802.3 Frame Expansion Study Group Open issues

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Agenda

- Review of plan going into September interim
- Review of open issues
 - Block coding/delimiters
 - Links with FEC (EPON)
 - Use of discovery
 - New maximum frame size

Plan for September interim

- Research following topics:
 - Frame size limitations of:
 - Existing equipment below MAC (elasticity buffers, block coding, delimiters)
 - Existing equipment above MAC (FIFO, fabric)
 - Links with FEC (EPON)
 - Rate compensation (WAN PHY, EFM Copper)
 - Effect of increased overhead on performance, especially in aggregation
 - Feasibility of reducing MTU of installed base of clients
 - Tutorial on 802.1AB
 - Straw man frame format modifications
- Finalize PAR/5 criteria
- Draft TF objectives

Items in red have not had presentations or significant discussion

Open issues

- Frame size limitations of:
 - Existing equipment below MAC (block coding, delimiters)
 - Links with FEC (EPON)
 - Rate compensation (EFM Copper)
- Use of "discovery mechanism" to enable larger frames on some links
- New maximum frame size

Block coding/delimiters

- "As I thought, one of the papers I have has data on double burst detection for our CRC. The paper is:
 - T. Fujiwara et al, "Error Detecting Capabilities of the Shortened Hamming Codes Adopted for Error Detection in IEEE Standard 802.3" IEEE Transactions on Communications, Vol. 37, No. 9, pp 986-989, September 1989.
- "It has a table for Double-Burst Error Detecting Capability listing the message length (code length) that ensures detectability for two bursts of various lengths. Unfortunately, the shortest burst length in the table is 9 bits. Any two 9-bit bursts can be detected up to the message size 13000 bits or 1625 bytes. 8-bit bursts will be detected to at least this message size and probably something larger."
- Source: Pat Thaler, private e-mail, 11 November 2004

Links with FEC (EPON)

- "From the standard point of view, we probably only need to worry about FEC specification - FEC should buffer entire frame before correction could begin.
- "If MPCPDU are to be encrypted, there will be additional small changes throughout several state machines.
- "From implementation point of view, I think UNH mentioned they could test existing devices."
- Source: Glen Kramer, private e-mail, 24 September 2004

Use of discovery

- Heard tutorial on LLDP at September interim
 - Considered highly useful for "topology discovery"
 - Operates with all IEEE 802 access protocols and network media
 - One-way protocol with periodic transmissions out each port
 - 802.3 TLV identified in latest draft 802.1AB/D11/Figure G-4

Extension TLV type	TLV information string length	802.3 OUI	802.3 TLV	Maximum 802.3 frame size
111 1111	0 0000 0110	00-12-0F	subtype=04	
7 bits	9 bits	3 octets	1 octet	2 octets

- However, no mechanism exists within 802.3 to determine maximum frame size support of individual layers (MAC, PCS, PMA, PMD, etc)
- Therefore, no attribute within 802.3 to connect to 802.1AB MIB

New maximum frame size

- "802.1 is requesting 802.3 ... define a larger 802.3 maximum frame size with the new size being in the range of 1650 to 2048 octets." (802.1 request)
- 1850 emerged as a possibility
 - Based on assumption of integral number of bits used in repeater elasticity buffer (see Pat Thaler's presentation here: http://www.ieee802.org/3/frame_study/0407.html)
- 2048 less "switch header" emerged as a possibility
- UNH IOL tested 140 devices in lab and reviewed 339 test reports
- Need to determine method for selecting new size
- Size needs to be chosen by March 2005
 - Earliest date to kickoff Working Group ballot