3GPP TSG RAN WG2 Meeting #116-e R2-210xxxx

**Electronic meeting, Online, November 2021**

**Agenda item:** 8.x

**Source:** Intel Corporation

**Title:** Summary of [Post115-e][605][POS] Pre-configured assistance data

**Document for:**  Discussion, Agreement

# Introduction

This document aims at collecting company views on pre-configured assistance data as per the following email discussion:

* **[Post115-e][605][POS] Pre-configured assistance data (Intel)**

Scope: Discuss signalling and validity criteria for pre-configured assistance data:

* Options for validity conditions:
  + - Option A: Based on a validity area (e.g. a list of cells)
    - Option B: Based on a (configured) validity timer or a numerical limit on number of times it is utilized
    - Option C: Based on explicit modification or release from the LMF/NG-RAN
    - Option D: Based on the UE’s current location and/or the time
* Validity in relation to the duration of the positioning session
* Need for enhancements for signalling and use of pre-configured assistance data:
  + Add/mod/release mechanism for PRS configurations
  + Dynamic triggering of a preconfigured PRS at UE by LMF or gNB for making measurements on DL-PRS
  + Dynamic triggering of a preconfigured SRS at UE by gNB for transmitting SRS based on measurement report provided by UE
  + Priority indications for multiple (pre-)configured assistance data sets corresponding to multiple position fixes
* Stage 2 impact of pre-configured assistance data

Intended outcome: Report to next meeting

Deadline: Long

# Contact Information

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| --- | --- | --- |
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# Phase 1 discussion

## Validity in relation to the duration of the positioning session

Based on the FFS from RAN2#114 meeting, there were proposals from several companies discussing the need for defining some validity criteria associated with the pre-configured assistance data in order to enable usage of the positioning assistance data for more than one consecutive positioning sessions. [6] proposes to optionally configure validity conditions for enabling usage of the positioning assistance data for more than one consecutive positioning sessions and lists several possible options. [8] and [13] proposes that the pre-configuration of assistance data is valid within a specific area and period. It is proposed in [10] that the pre-configured positioning assistance data is considered valid unless explicitly modified or released by the LMF/NG-RAN. [27] also proposes that the pre-configured assistance data can be activated based on the condition which can be specified by the UE’s current location and/or the time.

Based on the above, it would be good to get a baseline understanding of company views on when it would be useful to consider and associate validity condition for usage of pre-configured assistance data to the UE for a single positioning session. In other words, if pre-configured assistance data is configured during a positioning session and is only considered valid during that positioning session, whether we still need to consider additional validity conditions. So, companies are invited to comment on whether the validity condition(s) should be considered for usage of pre-configured assistance data across a single positioning session.

**Question1-1: Do companies think validity condition(s) need to be defined for pre-configured assistance data configured during a single positioning session?**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** | |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | No | If assistance data is considered as valid only during a single positioning session, there is no gain for the assistance data pre-onfiguration for latency reduction compared with the current solution. | |
| ZTE | No | | Firstly to our understanding, the single positioning session in the question means a single LPP session.  A single LPP session corresponds to a single location request (e.g., for a single MT-LR, MO-LR or NI-LR). Commonly there is only one of a LPP transaction for assistance data transfer in a single LPP session, so bring forward this assistance data transfer procedure will not reduce the latency. since pre-configured assistance data is not needed in a single LPP session, the validity conditions are not needed, too. |
| Ericsson | No | As such there are already mechanism where by NW can inform to UE the AD validity area, expiration time; for example, AD through posSIBs or validity area of AD for barometer pressure sensor and these can anyway be reused. We do not think there is need to have separate indication just for pre-configured AD. We should be able to reuse the AD that we have today and its characteristics also for pre-configured configuration. We need to ensure minimum stage 3 changes for this. | |
| Qualcomm | No | Similar to other comments above, it is not quite clear what pre-configured assistance data during a single positioning session really means. When the UE receives a LPP Provide Assistance Data (e.g., for GNSS, DL-TDOA, etc.) the UE assumes the assistance data are "valid". Some Assistance Data (e.g., GNSS ephemeris, etc.) may expire after some time and/or location (i.e., became "invalid"). But this is handled in each specific assistance data element anyhow and is independent on any "pre-configuration". | |

**Summary:**

**Question 1-2: If the answer to the above question is Yes, what should be UE behavior when the validity condition(s) for usage of pre-configured assistance data are no longer met?**

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| --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Comments** |
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**Summary:**

Before discussing the applicability of the pre-configured assistance data to multiple positioning sessions, it should be discussed what the relationship between pre-configured assistance data and a given positioning session is, i.e. whether the former can be configured independently of a positioning session. Companies are invited to provide input to the following questions:

**Question 2-1: Do companies think pre-configured assistance data can be configured independent of any positioning session, i.e. not necessarily configured for a specific positioning session?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Yes | If pre-configuration is found useful, it should be kept even after the positioning sessions end such that it can be reused in the next positioning session. |
| ZTE | Yes | The question is opposite to Q1-1. Please refer to our comments on Q1-1 and Q2-2 |
| Ericsson | Yes |  |
| Qualcomm |  | We think this is the case with any assistance data anyhow. E.g., a UE may want to keep its stored assistance data up-to-date and send a MO-LR for assistance data when stored assistance data expires, or may read the posSI when updated assistance data are available, etc. |

**Summary:**

Depending on whether pre-configured assistance data is configured independent of any positioning session, the next question is whether pre-configured assistance data should be considered valid for more than one positioning session. In other words, whether the pre-configured assistance data can be utilized for positioning procedures across multiple positioning sessions should be discussed.

**Question 2-2: Do companies think whether pre-configured assistance data should be considered valid for usage across multiple (consecutive) positioning sessions?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | No, but see comments | For assistance data delivered by dedicated signaling, they should not be considered as valid across sessions as legacy.  For assistance data delivered by broadcast, they should be considered as valid across positioning sessions, since they are not associated with positioning sessions. |
| ZTE | Yes | If the assistance data is pre-configured, that means multiple positioning sessions can use the pre-configured assistance data, and it saves the time of assistance data exchange/transfer procedure in these multiple positioning sessions. That is what pre-configured assistance data is aimed for. |
| Ericsson | Yes | The objective is that when UE connects to the NW for positioning in an IIOT scenario then NW should provide all the configurations that is valid for the UE in the factory premises. After that the NW may track the UE and provide delta configuration saying if any cells/TRPs that need to be prioritized or prohibited.  When the UE is within the factory premises, it should always be able to (re)use the provided AD from previous sessions. |
| Qualcomm |  | Similar to our comment for Question 2-1, we think there is no difference compared to today. |

**Summary:**

If the answer to the above question is no, then we may not need to consider definition of validity conditions for pre-configured assistance data across multiple sessions since it can be implicitly assumed that previously pre-configured assistance data is no longer valid for a new positioning session. However, if the answer to the above question is yes, the same principle as in Question 1-1 needs to be established for multiple positioning sessions as well, so company views are invited for that case.

**Question 2-3: If the answer to question 2-2 is yes, do companies agree that validity condition(s) need to be defined for usage of pre-configured assistance data across multiple (consecutive) positioning sessions?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| ZTE | Yes | If pre-configured assistance data can be used across multiple LPP sessions, the validity conditions of pre-configured assistance data should also be the same, i.e., available across multiple LPP sessions. |
| Ericsson |  | For factory premises where NW may be tracking UE; it should be able to provide some delta signaling to prioritize certain TRPs or to prohibit measurements from certain cells/TRPs. |
| Qualcomm |  | If individual assistance data have a limited validity, this is handled either explicitly or implicitly in each individual assistance data element (GNSS ephemeris is a typical example which expires after some time; DL-TDOA TRP list can only be used/valid when the UE is in the "coverage area" of the TRP list, etc.). |
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**Summary:**

**Question 2-4: If the answer to the above question is Yes, what should be UE behavior when the validity condition(s) for usage of pre-configured assistance data are no longer met?**

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| --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Comments** |
| ZTE | We don’t think there should be an issue on the dissatisfaction about validity conditions needed to be solved. Explicitly activate or release the pre-configured assistance data from the LMF/NG-RAN is enough. |
| Qualcomm | We can't see any difference compared to what is available/done today. When assistance data expires, they will not be used by the UE anymore. E.g., a UE is not using an ephemeris from an old week, or use a TRP neighbour list received in one part of a network when the UE is at a completely different location or different network from where the assistance data have originally been received, etc. |
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**Summary:**

## Validity conditions for pre-configured assistance data

Regarding the specific validity conditions to be defined, it was captured in the last meeting minutes to consider at least the following options:

 Option A: Based on a validity area (e.g. a list of cells)

 Option B: Based on a (configured) validity timer or a numerical limit on number of times it is utilized

 Option C: Based on explicit modification or release from the LMF/NG-RAN

 Option D: Based on the UE’s current location and/or the time

Companies are invited to comment on whether they support one or more of the validity conditions individually captured above.

**Question 3-1: Regarding the validity conditions/criteria associated with pre-configured assistance data, do companies think validity condition based on a specified area (e.g. a list of cells where the pre-configured assistance data is considered valid) should be supported?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | No | We think it is important that we first establish common understanding that the network and the UE should be synchronized on their understanding of the UE’s usage of assistance data. However, the current spec seems to lack such clarifications, e.g., the UE can keep the configuration that is receives long time ago, and what’s the relationship between the assistance data delivered by dedicated signaling and those delivered by broadcast. |
| ZTE | No | 1. The validity condition is quite difficult for a LMF to configure accurately. For example, what criteria should a LMF to take for determining a list of cells or a validity timer? How can LMF ensure the configured list of cells or a timer is actually valid for using assistance data? 2. The validity condition lacks the scheduling flexibility. 3. If a list of cells or validity timer is configured, an issue about dissatisfaction of validity conditions should also be solved, which leads to large spec impact. |
| Ericsson | Yes, to some extent | There may be some ambiguity with regards to where broadcast-based configuration may be valid. As broadcast based signaling is common for all UEs; it may not be applicable for example in certain (border) area of factory (UEs moving from outside to inside of factory premises may still perform positioning using cells/TRPs of outside factory coverage; for example, macro cells). This may not be desirable, and it is preferred if UE uses the DL-PRS configuration from factory premises. Hence, as what part of broadcast AD is applicable for the UE or not applicable in certain geographical area needs to be communicated to UE. |
| Qualcomm |  | In our understanding, this is the case anyhow and depends on the type of assistance data. E.g., GNSS Acquisition Assistance is valid at the current location and time, since visible SVs are different at a different location and time. The same is the case for e.g., DL-TDOA assistance data, which depends on the cells/TRPs around the current UE location (and will depend on time with on-demand PRS). We can't see anything specific/new here for "pre-configured assistance data". |

**Summary:**

**Question 3-2: Regarding the validity conditions/criteria associated with pre-configured assistance data, do companies think validity condition based on a configured validity timer should be supported?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | No |  |
| ZTE | No | Similar comments as Q3-1 |
| Ericsson | No |  |
| Qualcomm | No | Validity time is implicit for many of the assistance data elements today anyhow (where needed). GNSS ephemeris is an example. |

**Summary:**

**Question 3-3: Regarding the validity conditions/criteria associated with pre-configured assistance data, do companies think validity condition based on an upper limit on the number of times the UE utilizes the assistance data for positioning should be supported?**

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| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | No |  |
| ZTE | No | Similar comments as Q3-1 |
| Ericsson | No |  |
| Qualcomm | No |  |

**Summary:**

**Question 3-4: Regarding the validity conditions/criteria associated with pre-configured assistance data, do companies think whether the UE continuing to use assistance data for positioning until explicit modification/release by LMF/NG-RAN should be supported?**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Yes | We think this can be enabled by release/add/modification mechanism |
| ZTE | Yes | This method brings the largest flexibility to the network |
| Ericsson | Yes | We think below option is the best:  *Based on explicit modification or release from the LMF/NG-RAN* |
| Qualcomm | No | The need/benefit/use case for this is not quite clear. E.g., will a LMF have to keep track of assistance data stored in the UE, the UE location, time, etc. and notify the UE when the assistance data should be "released"? Would this information be exchanged between LMFs in a network? |

**Summary:**

**Question 3-5: Regarding the validity conditions/criteria associated with pre-configured assistance data, do companies think validity condition based on UE’s current position/location should be supported?**

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| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | No |  |
| ZTE |  | Firstly, this option is not a parallel option compared to option A, B and C. It should be assumed as an additional conditions of option A and B.  Although we are not supportive of option A and B, it still make sense that the option A and B should be based on the UE’s current location. |
| Ericsson | No |  |
| Qualcomm |  | Most assistance data are location and time dependent implicitly. |

**Summary:**

In addition to the above options captured in the meeting minutes, companies are invited to propose if they have some other validity condition in mind to consider. Companies are suggested to add helpful details for the proposed options to make sure the proposed solution is clearly understood.

**Question 3-5: Do companies think some other validity condition(s) than those discussed in Questions 3-1 to 3-5 should be supported? If so, please provide details of how it would work.**

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| **Company** | **Comments** |
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**Summary:**

## Need for enhancements for signalling and use of pre-configured assistance data

Several enhancements related to signaling and use of pre-configured assistance data were proposed by companies during the last meeting. As per the meeting minutes, the following enhancements were identified for further discussion:

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| --- |
| * Add/mod/release mechanism for PRS configurations and complete definition of priority of PRS configuration for measurement, including the PRS configuration received by dedicated LPP signalling and posSIB [7] * Dynamic triggering of a preconfigured PRS at UE by LMF or gNB for making measurements on DL-PRS [13] * Dynamic triggering of a preconfigured SRS at UE by gNB for transmitting SRS based on measurement report provided by UE [13] * Priority indications for multiple (pre-)configured assistance data sets corresponding to multiple position fixes [15] |

Given the fact that the above options are based on individual company proposals and there has not been an opportunity to collect views form other companies on the need and feasibility of supporting these enhancements, rapporteur thinks it would be good to collect company views and comments in Phase 1 discussion. Based on the outcome, we can then discuss further details as needed in Phase 2.

**Question 4-1: Which of the following proposed enhancements need to be pursued in Rel-17 NR positioning discussion? (Select all that apply)**

1. **The introduction of an Add/mod/release mechanism for PRS configurations**  **and a complete definition of priority of PRS configuration for measurement**
2. **Dynamic triggering of a preconfigured PRS at UE by LMF or gNB for making measurements on DL-PRS**
3. **Dynamic triggering of a preconfigured SRS at UE by gNB for transmitting SRS based on measurement report provided by UE**
4. **Priority indications for multiple (pre-)configured assistance data sets corresponding to multiple position fixes**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Options** | **Comments/Reason** |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | 1 | We think that 1 can be the baseline solution for R17 latency reduction. With this mechanism, the network can synchronize its record of the UE’s AD with the UE.  The current issue with priority of PRS configuration is that (a) priority is not defined between different frequency layers (b) priorities handling between AD received by dedicated signaling and broadcast are not defined. After these problems are resolved, we may think about other optimizations, such as solution 4 for dynamically varying the priorities between different configurations. |
| ZTE | Option 2 | Option 2 is almost the same as option C in section 3-2, which brings the largest flexibility to the network |
| Ericsson | 1 | We should try to have the solution simple. From NW perspective, if NW provides a new AD; UE should release previous AD and use new one. Further provision of delta signaling/configuration should be provided. For example; NW provides all the configuration to the UE and UE stores that then on later stage NW based upon UE tracking should be able to prioritize certain TRPs (for example while computing z-component).  Agree with Huawei on prioritization between broadcast and dedicated signaling discussion is needed. Our understanding is that as broadcast based signaling is common for all UEs; and dedicated signaling should be able to always override the broadcast AD. Further broadcast AD may not be applicable to for example in certain border area of factory (UEs moving from outside to inside of factory premises may still perform positioning using coverage of outside factory coverage; for example, macro cells). Hence, as what part of broadcast AD is applicable for the UE or not applicable in certain geographical area needs to be communicated to UE. |
| Qualcomm | None. | The use case/benefit of all this is not quite clear. |

**Summary:**

## Other issues

Companies are invited to comment whether there are any other open issues with respect to pre-configuration of assistance data that need to be discussed.

**Question 5-1: Do companies think there are any other critical issues to be addressed regarding pre-configured assistance data?**

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| --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Comments** |
| Ericsson | Keep the solution simple as possible and reuse existing framework. |
| Qualcomm | A precise definition of what "pre-configured assistance data" means and how it is different compared to today would be helpful. For example, are posSIBs or MO-LR considered as "pre-configured assistance data", etc.? |
|  |  |

**Summary:**

# Phase 2 discussion

# References

1. R2-2107090 Discussion on positioning latency reduction ZTE discussion
2. R2-2107091 Discussion on scheduled location time ZTE discussion
3. R2-2107132 Discussion on Response LS on Scheduling Location in Advance to reduce Latency from SA2 CATT discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
4. R2-2107134 Discussion on Enhancements for Latency Reduction CATT discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
5. R2-2107135 Discussion on storage of UE Positioning Capabilities LS from SA2 and the granularity of response time LS from RAN1 CATT discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
6. R2-2107399 Further consideration of positioning latency enhancements OPPO discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
7. R2-2107500 Discussion on positioning latency Huawei, HiSilicon discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
8. R2-2107641 Discussion on latency enhancement vivo discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
9. R2-2107642 Discussion on Scheduling Location in Advance to reduce Latency vivo discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
10. R2-2107670 Scheduled location time based latency reduction Intel Corporation discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh
11. R2-2107673 Storing UE positioning capability in AMF Intel Corporation discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh
12. R2-2107680 Summary of agenda 8.11.2 Latency enhancements Intel Corporation discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh Late
13. R2-2107681 Discussion on Enhancements for Latency Reduction InterDigital, Inc. discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh
14. R2-2107962 Discussion on the response time Samsung discussion Rel-17
15. R2-2108127 Positioning Latency Reduction Enhancements Lenovo, Motorola Mobility discussion Rel-17
16. R2-2108175 Positioning enhancements on latency reduction Xiaomi discussion
17. R2-2108367 Scheduling Location in Advance to Reduce Latency Qualcomm Incorporated discussion
18. R2-2108376 [draft] Response LS on Scheduling Location in Advance to reduce Latency Qualcomm Incorporated LS out Rel-17 FS\_NR\_pos\_enh To:SA2 Cc:RAN1, RAN3
19. R2-2108377 LPP impacts for UE positioning capability storage Qualcomm Incorporated discussion
20. R2-2108378 [draft] Response LS on storage of UE Positioning Capabilities Qualcomm Incorporated LS out Rel-17 To:SA2 Cc:RAN3
21. R2-2108393 Utilizing Time T and other associated parameters Ericsson discussion
22. R2-2108397 On UE Positioning Capabilities Ericsson discussion
23. R2-2108536 Discussion on latency reduction for positioning CMCC discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
24. R2-2108704 Enhancement to reduce latency for high volume positioning Nokia, Nokia Shanghai Bell discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core
25. R2-2108769 Handling of multiple QoS for latency reduction Samsung Electronics discussion NR\_pos\_enh-Core
26. R2-2108771 Latency reduction via configured grant for positioning Samsung Electronics discussion NR\_pos\_enh-Core
27. R2-2108773 Discussion on the scheduled location time Samsung Electronics discussion NR\_pos\_enh-Core
28. R2-2106918 Reply LS to SA2 on Scheduling Location in Advance (R1-2106312; contact: Qualcomm) RAN1 LS in Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh To:SA2 Cc:RAN2, RAN3
29. R2-2107133 Draft Response LS to SA2 on the scheduled location time CATT LS out Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh-Core To:SA2 Cc:RAN1, RAN3
30. R2-2106919 LS on granularity of response time (R1-2106316; contact: Huawei) RAN1 LS in Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh To:RAN2
31. R2-2106971 LS on storage of UE Positioning Capabilities (S2-2105153; contact: Qualcomm) SA2 LS in Rel-17 5G\_eLCS\_ph2 To:RAN2 Cc:RAN3
32. R2-2107680 Summary of agenda 8.11.2 Latency enhancements Intel Corporation discussion Rel-17 NR\_pos\_enh