

IEEE 802.11 (WLAN)

Other WGs and
WLAN Implementation issues

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IEEE 802.11 WGs

Gruppi di standardizzazione IEEE 802.11	Descrizione
IEEE 802.11	lo standard originale: bitrate da 1 a 2 Mbps, spettro 2.4 Ghz, livello fisico sia radio che infrarosso
IEEE 802.11a	54 Mbit/s, 5 GHz, lanciato nel 2001
IEEE 802.11b	sviluppo di IEEE 802.11 (1999), da 5.5 a 11 Mbps
IEEE 802.11d	estensioni per roaming internazionale
IEEE 802.11e	estensioni per qualità del servizio
IEEE 802.11f	standard per Inter Access Point Protocol (IAPP)
IEEE 802.11g	54 Mbit/s, 2.4 GHz, retrocompatibile con IEEE 802.11b
IEEE 802.11h	selezione dinamica dei canali e controllo della potenza trasmittiva (compatibile con direttive europee)
IEEE 802.11i	integrazioni e estensioni per la sicurezza (2004)
IEEE 802.11j	estensioni per direttive giapponesi
IEEE 802.11k	estensioni per misurazione dei parametri radio
IEEE 802.11n	estensioni per throughput elevati (oltre 200 Mbps) mediante tecnologia MIMO (trasmettitori e ricevitori multipli)
IEEE 802.11p	accesso wireless per sistemi veicolari (WAVE)
IEEE 802.11r	estensioni per roaming veloce
IEEE 802.11s	estensioni per reti wireless mesh
IEEE 802.11t	metodi e metriche per misurazione e predizione delle prestazioni
IEEE 802.11u	internetworking con reti non 802.11 (cellulari)
IEEE 802.11v	gestione e amministrazione delle reti wireless

WLAN and WMAN Wireless Standards and technologies

	UWB	Bluetooth	Wi-fi	Wi-fi	Wi-fi	WiMAX	WiMAX	EDGE	CDMA	UMTS
Standard	802.15.3a	802.15.1	802.11a	802.11b	802.11g	802.16d	802.16e	2,5G	3G	3G
contesto	WPAN	WPAN	WLAN	WLAN	WLAN	WMAN (fisso)	WMAN (mobile)	WWAN	WWAN	WWAN
MAX bitrate	110-480 Mbps	720 Kbps	54 Mbps	11-22 Mbps	54-108 Mbps	75 Mbps (20 Mhz)	30 Mbps (10 Mhz)	384 Kbps	2,4 Mbps	10 Mbps
distanza	10 m	10 m	100 m	100 m	100 m	10 km	5 km	5 km	5 km	5 km
spettro	7,5 Ghz	2,4 Ghz (ISM)	5 Ghz	2,4 Ghz (ISM)	2,4 Ghz (ISM)	11 Ghz	2-6 Ghz	1800 Mhz	multi	multi

Service Sets

- **Basic Service Set**
 - Access Point
 - Client nodes
 - Service Set Identifier (SSID): 32 char ID (network name?)
 - not a password: can be sniffed (in clear in packet headers)
 - Used for association of clients to APs (sharing the same SSID)
- **Extended service set**
 - two or more BSS connected by distribution system
 - Wireless routers (different SSID)
 - Wireless repeaters (same SSID)?
- **Independent Basic Service Set (IBSS)**
 - Ad hoc network (peer to peer nodes, no AP authentication)

Range Extension between BSS cells and DS

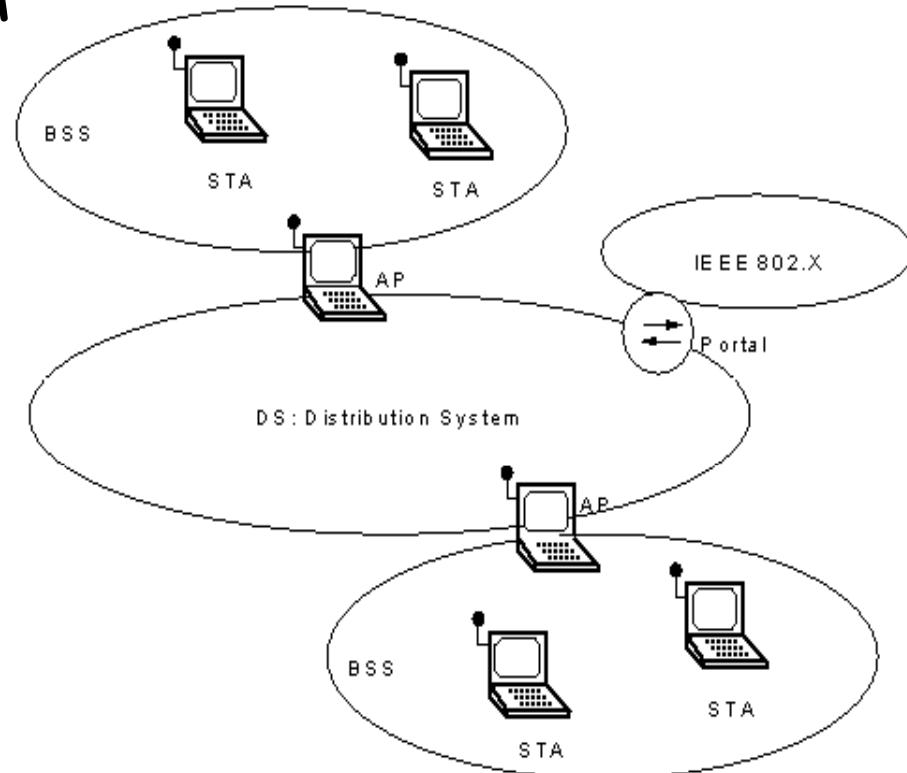
IEEE 802.11: Distribution System (DS)

AP: Access Point

BSS: Basic Service Set

ESS: Extended Service Set

DS: Network to transmit packets between BSSs to realize ESSs.



SSID

▪ **Service Set Identifier (SSID):**

- not a password! can be sniffed
 - AirMagnet, Netstumbler, AiroPeek NX...
 - Windows Xp sniffs SSID to configure NIC devices for access
 - ...potential for attacks?
- Admin: useless to delete SSID info from Beacon frames...
 - ...Because SSID is used for association of clients to APs
- Many SSID are factory-defined and never changed
 - E.g. CISCO “tsunami”, Proxim “Proxim”, Symbol “Symbol”

BSS attacks

- **BSS Attacks:**
 - (Phy/MAC) layer interference (bla bla bla bla...)
 - (MAC) CTS flooding
- **Rogue access points**
 - Un-authorized access point with no security alignment
 - Man in the middle + rogue access point to re-associate the client
 - Sniff area with NetStumbler, AirMagnet WLAN analyzer
 - Use centralized applications: AirWave, CiscoWorks
 - Use TCP port scanner (SuperScan 3.0) to monitor all 80 ports (rogue AP Web server responds?)

BSS security assessment (1)

- Review existing security policies, and monitor for rogue access points
 - Activate WEP at the very least
 - WEP key is static and crackable with AirSnort, WEPcrack
- Utilize pre-shared key, or dynamic key exchange mechanisms, and static IP (no DHCP)
 - IEEE 802.11i, Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) and dynamic key exchange (Wireless Protected Access, Wi-Fi Protected Access, WPA)
 - DHCP gives local IP and enable crackers for IP access to the whole network
- Ensure NIC and access point firmware is up-to-date
- Ensure only authorized people can reset the access points
 - Disable reset buttons and console programming port

BSS security assessment (2)

- Assign "strong" passwords to access points, locate in good places and disable them when not used
- Disable SSID broadcast in Beacons (but still present in association frames)
- Adopt Access Controller over Open Network (not authenticated access)
Access Points
 - Implement mutual authentication mechanisms
 - Authentication of clients performed with RADIUS servers, IEEE 802.1X
- Use firewalls and IPsec VPNs technologies over client devices

IEEE 802.11 AP configuration (1)

▪ Configuring the AP...

- Direct cable connection (console)
- Wireless Web server access to URL “<http://192.168.0.x>”
- do it before installation of multiple APs
- Set the IP address (static?)
- Set the radio channel
 - 1,6,11 preferable for IEEE 802.11b



IEEE 802.11 AP configuration (2)

▪ ...Configuring the AP

- Set transmission power (max 100 mw)
- Set SSID identifier (network name?)
- Set allowed data rates
- Set beacon repetition interval (typical 10 ms)
- Set RTS/CTS activation and payload threshold
- Set fragmentation threshold
- Set WEP encryption (>128 bit = 26 HEX char)
- Set mutual devices authentication (no open system):
 - Pre-shared keys, 802.1x + RADIUS authentication server, WPA
- Set admin AP interface passwords

IEEE 802.11 WLAN deployment

- **Radio planning**

- Map areas and channels with coverage analysis (AirMagnet, Yellow Jacket)
- Check pre-existing radio channels assigned (neighbor network?)
 - 75% are channel 6 (device default) (use NetStumbler)
- Put AP high on the ceiling, with antennas vertical towards the floor (better propagation and coverage area)
 - Beware of metallic grids within walls (Faraday's grids)
- Use Power over Ethernet (PoE) if the plug is unpractical

- **Configuring the wireless repeater (increase AP radio range)**

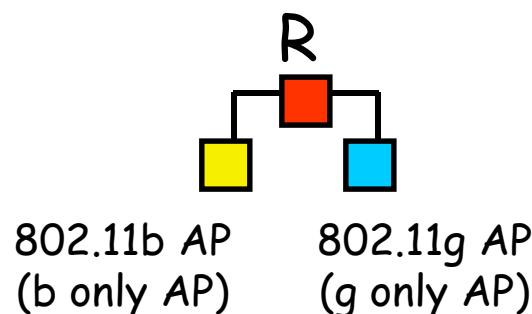
- Switch the AP to repeater mode (see next slides)
- Set the SSID of the same root AP
- Set the preferred AP and secondary AP to forward frames to
- Clients associates with the strongest signal with the same SSID

IEEE 802.11 WLAN deployment

- **Configuring the wireless bridge (connects two or more wireless networks by considering MAC addresses only)**
 - AP are similar to bridges, but connect many wireless users devices (NICs) to one network (e.g. Ethernet) and forward all frames received (no filtering)
 - **Workgroup Bridges.** Workgroup bridges connect wireless networks to larger, wired Ethernet networks
- **Configuring the wireless router (connects wireless clients to more than one network, and always consider IP addresses)**
 - Setup IP address and domain name server (DNS) address, or DHCP server
 - Setup SSID, RTS/CTS, WEP, frequency channel, fragmentation, power, etc.
 - Allow wireless clients to connect to more than one wireless network in the area
 - Implement Network Address Translation (NAT) for IP address sharing
 - Improve network management options and network performance (selective forwarding, no broadcast)
 - Improve security with built-in firewalls (IP filtering), IPSec and VPN support

Cohexistence Problems: mixed mode clients b/g

- **IEEE 802.11b and IEEE 802.11g technologies**
 - 802.11b is DSSS (11 Mb/s) in 2.4 Ghz
 - Mbps depend on the distance from AP
 - 802.11g is DSSS (54 Mb/s) in 2.4 Ghz (extra speed)
 - New technology to deploy over 802.11b systems?
 - Mixed mode Wireless router with b/g access support?
 - Performance drawbacks
 - Low throughput (waiting the slowest technology for channel access)... Similar to the “slow car on the tunnel” problem
 - Solution: separate b and g communication with different APs connected to the network router
 - Non-overlapping channels 1, 6, 11
 - Use mixed mode protection (RTS/CTS or CTS-to-self)



Cohexistence Problems: mixed mode clients b/g

- E.g. homogeneous IEEE 802.11b (or IEEE 802.11g) technology
 - BSS Scenario 1: 802.11 AP streaming large files to two clients
 - Clients near to AP (both at 11 Mbps download speed)
 - One client moves far from AP (1 Mbps)
 - Results in low speed for both clients!!! (-77% = avg 7.2 to 1.6 Mbps)

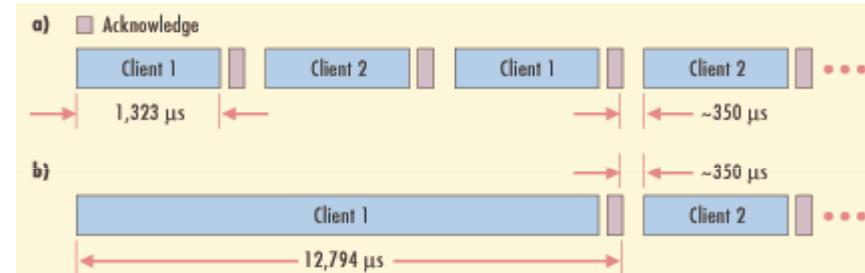
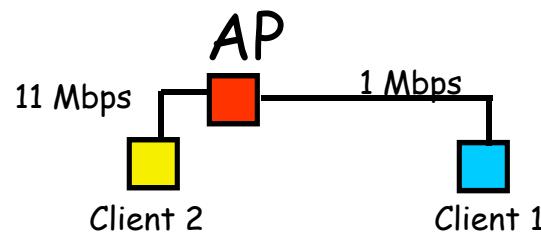
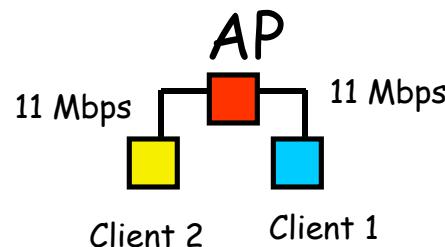


Fig.1 When two clients are close to an AP (a), the data rates are similar. But, as Client 1 roams to the network edge (b), its rate drops quickly, slowing considerably the time taken for the packet transmit and ACK.

Scenario	Description	Total 802.11 throughput	Client throughput	
			Client 1	Client 2
A _b	Two clients operating @ 11 Mbits/s	7.2 Mbits/s	3.6 Mbits/s	3.6 Mbits/s
B _b	Client 1 @ 1 Mbits/s, Client 2 @ 11 Mbits/s	1.6 Mbits/s	800 kbytes/s	800 kbytes/s
Scenario	Description	Total 802.11 throughput	Client throughput	
			Client 1	Client 2
A _a	Two clients operating @ 54 Mbits/s	30 Mbits/s	15 Mbits/s	15 Mbits/s
B _a	Client 1 @ 6 Mbits/s, Client 2 @ 54 Mbits/s	9.2 Mbits/s	4.6 Mbits/s	4.6 Mbits/s

Fig.2 The effect of a roaming client is similar for both 802.11b (a) and 802.11a (b) networks. The AP will alternate transmissions between Client 1 and Client 2, and network throughput will drop between 70 and 77 percent.

Cohexistence Problems: mixed mode clients b/g

- E.g. mixed IEEE 802.11g IEEE 802.11b technology
 - BSS Scenario 2: 802.11b/g AP streaming large files to two clients
 - A) two IEEE 802.11g clients (both at 54 Mbps download speed, 30 Mbps avg MAC through.)
 - B) one client IEEE 802.11g and one client IEEE 802.11b (802.11b cannot detect OFDM transmissions, and need CTS with IEEE 802.11b modulation scheme)
= - 64% , avg 11.2 Mbps
 - Partial solution: initial contention window size: TXOP every 16 slots (g) and every 32 slots (b)

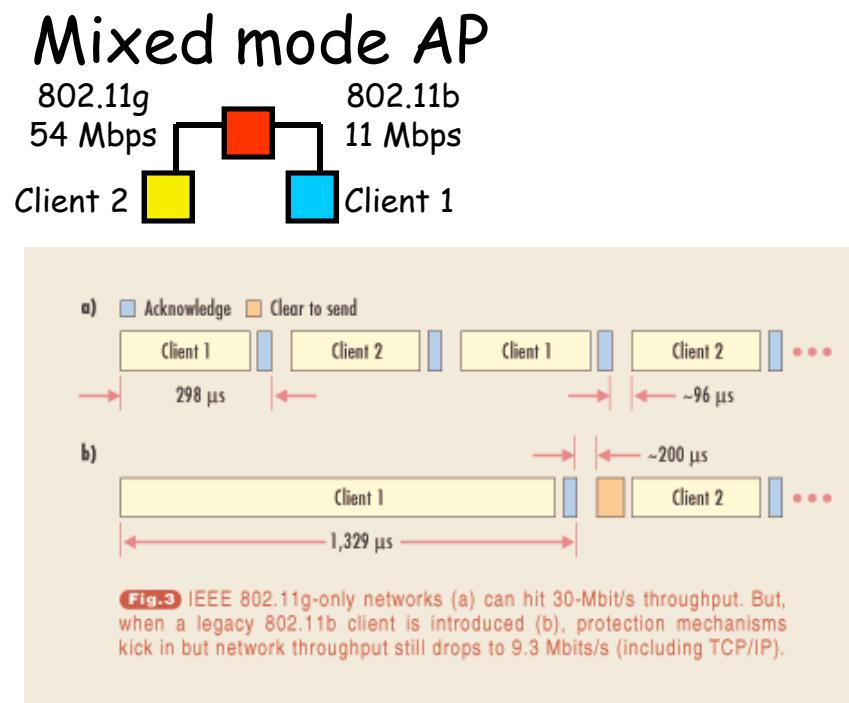


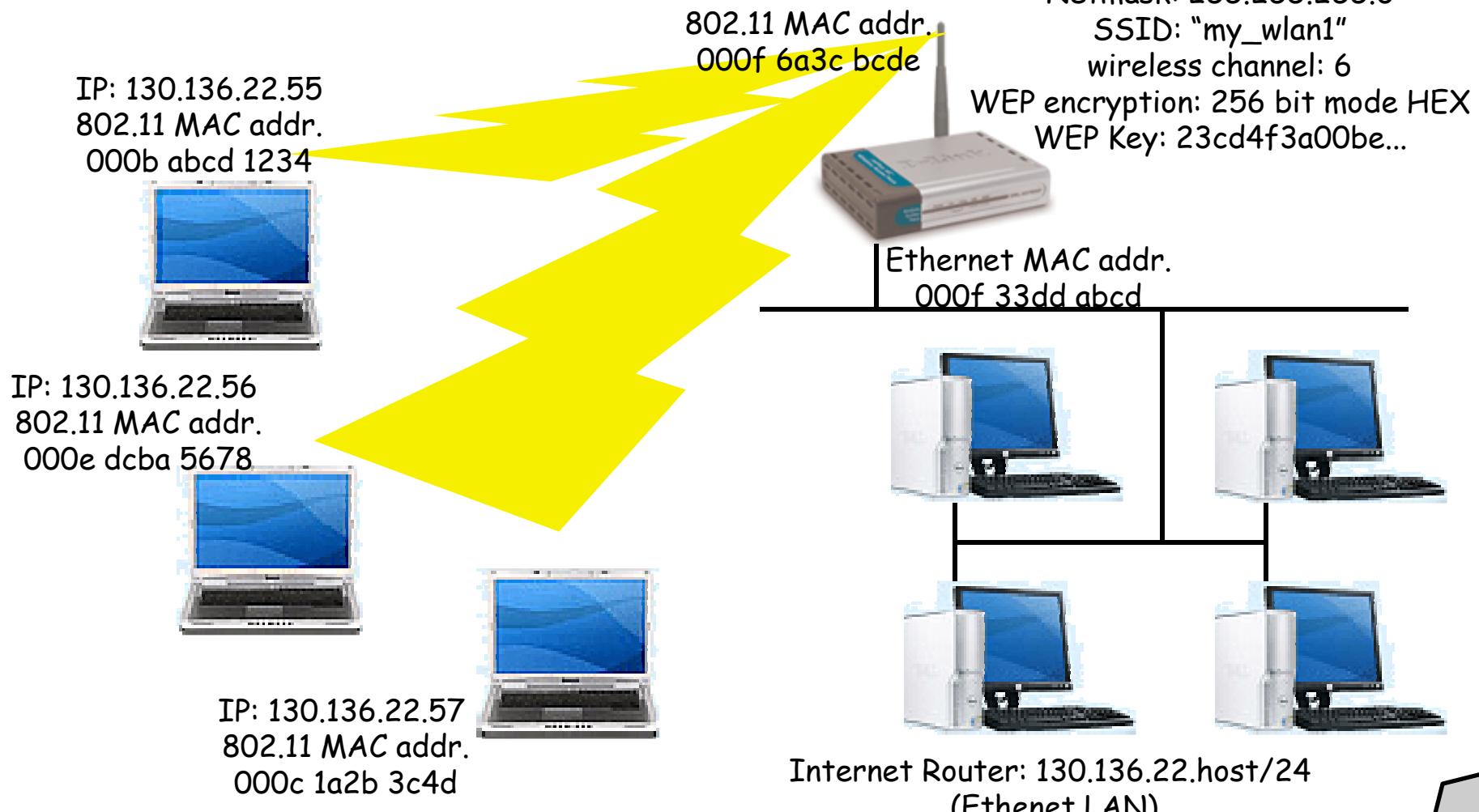
Fig.4 In a mixed 802.11g and 802.11b environment, the throughput (including TCP/IP overhead) depends on the number and type of clients associated with the AP. The figures represent total network throughput.

Figure credits: <http://www.commsdesign.com>

MenzoWentink, Tim Godfrey and Jim Zyren
Overcoming IEEE 802.11g's Interoperability Hurdles
COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS DESIGN, May 2003

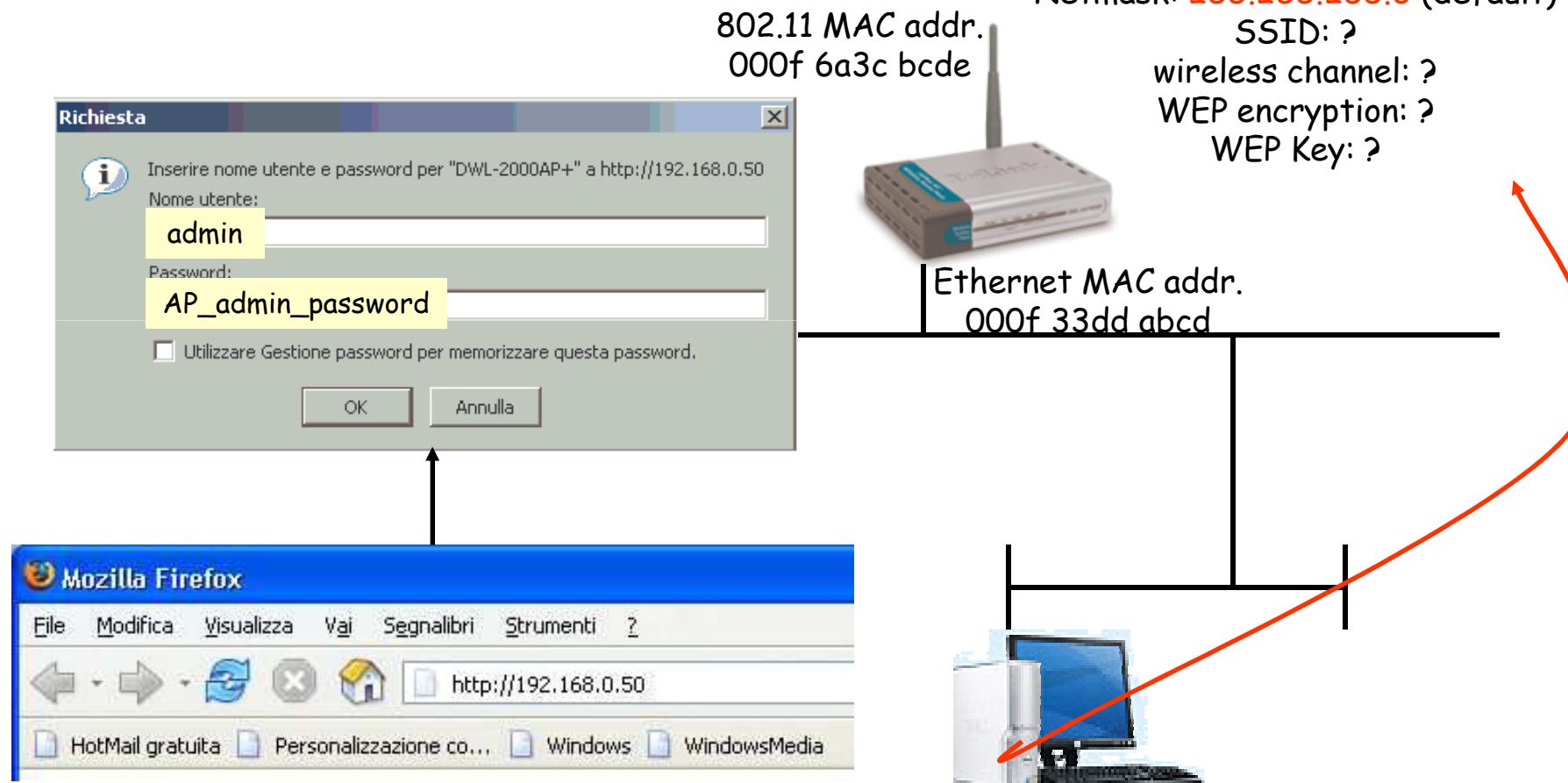
Configuration of a Wireless Network

▪ Access Point mode (target config)



Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Access Point mode: step 0
connect AP and set config PC



PC for AP config (step 0: install software, run client)
Via LAN Network: IP: 192.168.0.51, netmask: 255.255.255.0
Via console: attach serial cable, run client software

Configuration of a Wireless Network

- **Access Point mode: step 1
set LAN IP and config. parameters**

802.11 MAC addr.
000f 6a3c bcde



Operating Mode: **Access Point**

IP: **130.136.22.50**

Netmask: **255.255.255.0**

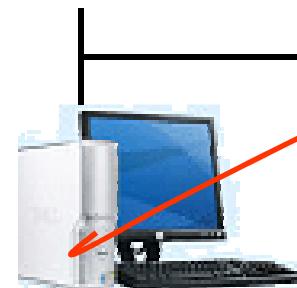
SSID: **"my_wlan1"**

wireless channel: **6**

WEP encryption: **256 bit mode HEX**

WEP Key: **23cd4f3a00be...**

Ethernet MAC addr.
000f 33dd abcd



PC for AP config (step 0: **install software, run client**)

Via LAN Network: IP: **130.136.22.host**, netmask: **255.255.255.0**

Via console: attach serial cable to AP

Configuration of a Wireless Network

▪ Access Point mode: step 2 set WLAN client parameters

IP: 130.136.22.whost1

802.11 MAC addr.

000b abcd 1234

SSID: "my_wlan1"

WEP encryption: 256 bit mode HEX

WEP Key: 23cd4f3a00be...



IP: 130.136.22.whost2

802.11 MAC addr.

000c 1a2b 3c4d

....

802.11 MAC addr.

000f 6a3c bcde



Operating Mode: Access Point

IP: 130.136.22.50

Netmask: 255.255.255.0

SSID: "my_wlan1"

wireless channel: 6

WEP encryption: 256 bit mode HEX

WEP Key: 23cd4f3a00be...

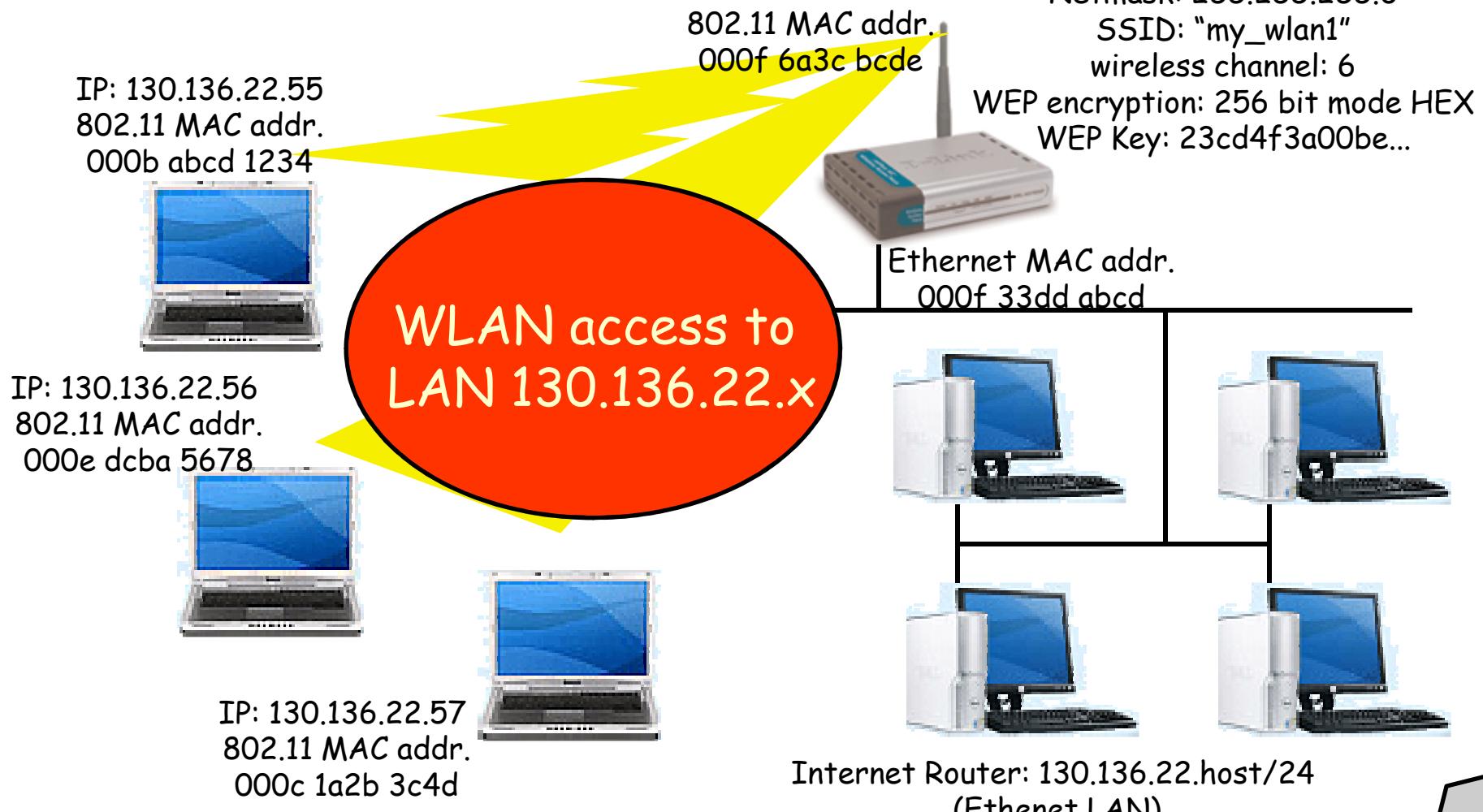
Ethernet MAC addr.
000f 33dd abcd



IP: 130.136.22.host,
netmask: 255.255.255.0

Configuration of a Wireless Network

▪ Access Point mode (target config)



Configuration of a Wireless Network

▪ Other AP operating modes: Wireless client

Operating Mode: **Wireless Client**
IP: 130.136.22.49
Netmask: 255.255.255.0
Ethernet Gateway: 130.136.22.50
SSID: "my_wlan1"
wireless channel: 6
WEP encryption: 256 bit mode HEX
WEP Key: 23cd4f3a00be...



Operating Mode: **Access Point**
IP: 130.136.22.50
Netmask: 255.255.255.0
SSID: "my_wlan1"
wireless channel: 6
WEP encryption: 256 bit mode HEX
WEP Key: 23cd4f3a00be...



Configuration of a Wireless Network

▪ Other AP operating modes: Wireless client

Operating Mode: **Wireless Client**

IP: 130.136.22.49

Netmask: 255.255.255.0

Ethernet Gateway: 130.136.22.50

SSID: "my_wlan1"

wireless channel: 6

WEP encryption: 256 bit mode HEX

WEP Key: 23cd4f3a00be...

802.11 MAC addr.
000f 6a3c bcde



Home Advanced Tools Status Help

AP Mode

Access Point
 Wireless Client
 Wireless Bridge
 Multi-point Bridge
 Repeater

Remote AP MAC: **000f 6a3c bcde**

Remote Bridge MAC:

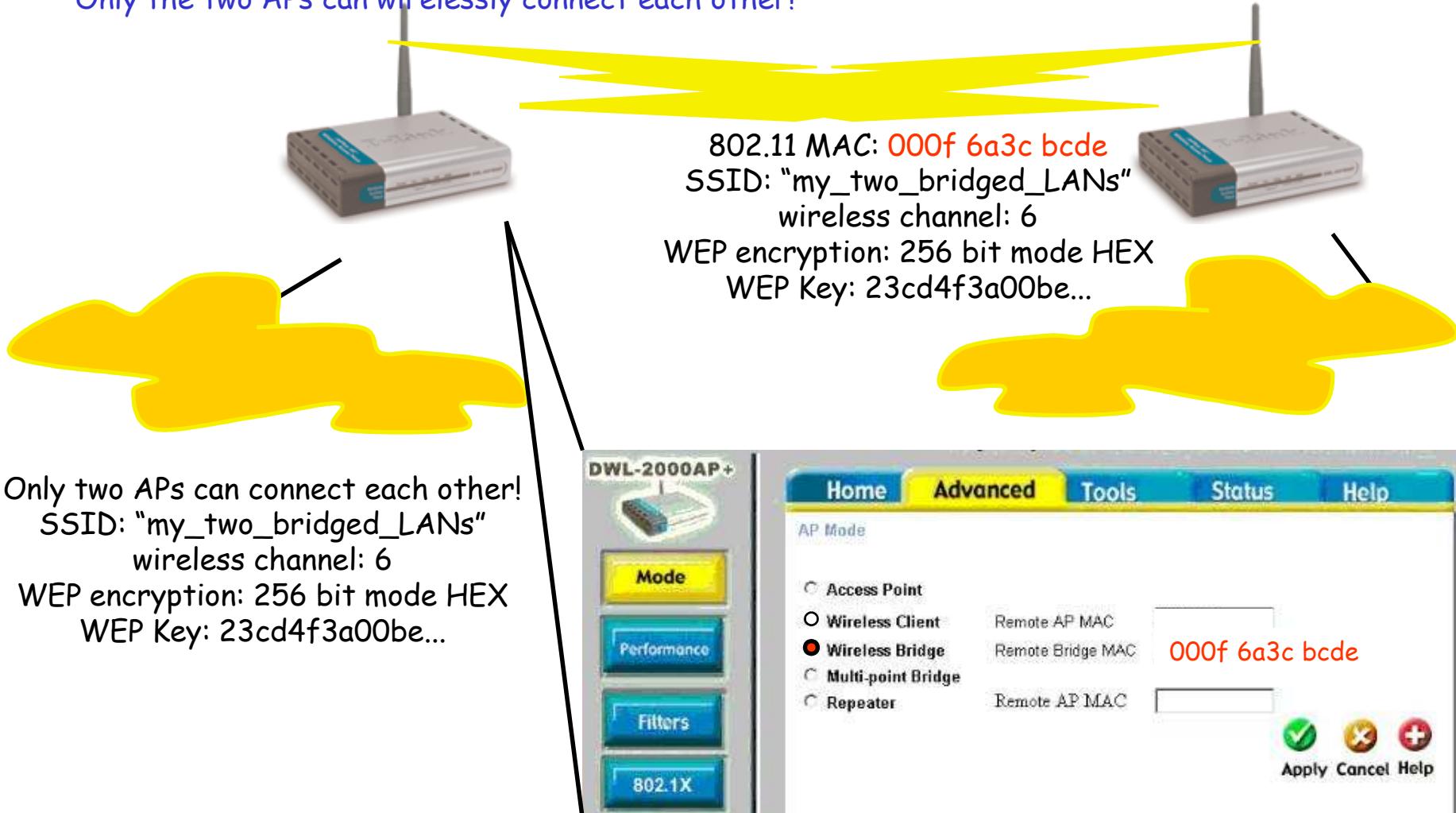
Remote AP MAC:

Apply **Cancel** **Help**

Configuration of a Wireless Network

■ Other AP operating modes: Wireless Bridge Mode

Only the two APs can wirelessly connect each other!



Configuration of a Wireless Network

■ Other AP operating modes: Multi-point Wireless Bridge Mode

Many APs can wirelessly connect multiple LANs each other!



Only two APs can connect each other!

SSID: "my_bridged_LANs"

WEP encryption: 256 bit mode HEX

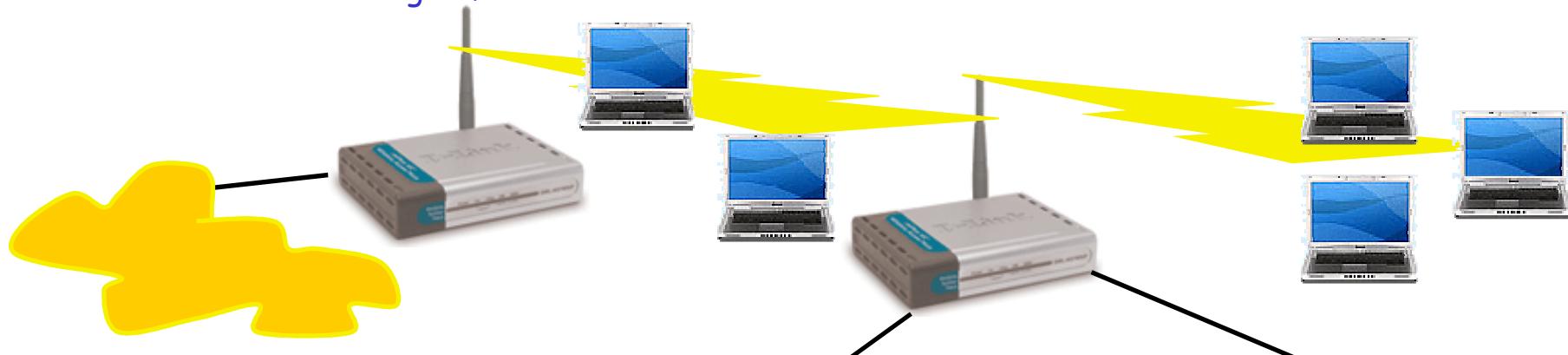
WEP Key: 23cd4f3a00be...



Configuration of a Wireless Network

■ Other AP operating modes: Repeater Mode

extends wireless range of the AP



Operating Mode: Access Point

802.11 MAC addr: 000f 6a3c bcde

IP: 130.136.22.50

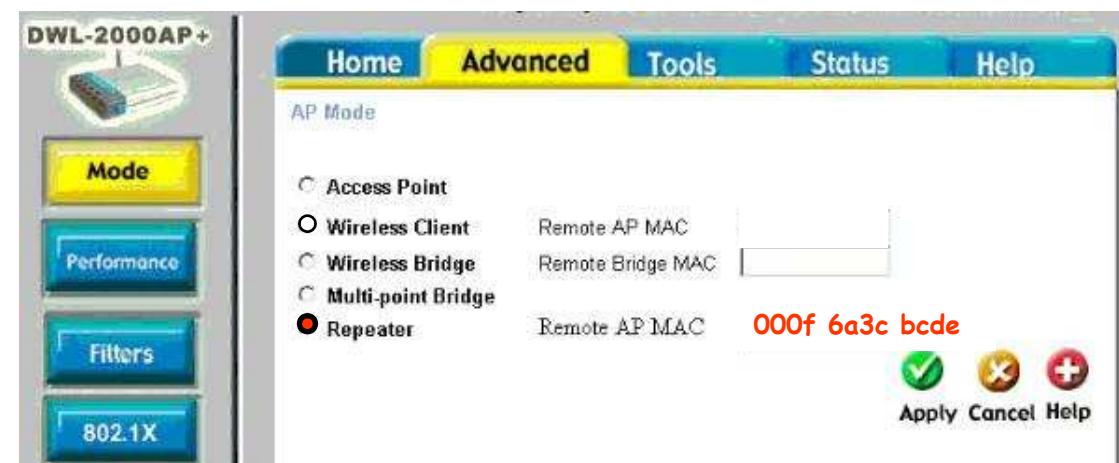
Netmask: 255.255.255.0

SSID: "my_wlan1"

wireless channel: 6

WEP encryption: 256 bit mode HEX

WEP Key: 23cd4f3a00be...



Configuration of a Wireless Network

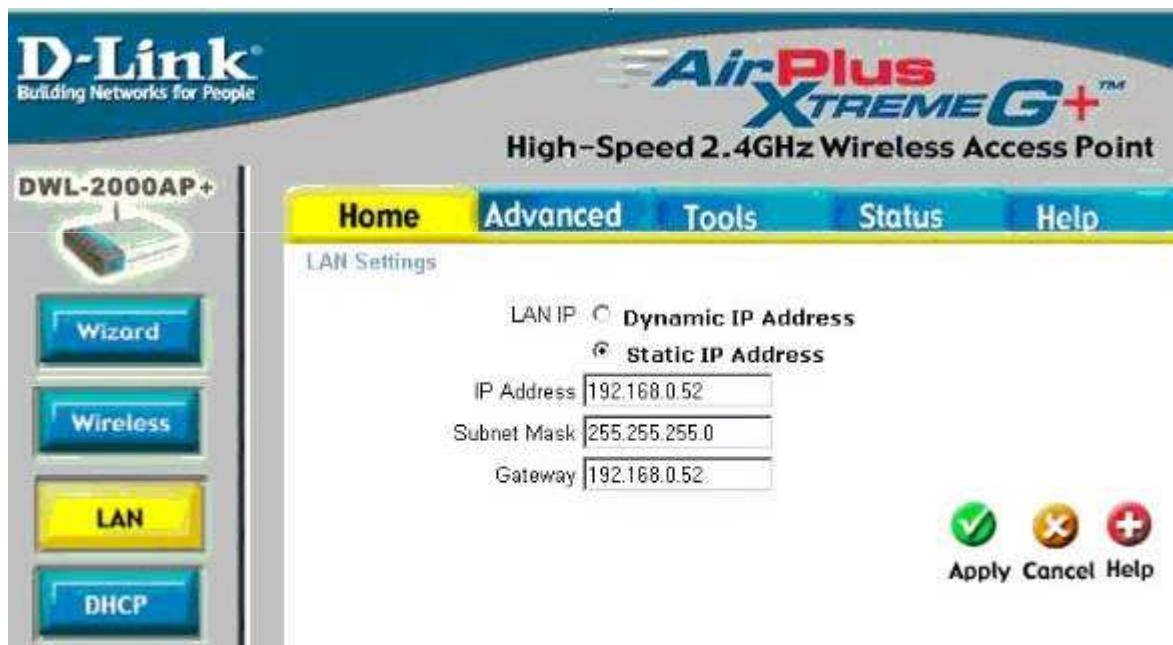
- Typical AP config. Mask: general configuration parameters

The screenshot shows the configuration interface for a DWL-2000AP+. The left sidebar has buttons for Wizard, Wireless, LAN, and DHCP. The main window has tabs for Home, Advanced, Tools, Status, and Help. The Home tab is selected. Under Wireless Settings, the AP Name is set to DWL-2000AP+. The SSID is default, and the Channel is set to 6. The Authentication options are Open System (selected), Shared Key, WPA, and WPA-PSK. The WEP options are Enabled (selected) and Disabled. The WEP Encryption is set to 64Bit, and the WEP Mode is HEX. There are four key fields: Key1 (1234512345), Key2 (0000000000), Key3 (0000000000), and Key4 (0000000000).



Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Typical AP config. Mask: LAN IP address



D-Link® Building Networks for People

AirPlus XTREME G+™
High-Speed 2.4GHz Wireless Access Point

DWL-2000AP+

Home Advanced Tools Status Help

LAN Settings

LAN IP Dynamic IP Address
 Static IP Address

IP Address: 192.168.0.52

Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0

Gateway: 192.168.0.52

Apply Cancel Help

Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Typical AP config. Mask: (example, wireless client)

The screenshot shows the web-based configuration interface for a D-Link DWL-2000AP+. The top navigation bar includes the D-Link logo, the product name "AirPlus XTREME G+", and the model "DWL-2000AP+". Below the navigation bar, there is a menu bar with tabs: Home, Advanced, Tools, Status (which is highlighted in yellow), and Help. The main content area is titled "Device Information" and displays the following details:

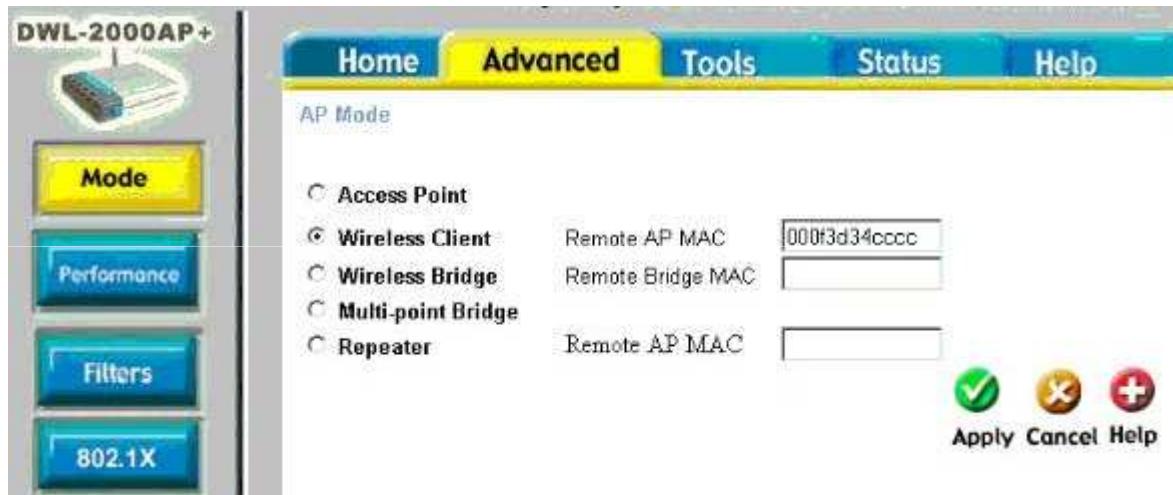
Device Information	
Firmware Version 1.13 , 18 Feb 2004	
Ethernet	
MAC Address	000f3d34cccc
IP Address	192.168.0.52
Subnet Mask	255.255.255.0
Gateway	192.168.0.60
Wireless	
MAC Address	000f3d0a4c69
SSID	default
Encryption Function	64 bits
Channel	6

A red "Help" button with a plus sign icon is located in the bottom right corner of the content area.



Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Typical AP config. Mask: set AP operating mode



Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Typical AP config. Mask: check MAC layer connection

The screenshot shows the configuration interface for a DWL-2000AP+. The left sidebar has buttons for Device Info, Log, Stats (highlighted in yellow), and Wireless. The main area has tabs for Home, Advanced, Tools, Status (highlighted in blue), and Help. Under Status, the Traffic Statistics section displays packet counts for Ethernet and Wireless interfaces.

	Ethernet	Wireless
Send Good Packets	1240	0
Dropped Packets	0	0
Recv Good Packets	1177	0
Dropped Packets	0	0



Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Typical AP config. Mask: log connection status of AP

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the configuration interface for a D-Link DWL-2000AP+. The title bar reads "DWL-2000AP+ - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows the URL "http://192.168.0.52/dk_log.html". The main content area is titled "AirPlus XTREME G+™ High-Speed 2.4GHz Wireless Access Point". A navigation menu on the left includes "Home", "Advanced", "Tools", "Status" (which is highlighted in yellow), and "Help". Below the menu is a "View Log" section with buttons for "First Page", "Last Page", "Previous", "Next", "Clear", and "Log Settings". The log table has two columns: "Time" and "Message". The log entries are as follows:

Time	Message
Jul/22/2005 18:22:15	Wireless PC connected 00-0f-3d-34-c8-c0
Jul/22/2005 18:20:46	Wireless PC connected 00-50-da-33-a7-8a
Jul/22/2005 18:20:32	Wireless PC connected 00-0f-3d-34-c8-c0
Jul/22/2005 18:17:53	Wireless PC connected 00-50-da-33-a7-8a
Jul/22/2005 18:17:39	Wireless PC connected 00-0f-3d-34-c8-c0
Jul/22/2005 18:17:11	AP mode Ready. Channel: 6 SSID: default
Jul/22/2005 18:17:11	System started



Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Typical AP config. Mask: MAC filtering

The screenshot shows the configuration interface for a D-Link DWL-2000AP+ AirPlus XTREME G+ High-Speed 2.4GHz Wireless Access Point. The interface has a top navigation bar with Home, Advanced (highlighted in yellow), Tools, Status, and Help. On the left, there's a sidebar with Mode, Performance, Filters (highlighted in yellow), and 802.1X buttons. The main content area is titled 'MAC Filters' and contains the following text: 'Filters are used to allow or deny Wireless Clients users from accessing the DWL-2000AP+'. There are three radio button options: 'Disabled MAC Filters' (selected), 'Only allow MAC address(es) listed below to connect to DWL-2000AP+', and 'Only deny MAC address(es) listed below to connect to DWL-2000AP+'. Below these options is a 'MAC Address' input field with a 'Clear' button. Underneath it, 'Connected PCs' are listed as '00-0d-3d-34-c8-c0'. To the right of the MAC address input are three icons: a green checkmark, a red X, and a blue plus sign. At the bottom are 'Apply', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons.



Configuration of a Wireless Network

- Typical AP config. Mask: MAC filtering

The screenshot shows the configuration interface for a D-Link DWL-2000AP+ High-Speed 2.4GHz Wireless Access Point. The main menu on the left includes options for Mode, Performance, Filters (which is selected), and 802.1X. The top navigation bar has tabs for Home, Advanced (which is selected), Tools, Status, and Help. The current page is titled 'MAC Filters' and contains the following information:

- Filters are used to allow or deny Wireless Clients users from accessing the DWL-2000AP+.
- Radio buttons for filter modes:
 - Disabled MAC Filters (selected)
 - Only **allow** MAC address(es) listed below to connect to DWL-2000AP+
 - Only **deny** MAC address(es) listed below to connect to DWL-2000AP+
- MAC Address input field with a 'Clear' button.
- Connected PCs dropdown menu showing '00-0f-3d-58-8f-c4'.
- Buttons for 'Clone', 'Apply', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.
- Links for 'MAC Filter List' and 'MAC Address'.
- Text at the bottom: '00-0f-3d-34-cc-cc'.

