Link Layer and LANs: Intro, Errors, MAC

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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, VLANs
- datacenter networks

- instantiation, implementation of various link layer technologies

Link layer, LANs: roadmap

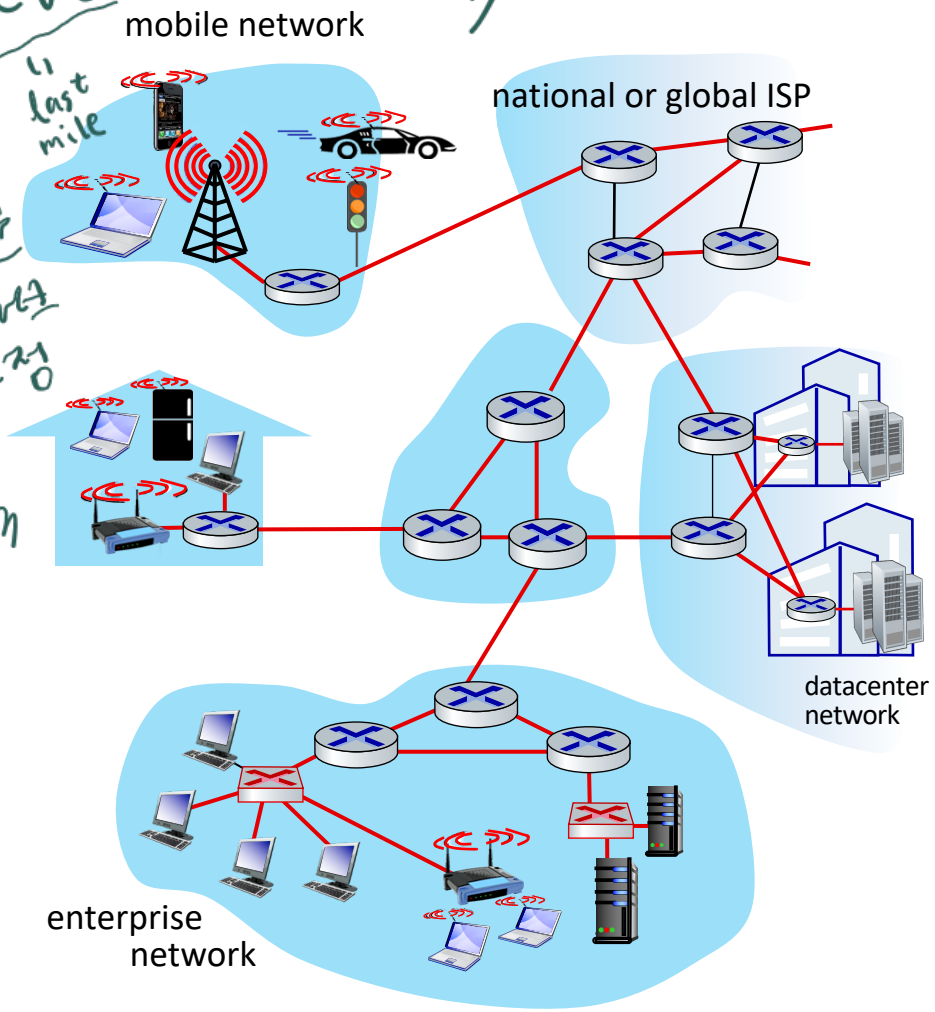
- introduction
- error detection, correction
- multiple access protocols
- LANs
  - addressing, ARP
  - Ethernet
  - switches
  - VLANs
- link virtualization: MPLS
- data center networking

- a day in the life of a web request

Link layer: introduction

terminology:

- hosts and routers: nodes
- communication channels that connect adjacent nodes along communication path: links
  - wired
  - wireless
  - LANs
- layer-2 packet: *frame*, encapsulates datagram



link layer has responsibility of transferring datagram from one node to physically adjacent node over a link

Link layer: context

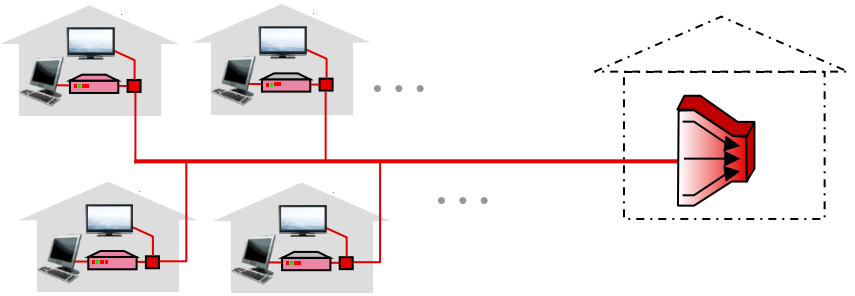
- datagram transferred by different link protocols over different links:
  - e.g., WiFi on first link, Ethernet on next link
- each link protocol provides different services
  - e.g., may or may not provide reliable data transfer over link

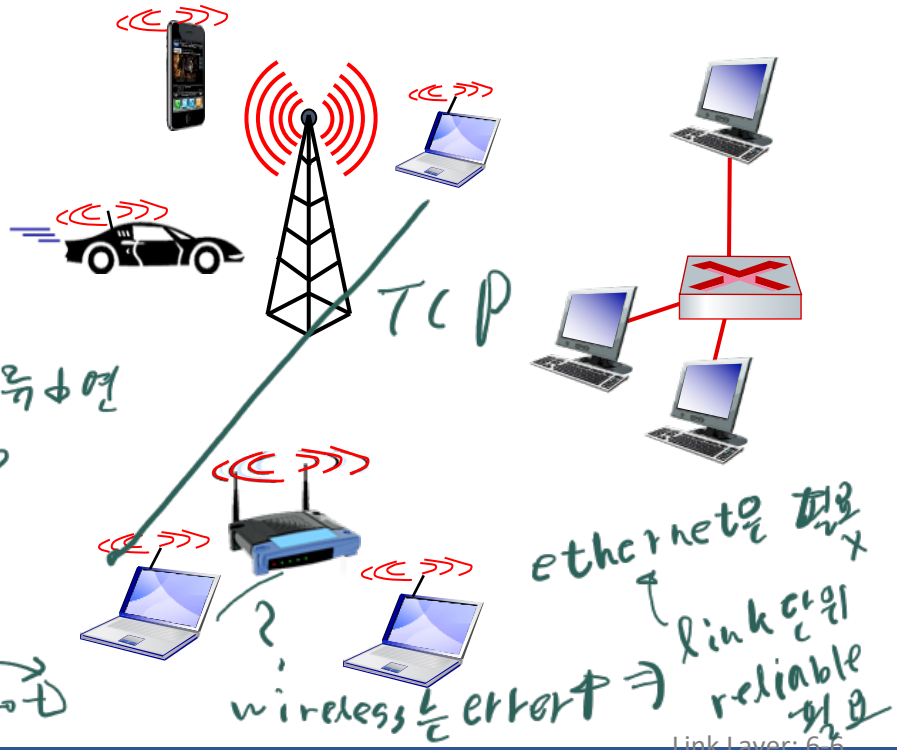
transportation analogy:

- trip from Daejeon to San Diego
  - limo: Daejeon to Incheon
  - plane: Incheon to LA
  - rental car: LA to San Diego
- tourist = datagram
- transport segment = communication link
- transportation mode = link-layer protocol
- travel agent = routing algorithm

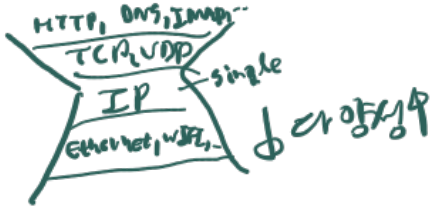
Link layer: services

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

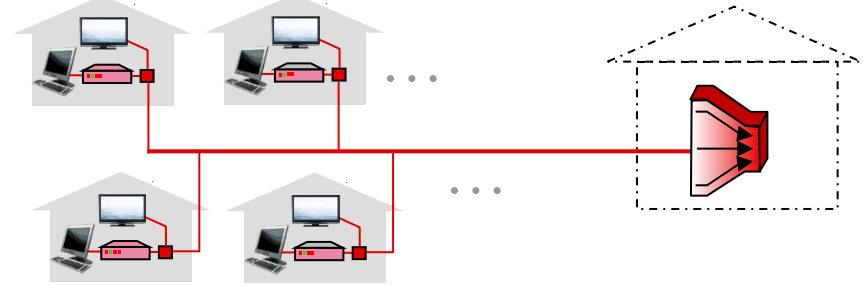


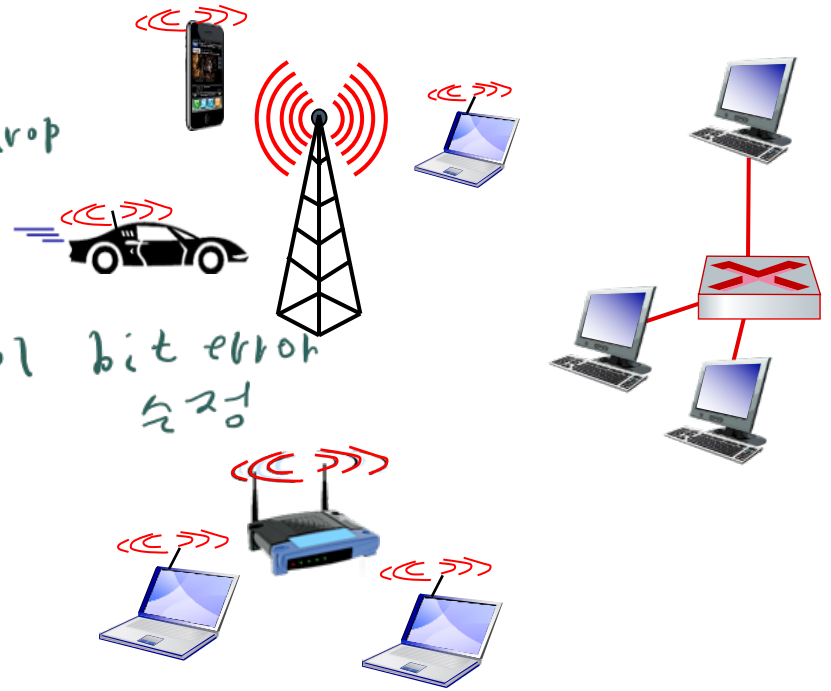


Link layer: services (more)



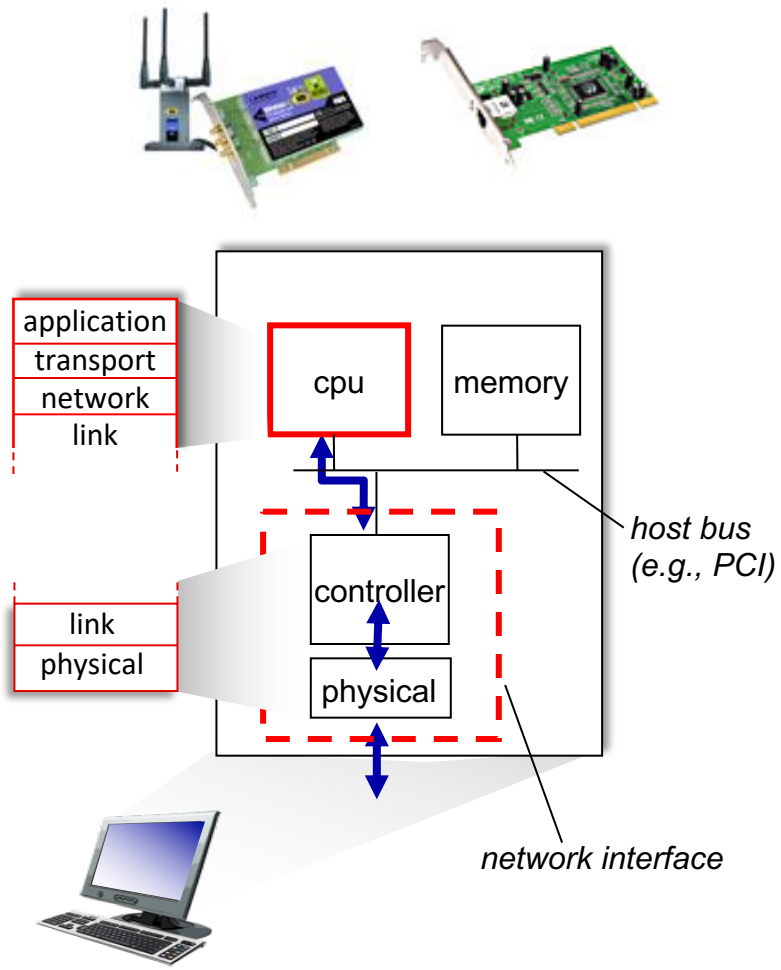
- **flow control:**
  - pacing between adjacent sending and receiving nodes
- **error detection:**
  - errors caused by signal attenuation, noise.
  - receiver detects errors, signals retransmission, or drops frame
- **error correction:**
  - receiver identifies *and corrects* bit error(s) without retransmission
- **half-duplex and full-duplex:**
  - with half duplex, nodes at both ends of link can transmit, but not at same time



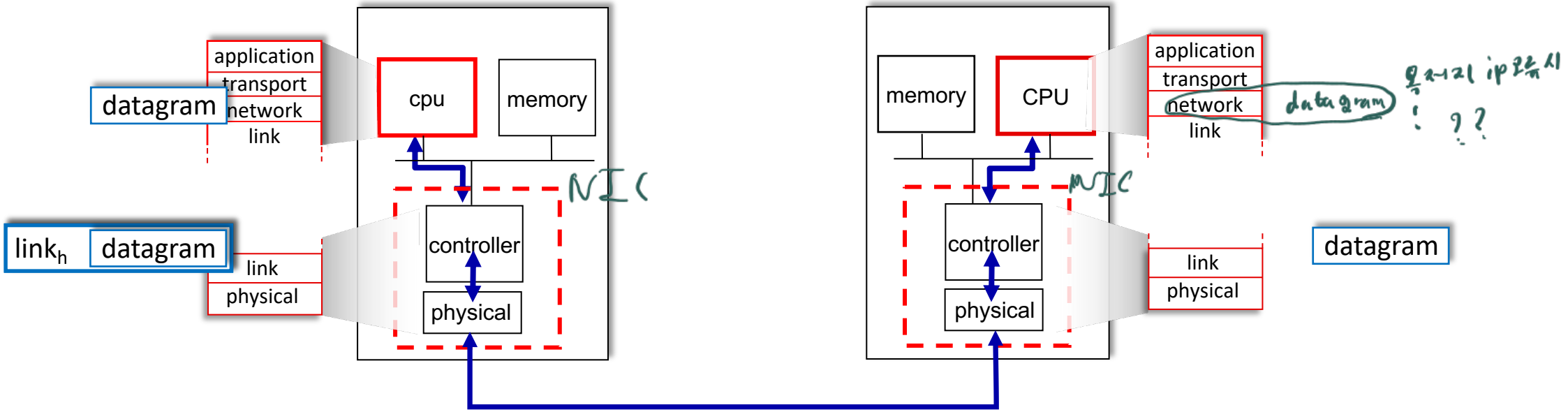


Where is the link layer implemented?

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



Interfaces communicating



sending side:

- encapsulates datagram in frame
- adds error checking bits, reliable data transfer, flow control, etc.

receiving side:

- looks for errors, reliable data transfer, flow control, etc.
- extracts datagram, passes to upper layer at receiving side

Link layer, LANs: roadmap

- introduction
- **error detection, correction**
- multiple access protocols
- LANs
  - addressing, ARP
  - Ethernet
  - switches
  - VLANs
- link virtualization: MPLS
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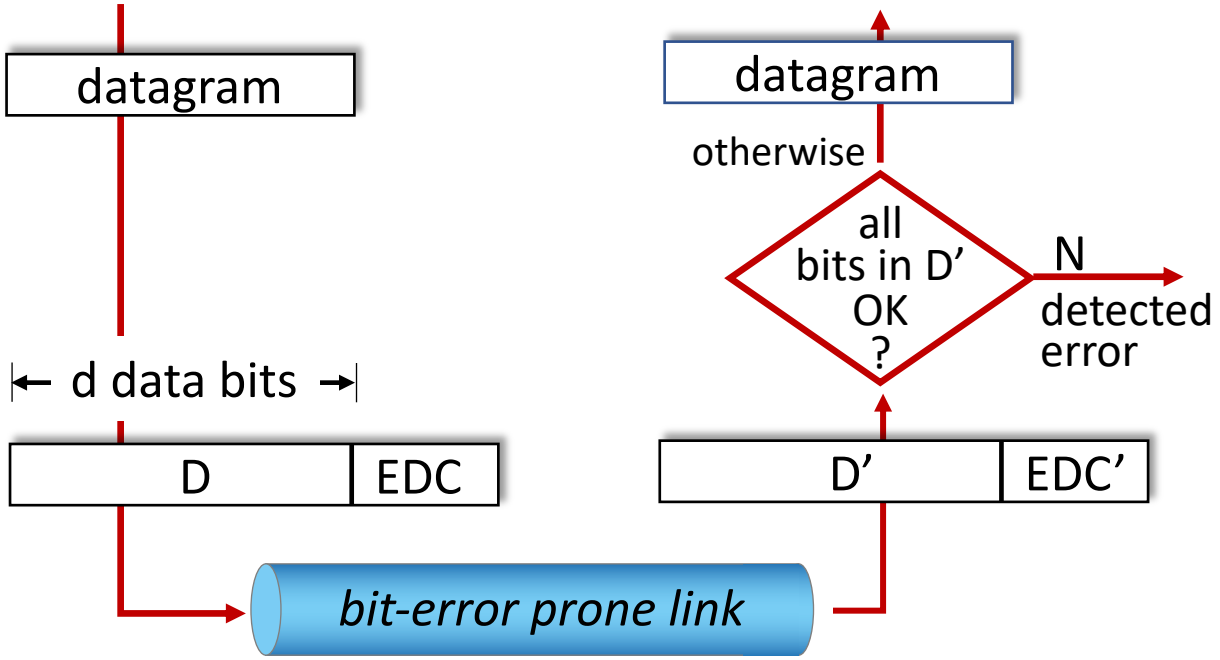
Error detection

error detection code

EDC: error detection and correction bits (e.g., redundancy)

D: data protected by error checking, may include header fields



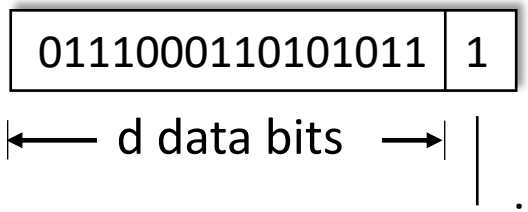
Error detection not 100% reliable!

- protocol may miss some errors, but rarely
- larger EDC field yields better detection and correction

Parity checking

single bit parity:

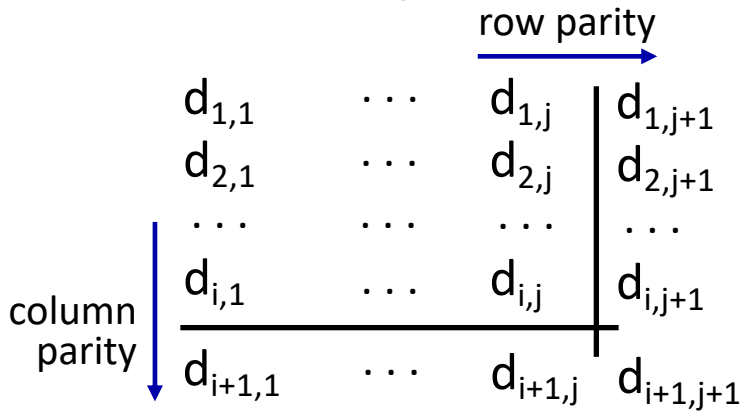
- detect single bit errors



Even parity: set parity bit so there is an even number of 1's

two-dimensional bit parity:

- detect *and correct* single bit errors



no errors:

1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	1
0	0	1	0	1	0

detected and correctable single-bit error:

1	0	1	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	1
0	0	1	0	1	0

parity error

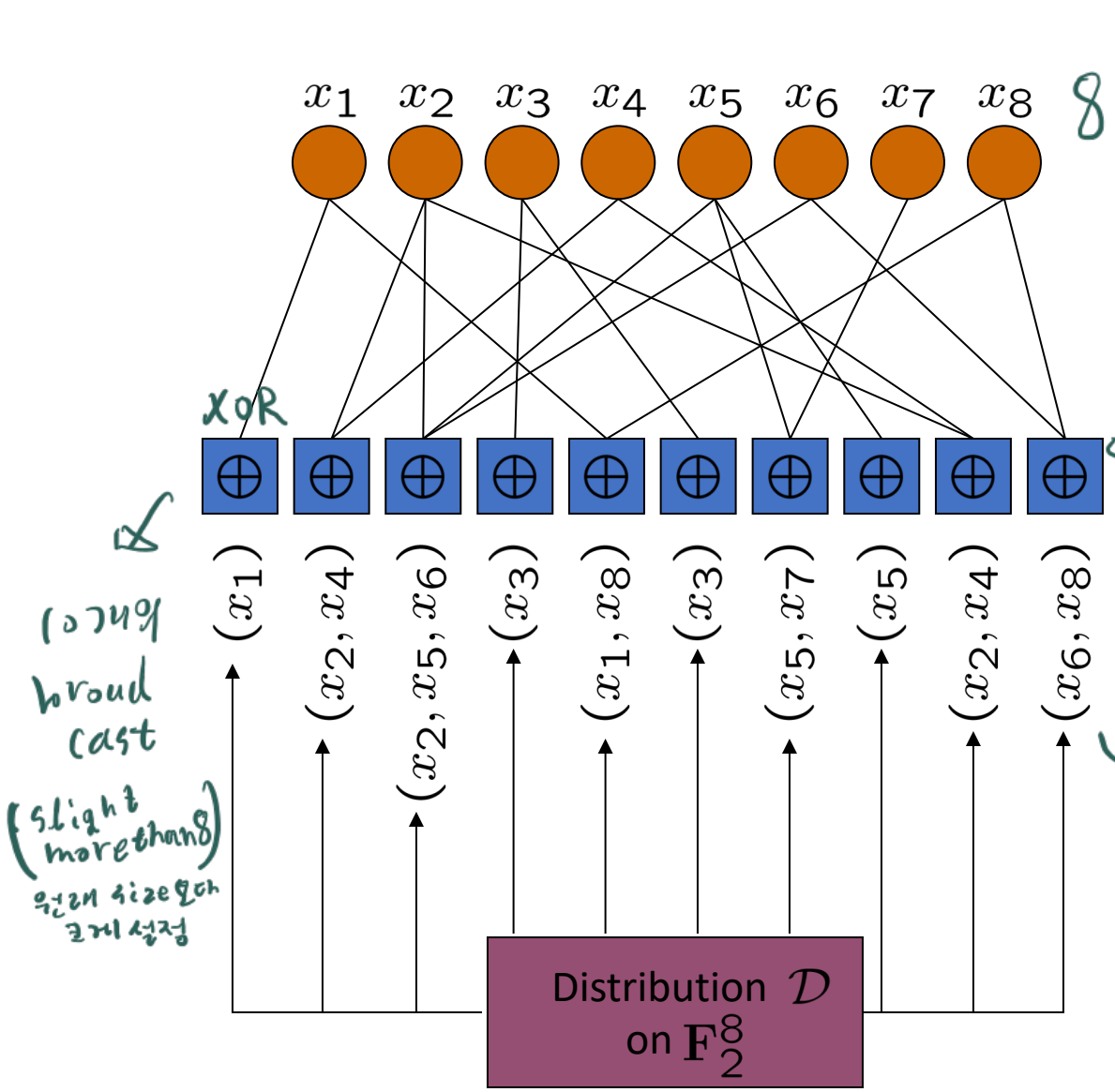
parity error

* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/

Related note on forward error correction

- ***Forward Error Correction (FEC)*** is a mechanism to reliably transmit data to a receiver without a back channel from receiver to sender
- A digital fountain approach to data dissemination
  - Analogy: fountain sprinkles water, receivers with a glass can use any droplet to fill their glass, at the end everyone has a glass of water
- Approach: send redundancy blocks that are xor combination of original blocks
- Property: after receiving data that is 105% of original file size, receiver can successfully reconstruct

Fountain Codes



8 chunks → original data를 여러개의 chunk로 분리

feedback 없이 다수의 chunks 전달 (retransmit X)

↳ XOR을 통해 redundancy block 랜덤생성

왜 XOR?

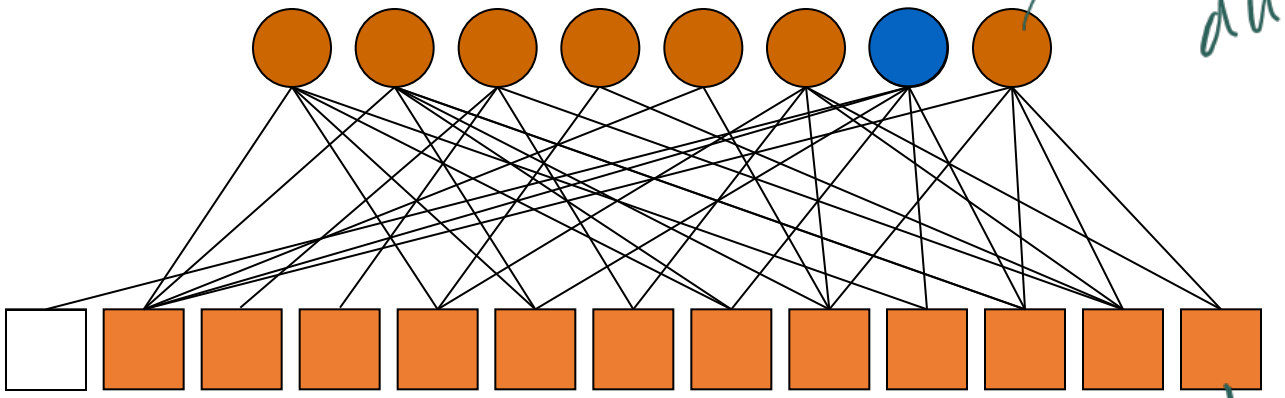
ex) A XOR B B, B XOR C (순서) (A, C만 전달)

(A XOR B) XOR (B XOR C) = A XOR (B XOR B) XOR C = A XOR 0 XOR C = A XOR C → (A XOR C) XOR A = C (C복원)

(B XOR C) XOR C = B (B 복원)

(slides from Amin Shokrollahi)

Decoding



(slides from Amin Shokrollahi)

Internet checksum (review)

Goal: detect errors (*i.e.,* flipped bits) in transmitted segment

sender:

- treat contents of UDP segment (including UDP header fields and IP addresses) as sequence of 16-bit integers
- checksum: addition (one's complement sum) of segment content
- checksum value put into UDP checksum field

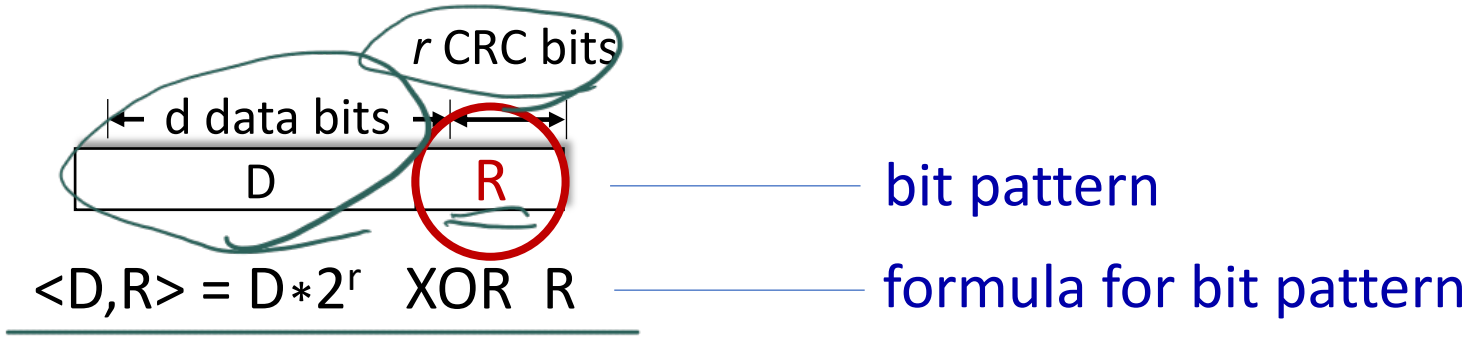
receiver:

- compute checksum of received segment
- check if computed checksum equals checksum field value:
  - not equal - error detected
  - equal - no error detected. *But maybe errors nonetheless?* More later ….

↳ 그래도 error가 있을 수 있다

Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC)

- more powerful error-detection coding
- D: data bits (given, think of these as a binary number)
- G: bit pattern (generator), of *r+1* bits (given)



goal: choose *r* CRC bits, R, such that <D,R> exactly divisible by G (mod 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)

Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC): example

We want:

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

or equivalently:

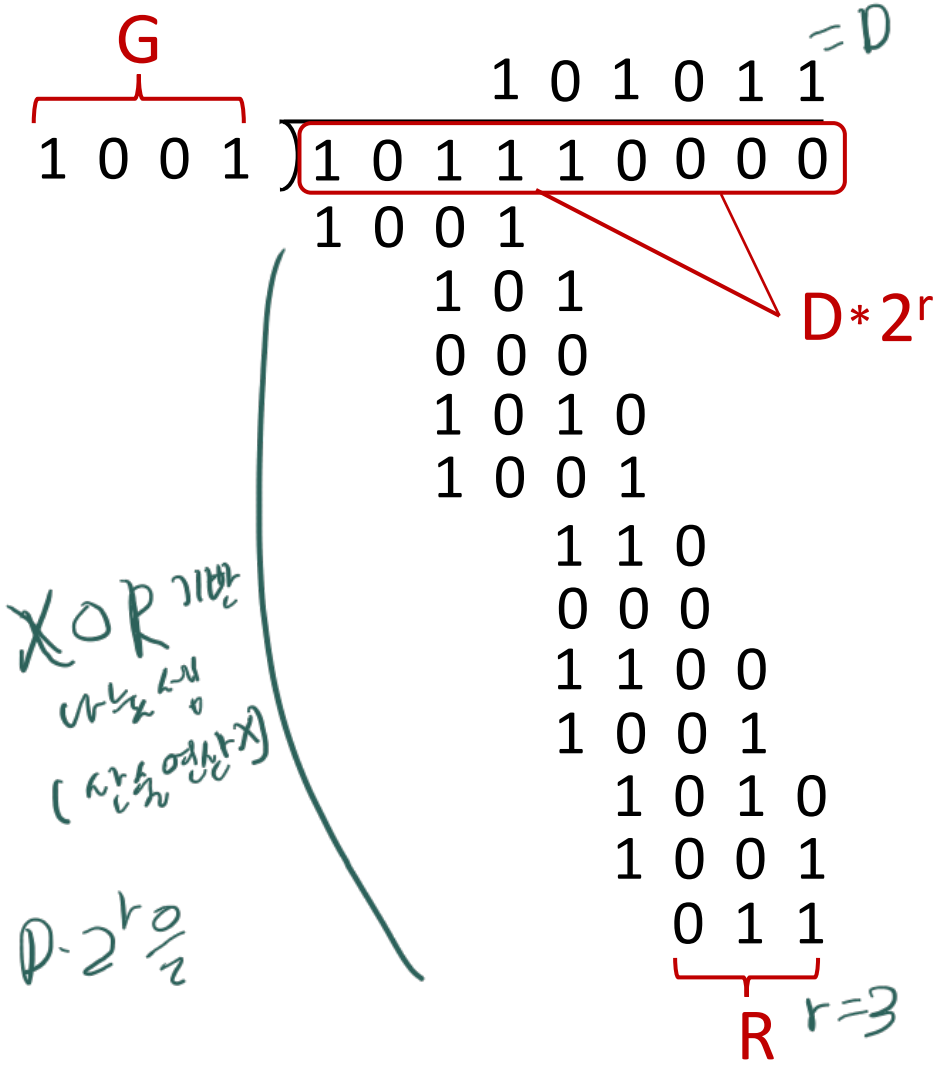
$(D \cdot 2^r = nG \ XOR \ R$

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

or equivalently:

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

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



수신자가 G를 알고 있으니 $D \cdot 2^r$을
G로 나눈 실제 R과 비교

* Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/

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Multiple access links, protocols

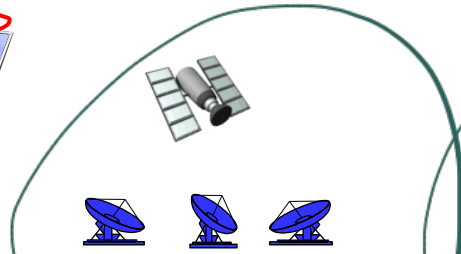
two types of “links”:

- point-to-point
  - point-to-point link between Ethernet switch, host
  - PPP for dial-up access
- broadcast (shared wire or medium)
  - old-fashioned Ethernet
  - upstream HFC in cable-based access network
  - 802.11 wireless LAN, 4G/4G. satellite

shared wire (e.g., cabled Ethernet)

shared radio: 4G/5G

shared radio: WiFi



shared radio: 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: multiple access channel (MAC) of rate *R* bps

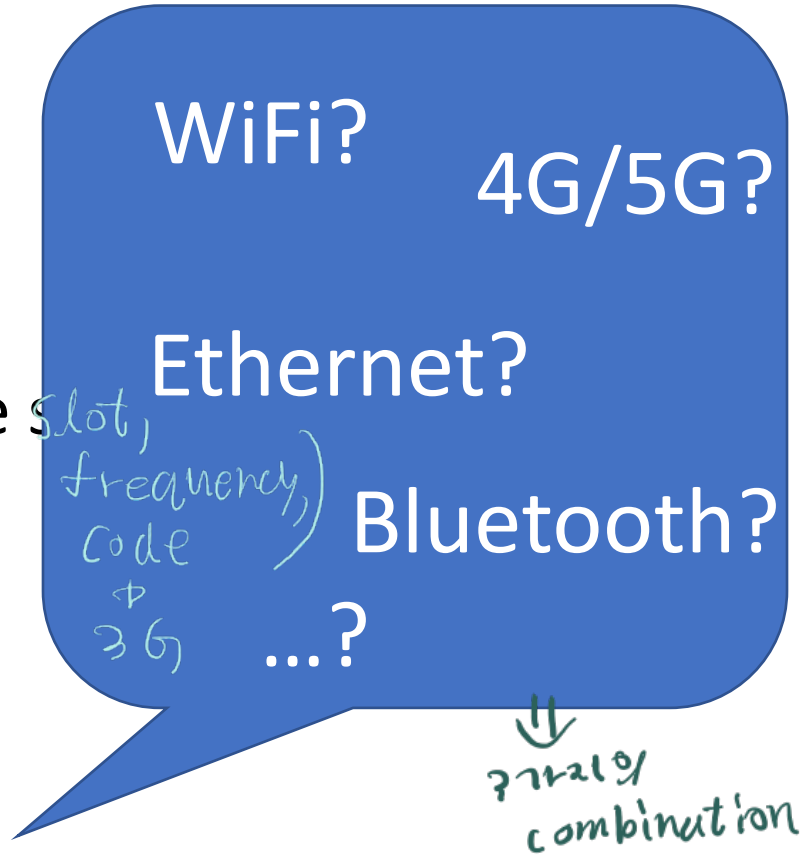
desiderata:

1. 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:

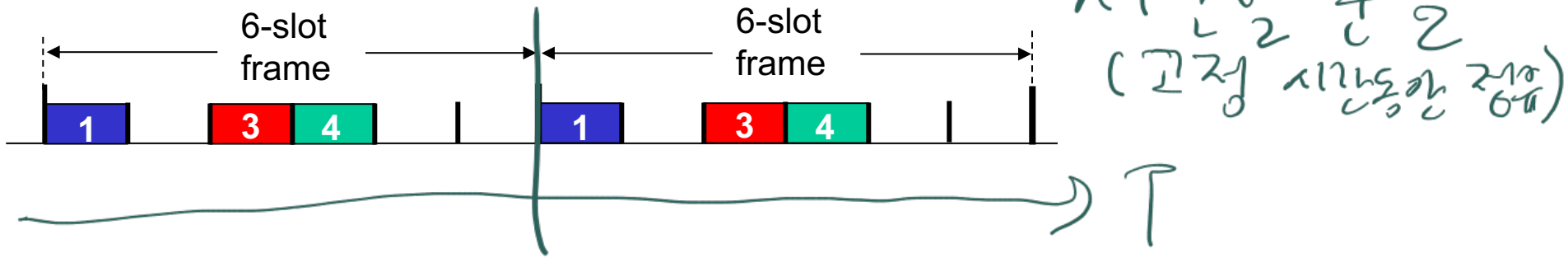
- channel partitioning
  - divide channel into smaller "pieces" (time slot, frequency, code)
  - allocate piece to node for exclusive use
- *random access*
  - channel not divided, allow collisions
  - "recover" from collisions
- "taking turns"
  - nodes take turns, but nodes with more to send can take longer turns



Channel partitioning MAC protocols: TDMA

TDMA: time division multiple access

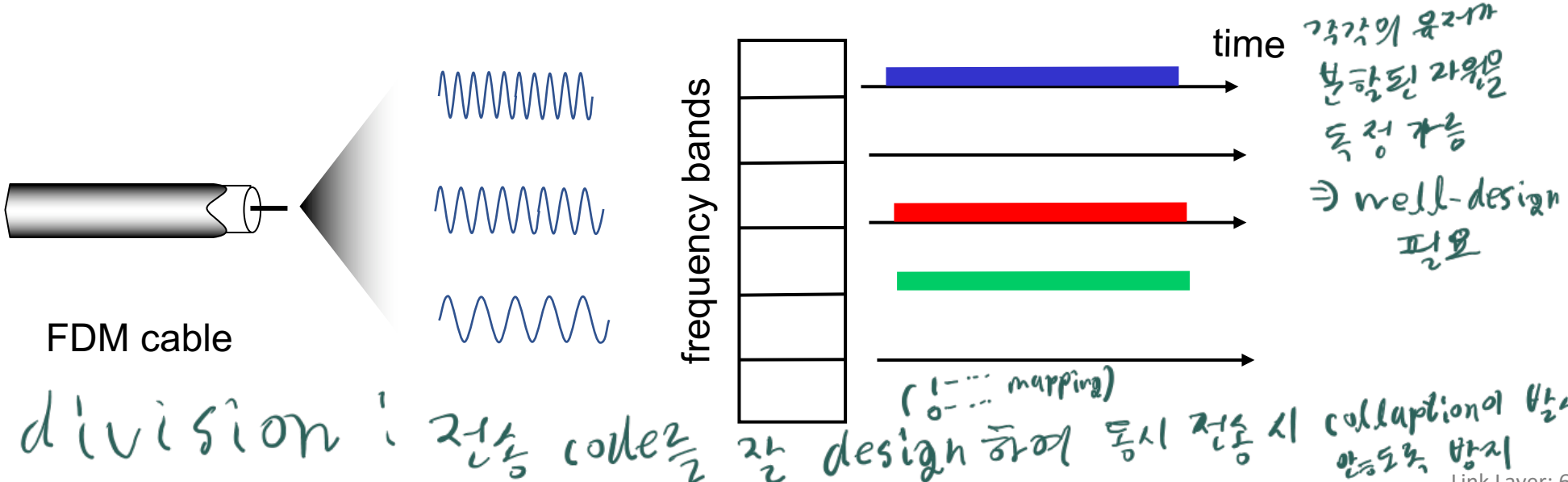
- access to channel in “rounds”
- each station gets fixed length slot (length = packet transmission time) in each round
- unused slots go idle
- example: 6-station LAN, 1,3,4 have packets to send, slots 2,5,6 idle



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 packet to send, frequency bands 2,5,6 idle



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:
  - ALOHA, slotted ALOHA
  - CSMA, CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA

Slotted ALOHA

assumptions:

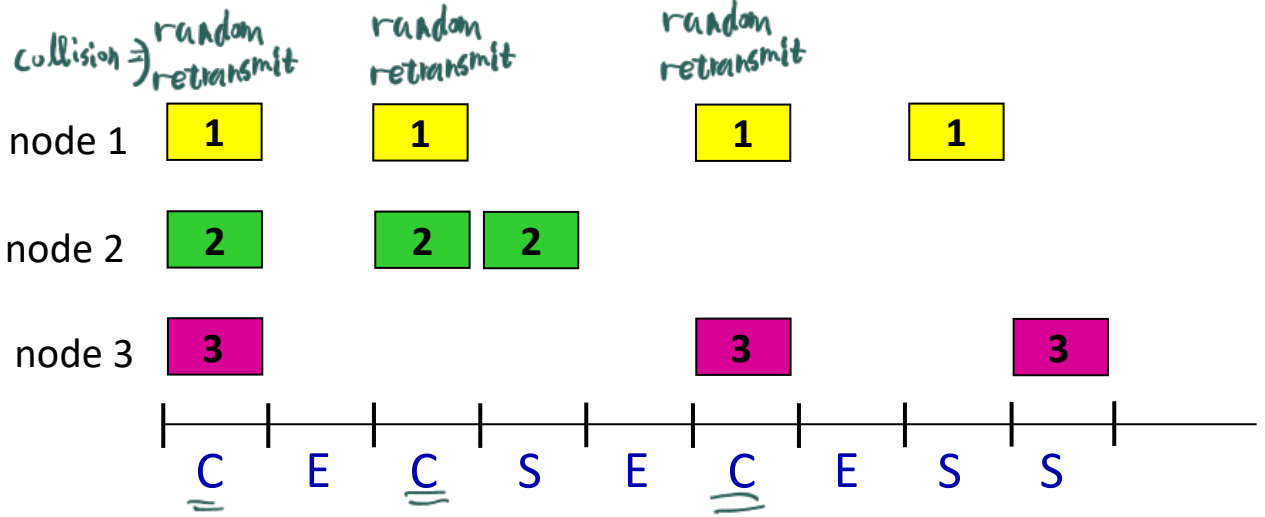
- all frames same size
- time divided into equal size slots (time to transmit 1 frame)
- nodes start to transmit only slot beginning
- nodes are synchronized
- if 2 or more nodes transmit in slot, all nodes detect collision

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 probability *p* until success

randomization – *why*?

Slotted ALOHA



C: collision
S: success
E: empty

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)

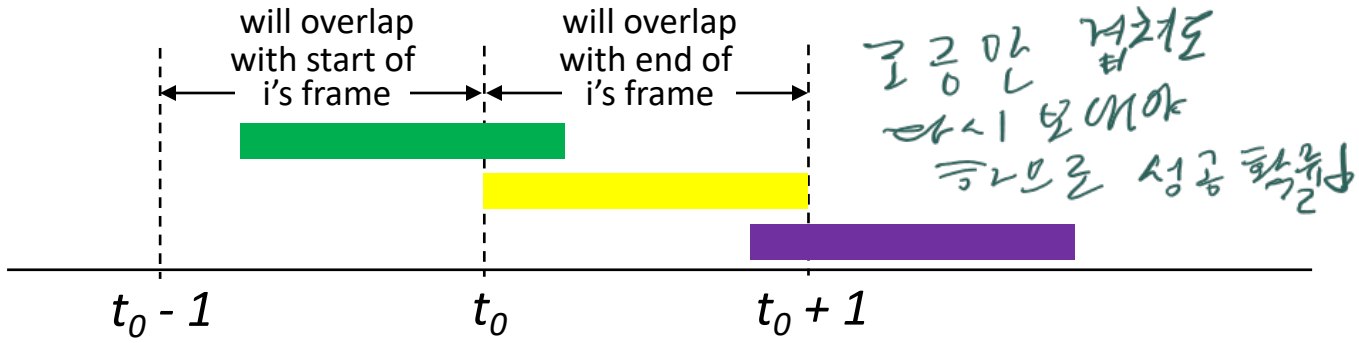
- *suppose:* N nodes with many frames to send, each transmits in slot with probability p
  - prob that given node has success in a slot = $p(1-p)^{N-1}$
  - prob that *any* node has a success = $Np(1-p)^{N-1}$
  - max efficiency: find p^* that maximizes $Np(1-p)^{N-1}$
  - for many nodes, take limit of $Np^*(1-p^*)^{N-1}$ as N goes to infinity, gives:

max efficiency = 1/e = .37

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

Pure ALOHA

- unslotted Aloha: simpler, no synchronization
  - when frame first arrives: transmit immediately
- collision probability increases with no synchronization:
  - frame sent at t_0 collides with other frames sent in $[t_0-1, t_0+1]$



- pure Aloha efficiency: 18% !

CSMA (carrier sense multiple access)

simple CSMA: listen before transmit:

- if channel sensed idle: transmit entire frame
- if channel sensed busy: defer transmission

- human analogy: don't interrupt others!

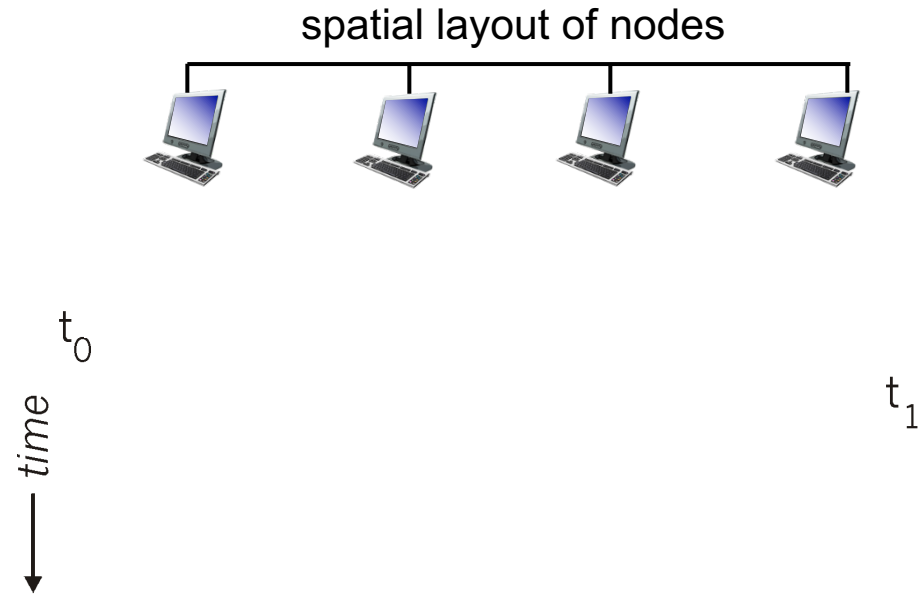
CSMA/CD: CSMA with *collision detection*

- collisions *detected* within short time
- colliding transmissions aborted, reducing channel wastage
- collision detection easy in wired, difficult with wireless

- human analogy: the polite conversationalist

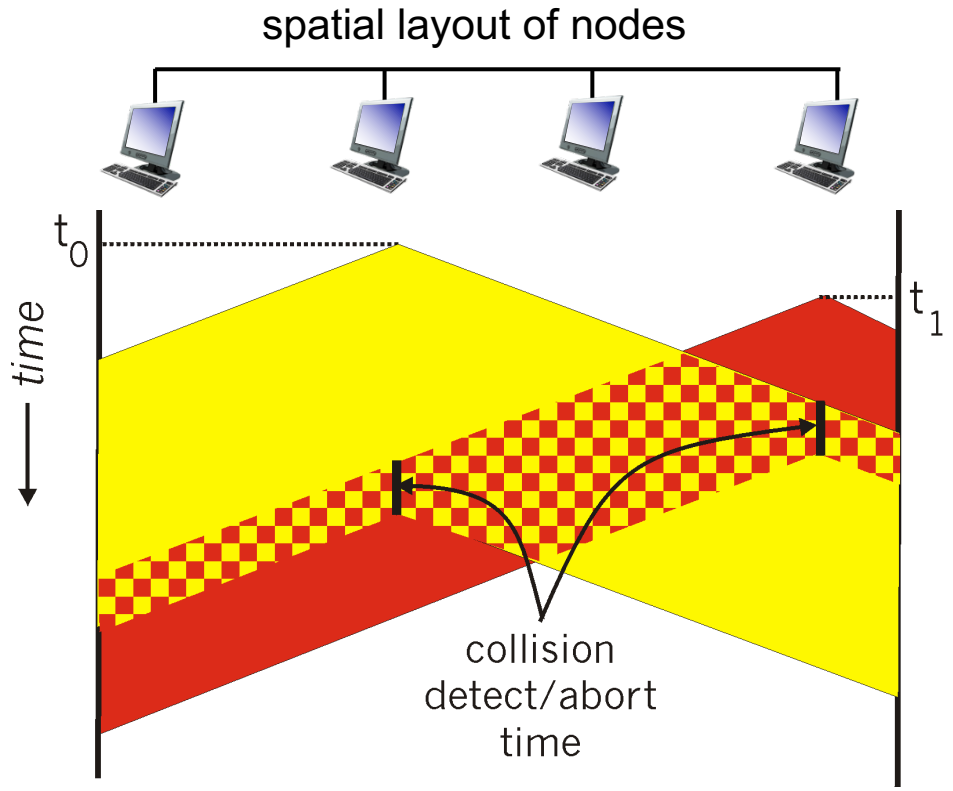
CSMA: collisions

- collisions *can* still occur with carrier sensing:
  - propagation delay means two nodes may not hear each other's just-started transmission
- collision: entire packet transmission time wasted
  - distance & propagation delay play role in in determining collision probability



CSMA/CD:

- CSMA/CS reduces the amount of time wasted in collisions
  - transmission aborted on collision detection



Ethernet CSMA/CD algorithm

1. NIC receives datagram from network layer, creates frame
2. If NIC senses channel:

   if idle: start frame transmission.

   if busy: wait until channel idle, then transmit
3. If NIC transmits entire frame without collision, NIC is done with frame !
4. If NIC detects another transmission while sending: abort, send jam signal
5. After aborting, NIC enters *binary (exponential) backoff:*
   - after *m*th collision, NIC chooses *K* at random from $\{0,1,2, \ldots, 2^m-1\}$. NIC waits $K \cdot 512$ bit times, returns to Step 2
   - more collisions: longer backoff interval

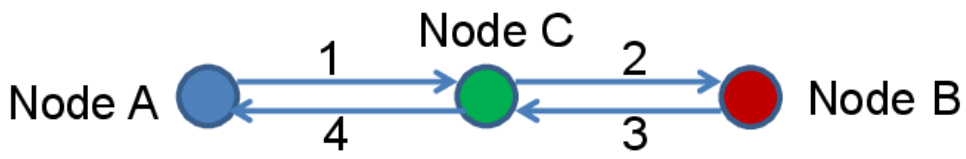
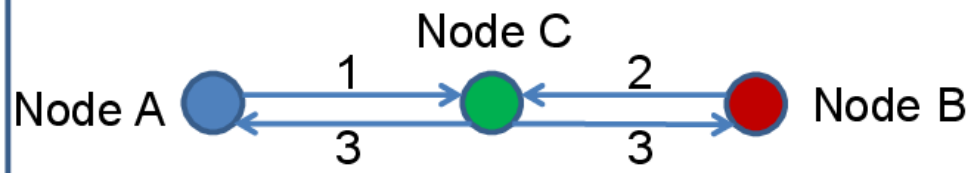
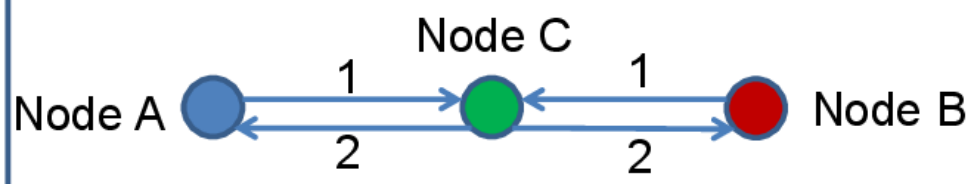
CSMA/CD efficiency

- T_{prop} = max prop delay between 2 nodes in LAN
- t_{trans} = time to transmit max-size frame

$$efficiency = \frac{1}{1 + 5t_{prop}/t_{trans}}$$

- efficiency goes to 1
  - as t_{prop} goes to 0
  - as t_{trans} goes to infinity
- better performance than ALOHA: and simple, cheap, decentralized!

Is Collision Always Bad?

 Legend: Number = timeslot number	Without network coding needs 4 timeslots for nodes A and B to exchange their packets via node C (2 packets/4 timeslots)
 Legend: Number = timeslot number	With bit level network coding (digital network coding) needs 3 timeslots for nodes A and B to exchange their packets via node C (2 packets/3 timeslots)
 Legend: Number = timeslot number	With signal level network coding (analog network coding) needs 2 timeslots for nodes A and B to exchange their packets via node C (2 packets/2 timeslots)

(Susanto 2015)

“Taking turns” MAC protocols

channel partitioning MAC protocols:

- share channel *efficiently* and *fairly* at high load
- inefficient at low load: delay in channel access, 1/N bandwidth allocated even if only 1 active node!

random access MAC protocols

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

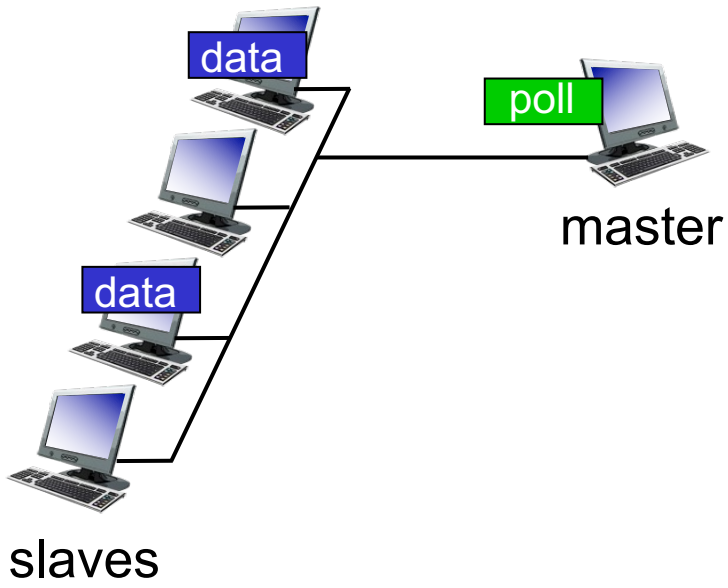
“taking turns” protocols

- look for best of both worlds!

“Taking turns” MAC protocols

polling:

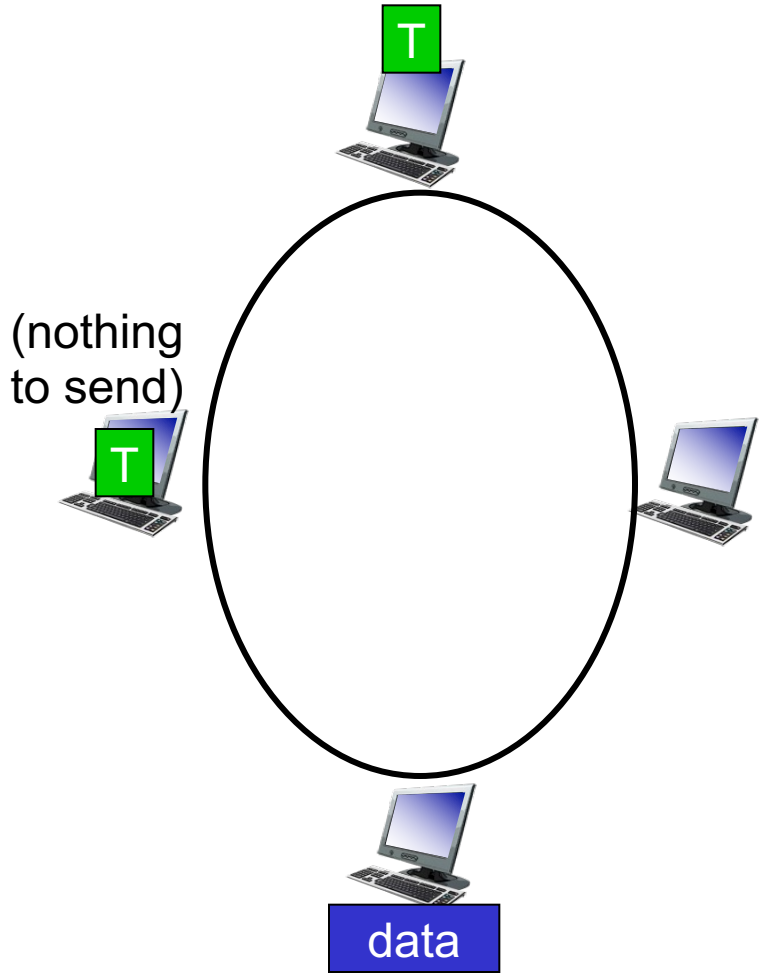
- master node “invites” other nodes to transmit in turn
- typically used with “dumb” devices
- concerns:
  - polling overhead
  - latency
  - single point of failure (master)



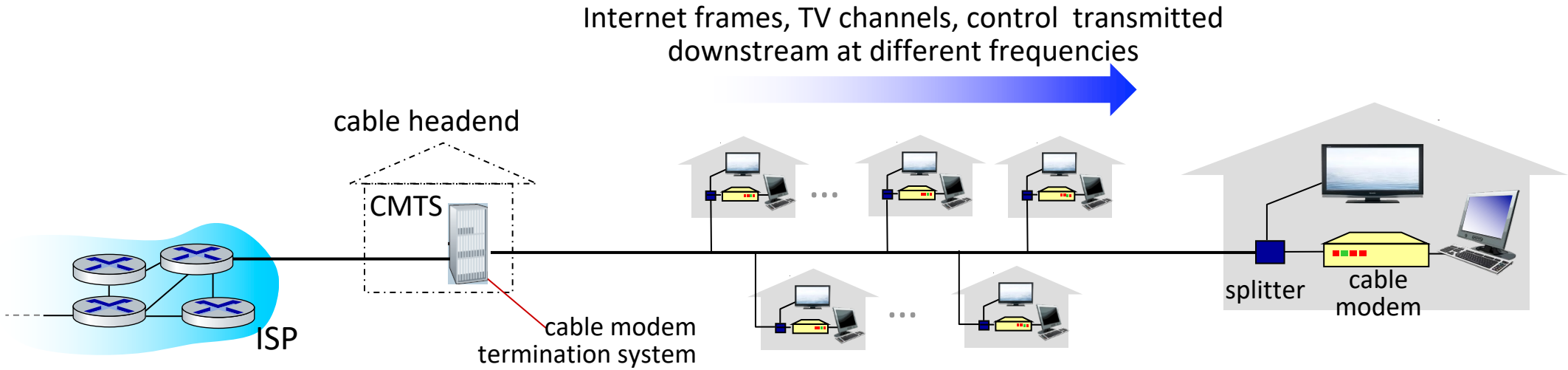
“Taking turns” MAC protocols

token passing:

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

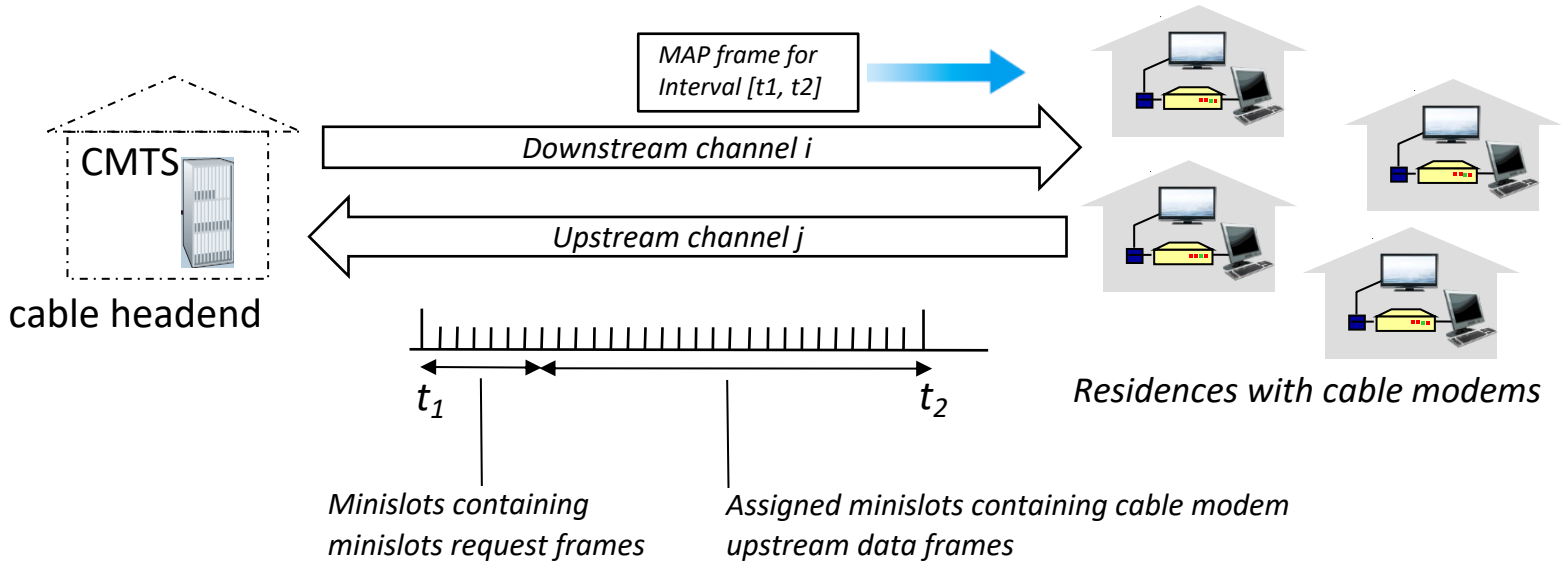


Cable access network: FDM, TDM *and* random access!



- multiple downstream (broadcast) FDM channels: up to 1.6 Gbps/channel
  - single CMTS transmits into channels
- multiple upstream channels (up to 1 Gbps/channel)
  - multiple access: all users contend (random access) for certain upstream channel time slots; others assigned TDM

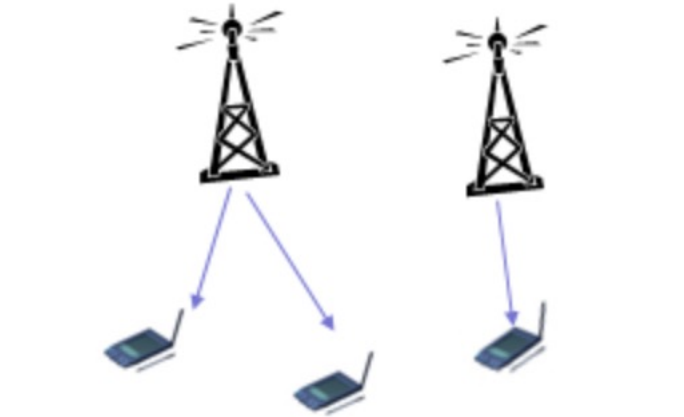
Cable access network:

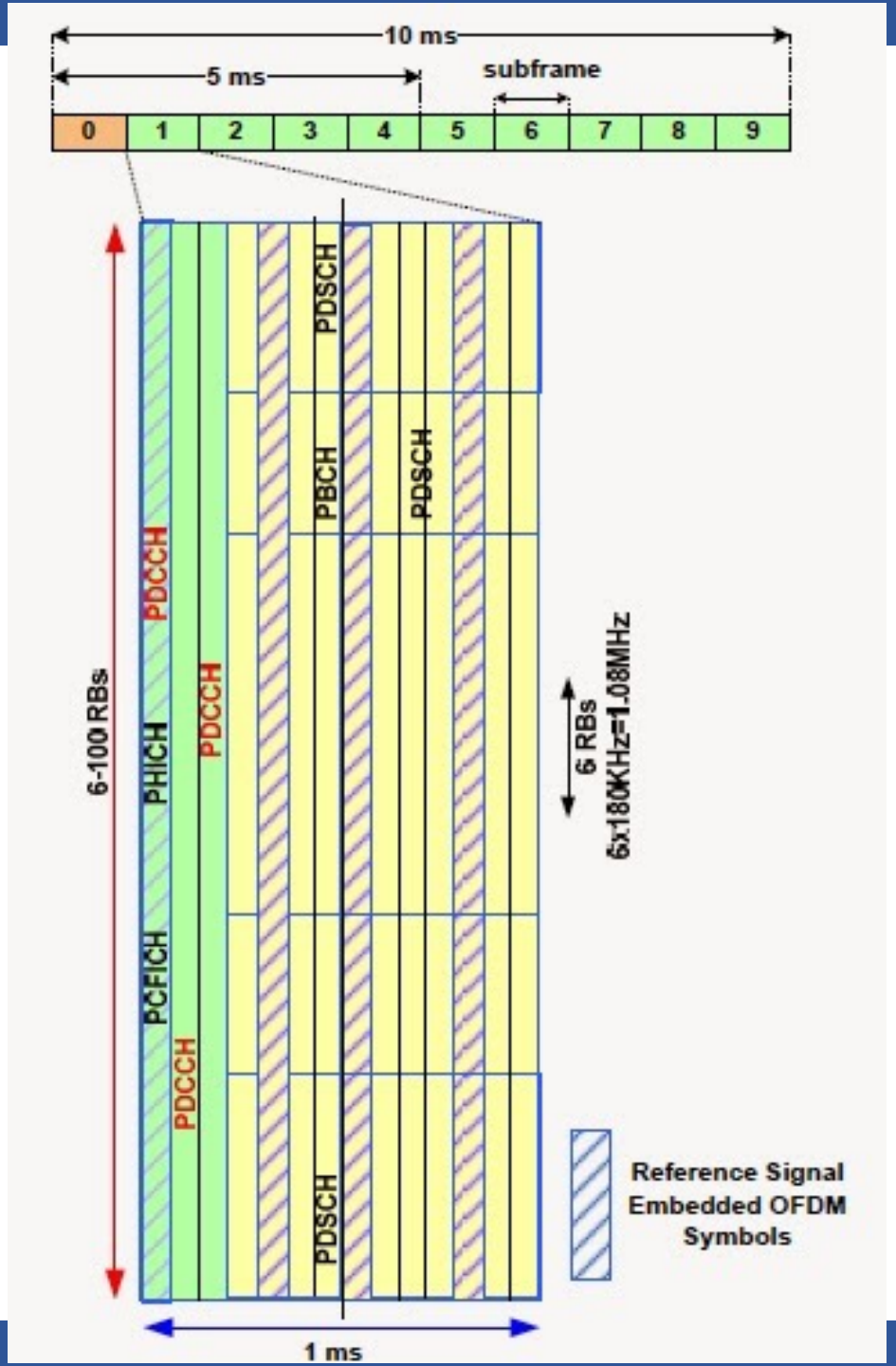


DOCSIS: data over cable service interface specificaiton

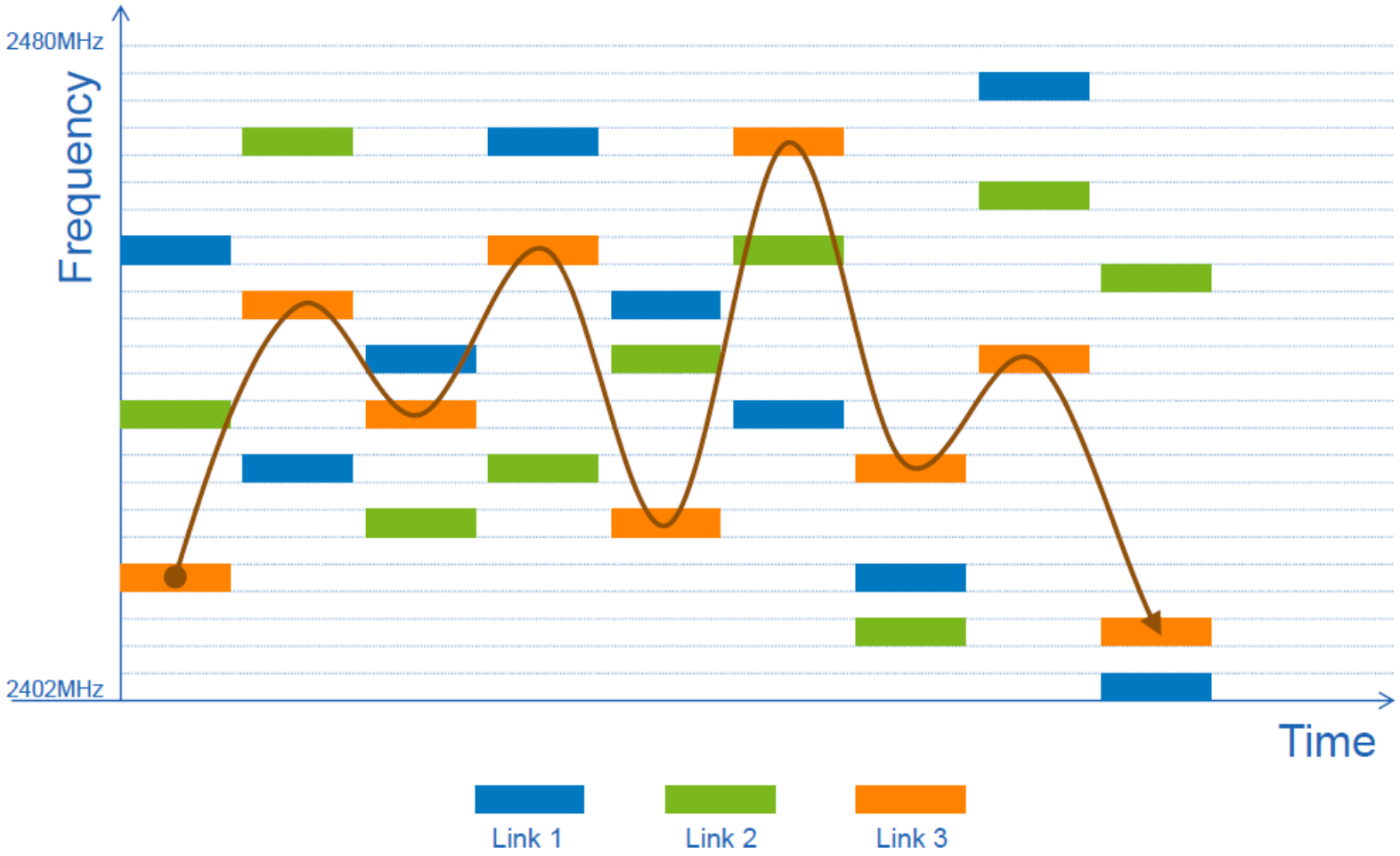
- FDM over upstream, downstream frequency channels
- TDM upstream: some slots assigned, some have contention
  - downstream MAP frame: assigns upstream slots
  - request for upstream slots (and data) transmitted random access (binary backoff) in selected slots

Cellular network:





Bluetooth frequency hopping



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

Next…

- *Chapter 6.3 Multiple Access Links and Protocols*
- *Chapter 6.4 Switched Local Area Networks*