

# Guidelines for Characterising "OAM"

draft-pignataro-opsawg-oam-whaaat-question-mark

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# Why are We Wasting Your Time?

- We see lots of work talking about
  - In-band OAM
  - Out-of-band OAM
- In context it may be clear, but...
  - The meaning is not consistent across documents
  - What is “in-band” in a packet network, anyway?
- There seem to be several more precise and specific meanings

# What Would We Like To Achieve?

- Clear and consistent terminology across all future documents
- A set of terms that have precise and unvarying meaning

# A Stake In The Ground

- draft-pignataro-opsawg-oam-whaaat-question-mark is only a start
  - Call out the problem as we see it
  - Suggest the terms to use going forward
- The authors don't claim to have got this right
  - We welcome discussion and correction
- Note Well
  - This is not a criticism of any prior work
  - Just an attempt to make things better in the future

# Those key terms

- Don't
  - In-band OAM
  - Out-of-band OAM
- Do
  - Related to a path
    - Path-congruent OAM
    - Non-path-congruent OAM
  - Related to a packet
    - In-packet OAM
    - Dedicated-packet OAM
  - Related to packet treatment
    - Equal-QoS-Treatment OAM
    - Different-QoS-Treatment OAM
  - Combine these terms

# Additional Terms

- There will be debate!
- Active OAM:
  - Depends on dedicated instrumentation OAM packets.
- Passive OAM:
  - Depends solely on the observation of one or more existing data packet streams, and does not use dedicated OAM packets.
- Hybrid OAM:
  - Uses instrumentation or modification of data packets themselves.
  - [RFC9341] and [RFC9197] are examples labeled "Hybrid OAM" under this definition.
- Compound OAM:
  - Uses a combination of at least two of Active OAM, Passive OAM, and Hybrid OAM

# What Could Happen Next

- Chuck it out
  - No one cares
  - It is obviously wrong/stupid
- Decide it needs more discussion
  - Kick it around on the mailing list
  - Return at a future meeting
- Decide it is “urgent”
  - Adopt into WG
  - Polish the text