

Chapter 5 Link Layer

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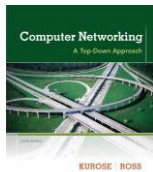
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The course notes are adapted for Bucknell's CSCI 363
Xiannong Meng
Spring 2016



Computer
Networking: A Top
Down Approach
6th edition
Jim Kurose, Keith Ross
Addison-Wesley
March 2012

Link Layer 5-1

Link layer, LANs: outline

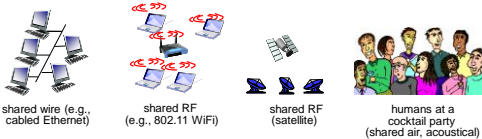
- 5.1 introduction, services
- 5.2 error detection, correction
- 5.3 multiple access protocols
- 5.4 LANs
 - addressing, ARP
 - Ethernet
 - switches
 - VLANs
- 5.5 link virtualization: MPLS
- 5.6 data center networking
- 5.7 a day in the life of a web request

Link Layer 5-2

Multiple access links, protocols

two types of "links":

- ❖ point-to-point
 - PPP for dial-up access
 - point-to-point link between Ethernet switch, host
- ❖ broadcast (shared wire or medium)
 - old-fashioned Ethernet
 - upstream HFC (Hybrid Fiber-Coaxial)
 - 802.11 wireless LAN



Link Layer 5-3

Multiple access protocols

- ❖ single shared broadcast channel
- ❖ two or more simultaneous transmissions by nodes: interference
 - collision if node receives two or more signals at the same time

multiple access protocol

- ❖ distributed algorithm that determines how nodes share channel, i.e., determine when node can transmit
- ❖ communication about channel sharing must use channel itself!
 - no out-of-band channel for coordination

Link Layer 5-4

An ideal multiple access protocol

given: broadcast channel of rate R bps

desiderata:

1. when one node wants to transmit, it can send at rate R .
2. when M nodes want to transmit, each can send at average rate R/M
3. fully decentralized:
 - no special node to coordinate transmissions
 - no synchronization of clocks, slots
4. simple

Link Layer 5-5

MAC protocols: taxonomy

three broad classes:

- ❖ channel partitioning
 - divide channel into smaller "pieces" (time slots, frequency, code)
 - allocate piece to node for exclusive use
- ❖ random access
 - channel not divided, allow collisions
 - "recover" from collisions
- ❖ "taking turns"
 - nodes take turns, but nodes with more to send can take longer turns

Link Layer 5-6

Channel partitioning MAC protocols: TDMA

TDMA: time division multiple access

- ❖ access to channel in "rounds"
- ❖ each station gets fixed length slot (length = pkt trans time) in each round
- ❖ unused slots go idle
- ❖ example: 6-station LAN, 1,3,4 have pkt, slots 2,5,6 idle

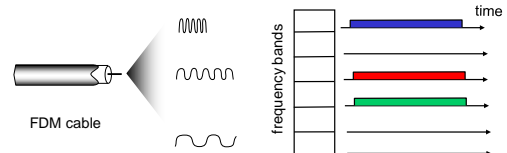


Link Layer 5-7

Channel partitioning MAC protocols: FDMA

FDMA: frequency division multiple access

- ❖ channel spectrum divided into frequency bands
- ❖ each station assigned fixed frequency band
- ❖ unused transmission time in frequency bands go idle
- ❖ example: 6-station LAN, 1,3,4 have pkt, frequency bands 2,5,6 idle



Link Layer 5-8

Random access protocols

- ❖ when node has packet to send
 - transmit at full channel data rate R .
 - no *a priori* coordination among nodes
- ❖ two or more transmitting nodes → "collision",
- ❖ **random access MAC protocol** specifies:
 - how to detect collisions
 - how to recover from collisions (e.g., via delayed retransmissions)
- ❖ examples of random access MAC protocols:
 - slotted ALOHA
 - ALOHA
 - CSMA, CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA

Link Layer 5-9

"Taking turns" MAC protocols

channel partitioning MAC protocols:

- share channel *efficiently* and *fairly* at high load
- inefficient at low load: delay in channel access, $1/N$ bandwidth allocated even if only 1 active node!

random access MAC protocols

- efficient at low load: single node can fully utilize channel
- high load: collision overhead

examples include token ring and token passing

"taking turns" protocols

look for best of both worlds!

Link Layer 5-10

Random access protocols

- ❖ when node has packet to send
 - transmit at full channel data rate R .
 - no *a priori* coordination among nodes
- ❖ two or more transmitting nodes → "collision",
- ❖ **random access MAC protocol** specifies:
 - how to detect collisions
 - how to recover from collisions (e.g., via delayed retransmissions)
- ❖ examples of random access MAC protocols:
 - slotted ALOHA
 - ALOHA
 - CSMA, CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA

Link Layer 5-11

Slotted ALOHA

assumptions:

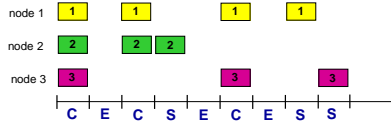
- ❖ all frames same size
- ❖ time divided into equal size slots (time to transmit 1 frame)
- ❖ nodes start to transmit only slot beginning
- ❖ nodes are synchronized
- ❖ if 2 or more nodes transmit in slot, all nodes detect collision

operation:

- ❖ when node obtains fresh frame, transmits in next time slot
 - if *no collision*: node can send new frame in next slot
 - if *collision*: node retransmits frame in each subsequent slot with prob. p until success

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Slotted ALOHA



Pros:

- single active node can continuously transmit at full rate of channel
- highly decentralized: only slots in nodes need to be in sync
- simple

Cons:

- collisions, wasting slots
- idle slots
- nodes may be able to detect collision in less than time to transmit packet
- clock synchronization

Link Layer 5-13

Slotted ALOHA: efficiency

efficiency: long-run fraction of successful slots (many nodes, all with many frames to send)

- suppose: N nodes with many frames to send, each transmits in slot with probability p
- prob that given node has success in a slot = $p(1-p)^{N-1}$
- prob that any node has a success = $Np(1-p)^{N-1}$

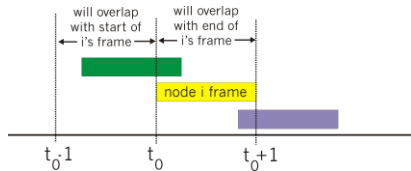
- max efficiency: find p^* that maximizes $Np(1-p)^{N-1}$
- for many nodes, take limit of $Np^*(1-p^*)^{N-1}$ as N goes to infinity, gives:
max efficiency = $1/e = .37$

at best: channel used for useful transmissions 37% of time!

Link Layer 5-14

Pure (unslotted) ALOHA

- unslotted Aloha: simpler, no synchronization
- when frame first arrives
 - transmit immediately
- collision probability increases:
 - frame sent at t_0 collides with other frames sent in $[t_0-1, t_0+1]$



Link Layer 5-15

Pure ALOHA efficiency

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\text{success by given node}) &= P(\text{node transmits}) \cdot \\
 &P(\text{no other node transmits in } [t_0-1, t_0]) \cdot \\
 &P(\text{no other node transmits in } [t_0, t_0+1]) \\
 &= p \cdot (1-p)^{N-1} \cdot (1-p)^{N-1} \\
 &= p \cdot (1-p)^{2(N-1)} \\
 \dots \text{ choosing optimum } p \text{ and then letting } N &\rightarrow \infty \\
 &= 1/(2e) = .18
 \end{aligned}$$

as expected, even **worse** than slotted Aloha!

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