

PWE3 Frame Relay

PWE3 IETF-52 December 12, 2001

**<draft-bryant-pwe3-fr-encap-00.txt>
<draft-bryant-pwe3-fr-compare-00.txt>**

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Questions

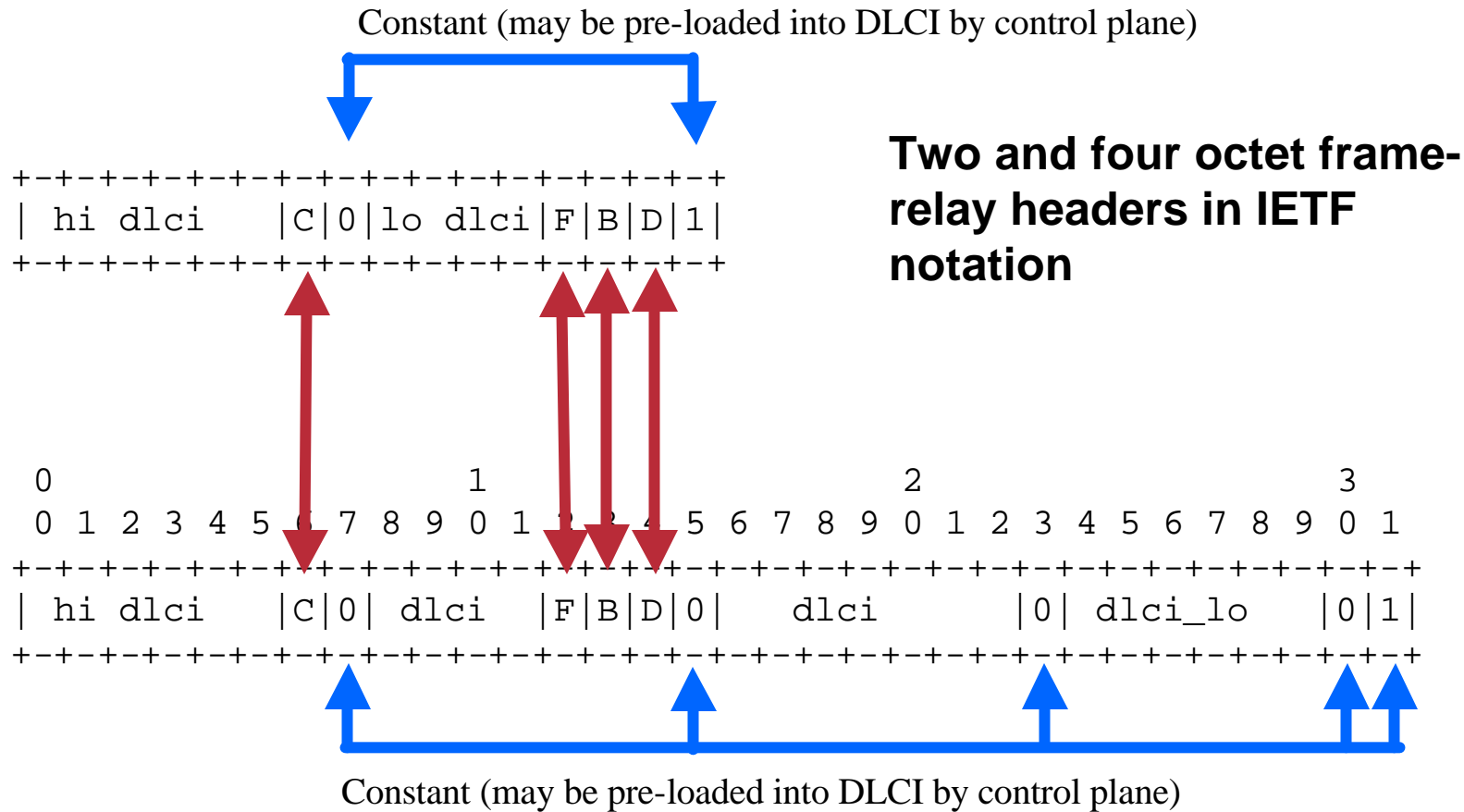
Two methods have been proposed for sending frame-relay PDUs over a pseudo-wire:

- <draft-martini-l2circuit-encap-mpls-04.txt> and
- <draft-kamapabhava-fr-pwe3-00.txt>.

These drafts beg two questions:

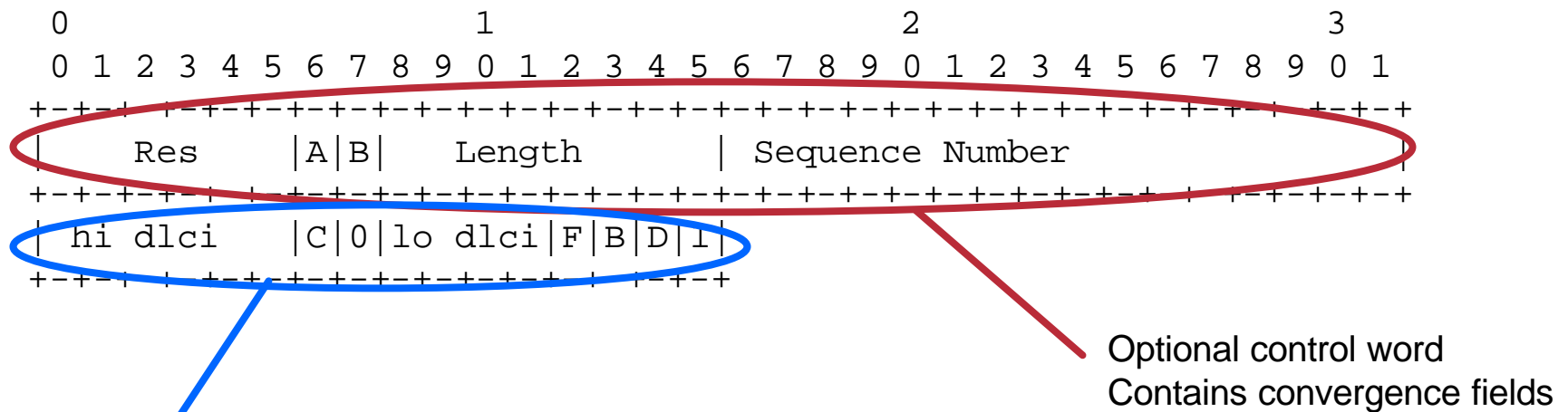
- **Why is a Frame Relay intermediate format needed?**
- **If it is needed, why make it hard for the implementers?**

Frame-relay header translation



Frame-relay header translation does not seem to benefit from an intermediate format.

Separate convergence and payload



Frame-relay header without abbreviation:

- Uses generic packet payload type
- Simple & efficient to implement
- Common approach with VLAN and other packet types over PW
- Separates transmission from translation
- Places FR semantics & changes outside PW

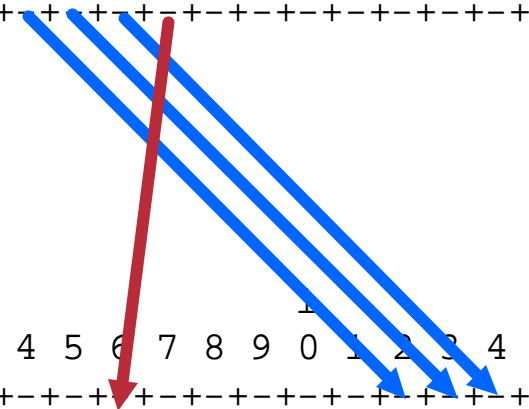
Cost = 0

FRoPW control word format

FRoPW header from <draft-kamapabhava-fr-pwe3-00.txt>

```
0                               1                               2                               3
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| Res |P|F|B|D|C|X|Y| Length | Sequence Number |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
```

```
0                               1
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| hi dlci |C|0|lo dlci|F|B|D|1|
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
```



Cost = 14

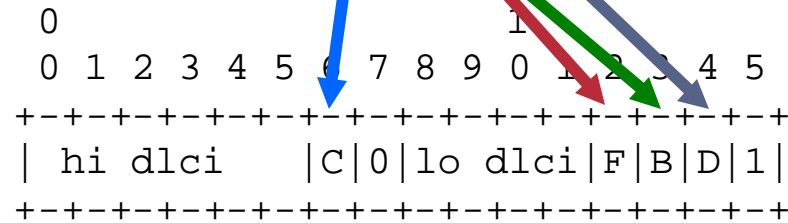
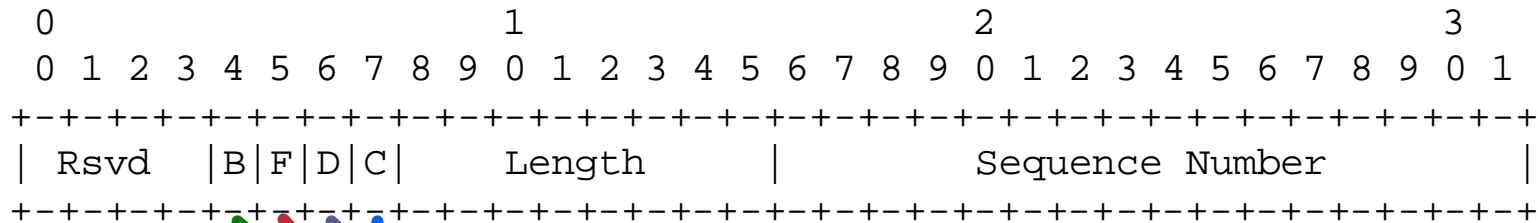
Proposed change to follow Martini format

- The proposed Martini frame-relay control word format described in: <draft-martini-l2circuit-encap-mpls-04.txt> predates PWE3.
- The authors of <draft-kamapabhava-fr-pwe3-00.txt> have indicated that they will change their draft to conform to draft-martini.

The Martini format is inefficient for software implementations.

Martini control word for Frame-relay

Frame-relay control word from <draft-martini-l2circuit-encap-mpls-04.txt>



Cost = 32

Frame Relay optimised CW

2 Octet Frame Relay Header

```

+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| hi dlci   |C|0|lo dlci|F|B|D|1|
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

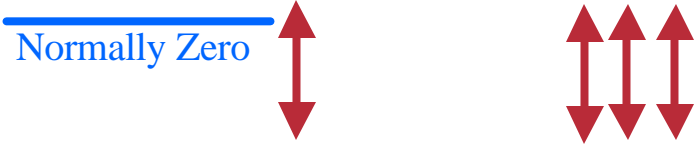
```



```

+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| length    |C|X|X|X|X|X|F|B|D|X|           Sequence Number      |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```



```

+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| hi dlci   |C|0| dlci  |F|B|D|0| dlci   |0| dlci_lo  |0|1|
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```

4 Octet Frame Relay Header

Control word from <draft-bryant-pwe3-fr-encap-00.txt>

Cost = 6/12

Recommendations

- **Send frame-relay packets transparently and unchanged.**
- **If we must use an intermediate type, use a frame-relay efficient format.**