

**Supplement to IEEE Standard for
Information technology—
Telecommunications and information exchange
between systems—
Local and metropolitan area networks—
Specific requirements—**

**Part 11: Wireless LAN Medium Access Control
(MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) specifications:
High-speed Physical Layer in the 5 GHz Band**

Sponsor

**LAN/MAN Standards Committee
of the
IEEE Computer Society**

Approved 16 September 1999

IEEE-SA Standards Board

Abstract: Changes and additions to IEEE Std. 802.11-1999 are provided to support the new high-rate physical layer (PHY) for operation in the 5 GHz band.

Keywords: 5 GHz, high speed, local area network (LAN), orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM), radio frequency, unlicensed national information infrastructure (U-NII), wireless

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3 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5997, USA

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Print: ISBN 0-7381-1809-5 SH94787
PDF: ISBN 0-7381-1810-9 SS94787

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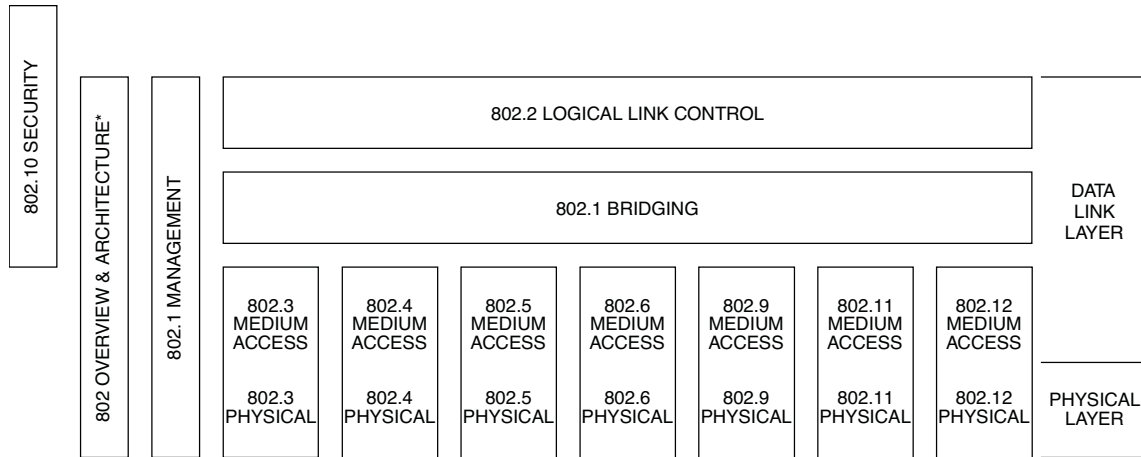
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Introduction

(This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 802.11a-1999, Supplement to IEEE Standard for Information technology—Telecommunications and information exchange between systems—Local and metropolitan area networks—Specific Requirements—Part 11: Wireless LAN Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) specifications: High-speed Physical Layer in the 5 GHz Band.)

This standard is part of a family of standards for local and metropolitan area networks. The relationship between the standard and other members of the family is shown below. (The numbers in the figure refer to IEEE standard numbers.)



* Formerly IEEE Std 802.1A.

This family of standards deals with the Physical and Data Link layers as defined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Basic Reference Model (ISO/IEC 7498-1:1994). The access standards define seven types of medium access technologies and associated physical media, each appropriate for particular applications or system objectives. Other types are under investigation.

The standards defining the access technologies are as follows:

- IEEE Std 802 *Overview and Architecture*. This standard provides an overview to the family of IEEE 802 Standards.
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.1B and 802.1k [ISO/IEC 15802-2] *LAN/MAN Management*. Defines an OSI management-compatible architecture, and services and protocol elements for use in a LAN/MAN environment for performing remote management.
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.1D [ISO/IEC 15802-3] *Media Access Control (MAC) Bridges*. Specifies an architecture and protocol for the interconnection of IEEE 802 LANs below the MAC service boundary.
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.1E [ISO/IEC 15802-4] *System Load Protocol*. Specifies a set of services and protocol for those aspects of management concerned with the loading of systems on IEEE 802 LANs.
- IEEE Std 802.1F *Common Definitions and Procedures for IEEE 802 Management Information*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.1G [ISO/IEC 15802-5] *Remote Media Access Control Bridging*. Specifies extensions for the interconnection, using non-LAN communication technologies, of geographically separated IEEE 802 LANs below the level of the logical link control protocol.

- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.2 [ISO/IEC 8802-2] *Logical Link Control*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.3 [ISO/IEC 8802-3] *CSMA/CD Access Method and Physical Layer Specifications*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.4 [ISO/IEC 8802-4] *Token Passing Bus Access Method and Physical Layer Specifications*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.5 [ISO/IEC 8802-5] *Token Ring Access Method and Physical Layer Specifications*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.6 [ISO/IEC 8802-6] *Distributed Queue Dual Bus Access Method and Physical Layer Specifications*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.9 [ISO/IEC 8802-9] *Integrated Services (IS) LAN Interface at the Medium Access Control and Physical Layers*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.10 *Interoperable LAN/MAN Security*
- IEEE Std 802.11 [ISO/IEC DIS 8802-11] *Wireless LAN Medium Access Control and Physical Layer Specifications*
- ANSI/IEEE Std 802.12 [ISO/IEC DIS 8802-12] *Demand Priority Access Method, Physical Layer and Repeater Specifications*

In addition to the family of standards, the following is a recommended practice for a common Physical Layer technology:

- IEEE Std 802.7 *IEEE Recommended Practice for Broadband Local Area Networks*

The following additional working groups have authorized standards projects under development:

- IEEE 802.14 *Standard Protocol for Cable-TV Based Broadband Communication Network*
- IEEE 802.15 *Wireless Personal Area Networks Access Method and Physical Layer Specifications*
- IEEE 802.16 *Broadband Wireless Access Method and Physical Layer Specifications*

Editor's Notes

Clause 4, subclause 9.1, and Clause 17 in this supplement will be inserted into the base standard as an additional PHY specification for the 5 GHz unlicensed national information infrastructure (U-NII) band.

There are three annexes included in this supplement. Following are instructions to merge the information in these annexes into the base document.

Annex A: This annex shows a change to the table in A.4.3 of the base standard (IUT configuration) and the addition of a new subclause. Item *CF6 should be added to the table in A.4.3 of the base standard. The entire subclause A.4.8 (Orthogonal frequency division multiplex PHY functions) should be added to the end of Annex A in the base standard (i.e., after A.4.7).

Annex D: This annex contains additions to be made to Annex D (ASN.1 encoding of the MAC and PHY MIB) of the base standard. There are five sections that provide instructions to merge the information contained herein into the appropriate locations in Annex D of the base standard.

Annex G: This annex is new to the base standard. The purpose of Annex G is to provide an example of encoding a frame for the OFDM PHY, described in Clause 17, including all intermediate stages.

Participants

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Control (MAC) and Physical Layer
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**High-speed Physical Layer in the
5 GHz Band**

[These additions are based on IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition.]

EDITORIAL NOTE—The editing instructions contained in this supplement define how to merge the material contained herein into IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition, to form the new comprehensive standard as created by the addition of IEEE Std 802.11a-1999.

The editing instructions are shown in ***bold italic***. Three editing instructions are used: change, delete, and insert. ***Change*** is used to make small corrections to existing text or tables. The editing instruction specifies the location of the change and describes what is being changed either by using ~~strikethrough~~ (to remove old material) or underscore (to add new material). ***Delete*** removes existing material. ***Insert*** adds new material without disturbing the existing material. Insertions may require renumbering. If so, renumbering instructions are given in the editing instructions. Editorial notes will not be carried over into future editions.

4. Abbreviations and acronyms

Insert the following acronyms alphabetically in the list in Clause 4:

BPSK	binary phase shift keying
C-MPDU	coded MPDU
FFT	Fast Fourier Transform
GI	guard interval
IFFT	inverse Fast Fourier Transform
OFDM	orthogonal frequency division multiplexing
PER	packet error rate
QAM	quadrature amplitude modulation
QPSK	quadrature phase shift keying
U-NII	unlicensed national information infrastructure

9.1 Multirate support

Add the following text to the end of 9.6:

For the 5 GHz PHY, the time required to transmit a frame for use in the Duration/ID field is determined using the PLME-TXTIME.request primitive and the PLME-TXTIME.confirm primitive. The calculation method of TXTIME duration is defined in 17.4.3.

10.4 PLME SAP interface

Add the following text to the end of 10.4:

Remove the references to aMPDUDurationFactor from 10.4.3.1.

Add the following subclauses at the end of 10.4:

10.4.6 PLME-TXTIME.request

10.4.6.1 Function

This primitive is a request for the PHY to calculate the time that will be required to transmit onto the wireless medium a PPDU containing a specified length MPDU, and using a specified format, data rate, and signalling.

10.4.6.2 Semantics of the service primitive

This primitive provides the following parameters:

PLME-TXTIME.request(TXVECTOR)

The TXVECTOR represents a list of parameters that the MAC sublayer provides to the local PHY entity in order to transmit a MPDU, as further described in 12.3.4.4 and 17.4 (which defines the local PHY entity).

10.4.6.3 When generated

This primitive is issued by the MAC sublayer to the PHY entity whenever the MAC sublayer needs to determine the time required to transmit a particular MPDU.

10.4.6.4 Effect of receipt

The effect of receipt of this primitive by the PHY entity shall be to generate a PHY-TXTIME.confirm primitive that conveys the required transmission time.

10.4.7 PLME-TXTIME.confirm

10.4.7.1 Function

This primitive provides the time that will be required to transmit the PPDU described in the corresponding PLME-TXTIME.request.

10.4.7.2 Semantics of the service primitive

This primitive provides the following parameters:

PLME-TXTIME.confirm(TXTIME)

The TXTIME represents the time in microseconds required to transmit the PPDU described in the corresponding PLME-TXTIME.request. If the calculated time includes a fractional microsecond, the TXTIME value is rounded up to the next higher integer.

10.4.7.3 When generated

This primitive is issued by the local PHY entity in response to a PLME-TXTIME.request.

10.4.7.4 Effect of receipt

The receipt of this primitive provides the MAC sublayer with the PPDU transmission time.

Add the entire Clause 17 to the base standard:

17. OFDM PHY specification for the 5 GHz band

17.1 Introduction

This clause specifies the PHY entity for an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) system and the additions that have to be made to the base standard to accommodate the OFDM PHY. The radio frequency LAN system is initially aimed for the 5.15–5.25, 5.25–5.35 and 5.725–5.825 GHz unlicensed national information structure (U-NII) bands, as regulated in the United States by the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Section 15.407. The OFDM system provides a wireless LAN with data payload communication capabilities of 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, and 54 Mbit/s. The support of transmitting and receiving at data rates of 6, 12, and 24 Mbit/s is mandatory. The system uses 52 subcarriers that are modulated using binary or quadrature phase shift keying (BPSK/QPSK), 16-quadrature amplitude modulation (QAM), or 64-QAM. Forward error correction coding (convolutional coding) is used with a coding rate of 1/2, 2/3, or 3/4.

17.1.1 Scope

This subclause describes the PHY services provided to the IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN MAC by the 5 GHz (bands) OFDM system. The OFDM PHY layer consists of two protocol functions, as follows:

- a) A PHY convergence function, which adapts the capabilities of the physical medium dependent (PMD) system to the PHY service. This function is supported by the physical layer convergence procedure (PLCP), which defines a method of mapping the IEEE 802.11 PHY sublayer service data units (PSDU) into a framing format suitable for sending and receiving user data and management information between two or more stations using the associated PMD system.
- b) A PMD system whose function defines the characteristics and method of transmitting and receiving data through a wireless medium between two or more stations, each using the OFDM system.

17.1.2 OFDM PHY functions

The 5 GHz OFDM PHY architecture is depicted in the reference model shown in Figure 11 of IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition (5.8). The OFDM PHY contains three functional entities: the PMD function, the PHY convergence function, and the layer management function. Each of these functions is described in detail in 17.1.2.1 through 17.1.2.4.

The OFDM PHY service is provided to the MAC through the PHY service primitives described in Clause 12 of IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition.

17.1.2.1 PLCP sublayer

In order to allow the IEEE 802.11 MAC to operate with minimum dependence on the PMD sublayer, a PHY convergence sublayer is defined. This function simplifies the PHY service interface to the IEEE 802.11 MAC services.

17.1.2.2 PMD sublayer

The PMD sublayer provides a means to send and receive data between two or more stations. This clause is concerned with the 5 GHz band using OFDM modulation.

17.1.2.3 PHY management entity (PLME)

The PLME performs management of the local PHY functions in conjunction with the MAC management entity.

17.1.2.4 Service specification method

The models represented by figures and state diagrams are intended to be illustrations of the functions provided. It is important to distinguish between a model and a real implementation. The models are optimized for simplicity and clarity of presentation; the actual method of implementation is left to the discretion of the IEEE 802.11 OFDM PHY compliant developer.

The service of a layer or sublayer is the set of capabilities that it offers to a user in the next higher layer (or sublayer). Abstract services are specified here by describing the service primitives and parameters that characterize each service. This definition is independent of any particular implementation.

17.2 OFDM PHY specific service parameter list

17.2.1 Introduction

The architecture of the IEEE 802.11 MAC is intended to be PHY independent. Some PHY implementations require medium management state machines running in the MAC sublayer in order to meet certain PMD requirements. These PHY-dependent MAC state machines reside in a sublayer defined as the MAC sublayer management entity (MLME). In certain PMD implementations, the MLME may need to interact with the PLME as part of the normal PHY SAP primitives. These interactions are defined by the PLME parameter list currently defined in the PHY service primitives as TXVECTOR and RXVECTOR. The list of these parameters, and the values they may represent, are defined in the specific PHY specifications for each PMD. This subclause addresses the TXVECTOR and RXVECTOR for the OFDM PHY.

17.2.2 TXVECTOR parameters

The parameters in Table 76 are defined as part of the TXVECTOR parameter list in the PHY-TXSTART.request service primitive.

Table 76—TXVECTOR parameters

Parameter	Associate primitive	Value
LENGTH	PHY-TXSTART.request (TXVECTOR)	1–4095
DATARATE	PHY-TXSTART.request (TXVECTOR)	6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, and 54 (Support of 6, 12, and 24 data rates is mandatory.)
SERVICE	PHY-TXSTART.request (TXVECTOR)	Scrambler initialization; 7 null bits + 9 reserved null bits
TXPWR_LEVEL	PHY-TXSTART.request (TXVECTOR)	1–8

17.2.2.1 TXVECTOR LENGTH

The allowed values for the LENGTH parameter are in the range of 1–4095. This parameter is used to indicate the number of octets in the MPDU which the MAC is currently requesting the PHY to transmit. This value is used by the PHY to determine the number of octet transfers that will occur between the MAC and the PHY after receiving a request to start the transmission.

17.2.2.2 TXVECTOR DATARATE

The DATARATE parameter describes the bit rate at which the PLCP shall transmit the PSDU. Its value can be any of the rates defined in Table 76. Data rates of 6, 12, and 24 shall be supported; other rates may also be supported.

17.2.2.3 TXVECTOR SERVICE

The SERVICE parameter consists of 7 null bits used for the scrambler initialization and 9 null bits reserved for future use.

17.2.2.4 TXVECTOR TXPWR_LEVEL

The allowed values for the TXPWR_LEVEL parameter are in the range from 1–8. This parameter is used to indicate which of the available TxPowerLevel attributes defined in the MIB shall be used for the current transmission.

17.2.3 RXVECTOR parameters

The parameters listed in Table 77 are defined as part of the RXVECTOR parameter list in the PHY-RXSTART.indicate service primitive.

Table 77—RXVECTOR parameters

Parameter	Associate primitive	Value
LENGTH	PHY-RXSTART.indicate	1–4095
RSSI	PHY-RXSTART.indicate (RXVECTOR)	0–RSSI maximum
DATARATE	PHY-RXSTART.request (RXVECTOR)	6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, and 54
SERVICE	PHY-RXSTART.request (RXVECTOR)	Null

17.2.3.1 RXVECTOR LENGTH

The allowed values for the LENGTH parameter are in the range from 1–4095. This parameter is used to indicate the value contained in the LENGTH field which the PLCP has received in the PLCP header. The MAC and PLCP will use this value to determine the number of octet transfers that will occur between the two sublayers during the transfer of the received PSDU.

17.2.3.2 RXVECTOR RSSI

The allowed values for the receive signal strength indicator (RSSI) parameter are in the range from 0 through RSSI maximum. This parameter is a measure by the PHY sublayer of the energy observed at the antenna used to receive the current PPDU. RSSI shall be measured during the reception of the PLCP preamble. RSSI is intended to be used in a relative manner, and it shall be a monotonically increasing function of the received power.

17.2.3.3 DATARATE

DATARATE shall represent the data rate at which the current PPDU was received. The allowed values of the DATARATE are 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, or 54.

17.2.3.4 SERVICE

The SERVICE field shall be null.

17.3 OFDM PLCP sublayer

17.3.1 Introduction

This subclause provides a convergence procedure in which PSDUs are converted to and from PPDU. During transmission, the PSDU shall be provided with a PLCP preamble and header to create the PPDU. At the receiver, the PLCP preamble and header are processed to aid in demodulation and delivery of the PSDU.

17.3.2 PLCP frame format

Figure 107 shows the format for the PPDU including the OFDM PLCP preamble, OFDM PLCP header, PSDU, tail bits, and pad bits. The PLCP header contains the following fields: LENGTH, RATE, a reserved bit, an even parity bit, and the SERVICE field. In terms of modulation, the LENGTH, RATE, reserved bit, and parity bit (with 6 “zero” tail bits appended) constitute a separate single OFDM symbol, denoted SIGNAL, which is transmitted with the most robust combination of BPSK modulation and a coding rate of $R = 1/2$. The SERVICE field of the PLCP header and the PSDU (with 6 “zero” tail bits and pad bits appended), denoted as DATA, are transmitted at the data rate described in the RATE field and may constitute multiple OFDM symbols. The tail bits in the SIGNAL symbol enable decoding of the RATE and LENGTH fields immediately after the reception of the tail bits. The RATE and LENGTH are required for decoding the DATA part of the packet. In addition, the CCA mechanism can be augmented by predicting the duration of the packet from the contents of the RATE and LENGTH fields, even if the data rate is not supported by the station. Each of these fields is described in detail in 17.3.3, 17.3.4, and 17.3.5.

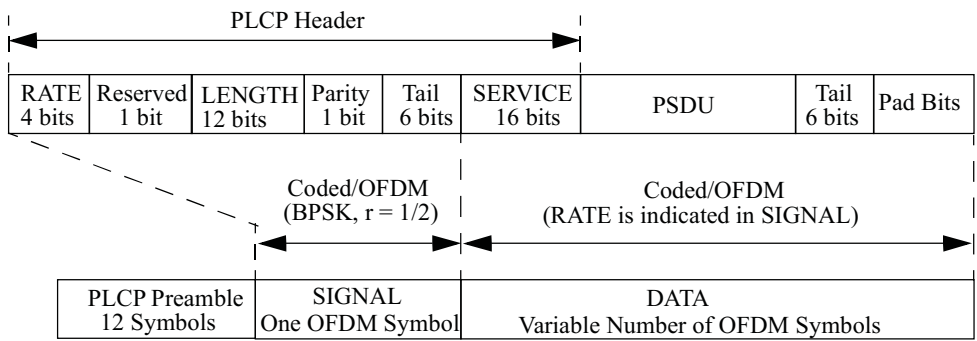


Figure 107—PPDU frame format

17.3.2.1 Overview of the PPDU encoding process

The encoding process is composed of many detailed steps, which are described fully in later subclauses, as noted below. The following overview intends to facilitate understanding the details described in these subclauses:

- a) Produce the PLCP preamble field, composed of 10 repetitions of a “short training sequence” (used for AGC convergence, diversity selection, timing acquisition, and coarse frequency acquisition in the receiver) and two repetitions of a “long training sequence” (used for channel estimation and fine frequency acquisition in the receiver), preceded by a guard interval (GI). Refer to 17.3.3 for details.

- b) Produce the PLCP header field from the RATE, LENGTH, and SERVICE fields of the TXVECTOR by filling the appropriate bit fields. The RATE and LENGTH fields of the PLCP header are encoded by a convolutional code at a rate of $R = 1/2$, and are subsequently mapped onto a single BPSK encoded OFDM symbol, denoted as the SIGNAL symbol. In order to facilitate a reliable and timely detection of the RATE and LENGTH fields, 6 “zero” tail bits are inserted into the PLCP header. The encoding of the SIGNAL field into an OFDM symbol follows the same steps for convolutional encoding, interleaving, BPSK modulation, pilot insertion, Fourier transform, and prepending a GI as described subsequently for data transmission at 6 Mbit/s. The contents of the SIGNAL field are not scrambled. Refer to 17.3.4 for details.
- c) Calculate from RATE field of the TXVECTOR the number of data bits per OFDM symbol (N_{DBPS}), the coding rate (R), the number of bits in each OFDM subcarrier (N_{BPSK}), and the number of coded bits per OFDM symbol (N_{CBPS}). Refer to 17.3.2.2 for details.
- d) Append the PSDU to the SERVICE field of the TXVECTOR. Extend the resulting bit string with “zero” bits (at least 6 bits) so that the resulting length will be a multiple of N_{DBPS} . The resulting bit string constitutes the DATA part of the packet. Refer to 17.3.5.4 for details.
- e) Initiate the scrambler with a pseudorandom non-zero seed, generate a scrambling sequence, and XOR it with the extended string of data bits. Refer to 17.3.5.4 for details.
- f) Replace the six scrambled “zero” bits following the “data” with six nonscrambled “zero” bits. (Those bits return the convolutional encoder to the “zero state” and are denoted as “tail bits.”) Refer to 17.3.5.2 for details.
- g) Encode the extended, scrambled data string with a convolutional encoder ($R = 1/2$). Omit (puncture) some of the encoder output string (chosen according to “puncturing pattern”) to reach the desired “coding rate.” Refer to 17.3.5.5 for details.
- h) Divide the encoded bit string into groups of N_{CBPS} bits. Within each group, perform an “interleaving” (reordering) of the bits according to a rule corresponding to the desired RATE. Refer to 17.3.5.6 for details.
- i) Divide the resulting coded and interleaved data string into groups of N_{CBPS} bits. For each of the bit groups, convert the bit group into a complex number according to the modulation encoding tables. Refer to 17.3.5.7 for details.
- j) Divide the complex number string into groups of 48 complex numbers. Each such group will be associated with one OFDM symbol. In each group, the complex numbers will be numbered 0 to 47 and mapped hereafter into OFDM subcarriers numbered -26 to -22 , -20 to -8 , -6 to -1 , 1 to 6 , 8 to 20 , and 22 to 26 . The subcarriers -21 , -7 , 7 , and 21 are skipped and, subsequently, used for inserting pilot subcarriers. The “0” subcarrier, associated with center frequency, is omitted and filled with zero value. Refer to 17.3.5.9 for details.
- k) Four subcarriers are inserted as pilots into positions -21 , -7 , 7 , and 21 . The total number of the subcarriers is $52 (48 + 4)$. Refer to 17.3.5.8 for details.
- l) For each group of subcarriers -26 to 26 , convert the subcarriers to time domain using inverse Fourier transform. Prepend to the Fourier-transformed waveform a circular extension of itself thus forming a GI, and truncate the resulting periodic waveform to a single OFDM symbol length by applying time domain windowing. Refer to 17.3.5.9 for details.
- m) Append the OFDM symbols one after another, starting after the SIGNAL symbol describing the RATE and LENGTH. Refer to 17.3.5.9 for details.
- n) Up-convert the resulting “complex baseband” waveform to an RF frequency according to the center frequency of the desired channel and transmit. Refer to 17.3.2.4 and 17.3.8.1 for details.

An illustration of the transmitted frame and its parts appears in Figure 110 of 17.3.3.

17.3.2.2 RATE-dependent parameters

The modulation parameters dependent on the data rate used shall be set according to Table 78.

Table 78—Rate-dependent parameters

Data rate (Mbits/s)	Modulation	Coding rate (R)	Coded bits per subcarrier (N_{BPSC})	Coded bits per OFDM symbol (N_{CBPS})	Data bits per OFDM symbol (N_{DBPS})
6	BPSK	1/2	1	48	24
9	BPSK	3/4	1	48	36
12	QPSK	1/2	2	96	48
18	QPSK	3/4	2	96	72
24	16-QAM	1/2	4	192	96
36	16-QAM	3/4	4	192	144
48	64-QAM	2/3	6	288	192
54	64-QAM	3/4	6	288	216

17.3.2.3 Timing related parameters

Table 79 is the list of timing parameters associated with the OFDM PLCP.

Table 79—Timing-related parameters

Parameter	Value
N_{SD} : Number of data subcarriers	48
N_{SP} : Number of pilot subcarriers	4
N_{ST} : Number of subcarriers, total	52 ($N_{\text{SD}} + N_{\text{SP}}$)
Δ_F : Subcarrier frequency spacing	0.3125 MHz ($\approx 20 \text{ MHz}/64$)
T_{FFT} : IFFT/FFT period	3.2 μs ($1/\Delta_F$)
T_{PREAMBLE} : PLCP preamble duration	16 μs ($T_{\text{SHORT}} + T_{\text{LONG}}$)
T_{SIGNAL} : Duration of the SIGNAL BPSK-OFDM symbol	4.0 μs ($T_{\text{GI}} + T_{\text{FFT}}$)
T_{GI} : GI duration	0.8 μs ($T_{\text{FFT}}/4$)
T_{GI2} : Training symbol GI duration	1.6 μs ($T_{\text{FFT}}/2$)
T_{SYM} : Symbol interval	4 μs ($T_{\text{GI}} + T_{\text{FFT}}$)
T_{SHORT} : Short training sequence duration	8 μs ($10 \times T_{\text{FFT}}/4$)
T_{LONG} : Long training sequence duration	8 μs ($T_{\text{GI2}} + 2 \times T_{\text{FFT}}$)

17.3.2.4 Mathematical conventions in the signal descriptions

The transmitted signals will be described in a complex baseband signal notation. The actual transmitted signal is related to the complex baseband signal by the following relation:

$$r_{(RF)(t)} = \text{Re}\{r(t)\exp\langle j2\pi f_c t \rangle\} \quad (1)$$

where

$\text{Re}(\cdot)$ represents the real part of a complex variable;
 f_c denotes the carrier center frequency.

The transmitted baseband signal is composed of contributions from several OFDM symbols.

$$r_{\text{PACKET}}(t) = r_{\text{PREAMBLE}}(t) + r_{\text{SIGNAL}}(t - t_{\text{SIGNAL}}) + r_{\text{DATA}}(t - t_{\text{DATA}}) \quad (2)$$

The subframes of which Equation (2) are composed are described in 17.3.3, 17.3.4, and 17.3.5.9. The time offsets t_{SUBFRAME} determine the starting time of the corresponding subframe; t_{SIGNAL} is equal to 16 μs , and t_{DATA} is equal to 20 μs .

All the subframes of the signal are constructed as an inverse Fourier transform of a set of coefficients, C_k , with C_k defined later as data, pilots, or training symbols in 17.3.3 through 17.3.5.

$$r_{\text{SUBFRAME}}(t) = w_{\text{TSUBFRAME}}(t) \sum_{k=-N_{ST}/2}^{N_{ST}/2} C_k \exp(j2\pi k \Delta_f)(t - T_{\text{GUARD}}) \quad (3)$$

The parameters Δ_f and N_{ST} are described in Table 79. The resulting waveform is periodic with a period of $T_{\text{FFT}} = 1/\Delta_f$. Shifting the time by T_{GUARD} creates the “circular prefix” used in OFDM to avoid ISI from the previous frame. Three kinds of T_{GUARD} are defined: for the short training sequence ($= 0 \mu\text{s}$), for the long training sequence ($= T_{\text{GI2}}$), and for data OFDM symbols ($= T_{\text{GI}}$). (Refer to Table 79.) The boundaries of the subframe are set by a multiplication by a time-windowing function, $w_{\text{TSUBFRAME}}(t)$, which is defined as a rectangular pulse, $w_T(t)$, of duration T , accepting the value T_{SUBFRAME} . The time-windowing function, $w_T(t)$, depending on the value of the duration parameter, T , may extend over more than one period, T_{FFT} . In particular, window functions that extend over multiple periods of the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) are utilized in the definition of the preamble. Figure 108 illustrates the possibility of extending the windowing function over more than one period, T_{FFT} , and additionally shows smoothed transitions by application of a windowing function, as exemplified in Equation (4). In particular, window functions that extend over multiple periods of the FFT are utilized in the definition of the preamble.

$$w_T(t) = \begin{cases} \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}(0.5 + t/T_{TR})\right) & (-T_{TR}/2 < t < T_{TR}/2) \\ 1 & (T_{TR}/2 \leq t < T - T_{TR}/2) \\ \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}(0.5 - (t-T)/T_{TR})\right) & (T - T_{TR}/2 \leq t < T + T_{TR}/2) \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

In the case of vanishing T_{TR} , the windowing function degenerates into a rectangular pulse of duration T . The normative specifications of generating the transmitted waveforms shall utilize the rectangular pulse shape. In implementation, higher T_{TR} is typically implemented in order to smooth the transitions between the consecutive subsections. This creates a small overlap between them, of duration T_{TR} , as shown in Figure 108. The transition time, T_{TR} , is about 100 ns. Smoothing the transition is required in order to reduce the spectral side-lobes of the transmitted waveform. However, the binding requirements are the spectral mask and modulation accuracy requirements, as detailed in 17.3.9.2 and 17.3.9.6. Time domain windowing, as described here, is just one way to achieve those objectives. The implementor may use other methods to achieve the same goal, such as frequency domain filtering. Therefore, the transition shape and duration of the transition are informative parameters.

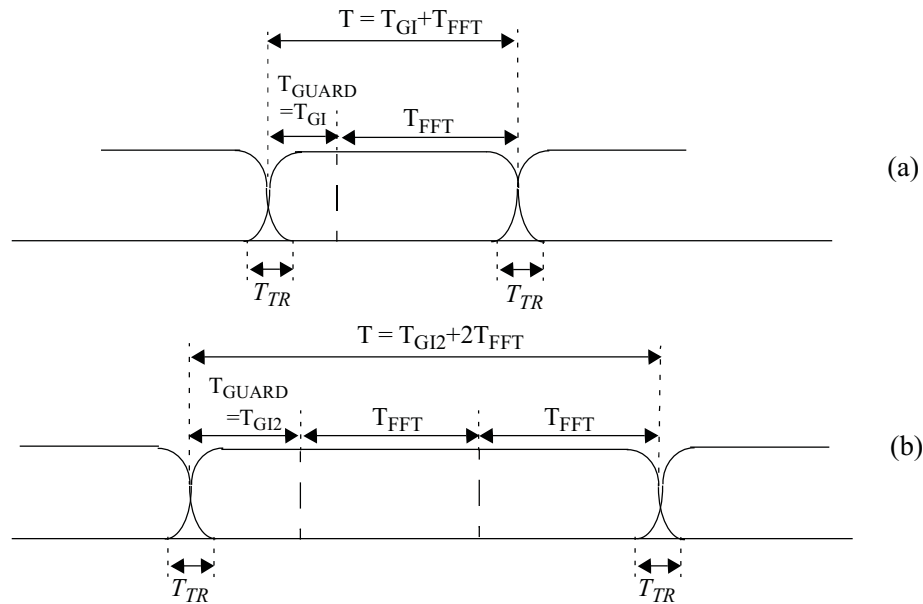


Figure 108—Illustration of OFDM frame with cyclic extension and windowing for (a) single reception or (b) two receptions of the FFT period

17.3.2.5 Discrete time implementation considerations

The following descriptions of the discrete time implementation are informational.

In a typical implementation, the windowing function will be represented in discrete time. As an example, when a windowing function with parameters $T = 4.0 \mu s$ and a $T_{TR} = 100 ns$ is applied, and the signal is sampled at 20 Msamples/s, it becomes

$$w_T[n] = w_T(nT_s) = \begin{cases} 1 & 1 \leq n \leq 79 \\ 0.5 & 0, 80 \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

The common way to implement the inverse Fourier transform, as shown in Equation (3), is by an inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT) algorithm. If, for example, a 64-point IFFT is used, the coefficients 1 to 26 are mapped to the same numbered IFFT inputs, while the coefficients -26 to -1 are copied into IFFT inputs

Null	0	0
#1	1	1
#2	2	2
.	.	.
#26	26	26
Null	27	27
Null	.	.
Null	37	37
#-26	38	38
.	.	.
.	.	.
#-2	62	62
#-1	63	63

Time Domain Outputs

Figure 109—Inputs and outputs of IDFT

Timing diagram of the proposed receiver architecture. The diagram shows a sequence of operations over time. The first 16 μs ($8 + 8 \mu\text{s}$) is divided into two 8 μs intervals ($10 \times 0.8 \mu\text{s}$ and $2 \times 0.8 + 2 \times 3.2 \mu\text{s}$). This is followed by a 4.0 μs interval ($0.8 + 3.2 \mu\text{s}$) for RATE LENGTH, and another 4.0 μs interval ($0.8 + 3.2 \mu\text{s}$) for SERVICE + DATA. The final 4.0 μs interval ($0.8 + 3.2 \mu\text{s}$) is for DATA. The operations are: Signal Detect, AGC, Diversity Selection (0-8 μs); Coarse Freq. Offset Estimation Timing Synchronize (8-16 μs); Channel and Fine Frequency Offset Estimation (16-20 μs); RATE LENGTH (20-24 μs); SERVICE + DATA (24-28 μs); and DATA (28-32 μs).

$$S_{-26, 26} = \sqrt{(13/6)} \times \{0, 0, 1+j, 0, 0, 0, -1-j, 0, 0, 0, 1+j, 0, 0, 0, -1-j, 0, 0, 0, -1-j, 0, 0, 0, 1+j, 0, 0, 0, 0, \\ 0, 0, 0, -1-j, 0, 0, 0, -1-j, 0, 0, 0, 1+j, 0, 0, 0, 1+j, 0, 0, 0, 1+j, 0, 0, 0, 1+j, 0, 0\} \quad (6)$$

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The signal shall be generated according to the following equation:

$$r_{SHORT}(t) = w_{TSHORT}(t) \sum_{k=-N_{ST}/2}^{N_{ST}/2} S_k \exp(j2\pi k \Delta_F t) \quad (7)$$

The fact that only spectral lines of $S_{-26:26}$ with indices that are a multiple of 4 have nonzero amplitude results in a periodicity of $T_{FFT}/4 = 0.8 \mu\text{s}$. The interval T_{SHORT} is equal to ten $0.8 \mu\text{s}$ periods (i.e., $8 \mu\text{s}$).

Generation of the short training sequence is illustrated in Annex G (G.3.1, Table G.2).

A long OFDM training symbol consists of 53 subcarriers (including a zero value at dc), which are modulated by the elements of the sequence L , given by

$$L_{-26:26} = \{1, 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 0, \\ 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 1\} \quad (8)$$

A long OFDM training symbol shall be generated according to the following equation:

$$r_{LONG}(t) = w_{TLONG}(t) \sum_{k=-N_{ST}/2}^{N_{ST}/2} L_k \exp(j2\pi k \Delta_F (t - T_{G12})) \quad (9)$$

where

$$T_{G12} = 1.6 \mu\text{s}.$$

Two periods of the long sequence are transmitted for improved channel estimation accuracy, yielding $T_{LONG} = 1.6 + 2 \times 3.2 = 8 \mu\text{s}$.

An illustration of the long training sequence generation is given in Annex G (G.3.2, Table G.5).

The sections of short repetitions and long repetitions shall be concatenated to form the preamble

$$r_{PREAMBLE}(t) = r_{SHORT}(t) + r_{LONG}(t - T_{SHORT}) \quad (10)$$

17.3.4 Signal field (SIGNAL)

The OFDM training symbols shall be followed by the SIGNAL field, which contains the RATE and the LENGTH fields of the TXVECTOR. The RATE field conveys information about the type of modulation and the coding rate as used in the rest of the packet. The encoding of the SIGNAL single OFDM symbol shall be performed with BPSK modulation of the subcarriers and using convolutional coding at $R = 1/2$. The encoding procedure, which includes convolutional encoding, interleaving, modulation mapping processes, pilot insertion, and OFDM modulation, follows the steps described in 17.3.5.5, 17.3.5.6, and 17.3.5.8, as used for transmission of data at a 6 Mbit/s rate. The contents of the SIGNAL field are not scrambled.

The SIGNAL field shall be composed of 24 bits, as illustrated in Figure 111. The four bits 0 to 3 shall encode the RATE. Bit 4 shall be reserved for future use. Bits 5–16 shall encode the LENGTH field of the TXVECTOR, with the least significant bit (LSB) being transmitted first.

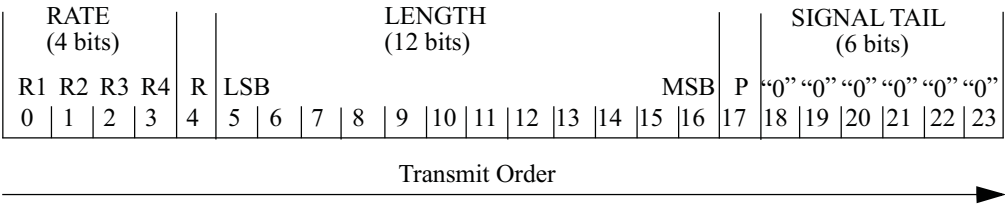


Figure 111—SIGNAL field bit assignment

The process of generating the SIGNAL OFDM symbol is illustrated in Annex G (G.4).

17.3.4.1 Data rate (RATE)

The bits R1–R4 shall be set, dependent on RATE, according to the values in Table 80.

Table 80—Contents of the SIGNAL field

Rate (Mbits/s)	R1–R4
6	1101
9	1111
12	0101
18	0111
24	1001
36	1011
48	0001
54	0011

17.3.4.2 PLCP length field (LENGTH)

The PLCP length field shall be an unsigned 12-bit integer that indicates the number of octets in the PSDU that the MAC is currently requesting the PHY to transmit. This value is used by the PHY to determine the number of octet transfers that will occur between the MAC and the PHY after receiving a request to start transmission. The transmitted value shall be determined from the LENGTH parameter in the TXVECTOR issued with the PHY-TXSTART.request primitive described in 12.3.5.4 (IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition). The LSB shall be transmitted first in time. This field shall be encoded by the convolutional encoder described in 17.3.5.5.

17.3.4.3 Parity (P), Reserved (R), and Signal tail (SIGNAL TAIL)

Bit 4 shall be reserved for future use. Bit 17 shall be a positive parity (even parity) bit for bits 0–16. The bits 18–23 constitute the SIGNAL TAIL field, and all 6 bits shall be set to zero.

17.3.5 DATA field

The DATA field contains the SERVICE field, the PSDU, the TAIL bits, and the PAD bits, if needed, as described in 17.3.5.2 and 17.3.5.4. All bits in the DATA field are scrambled, as described in 17.3.5.4.

17.3.5.1 Service field (SERVICE)

The IEEE 802.11 SERVICE field has 16 bits, which shall be denoted as bits 0–15. The bit 0 shall be transmitted first in time. The bits from 0–6 of the SERVICE field, which are transmitted first, are set to zeros and are used to synchronize the descrambler in the receiver. The remaining 9 bits (7–15) of the SERVICE field shall be reserved for future use. All reserved bits shall be set to zero. Refer to Figure 112.

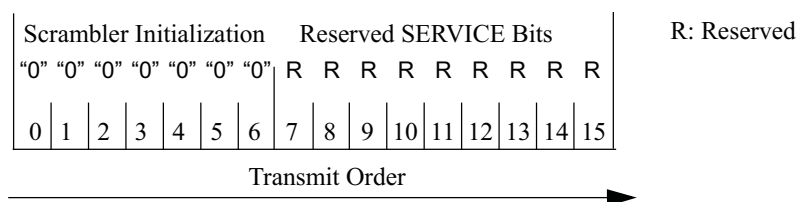


Figure 112—SERVICE field bit assignment

17.3.5.2 PPDU tail bit field (TAIL)

The PPDU tail bit field shall be six bits of “0,” which are required to return the convolutional encoder to the “zero state.” This procedure improves the error probability of the convolutional decoder, which relies on future bits when decoding and which may be not be available past the end of the message. The PLCP tail bit field shall be produced by replacing six scrambled “zero” bits following the message end with six nonscrambled “zero” bits.

17.3.5.4 Pad bits (PAD)

The number of bits in the DATA field shall be a multiple of N_{CBPS} , the number of coded bits in an OFDM symbol (48, 96, 192, or 288 bits). To achieve that, the length of the message is extended so that it becomes a multiple of N_{DBPS} , the number of data bits per OFDM symbol. At least 6 bits are appended to the message, in order to accommodate the TAIL bits, as described in 17.3.5.2. The number of OFDM symbols, N_{SYM} ; the number of bits in the DATA field, N_{DATA} ; and the number of pad bits, N_{PAD} , are computed from the length of the PSDU (LENGTH) as follows:

$$N_{SYM} = \text{Ceiling}((16 + 8 \times \text{LENGTH} + 6)/N_{DBPS}) \quad (11)$$

$$N_{DATA} = N_{SYM} \times N_{DBPS} \quad (12)$$

$$N_{PAD} = N_{DATA} - (16 + 8 \times \text{LENGTH} + 6) \quad (13)$$

The function ceiling (.) is a function that returns the smallest integer value greater than or equal to its argument value. The appended bits (“pad bits”) are set to “zeros” and are subsequently scrambled with the rest of the bits in the DATA field.

An example of a DATA field that contains the SERVICE field, DATA, tail, and pad bits is given in Annex G (G.5.1).

17.3.5.4 PLCP DATA scrambler and descrambler

The DATA field, composed of SERVICE, PSDU, tail, and pad parts, shall be scrambled with a length-127 frame-synchronous scrambler. The octets of the PSDU are placed in the transmit serial bit stream, bit 0 first and bit 7 last. The frame synchronous scrambler uses the generator polynomial $S(x)$ as follows, and is illustrated in Figure 113:

$$S(x) = x^7 + x^4 + 1 \quad (14)$$

The 127-bit sequence generated repeatedly by the scrambler shall be (leftmost used first), 00001110 11110010 11001001 00000010 00100110 00101110 10110110 00001100 11010100 11100111 10110100 00101010 11111010 01010001 10111000 11111111, when the “all ones” initial state is used. The same scrambler is used to scramble transmit data and to descramble receive data. When transmitting, the initial state of the scrambler will be set to a pseudo random non-zero state. The seven LSBs of the SERVICE field will be set to all zeros prior to scrambling to enable estimation of the initial state of the scrambler in the receiver.

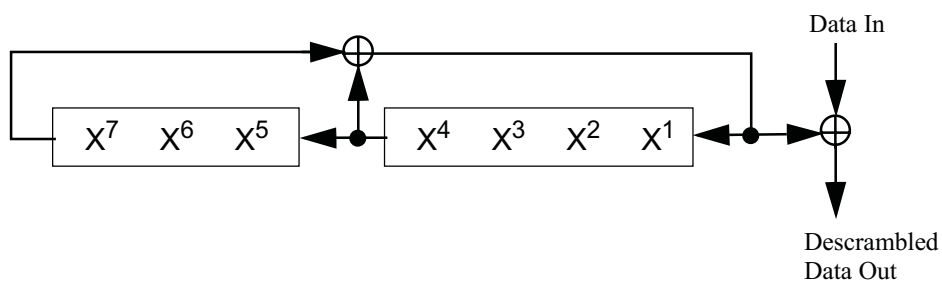


Figure 113—Data scrambler

An example of the scrambler output is illustrated in Annex G (G.5.2).

17.3.5.5 Convolutional encoder

The DATA field, composed of SERVICE, PSDU, tail, and pad parts, shall be coded with a convolutional encoder of coding rate $R = 1/2$, $2/3$, or $3/4$, corresponding to the desired data rate. The convolutional encoder shall use the industry-standard generator polynomials, $g_0 = 133_8$ and $g_1 = 171_8$, of rate $R = 1/2$, as shown in Figure 114. The bit denoted as “A” shall be output from the encoder before the bit denoted as “B.” Higher rates are derived from it by employing “puncturing.” Puncturing is a procedure for omitting some of the encoded bits in the transmitter (thus reducing the number of transmitted bits and increasing the coding rate) and inserting a dummy “zero” metric into the convolutional decoder on the receive side in place of the omitted bits. The puncturing patterns are illustrated in Figure 115. Decoding by the Viterbi algorithm is recommended.

An example of encoding operation is shown in Annex G (G.6.1).

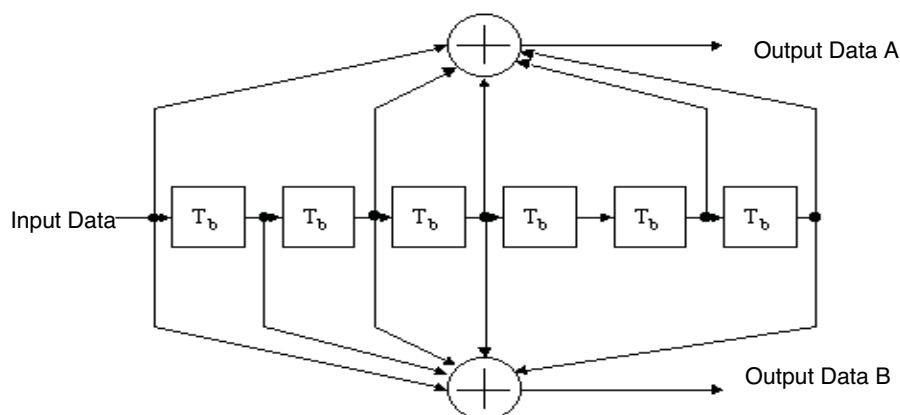


Figure 114—Convolutional encoder ($k = 7$)

17.3.5.6 Data interleaving

All encoded data bits shall be interleaved by a block interleaver with a block size corresponding to the number of bits in a single OFDM symbol, N_{CBPS} . The interleaver is defined by a two-step permutation. The first permutation ensures that adjacent coded bits are mapped onto nonadjacent subcarriers. The second ensures that adjacent coded bits are mapped alternately onto less and more significant bits of the constellation and, thereby, long runs of low reliability (LSB) bits are avoided.

We shall denote by k the index of the coded bit before the first permutation; i shall be the index after the first and before the second permutation, and j shall be the index after the second permutation, just prior to modulation mapping.

The first permutation is defined by the rule

$$i = (N_{CBPS}/16) (k \bmod 16) + \text{floor}(k/16) \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, N_{CBPS} - 1 \quad (15)$$

The function $\text{floor}(\cdot)$ denotes the largest integer not exceeding the parameter.

The second permutation is defined by the rule

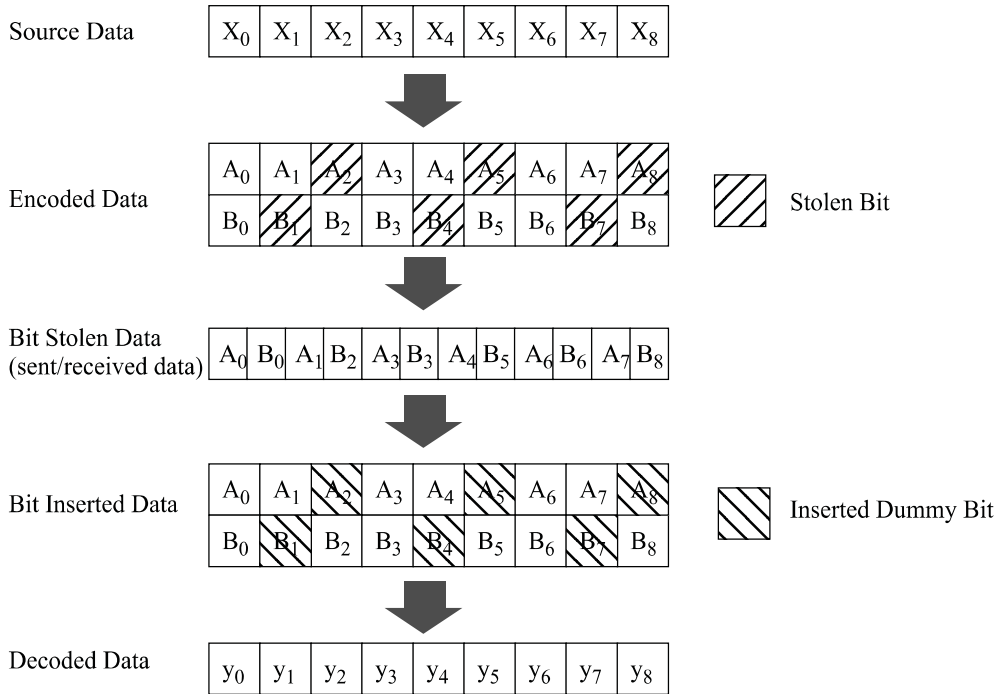
$$j = s \times \text{floor}(i/s) + (i + N_{CBPS} - \text{floor}(16 \times i/N_{CBPS})) \bmod s \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, N_{CBPS} - 1 \quad (16)$$

The value of s is determined by the number of coded bits per subcarrier, N_{BPSC} , according to

$$s = \max(N_{BPSC}/2, 1) \quad (17)$$

The deinterleaver, which performs the inverse relation, is also defined by two permutations.

Punctured Coding ($r = 3/4$)



Punctured Coding ($r = 2/3$)

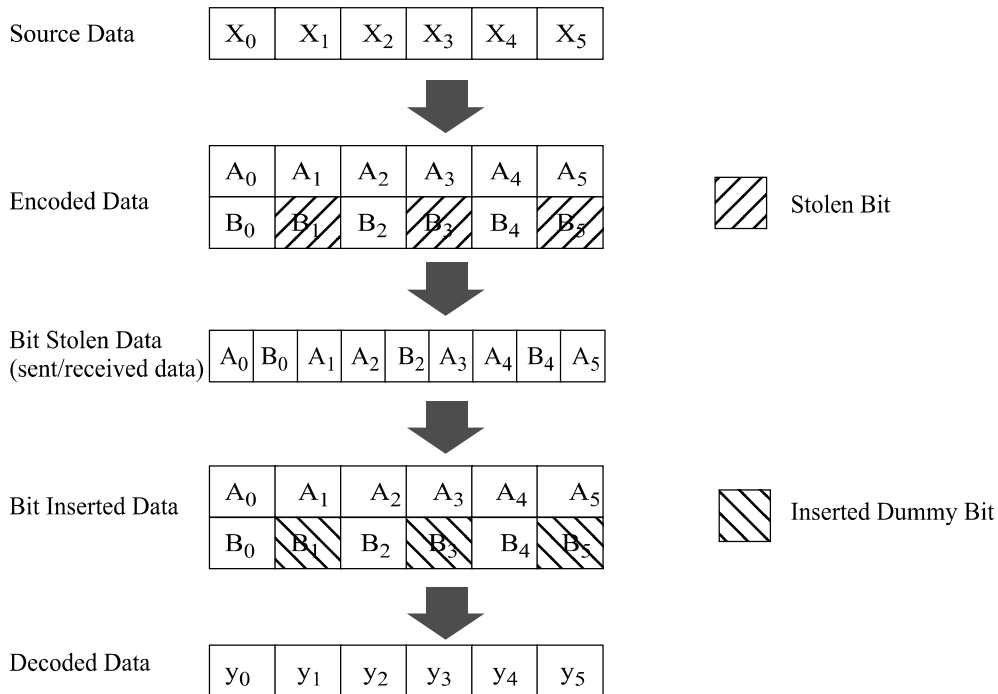


Figure 115—An example of the bit-stealing and bit-insertion procedure ($r = 3/4, 2/3$)

Here we shall denote by j the index of the original received bit before the first permutation; i shall be the index after the first and before the second permutation, and k shall be the index after the second permutation, just prior to delivering the coded bits to the convolutional (Viterbi) decoder.

The first permutation is defined by the rule

$$i = s \times \text{floor}(j/s) + (j + \text{floor}(16 \times j/N_{\text{CBPS}})) \bmod s \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, N_{\text{CBPS}} - 1 \quad (18)$$

where

s is defined in Equation (17).

This permutation is the inverse of the permutation described in Equation (16).

The second permutation is defined by the rule

$$k = 16 \times i - (N_{\text{CBPS}} - 1) \text{floor}(16 \times i/N_{\text{CBPS}}) \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, N_{\text{CBPS}} - 1 \quad (19)$$

This permutation is the inverse of the permutation described in Equation (15).

An example of interleaving operation is illustrated in Annex G (G.6.2).

17.3.5.7 Subcarrier modulation mapping

The OFDM subcarriers shall be modulated by using BPSK, QPSK, 16-QAM, or 64-QAM modulation, depending on the RATE requested. The encoded and interleaved binary serial input data shall be divided into groups of N_{BPSK} (1, 2, 4, or 6) bits and converted into complex numbers representing BPSK, QPSK, 16-QAM, or 64-QAM constellation points. The conversion shall be performed according to Gray-coded constellation mappings, illustrated in Figure 116, with the input bit, b_0 , being the earliest in the stream. The output values, d , are formed by multiplying the resulting $(I+jQ)$ value by a normalization factor K_{MOD} , as described in Equation (20).

$$d = (I + jQ) \times K_{\text{MOD}} \quad (20)$$

The normalization factor, K_{MOD} , depends on the base modulation mode, as prescribed in Table 81. Note that the modulation type can be different from the start to the end of the transmission, as the signal changes from SIGNAL to DATA, as shown in Figure 107. The purpose of the normalization factor is to achieve the same average power for all mappings. In practical implementations, an approximate value of the normalization factor can be used, as long as the device conforms with the modulation accuracy requirements described in 17.3.9.6.

Table 81 — Modulation-dependent normalization factor K_{MOD}

Modulation	K_{MOD}
BPSK	1
QPSK	$1/\sqrt{2}$
16-QAM	$1/\sqrt{10}$
64-QAM	$1/\sqrt{42}$

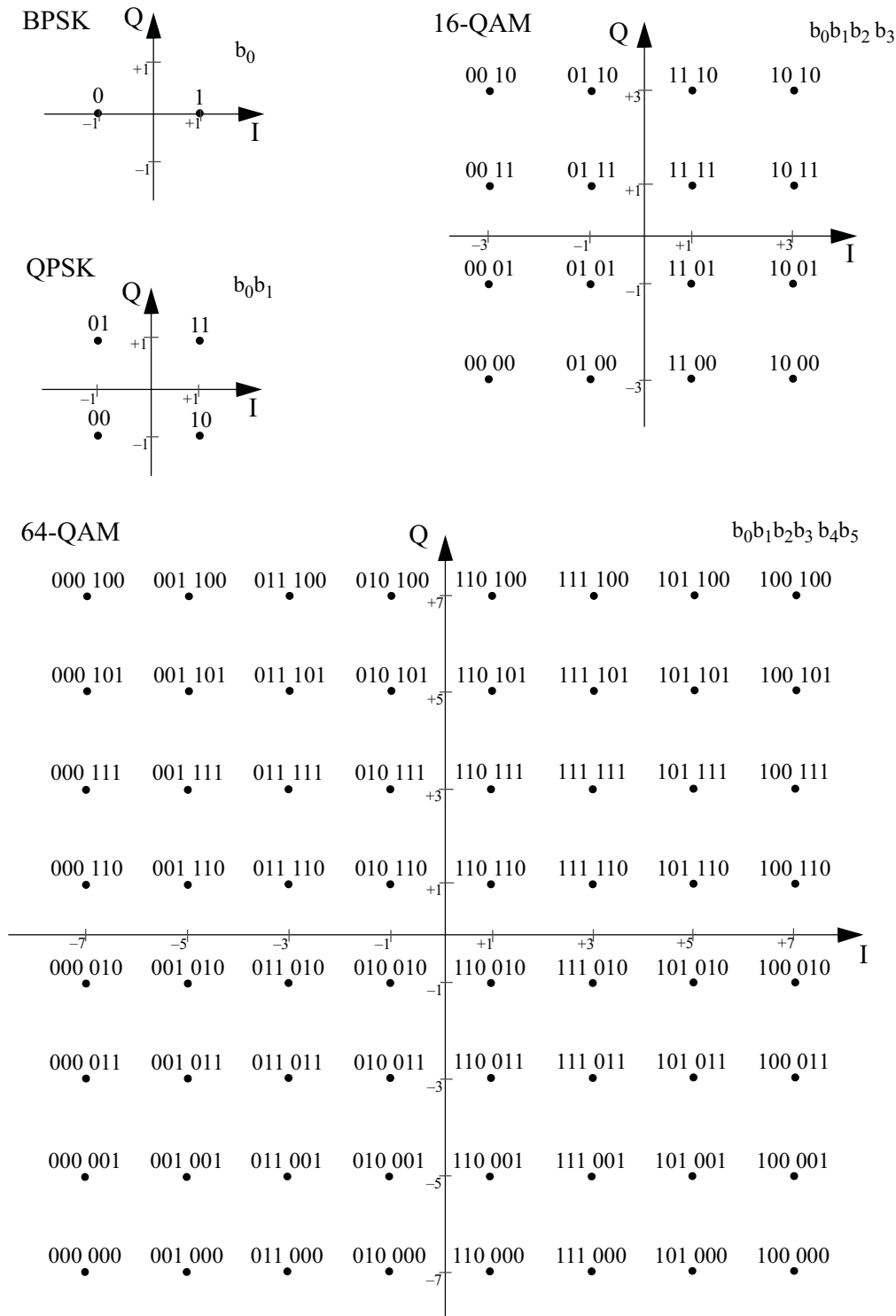


Figure 116—BPSK, QPSK, 16-QAM, and 64-QAM constellation bit encoding

For BPSK, b_0 determines the I value, as illustrated in Table 82. For QPSK, b_0 determines the I value and b_1 determines the Q value, as illustrated in Table 83. For 16-QAM, b_0b_1 determines the I value and b_2b_3 determines the Q value, as illustrated in Table 84. For 64-QAM, $b_0b_1b_2$ determines the I value and $b_3b_4b_5$ determines the Q value, as illustrated in Table 85.

Table 82—BPSK encoding table

Input bit (b_0)	I-out	Q-out
0	−1	0
1	1	0

Table 83—QPSK encoding table

Input bit (b_0)	I-out	Input bit (b_1)	Q-out
0	−1	0	−1
1	1	1	1

Table 84—16-QAM encoding table

Input bits ($b_0 b_1$)	I-out	Input bits ($b_2 b_3$)	Q-out
00	−3	00	−3
01	−1	01	−1
11	1	11	1
10	3	10	3

Table 85—64-QAM encoding table

Input bits ($b_0 b_1 b_2$)	I-out	Input bits ($b_3 b_4 b_5$)	Q-out
000	−7	000	−7
001	−5	001	−5
011	−3	011	−3
010	−1	010	−1
110	1	110	1
111	3	111	3
101	5	101	5
100	7	100	7

17.3.5.8 Pilot subcarriers

In each OFDM symbol, four of the subcarriers are dedicated to pilot signals in order to make the coherent detection robust against frequency offsets and phase noise. These pilot signals shall be put in subcarriers $-21, -7, 7$ and 21 . The pilots shall be BPSK modulated by a pseudo binary sequence to prevent the generation of spectral lines. The contribution of the pilot subcarriers to each OFDM symbol is described in 17.3.5.9.

17.3.5.9 OFDM modulation

The stream of complex numbers is divided into groups of $N_{SD} = 48$ complex numbers. We shall denote this by writing the complex number $d_{k,n}$, which corresponds to subcarrier k of OFDM symbol n , as follows:

$$d_{k,n} = d_{k + N_{SD} \times n}, \quad k = 0, \dots, N_{SD} - 1, n = 0, \dots, N_{SYM} - 1 \quad (21)$$

The number of OFDM symbols, N_{SYM} , was introduced in 7.3.5.3.

An OFDM symbol, $r_{DATA,n}(t)$, is defined as

$$r_{DATA,n}(t) = w_{TSYM}(t) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{N_{SD}-1} d_{k,n} \exp(j2\pi M(k) \Delta_F(t - T_{GI})) \right. \\ \left. + p_{n+1} \sum_{k=-N_{ST}/2}^{N_{ST}/2} P_k \exp(j2\pi k \Delta_F(t - T_{GI})) \right) \quad (22)$$

where the function, $M(k)$, defines a mapping from the logical subcarrier number 0 to 47 into frequency offset index -26 to 26 , while skipping the pilot subcarrier locations and the 0^{th} (dc) subcarrier.

$$M(k) = \begin{cases} k - 26 & 0 \leq k \leq 4 \\ k - 25 & 5 \leq k \leq 17 \\ k - 24 & 18 \leq k \leq 23 \\ k - 23 & 24 \leq k \leq 29 \\ k - 22 & 30 \leq k \leq 42 \\ k - 21 & 43 \leq k \leq 47 \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

The contribution of the pilot subcarriers for the n^{th} OFDM symbol is produced by Fourier transform of sequence P , given by

$$P_{-26,26} = \{0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \\ 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0\} \quad (24)$$

The polarity of the pilot subcarriers is controlled by the sequence, p_n , which is a cyclic extension of the 127 elements sequence and is given by

$$p_{0..126v} = \{1,1,1,1, -1,-1,-1,1, -1,-1,-1,-1, 1,1,-1,1, -1,-1,1,1, -1,1,1,-1, 1,1,1,1, 1,1,-1,1, \\ 1,1,-1,1, 1,-1,-1,1, 1,1,-1,1, -1,-1,-1,1, -1,1,-1,-1, 1,-1,-1,1, 1,1,1,1, -1,-1,1,1, \\ -1,-1,1,-1, 1,-1,1,1, -1,-1,-1,1, 1,-1,-1,-1, -1,1,-1,-1, 1,-1,1,1, 1,1,-1,1, -1,1,-1,1, \\ -1,-1,-1,-1, -1,1,-1,1, 1,-1,1,-1, 1,1,1,-1, -1,1,-1,-1, -1,1,1,1, -1,-1,-1,-1, -1,-1,-1\} \quad (25)$$

The sequence, p_n , can be generated by the scrambler defined by Figure 113 when the “all ones” initial state is used, and by replacing all “1’s” with -1 and all “0’s” with 1. Each sequence element is used for one OFDM symbol. The first element, p_0 , multiplies the pilot subcarriers of the SIGNAL symbol, while the elements from p_1 on are used for the DATA symbols.

The subcarrier frequency allocation is shown in Figure 117. To avoid difficulties in D/A and A/D converter offsets and carrier feedthrough in the RF system, the subcarrier falling at DC (0^{th} subcarrier) is not used.

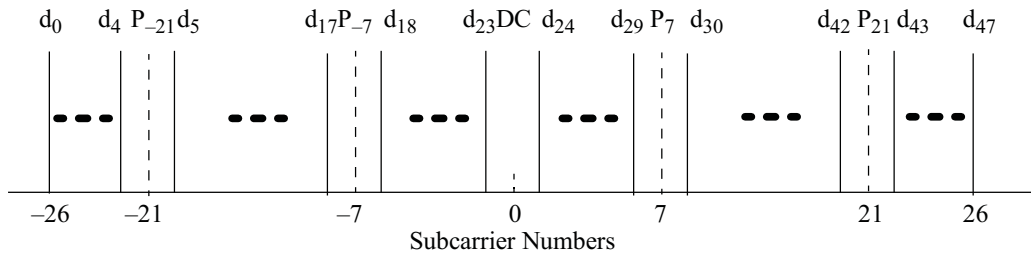


Figure 117—Subcarrier frequency allocation

The concatenation of N_{SYM} OFDM symbols can now be written as

$$r_{DATA}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{N_{SYM}-1} r_{DATA,n}(t - nT_{SYM}) \quad (26)$$

An example of mapping into symbols is shown in Annex G (G.6.3), as well as the scrambling of the pilot signals (G.7). The final output of these operations is also shown in Annex G (G.8).

17.3.6 Clear channel assessment (CCA)

PLCP shall provide the capability to perform CCA and report the result to the MAC. The CCA mechanism shall detect a “medium busy” condition with a performance specified in 17.3.10.5. This medium status report is indicated by the primitive PHY_CCA.indicate.

17.3.7 PLCP data modulation and modulation rate change

The PLCP preamble shall be transmitted using an OFDM modulated fixed waveform. The IEEE 802.11 SIGNAL field, BPSK-OFDM modulated at 6 Mbit/s, shall indicate the modulation and coding rate that shall be used to transmit the MPDU. The transmitter (receiver) shall initiate the modulation (demodulation) constellation and the coding rate according to the RATE indicated in the SIGNAL field. The MPDU transmission rate shall be set by the DATARATE parameter in the TXVECTOR, issued with the PHY-TXSTART.request primitive described in 17.2.2.

17.3.8 PMD operating specifications (general)

Subclauses 17.3.8.1 through 17.3.8.8 provide general specifications for the BPSK OFDM, QPSK OFDM, 16-QAM OFDM, and 64-QAM OFDM PMD sublayers. These specifications apply to both the receive and transmit functions and general operation of the OFDM PHY.

17.3.8.1 Outline description

The general block diagram of the transmitter and receiver for the OFDM PHY is shown in Figure 118. Major specifications for the OFDM PHY are listed in Table 86.

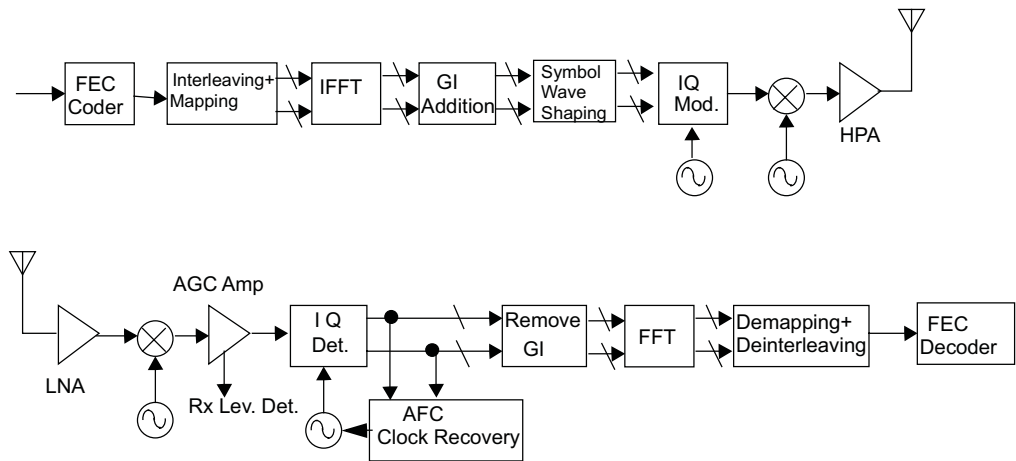


Figure 118—Transmitter and receiver block diagram for the OFDM PHY

Table 86—Major parameters of the OFDM PHY

Information data rate	6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48 and 54 Mbit/s (6, 12 and 24 Mbit/s are mandatory)
Modulation	BPSK OFDM QPSK OFDM 16-QAM OFDM 64-QAM OFDM
Error correcting code	K = 7 (64 states) convolutional code
Coding rate	1/2, 2/3, 3/4
Number of subcarriers	52
OFDM symbol duration	4.0 μ s
Guard interval	0.8 μ s ^a (T_{GI})
Occupied bandwidth	16.6 MHz

^aRefer to 17.3.2.4.

17.3.8.2 Regulatory requirements

Wireless LANs implemented in accordance with this standard are subject to equipment certification and operating requirements established by regional and national regulatory administrations. The PMD specification establishes minimum technical requirements for interoperability, based upon established regulations at the time this standard was issued. These regulations are subject to revision, or may be superseded. Requirements that are subject to local geographic regulations are annotated within the PMD specification. Regulatory requirements that do not affect interoperability are not addressed in this standard. Implementors are referred to the regulatory sources in Table 87 for further information. Operation in countries within defined regulatory domains may be subject to additional or alternative national regulations.

The documents listed in Table 87 specify the current regulatory requirements for various geographic areas at the time this standard was developed. They are provided for information only, and are subject to change or revision at any time.

Table 87—Regulatory requirement list

Geographic area	Approval standards	Documents	Approval authority
United States	Federal Communications Commission (FCC)	CFR47, Part 15, sections 15.205 and 15.209; and Subpart E, sections 15.401–15.407	FCC

17.3.8.3 Operating channel frequencies

17.3.8.3.1 Operating frequency range

The OFDM PHY shall operate in the 5 GHz band, as allocated by a regulatory body in its operational region. Spectrum allocation in the 5 GHz band is subject to authorities responsible for geographic-specific regulatory domains (e.g., global, regional, and national). The particular channelization to be used for this standard is dependent on such allocation, as well as the associated regulations for use of the allocations. These regulations are subject to revision, or may be superseded. In the United States, the FCC is the agency responsible for the allocation of the 5 GHz U-NII bands.

In some regulatory domains, several frequency bands may be available for OFDM PHY-based wireless LANs. These bands may be contiguous or not, and different regulatory limits may be applicable. A compliant OFDM PHY shall support at least one frequency band in at least one regulatory domain. The support of specific regulatory domains, and bands within the domains, shall be indicated by PLME attributes dot11 RegDomainsSupported and dot11 FrequencyBandsSupported.

17.3.8.3.2 Channel numbering

Channel center frequencies are defined at every integral multiple of 5 MHz above 5 GHz. The relationship between center frequency and channel number is given by the following equation:

$$\text{Channel center frequency} = 5000 + 5 \times n_{\text{ch}} \text{ (MHz)} \quad (27)$$

where

$$n_{\text{ch}} = 0, 1, \dots, 200.$$

This definition provides a unique numbering system for all channels with 5 MHz spacing from 5 GHz to 6 GHz, as well as the flexibility to define channelization sets for all current and future regulatory domains.

17.3.8.3.3 Channelization

The set of valid operating channel numbers by regulatory domain is defined in Table 88.

Table 88—Valid operating channel numbers by regulatory domain and band

Regulatory domain	Band (GHz)	Operating channel numbers	Channel center frequencies (MHz)
United States	U-NII lower band (5.15–5.25)	36	5180
		40	5200
		44	5220
		48	5240
United States	U-NII middle band (5.25–5.35)	52	5260
		56	5280
		60	5300
		64	5320
United States	U-NII upper band (5.725–5.825)	149	5745
		153	5765
		157	5785
		161	5805

Figure 119 shows the channelization scheme for this standard, which shall be used with the FCC U-NII frequency allocation. The lower and middle U-NII sub-bands accommodate eight channels in a total bandwidth of 200 MHz. The upper U-NII band accommodates four channels in a 100 MHz bandwidth. The centers of the outermost channels shall be at a distance of 30 MHz from the band's edges for the lower and middle U-NII bands, and 20 MHz for the upper U-NII band.

The OFDM PHY shall operate in the 5 GHz band, as allocated by a regulatory body in its operational region.

The center frequency is indicated in Figure 119; however, no subcarrier is allocated on the center frequency as described in Figure 117.

In a multiple cell network topology, overlapping and/or adjacent cells using different channels can operate simultaneously.

17.3.8.4 Transmit and receive in-band and out-of-band spurious emissions

The OFDM PHY shall conform to in-band and out-of-band spurious emissions as set by regulatory bodies. For the United States, refer to FCC 15.407.

17.3.8.5 TX RF delay

The TX RF delay time shall be defined as the time between the issuance of a PMD.DATA.request to the PMD and the start of the corresponding symbol at the air interface.

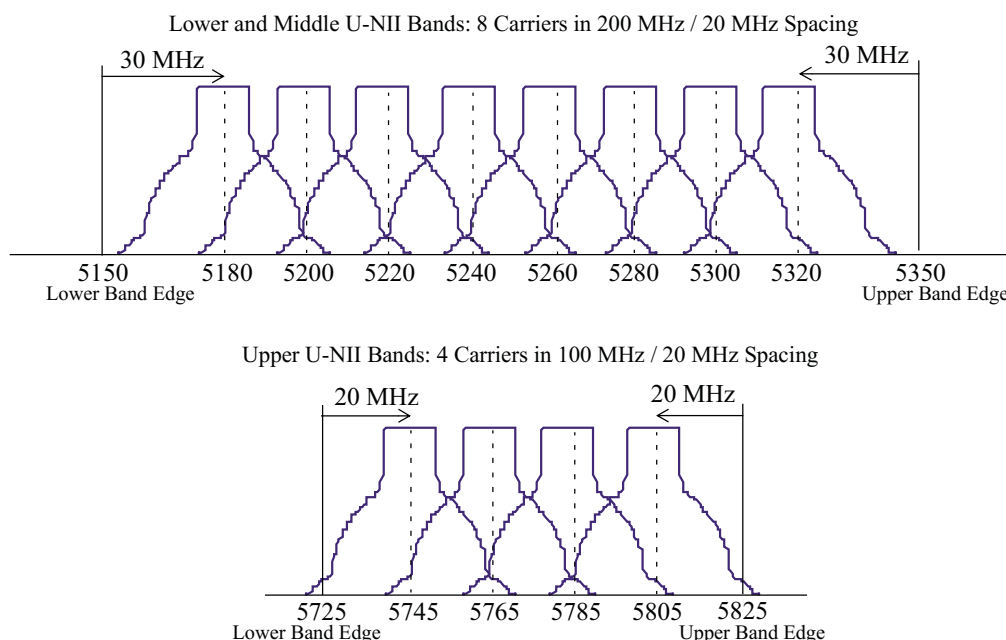


Figure 119—OFDM PHY frequency channel plan for the United States

17.3.8.6 Slot time

The slot time for the OFDM PHY shall be 9 μ s, which is the sum of the RX-to-TX turnaround time, MAC processing delay, and CCA detect time (< 4 μ s). The propagation delay shall be regarded as being included in the CCA detect time.

17.3.8.7 Transmit and receive antenna port impedance

The transmit and receive antenna port(s) impedance shall be 50 Ω if the port is exposed.

17.3.8.8 Transmit and receive operating temperature range

Three temperature ranges for full operation compliance to the OFDM PHY are specified in Clause 13 of IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition. Type 1, defined as 0 $^{\circ}$ C to 40 $^{\circ}$ C, is designated for office environments. Type 2, defined as -20 $^{\circ}$ C to 50 $^{\circ}$ C, and Type 3, defined as -30 $^{\circ}$ C to 70 $^{\circ}$ C, are designated for industrial environments.

17.3.9 PMD transmit specifications

Subclauses 17.3.9.1 through 17.3.9.7 describe the transmit specifications associated with the PMD sublayer. In general, these are specified by primitives from the PLCP, and the transmit PMD entity provides the actual means by which the signals required by the PLCP primitives are imposed onto the medium.

17.3.9.1 Transmit power levels

The maximum allowable output power according to FCC regulations is shown in Table 89.

Table 89—Transmit power levels for the United States

Frequency band (GHz)	Maximum output power with up to 6 dBi antenna gain (mW)
5.15–5.25	40 (2.5 mW/MHz)
5.25–5.35	200 (12.5 mW/MHz)
5.725–5.825	800 (50 mW/MHz)

17.3.9.2 Transmit spectrum mask

The transmitted spectrum shall have a 0 dBr (dB relative to the maximum spectral density of the signal) bandwidth not exceeding 18 MHz, –20 dBr at 11 MHz frequency offset, –28 dBr at 20 MHz frequency offset and –40 dBr at 30 MHz frequency offset and above. The transmitted spectral density of the transmitted signal shall fall within the spectral mask, as shown in Figure 120. The measurements shall be made using a 100 kHz resolution bandwidth and a 30 kHz video bandwidth.

17.3.9.3 Transmission spurious

Spurious transmissions from compliant devices shall conform to national regulations.

17.3.9.4 Transmit center frequency tolerance

The transmitted center frequency tolerance shall be ± 20 ppm maximum. The transmit center frequency and the symbol clock frequency shall be derived from the same reference oscillator.

17.3.9.5 Symbol clock frequency tolerance

The symbol clock frequency tolerance shall be ± 20 ppm maximum. The transmit center frequency and the symbol clock frequency shall be derived from the same reference oscillator.

17.3.9.6 Modulation accuracy

Transmit modulation accuracy specifications are described in this subclause. The test method is described in 17.3.9.7.

17.3.9.6.1 Transmitter center frequency leakage

Certain transmitter implementations may cause leakage of the center frequency component. Such leakage (which manifests itself in a receiver as energy in the center frequency component) shall not exceed –15 dB relative to overall transmitted power or, equivalently, +2 dB relative to the average energy of the rest of the subcarriers. The data for this test shall be derived from the channel estimation phase.

17.3.9.6.2 Transmitter spectral flatness

The average energy of the constellations in each of the spectral lines –16.. –1 and +1.. +16 will deviate no more than ± 2 dB from their average energy. The average energy of the constellations in each of the spectral lines –26.. –17 and +17.. +26 will deviate no more than +2/–4 dB from the average energy of spectral lines –16.. –1 and +1.. +16. The data for this test shall be derived from the channel estimation step.

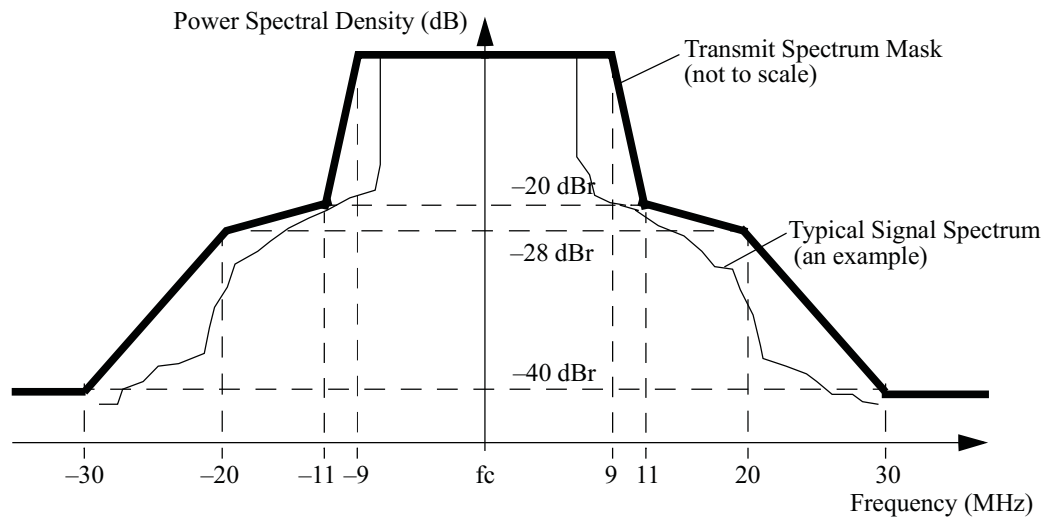


Figure 120—Transmit spectrum mask

17.3.9.6.3 Transmitter constellation error

The relative constellation RMS error, averaged over subcarriers, OFDM frames, and packets, shall not exceed a data-rate dependent value according to Table 90.

Table 90—Allowed relative constellation error versus data rate

Data rate (Mbits/s)	Relative constellation error (dB)
6	–5
9	–8
12	–10
18	–13
24	–16
36	–19
48	–22
54	–25

17.3.9.7 Transmit modulation accuracy test

The transmit modulation accuracy test shall be performed by instrumentation capable of converting the transmitted signal into a stream of complex samples at 20 Msamples/s or more, with sufficient accuracy in terms of I/Q arm amplitude and phase balance, dc offsets, phase noise, etc. A possible embodiment of such a setup is converting the signal to a low IF frequency with a microwave synthesizer, sampling the signal with a digital oscilloscope and decomposing it digitally into quadrature components.

The sampled signal shall be processed in a manner similar to an actual receiver, according to the following steps, or an equivalent procedure:

- a) Start of frame shall be detected.
- b) Transition from short sequences to channel estimation sequences shall be detected, and fine timing (with one sample resolution) shall be established.
- c) Coarse and fine frequency offsets shall be estimated.
- d) The packet shall be derotated according to estimated frequency offset.
- e) The complex channel response coefficients shall be estimated for each of the subcarriers.
- f) For each of the data OFDM symbols: transform the symbol into subcarrier received values, estimate the phase from the pilot subcarriers, derotate the subcarrier values according to estimated phase, and divide each subcarrier value with a complex estimated channel response coefficient.
- g) For each data-carrying subcarrier, find the closest constellation point and compute the Euclidean distance from it.
- h) Compute the RMS average of all errors in a packet. It is given by:

$$Error_{RMS} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_f} \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j=1}^{L_p} \left[\sum_{k=1}^{52} \{ (I(i, j, k) - I_0(i, j, k))^2 + (Q(i, j, k) - Q_0(i, j, k))^2 \} \right]}{52L_p \times P_0}}}{N_f} \quad (28)$$

where

L_p is the length of the packet;

N_f is the number of frames for the measurement;

$(I_0(i, j, k), Q_0(i, j, k))$ denotes the ideal symbol point of the i^{th} frame, j^{th} OFDM symbol of the frame, k^{th} subcarrier of the OFDM symbol in the complex plane;

$(I(i, j, k), Q(i, j, k))$ denotes the observed point of the i^{th} frame, j^{th} OFDM symbol of the frame, k^{th} subcarrier of the OFDM symbol in the complex plane (see Figure 121);

P_0 is the average power of the constellation.

The vector error on a phase plane is shown in Figure 121.

The test shall be performed over at least 20 frames (N_f), and the RMS average shall be taken. The packets under test shall be at least 16 OFDM symbols long. Random data shall be used for the symbols.

17.3.10 PMD receiver specifications

Subclauses 17.3.10.1 through 17.3.10.5 describe the receive specifications associated with the PMD sublayer.

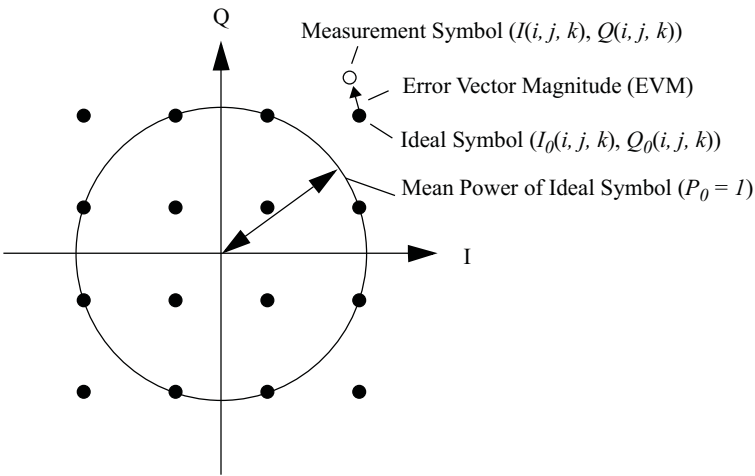


Figure 121—Constellation error

17.3.10.1 Receiver minimum input level sensitivity

The packet error rate (PER) shall be less than 10% at a PSDU length of 1000 bytes for rate-dependent input levels shall be the numbers listed in Table 91 or less. The minimum input levels are measured at the antenna connector (NF of 10 dB and 5 dB implementation margins are assumed).

Table 91—Receiver performance requirements

Data rate (Mbits/s)	Minimum sensitivity (dBm)	Adjacent channel rejection (dB)	Alternate adjacent channel rejection (dB)
6	−82	16	32
9	−81	15	31
12	−79	13	29
18	−77	11	27
24	−74	8	24
36	−70	4	20
48	−66	0	16
54	−65	−1	15

17.3.10.2 Adjacent channel rejection

The adjacent channel rejection shall be measured by setting the desired signal's strength 3 dB above the rate-dependent sensitivity specified in Table 91 and raising the power of the interfering signal until 10% PER is caused for a PSDU length of 1000 bytes. The power difference between the interfering and the desired channel is the corresponding adjacent channel rejection. The interfering signal in the adjacent channel shall

be a conformant OFDM signal, unsynchronized with the signal in the channel under test. For a conformant OFDM PHY the corresponding rejection shall be no less than specified in Table 91.

17.3.10.3 Non-adjacent channel rejection

The non-adjacent channel rejection shall be measured by setting the desired signal's strength 3 dB above the rate-dependent sensitivity specified in Table 91, and raising the power of the interfering signal until a 10% PER occurs for a PSDU length of 1000 bytes. The power difference between the interfering and the desired channel is the corresponding non-adjacent channel rejection. The interfering signal in the non-adjacent channel shall be a conformant OFDM signal, unsynchronized with the signal in the channel under test. For a conformed OFDM PHY, the corresponding rejection shall be no less than specified in Table 91.

17.3.10.4 Receiver maximum input level

The receiver shall provide a maximum PER of 10% at a PSDU length of 1000 bytes, for a maximum input level of -30 dBm measured at the antenna for any baseband modulation.

17.3.10.5 CCA sensitivity

The start of a valid OFDM transmission at a receive level equal to or greater than the minimum 6 Mbit/s sensitivity (-82 dBm) shall cause CCA to indicate busy with a probability >90% within 4 μ s. If the preamble portion was missed, the receiver shall hold the carrier sense (CS) signal busy for any signal 20 dB above the minimum 6 Mbit/s sensitivity (-62 dBm).

17.3.11 PLCP transmit procedure

The PLCP transmit procedure is shown in Figure 122. In order to transmit data, PHY-TXSTART.request shall be enabled so that the PHY entity shall be in the transmit state. Further, the PHY shall be set to operate at the appropriate frequency through station management via the PLME. Other transmit parameters, such as DATARATE and TX power, are set via the PHY-SAP with the PHY-TXSTART.request(TXVECTOR), as described in 17.2.2.

A clear channel shall be indicated by PHY-CCA.indicate (IDLE). The MAC considers this indication before issuing the PHY-TXSTART.request. Transmission of the PPDU shall be initiated after receiving the PHY-TXSTART.request (TXVECTOR) primitive. The TXVECTOR elements for the PHY-TXSTART.request are the PLCP header parameters DATARATE, SERVICE, and LENGTH, and the PMD parameter TXPWR_LEVEL.

The PLCP shall issue PMD_TXPWRLVL and PMD_RATE primitives to configure the PHY. The PLCP shall then issue a PMD_TXSTART.request, and transmission of the PLCP preamble and PLCP header, based on the parameters passed in the PHY-TXSTART.request primitive. Once PLCP preamble transmission is started, the PHY entity shall immediately initiate data scrambling and data encoding. The scrambled and encoded data shall then be exchanged between the MAC and the PHY through a series of PHY-DATA.request (DATA) primitives issued by the MAC, and PHY-DATA.confirm primitives issued by the PHY. The modulation rate change, if any, shall be initiated from the SERVICE field data of the PLCP header, as described in 17.3.2.

The PHY proceeds with PSDU transmission through a series of data octet transfers from the MAC. The PLCP header parameter, SERVICE, and PSDU are encoded by the convolutional encoder with the bit-stealing function described in 17.3.5.5. At the PMD layer, the data octets are sent in bit 0-7 order and presented to the PHY layer through PMD_DATA.request primitives. Transmission can be prematurely terminated by the MAC through the primitive PHY-TXEND.request. PHY-TXSTART shall be disabled by the issuance of the PHY-TXEND.request. Normal termination occurs after the transmission of the final bit of the last PSDU octet, according to the number supplied in the OFDM PHY preamble LENGTH field.

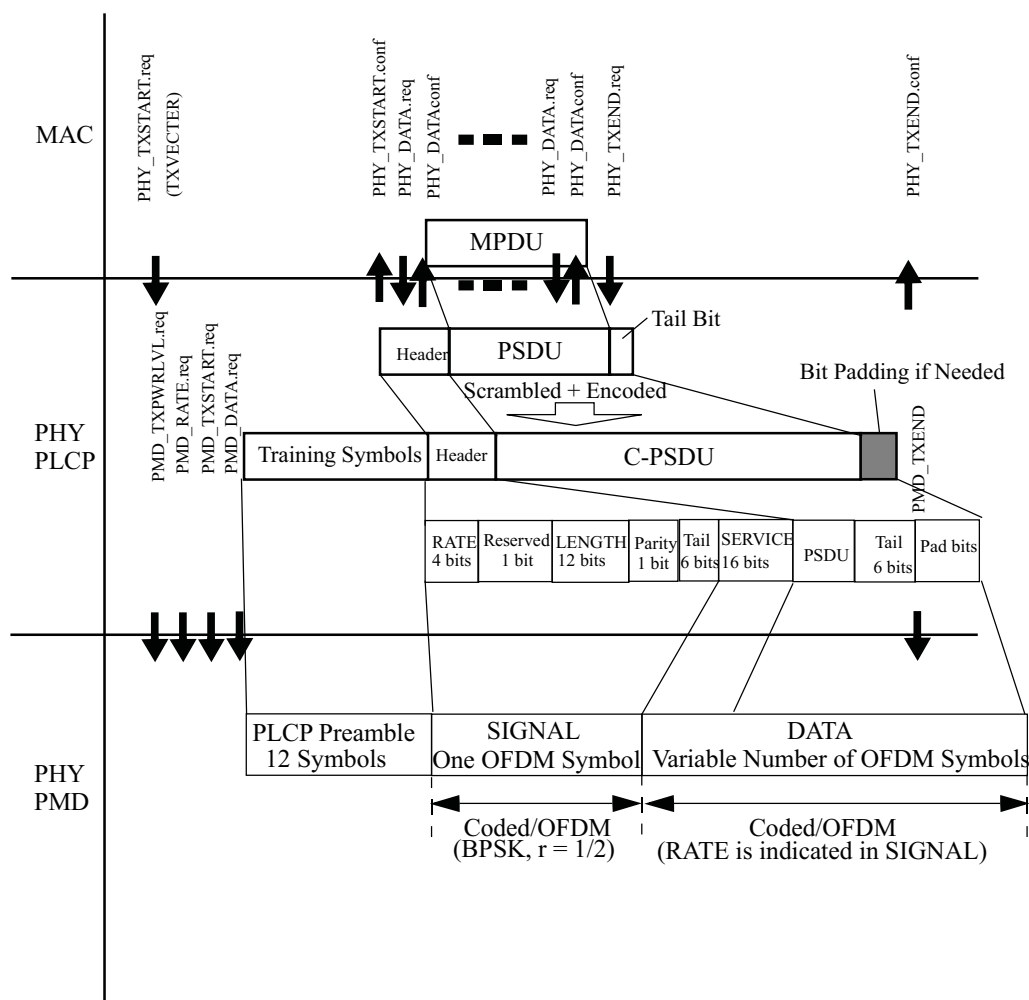


Figure 122—PLCP transmit procedure

The packet transmission shall be completed and the PHY entity shall enter the receive state (i.e., PHY-TXSTART shall be disabled). Each PHY-TXEND.request is acknowledged with a PHY-TXEND.confirm primitive from the PHY. If the coded PSDU (CPSDU) is not multiples of the OFDM symbol, bits shall be stuffed to make the CPSDU length multiples of the OFDM symbol.

In the PMD, the GI shall be inserted in every OFDM symbol as a countermeasure against severe delay spread.

A typical state machine implementation of the PLCP transmit procedure is provided in Figure 123. Requests (.req) and confirmations(.confirm) are issued once with designated states.

17.3.12 PLCP receive procedure

The PLCP receive procedure is shown in Figure 124. In order to receive data, PHY-TXSTART.request shall be disabled so that the PHY entity is in the receive state. Further, through station management (via the

PLME) the PHY is set to the appropriate frequency. Other receive parameters, such as RSSI and indicated DATARATE, may be accessed via the PHY-SAP.

Upon receiving the transmitted PLCP preamble, PMD_RSSI.indicate shall report a significant received signal strength level to the PLCP. This indicates activity to the MAC via PHY_CCA.indicate. PHY_CCA.indicate (BUSY) shall be issued for reception of a signal prior to correct reception of the PLCP frame. The PMD primitive PMD_RSSI is issued to update the RSSI and parameter reported to the MAC.

After PHY-CCA.indicate is issued, the PHY entity shall begin receiving the training symbols and searching for the SIGNAL in order to set the length of the data stream, the demodulation type, and the decoding rate. Once the SIGNAL is detected, without any errors detected by a single parity (even), FEC decode shall be initiated and the PLCP IEEE 802.11 SERVICE fields and data shall be received, decoded (a Viterbi decoder is recommended), and checked by ITU-T CRC-32. If the FCS by the ITU-T CRC-32 check fails, the PHY receiver shall return to the RX IDLE state, as depicted in Figure 124. Should the status of CCA return to the IDLE state during reception prior to completion of the full PLCP processing, the PHY receiver shall return to the RX IDLE state.

If the PLCP header reception is successful (and the SIGNAL field is completely recognizable and supported), a PHY-RXSTART.indicate(RXVECTOR) shall be issued. The RXVECTOR associated with this primitive includes the SIGNAL field, the SERVICE field, the PSDU length in bytes, and the RSSI. Also, in this case, the OFDM PHY will ensure that the CCA shall indicate a busy medium for the intended duration of the transmitted frame, as indicated by the LENGTH field.

The received PSDU bits are assembled into octets, decoded, and presented to the MAC using a series of PHY-DATA.indicate(DATA) primitive exchanges. The rate change indicated in the IEEE 802.11 SIGNAL field shall be initiated from the SERVICE field data of the PLCP header, as described in 17.3.2. The PHY shall proceed with PSDU reception. After the reception of the final bit of the last PSDU octet indicated by the PLCP preamble LENGTH field, the receiver shall be returned to the RX IDLE state, as shown in Figure 124. A PHY-RXEND.indicate (NoError) primitive shall be issued.

In the event that a change in the RSSI causes the status of the CCA to return to the IDLE state before the complete reception of the PSDU, as indicated by the PLCP LENGTH field, the error condition PHY-RXEND.indicate(CarrierLost) shall be reported to the MAC. The OFDM PHY will ensure that the CCA indicates a busy medium for the intended duration of the transmitted packet.

If the indicated rate in the SIGNAL field is not receivable, a PHY-RXSTART.indicate will not be issued. The PHY shall issue the error condition PHY-RXEND.indicate(UnsupportedRate). If the PLCP header is receivable, but the parity check of the PLCP header is not valid, a PHY-RXSTART.indicate will not be issued. The PHY shall issue the error condition PHY-RXEND.indicate(FormatViolation).

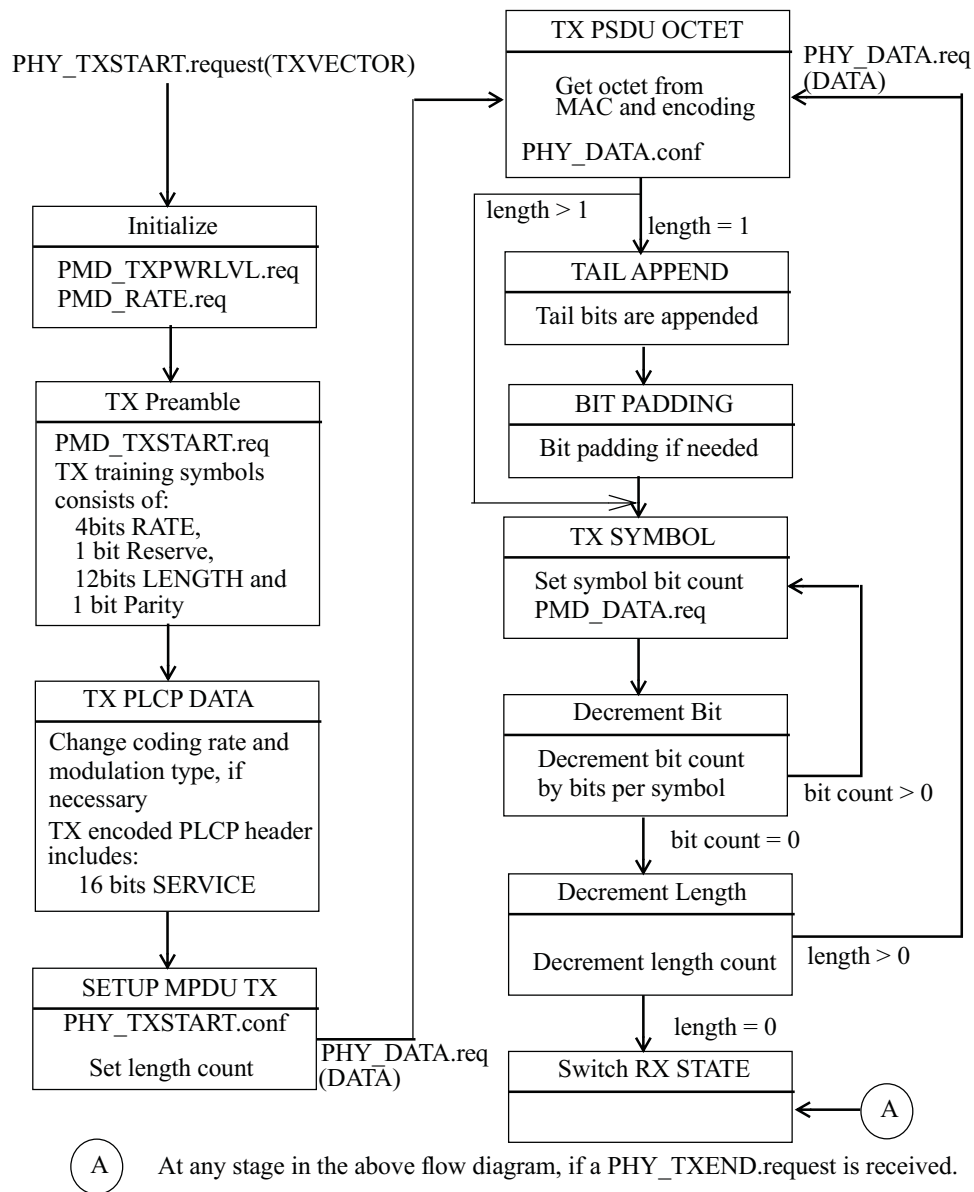
Any data received after the indicated data length are considered pad bits (to fill out an OFDM symbol) and should be discarded.

A typical state machine implementation of the PLCP receive procedure is given in Figure 125.

17.4 OFDM PLME

17.4.1 PLME_SAP sublayer management primitives

Table 92 lists the MIB attributes that may be accessed by the PHY sublayer entities and the intralayer of higher layer management entities (LMEs). These attributes are accessed via the PLME-GET, PLME-SET, PLME-RESET, and PLME-CHARACTERISTICS primitives defined in 10.4.

**Figure 123—PLCP transmit state machine**

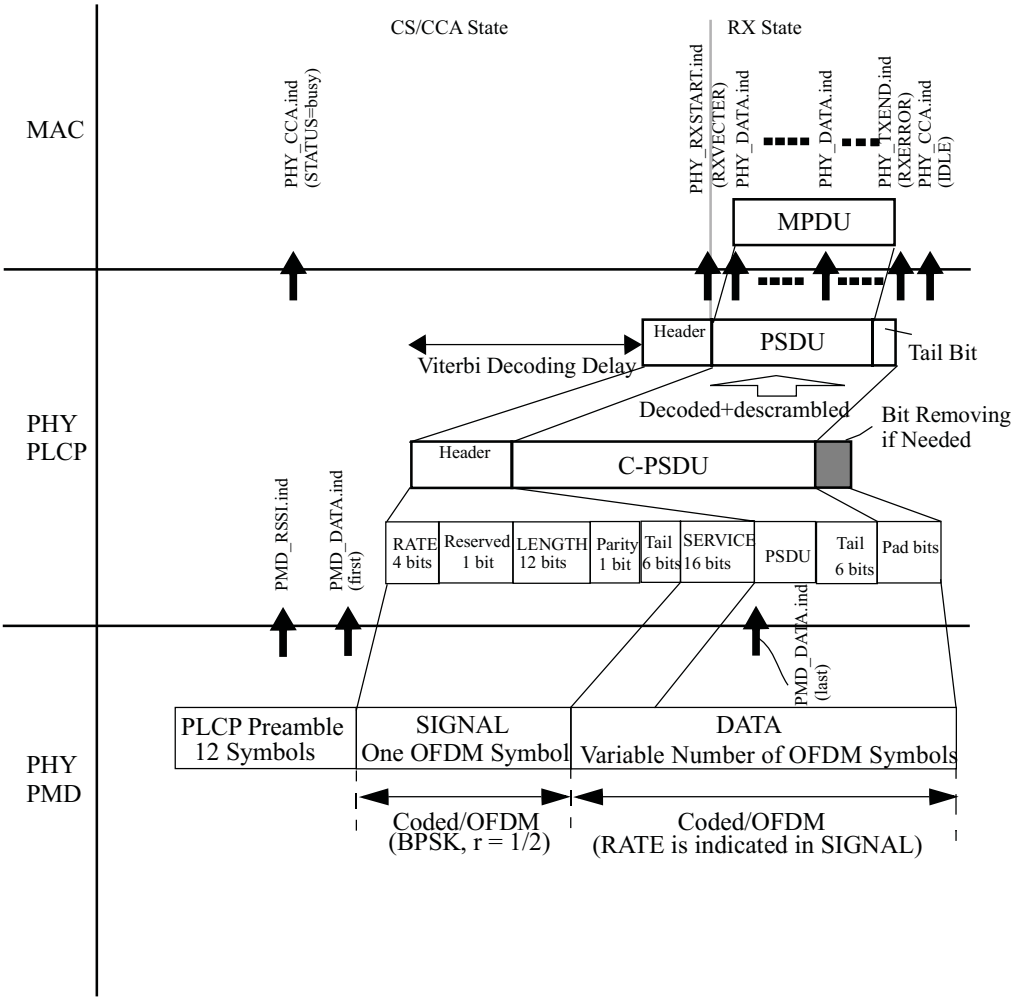


Figure 124—PLCP receive procedure

17.4.2 OFDM PHY management information base

All OFDM PHY management information base attributes are defined in Clause 13 of IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition, with specific values defined in Table 92. The column titled “Operational semantics” in Table 92 contains two types: static and dynamic. Static MIB attributes are fixed and cannot be modified for a given PHY implementation. Dynamic MIB attributes can be modified by some management entity.

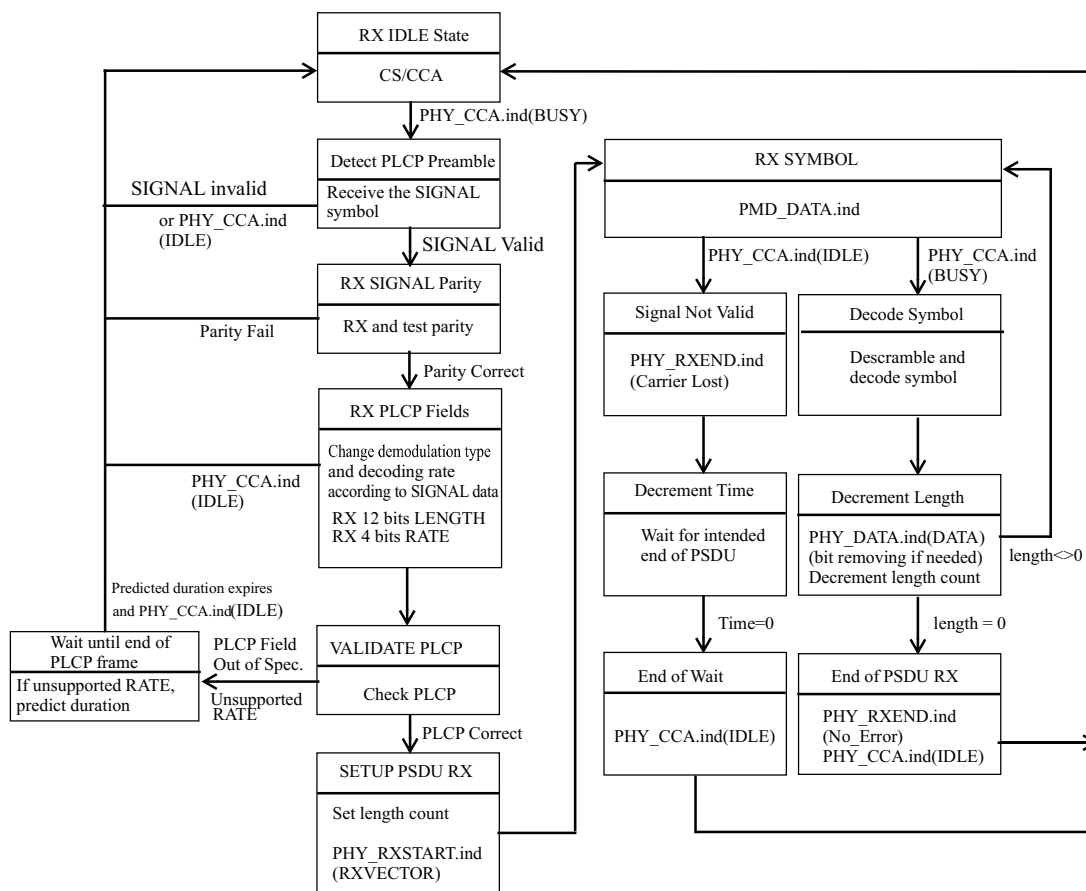


Figure 125—PLCP receive state machine

17.4.3 .OFDM TXTIME calculation

The value of the TXTIME parameter returned by the PLME-TXTIME.confirm primitive shall be calculated according to the following equation:

$$\text{TXTIME} = T_{\text{PREAMBLE}} + T_{\text{SIGNAL}} + T_{\text{SYM}} \times \text{Ceiling}((16 + 8 \times \text{LENGTH} + 6)/N_{\text{DBPS}}) \quad (29)$$

where

- N_{DBPS} is derived from the DATARATE parameter. (Ceiling is a function that returns the smallest integer value greater than or equal to its argument value.)
- N_{SYM} is given by Equation (11).

Table 92—MIB attribute default values/ranges

Managed object	Default value/range	Operational semantics
dot11 PHY Operation Table		
dot11 PHY type	OFDM-5, (04)	Static
dot11 Current reg domain	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Current frequency band	Implementation dependent	Dynamic
dot11 Temp type	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 PHY Antenna Table		
dot11 Current Tx antenna	Implementation dependent	Dynamic
dot11 Diversity support	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Current Rx antenna	Implementation dependent	Dynamic
dot11 PHY Tx Power Table		
dot11 Number supported power levels	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 1	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 2	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 3	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 4	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 5	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 6	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 7	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Tx power level 8	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 current Tx Power Level	Implementation dependent	Dynamic
dot11 Reg Domains Supported Table		
dot11 Reg domains supported	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Frequency bands supported	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 PHY Antennas List Table		
dot 11 Supported Tx antenna	Implementation dependent	Static
dot11 Supported Rx antenna	Implementation dependent	Static
dot 11 Diversity selection Rx	Implementation dependent	Dynamic

Table 92—MIB attribute default values/ranges (continued)

Managed object	Default value/range	Operational semantics
dot11 Supported Data Rates Tx Table		
dot11 Supported data rates Tx value	6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, and 54 Mbit/s Mandatory rates: 6, 12, and 24	Static
dot11SupportedDataRatesRxTable		
dot11 Supported data rates Rx value	6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, and 54 Mbit/s Mandatory rates: 6, 12, and 24	Static
dot11 PHY OFDM Table		
dot11 Current frequency	Implementation dependent	Dynamic
dot11 TI threshold	Implementation dependent	Dynamic

A simplified equation may be used.

$$\text{TXTIME} = T_{\text{PREAMBLE}} + T_{\text{SIGNAL}} + (16 + 8 \times \text{LENGTH} + 6)/\text{DATARATE} + T_{\text{SYM}}/2 \quad (30)$$

Equation (30) does not include the effect of rounding to the next OFDM symbol and may be in error by $\pm 2 \mu\text{s}$.

17.4.4 OFDM PHY characteristics

The static OFDM PHY characteristics, provided through the PLME-CHARACTERISTICS service primitive, are shown in Table 93. The definitions for these characteristics are given in 10.4.

17.5 OFDM PMD sublayer

17.5.1 Scope and field of application

This subclause describes the PMD services provided to the PLCP for the OFDM PHY. Also defined in this subclause are the functional, electrical, and RF characteristics required for interoperability of implementations conforming to this specification. The relationship of this specification to the entire OFDM PHY is shown in Figure 126.

17.5.2 Overview of service

The OFDM PMD sublayer accepts PLCP sublayer service primitives and provides the actual means by which data is transmitted or received from the medium. The combined function of the OFDM PMD sublayer primitives and parameters for the receive function results in a data stream, timing information, and associated received signal parameters being delivered to the PLCP sublayer. A similar functionality shall be provided for data transmission.

Table 93—OFDM PHY characteristics

Characteristics	Value
aSlotTime	9 μ s
aSIFSTime	16 μ s
aCCATime	< 4 μ s
aRxTxTurnaroundTime	< 2 μ s
aTxPLCPDelay	Implementation dependent
aRxPLCPDelay	Implementation dependent
aRxTxSwitchTime	<< 1 μ s
aTxRampOnTime	Implementation dependent
aTxRampOffTime	Implementation dependent
aTxRFDelay	Implementation dependent
aRxRFDelay	Implementation dependent
aAirPropagationTime	<< 1 μ s
aMACProcessingDelay	< 2 μ s
aPreambleLength	20 μ s
aPLCPHeaderLength	4 μ s
aMPDUMaxLength	4095
aCWmin	15
aCWmax	1023

17.5.3 Overview of interactions

The primitives associated with the IEEE 802.11 PLCP sublayer to the OFDM PMD fall into two basic categories

- a) Service primitives that support PLCP peer-to-peer interactions;
- b) Service primitives that have local significance and support sublayer-to-sublayer interactions.

17.5.4 Basic service and options

All of the service primitives described in this subclause are considered mandatory, unless otherwise specified.

17.5.4.1 PMD_SAP peer-to-peer service primitives

Table 94 indicates the primitives for peer-to-peer interactions.

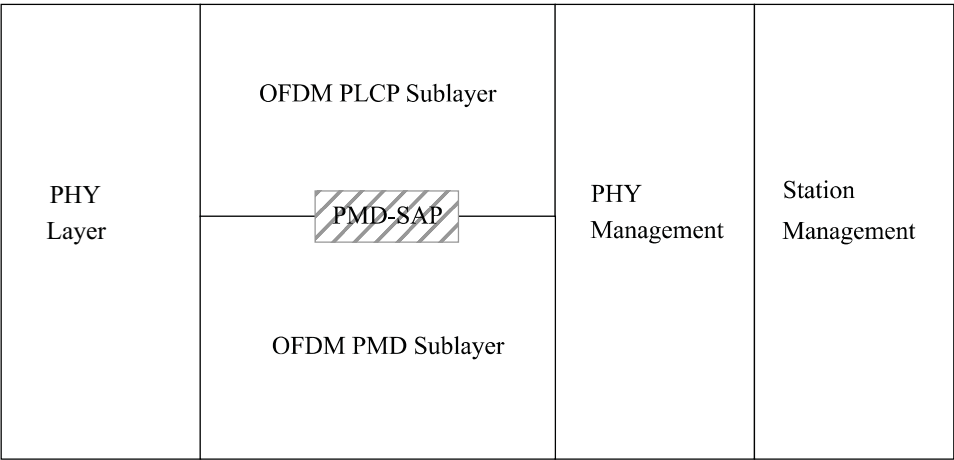


Figure 126—PMD layer reference model

Table 94—PMD_SAP peer-to-peer service primitives

Primitive	Request	Indicate	Confirm	Response
PMD_DATA	X	X	—	—

17.5.4.2 PMD_SAP sublayer-to-sublayer service primitives

Table 95 indicates the primitives for sublayer-to-sublayer interactions.

Table 95—PMD_SAP sublayer-to-sublayer service primitives

Primitive	Request	Indicate	Confirm	Response
PMD_TXSTART	X	—	—	—
PMD_TXEND	X	—	—	—
PMD_TXPWRLVL	X	—	—	—
PMD_RATE	X	—	—	—
PMD_RSSI	—	X	—	—

17.5.4.3 PMD_SAP service primitive parameters

Table 96 shows the parameters used by one or more of the PMD_SAP service primitives.

17.5.5 PMD_SAP detailed service specification

This subclause describes the services provided by each PMD primitive.

Table 96—List of parameters for the PMD primitives

Parameter	Associate primitive	Value
TXD_UNIT	PMD_DATA.request	One(1), Zero(0): one OFDM symbol value
RXD_UNIT	PMD_DATA.indicate	One(1), Zero(0): one OFDM symbol value
TXPWR_LEVEL	PMD_TXPWRLVL.request	1–8 (max of 8 levels)
RATE	PMD_RATE.request	12 Mbit/s (for BPSK) 24 Mbit/s (for QPSK) 48 Mbit/s (for 16-QAM) 72 Mbit/s (for 64-QAM)
RSSI	PMD_RSSI.indicate	0–8 bits of RSSI

17.5.5.1 PMD_DATA.request

17.5.5.1.1 Function

This primitive defines the transfer of data from the PLCP sublayer to the PMD entity.

17.5.5.1.2 Semantic of the service primitive

This primitive shall provide the following parameters:

PMD_DATA.request(TXD_UNIT)

The TXD_UNIT parameter shall be the n-bit combination of “0” and “1” for one symbol of OFDM modulation. If the length of a coded MPDU (C-MPDU) is shorter than n bits, “0” bits are added to form an OFDM symbol. This parameter represents a single block of data which, in turn, shall be used by the PHY to be encoded into an OFDM transmitted symbol.

17.5.5.1.3 When generated

This primitive shall be generated by the PLCP sublayer to request transmission of one OFDM symbol. The data clock for this primitive shall be supplied by the PMD layer based on the OFDM symbol clock.

17.5.5.1.4 Effect of receipt

The PMD performs transmission of the data.

17.5.5.2 PMD_DATA.indicate

17.5.5.2.1 Function

This primitive defines the transfer of data from the PMD entity to the PLCP sublayer.

17.5.5.2.2 Semantic of the service primitive

This primitive shall provide the following parameters:

PMD_DATA.indicate(RXD_UNIT)

The RXD_UNIT parameter shall be “0” or “1,” and shall represent either a signal field bit or a data field bit after the decoding of the convolutional code by the PMD entity.

17.5.5.2.3 When generated

This primitive, generated by the PMD entity, forwards received data to the PLCP sublayer. The data clock for this primitive shall be supplied by the PMD layer based on the OFDM symbol clock.

17.5.5.2.4 Effect of receipt

The PLCP sublayer interprets the bits that are recovered as part of the PLCP convergence procedure, or passes the data to the MAC sublayer as part of the MPDU.

17.5.5.3 PMD_TXSTART.request**17.5.5.3.1 Function**

This primitive, generated by the PHY PLCP sublayer, initiates PPDU transmission by the PMD layer.

17.5.5.3.2 Semantic of the service primitive

This primitive shall provide the following parameters:

PMD_TXSTART.request

17.5.5.3.3 When generated

This primitive shall be generated by the PLCP sublayer to initiate the PMD layer transmission of the PPDU. The PHY-TXSTART.request primitive shall be provided to the PLCP sublayer prior to issuing the PMD_TXSTART command.

17.5.5.3.4 Effect of receipt

PMD_TXSTART initiates transmission of a PPDU by the PMD sublayer.

17.5.5.4 PMD_TXEND.request**17.5.5.4.1 Function**

This primitive, generated by the PHY PLCP sublayer, ends PPDU transmission by the PMD layer.

17.5.5.4.2 Semantic of the service primitive

This primitive shall provide the following parameters:

PMD_TXEND.request

17.5.5.4.3 When generated

This primitive shall be generated by the PLCP sublayer to terminate the PMD layer transmission of the PPDU.

17.5.5.4.4 Effect of receipt

PMD_TXEND terminates transmission of a PPDU by the PMD sublayer.

17.5.5.5 PMD_TXPWR_LVL.request

17.5.5.5.1 Function

This primitive, generated by the PHY PLCP sublayer, selects the power level used by the PHY for transmission.

17.5.5.5.2 Semantic of the service primitive

This primitive shall provide the following parameters:

PMD_TXPWR_LVL.request(TXPWR_LEVEL)

TXPWR_LEVEL selects which of the transmit power levels should be used for the current packet transmission. The number of available power levels shall be determined by the MIB parameter aNumberSupportedPowerLevels. Subclause 17.3.9.1 provides further information on the OFDM PHY power level control capabilities.

17.5.5.5.3 When generated

This primitive shall be generated by the PLCP sublayer to select a specific transmit power. This primitive shall be applied prior to setting PMD_TXSTART into the transmit state.

17.5.5.5.4 Effect of receipt

PMD_TXPWR_LVL immediately sets the transmit power level to that given by TXPWR_LEVEL.

17.5.5.6 PMD_RATE.request

17.5.5.6.1 Function

This primitive, generated by the PHY PLCP sublayer, selects the modulation rate that shall be used by the OFDM PHY for transmission.

17.5.5.6.2 Semantic of the service primitive

This primitive shall provide the following parameters:

PMD_RATE.request(RATE)

RATE selects which of the OFDM PHY data rates shall be used for MPDU transmission. Subclause 17.3.8.6 provides further information on the OFDM PHY modulation rates. The OFDM PHY rate change capability is described in detail in 17.3.7.

17.5.5.6.3 When generated

This primitive shall be generated by the PLCP sublayer to change or set the current OFDM PHY modulation rate used for the MPDU portion of a PPDU.

17.5.5.6.4 Effect of receipt

The receipt of PMD_RATE selects the rate that shall be used for all subsequent MPDU transmissions. This rate shall be used for transmission only. The OFDM PHY shall still be capable of receiving all the required OFDM PHY modulation rates.

17.5.5.7 PMD_RSSI.indicate**17.5.5.7.1 Function**

This primitive, generated by the PMD sublayer, provides the received signal strength to the PLCP and MAC entity.

17.5.5.7.2 Semantic of the service primitive

This primitive shall provide the following parameters:

PMD_RSSI.indicate(RSSI)

The RSSI shall be a measure of the RF energy received by the OFDM PHY. RSSI indications of up to eight bits (256 levels) are supported.

17.5.5.7.3 When generated

This primitive shall be generated by the PMD when the OFDM PHY is in the receive state. It shall be available continuously to the PLCP which, in turn, shall provide the parameter to the MAC entity.

17.5.5.7.4 Effect of receipt

This parameter shall be provided to the PLCP layer for information only. The RSSI may be used as part of a CCA scheme.