

TAC stories: WiFi networks that save lives... and your job

And avoid escalations, losing hair and other undesirable effects

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Cisco Webex App

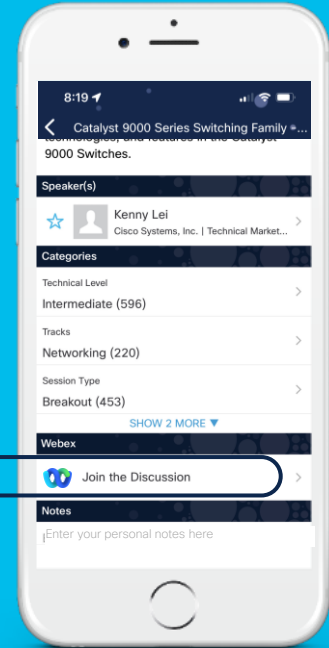
Questions?

Use Cisco Webex App to chat with the speaker after the session

How

- 1 Find this session in the Cisco Live Mobile App
- 2 Click “Join the Discussion”
- 3 Install the Webex App or go directly to the Webex space
- 4 Enter messages/questions in the Webex space

Webex spaces will be moderated until February 24, 2023.



About us - Nico



Javier



Agenda

- VoWifi in healthcare
- Of Mines and Men
- Throughput issues in a bank
- Multicast IPTV streaming
- If it walks like a duck...Could be an orange
- The Tale of the Three Defects
- Flapping around
- Tagging Etiquette
- The Real Thing

CISCO WIRELESS SOCIAL

with Food & Drinks and a Trivia Game

SPECIAL GIFT FOR EVERY REGISTERED ATTENDEE

SCAN QR CODE FOR REGISTRATION & DETAILS

Cisco Systems Netherlands

Haarlerbergweg 17-19
1101 CH Amsterdam-Zuidoost, Netherlands



Wednesday, FEBRUARY 8TH
AT 18:30-20:30





Agenda



14.15 : start and intro

14.30 : Some stories from Nico

16.15 : coffee break

16.45 : Even More stories from Javier

18.45 : End !



Agenda

- Story : the typical big escalation.
- The easy and the hard action plans
- Other gotchas and other short stories: tips to make sure you avoid bad escalations
- “Did you know ?” TAC tips about tools and troubleshooting techniques

Disclaimer

- Nothing personal or negative intended
- Situations depicted can happen to anyone
- Objective is to hear a good story, then to learn small tips to improve habits
- Situations depicted were full of great engineers. Sometimes, bad things happen due to circumstances that could not be avoided easily.

Hospital + 8821 + WiFi
network



The story : TAC case gets opened

- End users (nurses,doctors,..) are complaining about overall poor call performance
- Hard to know where, when and how : nurses and doctors' jobs are to take care of patients, not write down issue descriptions with timestamps
- This coincides with the beginning of COVID period (i.e., less staff, more activity, more stress)

Questions in the TAC engineer's mind

And the logic behind them

- Are we talking about poor voice quality ? (i.e. robotic voice, muffled, hard to understand, ...)
 - **What it means: QoS, channel utilization**
- Are we talking voice gaps ? Does the voice resume ?
 - **What it means: One way voice could be ARP, voice gaps could be roaming issues**
- How frequently does it happen ?
 - **What it means: is it easily reproducible or not ?**

Questions in the TAC engineer's mind

And the logic behind them

- Does it happen in certain areas ? When roaming or standing still ?
 - What it means: roaming issue ?
 - Specific area with interference or high CU ?
- Is it call manager disconnections or is it wifi instability ?
No point on checking upper layers if lower is failing

Questions in the TAC engineer's mind

- TAC engineer :

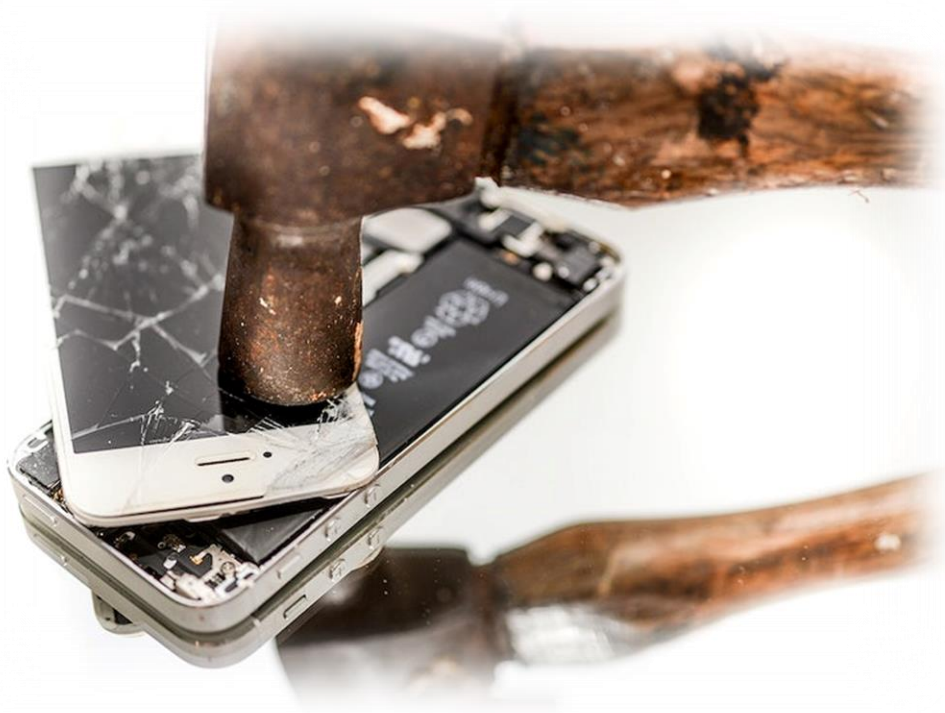


Maybe
it's not
the wifi

- Partner engineer :



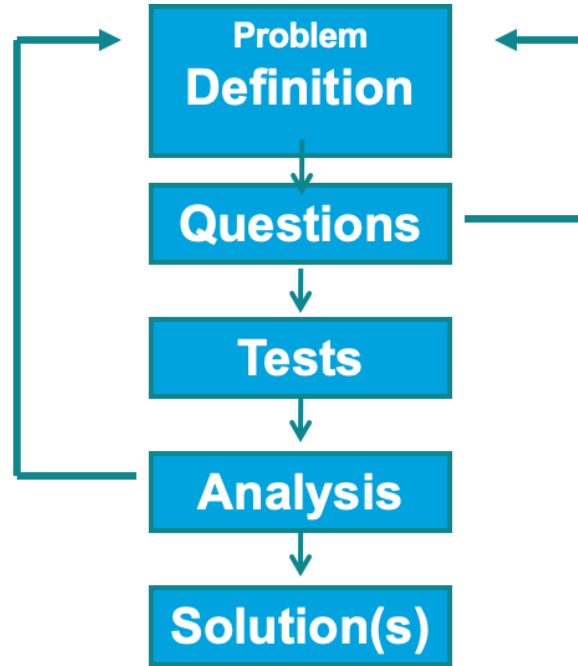
Meanwhile the end users ...



Answers from the end users

- Are we talking about poor voice quality ?
 - Everything, bad voice and call drops
- Are we talking voice gaps ?
 - Sometimes a small voice gap, sometimes call drop
- How frequently does it happen ?
 - Some users report it every day
- Does it happen in certain areas ? When roaming or standing still ?
 - No particular area
- Is it call manager disconnections or is it wifi instability ?
 - ???

Do you get vague problem descriptions?

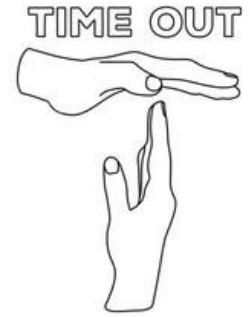


What happened ? TAC initial plan

- Can you get an over the air capture of the problem ?
 - The partner is unable to capture/spot the problem
- Debugs are collected on the WLC. Do not seem to show anything strange.
 - WLC debugs are control-plane debugs. They only debug state machine events and not what happens to regular traffic
- Config adjustments : The wireless LAN config analyzer is a must !
 - <https://cway.cisco.com/wireless-config-analyzer/>

Wireless Config Analyzer Express

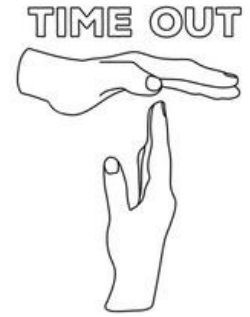
- Evolution from WLCCA
- Bring human years of learning and experience to you
- Case prevention
- Reduce case lifetime
- Single controller analysis
- Support for AireOS or 9800/EWC
 - Any model, any version



More in BRKEWN-3006

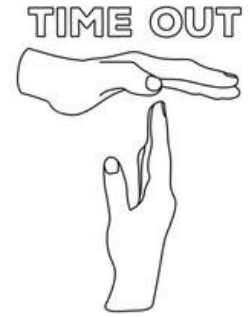
Wireless Config Analyzer Express

- What it does:
 - Configuration Checks
 - RF Health Analysis
 - RF Stats Summarization
 - Upgrade Advisor
 - Channel Stats
 - Tag/Policy usage
 - RRM analysis
 - Log Message Summarization
 - Ap inventory
 - RF Graph Analysis
- New Client audits:
 - 8821, iPhone, Drager, Vocera, Spectralink
 - Client type list
 - NDP AP summarization
 - Controller config highlights
 - AP Config view
 - AP RF view



Where?

- Cloud Version:
<https://cway.cisco.com/tools/WirelessAnalyzer/>
- Desktop Version:
<https://github.com/CiscoDevNet/wcae>
- More info:
<https://developer.cisco.com/docs/wireless-troubleshooting-tools/>
- Alias:
wcae@cisco.com
- Webex Room:
<https://eurl.io/#R6RK2M73v>



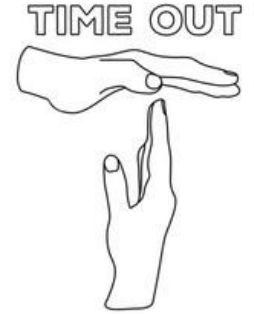
What happened ? The action plan

- Constant ping of 8821 phones to determine if there is wireless connectivity loss.
 - Phone regularly dropping pings
- Upgrade to latest stable release
 - <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/wireless/catalyst-9800-series-wireless-controllers/214749-tac-recommended-ios-xe-builds-for-wirele.html>
 - <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/wireless/wireless-lan-controller-software/200046-tac-recommended-aires.html>
 - For 8821, latest is typically the recommended

IOS-XE releases strategy

Long-term branches in bold

- Denali 16.1-**16.3**
- Everest 16.4 - **16.6**
- Fuji 16.7 - **16.9**
- Gibraltar 16.10-**16.12**
- Amsterdam 17.1-**17.3**
- Bengaluru 17.4-**17.6**
- Cupertino 17.7-**17.9**
- Dublin 17.10-**17.12**



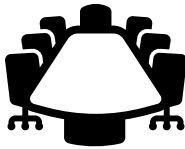
What happened ? The action plan

- Debugs are enabled on selected phones.
- Users were asked to press a specific key when they just faced the problem
- Much smarter than asking user groups to note down timestamps on paper.

Did it work ?

Phone logs didn't seem to include any special key press to indicate issues. Nurses still have better to do than playing troubleshooting.

- Partner : I'm not hearing complains anymore from end users
- Hospital IT department : We have more urgent things cooking and no one screamed about this recently
- End users : I couldn't tell you, I'm not using the wireless phones at all anymore, I'm using my cell phone.



How did it end ?

- Case closed with:
 - Best practices tweaks
 - Verify the end-to-end QoS markings
 - Software update and an advice of making
 - New site survey based on a few suspicions from the show run-config (AireOS). More on this later

- Is it really the end ? No
- Was it actually solved ? No

Situation goes nuclear

- Hospital leadership :



- There is the feeling that problems started a year ago
 - 5508s were replaced with 5520s
 - 1140 with 2800 APs and some 9115
- Site survey was done in emergency and does not find anything particular (apart from minor area-specific adjustment)

Engaging the Cisco A-team

Requirements :

- Solve it quick !
- Due to COVID, hardly anyone can go onsite
- End users were put to contribution enough, do not involve them

Partner/Customer feeling :

The new WLC or AP models transmit less/worse than the previous model

Action plan :

Typical action plan involving multiple sniffer captures :



Action plan : let's go for quick and easy

Let's go for quick and easy to collect:

- Fresh show run-config
- Someone (anyone) to walk around with 8821 and the “Site survey” feature on. Verify signal is always better than -67dBm
- Collect phone logs remotely after the person did the walkaround

Clue number 1

Logs show low RSSI

No viable candidate

Problem : phone logs are many small text files in different zipped archives

```
DEB Feb 17 13:35:54.320313 wlanmgr-[vendor_get_rssi]: Curr
RSSI = -84
DEB Feb 17 13:35:54.320697 wlanmgr-[UpdateBSSList]: BSSID:
f4:db:e6:d6:13:08 RSSI: -84 Channel: 60 CU: 5
DEB Feb 17 13:35:54.320756 wlanmgr-[UpdateBSSList]: BSSID:
f4:db:e6:da:50:88 RSSI: -73 Channel: 40 CU: 11
DEB Feb 17 13:35:54.320808 wlanmgr-[UpdateBSSList]: BSSID:
f4:db:e6:dc:2c:a8 RSSI: -74 Channel: 48 CU: 4
DEB Feb 17 13:35:54.320859 wlanmgr-[UpdateBSSList]: BSSID:
f4:db:e6:d2:84:08 RSSI: -77 Channel: 48 CU: 3
DEB Feb 17 13:35:54.320910 wlanmgr-[UpdateBSSList]: BSSID:
f4:db:e6:dc:32:48 RSSI: -80 Channel: 52 CU: 2
DEB Feb 17 13:35:54.320986 wlanmgr-[rssi_update_ind]:
Update signal bar with rssi=-84
DEB Feb 17 13:36:10.496779 wpa_supplicant: wlan0: Event
DEAUTH (12) received
DEB Feb 17 13:36:10.496848 wpa_supplicant: wlan0:
Deauthentication notification
DEB Feb 17 13:36:10.496914 wpa_supplicant: wlan0: * reason 0
```

Clue number 1

- How pervasive is this issue?
- Enable “telephony” logging
- Write a quick python script
- Results: phone spends 50% of its time under too low RSSI

```
0568 DEB Feb 17 15:19:04.180825 call start
At time 15:19:08.986510, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-74 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:14.876540, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-72 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:19.106522, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-74 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:25.106515, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-75 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:33.106773, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-72 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:39.106963, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-71 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:45.106522, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-76 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:48.986657, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-81 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:55.106530, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-75 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:19:58.876568, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-75 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:20:05.106527, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-74 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:20:11.116511, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-76 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:20:15.116528, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-75 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:20:29.046698, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-76 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:20:34.374806, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-76 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:20:37.378521, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-77 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:21:09.368325, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-77 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:21:25.258186, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-73 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:22:53.138224, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-71 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:23:05.138630, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-74 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:23:23.767915, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-71 dbm
when connected to AP-402
At time 15:23:27.777954, SIGNAL STRENGTH TOO LOW while on call! best neighbor at :-74 dbm
when connected to AP-402
```

Clue number 1

- Panic scan is a sign of panic roaming, which is not good.
- Panic scan during the logs : **2748** (anything higher than 0 is concerning).
- Panic scans occur when the phone RSSI is below -70dbm
- It will definitely cause voice quality issues
- Number of successful roamings during the logs : **67**



Clue number 1

Where is the poor RSSI seen ?



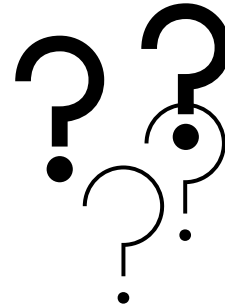
Clue number 2

The phone logs also indicate that downstream SIP messages are received with UP 0. It's doubtful QoS is correctly configured everywhere

```
DEB Feb 17 16:05:37.384171 kernel-[64500.311218] [dhd_sendpkt]: SIP [192.168.112.134:50481 -> 192.168.70.11:5060] [UP = 4] [len = 1047]
```

```
DEB Feb 17 16:05:37.384624 kernel-[64500.327453] [dhd_sendpkt]: SIP [192.168.112.134:53124 -> 192.168.70.12:5060] [UP = 4] [len = 1071]
```

```
DEB Feb 17 16:05:37.384668 kernel-[64500.330963] [dhd_rx_frame]: SIP [192.168.70.11:5060 -> 192.168.112.134:50481] [UP = 0] [len = 380]
```

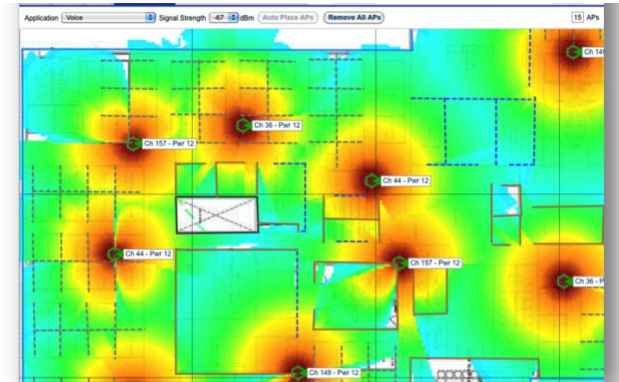
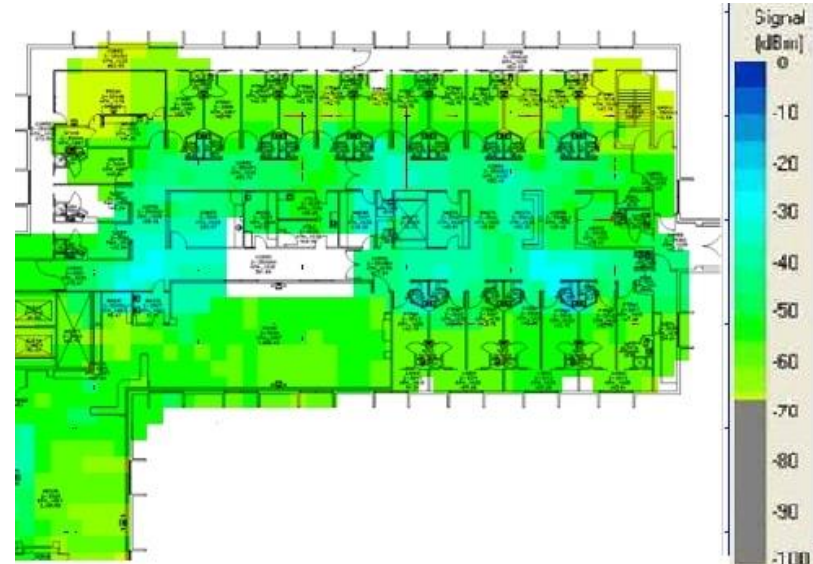


Clue number 3

- No evident problems in last site survey... why?
- What device was used to conduct the site survey ?
 - Proxim adapter on laptop
- No walk around with the device end users are using/complaining about (8821)
- Even if using 8821, holding it to your head gives very different result to holding in your hand
- Always test with the least capable device the customer will be using

Clue number 3

- Site survey
 - No walking path showing in the printed report, all is green
 - When checking the original survey files, walking path indicate engineer did not enter any patient room
 - The “green” was extrapolated by the site survey software, not taking walls/attenuation into account
 - IT people could not reproduce the issue as they only walked in corridors too
 - All APs are placed in the corridors



Clue number 4

- WLC show run
- How come there was no problem before ?
- Before, people were using 7925s
- Some APs in default AP group not broadcasting voice SSID

Clue number 4

Channel	TxPower	Allowed Power Levels
64*	*6/6 (2 dBm)	[16/13/10/7/4/2/0/0]
36*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/0/0]
36*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
52*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
40*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
36*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/0/0]
36*	*1/7 (18 dBm)	[18/15/12/9/6/3/2/2]
48*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
36*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/0/0]
52*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
44*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/0/0]
56*	*6/6 (2 dBm)	[16/13/10/7/4/2/0/0]
36*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/0/0]
60*	*6/6 (2 dBm)	[16/13/10/7/4/2/0/0]
40*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/0/0]
52*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
36*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
40*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
64*	*1/7 (18 dBm)	[18/15/12/9/6/3/2/2]
36*	*1/7 (18 dBm)	[18/15/12/9/6/3/2/2]
56*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
64*	*6/6 (2 dBm)	[16/13/10/7/4/2/5/2]
36*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
48	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
60*	*6/6 (2 dBm)	[16/13/10/7/4/2/5/2]
40*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
64*	*6/6 (2 dBm)	[16/13/10/7/4/2/5/2]
44*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]
40*	*1/6 (17 dBm)	[17/14/11/8/5/2/5/2]

- Before, people were using 7925s
- Some APs in default AP group not broadcasting voice SSID
- All APs at power level 1 (or 2)

Clue number 4

```
Leader Automatic Transmit Power Assignment
Transmit Power Assignment Mode..... AUTO
Transmit Power Update Interval..... 600 seconds
Transmit Power Threshold..... -67 dBm
Transmit Power Neighbor Count..... 3 APs
WLAN Aware TPC..... Disabled
Min Transmit Power..... 17 dBm
Max Transmit Power..... 30 dBm
Update Contribution
  Noise..... Enable
  Interference..... Enable
  Load..... Disable
  Device Aware..... Disable
```

- Before, people were using 7925s
- Some APs in default AP group not broadcasting voice SSID
- All APs at power level 1 (or 2)
- **Min TPC power is set to 17dbm in RRM settings**

Clue number 4

```
Load Information
Load Profile..... PASSED
Receive Utilization..... 0 %
Transmit Utilization..... 0 %
Channel Utilization..... 48 %
Attached Clients..... 0 clients
Coverage Information
Coverage Profile..... PASSED
Failed Clients..... 0 clients
```

- Before, people were using 7925s
- Some APs in default AP group not broadcasting voice SSID
- All APs at power level 1 (or 2)
- Min TPC power is set to 17dbm in RRM settings
- Channel Utilization > 30% on 3 APs

Clue number 4

```
SNR 45 dB..... 1 clients
Nearby APs
AP 70:b3:17:bf:df:0f slot 1..... -87 dBm on 60 20MHz
AP 70:b3:17:ea:30:8f slot 1..... -90 dBm on 36 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:d2:85:e0 slot 0..... -87 dBm on 44 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:d2:85:ef slot 1..... -87 dBm on 64 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:d2:87:0f slot 1..... -73 dBm on 60 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:d2:88:cf slot 1..... -90 dBm on 40 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:dc:22:ef slot 1..... -90 dBm on 44 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:dc:24:2f slot 1..... -69 dBm on 36 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:e4:65:af slot 1..... -79 dBm on 60 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:e4:6e:cf slot 1..... -65 dBm on 48 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:e4:70:af slot 1..... -67 dBm on 40 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:e4:71:0f slot 1..... -84 dBm on 56 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:e4:7a:8f slot 1..... -81 dBm on 36 20MHz
AP f4:db:e6:e4:7e:0f slot 1..... -77 dBm on 40 20MHz
Radio Information
```

- Before, people were using 7925s
- Some APs in default AP group not broadcasting voice SSID
- All APs at power level 1 (or 2)
- Min TPC power is set to 17dbm in RRM settings
- Channel Utilization > 30% on 3 APs
- Many channels in UNII2 are not enabled in DCA, on channel neighbor count is high for some APs
- APs were hearing each other fairly low

Clue number 4

- Before, people were using 7925s
- Some APs in default AP group not broadcasting voice SSID
- All APs at power level 1 (or 2)
- Min TPC power is set to 17dbm in RRM settings
- Channel Utilization > 30% on 3 APs
- Many channels in UNII2 are not enabled in DCA, on channel neighbor count is high for some APs
- APs were not hearing each other very loudly
- 30% APs on Channel 36

Clue number 4

- How about before ? How can we figure out if the problem is new ?
- Having stored show run-config or show tech wireless from “back in the days” is very useful
- All APs were already at power level 1 or 2 7 years before
- Even in absolute measure (i.e. dBm) the APs were at the same transmit power (17dBm)
- WLC shows how many clients are connected at low RSSI (worse than -75). That represented 35% of the clients back then

Story conclusions



Story conclusion

- Probably voice over Wifi was always a terrible experience
- Maybe the handsets were less used before, or parallel DECT system was in place
- Maybe it somewhat worked, but there is additional load wireless network
- Maybe it's the nurse/doctor work pattern related to COVID, increasing failures

Story summary

- Many healthcare voice escalations are related to suboptimal (or completely outdated) deployment
- Doing a basic verification costs less than letting things escalate
- Complex troubleshooting can be costly and require several skilled engineer on site, but a basic verification can be done remotely or easily with low involvement of people on site

Key takeaways: Easy verification action plan

- Walk around with 8821 in site survey mode. Check there is -67 everywhere
 - Check if QoS is in use on active calls (logs / OTA capture)
 - Check phone logs to see if it stays within good RSSI range
 - Check load and interference levels
 - Wireless Config Analyzer Express !!!!
-
- If you have a good RSSI and are using QoS to get priority access to the medium, things shouldn't be too bad already.

The complicated action plan

- Simultaneous sniffer capture over the air (may require to remove encryption)
- Phone logs, client debugs from the WLC

Design key takeaways

- Always design for the end device the customer will use
- Survey where and how the actual users use the network !
- Place APs where the users are, not where it's convenient to place them
- Review your design every few years.

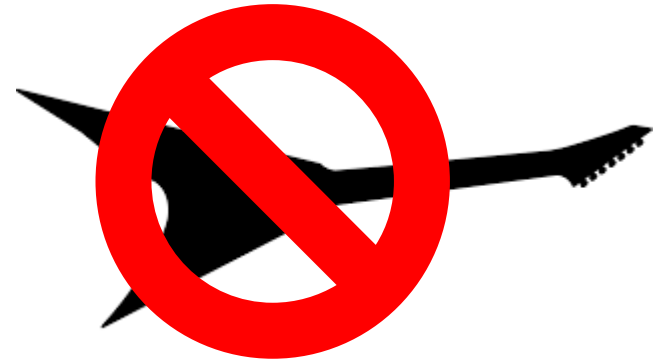
But what exactly happened to that hospital ?

- New site survey advised:
 - increase of 30% of APs
 - overall AP repositioning
- Creates new problem: Not enough switchports per floor
- Creates new-new problem: no budget for network redesign

Tips and tricks

If you are alone on site

- One end of the call is wired (Wired ip phone or laptop)
- Other end is your wireless handset
- Play music on the wired phone side
- Best is music you know the lyrics of. Lyrics get distorted first



Tools covered

- WLCCA/WCAE
- TAC recommended releases documents
- Wireless sniffing tools



Troubleshooting voice/encrypted streams

The context

- Voice over Wi-Fi
- 300 Iphone 7, few Iphone SE
- Cisco Jabber app
- Cisco Wi-Fi network

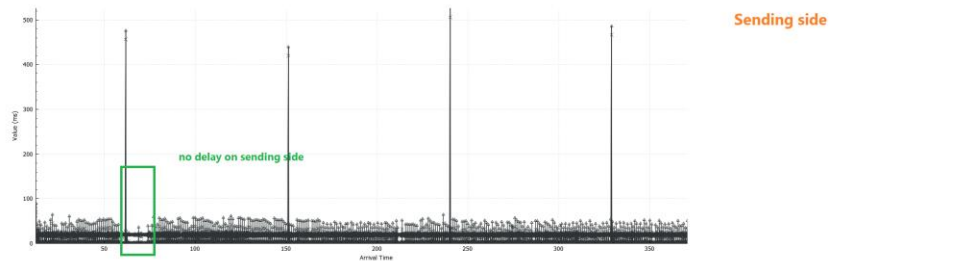
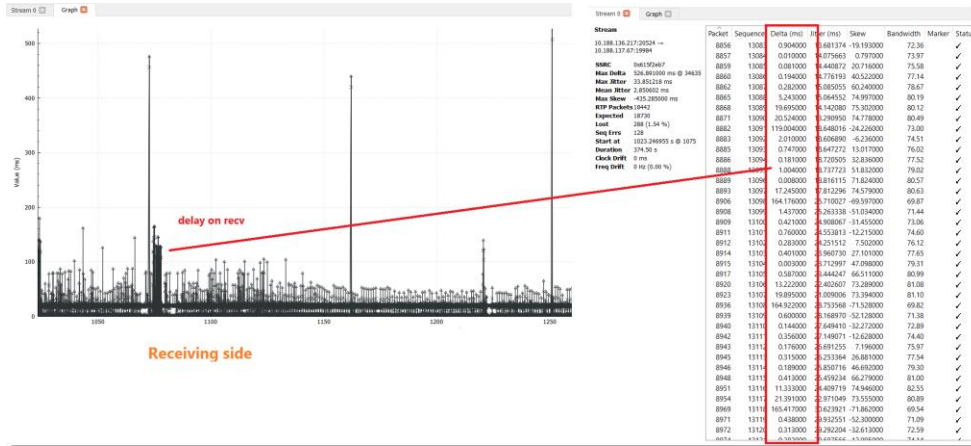
The problem

- Various voice gaps during calls
- Some random
- Some at strangely regular intervals

Capture 1 : iphone through USB

- Airtool allow you to capture on the iphone
 - Post 802.11 layer
 - Not OTA
- Shows unencrypted RTP traffic
- Demo time!

Capture 1



Capture 2 – the OTA

- QOS in place?

```
wlan.addr == 9c:e6:5e:87:98:87 && (wlan.fc.type_subtype == 0x0028) && (wlan.qos.tid==6)
```

- Sort by the delta column

Frame has a P flag ! One iphone goes to sleep, which causes voice traffic to be buffered

```
Feb 23, 2022 02:39:52.0602210... Apple_87:98:87 Cisco_c6:4d:af 802.11 64 -38 dBm 5680 139 24 STA will go to sleep
Feb 23, 2022 02:39:52.0602260... Apple_87:98:87 (9c:e... 802.11 72 -62 dBm 5680 6.5 STA will stay up

> Frame 48195: 64 bytes on wire (512 bits), 64 bytes captured (512 bits) on interface en0, id 0
> Radiotap Header v0, Length 36
> 802.11 radio information
  IEEE 802.11 Null function (No data), Flags: ...P...TC
    Type/Subtype: Null function (No data) (0x0024)
  Frame Control Field: 0x4811
    ....00 = Version: 0
    ....10.. = Type: Data frame (2)
    0100 .... = Subtype: 4
  Flags: 0x11
    ....01 = DS status: Frame from STA to DS via an AP (To DS: 1 From DS: 0) (0x1)
    ....0. = More Fragments: This is the last fragment
    ....0... = Retry: Frame is not being retransmitted
    ...1 .... = PWR MGT: STA will go to sleep
```

Wireshark name resolution

- Wireshark can optionally resolve IP addresses using your laptop DNS
- It can also resolve IP addresses using DNS requests that appear in the capture
- You can also add manual/static mappings IP-to-name on your laptop. Right-click on the packet -> Edit resolved names
- This can also be done with MAC addresses !
 - Go to \$home/.config/wireshark/ and edit “ethers” on Mac OS
 - Go to %app data%/roaming/Wireshark on Windows and edit the “ethers” file

Story conclusions



Encrypted capture analysis

- Limited understanding on what it what
- No per-protocol analysis

But you CAN

- Guess traffic types
 - QoS-tagged traffic can be identified
 - Voice is a regular back-and-forth of small packets
 - DHCP is sent immediately after an association/WPA handshake
- Identify signal strength issues, roaming issues, unexpected disconnections
- Take a look at the retry rate

Tools covered

- Wireshark
- RTP analysis
- Name resolution
- Filtering

What happened to that hospital ?

- One issue was a 500ms voice gaps every 90s, which was an interop issue between Jabber and Iphone 7.
- Iphone SEs did not have the problem, nor Webex app did not have the problem either.
- No issues on Wireless network
- Jabber developers were able to improve the experience and have the iPhone go to sleep mode much less while on call



Of Mines and Men (and WGBs)

Underground mine : the context



Underground mine : WGB losing connectivity

```
debug dot11 dot11Radio 1 trace print uplink
debug dot11 client debug dot11 dot11radio 0 print lines 0
debug dot11 dot11radio 0 monitor address XXXX.XXXX.XXXX
debug dot11 dot11radio 0 trace print cli mgmt key uplink xmt
rcv rates client
```



WGB is losing connectivity every now and then and reconnects quickly

Jun 12 12:48:20.463: [%DOT11-4-UPLINK_DOWN:](#) Interface Dot11Radio0, parent lost: Received deauthenticate (7) not authenticated

Jun 12 12:48:20.647: [%DOT11-4-UPLINK_ESTABLISHED:](#) Interface Dot11Radio0, Associated To AP K1165-BL34-211 bc26.c78a.0a63 [None WPAv2 PSK]

Underground mine : WGB losing connectivity

Interface Dot11Radio x
packet retries 32 drop



Jun 18 10:20:48.184: [%DOT11-4-UPLINK_DOWN:](#) Interface Dot11Radio0, parent lost: Too many retries

Jun 18 10:20:48.184: 3D38D457-0 Uplink: Lost AP, Too many retries

Jun 18 10:20:48.184: 3D38D4B8-0 Uplink: Setting No. of retries in channel scan to 2

Jun 18 10:20:48.184: 3D38D4BD-0 Uplink: Wait for driver to stop

Jun 18 10:20:48.184: 3D38D6EF-0 Uplink: Enabling active scan

Underground mine : WGB losing connectivity

What is off-channel scan defer ?

Per User Priority

Postpones scan if frame is received on that UP

UP 0 would lead no more off-channel scan at all

Edit WLAN

General Security **Advanced** Add To Policy Tags

Coverage Hole Detection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Universal Admin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aironet IE ⓘ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OKC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertise AP Name	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Load Balance	<input type="checkbox"/>
P2P Blocking Action	Disabled ▾	Band Select	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multicast Buffer	<input type="checkbox"/> DISABLED	IP Source Guard	<input type="checkbox"/>
Media Stream Multicast-direct	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WMM Policy	Allowed ▾
11ac MU-MIMO	<input type="checkbox"/>	mDNS Mode	Bridging ▾
WiFi to Cellular Steering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Off Channel Scanning Defer	
Fastlane+ (ASR) ⓘ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Defer Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2
Deny LAA (RCM) clients	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5
Max Client Connections			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7
Per WLAN	0	Scan Defer Time	100

Underground mine : WGB losing connectivity



1. Lost beacons (Interface Dot11Radio0, parent lost: Missed beacons)
2. Low power (Interface Dot11Radio0, parent lost: Signal strength too low)

Underground mine : WGB losing connectivity

OTA-20201001.pcapng

type_subtype == 0x0008 && (wlan.bssid == 6c:8b:d3:e7:e7:83)

Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Signal strength (dBm)	Info
527433 2020-10-01 08:10:20.3217041	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-43 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1547, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
527503 2020-10-01 08:10:20.429397	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-42 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1552, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
527596 2020-10-01 08:10:20.531769	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-41 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1557, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
527709 2020-10-01 08:10:20.634234	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-41 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1562, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
527804 2020-10-01 08:10:20.736595	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-45 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1567, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
527920 2020-10-01 08:10:20.838995	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-43 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1572, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
527974 2020-10-01 08:10:20.941473	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-40 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1577, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528045 2020-10-01 08:10:21.044375	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-39 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1582, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528133 2020-10-01 08:10:21.146264	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-41 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1587, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528225 2020-10-01 08:10:21.248706	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-42 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1592, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528280 2020-10-01 08:10:21.351014	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-41 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1597, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528382 2020-10-01 08:10:21.453386	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-42 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1602, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528553 2020-10-01 08:10:21.658210	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-77 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1607, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528644 2020-10-01 08:10:21.760629	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-76 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1612, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528688 2020-10-01 08:10:21.863059	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-77 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1617, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528744 2020-10-01 08:10:21.965401	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-76 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1622, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528793 2020-10-01 08:10:22.067794	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-76 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1627, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528842 2020-10-01 08:10:22.170202	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-78 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1632, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528897 2020-10-01 08:10:22.272593	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-75 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1637, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528939 2020-10-01 08:10:22.375056	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-76 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1642, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
528974 2020-10-01 08:10:22.477435	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-75 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1647, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
529008 2020-10-01 08:10:22.579787	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-75 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1652, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
529042 2020-10-01 08:10:22.682202	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-77 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1657, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
529080 2020-10-01 08:10:22.784645	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-77 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1662, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
529101 2020-10-01 08:10:22.887088	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-77 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1667, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l
529120 2020-10-01 08:10:22.989411	Cisco_e7:e7:83	Broadcast	802.11	341	-78 dBm	Beacon frame, SN=1672, FN=0, Flags=.....C, BI=100, SSID=l

incl: 6
Signal strength (percentage): 15%

Underground mine : WGB losing connectivity

BSSID: 6c:8b:d3:e7:e7:83

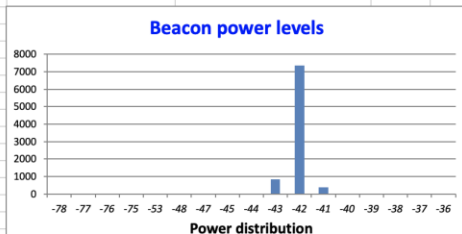
SSID: lkbyrtning
AP name: K1165-BL34-214
Security: WPA2
Encryption: AES-CCMP
Auth: PSK
Group key: AES-CCMP
Channel Reported in Beacon: 6
Beacon Frames Count: 8639
QBSS Max: 27
QBSS Min: 0
Stations connected Max: 3
Stations connected Min: 0

Summary Report

Total messages: Errors: 0, Warnings: 3, Informational:4

Event Flow

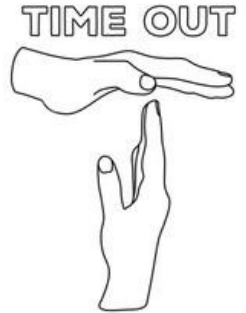
Direction	Type	Severity	Frame	Time	Info
>>>>>>	First Beacon	Info	4	Wed, 30 Sep 2020 22:59:12.059878	
>>>>>>	Large Beacon Power variation	Warning	528553	Wed, 30 Sep 2020 23:10:21.658210	Beacon power changed more than 20 dBm. This could be AP issue, but also could be triggered by sniffer physical movement
>>>>>>	Large Beacon Power variation	Warning	529233		Previous event repeat count:2
<<<<<<<	Dot11 auth request	Info	537407	Wed, 30 Sep 2020 23:11:02.816381	Request from:3c:51:0e:56:16:30
>>>>>>	Dot11 auth	Info	537409	Wed, 30 Sep 2020 23:11:02.817052	Completed. Client:3c:51:0e:56:16:30
>>>>>>	Malformed assoc	Warning	537416	Wed, 30 Sep 2020 23:11:02.822083	Rate does not match detected config. possible defect
>>>>>>	Dot11 association	Info	537416	Wed, 30 Sep 2020 23:11:02.822083	Client Roam: 3c:51:0e:56:16:30



Wifi Hawk

<https://developer.cisco.com/docs/wireless-troubleshooting-tools/#!features/wifi-hawk-features>

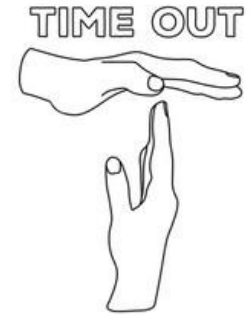
- Expert system to for wireless capture analysis
 - Identify hard to see issues found in huge files
 - Low level protocol analysis
 - Interoperability problems
- Event Flow: Generate a summary of events per client and AP WLANs
- Speed up event identification in a wireless capture
- Automated detection of 18 AP side problems and 16 client issues
- Highlight EAP authentication problems, EAP types
- 802.11 reason codes and status codes explained, including CCX and newer cisco extensions



Wifi Hawk

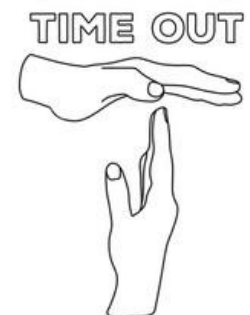
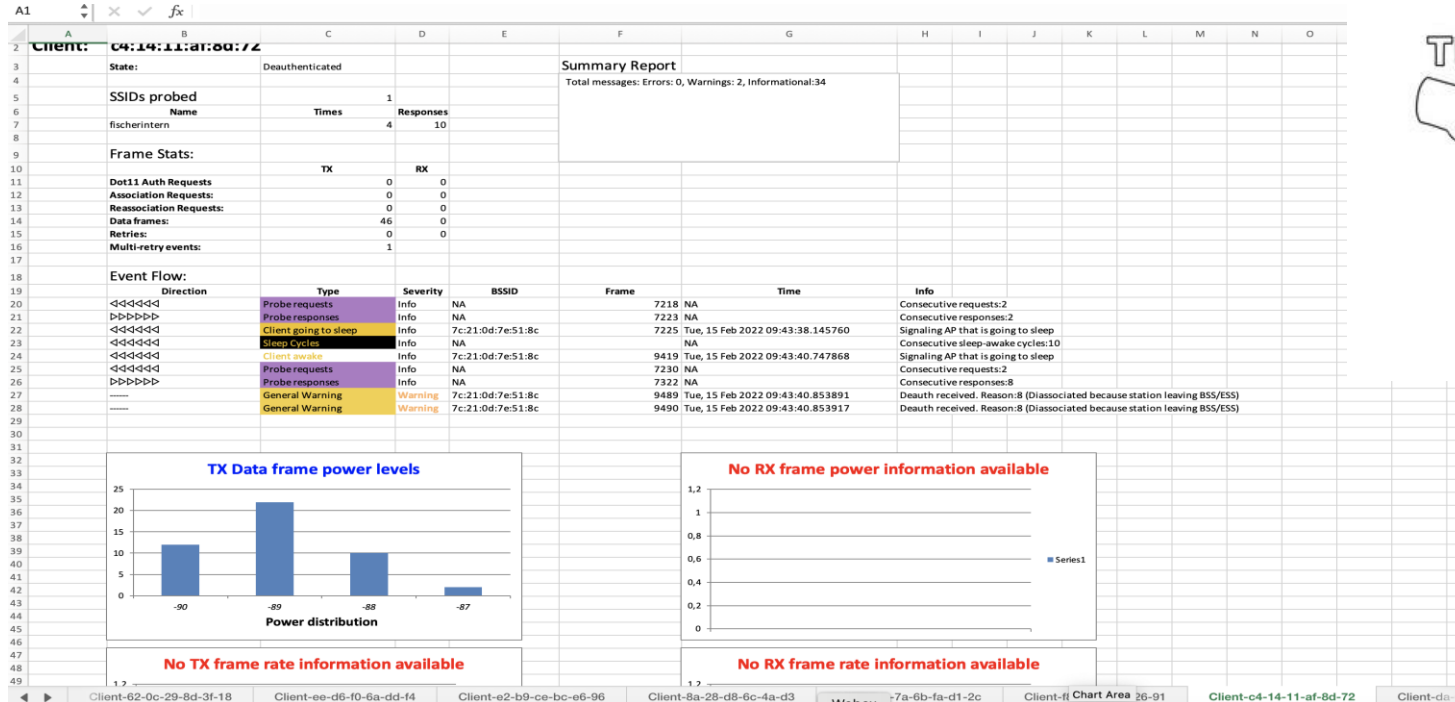
<https://developer.cisco.com/docs/wireless-troubleshooting-tools/#!wifi-hawk-wireless-captures-analysis/key--features>

Table of contents									
Generated:	2022-04-19 22:15								
Wireless Consultant Version:	0.9								
Total Frames:	265625								
File Type:	Airopeek/Sniffer AP								
Processing time:	0:07:57.629400								
Total BSSIDs seen:	287								
Total Clients seen:	144								
Processing Errors:									
Invalid Frames	0								
Exceptions	0								
Non Parsed Frames	0								
Filtered Frames	0								
FCS Errors	2839								
AP BSSIDs	SSID	Events	Errors	Warnings	Clients	Last State	Events	Errors	Warnings
7c-21-0d-81-0a-04	SSID-fischerinterntest	12	0	11	14.85.7f-aa-53-35	Probing	664	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-8f	SSID-UGGuest	9	0	2	64.5d-86.5e-45-4d	Bidirectional Traffic	533	1	2
7c-21-0d-81-7a-23	SSID-fischerintern	8	0	7	b4.0e-d8-81-97-3c	EAPoL 4-WAY completed	527	0	4
7c-21-0d-81-7a-20	SSID-UGGuest	7	0	6	9c-23-78-04-17-8f	Probing	490	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-7a-22	SSID-iot-fischer81	7	0	6	80-51-0b-9c-56-9e	Probing	382	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-66-44	SSID-fischerinterntest	7	0	0	7c-70-d8-1b-21-c3	Probing	350	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-8b	SSID-fischerinterntest	7	0	0	0c-54-15-ab-cb-ce	Probing	342	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-8c	SSID-fischerintern	7	0	0	f8-e4-e3-a3-26-91	Probing	240	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-7a-21	SSID-iot-fischer60	4	0	3	4a-d5-36-2a-c3-d4	Probing	64	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-7a-24	SSID-fischerinterntest	3	0	2	ce-5c-88-3b-86-22	Probing	64	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-c0-a0	SSID-UGGuest	1	0	0	74-70-69-4e-e2-79	Probing	60	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-c0-a1	SSID-iot-fischer60	1	0	0	06-5a-7b-2f-d9-32	Probing	60	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-c0-a2	SSID-iot-fischer81	1	0	0	86-03-77-d4-d3-8c	Probing	54	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-c0-a3	SSID-fischerintern	1	0	0	1e-21-14-8d-3e-ec	Probing	52	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-c0-a4	SSID-fischerinterntest	1	0	0	80-82-23-15-42-d6	No valid frames seen	51	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-0a-00	SSID-UGGuest	1	0	0	fe-1fc8-7c-83-2d	Probing	50	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-0a-01	SSID-iot-fischer60	1	0	0	a2-b9-1c-b7-4f-4c	Probing	48	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-0a-02	SSID-iot-fischer81	1	0	0	36-16-61-d2-d6-82	Probing	48	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-0a-03	SSID-fischerintern	1	0	0	e6-d6-80-6a-d6-d1	Probing	46	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-80	SSID-UGGuest	1	0	0	3e-7a-58-fa-d1-2a	Probing	46	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-81	SSID-iot-fischer60	1	0	0	0e-53-50-d8-93-e7	Probing	46	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-82	SSID-iot-fischer81	1	0	0	52-8e-53-f4-d9-9a	Probing	46	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-83	SSID-fischerintern	1	0	0	06-99-03-e9-10-d0	Probing	46	0	0
7c-21-0d-7e-51-84	SSID-fischerinterntest	1	0	0	c6-f5-75-ad-17-46	Probing	46	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-66-40	SSID-UGGuest	1	0	0	ea-87-ce-53-5b-fe	Probing	46	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-66-41	SSID-iot-fischer60	1	0	0	fa-af-51-9c-87-01	Probing	44	0	0
7c-21-0d-81-66-42	SSID-iot-fischer81	1	0	0	a7-0f-41-08-98-53	Probing	42	0	0



Wifi Hawk

<https://developer.cisco.com/docs/wireless-troubleshooting-tools/#!wifi-hawk-wireless-captures-analysis/key--features>

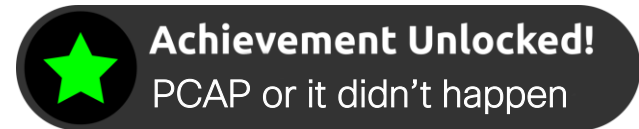


Story conclusions



Story conclusion

- Issues are not always easy to see.
- You need to understand what can your output prove for a fact or not
- In this case :
 - Randomly some beacons of the AP dropping by over 30 to 40dbm,
 - Sniffer not moving.
 - AP side issue, regardless of logs
- This got solved through a fix on the 2800 infrastructure AP.



Which transmit power and channel to expect ?

Install and Upgrade

Install and Upgrade Guides

Cisco Catalyst 9115AXE Access Point

[Detailed Channels and Maximum Power Settings for Cisco Catalyst 9115E Indoor Access Points](#)

Cisco Catalyst 9115AXI Access Point

[Detailed Channels and Maximum Power Settings for Cisco Catalyst 9115I Indoor Access Points](#)

[Detailed Channels and Maximum Power Settings for Cisco Catalyst 9115AXE Indoor Access Points, Release 17.6.1](#)

[Detailed Channels and Maximum Power Settings for Cisco Catalyst 9115AXI Indoor Access Points, Release 17.6.1](#)

[Cisco Catalyst 9115AX Series Access Point Getting Started Guide](#)

Install and Upgrade TechNotes

Cisco Catalyst 9115AXI Access Point

[Repair C9120/C9115 Access Points from U-boot](#)

[Embedded Wireless Controller Conversion on Catalyst 9100 Access Points](#)



Where's all my Wifi6 speed ?

Throughout issues in bank



Throughput issues : context

- A bank moves their HQ a few buildings further down the block in a new state-of-the-art office right after COVID



Not the actual building but you get the idea =>

Throughput issues : context

- They had a 5520 and 2800s in the old building and move to a 9800 with 9120s on the new building
- “More or less” the same configuration
- Old office still works great
- New office reports speed problems



What probably happened

- Probably one engineer with their laptop went to the new office, tested connectivity and declared the new office was fit for purpose
- There was no clear report of the validation testing done
 - Same client type as the end users ?
 - Same type of applications in use ?
 - Same type of client density ?

Throughput issues : the troubleshooting

Can you define what you mean with slow ?

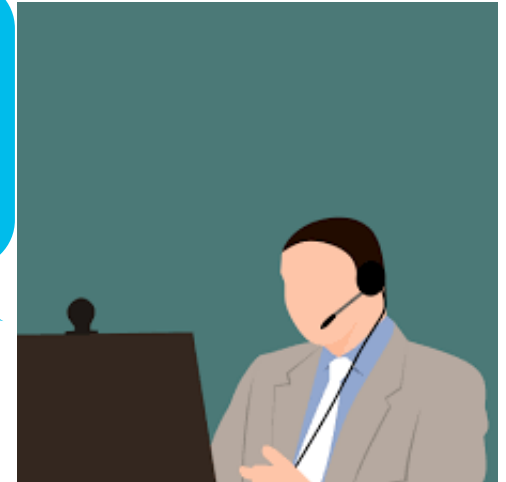
Very slow



Throughput issues : the troubleshooting

Can you collect some
lperf tests ?

130Mbps



What is slow ?

Slow can be : few kbps, few Mbps or “just 100Mbps instead of 800”

Step 1 : define

- Is everything equally slow ? Speedtest ? Local file transfer ? FTP ?
- Are all laptops affected equally ?
- Is it just browsing that’s giving a slow “feel” ?

What is slow ?

- Customers may say the wifi is slow but in reality they mostly use one application (Citrix or similar)
- Different applications work in different way. A FTP transfer is a very simple TCP throughput test. Iperf is also your friend. Test TCP/UDP
- Browsing maybe be impacted by over fragmentation (adjust MSS) or latency
- If some clients are affected way more than others, you may be facing a driver-specific issue

What is slow ?

If the speed is objectively terrible (few kbps to few Mbps), it should be easy to observe

An over the air capture will show if there is any problem over the air.
Examples :

- Number of retried frames (as a ratio)
- Periods of gaps where AP or client is not answering
- Reconnections ?
- MCS data rates used

Checking for possible reasons



Bad RF



Retransmissions

Summary Table:

ID	Interval	Transfer	Bandwidth
[4]	0.00-10.01 sec	96.5 MBytes	80.8 Mbits/sec
[4]	0.00-10.01 sec	34.3 MBytes	28.7 Mbits/sec

sender receiver

Filter: `(wlan.fc.type_subtype == 0x0028) && (wlan.fc.retry == 1)`

No.	Time	Source	Destination	MCS index	Signal strength	Length	Info
10...	24.8797...	Some-other-PC	G6-PC	6	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1548, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
10...	24.8873...	Some-other-PC	G6-PC	4	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1548, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
10...	24.8942...	Some-other-PC	G6-PC	6	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1551, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
10...	24.8950...	Some-other-PC	G6-PC	6	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1553, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
10...	24.9005...	Some-other-PC	G6-PC	6	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1553, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
10...	24.9070...	Some-other-PC	G6-PC	6	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1554, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	24.9196...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-33 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=3904, FN=0, Flags=.p..R..TC
11...	24.9597...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	8	-47 dBm	546	QoS Data, SN=948, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	24.9675...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	8	-47 dBm	546	QoS Data, SN=948, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	24.9836...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	6	-47 dBm	546	QoS Data, SN=948, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	25.0162...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	8	-47 dBm	1322	QoS Data, SN=951, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	25.0166...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	8	-47 dBm	1322	QoS Data, SN=951, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	25.0172...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	6	-47 dBm	1322	QoS Data, SN=951, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	25.0267...	Some-other-PC	G6-PC	5	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1659, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	25.1714...	G3-PC-that-works	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	8	-49 dBm	189	QoS Data, SN=2337, FN=0, Flags=.p..R..TC
11...	25.2383...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-31 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=788, FN=0, Flags=.p..R..TC
11...	25.2438...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	8	-47 dBm	1124	QoS Data, SN=971, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	25.2442...	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	G3-PC-that-works	8	-47 dBm	1124	QoS Data, SN=971, FN=0, Flags=.p..R.F.C
11...	25.2555...	G3-PC-that-works	IntelCor_a7:5f:99	8	-48 dBm	189	QoS Data, SN=2345, FN=0, Flags=.p..R..TC

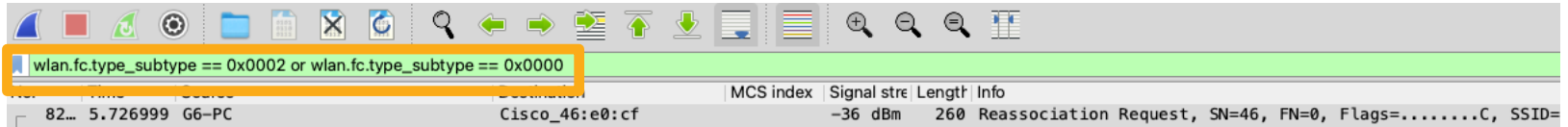
Type/Subtype: QoS Data (0x0028)

- Frame Control Field: 0x8849
 -00 = Version: 0
 - ... 10.. = Type: Data frame (2)
 - 1000 = Subtype: 8
- Flags: 0x49
 - Retransmission flag (wlan.fc.retry), 1 byte

Packets: 159187 - Displayed: 421 (0.3%)

Checking for possible reasons

Reconnections



Checking for possible reasons

- ❌ Bad data rate
- ❌ Bad RSSI

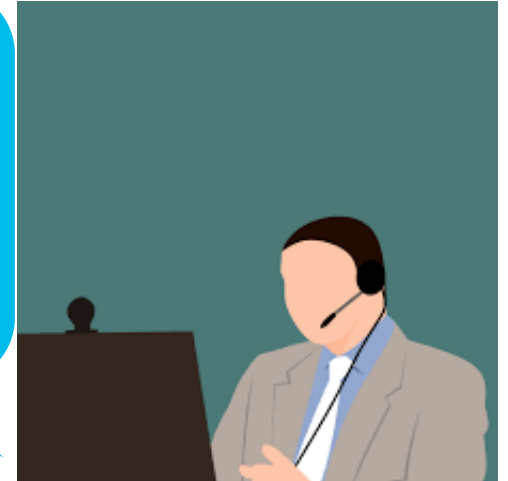
Filter: (wlan.fc.type_subtype == 0x0028)

No.	Time	Source	Destination	MCS index	Signal strength	length	Info
26...	12.0813...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	377	QoS Data, SN=1379, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.0859...	IntelCor_72:96:74	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1446, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.0884...	IntelCor_72:96:74	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	189	QoS Data, SN=1447, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.1356...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1380, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.1371...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1448, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2434...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1449, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2439...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1450, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2440...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1451, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2445...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	377	QoS Data, SN=1452, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2455...	G6-PC	IntelCor_31:45:2a	8	-33 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1381, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2471...	G6-PC	IntelCor_31:45:2a	8	-33 dBm	189	QoS Data, SN=1382, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2482...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1383, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2485...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1384, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2485...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1385, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2486...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-34 dBm	377	QoS Data, SN=1386, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2541...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1453, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2547...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1454, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2551...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1455, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2556...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	377	QoS Data, SN=1456, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2608...	G6-PC	IntelCor_31:45:2a	8	-33 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1387, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2626...	G6-PC	IntelCor_31:45:2a	8	-33 dBm	189	QoS Data, SN=1388, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2772...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1389, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2852...	IntelCor_72:96:74	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1457, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2863...	IntelCor_72:96:74	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	164	QoS Data, SN=1458, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2883...	IntelCor_72:96:74	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	189	QoS Data, SN=1459, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2895...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1390, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2897...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1391, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2897...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1392, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2900...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	377	QoS Data, SN=1393, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
26...	12.2943...	IntelCor_72:96:74	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1460, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.2971...	IntelCor_72:96:74	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	189	QoS Data, SN=1461, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.3176...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1462, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C
26...	12.3391...	G6-PC	IntelCor_72:96:74	8	-33 dBm	152	QoS Data, SN=1394, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
27...	12.3717...	IntelCor_31:45:2a	G6-PC	7	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=1463, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.C

Throughput issues : the troubleshooting

Can you be more specific ?

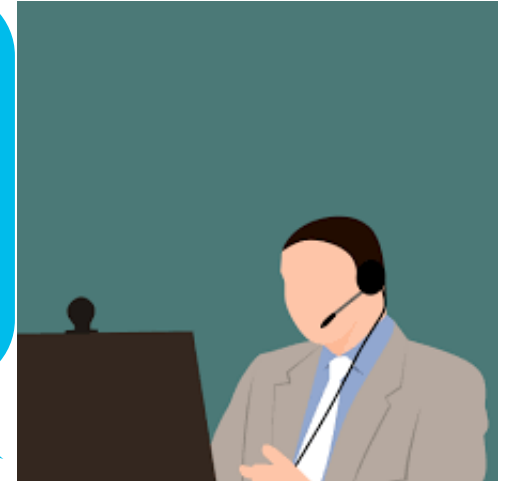
Files transfers are slow and meetings are bad as well



Throughput issues : the troubleshooting

Can you really please be more specific ?

Well, actually, large commits by our developers take a while and people around our devs complain their Teams meeting are bad



Throughput issues : the troubleshooting

Let's run some tests with all the laptop variations you have

Older Dell G3 work great but newer Dell G6 don't.

Ah !

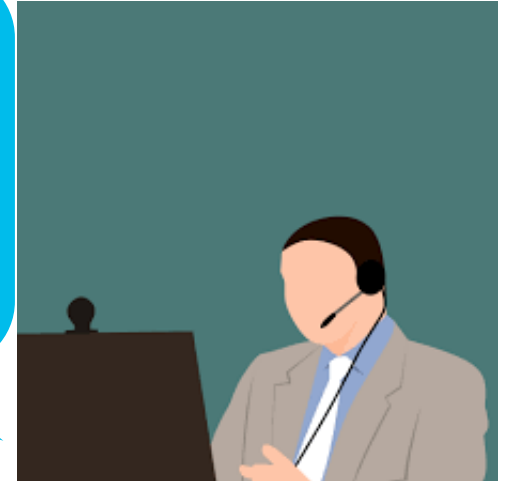


Throughput issues : the troubleshooting

Is the issue only present on one SSID ?

We made a test PSK SSID and all works great there.

??!?!?? *visible confusion*



Can you find the problem ?

No.	Time	Source	Destination	MCS index	Signal stre	Length	Info
81...	22.4478...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=665, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4478...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4478...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=666, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4478...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4480...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=667, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4480...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4482...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=668, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4482...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4483...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=669, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4483...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4485...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=670, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4485...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4485...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=671, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4485...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4490...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=672, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4490...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4490...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=673, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4490...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4491...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=674, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4491...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4492...	G6-PC (7c:b2:7d:78:ce:54) (TA)	Cisco_46:e0:cf...		-34 dBm	76	Request-to-send, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4492...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	68	Clear-to-send, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4494...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=675, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4495...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4495...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=676, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4495...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4497...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=677, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4497...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4502...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=678, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4502...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4502...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=679, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4502...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C
81...	22.4504...	G6-PC	Some-other-PC	8	-34 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=680, FN=0, Flags=.p.....TC
81...	22.4504...	G6-PC	G6-PC (7c:b2:7...		-47 dBm	72	Acknowledgement, Flags=.....C

What is slow ?

If the speed “could be better”, keep in mind that to go over 54Mbps

- You need open/WPA2-AES or better
- You need WMM
- Frame aggregation. Block ACKing 64 frames gives HUGE boost over acking each frame or ACKing 3-4 frames
- MCS Data rate
- Spatial streams

The working scenario

Apply a display filter ... <36/>

No.	Time	Source	Destination	MCS index	Signal stre	Length	Info
23...	15.0227...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2177, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0227...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2178, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0227...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2179, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0227...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2180, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0227...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-46 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2181, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0227...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2182, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0227...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2183, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0228...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2184, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0228...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2185, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0228...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-46 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2186, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0231...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2187, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0231...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-48 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2188, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0231...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2189, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0231...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2190, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0232...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-60 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2191, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0232...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2192, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0232...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2193, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0233...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2194, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0233...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2195, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0233...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-45 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2196, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0233...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2197, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0237...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-48 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2198, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0237...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2199, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0237...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2200, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0237...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2201, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0237...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2202, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0237...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2203, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0242...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	0 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2204, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0243...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-48 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2205, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0243...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-48 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2206, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0243...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2207, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0244...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-47 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2208, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0244...	G3-PC-that-works	Some-other-PC	8	-44 dBm	1402	QoS Data, SN=2209, FN=0, Flags=.p....TC
23...	15.0244...	Cisco_46:e0:cf (1c:d1:e0:46:e...	G3-PC-that-wor...		-47 dBm	68	802.11 Block Ack, Flags=.....C

Root cause?

Working situation shows lots of frames before a block ACK while problematic situation shows 1 frame 1 ACK, or few frames only with block ACK

- PSK SSID works
- Only certain laptop types are affected
- Previous network is not affected

Root cause : exhibit A

No.	Time	Source	Destination	MCS index	Signal strength	Length	Info
21...	6.617261	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G3-PC-that-wor...		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=1243, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
21...	6.623384	G3-PC-that-works	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-44 dBm	89	Action, SN=29, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
28...	7.786769	G3-PC-that-works	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-43 dBm	89	Action, SN=30, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
28...	7.787142	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G3-PC-that-wor...		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=1326, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
31...	8.157175	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G3-PC-that-wor...		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=1350, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
31...	8.163568	G3-PC-that-works	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-45 dBm	89	Action, SN=31, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
43...	11.6008...	G3-PC-that-works	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-42 dBm	83	Action, SN=32, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
43...	11.6105...	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G3-PC-that-wor...		-48 dBm	173	Action, SN=1616, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C

- > Frame 2188: 89 bytes on wire (712 bits), 89 bytes captured (712 bits)
- > Radiotap Header v0, Length 36
- > 802.11 radio information
- > IEEE 802.11 Action, Flags: .p.....C
- > Data (17 bytes)
 - Data: d9d8fad45f2c854364e599e233e4064172
 - [Length: 17]

Root cause : exhibit B

```
wlan.fc.type_subtype == 13
```

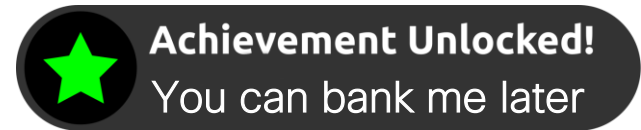
No.	Time	Source	Destination	MCS index	Signal stre	Length	Info
86...	6.010169	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G6-PC		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=3982, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
86...	6.010705	G6-PC	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-37 dBm	73	Action, SN=47, FN=0, Flags=.....C, Dialog Token=43
92...	6.483293	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G6-PC		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=4013, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
92...	6.483862	G6-PC	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-37 dBm	73	Action, SN=48, FN=0, Flags=.....C, Dialog Token=140
13...	7.488904	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G6-PC		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=0, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
13...	7.489399	G6-PC	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-37 dBm	73	Action, SN=49, FN=0, Flags=.....C, Dialog Token=188
17...	8.494916	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G6-PC		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=80, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C
17...	8.495444	G6-PC	Cisco_46:e0:cf		-37 dBm	73	Action, SN=50, FN=0, Flags=.....C, Dialog Token=27
20...	9.215867	Cisco_46:e0:cf	G6-PC		-47 dBm	89	Action, SN=131, FN=0, Flags=.p.....C

```
> Frame 8632: 73 bytes on wire (584 bits), 73 bytes captured (584 bits)
> Radiotap Header v0, Length 36
> 802.11 radio information
> IEEE 802.11 Action, Flags: .....C
v IEEE 802.11 Wireless Management
  v Fixed parameters
    Category code: Block Ack (3)
    Action code: Add Block Ack Response (0x01)
    Dialog token: 0x2b
    Status code: Successful (0x0000)
  > Block Ack Parameters: 0x1003, A-MSDUs, Block Ack Policy
    Block Ack Timeout: 0x1388
```

Root cause !

New Intel bug : when PMF is enabled, the client sends the ADDBA action frame as unencrypted while it should be encrypted.

Depending on how the AP likes it, it can cause throughput issues or other undesirable behaviors.



IPTV streaming of your favourite TV shows

The context

I have laptops watching multicast video streams and the quality is horrible over wireless



Wait wait, what kind of stream ?



The context

IPTV streams. They are MPEG-2 streams coming from a satellite IPTV appliance

What kind of bad quality are you seeing ? Is wired working fine ?



The context

That's the funny bit.
Some TV channels work
perfectly but others not.
Wired laptops have no
issues



??!?!?!?!??



Video proofs ...

- File “4a-wireless client.mpeg” : Stream saved on the wireless client. Notice how differently it plays depending on the app you use to play it (VLC/Quicktime/etc ...)
- File “4b- customer filmed.mov” . The customer filmed their screen playing the bad stream with their phone. This allows to visualize the actual customer experience !

How does a good MPEG-2 stream look like ?

- Each MPEG2 packet can contain 7 different (possibly unrelated) video segments
- Each "segment" has a frame identifier and a sequence number
- Sequence numbers are only from 0x0 to 0xF before rolling over to 0x0 again
- You won't notice 2 dropped packets as the sequence number roll over within 2 packets!

How does a good MPEG-2 stream looks like ?

- Example of a MPEG packet containing sequence 0,1,2,3 for frame 1451 but also sequence 8 for frame 1454, sequence 0 for frame 1452

```
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.10.158.70 (10.10.158.70), Dst: 239.192.64.9 (239.192.64.9)
User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 5000, Dst Port: 4444
ISO/IEC 13818-1 PID=0x1453 CC=0
[Reassembled in: 35848]
ISO/IEC 13818-1 PID=0x1452 CC=0
[Reassembled in: 35848]
ISO/IEC 13818-1 PID=0x1454 CC=8
[Reassembled in: 35748]
ISO/IEC 13818-1 PID=0x1451 CC=0
[Reassembled in: 35738]
ISO/IEC 13818-1 PID=0x1451 CC=1
[Reassembled in: 35738]
ISO/IEC 13818-1 PID=0x1451 CC=2
[Reassembled in: 35738]
ISO/IEC 13818-1 PID=0x1451 CC=3
[Reassembled in: 35738]
```

0000	01	00	5e	40	40	09	00	00	0c	9f	f4	7d	08	00	45	68	..^@... ..}..Eh
0010	05	40	00	00	00	00	35	11	07	2b	0c	0c	0c	15	2f	00	...f... ..E..

Reconstructing MPEG video from PCAP

- By doing Follow->UDP stream on the mpeg flow, you can export the payload as “RAW” and get a video file as it was streamed over the network. You save the MPEG and watch the quality

The screenshot displays the Wireshark interface with the following components:

- Packet List Pane:** Shows a list of packets. Packet 60587 is highlighted, showing a time of 2020-03-09 15:45:25.118015, source IP 10.10.158.70, and destination IP 239.192.64.9. The protocol is listed as MPEG.
- Packet Details Pane:** Shows the structure of the selected packet. The top level is Ethernet II, followed by Internet Protocol Version 4, and User Datagram Protocol. The UDP section shows a destination port of 4009.
- Packet Bytes Pane:** Shows the raw data of the selected packet, including the Ethernet II header and the UDP payload.
- Context Menu:** A context menu is open over packet 60587, with the 'Follow' option selected. The 'Follow' submenu is also visible, showing options for TCP Stream, UDP Stream, DCCP Stream, TLS Stream, HTTP Stream, HTTP/2 Stream, QUIC Stream, and SIP Call.

Frame 60587: 1358 bytes on wire (10864 bits), 1358 bytes captured (10864 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{E48B0D76-E707-4902-B8AD-8221100DB532}, id 0
Ethernet II, Src: Cisco_9f:f4:7d (00:00:0c:9f:f4:7d), Dst: IPv4mcast_40:40:09 (01:00:5e:40:40:09)

Can wireshark detect MPEG packet drop ?

- File 4d- SPAN.mpeg
- Comparing the exported stream from a PCAP collected on a wired PC allows to see that the wired network does not impact the MPEG quality at all, whatever problem happens over wireless.

Can wireshark detect MPEG packet drop ?

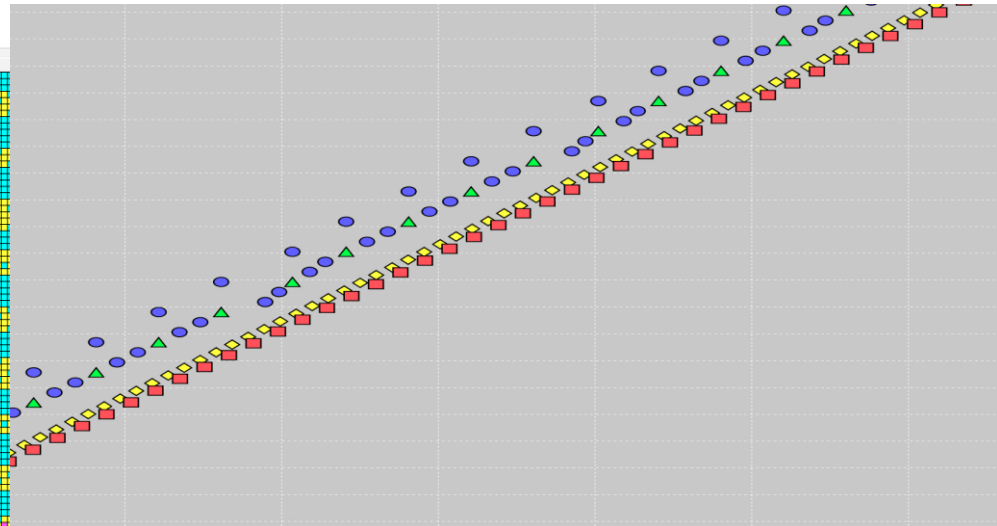
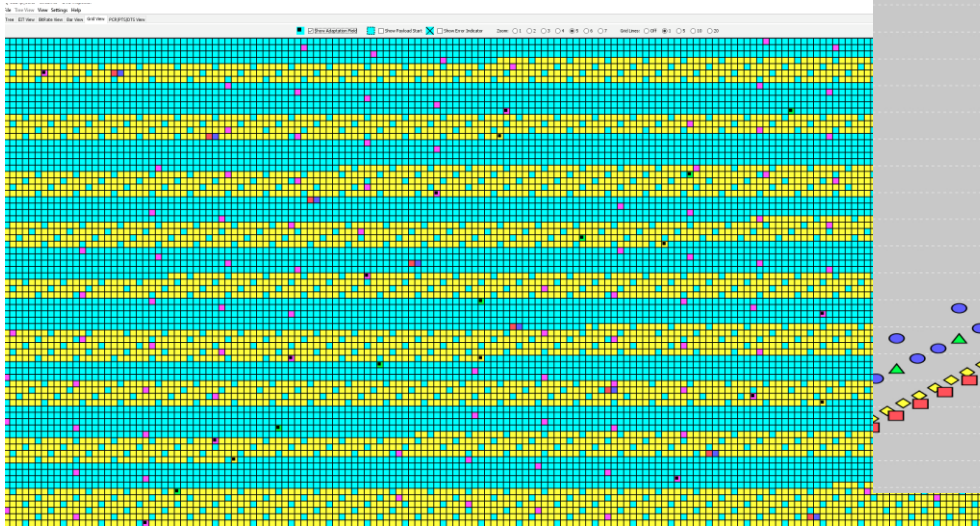
- Filter “mp2t.analysis.skips >= 1”
- Filter “mp2t.cc.drop”

But why would one TV channel work and not another ?

- Time to pull out the big gun : DVB inspector

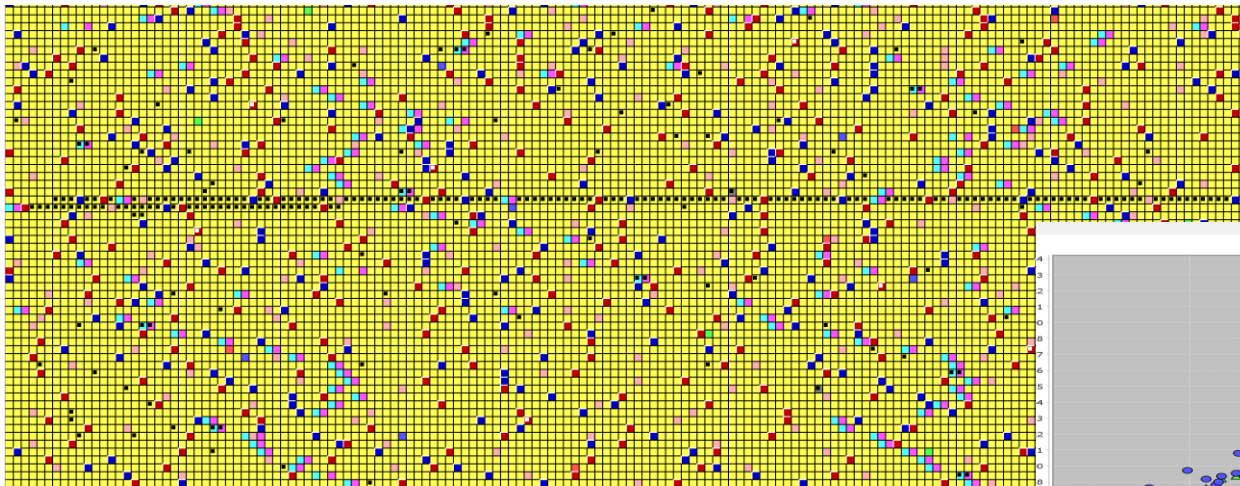
But why would one TV channel work and not another ?

- Good stream

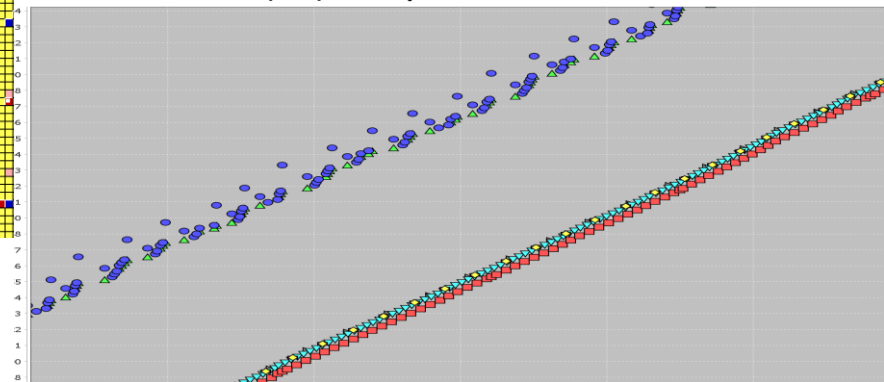


But why would one TV channel work and not another ?

- Bad stream



PCR/PTS/DTS Graph - Service 10325



Story conclusions

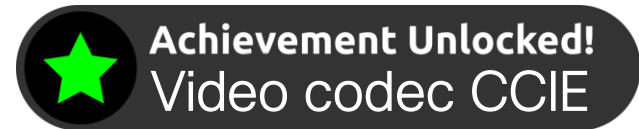


IPTV: Key takeaways

- Human network is critical : you cannot be an expert at everything (i.e. MPEG)
- Compare the working with the non-working, always
- It is key to understand the type of traffic you have, regardless of what it is:
 - Does it do buffering or is it super real-time ?
 - Is the stream itself multicast ? Or was it a multicast discovery only ?
 - What's the tolerance to packet loss and/or reorder ?

IPTV: What happened ?

- We took all the possible measures to reduce the amount of packet loss, but it was definitely in the 1% expected range
- If some streams worked and not others, it was a clear pointer that some TV channel streams were poorly encoded. Suggested looking into finding some way to transcode the streams or change IPTV provider.





Agenda

14.15 : start and intro

14.30 : Some stories from Nico



16.15 : coffee break

16.45 : Even More stories from Javier

18.45 : End !




Agenda

14.15 : start and intro

14.30 : Some stories from Nico

16.15 : coffee break

 16.45 : Even More stories from Javier

18.45 : End !

If it walks like a duck...
Could be an orange

The Story starts...

- Large customer, multiple offices across the world
 - Social Media (so IT/Tech)
 - Fancy buildings, high density environment
 - Mixed Client types
-
- Problem: Clients can't connect, on some places, some times...



Sometimes Problems are not what it seems

- Client can't connect
- EAP authentication error
 - No EAP ID response

```
2022/05/11 19:17:55.137668 {wncd_x_R0-0}{1}: [eap]
[16660]: (debug): 'Authenticator ReqId Retransmit'
timer expired for EAP sesion handle 0x.
```

```
2022/05/11 19:18:00.138002 {wncd_x_R0-0}{1}: [eap]
[16660]: (debug): 'Authenticator ReqId Retransmit'
timer expired for EAP sesion handle 0x.
```

```
2022/05/11 19:18:00.138624 {wncd_x_R0-0}{1}:
[ewlc-infra-evq] [16660]: (ERR):
SANET_AUTHC_FAILURE - No Response from Client,
audit session id xx
```

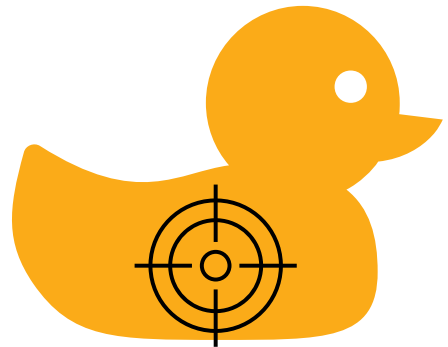


Questions arise

- Happens for all client types?
 - Yes
- Multiple sites? Single location?
 - Mostly seen in some sites
 - Never seen in site X/Y
- Permanent failure?
 - Sometimes yes, but occasionally recovers
 - If you move client, it works

Jumping into early guess

- EAP ID Failure: Common client issue (wireless profile config)
- Quickly discarded:
 - Issue is intermittent at client
 - Issue happens across different client types
 - Issue is tied to physical/AP location
 - Restarting AP recovers the problem



Initial data collection

- Log traces:
 - Shows Controller sending EAP ID request, no response on specific Aps
- AP traces:
 - EAP ID transmitted, no response seen:

```
Jul 25 12:25:04 kernel: [*07/25/2022 12:25:04.7993] [1658751904:799273] [LHR105.09.04] [1e:83:f4:2f:1e:53]  
<apr1v2> [D:W] EAP_PACKET.Request : Id 0x01 type 1 Identity
```

```
Jul 25 12:25:09 kernel: [*07/25/2022 12:25:09.7999] [1658751909:799825] [LHR105.09.04] [1e:83:f4:2f:1e:53]  
<apr1v2> [D:W] EAP_PACKET.Request : Id 0x01 type 1 Identity
```

```
Jul 25 12:25:14 kernel: [*07/25/2022 12:25:14.7998] [1658751914:799692] [LHR105.09.04] [1e:83:f4:2f:1e:53]  
<apr1v2> [D:W] EAP_PACKET.Request : Id 0x01 type 1 Identity
```

Isolation flow

- Full picture required:
 - RA trace + Internal
 - AP logs
 - Wireless Sniffer trace

- Several iterations of capture needed to get the problem properly

Sniffer trace shows “where” it happens

- WiFi-Hawk paints a different picture

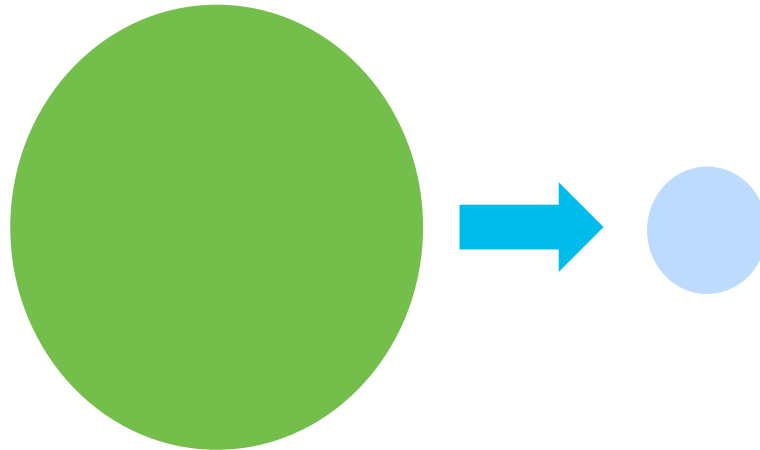
Event Flow:

Direction	Type	Severity	BSSID	Frame	Time	Info
>>>>>>	Probe request	Info	NA	3523 NA		Consecutive requests:1
<<<<<<	Probe response	Info	NA	3524 NA		Consecutive responses:1
>>>>>>	Auth request	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	3529 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:21.269553		Auth Open System
<<<<<<	Auth resp success	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	3531 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:21.270856		Auth Open System
>>>>>>	Assoc request	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	3533 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:21.272868		Type: FT 802.1x . To SSID:lighthouse
<<<<<<	Assoc resp-success	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	3535 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:21.282809		Client Associated
<<<<<<	EAP Start	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	3556 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:21.920145		EAP START
<<<<<<	EAP Start	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	3757 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:26.905823		EAP START
<<<<<<	EAP Start	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	3971 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:31.909538		EAP START
>>>>>>	Probe request	Info	NA	4299 NA		Consecutive requests:1
<<<<<<	Probe response	Info	NA	4300 NA		Consecutive responses:1
>>>>>>	Auth request	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	4302 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:38.444052		Auth Open System
<<<<<<	Auth resp success	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	4304 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:38.448646		Auth Open System
>>>>>>	Assoc request	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	4306 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:38.449704		Type: FT 802.1x . To SSID:lighthouse
<<<<<<	Assoc resp-success	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	4308 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:38.456640		Client Associated
<<<<<<	EAP Start	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	4363 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:39.148641		EAP START
<<<<<<	EAP Start	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	4569 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:44.118291		EAP START
<<<<<<	EAP Start	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2d	4818 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:49.123359		EAP START
>>>>>>	Auth request	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2e	5063 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:55.135643		Auth Open System
<<<<<<	Auth resp success	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2e	5065 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:55.138958		Auth Open System
>>>>>>	Assoc request	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2e	5067 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:55.139941		Type: PSK . To SSID:metaguest
<<<<<<	Assoc resp-success	Info	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2e	5069 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:55.148949		Client Associated
<<<<<<	Disassociate received	Warning	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2e	5187 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:58.167562		Disassociate received. Reason code:4-way handshake timeout
<<<<<<	No EAPoL M1 detected	Error	f0:1d:2d:4b:47:2e	5187 Tue, 05 Jul 2022 14:18:58.167562		Trigger is normally AP side defect



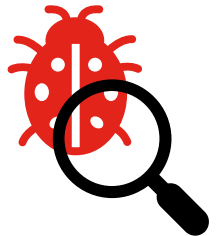
Problem Isolated to AP

- AP is not TX/RX EAP frames
- AP is sending Association/Beacon/Auth
- Where in AP is this being dropped?



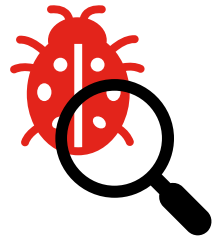
Now it gets ugly

- No related details seen on logs/AP debugs
- Debugging is difficult due to other “noise” triggered by IPv6 HSRP
- High Impact, frequency is high
- AP debug images needed
- Customer asks for workaround



Long nights later

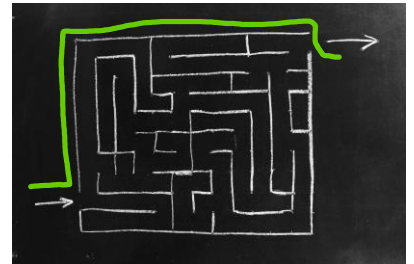
- DFS event correlated to start of problem
- AP sees radar, no channel change, TX stops
- Message drop between Firmware - Driver - Kernel
- Trigger known but no full fix



Workaround on the Rocks

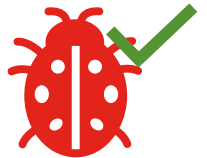
```
event manager applet dfs-collect
event timer watchdog time 1800 maxrun 120
action 101 cli command "en"
action 110 cli command "term len 0"
action 120 cli command "sh ap summary | ex AP Name|Number of APs:|-----"
action 130 foreach line "$_cli_result" "\n"
action 140 regexp "(9130)" "$line"
action 150 if $_regexp_result eq "1"
action 160     regexp "^(^ [^ ]+).*\r$" "$line" _match _AP_NAME
action 170     if $_regexp_result eq "1"
action 180         cli command "ap name $_AP_NAME remote command $q sh dot11 generic iwpriv wifi1 g_dfs_pending $q"
action 190     end
action 200 end
action 210 end
```

```
event manager applet dfs_detect
event syslog pattern "g_dfs_pending:1" maxrun 120
action 101 cli command "en"
action 102 cli command "term len 0"
action 110 foreach line "$_syslog_msg" "\n"
action 120     regexp "AP_LOG-6-([\_A-Za-z0-9\-\.\.]+)" "$line" match _AP_NAME
action 130     if $_regexp_result eq "1"
action 140         syslog msg "*** DFS lock detected for AP: $_AP_NAME, resetting CAPWAP"
action 180         cli command "ap name $_AP_NAME reset capwap"
action 190     end
action 250 end
```



Fixed - CSCwc78435

- Invalid Channel extension sent to driver
- Controller never gets notification, so DFS is not completed, radio in “invalid” state
- Day one issue
- Why not seen before:
 - RF design
 - HD density
 - 40 MHz
 - Client types



Story conclusions



Several learnings

- Not jumping into conclusions: Symptom had nothing to do with real issue
- Using EEM as Workaround Automation
- RF environment and configuration can play a huge role

The Tale of the Three Defects

Emergency: Authentications Failing

- Multiple customers reporting authentication failures
- Some happening per site, some globally
- Reload recovers

```
RADIUS: id 1, priority 1, host <IP addr> , auth-port 1812, acct-port 1813, hostname ZCC-Cloud-SRV-1
```

```
State: current UP, duration 167530s, previous duration 0s
```

```
Dead: total time 0s, count 0
```

```
Platform State from SMD: current UP, duration 167529s, previous duration 0s
```

```
SMD Platform Dead: total time 0s, count 0
```

```
Platform State from WNCN (1) : current DEAD
```

```
Platform State from WNCN (2) : current UP
```

```
Platform State from WNCN (3) : current UP
```



Questions start

- Is server failing?

- No errors on AAA side.

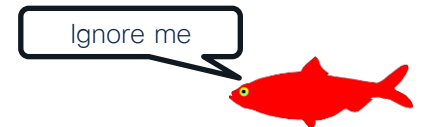
```
%SESSION_MGR-5-FAIL: Chassis 1 R0/0: wncd: Authorization failed or unapplied for client (X.X.X) on Interface capwap_900001cc AuditSessionID YYY. Failure reason: Authc fail. Authc failure reason: AAA Server Down.
```

- Recovery by controller reload

- So probable device side issue

- Any recent changes?

- “Not that I recall” (for some cases)
- Upgraded to 17.3.4/17.6.1 few days ago



Data collection

- ACL/FW: Not present

- Client RA trace:

```
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [dot1x] [20560]: (info): [X.X.X:capwap_90c0091a] Received EAPOL packet - Version : 1,EAPOL Type : EAP, Payload Length : 10, EAP-Type = Identitycc
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (ERR): RSPE- Delete Idle sockets in a Socket Pool : Input Validation Failed
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (ERR): RSPE- Create New Socket Data : Dynamic socket pool limit is still at Maximum 96 after clean up
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (ERR): $$$$ RSPE- Crete New Socket Data : Worst case scenario Reached $$$$
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (ERR): RSPE- Get Socket_Fd and Free Identifier : Failed to get Free socket and Free Identifier
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: Send Access-Request to Z.Z.Z.Z:1812 id 0/125, len 426
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: authenticator
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: User-Name [1] 7 "user"
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: Cisco AVpair [1] 21 "service-type=Framed"
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: Framed-MTU [12] 6 1485
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: EAP-Message [79] 12 ...
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: Message-Authenticator[80] 18 ...
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: EAP-Key-Name [102] 2 *
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: Cisco AVpair [1] 43 "audit-session-id=06FD11AC0002844AF892D07C"
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: Cisco AVpair [1] 14 "method=dot1x"
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (info): RADIUS: Nas-Identifier [32] 36 "nas"
{wncd_x_R0-3}{1}: [radius] [20560]: (ERR): could not set the l3_packet info in the socket
```

Data collection

- RA trace process:

```
wlc#debug platform condition feature wireless mac X.X.X
```

```
wlc#debug platform condition start
```

Repro problem

```
wlc#debug platform condition stop
```

```
wlc# show logging profile wireless level debug filter mac X.X.X
```

New!

Data collection – 17.9.2 +

- Client Debug Bundle

```
wlc#debug wireless bundle client <client_mac1 ...client_mac5>
```

Repro problem

```
wlc#no debug wireless bundle client <client_mac1 ...client_mac5>
```

- Auto-stop at 30 min

- Copy tar file to server:

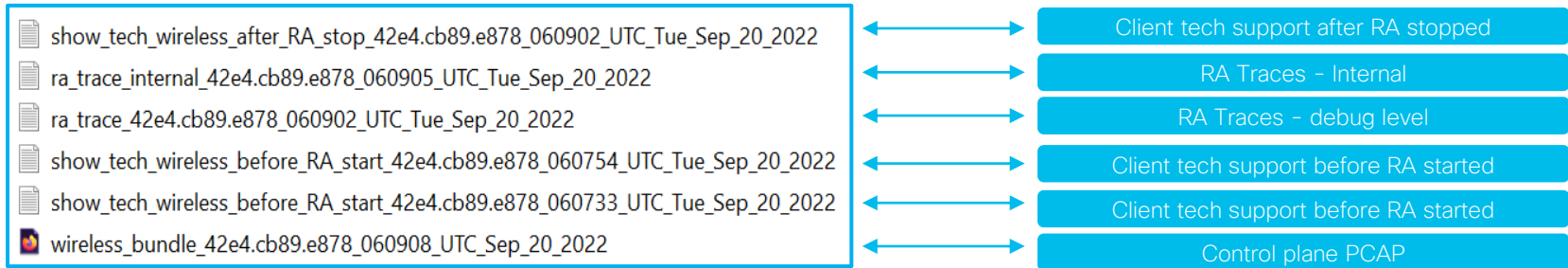
```
copy bootflash:wireless_bundle_x.x.x.UTC_Sep_20_2022.tar tftp://<TFTP IP>/<TFTP PATH>
```

- Optional EPC capture:

```
debug wireless bundle include epc client
```

Bundle Contents

- Two sets of RA traces for all the clients
- Two sets of clients tech support
- WLC control plane captures



Root Cause Analysis

- What is known:
 - Problem starts X time after upgrade to 17.3.4
 - Time delayed problem: Leak
- RA trace:
 - Radius socket error
- What has changed?
 - Related Commits in 17.3.4: CSCvx50397 Radius Source port extension Enhancement for support IPv4 and IPv6
- Trigger is on Accounting request **retransmissions**, causing a socket entry leak



Damage Control

- Quick “fix”: Removal of CSCvx50397 using CSCvz30708.
17.3.4c
- Full fix: CSCvz55484 Wireless client authentications fail as the controller is unable to send RADIUS packets
17.3.5 +
- Changes to feature sanity testing



Story conclusions



Data collection + testing failure

- RA client trace shows the problem
 - Extensive actions plans were not needed
- Leak delay masked the trigger
- Improvements needed on negative test case scenarios

Flapping around

Context

- University in U.S
- Migrated to C9800 WLCs
- Mix of Access Points – 2802s, 9120s with some 2700s and 1562s
- Symptom Reported: Intermittent network outage due to AP Flaps

Defining the problem symptom

- Are APs crashing or flapping?
- show ap uptime

AP Name	Ethernet MAC	Radio MAC	AP Up Time	Association Up Time
AP1	Eth1	Radmac1	1 day 21 hours 14 minutes 17 seconds	1 day 21 hours 12 minutes 3 seconds
AP2	Eth2	Radmac2	1 day 1 hour 49 minutes 7 seconds	13 minutes 25 seconds
AP3	Eth3	Radmac3	1 day 21 hours 13 minutes 25 seconds	9 minutes 37 seconds
AP4	Eth4	Radmac4	1 day 21 hours 13 minutes 25 seconds	10 minutes 11 seconds
AP5	Eth5	Radmac5	1 day 21 hours 14 minutes 17 seconds	1 day 21 hours 11 minutes 58 seconds
AP6	Eth6	Radmac6	1 day 21 hours 13 minutes 26 seconds	6 minutes 6 seconds
AP7	Eth7	Radmac7	1 day 21 hours 14 minutes 17 seconds	1 day 21 hours 11 minutes 55 seconds

- Dir bootflash:*.crash

```
Directory of bootflash:/*.crash
```

```
No such file
```

- **Conclusion:** APs are only flapping capwap tunnel, they're not crashing

AP Flaps – First Steps

- Identify the capwap disconnect reason for APs
- Show wireless stats ap join summary

Number of APs: 600

Base MAC	Ethernet MAC	AP Name	IP Address	Status	Last Failure Phase	Last Disconnect Reason
RadioMAC1	EthernetMAC1	E1-F2-AP1		Joined	Run	Heart beat timer expiry
RadioMAC2	EthernetMAC2	C3-F1-AP3		Joined	Run	DTLS close alert from peer
RadioMAC3	EthernetMAC3	C1-F4-AP2		Joined	Join	DTLS close alert from peer
RadioMAC4	EthernetMAC4	C5-F2-AP4		Joined	Run	DTLS close alert from peer
RadioMAC5	EthernetMAC5	M1-F19-AP1		Joined	Run	DTLS close alert from peer
RadioMAC6	EthernetMAC6	P4-F10-AP1		Joined	Run	DTLS close alert from peer
RadioMAC7	EthernetMAC7	C3-F1-AP6		Joined	Run	DTLS close alert from peer
...						

- DTLS Close alert from Peer is the highest hit count

Did you know?

- DTLS failures usually indicate problems with the certificate used for DTLS/CAPWAP Join
- AP uses Manufacturing Installed Certificate (MIC) for DTLS
- C9800 appliances (C9800-40, C9800-80, C9800-L) uses SUDI for DTLS
- C9800-CL (private or public cloud) uses Self-Signed Certificate (SSC) mapped to Wireless management interface (WMI) for DTLS

Typical Certificate Problems

- Clock on the WLC is not set making the WLC certificate invalid
 - show clock/show time
 - Fixed by setting up NTP
- Certificate on the AP has expired
 - show crypto (on AP)
 - show crypto pki
 - Workaround: Configure certify expiry ignore on the WLC
- Depending on AP Model and version, it might be using SHA1 certificate while the WLC is using SHA2 certificate by default

TAC's Engineer's Take away

- The common problems are constant and need user intervention to recover

Except...

- APs recover on their own
- APs flap intermittently is intermittent

Next Steps:

- Identify trend failure for one AP
- Identify event in network or on WLC/AP matching trend

Identify trend of AP Flaps

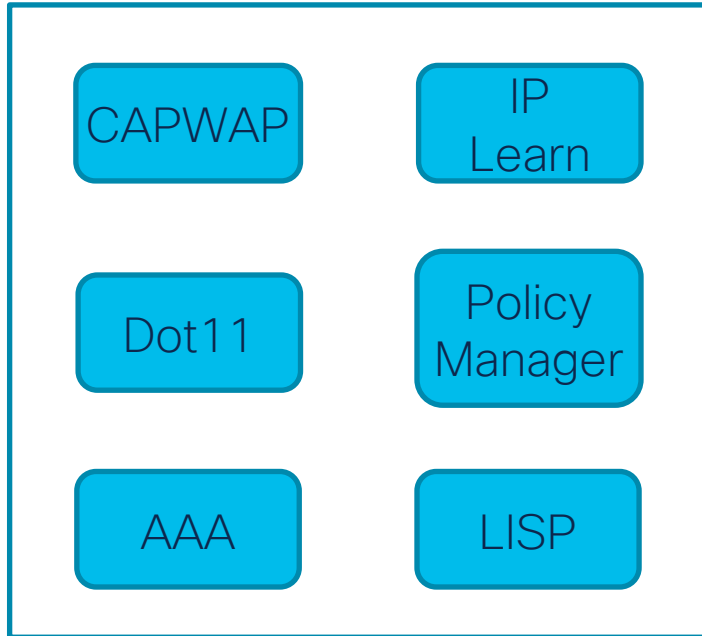
- show wireless stats ap history mac-address <AP_Ethernet_MAC>

AP Name	Radio MAC	Event	Time	Recent Disconnect Time	Disconnect Reason
APName	APRadioMAC	Joined	05/27/22 10:08:36	NA	
APName	APRadioMAC	Disjoined	05/27/22 10:08:05	NA	DTLS close alert from peer
APName	APRadioMAC	Joined	05/27/22 10:05:24	NA	
APName	APRadioMAC	Disjoined	05/27/22 10:04:53	NA	DTLS close alert from peer

TAC Engineer's Conclusions

- Specific times at which AP is flapping is identified
- Unfiltered output shows total number of affected APs identified
- Multiple iterations of unfiltered output also shows if same APs are affected at each incident
- Co-located APs share RF space and on C9800 are recommended to be assigned to same site tag and therefore, same WNCd instance

Wireless Network Control Daemon (WNCd)



WNCd : controller process managing AP and client session

- Capwap : AP discovery
- Dot11 : Client dot11
- SANET/AAA: Client authentication
- EPM : Client policies
- SISF : client IP learning
- Client Orchestrator : Client State Transitions
- LISP-agent : L2 LISP handling for Fabric deployment

C9800 High CPU – Show commands

- CPU cores used by IOSd

```
show process cpu sorted
```

- CPU cores used by BinOS processes

```
show process cpu platform sorted
```

- Traffic Punted to CPU

```
show platform hardware chassis active qfp feature wireless punt  
statistics (multiple iterations)
```

- CPU Queues and Policers

```
show platform software punt-policer
```

C9800 High CPU – CPU PCAP

- Steps to capture CPU only PCAP (CLI only)

```
monitor capture CPUCAP control-plane both
monitor capture CPUCAP match any
monitor capture CPUCAP buffer size 100
monitor capture CPUCAP start
```

- Collect captures during high CPU and export as a .pcap.

```
monitor capture CPUCAP stop
monitor capture CPUCAP export {bootflash:|tftp:...}/filename.pcap
```

- Once the file is obtained and verified to open in Wireshark, remember to clear the buffer and disable the capture

```
monitor capture CPUCAP clear
no monitor capture CPUCAP
```

EPC CPU Only Analysis

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Control And Provisioning of Wireless Access Points - Data	Info
1	16:22:31.512958			ARP		
2	16:22:31.512958			ARP		Who has IP1? Tell IP100
3	16:22:31.512958			ARP		Who has IP2? Tell IP100
4	16:22:31.512958			ARP		Who has IP3? Tell IP100
5	16:22:31.512958			ARP		Who has IP1? Tell IP101
6	16:22:31.512958			ARP		Who has IP5? Tell IP100
7	16:22:31.512958			ARP		Who has IP1? Tell IP103
8	16:22:31.512958			ARP		Who has IP1? Tell IP104
				ARP		Who has IP7? Tell IP100

- ARP storm triggered by some clients

Root Cause / Workaround

- Digging down on the problem clients (client card, OS, driver, supplicant) specific driver was identified as the common factor
- Engaged client card vendor
- Known issue on the driver
- Fixed via driver update

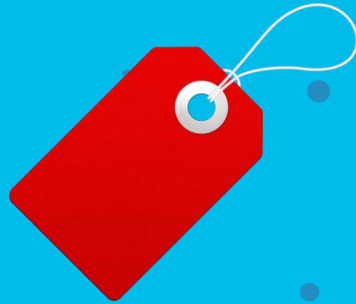
Optimization on C9800

- Exclude clients triggering the storm based on configurable fields of packets per second and burst-interval.

```
ip arp limit rate <pps>  
ip arp limit rate <burst-interval>  
ip arp limit rate {pps | burst-interval | none}
```

- PPS = Maximum ARP packets allowed for client/sec (Default: 100)
- Burst-interval = consecutive interval in seconds to see max PPS for ARP (Default: 5secs)
- Create explicit exclusion reason for excessive ARP activity

Tagging Etiquette



Context

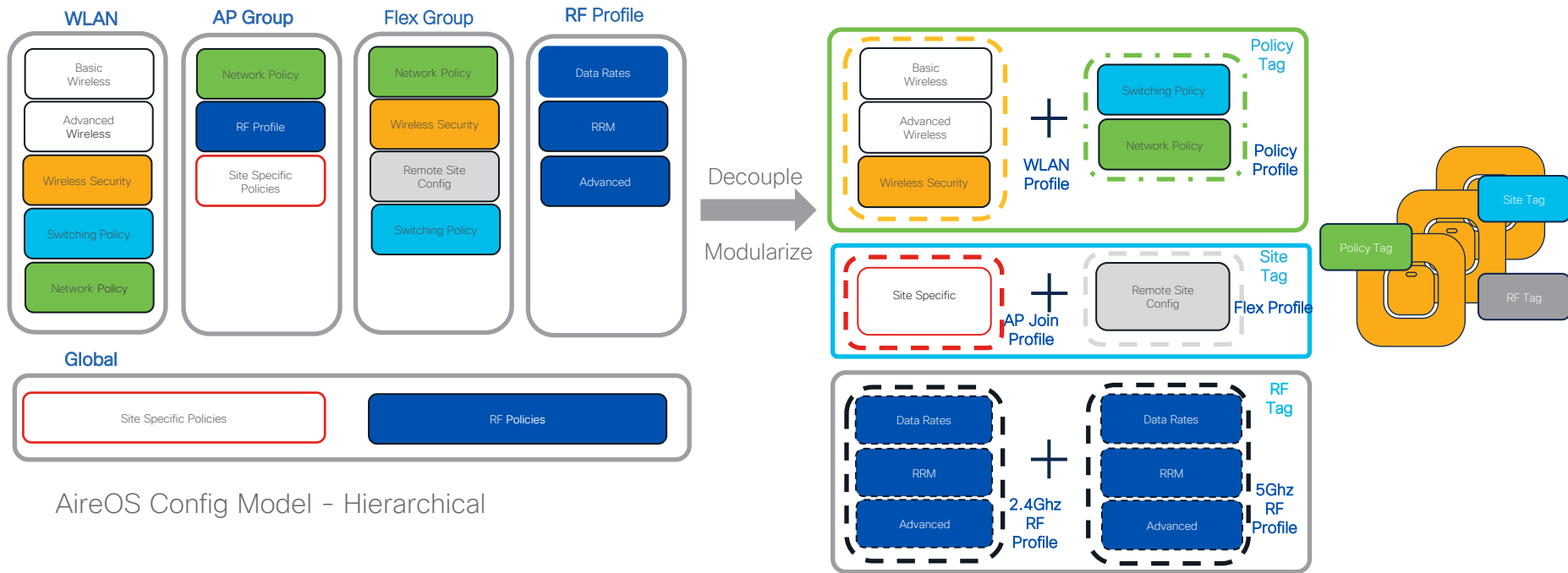
- U.S University
- C9800, 17.3.4c
- AP Models: 9130s, 2800s
- Problem Symptom: Intermittent network outage **in certain areas** due to AP Flaps

EPC CPU Analysis

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Control And Provisioning of Wireless Access Points - Data	Info
1	08:38:50.783956		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
2	08:38:50.783956			TCP		
3	08:38:50.783956		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
4	08:38:50.783956		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
5	08:38:50.783956		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
6	08:38:50.783956		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
7	08:38:50.783956			MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR 38714e6a4b5a.
8	08:38:50.784947			DTLSv1...		Application Data
9	08:38:50.784947		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
10	08:38:50.784947		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
11	08:38:50.784947		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
12	08:38:50.784947			DTLSv1...		Application Data
13	08:38:50.784947		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
14	08:38:50.784947		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
15	08:38:50.784947		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
16	08:38:50.784947		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
17	08:38:50.785954		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
18	08:38:50.785954			DTLSv1...		Application Data
19	08:38:50.785954		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush
20	08:38:50.785954		224.0.0.251	MDNS		Standard query response 0x0000 PTR, cache flush

AireOS vs. Catalyst 9800 Config Model

Modularized and Reusable model with Logical decoupling of configuration entities



AireOS Config Model - Hierarchical

C9800 Config Model - Non-Hierarchical

Other References

- BRKEWN-2338: Catalyst Wireless – How to Successfully Migrate to Catalyst 9800
- <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/wireless/catalyst-9800-series-wireless-controllers/213911-understand-catalyst-9800-wireless-contro.html>

Tag Sources and Priority

- Tags are only active after they are applied to one or more APs.
- AP can have multiple tag sources
 - Static – user configured per AP mac
 - Location – Basic Setup Flow
 - Filter – regular expression matching on AP Name
 - AP – tags saved on AP
- These sources are in order of their priority

Statically applied tag is preferred over tags provided by basic setup which, in turn is preferred over filters

The screenshot shows the configuration page for 'Tags' under 'Tags & Profiles'. The 'AP' tab is selected. Below the navigation tabs, there are three sub-tabs: 'Tag Source', 'Static', and 'Filter'. The 'Tag Source' sub-tab is active and displays a table with the following data:

Priority	Tag Source	Status
0	Static	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	Location	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Filter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	AP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Below the table, there is a note: 'Drag and Drop Tag Sources to change priorities'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for 'Revalidate Tag Sources on AP' and an 'Apply' button.

Tag Persistency

- When an AP joins a C9800, it does not save the tags to its own memory by default.
- Result: When AP moves to another C9800(say WLC2), it will only inherit tags as per the configuration (static or location or filter) on WLC2 or end up with default tags When AP moves
- Explicit configuration is needed to save tags to AP's flash.
- Before 17.6.1, tags had to be saved on individual APs
(config)#ap name <APNAME> write tag-config
- Starting 17.6.1, global command was added on C9800
(config)#ap tag persistency enable

Tag Persistency

Configuration > Wireless > Access Points

All Access Points

Number of AP(s): 1

AP Name	AP Model	Slots	Admin Status	IP Ad
9130	C9130AXI-B	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10.

5 GHz Radios

2.4 GHz Radios

Dual-Band Radios

Country

LSC Provision

Edit AP

AP Name: 9130

Location*: default location

Base Radio MAC: 04eb.409f.c320

Ethernet MAC: 04eb.409e.2b98

Admin Status: **ENABLED**

AP Mode: Local

Operation Status: Registered

Fabric Status: Disabled

LED State: **ENABLED**

LED Brightness Level: 8

CleanAir [NSI Key](#)

Tags

Policy: pt1104-central

Site: default-site-tag

RF: default-rf-tag

Write Tag Config to AP

Configuration > Tags & Profiles > Tags

Policy Site RF **AP**

Tag Source Static Location Filter

Priority	Tag Source	Status
0	Static	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	Location	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Filter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	AP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Drag and Drop Tag Sources to change priorities

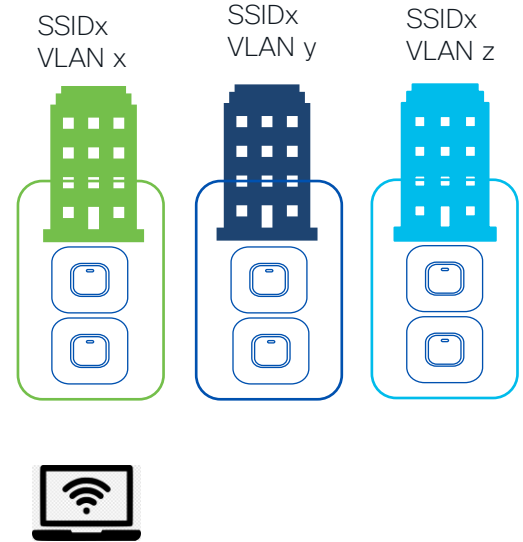
- Revalidate Tag Sources on APs
- Enable AP Tag Persistency

Apply



Roaming across Policy Profiles

- Vlan to which wireless clients belong, for a given SSID is defined on the policy profile. Policy tag is then used to map SSID/wlan profile to policy profile.
- On a large campus, multiple policy profiles may be in use to map same SSID to different vlans.
- Until 17.3, roaming between APs tagged with different policy profiles was not supported.
- On 17.3, seamless roaming can be achieved by running global config command `wireless client-vlan persistent`



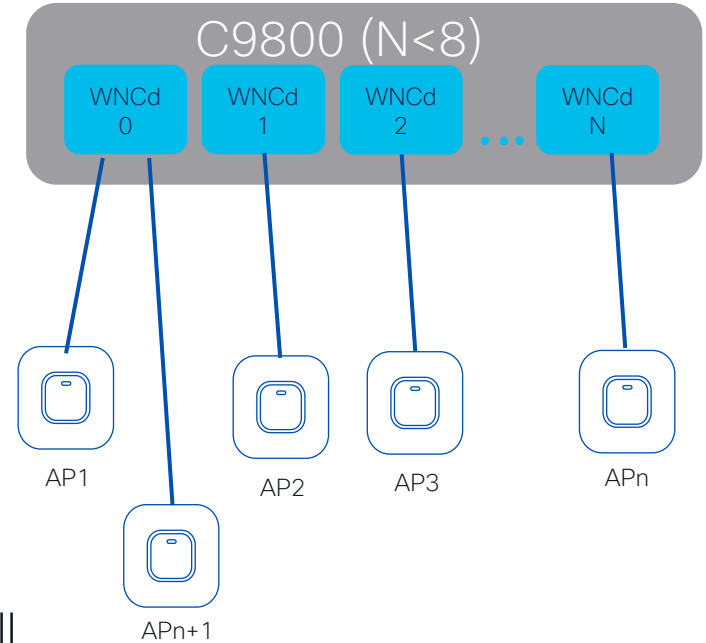
Workaround / Design Update

- Area affected (or site tag X) is the busiest building – high client count and roaming expected
- WNCd mapping to the site tag X also has 3 other site tags mapped which are all fairly busy
- Other WNCds have site tags with AP count ranging from 1-20

Design Recommendation: Split site tag X

New Config Model – Site Tag

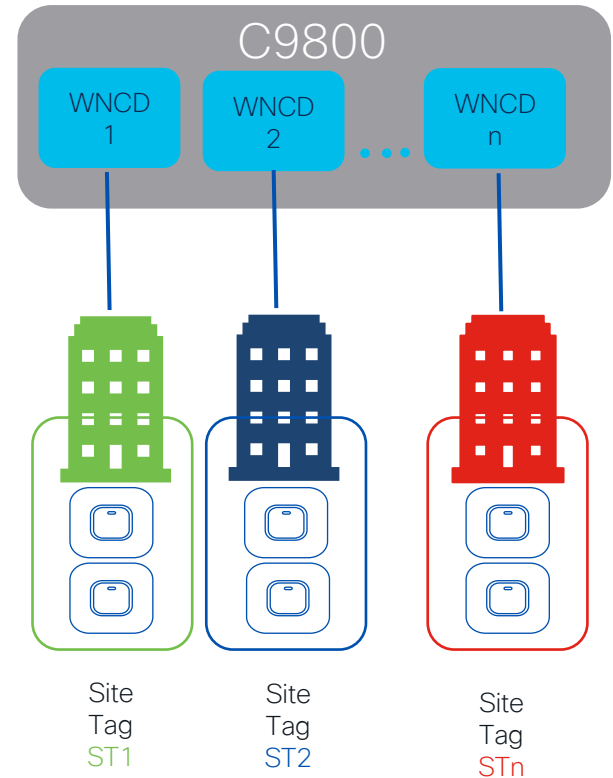
- With no tag config on C9800, AP gets assigned default tags:
 - Default-policy-tag
 - Default-site-tag
 - Default-rf-tag
- APs get load balanced across WNCd instances round-robin
- Proximity based features like 11k, 11v, CHD are managed within each WNCd and only starting will break if neighbors are on different WNCds until 17.7 where this limitation was removed



New Config Model – Recommendations

- Configure **custom site-tag**
- Assign site-tag based on roaming domain
- For flex, 100 APs per flex site tag (increased to 300 starting 17.8)
- For local mode AP

	Max APs allowed per site tag	APs recommended per site tag
9800-40	800	500
9800-80, 9800-CL (med/large)	1600	500



Mapping AP to a WNCd instance

- show wireless loadbalance tag affinity wncd <0-7>
- show wireless loadbalance ap affinity wncd <0-7>

AP Mac	Discovery Timestamp	Join Timestamp	Tag
RadMac1	05/27/22 10:08:26	05/27/22 10:08:36	sitetag01
RadMac2	05/27/22 10:06:53	05/27/22 10:06:59	sitetag01

Tag balancing

- Tags are allocated to WNCD/CPU as AP join
- Distribution can change
- Ideal scenario: AP/Client count per tag is balanced across WNCDs
- 17.10: Manual influence

```
dao2(config)#wireless tag site eft-test-tag
```

```
dao2(config-site-tag)#load ?
```

```
<0-1000> Estimate of the relative load contributed by the site. AP count can  
be used as an approximation
```

Monitoring/Troubleshooting

- WCAE as summarization tool

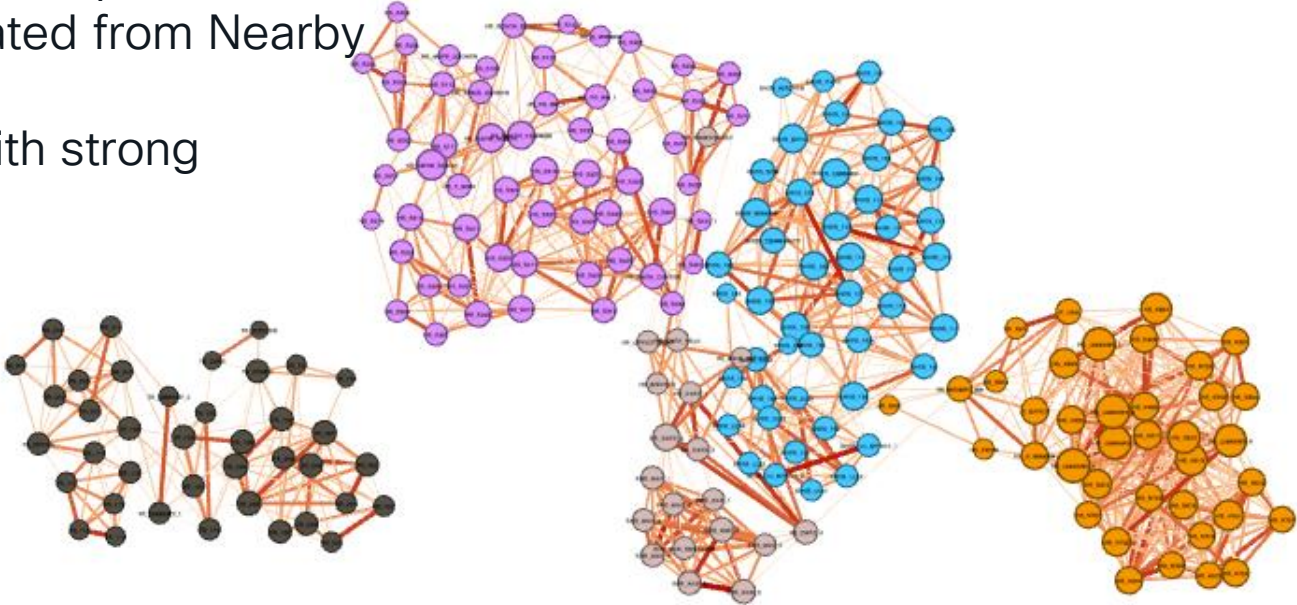
[Back to Content Tab](#)

WNCD ID	Tags Count	Tags Assigned	AP Count	Client Count	CPU load	Percentage Aps	Percentage Clients	
0		2(Click on + sign to expand)	141	1250		22	9.00	7.28
1		1(Click on + sign to expand)	227	2497		43	14.50	14.54
2		1(Click on + sign to expand)	227	2035		34	14.50	11.85
3		1(Click on + sign to expand)	226	3025		51	14.43	17.62
4		1(Click on + sign to expand)	226	2092		43	14.43	12.18
5		1(Click on + sign to expand)	226	2639		47	14.43	15.37
6		2(Click on + sign to expand)	154	2275		34	9.83	13.25
7		2(Click on + sign to expand)	139	1356		22	8.88	7.90
Totals:			1566	17169				

For reference

WCAE Tag Creation using AP RF relationships

- Ideal for large open spaces
- Adjacencies created from Nearby data
- Cluster of Aps with strong relationship

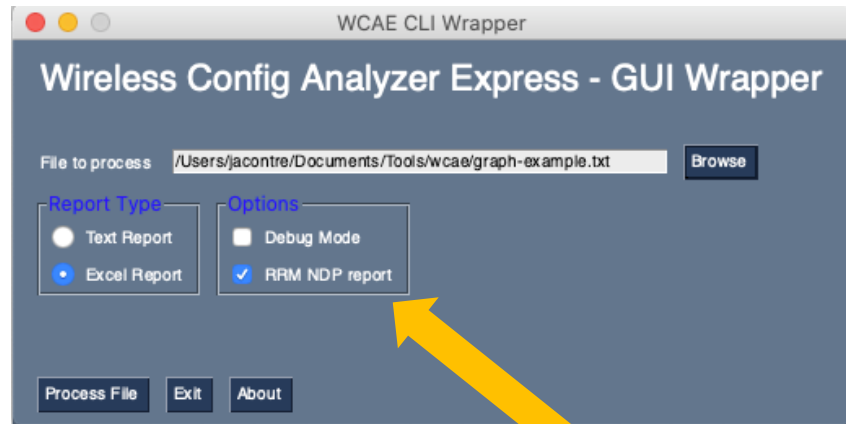


More in BRKEWN-3006

For reference

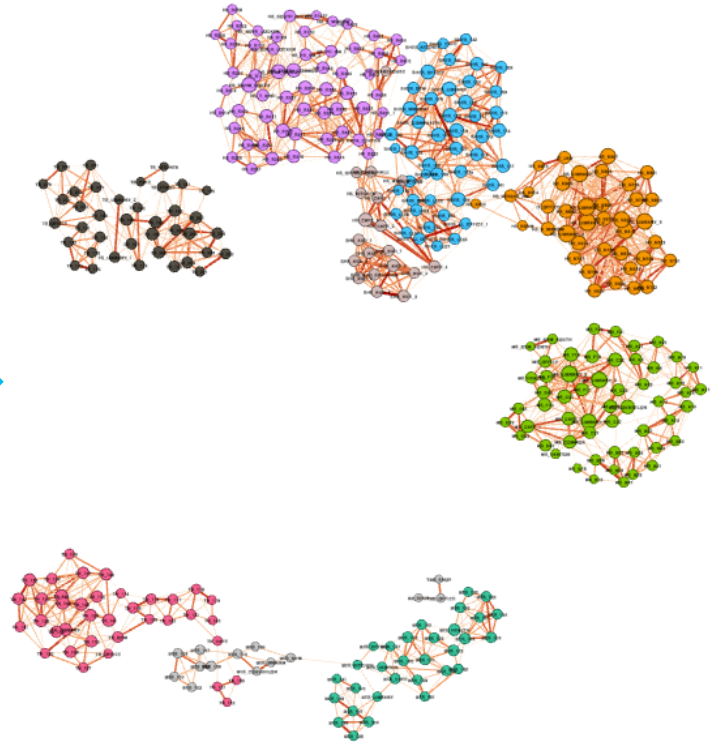
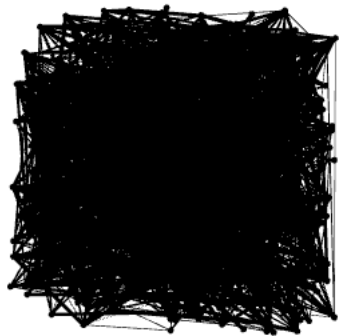
RF Graph Analysis

- You need Desktop version
- Uses external tool for visualization and “preparation” (Gephi)
- Few steps required
- <https://developer.cisco.com/docs/wireless-troubleshooting-tools/#!/rf-graph-analysis-using-wcae-desktop-and-gephi/initial-requirements>



RF Graph Analysis

For reference



Key Takeaways

- Good design and configuration is the key to preventing network problems
- New Config Model has a learning curve for folks just getting into Catalyst 9800 WLC
- Many documents and tools (on-box and off-box) available to help with AireOS to C9800 migration
- Modularity and Reusability of New Config Model make config management easy for network admins

The Real Thing

Short Extra

VM Woes

- Wireless client running VM
 - NAT mode works
 - Bridge mode can't get IP address
- Customer provided clear problem description
 - Tested working/non-working scenario
 - Already confirmed capture shows drop done at controller
 - AP models in use
 - Controller version
- Why NAT: Security needs

The Parallels logo consists of two vertical bars of varying heights followed by the word "Parallels" in a bold, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right.The VMware logo features the word "vmware" in a lowercase, bold, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right.

How it goes

- TAC reproduces problem
 - Enough data to go to lab and try
 - First thought: defect

- Internal Alias contacted for validation

What it is

- > Ethernet II, Src: IntelCor_00:41:5a (c4:bd:e5:00:41:5a), Dst: Broadcast (ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff)
- > 802.1Q Virtual LAN, PRI: 0, DEI: 0, ID: 250
- > Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0), Dst: 255.255.255.255 (255.255.255.255)
- > User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 68, Dst Port: 67
- ✓ **Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (Discover)**
 - Message type: Boot Request (1)
 - Hardware type: Ethernet (0x01)
 - Hardware address length: 6
 - Hops: 0
 - Transaction ID: 0xc5438ff8
 - > **Seconds elapsed: 27**
 - > Bootp flags: 0x8000, Broadcast flag (Broadcast)
 - Client IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)
 - Your (client) IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)
 - Next server IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)
 - Relay agent IP address: 0.0.0.0 (0.0.0.0)
 - Client MAC address: VMware_96:c1:25 (00:0c:29:96:c1:25)

Thid party WGB

Controller controls!

- Strict address validation for DHCP and ARP payloads
- Good for security
- ARP is not broadcasted
- Passive Client / ARP Broadcast
 - Adds unknown ARP flooding
- Address Binding (17.8)
 - Removes address tracking and enforcement

Story conclusions



Happy ending

- Clear problem helped to speed up understanding
- Once the problem was understood, it was matched to existing feature

```
wireless profile policy default-policy-profile
shutdown
ipv4 dhcp required
no ip mac-binding
passive-client
no shutdown
```

Networking

Catalyst 9800 with Wi-Fi6/6E

Learn from experts on wireless topics such as WiFi6 and WiFi6E standards enhancements. You will understand what you need to know about designing for 6GHz, migrating from AireOS to Catalyst 9800, and what you need to know about 5G and WiFi6E

START

- Feb 5 | 16:45
LABEWN-1528
9800 Embedded Wireless Controller on Wi-Fi 6 Access Points
- Feb 5 | 19:00
LABEWN-2202
9800 Wireless Controller Upgrade with Zero Downtime
- Feb 7 | 10:00
BRKEWN-2846
High Availability Design with Cisco Catalyst 9800 Wireless Controllers
- Feb 7 | 11:30
BRKEWN-2024
Architecting Next Generation Wireless Network with Catalyst Wi-Fi 6E Access Points
- Feb 7 | 14:45
BRKEWN-1742
7 Ways to Fail - on Wi-Fi 6(E)

- Feb 7 | 16:45
BRKEWN-2284
Becoming a Wi-Fi Guest star: Better Practices for Guest Networks on Cisco Catalyst Wireless
- Feb 8 | 08:30
BRKEWN-3413
Advanced RF Tuning for Wi-Fi6E with Catalyst Wireless: Become an Expert, while getting a little help from AI
- Feb 8 | 10:45
BRKEWN-2926
Cisco Wi-Fi: how to tune your design and configurations for your most demanding clients and applications
- Feb 8 | 14:00
LTREWN-2034
9100 Wi-Fi 6E APs Managed from Cloud or On Premises? We've got you Covered!
- Feb 8 | 14:00
↓
LTREWN-2724
Be My Guest: Designing and Troubleshooting Wireless Guest Networks with Catalyst 9800 Wireless Controller

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CISCO *Live!*

Feb 8 | 14:45

BRKOPS-2402

Automate the Deployment of a Wireless Network with the Help of Cisco DNA Center

Feb 9 | 08:30

BRKEWN-2338

Successful Migration and Deployment Best Practices for Catalyst 9800 Wireless Networks

Feb 9 | 10:30

BRKEWN-2087

High Density Wi-Fi Design, Deployment and Optimization

Feb 9 | 15:45

BRKEWN-2030

Wi-Fi6/6E and Private 5G for the Enterprise - a 'Better Together' Journey

Feb 9 | 16:00

FINISH

BRKEWN-2094

Successfully Configuring Catalyst 9800 Wireless on Your First Shot

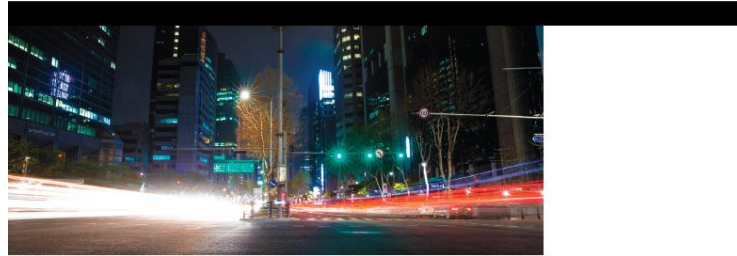


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<https://www.ciscolive.com/emea/learn/sessions/session-catalog.html>

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