Terms & definitions

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Not terribly useful terms...

- Trunk - discarded in favour of Link Aggregation
- Segment - discarded in favour of Link Segment
- Trunk Link - discarded in favour of Link Segment
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Link Segment

- 802.3u has the following definition: "link segment: The point-to-point full-duplex medium connection between two and only two MDIs".

Host

- A system attached to a LAN that is an initial source or a final destination of MAC frames transmitted across that LAN.
- (note, 802speak for this is an "end station", we should probably use this terminology)

Port

- 802.3u has the following definition: "port: A segment or IRL interface of a repeater unit."

Bridge Port

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- A point of attachment to a LAN through which a Bridge transmits and receives MAC frames.
- (See P802.1D/D15 7.2, 7.2.3).

Subnet

- A set of hosts that share the same IP subnetwork address.

Flow

- A sequence of MAC frames exchanged between a pair of hosts, where all of the MAC frames form part of the same conversation between that pair of hosts.
- Note: A given pair of hosts may undertake more than one conversation at a time; there may therefore be more than one flow taking place between them.

Stream

- 802.3u has the following definition: "stream: The Physical Layer encapsulation of a MAC frame. Depending on the particular PHY, the MAC frame may be modified or have information appended or prepended to it to facilitate transfer through the PMA. Any conversion from a MAC frame to a PHY stream and back to a MAC frame is transparent to the MAC. (See IEEE 802.3 clauses 23 and 24.)". Not clear where this would get used, other than to indicate that streams don't get split across links/LANs that are in aggregations.

Bridged LAN

- A concatenation of individual IEEE 802 Local Area Networks interconnected by MAC Bridges.
- Note: This is exactly the same as the definition in P802.1D/D15.
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Aggregate Flow

- A set of flows, treated as if they are all part of a single flow. The particular set of flows that is aggregated to form a given aggregate flow is defined by means of a flow aggregation rule.

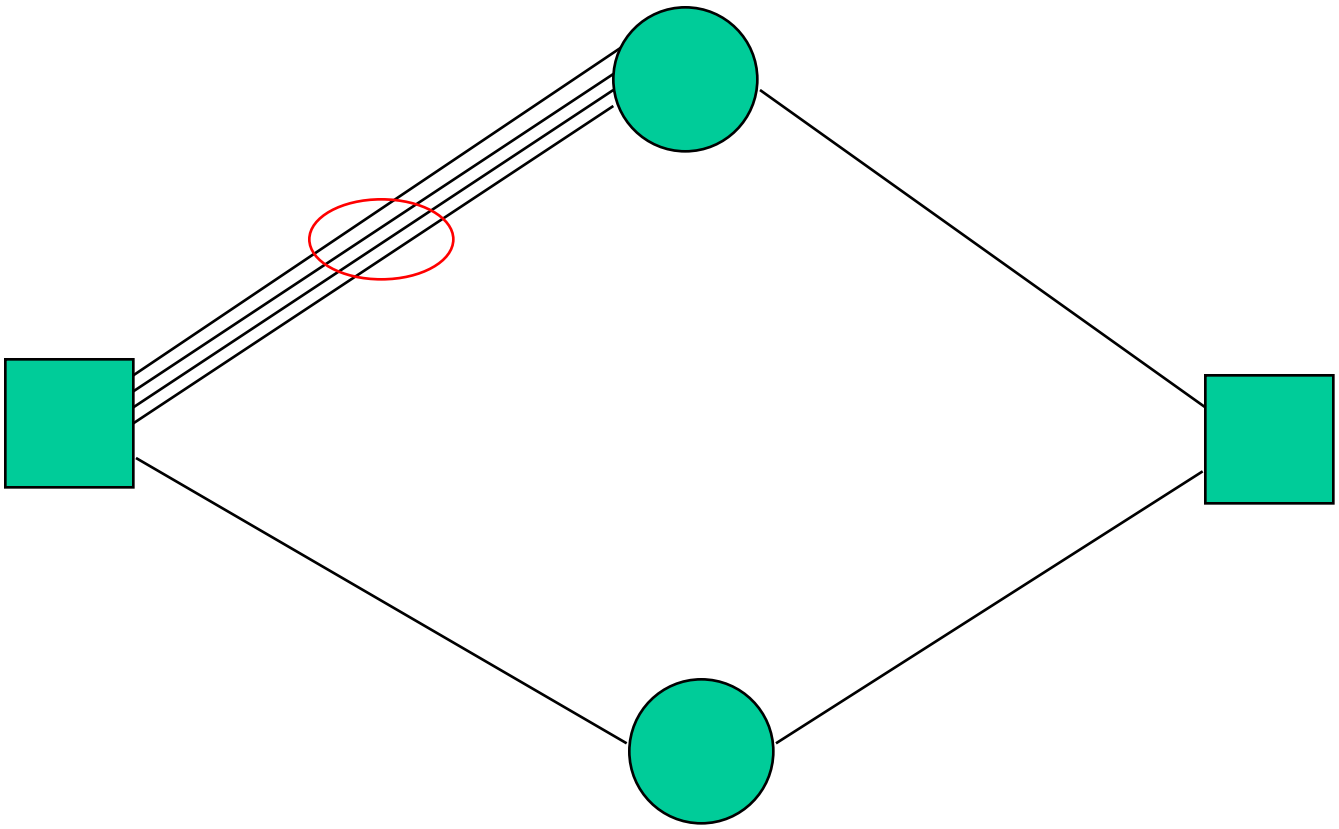
Flow Aggregation Rule

- A rule that specifies how individual flows are allocated to aggregate flows.
- Note: There are potentially many aggregation rules; for example, a rule might specify aggregation based on hashing source/destination address pairs, on VLAN ID, or based on IP subnet, or...

Link Aggregation

- A grouping of Link Segments, of the same medium type and speed, that are treated as if they are all part of a single Link Segment. The MDIs associated with each Link Segment in a Link Aggregation are associated with the same pair of devices (where "device" in this context can be a repeater or a LAN Station). (note, according to 802 O& A, a LAN station is a bridge or an end station).
- Traffic is allocated to the individual Link Segments in a Link Aggregation on the basis of one or more Flow Aggregation Rules; i.e., one or more Aggregate Flows are associated with each Link Segment that is part of a Link Aggregation.

Link Aggregation



LAN Aggregation

- A grouping of LANs or Bridged LANs, of the same or dissimilar media access method, media type or speed, that form parallel paths between a pair of connected LAN Stations, and that are treated as if they form a single LAN between those two LAN Stations.
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- Traffic is allocated to the individual LANs in a LAN Aggregation on the basis of one or more Flow Aggregation Rules; i.e., one or more Aggregate Flows are associated with each LAN that is part of a LAN Aggregation.

LAN Aggregation