

Mobile and Sensor Systems

Lecture 3: Infrastructure, Ad-hoc and
Delay Tolerant Mobile Networks

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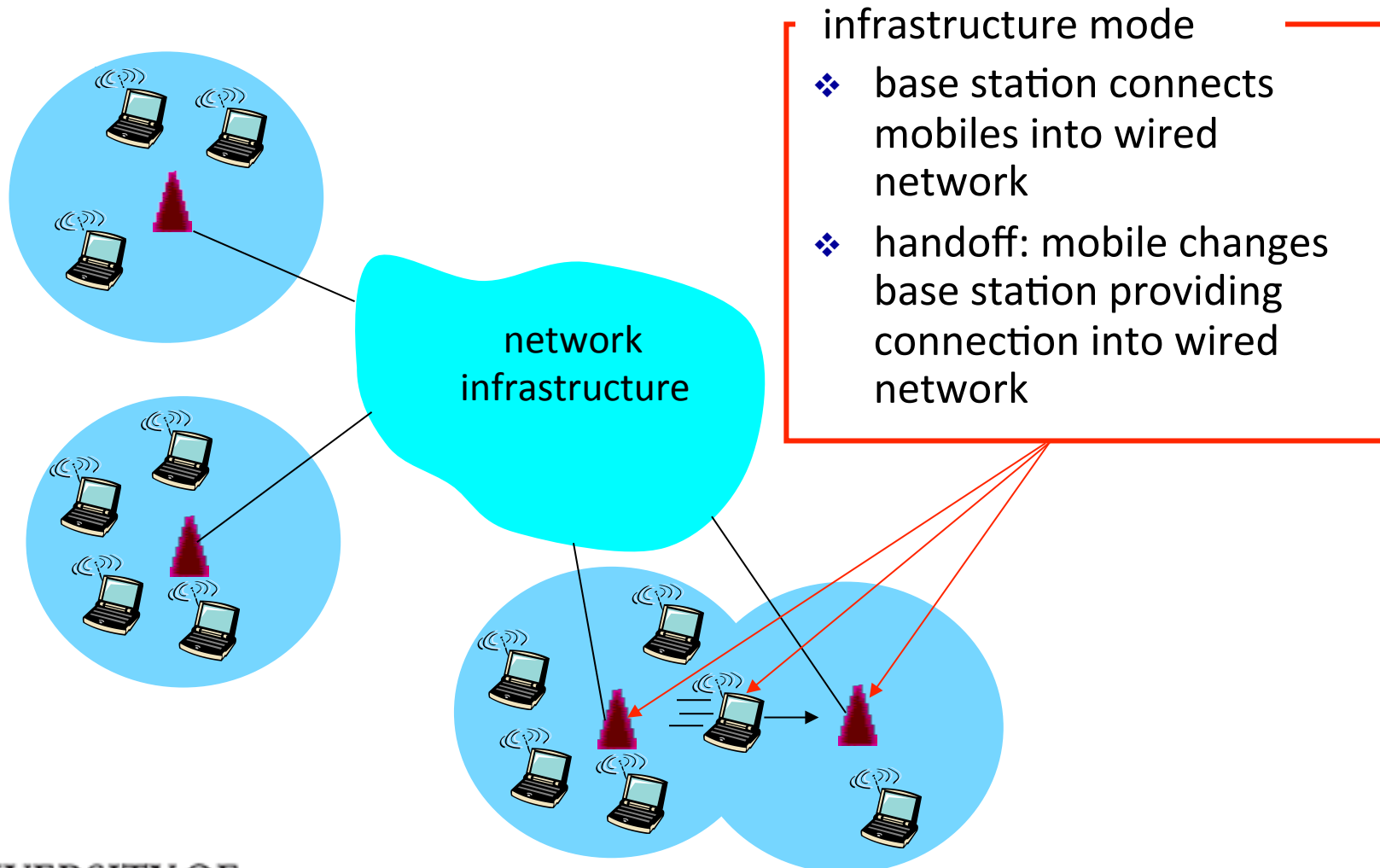
In this lecture

- In this lecture we will describe the difference in infrastructure and ad hoc networks and we will introduce ad hoc routing protocols.
- We will also introduce disconnected ad hoc networks and delay tolerant routing protocols.

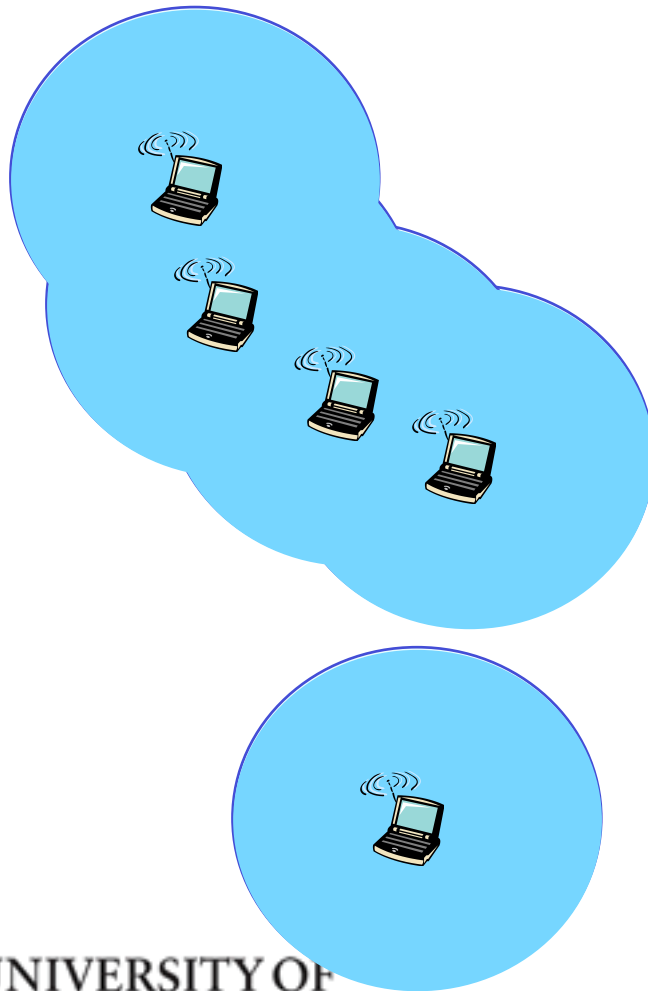
Infrastructure-based vs Ad-hoc

- Wireless communication can be organized in two different fashions :
 - This might depend on the application and on the network set up.

Infrastructure-based



Ad-hoc

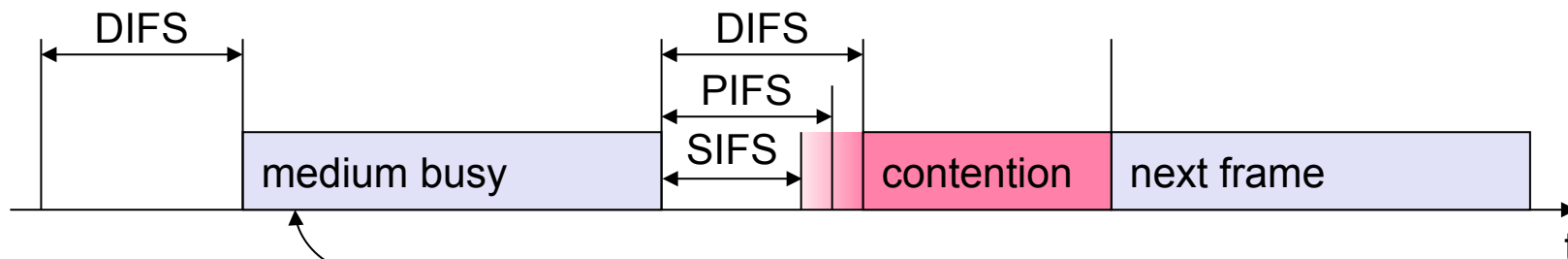


ad hoc mode

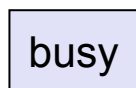
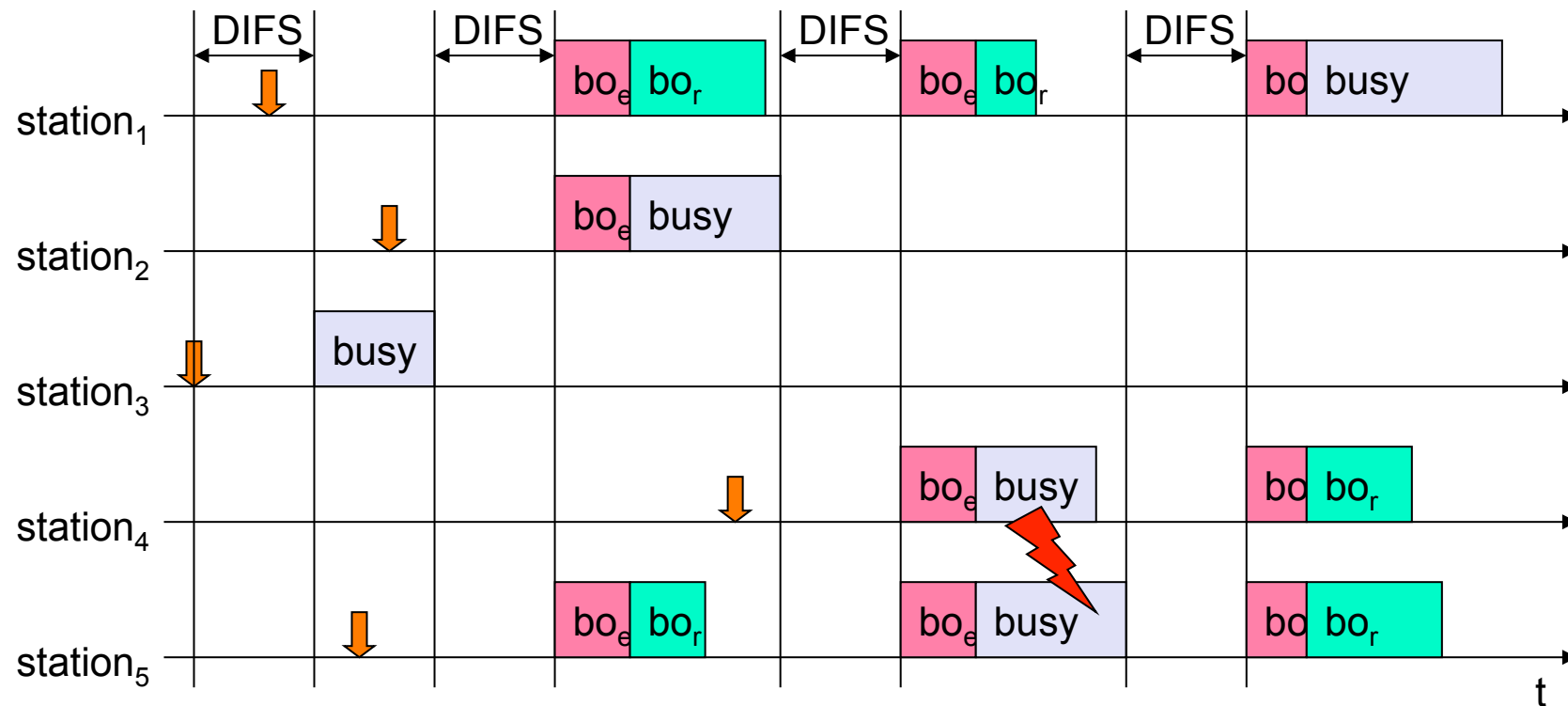
- ❖ no base stations
- ❖ nodes can only transmit to other nodes within link coverage
- ❖ nodes organize themselves into a network: route among themselves

802.11 - MAC layer (recap)

- 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 – competing stations



medium not idle (frame, ack etc.)



elapsed backoff time

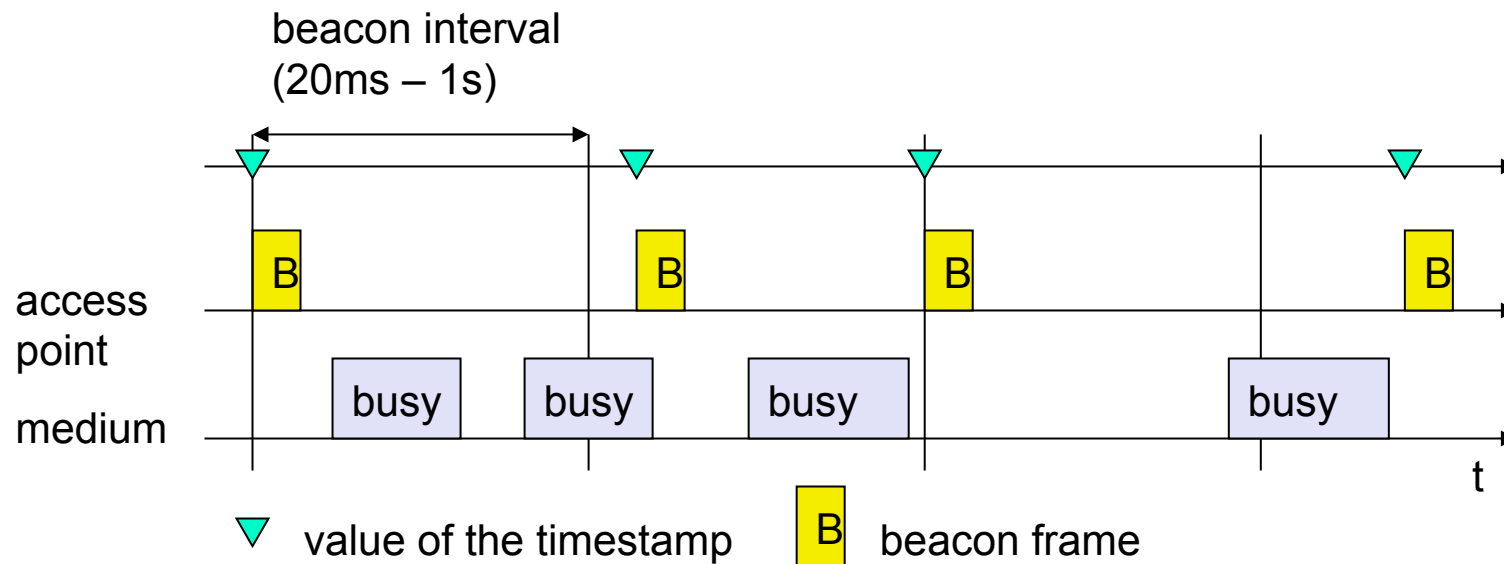


packet arrival at MAC



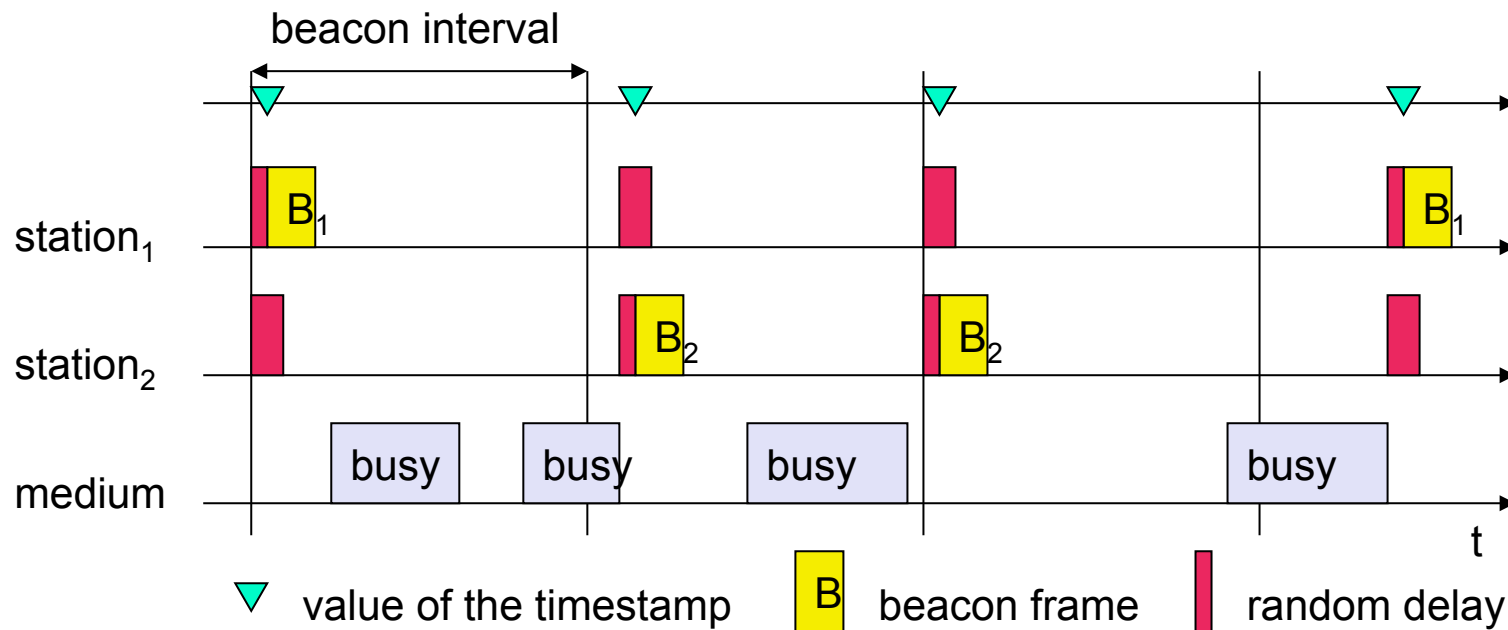
residual backoff time

Synchronization using a Beacon (infrastructure)



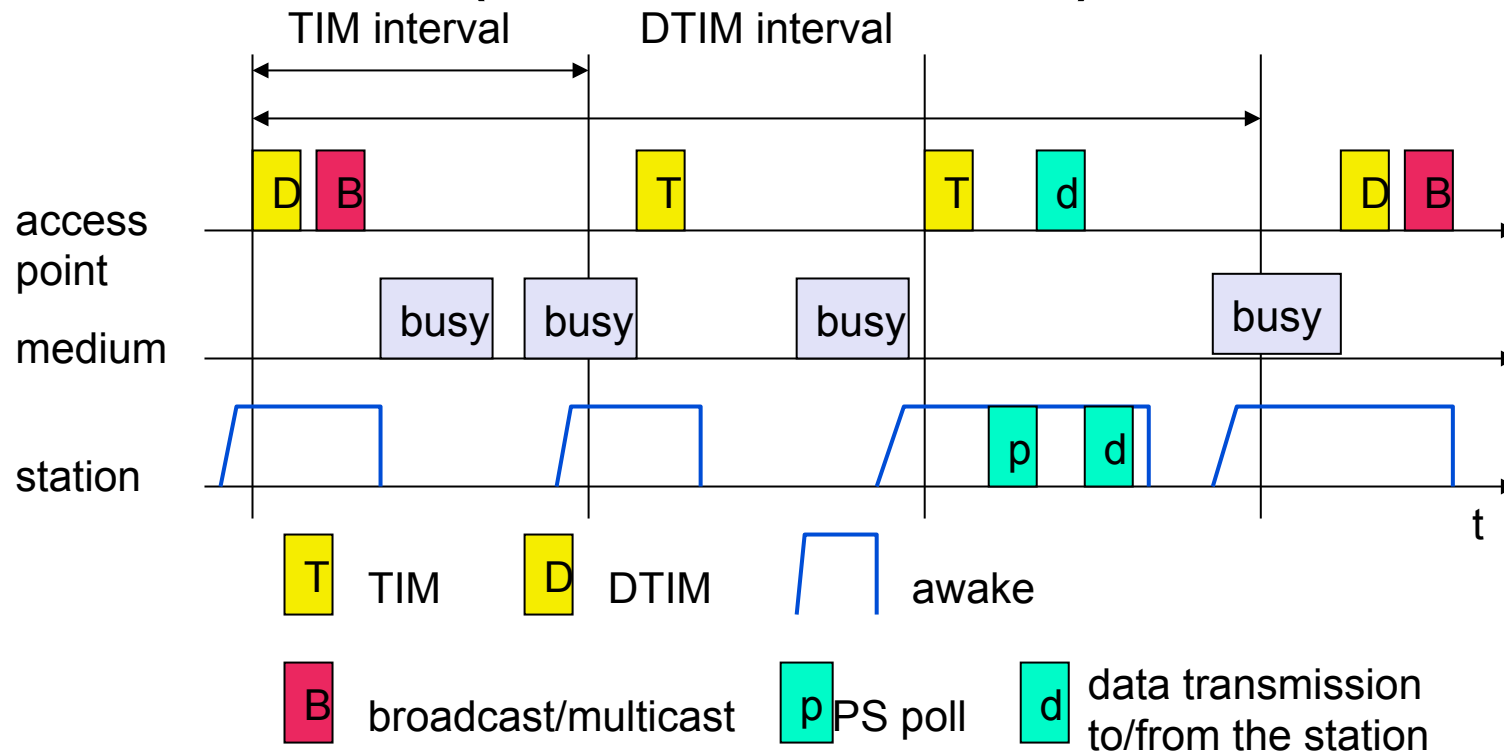
- Nodes need to keep a tight synchronized clock with the access point: this is useful for power management and coordination of frequency hopping or contention slots.
- Beacons are sent semi-periodically [ei when the medium is not busy]

Synchronization using a Beacon (ad-hoc)



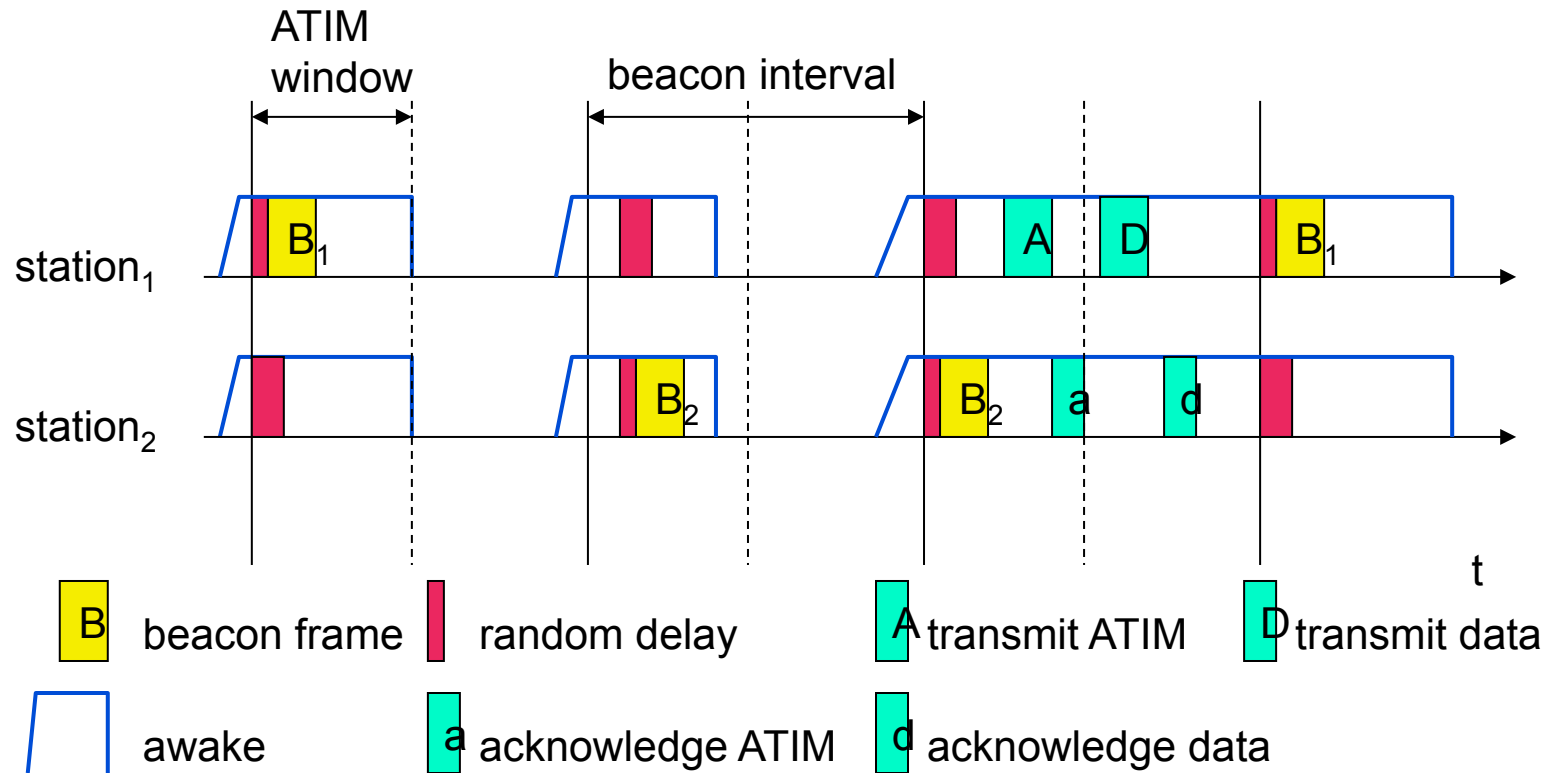
- In ad hoc mode each station transmits a beacon after the beacon interval [semi periodic again]
- Random backoffs are applied to beacons too: all station adjust clock to beacons received and suppress their beacon for the beacon interval

Power saving with wake-up patterns (infrastructure)



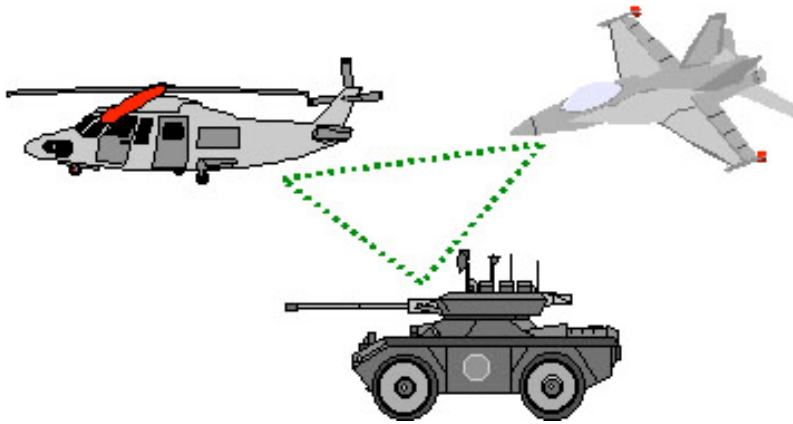
TIM: list of stations for which there will be data in the slot
 DTIM Interval indicates the delivery traffic indication map: for broadcast and multicast frames. It's a multiple of TIM

Power saving with wake-up patterns (ad-hoc)

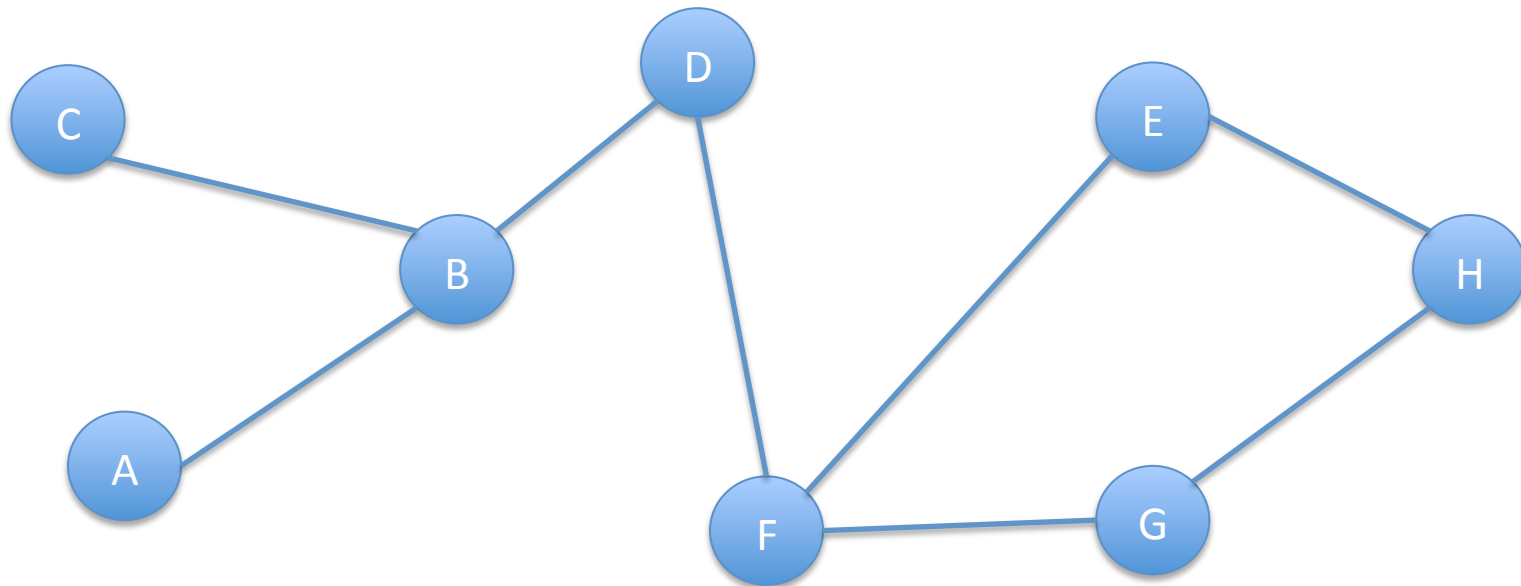


ATIM is the transmission map for ad hoc traffic: all stations stay awake for this slot

Examples of Multi-hop Ad hoc Networks



A schematic of an ad hoc network



Note that this is a static snapshot:
the network will be reconfiguring
when nodes move.

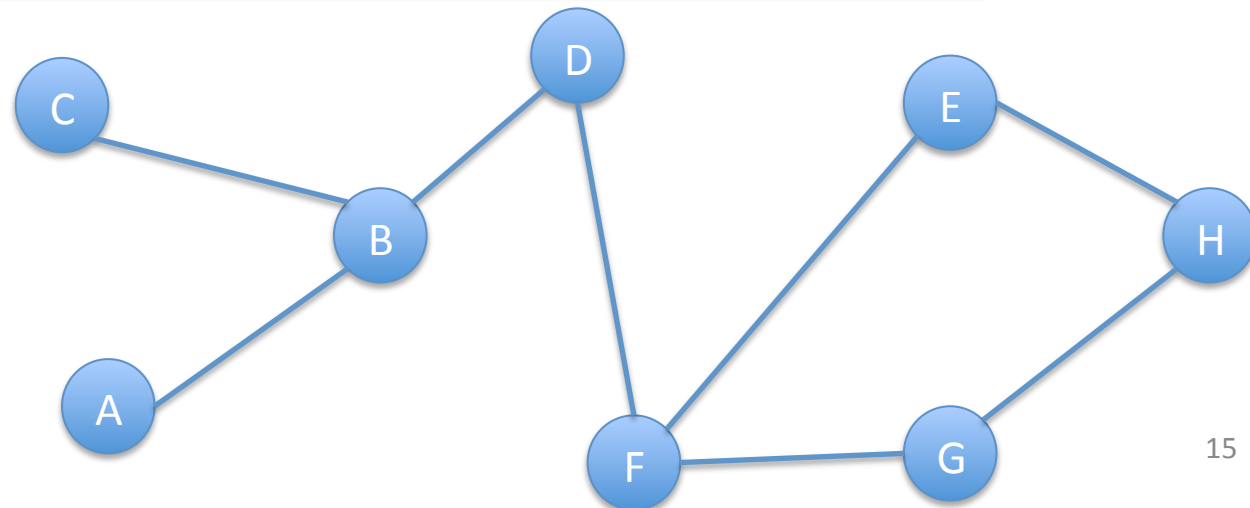
Examples of Ad-hoc Networking

- Destination Sequenced Distance Vector (**DSDV**) Routing.
- Proactive: routes are maintained also when not needed. Each node maintains a table with a route to every node.
- Each entry of the table has a sequence number assigned by the destination.

Dest. Next Hop, Hops Required, Dest. Seq. number.

DSDV: Routing Table for Node D

Dest	Nexthop	Hops	SequenceN
A	B	2	406
B	B	1	128
C	B	2	564
D	D	0	710
E	F	2	392
F	F	1	076
G	F	2	128
H	F	3	050

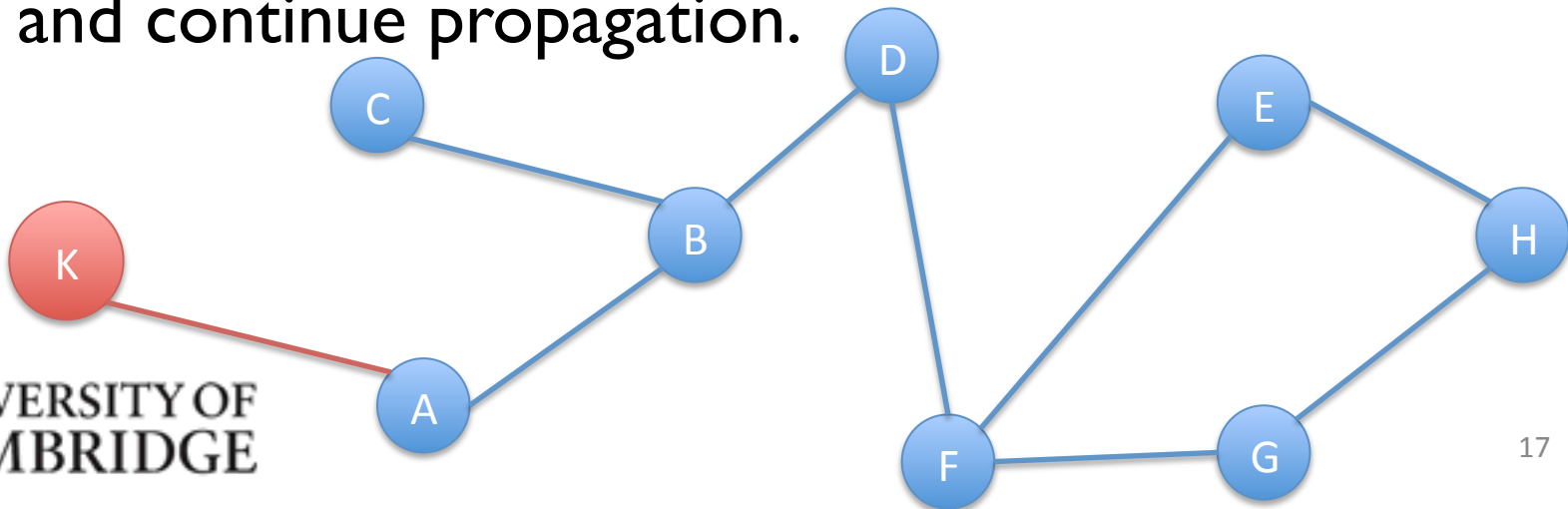


DSDV Routing Updates

- Each node periodically transmits updates.
- Includes its own sequences number, routing table updates.
- Nodes also send routing table updates for some incremental link changes.
- When two routes to a destination received from two different neighbors, choose the one with *greatest* destination sequence number.
- If equal (when would they be equal?), choose the smaller metric (hop count).

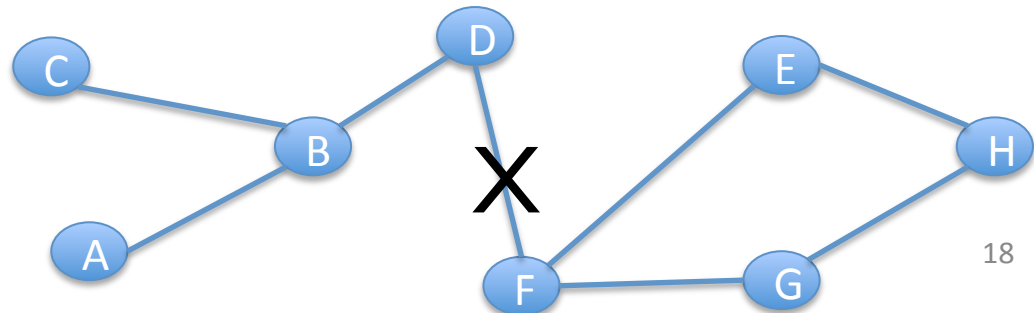
DSDV: When a new link appears (ie a node moved closer)

- When K joins it
 - Transmits routing table $\langle K, K, 0, |0| \rangle$
 - Node A receives it and inserts in routing table: $\langle K, K, 1, |0| \rangle$
 - Node A propagates the new route to neighbours.
 - Neighbours of A update table with $\langle K, A, 2, |0| \rangle$ and continue propagation.



DSDV: When a link breaks (ie a node moves away)

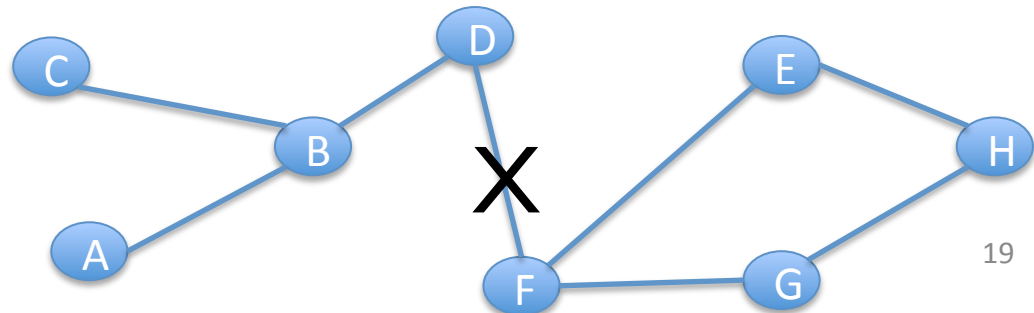
- The link between D and F breaks (the two nodes move apart or the wireless link has no connection for other reasons).
- Node D notices the break (eg lack of table update from F):
 - Updates hop count to F to infinity.
 - Increments the sequence number for F,E,G,H
 - Then:



DSDV: When a link breaks (ie a node moves away)

– Then Node D sends updates with new route information:

- $\langle F, -, \infty, 077 \rangle$
- $\langle E, -, \infty, 393 \rangle$
- $\langle G, -, \infty, 129 \rangle$
- $\langle H, -, \infty, 051 \rangle$



DSDV: Limitations

- Circulating and maintaining table updates is expensive for the network.
 - Especially if this is battery powered.
- If the network changes a lot then these updates might be worthwhile but only if all nodes need to communicate to all others
 - Why would a node need to keep updates of routes to nodes it does not need to communicate with?

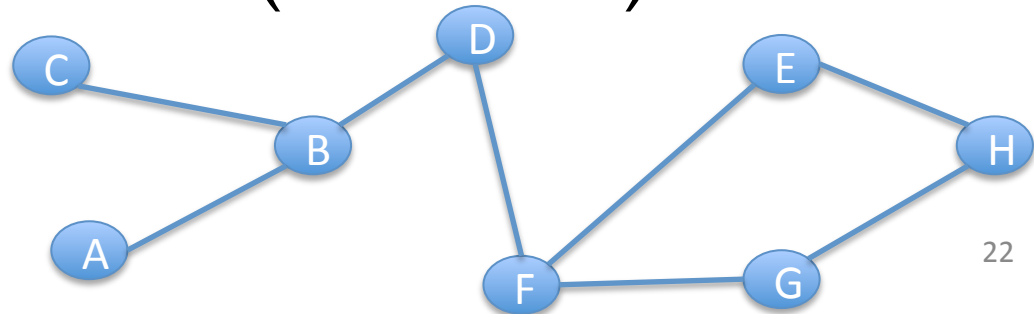
Another Ad-hoc routing example

Dynamic Source Routing (DSR)

- DSR is a reactive protocol: routes are searched only when communication with a node is needed.
- When a node needs to communicate it sends a route request packet.
- Nodes receive it and add themselves to the path and propagate the request to their neighbours.
- Eventually the destination node is found and the path is sent back to the source (how?).

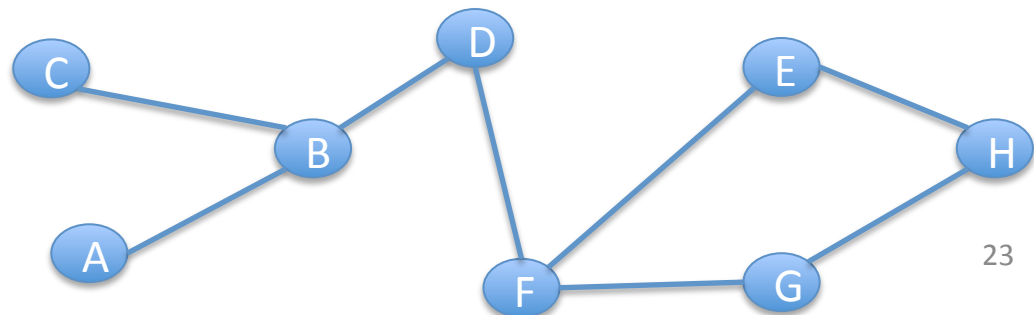
DSR example

- Node A needs to communicate with F. Sends request $\langle A, F, [-], |0| \rangle$.
- Node B receives the request and forwards:
 - $\langle A, F, [B], |0| \rangle$.
- Node D receives it and forwards:
 - $\langle A, F, [B, D], |0| \rangle$.
- Node F receives it and ? (continued).



DSR example (continued)

- Node F receives it and:
 - If links are symmetric sends the path back following the indicated inverse route.
 - Or, if it has cached a path to A uses it.
 - Otherwise it sends a route request for A.



DSR Comments

- Sequence numbers are used to avoid routing loops.
- Routes are cached for some time to avoid frequent route requests by intermediate nodes.
- Low mobility and low traffic are the best scenarios for this protocol.

Hybrid Solutions

Zone Routing Protocol (ZRP)

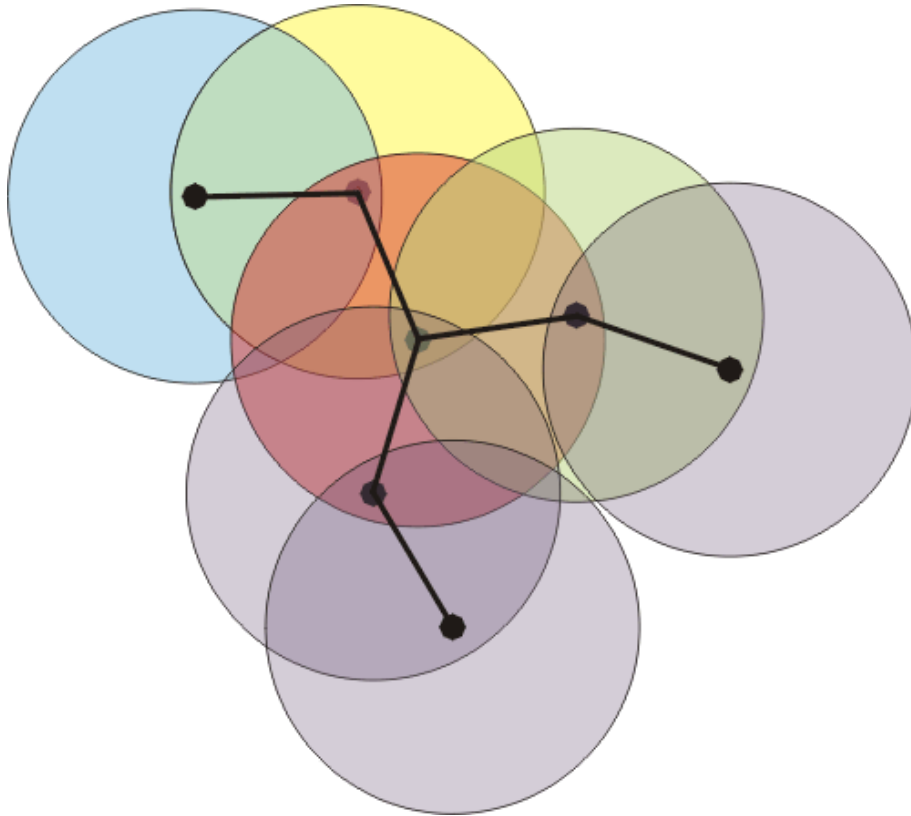
- Zone routing is a hybrid protocol which combines proactive with reactive approaches.
- A zone around node N is maintained where routes are collected proactively.
- Beyond the zone an inter zone protocol is responsible to determine the routes in a reactive way.

Disconnected Ad-hoc Networks

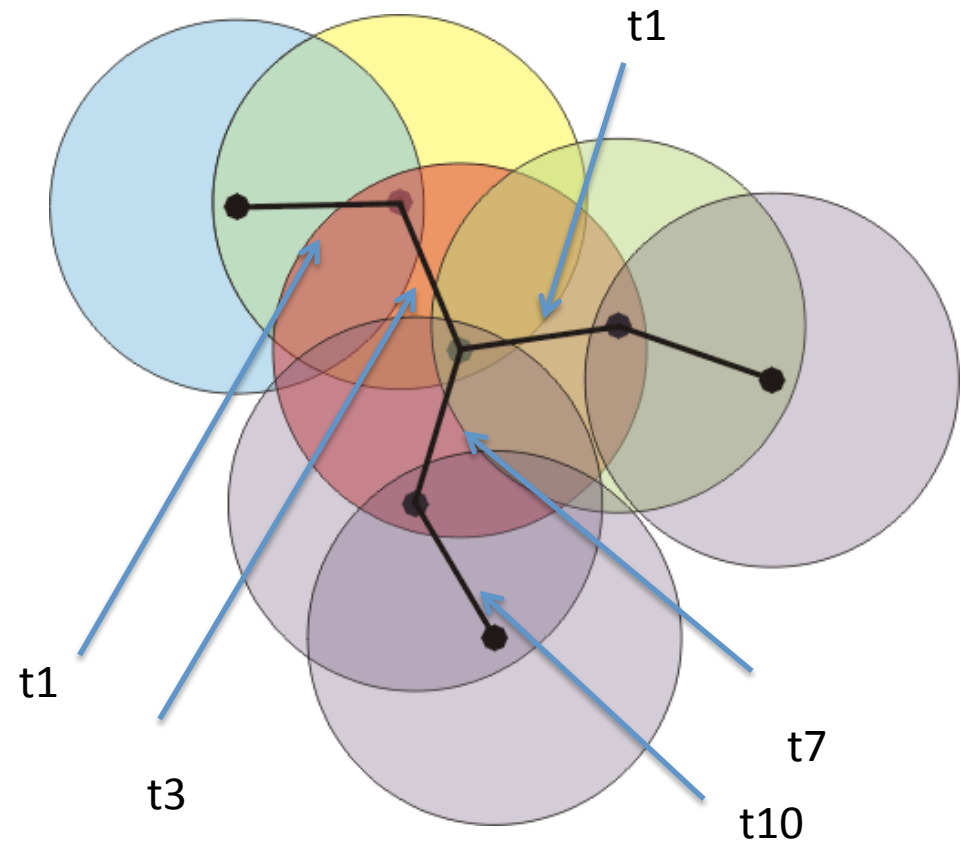
- The protocols we have seen until now only work when there is a “connected path” among the communicating nodes
- I.e. no storage on intermediate nodes is allowed.
- The protocols do not work when this is not the case.

Connected vs Disconnected Ad-hoc Networks

Connected: there is a connected path
among each couple



Disconnected: not all links are present
at the same time



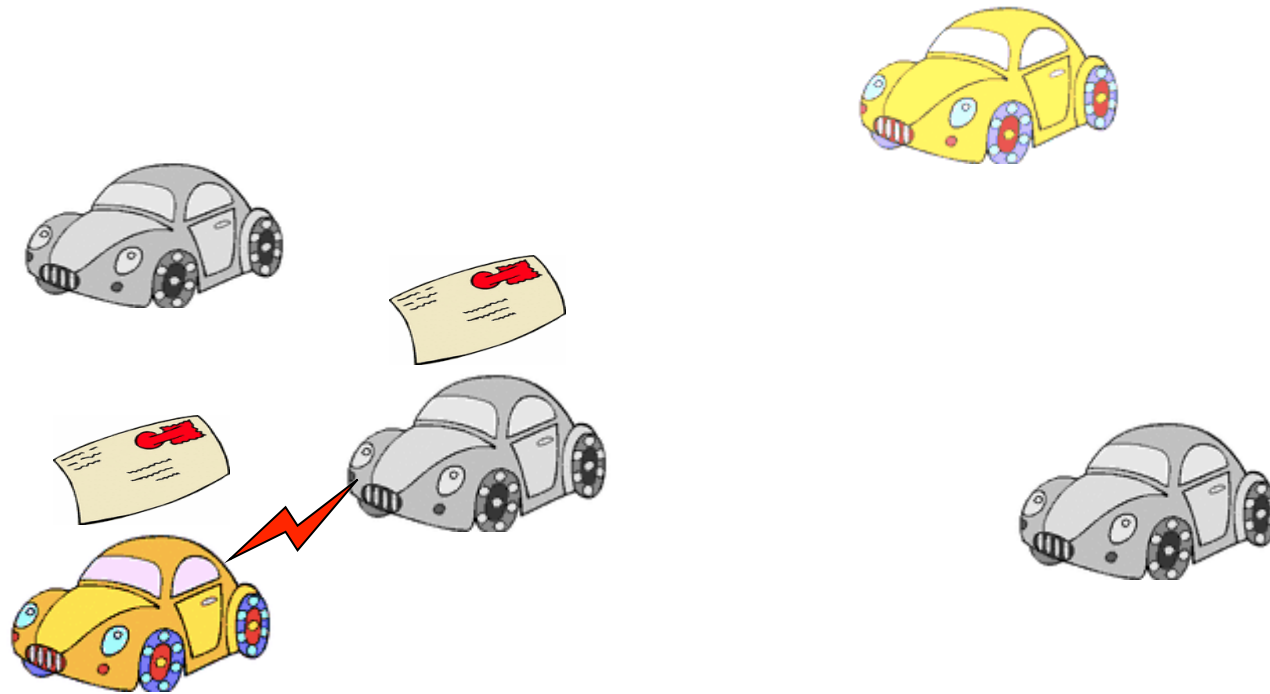
Delay Tolerant Networks and Protocols

- These protocols do not assume a temporally connected path among the nodes.
- Nodes can accept a packet and deliver it later, after some time storing it.

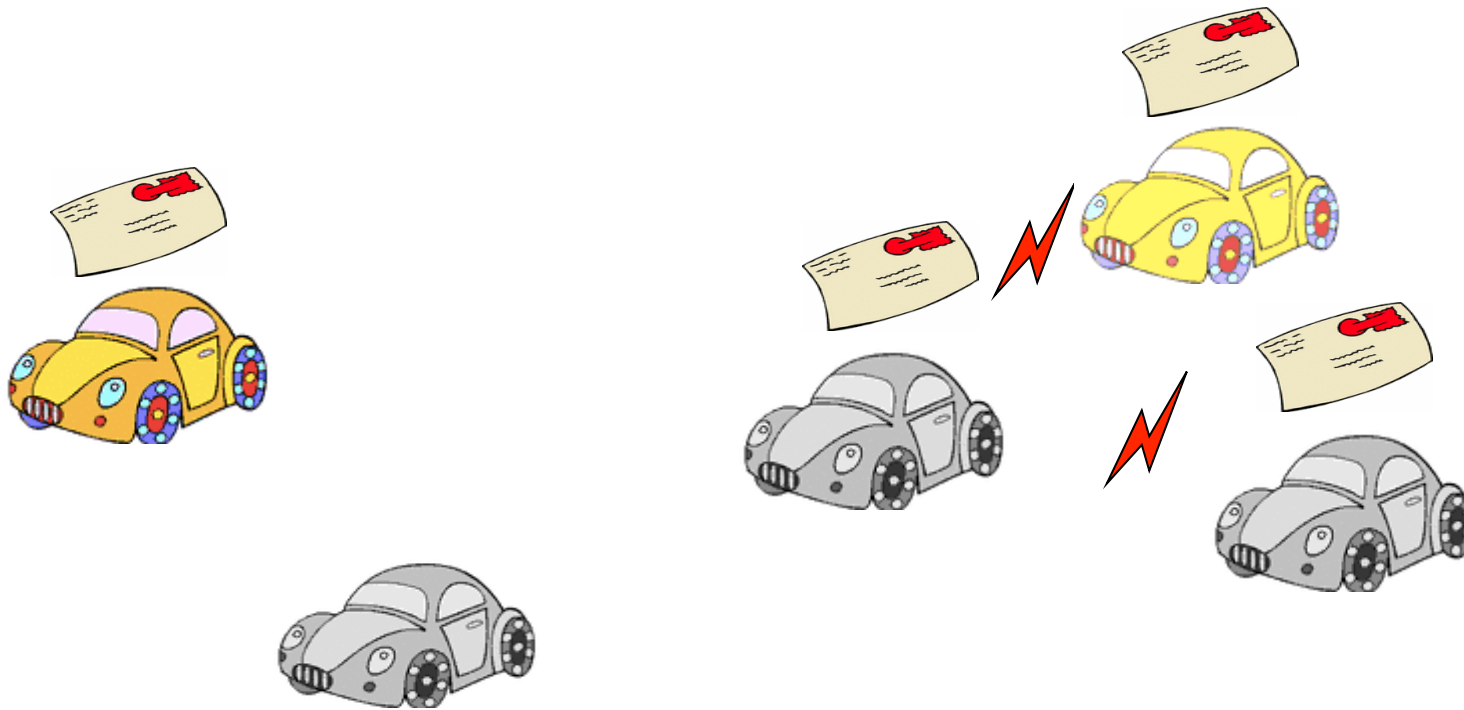
Example: Epidemic Routing

- A flooding protocol which allows nodes to store packets before forwarding.
- A node accepts a packet, moves while carrying the packet and then forwards at a different time to a different neighbourhood.
- Flooding is always expensive (many transmissions, large buffers needed)

Example



Example continued



Can we do better?

- Exploit the knowledge on the mobility of the nodes
- Is the mobility deterministic (ie. Always on the same path at same times like busses)? Maybe we can even control the mobility of some of the nodes!
- If not fixed, is it at least predictable?
- If not predictable, random...

When mobility is predictable

- Prediction of mobility techniques need to be applied unless you want to use “epidemic”.
- Instead of blindly forwarding packets to all or some neighbors, intermediate nodes estimate the chance, for each outgoing link, of eventually reaching the destination.
- Based on this estimation, the intermediate nodes decide whether to store the packet and wait for a better chance, or decide to which nodes (and the time) to forward.

Context Aware Routing (CAR)

- A node chooses the best carrier to reach a specific node. How is the best carrier neighbour chosen?
 - Host mobility, host colocation with destination node, battery.
 - A utility function which weights these aspects
 - Kalman Filter is used to predict future host colocation with destination based on previous history.
- The approach is based on local knowledge only.

Reference

- Agrawal, D. & Zheng, Q. (2006). Introduction to wireless and mobile systems. Thomson.
- A. Vahdat and D. Becker, Epidemic routing for partially-connected ad hoc networks, 2000.
- M. Musolesi and C. Mascolo. CAR: Context-aware Adaptive Routing for Delay Tolerant Mobile Networks. In IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing. Vol. 8(2). pp. 246-260. February 2009.