Network Errors: Assumptions (for now)

- Our goal is reliable transmission of messages
  - Receiver delivers a single copy of each received message to the app, in order
    - (We're assuming some lower layer deals with bit errors, so we deal only with message drops and reordering)
- We're worried only about correctness, not performance (yet)
- Three parts to reliability:
  - [Mainly sender] Make sure at least one copy of the message gets to the receiver
  - [Mainly receiver] Make sure to detect and drop duplicates
  - [Inherent, for now] Make sure you deliver messages in order

ARQ (Automatic Repeat Request)

- Positive Acknowledgements
  - The sender knows:
    - What it can sense (e.g., a received ACK)
    - What it can deduce from the causal chain implied by a correct implementation of the protocol
      - The receiver sends an ACK only if it receives a message
      - I got an ACK
      - Therefore the receiver received a message
  - Suppose sender observes
    send, send, send, ACK, send, ACK, send, ACK
  - What has receiver seen?
  - How do we fix this?
Examples

- **TCP**
  - What are the characteristics of “the channel”
  - How should ARQ work?

- **802.11** (wireless)
  - What are the characteristics of “the channel”
  - How should ARQ work?

- **802.3** (wired Ethernet)
  - What are the characteristics of the channel?
  - How should ARQ work?
Bit Errors

Modulation

Communication channels

- attenuation
- noise
- limited bandwidth
Theoretical Limits

- Fourier theorem

\[ s_N(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{N} A_n \cdot \sin \left( \frac{2\pi nx}{P} + \phi_n \right), \text{ for integer } N \geq 1 \]
• **Nyquist Limit**
  ○ If signal has bandwidth B, the maximum symbol rate (i.e., noiseless channel) is 2B
    ▪ Sampling at rate 2B is sufficient to reconstruct the signal at all points, so further samples are redundant
    ▪ Sampling at the limit
      ![Nyquist Limit Diagram]
  ▪ Sampling below the limit (aliasing)
    ![Nyquist Limit Diagram]

• **Shannon Capacity Theorem**
  ○ No matter how many bits/symbol, for a channel with bandwidth B the maximum bit rate (capacity) is $B \log_2(1 + S/N)$ where S is the received signal strength and N is the noise.
    ▪ Higher power => higher bit rate or lower bit error rate (BER)
    ▪ Lower power => lower bit rate and/or higher BER

**Clocking**

• Difficult/impossible to have sender and receiver clocks run at exactly the same rate
  ○ They might run at the same rate for a little while
  ○ You might need to resynchronize them
• At the extreme, you might synchronize on every sent bit
  ○ Force an observable transition on every bit (e.g., 0 => low → high; 1 => high → low)
• **4B/5B**
  ○ no change in signal → 0; change in signal → 1
  ○ Now want to make sure you send a 1 often enough
    ▪ What if the data is a long sequence of 0's?
  ○ Idea: send 5 bits to represent 4 bits of data
    ▪ Choose 16 of the 32 5-bit combinations that have enough 1's
    ▪ Never send 00000, for instance
• **Preambles**
  ○ Some schemes send non-data bits before a frame whose goal is to allow the receiver to lock onto the
senders clock rate

- **802.11:**
  - preamble contains 128 bit (essentially random) string for sync'ing

- **Ethernet:**
  - 7 bytes of 10101010

---

**Error Detection and Correction (TW 3.2)**

- **Key idea:**
  - send \( k+n \) bits to represent \( k \) bits of data

- **Only** \( 2^k \) valid codes out of the \( 2^{k+n} \) possible bit strings
  - If you get something that the sender would never send, it's an error
  - If you get something that the sender might have sent, it's not an error, so long as the channel can't produce “too many” bit errors

- **Systematic code:** \( k \) of the bits are the data, and \( n \) are function of the data
  - Sender computes the \( n \) bits based on the \( k \) data bits
  - Receiver computes what function based on the \( k \) data bits it actually received, and compares that value to the \( n \) bits it actually received
    - If they don't match, there's an error

- **Error detection schemes**
  - **Parity**
    - 1-bit odd parity: add a single bit to each block so that total number of 1 bits is odd
      - 01100000 1
      - 01100010 0
    - What is detected? What isn't?

  - Internet checksum
    - (Basically) sum the words of the message and send that result at the end

  - Cyclic redundancy code (CRC)
    - Think of the message as a very big integer
    - Send additional (low-order) bits so that the big integer is evenly divisible by some agreed upon integer
    - Why? Analyzable; good error detection properties (e.g., burst errors); easily implemented

- **Error correction**
  - **Hamming Distance**
    - Minimum number of bit flips required to go from one legal code word to another legal code word
Example: 0 → 00; 1 → 11
Example: 0 → 000; 1 → 111

- If the maximum possible number of bit errors is less than half the Hamming distance of the code, then every received bit string will be closest to a unique valid code
  - That valid code is what was sent (under the assumption about the number of errors)
    - Example: Hamming codes
      - Will do in sections