

Chap. 7 Wireless Network Security

- WiFi Security
- WEP (Wired Equivalent privacy)
- Robust Secure Network (IEEE 802.11i)

Vulnerability in Wireless Communication

□ No physical contact to network infrastructure

- physical connections replaced by logical associations
- sending and receiving messages do not need physical access to the network infrastructure

□ communications by broadcasting

- radio signal is broadcasted in a transmission range
- transmissions can be overheard by anyone in the range
- anyone can generate transmissions, and anyone in the range can receive the messages
- anyone can interfere with other nearby transmissions and may prevent their correct reception (jamming attack)

Vulnerability in Wireless Communication

Major concerns

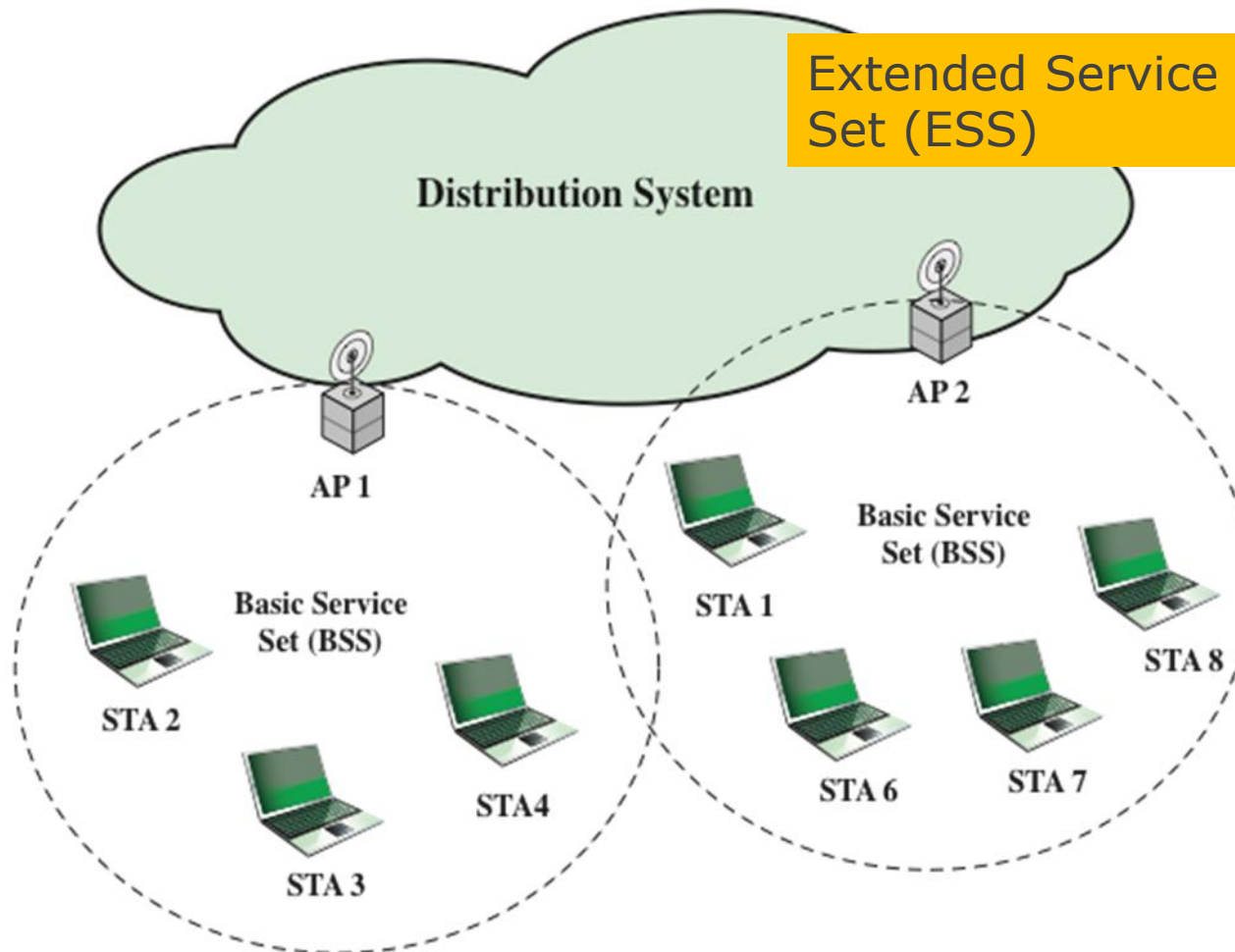
- eavesdropping is easy
- injecting bogus messages into network is easy
- replaying previously recorded messages is easy
- illegitimate access to the network and its services is easy
- denial of service by jamming messages is easy

Security Requirements in Wireless Networks

- Confidentiality: messages must be encrypted
- Authenticity: origin of messages must be verified
- Integrity: integrity of messages must be verified
- Protection from replay attacks: integrity of messages must be verified
- Access control: access to the network services should be provided only to legitimate entities
- Protection against jamming

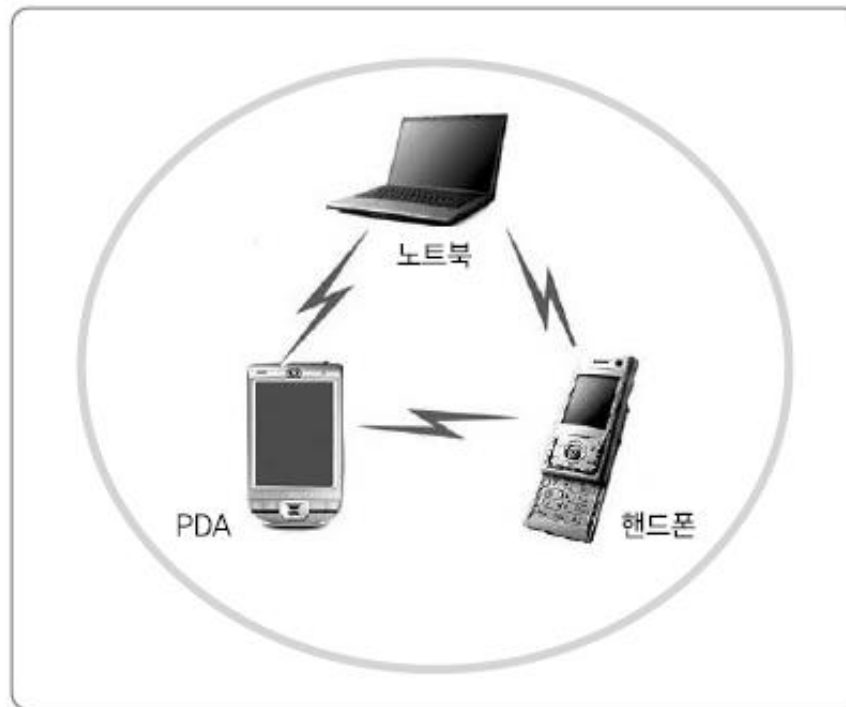
WLAN Components

□ WLAN – infra-structured mode



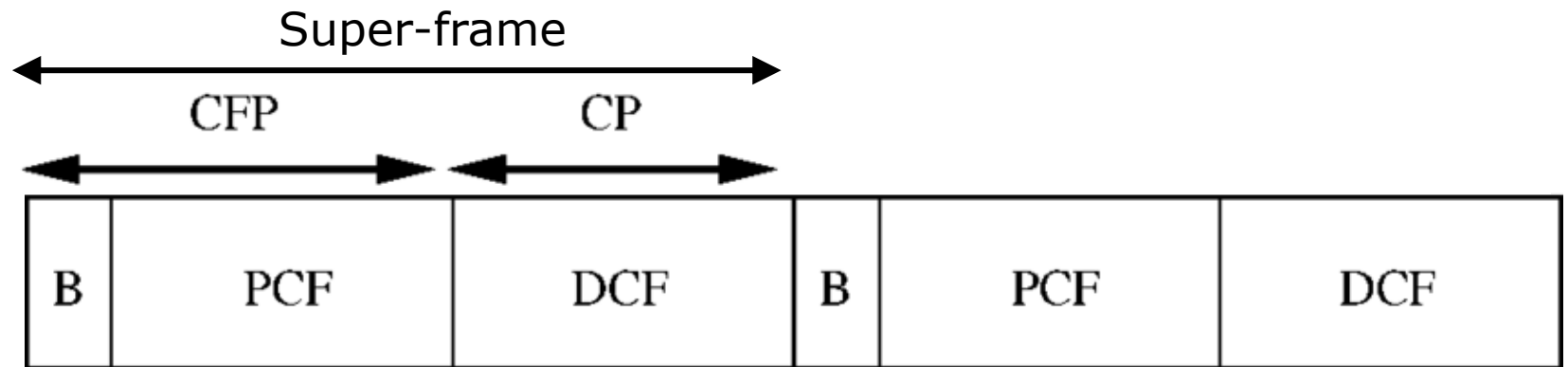
WLAN 구성요소

□ WLAN 구조 – ad hoc mode



IEEE 802.11 Wireless MAC

- Distributed and centralized MAC components
 - Distributed Coordination Function (DCF)
 - Point Coordination Function (PCF)



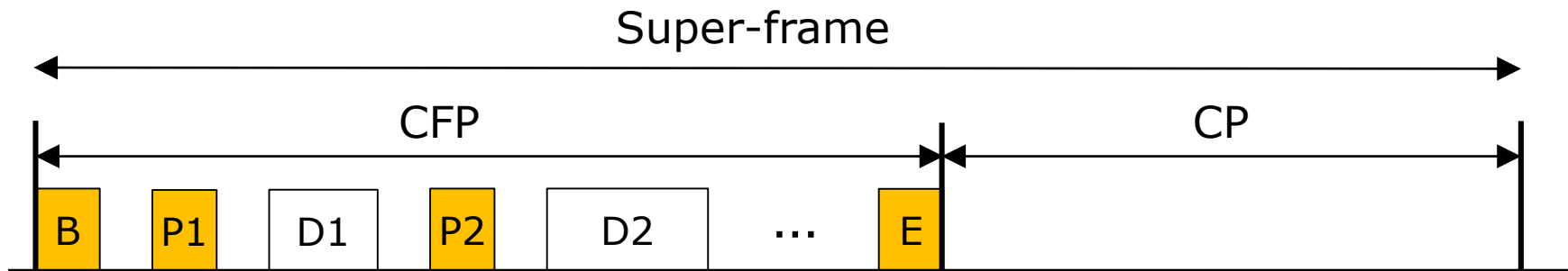
B: beacon

CFP: contention free period

CP: contention period

IEEE 802.11 Wireless MAC

- Point Coordination Function (PCF)
 - polling to reserved nodes by AP (master)
 - super-frame structure

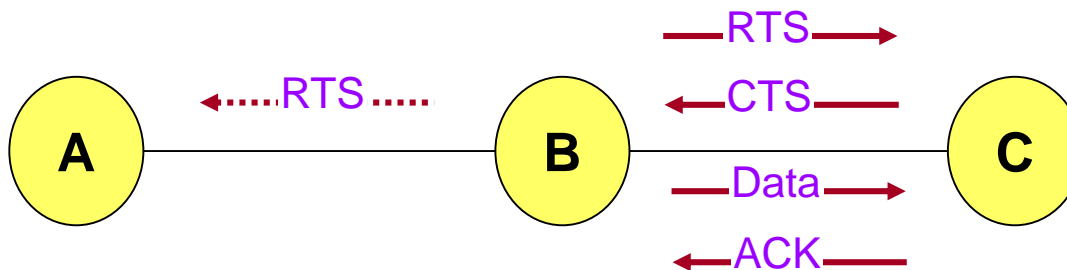


IEEE 802.11 Wireless MAC

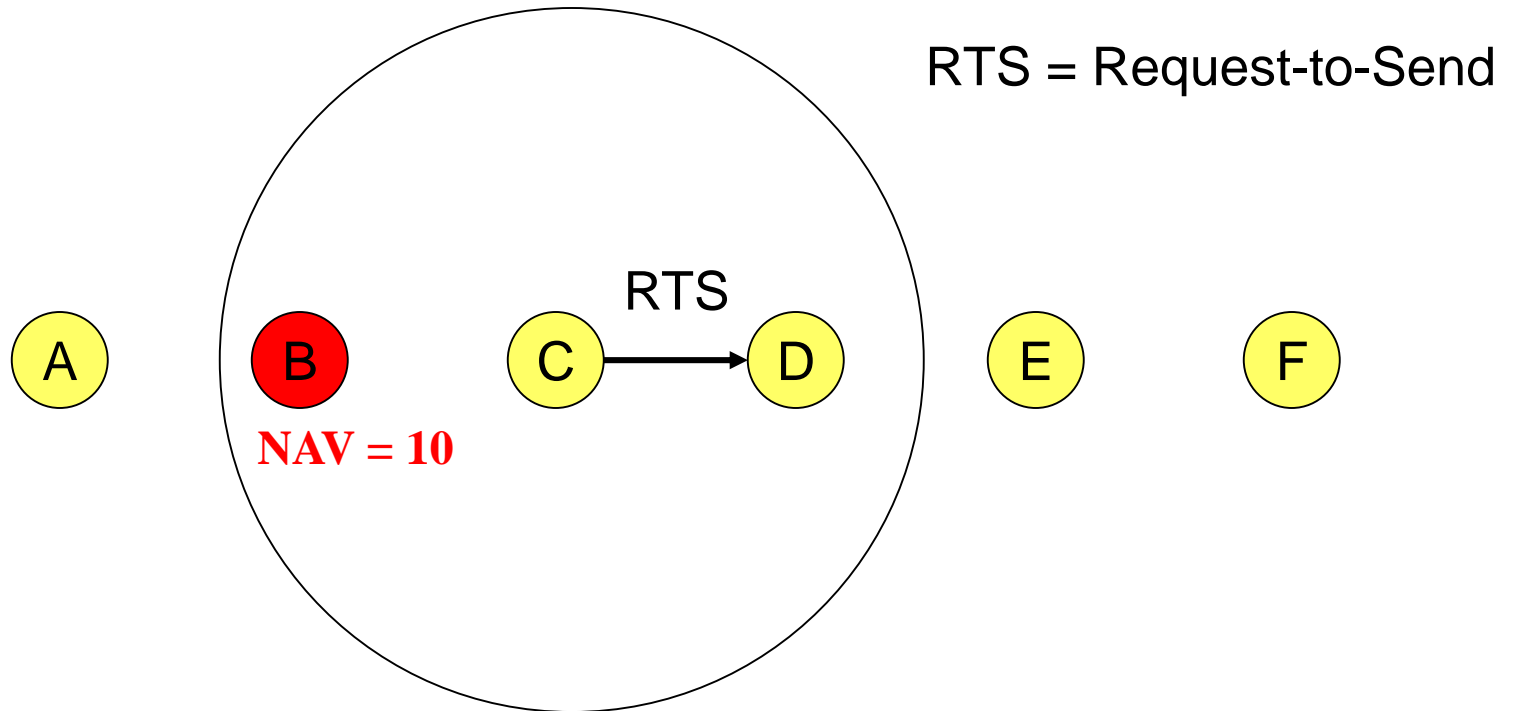
- DCF suitable for multi-hop ad hoc networking
- DCF is a Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Avoidance (CSMA/CA) protocol

IEEE 802.11 DCF

- Carrier sensing
- RTS-CTS to avoid hidden terminal problem
 - Any node overhearing a CTS does not transmit for the duration of the transfer
- Uses ACK for reliability
- Virtual carrier sensing: any node receiving RTS or CTS cannot transmit during the transfer

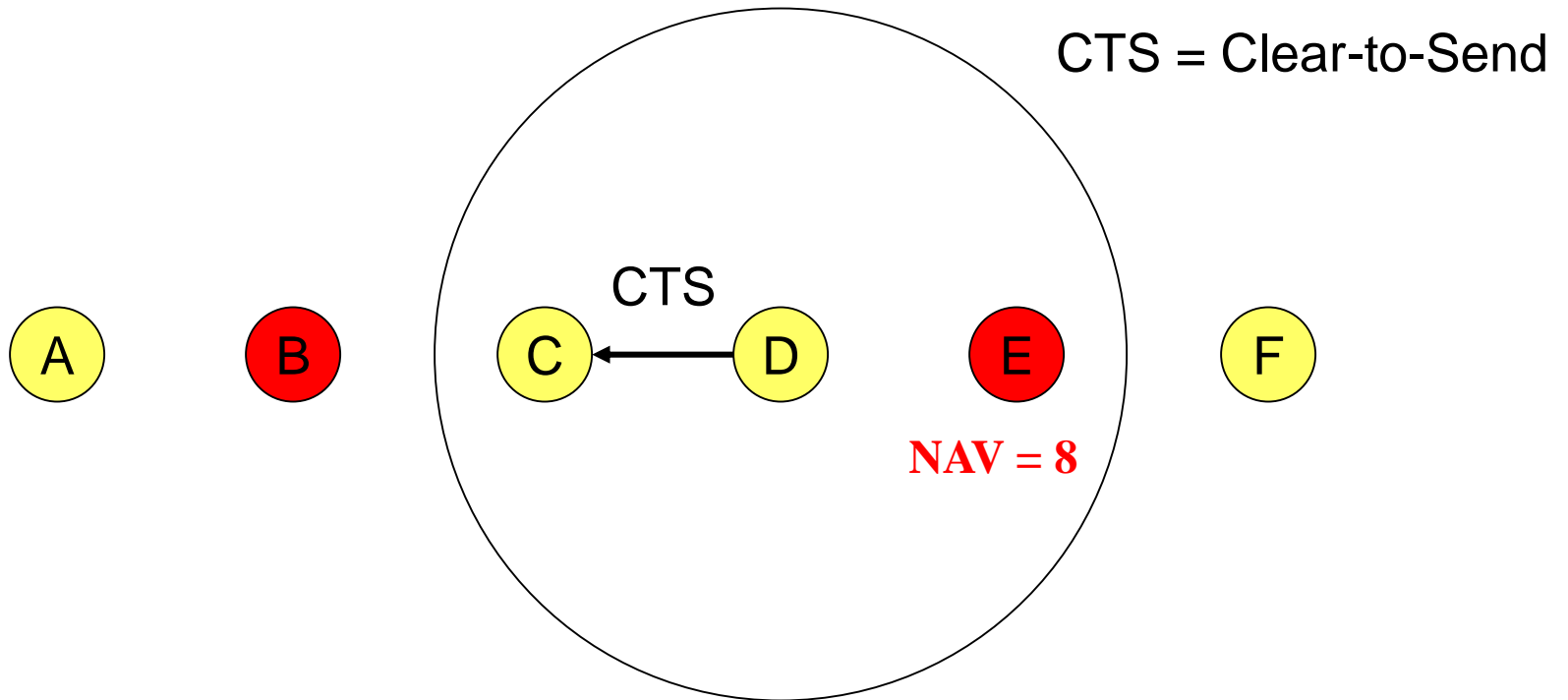


IEEE 802.11 DCF



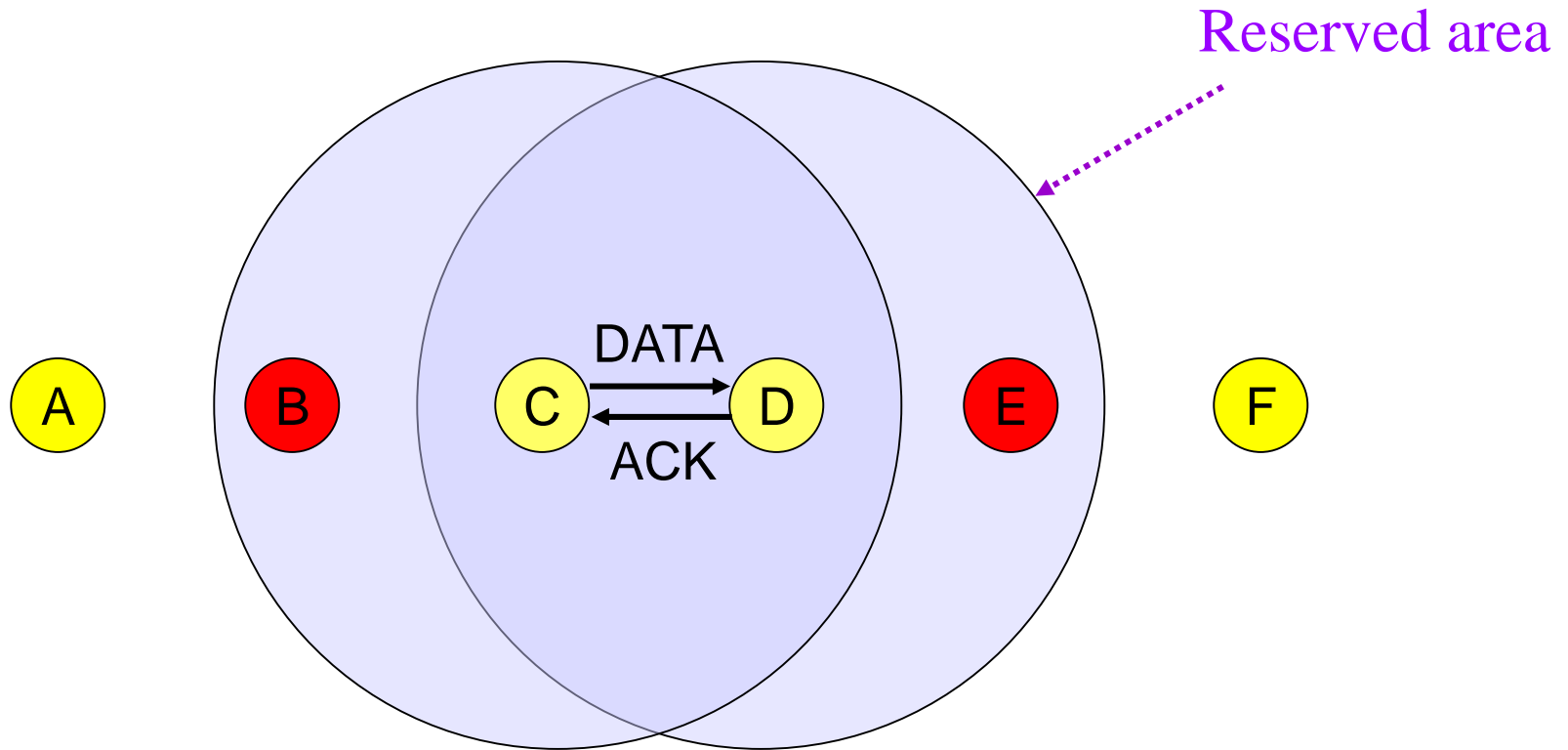
NAV = remaining duration to keep quiet

IEEE 802.11 DCF



IEEE 802.11 DCF

DATA packet follows CTS. Successful data reception acknowledged using **ACK**.



CSMA/CA

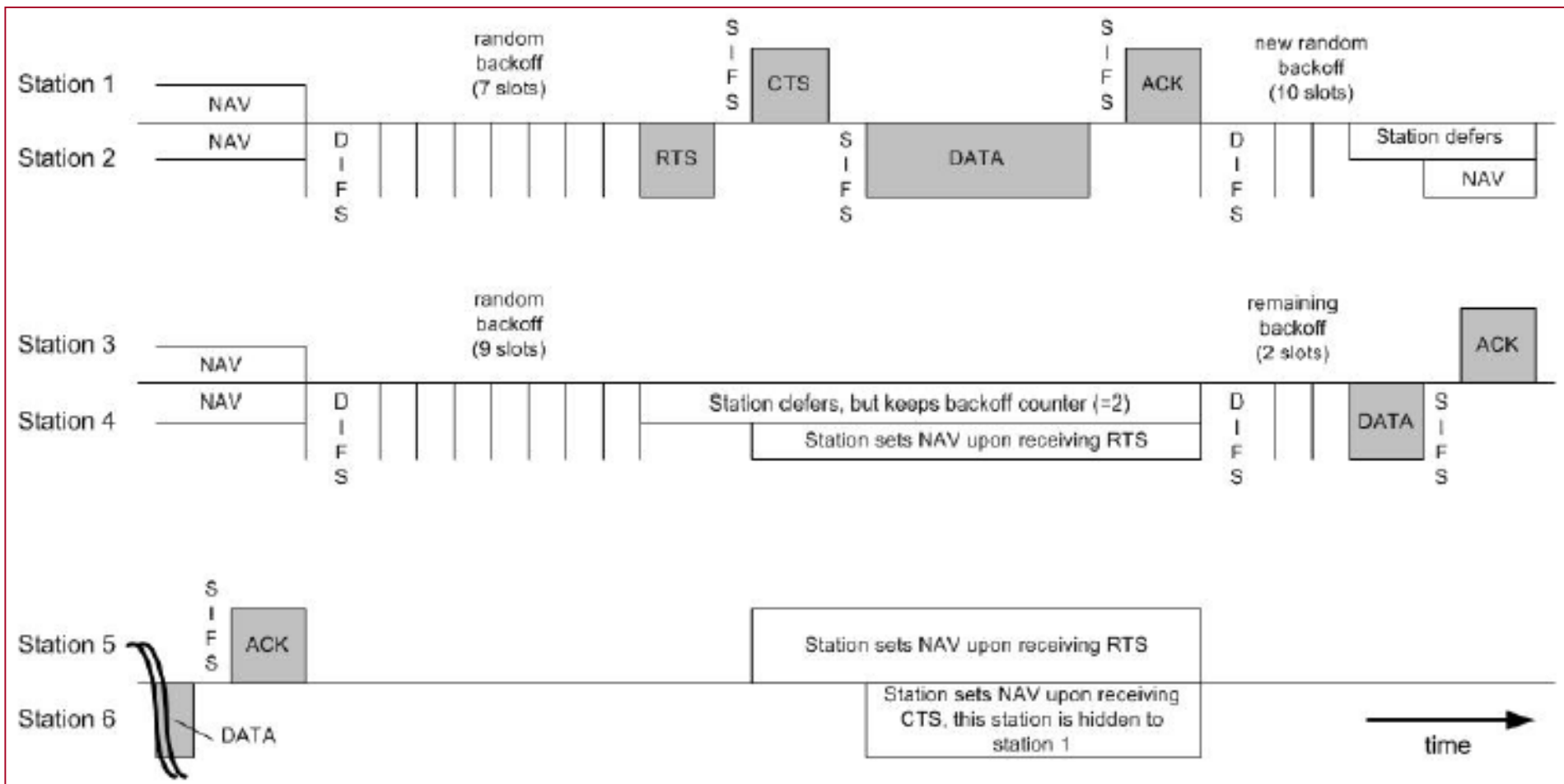
- Physical carrier sense, and
- Virtual carrier sense using **Network Allocation Vector** (NAV)
- NAV is updated based on overheard RTS-CTS-DATA-ACK packets
- Nodes stay silent when carrier sensed
- *Backoff intervals*
 - wait for random time if channel is busy
 - used to reduce collision probability

Backoff Interval

- When transmitting a packet, choose a **backoff interval** in the range $[0, cw]$
 - **cw** : contention window
- Count down the backoff interval when medium is idle
 - Count-down is suspended if medium becomes busy
- When backoff interval reaches 0, transmit RTS

4-way Handshaking Protocol

□ DCF mode: RTS → CTS → Data → ACK



Backoff Interval

- The time spent counting down backoff intervals is a part of MAC overhead
 - Choosing a *large cw* leads to large backoff intervals and can result in larger overhead
 - Choosing a *small cw* leads to a larger number of collisions (when two nodes count down to 0 simultaneously)

Backoff Interval

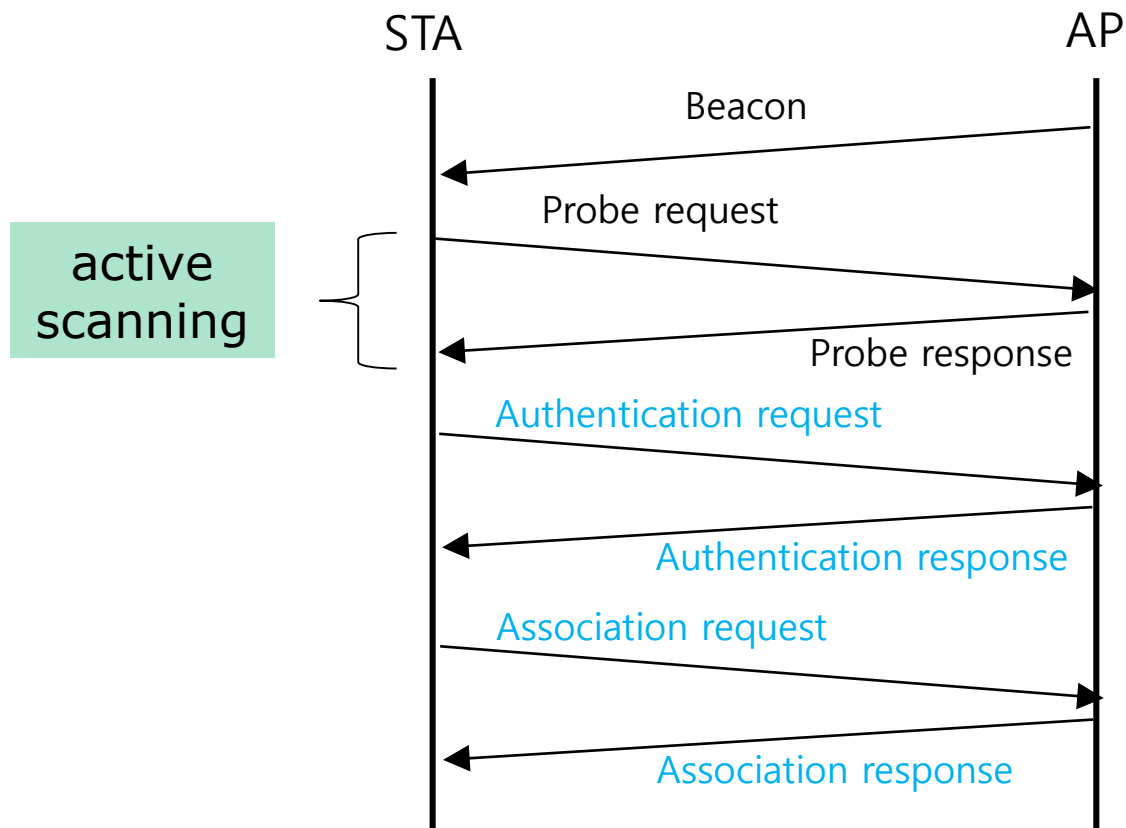
- The number of nodes attempting to transmit simultaneously may change with time → some mechanism to manage contention is needed
- IEEE 802.11 DCF: contention window CW is chosen dynamically depending on collision occurrence (the amount of traffic)

Binary Exponential Backoff in DCF

- When a node fails to receive CTS in response to its RTS, it increases the contention window
 - cw is doubled (up to an upper bound CW_{max})
- When a node successfully completes a data transfer, it restores cw to CW_{min}
- cw follows a saw-tooth curve
- cw denotes the amount of contention around the node

WiFi Communication

□ Message exchange after association



Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP)

□ goal

- make the WiFi network at least as secure as a wired LAN (that has no particular protection mechanisms)
- WEP has never intended to achieve strong security

□ services

- access control to the network: association after authentication
- message confidentiality
- message integrity

WEP – Access Control

- before association, the STA needs to authenticate itself to the AP
- authentication based on challenge-response protocol:
 - STA → AP: authenticate request
 - AP → STA: r (authenticate challenge) // r is 128 bits long
 - STA → AP: $E_K(r)$ (authenticate response) // K: shared key
 - AP → STA: authenticate success/failure
- once authenticated,
 - the STA can send an association request, and the AP will respond with an association response
- if authentication fails, no association is possible

WEP – Encryption

□ WEP encryption based on RC4 stream cipher

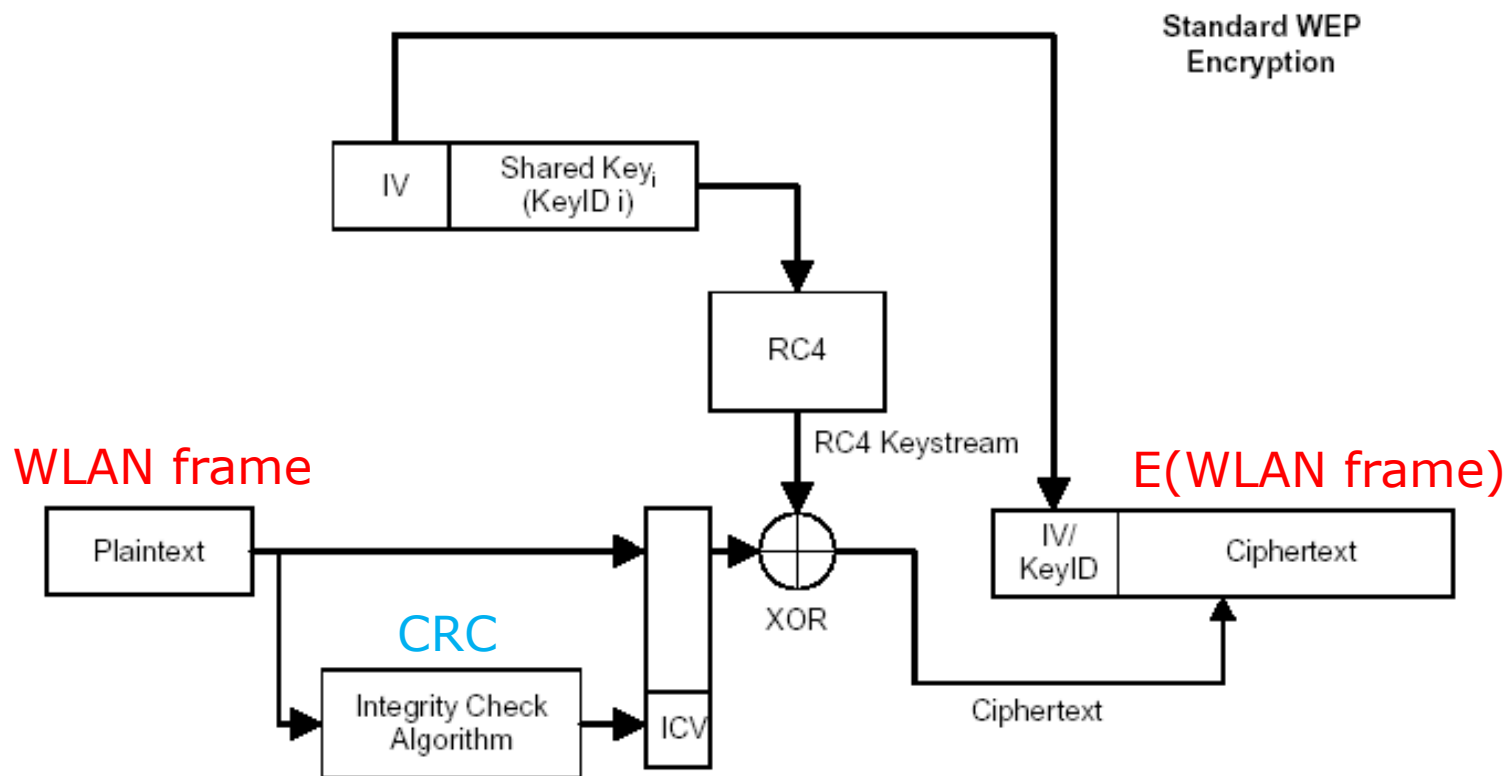
- Encryption:
 - RC4 is initialized with the shared secret and IV (between STA and AP)
 - RC4 produces a pseudo-random byte sequence (key stream)
 - this pseudo-random byte sequence is XORed to the message
- IV : use different 24-bit IV for each message
 - each message is encrypted with a different key stream

□ WEP integrity protection based on encrypted CRC value

- ICV (integrity check value) is computed and appended to the message
- the message and the ICV are encrypted together to check integrity

WEP – Encryption

- WEP encryption based on RC4 stream cipher



WEP – Encryption

- two kinds of keys
 - **default key** : shared key or group key
 - key mapping keys : individual key or per-station key
- in practice, often only default keys are supported
 - the default key is manually installed in every STA and the AP
 - each STA uses the same shared secret key → any STA can decrypt other's messages
 - the default key is a group key, and **group keys need to be changed when a member leaves the group** → practically impossible to change the default key in every device simultaneously

WEP Flaws

- authentication is one-way

- STA may associate to a rogue AP

- the same shared secret key is used for authentication and encryption

- different keys for different functions are desirable

- no session key is established during authentication

- access control is not continuous → once a STA has authenticated and associated to the AP, an attacker can send messages using the MAC address of STA
- The attacker cannot decrypt the messages, but replay of STA messages is still possible

WEP Flaws

- STA can be impersonated
- authentication based on a challenge-response protocol:
 - (1) STA \rightarrow AP ; authenticate request
 - (2) AP \rightarrow STA: r ; authenticate challenge
 - (3) STA \rightarrow AP: $[IV \mid r \oplus K]$; authenticate challenge
where K is a 128 bit RC4 output on IV and shared secret
- an attacker can compute key: $r \oplus (r \oplus K) = K$
- then it can use T to impersonate STA later:
 - (1) attacker(STA) \rightarrow AP ; authenticate request
 - (2) AP \rightarrow attacker: r' ; authenticate challenge
 - (3) attacker \rightarrow AP: $[IV \mid r' \oplus K]$; re-use the previous IV

WEP Flaws

□ Integrity mechanism

- $[IV \mid (M \mid \text{CRC}(M)) \oplus K]$ where K is the RC4 output on IV and shared secret
- IV is not mandated to be changed for each message
→ ICV mechanism and encryption cannot protect from replay attack

WEP Flaws

□ Replay attack

- CRC is a linear function in terms of XOR:

$$\text{CRC}(X \oplus Y) = \text{CRC}(X) \oplus \text{CRC}(Y)$$

$$(A \mid B) \oplus (C \mid D) = (A \oplus C) \mid (B \oplus D)$$

| : concatenation

- attacker eavesdrops $[(M \mid \text{CRC}(M)) \oplus K]$ where K is the RC4 output; K is the RC4 output on IV and shared secret
- Attacker wants to change M to M' ($= M \oplus \Delta M$)
- for any ΔM , the attacker can compute $\text{CRC}(\Delta M)$
- hence, the attacker can compute:

$$\underline{((M \mid \text{CRC}(M)) \oplus K) \oplus (\Delta M \mid \text{CRC}(\Delta M))} =$$

$$((M \oplus \Delta M) \mid (\text{CRC}(M) \oplus \text{CRC}(\Delta M))) \oplus K =$$

$$((M \oplus \Delta M) \mid \text{CRC}(M \oplus \Delta M)) \oplus K = (M' \mid \text{CRC}(M')) \oplus K$$

WEP Flaws

□ RC4 encryption

- **weak keys:** for some IVs, the beginning of the RC4 output is not really random and reveals key information
- **IV: 24bits is too small** - there are 16,777,216 possible IVs
- after around 17 million messages, IVs are reused
- an AP at 54 Mbps is capable for transmitting 3400 packets per second → IV space is used up in around 1.5 hours
- same IVs → same key streams; WEP encryption can be broken by capturing a few million messages

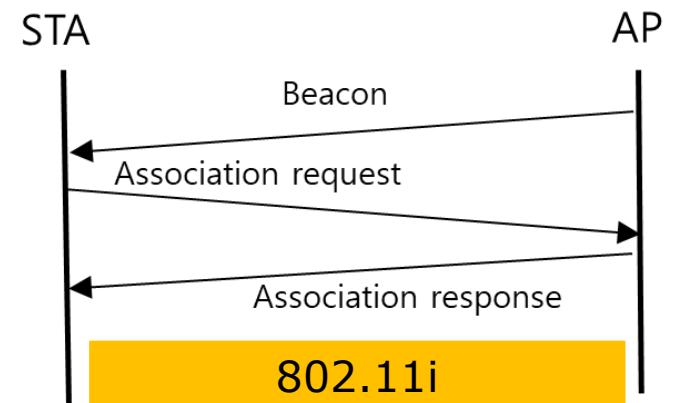
IEEE 802.11i

□ Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA)

- A set of security mechanisms that eliminates WEP security issues
- Based on the current state of the [802.11i standard](#)

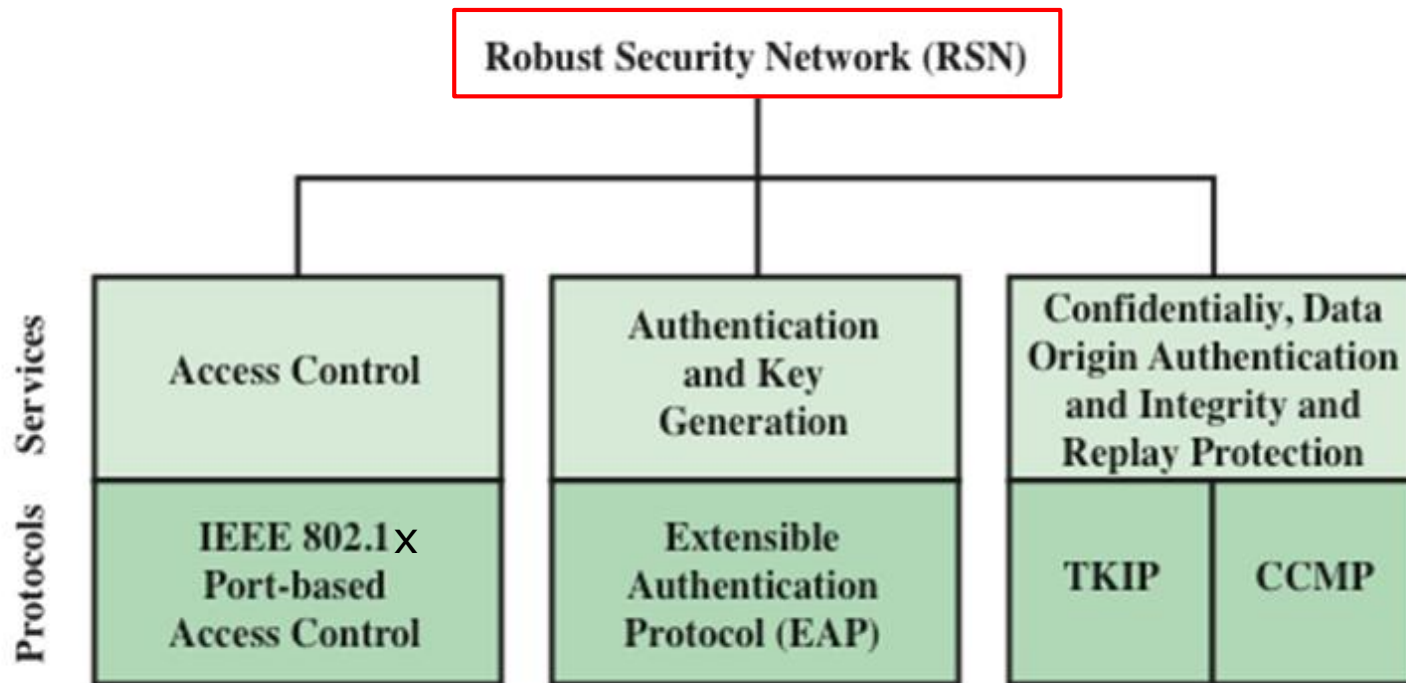
□ Robust Security Network (RSN)

- Final form of 802.11i standard
- complex



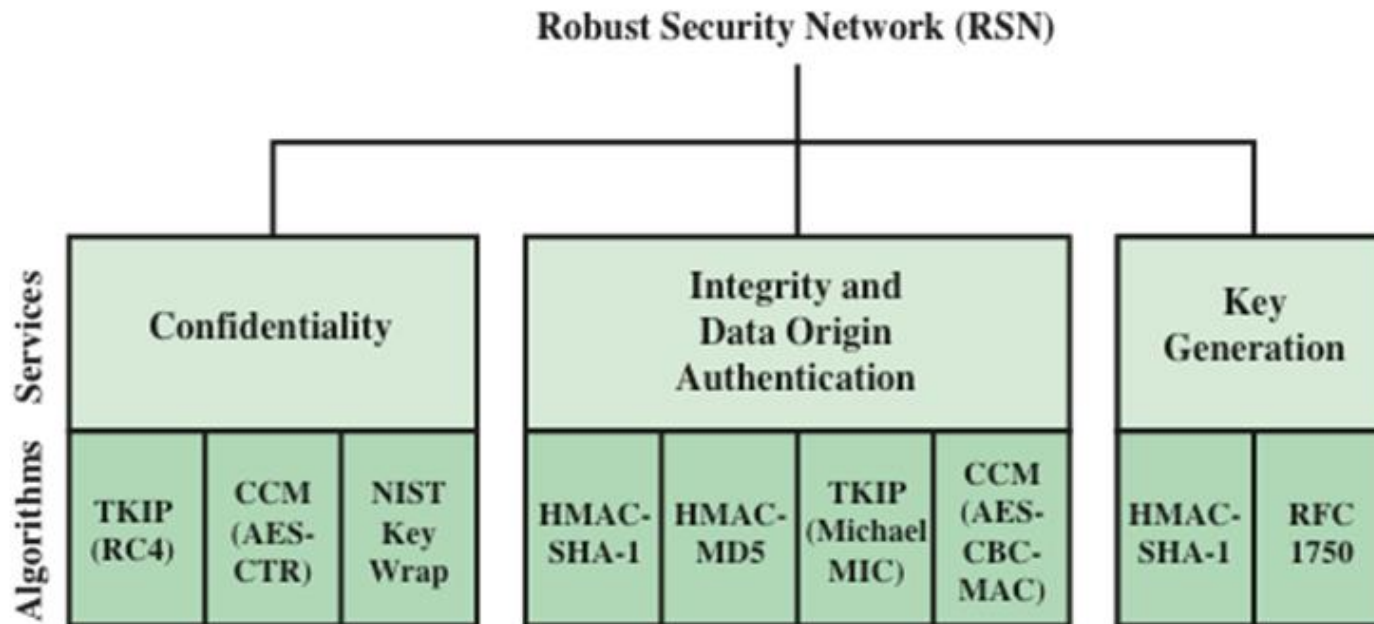
IEEE 802.11i

□ Services and protocols



IEEE 802.11i

□ Cryptographic algorithms

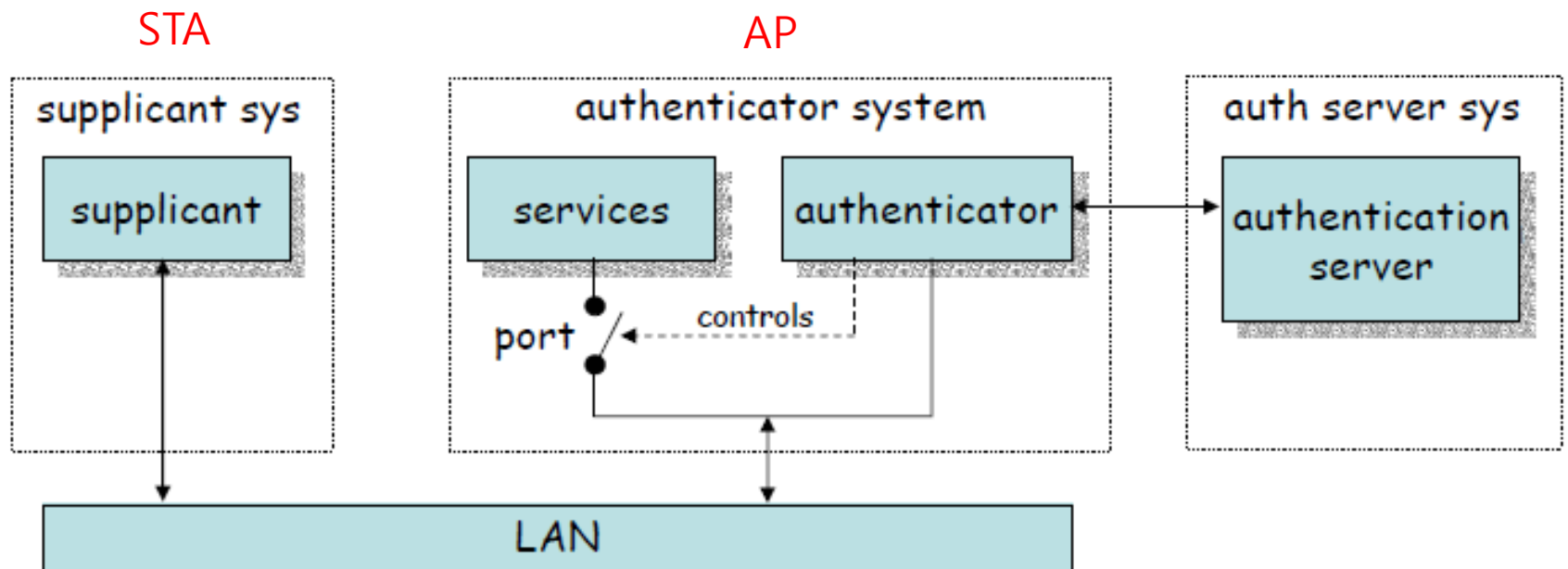


(b) Cryptographic Algorithms

- CBC-MAC = Cipher Block Block Chaining Message Authentication Code (MAC)
- CCM = Counter Mode with Cipher Block Chaining Message Authentication Code
- CCMP = Counter Mode with Cipher Block Chaining MAC Protocol
- TKIP = Temporal Key Integrity Protocol

IEEE 802.11i

□ Port-based access control



IEEE 802.11i

- supplicant requests access to the services
- authenticator
 - controls access to the services
 - controls the state of a port – port-based access control
- authentication server (AS) authorizes access to the services
 - the supplicant authenticates itself to the AS
 - if the authentication is successful, the AS instructs the authenticator to switch the port ON
 - the AS informs the supplicant that access is allowed
 - The AS sends a session key after encrypting using the shared secret key b/w the supplicant and the AS

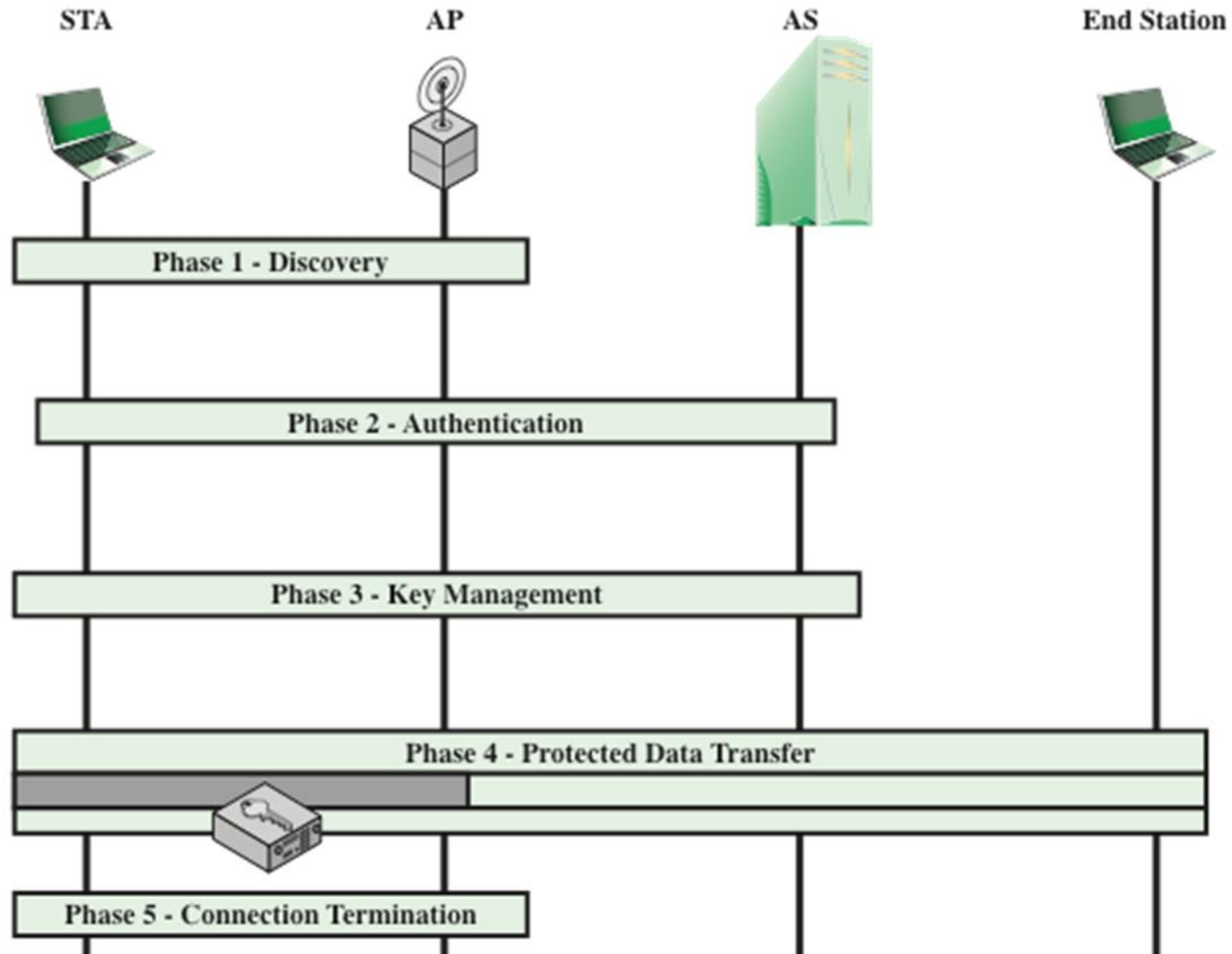
IEEE 802.11i

□ Port-based access control

- Port - logical state implemented in software in the AP
- Uncontrolled ports
 - Allows the exchange of only the authentication-related PDUs between the supplicant and the AS
- Controlled ports
 - Allows the exchange of PDUs between a supplicant and other systems on the LAN after the supplicant is authenticated by AS

IEEE 802.11i

□ Operation steps



IEEE 802.11i

□ Discovery

- STA and AP recognize each other, agree on a set of security capabilities
- Establish an association for future communication using the security capabilities

□ Authentication

- STA and AS prove their identities to each other
- AP blocks non-authentication traffic b/w STA and AS until the authentication is successful

IEEE 802.11i

□ Key generation and distribution

- After the authentication, AP and STA perform some operation and message exchange to **generate and share the session key**

□ Protected data transfer

- Encrypted frames exchanged b/w STA and end stations thru AP

ieee802.11i
steps

무선 단말

액세스 포인트

인증 서버

ex)RADIUS

Authentication:
EAP-PSK 사용
시 생략

Session Key
generation

Open controlled
port

