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3rd Generation Partnership Project;

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UTRAN Iub interface data transport and transport signalling for Common Transport Channel data streams

(Release 16)

 

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# Foreword

This Technical Specification (TS) has been produced by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP).

The contents of the present document are subject to continuing work within the TSG and may change following formal TSG approval. Should the TSG modify the contents of the present document, it will be re-released by the TSG with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

Version x.y.z

where:

x the first digit:

1 presented to TSG for information;

2 presented to TSG for approval;

3 or greater indicates TSG approved document under change control.

y the second digit is incremented for all changes of substance, i.e. technical enhancements, corrections, updates, etc.

z the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated in the document.

# 1 Scope

The present document shall provide a specification of the UTRAN RNC-Node B (Iub) interface Data Transport and Transport Signalling for Common Transport Channel data streams.

# 2 References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

● References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non‑specific.

● For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.

● For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies. In the case of a reference to a 3GPP document (including a GSM document), a non-specific reference implicitly refers to the latest version of that document *in the same Release as the present document*.

[1] ITU-T Recommendation I.363.2 (2000-11): "B-ISDN ATM Adaptation layer specification: Type 2 AAL".

[2] ITU-T Recommendation I.366.1 (1998-06): "Segmentation and Reassembly Service Specific Convergence Sublayer for the AAL type 2".

[3] ITU-T Recommendation Q.2630.1 (1999-12): "AAL type 2 signalling protocol (Capability Set 1)".

[4] ITU-T Recommendation Q.2110 (1994-07): "B-ISDN ATM adaptation layer - Service Specific Connection Oriented Protocol (SSCOP)".

[5] ITU-T Recommendation Q.2130 (1994-07): "B-ISDN signalling ATM adaptation Layer - Service Specific Coordination Function for Support of Signalling at the User Network Interface (SSCF at UNI)".

[6] ITU-T Recommendation Q.2150.2 (1999-12): "Signalling transport converter on SSCOP and SSCOPMCE".

[7] ITU-T Recommendation I.361 (1995-11): "B-ISDN ATM layer specification".

[8] ITU-T Recommendation I.630(1999-02): "ATM protection switching".

[9] ITU-T Recommendation Q.2630.2 (2000-12): "AAL Type 2 signalling protocol (Capability Set 2)".

10 ITU-T Recommendation E.191 (2000-03):"B-ISDN addressing".

[11] ITU-T Recommendation X.213 (1995-11): "Information Technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Network Service Definition".

[12] IETF RFC 768, (1980-08): "User Datagram Protocol".

[13] IETF RFC 2460, (1998-12): "Internet Protocol, Version 6 (IPv6) Specification".

[14] IETF RFC 791, (1981-09): "Internet Protocol".

[15] IETF RFC 2474, (1998-12): "Definition of the Differentiated Services Field (DS Field) in the IPv4 and IPv6 Headers".

[16] IETF RFC 1661, (1994-07): "The Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP)".

[17] IETF RFC 1662, (1994-07): "PPP in HDLC-like Framing".

[18] IETF RFC 2507, (1999-02): "IP header compression".

[19] IETF RFC 1990, (1996-08): "The PPP Multilink Protocol (MP)".

[20] IETF RFC 2686, (1999-09): "The Multi-Class Extension to Multi-Link PPP".

[21] Void

[22] 3GPP TS 25.401, "UTRAN Overall Description"

[23] 3GPP TS 25.426, "UTRAN Iur and Iub Interface Data Transport & Transport Signalling for DCH Data Streams"

[24] IETF RFC 3153, (2001-08): "PPP Multiplexing".

[25] IETF RFC 2364, (1998-07): "PPP over AAL5".

[26] IETF RFC 3031, (2001-01): "Multiprotocol Label Switching Architecture".

[27] ITU-T Recommendation E.164 (1997-05): "The international public telecommunication numbering plan".

[28] IETF RFC 3376 (2002-10), "Internet Group Management Protocol, Version 3".

[29] IETF RFC 3810 (2004-06), "Multicast Listener Discovery Version 2 (MLDv2) for IPv6".

[30] IETF RFC 3544, (2003-07): “IP Header Compression over PPP”.

# 3 Definitions, symbols and abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the following abbreviations apply:

## 3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions apply.

**ALCAP:** "ALCAP" is a generic name for the transport signalling protocol used to setup and tear down transport bearers.

**IP UTRAN node**: An UTRAN Node supporting the IP Transport Option

## 3.2 Symbols

Void.

## 3.3 Abbreviations

AAL ATM Adaption Layer

AAL2 AAL Type 2

ATM Asynchronous Transfer Mode

CPCS Common Part Convergence Sublayer

CPS Common Part Sublayer

DSCH Downlink Shared Channel

FACH Forward Access Channel

FP Frame Protocol

HDLC High-level Data Link Control

HS-DSCH High Speed Downlink Shared Channel

IP Internet Protocol

LC Link Characteristics

PPP Point-to-Point Protocol

PT Path Type

RACH Random Access Channel

RNC Radio Network Controller

SAAL Signalling ATM Adaption Layer

SAR Segmentation And Reassembly

SSCF Service Specific Co-ordination Function

SSCOP Service Specific Connection Oriented Protocol

SSCS Service Specific Convergence Sublayer

SSSAR Service Specific Segmentation And Reassembly

STC Signalling Transport Converter

UDP User Datagram Protocol

UMTS Universal Mobile Telecommunication Network

UNI User-Network Interface

USCH Uplink Shared Channel

UTRAN UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network

## 3.4 Specification Notations

For the purposes of the present document, the following notations apply:

[FDD] This tagging of a word indicates that the word preceding the tag "[FDD]" applies only to FDD. This tagging of a heading indicates that the heading preceding the tag "[FDD]" and the section following the heading applies only to FDD.

[TDD] This tagging of a word indicates that the word preceding the tag "[TDD]" applies only to TDD, including 3.84Mcps TDD, 7.68Mcps TDD and 1.28Mcps TDD. This tagging of a heading indicates that the heading preceding the tag "[TDD]" and the section following the heading applies only to TDD, including 3.84Mcps TDD, 7.68Mcps TDD and 1.28Mcps TDD.

[3.84Mcps TDD] This tagging of a word indicates that the word preceding the tag "[3.84Mcps TDD]" applies only to 3.84Mcps TDD. This tagging of a heading indicates that the heading preceding the tag "[3.84Mcps TDD]" and the section following the heading applies only to 3.84Mcps TDD.

[1.28Mcps TDD] This tagging of a word indicates that the word preceding the tag "[1.28Mcps TDD]" applies only to 1.28Mcps TDD. This tagging of a heading indicates that the heading preceding the tag "[1.28Mcps TDD]" and the section following the heading applies only to 1.28Mcps TDD.

[7.68Mcps TDD] This tagging of a word indicates that the word preceding the tag "[7.68Mcps TDD]" applies only to 7.68Mcps TDD. This tagging of a heading indicates that the heading preceding the tag "[7.68Mcps TDD]" and the section following the heading applies only to 7.68Mcps TDD.

[FDD - …] This tagging indicates that the enclosed text following the "[FDD - " applies only to FDD. Multiple sequential paragraphs applying only to FDD are enclosed separately to enable insertion of TDD specific (or common) paragraphs between the FDD specific paragraphs.

[TDD - …] This tagging indicates that the enclosed text following the "[TDD - " applies only to TDD including 3.84Mcps TDD, 7.68Mcps TDD and 1.28Mcps TDD. Multiple sequential paragraphs applying only to TDD are enclosed separately to enable insertion of FDD specific (or common) paragraphs between the TDD specific paragraphs.

[3.84Mcps TDD - …] This tagging indicates that the enclosed text following the "[3.84Mcps TDD - " applies only to 3.84Mcps TDD. Multiple sequential paragraphs applying only to 3.84Mcps TDD are enclosed separately to enable insertion of FDD and TDD specific (or common) paragraphs between the 3.84Mcps TDD specific paragraphs.

[1.28Mcps TDD - …] This tagging indicates that the enclosed text following the "[1.28Mcps TDD - " applies only to 1.28Mcps TDD. Multiple sequential paragraphs applying only to 1.28Mcps TDD are enclosed separately to enable insertion of FDD and TDD specific (or common) paragraphs between the 1.28Mcps TDD specific paragraphs.

[7.68Mcps TDD - …] This tagging indicates that the enclosed text following the "[7.68Mcps TDD - " applies only to 7.68Mcps TDD. Multiple sequential paragraphs applying only to 7.68Mcps TDD are enclosed separately to enable insertion of FDD and TDD specific (or common) paragraphs between the 7.68Mcps TDD specific paragraphs.

# 4 Data Link Layer

## 4.1 ATM Transport Option

ATM shall be used in the transport network user plane and the transport network control plane according to ITU-T Recommendation I.361 [7].

## 4.1.1 Protection Switching at ATM Layer

If redundancy of pathways at ATM layer between RNC and Node B is supported, it shall be implemented using ATM Protection Switching according to ITU-T Recommendation I.630 [8].

## 4.2 Data Link Layer for IP Transport Option

An RNC or Node B supporting IP Transport Option shall support the PPP protocol with HDLC framing (IETF RFC 1661 [16], IETF RFC 1662 [17]).

NOTE: This does not preclude the single implementation and use of any other L2/L1 protocols (e.g. PPPMux/AAL5/ATM (IETF RFC 3153 [24], IETF RFC 2364 [25]), PPP/AAL2/ATM, Ethernet, MPLS/ATM (IETF RFC 3031 [26]), etc.) fulfilling the UTRAN requirements towards the upper layers.

An RNC or Node B supporting IP transport option and having interfaces connected via low bandwidth PPP links like E1/T1/J1 shall also support IP Header Compression (IETF RFC 2507 [18]) and the PPP extensions ML/MC-PPP (IETF RFC 1990 [19], IETF RFC 2686 [20]). In this case, negotiation of header compression (IETF RFC 2507 [18]) over PPP shall be performed via (IETF RFC 3544 [30]).

# 5 Iub Data Transport for Common Transport Channel Data Streams

## 5.1 Introduction

This subclause specifies the transport layers that support Common Transport Channel (FACH, RACH, PCH, DSCH, HS-DSCH, USCH [TDD]) data streams.

There are two options for protocol suites for transport of RACH, FACH, USCH [TDD], DSCH and HS-DSCH Iub data streams:

1) ATM Transport Option

2) IP Transport Option

The following figure 1 shows the protocol stacks of these two options:



Figure 1: Protocol stack for the transport of RACH, FACH, PCH, DSCH [TDD], USCH [TDD] and HS-DSCH Iub data streams

## 5.2 ATM Transport Option

ATM and AAL2 (ITU-T Rec. I.363.2 [1] and ITU-T Rec. I.366.1 [2]) are used at the standard transport layer for Iub RACH, FACH, PCH, DSCH [TDD], USCH [TDD], HS-DSCH data streams.

The Service Specific Segmentation and Reassembly (SSSAR) sublayer is used for the segmentation and reassembly of AAL2 SDUs (i.e. SSSAR is only considered from ITU-T Recommendation I.366.1 [2]).

## 5.3 IP Transport Option

UDP (IETF RFC 768 [12]) over IP shall be supported as the transport for RACH, FACH, PCH, DSCH [TDD], USCH [TDD] and HS-DSCH data streams on Iub Interface. The data link layer is as specified in chapter 4.2

An IP UTRAN node shall support IPv6 (IETF RFC 2460 [13]). The support of IPv4 (IETF RFC 791 [14]) is optional.

NOTE: This does not preclude single implementation and use of IPv4.

IP dual stack is recommended for the potential transition period from IPv4 to IPv6 in the transport network.

The transport bearer is identified by the UDP port number and the IP address (source UDP port number, destination UDP port number, source IP address, destination IP address).

The source IP address and destination IP address exchanged via Radio Network Layer on the Iur/Iub interface shall use the NSAP structure. See sub clause 6.1.8.2 of TS 25.401 [22].

IP Differentiated Services code point marking (IETF RFC 2474 [15]) shall be supported. The mapping between traffic categories and Diffserv code points shall be configurable by O&M for each traffic category. Traffic categories are implementation-specific and may be determined from the application parameters.

IP multicast (IETF RFC 3376 [28], IETF RFC 3810 [29]) may be supported for FACH data streams on Iub Interface if the security of RAN will not be compromised. This can be guaranteed in a closed IP based RAN.

# 6 Iub Transport Signalling Application for Common Transport Channel Data Streams

## 6.1 Introduction

This subclause specifies the transport signalling protocol(s) used to establish the user plane transport bearers. The protocol stack is shown in clause 7 (figure 2).

## 6.2 Transport Signalling in case of ATM Transport Option

Q.2630.2 as developed by ITU-T [9] is selected as the standard AAL2 signalling protocol for Iub. ITU-T Recommendation Q.2630.2 [9] adds new optional capabilities to ITU-T Recommendation Q.2630.1 [3].

Binding ID provided by the radio network layer shall be copied in SUGR parameter of ESTABLISH.request primitive of ITU-T Rec. Q.2630.2 [9]. The binding identifier shall already be assigned and tied to a radio application procedure when the Establish Request message is received over the Iub interface in the Node B.

User Plane Transport bearers are established and in all normal cases released by the ALCAP in the Controlling RNC. The Node B shall initiate release of the user plane transport bearers for the removed common channels that were remaining within the cell when the cell is deleted.

AAL2 transport layer addressing is based on embedded E.164 (ITU-T Rec. E.164 [27]) or other AESA variants of the NSAP addressing format (ITU-T Rec. E.191 [10], ITU-T Rec. X.213 [11]). Native E.164 addressing (ITU-T Rec. E.164 [27]) shall not be used.

If there is an AAL2 switching function in the transport network layer of the interface, the Link Characteristics parameter (LC) shall be included in the Establish Request message and in the Modification Request message of AAL2 signalling protocol.

If there is an AAL2 switching function in the transport network layer of the interface, the Path Type parameter (PT) may be included in the Establish Request message of AAL2 signalling protocol for prioritisation at ATM level.

If the value in either the Maximum CPS-SDU Bit Rate or the Average CPS-SDU Bit Rate of the Link Characteristics (LC) in AAL2 signalling messages as specified in reference ITU-T Rec. Q.2630.2 [9] is 2048 Kbit/s, it shall be interpreted as bit rate 2048 Kbit/s or higher.

NOTE: Separation of traffic (e.g. HSDPA) using this modified ITU-T Rec. Q.2630.2 [9] from other traffic is highly recommended. Otherwise the bursty nature of the HSDPA traffic in combination with the unknown traffic volume per connection for bit rates exceeding 2048 Kbit/s may decrease the QoS of all traffic within the same AAL type 2 path.

## 6.3 Transport Signalling in case of IP Transport Option

An ALCAP protocol is not required in case both UTRAN Nodes (RNC and Node B) are using the IP Transport Option.

# 7 Signalling Bearer for ALCAP on Iub Interface

## 7.1 Introduction

This subclause specifies the signalling bearer protocol stack which supports the ALCAP.

## 7.2 Signalling Bearer in ATM Transport Option

SAAL-UNI is the standard signalling bearer for the AAL Type Signalling protocol (ITU-T Rec. Q.2630.2 [9]) on Iub (ITU-T Rec. Q.2110 [4], ITU-T Rec. Q.2130 [5]). The protocol stack is shown in figure 2.



Figure 2: Transport Network Control plane protocol structure on Iub in case of ATM Transport Option

The signalling transport converter (STC) relevant for Iub is ITU-T Recommendation Q.2150.2 [6]. The AAL5 Common Part contains CPCS and SAR.

## 7.3 Signalling Bearer in IP Transport Option

An ALCAP protocol is not required in case of both UTRAN Nodes (RNC and Node B) are using the IP Transport Option.

# 8 Interworking between ATM and IP Transport Options

An RNC or Node B supporting IP transport option shall provide interworking to an RNC or Node B supporting only ATM transport option. The interworking alternatives are defined in TS 25.426 [23].

Annex A (informative):  
Change history

| **Date / TSG** | **TSG Doc.** | **CR** | **Rev** | **Subject/Comment** | **New** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12/2008 | - | - | - | Creation of Rel-8 version based on v7.2.0 | 8.0.0 |
| 12/2009 | - | - | - | Creation of Rel-9 version based on v8.0.0 | 9.0.0 |
| SP-49 | SP-100629 |  |  | Clarification on the use of References (TS 21.801 CR#0030) | 9.0.1 |
| 03/2011 |  |  |  | Creation of Rel-10 version based on v9.0.1 | 10.0.0 |
| 52 | RP-110684 | 0040 |  | Correction of References in TS 25.434 | 10.1.0 |
| 52 | RP-110685 | 0041 | 1 | Update of References in TS 25.434 | 10.1.0 |
| 09/2012 |  |  |  | Update to Rel-11 version (MCC) | 11.0.0 |
| 09/2014 |  |  |  | Update to Rel-12 version (MCC) | 12.0.0 |
| 12/2015 |  |  |  | Update to Rel-13 version (MCC) | 13.0.0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Change history** | | | | | | | |
| **Date** | **Meeting** | **TDoc** | **CR** | **Rev** | **Cat** | **Subject/Comment** | **New version** |
| 2017-03 | SA#75 |  |  |  |  | Promotion to Release 14 without technical change | 14.0.0 |
| 2018-07 | SA#80 | - | - | - | - | Promotion to Release 15 without technical change | 15.0.0 |
| 2020-07 | SA#88-e | - | - | - | - | Update to Rel-16 version (MCC) | 16.0.0 |