"It's a nice result, but think of yourself as an observer who happened to stumble upon it".

- Nick McKeown, Lessons in Humility[†]

G

Centralized Parallel Packet Switch Algorithm

In this appendix, we present an example of the CPA algorithm that was described in Chapter 6. The example in Figure G.1 and Figure G.2 shows a 4×4 PPS, with k = 3 center stage OQ switches.

The CPA algorithm functions like an insert and dispatch scheme, where arriving cells are "inserted" into the correct center stage OQ switches, so that they can be dispatched to the multiplexor at their correct departure time. Our example is for FCFS-OQ emulation, and so the PPS operates with speedup S = 2, in accordance with Theorem 6.2.

Our example shows the following sequence of steps, as cells arrive in two consecutive external time slots.

Time Slot 1: In external time slot 1, cells C1, C2, and C3 arrive to inputs

 2, and 3 respectively. They are destined to outputs 1, 2, and 1 respectively.

 Note that the notation Ci : (j, k), refers to a cell numbered i, destined to output

 j, which is sent to center stage OQ switch k. Cell C1 is sent to center stage
 OQ switch 1, and cells C2 and C3 are both sent to center stage OQ switch 2
 as shown in Figure G.1. The manipulations done on the AIL(.) and AOL(.)

[†]Nick McKeown, Stanford University, California, Dec 1998.



Figure G.1: An example of the CPA algorithm.



Figure G.2: An example of the CPA algorithm (continued).

sets for these cells are also shown in Figure G.1. Note that in the bottom of the figure, the cells are shown to be conceptually "buffered in the center stage switches". Of course, depending on the internal delays, this event may not have occurred.

2. Time Slot 2: In external time slot 2, cells C4 and C5 arrive to inputs 1 and 3 respectively. They are both destined to output 1. Note that cells C1 and C2 are shown as conceptually "already having left" the center stage switches. However, depending on the internal delays on the links, this event may not have occurred. Cell C4 is sent to center stage OQ switch 3, and cell C5 is sent to center stage OQ switch 1 as shown in Figure G.2. Again, the manipulations done on the AIL(.) and AOL(.) sets for these cells are also shown in Figure G.2.