IEEE P802.11  
Wireless LANs

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| MLO discovery: Discovery procedures (inclusion probing) and RNR | | | | |
| Date: 2020-08-20 | | | | |
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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 TGbe 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 TGbe Draft (i.e. they are instructions to the 802.11 editor on how to merge the text with the baseline documents).***

1. **Proposed spec text**

**TGbe editor: Modify the following subclause as follows**

* Reduced Neighbor Report element
* Neighbor AP Information field

Change the 6th paragraph as follows (based on the paragraph from P802.11ax D6.1):

The TBTT Information Length subfield is 1 octet in length and indicates the length of each TBTT Information field included in the TBTT Information Set field of the Neighbor AP Information field. ~~When~~ If the TBTT Information Field Type subfield is ~~set to~~ 0, the TBTT Information Length subfield:

* contains the length in octets of each TBTT Information field that is included in the TBTT Information Set field of the Neighbor AP Information field
* is set to 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, ~~or~~ 11, or 12; other values are reserved.
* indicates the TBTT Information field contents as shown in Table 9-273 (TBTT Information field content).

Change Table 9-281 (TBTT Information field contents) as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * TBTT Information field contents | |
| TBTT Information Length subfield value | TBTT Information field contents |
| 1 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield |
| 2 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield and the BSS Parameters subfield |
| 5 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield and the Short-SSID subfield |
| 6 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the Short-SSID subfield, and the BSS Parameters subfield |
| 7 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield and the BSSID subfield |
| 8 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield, and the BSS Parameters subfield |
| 9 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield, the BSS Parameters subfield, and the 20 MHz PSD subfield |
| 11 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield and  the Short-SSID subfield |
| 12 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield, the Short-SSID subfield and the BSS Parameters subfield |
| 13 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield, the Short-SSID subfield, the BSS Parameters subfield and the 20 MHz PSD subfield |
| 16 | The Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield, the Short-SSID subfield, the BSS Parameters subfield, the 20 MHz PSD subfield and the MLD Parameters subfield |
| 17–255 | The first 16 octets of the field contain the Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield, the Short-SSID subfield the BSS Parameters subfield, the 20 MHz PSD subfield and the MLD Parameters subfield (i.e., same contents as when the length of the TBTT Information field is 16). The remaining octets are reserved. |

Change 9-632 (TBTT Information field format) as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Neighbor AP TBTT Offset | BSSID (optional) | Short-SSID (optional) | BSS parameters | 20 MHz PSD | MLD parameters |
| Octets: | 1 | 0 or 6 | 0 or 4 | 0 or 1 | 0 or 1 | 0 or TBD |
| * TBTT Information field format | | | | |  |  |

TGbe editor: Insert at the end of this subclause:

The format of the MLD Parameters subfield is defined in Figure xxx (MLD Parameters subfield format).

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | B0-B7 | B8-B11 | B12-B19 | B20-B23 |
|  | MLD ID | Link ID | Change Sequence | Reserved |
| Bits: | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| Figure xxx – MLD Parameters subfield format | | | | | |  |  |

The MLD ID subfield indicates the identifier of the AP MLD to which the reported AP is affiliated. If the reported AP is affiliated to the same MLD as the reporting AP, the MLD ID subfield is set to 0. If the reported AP is affiliated to the same MLD as a nontransmitted BSSID that is in the same multiple BSSID set as the reporting AP, the MLD ID subfield is set to same value as in the BSSID Index field in the Multiple BSSID-Index element in the nontransmitted BSSID profile corresponding to the nontransmitted BSSID. The MLD ID subfield is set to TBD if the reported AP is not part of an AP MLD, or if the reporting AP does not have that information.

NOTE – The MLD ID is unique to an AP MLD in the frame on which it is carried.

The Link ID subfield indicates the link identifier of the reported AP within the AP MLD to which the reported AP is affiliated.

NOTE – The link identifier is unique to an AP within an AP MLD.

The Change Sequence subfield is defined as an unsigned integer, initialized to 0, that increments  
when a critical update to the Beacon frame of the reported AP occurs. The critical updates are defined in 11.2.3.15 TIM Broadcast.

***TGbe editor: Insert the new subclause 9.4.2.xxx MLD Request element as follows:***

9.4.2.xxx MLD Request element

The MLD Request element is placed in a Probe Request frame to request complete information on multiple APs of an AP MLD. The element contains a list of Link IDs to identify APs for which complete information is requested. The format of the MLD Request element is shown in Figure xxx (MLD Request element format).

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Element ID | Length | Number Of Link ID Fields | Link ID |
| Octets: | 1 | 1 | 1 | Variable |
| Figure xxx - MLD Request element format | | | |  |

The Number Of Link ID Fields field indicates the number of Link ID fields that are includes in the MLD Request element. If it is set to 0, it indicates that all Link IDs of the AP MLD are requested and zero Link ID fields are included in the MLD request element.

The Link ID field indicates the link identifier of the AP within the AP MLD.

***TGbe editor: Insert the new subclause 33.3.2 Discovery of an AP MLD as follows:***

**33.3.2 Discovery of an AP MLD**

**33.3.2.1 AP Behavior**

If an AP is affiliated to an AP MLD then the Beacon and Probe Response frames transmitted by the AP or by the transmitted BSSID of the same multiple BSSID set as the AP shall include a TBTT Information field in a Reduced Neighbor Report element with the Neighbor AP TBTT Offset subfield, the BSSID subfield, the Short-SSID subfield, the BSS Parameters subfield, the 20 MHz PSD subfield and the MLD Parameters subfield, for each of the other APs affiliated to the same AP MLD, except that:

* + If the transmitted Probe Response frame is individually addressed to a STA that has signaled that it does not support operating in a band (see 9.4.2.53 (Supported Operating Classes element)), the AP may not include a TBTT Information field in a Reduced Neighbor Report element for APs that are affiliated to the same AP MLD and that operate on that band
  + The AP may not include a TBTT Information field in a Reduced Neighbor Report element for APs that do not intend to be discovered by STAs.

If a reporting AP is part of an AP MLD and is in the same collocated set as APs affiliated with another AP MLD for which there are no affiliated APs operating on the same channel as the reporting AP, each AP of the other AP MLD shall be reported in the RNR element that is included in the beacons and the broadcast probe responses transmitted by the reporting AP if at least one AP of the other AP MLD is in the same multiple BSSID set as an AP affiliated with the AP MLD of the reporting AP, unless the APs of the other AP MLDs are already reported in beacons and the broadcast probe responses transmitted by an AP in the same collocated set as the reporting AP on the same channel as the reporting AP, except that:

* + If the transmitted Probe Response frame is individually addressed to a STA that has signaled that it does not support operating in a band (see 9.4.2.53 (Supported Operating Classes element)), the AP may not include a TBTT Information field in a Reduced Neighbor Report element for APs that are affiliated to the same AP MLD and that operate on that band
  + The AP may not include a TBTT Information field in a Reduced Neighbor Report element for APs that do not intend to be discovered by STAs.

If an AP of an AP MLD is reported in an RNR element with the MLD Parameters subfield present in the TBTT Information field for that AP:

* if the reported AP is affiliated to the same MLD as the reporting AP or to the same MLD as a non-transmitted BSSID in the same multiple BSSID set as the reporting AP, the Change Sequence subfield in the MLD Parameters subfield in the TBTT Information field describing the reported AP in a Reduced Neighbor Report element shall be set to the same value as the Change Sequence subfield in the EHT Operation element in frames transmitted on its operating channel by the reported AP or by the transmitted BSSID of the same multiple BSSID set as the reported AP. Otherwise, the Change Sequence subfield shall be set to TBD if the reported AP is not part of an AP MLD, or if the reporting AP does not have that information.
* if the reported AP is affiliated to the same MLD as the reporting AP, the MLD ID subfield shall be set to 0. If the reported AP is affiliated to the same AP MLD as a nontransmitted BSSID that is in the same multiple BSSID set as the reporting AP, the MLD ID subfield shall be set to same value as in the BSSID Index field in the Multiple BSSID-Index element in the nontransmitted BSSID profile corresponding to the nontransmitted BSSID in the Multiple BSSID element transmitted in frames sent by the reporting AP. Otherwise, the MLD ID subfield shall be set to TBD if the reported AP is not part of an AP MLD, or if the reporting AP does not have that information.
* if the reported AP is affiliated to the same MLD as the reporting AP or as a non-transmitted BSSID in the same multiple BSSID set as the reporting AP, the Link ID subfield in the TBTT Information field for the reported AP shall be set to the same value as in the Link ID field in the Link ID element in the STA profile corresponding to the reported AP in the ML element transmitted in frames sent by all APs affiliated to the same AP MLD. The Link ID subfield shall be set to TBD if the reported AP is not part of an AP MLD, or if the reporting AP does not have that information.

**33.3.2.2 MLD Probing**

An MLD probe request is a Probe Request frame:

* with the Address 1 field set to the broadcast destination address with the Address 3 field set to the BSSID of an AP, or with the Address 1 field set to the BSSID of an AP, or with the Address 1 field set to the broadcast destination address with the Address 3 field set to wildcard BSSID and with the SSID field set to the SSID of an AP
* that includes an MLD Request element.

An MLD probe request allows a non-AP STA to request an AP to include the complete set of capabilities, parameters and operation elements of other APs affiliated to the same AP MLD as the AP. The complete information of an AP affiliated to the same AP MLD as the AP identified in the Address 1 or Address 3 field of the Probe Request frame is requested if:

* the Number Of Link IDs Fields field is zero.
* the Number Of Link IDs Fields field is non-zero and the AP corresponds to a Link ID field in the MLD probe request.

The complete information of a requested AP sent by a reporting AP is defined as all elements that would be provided if the requested AP was transmitting the Probe Response frame, except the following elements, if present: the Reduced Neighbor Report element, the Multiple BSSID element, the ML element, other exceptions TBD.

If an AP that is part of an AP MLD receives an MLD Probe Request from a non-AP STA, it shall respond with an MLD probe response, which is a Probe Response frame with the Address 1 field set to the broadcast destination address that includes an ML element with a STA profile with complete information for each of the APs that are affiliated to the same AP MLD as the AP and that are requested by the MLD probe request.