IEEE P802.11 Wireless LANs

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| Proposed 802.11ai Specification Text for Active Scanning Enhancement |
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| Author(s): |
| Name | Affiliation | Address | Phone | Email |
| Jonathan Segev | Intel | Em Hamoshavot 94 Azorim Park | +972-54-2403587 | jonathan.segev@intel.com |
| Adrian Stephens | Intel |  |  | adrian.stephens@intel.com |
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|  |  |  |  |  |

Abstract

The submission proposes 802.11ai specification text for Active Scanning enhancement,

The numbering of the clauses is taken from 2012 revision of IEEE802.11 standard [Ref-2].

# Background

To facilitate a fast initial link setup, a method for quick and efficient discovery of FILS AP as an enhancement to Active scanning is provided. The procedure is used when there is no prior knowledge of FILS AP STAs over the scanned channel. The STA transmits a new message Rapid Scan Requested which is ACKed by FILS capable AP STAs, if no ACK is received the STA moves on to the next channel in search for FILS capable AP. Since there is a +20 factor between the Active Scan and Rapid scan procedure the non AP STA is able to identify the AP with a much lower delay and lower power enabling a higher polling rate. Refer to IEEE 802.11-12/1033r1.

As a response to the TGai Call-for-Contributions, this document proposes detailed text for TGaiSpecifiction Document, for the passive scanning enhancement related features / functionalities, based on the TGai SFD.

# Conventions

In this contribution, the proposed 802.11ai specification Document text will be presented as an amendment text based on the baseline 802.11 standard, 802.11-2012 [Ref-2]. The following format conventions are used:

1. The new added text is marked as blue underline text;
2. The deleted text is marked as~~red strikethrough text~~;
3. The unchanged baseline standard text stays in black text in the context of proposed TGai specification text;
4. The editorial instruction is marked as ***[parenthesis italic bold text highlighted by Yellow]***;
5. Values that are under control of ANA (Assigned Numbers Athurety) are marked <ANA>.
6. The quoted TGai SFD text is marked as *green italic text*; and
7. Any other text, e.g., discussions, proposed motions, etc., is in black text, but not in the context of proposed TGai specification text.

# Proposed 802.11ai Specification Text

***[Modify 3rd paragraph in subclause 6.3.3.2.2 as follows:]***

To actively scan, the STA shall transmit Probe request frames containing the desired SSID or one or more SSID List elements. When the SSID List element is present in the Probe Request frame, one or more of the SSID elements may include a wildcard SSID (see 8.4.2.2). The exact procedure for determining the SSID or SSID List values in the MLME-SCAN.request primitive is not specified in this standard. When a STA scans for a BSS whose AP does not support the SSID List element, or for a BSS for which AP support of the SSID List element is unknown, the SSID element with an SSID or wildcard SSID shall be included in the MLME-SCAN.request primitive. Upon completion of scanning, an MLME-SCAN.confirm primitive is issued by the MLME indicating all of the BSS information

received. In addition to the Active Scan a STA may also use Rapid Scan to identify AP coverage supporting Rapid Scan on that channel. If the STA identified AP coverage on the current channel it may than proceed to identifying the AP using Active or Passive scan procedures.

NOTE—MLME-SCAN.request primitives and resulting Probe Request frames may include a Request element that can be used to request radio measurement information from the scanned BSSs. Requested radio measurement information from the scanned BSSs is included in the Probe Response frames and in the MLME-SCAN.confirm primitive.

***[Modify table 8-1 in subclause 8.2.4.1.3 ]***

**Table 8-1- Valid type and subtype combinations**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type value** **b3 b2** | **Subtype value** **b7 b6 b5 b4** | **Control Frame Extension value** **b11 b10 b9 b8** | **Description** |
| 01  | 0110  | 0000  | Reserved  |
| 01  | 0110  | 0001  | Reserved  |
| 01  | 0110  | 0010  | Poll  |
| 01  | 0110  | 0011  | SPR  |
| 01  | 0110  | 0100  | Grant  |
| 01  | 0110  | 0101  | DMG CTS  |
| 01  | 0110  | 0110  | DMG DTS  |
| 01  | 0110  | 0111  | Grant ACK  |
| 01  | 0110  | 1000  | SSW  |
| 01  | 0110  | 1001  | SSW-Feedback  |
| 01  | 0110  | 1010  | SSW-ACK  |
| 01 | 0110 | 1011 | Rapid Scan Req |
| 01  | 0110  | ~~1011~~ 1100-1111  | Reserved  |

***[Insert a new subclause 8.3.4.2:]***

**8.3.1.20 Rapid Scan Request Frame format**

The format of Rapid Scan Request frame is shown in table 8-xxx.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Frame control | FCS |
| Octets | 2 | 4 |

The Rapid Scan Request frame is transmitted by a non AP STA to request an AP STA to indicate its coverage using an ACK message.

***[Insert a subclause 9.3.2.8x as follows:***

**9.3.2.8x ACK of Rapid Scan Request Frames**

A FILS capable AP or a FILS capable IBSS STA that receives a Rapid Scan Request frame shall transmit an ACK frame as described in 9.3.2.8. A STA that transmits a Rapid Scan Request frame interprets any response as described in 10.1.4.4.

***[Modify subclause 10.1.4.3.3 as follows:]***

**10.1.4.3.3 Active scanning procedure**

Upon receipt of the MLME-SCAN.request primitive with ScanType indicating an active scan, a STA shall use the following procedure:

If the STA is a non AP, FILS capable STA and the dot11FilsOptionRapidScanImplemented is set to true, the STA shall execute the Rapid Scanning procedure prior to the following Active scanning procedure.

For each channel to be scanned:

….

***[Insert a new subclause after subclause 10.1.4.3.3:]***

**10.1.4.4 Rapid Scanning**

**10.1.4.4.1 Introduction**

Rapid scanning is a process of identifying the existence of AP coverage over the channel enabling the STA to quickly and efficiently identify channels with APs supporting FILS from the set of channels requested by MLME-SCAN.request primitive. Implementation of the Rapid Scan is mandatory for FILS capable AP STA.

**10.1.4.4.2 Rapid scanning procedure**

For each channel to be scanned preform the following procedure:

a) Wait until the ProbeDelay time has expired or a PHYRxStart.indication primitive has been received.

b) Perform the Basic Access procedure as defined in 9.3.4.2.

c) Send a Rapid Scan request message to the broadcast destination address

d) Set to 0 and start a ProbeTimer.

e) If PHY-CCA.indication (busy) primitive has not been detected before the RapidProbeTimer reaches

ACKTimeout, perform Active Scan procedure, else set NAV to 0 and scan next channel.

See figure 10-3a:



 

Figure 10-3a Rapid Scan

# References:

1. 11-12-151-12-00ai-Proposed-Specification-Framework-Document.docx
2. IEEE Std 802.11 – 2012
3. 11-12-0992-00-00ai-call-for-specification-text-contributions-for-the-tgai-detailed-draft-text.