3GPP TSG-RAN WG2#123-bis R2-23XXXXX

Xiamen, China, 9 – 13 October, 2023

Agenda Item: x.xx.x

Source: Huawei, HiSilicon

Title: Report of [POST123][312][NES] Running CR 38.331 (Huawei)

Document for: Discussion and decision

# 1 Introduction

This document is the report of the following discussion:

* [POST123][312][NES] Running CR 38.331 (Huawei)

Scope: Review running CR and discuss issue configuration per serving cell or MAC entity

Outcome: CR to be submitted to next meeting

Deadline: long

The intention of this discussion is to provide a running RRC CR for NES and discuss the issue of cell DTX/DRX configuration per serving cell or MAC entity.

**Please provide your comments by: Friday September 22nd, 2023, 1000 UTC**

Companies providing input to this email discussion are requested to leave contact information below.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Delegate name** | **Email address** |
| Vodafone | Alexey Kulakov | Alexey.kulakov@vodafone.com |
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# 2 Discussion on the per serving cell or MAC entity configuration issue

During the RAN2#123 meeting it was discussed whether Cell DTX/DRX configuration status is per MAC entity or per Serving Cell, which has implications on the 38.331 and 38.321 specifications [3]. The main impact of these configuration options is for UEs operating in CA, which have more than one serving cell. RAN1 has already agreed that the activation/deactivation is per serving cell, which was also confirmed by RAN2.The only remaining issue is what is the granularity of the configuration.

There was a following SI phase agreement:

5 Cell DTX/DRX can be configured per serving cell and can be applicable for different cells in CA. No additional RAN2 impacts or enhancements are foreseen.

And we also have a WI phase agreement:

1. Pattern configuration for cell DRX/DTX is common for Rel-18 UEs in the cell.

In the per MAC entity option, which is similar to how C-DRX is configured, all serving cells of a UE should have the same cell DTX/DRX parameters to align with the one C-DRX configuration. In this option the activation status, which is set on a per cell basis, would need signalling which conveys also information to which of the serving cells the activation/deactivation status applies. This mode is simpler from the UE implementation perspective but has limitations in the NW configuration and it may be difficult to apply separate activation status across serving cells.

For the per serving cell option, different serving cells can have different cell DTX/DRX parameters. This brings flexibility of NW implementation but complexity of UE implementation, which would need to maintain separate cell DTX/DRX configurations for each of its serving cells in CA. In this scenario it would be easier to convey the activation status as the configuration would be per cell and each serving cell could have a different cell DTX/DRX state.

In your answer please also highlight the issues that will arise if the other option is chosen, e.g. UE complexity for per cell configuration or difficult NW configuration for per MAC entity, etc.

**Question 1:** *Do you prefer Cell DTX/DRX configuration to be per MAC entity or per Serving Cell?*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Answer** | **Comments** |
| Vodafone | Not 100% sure | I feel (a bit different from my previous opinion) that it is more important that UE has an aligned configuration across the serving cells. What would be the motivation to have a possibility to provide the UE different configurations for different serving cells? On activation aspects, please see my comments below. |
| Xiaomi |  | This issue was discussed in last RAN2 meeting and no consensus at last. We prefer per MAC entity option.   * + In RAN1 discussion, two cell can share the same bit location in DCI, i.e., the cell DRX/DTX configuration can be same/common for the two cell, e.g., cell ¾.     So, it is possible to configure cell DRX/DTX in a cell group. If it is hard to decide the cell DTX/DRX in UE side is per MAC entity or per serving cell. We can compromise to cell group-based cell DRX/DTX configuration in UE side for progress. |
| Samsung | Per cell | We prefer per cell option for flexibility and to align with agreements made based on per cell configuration and activation.  Also, considering non-collocated (inter-site) CA scenarios, it would be reasonable to have per cell configuration. |
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*[Rapporteur’s summary and proposals]*

# 3 Running RRC CR for NES

The running RRC CR for NES is provided in the discussion folder. Small comments can be added as bubble comments in the draft CR, please don’t change the CR text. If more detailed suggestions on procedures or wording changes are proposed please use the table below to highlight them for clarity of the CR tdoc.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Detailed comments** | **Rapporteur response** |
| Vodafone | As per agreement we made before, it is already captured that:  The IE *CellDTX-Config* is used to configure cell DTX related parameters. **Cell DTX is activated implicitly once configured by the network.**  Now, once L1 activation is agreed as activation procedure, we need to define how these 2 ways of activations are interworking.  According to the current stage, it seems to me that there is no room for L1 activation procedure as provided configuration is always activated once received. If we want to utilize L1 procedure, we need to have a bit in the configuration saying that it is configuration only and the activation will be triggered by L1. Following we would also need to discuss deactivation procedure. Please indicate if you agree with my statement.  Minor comment: We agreed Activation/deactivation is per serving cell. FFS if the configuration is per cell or per MAC entity, but looking into: *MAC-CellGroupConfig* The IE *MAC-CellGroupConfig* is used to configure MAC parameters for a cell group, including DRX and cell DTX/DRX.  Editor’s note: FFS whether the Cell DTX/DRX configuration and activation is per MAC entity or per serving cell. |  |
| Xiaomi | – *MAC-CellGroupConfig* The IE *MAC-CellGroupConfig* is used to configure MAC parameters for a cell group, including DRX and cell DTX/DRX.  Editor’s note: FFS whether the Cell DTX/DRX configuration and activation is per MAC entity or per serving cell.   1. RAN2 agreed that cell DTX/DRX A/D is per serving cell, FFS for cell DRX/DTX configuration. 2. RAN2 did not conclude the case for dual UE C-DRX, maybe two cell DTX/DRX are configured for FR1 and FR2 respectively. We also need a FFS for it. |  |
| Samsung | (1) Description of ‘*cellBarred* under *MIB’*   |  | | --- | | *MIB* field descriptions | | ***cellBarred***  Value *barred* means that the cell is barred, as defined in TS 38.304 [20]. This field is ignored by IAB-MT. This field is ignored for connectivity to NTN. |   - We need to specify that NES capable UE shall ignore the below barring field in MIB, similar to IAB and NTN.  Suggestion> to add ‘This field is ignored by NES capable UE, (if *cellBarredNES* is configured in SIB1)’  (2) Description of ‘*cellBarred* under *SIB1*   |  | | --- | | *SIB1* field descriptions | | ***cellBarredNES***  Value *barred* means that the cell is barred for a NES-capable UE, as defined in TS 38.304 [20]. Value *notBarred* means that the cell is allowed for NES-capable UEs. If not present, the NES-capable UEs shall follow the MIB *cellBarred* indication. This field is ignored by non-NES-capable UEs. |   - it is obvious that a non-NES-capable UE would ignore this field. Also, we would like to avoid discussing the definition of ‘non-NES-capable UE’.  Suggestion> to modify ‘This field is only applicable to NES-capable UEs’  (3) Description of ‘*jointCellDTXDRXconfig* under *CellDTX-Config*   |  | | --- | | *CellDTX-Config* field descriptions | | ***jointCellDTXDRXconfig***  If set to true, the UE shall also apply a cell DRX configuration with the same parameters as in CellDTX-Config. |   - May cause a confusion if a network configures different parameters for DTX and DRX, and also set this field true. We think it would be simpler just to have an indicator that indicates those two configurations are the same.  Suggestion> to modify as an indicator which informs that the cell DTX and DRX patterns are the same.  (4) MAC-CellGroupConfig – *MAC-CellGroupConfig* The IE *MAC-CellGroupConfig* is used to configure MAC parameters for a cell group, including DRX and cell DTX/DRX.  Editor’s note: FFS whether the Cell DTX/DRX configuration and activation is per MAC entity or per serving cell.  - Our understanding is that *cellDTX-Config* may be relocated to *ServingCellConfig*, depending on per cell vs per cell group configuration.  However, if companies have the same understanding, it’s fine for now. |  |
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# 4 Conclusion

Based on the discussion in the previous sections we propose the following:

**Proposal 1** abc

**Proposal 2** def

# 5 References

1. RP-223540, “New WID: Network energy savings for NR”, Huawei
2. 3GPP TR 38.864 V1.0.0, “Study on network energy savings for NR (Release 18)”
3. R2-2308963, “Report from Session on NES, UAV, Rel-15-17 UP, Rel-17 Small Data, IIoT/URLLC, and RACH partitioning”, Session Chair (InterDigital)