

# CS421 - Computer Networks - SFO

## Lecture 15 - Data link layer

1. Nodes - hosts + routers
2. links - wired/wireless links
3. PDU - Frame (H+Data+T)

Where is this layer implemented? [H/W]

↳ Network interface card (NIC)

↳ MAC address is set here.

### IP Address

\* 32 bits (8x4)

\* Decimal notation

\* Network layer

\* Hierarchical (tree structure)

↳ has levels

\* Not portable

↳ cannot take your network IP w/ you

### MAC Address

\* 48 bits (8x6)

\* 12 Hex digits (6 blocks)

\* data link layer

\* Flat

↳ has no levels

\* Portable

↳ can carry your service to anywhere

### MAC Address

00-10-65-00-00-01

OUI

NIC

Organizationally Unique Identifier

Network Interface Controller

1st octet last bit

0: unicast

1: multicast

2nd last bit

0: globally unique (given by org)

1: locally administered (changed according to your use)



Types of MAC Addresses - (I) Unicast

(II) Multicast [ "01-00-5E" in an IPv4 multicast packet ]

(III) Broadcast [ FF-FF-FF-FF-FF-FF ]  
(all devices) → dest<sup>n</sup> MAC

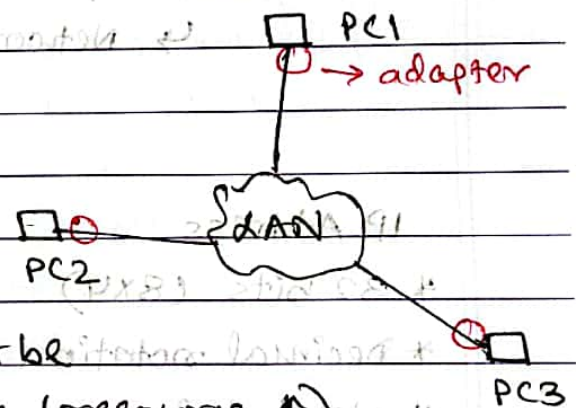
LAN addresses and ARP -

\* each adapter on LAN has unique addresses.

\* ARP - address res<sup>n</sup> protocol

\* Both IP + MAC are needed.

Identify host → identify device



\* MAC of so many devices cannot be stored due to storage issues (resource ↑)

\* Packet sent w/ IP but also needs MAC; the MAC is resolved using ARP.

\* ARP matches the IP of the device w/ the given IP w/ the packet. The response is the MAC Address.

Example - ARP (same network)

→ Dest<sup>n</sup> IP ✓ ↑ all F

ARP packet → Broadcast Dest<sup>n</sup> IP } Dest<sup>n</sup>  
MAC IP

ARP response →  
(unicast)  
to Sender source  
MAC = Receiver

→ sends to all devices and  
matches IP → reply → unicast to S.  
→ not matched; ARP packet dropped

ARP table - maintains TTL

→ storage

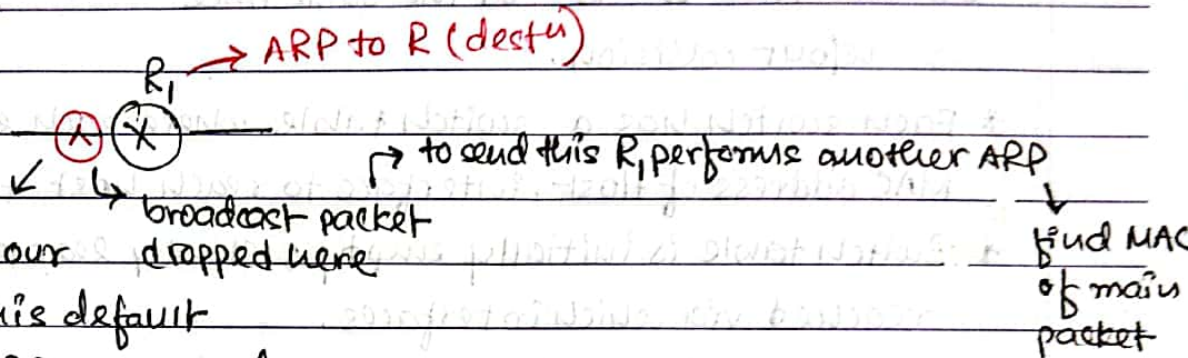


Example - ARP (different network)

ARP Protocol is broadcasted - dropped at router; cannot leave network

So ARP is done step by step.

Router performs ARP in this case.



we will send our packet till this default gateway. ARP performed to find MAC of default gateway and so can send the packet there.

↳ contains IP address of receiver.

Then, R has destn IP and MAC both. → forwards the actual packet to the destination (Receiver).

If there were more routers, then each router would perform an ARP to find the destn MAC address.

Switching -

- \* data link layer device; stores and forwards Ethernet frames
- \* examine incoming frame's MAC address + selectively forward frame to one/more outgoing links when frame is to be forwarded on segment, uses CSMA/CD to access segment.
- \* Switches are transparent → hosts are unaware of their presence
- \* Plug-and-play + self-learning → switches do not need to be configured. ↳ just give connection; learns MAC address when frame passes through the switch and can find out the paths to destn w/out configuration.



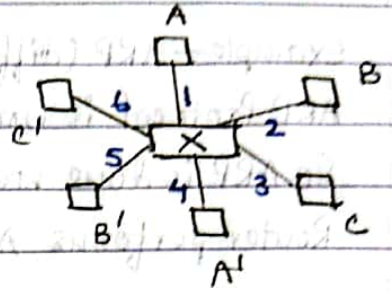
\* hosts have dedicated DC w/ switch

\* full duplex; Ethernet protocol on each incoming link w/ no collisions

\* each link is its own collision domain

Ex.  $A \rightarrow A'$   $B \rightarrow B'$  at the same time

w/ out collision.



\* Each switch has a switch table where each entry contains MAC address of Host, interface to reach host + time stamp.

\* Switch table is initially empty; slowly learns which hosts can be reached via which interfaces.

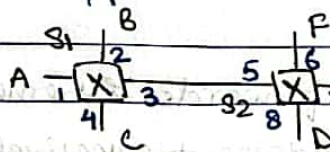
\* whenever switch receives a frame, it checks if it has an entry of this frame in its table or else it stores the entry.

\* Does not have entry of the Receiver so switch broadcasts it to all the devices  $\rightarrow$  devices that do not match w/ Destn IP + MAC will drop the packet; device that matches, if sends a reply then the entry is stored in switching table.

\* For known host mappings, unicast is used instead of broadcast.

\* Switch also has memory and TTL for entries.

### ⊛ Interconnecting Switches -



$A \rightarrow D$ : does not know so flood. (both  $S_1 + S_2$ )

$S_1 \rightarrow$  MAC Port

$S_2 \rightarrow$  MAC Port

A

1

A

5

D

8

D

8

### ⊛ Comparison betw Switches + Routers -

Switch

Routers

\* Data Link layer

\* Network layer

\* learns forwarding table using flood-ing flooding + learning + MAC addresses

\* compute tables using R. Algorithm and IP addresses

Similarity  
 $\rightarrow$  store + forward  
 $\rightarrow$  have forwarding tables