

1. Consider a *symmetric* telephone network with two hierarchical levels. Assume that there are  $n_1$  (higher level 1) areal exchanges completely connected to each other with two-way links (fully meshed topology). What is the total number  $l_1$  of links at this level? Assume further that, for each areal exchange, there are  $n_2$  (lower level 2) local exchanges connected to the areal exchange with two-way links (star topology). What is the total number  $l_2$  of links at this level? All the subscribers are connected to the local exchanges, so that the areal exchanges are just used as transit exchanges. Let  $T = T(i, j)$  denote the traffic matrix, where  $T(i, j)$  tells the offered traffic originating from local exchange  $i$  and destined to local exchange  $j$ . Assume finally that

$$T(i, j) = \begin{cases} t_1, & \text{if local exchanges } i \text{ and } j \text{ are connected to } \textit{different} \text{ areal exchanges,} \\ t_2, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Note, in particular, that  $T(i, i) = t_2$  for all  $i$ . What is the total offered traffic  $a$  generated from the subscribers of any single local exchange?

*Note:* In problems 2–4, we assume that  $n_1 = 3$ ,  $n_2 = 9$ , and  $t_1 = t_2 = 0.1$  erlang.

2. (Node dimensioning) Assume that the mean holding time is  $h = 3$  minutes. What is the rate  $\lambda_i$  of call requests arriving at a level- $i$  node,  $i = 1, 2$ ? Dimension the nodes so that the traffic load  $\rho < 0.5$  in all nodes.
3. (Link dimensioning) What is the traffic  $a_i$  offered to a level- $i$  link,  $i = 1, 2$ ? Dimension the links so that the call blocking probability  $B \leq 1\%$  in all links.
4. (Network optimization) According to so called *Product Bound* method, the end-to-end blocking probability  $B_e$  for a route consisting of links  $j = 1, \dots, J$ , can be approximately calculated from the following equation:

$$B_e = 1 - (1 - B(1)) \cdots (1 - B(J)),$$

where  $B(j)$  refer to the call blocking probability for link  $j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . When all  $B(j)$ 's are small we have

$$B_e \approx B(1) + \dots + B(J).$$

Using this equation, we can deduce that the dimensioning made in the previous problem guarantees that the end-to-end blocking probability between any two local exchanges is at most 3%.

However, this is not the only (and neither the best) possibility to allocate resources so that the same target Grade of Service is guaranteed. A better allocation can be determined by utilizing so called *Moe's principle*. Dimension first all the links so that the call blocking probability  $B < 3\%$  in all links. After that increase the link capacities step-by-step. In each step, add one more channel to *all* the links at level  $i$ , for which the figure  $H_i$ ,

$$H_i = \frac{\text{Erl}(C_i, a_i) - \text{Erl}(C_i + 1, a_i)}{l_i}$$

is greatest. Here  $C_i$  refers to the current number of channels allocated to a link at level  $i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Stop the allocation as soon as the end-to-end blocking probability between any two local exchanges becomes smaller than (or equal to) 3%. Compare the total amount of allocated channels in problems 3 and 4.