
ATM Protocol Overview

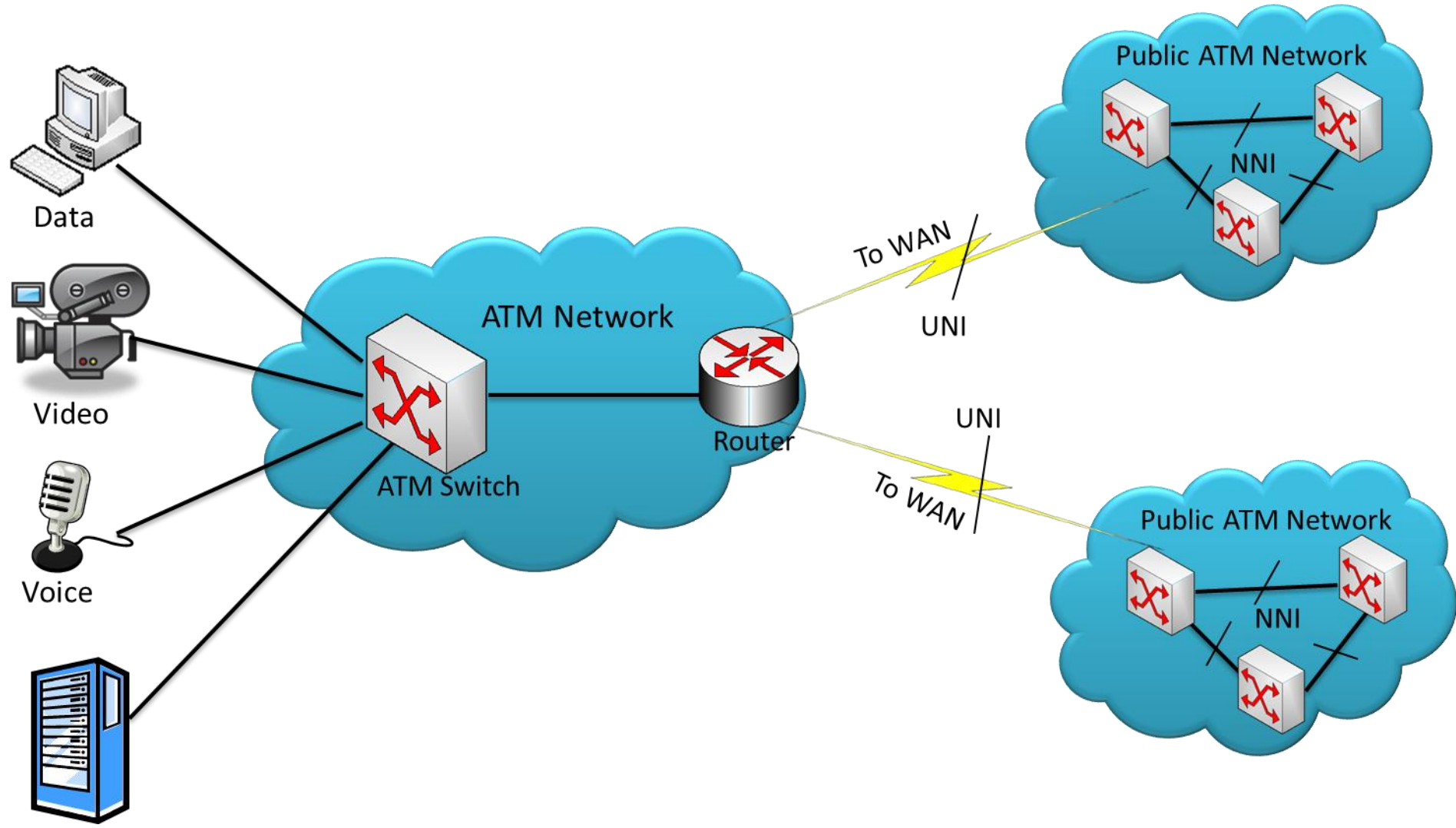


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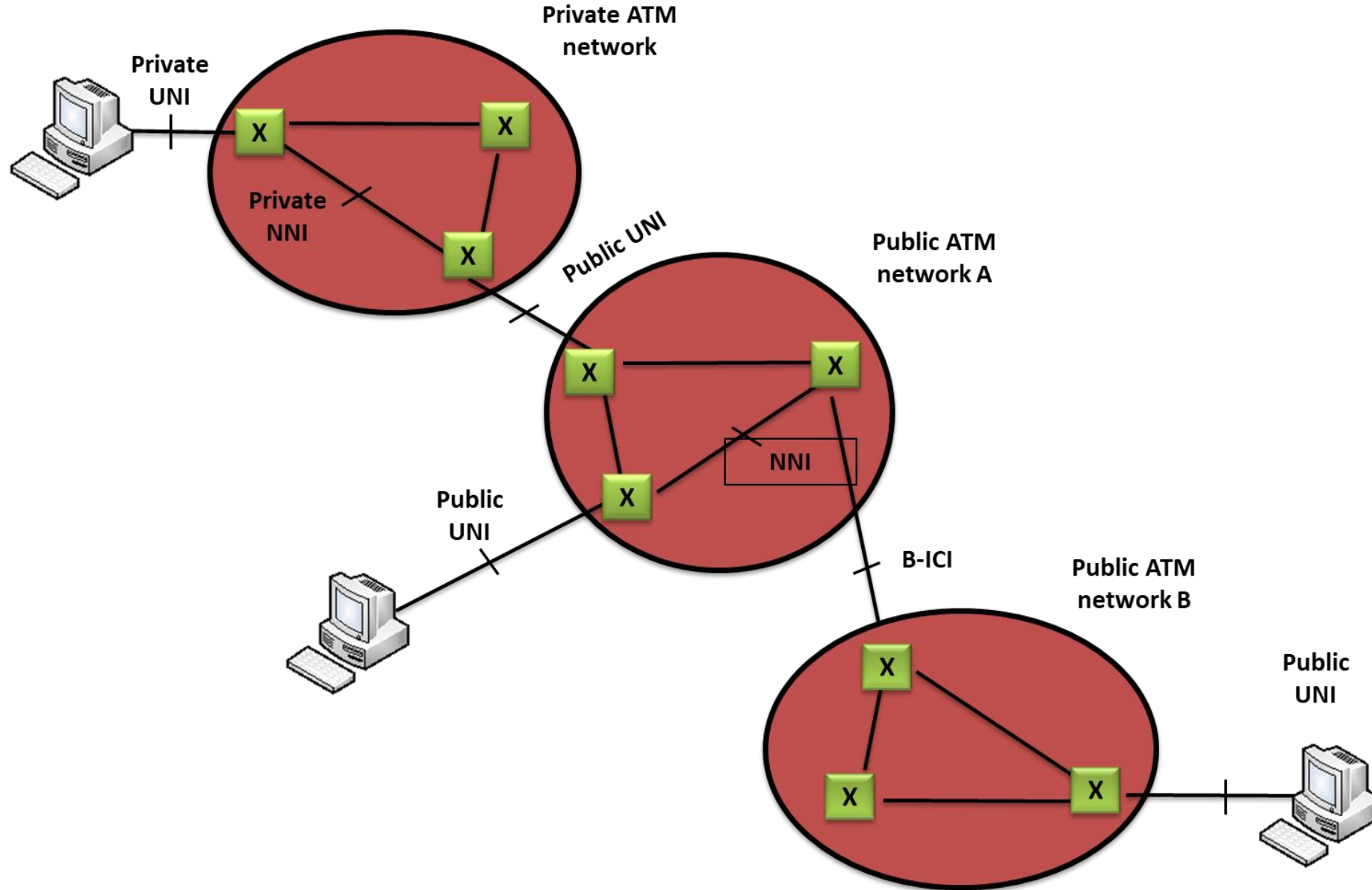
What is ATM ?

- Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) is a switching and multiplexing technology
- Flexible network that carries voice, video, and data, quickly and efficiently
- Circuit Switching and Packet Switching
- Protocol standards are developed by ITU; Consists of 3 layers – ATM Adaptation Layer (AAL), ATM layer, and Physical layer
- 2 levels – Transport and Switching; carries all traffic on a stream of fixed-size packets
- ATM is a core protocol used in SONET / SDBH backbone of the PSTN
- Support for multimedia traffic, efficient bandwidth management for burst traffic, support for LAN / WAN architecture and high performance via hardware switching

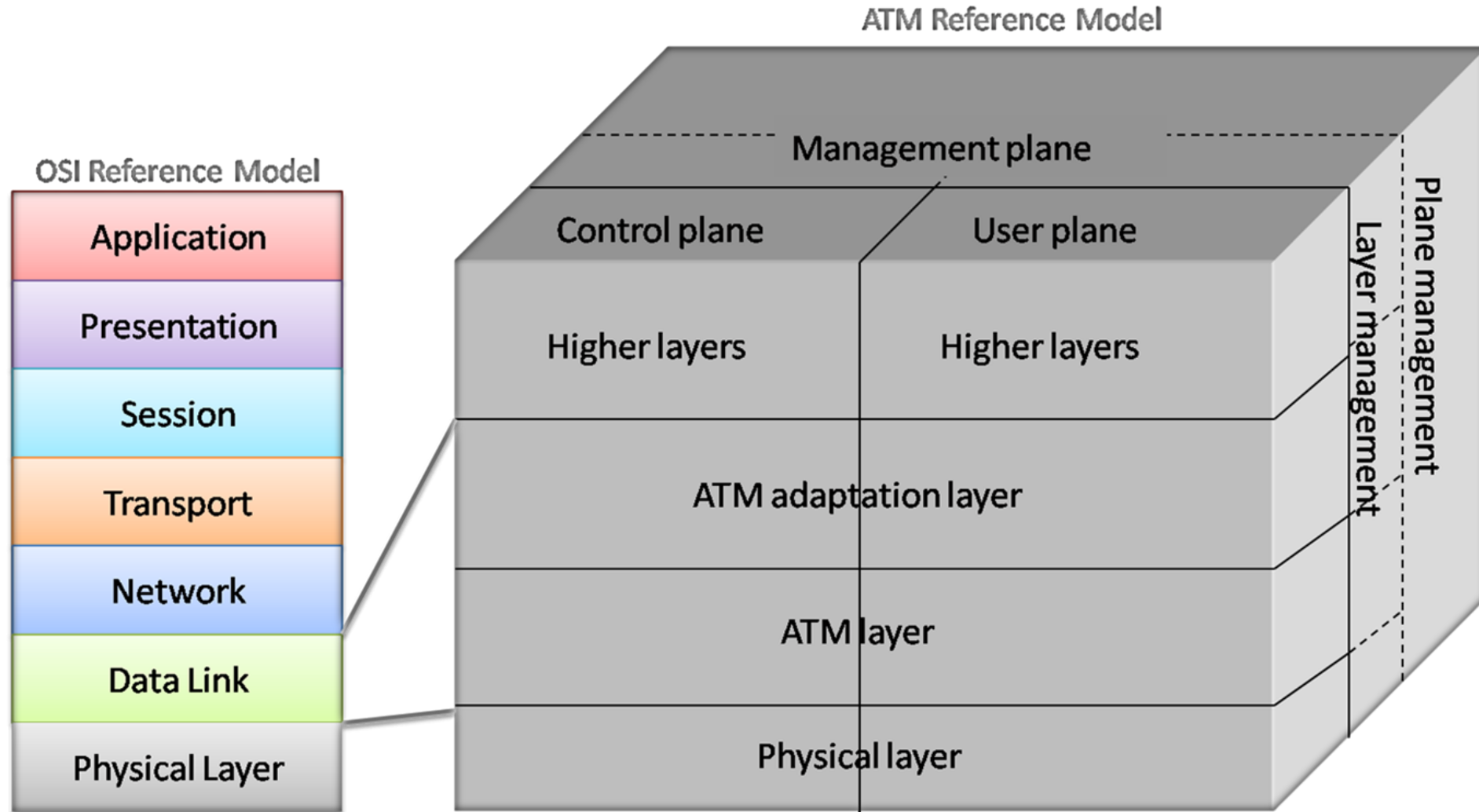
ATM Network Model



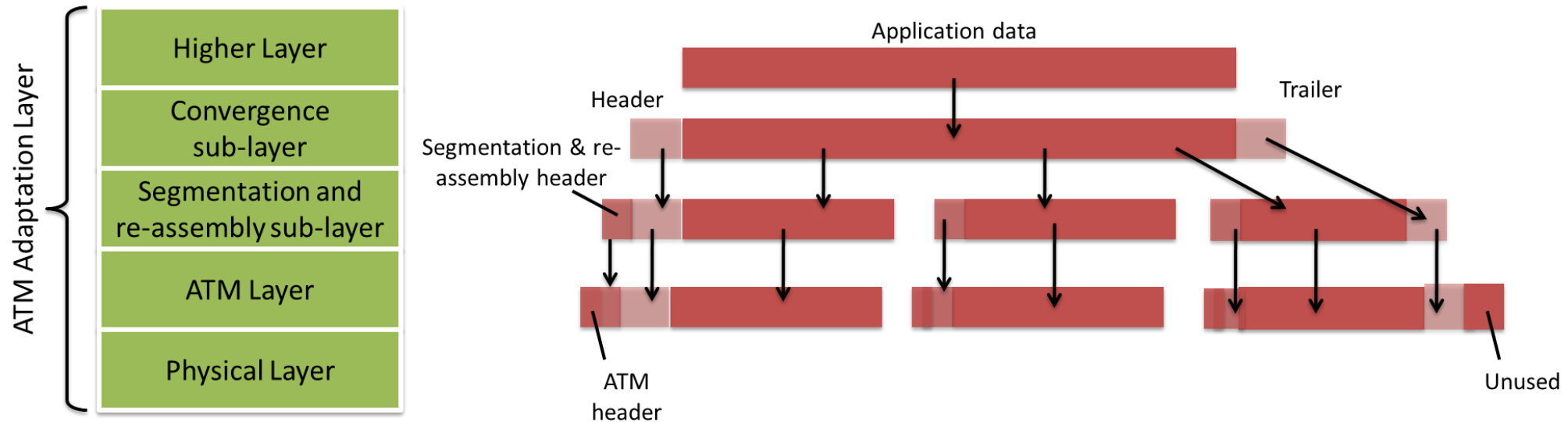
ATM Network Interface



Comparison with Basic OSI Model



ATM Adaptation Layers (AAL)



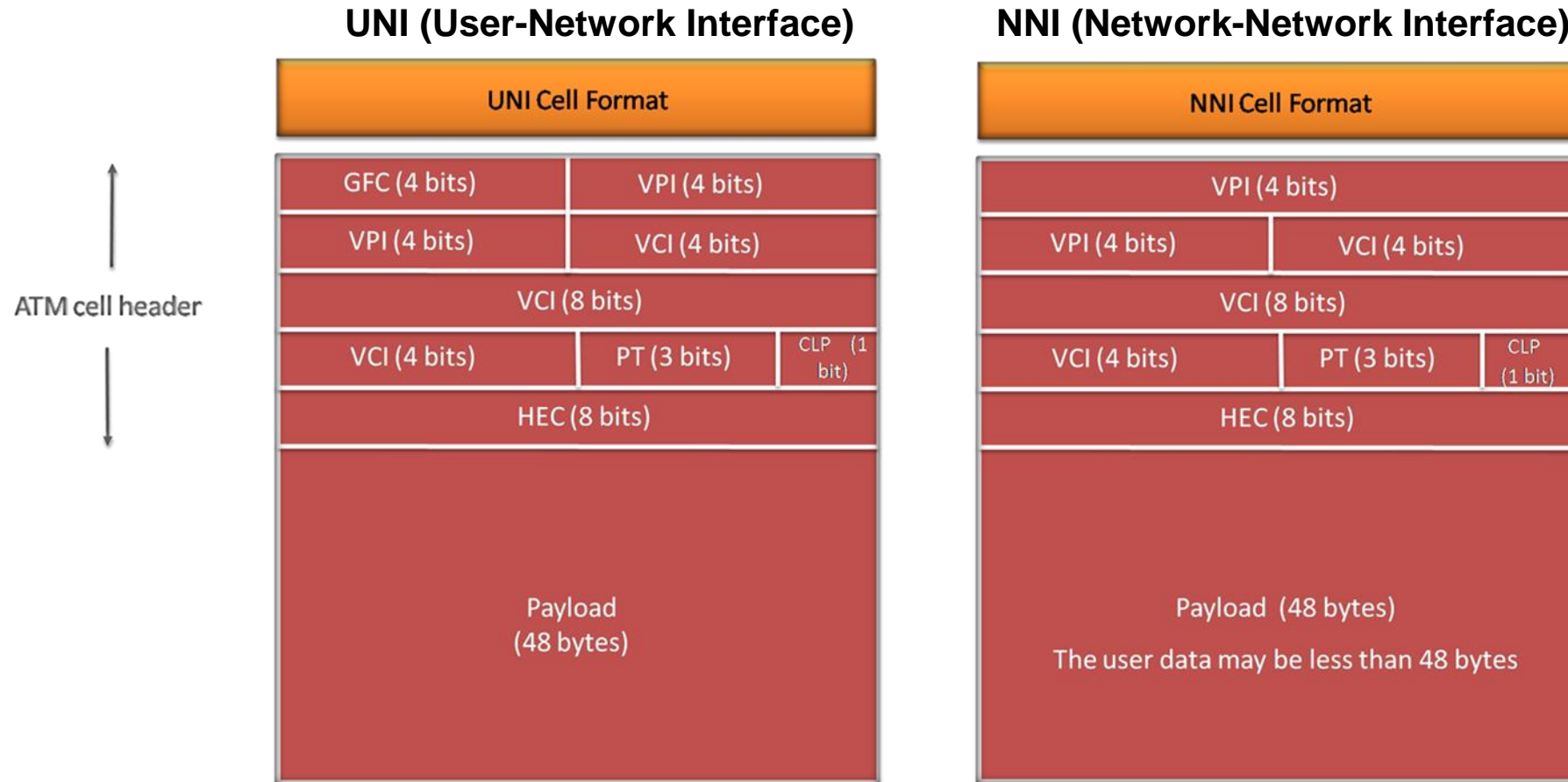
- AAL 1:- AAL1, a connection-oriented service, is suitable for handling circuit emulation and constant bit rate sources (CBR), such as voice and video conferencing
- AAL2 :- Used for variable bit rate (VBR) services, Typically includes services characterized as packetized voice or video that do not have a constant data transmission speed but that do have requirements like constant bit rate services
- AAL3/4:-Used for variable bit rate (VBR) services, Used to transmit SMDS packets over an ATM network
- AAL5:- Used to transfer most non-SMDS data, such as classical IP over ATM and LAN Emulation (LANE)

Basic ATM Cell

- 5 bytes reserved for Routing, addressing and flow control



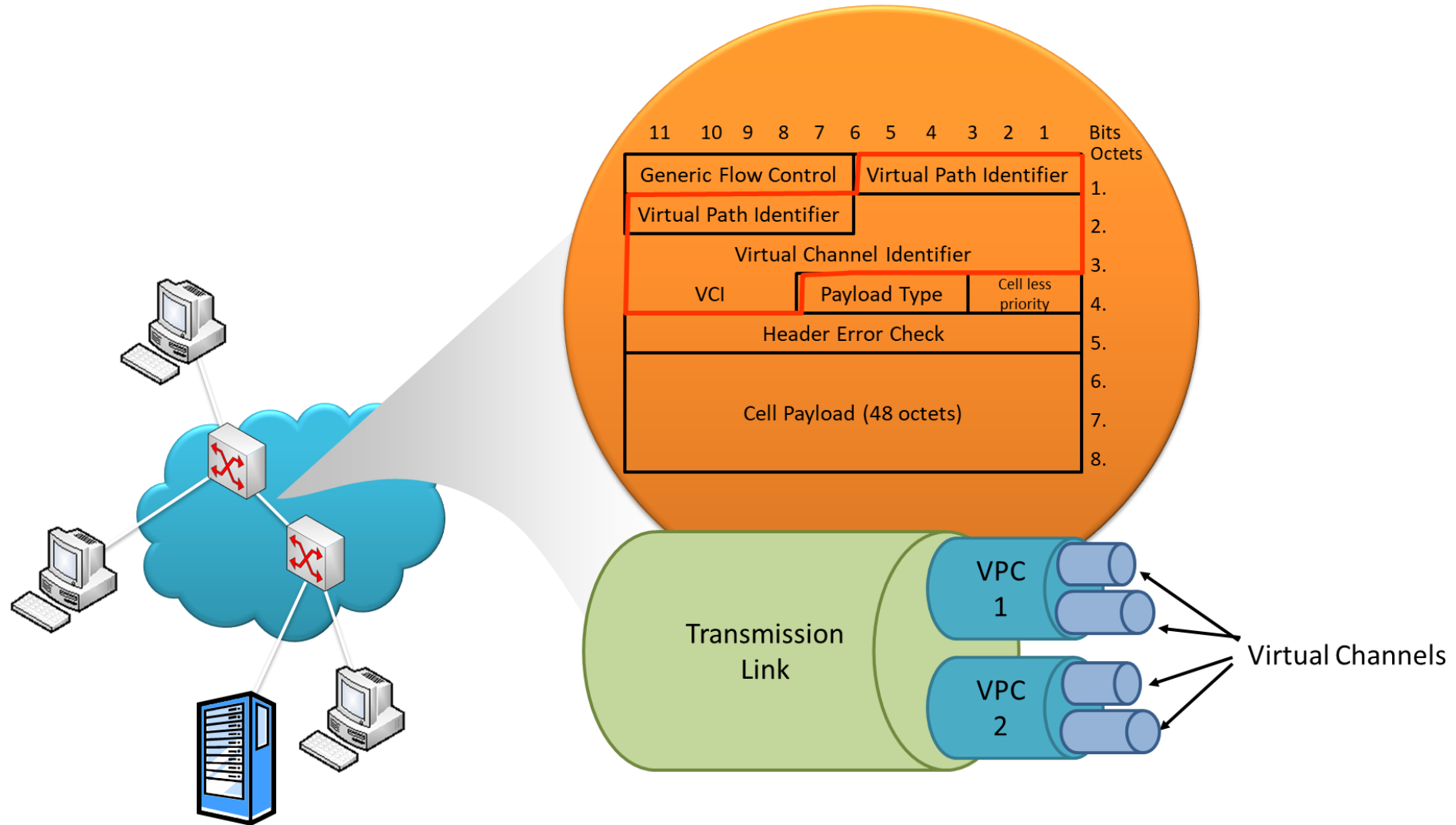
ATM Headers



GFC: Generic flow control
VPI: Virtual path identifier
VCI: Virtual channel identifier

PT: Payload type
CLP: Cell loss priority
HEC: Header error control

Virtual Paths and Channels



ATM Services

Types of services offered

- Permanent Virtual Circuit (PVC)
- Switched Virtual Circuits (SVC)

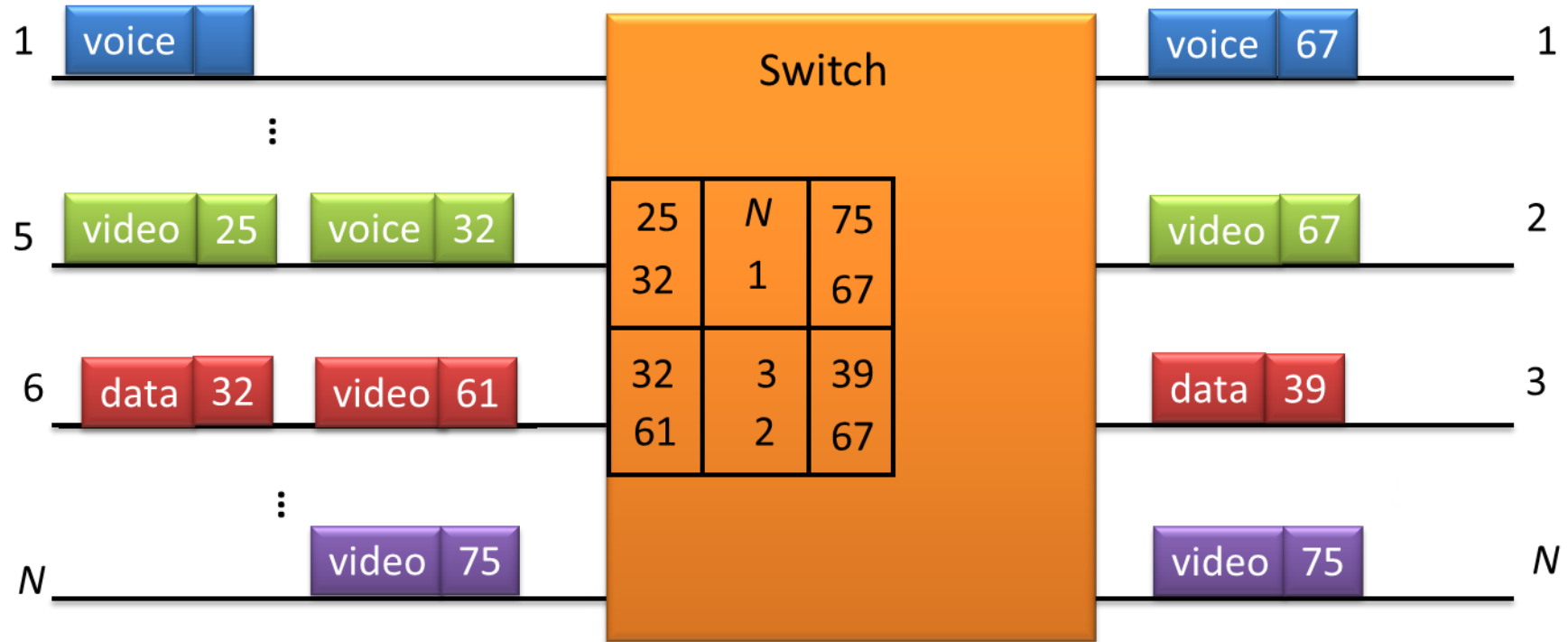
Permanent VCs (PVCs)

- A logical connection between two end systems which is permanent
- PVC's are like private line services with permanent routing path and bandwidth allocated whether used or not
- Two types : Virtual Path Connections (VPC) and Virtual Channel connections (VCC)

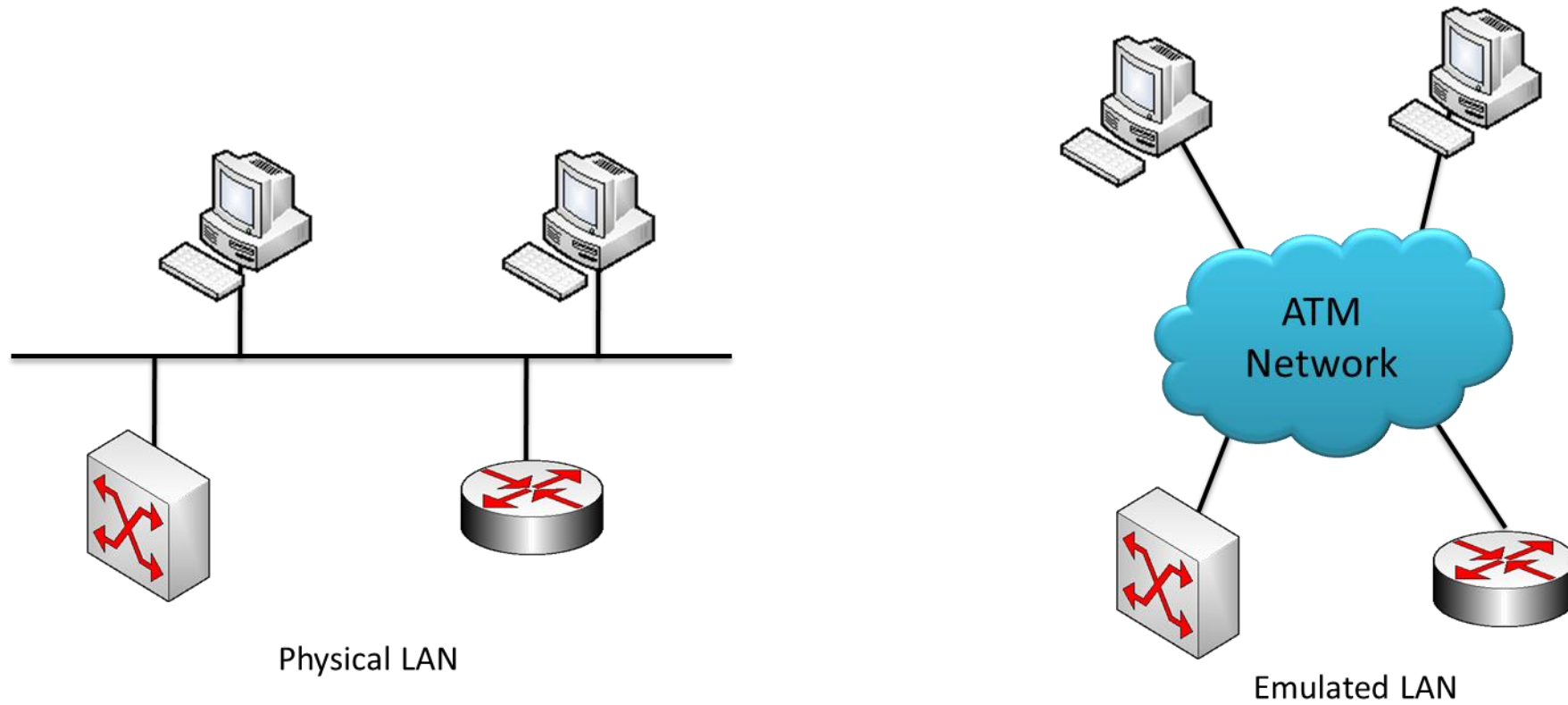
Switched VCs (SVC):

- Dynamically set up on per-call basis
- Routing temporary

ATM Cell Switching

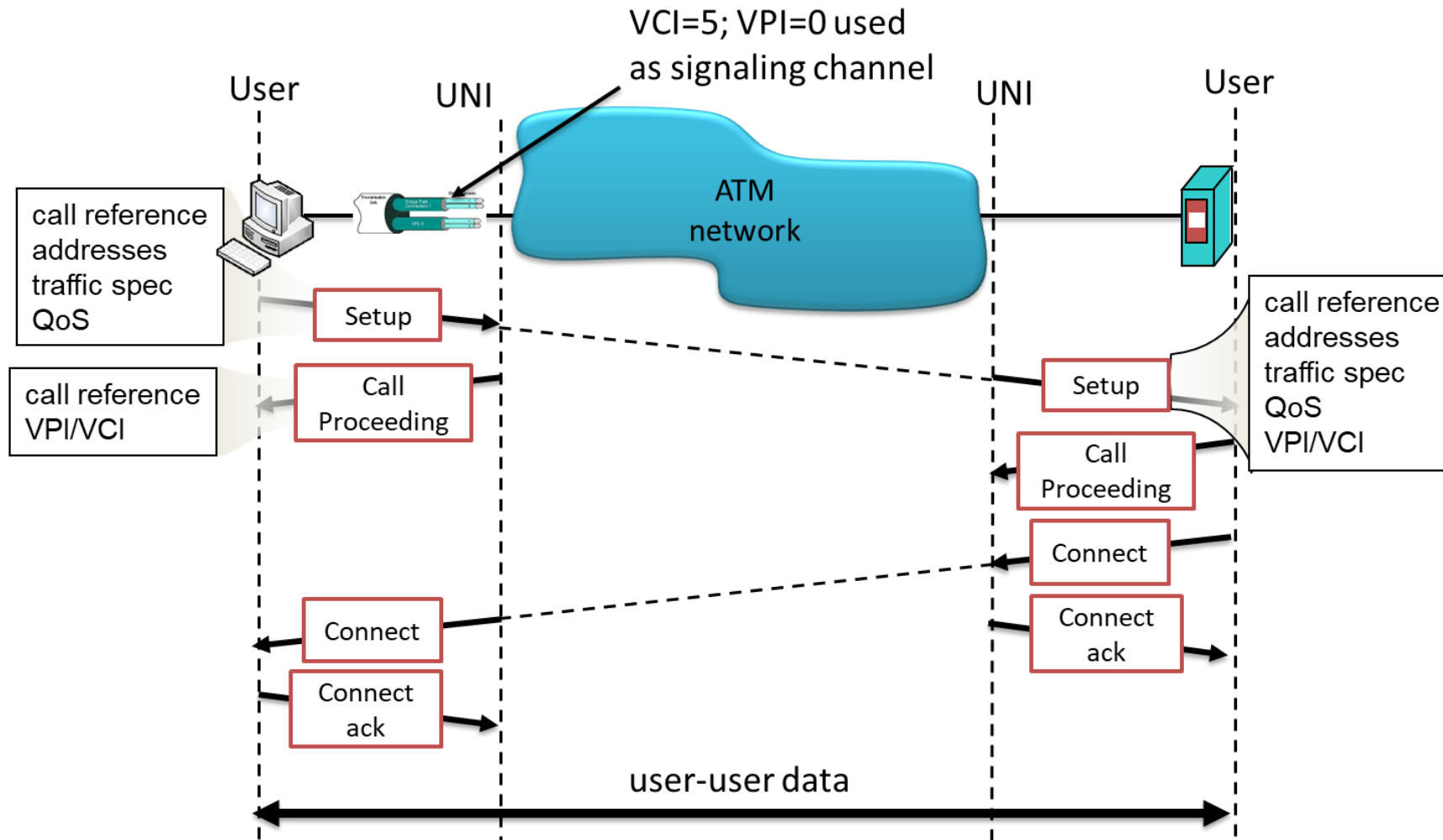


ATM Networks Emulating a Physical LAN

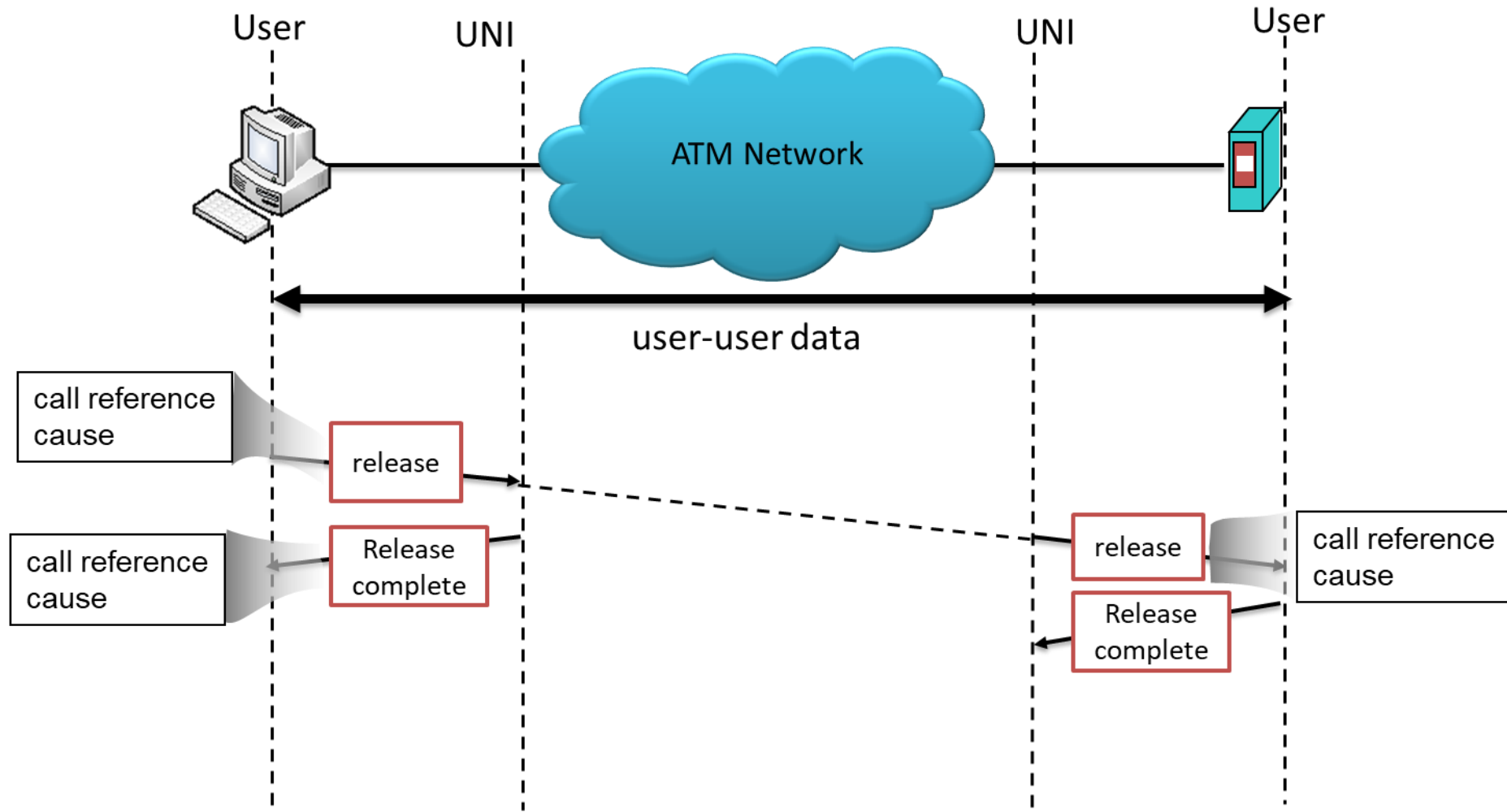


ATM Call Setup Signaling

Call signaling for Negotiating VPI and VCI

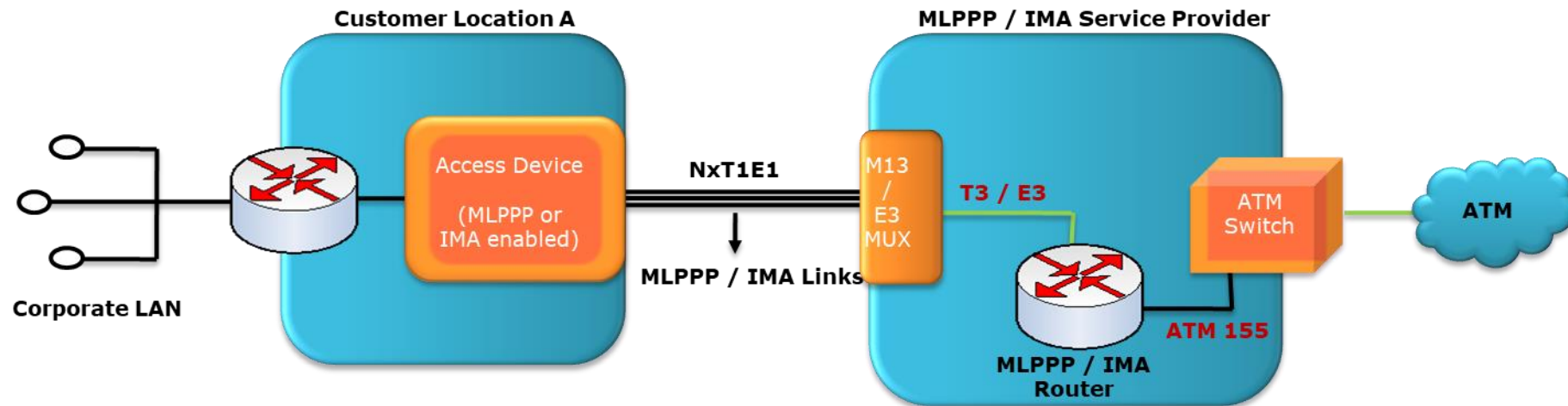


ATM Call Release Signaling

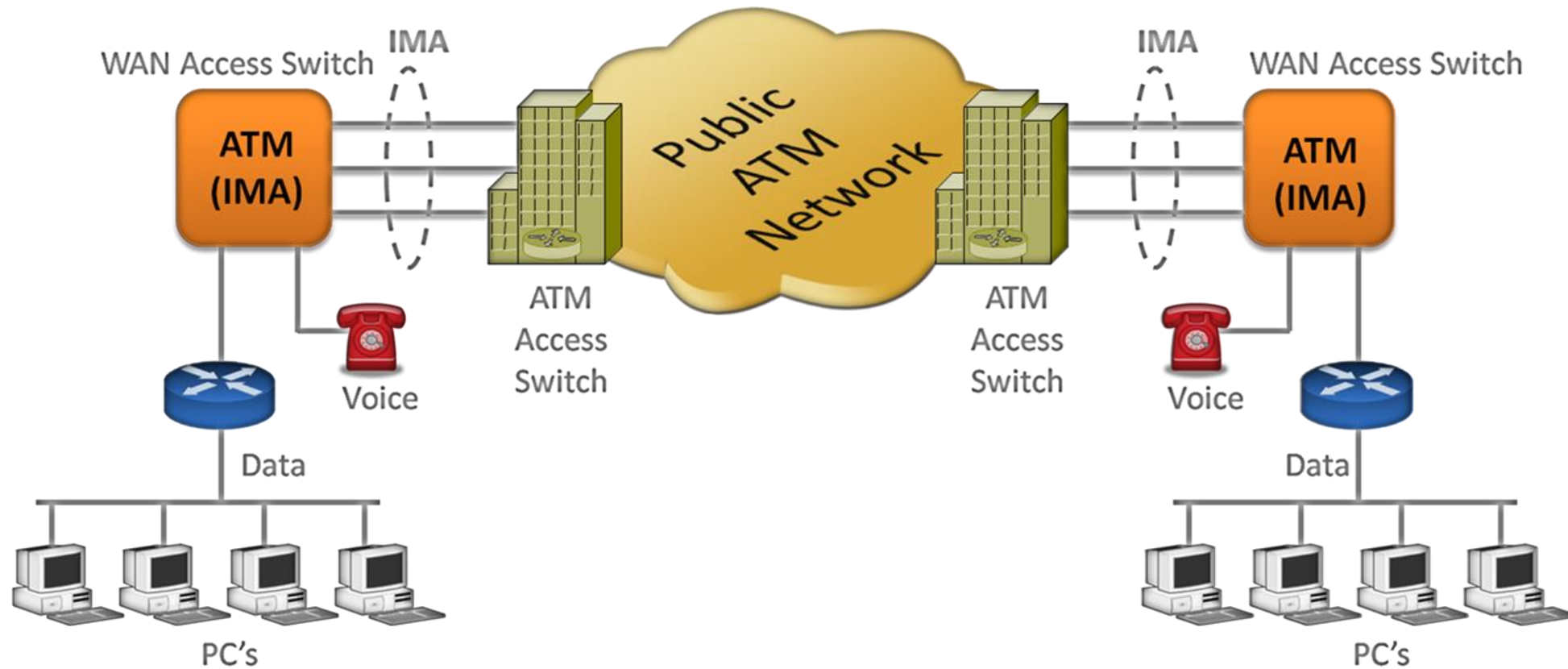


Inverse Multiplexing over ATM (IMA)

- IMA allows some Quality of Service (QoS) capability
- Contains some considerable overhead

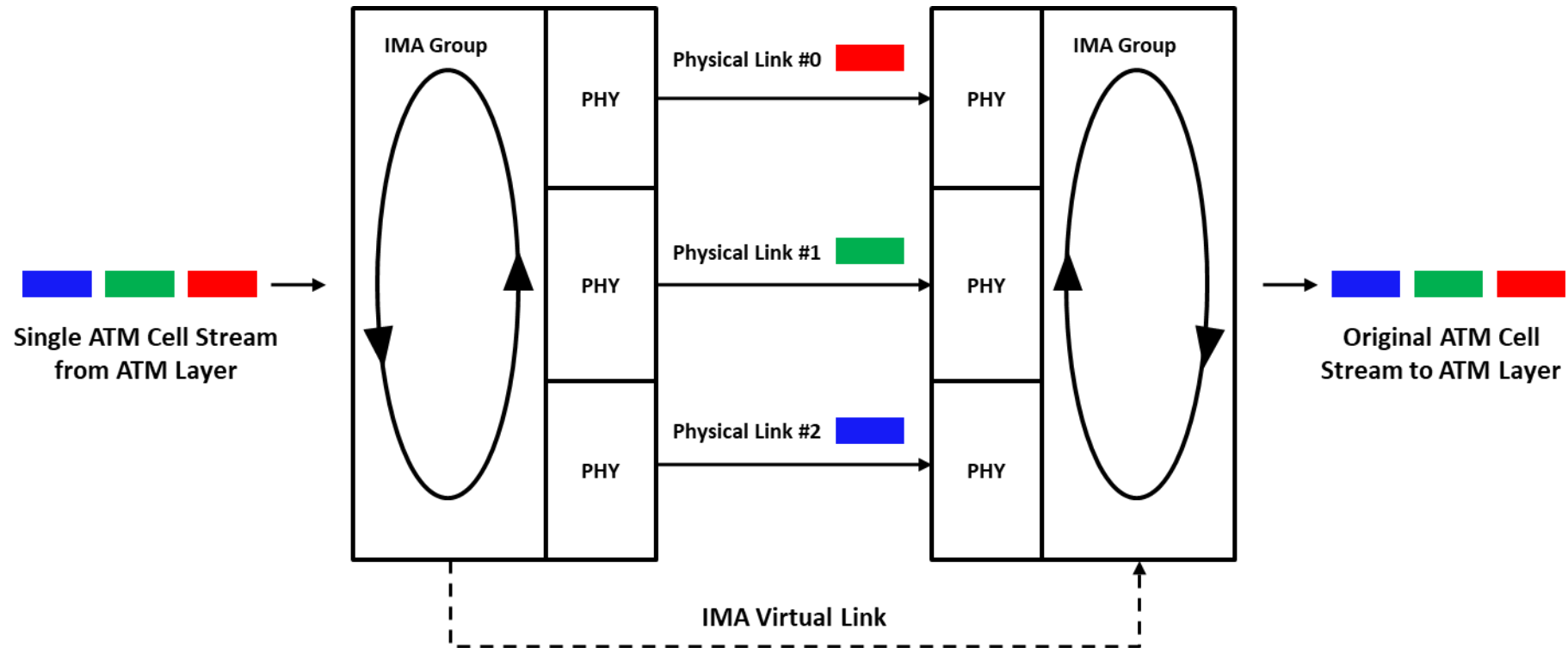


Inverse Multiplexing over ATM (IMA) Network



Inverse Multiplex over ATM (IMA)

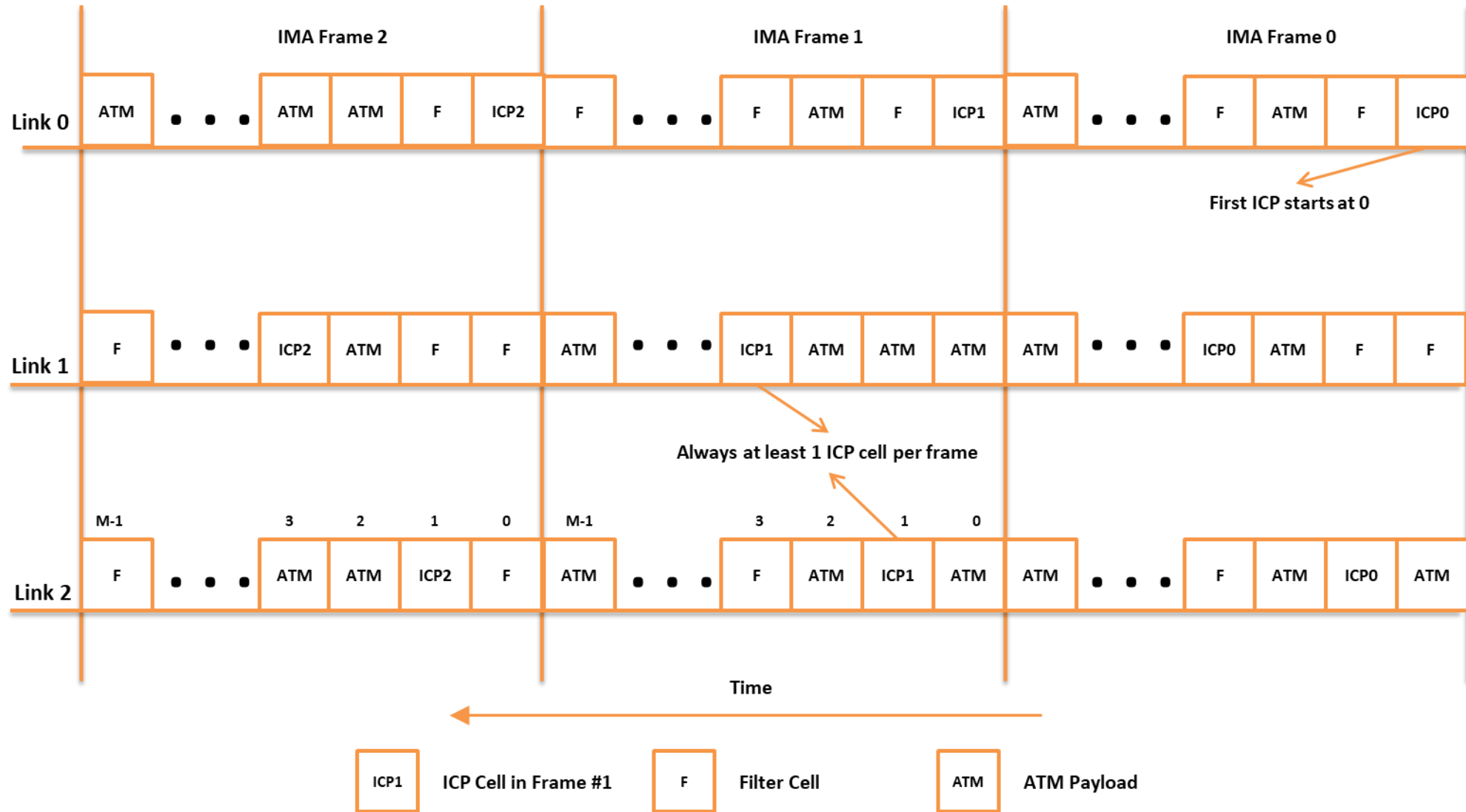
- ATM Inverse Multiplexing technique involves inverse multiplexing and de-multiplexing of ATM cells in a cyclical fashion
- IMA combines multiple T1 or E1 links to form a single high-speed connection
- IMA provides flexible bandwidth options to achieve rates between the DS1/E1 and DS3/E3



Tx direction: cells distributed across links in round robin sequence

Rx direction: cells recombined into single ATM stream

IMA Frames



IMA Frames

- IMA links transmit IMA control protocol (ICP) cells on each link in a group - once per IMA frame
- ICP cells define and separate IMA frames and enable reconstruction of the original ATM cell stream
- IMA group can have a frame size of 32, 64, 128, or 256. If an IMA frame length is of 128 cells, one out of every 128 cells on a physical link is an ICP cell
- If no ATM layer cells are being sent, then an IMA filler cell is transmitted to provide a constant stream at the physical layer. Filler cells are discarded by the receiver

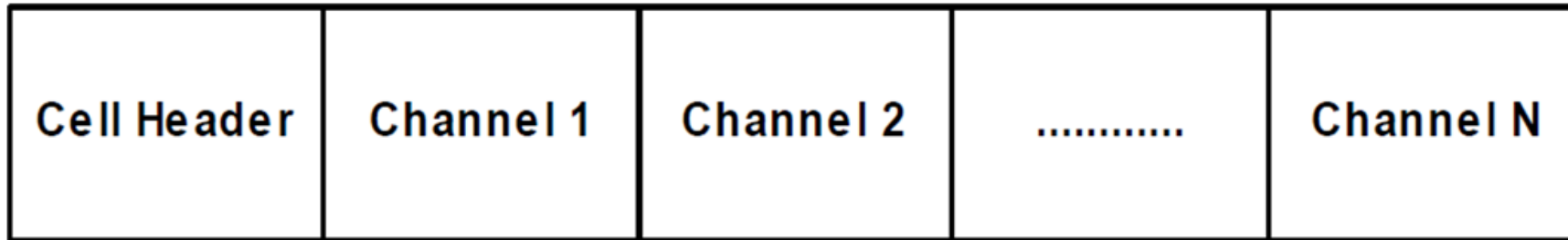
AAL2 and AAL5 Overview

Evolution of AAL2

- After development of AAL1, AAL3/4 and AAL5, there was a need for an AAL that could transport small packets for low-data rate applications efficiently
 - AAL1 had its inherent problems
 - High packetization delay (12ms for 32kbps and 48ms for 8kbps applications)
 - Partial-filled cell method can be used to reduce delay but are bandwidth-inefficient
 - AAL3/4 or AAL5 were suitable for busty data applications
- Another requirement was to allow multiple users to simultaneously use the channel
 - This mandated the use of some form of multiplexing identifier (like MID is there in AAL3/4)

Evolution of AAL2 (Contd.)

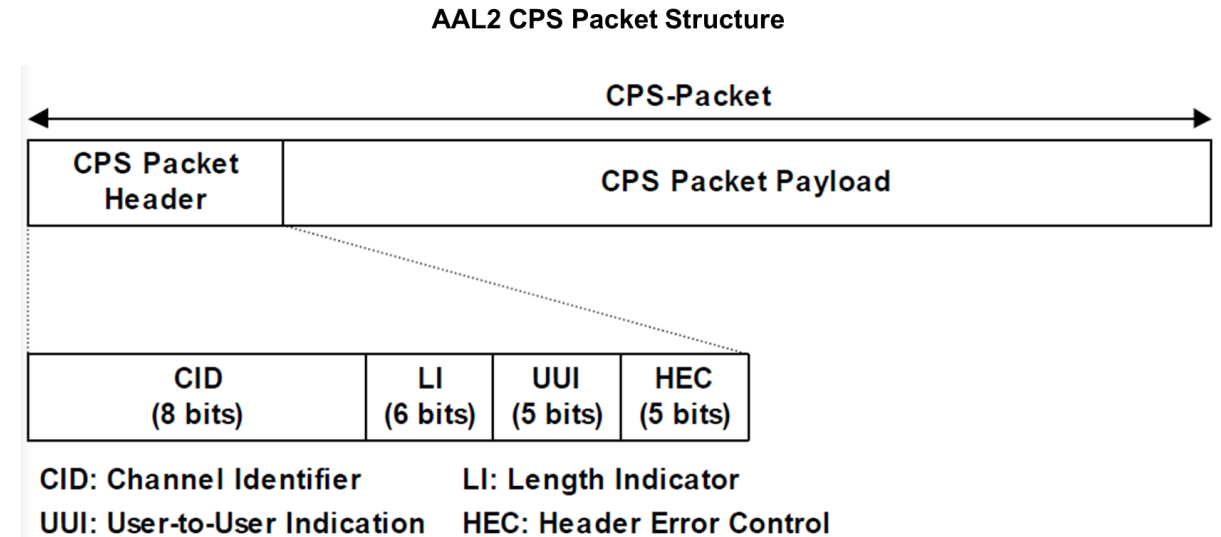
- Given this, one option is to use a fixed size channel (say 1 to 4 four bytes) and a fixed number of channels (corresponding to 48/24/16/12 channels)
- This option is not only inflexible, but also retains the inefficiency of circuit-switched networks



Evolution of AAL2 (Contd.)

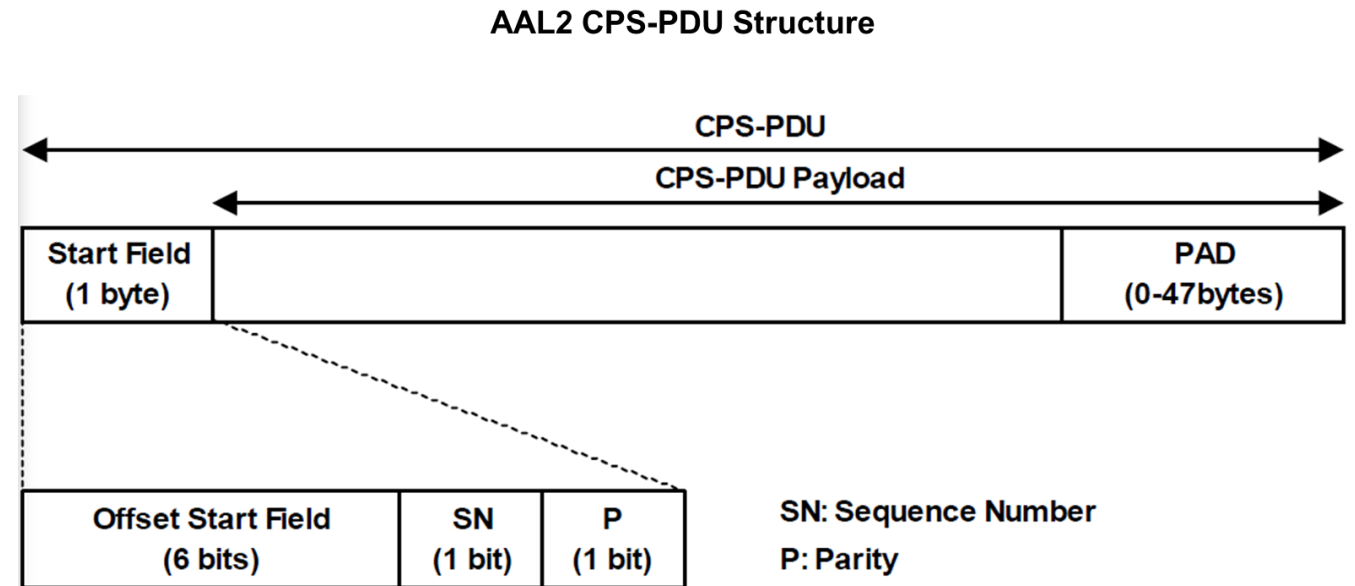
The better option is to do the following:

- Use variable sized packets instead of fixed size packets in ATM payload
- There can be one or more packets in ATM payload
- Since the packet size is variable, each packet will have its own header
- A packet is identified uniquely by an identifier called Channel Identifier (CID)
- Use a length Indicator to give the actual length of the packet



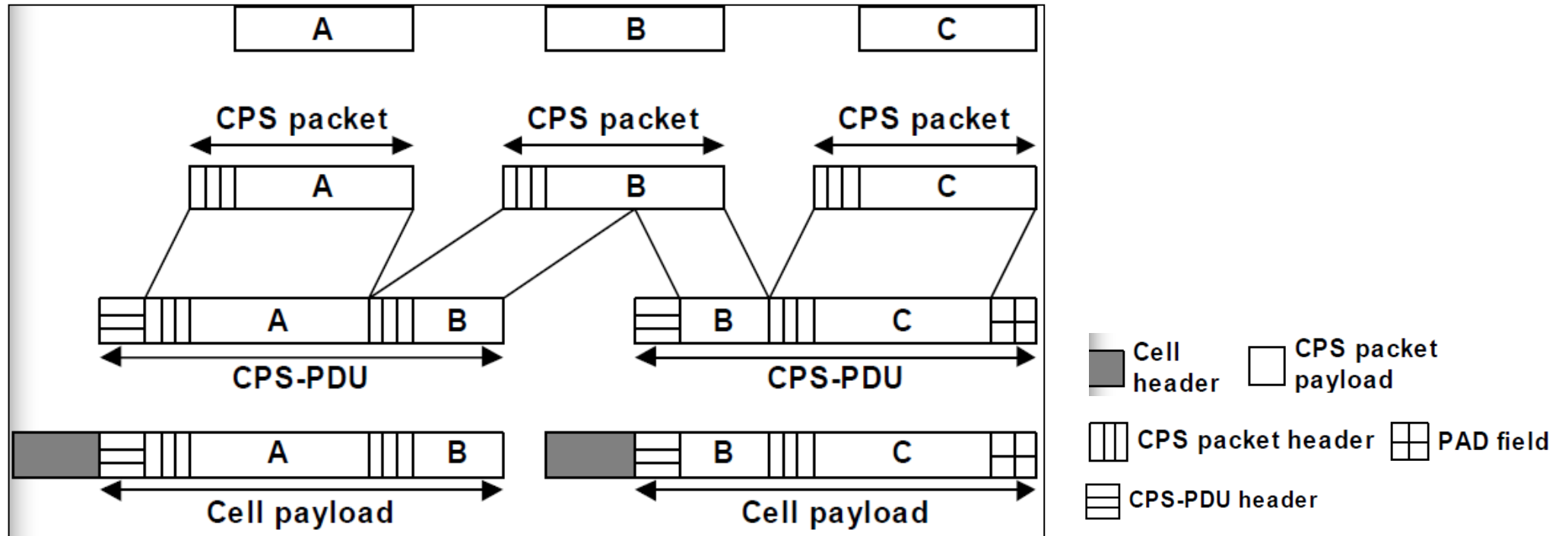
Evolution of AAL2 (Contd.)

- Only CPS packets alone are not sufficient
 - If one cell is lost, there must be means to identify the beginning of CPS Packet in the next cell
 - This functionality is served by CPS-PDU header of 1byte



Evolution of AAL2: Steps

- STEP 1: Three user data frames arrive, each corresponding to a different channel
- STEP 2: For each user data frame, a CPS packet is formed by prepending a CPS header
- STEP 3: The CPS packets are concatenated to form a CPS- PDU by prepending a CPS- PDU header. One CPS packet can span multiple CPS-PDU
- STEP 4: The CPS-PDU forms the payload of an ATM cell



SSCS Layer

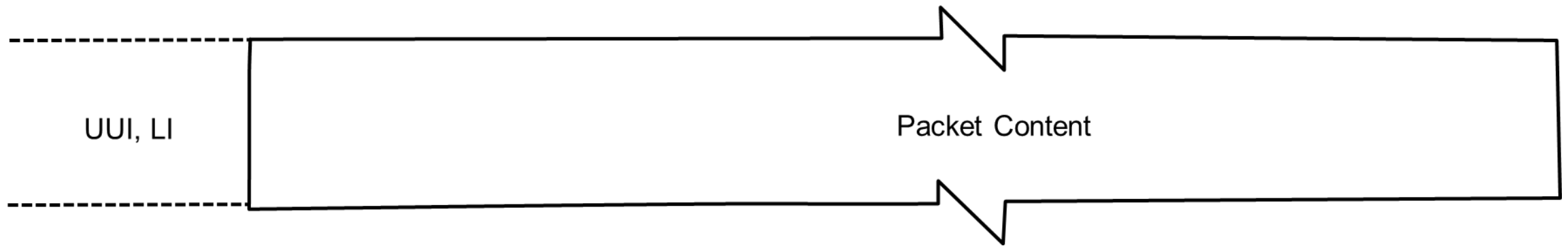
- Service Specific Convergence Sublayer that operates above the Common Part Sublayer of an AAL type 2 connection
- The purpose of the SSCS is to convey narrow-band channels consisting of voice, voiceband data, or circuit mode data
- SSCS specifies packet formats and procedures to encode the different information streams for bandwidth-efficient transport

Packet Format Types

- Protocol data units of the SSCS are transported as CPS-Packets over one AAL type 2 connection Packet Format Types are:
 - Type 1 – Unprotected
 - Type 3 – Fully protected

Packet Format Type 1 – Unprotected

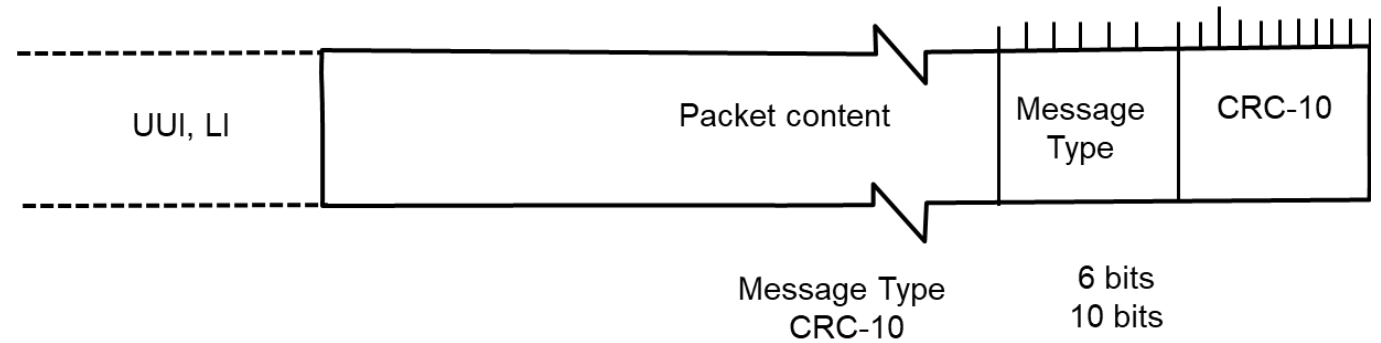
- The payload is unprotected
- This format type is used by default unless an alternative type is explicitly specified



Packet Format Type 3 – Fully Protected

Payload is protected by a 10-bit CRC

- Type 3 packets are used for the following information streams:
 - Dialed digits
 - Channel associated signaling bits
 - Facsimile demodulation control data
 - Alarms
 - User state control operations
 - Rate control
 - Synchronization of change in SSCS operation
 - Loopback

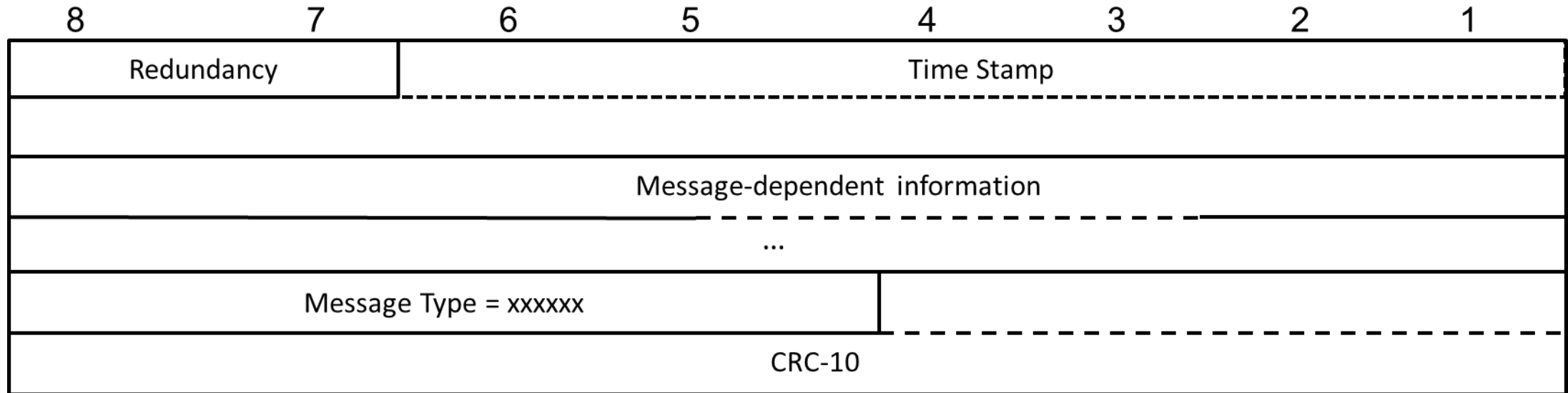


Message Type codes for packet format type 3

Information stream	Message Type code	Packet format
Dialled digits	000010	Dialled digits
Channel associated signalling	000011	CAS bits
Facsimile demodulation control	100000	T.30_Preamble
	100001	EPT
	100010	Training
	100011	Fax_Idle
	100100	T.30_Data
OAM	000000	Alarm
		Loopback
User state control	000001	User state control
Rate control	000100	Rate control
Synchronization of change in SSCS operation	000101	Synchronization of change in SSCS operation

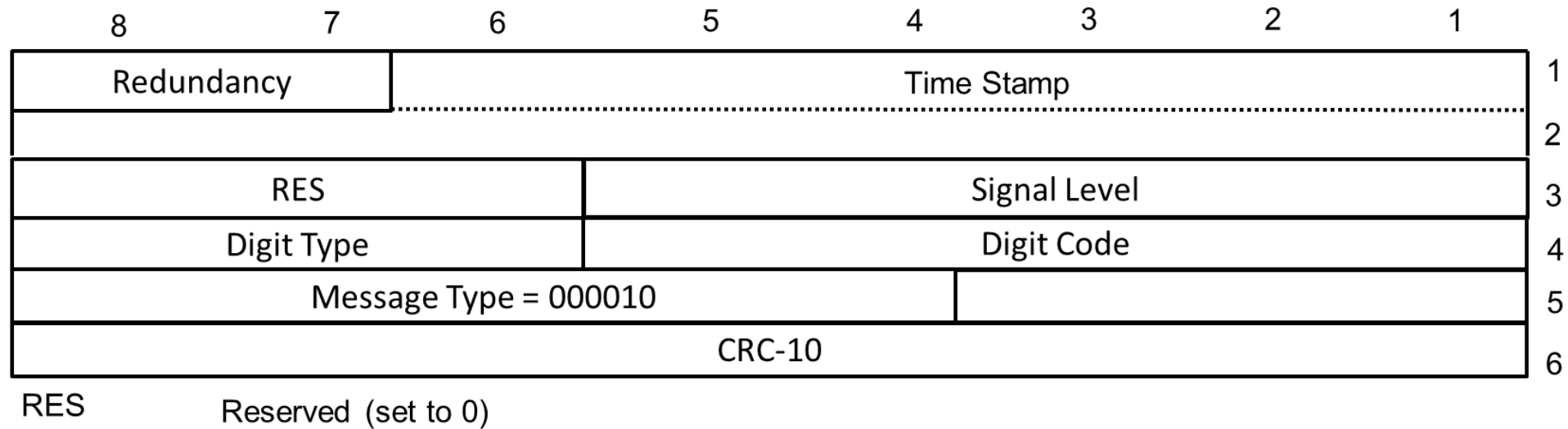
Common facilities for type 3 packets

- It applies to dialed digits, channel-associated signaling bits, facsimile demodulation control, and user state control packets
- Alarms are patterned on OAM cells and do not use the common facilities for type 3 packets



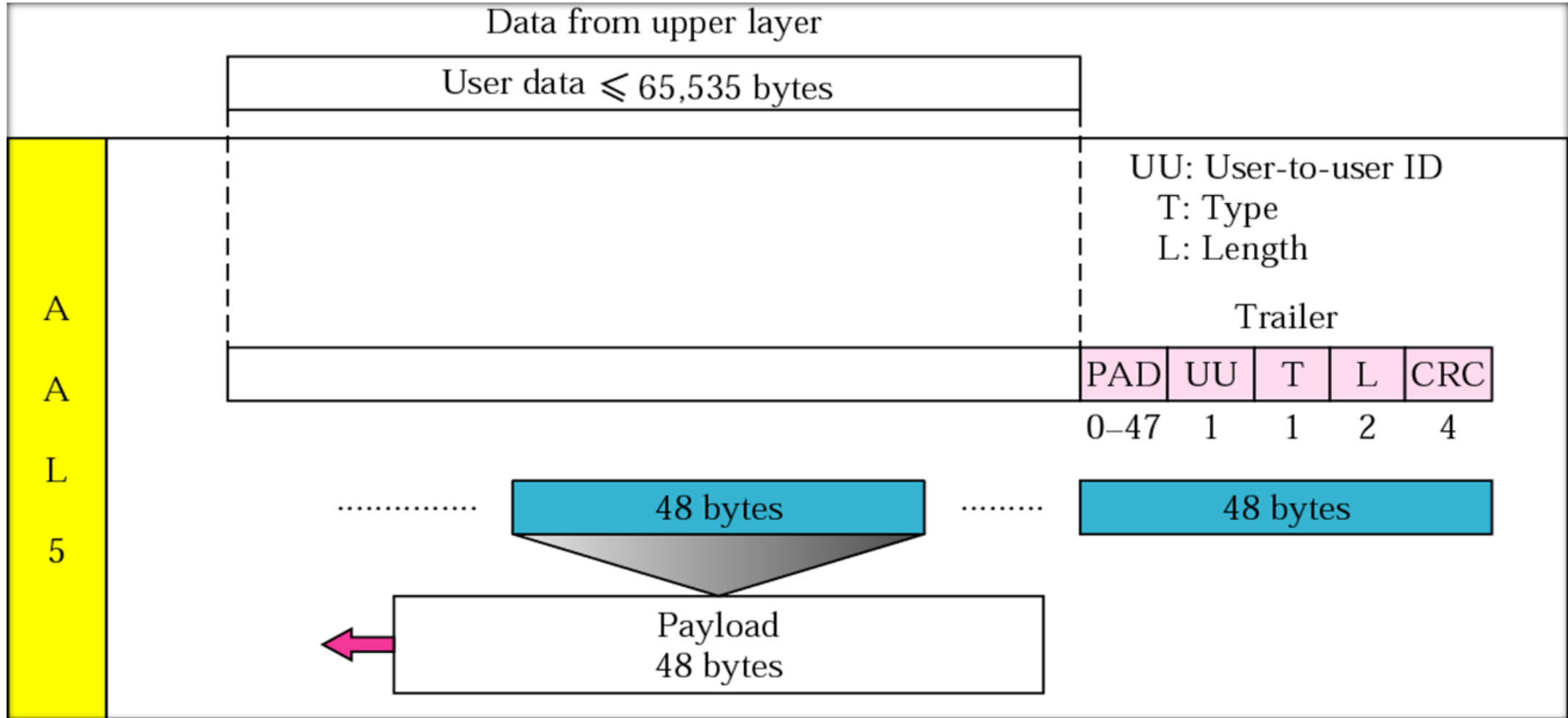
Example: Dialed Digits Packet Format

- Dialed digit packets are format type 3 and benefit from CRC-10 error detection
- They make use of the common facilities for type 3 packets including triple redundancy

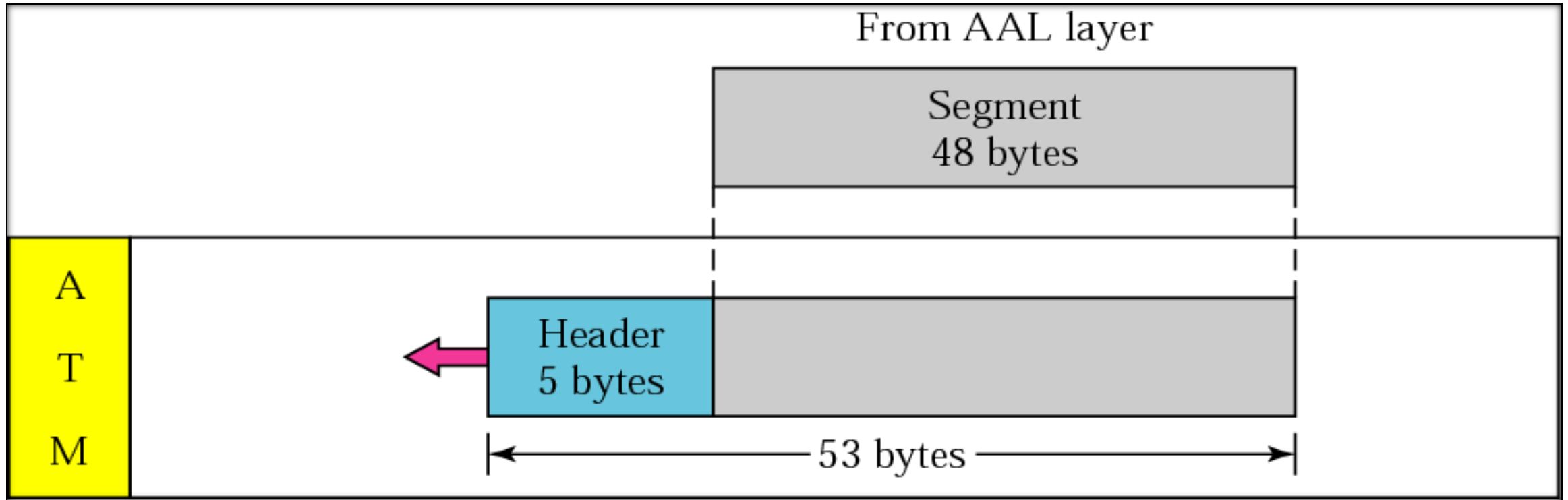


AAL5

- The AAL layer used by the IP protocol is AAL5



ATM Layer



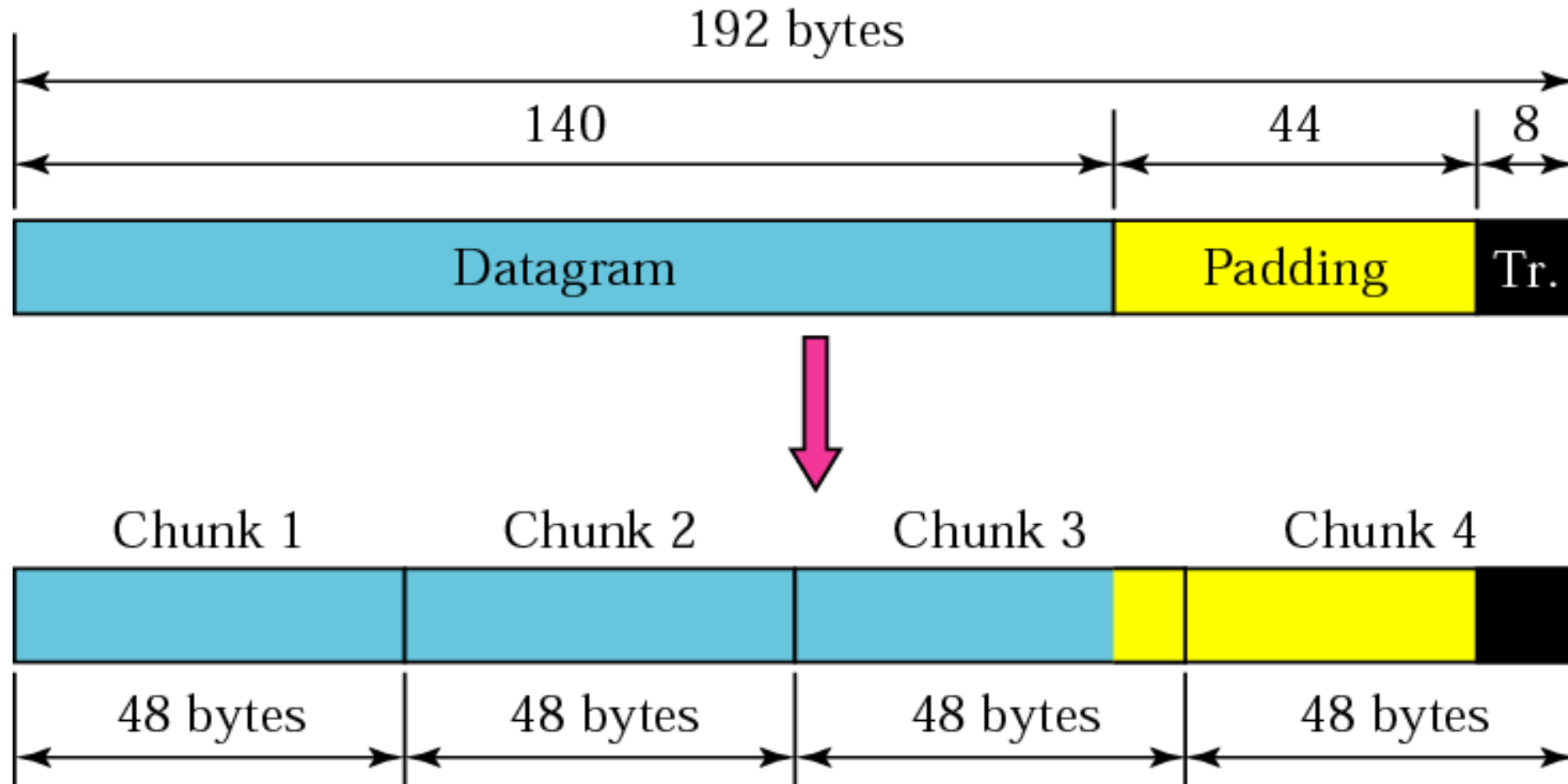
Carrying A Datagram in Cells

Why Use AAL5?

- We show how an example of a datagram is encapsulated in four cells and transmitted through an ATM network

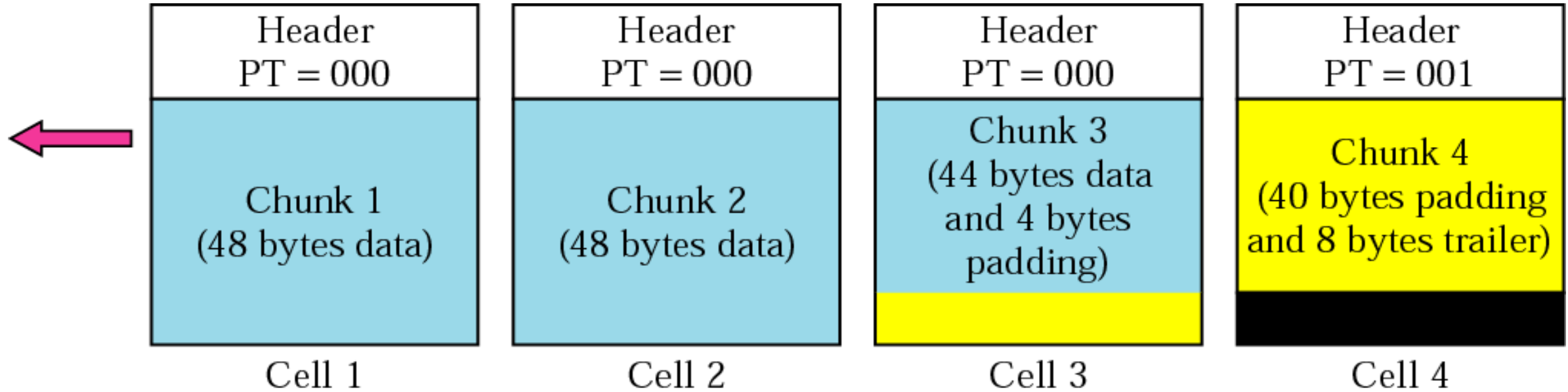
Fragmentation

- Only the last cell carries the 8-byte trailer added to the IP datagram
- Padding can be added only to the last cell or the last two cells



ATM Cells

- The value of the PT field is 000 in all cells carrying an IP datagram fragment except for the last cell; the value is 001 in the last cell



Thank you