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
- instantiation, implementation of various link layer technologies

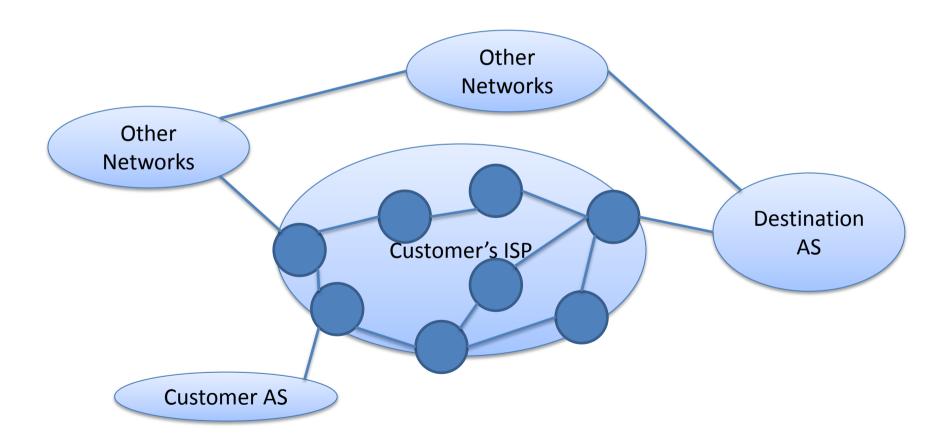
Link layer, LANs: outline

- 6.1 introduction, services
- 6.2 error detection, correction
- 6.3 multiple access protocols
- 6.4 Switched LANs
 - addressing, ARP
 - Ethernet
 - Switches
 - VLANS (EXCLUDED)

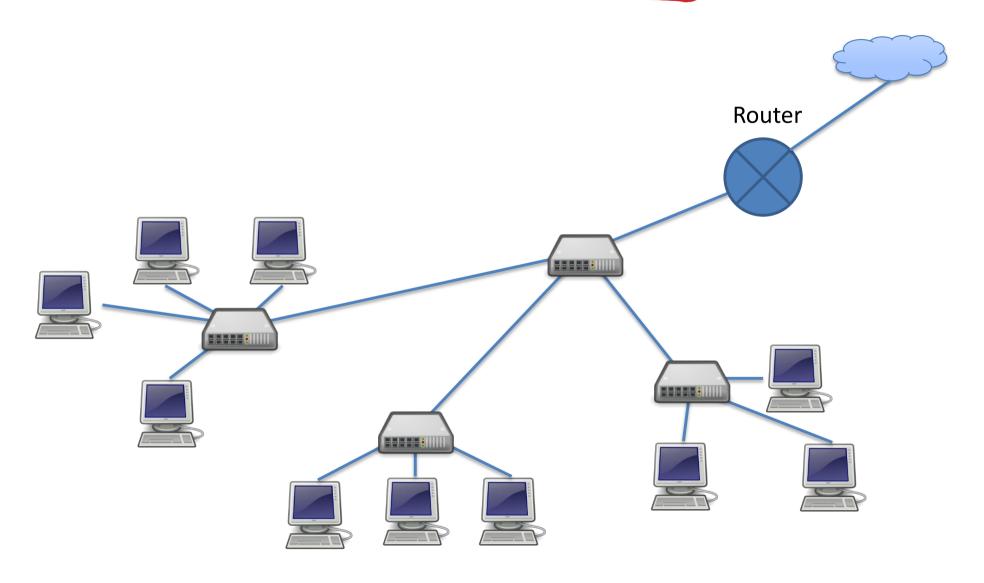
- 6.5 link virtualization: MPLS (**EXCLUDED**)
- 6.6 data center networking (EXCLUDED)
- 6.7 a day in the life of a web request

From Macro- to Micro-

• Previously, we looked at Internet scale...



Link layer focus: Within a Subnet

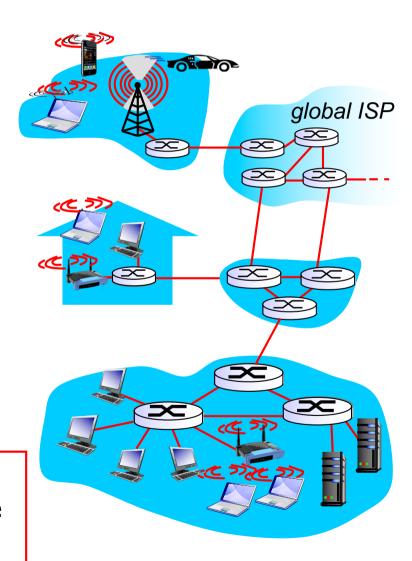


Link layer: introduction

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



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

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, link access:
 - encapsulate datagram into frame, adding header, trailer
 - channel access if shared medium
 - "MAC" addresses used in frame headers to identify source, dest
 - different from IP address!
- reliable delivery between adjacent nodes
 - we learned how to do this already (chapter 3)!
 - seldom used on low bit-error link (fiber, some twisted pair)
 - wireless links: high error rates
 - Q: why both link-level and end-end reliability?

Link layer services (more)

flow control:

pacing between adjacent sending and receiving nodes

error detection:

- errors caused by signal attenuation, noise.
- receiver detects presence of errors:
 - signals sender for retransmission or drops frame

error correction:

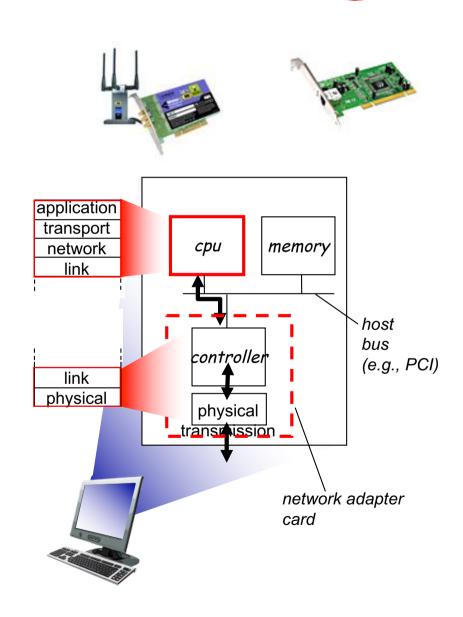
 receiver identifies and corrects bit error(s) without resorting to retransmission

half-duplex and full-duplex

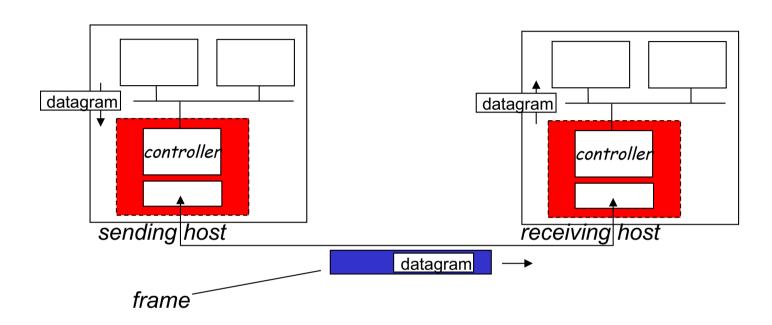
 with half duplex, nodes at both ends of link can transmit, but not at same time

Where is the link layer implemented?

- in each and every host
- link layer implemented in "adaptor" (aka network interface card NIC) or on a chip
 - Ethernet card, 802.11 card; Ethernet chipset
 - implements link, physical layer
- attaches into host's system buses
- combination of hardware, software, firmware



Adaptors communicating



- sending side:
 - encapsulates datagram in frame
 - adds error checking bits, rdt, flow control, etc.

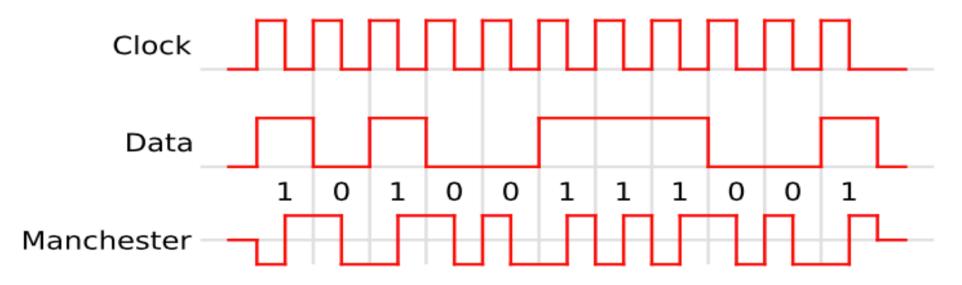
- receiving side
 - looks for errors, rdt, flow control, etc
 - extracts datagram, passes to upper layer at receiving side

What is framing?

- Physical layer talks in terms of bits.
- How do we identify frames within the sequence of bits?
- Need to do Framing
 - Delimit the start and end of the frame
- Ethernet Framing
 - Timing/Physical layer

Framing in Ethernet

- Start of frame is recognized by
 - Preamble: Seven bytes with pattern 10101010
 - Start of Frame Delimiter (SFD): 10101011
- End of Frame: Absence of transition in Manchester encoded signal



Framing in Ethernet

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Preamble 7 Bytes			Source MAC		Payload 46-1500		Inter Frame
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	6 Bytes		2 Bytes	Bytes	4 Bytes	Gap

- Inter Frame Gap is 12 Bytes (96 bits) of idle state
 - 0.96 microsec for 100 Mbit/s Ethernet
 - 0.096 microsec for Gigabit/s Ethernet

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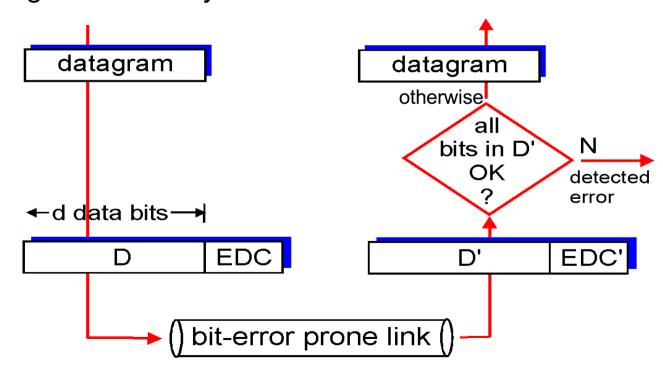
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Error detection

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



Error Detection

- Error coding
- Add check bits to the message bits to let some errors be detected and some be corrected
- How to structure the code to detect many errors with few check bits and modest computation?
- A simple code
 - Send two copies of the same message: IOIIOI
 - Error if the copies are different: | 0 | 100
 - How many errors can it correct? 0
 - How many errors can it detect? Atmost 3
 - How many errors will make it fail? Specific 2 bits errors
 - What is the overhead? 50%

Simple Parity - Sender

- Suppose you want to send the message:
 - -001011011011000110010
- For every d bits (e.g., d = 7), add a parity bit:
 - 1 if the number of one's is odd
 - 0 if the number of one's is even

Message chunk	Parity bit
0010110	1
1101100	0
0110010	1

- 0010110<u>1</u>1101100<u>0</u>0110010<u>1</u>

Simple Parity - Sender

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Message chunk	Parity bit			
0010110	1			
1101100	0			
0110010	1			

- 0010110<u>1</u>1101100<u>0</u>0110010<u>1</u>

Simple Parity - Receiver

- For each block of size d:
 - Count the number of 1's and compare with following parity bit.
- If an odd number of bits get flipped, we'll detect it (can't do much to correct it).

- Cost: One extra bit for every d
 - In this example, 21 -> 24 bits.

Two-Dimensional Parity

- Suppose you want to send the same message:
 - -001011011011000110010
- Add an extra parity byte, compute parity on "columns" too.
- Can detect 1, 2, 3-bit (and some 4-bit) errors

	Message chunk	Parity bit		
	0010110	1		
	1101100	0		
	0110010	1		
Parity byte:	1001000	0		

Forward Error Correction

• With two-dimensional parity, we can even correct single-bit errors.

Parity

_	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
Parity byte →	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0

Exactly one bit has been flipped. Which is it?

bits

In practice

Bit errors occur in bursts.

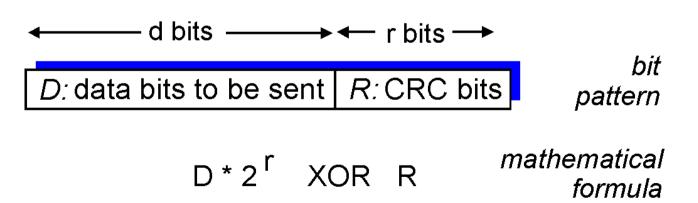
- We're willing to trade computational complexity for space efficiency.
 - Make the detection routine more complex, to detect error bursts, without tons of extra data
- Insight: We need hardware to interface with the network, do the computation there!

Error Detection and Correction

- Checksum
 - Sum up data in N-bit words
 - Internet Checksum uses 16 bit words
- How well checksum works?
 - How many errors can it detect/correct? 1, 0
- What have we gained as compared to parity bit?
 - Can now detect all burst errors up to 16

Cyclic redundancy check

- more powerful error-detection coding
- view data bits, D, as a binary number
- choose r+l bit pattern (generator), G
- goal: choose r CRC bits, R, such that
 - <D,R> exactly divisible by G (modulo 2)
 - receiver knows G, divides <D,R> by G. If non-zero remainder: error detected!
 - can detect all burst errors less than r+1 bits
- widely used in practice (Ethernet, 802.11 WiFi, ATM)



Cyclic redundancy check

- Sender operation
 - Extend D data bits with R zeros
 - Divide by generator G
 - Keep remainder, ignore quotient
 - Adjust R check bits by the remainder
- Receiver Procedure
 - Divide and check for zero remainder

CRC example

want:

 $D \cdot 2^r XOR R = nG$

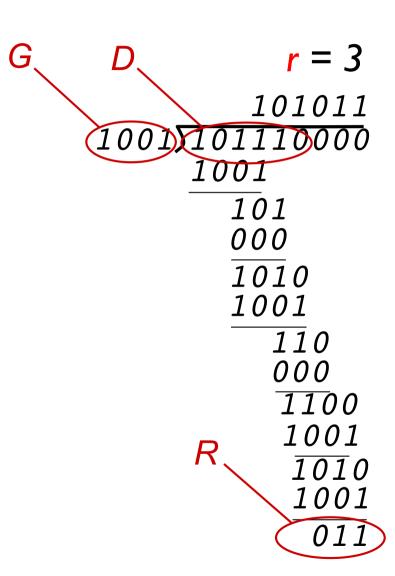
equivalently:

 $D \cdot 2^r = nG XOR R$

equivalently:

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

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



Modulo-2 Arithmetic

- All calculations are modulo-2 arithmetic
- No carries or borrows in subtraction
- Addition and subtraction are identical and both are equivalent to XOR
 - 1011 XOR 0101 = 1110
 - 1011 0101 = 1110
 - 1011 + 0101 = 1110
- Multiplication by 2^k is essentially a left shift by k bits
 - $1011 \times 2^2 = 101100$

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Multiple access links, protocols

two types of "links":

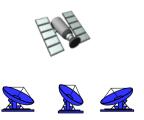
- point-to-point
 - PPP for dial-up access
 - point-to-point link between Ethernet switch, host
- broadcast (shared wire or medium)
 - old-fashioned Ethernet
 - upstream HFC
 - 802.11 wireless LAN



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:

- I. 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

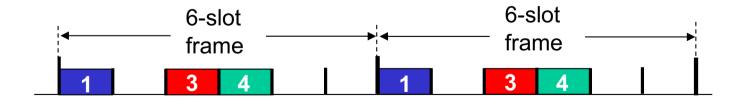
three broad classes:

- 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

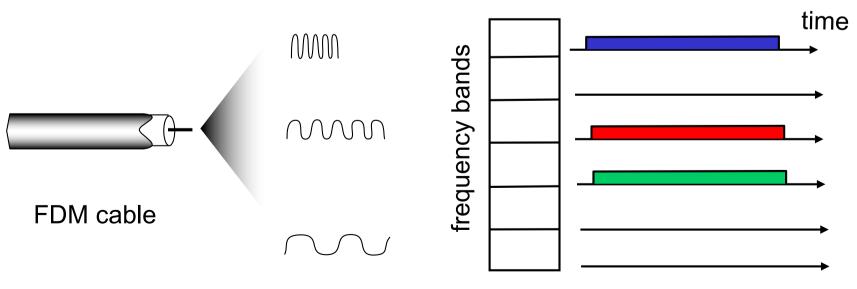
- access to channel in "rounds"
- each station gets fixed length slot (length = pkt trans time) in each round
- unused slots go idle
- example: 6-station LAN, 1,3,4 have pkt, slots 2,5,6 idle



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 pkt, frequency bands 2,5,6 idle



Quiz: Does channel partitioning satisfy ideal properties?



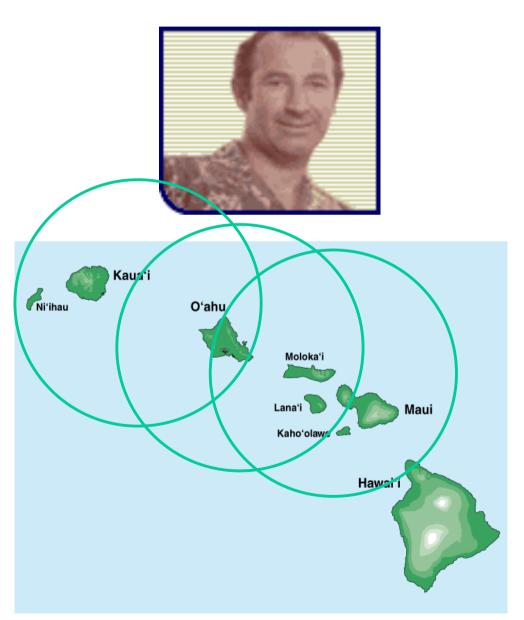
- 1. if only one node wants to transmit, it can send at rate R.
- 2. when M nodes want to transmit, each can send at average rate R/M (fairness)
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- 4. simple
- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3
- E. 4

(Which ones?)

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

Where it all Started: AlohaNet



- Norm Abramson left Stanford in 1970 (so he could surf!)
- Set up first data communication system for Hawaiian islands
- Central hub at U. Hawaii, Oahu

Slotted ALOHA

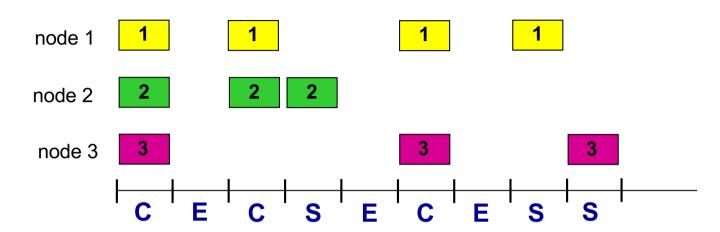
assumptions:

- all frames same size
- time divided into equal size slots (time to transmit I 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(I-p)^{N-I}
- for many nodes, take limit of Np*(I-p*)^{N-I} as N goes to infinity, gives:

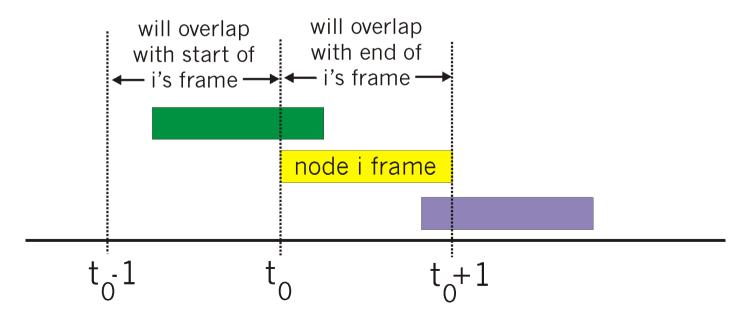
max efficiency = 1/e = .37

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



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(success by given node) = P(node transmits)

P(no other node transmits in $[t_0-1,t_0]$ · P(no other node transmits in $[t_0,t_0+1]$

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

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

... choosing optimum p and then letting n $\longrightarrow \infty$

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

even worse than slotted Aloha!

CSMA (carrier sense multiple access)

CSMA: listen before transmit:

if channel sensed idle: transmit entire frame

- if channel sensed busy, defer transmission
- human analogy: don't interrupt others!
- Does this eliminate all collisions?
 - No, because of nonzero propagation delay

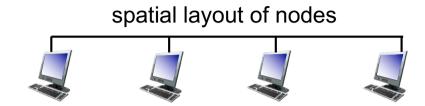
CSMA collisions

- 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 in determining collision probability

CSMA reduces but does not eliminate collisions

Biggest remaining problem?

Collisions still take full slot!





 $^\mathsf{t}_1$

CSMA/CD (collision detection)

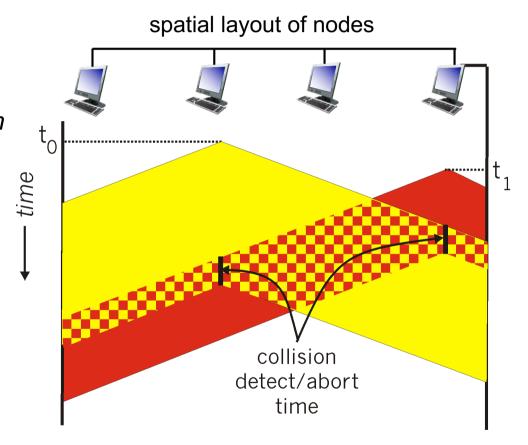
CSMA/CD: carrier sensing, deferral as in CSMA

- 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)

Note: for this to work, need restrictions on minimum frame size and maximum distance.

Why?



http://media.pearsoncmg.com/aw/aw_kurose_network_2/applets/csmacd/csmacd.html

Ethernet CSMA/CD algorithm

- I. 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 mth collision, NIC chooses K at random from {0,1,2, ..., 2^m-1}.
 NIC waits K:512 bit times, returns to Step 2
 - longer backoff interval with more collisions

Minimum Packet Size

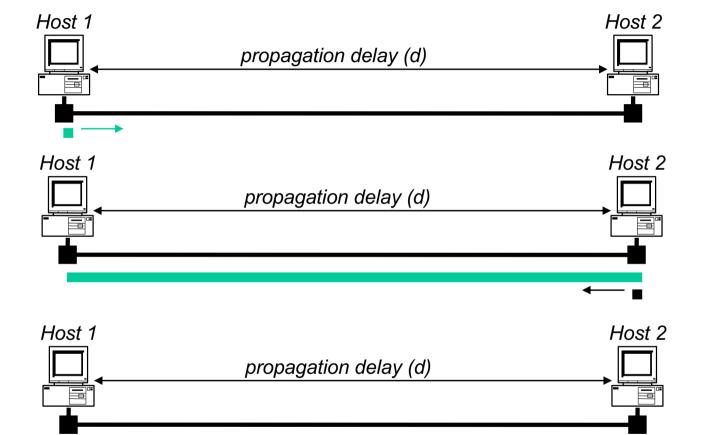
- Why enforce a minimum packet size?
- Give a host enough time to detect collisions
- In Ethernet, minimum packet size = 64 bytes (two 6-byte addresses, 2-byte type, 4-byte CRC, and 46 bytes of data)
- If host has less than 46 bytes to send, the adaptor pads (adds) bytes to make it 46 bytes
- What is the relationship between minimum packet size and the length of the LAN?

Limits on CSMA/CD Network Length

a) Time = t; Host 1 starts to send frame

b) Time = t + d; Host 2 starts to send a frame, just before it hears from host 1's frame

c) Time = t + 2*d; Host 1 hears Host 2's frame → detects collision



LAN length = $(min_frame_size)*(propagation_speed)/(2*bandwidth) =$ = $(8*64B)*(2*10^8mps)/(2*10^7bps) = 5120m approx$

Performance of CSMA/CD

- Time wasted in collisions
 - Proportional to distance d
- Time spend transmitting a packet
 - Packet length p divided by bandwidth b
- Rough estimate for efficiency (K some constant)

$$E \sim \frac{\frac{p}{b}}{\frac{p}{b} + Kd}$$

- Note:
 - For large packets, small distances, E ~ 1
 - As bandwidth increases, E decreases
 - That is why high-speed LANs are all switched

Quiz: Does CSMA/CD satisfy ideal properties 🔧



- 1. if only one node wants to transmit, it can send at rate R.
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(Which ones?)

"Taking turns" MAC protocols

channel partitioning MAC protocols:

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

random access MAC protocols

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

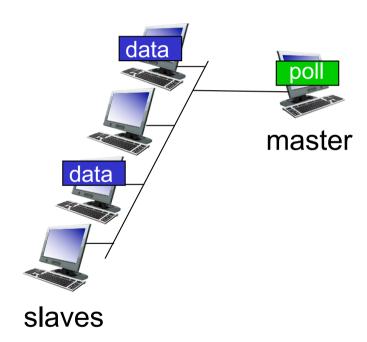
"taking turns" protocols

look for best of both worlds!

"Taking turns" MAC protocols

polling:

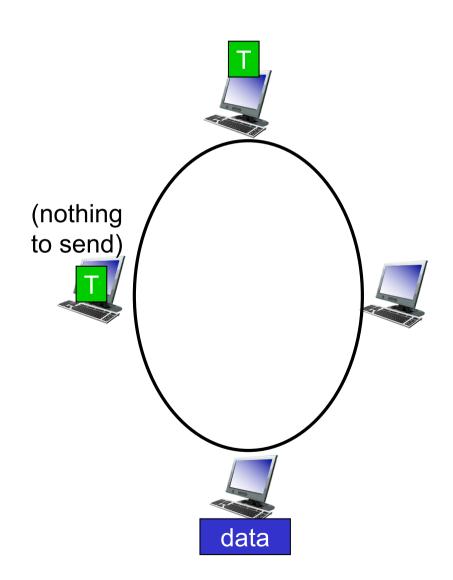
- master node "invites" slave nodes to transmit in turn
- typically used with "dumb" slave devices
- concerns:
 - polling overhead
 - latency
 - single point of failure (master)



"Taking turns" MAC protocols

token passing:

- control token passed from one node to next sequentially.
- token message
- concerns:
 - token overhead
 - latency
 - single point of failure (token)



Quiz: Does taking turns satisfy ideal propertie



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(Which ones?)

Summary of MAC protocols

- channel partitioning, by time, frequency or code
 - Time Division, Frequency Division
- random access (dynamic),
 - ALOHA, S-ALOHA, CSMA, CSMA/CD
 - carrier sensing: easy in some technologies (wire), 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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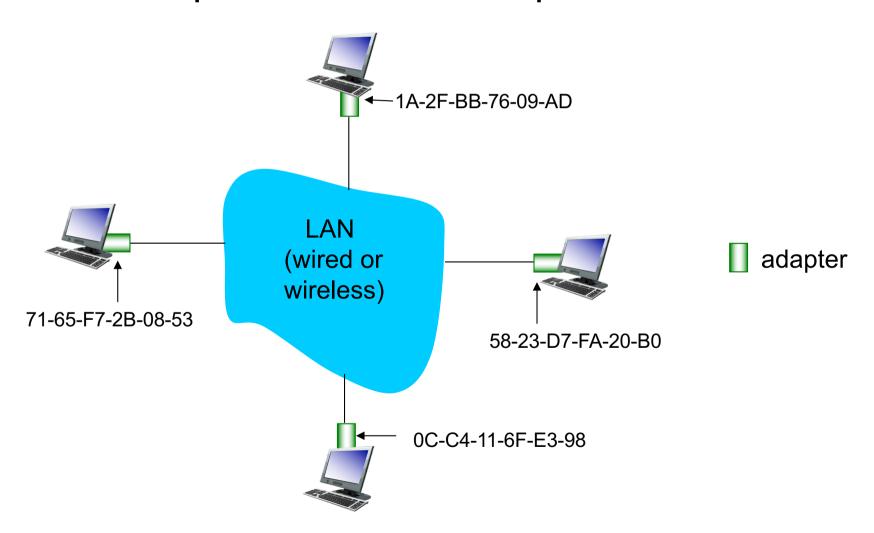
MAC addresses and ARP

- ❖ 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 IPaddressing sense)
 - 48 bit MAC address (for most LANs) burned in NIC ROM, also sometimes software settable
 - e.g.: IA-2F-BB-76-09-AD

hexadecimal (base 16) notation (each "number" represents 4 bits)

LAN addresses and ARP

each adapter on LAN has unique LAN address



LAN addresses (more)

- 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

MAC Address vs. IP Address

- MAC addresses (used in link-layer)
 - Hard-coded in read-only memory when adapter is built
 - Flat name space of 48 bits (e.g., 00-0E-9B-6E-49-76)
 - Portable, and can stay the same as the host moves
 - Used to get packet between interfaces on same network

IP addresses

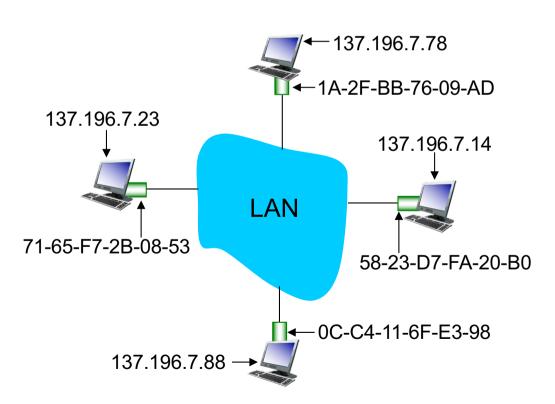
- Configured, or learned dynamically
- Hierarchical name space of 32 bits (e.g., 12.178.66.9)
- Not portable, and depends on where the host is attached
- Used to get a packet to destination IP subnet

Taking Stock: Naming

Layer	Examples	Structure	Configuration	Resolution Service
App. Layer	www.cse.unsw.edu.au	organizational hierarchy	~ manual	DNS
Network Layer	129.94.242.51	topological hierarchy	DHCP	+
Link layer	45-CC-4E-12-F0-97	vendor (flat)	hard-coded	ARP

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)

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
 - dest MAC address = 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

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

CC-49-DE-D0-AB-7D

- How does A know B is not local (i.e. connected to the same LAN as A)?
 - Subnet Mask (discovered via DHCP)
- assume A knows IP address of first hop router, R (how?)

E6-E9-00-17-BB-4B

- Default router (discovered via DHCP)
- assume A knows R's MAC address (how?)
 - ARP

 A

 111.111.111.111

 74-29-9C-E8-FF-55

 222.222.222.222

 1A-23-F9-CD-06-9B

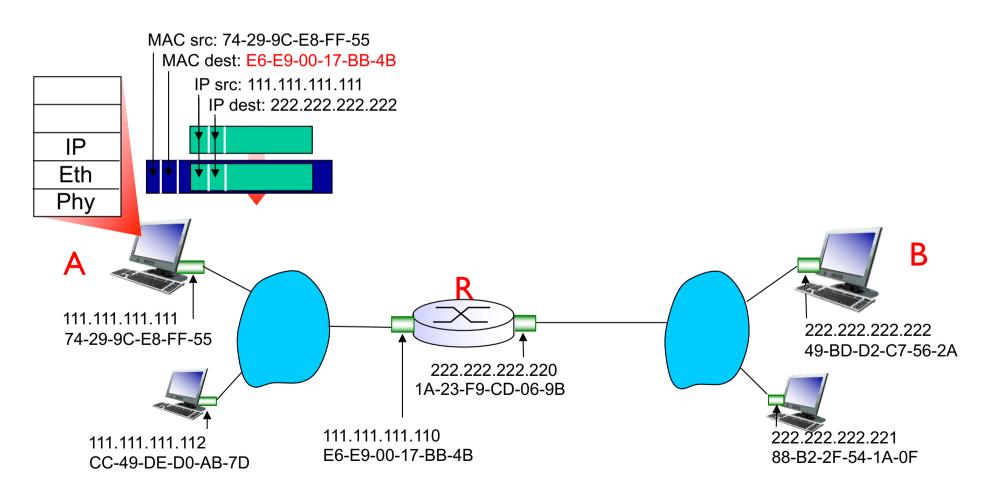
 111.111.111.112

 111.111.110

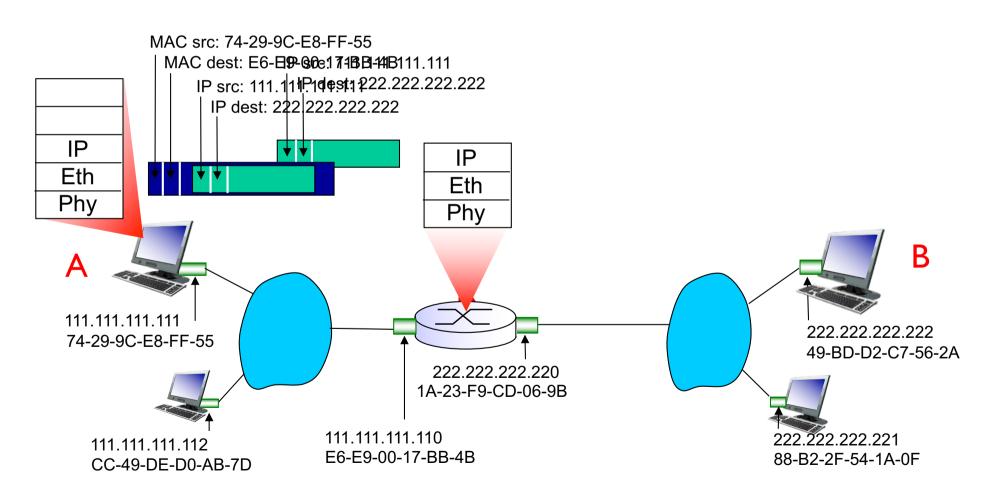
 222.222.222.221

88-B2-2F-54-1A-0F

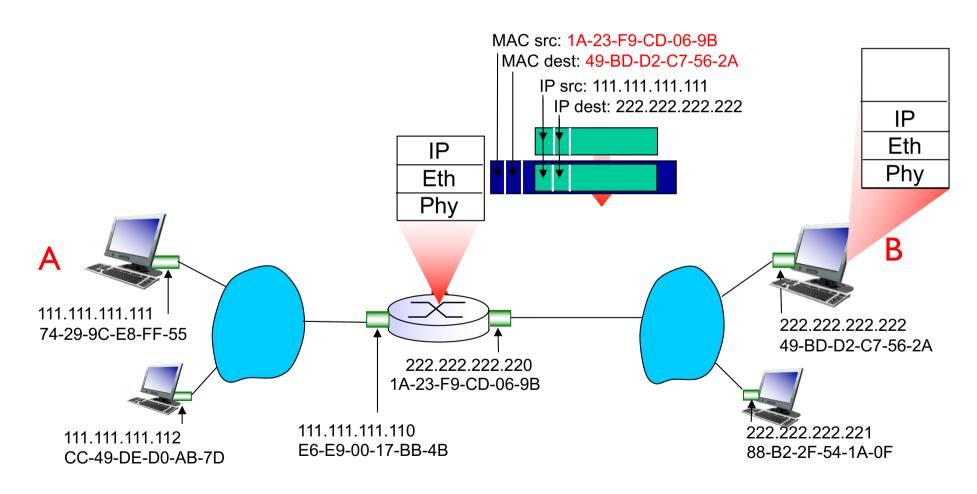
- * A creates IP datagram with IP source A, destination B
- A creates link-layer frame with R's MAC address as dest, frame contains A-to-B IP datagram



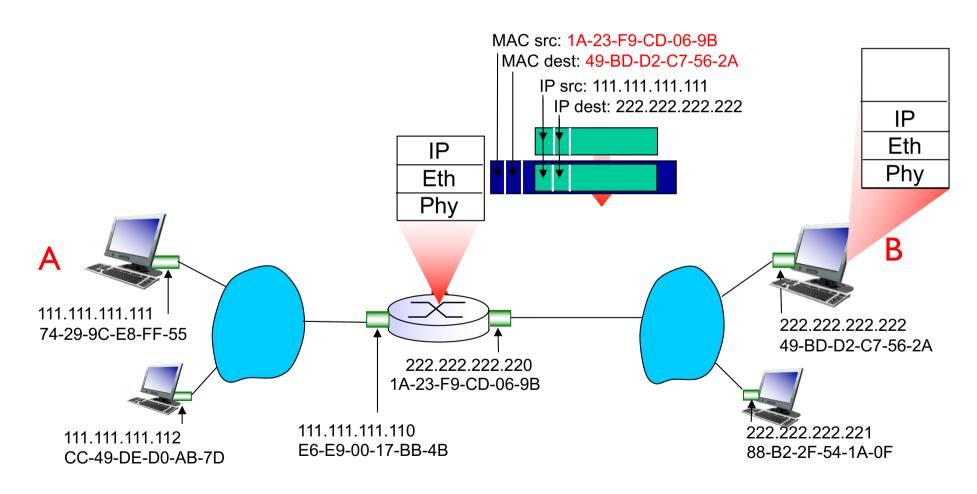
- frame sent from A to R
- frame received at R, datagram removed, passed up to IP



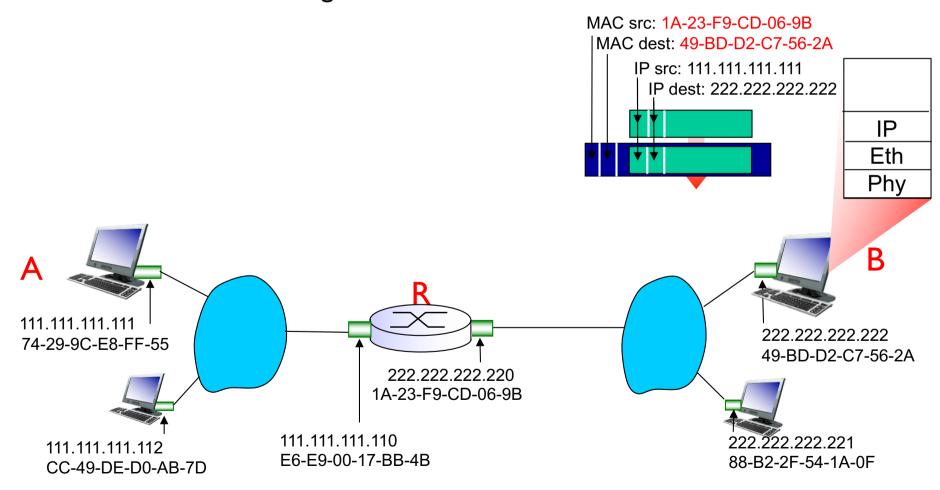
- R forwards datagram with IP source A, destination B (forwarding table)
- R creates link-layer frame with B's MAC address as dest, frame contains A-to-B IP datagram



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



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



Example ARP Table

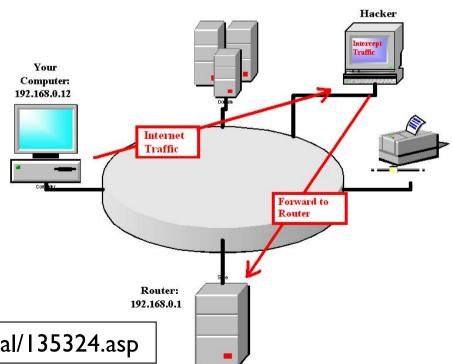
```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\admin>arp -a
Interface: 192.168.150.155 --- 0xb
  Internet Address
                         Physical Address
                                                Type
  192.168.150.2
                         00-10-db-82-4d-52
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.10
                         00-0e-7f-af-6d-b8
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.24
                         00-0f-fe-25-74-40
                                                dynamic
                         00-0b-cd-6e-b8-2c
  192.168.150.32
                                                dynamic
                         00-0f-fe-3a-aa-3f
  192.168.150.36
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.42
                         00-0f-fe-87-1e-98
                                                dynamic
                         00-0e-7f-63-8d-d1
  192.168.150.48
                                                dynamic
                         00-16-35-ae-3b-a9
  192.168.150.54
                                                dynamic
                         00-16-35-ae-39-53
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.58
                         00-21-63-68-e9-29
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.60
                         00-0f-fe-9b-e8-38
  192.168.150.62
                                                dynamic
                         00-0f-fe-3a-a7-d7
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.90
                         00-0e-7f-f2-f8-e8
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.92
                         00-0f-fe-3a-a7-96
                                                dynamic
                                                dynamic
                         00-0f-fe-85-8d-6b
                         00-0e-7f-6c-81-25
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.114
                         00-22-5f-12-67-a2
  192.168.150.144
                                                dynamic
                         00-0f-fe-d1-7e-1e
                                                dynamic
                         00-0f-fe-d1-7e-1e
  192.168.150.157
                                                dynamic
                         00-06-1b-c2-e1-f3
  192.168.150.159
                                                dynamic
                                                dynamic
                         00-19-66-32-53-25
  192.168.150.219
                         00-00-aa-8c-be-07
                                                dynamic
                         00-0e-7f-64-5f-d0
  192.168.150.221
                                                dynamic
  192.168.150.255
                                                static
                         01-00-5e-00-00-16
                                                static
  224.0.0.251
                         01-00-5e-00-00-fb
                                                static
                         01-00-5e-00-00-fc
                                                static
  224.0.1.134
                         01-00-5e-00-01-86
                                                static
  239.255.255.250
                         01-00-5e-7f-ff-fa
                                                static
```

Security Issues: ARP Cache Poisoning

- Denial of Service Hacker replies back to an ARP query for a router NIC with a fake MAC address
- Man-in-the-middle attack Hacker can insert his/her machine along the path between victim machine and gateway router
- Such attacks are generally hard to launch as hacker needs physical access to the network

Solutions -

- Use Switched Ethernet with port security enabled (i.e. one host MAC address per switch port)
- Adopt static ARP configuration for small size networks
- Use ARP monitoring tools such as ARPWatch



http://www.watchguard.com/infocenter/editorial/135324.asp

Link Layer: Summary

- principles behind data link layer services:
 - error detection, correction
 - sharing a broadcast channel: multiple access
 - link layer addressing, ARP

NEXT WEEK:

- instantiation and implementation of various link layer technologies
 - Ethernet
 - switched LANS
 - Wireless
 - synthesis: a day in the life of a web request