
Wireless Networks and MAC Protocols



MAC-protocols

controlled access

random access

Collision avoidance

Collision resolution

Reservation-based

Token-based

Time-based

Master-Slave

Priority-based

probabilistic

dynamic

static

ATM

TDMA:

TTP,
Maruti

Token-Ring
Token-Bus

Timed
Token
Protocol

CSMA/CA :
Collision Avoidance

IEEE 802.11
P-persistent CSMA

VTCSMA

ProfiBus DP
FIP
CAN-Open

CSMA/CA :
Consistent Arbitration

CAN

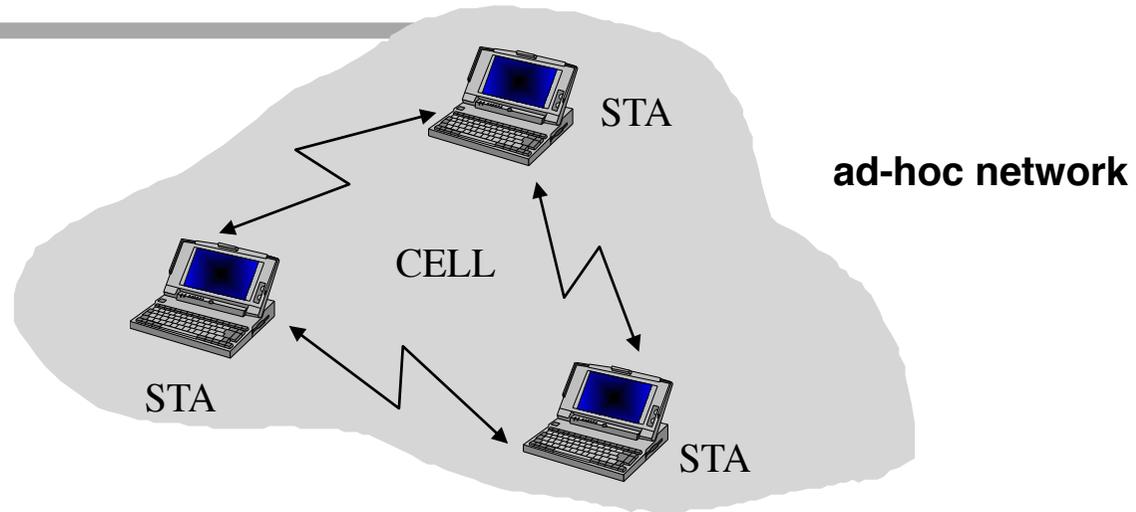
CSMA/CD :
Carrier Sense Multiple Access /
Collision Detection

Ethernet

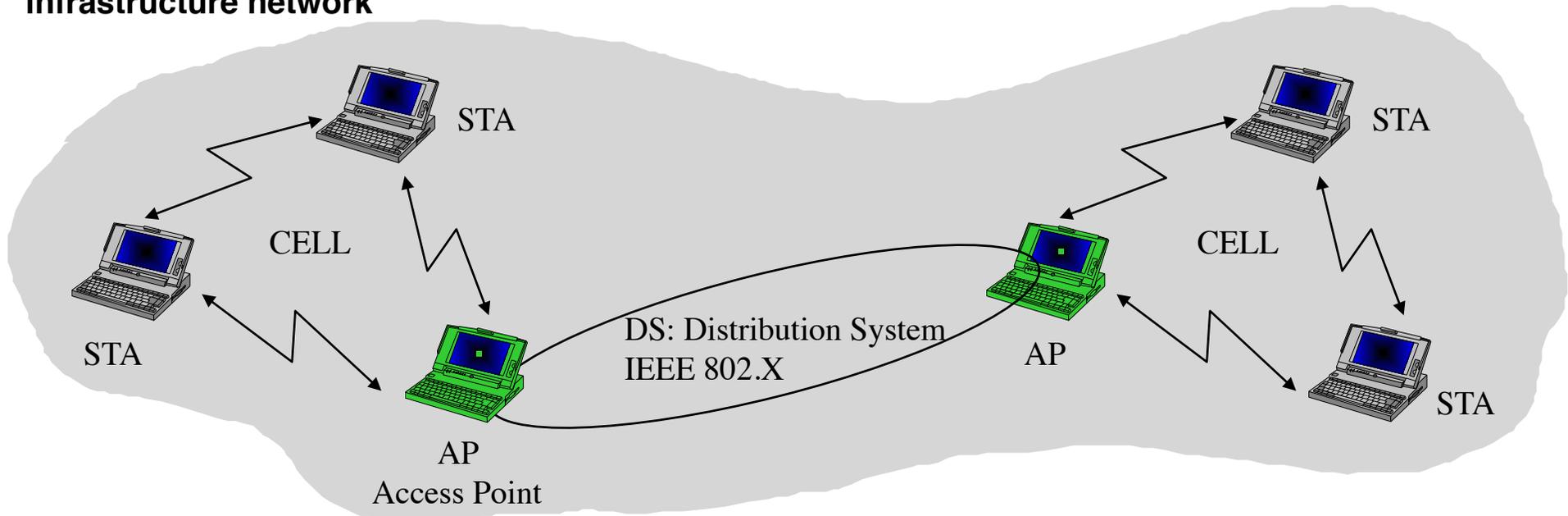


IEEE 802.11

Network Types

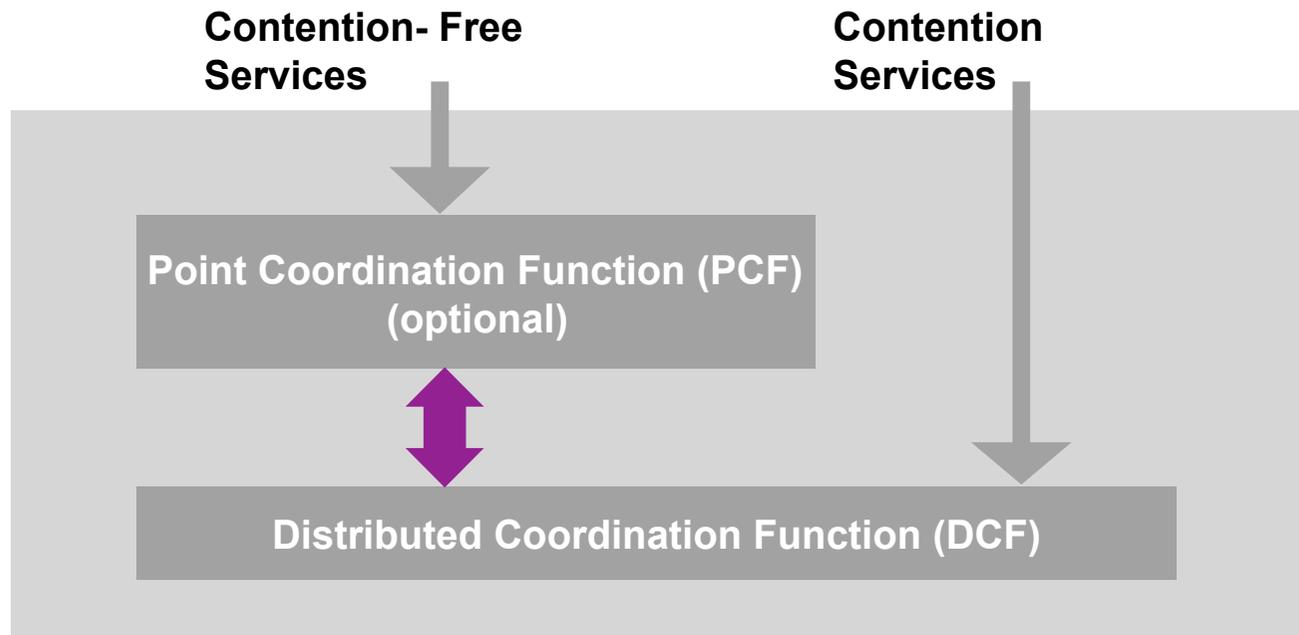


infrastructure network



IEEE 802.11 MAC Layer

MAC Architektur:

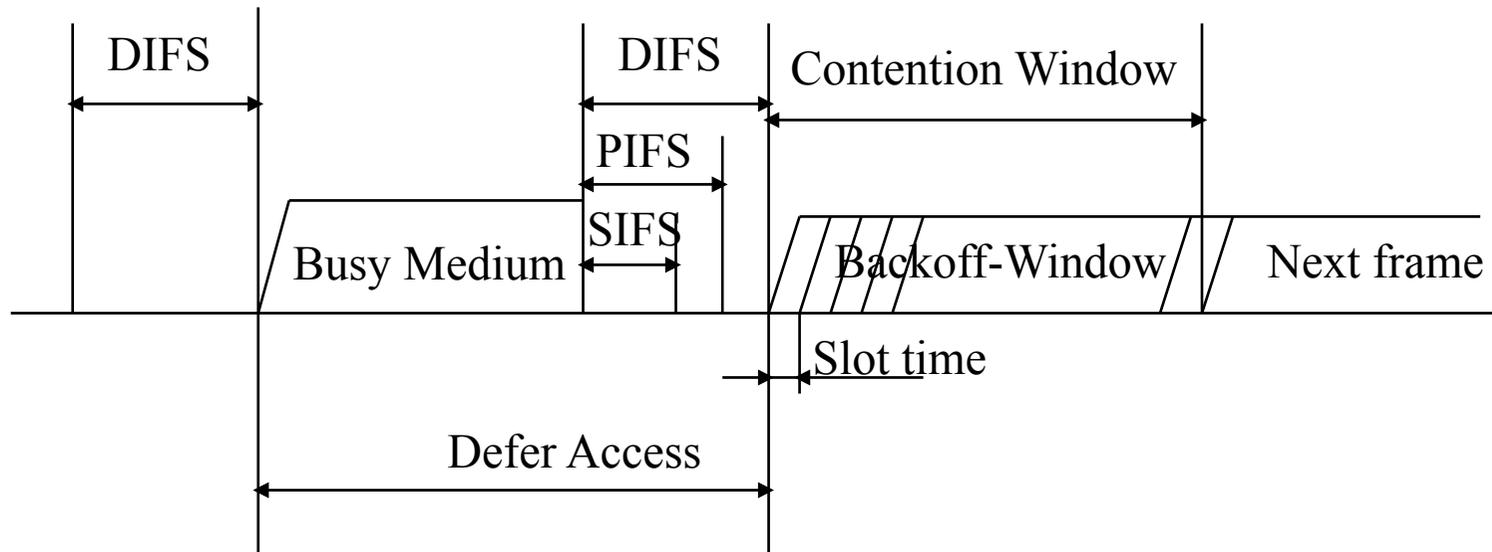


Distributed Coordination Function (DCF)

- CSMA/CA Protocol
 - Collision Avoidance by random backoff procedure (p-persistent)
 - All Frames are acknowledged, lost Frames are resend
 - Priority Access by Interframe Space (IFS)
- => fair arbitration but no real-time support



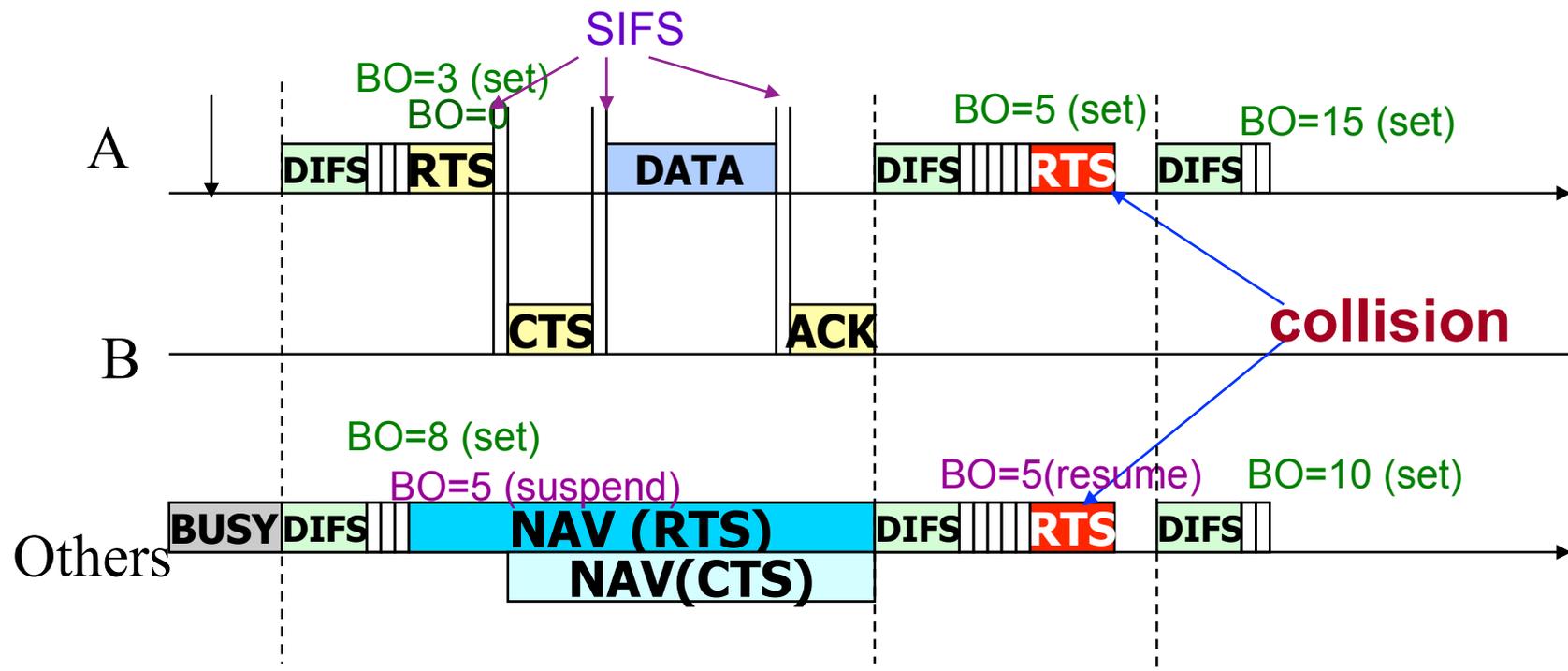
Relationship of different IFSs in 802.11



DIFS: DCF Interframe Space
PIFS: PCF Interframe Space
SIFS: Short Interframe Space



Example of 802.11 RTS/CTS/DATA/ACK Scheme



BO: backoff

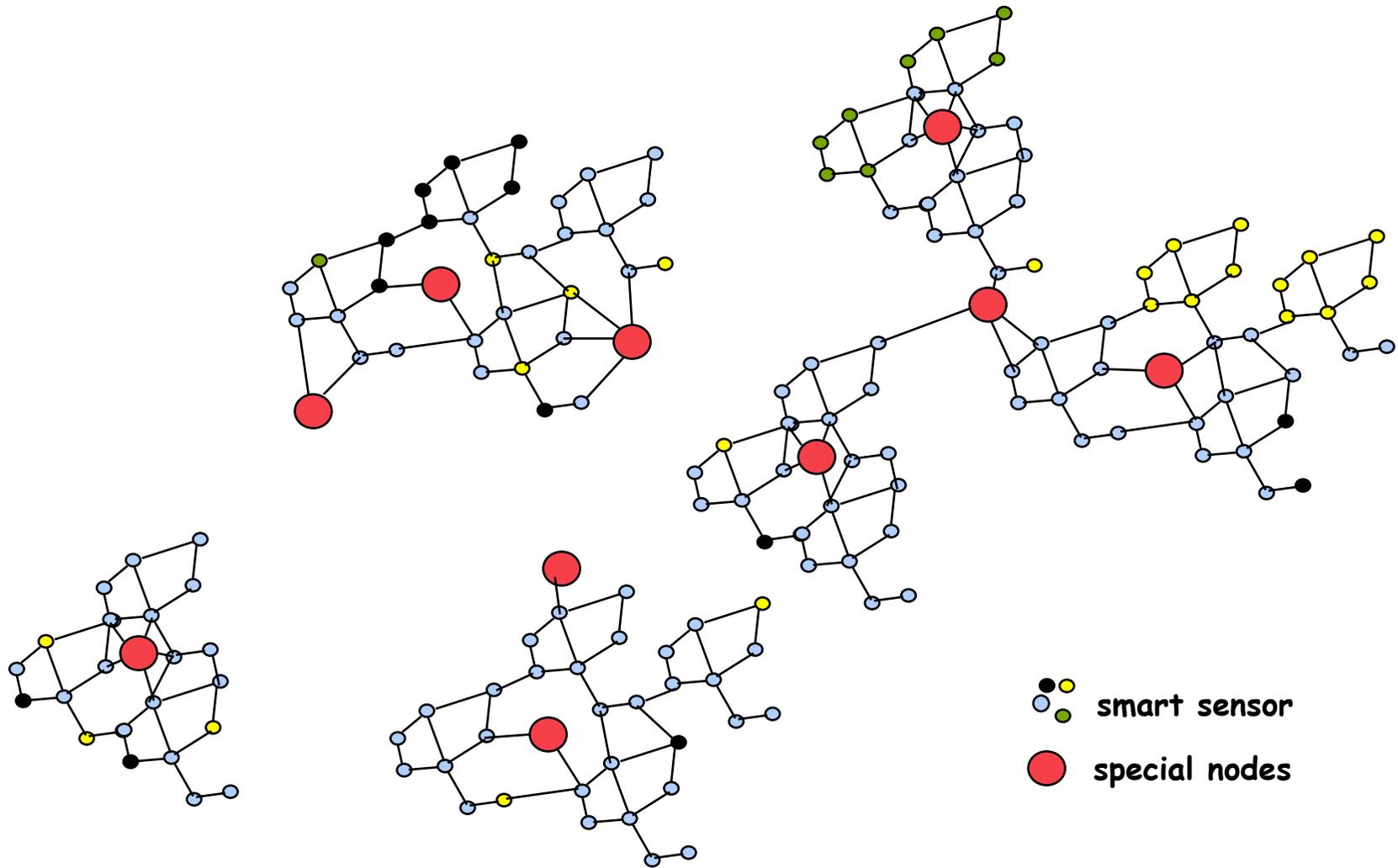


Parameters of wireless networks

	EasyRadio	RFMonolithics TR 1001	ChipCon CC1000	Lucent WLAN PC "Silver"
Frequency	868 MHz	868 MHz	868 MHz	2,4 GHz
Bit rate (Kbps)	19	115,2	76,8	11.000
Energy consumption				
send (mA)	17	12,0	25,4	284,0
receive (mA)	8	3,8	11,8	190,0
standby(μA)	--	0,7	30,0	10.000,0
switching time (μs)				
standby-transmit		16	2000	
receive-transmit		12	270	
standby-receive		518	2000	
transmit-receive		12	250	
transmit-standby		10		
receive-standby		10		

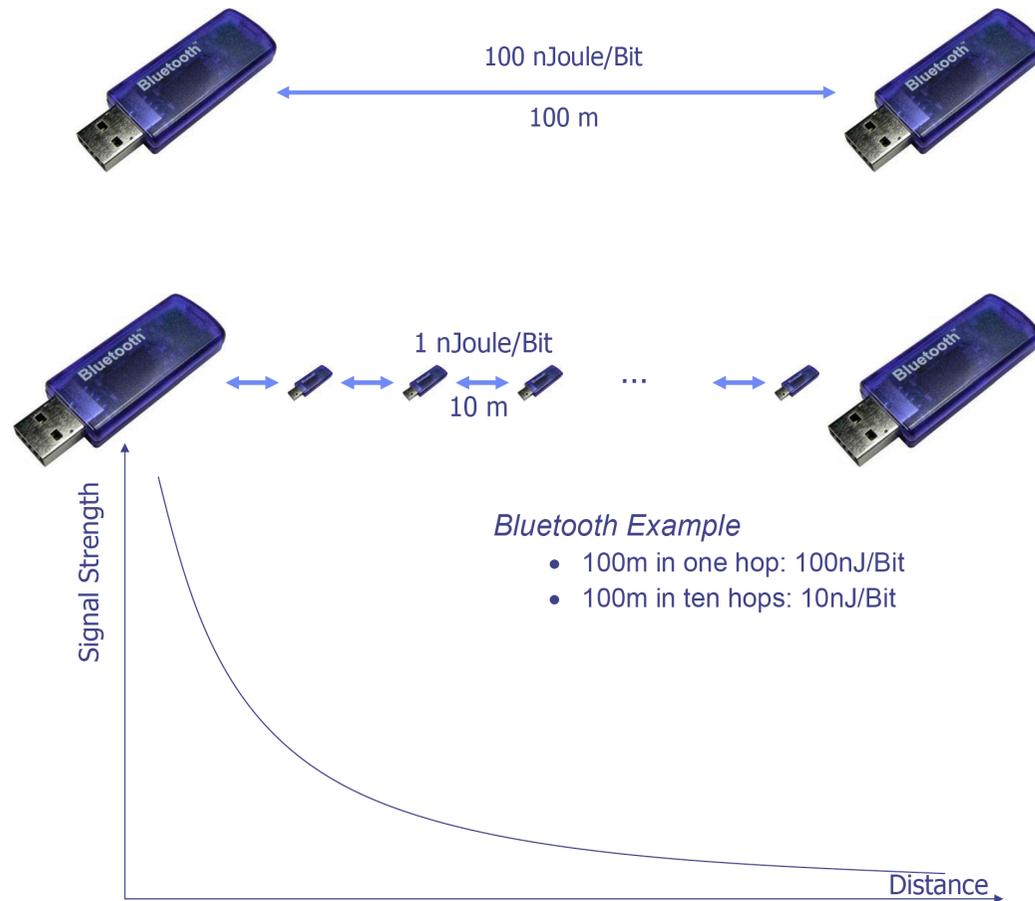


Sensornets for a wired physical world



Multi-Hop vs. Single Hop

- Less Energy
- Less Collisions
- More Reliable



From: Holger Karl, Lecture
Sensor Networks, Uni Paderborn



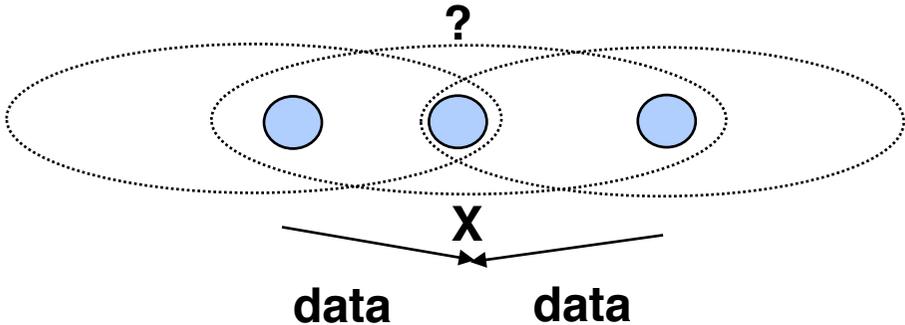
MAC-principles

	trigger to send	Start time	channels
(simple) Aloha	data availability	arbitrary	1
Slotted Aloha	time slots	start of a time slot	1
MACA	RTS/CTS	dyn. reservation	1
MACAW	MACA + Acknowledge	same as MACA	1
CSMA	medium free	arbitrary	1
CSMA/CA	medium free	after waiting time or dyn. reserv.	1
TDMA	acc.schedule	preplanned	1
FDMA	multiple frequencies	arbitrary	m
CDMA	orthogonal codes	arbitrary	m

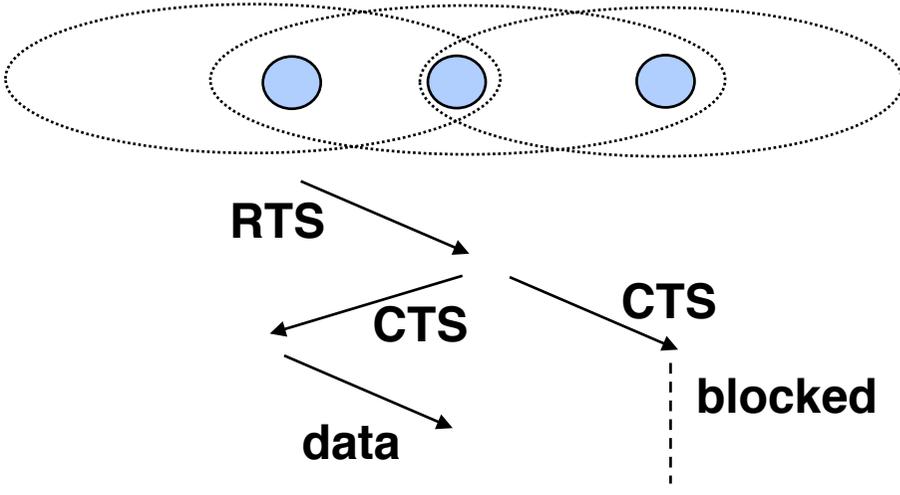


Problems

Hidden Terminal Problem

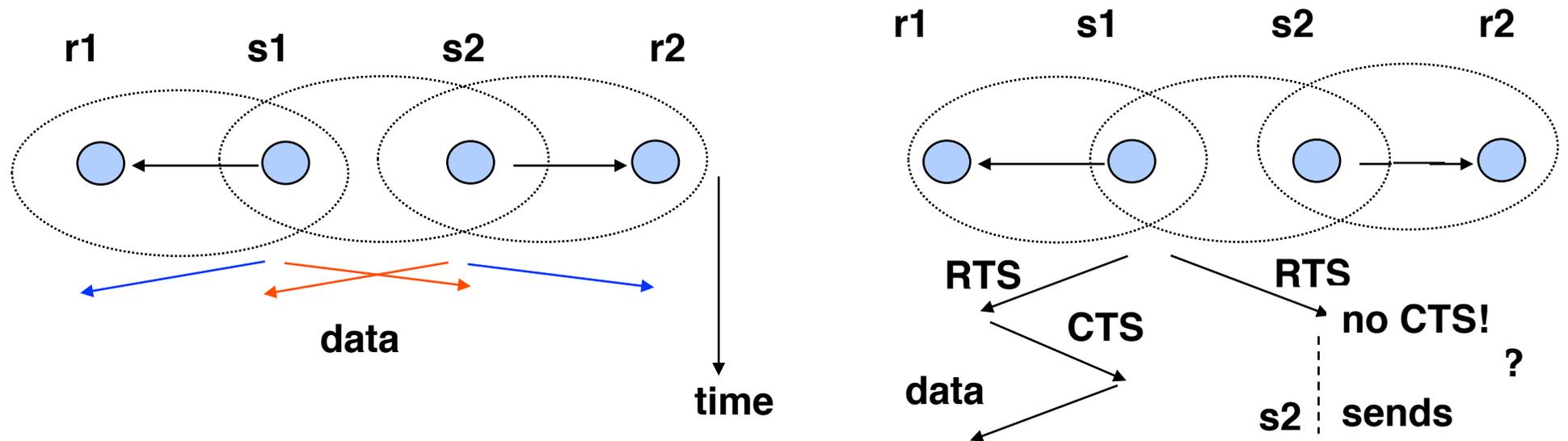


Multiple Access with Collision Avoidance (MACA)



More problems

Exposed Terminal Problem



RTS/CTS to improve throughput



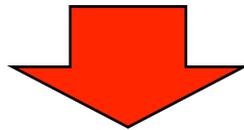
Sources of increased energy consumption:

- active wait:** If a node does not know when to expect a message, it must always remain in receive state.
- overhearing:** A node receives a message for which it is not the destination.
Better: switch off the node during this time.
- collisions:** Energy which is used by sending a message during a collision is lost. The respective packet has to be resent completely. Collisions cannot be detected during sending.
- protocol overhead :** Every additional measure like RTS/CTS or an acknowledge scheme increase the protocol overhead.
- Dynamic behaviour:** Unbalanced load increases the probability of collisions (Thrashing).



Big Problem: **idle listening**

- ➔ **Rx active power is sometimes greater than Tx active power,**
due to the larger number of signal processing circuits that must be active
- ➔ **It's more power-efficient to blindly transmit than to blindly receive**



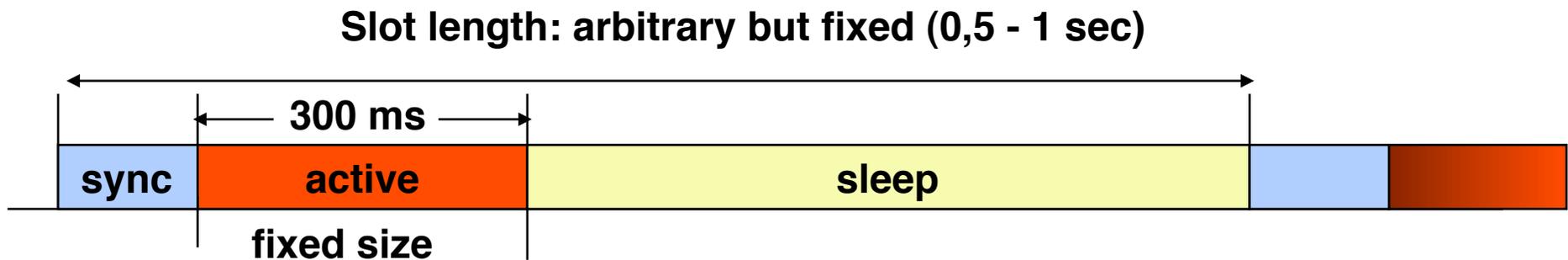
Energy efficient protocols try to minimize the time of active listening!

Approaches:

- **Scheduling (TDMA)**
- **activation channel (narrow band additional channel)**
- **Preamble**
- **Adaptive schemes**



Slotted protocols



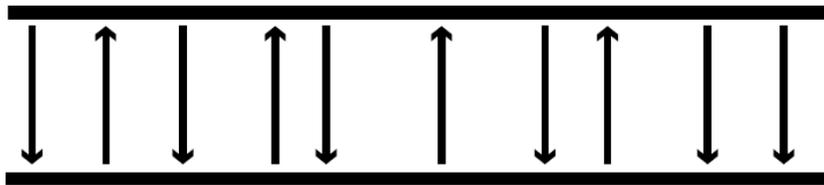
Example: **S-MAC (Sensor -MAC)** (Ye, Heideman, Estrin)

Nodes are organized in (virtual) clusters, which adopt a common slot format.

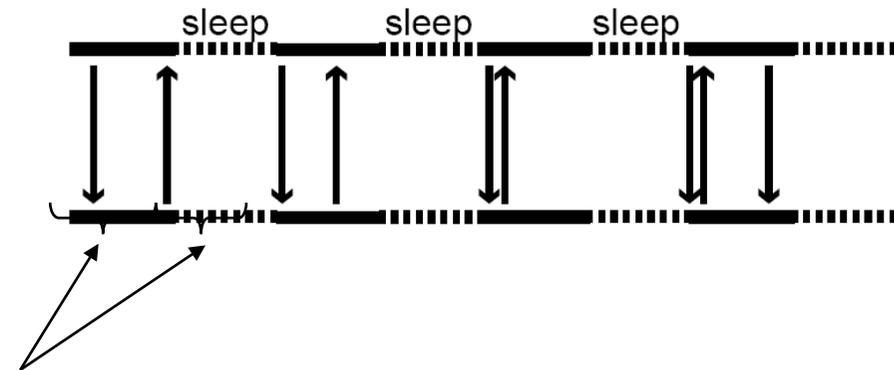
Variation **T-MAC (Time-out MAC)**: Adaptively determining the relation between active and sleep periods. If the medium is idle the node can switch to sleep after a short interval.



CSMA



S-MAC



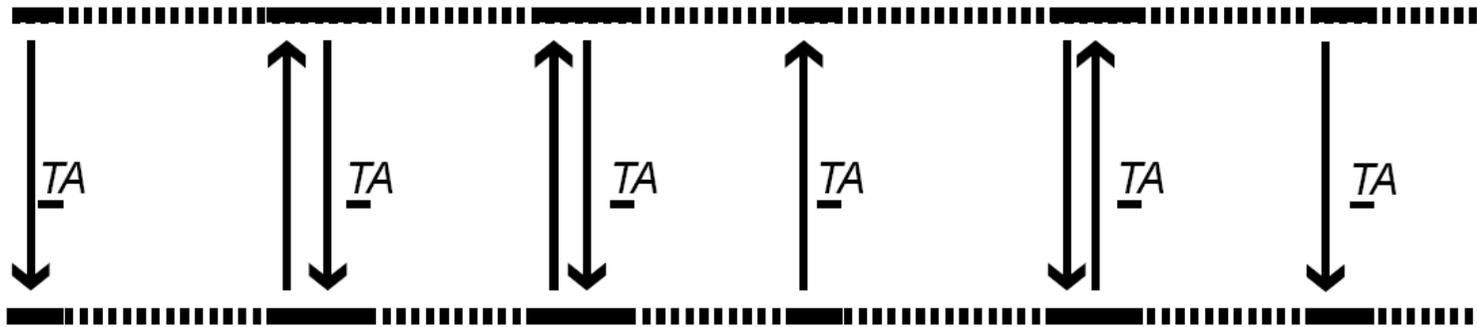
a priori fixed active and sleep intervals

During the activity periods the node must transmit local data + the messages which are relayed in the multi-hop network.

Problem with S-MAC: fixed periods



T-MAC: Time-Out-MAC



Determine the activity and sleep periods adaptively.

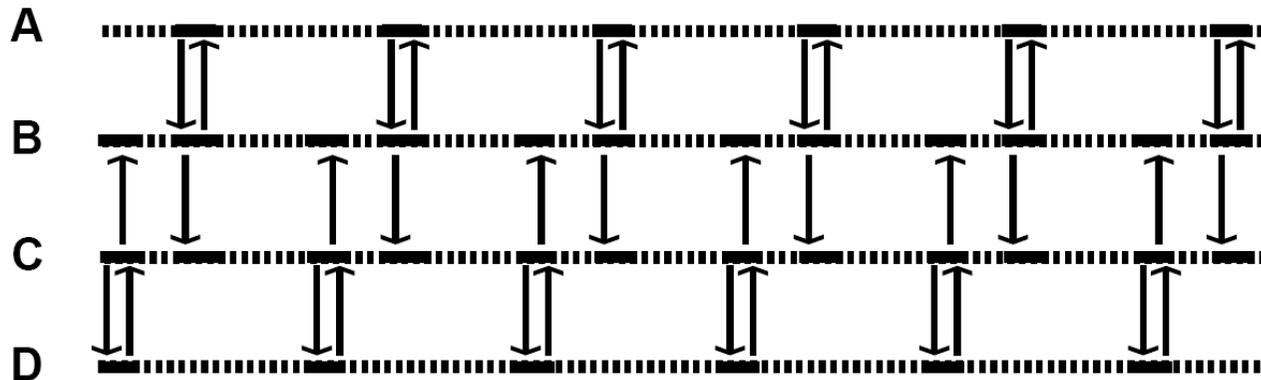
T-MAC spans a time-out (active) interval of 15 ms. If no event is detected within this interval it enters the sleep state again. An activation event is given by:

- Alarm of a periodic timer;
- Reception of a message;
- Detection of some communication (also collisions are such events);
- Termination of the own transmission or of an ack.
- The knowledge that a communication by some neighbors has been terminated. (detected by overhearing)

All communication is performed in "bursts" at the start of the active period.



T-MAC: Communication over multiple clusters

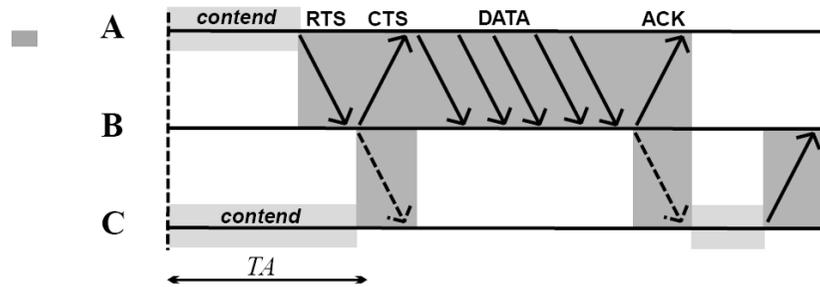


Communication between
"virtual clusters" in T-MAC

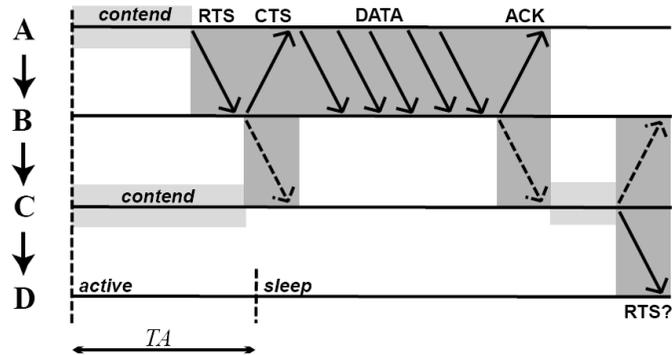
Messages to relay will be buffered. The size of the buffer determines the upper bounds of activity and sleep periods.



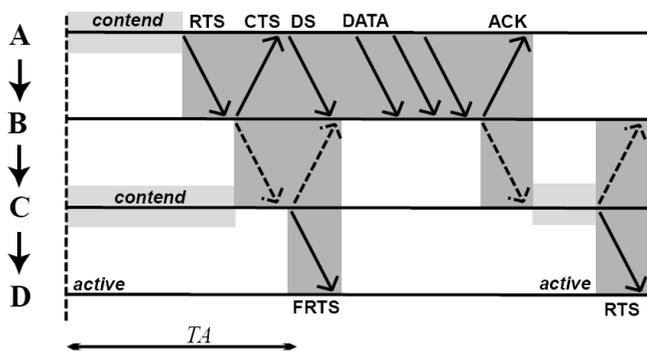
Further improvements: Early Sleeping Problem



Basic Cycle



Early Sleeping Problem.
Node D goes to sleep before node C can send the RTS.



Future Requests to Send (FRTS)

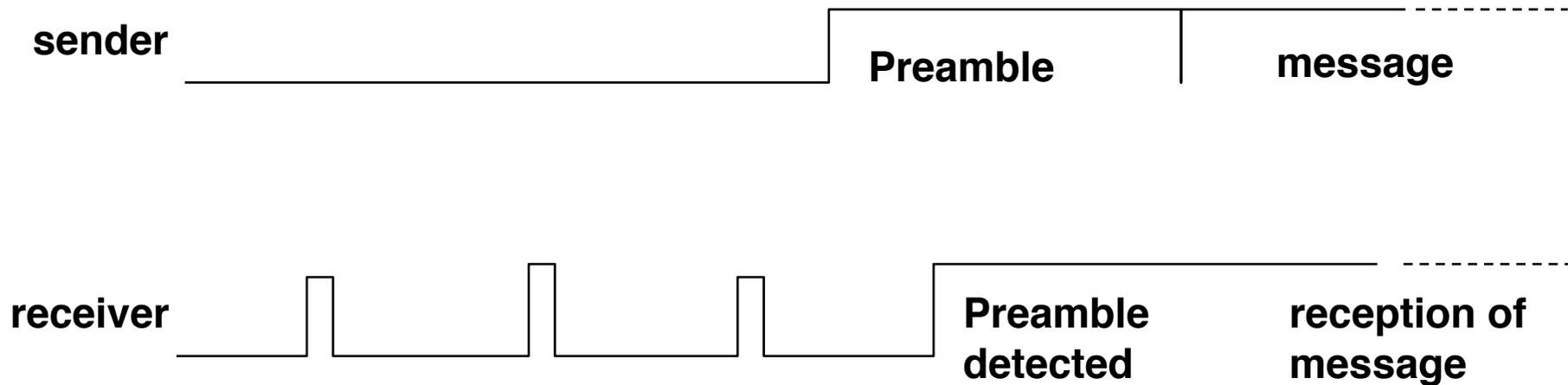
As the FRTS packet would disturb the data packet that follows the CTS, the data packet must be postponed for the duration of the FRTS packet. To prevent any other node from taking the channel during this time, the node that sent the initial RTS (node A in Figure 3.5) transmits a small Data-Send (DS) packet. After the DS packet, it must immediately send the normal data packet. Since the FRTS packet has the same size as a DS packet, it will collide with the DS packet, but not with the following data packet. The DS packet is lost, but that is no problem: it contains no useful information.

J.M. van Dam: An Adaptive Energy-Efficient MAC Protocol for Wireless Sensor Networks
June, 2003



Variations: Low Power Listening

1.)



2.) Sender knows when the receiver is ready. Temporal coordination!

J. Hill, D. Culler: MICA: A wireless platform for deeply embedded networks. IEEE Micro 22(6), Nov. 2002

A. El-Hoiyi: Aloha with preamble sampling for sporadic traffic in ad-hoc wireless sensor networks, IEEE Int. Conf. on Comm. (ICC) New York, Apr. 2002

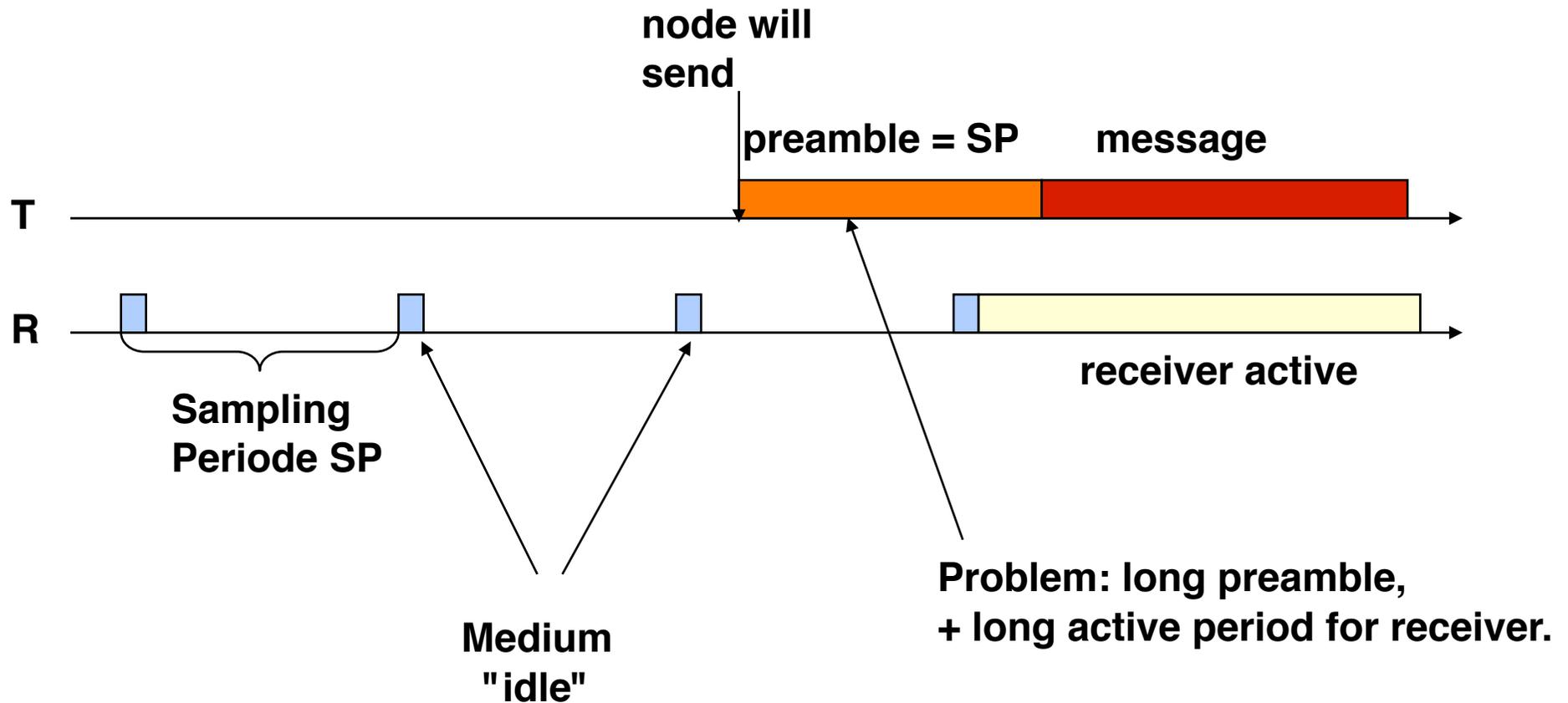


Low Power protocol: WiseMAC

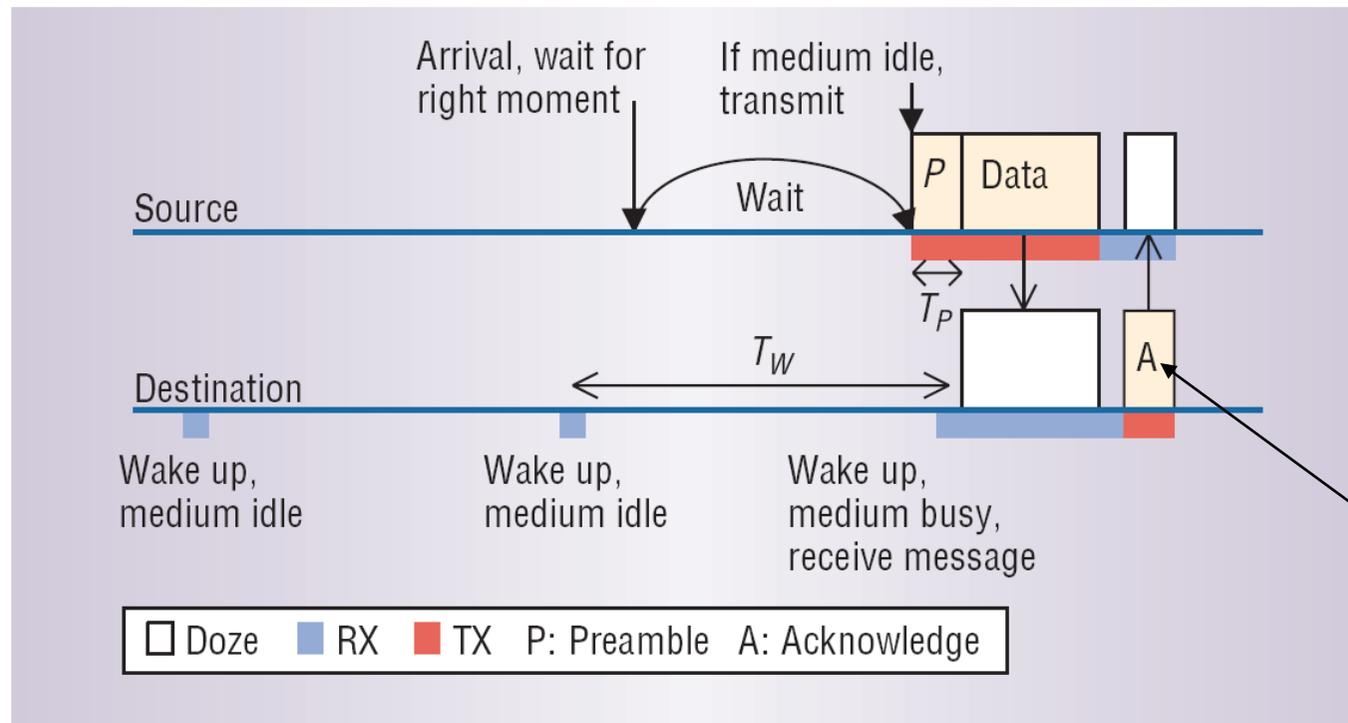
Christian C. Enz, Amre El-Hoiydi, Jean-Dominique Decotignie, Vincent Peiris (Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology):
WiseNET: An Ultralow-Power WirelessSensor Network Solution, IEEE Computer, August 2004

WiseMac exploits an optimized form of "Preamble Sampling"

Standard Preamble Sampling



Low Power protocol: WiseMAC



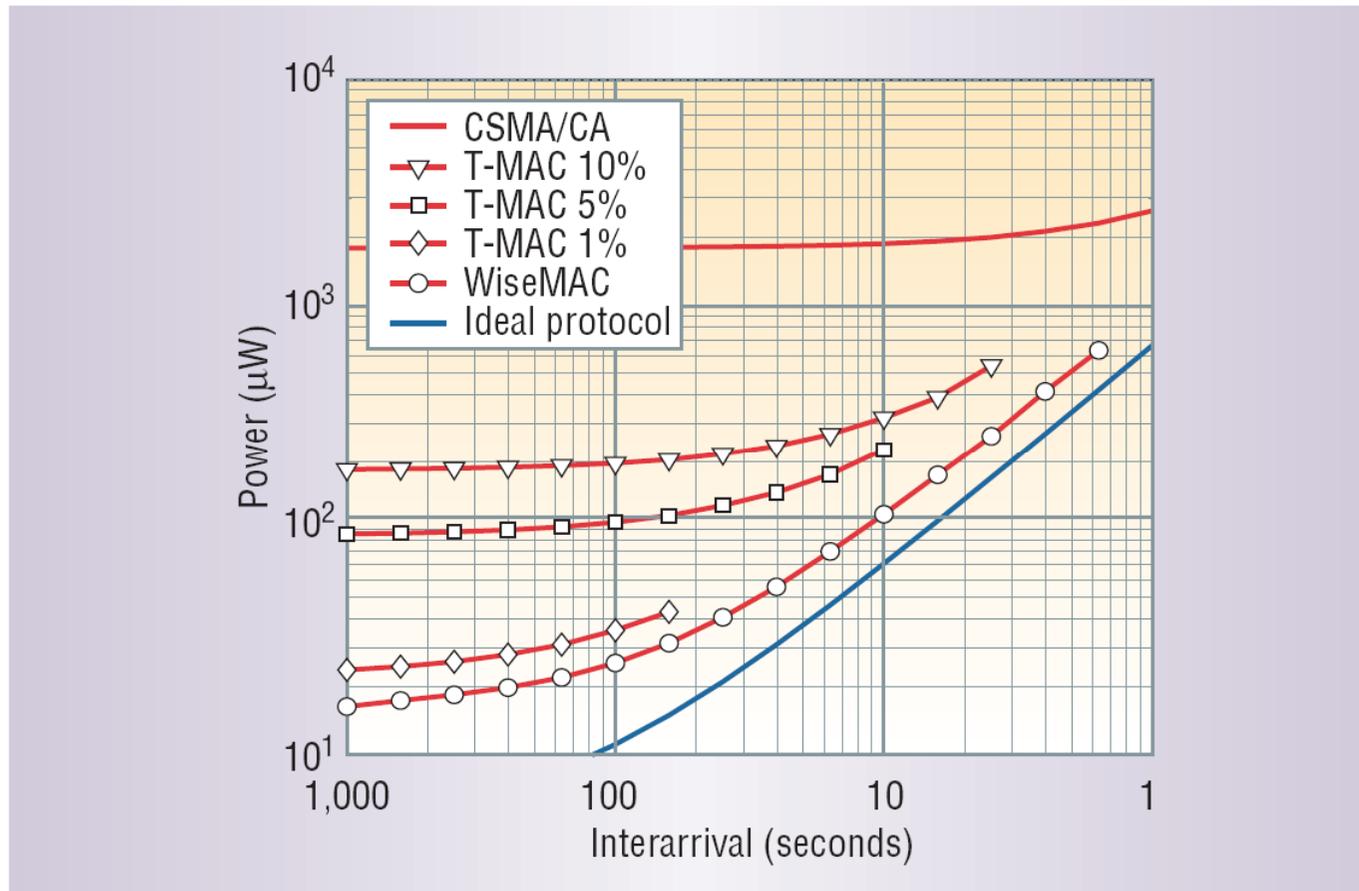
sampling period is piggy-backed in the ack.

In WiseMAC the sender adapts to the receiver's sampling period.

Christian C. Enz, Amre El-Hoiydi, Jean-Dominique Decotignie, Vincent Peiris (Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology):
 WiseNET: An Ultralow-Power Wireless Sensor Network Solution, IEEE Computer, August 2004



Comparing Low Power Protocols; every node has 8 neighbors.



T-MAC:
% of packet loss because
of collisions.

WiseMAC:

"With an interarrival
time of 100 seconds, the power
consumption amounts to as little
as 25 microwatts—which
translates into more than a five-
year lifetime for a
single AA alkaline battery."

Christian C. Enz, Amre El-Hoiydi, Jean-Dominique Decotignie, Vincent Peiris (Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology):
WiseNET: An Ultralow-Power Wireless Sensor Network Solution, IEEE Computer, August 2004



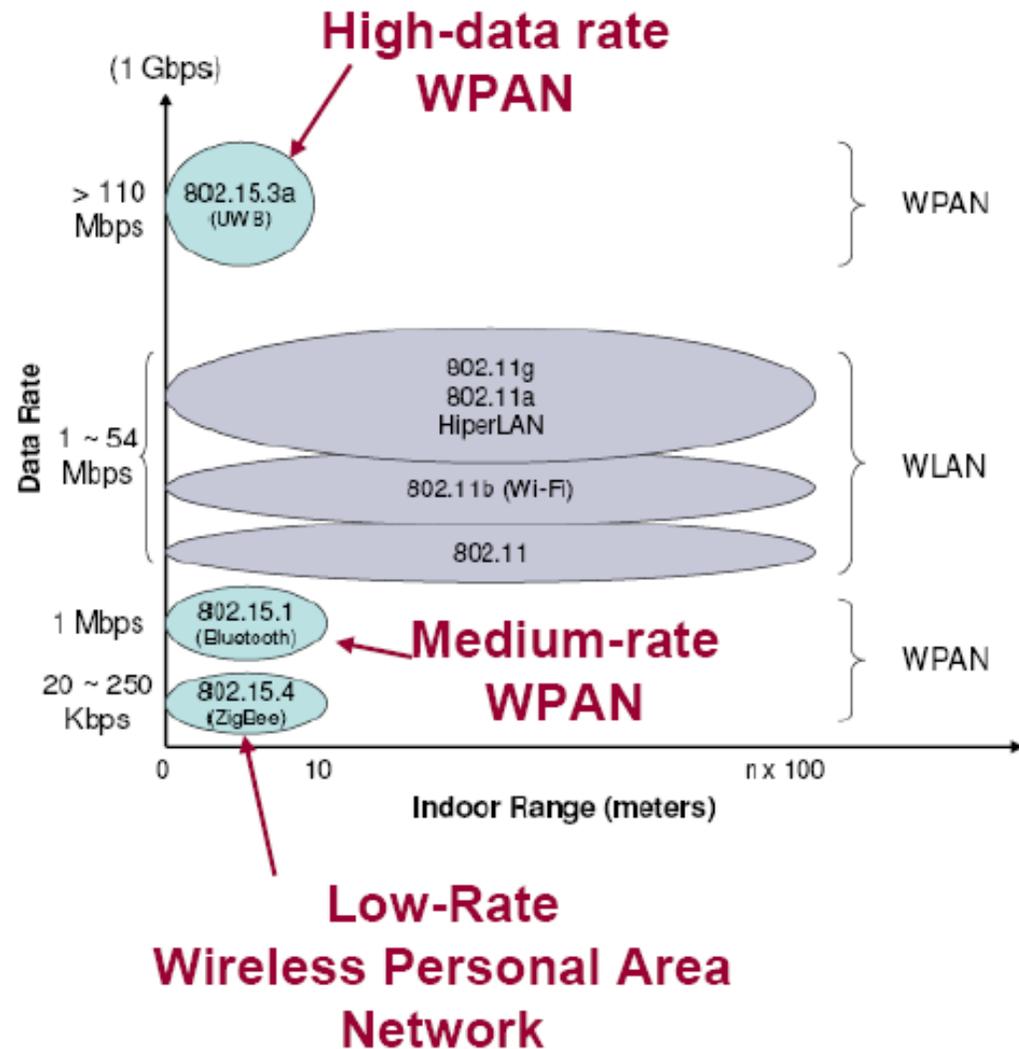
IEEE 802.15.4 WPAN

- 2 types of WPAN devices
- Network Topologies
- Architecture

Standard specifies:

- IEEE 802.15.4 PHY Layer
- IEEE 802.15.4 MAC Layer

ZigBee Alliance:
provides for upper layer
services



References:

- ➔ IEEE Standard for Information technology—Telecommunications and information exchange between systems—Local and metropolitan area networks Specific requirements—Part 15.4: Wireless Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY), Specifications for Low-Rate Wireless Personal Area Networks (LR-WPANs) Sponsor: LAN/MAN Standards Committee of the IEEE Computer Society Approved 12 May 2003. IEEE-SA Standards Board Joe
- ➔ Dvorak, Motorola, IEEE 802.15.4 and Zigbee Overview, 27.09.05
- ➔ Steven Myers, Electrical and Computer Engineering University of Wisconsin Madison, ZigBee/IEEE 802.15.4
- ➔ Jose Gutierrez “IEEE 802.15.4 Tutorial” , Eaton Corporation, Jan. 2003.
- ➔ Marco Naeve “IEEE 802.15.4 MAC Overview” Eaton Corporation, May 2004.



ZigBee

- Small packets over large network
- Data rate 250 kbps @2.4 GHz
- Allows up to 254 nodes
- Simplified protocol stack
- Used in time critical applications (15msec wake up time)
- Allows guaranteed transmission of critical messages
- Mostly Static networks with many, infrequently used devices

Bluetooth

- Large packets over small network
- Data rate is 1Mbps @2.4 GHz
- Allows up to 8 nodes in piconet setup
- More complex protocol stack
- Not so time critical (3sec wake up time)
- Ad-hoc networks
- File transfer

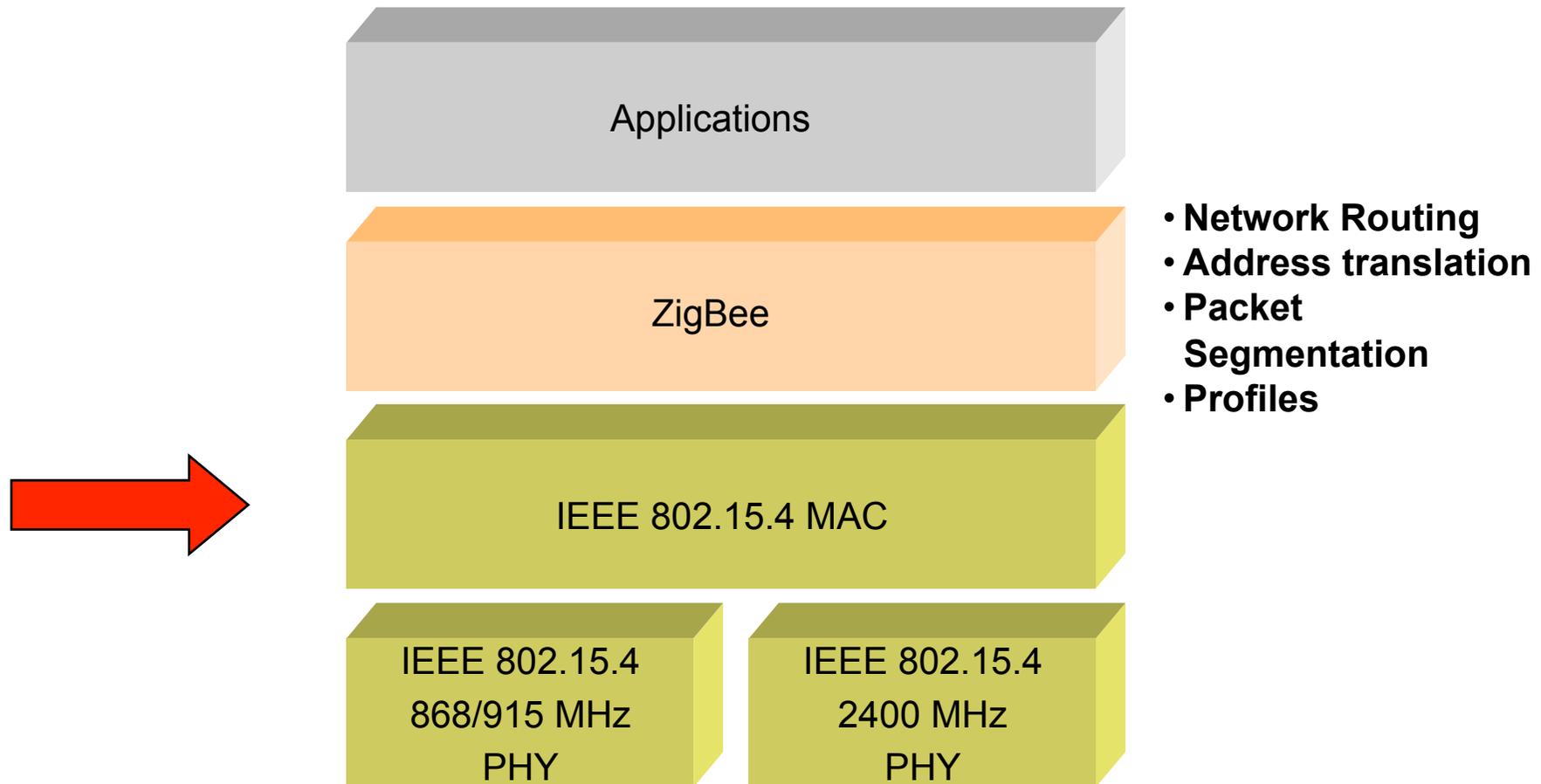


Wireless Technology Comparison Chart

Standard	Bandwidth	Power Consumption	Protocol Stack Size	Stronghold	Applications
Wi-Fi	Up to 54Mbps	400+mA TX, standby 20mA	100+KB	High data rate	Internet browsing, PC networking, file transfers
Bluetooth	1Mbps	40mA TX, standby 0.2mA	~100+KB	Interoperability, cable replacement	Wireless USB, handset, headset
ZigBee	250kbps	30mA TX, standby 356 μA	34KB /14KB	Long battery life, low cost	Remote control, battery-operated products, sensors



802.15.4 Architecture



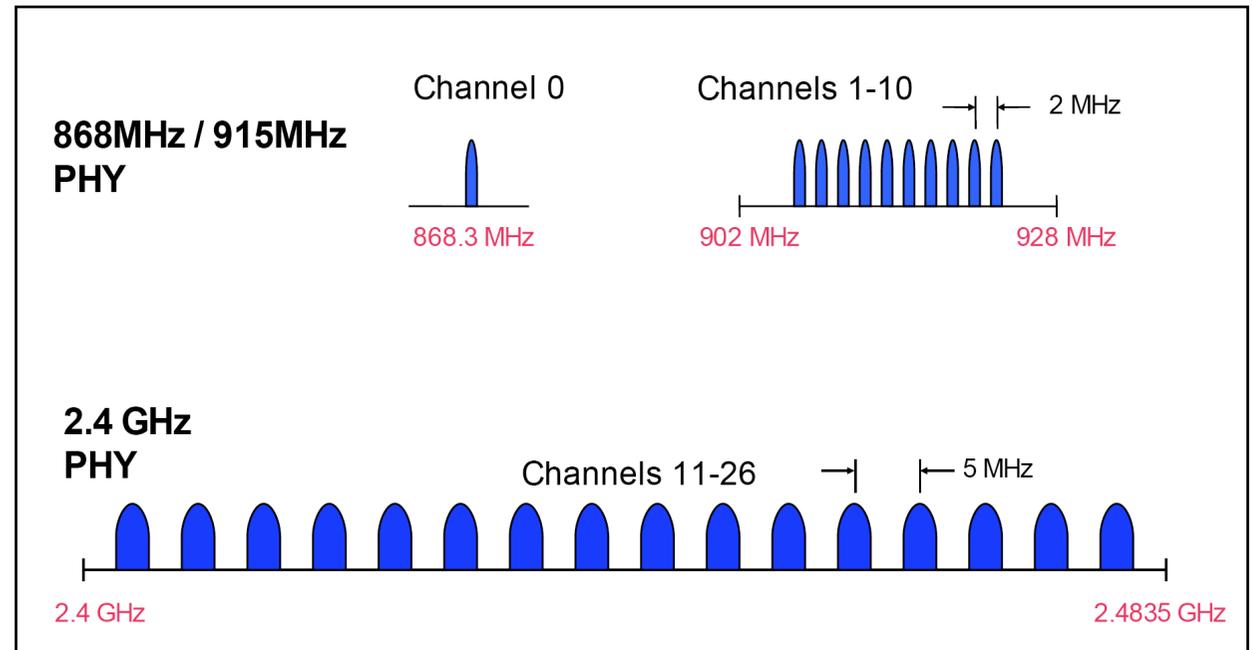
Provides two services to physical layer management entity (PLME)

– *PHY data service*

- exchange data packets between MAC and PHY

– *PHY management service interface*

- Clear channel assessment (CCA)
 - 3 methods:
 - Energy above threshold,
 - Carrier sense only, or
 - Carrier sense w/ energy above threshold
- Energy detection (ED)
 - Used by network layer (channel selection)
- Link Quality Indication (LQI)
 - Used by higher layers
 - Uses ED and/or SNR estimate



802.15.4 Channel Assignment

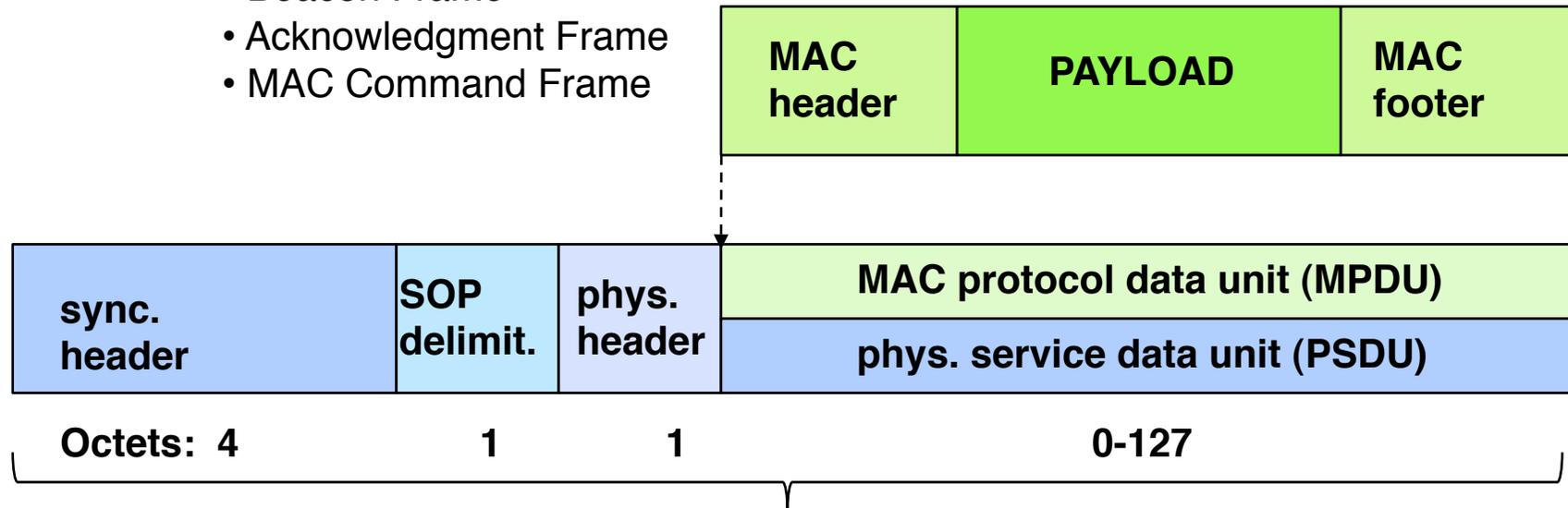
Steven Myers
Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of Wisconsin Madison



PHY packet format and MAC frame format

Types of MAC Frames:

- Data Frame
- Beacon Frame
- Acknowledgment Frame
- MAC Command Frame



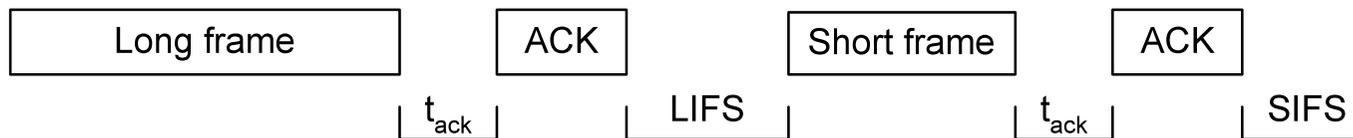
PHY Packet Fields:

- Preamble (32 bits) – synchronization
- Start of Packet Delimiter (8 bits)
- PHY Header (8 bits) – PSDU length
- PSDU (0 to 1016 bits) – Data field

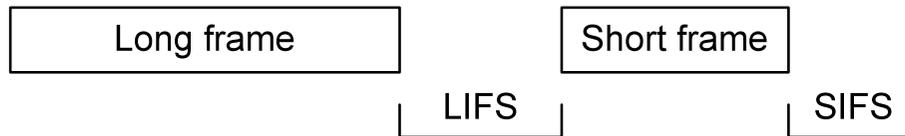


Interframe Spacing

Acknowledged transmission



Unacknowledged transmission



$aTurnaroundTime \leq t_{ack} \leq (aTurnaroundTime (12 \text{ symbols}) + aUnitBackoffPeriod (20 \text{ symbols}))$

$LIFS > aMaxLIFSPeriod (40 \text{ symbols})$

$SIFS > aMacSIFSPeriod (12 \text{ symbols})$

For (short) frames $\leq aMaxSIFSFrameSize$ use short inter-frame spacing (SIFS)

For (long) frames $> aMaxSIFSFrameSize$ use long inter-frame spacing (LIFS)



802.15.4 MAC Layer

Provides two services to the MAC sublayer management entity (MLME)

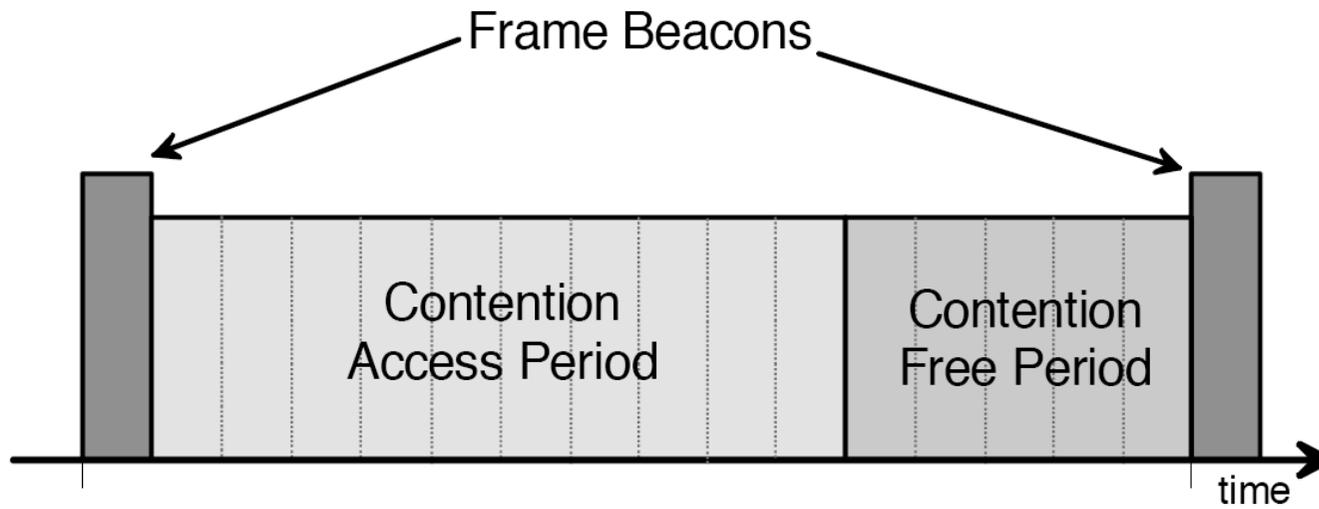
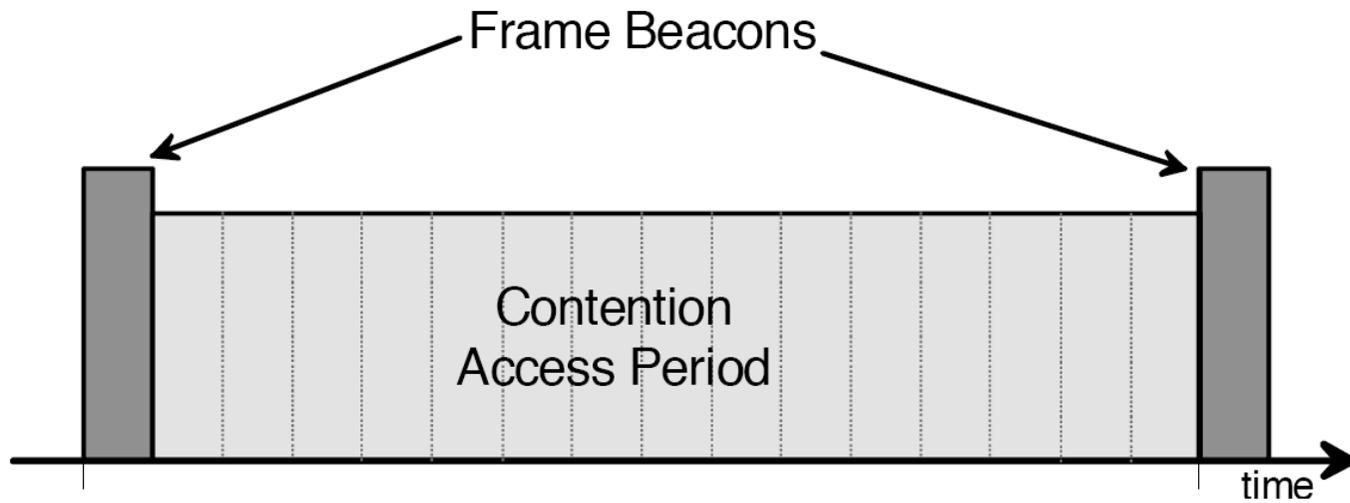
MAC data service

- **Enables transmission and reception of MAC protocol data units (MPDU) across PHY data service**

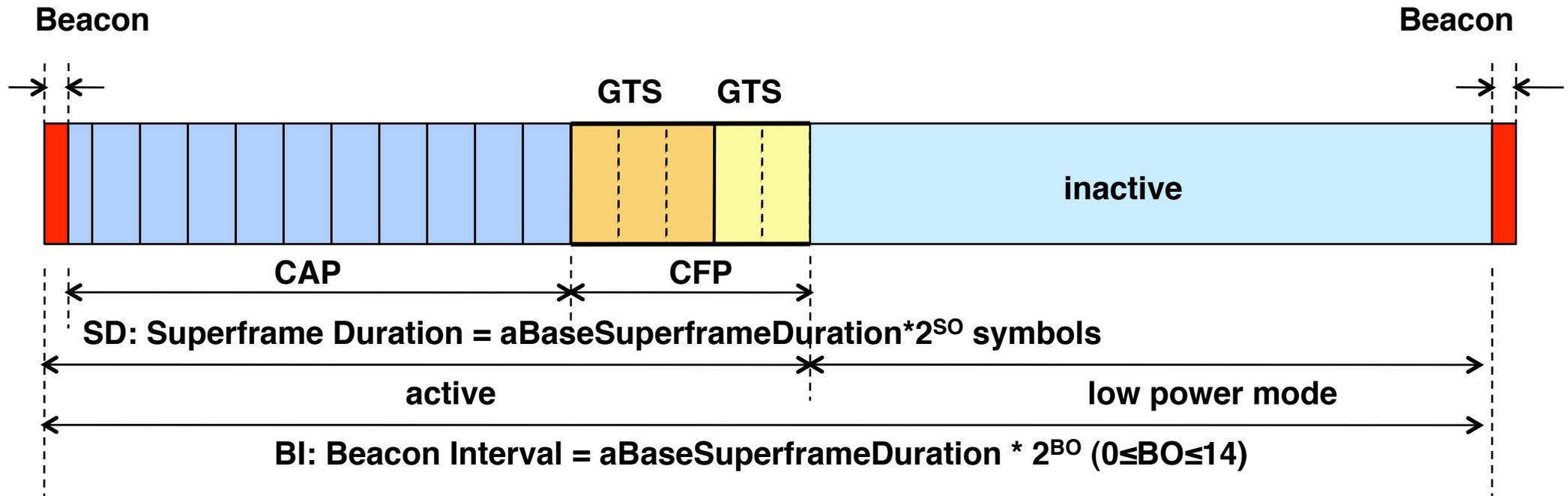
MAC management service

- **Beacon management**
- **Channel access**
- **GTS management (GTS:= Guaranteed Time Slot)**
- **Frame validation**
- **ACK frame delivery**
- **Association and disassociation**





Optional Superframe Structure



Beacon: sent by PAN coordinator in the first slot of the superframe. Contains network information, frame structure and notification of pending node messages.

Contention Access Period (CAP): Communication using slotted CSMA-CA

Contention Free Period (CFP): Guaranteed time slots (GTS) given by coordinator (no CSMA)

Beacon Order (BO): Describes the interval at which the coordinator shall transmit its beacon frames.

Superframe Order (SO): Describes the length of the active portion of the superframe.



Arbitration

Slotted CSMA-CA:

Used in superframe structure

Backoff periods are aligned with superframe slot boundaries of PAN coordinator

Used in CAP, must locate boundary of the next backoff period to transmit data

Un-slotted CSMA-CA:

Non beacon enabled network

Backoff periods are not synchronized between devices



Collision Avoidance

Each device has three variables:

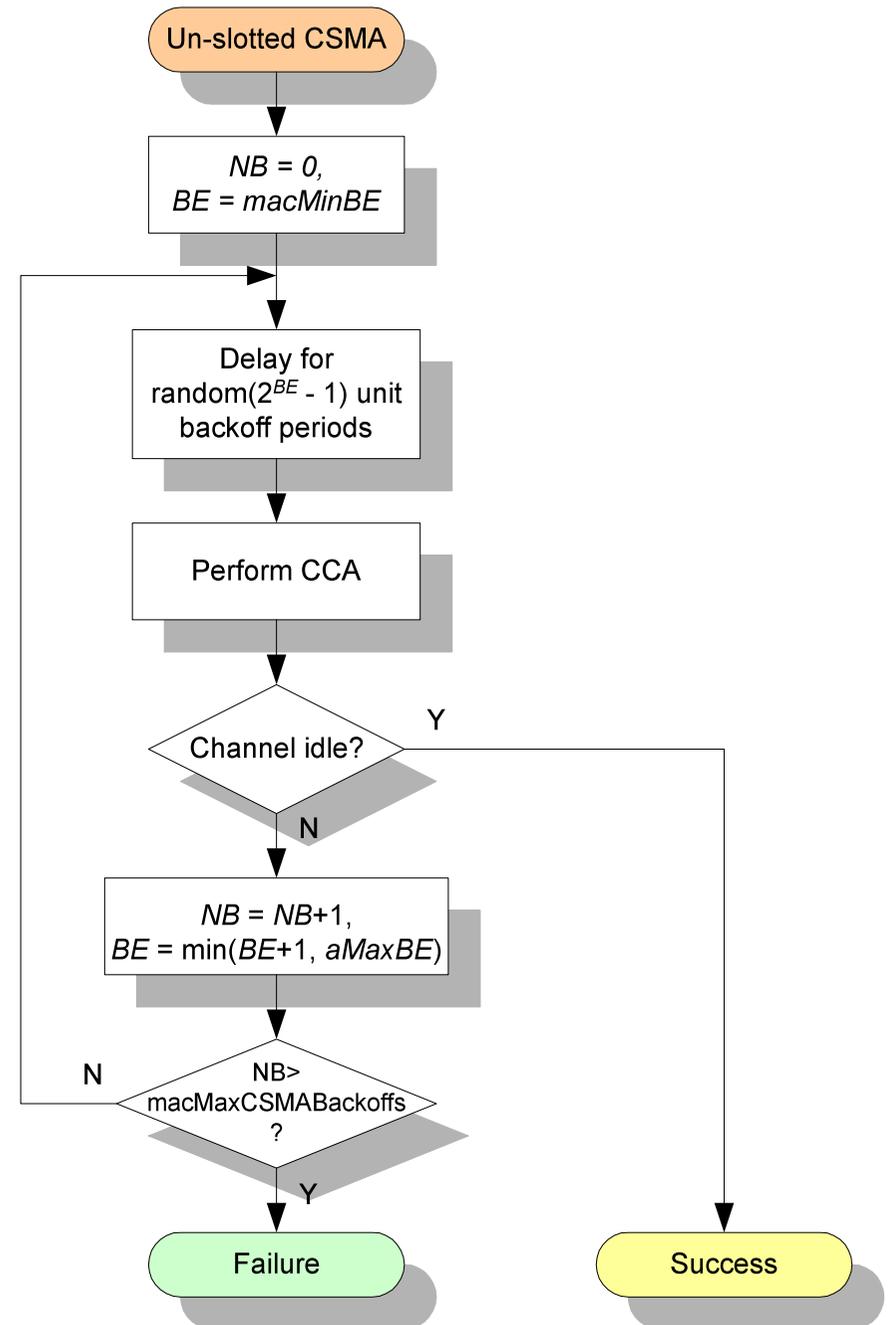
NB is the **number of** times the CSMA-CA was required to **backoff** while attempting a current transmission.

CW is the **contention window** length, which defines the number of backoff periods that needs to be clear of activity before a transmission can start.

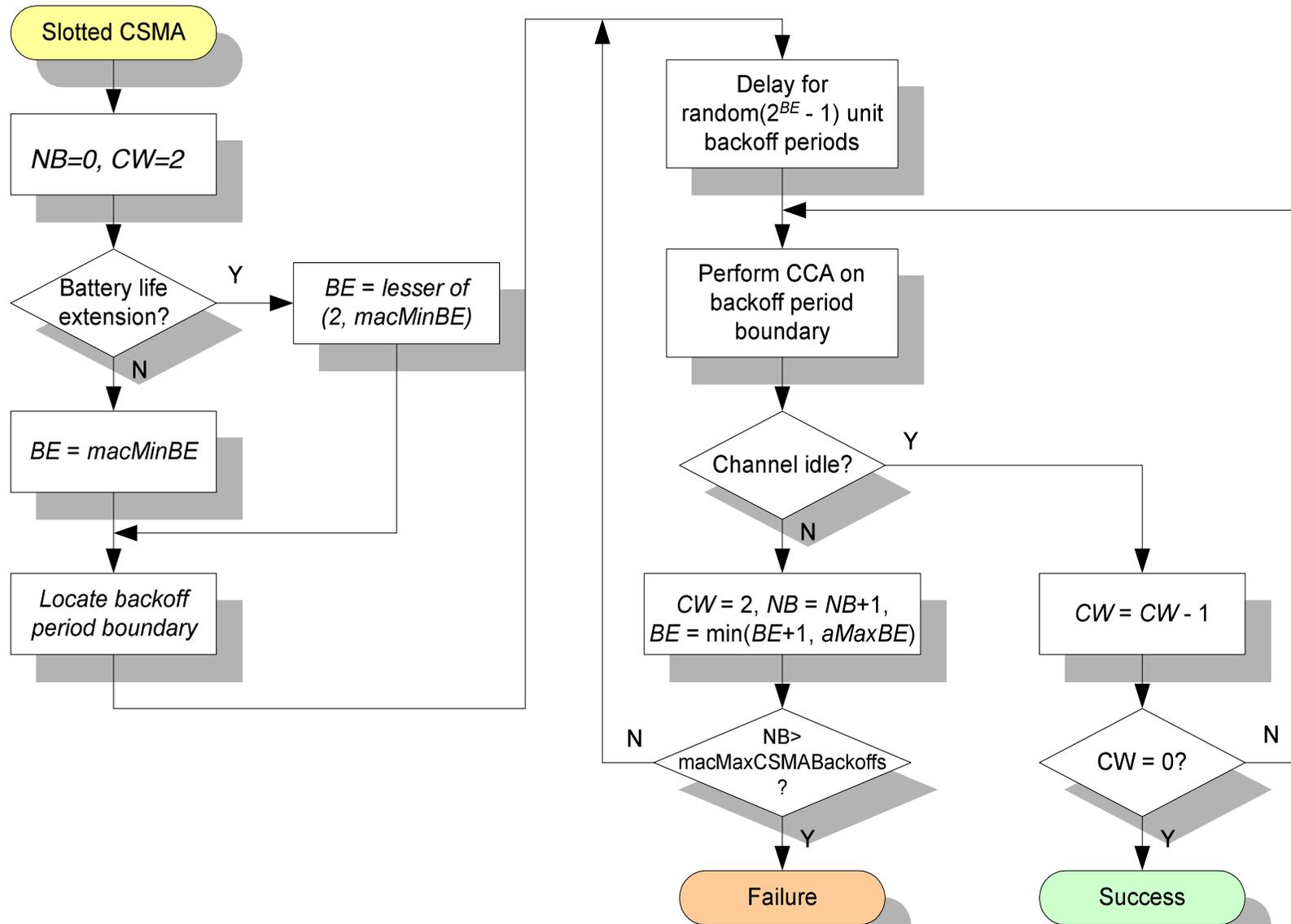
BE is the **backoff exponent**, which is related to how many backoff periods a device shall wait before attempting to assess the channel.



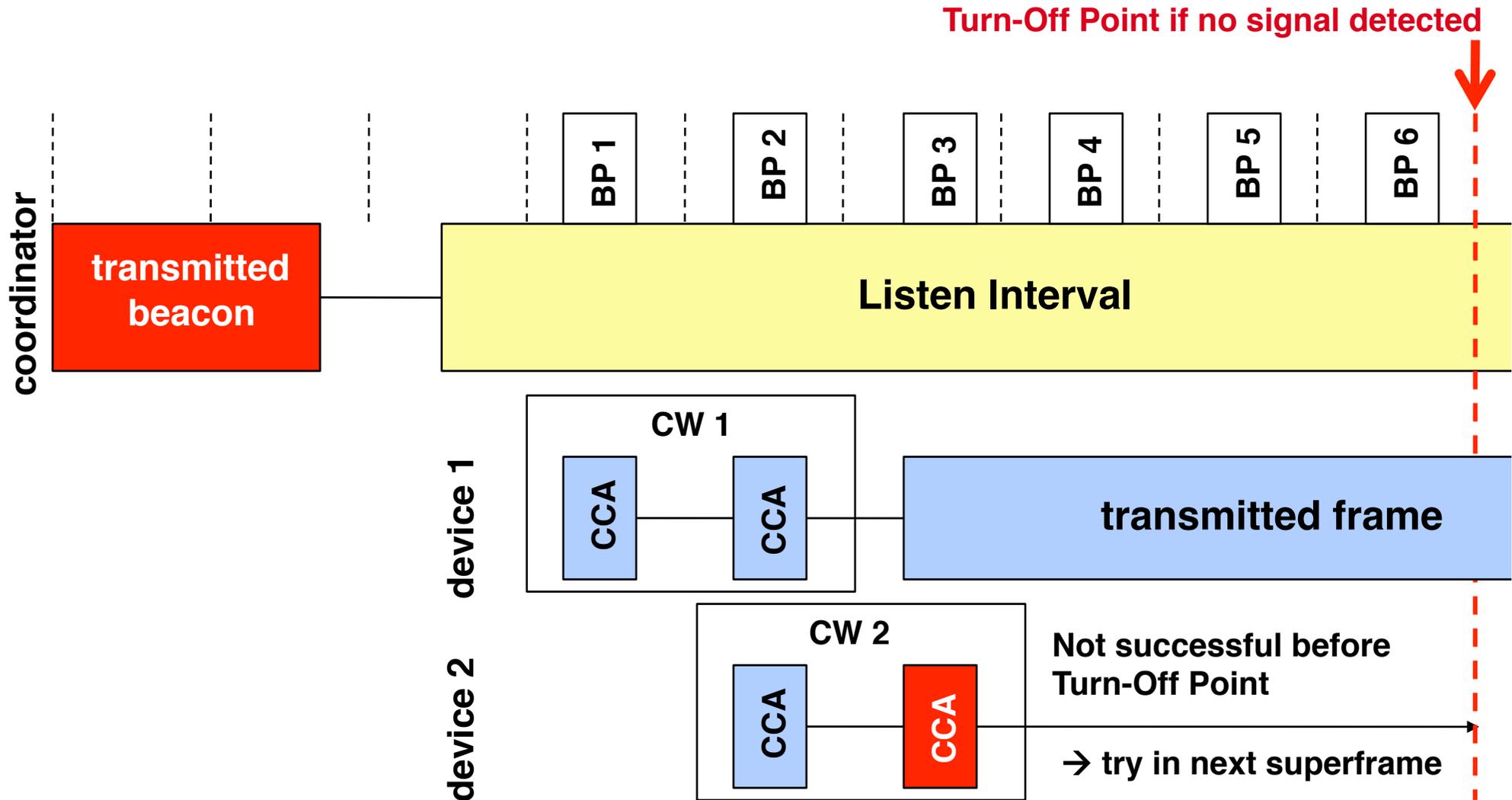
Arbitration in Unslotted CSMA



Arbitration in Slotted CSMA



Battery Life Extension (BLE)

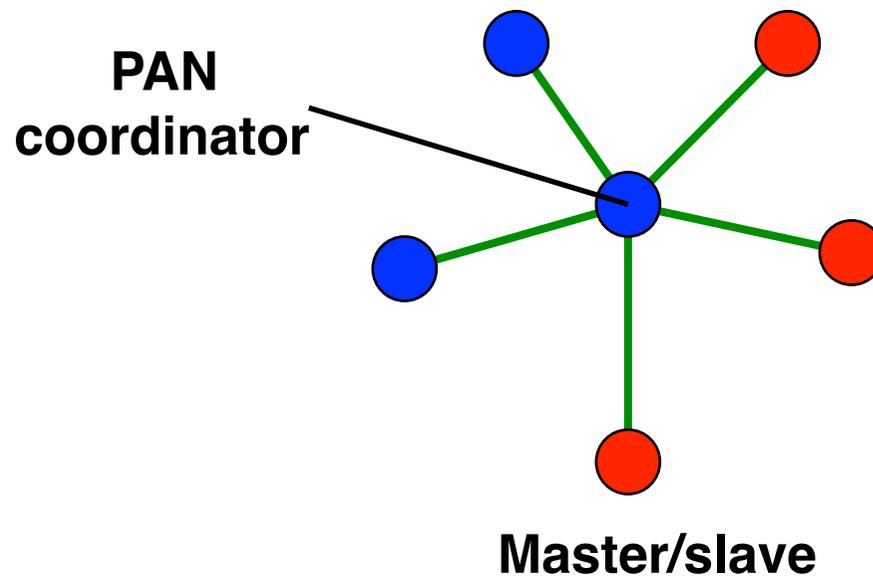


Arbitration in Slotted CSMA and Battery Life Extension

- ➔ **The CW is used to safely detect that the a slot is free and no race condition because of slight skew between nodes will lead to collisions.**
- ➔ **The Battery Life Extension property ensures that the "BE" is low ($\min(\text{CW}, \text{macMinBE})$), i.e. if a message has to be sent, it will be sent at the beginning of the superframe. This allows the Turn-Off-Point to be set early to detect that no message is pending.**



Star Topology

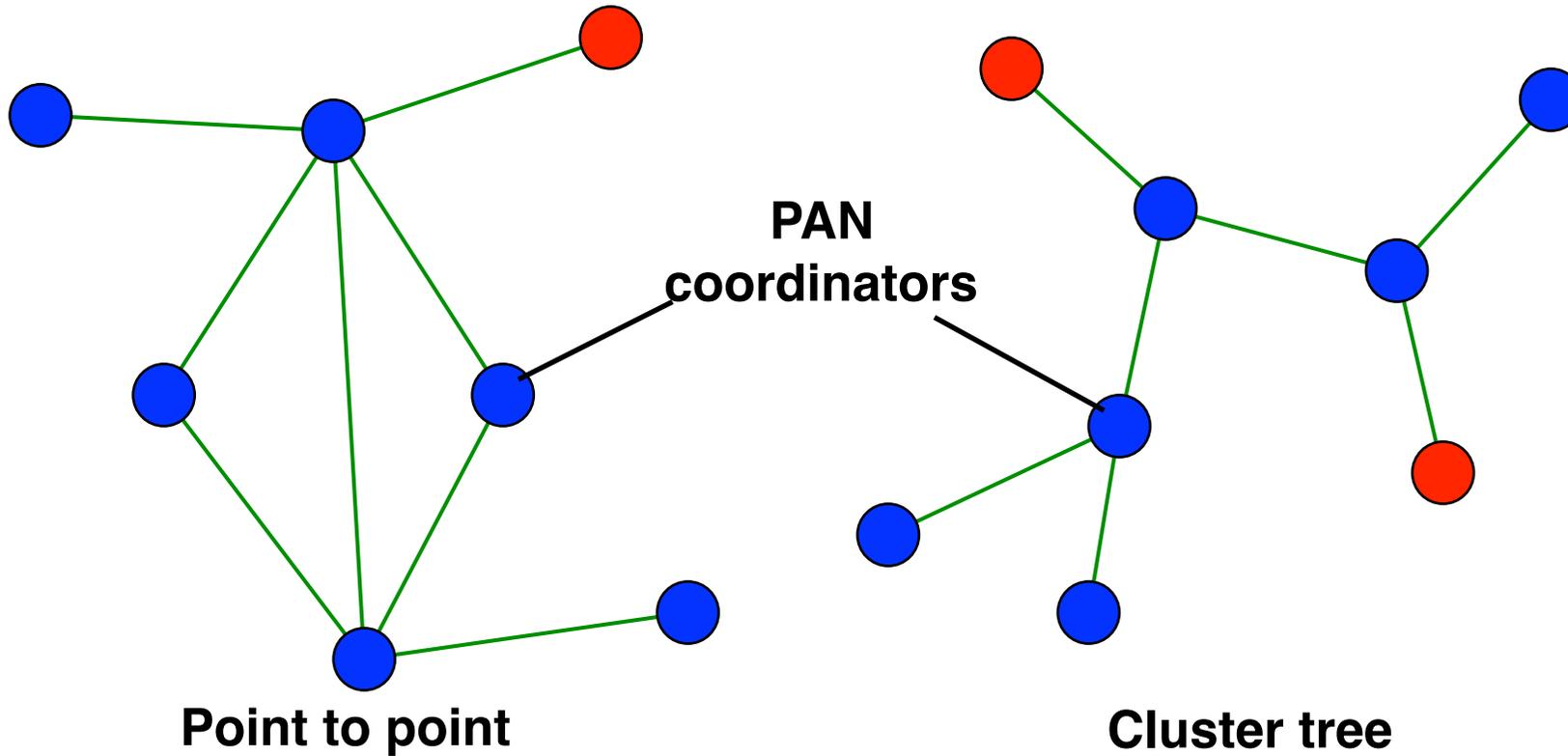


 FFD

 RFD



Peer-Peer Topology



Point to point

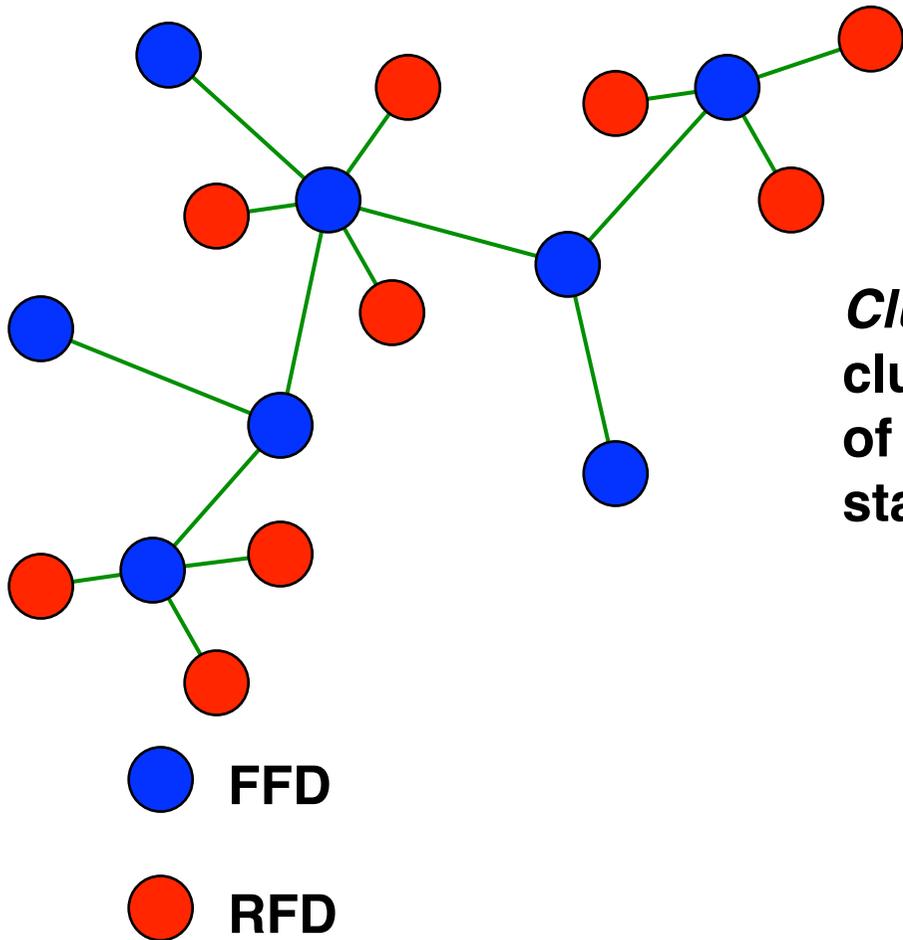
Cluster tree

● FFD

● RFD

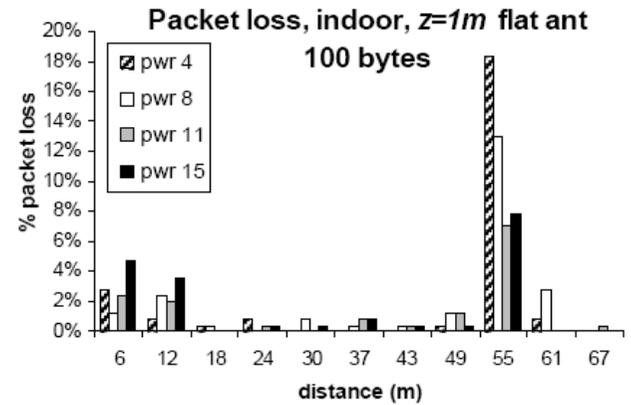
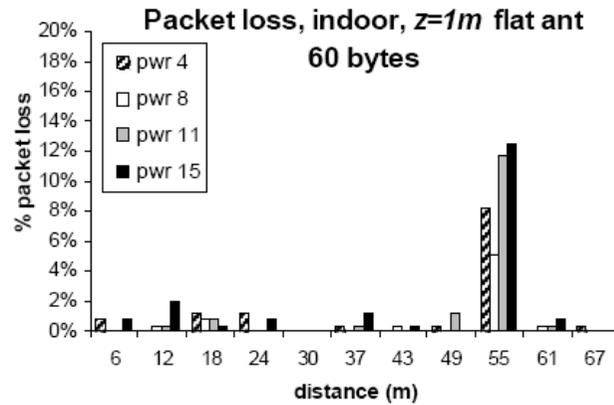
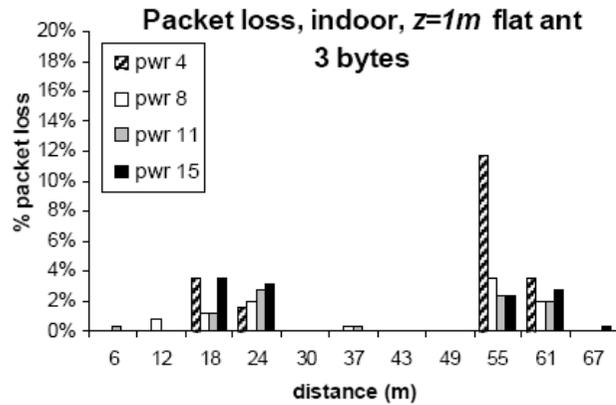


Clustered stars

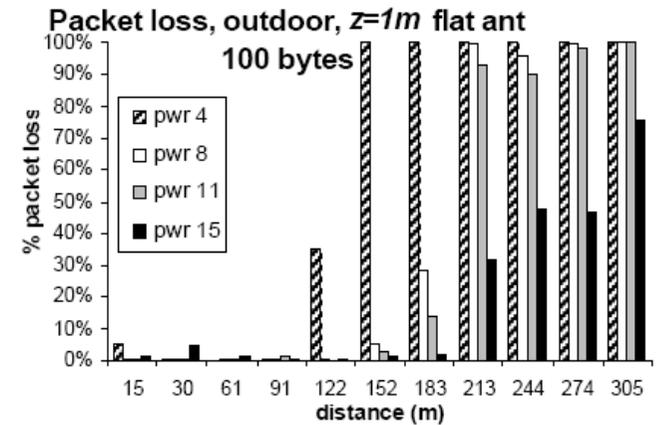
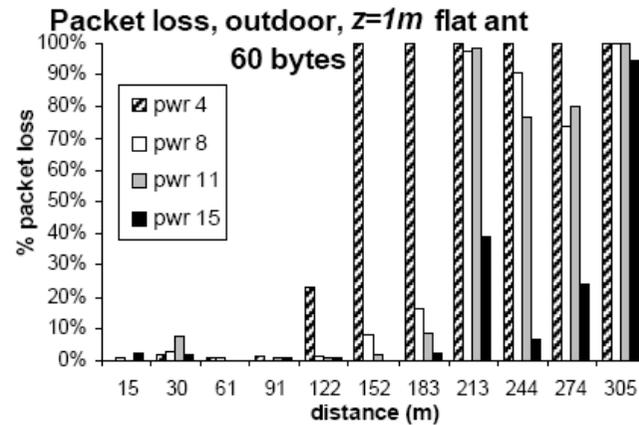
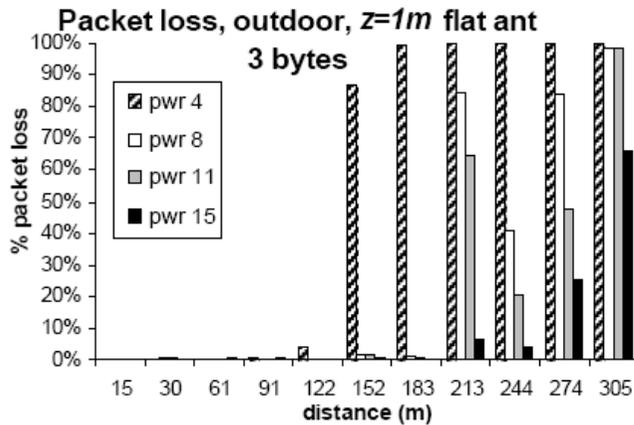


Clustered stars - for example, cluster nodes exist between rooms of a hotel and each room has a star network for control.





Indoor range test, 1m node height, flat antenna orientation, three packet sizes



Outdoor range test, 1m node height, flat antenna orientation, three packet sizes

Steven Myers, Suman Banerjee, Seapahn Megerian, and Miodrag Potkonjak
 Experimental Investigation of IEEE 802.15.4 Transmission Power Control and Interference Minimization
 4th Annual IEEE Communications Society Conference on Sensor, Mesh and Ad Hoc Communications and Networks, 2007. SECON '07, San Diego, CA, June 2007



Embedded Networks

- o **Introduction**
- o **Models of communication**
- o **Dependability and fault-tolerance**
 - * **Attributes and measures of Dependability**
 - * **Basic techniques of Fault-Tolerance**
- o **Time, Order and Clock synchronization**
- o **The physical network layer**
- o **Protocols for timely and reliable communication**
 - * **Introduction, problem analysis and categories**
 - * **Controller Area Network (CAN-Bus)**
 - * **Time Triggered Protokoll (TTP/C)**
 - * **Byteflight, FlexRay**
 - * **LIN**
- o **Sensornets**
 - * **Requirements for sensor nets**
 - * **Protokols for wireless communication**
 - * **Energy-efficient MAC-protocols**

