
Lectures 15 & 16

Local Area Networks

Eytan Modiano

Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA)

- In certain situations nodes can hear each other by listening to the channel - “Carrier Sensing”
- CSMA: Polite version of Aloha
 - Nodes listen to the channel before they start transmission
 - Channel idle => Transmit
 - Channel busy => Wait (join backlog)
 - When do backlogged nodes transmit?

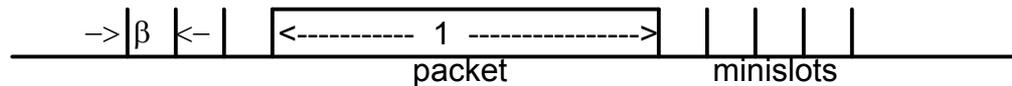
When channel becomes idle backlogged nodes attempt transmission with probability $q_r = 1$

Persistent protocol, $q_r = 1$

Non-persistent protocol, $q_r < 1$

CSMA

- Let τ = the maximum propagation delay on the channel
 - When a node starts/stops transmitting, it will take this long for all nodes to detect channel busy/idle
- For initial understanding, view the system as slotted with "mini-slots" of duration equal to the maximum propagation delay
 - Normalize the mini-slot duration to $\beta = \tau/D_{tp}$ and packet duration = 1



- Actual systems are not slotted, but this hypothetical system simplifies the analysis and understanding of CSMA

Rules for slotted CSMA

- **When a new packet arrives**
 - If current mini-slot is idle, start transmitting in the next mini-slot
 - If current mini-slot is busy, node joins backlog
 - If a collision occurs, nodes involved in collision become backlogged
- **Backlogged nodes attempt transmission after an idle mini-slot with probability $q_r < 1$ (non-persistent)**
 - Transmission attempts only follow an idle mini-slot
 - Each "busy-period" (success or collision) is followed by an idle slot before a new transmission can begin
- **Time can be divided into epochs:**
 - A successful packet followed by an idle mini-slot (duration = $\beta+1$)
 - A collision followed by an idle mini-slot (duration = $\beta+1$)
 - An idle minislot (duration = β)

□ Analysis of CSMA

- Let the state of the system be the number of backlogged nodes
- Let the state transition times be the end of idle slots
 - Let $T(n)$ = average amount of time between state transitions when the system is in state n

$$T(n) = \beta + (1 - e^{-\lambda\beta} (1-q_r)^n)$$

When q_r is small $(1-q_r)^n \sim e^{-q_r n} \Rightarrow T(n) = \beta + (1 - e^{-\lambda\beta - nq_r})$

- At the beginning of each epoch, each backlogged node transmits with probability q_r
- New arrivals during the previous idle slot are also transmitted
- With backlog n , the number of packets that attempt transmission at the beginning of an epoch is approximately Poisson with rate

$$g(n) = \lambda\beta + nq_r$$

Analysis of CSMA

- The probability of success (per epoch) is

$$P_s = g(n) e^{-g(n)}$$

- The expected duration of an epoch is approximately

$$T(n) \sim \beta + (1 - e^{-g(n)})$$

- Thus the success rate per unit time is

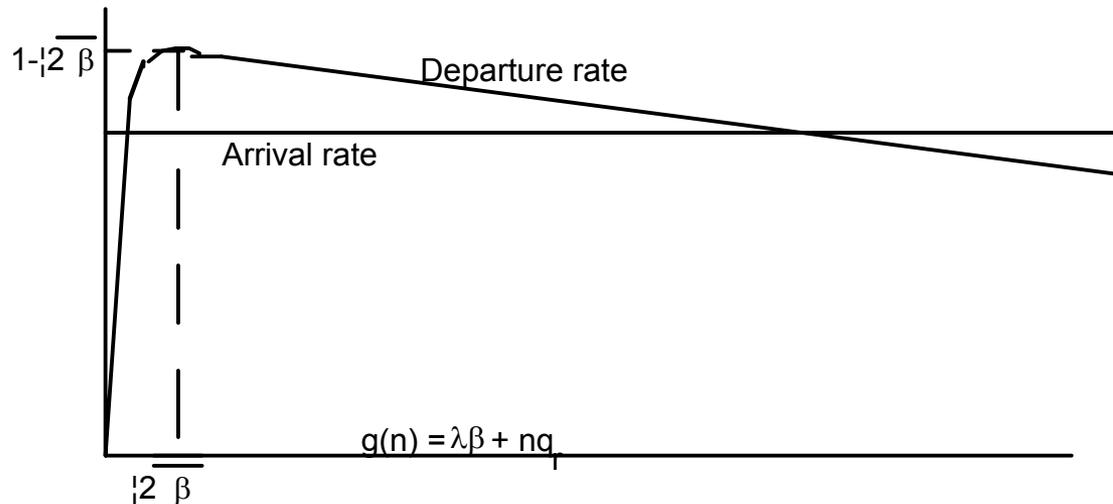
$$\lambda < \text{departure rate} = \frac{g(n)e^{-g(n)}}{\beta + 1 - e^{-g(n)}}$$

Maximum Throughput for CSMA

- The optimal value of $g(n)$ can again be obtained:

$$g(n) \approx \sqrt{2\beta} \quad \lambda < \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{2\beta}}$$

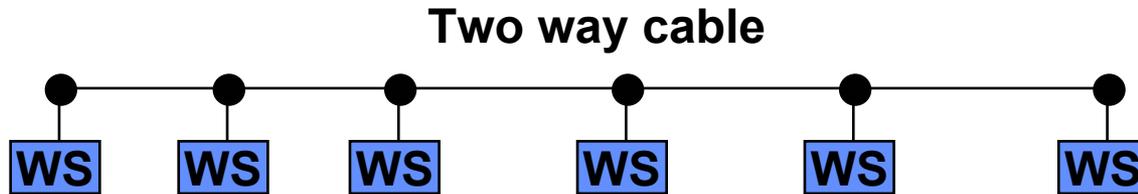
- Tradeoff between idle slots and time wasted on collisions
- High throughput when β is small
- Stability issues similar to Aloha (less critical)



Unslotted CSMA

- **Slotted CSMA is not practical**
 - Difficult to maintain synchronization
 - Mini-slots are useful for understanding but not critical to the performance of CSMA
- **Unslotted CSMA will have slightly lower throughput due to increased probability of collision**
- **Unslotted CSMA has a smaller effective value of β than slotted CSMA**
 - Essentially β becomes average instead of maximum propagation delay

CSMA/CD and Ethernet



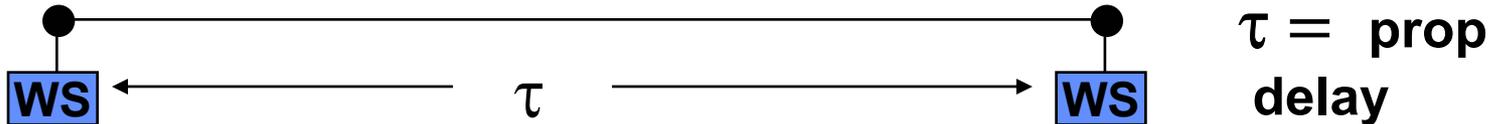
- **CSMA with Collision Detection (CD) capability**
 - Nodes able to detect collisions
 - Upon detection of a collision nodes stop transmission
 - Reduce the amount of time wasted on collisions

- **Protocol:**
 - All nodes listen to transmissions on the channel

 - When a node has a packet to send:
 - Channel idle => Transmit
 - Channel busy => wait a random delay (binary exponential backoff)

 - If a transmitting node detects a collision it stops transmission
 - Waits a random delay and tries again

Time to detect collisions



- A collision can occur while the signal propagates between the two nodes
- It would take an additional propagation delay for both users to detect the collision and stop transmitting
- If τ is the maximum propagation delay on the cable then if a collision occurs, it can take up to 2τ seconds for all nodes involved in the collision to detect and stop transmission

Approximate model for CSMA/CD

- Simplified approximation for added insight
- Consider a slotted system with “mini-slots” of duration 2τ



- If a node starts transmission at the beginning of a mini-slot, by the end of the mini-slot either
 - No collision occurred and the rest of the transmission will be uninterrupted
 - A collision occurred, but by the end of the mini-slot the channel would be idle again
- Hence a collision at most affects one mini-slot

Analysis of CSMA/CD

- Assume N users and that each attempts transmission during a free “mini-slot” with probability p
 - P includes new arrivals and retransmissions

$$P(i \text{ users attempt}) = \binom{N}{i} P^i (1-P)^{N-i}$$

$$P(\text{exactly 1 attempt}) = P(\text{success}) = NP(1-P)^{N-1}$$

To maximize $P(\text{success})$,

$$\frac{d}{dp} [NP(1-P)^{N-1}] = N(1-P)^{N-1} - N(N-1)P(1-P)^{N-2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{\text{opt}} = \frac{1}{N}$$

\Rightarrow Average attempt rate of one per slot

\Rightarrow Notice the similarity to slotted Aloha

Analysis of CSMA/CD, continued

$$P(\text{success}) = NP(1-p)^{N-1} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right)^{N-1}$$

$$P_s = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} P(\text{success}) = \frac{1}{e}$$

Let X = Average number of slots per successful transmission

$$P(X=i) = (1-P_s)^{i-1}P_s$$

$$\Rightarrow E[X] = \frac{1}{P_s} = e$$

- Once a mini-slot has been successfully captured, transmission continues without interruption
- New transmission attempts will begin at the next mini-slot after the end of the current packet transmission

Analysis of CSMA/CD, continued

- Let S = Average amount of time between successful packet transmissions

$$S = (e-1)2\tau + D_{Tp} + \tau$$

↗ Idle/collision Mini-slots
↑ Packet transmission time
← Ave time until start of next Mini-slot

- Efficiency = $D_{Tp}/S = D_{Tp} / (D_{Tp} + \tau + 2\tau(e-1))$
- Let $\beta = \tau / D_{Tp} \Rightarrow$ Efficiency $\approx 1/(1+4.4\beta) = \lambda < 1/(1+4.4\beta)$

- Compare to CSMA without CD where $\lambda < \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{2\beta}}$

Notes on CSMA/CD

- **Can be viewed as a reservation system where the mini-slots are used for making reservations for data slots**
- **In this case, Aloha is used for making reservations during the mini-slots**
- **Once a users captures a mini-slot it continues to transmit without interruptions**
- **In practice, of course, there are no mini-slots**
 - **Minimal impact on performance but analysis is more complex**

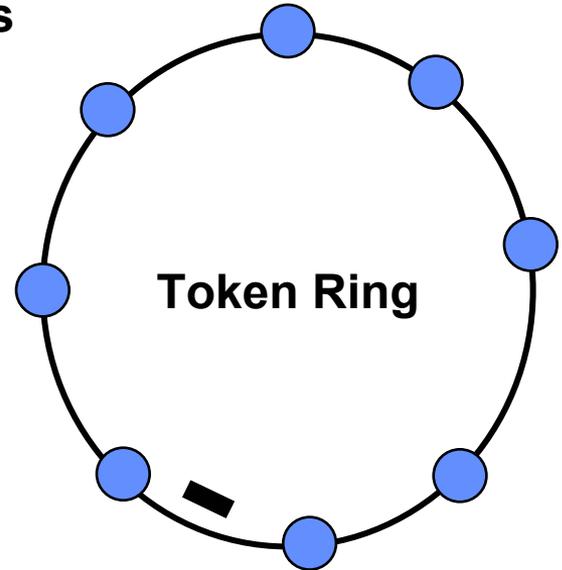
CSMA/CD examples

- **Example (Ethernet)**
 - Transmission rate = 10 Mbps
 - Packet length = 1000 bits, $D_{Tp} = 10^{-4}$ sec
 - Cable distance = 1 mile, $\tau = 5 \times 10^{-6}$ sec
 - ➔ $\beta = 5 \times 10^{-2}$ and $E = 80\%$
- **Example (GEO Satellite) - propagation delay 1/4 second**
 - $\beta = 2,500$ and $E \sim 0\%$
- **CSMA/CD only suitable for short propagation scenarios!**
- **How is Ethernet extended to 100 Mbps?**
- **How is Ethernet extended to 1 Gbps?**

Token rings

- **Token rings were developed by IBM in early 1980's**
- **Token: a bit sequence**
 - **Token circulates around the ring**
 Busy token: 01111111
 Free token: 01111110
- **When a node wants to transmit**
 - **Wait for free token**
 - **Remove token from ring (replace with busy token)**
 - **Transmit message**
 - **When done transmitting, replace free token on ring**

 - **Nodes must buffer 1 bit of data so that a free token can be changed to a busy token**
- **Token ring is basically a polling system**
 Token does the polling

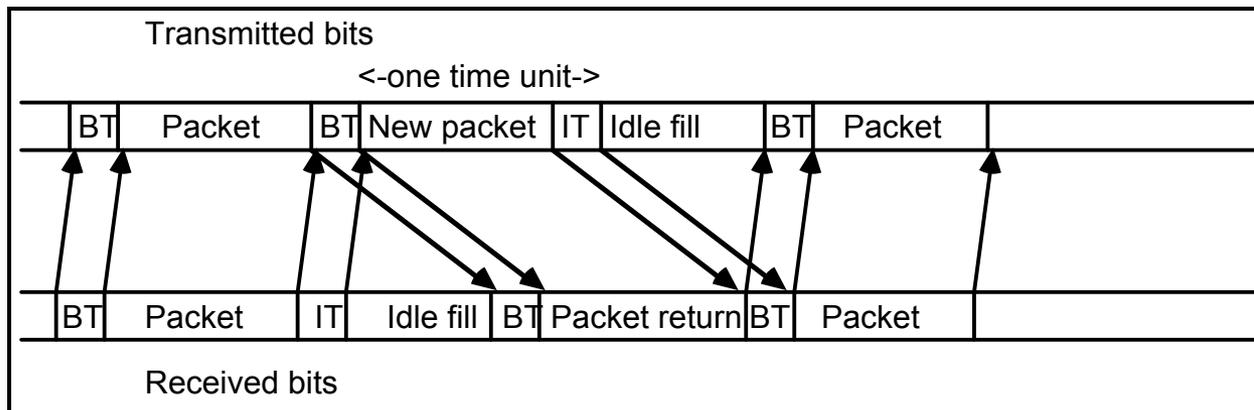


Release of token

- **Release after transmission**
 - Node replaces token on ring as soon as it is done transmitting the packet
 - Next node can use token after short propagation delay
- **Release after reception**
 - Node releases token only after its own packet has returned to it
Serves as a simple acknowledgement mechanism

PACKET TRANSMISSION (release after transmission)

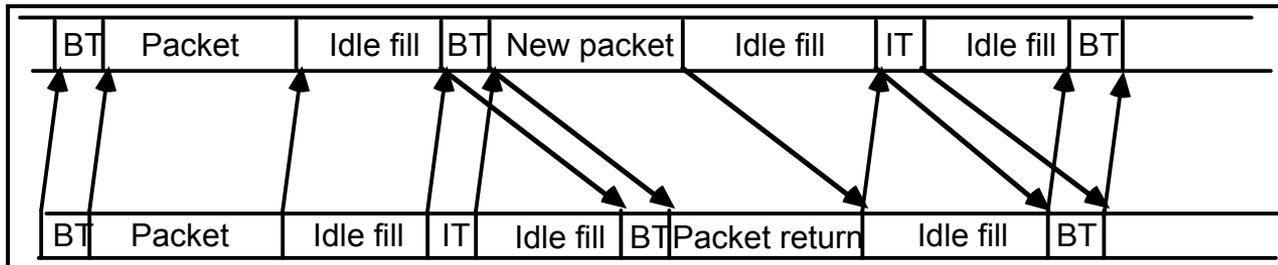
- When not transmitting their own packets nodes relay whatever they receive
- After receiving an idle token a node can start sending a new packet (discard incoming bits)
- After a node sends a packet and the idle token, it sends idle fill until:
 - The packet followed by idle, or
 - busy token, returns around the ring



PACKET TRANSMISSION (release after reception)

- In many implementations (including IEEE802.5, but not including FDDI), a node waits to check its packet return before sending the idle token.

This increases packet transmission time by one round trip delay.



Delay analysis

- System can be analyzed using multi-user reservation results
- Exhaustive system - nodes empty their queue before passing token on to the next node
- Assume m nodes and each with Poisson arrivals of rate λ/m
- Let v = average propagation and token transmission delay
- System can be viewed as a reservation system with m users and average reservation interval (see reservation system results)

$$W = \frac{\lambda E[X^2] + v(m - \rho)}{2(1 - \rho)}, \quad \rho = m(\lambda / m)E[X] = \lambda E[X]$$

- Notice that 100% throughput can be achieved for exhaustive system

Throughput analysis (non-exhaustive)

- **Gated system with limited service - each node is limited to sending one packet at a time**
 - When system is heavily loaded nodes are always busy and have a packet to send
- **Suppose each node transmits one packet and then releases the token to the next node**
 - V_i = propagation and transmission time for token between two nodes (transmission time is usually negligible)
- **The amount of time to transmit N packets**

$$T_N = N \cdot E[X] + V_1 + V_2 + \dots + V_N = N \cdot E[X] + N \cdot E[V]$$

$$\lambda < N \cdot E[X] / (N \cdot E[X] + N \cdot E[V]) = 1 / (1 + E[V] / E[X])$$

- **Compare to CSMA/CD, but notice that V is the delay between two nodes and not the maximum delay on the fiber**

Throughput analysis (token release after reception)

- Nodes release token only after it has returned to it
- Again assume each node sends one packet at a time
- Total time to send ONE packet
- $T = E[X] + V_1 + V_2 + \dots + V_m + V_i$
 - ← Time to send token to next node
 - ← M nodes on the ring
- $T = E[X] + (m+1)E[V] \Rightarrow$

$$\lambda < E[X]/T = 1/(1+(m+1)E[V]/E[X])$$

Delay Analysis

- **Release after transmission**
 - **Partially gated limited service system (sec. 3.5.2)**

$$W = \frac{\lambda E[X^2] + v(m + \lambda E[X])}{2(1 - \lambda E[X] - \lambda v)}$$

- **Release after reception**
 - **Homework problem 4.27**
 - **Additional round-trip time can be added to the packet transmission time**

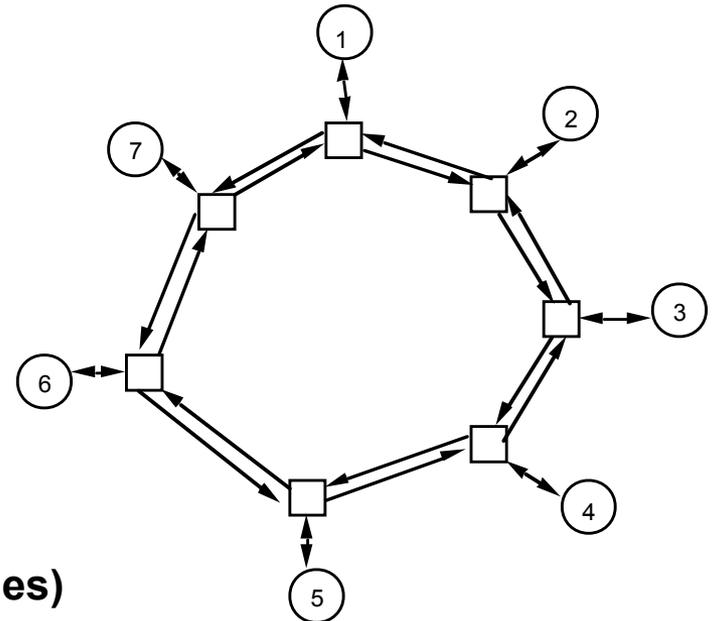
$$W = \frac{\lambda(E[X^2] + 2mv + m^2v^2) + v(m + \lambda(E[X] + mv))}{2(1 - \lambda(E[X] + (m + 1)v))}$$

Token ring issues

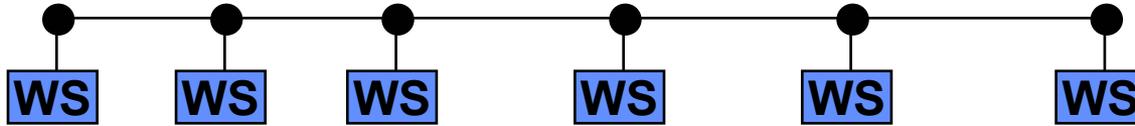
- **Fairness: Can a node hold the token for a long time**
 - **Solution: maximum token hold time**
- **Token failures: Tokens can be created or destroyed by noise**
 - **Distributed solution:**
 - Nodes are allowed to recognize the loss of a token and create a new token**
 - Collision occurs when two or more nodes create a new token at the same time => need collision resolution algorithms**
- **Node failures: Since each node must relay all incoming data, the failure of a single node will disrupt the operation of the ring**
- **Token ring standard: IEEE 802.5**

FDDI

- **Fiber distributed data interface (FDDI) is a 100 Mbps Fiber Optic Token Ring local area network standard**
- **FDDI uses two counter-rotating rings**
 - **Single faults can be isolated by switching from one ring to the other on each side of fault.**
- **Token release after transmission**
- **Limit on token hold time**
- **Upper-bound on time between token visits at a node**
 - **Support for guaranteed delays**
 - **Imposes a limit on the size of a ring (distance between nodes, number of nodes)**
- **FDDI designed to be a metro or campus area network technology**



TOKEN BUSES



- **Special control packet serves as a token**
- **Nodes must have token to transmit**
- **Token is passed from node to node in some order**
 - Conceptually, a token bus is the same as a token ring
 - When one node finishes transmission, it sends an idle token to the next node (by addressing the control packet properly)
 - Similar to a polling system
- **Issues**
 - Efficiency lower than token rings due to longer transmission delay for the packets and longer propagation delays
 - Need protocol for joining and leaving the bus

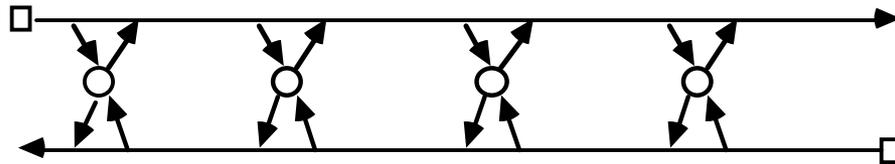
IMPLICIT TOKENS

- **The idle tokens on a token bus can be replaced with silence**
- **The next node starts to transmit a packet after hearing the bus become silent**
- **If the next node has no packet, successive nodes start with successively greater delay**
- **If the bus propagation delay is much smaller than the time to transmit a token, this can reduce delay**

- **This scheme is used for wireless LANs (IEEE 802.11) and it goes by the name of CSMA/CA (collision avoidance)**

DISTRIBUTED QUEUE DUAL BUS (DQDB)

- Metropolitan area network using two oppositely directed unidirectional 150 Mbps buses
- All frames are the same length (53 bytes); empty frames are generated at the head ends of the buses and are filled by the nodes "on the fly"

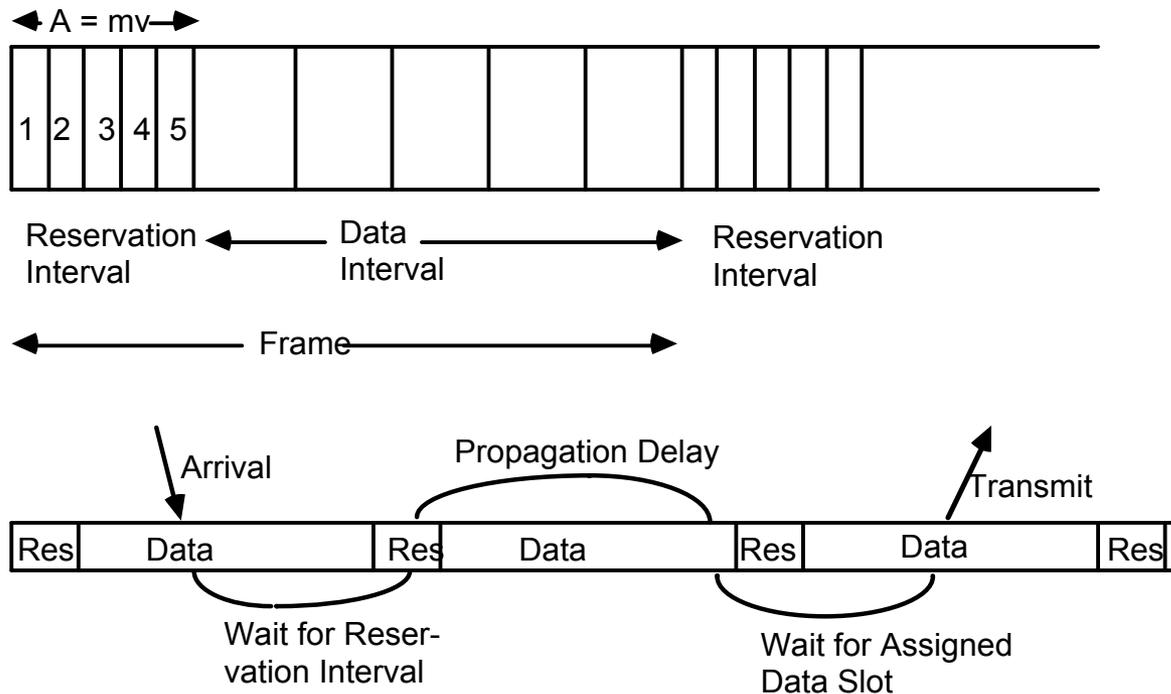


- A node uses the right moving bus to send frames to nodes on the right and the left moving bus for nodes on its left
- DQDB was standardized as IEEE 802.6 and was intended to be compatible with ATM

DQDB Reservations

- **Greedy algorithm: Each node uses a free slot when it has something to send**
 - Thus an efficiency of 100% is possible
- **The trouble with this trivial approach is unfairness - nodes at the tail of the bus can be “starved”**
- **DQDB uses a reservations systems whereby nodes send requests upstream so that empty slots can be reserved**
 - If a node has a frame to send on the right bus, it sets the request bit in a frame on the left bus
 - Nodes maintain an “implicit” queue of requests that can be served on a FCFS basis (hence the name distributed queue)

Large propagation delay (satellite networks)



- **Satellite reservation system**
 - Use mini-slots to make reservation for longer data slots
 - Mini-slot access can be inefficient (Aloha, TDMA, etc.)
- To a crude approximation, delay is $3/2$ times the propagation delay plus ideal queueing delay.

Satellite Reservations

- **Frame length must exceed round-trip delay**
 - Reservation slots during frame j are used to reserve data slots in frame $j+1$
 - **Variable length: serve all requests from frame j in frame $j+1$**
 - Difficult to maintain synchronization
 - Difficult to provide QoS (e.g., support voice traffic)
 - **Fixed length: Maintain a virtual queue of requests**
- **Reservation mechanism**
 - Scheduler on board satellite
 - Scheduler on ground
 - **Distributed queue algorithm**
 - All nodes keep track of reservation requests and use the same algorithm to make reservation
- **Control channel access**
 - **TDMA: Simple but difficult to add more users**
 - **Aloha: Can support large number of users but collision resolution can be difficult and add enormous delay**

Aloha Reservations

- Use Aloha to capture a slot
- After capturing a slot user keeps the slot until done
 - Other users observe the slot busy and don't attempt
- When done other users can go after the slot
 - Other users observe the slot idle and attempt using Aloha
- Method useful for long data transfers or for mixed voice and data

Slot	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	15	idle	3	20		2	frame 1
	15	7	3	idle	9	2	frame 2
	idle	7	3		9	idle	frame 3
	18	7	3		9	6	frame 4
	18	7	3	15	9	6	frame 5

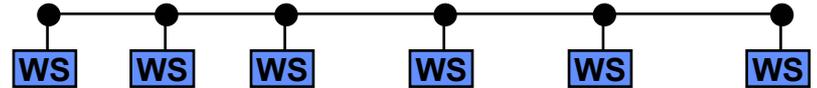
Packet multiple access summary

- **Latency: Ratio of propagation delay to packet transmission time**
 - **GEO example: $D_p = 0.5$ sec, packet length = 1000 bits, $R = 1$ Mbps**
Latency = 500 => very high
 - **LEO example: $D_p = 0.1$ sec**
Latency = 100 => still very high
 - **Over satellite channels data rate must be very low to be in a low latency environment**
- **Low latency protocols**
 - **CSMA, Polling, Token Rings, etc.**
 - **Throughput $\sim 1/(1+a\alpha)$, α = latency, a = constant**
- **High latency protocols**
 - **Aloha is insensitive to latency, but generally low throughput**
Very little delays
 - **Reservation system can achieve high throughput**
Delays for making reservations
 - **Protocols can be designed to be a hybrid of Aloha and reservations**
Aloha at low loads, reservations at high loads

Migration to switched LANs

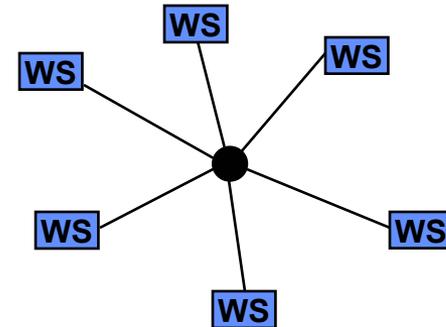
- **Traditional Ethernet**

- Nodes connected with coax
 - Long “runs” of wire everywhere
- CSMA/CD protocol



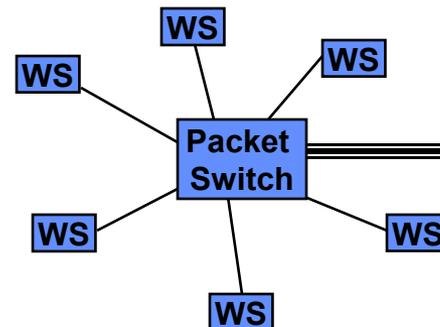
- **“Hub” Ethernet**

- Nodes connected to hub
 - Hub acts as a broadcast repeater
 - Shorted cable “runs”, Useful for 100 Mbps
- CSMA/CD protocol
- Easy to add/remove users
- Easy to localize faults
- Cheap cabling (twisted pair, 10baseT)



- **Switched Ethernet**

- No CSMA/CD
 - Easy to increase data rate (e.g., Gbit Ethernet)
- Nodes transmit when they want
- Switch queues the packets and transmits to destination
- Typical switch capacity of 20-40 ports
- Each node can now transmit at the full rate of 10/100/Gbps
- Modularity: Switches can be connected to each other using high rate ports



Connect
To other
Switches