

IEEE P802.11
Wireless Access Method and Physical Layer Specifications

Title: Opinions on Issues 13.6 and 17.3, and New Issues

Author: Pablo Brenner
LANNAIR Ltd.
Atidim Technological Park
Devorah Haneviah St - Neve Sharet
Tel Aviv 61131 - ISRAEL
Voice: +972-3-6458375
FAX: +972-3-5447146
EMail: pablo@lannet.com

Abstract:

This submission contains the author's opinion on some of the currently open issues, the issues considered in the submission are:

- 13.6. How will the MAC standard address Power Consumption ?
- 17.3: What is the extent of Multicast ?

In addition some new issues are proposed:

1. Should the Standard define an AP to AP protocol across the infrastructure?
If true what are the contents of this protocol?

Related Documents:

- IEEE P802.11-92/64: Issues Document, F.Y. Simon
- IEEE P802.11-93/94: Importance of Power Management Provisions in the MAC, W. Diepstraten

Issues Considered:

- 13.6. How will the MAC standard address Power Consumption ?
- 17.3: What is the extent of Multicast ?

Issue 17.3: What is the extent of Multicast ?

We should differentiate between Data PDUs and MAC PDUs.

Data PDUs are regular data, so their extent is independent of the actual location (current BSS), hence Multicast Messages should be forwarded to the whole ESS (unless an implementation dependent filtering function is used on the AP).

MAC Control PDUs may (and probably should, depending on the PDU's content) be limited to the BSS.

New Issue: Should the Standard define an AP to AP protocol over the DS?

The author believes that such protocol must be defined, some of the functions of the protocol are:

- Exchange Association Information:

If a station moves from one BSS to another, and reassociates with a new AP, the new AP will need to notify the previous AP (or all the APs) about the new association.

- Allow PreAuthentication.

Issue 17.3: What is the extent of Multicast ?

We should differentiate between Data PDUs and MAC PDUs.

Data PDUs are regular data, so their extent is independent of the actual location (current BSS), hence Multicast Messages should be forwarded to the whole ESS (unless an implementation dependent filtering function is used on the AP).

MAC Control PDUs may (and probably should, depending on the PDU's content) be limited to the BSS.

New Issue: Should the Standard define an AP to AP protocol over the DS?

The author believes that such protocol must be defined, some of the functions of the protocol are:

- Exchange Association Information:

If a station moves from one BSS to another, and reassociates with a new AP, the new AP will need to notify the previous AP (or all the APs) about the new association.

- Allow PreAuthentication.