Wireless LAN Protocols (1)

Wireless has complications compared to wired.

Nodes may have different coverage regions

- Leads to hidden and exposed terminals

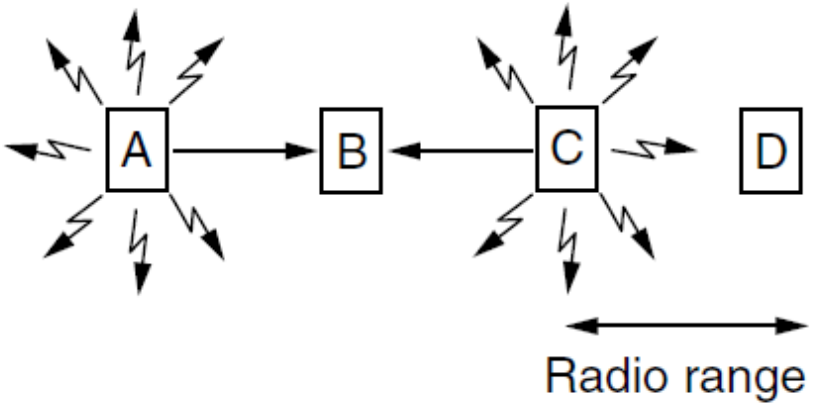
Nodes can't detect collisions, i.e., sense while sending

- Makes collisions expensive and to be avoided

Wireless LANs (2) – Hidden terminals

Hidden terminals are senders that cannot sense each other but nonetheless collide at intended receiver

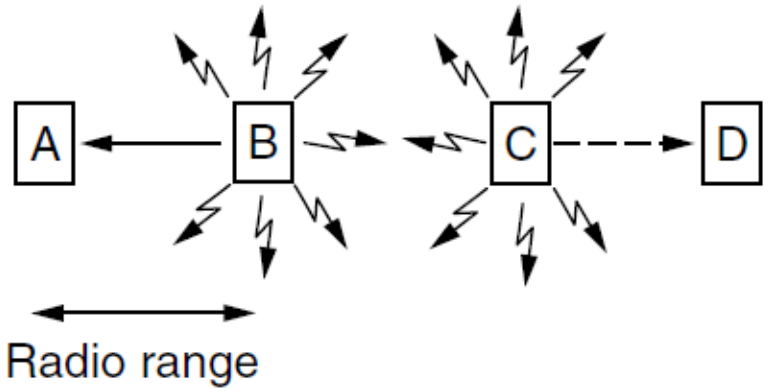
- Want to prevent; loss of efficiency
- A and C are hidden terminals when sending to B



Wireless LANs (3) – Exposed terminals

Exposed terminals are senders who can sense each other but still transmit safely (to different receivers)

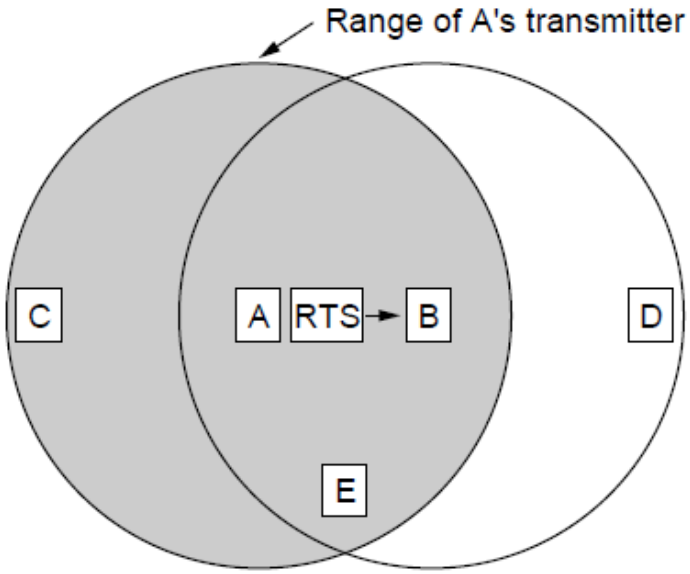
- Desirably concurrency; improves performance
- B → A and C → D are exposed terminals



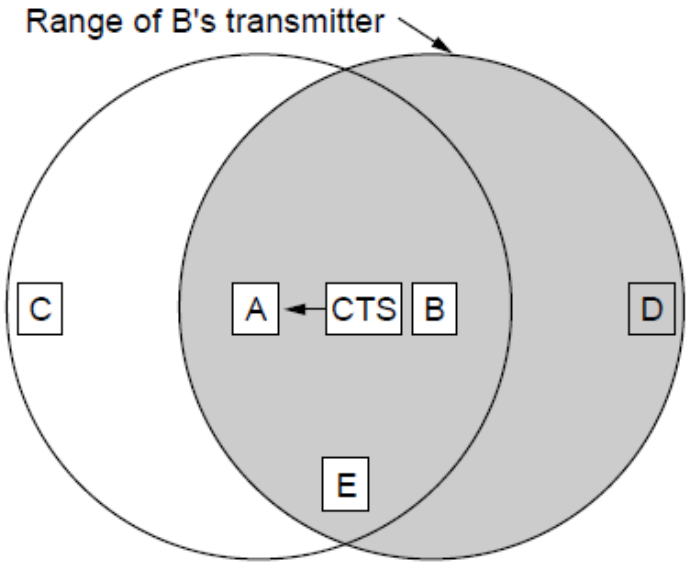
Wireless LANs (4) – MACA

MACA protocol grants access for A to send to B:

- A sends RTS to B [left]; B replies with CTS



A sends RTS to B; C and E hear and defer for CTS



B replies with CTS; D and E hear and defer for data

Error Detection and Correction

Error codes add structured redundancy to data so errors can be either detected, or corrected.

Error correction codes:

- Hamming codes »
- Binary convolutional codes »
- Reed-Solomon and Low-Density Parity Check codes
  - Mathematically complex, widely used in real systems

Error detection codes:

- Parity »
- Checksums »
- Cyclic redundancy codes »

Error Detection – Parity (1)

Parity bit is added as the modulo 2 sum of data bits

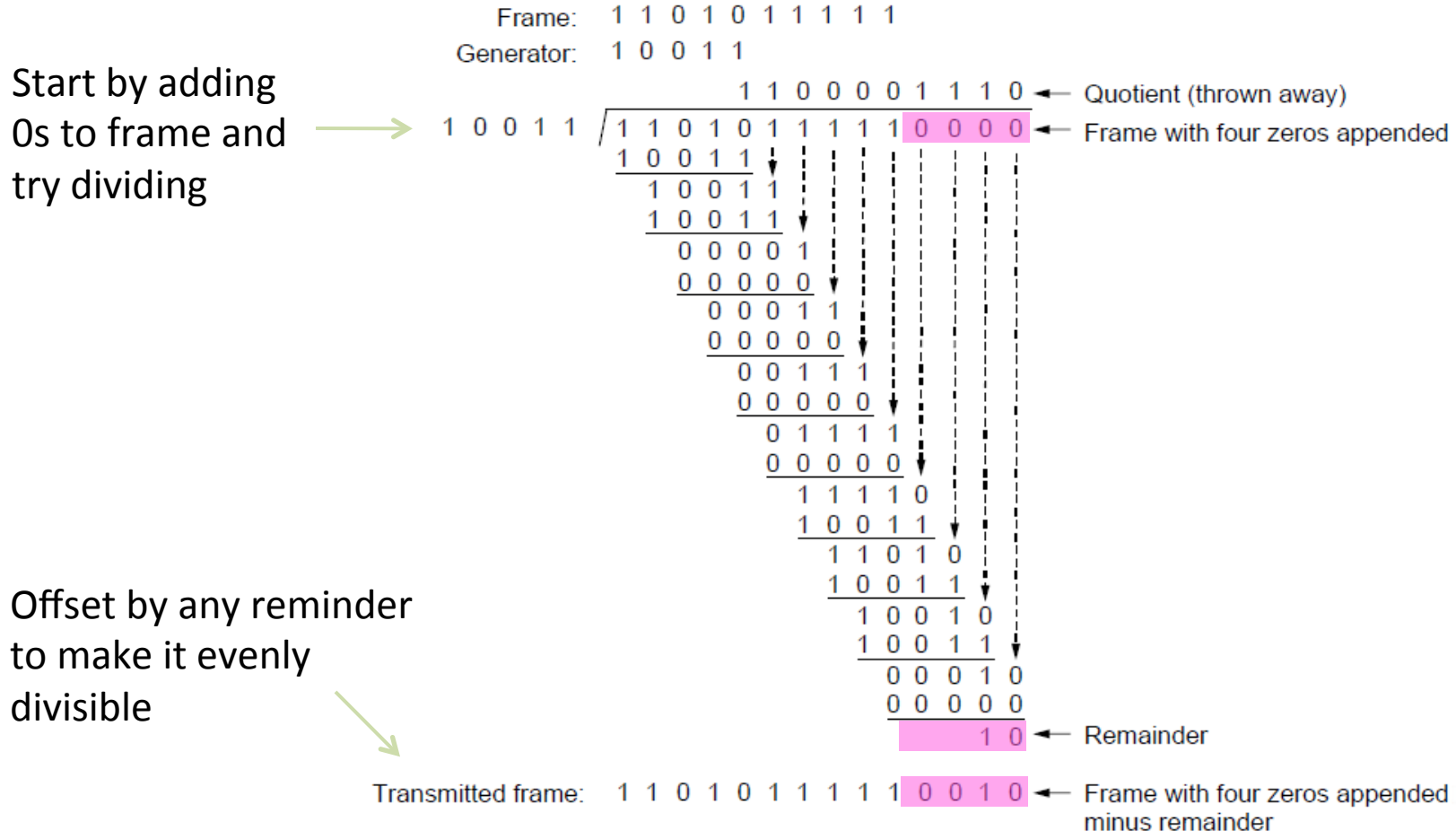
- Equivalent to XOR; this is even parity
- Ex: 1110000 → 11100001
- Detection checks if the sum is wrong (an error)

Simple way to detect an *odd* number of errors

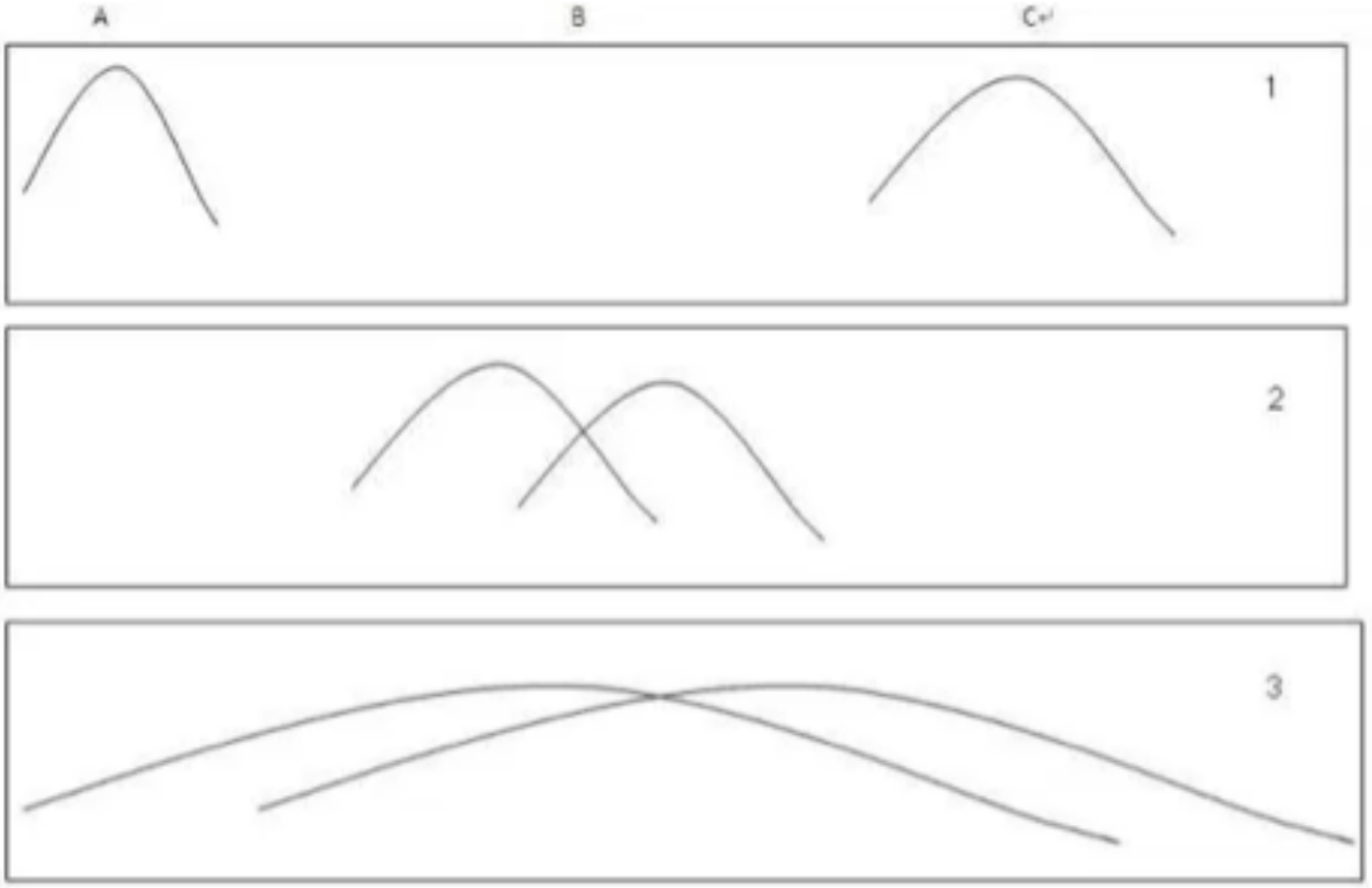
- Ex: 1 error, 11100101; detected, sum is wrong
- Ex: 3 errors, 11011001; detected sum is wrong
- Ex: 2 errors, 11101101; *not detected*, sum is right!
- Error can also be in the parity bit itself
- Random errors are detected with probability ½

Error Detection – CRCs (1)

- Adds bits so that transmitted frame viewed as a polynomial is evenly divisible by a generator polynomial



- Why the minimum ethernet packet size is 64 bytes ?



CSMA (2) – Persistence

CSMA outperforms ALOHA, and being less persistent is better under high load