

IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks— Timing and Synchronization for Time-Sensitive Applications

1. Overview

1.1 Scope

This standard specifies protocols, procedures, and managed objects used to ensure that the synchronization requirements are met for time-sensitive applications, such as audio, video, and time-sensitive control, across networks, for example, IEEE 802 and similar media. This includes the maintenance of synchronized time during normal operation and following addition, removal, or failure of network components and network reconfiguration. It specifies the use of IEEE 1588™ specifications where applicable in the context of IEEE Std 802.1Q™-2018.¹ Synchronization to an externally provided timing signal [e.g., a recognized timing standard such as Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) or International Atomic Time (TAI)] is not part of this standard but is not precluded.

1.2 Purpose

This standard enables systems to meet the respective jitter, wander, and time-synchronization requirements for time-sensitive applications, including those that involve multiple streams delivered to multiple end stations. To facilitate the widespread use of packet networks for these applications, synchronization information is one of the components needed at each network element where time-sensitive application data are mapped or demapped or a time-sensitive function is performed. This standard leverages the work of the IEEE 1588 Working Group by developing the additional specifications needed to address these requirements.

¹ Information on references can be found in Clause 2.