CSE 4215/5431:
Mobile Communications

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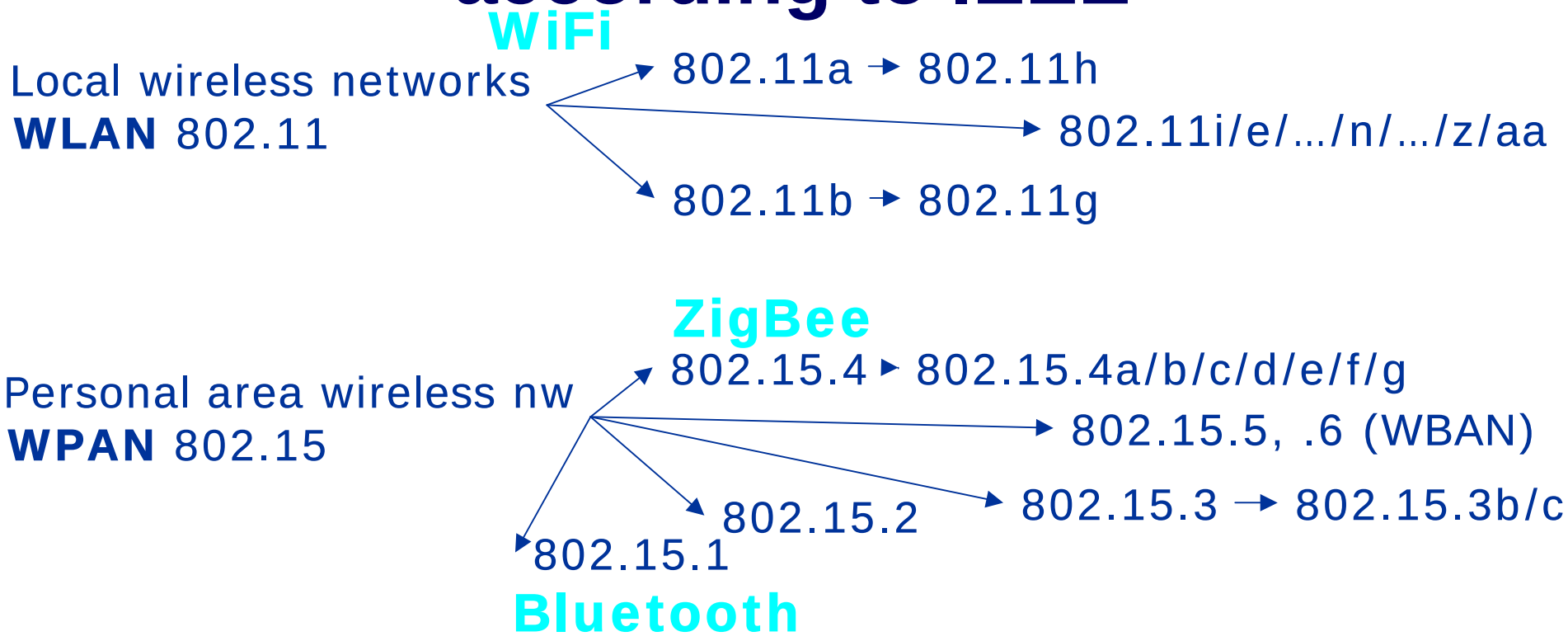
Course page: http://www.cse.yorku.ca/course/4215

Some slides are adapted from the Schiller book slides

Next: Wireless LANs

- Direct application/case studies for the MAC algorithms discussed

Mobile Communication Technology according to IEEE



Wireless distribution networks
WMAN 802.16 (Broadband Wireless Access) **WiMAX**

+ Mobility
[802.20 (Mobile Broadband Wireless Access)]
802.16e (addition to .16 for mobile devices)

Characteristics of wireless LANs

- Advantages
  - very flexible within the reception area
  - Ad-hoc networks without previous planning possible
  - (almost) no wiring difficulties (e.g. historic buildings, firewalls)
  - more robust against disasters like, e.g., earthquakes, fire - or users pulling a plug...
- Disadvantages
  - typically very low bandwidth compared to wired networks (1-10 Mbit/s) due to shared medium
  - many proprietary solutions, especially for higher bit-rates, standards take their time (e.g. IEEE 802.11n)
  - products have to follow many national restrictions

Design goals for wireless LANs

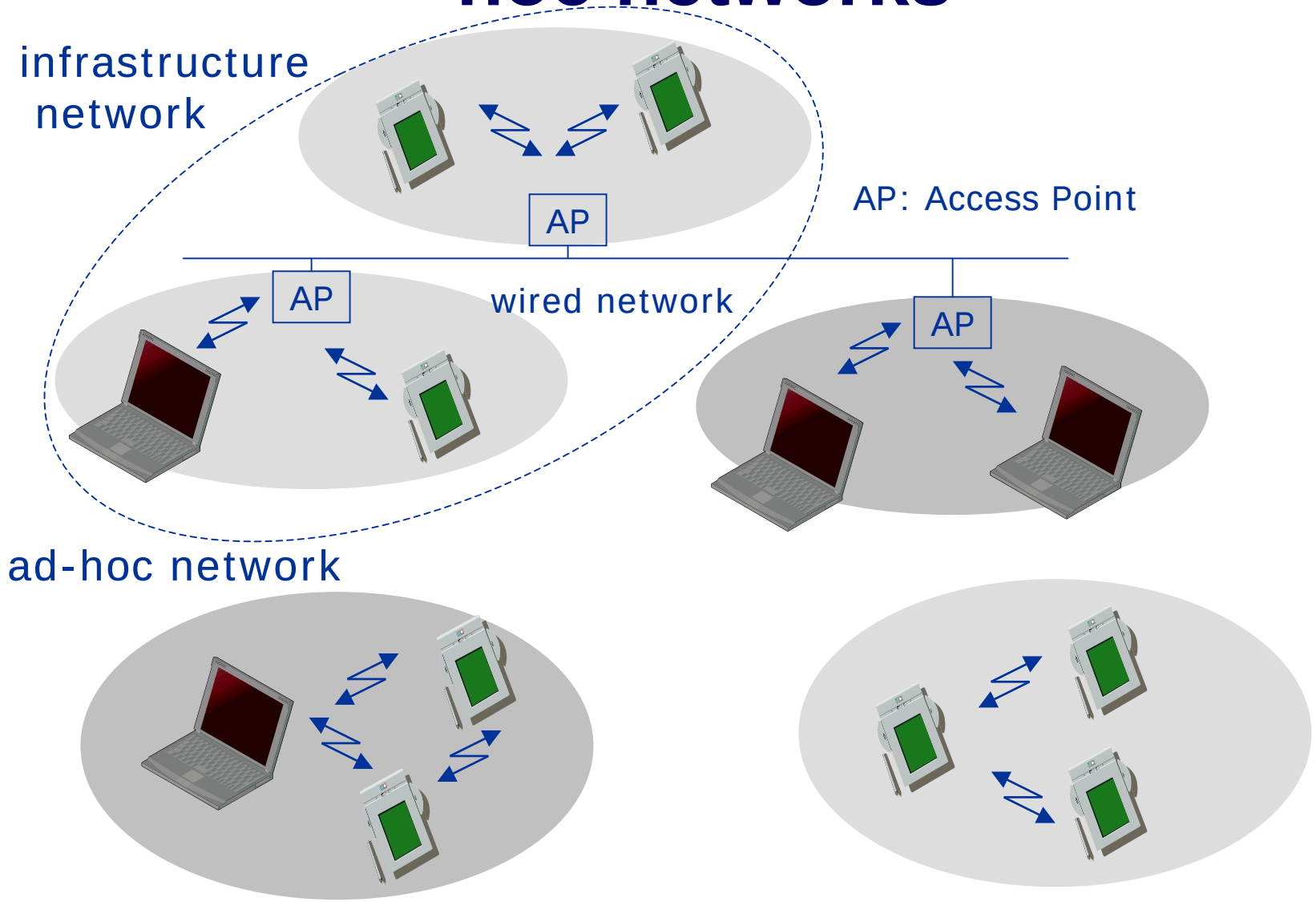
- global, seamless operation
- low power for battery use
- no special permissions or licenses needed to use the LAN
- robust transmission technology
- simplified spontaneous cooperation at meetings
- easy to use for everyone, simple management
- protection of investment in wired networks
- security (no one should be able to read my data), privacy (no one should be able to collect user profiles), safety (low radiation)
- transparency concerning applications and higher layer protocols, but also location awareness if necessary
- …

Comparison: infrared vs. radio transmission

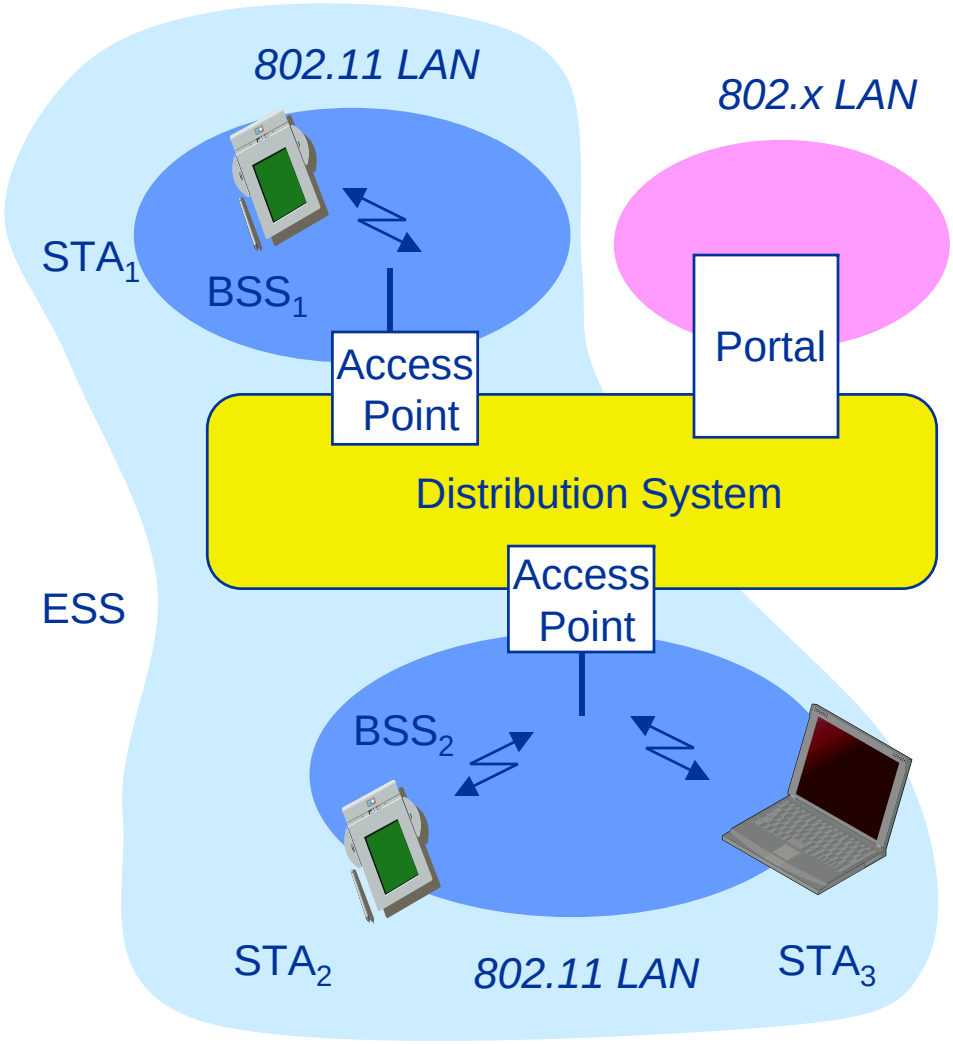
- Infrared
  - uses IR diodes, diffuse light, multiple reflections (walls, furniture etc.)
- Advantages
  - simple, cheap, available in many mobile devices
  - no licenses needed
  - simple shielding possible
- Disadvantages
  - interference by sunlight, heat sources etc.
  - many things shield or absorb IR light
  - low bandwidth
- Example
  - IrDA (Infrared Data Association) interface available everywhere

- Radio
  - typically using the license free ISM band at 2.4 GHz
- Advantages
  - experience from wireless WAN and mobile phones can be used
  - coverage of larger areas possible (radio can penetrate walls, furniture etc.)
- Disadvantages
  - very limited license free frequency bands
  - shielding more difficult, interference with other electrical devices
- Example
  - Many different products

Comparison: infrastructure vs. ad-hoc networks

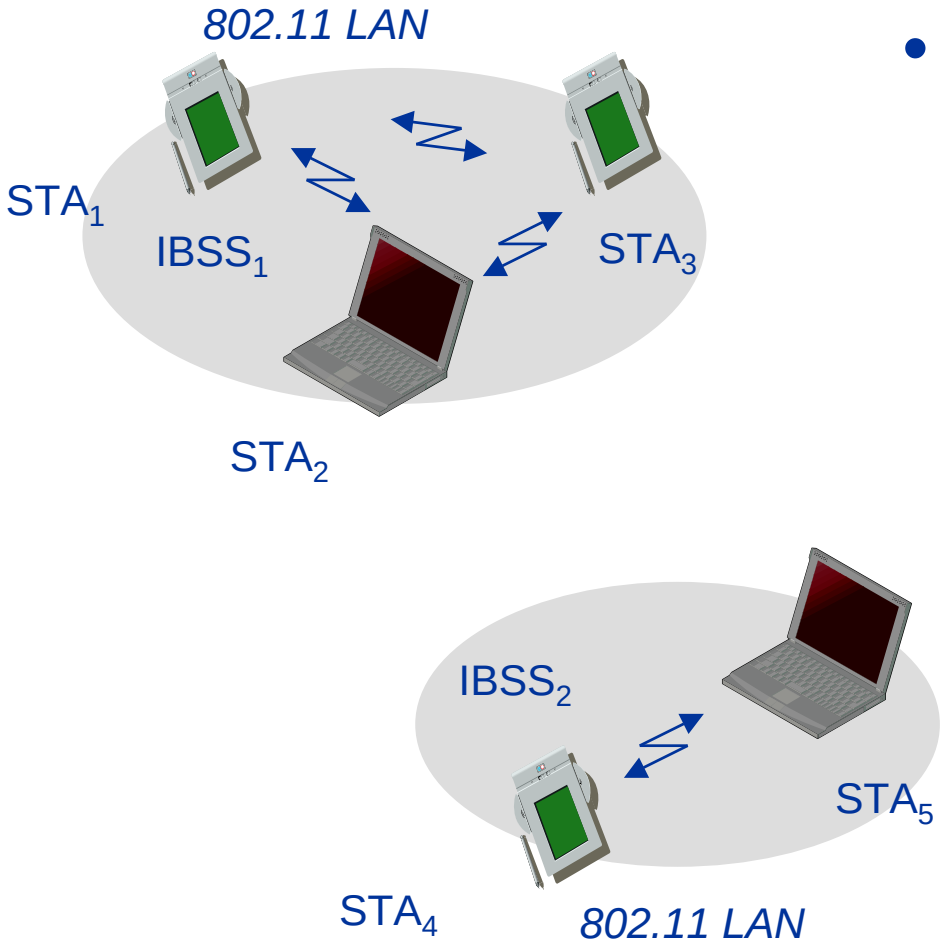


802.11 - Architecture of an infrastructure network



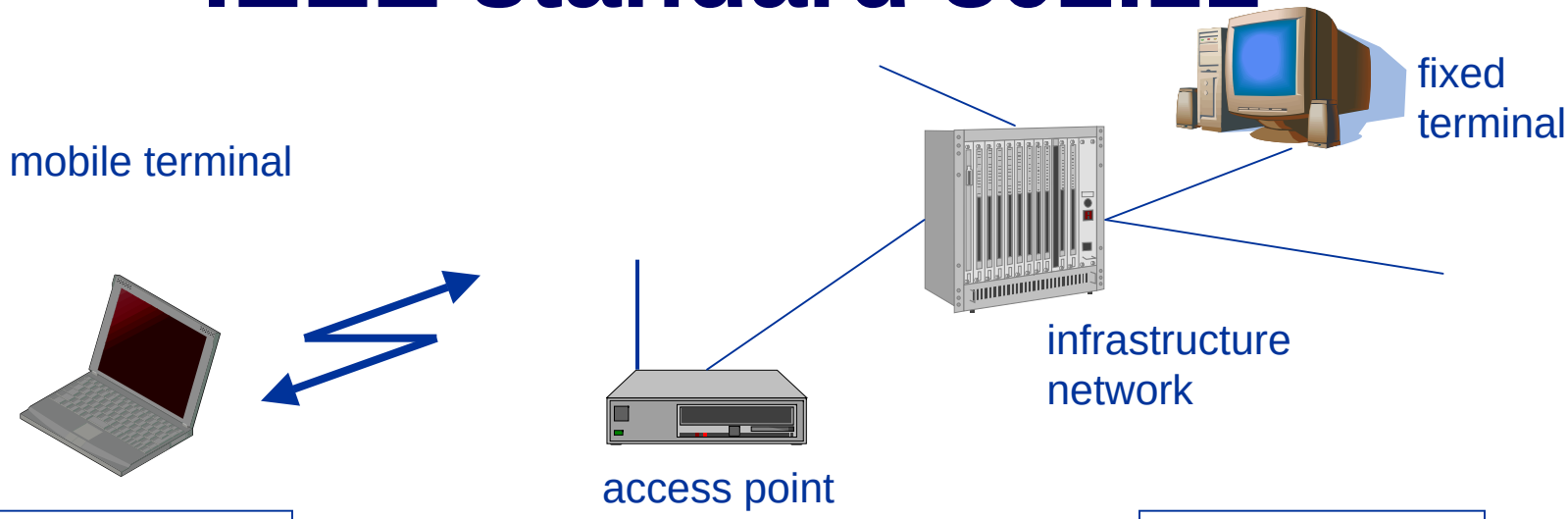
- Station (STA)
  - terminal with access mechanisms to the wireless medium and radio contact to the access point
- Basic Service Set (BSS)
  - group of stations using the same radio frequency
- Access Point
  - station integrated into the wireless LAN and the distribution system
- Portal : bridge to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

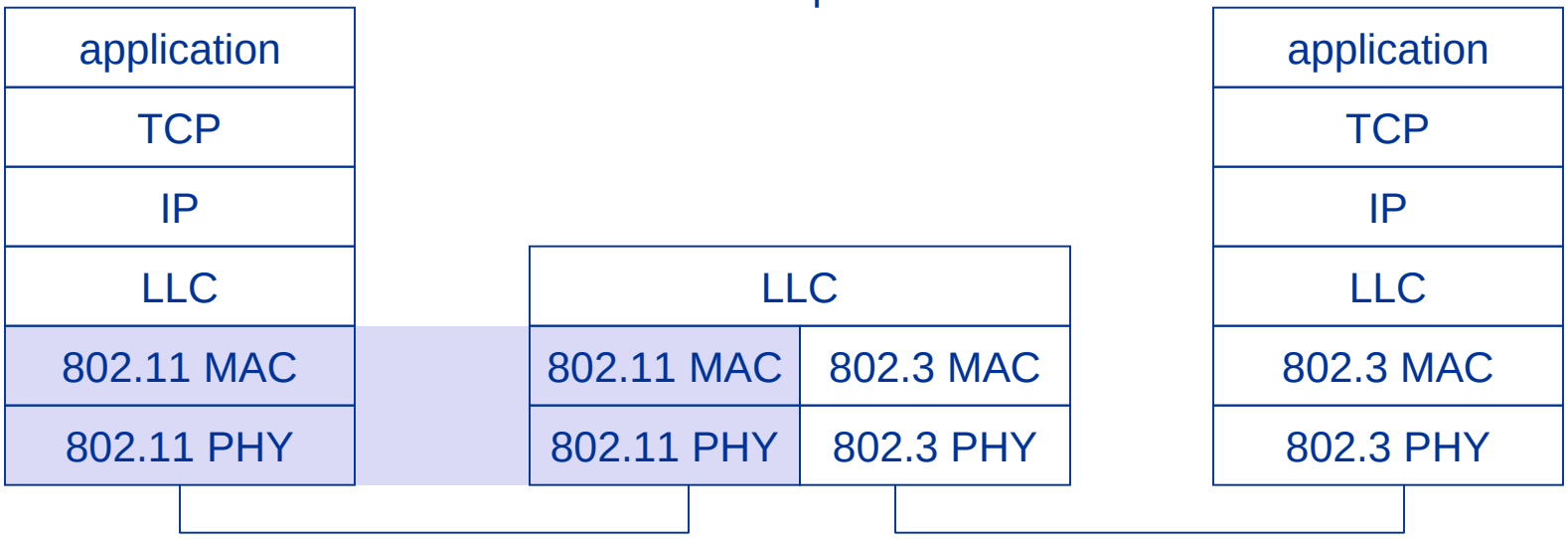
802.11 - Architecture of an ad-hoc network



- Direct communication within a limited range
  - Station (STA): terminal with access mechanisms to the wireless medium
  - Independent Basic Service Set (IBSS): group of stations using the same radio frequency

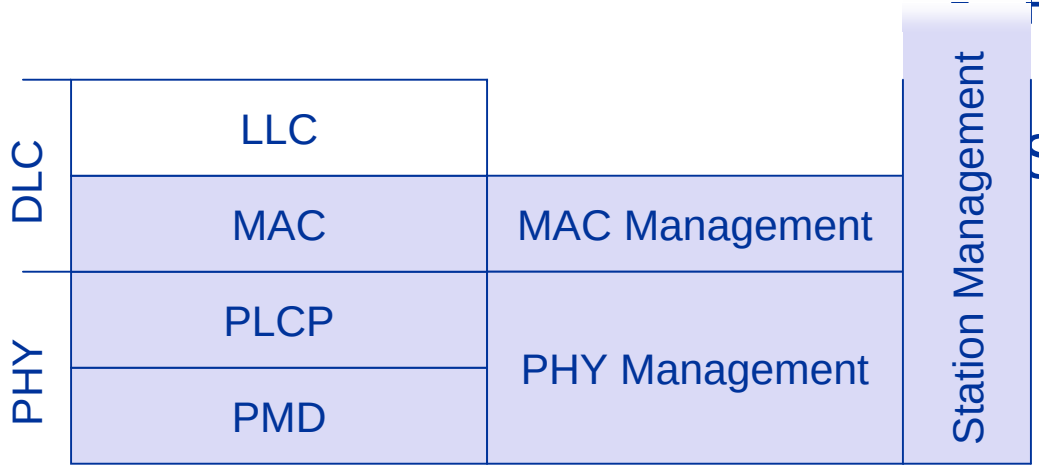
IEEE standard 802.11





802.11 - Layers and functions

- MAC
  - access mechanisms, fragmentation, encryption
- MAC Management
  - synchronization, roaming, MIB, power management
- PLCP Physical Layer Convergence Protocol
  - clear channel assessment signal (carrier sense)
- PMD Physical Medium Dependent
  - modulation, coding
- PHY Management
  - channel selection, MIB
- Station Management
  - coordination of all management functions

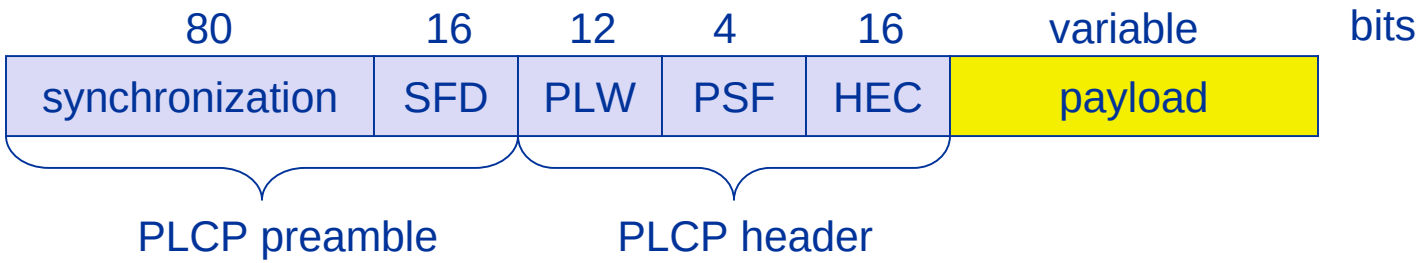


802.11 - Physical layer (legacy)

- 3 versions: 2 radio (typ. 2.4 GHz), 1 IR
  - data rates 1 or 2 Mbit/s
- FHSS (Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum)
  - spreading, despreading, signal strength, typ. 1 Mbit/s
  - min. 2.5 frequency hops/s (USA), two-level GFSK modulation
- DSSS (Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum)
  - DBPSK modulation for 1 Mbit/s (Differential Binary Phase Shift Keying), DQPSK for 2 Mbit/s (Differential Quadrature PSK)
  - preamble and header of a frame is always transmitted with 1 Mbit/s, rest of transmission 1 or 2 Mbit/s
  - chipping sequence: +1, -1, +1, +1, -1, +1, +1, +1, -1, -1, -1 (Barker code)
  - max. radiated power 1 W (USA), 100 mW (EU), min. 1mW
- Infrared
  - 850-950 nm, diffuse light, typ. 10 m range
  - carrier detection, energy detection, synchronization

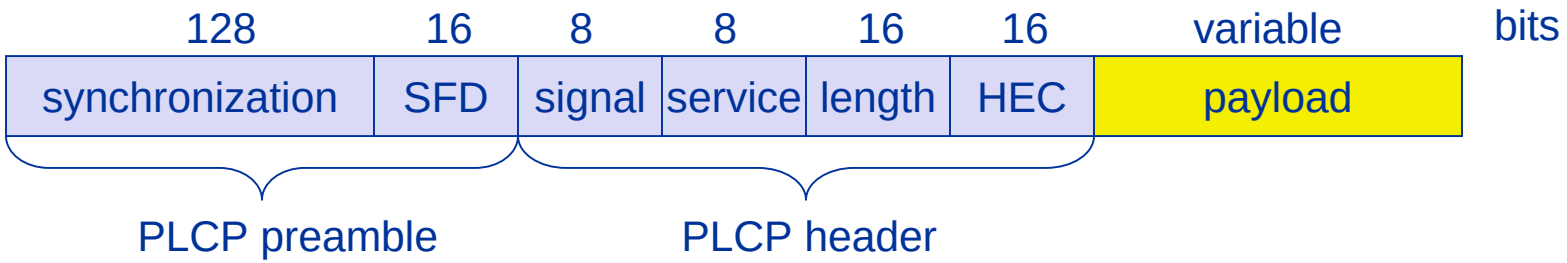
FHSS PHY packet format (legacy)

- Synchronization
  - synch with 010101... Pattern (80 bits)
- SFD (Start Frame Delimiter) 16 bits
  - 0000110010111101 start pattern
- PLW (PLCP_PDU Length Word)
  - length of payload incl. 32 bit CRC of payload, PLW < 4096
- PSF (PLCP Signaling Field)
  - data of payload (1 or 2 Mbit/s)
- HEC (Header Error Check)
  - CRC with $x^{16}+x^{12}+x^{5}+1$



DSSS PHY packet format (legacy)

- Synchronization
  - synch., gain setting, energy detection, frequency offset compensation
- SFD (Start Frame Delimiter)
  - 1111001110100000
- Signal
  - data rate of the payload (0A: 1 Mbit/s DBPSK; 14: 2 Mbit/s DQPSK)
- Service
  - future use, 00: 802.11 compliant
- Length
  - length of the payload
- HEC (Header Error Check)
  - protection of signal, service and length, $x^{16}+x^{12}+x^{5}+1$

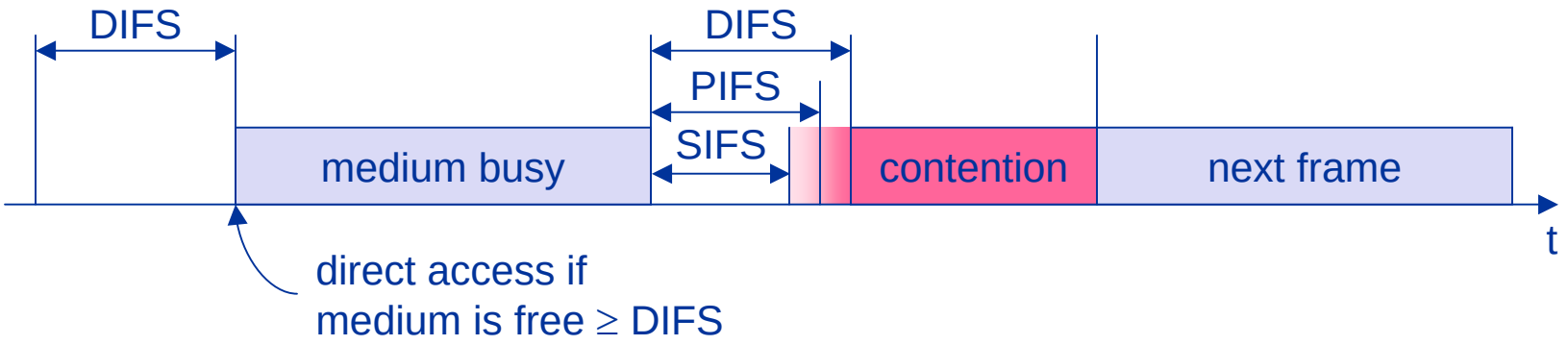


802.11 - MAC layer I - DFWMAC

- Traffic services
  - Asynchronous Data Service (mandatory)
    - exchange of data packets based on “best-effort”
    - support of broadcast and multicast
  - Time-Bounded Service (optional)
    - implemented using PCF (Point Coordination Function)
- Access methods
  - DFWMAC-DCF CSMA/CA (mandatory)
    - collision avoidance via randomized “back-off“ mechanism
    - minimum distance between consecutive packets
    - ACK packet for acknowledgements (not for broadcasts)
  - DFWMAC-DCF w/ RTS/CTS (optional)
    - Distributed Foundation Wireless MAC
    - avoids hidden terminal problem
  - DFWMAC- PCF (optional)
    - access point polls terminals according to a list

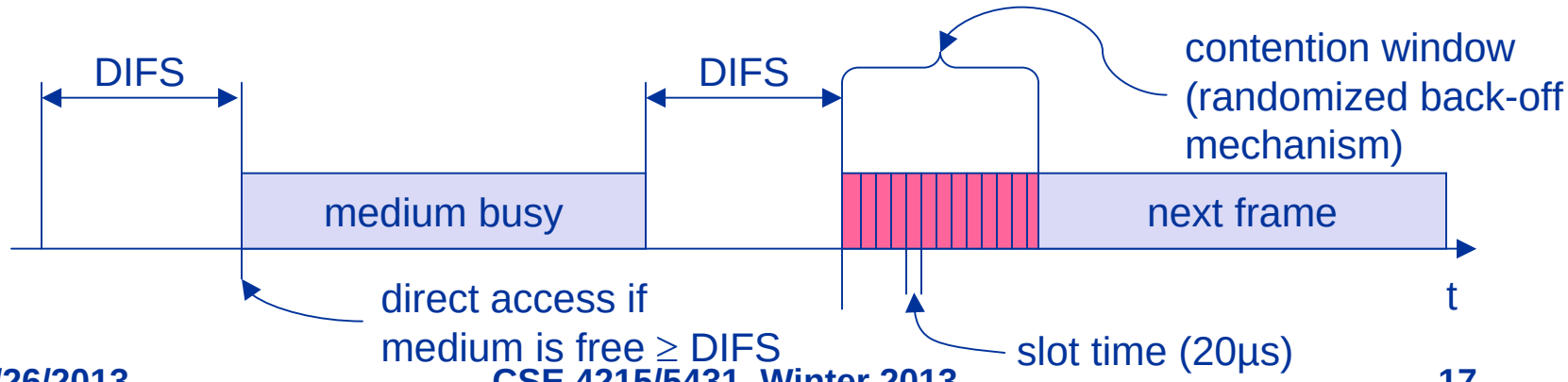
802.11 - MAC layer II

- Priorities
  - defined through different inter frame spaces
  - no guaranteed, hard priorities
  - SIFS (Short Inter Frame Spacing)
    - highest priority, for ACK, CTS, polling response
  - PIFS (PCF IFS)
    - medium priority, for time-bounded service using PCF
  - DIFS (DCF, Distributed Coordination Function IFS)
    - lowest priority, for asynchronous data service

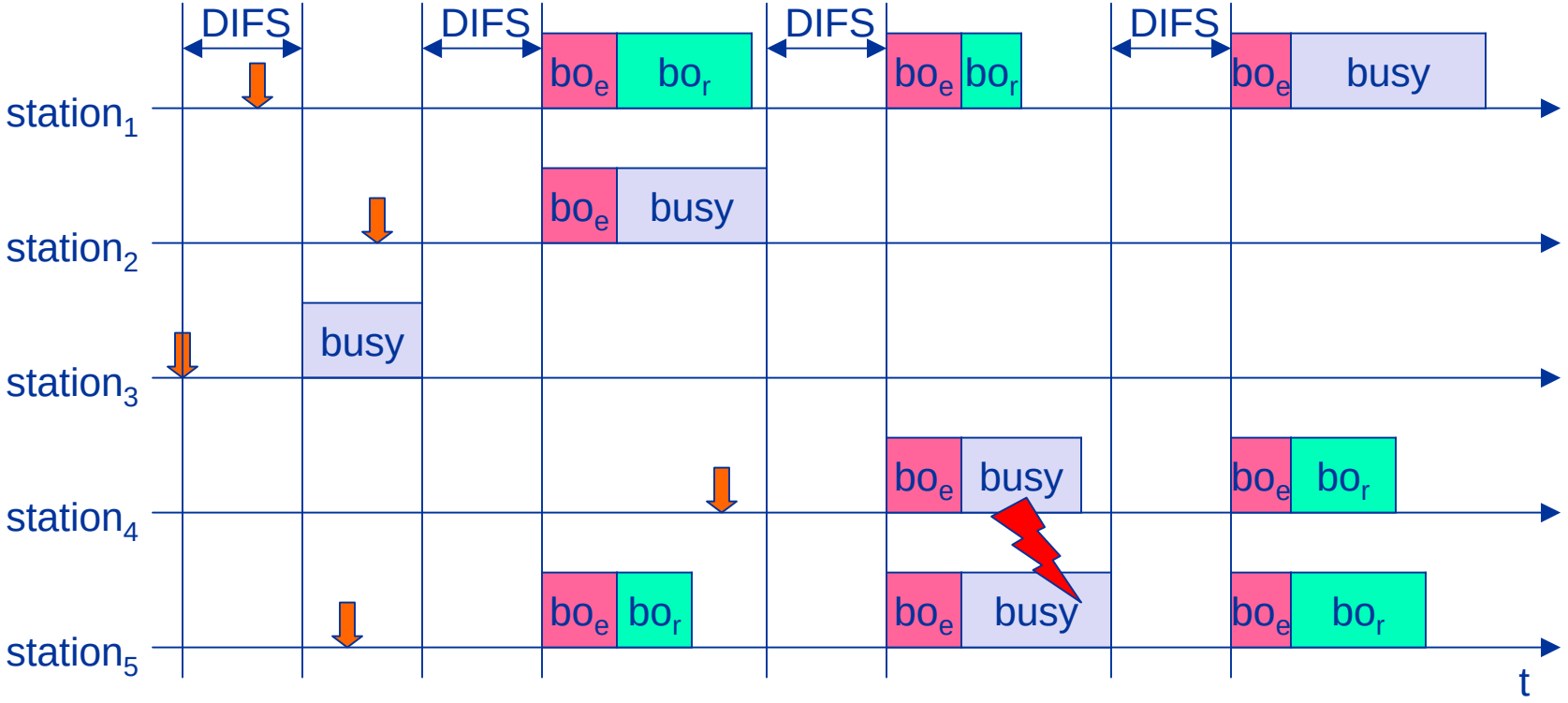


802.11 - CSMA/CA access method I

- station ready to send starts sensing the medium (Carrier Sense based on CCA, Clear Channel Assessment)
- if the medium is free for the duration of an Inter-Frame Space (IFS), the station can start sending (IFS depends on service type)
- if the medium is busy, the station has to wait for a free IFS, then the station must additionally wait a random back-off time (collision avoidance, multiple of slot-time)
- if another station occupies the medium during the back-off time of the station, the back-off timer stops (fairness)



802.11 - competing stations - simple version



busy — medium not idle (frame, ack etc.)

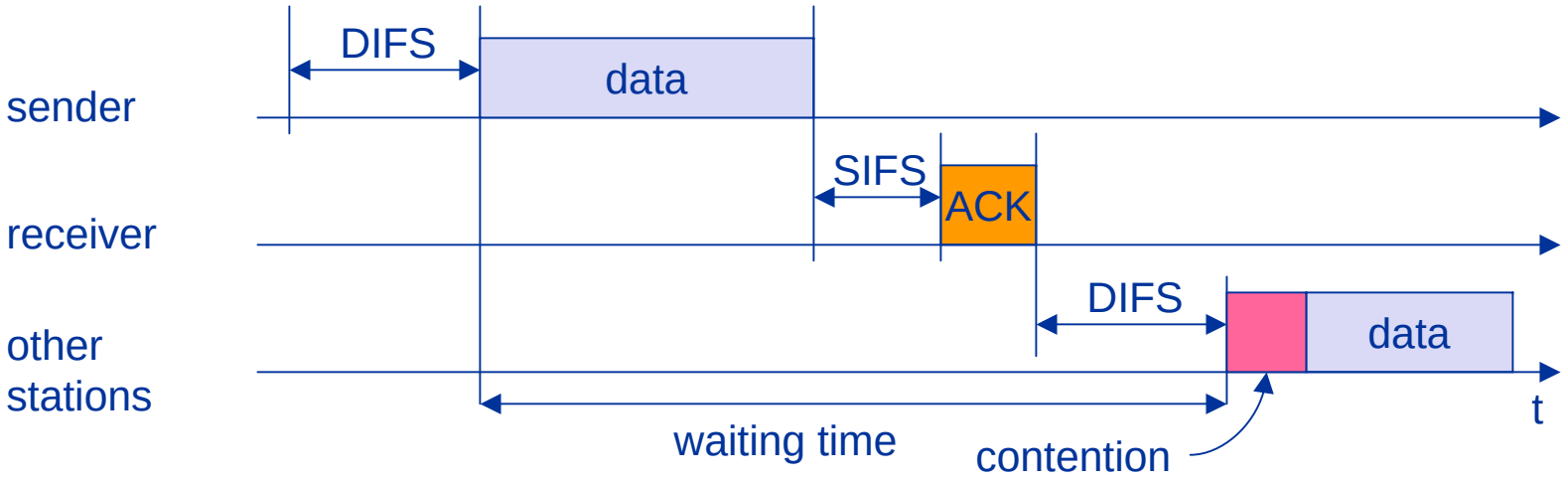
boe — elapsed backoff time

packet arrival at MAC

bor — residual backoff time

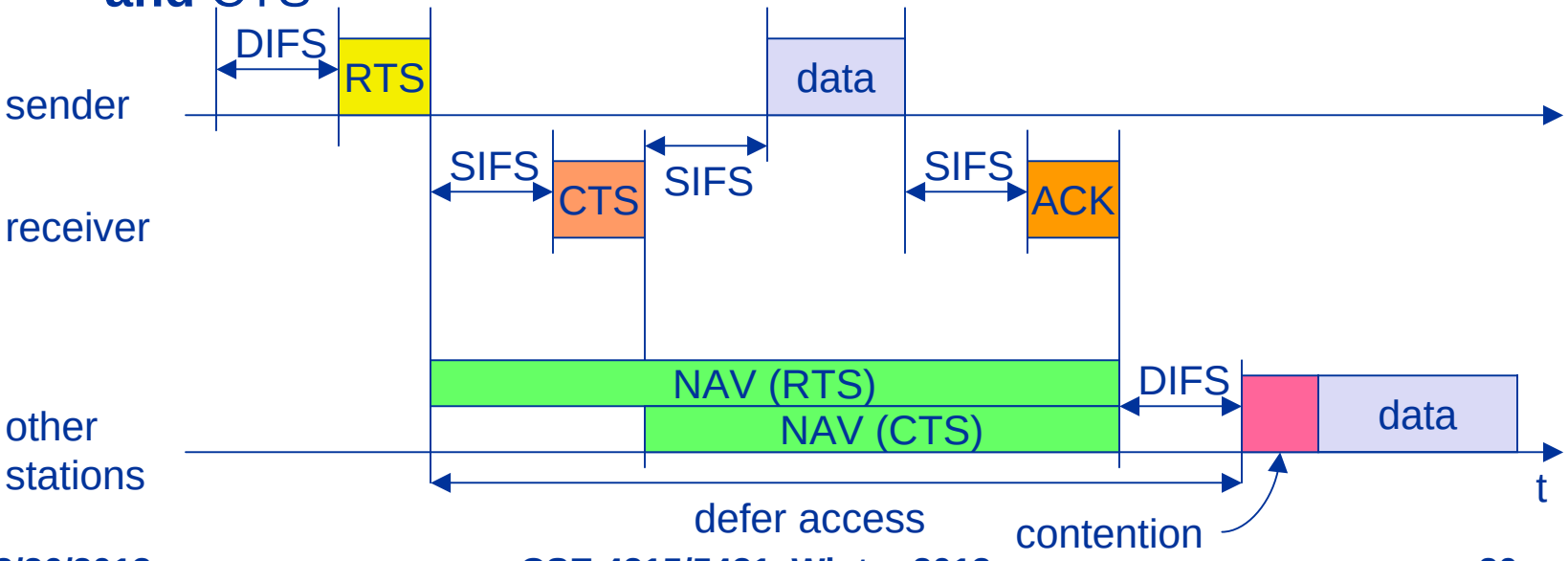
802.11 - CSMA/CA access method II

- 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

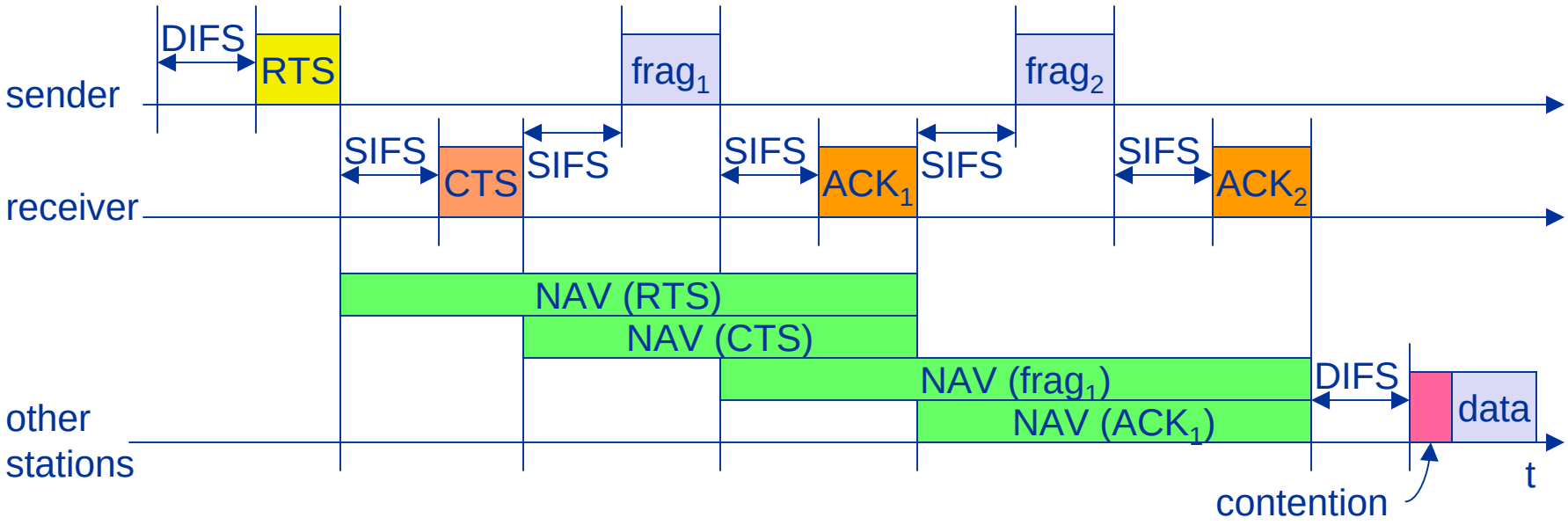


802.11 - DFWMAC

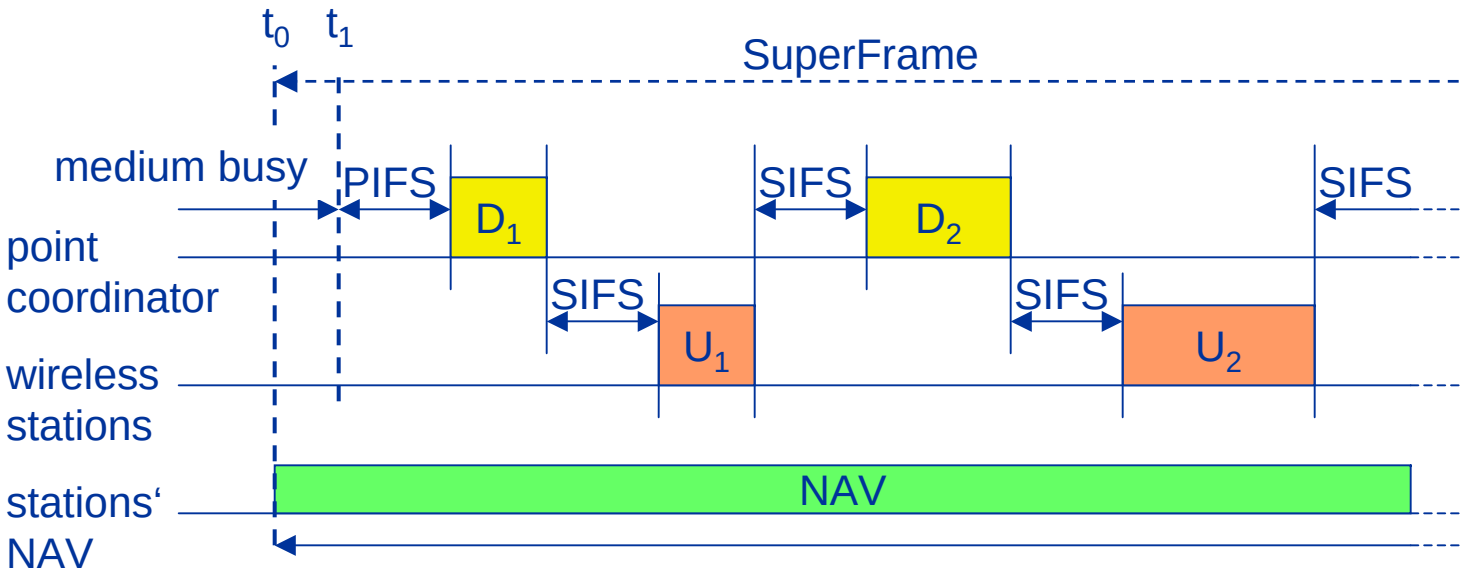
- Sending unicast packets
  - station can send RTS with reservation parameter after waiting for DIFS (reservation determines amount of time the data packet needs the medium)
  - acknowledgement via CTS after SIFS by receiver (if ready to receive)
  - sender can now send data at once, acknowledgement via ACK
  - other stations store medium reservations distributed via RTS **and** CTS



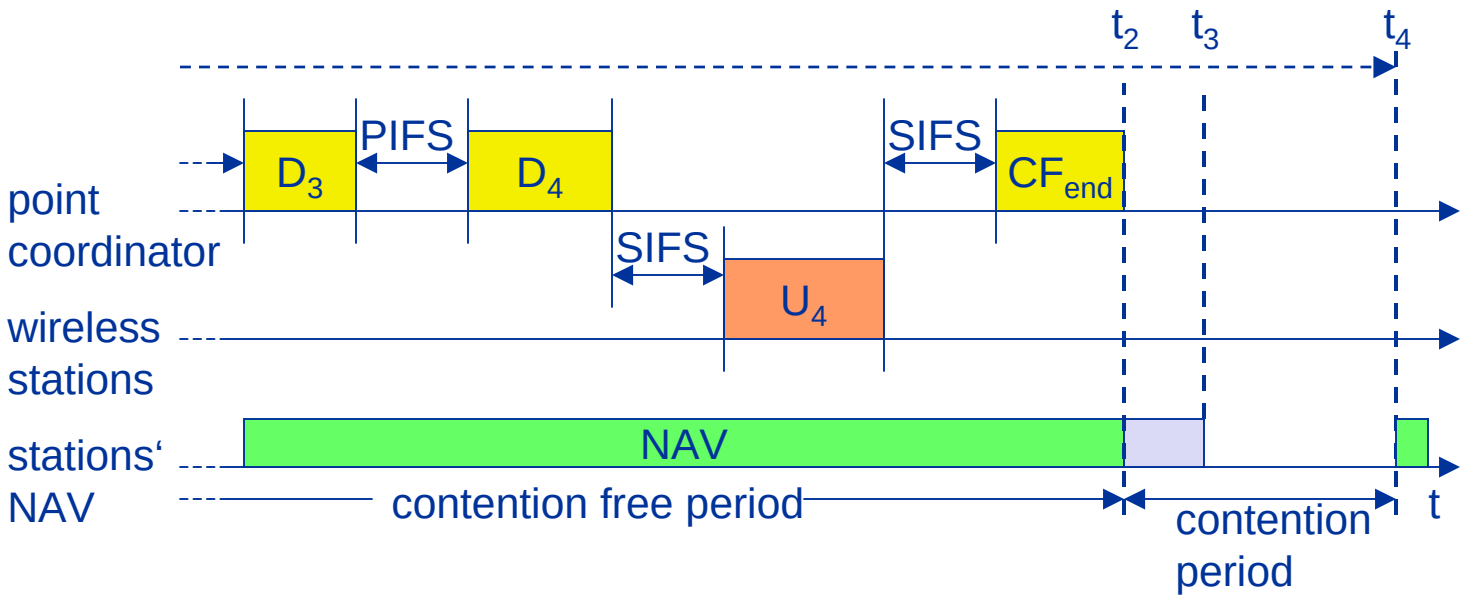
Fragmentation



DFWMAC-PCF I (almost never used)

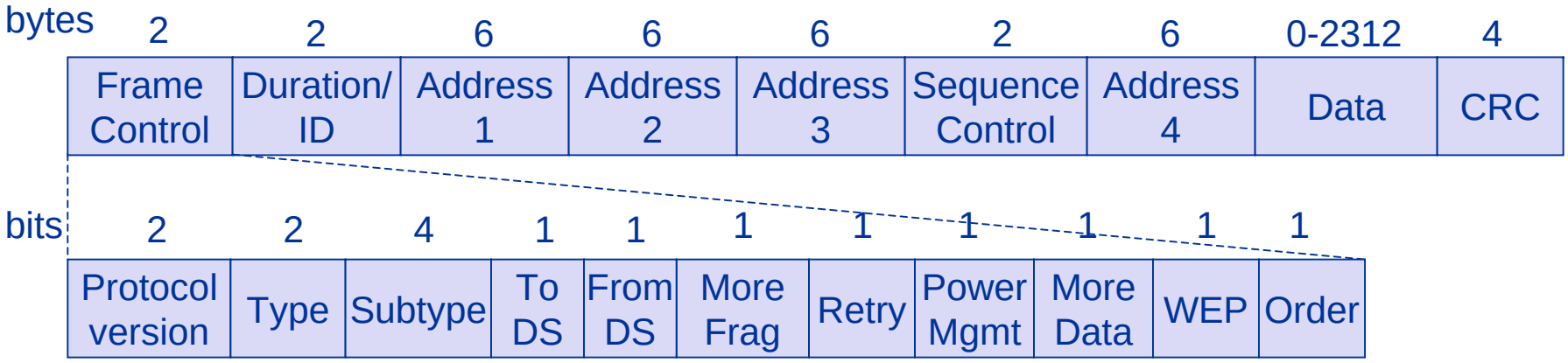


DFWMAC-PCF II



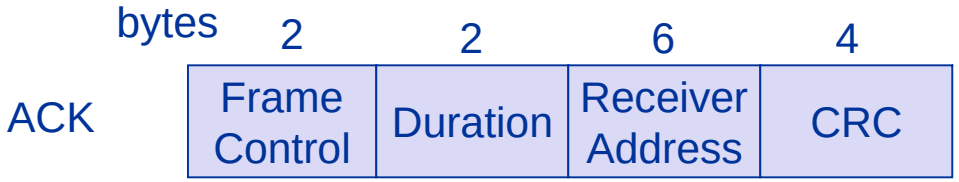
802.11 - Frame format

- Types
  - control frames, management frames, data frames
- Sequence numbers
  - important against duplicated frames due to lost ACKs
- Addresses
  - receiver, transmitter (physical), BSS identifier, sender (logical)
- Miscellaneous
  - sending time, checksum, frame control, data



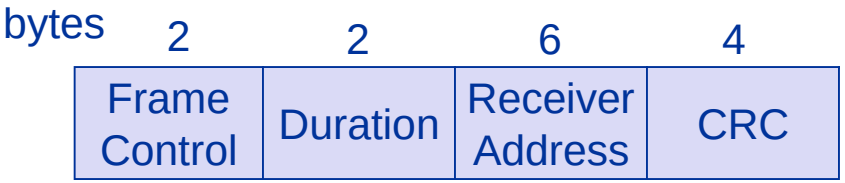
Special Frames: ACK, RTS, CTS

- Acknowledgement



- Request To Send

- Clear To Send



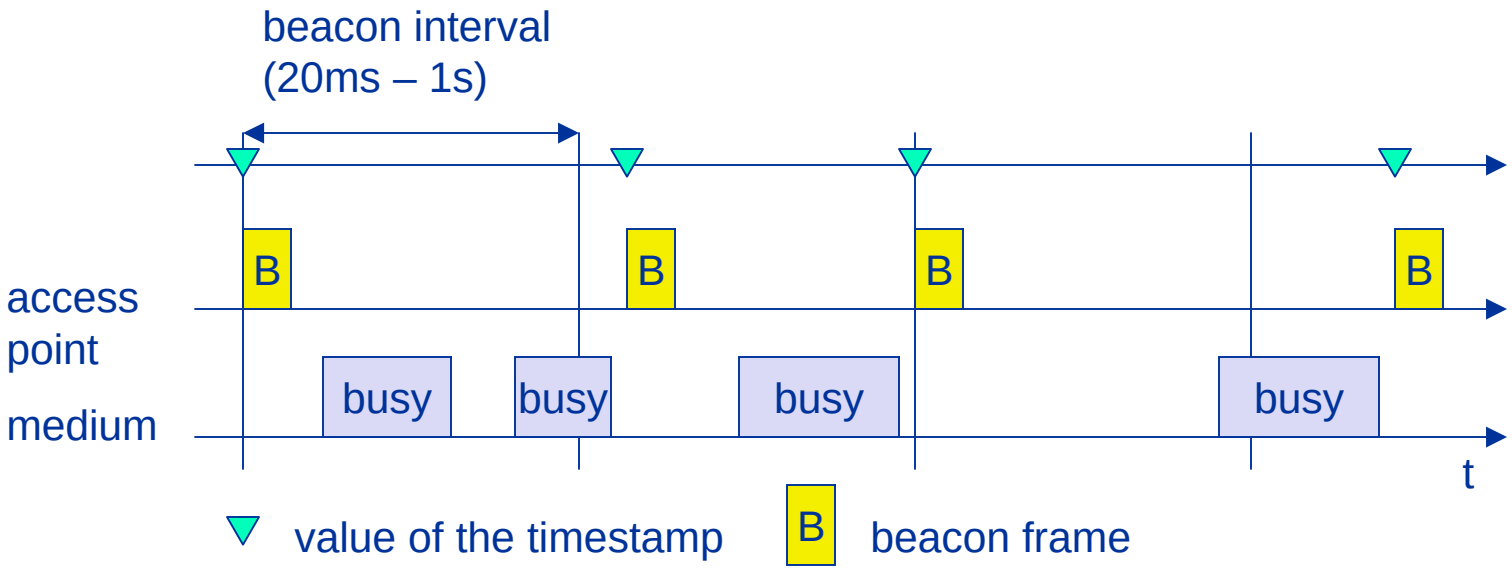
802.11 - MAC management

- Synchronization
  - try to find a LAN, try to stay within a LAN
  - Clock synchronization
- Power management
  - sleep-mode without missing a message
  - periodic sleep, frame buffering, traffic measurements
- Association/Reassociation
  - integration into a LAN
  - roaming, i.e. change networks by changing access points
  - scanning, i.e. active search for a network
- MIB - Management Information Base
  - managing, read, write
  - Accessible through SNMP

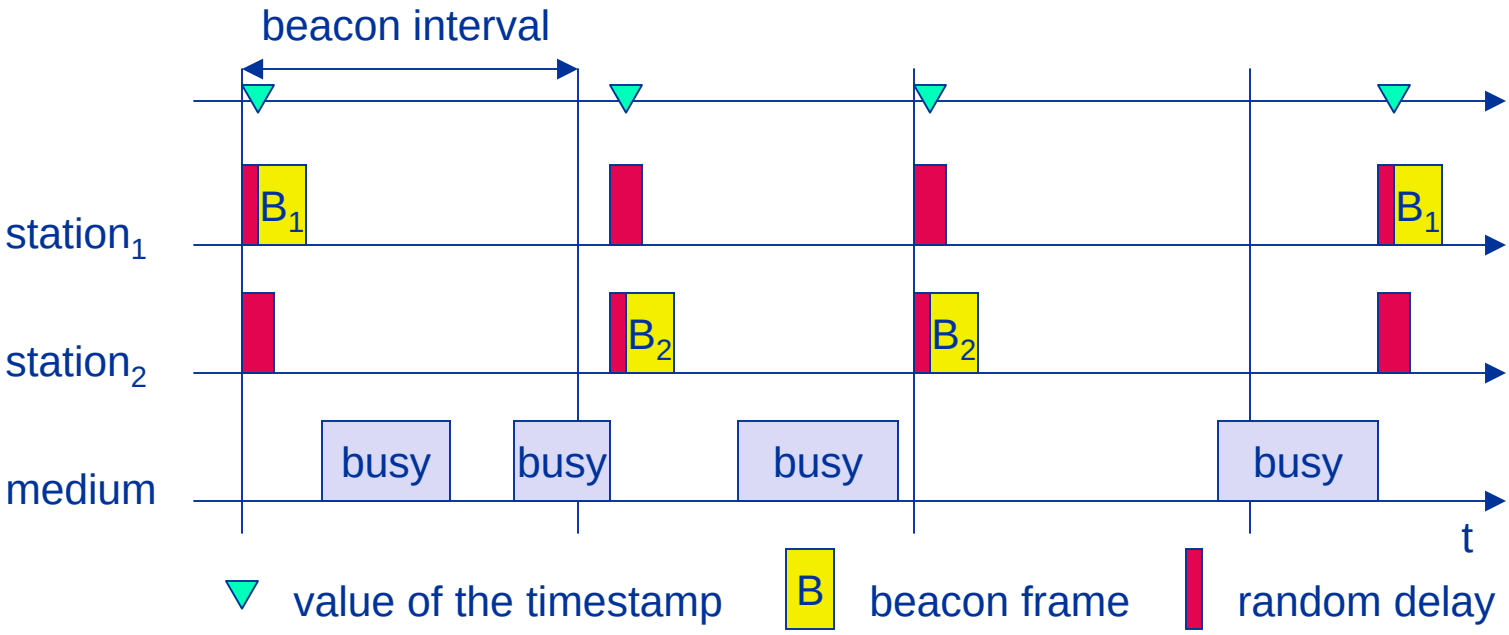
Synchronization

- TSF: timing synchronization function
- Needed for polling, frequency hopping
- Use of beacons for timestamps, other information
- Not periodic – not sent when medium is busy
- Who transmits beacons in ad hoc mode?

Synchronization using a Beacon (infrastructure)



Synchronization using a Beacon (ad-hoc)



Security issues?

- Can a malicious node provide incorrect timing information?