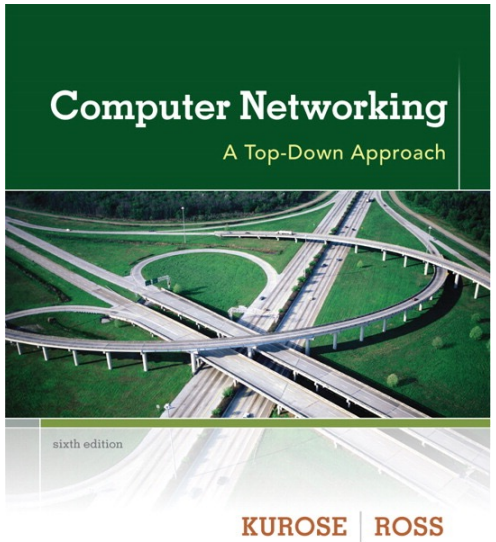
Chapter 6
Wireless and Mobile Networks



Reti degli Elaboratori
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a.a. 2023/2024

Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach
6th edition
Jim Kurose, Keith Ross
Addison-Wesley
March 2012

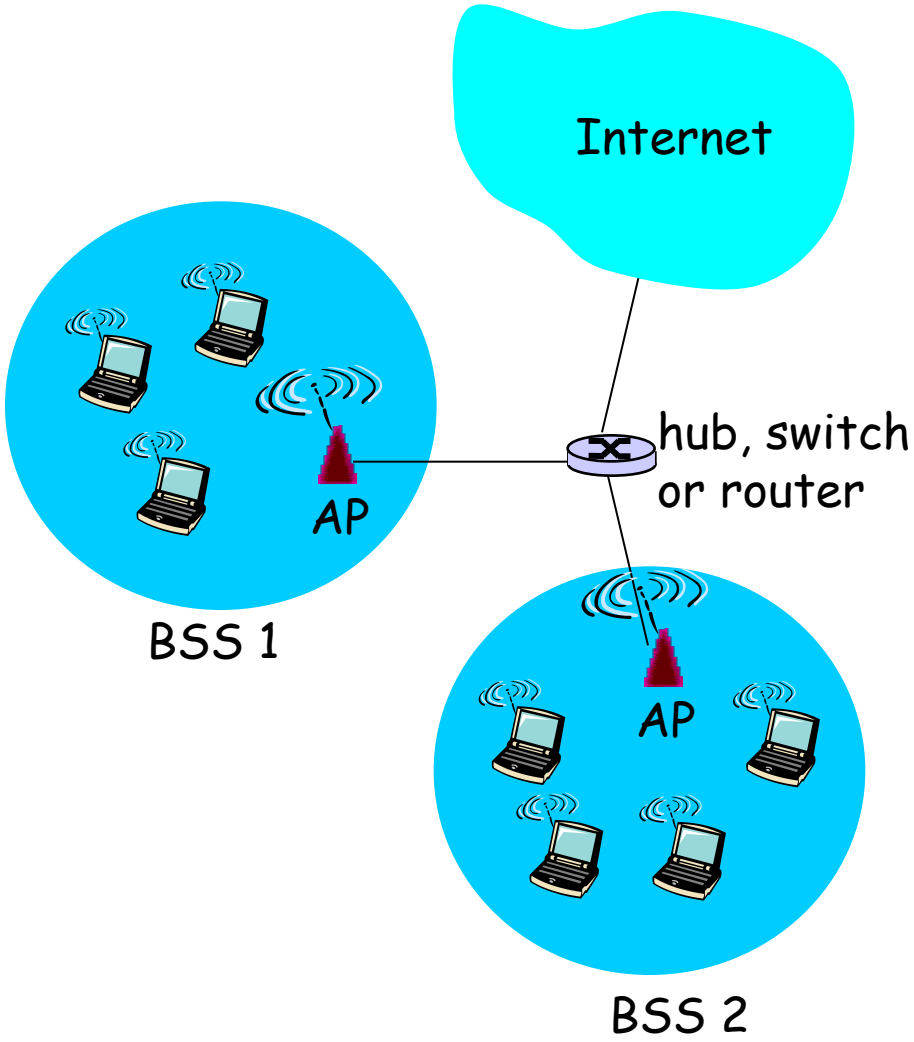
We thank for the support material Prof. Kurose-Ross

IEEE 802.11 Wireless LAN

- 802.11b
  - 2.4-5 GHz unlicensed spectrum
  - up to 11 Mbps
  - direct sequence spread spectrum (DSSS) in physical layer
    - all hosts use same chipping code
- 802.11a
  - 5-6 GHz range
  - up to 54 Mbps
- 802.11g
  - 2.4-5 GHz range
  - up to 54 Mbps
- 802.11n: multiple antennae
  - 2.4-5 GHz range
  - up to 200 Mbps

- all use CSMA/CA for multiple access
- all have base-station and ad-hoc network versions

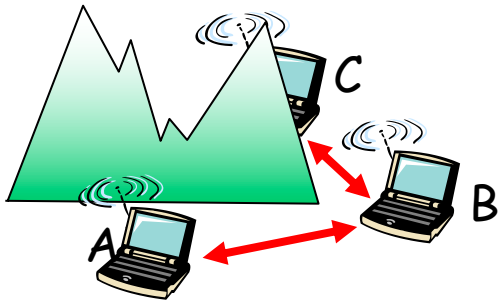
802.11 LAN architecture

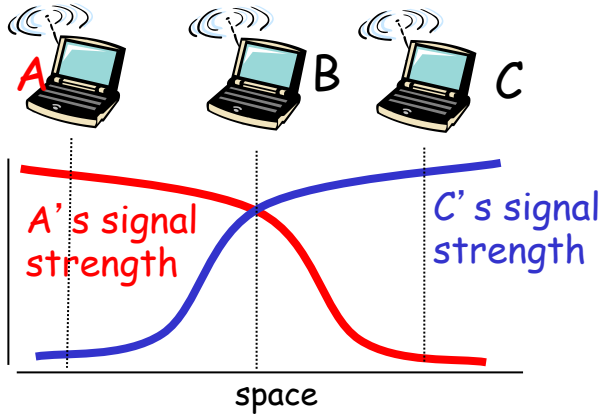


- wireless host communicates with base station
  - base station = access point (AP)
- Basic Service Set (BSS) (aka "cell") in infrastructure mode contains:
  - wireless hosts
  - access point (AP): base station
  - ad hoc mode: hosts only

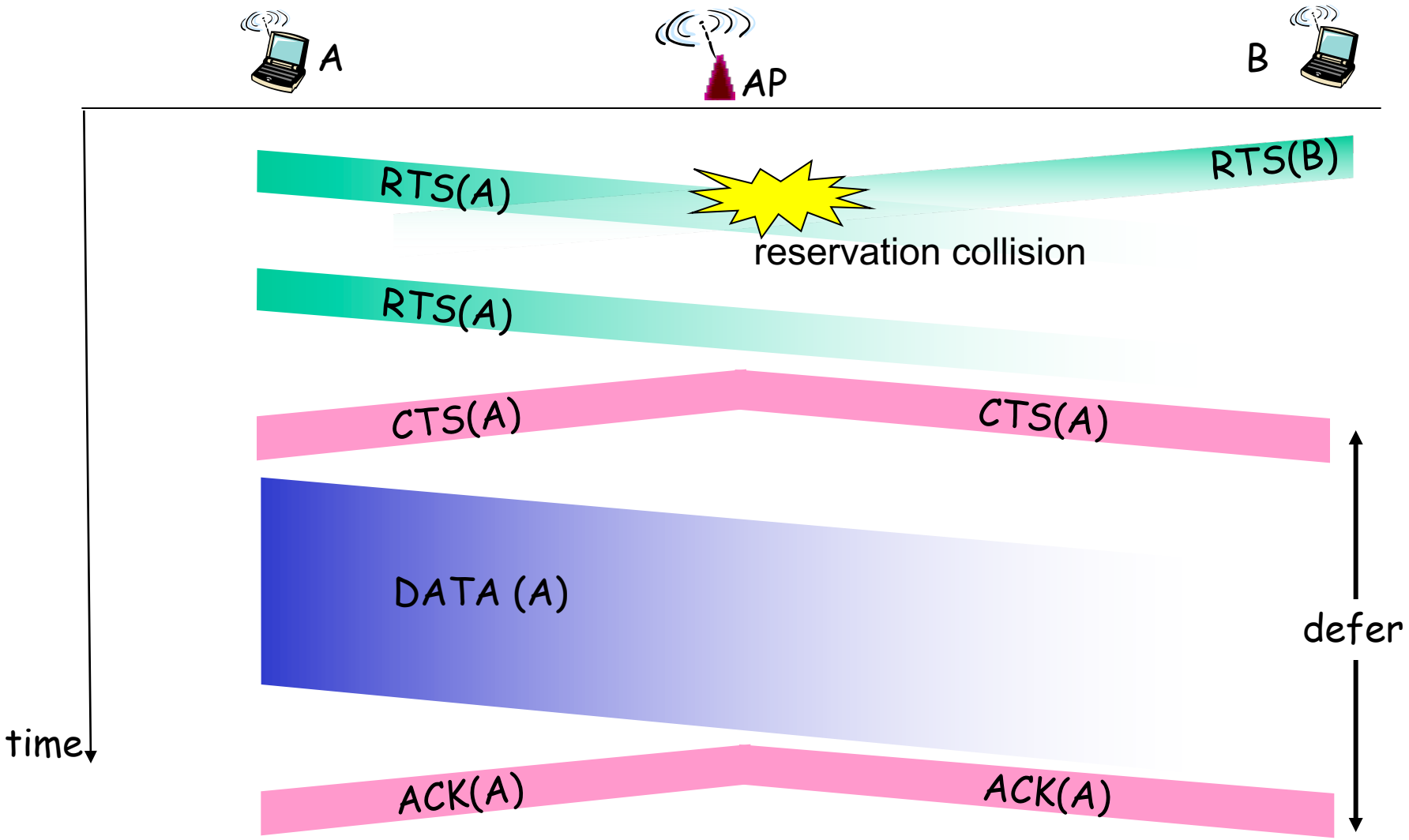
IEEE 802.11: multiple access

- avoid collisions: 2+ nodes transmitting at same time
- 802.11: CSMA - sense before transmitting
  - don't collide with ongoing transmission by other node
- 802.11: *no* collision detection!
  - difficult to receive (sense collisions) when transmitting due to weak received signals (fading)
  - can't sense all collisions in any case: hidden terminal, fading
  - goal: *avoid collisions:* CSMA/C(ollision)A(voidance)





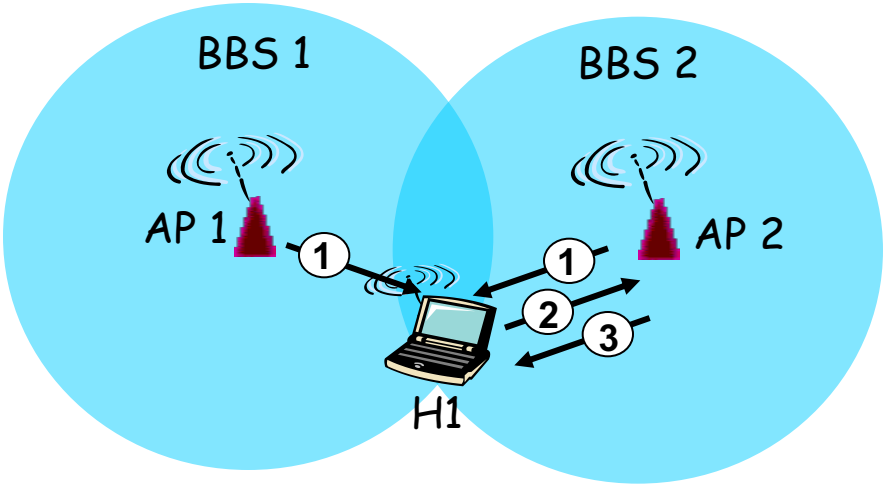
Collision Avoidance: RTS-CTS exchange

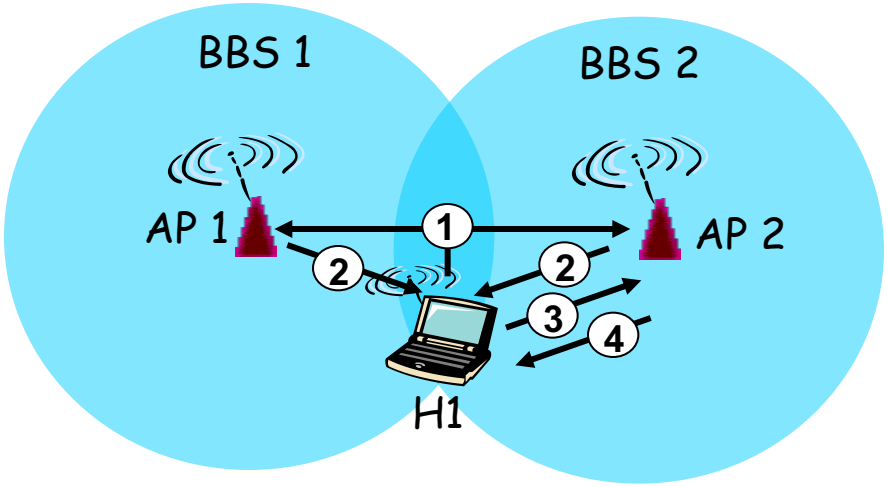


802.11: Channels, association

- 802.11b: 2.4GHz-2.485GHz spectrum is divided into 11 partially overlapping channels at different frequencies
  - AP admin chooses frequency for AP
  - interference possible: channel can be same as that chosen by neighboring AP!
  - maximum number of non interfering co-located AP: 3 (using channels 1,6,11), as channels are non overlapping only if they are separated by four or more channels
- host: must *associate* with an AP (usually many available, the WiFi jungle)
  - Passive scanning:
    - scans channels, listening for *beacon frames* containing AP's name (SSID) and MAC address
      - AP periodically sends a beacon frame
    - active scanning
      - a probe is sent by the user, APs with the range of the wireless host answer the probe
  - selects AP to associate with, sends an association request to which the AP answers
  - may need to perform authentication
  - will typically run DHCP to get IP address in AP's subnet

802.11: passive/active scanning





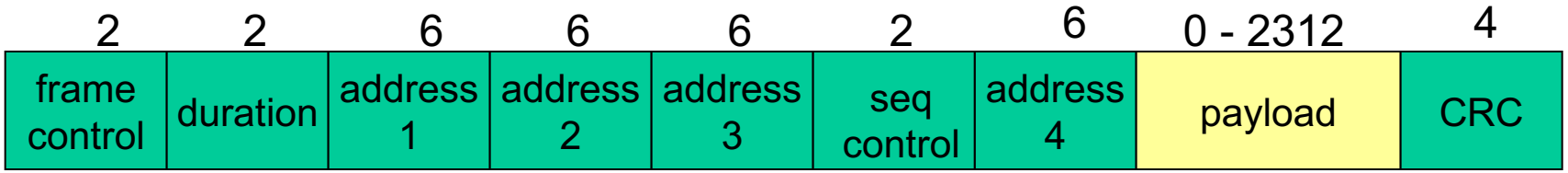
Passive Scanning:

(1) beacon frames sent from APs
(2) association Request frame sent: H1 to selected AP
(3) association Response frame sent: H1 to selected AP

Active Scanning:

(1) Probe Request frame broadcast from H1
(2) Probes response frame sent from APs
(3) Association Request frame sent: H1 to selected AP
(4) Association Response frame sent: H1 to selected AP

802.11 frame: addressing



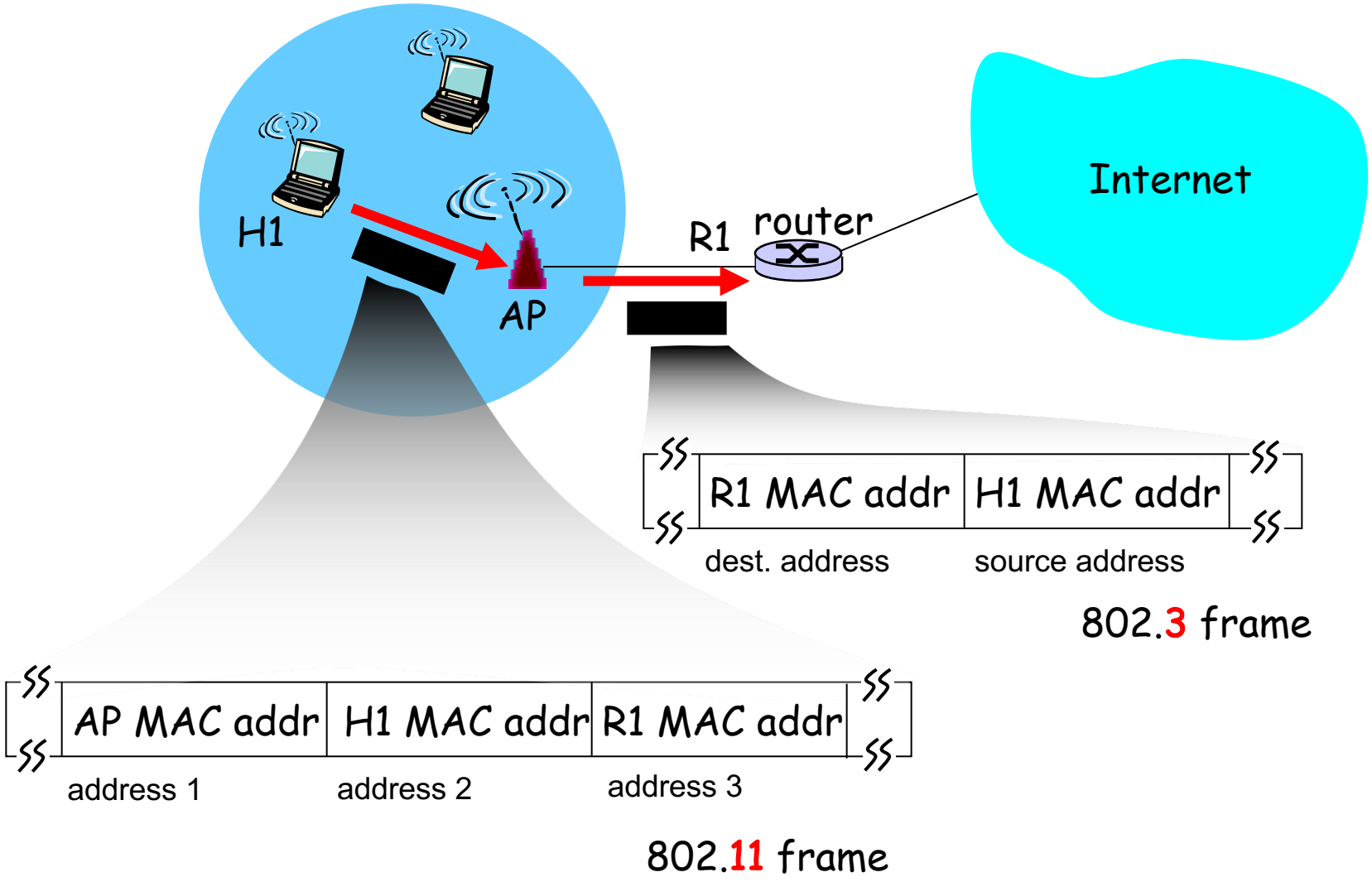
Address 1: MAC address of wireless host or AP to receive this frame

Address 2: MAC address of wireless host or AP transmitting this frame

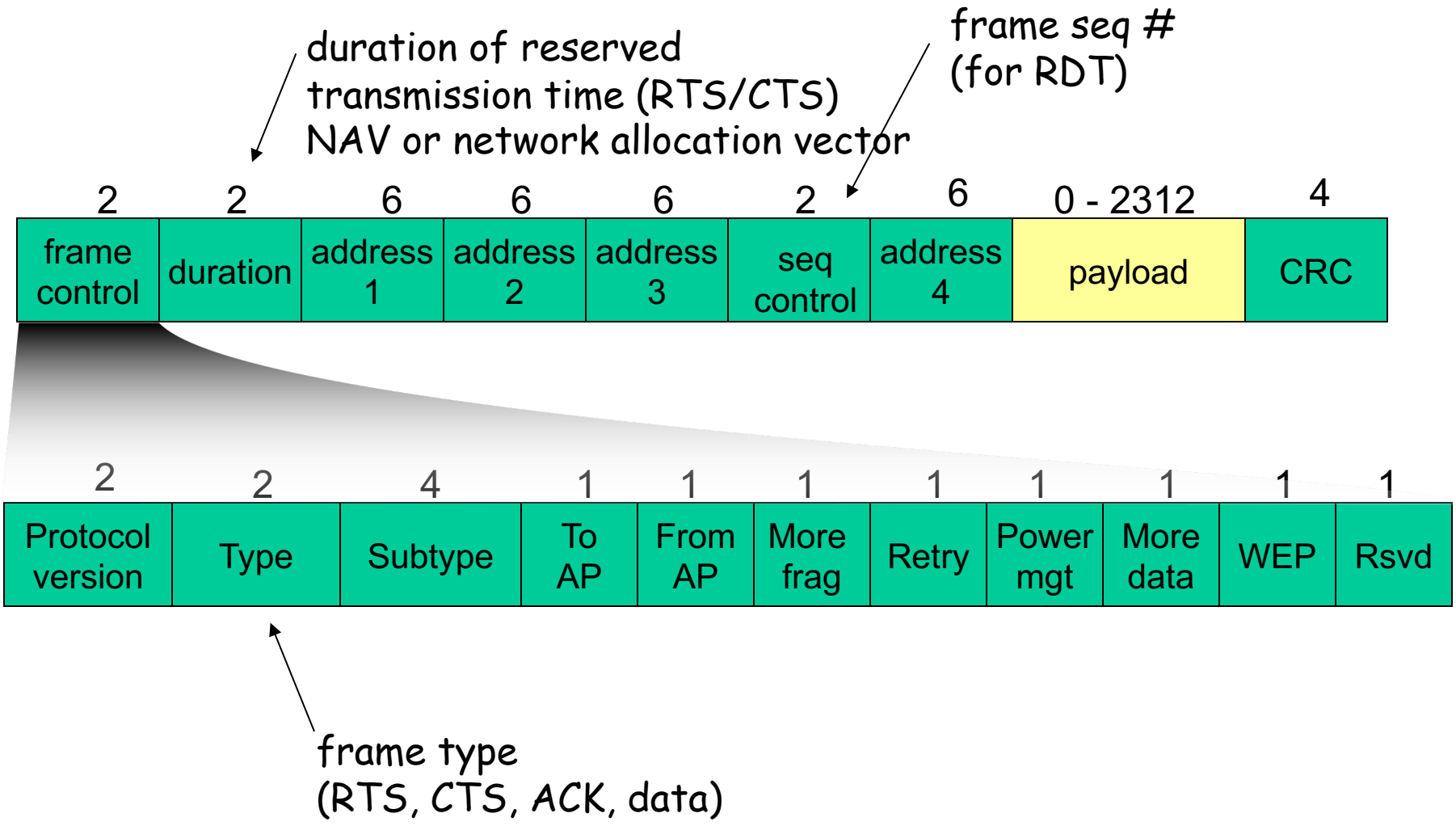
Address 3: MAC address of router interface to which AP is attached

Address 4: used only in ad hoc mode

802.11 frame: addressing

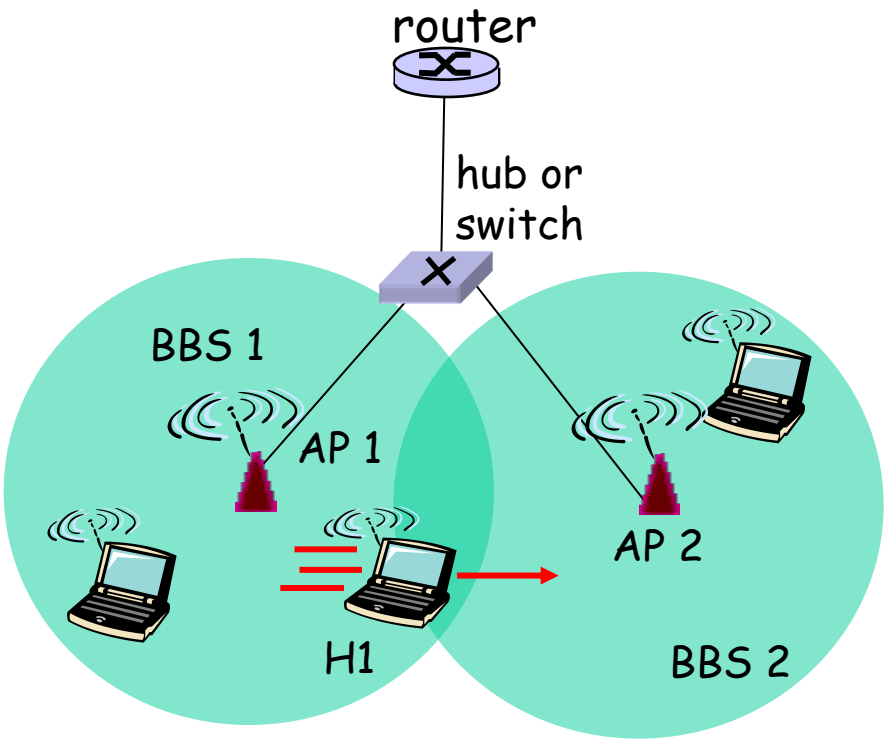


802.11 frame: more



802.11: mobility within same subnet

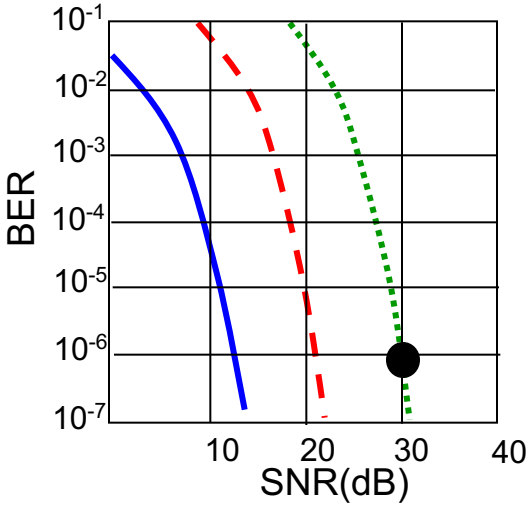
- H1 remains in same IP subnet: IP address can remain same
- switch: which AP is associated with H1?
  - self-learning (Ch. 5): switch will see frame from H1 and "remember" which switch port can be used to reach H1

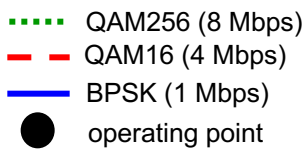


802.11: advanced capabilities

Rate Adaptation

- base station, mobile dynamically change transmission rate (physical layer modulation technique) as mobile moves, SNR varies





1. SNR decreases, BER increase as node moves away from base station

2. When BER becomes too high, switch to lower transmission rate but with lower BER

802.11: advanced capabilities

Power Management

- node-to-AP: "I am going to sleep until next beacon frame"
  - AP knows not to transmit frames to this node
  - node wakes up before next beacon frame
- beacon frame: contains list of mobiles with AP-to-mobile frames waiting to be sent
  - node will stay awake if AP-to-mobile frames to be sent; otherwise sleep again until next beacon frame

802.11: advanced capabilities

Power Management

- node-to-AP: "I am going to sleep until next beacon frame"
  - AP knows not to transmit frames to this node
  - node wakes up before next beacon frame
- duty cycle: ON time/ON+OFF
  - 250 microseconds for waking up, similar to listen to the beacon and see whether should wake up =< 1milliseconds
  - 100 milliseconds as time between two beacons
  - <1% duty cycle