

## 15-441: Computer Networking

## Lecture 22: Sensors and Ad-Hoc Networks

## Scenarios and Roadmap



- · Point to point wireless networks
  - · Example: Your laptop to CMU wireless
  - · Challenges:
    - Poor and variable link quality (makes TCP unhappy)
    - · Many people can hear when you talk
  - · Pretty well defined.
- Ad hoc networks (wireless++)
  - Rooftop networks (multi-hop, fixed position)
  - · Mobile ad hoc networks
  - Adds challenges: routing, mobility
  - Some deployment + some research
- Sensor networks (ad hoc++)
  - Scatter 100s of nodes in a field / bridge / etc.
  - · Adds challenge: Serious resource constraints
  - · Current, popular, research.

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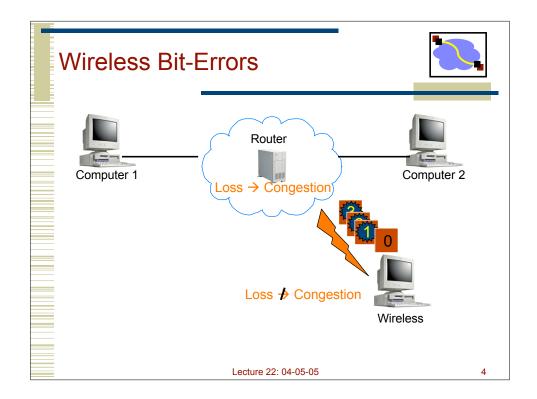
## Wireless Challenges (review)



- Need to share airwaves rather than wire
  - Don't know what hosts are involved
  - Host may not be using same link technology
  - No fixed topology of interconnection
  - Interference
    - · Other hosts: collisions, capture, interference
    - The environment (e.g., microwaves + 802.11)
- Mobility -> Things change often
  - · Environmental changes do too
  - How do microwaves work? Relate to 802.11 absorption.
- Other characteristics of wireless
  - Noisy → lots of losses
  - Slow
  - · Multipath interference

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## TCP Problems Over Noisy Links



- · Wireless links are inherently error-prone
  - Fading, interference, attenuation -> Loss & errors
  - · Errors often happen in bursts
- TCP cannot distinguish between corruption and congestion
  - TCP unnecessarily reduces window, resulting in low throughput and high latency
- Burst losses often result in timeouts
  - · What does fast retransmit need?
- Sender retransmission is the only option
  - · Inefficient use of bandwidth

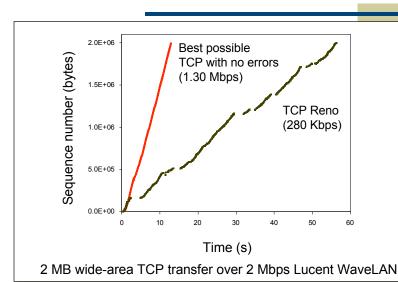
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# Performance Degradation



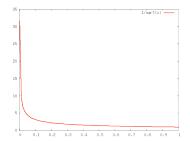


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## Performance Degredation 2



- Recall TCP throughput / loss / RTT rel:
  - BW = MSS / (rtt \* sqrt(2p/3))
  - = proportional to 1 / rtt \* sqrt(p)
  - == ouch!
  - Normal TCP operating range: < 2% loss Internet loss usually < 1%</li>



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#### **Proposed Solutions**



- · Incremental deployment
  - · Solution should not require modifications to fixed hosts
  - · If possible, avoid modifying mobile hosts
- Reliable link-layer protocols
  - Error-correcting codes (or just send data twice)
  - · Local retransmission
- End-to-end protocols
  - Selective ACKs, Explicit loss notification
- Split-connection protocols
  - Separate connections for wired path and wireless hop

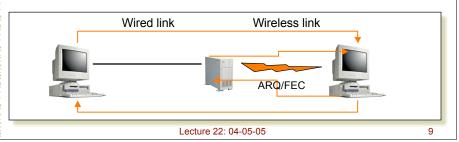
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#### Approach Styles (Link Layer)



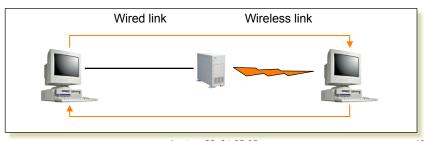
- · More aggressive local rexmit than TCP
  - 802.11 protocols all do this. Receiver sends ACK after last bit of data.
  - · Faster; Bandwidth not wasted on wired links. Recover in a few milliseconds.
- Possible adverse interactions with transport layer
  - Interactions with TCP retransmission
  - · Large end-to-end round-trip time variation
    - · Recall TCP RTO estimation. What does this do?
- FEC used in some networks (e.g., 802.11a)
  - · But does not work well with burst losses



## Approach Styles (End-to-End)



- Improve TCP implementations
  - · Not incrementally deployable
  - Improve loss recovery (SACK, NewReno)
  - Help it identify congestion
    - Explicit Loss/Congestion Notification (ELN, ECN),
    - ACKs include flag indicating wireless loss
  - Trick TCP into doing right thing → E.g. send extra dupacks if you know the network just burped (e.g., if you moved)

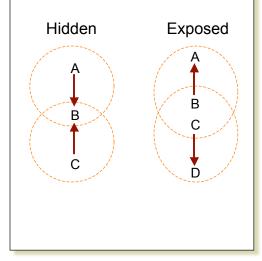


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#### Next: CSMA/CD Does Not Work



- Recall Aloha from many lectures ago
  - Wireless precursor to Ethernet.
- Carrier sense problems
  - Relevant contention at the receiver, not sender
  - Hidden terminal
  - Exposed terminal
- Collision detection problems
  - Hard to build a radio that can transmit and receive at same time



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#### RTS/CTS Approach



- Before sending data, send Ready-to-Send (RTS)
- Target responds with Clear-to-Send (CTS)
- Others who hear CTS defer transmission
  - · Packet length in RTS and CTS messages
  - Why not defer on RTS alone?
- If CTS is not heard, or RTS collides
  - Retransmit RTS after binary exponential backoff
  - (There are lots of cool details embedded in this last part that went into the design of 802.11 - if you're curious, look up the "MACAW" protocol).

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#### Ad Hoc Networks



- All the challenges of wireless, plus some of:
  - · No fixed infrastructure
  - Mobility (on short time scales)
  - Chaotically decentralized (:-)
  - Multi-hop!
- Nodes are both traffic sources/sinks and forwarders
- The big challenge: Routing

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## Ad Hoc Routing



- Find multi-hop paths through network
  - Adapt to new routes and movement / environment changes
  - Deal with interference and power issues
  - Scale well with # of nodes
  - · Localize effects of link changes

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## Traditional Routing vs Ad Hoc



- Traditional network:
  - Well-structured
  - ~O(N) nodes & links
  - All links work ~= well
- Ad Hoc network
  - N^2 links but many stink!
  - Topology may be really weird
    - Reflections & multipath cause strange interference
  - · Change is frequent

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## Problems using DV or LS



- DV loops are very expensive
  - Wireless bandwidth << fiber bandwidth...
- LS protocols have high overhead
- N<sup>2</sup> links cause very high cost
- Periodic updates waste power
- Need fast, frequent convergence

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## Proposed protocols



- Destination-Sequenced Distance Vector (DSDV)
- Dynamic Source Routing (DSR)
- Ad Hoc On-Demand Distance Vector (AODV)
- Let's look at DSR

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#### **DSR**



- Source routing
  - Intermediate nodes can be out of date
- On-demand route discovery
  - Don't need periodic route advertisements
- (Design point: on-demand may be better or worse depending on traffic patterns...)

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## **DSR Components**



- Route discovery
  - The mechanism by which a sending node obtains a route to destination
- Route maintenance
  - The mechanism by which a sending node detects that the network topology has changed and its route to destination is no longer valid

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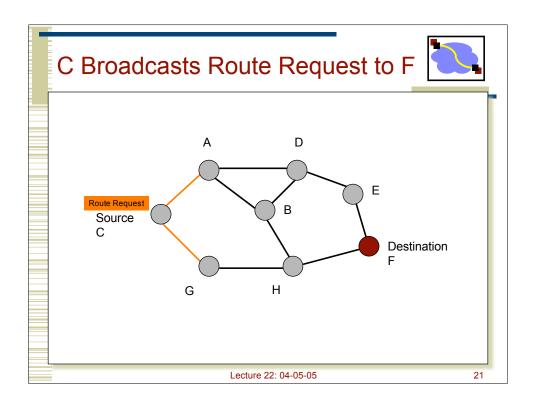
#### **DSR Route Discovery**

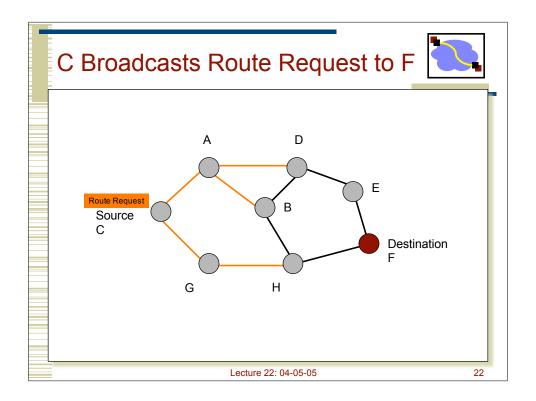


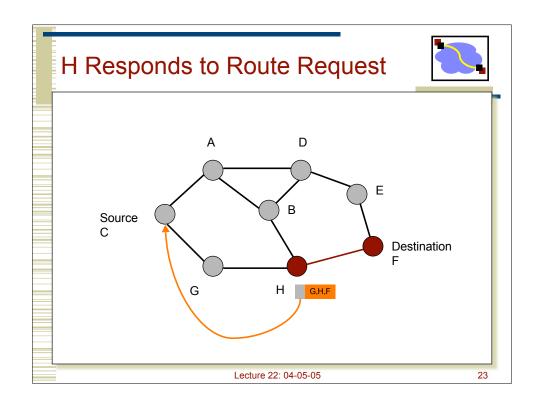
- Route discovery basic idea
  - Source broadcasts route-request to Destination
  - Each node forwards request by adding own address and re-broadcasting
  - Requests propagate outward until:
    - Target is found, or
    - A node that has a route to Destination is found

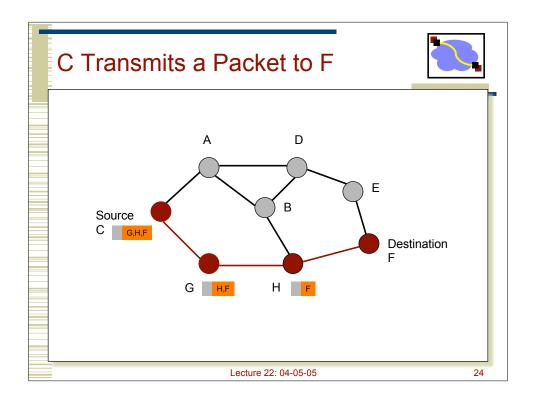
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#### Forwarding Route Requests



- A request is forwarded if:
  - Node is not the destination
  - Node not already listed in recorded source route
  - Node has not seen request with same sequence number
  - · IP TTL field may be used to limit scope
- Destination copies route into a Route-reply packet and sends it back to Source

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#### **Route Cache**



- All source routes learned by a node are kept in Route Cache
  - · Reduces cost of route discovery
- If intermediate node receives RR for destination and has entry for destination in route cache, it responds to RR and does not propagate RR further
- Nodes overhearing RR/RP may insert routes in cache

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#### **Sending Data**



- Check cache for route to destination
- If route exists then
  - · If reachable in one hop
    - Send packet
  - Else insert routing header to destination and send
- If route does not exist, buffer packet and initiate route discovery

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#### Discussion



- Source routing is good for on demand routes instead of a priori distribution
- Route discovery protocol used to obtain routes on demand
  - Caching used to minimize use of discovery
- · Periodic messages avoided
- But need to buffer packets
- · How do you decide between links?

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#### Forwarding Packets is expensive



- Throughput of 802.11b =~ 11Mbits/s
  - In reality, you can get about 5.
- What is throughput of a chain?
  - A -> B -> C
  - A -> B -> C -> D ?
  - Assume minimum power for radios.
- Routing metric should take this into account

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#### **ETX**



- Measure each link's delivery probability with broadcast probes (& measure reverse)
- P(delivery) = 1 / ( df \* dr ) (ACK must be delivered too)
- Link ETX = 1 / P(delivery)
- Route ETX = sum of link ETX
- (Assumes all hops interfere not true, but seems to work okay so far)

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#### Capacity of multi-hop network



- Assume N nodes, each wants to talk to everyone else. What total throughput (ignore previous slide to simplify things)
  - O(n) concurrent transmissions. Great! But:
  - Each has length O(sqrt(n)) (network diameter)
  - So each Tx uses up sqrt(n) of the O(n) capacity.
  - Per-node capacity scales as 1/sqrt(n)
    - Yes it goes down! More time spent Tx'ing other peoples packets...
- But: If communication is local, can do much better, and use cool tricks to optimize
  - Like multicast, or multicast in reverse (data fusion)
  - Hey, that sounds like ... a sensor network!

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#### Sensor Networks - smart devices



- First introduced in late 90's by groups at UCB/UCLA/USC
- Small, resource limited devices
  - CPU, disk, power, bandwidth, etc.
- Simple scalar sensors temperature, motion
- Single domain of deployment
  - farm, battlefield, bridge, rain forest
- for a targeted task
  - find the tanks, count the birds, monitor the bridge
- Ad-hoc wireless network

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#### Sensor System Types – Smart-Dust/Motes



- Hardware
  - UCB motes
  - 4 MHz CPU
  - 4 kB data RAM
  - 128 kB code
  - 50 kb/sec 917 Mhz radio
  - · Sensors: light, temp.,
    - · Sound, etc.,
  - And a battery.









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#### Sensors and power and radios



- Limited battery life drives most goals
- · Radio is most energy-expensive part.
- 800 instructions per bit. 200,000 instructions per packet. (!)
- That's about one message per second for ~2 months if no CPU.
- Listening is expensive too. :(

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#### Sensor nets goals



- Replace communication with computation
- Turn off radio receiver as often as possible
- Keep little state (4 KB isn't your pentium 4 ten bazillion gigahertz with five ottabytes of DRAM).

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#### Power



- Which uses less power?
  - Direct sensor -> base station Tx
    - Total Tx power: distance^2
  - Sensor -> sensor -> base station?
    - Total Tx power: n \* (distance/n) ^2 =~ d^2 / n
  - Why? Radios are omnidirectional, but only one direction matters. Multi-hop approximates directionality.
- Power savings often makes up for multi-hop capacity
  - These devices are \*very\* power constrained!
- Reality: Many systems don't use adaptive power control.
   This is active research, and fun stuff.

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## Example: Aggregation



- · Find avg temp in 8th floor of Wean.
- Strawman:
  - Flood query, let a collection point compute avg.
    - Huge overload near the CP. Lots of loss, and local nodes use lots of energy!
- Better:
  - · Take local avg. first, & forward that.
    - Send average temp + # of samples
  - · Aggregation is the key to scaling these nets.
- The challenge: How to aggregate.
  - · How long to wait?
  - · How to aggregate complex queries?
  - How to program?

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