IEEE P802.11  
Wireless LANs

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| Proposed Spec Text for fragmentation operation | | | | |
| Date: 2016-11-07 | | | | |
| Author(s): | | | | |
| Name | Affiliation | Address | Phone | email |
| Laurent Cariou | Intel |  |  | laurent.cariou@intel.com |
| Robert Stacey | 2111 NE 25th Ave, Hillsboro OR 97124, USA | +1-503-724-893 | robert.stacey@intel.com |
| Shahrnaz Azizi |  |  | shahrnaz.azizi@intel.com |
| Po-Kai Huang |  |  | po-kai.huang@intel.com |
| Qinghua Li |  |  | quinghua.li@intel.com |
| Xiaogang Chen |  |  | xiaogang.c.chen@intel.com |
| Chitto Ghosh |  |  | chittabrata.ghosh@intel.com |
| Yaron Alpert |  |  | yaron.alpert@intel.com |
| Assaf Gurevitz |  |  | assaf.gurevitz@intel.com |
| Ilan Sutskover |  |  | ilan.sutskover@intel.com |
| Feng Jiang |  |  | feng1.jiang@intel.com |
| Minho Cheong | Newracom | 9008 Research Dr.  Irvine, CA 92618 |  | minho.cheong@newracom.com |
| Reza Hedayat |  | reza.hedayat@newracom.com |
| Young Hoon Kwon |  | younghoon.kwon@newracom.com |
| Yongho Seok |  | yongho.seok@newracom.com |
| Daewon Lee |  | daewon.lee@newracom.com |
| Yujin Noh |  | yujin.noh@newracom.com |
| Ron Porat | Broadcom |  |  | rporat@broadcom.com |
| Sriram Venkateswaran |  |  |  |
| Matthew Fischer |  |  | mfischer@broadcom.com |
| Zhou Lan |  |  |  |
| Leo Montreuil |  |  |  |
| Andrew Blanksby |  |  |  |
| Vinko Erceg |  |  |  |
| Thomas Derham |  |  |  |
| Mingyue Ji |  |  |  |
| Hongyuan Zhang | Marvell | 5488 Marvell Lane, Santa Clara, CA, 95054 | 408-222-2500 | hongyuan@marvell.com |
| Lei Wang |  | Leileiw@marvell.com |
| Liwen Chu |  | liwenchu@marvell.com |
| Jinjing Jiang |  | jinjing@marvell.com |
| Yan Zhang |  | yzhang@marvell.com |
| Rui Cao |  | ruicao@marvell.com |
| Sudhir Srinivasa |  | sudhirs@marvell.com |
| Bo Yu |  | boyu@marvell.com |
| Saga Tamhane |  | sagar@marvell.com |
| Mao Yu |  | my@marvel..com |
| Xiayu Zheng |  | xzheng@marvell.com |
| Christian Berger |  | crberger@marvell.com |
| Niranjan Grandhe |  | ngrandhe@marvell.com |
| Hui-Ling Lou |  | hlou@marvell.com |
| Alice Chen | Qualcomm | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | alicel@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Albert Van Zelst | Straatweg 66-S Breukelen, 3621 BR Netherlands |  | allert@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Alfred Asterjadhi | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | aasterja@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Bin Tian | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | btian@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Carlos Aldana | 1700 Technology Drive San Jose, CA 95110, USA |  | caldana@qca.qualcomm.com |
| George Cherian | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | gcherian@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Gwendolyn Barriac | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | gbarriac@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Hemanth Sampath | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | hsampath@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Lin Yang | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | linyang@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Lochan Verma | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA USA |  | lverma@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Menzo Wentink | Straatweg 66-S Breukelen, 3621 BR Netherlands |  | mwentink@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Naveen Kakani | 2100 Lakeside Boulevard Suite 475, Richardson TX 75082, USA |  | nkakani@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Raja Banerjea | 1060 Rincon Circle San Jose CA 95131, USA |  | rajab@qit.qualcomm.com |
| Richard Van Nee | Straatweg 66-S Breukelen, 3621 BR Netherlands |  | rvannee@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Rolf De Vegt | Qualcomm | 1700 Technology Drive San Jose, CA 95110, USA |  | rolfv@qca.qualcomm.com |
| Sameer Vermani | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | svverman@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Simone Merlin | 5775 Morehouse Dr. San Diego, CA, USA |  | smerlin@qti.qualcomm.com |
| Tevfik Yucek | 1700 Technology Drive San Jose, CA 95110, USA |  | tyucek@qca.qualcomm.com |
| VK Jones | 1700 Technology Drive San Jose, CA 95110, USA |  | vkjones@qca.qualcomm.com |
| Youhan Kim | 1700 Technology Drive San Jose, CA 95110, USA |  | youhank@qca.qualcomm.com |
| Jianhan Liu | Mediatek  USA | 2860 Junction Ave, San Jose, CA 95134, USA | +1-408-526-1899 | jianhan.Liu@mediatek.com |
| Thomas Pare |  |  | thomas.pare@mediatek.com |
| ChaoChun Wang |  |  | chaochun.wang@mediatek.com |
| James Wang |  |  | james.wang@mediatek.com |
| Tianyu Wu |  |  | tianyu.wu@mediatek.com |
| Russell Huang |  |  | russell.huang@mediatek.com |
| James Yee | Mediatek | No. 1 Dusing 1st Road, Hsinchu, Taiwan | +886-3-567-0766 | james.yee@mediatek.com |
| Frank Hsu |  |  | frank.hsu@mediatek.com |
| Joonsuk Kim | Apple |  |  | joonsuk@apple.com |
| Aon Mujtaba |  |  | mujtaba@apple.com |
| Guoqing Li |  |  | guoqing\_li@apple.com |
| Eric Wong |  |  | ericwong@apple.com |
| Chris Hartman |  |  | chartman@apple.com |
| Jarkko Kneckt |  |  | jkneckt@apple.com |
| David X. Yang | Huawei | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | david.yangxun@huawei.com |
| Jiayin Zhang | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai | +86-18601656691 | zhangjiayin@huawei.com |
| Jun Luo | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai |  | jun.l@huawei.com |
| Yi Luo | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen | +86-18665891036 | Roy.luoyi@huawei.com |
| Yingpei Lin | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai |  | linyingpei@huawei.com |
| Jiyong Pang | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai |  | pangjiyong@huawei.com |
| Zhigang Rong | 10180 Telesis Court, Suite 365, San Diego, CA  92121 NA |  | zhigang.rong@huawei.com |
| Jian Yu | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | ross.yujian@huawei.com |
| Ming Gan | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | ming.gan@huawei.com |
| Yuchen Guo | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | guoyuchen@huawei.com |
| Yunsong Yang | 10180 Telesis Court, Suite 365, San Diego, CA  92121 NA |  | yangyunsong@huawei.com |
| Junghoon Suh | 303 Terry Fox, Suite 400 Kanata, Ottawa, Canada |  | Junghoon.Suh@huawei.com |
| Peter Loc |  |  | peterloc@iwirelesstech.com |
| Edward Au | 303 Terry Fox, Suite 400 Kanata, Ottawa, Canada |  | edward.ks.au@huawei.com |
| Teyan Chen | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | chenteyan@huawei.com |
| Yunbo Li | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | liyunbo@huawei.com |
| David X. Yang | Huawei | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | david.yangxun@huawei.com |
| Jiayin Zhang | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai | +86-18601656691 | zhangjiayin@huawei.com |
| Jun Luo | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai |  | jun.l@huawei.com |
| Yi Luo | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen | +86-18665891036 | Roy.luoyi@huawei.com |
| Yingpei Lin | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai |  | linyingpei@huawei.com |
| Jiyong Pang | 5B-N8, No.2222 Xinjinqiao Road, Pudong, Shanghai |  | pangjiyong@huawei.com |
| Zhigang Rong | 10180 Telesis Court, Suite 365, San Diego, CA  92121 NA |  | zhigang.rong@huawei.com |
| Jian Yu | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | ross.yujian@huawei.com |
| Ming Gan | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | ming.gan@huawei.com |
| Yuchen Guo | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | guoyuchen@huawei.com |
| Yunsong Yang | 10180 Telesis Court, Suite 365, San Diego, CA  92121 NA |  | yangyunsong@huawei.com |
| Junghoon Suh | 303 Terry Fox, Suite 400 Kanata, Ottawa, Canada |  | Junghoon.Suh@huawei.com |
| Peter Loc |  |  | peterloc@iwirelesstech.com |
| Edward Au | 303 Terry Fox, Suite 400 Kanata, Ottawa, Canada |  | edward.ks.au@huawei.com |
| Teyan Chen | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | chenteyan@huawei.com |
| Yunbo Li | F1-17, Huawei Base, Bantian, Shenzhen |  | liyunbo@huawei.com |
| Jinmin Kim | LG Electronics | 19, Yangjae-daero 11gil, Seocho-gu, Seoul 137-130, Korea |  | Jinmin1230.kim@lge.com |
| Kiseon Ryu |  |  | kiseon.ryu@lge.com |
| Jinyoung Chun |  |  | jiny.chun@lge.com |
| Jinsoo Choi |  |  | js.choi@lge.com |
| Jeongki Kim |  |  | jeongki.kim@lge.com |
| Dongguk Lim |  |  | dongguk.lim@lge.com |
| Suhwook Kim |  |  | suhwook.kim@lge.com |
| Eunsung Park |  |  | esung.park@lge.com |
| JayH Park |  |  | Hyunh.park@lge.com |
| HanGyu Cho |  |  | hg.cho@lge.com |
| Bo Sun | ZTE | #9 Wuxingduan, Xifeng  Rd., Xi'an, China |  | sun.bo1@zte.com.cn |
| Kaiying Lv |  |  | lv.kaiying@zte.com.cn |
| Yonggang Fang |  |  | yfang@ztetx.com |
| Ke Yao |  |  | yao.ke5@zte.com.cn |
| Weimin Xing |  |  | xing.weimin@zte.com.cn |
| Brian Hart | Cisco Systems | 170 W Tasman Dr, San Jose, CA 95134 |  | brianh@cisco.com |
| Pooya Monajemi |  |  | pmonajem@cisco.com |
| Yasushi Takatori | NTT | 1-1 Hikari-no-oka, Yokosuka, Kanagawa 239-0847 Japan | +81 46 859 3135 | takatori.yasushi@lab.ntt.co.jp |
| Yasuhiko Inoue | +81 46 859 5097 | inoue.yasuhiko@lab.ntt.co.jp |
| Shoko Shinohara | +81 46 859 5107 | Shinohara.shoko@lab.ntt.co.jp |
| Yusuke Asai | +81 46 859 3494 | asai.yusuke@lab.ntt.co.jp |
| Koichi Ishihara | +81 46 859 4233 | ishihara.koichi@lab.ntt.co.jp |
| Junichi Iwatani | +81 46 859 4222 | Iwatani.junichi@lab.ntt.co.jp |
| Akira Yamada | NTT DOCOMO | 3-6, Hikarinooka, Yokosuka-shi, Kanagawa, 239-8536, Japan | +81 46 840  3759 | yamadaakira@nttdocomo.com |
| Masahito Mori | Sony Corp. |  |  | Masahito.Mori@jp.sony.com |
| Yusuke Tanaka |  |  | YusukeC.Tanaka@jp.sony.com |
| Yuichi Morioka |  |  | Yuichi.Morioka@jp.sony.com |
| Kazuyuki Sakoda |  |  | Kazuyuki.Sakoda@am.sony.com |
| William Carney |  |  | William.Carney@am.sony.com |
| Sigurd Schelstraete | Quantenna |  |  | Sigurd@quantenna.com |
| Huizhao Wang |  |  | hwang@quantenna.com |
| Narendar Madhavan | Toshiba |  |  | narendar.madhavan@toshiba.co.jp |
| Masahiro Sekiya |  |  |  |
| Toshihisa Nabetani |  |  |  |
| Tsuguhide Aoki |  |  |  |
| Tomoko Adachi |  |  |  |
| Kentaro Taniguchi |  |  |  |
| Daisuke Taki |  |  |  |
| Koji Horisaki |  |  |  |
| David Halls |  |  |  |
| Filippo Tosato |  |  |  |
| Zubeir Bocus |  |  |  |
| Fengming Cao |  |  |  |

Abstract

This document provides proposals for text spec related to fragmentation capabilities.

1. **Introduction**

Interpretation of a Motion to Adopt

A motion to approve this submission means that the editing instructions and any changed or added material are actioned in the TGax Draft. The introduction and the explanation of the proposed changes are not part of the adopted material.

***Editing instructions formatted like this are intended to be copied into the TGax Draft (i.e. they are instructions to the 802.11 editor on how to merge the text with the baseline documents).***

***TGax Editor: Editing instructions preceded by “TGax Editor” are instructions to the TGax editor to modify existing material in the TGax draft. As a result of adopting the changes, the TGax editor will execute the instructions rather than copy them to the TGax Draft.***

1. **Proposed changes**

Currently, every HE STA defines its fragmentation capabilities in the HE capabilities element, with the fragmentation support subfield in the HE MAC capabilities information field, as illustrated in table 9-262z - (Subfields of the HE MAC Capabilities Information field).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Subfields of the HE MAC Capabilities Information field | | |
| Subfield | Definition | Encoding |
| Fragmentation Support | Indicates the level of dynamic fragmentation that is supported by a STA as a recipient. | Set to 0 for no support for dynamic fragmentation.  Set to 1 for support for dynamic fragments that are contained within a VHT single MPDU, no support for dynamic fragments within an A-MPDU that is not a VHT Single MPDU.  Set to 2 for support for dynamic fragments that are contained within a Single MPDU(#11ah) and support for up to one dynamic fragment for each MSDU and each MMPDU within an A-MPDU or multi-TID A-MPDU that is not a Single MPDU(#11ah).  Set to 3 for support for dynamic fragments that are contained within a Single MPDU(#11ah) and support for multiple dynamic fragments for each MSDU within an (#1160)A-MPDU or multi-TID AMPDU and up to one dynamic fragment for each MMPDU in a multi-TID A-MPDU that is not a Single MPDU(#11ah). |

Problem statement:

Supporting fragmentation requires implementation constraints, especially with regards to memory size. These constraints are proportional to the number of STAs from which the STA can receive fragments. For an AP, there is therefore a high difference of implementation constraints to support fragmentation for a single associated STA, or more 100s of associated STAs.

According to the current spec, if an AP support fragmentation, it will support it all the time, for every associated STA, irrespective of the number of associated STAs. We propose a more dynamic negotiation mechanism, where fragmentation level can changed dynamicaly per STA and per TID, as part of the BlockAck negotiation.

Proposed resolution:

As per the spec today, ADDBA request and response frames can include an ADDBA extension element described in 9.4.2.139 (ADDBA extension element).

We propose to add a new HE fragmentation operation field in the ADDBA capabilities field, in order to indicate the fragmentation level that is supported for that particular BA aggrement.

We propose the following changes

***TGax Editor: Modify the section 9.4.2.139 as described below***

* ADDBA Extension element (11ad)

The ADDBA Extension element is shown in Figure 9-530 (ADDBA Extension element format).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Element ID | Length | ADDBA Capabilities |
| Octets: | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| * ADDBA Extension element format(11ad) | | | |

The Element ID and Length fields are defined in 9.4.2.1 (General).(#1429)(Ed)(#7363)

The ADDBA Capabilities field is shown in Figure 9-531 (ADDBA Capabilities field format).

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | B0 | | B1 B2 | B3 B7 |
|  | No-Fragmentation | | HE fragmentation operation | Reserved |
| Bits: | 1 | | 2 | 7 |
|  | | * ADDBA Capabilities field format(11ad) | | |

(Ed)The ADDBA Extension element can be included in the ADDBA Request and Response (#2069)frames.(#3085)

The No-Fragmentation (#3097)subfield determines whether a fragmented MSDU can be carried in the MPDU sent under the (#2353)block ack agreement. When this (#3097)subfield set to 1 in the ADDBA Request frame, it indicates that the originator is not fragmenting sent MSDUs. When this (#3097)subfield set to 1 in the ADDBA Response frame, it indicates that the recipient is not capable of receiving fragmented MSDUs.

The HE fragmentation operation subfield determines the level of dynamic fragmentation that is supported as a recipient for the TID which is defined in the ADDBA frame.

When this (#3097)subfield is set to 0 in the ADDBA Request frame, it indicates that the originator is not sending fragmented MSDUs for the TID in the Block Ack Parameter Set field of the ADDBA request frame.

When this (#3097)subfield set to 1 in the ADDBA Request frame, it indicates that the originator’s preferred dynamic fragmentation support is level 1 for the TID in the Block Ack Parameter Set field of the ADDBA request frame.

When this (#3097)subfield set to 2 in the ADDBA Request frame, it indicates that the originator’s preferred dynamic fragmentation support is level 2 for the TID in the Block Ack Parameter Set field of the ADDBA request frame.

When this (#3097)subfield set to 0 in the ADDBA Response frame, it indicates that the recipient is not capable of receiving fragmented MSDUs for the TID in the Block Ack Parameter Set field of the ADDBA Response frame.

When this (#3097)subfield set to 1 in the ADDBA Response frame, it indicates that the recipient is capable of receiving dynamic fragments that are contained within a VHT single MPDU, but that it is not capable of receiving dynamic fragments within an A-MPDU that is not a VHT Single MPDU for the TID in the Block Ack Parameter Set field of the ADDBA Response frame.

When this (#3097)subfield set to 2 in the ADDBA Response frame, it indicates that the recipient is capable of receiving dynamic fragments that are contained within a Single MPDU(#11ah) and only for up to one dynamic fragment for each MSDU and each MMPDU within an A-MPDU or multi-TID A-MPDU that is not a Single MPDU(#11ah), for the TID in the Block Ack Parameter Set field of the ADDBA Response frame.

***TGax Editor: Modify the section 25.3.3 as described below***

* Procedure at the originator(#1484)
* General(#Ed)

An originator STA transmitting an MPDU or A-MPDU that contains one or more dynamic fragments shall solicit an immediate response from the recipient STA for each of the fragments contained in the MPDU or A-MPDU, except when the fragments are sent under level 3 dynamic fragmentation (see 25.3.3.4 (Level 3 dynamic fragmentation(#1484))).(#2629)(#1794).

NOTE—The originator STA sends the fragments in order as defined in 10.5 (Fragmentation), except for level 3 dynamic fragmentation.

If the originator STA received explicit indications in response frames that none of the transmissions of previously transmitted fragment(s) of an MSDU or MMPDU have been successfully received then the STA may retransmit the full MSDU or MMPDU instead of retransmitting all the failed fragments. Otherwise, the originator STA may retransmit the failed fragment, in which case the frame body length and contents of the retransmitted fragment shall be the same as the first transmitted fragment and shall remain fixed for the lifetime of the MSDU or MMPDU at that STA.(#1225)

NOTE—An explicit indication is the absence of a valid Ack frame, BlockAck frame or Multi-STA BlockAck frame that is expected to be present in the first MPDU of the immediately received A-MPDU, or the absence of a BA Information field in the immediately received Multi-STA BlockAck frame for the TID of the transmitted fragment(s).(#1225)

An originator STA shall not transmit to a recipient STA an MPDU or A-MPDU containing dynamic fragments that do not satisfy the conditions in the subclauses below.(#1480)(#1479)(#1478)(#750)

* Level 1 dynamic fragmentation(#1484)

An originator STA may transmit to a recipient STA an MPDU(#1472) or VHT single MPDU(#1473) that contains one dynamic fragment of an MSDU or MMPDU if:

* the recipient STA has indicated a value 1 in the HE Fragmentation Support field of its HE Capabilities element.
* if the HE fragmentation operation subfield in the ADDBA Extension element within the corresponding ADDBA Response frame transmitted during the block ack agreement handshake is 1.

The originator STA shall follow the rules defined in 10.13.8 (Transport of VHT single MPDUs) for generating the VHT single MPDU.(#Ed)

* Level 2 dynamic fragmentation(#1484)

An originator STA may transmit to a recipient STA, which has indicated a value 2 in the HE Fragmentation Support field of its HE Capabilities element and in the HE fragmentation operation subfield in the ADDBA Extension element within the corresponding ADDBA Response frame transmitted during the block ack agreement, an MPDU, VHT single MPDU, or A-MPDU(#1473) that contains:

* One dynamic fragment of an MSDU or MMPDU in an MPDU or VHT single MPDU(#1474)
* The originator STA shall follow the rules defined in 10.13.8 (Transport of VHT single MPDUs) for generating the VHT single MPDU
* Up to one dynamic fragment of an MSDU or MMPDU for each MSDU and for the MMPDU in an A-MPDU format(#1474)(#2464)
* The originator STA shall follow the rules defined in 10.24.7.7 (Originator’s behavior) for generating the A-MPDU and the rules defined in 25.10.4 (A-MPDU with multiple TIDs) for generating the multi-TID A-MPDU (that can contain the fragment of the MMPDU)(#1476)
* Level 3 dynamic fragmentation(#1484)

An HE STA may transmit an L3 Frag BA Request frame to a receiver STA that has indicated a value of 3 in the HE Fragmentation Support field of the HE Capabilities element it transmits. The receiver STA that accepts the HT-Immediate block ack session shall respond with an L3 Frag BA Response if it has allocated resources for operating in a block ack session with level 3 fragmentation enabled. Otherwise, it shall respond with a BA Response frame to indicate that it has not allocated resources for operating in a block ack session where level 3 fragmentation is enabled.(#2268)(#2198)(#1800)(#1796)(#1663)

NOTE—A block ack session with level 3 fragmentation enabled requires a block acknowledgment record that maintains up to 4 bits per MSDU (one bit for each fragment of the MSDU).(#2268)(#2198)(#1800)(#1796)(#1663)

An originator STA may transmit to a recipient STA, which has indicated a value 3 in the HE Fragmentation Support field of its HE Capabilities element, an MPDU, VHT single MPDU, or A-MPDU(#1473) that contains:

* One dynamic fragment of an MSDU or MMPDU in an MPDU or VHT single MPDU(#1474)
* The originator STA shall follow the rules defined in 10.13.8 (Transport of VHT single MPDUs) for generating the VHT single MPDU
* Up to four dynamic fragments of an MSDU(#1475) for each MSDU and up to one dynamic fragment of an MMPDU(#1476)(#1475)(#2465) in an A-MPDU
* The originator STA shall set the Fragment Number subfield of each MPDU to a value less than 4
* The originator STA shall follow the rules defined in 10.24.7.7 (Originator’s behavior) for generating the A-MPDU with the exception that the A-MPDU shall contain MPDUs whose range of the Sequence Number subfields does not exceed *BL*/4, where *BL* is the length of the Block Ack Bitmap field of the BlockAck or Multi-STA BlockAck(#Ed) frame that corresponds to a TID of a transmitted fragment (see 10.24.7 (HT-immediate block ack extensions) and 25.4 (Block acknowledgement).(#697)(#Ed)(#166)(#1818)