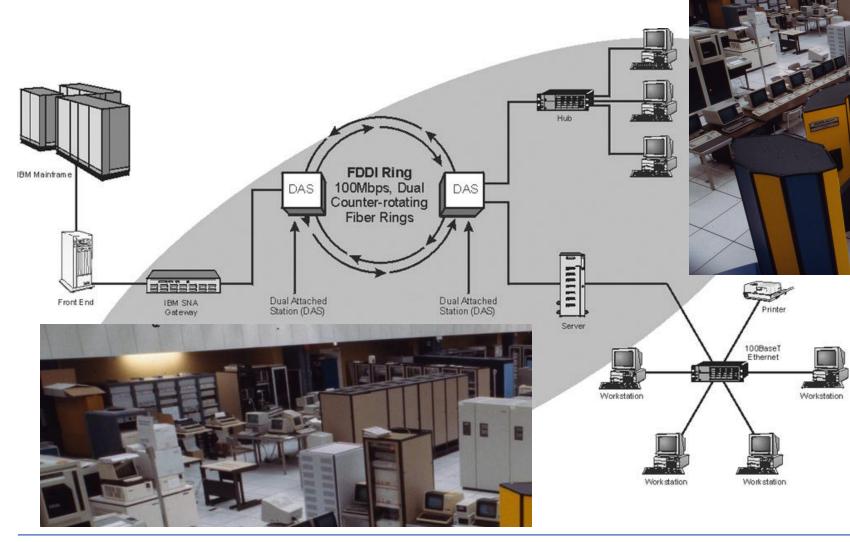


Infrastructure





Network architecture

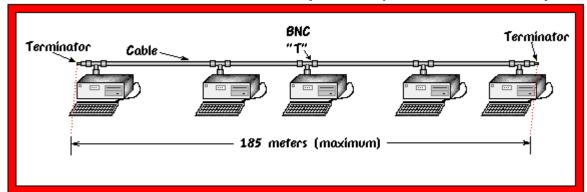




Bus and Ring network technologies

Bus:

> Coax cable based on CSMA/CD process (Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Detection)



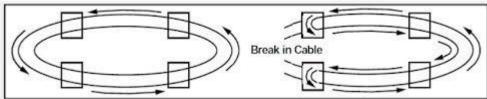




Ring:

FDDI (Fiber Distributed Data Interface)

100Mb





- > TCP/IP
- AppleTalk (Shiva Fastpath router)
- > DECNET



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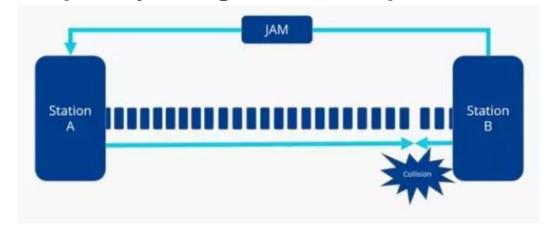


Broadcast Storm and mythical equipment



DEMON collider

> Completely designed, developed and built by the group



Gigaswitch FDDI:

> FDDI (Fiber Distributed Data Interface)





~ 1995 Technological revolution

CERN Structured cabling project

- ➤ Installations of ~20000 sockets in all buildings
- Installations of HP 10G base-T hubs
- > Need to find technical rooms (star-points) in all buildings

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Same copper infrastructure as today!











Happy to work in CS

