The University of Rhode Island

ELE 437
Introduction to Bluetooth

Overview

- Overall introduction of bluetooth
- Bluetooth Protocol Stack
  - Physical Layer
  - Baseband
  - Link Manager Protocol (LMP)
  - L2CAP
  - RFCOMM

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What is Bluetooth

- It is a specification that attempts to provide a standard method of wireless communication between various personal devices
- Devices with ranging complexity can utilize Bluetooth technology: from cellular telephones to laptop computers
- Has a complete software framework and its own protocol stack.
- Specifications are driven by a Consortium that was founded in 1998 by Ericsson Microelectronics,Nokia, IBM, Toshiba and Intel. http://www.bluetooth.org

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Goals of Bluetooth

- Cable replacement
- Low Cost (a $5 solution)
- Low Power
- Small Size
- Dynamic networking for devices that are constantly mobile (not in motion)

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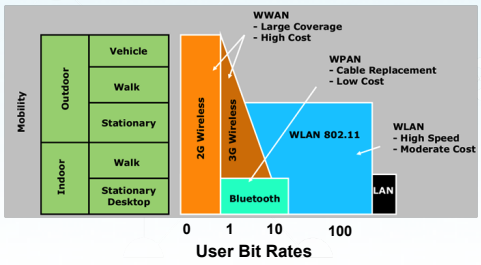
Different Wireless Protocols



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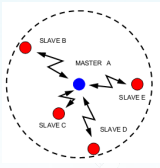
Master/Slave Piconet

- Hopping sequence is unique for a piconet and is determined by the Master's BT address.
- The piconet is synchronized by the system clock of the Master.
- A slave can become a master in another Piconet. This connects two Piconets into a Scatter Net



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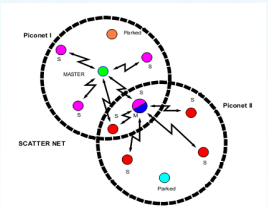
Typical Bluetooth Networks



Piconet & Scatternet

- Master in one piconet can be a slave in another
- Addressing limits number of active devices in a piconet to 7
- An indefinite number of parked devices remain synchronized with the piconet but are not active

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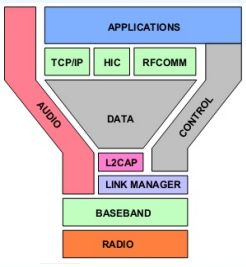
Bluetooth Protocol Stack

- Application Layer
- Transport layer
- Medium Access Control (MAC)
- Physical Layer (PHY)



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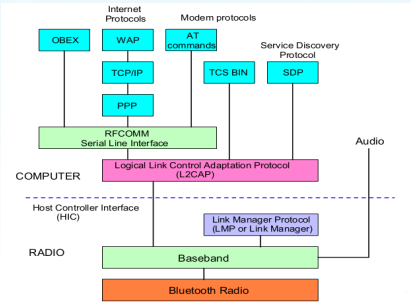
Details of Bluetooth Stack



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Radio: Transmitter Characteristics

- Bluetooth come in three classes

Power class	Maximum Output Power	Nominal Output Power	Minimum Output Power
1	100 mW	N/A	1 mW
2	2.5 mW	1mW	0.25 mW
3	1 mW	N/A	N/A

- RF Specs
  - – Resides in the unlicensed ISM band between 2.4-2.485GHz
  - – GFSK (Gaussian Frequency Shift Keying) is used with Bandwidth Time (BT) product of 0.5.

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Radio: Receiver Characteristics

- The Bluetooth receiver sensitivity level is approximately -70 dBm or better.
- The receiver should have the capability to measure its signal strength and determine whether the transmitter should increase or decrease the power..
- The measurement compares the received signal level with two thresholds. The lower threshold is approximately -56 dBm.

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Physical Channels

- The channel is divided into time slots. Each time slot is 625 micro-seconds in length.
- TDM scheme is used between the master and slave for transmission purpose.
- The Master starts its transmission in the even-numbered slot only whereas the slaves start to transmit in the odd-numbered only.

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Physical Links

- There are two different types of link that can be defined between the master and the slave.
- Synchronous Connection Oriented (SCO) link.
- Asynchronous Connection Less (ACL) link.

Physical Links (Cont. 1)

- The SCO link is defined as a symmetric, point-to-point link between the master and the slave.
- The SCO link can be thought to be a circuit-switched connection.
- The master can support up to 3 SCO links to the same slave or different slaves.
- The master sends SCO packets in the regular interval known as *Tsco* in the master-to-slave slots.

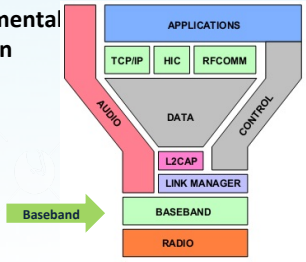
Physical Links (Cont. 2)

- ACL link is a point-to-multipoint link between the master and all the slaves participating in the piconet.
- The master can establish an ACL link on the per-slot basis with any slave.
- ACL links provide a packet-switched connection.

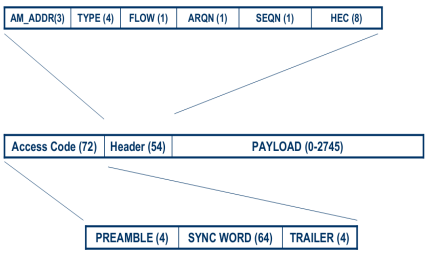
Baseband Specification

Defines many fundamental operations between devices

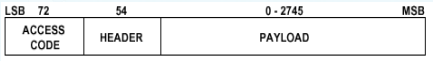
- Channel Control
- Packet Formats
- Error Corrections
- BT Addressing
- Connections



Baseband Packet Format

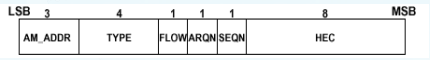


Packet Format: Access Code



- Access code identifies a piconet.
- Access code used for piconet communication derived from the master's address.
- Access codes used in inquiry, paging.

Packet Format: Packet Header



- AM_ADDR: 3 bits: address of slave in piconet.
- TYPE: One of 16 possible packet types
- FLOW: Used to stop flow on ACL link.
- ARQN: Positive or negative acknowledgement.
- SEQN: Inverted for each new transmitted packet.
- HEC: Header-error check.
- The entire header is protected by 1/3 rate FEC.

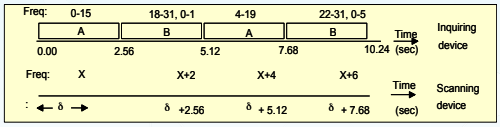
Baseband: Error Correction

- Both forward and backward error correction.
- 1/3 rate FEC: used for headers and voice.
- 2/3 rate FEC: used for DM packets.
- Stop and wait ARQ.
- CRC is used to detect error in payload.
- Broadcast packets are not acked.

Baseband: Inquiry procedure

- To discover other units in range.
- ID packets containing GIAC (*Global Information Assurance Certification*) are transmitted by inquiring device.
- ID packets sent on inquiry hopping sequence derived from GIAC.
- Inquirer sends 2 ID packets at different frequencies in even slots and waits for response(s) in the odd slots.
- 32 inquiry hop frequencies are split in two 16 hop parts (trains) A and B. Each train lasts 10msec (16 slots).
- A scanning device listens at one of 32 inquiry frequencies for 11.25 msec at least once every 2.56 sec.
- A/B trains of ID packets are repeated 256 times each.

Baseband: Inquiry and inquiry scan

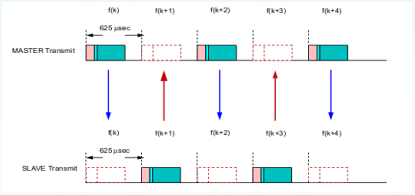


- On receiving an ID packet, scanning unit backs off for a random time (max 0.64 sec).
- On receiving another ID packet after waking up, the scanning unit returns an FHS packet.

Baseband: Paging procedure

- To connect to already known units.
- The 32 hop page sequence is derived from address of the paged device.
- A/B trains are transmitted once, 128 or 256 times depending upon the paging mode.
- The paged device does scanning continuously, or once every 1.28 sec or 2.56 sec.

Baseband: TDD and Packet Timing



- Bluetooth is time division duplex (TDD)
- About 220 μ sec of the time slot is left for synthesizer settling
- Allows simple single loop synthesizers for frequency hop
- Master transmits in even number slots
- Slave transmits in odd number slots

Baseband: Connection state

- Active mode:
  - Bluetooth unit listens for each master transmission.
  - Slaves not addressed can sleep through a transmission.
  - Periodic master transmissions used for sync.
- Sniff mode:
  - Unit does not listen to every master transmission.
  - Master polls such slaves in specified sniff slots.

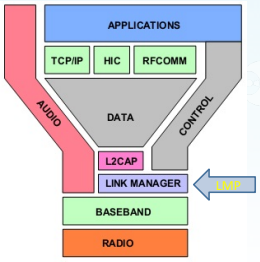
Baseband: Connection state

- Hold mode
  - Master and slave agree on a time duration for which the slave is not polled.
  - Typically used for scanning, paging, inquiry or by bridging slaves to attend to other piconets.
- Park mode
  - Slave gives up AM_ADDR.
  - Listens periodically for a beacon transmission to synchronize and uses PM_ADDR/AR_ADDR for unparking.

Link Management Protocol

Set up and Manage Baseband Connections

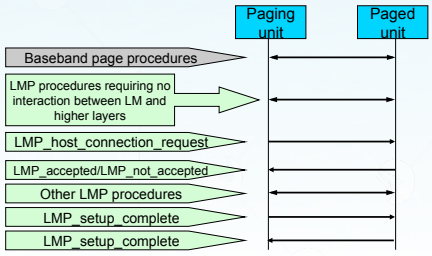
- Piconet Mgmt.
- Security
- Power Mgmt.
- Link Configuration



Link Manager Protocol (LMP)

- Used for link set-up, security and control.
- All LMP messages are single slot packets.
- Priority higher than user data (L2CAP).
- Payload body for LM PDUs:

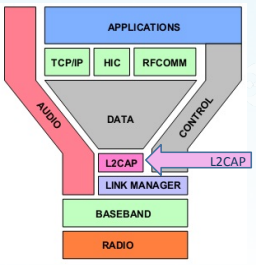
LMP: Connection Establishment



L2CAP

Logical Link Control and Adaptation Protocol

- Protocol Multiplexing
- Segmentation and Reassembly of up to 64 Kbyte packets
- Quality of Service Negotiation



Logical Link Control and Adaptation Protocol (L2CAP)

- Defined for only ACL links.
- L2CAP layer provides protocol multiplexing, segmentation & reassembly, QoS control.
- L_CH field in the payload header:
  - 10, start of L2CAP packet.
  - 01, continuation of L2CAP packet.
- Provides connection-oriented and connection-less service.

L2CAP: Functional requirements

- Protocol multiplexing: Distinguishes between upper-layer protocols like SDP, RFCOMM.
- Segmentation of larger packets from higher layers into smaller baseband packets.
- Allows QoS parameters to be exchanged during connection establishment.
- Allows efficient mapping of protocol groups to piconets.

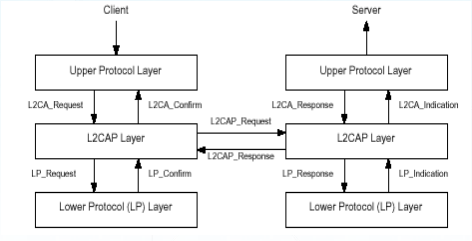
L2CAP: General Operation

- L2CAP channel end-points are represented by channel identifiers (CIDs).
- An L2CAP channel is uniquely defined by 2 CIDs and device addresses.
- Reserved CIDs
  - 0x0001: Signaling channel
  - 0x0002: Connection-less reception
  - 0x0003-0x003F: Reserved for future use

L2CAP: Operation between layers

- Transfers data between higher layer protocols and lower layer protocols.
- Signaling with peer L2CAP implementation.
- L2CA layer should be able to accept *events* from lower/upper layers.
- L2CA layer should be able to take appropriate *actions* in response to these events.

L2CA layer: Events and Actions



L2CA layer: Events

- **Types of events:**
  - LP to L2CA events, e.g.
    - LP_ConnectCfm: confirms connection at the baseband.
    - LP_ConnectInd: informs of a new baseband connection.
  - L2CAP to L2CAP signaling events, e.g.
    - L2CAP_ConnectReq: Received a connection request pkt.
    - L2CAP_ConnectRsp: Positive response received.
  - L2CAP to L2CAP data event: data packet received.
  - Upper layer to L2CAP events, e.g.
    - L2CA_ConnectReq: Request for L2CAP channel.

L2CA layer: Actions

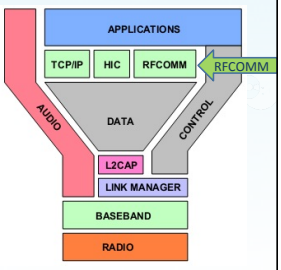
- **Types of actions:**
  - L2CA to LP actions, e.g.
    - LP_ConnectReq: Request lower layer for a connection.
    - LP_ConnectRsp: Accepting previous connection indication.
  - L2CAP to L2CAP signaling actions, e.g.
    - L2CAP_ConnectReq: Transmitted a connection request pkt.
    - L2CAP_ConnectRsp: Positive response transmitted.
  - L2CAP to L2CAP data action: data packet transmitted.
  - Upper layer to L2CAP actions, e.g.
    - L2CA_ConnectInd: Indicates to upper layer that a connection request has been received.

L2CAP: Signaling

- Signaling command are sent on CID=0x0001.
- L2CAP signaling is used for:
  - L2CAP channel establishment.
  - Configuring parameters related to
    - Quality of service.
    - Specifying MTU.
  - Closing an L2CAP channel.
- Exchanging application specific information.

RFComm

- Serial port emulation.
- Cable replacement scenario.
- Creates no flow rate limitations, this is left up to an upper layer application (ie. Serial Port Profile)



Serial Line Emulation

- Design considerations
  - Framing: assemble bit stream into bytes and subsequently into packets.
  - Transport: reliable in-sequence delivery of serial stream.
  - Control signals: RTS, CTS, DTR

Other Bluetooth protocols

- TCP/IP : Provide TCP/IP protocol for bluetooth personal area network (PAN) service
- Service Discovery Protocol (SDP):
  - Provides attribute based searching of services.
  - Provides for browsing through available services.
  - Provides means of discovering new services.
  - Provides removal of unavailable services.