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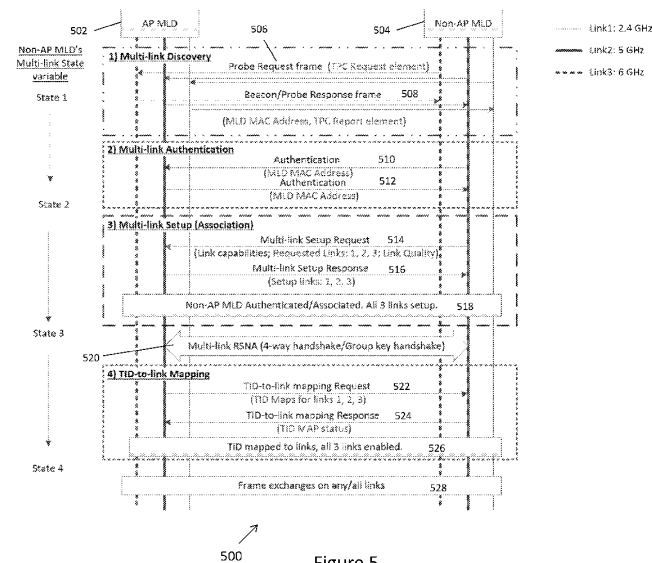


Figure 5

(57) Abstract: Communication devices and methods for multi-link setup and link maintenance are provided. One exemplary embodiment provides a first station (STA) included in a first plurality of STAs affiliated with a first Multi-link Device (MLD), the first STA comprising: circuitry, which in operation, generates a request frame, the request frame comprising request information; and a transmitter, which in operation, transmits the request frame to a second STA to request a multi-link setup, wherein the second STA is included in a second plurality of STAs affiliated with a second MLD, and wherein the multi-link setup establishes one or more links between one or more STAs of the first plurality of STAs and corresponding one or more STAs of the second plurality of STAs based on the request information.

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