

# Automotive Ethernet

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

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### 1- Physical Layer

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General Ethernet :

Ethernet is used for **Bandwidth**

In vehicles, low power consumption is important. Also , requirement for ECU(Electronic Control Unit) is to be able to completely wake up from sleep under 100 milliseconds.

Standard 4 wires ethernet cannot handle this speed currently.

So instead of standard ethernet, we use **Automotive Ethernet** which can take care of these issues.

Bus technologies , compared to ethernet, can be more cost effective given cabling prices all through the vehicle.

Comparing Ethernet to CAN(Controller Area Network) and FLEXRAY

#### **CAN:**

it is a multidrop (bus) technology where user can add / remove nodes.

Multidrop or bus technology means every node or every ecu is physically, electrically connected to the same wires as every other node.

single twisted pair copper wire. => low cost/ light weight easy for **plug and play** Message or **Packet** based communication.

Unique for CAN is that **Non-Destructive Arbitration** for handling message or packet **collisions**.

This is handled in the arbitration section or the arbitration ID of the can network. So when there is a possible collision risk , the arbitration ID is used to identify the message or packet. and the packet or the message with the smaller ID is sent first, whereas the packet or the message with the larger ID is sent later but **WITHOUT A NEED FOR RE-TRANSMISSION**.

so lower ID number transmits first, other one waits, not not getting killed just waits. And nodes that transmits the higher ID packet also understands the situation and also waits.

This has a drawback: nodes that lost the arbitration (the ones sending the higher ID packet) will have to wait. *this makes CAN not as time-critical and accurate in time.*

This is why FlexRay was developed

#### **FlexRay:**

it is similar to CAN in terms of wiring. it is a *MultiDrop* technology BUT **all nodes must be pre-programmed with a fixed configuration**

up to 10Mb/s. speed. also good for plug and play. message or packet based communication.

==> *Collision avoidance is based on time slots for each node*

Every node in FlexRay is aware of time base so this helps each node to understand when it is allowed to transmit. So basically there is a cycle time, and it is divided into slices and each node has its own time slot where it is allowed to transmit. So collisions don't happen in flexray.

This helps very accurate in time and security critical.

## Automotive Ethernet :

*(100Base-T)/(1000Base-T)*

==> base means this is the speed at the slowest rate ==> T1 means single twisted cable

Modern ethernet technologies, be it automotive or not, is NOT a bus technology anymore. Instead, it is *point-to-point technology*. This means that each node is connected to only one other node. for multiple communication, we need to introduce a **SWITCH**.

Switch distributes the traffic to the nodes within a network based on their **physical address** that.

Today commercially there are 100base and 1000base ethernet, 100 meaning 100Mb/s, 1000 meaning 1Gb/s.

Note that automotive ethernet is very cost effective network but not enough for **uncompressed audio and video streaming** since they handle around 10Mbits.

# Automotive Ethernet

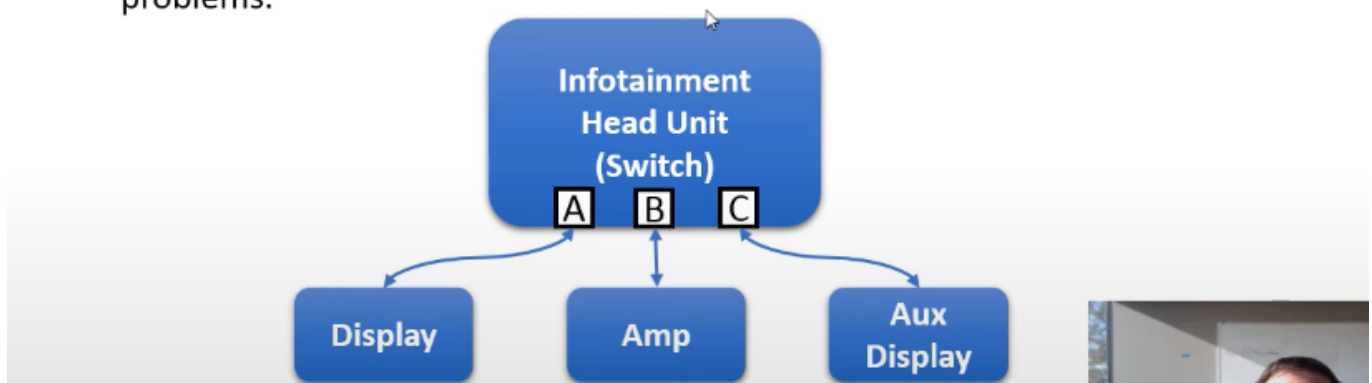
## (100BASE-T1 / 1000BASE-T1)

### Pros

- Up to 1000 Mb/s  
(each direction and each leg)
- Widely used technology  
(much support)
- Good clock synchronization  
technology available (based on  
IEEE 1588)
- History of adaptation to solve new  
problems.

### Cons

- Requires a switch
- Not possible to add or remove  
nodes unless the switch has  
spare ports
- Tools cannot just connect and  
sniff the bus



In bus technology, all the node load can be used and it is locked to 100 or 1000 mbits. in ethernet, however, it is not the case, aggregate bandwidth can exceed 100 or 1000.

## Networking Topologies :

- Defines how device are connected to each other.
- Defines how the device communicate with each other.
- Determines network characteristics.
- Simple Technologies:
  - Point to Point(port)
  - Ring (Also Ethernet, used for safety critical technologies)
  - Star (ethernet) like one switch with many ports
  - Bus (chained or attached) like CAN , FLEXRAY
- Complex topologies can combine these(like mesh)

### Hierarchical Star topology :

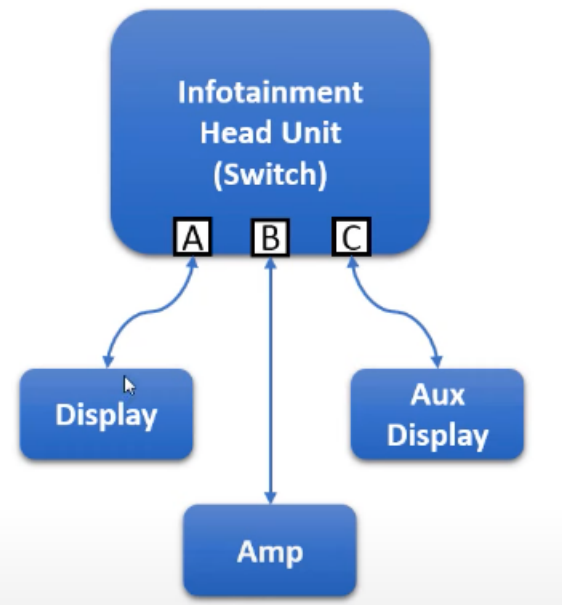
also known as **tree** topology, where each star topology represents a node and they are also interconnected to each other via a switch. you can add / remove nodes without effecting the rest of the nodes.

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Note that today's ethernet network are a **switched network**, devcices connected through switch, it optimizes the traffic flow, buffering eliminates the colisions.

# Today's Ethernet Network

- Original Ethernet (Like CAN)
  - Bus architecture
  - Multiple Nodes / Single Medium
  - Collisions + Arbitration = Inefficient
- Most modern networks are a switched network
  - Devices connected through switches
  - Optimized traffic flow
  - Buffering eliminates collisions
- Each leg (A,B,C) acts as its own network.

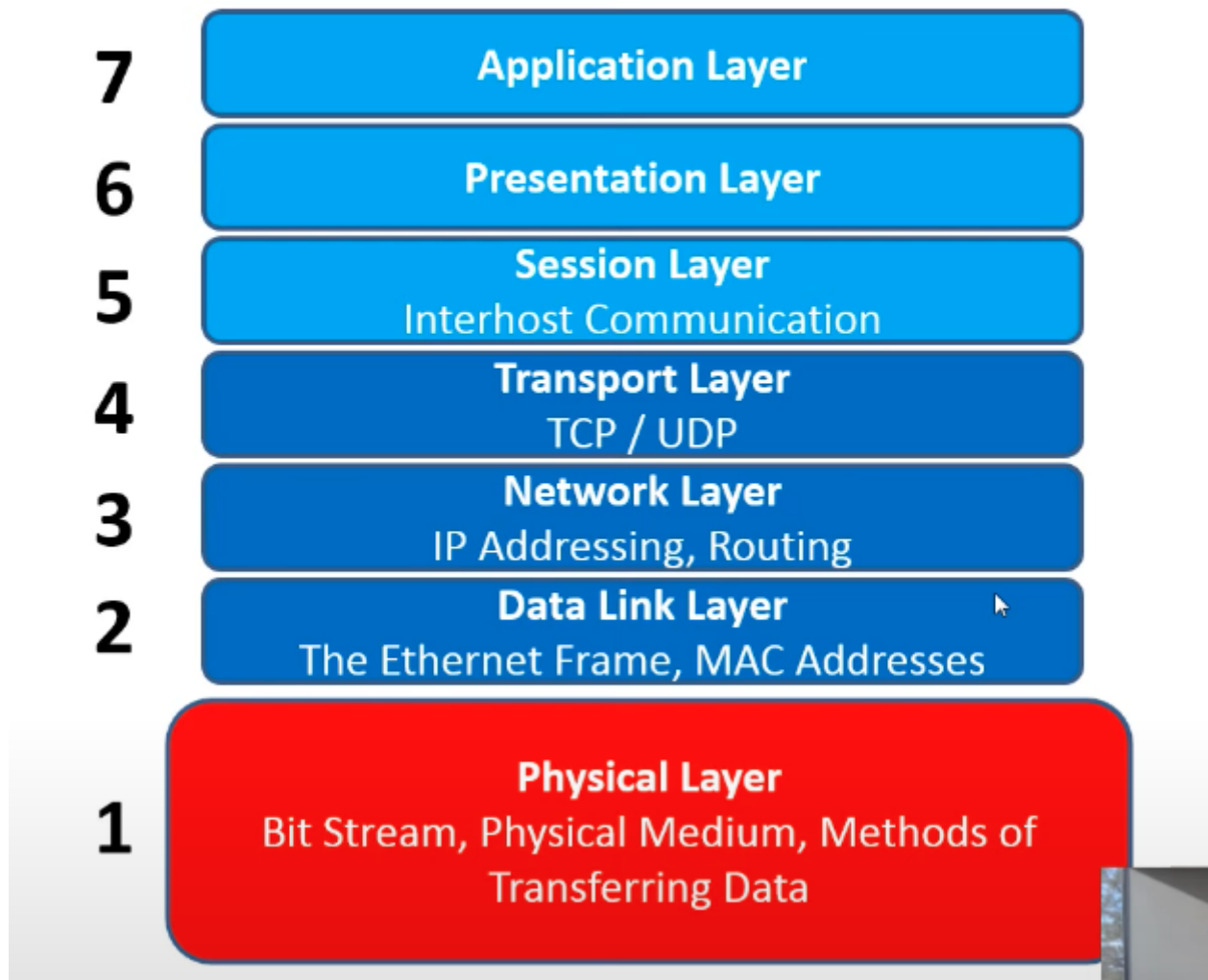


In this pic , there are three ports (A,B,C) and physically A is connected to only it's corresponding Port(Display), same for B and C. and Under each node, it works as a separate network. This eliminates the possibility of colisions because each node is communicating through only one dedicated port.

(this is the difference between this and CAN/FlexRay)

OSI Model

# Physical Layer



Automotive ethernet, compared to normal ethernet, prioritizes the Physical layer of OSI model.

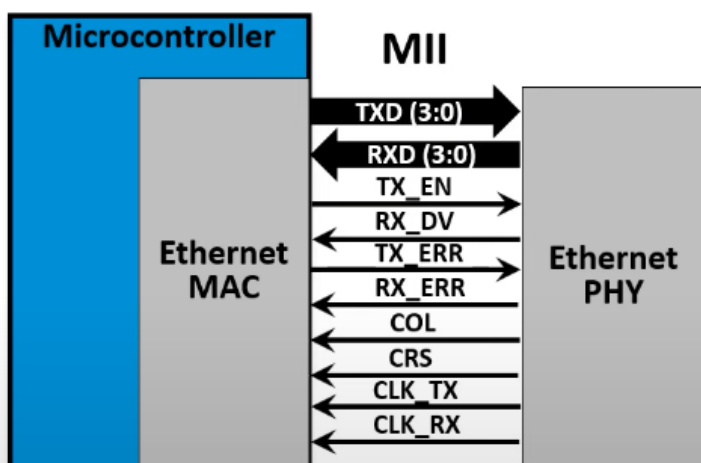
# The Power of MII

## • Ethernet Node

- Microcontroller
- Ethernet MAC controller
- Ethernet physical layer (PHY).

## • MII

- Media Independent Interface
- Industry standard digital interface
- enables different PHYs to be used with any MAC.
- Evolved into a few variations
  - RMII: Reduced
  - GMII: Gigabit
  - RGMII: Reduced Gigabit
  - SGMII: Serial Gigabit



- Ethernet PHY = Physical layer
- MII = Media Independent Interface
- Ethernet MAC = Media Access Control

MII is connected to Ethernet MAC.

*Punchline: Why Ethernet is Used and how it changes between regular vs automotive*

MAC stays constant and all the layers under Physical layer are also stays constant. This MAC table, once connected, hosts all the addresses etc and statically keeps these. So it gives ability to easily swap the Ethernet PHY and MAC stays the same, also all the other layers are intact.

This gives ability to change and adapt overtime.

Automotive internet is an adaptation of it where only the physical layer is changed.

Hence talking about `Automotive Ethernet` basically meaning a change in the Physical layer only

This is adaptability and flexibility for the thanks to Ethernet!

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**Consumer Ethernet Media:**

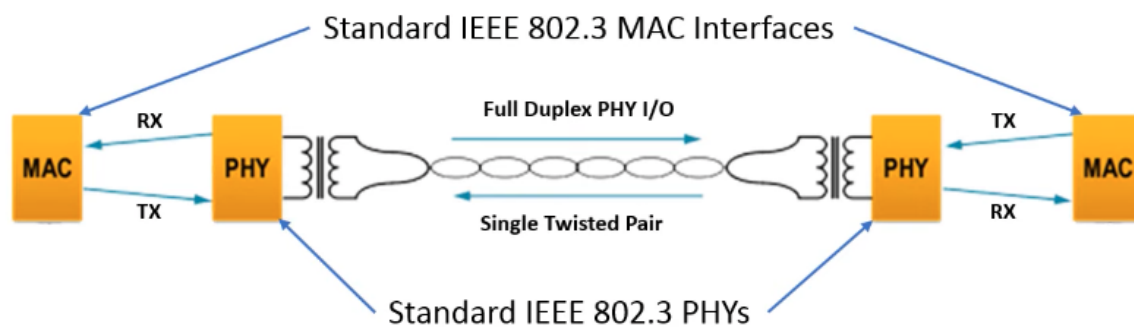
Coax ==> 100Base-2 ==> half duplex ==> obsolete in commercial, used in industry for **DiagnosticsOverIP** purposes. (OBD port)

10/100 Ethernet 100MB/s ==> 10/100BASE-TX ==> full duplex => 2 twisted=4 wires.

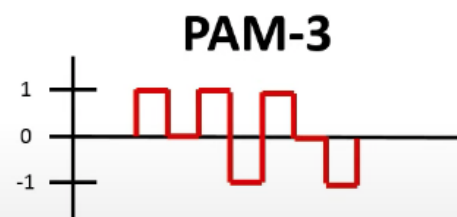
Gigabit Ethernet 1Gb/s ==> 1000BASE-T ==> full duplex => 4 twisted=8 wires.

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## Automotive Physical Layer 100/1000 Mbps



- IEEE 802.3bw: 100BASE-T1
  - 66.6 Mbaud
  - 33.3 MHz Clock
  - Max length 25 meters
  - 2 symbols provide 3 bits of info:  $66.6\text{M} \times 3/2 = 100\text{ Mb/s}$
- IEEE Std 802.3bp: 1000BASE-T1
  - 750 Mbaud
  - 125 MHz Clock
  - Max length 15 meters



in Bus systems like CAN, FLEXRAY, there is a **binary** state at a given time on the physical layer. Whereas in ethernet, more than 2 logical states can be passed. In Gigabit ethernet this is 5 different states(PAM-5). In automotive physical layer of 100/1000mbps, there are 3 different states(PAM-3).

Operates at base frequency of 33.3 MhzClock.(Gigabit on automotive operates at base freq of 125Mhz)

### Gotcha Points :

Why Ethernet is good over bus topologies?

1. Ethernet is, DC-wise electronically isolated. So it is either capacitive coupled or transformer coupled. (capacitive or transformers are used to bridge)

This is another point why ethernet is so dominant in the industry. Because you can have lots of ground differences in and around the network and ethernet remains unaffected.

2. *Point2Point* ethernet is, in all moderns forms are **duplex** which means one node can communicate data in one direction **at full speed** and **at the same time** the other node can communicate data in the other direction **at full speed**



Which means, lets say 2 nodes communicating in two-directions in full speed, at 100BaseT connection, it makes  $100 * 2 = 200$  Mbit per second data transfer. as for gigabit, thats 2 gbits aggregate data.

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*A newer Ethhernet Technology that is getting commercially Available nowayays:*

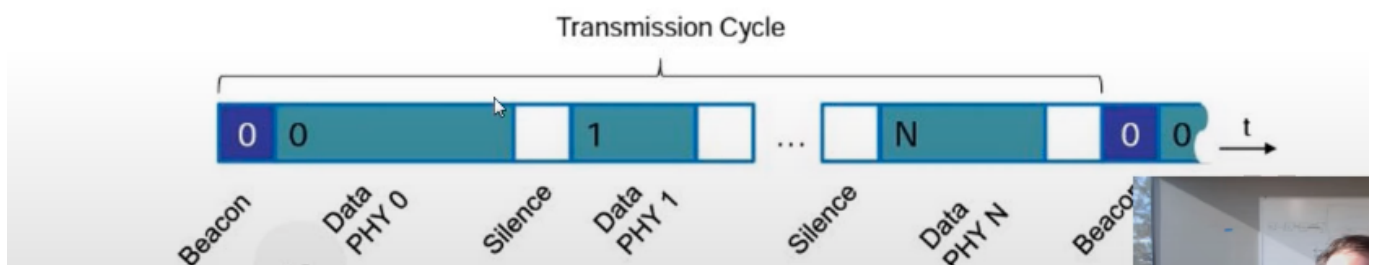
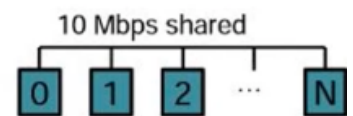
## 10Base-T1S

- This is an ethernet technology that is A BUS TECHNOLOGY, and created to compete CAN.
- To take advantage of cost-effectiveness of Bus technologies, this etthernet type is created.
- 10Base-T1S means 10 Mbit/s and single twisted cable but sitting on a bus topology
- works very closely to FlexRay, using transmission cycle time, in each cycle a beacon is signalled and every node cross-checks its own time based on the beacon. Once it sees its own beacon, it transmits data.
- Puncline is : 10Base-T1s is a time divided type of network and this is how it avoids colisions.

# 10BASE-T1S

## Differentiating Features

- **Goals**
  - Full bandwidth utilization
  - Reduce latency
  - Quality of Service (QoS)
- **Principle**
  - Avoid physical collisions on the medium by organizing the media access
    - Called Physical Layer Collision Avoidance (PLCA)
- **How it is done**
  - Only the PHY that owns a transmit opportunity is allowed to send data
  - Transmit opportunities are given in a round robin manner
  - A new cycle of transmit opportunities is started when the master node sends a BEACON
  - Works on top of Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Detection (CSMA/CD)



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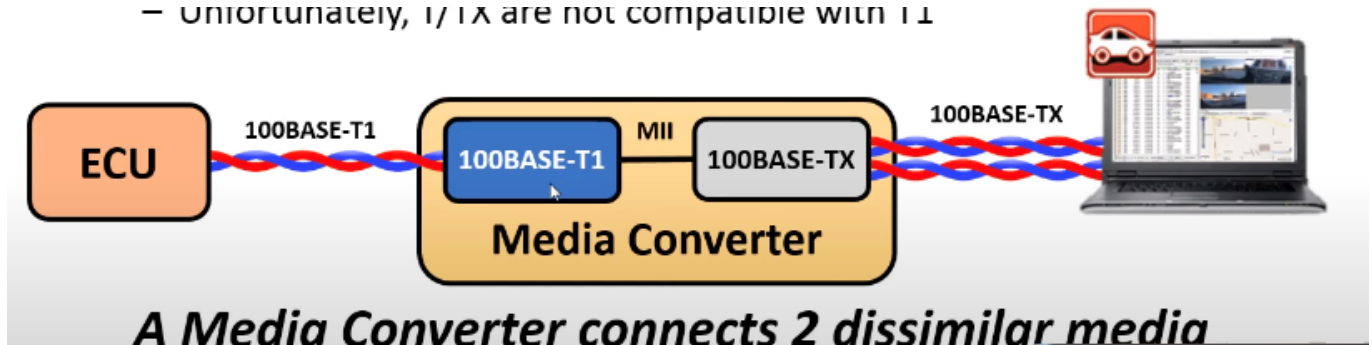
## Mixing Pyhsical Medium

It is possible to mix the two technologies, for example, 1000Base-T and 100Base-TX(standard known ethernet in every laptop).



- T implies 8-wire and backward compatible with 4-wire media(TX)
- Auto negotiation resolves the speed since two components have different speed rates.
- Does not work for all media, like optical cable into electrical connector.
- T/TX is are not compatible with T1
- So plugs are not compatible. Needs a media converter and **MII** in between.

– Unfortunately, T/TX are not compatible with T1



!!!!

**All these things so far are differences between standard ethernet and automotive ethernet and differences live in OSI model layer 8, which is Physical layer. Everything above Layer 8 (7..1) are the same under the hood.**

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## 2- Data Link Layer

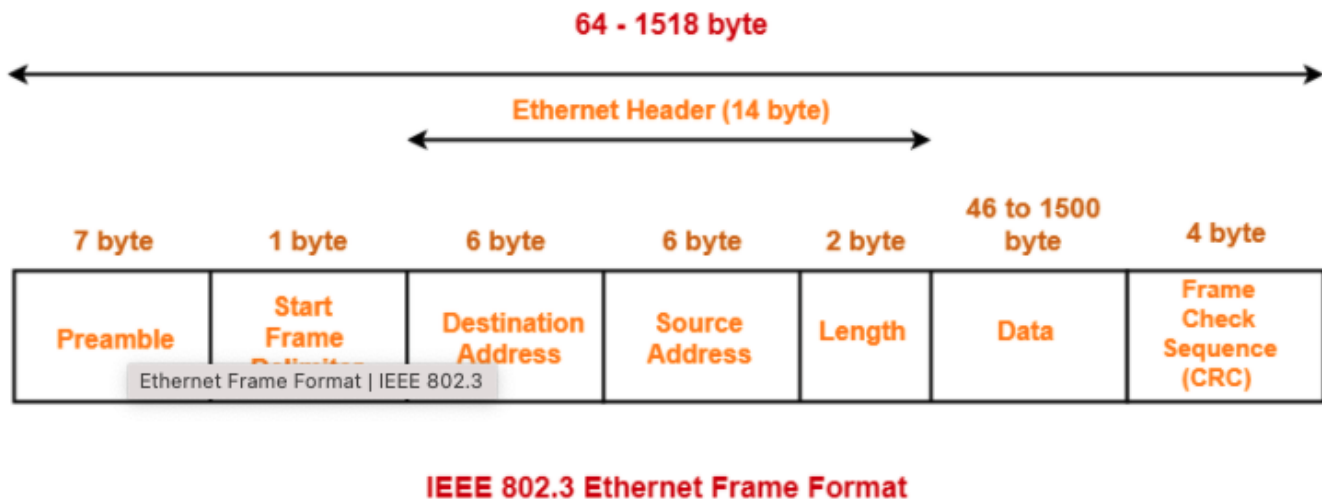
In data link layer lives the Ethernet Frame and MAC Addresses.

The Ethernet Frame:

the lowest level structure to carry all data the data on Ethernet to meet the needs of Layer2.

- Device Addressing
- Message Formattings
- Error Detection
- QoS (Quality of Service)

=> Frames can carry 46 to 1500 bytes of data.



Ethernet Frame architecture:

- > **Preamble** holds 7 octets which helps the synchronization with the rest of the data.
- > **Start of Frame** is a 1 octet field which is used to identify the start of the frame.
- > **Destination MAC Address** is 6 octets, unique. that is the first information that is transmitted and used. Also called the **Physical Address of the Network**
- > **Source MAC Address** is 6 octets, unique. Who transmits the message.
- > **802.1Q Tag** is 4 octets, optional. VLAN Tag. in most cases especially in WWW it is not used. but in **Automotive Ethernet** especially in real-time transmission and protocols that use this real-time transmission do use this for **Routing and QoS** purposes.
- > **EtherType** is 2 octets, identifies the type of the message. Essentially just a number, that represents the type of data that is coming next in the **payload**. A very common type is **0x0800 for IPV4**. So means the next octet is the first octet of the IPV4 packet.
- > **Payload** is the data that is being transmitted.
- > **CRC** is 4 octets, CRC stands for **Cyclical Redundancy Check**, makes sure that the receiver received all the prior bits in the correct order. **NOTE THAT** if a receiving node receives a frame with a bad CRC like short frame, long frame or a fragment of a frame, it **should** drop the frame and don't tell anybody that you dropped it. So in the low level ,there is no re-transmission. We handle this problem in ethernet with higher level protocols which will come soon down here.

A Comparison: In a given time of 110 miliseconds, the ethernet can transmit 12.336 bits at 100mbps whereas CAN can transmit only 8 bytes of data.

wow!

## 1) MAC Address:

MAC address is Low-level/pyhsical address of the network.

Example (00-17-4f-08-5D-69)

- Programmed into hardware devices,
- 6 bytes long, each node globally unique.
- First 3 bytes is a Organizationally Unique Identifier (OUI)
- **in Automotive Ethernet, MAC Address = Ethernet Address.**

### Unicast Addresses:

Point2Point addresses, used to send data to **specific** node. -> **Universally Administered Addresses** ==> UAA : globally unique.

-> **Locally Administered Addresses** ==> LAA : probably not unique outside an **engineered network**

### Multicast Addresses:

-> One to Many addresses.

-> Specific MAC address that **certain** NICs are programmed to accept.

-> Used for protocol, process, or vendor specific messaging.

-> LSB of the first octet is 1. (01:xx:xx:xx:xx:xx)

-> When MAC address is all 1's (ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff) this is called **Broadcast Address** which is a special case where **all** NICs are programmed to accept the message.

## 2) VLANs (VLAN Tag & EtherType)

QoS at layer 2 hardware. Virtual Lan means, I want to **virtually** separate the traffic in a network so that I can get practically multiple networks that are **logically** separated on the **same physical network**.

Ports assigned to Virtual LANS.

-> Switch enforces forwarding restrictions based on VLAN config. -> VLAN traffic is blocked on ports not a **member** of that VLAN. -> Used to optimize bandwidth use with **least** resources.

### Common Automotive Ethertypes

this is how ethernet is able to handle multiple types of data and their transmission simultaneously on the same network while keeping data consistent.

Note that these are sent in the ethernet packets.

#### General Use:

0x0800 for IPV4

0x0806 for ARP

0x86DD for IPV6

0x8100 for VLAN (single tag)

0x9100 for VLAN (double tag)

0x88F5 for Multiple VLAN Reservation Protocol

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AVB:
0x22F0 for IEEE 1722
0x88F7 for generalized precision Time Protocol
0x22EA for Multiple Stream Reservation Protocol

V2X:
0x88DC for Wave Short Message Protocol
```

==> AVB's are used to create custom ether types.

### 3) `Frame Check Sequence (CRC):

Cyclical Redundancy Check. If fails, packet is dropped by the switch or Ethernet MAC. **No built-in Error recovery like CAN ==> But this is implemented in higher layers like TCP**

#### - Switches

Switches make intelligent decisions predominantly on the MAC address but also on VLAN tags, and also based on the ethertype and the data within the payload of a mac frame.

Enables Layer2 Quality of Service (QoS) by: -> dropping bad frames.

-> VLAN enforcing/managing.

-> Traffic prioritization.

-> Ingress Limiting

-> AVB/TNS protocols.

Conserves bandwidth by intelligent forwarding based on the MAC address. -> Each physical port connection independent.

-> no collision.

Switch routes the traffic in and out of its ports. By definition, ethernet is point2point network. So using switches we can extend the capability of the network.

Also enables multiple streams of data within the same network ( audio, display, console, etc) without speed bottleneck since all streams use their own bandwidth. So Aggregate data is not limited to say 100mbits which is not possible in bus-topology networks.

### Intelligent Frame Forwarding

**Ethernet Switches** all internally have address tables this is how they know how to route the traffic.

- L2 Address Table:
  - Used by Address Translation Unit (ATU) to translate the MAC address to the port.
  - Table of Address/Port pairs.
- Information Stored:

- ◦ MAC address
- ◦ VLAN ID
- ◦ Destination Port Vector(DVP)(bit array of ports for the MAC)
- ◦ Static or Learned
- ◦ Priorities

So when a source sends a packet, it HAS TO add its source MAC address in the frame hence, it advertising which MAC address(es) are on the particular port. then the switch will know which port to send the packet to thanks to the L2 Address Table.

address table can be static or dynamically learned by the switch. There can be multiple mac addresses per port if you have multiple switches connected to each other.

### Unmanaged and Smart Switches

- No official Delienation of ports.

#### - Unmanaged Switch:

Simplest kind. A basic MAC address table is used.

- ◦ Little or no configuration.
- ◦ MAC based routing.
- ◦ Learns L2 address table
- ◦ Floods unknown DA's
- ◦ Possibly static L2 address table config.

#### - Smart Switch:

Enables VLAN and thereby enables different priorities based on VLAN tags

- ◦ Basic VLAN support(Static config, enforcing tag/priority)
- ◦ port mirroring

#### - Managed Switches: Most sophisticated kind of switch.

- ◦ Enhances QoS and Security
- ◦ Addition of host processors or embedded cores.
- ◦ Firmware executes protocols:
  - ◦     ▪ Dynamic VLAN management(DMRP)
  - ◦     ▪ Manage Redundant Paths(Spanning Tree Protocol)
  - ◦     ▪ AVB/TNS protocols
- ◦ Other Advanced Features:
  - ◦     -Deep Packet Inspection(make decisions based on IP address or ether type)
  - ◦     ▪ Ingress/egress Policing and limiting.

In the automotive industry we find smart and managed switches.

## 3- Network Layer:

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Ip Addressing / routing.

Why need for higher protocols? What inherent problems with ethernet?

MAC addresses tied to **hardware**, much like CAN frames. So :

1. what is you move a server to new hardware with a new MAC address?
2. What is the receiver is not ready or has **limited buffer size**?
3. What if the same pyhsical address is running **multiple logical programs**?

Also :

an Ethernet frame is huge, 1500 bytes.

Ethernet is **lossy**:

1. no guarantee frames arrive in order
2. no guarantee frames arrive at all

**IP** Addresses are called **logical** addresses.

If ethertype in the packet is ipv4 or ipv6, then in layer 3 starting in the payload we have an **IP header**

**IP header** contains information of the protocol(TCP, UDP, ICMP, etc) and the destination and source IP addresses.

What to understand is: **Layer x is encapsulated in layer X-1** mesela Layer 2 frame encapsulates Layer 3 frame. (like onion approach)

each time a layer is passed, you peel a layer off the packet and process it , and peel again to send it to nexty layer.

### **IP HEADER:**

-> Version : 4 or 6

-> IHL : Internet Header Length (number of 32-bit words in the header)

-> DSCP : Differentiated Services Code Point (traffic management)

-> ECN : Explicit Congestion Notification

-> Total Length : Total length of the packet in bytes

-> Time to Live

-> Protocols:

- ◦ 1 : ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol)
- ◦ 2 : IGMP (Internet Group Management Protocol)
- ◦ 6 : TCP (Transmission Control Protocol)
- ◦ 17 : UDP (User Datagram Protocol)

- > Identification : Unique identifier for the packet
- > Flags : Flags
- > Header Checksum : Checksum of the header
- > Fragment Offset : Fragment offset
- > Source and Destination IP addresses

## 3- Transport Layer:

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UDP/ TCP

# Process-Level Addressing: Ports

- IP address identifies a device (ECU or NIC on a PC)
- TCP and UDP use *Ports* to identify software processes
  - Application or Function
  - Virtual ECU within the module
- IP address + port = **socket**
  - Sockets uniquely identify an Internet connection between specific processes on two different IP Addresses
- TCP and UDP messages include 16-bit source and destination port addresses (0 to 65,535)
- Well-known ports solve the problem of how to know where to send particular types of requests on a device (e.g., 80 for Web servers)

PORTS:

- Logical Ports:
  - Layer 4 concept to differentiate logical connections.
  - Port + IP address == socket.
- Physical Ports:
  - Connection between PHY and Physical Media
  - **Port** on a switch
  - **Port** on a computer.

It is all about context. for example are these referring to a physical port or a logical port?



- The switch needs to be configured to forward the desired ports for your application : Switch= layer 2, must be physical.
- The router is setup for port forwarding. Router= layer 3, must be logical.
- The server is connected to wrong port : Needs more information.

## UDP/ IP:

Side note :

ipv4 => 4 bytes ipv6 => 128 bit

Lighter than TCP., unreliable by design.

- - No guarantee of order.
  - No guarantee of delivery.
  - Used where timely delivery is more important then service guarantees like video streaming.
  - Connectionless.

Analogous to a CAN frame.

- No acknowledgement from recipient ( fire and forget)
- Usually no special recipient ( multi or broadcast)
- Easy to **map** CAN messageing over to Ethernet with UDP

Header consists of :

16 bits source port (katman 1) 16 bits destination port (katman 1) 16 bits length (katman 2) 16 bits checksum (katman 2) and then followed by data.

0 16 17 32 Source Port Destination Port

Length Checksum

DATA DATA DATA DATA DATA DATA DATA

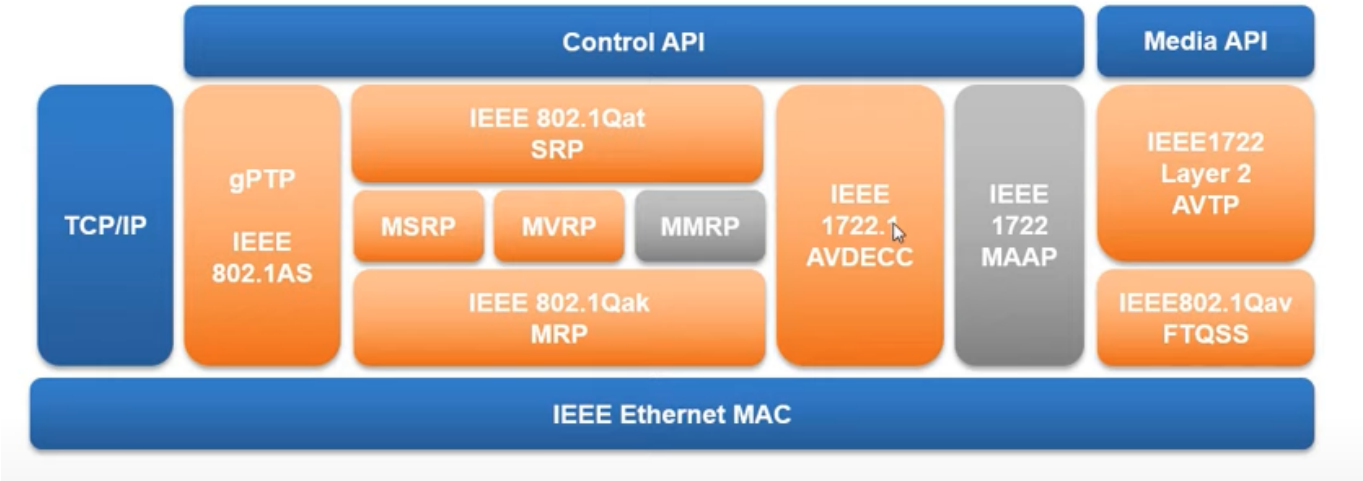
## TCP/ IP:

- Full-featured transfer protocol.
- TCP turns ethernet into reliable, dconnection-oriented stream.
- Analog in CAN is ISO-15765-2.
- Unlike other protocols, TCP has the native concept of connection.
- - SYN SYN/ACK ACK thing.
  - Creates an implicit client/server model
  - web browser is a client, web server is a server.
  - delivery IS and guaranteed.

- ◦ order is guaranteed.

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AVB STACK Components:



AVB stands for **Auido-Video-Bridging** which is important for real-time and replayable streaming. These protocols operate in parallel to everything we talked about so far and are separated by ethertype.

AVB protocols are like :

IEEE 802.1Q VLAN tagging

or

IEEE 802.1AS clock sync. in GPTP there is a grandmaster clock that sends out clock info and other nodes sync to it. Some other protocols are like IEEE 1722 which tells how to transport audio and video itself like mp4 or mp3

AVBs in automotive industry are taken and extended to include things for **safety critical real-time control**

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# COMPARING IN VEHICLE NETWORK TECHNOLOGIES

Networking considerations:

- Topology : Simple vs complex.
- Message collisions
- Addressing of nodes.

- Message / Data identification.
- Redundancy.
- Time sync across network.

## Vehicle Networking Applications

- **\*\*Safety/Time Critical Data: \*\***

Requires relative high-speed, >10mb/s with **good time sync** and redundancy. like steering, brakes, ADAS.

- **Control Data:**

General purpose for controlling of actuators and sensors, generally **packed** data, Powertrains. like Engine, alternator, transmission, battery management

- **Backbone:**

General purpose for transporting **\*\* data from one system to another\*\***, generally packet data, **Gateways**. So from one subsystem to another data transfer like from control data to safety data.

- **Infotainment:**

Streaming audio/video data critical. Requires good sync and control data, **high speed > 25mb/s** like GPS, Radio, Video, Camera

- **Low-Cost/Speed Data:**

as cheap as possible for slow speed non-safety control: door switches, lights, climate, seat etc.

- **Multi-Giga Data:**

Currently very high bandwidth for **point to point** networks

## POPULAR VEHICLE NETWORKING APPLICATIONS

from cheaper + slowest to most expensive + fastest

### LIN - LOCAL INTERCONNECT NETWORK

Can be used for non-critical applications.

Pros:

- Very low cost with single wire copper cabling.
- MultiDrop topology (Bus) so every ECU is electrically connected to every other ECU.
- Easy for plug and play.
- Master ECU controls the timing for transmissions of other ECUs. (master-slave)

- TDMA- Time Divided Media Access to avoid collisions.

Cons:

- Very very low bandwidth with 20kbps
- Small payload max 8 bytes
- No common time base across network.

## CAN - CAN-FD - CAN-XL

CAN = Controller Area Network.

One of the MOST COMMON, if not THE most common.

Used in Low-cost/Speed data, Backbone, Control Data.

Pros:

- Low cost single-twisted pair copper cable.
- most widely used well proven Automotive Networking Topology
- MultiDrop topology(Bus) so every ECU is electrically connected to every other ECU.
- No master-slave, they can transmit at any time.
- Easy for plug and play.
- non-destructive arbitration for data transmission and collision prevention. Network Controller decides who wins based on their Arbitration ID.

Cons:

- Limited bandwidth with 10Mbps with CAN-XL (also due to non-destructive arbitration)
- Relatively small payload with max 8 bytes with CAN, 64 bytes with CAN-FD and 2048 bytes with CAN-XL
- No common time base across network.
- no inherent redundancy and time sync.

## FlexRay

Used in Safety/Time-Critical, Backbone, Control Data.

Pros:

- Single twisted pair copper cable.
- MultiDrop topology(Bus) so every ECU is electrically connected to every other ECU.
- inherently redundant and deterministic

- completely new message structure.
- clock synchronization deterministic (static frames)
- TDMA- Time Divided Media Access to avoid collisions.
- fixes problems with CAN.
- With every FlexRay chip, a redundant controller built in.
- Designed for time/safety critical applications but also used in backbone and control data.

#### Cons:

- must design the entire network at one time.
- all nodes must be aware of and programmed for the entire network design.
- Max baud rate 10Mbps.