



Facts

- IP addresses (logical) are unique universally
- MAC addresses (physical) are unique locally (within the same network)
- Applications use IP addresses to specify destinations
- Link layers only recognize MAC addresses

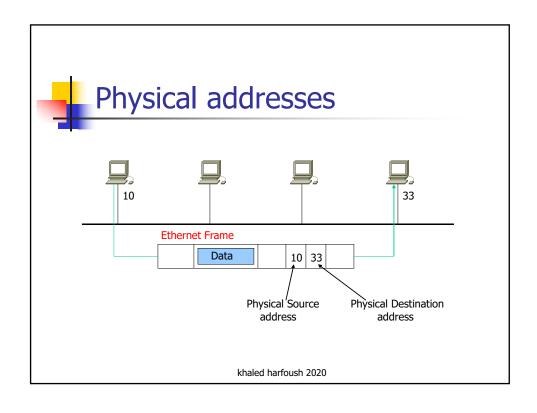
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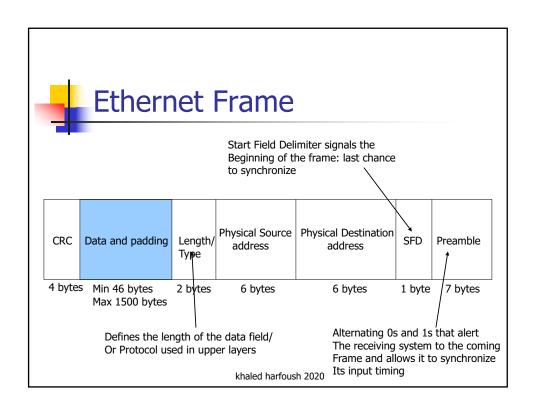


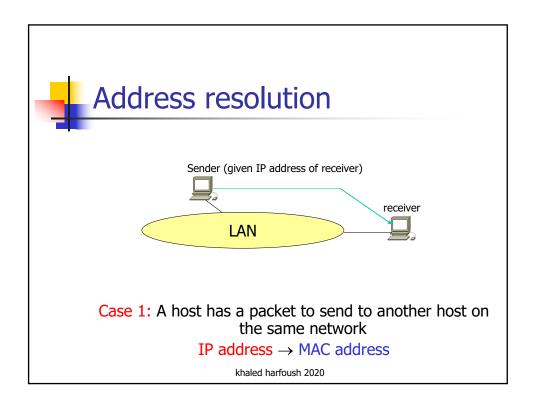
Physical addresses

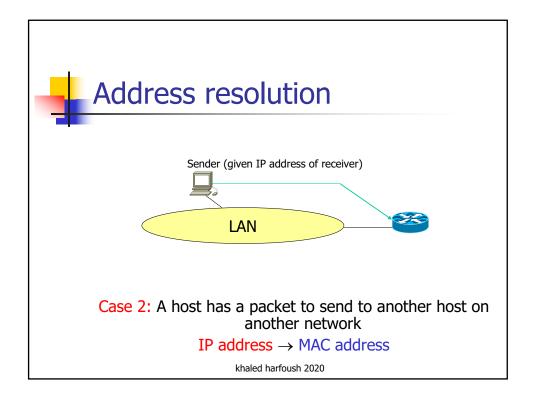
- Size and format depend on the network
 - Ethernet: 6 bytes imprinted on the NIC
 - LocalTalk: 1 byte dynamic address that changes each time the machine comes up
- Can be:
 - Unicast (one recipient)
 - Multicast (a group of recipients)
 - Broadcast (to be received by all systems in the network)

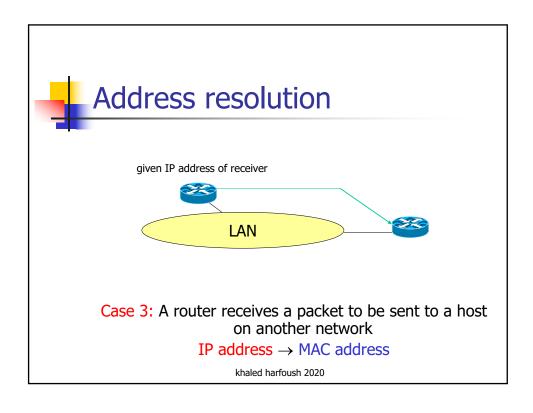
Some networks do not support the multicast or broadcast physical addresses

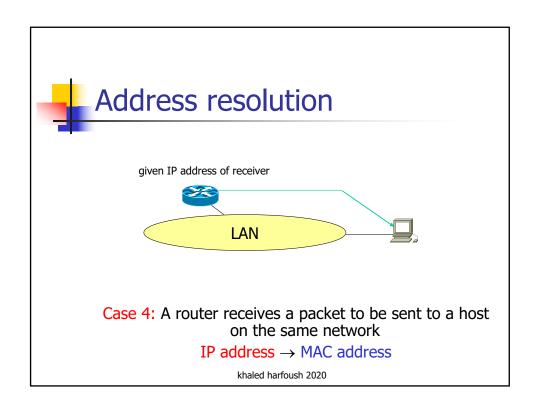








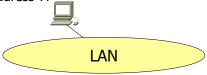






Address resolution

At boot time (given own MAC address printed on the NIC card) Own IP address ?? ___



Case 5: Determining own IP address at startup

MAC address → IP address

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Q:

- Why not store IP address information on disk?
 - Diskless machines boot from ROM (installed by the manufacturer who does not know IP information)
 - Flexibility of assigning IP addresses to hosts dynamically from a pool of IP addresses.



The address resolution problem

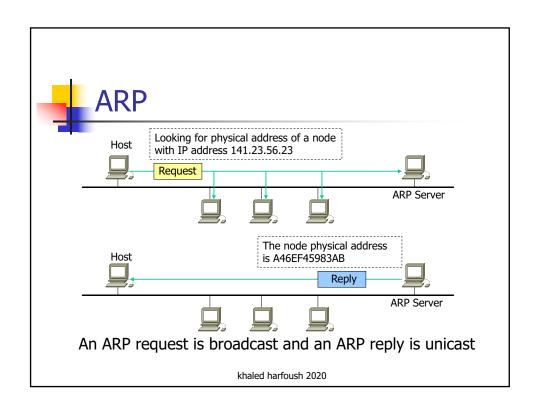
- How to map:
 - IP address → MAC address?
 - MAC address → IP address?
- Analogy:
 - Mail addressed to employee@company is translated to building,office#>
 - An employee@company is allocated a building, office#>

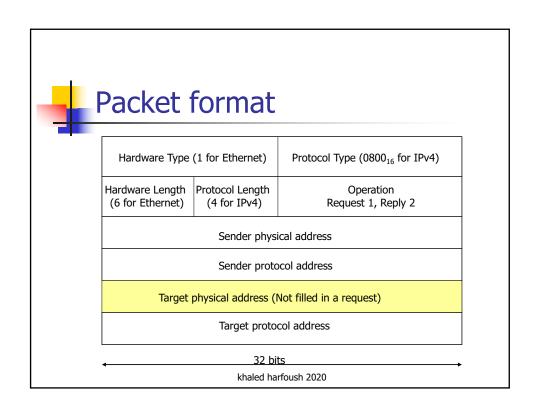
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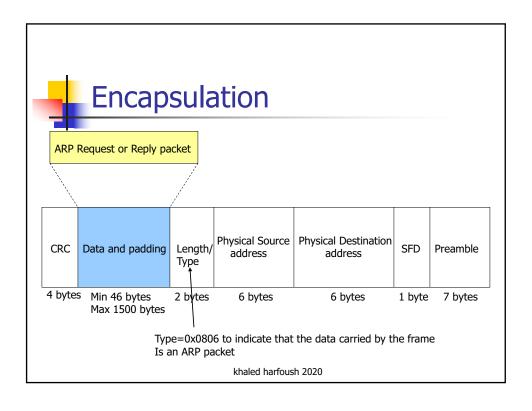


Today's lecture

- Mapping IP address → MAC address (ARP)
- Mapping MAC address → IP address (RARP)









ARP cache

- Problem: Sending one ARP request for each data packet
- Solution: Cache mapping info for later use
- Problems with caching:
 - Cache space may be limited
 - Hosts move or change IP addresses



Gratuitous ARP

- Every machine broadcasts its mapping when it boots to update ARP caches in other machines
- Example: A sends an ARP Request with its own IP address as the target IP address
 - Sender MAC=MAC_A, Sender IP=IP_A
 - Target MAC=??, Target IP=IP_A
- What if a reply is received?

