

National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences

CS 3001 - COMPUTER NETWORKS

Lecture 25 Chapter 6

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Office Hours: 02:30 pm till 06:00 pm (Every Tuesday & Thursday)

Chapter 6

The Link Layer and LANs

A note on the use of these PowerPoint slides:

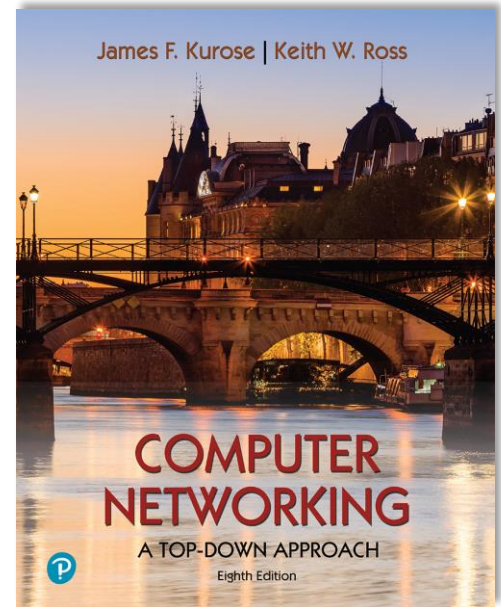
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For a revision history, see the slide note for this page.

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Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach

8th edition

Jim Kurose, Keith Ross
Pearson, 2020

Link layer and LANs: our goals

- understand principles behind link layer services:
 - error detection, correction
 - sharing a broadcast channel: multiple access
 - link layer addressing
 - local area networks: Ethernet, VLANs
- instantiation, implementation of various link layer technologies



Link layer, LANs: roadmap

- introduction
- error detection, correction
- multiple access protocols
- LANs
 - addressing, ARP
 - Ethernet
 - switches
 - ~~VLANs~~
- ~~link virtualization: MPLS~~
- data center networking



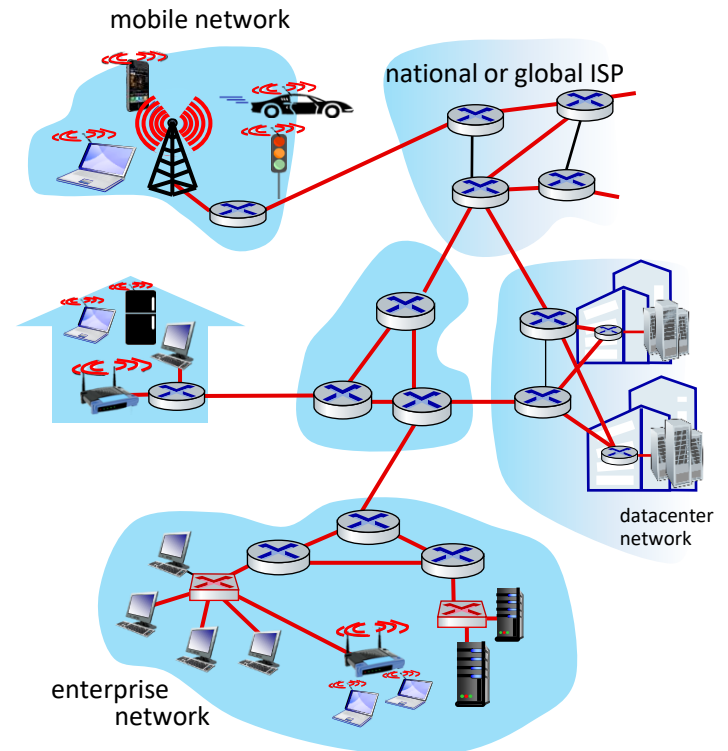
- a day in the life of a web request

Link layer: introduction

terminology:

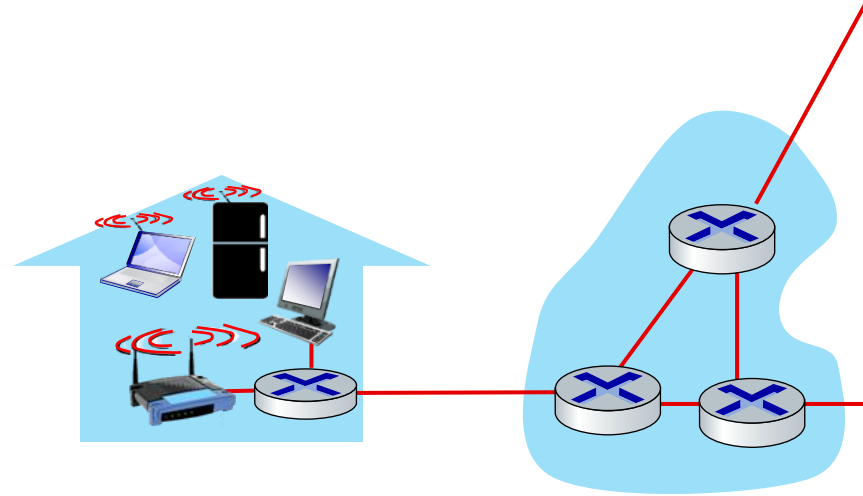
- hosts, routers: **nodes**
- communication channels that connect **adjacent** nodes along communication path: **links**
 - wired , wireless
 - LANs
- layer-2 packet: **frame**, encapsulates datagram

*link layer has responsibility of transferring datagram from one node to **physically adjacent** node over a link*

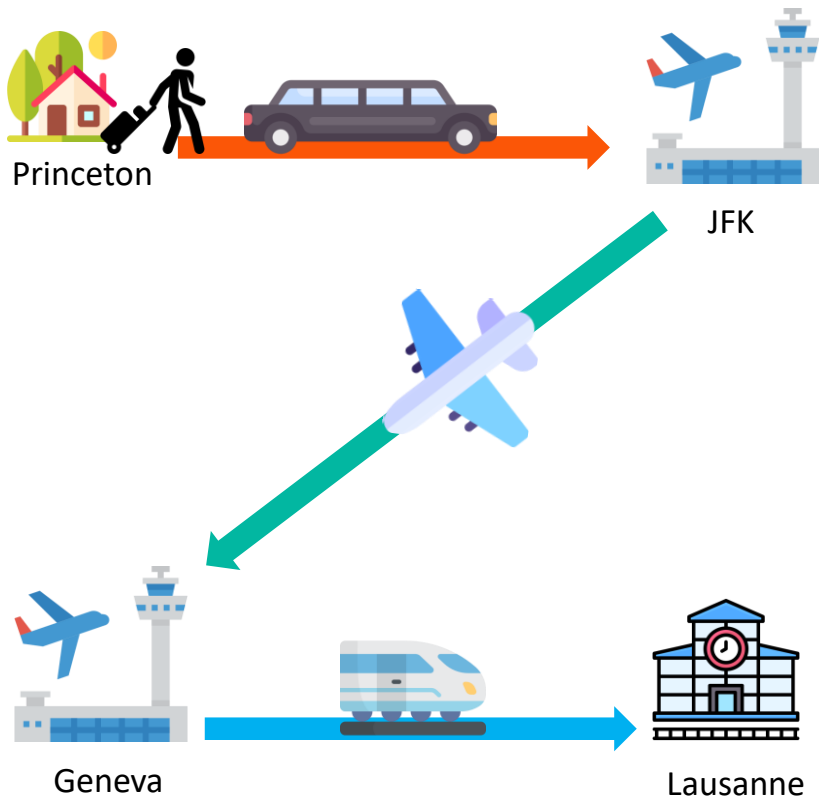


Link layer: context

- datagram transferred by **different link protocols** over different links:
 - e.g., WiFi on first link, Ethernet on next link
- each link protocol provides different services
 - e.g., **may or may not** provide reliable data transfer over link



Transportation analogy



transportation analogy:

- trip from Princeton to Lausanne
 - limo: Princeton to JFK
 - plane: JFK to Geneva
 - train: Geneva to Lausanne
- tourist = **datagram**
- transport segment = **communication link**
- transportation mode = **link-layer protocol**
- travel agent = **routing algorithm**

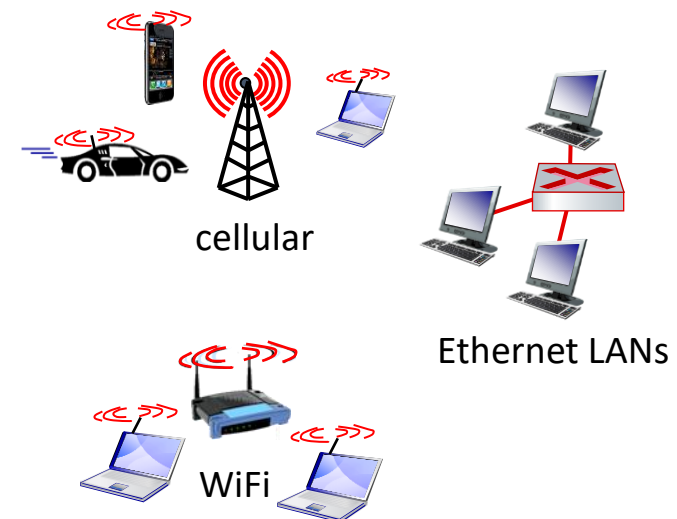
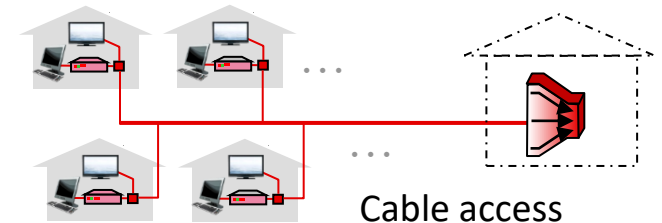
Link layer: services

■ framing, link access:

- encapsulate datagram into frame, adding header, trailer
- channel access if shared medium
- “MAC” addresses in frame headers identify source, destination (different from IP address!)

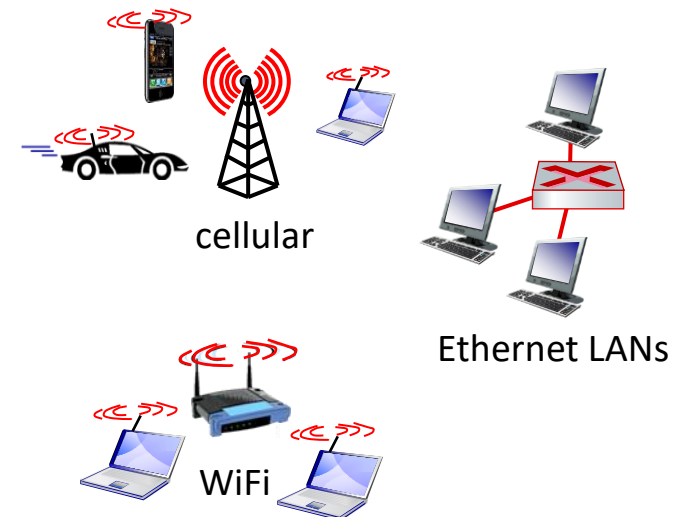
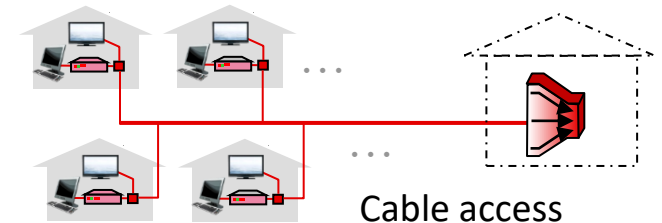
■ reliable delivery between adjacent nodes

- we already know how to do this!
- seldom used on low bit-error links
- wireless links: high error rates
 - **Q:** why both link-level and end-end reliability?
 - **A:** Efficiency is improved, i.e. burden taken off of TCP. The goal of correcting an error locally—on the link where the error occurs—rather than forcing an end-to-end retransmission of the data by a transport- or application-layer protocol. Also, even if the link layer is providing reliability, packets could still get lost in intermediate nodes, (e.g. routers etc.)



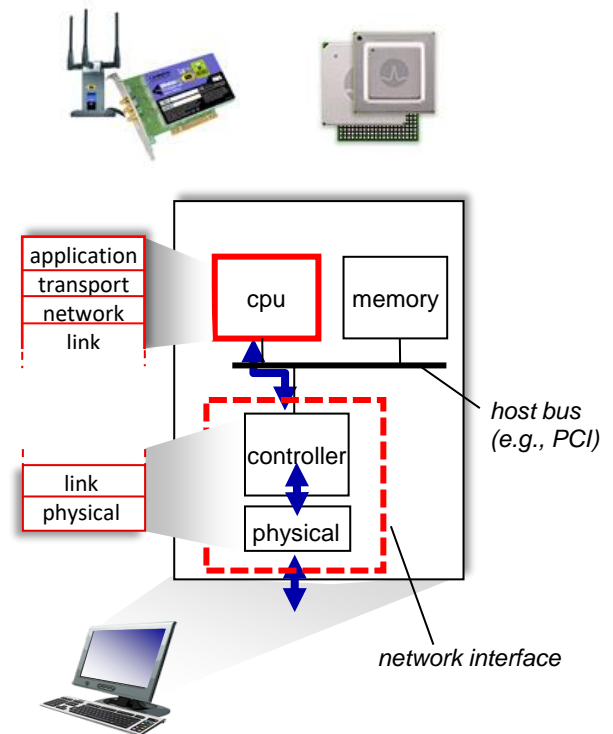
Link layer: services (more)

- **flow control:**
 - pacing between adjacent sending and receiving nodes
- **error detection:**
 - errors caused by signal attenuation, noise.
 - receiver detects errors, signals retransmission, or drops frame
- **error correction:**
 - receiver identifies *and corrects* bit error(s) without retransmission
- **half-duplex and full-duplex:**
 - with half duplex, nodes at both ends of link can transmit, but not at same time

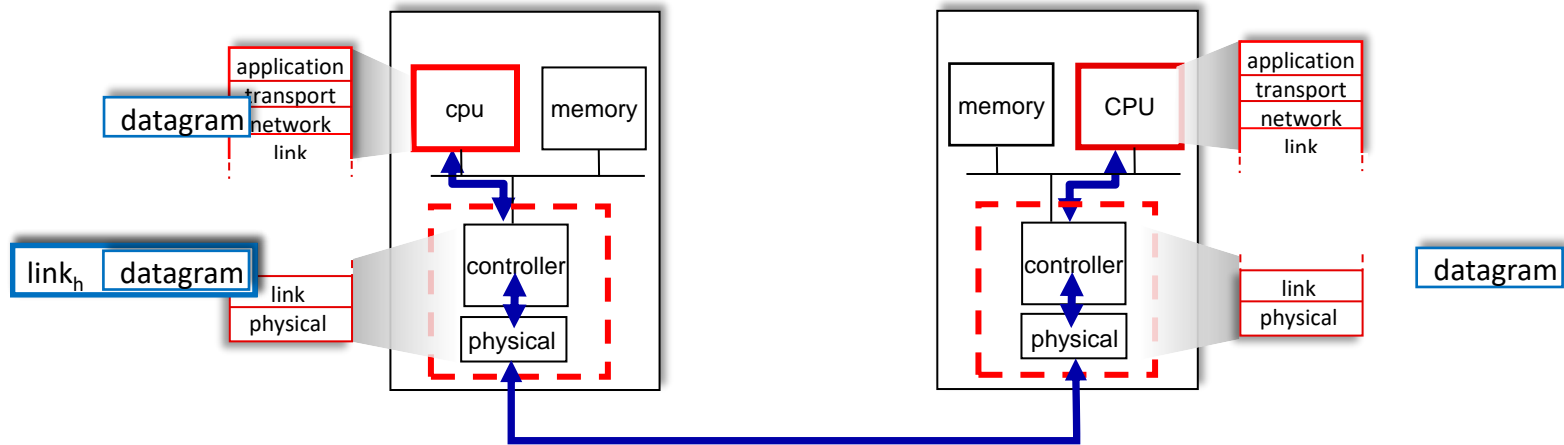


Host link-layer implementation

- in each-and-every host
- link layer implemented on-chip or in network interface card (NIC)
 - implements link, physical layer
- attaches into host's system buses
- combination of hardware, software, firmware



Interfaces communicating



sending side:

- encapsulates datagram in frame
- adds error checking bits, reliable data transfer, flow control, etc.

receiving side:

- looks for errors, reliable data transfer, flow control, etc.
- extracts datagram, passes to upper layer at receiving side

Link layer, LANs: roadmap

- introduction
- **error detection, correction**
- multiple access protocols
- LANs
 - addressing, ARP
 - Ethernet
 - switches
 - VLANs
- link virtualization: MPLS
- data center networking

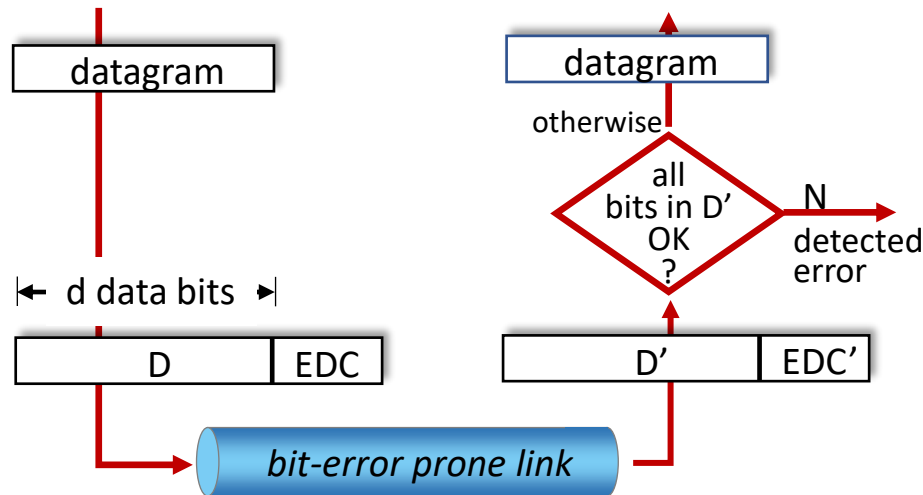


- a day in the life of a web request

Error detection

EDC: error detection and correction bits (e.g., redundancy)

D: data protected by error checking, may include header fields



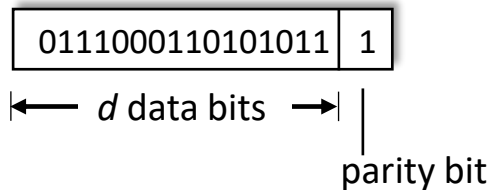
Error detection not 100% reliable!

- protocol may miss some errors, but rarely
- larger EDC field yields better detection and correction (but incur a larger overhead, more computation)

Parity checking

single bit parity:

- detect single bit errors



Even/odd parity: set parity bit so there is an even/odd number of 1's

At receiver:

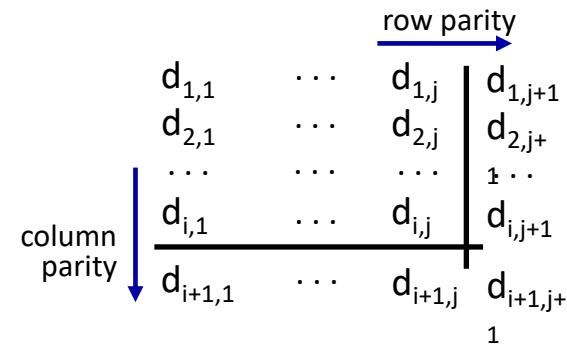
- compute parity of d received bits
- compare with received parity bit – if different than error detected
- Can only check single bit error & discard if error detected, (not correct the error)



two dimensional parity:

Can detect *and* correct errors (without retransmission!)

- two-dimensional parity: detect *and correct* single bit errors



no errors:

1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	1
0	0	1	0	1	0

detected and correctable single-bit error:

1	0	1	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	1
0	0	1	0	1	0

parity error

Internet checksum (review, see section 3.3, primarily performed at the transport layer)

Goal: detect errors (*i.e.*, flipped bits) in transmitted segment

sender:

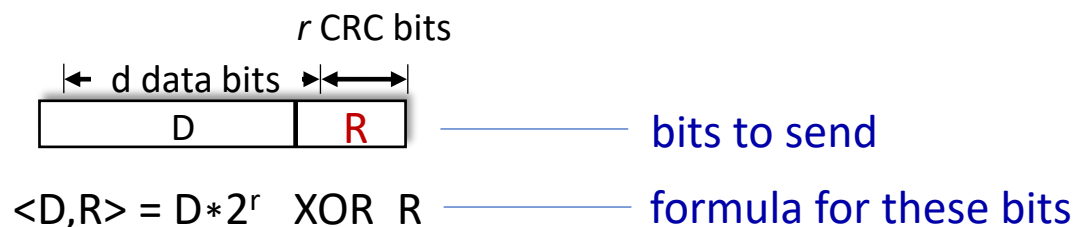
- treat contents of UDP segment (including UDP header fields and IP addresses) as sequence of 16-bit integers
- **checksum:** addition (one's complement sum) of segment content
- checksum value put into UDP checksum field

receiver:

- compute checksum of received segment
- check if computed checksum equals checksum field value:
 - not equal - error detected
 - equal - no error detected. *But maybe errors nonetheless?* More later

Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) (aka Polynomial Codes)

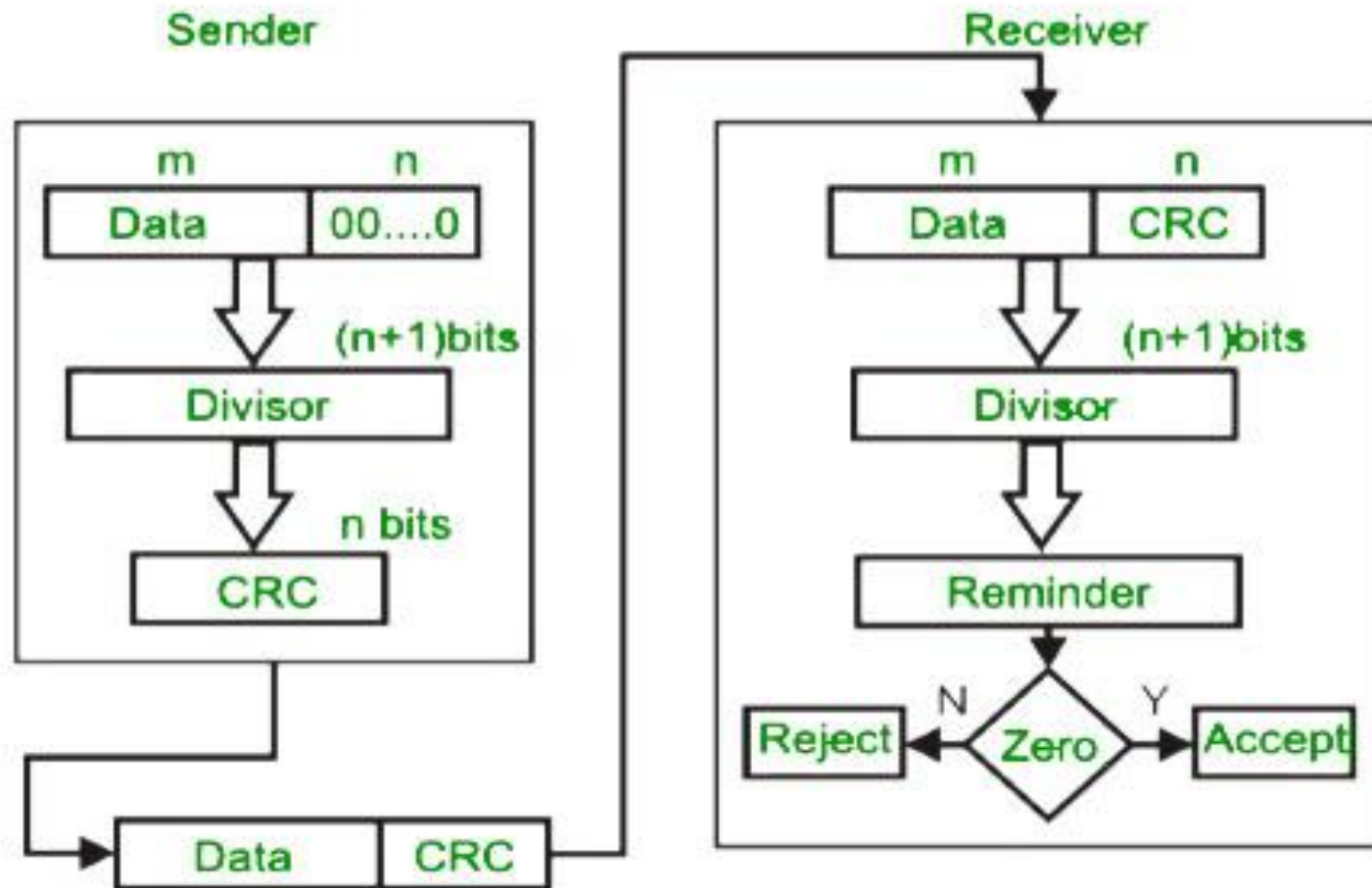
- more powerful error-detection coding
- **D**: data bits (given, think of these as a binary number)
- **G**: bit pattern (generator), of $r+1$ bits (given, specified in CRC standard) (the most significant (leftmost) bit of **G** is required to be a 1; pre agreed between sender & receiver)



sender: compute r CRC bits, **R**, such that $\langle D, R \rangle$ *exactly* divisible by $G \pmod{2}$

- receiver knows G , divides $\langle D, R \rangle$ by G . If non-zero remainder: error detected!
- can detect all burst errors less than $r+1$ bits
- widely used in practice (Ethernet, 802.11 WiFi)

CRC Process Explained



Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC): example

Sender wants to compute R
such that:

$$D \cdot 2^r \text{ XOR } R = nG$$

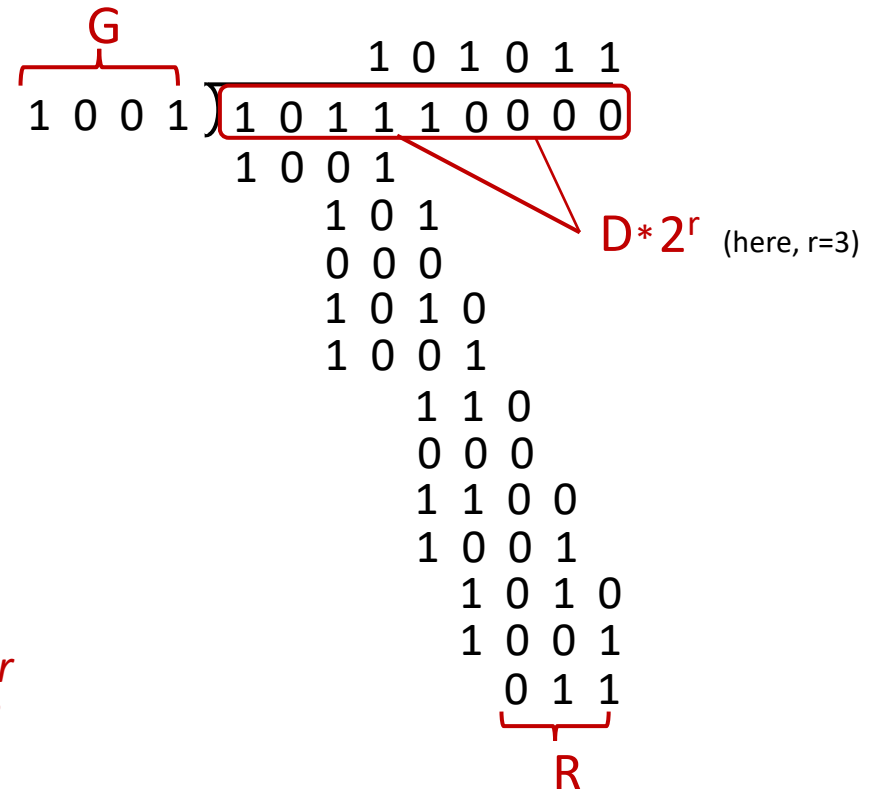
... or equivalently (XOR R both sides):

$$D \cdot 2^r = nG \text{ XOR } R$$

... which says:

if we divide $D \cdot 2^r$ by G, we
want remainder R to satisfy:

$$R = \text{remainder} \left[\frac{D \cdot 2^r}{G} \right] \quad \text{algorithm for computing } R$$



* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/

Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) - Example Video

- For revision of CRC discussed in the Class, please watch and review my video shared via Google Classroom. (Please watch the complete video, where I explain & solve an example of CRC step by step in detail.)

Very Important Example !!!!!!!

Link layer, LANs: roadmap

- introduction
- error detection, correction
- multiple access protocols
- LANs
 - addressing, ARP
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- a day in the life of a web request

Multiple access links, protocols

two types of “links”:

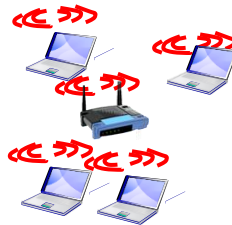
- point-to-point
 - point-to-point link between Ethernet switch, host
 - PPP for dial-up access
- **broadcast (shared wire or medium)**
 - old-school Ethernet
 - upstream HFC in cable-based access network
 - 802.11 wireless LAN, 4G/4G. satellite



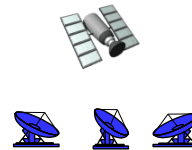
shared wire (e.g.,
cabled Ethernet)



shared radio: 4G/5G



shared radio: WiFi



shared radio: satellite



humans at a cocktail party
(shared air, acoustical)

Multiple access protocols (Solution to Multiple Access Problem)

- single shared broadcast channel
- two or more simultaneous transmissions by nodes: interference
 - *collision* if node receives two or more signals at the same time

multiple access protocol

- distributed algorithm that determines how nodes share channel, i.e., determine when node can transmit
- communication about channel sharing must use channel itself!
 - no out-of-band channel for coordination

An ideal multiple access protocol

given: multiple access channel (MAC) of rate R bps

desired characteristics of an ideal multiple access protocol:

1. when one node wants to transmit, it can send at rate R .
2. when M nodes want to transmit, each can send at average rate R/M
3. fully decentralized:
 - no special node to coordinate transmissions
 - no synchronization of clocks, slots
4. simple

MAC protocols: taxonomy

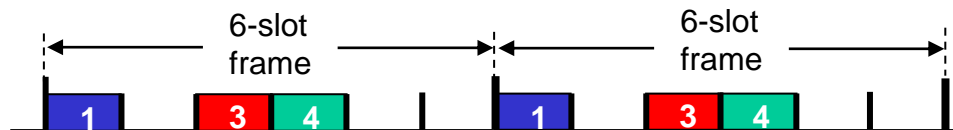
three broad classes:

- **channel partitioning**
 - divide channel into smaller “pieces” (time slots, frequency, code)
 - allocate piece to node for exclusive use
- **random access**
 - channel not divided, allow collisions
 - “recover” from collisions
- **“taking turns”**
 - nodes take turns, but nodes with more to send can take longer turns

Channel partitioning MAC protocols: TDMA

TDMA: time division multiple access

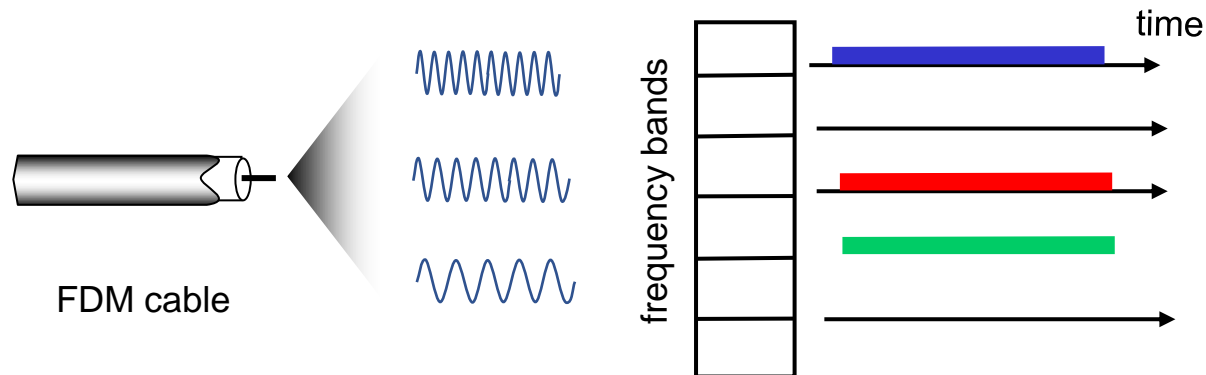
- access to channel in “rounds”
- each station gets fixed length slot (length = packet transmission time) in each round
- unused slots go idle
- example: 6-station LAN, 1,3,4 have packets to send, slots 2,5,6 idle



Channel partitioning MAC protocols: FDMA

FDMA: frequency division multiple access

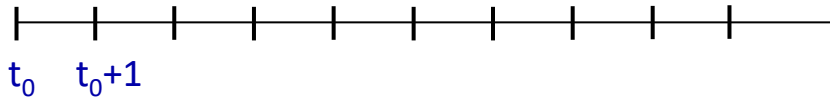
- channel spectrum divided into frequency bands
- each station assigned fixed frequency band
- unused transmission time in frequency bands go idle
- example: 6-station LAN, 1,3,4 have packet to send, frequency bands 2,5,6 idle



Random access protocols

- when node has packet to send
 - transmit at full channel data rate R
 - no *a priori* coordination among nodes
- two or more transmitting nodes:
“collision”
- **random access protocol** specifies:
 - how to detect collisions
 - how to recover from collisions (e.g., via delayed retransmissions)
- examples of random access MAC protocols:
 - ALOHA, slotted ALOHA
 - CSMA, CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA

Slotted ALOHA



assumptions:

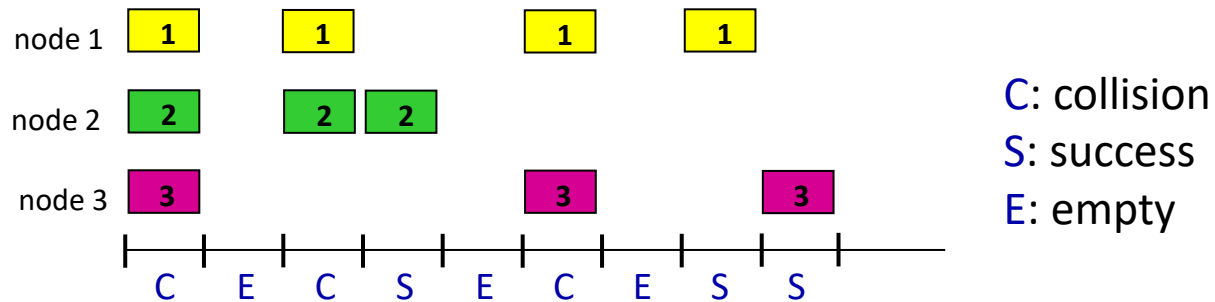
- all frames same size
- time divided into equal size slots (time to transmit 1 frame, i.e. if frame size is L bits, transmission rate is R in bits per second, then time required to transmit one frame = the size of one time slot = L / R seconds)
- nodes start to transmit only at slot beginning
- nodes are synchronized (so that each node knows when the slots begin)
- if 2 or more nodes transmit in the same time slot, all nodes detect collision

operation:

- when node obtains fresh frame, transmits in next slot
 - *if no collision*: node can send new frame in next slot
 - *if collision*: node retransmits frame in each subsequent slot with probability p until success

randomization – why?

Slotted ALOHA



Pros:

- single active node can continuously transmit at full rate of channel
- highly decentralized: only slots in nodes need to be in sync (i.e. each node knows when the slots begin so the transmission starts at the beginning of the slot)
- simple

Cons:

- collisions, wasting slots
- idle slots
- nodes may be able to detect collision in less than time to transmit packet
- clock synchronization

Slotted ALOHA: efficiency

efficiency: long-run fraction of successful slots (many nodes, all with many frames to send)

- *suppose:* N nodes with many frames to send, each transmits in slot with probability p
 - prob that given node has success in a slot = $p(1-p)^{N-1}$
 - prob that *any* node has a success = $Np(1-p)^{N-1}$
 - max efficiency: find p^* that maximizes $Np(1-p)^{N-1}$
 - for many nodes, take limit of $Np^*(1-p^*)^{N-1}$ as N goes to infinity, gives:

max efficiency = $1/e = .37$ (See the below explanation. For further details, review the textbook page 466 till 468.)

- *at best:* channel used for useful transmissions 37% of time!

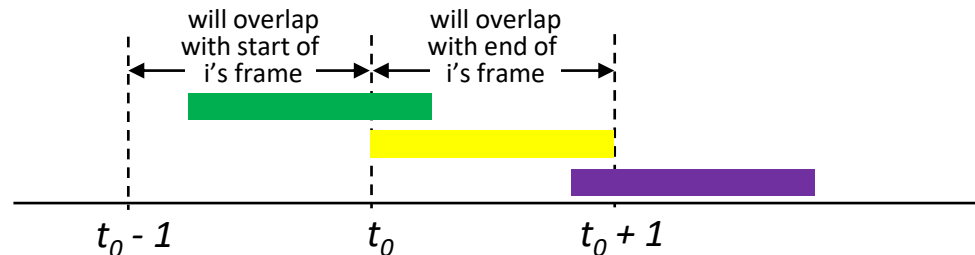


(Explanation: Suppose there are N nodes. Then the probability that a given slot is a successful slot is the probability that one of the nodes transmits and that the remaining $N - 1$ nodes do not transmit. The probability that a given node transmits is p ; the probability that the remaining nodes do not transmit is $(1 - p)^{N-1}$. Therefore, the probability a given node has a success is $p(1 - p)^{N-1}$. Because there are N nodes, the probability that any one of the N nodes has a success is $Np(1 - p)^{N-1}$.

Only 37 percent of the slots do useful work. Thus, the effective transmission rate of the channel is not R bps but only $0.37 R$ bps! A similar analysis also shows that 37 percent of the slots go empty and 26 percent of slots have collisions.)

Pure (unslotted) ALOHA

- unslotted Aloha: simpler, no synchronization (fully de-centralized)
 - when frame first arrives: transmit immediately (in it's entirety into the broadcast channel)
- collision probability increases with no synchronization:
 - frame sent at t_0 collides with other frames sent in $[t_0-1, t_0+1]$



- pure Aloha efficiency: 18% ! *(for details, review the textbook page 468.)*

even worse than slotted Aloha!
(The price to be paid for a fully decentralized ALOHA protocol)

Already Announced

Assignment # 5 (Chapter - 5)

- *5th Assignment will be uploaded on Google Classroom on Tuesday, 21st November, 2023, in the Stream - Announcement Section*
- *Due Date: Tuesday, 28th November, 2023 (Handwritten solutions to be submitted during the lecture)*
- *Please read **all the instructions** carefully in the uploaded Assignment document, follow & submit accordingly*

Quiz # 5 (Chapter - 5)

- *On: Tuesday, 28th November, 2023 (During the lecture)*
- *Quiz to be taken during own section class only*