



IoT Security – Autumn 2024

Lab 2: RPL UDP Communications and Capturing Traffic with Wireshark

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About me



- Name: Manh Bui
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Low-power and Lossy Networks (LLNs)



- Made up of many **embedded devices** with **limited power, memory, and processing resources**.
- Characterized by unstable links with **high loss rates, low data rates and low packet delivery rates**
- **LLNs** provide a **low-cost and low-power** approach to connect **sensors, devices, and machines** in an IoT network.
- The traffic patterns could be **Point-to-Point (P2P)** or **Point-to-Multipoint (P2MP)** or **Multipoint-to-Point (MP2P)**.

RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs

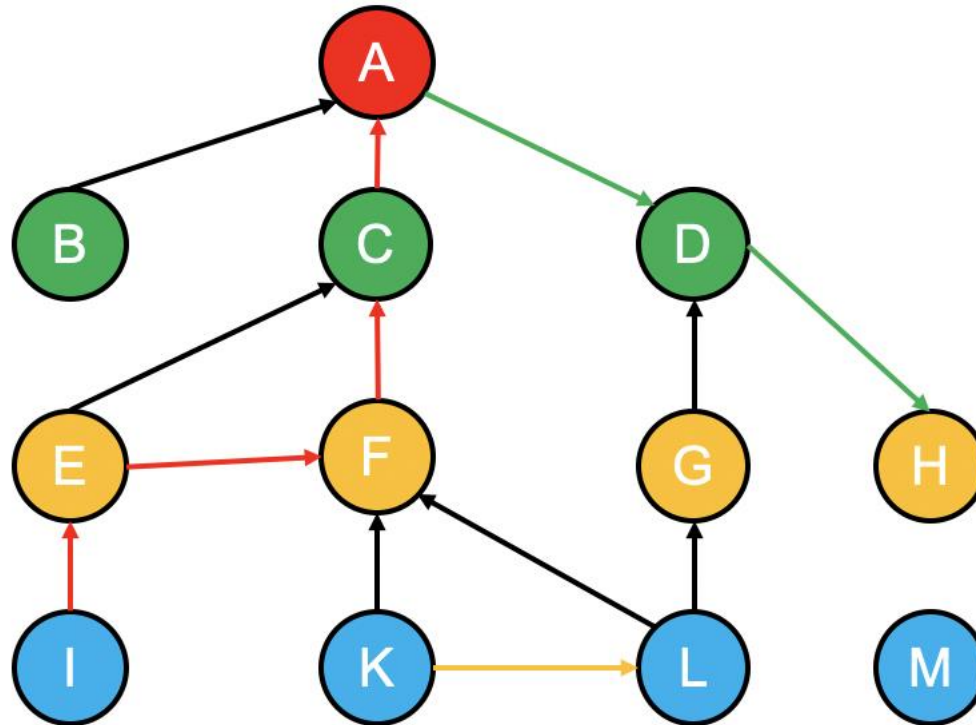


- A routing protocol for **wireless networks** with **low power** consumption and generally susceptible to **packet loss**.
- A proactive protocol based on **distance vectors** and operates on IEEE 802.15.4.
- Supports P2P, **MP2P**, P2MP communications.
- Target **collection-based networks**, where nodes **periodically** send measurements to a collection point.
- Designed to be highly adaptive to network conditions and to provide alternate routes whenever default routes are inaccessible.
- Contains thousands of nodes

RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



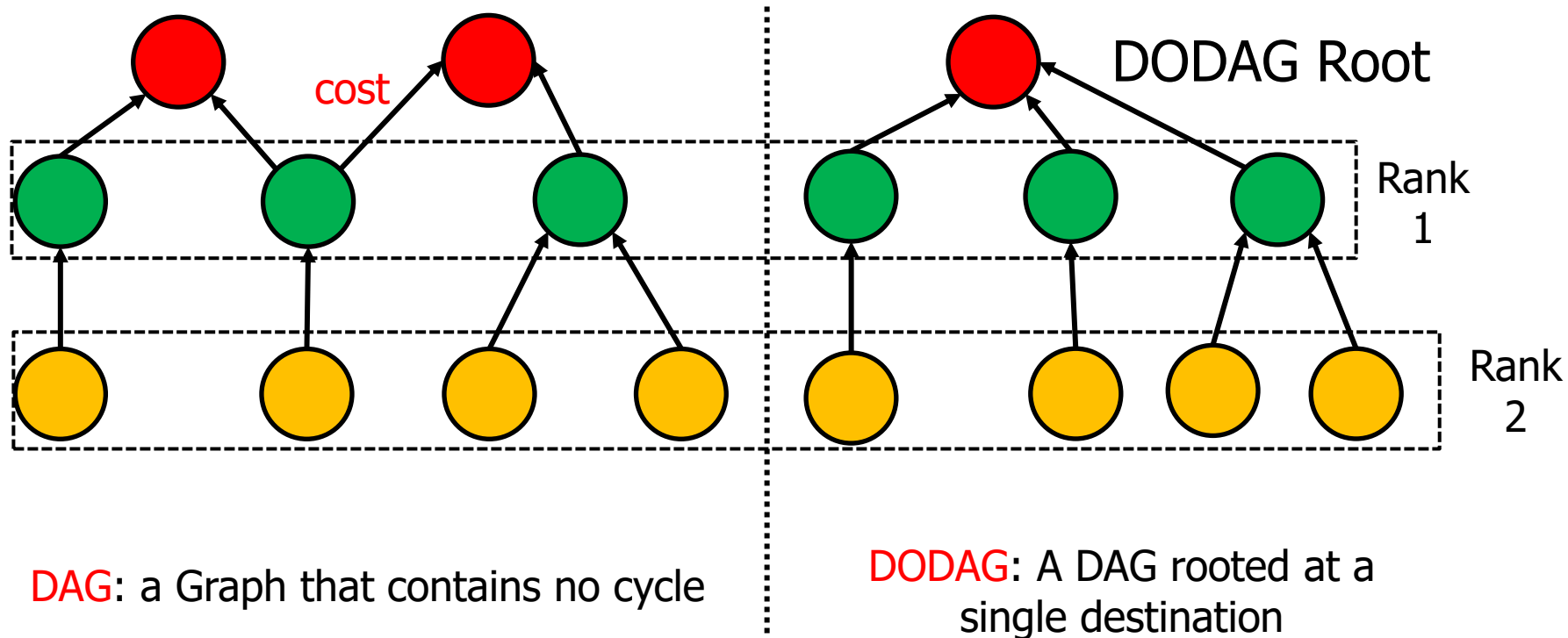
- Three types of traffic: **MP2P**, **P2MP**, and **P2P**



RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



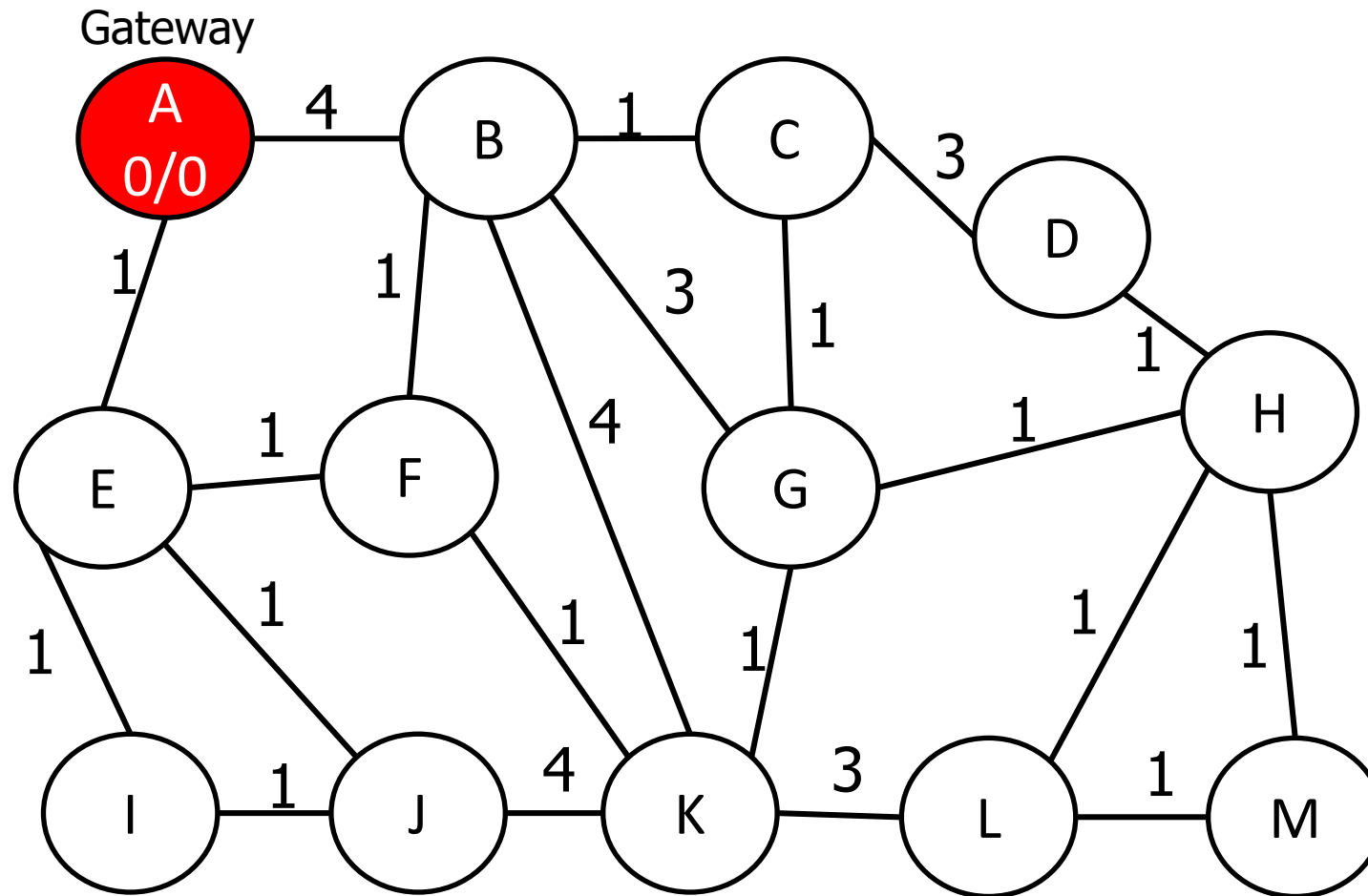
RPL organizes a topology as a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)



Each link has a cost (distance, latency, number of transmissions)

Routing based upon one or more **DODAGs** (i.e., DAG) to optimize objectives

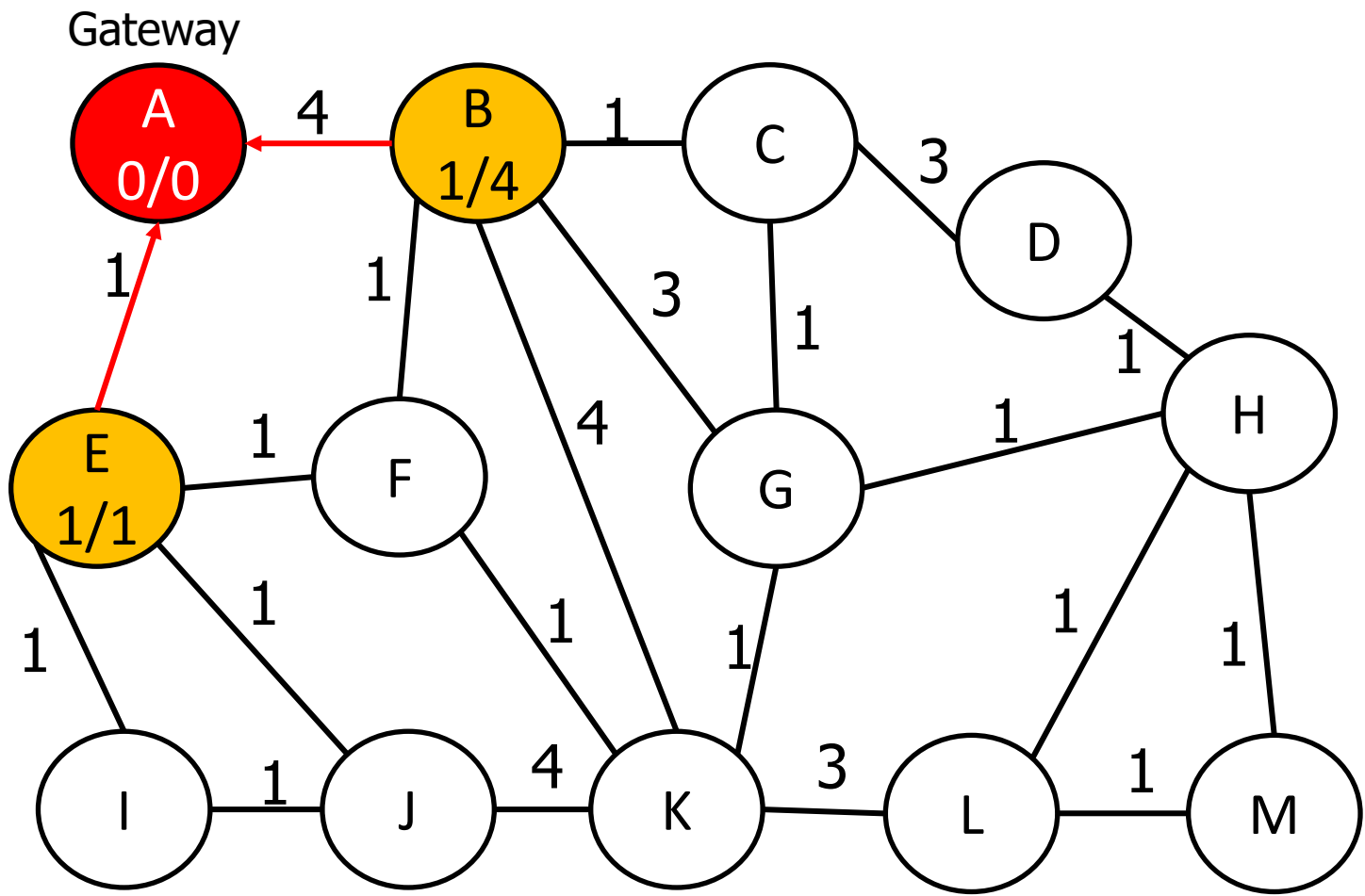
RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



MP2P: sensor nodes send data to a gateway/root

Rank = hop count

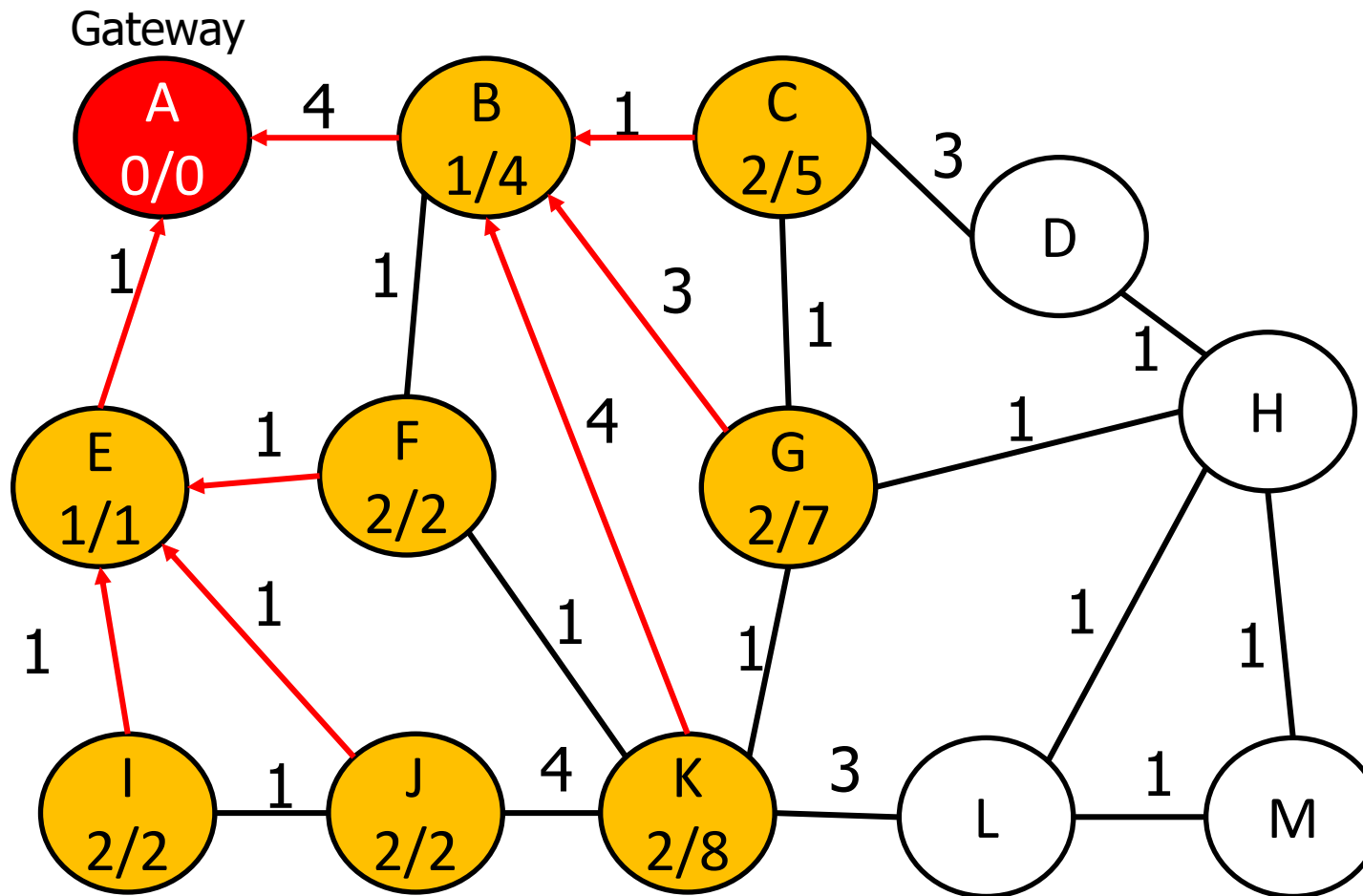
RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



A sends DODAG Information Object (DIO) to B and E.

A becomes their preferred parent.

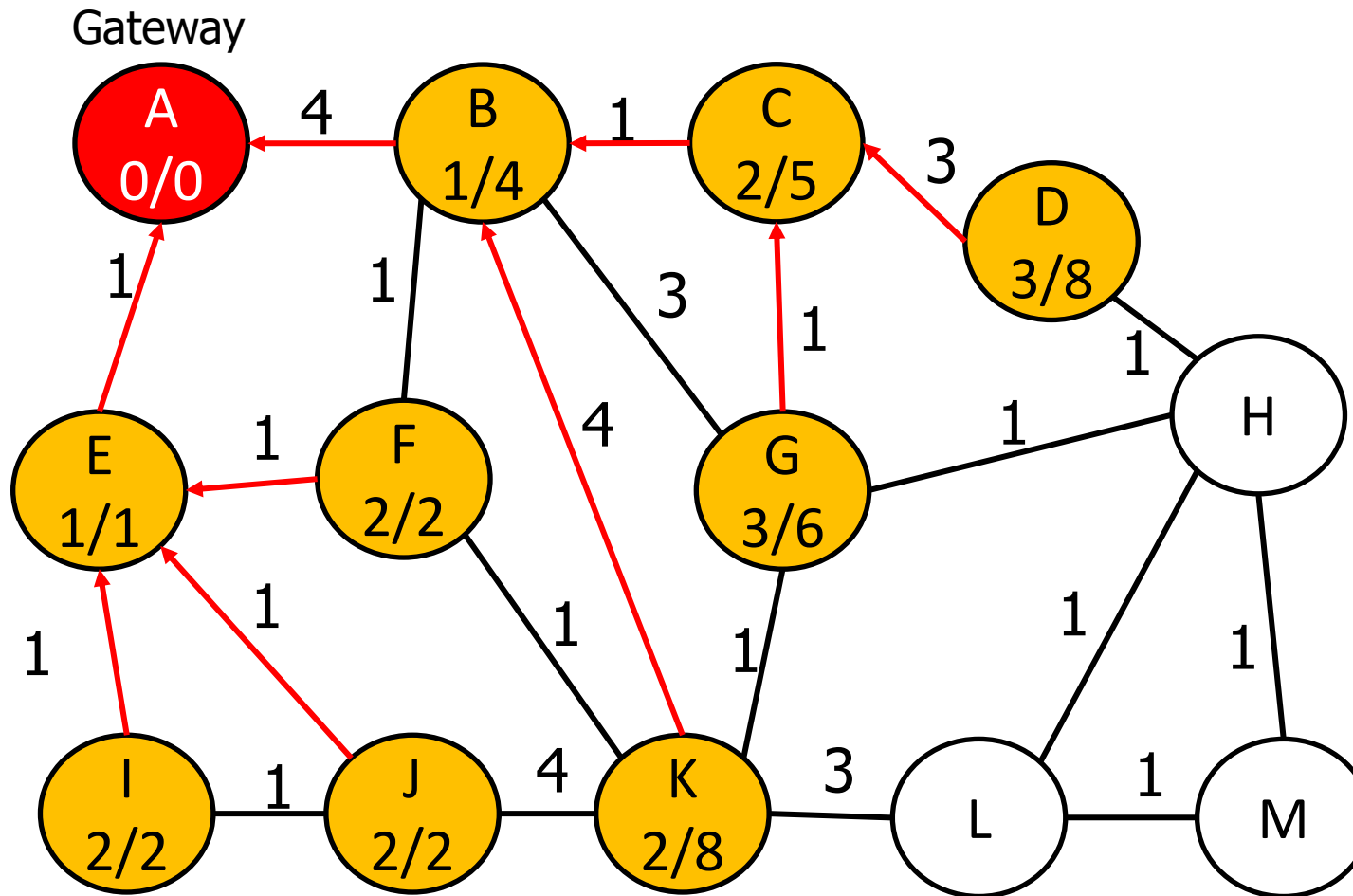
RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



E sends DIO to A, F, I and J.
A ignores (rank).

E becomes the parent of F, I, and J.

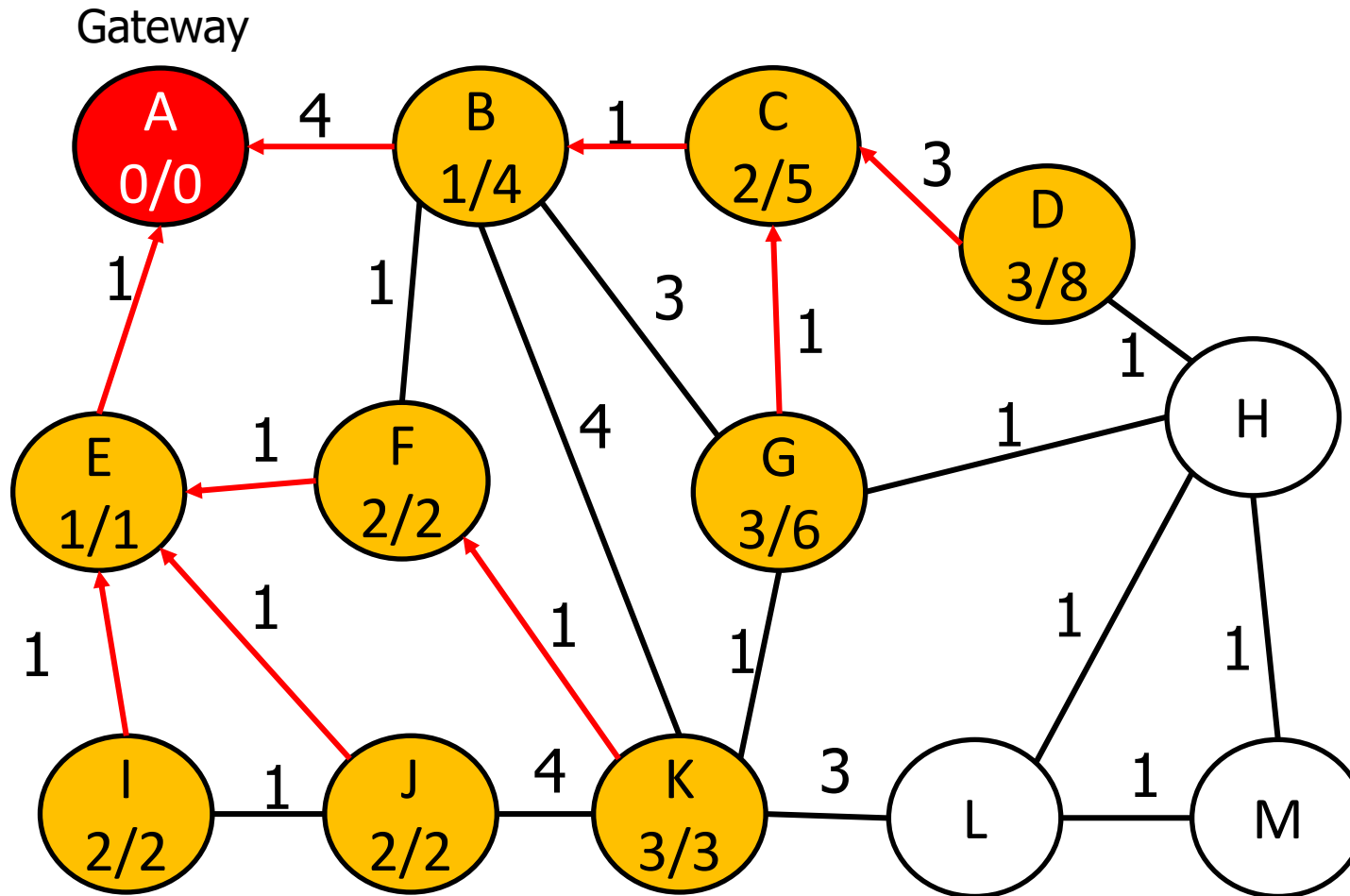
RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



C sends DIO to B, D and G.
B ignores (rank).

C becomes the parent of D and G.

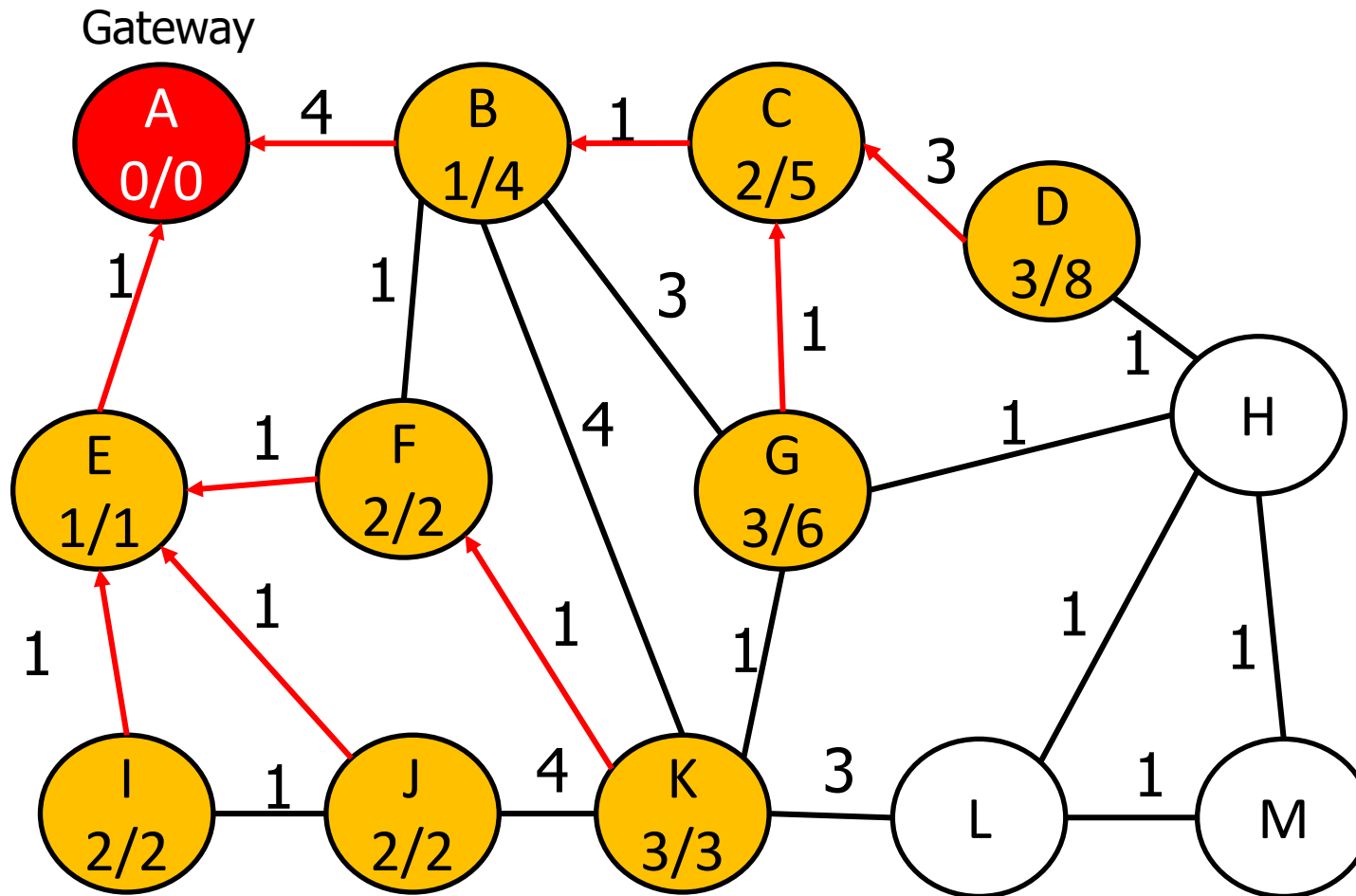
RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



F sends DIO to B,E and K.

B and E ignore (rank),
F becomes parent of K.

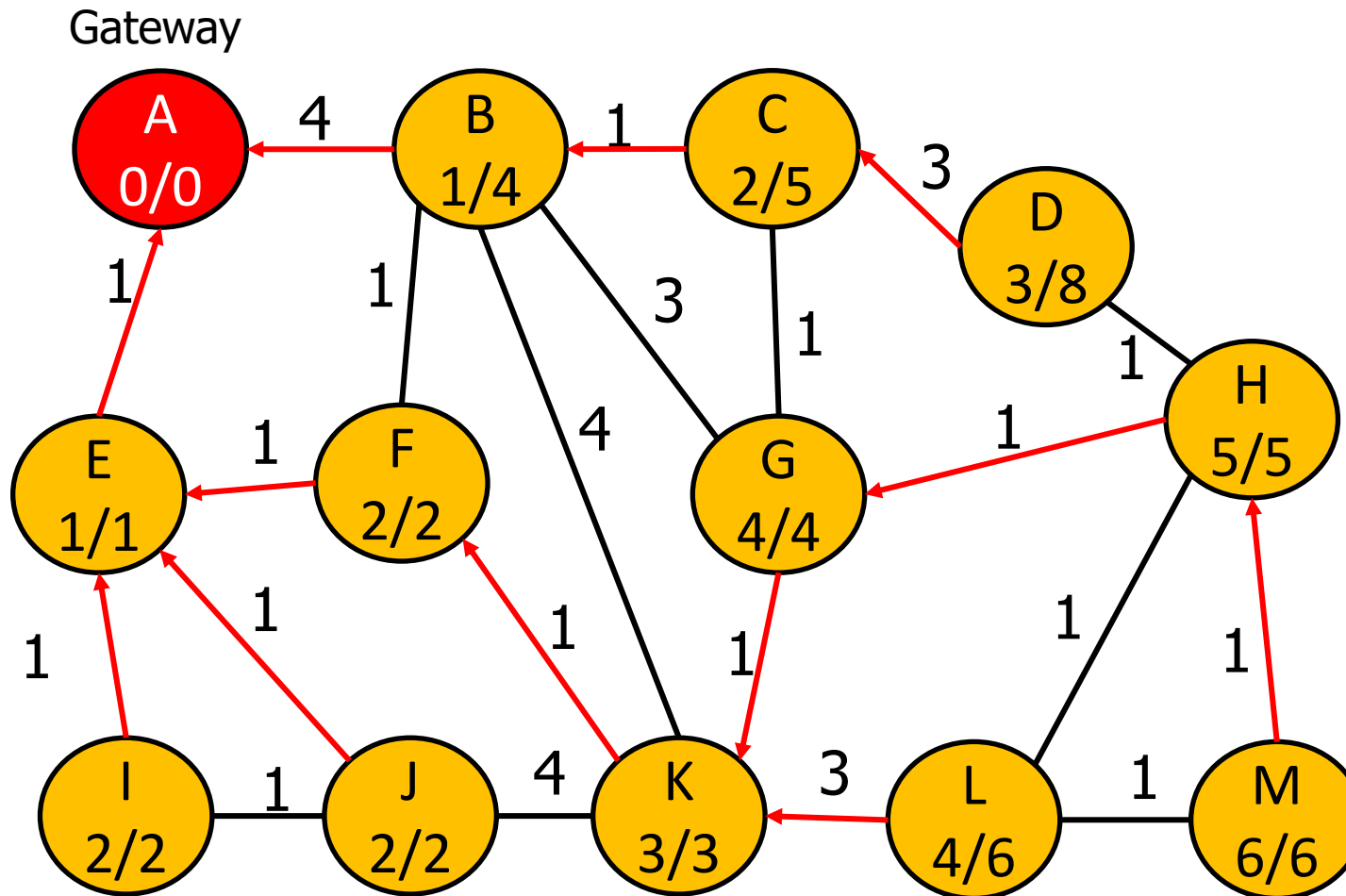
RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



I sends DIO to E and J.

E ignores (rank),
J ignores (cost)

RPL - IPv6 Routing Protocol for LLNs



Continue the process until the entire DODAG is constructed

RPL UDP Communications

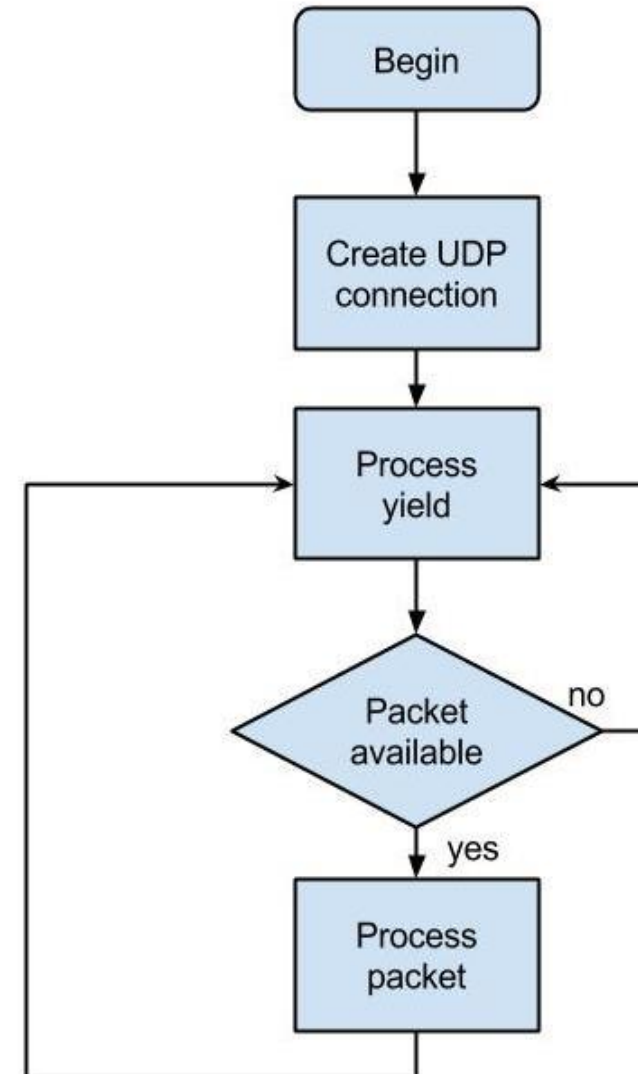


- UDP is implemented on top of RPL to **carry control messages** between **nodes** in the network
- UDP provides a **lightweight** and **efficient** mechanism for **transmitting packets** in RPL
- LLNs is comprised of a **UDP server**, which accepts available packets, and **several UDP clients**, which send packets **periodically** to the server through single-hop or multi-hops

UDP Server



- Initializes RPL DAG
- Sets up UDP connection;
- Waits for packets from client, receives and print them on `stdout`.
- `contiki/examples/ipv6/rpl-udp/udp-server`



Initialize RPL DAG



```
/* Mode 3 - derived from link local (MAC) address */  
uip_ip6addr(&ipaddr, 0xaaaa, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0);  
uip_ds6_set_addr_iid(&ipaddr, &uip_lladdr);  
#endif
```

```
uip_ds6_addr_add(&ipaddr, 0, ADDR_MANUAL);  
root_if = uip_ds6_addr_lookup(&ipaddr);  
if(root_if != NULL) {
```

```
    rpl_dag_t *dag;  
    dag = rpl_set_root(RPL_DEFAULT_INSTANCE, (uip_ip6addr_t *)&ipaddr);  
    uip_ip6addr(&ipaddr, 0xaaaa, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0);  
    rpl_set_prefix(dag, &ipaddr, 64);  
    PRINTF("created a new RPL dag\n");
```

```
} else {  
    PRINTF("failed to create a new RPL dag\n");  
}
```

Set an IPv6 address for the server

Set the IP address of the server as the root of initial DAG

Check whether the IP address was set successfully or not

Set up a UDP Connection



```
server_conn = udp_new(NULL, UIP_HTONS(UDP_CLIENT_PORT), NULL);  
if(server_conn == NULL) {  
    PRINTF("No UDP connection available, exiting the process!\n");  
    PROCESS_EXIT();  
}  
udp_bind(server_conn, UIP_HTONS(UDP_SERVER_PORT));  
  
PRINTF("Create a server connection with remote address ");  
PRINT6ADDR(&server_conn->ripaddr);  
PRINTF(" local remote port %u/%u\n", UIP_HTONS(server_conn->lport),  
        UIP_HTONS(server_conn->rport));
```

Bring the
connection to the
server's local port

Create new UDP
connection to
client's port

Receive and Process incoming packet



```
while(1) {  
    PROCESS_YIELD();  
    if(ev == tcpip_event) {  
        tcpip_handler();  
    }  
    else if (ev == sensors_event_t && data == &button_sensor) {  
        PRINTF("Initiating global repair\n");  
        rpl_repair_root(RPL_DEFAULT_INSTANCE);  
    }  
}  
  
PROCESS_END();
```

If there is a packet available

If the button is pressed, reset RPL DAG

```
tcpip_handler(void)  
{  
    char *appdata;
```

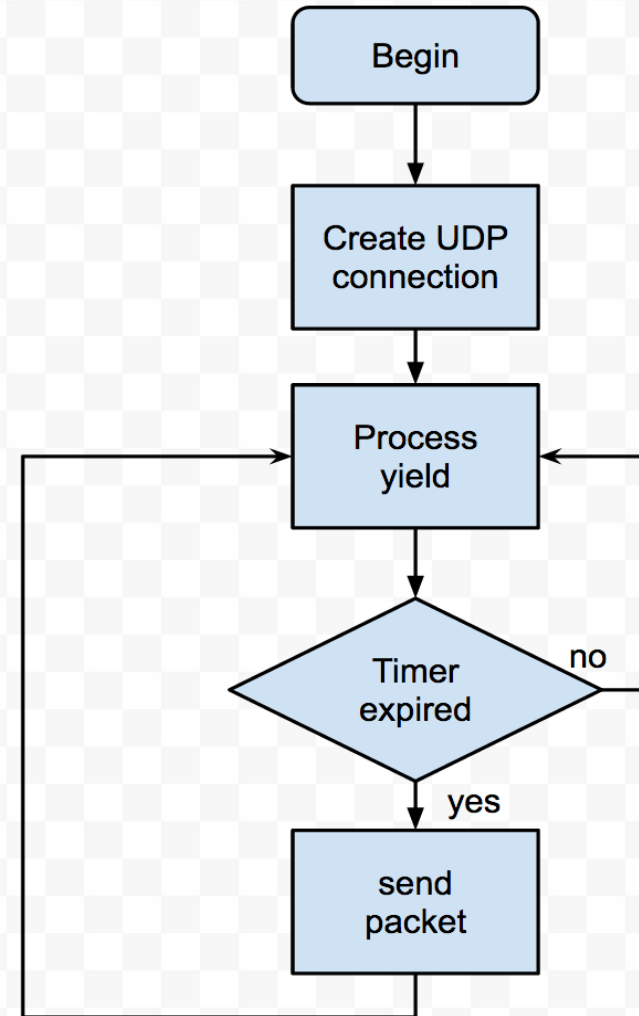
```
    if(uiplib_newdata()) {  
        appdata = (char *)uiplib_appdata;  
        appdata[uiplib_datalen()] = 0;  
        PRINTF("DATA recvd '%s' from ", appdata);  
        PRINTF("%d",  
            UIP_IP_BUF->srcipaddr.u8[sizeof(UIP_IP_BUF)-1]);  
        PRINTF("\n");  
    }
```

Receive and print data

UDP Client



- Sets up UDP connection;
- Sends packet to UDP server periodically.
- `contiki/examples/ipv6/rpl-udp/udp-client`



Set up a UDP connection



```
/* new connection with remote host */
client_conn = udp_new(NULL, UIP_HTONS(UDP_SERVER_PORT), NULL);
if(client_conn == NULL) {
    PRINTF("No UDP connection available, exiting the process!\n");
    PROCESS_EXIT();
}
udp_bind(client_conn, UIP_HTONS(UDP_CLIENT_PORT));

PRINTF("Created a connection with the server\n");
PRINT6ADDR(&client_conn->ripaddr);
PRINTF("Local/remote port %u/%u\n",
        UIP_HTONS(client_conn->lport), UIP_HTONS(client_conn->rport));
```

Bring the
connection to the
client's local port

Create new UDP
connection server's
port

Send packets



```
etimer_set(&periodic, SEND_INTERVAL);
while(1) {
    PROCESS_YIELD();
    if(ev == tcpip_event) {
        tcpip_handler();
    }
    if(etimer_expired(&periodic)) {
        etimer_reset(&periodic);
        ctimer_set(&backoff_timer, SEND_TIME, send_packet, NULL);
    }
}
```

If there is a packet available, the UDP client will extract data (same as `tcpip_handler()` of the server)

Send a packet to the UDP server through `client_conn`

Send a packet every `SEND_INTERVAL`

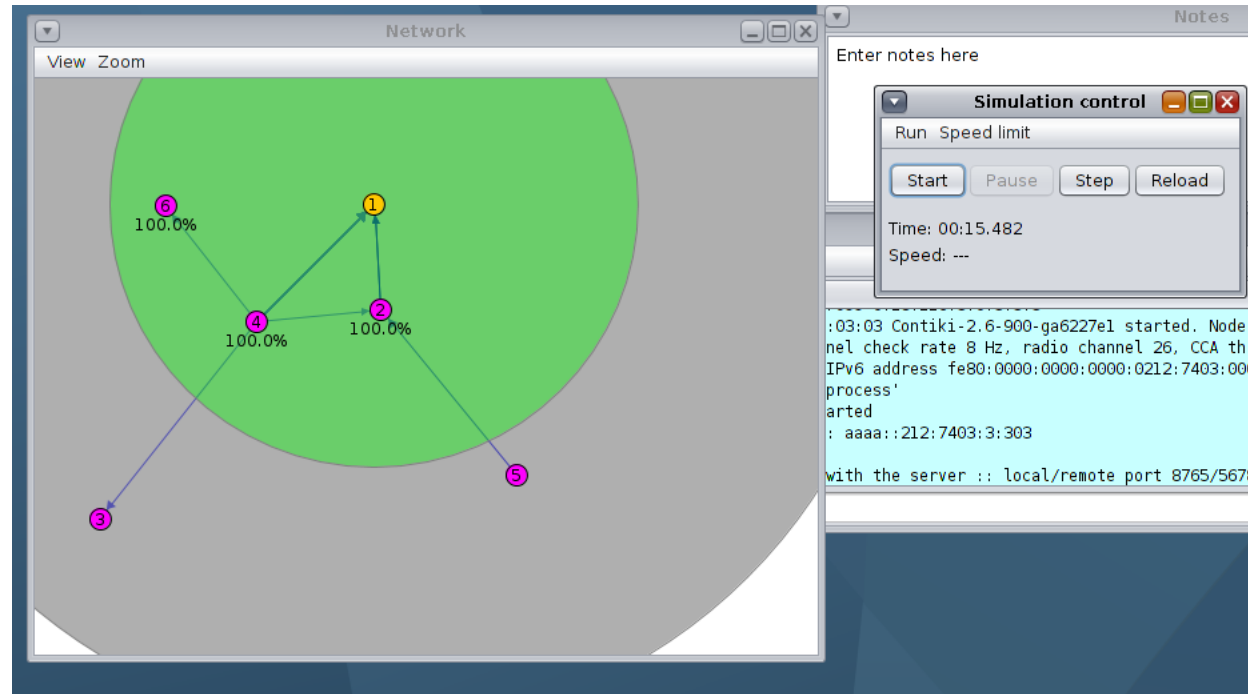
```
static int seq_id;
char buf[MAX_PAYLOAD_LEN];

seq_id++;
PRINTF("DATA send to %d 'Hello %d\n",
        server_ipaddr.u8[sizeof(server_ipaddr.u8) - 1], seq_id);
sprintf(buf, "Hello %d from the client", seq_id);
uip_udp_packet_sendto(client_conn, buf, strlen(buf),
                      &server_ipaddr, UIP_HTONS(UDP_SERVER_PORT));
}
/*-----*/
```

Cooja Simulation



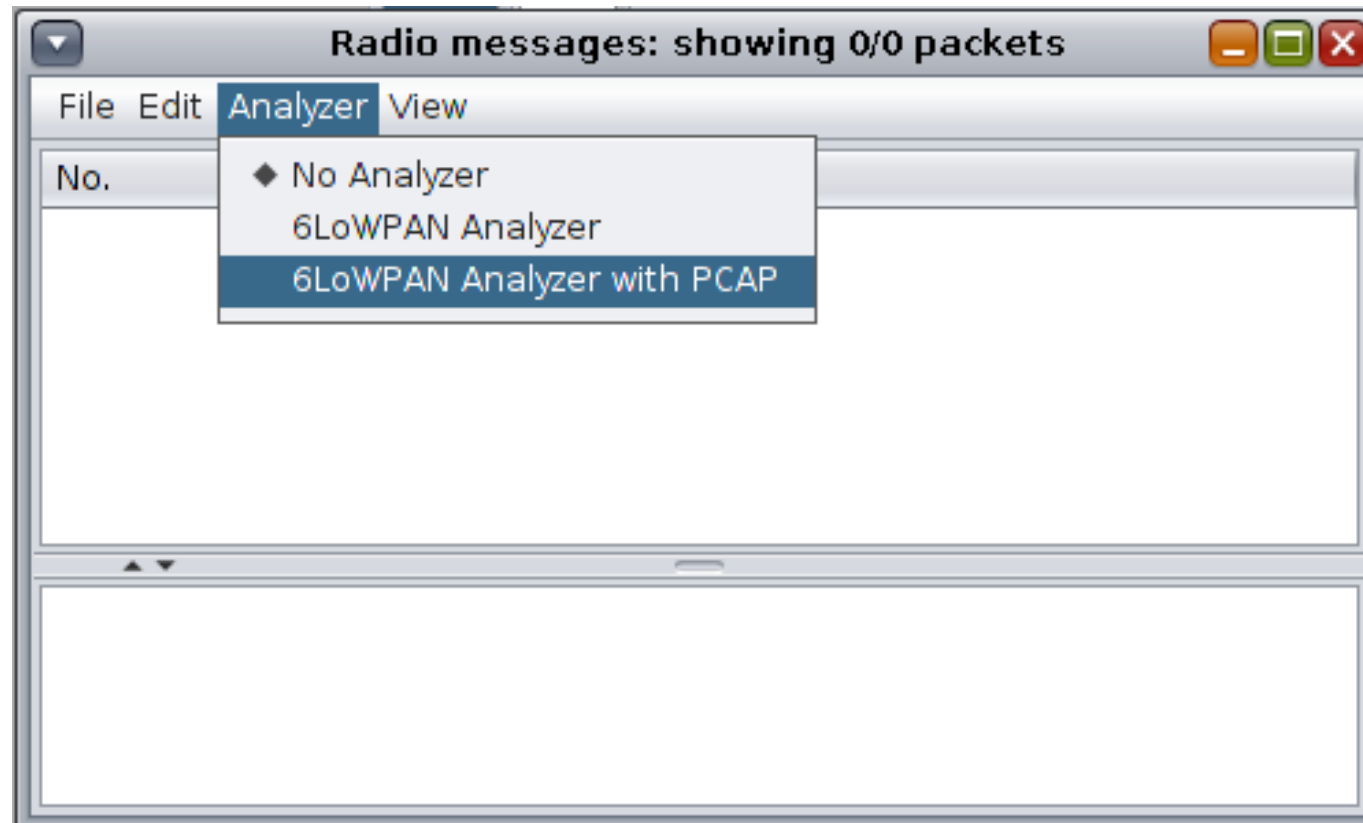
- Create one server using the firmware at:
`contiki/examples/ipv6/rpl-udp/udp-server.c`
- Create 5 clients using the firmware at:
`contiki/examples/ipv6/rpl-udp/udp-client.c`



Capture traffic with Wireshark

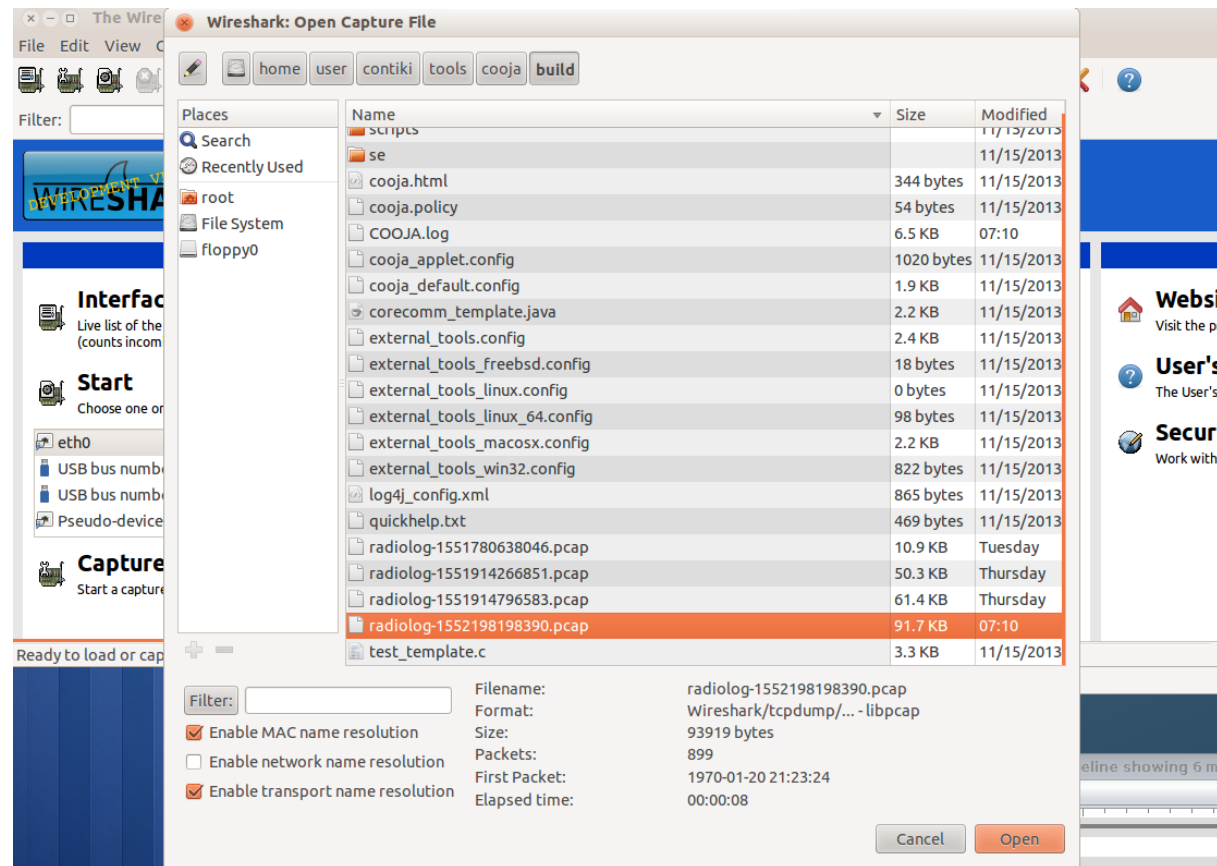


To capture traffic, we need to choose 6LoWPAN Analyzer with PCAP:
Tools -> Radio messages -> Analyzer ->
6LoWPAN Analyzer with PCAP



Capture traffic with Wireshark

- The PCAP file will be stored at: `contiki/tools/cooja/build` with the form: `radiolog-xxxxxxx.pcap`
- Use Wireshark to open this file and see traffic flows.



Exercises



1. Go to `core/net/rpl` and navigate through the C files, look for `DEBUG` defines and change its value to `DEBUG_PRINT`, this will print out to screen useful information allowing to better understand the RPL mechanics.
2. New application with multiple servers.
3. Change the client code to send different messages.

References



1. Get Started with Contiki: <http://www.contiki-os.org/start.html>
2. Contiki Tutorial:
[http://anrg.usc.edu/contiki/index.php/Contiki tutorials](http://anrg.usc.edu/contiki/index.php/Contiki_tutorials)
3. A. Dunkels, B. Gronvall, and T. Voigt, "Contiki-a lightweight and flexible operating system for tiny networked sensors," IEEE international conference on local computer networks, Tampa, FL, USA, Nov. 2004.
4. A. L. Colina, A. Vives, A. Bagula, M. Zennaro, and E. Pietrosemoli, "IoT in 5 days" [Online]. Available:
<http://www.iet.unipi.it/c.vallati/files/IoTinfivedays-v1.1.pdf>

