CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

generating, by a first device, a media access control (MAC) frame, wherein the MAC frame comprises a second subfield, the second subfield indicates that the MAC frame is a modified multi-user request-to-send frame, and the modified multi-user request-to-send frame indicates a time resource allocated to a second device, and wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in a common information field or a user information field of the MAC frame, and a value of the second subfield is different from a value of the second subfield in a reserved state; and

sending, by the first device, the MAC frame.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in a common information field of the MAC frame.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in a user information field of the MAC frame.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the MAC frame further comprises a first subfield, and the first subfield indicates time duration allocated to the second device.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the first subfield is a reserved subfield in a common information field of the MAC frame, and the first subfield is different from the second subfield.

6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the first subfield is an uplink length subfield reserved in a common information field of the MAC frame, and the first subfield is different from the second subfield.

7. The method according to claim 4, wherein the first subfield is a reserved subfield in a user information field of the MAC frame, and the first subfield is different from the second subfield.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein a trigger type subfield in the MAC frame is set to 3.

9. A communication apparatus, comprising at least one processor, at least one memory coupled to the at least one processor, and a transceiver, wherein the at least one memory stores programming instructions for execution by the at least one processor to cause the communication

apparatus to perform operations comprising:

generating, by the at least one processor, a media access control (MAC) frame, wherein the MAC frame comprises a second subfield, the second subfield indicates that the MAC frame is a modified multi-user request-to-send frame, and the modified multi-user request-to-send frame indicates a time resource allocated to a second device, and wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in a common information field or a user information field of the MAC frame, and a value of the second subfield is different from a value of the second subfield in a reserved state; and

sending, by the transceiver, the MAC frame.

10. The communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in the common information field of the MAC frame.

11. The communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in the user information field of the MAC frame.

12. The communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the MAC frame further comprises a first subfield, and the first subfield indicates time duration allocated to the second device.

13. The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first subfield is a reserved subfield in a common information field of the MAC frame, and the first subfield is different from the second subfield.

14. The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first subfield is a reserved subfield in a user information field of the MAC frame, and the first subfield is different from the second subfield.

15. The communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein a trigger type subfield in the MAC frame is set to 3.

16. A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, wherein the non-transitory computer-readable storage medium stores program instructions for execution by at least one processor of an apparatus to cause the apparatus to perform operations comprising:

generating a media access control (MAC) frame, wherein the MAC frame comprises a second subfield, the second subfield indicates that the MAC frame is a modified multi-user request-to-send frame, and the modified multi-user request-to-send frame indicates a time resource allocated

to a second device, and wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in a common information field or a user information field of the MAC frame, and a value of the second subfield is different from a value of the second subfield in a reserved state; and

sending the MAC frame.

17. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium according to claim 16, wherein the second subfield is a reserved subfield in the common information field of the MAC frame.

18. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium according to claim 16, wherein the MAC frame further comprises a first subfield, and the first subfield indicates time duration allocated to the second device.

19. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium according to claim 18, wherein the first subfield is a reserved subfield in a user information field of the MAC frame, and the first subfield is different from the second subfield.

20. The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium according to claim 16, wherein a trigger type subfield in the MAC frame is set to 3.