

## L14: ARQ & Reliable Data Transfer



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## Outline

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- 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*

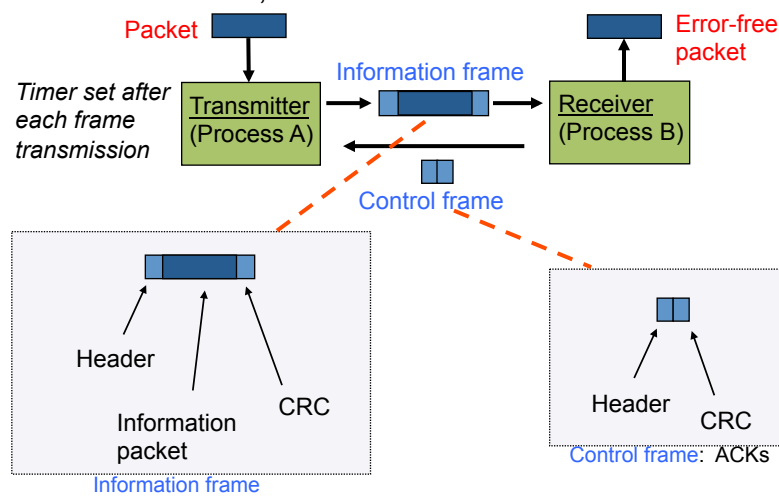
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## Stop-and-Wait ARQ

Transmit a frame, wait for ACK

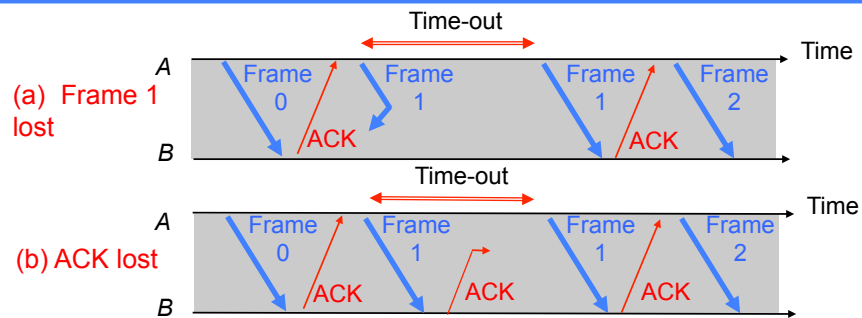


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## Need for Sequence Numbers



- 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

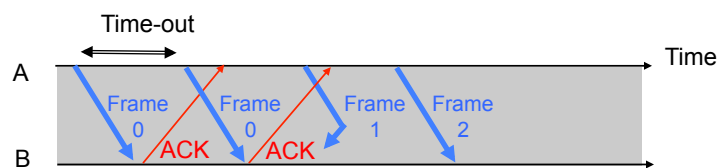
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## ACK Sequence Numbers

### (c) Premature Time-out



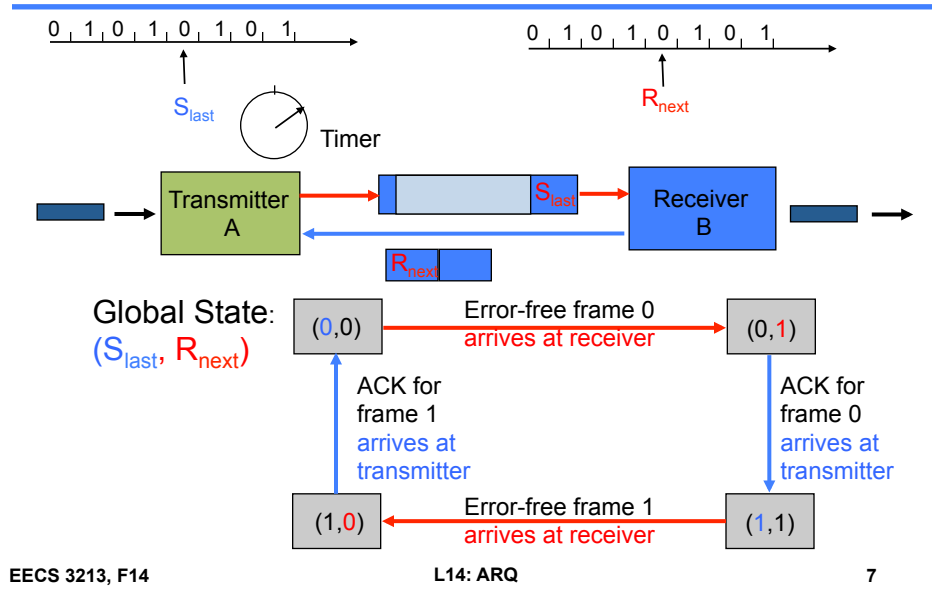
- The transmitting station A misinterprets duplicate ACKs
- Incorrectly assumes second ACK acknowledges Frame 1
- **Question:** How is the receiver to know second ACK is for frame 0?
- **Answer:** *Add frame sequence number in ACK header*
- $R_{next}$  is sequence number of next frame expected by the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

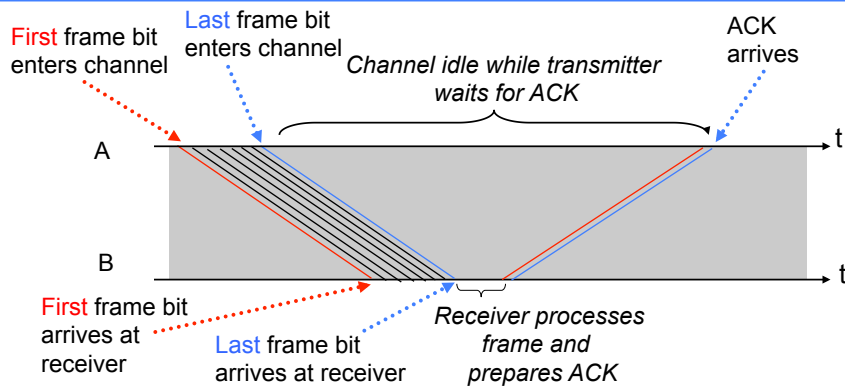
- Wait for ACK or timer to expire; block requests from higher layer
- If timeout expires
  - retransmit frame and reset timer
- If ACK received:
  - If sequence number is incorrect or if errors detected: ignore ACK
  - If sequence number is correct ( $R_{next} = S_{last} + 1$ ): accept frame,  $S_{last}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



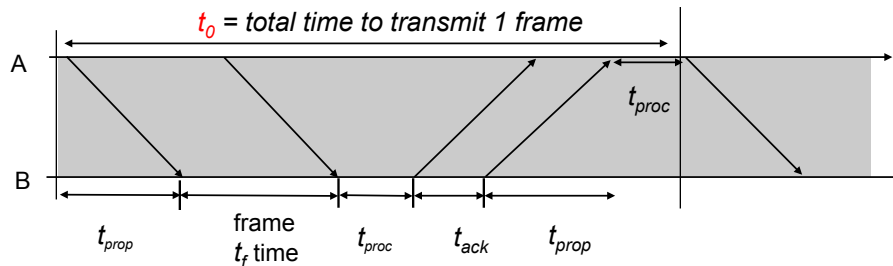
- 10000 bit frame @ 1 Mbps takes 10 ms to transmit
- If wait for ACK = 1 ms, then efficiency =  $10/11 = 91\%$
- If wait for ACK = 20 ms, then efficiency =  $10/30 = 33\%$

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## Stop-and-Wait Model



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

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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 <span style="color: red;">32.2%</span>

*Bit errors impact performance as  $n_f p$  approaches 1*

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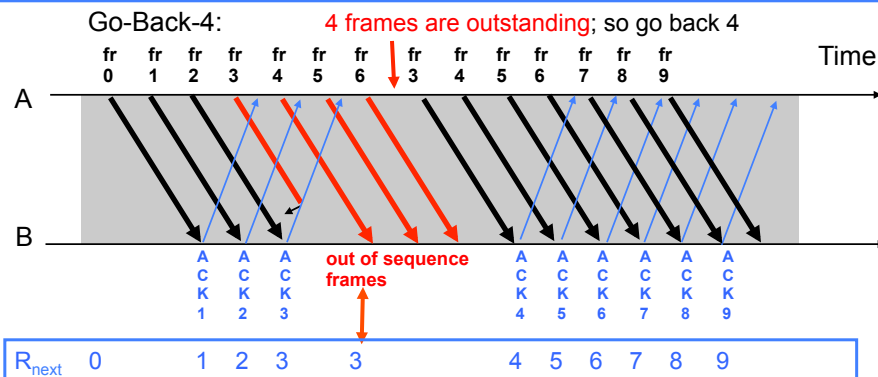
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## Go-Back-N ARQ

- 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



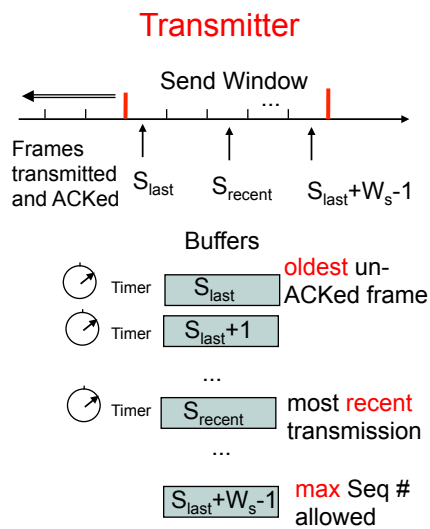
- Frame transmission are **pipelined** to keep the channel busy
- Frame with errors and subsequent out-of-sequence frames are ignored
- Transmitter is forced to go back when window of 4 is exhausted



## 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

## Go-Back-N Transmitter & Receiver

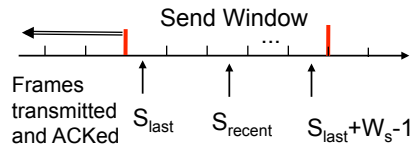


Receiver will **only accept a frame that is error-free** and that has sequence number  $R_{next}$

When such frame arrives  $R_{next}$  is incremented by one, so the receive **window slides forward** by one

## Sliding Window Operation

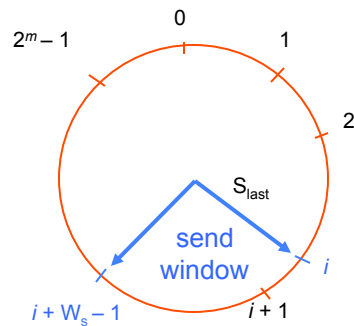
### Transmitter



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

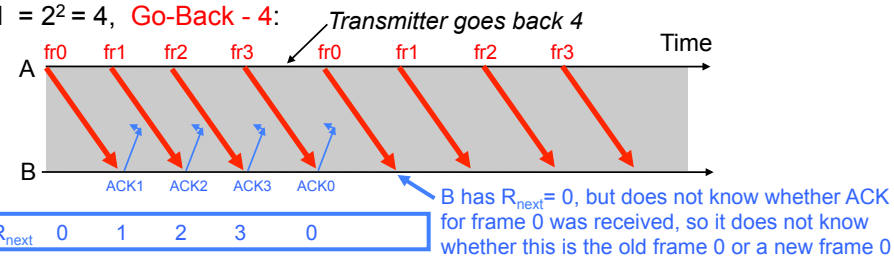
When such ACK frame arrives,  $S_{last}$  is incremented by one, and the **send window slides forward** by one

### $m$ -bit Sequence Numbering

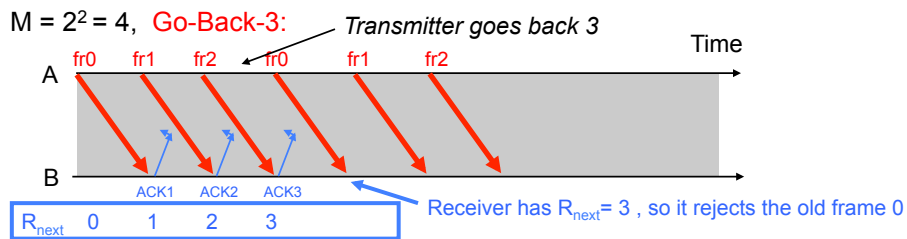


## Maximum Allowable Window Size is $W_s = 2^m - 1$

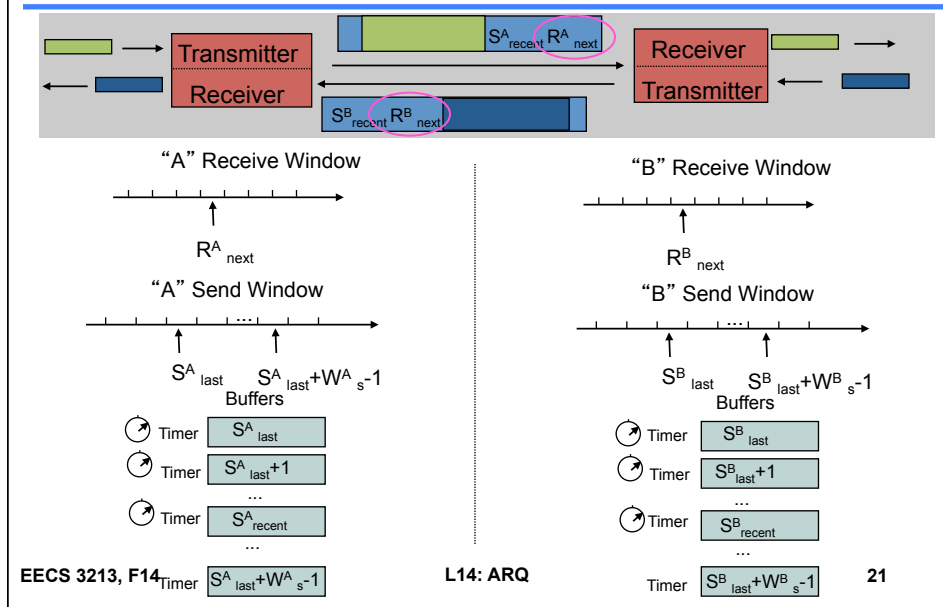
$M = 2^2 = 4$ , **Go-Back-4:**



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



## ACK Piggybacking in Bidirectional GBN



## Required Window Size for Delay-Bandwidth Product

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

$2(t_{\text{prop}} + t_{\text{proc}})$	$2 \times \text{Delay} \times \text{BW}$	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

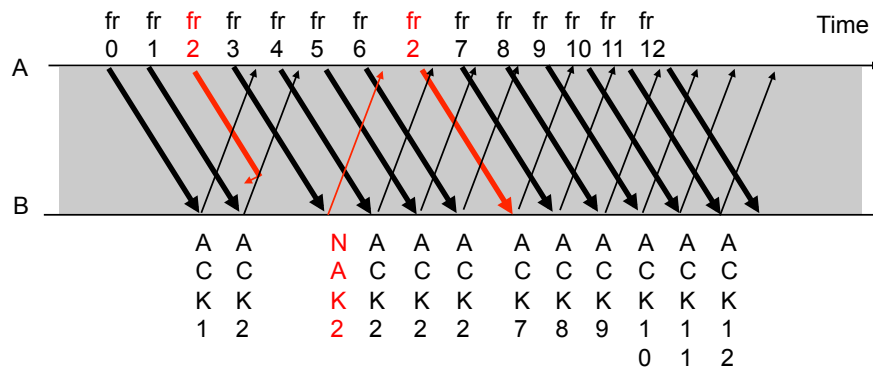
- Go-Back-N ARQ inefficient because **multiple** frames are resent when errors or losses occur
- Selective Repeat retransmits **only an individual frame**
  - **Timeout** causes individual corresponding frame to be resent
  - **NAK** causes retransmission of oldest un-acked frame
- Receiver maintains **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

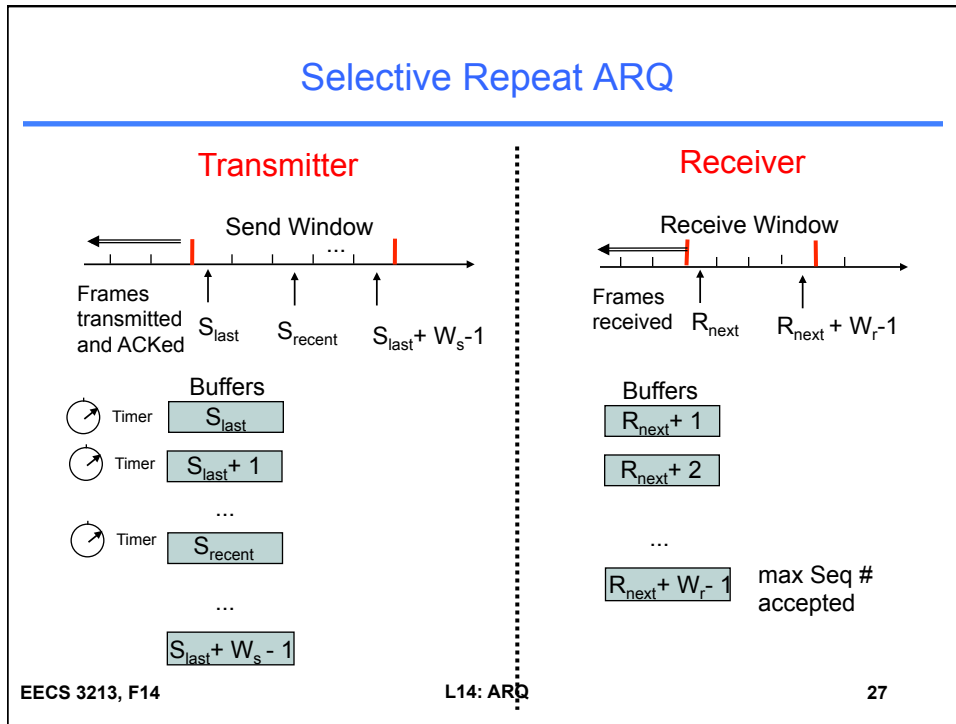


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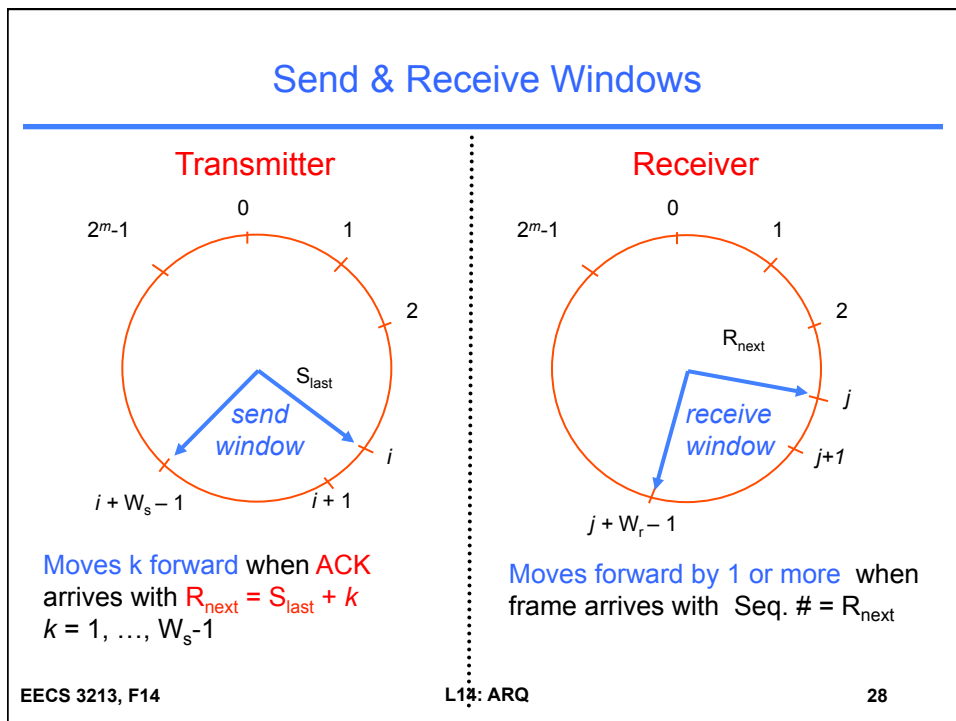
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## Selective Repeat ARQ

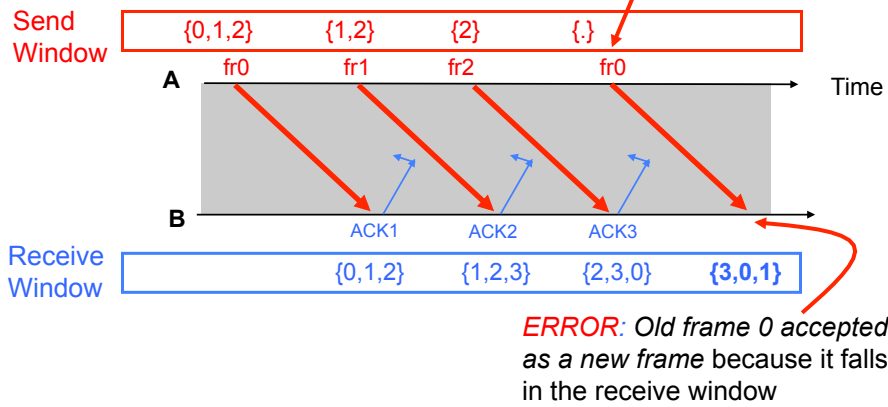


## Send & Receive Windows



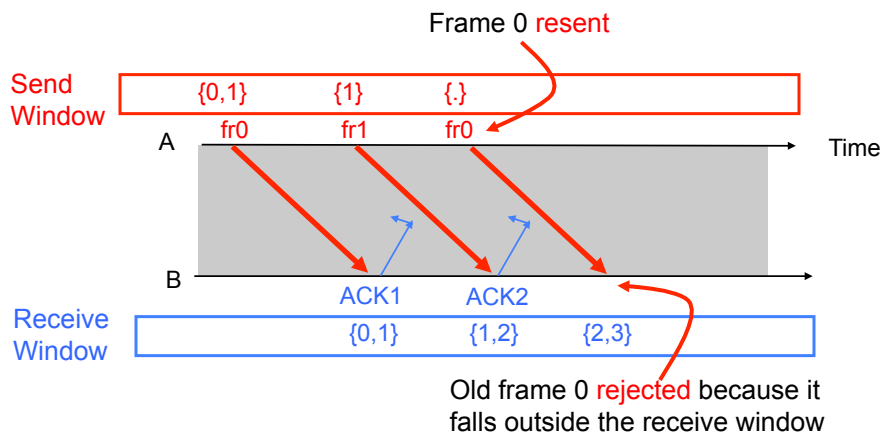
## Allowable $W_s$ and $W_r$ Sizes

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



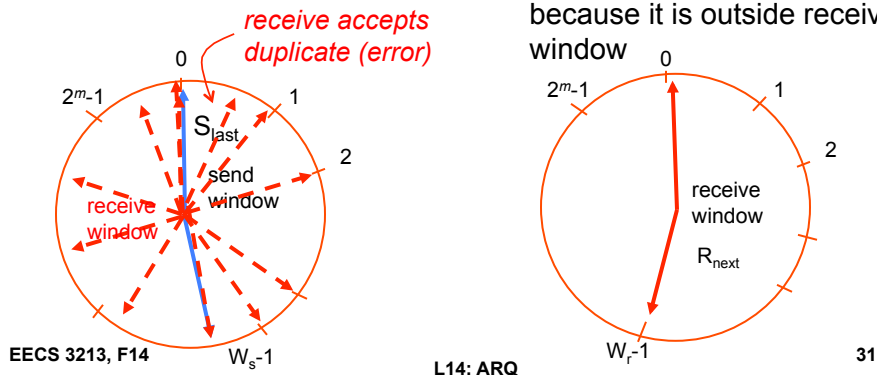
## $W_s + W_r = 2^m$ is Maximum Allowed

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



## 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



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## Efficiency of Selective Repeat

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

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

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## 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

## 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*

## ARQ Efficiencies

