

# Chapter 6

## The Link Layer and LANs

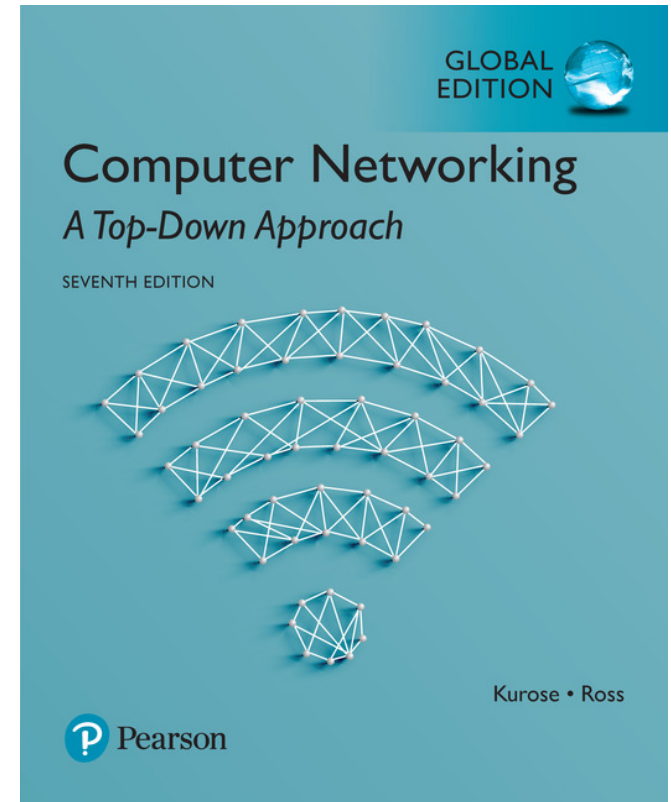
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## Computer Networking: A Top- Down Approach

7<sup>th</sup> Edition, Global Edition  
Jim Kurose, Keith Ross  
Pearson  
April 2016

# Chapter 6: 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: outline

6.1 introduction,  
services

6.2 error detection,  
correction

6.3 multiple access  
protocols

6.4 LANs

- addressing, ARP
- Ethernet
- switches

6.5 link virtualization:  
MPLS

6.6 data center  
networking

6.7 a day in the life of a  
web request

Link-layer protocol defines

- The **format** of the packets
- The **actions** taken by these nodes

•Wi-Fi → Chapter 7

Two different types of link-layer channels:

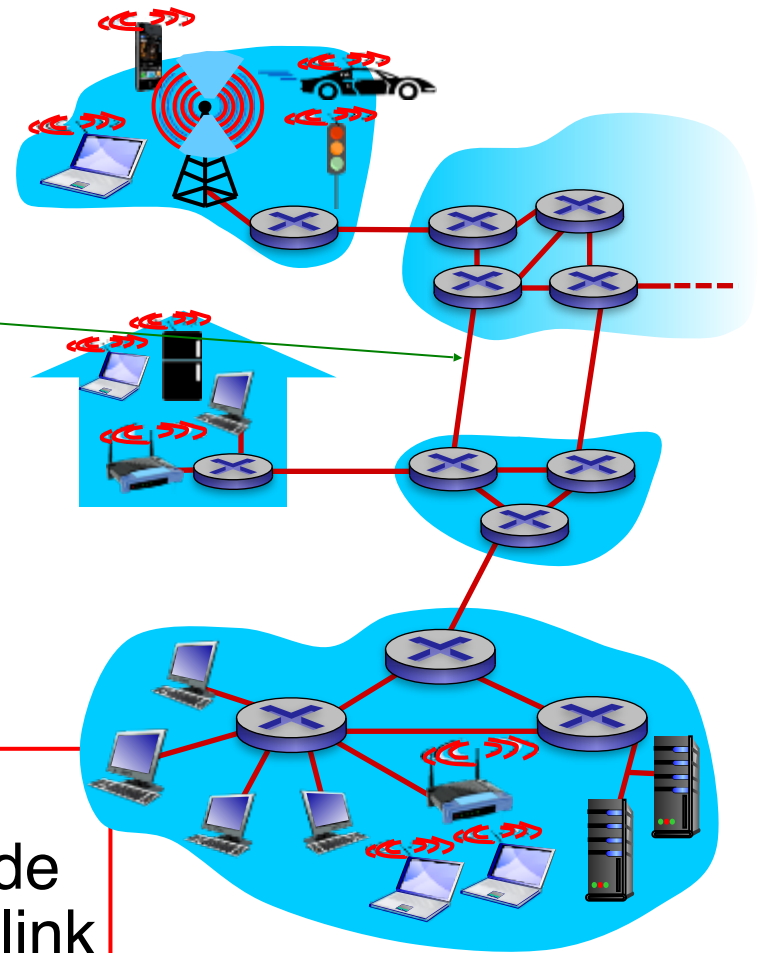
1. **Broadcast channel**, ex. LANs, WLANs, satellite networks, HFC networks
2. **Point-to-point channel**, ex. between two routers, between a residential dial-up modem and an ISP router

# Link layer: introduction

## *terminology:*

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

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



Network-layer protocol: **end-to-end** job  
Link-layer protocol: **node-to-node** job

# Link layer: context

- datagram transferred by different link protocols over different links:
  - e.g., Ethernet on first link, frame relay on intermediate links, 802.11 on last link
- each link protocol provides different services
  - e.g., may or may not provide rdt over link

• Ethernet, 802.11, token ring, PPP, ATM

## *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:*
  - encapsulate datagram into frame, adding header, trailer
- *link access:*
  - Medium Access Control (MAC) protocol → Section 6.3
  - channel access if shared medium
  - “MAC” addresses used in frame headers to identify source, destination
    - different from IP address!
- *reliable delivery between adjacent nodes*
  - we learned how to do this already (chapter 3)!
    - Ack, retransmission.....
  - seldom used on low bit-error link (fiber, some twisted pair)
  - wireless links: high error rates
    - *Q:* why both link-level and end-to-end reliability?

# Link layer services (more)

## ■ *error detection:*

- errors caused by signal attenuation, noise
- receiver detects presence of errors:
  - signals sender for retransmission or drops frame
- More sophisticated, implemented in hardware

## ■ *error correction:*

- receiver identifies *and corrects* bit error(s) without resorting to retransmission

## ■ *flow control:*

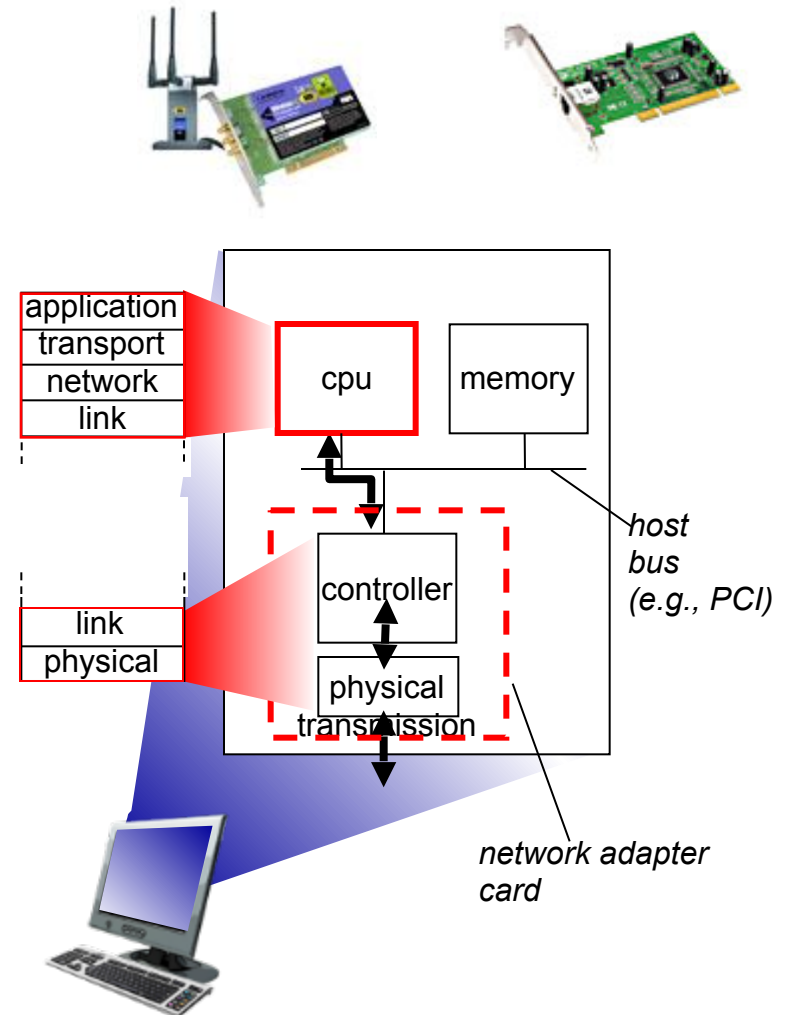
- pacing between adjacent sending and receiving nodes

## ■ *half-duplex and full-duplex*

- with half duplex, nodes at both ends of link can transmit, but not at same time

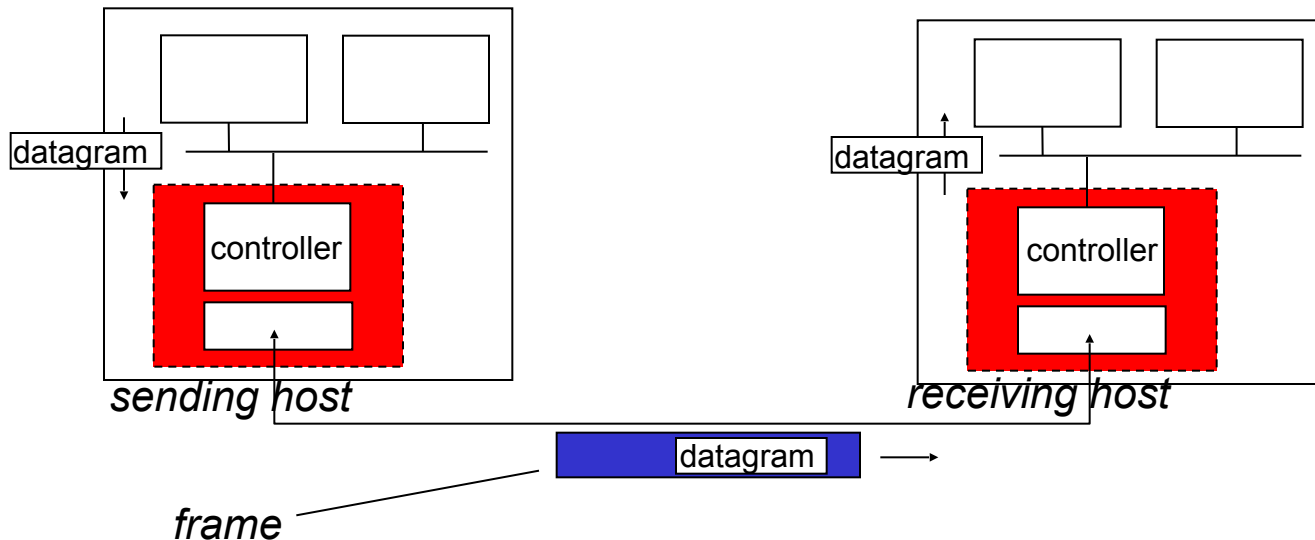
# Where is the link layer implemented?

- in each and every host
- link layer implemented in “**adapter**” (a.k.a. **network interface card**, **NIC**) or on a chip
  - Ethernet card, **PCMCIA card**, 802.11 card; Ethernet chipset
  - implements link, physical layer
- attaches into host's system buses
- combination of hardware, software, firmware





# Adapters communicating



- sending side:
  - encapsulates datagram in frame
  - adds error checking bits, rdt, flow control, etc.
- receiving side
  - looks for errors, rdt, flow control, etc.
  - extracts datagram, passes to upper layer at receiving side

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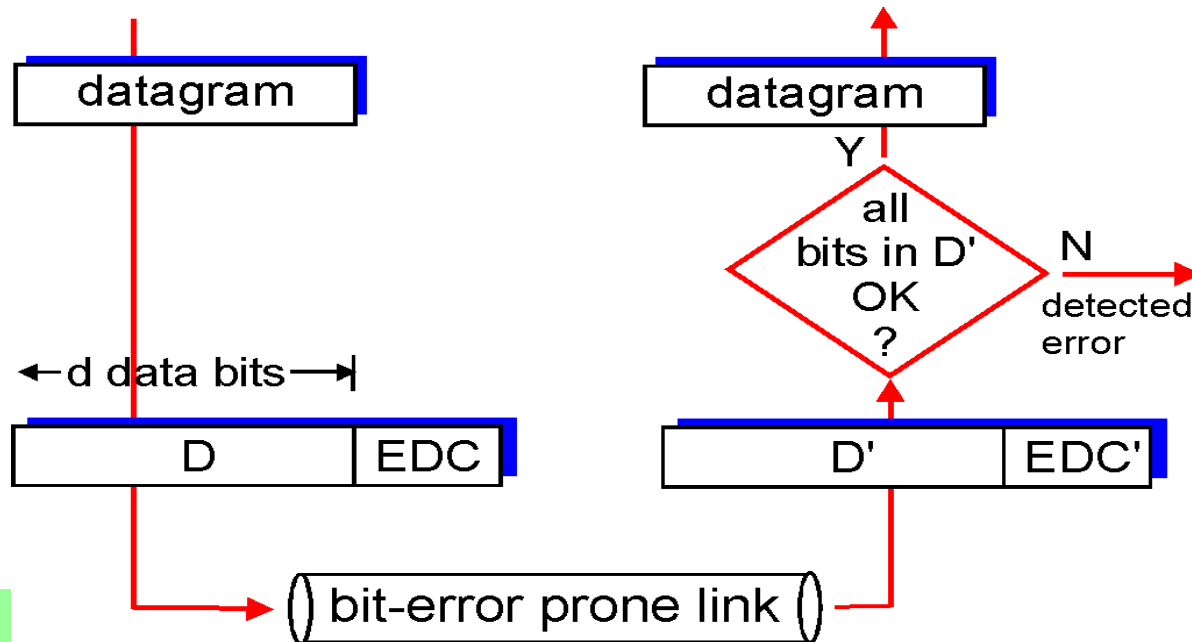
6.7 a day in the life of a  
web request

# Error detection

EDC = Error-Detection and -Correction bits (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



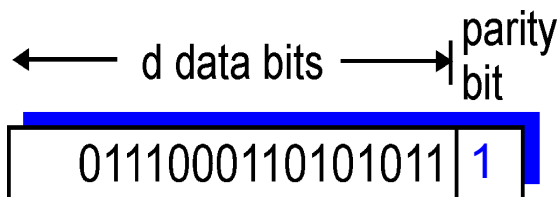
- Parity Checks
- Checksumming Methods -> typically used in transport layer
- Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) -> typically used in link layer

# Parity checking

- **FEC** (forward error correction)  
→ decrease retransmission

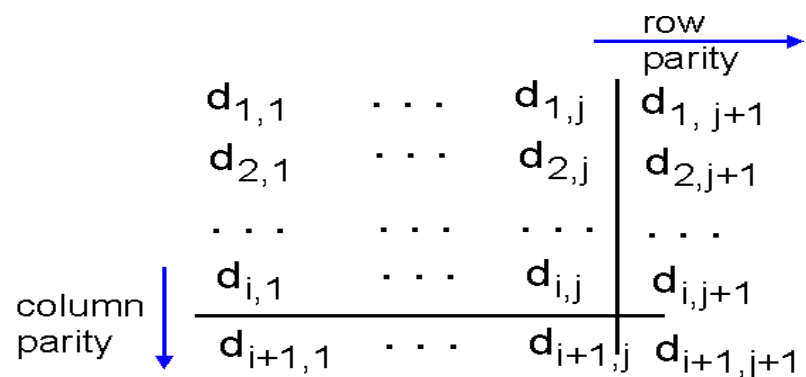
## *single-bit parity:*

- **detect** single bit errors



## *two-dimensional bit parity:*

- **detect** and **correct** single bit errors



## **One-bit even parity**

→ total number of **1s** in the  $(d+1)$  bits is even

- one-bit **even** parity
- one-bit **odd** parity

## **One-bit parity check**

→ can only detect odd number of bits error

```

1 0 1 0 1 | 1
1 1 1 1 0 | 0
0 1 1 1 0 | 1
0 0 1 0 1 | 0

```

*no errors*

```

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

**correctable  
single bit error**

Check out the online interactive exercises for more

- a **double-bit error** can be **detected** but **not corrected**

# Internet checksum (review)

**goal:** detect “errors” (e.g., flipped bits) in transmitted packet (note: used at transport layer only)

## *sender:*

- treat segment contents as sequence of 16-bit integers
- checksum: addition (one's complement of the sum) of segment contents
- sender puts checksum value into TCP/UDP checksum field

## *receiver:*

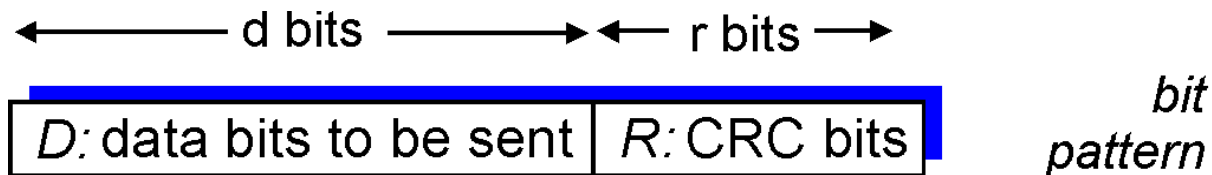
- Add all 16-bit words, including the checksum
- If the sum is 1111111111111111 → no error
  - *But maybe errors nonetheless?*
- Only error detection, no error correction

• little packet overhead (only 16 bits), relatively weak protection

• why checksumming in transport layer and CRC in link layer?

# Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC)

- more powerful error-detection coding
- view data bits, **D**, as a binary number
- choose  $r+1$  bit pattern (**generator**), **G**
- goal: choose  $r$  CRC bits, **R**, such that
  - $\langle D, R \rangle$  exactly divisible by  $G$  (modulo 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
  - can detect any odd number of bit errors
- widely used in practice (Ethernet, 802.11 WiFi, ATM)



$$D * 2^r \text{ XOR } R$$

*mathematical formula*

# CRC example

$$G = 1 \cdot x^3 + 0 \cdot x^2 + 0 \cdot x + 1$$

$$r = 3$$

want:

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

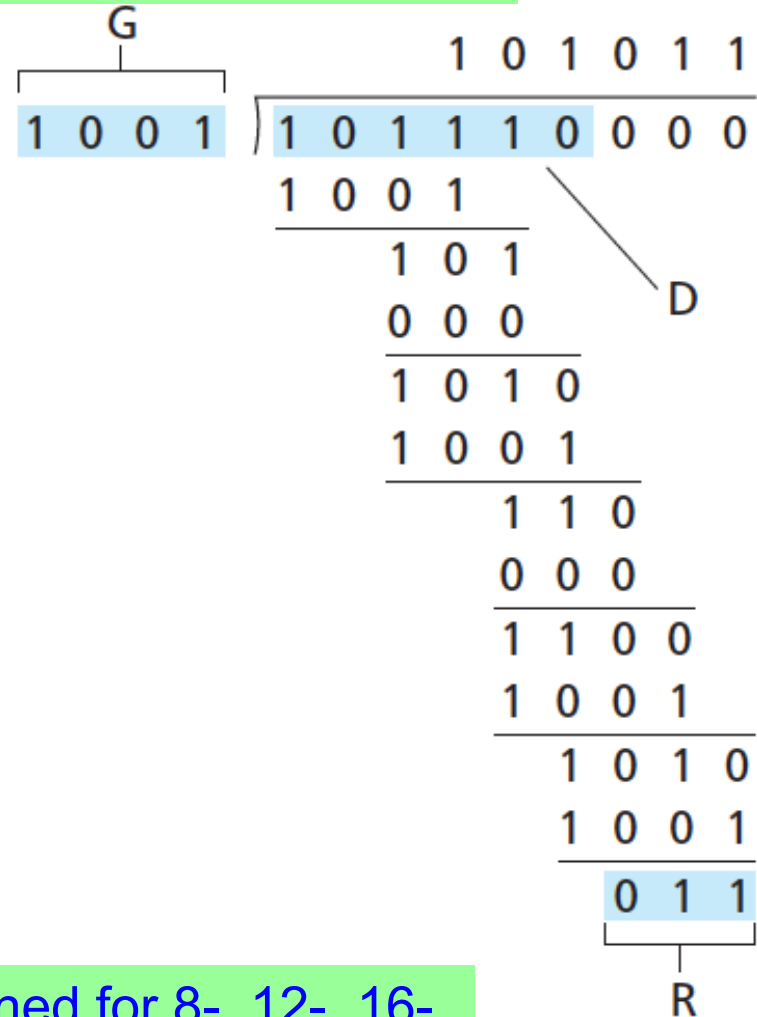
*equivalently:*

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

*equivalently:*

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

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



- International standards have been defined for 8-, 12-, 16-, and 32-bit generators,  $G$
- $G_{\text{CRC-32}} = 1000\ 0010\ 0110\ 0000\ 1000\ 1110\ 1101\ 1011\ 1$

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# Multiple access links, protocols

two types of “links”:

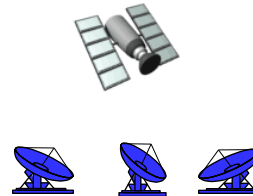
- **point-to-point link**
  - PPP for dial-up access
  - point-to-point link between Ethernet switch, host
- **broadcast link** (*shared wire or medium*)
  - old-fashioned Ethernet
  - upstream HFC
  - 802.11 wireless LAN



shared wire (e.g.,  
cabled Ethernet)



shared RF  
(e.g., 802.11 WiFi)



shared RF  
(satellite)



humans at a  
cocktail party  
(shared air, acoustical)

# Multiple access protocols

- 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:* broadcast channel of rate  $R$  bps

*desiderata:*

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

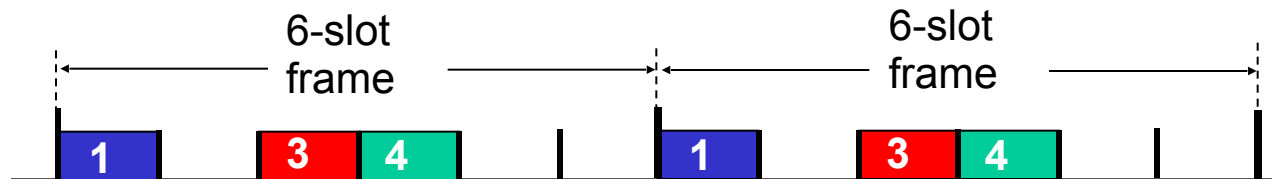
- *“taking turns”*

- nodes take turns, but nodes with more to send can take longer turns

# Channel partitioning MAC protocols: TDMA

## TDMA: time division multiple access

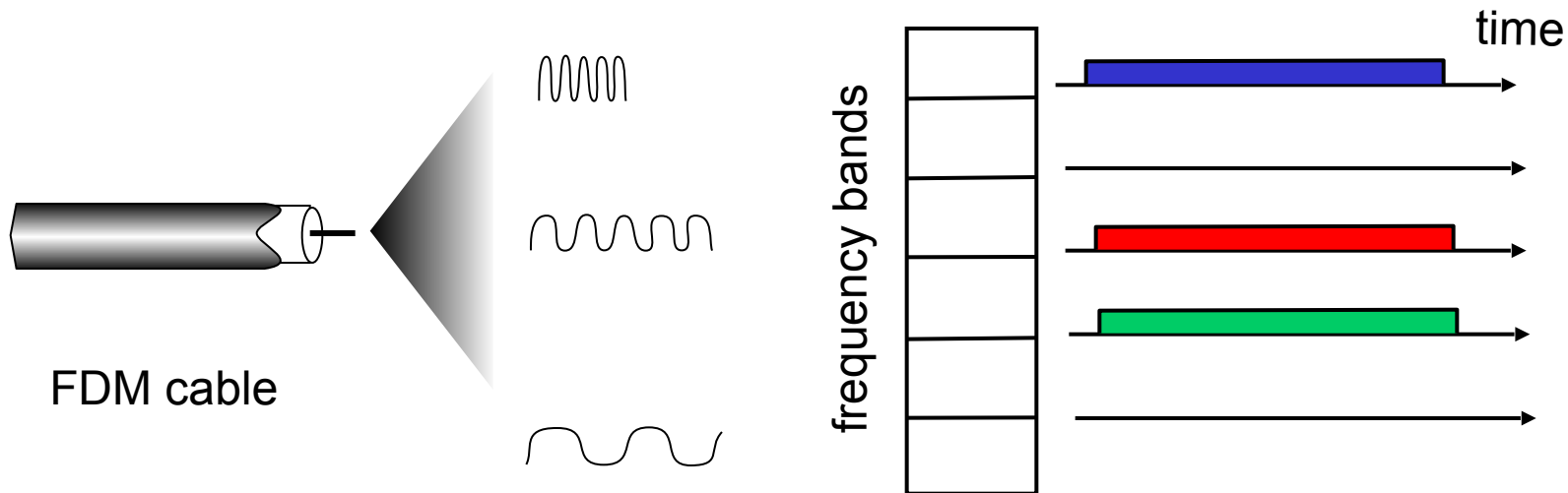
- access to channel in “rounds”
- each station gets fixed length slot (length = packet transmission time) in each round
- unused slots go idle
- example: 6-station LAN, 1, 3, 4 have packets to send, slots 2, 5, 6 idle



# Channel partitioning MAC protocols: FDMA

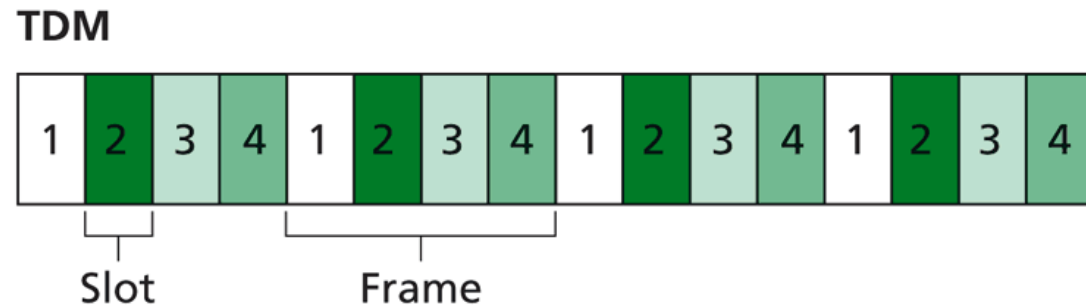
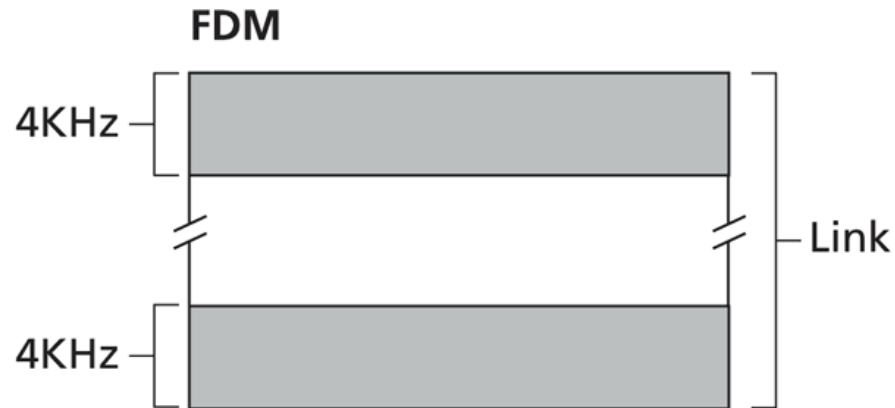
## FDMA: frequency division multiple access

- 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




# Channel Partitioning MAC protocols

- **TDM** (Time Division Multiplexing): channel divided into N time slots, one per user; **inefficient with low duty cycle users and at light load**
  - **Advantages:**
    1. eliminates collisions
    2. perfectly fair
  - **Drawbacks:**
    1. a node is limited to an average rate of  $(R/N)$  bps
    2. a node must wait for its turn
- **FDM** (Frequency Division Multiplexing): frequency subdivided
  - The advantages and drawbacks are similar to TDM



Key:

 All slots labeled "2" are dedicated to a specific sender-receiver pair.

◆ A four-node TDM and FDM example



# Channel Partitioning MAC protocols: CDMA

## CDMA: code division multiple access

- Assign a different **code** to each node
- Different nodes can transmit simultaneously
- Widely used in military systems and wireless channels
- → Chapter 7

# 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 MAC protocol specifies:
  - how to detect collisions
  - how to recover from collisions (e.g., via delayed retransmissions)
- examples of random access MAC protocols:
  - slotted ALOHA
  - ALOHA
  - CSMA, CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA

# Slotted ALOHA

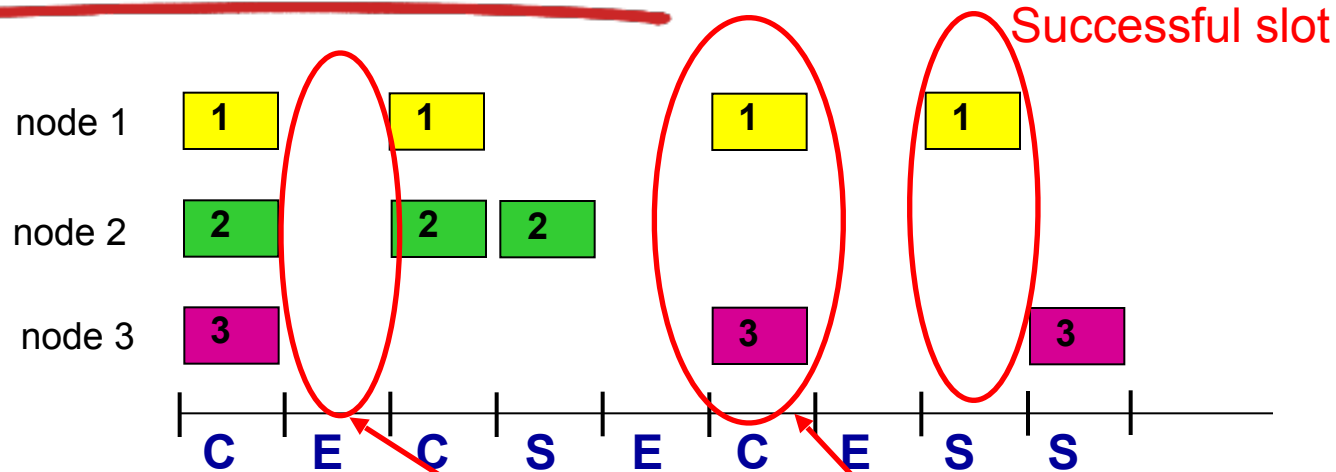
## *assumptions:*

- all frames same size
- time divided into equal size slots (time to transmit 1 frame)
- nodes start to transmit only slot beginning
- nodes are synchronized
- if 2 or more nodes transmit in 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 prob.  $p$  until success

# 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
- 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* =  $1/e = .37$

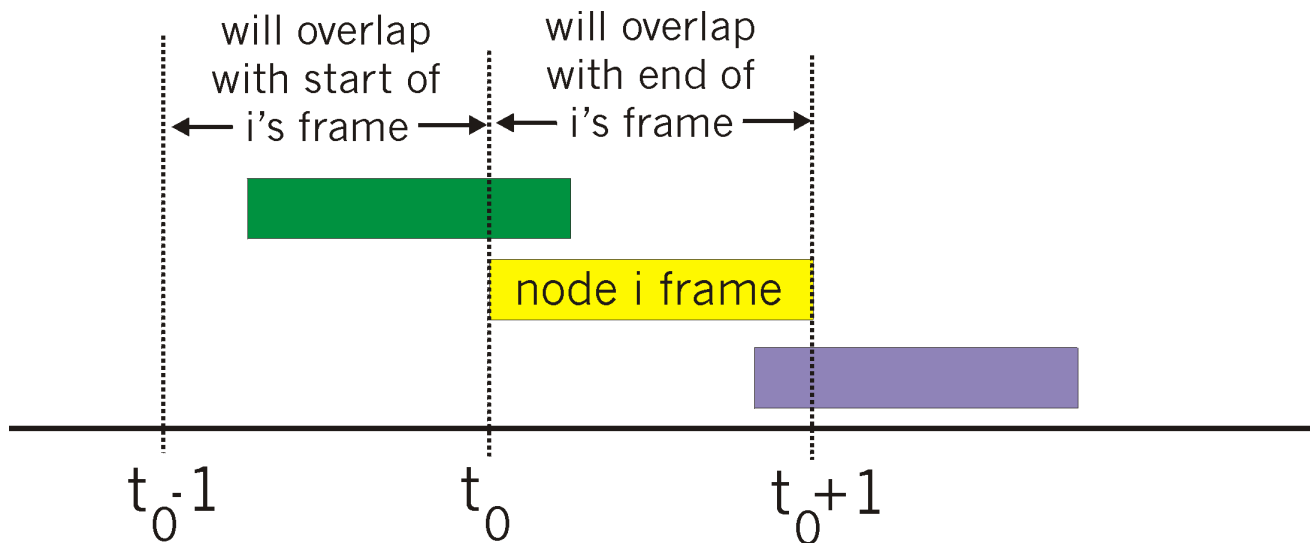
*at best*: channel used for useful transmissions 37% of time!



•  $R$  bps  $\rightarrow$  effective transmission  $0.37 R$  bps

# Pure (unslotted) ALOHA

- unslotted Aloha: simpler, no synchronization
- when frame first arrives
  - transmit immediately
- collision probability increases:
  - frame sent at  $t_0$  **collides** with other frames sent in  $[t_0-1, t_0+1]$



# Pure ALOHA efficiency

$P(\text{success by given node}) = P(\text{node transmits}) \cdot$

$P(\text{no other node transmits in } [t_0-1, t_0]) \cdot$

$P(\text{no other node transmits in } [t_0, t_0+1])$

$$= p \cdot (1-p)^{N-1} \cdot (1-p)^{N-1}$$

$$= p \cdot (1-p)^{2(N-1)}$$

$\rightarrow \infty$

... choosing optimum  $p$  and then letting  $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$= 1/(2e) = .18$$

**even worse than slotted Aloha!**

# CSMA (carrier sense multiple access)

carrier sensing

**CSMA:** listen before transmit:

if channel sensed idle: transmit entire frame

- if channel sensed busy: defer transmission wait a random amount of time

- human analogy: don't interrupt others!

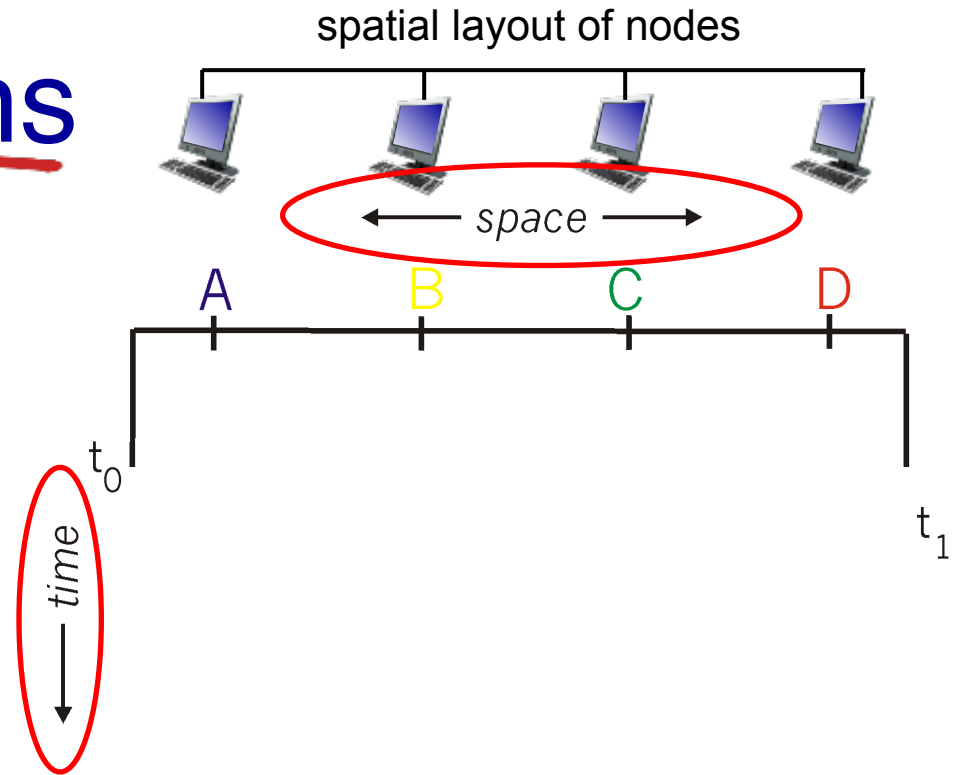


# CSMA collisions

- collisions *can* still occur: propagation delay means two nodes may not hear each other's transmission
- collision: entire packet transmission time wasted
  - distance & propagation delay play role in determining collision

• End-to-end propagation delay of a broadcast channel determines the network performance

• How?



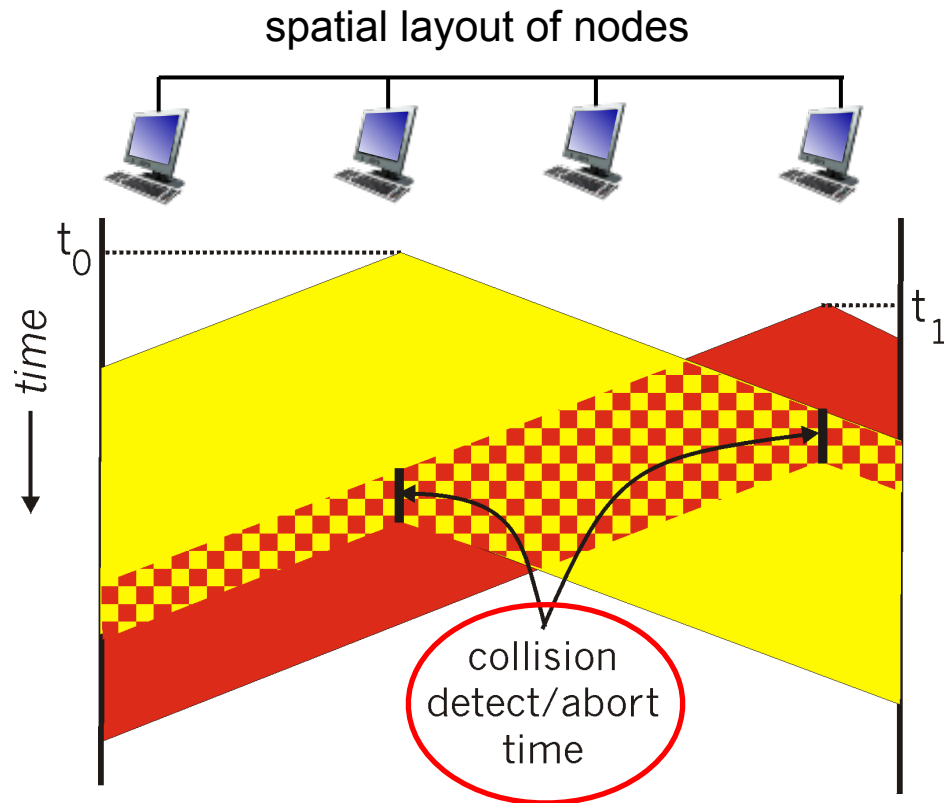
at  $t_1$ : node D senses the channel is idle

# CSMA/CD (collision detection)

**CSMA/CD:** carrier sensing, deferral as in CSMA

- collisions *detected* within short time
- colliding transmissions aborted, reducing channel wastage
- **collision detection:**
  - easy in wired LANs: measure signal strengths, compare transmitted, received signals
  - difficult in wireless LANs: received signal strength overwhelmed by local transmission strength
- human analogy: the polite conversationalist

# CSMA/CD (collision detection)



# Ethernet CSMA/CD algorithm

1. NIC receives datagram from network layer, creates frame
2. If NIC senses channel idle, starts frame transmission; If NIC senses channel busy, waits until channel idle, then transmits
3. If NIC transmits entire frame without detecting another transmission, NIC is done with frame!
4. If NIC detects another transmission while transmitting, aborts and sends jam signal
5. After aborting, NIC enters *binary exponential backoff*:
  - after  $n^{\text{th}}$  collision, NIC chooses  $K$  at random from  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$ ; NIC waits  $K \cdot 512$  bit times, returns to Step 2
  - longer backoff interval with more collisions(maximum  $n$ : 10)

# CSMA/CD efficiency

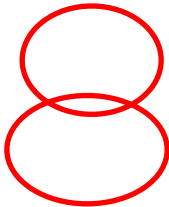
- $d_{prop}$  = max prop delay between 2 nodes in LAN
- $d_{trans}$  = time to transmit max-size frame

- efficiency goes to 1

- as  $d_{prop}$  goes to 0

- as  $d_{trans}$  goes to infinity

$$Efficiency = \frac{1}{1 + 5d_{prop}/d_{trans}}$$



# “Taking turns” MAC protocols

## channel partitioning MAC protocols:

- share channel *efficiently* and *fairly* at high load
- inefficient at low load: delay in channel access,  $1/N$  bandwidth allocated even if only 1 active node!

## random access MAC protocols

- efficient at low load: single node can fully utilize channel
- high load: collision overhead

## “taking turns” protocols

look for best of both worlds!

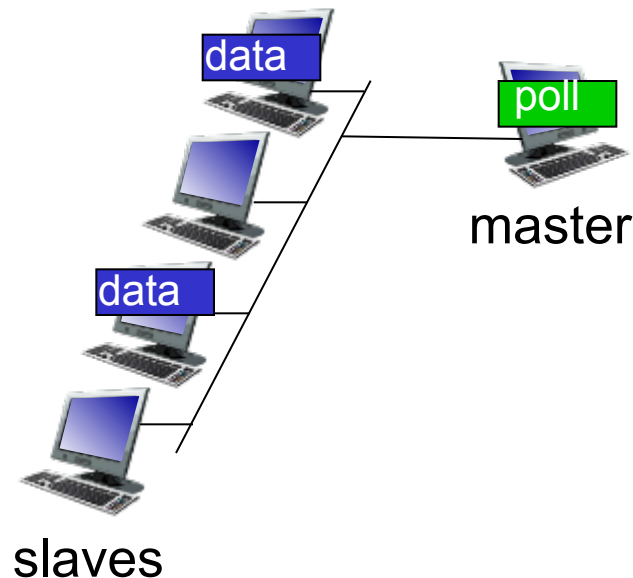
### •ALOHA and CSMA

- only one node → throughput: **R bps**
- M nodes → each node does **not** have a throughput of nearly **R/M bps**

# “Taking turns” MAC protocols

## *polling:*

- master node “invites” slave nodes to transmit in turn
- typically used with “dumb” slave devices
- **Advantages:**
  - eliminate the collisions and the empty slots
- **concerns:**
  - polling overhead
  - latency
  - single point of failure (master)



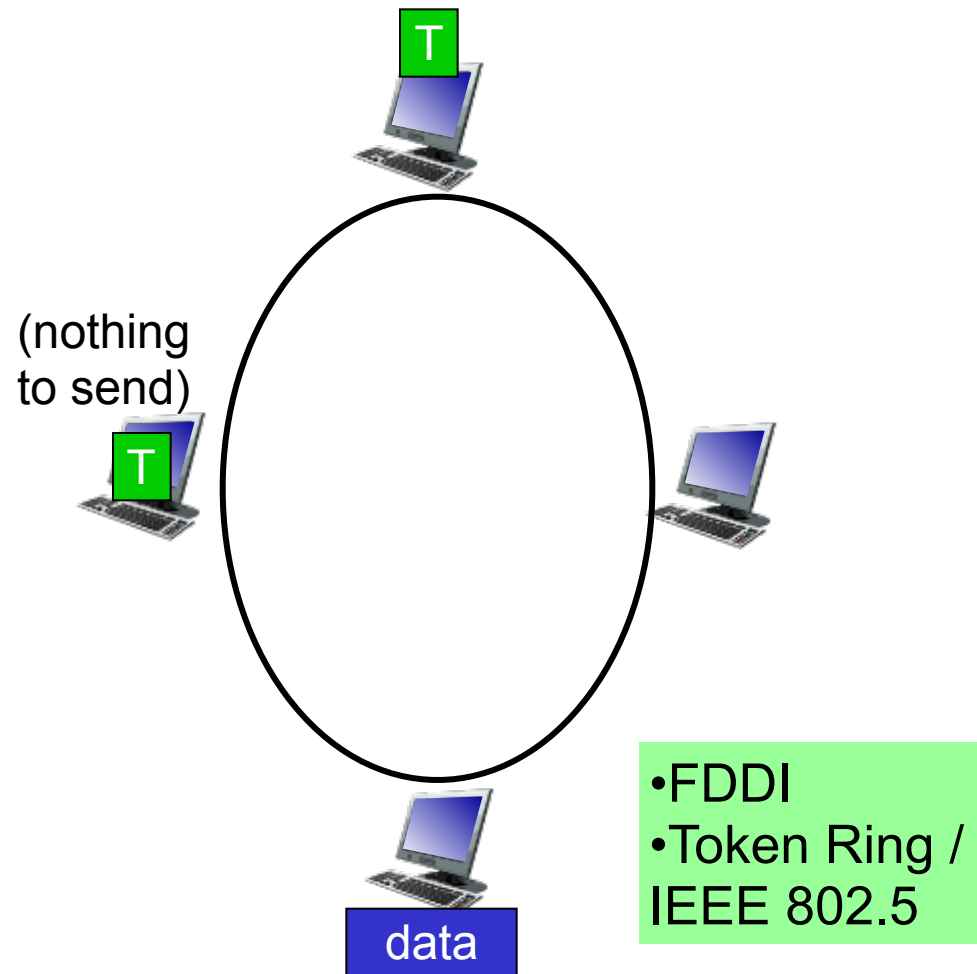
only one node → throughput < R bps

- IEEE 802.15
- Bluetooth

# “Taking turns” MAC protocols

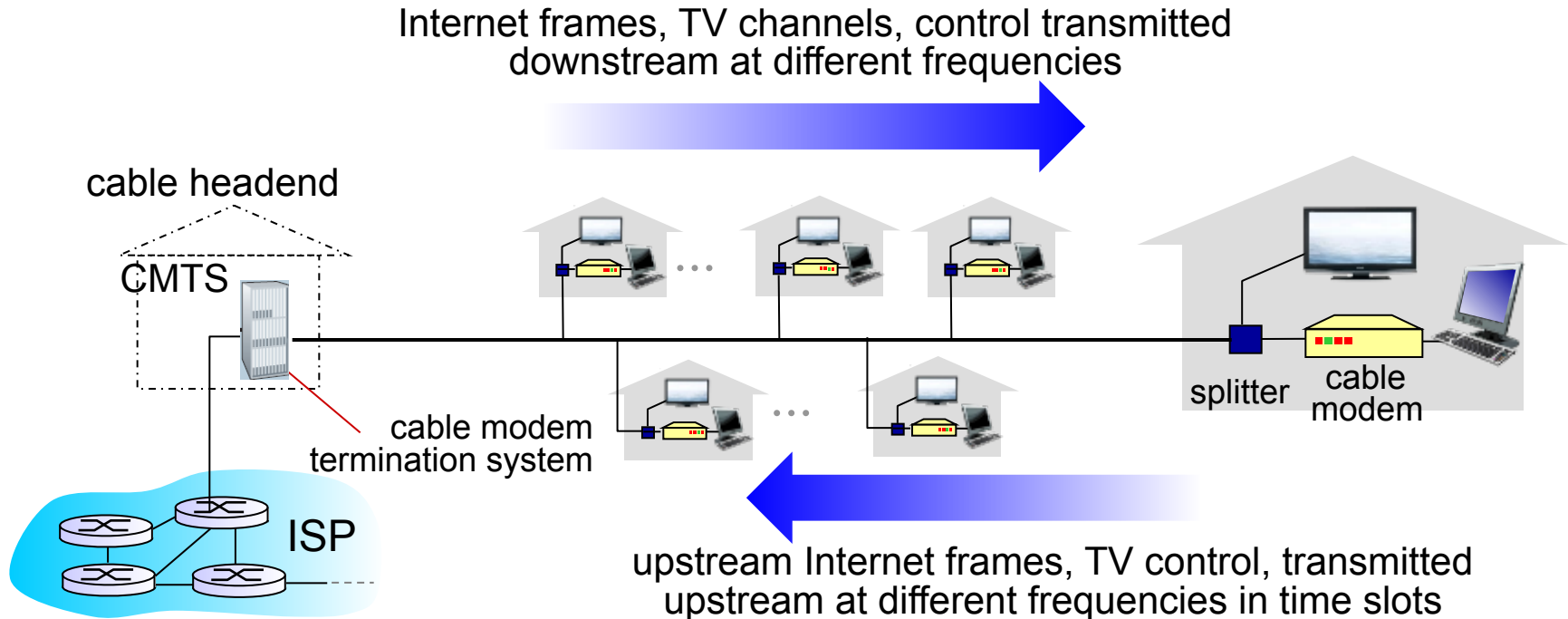
## token passing:

- control *token* passed from one node to next sequentially
- token message
  - ❖ Advantages:
    - ❖ Decentralized
    - ❖ Highly efficient
- concerns:
  - token overhead
  - latency
  - single point of failure (token)



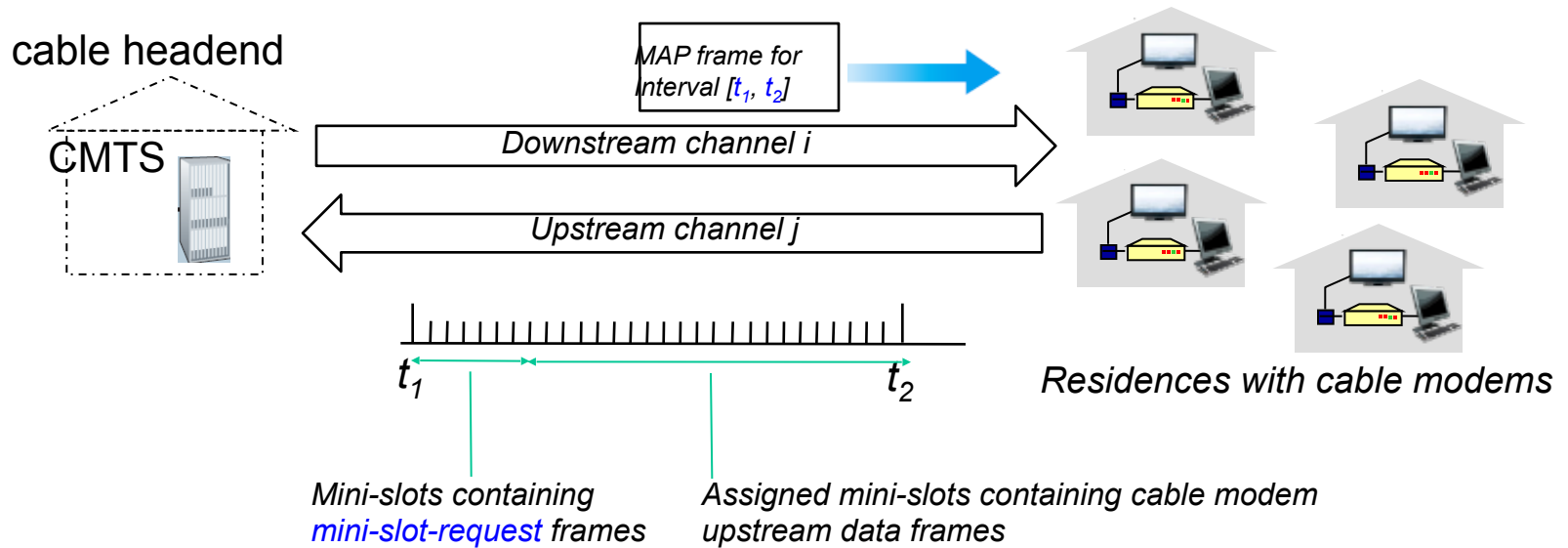


# Cable access network



- **multiple** 40 Mbps downstream (broadcast) channels
  - single CMTS transmits into channels
- **multiple** 30 Mbps upstream channels
  - **multiple access**: all users contend for certain upstream channel time slots (others assigned)

# Cable access network



## DOCSIS: Data-Over-Cable Service Interface Specifications

- FDM over upstream, downstream frequency channels
- TDM upstream: some slots assigned, some have contention
  - downstream MAP frame: assigns upstream slots
  - request for upstream slots (and data) transmitted random access (binary exponential backoff) in selected slots

# Summary of MAC protocols

- *channel partitioning*, by time, frequency or code
  - Time Division, Frequency Division, Code Division
- *random access* (dynamic)
  - ALOHA, S-ALOHA, CSMA, CSMA/CD
  - carrier sensing: easy in some technologies (wired), hard in others (wireless)
  - CSMA/CD used in Ethernet
  - CSMA/CA used in 802.11
- *taking turns*
  - polling from central site, token passing
  - Bluetooth, FDDI, token ring

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LAN technologies

→ Ethernet (IEEE 802.3) Section 6.4.2

→ Token ring (IEEE 802.5), FDDI, ATM

# MAC addresses and ARP

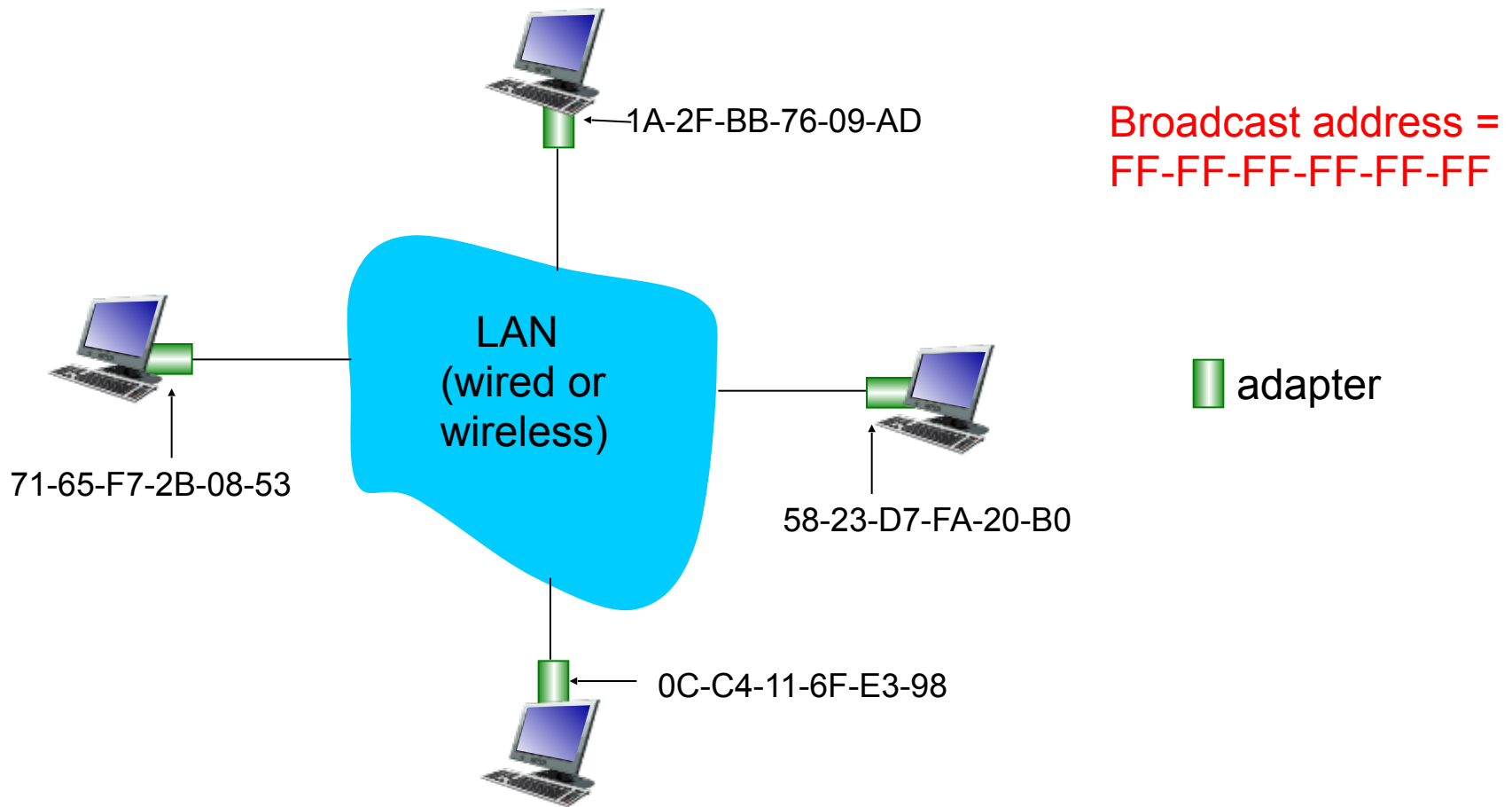
- MAC address
- ARP (Address Resolution Protocol)

- 32-bit IP address:
  - *network-layer* address for interface
  - used for layer 3 (network layer) forwarding
- MAC (or LAN or physical or Ethernet) address:
  - function: *used “locally” to get frame from one interface to another physically-connected interface (same network, in IP-addressing sense)*
  - 48-bit MAC address (for most LANs) burned in NIC ROM, also sometimes software settable
  - e.g.: 1A-2F-BB-76-09-AD

hexadecimal (base 16) notation  
(each “numeral” represents 4 bits)

# LAN addresses and ARP

each adapter on LAN has unique *LAN* address



# LAN addresses (more)

- IEEE allocates a chunk of the  $2^{24}$  MAC address by fixing the first 24 bits of a MAC address

- MAC address allocation administered by IEEE
- manufacturer buys portion of MAC address space (to assure uniqueness)
- MAC flat address → portability
  - can move LAN card from one LAN to another
- IP hierarchical address *not* portable
  - address depends on IP subnet to which node is attached
- analogy:
  - MAC address: like Social Security Number

• Each adapter receives the frame will check the destination MAC address with its own MAC address

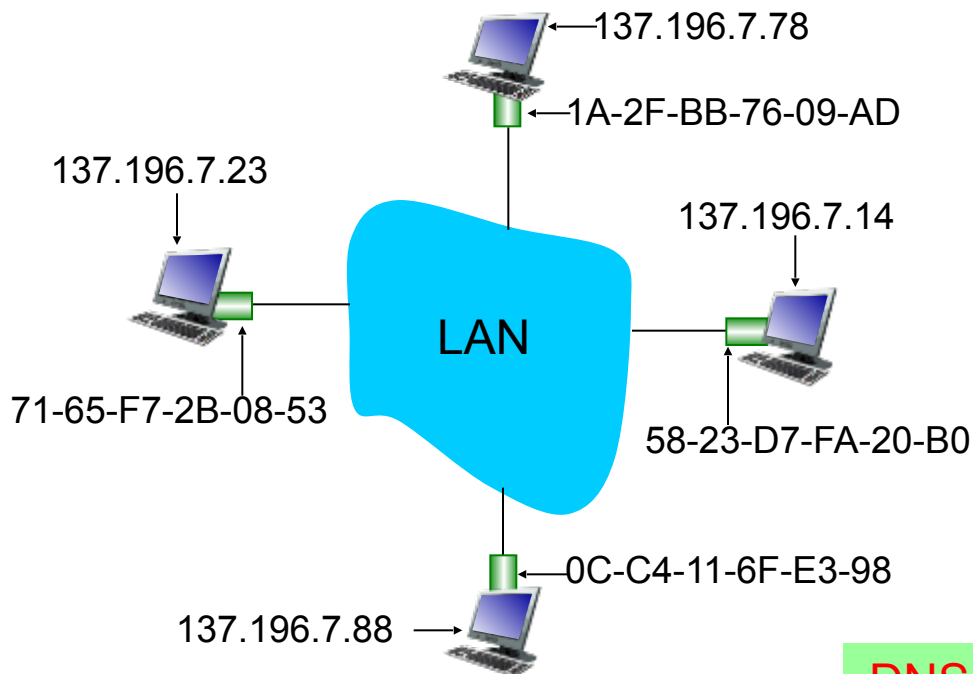
• MAC **broadcast address** → FF-FF-FF-FF-FF-FF (111.....1)

# ARP: address resolution protocol

**Question:** how to determine interface's MAC address, knowing its IP address?

**ARP table:** each IP node (host, router) on LAN has table

- IP/MAC address mappings for some LAN nodes:  
< IP address; MAC address; TTL >
- TTL (Time To Live): time after which address mapping will be forgotten (typically 20 min)



- **DNS:** hostname <-> IP address (Internet)
- **ARP:** IP address <-> MAC address (LAN)



# ARP protocol: same LAN

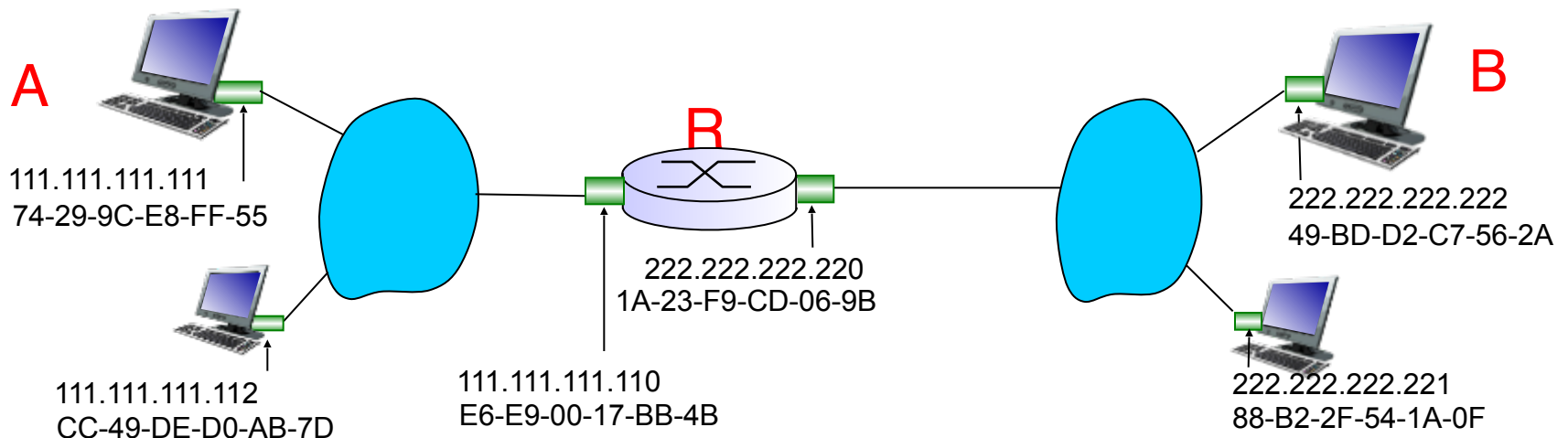
- A wants to send datagram to B
  - B's MAC address not in A's ARP table
- A **broadcasts ARP query packet**, containing B's IP address
  - destination MAC address = FF-FF-FF-FF-FF-FF
  - all nodes on LAN receive ARP query
- B receives ARP packet, replies to A with its (B's) MAC address
  - frame sent to A's MAC address (unicast)
- A caches (saves) IP-to-MAC address pair in its ARP table until information becomes old (times out)
  - soft state: information that times out (goes away) unless refreshed
- ARP is “plug-and-play”:
  - nodes create their ARP tables *without intervention from net administrator*

# Addressing: routing to another LAN

walkthrough: send datagram from A to B via R

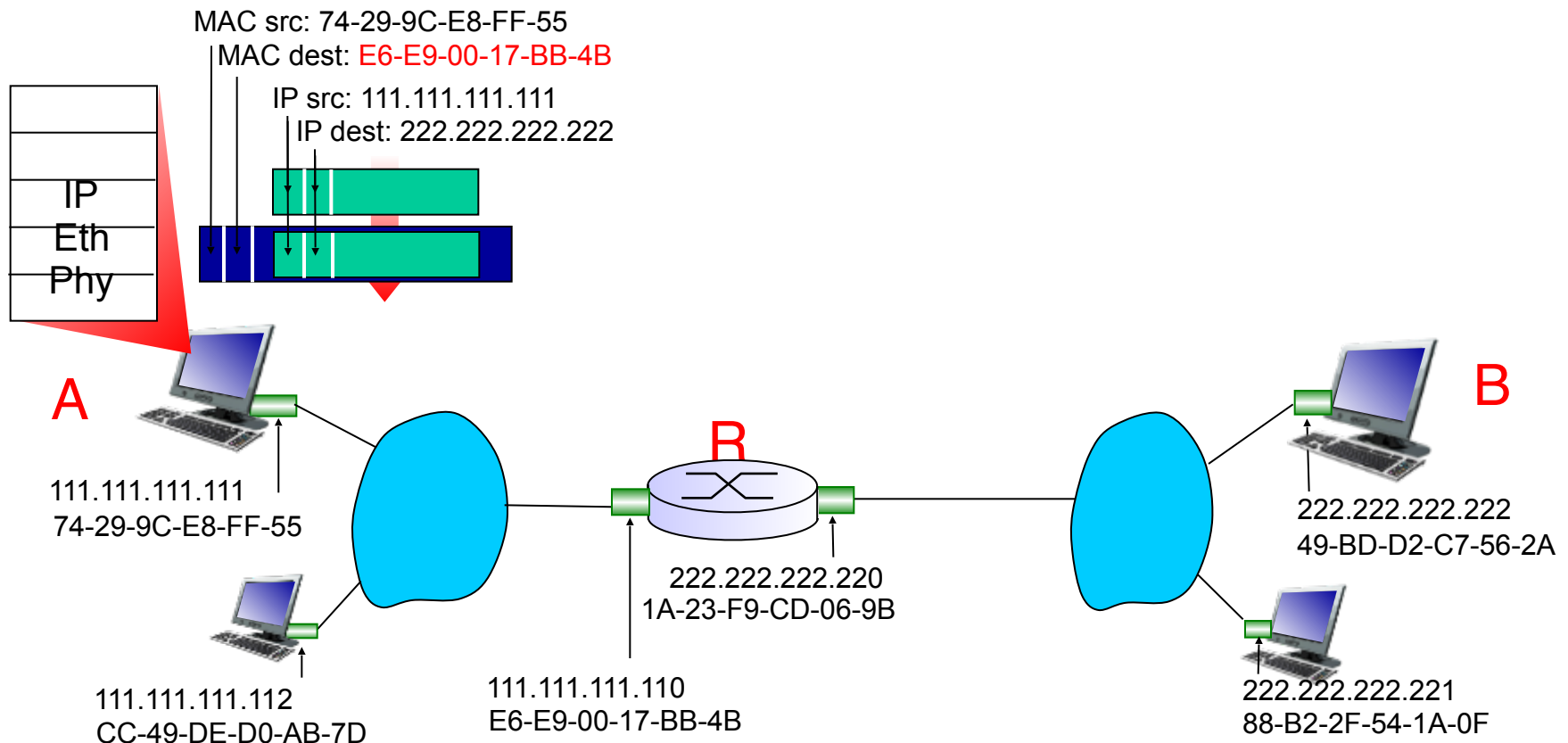
- focus on addressing – at IP (datagram) and MAC layer (frame)
- assume A knows B's IP address
- assume A knows IP address of first hop router, R (how?)
- assume A knows R's MAC address (how?)

- two ARP tables in router R, one for each IP network (LAN)
- In forwarding table at source host, find router 111.111.111.110
- In ARP table at source, find MAC address E6-E9-00-17-BB-4B, etc.



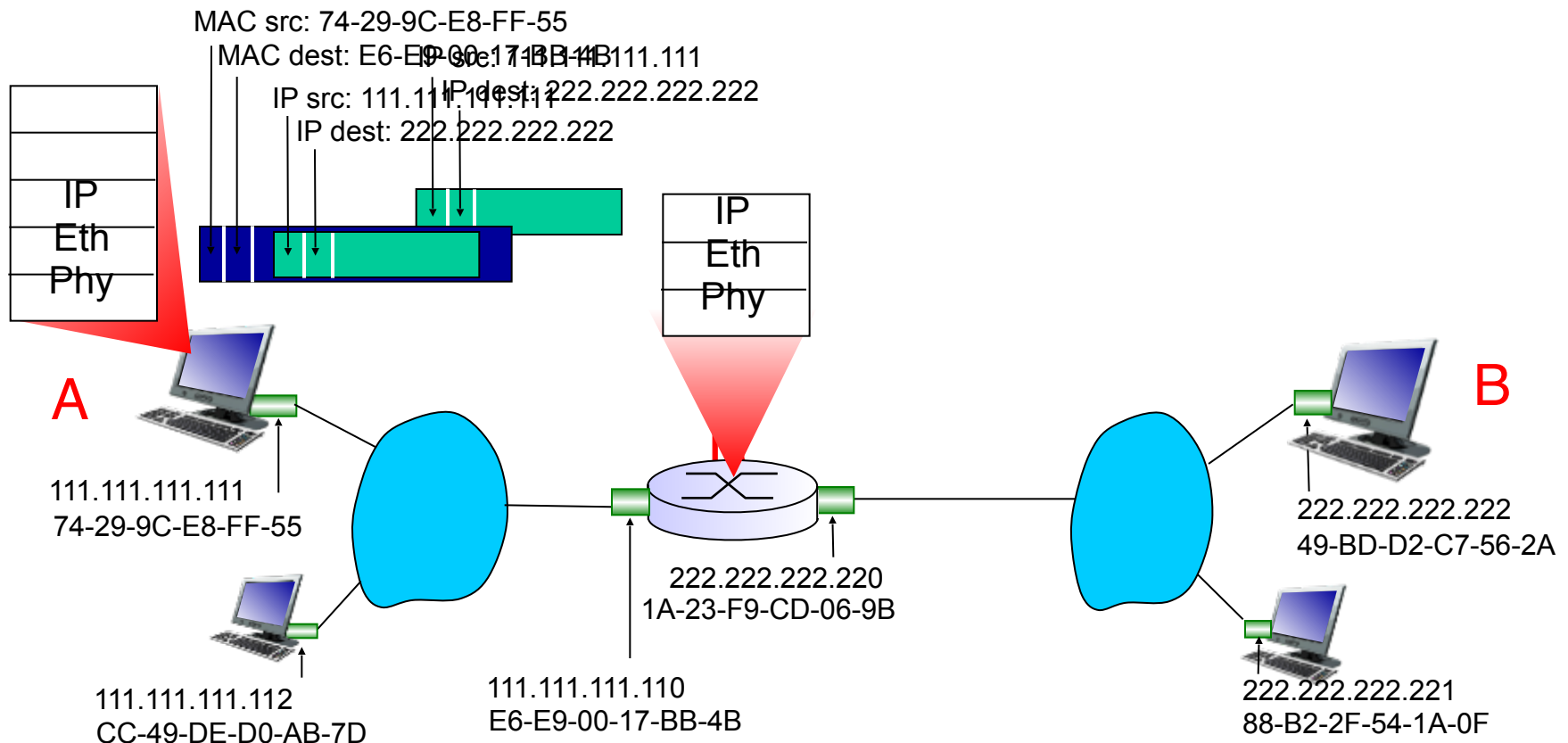
# Addressing: routing to another LAN

- A creates IP datagram with IP source A, destination B
- A creates link-layer frame with R's MAC address as destination address, frame contains A-to-B IP datagram



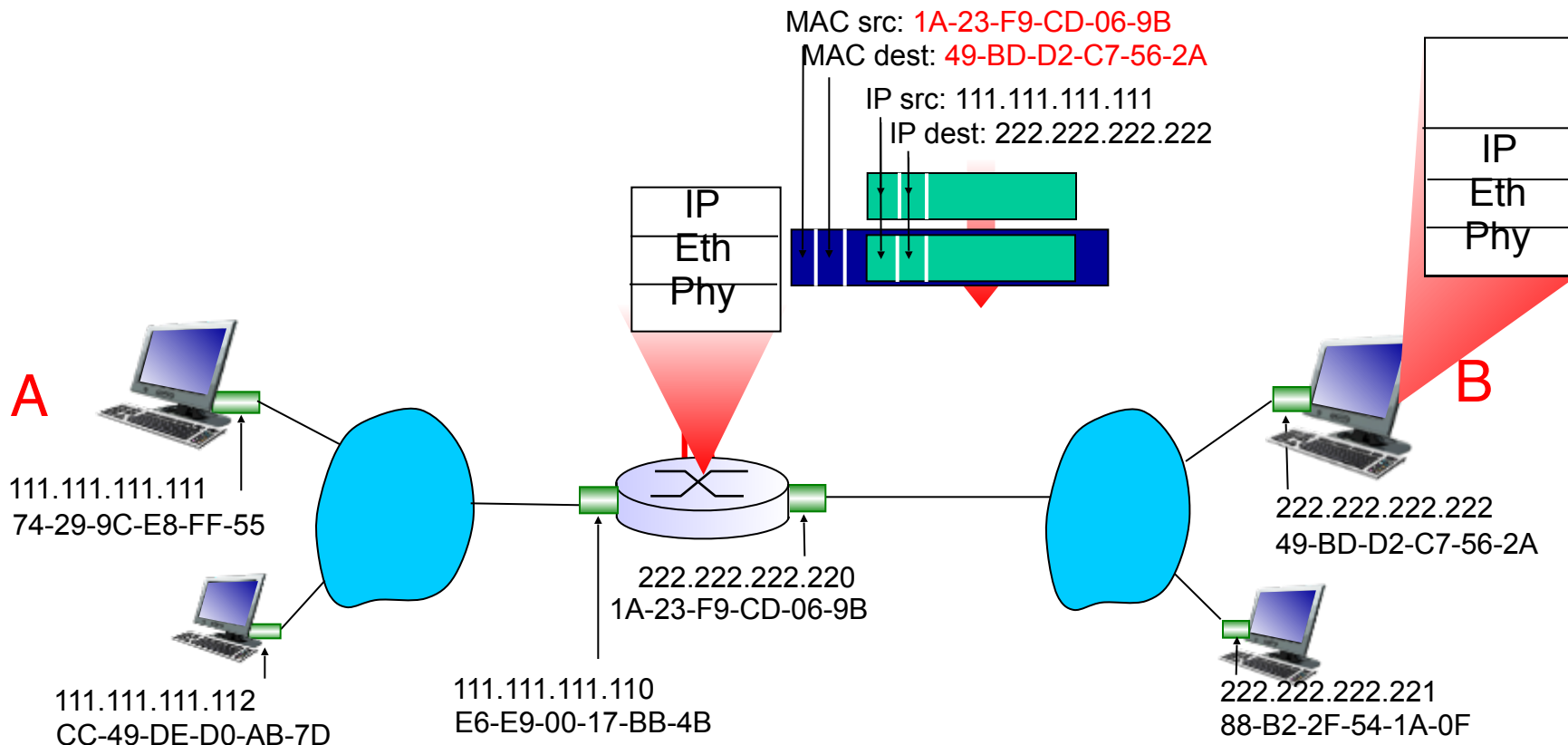
# Addressing: routing to another LAN

- frame sent from A to R
- frame received at R, datagram removed, passed up to IP



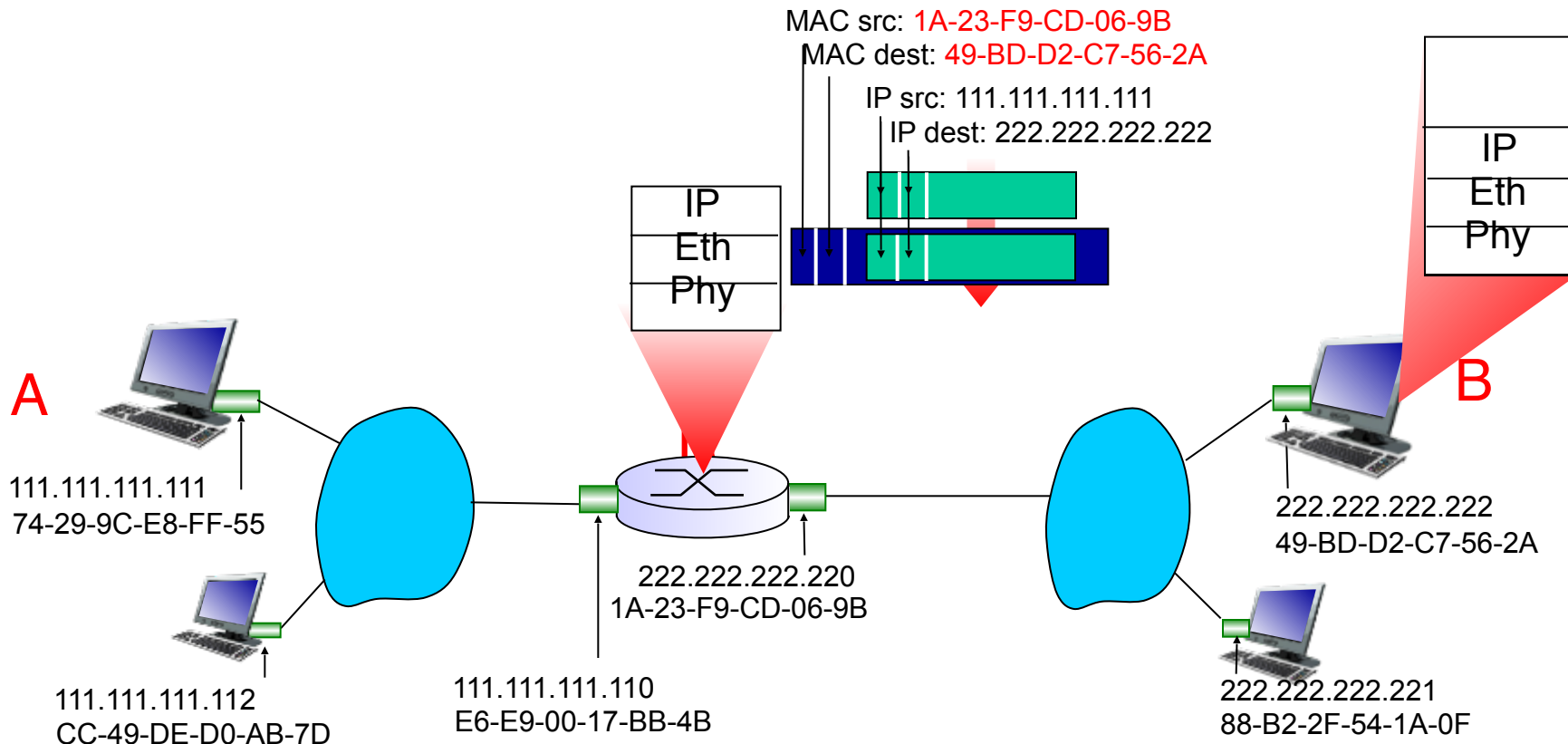
# Addressing: routing to another LAN

- R forwards datagram with IP source A, destination B
- R creates link-layer frame with B's MAC address as destination address, frame contains A-to-B IP datagram



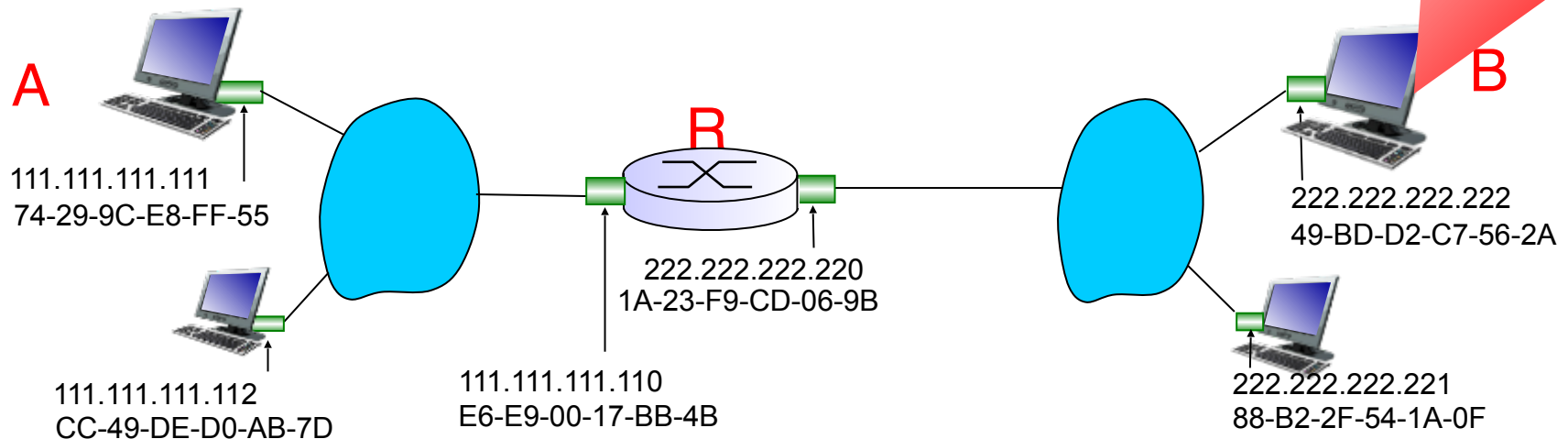
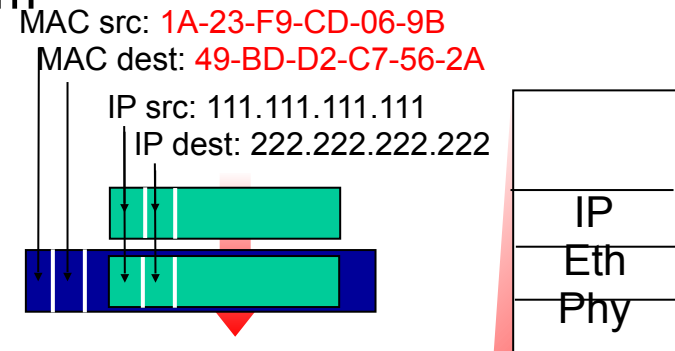
# Addressing: routing to another LAN

- R forwards datagram with IP source A, destination B
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# Addressing: routing to another LAN

- R forwards datagram with IP source A, destination B
- R creates link-layer frame with B's MAC address as destination address, frame contains A-to-B IP datagram



\* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: [http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose\\_ross/interactive/](http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/)

# Link layer, LANs: outline

6.1 introduction,  
services

6.2 error detection,  
correction

6.3 multiple access  
protocols

## 6.4 LANs

- addressing, ARP
- Ethernet
- switches
- VLANs

6.5 link virtualization:  
MPLS

6.6 data center  
networking

6.7 a day in the life of a  
web request

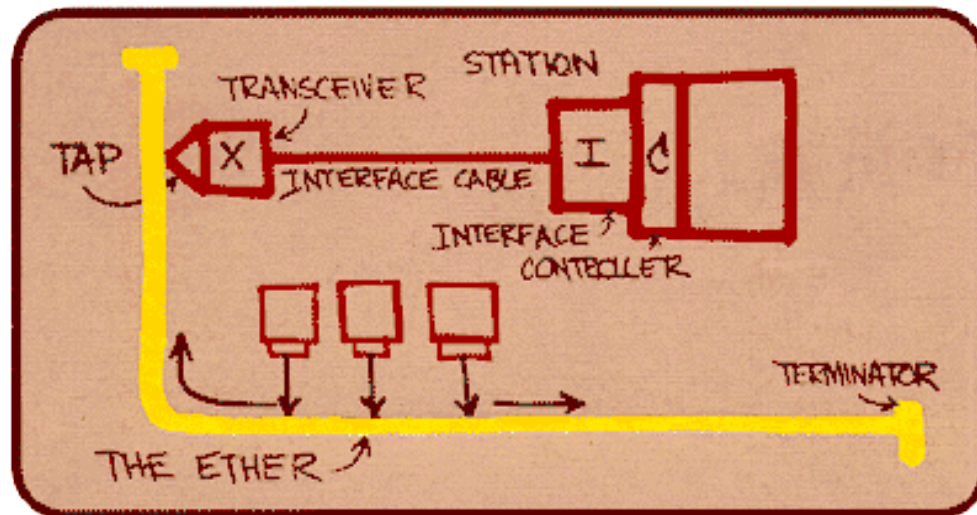


# Ethernet

- 10 Mbps: Ethernet
- 100 Mbps: Fast Ethernet
- 1,000 Mbps (1 Gbps): Gigabit Ethernet
- 10 Gbps: 10 Gigabit Ethernet
- 40 Gbps: 40 Gigabit Ethernet
- 100 Gbps: 100 Gigabit Ethernet

“dominant” wired LAN technology:

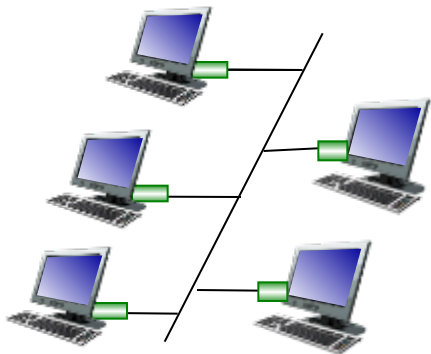
- first widely used LAN technology
- simpler, cheaper than token ring, FDDI and ATM
- kept up with speed race: 10 Mbps ~ 10 Gbps
  - single chip, multiple speeds (e.g., Broadcom BCM5761)
- Ethernet hardware (adapters and switches) is cheap



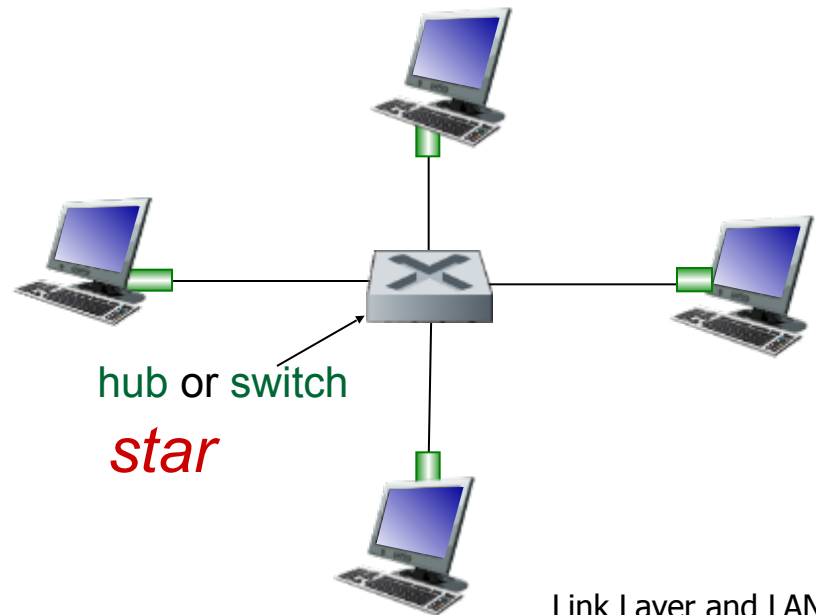
*Metcalfe's Ethernet sketch*

# Ethernet: physical topology

- *bus*: popular through mid 90s
  - all nodes in same collision domain (can collide with each other)
- *star*: prevails today
  - active *switch* in center
  - each “spoke” runs a (separate) Ethernet protocol (nodes do not collide with each other)



*bus*: coaxial cable



# Ethernet frame structure

sending adapter encapsulates IP datagram (or other network layer protocol packet) in

**Ethernet frame**



*preamble (8 bytes):*

- 7 bytes with pattern 10101010 followed by one byte with pattern 10101011
- used to synchronize receiver, sender clock rates

# Ethernet frame structure (more)

- **addresses (6 bytes\*2)**: 6-byte source, destination MAC addresses
  - if adapter receives frame with matching destination address, or with broadcast address (e.g., ARP packet), it passes data in frame to network layer protocol
  - otherwise, adapter discards frame
- **type (2 bytes)**: indicates higher layer protocol (mostly IP but others possible, e.g., Novell IPX, AppleTalk, **ARP**)
- **data (46 ~ 1,500 bytes)**: carries IP datagram or others
- **CRC (4 bytes)**: cyclic redundancy check at receiver
  - error detected: frame is dropped

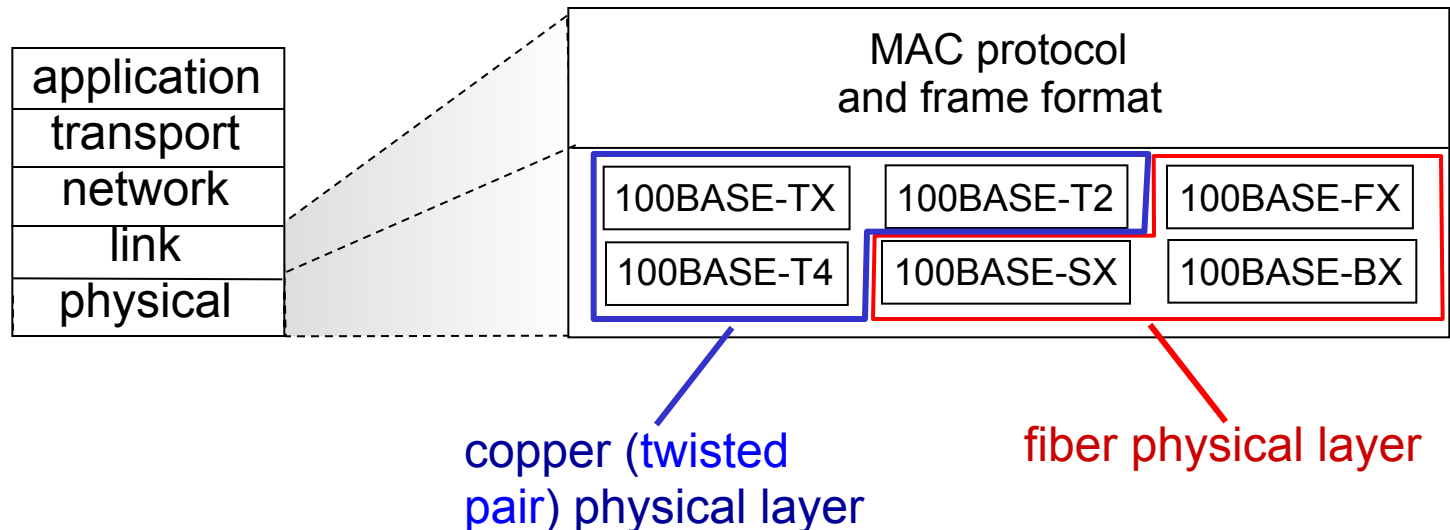


# Ethernet: unreliable, connectionless

- *connectionless*: no handshaking between sending and receiving NICs
- *unreliable*: receiving NIC doesn't send acks or nacks to sending NIC
  - data in dropped frames recovered only if initial sender uses higher layer rdt (e.g., TCP), otherwise dropped data lost
- Ethernet's MAC protocol: unslotted *CSMA/CD* with *binary exponential backoff*

# 802.3 Ethernet standards: link & physical layers

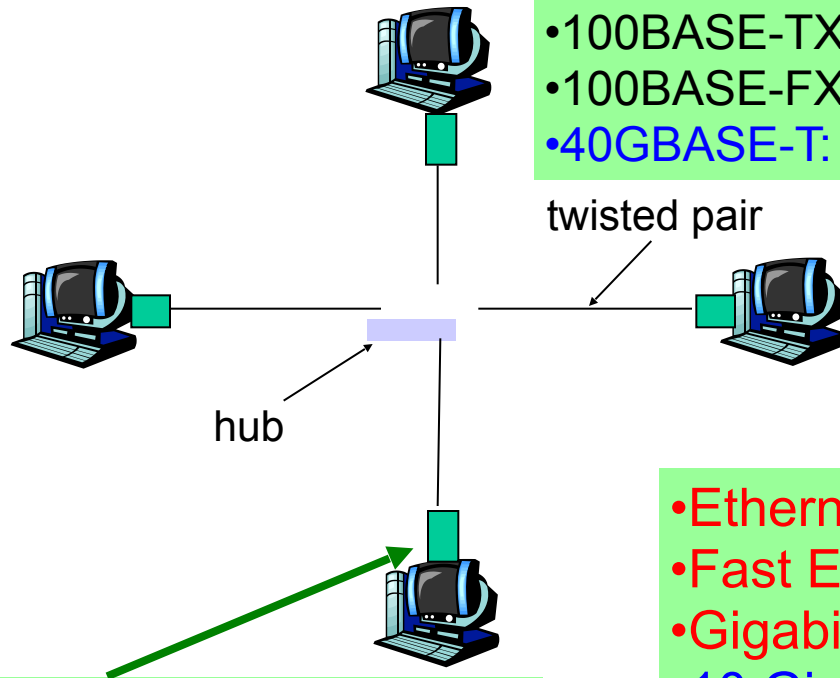
- *many* different Ethernet standards
  - common MAC protocol and frame format
  - different speeds: 2 Mbps, 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 1 Gbps, 10 Gbps, 40 Gbps
  - different physical layer media: fiber, cable



# 10BASE-T and 100BASE-T

- 10BASE-T
- 100BASE-T
- 1000BASE-T

- 10/100 Mbps rate; latter called “Fast Ethernet” (100M)
- T stands for **Twisted Pair**
- Nodes connect to a **hub**: “star topology”; 100m max. distance between nodes and hub



- 100BASE-T4: twisted pair, Cat. 3 UTP, max. 100m
- 100BASE-TX: twisted pair, Cat. 5 UTP, max. 100m
- 100BASE-FX: fiber, max. 2000m
- 40GBASE-T: twisted pair, Cat. 8 UTP, max. 30m

- 10BASE5: thick coax, max. 500m
- 10BASE2: thin coax, max. 185m
- 10BASE-T: twisted pair, max. 100m
- 10BASE-F: fiber, max. 2000m

- Ethernet**: IEEE 802.3
- Fast Ethernet**: IEEE 802.3u
- Gigabit Ethernet**: IEEE 802.3z/ab
- 10 Gigabit Ethernet: IEEE 802.3ae/an/aq
- 40 Gigabit Ethernet: IEEE 802.3ba/bm/bq

- RJ-45 connector: LAN
- RJ-11 connector: telephone

# Gigabit Ethernet (802.3z)

- uses standard Ethernet frame format
- allows for point-to-point links (using switches) and shared broadcast channels (using hubs)
  - uses hubs, called here “Buffered Distributors”
- in shared mode, CSMA/CD is used; short distances between nodes required for efficiency
- Full-Duplex at 40 Gbps for point-to-point links
- 40 Gbps (40GBASE-T) now!



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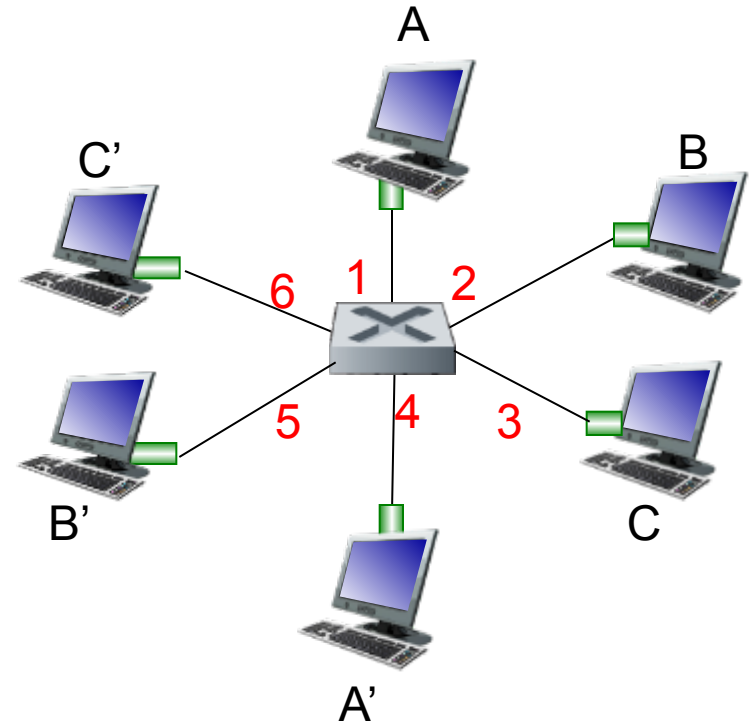
6.7 a day in the life of a  
web request

# Ethernet switch

- link-layer device: takes an *active* role
  - store, forward Ethernet frames
  - examine incoming frame's MAC address, *selectively* forward frame to one-or-more outgoing links when frame is to be forwarded on segment, uses CSMA/CD to access segment
- *transparent*
  - hosts are unaware of presence of switches
- *plug-and-play, self-learning*
  - switches do not need to be configured

# Switch: *multiple* simultaneous transmissions

- hosts have dedicated, direct connection to switch
- switches buffer packets
- Ethernet protocol used on *each* incoming link, but no collisions; full duplex
  - each link is its own collision domain
- *switching*: A-to-A' and B-to-B' can transmit simultaneously, without collisions



*switch with six interfaces  
(1,2,3,4,5,6)*

# Switch forwarding table

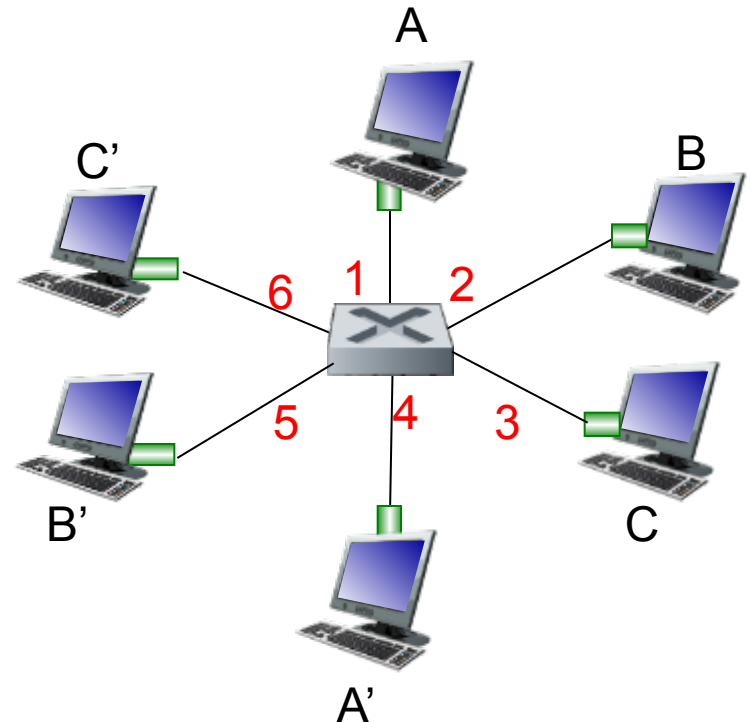
Q: how does switch know A' reachable via interface 4, B' reachable via interface 5?

■ A: each switch has a **switch table**, each entry:

- (MAC address of host, interface to reach host, time stamp)
- looks like a **forwarding table**!

Q: how are entries created, maintained in switch table?

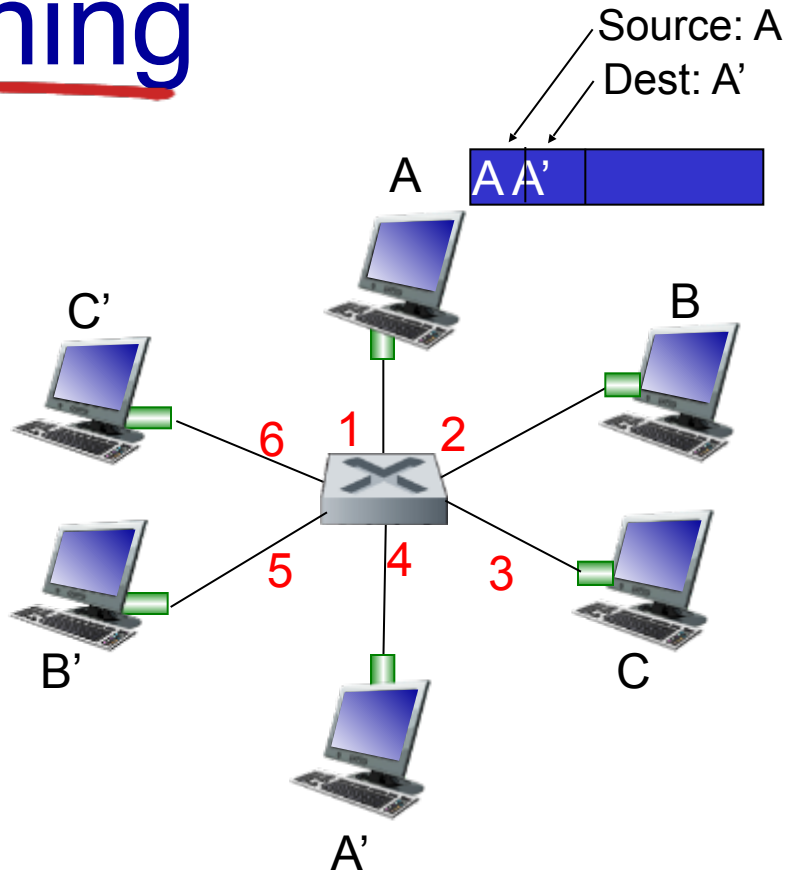
- something like a routing protocol?



*switch with six interfaces  
(1,2,3,4,5,6)*

# Switch: self-learning

- switch *learns* which hosts can be reached through which interfaces
  - when frame received, switch “learns” location of sender: incoming LAN segment
  - records sender/ location pair in switch table



MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60

*Switch table  
(initially empty)*

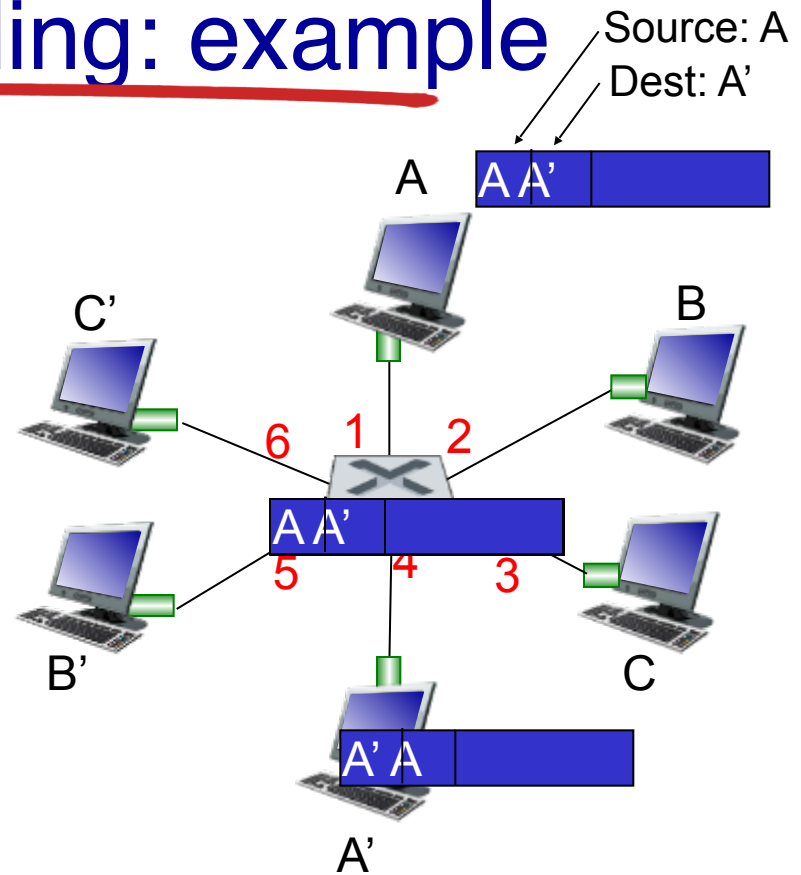
# Switch: frame filtering/forwarding

when frame received at switch:

1. record incoming link, MAC address of sending host
2. index switch table using MAC destination address
3. **if** entry found for destination  
    **then** {  
        **if** destination on segment from which frame arrived  
            **then** drop frame  
            **else** forward frame on interface indicated by entry  
    }  
    **else** flood /\* forward on all interfaces except arriving  
                  interface \*/

# Self-learning, forwarding: example

- frame destination, A', location unknown: **flood**
- destination A location known: **selectively send on just one link**

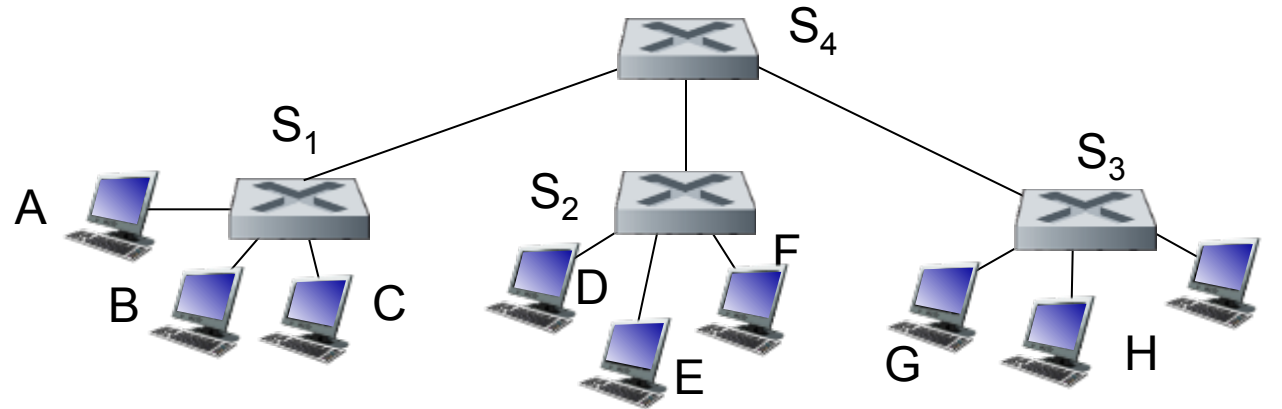


MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60
A'	4	60

*switch table  
(initially empty)*

# Interconnecting switches

self-learning switches can be connected together:



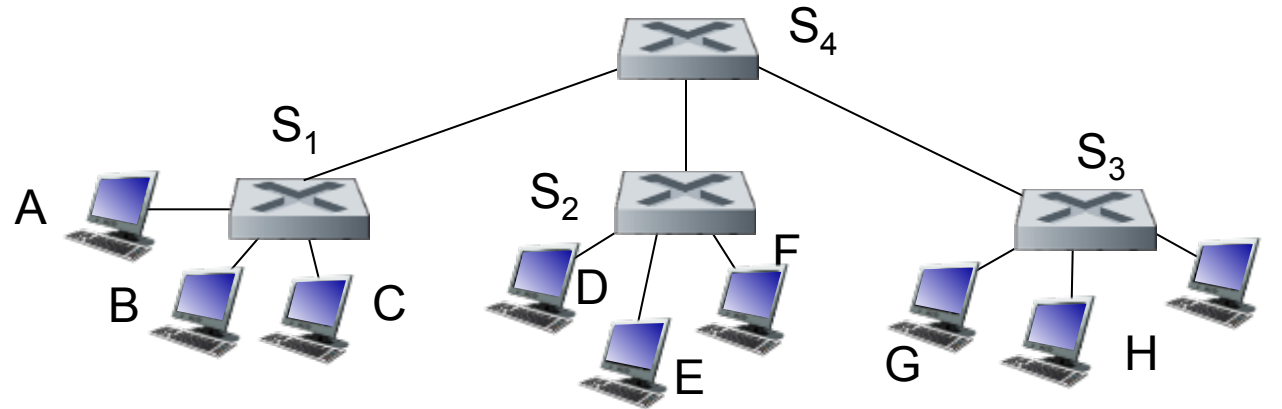
Q: sending from A to G - how does S<sub>1</sub> know to forward frame destined to G via S<sub>4</sub> and S<sub>3</sub>?

- A: self learning! (works exactly the same as in single-switch case!)



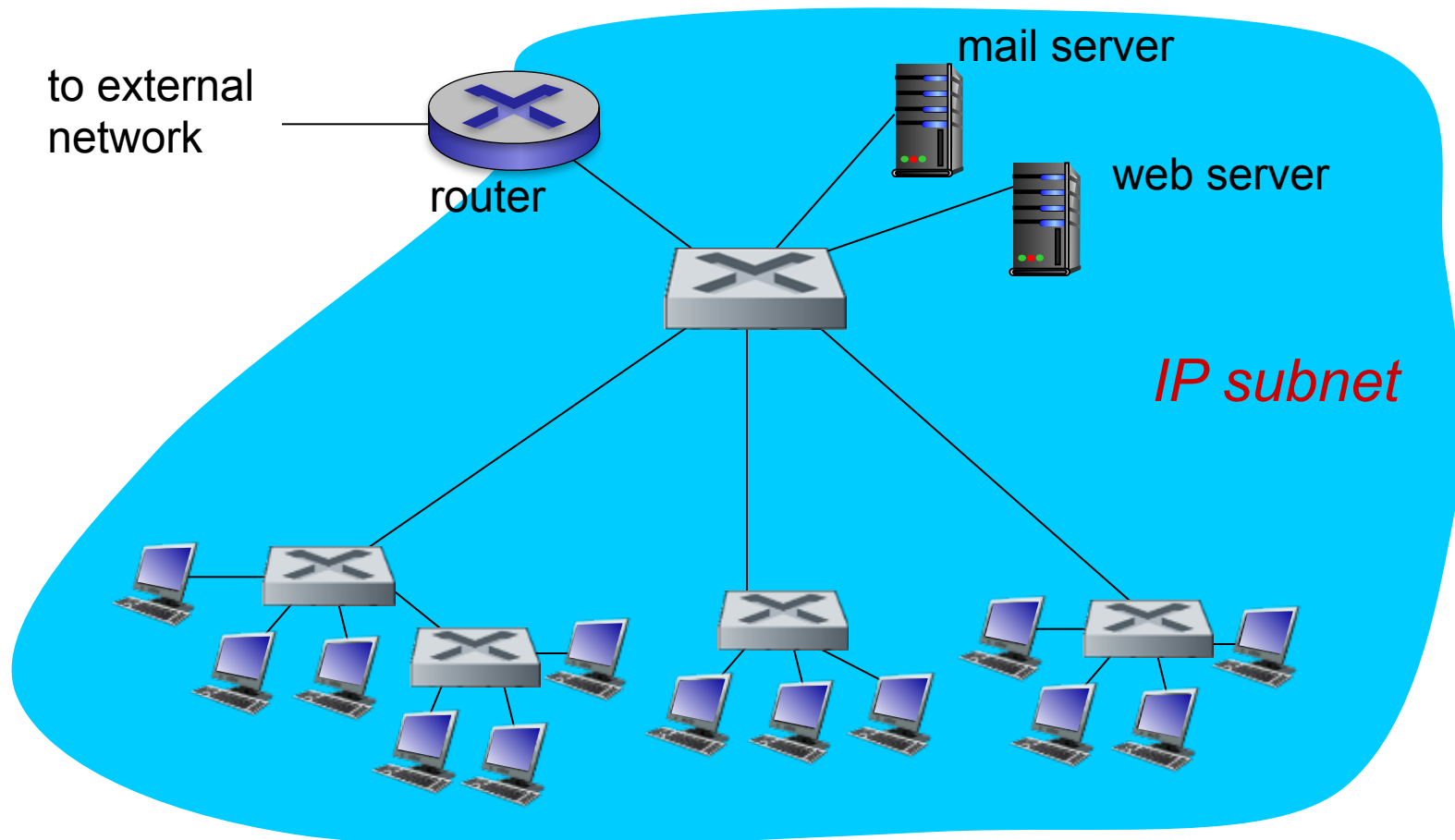
# Self-learning multi-switch example

Suppose C sends frame to I, I responds to C



- Q: show switch tables and packet forwarding in S<sub>1</sub>, S<sub>2</sub>, S<sub>3</sub>, S<sub>4</sub>

# Institutional network



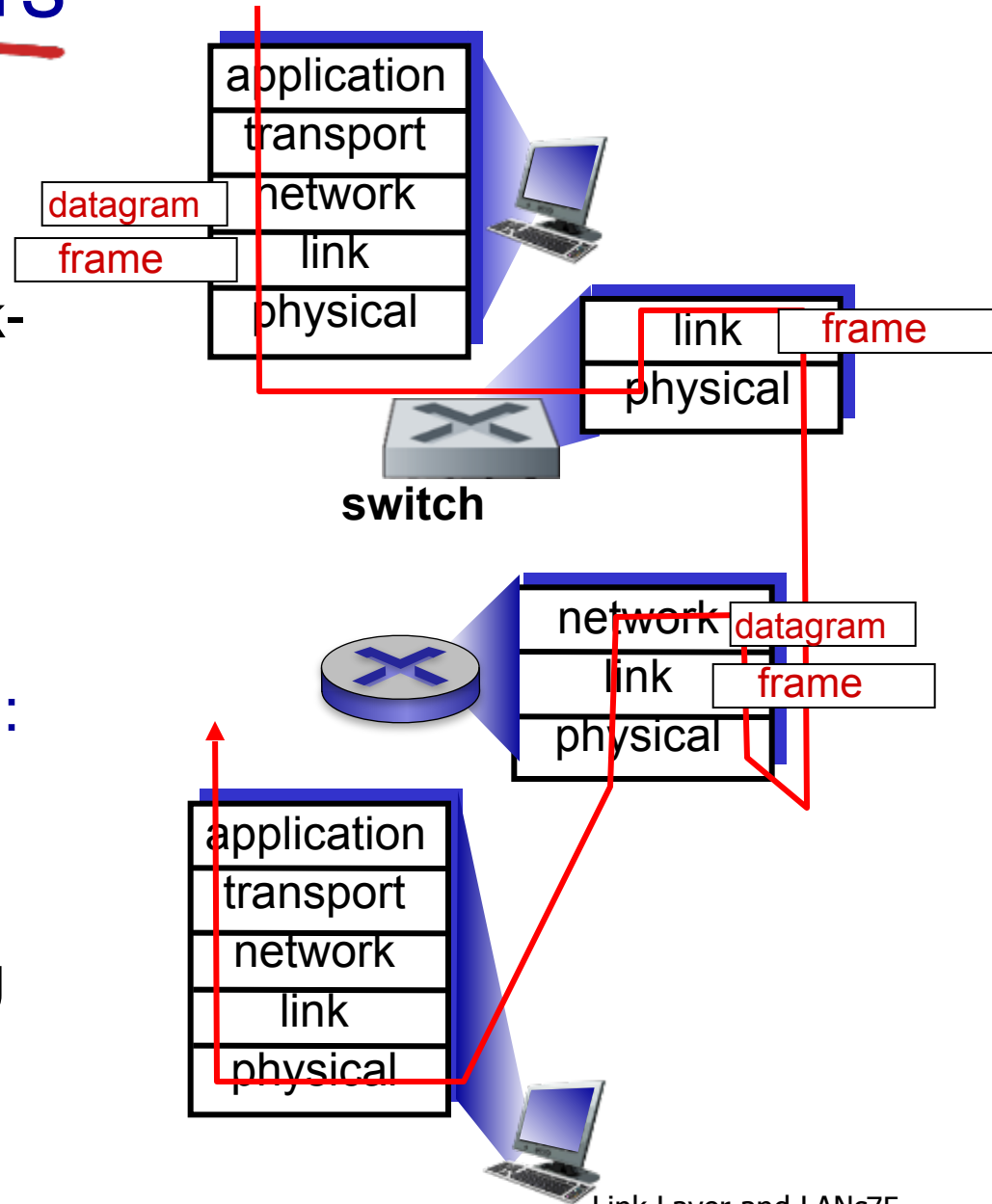
# Switches vs. routers

both are store-and-forward:

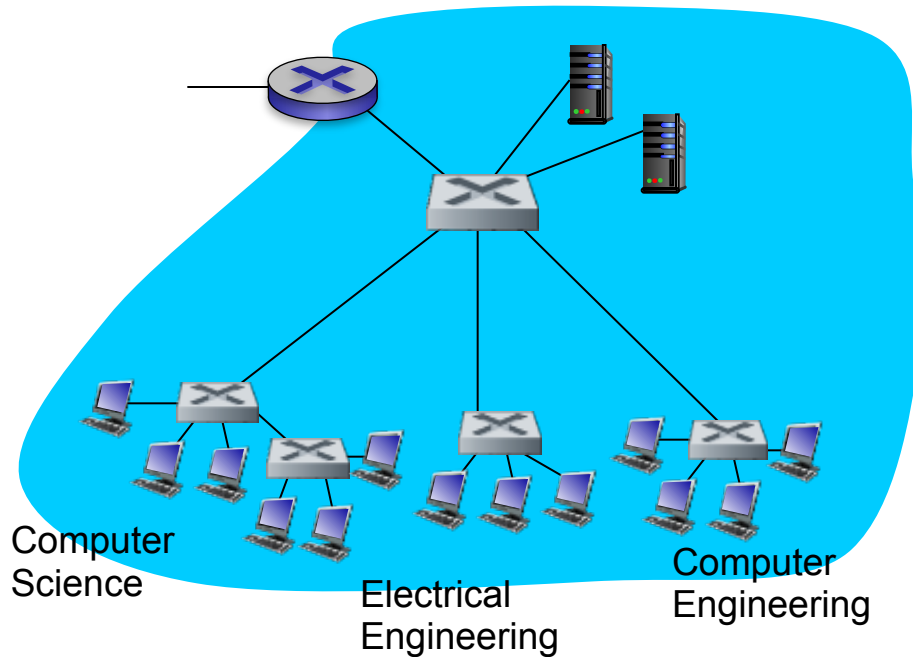
- **routers:** network-layer devices (examine network-layer headers)
- **switches:** link-layer devices (examine link-layer headers)

both have forwarding tables:

- **routers:** compute tables using routing algorithms, IP addresses
- **switches:** learn forwarding table using flooding, learning, MAC addresses



# VLANs: motivation



*consider:*

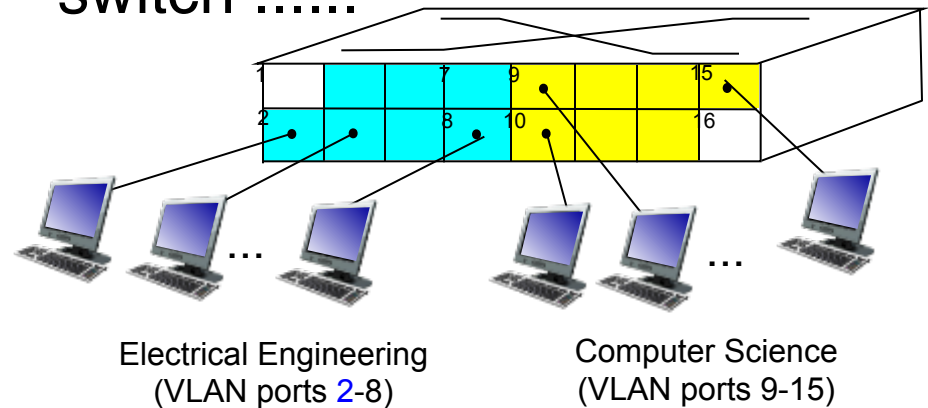
- CS user moves office to EE, but wants connect to CS switch?
- single broadcast domain:
  - all layer-2 broadcast traffic (ARP, DHCP, unknown location of destination MAC address) must cross entire LAN
  - security/privacy, efficiency issues

# VLANs

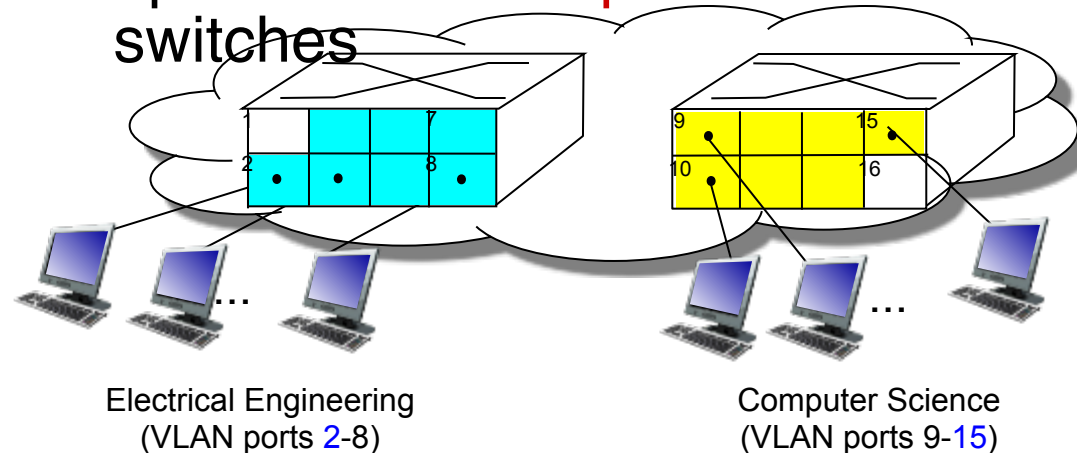
## *Virtual Local Area Network*

switch(es) supporting VLAN capabilities can be configured to define multiple ***virtual*** LANs over single physical LAN infrastructure.

**port-based VLAN:** switch ports grouped (by switch management software) so that ***single*** physical switch .....

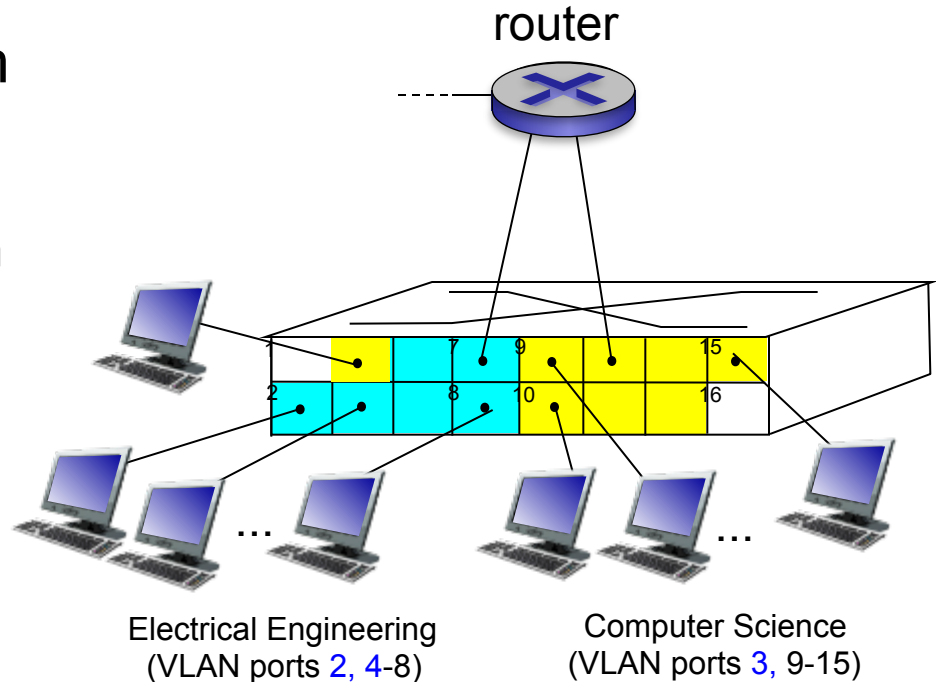


... operates as ***multiple*** virtual switches

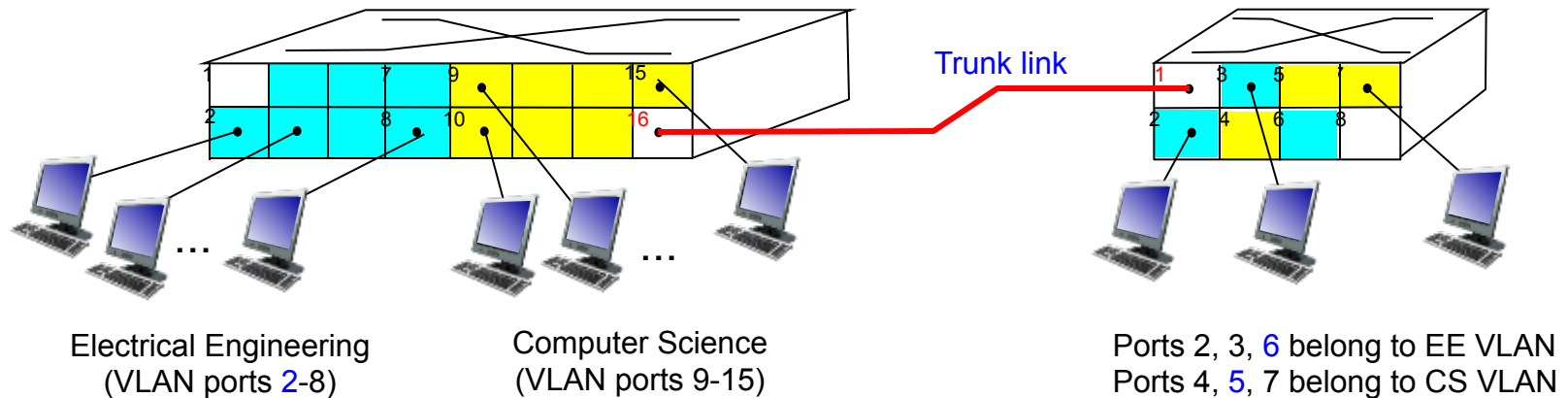


# Port-based VLAN

- **traffic isolation:** frames to/from ports 2-8 can *only* reach ports 2-8
  - can also define VLAN based on MAC addresses of endpoints, rather than switch port
- **dynamic membership:** ports can be dynamically assigned among VLANs
- **forwarding between VLANs:** done via routing (just as with separate switches)
  - in practice vendors sell combined switches plus routers

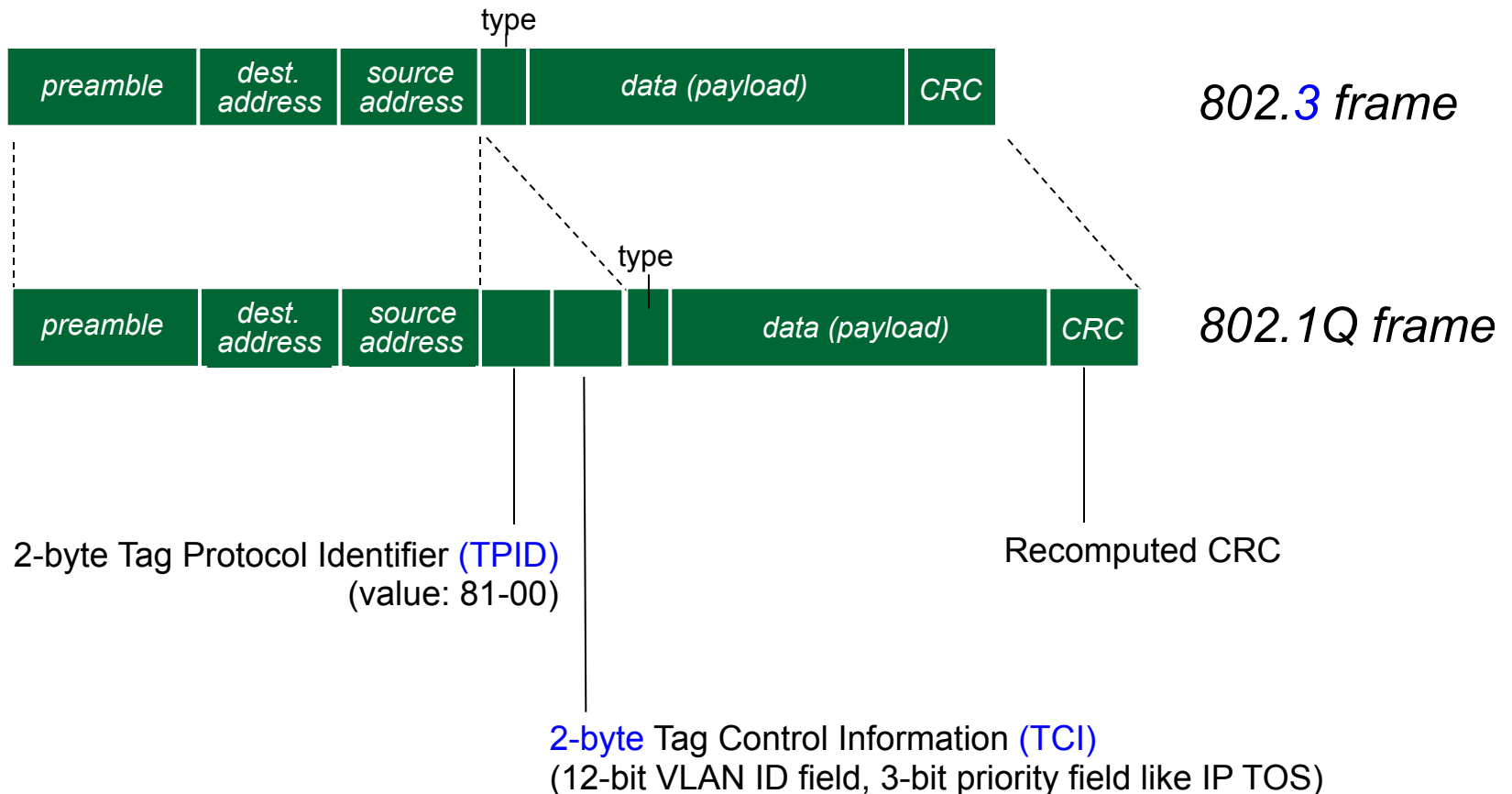


# VLANs spanning multiple switches



- **trunk port:** carries frames between VLANs defined over multiple physical switches
  - frames forwarded within VLAN between switches can't be vanilla 802.3 frames (must carry VLAN ID info)
  - 802.1Q protocol adds/removed additional header fields for frames forwarded between trunk ports

# 802.1Q VLAN frame format





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services

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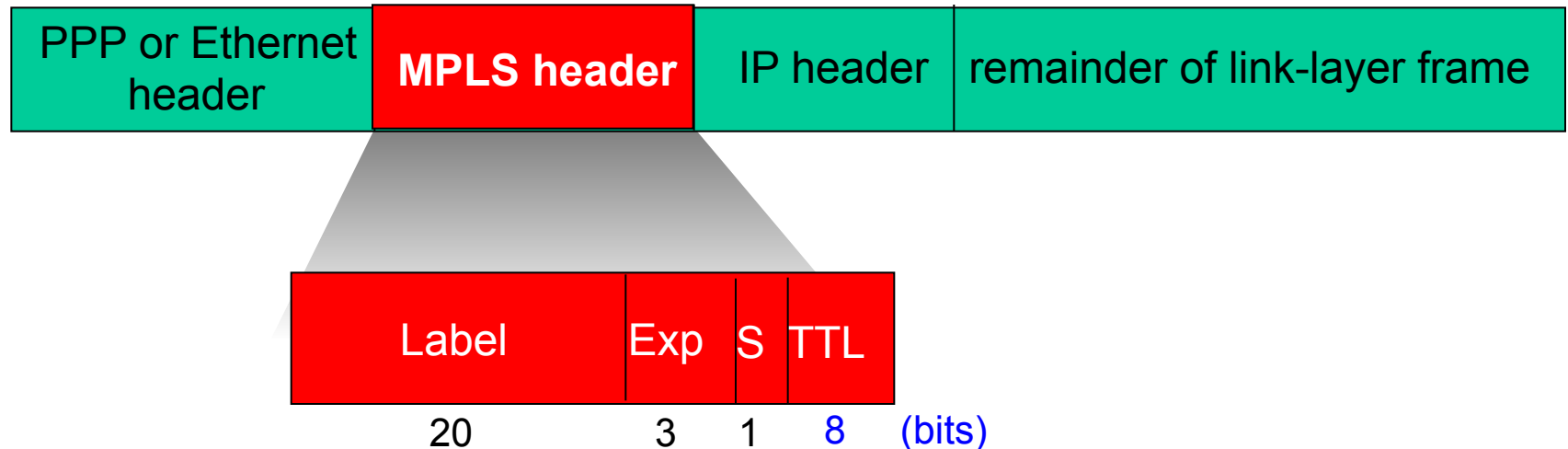
6.5 link virtualization:  
MPLS

6.6 data center  
networking

6.7 a day in the life of a  
web request

# Multiprotocol label switching (MPLS)

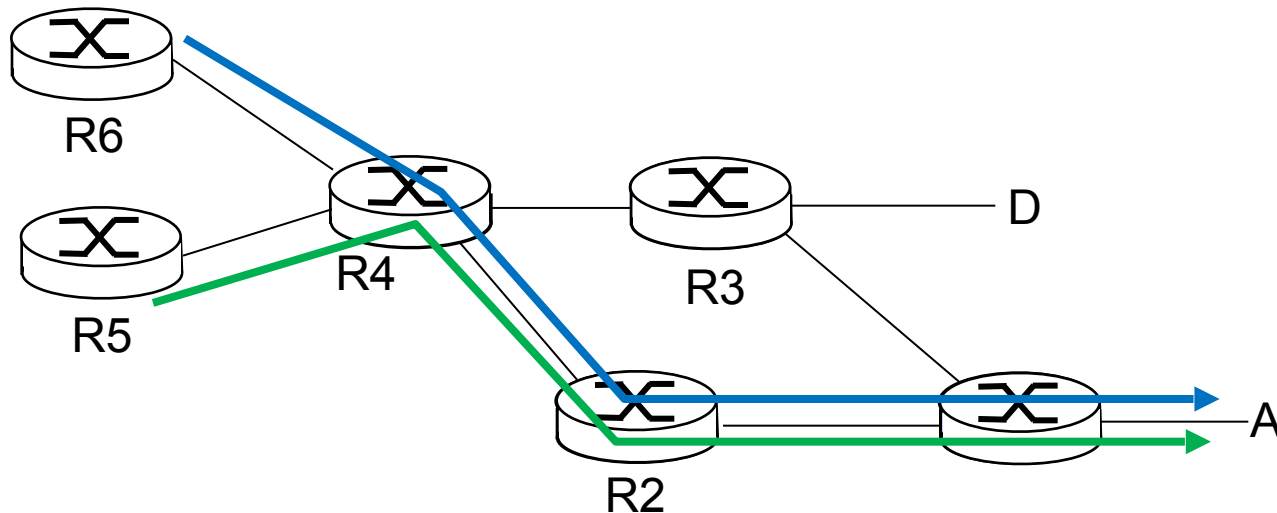
- initial goal: high-speed IP forwarding using fixed length label (instead of **destination** IP address)
  - fast lookup using fixed length identifier (rather than **longest** prefix matching)
  - borrowing ideas from Virtual Circuit (VC) approach
  - but IP datagram still keeps IP address!



# MPLS capable routers

- a.k.a. label-switched router
- forward packets to outgoing interface based only on label value (*don't inspect IP address*)
  - MPLS forwarding table distinct from IP forwarding tables
- *flexibility*: MPLS forwarding decisions can *differ* from those of IP
  - use destination *and* source addresses to route flows to same destination differently (traffic engineering)
  - re-route flows quickly if link fails: pre-computed backup paths (useful for VoIP)

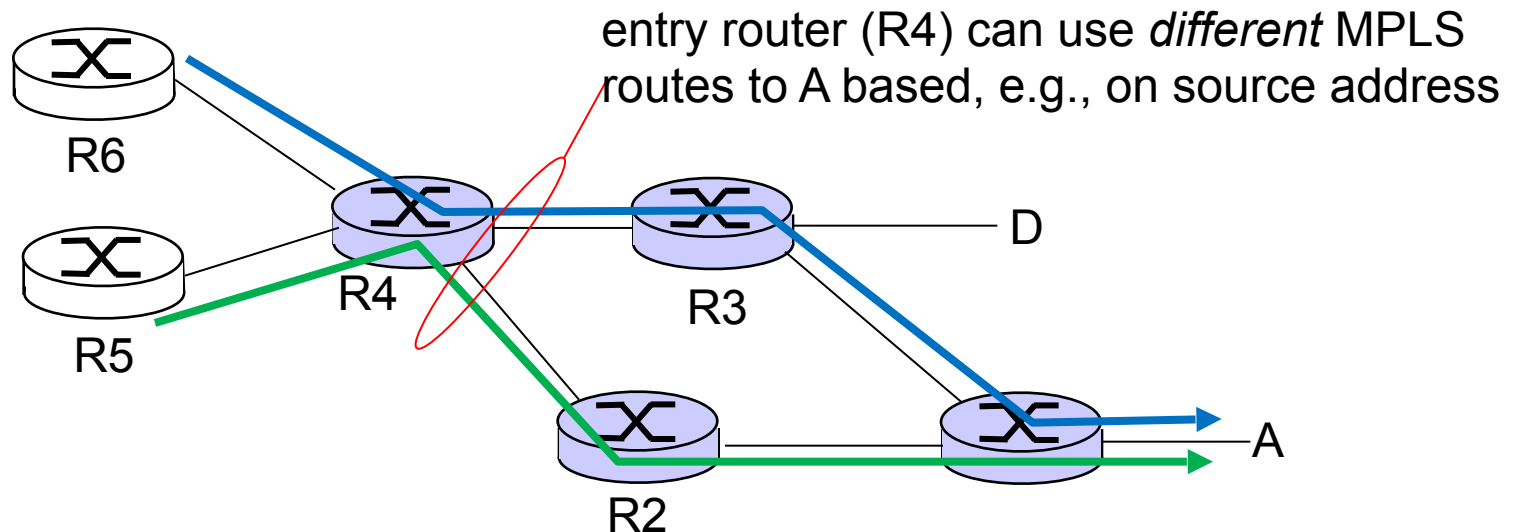
# MPLS versus IP paths



- *IP routing: path to destination determined by destination address alone*



# MPLS versus IP paths



- **IP routing:** path to destination determined by destination address alone



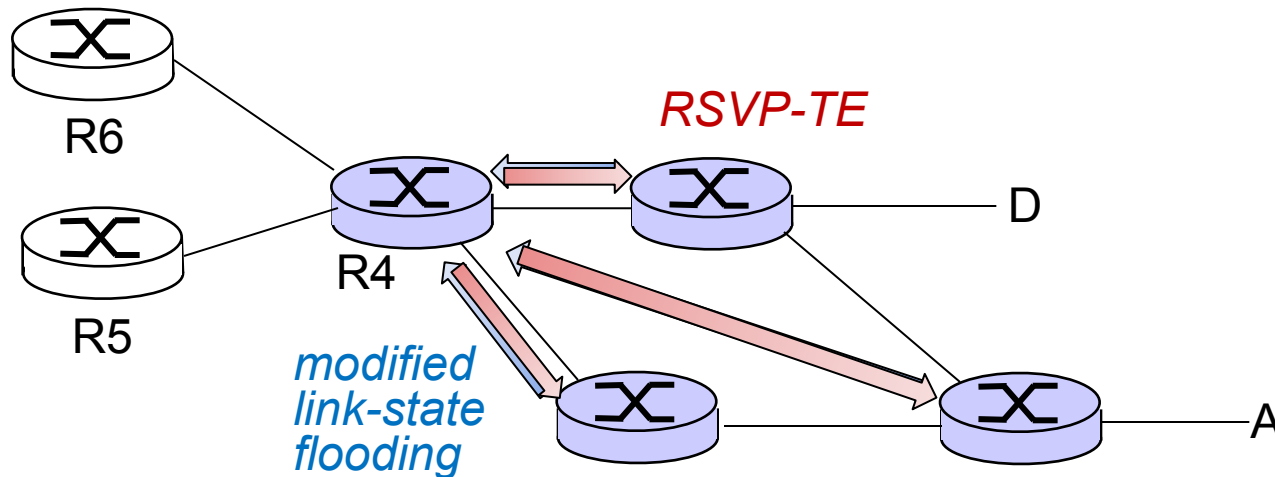
- **MPLS routing:** path to destination can be based on source *and* destination address



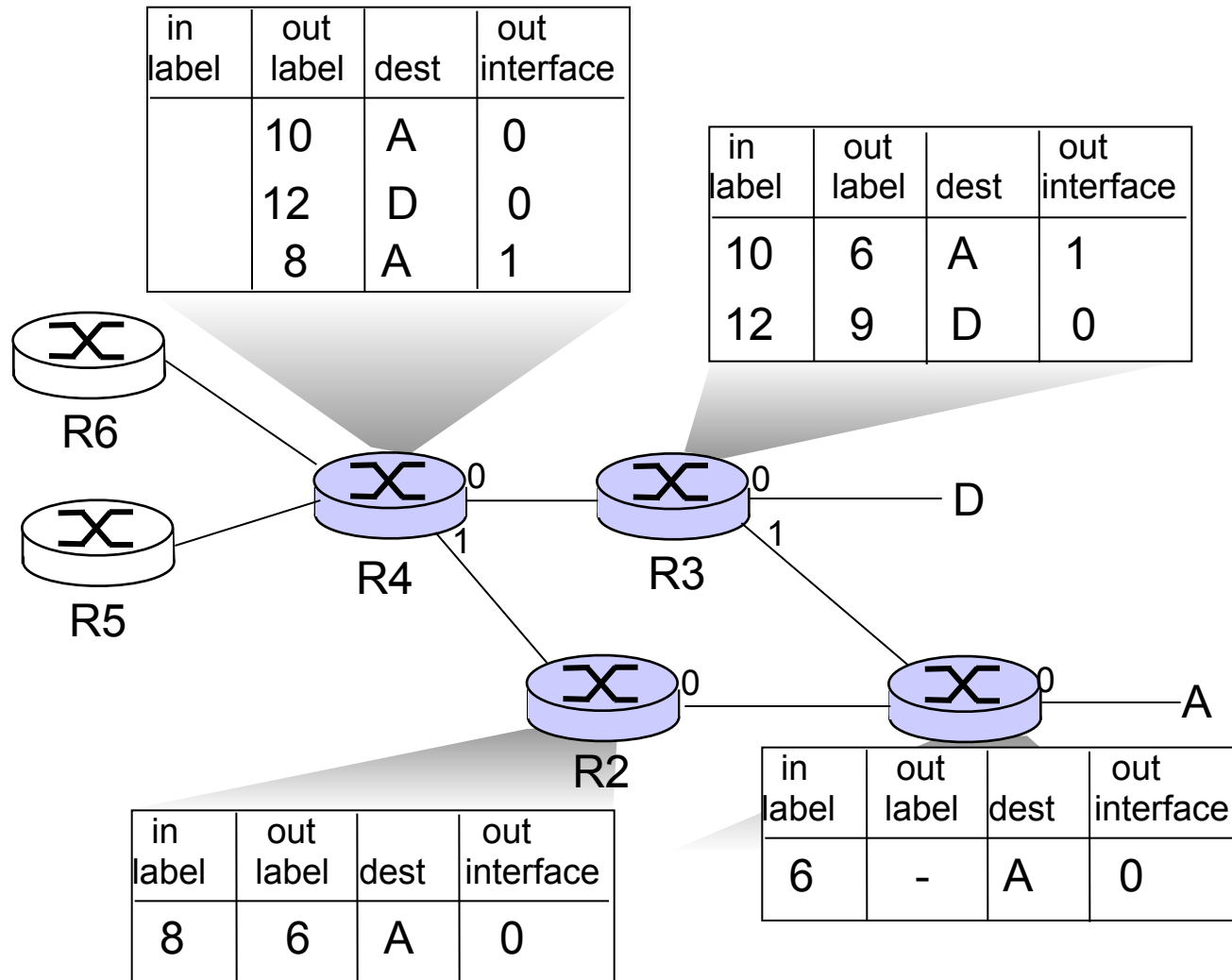
- **fast reroute:** precompute backup routes in case of link failure

# MPLS signaling

- modify OSPF, IS-IS link-state flooding protocols to carry info used by MPLS routing
  - e.g., link bandwidth, amount of “reserved” link bandwidth
- *entry MPLS router uses RSVP-TE signaling protocol to set up MPLS forwarding at downstream routers*



# MPLS forwarding tables



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# Data center networks

- 10's to 100's of thousands of hosts, often closely coupled, in close proximity:
  - e-business (e.g., Amazon)
  - content-servers (e.g., YouTube, Akamai, Apple, Microsoft)
  - search engines, data mining (e.g., Google)

- challenges:
  - multiple applications, each serving massive numbers of clients
  - managing/balancing load, avoiding processing, networking, data bottlenecks

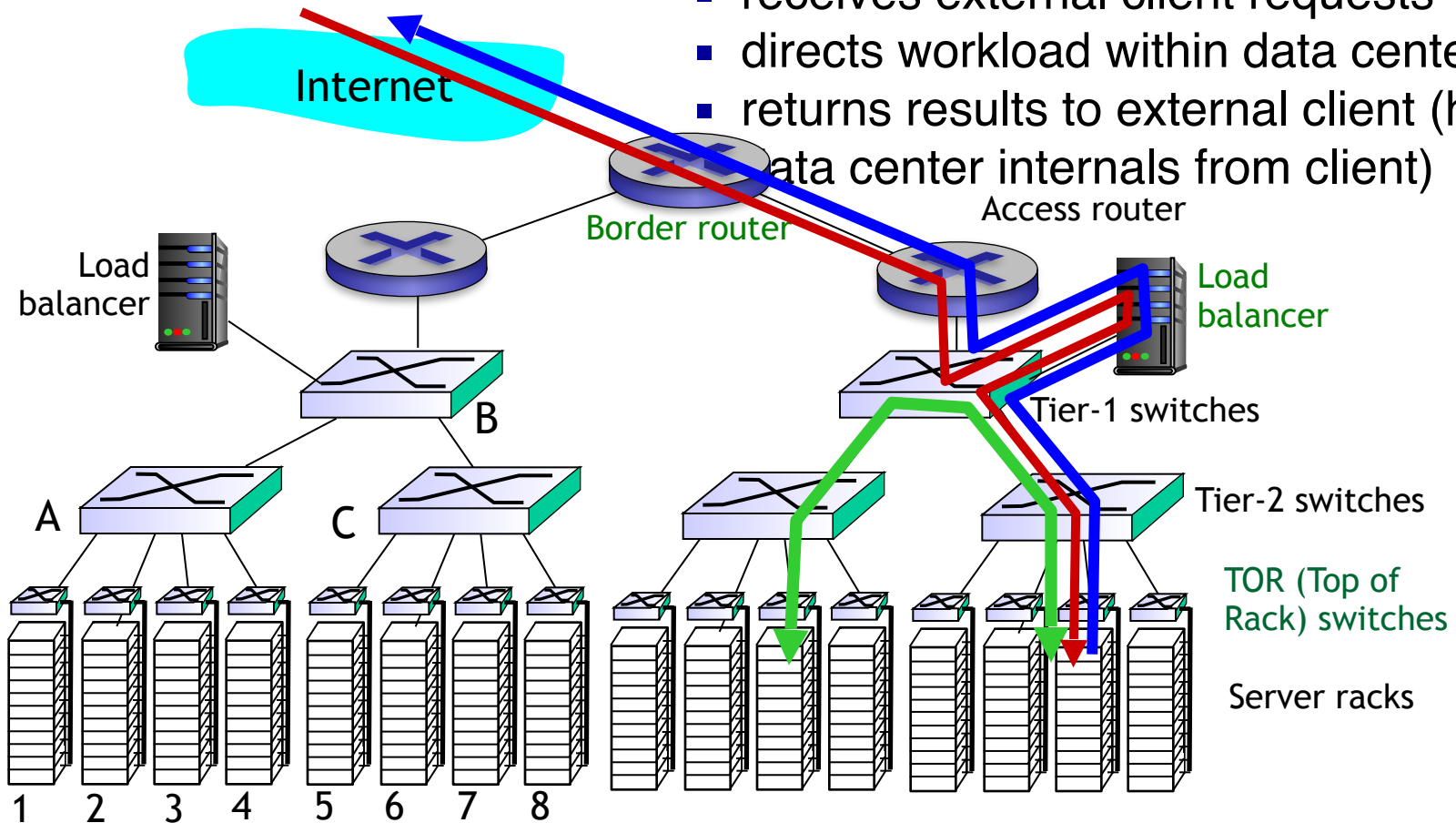


Inside a 40-ft Microsoft container,  
Chicago data center

# Data center networks

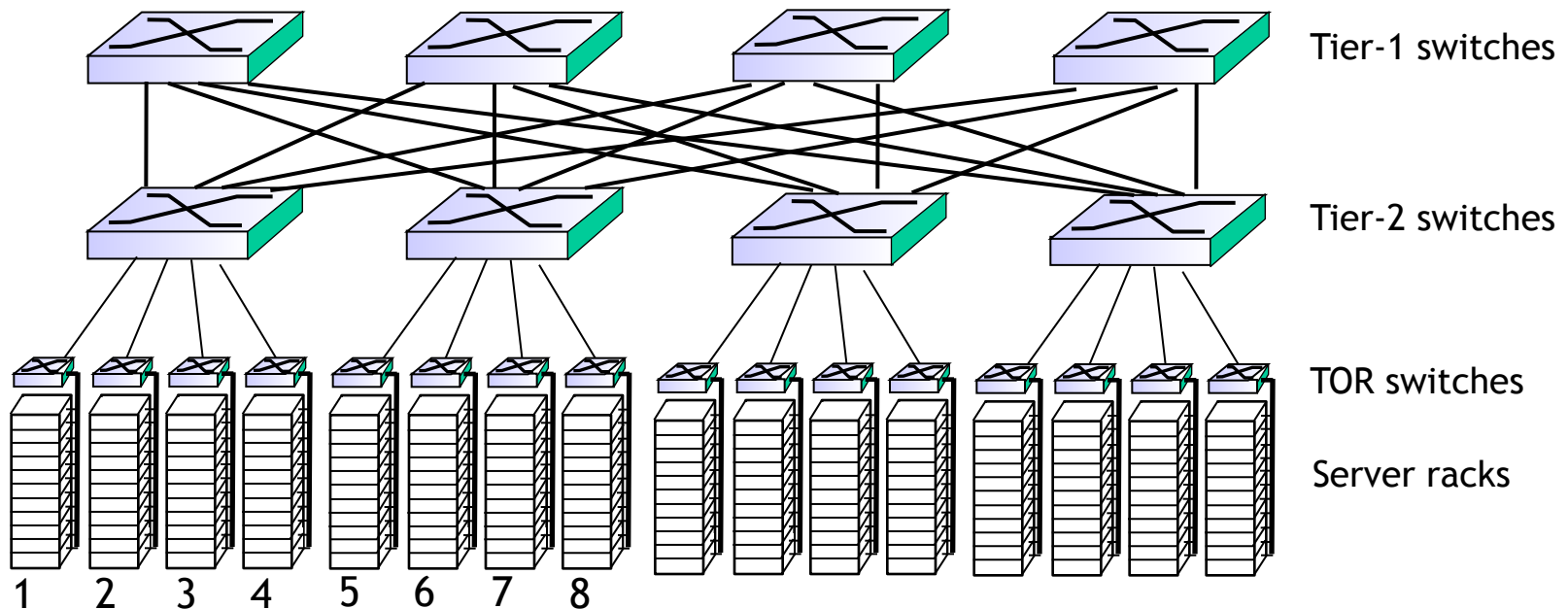
load balancer: application-layer routing

- receives external client requests
- directs workload within data center
- returns results to external client (hiding data center internals from client)



# Data center networks

- rich interconnection among switches, racks:
  - increased throughput between racks (multiple routing paths possible)
  - increased reliability via redundancy



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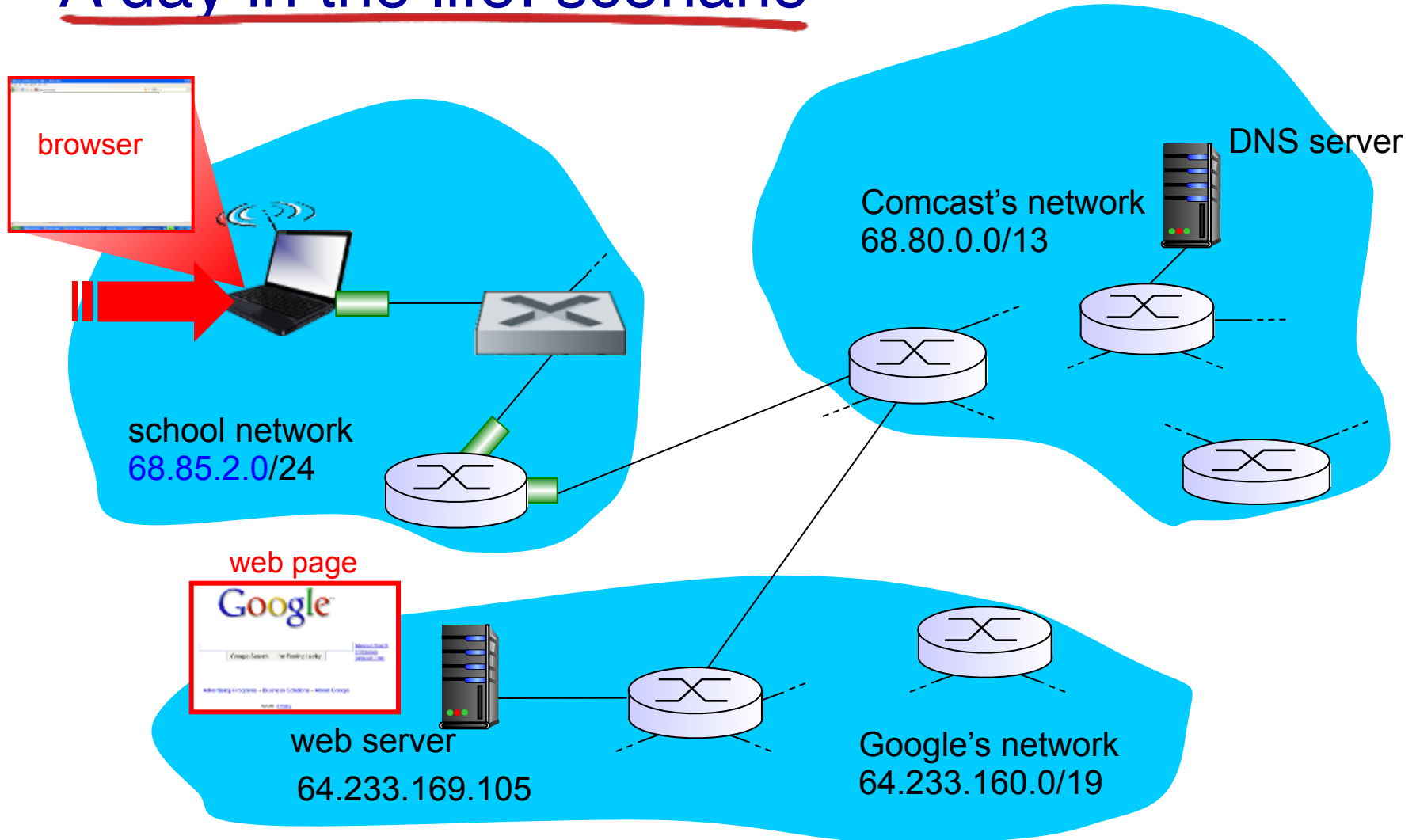
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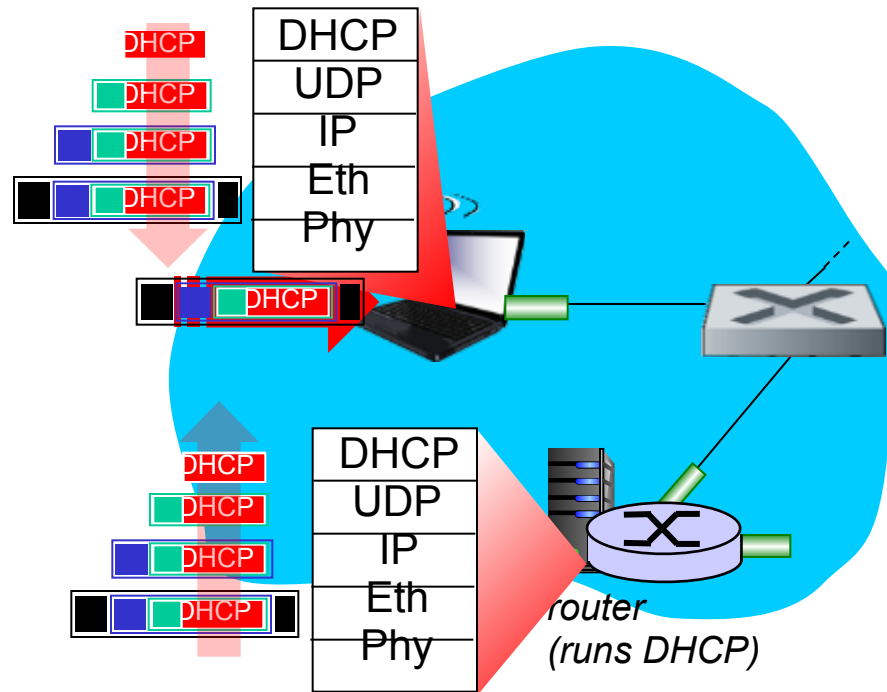
# Synthesis: a day in the life of a web request

- journey down protocol stack complete!
  - application, transport, network, link
- putting-it-all-together: synthesis!
  - *goal*: identify, review, understand protocols (at all layers) involved in seemingly simple scenario: requesting www page
  - *scenario*: student attaches laptop to campus network, requests/receives [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

# A day in the life: scenario

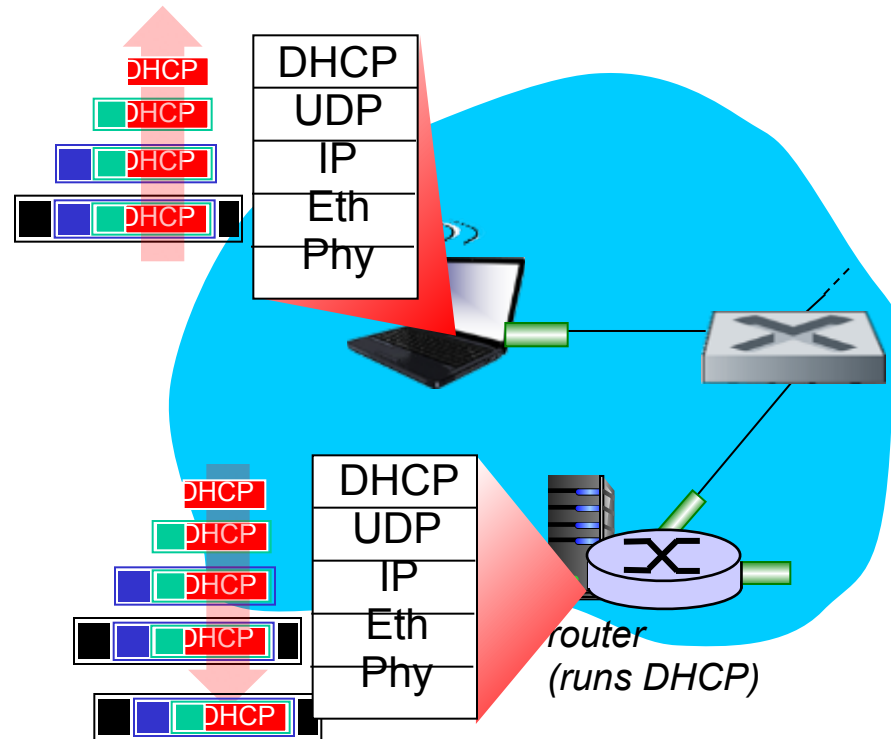


# A day in the life... connecting to the Internet



- connecting laptop needs to get its own IP address, addr of first-hop router, addr of DNS server: use *DHCP protocol*
- DHCP request encapsulated in UDP, encapsulated in IP, encapsulated in 802.3 Ethernet frame
- Ethernet frame broadcasts (dest: FF:FF:FF:FF:FF:FF) on LAN, received at router running DHCP server
- Ethernet demultiplexed to IP, demuxed to UDP, demuxed to DHCP

# A day in the life... connecting to the Internet

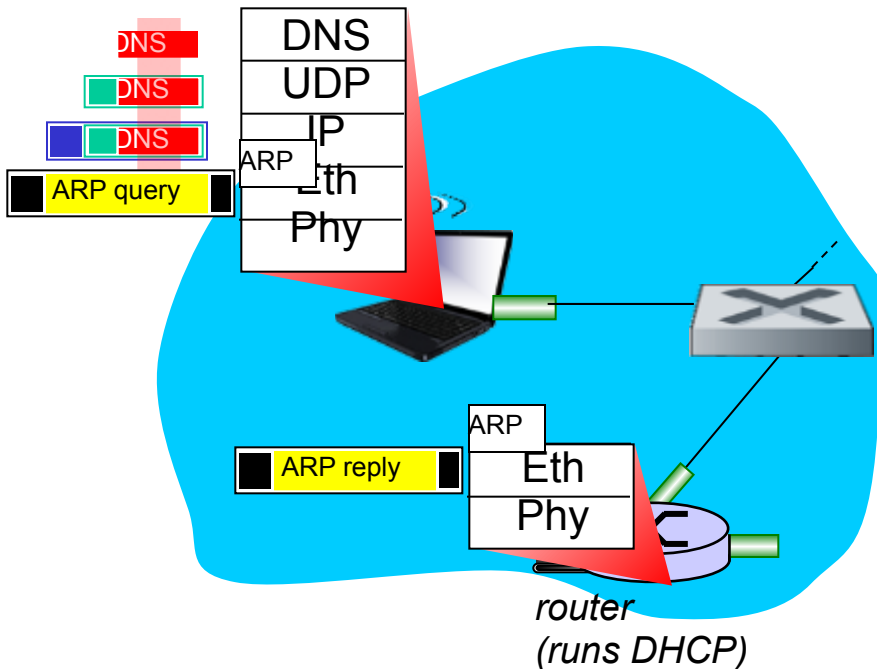


- DHCP server formulates **DHCP ACK** containing client's IP address, IP address of first-hop router for client, name & IP address of DNS server
- encapsulation at DHCP server, frame forwarded (**switch learning**) through LAN, demultiplexing at client
- DHCP client receives DHCP ACK reply

*Client now has IP address, knows name & addr of DNS server, IP address of its first-hop router*

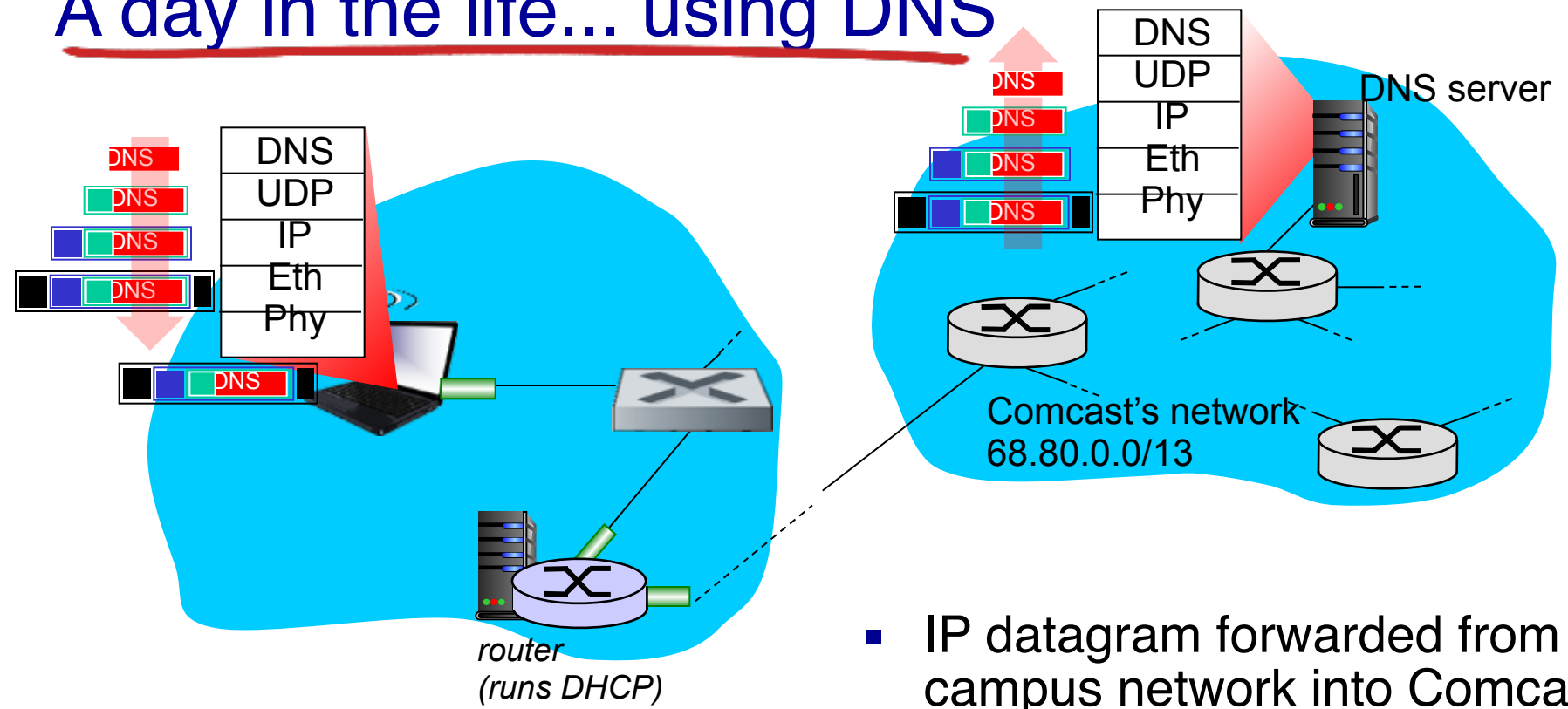


# A day in the life... ARP (before DNS, before HTTP)



- before sending *HTTP* request, need IP address of `www.google.com`: *DNS protocol*
- *DNS query* created, encapsulated in UDP, encapsulated in IP, encapsulated in Eth; To send frame to router, need MAC address of router interface: *ARP protocol*
- *ARP query* broadcast, received by router, which replies with *ARP reply* giving MAC address of router interface
- client now knows MAC address of first-hop router, so can now send frame containing DNS query

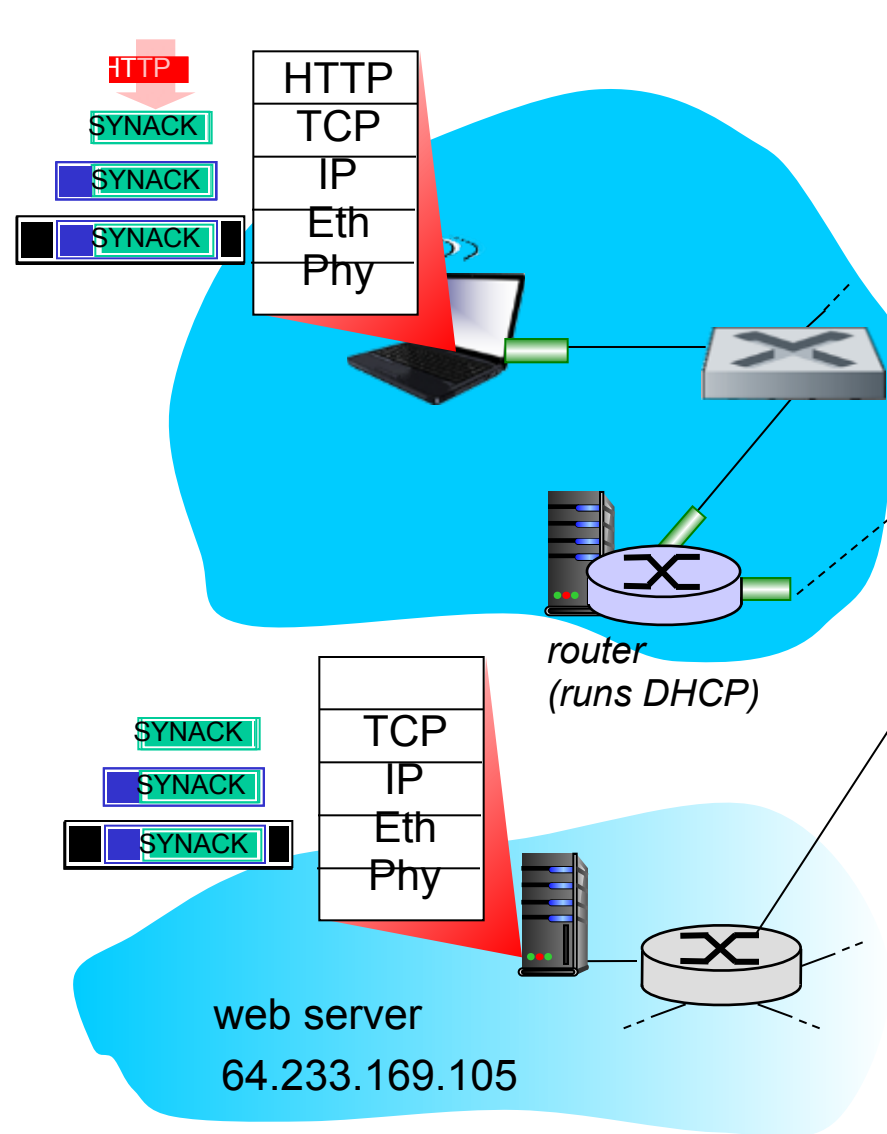
# A day in the life... using DNS



- IP datagram containing DNS query forwarded via LAN switch from client to 1<sup>st</sup> hop router

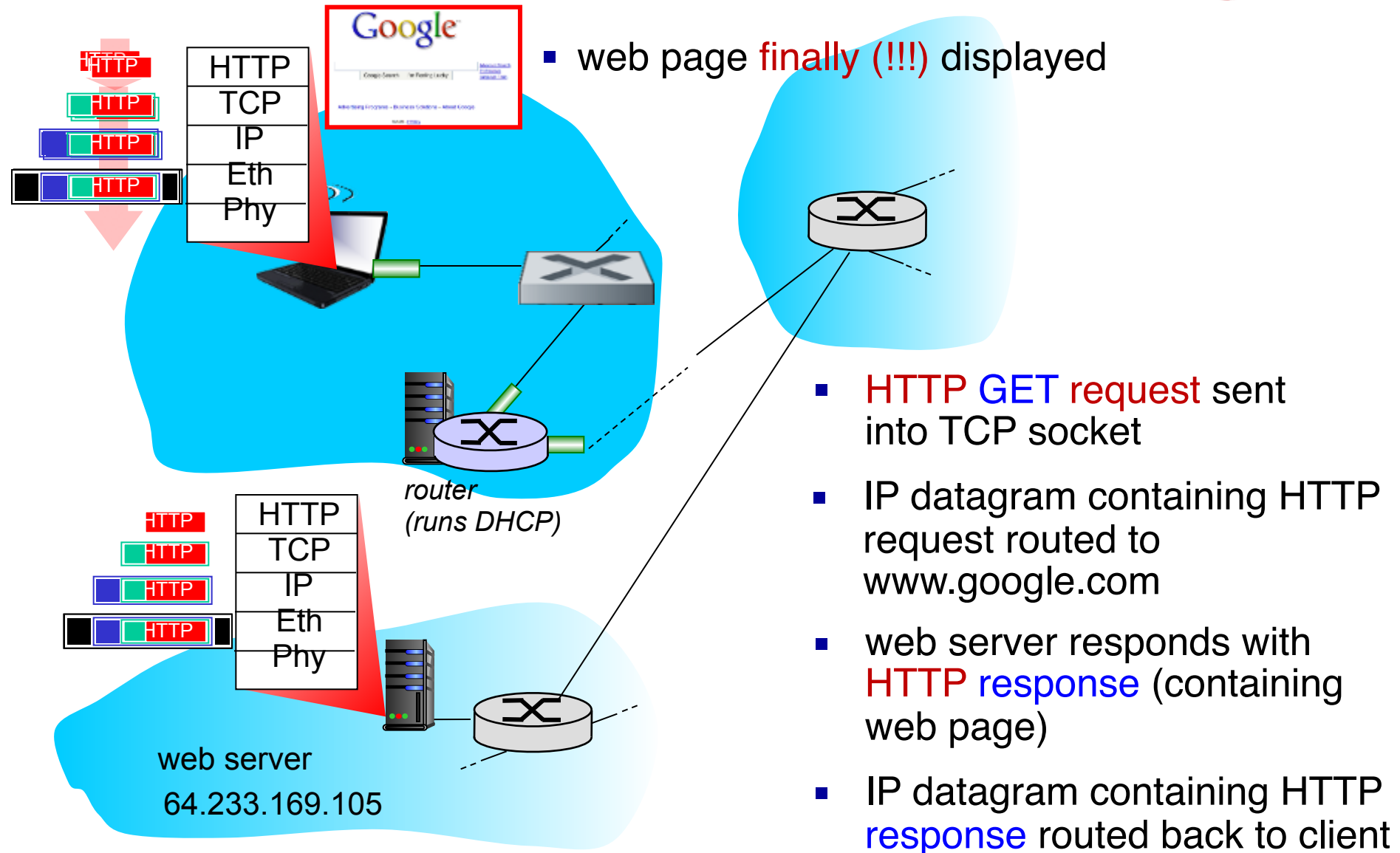
- IP datagram forwarded from campus network into Comcast network, routed (tables created by **RIP**, **OSPF**, **IS-IS** and/or **BGP** routing protocols) to DNS server
- demuxed to DNS server
- DNS server replies to client with IP address of [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

# A day in the life... TCP connection carrying HTTP



- to send HTTP request, client first opens **TCP socket** to web server
- TCP **SYN segment** (step 1 in **3-way handshake**) inter-domain routed to web server
- web server responds with **TCP SYNACK** (step 2 in 3-way handshake)
- TCP **connection established!**

# A day in the life... HTTP request/reply



# Chapter 6: Summary

- principles behind data link layer services:
  - error detection, correction
  - sharing a broadcast channel: multiple access
  - link layer addressing
- instantiation and implementation of various link layer technologies
  - Ethernet
  - switched LANs, VLANs
  - virtualized networks as a link layer: MPLS
- synthesis: a day in the life of a web request

# Chapter 6: let's take a breath

- journey down protocol stack *complete* (except PHY)
- solid understanding of networking principles, practice
- ..... could stop here .... but *lots* of interesting topics!
  - Wireless (Chapter 7)
  - Multimedia (Chapter 9)
  - Security (Chapter 8)