

L16: ARQ & Reliable Data Transfer



Sebastian Magierowski
York University

Outline

- A look at 3 ways of data link **error control**
- Progressively more efficient (and complex) means of transmission & **re-transmission**
- Can also be employed (and definitely is) by the higher layers (e.g. **transport**)

Automatic Repeat Request (ARQ)

- **Purpose:** to ensure a sequence of information packets is **delivered in order and without errors** or duplications despite transmission errors & losses
- We will look at:
 1. Stop-and-Wait ARQ
 2. Go-Back N ARQ
 3. Selective Repeat ARQ
- Basic elements of ARQ:
 - *Error-detecting code with high error coverage*
 - *ACKs (positive acknowledgments)*
 - *NAKs (negative acknowledgments)*
 - *Timeout mechanism*

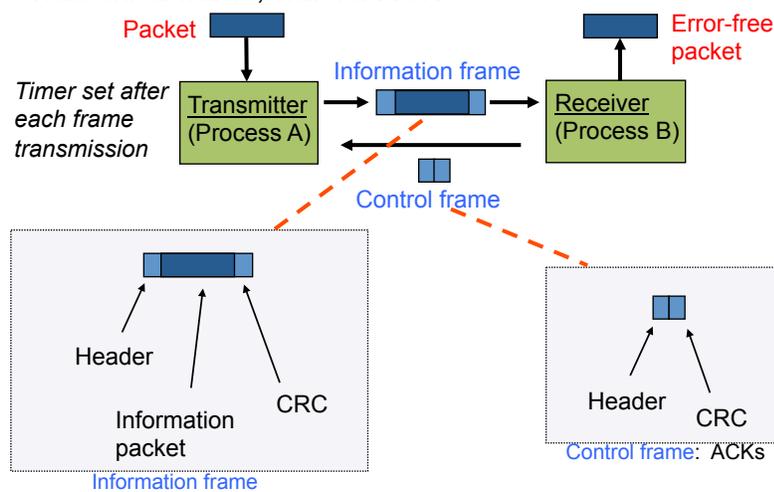
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Stop-and-Wait ARQ

Transmit a frame, wait for ACK

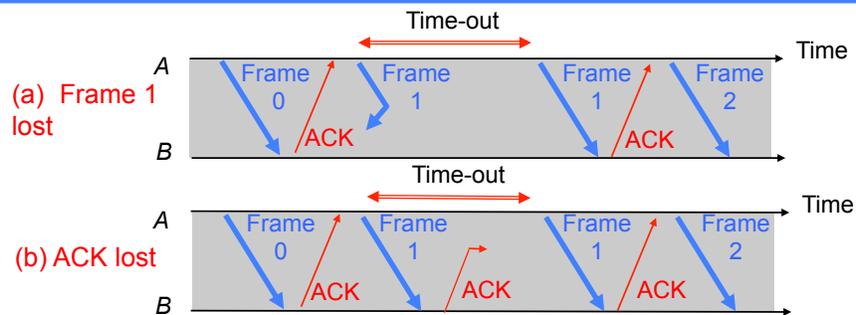


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Need for Sequence Numbers



- In cases (a) & (b) the transmitting station A acts the same way
- But in case (b) the receiving station B accepts frame 1 twice
- **Question:** How is the receiver to know the second frame is also frame 1?
- **Answer:** *Add frame sequence number in header*
- S_{last} : sequence number of most recent **transmitted** frame

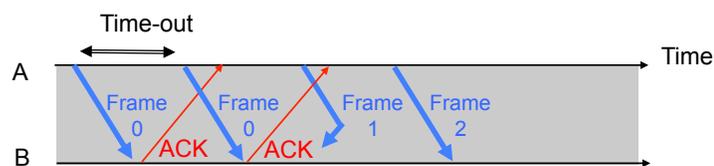
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ACK Sequence Numbers

(c) Premature Time-out



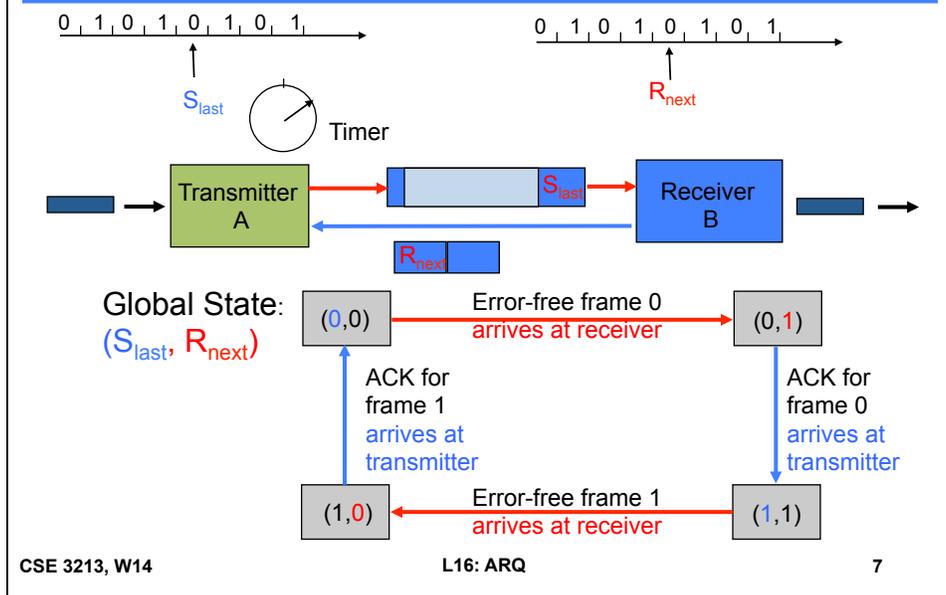
- The transmitting station A misinterprets duplicate ACKs
- Incorrectly assumes second ACK acknowledges Frame 1
- **Question:** How is the receiver to know second ACK is for frame 0?
- **Answer:** *Add frame sequence number in ACK header*
- R_{next} is sequence number of next frame expected by the receiver
- Implicitly acknowledges receipt of all prior frames

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1-Bit Sequence Numbering Suffices



Stop-and-Wait ARQ Protocol Review

Transmitter

Ready state

- Await request from higher layer for packet transfer
- When request arrives, transmit frame with updated S_{last} and CRC
- Go to Wait State

Wait state

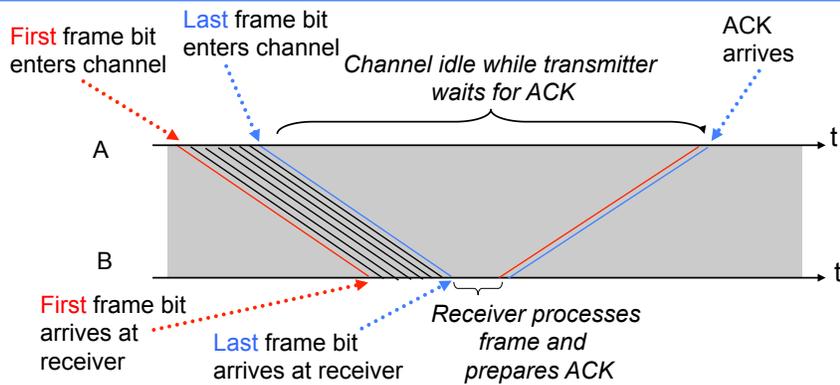
- Wait for ACK or timer to expire; block requests from higher layer
- If timeout expires
 - retransmit frame and reset timer
- If ACK received:
 - If sequence number is incorrect or if errors detected: ignore ACK
 - If sequence number is correct ($R_{next} = S_{last} + 1$): accept frame, $S_{last} = R_{next}$ go to Ready state

Receiver

Always in Ready State

- Wait for arrival of new frame
- When frame arrives, check for errors
- If no errors detected and sequence number is correct ($S_{last} = R_{next}$), then
 - accept frame,
 - update R_{next} ,
 - send ACK frame with R_{next} ,
 - deliver packet to higher layer
- If no errors detected and wrong sequence number
 - discard frame
 - send ACK frame with R_{next}
- If errors detected
 - discard frame

Stop-and-Wait Efficiency



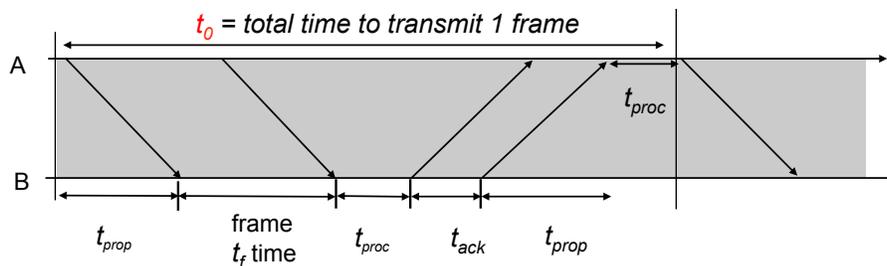
- 10000 bit frame @ 1 Mbps takes 10 ms to transmit
- If wait for ACK = 1 ms, then efficiency = $10/11 = 91\%$
- If wait for ACK = 20 ms, then efficiency = $10/30 = 33\%$

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Stop-and-Wait Model



$$\begin{aligned}
 t_0 &= 2t_{prop} + 2t_{proc} + t_f + t_{ack} && \text{bits/info frame} \\
 &= 2t_{prop} + 2t_{proc} + \frac{n_f}{R} + \frac{n_a}{R} && \text{bits/ACK frame} \\
 &&& \text{channel transmission rate}
 \end{aligned}$$

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S&W Efficiency on Error-Free Channel

Effective transmission rate:

$$R_{eff} = \frac{\text{number of information bits delivered to destination}}{\text{total time required to deliver the information bits}} = \frac{n_f - n_o}{t_0},$$

bits for header & CRC

Transmission efficiency:

$$\eta_0 = \frac{R_{eff}}{R} = \frac{\frac{n_f - n_o}{t_0}}{R} = \frac{1 - \frac{n_o}{n_f}}{1 + \frac{n_a}{n_f} + \frac{2(t_{prop} + t_{proc})R}{n_f}}$$

Effect of frame overhead

Effect of ACK frame

Effect of **Delay-Bandwidth Product**

Example: Impact of Delay-Bandwidth Product

- $n_f = 1250$ bytes = 10000 bits (**frame size**)
- $n_a = n_o = 25$ bytes = 200 bits (**overhead & ACK size**)

2xDelayxBW Efficiency	1 ms 200 km	10 ms 2000 km	100 ms 20000 km	1 sec 200000 km
1 Mbps (10 ms)	10^3 88%	10^4 49%	10^5 9%	10^6 1%
1 Gbps (0.1 ms)	10^6 1%	10^7 0.1%	10^8 0.01%	10^9 0.001%

Stop-and-Wait does not work well for very high speeds or long propagation delays

S&W Efficiency in Channel with Errors

- Let $1 - P_f$ = probability frame arrives w/o errors
- **Avg. # of transmissions** to first correct arrival is then $1/(1 - P_f)$
- “If 1-in-10 get through without error, then avg. 10 tries to success”
- Avg. Total Time per frame is then $t_o/(1 - P_f)$

$$\eta_{SW} = \frac{R_{eff}}{R} = \frac{\frac{n_f - n_o}{t_o}}{R} = \frac{1 - \frac{n_o}{n_f}}{1 + \frac{n_a}{n_f} + \frac{2(t_{prop} + t_{proc})R}{n_f}} \cdot (1 - P_f)$$

Effect of frame loss

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Example: Impact Bit Error Rate

- n_f = 1250 bytes = 10000 bits
 - $n_a = n_o$ = 25 bytes = 200 bits
- Find efficiency for random bit errors with $p=0, 10^{-6}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-4}$
- $1 - P_f = (1 - p)^{n_f} \approx e^{-n_f p}$ for large n_f and small p

$1 - P_f$ Efficiency	0	10^{-6}	10^{-5}	10^{-4}
1 Mbps & 1 ms	1 88%	0.99 86.6%	0.905 79.2%	0.368 32.2%

Bit errors impact performance as $n_f p$ approaches 1

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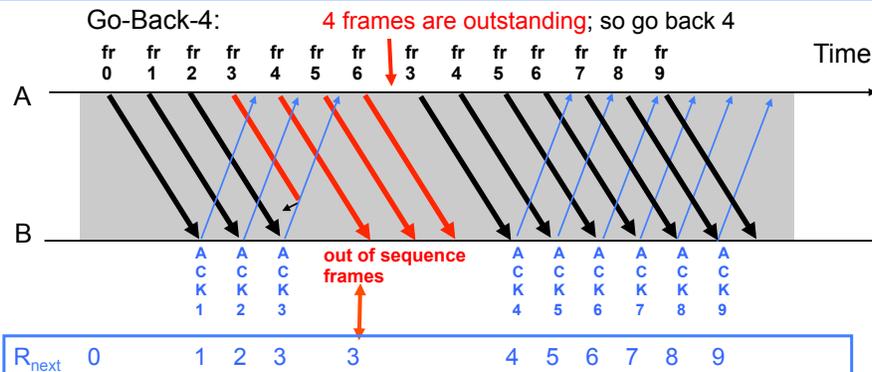
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Go-Back-N ARQ

- Improve Stop-and-Wait by **not waiting!**
- **Keep channel busy** by continuing to send frames
- Allow a **window** of up to W_s outstanding frames
- Use m -bit sequence numbering
- If ACK for oldest frame arrives before window is exhausted, we can continue transmitting
- If window is exhausted, pull back and **retransmit** all outstanding frames
- Alternative: Use timeout

Go-Back-N ARQ



- Frame transmission are **pipelined** to keep the channel busy
- Frame with errors and subsequent out-of-sequence frames are ignored
- Transmitter is forced to go back when window of 4 is exhausted

Go-Back-N with Timeout

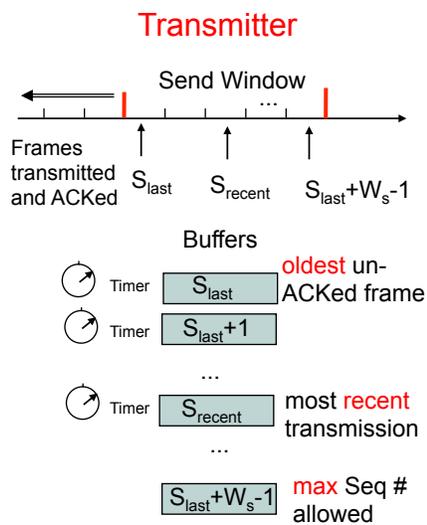
- Problem with Go-Back-N as presented:
 - What if I run out of frames to send before the end of a window?
 - Effectively A won't exhaust its window
 - But...
 - If earlier frame in A's window is lost we will not re-transmit it
 - Because our window is effectively not exhausted
 - So a frame is permanently lost!!!
- Solution: Use a timeout with each frame
 - When timeout expires, resend all outstanding frames

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Go-Back-N Transmitter & Receiver



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Sliding Window Operation

Transmitter

Send Window

Frames transmitted and ACKed: S_{last} , S_{recent} , ..., $S_{last} + W_s - 1$

Transmitter **waits for error-free ACK** frame with sequence number S_{last}

When such ACK frame arrives, S_{last} is incremented by one, and the **send window slides forward** by one

m -bit Sequence Numbering

$2^m - 1$, 0, 1, 2, ..., $i + 1$, $i + W_s - 1$

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Maximum Allowable Window Size is $W_s = 2^m - 1$

$M = 2^2 = 4$, **Go-Back-4:** *Transmitter goes back 4*

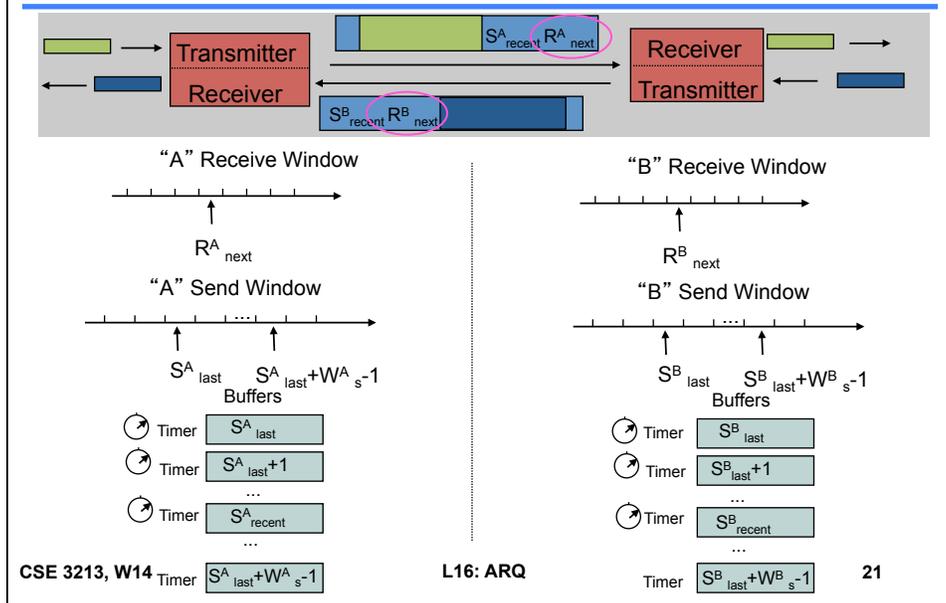
Time

$M = 2^2 = 4$, **Go-Back-3:** *Transmitter goes back 3*

Time

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ACK Piggybacking in Bidirectional GBN



Required Window Size for Delay-Bandwidth Product

Frame = 1250 bytes = 10,000 bits, $R = 1$ Mbps

$2(t_{prop} + t_{proc})$	$2 \times \text{Delay} \times \text{BW}$	Window
1 ms	1000 bits	2
10 ms	10,000 bits	2
100 ms	100,000 bits	11
1 second	1,000,000 bits	101

Efficiency of Go-Back-N

- GBN is **completely efficient**, if W_s large enough to keep channel busy, and if channel is error-free
- Assume P_f frame loss probability, then time to deliver a frame is:
 - t_f if first frame transmission succeeds ($1 - P_f$)
 - $t_f + W_s t_f / (1 - P_f)$ if first transmission does not succeed (P_f)

$$t_{GBN} = t_f(1 - P_f) + P_f \left\{ t_f + \frac{W_s t_f}{1 - P_f} \right\} = t_f + P_f \frac{W_s t_f}{1 - P_f} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\eta_{GBN} = \frac{n_f - n_o}{R} = \frac{1 - \frac{n_o}{n_f}}{1 + (W_s - 1)P_f} (1 - P_f)$$


 Delay-bandwidth product determines W_s

Example: Impact of BER on GBN

- $n_f = 1250$ bytes = 10000 bits
- $n_a = n_o = 25$ bytes = 200 bits
- Compare S&W with GBN efficiency for **random bit errors** with $p = 0, 10^{-6}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-4}$ and $R = 1$ Mbps & $2 \cdot \text{delay} = 100$ ms
- 1 Mbps x 100 ms = 100000 bits = 10 frames \rightarrow Use $W_s = 11$

Efficiency	0	10^{-6}	10^{-5}	10^{-4}
S&W	8.9%	8.8%	8.0%	3.3%
GBN	98%	88.2%	45.4%	4.9%

- Go-Back-N **significant improvement** over Stop-and-Wait for large delay-bandwidth product
- Go-Back-N becomes **inefficient as error rate increases**

Selective Repeat ARQ

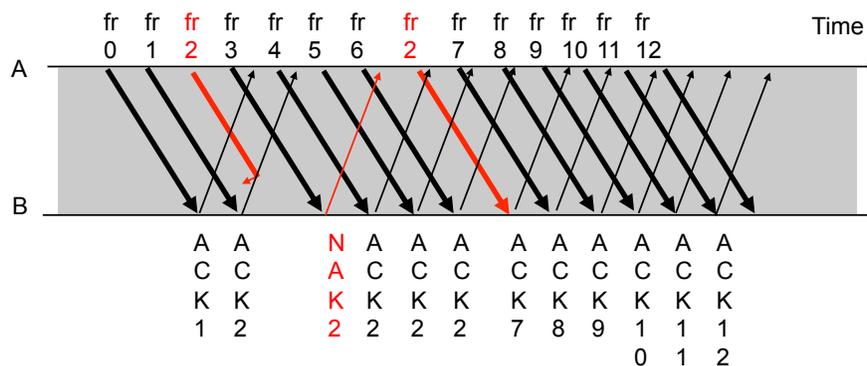
- Go-Back-N ARQ inefficient because **multiple** frames are resent when errors or losses occur
- Selective Repeat retransmits **only an individual frame**
 - **Timeout** causes individual corresponding frame to be resent
 - **NAK** causes retransmission of oldest un-acked frame
- Receiver maintains **a receive window** of sequence numbers that can be accepted
 - Error-free, but out-of-sequence frames with sequence numbers within the receive window are **buffered**
 - Arrival of frame with R_{next} causes window to slide forward by 1 or more

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Selective Repeat ARQ

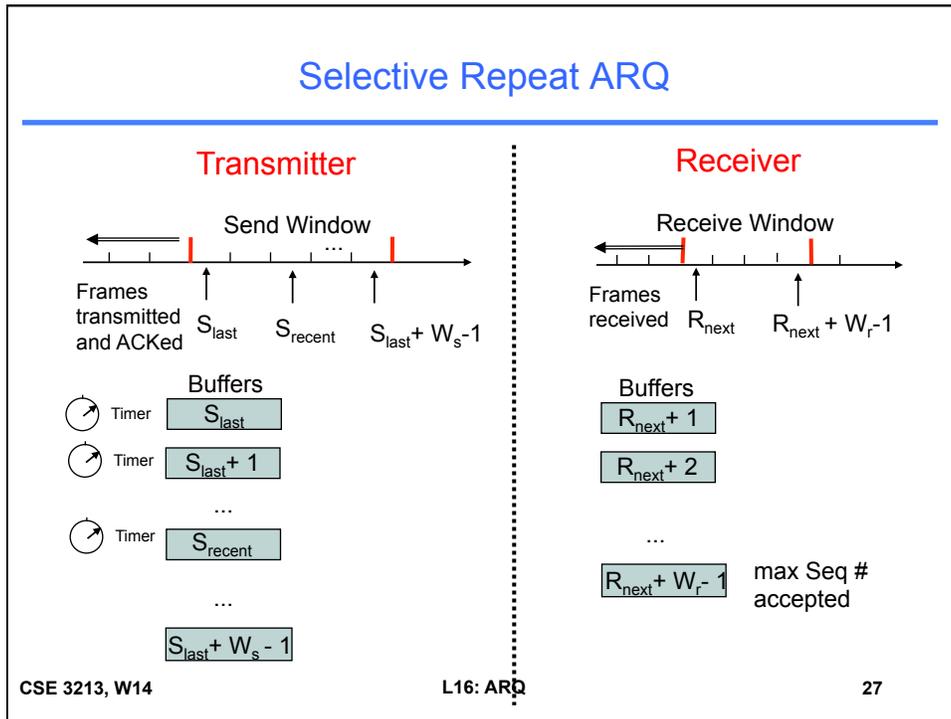


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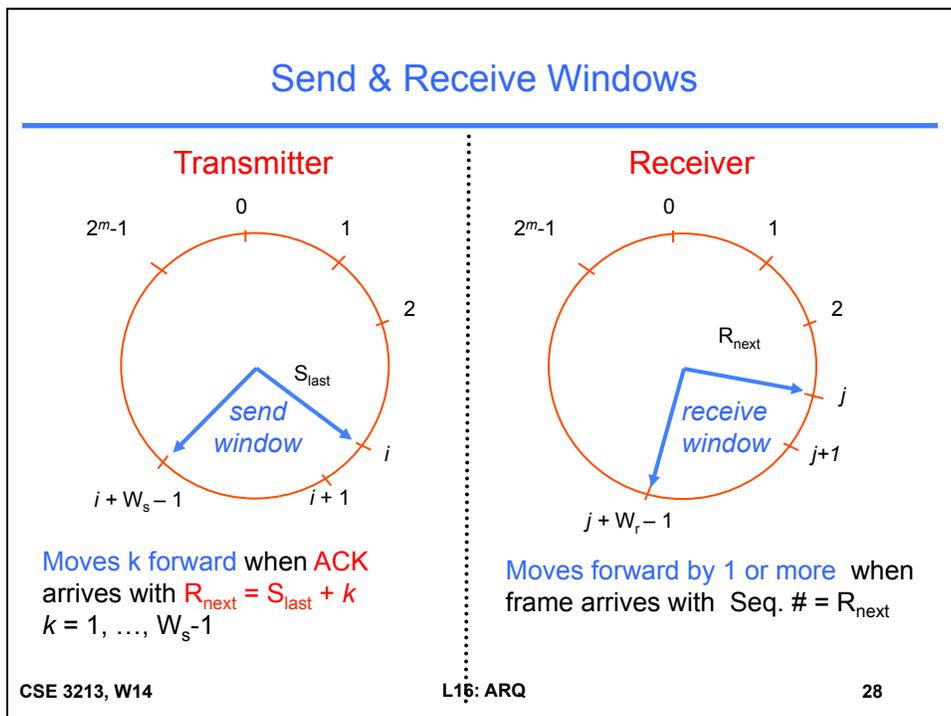
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Selective Repeat ARQ

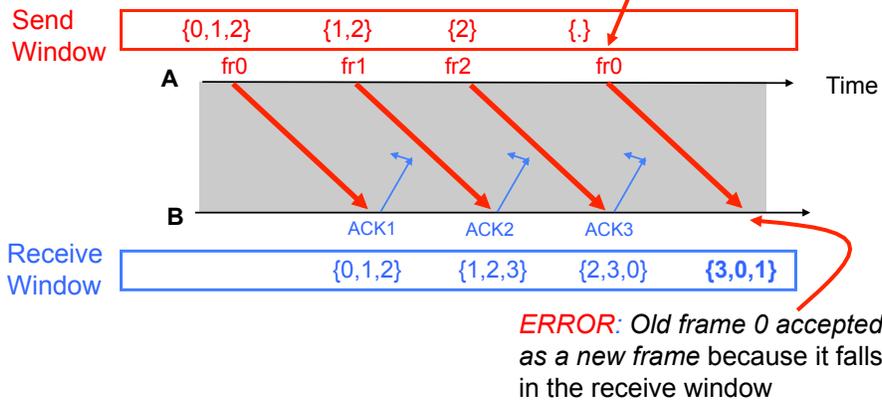


Send & Receive Windows



Allowable W_s and W_r Sizes

- Example: $M = 2^2 = 4$, $W_s = 3$, $W_r = 3$



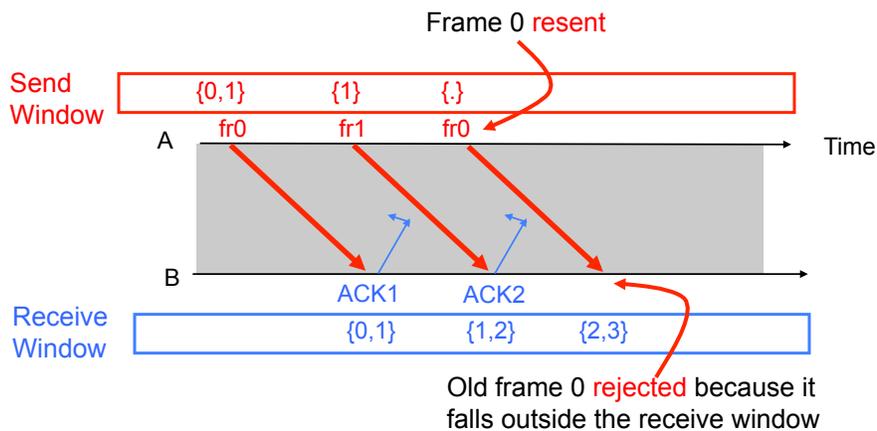
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$W_s + W_r = 2^m$ is Maximum Allowed

- Example: $M = 2^2 = 4$, $W_s = 2$, $W_r = 2$



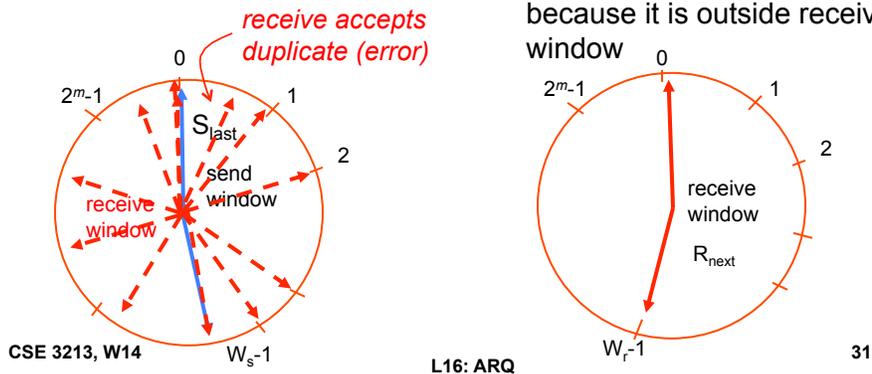
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Why $W_s + W_r = 2^m$ Works

- Transmitter sends frames 0 to W_s-1 ; send window empty
- All arrive at receiver
- All ACKs lost
- Transmitter resends frame 0
- Receiver window starts at $\{0, \dots, W_r\}$
- Window slides forward to $\{W_s, \dots, W_s+W_r-1\}$
- Receiver rejects frame 0 because it is outside receive window



Efficiency of Selective Repeat

- Assume P_f frame loss probability, then number of transmissions required to deliver a frame is:
 $t_f/(1-P_f)$

$$\eta_{SR} = \frac{\frac{n_f - n_o}{t_f/(1-P_f)}}{R} = \left(1 - \frac{n_o}{n_f}\right)(1 - P_f)$$

Example: Impact of BER on Selective Repeat

- $n_f = 1250$ bytes = 10000 bits
- $n_a = n_o = 25$ bytes = 200 bits
- Compare S&W, GBN & SR efficiency for random bit errors with $p=0, 10^{-6}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-4}$ and $R = 1$ Mbps & **reaction time** = 100 ms

Efficiency	0	10^{-6}	10^{-5}	10^{-4}
S&W	8.9%	8.8%	8.0%	3.3%
GBN	98%	88.2%	45.4%	4.9%
SR	98%	97%	89%	36%

- **Selective Repeat outperforms GBN and S&W**, but efficiency drops as error rate increases

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Comparison of ARQ Efficiencies

- Assume n_a and n_o are negligible relative to n_f , and $L = 2(t_{prop} + t_{proc})R/n_f = (W_s - 1)$, then

Selective-Repeat:

$$\eta_{SR} = (1 - P_f) \left(1 - \frac{n_o}{n_f}\right) \approx (1 - P_f)$$

Go-Back-N:

$$\eta_{GBN} = \frac{1 - P_f}{1 + (W_s - 1)P_f} = \frac{1 - P_f}{1 + LP_f}$$

For $P_f \approx 0$, SR & GBN same

Stop-and-Wait:

$$\eta_{SW} = \frac{(1 - P_f)}{1 + \frac{n_a}{n_f} + \frac{2(t_{prop} + t_{proc})R}{n_f}} \approx \frac{1 - P_f}{1 + L}$$

For $P_f \rightarrow 1$, GBN & SW same

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ARQ Efficiencies

