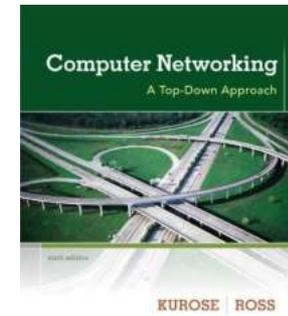




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*Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach  
6<sup>th</sup> edition  
Addison-Wesley  
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# Computer Networks

## Ch5: Link layer (Data Link Layer) (V6)

# \*Chapter 5: Link layer

## *our goals:*

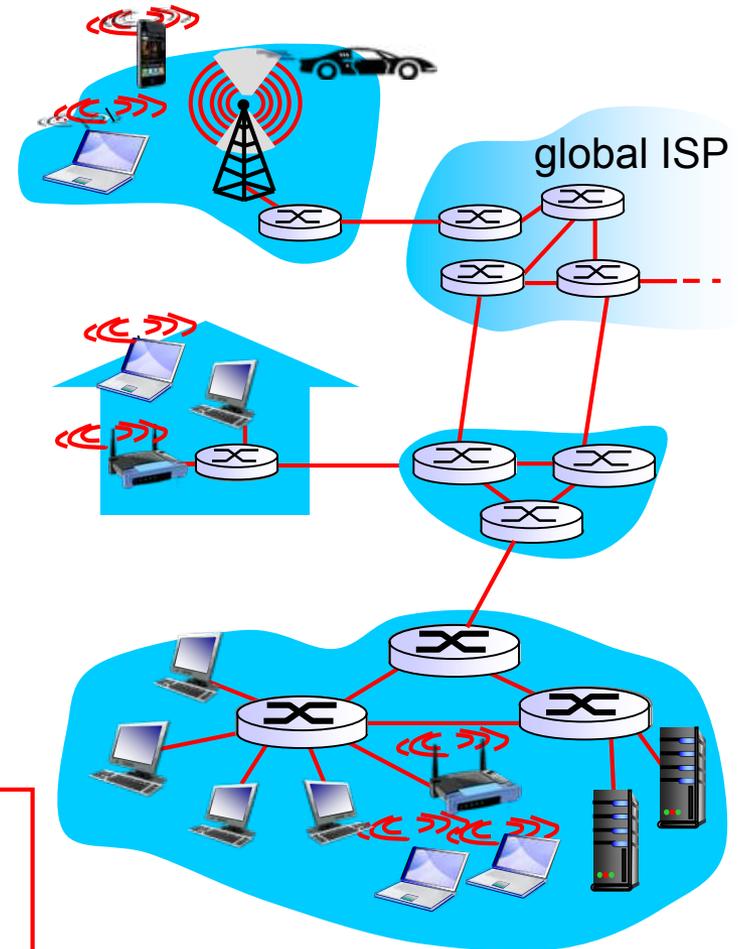
- ❖ understand principles behind link layer services:
  - Error Detection, Error Correction
  - Multiple Access (MAC) protocols
    - channel partitioning:
      - FDMA, TDMA, CDMA
    - Random access protocols
      - ALOHA, Slotted ALOHA, CSMA, CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA
    - Controlled access protocols
  - MAC addresses and Address Resolution Protocol (ARP)
  - Examples of Link Layer Protocols: Local Area Networks (Ethernet (802.3))
    - Ethernet Frame Format
    - Ethernet switch
    - Switches vs. Routers

# Link layer: introduction

## *terminology:*

- ❖ hosts and routers: **nodes**
- ❖ communication channels that connect adjacent nodes along communication path: **links**
  - wired links
  - wireless links
- ❖ layer-2 packet: **frame**, encapsulates datagram

*data-link layer* has responsibility of transferring datagram from one node to *physically adjacent* node over a link



# Link layer services

1. *framing:*
  - encapsulate datagram into frame, adding header, trailer
2. *Multiple Access Control (MAC)*
  - channel access if shared medium
  - “MAC” addresses used in frame headers to identify source, dest. **MAC = Multiple Access Control**
    - different from IP address!
3. *reliable delivery between adjacent nodes*
  - we learned how to do this already (chapter 3)!
  - seldom used on low bit-error link (fiber, some twisted pair)
  - wireless links: high error rates
    - **Q:** why both link-level and end-end reliability?

# Link layer services (more)\*

## 4. *flow control:*

- pacing between adjacent sending and receiving nodes

## 5. *error detection (ED):*

- errors caused by signal attenuation, noise.
- receiver detects presence of errors:
  - signals sender for retransmission or drops frame

## 6. *error correction (EC):*

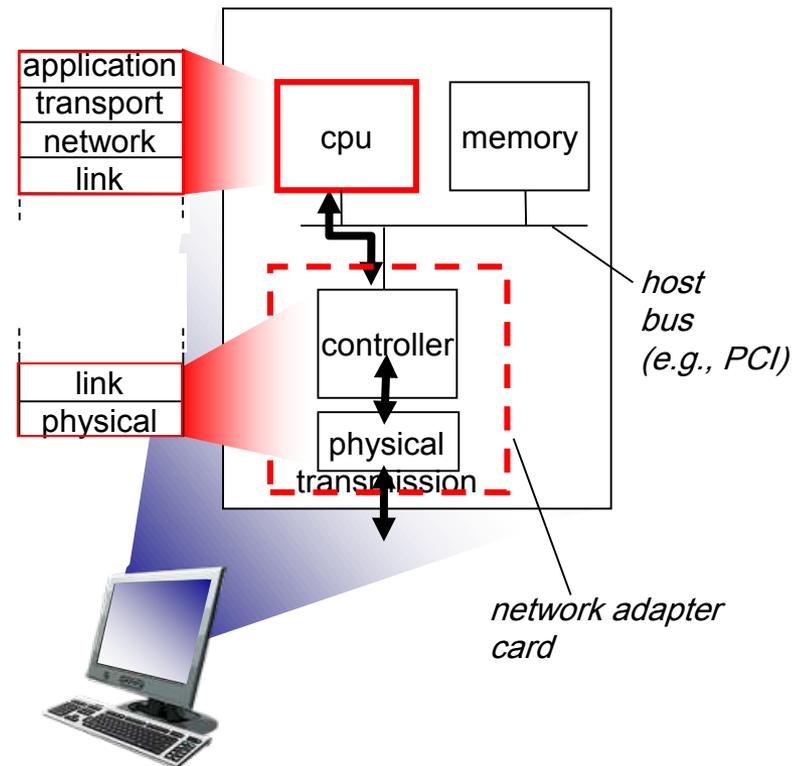
- receiver identifies *and corrects* bit error(s) without resorting to retransmission (this type of EC is called Forwarded EC)

## 7. *half-duplex, full-duplex and Simplex*

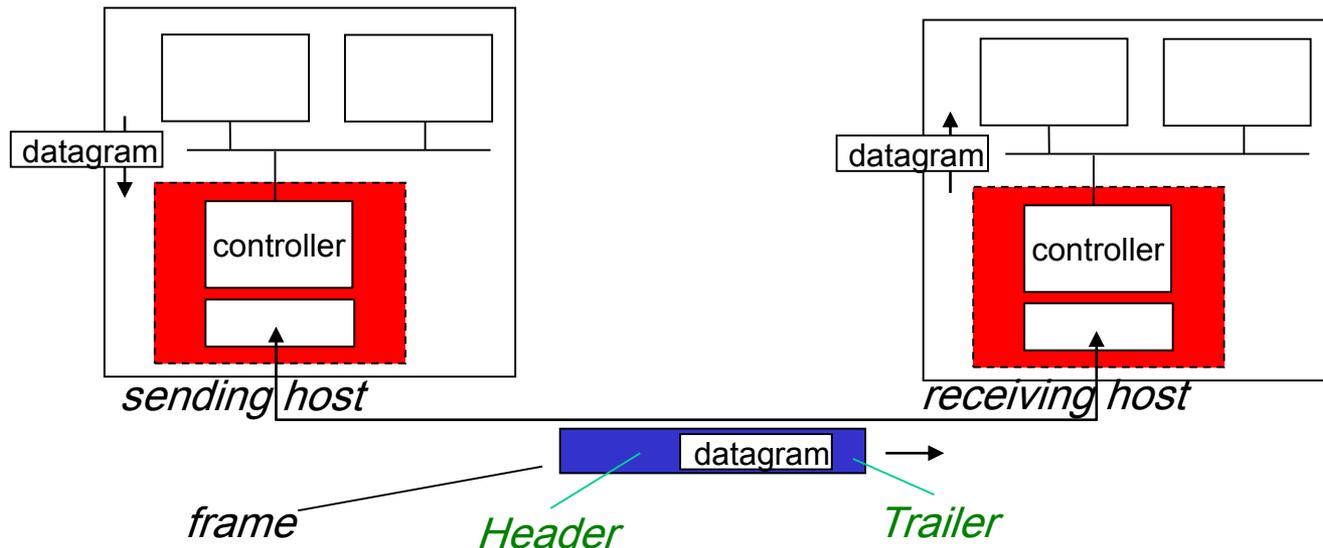
- **half duplex**, nodes at both ends of link can transmit, but not at same time: \*(two directions but not at the same time)
- \* **full duplex**: nodes at both ends of link can transmit at same time. (two directions at the same time)
- \***Simplex**: one node transmits only. (example: Radio, TV). (ONE direction ONLY)

# \*Where is the link layer implemented?

- ❖ in each and every host
- ❖ link layer implemented in “adaptor” (aka *network interface card* NIC) or on a chip
  - 802.3 Ethernet card , 802.11 **WIFI** card; Ethernet chipset
  - implements link, physical layer
- ❖ attaches into host’ s system buses
- ❖ combination of hardware, software, firmware



# Adaptors communicating



## ❖ sending side:

- encapsulates datagram in frame
- adds error checking bits, rdt, flow control, etc.

## ❖ receiving side

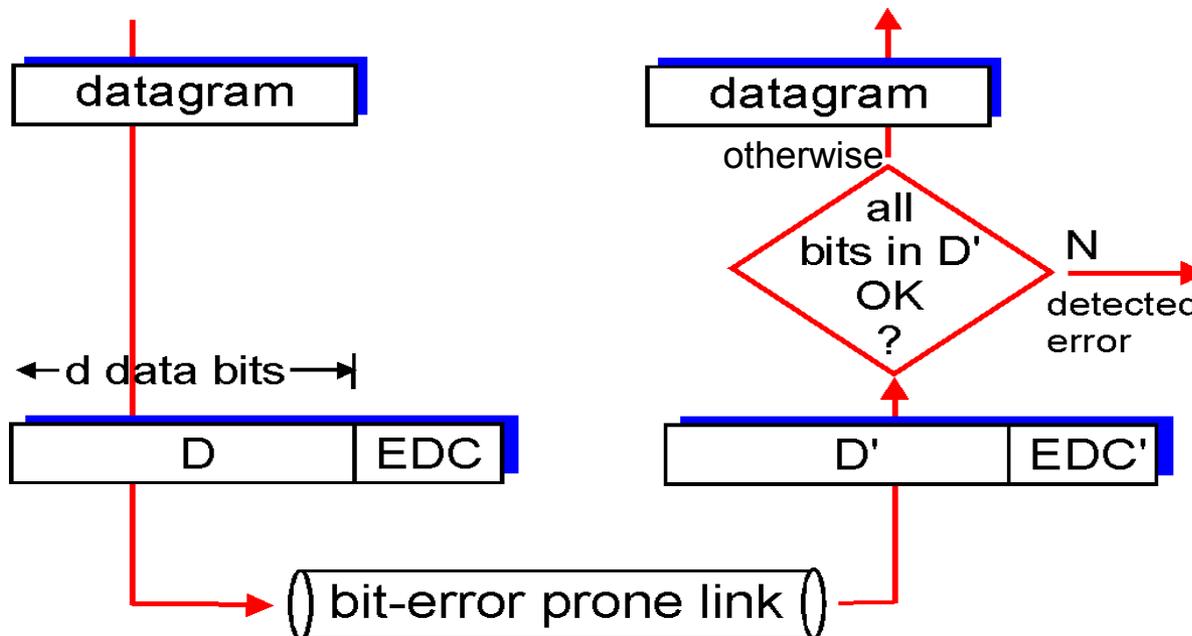
- looks for errors, rdt, flow control, etc
- extracts datagram, passes to upper layer at receiving side

# Error detection

EDC= Error Detection and Correction bits (redundancy)

D = Data protected by error checking, may include header fields

- Error detection not 100% reliable!
  - protocol may miss some errors, but rarely
  - larger EDC field yields better detection and correction



# \*Multiple access links, protocols\*

~~EA Mon 9 Nov~~

two types of “links”:

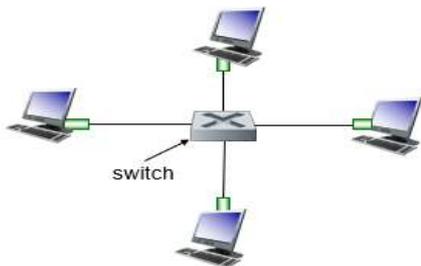
## ❖ point-to-point protocol (PPP)

- PPP for dial-up access
- point-to-point link between Ethernet switch, host

## ❖ *broadcast (shared wire or medium)*

- old-fashioned Ethernet
- upstream HFC (Hybrid Fiber Coaxial)\*
- 802.3 Wired LAN
- 802.11 wireless LAN.

LAN: Local Area Network



shared wire  
(e.g., Wired LAN  
802.3 Ethernet)



shared RF  
(e.g., Wireless LAN  
802.11 WiFi)



shared RF  
(satellite)



humans at a  
cocktail party  
(shared air, acoustical)

# Multiple ACcess (MAC\*) protocols

~~///C8A 15Nov~~

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

## *multiple access (MAC) protocol*

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

\*MAC: Multiple Access , Media Access

# An ideal multiple access (MAC\*) protocol\*

*given:* broadcast channel of rate  $R$  bps

*Desiderata (Plan):*

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

\*MAC: Multiple Access , Media Access

# \*\* MAC protocols: taxonomy

three broad classes:

❖ **channel partitioning:** *FDMA, TDMA, CDMA*

- divide channel into smaller “pieces” (time slots, frequency, code)
- allocate piece to node for exclusive use

*\*TDMA: Time Division Multiple Access  
FDMA: Frequency Division Multiple Access  
CDMA: Code Division Multiple Access*

❖ **Random Access:** *slotted ALOHA, ALOHA, CSMA, CSMA/CD, CSMA/CA*

- channel not divided, allow collisions
- “recover” from collisions

*CSMA: Carrier Sense Multiple Access,  
CSMA/CD: -----, with Collision Detection  
CSMA/CA: -----, with Collision Avoidance*

❖ **Controlled Access: “taking turns”**

- nodes take turns, but nodes with more to send can take longer turns

# Random Access protocols\*

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

*\*CSMA: Carrier Sense Multiple Access,  
CSMA/CD: -----, with Collision Detection  
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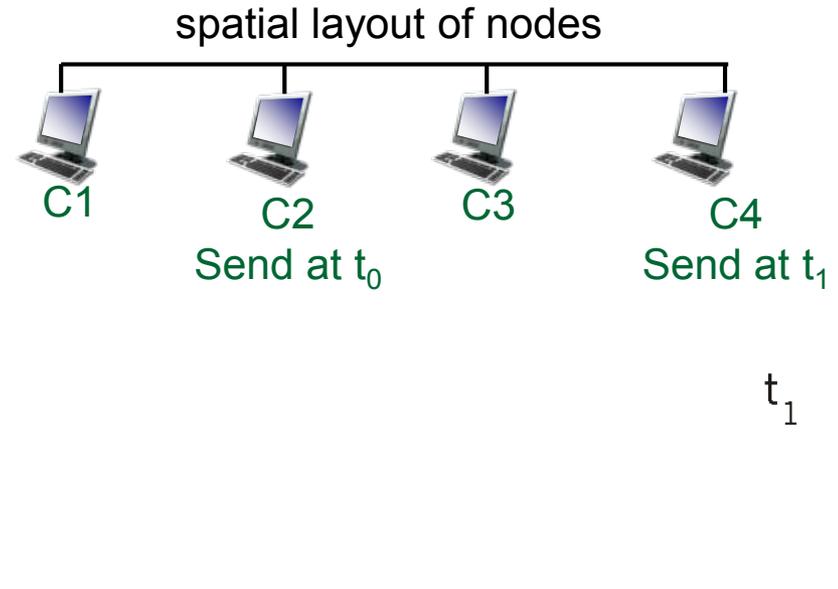
# \*CSMA (Carrier Sense Multiple Access)

**CSMA:** listen before transmit:

- ❖ if channel sensed idle (**free, not busy**): transmit entire frame
- ❖ if channel sensed busy, defer (**delay**) transmission
  
- ❖ human analogy: don't interrupt others!

# \*CSMA collisions\*

- ❖ collisions *can* still occur: because of propagation delay, two nodes may not hear each other's transmission
- ❖ collision: entire packet transmission time wasted
  - distance & propagation delay play role in determining collision probability



More ( ++ )

\*Figure 5.12 page 455

# \*CSMA/CD (collision detection)

**CSMA/CD:** carrier sensing, deferral as in CSMA

- collisions *detected* within short time
- colliding transmissions aborted (**ended**), reducing channel wastage
- ❖ collision detection:
  - easy in wired LANs: How? measure signal strengths, compare transmitted, received signals
  - difficult in wireless LANs: received signal strength overwhelmed by local transmission strength
- ❖ human analogy: the polite conversationalist

# \* MAC addresses and ARP\*\*

~~///CAI4&M Wed 11 Nov~~

## ❖ From Ch 4:

- IP address: 32-bit for IPv4, and 128 bits for IPv6
  - *network-layer* address for interface
  - used for layer 3 (network layer) forwarding

## ❖ MAC (or LAN or physical or Ethernet) address:

- function: *used ‘locally’ to get frame from one interface to another physically-connected interface (same network, in IP-addressing sense)*
- 48 bit MAC address (for most LANs) burned in NIC ROM, also sometimes software settable
- e.g.: 1A-2F-BB-76-09-AD
- MAC address on NIC: next slide)

hexadecimal (base 16) notation  
(each “number” represents 4 bits)

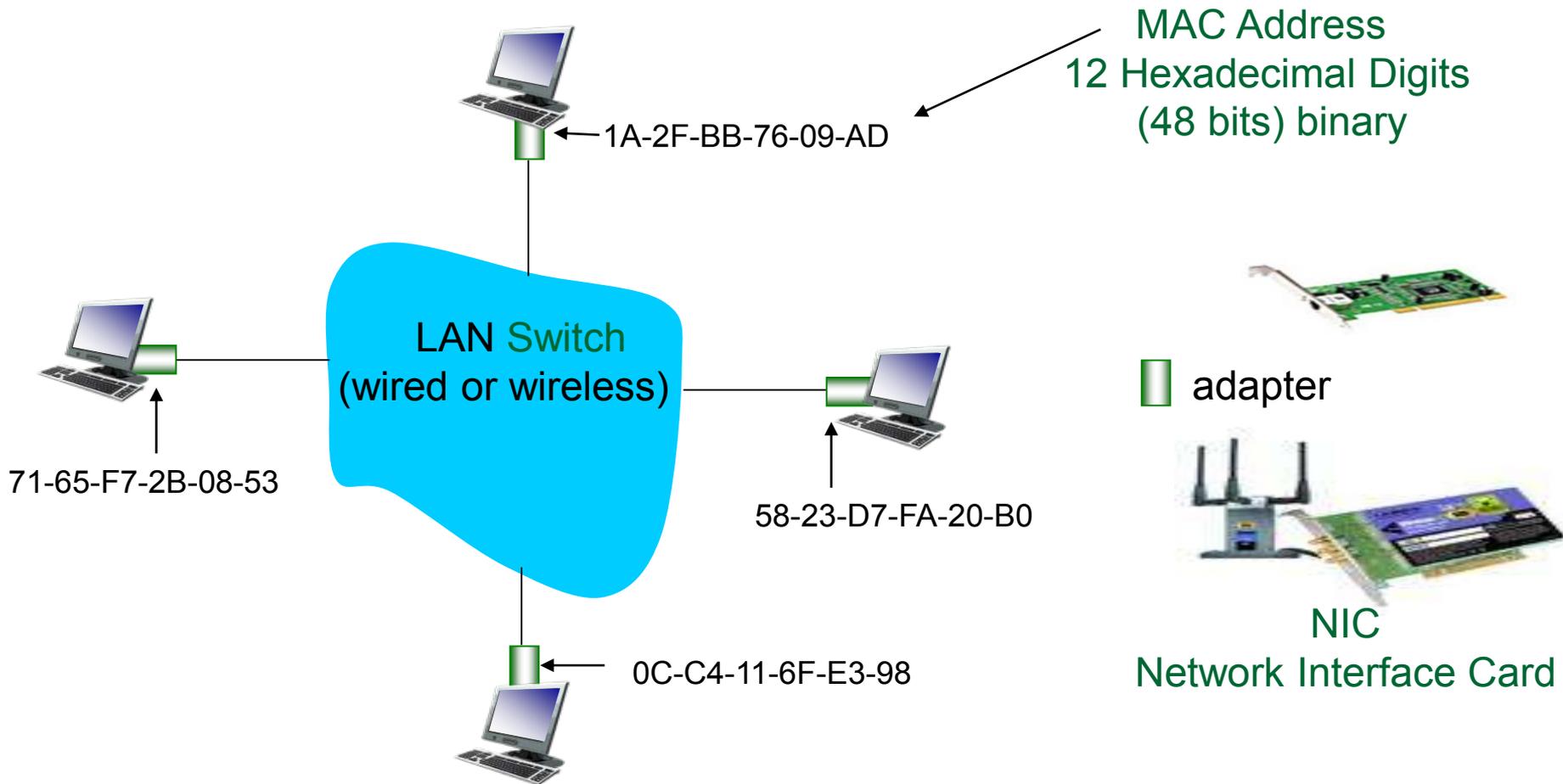
\*ARP: Address Resolution Protocol

More ( ++ )

Link Layer

# \*LAN addresses and ARP\*

Each adapter (NIC) on LAN has unique LAN address called MAC address



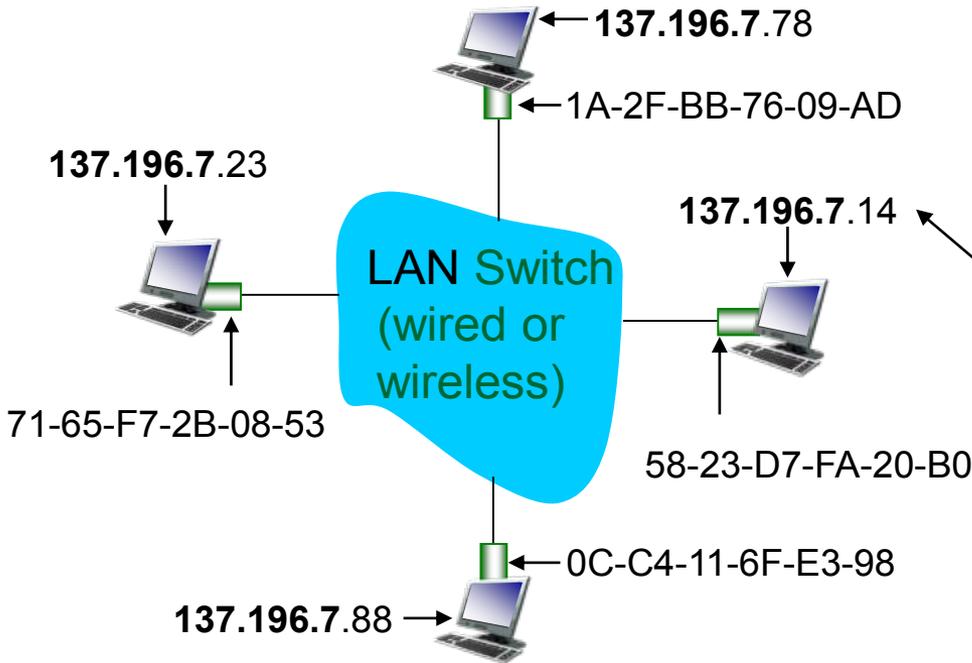
\*ARP: Address resolution protocol

# LAN addresses (more)

- ❖ MAC address allocation administered by IEEE
- ❖ manufacturer buys portion of MAC address space (to assure uniqueness)
- ❖ analogy:
  - MAC address: like Social Security Number
  - IP address: like postal address
- ❖ MAC flat address → portability
  - can move LAN card from one LAN to another
- ❖ IP hierarchical address *not* portable
  - address depends on IP subnet to which node is attached

# \*ARP: Address Resolution Protocol

*Question:* how to determine interface's MAC address, knowing its IP address?



*ARP table:* each IP node (host, router) on LAN has table

- IP/MAC address mappings for some LAN nodes:

< IP address; MAC address; TTL >

- TTL (Time To Live): time after which address mapping will be forgotten (typically 20 min)

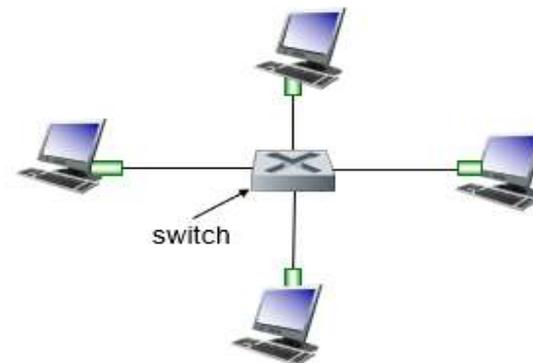
IPv4 Address  
32 bits  
4 Decimal Numbers

MAC Address  
12 Hexadecimal Digits  
(48 bits) binary

NNNH  
Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0, OR: 137.196.7.0/24  
NID: 137.196.7.0, Broad cast add: 137.196.7.255,  
Valid Host Addressing Range: 1-254.

# \*ARP protocol: same LAN

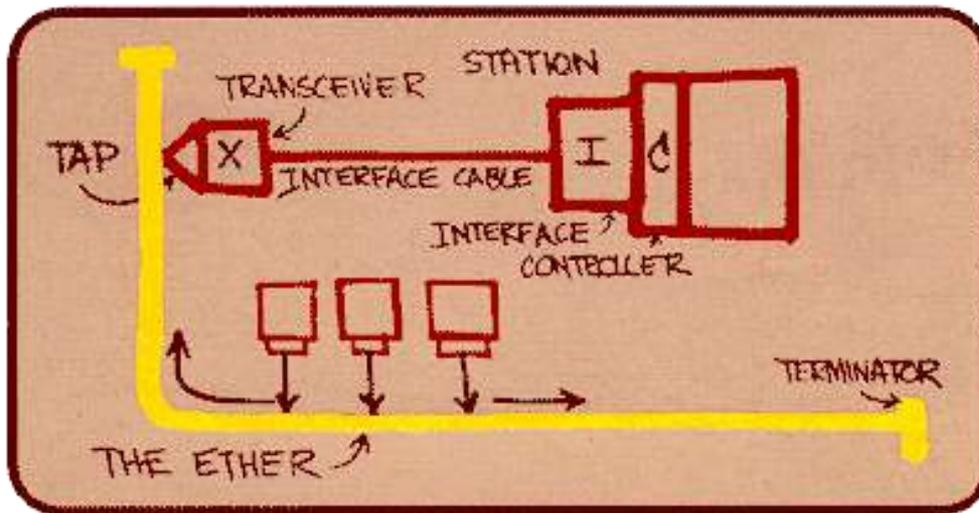
- ❖ A wants to send datagram to B
  - A knows the IP address for B
  - B's MAC address not in A's ARP table.
- ❖ A **broadcasts** ARP query packet, containing B's IP address
  - dest MAC address
    - = FF-FF-FF-FF-FF-FF
  - all nodes on LAN receive ARP query
- ❖ B receives ARP packet, replies to A with its (B's) MAC address
  - frame sent to A's MAC address (**unicast**)
- ❖ A caches (saves) IP-to-MAC address pair in its ARP table until information becomes old (times out)
  - soft state: information that times out (goes away) unless refreshed
- ❖ ARP is “plug-and-play”:
  - nodes create their ARP tables *without intervention from net administrator*



# Examples of Link Layer Protocols: Ethernet (802.3) ///EA Wed 11 Nov

“dominant” wired LAN technology:

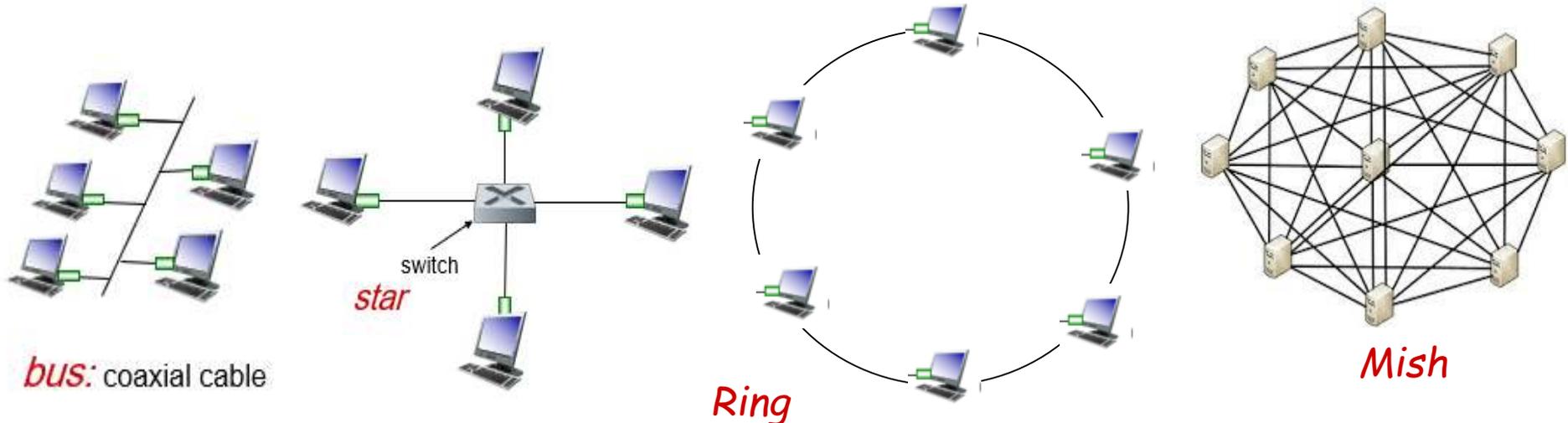
- ❖ cheap \$20 for NIC
- ❖ first widely used LAN technology
- ❖ simpler, cheaper than token LANs and ATM
- ❖ kept up with speed race: 10 Mbps – 10 Gbps



*Metcalfe's Ethernet sketch*

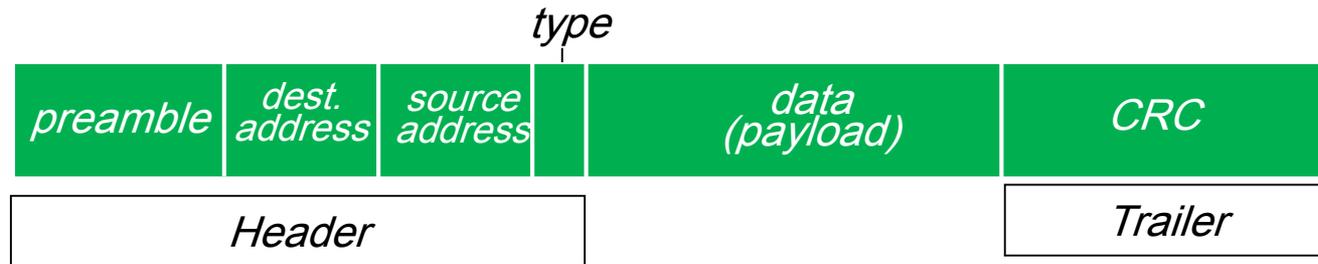
# \*Ethernet: physical topology

- ❖ *bus: old*. popular through mid 90s
  - all nodes in same collision domain (can collide with each other)
- ❖ *Ring: old*
- ❖ *star: popular today*
  - active *switch* in center
  - each “spoke” runs a (separate) Ethernet protocol (nodes do not collide with each other)



# \*Ethernet frame structure

sending adapter encapsulates IP datagram (or other network layer protocol packet) in **Ethernet frame**



## *preamble:*

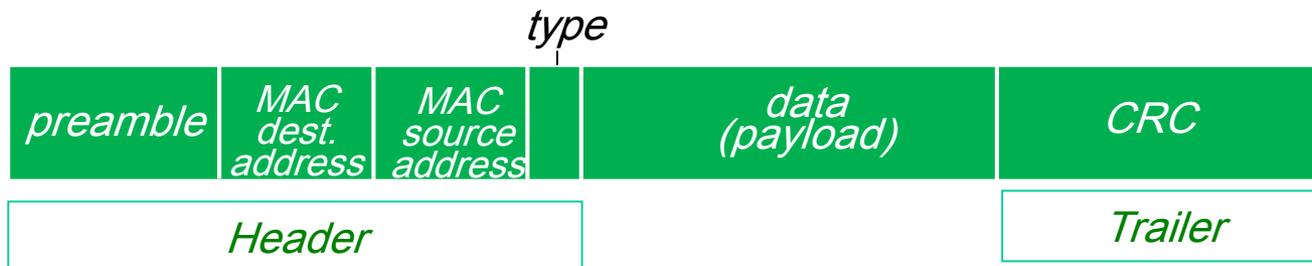
- ❖ 7 bytes with pattern 10101010 followed by one byte with pattern 10101011

❖ = 10101010 10101010 10101010 10101010 10101010 10101010 10101010 // 10101011

- ❖ used to synchronize receiver, sender clock rates

# Ethernet frame structure (cont.)\*

- ❖ **MAC addresses:** 6 byte source, destination MAC addresses
  - if adapter receives frame with matching destination address, or with broadcast address (e.g. ARP packet), it passes data in frame to network layer protocol
  - otherwise, adapter discards frame
- ❖ **type:** indicates higher layer protocol (mostly IP but others possible, e.g., Novell IPX, AppleTalk)
- ❖ **CRC:** cyclic redundancy check at receiver
  - error detected: frame is dropped
- **Payload: 46-1500 Byte.**

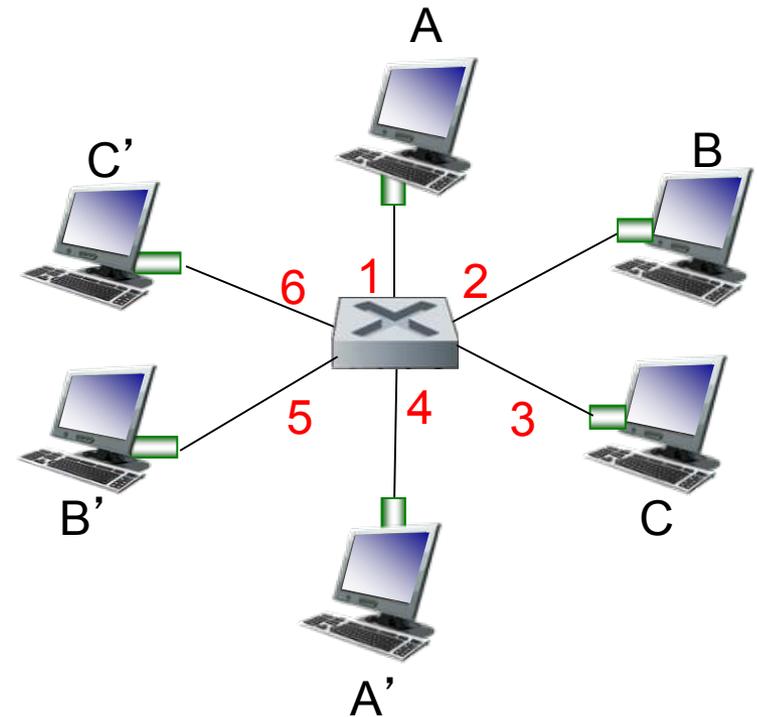


# Ethernet switch

- ❖ **link-layer device: takes an *active* role**
  - store, forward Ethernet frames
  - examine incoming frame's MAC address, **selectively** forward frame to one-or-more outgoing links when frame is to be forwarded on segment, uses CSMA/CD to access segment
- ❖ ***transparent***
  - hosts are unaware of presence of switches
- ❖ ***plug-and-play, self-learning***
  - switches do not need to be configured

# Switch: *multiple* simultaneous transmissions

- ❖ hosts have dedicated, direct connection to switch
- ❖ switches buffer packets
- ❖ Ethernet protocol used on *each* incoming link, but no collisions; full duplex
  - each link is its own collision domain
- ❖ *switching*: A-to-A' and B-to-B' can transmit simultaneously, without collisions



*switch with six interfaces  
(1,2,3,4,5,6)*

# Switch forwarding table

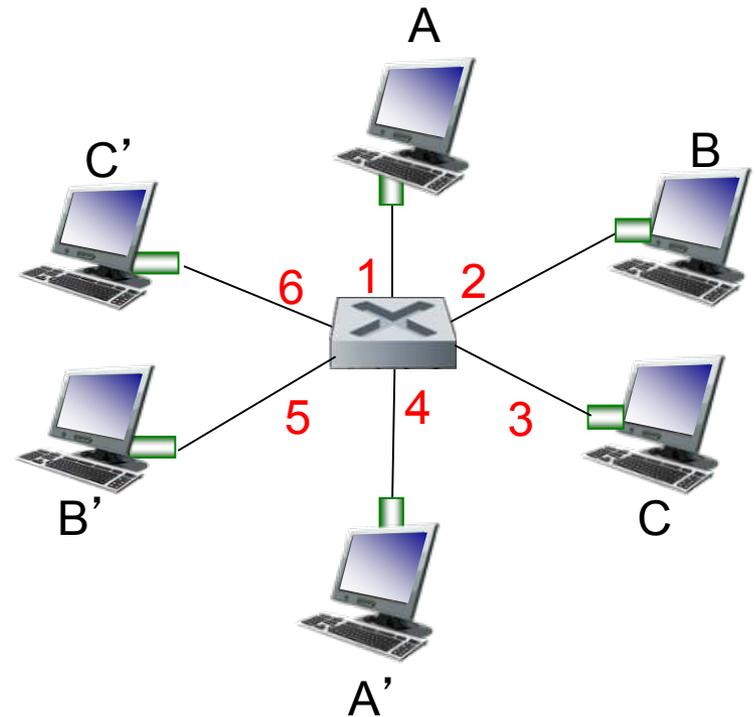
**Q:** how does switch know A' reachable via interface 4, B' reachable via interface 5?

❖ **A:** each switch has a **switch table**, each entry:

- (MAC address of host, interface to reach host, time stamp)
- looks like a routing table!

**Q:** how are entries created, maintained in switch table?

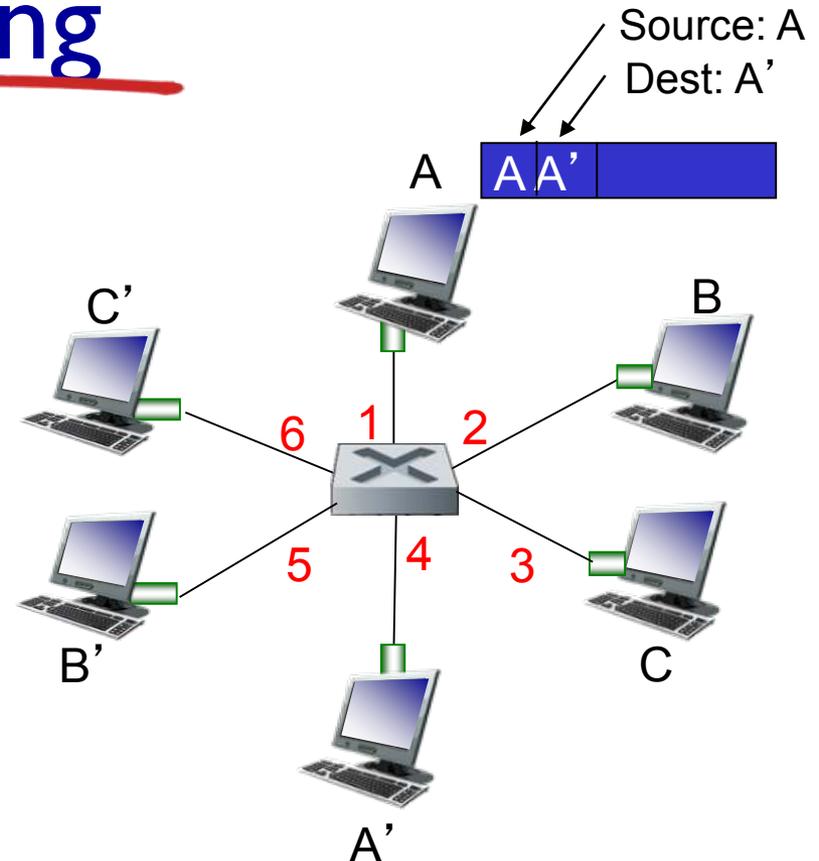
- something like a routing protocol?



*switch with six interfaces  
(1,2,3,4,5,6)*

# Switch: self-learning

- ❖ switch *learns* which hosts can be reached through which interfaces
  - when frame received, switch “learns” location of sender: incoming LAN segment
  - records sender/location pair in switch table

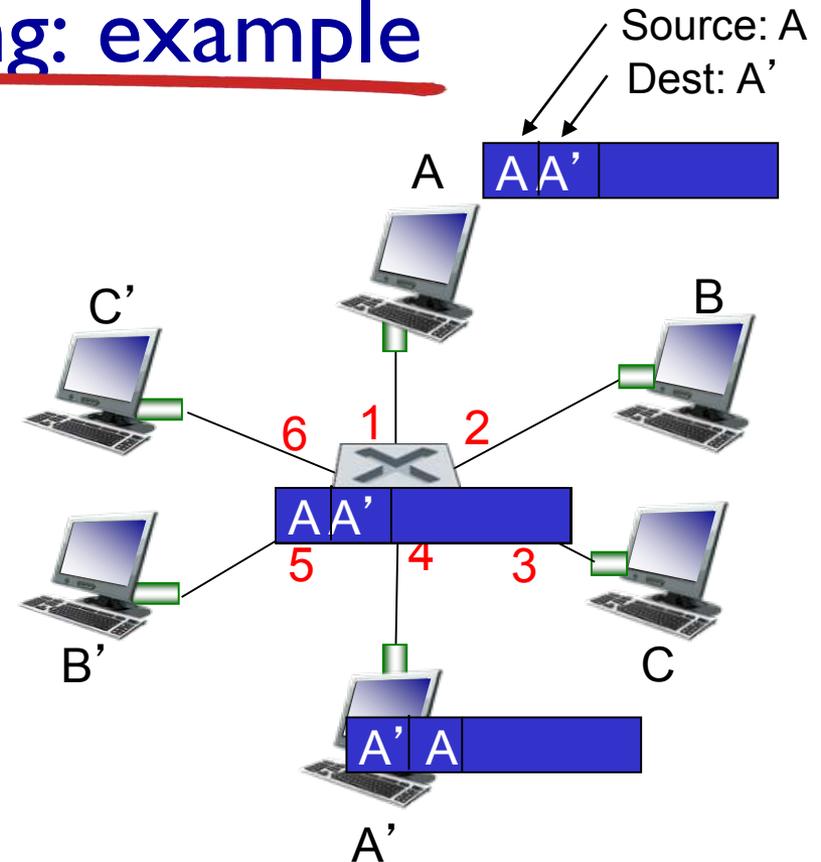


MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60

*Switch table  
(initially empty)*

# Self-learning, forwarding: example

- ❖ frame destination, A', location unknown: *flood*
- ❖ destination A location known: *selectively send on just one link*

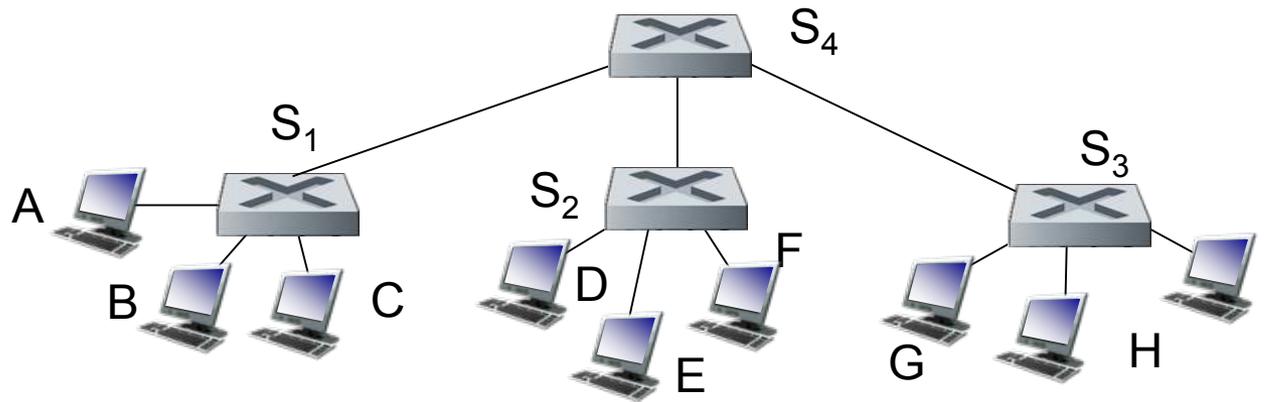


MAC addr	interface	TTL
A	1	60
A'	4	60

*switch table  
(initially empty)*

# Interconnecting switches

- ❖ switches can be connected together



**Q:** sending from A to G - how does S<sub>1</sub> know to forward frame destined to F via S<sub>4</sub> and S<sub>3</sub>?

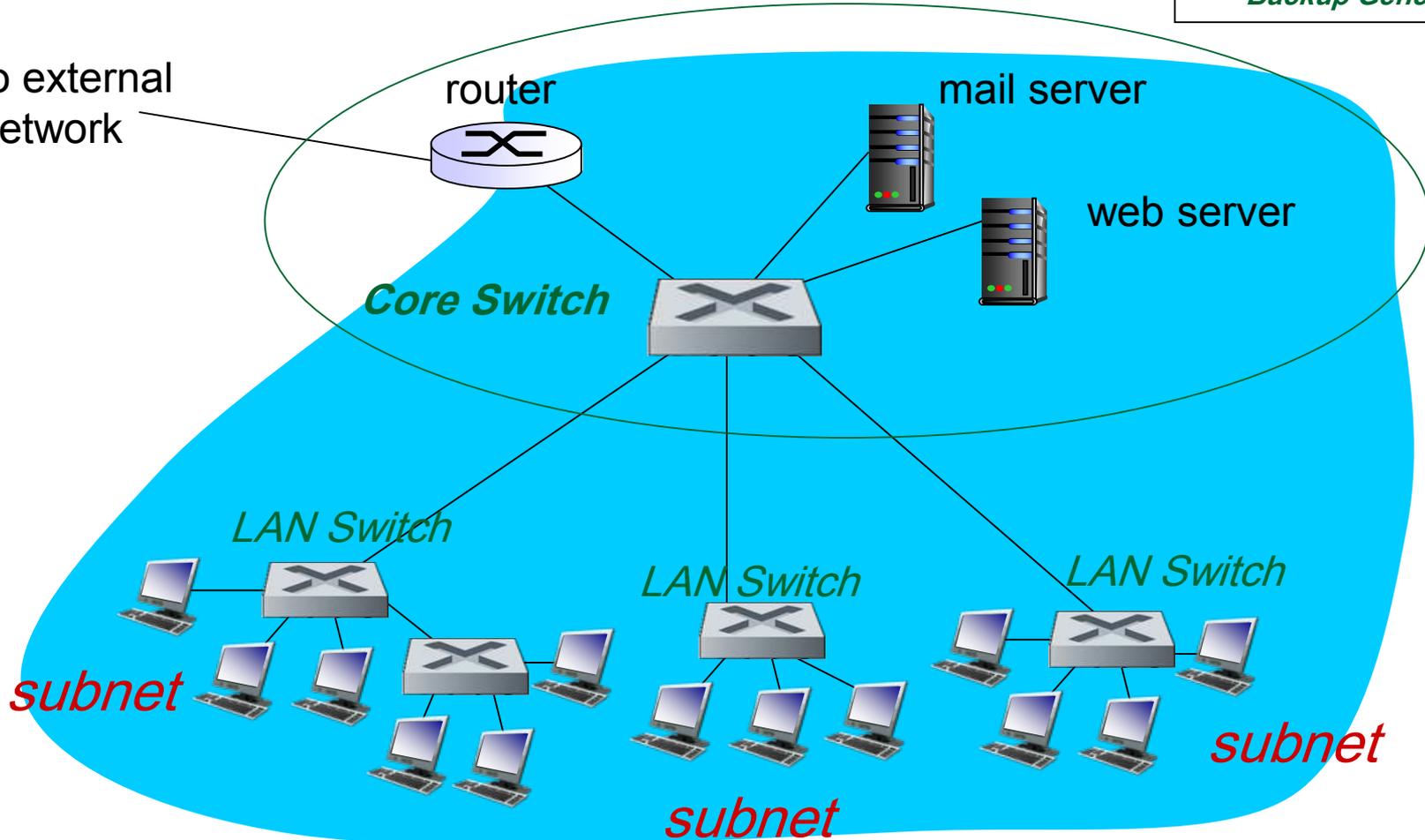
- ❖ **A:** self learning! (works *exactly* the same as in single-switch case!)

# \*Institutional network

## Data Center

- Special room
- High Access security
- Anti-Fire GAS system
- Low Temp all the time
- Water Leakage detectors
- Backup Batteries
- Backup Generator

to external network



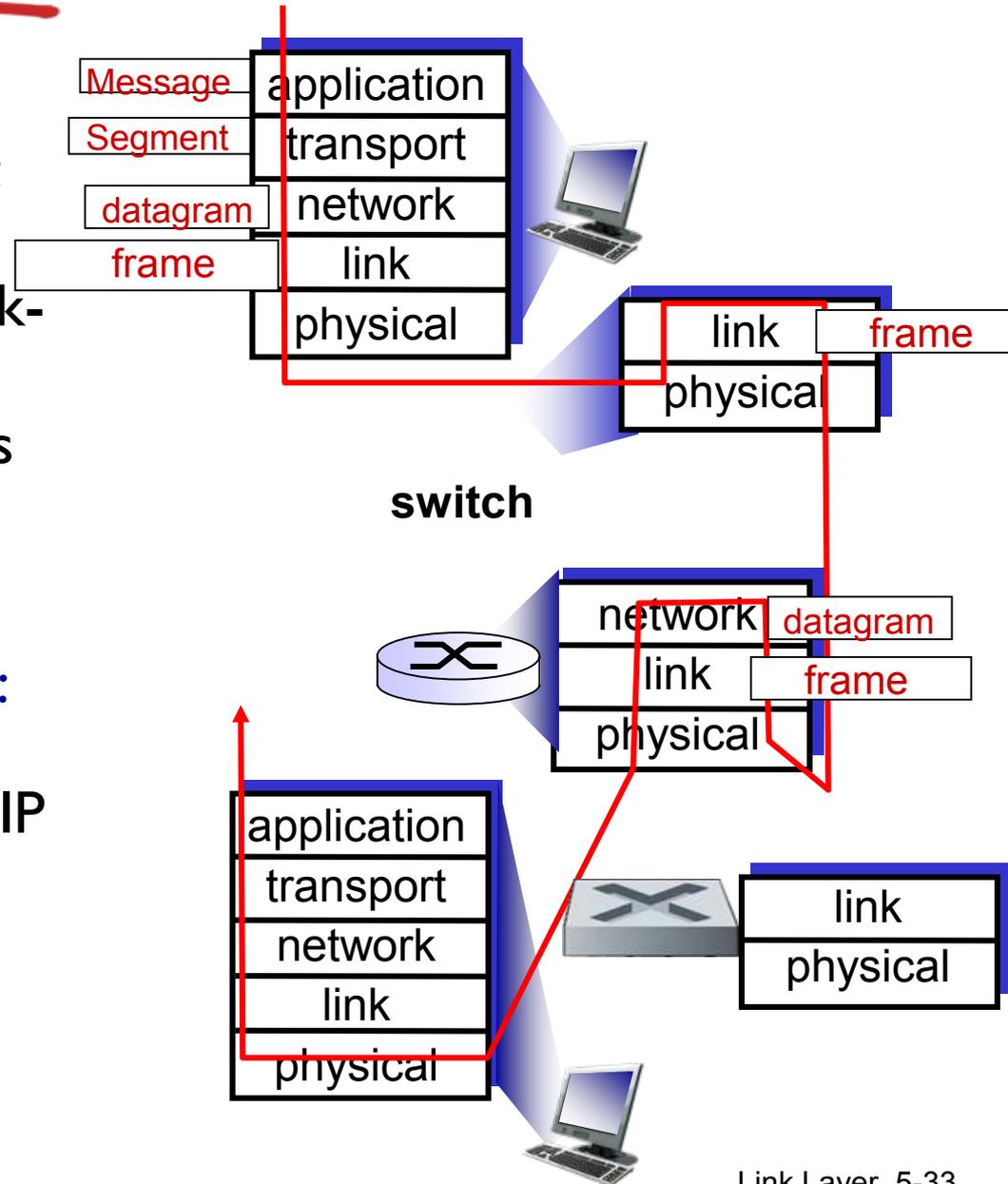
# Switches vs. routers

both are store-and-forward:

- **routers:** network-layer devices (examine network-layer headers)
- **switches:** link-layer devices (examine link-layer headers)

both have forwarding tables:

- **routers:** compute tables using routing algorithms, IP addresses
- **switches:** learn forwarding table using flooding, learning, MAC addresses



# \*Chapter 5: Link layer

## *our goals:*

- ❖ understand principles behind link layer services:
  - Error Detection, Error Correction
  - Multiple Access (MAC) protocols
    - channel partitioning:
      - FDMA, TDMA, CDMA
    - Random access protocols
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