Les liens de communication et l'accès multiple

Bloc 2, INF 586

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Contenu du bloc

- La couche physique
 - notions de base sur la transmission
 - + numérique
 - + analogique
- L'accès multiple
 - les techniques de base
 - les protocoles
- Le contrôle de liaison
 - fera partie du 4^{ème} bloc

Portée de ce bloc



La couche physique

Transmission: some definitions

- Data: entities that convey information
- Analog: take continuous values in some interval
- Digital: take discrete values
- Analog data: voice, video, temperature, etc.
- Digital data: character strings, digitized audio or video, etc.
- Signal: Electric or electromagnetic representation of data
- Signaling (here): physical propagation of the signal along suitable medium
- Transmission: communication of data by the propagation and processing of signals

More definitions

- Analog signal: a continuously varying electromagnetic wave that may be propagated over a variety of (wired or wireless) media
- Digital signal: a discrete or discontinuous signal such as voltage pulses that may be propagated over a *wired* medium
- Wired media: guided transmission media e.g. twisted pair, coaxial cable, optical fiber (only transmits analog signal-encoded beam of light)
- Wireless (unguided) media: radio, terrestrial or satellite microwave, infrared
- Analog signaling: propagation of analog signal
- Digital signaling: propagation of digital signal
- Analog transmission: a means of transmitting analog signals without regard to their content (analog or digital data); amplifiers are used to boost the (analog) signal.

More definitions

- Digital transmission: the transmission of digital data, using either an analog or a digital signal, in which the digital data are recovered and repeated at intermediate points (repeaters) to reduce the effects of noise.
- coder (sampler+quantizer+digitize): transforms analog data/signal to a digital signal
- Modulator : transforms a digital bit stream into an analog signal suitable for transmission over analog media
- absolute bandwidth : width of the frequency spectrum ; F_{max}-F_{min}
- bandwidth: frequency band where « most » of the signal energy is contained (e.g. half-power bandwidth, 3dB below peak value)

Data rate and signal elements

- Signal element: the part of a signal that occupies the shortest interval of a signaling code
 - Digital signal element: a voltage pulse of constant amplitude
 - Analog signal element: a pulse of constant frequency, phase and amplitude
- Data element: a single binary one or zero (bit).
- Data rate (R in bps): rate at which data elements are transmitted
- Signaling or « modulation » rate (D in baud): rate at which signal elements are transmitted.
- Multilevel signal modulation techniques: reduces D because each signal element represents b=Log₂(number of levels) bits.

Relation between data rate and bandwidth (an example)



Square wave s(t) with amplitudes A and -A, period T=1/f

s(t) = A.4/ π . Σ 1/k.sin(2 π kf.t) (k odd, k=1->inf)

limit bandwidth to first three frequency components, $T = 1 \mu s$

Bw = 5MHz -1MHz=4MHz, R = 2 Mbps (1 bit every 0.5 μ s)

limit to first two frequency components, T=0.5 μs

• Bw = 6MHz - 2MHz = 4MHz, R = 4Mbps (1 bit every 0.25 μ s)

Theortically unbounded, but economical and practical limitations -> distortion

Digital encoding techniques - comparison criteria

- Encoding scheme: mapping of data elements to signal elements
- Signal spectrum
 - lack of high frequency and dc components
 - concentrated spectral density
- Clocking
 - provide synchronisation with suitable encoding
- Error detection
 - built in error detection, faster than data link control
- signal interference and noise immunity
- Cost and complexity (increases with signalling rate)

Digital signal encoding formats



Encoding digital data to digital signals

- NonReturn to Zero-Level (NRZ-L): 0=+V, 1= -V
- NRZ Invert on 1s (NRZI): 0=no transition, 1=transition (differential encoding)
- Bipolar-AMI: 0=no line signal, 1= positive or negative level alternating for successive ones
- Pseudoternary: positive or negative level alternating for successive zeros, 1=no line signal
- Manchester: 0=transition from high to low in middle of bit interval, 1=transition from low to high
- Differential manchester (always a transition in middle of interval): 0: transition at beginning of interval, 1=no transition
- HDB3: based on Bipolar-AMI (four zeros replaced by code violation (signal pattern not allowed))

Encoding schemes characteristics

- NRZI uses differential encoding
 - to detect a transition is easier to compare to a threshold in presence of noise
 - immune to (accidental) polarity inversion
- NRZ codes are easy to enginneer and most energy is between DC and half the bit rate
 - but dc component and lack of synchronization
- Multilevel binary (Alternate Mark Inversion) (mark means 1, space means 0)
 - no dc component & provides better synchronization
 - however long string of 0s (AMI) or 1s (pseudoternary) still a pb
 - less efficient than NRZ (1 signal element carries 1 bit instead of log₂3 bits)
- Biphase
 - always a transition -> « self clocked » mechanism
 - no dc component, but bandwidth wider than multilevel binary

Encoding schemes characteristics

- Scrambling techniques (e.g. HDB3)
 - no dc component, no long sequence of zero-level line signals
 - no reduction in data rate (suitable for long distance transmission)
 - error detection capabilities
- Normalized signal transition rate of various schemes D = R/b

	Min. Mod Rate	101010	Max. Mod Rate
NRZ-L	0 (all 0s or 1s)	1.0	1.0
NRZI	0 (all 0s)	0.5	1.0 (all 1s)
Bipolar-AMI	0 (all 0s)	1.0	1.0
Pseudoternary	0 (all 1s)	1.0	1.0
Manchester	1.0 (1010)	1.0	2.0 (all 0s or 1s)
D-Manchester	1.0 (all 1s)	1.5	2.0 (all 0s)

Digital data to analog signals

- For transmission over the public telephone or microwave links
- Three encoding or modualtion techniques
- Amplitude shift keying (ASK):
 - $s(t) = A.cos(2\pi f_c t)$ for binary 1, 0 for binary 0
- Frenquency shift keying (FSK):
 - $s(t) = A.cos(2\pi f_1 t)$ for binary 1, $A.cos(2\pi f_2 t)$ for binary 0
- Phase shift keying (PSK):
 - $s(t) = A.cos(2\pi f_c t + \pi)$ for binary 1, $A.cos(2\pi f_c t)$ for binary 0
- QPSK (signal element represents 2 bits)
 - $s(t) = A. \cos(b_1b_2\pi).\cos(2\pi f_c t + 5\pi/4 + (b_2-b_1)\pi/2)$ for binary b_1b_2

Digital transmission of analog data

- Digitize data then either:
 - transmit using NRZ-L
 - encode as a digital signal using code other than NRZ-L
 - convert digital data into an *analog* signal using modulation
 - allows digital transmission of voice on analog media e.g. microwave
- PCM
- Delta Modulation

Analog transmission

- Modulation for analog signals is useful
 - higher frequency needed for effective transmission (unguided transmission), baseband signals would require huge antennas
 - allows Frequency division multiplexing
- Input signal $m(t) = n_a x(t)$
- Amplitude Modulation
 - $s(t) = [1 + m(t)] \cos(2\pi f_c t)$
- Angle modulation
 - $s(t) = A_c cos[2\pi f_c t + \phi(t)]$
 - Phase modulation: $\phi(t) = n_p m(t)$
 - Frequency modulation: $\phi'(t) = n_f .m(t)$

L'accès multiple

What is it all about?

- Consider an audioconference where
 - if one person speaks, all can hear
 - if more than one person speaks at the same time, both voices are garbled
- How should participants coordinate actions so that
 - the number of messages exchanged per second is maximized
 - time spent waiting for a chance to speak is *minimized*
- This is the multiple access problem

Some simple solutions

- A (simple) centralized solution: use a moderator
 - a speaker must wait for moderator to "poll" him or her, even if no one else wants to speak
 - what if the moderator's connection breaks?
- Distributed solution
 - speak if no one else is speaking
 - but if two speakers are waiting for a third to finish, guaranteed collision
- Designing good schemes is surprisingly hard!

Outline

- Contexts for the problem
- Choices and constraints
- Performance metrics
- Base technologies
- Centralized schemes
- Distributed schemes

Contexts for the multiple access problem

- Broadcast transmission medium
 - message from any "station" is received by all receivers in its listening area
- Colliding messages are garbled
- Goal
 - maximize message throughput
 - minimize mean waiting time
- Shows up in five main contexts

Contexts





Solving the problem

- First, choose a *base technology*
 - to isolate traffic from different stations
 - can be in time domain or frequency domain
- But: not enough time slots or frequencies to exclusively dedicate to each user
- Then, choose how to allocate a limited number of transmission resources to a larger set of contending users

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Choices

Centralized vs. distributed design

- is there a moderator or not?
- in a centralized solution one of the stations is a master (e.g. base station in cellular telephony) and the others are slaves
 - master->slave = downlink
 - + slave->master = uplink
- in a distributed solution, all stations are peers

Circuit-mode vs. packet-mode

- do stations send steady streams or bursts of packets?
- with streams, doesn't make sense to contend for every packet
- allocate resources to streams analogy to long "speeches"
- with packets, makes sense to contend for every packet to avoid wasting bandwidth - analogy to brainstorming session

Constraints

- Spectrum scarcity
 - radio spectrum is hard to come by
 - only a few frequencies available for long-distance (few miles) data communication
 - multiple access schemes must be careful not to waste bandwidth
- Radio link properties
 - radio links are error prone
 - + fading (signal degradation because of hills, foliage, trucks, etc.)
 - + multipath interference
 - hidden terminals
 - + transmitter heard only by a subset of receivers
 - capture
 - station with higher power overpowers the other -> no "collision" is detected
 - + lower powered station may never get a chance to be heard

The parameter 'a'

- The number of packets sent by a source before the farthest station receives the first bit
- D: max propagation delay between any two stations
- T: time taken to transmit an average size packet
- a = D/T (around 10⁻² for LANs, 1 for HSLANs, 10² for satellite links)



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Performance metrics

- Normalized throughput
 - fraction of link capacity used to carry non-retransmitted packets
 - example
 - Ideally (with no collisions) a 1 Mbps link can carry 1000 "125 byte" packets/sec
 - with a particular scheme and workload, we might have 250 packets/sec
 - + => goodput = 0.25
- Mean delay
 - amount of time a station has to wait before it successfully transmits a packet
 - depends on the MAC protocol, the load and the characteristics of the medium

Performance metrics

Stability

- with heavy load, is all the time spent on resolving contentions?
- => unstable
- with a stable algorithm, throughput does not decrease with offered load
- if huge number of "uncontrolled" stations share a link, then instability is guaranteed
- but if sources reduce load when overload is detected, can achieve stability
- Fairness
 - no single definition
 - 'no-starvation': source eventually gets a chance to send
 - stricter metric: each station gets an equal share of the transmission bandwidth

Limitation of analytical modeling

- Assumptions on source traffic
 - work of queuing theory is only indicative and not an absolute metric
- Other factors may have greater impact than what models predict
 - battery strength
 - weather conditions
 - presence or absence of foliage or plants
 - workload different from assumptions
- Will only focus on *qualitative* description

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Base technologies

- Isolates data from different sources
- Three basic choices
 - Frequency division multiple access (FDMA)
 - Time division multiple access (TDMA)
 - Code division multiple access (CDMA)

FDMA

- Simplest, best suited for analog links
- Each station has its own frequency band, separated by guard bands
- Receivers tune to the right frequency
- Common for TV and radio broadcast (at most few hundred transmitters in a listening area) Not in wireless telephony
- Number of frequencies is limited
 - reduce transmitter power; reuse frequencies in non-adjacent cells requiring "complex" handoff
 - trade off complexity for increased number of users
- simplistic example: voice channel = 30 KHz
 - 833 channels in 25 MHz band
 - with 7-cell pattern, partition into 119 channels each
 - but with N cells in a city, can get 119N calls => win if pattern repeated
GSM frequency reuse

- Pattern: smallest cell set containing only once all radio channels (repeated on all zones to cover)
- Regular pattern size: 3,4,7,9, 12 & 21
- D_{ru} is re-use distance
- R is cell radius
- K is pattern size (7 in this example)
- $D_{ru}/R = sqrt(3.K)$





TDMA

- All stations transmit data on same frequency, but at different times
- Needs time synchronization
- supposes that stations resolve contention for access to a time *slot* and limit their transmission to a single slot
- roughly same number of users than FDMA
- Pros
 - users can be given different amounts of bandwidth (time slots)
 - mobiles can use idle times to determine best base station (and handoff to nearer base station to save battery)
 - can switch off power when not transmitting
- Cons
 - synchronization overhead (one of the stations emit sync signal)
 - greater problems with multipath interference on wireless links (because of wider frequency band -> smaller transmission duration -> need for adaptive equalization circuit in each receiver)

CDMA

- Users separated both by time and frequency
 - Aka spread spectrum techniques
- Colliding "frames" are not necessarily totally garbled
- Send at a different frequency at each time slot (*frequency hopping*)
- Or, convert a single bit to a code (*direct sequence*)
 - receiver can decipher bit by inverse process even in presence of narrowband noise
 - assumes that multiple signals add linearly

CDMA/DS example

- Each station has its « chip-sequence » or codeword (bipolar repsentation)
 - EA: (-1-1-1+1+1-1+1) (binary 00011011)
 - EB: (-1-1+1-1+1+1-1) (binary 00101110)
 - EC: (-1+1-1+1+1-1-1) (binary 01011100)
 - ED: (-1+1-1-1-1+1-1) (binary 01000010)
- Send codeword E for a 1 *bit* and its negation -E for a 0 *bit*

Α	В	С	D
-	-	1	-
-	1	1	-
1	0	-	-
1	0	1	-
1	1	1	1
1	1	0	1

E1= (EC)	(-1 +1 -1 +1 +1 +1 -1 -1)
E2 = (EB+EC)	(-2000+2+20-2)
E3 = (EA-EB)	(00-2+20-20+2)
E4 = (EA-EB+EC)	(-1 +1 -3 +3 -1 -1 -1 -1 +1)
E5 = (EA+EB+EC+ED)	(-4 0 -2 0 +2 0 +2 -2)
E6 = (EA+EB-EC+ED)	(-2 -2 0 -2 0 -2 +4 0)

E1.EC	(1+1+1+1+1+1+1)/8 = 1
E2.EC	(2+0+0+0+2+2+0+2)/8 = 1
E3.EC	(0+0+2+2+0-2+0-2)/8 = 0
E4.EC	(1+1+3+3+1-1+1-1)/8 = 1
E5.EC	(4+0+2+0+2+0-2+2)/8 = 1
E6.EC	(2-2+0-2+0-2-4-0)/8 = -1

CDMA

Pros

- hard to spy
- immune from narrow band noise
- Unlike TDMA, no need for all stations to synchronize (only sender and receiver)
- no hard limit on capacity of a cell, but noise increases and effective bit-rate per station decreases with the number of stations
- all cells can use all frequencies, no need for frequency planning
- Cons
 - implementation complexity (receiver perfectly synchronized with senders)
 - need for complicated power control to avoid capture
 - + hard because of multiple moving receivers
 - need for a large contiguous frequency band (for direct sequence) -> problems installing in the field

FDD and TDD

- Two ways of converting a wireless medium to a duplex channel
- In Frequency Division Duplex, uplink and downlink use different frequencies
- In Time Division Duplex, uplink and downlink use different time slots
- Can combine with FDMA/TDMA
- Examples
 - TDD/FDMA in second-generation cordless phones
 - FDD/TDMA/FDMA in digital cellular GSM phones

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Centralized access schemes

- One station is master, and the other are slaves
 - slave can transmit only when master allows
- Natural fit in some situations
 - wireless LAN, where base station is the only station that can see everyone
 - cellular telephony, where base station is the only one
 - + with a wired connection to the network and
 - + capable of high transmit power

Centralized access schemes

Pros

- simple
- master provides single point of coordination
- Cons
 - master is a single point of failure
 - + need a re-election protocol => complicates the system!
 - master is involved in every single transfer => added delay
- Circuit mode schemes: cellular telephony
- Packet mode schemes: polling/probing and reservation

Circuit mode: the cellular telephony example

- When station wants to transmit, it sends a message to master using simple (ALOHA) packet mode multiple access protocol
- Master allocates transmission resources to slave
- Slave uses the resources until it is done
- No contention during data transfer
- Used primarily in cellular phone systems
 - EAMPS: analog FDD/FDMA
 - GSM : FDD/TDMA/FDMA
 - IS-95: CDMA

Polling and probing

- Packet-mode: station must contend for medium access for each packet
- Centralized controller mediates this contention
- Polling
 - master asks each station in turn if it wants to send (roll-call polling)
 - inefficient if (a) time to query a station is long, (b) overhead for polling messages is high, or (c) system has many terminals
- Probing
 - stations are numbered with consecutive logical addresses
 - assume station can listen both to its own address and to a set of multicast or "group" addresses
 - master does a binary search to locate next active station
 - + skip chunks of address space with no active station
 - + But repeated polls in sections with more than one active station
 - Efficient if few stations are active, doubles polls if all active

Reservation-based schemes

- When 'a' is large, collisions are expensive
 - polling overhead is too high
 - better use reservation than polling
 - mainly for satellite links
- Master coordinates access to link using reservations
- Some time slots devoted to reservation messages
 - can be smaller than data slots => minislots
- Stations contend for a minislot (PDAMA) (or own one FPODA)
- Master decides winners and grants them access to link
- Packet collisions are only for minislots, so overhead on contention is reduced

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Distributed schemes

- Compared to a centralized scheme
 - more reliable
 - have lower message delays
 - often allow higher network utilization
 - but are more complicated
 - + e.g. to synchronize stations to the same time base
- Almost all distributed schemes are packet mode
 - difficult to establish and maintain circuits without a central controller (the one-time coordination is amortized over many packets for circuit-mode in centralized schemes)

Decentralized polling

- Just like centralized polling, except there is no master
- But, all stations must share a time base
- Each station is assigned a slot that it uses
 - if nothing to send, slot is wasted
 - this is just TDMA :-)

Decentralized probing

- Also called *tree based multiple access*
- All stations in left subtree of root allowed to place packet on medium in first slot
- If a collision, root <- root ->left_son, and try again in next slot
- On success, everyone in root->right_son contend for access etc.
- Works well if 'a' is small
 - otherwise: either introduce idle time to wait for possible collision (inefficient) or roll back state if collision detected later (complex)

Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA)

- Polling/probing may waste time if number of stations is large but number of simultaneously active stations is small
- A fundamental advance: check whether the medium is active before sending a packet (i.e *carrier sensing*)
- Unlike polling/probing a node with something to send doesn't have to wait for a master, or for its turn in a schedule
- If medium idle, then can send
 - just like a participant in a meeting
- If collision happens, detect and resolve
- Works when 'a' is small (0.1 or smaller)
- In slotted version, time *slot* is chosen to be the maximum propagation delay (considered small comparing to T)

Simplest CSMA scheme

- Send a packet as soon as medium becomes idle
- If, on sensing busy, wait for idle -> persistent
- If, on sensing busy, set a timer and try later -> non-persistent
- Problem with persistent: two stations waiting to speak will collide

How to solve the collision problem

Two solutions

p-persistent: when media becomes idle, transmit with probability *p*:

- hard to choose *p* (< 1/Number of stations waiting)
 - balance message delay with higher utilization under heavy loads
- if p small, then wasted time (if media idle)
- if *p* large, more collisions
- exponential backoff
 - need to detect collisions: explicit ACK or collision detect circuit => CSMA/CD
 - on collision detection, choose retransmission timeout randomly from doubled range; on success reset timeout value
 - backoff range adapts to number of contending stations
 - no need to choose p (even 1-persistent CSMA with backoff is stable)

Summary of CSMA schemes



Ethernet

- The most widely used LAN
- Standard is called IEEE 802.3
- Uses 1-persistent CSMA/CD with exponential backoff
- Also, on collision, place a *jam* signal on wire, so that all stations are aware of collision and can increment backoff timeout range
- 'a' small =>time wasted in collision is around 50 microseconds
- Ethernet requires packet to be long enough that a collision is detected before packet transmission completes (a <= 1)</p>
 - packet should be at least 64 bytes long for longest allowed segment
- Max packet size is 1500 bytes
 - prevents hogging by a single station

More on Ethernet

- First version ran at 3 Mbps
- Early versions ran at 10 Mbps, and uses 'thick' or 'thin' coax, or twisted pair
- Ethernet types are coded as <Speed><Baseband or broadband><physical medium>
 - Speed = 3, 10, 100 Mbps
 - Baseband = within building, broadband = on cable TV infrastructure
 - Physical medium:
 - + "5" is thick coax, up to 500 meters
 - + "2" is cheap 50 Ohm cable, up to 200 meters
 - + "T" is unshielded twisted pair (also used for telephone wiring)

Enhancing Ethernet

- Ease of maintenance
 - use a hub as in 10BaseT
 - + add/remove
- Increase performance
 - divide in multiple « contention domains »
 - + use bridges
 - + or (even) switches : Switched Ethernet
 - increase speed
 - + 100BaseT

Some definitions

- Contention or collision domain: sum total of devices that compete with each other for access to the transmission media
- Hub: a centrally-located device in a star topology that propagates the signal transmitted by each node to ALL other ports. Nodes still constitute a single contention domain. Collision is detected by simultaneous activity on the Data Out (DO) and Receive Data (RD) circuits
- Bridge: device connecting « segments » with level 2 filtering capability. Splits LAN to N contention domains (N=number of ports). Packets are usually stored then forwarded.
- Switch: a « bridge » with N=number of nodes. If switch is full duplex capable, no collision will occur. Each pair gets 20Mbps

Recent developments

- Switched Ethernet
 - each station is connected to switch by a separate UTP wire
 - + as in 10BaseT
 - however, line card of switch has a buffer to hold incoming packets
 - fast backplane switches packet from one line card to others
 - simultaneously arriving packets do not collide (until buffers overflow)
 - higher intrinsic capacity than 10BaseT (and more expensive)

Comparison

	Topology	Cable	Max distance	Nodes	Advantages	HalfDpX/FDX
10Base5	bus	Thick coax	500 x5seg	100/seg	backbones	HDX
10Base2	bus	Thin coax	185x5seg	30/seg	cheap	HDX
10BaseT	logical bus	2 UTPs	100 (Hub to Node)	few100s/CD	maintenance	HDX
Bridged	scalable	"bus" / port	No	per segment	multiple CDs	HDX in each CD
Switched	crossbar	UTPs	100 (btw swt.)		No contention	FDX

Fast Ethernet variants

- Fast Ethernet (IEEE 802.3u)
 - same as 10BaseT, except that line speed is 100 Mbps
 - spans only 205 m
 - big winner
 - most current cards support both 10 and 100 Mbps cards (10/100 cards) for about \$80
- 100VG Anylan (IEEE 802.12)
 - station makes explicit service requests to master
 - master schedules requests, eliminating collisions
 - not a success in the market
- Gigabit Ethernet
 - aims to continue the trend
 - works over 4-pair UTP
- 10Gigabit Ethernet
 - No CSMA, only over optical fiber

Evaluating Ethernet

Pros

- easy to setup
- requires no configuration
- robust to noise
- Problems
 - at heavy loads, users see large delays because of backoff
 - non-deterministic service
 - doesn't support priorities
 - big overhead on small packets
- But, very successful because
 - problems only at high load
 - + loads rarely exceed 30%
 - can segment LANs to reduce load

CSMA/CA

- Used in wireless LANs
- Can't detect collision because transmitter overwhelms colocated receiver
- So, need explicit acks
- But this makes collisions more expensive
 - => try to reduce number of collisions
- Standardized as IEEE 802.11

CSMA/CA algorithm

- First check if medium is busy
- If so, wait for medium to become idle
- if idle: wait for inter-frame spacing before contending for a slot (low IFS means higher priority)
- then, set a contention timer to an interval randomly chosen in the range [0, CW] (CW predefined contention window)
- On timeout, send packet and wait for ack
- If no ack, assume packet is lost
 - try again, after doubling CW
- If another station transmits while counting down, freeze CW and unfreeze when packet completes transmission
- station will get higher priority in next round of contention

Dealing with hidden terminals

- CSMA/CA works when every station can receive transmissions from every other station
- Not always true
- Hidden terminal
 - some stations in an area cannot hear transmissions from others, though base can hear both (C cannot sense A is sending to B)
- Exposed terminal
 - some (but not all) stations can hear transmissions from stations not in the local area (B should be able to send to D, while A sending to C)





Hidden terminal

Dealing with hidden and exposed terminals

- In both cases, CSMA/CA doesn't work
 - with hidden terminal, collision because carrier not detected
 - with exposed terminal, idle station because carrier incorrectly detected
 - what matters is collision "at the receiver"
- Two solutions
- Busy Tone Multiple Access (BTMA)
 - assumes symmetric wireless links
 - uses a separate "busy-tone" channel
 - when station is receiving a message, it places a tone on this channel
 - everyone who might want to talk to a station knows that it is busy
 - + even if they cannot hear transmission that this station hears
 - this avoids both problems of hidden and exposed terminals
 - transmitters ignore their carrier-sense circuit and sends only if busytone channel is idle

Multiple Access Collision Avoidance

- BTMA requires us to split frequency band
 - more complex receivers (need two tuners)
- Separate bands may have different propagation characteristics
 - scheme fails!
- Instead, use a single frequency band, but use explicit messages to tell others that receiver is busy
- In MACA, before sending data, send a Request to Sent (RTS) to intended receiver
- Station, if idle, sends Clear to Send (CTS)
- Sender then sends data
- If station overhears RTS, it waits for other transmission to end
- Solves both problems

Token passing

- In distributed polling, every station has to wait for its turn
- Time wasted because idle stations are still given a slot
- What if we can quickly skip past idle stations?
- This is the key idea of token ring
- Special packet called 'token' gives station the right to transmit data
 - analogy with "right to speak or microphone"
- When done, it passes token to 'next' station
 - => stations form a logical ring
- No station will starve
- In addition, stations no longer need precise time synchronization

Logical rings

Can be on a non-ring physical topology



(a) Single ring



(c) Token bus



(b) Dual ring



(d) Hub or star-ring

Ring operation

- During normal operation, copy packets from input buffer to output
- If packet is a token, check if packets ready to send
- If not, forward token
- If so, delete token, and send packets
- Receiver copies packet and sets 'ack' flag
- Sender removes packet from the ring
- When done, reinserts token
- If ring idle and no token for a long time, regenerate token

Single and double rings

- With a single ring, a single failure of a link or station breaks the network => fragile
- With a double ring, on a failure, go into *wrap mode*
- Used in FDDI

Hub or star-ring

- Simplifies wiring
- Active hub is predecessor and successor to every station
 - can monitor ring for station and link failures
- Passive hub only serves as wiring concentrator
 - but provides a single test point
- Because of these benefits, hubs are practically the only form of wiring used in real networks
 - even for Ethernet

Evaluating token ring

- Pros
 - medium access protocol is simple and explicit
 - no need for carrier sensing, time synchronization or complex protocols to resolve contention
 - guarantees zero collisions
 - can give some stations priority over others
- Cons
 - token is a single point of failure
 - + lost or corrupted token trashes network
 - + need to carefully protect and, if necessary, regenerate token
 - all stations must cooperate
 - network must detect and cut off unresponsive stations
 - stations must actively monitor network
 - + to detect token loss and duplication
 - + usually elect one station as *monitor*

Fiber Distributed Data Interface

- FDDI is the most popular token-ring base LAN
- Dual counter-rotating rings, each at 100 Mbps
- Uses both copper (CDDI) and fiber links
- Supports both non-realtime and realtime traffic
 - token is guaranteed to rotate once every Target Token Rotation Time (TTRT)
 - station is guaranteed a synchronous allocation within every TTRT
- Supports both *single attached* and *dual attached* stations
 - single attached (cheaper) stations are connected to only one of the rings

ALOHA and its variants

- ALOHA is one of the earliest multiple access schemes
- Just send it!
- Wait for an ack
- If no ack, try again after a random waiting time
 - no backoff

Evaluating ALOHA

Pros

- useful when 'a' is large, so carrier sensing doesn't help
 - + satellite links
- simple
 - + no carrier sensing, no token, no timebase synchronization
- independent of 'a'
- Cons
 - under some mathematical assumptions, goodput is at most .18
 - + much higher goodput is achievable (e.g. a single user Trx)
 - at high loads, collisions are very frequent
 - sudden burst of traffic can lead to instability
 - + unless backoff is exponential

Slotted ALOHA

- A simple way to double ALOHA's capacity
- Make sure transmissions start on a slot boundary
 - synchronize to a broadcast pulse
- Halves window of vulnerability
- Used in cellular phone uplink (to request a frequency)
 - stations need to synchronize for TDMA anyway -> little additional overhead



ALOHA schemes summarized



Reservation ALOHA

- Similar to FPODA but no master, slot time = time to transmit a (constant length) packet
- Contend for implicit reservation using slotted ALOHA
- Stations independently examine reservation requests and come to consistent conclusions
 - all stations have same priority
- Simplest version
 - divide time into frames = fixed length set of slots (spans prop delay)
 - station that successfully transmit in a slot using S-ALOHA (this is known implicitly in satellite Aloha and with explicit ACK with cellular Aloha) makes implicit reservation and can keep slot as long as it wants
 - station that loses keeps track of idle slots and contends for them in next frame

Evaluating R-ALOHA

Pros

- supports both circuit and packet mode transfer
- works with large 'a'
- simple
- Cons
 - arriving packet has to wait for entire frame before it has a chance to send (frame length is at least 'a')
 - cannot preempt hogs
 - variants of R-ALOHA avoid these problems

Classification of multiple access schemes

Base technologies	FDMA TDMA CDMA FDD CDD				
Access schemes	Centralized	Circuit mode	EAMPS GSM IS-95		Cellular telephony
		Packet	Polling and probing		Wired LAN
		mode	Reservation based	FPODA	satellite
				PDAMA	
	Distributed		Polling and probing		Wired LAN
		Packet mode	CSMA	CSMA/CD	wiled LAN
				CSMA/CA	Wireless LAN
			BTMA	MACA	
				MACAW	
			Token ring	FDDI	Wired LAN
			ALOHA	P-ALOHA S-ALOHA	satellite
				R-ALOHA	