



Introduction to CAN protocol

Carlos Calvillo

November 2022 / v1.1

Contents

- **CAN Overview**
- **Protocol Specification**
 - Physical Layer
 - Data Frame Format
 - Remote Frame Format
 - Arbitration
 - Bit Stuffing
 - Error Handling
- **Network Design**
 - Transmission Types
 - Design Steps

Contents

- **CAN Overview**
- **Protocol Specification**
 - Physical Layer
 - Data Frame Format
 - Remote Frame Format
 - Arbitration
 - Bit Stuffing
 - Error Handling
- **Network Design**
 - Transmission Types
 - Design Steps


CAN Overview

CAN stands for “Controller Area Network”

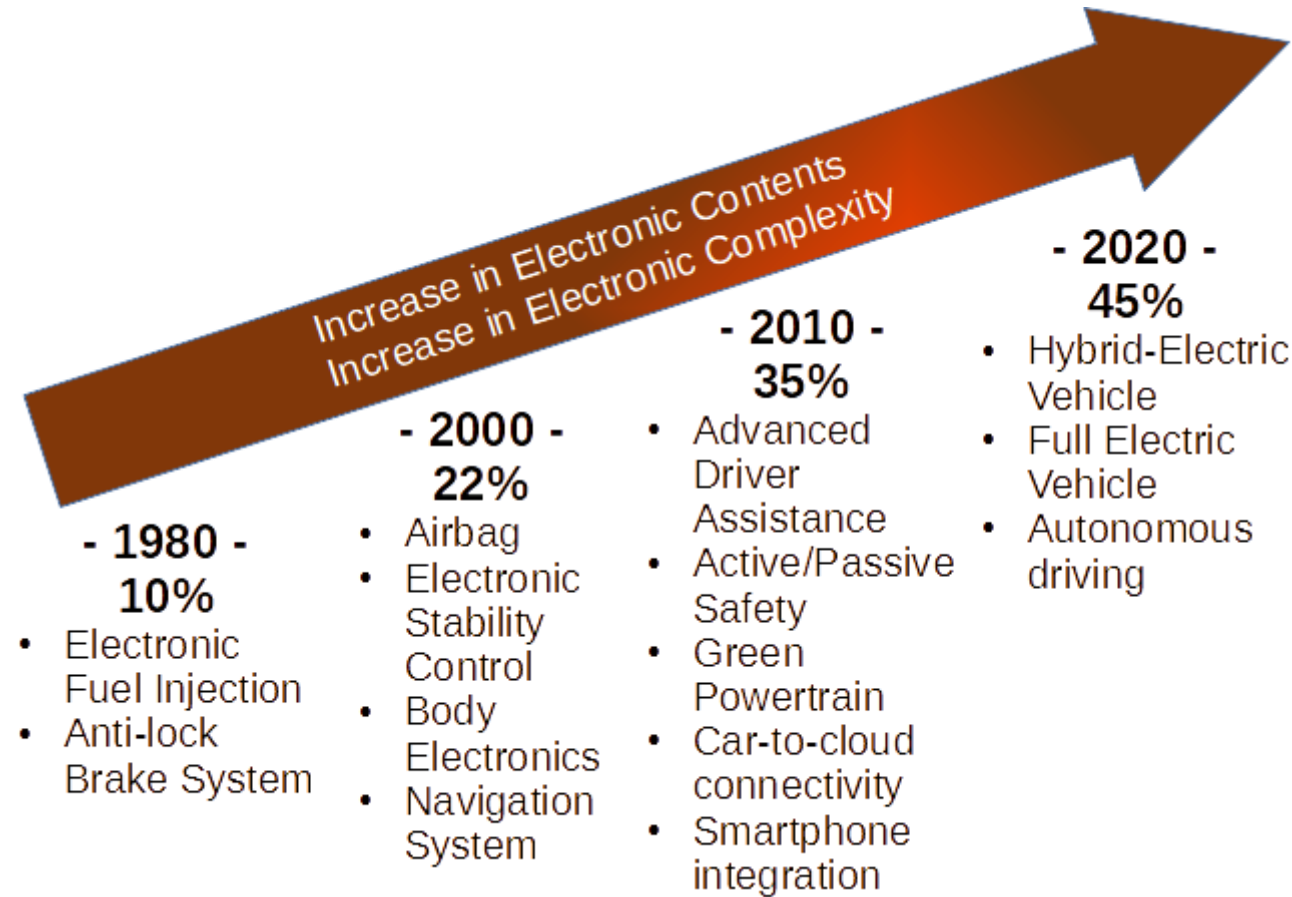
- **Asynchronous** serial communication protocol
- Efficient support for distributed **real-time control** systems
- High **reliability**
- Bit-rates:
 - **Classic CAN** → Up to **1 Mbit/s**
 - **CAN FD** → Up to **5 Mbit/s**

CAN Overview

CAN stands for “Controller Area Network”

- **Asynchronous** serial communication protocol
- Efficient support for distributed **real-time** control systems
- High **reliability**
- Bit-rates:
 - **Classic CAN** → Up to **1 Mbit/s**  *Focus in this presentation*
 - CAN **FD** → Up to 5 Mbit/s

CAN Overview



CAN Overview

Brief CAN history

1986: Bosch develops CAN protocol as a solution to traditional wiring

1991: Bosch specification CAN 2.0 (CAN 2.0A: 11 bit, 2.0B: 29 bit)

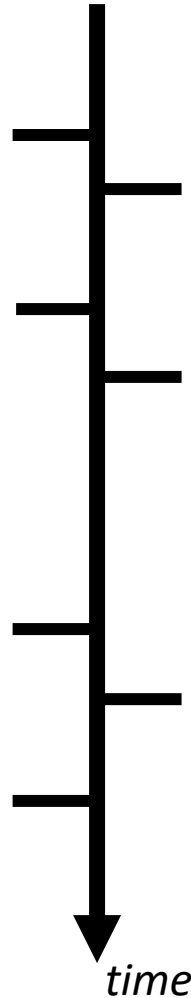
2012: Bosch released the CAN FD 1.0

2016: The physical CAN layer for data-rates up to 5 Mbit/s standardized in ISO 11898-2

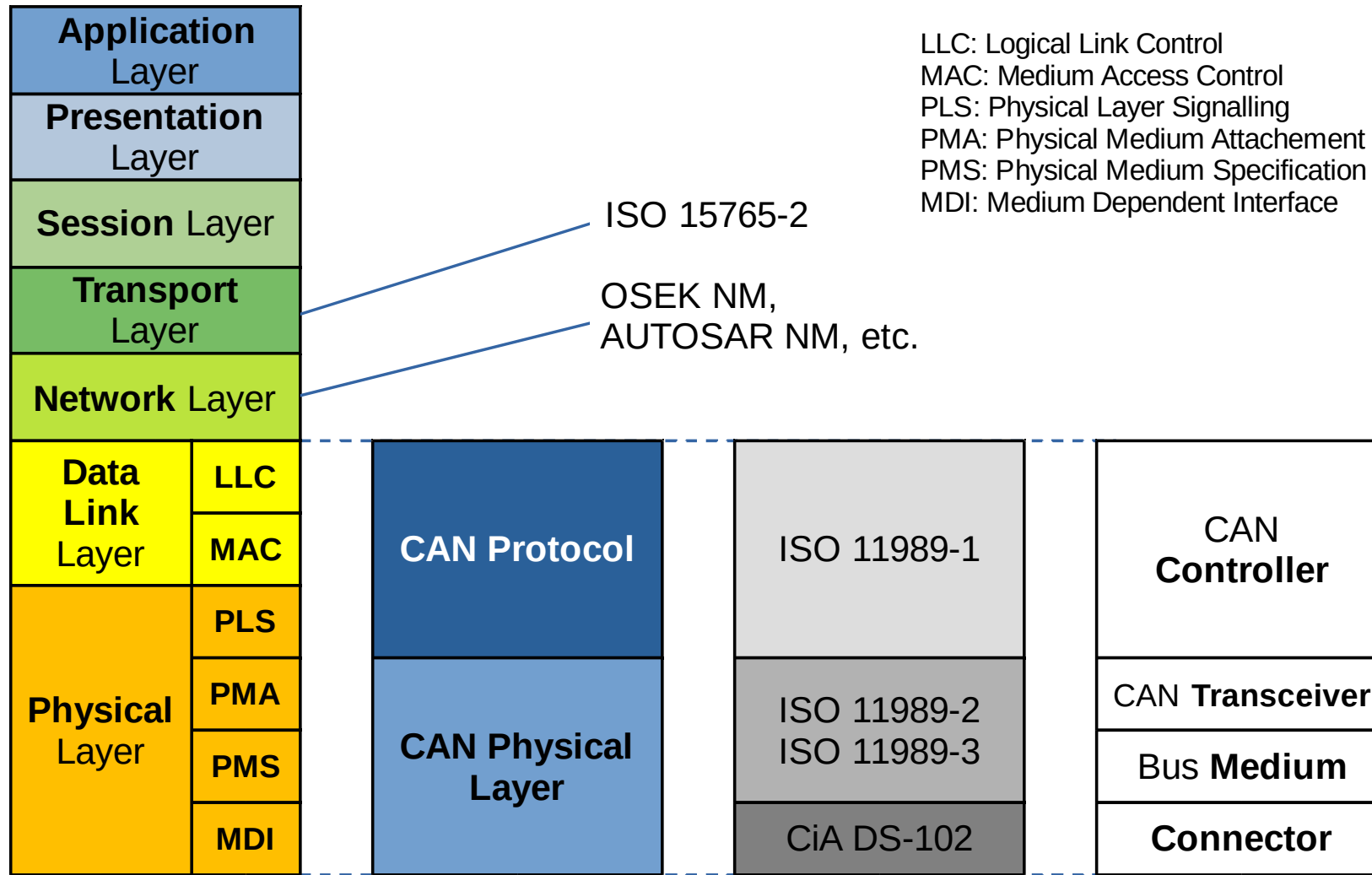
1987: First CAN controller chips (Intel 82526, Philips 82C200)

1993: CAN is standardized in **ISO 11898**

2015: The CAN FD protocol is standardized within ISO 11898

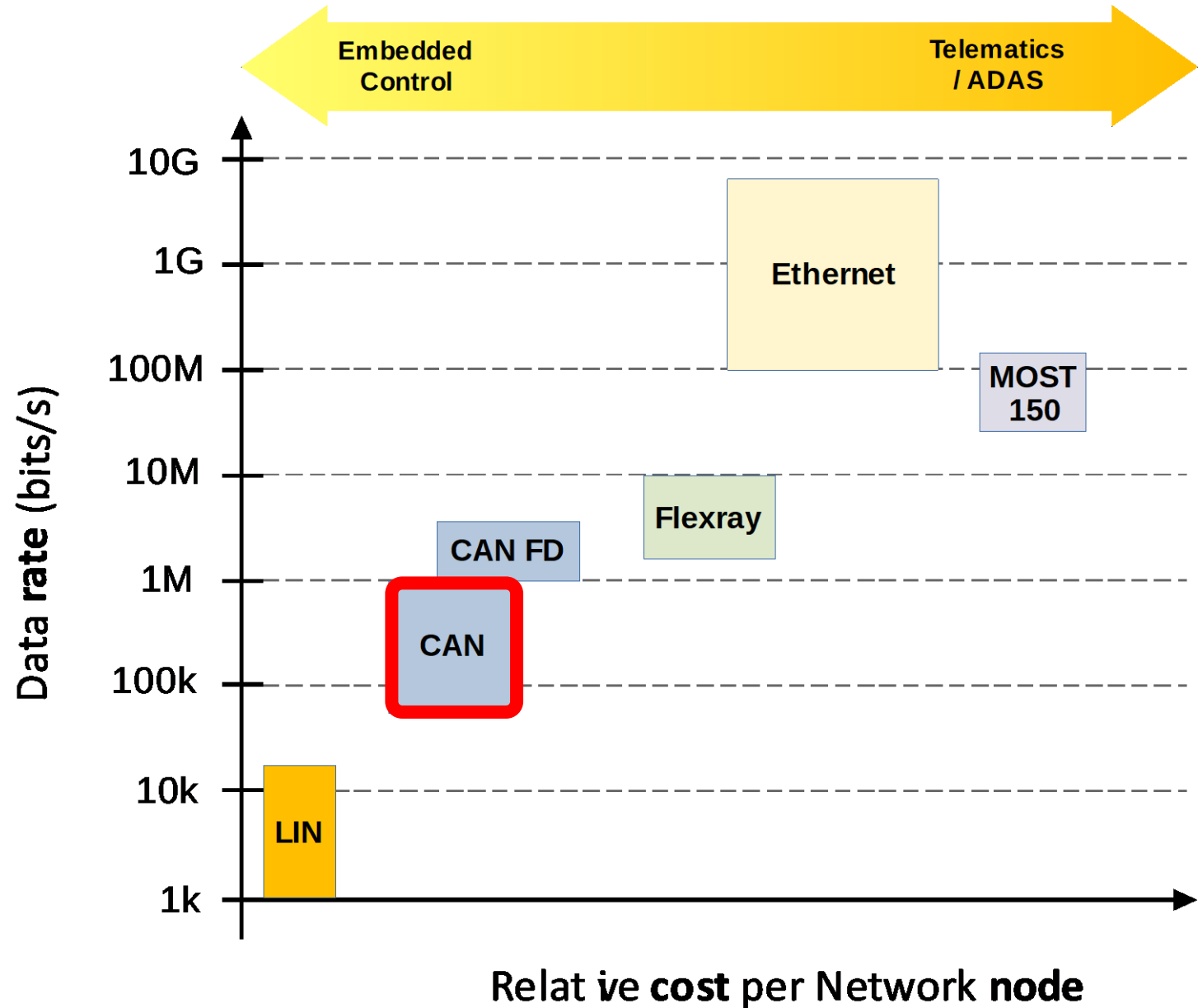


CAN Overview



CAN Overview

CAN in **context** with other protocols used in automotive



CAN Overview

- CAN for **distributed** architectures
 - **Bus** network topology
 - Good bandwidth for **control-oriented** applications
 - **Multi-master** protocol
 - **Deterministic** communication
 - Hot-in-out of nodes in network (no need for restarting the network)
 - **Cost** efficient

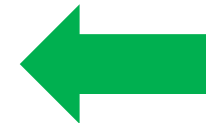
CAN Overview

- CAN Network classifications
 - **Low speed**
 - 83.3 kbit/s, 125 kbit/s
 - Two-wire or single-wire bus possible (SAE J2422)
 - Common in early vehicles using CAN
 - **High speed**
 - 250 kbit/s, **500 kbit/s**, 1 Mbit/s
 - **Two-wire** bus
 - Most used in modern vehicles

CAN Overview

- CAN Network classifications
 - **Low speed**
 - 83.3 kbit/s, 125 kbit/s
 - Two-wire or single-wire bus possible (SAE J2422)
 - Common in early vehicles using CAN

- **High speed**
 - 250 kbit/s, **500 kbit/s**, 1 Mbit/s
 - **Two-wire** bus
 - Most used in modern vehicles

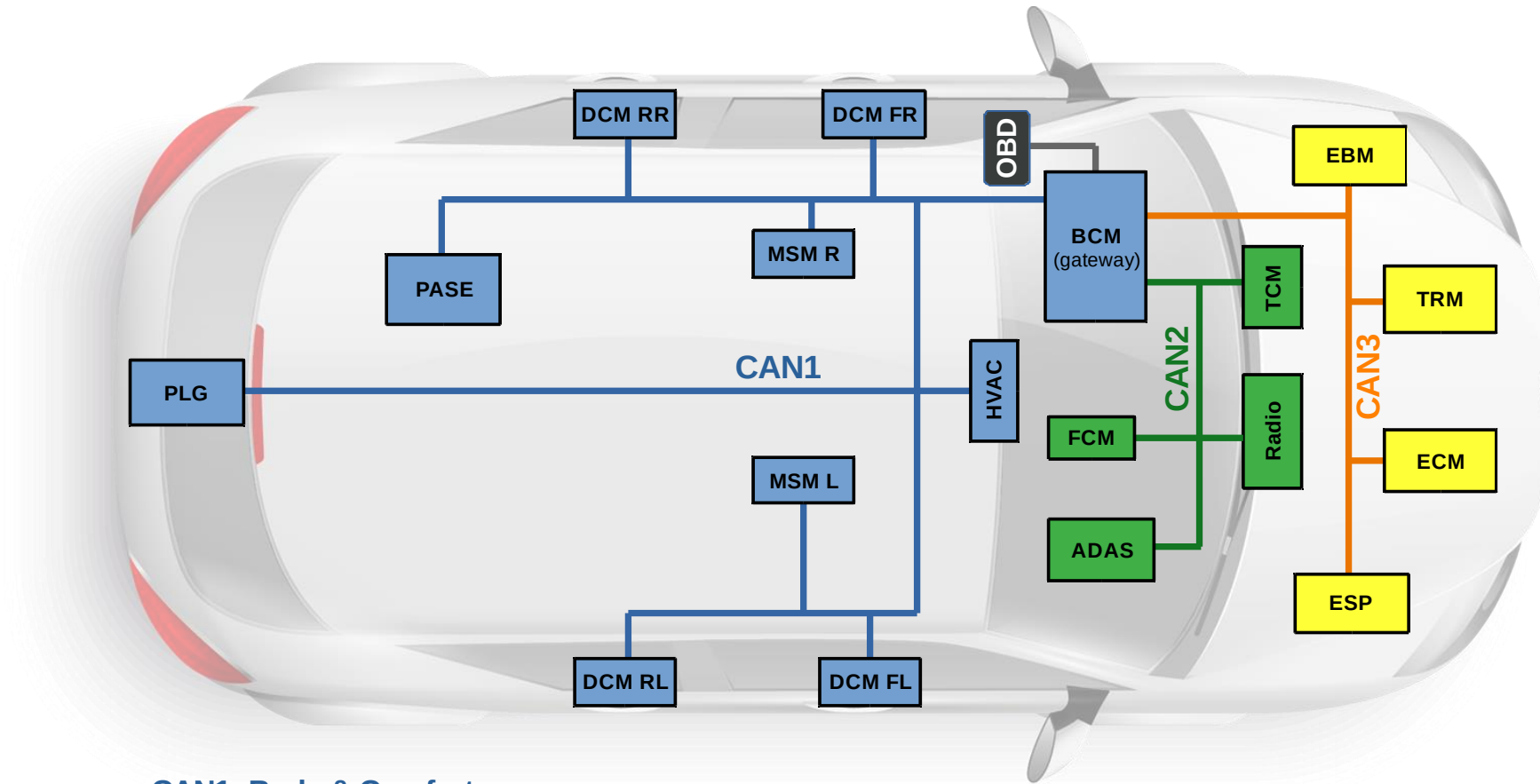


Focus in this presentation

CAN Overview

- Typical vehicle has multiple CAN networks
 - Networks for **powertrain**, **telematics**, **body** control, etc.
 - Each network with multiple **ECUs** (Electronic Control Units)
 - “**Gateway**” ECU:
 - Provides interconnection between different CAN networks
 - By transporting messages from one network to another...
 - Provides connectivity to external **diagnostic** tools (e.g., via OBD connector).

CAN Overview



CAN1: Body & Comfort
CAN2: ADAS & Telematics
CAN3: Powertrain

CAN Overview

~**80%** of CAN applications are in **automotive** industry; however, CAN is also used in other application areas:

- Agricultural Vehicles
- Medical Equipment
- Robotics
- Industrial Applications, etc.

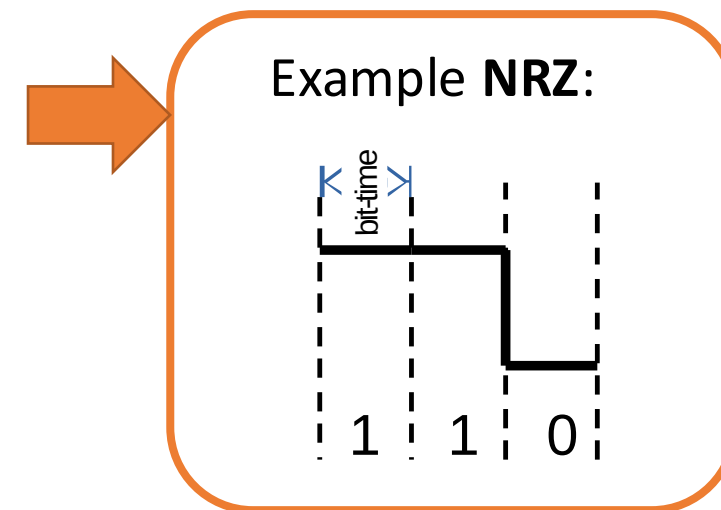


Contents

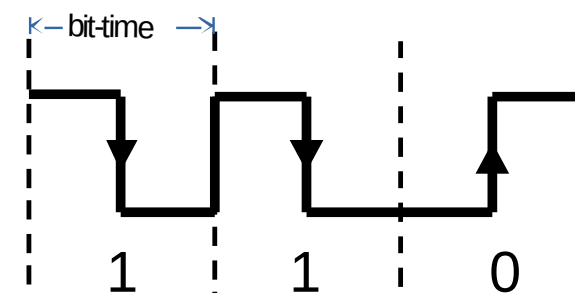
- CAN Overview
- **Protocol Specification**
 - Physical Layer
 - Data Frame Format
 - Remote Frame Format
 - Arbitration
 - Bit Stuffing
 - Error Handling
- Network Design
 - Transmission Types
 - Design Steps

Protocol Specification

- CAN uses Non-Return-to-Zero (**NRZ**) bit coding
 - Bus level is kept constant for each bit-time (no transition within a single bit)
 - ✓ Less transitions (as compared to other bit codings) → higher bandwidth
 - ✓ Reduced electro-magnetic emissions
 - ✗ Receiver may lose synchronization with long sequence of bits with same value
→ *Bit-stuffing technique mitigates this situation*



Example Manchester Encoding:



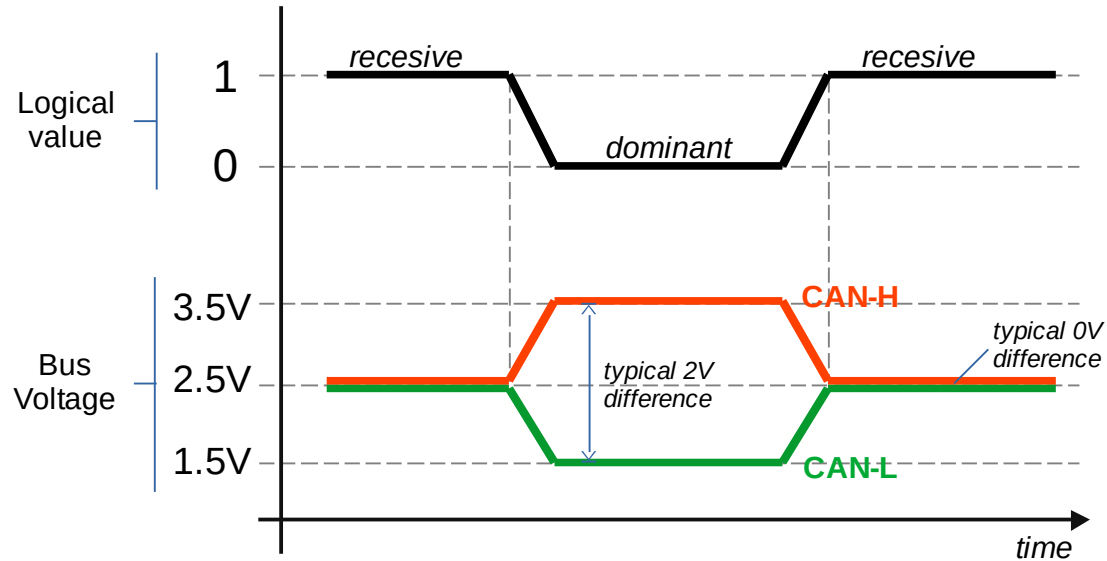
Protocol Specification

- **Physical Layer**
 - **Differential** voltage transmission (**two-wires**)
 - CAN High (**CAN-H**), CAN Low (**CAN-L**)
 - Reference to common GND
 - Unshielded Twisted Pair
 - Termination **resistor** at each end of the CAN Bus → **120 Ω**
 - Allow power dissipation for generation of “recessive” levels
 - Prevent reflections
 - Line resistance: less than **60 Ω**

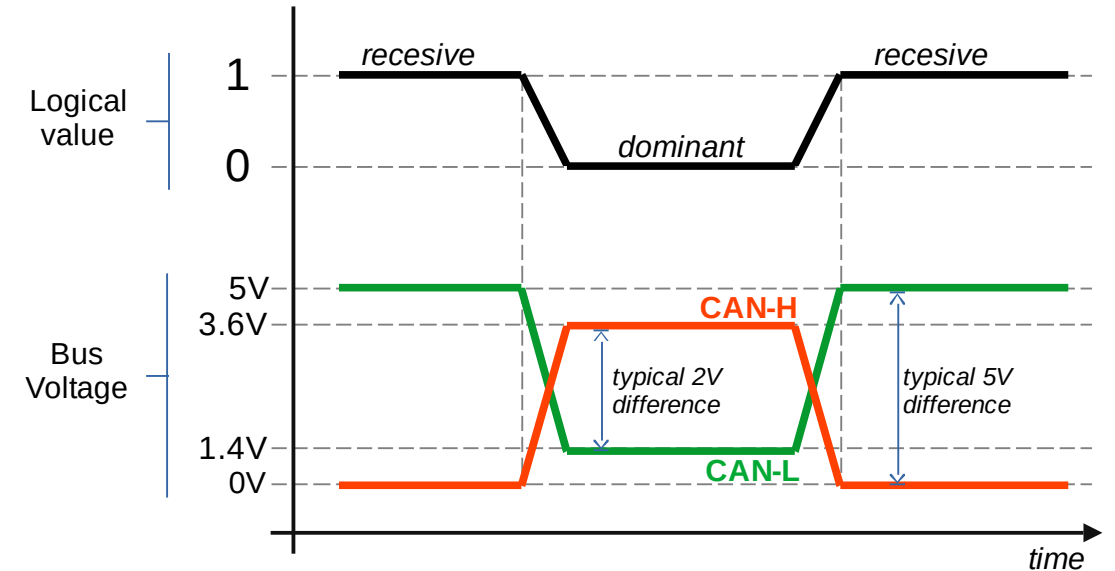
Protocol Specification

- Physical Layer

ISO 1189-2: **High Speed CAN**



ISO 1189-3: **Low Speed CAN**



Protocol Specification

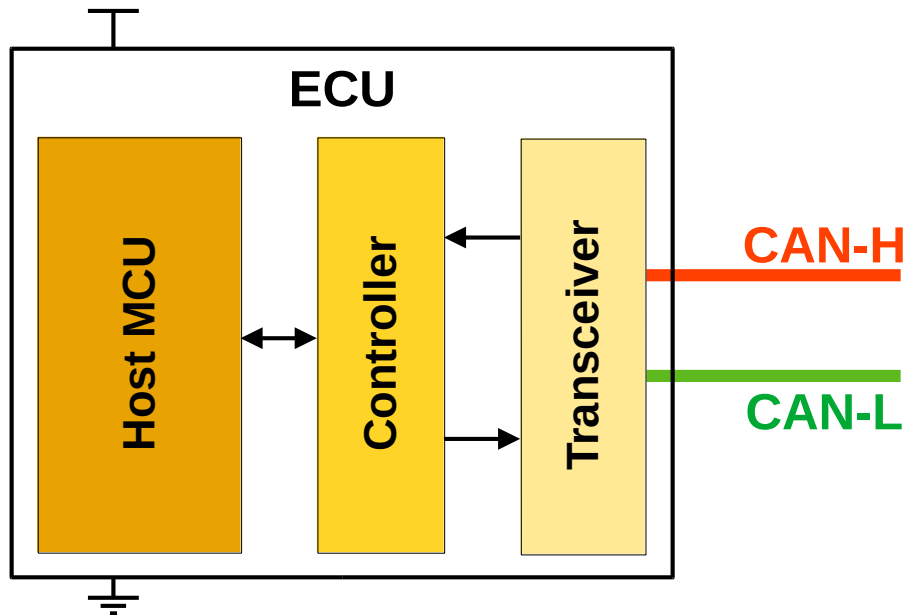
- **Physical Layer**
 - **CAN Bus Length**

Bit Rate	Max. recommended bus length
50 kbit/s	1000 m
125 kbit/s	500 m
250 kbit/s	200 m
500 kbit/s	100 m
1 Mbit/s	40 m

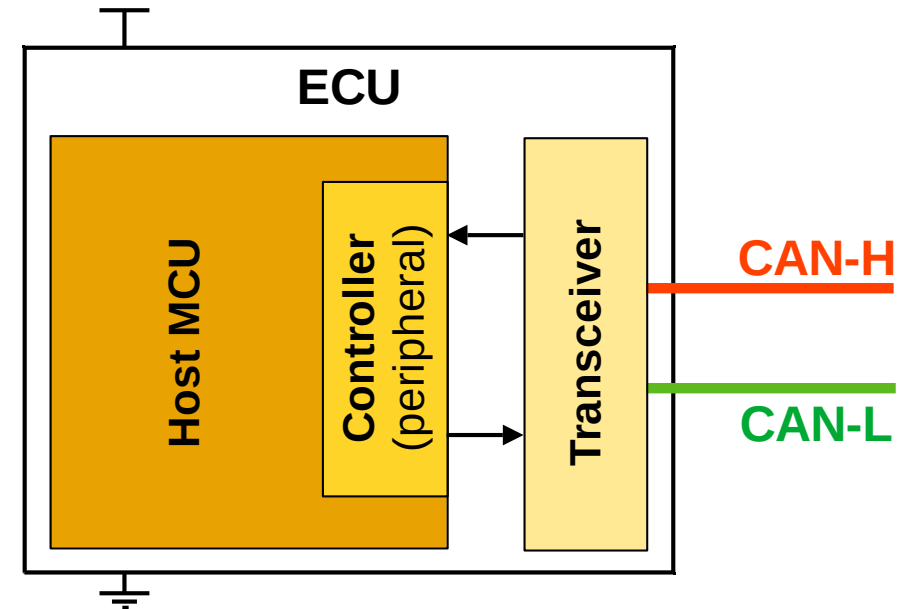
Protocol Specification

- CAN Transceiver, CAN Controller, CAN Host

Stand-alone CAN controller



CAN controller as MCU peripheral



Protocol Specification

- **CAN transceiver**

- Allows connection of node (ECU) to the CAN bus
- Interfaces between CAN bus voltage levels (CAN-H and CAN-L) and CAN controller voltage levels (e.g., RXD and TXD pins at TTL voltage levels).

Protocol Specification

- **CAN controller**

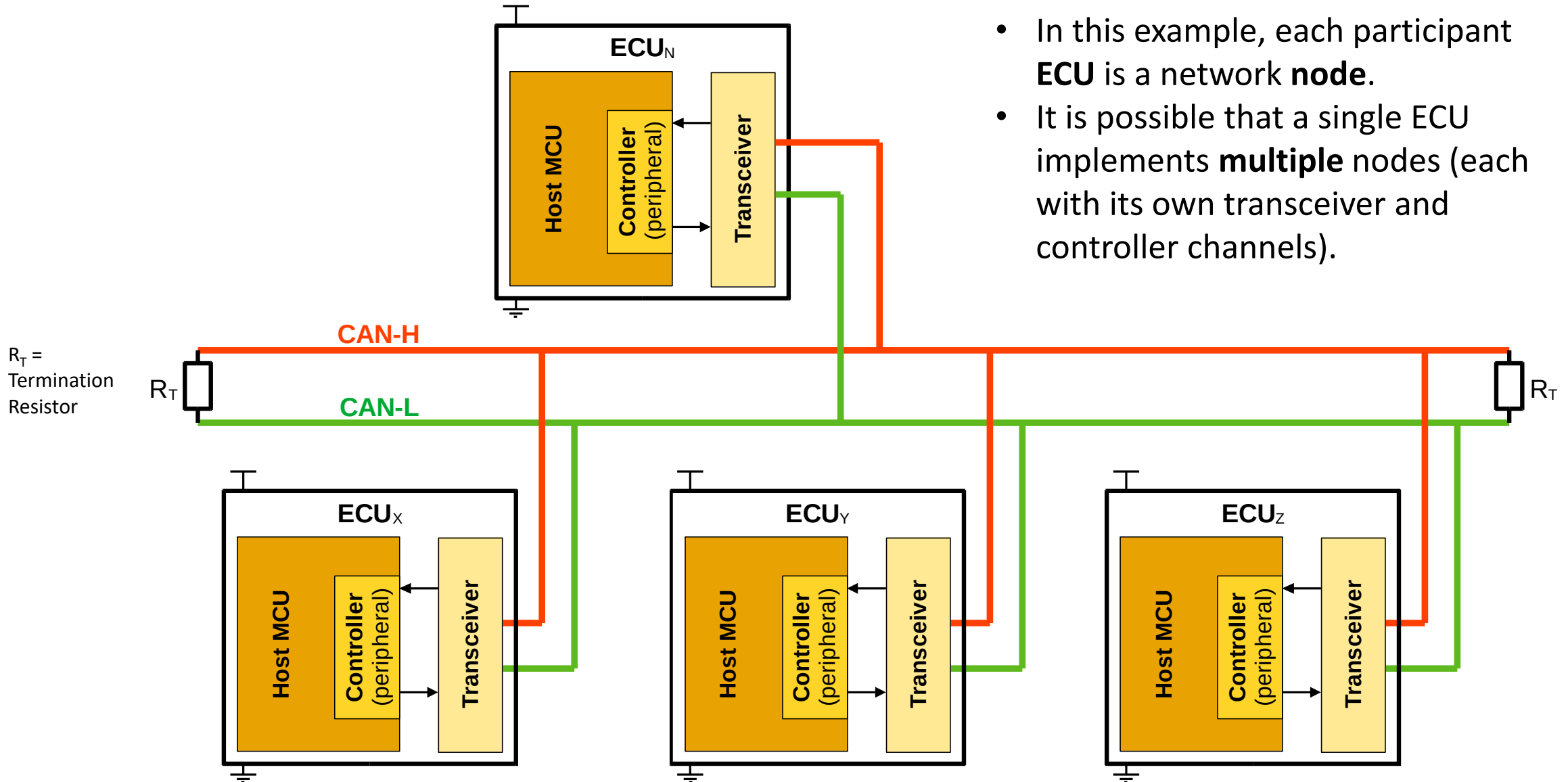
- HW device that handles the CAN messages → decodes the CAN protocol
- Can be a **standalone** device, e.g.:
 - Microchip **MCP2515** (SPI interface with Host MCU)
- Can be integrated in the host MCU as a **peripheral** , e.g.:
 - NXP **FlexCAN** peripheral
 - Infineon **MultiCAN** peripheral

Protocol Specification

- **CAN host**

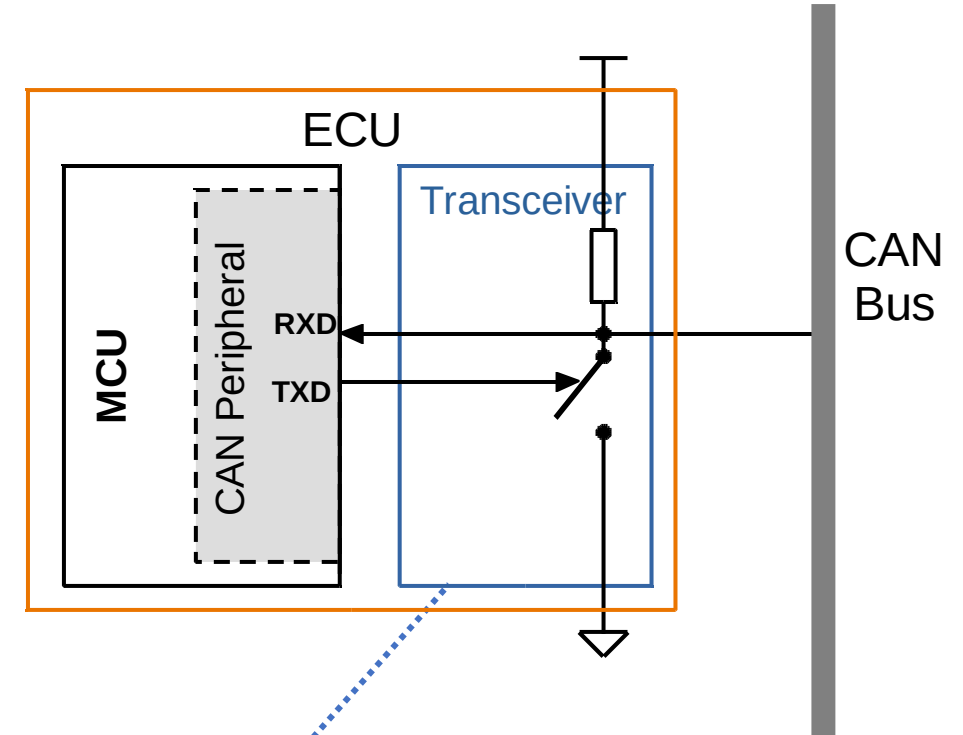
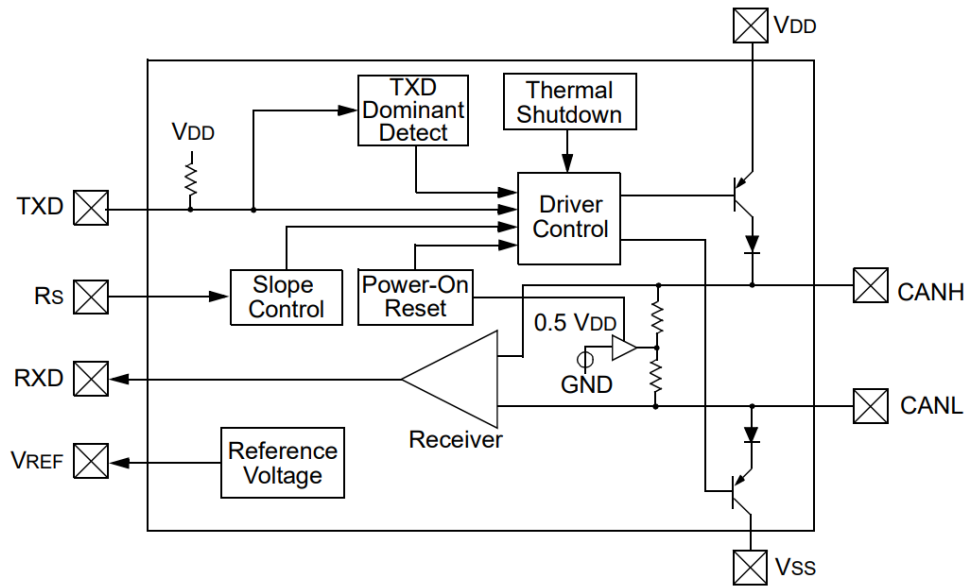
- Device that host the **application** (an MCU, a computer)
- Consumes the CAN messages and uses their conveyed signals
- Generates and packs signals into CAN messages for subsequent transmission in the CAN bus

Protocol Specification



Protocol Specification

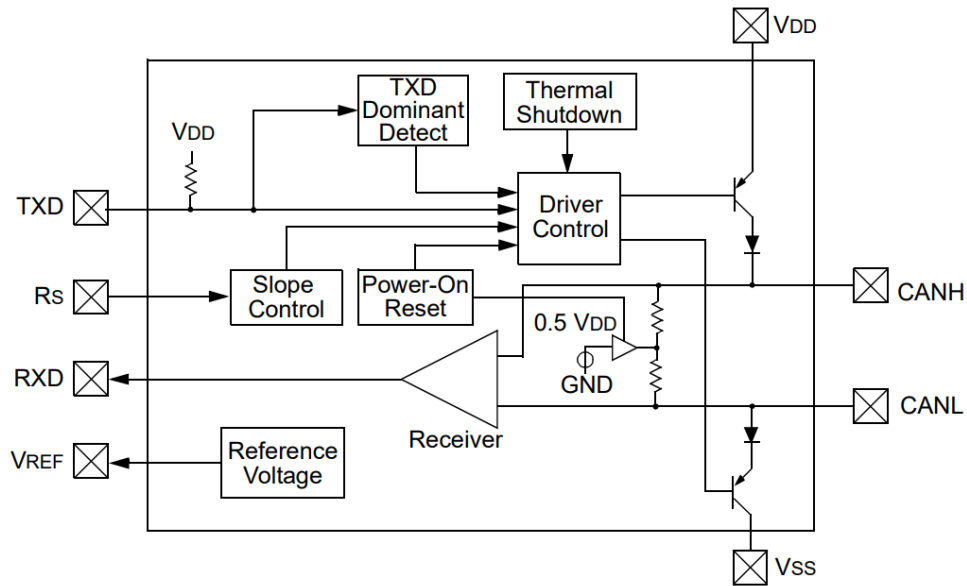
CAN Transceiver (From Microchip MCP2551)



Transceiver **abstraction**

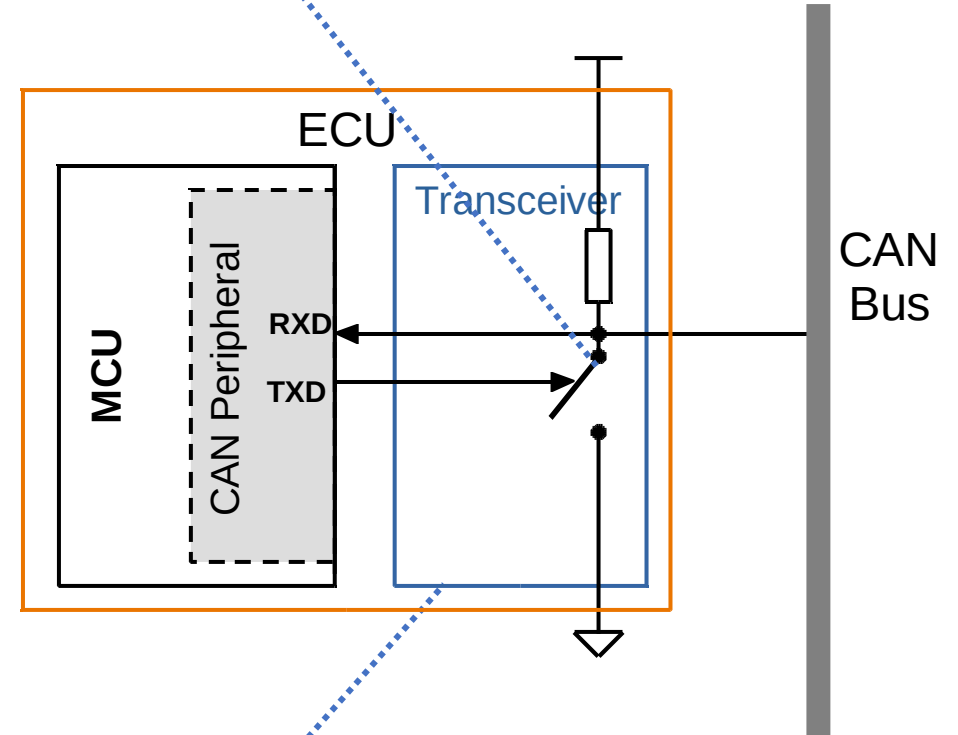
Protocol Specification

CAN Transceiver (From Microchip MCP2551)



Abstraction

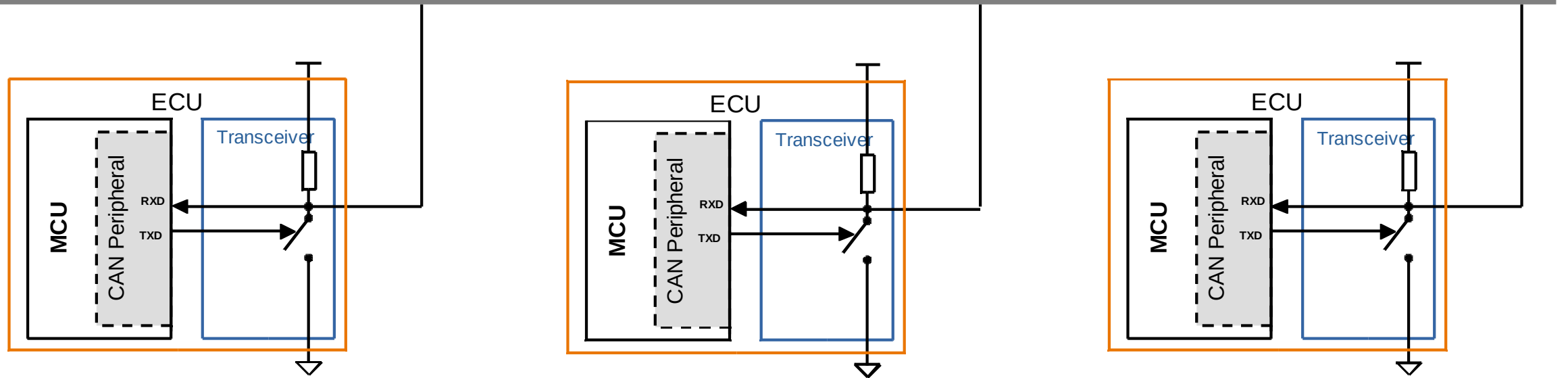
Bus goes to **dominant** level when “switch” closes



Transceiver **abstraction**

Protocol Specification

CAN Bus



Note: This is just an abstraction used for illustrating the dominant and recessive levels behavior.
Not intended to show actual circuitry of physical layer

Protocol Specification

- **Recessive bus level**

- Logical one is known as **recessive** level
- When bus is **idle**, it shall be in recessive level

- **Dominant bus level**

- Logical zero is known as **dominant** level
- If **any** node publishes a **dominant** value, **the whole bus** goes to **dominant** level even if another node is publishing a recessive value at the same time

Protocol Specification

- **Communication Principle**

- **Carrier-sense, multiple-access with collision detection (CSMA/CD)**

- **Carrier-sense:** all CAN nodes are sensing the bus, e.g., to see if it is idle
 - **Multiple-access:** CAN is a multi-master protocol, i.e., any node can start transmission if bus is idle

- **Collision detection:**

- CAN defines an arbitration technique for detecting collisions when multiple nodes attempt to publish a frame at the same time
 - Non-destructive arbitration: In case of collision, one node always wins the arbitration and can publish its frame

Protocol Specification

- **Communication Principle**

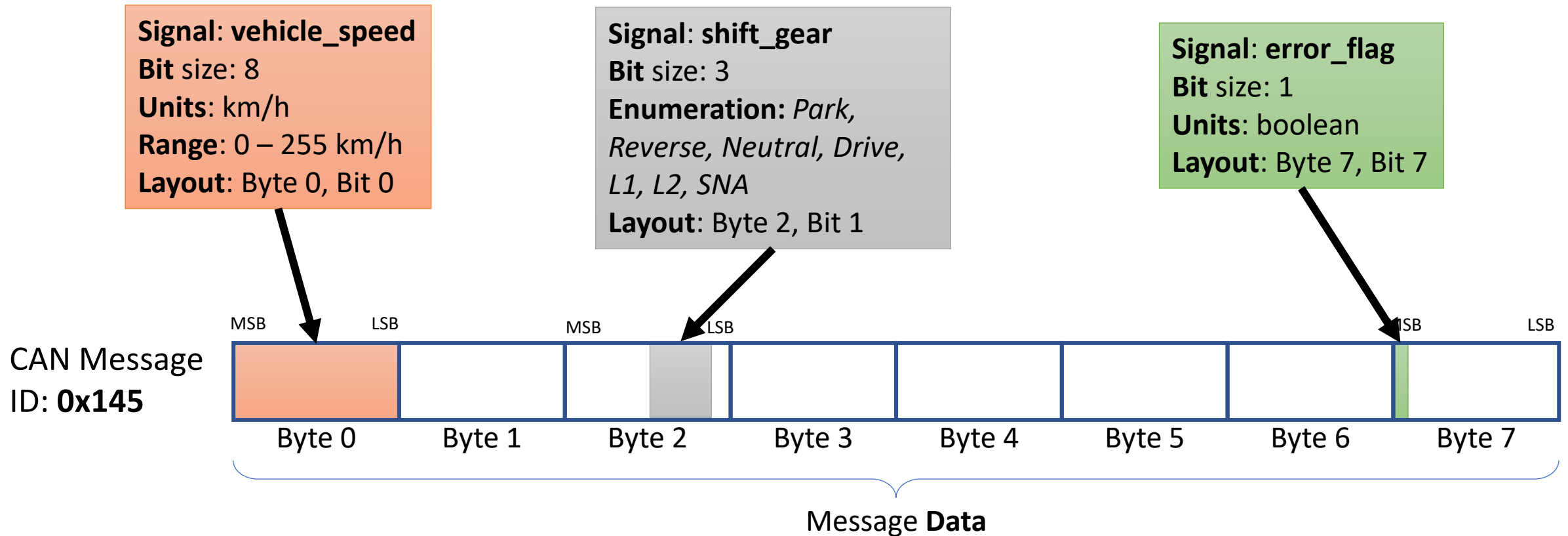
- **Message based** communication

- Data signals are packed into **messages** (*for now message = frame*)
 - Message can carry from **0 to 8 data bytes** (single frame)
 - **Unique identifier** (ID) is defined for each message
 - ID can be of **11 bits** (standard) or **29 bits** (extended)
 - Direction of data transfer is defined (**fixed**) per each message:
 - Each message shall have **only one publisher node** (transmitter).
 - Each message can be assigned to **one or more subscriber nodes** (receivers)

Protocol Specification

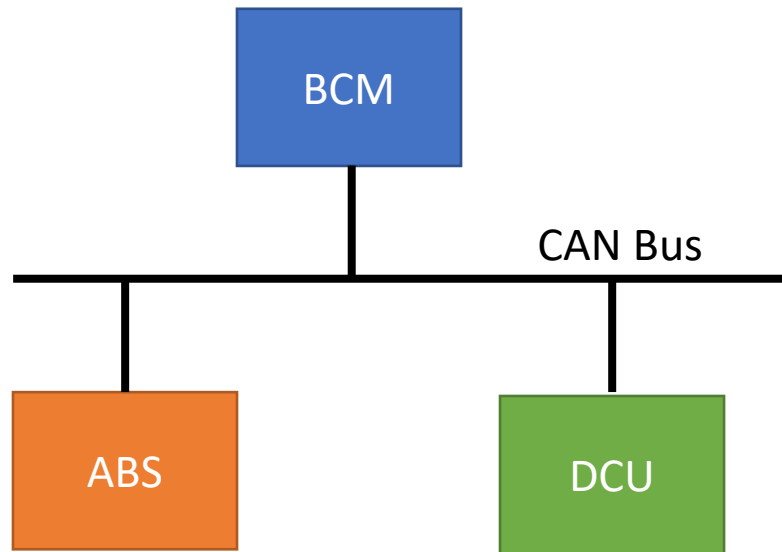
- **Communication Principle**

- Signals are “*packed*” into messages, example:



Protocol Specification

- **Communication Principle**
 - Example of “Message matrix”



Message Name	Message ID	Publisher Node	Subscriber(s) node(s)
BCM_MSG1	0x145	BCM	ABS, DCU
BCM_MSG2	0x150	BCM	DCU
ABS_MSG1	0x020	ABS	BCM
DCU_MSG1	0x210	DCU	BCM, ABS
DCU_MSG2	0x213	DCU	BCM

Protocol Specification

- **Communication Principle**

- **Acceptance Filters**

- All nodes are “*capable*” of seeing all published messages, however, that doesn’t mean that all messages are of interest for all nodes.
 - CAN controllers are capable of **filtering** messages not subscribed by the node to reduce SW CPU load.
 - **Acceptance** filters by HW may filter by individual IDs, ranges of IDs, ID masks, etc.
 - Additional SW filtering performed if HW filtering didn’t reject 100% of non-subscribed messages.

Protocol Specification

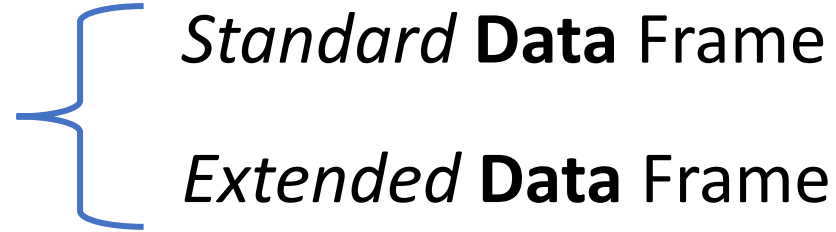
- **CAN Frame**

- Frames are the **basic units** of transmission/reception in CAN protocol
- CAN defines different frame formats to convey data, errors, etc.
- Data is transmitted in **Data Frames**

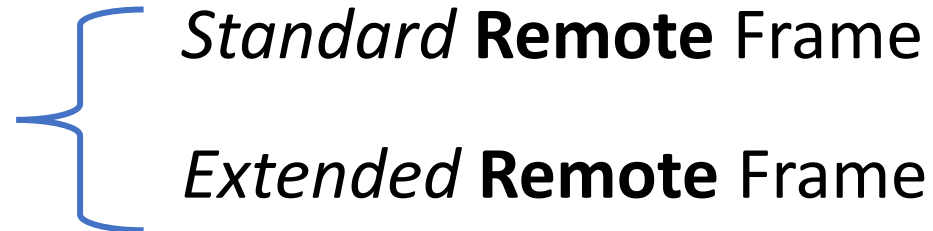
Protocol Specification

- Classic CAN Frame **Types**

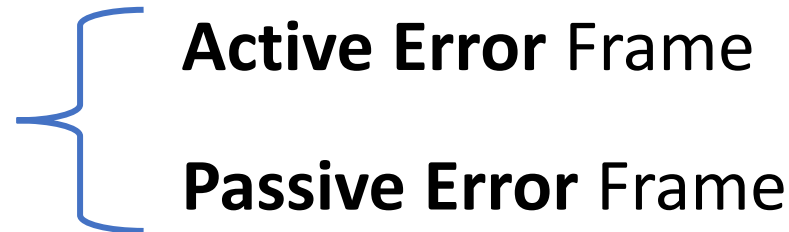
- **Data Frame**



- **Remote Frame**



- **Error Frame**

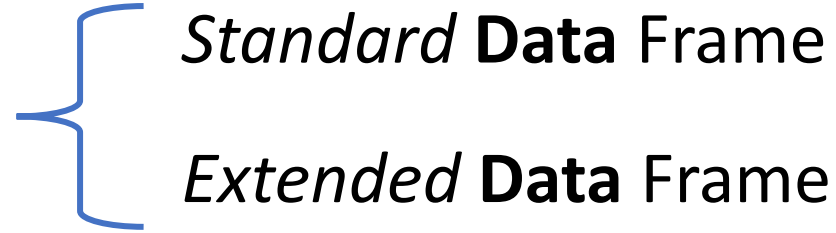


- **Overload Frame**

Protocol Specification

- Classic CAN Frame **Types**

- **Data Frame**



- Remote Frame



- Error Frame



- Overload Frame

Data Frame Format

- **Data Frame**

- Frames intended for **publishing data**
- **Most used** frames in CAN networks
- Two variants:
 - **Standard** Data Frame → 11-bit message identifier
 - **Extended** Data Frame → 29-bit message identifier

Data Frame Format



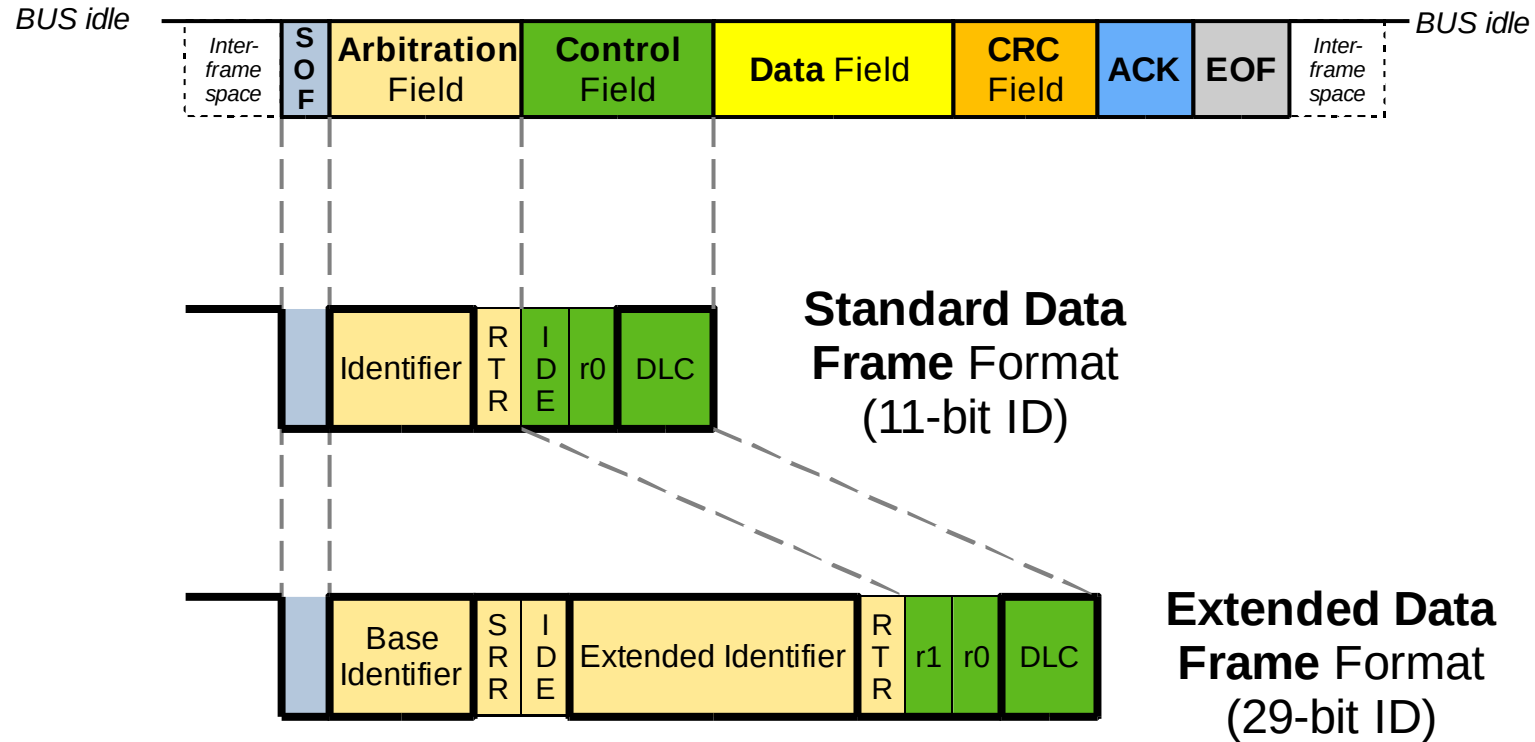
Data Frame Fields:

- Start-of-Frame (**SOF**)
- **Arbitration**
- **Control**
- **Data**
- **CRC**
- Acknowledge (**ACK**)
- End-of-Frame (**EOF**)

Inter-Frame Space: Mandatory space between subsequent frames

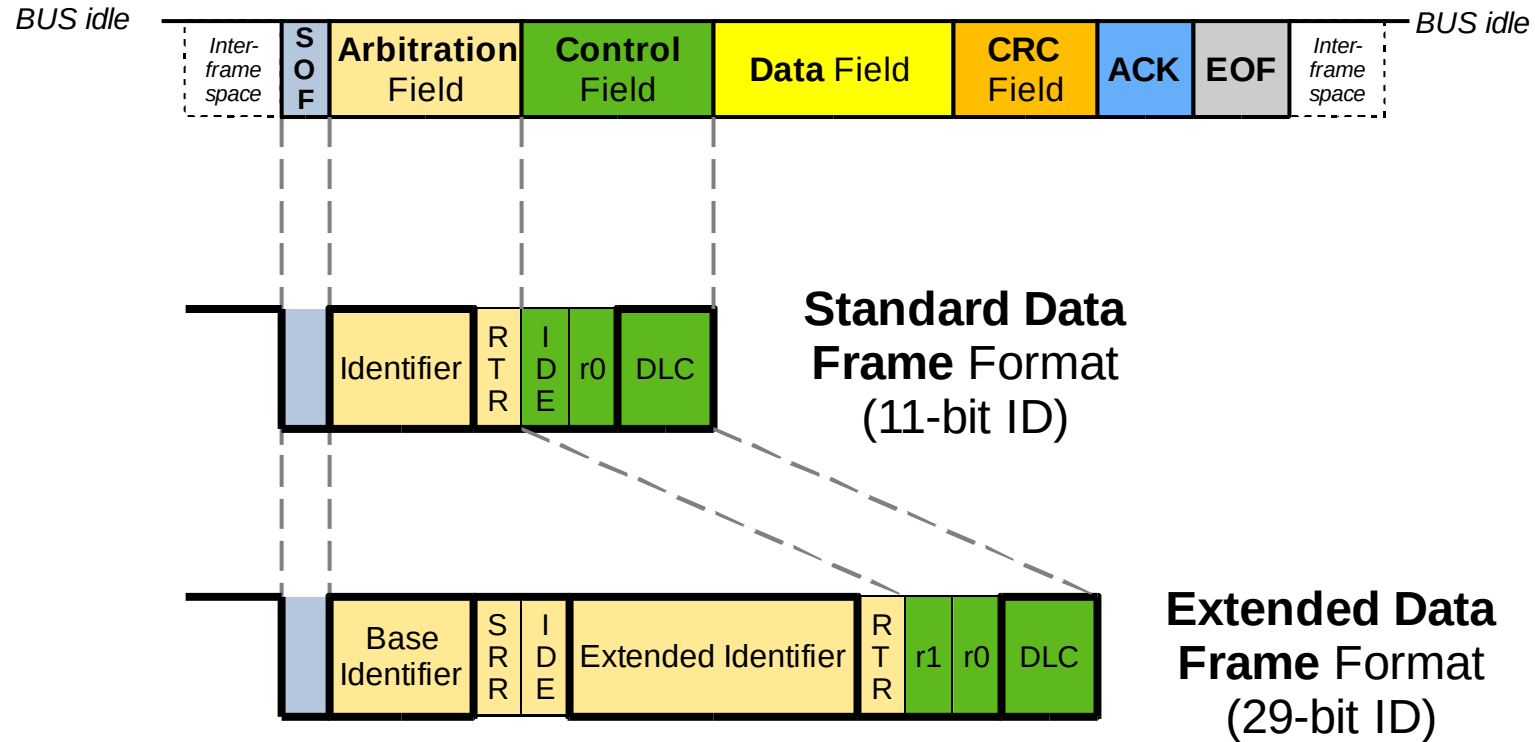
Bus IDLE: bus is considered **idle** if at least **11 bits** with **recessive** value are observed

Data Frame Format



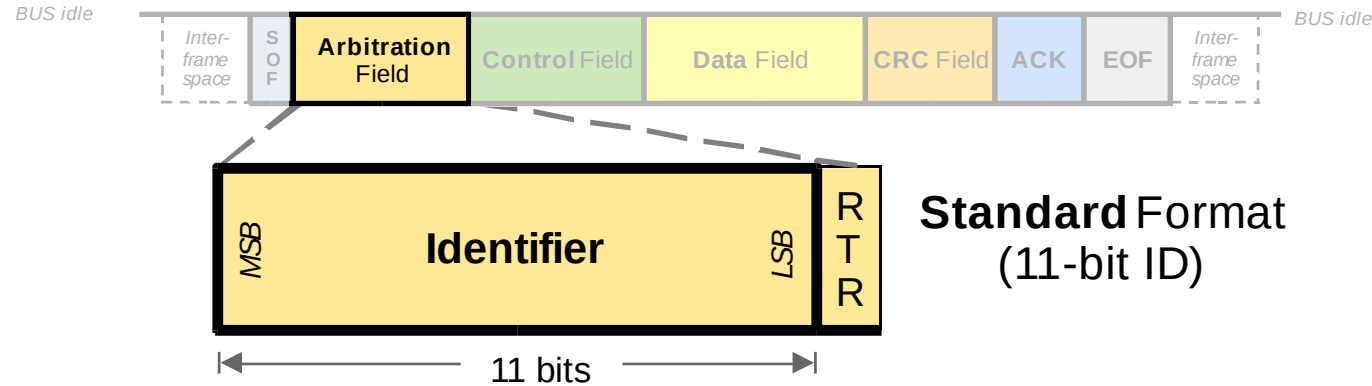
- **Start-of-Frame (SOF)**
 - Single bit with dominant level
 - Indicates the beginning of a new frame

Data Frame Format



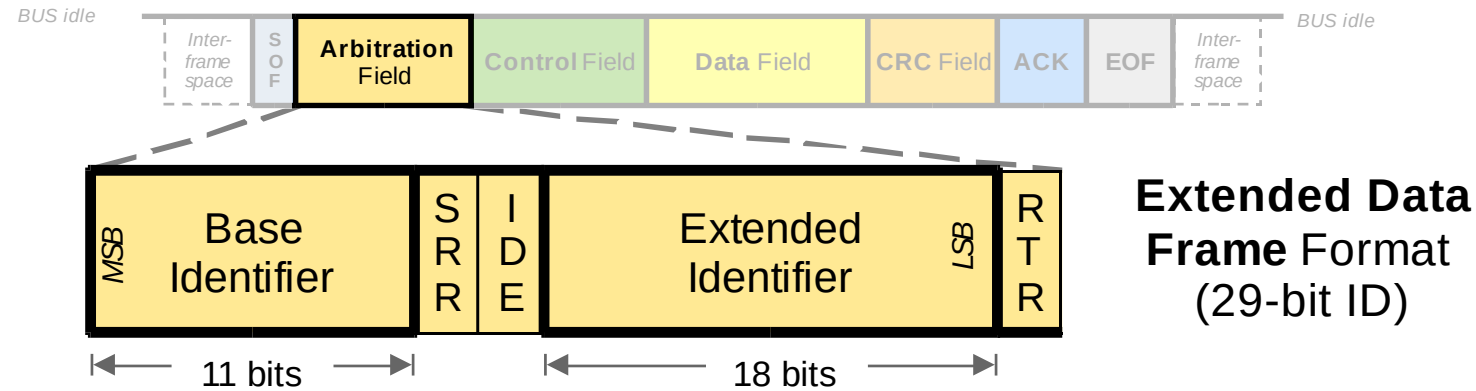
- **Standard Format** → Message identifier of 11 bits (2^{11} different messages)
- **Extended Format** → Message identifier of 29 bits (2^{29} different messages)

Data Frame Format



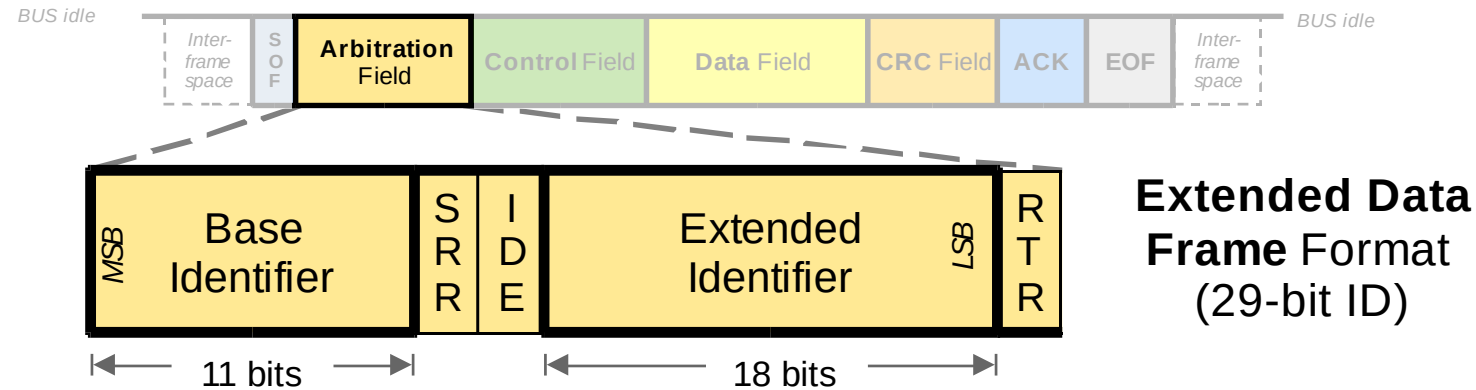
- **Identifier:** Used to uniquely identify each message in the network
 - 11-bits for **standard** format frames
- **Remote Transmission Request (RTR):** 1-bit; indicates if current frame is a data frame (provides data) or a remote frame (requests data)
 - **Dominant** value for **data** frames
 - **Recessive** value for **remote** frames

Data Frame Format



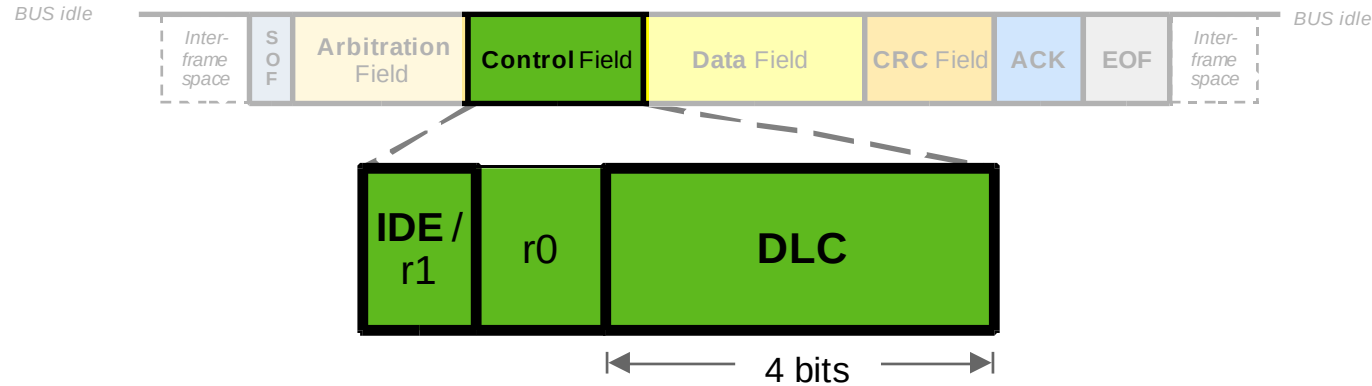
- **Identifier:** 29-bits for **extended** format frames.
 - Formed by the Base Identifier of 11 bits (most-significant bits of the ID) plus the Extended identifier of 18 bits (least-significant bits of the ID).
- **Identifier Extension bit (IDE):** 1-bit; Indicates if current frame is a **standard** frame (**dominant** value) or an **extended** frame (**recessive** value).

Data Frame Format



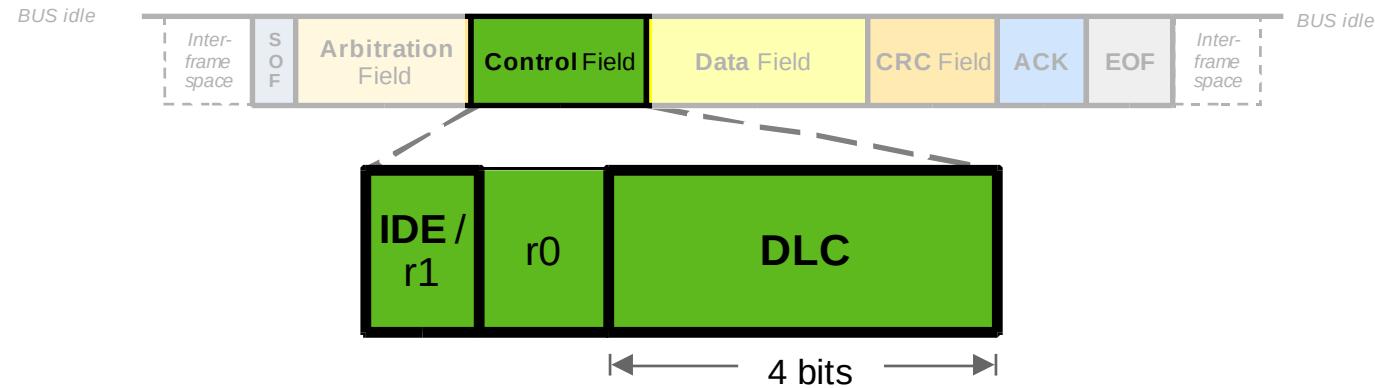
- **Substitute Remote Request (SRR):** 1-bit. Only applicable for extended format. Substitutes the position of the RTR bit in standard format.
 - Transmitted always with **recessive** value in extended format
 - Allows Standard Frames to have higher priority than Extended Frames with same Base identifier values.
- **RTR:** Same meaning as in standard format but located after the “extended identifier” field.

Data Frame Format



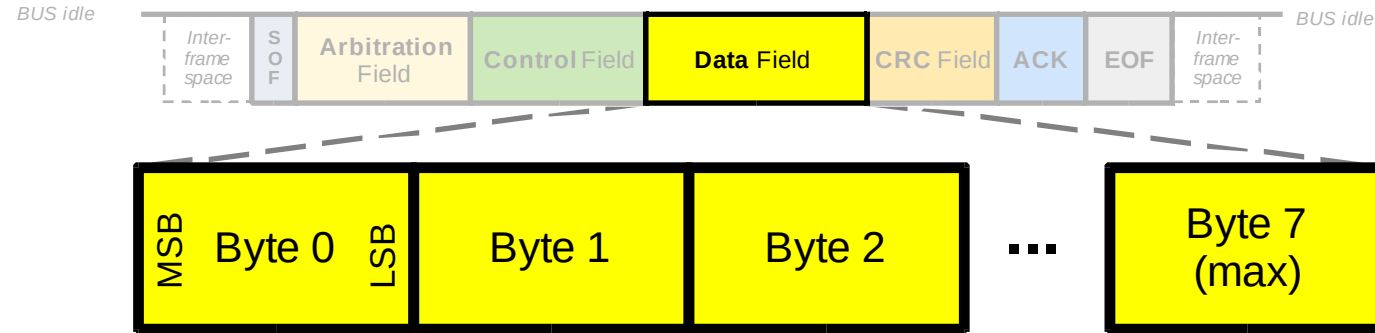
- **IDE**: In standard format, the IDE bit is part of the “Control Field”. Same meaning as before → Indicates if current frame is a **standard** frame (**dominant** value) or an **extended** frame (**recessive** value).
- **r1**: In extended format, this is a reserved bit not being used. Transmitted with dominant value.
- **r0**: Reserved bit not being used. Transmitted with dominant value.

Data Frame Format



- **DLC (Data Length Code):** 4-bits. Indicates how many **data** bytes are conveyed in this frame.
 - From 0 to 8 bytes max.
 - Assumed max of 8 data bytes even if DLC value is higher than 8.

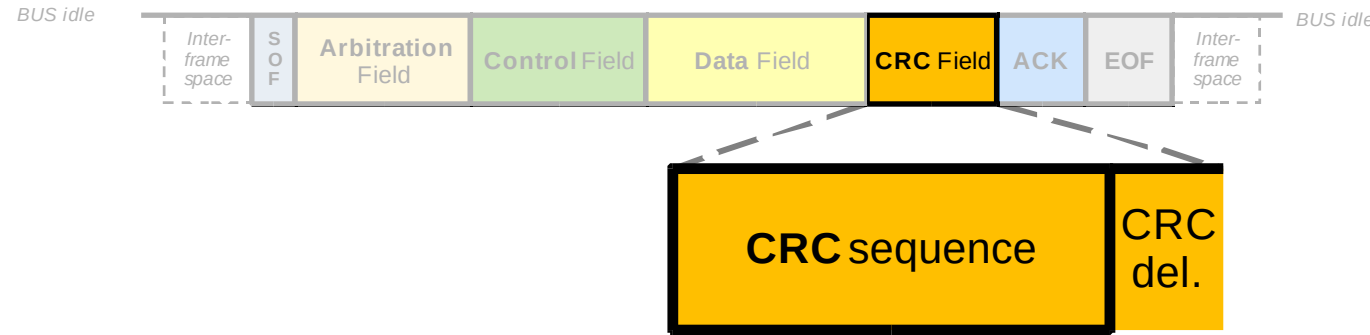
Data Frame Format



- **Data Field**

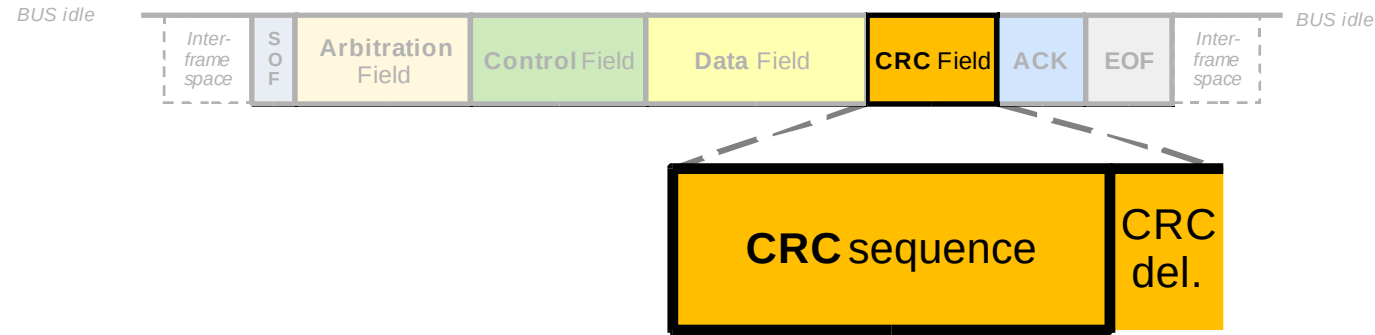
- From 0 to max. 8 data bytes
- Number of data bytes depend on value of DLC
- Most-significant-bit transmitted first, Least-significant-bit last.

Data Frame Format



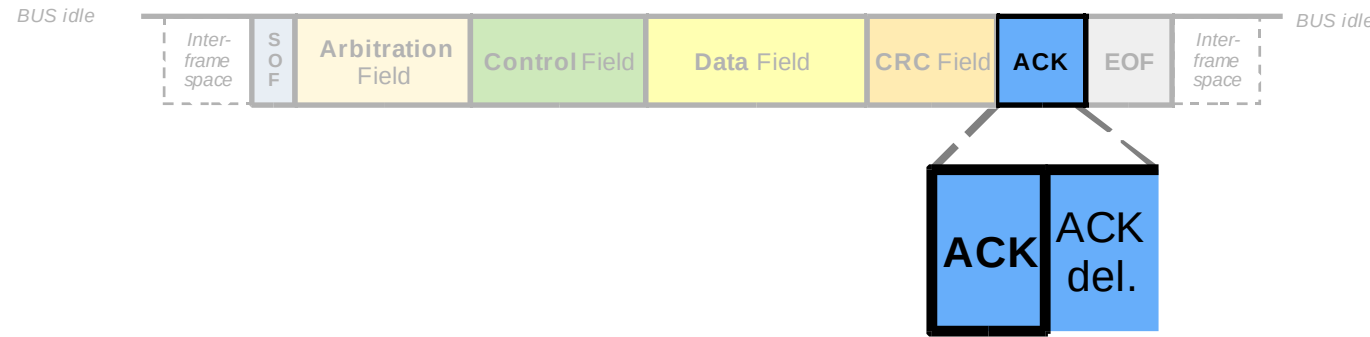
- **Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) sequence: 15-bits.** Used for error detection during the transfer of a Frame.
 - CRC calculation uses fields **SOF**, **Arbitration Field**, **Control Field** and **Data Field** (if present)
 - CRC is calculated without stuffing bits
 - Receiver node validates the received bit stream using the received CRC
 - In case of CRC fail, the data in the frame is discarded

Data Frame Format



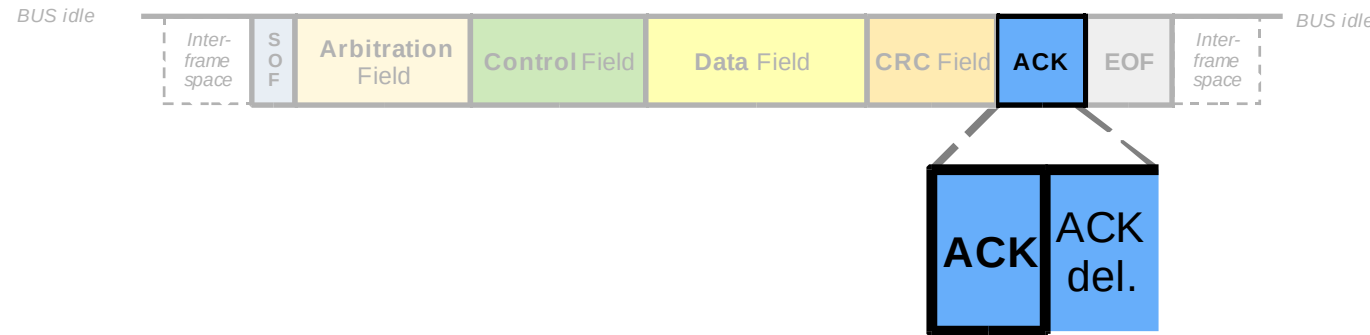
- **CRC delimiter: 1-bit.**
 - Signals the end of the CRC field
 - A single bit with recessive value

Data Frame Format



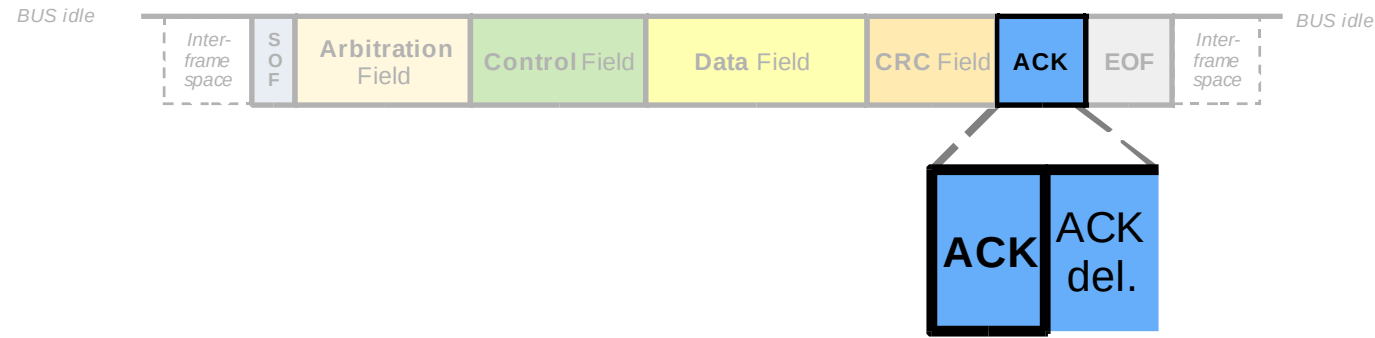
- **Acknowledge (ACK) bit:** Indicates if *at least one* node correctly received the frame
 - Transmitted with **recessive** value by the **publisher**
 - Any node shall overwrite this bit to **dominant** value if the frame was received **correctly** including CRC check (before acceptance filter of receivers)

Data Frame Format



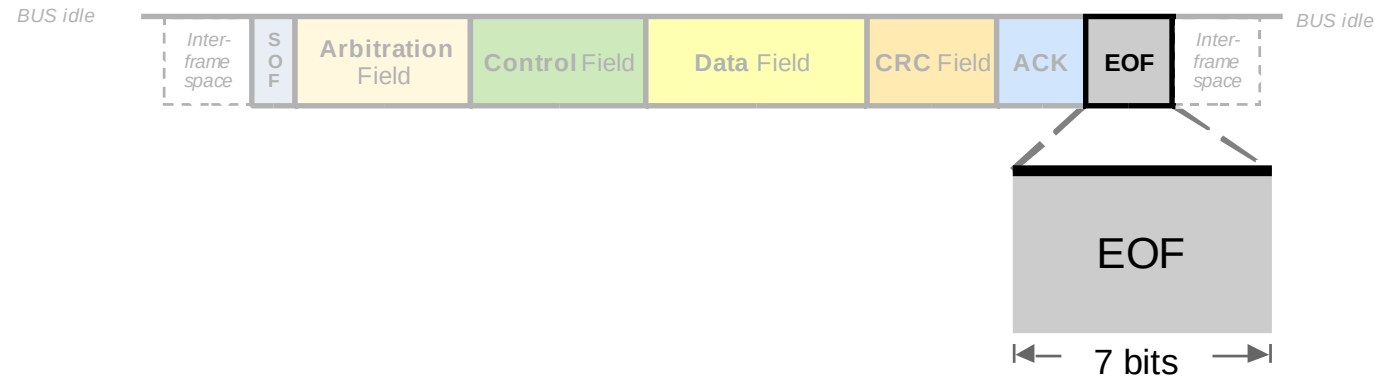
- **Acknowledge (ACK) bit**
 - If publisher sees this bit with **recessive** value, it may mean that:
 - Frame had an **error** during the transmission and, hence, no other node acknowledged it, or,
 - There is **no other node** connected to the network

Data Frame Format



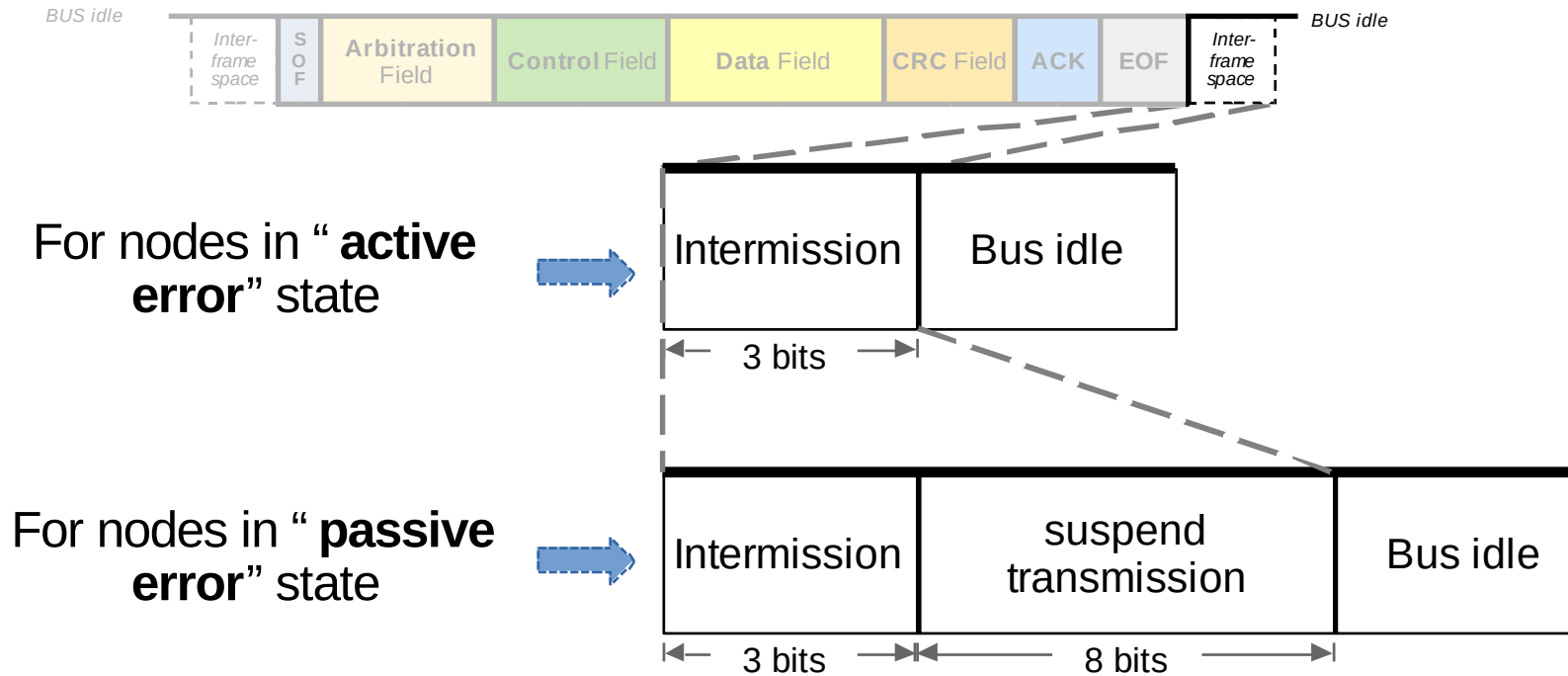
- **ACK delimiter:**
 - Signals the end of the Acknowledge field
 - A single bit with recessive value

Data Frame Format



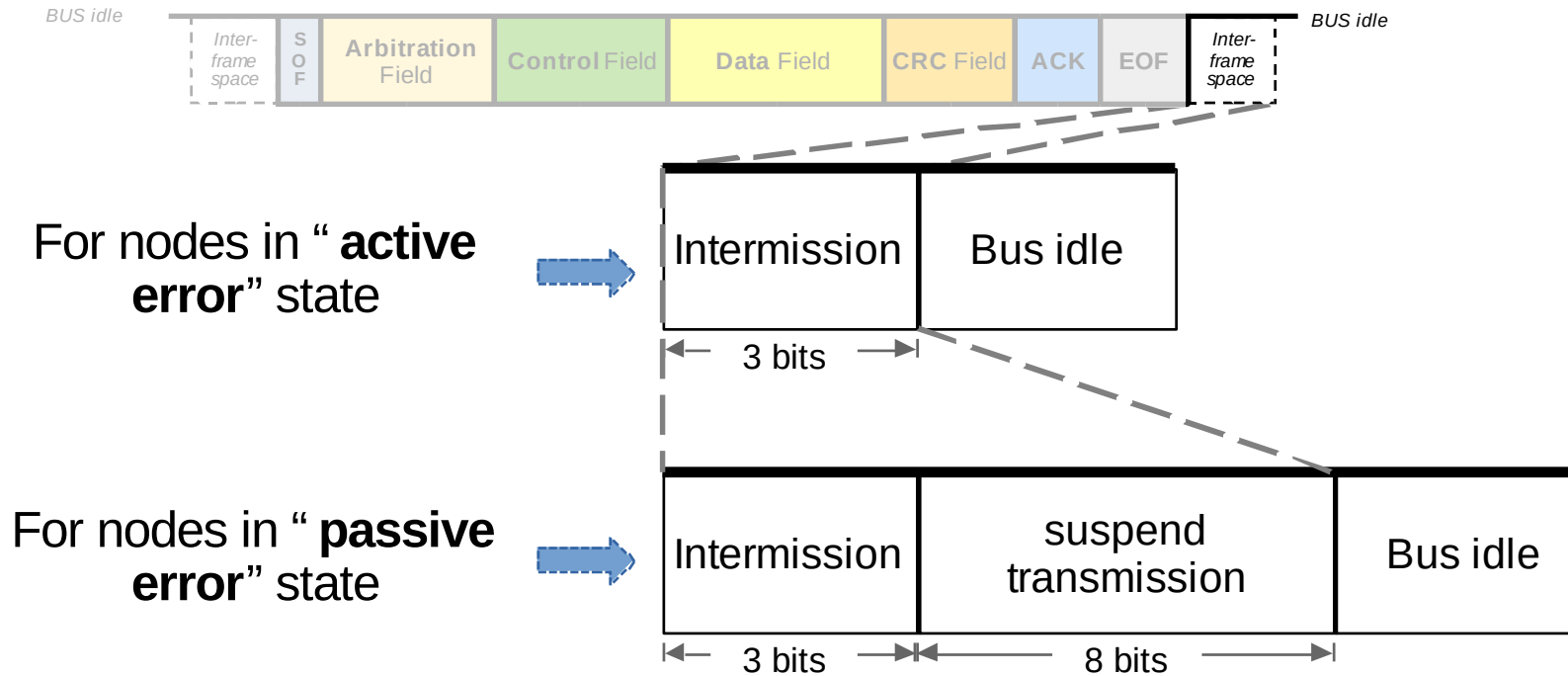
- **End-of-Frame (EOF): 7-bits.**
 - Signals the end of the frame
 - **7 bits** with **recessive** level

Data Frame Format



- **Intermission field:**
 - **3 recessive bits**
 - During intermission, no transmission of data or remote frames is allowed

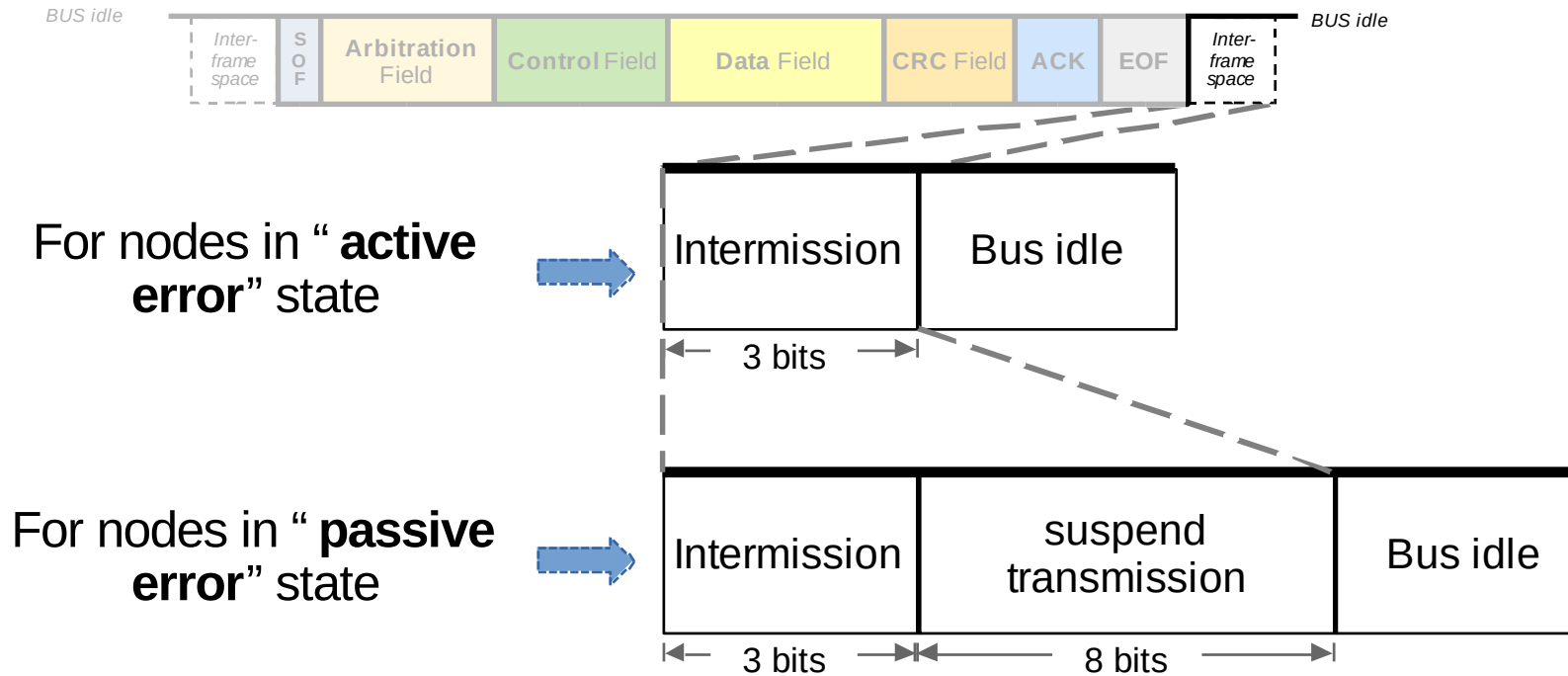
Data Frame Format



- **Suspend transmission field:**

- Only generated by nodes in “**passive error**” state and associated to their own frame transmissions
- **8 recessive bits**

Data Frame Format



- **Bus idle**

- Bus is available for nodes to begin transmission of frames
- Arbitrary length

Protocol Specification

- Classic CAN Frame **Types**

- **Data Frame**

Standard **Data** Frame

Extended **Data** Frame

- **Remote Frame**

Standard **Remote** Frame

Extended **Remote** Frame

- **Error Frame**

Active **Error** Frame

Passive **Error** Frame

- **Overload Frame**

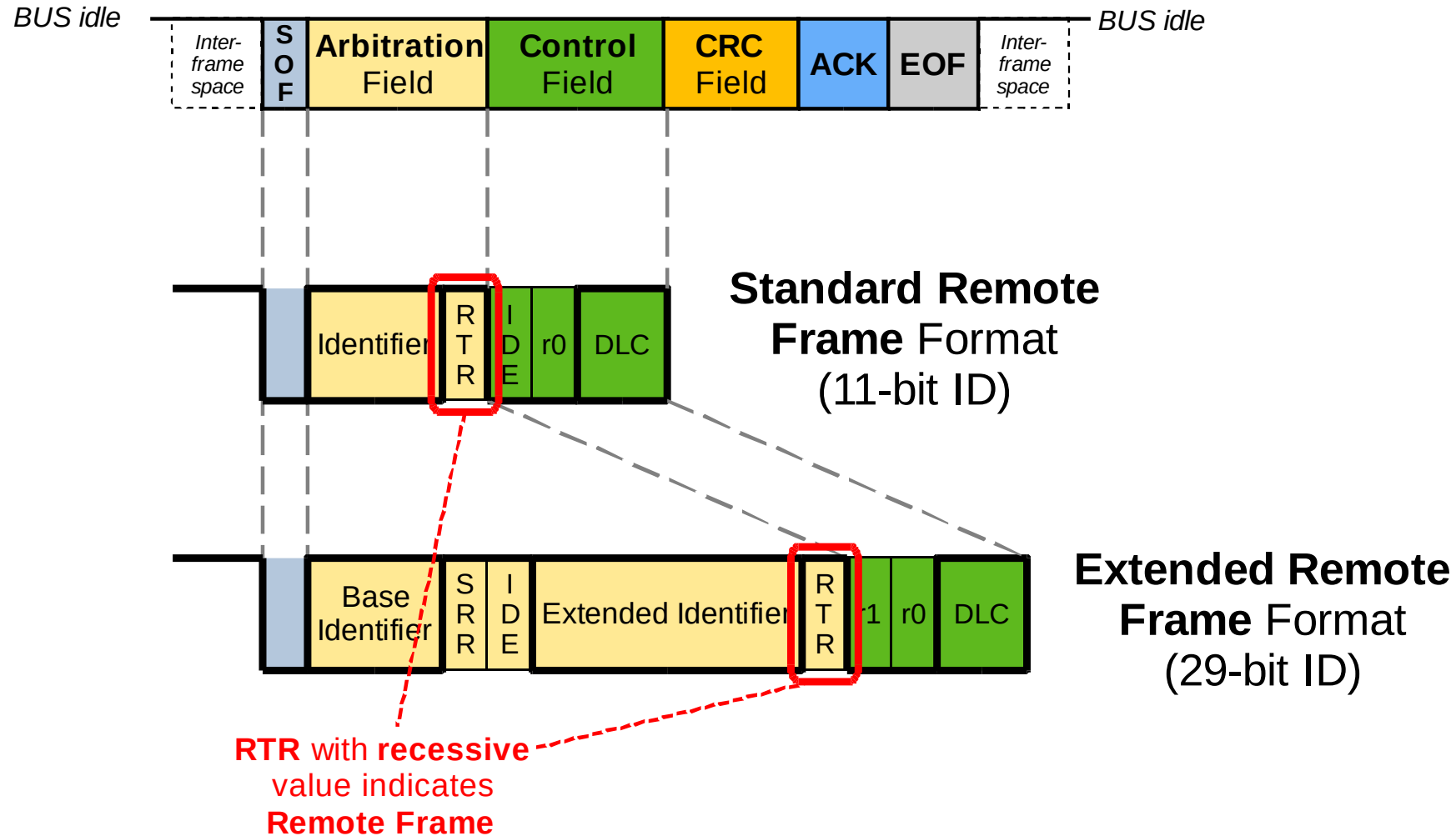
Remote Frame Format

- Purpose of a **Remote Frame** is to **ask** for data rather than to publish it as in the case of a Data Frame.
- A node can ask for a given message to be transmitted **by its publisher** by generating a Remote Frame with ID equal to the Data Frame ID being requested
- When a node sees a Remote Frame asking for an ID which it owns, the node shall start transmission of the corresponding Data Frame as soon as possible.

Remote Frame Format

- **Remote Frame format** is very similar to the format of a Data Frame
→ It contains all fields of a Data frame **except** for the “**Data Field**”
- Remote Frame can also have **standard** or **extended** formats analogue to those of Data Frames
- A Remote Frame is distinguished from a Data Frame by the **RTR** bit being **recessive**.

Remote Frame Format



Frame arbitration

- The last part of a Data or Remote frame consists of at least **11 recessive** bits
 - ACK delimiter (1-bit) + EOF (7-bits) + Intermission field (3-bits) = 11 bits
- During normal transmission of a Data or Remote frame, the bus shall never have 11 consecutive recessive bits (due to bit stuffing)
- Therefore, nodes can consider **bus** as being **idle** after seeing **11 consecutive recessive bits**

Frame arbitration

- **Scenario**

- A Data Frame is currently being transmitted by Node A
- 3 nodes (Node B, Node C and Node D) are waiting for the bus to become idle in order to begin Data Frame transmission
 - Waiting to see 11 consecutive recessive bits
- The 3 nodes see the bus in idle at the same time and they start publishing their Data Frames
- A **collision occurs** since multiple nodes are trying to publish different messages in the bus **at the same time!**

Frame arbitration

- **CAN Message Arbitration**

- CAN provides a non-destructive message arbitration mechanism
- **At least one node** competing from the bus will **win** the bus arbitration and complete its frame transmission
- Loser nodes will **wait** for the next time the bus is idle in order to attempt their Frame transmissions
 - Typically, CAN controllers manage automatic re-transmission attempts

Frame arbitration

- **CAN Message Arbitration**

- CAN message arbitration occurs during the publication of the “**Arbitration** Field”, in particular during the publication of the “Frame Identifier”.
 - The message **Identifier** is at the center of the arbitration criteria
- Frame Identifier is transmitted bit by bit starting with the Most-Significant one.
- During transmission of the “Identifier Field”, CAN nodes transmit each bit and **read it back** to verify the actual bus level for that bit

Frame arbitration

- **CAN Message Arbitration**

- If the read back bit level from the bus **corresponds** to the transmitted one, then arbitration **has not been lost** and the Node **proceeds** with the transmission of the next identifier bit
 - If a Node can publish all the Frame identifier bits, then it has **won** the bus arbitration and can proceed with the rest of the Frame transmission!
- If the read back bit level from the bus is **opposite** to the transmitted one, then arbitration **has been lost**.
 - The node shall **stop** transmission of further bits of the Frame

Frame arbitration

- **CAN Message Arbitration**

- Bit differences between transmitted bit levels and actual bus levels can be due to a node publishing a “dominant” level against “recessive” levels from other nodes

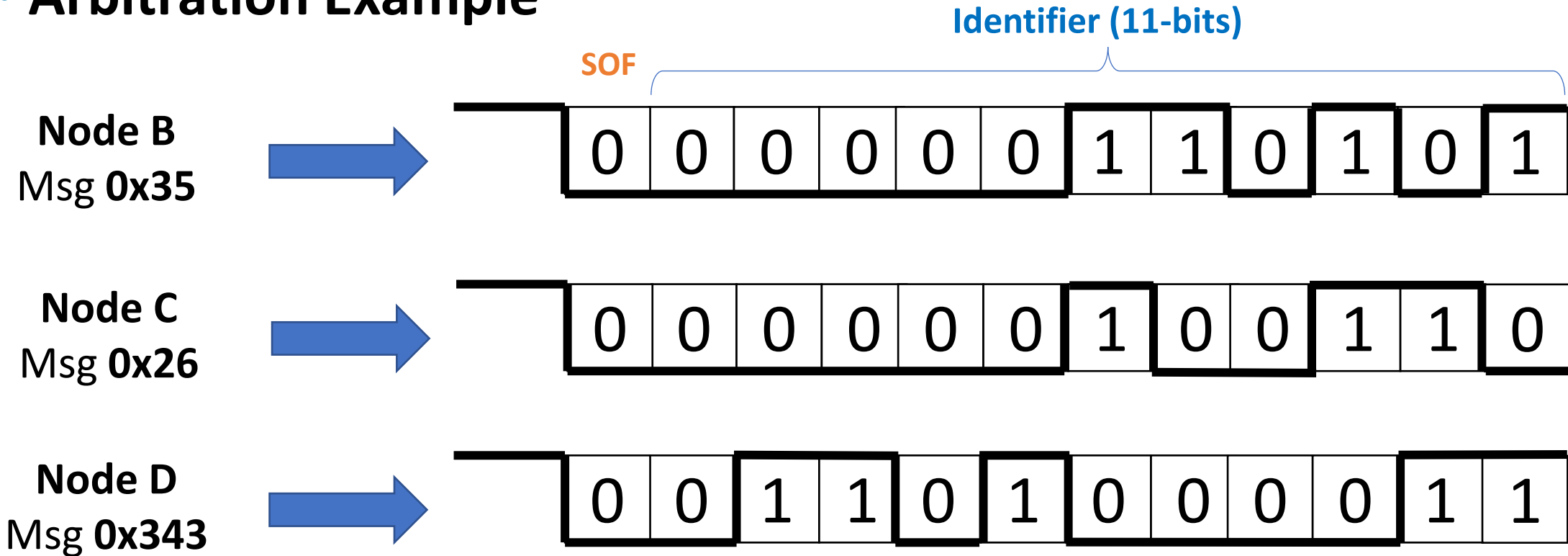
- **Arbitration Example**

- **Node B** wants to transmit message **0x35**
- **Node C** wants to transmit message **0x26**
- **Node D** wants to transmit message **0x343**



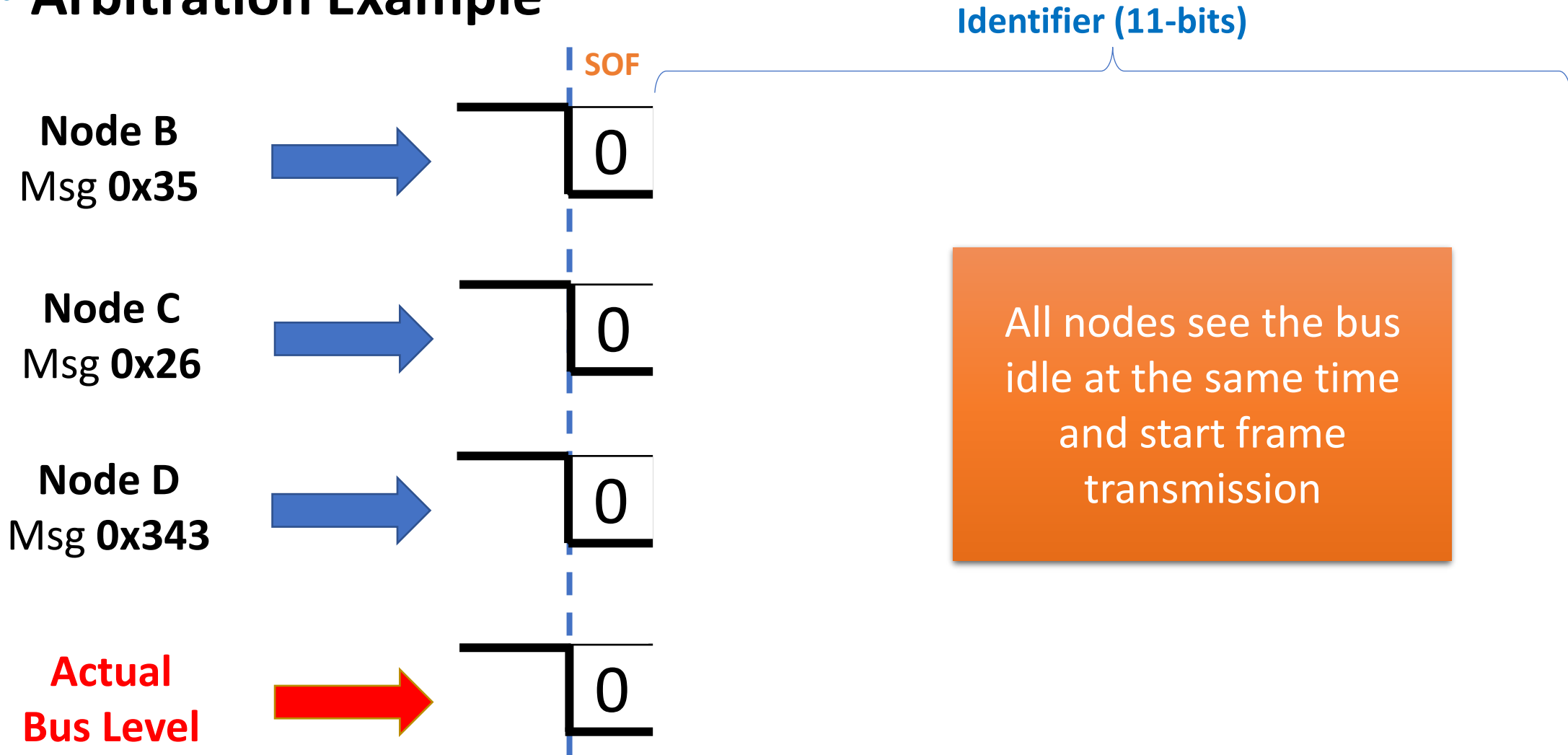
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



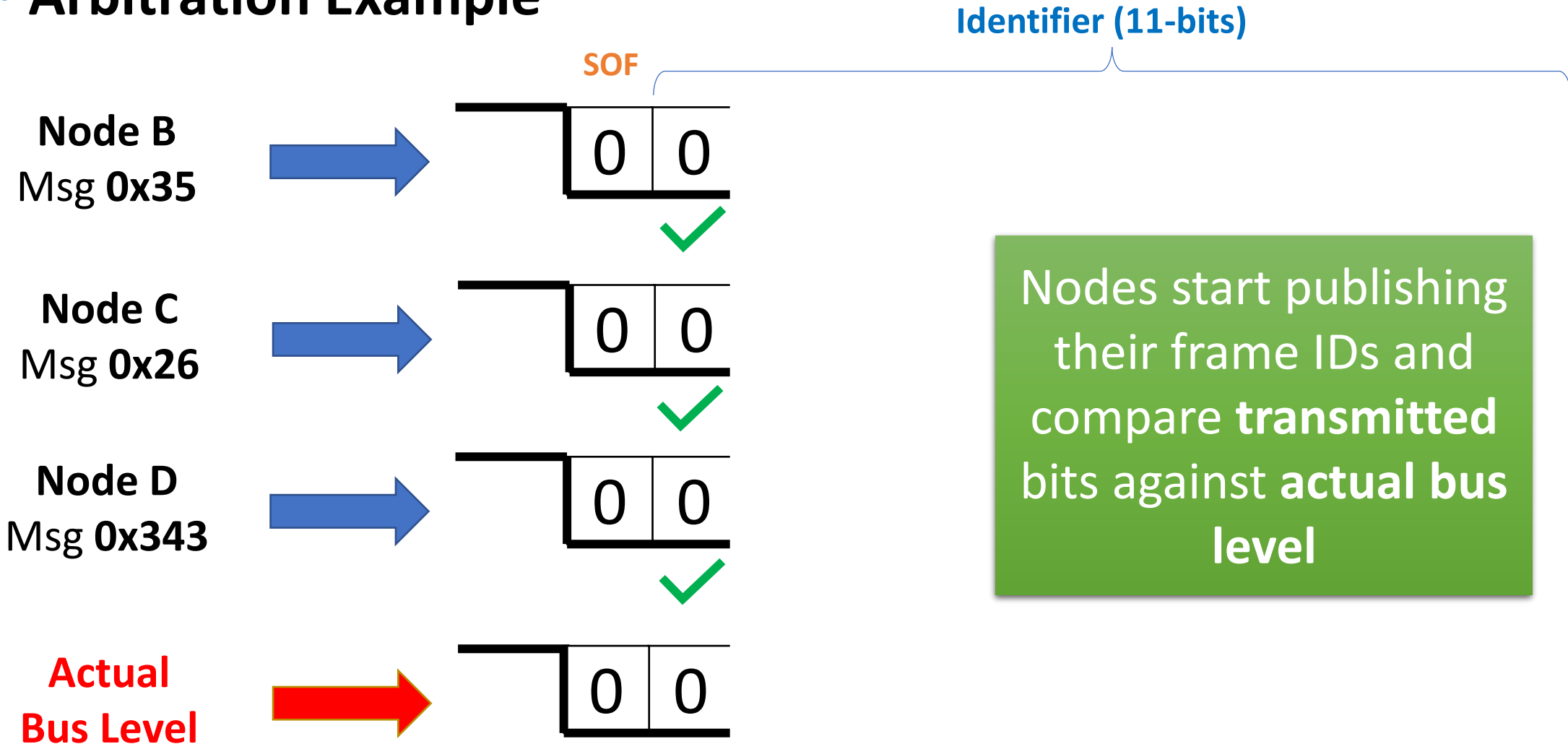
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



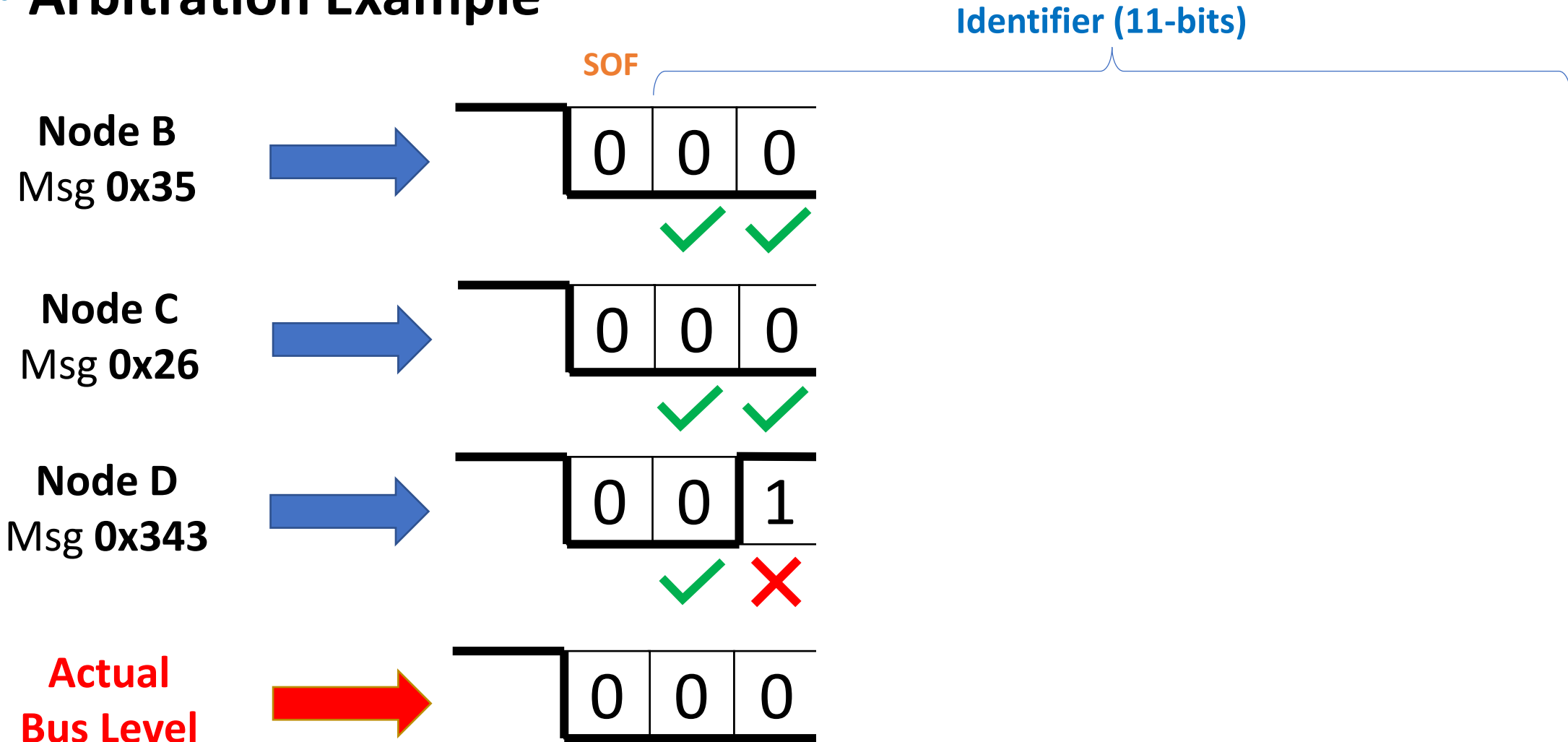
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



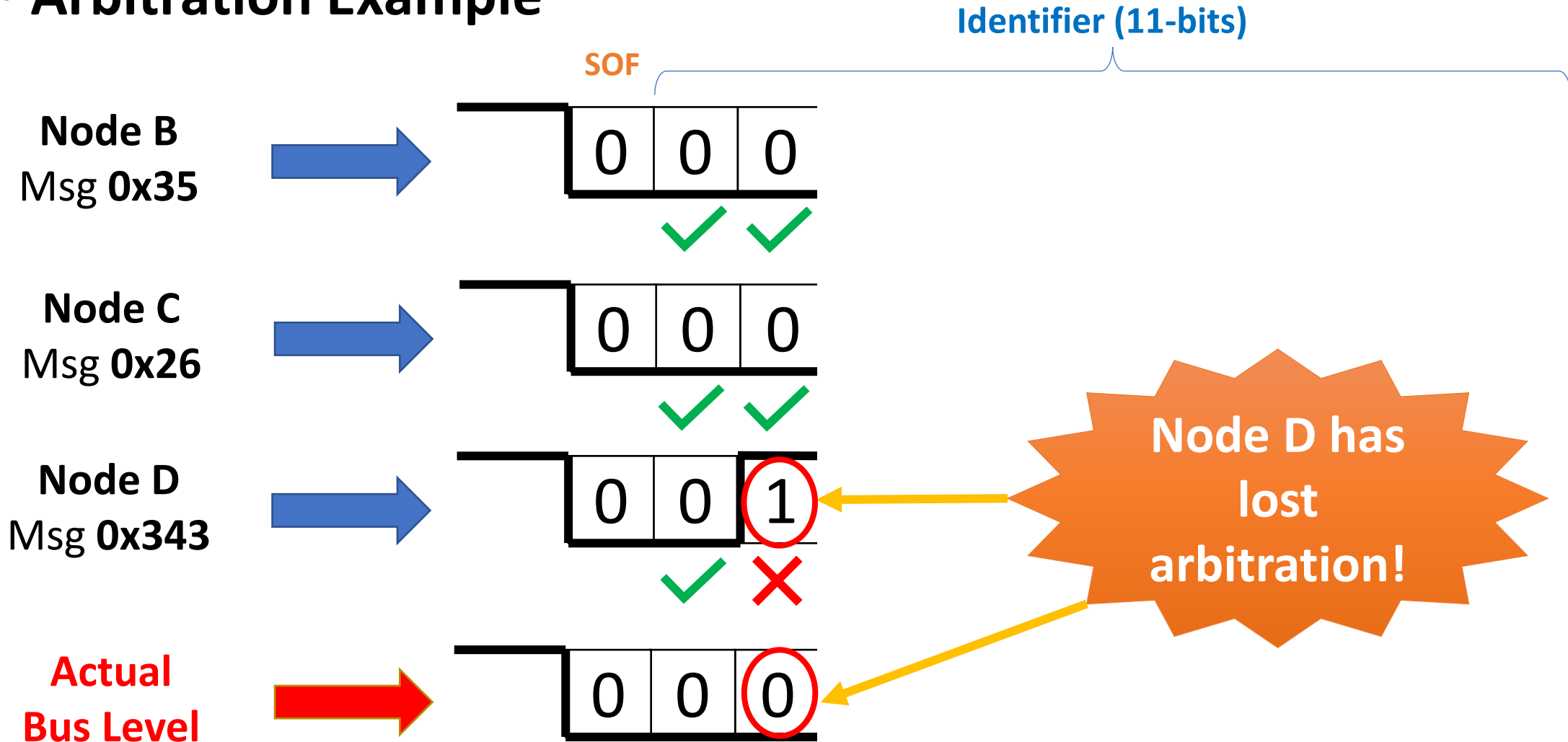
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



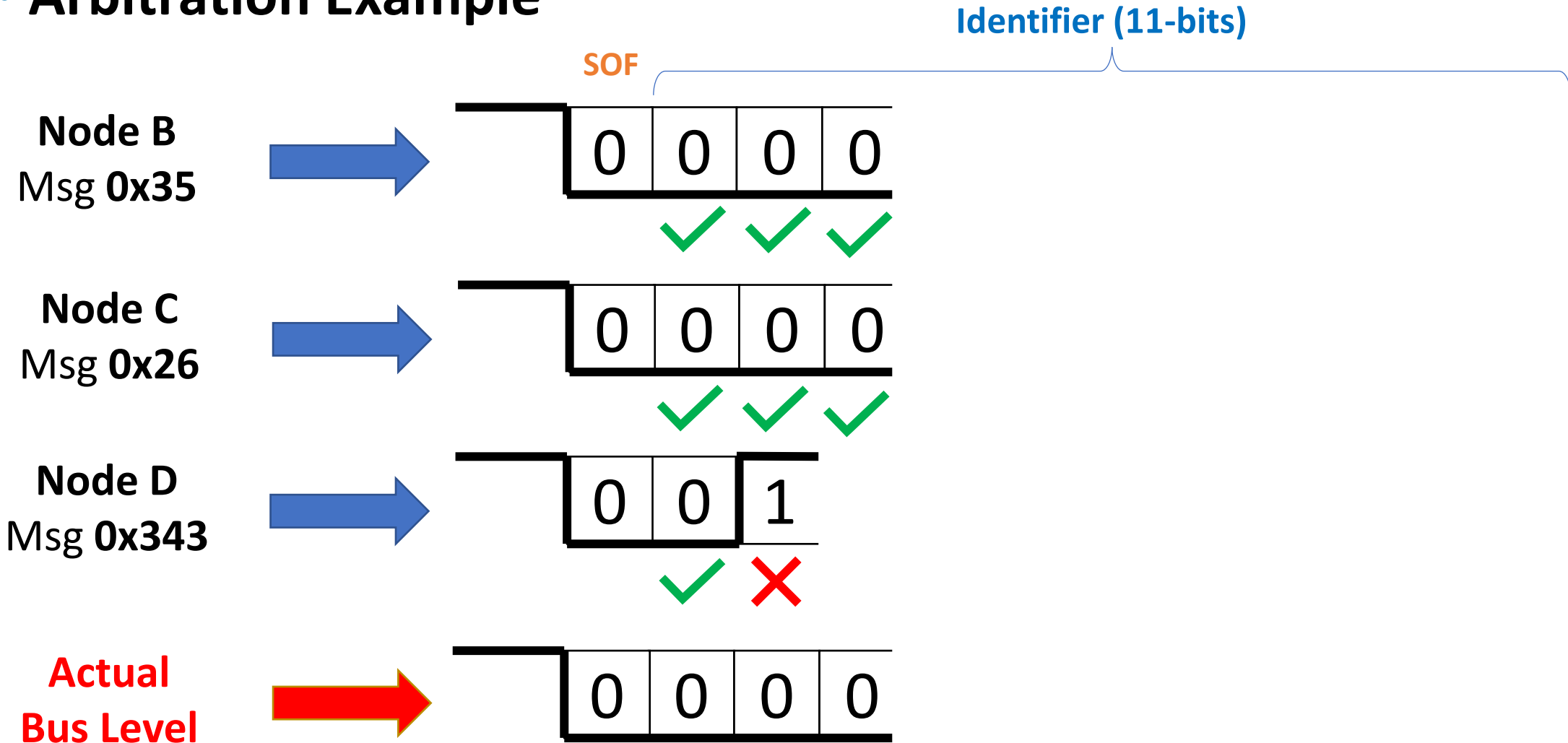
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



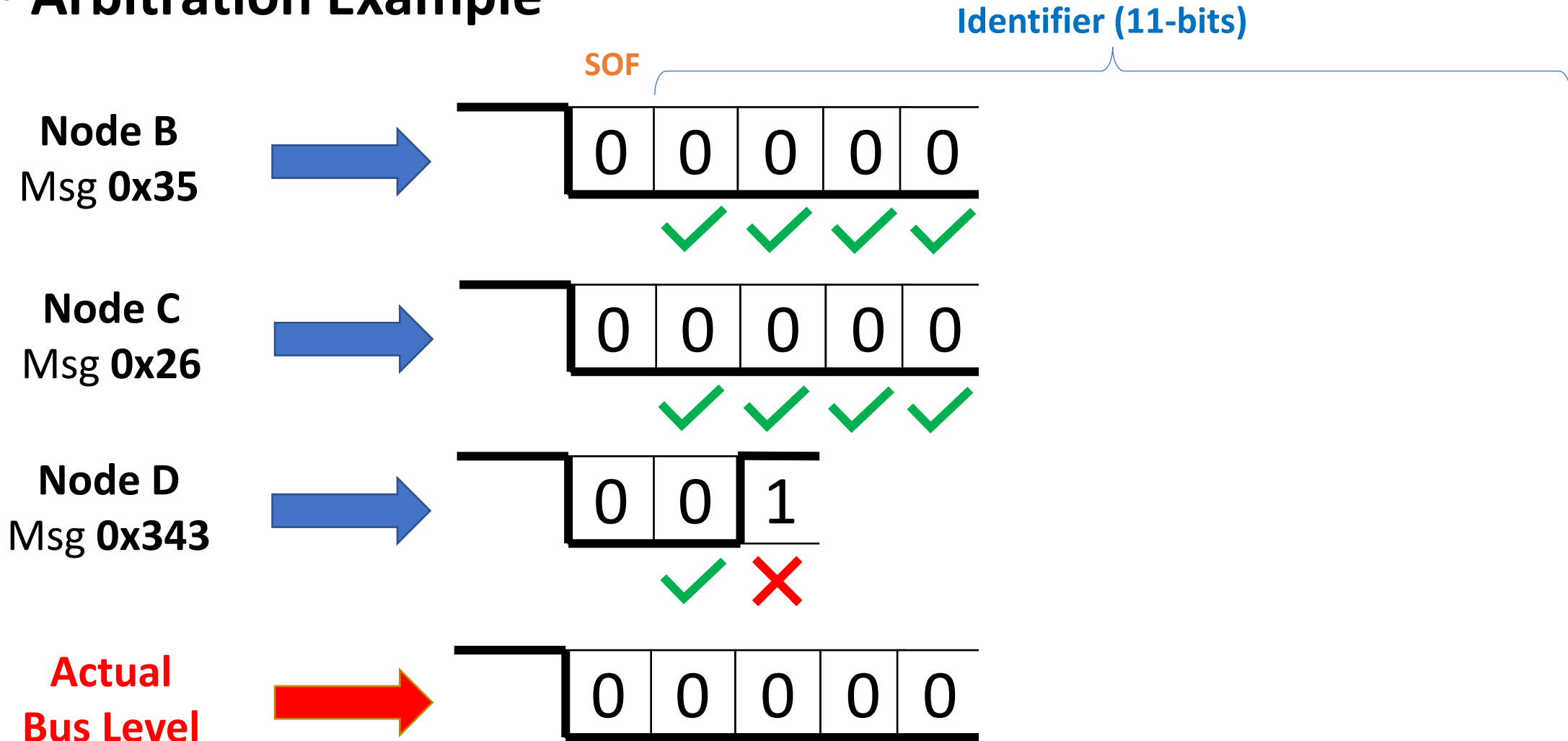
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



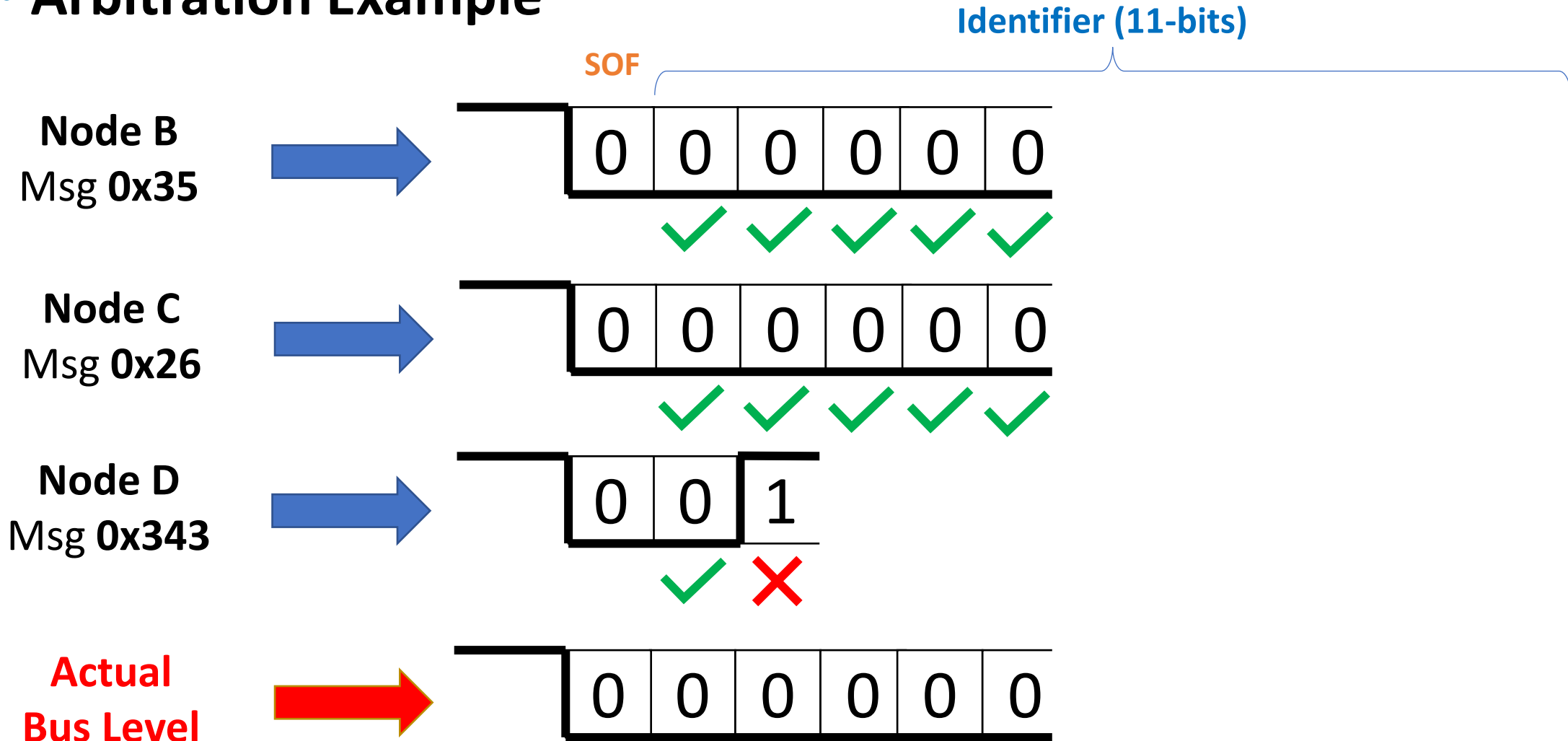
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



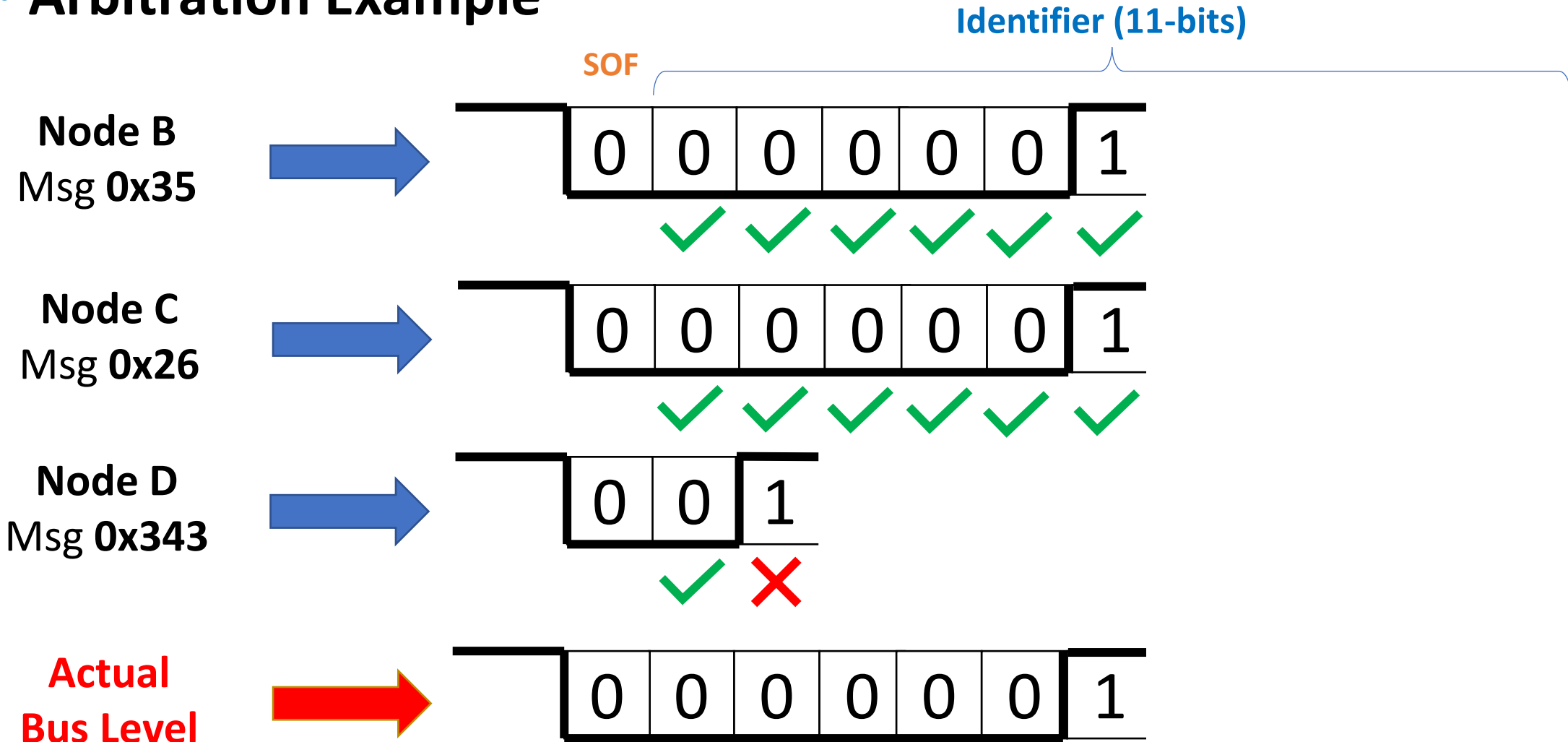
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



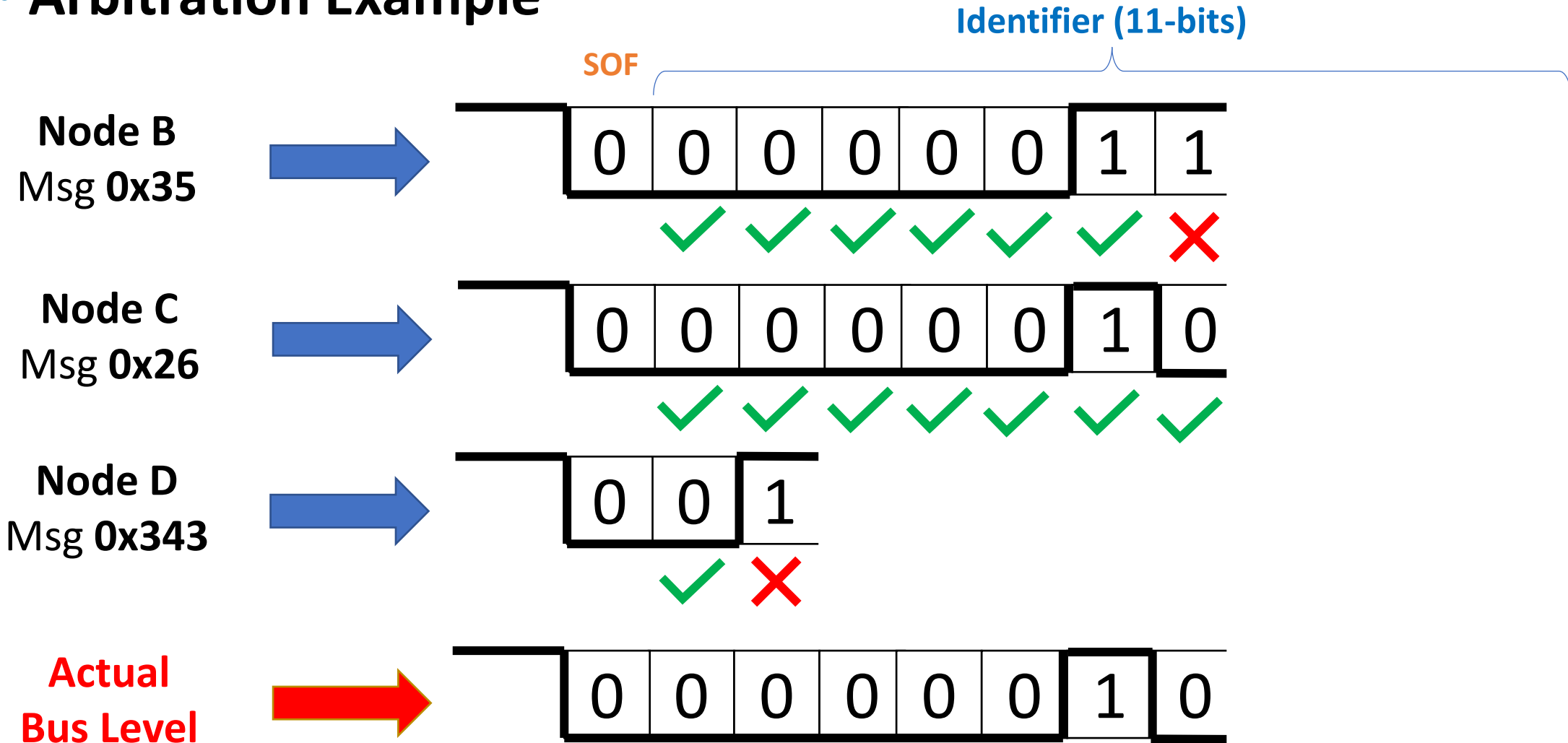
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



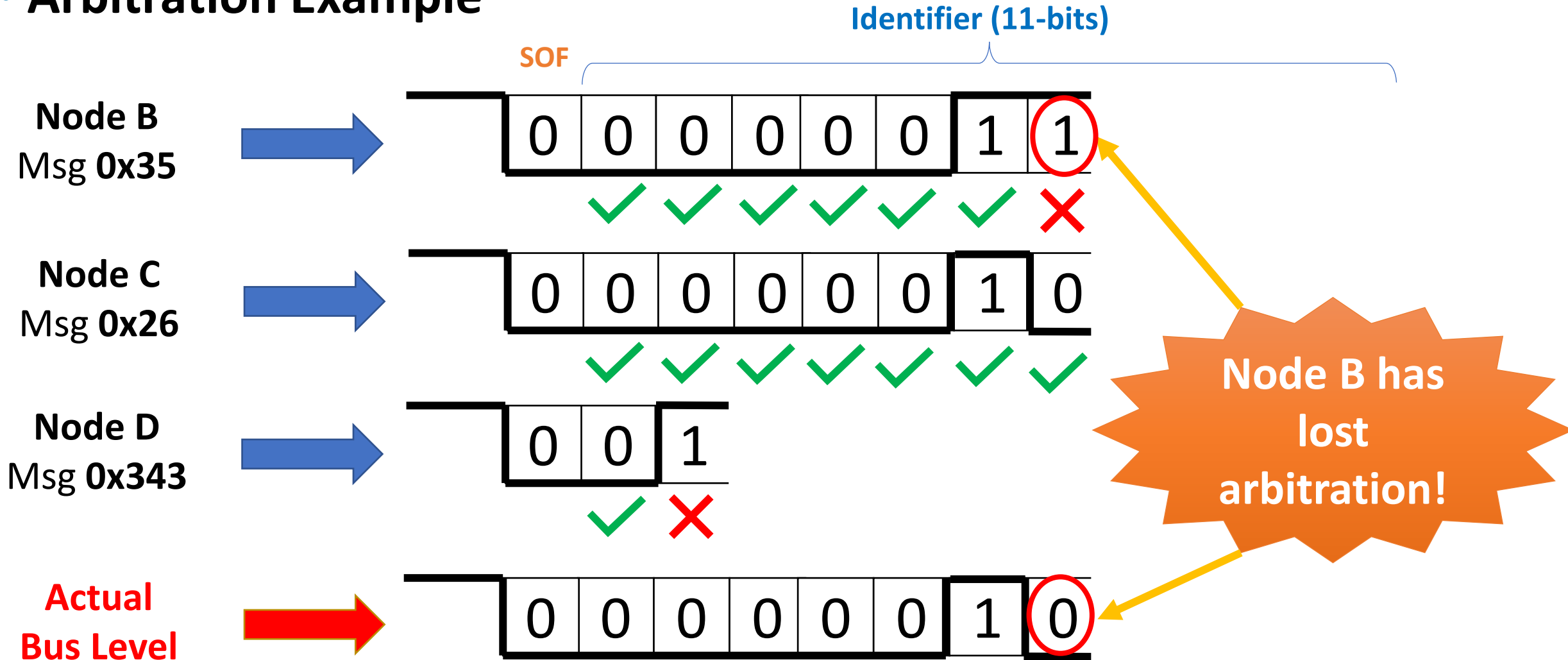
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



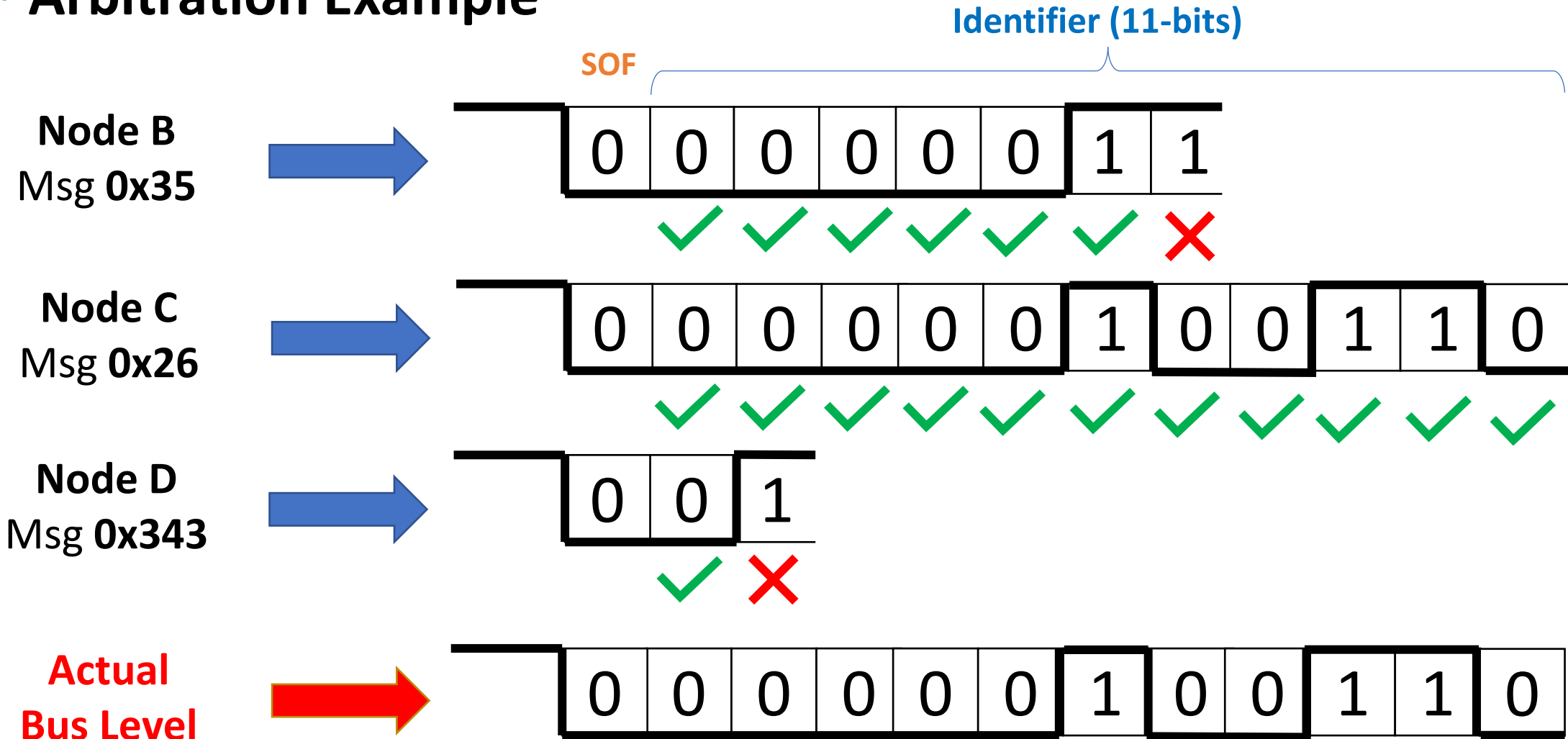
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



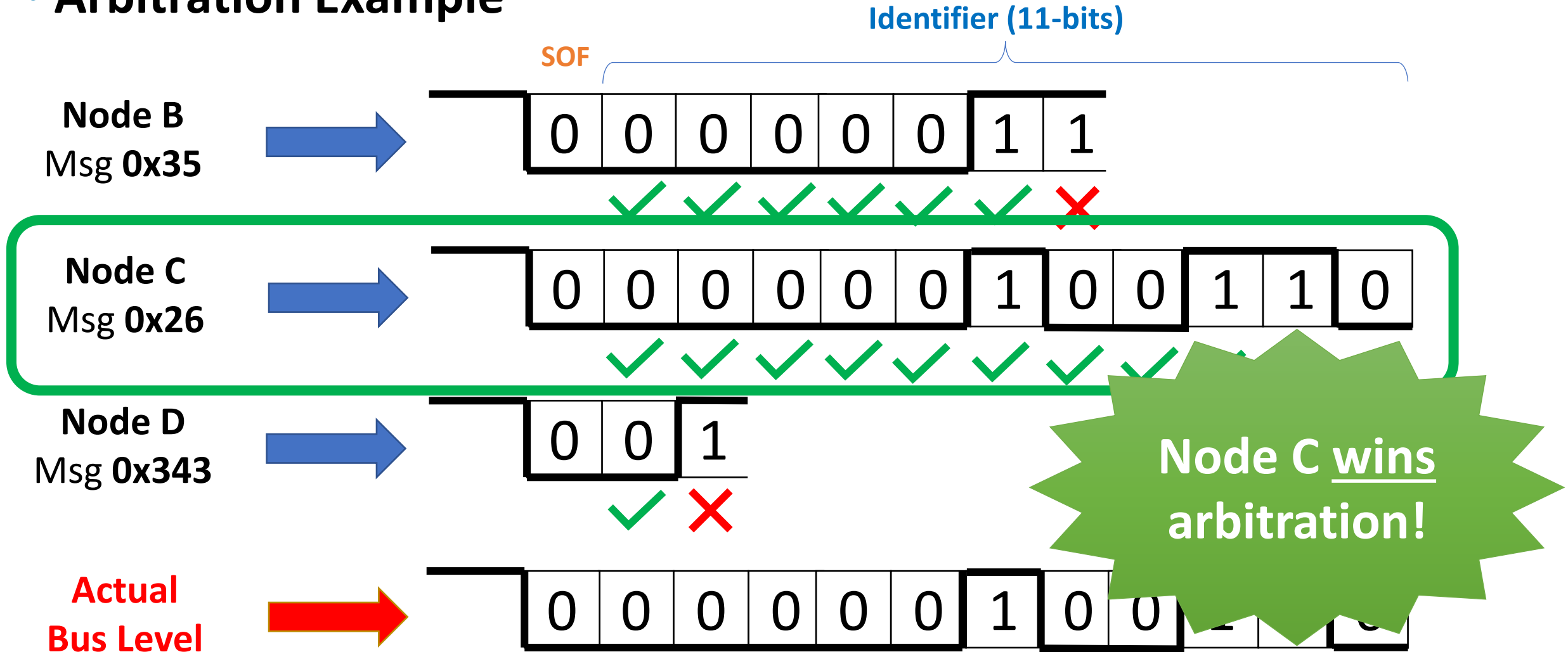
Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



Frame arbitration

- Arbitration Example



Frame arbitration

- **CAN Message Arbitration**

The **lower** the ID value the **higher** the priority!

- Critical data shall be transmitted in messages with low ID value

Bit Stuffing

- CAN provides a technique to overcome the problem of lost synchronization due to its **asynchronous** nature and its **NRZ** bit codification
 - **Bit Stuffing technique**

Bit Stuffing

- **Bit Stuffing** technique:
 - Never allow **more than 5 bits with the same level** during Data or Remote Frame transmission
 - Each time 5 bits with same level are observed in the bus, a bit (known as stuffing bit) shall be **inserted with opposite level**.
 - This ensure edges at least every 5 bits
 - Edges are opportunities for re-synchronization of nodes
 - **The 5 bits count shall also include the inserted stuffing bits**

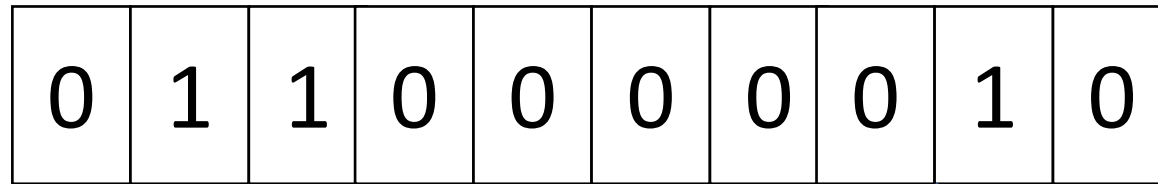
Bit Stuffing

- **Bit Stuffing** technique:
 - Bit stuffing applies from **Start-of-Frame** up to and including the **CRC sequence** field
 - CRC calculations are done without stuffing bits (after de-stuffing from receiver side)

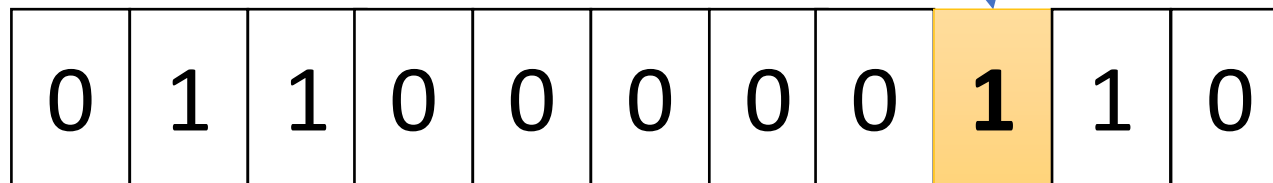
Bit Stuffing

- **Bit Stuffing example 1:**

Original Bit Stream Sequence



Bit Stream Sequence with stuffing bits

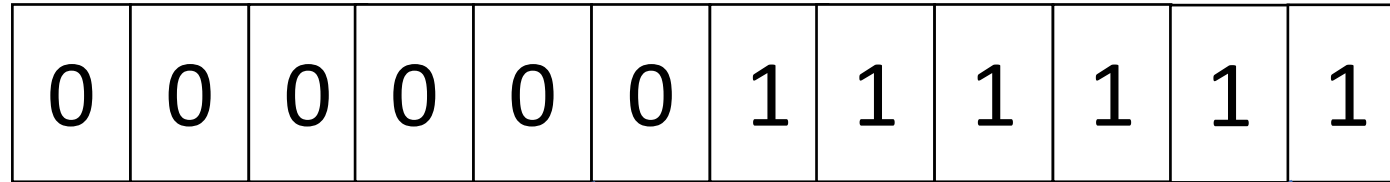


Stuff
bit

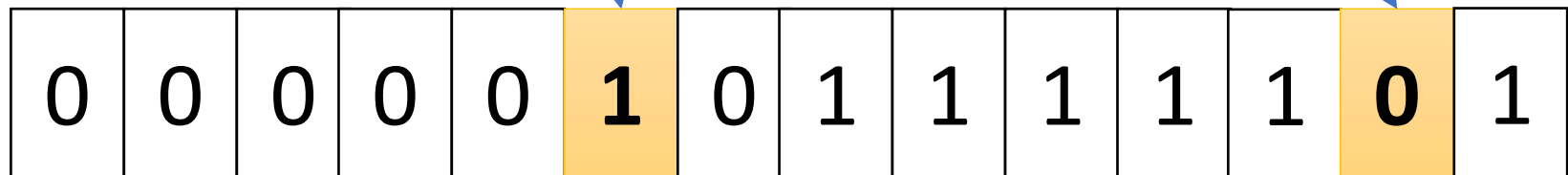
Bit Stuffing

- **Bit Stuffing** example 2:

Original Bit
Stream
Sequence



Bit Stream
Sequence
**with stuffing
bits**



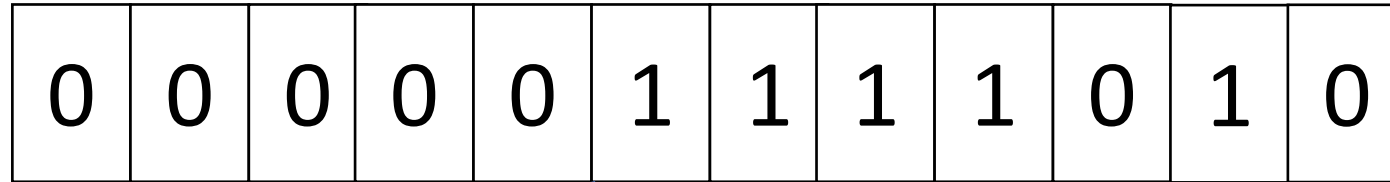
Stuff
bit

Stuff
bit

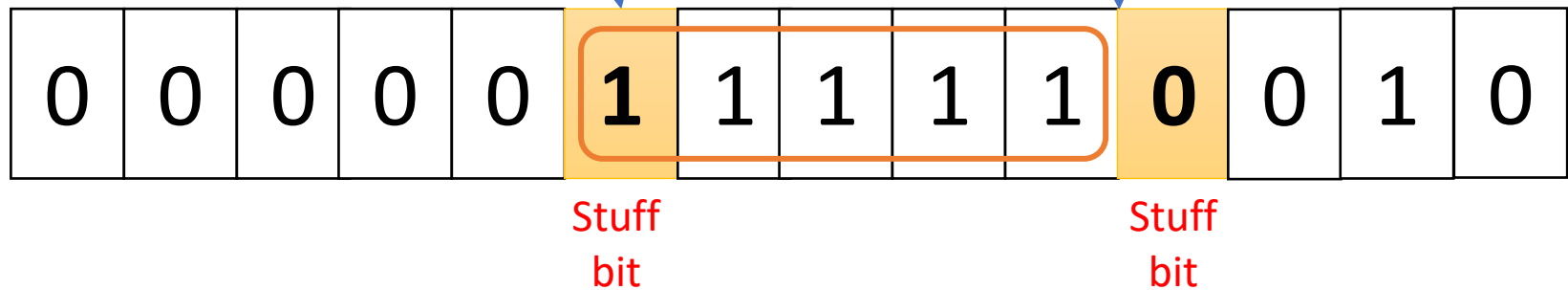
Bit Stuffing

- **Bit Stuffing example 3:**

Original Bit Stream Sequence



Bit Stream Sequence with stuffing bits



Error Handling

Error Sources

- **Format errors**
 - Invalid format, early end of frame, etc...
- **Bit errors**
 - Actual bus level don't correspond with the transmitted level
 - Exceptions: during arbitration and in ACK field
- **Bit-stuffing errors**
 - More than 5 bits with same level observed in the bus during Data or Remote Frame transmission

Error Handling

Error Sources

- **Acknowledge errors**
 - ACK bit is not asserted (dominant level) by any node subscribing node
 - May indicate an actual error or that the transmitting node is “alone” in the network
- **CRC errors**
 - CRC check fails (data corruption due to EMI, physical bus failures, etc.)

Error Handling

- CAN nodes have **error counters**
 - Transmit error counter (TEC)
 - Receive error counter (REC)

Error Handling

- Transmit error counter (TEC)

- Starts with value of **zero** upon **initialization**
- Min value is zero, max value is 255
- Increased when the node detects an error on the frame it is **transmitting**
 - Typically, **increased by 8** when detecting a TX error
- Decreased when the node **successfully transmits** a frame
 - **Decreased by 1**

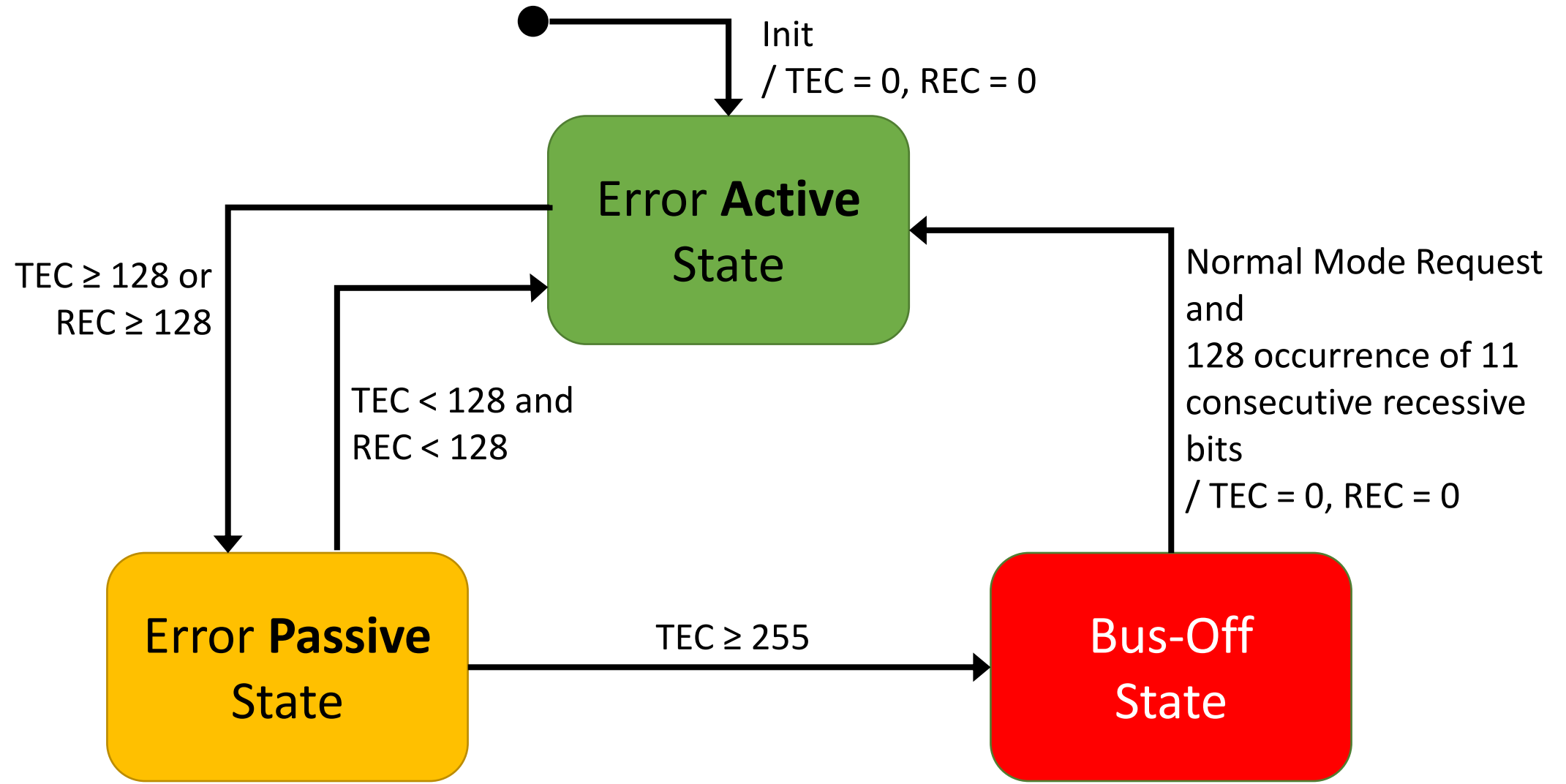
Error Handling

- Receive error counter (REC)
 - Starts with value of **zero** upon **initialization**
 - Min value is zero, max value is 255 (this value typically doesn't exceed 135)
 - Increased when the node detects an error on the frame it is **receiving**
 - **Increased by 8** when the node identifies the error by itself, increased by 1 otherwise
 - Decreased when the node **successfully receives** a frame
 - **Decreased by 1**

Error Handling

- Depending on the values of the Transmit and Receive error counters, the node can be in any of the following **states**:
 - **Error active** state
 - $TEC < 128$ **and** $REC < 128$
 - **Error passive** state
 - $TEC \geq 128$ **or** $REC \geq 128$
 - **Bus-off** state
 - $TEC \geq 255$

Error Handling



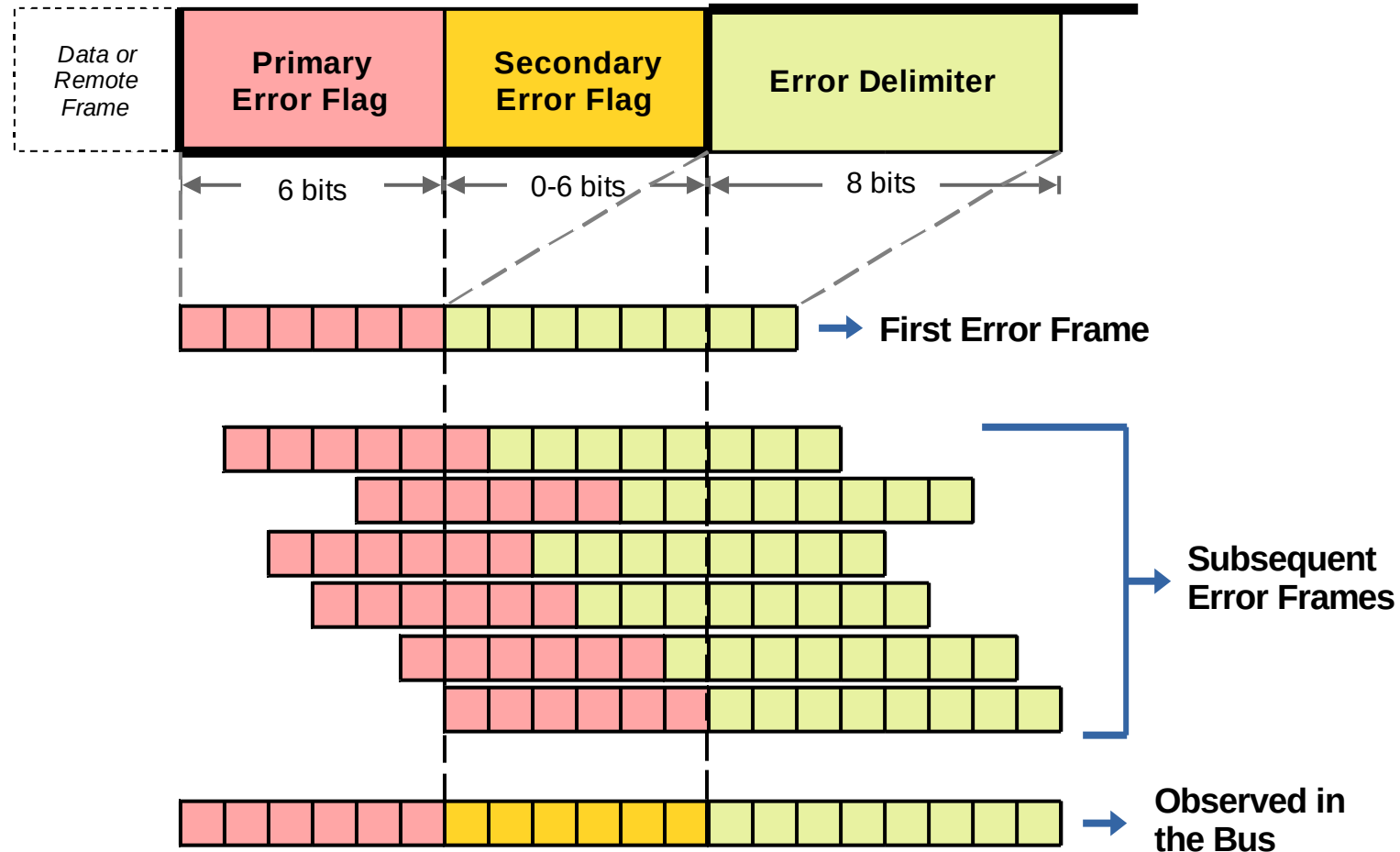
Error Handling

- **Error Active State**

- Is the “normal” state to be if there are no abnormal errors in the network (TEC and REC values are “low”)
- In this state the node **transmits and receives** frames **normally**
- In this state, if a node detects an error, it informs the rest of the nodes in the bus by transmitting an **active error frame**

Error Handling

- Active Error Frame Format



Error Handling

- **Active Error Frame Format**
 - **Primary Error Flag:** 6 dominant bits
 - Explicitly violates bit-stuffing rule
 - Other nodes in the network may generate further error frames due to the bit-stuffing violation
 - **Secondary Error Flag:** From 0 to 6 bits (depending on subsequently generated error frames)

Error Handling

- **Active Error** Frame Format
 - Publication of this frame **abruptly** interrupts current frame being transmitted
 - Publishing node can retry transmission later

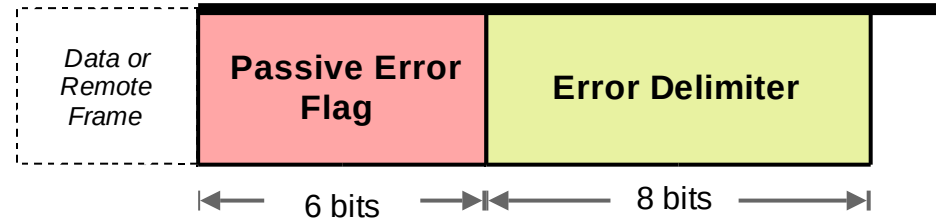
Error Handling

- **Error Passive State**

- This state indicates a problematic situation in the bus since the REC or TEC counters are relatively high
- Node **stills transmits** and **receives** frames, but, in the case of transmission, it “**sabotages**” itself by including additional 8 bits in the interframe space via the “suspend transmission” field.
 - Other competing nodes will likely take the bus before since they don't have those extra 8 bits in the interframe space.
- In this state, if a node detects an error, it transmits a **passive error frame**

Error Handling

- **Passive Error Frame Format**



- **Passive Error Flag: 6 recessive bits**
- **Error delimiter: 8 recessive bits**
- The passive error frame is “**invisible**” to the CAN bus
 - Consists of only recessive bits
 - Doesn't disrupt any on-going communication

Error Handling

- **Bus-Off State**

- This state indicates a **critical** situation in the bus most likely caused by the node itself
- Node “**disconnects**” itself from the network
 - **No reception** of frames
 - **No transmission** of frames

Error Handling

- **Bus-Off State**
 - **Exit criteria** from this state may imply (application specific):
 - Waiting time
 - Re-initialization of at least the CAN controller
 - Wait for bus in idle for a given time (128 occurrences of 11 consecutive recessive bits)

Contents

- CAN Overview
- Protocol Specification
 - Physical Layer
 - Data Frame Format
 - Remote Frame Format
 - Arbitration
 - Bit Stuffing
 - Error Handling
- **Network Design**
 - Transmission Types
 - Design Steps

Transmission Types

- **Message Transmission Types**

- **Cyclic** (*most used*)
- **Spontaneous**
- **Cyclic and Spontaneous**
- **By-Active-Function (BAF)**

- *Note: These transmission types are not part of the CAN specification but are defined at “application” level*

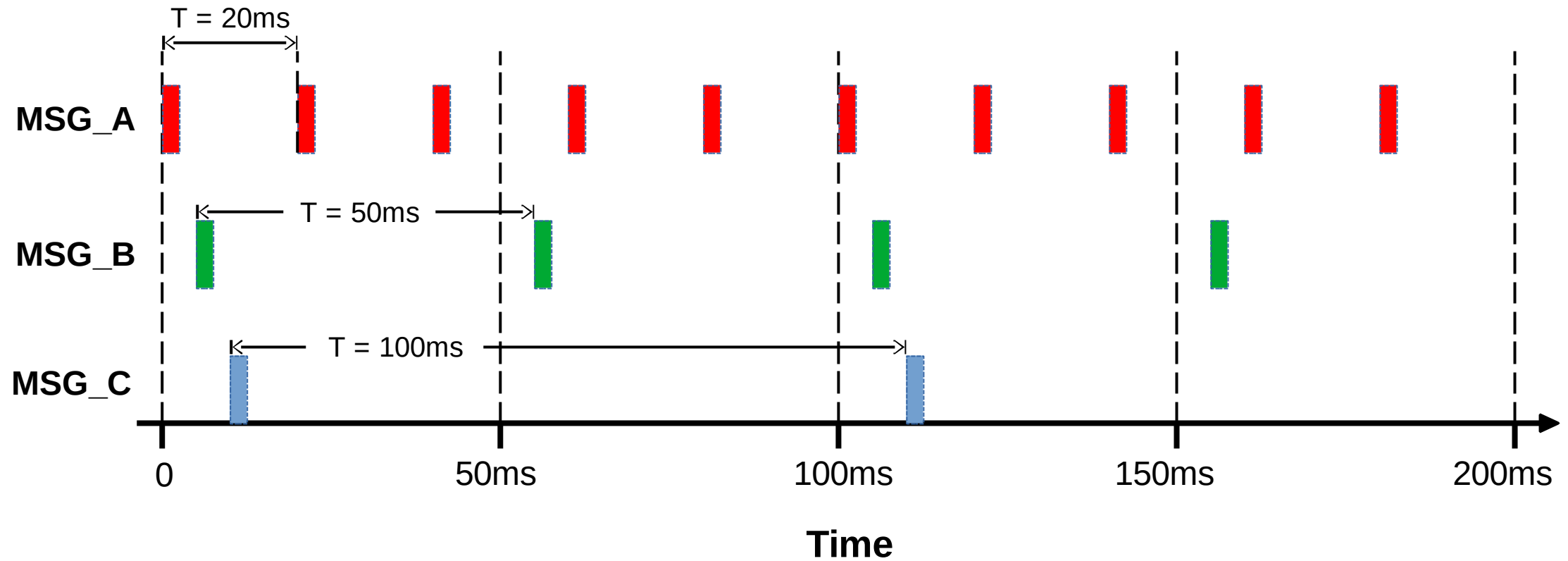
Transmission Types

- **Cyclic messages**

- Are transmitted cyclically at a defined transmission period
- Examples of period values
 - 10ms to 50ms for critical highly-changing data messages
 - 100ms to 500ms for non-critical messages
 - $\geq 1000\text{ms}$ for slowly-changing data messages

Transmission Types

- Cyclic messages



Transmission Types

- **Cyclic messages**

- For cyclic messages is common to define a **timeout** time to check for data availability
- This timeout time is often defined as a multiple of the message's period time, examples:
 - 10 times its period
 - A message with $T=20\text{ms}$ will have timeout time of 200ms
 - A message with $T=100\text{ms}$ will have timeout time of 1000ms

Transmission Types

- **Cyclic messages**

- If a message is **not received** within its defined **timeout** time, the data is considered as **not available**.
 - Application of receiver node needs to assume data values (for each signal) to use for its functional purposes.
 - E.g., Use “last-known-value”, assume a fail-safe value by default, etc.

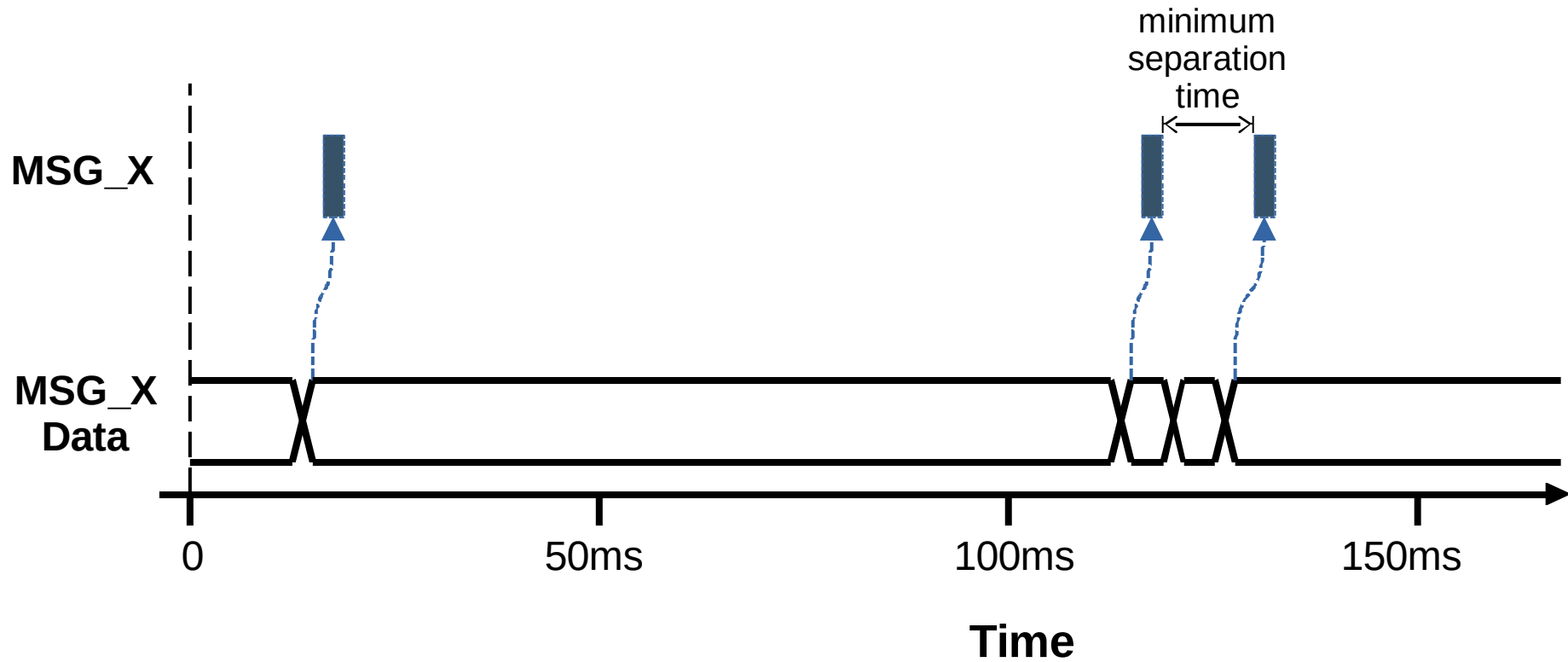
Transmission Types

- **Spontaneous messages**

- Transmitted only when the data of the message changes
 - Conveyed signal changes
- No defined period
- A minimum separation time is defined
 - e.g., 20ms

Transmission Types

- Spontaneous messages



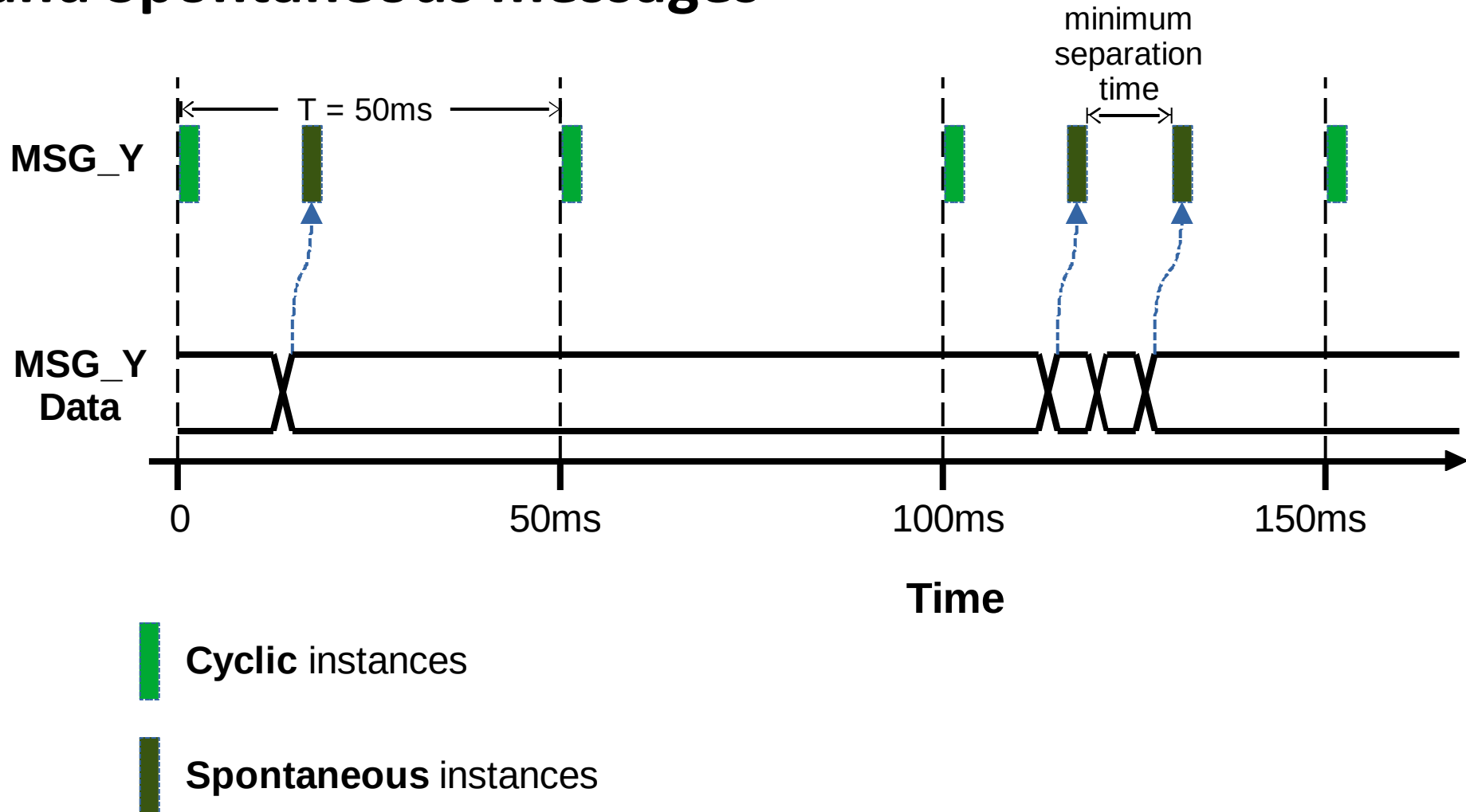
Transmission Types

- **Cyclic and Spontaneous messages**

- Have a defined period for transmission but are also transmitted if there is a data change in between periodical instances
- Period needs to be defined
- A minimum separation time is defined
- Cyclic and spontaneous message instances need to be handled properly, e.g., to respect minimum separation time, etc.

Transmission Types

- Cyclic and Spontaneous messages



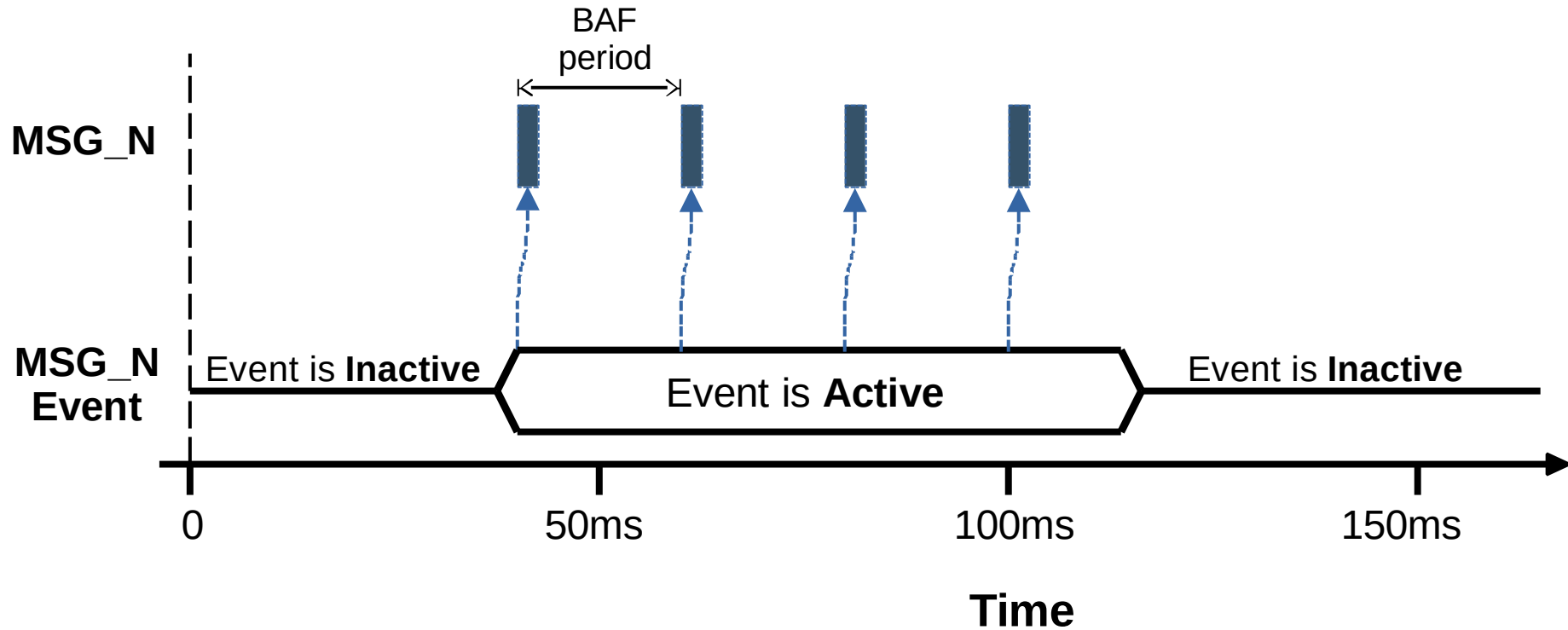
Transmission Types

- **By-Active-Function**

- Message transmission is associated to the occurrence of an “event”
- If the event hasn’t occurred or is not active, then there is NO message transmission
- If the event occurs or becomes active, then the messages start being transmitted with a defined period
- Message stops being transmitted if the event is no longer active or if certain number of transmissions have been executed

Transmission Types

- By-Active-Function



Network Design

- CAN Network is designed “**offline**”
- Once defined, each nodes gets **implemented** according to their applicable messages/signals
- Common **formats** to document a CAN network design
 - Tables (e.g., MS Excel, LibreOffice Calc)
 - DBC files (Vector proprietary format)
 - ARXML files (AUTOSAR)

Network Design

- Basic steps for **designing a CAN network**

***Note:** Steps shown here are not exhaustive, just an example. Some steps have dependencies from other steps, so the order mentioned here is not strict*

- Define **Network characteristics**
 - Bit-rate (according to data needs, wire length, etc.)
 - Physical bus to use (single-wire, two-wire)

Network Design

- Basic steps for **designing a CAN network**
 - Define Participant **Nodes**
 - Node name
 - Node description
 - Map nodes to ECUs
 - E.g., Gateway ECUs implement multiple nodes of different CAN networks

Network Design

- Basic steps for **designing a CAN network**
 - Define Data **Signals**
 - Signal **Name**
 - Signal **description**
 - Signal **characteristics**
 - Length
 - Unit, resolution, range, enumerated values, default value, etc.

Network Design

- Basic steps for **designing a CAN network**
 - Define Network **Messages**
 - Message **Name**
 - Message **description**
 - Message **ID** (lower value → higher priority)
 - Message **Format** (standard, extended)
 - Message **transmission type** (cyclic, spontaneous, etc.)

Network Design

- Basic steps for **designing a CAN network**
 - Define **Message Publisher** and **Subscriber(s)**
 - Which node will transmit the message?
 - Which node or nodes will receive the message?
 - Define timeout times for subscriber nodes if required

Network Design

- Basic steps for **designing a CAN network**
 - **Pack signals into messages**
 - Assign signals to messages
 - Define signal layout within message:
 - Starting Byte
 - Starting Bit

Thanks for your attention!

Questions, Comments?



Bibliography

- **ISO 11898:2015**, “Road vehicles — Controller area network (CAN)”, International Standards Organization, 2015
- **Online sources:**
 - <https://elearning.vector.com/mod/page/view.php?id=333>
 - <https://www.autovision-news.com/electrification/changes-vehicle-electrical-architecture/>
 - <https://resources.altium.com/p/Controller-Area-Network-Bus-Introduction-and-History>
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CAN_bus
 - <https://www.csselectronics.com/pages/can-bus-simple-intro-tutorial>
 - <https://store.chipkin.com/articles/can-bus-protocol-page-2>
 - <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/hitchhikers-guide-hacking-connected-cars-ecus-alissa-valentina-knight/>

Bibliography

- **Stock images:**
 - https://www.freepik.com/free-photo/metallic-color-sport-car-bridge_5896016.htm#page=6&query=automotive&position=30&from_view=search&track=sph