

## PPP in HDLC-like Framing

### Status of this Memo

This document specifies an Internet standards track protocol for the Internet community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Please refer to the current edition of the "Internet Official Protocol Standards" (STD 1) for the standardization state and status of this protocol. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

### Abstract

The Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) [1] provides a standard method for transporting multi-protocol datagrams over point-to-point links.

This document describes the use of HDLC-like framing for PPP encapsulated packets.

### Table of Contents

1.	Introduction .....	1
1.1	Specification of Requirements .....	2
1.2	Terminology .....	2
2.	Physical Layer Requirements .....	3
3.	The Data Link Layer .....	4
3.1	Frame Format .....	5
3.2	Modification of the Basic Frame .....	7
4.	Octet-stuffed framing .....	8
4.1	Flag Sequence .....	8
4.2	Transparency .....	8
4.3	Invalid Frames .....	9
4.4	Time Fill .....	9
4.4.1	Octet-synchronous .....	9
4.4.2	Asynchronous .....	9
4.5	Transmission Considerations .....	10
4.5.1	Octet-synchronous .....	10
4.5.2	Asynchronous .....	10



5.	Bit-stuffed framing .....	11
5.1	Flag Sequence .....	11
5.2	Transparency .....	11
5.3	Invalid Frames .....	11
5.4	Time Fill .....	11
5.5	Transmission Considerations .....	12
6.	Asynchronous to Synchronous Conversion .....	13
7.	Additional LCP Configuration Options .....	14
7.1	Async-Control-Character-Map (ACCM) .....	14
APPENDICES .....		17
A.	Recommended LCP Options .....	17
B.	Automatic Recognition of PPP Frames .....	17
C.	Fast Frame Check Sequence (FCS) Implementation .....	18
C.1	FCS table generator .....	18
C.2	16-bit FCS Computation Method .....	19
C.3	32-bit FCS Computation Method .....	21
SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS .....		24
REFERENCES .....		24
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....		25
CHAIR'S ADDRESS .....		25
EDITOR'S ADDRESS .....		25

## 1. Introduction

This specification provides for framing over both bit-oriented and octet-oriented synchronous links, and asynchronous links with 8 bits of data and no parity. These links **MUST** be full-duplex, but **MAY** be either dedicated or circuit-switched.

An escape mechanism is specified to allow control data such as XON/XOFF to be transmitted transparently over the link, and to remove spurious control data which may be injected into the link by intervening hardware and software.

Some protocols expect error free transmission, and either provide error detection only on a conditional basis, or do not provide it at all. PPP uses the HDLC Frame Check Sequence for error detection. This is commonly available in hardware implementations, and a software implementation is provided.

## 1.1. Specification of Requirements

In this document, several words are used to signify the requirements of the specification. These words are often capitalized.

- MUST** This word, or the adjective "required", means that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification.
- MUST NOT** This phrase means that the definition is an absolute prohibition of the specification.
- SHOULD** This word, or the adjective "recommended", means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore this item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.
- MAY** This word, or the adjective "optional", means that this item is one of an allowed set of alternatives. An implementation which does not include this option **MUST** be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does include the option.

## 1.2. Terminology

This document frequently uses the following terms:

- datagram** The unit of transmission in the network layer (such as IP). A datagram may be encapsulated in one or more packets passed to the data link layer.
- frame** The unit of transmission at the data link layer. A frame may include a header and/or a trailer, along with some number of units of data.
- packet** The basic unit of encapsulation, which is passed across the interface between the network layer and the data link layer. A packet is usually mapped to a frame; the exceptions are when data link layer fragmentation is being performed, or when multiple packets are incorporated into a single frame.
- peer** The other end of the point-to-point link.
- silently discard** The implementation discards the packet without further processing. The implementation **SHOULD** provide the capability of logging the error, including the contents of the silently discarded packet, and **SHOULD** record the event in a statistics counter.

## 2. Physical Layer Requirements

PPP is capable of operating across most DTE/DCE interfaces (such as, EIA RS-232-E, EIA RS-422, and CCITT V.35). The only absolute requirement imposed by PPP is the provision of a full-duplex circuit, either dedicated or circuit-switched, which can operate in either an asynchronous (start/stop), bit-synchronous, or octet-synchronous mode, transparent to PPP Data Link Layer frames.

### Interface Format

PPP presents an octet interface to the physical layer. There is no provision for sub-octets to be supplied or accepted.

### Transmission Rate

PPP does not impose any restrictions regarding transmission rate, other than that of the particular DTE/DCE interface.

### Control Signals

PPP does not require the use of control signals, such as Request To Send (RTS), Clear To Send (CTS), Data Carrier Detect (DCD), and Data Terminal Ready (DTR).

When available, using such signals can allow greater functionality and performance. In particular, such signals **SHOULD** be used to signal the Up and Down events in the LCP Option Negotiation Automaton [1]. When such signals are not available, the implementation **MUST** signal the Up event to LCP upon initialization, and **SHOULD NOT** signal the Down event.

Because signalling is not required, the physical layer **MAY** be decoupled from the data link layer, hiding the transient details of the physical transport. This has implications for mobility in cellular radio networks, and other rapidly switching links.

When moving from cell to cell within the same zone, an implementation **MAY** choose to treat the entire zone as a single link, even though transmission is switched among several frequencies. The link is considered to be with the central control unit for the zone, rather than the individual cell transceivers. However, the link **SHOULD** re-establish its configuration whenever the link is switched to a different administration.

Due to the bursty nature of data traffic, some implementations have chosen to disconnect the physical layer during periods of

inactivity, and reconnect when traffic resumes, without informing the data link layer. Robust implementations should avoid using this trick over-zealously, since the price for decreased setup latency is decreased security. Implementations SHOULD signal the Down event whenever "significant time" has elapsed since the link was disconnected. The value for "significant time" is a matter of considerable debate, and is based on the tariffs, call setup times, and security concerns of the installation.

### 3. The Data Link Layer

PPP uses the principles described in ISO 3309-1979 HDLC frame structure, most recently the fourth edition 3309:1991 [2], which specifies modifications to allow HDLC use in asynchronous environments.

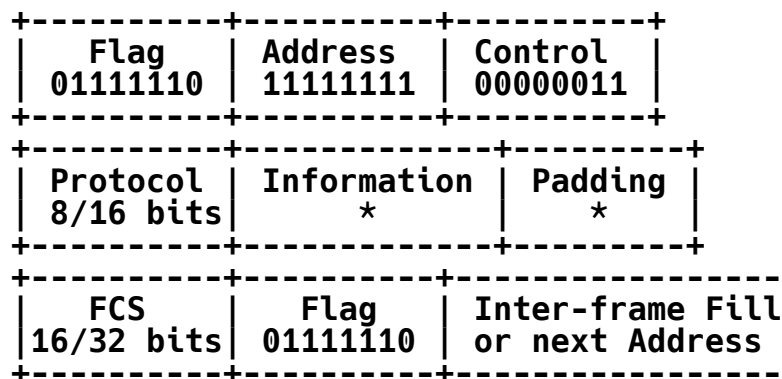
The PPP control procedures use the Control field encodings described in ISO 4335-1979 HDLC elements of procedures, most recently the fourth edition 4335:1991 [4].

This should not be construed to indicate that every feature of the above recommendations are included in PPP. Each feature included is explicitly described in the following sections.

To remain consistent with standard Internet practice, and avoid confusion for people used to reading RFCs, all binary numbers in the following descriptions are in Most Significant Bit to Least Significant Bit order, reading from left to right, unless otherwise indicated. Note that this is contrary to standard ISO and CCITT practice which orders bits as transmitted (network bit order). Keep this in mind when comparing this document with the international standards documents.

### 3.1. Frame Format

A summary of the PPP HDLC-like frame structure is shown below. This figure does not include bits inserted for synchronization (such as start and stop bits for asynchronous links), nor any bits or octets inserted for transparency. The fields are transmitted from left to right.



The Protocol, Information and Padding fields are described in the Point-to-Point Protocol Encapsulation [1].

#### Flag Sequence

Each frame begins and ends with a Flag Sequence, which is the binary sequence 01111110 (hexadecimal 0x7e). All implementations continuously check for this flag, which is used for frame synchronization.

Only one Flag Sequence is required between two frames. Two consecutive Flag Sequences constitute an empty frame, which is silently discarded, and not counted as a FCS error.

#### Address Field

The Address field is a single octet, which contains the binary sequence 11111111 (hexadecimal 0xff), the All-Stations address. Individual station addresses are not assigned. The All-Stations address MUST always be recognized and received.

The use of other address lengths and values may be defined at a later time, or by prior agreement. Frames with unrecognized Addresses SHOULD be silently discarded.

## Control Field

The Control field is a single octet, which contains the binary sequence 00000011 (hexadecimal 0x03), the Unnumbered Information (UI) command with the Poll/Final (P/F) bit set to zero.

The use of other Control field values may be defined at a later time, or by prior agreement. Frames with unrecognized Control field values SHOULD be silently discarded.

## Frame Check Sequence (FCS) Field

The Frame Check Sequence field defaults to 16 bits (two octets). The FCS is transmitted least significant octet first, which contains the coefficient of the highest term.

A 32-bit (four octet) FCS is also defined. Its use may be negotiated as described in "PPP LCP Extensions" [5].

The use of other FCS lengths may be defined at a later time, or by prior agreement.

The FCS field is calculated over all bits of the Address, Control, Protocol, Information and Padding fields, not including any start and stop bits (asynchronous) nor any bits (synchronous) or octets (asynchronous or synchronous) inserted for transparency. This also does not include the Flag Sequences nor the FCS field itself.

When octets are received which are flagged in the Async-Control-Character-Map, they are discarded before calculating the FCS.

For more information on the specification of the FCS, see the Appendices.

The end of the Information and Padding fields is found by locating the closing Flag Sequence and removing the Frame Check Sequence field.



### 3.2. Modification of the Basic Frame

The Link Control Protocol can negotiate modifications to the standard HDLC-like frame structure. However, modified frames will always be clearly distinguishable from standard frames.

#### Address-and-Control-Field-Compression

When using the standard HDLC-like framing, the Address and Control fields contain the hexadecimal values 0xff and 0x03 respectively. When other Address or Control field values are in use, Address-and-Control-Field-Compression MUST NOT be negotiated.

On transmission, compressed Address and Control fields are simply omitted.

On reception, the Address and Control fields are decompressed by examining the first two octets. If they contain the values 0xff and 0x03, they are assumed to be the Address and Control fields. If not, it is assumed that the fields were compressed and were not transmitted.

By definition, the first octet of a two octet Protocol field will never be 0xff (since it is not even). The Protocol field value 0x00ff is not allowed (reserved) to avoid ambiguity when Protocol-Field-Compression is enabled and the first Information field octet is 0x03.

## 4. Octet-stuffed framing

This chapter summarizes the use of HDLC-like framing with 8-bit asynchronous and octet-synchronous links.

### 4.1. Flag Sequence

The Flag Sequence indicates the beginning or end of a frame. The octet stream is examined on an octet-by-octet basis for the value 01111110 (hexadecimal 0x7e).

### 4.2. Transparency

An octet stuffing procedure is used. The Control Escape octet is defined as binary 01111101 (hexadecimal 0x7d), most significant bit first.

As a minimum, sending implementations MUST escape the Flag Sequence and Control Escape octets.

After FCS computation, the transmitter examines the entire frame between the two Flag Sequences. Each Flag Sequence, Control Escape octet, and any octet which is flagged in the sending Async-Control-Character-Map (ACCM), is replaced by a two octet sequence consisting of the Control Escape octet followed by the original octet exclusive-or'd with hexadecimal 0x20.

This is bit 5 complemented, where the bit positions are numbered 76543210 (the 6th bit as used in ISO numbered 87654321 -- BEWARE when comparing documents).

Receiving implementations MUST correctly process all Control Escape sequences.

On reception, prior to FCS computation, each octet with value less than hexadecimal 0x20 is checked. If it is flagged in the receiving ACCM, it is simply removed (it may have been inserted by intervening data communications equipment). Each Control Escape octet is also removed, and the following octet is exclusive-or'd with hexadecimal 0x20, unless it is the Flag Sequence (which aborts a frame).

A few examples may make this more clear. Escaped data is transmitted on the link as follows:

0x7e is encoded as 0x7d, 0x5e. (Flag Sequence)  
0x7d is encoded as 0x7d, 0x5d. (Control Escape)  
0x03 is encoded as 0x7d, 0x23. (ETX)

Some modems with software flow control may intercept outgoing DC1 and DC3 ignoring the 8th (parity) bit. This data would be transmitted on the link as follows:

0x11 is encoded as 0x7d, 0x31. (XON)  
0x13 is encoded as 0x7d, 0x33. (XOFF)  
0x91 is encoded as 0x7d, 0xb1. (XON with parity set)  
0x93 is encoded as 0x7d, 0xb3. (XOFF with parity set)

### 4.3. Invalid Frames

Frames which are too short (less than 4 octets when using the 16-bit FCS), or which end with a Control Escape octet followed immediately by a closing Flag Sequence, or in which octet-framing is violated (by transmitting a "0" stop bit where a "1" bit is expected), are silently discarded, and not counted as a FCS error.

### 4.4. Time Fill

#### 4.4.1. Octet-synchronous

There is no provision for inter-octet time fill.

The Flag Sequence **MUST** be transmitted during inter-frame time fill.

#### 4.4.2. Asynchronous

Inter-octet time fill **MUST** be accomplished by transmitting continuous "1" bits (mark-hold state).

Inter-frame time fill can be viewed as extended inter-octet time fill. Doing so can save one octet for every frame, decreasing delay and increasing bandwidth. This is possible since a Flag Sequence may serve as both a frame end and a frame begin. After having received any frame, an idle receiver will always be in a frame begin state.

Robust transmitters should avoid using this trick over-zealously, since the price for decreased delay is decreased reliability. Noisy links may cause the receiver to receive garbage characters and interpret them as part of an incoming frame. If the transmitter does not send a new opening Flag Sequence before sending the next frame, then that frame will be appended to the noise characters causing an invalid frame (with high reliability).

It is suggested that implementations will achieve the best results by always sending an opening Flag Sequence if the new frame is not back-to-back with the last. Transmitters SHOULD send an open Flag Sequence whenever "appreciable time" has elapsed after the prior closing Flag Sequence. The maximum value for "appreciable time" is likely to be no greater than the typing rate of a slow typist, about 1 second.

## 4.5. Transmission Considerations

### 4.5.1. Octet-synchronous

The definition of various encodings and scrambling is the responsibility of the DTE/DCE equipment in use, and is outside the scope of this specification.

### 4.5.2. Asynchronous

All octets are transmitted least significant bit first, with one start bit, eight bits of data, and one stop bit. There is no provision for seven bit asynchronous links.

## 5. Bit-stuffed framing

This chapter summarizes the use of HDLC-like framing with bit-synchronous links.

### 5.1. Flag Sequence

The Flag Sequence indicates the beginning or end of a frame, and is used for frame synchronization. The bit stream is examined on a bit-by-bit basis for the binary sequence 01111110 (hexadecimal 0x7e).

The "shared zero mode" Flag Sequence "011111101111110" SHOULD NOT be used. When not avoidable, such an implementation MUST ensure that the first Flag Sequence detected (the end of the frame) is promptly communicated to the link layer. Use of the shared zero mode hinders interoperability with bit-synchronous to asynchronous and bit-synchronous to octet-synchronous converters.

### 5.2. Transparency

After FCS computation, the transmitter examines the entire frame between the two Flag Sequences. A "0" bit is inserted after all sequences of five contiguous "1" bits (including the last 5 bits of the FCS) to ensure that a Flag Sequence is not simulated.

On reception, prior to FCS computation, any "0" bit that directly follows five contiguous "1" bits is discarded.

### 5.3. Invalid Frames

Frames which are too short (less than 4 octets when using the 16-bit FCS), or which end with a sequence of more than six "1" bits, are silently discarded, and not counted as a FCS error.

### 5.4. Time Fill

There is no provision for inter-octet time fill.

The Flag Sequence SHOULD be transmitted during inter-frame time fill. However, certain types of circuit-switched links require the use of

mark idle (continuous ones), particularly those that calculate accounting based on periods of bit activity. When mark idle is used on a bit-synchronous link, the implementation **MUST** ensure at least 15 consecutive "1" bits between Flags during the idle period, and that the Flag Sequence is always generated at the beginning of a frame after an idle period.

This differs from practice in ISO 3309, which allows 7 to 14 bit mark idle.

## 5.5. Transmission Considerations

All octets are transmitted least significant bit first.

The definition of various encodings and scrambling is the responsibility of the DTE/DCE equipment in use, and is outside the scope of this specification.

While PPP will operate without regard to the underlying representation of the bit stream, lack of standards for transmission will hinder interoperability as surely as lack of data link standards. At speeds of 56 Kbps through 2.0 Mbps, NRZ is currently most widely available, and on that basis is recommended as a default.

When configuration of the encoding is allowed, NRZI is recommended as an alternative, because of its relative immunity to signal inversion configuration errors, and instances when it **MAY** allow connection without an expensive DSU/CSU. Unfortunately, NRZI encoding exacerbates the missing  $x1$  factor of the 16-bit FCS, so that one error in  $2^{15}$  goes undetected (instead of one in  $2^{16}$ ), and triple errors are not detected. Therefore, when NRZI is in use, it is recommended that the 32-bit FCS be negotiated, which includes the  $x1$  factor.

At higher speeds of up to 45 Mbps, some implementors have chosen the ANSI High Speed Synchronous Interface [HSSI]. While this experience is currently limited, implementors are encouraged to cooperate in choosing transmission encoding.

## 6. Asynchronous to Synchronous Conversion

There may be some use of asynchronous-to-synchronous converters (some built into modems and cellular interfaces), resulting in an asynchronous PPP implementation on one end of a link and a synchronous implementation on the other. It is the responsibility of the converter to do all stuffing conversions during operation.

To enable this functionality, synchronous PPP implementations **MUST** always respond to the Async-Control-Character-Map Configuration Option with the LCP Configure-Ack. However, acceptance of the Configuration Option does not imply that the synchronous implementation will do any ACCM mapping. Instead, all such octet mapping will be performed by the asynchronous-to-synchronous converter.

## 7. Additional LCP Configuration Options

The Configuration Option format and basic options are already defined for LCP [1].

Up-to-date values of the LCP Option Type field are specified in the most recent "Assigned Numbers" RFC [10]. This document concerns the following values:

### 2 Async-Control-Character-Map

#### 7.1. Async-Control-Character-Map (ACCM)

##### Description

This Configuration Option provides a method to negotiate the use of control character transparency on asynchronous links.

Each end of the asynchronous link maintains two Async-Control-Character-Maps. The receiving ACCM is 32 bits, but the sending ACCM may be up to 256 bits. This results in four distinct ACCMs, two in each direction of the link.

For asynchronous links, the default receiving ACCM is 0xffffffff. The default sending ACCM is 0xffffffff, plus the Control Escape and Flag Sequence characters themselves, plus whatever other outgoing characters are flagged (by prior configuration) as likely to be intercepted.

For other types of links, the default value is 0, since there is no need for mapping.

The default inclusion of all octets less than hexadecimal 0x20 allows all ASCII control characters [6] excluding DEL (Delete) to be transparently communicated through all known data communications equipment.

The transmitter MAY also send octets with values in the range 0x40 through 0xff (except 0x5e) in Control Escape format. Since these octet values are not negotiable, this does not solve the problem of receivers which cannot handle all non-control characters. Also, since the technique does not affect the 8th bit, this does not solve problems for communications links that can send only 7-bit characters.



Note that this specification differs in detail from later amendments, such as 3309:1991/Amendment 2 [3]. However, such "extended transparency" is applied only by "prior agreement". Use of the transparency methods in this specification constitute a prior agreement with respect to PPP.

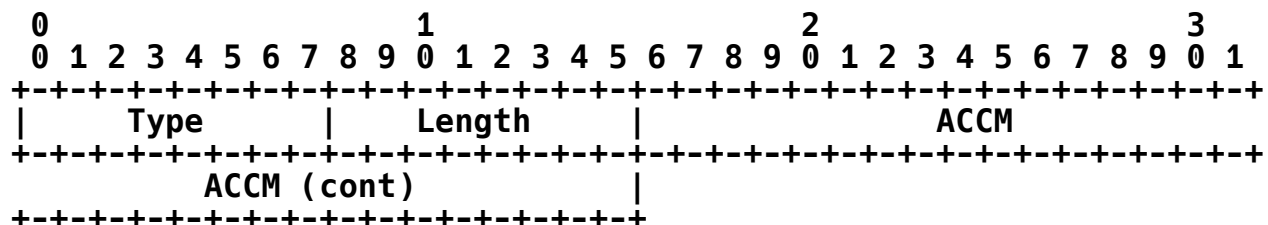
For compatibility with 3309:1991/Amendment 2, the transmitter MAY escape DEL and ACCM equivalents with the 8th (most significant) bit set. No change is required in the receiving algorithm.

Following ACCM negotiation, the transmitter SHOULD cease escaping DEL.

However, it is rarely necessary to map all control characters, and often it is unnecessary to map any control characters. The Configuration Option is used to inform the peer which control characters MUST remain mapped when the peer sends them.

The peer MAY still send any other octets in mapped format, if it is necessary because of constraints known to the peer. The peer SHOULD Configure-Nak with the logical union of the sets of mapped octets, so that when such octets are spuriously introduced they can be ignored on receipt.

A summary of the Async-Control-Character-Map Configuration Option format is shown below. The fields are transmitted from left to right.



Type

2

Length

6

## ACCM

The ACCM field is four octets, and indicates the set of control characters to be mapped. The map is sent most significant octet first.

Each numbered bit corresponds to the octet of the same value. If the bit is cleared to zero, then that octet need not be mapped. If the bit is set to one, then that octet **MUST** remain mapped. For example, if bit 19 is set to zero, then the ASCII control character 19 (DC3, Control-S) **MAY** be sent in the clear.

Note: The least significant bit of the least significant octet (the final octet transmitted) is numbered bit 0, and would map to the ASCII control character NUL.

## A. Recommended LCP Options

The following Configurations Options are recommended:

### High Speed links

- Magic Number
- Link Quality Monitoring
- No Address and Control Field Compression
- No Protocol Field Compression

### Low Speed or Asynchronous links

- Async Control Character Map
- Magic Number
- Address and Control Field Compression
- Protocol Field Compression

## B. Automatic Recognition of PPP Frames

It is sometimes desirable to detect PPP frames, for example during a login sequence. The following octet sequences all begin valid PPP LCP frames:

- 7e ff 03 c0 21
- 7e ff 7d 23 c0 21
- 7e 7d df 7d 23 c0 21

Note that the first two forms are not a valid username for Unix. However, only the third form generates a correctly checksummed PPP frame, whenever 03 and ff are taken as the control characters ETX and DEL without regard to parity (they are correct for an even parity link) and discarded.

Many implementations deal with this by putting the interface into packet mode when one of the above username patterns are detected during login, without examining the initial PPP checksum. The initial incoming PPP frame is discarded, but a Configure-Request is sent immediately.

## C. Fast Frame Check Sequence (FCS) Implementation

The FCS was originally designed with hardware implementations in mind. A serial bit stream is transmitted on the wire, the FCS is calculated over the serial data as it goes out, and the complement of the resulting FCS is appended to the serial stream, followed by the Flag Sequence.

The receiver has no way of determining that it has finished calculating the received FCS until it detects the Flag Sequence. Therefore, the FCS was designed so that a particular pattern results when the FCS operation passes over the complemented FCS. A good frame is indicated by this "good FCS" value.

### C.1. FCS table generator

The following code creates the lookup table used to calculate the FCS-16.

```
/*
 * Generate a FCS-16 table.
 *
 * Drew D. Perkins at Carnegie Mellon University.
 *
 * Code liberally borrowed from Mohsen Banan and D. Hugh Redelmeier.
 */

/*
 * The FCS-16 generator polynomial:  $x^{16} + x^{12} + x^5 + 1$ .
 */
#define P      0x8408

main()
{
    register unsigned int b, v;
    register int i;

    printf("typedef unsigned short u16;\n");
    printf("static u16 fcstab[256] = {\n");
    for (b = 0; ; ) {
        if (b % 8 == 0)
            printf("\n");

        v = b;
        for (i = 8; i-- > 0; )
```

```

        v = v & 1 ? (v >> 1) ^ P : v >> 1;

    printf("\t0x%04x", v & 0xFFFF);
    if (++b == 256)
        break;
    printf(",");
}
printf("\n};\n");
}

```

## C.2. 16-bit FCS Computation Method

The following code provides a table lookup computation for calculating the Frame Check Sequence as data arrives at the interface. This implementation is based on [7], [8], and [9].

```

/*
 * u16 represents an unsigned 16-bit number. Adjust the typedef for
 * your hardware.
 */
typedef unsigned short u16;

/*
 * FCS lookup table as calculated by the table generator.
 */
static u16 fcstab[256] = {
    0x0000, 0x1189, 0x2312, 0x329b, 0x4624, 0x57ad, 0x6536, 0x74bf,
    0x8c48, 0x9dc1, 0xaf5a, 0xbed3, 0xca6c, 0xdbe5, 0xe97e, 0xf8f7,
    0x1081, 0x0108, 0x3393, 0x221a, 0x56a5, 0x472c, 0x75b7, 0x643e,
    0x9cc9, 0x8d40, 0xbfdb, 0xae52, 0xdaed, 0xcb64, 0xf9ff, 0xe876,
    0x2102, 0x308b, 0x0210, 0x1399, 0x6726, 0x76af, 0x4434, 0x55bd,
    0xad4a, 0xbcc3, 0x8e58, 0x9fd1, 0xeb6e, 0xfae7, 0xc87c, 0xd9f5,
    0x3183, 0x200a, 0x1291, 0x0318, 0x77a7, 0x662e, 0x54b5, 0x453c,
    0xbdcb, 0xac42, 0x9ed9, 0x8f50, 0xfbef, 0xea66, 0xd8fd, 0xc974,
    0x4204, 0x538d, 0x6116, 0x709f, 0x0420, 0x15a9, 0x2732, 0x36bb,
    0xce4c, 0xdfc5, 0xed5e, 0xfcd7, 0x8868, 0x99e1, 0xab7a, 0xbaf3,
    0x5285, 0x430c, 0x7197, 0x601e, 0x14a1, 0x0528, 0x37b3, 0x263a,
    0xdecd, 0xcf44, 0xfddf, 0xec56, 0x98e9, 0x8960, 0xbbfb, 0xaa72,
    0x6306, 0x728f, 0x4014, 0x519d, 0x2522, 0x34ab, 0x0630, 0x17b9,
    0xef4e, 0xfec7, 0xcc5c, 0xdd5, 0xa96a, 0xb8e3, 0x8a78, 0x9bf1,
    0x7387, 0x620e, 0x5095, 0x411c, 0x35a3, 0x242a, 0x16b1, 0x0738,
    0xffcf, 0xee46, 0xdcdd, 0xcd54, 0xb9eb, 0xa862, 0x9af9, 0x8b70,
    0x8408, 0x9581, 0xa71a, 0xb693, 0xc22c, 0xd3a5, 0xe13e, 0xf0b7,
    0x0840, 0x19c9, 0x2b52, 0x3adb, 0x4e64, 0x5fed, 0x6d76, 0x7c7f,
    0x9489, 0x8500, 0xb79b, 0xa612, 0xd2ad, 0xc324, 0xf1bf, 0xe036,
    0x18c1, 0x0948, 0x3bd3, 0x2a5a, 0x5ee5, 0x4f6c, 0x7df7, 0x6c7e,

```

```

0xa50a, 0xb483, 0x8618, 0x9791, 0xe32e, 0xf2a7, 0xc03c, 0xd1b5,
0x2942, 0x38cb, 0x0a50, 0x1bd9, 0x6f66, 0x7eef, 0x4c74, 0x5dfd,
0xb58b, 0xa402, 0x9699, 0x8710, 0xf3af, 0xe226, 0xd0bd, 0xc134,
0x39c3, 0x284a, 0x1ad1, 0x0b58, 0x7fe7, 0x6e6e, 0x5cf5, 0x4d7c,
0xc60c, 0xd785, 0xe51e, 0xf497, 0x8028, 0x91a1, 0xa33a, 0xb2b3,
0x4a44, 0x5bcd, 0x6956, 0x78df, 0x0c60, 0x1de9, 0x2f72, 0x3efb,
0xd68d, 0xc704, 0xf59f, 0xe416, 0x90a9, 0x8120, 0xb3bb, 0xa232,
0x5ac5, 0x4b4c, 0x79d7, 0x685e, 0x1ce1, 0x0d68, 0x3ff3, 0x2e7a,
0xe70e, 0xf687, 0xc41c, 0xd595, 0xa12a, 0xb0a3, 0x8238, 0x93b1,
0x6b46, 0x7acf, 0x4854, 0x59dd, 0x2d62, 0x3ceb, 0x0e70, 0x1ff9,
0xf78f, 0xe606, 0xd49d, 0xc514, 0xb1ab, 0xa022, 0x92b9, 0x8330,
0x7bc7, 0x6a4e, 0x58d5, 0x495c, 0x3de3, 0x2c6a, 0x1ef1, 0x0f78
};

#define PPPINITFCS16      0xffff /* Initial FCS value */
#define PPPGOODFCS16     0xf0b8 /* Good final FCS value */

/*
 * Calculate a new fcs given the current fcs and the new data.
 */
u16 pppfcs16(fcs, cp, len)
    register u16 fcs;
    register unsigned char *cp;
    register int len;
{
    ASSERT(sizeof (u16) == 2);
    ASSERT(((u16) -1) > 0);
    while (len--)
        fcs = (fcs >> 8) ^ fcstab[(fcs ^ *cp++) & 0xff];

    return (fcs);
}

/*
 * How to use the fcs
 */
tryfcs16(cp, len)
    register unsigned char *cp;
    register int len;
{
    u16 trialfcs;

    /* add on output */
    trialfcs = pppfcs16( PPPINITFCS16, cp, len );
    trialfcs ^= 0xffff; /* complement */
    cp[len] = (trialfcs & 0x00ff); /* least significant byte first */
    cp[len+1] = ((trialfcs >> 8) & 0x00ff);
}

```

```

/* check on input */
trialfcs = pppfcs16( PPPINITFCS16, cp, len + 2 );
if ( trialfcs == PPPG00DFCS16 )
    printf("Good FCS\n");
}

```

### C.3. 32-bit FCS Computation Method

The following code provides a table lookup computation for calculating the 32-bit Frame Check Sequence as data arrives at the interface.

```

/*
 * The FCS-32 generator polynomial:  $x^{**0} + x^{**1} + x^{**2} + x^{**4} + x^{**5}$ 
 *                                      $+ x^{**7} + x^{**8} + x^{**10} + x^{**11} + x^{**12} + x^{**16}$ 
 *                                      $+ x^{**22} + x^{**23} + x^{**26} + x^{**32}$ .
 */

/*
 * u32 represents an unsigned 32-bit number. Adjust the typedef for
 * your hardware.
 */
typedef unsigned long u32;

static u32 fcstab_32[256] =
{
    0x00000000, 0x77073096, 0xee0e612c, 0x990951ba,
    0x076dc419, 0x706af48f, 0xe963a535, 0x9e6495a3,
    0x0edb8832, 0x79dcb8a4, 0xe0d5e91e, 0x97d2d988,
    0x09b64c2b, 0x7eb17cbd, 0xe7b82d07, 0x90bf1d91,
    0x1db71064, 0x6ab020f2, 0xf3b97148, 0x84be41de,
    0x1adad47d, 0x6ddde4eb, 0xf4d4b551, 0x83d385c7,
    0x136c9856, 0x646ba8c0, 0xfd62f97a, 0x8a65c9ec,
    0x14015c4f, 0x63066cd9, 0xfa0f3d63, 0x8d080df5,
    0x3b6e20c8, 0x4c69105e, 0xd56041e4, 0xa2677172,
    0x3c03e4d1, 0x4b04d447, 0xd20d85fd, 0xa50ab56b,
    0x35b5a8fa, 0x42b2986c, 0xdbbbc9d6, 0xacbcf940,
    0x32d86ce3, 0x45df5c75, 0xdcd60dcf, 0xabd13d59,
    0x26d930ac, 0x51de003a, 0xc8d75180, 0xbf06116,
    0x21b4f4b5, 0x56b3c423, 0xcfba9599, 0xb8bda50f,
    0x2802b89e, 0x5f058808, 0xc60cd9b2, 0xb10be924,
    0x2f6f7c87, 0x58684c11, 0xc1611dab, 0xb6662d3d,
    0x76dc4190, 0x01db7106, 0x98d220bc, 0xefd5102a,
    0x71b18589, 0x06b6b51f, 0x9fbfe4a5, 0xe8b8d433,
    0x7807c9a2, 0x0f00f934, 0x9609a88e, 0xe10e9818,
    0x7f6a0dbb, 0x086d3d2d, 0x91646c97, 0xe6635c01,

```

```

0x6b6b51f4, 0x1c6c6162, 0x856530d8, 0xf262004e,
0x6c0695ed, 0x1b01a57b, 0x8208f4c1, 0xf50fc457,
0x65b0d9c6, 0x12b7e950, 0x8bbeb8ea, 0xfcb9887c,
0x62dd1ddf, 0x15da2d49, 0x8cd37cf3, 0xfbd44c65,
0x4db26158, 0x3ab551ce, 0xa3bc0074, 0xd4bb30e2,
0x4adfa541, 0x3dd895d7, 0xa4d1c46d, 0xd3d6f4fb,
0x4369e96a, 0x346ed9fc, 0xad678846, 0xda60b8d0,
0x44042d73, 0x33031de5, 0xaa0a4c5f, 0xdd0d7cc9,
0x5005713c, 0x270241aa, 0xbe0b1010, 0xc90c2086,
0x5768b525, 0x206f85b3, 0xb966d409, 0xce61e49f,
0x5edef90e, 0x29d9c998, 0xb0d09822, 0xc7d7a8b4,
0x59b33d17, 0x2eb40d81, 0xb7bd5c3b, 0xc0ba6cad,
0xedb88320, 0x9abfb3b6, 0x03b6e20c, 0x74b1d29a,
0xead54739, 0x9dd277af, 0x04db2615, 0x73dc1683,
0xe3630b12, 0x94643b84, 0x0d6d6a3e, 0x7a6a5aa8,
0xe40ecf0b, 0x9309ff9d, 0x0a00ae27, 0x7d079eb1,
0xf00f9344, 0x8708a3d2, 0x1e01f268, 0x6906c2fe,
0xf762575d, 0x806567cb, 0x196c3671, 0x6e6b06e7,
0xfed41b76, 0x89d32be0, 0x10da7a5a, 0x67dd4acc,
0xf9b9df6f, 0x8ebeeff9, 0x17b7be43, 0x60b08ed5,
0xd6d6a3e8, 0xa1d1937e, 0x38d8c2c4, 0x4fdff252,
0xd1bb67f1, 0xa6bc5767, 0x3fb506dd, 0x48b2364b,
0xd80d2bda, 0xaf0a1b4c, 0x36034af6, 0x41047a60,
0xdf60efc3, 0xa867df55, 0x316e8eef, 0x4669be79,
0xcb61b38c, 0xbc66831a, 0x256fd2a0, 0x5268e236,
0xcc0c7795, 0xbb0b4703, 0x220216b9, 0x5505262f,
0xc5ba3bbe, 0xb2bd0b28, 0x2bb45a92, 0x5cb36a04,
0xc2d7ffa7, 0xb5d0cf31, 0x2cd99e8b, 0x5bdeae1d,
0x9b64c2b0, 0xec63f226, 0x756aa39c, 0x026d930a,
0x9c0906a9, 0xeb0e363f, 0x72076785, 0x05005713,
0x95bf4a82, 0xe2b87a14, 0x7bb12bae, 0x0cb61b38,
0x92d28e9b, 0xe5d5be0d, 0x7cdcefb7, 0x0bdbdf21,
0x86d3d2d4, 0xf1d4e242, 0x68ddb3f8, 0x1fda836e,
0x81be16cd, 0xf6b9265b, 0x6fb077e1, 0x18b74777,
0x88085ae6, 0xff0f6a70, 0x66063bca, 0x11010b5c,
0x8f659eff, 0xf862ae69, 0x616bffd3, 0x166ccf45,
0xa00ae278, 0xd70dd2ee, 0x4e048354, 0x3903b3c2,
0xa7672661, 0xd06016f7, 0x4969474d, 0x3e6e77db,
0xaed16a4a, 0xd9d65adc, 0x40df0b66, 0x37d83bf0,
0xa9bcae53, 0xdeb9ec5, 0x47b2cf7f, 0x30b5ffe9,
0xbdbdf21c, 0xcabac28a, 0x53b39330, 0x24b4a3a6,
0xbad03605, 0xcdd70693, 0x54de5729, 0x23d967bf,
0xb3667a2e, 0xc4614ab8, 0x5d681b02, 0x2a6f2b94,
0xb40bbe37, 0xc30c8ea1, 0x5a05df1b, 0x2d02ef8d
};

```

```

#define PPPINITFCS32 0xffffffff /* Initial FCS value */
#define PPPGOODFCS32 0xdebb20e3 /* Good final FCS value */

```



```

/*
 * Calculate a new FCS given the current FCS and the new data.
 */
u32 pppfcs32(fcs, cp, len)
    register u32 fcs;
    register unsigned char *cp;
    register int len;
{
    ASSERT(sizeof (u32) == 4);
    ASSERT(((u32) -1) > 0);
    while (len--)
        fcs = (((fcs) >> 8) ^ fcstab_32[((fcs) ^ (*cp++)) & 0xff]);

    return (fcs);
}

/*
 * How to use the fcs
 */
tryfcs32(cp, len)
    register unsigned char *cp;
    register int len;
{
    u32 trial_fcs;

    /* add on output */
    trial_fcs = pppfcs32( PPPINITFCS32, cp, len );
    trial_fcs ^= 0xffffffff; /* complement */
    cp[len] = (trial_fcs & 0x00ff); /* least significant byte first */
    cp[len+1] = ((trial_fcs >> 8) & 0x00ff);
    cp[len+2] = ((trial_fcs >> 8) & 0x00ff);
    cp[len+3] = ((trial_fcs >> 8) & 0x00ff);

    /* check on input */
    trial_fcs = pppfcs32( PPPINITFCS32, cp, len + 4 );
    if ( trial_fcs == PPPGOODFCS32 )
        printf("Good FCS\n");
}

```

## Security Considerations

As noted in the Physical Layer Requirements section, the link layer might not be informed when the connected state of the physical layer has changed. This results in possible security lapses due to over-reliance on the integrity and security of switching systems and administrations. An insertion attack might be undetected. An attacker which is able to spoof the same calling identity might be able to avoid link authentication.

## References

- [1] Simpson, W., Editor, "The Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP)", STD 50, RFC 1661, Daydreamer, July 1994.
- [2] ISO/IEC 3309:1991(E), "Information Technology - Telecommunications and information exchange between systems - High-level data link control (HDLC) procedures - Frame structure", International Organization For Standardization, Fourth edition 1991-06-01.
- [3] ISO/IEC 3309:1991/Amd.2:1992(E), "Information Technology - Telecommunications and information exchange between systems - High-level data link control (HDLC) procedures - Frame structure - Amendment 2: Extended transparency options for start/stop transmission", International Organization For Standardization, 1992-01-15.
- [4] ISO/IEC 4335:1991(E), "Information Technology - Telecommunications and information exchange between systems - High-level data link control (HDLC) procedures - Elements of procedures", International Organization For Standardization, Fourth edition 1991-09-15.
- [5] Simpson, W., Editor, "PPP LCP Extensions", RFC 1570, Daydreamer, January 1994.
- [6] ANSI X3.4-1977, "American National Standard Code for Information Interchange", American National Standards Institute, 1977.
- [7] Perez, "Byte-wise CRC Calculations", IEEE Micro, June 1983.
- [8] Morse, G., "Calculating CRC's by Bits and Bytes", Byte, September 1986.

- [9] LeVan, J., "A Fast CRC", Byte, November 1987.
- [10] Reynolds, J., and J. Postel, "Assigned Numbers", STD 2, RFC 1340, USC/Information Sciences Institute, July 1992.

## Acknowledgements

This document is the product of the Point-to-Point Protocol Working Group of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). Comments should be submitted to the [ietf-ppp@merit.edu](mailto:ietf-ppp@merit.edu) mailing list.

This specification is based on previous RFCs, where many contributions have been acknowledged.

The 32-bit FCS example code was provided by Karl Fox (Morning Star Technologies).

Special thanks to Morning Star Technologies for providing computing resources and network access support for writing this specification.

## Chair's Address

The working group can be contacted via the current chair:

Fred Baker  
Advanced Computer Communications  
315 Bollay Drive  
Santa Barbara, California 93117

[fbaker@acc.com](mailto:fbaker@acc.com)

## Editor's Address

Questions about this memo can also be directed to:

William Allen Simpson  
Daydreamer  
Computer Systems Consulting Services  
1384 Fontaine  
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

[Bill.Simpson@um.cc.umich.edu](mailto:Bill.Simpson@um.cc.umich.edu)  
[bsimpson@MorningStar.com](mailto:bsimpson@MorningStar.com)

