**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #113-eR2-201xxxx**

**Online, 25th Jan – 5th Feb 2021**

**Agenda item:** 8.13.4

**Source:** vivo (Rapporteur)

**Title:** Report of [Post112-e][852][NR R17 SONMDT] R17 L2M enhancement (vivo)

**Document for:** Discussion and Agreement

# 1 Introduction

This is to report the result of the following email discussion after RAN2#112-e meeting [1].

* [Post112-e][852][NR R17 SON/MDT] R17 L2M enhancement (vivo)

Scope: Based on R2-2010985, figure out the majority interest on the proposals and progress on the details if possible.

Intended outcome: Report to next meeting.

Deadline: Long

According to the chair’s guidance, this report will be based on the summary R2-2010985 [2] and try to figure out the majority interest on the proposals. The document consists of phase-1 and phase-2, the deadline of each phase is outlined as follow:

* Phase-1: collecting views on the detailed proposals, deadline: Friday Dec. 11, 2020.
* Phase-2: collecting views on summary proposals, deadline: Friday Jan. 8, 2021

# 2 Contact Information

To make it easier to find the correct contact delegate in each company for potential follow-up questions, the rapporteur encourages the delegates who provide input to provide their contact information in this table:

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| --- | --- |
| Company | Contact: Name (E-mail) |
| vivo | Kimba Dit Adamou, Boubacar (kimba@vivo.com) |
| Qualcomm | Rajeev Kumar (rkum@qti.qualcomm.com) |
| OPPO | Xue Lin (linxue@oppo.com) |
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# 3 Phase-1: collecting views on the detailed proposals

In this section, we will prioritize the issues brought up in [2] as per the degree of the agreeability of the proposals (i.e., the cat-a/cat-x proposals in [2] will be discussed with high priority, which are addressed by questions Q1-Q4 in this report), so that we may easily reach a consensus on some of the issues and make progress.

## 3.1 Received random access preamble per cell/per SSB for 2-step RACH

The paper R2-2010326 in [2] states that it is beneficial to record the number of preambles received separately for 2step RA type and 4step RA type. By this means, the network can understand the RA request for different RA type, then decide the RA resource configuration appropriately, e.g. how to divide the preamble between 2 RA type or whether to configure separate RO for 2step. As a consequence, the following proposal is made: **support counting the number of received random access preamble per cell/per SSB separately for 2step RA and 4step RA type.**

**Q1: Do you agree to** **support counting the number of received random access preamble per cell/per SSB separately for 2step RA and 4step RA type?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree | We tend to believe the separate parameters for 2-step RA are beneficial for network to pinpoint the specific issues caused by improper configuration. |
| Qualcomm | May be |  |
| OPPO | Agree | It is beneficial for network to analyse the number of users with each type and optimize the RACH configuration correspondingly. |
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**Conclusion:**

## 3.2 L2 measurements for IAB

As discussed by R2-2009435 in [2], only the number of UEs directly connected to the gNB should be counted, regardless of the number of UE that are served by the IAB-node which connects to the same gNB. Since IAB-node is considered as a network node and can provide service for downstream IAB-nodes and UEs, the rapporteur believes it would be usefull to define a new way of counting the number of active UEs in the case of IAB. Therefore the clarification in TS 38.314 for the exclusion of active UEs connected to IAB-node may be needed. Similar to the measurement for the number of active UEs discussed above, the proposal regarding inactive UEs is also agreeable, therefore we have:

* *TS38.314 clarifies that, for a gNB serving as an IAB-donor, the measurement refers to the number of active/inactive UEs connected directly to the gNB, excluding IAB Nodes (and the UEs connected as child to IAB Nodes).*

**Q2: Do you agree that TS38.314 to** **clarify for a gNB serving as an IAB-donor, the measurement refers to the number of active/inactive UEs connected directly to the gNB, excluding IAB Nodes (and the UEs connected as child to IAB Nodes)?**

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| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree |  |
| Qualcomm | May be |  |
| OPPO | Maybe |  |
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**Conclusion:**

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If the answer to Q2 is ‘**Agree**’, then RAN2 might need to discuss whether a new measurement is required for number of IAB-MTs in RRC\_CONNECTED states.

**Q3: Do you agree that RAN2 to discuss if a separate measurement for number of IAB\_MTs RRC\_Connected to serving gNB is needed?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree | A new measurement for the number of CONNECTED IAB\_MTs is useful. |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | IAB not part of Rel-17 WI, I think we should focus on rel-17 WIs. |
| OPPO | Maybe | The intention is not clear. |
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**Conclusion:**

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Further, the following two proposals regarding the inactive state of IAB-nodes are proposed:

* *RAN2 should clarify if IAB MT can be in RRC Inactive mode.*
* *RAN2 can discuss if a separate measurement for number of IAB\_MTs in Inactive\_RRC state is needed.*

As far as the rapporteur is concerned, whether IAB\_MTs can be in Inactive\_RRC state was already discussed in the IAB WI and the following was agreed that:

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| **Agreement from RAN2#110-e meeting [3]**   * R2 think no effort should be spent to standardize extensions to RRC Inactive for IAB. If RRC Inactive is supported by an IAB MT, the operation (beyond what is currently specified) is completely up to implementation. |

Therefore, the rapporteur tends to believe that there is no need to discuss the RRC\_INACTIVE state for IAB further, as a consequence, the number of inactive IAB-nodes need not to be specified in TS 38.314 accordingly.

**Q4: Do you agree that the number of inactive IAB-nodes will not be specified in TS 38.314?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree | No need to discuss the inactive state for IAB-MTs as IAB WI already made the agreement. |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | IAB not part of Rel-17 WI, I think we should focus on rel-17 WIs. |
| OPPO | Agree | Since inactive IAB-MT is not clearly defined in IAB WI |
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**Conclusion:**

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Also, R2-2009435 proposes specific solutions of how to measure the F1-U delay, considering the multi-hop network deployment in IAB scenario thus F1-U delay should be the sum of multiple delays from multiple transmission between IAB-nodes. The following solution is proposed by the paper:

* *RAN2 defines the DL/UL IAB F1-U delay as the sum of delays along the packet path.*

**Q5: Do you agree that RAN2 to define the DL/UL IAB F1-U delay as the sum of delays along the packet path?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree | The IAB topological structure is absolutely different from the traditional Uu, therefore the definitions for some measurements shall be different. |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | IAB not part of Rel-17 WI, I think we should focus on rel-17 WIs. Furthermore, this needs extra study, thus should be postponed to the next release. |
| OPPO | Agree | The F1-U delay needs to be re-defined in IAB scenario since the data would experience multiple IAB-nodes before it is routed from IAB-DU to IAB-donor CU. Agree to consider the IAB F1-U delay as a sum of the delays generated by each node |
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**Conclusion:**

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Additionally, R2-2009435 proposes that:

* *TS38.314 clarifies for Packet Loss Rate that, if there is an IAB Node served in a cell, for that cell the gNB performs each measurement separately for packets transmitted between the gNB and UE and for packets transmitted between the gNB and IAB Nodes.*

**Q6: Do you agree that TS38.314 to clarify** **for Packet Loss Rate that, if there is an IAB Node served in a cell, for that cell the gNB performs each measurement separately for packets transmitted between the gNB and UE and for packets transmitted between the gNB and IAB Nodes?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree |  |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | IAB not part of Rel-17 WI, I think we should focus on rel-17 WIs. |
| OPPO | Agree | It might be beneficial to consider the packet loss rate in between difference nodes, in which way, the OAM can optimize the configuration properly. |
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**Conclusion:**

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Lastly, R2-2009435 proposes:

* *The delay information is first collected by donor CU via F1AP / RRC signalling before being sent to OAM.*
* *Donor-CU computes the total F1-U delay for IAB architecture.*

**Q7: Do you agree that the delay information is first collected by donor-CU via F1AP / RRC signalling before being sent to OAM?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | See comments | We are not sure which node is most suitable for performing the collection, maybe this requires further discussions. |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | IAB not part of Rel-17 WI, I think we should focus on rel-17 WIs. |
| OPPO | Maybe | Further discussion is needed. |
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**Conclusion:**

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**Q8: Do you agree that the Donor-CU to compute the total F1-U delay for IAB architecture?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | See comments | We are not sure which node is most suitable for performing the calculation, maybe this requires further discussions. |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | IAB not part of Rel-17 WI, I think we should focus on rel-17 WIs. |
| OPPO | Maybe | Further discussion is needed. |
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**Conclusion:**

## 3.3 Enhancements on UE-RAN delay measurement

A more accurate measurement approach, as requested by SA2, is discussed in R2-2009435 to achieve the requirements on URLLC QoS monitoring. The paper states that the proposed C-plane based delay measurements in RAN2 (in TR37.816) can serve a generic purpose but suffer from the fact they are no real end-to-end measurements. Deviations come from the need to sum up the end-to-end delay from several independent delay measurements, e.g. for the UL the scheduling delay in the UE, the delay for transmission to the DU, the delay over F1-U and delays in the re-ordering buffer. Besides, each of these measurements may already be averaged to introduce great deviations.

The contribution proposes that the NG-RAN node can decide about what packets are used for the measurement and informs the UE (and the CU-UP, if necessary) about the concerned PDCP SNs. In result, the UE (and CU-UP) inform the gNB (or CU-CP) about the point in time when the corresponding packet passed by at the measurement point. The rapporteur believes the URLLC use case has a relatively sensitive delay-awareness and such an accurate approach may be desired to some extent. The proposals are given as below:

* *The delay measurements are obtained by measuring the total delay of single packet(s) without summing averaged delay.*
* *For the uplink/downlink delay measurement, the gNB indicates to the UE which PDCP PDU SN(s) needs to be measured.*
* *For the uplink delay measurement, the UE records the send time T1 of the indicated packet(s) and transmits it to the gNB. For the downlink delay measurement, the UE records the receive time T2 for the corresponding SN(s) and transmits it to the gNB.*

So firstly we can try to discuss whether ‘*The delay measurements are obtained by measuring the total delay of single packet(s) without summing averaged delay’* is agreeable, and then focus on the specific solutions.

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**Q9: Do you agree that the delay measurements should be obtained by measuring the total delay of single packet(s) without summing averaged delay?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | See comments | We do see the benefits of measuring the delay more accurately in the case of URLLC scenarios, but we also wonder if this discussion should be triggered by IIOT WI first and afterwards we can take the responsibility to work on this issue. |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | In our understanding, different bearers are provided for a different class of the packet, and packet within a bearer should be treated equally. Thus, in our point of view, this measurement has not much significance. As different classes of applications and services have different bearer total delay obtained using summing average delay is an appropriate metric. We do not see any use case for this. A URLLC packet will anyways be assigned a high priority bearer based on the class of services. |
| OPPO | Disagree | The usage of real-time delay measurement result has been extensively discussed back to R16 Xi’an meeting and was disagreed. In our opinion, the averaged delay measurement result could be much more useful, as it is much more stable than the one-shot delay measurement result. In addition, the signalling overhead of already specified averaged delay measurement result is much less than the real-time delay measurement result, as UE needs to send the network a series of timing stamp information for each network targeted PDCP PDU |
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**Conclusion:**

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If your answer to Q9 is ‘**Agree**’, then please further provide your comments on Q10 and Q11.

**Q10: Do you agree that ‘*For the uplink/downlink delay measurement, the gNB indicates to the UE which PDCP PDU SN(s) needs to be measured*’?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | In our understanding, different bearers are provided for a different class of the packet, and packet within a bearer should be treated equally. Thus, in our point of view, this measurement has not much significance. As different classes of applications and services have different bearer total delay obtained using summing average delay is an appropriate metric. We do not see any use case for this. A URLLC packet will anyways be assigned a high priority bearer based on the class of services. |
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**Conclusion:**

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**Q11: Do you agree that ‘*For the uplink delay measurement, the UE records the send time T1 of the indicated packet(s) and transmits it to the gNB. For the downlink delay measurement, the UE records the receive time T2 for the corresponding SN(s) and transmits it to the gNB*’?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | In our understanding, different bearers are provided for a different class of the packet, and packet within a bearer should be treated equally. Thus, in our point of view, this measurement has not much significance. As different classes of applications and services have different bearer total delay obtained using summing average delay is an appropriate metric. We do not see any use case for this. A URLLC packet will anyways be assigned a high priority bearer based on the class of services. |
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**Conclusion:**

## 3.4 L2 measurements for split bearers

Part of the topic (on M6) was already discussed in the summary of MDT enhancements R2-2010897, the discussions principally focus on the reporting of D1 measurement (merely an element of M6) and the configuration of M6, however, no agreeable proposal was made due to the controversy and complexity of the issues.

To avoid going back-and-forth on the same issues, and given that most of the papers discussing M5~M7 were submitted to the agenda item ‘Immediate MDT’ so we can hardly find the majority view based on few papers in L2, we would rather like to have some high-level discussions based on the overlapping issues brought up by the papers submitted in this agenda item and, trying to achieve a consensus on some basic principles before we have every detail of each proposal under scrutiny.

Both contributions in R2-2009021 (OPPO) and R2-2010045 (Ericsson) investigated how to make M6 applicable to split bearers, where, from the rapporteur’s understanding, that three basic issues should be solved firstly:

* **Issue 1: Whether the delay over Xn/X2 interface (Figure 1) should be taken into account in M6 for split bearers?**
* **Issue 2: Whether the total delay measurement M6 over MCG/SCG should be differentiated for split bearers with PDCP duplication?**
* **Issue 3: Whether the delay estimation coordination between MN and SN is needed for split bearers?**



**Figure 1: SN terminated MCG/split bearers and MN terminated SCG/split bearers**

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For Issue 1, rapporteur believes it is quite straight-forward to include the delay over X2/Xn interface, in addition to the legacy definition of M6 where, taking DL for an example, only D4 (DL delay in CU-UP), D3 (DL delay on F1-U), D2 (DL delay in gNB-DU) and D1 (DL delay in over-the-air interface) are comprised of.

**Q12.1: Do you agree that the delay over Xn/X2 interface should be taken into account in M6 for split bearers?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree | The delay over Xn/X2 interface is not negligible and should be considered. |
| Qualcomm | Agree | In my understanding, the D3 delay should contain the DL delay on F1-U/X2/Xn. This avoids creating a new delay measurement. |
| OPPO | Agree | The dalay over Xn/X2 interface should be defined |
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**Conclusion:**

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If the answer to Q12.1 is ‘**Agree**’, then do you think this principle is also applicable to MN terminated SCG bearers and SN terminated MCG bearers?

**Q12.2: Do you agree that the delay over Xn/X2 interface should be taken into account in M6 for MN terminated SCG bearers and SN terminated MCG bearers?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree |  |
| Qualcomm | Agree | In my understanding, the D3 delay should contain the DL delay on F1-U/X2/Xn. This avoids creating a new delay measurement. |
| OPPO | Agree | With no doubt, the delay over Xn/X2 interface should be taken into account, as the packets needs to forward between two nodes in such two scenarios. |
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**Conclusion:**

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For issue 2, rapporteur understands that companies have different views on whether D1 should be differentiated between MCG and SCG, however, issue 2 focuses on the overall value of M6 where D1 is only a part of the value. As a consequence, the answer to issue 2 might be different from the overall view.

**Q13.1: Which option do you support for the total delay measurement M6 over MCG/SCG for split bearers with PDCP duplication?**

**Option 1: the maximum value between two legs;**

**Option 2: the minimum value between two legs;**

**Option 3: no differentiation;**

**Option 4: other (please specify).**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Option 1/option 2/ Option 3 | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Option 2 | For split bearers with PDCP duplication, the same packet will be transmitted over MCG and SCG legs. In this case, the delay for this packet should be the minimum delay over MCG and SCG legs, this is more understandable from the perspective of the receiving equipment as the receiving node only needs to receive one packet (out of the pair of duplicated packets) to obtain the data transmitted. |
| Qualcomm | Option2 | In our understanding, a packet should be considered received when the packet is received through MN or SN. Thus, in the case of duplication, the minimum is an appropriate metric. |
| OPPO | Option2 | For packet duplication, when the packet arrives at a particular node in the first place, the duplicated packet forwarded in another route might be discarded and therefore is considered as meaningless. So the performance criteria is the minimum value between two legs. |
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**Conclusion:**

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Finally, in the case that PDCP duplication is disabled:

**Q13.2: Which option do you support for the total delay measurement M6 over MCG/SCG for split bearers without PDCP duplication?**

**Option 1: the maximum value between two legs;**

**Option 2: the minimum value between two legs;**

**Option 3: no differentiation;**

**Option 4: other (please specify).**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Option 1/option 2 | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Option 1 | For split bearers without PDCP duplication, different packets associated to the DRB are sent over the MCG and the SCG. In our understanding, not until the last packet of the concerned DRB is received will the UE be able to obtain the complete information of the bearer. That being said, the overall delay should be the maximum of the delay experienced (until the last packet is received). |
| Qualcomm | Option4  (Weighted Average) | In the case of packet aggregation, I think the delay should be considered using the weighted average over MN and SN. For example, let us assume the M and N number of packets are received from MN and SN, respectively. Furthermore, let us assume and are the delay of packets received over MN and SN then packet delay should be computed as the weighted average. Note that although ul-PDCP delay D1 will be the same, the difference in the delay can come from F1-U/X2/Xn delay in the split bearer. |
| OPPO | Option4 | Agree with Qualcomm |
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**Conclusion:**

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For Issue 3, according to the Figure 1, the delay elements of M6 are estimated in different nodes for split bearers, but the final result of M6 can only be calculated at either MN or SN. Consequently, rapporteur tends to agree that some coordination between MN and SN is required so that the node performs the final calculation is able to take into account the delay value measured by another node.

**Q14.1: Do you agree that the delay estimation coordination between MN and SN is needed for split bearers?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree | Otherwise the delay estimation cannot be exchanged between MN and SN. |
| Qualcomm | Agree | In our understanding, it may be required, in particular, in the scenario of packet duplication. |
| OPPO | Agree | Coordination is needed for split bearers since the performance is impacted by two nodes |
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**Conclusion:**

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If the answer to Q14.1 is ‘**Agree**’, then do you think this principle is also applicable to MN terminated SCG bearers and SN terminated MCG bearers?

**Q14.2: Do you agree that the delay estimation coordination between MN and SN is needed for MN terminated SCG bearers and SN terminated MCG bearers?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Detailed Comments |
| vivo | Agree |  |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | In our understanding, coordination between MN and SN is not required for MN terminated SCG bearer and SN terminated MCG bearer. |
| OPPO | Agree | Same principle should be applied to MN terminated SCG bearers and SN terminated MCG bearers, since both MN and SN are involved in data processing. |
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**Conclusion:**

# 4 Phase-2: collecting views on solutions proposed

**TBD**

# 5 Conclusion

**TBD**

# 6 References

[1] RAN2-112-e SONMDT Notes HuNan 2020-11-13-1400 UTC.docx

[2] R2-2010985, Summary on 8.13.4 L2 Measurements, vivo, 3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #112 electronic, November 2nd - 13th, 2020

[3] R2-2006501, Report of 3GPP TSG RAN WG2 meeting #110-e Online, MCC, 1 - 12 June, 2020