Overlapping BSS Analysis of Channel Requirements

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Abstract

Using empirical propagation formula, the number of overlapping networks is estimated for various residential scenarios.

The resulting OBSS situation is evaluated and the probabilities of finding clear or single channels is calculated for each OBSS scenario.

Propagation Formula

Indoor propagation loss formula (11n) *, F in MHz, d in feet

For d<16.5ft

Lp = – 38 + 20 log *F* + 20 log *d* + *Wall/Floor loss* *Free Space*

For d>16.5ft

Lp = – 38 + 20 log *F* + 20 log *16.5* + *35* log *(d/16.5)* + *Wall/Floor Loss*

Std. Dev 3-4dB

Wall Losses, 5GHz	Interior drywall	3dB
	Firewall	10dB
	Exterior wood and stucco	12dB
Floor Losses, 5GHz	Wooden Beam and flooring	5dB
	Firewall	10dB

*Erceg et al (2004) as per 11n, Channel Model B – Residential

NOTE: "Indoor Propagation Empirical Formula with Testing in a typical Californian Home", Graham Smith 2004

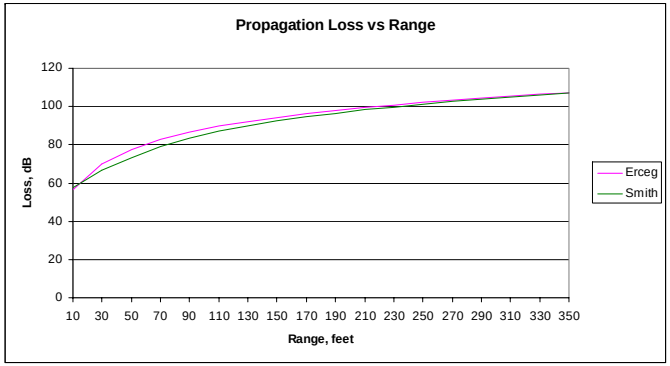
For d<35ft

Lp = – 38 + 20 log *F* + 20 log *d* + *Wall/Floor loss* *Free Space*

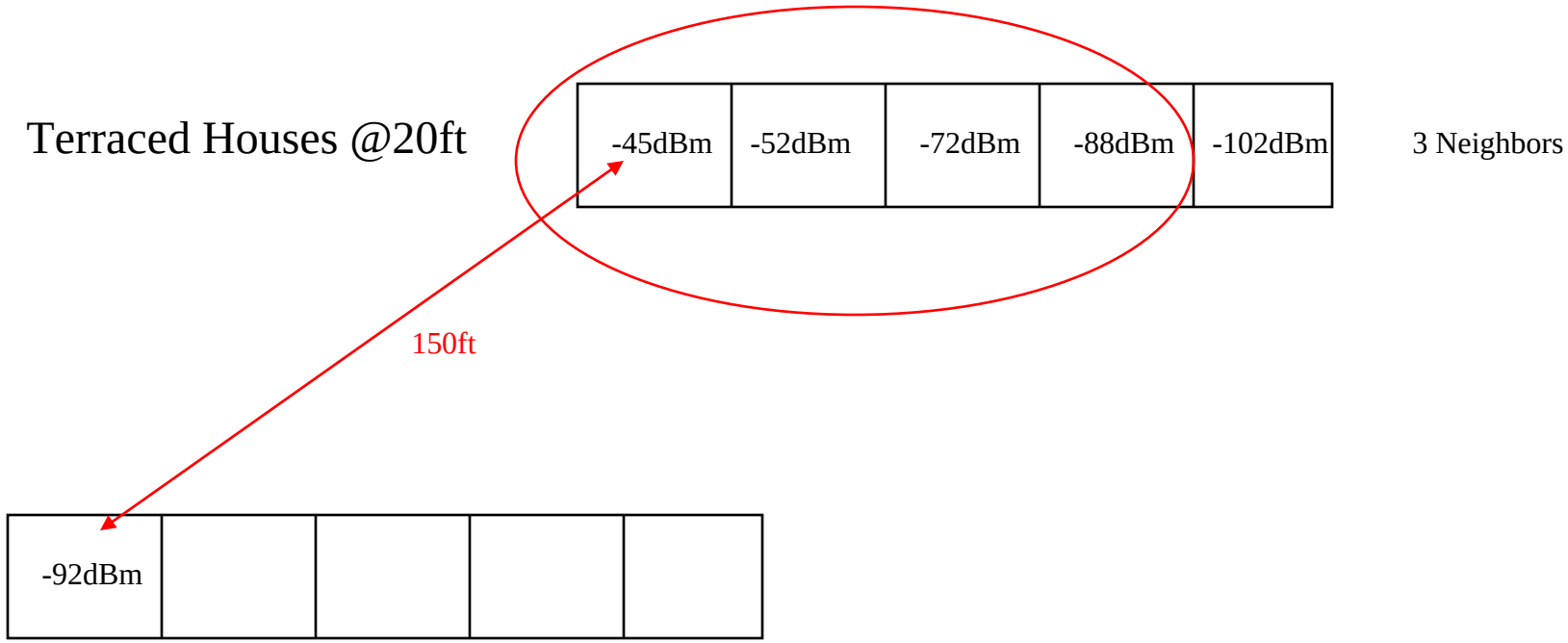
For d>35ft

Lp = – 69 + 20 log *F* + 40 log *d* + *Wall/Floor Loss*

Measured std dev of error = 4.5dB



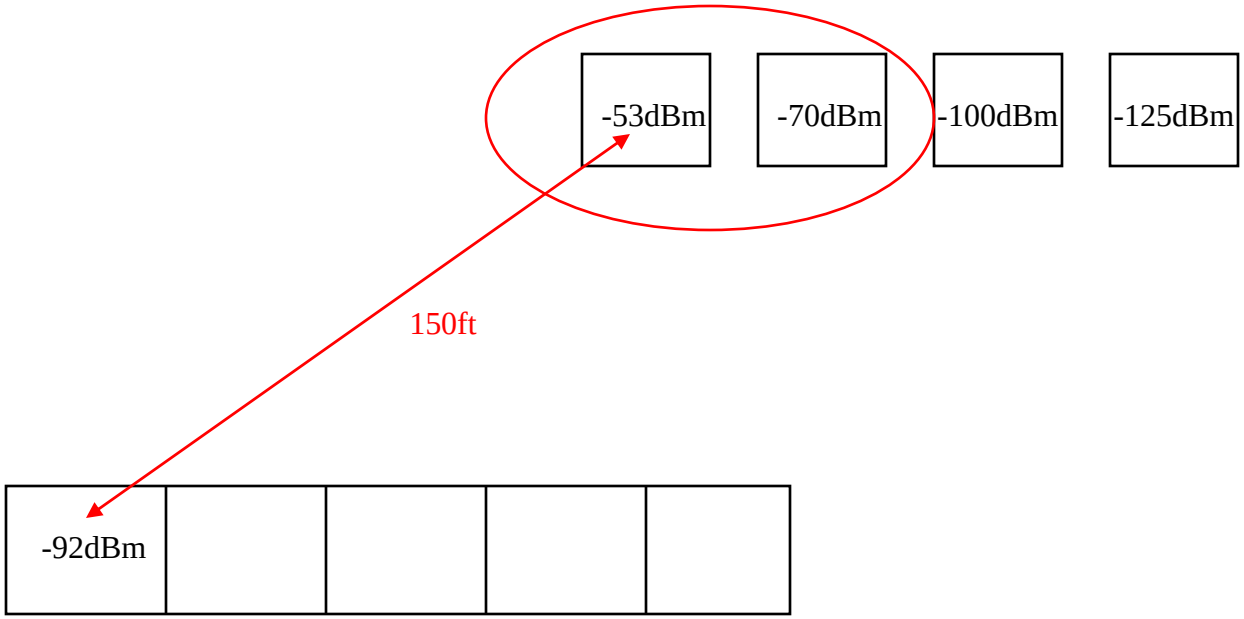
Terraced/Town Houses



Neighbors 3 houses down, and opposite houses within 150 feet have potential to overlap

Note: No internal wall losses, external wall loss only.

Detached Houses



Neighbors 1 house down, and opposite houses within 150 feet have potential to overlap

Detached Houses

12 Potential APs in range

Town Houses - Dense

Bleiswijk, The Netherlands

150 ft

25 Potential APs in range

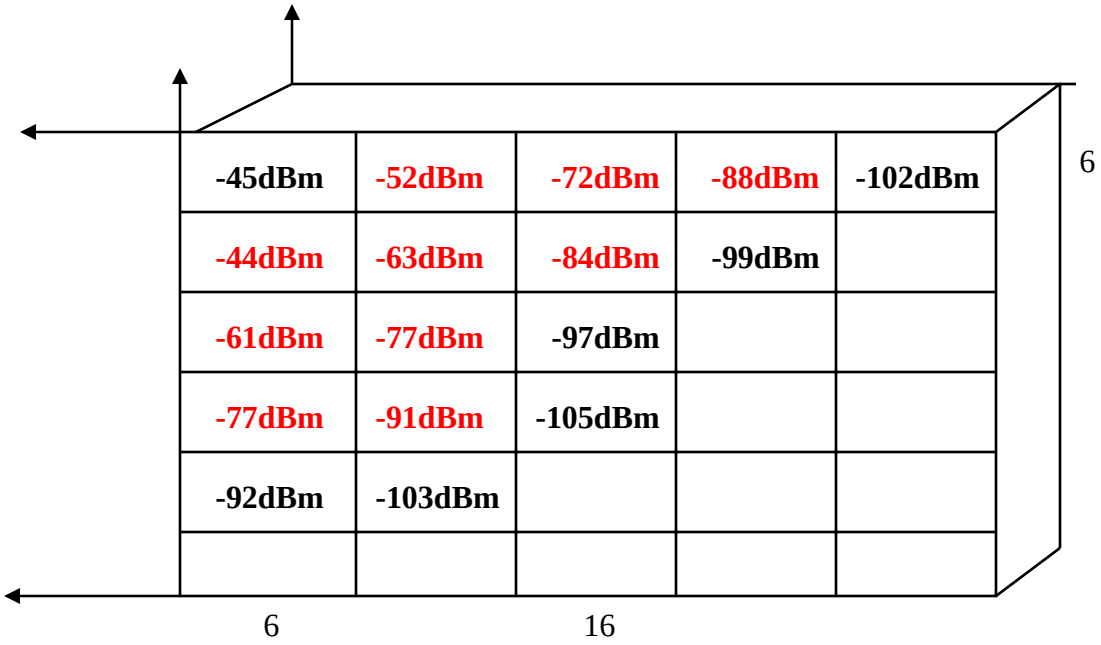
Terraced Houses

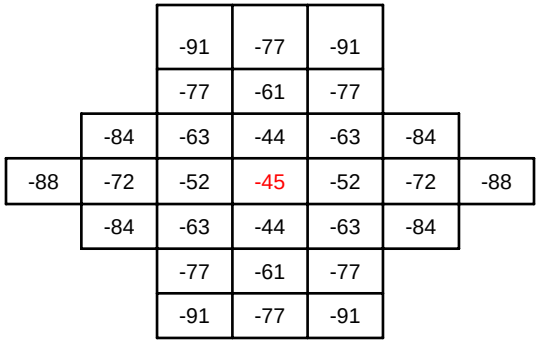
Leigh Park, Havant, England

150 ft.

16 Potential APs in range

Apartment Block Single Layout

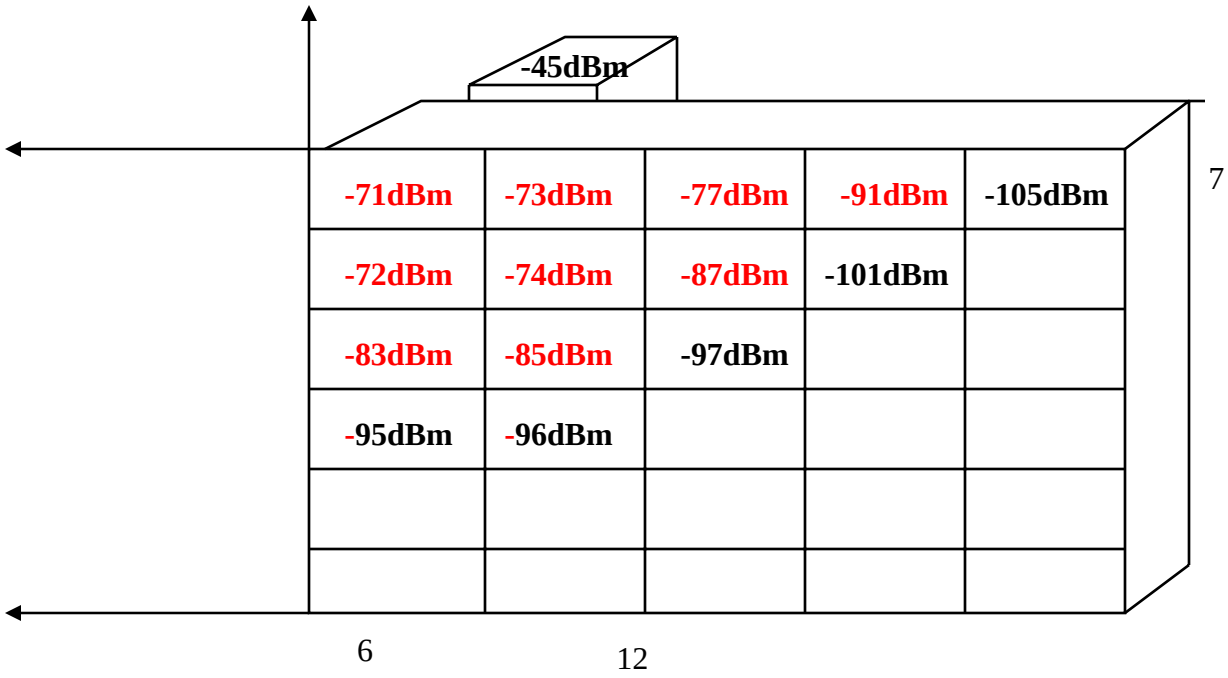




Total within range = 28

Each Apartment
20 x 35 feet
about 700 square feet

Apartment Block – Double Layout



Apartments across the corridor

Total within range = 28 + 25 = 53

Summary

- **Examples used show maximum potential number of APs within range**
  - Detached Houses 12
  - Terraced Houses 16
  - Townhouses 25
  - Single Layout Apartments 28
  - Double Layer Apartments 53

- **Number of Channels**
  - 2.4GHz 20MHz 3
  - 5GHz 20 MHz 24 USA, 19 Europe
    40MHz 11 USA, 9 Europe

Probability of Sharing

- **At first sight, one may assume that:**
  - 28 overlapping APs, 19 channels, must share with at least 1
- **In fact, this is not correct, there is channel re-use within the 28 overlapping APs**

- **Analysis - example**
  - Assume all 28 channels are selected at random
  - Calculate probability that the QAP can find
    - A clear channel
    - Either a clear or a single channel

- **Then look into situation if all were QAPs and each carried out Channel Selection (as proposed in "OSQAP")**

Probability of Sharing – Free Channel

- **IF *N* Channels,**
  - probability of selecting one channel = *1/N*
  - Probability of not selecting one channel = *1 – 1/N*
  - In *n* selections, probability of not selecting one channel *p0 = (1-1/N)^n*
  - Probability that one particular channel is selected
    - *P1 = 1- p0 = 1-(1-1/N)^n*

As there are N channels, the probability that any one channel is selected is therefore

- ***(P1)^N = (1-(1-1/N)^n)^N***

Or probability that there is at least one channel not used is

- *1-(P1)^N = 1-**(1-(1-1/N)^n)^N***

Probability of Sharing Zero or One Channel

- **IF *N* Channels, *n* selections**
  - Probability of not selecting one channel
    - *p0 = (1-1/N)^n* *Binomial distribution*
  - Probability of selecting one particular channel just once
    - *p1 = n/N (1 – 1/N)^(n-1)* *Binomial distribution*
  - Probability of selecting one channel at least 2 times = *1 – p0 – p1*
  - Probability selecting any channel at least 2 times
    - *(1 – p0 – p1)^N*
  - Probability that any channel is selected never or only once
    - *1 - (1 – p0 – p1)^N*

Probability of Sharing

Based on a QAP AP surrounded by OBSS Channels that have been randomly selected, i.e. not selected by any Channel Selection process

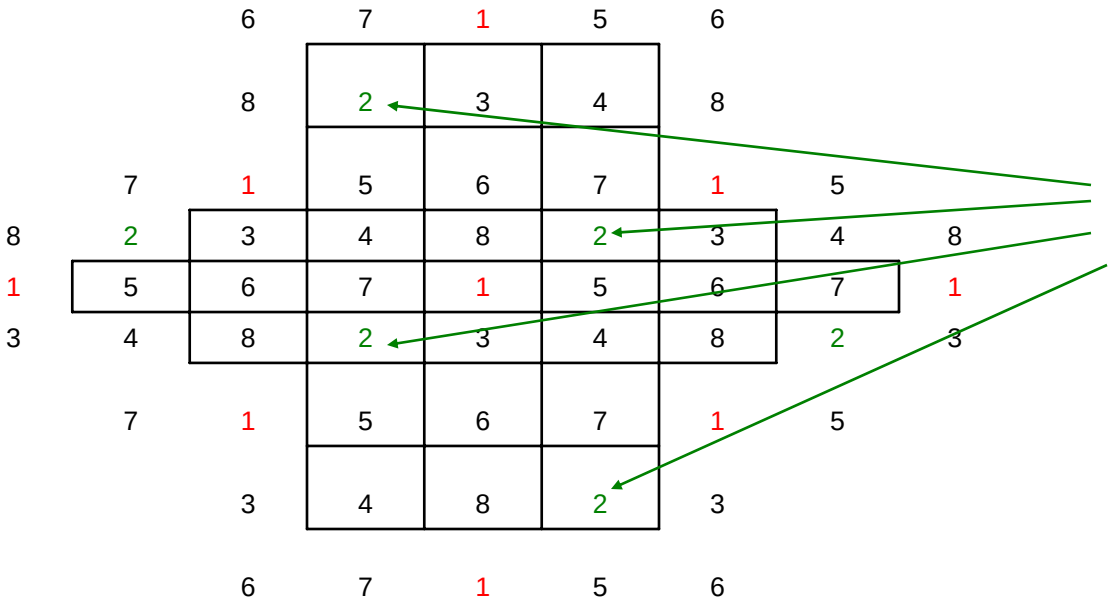
The probabilities of the QAP finding a spare channel are:

Virtually 100%

Channels	Overlaps	Prob of free CH	Prob 0 or 1 CH	Scenario
12	12	0.994518	1.000000	Detached Houses
11	12	0.985304	0.999998	
12	16	0.967572	0.999988	Terraced Houses
11	16	0.932774	0.999897	
24	25	0.999961	1.000000	Townhouses
19	25	0.996622	1.000000	
12	25	0.764658	0.996216	
11	25	0.655343	0.986316	
24	28	0.999831	1.000000	Apartments single layout
19	28	0.991103	1.000000	
12	28	0.666654	0.988387	
11	28	0.546388	0.965416	
24	53	0.929850	0.999963	Apartments double layout
19	53	0.671791	0.992046	
12	53	0.112926	0.510595	
11	53	0.068191	0.364102	

Minimum number of Channels Apartments single layout

In fact, if one applied standard channel re-use to the Apartment single layout, 28 overlapping APs, only 8 channels are actually required.



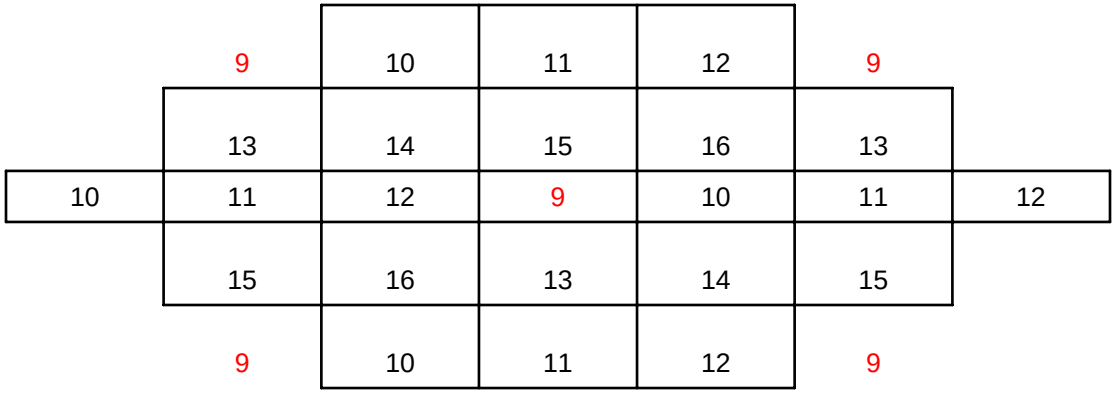
24 overlapping APs
But channel re-use is extensive

Example, Ch 2 can be used 4 times
Within the 28 OBSS

Minimum number of Channels Apartments double layout

16 Channels required in all
With 53 overlapping APs

8 Channels as per single layout plus another 8 for the opposite apartments



If ALL APs carried out Channel selection, rather than random selection,
Then channel distribution would approach the ideal case.

OBSS at 2.4GHz

A quick check to see if OBSS solution for QAPs at 2.4GHz is practical

Channels	Overlaps	Prob of free CH	Prob of 0 or 1 CH	Scenario
3	12	0.022944	0.153279	Detached Houses
3	16	0.004560	0.040545	Terraced Houses

Clearly NO

OBSS solution must include use of 5GHz band

20/40MHz Operation

20/40 BSS Operation*

Co-Existence with neighboring BSSs is managed through a number of mechanisms, including:

- Overlapping BSS scanning and careful channel selection on initial BSS setup to avoid channels already in use by other BSSs.
- Changing channels or operating width after BSS setup if a new BSS is detected operating on the secondary channel

Also

- 40MHz Intolerance bit can be set by any STA, (7.3.2.61)
- 20/40 Intolerant Channel Report Element (7.3.2.59)
- Overlapping BSS Scan Parameters element (7.3.2.60)

In high OBSS conditions, networks will fall back to 20MHz operation, (and if not, we could/should make them)

We could ignore the 11/12 channel conditions (only significant for double apartments with 53 overlapping APs)

* Reference: "Next Generation Wireless LANS: Throughput, Robustness and Reliability in 802.11n", Eldad Perahia and Robert Stacey, Cambridge University Press 2008.

AP Chains

This scenario of AP Chains appears in the OBSS Requirements document 08/0944r4

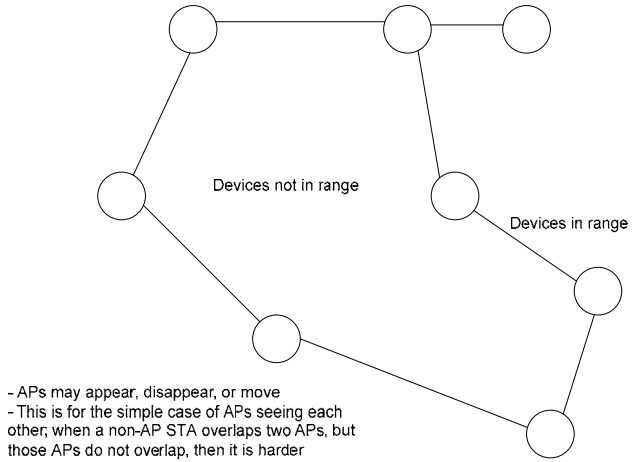
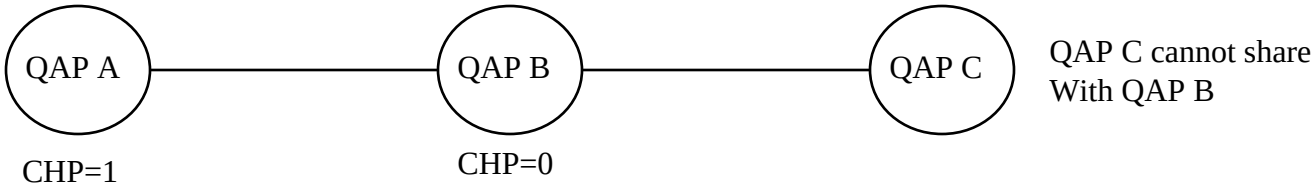


Table Slide 14 shows that in all practical cases, QAP assured that **either free channel or share with 1.**

Hence, if QAP is sharing with one, that other AP, if a QAP, i.e. channel selection, is **also only sharing with one. NO CHAIN.**

ALSO, proposed channel selection in "OSQAP" guards against AP chains.



Channel Selection

- **Proposed Channel Selection as follows, "OSQAP" (ref 08/0457r04, and 08/1260r01):**
  - Is there a QAP on the channel?
    - If no QAP, set CHP = 1
    - If just one QAP with CHP = 1 and QLoad is acceptable, then SELECT
    - If two QAPs with CHP=1, DO NOT SELECT
    - QAP with CHP = 0, then DO NOT SELECT

Summary

- **40MHz channels should fall back to 20MHz in congested scenario**
  - Only apartment double layout scenario presents a ‘problem’ with 12 channels. 19/24 channels >99% probability of zero or 1 channel
- **A QAP carrying out Channels Selection is virtually guaranteed to find a clear channel, or share with just one other AP – based upon random selection of surrounding channels**
- **If all QAPs in scenario, Channel Selection would guarantee clear channel**
- **AP Chains for QAPs will not happen**
  - Very unlikely in practice
  - OSQAP use of CHP prevents it

Conclusions

- **Tempting to declare that OBSS in practice is not a problem for 5GHz**
- **Calculations on housing and apartment layouts show that any AP carrying out channels selection will find a clear channel, or if not, will only share with one other**
- **If all APs carried out channel selection, virtually assure that all will find clear channels**
- **AP chains will not be experienced in practice. Also "OSQAP" use of CHP avoids possibility of AP Chains**
- **"OSQAP" may be more than needed, but does represent a practical, play-safe solution to OBSS in the 5GHz band**