Data Link Layer: Overview; Error Detection

CS 352, Lecture 14

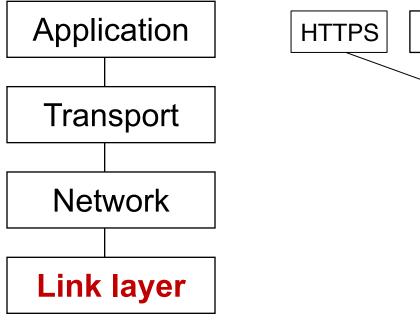
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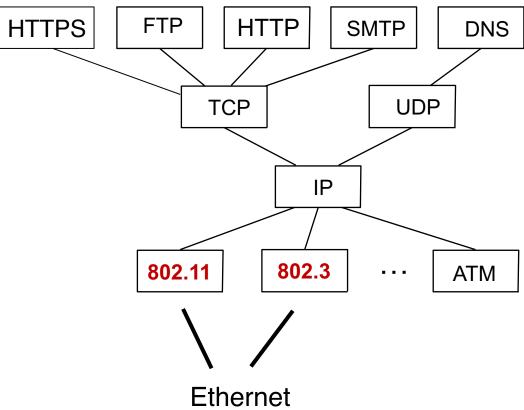
Srinivas Narayana

(heavily adapted from slides by Prof. Badri Nath and the textbook authors)



The Link layer



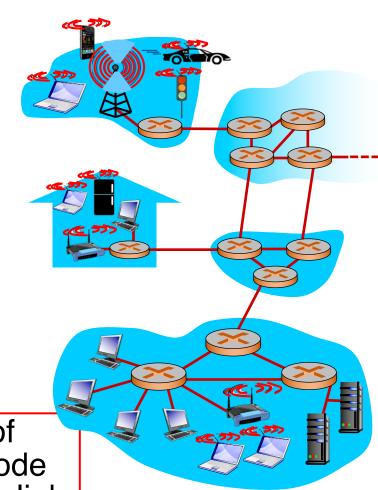


Link layer: introduction

terminology:

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

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



Link layer: context

- datagram transferred by different link protocols over different links:
 - e.g., Ethernet on first link, frame relay on intermediate links, 802.11 on last link
- each link protocol provides different services
 - e.g., may or may not provide rdt over link

transportation analogy:

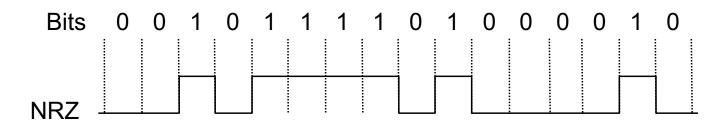
- trip from Princeton to Lausanne
 - limo: Princeton to JFK
 - plane: JFK to Geneva
 - train: Geneva to Lausanne
- tourist = datagram
- transport segment = communication link
- transportation mode = link layer protocol
- travel agent = routing algorithm

Link layer services

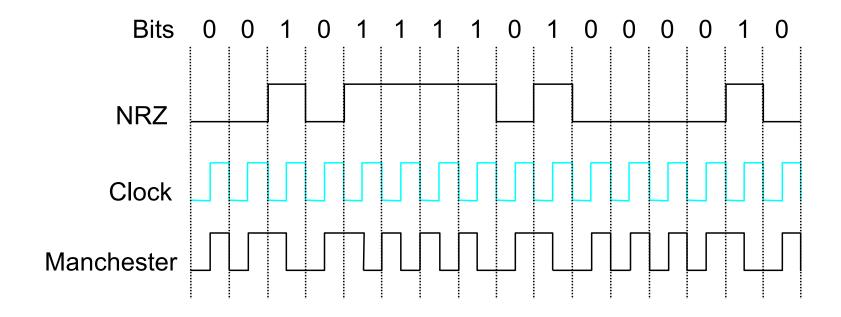
- Encoding
 - convert bits to signals and recover bits from received signals
- framing, link access:
 - encapsulate datagram into frame, adding header, trailer
 - channel access if shared medium
 - "MAC" addresses used in frame headers to identify source, destination
 - different from IP address!
- reliable delivery between adjacent nodes
 - we learned how to do this already (chapter 3)!
 - seldom used on low bit-error link (fiber, some twisted pair)
 - wireless links: high error rates
 - Q: why both link-level and end-end reliability?

Encoding

- Signals propagate over a physical medium
 - modulate electromagnetic waves
 - e.g., vary voltage
- Encode binary data onto signals
 - e.g., 0 as low signal and 1 as high signal
 - known as Non-Return to zero (NRZ)
 - Problem: consecutive 1s and 0s, noise levels



Encodings (cont'd)

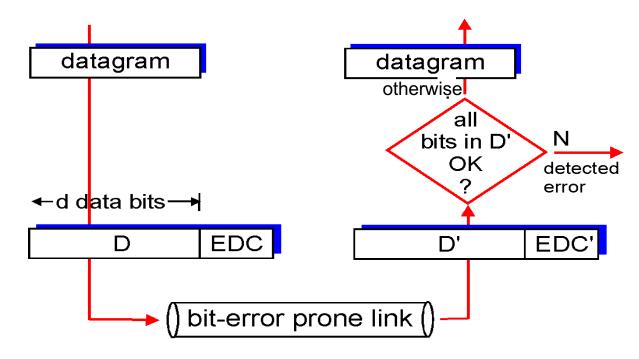


- Manchester encoding: +ve transition → 0; -ve transition → 1
- XOR(bit,clock)

Error detection

EDC = Error Detection and Correction bits (redundancy)D = Data protected by error checking, may include header fields

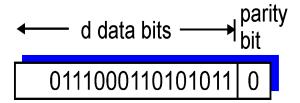
- Error detection not 100% reliable!
 - protocol may miss some errors, but rarely
 - larger EDC field yields better detection and correction



Parity checking

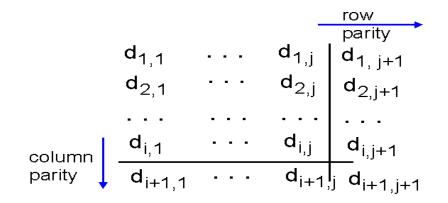
single bit parity:

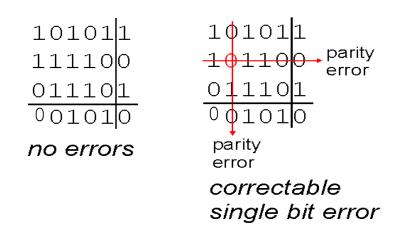
detect single bit errors



two-dimensional bit parity:

detect and correct single bit errors





Internet checksum (review)

goal: detect "errors" (e.g., flipped bits) in transmitted packet (note: used at transport layer only)

sender:

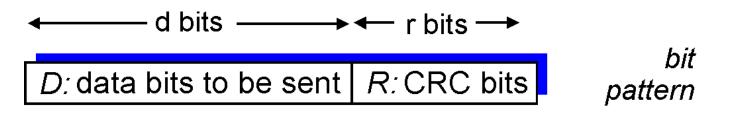
- treat segment contents as sequence of 16-bit integers
- checksum: addition (1's complement sum) of segment contents
- sender puts checksum value into UDP checksum field

receiver:

- compute checksum of received segment
- check if computed checksum equals checksum field value:
 - NO error detected
 - YES no error detected. But maybe errors nonetheless?

Cyclic redundancy check

- more powerful error-detection coding
- view data bits, D, as a binary number
- choose r+1 bit pattern (generator), G
- goal: choose r CRC bits, R, such that
 - <D,R> exactly divisible by G (modulo 2)
 - receiver knows G, divides <D,R> by G. If non-zero remainder: error detected!
 - can detect all burst errors less than r+1 bits
- widely used in practice (Ethernet, 802.11 WiFi, ATM)



D*2^r XOR R

mathematical formula

CRC example

want:

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

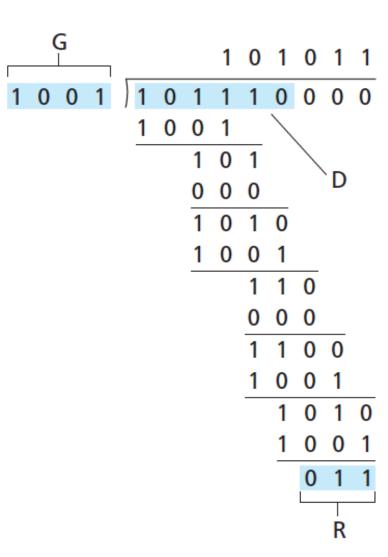
equivalently:

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

equivalently:

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

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



ARP

How to get a MAC address for an IP address?

ARP: Address Resolution Protocol

- By default, NICs only pass on packets destined to their destination MAC address to the higher layers
- In a broadcast-based LAN, each source needs to know its destination's MAC address
- After a packet reaches a router, the link layer header needs to be added to reflect the destination host on that link
- ARP returns a link layer address when given an Internet address
- Communication requires IP → MAC address translation

ARP packet format

Internet Protocol (IPV4) over Etnernet ARP packet		
Octet offset	0	1
0	Hardware type (HTYPE)	
2	Protocol type (PTYPE)	
4	Hardware address length (HLEN)	Protocol address length (PLEN)
6	Operation (OPER)	
8	Sender hardware address (SHA) (first 2 bytes)	
10	(next 2 bytes)	
12	(last 2 bytes)	
14	Sender protocol address (SPA) (first 2 bytes)	
16	(last 2 bytes)	
18	Target hardware address (THA) (first 2 bytes)	
20	(next 2 bytes)	
22	(last 2 bytes)	
24	Target protocol address (TPA) (first 2 bytes)	
26	(last 2 bytes)	

Hardware type: ex: Ethernet (1) Hardware address length: 6 octets

Protocol Type: ex: IPv4 0x0800 (requesting IPv4 addr)
Protocol address length: 4 octets

Opcode ARP request:1

Opcode ARP reply:2

