

# Tutorial on Short-Range C-ITS Communication Technologies



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Revised version of presentation from ITG FG 5.2.4 workshop on  
“Vehicular Communication”, 15.03.2018 in Aachen

**Acknowledgment:** I would like to thank my colleagues Guido Hiertz,  
Ricardo Blasco, and Marco Belleschi for supporting this presentation with  
their technical expertise.

# Outline



- Introduction
- Brief intro to Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical (PHY) Layer
- Protocol description
  - IEEE 802.11p
  - LTE-V2X Sidelink
- Summary

# Introduction



## IEEE 802.11p:

- IEEE 802.11p is based on the WLAN standard IEEE 802.11
- Often “ITS-G5” is used as synonym, since the ETSI ITS-G5 standard, specifying technology for 5.9 GHz spectrum access in Europe, currently only refers to IEEE 802.11p as Access Technology

**IEEE**  
**802.11**

## LTE-V2X Sidelink:

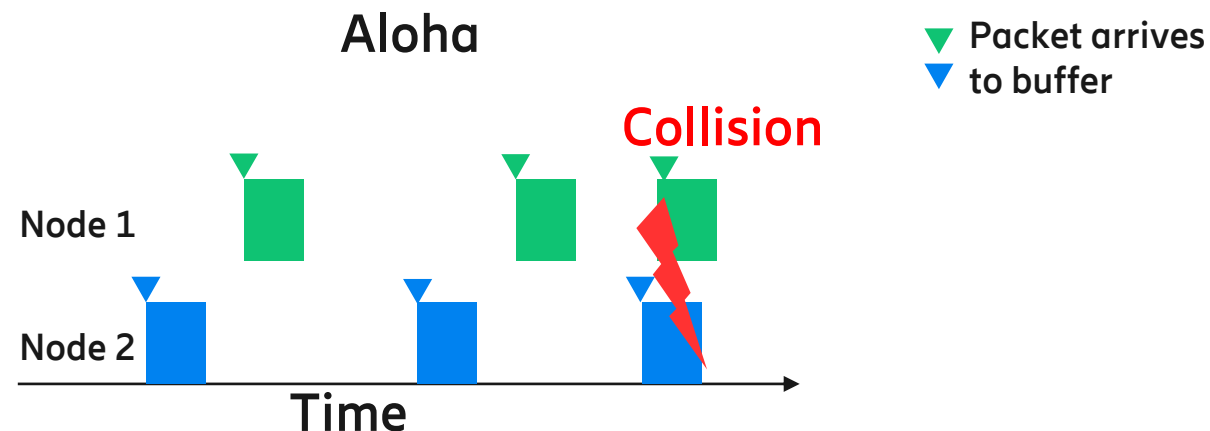
- “Sidelink” communication was introduced for Mission Critical Push-to-Talk in 3GPP LTE Release 12
- Sidelink evolved to a “V2X-Sidelink” in LTE Release 14
- Often called “LTE-V2X” or “C(ellular)-V2X” because technology, originally developed for cellular communication, is used
- Also known as “PC5” to clearly distinguish from “Uu” interface used for cellular communication



# Brief intro: MAC Layer



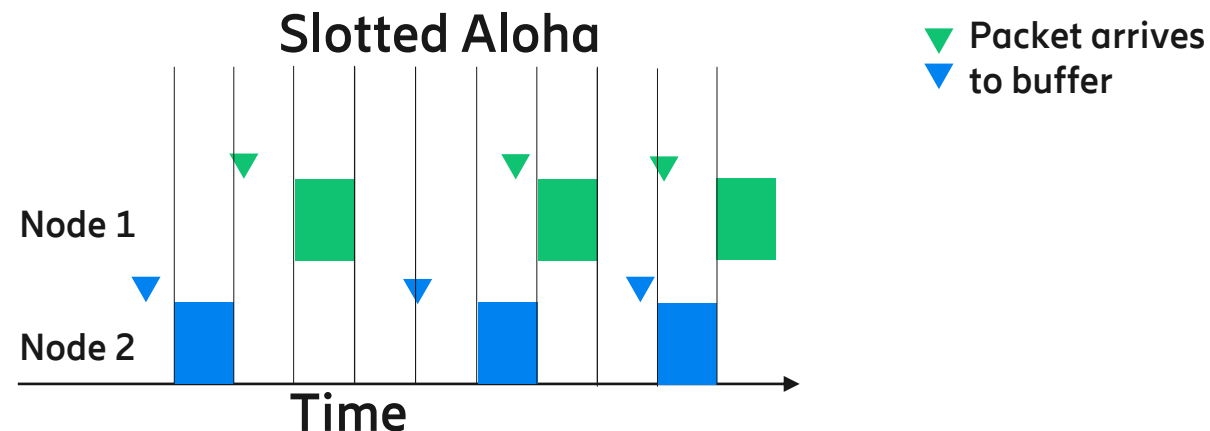
- A radio resource (time / frequency) can only be “used” by one transmitter simultaneously
- If more than one transmission simultaneously reaches the receiver, a “collision” occurs → packet (segment) loss
- A wireless sender cannot directly detect a “collision”, it can only detect it through a missing acknowledgement (ACK) from the receiver
- IEEE 802.11p and LTE-V2X Sidelink do broadcast → no ACK possible; losses remain undetected



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- MAC protocols often have loss vs. delay tradeoff

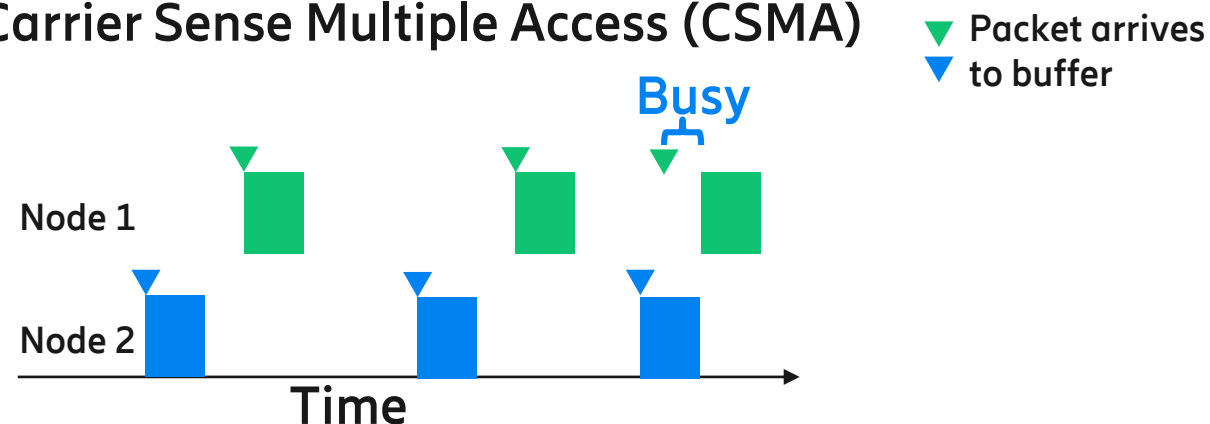


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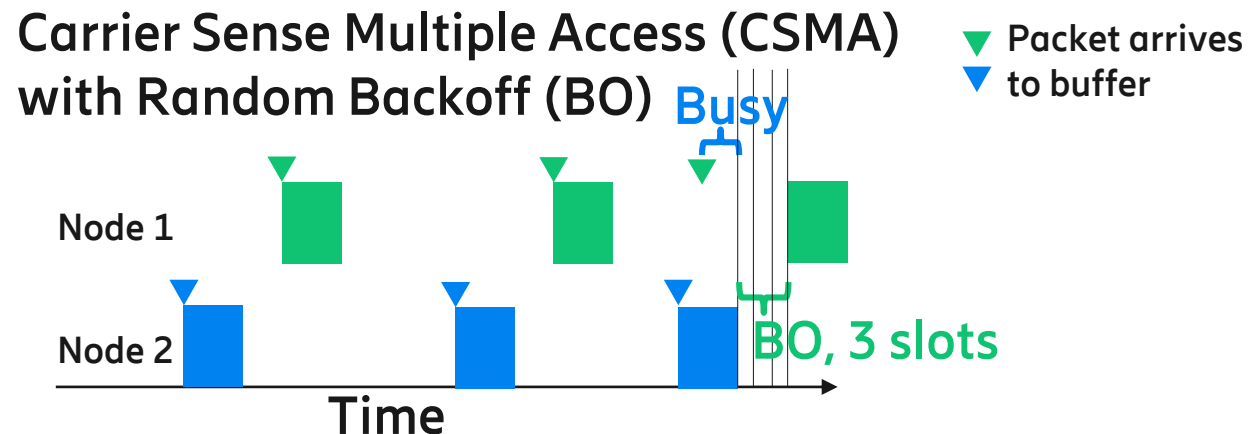
## Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA)



# Brief intro: MAC Layer



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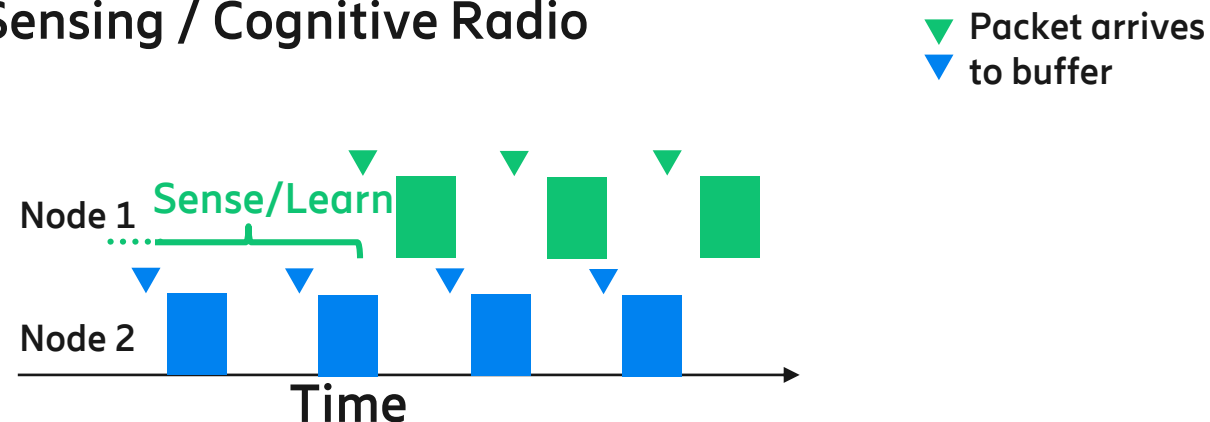


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## Sensing / Cognitive Radio

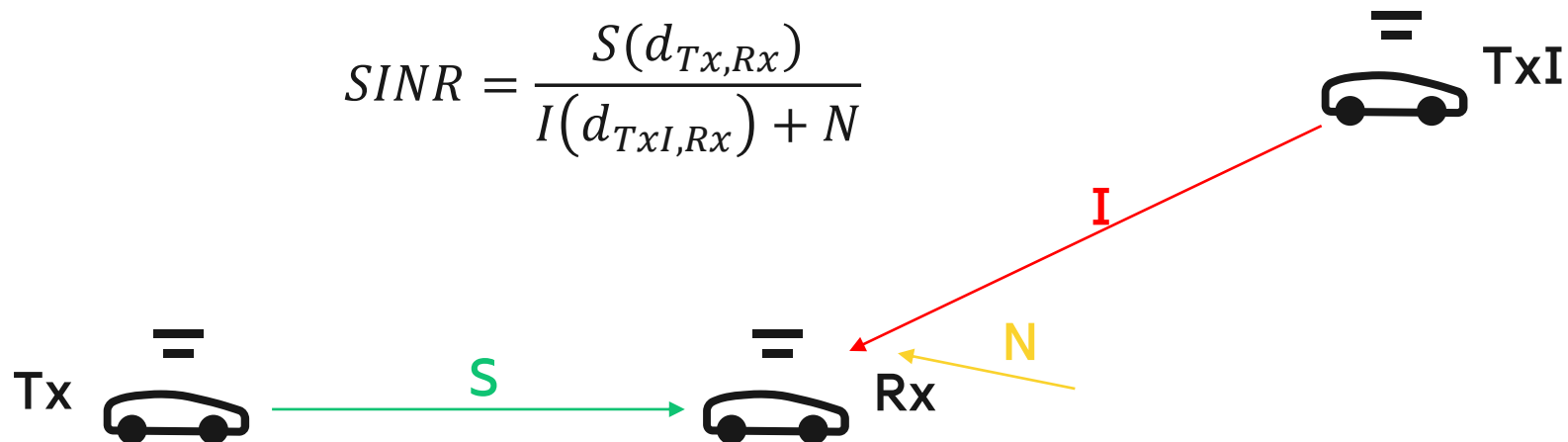




# Brief intro: PHY Layer



- Packet can be decoded (with very high probability) if Signal to Interference and Noise Ratio (SINR) is high at the receiver
- Collision: SINR is very low due to very high interference (I) compared to received signal strength (S)



# Brief intro: PHY Layer



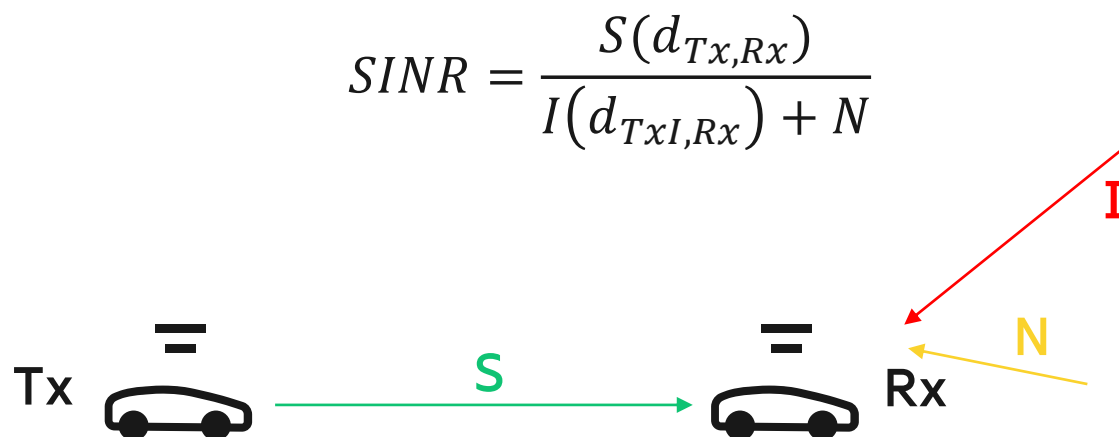
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- Loss also possible without interference due to noise (N) (~ constant) and low S due to e.g. large distance

$$SINR = \frac{S(d_{Tx,Rx})}{0 + N}$$



# Brief intro: PHY Layer

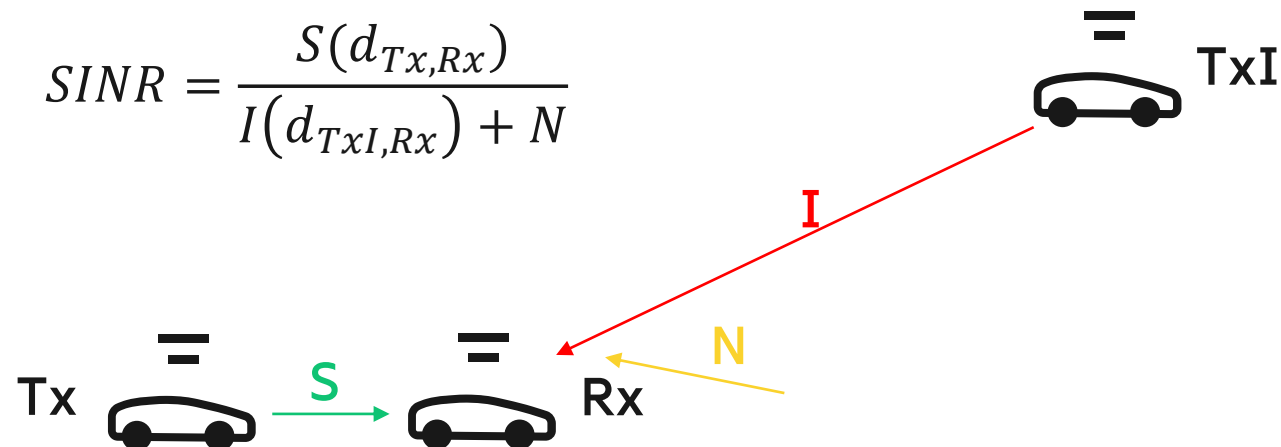
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- Not considered a “collision” if SINR is high due to low I



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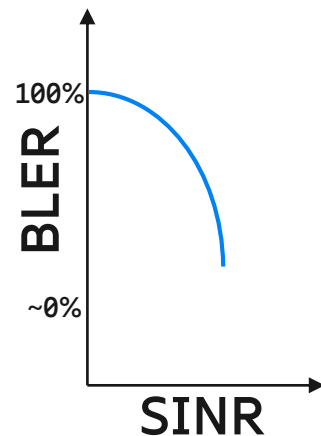
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# Brief intro: PHY Layer



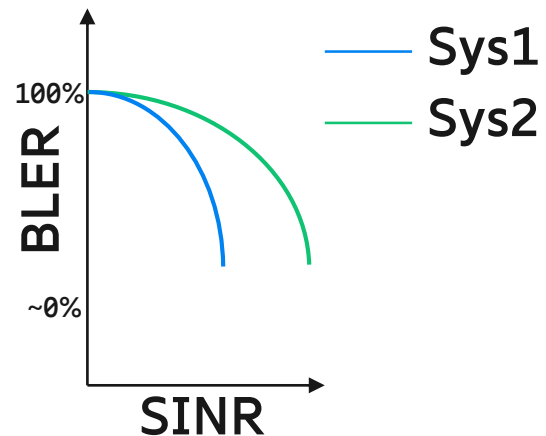
- SINR required for successful decoding depends on modulation and coding scheme (MCS) (called PHY-Mode in IEEE 802.11) and block size
- It especially depends on block error rate (BLER) to SINR characteristic (PHY Layer design)



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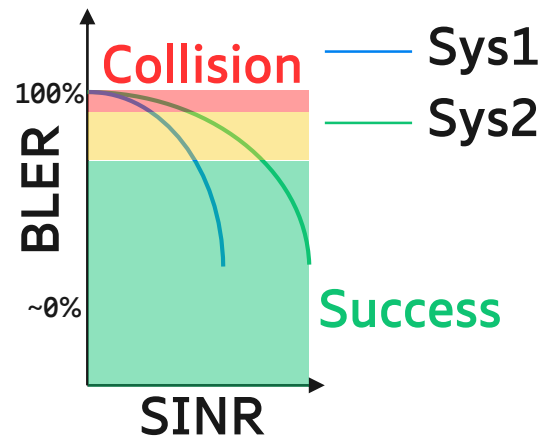
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- Sys1 is more robust than Sys2 because it achieves lower BLER with same SINR

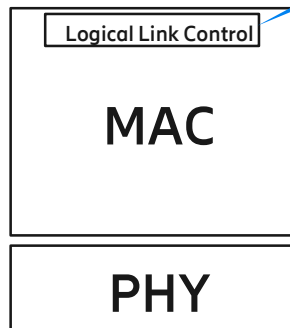


# Protocol description



## IEEE 802.11

### IEEE 802.11p



Same as for IEEE 802.3 Ethernet

"Outside the context of a Basic Service Set" (BSS)  
→ No Access Point, not in Independent BSS (IBSS) Mode

IEEE 802.11e for traffic prioritization

Timing parameters doubled compared to legacy IEEE 802.11

Usually IEEE 802.11a but any PHY adapted to 10 MHz possible



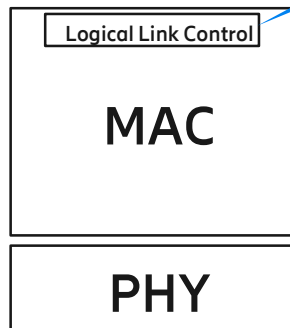
# Protocol description



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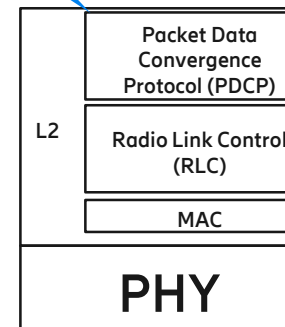
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### LTE-V2X Sidelink



Proximity Services Per Packet Priority (PPPP) for traffic prioritization

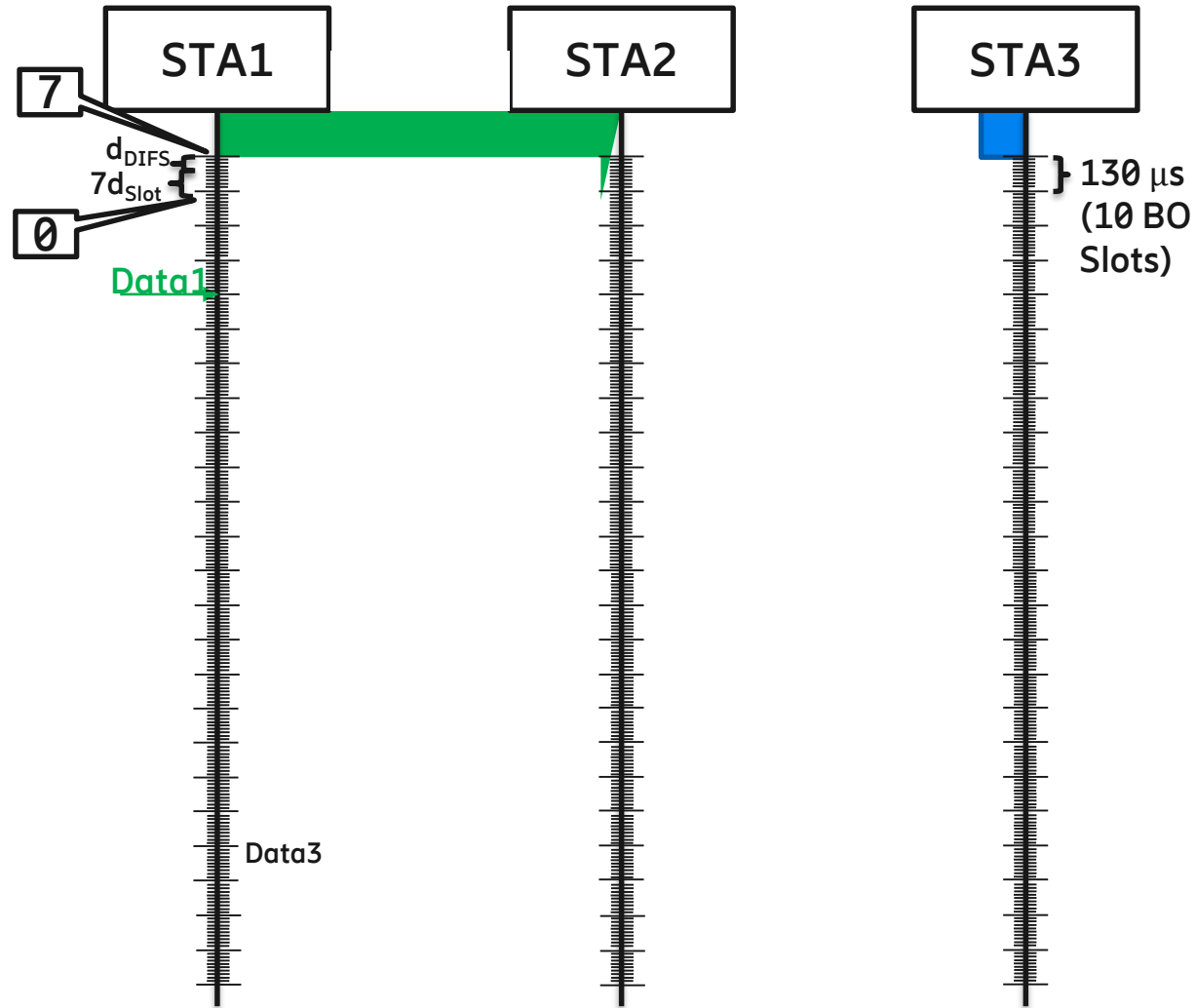
PHY and L2 revisions must match

Based on uplink but with extra reference symbols and guard times for high mobility

# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



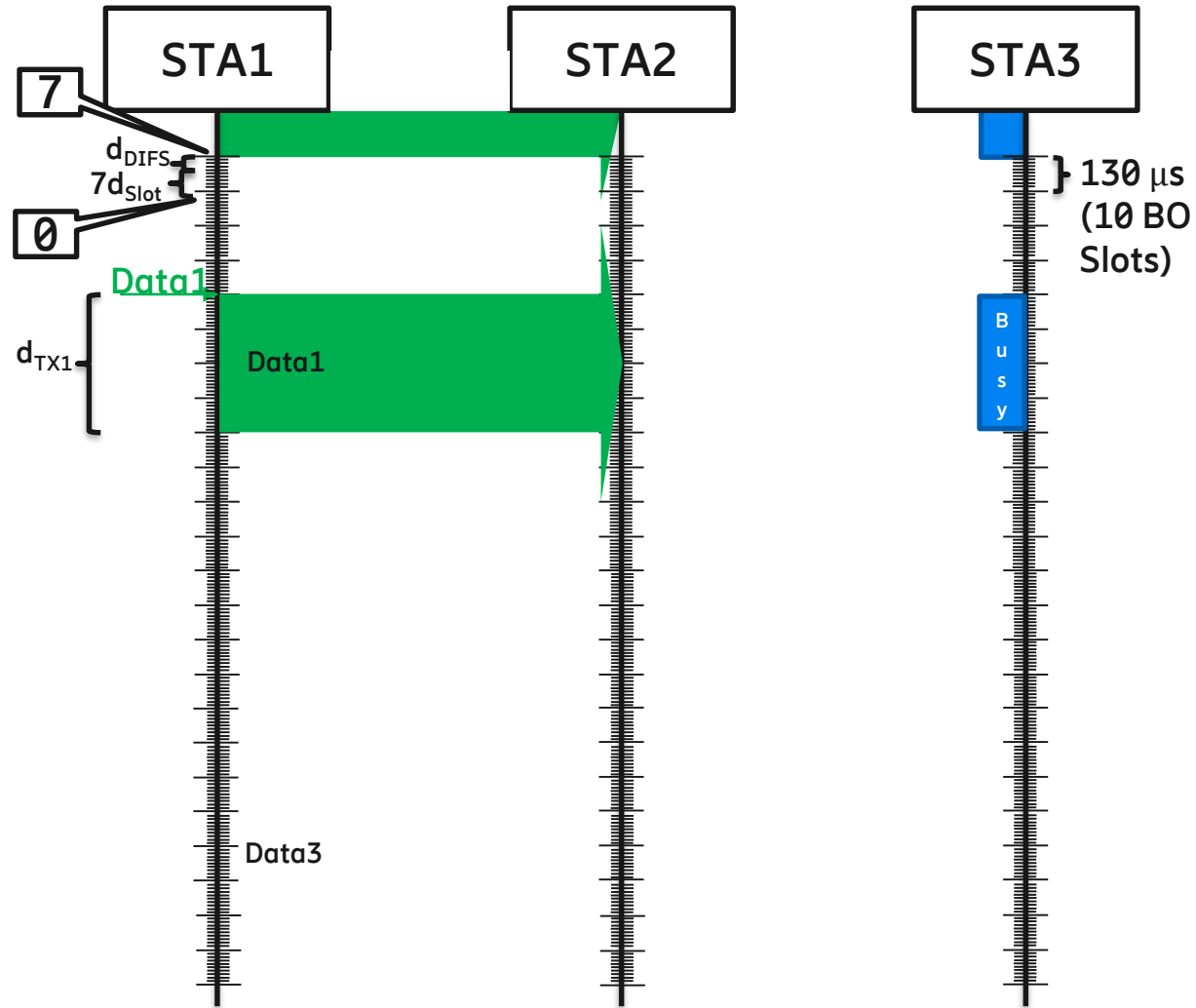
300 byte at 6 Mbit/s



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



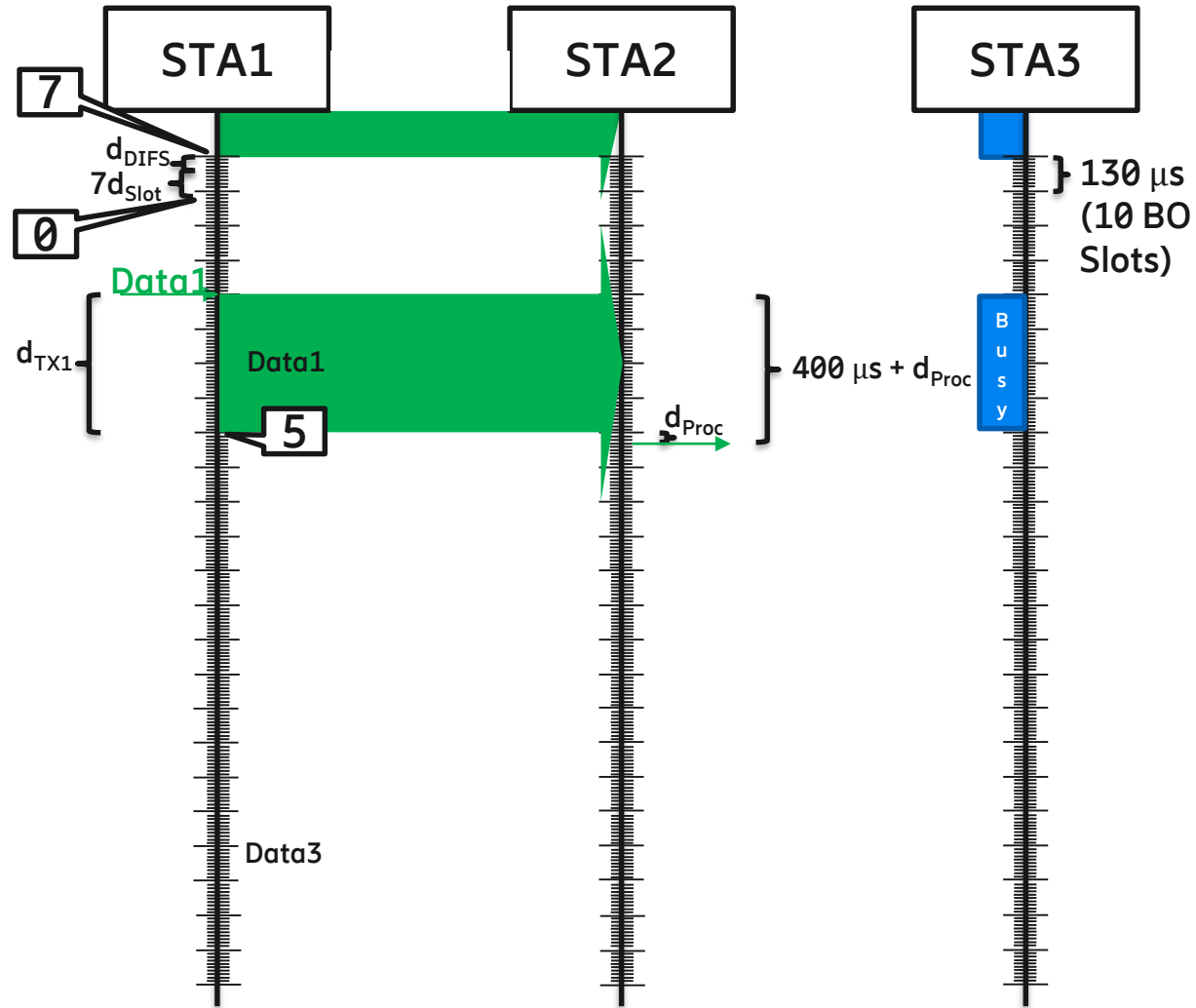
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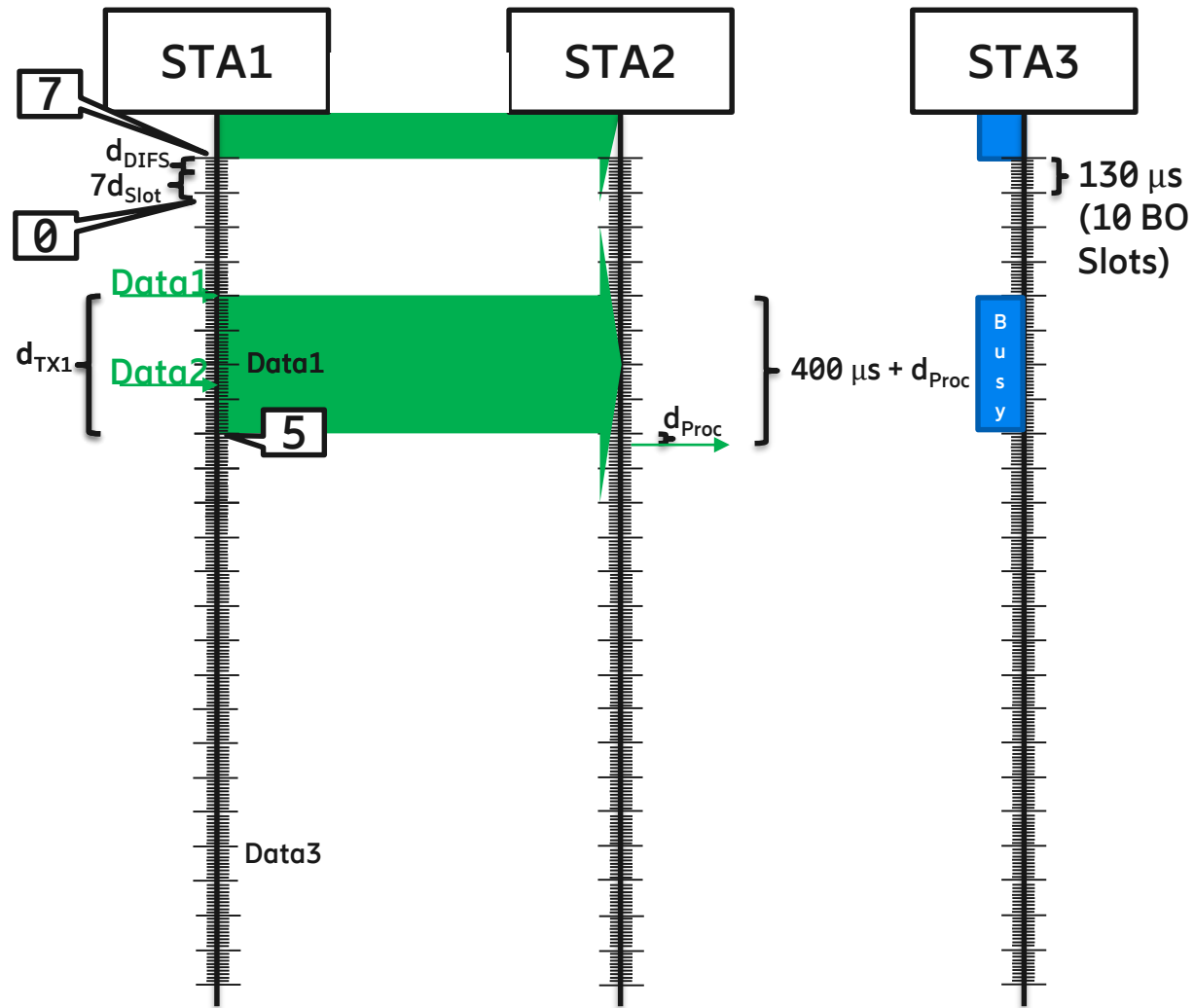
300 byte at 6 Mbit/s



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



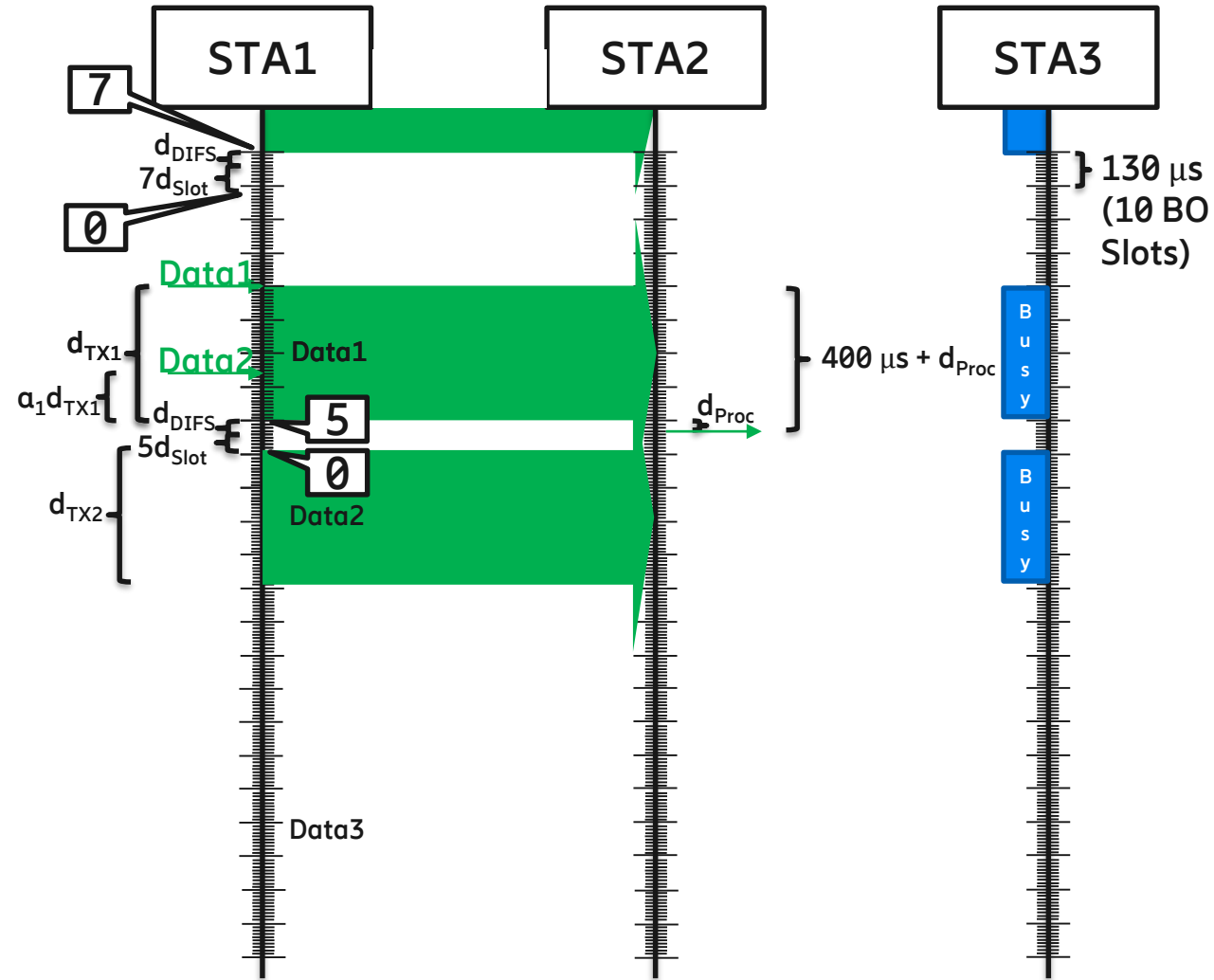
300 byte at 6 Mbit/s



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



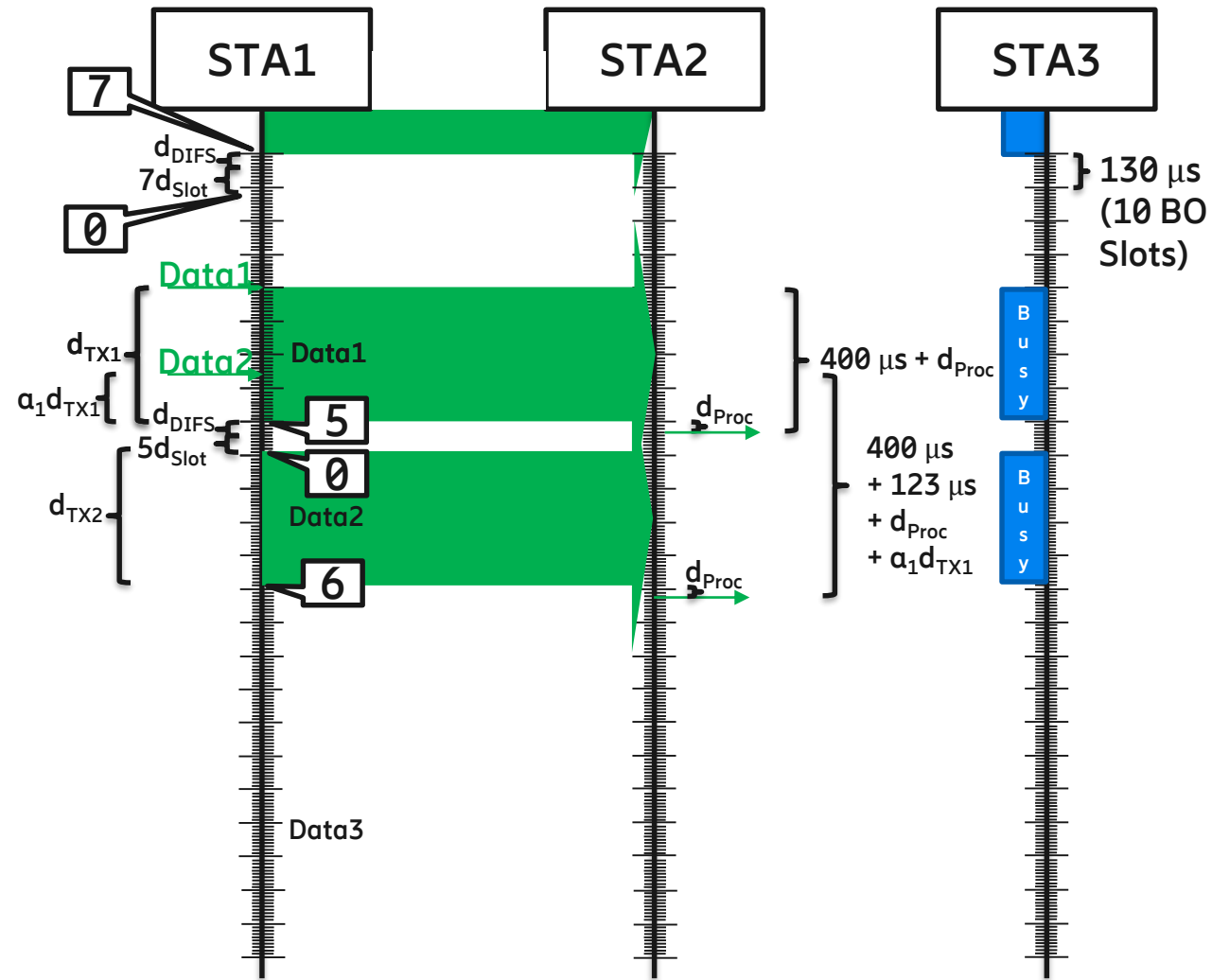
300 byte at 6 Mbit/s



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



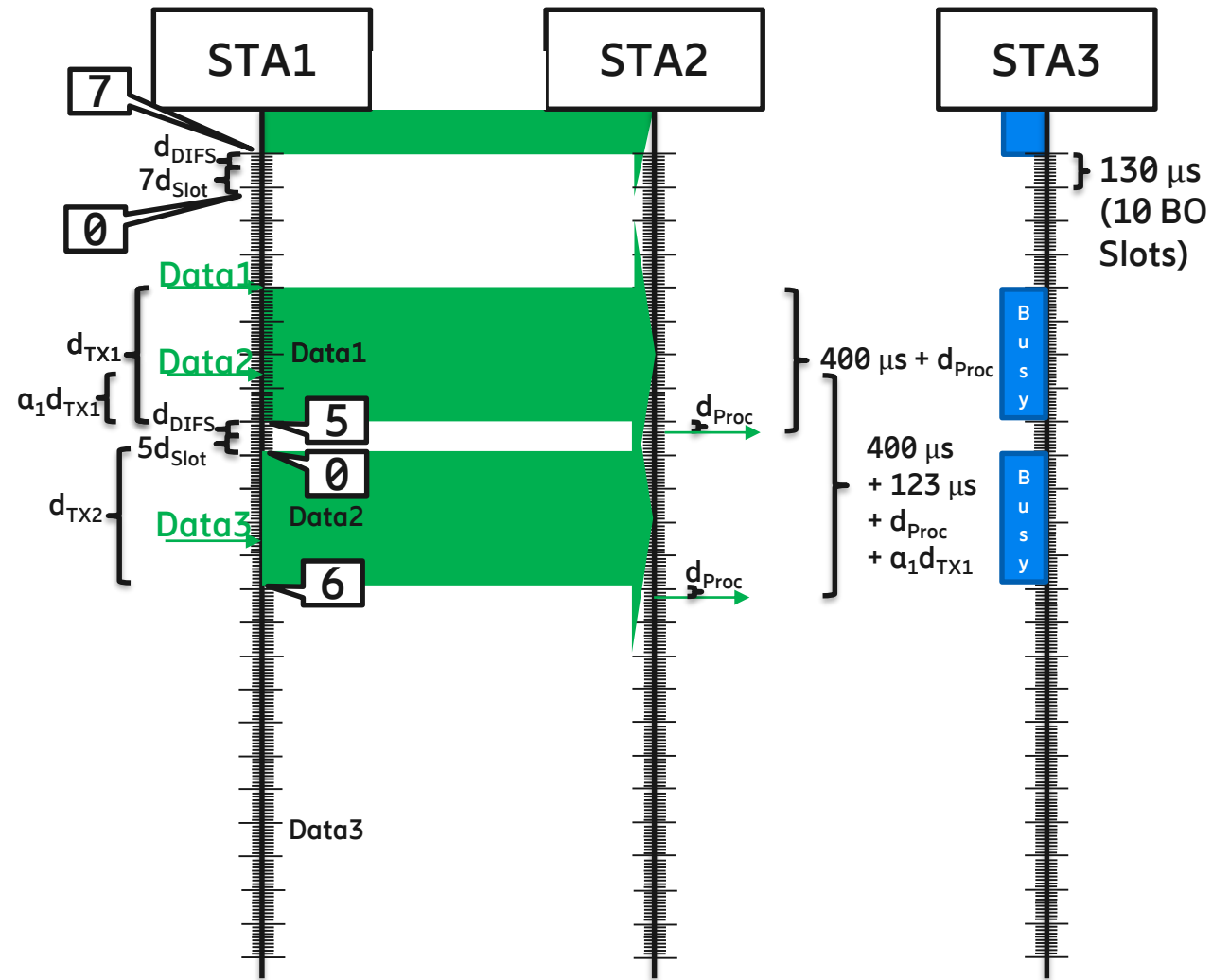
300 byte at 6 Mbit/s



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300 byte at 6 Mbit/s

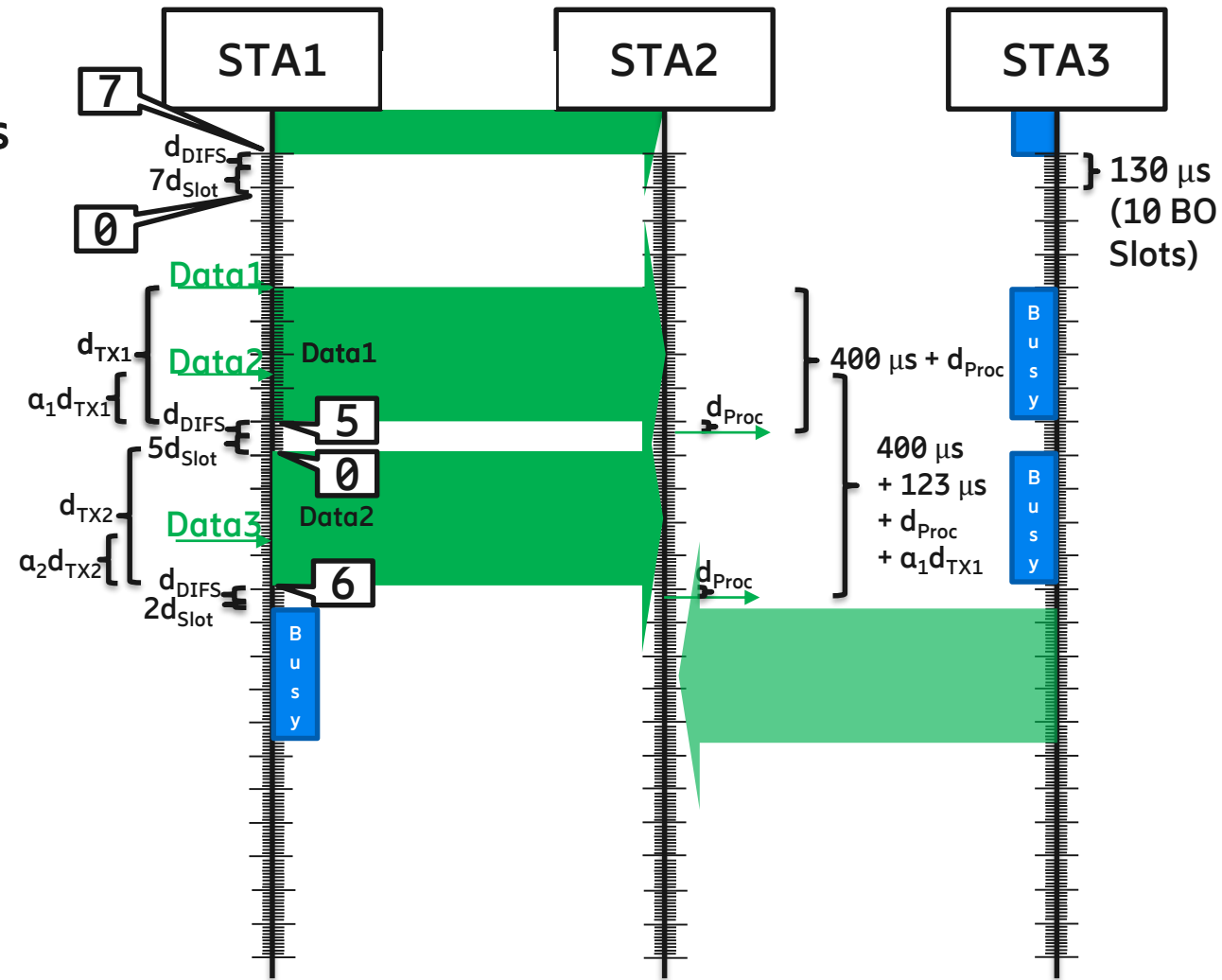




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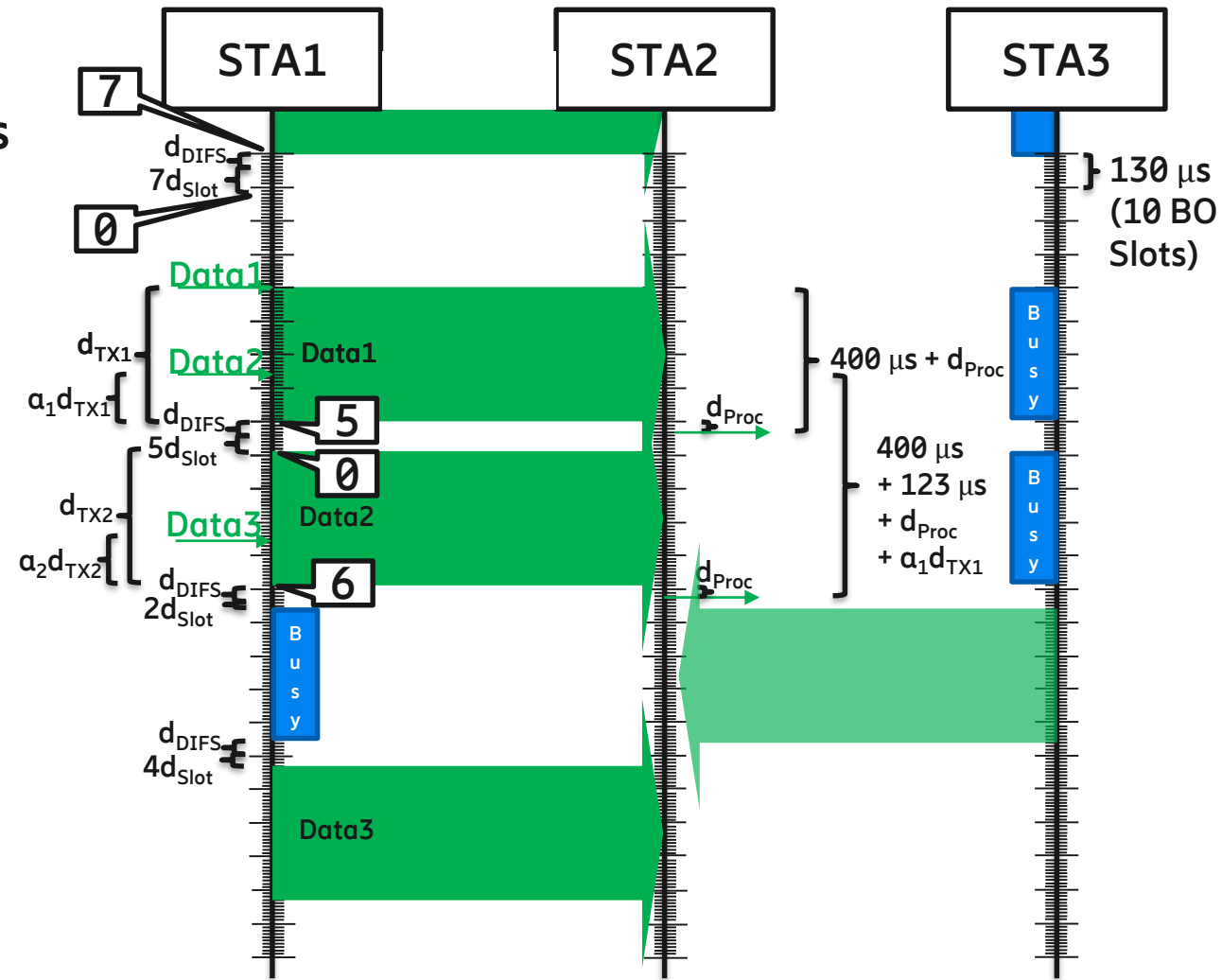
300 byte at 6 Mbit/s



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



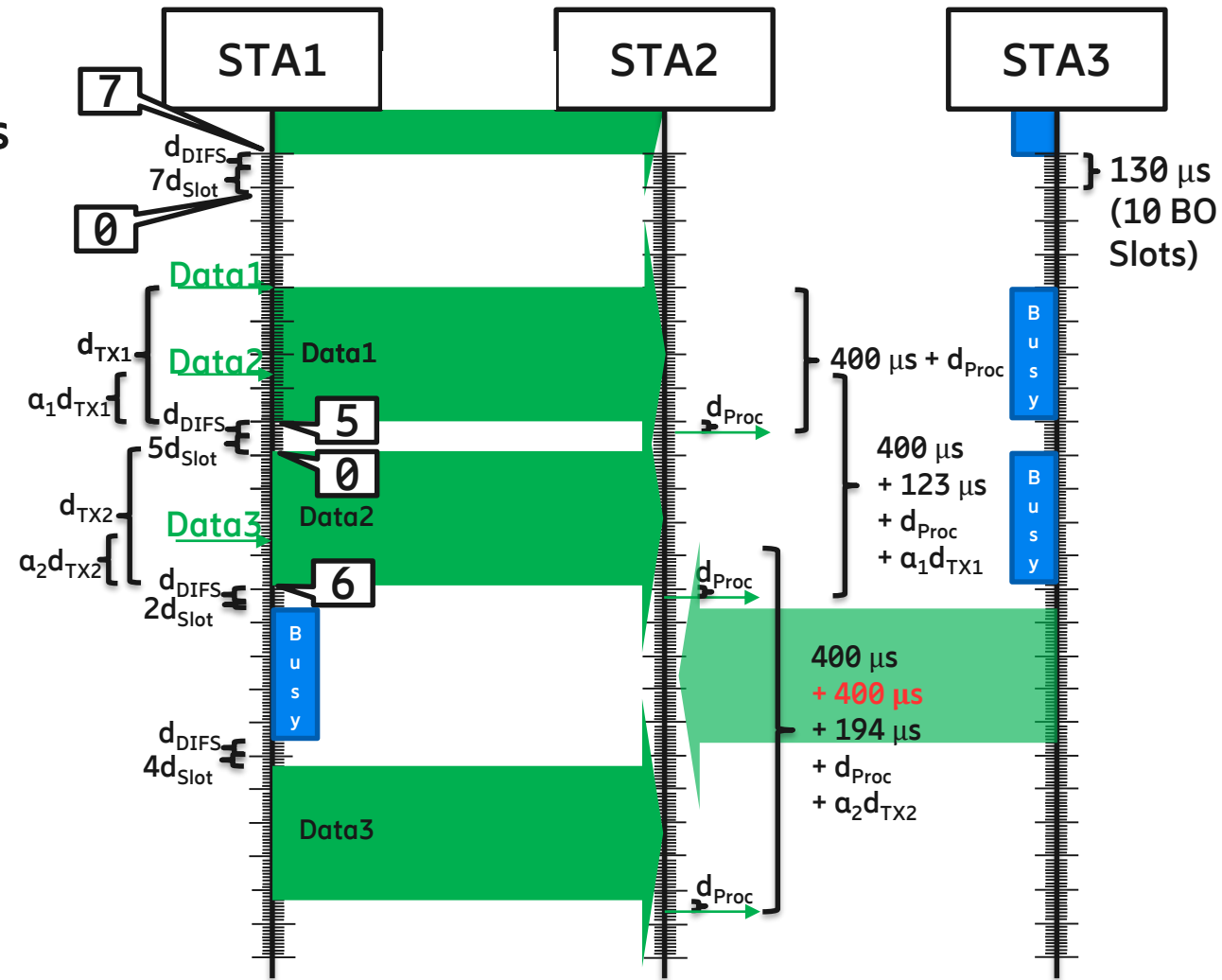
300 byte at 6 Mbit/s



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



300 byte at 6 Mbit/s

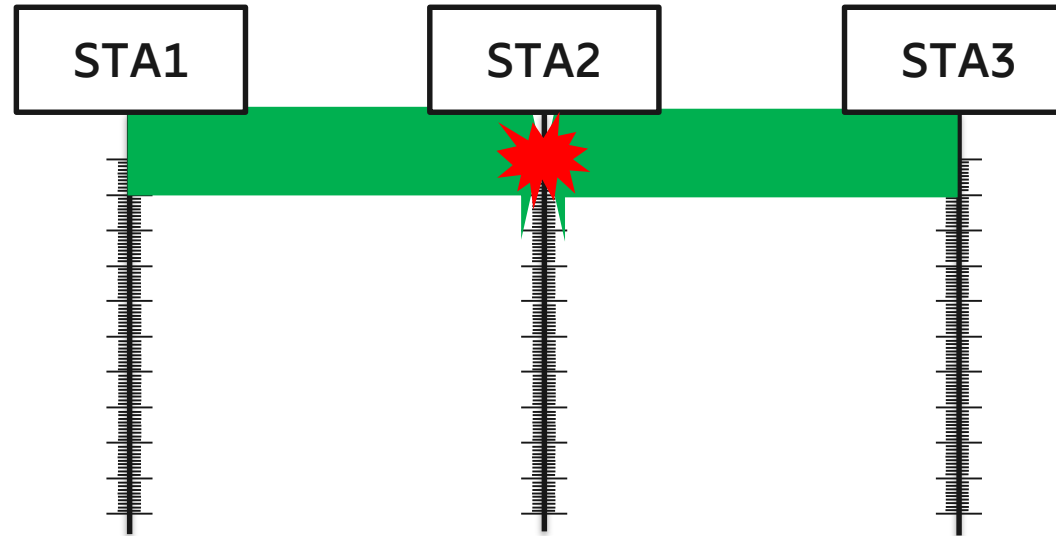


# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



300 byte at 6 Mbit/s

Same random slot  
→ collision



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



300 byte at 6 Mbit/s

Large distances  
→ hidden node  
problem



Sensing Range



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



300 byte at 6 Mbit/s

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What about Ready to  
Send (RTS) / Clear to  
Send (CTS)?

Sensing Range



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p



300 byte at 6 Mbit/s

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What about Ready to  
Send (RTS) / Clear to  
Send (CTS)?

Not possible for broadcast  
communication

Sensing Range



# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p/e



## Legacy IEEE 802.11

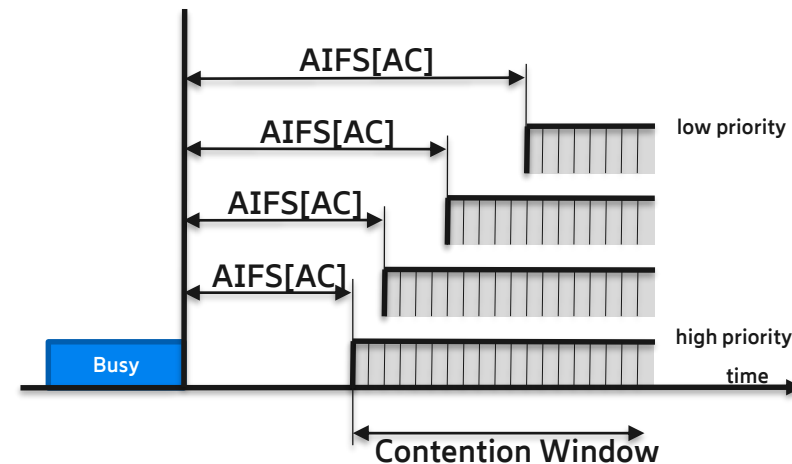
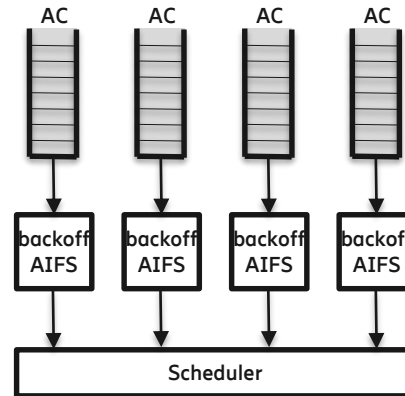
- Random slot is drawn between zero and  $CW_{Min}$
- Always wait DIFS time before starting count down

## Priorities:

- Voice (VO)
- Video (VI)
- Best Effort (BE)
- Background (BK)

## IEEE 802.11e

- Lower  $CW_{Min}$  for higher priority
- Arbitration Inter Frame Space (AIFS) before count down; shorter for higher priority





# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p/e



## Legacy IEEE 802.11

- Random slot is drawn **between zero and  $CW_{Min}$**
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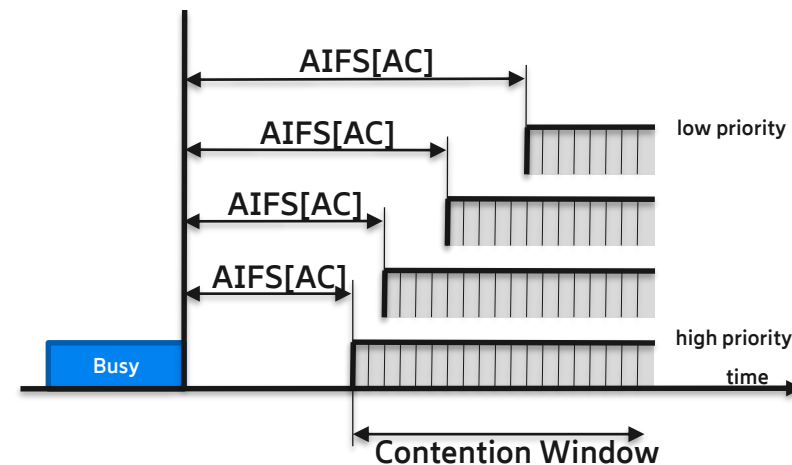
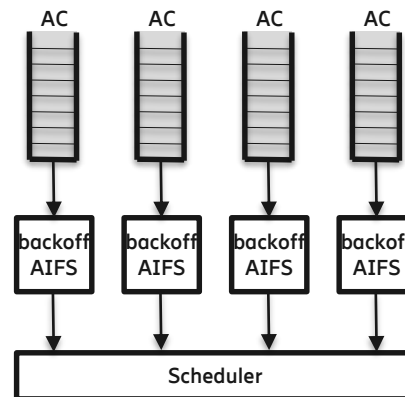
Why is it called  $CW_{Min}$ ?

## Priorities:

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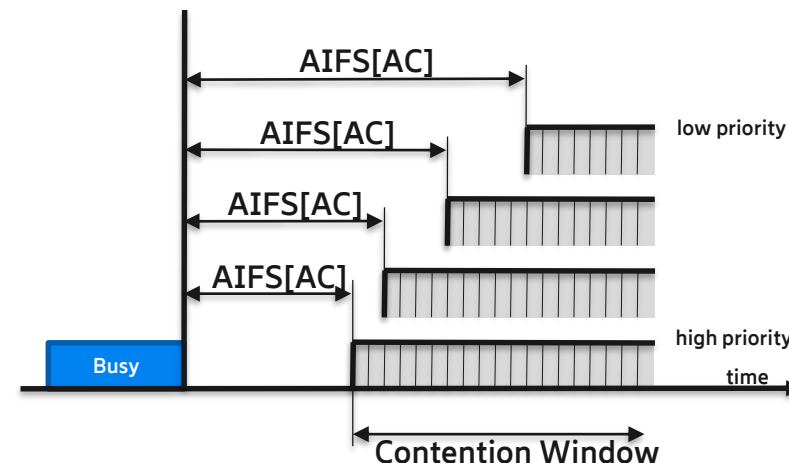
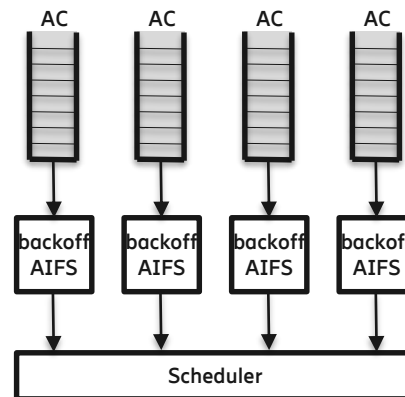
It's the maximum backoff value at the first (**minimal**) backoff stage.  
But: No other backoff stage will be entered.

## Priorities:

- Voice (VO)
- Video (VI)
- Best Effort (BE)
- Background (BK)

## IEEE 802.11e

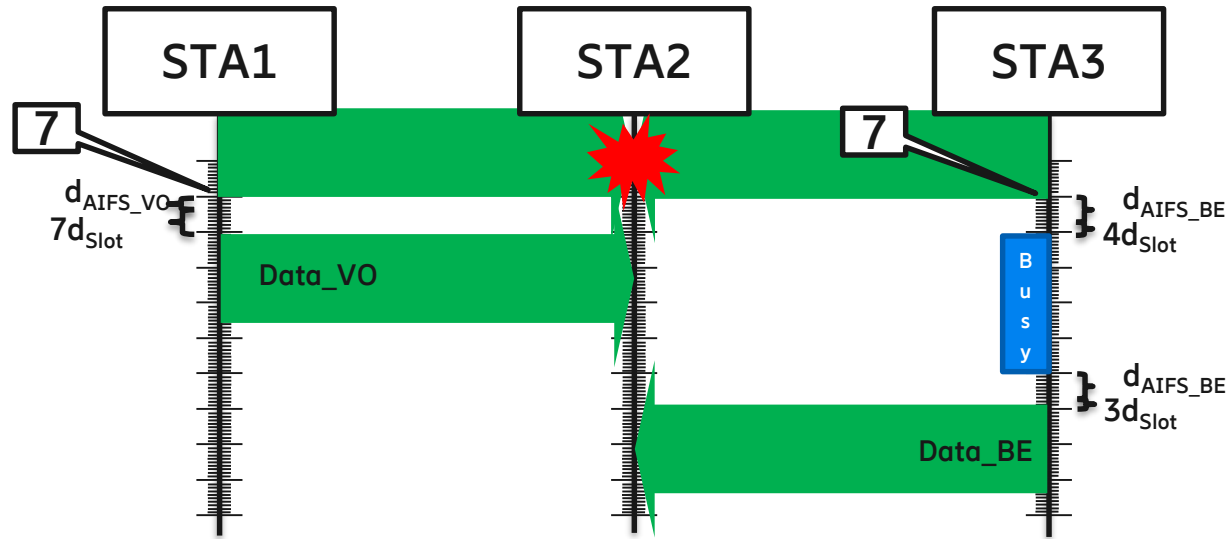
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# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p/e



300 byte Voice (VO) class and 300 byte Best Effort (BE) class at 6 Mbit/s

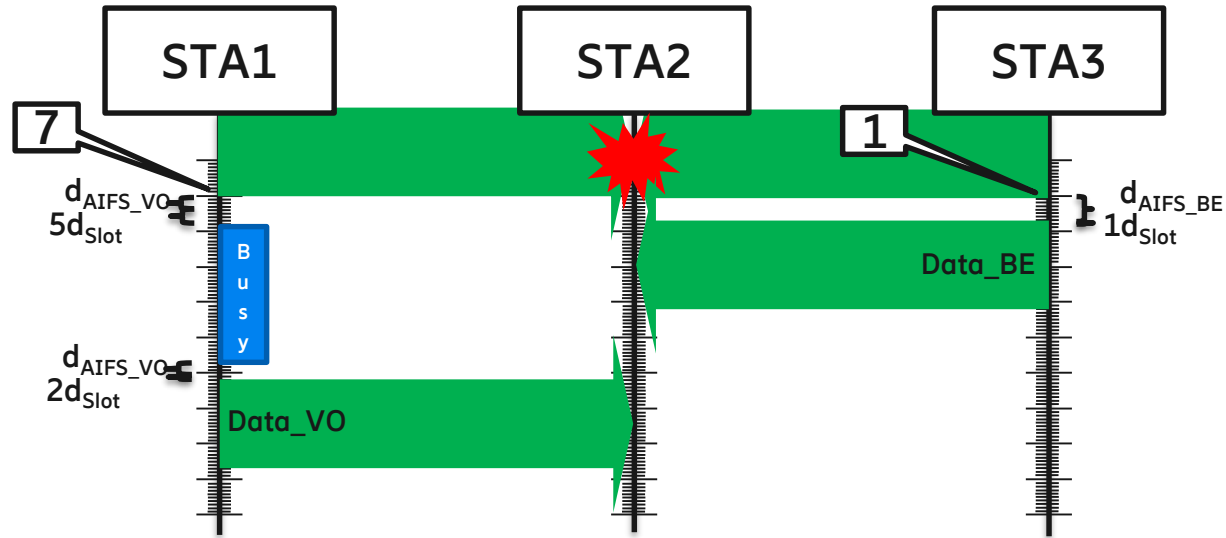


AC	CW <sub>Min</sub>	AIFS
Voice (VO)	3	58 $\mu$ s
Video (VI)	7	71 $\mu$ s
Best Effort (BE)	15	110 $\mu$ s
Background (BK)	15	149 $\mu$ s

# Protocol description: IEEE 802.11p/e



300 byte Voice (VO) class and 300 byte Best Effort (BE) class at 6 Mbit/s



There is a probability BE gets priority over VO if transmitted by different nodes

AC	CW <sub>Min</sub>	AIFS
Voice (VO)	3	58 $\mu$ s
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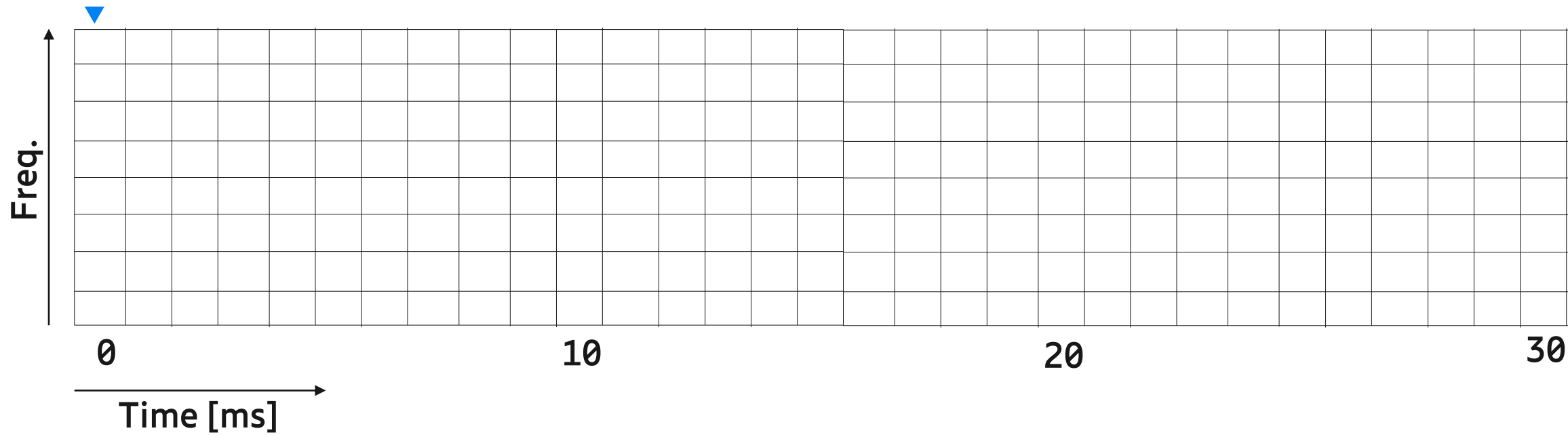
# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Random scheduling



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4

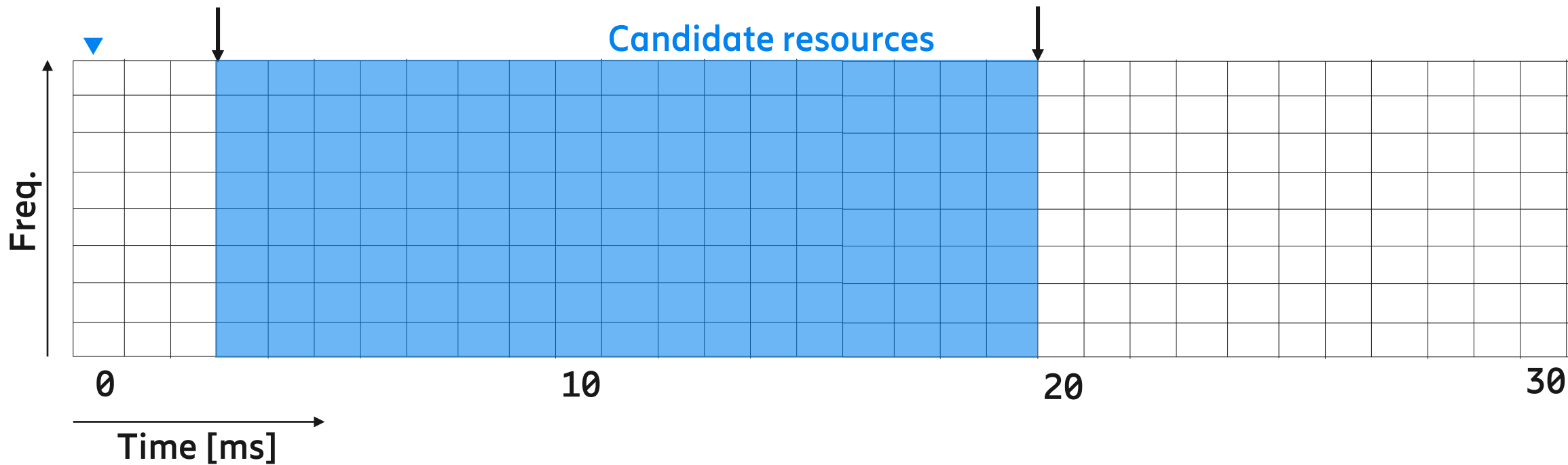


Random scheduling



$$1 \leq T1 = 3 \leq 3$$

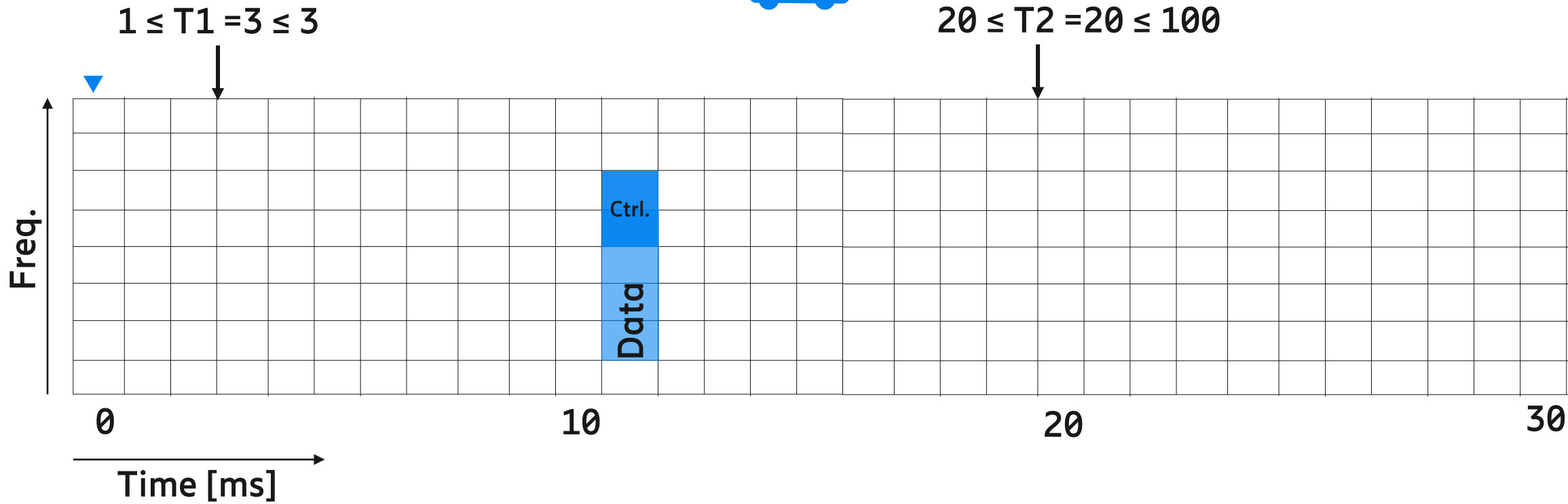
$$20 \leq T2 = 20 \leq 100$$



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Random scheduling





# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4

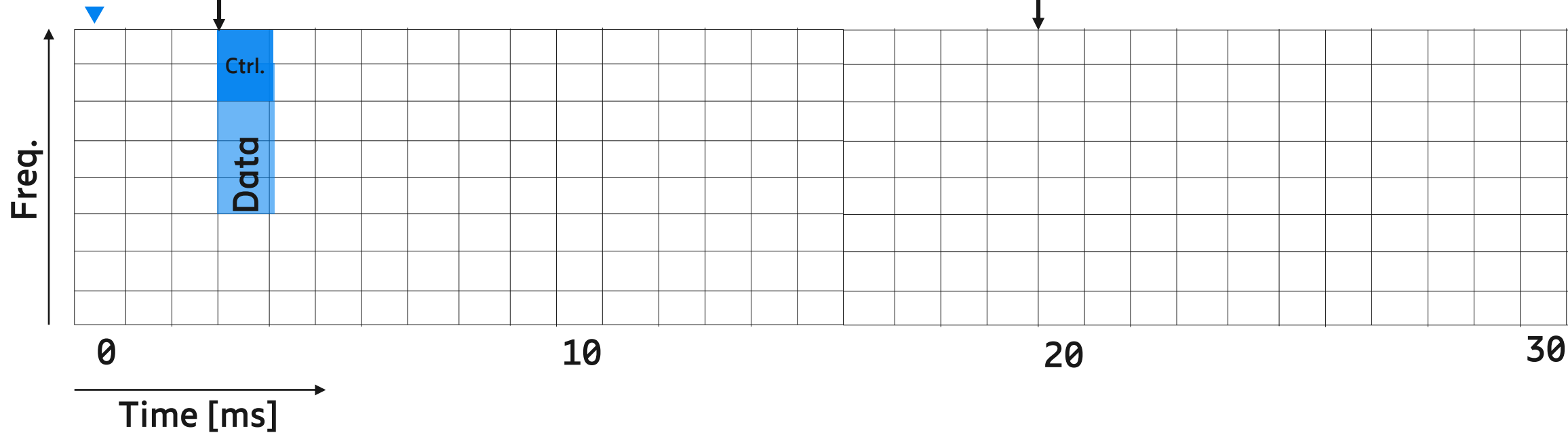


Random scheduling:  
best case



$$1 \leq T1 = 3 \leq 3$$

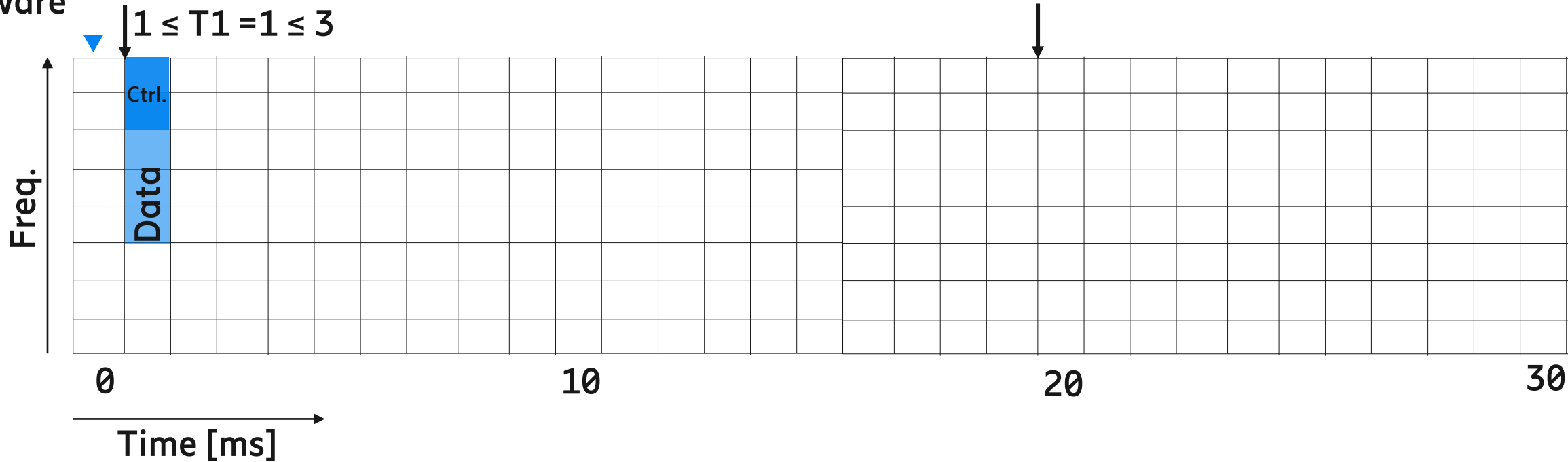
$$20 \leq T2 = 20 \leq 100$$



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Random scheduling:  
best case; fast  
hardware



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4

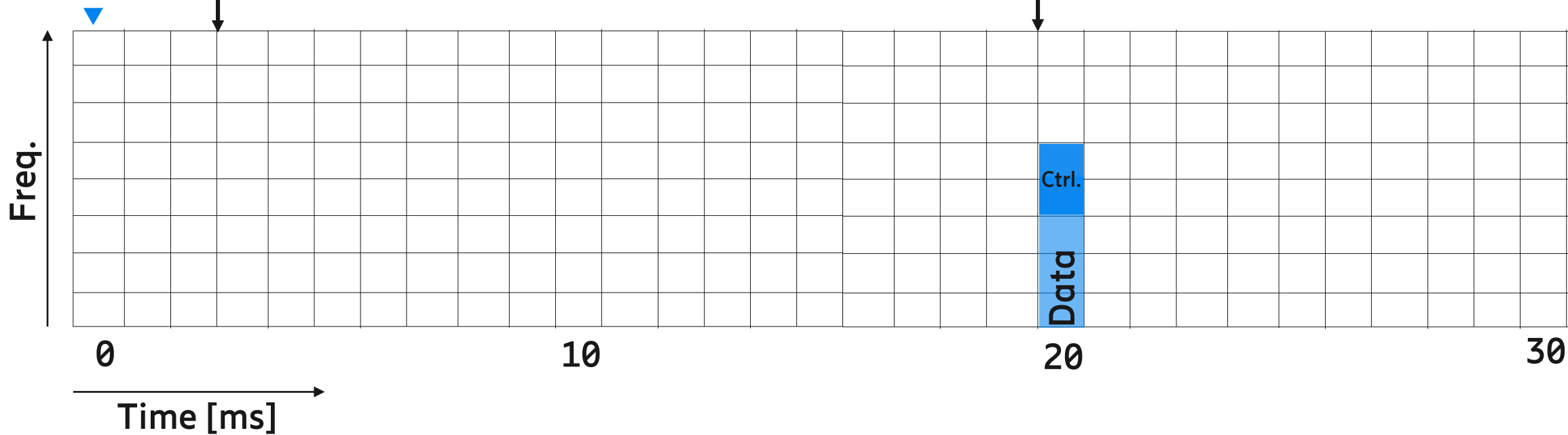


Random scheduling:  
worst case



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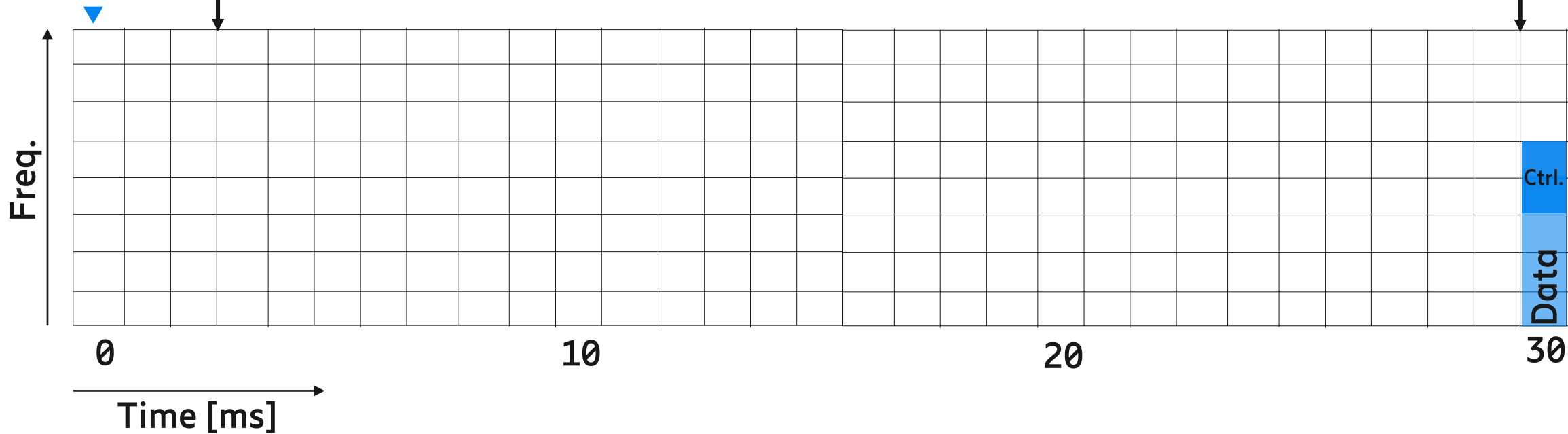


Random scheduling:  
worst case



$$1 \leq T1 = 3 \leq 3$$

$$20 \leq T2 = 30 \leq 100$$



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



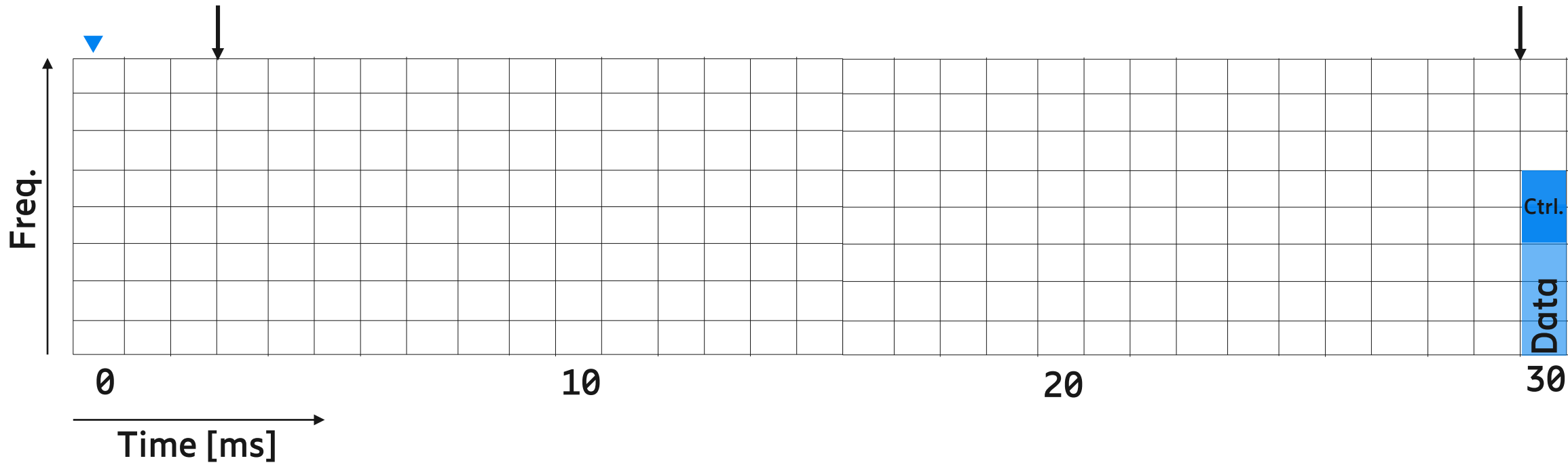
Random scheduling:  
worst case

$$1 \leq T1 = 3 \leq 3$$

Why would you  
increase T2?



$$20 \leq T2 = 30 \leq 100$$



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Random scheduling:  
worst case

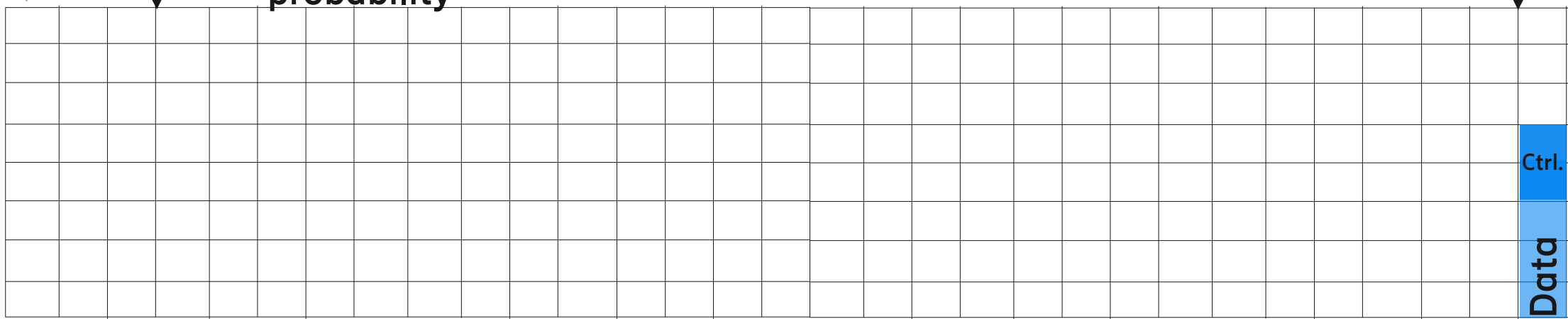
$$1 \leq T1 = 3 \leq 3$$

Why would you  
increase T2?  
To decrease collision  
probability



$$20 \leq T2 = 30 \leq 100$$

Freq.



0

10

20

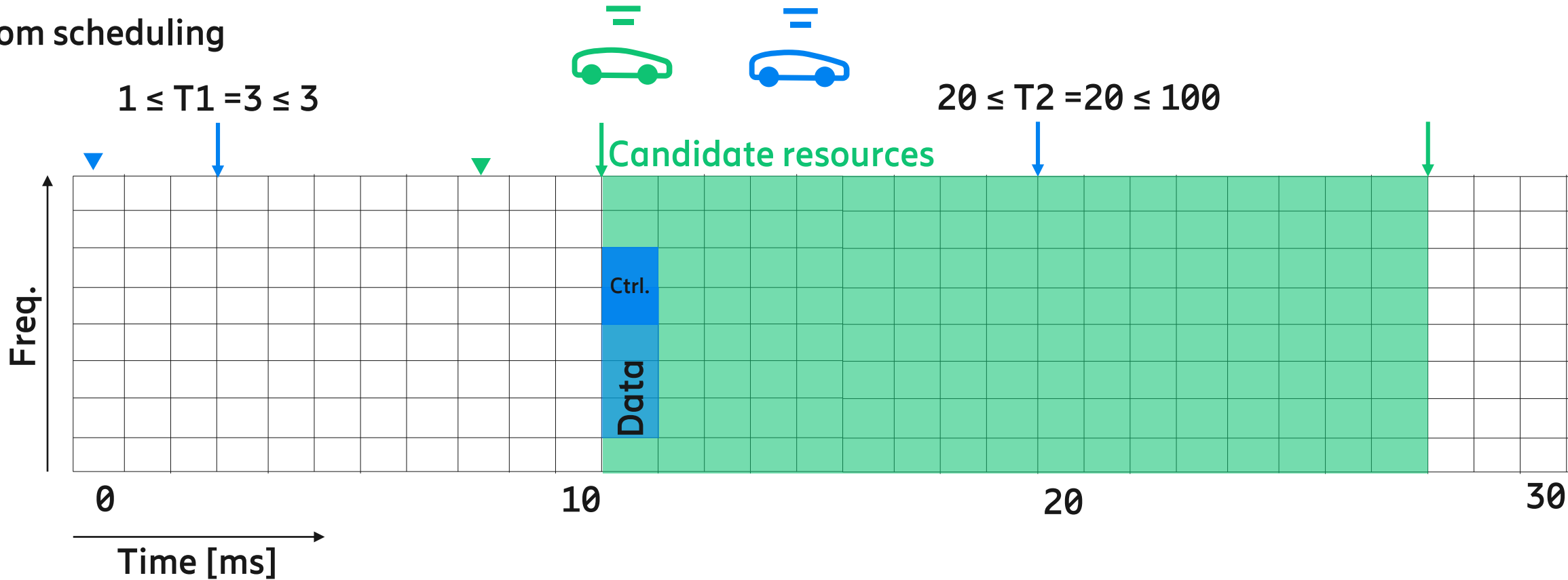
30

Time [ms]

# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



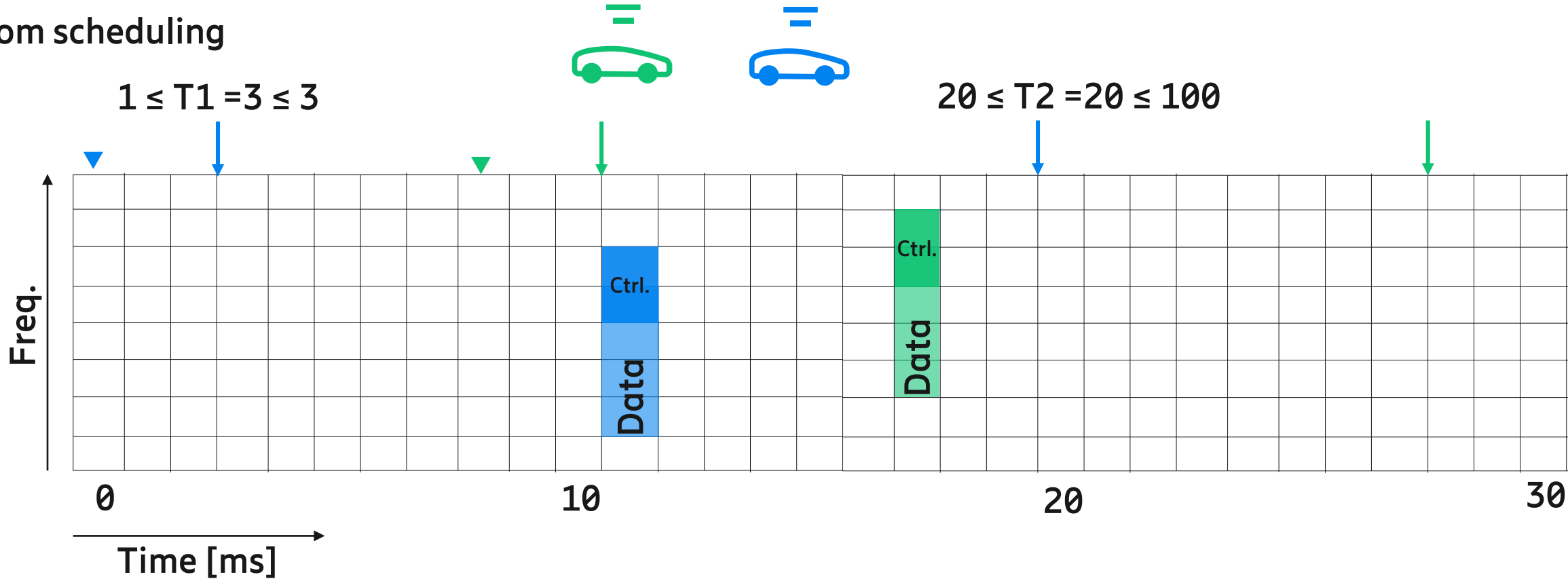
Random scheduling



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Random scheduling

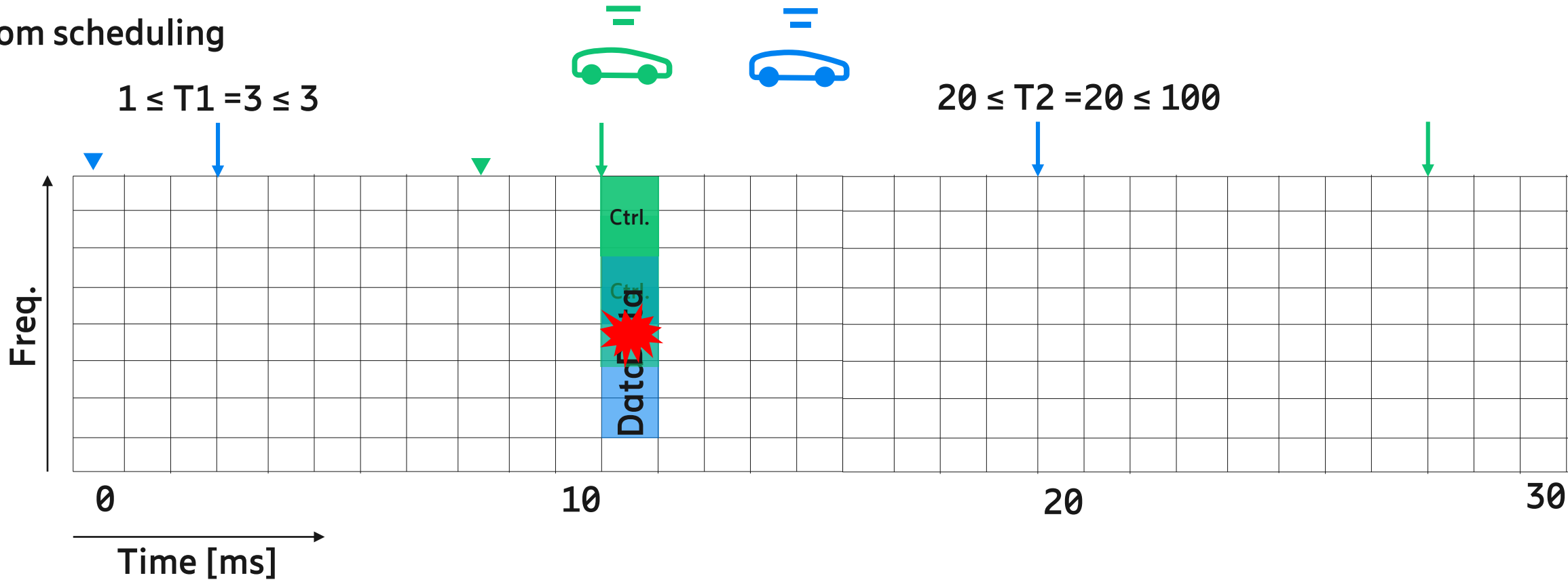




# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Random scheduling



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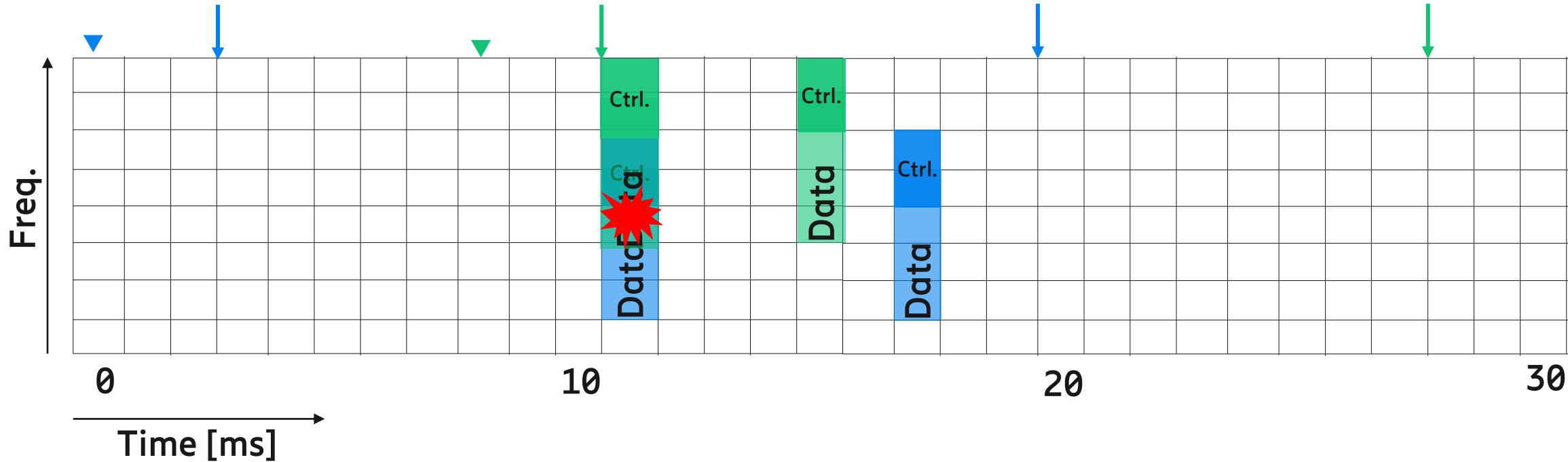
Random scheduling:

Blind HARQ

$$1 \leq T1 = 3 \leq 3$$



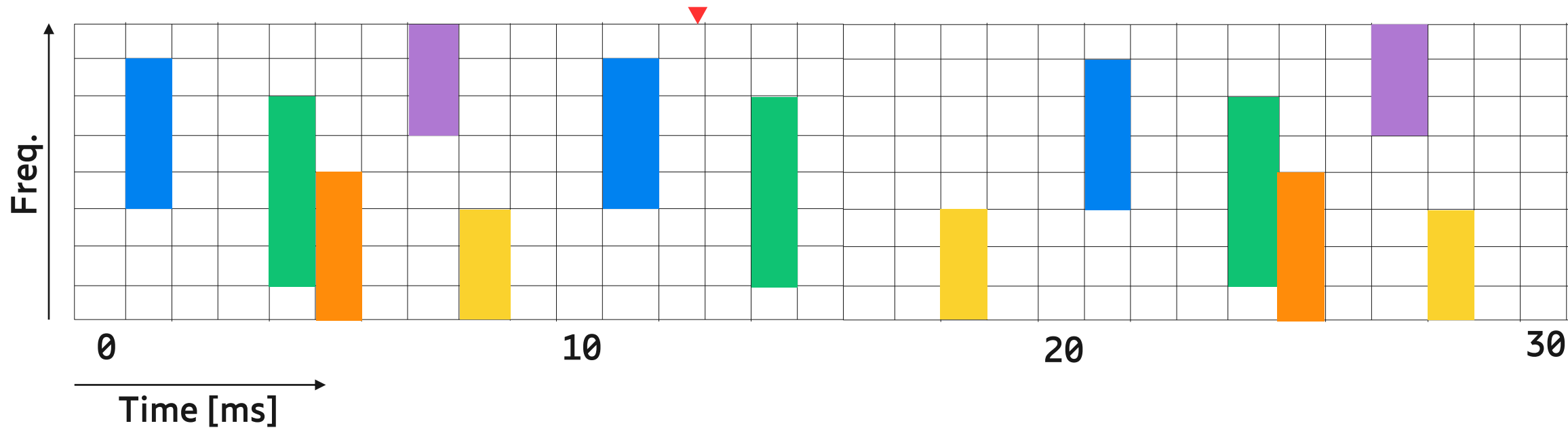
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# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



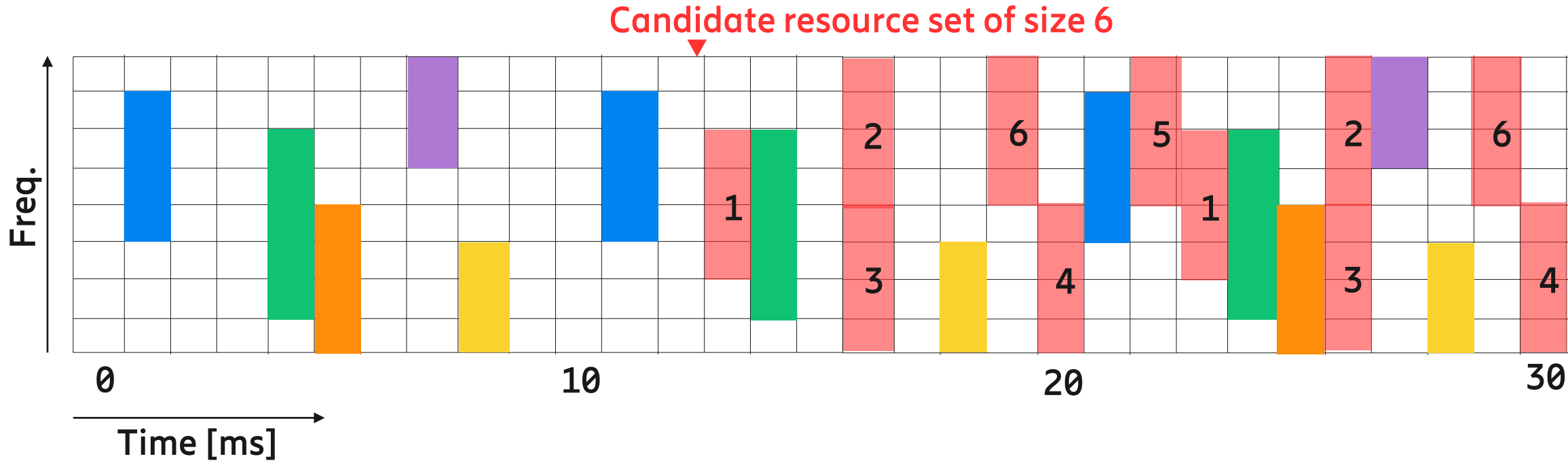
Sensing based scheduling



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



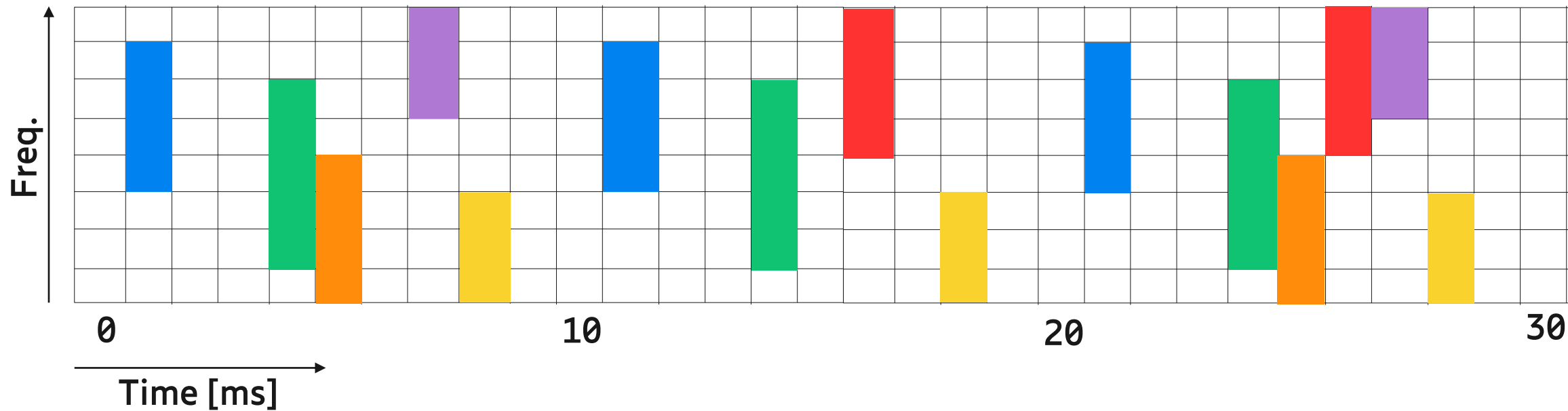
Sensing based scheduling



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Sensing based scheduling



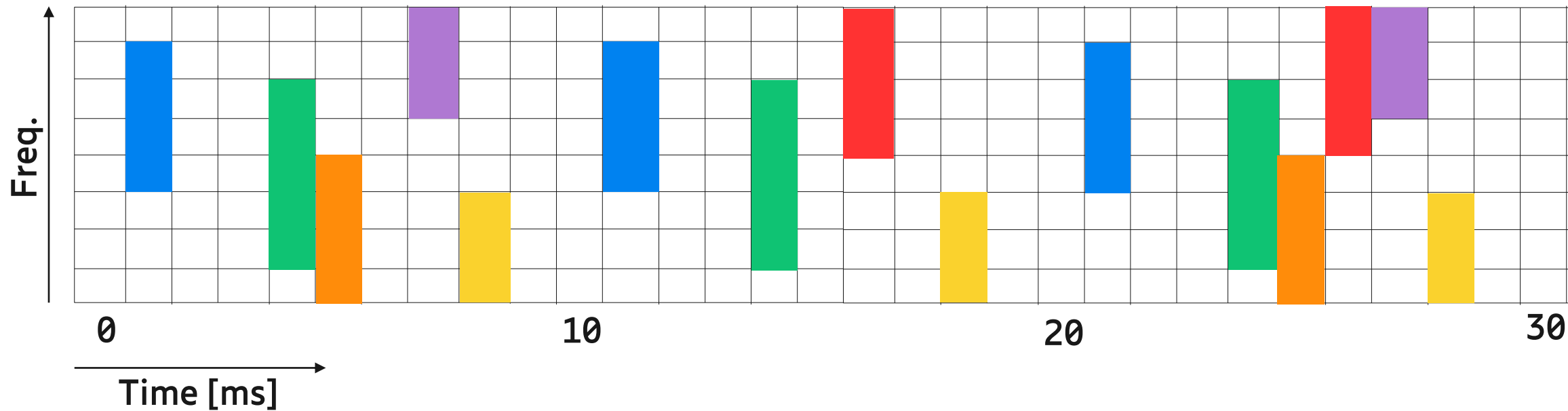
# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Sensing based scheduling



Why not candidate set size 1?



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4

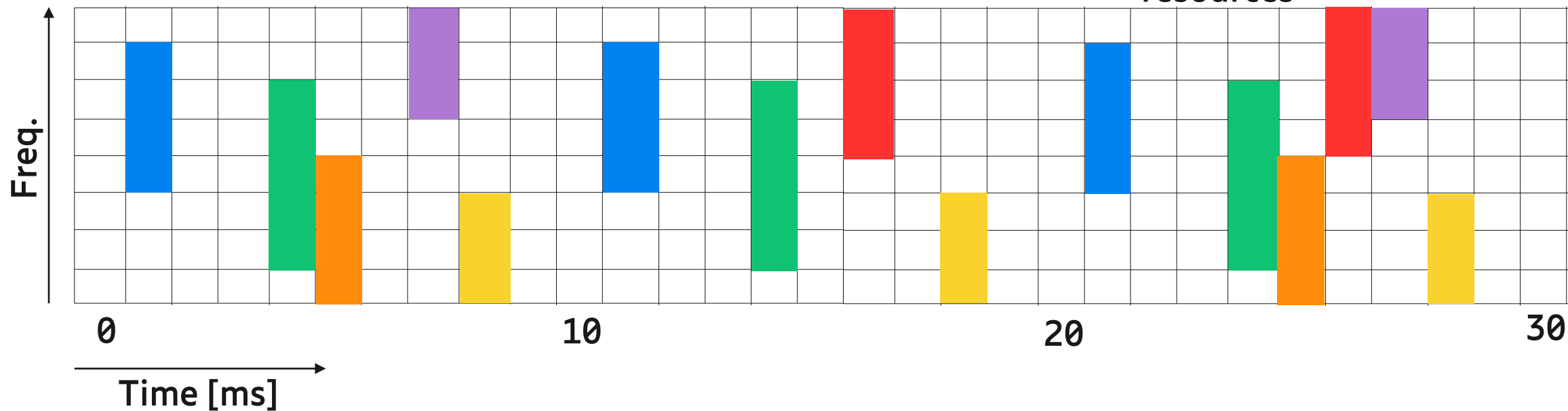


Sensing based scheduling



Why not candidate set size 1?

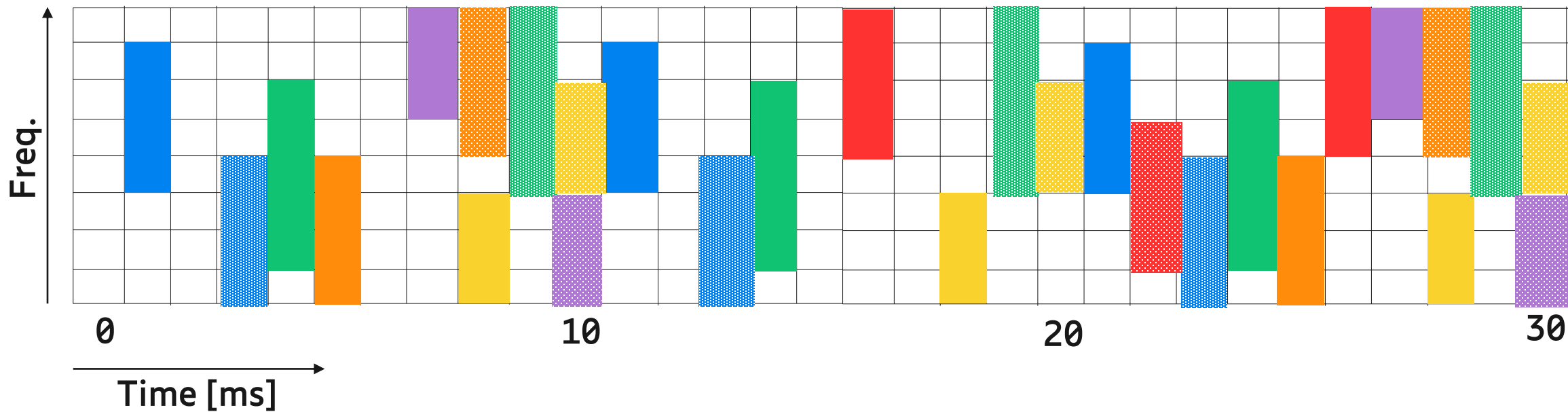
Reduce probability of collision if more than one vehicle scans for resources



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Sensing based scheduling with bling  
HARQ retransmissions

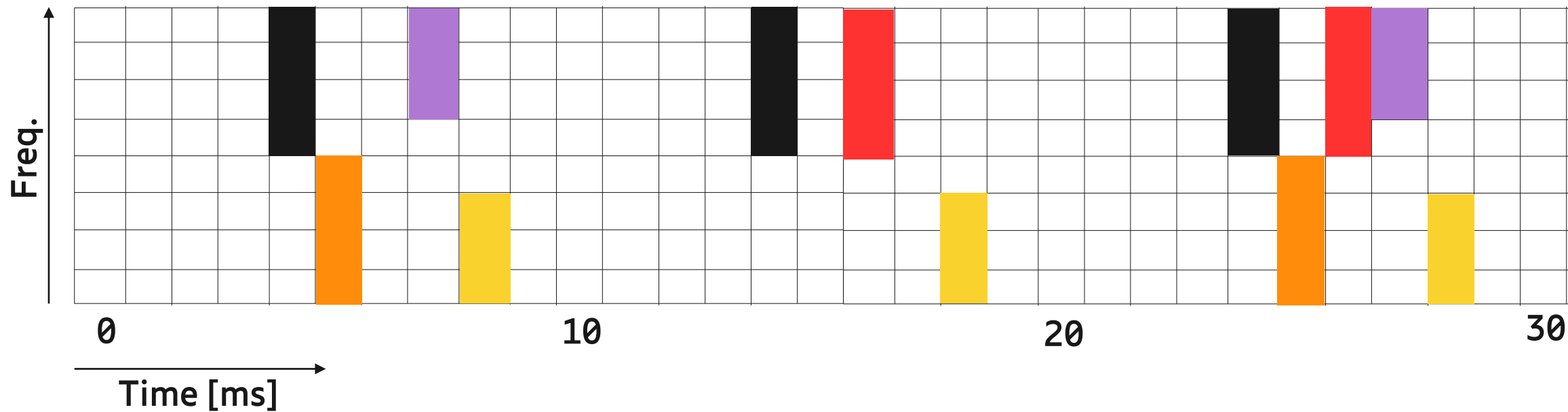




# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



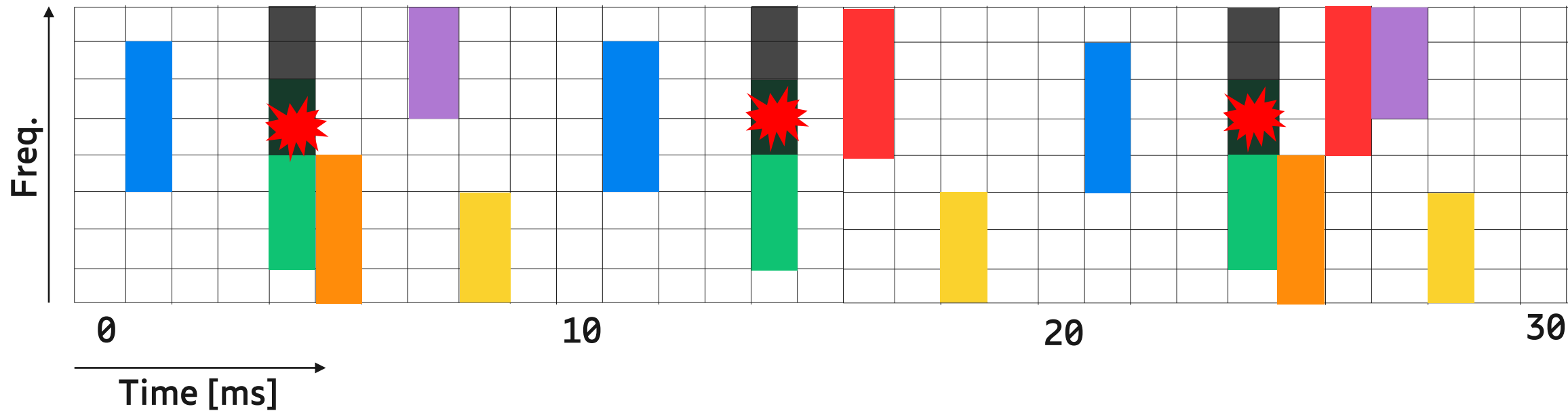
Sensing based scheduling & mobility



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



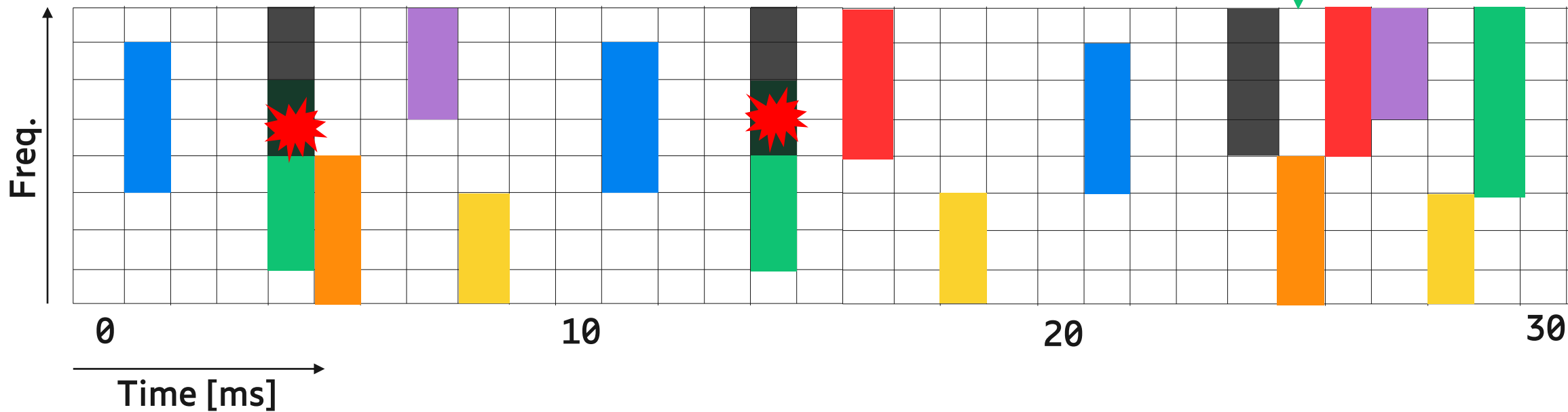
Sensing based  
scheduling & mobility



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



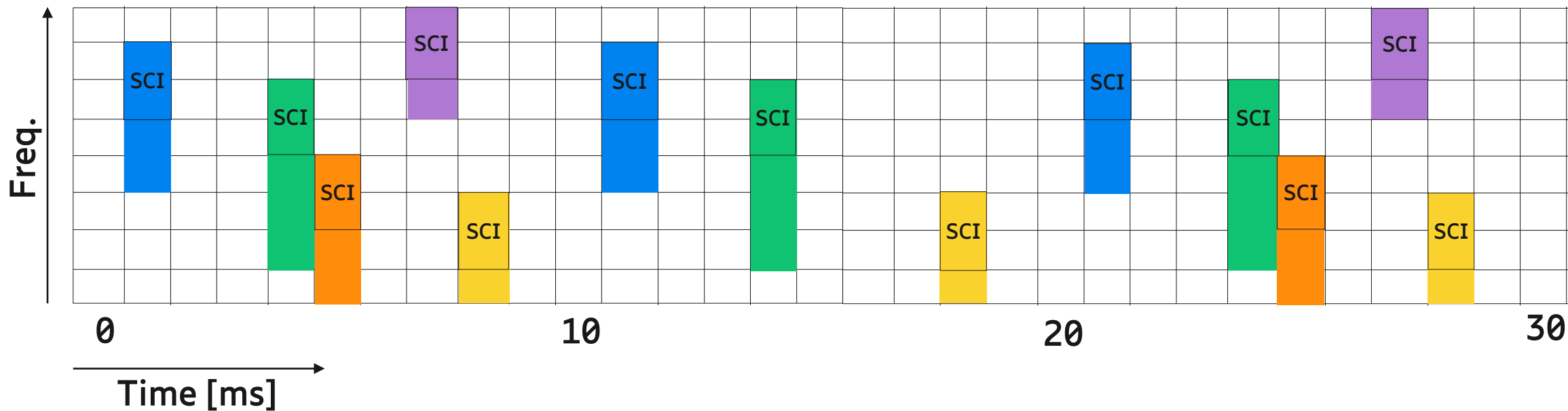
Sensing based scheduling & mobility



# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Sensing based scheduling: Sidelink Control Information (SCI)



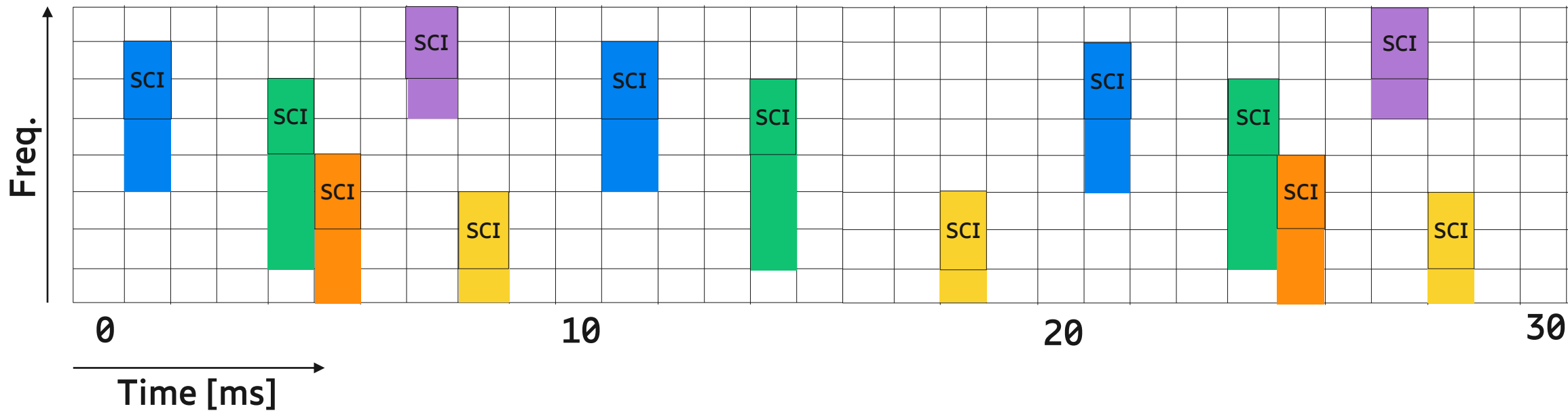
# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Sensing based scheduling: Sidelink Control Information (SCI)



Read SCIs to learn periods instead of/additionally to scanning



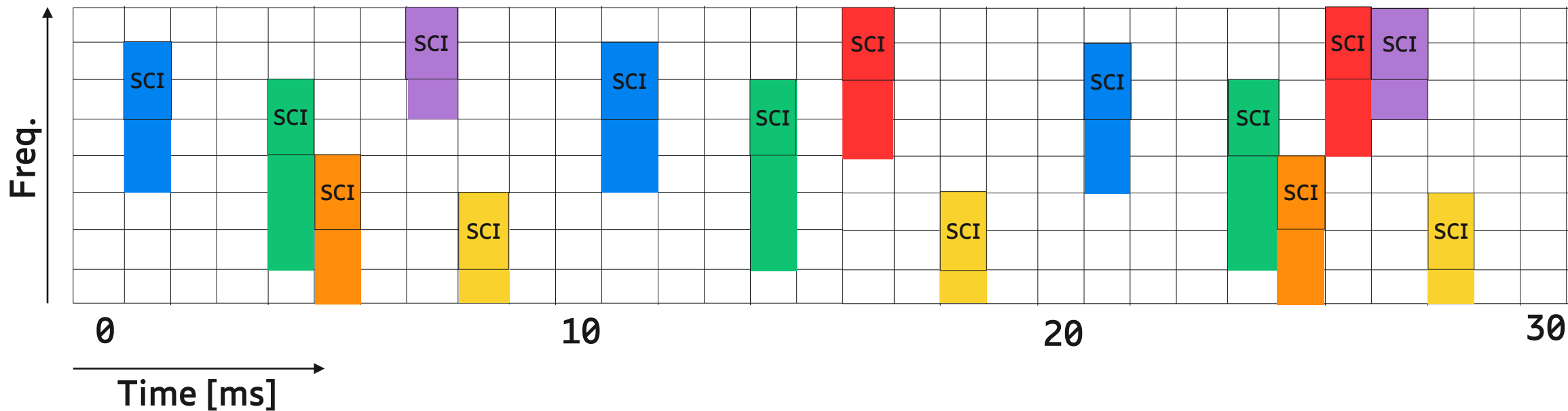
# Protocol description: LTE-V2X Sidelink Mode 4



Sensing based scheduling: Sidelink Control Information (SCI)



Read SCIs to learn periods instead of/additionally to scanning



# Protocol description: Degrees of freedom



## IEEE 802.11

- Modulation and Coding Scheme (PHY Mode)
- Transmit power
- Maximum backoff slot  $CW_{\text{Min}}$  per Access Class



- Modulation and Coding Scheme
- Transmit power
- Scheduling algorithm
  - Random (dynamic or semi-persistent)
  - Sensing based (semi-persistent)
- Earliest (T1) and latest scheduling (T2)
- Candidate set size (for sensing based scheduling)
- Reservation duration time (for semi-persistent scheduling)
- Blind retransmissions (zero or one)
- Subset of resources (resource pool)

# Summary



- Both, IEEE 802.11p and LTE-V2X Sidelink currently only support unacknowledged broadcast communication and cannot fully eliminate collisions causing packet loss
- Acknowledged cellular unicast communication is an alternative for applications requiring lower packet loss ratios
- Hybrid solutions exploiting advantages of both technologies
- Both, IEEE 802.11p and LTE-V2X Sidelink, are complex protocol standards and I just showed you some essentials
- Understand the key mechanisms contributing to delay and packet loss before judging a protocol
- Understand how the “environment” (communication behavior of application, mobility of vehicles, ...) influences protocol performance



