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(54) **COLLISION AVOIDANCE IN IEEE 802.11 CONTENTION FREE PERIOD (CFP) WITH OVERLAPPING BASIC SERVICE SETS (BSSS)**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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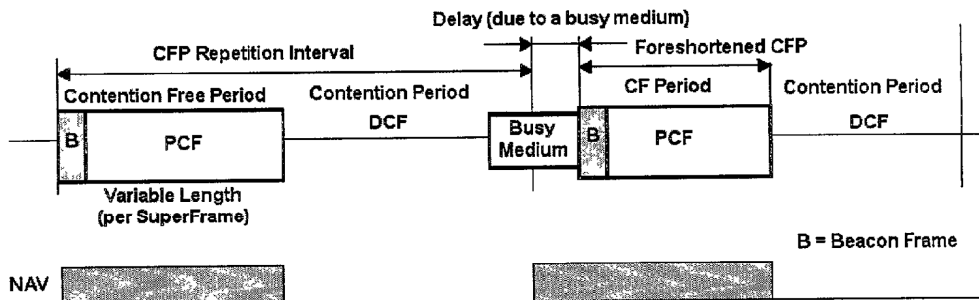
A medium access control (MAC) protocol is provided for avoiding collisions from stations (STAs) comprising two or more IEEE 802.11 basic service sets (BSSs) collocated and operating in the same channel during contention free periods (CFPs). The MAC protocol includes hardware/software for utilizing ready-to-send(RTS)/clear-to-send(CTS) exchange during CFPs to avoid potential collision from STAs in overlapping BSSs and hardware/software for providing overlapping network allocation vectors (ONAV) in addition to a network allocation vector (NAV), the ONAV included to facilitate the effectiveness of the RTS/CTS during CFPs.

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) **Non-provisional of provisional application No. 60/217,146, filed on Jul. 7, 2000.**



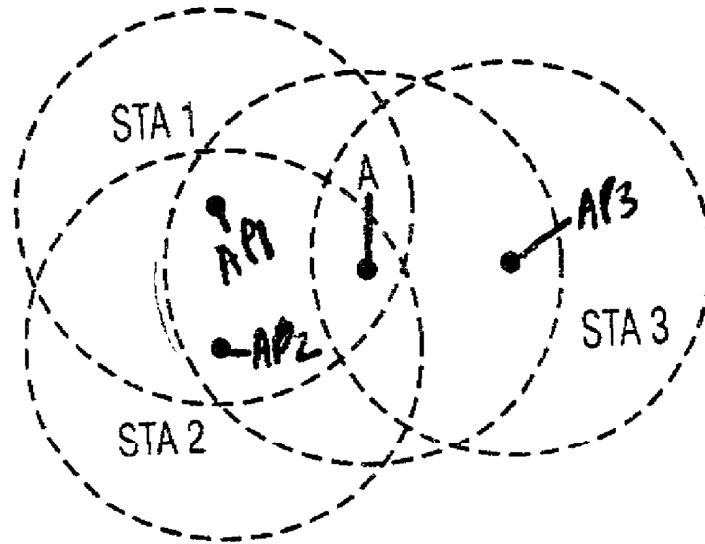


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART

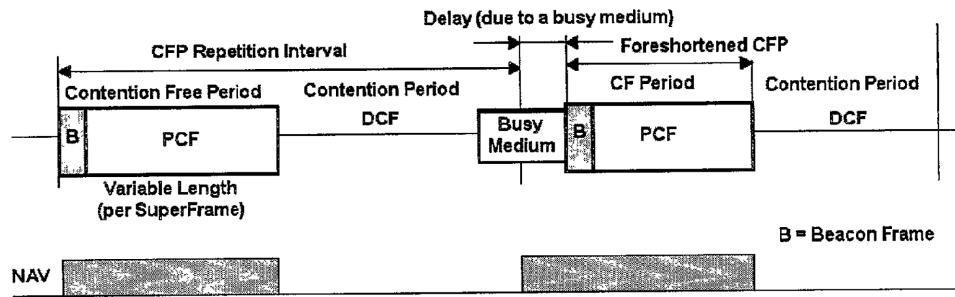


Fig. 2

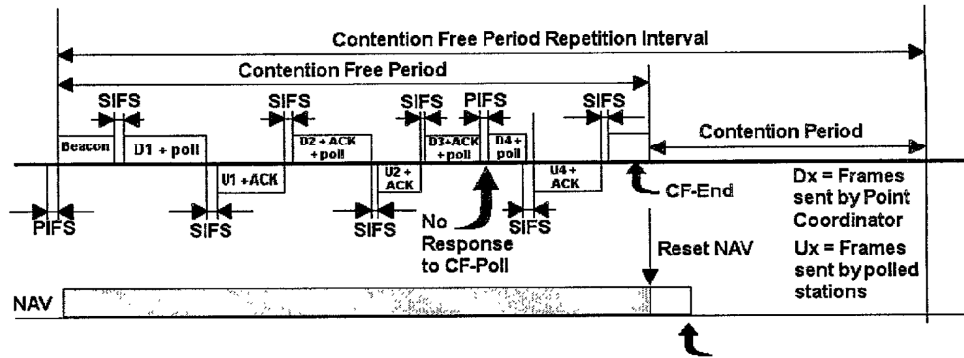


Fig. 3

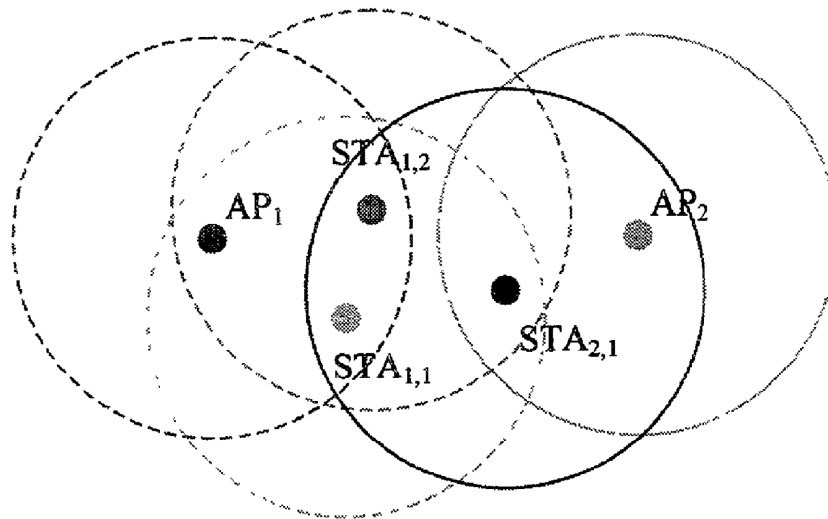


Fig. 4

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