IEEE 802.3 Sept 2025 Interim

IEEE P802.3dj Task Force
15-18 Sept 2025 Interim Meeting

What is the "Path"

John D'Ambrosia,
Futurewei, U.S. Subsidiary of Huawei
Chair, Annex178B Ad hoc

What is a Path?

D2.0: Straw Poll TF-1, Comment 421 (Context – adding RTS signaling to the PCS service) interface

- Straw Poll TF-1 (directional):
  - I support the direction of extending path start-up signaling (as proposed in D2.0 comment #421) from Reconciliation sublayer to Reconciliation sublayer.
- Results - Yes: 23 No: 1 Abstain: 20

Per D2.1

- Path - The series of ISLs and sublayers between a pair of PCS sublayers or a pair of Extender Sublayers. See Figure 178B–1.
- Note – 178B.6 states "The path can include ISLs that do not use a training protocol."

Per Annex 178B Ad hoc report (https://www.ieee802.org/3/dj/public/25_09/dambrosia_3dj_03_2509.pdf)

"IEEE P802.3dj Scope and Annex 178B", John D'Ambrosia

Straw Poll #4 - I support leaving the existing IEEE P802.3dj PAR as is

- Path Startup Process is only specified for 200 Gb/s per lane AUIs

  i.e. - no additional features to <= 100 Gb/s per lane AUIs, including for 1.6TAUI-16

Results Y:32   N: 0   A: 4

What is the "Path" ?

❑ Modifying interfaces not in IEEE P802.3dj is not in scope for the current PAR

❑ Co-existence of IEEE P802.3 dj defined interfaces and PMDs with interfaces based on <= 100 Gb/s lane technology is expected.

❑ Diagrams on following pages explore examples of different scenarios
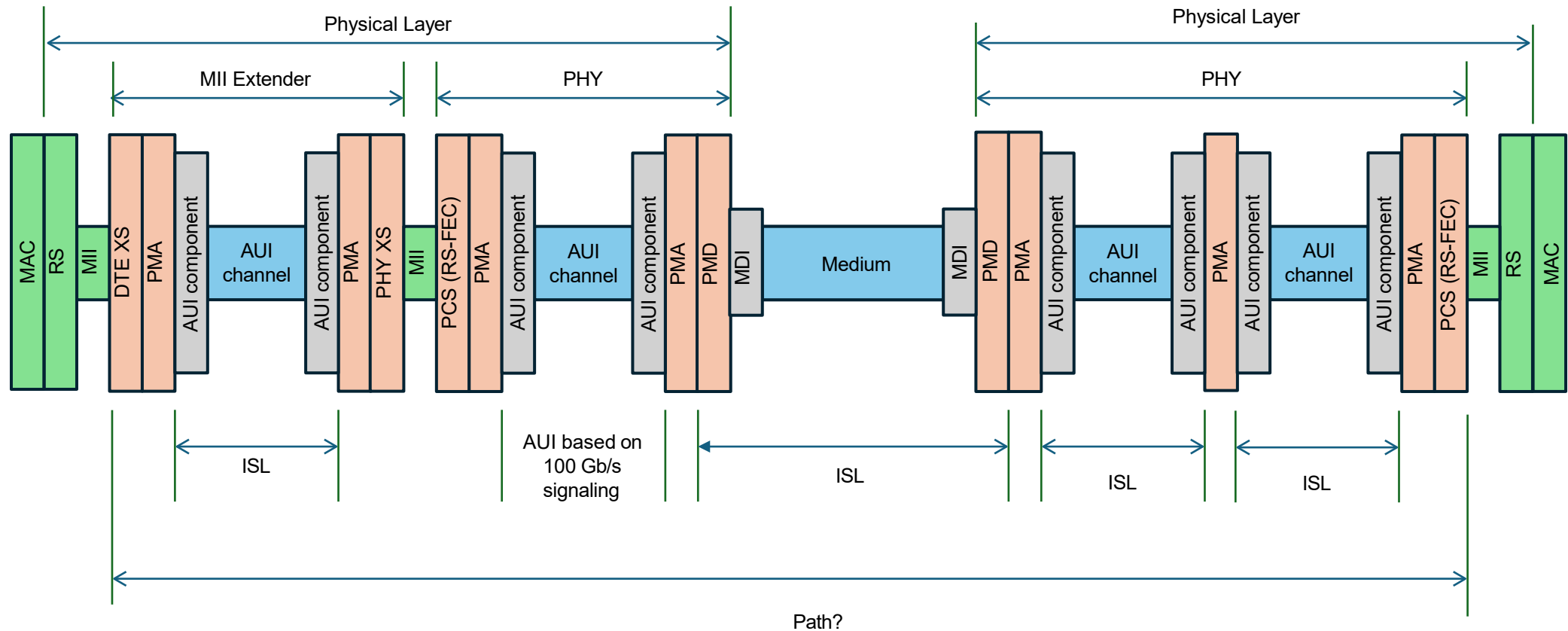
Path / ISL per Draft 2.1
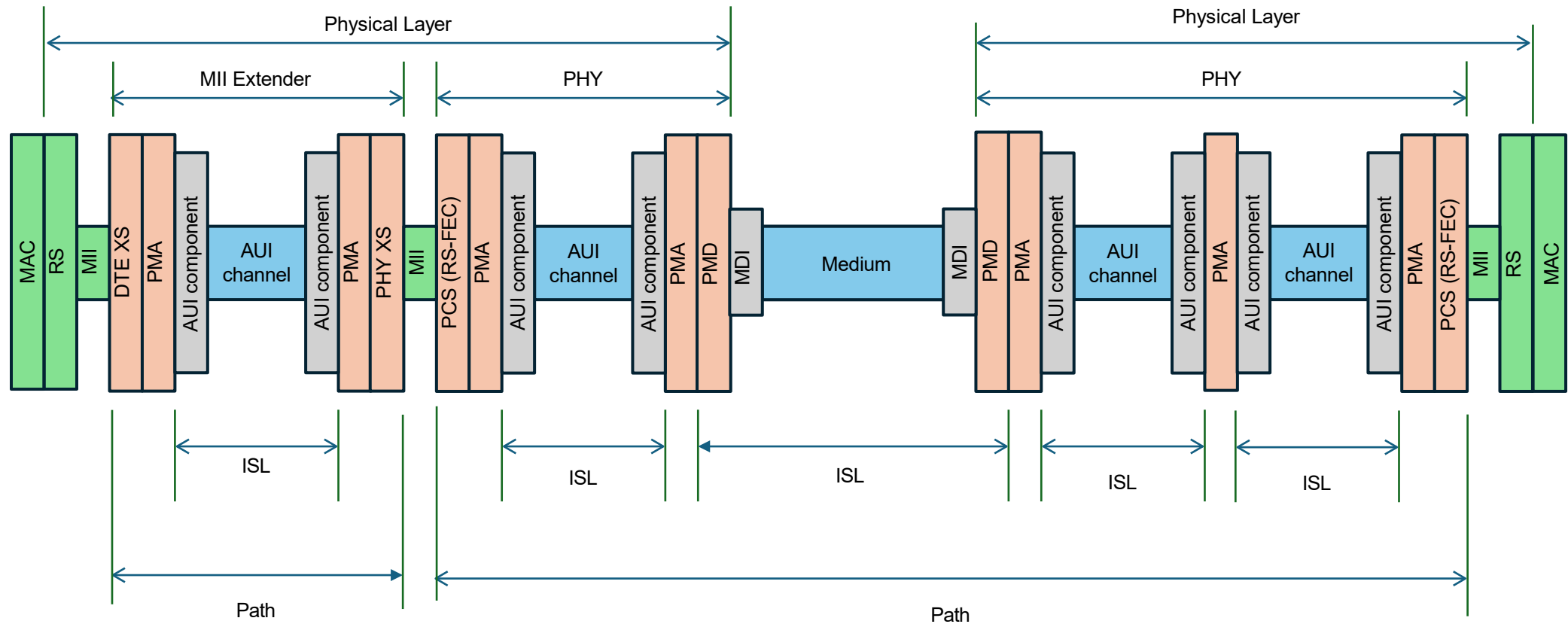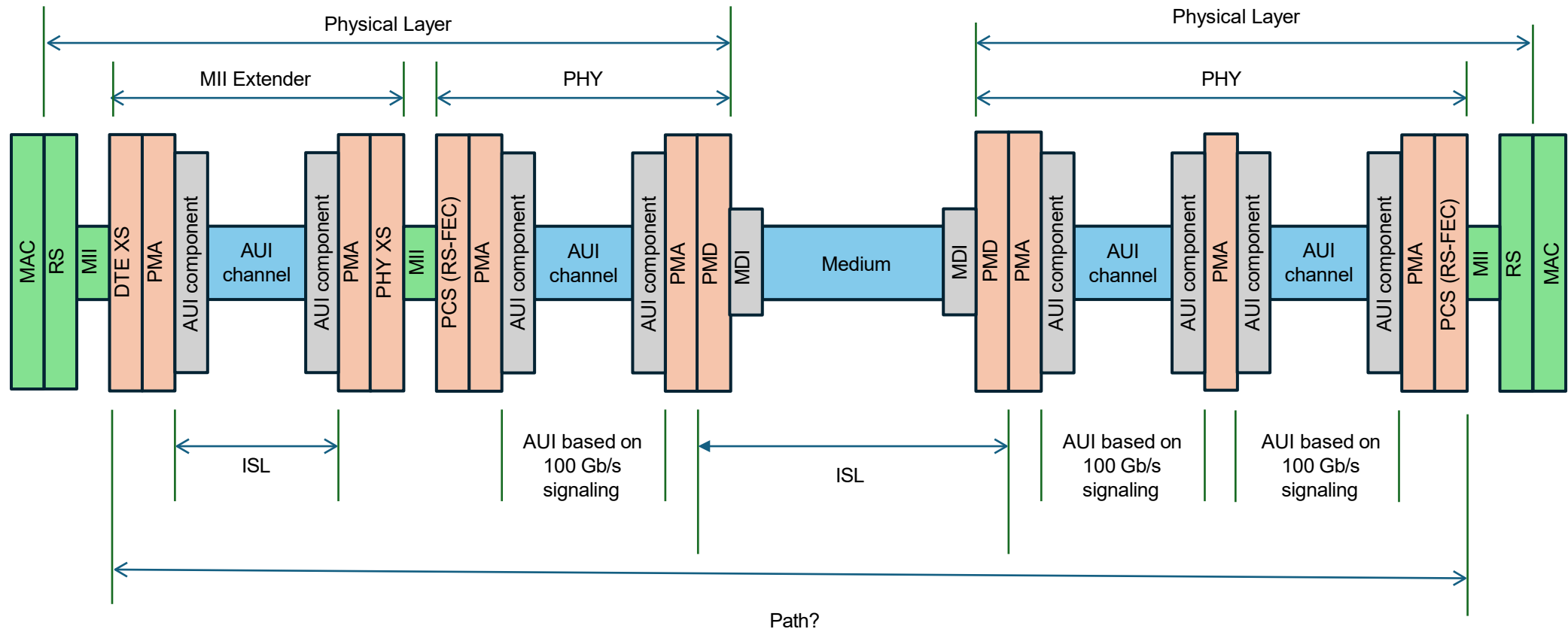
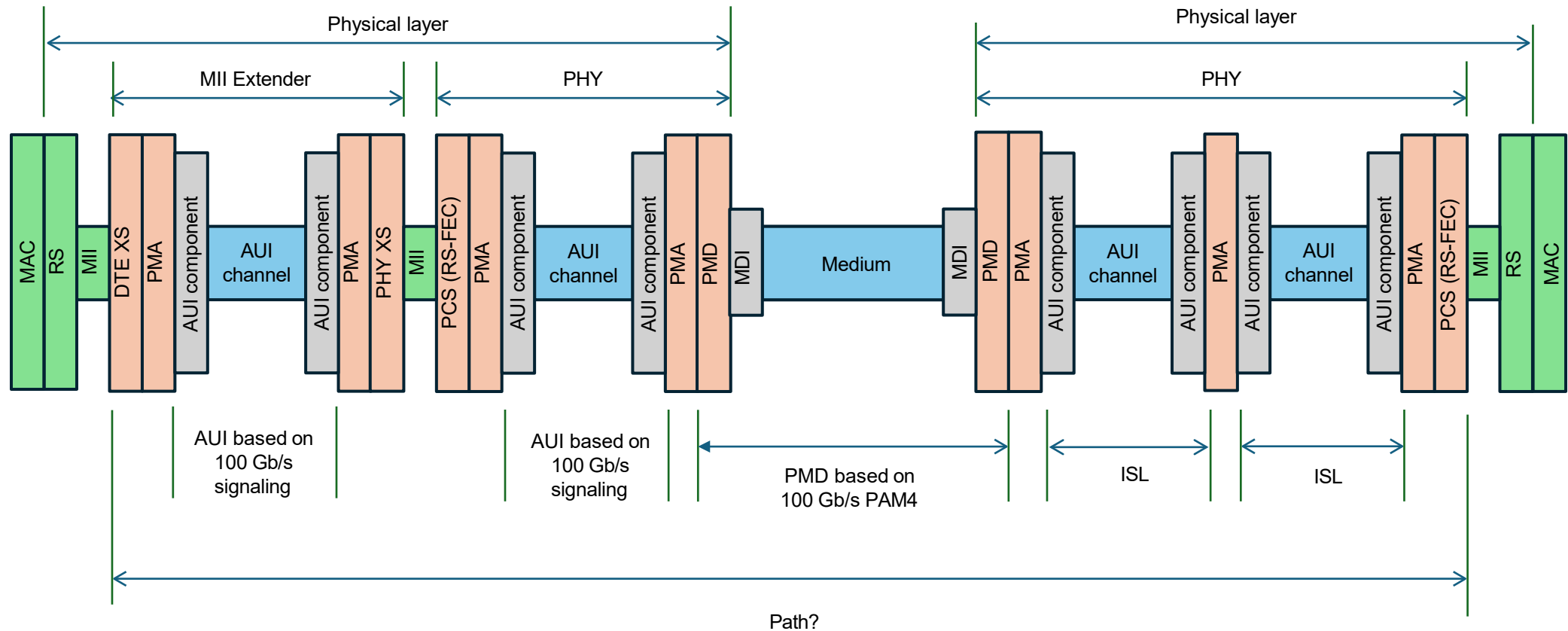# Desired as indicated by Per D2.0 Comment #421 Straw Poll TF-1
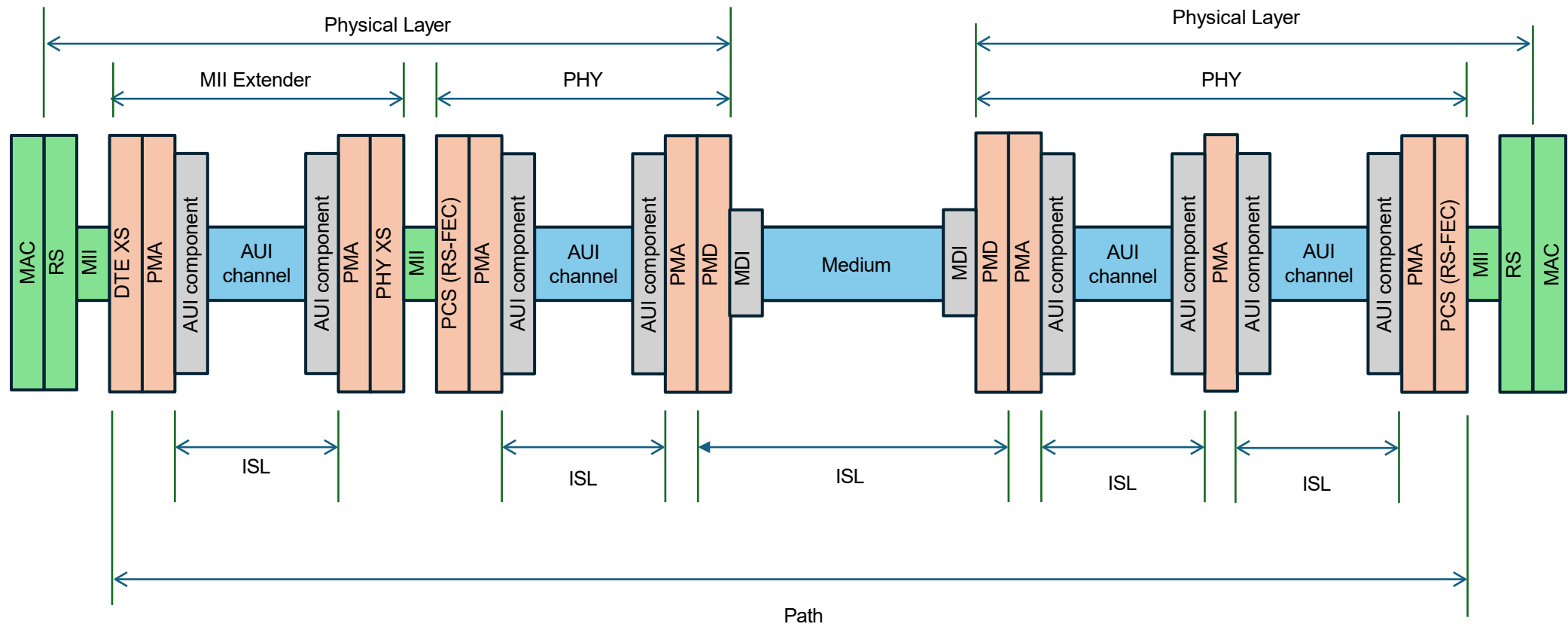
Consider other implementations

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Path

- "Path" start-up signaling will work with interfaces and PMDs defined in IEEE P802.3dj

- Near-term implementations where these interfaces and PMDs will co-exist with <= 100Gb/s per lane interfaces and PMDs (link start-up not specified) is possible

- What do we call the "Path" to not cause confusion with these "mixed technology" implementations?

- Do we relate "path" to the series of ISLs that link start-up is specified?
  - If link start-up is specified for all interfaces and PMDs, then the "path" is RS to RS
  - If link start-up for all interfaces and PMDs is not specified, then multiple "paths" may exist between RS to RS.