Recitation 1: Group exercises

- 1. How does a bridge and a hub differ?
- 2. What fields should be in a link layer header (or trailer)?
- 3. How will a node know whether a received Ethernet frame contains, e.g., an IP packet, an ARP packet, or an IPX packet?
- 4. A link layer address can have many names, e.g., a MAC address. What other terms do you know about when referring to a link layer address?
- 5. IP address terminology, please explain!
 - unicast address
 - multicast address
 - broadcast address
 - limited broadcast address
 - (subnet) directed broadcast address
 - loopback address
 - network address
 - netmask
 - network prefix
 - prefix length

1. How does a bridge and a hub differ?

Some words/terms to assist you in the discussion

- broadcast domain
- collision domain
- store and forward
- multiple data rates
- multiple hops
- address learning, filtering

Additional words/terms to consider

- cut-thru forwarding
- arbitrary topologies (including loops)
- spanning tree protocol

Table 1: Consider a black box with multiple ethernet ports



Table 2: Alternatives



2. What fields should be in a link layer header (or trailer)?

Design your own link layer protocol format. State the name, length and order of the fields! Think freely!

Some hints:

- multiaccess or point-to-point?
- able to carry multiple or just a single higher layer protocol?
- How will the receiver know how long the packet is?
- Should you link detect bit errors? Even be able to correct them?
- Can the packet be forwarded by a layer-2 device hop count?
- (connectionless or connection-oriented)

3. How will a node know whether a received Ethernet frame contains e.g., an IP packet, an ARP packet, or an IPX packet?

Hint: Will Bob look into the layer-2 or layer-3 header to find out?

4. A link layer address can have many names, e.g., a MAC address.

What other terms do you use when referring to a link layer address?

5. IP address terminology, please explain!

- unicast address
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If you have time, discuss/explain these terms:

- private addresses
- public addresses
- anycast address