

Chap 6 Medium Access Control Protocols and Local Area Networks

- Broadcast Networks: a single transmission medium is shared by many users. (Multiple access networks)
- User transmissions interfering or “colliding”
- Medium Access Control (MAC): to coordinate the access to the channel.

6.1 Multiple Access Communications

- Two schemes for sharing a transmission medium:
 - Channelization scheme (static): partition the medium into separate channels.
 - MAC scheme (dynamic): minimize or eliminate the incidence of collisions
 - Random access
 - Scheduling
- Examples:
 - Networks based on radio communications
 - two frequency bands:
 - one for transmitting
 - one for receiving
 - Ring networks
 - Shared buses and hub topology networks

Delay-Bandwidth Product and MAC Performance

- Propagation delay
 - $t_{prop} = \frac{d}{v}$
 - d: distance (meters)
 - v: 3×10^8 m/s
- Transmission bit rate
 - R: 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 1Gbps
 - L: number of bits in a frame
 - Then the sending station requires $X = \frac{L}{R}$ seconds to transmit the frame
- Throughput
 - the actual rate at which information is sent over the shared channel. (bit/second or frames/ second) R_{eff}
 - since the shared medium is the ONLY means available for the stations to communicate with each other. Some of the transmission resource will be utilized to transfer coordination information. So $R_{eff} < R$.
 - When a collision happens, resource is wasted.

Delay-Bandwidth Product and MAC Performance (continue)

- Normalized maximum throughput or efficiency
 - $\rho_{max} = \frac{R_{eff}}{R} < 1$
- Normalized delay-bandwidth product α
 - $\alpha = \frac{t_{prop}R}{L} = \frac{t_{prop}}{X}$
 - ρ_{max} is related to α
 - E.g in Ethernet LAN. $\rho_{max} = \frac{1}{1 + 6.44\alpha}$
 - $\alpha \uparrow, \rho_{max} \downarrow$
 - $\alpha=0.01, \rho_{max}=0.94; \alpha=1, \rho_{max}=0.13$
 - For desk area and local area networks. (t_{prop} small). α : acceptable.
 - For very high speed or long distance. α large. This is why broadcast techniques are used primarily in LANs.
- Normalized throughput or load
 - λ : aggregate rate of generated frames from all stations (frames/second)
 - λL : the average bit rate generated.
 - Load: $\rho = \frac{\lambda L}{R}$ $\rho < \rho_{max} < 1$.

6.2 Random Access

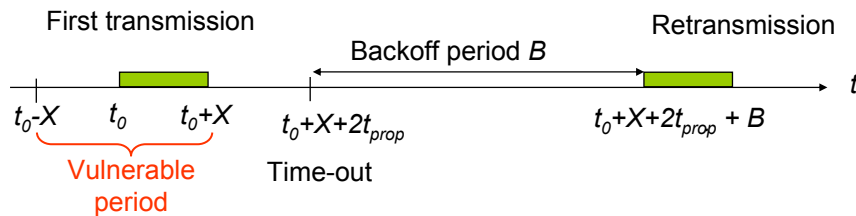
6.2.1 ALOHA

- Developed by university of Hawaii to interconnect terminals on different islands to the host computer: the network has a single central node (the host) and N terminal nodes
- Two channels: the broadcast channel and the random access channel
- The N terminal nodes share the random access channel for sending frames to the central node.
- The central node uses the broadcast channel to broadcast acknowledgement frames and clock signals to the terminal nodes.
- No direct communication between terminal nodes.
- No collision in the broadcast channel since only one node (the central node) transmits in the broadcast channel.
- In the random access channel, N terminal nodes use the ALOHA protocol to compete for the transmission resource.

6.2 Random Access

6.2.1 ALOHA

- The Protocol:
 1. Message are transmitted as soon as they become available.
 2. Frame transmissions may collide, treated as transmission errors
 3. Collided frames are recovered by retransmission
 4. Back off algorithm: when a collision happens, involved stations choose random numbers as time-out value to schedule their retransmissions (Spread out the retransmissions and reduce the likelihood of additional collisions)
- Performance Analysis of ALOHA
See Fig 6.10
 - t_{prop} : the maximum one-way propagation delay
 - R : transmission bit rate.
 - L : number of bits in a frame
 - $X = \frac{L}{R}$: time needed to transmit a frame.
 - vulnerable period $t_0 - X$ to $t_0 + X$ (see Fig 6.10)



6.2.1 ALOHA (continue)

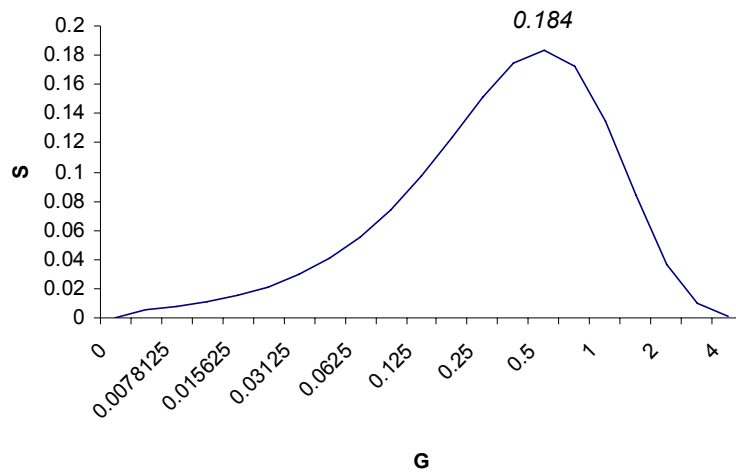
- The probability of a successful transmission is the probability that there are no additional frame transmissions in $t_0 - X$ to $t_0 + X$
 - S : arrival rate of new frames per X seconds. (also the throughput)
 - G : total arrival rate (new arrivals + retransmissions) (or total load) per X seconds.
- Assume that the back off algorithm spreads the retransmission, so that frame transmissions are equally likely to occur at any instant in time. \Rightarrow

number of frames transmitted in a time interval has a Poisson distribution with average number of arrivals of $2G$ arrivals/ $2X$ seconds.

$$\begin{aligned}
 - P[K \text{ transmissions in } 2X \text{ seconds}] &= \frac{(2G)^k}{k!} e^{-2G} \quad k=0, 1, 2, \dots \\
 - S = GP[\text{no collision}] &= GP[0 \text{ transmission in } 2X \text{ seconds}] = G \cdot \frac{(2G)^0}{0!} e^{-2G} \\
 &= G e^{-2G}
 \end{aligned}$$

Fig 6.11

When $G=0.5$, $S_{max} = \frac{1}{2e} \approx 18.4\%$



6.2.2 Slotted ALOHA

1. Frames are assumed to be constant and to occupy one time slot ($X = \frac{L}{R}$ one time slot)
2. Stations are allowed to initiate transmissions only at the beginning of a time slot

See Fig 6.12

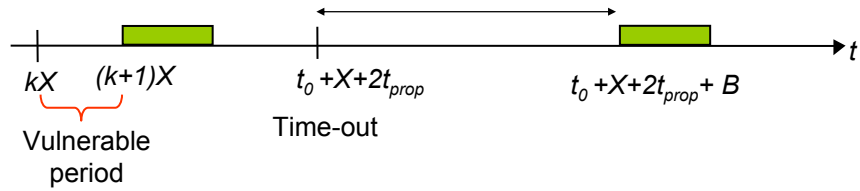
- The vulnerable period is $t_0 - X$ to t_0 , the average arrivals in $t_0 - X$ to t_0 is G .

So:

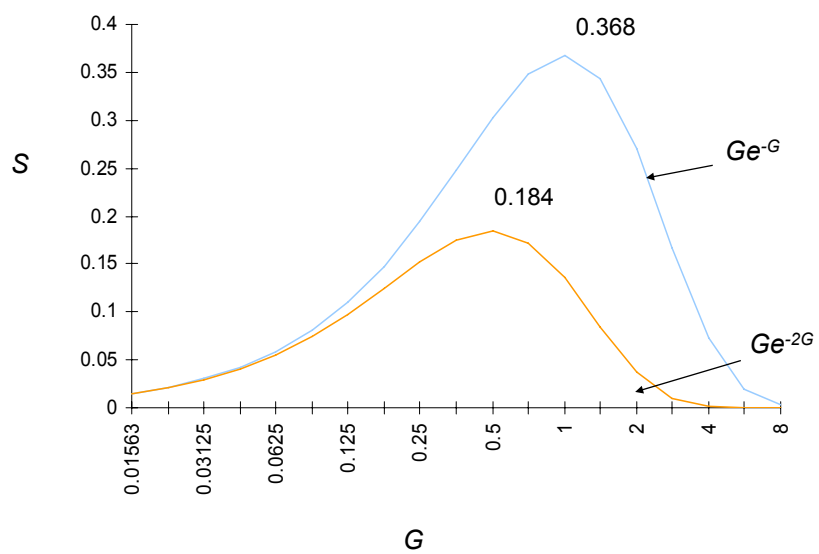
$$S = GP[0 \text{ transmission in } X \text{ seconds}]$$

$$= G \cdot \frac{G^0}{0!} e^{-G} = G e^{-G}$$

$$\text{When } G=1, S_{\max} = \frac{1}{e} = 36.8\%.$$



Only frames that arrive during prior X seconds collide



6.2.2 Slotted ALOHA

Example:

In a radio system, $R=9600$ bps, frame length $L=120$ bits, what is the max throughput possible with ALOHA and slotted ALOHA

Answer: The frame rate is: $\frac{9600}{120} = 80$ frames/sec.

The max throughput is:

$80 \times 0.184 \approx 15$ frames/sec (ALOHA)

$80 \times 0.368 \approx 30$ frames/sec (Slotted ALOHA)

6.2.3 Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA)

- When a station wants to transmit a frame, it first sense the medium for the presence of a carrier signal from other stations to determine whether there is an ongoing transmission. If the medium is idle, the station begins the transmission.

- Otherwise:

- 1-persistent CSMA: sense the channel continuously. As soon as the channel is sensed idle, transmit frames.

“greedy”. → high collision rate

- Non-persistent CSMA: run the back off algorithm and reschedule a future resensing time. → longer delay

- P-persistent CSMA: sense until the channel becomes idle, then:

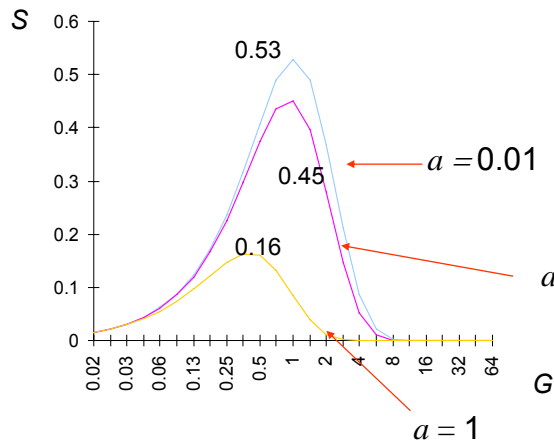
with prob. p , transmits the frame

with prob. $1-p$, waits an additional t_{prop} before resensing

CSMA is sensitive to the end-to-end propagation delay.

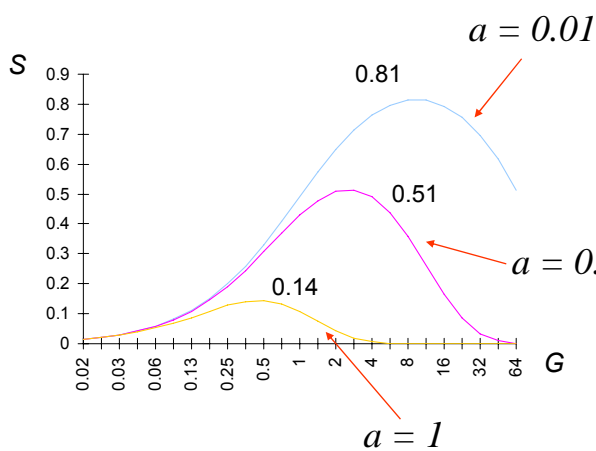
See Fig 6.15 for S versus G

1-Persistent CSMA Throughput



- Better than Aloha & slotted Aloha for small a
- Worse than Aloha for $a > 1$

Non-Persistent CSMA Throughput

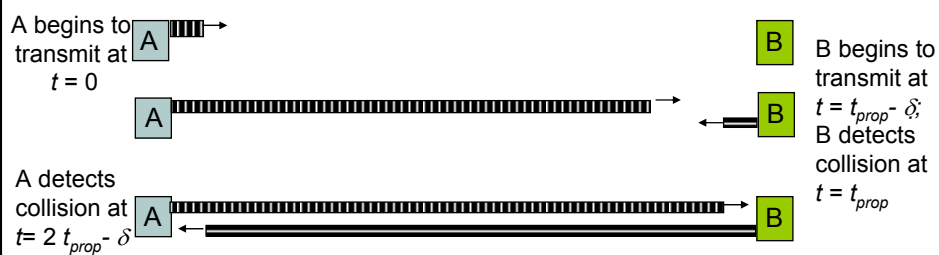


- Higher maximum throughput than 1-persistent for small a
- Worse than Aloha for $a > 1$

6.2.4 CSMA with Collision Detection (CSMA/CD)

- If a collision is detected, during transmission, aborting the frame transmission to reduce the wasted bandwidth.
- *Fig 6.16*: A station need $2t_{prop}$ seconds to find out whether it has successfully capture the channel.
- In CSMA collisions result in wastage of X seconds spent transmitting an entire frame
- CSMA-CD reduces wastage to time to detect collision and abort transmission

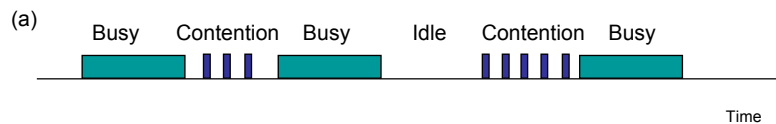
CSMA/CD reaction time



It takes $2t_{prop}$ to find out if channel has been captured

CSMA-CD Model

- Assumptions
 - Collisions can be detected and resolved in $2t_{prop}$
 - Time slotted in $2t_{prop}$ slots during contention periods
 - Assume n stations, and each may transmit with probability p in each contention time slot
 - Once the contention period is over (a station successfully occupies the channel), it takes X seconds for a frame to be transmitted
 - It takes t_{prop} before the next contention period starts.



Contention Resolution

- How long does it take to resolve contention?
- Contention is resolved ("success") if exactly 1 station transmits in a slot:

$$P_{success} = np(1-p)^{n-1}$$

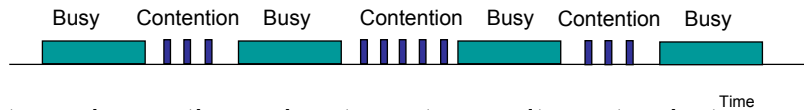
- By taking derivative of $P_{success}$ we find max occurs at $p=1/n$

$$P_{success}^{max} = n \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n-1} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n-1} \rightarrow \frac{1}{e}$$

- On average, $1/P^{max} = e = 2.718$ time slots to resolve contention

$$\text{Average Contention Period} = 2t_{prop}e \text{ seconds}$$

CSMA/CD Throughput

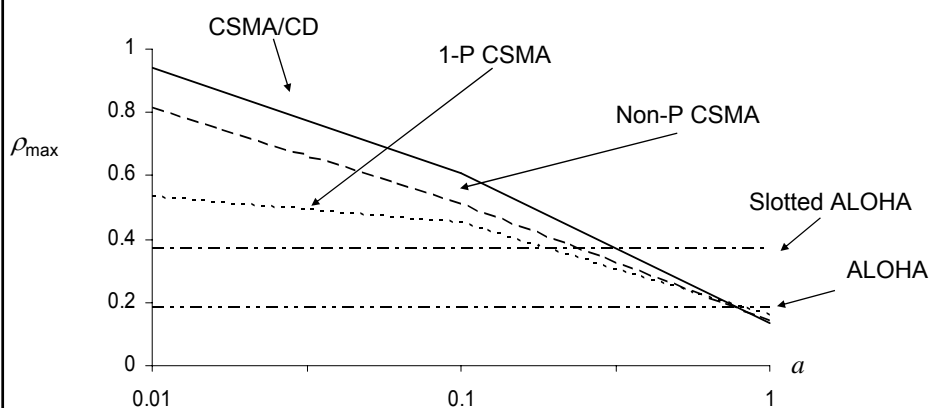


- At maximum throughput, systems alternates between contention periods and frame transmission times

$$\rho_{\max} = \frac{X}{X + t_{\text{prop}} + 2et_{\text{prop}}} = \frac{1}{1 + (2e + 1)a} = \frac{1}{1 + (2e + 1)Rd / v L}$$

- where:
 - R bits/sec, L bits/frame, $X=L/R$ seconds/frame
 - $a = t_{\text{prop}}/X$
 - v meters/sec. speed of light in medium
 - d meters is diameter of system
 - $2e+1 = 6.44$

Throughput for Random Access MACs



- For small a : CSMA-CD has best throughput
- For larger a : Aloha & slotted Aloha better throughput
- ALOHA, slotted ALOHA are not sensitive to α