# L6: Building Direct Link Networks IV

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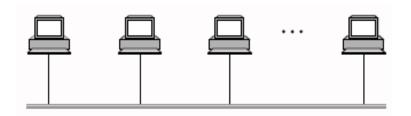
## Acknowledgements

- □ Some pictures used in this presentation were obtained from the Internet
- □ The instructor used the following references
  - Larry L. Peterson and Bruce S. Davie, Computer Networks: A Systems Approach, 5th Edition, Elsevier, 2011
  - Andrew S. Tanenbaum, Computer Networks, 5th Edition, Prentice-Hall, 2010
  - James F. Kurose and Keith W. Ross, Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach, 5th Ed., Addison Wesley, 2009
  - Larry L. Peterson's (http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~llp/) Computer Networks class web site

### **Direct Link Networks**

- □ Types of Networks
  - Point-to-point
  - Multiple access





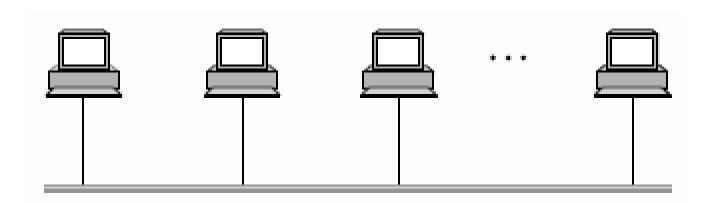
- Encoding
  - Encoding bits onto transmission medium
- **□** Framing
  - Delineating sequence of bits into messages
- Error detection
  - Detecting errors and acting on them
- Reliable delivery
  - Making links appear reliable despite errors
- **■** Media access control
  - Mediating access to shared link

### **Outlines**

- Media Access Control
- □ Contention Resolution Approaches
  - Performance analysis
- **□** Ethernet

### Multiple Access Network

- ☐ More than two nodes share a single physical link
  - Bus (Ethernet/802.3)
  - Ring (Token-ring/802.5)
  - Wireless (Wireless LAN/802.11)



### Multiple Access Networks

- □ Characteristics
  - A transmitter can be heard by multiple receivers
  - A receiver can hear multiple transmitters
- □ Problems
  - How to identify nodes?
    - □ Cannot identify node by stating "the sender" and "the receiver"
    - Addressing
  - How to mediate nodes' access to the link?
    - Interference and collision of transmission
    - Media access control

#### Media Access Control

- How to allocate a multi-access channel among multiple competing users
  - Rules that each node must follow to communicate and avoid interference and collision

## Media Access Control Approaches

- □ Can be classified into two categories
  - Static
    - □ Channel's capacity is divided into fixed portions
    - Each node is allocated a portion for all time
    - Better suited when traffic is predictable
    - Examples: TDMA, FDMA, and CDMA

#### Dynamic

- Allocate channel capacity based on the traffic generated by the users
- Try to obtain better channel utilization and delay when traffic is unpredictable
- Examples: ALOHA, Slotted ALOHA, and MACA

## **Dynamic Channel Allocation**

- □ Perfectly scheduled approaches
- □ Contention resolution approaches
- Approaches that combined both scheduling and contention resolution

# Perfectly Scheduled Approaches

- A schedule is dynamically formed based on which users have data to send
- Users transmit contention free according to the schedule
- □ Schedule can be formed by polling, reservation, etc.

## Contention Resolution Approaches

#### □ Contention

- A node transmits a packet when it has data to send
- A collision occurs if multiple nodes transmit at the same time
- Packets/Frames must be retransmitted based on some rule

#### **□** Examples

- Pure ALOHA, Slotted ALOHA
- MACA, MACAW
- CSMA, CSMA/CD and CSMA/CA
- D-MAC

#### **Performance Metrics**

- □ Latency (delay)
  - In particular, when traffic load is low
- □ Throughput (channel efficiency)
  - In particular, when traffic load is high
- □ Jitter

## Performance Analysis

- □ Multiple-access model
- □ Pure ALOHA
- □ Slotted ALOHA
- □ CSMA

### Performance Analysis

- □ References and Further Readings
  - Kleinrock, L.; Tobagi, F.A, "Packet Switching in Radio Channels: Part I--Carrier Sense Multiple-Access Modes and Their Throughput-Delay Characteristics," Communications, IEEE Transactions on , vol.23, no.12, pp.1400,1416, Dec 1975. doi: 10.1109/TCOM.1975.1092768.
  - Abramson, Norman, "Development of the ALOHANET," Information Theory, IEEE Transactions on , vol.31, no.2, pp.119,123, Mar 1985. doi: 10.1109/TIT.1985.1057021.

### Multiple-Access Model

- □ User Model
  - N users (nodes, or stations).
  - At each station, frames to be transmitted randomly arrive
  - The arrivals are independent of each other
- □ Channel model
  - All communications of the N users rely on one single shared channel
- □ Transmission model
  - Frames are garbled and cannot be received, whenever the frames overlap in time (called a *collision*)
  - Only errors allowed are introduced by collisions. If no collisions, a frame is successfully received
- □ Feedback model
  - All stations are able to detect if a frame is collided with another or successfully sent after a complete frame is sent

## Approaches in Feedback Model

- □ Listen while transmitting
  - Typically, collisions can be detected in a delay of ~RTT
    - **Ethernet** (link length, 4 segments, 2500 meter): 51.2 μs
    - Satellite: it may take as much as 270 ms delay
- □ If not possible, acknowledgements are used
  - Not until recently is it considered possible to listen while transmitting on wireless networks
  - Dinesh Bharadia, Emily McMilin, and Sachin Katti. 2013. Full duplex radios. In *Proceedings of the ACM SIGCOMM 2013 conference on SIGCOMM* (SIGCOMM '13). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 375-386. DOI=10.1145/2486001.2486033.

http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2486001.2486033

#### Pure ALOHA

□ Initially developed by Norman Abramson, University of Hawaii in 1970's

□ Served as a basis for many contention resolution

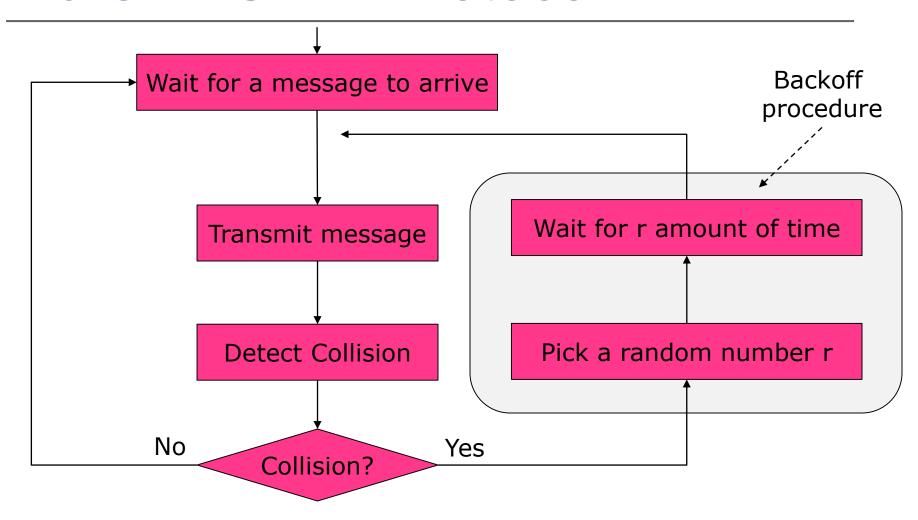
protocols



#### Pure ALOHA: Protocol

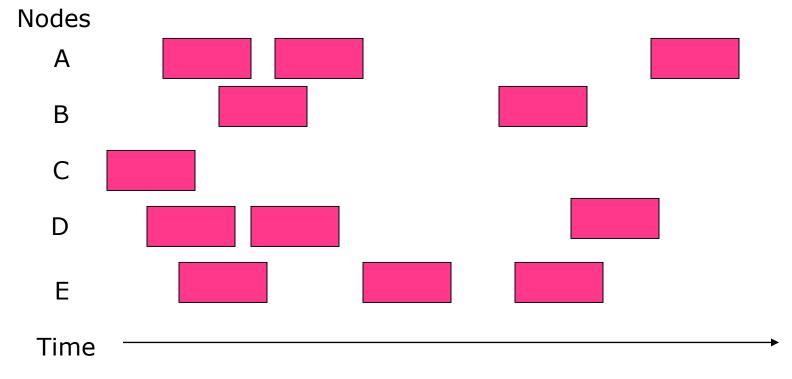
- □ Transmit message: A node transmits whenever it has data to send
- Detect collision: The sender wait to see if a collision occurred after the complete frame is sent
  - Note: a collision may occur if multiple nodes transmit at the same time
- Random backoff: If collision occurs, all the stations involved in collision wait a random amount of time, then try again
- Questions
  - Is it a good protocol? (how much can the throughput be?)
  - How would we choose the random amount of waiting time?

### Pure ALOHA: Protocol



# Pure ALOHA: Throughput Analysis

□ Frames are transmitted and retransmitted at completely arbitrary times



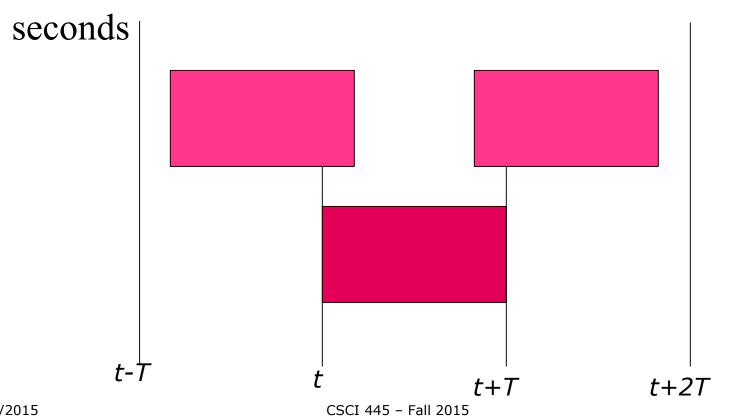
# Pure ALOHA: Throughput Analysis

- □ Assume
  - Infinite number of nodes
  - Fixed length frames. Denote length as T
  - Overall arrival of frames is a Poisson process with rate  $\lambda$  frames/second
- □ Then, denote S as the number of frames arriving in T seconds
  - $S = \lambda T$
- In case of a collision, retransmission happens
  - New transmission and retransmission combined (all transmissions) is a Poisson process
  - Let the rate be G attempts per T seconds
- Note that
  - $S \leq G$
  - Equality only if there are no collisions.
- Assume the system is in a stable state and denote the probability of a successful transmission by  $P_0$

$$S = GP_0$$

## Vulnerable Period/Contention Window

□ A frame is successfully transmitted, if there are no frames transmitted in the contention window of 2T



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## Frames Generated in Vulnerable Period

- □ Vulnerable Period: 2T seconds
- □ The rate of all transmissions in 2T seconds: 2G
- ☐ The probability that k frames are generated during 2T seconds is given by a Poisson distribution

$$\Pr[k] = \frac{(2G)^k e^{-2G}}{k!}$$

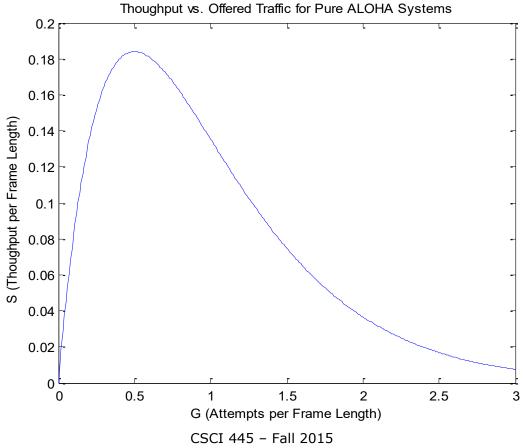
□ The probability of no other frames being initiated (new transmission and retransmission) during the entire vulnerable period is

$$S = GP_0 = G\frac{(2G)^0 e^{-2G}}{0!} = Ge^{-2G}$$

## Throughput of Pure ALOHA

□ Let us graph it

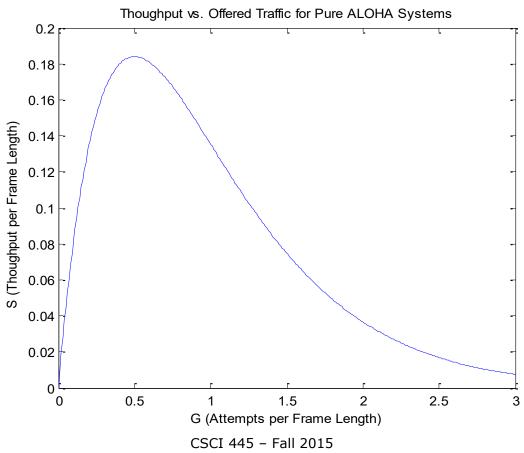
$$S = Ge^{-2G}$$



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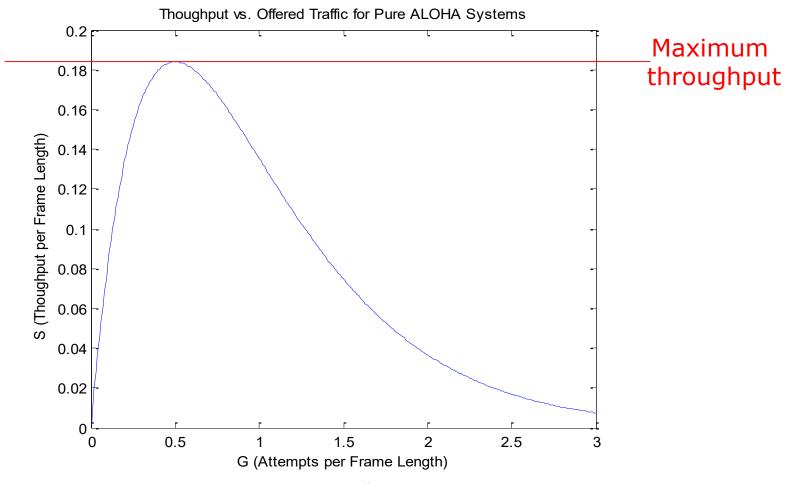
## Throughput of Pure ALOHA

#### □ What is the implication?



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## Maximum Throughput of Pure ALOHA



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## Maximum Throughput of Pure **ALOHA**

 $\Box$  The derivative is 0

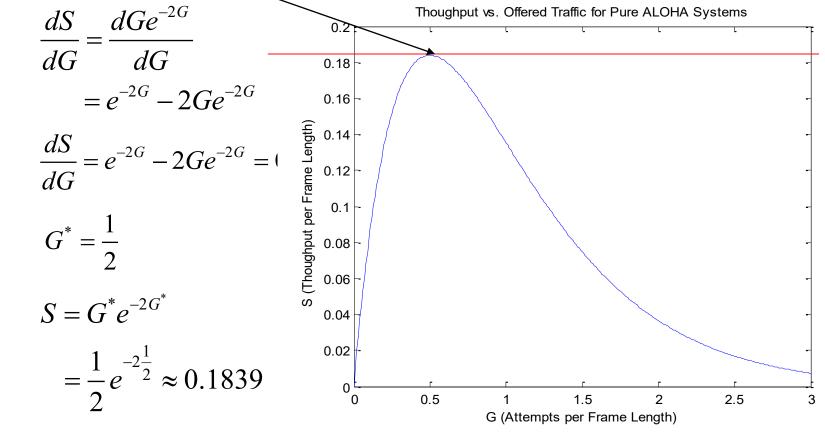
$$S = Ge^{-2G}$$

$$\frac{dS}{dG} = \frac{dGe^{-2G}}{dG}$$
$$= e^{-2G} - 2Ge^{-2G}$$

$$\frac{dS}{dG} = e^{-2G} - 2Ge^{-2G} = 0$$

$$G^* = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$S = G^* e^{-2G^*}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} e^{-2\frac{1}{2}} \approx 0.1839$$



#### Pure ALOHA: Remark

- □ Considered a simplified analysis of a pure Aloha
  - Found that the maximum throughput is limited to be at most 1/(2e).
  - Not taken into account
    - How the offered load changes with time
    - How the retransmission time may be adjusted.
- □ Channel utilization of a <u>busy</u> Pure ALOHA system is 18%
- □ What improvement can we make?

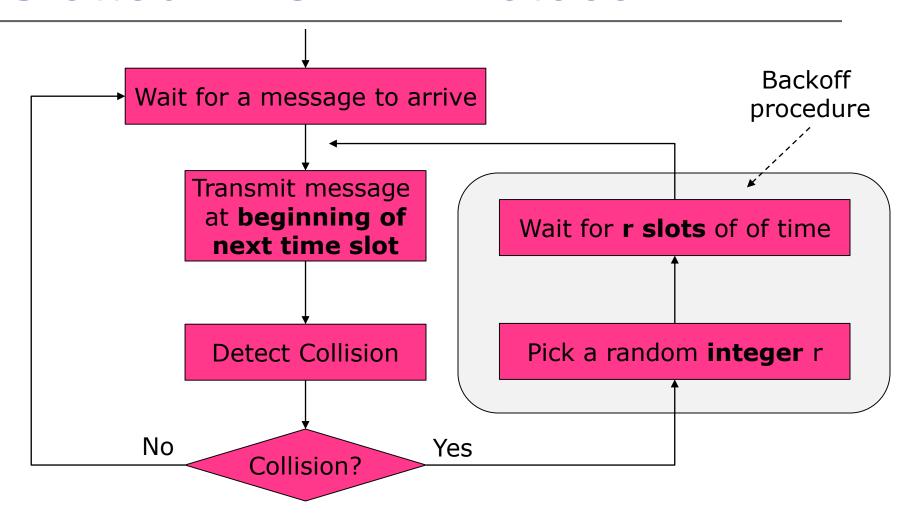
#### Pure ALOHA: Remark

- What improvement can we make?
  - Collision causes retransmission and reduces throughput
  - Can we reduce chance of collisions?
    - Collisions happen within the <u>Vulnerable</u> <u>Period/Contention Window</u>.
    - □ Can we shorten the <u>Vulnerable</u> <u>Period/Contention Window?</u>
    - □ Slotted ALOHA

#### Slotted ALOHA

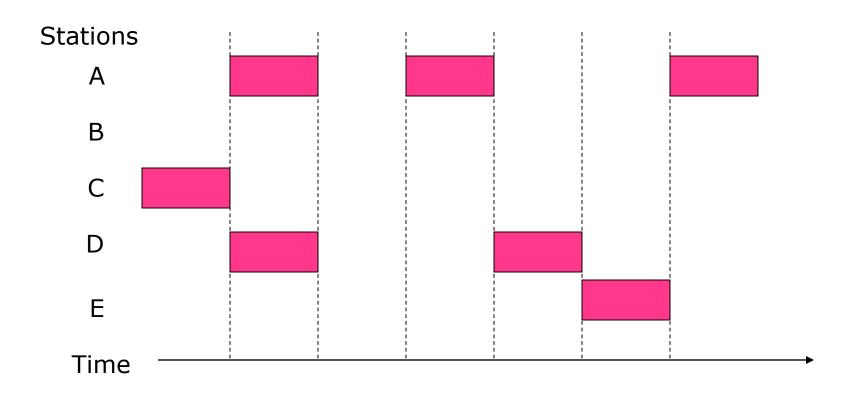
- □ Improvement to Pure ALOHA
  - Divided time into discrete intervals
  - Each interval corresponds to a frame
  - Require stations agree on slot boundaries

### Slotted ALOHA: Protocol



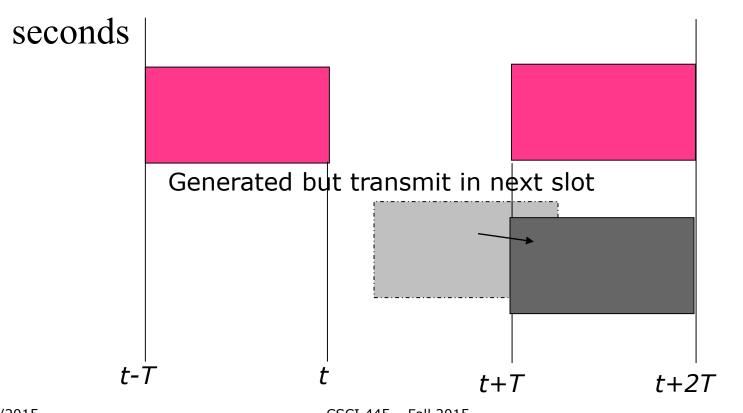
# Slotted ALOHA: Throughput Analysis

□ Time is slotted



## Vulnerable Period/Contention Window

□ A frame is successfully transmitted, if there are no frames transmitted in the contention window of T



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## Frames Generated in Vulnerable Period

- □ Vulnerable Period: T seconds
- □ The rate of all transmissions in T seconds: G
- ☐ The probability that k frames are generated during T seconds is given by a Poisson distribution

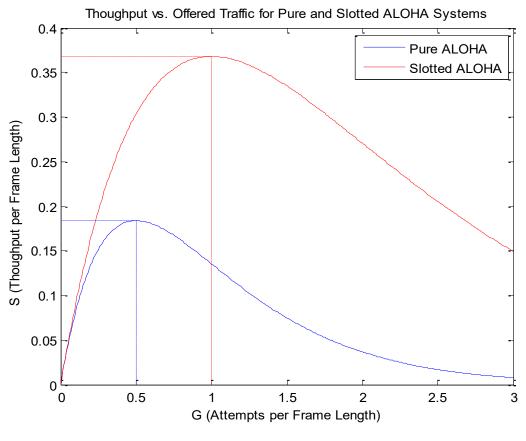
$$\Pr[k] = \frac{G^k e^{-G}}{k!}$$

The probability of no other frames being initiated (new transmission and retransmission) during the entire vulnerable period is

$$S = GP_0 = G\frac{G^0 e^{-G}}{0!} = Ge^{-G}$$

### Throughput of Slotted ALOHA

$$S = Ge^{-G}$$



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### Exercise L6-1

- Derive the maximum throughput of the Slotted ALOHA protocol
- How much is the maximum throughput?
- □ Note

$$S = Ge^{-G}$$

# Implications of Performance Analysis (1)

□ In original ALOHA system, packets are of fixed size of 34 ms. Assume each active user sending a message packet at an average rate of once every 60 seconds. Estimate maximum number of users does the system can concurrently support?

#### □ Answer:

- Maximum throughput = maximum channel utilization = 1/(2e) → channel can only be 1/(2e) full.
- packet rate:  $\lambda = 1/60$
- Packet length:  $\tau = 34$  ms
- Maximum # of concurrent users:  $k_{max}$
- $k_{max} \lambda \tau = 1/(2e)$
- $k = 1/(2e\lambda\tau) \approx 1/(2\times2.7183\times1/60\times0.034) \approx 324$

# Application of Performance Analysis (2)

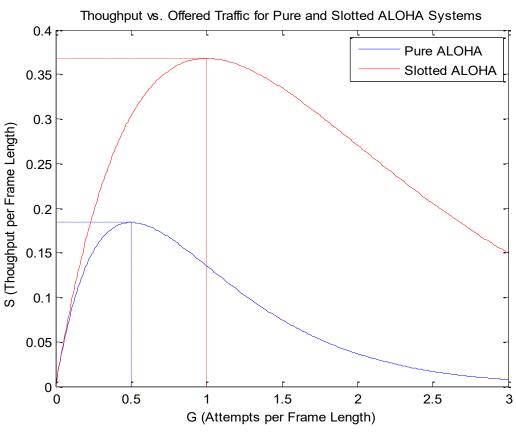
□ In an ALOHA system, packets are 816 bits and link bandwidth is 24 kbps. Assume each active user sending a message packet at an average rate of once every 60 seconds. Estimate maximum number of users does the system can concurrently support?

#### ■ Answer:

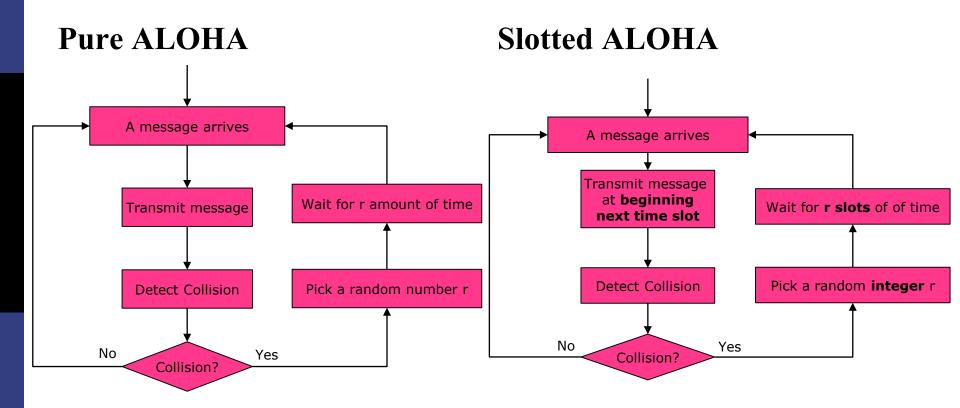
- Maximum throughput = maximum channel utilization = 1/(2e) → channel can only be 1/(2e) full.
- packet rate:  $\lambda = 1/60$
- Packet length:  $\tau = 816/24 \text{ kbps} = 816/24000 = 0.034 \text{ sec} = 34 \text{ ms}$
- Maximum # of concurrent users:  $k_{max}$
- $k_{max} \lambda \tau = 1/(2e)$
- $k = 1/(2e\lambda\tau) \approx 1/(2\times2.7183\times1/60\times0.034) \approx 324$

## Making Further Improvements?

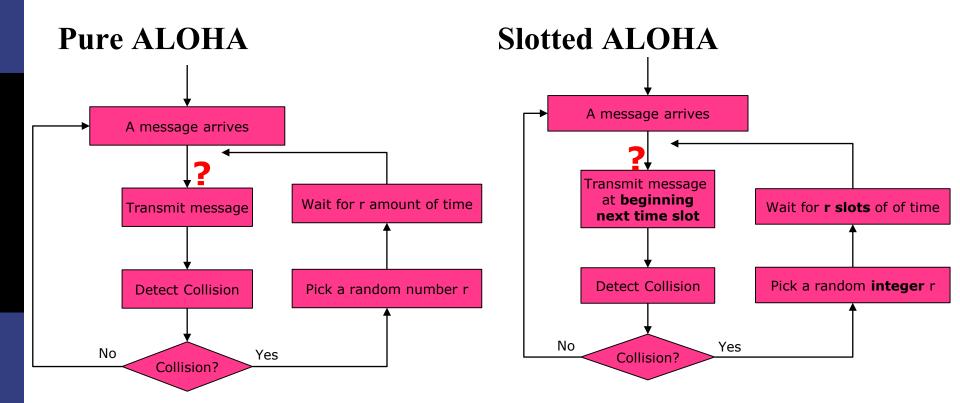
### □ Maximum throughputs are small



# Making Further Improvements?



# Making Further Improvements?



■ ALOHA transmits even if another node is transmitting → collision

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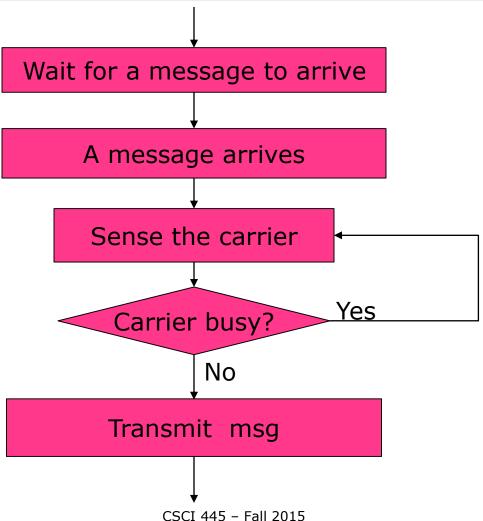
### Carrier Sense

□ Listen first, transmit when the channel is idle → reduce chance of collision

# Carrier Sense (without Collision Detection)

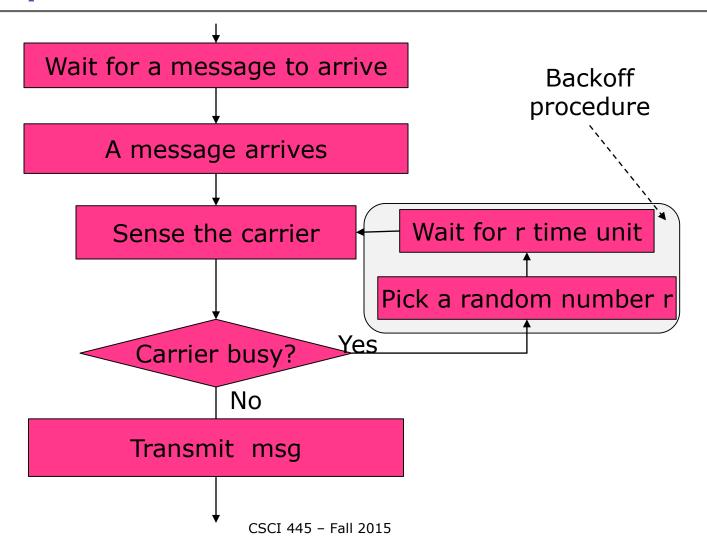
- □ Non-persistent CSMA
  - Transmit after a random amount of waiting time regardless if channel is idle (from carrier sense)
  - Large delay when channel is idle
- □ 1-persistent CSMA
  - Transmit as soon as the channel becomes idle
  - Collision happens when two or more nodes all want to transmit
- □ p-persistent CSMA
  - If idle, transmit the frame with a probability p

## 1-persistent CSMA



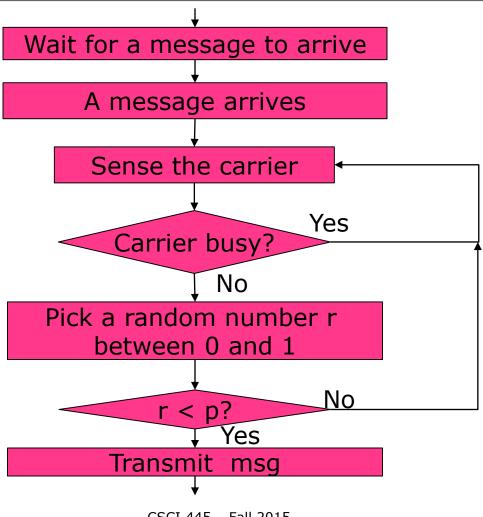
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## Non-persistent CSMA



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## p-persistent CSMA



## Comparison of Throughput

- □ Pure ALOHA
- □ Slotted ALOHA
- □ Nonpersistent CSMA
- □ 1-persistent CSMA
  - Unslotted
  - Slotted
- □ p-persistent CSMA
  - skipped

$$S = Ge^{-2G}$$

$$S = Ge^{-G}$$

$$S = \frac{Ge^{-aG}}{G(1+2a) + e^{-aG}}$$

$$S = \frac{G\left[1 + G + aG\left(1 + G + aG/2\right)\right]e^{-G(1+2a)}}{G(1+2a) - \left(1 - e^{-aG}\right) + \left(1 + aG\right)e^{-G(1+a)}}$$

$$S = \frac{Ge^{-G(1+a)}\left[1 + a - e^{-aG}\right]}{(1+a)\left(1 - e^{-aG}\right) + ae^{-G(1+a)}}$$

## Comparison of Throughput

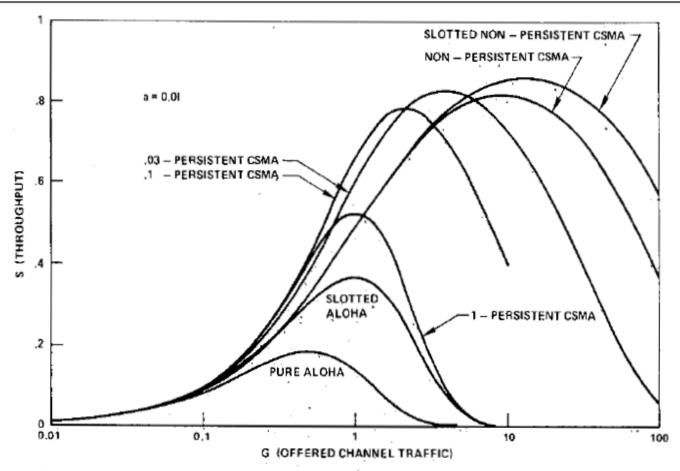


Fig. 9. Throughput for the various access modes (a = 0.01).

### Carrier Sense

- □ Listen first, transmit when the channel is idle → reduce chance of collision
- □ Can collisions be **completely** mitigated?

### Carrier Sense

- □ Listen first, transmit when the channel is idle → reduce chance of collision
- □ Can collisions be **completely** mitigated?
- ■Q: Under what condition can Carrier Sense be more beneficial to throughput?

### Carrier Sense and Collision

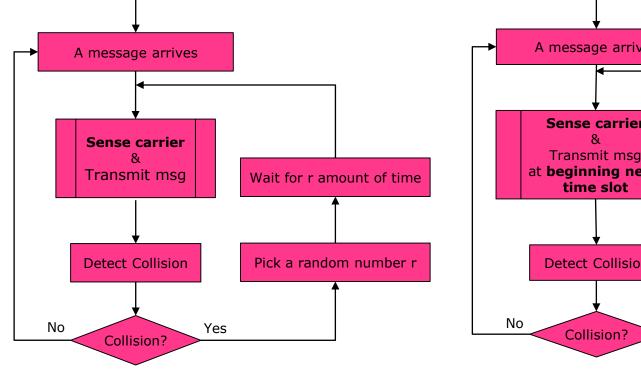
- Even with CSMA there can still be collisions.
- What do Pure ALOHA and Slotted ALOHA do?

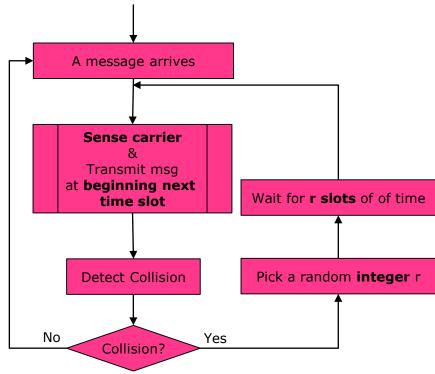
### Collision Detection

- ☐ If nodes can detect collisions, abort transmissions!
  - Requires a minimum frame size ("acquiring the medium")
  - Continues to transmit a jamming signal (called runt) until other nodes detects it
  - Requires a full duplex channel

## Complete the Picture

□ Carrier Sense Multiple Access and Collision Detection



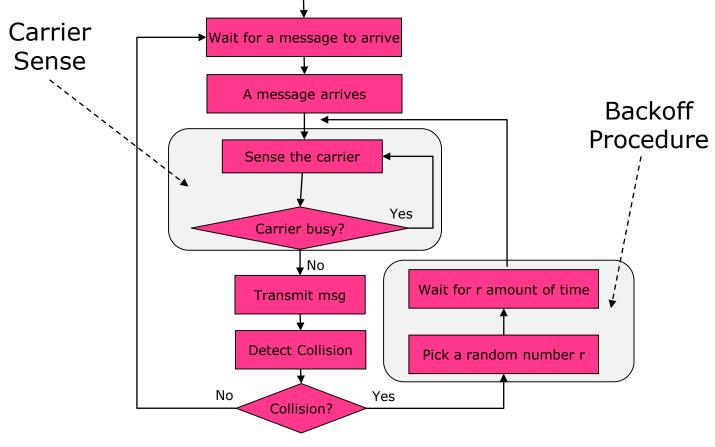


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## CSMA/CD

### □ 1-Persistent CSMA and CD



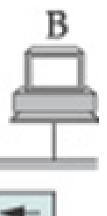
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## Ethernet

- Multiple Access Networks
- □ Carrier Sense Multiple Access and Collision Detection (CSMA/CD) with Exponential Backoff
  - Inspired by the ALOHA network at the University of Hawaii
  - Developed by Robert Metcalfe and Bob Boggs at Xerox PARC

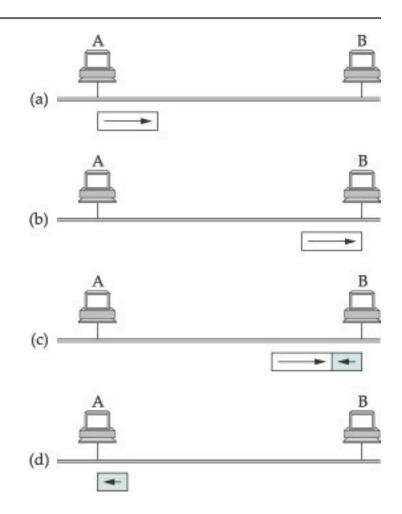
## **Ethernet: Carrier Sensing**

- □ If line is idle
  - Send immediately
  - Upper bound message size = 1500 bytes
- □ If line is busy
  - Wait until idle and transmit immediately
  - 1-persistent (a special case of p-persistent)



### Collision Detection on Ethernet

- No centralized control, distributed algorithm
- Two nodes may transmit almost at the same time → collision
- Worst case scenario
  - (a) A sends a frame at time t
  - (b) A's frame arrives at B at t + d
  - (c) B begins transmitting at time t + d and collides with A's frame. Upon detecting the collision, B sends a <u>runt</u> (32-bit frame) to A
  - (d) B's runt frame arrive at A at t +2d
  - Why does B need to send a runt to A?
  - How long does it take for A to detect the collision?



## Collision Detection on Ethernet

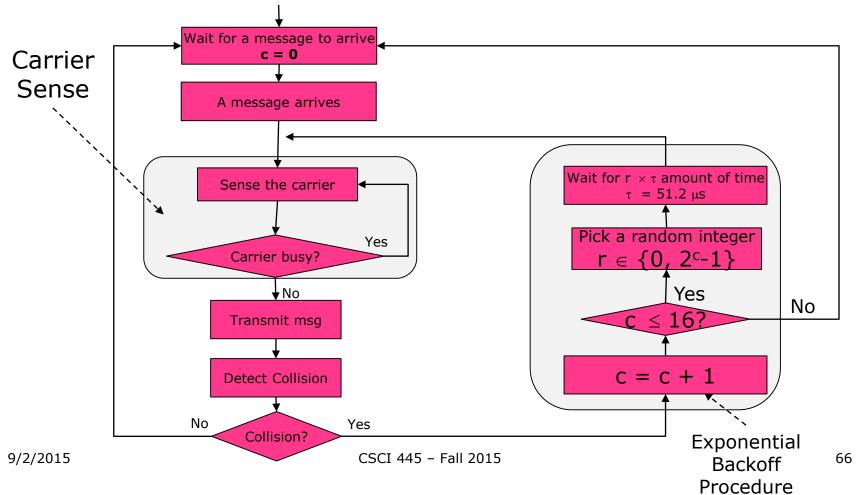
- Want the nodes that collide to know that a collision happened
  - Time during which a node (the transmitting node) may hear of a collision is 1 × RTT
    - Recall: under what condition can a network be benefited most from "carrier sense"?
  - Impose a minimum frame size that lasts for  $1 \times RTT$ 
    - So the node can not finish transmitting before a collision takes place → carrier sense benefits the network the most
    - □ Consider an Ethernet: minimum frame is 64 bytes, longest link 2500 meters (4 repeaters, 500 meter segment), 10-Mbps bandwidth
      - $1 \times RTT = 51.2 \mu s$  and  $1 \times RTT \times Bandwidth = 512 bits = 64 bytes$

# Ethernet: Collision Detection with Binary Exponential Backoff

- □ If collision
  - Jam for 32 bits (by sending a runt), and stop transmitting frame
  - Minimum frame is 64 bytes (14 bytes header + 46 bytes of data + 4 bytes CRC) for 10 Mbps Ethernet
  - Exponential backoff
    - $\square$  1<sup>st</sup> time: 0 or 51.2 µs
      - Randomly select one of these two: imagine throwing an evenly made coin, if it lands tail, choose 0; otherwise, 51.2 μs
    - $\Box$  2<sup>nd</sup> time: 0, 51.2, or 51.2 x 2 µs
      - Randomly select one of these two: imagine throwing a 3-sided die whose three faces are labeled as 0, 1, and 2. If it lands on side 0, choose 0; on side 1, 51.2 μs; on side 2, 51.2 x 2 μs
    - $\Box$  3<sup>rd</sup> time: 0, 51.2, 51.2 x 2, or 51.2 x 3 µs
      - Similar process with 4-sided die
    - n-th time: k x 51.2 μs, randomly select k from 0..2<sup>n</sup>-1
      - Similar as before, you die (very strange die) has 2<sup>n</sup> sides labeled from 0 to 2<sup>n</sup>-1
    - □ Give up after 16 times

# Ethernet: CSMA/CD with Exponential Backoff

#### □ 1-Persistent CSMA and CD



### **IEEE Standard Association**

□ http://standards.ieee.org



## Ethernet (IEEE 802.3) (1)

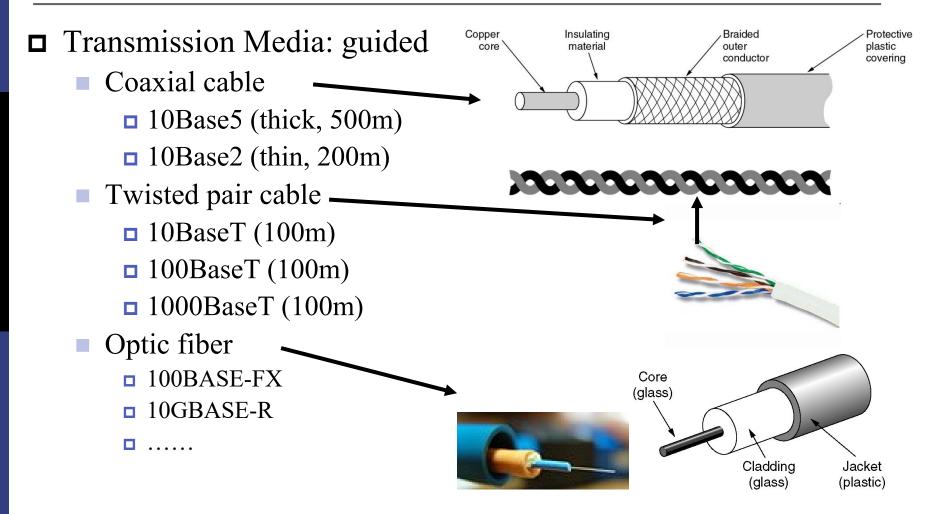
### ■ History

U. of Hawaii (Aloha, early 1970's) → Xerox PARC (mid 1970's) → Xerox PARC, DEC, and Intel (1978) → IEEE 802.3

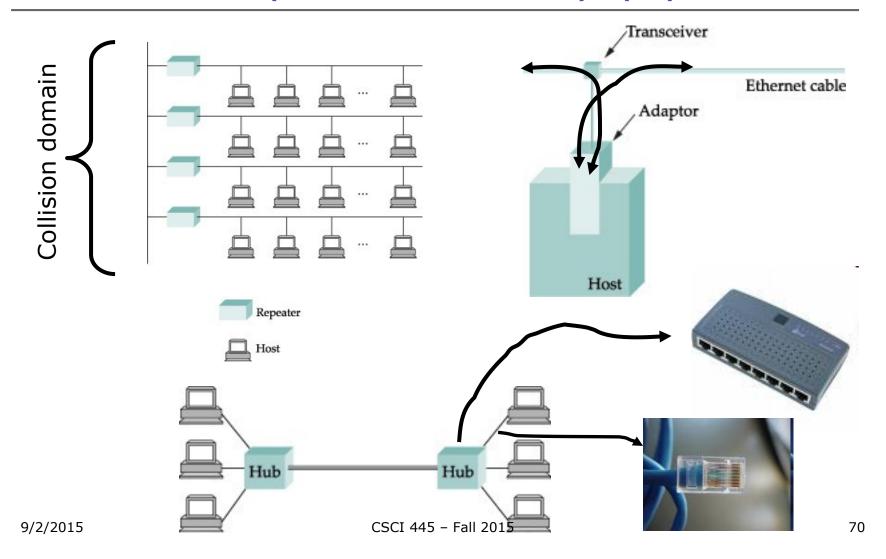
#### □ CSMA/CD

- Carrier Sense (CS)
- Multiple Access (MA)
- Collision Detection (CD)

# Ethernet (IEEE 802.3) (2)

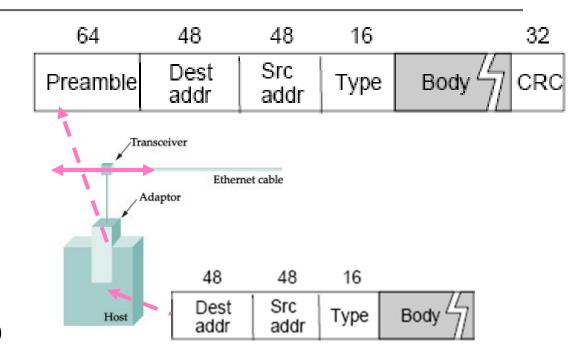


## Ethernet (IEEE 802.3) (3)



### **Ethernet: Frame Format**

- Bit-oriented framing
  - Preamble (64 bits):101010... for signal synchronization
  - Destination address (48 bits)
  - Source address (48 bits)
  - Type/length (16 bits)
  - Body (46 1500 bytes)
  - CRC (32 bits)



### **Ethernet Address**

- □ Unique in the world
- □ Assigned to adaptors
- **□** 48-bit
  - 0000 1000 0000 0000 0010 1011 1110 0100 1011 0001 0000 0010
  - 08:00:2b:e4:b1:02 (human-friendly form)

24-bit Organization Unique Identifier (OUI)

Checkout: <a href="http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/oui.txt">http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/oui.txt</a>

## Experiment (1): Windows

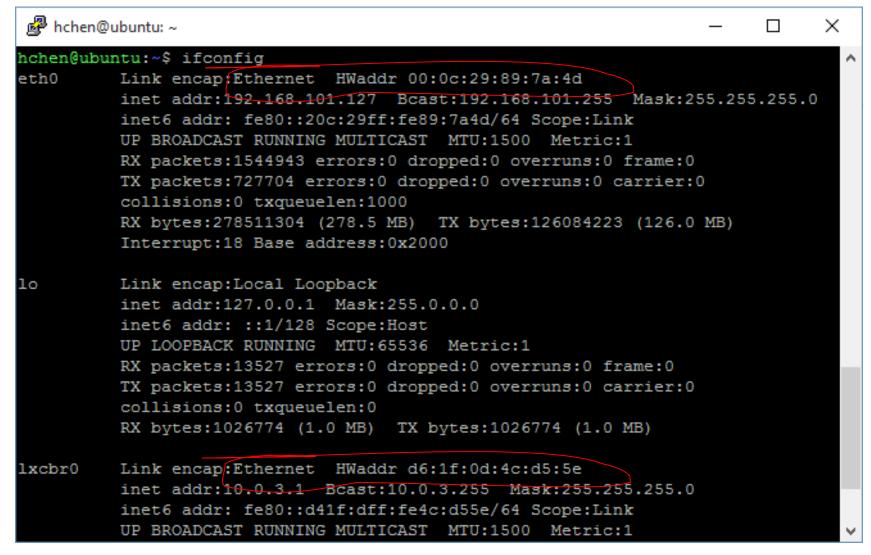
- □ On MS Windows (various version of NT systems, including 2000, XP, Vista etc)
  - Start Windows Command Prompt
    - □ Click "Start Button", then click "run", enter "cmd", hit "OK"
  - In the Windows Command Prompt
    - Enter a command "ipconfig /all"
    - Look for "Physical Address"

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
       Connection-specific DNS Suffix
       : Microsoft Loopback Adapter
                                         : 02-00-4C-4F-4F-50
       Physical Address. . . . . . . . . .
       Dhcp Enabled. . . . . . . . . . . .
       Autoconfiguration Enabled . . . .
       Autoconfiguration IP Address. . .
                                         : 169.254.25.129
       Subnet Mask
                                           255.255.0.0
       Default Gateway
Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:
       Connection-specific DNS Suffix
       Description . . . . . . . . . . . Broadcom NetXtreme 57xx Gigabit Cont
roller
                                         : 00-13-72-8F-BA-11
       Physical Address. . . . . .
                                         : No
       Dhcp Enabled. . . . . . . . . .
                                         : 192.168.1.52
       Subnet Mask . . . . . . . .
       Default Gateway . . . . . . . . .
       DNS Servers
                                           128.143.2.7
```

Look the vendor prefix code 00-13-72 from IEEE website at http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/oui.txt

## Experiment (2): Unix/Linux

- □ Similar query can be done on Unix/Linux systems
- □ Log onto a Linux/Unix box, and issue command
  - ifconfig
  - ip (on latest versions of Linux)



Look the vendor prefix code 00-23-AE from IEEE website at http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/oui.txt

```
hchen@ubuntu: ~
hchen@ubuntu:~$ ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK, UP, LOWER UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group defaul
   link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
   inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
      valid lft forever preferred lft forever
   inet6 ::1/128 scope host
      valid lft forever preferred lft forever
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo fast state UP gr
oup default glen 1000
   link/ether 00:0c:29:89:7a:4d brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.101.127/24 brd 192.168.101.255 scope global eth0
      valid lft forever preferred lft forever
   inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:fe89:7a4d/64 scope link
      valid lft forever preferred lft forever
3: lxcbr0: <BROADCAST, MULTICAST, UP, LOWER UP> mtu 1500 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOW
 group default
   link/ether_d6:1f:0d:4c:d5:5e brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
   inet 10.0.3.1/24 brd 10.0.3.255 scope global 1xcbr0
      valid lft forever preferred lft forever
    inet6 fe80::d41f:dff:fe4c:d55e/64 scope link
      valid lft forever preferred lft forever
hchen@ubuntu:~$
```

Look the vendor prefix code 00-23-AE from IEEE website at http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/oui.txt

### Exercise L6-2

- □ Q1: How many Ethernet adapters (NICs) does the Windows computer on your desk have? What are their Ethernet addresses (i.e., physical addresses as reported by Windows)?
- □ Q2: Who is the vendors of the adapters you listed? Use the following to look up the vendors
  - http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/oui.txt

### Ethernet: Unicast/Broadcast/Multicast

- Unicast address: address of an adaptor
  - If dest\_addr == my\_addr, deliver the frame to the host
- Broadcast address: ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
  - If dest\_addr == 0xff ff ff ff ff ff, deliver the frame to the host
- Multicast address (group address): the low-order bit of the high-order byte as 1 (Ethernet transmits bytes from low-order bit to high-order bit)
  - If (dest\_addr & 0x01 00 00 00 00 00) && (it has been instructed to listen to that address), deliver the frame to the host
  - Complex and requires group management

### Promiscuous Mode

□ All frames will be delivered to the host

## Ethernet: Experience

- Work best under lightly loaded conditions
  - Utilization  $> 30\% \rightarrow$  too much collisions
- □ Great success
  - In practice, observations
    - □ fewer than 200 hosts
    - Far shorter than 2,500 m (RTT  $\sim$  5 µs)
    - Host implements end-to-end flow control (such as TCP/IP), hosts do not pumping frames to NIC when busy
    - Extended LANs using Ethernet switches (2 nodes on an Ethernet) → future discussions
  - Easy to administer and maintain
    - □ no routing
    - □ no configuration
  - Simple: hardware such as adaptors are cheap

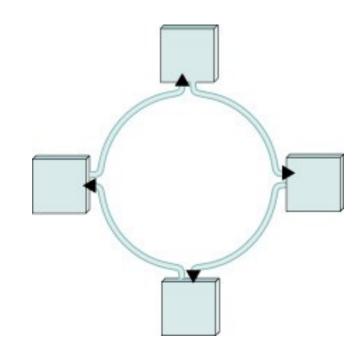
## Contention Free Approaches

- □ Token-based approaches
  - Token ring (IEEE 802.5)
  - Token bus (IEEE 802.4)

# Rings (802.5, FDDI, RPR)

#### □ Token rings

- Token: a special bit string
- Nodes are organized as a ring
- Nodes receive and forward token if no frame to send
- Node grabs the token, send the frame, then puts the token back to the ring



# Media Access Control in Wireless Networks

- □ Wireless PAN (Example: 802.15)
- □ Wireless LAN (Example: 802.11)
- □ Wireless MAN (Example: WiMax/802.16)
- Wireless WAN (Personal Communications System, a.k.a., cell phone networks, such as GSM, CDMA)

## Summary

- Media access control
- **■** Ethernet
- □ Ring
- □ Wireless networks
  - CSCI 647: Wireless Networks and Mobile Computing

## Direct Link Networks: Summary

- **□** Encoding
  - Encoding bits onto transmission medium
- **□** Framing
  - Delineating sequence of bits into messages
- Error detection
  - Detecting errors and acting on them
- Reliable delivery
  - Making links appear reliable despite errors
- Media access control
  - Mediating access to shared link
- Q: how many hosts an Ethernet can have? What is the approximate perimeter of an Ethernet? What if we want to have a network that covers entire campus, a city, a nation, a continent, a planet, or the galaxy? → network of networks: Switched Networks