

Automated scanning of SSID, BSSID, and Signal of available wireless APs

Goal: Create a station and scan for SSID, BSSID, and Signal of available wireless APs

We will learn how to use a script to create a station and scan for available APs. We will then look at the /scanresults/ URI and the info we can get from a scan through JSON. Please refer to [sta_scan_test.py](#) as an example script.

1.

Using the Script

A. Command Line Options

```
--sta_name nameOfStation
```

Specifies the name of the station to be created, if this option is used, the name will default to **sta0000**.

```
--ssid nameOfNetwork
```

Specifies the name of the network to connect to.

This value must be used, however, the SSID does not have to exist and a fake name can be used.

```
--security {WEP, WPA, WPA2, WPA3, Open}
```

Specifies the security type of the network to connect to.

This value must be used, however, if a fake SSID is used the type should be open.

B. Running the script

A. As an example, we can run the script using:

```
./sta_scan_test.py --sta_name sta0000 --ssid fake_ssid --security open --radio
```

B. This will produce output that looks like this:

BSS	Signal	SSID
08:36:c9:e3:d4:da	-32.0	Logan-Test-Net
10:56:11:0c:04:02	-80.0	:)
22:56:11:0c:04:02	-79.0	xfinitywifi
32:56:11:0c:04:02	-80.0	NA

This script produces limited output, for more detail we can look at the webpage hosted by LANforge.

2.

The /scanresults/ URI

A. In order to view this page we will need to create a station and start a scan.

A. First we will create the station (Make sure to click on a radio in the Port Mgr tab first):

The screenshot shows the LANforge Manager interface. The 'Port Mgr' tab is active, displaying a table of Ethernet interfaces. A tooltip is visible over the 'Create' button, stating: 'Create a virtual interface of some type. ALT-E and CTRL-E are the hot-key accelerators'.

ID	IP	Alias	Parent Dev	AP	Channel	SSID	MAC
0	192.168.10.20	eth0					00:0d:b9:56:ad:e8
1	0.0.0.0	eth1					00:0d:b9:56:ad:e9
2	0.0.0.0	eth2					00:0d:b9:56:ad:ea
3	0.0.0.0	wiphy0			0		04:f0:21:94:d9:92
4	0.0.0.0	wiphy1			0		00:0e:8e:5c:63:82
5	0.0.0.0	wlan1	wiphy1		1		00:0e:8e:5c:63:82
6	192.168.1.2	wlan0	wiphy0	08:36:C9:E3:D4:DA	44	Logan-Test...	04:f0:21:94:d9:92

Logged in to: 192.168.10.20:4002 as: Admin 2 stations: 21 01 00

- B. Next we will create the station, the default values can be used or a specific number for the station can be given:

1 ☐ MAC-VLAN ☐ 802.1Q-VLAN ☐ Redirect ☐ Bridge ☐ Bond

2 ☐ GRE Tunnel ☒ WiFi STA ☐ WiFi VAP ☐ WiFi Monitor ☐ WiFi Virtual Radio

3 Shelf: 1 Resource: 1 (logan-lf2) Port: 4 (wiphy0)

4 Quantity: 1

5 ☐ Down Ready

Attempt to apply changes, but do not close the current window to allow

- C. After creating the station, we will give the an SSID to connect to. (This doesn't have to be a real AP):

Port Status Information

Current: LINK-DOWN GRO NONE

Driver Info: Port Type: WIFI-STA Parent: wiphy0 wiphy0...

Port Configurables

Standard Configuration Advanced Configuration Misc Configuration Corruptions Custom WiFi

Enable

☐ Set MAC

☐ Set TX Q Len

☐ Set MTU

☐ Set Offload

☐ Set PROMISC

Services

☐ HTTP

☐ FTP

☐ DNS

☐ RADIUS

☐ IPSEC-Client

☐ IPsec-Upstream

Low Level

☐ PROMISC

☒ TSO Enabled

☐ UFO Enabled

☒ GSO Enabled

☐ LRO Enabled

☒ GRO Enabled

General Interface Settings

☐ Down ☐ Aux-Mgt

☐ DHCP-IPv6 ☒ DHCP Release

☒ DHCP-IPv4

DNS Servers: BLANK

IP Addrsss: 0.0.0.0

IP Mask: 0.0.0.0

Gateway IP: 0.0.0.0

Alias:

MAC Addr: 04:f0:21:31:5a:92

Rpt Timer: medium (8 s)

IPSec GW: 0.0.0.0

IPSec Local ID.:

WiFi Settings

SSID: fake-ssid

Key/Phrase:

Freq/Channel: 0/0

☐ WPA ☐ WPA2 ☐ WPA3 ☐ OSEN ☐ WEP

☐ Disable HT40 ☐ Enable VHT160 ☐ Disable SGI

Print Display Probe Display Scan Sync Apply OK Cancel

- D. Clicking on Display Scan at the bottom of the station settings window will bring us to the Scan window:

- E. Finally we'll be able to start the scan and see the results. Clicking on Scan and waiting a few seconds will show all of the APs available to the station:

SSID	Channel	Info	Auth	BSS	Signal	Frequency	Beacon	Age
(:)	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	10:56:11:0c:04:02	-79.0	5220	100	1.42 s
(:)	1	3x3 MIMO	WPA2	10:56:11:0c:04:01	-74.0	2412	100	12.60 s
DIRECT-85-HP ENV...	4	1x1 MIMO	WPA2	f4:30:b9:05:0f:86	-75.0	2427	100	12.05 s
GoDallasStars	11	3x3 MIMO	WPA2	f4:c1:14:69:66:8f	-82.0	2462	100	10.03 s
Hala madrid	11	0x0 MCS 0-0 AX	WPA2	ac:db:48:42:5f:45	-89.0	2462	100	10.00 s
Loandinh1987	11	3x3 MIMO	WPA2	84:00:2d:92:6a:f8	-62.0	2462	100	10.03 s
Loandinh1987	36+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	84:00:2d:92:6b:00	-75.0	5180	100	9.76 s
Logan-Test-Net	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	08:36:c9:e3:d4:da	-32.0	5220	200	1.39 s
Nachowifi	11	2x2 MIMO	WPA WPA2	20:b0:01:5b:2f:ba	-80.0	2462	100	10.01 s
Palmerston North	44+	4x4 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	bc:9b:68:de:a5:73	-81.0	5220	100	1.40 s
SHAN	6	2x2 MIMO	WPA WPA2	5c:6a:80:1d:50:2b	-74.0	2437	100	11.31 s
Scooterbooter	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA WPA2	34:1f:e4:e0:05:3b	-85.0	5220	100	1.38 s
Scooterbooter	6	3x3 MIMO	WPA WPA2	34:1f:e4:e0:05:3a	-72.0	2437	100	11.31 s
Slippery Weasel Tr...	9	3x3 MIMO	WPA2	08:02:8e:da:23:aa	-84.0	2452	100	10.28 s
WizardDen	8	3x3 MIMO	WPA2	94:a6:7e:14:8e:17	-11.0	2447	100	10.79 s
XFINITY	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	42:56:11:0c:04:02	-79.0	5220	100	1.41 s
XFINITY	44+	4x4 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	bc:9b:68:de:a5:77	-81.0	5220	100	1.40 s
XFINITY	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	66:1f:e4:e0:05:3b	-86.0	5220	100	1.41 s
XFINITY	36+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	9a:00:2d:92:6b:00	-75.0	5180	100	9.78 s
[BLANK]	44+	4x4 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA2	bc:9b:68:de:a5:76	-81.0	5220	100	1.37 s
[BLANK]	44+	4x4 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA WPA2	bc:9b:68:de:a5:78	-80.0	5220	100	1.39 s
[BLANK]	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA WPA2	32:56:11:0c:04:02	-74.0	5220	100	4.19 s
[BLANK]	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA WPA2	52:56:11:0c:04:02	-79.0	5220	100	1.38 s
[BLANK]	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA WPA2	76:1f:e4:e0:05:3b	-86.0	5220	100	1.40 s
[BLANK]	11	3x3 MIMO	WPA WPA2	92:00:2d:92:6a:f8	-62.0	2462	100	10.00 s
[BLANK]	36+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	WPA WPA2	8a:00:2d:92:6b:00	-76.0	5180	100	9.74 s
xfinitywifi	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	Open	22:56:11:0c:04:02	-78.0	5220	100	1.42 s
xfinitywifi	44+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	Open	46:1f:e4:e0:05:3b	-86.0	5220	100	1.42 s
xfinitywifi	44+	4x4 MCS 0-9 AC	Open	bc:9b:68:de:a5:75	-80.0	5220	100	1.38 s
xfinitywifi	36+	3x3 MCS 0-9 AC	Open	96:00:2d:92:6b:00	-75.0	5180	100	9.78 s

3.

JSON Response from /scanresults/

- A. Another way of viewing the same information is to use the /scanresults/ URI. This URL can be found at your LANforge ip using port 8080. Ex: 192.168.10.20:8080/scanresults. We will also need the shelf number, the resource number, and the station name. The final URL would look like this
192.168.10.20:8080/scanresults/1/1/sta0000
- B. The scan results can be viewed through JSON by using cURL on the same URL as before. The response will look like this:

```
{
  "handler": "candela.lanforge.HttpStationScan$FixedJsonResponder",
  "uri": "scanresults/:shelf_id/:resource_id/:port_id",
  "candela.lanforge.HttpStationScan": {
    "duration": "1",
    "scan-results": [
      {
        "1.1.4.08:36:c9:e3:d4:da": {
          "age": "2238",
          "auth": "WPA2",
          "beacon": "200",
          "bss": "08:36:c9:e3:d4:da",
          "channel": "44",
          "entity id": "1.1.4",
          "frequency": "5220",
          "info": "3x3 MCS 0-9 AC",
          "signal": "-32.0",
          "ssid": "Logan-Test-Net"
        }
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

4.

Accessing and Printing JSON Response with Python

- A. We will use `sta_scan_test.py` as an example for a `start()` method
- A. First, we'll need to send a JSON post using realm. Use [this cookbook](#) as reference for getting started with realm. Our JSON will look something like this:

```
data = {
  "shelf": 1,
  "resource": 1,
  "port": self.sta_list
}
```

- B. We can then use `json_post` to send the request. We'll need to wait about 15 seconds to give the scan time to happen

```
self.json_post("/cli-json/scan_wifi", data)
time.sleep(15)
```

C.

Next, we'll create a variable with the results from the scan using

```
scan_results = self.json_get("scanresults/1/1/%s" % ','.join(self.sta_list))
```

- D. Finally, we'll create a loop to iterate through the JSON response and print some nicely formatted output

```
print("{0:<23}".format("BSS"), "{0:<7}".format("Signal"), "{0:<5}".format("SSID"))
for result in scan_results['scan-results']:
    for name, info in result.items():
        print("%s\t%s\t%s" % (info['bss'], info['signal'], info['ssid']))
```

B. Final Results

- A. Our final function will look like this:

```
def start(self):
    self.station_profile.admin_up()
    print(self.sta_list)
    print("Sleeping 15s while waiting for scan")
    data = {
        "shelf": 1,
        "resource": 1,
        "port": self.sta_list
    }
    self.json_post("/cli-json/scan_wifi", data)
    time.sleep(15)
    scan_results = self.json_get("scanresults/1/1/%s" % ','.join(self.sta_list))

    print("{0:<23}".format("BSS"), "{0:<7}".format("Signal"), "{0:<5}".format("SSID"))
    for result in scan_results['scan-results']:
        for name, info in result.items():
            print("%s\t%s\t%s" % (info['bss'], info['signal'], info['ssid']))
```

- B. Our formatted output should look like this:

BSS	Signal	SSID
00:0e:8e:52:4e:82	-33.0	test-net
08:36:c9:e3:d4:db	-31.0	Logan-Test-Net
08:36:c9:e3:d4:dc	-27.0	Logan-Test-Net

