

A method and apparatus are disclosed for transmitting ACK/NAK information in a communication system including a transmitter (74) for transmitting ACK/NAK channel, and a channel gate (699) for gating the ACK/NAK channel based on whether a matching preamble is detected in a received data unit by receiver (106). The data unit is a first data unit in a series of data units comprising a data packet. The channel gate (699) prevents transmission of the ACK/NAK channel when receiver (106) has failed to receive the matching preamble in the data unit.