

iPhone Client

Broadcast

Cisco AP 1

clientassoc_open_wlan.pcapng

Probe Request (0x0004)

Dst	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
Src	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
Seq	3303

Probe Request – active scanning: client solicits responses from APs; directed (specific SSID) or wildcard (broadcast SSID); faster than passive scanning (beacon-only)

Probe Response (0x0005)

Dst	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
Src	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Seq	206
Capabilities Information	0x1421

Probe Response – AP replies with capabilities (SSID, rates, RSN, channel); client uses signal strength + capabilities to select best AP for association

Authentication (0x000b)

Dst	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Src	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Seq	3304
Auth	Open System (0)
Auth Seq	0x0001
Status	Successful (0x0000)

802.11 Authentication – Open System (2 frames) or SAE/WPA3 (multiple rounds); must succeed before Association

ACK (0x001d)

RA	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
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Frame 4 | 2017-01-16T01:49:20.818028Z

Beacon frame (0x0008)

BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Seq	3254
Beacon Interval	0.104448 [Seconds]
DTIM count	0

Beacon – AP announces its presence at Beacon Interval (usually 100 TU = 102.4ms); carries SSID, supported rates, DTIM count, RSN info; basis for passive scanning

Authentication (0x000b)

Dst	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
Src	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Seq	3255
Auth	Open System (0)
Auth Seq	0x0002
Status	Successful (0x0000)

802.11 Authentication – Open System (2 frames) or SAE/WPA3 (multiple rounds); must succeed before Association

Association Request (0x0000)

Dst	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Src	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Seq	3305
Capabilities Information	0x1421
Listen Interval	0x0014

Association Request – client joins BSS; carries SSID, supported rates, RSN (WPA2/WPA3) capabilities; AP assigns AID in response

Association Response (0x0001)

Dst	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
Src	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Seq	3256
Status	Successful (0x0000)
AID	0x0001

Association Response – AP accepts/rejects client; Status 0=Success; assigns AID (Association ID) used for PS-Poll and TIM bitmap addressing

Null function (No data) (0x0024)

Power	STA will stay up
Dst	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Src	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
Seq	3306


Null Data – no payload; used for power management signaling: PWR MGT=1 tells AP the client is going to sleep (AP buffers frames); PWR MGT=0 means client is awake

Action (0x000d)






Dst	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
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Frame 13 | 2017-01-16T01:49:21.024151Z

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 Src	00:56:cd:ee:f1:71
 BSS	84:b2:61:24:a2:00
 Seq	3307
 Category	Block Ack (3)
 Action	Add Block Ack Request (0x00)