

IEEE Standard for Ethernet

Amendment 7: Physical Layer and Management Parameters for 400 Gb/s over Multimode Fiber

IEEE Computer Society

Developed by the
LAN/MAN Standards Committee

IEEE Std 802.3cm™-2020

(Amendment to IEEE Std 802.3™-2018
as amended by IEEE Std 802.3cb™-2018,
IEEE Std 802.3bt™-2018,
IEEE Std 802.3cd™-2018,
IEEE Std 802.3cn™-2019,
IEEE Std 802.3cg™-2019,
and IEEE Std 802.3cq™-2020)

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Approved 30 January 2020

IEEE SA Standards Board

Abstract: This amendment to IEEE Std 802.3-2018 adds Clause 150. This amendment adds Physical Layer (PHY) specifications and management parameters for 400 Gb/s operation on four pairs (400GBASE-SR4.2) and eight pairs (400GBASE-SR8) of multimode fiber, over reaches of at least 100 m.

Keywords: 400 Gb/s Ethernet, 400 Gigabit Ethernet, 400GBASE-SR8, 400GBASE-SR4.2, amendment, Energy Efficient Ethernet (EEE), Ethernet, Forward Error Correction (FEC), IEEE 802.3™, IEEE 802.3cd, IEEE 802.3cm, Physical Coding Sublayer (PCS), Physical Medium Attachment (PMA) sublayer, Physical Medium Dependent (PMD) sublayer, Reconciliation Sublayer (RS), multimode fiber (MMF)

*This standard is dedicated to the memory of
our friend and colleague Jonathan P. King.*

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PDF: ISBN 978-1-5044-6436-9 STD24050
Print: ISBN 978-1-5044-6437-6 STDPD24050

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 802.3cm-2020, IEEE Standard for Ethernet. Amendment 7: Physical Layer and Management Parameters for 400 Gb/s over Multimode Fiber.

IEEE Std 802.3™ was first published in 1985. Since the initial publication, many projects have added functionality or provided maintenance updates to the specifications and text included in the standard. Each IEEE 802.3 project/amendment is identified with a suffix (e.g., IEEE Std 802.3ba™-2010).

The half duplex Media Access Control (MAC) protocol specified in IEEE Std 802.3-1985 is Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection (CSMA/CD). This MAC protocol was key to the experimental Ethernet developed at Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, which had a 2.94 Mb/s data rate. Ethernet at 10 Mb/s was jointly released as a public specification by Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC), Intel and Xerox in 1980. Ethernet at 10 Mb/s was approved as an IEEE standard by the IEEE Standards Board in 1983 and subsequently published in 1985 as IEEE Std 802.3-1985. Since 1985, new media options, new speeds of operation, and new capabilities have been added to IEEE Std 802.3. A full duplex MAC protocol was added in 1997.

Some of the major additions to IEEE Std 802.3 are identified in the marketplace with their project number. This is most common for projects adding higher speeds of operation or new protocols. For example, IEEE Std 802.3u™ added 100 Mb/s operation (also called Fast Ethernet), IEEE Std 802.3z added 1000 Mb/s operation (also called Gigabit Ethernet), IEEE Std 802.3ae added 10 Gb/s operation (also called 10 Gigabit Ethernet), IEEE Std 802.3ah™ specified access network Ethernet (also called Ethernet in the First Mile) and IEEE Std 802.3ba added 40 Gb/s operation (also called 40 Gigabit Ethernet) and 100 Gb/s operation (also called 100 Gigabit Ethernet). These major additions are all now included in and are superseded by IEEE Std 802.3-2018 and are not maintained as separate documents.

At the date of IEEE Std 802.3cm-2020 publication, IEEE Std 802.3 was composed of the following documents:

IEEE Std 802.3-2018

Section One—Includes Clause 1 through Clause 20 and Annex A through Annex H and Annex 4A. Section One includes the specifications for 10 Mb/s operation and the MAC, frame formats and service interfaces used for all speeds of operation.

Section Two—Includes Clause 21 through Clause 33 and Annex 22A through Annex 33E. Section Two includes management attributes for multiple protocols and speed of operation as well as specifications for providing power over twisted pair cabling for multiple operational speeds. It also includes general information on 100 Mb/s operation as well as most of the 100 Mb/s Physical Layer specifications.

Section Three—Includes Clause 34 through Clause 43 and Annex 36A through Annex 43C. Section Three includes general information on 1000 Mb/s operation as well as most of the 1000 Mb/s Physical Layer specifications.

Section Four—Includes Clause 44 through Clause 55 and Annex 44A through Annex 55B. Section Four includes general information on 10 Gb/s operation as well as most of the 10 Gb/s Physical Layer specifications.

Section Five—Includes Clause 56 through Clause 77 and Annex 57A through Annex 76A. Clause 56 through Clause 67 and Clause 75 through Clause 77, as well as associated annexes, specify subscriber access and other Physical Layers and sublayers for operation from 512 kb/s to 10 Gb/s, and defines ser-