

802.1AX-REV Data Plane issue

Norman Finn

Ver 01

axrev-nfinn-data-plane-0313-v01.pdf

If three systems in a Portal are allowed

- A, B, and C form a Portal. No link at present between A and C.
- The Gateway for VLAN 5 (red) is A.
- The Aggregation Link for VLAN 5 is attached to C.
- We are being permissive on reception, because we don't know the other Portal's distribution algorithm.
- So, VLAN 5 frames received through B (3) must be directed to A.

If three systems in a Portal are allowed

- Consider system B:
 - A frame on VLAN 5 received from A (1) must be sent to C (2).
 - A frame on VLAN 5 received from the other Portal (3) must be sent to A (1).
 - A frame on VLAN 5 received from C (2) must be sent to A (1).
- This cannot be handled easily by the existing Filtering Database, because where the frame goes depends on where it came from, in more ways than just, "not back out on the receiving port."
- I believe it is possible to do accomplish this with VLAN translation on the ports, and by using a lot of VLAN IDs.

If three systems in a Portal are allowed $A = \frac{1}{3} \frac{B}{2} \frac{C}{1}$

- A similar case occurs when the normal output port for VLAN 5 is B3, and the Gateway is A.
- If a frame arrives on Port 1, it must be a Down frame, and should go out Port 3 only.
- If a frame arrives on Port 2, it must be an Up frame, and should go out Port 1 only.
- Again, this cannot be handled by the current Filtering Database except by using lots of VLAN ID mapping.

What should we do?

- Mention the required VLAN mapping in a NOTE? An ANNEX?
- Make support of three-system Portals optional?
- Remove support for three-system Portals?