The **data-link layer** is responsible for transferring packets across a link which is the communication channel connecting two adjacent hosts or routers. Examples of link-layer protocols include Ethernet, wireless lans such as 802.11, and PPP.
LANs

Our goals:
- understand principles behind LANs:
  - sharing a broadcast channel: multiple access
  - link layer addressing
  - LAN interconnection
- instantiation and implementation of various LAN technologies

Overview:
- multiple access protocols
- example LANs:
  - Ethernet
  - 802.11
  - token ring
  - token bus
- link layer addressing
- LAN interconnection
  - hubs, bridges, switches
Characteristics

- Short distances (100 m - 1 km)
- High bit rate (10 Mb/s, 100 Mb/s, 1 Gb/s)
- Shared communication channel
- Used in a distributed environment
  - shared equipment, shared data

Today, Ethernet is by far the most prevalent LAN technology, and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. There are many reasons for Ethernet's success. First, Ethernet hardware (in particular, network interface cards) has become a commodity and is remarkably cheap. This low cost is also due to the fact that Ethernet's multiple access protocol, CSMA/CD, is completely decentralized, which has also contributed to a simple design. Ethernet is easy to install and manage than token LANs or ATM. Moreover, Ethernet was the first widely deployed high-speed LAN, therefore familiar to many network administrators reluctant to switch to new technologies. Finally, Ethernet is an evolving technology. In the past only 10 Mbps Ethernet was available, but currently so called fast Ethernet allows a nominal bandwidth of 100 Mbps and even 1000 Mbits (1 Gbps).
Data link layer in LANs

- **Shared channel**
  - multiplexing (TDM, FDM, or CDM)
    - fixed allocation: wasted bandwidth if no active sources
  - statistical multiplexing (multiple access)
    - suitable for bursty traffic - channel used at the full capacity
- **Most of LANs**
  - no retransmission (up to upper layers)
- **WLANs**
  - ACK of delivery
Multiple Access protocols

- single shared communication channel
- two or more simultaneous transmissions by nodes: interference
  - only one node can send successfully at a time

**multiple access protocol:**
- distributed algorithm that determines how stations share channel, i.e., determine when station can transmit
- communication about channel sharing must use channel itself!
- what to look for in multiple access protocols:
  - synchronous or asynchronous
  - information needed about other stations
  - robustness (e.g., to channel errors)
  - performance

In presence of a shared medium, it can happen that some nodes transmit at the same time and that frames collide or interfere. It is therefore necessary to find a protocol for sharing a broadcast medium. **Multiple access protocols** regulate nodes transmission onto the shared broadcast channel. Moreover, also the communication due to the coordination of the transmission must use the channel itself.
Multiple Access Protocols

Three broad classes:
- Random Access (Ethernet, 802.11)
  - allow collisions
  - “recover” from collisions
- Tokens - “Taking turns” (Token Ring, FDDI)
  - tightly coordinate shared access to avoid collisions
- Distributed Queue (DQDB)
  - use the channel in the arrival order

- Goal: efficient, fair, simple, decentralized

Multiple access protocols can be classified as belonging to one of three categories: random access protocols, token based, and distributed queue.
Multiple access protocols are extensively used in local area networks (LANs). A LAN is a broadcast channel, which provides to its host access to the Internet through a router. The LAN is a single "link" between each user host and the router, where each node sends frames to each other over a broadcast channel; it therefore uses a link-layer protocol, part of which is a multiple access protocol. The transmission rate, $R$, of most LANs is very high (up to 1 Gbps).

However, despite the broadcast capability, in general a node in the LAN doesn't want to send a frame to all of the other LAN nodes but instead wants to send to some particular LAN node. Therefore, the nodes need LAN addresses (in reality these adapters have a LAN address) and the link-layer frame needs a field to contain such a destination address. In this manner, when a node receives a frame, it can determine whether the frame was intended for it or for some other node in the LAN. Note that, with the introduction of layer 2 addresses, broadcast must be explicitly addressed. Additionally, some LANs needs to be interconnected together, and this can be obtained with different type of devices: repeaters, hubs, bridges, switches. This interconnection takes place at layer 2. Finally, several geographically distant LANs can be interconnected only at physical layer and “virtually” interconnected at layer 2 in a so called virtual LAN.
Today, Ethernet is by far the most prevalent LAN technology, and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. There are many reasons for Ethernet's success. First, Ethernet hardware (in particular, network interface cards) has become a commodity and is remarkably cheap. This low cost is also due to the fact that Ethernet's multiple access protocol, CSMA/CD, is completely decentralized, which has also contributed to a simple design. Ethernet is easy to install and manage than token LANs or ATM. Moreover, Ethernet was the first widely deployed high-speed LAN, therefore familiar to many network administrators reluctant to switch to new technologies. Finally, Ethernet is an evolving technology. In the past only 10 Mbps Ethernet was available, but currently so called fast Ethernet allows a nominal bandwidth of 100 Mbps and even 1000 Mbits (1 Gbps).
**IEEE 802.3 - Ethernet**

![Diagram of Ethernet network components]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variant</th>
<th>Cable</th>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>Stations</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 BASE 5</td>
<td>thick</td>
<td>500m</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2500m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 BASE 2</td>
<td>thin</td>
<td>200m</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 BASE T</td>
<td>pair</td>
<td>100m</td>
<td>1024</td>
<td>400m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 BASE FX</td>
<td>fiber</td>
<td>2000m</td>
<td>1024</td>
<td>2000m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Segment**
- limited to 500 m

Two repeaters between any two stations at most

Transceiver cable
- limited to 50 m

Distance between any two stations 2500 m

Round trip time of the signal between two stations
- limited to 45 ms

**Variants**
- 10: bit rate in Mb/s
- BASE: modulation: BASE ou BROAD
- 5: maximal segment size in 100 m

**Terminology**
- **repeater**
- **host**
- **transceiver**
- **terminator**

**Cable Segments**
- Station 10
- Coverage 2500m

**Distance**
- Stations 1024
- Coverage 2000m
Coding

- Synchronous transmission
  - receiving station locks on 10 MHz - preamble
- Manchester coding
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 protocol specifies:
  - how to detect collisions
  - how to recover from collisions (e.g., via delayed retransmissions)
- Examples of random access protocols:
  - ALOHA, slotted ALOHA
  - CSMA, CSMA/CD (Ethernet), CSMA/CA (802.11)

In a random access protocol, a transmitting node always transmits at the full rate of the channel, namely, $R$ bps. When there is a collision, each node involved in the collision repeatedly retransmits its frame until the frame gets through without a collision. But when a node experiences a collision, it doesn't necessarily retransmit the frame right away. *Instead it waits a random delay before retransmitting the frame.* Each node involved in a collision chooses independent random delays. Because after a collision the random delays are independently chosen, it is possible that one of the nodes will pick a delay that is sufficiently less than the delays of the other colliding nodes and will therefore be able to sneak its frame into the channel without a collision.

ALOHA is the basis of all non-deterministic access methods. The ALOHA protocol requires acknowledgements and timers.

In this scheme a station wishing to transmit, does so at will. As a result, two or more frames may overlap in time, causing a collision. Collisions occur, and if a packet is lost, then sources have to retransmit; but they must stagger their attempts randomly, following some collision resolution algorithm, to avoid colliding again.

The maximum utilization can be proven to be 18%. This is assuming an ideal retransmission policy that avoids unnecessary repetitions of collisions.

With slotted ALOHA, time is divided into slots of equal size $M$ that is the time necessary to transmit one frame and nodes start to transmit frames only at the beginnings of slots. Nodes need to be synchronized so that each node knows when the slots begin. With this expedient the maximum throughput is doubled.

CSMA improves on Aloha by requiring that stations listen before transmitting (compare to CB radio). Some collisions can be avoided, but not completely. This is because of propagation delays. Two or more stations may sense that the medium (= the channel) is free and start transmitting at time instants that are
CSMA/CD (Collision Detection)

- **CSMA/CD (Carrier Sense Multiple Access/ Collision Detection)**
  - carrier sensing, deferral if ongoing transmission
  - collisions *detected* within short time
  - colliding transmissions aborted, reducing channel wastage
  - persistent transmission

- **collision detection:**
  - easy in wired LANs: measure signal strengths, compare transmitted, received signals
  - difficult in wireless LANs: receiver shut off while transmitting

CSMA/CD is the protocol used by Ethernet. In addition to CSMA, it requires that a sending station monitors the channel and detects a collision. The benefit is that a collision is detected within a propagation round trip time. These mechanisms give CSMA/CD much better performance than slotted ALOHA in a LAN environment. In fact, if the maximum propagation delay between stations is very small, the efficiency of CSMA/CD can approach 100%. Collisions may still occur.
### CSMA/CD algorithm

\[
i = 1
\]
\[
\textbf{while} \ (i \leq \text{maxAttempts}) \ \textbf{do}
\]
\[
\quad \text{listen until channel is idle}
\]
\[
\quad \text{transmit and listen}
\]
\[
\quad \text{wait until (end of transmission) or (collision detected)}
\]
\[
\quad \textbf{if} \ \text{collision detected} \ \textbf{then}
\]
\[
\quad \quad \text{stop transmitting, send jam bits (32 bits)}
\]
\[
\quad \textbf{else}
\]
\[
\quad \quad \text{wait for interframe delay (9.6 µs)}
\]
\[
\quad \quad \text{leave}
\]
\[
\quad \quad \text{wait random time}
\]
\[
\quad \quad \text{increment } i
\]
\[
\textbf{end do}
\]

CSMA/CD is the protocol used by Ethernet. In addition to CSMA, it requires that a sending station monitors the channel and detects a collision. The benefit is that a collision is detected within a propagation round trip time. These mechanisms give CSMA/CD much better performance than slotted ALOHA in a LAN environment. In fact, if the maximum propagation delay between stations is very small, the efficiency of CSMA/CD can approach 100%. Collisions may still occur.
CSMA / CD Collision

- A senses idle channel, starts transmitting
- shortly before $T$, B senses idle channel, starts transmitting

If the adapter in A senses that the channel is idle (that is, there is no signal energy from the channel entering the adapter), it starts to transmit the frame. However, due to the transmission time $T$, the adapter in B can sense that the channel is idle as well, even if A has started the transmission.
In this case there is a collision.
CSMA / CD Jam Signal

- B senses collision, continues to transmit the jam signal (32-bit)
- A senses collision, continues to transmit the jam signal

If the adapter detects signal energy from other adapters while transmitting, it stops transmitting its frame and instead transmits a jam signal. Jam signal are simply there to make sure the collision is long enough to be detected by the hardware.
Random retransmission interval

\( r = \text{random} \ (0, \ 2^k - 1) \)
\( k = \min \ (10, \ \text{Attempt Nb}) \)

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{slot time} = 51.2 \ \mu s, \\
\text{1st collision}, \ r = 0, \ 1 \\
\text{2nd collision}, \ r = 0, \ 1, \ 2, \ 3 \\
\text{10th}, \ r = 0, \ 1, \ ..., \ 1023 \\
\text{15th}, \ \text{stop}
\end{array}
\]

After aborting (that is, transmitting the jam signal), the adapter enters an **exponential backoff** phase. Specifically, when transmitting a given frame, after experiencing the \( n \)th collision in a row for this frame, the adapter chooses a value for \( K \) at random from \{0, 1, 2, ..., \( 2^m - 1 \)\} where \( m: = \min(n, 10) \). The adapter then waits \( K \times 512 \) bit times and then returns to sense the channel.

Slot time

Round trip time limits the interval during which collisions may occur

\( 45 \ \mu s + 3.2 \ \mu s < 51.2 \ \mu s \) - transmission of 512 bits

channel is **acquired** after 51.2 \( \mu s \)

non-valid frames (results of collisions) < 512 bits \( \mu s \) minimal frame size (data field \( \geq 46 \) bytes)

unit of the retransmission interval
CSMA / CD Retransmission

- A waits random time \( t_1 \)
- B waits random time \( t_2 = \text{slottime} \) \(< t_1 = 2 \times \text{slottime} \)
- B senses channel idle and transmits
- A senses channel busy and *defers* to B
- A now waits until channel is idle

If both stations would restart retransmission after a deterministic (fixed) time, there will occur a new collision. Therefore, after a collision is detected, stations will re-attempt to transmit after a random time. The random time before retransmission is chosen in such a way that if repeated collisions occur, then the time increases exponentially. The effect is that in case of congestion (too many collisions) the access to the channel is slowed down.

Acknowledgements are not necessary because absence (detection and recovery) of collision means that the frame could be transmitted. The inter-frame delay (“gap”) is 9.6 µs. It is used to avoid blind times, during which adapters are filtering typical noise at transmission ends.
CSMA/CD performance

- Maximum utilization of Ethernet (approximation)

$$\text{Utilization} = \frac{1}{1 + C \frac{D}{L}}$$

where \(D = \frac{2Db}{L}\),
\(D = \) propagation delay, \(b = \) bit rate,
\(L = \) frame size
\(C\) is a constant:
- \(C = 3.1\) is a pessimistic value;
- \(C = 2.5\) is an approximate value based on simulations

For a large network, \(2Db\) is close to 60 bytes; for traffic with small frames (\(L = 64\) bytes), the utilization is less than 30%.
For large frames (1500 Bytes), it is around 90%.
Key for high utilization is:
- bandwidth delay product << frame size (small \(D\)!)
Frame format (Ethernet v.2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>preamble</th>
<th>dest</th>
<th>source</th>
<th>type</th>
<th>data</th>
<th>CRC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 bytes</td>
<td>6 bytes</td>
<td>6 bytes</td>
<td>2 bytes</td>
<td>46 - 1500 bytes</td>
<td>4 bytes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Preamble**
  - synchronization: 10101010...0101011

- **Addresses**
  - unique, unicast and multicast (starts with the first bit 1)
  - broadcast: 11111...11111

- **Type**
  - upper layer protocol (IP, IPX, ARP, etc.)

An Ethernet LAN can have a bus topology or a star topology. An Ethernet LAN can run over coaxial cable, twisted-pair copper wire, or fiber optics. Furthermore, Ethernet can transmit data at different rates, specifically, at 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, and 1 Gbps.

The structure of an Ethernet frame is as follows:

- **Preamble (8 bytes).** The Ethernet frame begins with an eight-byte preamble field. Each of the first seven bytes of the preamble has a value of 10101010; the last byte is 10101011. The first seven bytes of the preamble serve to "wake up" the receiving adapters and to synchronize their clocks to that of the sender's clock. Why should the clocks be out of synchronization? Keep in mind that adapter A aims to transmit the frame at 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, or 1 Gbps, depending on the type of Ethernet LAN. However, because nothing is absolutely perfect, adapter A will not transmit the frame at exactly the target rate; there will always be some drift from the target rate, a drift which is not known *a priori* by the other adapters on the LAN. A receiving adapter can look onto adapter A's clock by simply locking onto the bits in the first seven bytes of the preamble. The last two bits of the eighth byte of the preamble (the first two consecutive 1s) alert adapter B that the "important stuff" is about to come. When host B sees the two consecutive 1s, it knows that the next six bytes are the destination address. An adapter can tell when a frame ends by simply detecting absence of current.
Frame format (802.3)

- **SNAP (Subnet Access Protocol)** used in bridge management (any length of data: 0 - 1492)

- **Destination Address (6 bytes)**. This field contains the destination address. If a node receives a frame with an address other than its own MAC address, or the LAN broadcast address, it discards the frame. Otherwise, it passes the contents of the data field to the network layer.

- **Source Address (6 bytes)**. This field contains the LAN address of the source.

- **Data Field (46 to 1500 bytes)**. This field carries the IP datagram. The maximum transfer unit (MTU) of Ethernet is 1500 bytes. The minimum size of the data field is 46 bytes. This means that if the IP datagram is less than 46 bytes, the data field has to be "stuffed" to fill it out to 46 bytes. Data on Ethernet is transmitted least significant bit of first octet first (a bug dictated by Intel processors). Canonical representation thus inverts the order of bits inside a byte (the first bit of the address is the least significant bit of the first byte).

- **Type Field (2 bytes)**. The type field permits Ethernet to distinguish the network-layer protocols.

- **Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) (4 bytes)**. To detect whether any errors have been introduced into the frame.
Addressing

- MAC address: 48 bits = adapter identifier
- sender puts destination MAC address in the frame
- all stations read all frames; keep only if destination address matches
- all 1 address (FF:FF:FF:FF:FF:FF) = broadcast

- Ethernet addresses are known as MAC addresses. Every Ethernet interface has its own MAC address, which is in fact the serial number of the adapter, put by the manufacturer. MAC addresses are 48 bit-long. The 1st address bit is the individual/group bit, used to differentiate normal addresses from group addresses. The second bit indicates whether the address is globally administered (the normal case, burnt-in) or locally administered. Group addresses are always locally administered.

- When A sends a data frame to B, A creates a MAC frame with source addr = A, dest addr = B. The frame is sent on the network and recognized by the destination.

- Some systems like DEC networks require that MAC addresses be configured by software; those are so-called locally administered MAC addresses. This is avoided whenever possible in order to simplify network management.

- Data on Ethernet is transmitted least significant bit of first byte first (a bug dictated by Intel processors). Canonical representation thus inverts the order of bits inside a byte (the first bit of the address is the least significant bit of the first byte); examples of addresses:

  01:00:5e:02:a6:cf (a group address)
  08:00:20:71:0d:d4 (a SUN machine)
  00:00:c0:3f:6c:a4 (a PC)
  00:00:dc:02:78:36 (a CISCO router)
  FF:FF:FF:FF:FF:FF the broadcast address
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  - 00:00:0c:02:78:36 (a CISCO router)
  - FF:FF:FF:FF:FF:FF the broadcast address

48 bits: 24 bits delegated to a manufacturer and 24 bits of serial number
Interconnecting LANs

Why not just one big LAN?
- Limited amount of supportable traffic: on single LAN, all stations must share bandwidth
- limited distance
- large “collision domain” (can collide with many stations)
- processing broadcast frames

LAN evolution
- increase the bit rate: 10Mb/s, 100Mb/s, 1 Gb/s
- from hubs to switches

In principle, Internet could be implemented as one big LAN. However, there are several limitations to this solution: (1) the cables used for LANs are usually limited in length, therefore intercontinental distance could not be covered; (2) LANs use shared technologies, therefore the bandwidth is shared among all the station participating to the LAN; (3) statistically, if the number of stations increases, the number of collisions augments.
Repeaters

- Function of a simple, 2 port repeater:
  - repeat bits received on one port to other port
  - if collision sensed on one port, repeat random bits on other port
- One network with repeaters = **one collision domain**
- Repeaters perform only physical layer functions (bit repeaters)
From Repeaters to Hubs

- Multiport repeater \((n\) ports), logically equivalent to:
  - \(n\) simple repeater
  - connected to one internal Ethernet segment

- Multi-port repeaters make it possible to use point-to-point segments (Ethernet in the box)
  - ease of management
  - fault isolation
10 Base T Hubs

- Tree topology (star)
  - hub (répéteur multiport)
  - max. 4 hubs

10BaseT and 100BaseT Ethernet are similar technologies. The first transmits at 10 Mbps and 100BaseT Ethernet transmits at 100 Mbps. 100BaseT is also commonly called "fast Ethernet". Both 10BaseT and 100BaseT Ethernet use a star based topology cabling. There is a central device called a hub (also sometimes called a concentrator.) Each adapter on each node has a direct, point-to-point connection to the hub. This connection consists of two pairs of twisted-pair copper wire, one for transmitting and the other for receiving. At each end of the connection there is a connector that resembles the RJ-45 connector used for ordinary telephones. The "T" in 10BaseT and 100BaseT stands for "twisted pair." For both 10BaseT and 100BaseT, the maximum length of the connection between an adapter and the hub is 100 meters; the maximum length between any two nodes is thus 200 meters. A hub is a repeater: when it receives a bit from an adapter, it sends the bit to all the other adapters. In this manner, each adapter can (1) sense the channel to determine if it is idle, and (2) detect a collision while it is transmitting. But hubs are popular because they also provide network management features. When a node as a problem the hub will detect the problem and internally disconnect the malfunctioning adapter.
10 BASE T

- Two pairs
  - emission
  - reception
- RJ-45 jack

- Hub - host
  - straight cable
- Hub - hub
  - inversed cable
10BaseT and 100BaseT

- 10/100 Mbps rate; latter called “fast ethernet”
- T stands for Twisted Pair
- Hub to which nodes are connected by twisted pair, thus “star topology”
- CSMA/CD supported by hubs

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Gigabit Ethernet

- use standard Ethernet frame format
- allows for point-to-point links and shared broadcast channels
- in shared mode, CSMA/CD is used; short distances between nodes to be efficient
- Full-Duplex at 1 Gbps for point-to-point links

Gigabit Ethernet is an extension to a raw data rate of 1,000 Mbps. Gigabit Ethernet is backward compatible with 10BaseT and 100BaseT technologies. It allows for point-to-point links as well as shared broadcast channels. Point-to-point links use switches whereas broadcast channels use hubs. Gbit Ethernet uses CSMA/CD for shared broadcast channels. In order to have acceptable efficiency, the maximum distance between nodes must be severely restricted. It allows for full-duplex operation at 1,000 Mbps in both directions for point-to-point channels.
Gigabit Ethernet

- **1000 BASE T**
  - over twisted pair (25 m)
- **1000 BASE SX**
  - short wavelength (850 nm) over multimode (500 m)
- **1000 BASE LX**
  - long wavelength (1300 nm) over multimode (550 m) and single-mode fiber (10 km)
- **1000 BASE LH (Long Haul)**
  - greater distance over 10 µm single-mode (500 m)
- **1000 BASE ZX**
  - extended wavelength (1550 nm) over 10 µm single-mode (70 km)
Bridges

- Bridges are intermediate systems, or switches, that forward MAC frames to destinations based on MAC addresses
- Transparent bridges: learn the Forwarding Table

A bridge is an intermediate system for the MAC layer. It receives MAC frames and forwards them further.
Bridges – interconnection at layer 2

- Link Layer devices: operate on Ethernet frames, examining frame header and selectively forwarding frame based on its destination
- Bridge isolates collision domains since it buffers frames
- When needs to forward a frame on a segment, bridge uses CSMA/CD to access the segment and transmit
- Can connect different type Ethernets, since it is a buffering device
- Two main types of bridges: transparent bridges and spanning tree bridges (guarantee no loops)

Bridges operate on Ethernet frames and thus are layer-2 devices. In fact, bridges are full-fledged packet switches that forward and filter frames using the LAN destination addresses. When a frame comes into a bridge interface, the bridge does not just copy the frame onto all of the other interfaces. Instead, the bridge examines the layer-2 destination address of the frame and attempts to forward the frame on the interface that leads to the destination. First, bridges permit isolates collision. Second, bridges can interconnect different LAN technologies, including 10 Mbps and 100 Mbps Ethernets. Third, there is no limit to how large a LAN can be when bridges are used to interconnect LAN segments; in theory, using bridges, it is possible to build a LAN that spans the entire globe.
Bridges vs. Routers

- both store-and-forward devices
  - routers: network layer devices (examine network layer headers)
  - bridges are Link Layer devices (look into MAC headers)
- routers are more complex
- bridges are plug-and-play

Routers are store-and-forward packet switches that forward packets using network-layer addresses. Although a bridge is also a store-and-forward packet switch, it is fundamentally different from a router in that it forwards packets using LAN addresses. Whereas a router is a layer 3 packet switch, a bridge is a layer-2 packet switch.
Collision domains

- Bridges separate collision domains
  - a bridged LAN maybe much larger than a repeated LAN
  - there may be several frames transmitted in parallel in a bridged LAN
Repeaters and Bridges in OSI Model

- Bridges are layer 2 intermediate systems
- Repeaters are in layer 1 intermediate systems
- Routers are layer 3 intermediate systems (IP routers)
Ethernet switches are in essence high-performance multi-interface bridges. As do bridges, they forward and filter frames using LAN destination addresses, and they automatically build forwarding tables using the source addresses in the traversing frames. The most important difference between a bridge and switch is that bridges usually have a small number of interfaces (that is, 2-4), whereas switches may have dozens of interfaces. A large number of interfaces generates a high aggregate forwarding rate through the switch fabric, therefore necessitating a high-performance design (especially for 100 Mbps and 1 Gbps interfaces). When a host has a direct connection to a switch (rather than a shared LAN connection), the host is said to have **dedicated access**.
Ethernet Switches (more)
Switching

- *Store-and-forward*
  - receive frame, check if valid, retransmit
  - 50 µs delay for a 64 bytes frame
- *Cut through*
  - address read, retransmit
  - 20 µs delay for a 64 bytes frame
  - transmission of non-valid frames
Full duplex Ethernet

- A shared medium Ethernet cable is half duplex
- Full duplex Ethernet = a point to point cable, used in both directions
  - no access method, no CSMA/CD
- 100 Mb/s and Gigabit Ethernet switches use full duplex links to avoid distance limitations and to guarantee bandwidth for stations
- Requires full duplex adapters at stations
**Gigabit Ethernet**

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  - over twisted pair (25 m)
- **1000 BASE SX**
  - short wavelength (850 nm) over multimode (500 m)
- **1000 BASE LX**
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- **1000 BASE LH (Long Haul)**
  - greater distance over 10 µm single-mode (500 m)
- **1000 BASE ZX**
  - extended wavelength (1550 nm) over 10 µm single-mode (70 km)
Wireless LAN: 802.11b

- **802.11b**: wireless LAN
  - nominal bit rate of 11 Mb/s, degraded to 5.5, 2, 1 Mb/s
  - 6.5 Mb/s at application layer (file transfer)
  - shared radio channel, 2.4 GHz band, 13 channels (3 non overlapping of 22 MHz)
  - DSSS (*Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum*), 1 bit chipping sequence
  - coverage 50m, open air 100m

- **MAC layer**
  - DCF (Distributed Coordination Function)
    - CSMA/CA (*Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Avoidance*), similar to Ethernet, no collision detection
  - PCF (Point Coordination Function)
    - polling, optional
802.11 - Physical layer

- **802.11b**
  - frequency band of 2.4 GHz: [2,4 GHz ; 2,48 GHz]
  - nominal bit rate of 11 Mb/s
  - passes through concrete
- **802.11g**
  - frequency band of 2.4 GHz
  - nominal bit rate of > 22 Mb/s
- **802.11a**
  - frequency band of 5 GHz: [5,15 GHz ; 5,825 GHz]
  - nominal bit rate of 54 Mb/s
    - 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, 54 Mb/s, (6, 12, 24 Mb/s mandatory)
  - LOS - Line-of-Sight (no obstacles)
802.11 - Physical layer

802.11b : canaux

20MHz
Europe
États-Unis, Canada
France
Japon

GHz
Channel selection

Europe (ETSI)

2400 2412 2442 2472 2483.5 [MHz]

channel 1  channel 7  channel 13

US (FCC)/Canada (IC)

2400 2412 2437 2462 2483.5 [MHz]

channel 1  channel 6  channel 11

22 MHz
**Infrastructure vs. ad-hoc**

**infrastructure network**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP</th>
<th>AP</th>
<th>wired network</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**ad-hoc network**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP</th>
<th>AP</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**AP: Access Point**
802.11 - infrastructure

- Station (STA)
  - terminal with access mechanisms to the wireless medium and radio contact to the access point
- Basic Service Set (BSS)
  - group of stations using the same radio frequency
- Access Point
  - station integrated into the wireless LAN and the distribution system
- Portal
  - bridge to other (wired) networks
- Distribution System
  - interconnection network to form one logical network
802.11

- Inter-frame spacing
  - SIFS (Short Inter Frame Spacing)
    - 10 µs, for ACK, CTS, polling response
  - PIFS (PCF IFS)
    - for time-bounded service using PCF
  - DIFS (DCF IFS)
    - 50 µs, for contention access

![](image-url)
802.11 DCF - CSMA/CA

- Channel idle during DIFS, transmit frame
- If the medium is busy, wait for a free DIFS and a random back-off time (collision avoidance, multiple of slot-time)
- If another station uses the medium during the back-off time of the station, the back-off timer stops (fairness)
CSMA/CA (*Collision Avoidance*)

- Channel idle during DIFS, transmit frame
- Frame received correctly, wait SIFS, and send ACK
802.11 - CSMA/CA

- Sending unicast packets
  - station has to wait for DIFS before sending data
  - receivers acknowledge at once (after waiting for SIFS) if the packet was received correctly (CRC)
  - automatic retransmission of data packets in case of transmission errors

![Diagram of CSMA/CA](image-url)
Contestion

- Backoff time - random interval
  - Contention Window: uniform distribution \([0, CW] \times SLOT\)
  - CW: \(CW_{\text{min}} = 31, \ CW_{\text{max}} = 1023\)
  - SLOT = 20 \(\text{ms}\)
- \(T(N)\) should also include time wasted in collisions
CSMA/CA (Collision Avoidance)

- If channel busy, defer. Then, if idle during DIFS, wait random interval (multiple of the slot) and transmit.
- If channel busy, wait again until medium idle for at least DIFS.
- Contention window doubles with each collision - exponential back-off.

Diagram:

- DIFS
- Contention window
- Slot
- Data
802.11 - contention

- **DIFS**:DCF interframe space
- **busy**: Medium busy
- **collision**: Collision
- **packet arrival at MAC**
- **shortest backoff time**
- **residual backoff time**
- **elapsed backoff time**

**Station 1, 2, 3, 4, 5**

- Station 1: Busy
- Station 2: Busy
- Station 3: Busy
- Station 4: Busy
- Station 5: Busy
Hidden Terminal effect

- Hidden terminals: A and B cannot hear each other because of obstacles or signal attenuation; so, their packets collide at B.
**RTS/CTS Extension**

- **CTS (Clear To Send)**
  "freezes" stations within range of receiver (hidden from transmitter); this prevents collisions by hidden station during data transfer.

- **RTS (Request To Send)** and CTS are very short: collisions are very unlikely (the end result is similar to Collision Detection).

---

**Diagram:**

```
A                  B
-------------------
DIFS               
                   RTS
SIFS               
                   CTS
SIFS               
                   data
SIFS               
                   ACK
55
```
Register to Access Point
Hand-off

- Access point
  - Hand-off
  - Ethernet

- Access point
  - Hand-off
  - Ethernet

- Mobile
  - OK (NWID)

Wireless

Address

Port
Bluetooth

- Replaces cables
  - short range (10m), low power, cheap
  - 2.4 GHz band
  - FHSS (*Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum*)
  - piconet
    - all devices share the same hopping sequence
    - one master, seven slaves
  - bit rate: around 1 Mb/s
    - symmetric connections - 432.6 kb/s
    - asymmetric - 721 kb/s, 57.6 Kb/s
  - access method: polling, reservation
IEEE 802.4

- Token Bus
  - industrial LAN

- Physical layer
  - modulation (*broadband*)
  - coaxial cable 75 \( \Omega \)
  - 1, 5, 10 Mb/s bit rate

- Access method
  - token on a virtual ring
Physical layer

code violation
Topology

- Physical bus, virtual ring
**Access method**

- **Token**
  - station can send one or several frames during the token holding interval
  - several priorities per station
- **Virtual ring**
  - two addresses: Successor, Predecessor
  - token holder passes it to its successor
  - ring maintenance:
    - each $N$ tours, invite to enter
Adding a station

Search successors between B and D
Adding a station
Departure of a station

A
P : D
S : B

B
P : A
S : D

C
P : B
S : D

D
P : B
S : A

Fix successor
D
Frame format

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>preamble</th>
<th>start</th>
<th>FC</th>
<th>dest</th>
<th>source</th>
<th>data</th>
<th>CRC</th>
<th>end</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 1 bytes</td>
<td>1 byte</td>
<td>1 byte</td>
<td>2-6 bytes</td>
<td>2-6 bytes</td>
<td>0 - 8191 bytes</td>
<td>4 bytes</td>
<td>1 byte</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Preamble**
  - synchronization
- **Start and End**
  - frame delimitation: NN0NN000, N - code violation
- **FC - Frame Control**
  - type of a frame: Token, Search Successor, Fix Successor
IEEE 802.5

- Token Ring
- Physical layer
  - differential Manchester coding
    - bits: H-L, L-H
    - violation: H-H, L-L
  - bit rate 4, 16 Mb/s
- Access method
  - token on a physical ring
Topography

- Physical ring
  - repeater
    - 1 bit shift register, on the fly modification
- Twisted pair cabling
  - star topology - wiring concentrator MAU *(Multistation Access Unit)*, max. 8 stations
    - one pair - reception; one pair - transmission
- Coverage
  - station - MAU: 300 m, if one MAU; 100 m, if several MAU
  - MAU - MAU: 200 m
Ring
Repeater

- **Listen**
  - address/token recognition
  - copy/repeat
  - modify one bit (token hold)

- **Transmission**
  - buffer insertion
  - remove frame
Access method

- Token
  - token holding time limited to 10 ms
  - variants
    - 4 Mb/s: transmitting station generates token after removing the frame
    - 16 Mb/s: transmitting station generates token after the end of the frame (*daisy chain*)
Access method

- Priorities
  - token with different priorities (0 - 7)
  - priority reservation
    - a station can request generation of a token with a given priority
  - global priorities (vs. local priorities in 802.4)
Maintenance

- Monitoring station
  - elected at power up based on the address
  - every station may become monitor
  - initialize the ring
    - inserts a register of 24 bits (3 bytes) - token frame
  - monitor the ring:
    - presence of the token
    - absence of multiple tokens
    - purge if a frame is not removed
Problems

- Lost token
  - no token during an interval, purge the ring and regenerate the token
  - abandoned frames
    - monitoring station sets bit M in each frame
    - if frame received with M set, it is an abandoned frame
    - purge and regenerate the token
Frame format

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>start</th>
<th>AC</th>
<th>FC</th>
<th>dest</th>
<th>source</th>
<th>data</th>
<th>CRC</th>
<th>end</th>
<th>FS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 byte</td>
<td>1 byte</td>
<td>1 byte</td>
<td>2-6 bytes</td>
<td>2-6 bytes</td>
<td>variable</td>
<td>4 bytes</td>
<td>1 byte</td>
<td>1 byte</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Start**
  - frame delimitation - code violation
- **AC - Access Control**
  - token (1 bit)
  - priority (3 bits)
  - priority reservation (3 bits)
  - bit M - monitor (1 bit)
Frame format

- **FC - Frame Control** - type of frame
  - Claim Token (station wants to become monitor)
  - Purge (initialize the ring)
  - Monitor Present (if no such a frame, a station will try to become a monitor station)

- **Data**
  - token holding time: 10 ms
    - 4 Mb/s - 4464 bytes
    - 16 Mb/s - 17914 bytes
Frame format

- CRC
  - on FC ... data
- End
  - code violation
- FS - Frame Status
  - bit C: frame accepted
  - bit A: address recognized
FDDI (*Fiber Distributed Data Interface*)

- Dual fiber ring
  - multi-mode fiber
  - up to 500 stations
  - 100 km per ring (MAN - Metropolitan Area Network)
- Coding
  - 125 MHz clock, 100 Mb/s bit rate
  - 4B5B coding
    - 4 bits coded as 5 binary symbols
    - some symbols used for delimitation
  - NRZI signal
Access method

- Token ring, similar to 802.5
  - daisy chain
- Frame format similar to 802.5, 4352 bytes of data
- FDDI-II
  - synchronous traffic
    - monitoring station transmits a special frame every 125 µs
    - up to 96 PCM voice channels
802.6 - DQDB (*Distributed Queue Dual Bus*)

- Dual bus
  - 160 km at 44 Mb/s (T3), 155 Mb/s
Access method

- Controller
  - generates a train of 53 bytes cells
- Cell format
  - addresses, Request bit, Busy bit,
  - 44 bytes of data
Access method

- Distributed queue of transmission requests
  - before transmit, set Request bit in a cell on the opposite bus
  - upper stations learn the request and leave one empty cell per request
  - set Busy bit in the first empty cell and insert data
- Advantages
  - no overhead, good throughput
- Drawback
  - not symmetric topology
LLC *(Logical Link Control)*

- IEEE 802.2
  - used in some LAN protocols (SNAP)
- HDLC family (PPP)
- Three types of services
  - 1: datagram
  - 2: connected mode (similar to X.25 LAPB)
  - 3: acknowledged datagram
VLAN - Virtual LAN

- Keep the advantages of Layer 2 interconnection
  - auto-configuration (addresses, topology - Spanning Tree)
  - performance of switching
- Enhance with functionalities of Layer 3
  - extensibility
  - spanning large distances
  - traffic filtering
- Limit broadcast domains
- Security
  - separate subnetworks

A **Virtual LAN** is a subset of stations physically connected in a LAN that are logically connected. The procedure of logically connecting a group of stations can be seen as a colouring procedure that is managed by a manager generally implemented in a switch.
Virtual LANs

- No traffic between different VLANs
- VLANs build on bridges or switches
**VLANs**

- How to define which port belongs to a VLAN?
  - per port
    - simple, secure, not flexible for moving hosts (one host per port)
  - per MAC address
    - several hosts per port, flexible for moving hosts, not secure, difficult to manage, problems with protocols Layer 3 (should be coupled with dynamic address negotiation - DHCP)
  - per Layer 3 protocol
    - allows to limit frame broadcast (VLAN1: IP, VLAN2: IPX)
  - per Layer 3 address
    - one VLAN per IP subnetwork
    - flexible for moving hosts
    - may be less efficient (requires inspecting packets)
Remote VLANs

- works at layer 2
- uses an interconnection network (ATM) or a proprietary protocol

The picture shows two virtual LANs: (ACLNV) and (BDMPU). For each of the virtual LANs, there exists one or more collision domains per concentrator, plus one per inter-concentrator link. The concentrators perform bridging between the different collision domains of the same virtual LAN.

Between X1 and X2, the two virtual LANs use the same physical link. The advantage is that physical location becomes independent of LANs. For example, all servers and routers can be concentrated in the same rooms (ex: U and V). There is no communication between the different virtual LANs at layer 2.
Summary

- Original Ethernet is a shared medium: one collision domain per LAN
- Bridges are connectionless intermediate systems that interconnect LANs
- Using bridging, we can have several collision domains per LAN
- Ethernet switches use bridging
- State of the art
  - switched 100 Mb/s Ethernet to the host
  - 1 Gb Ethernet between switches
- Wireless LANs become increasingly popular
  - WiFi, Bluetooth