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1 Executive Summary

Dedicated RF scanning is a core innovation in next-generation enterprise wireless networks. By deploying a dedicated scanning RF chip that operates independently from the primary business RF, networks can continuously sense the entire wireless spectrum and detect threats without disrupting live traffic. Traditional solutions rely on time-sharing scans on the main RF, often causing latency spikes and critical interruptions.

With dedicated RF scanning, access points can simultaneously monitor 2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, and 6 GHz bands. Equipped with this capability, APs perform spectrum analysis of their surrounding environment without impacting production traffic. This enables real-time detection of rogue devices, channel interference, and security threats.

This white paper outlines the technical architecture, deployment strategies, and real-world use cases to help enterprises build highly reliable, self-defending intelligent wireless networks.

2 Introduction

2.1 Industry Challenges

With the rise of Wi-Fi 6/7 and the rapid growth of IoT, enterprise wireless networks face critical challenges:

- **Forced Service Interruptions:** Traditional scanning relies on switching the primary RF into scan mode, cutting off user traffic. For latency-sensitive applications, this leads to packet loss and severe service disruption.
- **Blind Spots in Multi-Band Monitoring:** A single RF design cannot simultaneously scan 2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, and 6 GHz. Interference across different bands cannot be continuously monitored.
- **Complex Troubleshooting:** When the RF module in a traditional AP fails, diagnosis depends on other devices to capture over-the-air packets. Self-diagnosis isn't possible.
- **Poor Adaptation to Dynamic Environments:** One-time scans cannot adapt to changing network topologies, fluctuating traffic, or shifting interference sources. Traditional solutions lack real-time awareness.

Dedicated RF scanning solves these pain points through physical isolation and panoramic tri-band scanning, ensuring zero service disruption while delivering end-to-end security visibility.

2.2 Purpose of this White Paper

This white paper aims to:

1. Explain the principles and advantages of dedicated RF scanning.
2. Provide configuration guidance and deployment strategies.
3. Share best practices and performance data from real deployments.
4. Highlight applications across different enterprise scenarios.
5. Enable enterprises to build intelligent wireless networks with seamless service, self-diagnosis, and automated optimization.

2.3 Technology Positioning

Dedicated RF scanning—centered on interference detection and spectrum analysis—is designed as the foundation for a high-reliability, always-aware enterprise wireless network. Its core value lies in:

- **Zero Service Interruptions:** A physically isolated scanning RF chip ensures uninterrupted data transmission, eliminating latency and packet loss risks for mission-critical applications.
- **Panoramic Monitoring:** Concurrent scanning across 2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, and 6 GHz enables full-spectrum visibility for Wi-Fi 6E/7, closing security gaps in emerging bands and creating a complete interference map of the wireless environment.
- **Self-Diagnosis:** A dedicated packet capture channel collects over-the-air frames transmitted by the primary RF, enabling APs to diagnose their own failures—something traditional devices cannot achieve.
- **Integrated Defense and Operations:** By combining threat detection with spectrum scanning, the solution forms a closed loop of sense—analyze—act, dramatically reducing operational complexity.

By enabling a “zero-disruption diagnostic engine,” dedicated RF scanning transforms enterprise operations from reactive “offline troubleshooting” to proactive “online precision diagnostics.”

3 Overview of Independent Radio Frequency Scanning Technology

3.1 Background and Market Demand

As enterprise-level wireless networks evolve toward Wi-Fi 7 and IoT devices undergo large-scale deployment, traditional main-radio-dependent scanning solutions face

fundamental challenges. First, switching the main radio to scanning mode disrupts live traffic, making it intolerable for latency-sensitive networks and blocking self-diagnosis during over-the-air fault detection. Second, these solutions cannot achieve tri-band (2.4 GHz/5 GHz/6 GHz) full-spectrum coverage with a single chip. Consequently, independent RF scanning technology has emerged as a reliable solution for zero service interruption and 24/7 network observability.

3.2 Key Advantages

Network Stability: Dedicated scanning radios operate non-intrusively by continuously monitoring environmental over-the-air packets and spectrum interference, while main-radio-based scanning increases network latency and risks service disruption.

Multi-Band Scanning: Independent RF chips enable dynamic switching across 2.4 GHz/5 GHz/6 GHz frequencies, allowing tri-band spectrum coverage with a single chip to detect environmental anomalies and eliminate security blind spots.

Self-Diagnosis Capability: Devices equipped with independent scanning radios can perform self-diagnosis of main-radio faults without relying on external packet capture tools.

4 Working Principle

4.1 Wi-Fi Interference Scanning

Wi-Fi scanning is a core technology for wireless network analysis and the foundation of wireless network connectivity. Essentially, it acquires information about surrounding networks by listening to radio frequency channels and uses the information for network connection and interference detection. Depending on how it works, there are two main mechanisms: active scanning and passive scanning. Each mechanism has significant differences in efficiency and network impact.

4.1.1 Active Scanning

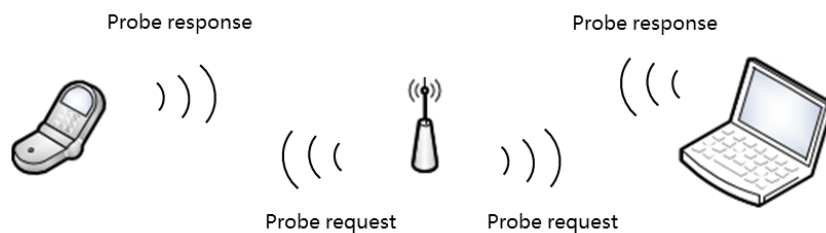
The core of active scanning lies in its interactive detection mechanism, which relies on an AP proactively sending Probe Request frames.

When scanning is initiated, the AP broadcasts Probe Request frames (destination address FF:FF:FF:FF:FF:FF) over the air, channel by channel, according to a predefined list. After a specified dwell time, it transitions to the next channel. The Probe Request frames carry the device's supported rate set and capability parameters.

Upon receiving the Probe Request, nearby APs respond with Probe Response frames on the same channel based on the 802.11 protocol. These frames contain key information similar to beacon frames, including BSSID, SSID, supported rates, and security policies.

This information allows the device to identify the characteristics of other APs in the surrounding environment and identify interference and security threats.

Active scanning is implemented through interactive probing, which typically involves relatively fast message transmission. Therefore, the channel dwell time does not need to be excessively long. However, the channel dwell time is defined by each vendor and is not completely fixed. For example, with a typical channel dwell period of 100 ms per channel, a full scan on the 2.4 GHz band takes approximately 1.5 seconds. Its advantage lies in its fast response time, which can force APs with hidden SSIDs to become visible (since APs must respond to targeted Probe Requests). However, frequently sending probe frames can significantly increase air interface noise.



4.1.2 Passive Scanning

Passive scanning uses a silent listening strategy to acquire 802.11 frames in the environment. The AP switches the radio to listening mode and continuously captures management frames on the channel without transmitting any data. Its core goal is to capture beacon frames periodically broadcast by surrounding APs (at a default interval of approximately 100 ms). These frames carry a complete network fingerprint: BSSID (AP MAC address), SSID (network name), channel number, RSSI (received signal strength index), encryption method (such as the WPA3 flag), and network load parameters (calculated using the Duration/NAV fields in the beacon).

Passive scanning does not require the AP to actively transmit signals, resulting in near-zero interference on the air interface, making it particularly suitable for covert surveillance scenarios. However, its efficiency is limited by the beacon broadcast interval. In low-density environments, to ensure that all AP beacons are captured, APs typically need to dwell on each channel for a longer period of time to capture every beacon frame. For example, if each channel requires a 300 ms dwell time, a full scan of the 6 GHz band can take 10 or more seconds.



4.2 Spectrum Analysis

4.2.1 Spectrum Scanning

Spectrum scanning, similar to a simple spectrum analyzer, converts over-the-air electromagnetic signals into a visual format, helping users understand channel quality and interference distribution. This technology's implementation process consists of three stages:

First, electromagnetic signal acquisition is performed. The RF chip controls the antenna array to scan the target frequency band with microsecond precision. The signal enters the device and undergoes hardware processing. A high-speed analog-to-digital converter (ADC) converts the analog signal into a digital sequence at thousands of samples per second.

After data acquisition, spectrum data conversion is required. The digital signal processor (DSP) performs a fast Fourier transform (FFT) on the sampled data, decomposing the time-domain waveform into a frequency-domain energy distribution.

Finally, visualization is performed. The processed spectrum data is presented as a dynamic spectrum heatmap: the horizontal axis shows continuous frequency points from 2401 to 7125 MHz, and the vertical axis displays signal strength from -110 dBm to -30 dBm. Color depth indicates the probability of signal strength at that location.

The spectrum graph helps users to identify interference. For example, if narrowband interference persists for a long time, a distinct spike will appear on the spectrum graph. The user can locate the source of the problem by observing the distribution of color blocks. If there is a continuous red area with high signal strength, avoid the channel.

4.2.2 Air Interface Packet Capture

The core of air interface packet capture lies in placing the wireless network card in monitor mode. This establishes a dedicated monitor interface to passively receive all RF signals on a designated wireless channel.

When the monitor interface is activated and configured for the specified channel, the wireless network card's underlying hardware and driver disable conventional MAC layer frame filtering. This means the card no longer receives only packets addressed to itself or broadcast/multicast packets. Instead, it captures all 802.11 protocol frames (including management frames, control frames, and data frames) detected by the radio chip at the physical layer of the channel, regardless of the destination address or network.

The driver then performs physical layer parsing on the captured raw RF signals, converting them into raw 802.11 MAC frames that can be processed via software. These

frames contain the complete 802.11 frame header information.

Ultimately, these complete packets, including the raw 802.11 frame content and physical layer metadata, are directly fed into the kernel's network protocol stack via the monitor interface, where they can be received, parsed, and stored by the user.

The entire process is completely passive; the monitoring device itself does not transmit any data that could interfere with normal wireless communication.

The format of an 802.11 frame is as follows:

Frame Control	Duration ID	Address 1 receiver	Address 2 sender	Address 3 filtering	Seq-ctl	Address 4 Optional	Frame Body	FCS
2Byte	2Byte	6Byte	6Byte	6Byte	2Byte	6Byte	0-2312Byte	4Byte

The fields are defined as follows:

1. **Frame Control:** This field contains several identification bits, indicating the frame type and other information.

2. **Duration ID:** This field contains the duration and ID bits and occupies two bytes (16 bits).

3. **Address:** Unlike the 802.3 Ethernet transmission mechanism, 802.11 wireless LAN data frames can have a total of four MAC addresses: the first is the receiver, the second the sender, and the third the filtering address.

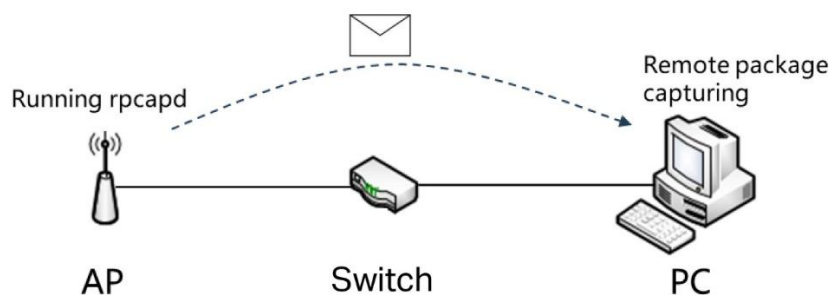
4. **Seq-ctl:** This field is used to reassemble fragmented data frames and discard duplicate frames.

5. **Frame Body:** This field contains the data packets.

6. **FCS:** This field is used to check frame integrity.

4.2.3 Streaming Mode Packet Capture

Unlike local packet capture, which requires saving the captured data in a pcap file and downloading it locally, streaming packet capture lets you remotely monitor the AP's interface with tools like Wireshark, displaying the captured packets in real time. Streaming packet capture primarily uses the open-source rpcapd utility to transfer captured data from the AP to Wireshark on your PC.



Serving as a bridge between the AP and the PC, the rpcapd process communicates with both parties as follows:

After establishing a connection with Wireshark, the two parties first authenticate depending on the type of rpcap packet being sent. rpcapd verifies Wireshark's identity.

After authentication, Wireshark requests access to all interfaces on the AP. Wireshark then requests to open a capture session. rpcapd accepts and opens the session, setting basic information such as the capture interface and the capture length.

Once ready, when Wireshark requests to begin capturing, rpcapd receives the request and calls the AP's monitor interface to begin capturing. To terminate capture, Wireshark also initiates a request, which rpcapd then completes. During the capture process, rpcapd sends captured data packets to Wireshark in real time. Wireshark parses the data and displays it in real time.

rpcapd does not save data locally. Therefore, when capturing packets in stream mode, you do not need to consider the size of the captured packet file.

5 Configuration Guide

5.1 System Requirements

Software: Omada Controller V6.0 or above

Device Compatibility:

Device Type	Model	Firmware
Wireless Access Point	Check the device's datasheet E.g., EAP787 V1.0	Update to the latest firmware version

5.2 Configuration Process

5.2.1 Interference Detection

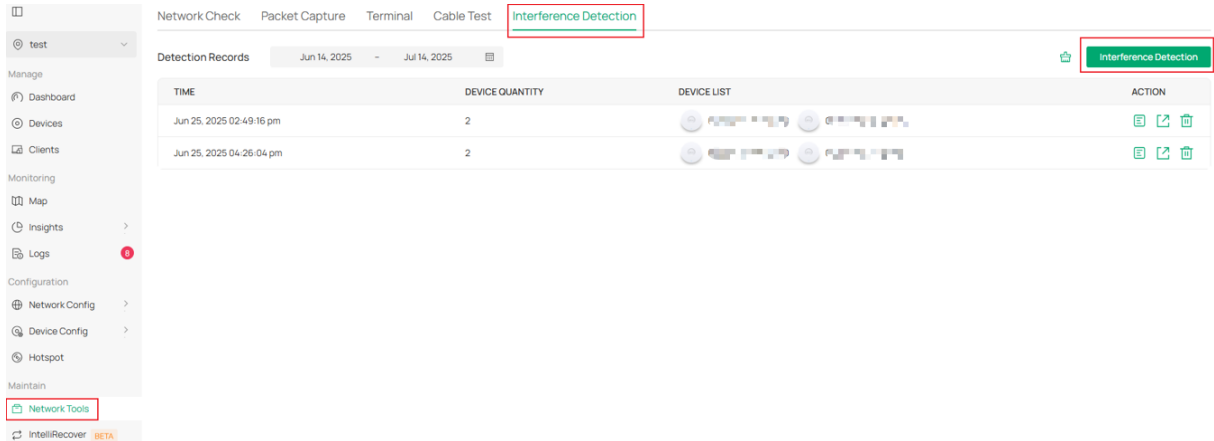
Interference Detection is used to scan for interference in the environment and obtain channel occupancy information. After the scan is complete, it generates scan results that include channel utilization information and Wi-Fi interference source information.

There are two ways to configure the interference detection function: one for a single device and the other for multiple devices.

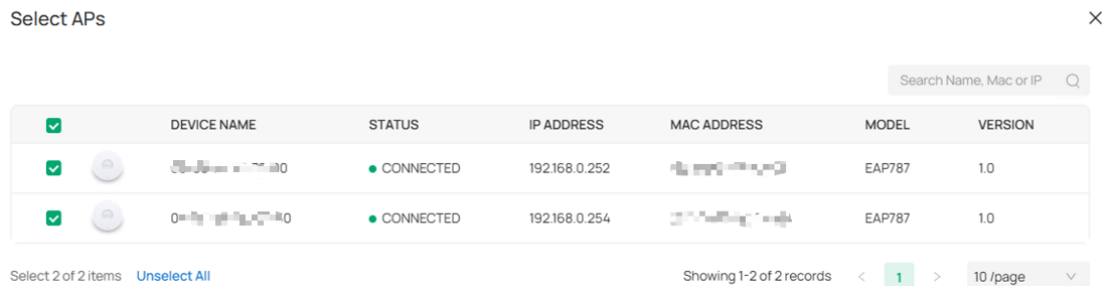
- **Configure Interference Detection for Multiple Devices**

After the scan is complete, a scan result entry will be generated and retained as a historical record that can be exported.

1. Launch the controller and access a site. Go to Network Tools > Interference Detection to load the following page.



2. Click the Interference Detection button and select the devices. You can select the target devices to scan, and you can quickly search for the target devices by their Name, MAC, or IP.



3. Click the Scan Now button to start scanning. Go back to the Interference Detection page, and you can see the detection records. Wait for the scan to complete, then click Details to view the detailed results. Click Export to export them if needed.

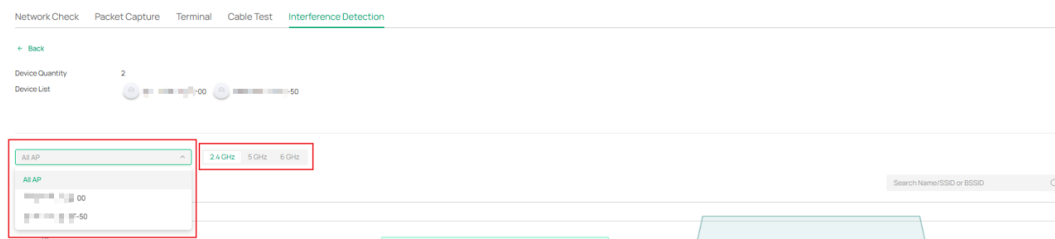
Detection Records Jun 14, 2025 - Jul 14, 2025 Interference Detection

TIME	DEVICE QUANTITY	DEVICE LIST	ACTION
Jun 25, 2025 02:49:16 pm	2		
Jun 25, 2025 04:26:04 pm	2		
Jul 14, 2025 11:49:12 am	2		

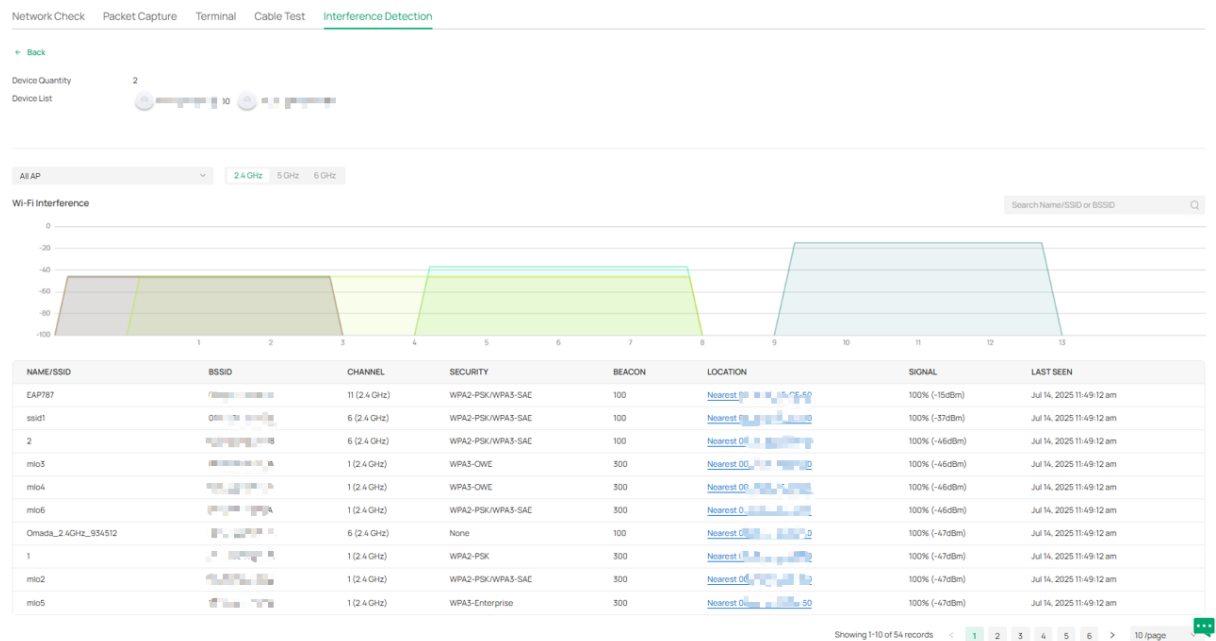
TIME	DEVICE QUANTITY	DEVICE LIST	ACTION
Jun 25, 2025 02:49:16 pm	2		
Jun 25, 2025 04:26:04 pm	2		
Jul 14, 2025 11:49:12 am	2		

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Jun 25, 2025 02:49:16 pm	2		
Jun 25, 2025 04:26:04 pm	2		
Jul 14, 2025 11:49:12 am	2		

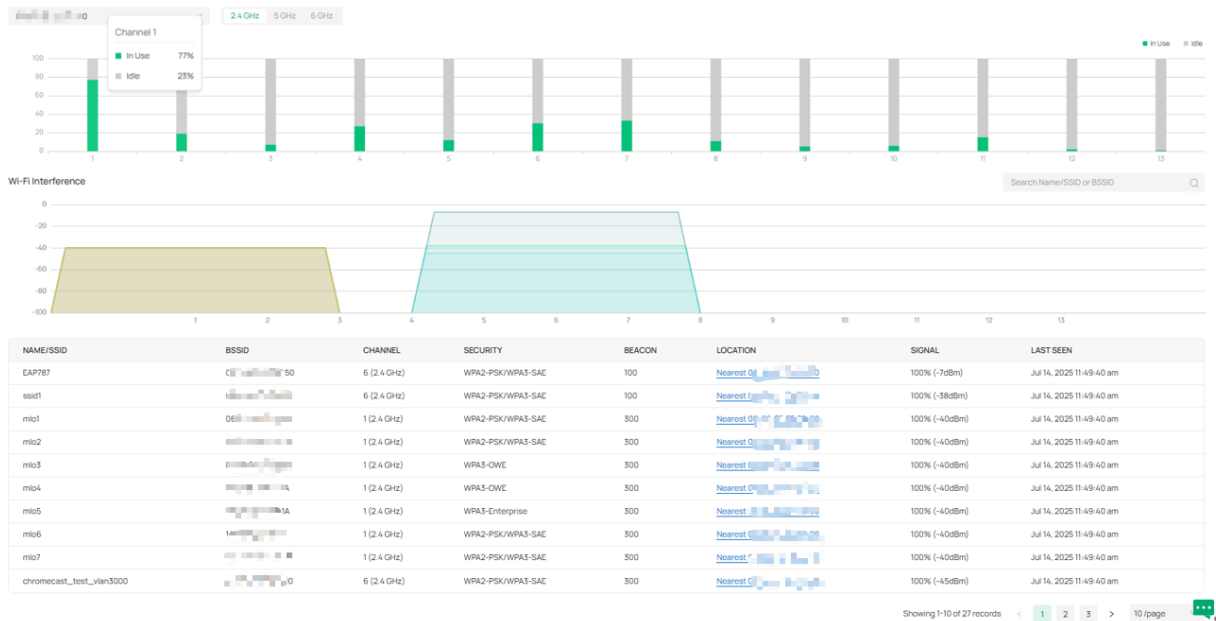
- When viewing the results, you can select All AP to view all device results or select a specific device to view its result. Click the band to view each band's result.



- When viewing the result for All AP, you can see the combined Wi-Fi interference results for all scanned devices, including a Wi-Fi interference map and a list of Wi-Fi interference sources.



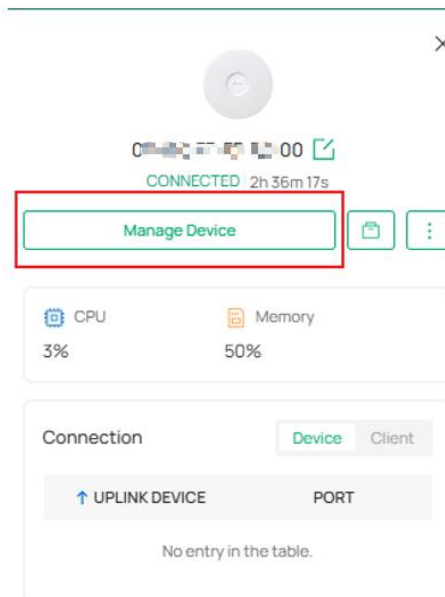
- When viewing the result for a specific AP, you can see the AP's Full Channel Detection result and Wi-Fi interference result.



● **Configure Interference Detection for a Single Device**

After the scan is complete, a scan result entry will be generated and overwrite the old entry, and the historical scan results will not be retained.

1. Go to the target AP's Device page and click Manage Device. Go to Statistics > Interference Detection.



2. Click Scan to start scanning.

test

Dashboard

Devices

Clients

Monitoring

Map

Insights

Logs

Configuration

Network Config

Device Config

Hotspot

Maintain

Network Tools

Install/Recover

Overview Statistics Logs Tools Config

All Traffic (Bytes) Client Traffic Total Traffic

Transmitted Received

10.00
8.00
6.00
4.00
2.00
0.00

12:00 pm 01:00 pm 02:00 pm 03:00 pm 04:00 pm 05:00 pm 06:00 pm 07:00 pm 08:00 pm 09:00 pm 10:00 pm 11:00 pm 12:00 am 01:00 am 02:00 am 03:00 am 04:00 am 05:00 am 06:00 am 07:00 am 08:00 am 09:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am

RF Scanning 2.4 GHz 5 GHz 6 GHz Scan

Wi-Fi connection will last for several minutes during the scanning. Please select a spare time of network to start scanning.

Interference Detection Environment 2.4 GHz 5 GHz 6 GHz Scan

Full Channel Detection

Wi-Fi Interference

Wi-Fi connection will last for several minutes during the scanning. Please select a spare time of network to start scanning.

Wi-Fi connection will last for several minutes during the scanning. Please select a spare time of network to start scanning.

3. Wait for the scan to complete and the results will be displayed.

Interference Detection Environment 2.4 GHz 5 GHz 6 GHz Scanning...

Full Channel Detection

Scanning...

Wi-Fi Interference

Scanning...

Interference Detection Environment 2.4 GHz 5 GHz 6 GHz Scanning...

Full Channel Detection

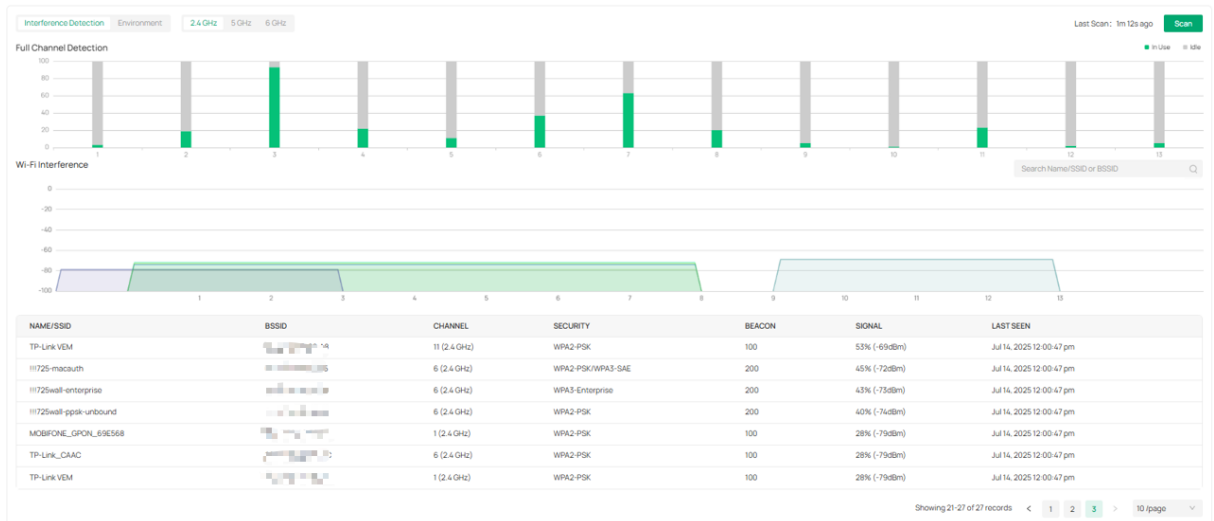
Scanning...

Wi-Fi Interference

Search Name/SSID or BSSID

NAME/SSID	BSSID	CHANNEL	SECURITY	BEACON	SIGNAL	LAST SEEN
EAP787		6 (2.4 GHz)	WPA2-PSK/WPA3-SAE	100	100% (-7dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
1		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA2-PSK	300	100% (-36dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ml01		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA2-PSK/WPA3-SAE	300	100% (-36dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ml05		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA3-OWE	300	100% (-36dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ml04		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA3-OWE	300	100% (-36dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ml05		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA3-Enterprise	300	100% (-36dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ml02		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA2-PSK/WPA3-SAE	300	100% (-37dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ml06		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA2-PSK/WPA3-SAE	300	100% (-37dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ml07		1 (2.4 GHz)	WPA2-PSK/WPA3-SAE	300	100% (-37dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm
ssid1		6 (2.4 GHz)	WPA2-PSK/WPA3-SAE	100	100% (-37dBm)	Jul 14, 2025 12:00:47 pm

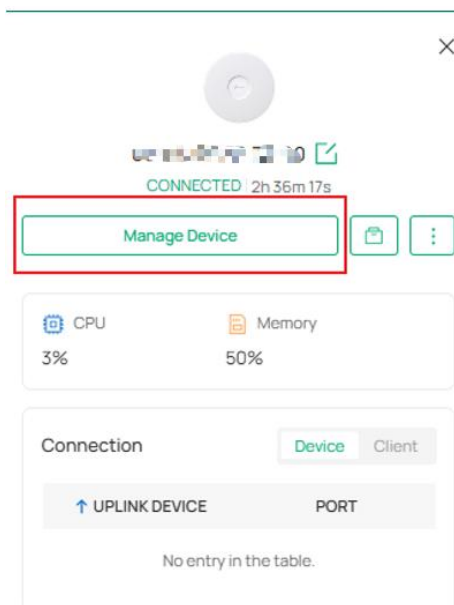
Showing 1-10 of 27 records < 1 2 3 > 10/page

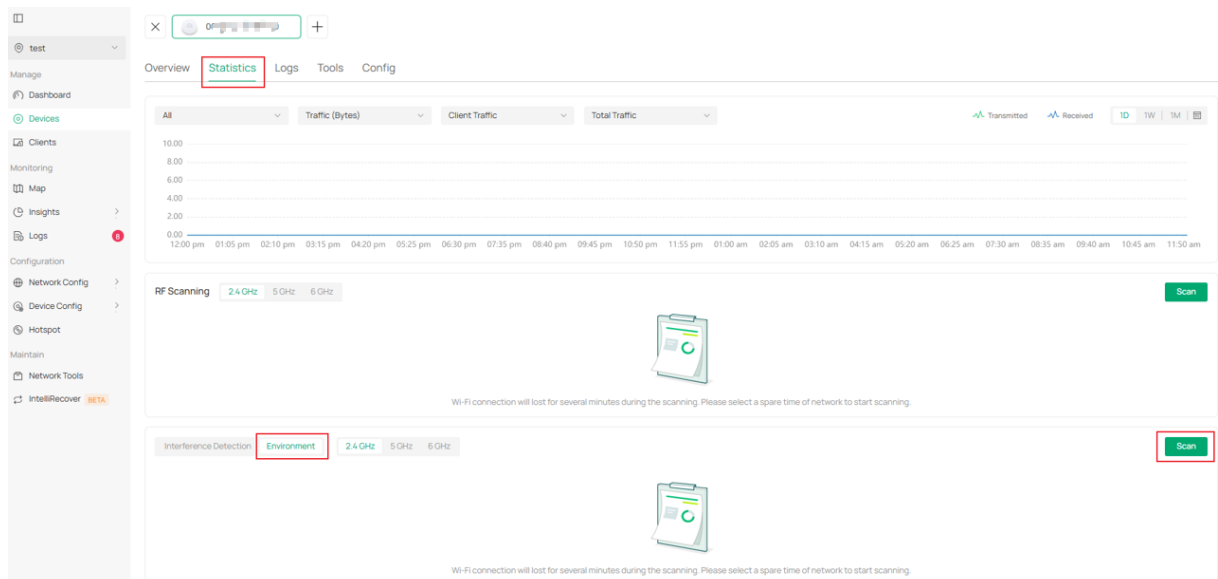


5.2.2 Environment

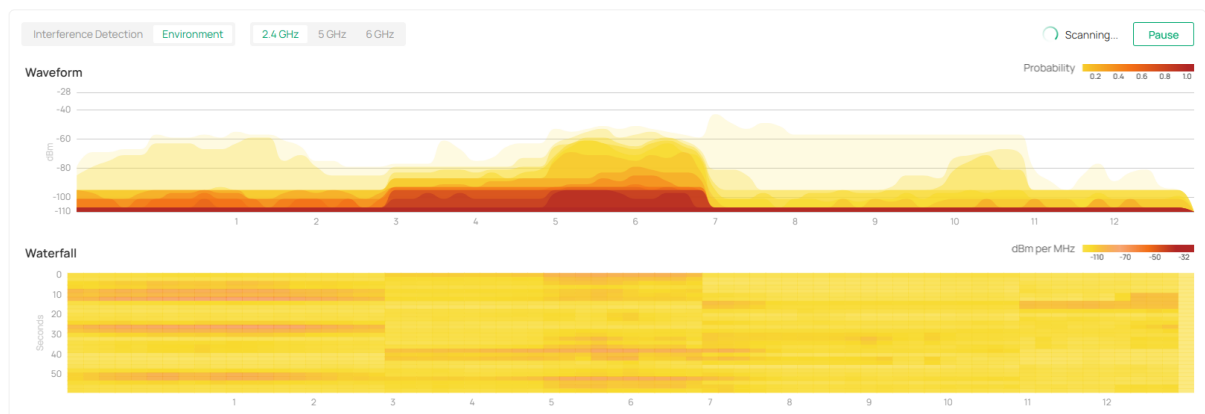
With the Environment function, you can perform real-time dynamic scanning of the environment for the device and view the current network environment status in real time.

1. Go to the target AP's Device page and click Manage Device. Go to Statistics > Environment.





2. Click Scan to start scanning and the results will display in a few seconds. You can click Pause to stop the scanning. Leaving this page will also stop it.



3. The environment's scan results contain two parts: Waveform and Waterfall.
 - **Waveform:** The horizontal axis of the Waveform graph represents the channel, and the vertical axis represents the RSSI of the interference in the environment. Colors ranging from yellow to red indicate the probability of interference exceeding the specified RSSI. For example, if a point has a horizontal axis of 6, a vertical axis of -100 dBm, and a dark red color, this means that nearly 100% of the interference in the environment on channel 6 has an RSSI greater than -100 dBm. If a point has a horizontal axis of 1, a vertical axis of -60 dBm, and a yellow color, this means that only about 20% of the interference in the environment on channel 1 has an RSSI greater than -60 dBm. The darker the color of the high RSSI, the greater the proportion of strong interference in the environment.
 - **Waterfall:** The horizontal axis of the waterfall graph represents the channel, and the vertical axis represents time. Colors from yellow to red represent weighted

interference intensity, reflecting the interference at each frequency point over time.

5.2.3 Wireless Packet Capture

The Wireless Packet Capture function adds the Air Interface Packet Capture feature. For models equipped with Scan-Radio, such as EAP787 V1.0, you can select the channel for air interface packet capture. This means you can select any channel supported by the device for wireless packet capture. For models without Scan-Radio, wireless packet capture is only available on the device's operating channels.

Launch the controller and access a site. Go to Network Tools > Packet Capture to configure the following parameters:

The screenshot displays the 'Packet Capture' configuration page. The left sidebar includes sections for Manage (Dashboard, Devices, Clients), Monitoring (Map, Insights, Logs), Configuration (Network Config, Device Config, Hotspot), and Maintain (Network Tools, IntelliRecover BETA). The main content area has tabs for Network Check, Packet Capture, Terminal, Cable Test, and Interference Detection. Under 'Packet Capture', the following settings are visible: Device Type (EAP), Sources (Please Select...), Duration (60 seconds), Single Packet Size (1000 Bytes), and Packet Capture Filters (disabled). A blue information box provides additional details: 1. The file will be kept for 10 minutes only and can only be downloaded three times. 2. Switches only support capturing packets trapped/mirrored to CPU, like ssh, ssl, icmp, icmpv6, http, etc. 3. Warning: Configuring other SSIDs in the same band during packet capture may cause abnormal packet capture results. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Start Packet Capture' and 'Download .pcap Files'.

- **Sources:** Select the device to capture packets.
- **Interference Type:** Select Wireless to capture wireless packets.
- **Band:** Select the band for packet capture.
- **Channel:** Select the channel for packet capture.
- **SSID/Interface:** Select the interface for packet capture.
- **Capture Mode:** Select Local or Stream.

If Local is selected for local packet capture, configure the capture Duration and the packet capture size. You can also configure packet capture filters: OTA Capture for wireless air interface capture filters and Normal Capture for wireless non-air interface capture filters. Click the Start Packet Capture button to begin packet capture. After capture is complete, click Download.pcap Files to download the results.

If Stream is selected, click the Start Packet Capture button to begin capturing. You can configure the remote interface in Wireshark. For the host, enter the IP address of the EAP capture server, leaving the default port. For authentication, select password authentication. Enter the username and password of the device account at the site where the sample device is located. Once the remote interface is configured, you can use stream mode capture. When you no longer need to capture packets, click the Stop Packet Capture button to stop capturing.

Device Type: EAP

Sources: 00:00:00:00:00:00

Interface Type: Wired Wireless

Band: 5 GHz Channel: 48

SSID / Interface: EAP787

1 The following configurations will affect packet capturing:

1. If a certain band is turned off, packets on the SSIDs of the corresponding band will not be captured.
2. If a WLAN schedule is configured, packets outside the schedule will not be captured.
3. If a certain SSID is turned off, packets on the SSID will not be captured.

Capture Mode: Local Stream

Duration: 60 seconds (1-300)

Single Packet Size: 1000 Bytes (68-1000)

Packet Capture Filters:

Filters: OTA Capture (Optional) Normal Capture (Optional)

Supported filters:
 host, src, dst, tcp port, tcp src port, tcp dst port, udp port, udp src port, udp dst port, ether host, ether src, ether dst

Combination of operators "and", "or", "(" and ")" is supported between multiple filter items. For example:
 (src 192.168.0.1 and tcp port 80) or (src 192.168.0.1 and tcp port 90)
 (src 192.168.0.1 and tcp src port 80) or (dst 192.168.0.1 and tcp dst port 90)
 ether src A0-00-00-04-C5-84 and ether dst A0-00-00-04-C5-85

Note:
 host: host address, src: source, dst: destination, ether: ethernet address (MAC address)

1 1. Packet size cannot exceed 10 MB.
 2. The file will be kept for 10 minutes only and can only be downloaded three times.
 3. Switches only support capturing packets trapped/mirrored to CPU, like ssh, sst, icmp, icmpv6, http, etc.
 4. Warning: Configuring other SSIDs in the same band during packet capture may cause abnormal packet capture results.

[Start Packet Capture](#) [Download .pcap Files](#)



Packet capture in progress for Controller - 192.168.1.10

Stop Packet Capture

5.3 Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Reasons	Troubleshooting
The Interference Detection result is empty; devices report abnormal messages	When performing Interface Detection, the device may be disconnected from the Controller.	Check the connection between the device and the Controller
Environment stops after running for a period of time	To avoid prolonged scanning, the system automatically stops after 15 minutes.	Click Scan to continue scanning.

6 Performance and Test

6.1.1 Interference Detection

When the device is performing interference detection, its peak wireless performance may periodically drop significantly. However, evaluation shows minimal impact on normal user network services. The following data provides a reference for the specific impact:

EAP787 V1.0 is performing Interference Detection:

2.4 GHz Band: Throughput dips periodically lasting approximately 35 seconds, with no significant decrease in average throughput.

5 GHz Band: Throughput dips periodically lasting approximately 90 seconds, with an average throughput decrease of approximately 5%.

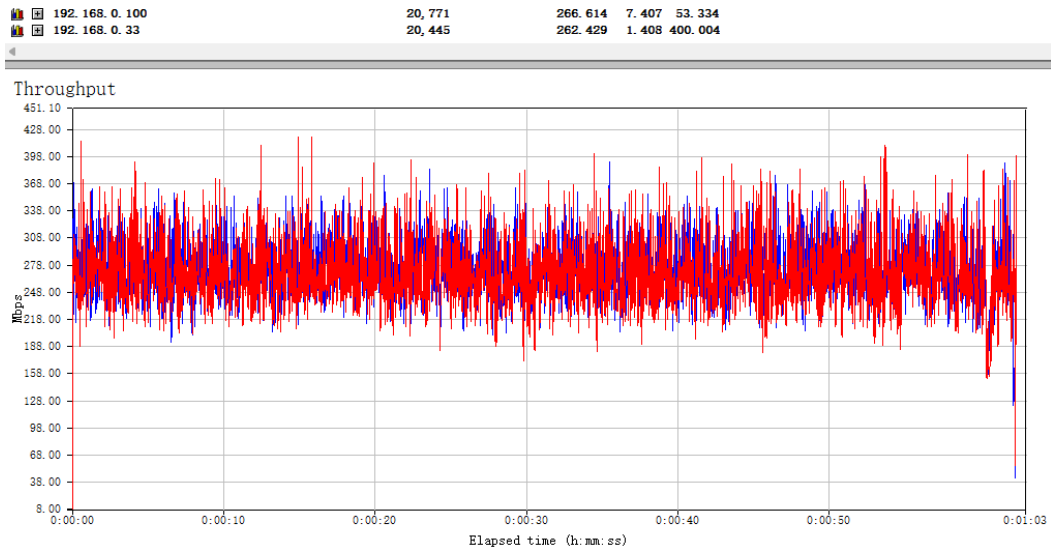
6 GHz Band: Throughput dips periodically lasting approximately 160 seconds, with an average throughput decrease of approximately 5%.

6.1.2 Environment

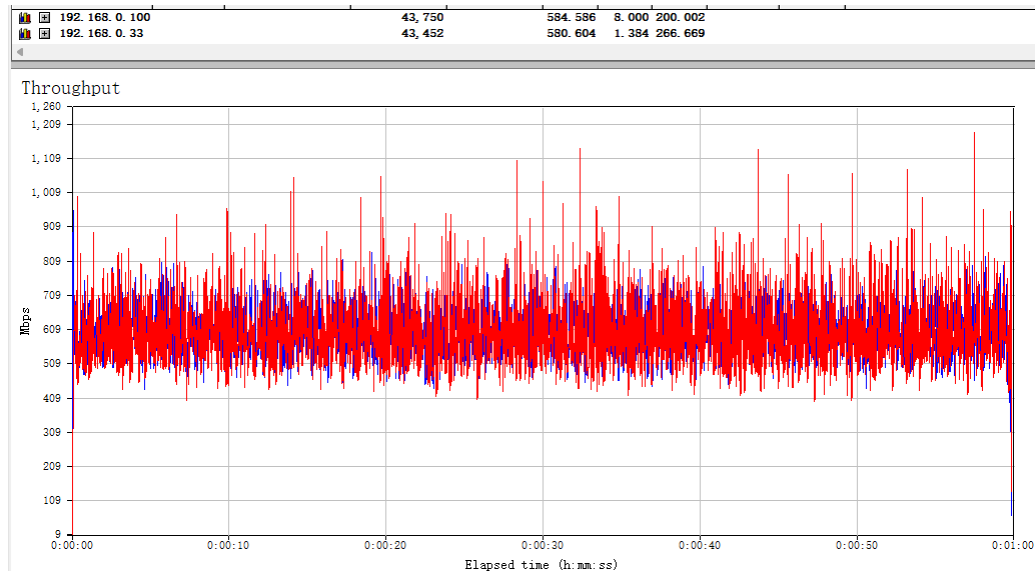
When the device is performing the Environment function, its peak wireless performance is unaffected. The following data provides a reference for the specific impact:

EAP787 V1.0 is performing Environment:

2.4 GHz Band: The wireless throughput curve does not change before, during, and after executing the Environment function.

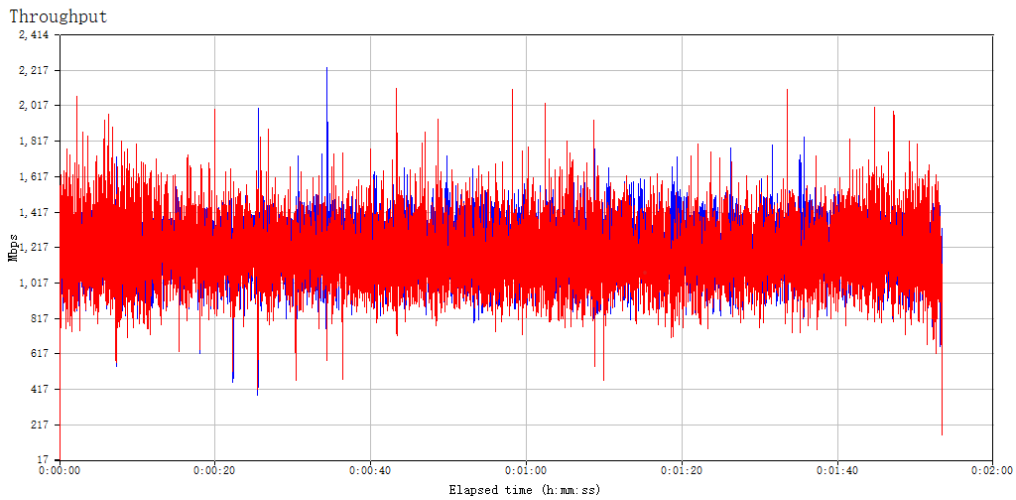


5 GHz Band: The wireless throughput curve does not change before, during, and after executing the Environment function.



6 GHz Band: The wireless throughput curve does not change before, during, and after executing the Environment function.

192.168.0.100	162,199	1,143,889	7,843,400.004
192.168.0.33	158,010	1,114,347	1,372,266.669

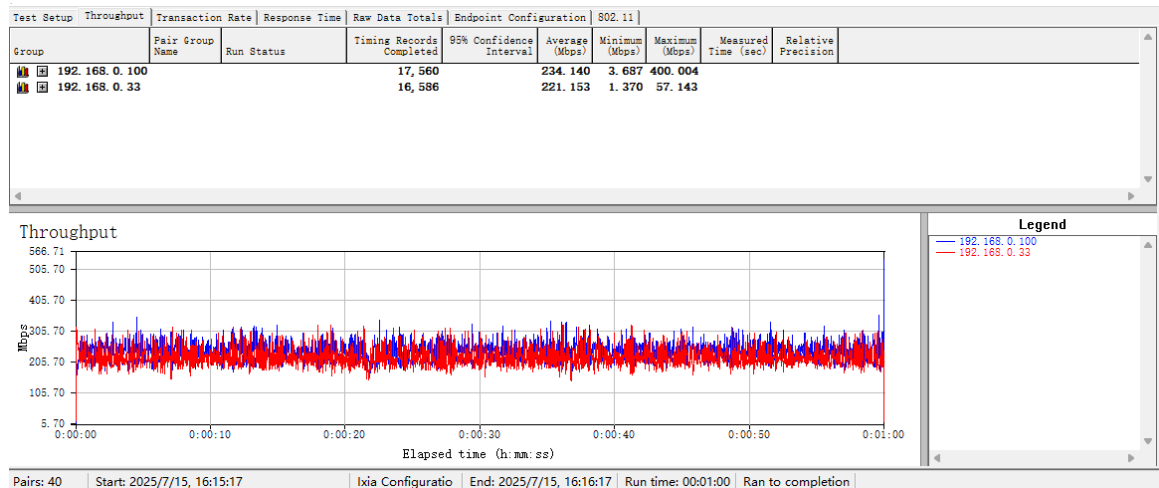


6.1.3 Wireless Packet Capture

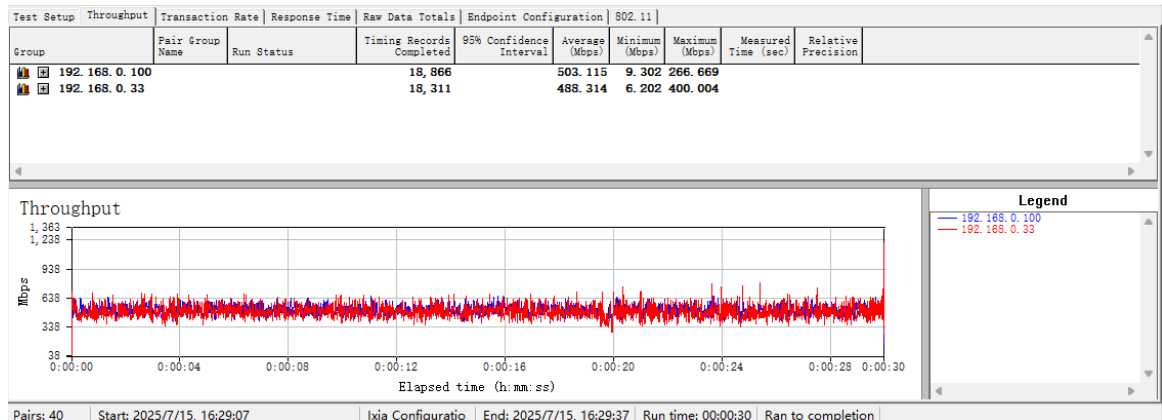
When the device is performing Wireless Packet Capture, its peak wireless performance is unaffected. The following data provides a reference for the specific impact:

EAP787 V1.0 is performing Wireless Packet Capture:

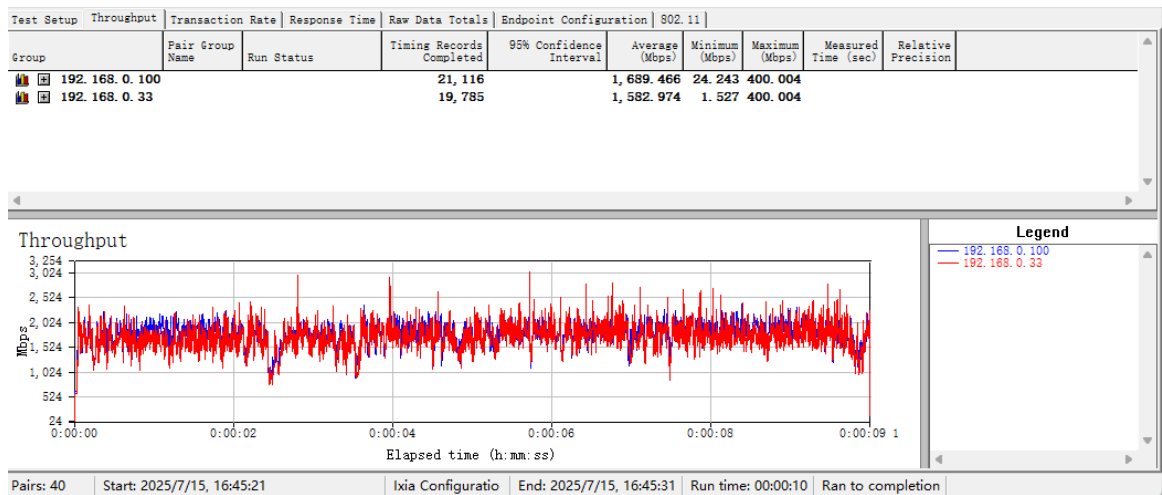
2.4 GHz Band: The wireless throughput curve does not change before, during, and after executing the Wireless Packet Capture function.



5 GHz Band: The wireless throughput curve does not change before, during, and after executing the Wireless Packet Capture function.



6 GHz Band: The wireless throughput curve does not change before, during, and after executing the Wireless Packet Capture function.



7 Application Scenarios & Solutions

7.1 Interference Detection & Optimization

When issues such as sudden speed drops, frequent disconnections, or increased latency occur, it might be due to new interference sources in the environment. For such cases, use Scan-Radio's interference detection feature to acquire Wi-Fi interference sources, channel utilization data, and non-Wi-Fi interferences across the environment. For deployments with three or more APs, it enables interference source localization. Operators can then optimize network layouts or remove interference sources to restore Wi-Fi performance. Chapter 9 of our *WLAN Maintenance Manual* ([TP-Link Global Material Sharing](#)) details the environmental interference mitigation procedures, which can be achieved via Scan-Radio.

7.2 Spectrum Planning & Deployment

Pre-deployment electromagnetic environment assessment is critical in ports, factories,

and similar scenarios to avoid frequency conflicts. During network planning, use Scan-Radio's Spectrum Scanning (Environment) feature to scan target areas to:

- Identify underutilized frequency bands
- Measure baseline noise and signal distortion levels
- Model potential interference patterns

This feature can enhance deployment efficiency while reducing post-deployment optimization costs. For example, in the site survey phase of our *WLAN Network Planning and Deployment Guide* ([TP-Link Global Material Sharing](#)), you can use Scan-Radio for environmental scanning to detect interferences and identify available frequency bands.

7.3 Autonomous Network Performance Optimization

Conflicts between newly deployed APs and existing infrastructure, or sudden environmental interference sources, often lead to network performance degradation and client roaming failures. Manual reconfiguration is not only time-consuming but also requires preliminary interference identification. Scan-Radio's auto-deployment capability addresses this by autonomously optimizing AP configurations—including channel, bandwidth, frequency band, and transmit power—to achieve intelligent network performance tuning.

Common Wi-Fi issues such as client association failures or roaming disruptions often require over-the-air (OTA) packet analysis between clients and APs. Traditional approaches rely on specialized packet capture tools or macOS-based solutions, creating technical or device-related barriers for common users.

Moreover, changing channel configurations during packet capture often disrupts live networks. With Scan-Radio, the independent RF chip enables background scanning without affecting foreground services—no software upgrades or network reconfiguration required. For example, in our *WLAN Maintenance Manual* ([TP-Link Global Material Sharing](#)), the troubleshooting procedures in Chapters 2, 5, and 6 can all be performed using Scan-Radio.

8 Case Study

8.1 Case 1: Client Roaming Failure Troubleshooting

A client reported that a specific model of smartphone failed to roam properly between EAPs. To diagnose the issue, the R&D team provided the client with a dedicated packet capture firmware to collect OTA packets, alongside technical guidance. However, if the client's device supports native OTA packet capture and the management software provides built-in configuration, the client can independently collect and submit diagnostic data for after-sales analysis, reducing R&D resource demands.

8.2 Case 2: Bridge Product Interference Mitigation

A client experienced suboptimal performance with EAP215-Bridge devices over an 800-meter inter-building link, achieving only 20Mbps throughput on an 80MHz channel. Meanwhile, the devices failed to establish connections. Initial technical support suspected urban environmental interference but lacked on-site detection tools for confirmation. With Scan-Radio's interference detection and localization capabilities, this problem could have been identified and avoided.

8.3 Case 3: Large-Scale Mesh Network Optimization

A client observed excessive WPA authentication attempts in their controller logs, which technical analysis attributed to coverage blind spots. However, traditional RF scanning and WLAN optimization tools are incompatible in a dense mesh environment. Devices equipped with independent radio scanning chips can perform spectrum analysis and environmental assessments unaffected by mesh networking constraints, which enables automated optimization even in complex mesh deployments.

9 Future Trends

Providing richer, more diverse, refined, and multi-terminal O&M services is a key direction to meet future advanced O&M requirements and technologies.

We foresee the following key directions:

1. Refined and Diversified Interference Source Detection

Currently, the Interference Detection function supports full channel occupancy detection and Wi-Fi interference source detection. Detection of non-Wi-Fi interference sources and refined identification of interference source types are not involved.

2. Comprehensive Management Platform

To meet the needs of performing O&M on different management platforms, Interference Detection, Environment, and Over-the-Air Packet Capture features will be gradually adapted to various management platforms (Software Controllers, Hardware Controllers,

and Cloud-Based Controllers).

3. Scan-Radio Empowerment and Extension

With real-time scanning, Scan-Radio can provide powerful real-time data acquisition capabilities, improving and expanding the existing O&M capabilities to enrich or strengthen the current Q&M system.

10 Appendix

10.1 Glossary

Term	Full Name	Definition
BSSID	Basic Service Set Identifier	The physical address of an AP, uniquely identifying it within the same network.
SSID	Service Set Identifier	The name of a wireless network.
RSSI	Received Signal Strength Indicator	A measure of the wireless signal strength.
WPA3	Wi-Fi Protected Access 3	A modern network security and encryption protocol.
MAC	Media Access Control	The MAC layer address, usually referring to the physical address of a network card.
Beacon	Beacon	A special management frame periodically broadcast by an AP to advertise its presence and capabilities.

FFT	Fast Fourier Transform	An efficient algorithm that converts a signal from the time domain into the frequency domain.
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10.2 Frequently Asked Questions

Q: After enabling Interference Detection, one AP shows “Scanning failed. Please try again later.” Why, and how can I troubleshoot?

A: During an Interference Detection scan, the AP may have lost connection with the Controller. Check the AP’s connectivity and ensure the link is stable.

Q: The Environment feature stops automatically after running for a while.

A: To prevent users from leaving scans running indefinitely, the system automatically stops after 15 minutes. You can restart the process by clicking Scan again.

Q: Can APs without a Scan-Radio use Interference Detection?

A: Yes. Most APs support Interference Detection. Depending on the AP’s software version, the available scan results may vary, but Wi-Fi interference sources are always included.

Q: Can APs without a Scan-Radio use the Environment feature?

A: No. Only APs equipped with a Scan-Radio can use the Environment feature.

Q: The Rogue APs feature is missing in Omada Controller v6.0. How can I view Rogue AP results?

A: The Rogue APs feature has been integrated into Interference Detection. You can now use Interference Detection to identify Wi-Fi interference sources, including rogue APs.

Q: What’s the difference between Interference Detection and Rogue APs?

A: Interference Detection includes and extends the original Rogue APs feature. Interference Detection supports device-by-device selection (Rogue APs previously required all APs in a site to participate). It adds more visual illustrations of Wi-Fi interference sources, including list and interference map views. In addition, it presents channel utilization data for the surrounding environment.

Q: In spectrum scanning, what do the Spectrum and Waterfall charts represent?

A: On the Spectrum chart, the x-axis shows frequency, the y-axis shows signal strength, and color indicates probability. Darker colors mean a higher probability that the signal strength is less than or equal to the plotted value.

On the Waterfall chart, the x-axis shows frequency, the y-axis shows time, and color indicates interference intensity. Darker colors reflect stronger interference signals at that frequency and time.

Q: Can Interference Detection always detect all nearby APs?

A: Not always. If an AP is configured with a very long Beacon Interval, it may not be detected in a single scan. Running multiple scans will improve accuracy.