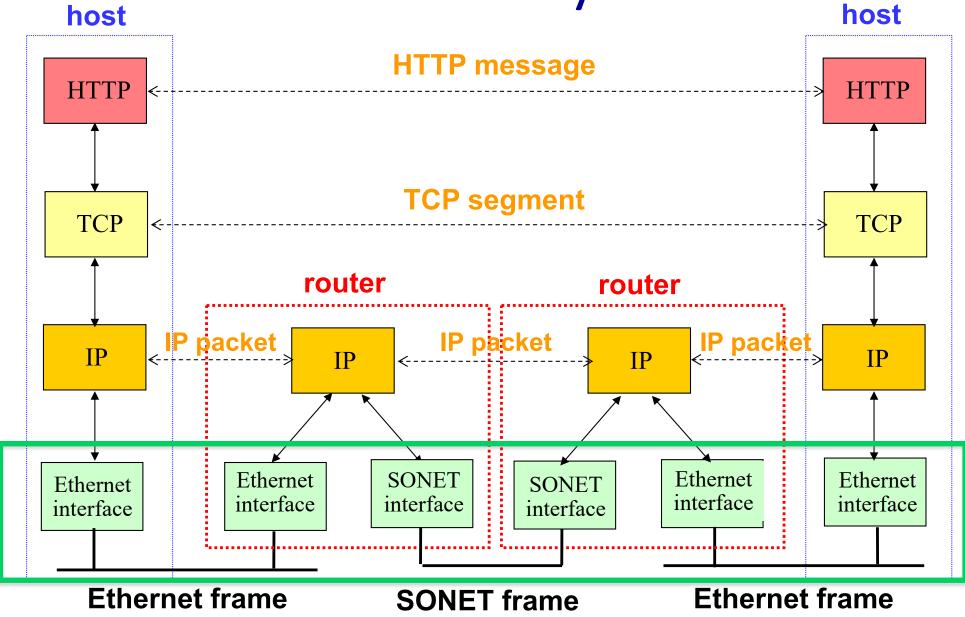
Protocol Layers



Link = Medium + Adapters

What is a Link?

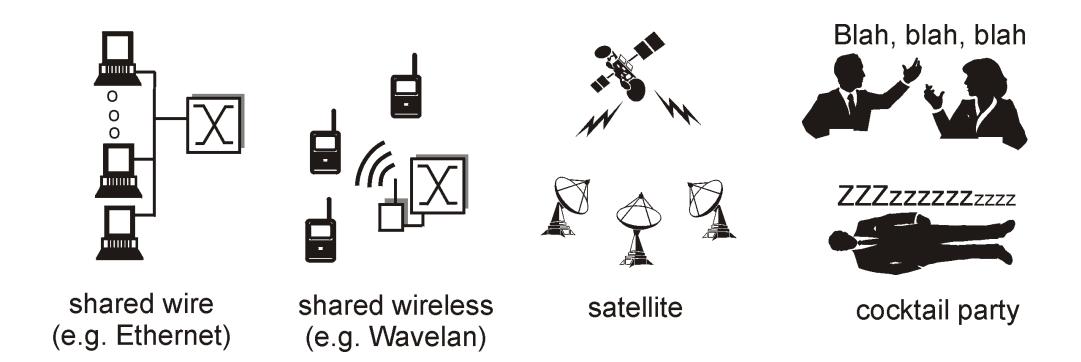
Communication Medium



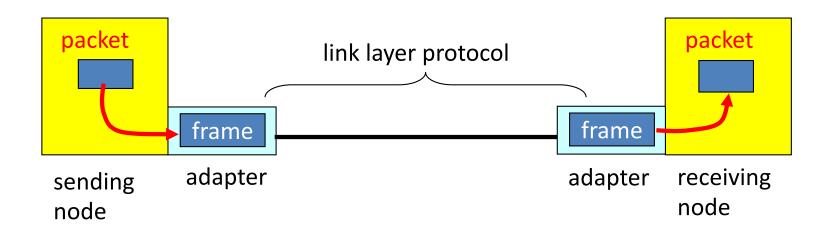
Network Adapter



Broadcast Links: Shared Media



Adaptors Communicating



Sending side

- Encapsulates packet in a frame
- Adds error checking bits, flow control, etc.

Receiving side

- Looks for errors, flow control, etc.
- Extracts datagram and passes to receiving node

Link-Layer Services

Encoding

Represent the 0s and 1s

Framing

Encapsulate packet into frame, adding header/trailer

Error detection

Receiver detecting errors with checksums

Error correction

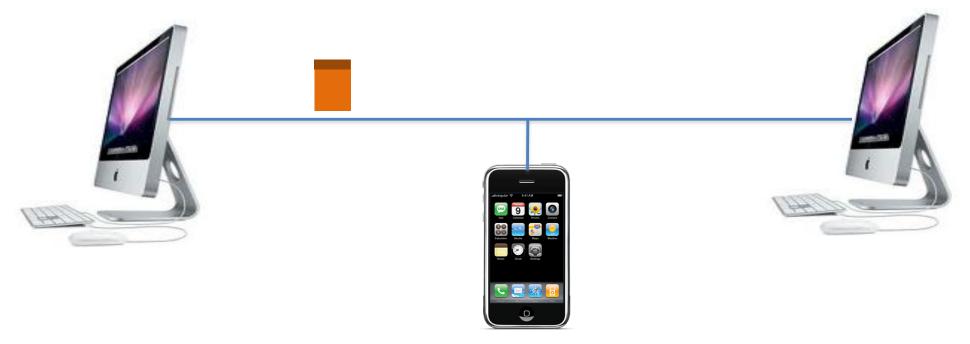
Receiver optionally correcting errors

Flow control

Pacing between sending and receiving nodes

Addresses

Medium Access Control Address



- Identify the sending and receiving adapter
 - Unique identifier for each network adapter
 - Identifies the intended receiver(s) of the frame
 - ... and the sender who sent the frame

Medium Access Control Address

- MAC address (e.g., 00-15-C5-49-04-A9)
 - Numerical address used within a link
 - Unique, hard-coded in the adapter when it is built
 - Flat name space of 48 bits
- Hierarchical allocation: Global uniqueness!
 - Blocks: assigned to vendors (e.g., Dell) by the IEEE
 - Adapters: assigned by the vendor from its block
- Broadcast address (i.e., FF-FF-FF-FF)
 - Send the frame to all adapters

As an Aside: Promiscuous Mode

- Normal adapter: receives frames sent to
 - The local MAC address
 - Broadcast address FF-FF-FF-FF-FF
- Promiscuous mode
 - Receive everything, independent of destination MAC
- Useful for packet sniffing
 - Network monitoring
 - E.g., wireshark, tcpdump



Why Not Just Use IP Addresses?

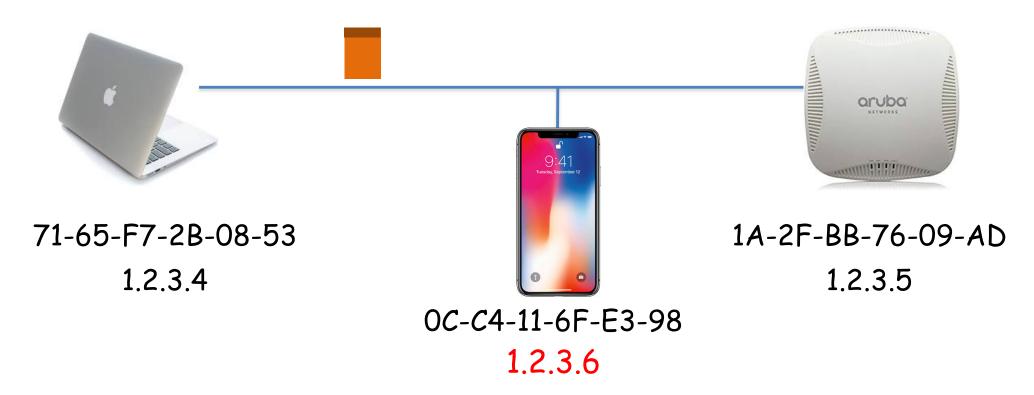
- Links can support any network protocol
 - Not just for IP (e.g., IPX, Appletalk, X.25, ...)
 - Different addresses on different kinds of links
- An adapter may move to a new location
 - So, cannot simply assign a static IP address
 - Instead, must reconfigure the adapter's IP address
- Must identify the adapter during bootstrap
 - Need to talk to the adapter to assign it an IP address

Who Am I: Acquiring an IP Address



- Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)
 - Broadcast "I need an IP address, please!"
 - Response "You can have IP address 1.2.3.4."

Who Are You: Discovering the Receiver



- Address Resolution Protocol (ARP)
 - Broadcast "who has IP address 1.2.3.6?"
 - Response "0C-C4-11-6F-E3-98 has 1.2.3.6!"

Sharing the Medium

Collisions



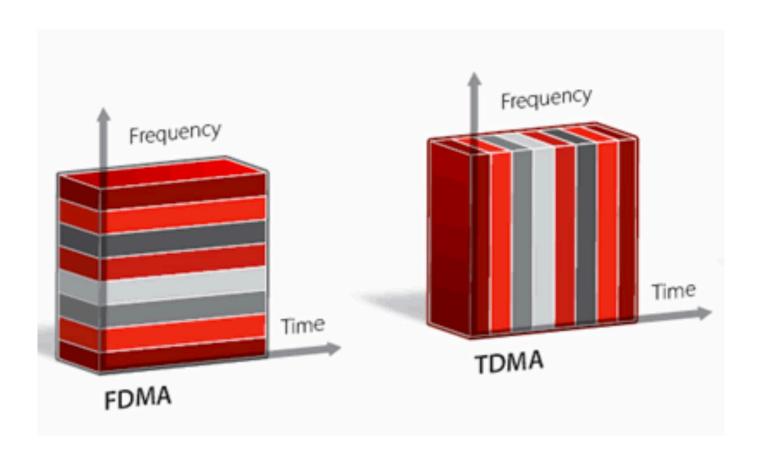
OC-C4-11-6F-E3-98

Single shared broadcast channel

- Avoid having multiple nodes speaking at once
- Otherwise, collisions lead to garbled data

Multi-Access Protocol

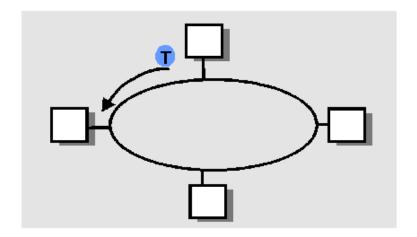
- Divide the channel into pieces
 - in frequency vs. in time



Multi-Access Protocol

Take turns

- Do not transmit w/o token
- With token, transmit for up to some max time/length
- Pass token to right



Punt

- Let collisions happen
- ... and detect and recover from them

Like Human Conversation...

Carrier sense

- Listen before speaking
- …and don't interrupt!



Collision detection

- Detect simultaneous talking
- ... and shut up!



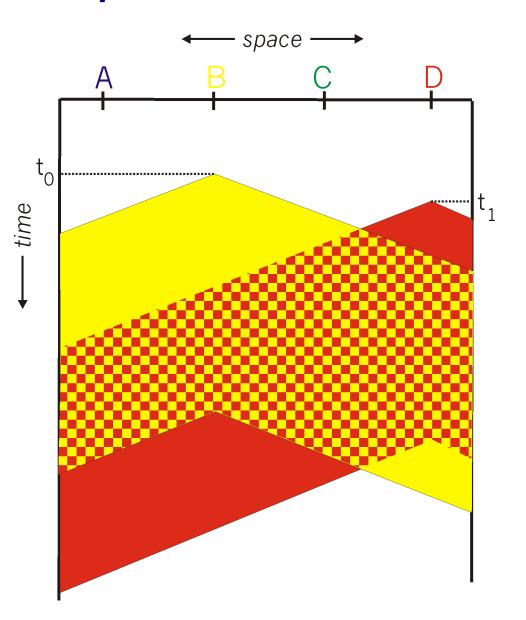
Random access

- Wait for a random period of time
- ... before trying to talk again!



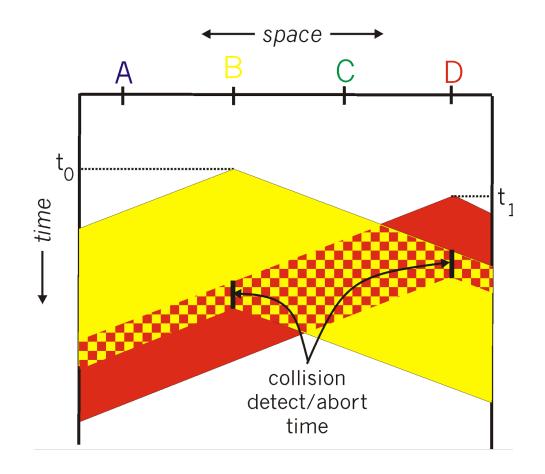
Carrier Sense Multiple Access

- Listen for other senders
 - Then transmit your data
- Collisions can still occur
 - Propagation delay
 - Wasted transmission



CSMA/CD Collision Detection

- Detect collision
 - Abort transmission
 - Jam the link
- Wait random time
 - Transmit again
- Hard in wireless
 - Must receive data while transmitting



Comparing the Three Approaches

Channel partitioning is

- (a) Efficient/fair at high load, inefficient at low load
- (b) Inefficient at high load, efficient/fair at low load

"Taking turns"

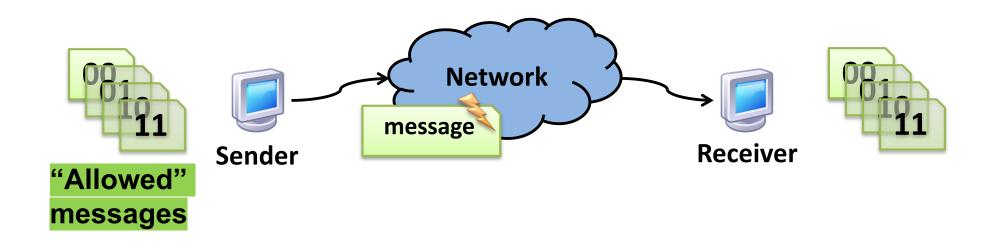
- (a) Inefficient at high load
- (b) Efficient at all loads
- (c) Robust to failures

Random access

- (a) Inefficient at low load
- (b) Efficient at all load
- (c) Robust to failures

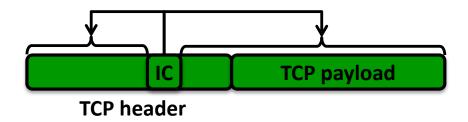
Error Control

Error control: Motivation

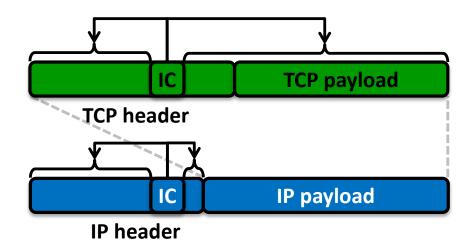


- A priori, any string of bits is an "allowed" message
 - Hence any changes to the bits (bit errors) the sender transmits produce "allowed" messages
- Therefore without error control, receiver wouldn't know errors happened!

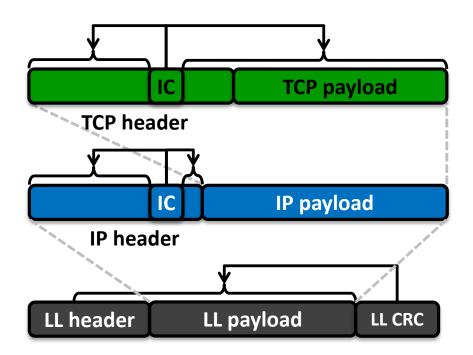
- Transport layer
 - Internet Checksum (IC) over
 TCP/UDP header, data



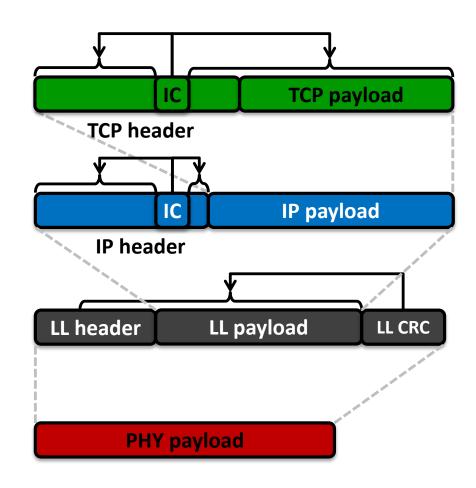
- Transport layer
 - Internet Checksum (IC) over
 TCP/UDP header, data
- Network layer (L3)
 - IC over IP header only



- Transport layer
 - Internet Checksum (IC) over
 TCP/UDP header, data
- Network layer (L3)
 - IC over IP header only
- Link layer (L2)
 - Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC)



- Transport layer
 - Internet Checksum (IC) over
 TCP/UDP header, data
- Network layer (L3)
 - IC over IP header only
- Link layer (L2)
 - Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC)
- Physical layer (PHY)
 - Error Control Coding (ECC), or
 - Forward Error Correction (FEC)



Error control: Key Ideas

- Reduce the set of "allowed" messages
 - Not every string of bits is an "allowed" message
 - Receipt of a disallowed string of bits means that the message was garbled in transit over the network
- We call an allowable message (of n bits) a codeword
 - Not all n-bit strings are codewords!
 - The remaining n-bit strings are "space" between codewords
- Plan: Receiver will use that space to both detect and correct errors in transmitted messages

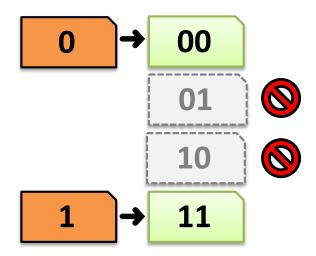
Encoding and decoding

- Problem: Not every string of bits is "allowed"
 - But we want to be able to send any message!
 - How can we send a "disallowed" message?
- Answer: Codes, as a sender-receiver protocol
 - The sender must *encode* its messages → codewords
 - The receiver then *decodes* received bits → messages
- The relationship between messages and codewords isn't always obvious!

A simple error-detecting code

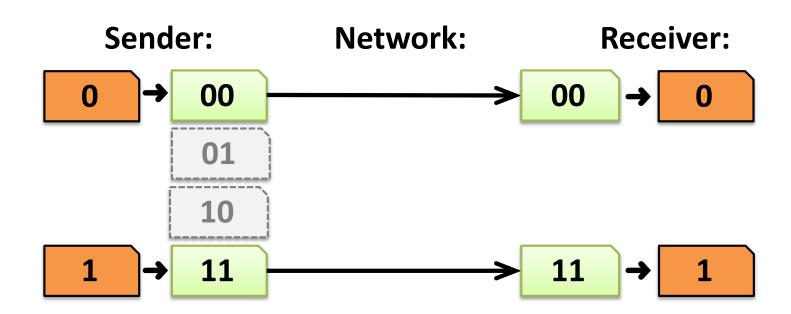
- Let's start simple: suppose messages are one bit long
- Take the message bit, and repeat it once
 - This is called a two-repetition code

Sender:



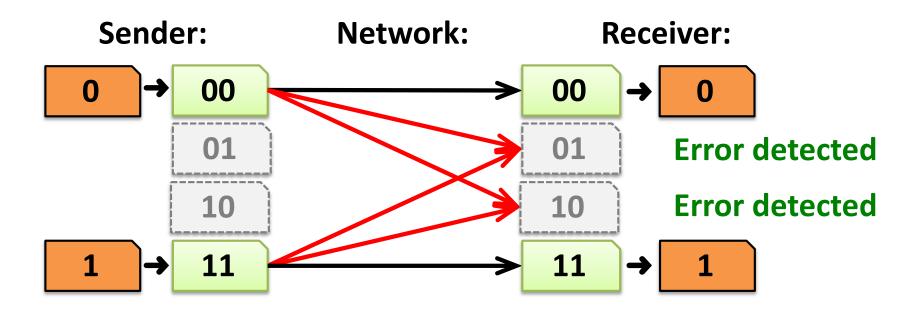
Receiving the two-repetition code

- Suppose the network causes no bit error
- Receiver removes repetition to correctly decode the message bits



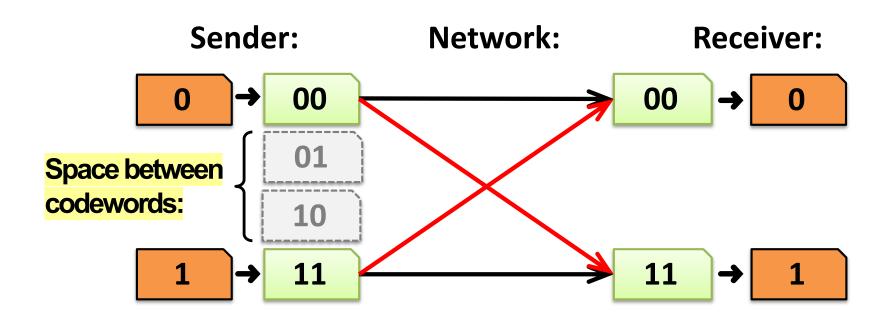
Detecting one bit error

- Suppose the network causes up to one bit error
- The receiver can detect the error:
 - It received a non-codeword
- Can the receiver correct the error?
 - No! The other codeword could have been sent as well



Reception with two bit errors

- Can receiver detect presence of two bit errors?
 - No: It has no way of telling which codeword was sent!
 - Enough bit errors that the sent codeword "jumped over" the space between codewords



Hamming distance

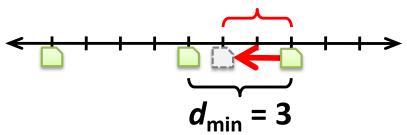
- Measures the number of bit flips to change one codeword into another
- Hamming distance between two messages m_1 , m_2 : The number of bit flips needed to change m_1 into m_2
- **Example:** Two bit flips needed to change codeword 00 to codeword 11, so they are Hamming distance of two apart:



How many bit errors can we detect?

• Suppose the minimum Hamming distance between any pair of codewords is d_{\min}

- Then, we can detect at most d_{min}-1 bit errors
 - Will land in space between codewords, as we just saw
 2 bit errors



Receiver will flag message as "Error detected"

Decoding error detecting codes

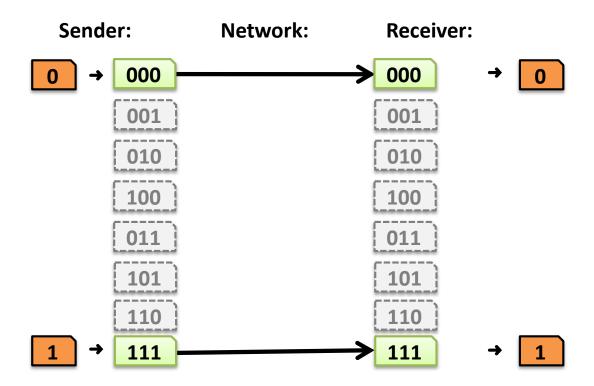
The receiver decodes in a two-step process:

- 1. Map received bits → codeword
 - Decoding rule: Consider all codewords
 - Choose the one that exactly matches the received bits
 - Return "error detected" if none match

- 2. Map codeword → source bits and "error detected"
 - Use the **reverse map** of the sender

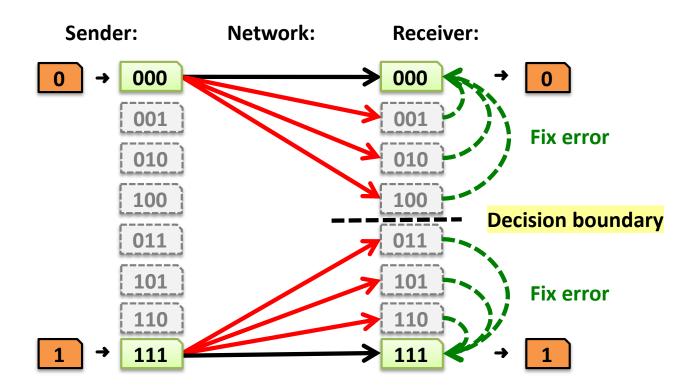
A simple error-correcting code

- Let's look at a three-repetition code
- If **no errors**, it works like the two-repetition code:



Correcting one bit error

- Receiver chooses the closest codeword (measured by Hamming distance) to the received bits
 - A decision boundary exists halfway between codewords



Decoding error correcting codes

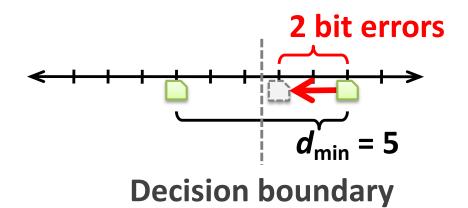
The receiver decodes in a two-step process:

- 1. Map received bits → codeword
 - Decoding rule: Consider all codewords
 - Choose one with the minimum Hamming distance to the received bits

- 2. Map codeword → source bits
 - Use the **reverse map** of the sender

How many bit errors can we correct?

- There is $\geq d_{min}$ Hamming distance between any two codewords
- So we can correct $\leq \lfloor \frac{d_{\min}-1}{2} \rfloor$ bit flips:
 - This many bit flips can't move received bits closer to another codeword, across the decision boundary:



Code rate

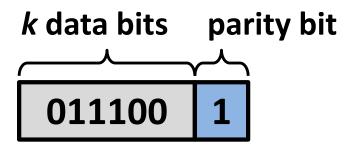
- Suppose codewords of length n, messages length k (k < n)
- The code rate R = k/n is a fraction between 0 and 1
- So, we have a tradeoff:
 - High-rate codes (R approaching one) generally correct fewer errors, but add less overhead
 - Low-rate codes (R close to zero) generally correct more errors, but add more overhead

Parity bit

- Given a message of k data bits D_1 , D_2 , ..., D_k , append a **parity bit P** to make a codeword of length n = k + 1
 - P is the exclusive-or of the data bits:

•
$$P = D_1 \oplus D_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus D_k$$

Pick the parity bit so that total number of 1's is even



Checking the parity bit

- Receiver: counts number of 1s in received message
 - Even: received message is a codeword
 - Odd: isn't a codeword, and error detected
 - But receiver doesn't know where, so can't correct
- What about d_{\min} ?
 - Change one data bit \rightarrow change parity bit, so $d_{min} = 2$
 - So parity bit detects 1 bit error, corrects 0
- Can we detect and correct more errors, in general?

Two-dimensional parity

- Break up data into multiple rows
 - Parity bit **across** each row (p_i)
 - Parity bit down each column (q_i)
 - Add a parity bit r covering row parities

$$p_{j} = d_{j,1} \oplus d_{j,2} \oplus d_{j,3} \oplus d_{j,4}$$

$$q_{j} = d_{1,j} \oplus d_{2,j} \oplus d_{3,j} \oplus d_{4,j}$$

$$r = p_{1} \oplus p_{2} \oplus p_{3} \oplus p_{4}$$

 $d_{1,1}$ $d_{1,2}$ $d_{1,3}$ $d_{1,4}$ p_1 $d_{2,1}$ $d_{2,2}$ $d_{2,3}$ $d_{2,4}$ p_2 $d_{3,1}$ $d_{3,2}$ $d_{3,3}$ $d_{3,4}$ p_3 $d_{4,1}$ $d_{4,2}$ $d_{4,3}$ $d_{4,4}$ p_4

 q_3

 q_2

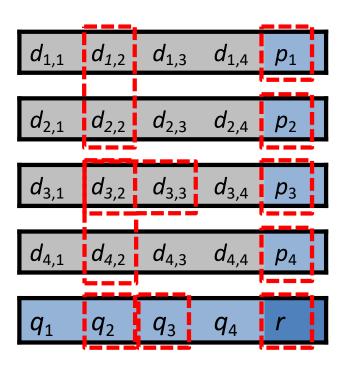
 q_4

This example has rate 16/25:

Two-dimensional parity: Properties

- Flip 1 data bit, 3 parity bits flip
- Flip 2 data bits, ≥ 2 parity bits flip
- Flip 3 data bits, ≥ 3 parity bits flip
- Therefore, $d_{min} = 4$, so
 - Can detect ≤ 3 bit errors
 - Can correct single-bit errors (how?)

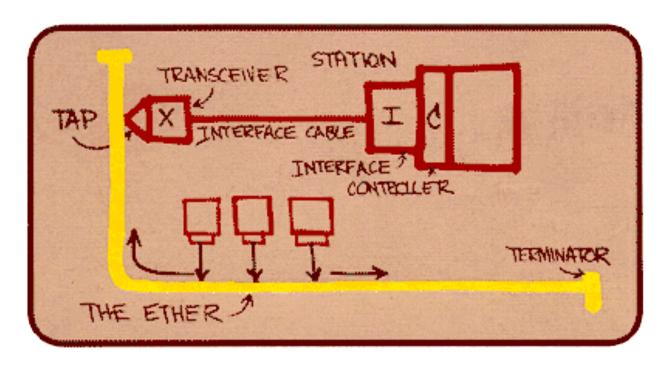




Ethernet

Ethernet

- Dominant wired LAN technology
- First widely used LAN technology
- Kept up with speed race: 10 Mbps 40 Gbps

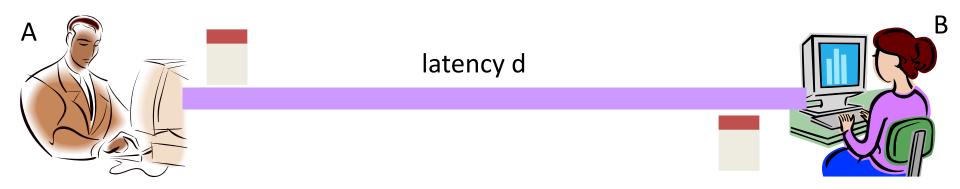


Metcalfe's Ethernet sketch

Ethernet Uses CSMA/CD

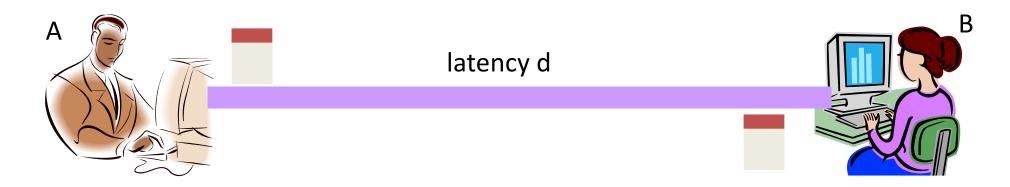
- Carrier Sense: wait for link to be idle
 - Channel idle: start transmitting
 - Channel busy: wait until idle
- Collision Detection: listen while transmitting
 - No collision: transmission is complete
 - Collision: abort transmission, and send jam signal
- Random Access: exponential back-off
 - After collision, wait random time before trying again
 - After mth collision, choose K randomly from {0, ..., 2^m-1}
 - ... and wait for K*512 bit times before trying again

Limitations on Ethernet Length



- Latency depends on physical length of link
 - Time to propagate a packet from one end to other
- Suppose A sends a packet at time t
 - And B sees an idle line at a time just before t+d
 - ... so B happily starts transmitting a packet
- B detects a collision, and sends jamming signal
 - But A doesn't see collision till t+2d

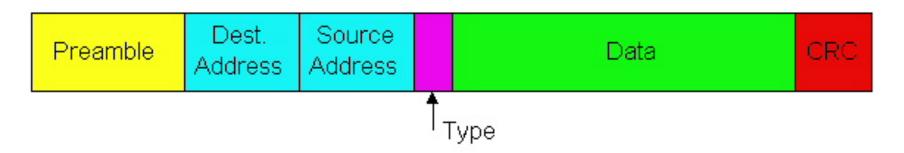
Limitations on Ethernet Length



- A needs to wait for time 2d to detect collision
 - So, A should keep transmitting during this period
 - ... and keep an eye out for a possible collision
- Imposes restrictions on Ethernet
 - Maximum length of the wire: 2500 meters
 - Minimum length of the packet: 512 bits (64 bytes)

Ethernet Frame Structure

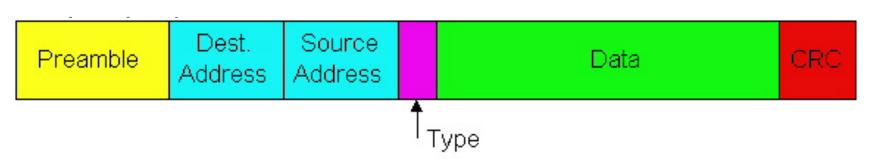
Sending adapter encapsulates packet in frame



- Preamble: synchronization
 - Seven bytes with pattern 10101010, followed by one byte with pattern 10101011
 - Used to synchronize receiver, sender clock rates

Ethernet Frame Structure

- Addresses: source and destination MAC addresses
 - Adaptor passes frame to network-level protocol
 - If destination is local MAC address or broadcast address
 - Otherwise, adapter discards frame
- Type: indicates the higher layer protocol
 - Usually IP
 - But also Novell IPX, AppleTalk, ...
- CRC: cyclic redundancy check



Unreliable, Connectionless Service

Connectionless

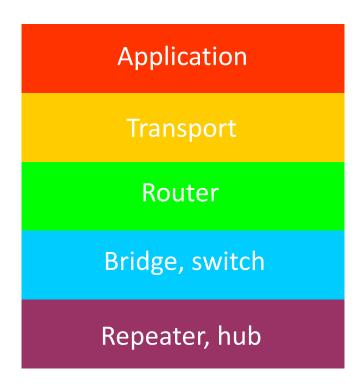
No handshaking between send and receive adapter

Unreliable

- Receiving adapter doesn't send ACKs or NACKs
- Packets passed to network layer can have gaps
- Gaps can be filled by transport protocol (e.g., TCP)
- Otherwise, the application will see the gaps

Summary: Multiple Layers

- Different devices switch different things
 - Network layer: packets (routers)
 - Link layer: frames (bridges and switches)
 - Physical layer: electrical signals (repeaters and hubs)





Conclusion

Links

- Connect two or more network adapters
- ... each with a unique address
- ... over a shared communication medium

Coming next

– Network layer (IP)