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**Signaling extensions for Media Channel sub-carriers configuration in  
Spectrum Switched Optical Networks (SSON) in Lambda Switch Capable (LSC)  
Optical Line Systems.**

[draft-ggalimbe-ccamp-flexigrid-carrier-label-06](#)

## Abstract

This memo defines the signaling extensions for managing Spectrum Switched Optical Network (SSON) parameters shared between the Client and the Network and inside the Network in accordance to the model described in [RFC 7698](#). The extensions are in accordance and extending the parameters defined in ITU-T Recommendation G.694.1.[[ITU.G694.1](#)] and its extensions and G.872.[[ITU.G872](#)].

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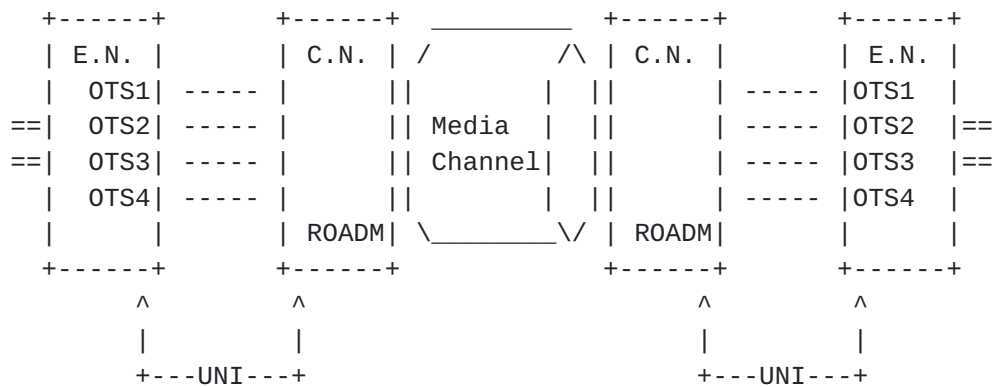
## [1.](#) Introduction

Generalised Multiprotocol Label Switched (GMPLS) is widely used in Wavelength Switched Optical Network (WSO) to support the optical circuits set-up through the signalling between Core Nodes and Edge Nodes. This extension addresses the use cases described by [\[RFC7698\]](#) Ch.3.3 and supports the information, needed in Spectrum Switched Optical Network (SSON), to signal a Media Channel and the associated carriers set request. The new set of parameters is related to the Media Channel and the carrier(s) routed with it and keep the backward compatibility with the WSO signalling. In particular this memo wants to address the use cases where the SSON LSP (the Media Channel in [RFC7698](#)) carries multiple carrier (OTSi) containing same Payload. The set of the carriers can be seen as single Logical circuit. This



memo can be considered as the extension of [\[RFC7792\]](#). The contents and the parameters reflect the experimental activity on IP over SSON recently done by some vendors and research consortia.

Figure 1 shows how the multiple carrier are mapped into a Media Channel. A set of parameters must be shared on the UNI to allow the GMPLS to do the proper routing and Spectrum Assignment and decide the carrier position.



E.N. = Edge Node - UNI Client  
C.N. = Core Node - UNI Network  
ROADM = Lambda/Spectrum switch  
Media Channel = the optical circuit  
OTSi = Carriers belonging to the same Network Media Channel (or Super Channel)  
UNI = Signaling interface

Figure 1: Multi carrier LSP

## 2. Client interface parameters

The Edge Node interface can have one or multiple carriers (OTSi). All the carrier have the same characteristics and are provisionable in terms of:

Number of subcarriers:

This parameter indicates the number of subcarriers available for the super-channel in case the Transceiver can support multiple carrier circuits.

Central frequency (see G.694.1 Table 1):

This parameter indicates the Central frequency value that Ss and Rs will be set to work (in THz). See the details in [Section 6/](#)



G.694.1 or based on "n" value explanation and the following "k" values definition in case of multicarrier transceivers.

Central frequency granularity:

This parameter indicates the Central frequency granularity supported by the transceiver, this value is combined with k and n value to calculate the central frequency of the carrier or sub-carriers.

Minimum channel spacing:

This is the minimum nominal difference in frequency (in GHz) between two adjacent channels (or carriers) depending on the Transceiver characteristics.

Bit rate / Baud rate of optical tributary signals:

Optical Tributary Signal bit (for NRZ signals) rate or Symbol (for Multiple bit per symbol) rate .

FEC Coding:

This parameter indicate what Forward Error Correction (FEC) code is used at Ss and Rs (R/W) (not mentioned in G.698.2). .

Wavelength Range (see G.694.1): [[ITU.G694.1](#)]

This parameter indicate minimum and maximum wavelength spectrum in a definite wavelength Band (L, C and S).

Modulation format:

This parameter indicates the list of supported Modulation Formats and the provisioned Modulation Format..

Inter carrier skew:

This parameter indicates, in case of multi-carrier transceivers the maximum skew between the sub-carriers supported by the transceiver.

Laser Output power:

This parameter provisions the Transceiver Output power, it can be either a setting and measured value.

receiver input power:

This parameter provisions the Min and MAX input power supported by the Transceiver, i.e. Receiver Sensitivity.

The above parameters are related to the Edge Node Transceiver and are used by the Core Network GMPLS in order to calculate the optical feasibility and the spectrum allocation. The parameters can be shared between the Client and the Network via LMP or provisioned to the Network by an EMS or an operator OSS.



### **3. Use Cases**

The use cases are described in [draft-ietf-ccamp-dwdm-if-mng-ctrl-fwk](#) and [\[RFC7698\]](#)

### **4. Signalling Extensions**

Some of the above parameters can be applied to [RFC7792](#) (SENDER\_TSPEC/ FLOWSPEC). The above parameters could be applied to [\[RFC4208\]](#) scenarios but they are valid also in case of non UNI scenarios. The [\[RFC6205\]](#) parameters remain valid.

#### **4.1. New LSP set-up parameters**

When the E.N. wants to request to the C.N. a new circuit set-up request or the GMPLS wants to signal in the SSON network the Optical Interface characteristics the following parameters will be provided to the C.N.:

Number of available subcarriers (c):

This parameter is an integer and identifies the number of Client ports connected to the Core ports available to support the requested circuit

Total bandwidth request:

e.g. 200Gb, 400Gb, 1Tb - it is the bandwidth (payload) to be carried by the multiple carrier circuit

Policy (strict/loose):

Strict/loose referred to B/W and subcarrier number. This is to give some flexibility to the GMPLS in order to commit client request.

Subcarrier bandwidth tunability:

(optional) e.g. 34Ghz, 48Ghz.





The TLV define the resource constraints for the requested Media Channel.

The format of the this sub-object is as follows:

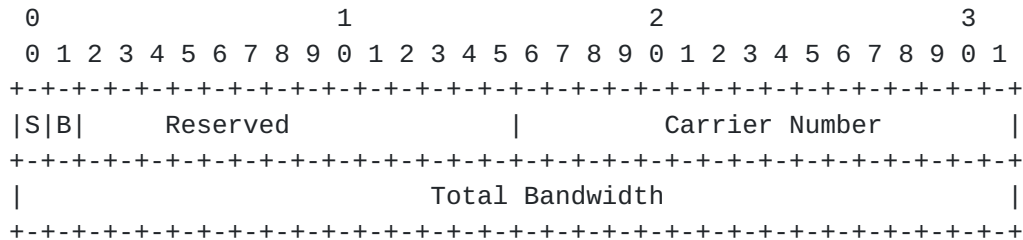


Figure 2: SSON LSP set-up request

Carrier Number: number of carrier to be allocated for the requested channel (16-bit unsigned integer)  
 If Carrier Number == 0 no constraint set on the number of carriers to be used

S strict number of subcarrier

- S = 0 the number of requested carriers is the maximum number that can be allocated (a lower value can be allocated if the requested bandwidth is satisfied)
- S = 1 the number of requested carriers is strict (must be > 0)

Total Bandwidth: the requested total bandwidth to be supported by the Media Channel (32-bit IEEE float, bytes/s)  
 If Total Bandwidth == 0: no bandwidth constraint is defined (B must be 0)

B Bandwidth constraints

- B = 0: the value is the maximum requested bandwidth (a lower value can be allocated if resources are not available)
- B = 1: the requested bandwidth is the minimum value to be allocated (a higher value can be allocated if requested by the physical constraints of the ports)

Reserved: unused bit (for future use, should be 0)



Note: bandwidth unit is defined in accordance to [RFC 3471](#) chap. 3.1.2 Bandwidth Encoding specification. Bandwidth higher than 40Gb/s values must be defined (e.g. 100Gb/s, 150Gb/s 400Gb/s, etc.)

TLV Usage:

Head UNI-C PATH: requested traffic constraints, the Head UNI-N node must satisfy when reserving the optical resources and defining the carriers configuration

The TLV can be omitted: no traffic constraints is defined (resources allocated by UNI-N based on a local policy)

#### **4.2. Extension to LSP set-up reservation**

Once the GMPLS has calculated the Media Channel path, the Spectrum Allocation, the Sub-carrier number and frequency, the modulation format, the FEC and the Transmit power, sends back to the E.N. the path set-up confirmation providing the values of the calculated parameters:

Media Channel:

(Grid, C.S., Identifier m and n). as indicated in [RFC7699](#)  
[Section 4.1](#)

Modulation format:

This parameter indicates the Modulation Formats to be set in the Transceivers.

FEC Coding:

This parameter indicate what Forward Error Correction (FEC) code must be used by the Transceivers (not mentioned in G.698).

Bit rate / Baud rate of optical tributary signals:

Optical tributary signal bit (for NRZ signals) rate or Symbol (for Multiple bit per symbol) rate.

List of subcarriers:

This parameter indicates the subcarriers to be used for the super-channel in case the Transceiver can support multiple carrier Circuits.

Central frequency granularity (J):

This parameter indicates the Central frequency granularity supported by the transceiver, this value is combined with K and n value to calculate the central frequency on the carrier or sub-carriers.

Central frequency (see G.694.1 Table 1):



Grid, Identifiers, central frequency and granularity.

Laser Output power:

This parameter provisions the Transceiver Output power, it can be either a setting and measured value.

Circuit Path, RRO, etc:

All these info are defined in [\[RFC4208\]](#).

Path Error:

e.g. no path exist, all the path error defined in [\[RFC4208\]](#).

The TLV defines the carriers signal configuration.

All carriers in a Media Channel MUST have the same configuration.

The format of this sub-object (Type = TBA, Length = TBA) is as follows:

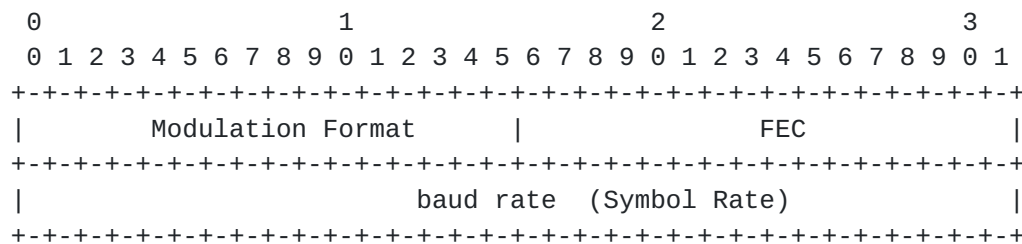


Figure 3: OCh\_General

Traffic Type

- Modulation Format: is the modulation type:
  - BPSK, DC DP BPSK, QPSK, DP QPSK, 8QAM, 16QAM, 64QAM, Hybrid, etc.
  - <TBD> (ITU-T reference)
  - value > 32768 (first bit is 1): custom defined values
  - Value 0 is reserved to be used if no value is defined
- FEC: the signal Forward Error Corrections type (16-bit unsigned integer), the defined values are:
  - <TBD> (ITU-T reference)
  - 32768 (first bit is 1): custom defined values
  - Value 0 is reserved to be used if no value is defined
- Baud Rate: the signal symbol rate (IEEE 32-bit float, in bauds/s)
  - Value 0 is reserved to be used if no value is defined



Notes:

- The PATH request from the Head UNI-C node can specify all or only a subset of the parameters (e.g. the Modulation and the baud rate as required but not the FEC) setting to 0 for the undefined parameters.  
When forwarding the PATH message, the UNI-N will set the undefined parameters based on the optical impairment calculation and the constraints giveng by the UNI-C
- Custom codes (values > 0x8000) interpretation is a local installation matter.

TLV Usage:

- Head UNI-C PATH: used to force specific transponder configurations
- Head UNI-N RESV: set selected configuration on head node
- Tail UNI-N PATH: set selected configuration on tail node

#### 4.2.1. Sub-carrier list content

For Each carrier inside the Media Channel the TLV is used.

The format of this sub-object (Type = TBA, Length = TBA) is as follows:

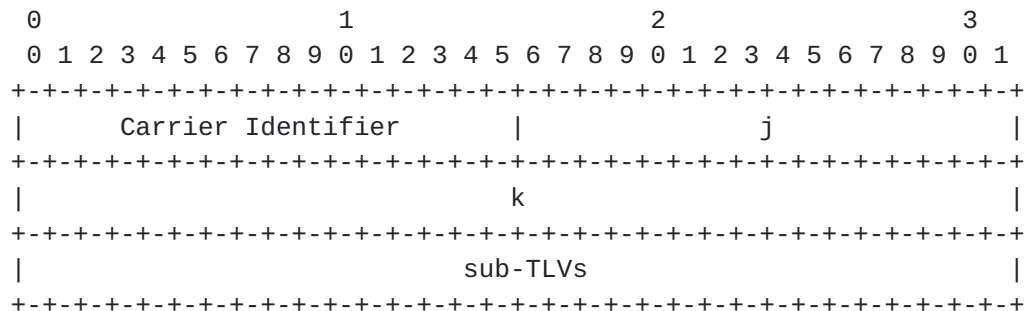


Figure 4: Sub-Carrier parameters

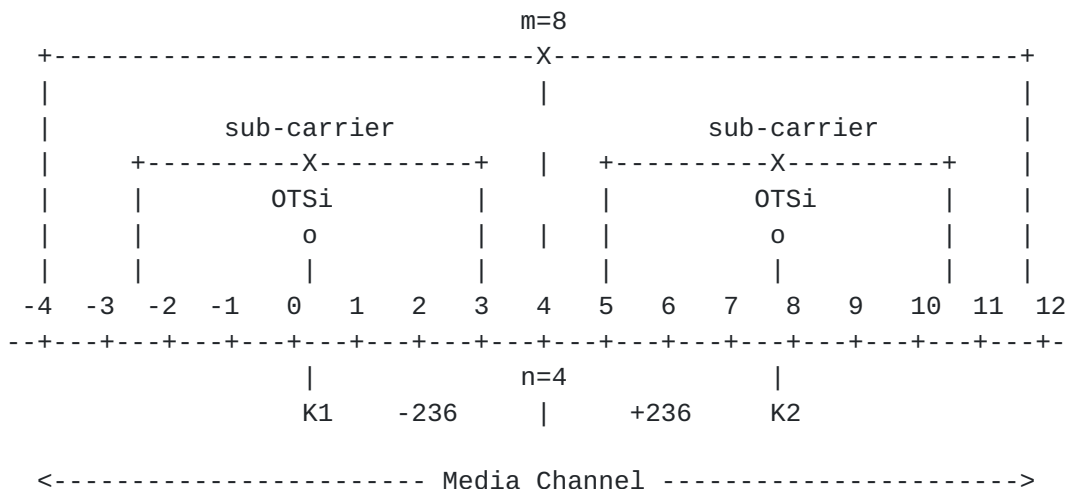




Carrier set-up:

- Carrier identifier field: sub-carrier identifier inside the mediachannel. Identifies the carrier position inside the Media Channel (16-bit unsigned integer)  
The Carrier Identifier is the logical circuit sub-lane position, a TLV for each value from 1 to the number of allocated carriers must be present.
- J field: granularity of the channel spacing, can be a multiple of 0.01GHz. - default value is 0.1GHz.
- K field: positive or negative integer (including 0) to multiply by J and identify the Carrier Position inside the Media Channel, offset from media Channel Central frequency
- sub-TLVs: additional information related to carriers if needed and the ports associated to the carrier.

In summary Carrier Frequency = MC-C.F. (in THz) + K \* J GHz.



#### 4.2.2. Sub-carrier sub-TLV

The defined sub-TLVs are Port Identifiers and Carrier Power



### Source Port Identifier

The format of this sub-object (Type = TBA, Length = TBD) is as follows:

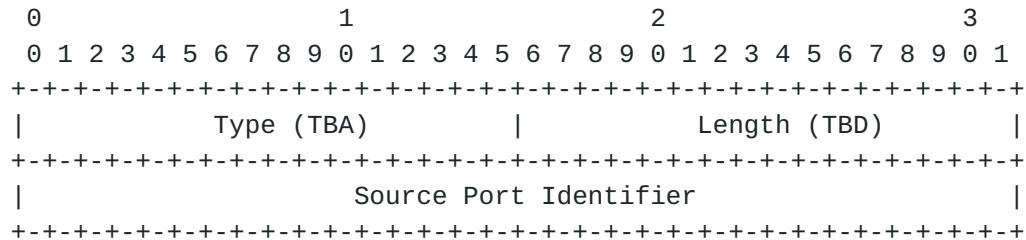


Figure 5: Source Port Identifier

Source Port Identifier: the HEAD UNI-C optical logical source end point identifier (32-bits integer, ifindex)

### TLV Usage:

- Head UNI-C PATH: used to force specific carrier ports [optional use, e.g. with external PCE scenario]
- Tail UNI-N PATH: report selected carrier head ports to tail UNI-C
- RESV: report selected configuration to HEAD UNI-C node

### Destination Port Identifier

The format of this sub-object (Type = TBA, Length = TBD) is as follows:

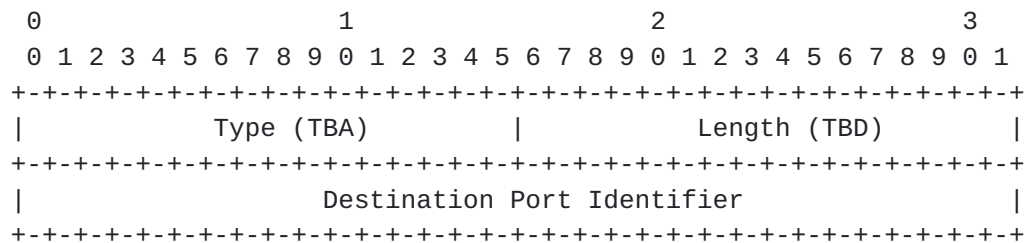


Figure 6: Destination Port Identifiers



Destination Port Identifier: the local upstream optical logical destination end point identifier (32-bits integer, ifindex)

TLV Usage:

- Head UNI-C PATH: used to force specific carrier ports [optional use, e.g. with external PCE scenario]
- Tail UNI-N PATH: set selected configuration on tail node
- RESV: report selected configuration to HEAD UNI-C node

Carrier Power

The format of this sub-object (Type = TBA, Length = TBD) is as follows:

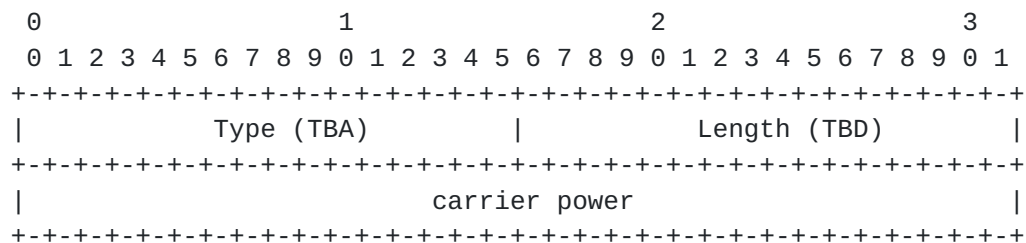


Figure 7: Carrier Power

Carrier Power: the requested carrier transmit power (32-bits IEEE Float, dBm), optionally used to notify the configured power (in UNI client side) or force the power to the to the UNI client).

TLV Usage:

- Head UNI-C PATH: used to force specific carrier frequency/ports (optional use, e.g. with external PCE scenario)
- Head UNI-N RESV: set selected configuration on head node
- Tail UNI-N PATH: set selected configuration on tail node

#### 4.3. RSVP Protocol Extensions considerations

The additional information described in the draft, is related to the Media Channel supported traffic. It could be encoded in the SENDER\_TSPEC/FLOW\_SPEC objects by extending the SSON\_SENDER\_TSPEC/SSON\_FLOW\_SPEC defined in [RFC 7792](#) (or defining a new C-Type) with an optional TLV list or it could be encoded in a newly defined entry (new OBJECT or new LSP\_ATTRIBUTES OBJECT TLV)

This solution is consistent with other technology specific extensions (e.g. SDH), but requires the explicit handling of the extensions by all nodes.



Beside this, some of the additional information defined is local to the head/tail UNI link (e.g. the carrier/port association), while the traffic spec info should be valid end-to-end.

There can be different methods to model and signal the carriers as described in [draft-lee-ccamp-optical-impairment-topology-yang](#). The Media Channel, Network Media Channel and labels are well modelled by the [RFC7698](#), [RFC7699](#) and [RFC7792](#) reflecting the ITU-T Recommendations G.694.1 and G.698.2.

Some work is in progress in ITU-T SG15/Q12 to define Network Media Channel (group) that is capable of accommodating the optical tributary signals (OTSi) belonging to optical tributary signal group (OTSiG) (see new ITU-T Draft Recommendation G.807). Currently, no models exist (in the IETF nor ITU-T SG15) that define how the optical tributary signals are described inside the Network Media Channel Group in terms of OTSi identifier, OTSi carrier frequency and OTSi signal width.

Other the encoding proposal reported in this draft, there are several at least two other methods to describe the parameters. An option is to describe the OTSi carrier frequency relative to the anchor frequency 193.1THz based on a well-defined granularity (e.g. OTSi carrier frequency = 193100 (GHz) + K \* granularity (GHz) where K is a signed integer value). A second option is to explicitly describe the OTSi carrier frequency and the OTSi signal width in GHz with a certain accuracy.

The second option which is independent of the n, m values already defined in ITU-T Recommendation G.694.1. The OTSi carrier frequency is described in GHz with 3 fractional digits (decimal 64 fraction digits 3). The OTSi signal width is described in GHz with 3 fractional digits (decimal 64 fraction digits 3) and includes the signal roll off as well as some guard band.

The accuracy of 0.001 GHz does not impose a requirement on the optical transceiver components (optical transmitter) in terms of carrier frequency tunability precision. Today's components typically provide a tunability precision in the range of 1..1.5GHz (carrier frequency offset compared to the configured nominal carrier frequency). Future components may provide a better precision as technology evolves. If needed, a controller may retrieve the transceiver properties in terms of carrier frequency tunability precision in order to be capable of properly configuring the underlying transceiver.

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS: As this description is arbitrarily proposed by the authors to cover a lack of information in IETF and ITU-T, a





liaison request to ITU-T is needed. The authors are willing to contribute to Liaison editing and to consider any feedback and proposal from ITU-T.

## **5. Security Considerations**

GMPLS message security uses IPsec, as described in xxxx. This document only defines new UNI objects that are carried in existing UNI messages, similar to the UNI objects in xxx. This document does not introduce new security considerations.

## **6. IANA Considerations**

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