LANs
Local Area Networks
via the
Media Access Control (MAC)
SubLayer
Local Area Networks

• Aloha
• Slotted Aloha
• CSMA (non-persistent, 1-persistent, p-persistent)
• CSMA/CD
• Ethernet
• Token Ring
IEEE 802 LANs

802.3 CSMA-CD
802.5 Token Ring
802.11 Wireless LAN

Various Physical Layers

Network Layer

802.2 Logical Link Control

Logical Link Control

Data Link Layer

Physical Layer

OSI

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Networks: Local Area Networks
Channel Access Abstraction

Shared Multiple Access Medium

1  2  3  4  5

N
Static Channel Allocation Problem

The history of broadcast networks includes satellite and packet radio networks.

Let us view a satellite as a repeater amplifying and rebroadcasting everything that comes in.

To generalize this problem, consider networks where every frame sent is automatically received by every site (node).
Satellite Channel

\[ \text{satellite} \rightarrow \text{receiver} = f_{in} \]

\[ \text{receiver} \rightarrow \text{transmitter} = f_{out} \]
Static Channel Allocation Problem

We model this situation as \( n \) independent users (one per node), each wanting to communicate with another user and they have no other form of communication.

The Channel Allocation Problem

To manage a single broadcast channel which must be shared efficiently and fairly among \( n \) uncoordinated users.
Specific LAN Topologies

Ring networks

Multitapped Bus Networks
Possible Model Assumptions for the Channel Allocation Problem

0. *Listen property* :: (applies to satellites)
   The sender is able to **listen** to sent frame one round-trip after sending it.
   ➞ no need for explicit ACKs.

1. The model consists of **n independent stations**.
2. A **single** channel is available for communications.
Possible Model Assumptions for the Channel Allocation Problem

3. Collision Assumption :: If two frames are transmitted simultaneously, they overlap in time and the resulting signal is garbled. This event is a collision.

4a. Continuous Time Assumption :: frame transmissions can begin at any time instant.

4b. Slotted Time Assumption :: time is divided into discrete intervals (slots). Frame transmissions always begin at the start of a time slot.
Possible Model Assumptions for the Channel Allocation Problem

5a. *Carrier Sense Assumption (CS)* ::
   Stations can tell if the channel is busy (in use) before trying to use it. If the channel is busy, no station will attempt to use the channel until it is idle.

5b. *No Carrier Sense Assumption* ::
   Stations are unable to sense channel before attempting to send a frame. They just go ahead and transmit a frame.
**a :: Relative Propagation Time**

\[
a = \frac{\text{length of the data path (in bits)}}{\text{length of a standard frame (in bits)}}
\]

**-OR-**

\[
a = \frac{\text{propagation time (in seconds)}}{\text{transmission time (in seconds)}}
\]

**-OR-**

\[
a = \frac{\text{bandwidth-delay product}^*}{\text{average frame size}} \quad [\text{LG&W def p.346}]
\]

*bandwidth-delay product :: the product of the capacity (bit rate) and the delay.*
Networks: Local Area Networks

Figure 15.2 The Effect of $a$ on Utilization for Baseband Bus

(a) Transmission time = 1; propagation time = $a < 1$

(b) Transmission time = 1; propagation time = $a > 1$
Relative Propagation Time

\[ R = \text{capacity (data rate)} \]

\[ d = \text{maximum distance of communications path} \]

\[ v = \text{propagation velocity} \quad (\text{Assume } v = \frac{2}{3} \text{ speed of light} \quad 2 \times 10^8 \text{ meters/second}) \]

\[ L = \text{frame length} \]

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{d}{v} &= \frac{Rd}{L/R} \\
\Rightarrow \quad a &= \frac{a}{vL}
\end{align*}
\]
Upper Bound on Utilization for Shared Media LAN

Assume a perfect, efficient access that allows one transmission at a time where there are no collisions, no retransmissions, no delays between transmissions and no bits wasted on overhead. {These are best-case assumptions} 

\[
\frac{\text{Util}}{\text{Capacity}} = \frac{L}{\text{propagation time} + \text{transmission time}} 
\]
Maximum Utilization for LANs

\[
\text{max. Util} = \frac{\frac{L}{d}}{\frac{\frac{L}{v} + \frac{L}{R}}{R}} = \frac{1}{a + 1}
\]
A transmits at $t = 0$

Distance $d$ meters

$t_{prop} = \frac{d}{\nu}$ seconds

B transmits before $t = t_{prop}$ and detects collision shortly thereafter

A detects collision at $t = 2 \ t_{prop}$
LAN Design Performance

For broadcast LANs what are the factors under the designer’s control that affect LAN performance?

- Capacity \( \{\text{function of media}\} \)
- Propagation delay \( \{\text{function of media, distance}\} \)
- Bits /frame (frame size)
- MAC protocol
- Offered load – depends on how retransmissions are handled
- Number of stations
- Bit error rate
Typical frame delay versus Throughput performance

$E[T]/E[X]$

Transfer Delay

Load

$\rho_{max}$  1

$\rho$

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Delay-Throughput Performance Dependence on $a$

$$E[T]/E[X]$$

Transfer Delay

$1$

Load

$\rho'_{\text{max}}$

$\rho_{\text{max}}$

$1$

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Figure 6.9

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Multiple Access Protocols
Historic LAN Performance Notation

I :: input load - the total (normalized) rate of data generated by all n stations

G :: offered load - the total (normalized) data rate presented to the network including retransmissions

S :: LAN throughput - the total (normalized) data rate transferred between stations

D :: average frame delay - the time from when a frame is ready for transmission until completion of a successful transmission.
Normalizing Throughput ($S$) 

[assuming one packet = one frame]

Throughput ($S$) is normalized using packets/packet time  where

**packet time** :: the time to transmit a *standard* fixed-length packet

i.e.,

$$\text{packet time} = \frac{\text{packet length}}{\text{bit rate}}$$

NOTE: Since the channel capacity is one packet /packet time, $S$ can be viewed as *throughput as a fraction of capacity*.

Represented in LG&W by $\rho$ in later graphs.
Historic LAN Performance Notation

Networks: Local Area Networks
ALOHA

- Abramson solved the channel allocation problem for ground radio at University of Hawaii in 1970’s.

**Aloha Transmission Strategy**

Stations transmit whenever they have data to send.

- **Collisions** will occur and colliding frames are destroyed.

**Aloha Retransmission Strategy**

Station waits a *random amount of time* before sending again.
Figure 4-2. Vulnerable period for the shaded frame.
ALOHA

First transmission

Retransmission

$t_0 - X$  $t_0$  $t_0 + X$

Vulnerable period

$t_0 + X + 2t_{prop}$  $t_0 + X + 2t_{prop} + B$

Time-out  Backoff period  Retransmission if necessary

random backoff period $B$
Vulnerable period :: $t_0 - X$ to $t_0 + X$  two frame transmission times
Assume: Poisson Arrivals with average number of arrivals of 2G arrivals/ 2 X

\[ S = G \ e^{-2 \ (1+a)} \ G \]
Slotted ALOHA (Roberts 1972)

- uses discrete time intervals as slots (i.e., slot = one packet transmission time) and synchronize the send time (e.g., use “pip” from a satellite).

**Slotted Aloha Strategy**

Station transmits **ONLY** at the beginning of a time slot.

- **Collisions** will occur and colliding frames are destroyed.

**Slotted Aloha Retransmission Strategy**

Station waits a random amount of time before sending again.
Slotted ALOHA

Figure 6.18

random backoff period $B$ slots
Vulnerable period :: \( t_0 - X \) to \( t_0 \) one frame transmission time

Assume: Poisson Arrivals with average number of arrivals of \( G \) arrivals/ \( X \)

\[
P_0 = P[k=0, t=1] = e^{-G}
\]

\[
S = G P_0 = G e^{-G}
\]

and an adjustment for \( a \) yields

\[
S = G e^{- (1+a) G}
\]
ALOHA and Slotted ALOHA

Throughput versus Load

![Graph showing throughput versus load for ALOHA and Slotted ALOHA](image)

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Figure 6.17

Networks: Local Area Networks
Carrier Sense with Multiple Access (CSMA)
1-persistent CSMA Transmission Strategy

‘the greedy algorithm’

1. Sense the channel.
2. IF the channel is idle, THEN transmit.
3. IF the channel is busy, THEN continue to listen until channel is idle and transmit immediately.
nonpersistent CSMA Transmission Strategy

'the less-greedy algorithm'

• Sense the channel.

• IF the channel is \textit{idle}, THEN transmit.

1. IF the channel is \textit{busy}, THEN wait a \textit{random amount of time} and repeat the algorithm.
p - persistent CSMA Transmission Strategy

'a slotted approximation'

1. Sense the channel.

2. IF the channel is *idle*, THEN with probability $p$ transmit and with probability $(1-p)$ delay *one time slot* and repeat the algorithm.

3. IF the channel is *busy*, THEN delay *one time slot* and repeat the algorithm.
**P - Persistent CSMA details**

- the time slot is usually set to the maximum propagation delay.
- as $p$ decreases, stations wait longer to transmit but the number of collisions decreases.
- Consideration for the choice of $p$:
  - $(n \times p)$ must be $< 1$ for stability, where $n$ is maximum number of stations, i.e.,
  
  $$p < \frac{1}{n}$$
CSMA Collisions

• In all three strategies a collision is possible.

• CSMA determines collisions by the lack of an ACK which results in a TIMEOUT. 
  {This is extremely expensive with respect to performance.}

• If a collision occurs, THEN wait a random amount of time and retransmit.
CSMA/CD with Collision Detection

- If a collision is detected during transmission, THEN immediately cease transmitting the frame.
- The first station to detect a collision sends a jam signal to all stations to indicate that there has been a collision.
- After receiving a jam signal, a station that was attempting to transmit waits a random amount of time before attempting to retransmit.
- The maximum time needed to detect a collision is $2 \times$ propagation delay.
CSMA vs CSMA/CD

• CSMA is essentially a historical technology until we include **Wireless LANs**.

• If propagation time is short compared to transmission time, station can be *listening before sending* with CSMA.

• Collision detection (CD) is accomplished by detecting voltage levels outside acceptable range. Thus attenuation limits distance without a repeater.

• If the collision time is short compared to packet time (i.e., small \( a \)), performance will increase due to CD.
Probability of 1 successful transmission:

\[ P_{success} = np(1-p)^{n-1} \]

\( P_{success} \) is maximized at \( p=1/n \):

\[ P_{success}^{\text{max}} = n\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n-1} \rightarrow \frac{1}{e} \]
Persistent and Non-persistent CSMA

Figure 4-4. Comparison of the channel utilization versus load for various random access protocols.
Throughput versus Load with varying $a$

1-Persistent CSMA

$S$

$G$

Figure 6.21 - Part 2
Throughput versus Load with varying $a$

![Graph showing Throughput versus Load with varying $a$.](image)

- Non-Persistent CSMA
- $a = 0.01$
- $a = 0.1$
- $a = 1$

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Networks: Local Area Networks
Maximim Achievable Throughputs

\[ \rho_{\text{max}} \]

- CSMA/CD
- 1-P CSMA
- Non-P CSMA
- Slotted Aloha
- Aloha

Figure 6.24

Networks: Local Area Networks
Frame Delay with varying $a$

![Graph illustrating Frame Delay with varying $a$. The graph shows the average transfer delay on the y-axis and load on the x-axis. Three curves are depicted, each labeled with $a = 0.2$, $a = 0.1$, and $a = 0.01$. The curves represent different CSMA-CD conditions. The graph is labeled Figure 6.51.]