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CHAPTER 1

Introduction

Solutions to Review Questions and Exercises

Review Questions

1. The five components of a data communication system are the *sender, receiver, transmission medium, message, and protocol*.
2. The advantages of distributed processing are *security, access to distributed databases, collaborative processing, and faster problem solving*.
3. The three criteria are *performance, reliability, and security*.
4. Advantages of a multipoint over a point-to-point configuration (type of connection) include *ease of installation and low cost*.
5. Line configurations (or types of connections) are *point-to-point and multipoint*.
6. We can divide line configuration in two broad categories:
 - a. *Point-to-point: mesh, star, and ring.*
 - b. *Multipoint: bus.*
7. In *half-duplex transmission*, only one entity can send at a time; in a *full-duplex transmission*, both entities can send at the same time.
8. We give an advantage for each of four network topologies:
 - a. *Mesh: secure.*
 - b. *Bus: easy installation.*
 - c. *Star: robust.*
 - d. *Ring: easy fault isolation.*
9. The number of cables for each type of network is:
 - a. *Mesh: $n(n-1)/2$*
 - b. *Star: n*
 - c. *Ring: $n-1$*
 - d. *Bus: one backbone and n drop lines.*
10. The general factors are *size, distances (covered by the network), structure, and ownership*.

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