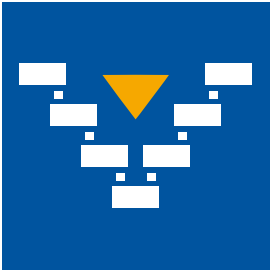




Informatik 11  
Embedded Software

**RWTH**AACHEN  
UNIVERSITY



12.24196

# Introduction to Embedded Systems

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Summer Semester 2025

Part 2

## Data Buses

# Introduction

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- ▶ Most embedded systems are interconnected
  - Microcontroller and external devices (board)
  - Engine control unit and tachometer (car)
  - Process control center and magnetic valve (plant)
- ▶ All communication share common principles
- ▶ Implementations vary in
  - Costs
  - Safety and reliability
  - Real-time capability
  - Data rate
  - Flexibility

# Part A

## Data Communication Basics

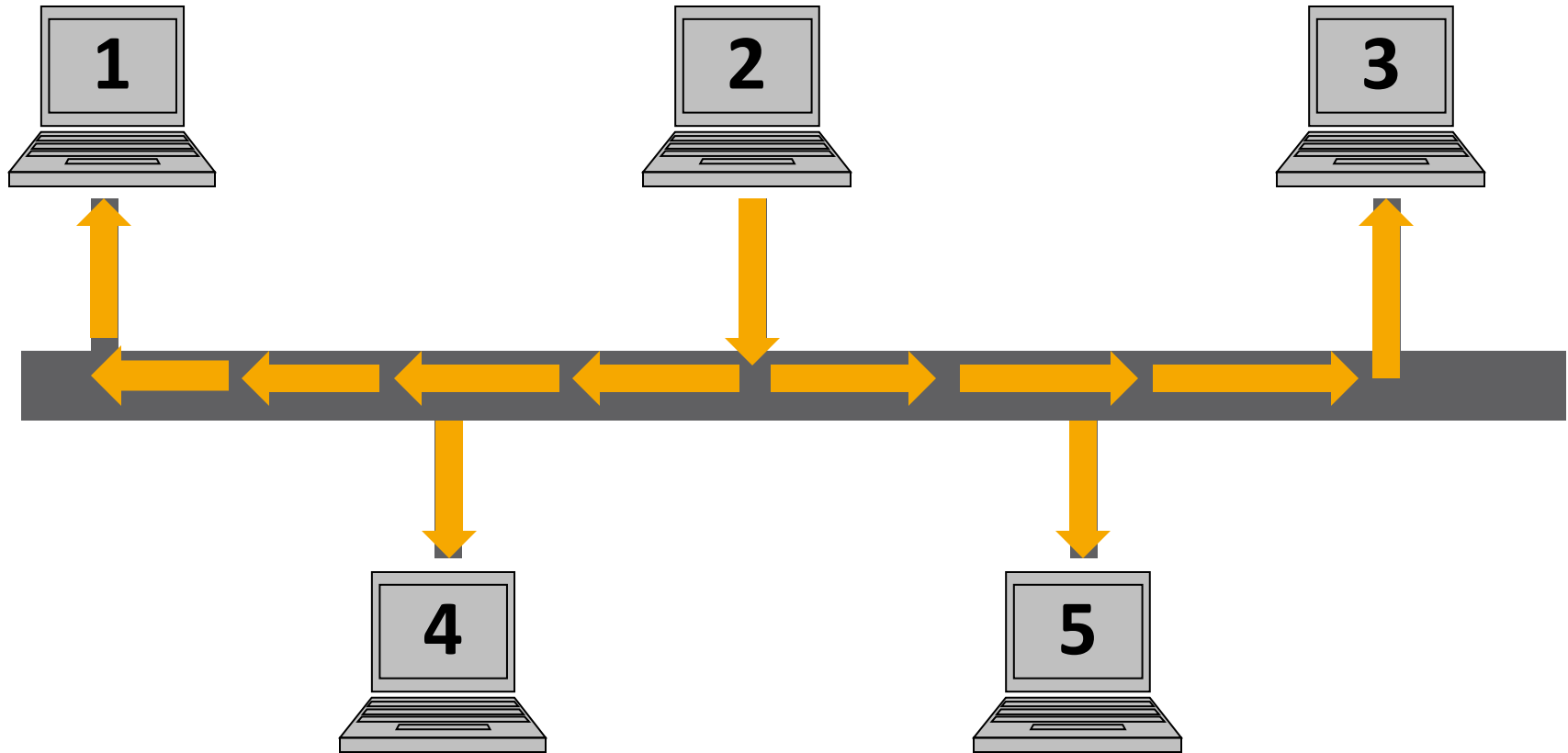
- ▶ Fourier analysis and sampling theorem
  - ▶ Topology
  - ▶ ISO/OSI
    - Mechanical and electrical properties
    - Bit encoding
    - Frames
    - Error detection and correction
    - Medium access
- } Layer 1
- } Layer 2

# Bus Topology

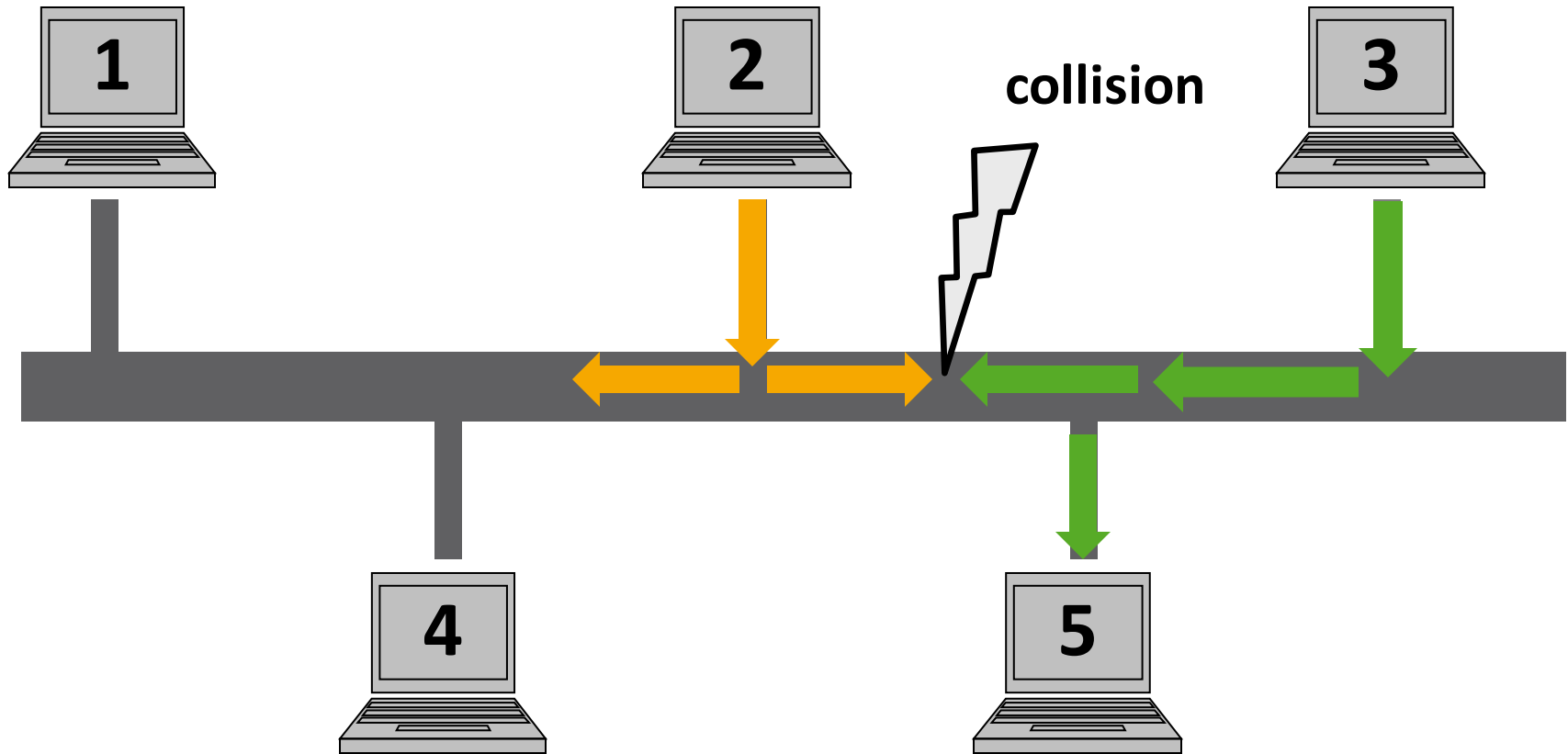
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- ▶ Linear line (with terminators)
- ▶ Passive connection (no repeating)
- ▶ Only one partner can send at a time
- ▶ All partners can listen to all communication
- ▶ Advantages
  - Cheap
  - Simple
- ▶ Disadvantages
  - Multiple access (Babbling idiot, security)
  - Single point of failure

# Bus Topology



# Bus Topology

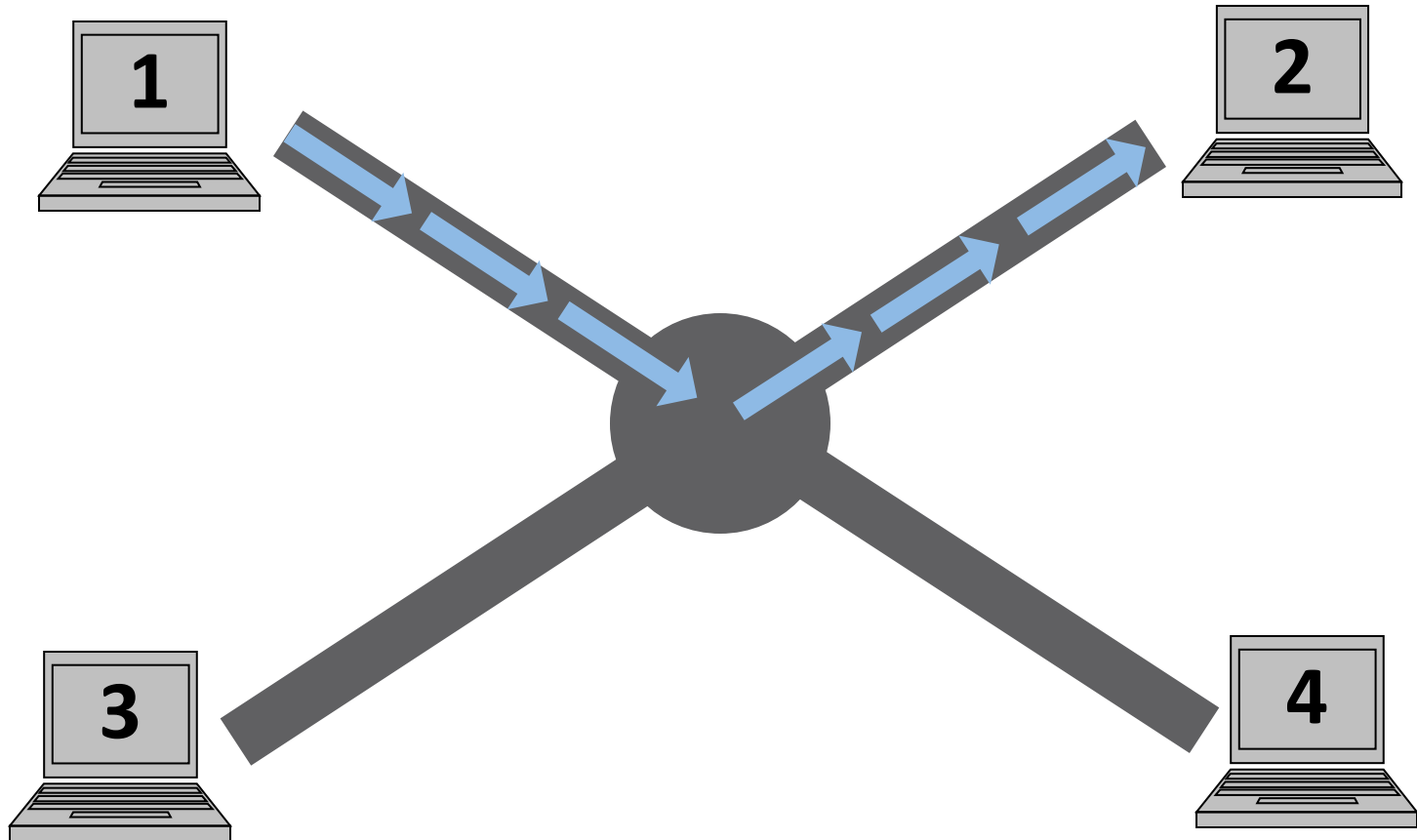


# Star Topology

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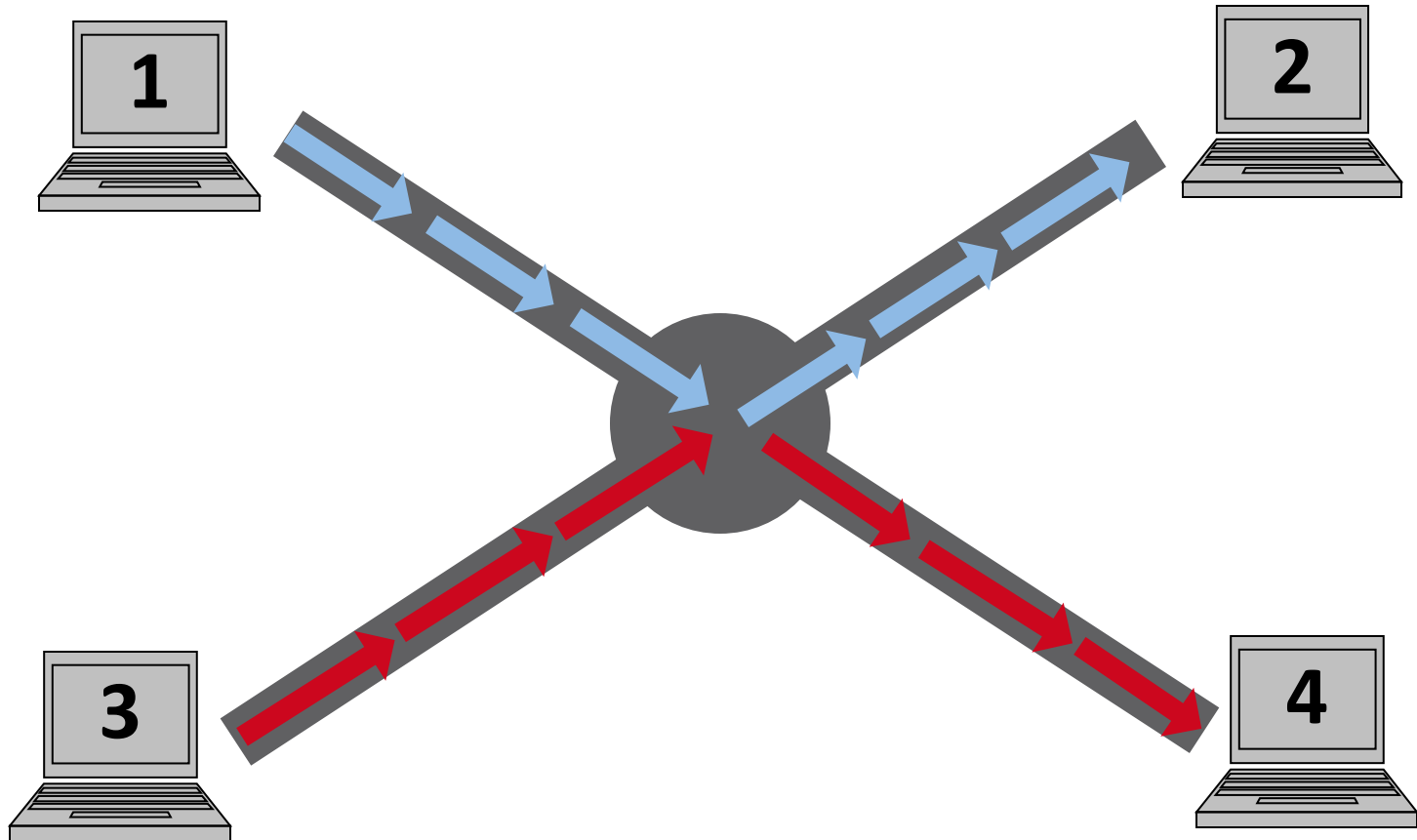
- ▶ Dedicated connection to central station
- ▶ Buffering and repeating
- ▶ Multiple partners can send at the same time
- ▶ Only sender and receiver can listen to communication
- ▶ Advantages
  - Multiple access, no collisions
  - Only central station is single point of failure
- ▶ Disadvantages
  - Expensive central station
  - More wiring

# Star Topology

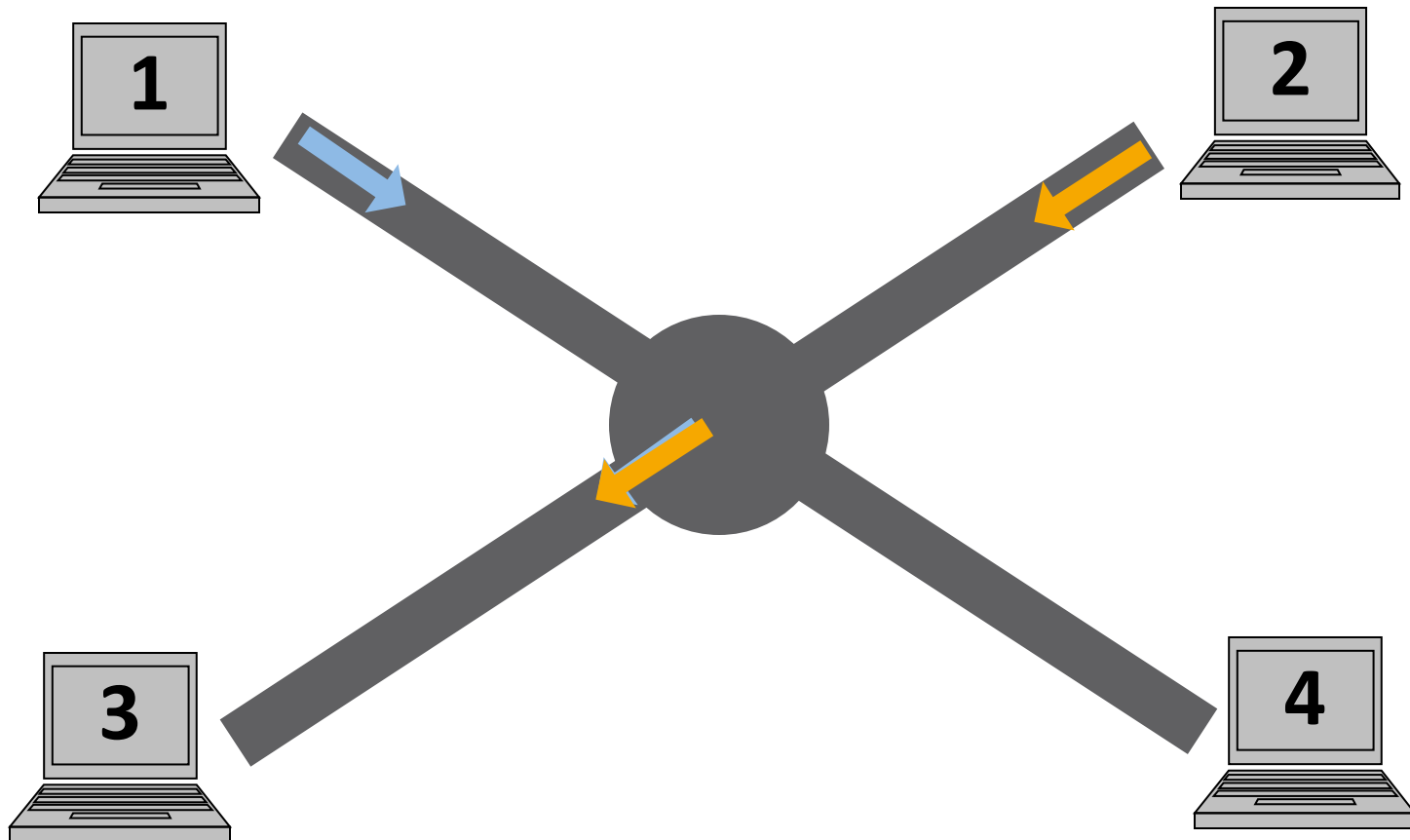




# Star Topology



# Star Topology

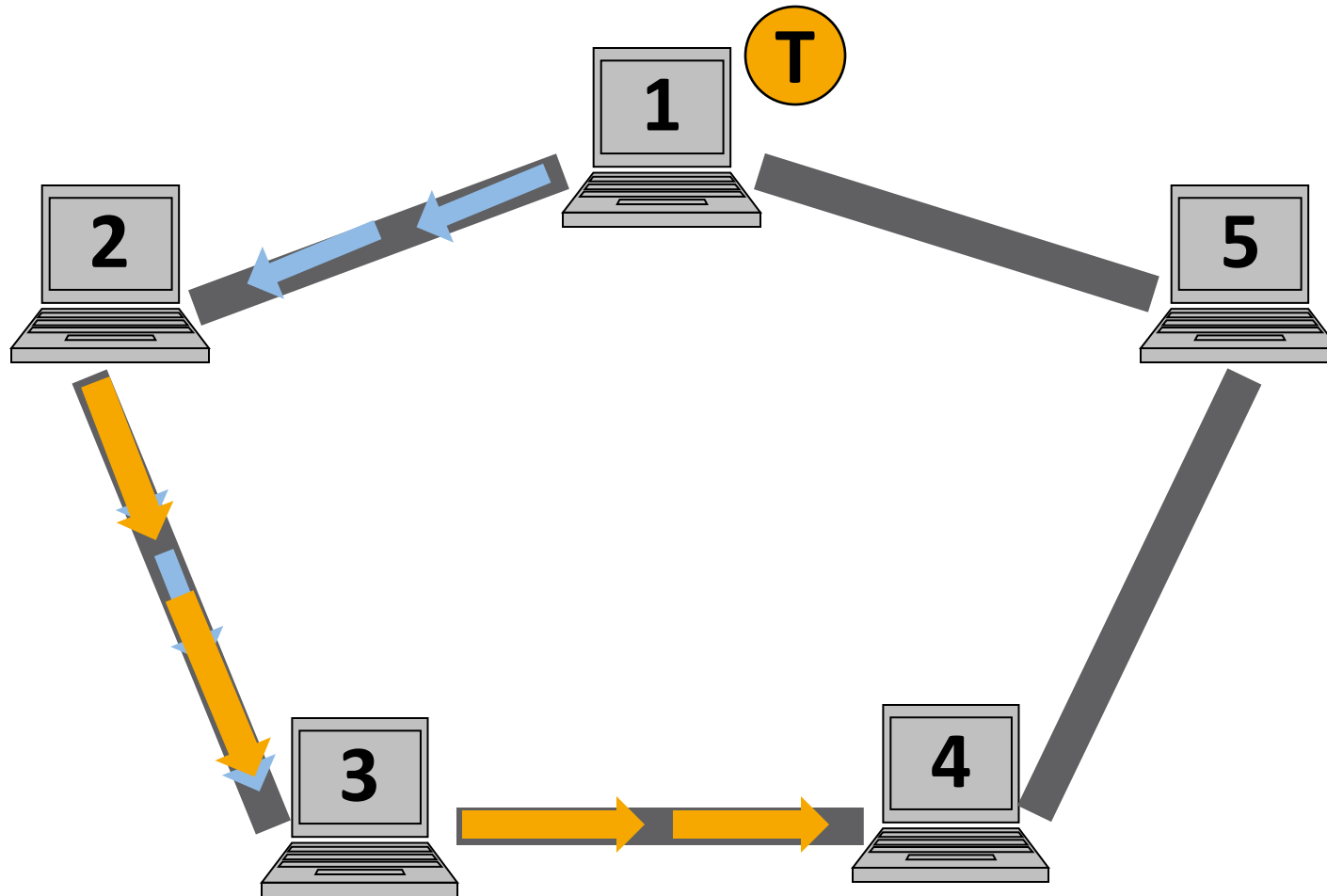


# Ring Topology

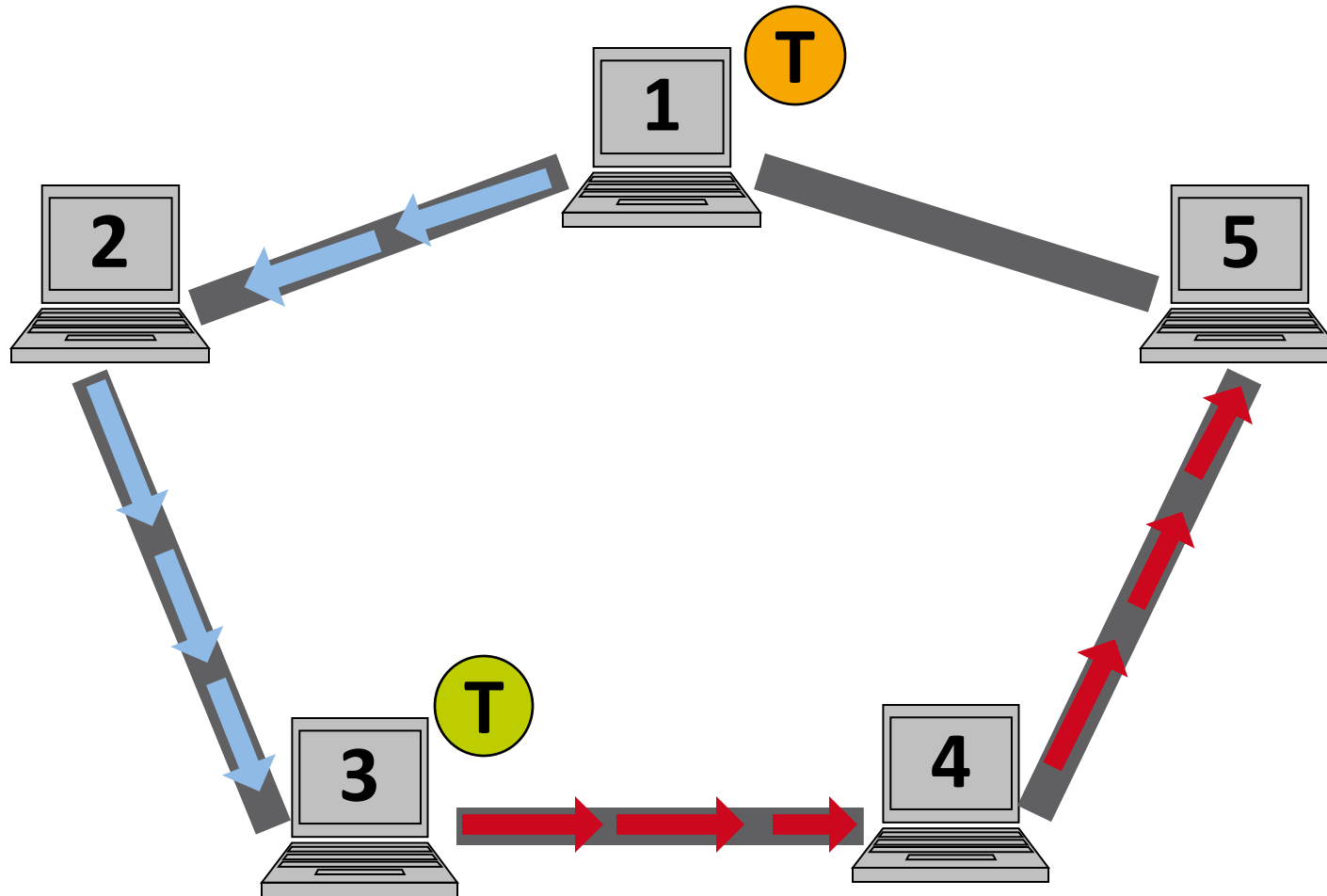
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- ▶ Circular line (unidirectional)
- ▶ Active connection (repeating / changing)
- ▶ Multiple partners can send at the same time
- ▶ Some partners can listen to communication
- ▶ Advantages
  - High quality of service
  - Multiple access (to some extend)
- ▶ Disadvantages
  - Complex (expensive)
  - Single point of failure

# Ring Topology



# Ring Topology



- ▶ International Organization for Standardization
- ▶ Open Systems Interconnection
- ▶ 7 Layer architecture
- ▶ One task per layer
- ▶ Very complex
- ▶ Reference model
- ▶ Here: layers 1 & 2

Layer 7: Application Layer
Layer 6: Presentation Layer
Layer 5: Session Layer
Layer 4: Transport Layer
Layer 3: Network Layer
Layer 2: Data Link Layer
Layer 1: Physical Layer

- ▶ Defines mechanical properties
  - Medium: copper, optical fiber, air, EM waves
  - Connectors: form and pin assignment
- ▶ Defines electrical / optical properties
  - Voltage
  - Frequencies
  - Baud rate
  - Bit encoding
- ▶ Hardware
  - Cable, connector, terminator, antenna, amplifier
  - Transceiver, repeater, hub

# Bit Encoding

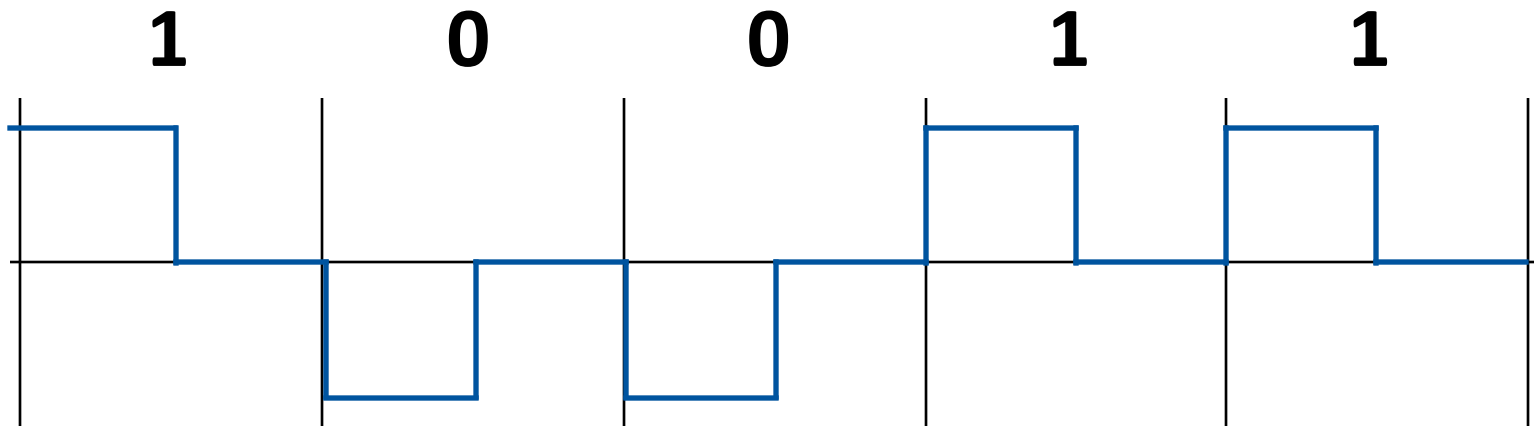
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- ▶ Return to Zero (RZ)
- ▶ Non Return to Zero (NRZ)
- ▶ Differential NRZ
- ▶ Bit stuffing
- ▶ Manchester Code
- ▶ 4B/5B Code



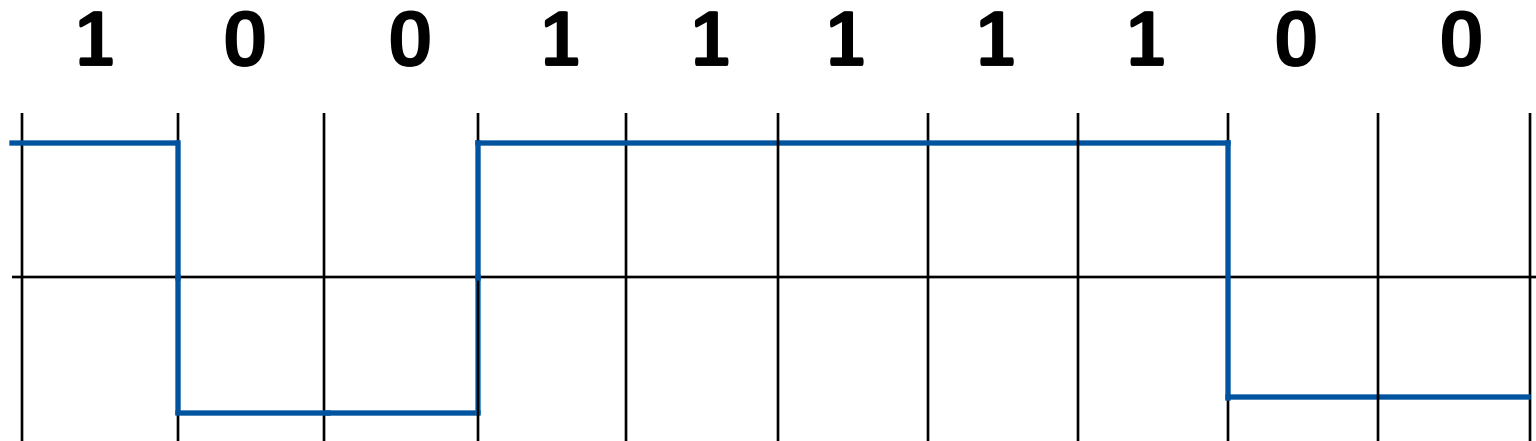
# Return to Zero

- ▶ Return to neutral state between all pulses
- ▶ Needs three states
- ▶ Self-synchronizing
- ▶ Half data rate



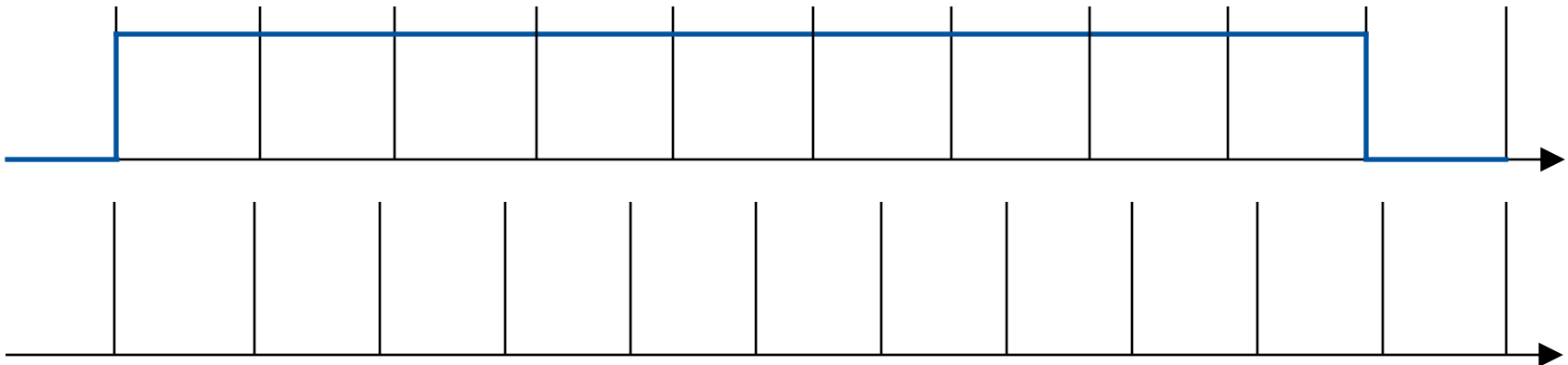
# Non Return to Zero

- ▶ No neutral state
- ▶ Needs synchronization
- ▶ Capacitive problems
- ▶ Full data rate



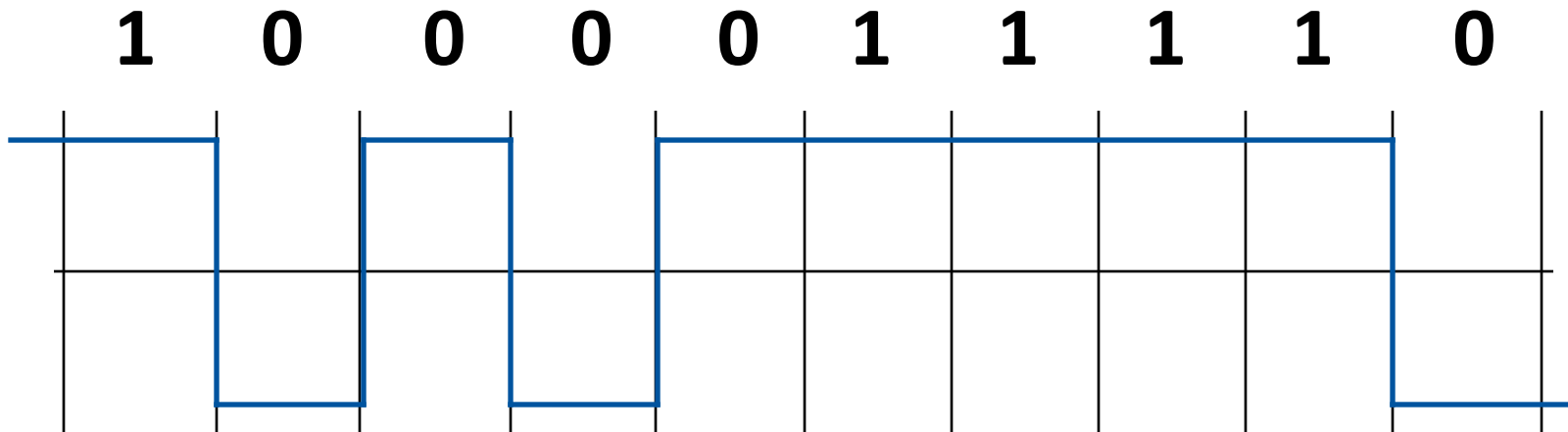
# Synchronization

- ▶ Clocks are never perfectly synchronous
- ▶ Clock A ticks every  $100\mu\text{s}$
- ▶ Clock B ticks every  $90\mu\text{s}$
- ▶ Clock A sends nine ones  $\rightarrow$  high level for  $900\mu\text{s}$
- ▶ Clock B interprets this as ten ones



# Differential NRZ

- ▶ 0 is represented by level change
- ▶ 1 is represented by no level change
- ▶ No problems for long sequences of 0s



# Bit Stuffing

- ▶ Prevents long sequences of 1s
- ▶ Sender inserts a 0 after a sequence of  $n$  1s ( $n = 6$  for USB)
- ▶ Receiver (checks and) removes inserted 0s
- ▶ Code violations (frame delimiters)

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

sender

channel

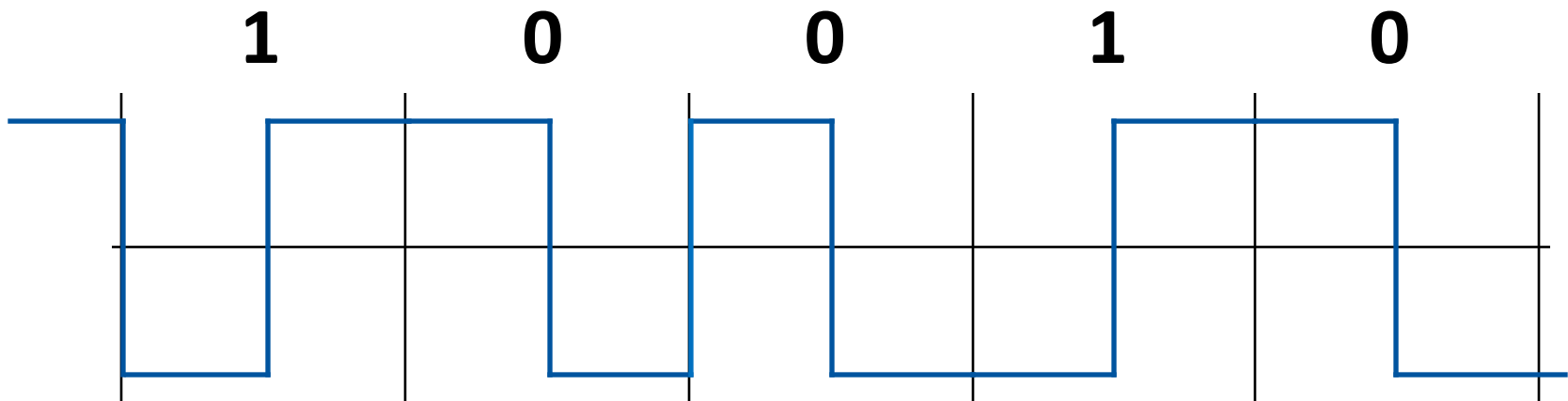
receiver

# Manchester Code (IEEE 802.3)

- ▶ No neutral state
- ▶ Self-synchronizing
- ▶ No capacitive problems
- ▶ Half data rate

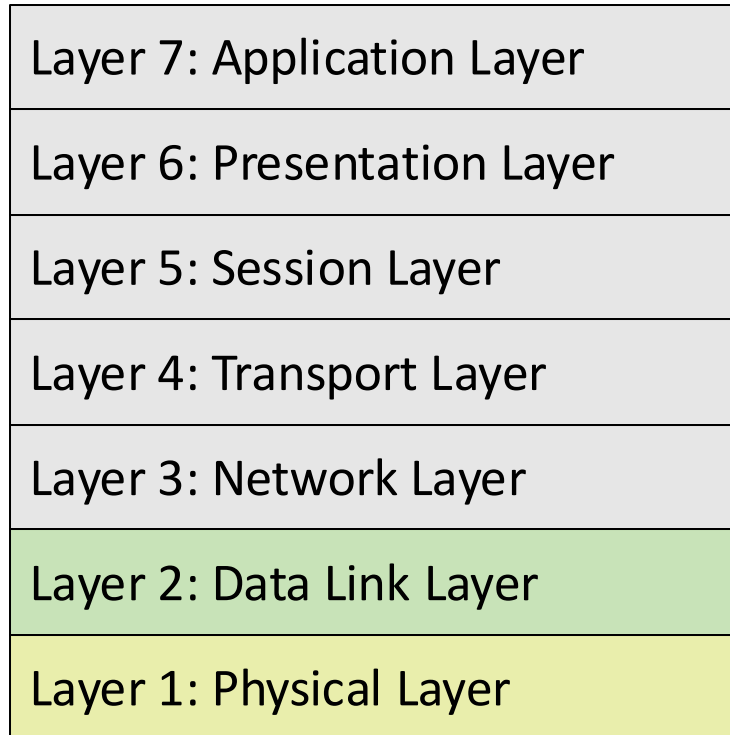
Rising Edge = 1  
Falling Edge = 0

(inverted in G.E. Thomas version)



- ▶ Uses some form of NRZ
- ▶ 80% data rate
- ▶ Encoding table prevents long sequences (FDDI with NRZI)

Name	4B	5B	Name	4B	5B	Name	5B	Desc
0	0000	11110	8	1000	10010	Q	00000	Quiet
1	0001	01001	9	1001	10011	I	11111	Idle
2	0010	10100	A	1010	10110	J	11000	Start #1
3	0011	10101	B	1011	10111	K	10001	Start #2
4	0100	01010	C	1100	11010	T	01101	End
5	0101	01011	D	1101	11011	R	00111	Reset
6	0110	01110	E	1110	11100	S	11001	Set
7	0111	01111	F	1111	11101	H	00100	Halt





# Data Link Layer

---

- ▶ Encapsulates data (bits) into frames
- ▶ Frame synchronization
- ▶ Logical link control
  - Automatic repeat request (ARQ)
  - Forward error correction (FEC)
  - Flow control
- ▶ Media access control
- ▶ Hardware: Switch, Bridge
- ▶ Two sublayers
  - Logical Link Control (LLC)
  - Media Access Control (MAC)

# Frames

- ▶ On layer 2 data is transferred in frames
- ▶ Typical parts of a frame
  - Start delimiter
  - Sender address
  - Receiver address
  - Identifier
  - Acknowledgement
  - Length of frame / data
  - User data
  - Checksum
  - End delimiter



- ▶ Parity bit
  - Append parity bit such that the sum of all bits is even / odd
  - One bit error detection
  
- ▶ Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC)
  - Hash function based on polynomial division
  - Detection of burst errors
  
- ▶ Hamming Code
  - Set of parity bits
  - Single error correction
  - (Double error detection)

# Hamming Code

- ▶ Published by Richard Hamming in 1950
  
- ▶ For (up to)  $2^n - 1$  Bits in a hamming encoded message:
  - Positions that are powers of 2 are Parity Bits ( $n$  Parity Bits)
  - Remaining Bits are the data Bits ( $2^n - n - 1$  Data Bits)
  - A Data Bit at position  $x$  is protected by the Parity Bits that comprise  $x$
  
- ▶ Example: 14 Bits in the encoded message
  - Positions 1, 2, 4 and 8 are Parity Bits
  - Positions 3, 5-7, 9-14 are Data Bits
  - Data Bit 11 is protected by the Parity Bits 1, 2 and 8 ( $1 + 2 + 8 = 11$ )

# Hamming Code – Example (Encoding)

- ▶ Encode the 8 Bit message  $(01010010)_2$  with even parity:
- ▶ Use 4 Parity Bits:  $(2^3 - 3 - 1 < 8 \leq 2^4 - 4 - 1)$
- ▶ Structure of encoded message:
  - $p_1 p_2 d_3 p_4 d_5 d_6 d_7 p_8 d_9 d_{10} d_{11} d_{12}$
- ▶ Fill in the message:
  - $p_1 p_2 0 p_4 1 0 1 p_8 0 0 1 0$
- ▶ Calculate Parity Bits:
  - $p_1 + d_3 + d_5 + d_7 + d_9 + d_{11}$  has to be even  $\rightarrow p_1 = 1$
  - $p_2 + d_3 + d_6 + d_7 + d_{10} + d_{11}$  has to be even  $\rightarrow p_2 = 0$
  - $p_4 + d_5 + d_6 + d_7 + d_{12}$  has to be even  $\rightarrow p_4 = 0$
  - $p_8 + d_9 + d_{10} + d_{11} + d_{12}$  has to be even  $\rightarrow p_8 = 1$
- ▶ Encoded message is:  $(100010110010)_2$

# Automatic Repeat Request

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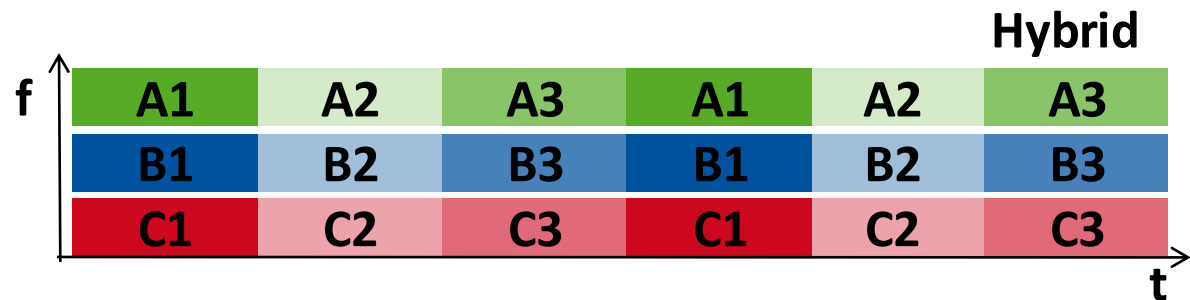
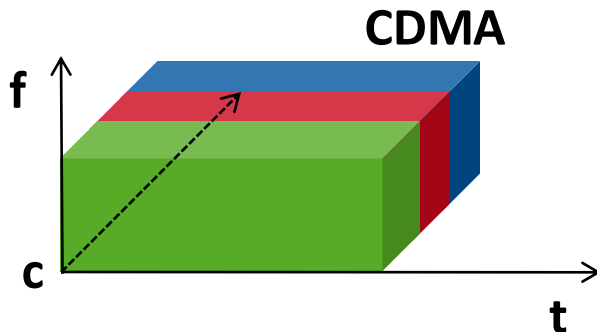
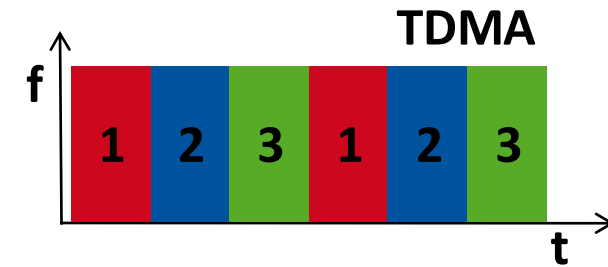
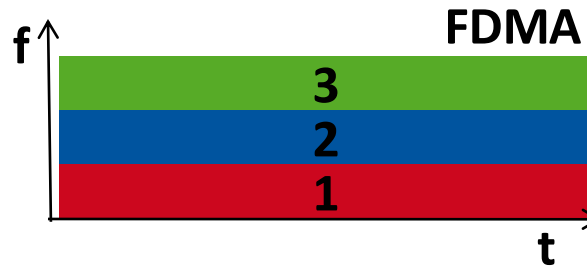
- ▶ Successful transmission
  - A sends frame to B
  - B acknowledges frame
  
- ▶ Unsuccessful transmission (transmission error)
  - A send frame to B
  - B detects error
  - B sends negative acknowledgement (“NACK”)
  - A resends frame to B
  
- ▶ Unsuccessful transmission (transmission lost)
  - A sends frame to B
  - Timeout occurs
  - A resends frame to B

# Media Access Control

- ▶ Regulates access to a shared medium

- ▶ Static MAC

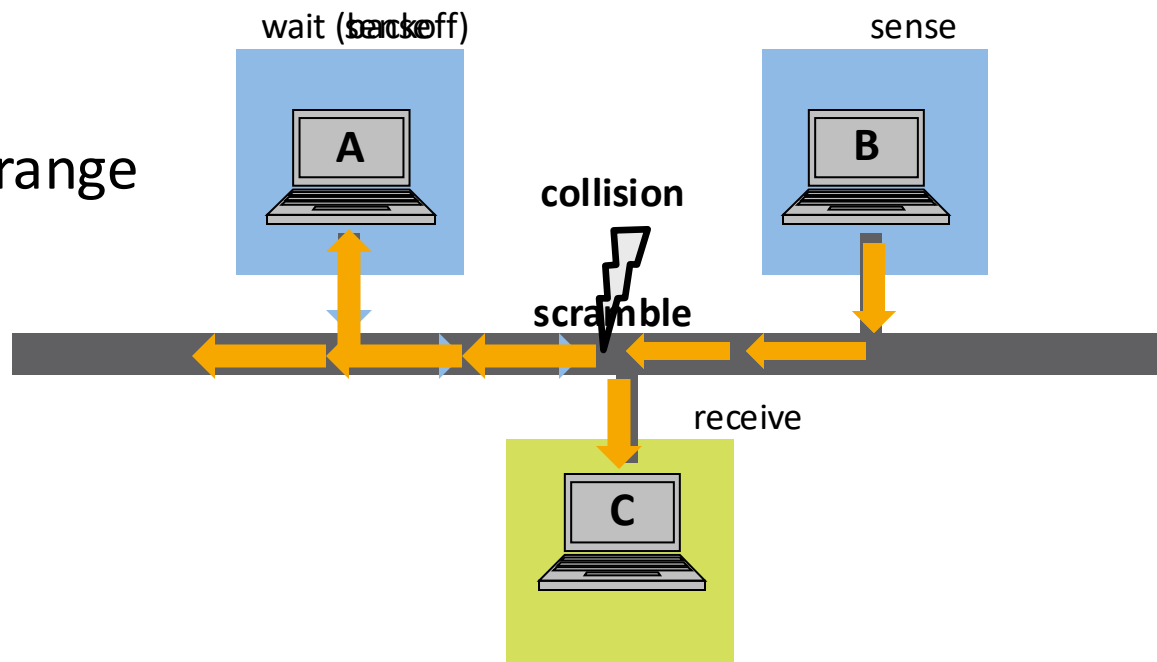
- Frequency (FDMA)
- Time (TDMA)
- Code (CDMA)
- Hybrid



- ▶ Dynamic MAC

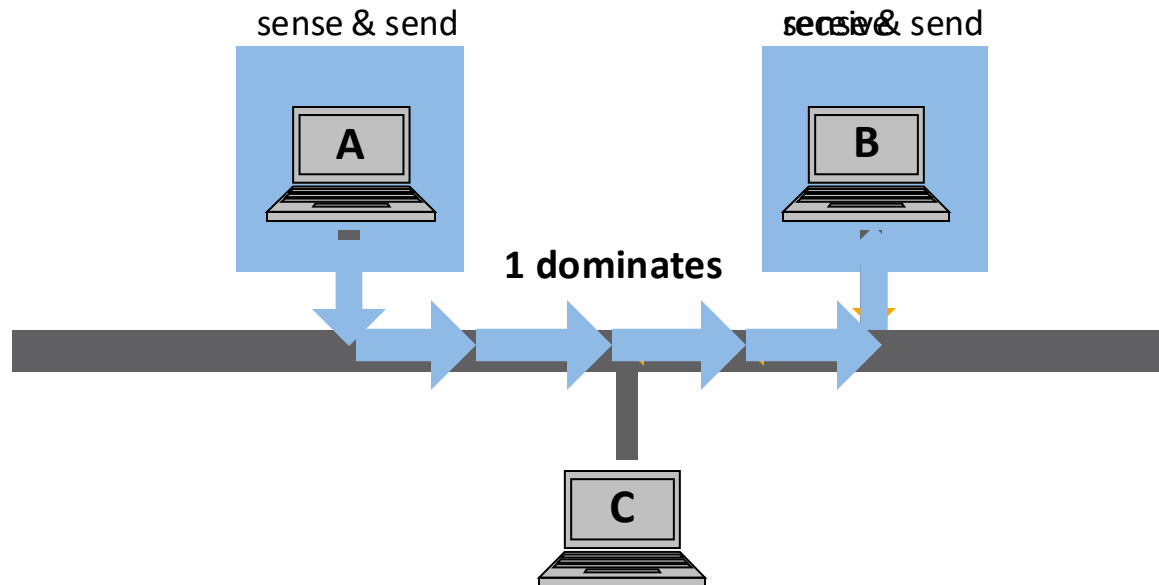
- With collisions: CSMA/CD
- Without collisions: CSMA/CR

- ▶ Carrier sense multiple access / collision detection
- ▶ Wait until medium is free
- ▶ Start sending
- ▶ If collision is detected
  - Scramble
  - Back off
- ▶ High data rate / long range





- ▶ Carrier sense multiple access / collision resolution
- ▶ Wait until medium is free
- ▶ Start sending
- ▶ If collision is dominated
  - Stop sending
  - Start receiving
- ▶ No Collisions
- ▶ Either dominant
  - 1 (“wired or”) or
  - 0 (“wired and”)



# Part B

## Data Bus Standards

- ▶ I<sup>2</sup>C bus
- ▶ CAN bus
- ▶ FlexRay
- ▶ PROFIBUS

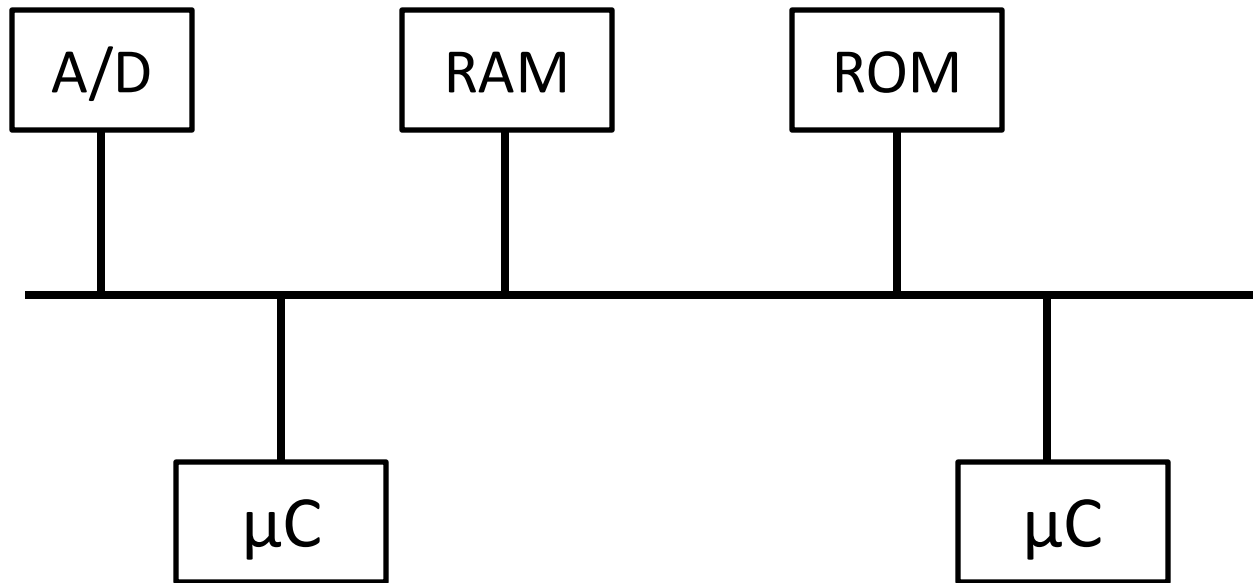
# Inter-Integrated Circuit (I<sup>2</sup>C) Bus

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- ▶ Connects multiple devices on the same board
- ▶ Developed by Philips in 1980s
- ▶ Also known as Two Wire Interface (TWI)
- ▶ Five modes
  - Standard mode: 100 kbit/s
  - Fast mode: 400 kbit/s
  - Fast mode plus: 1 Mbit/s
  - High speed mode: 3.4 Mbit/s
  - Ultra-high speed mode: 5 Mbit/s
- ▶ Noise-prone (used inside shielded casings)
- ▶ Simple and cheap
- ▶ Very popular

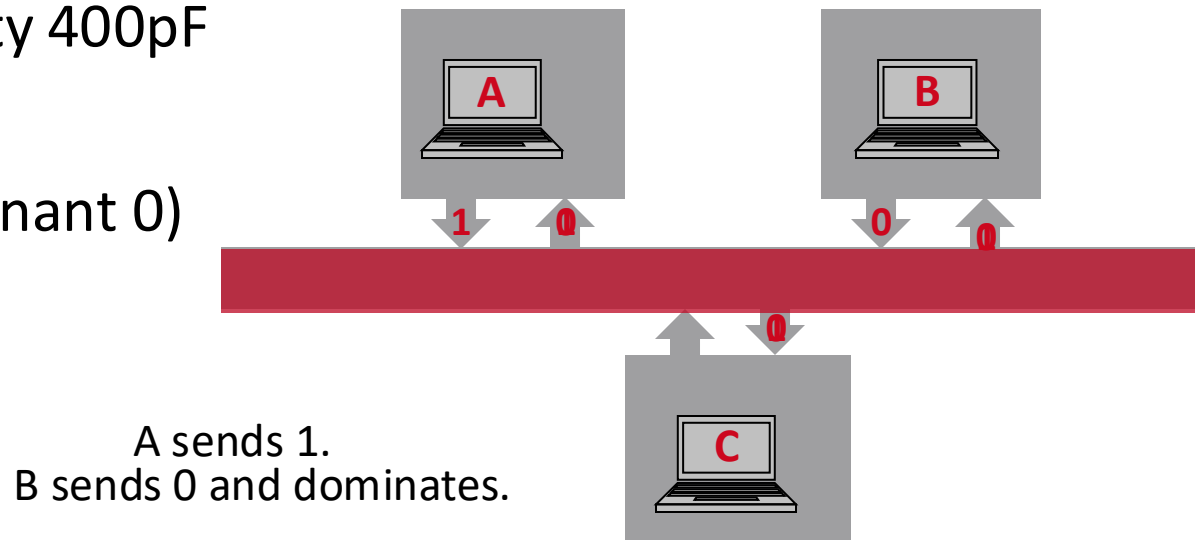
# I<sup>2</sup>C – Exemplary Setup

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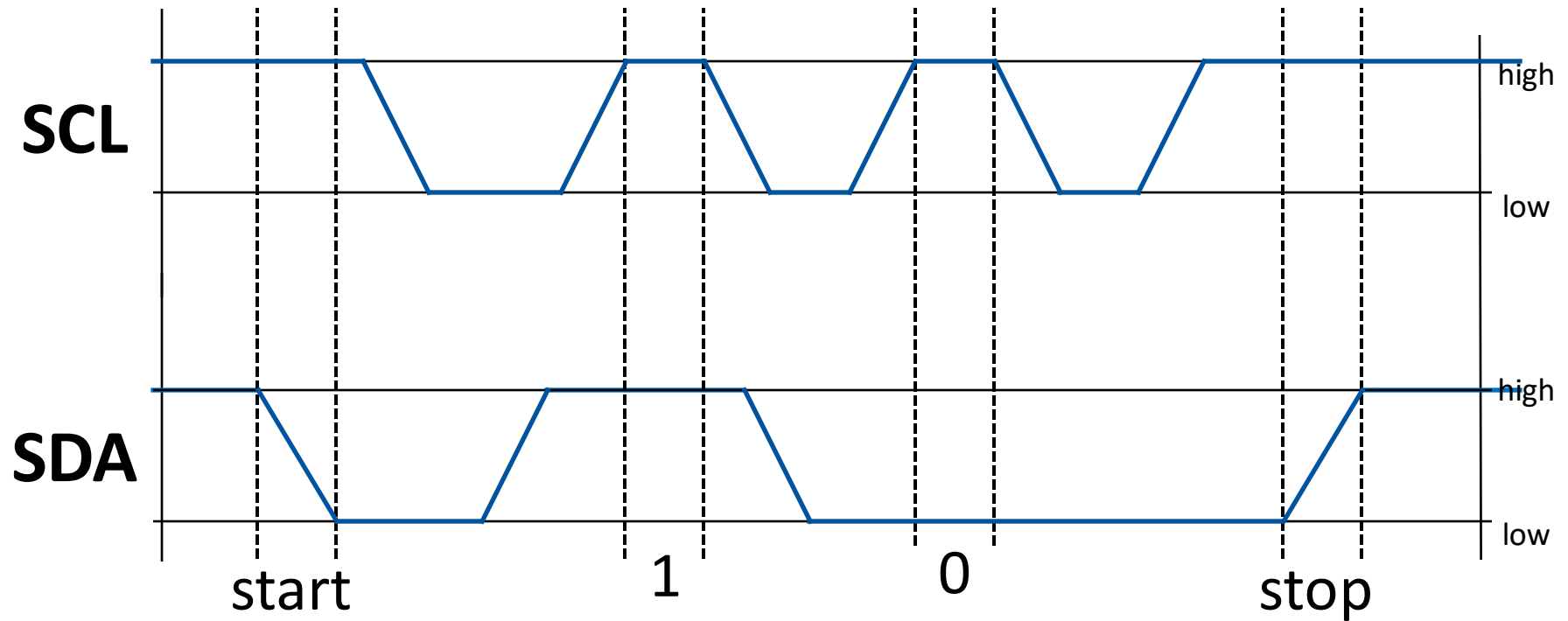


# I<sup>2</sup>C – Physical Layer

- ▶ Two lines connected to pull-up resistors
  - SCL: serial clock line - SDA: serial data line
- ▶ Devices are connected via open connectors
- ▶ High level (logical 1):  $>0.7V$  (usually 3.3V – 5V)
- ▶ Low level (logical 0):  $-0.5V - 0.3V$
- ▶ Maximum Capacity 400pF (few meters)
- ▶ Wired-AND (dominant 0)

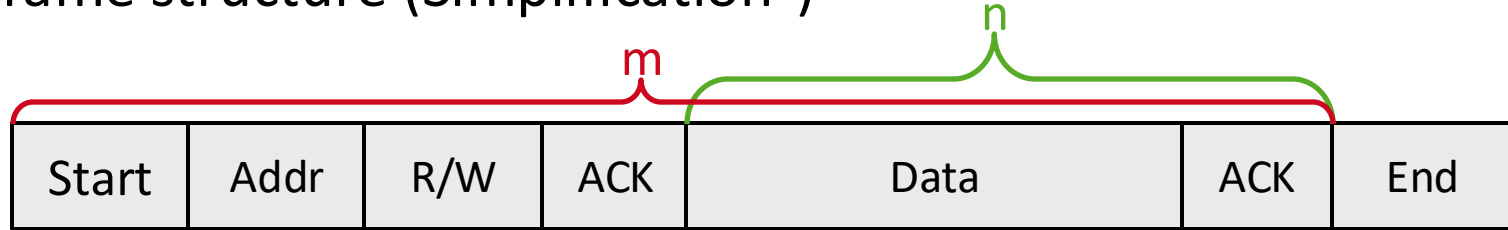


# I<sup>2</sup>C – Bit Encoding



# I<sup>2</sup>C – Data Link Layer

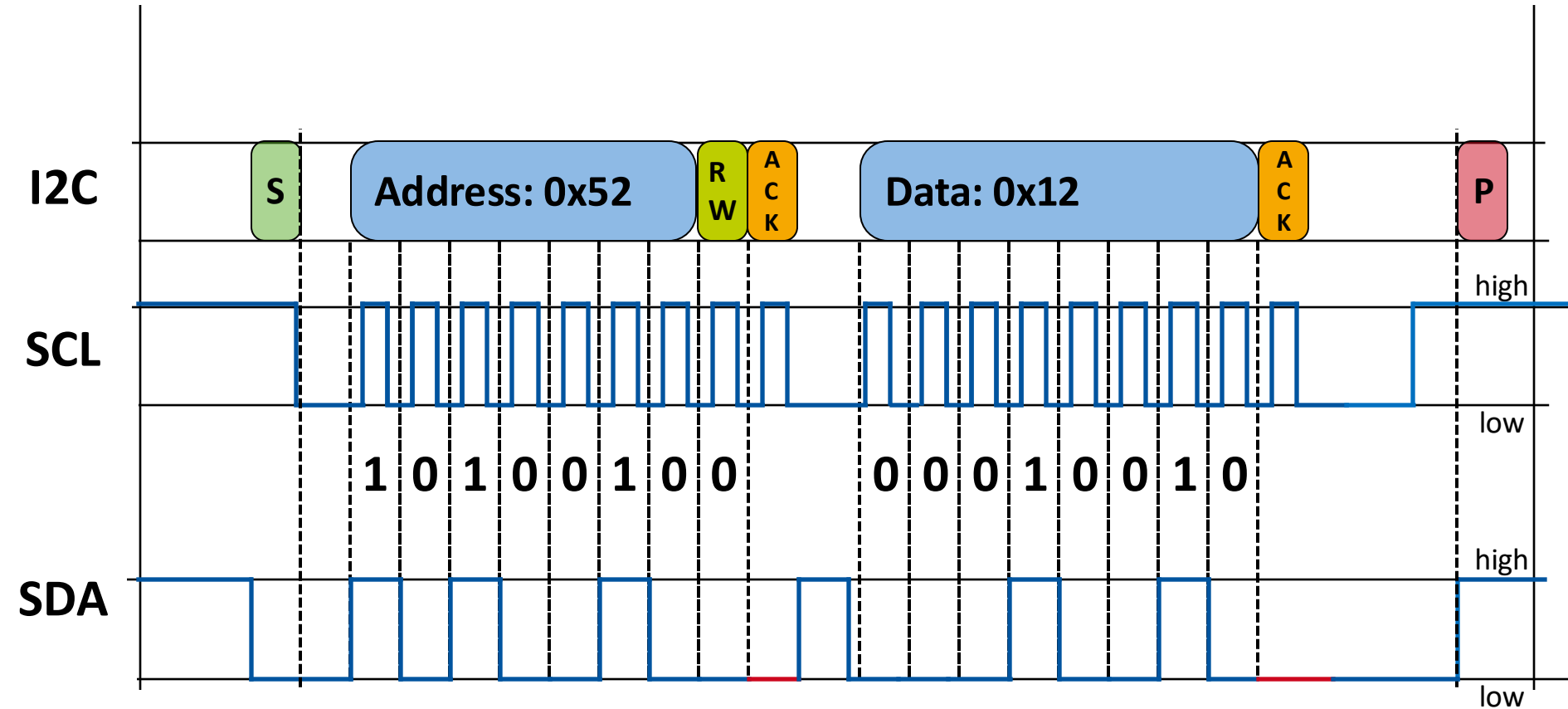
- ▶ Each device has a unique **7 bit** address (priority)
- ▶ Frame structure (Simplification\*)



- ▶ Master-Slave principle
  - Master polls / pushes data
- ▶ Multi-master
  - arbitration by CSMA/CR: first 0 wins
- ▶ No error detection / correction
- ▶ Flow control by
  - Acknowledgement
  - Clock stretching

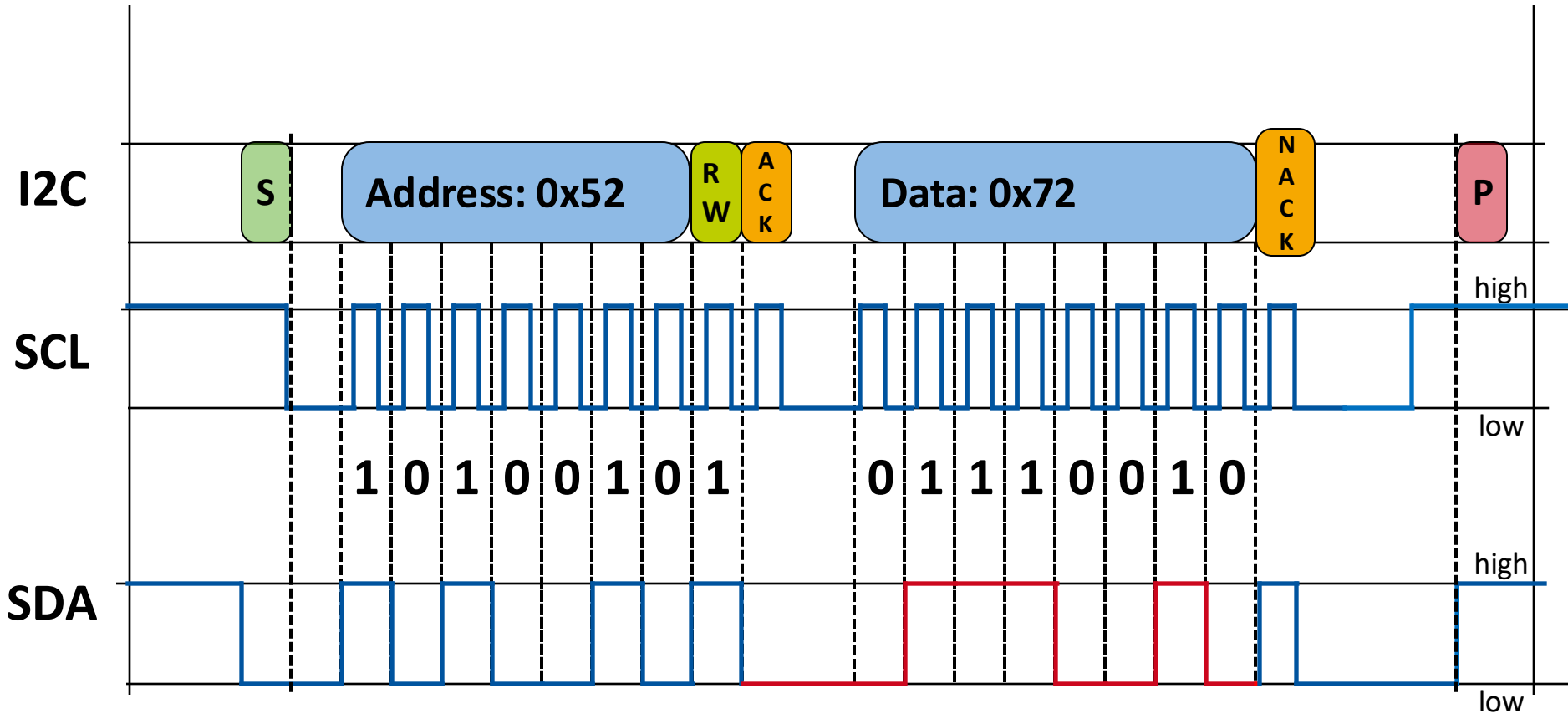
\*I<sup>2</sup>C additionally uses register addresses, these are excluded in the lecture

# I<sup>2</sup>C – Example: Simple Write



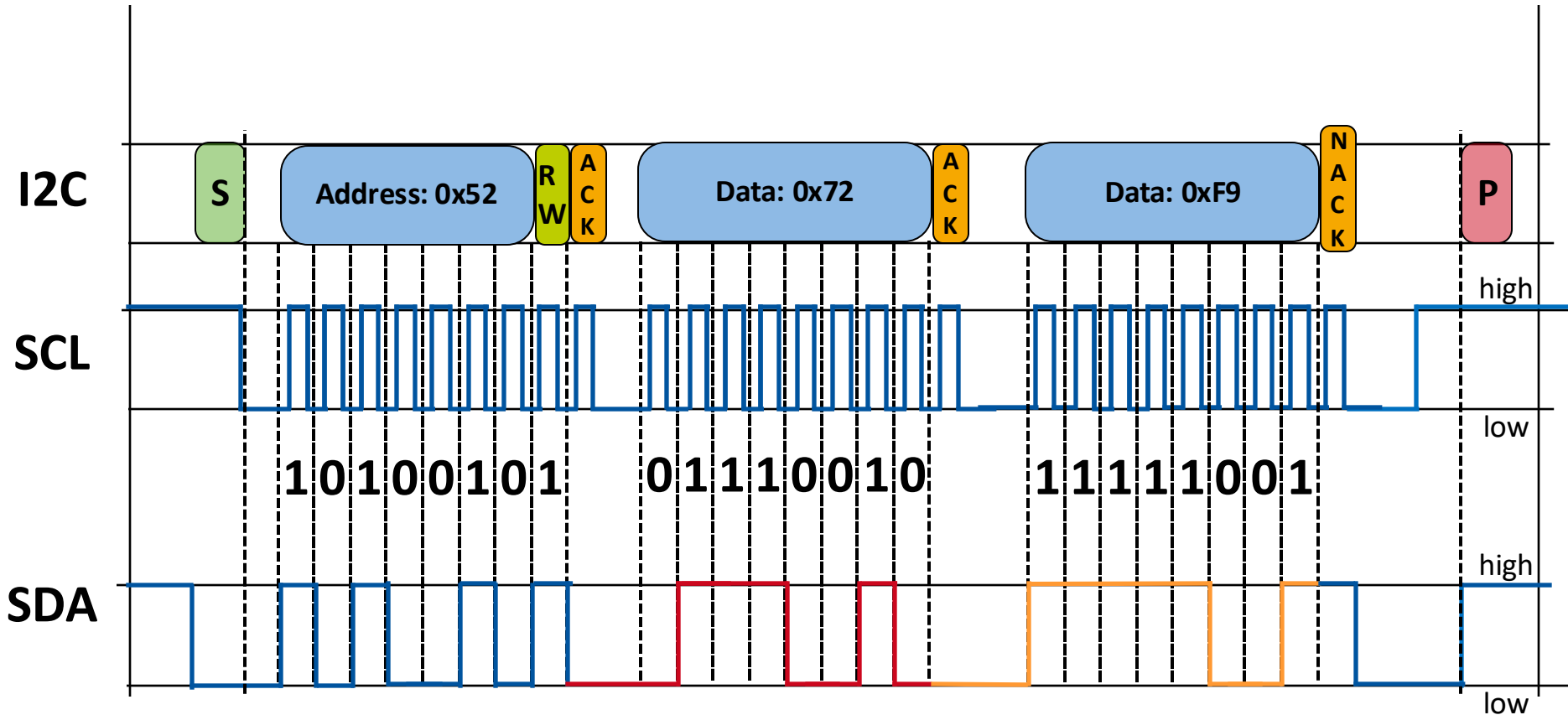


# I<sup>2</sup>C – Example: Simple Read



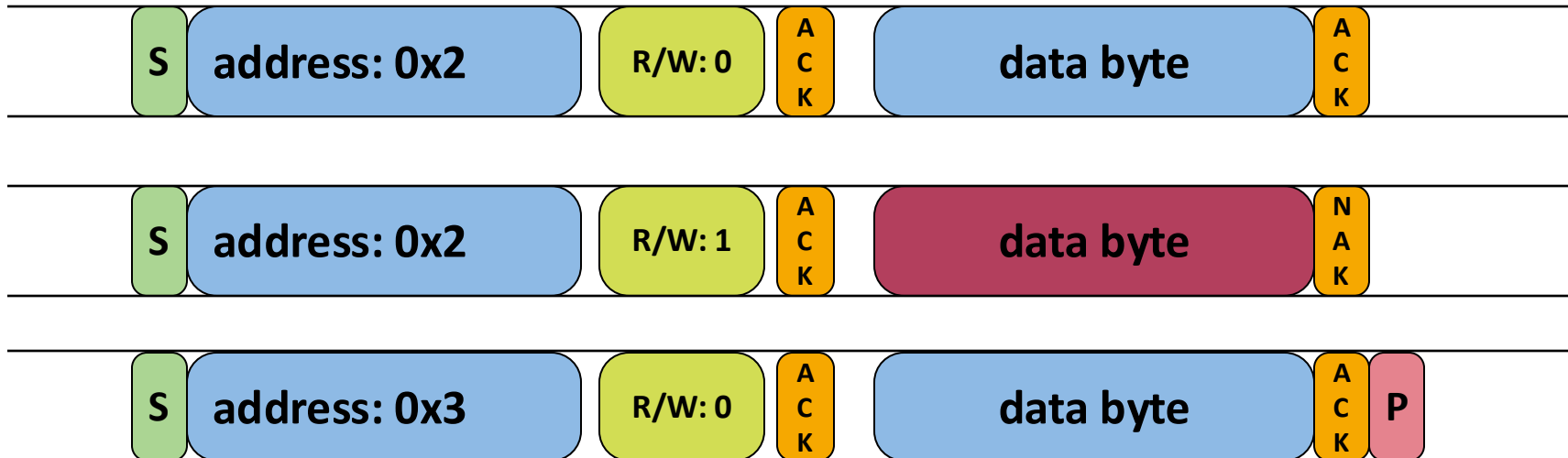
- Master doesn't want to receive more bytes
  - Sends NACK

# I<sup>2</sup>C – Example: Efficient Double Read

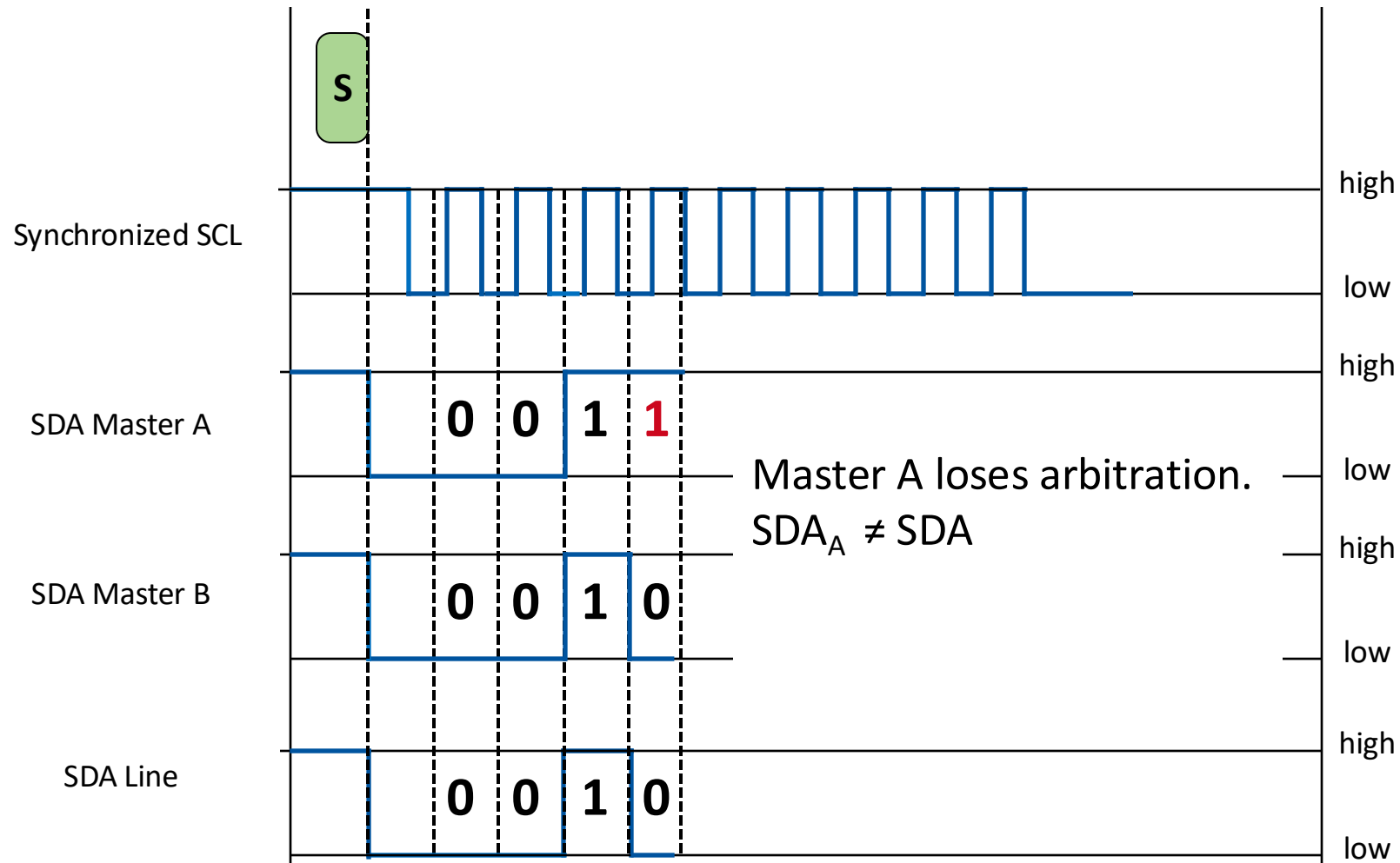


- Master doesn't want to receive more bytes
  - Sends NACK

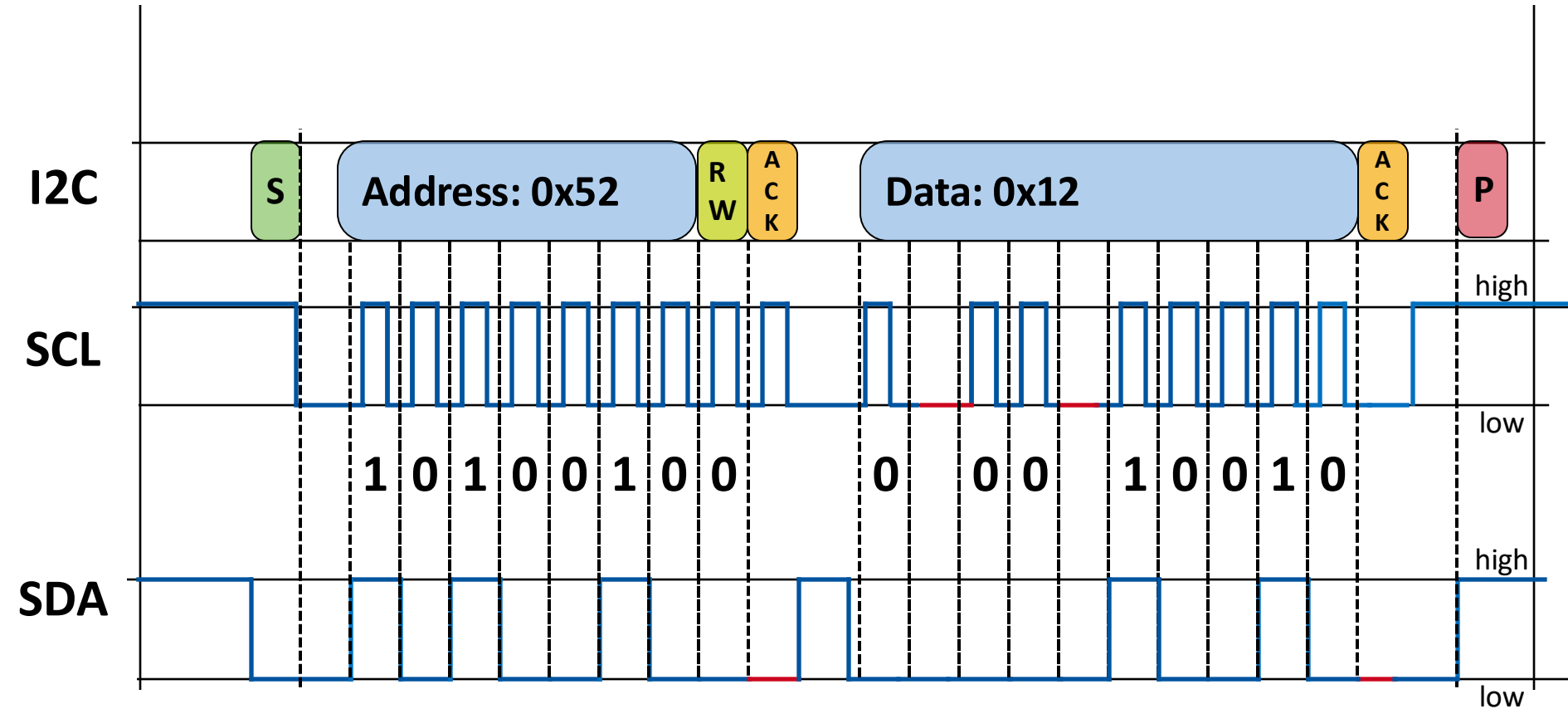
# I<sup>2</sup>C – Example: Restart



# I<sup>2</sup>C – Example: Master Arbitration



# I<sup>2</sup>C – Example: Clock stretching



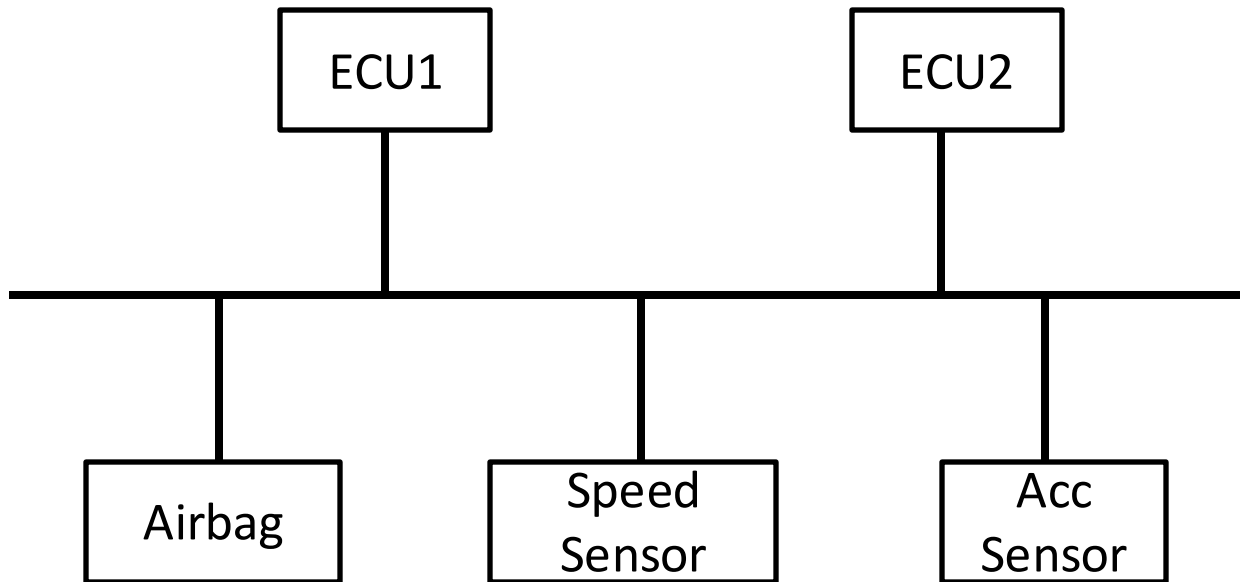
# Controller Area Network (CAN) Bus

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- ▶ Connects multiple controller units in harsh environments
  - Up to 5km at 10kbit/s
  - Up to 25m at 1Mbit/s
- ▶ Developed by Bosch in 1983
  - Reduce number and length of cables (weight / cost)
  - Reduce number and types of connectors (wiring errors)
- ▶ Standardized in ISO 11898
- ▶ Main application as automotive bus
- ▶ Also used as industrial field bus (CANopen)

# CAN – Exemplary Setup

---



# CAN – Physical Layer

---

- ▶ Shielded twisted pair (also: optical fiber)
- ▶ Comfort bus (low speed) also possible with single line
- ▶ Higher data rates use difference signals
  - Prevents common-mode interference (Gleichtaktstörung)
  - Can use optional third line CAN\_GND
- ▶ Simple NRZ with bit stuffing after 5 equal bits
- ▶ Wired-AND (dominant 0; see I<sup>2</sup>C)
- ▶ Usually up to 32 participants
- ▶ 64, 110, and 128 (with limitations) possible
- ▶ More participants with repeaters and bridges
- ▶ Bus termination with 120Ω resistor



# CAN – Data Link Layer

---

- ▶ Each message type has unique identifier (priority)
- ▶ Devices have no address
- ▶ 4 frame types
- ▶ Arbitration by CSMA/CR: first 0 wins
- ▶ CRC (15 bit) error detection

# CAN – Object Identifier

---

- ▶ Unique bit mask
  - 11 bits: base frame format (CAN 2.0A)
  - 29 bits: extended frame format (CAN 2.0B)
- ▶ Each object ID should only be sent by one device
- ▶ Each device can have multiple object IDs
- ▶ Object ID is used for arbitration
- ▶ Assignment of object IDs is fixed in specification
  - CAN matrix document
  - Reserve object IDs for future extensions

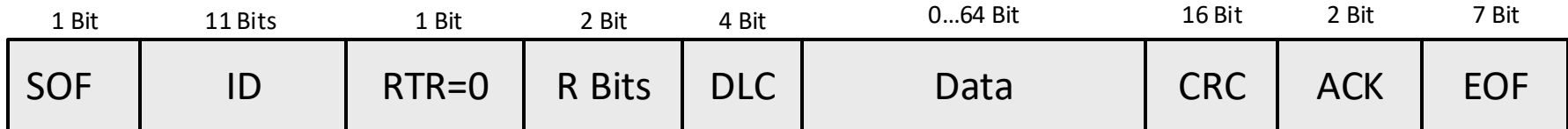
# CAN – Matrix

- ▶ Message: Motor 1
- ▶ Identifier: 0x0280
- ▶ Length: 8 byte
- ▶ Receiver: all
- ▶ Data rate: 500kBaud
- ▶ Periodicity: 10ms

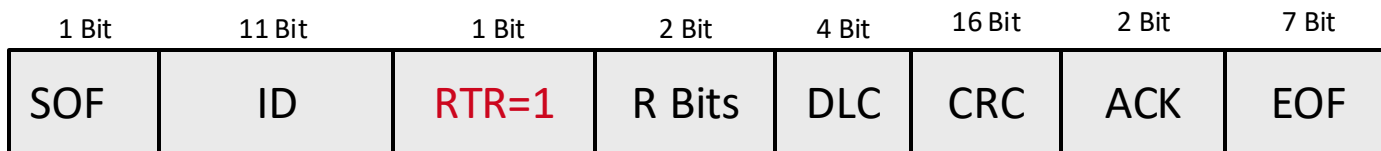
Signal	Byte	Bit	Init	Range	Interpretation
...	...	...	...	...	...
Pedal check	1	1			0: pedal ok 1: use default value
Kick-down switch	1	2			0: no kick-down 1: kick-down
...	...	...	...	...	...

# CAN – Frames

## ▶ Data frame



## ▶ Remote frame



SOF= Start of Frame

RTR= Remote transmission request

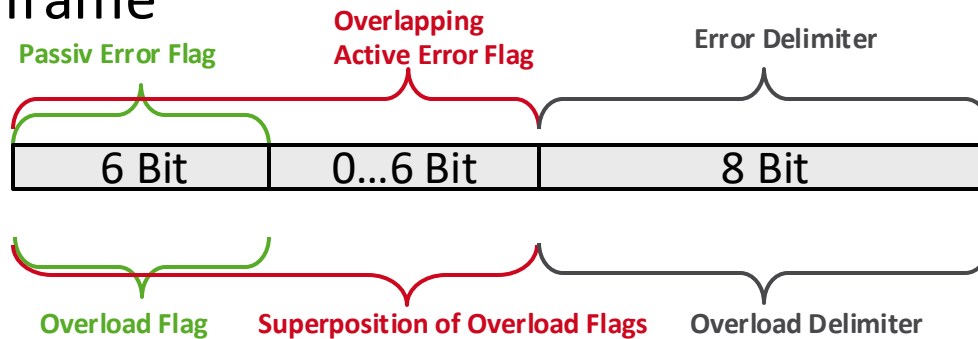
R Bits = two reserved Bits

DLC = Data Length Control

CRC = Cyclic Redundancy Check

EOF = End of Frame

## ▶ Error frame



## ▶ Overload frame (analog to active error frame)

## ▶ Interframe space: three recessive bits (pause)

- ▶ Application layer protocol
- ▶ Based on CAN bus
- ▶ Developed ESPRIT project (lead developer: Bosch)
- ▶ Since 1995 by CAN in Automation (CiA)
- ▶ EN 50325-4
- ▶ Four basic services
  - Request: application requests service
  - Indication: system notifies application of event
  - Response: application replies to an indication
  - Confirmation: system confirms service execution

- ▶ Automotive network communication protocol
- ▶ Developed FlexRay consortium (2000)
- ▶ Core partners
  - BMW
  - Daimler
  - Motorola (Freescale)
  - Philips (NXP Semiconductors)
  - Later: Bosch, General Motors, Volkswagen
- ▶ Deterministic timing → real time capable (X-by-wire)
- ▶ Hybrid MAC: TDMA + dynamic part (reservation)
- ▶ Integrates parts of ByteFlight protocol (BMW)

# FlexRay – Exemplary Setup

---

- ▶ 2 channels with up to 10Mbit/s each
  - Use both channels for redundancy
  - Use single channel for higher data rate
- ▶ Distributed clock synchronization (no master)
- ▶ Bus, star, and star with buses topologies

# FlexRay – Physical Layer

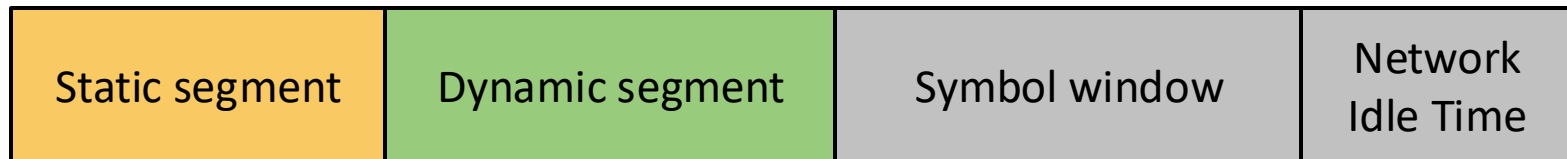
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- ▶ Shielded twisted pair
- ▶ NRZ
  - High 3.5 V
  - Low 1.5 V
  - Idle 2.5 V
  - Suspension 0 V
- ▶ Clock drift < 0.15% compared to reference clock
- ▶ Maximum signal delay < 2.5μs
- ▶ 8 samples per bit (majority vote of 5 samples)

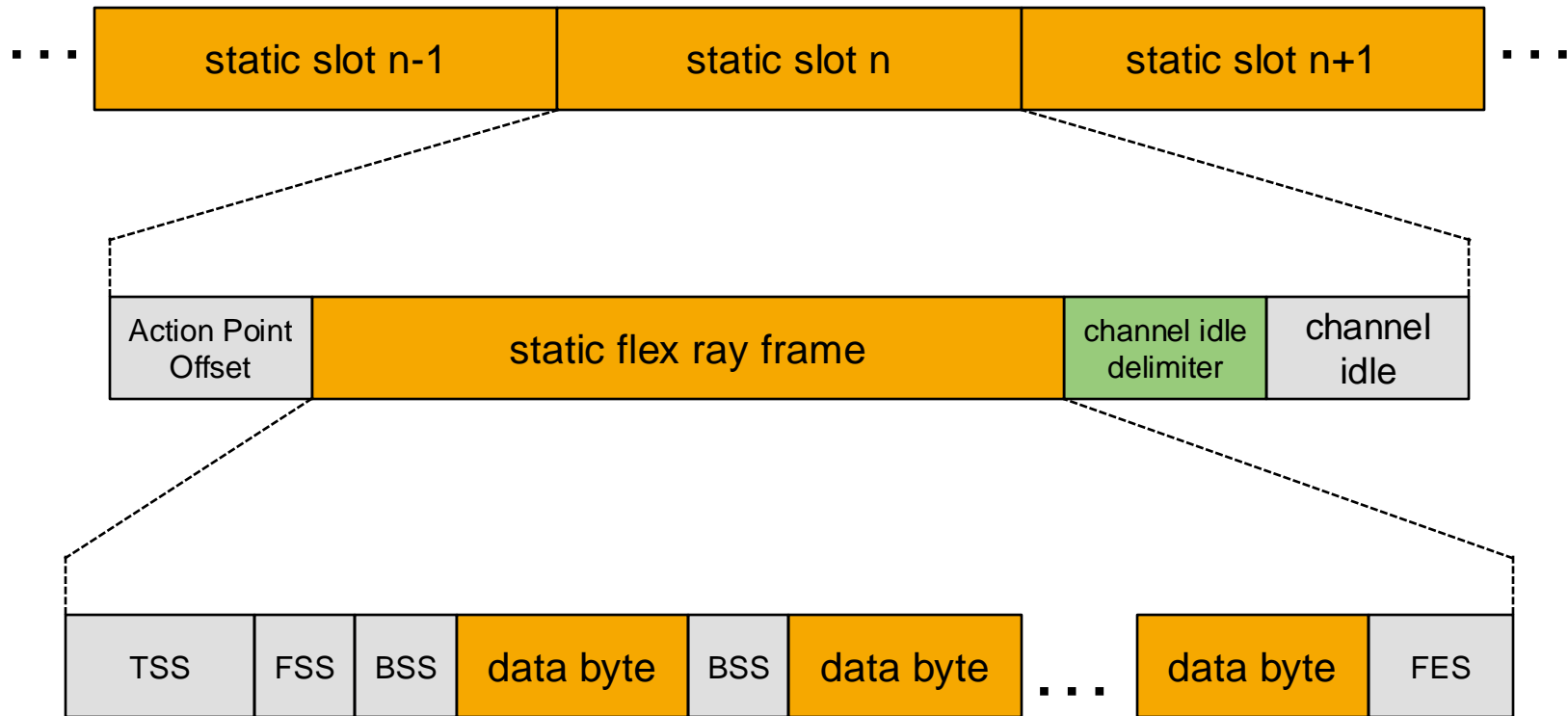


# FlexRay – Data Link Layer

- ▶ Repeating communication cycle
- ▶ Static part for real-time communication (TDMA)
- ▶ Dynamic part for other communication (FTDMA)
- ▶ CRC (11 bit) error detection for header
- ▶ CRC (24 bit) error detection for payload

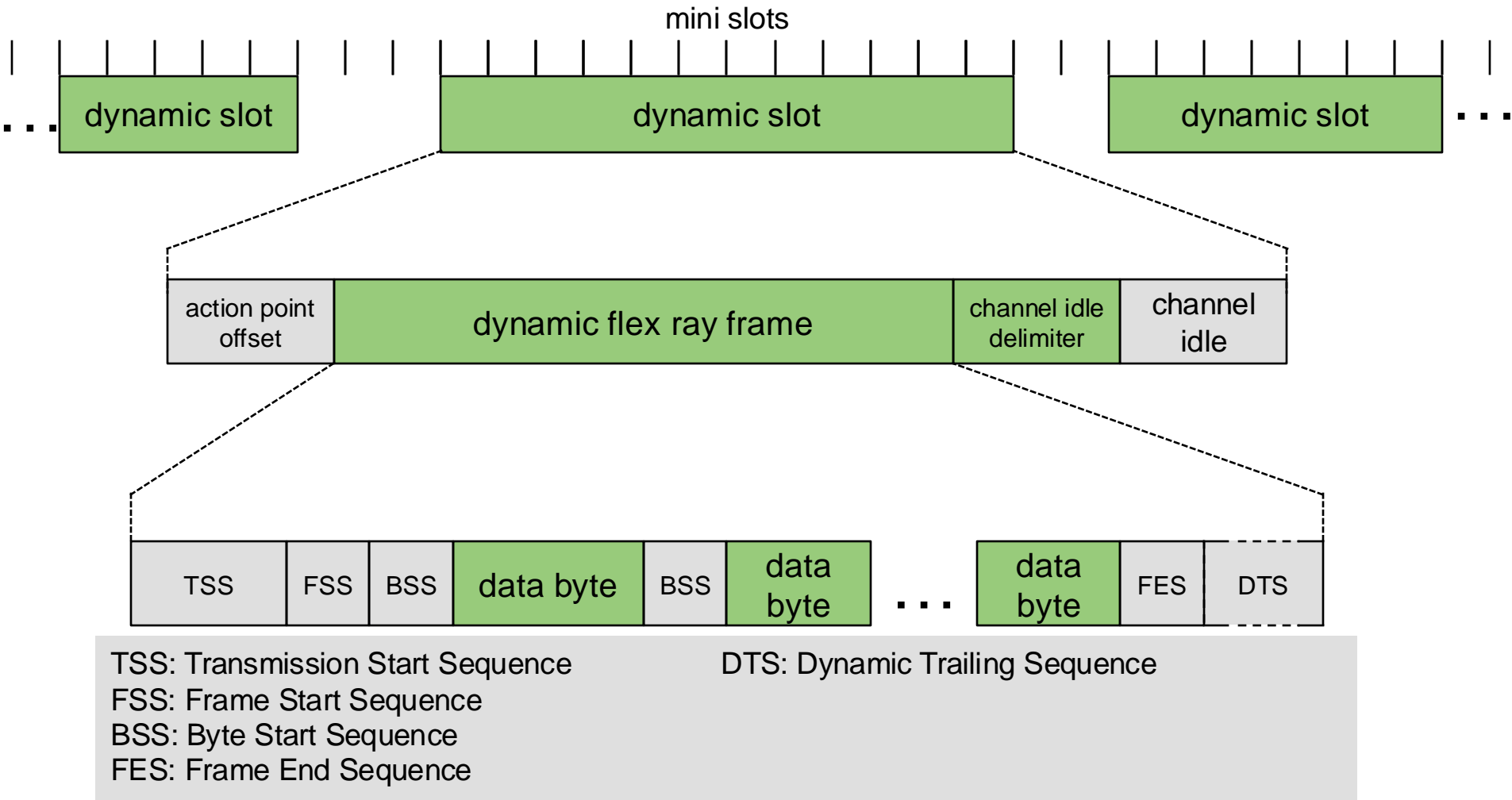


# FlexRay – Static Slot

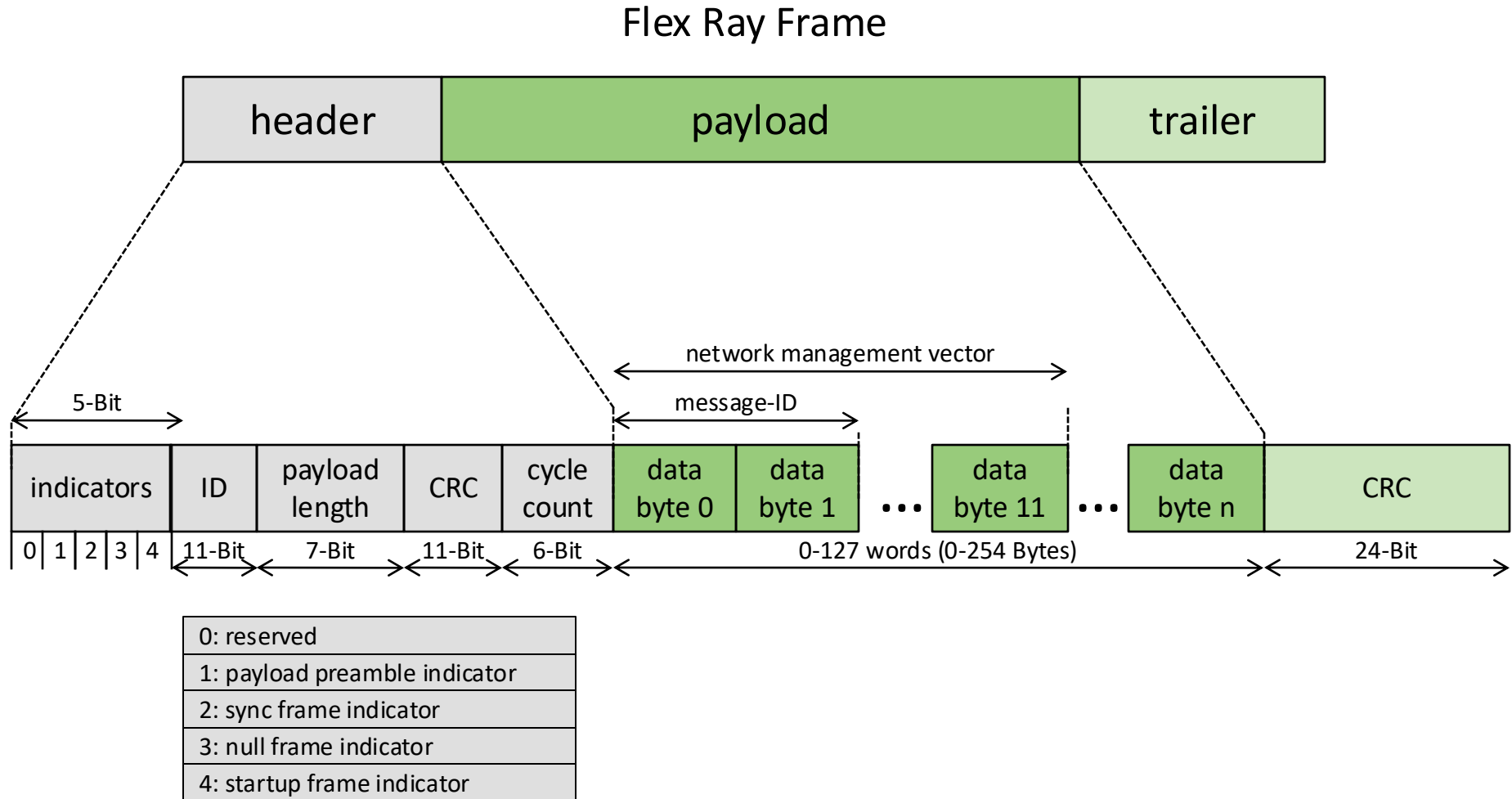


TSS: Transmission Start Sequence  
FSS: Frame Start Sequence  
BSS: Byte Start Sequence  
FES: Frame End Sequence

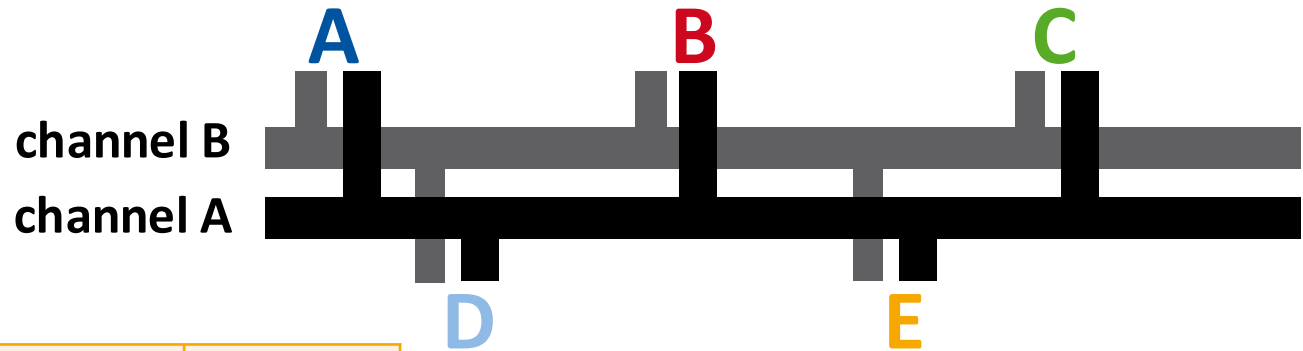
# FlexRay – Dynamic Slot



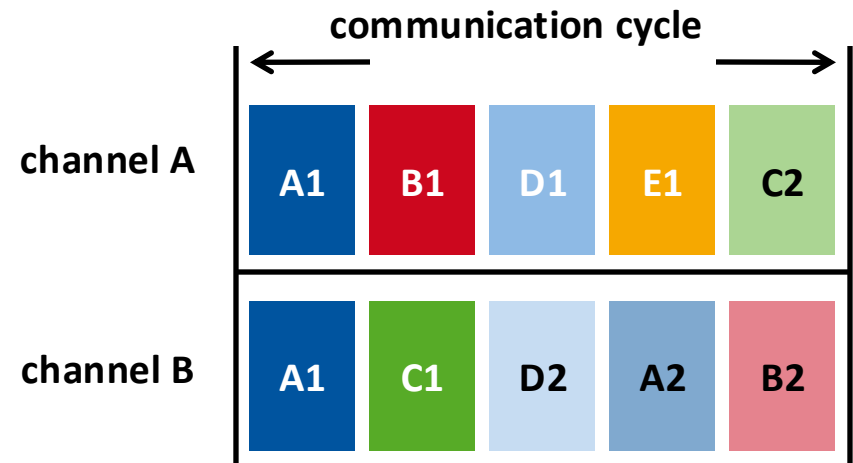
# FlexRay – Payload






# FlexRay – Static Segment



slot	node	message	channel
1	A	A1	A
		A1	B
2	B	B1	A
	C	C1	B
3	D	D1	A
		D2	B
4	E	E1	A
	A	A2	B
5	C	C2	A
	B	B2	B

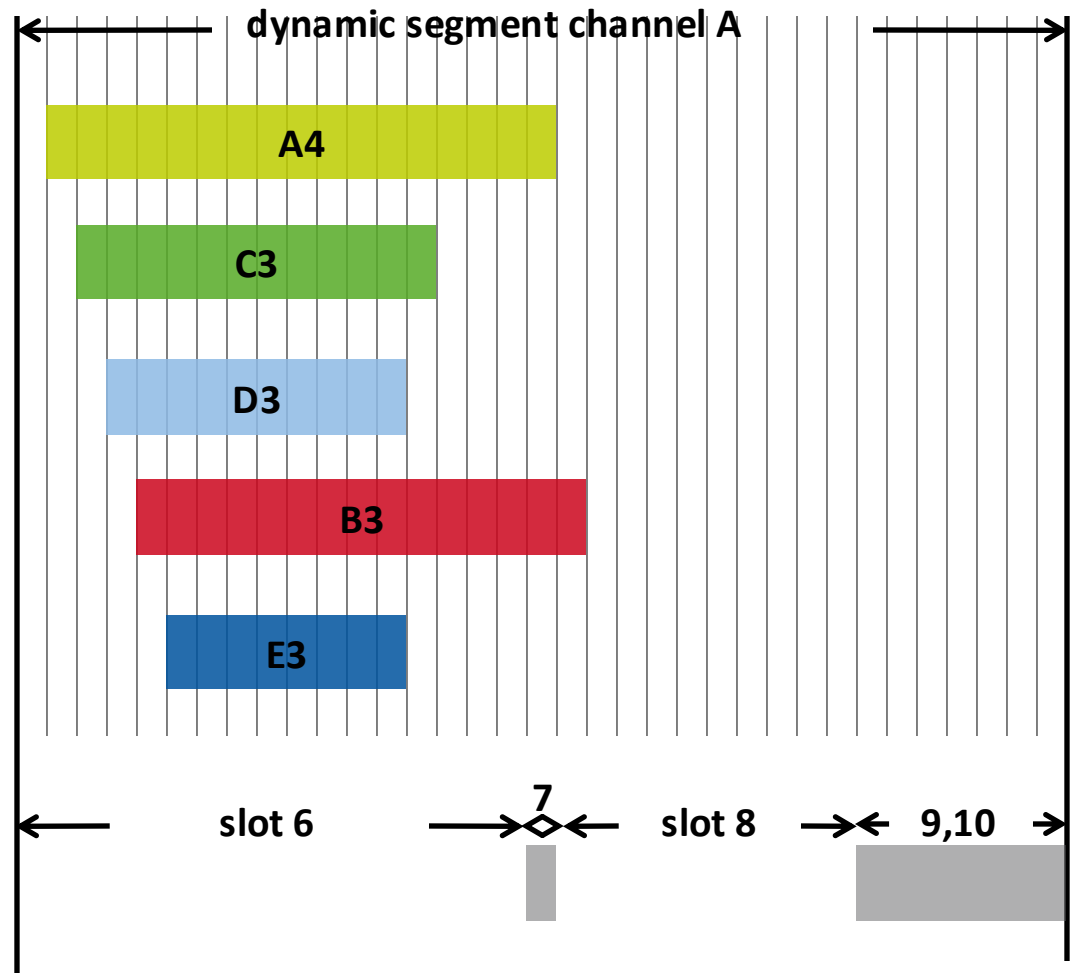


# FlexRay – Dynamic Segment




slot	node	message	event
6	A	A4	
7	C	C3	
8	D	D3	
9	B	B3	
10	E	E3	

## resulting dynamic slots:

- slots 7,9 and 10 are filled with minislots
- message B3 doesn't fit into the dynamic segment

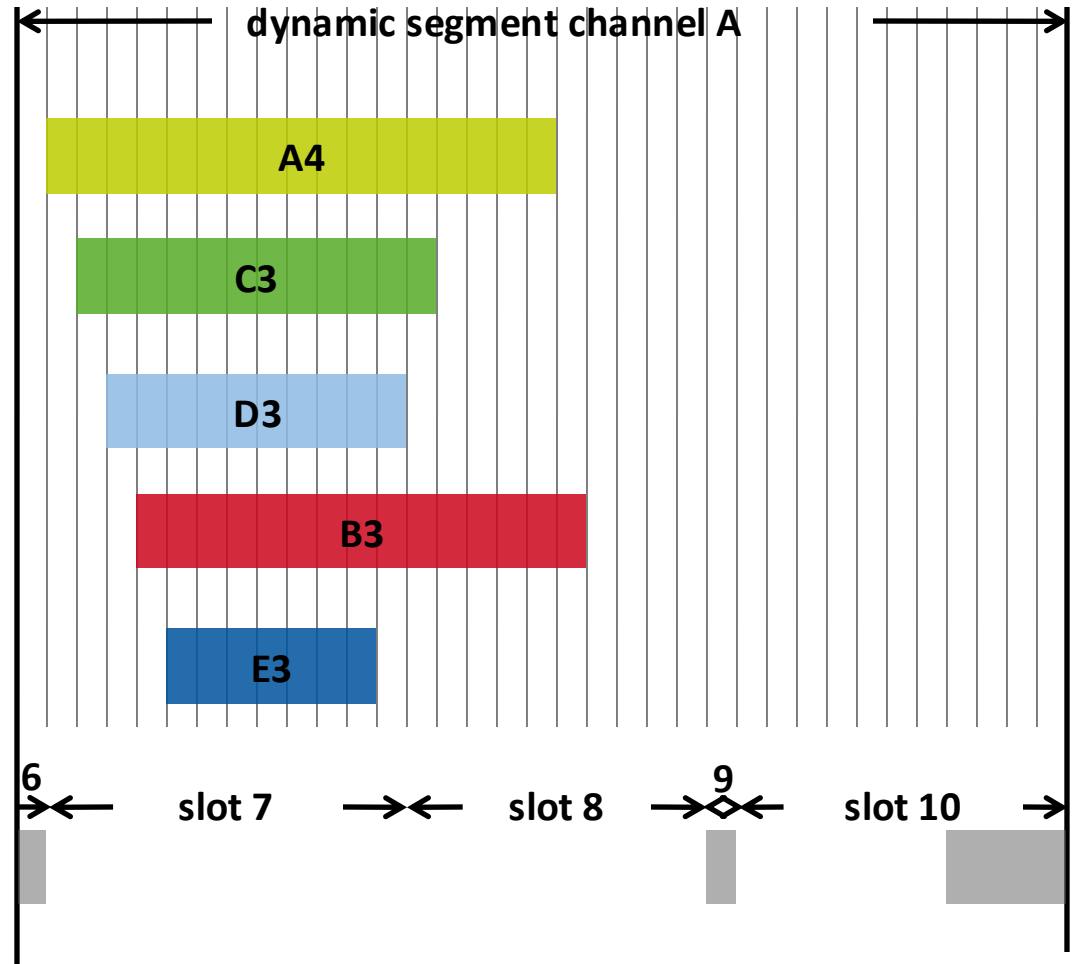


# FlexRay – Dynamic Segment

slot	node	message	event
6	A	A4	
7	C	C3	
8	D	D3	
9	B	B3	
10	E	E3	

**resulting dynamic slots:**

- slots 6 and 9 are filled with minislots
- all triggered messages can be send



# Process Field Bus (PROFIBUS)

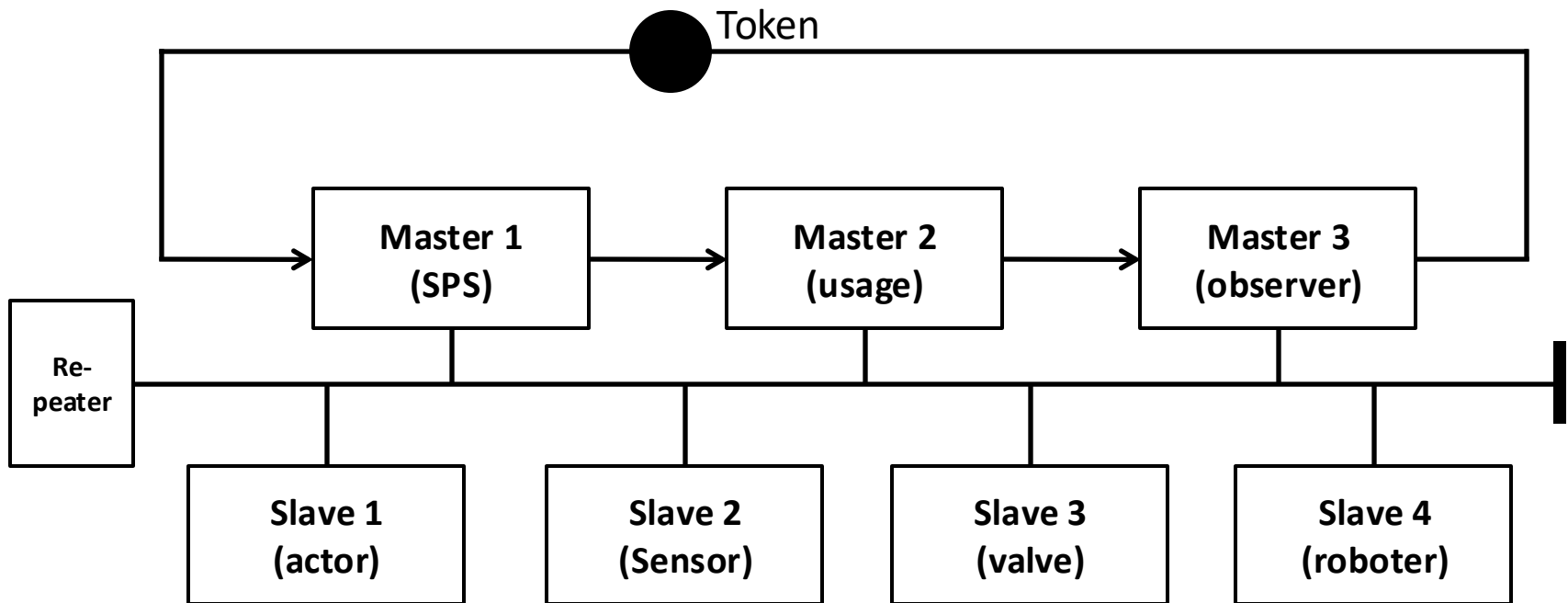
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- ▶ Field bus for automation in industrial environments
- ▶ Publicly founded German research project (BMBF)
- ▶ “Dezentrale Peripherie” (DP) (1993)
  - Focus on central controller using remote sensors and actors
  - Simple, fast (12Mbit/s)
- ▶ “Prozessautomation” (PA)
  - Limited current (explosion protection)
  - Very slow (31.25kbit/s)
- ▶ “Fieldbus Message Specification” (FMS) (1991)
  - First version
  - Very complex, replaced by DP
- ▶ IEC 61158 / IEC 61784



# PROFIBUS-DP – Exemplary Setup

single master setup



# PROFIBUS-DP – Physical Layer

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- ▶ RS-485
  - Shielded twisted pair
  - 9600 bit/s – 12Mbit/s
  - Bus topology with 150Ω terminators
  - 100m – 1200m between repeaters (depends on data rate)
  - NRZ
  
- ▶ Optical fiber
  - Star, bus, or (redundant) ring topology
  - Up to 15km between repeaters

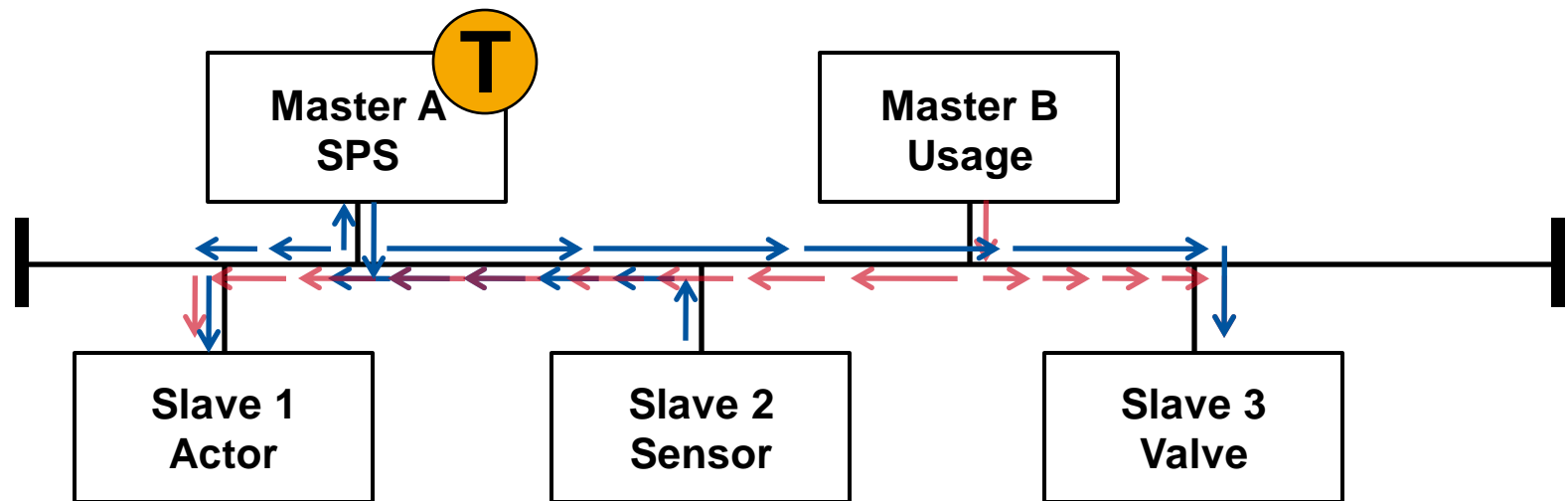
# PROFIBUS-DP – Data Link Layer

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- ▶ Fieldbus Data Link (FDL)
- ▶ Each device has 7 bit address
- ▶ 5 frame types
- ▶ Master polls / pushes data
- ▶ Multi-master by token passing
- ▶ CRC (8 bit) error detection
- ▶ Hamming distance of 4 for delimiters

# PROFIBUS-DP – Token Passing

SPS controls actor using latest sensor data



# PROFIBUS-DP – Frames

- ▶ No Data



- ▶ Variable data length

- ▶ Fix data length

- ▶ Token

- ▶ Short Confirmation

**SD 1:** *Start delimiter, signals type of data*

**DA:** *Destination adress*

**SA:** *Source adress*

**FC:** *Function code, extension of data type*

**FCS:** *Frame checking sequence, error handling*

**ED:** *End delimiter*

# PROFIBUS-DP – Frames

## ▶ No Data



## ▶ Variable data length



## ▶ Fix data length

## ▶ Token

## ▶ Short Confirmation

**LE:** *Length of PDU*

**LEr:** *Repetition of LE*

**DSAP:** *Destination Service Access Point*

**SSAP:** *Source Service Access Point*

**PDU:** *Protocol Data Unit*

# PROFIBUS-DP – Frames

## ▶ No Data



## ▶ Variable data length



## ▶ Fix data length



## ▶ Token

## ▶ Short Confirmation

# PROFIBUS-DP – Frames

## ▶ No Data



## ▶ Variable data length



## ▶ Fix data length



## ▶ Token



## ▶ Short Confirmation



# PROFIBUS-DP – Frames

## ▶ No Data



## ▶ Variable data length



## ▶ Fix data length



## ▶ Token



## ▶ Short Confirmation



- ▶ **DPV0**
  - Original specification
  - Cyclic exchange of data
  - Automation technology
  
- ▶ **DPV1**
  - Acyclic data communication
  - Alarm management
  - Chemical engineering
  
- ▶ **DPV2**
  - Isochronous data communication
  - Slave to slave communication
  - Robot control

# Literature

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- ▶ Vector E-Learning: <http://www.vector-elearning.com>
- ▶ PROFIBUS Handbuch: <http://www.profibus.felser.ch/>
- ▶ Heinz Wörn, Uwe Brinkschulte: Echtzeitsysteme, Springer-Verlag, 2005. ISBN 3-540-20588-8.

# Summary

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- ▶ All data communication follows basic principles
  - Limitation by bandwidth
  - Degradation due to damping
- ▶ Embedded data communication has special demands
  - Cheap and simple
  - Real-time capable
  - Robust
- ▶ Physical Layer defines how bit streams are transported
  - Mechanical and electrical characteristics
  - Bit encoding
  - Synchronization

# Summary

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- ▶ Data Link Layer defines how messages are transported
  - Frame formats
  - Medium access
  - Error correction and flow control
  
- ▶ Different areas of application use fitting protocols
  - I<sup>2</sup>C for intra board communication
  - CAN for intra car communication
  - FlexRay for intra car communication with real time and higher data rates
  - PROFIBUS for industrial controllers