3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 #116e R2-21xxxxx

Electronic Meeting, 1 – 12 November 2021

Agenda Item: 8.2.2.1

Source: Samsung

Title: [AT116-e][221][R17 DCCA] UP issues for SCG deactivation (Samsung)

WID/SID: LTE\_NR\_DC\_enh2-Core

Release: Rel-17

Document for: Discussion and Decision

# 1 Introduction

This document is to handle the following email discussion:

* [AT116-e][221][R17 DCCA] UP issues for SCG deactivation (Samsung)

Scope:

* + - Discuss remaining UP issues for SCG (de)activation based on [R2-2109942](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/TSG_RAN/WG2_RL2/TSGR2_116-e/Docs/R2-2109942.zip). Discuss also whether we need to do MAC reset at SCG deactivation.

Intended outcome:

* + - Discussion summary in [R2-2111314](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/TSG_RAN/WG2_RL2/TSGR2_116-e/Docs/R2-2111314.zip) (by email rapporteur).

Deadline for providing comments, for rapporteur inputs, conclusions and CR finalization:

* + - Initial deadline (for company feedback): 2nd week Mon, UTC 0900
		- Initial deadline (for rapporteur summary): 2nd week Mon, UTC 1300

The following documents are to be treated in this email discussion:

## 8.2.2.1 Deactivation of SCG

**Web Conf (1st week Tuesday) (2)**

*UP details of SCG deactivation:*

[R2-2110870](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/TSG_RAN/WG2_RL2/TSGR2_116-e/Docs/R2-2110870.zip) UP handling while SCG is deactivated Huawei, HiSilicon discussion LTE\_NR\_DC\_enh2-Core

**FFS if we need to reset MAC at SCG deactivation. Discuss further offline [221] (Samsung)**

[R2-2109942](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/TSG_RAN/WG2_RL2/TSGR2_116-e/Docs/R2-2109942.zip) UP issues for SCG deactivation Samsung discussion Rel-17 LTE\_NR\_DC\_enh2-Core

**Discuss in offline [221] (Samsung) how to handle these.**

2 Contact Information

The rapporteur encourages the delegates who provide input to provide their contact information in the below table:

|  |  |
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# 3 Discussion

## 3.1 R2-2110870: MAC reset for SCG activation/deactivation

 In 38.321, UE behaviors for MAC reset are specified as shown below.

----------------------------------------------------------- 38.321 -------------------------------------------------------------------------

5.12 MAC Reset

If a reset of the MAC entity is requested by upper layers, the MAC entity shall:

1> initialize *Bj* for each logical channel to zero;

1> initialize *SBj* for each logical channel to zero if Sidelink resource allocation mode 1 is configured by RRC;

1> stop (if running) all timers;

1> consider all *timeAlignmentTimer*s as expired and perform the corresponding actions in clause 5.2;

1> set the NDIs for all uplink HARQ processes to the value 0;

1> sets the NDIs for all HARQ process IDs to the value 0 for monitoring PDCCH in Sidelink resource allocation mode 1;

1> stop, if any, ongoing Random Access procedure;

1> discard explicitly signalled contention-free Random Access Resources for 4-step RA type and 2-step RA type, if any;

1> flush Msg3 buffer;

1> flush MSGA buffer;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Scheduling Request procedure;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Buffer Status Reporting procedure;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Power Headroom Reporting procedure;

1> cancel, if any, triggered consistent LBT failure;

1> cancel, if any, triggered BFR;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Sidelink Buffer Status Reporting procedure;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Pre-emptive Buffer Status Reporting procedure;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Recommended bit rate query procedure;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Configured uplink grant confirmation;

1> cancel, if any, triggered configured sidelink grant confirmation;

1> cancel, if any, triggered Desired Guard Symbol query;

1> flush the soft buffers for all DL HARQ processes;

1> for each DL HARQ process, consider the next received transmission for a TB as the very first transmission;

1> release, if any, Temporary C-RNTI;

1> reset all *BFI\_COUNTER*s;

1> reset all *LBT\_COUNTERs*.

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*Rapporteur’s comment: If we do not reset MAC at SCG activation or deactivation, it can cause several error cases, e.g. soft combining problem for DL HARQ buffers after SCG activation due to not-flushed one. Before going to the details, it would be better to discuss how to handle MAC reset for SCG activation/deactivation.*

In the last meeting, RAN2 agreed to the following one, which conflicts with one action of legacy MAC reset:

* 1: The TAT associated with the PSCell continues running when the SCG is switched from activated to deactivated state and the UE considers the TA as valid as long as it is still running.

Hence, it seems difficult to keep TAT associated with PTAG running together with the legacy MAC reset at SCG deactivation.

Based on this, Rapporteur think that several options could be on the table:

* **Option 1**: Define a new UE behavior and trigger it upon SCG deactivation (like partial MAC reset in LTE)
	+ In this option, the new UE behavior can include necessary actions (FFS) from the legacy MAC reset and the action keeping TAT associated with PTAG running, which can be triggered upon SCG deactivation.
* **Option 2**: Reset MAC upon SCG activation
	+ In this option, we can follow the same principle as initiation of RRC Re-establishment, i.e. reset MAC upon SCG activation. We can keep TAT associated with PTAG running upon SCG deactivation.
* **Option 3**: No need for MAC reset upon SCG activation/deactivation
	+ Rapporteur doesn’t think that this option would work without any problem. Please correct me if I am wrong.
* **Option 4**: Any other suggestion?

**Q1. Which option do you prefer if you agree that UE should do any actions related to MAC reset for SCG activation/deactivation? or do you have any other suggestion?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Preferred option | Comments |
| OPPO | Option 4 | During SCG deactivation, the UE behavior looks like SCG failure. UE just suspend SCG transmission. So the MAC should be reset.If MAC reset, the legacy behavior is to stop all MAC timer including TAT timer.So I think we should not change legacy behavior of MAC reset.We can choose to stop TAT timer instead and reconsider the agreements we made before, e.g. always RACH after SCG activation. |
| Nokia | No strong view – option 1 or 2 – option 2 seems simpler as no need to discuss Q2 | We would need to define UE behaviour to do basically everything as is done in MAC reset apart from TAT stopping. We could define “if” structure in 5.12 of MAC spec so that if “new MAC reset” is requested by upper layers then UE will not consider *timeAlignmentTimer* as expired.  |
| Ericsson | Option 1 + “*partial MAC reset” on SCG activation* | Option 2 does not work, due to race conditions. One example is that there may be an ongoing Buffer Status Reporting procedure. It would be “messy” to capture in the MAC spec so that it does not lead to a random access while the SCG is de-activated, assuming UE-initiated SCG activation via random access on SCG would not be supported. There are some additional UE actions on the MAC level that are useful to trigger upon SCG activation. See the detailed answer to Q2 below.With that said, the current MAC running CR models the SCG de-activation as just another instance of SCell de-activation, which is not appropriate when considering that the UE actions at SCG activation/deactivation are more MAC entity related. It is therefore cleaner to list the specific MAC actions at SCG activation and deactivation in the new chapter of the MAC running CR. |
| Apple | A variation of Option -1 | To use, what Ericsson mention seems to be in the right direction. But we need to carefully review this. Perhaps a better option is to have a long email disc on this to carefully select the best option. Our aim is to not alter the PDCP, but rather keep it minimal in MAC for the deactivation.  |
| LG | Option 1 |  |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Option 1 | Option 1 can be a start point. Agree with Apple, companies may need to check carefully. Maybe better to discuss next meeting based on contributions. |
| Futurewei | Option 1 | Option 1 is safe and cleaner although a bit more specification work is required. |
| Qualcomm | Option 2 for SCG deactivation, please see comments | We think resetting SCG MAC upon SCG deactivation seems okay.Of course, TAT associated with the PTAG should be kept running upon SCG deactivation. For the UE actions performed upon MAC reset as defined in 38.321, these fall into the following classes:- actions that seem reasonable that the UE should perform upon deactivation, e.g., “set the NDIs for all uplink HARQ processes to the value 0”,- actions that are not directly relevant to the current discussion, e.g., “initialize SBj for each logical channel to zero if Sidelink resource allocation mode 1 is configured by RRC”, - actions that the UE should not perform upon deactivation – “consider all timeAlignmentTimers as expired and perform the corresponding actions in clause 5.2”.Of concern is the clause – “stop (if running) all timers” – that applies to all MAC timers. For timers associated with the RACH procedure, it seems to us that there should not be any pending RACH procedure upon entering SCG deactivated. The clause is therefore not relevant. Similar comments apply for the BFD/BFR, SR, BSR, and PHR procedures.For timers associated with configured grants, they should be stopped since the UE cannot make use of configured grants on the SCG. The DRX related timers are not relevant in SCG deactivated, hence they should be stopped. Similarly, for SCell deactivation and BWP inactivity and data inactivity timers. Based on the above analysis, we think that the clause “stop (if running) all timers” applies also. For UE SCG MAC entity actions upon SCG activation like MAC reset or something else, we can leave it as FFS for now. |
| Samsung | Option 2 or Option 1 | Option 2 would be the simplest solution. We assume that the network would ensure no DL/UL data before SCG deactivation. Therefore, if DL/UL data happens after SCG deactivation, SCG can be activated together with MAC reset. However, we are fine with Option 1 as well, even if it may require much more specification works |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Option 1 or option 2 |  |
| Fujitsu | Option 1 |  |
| NEC | Option 1 | but firstly good to make this as working assumption, then RAN2 can clarify what to do. Depending on the expected complexity, can decide finally. |
| ZTE | Option 1 or Option 2 with exception on TAT | We don’t see much difference for option 1 and option 2 with some exception in case the MAC reset is triggered by SCG deactivation (e.g. we can have a branch in MAC reset section that if the MAC reset is not triggered by SCG activation, then ....). |
| Intel | Option 1 or option 2 |  |
| Sharp | Option 2 or Option 1 | We share the same view as Nokia and Samsung. |
| Spreadtrum | Option 1 or option 2 |  |
| DOCOMO | Option 1 |  |
| vivo | Option 1 or option 2 |  |
| CMCC | Option 1 or 2 | Further discussions may be needed. |
| China Telecom | Option 1 or Option 2 |  |
| CATT | Option 2 | We think option 2 is the simplest solution. It will keep TAT running when the SCG is deactivated as we have agreed in RAN2#115e meeting, and perform MAC reset when the SCG is activated. However, we need to further discuss whether there are some critical issues if the MAC is not reset when SCG is deactivated. |

**Summary**: 21 companies provided their preferences and some companies shared multiple preferences. 18 companies are fine with Option 1 while 12 companies are OK with Option 2. One company preferred Option 4. Rapporteur assumes we cannot specify the details of Option 1 (i.e. partial MAC reset) in this meeting but we can refer to the response regarding Q2 for next discussion and thus put FFS for the details.

**Proposal 1. Upon SCG deactivation, instruct the SCG MAC entity to perform partial MAC reset (FFS for the details).**

**Q2. If you prefer Option 1, which actions are UE required to do at SCG deactivation? Please describe the reason why which action should be performed.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Company | Comments |
| Ericsson | 1. Some UE actions in “MAC reset section” are useful to have at SCG deactivation, e.g., those that may not be aware by the network and can happen due to race conditions when the network de-activates the SCG. 1> stop, if any, ongoing Random Access procedure;1> flush Msg3 buffer;1> flush MSGA buffer;1> cancel, if any, triggered Scheduling Request procedure;1> cancel, if any, triggered Buffer Status Reporting procedure;2. Some UE actions in “MAC reset section” are not needed, e.g., consider TAT associated with PTAG expired, discard explicitly signalled contention-free Random Access Resources for 4-step RA type and 2-step RA type, if any3. Some UE actions are needed at SCG activation. For example, the phr-PeriodicTimer should be re-started, and this is to follow the legacy behavior, see below: 1> if it is the first UL resource allocated for a new transmission since the last MAC reset:2> start phr-PeriodicTimer.Another example is the Bj, it seems strange to reset it at deactivation, since it would keep increasing even when SCG is deactivated or might be more reasonable to initialize it at SCG activation.The above are just examples on why such a baseline model is needed, and we are open to hear more views and discuss details. Lastly, we need to discuss other relevant actions, for example, how about the configured grant/configured downlink assignments in the PSCell? In the MAC running CR, they are cleared, but these are not discussed/agreed. |
| Apple | Pls see our comments to Q1. |
| LG | Only TAT for PTAG should be maintained.  |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | TAT shall keep running. What E/// list looks reasonable. Maybe better to discuss next meeting based on contributions.  |
| Futurewei | TAT should definitely not be reset. Some points raised by Ericsson sounds reasonable, and can be further discussed. |
| Fujitsu | If we focus on partial MAC reset, only TAT should be kept. |
| NEC | Basically what the UE should do is to maintain the configuration in order to keep the TAT associated with PTAG running. Actions upon MAC reset in the current spec can be applied, except for handling of PTAG TAT.Regarding the action related to PTAG TAT in 5.2, yellow parts should be done. Green parts can be done for STAG TAT.1> when a *timeAlignmentTimer* expires:2> if the *timeAlignmentTimer* is associated with the PTAG:3> flush all HARQ buffers for all Serving Cells;3> notify RRC to release PUCCH for all Serving Cells, if configured;3> notify RRC to release SRS for all Serving Cells, if configured;3> clear any configured downlink assignments and configured uplink grants;3> clear any PUSCH resource for semi-persistent CSI reporting;3> consider all running *timeAlignmentTimer*s as expired;3> maintain NTA (defined in TS 38.211 [8]) of all TAGs. |
| ZTE | TAT should be kept. |
| DOCOMO | We don’t see necessity other than keeping TAT associated with PTAG running, but we are open to discuss details. |
| vivo | Keep TAT running. |
| CMCC | The difference is that the TAT is maintained. Further discussions may be needed. |
| China Telecom | TAT should be kept. |

## 3.2 R2-2109942: UP issues for SCG deactivation

### 3.2.1 How to specify TAT timer related behaviour upon SCG deactivation

In the last meeting, RAN2 agreed to keep TAT associated with the PTAG running when SCG is switched from activated state to deactivated state. However, we need to note that there can be several TAT timers, e.g. TAT timers associated with PTAG and STAG. There seems no reason to keep TAT timer associated with STAG running upon SCG deactivation, if configured and running. Therefore, the intention would be to keep TAT timer associated with PTAG running and consider TAT timer associated with STAG as expired.

**Q3. Do you agree to the wording “Upon SCG deactivation, except for timeAlignmentTimer associated with PTAG, if configured, consider all timeAlignmentTimers as expired.”? Please share your views on this.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Comments |
| OPPO | Agree  | OPPO once had the same proposal in paper. All SCells will be deactivated state during SCG state. So the STAG timer should stop. |
| Nokia | Disagree | How would this differ from deactivating SCell with UL associated with STAG? If we have issue with that then it is not related to this WI but generally for SCell with UL as anyway all the SCells of deactivated SCG are deactivated. |
| Ericsson | Disagree | Since we keep the TAT associated with PTAG, we don’t see motivations to stop the TAT associated with STAG. Upon the expiry of the TAT associated with the STAG, the PUCCH/SRS resources are released, see below2> else if the *timeAlignmentTimer* is associated with an STAG, then for all Serving Cells belonging to this TAG:3> flush all HARQ buffers;3> notify RRC to release PUCCH, if configured;3> notify RRC to release SRS, if configured;3> clear any configured downlink assignments and configured uplink grants;3> clear any PUSCH resource for semi-persistent CSI reporting;3> maintain NTA (defined in TS 38.211 [8]) of this TAG.Upon SCG activation, if the TAT associated with STAG is expired/stopped, the UE has to perform random access on SCells belonging to STAG. While if the TAT associated with STAG is kept running, then the UE can send the scheduling request on the SCell. As far as I understand, in legacy, even if all SCells belonging to STAG are de-activated, the TAT for STAG is not considered as expired, and so good to keep this.  |
| Apple | Disagree | Same view as Nokia, we do not do this for SCell with UL in STAG. |
| LG | Agree | TAT for STAG is not needed at SCG deactivation. |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Disagree |  |
| Futurewei | Disagree | Similar view as Nokia and Ericsson. |
| Qualcomm | Disagree | Same view as Nokia and Ericsson. |
| Samsung | Agree | No reason to keep TAT associated with STAG running. |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Agree |  |
| Fujitsu | Disagree | Agree with Nokia. |
| NEC | Agree | just to clarify, maybe good to say:“Upon SCG deactivation, except for timeAlignmentTimer associated with PTAG, consider all other timeAlignmentTimers as expired, if configured.” |
| ZTE | Disagree | Same view as Nokia and Ericsson. |
| Intel | Agree |  |
| Sharp | Disagree | We share the same view as Nokia. |
| Spreadtrum | Disagree | Similar view as Nokia and Ericsson. |
| DOCOMO | Agree | In the last meeting, we proposed to enable the network to, if configured, consider TAT (both PTAG and STAG) as expired upon SCG deactivation, because TAT expiry forces to release UL resources unused during SCG deactivated state, which helps the SCG (both PSCell and SCell) managing resources. Even though those of PTAG is kept running based on the agreement in the last meeting, we understand an attempt to STAG is still beneficial. |
| vivo | Disagree | Similar view as Nokia and Ericsson. |
| CMCC | Disagree | Share the same view with Nokia. |
| China Telecom | Disagree | Same view as Nokia and Ericsson. |
| CATT | Disagree | Upon SCG deactivation, the SCG SCells will be deactivated state, and the UE should behave the same as the SCells in deactivated state described in current specification. |

**Summary**: 7 out of 21 companies agreed to stop TAT associated with STAG while 14 companies disagreed to it. In the last meeting, RAN2 already agreed to keep TAT associated with the PTAG running when SCG is switched from activated state to deactivated state. Therefore, Rapporteur suggest the following proposal based on this discussion.

**Proposal 2. Upon SCG deactivation, UE keeps all *timeAlignmentTimers* (e.g. associated with the PTAG and STAG) running, if configured.**

### 3.2.2 UM DRB handling for deactivated SCG

In the last meeting, RAN2 discussed bearer handling for deactivated SCG and finally made small progress:

* 5. The security key update is up to network implementation upon SCG activation from deactivation.
* PDCP entity is not suspended at SCG deactivation for at least AM DRB. FFS for Stage-3 details
* UL data processing is not prohibited during SCG deactivation for at least AM DRB. FFS for Stage-3 details
* UL data transmission to SCG is prohibited during SCG deactivation. FFS for Stage-3 details
* UE-initiated activation is still FFS.

*Rapporteur’s comments: Rapporteur would like to emphasize that we cannot reuse the legacy PDCP suspend procedure as it is for SCG deactivation since it was designed only for RRC INACTIVE state. That’s why there are several cases to just suspend DRBs without triggering PDCP suspend procedure in 38.331, i.e. “suspend a DRB” does not imply “suspend PDCP entity of that DRB”. Rapporteur suggests to focus on UM DRB handling because it would be easy to handle AM DRB and possibly split bearer after having consensus on UM DRB.*

Regarding UM DRBs, we have two issues as follows:

* **Issue 1**: Data loss can happen inside UE even before transmission
	+ Data loss can happen inside UE even before transmission if UM DRB is not suspended (i.e. UL data processing is not prohibited during SCG deactivation). In NR, UE implementation can do uplink data processing before/after the reception of uplink grant. For deactivated SCG, UM DRB can process uplink data if not suspended. If the security key is updated at SCG activation, then PDCP/RLC re-establishment will flush all the processed data, which causes data loss inside UE since there is no re-generation procedure for UM DRB according to legacy PDCP re-establishment.
* **Issue 2**: The reordering delay can happen for UM DRB.
	+ The reordering delay in the receiving PDCP entity can happen for UM DRB. For example, upon SCG deactivation, the out-of-order PDUs cannot be immediately delivered to upper layer before the expiry of t-reordering timer, which causes unnecessary delay. The reasonable network implementation would not perform HARQ retransmission after sending SCG deactivation indication, i.e. no need to wait for outstanding PDUs.

**Q4. Do you agree to Issue 1? Please share your views on this.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Comments |
| OPPO | Agree with comments | I assume that the SCG is deactivated when there is no data transmission and reception in SCG side. If there is data arrival, the SCG activation will be triggered. Even if the data is processed, it will be transmitted latter. |
| Nokia | Agree with comments | But this does not seem any different from key change to any UM bearer.On the other hand, if the UM bearer is a split one, suspending PDCP would also prevent use of MCG transmissions. |
| Ericsson | Disagree | This is not an issue that we should solve in the standard. This issue is not unique to SCG de-activation and can happen, for example, during handover or when the network changes the security key. Possible pre-processing of UL data for the deactivated SCG is left for UE implementation, as long as pre-processed data is not lost.  |
| Apple | Disagree | Similar views as Ericsson, this UM case is not specific to SCG deactivation.  |
| LG | Disagree | For UM DRBs, the packet loss is not a big issue because the data for the service requiring low reliability is transmitted via UM DRBs. Considering that, we do not see the reason to suspend UM DRBs.  |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Agree with comments | It seems existing issue in case of key change |
| Futurewei | Disagree | We share the similar view as Ericsson and LGE. It is not an issue specifically related to deactivation of SCG. In UM, some data loss is expected and tolerable. It is not an issue. |
| Qualcomm | Agree, but some data loss is acceptable for UM DRBs | We discuss for the following two cases.1. UM SCG DRB, which uses SCG resources only.In this case, since SCG is deactivated, there should be insignificant data left to transmit or receive. Hence, there should be very little data loss, if any.2. UM DRB that uses MCG resources also.In this case, there will be some data loss, e.g., for PDCP PDUs that are transmitted on the SCG before deactivation, but which have not been received by the gNB, or PDCP PDUs that have been submitted to the underlying SCG RLC before deactivation without request from the SCG RLC. But, for UM DRBs, some loss of data is acceptable.  |
| Samsung | Agree | It would be better to avoid data loss if we can do it. |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Agree with comments | It seems existing issue in case of key change |
| Fujitsu | Issue 1 – disagreeIssue 2 - agree with comment | For issue 1, we share the same view with LGE.For issue 2, we agree that this issue would be caused. But this is not UM DRB specific. |
| NEC | Agree with comments | We agree that the issue 1 may happen.However, it may be better to clarify the meaning of previous agreement “UL data processing is not prohibited during SCG deactivation”. “not prohibited” does not mean the UE should support this. If that is seen as problematic, then the UE should not do e.g. for UM DRB. |
| ZTE | Agree | Even for UM DRB, the data lost should be avoided as much as possible.In addition, PDCP suspend operation will lead to the COUNT reset. Therefore, if PDCP suspend operation is performed, then S-KgNB has to be refreshed in case SCG-activation. |
| Intel | Agree with comments | It seems existing issue in case of key change |
| Sharp | Disagree | As Ericsson points out, security key update issue is not specific to SCG deactivation, so we think suspending UM DRB upon SCG deactivation would not solve any security key update issues that might cause data loss. |
| Spreadtrum | Agree with comments | Same issue exits for key change. |
| vivo | Disagree | Similar views as Ericsson, this issue is not specific to SCG deactivation.  |
| CMCC | Agree |  |
| China Telecom | Agree with comments | It seems existing issue in case of key change.  |
| CATT | Disagree | If the UL data arrives SCG RLC bearers before the UE receives the PSCell change command which will cause the security key is updated, we think the UE will trigger the SCG activation request and the smart network will make a decision for the request before sending the PSCell change command. Secondly, if the UL data arrives SCG RLC bearers after receiving the PSCell change command, the UE will apply the new key after receiving the PSCell change command which is before the data arriving. therefore upon the data arrival, the data will be protected with new key. Furthermore, due to the PDCP/RLC re-establishment, package loss will occur for UM DRB, anyway for UM data, data loss is allowed |

**Q5. If you agree to Issue 1, do you agree to suspend UM DRB upon SCG deactivation to resolve Issue 1? Please share your views on this.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Comments |
| OPPO | Disagree  | It is related the model of SCG deactivation. We agree just suspend the SCG transmission, not suspend DRB (like RRC\_INACTIVE). If we agree this, we may reconsider the model of SCG deactivation. |
| Nokia | Disagree | See our comment under Q4. |
| Ericsson | Disagree | It is not clear the relation between “suspend DRB” and “pre-processing”. If DRB is suspended, does it mean that the pre-processing is not allowed? |
| Apple | Disagree | We do not want to modify anything to DRBs (unless explicitly configured by the NW) |
| LG | Disagree |  |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Disagree |  |
| Futurewei | Disagree |  |
| Qualcomm | Please see comments | It is not clear what “suspending a UM DRB” means, and how it helps resolve Issue 1. As we have indicated in our response to Q4, some data loss for a UM DRB is acceptable.  |
| Samsung | Agree | In Rel-15 discussion, RAN2 clarified that the PDCP/RLC entities should not process the data if the corresponding DRB is suspended. |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | FFS | Same question like Ericsson. |
| Fujitsu | Disagree |  |
| NEC | Agree with comment | Given this is for SCG DRB (not split), potential data loss can be simply avoided by this approach. If not, how the UE should do for UL data right before/after receiving SCG deactivation indication. |
| ZTE | Disagree | Since the SCG activation/RACH procedure can be triggered in case there is data avaliable on SCG, we think there is no need to suspend DRB. |
| Intel | Disagree | Same question like Ericsson. |
| Sharp | Disagree | Please see our comments on Q4. |
| Spreadtrum | Disagree |  |
| vivo | Disagree |  |
| CMCC | Disagree |  |
| China Telecom | Disagree | Same question like Ericsson. The meaning of “suspend UM DRB” should be clarified.  |
| CATT | Disagree | See our comment in Q4 |

**Summary**: 12 out of 20 companies agreed to Issue 1 while 8 companies disagreed to it. However, 17 companies do not support suspension of UM DRB. 4 companies questioned if the proposal can resolve Issue 1.

In RAN2#115e, RAN2 captured the following agreement in the chairman note:

* [011] RAN2 confirms that all the L2 entities do not transmit/receive any data to/from lower/upper layers for suspended RBs. No change to the specifications.

Based on this agreement, Rapporteur thinks that “suspend UM DRB” does not allow data processing in RLC/PDCP entities and thus the suspension of UM DRB can resolve Issue 1. However, the majority do not support this. So Rapporteur suggest the following proposal because there is no reason to allow such data loss inside UE for UM DRB, which can be handled by UE implementation.

**Proposal 3. UE implementation ensures that data loss for UM DRB inside UE (e.g. due to RLC/PDCP re-establishment) is avoided upon SCG activation.**

**Q6. Do you agree to Issue 2? Please share your views on this.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Comments |
| OPPO | Agree but no need to address |  |
| Nokia | Agree for SCG bearer, disagree for split bearer. |  |
| Ericsson | Disagree  | The t-Reordering timer is for reception and so the DL traffic. The network is aware of the DL traffic and so will not de-activate the SCG if there is any ongoing DL traffic.  |
| Apple | Disagree | Same comments as Ericsson |
| LG | Disagree | Considering that the duration of the t-Reordering would be configured based on the QoS requirement, delaying the packet delivery to the upper layer is not critical. |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Disagree |  |
| Futurewei |  | Agree on the behaviour. But need not to make effort to address it.  |
| Qualcomm | Agree |  |
| Samsung | Agree | Even if the network ensures no DL data before SCG deactivation, the last DL data can trigger t-Reordering timer and cause reordering delay for UM DRB. |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Disagree | We expect that the network will not deactivate the SCG if there are ongoing DL HARQ retransmissions on the SCG |
| Fujitsu | Agree | Please see our comment in Q4 |
| NEC | Agree | only for SCG bearer |
| ZTE | Disagree | Share the view from Ericsson. |
| Intel | Disagree | Same comments as Ericsson |
| Sharp | Disagree | We share the same comments as Ericsson. |
| Spreadtrum | Disagree |  |
| vivo | Disagree | Share the view from Ericsson. |
| CMCC | Disagree |  |
| China Telecom | Disagree  | Same comments as Ericsson. |
| CATT | Disagree | Upon t-Reordering timer expiry, PDCP entity will deliver the PDU to upper layer is current mechanism, it is not a problem. |

**Q7. If you agree to Issue 2, do you agree to stop and reset t-Reordering timer, if running, and deliver all the stored PDCP SDUs to upper layers upon SCG deactivation? Please share your views on this.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Comments |
| OPPO | Disagree  | No need to impact PDCP legacy behavior. No big issue. |
| Nokia | Agree | If so configured by RRC (i.e. most likely for SCG bearer). |
| Apple | Disagree |  |
| LG | Disagree |  |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Disagree |  |
| Futurewei | Disagree |  |
| Qualcomm | Agree | This is a minor optimization. There can be some gain from stopping the reordering timer and delivering received PDCP PDUs, albeit out-of-sequence, to the upper layers upon deactivation. |
| Samsung | Agree | Even if the network ensures no DL data before SCG deactivation, the last DL data can trigger t-Reordering timer and cause reordering delay for UM DRB.In this regard, the proposed behaviour can reduce unnecessary reordering delay.  |
| Fujitsu | Agree | Agree with Nokia. |
| NEC | Agree, but  | From network point of view, as far as the network does not use SCG deactivation so aggressively (e.g. right after the last buffered data is sent), the issue will not be so big or critical.  |
| ZTE | Disagree |  |
| CMCC | Disagree |  |
| CATT | Disagree |  |

**Summary**: 6 out of 20 companies agreed to Issue 2 while 13 companies disagreed to it. Regarding the proposed solution, 5 companies support it but 8 companies (Possibly 13) do not support it. Rapporteur thinks Issue 2 can happen as several companies agreed. Given that there is no big support for the proposed solution, we can leave it to UE implementation.

**Proposal 4. Upon SCG deactivation, the reordering delay for UM DRB can be resolved by UE implementation (e.g.** s**top and reset t-Reordering timer, if running, and deliver all the stored PDCP SDUs to upper layers).**

### 3.2.3 SRB3 handling for deactivated SCG

For deactivated SCG, it is straightforward to maintain SRB1 for MCG link. However, we need to discuss whether to keep SRB3 or not, if configured. Since keeping SRB3 alive would not have any benefit. In this regard, it would be reasonable to suspend SRB3 or suspend SCG transmission of SRB3 upon SCG deactivation. If we suspend SCG transmission of SRB3 (i.e. UL data processing is not prohibited during SCG deactivation), the UL RRC message may trigger a UE initiated activation request, which would be impacted by another discussion. So we can leave the exact wording as FFS.

**Q9. Do you agree to suspend SRB3 or suspend SCG transmission of SRB3 upon SCG deactivation (FFS for the exact wording)? Please share your views on this.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Comments |
| OPPO | Agree with comments | Suspend SRB3 transmission. |
| Nokia | Disagree | SRB3 may be needed for MCG failure recovery. SN-configured measurement reports can sent via MCG i.e. as if SRB3 was not configured, while the SCG is suspended. |
| Ericsson | Disagree | We agree that PDUs on SRB3 should in general not trigger a UE initiated SCG activation request. A common modelling instead of a case-by-case discussion is preferred. We don’t think it is necessary to suspend SRB3, as the running RRC CR has shown one way to capture it: 1> else if the UE is in (NG)EN-DC:2> if SRB3 is configured and the SCG is not deactivated:3> submit the *MeasurementReport* message via SRB3 to lower layers for transmission, upon which the procedure ends;2> else:3> submit the *MeasurementReport* message via E-UTRA embedded in E-UTRA RRC message *ULInformationTransferMRDC* as specified in TS 36.331 [10]. |
| Apple | Disagree | We do not want to suspend or change any (S/D)RBs and SRB3 could be used for transmitting the MCG failure msg. |
| LG | Disagree | We do not see the benefit for suspending SRB3.  |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Disagree | It’s relevant to the other discussion, SRB3 maybe used for MCG link recovery.  |
| Futurewei | Disagree | SRB3 need not to be suspended. |
| Qualcomm | Agree, please see comments | We can use the wording as has been used for the SCG Failure Information procedure, e.g., “Upon SCG deactivation, UE shall suspend SCG transmission for all SRBs and DRBs”. |
| Samsung | Agree | Anyway, we should suspend SRB3 or suspend SCG transmission of SRB3. If need, we can put FFS for SRB3 in this meeting given that other discussion may be related. |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | No strong view | Agree with Ericsson |
| Fujitsu |  | This is up to the result of other discussion, i.e., whether MCG failure is supported or not during SCG deactivation. |
| NEC | Agree with comment | we agree with the latter option “suspend SCG transmission of SRB3”.With this, SN configured measurement report via SRB3 can be avoided while the SCG is deactivated. |
| ZTE | Disagree | SRB3 could be used for transmitting MCG failure report. And SN configured MR can be sent via MCG when SRB3 is configured but SCG is deactivated. There is no need to suspend SRB3.  |
| Intel | Disagree | SRB3 could be used for transmitting MCG failure report.  |
| Sharp | Not sure | SRB3 should not be transmitted during SCG deactivation. It can be achieved without saying “suspend SRB3” as current running CR. |
| Spreadtrum | Disagree |  |
| vivo | Disagree | SRB3 should be allowed to send MCG failure information.  |
| CMCC | Disagree | We don’t think SRB3 need to be suspended. |
| China Telecom | Disagree | It is not necessary to suspend SRB3. SRB3 can be used for MCG failure recovery.  |
| CATT | Agree | UE can transmit the RRC message to NW via MCG, so agree to suspend the SRB3, i.e. suspend both the transmission and the data processing of SRB3. |

**Summary**: 13 out of 20 companies disagreed to this while 5 companies agreed to it and 2 companies commented that this depends on other discussion. Given that we had the same discussion on SRB3 two times, Rapporteur assumes that we can follow the majority view.

**Proposal 5. Do not suspend SRB3 upon SCG deactivation.**

One thing to be noted is that RRC messages may be generated to be transmitted via SRB3 before the reception of SCG deactivation indication. In this case, they may be transmitted later upon SCG activation, which should be avoided.

In Rel-16, the same issue was discussed in DAPS handover and RAN2 finally specified the corresponding behavior as shown below. Hence, the same principle can be applied to the SCG deactivation case.

|  |
| --- |
| 38.3313> for each SRB:4> if the *masterKeyUpdate* was not received:5> configure the PDCP entity for the source PCell with state variables continuation as specified in TS 38.323 [5];4> release the PDCP entity for the target PCell;4> release the RLC entity as specified in TS 38.322 [4], clause 5.1.3, and the associated logical channel for the target PCell;4> trigger the PDCP entity for the source PCell to perform SDU discard as specified in TS 38.323 [5];4> re-establish the RLC entity for the source PCell; |

**Q10. Do you agree that the old RRC message for SRB3 is discarded upon SCG deactivation? Please share your views on this.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Agree/Disagree | Comments |
| OPPO | Disagree  | We only agree to suspend the SCG transmission during SCG deactivation. In this case, the SCG RRC message can be transmitted via MCG RRC anyway. |
| Nokia | Agree |  |
| Ericsson | Disagree | As currently captured in the RRC running CR, while the SCG is deactivated, the SCG measurement reports are sent via SRB1 and so this becomes a corner case. The corner case happens when the RRC message is generated while UE receives the SCG deactivation message. It is our understanding that these RRC messages are passed to PDCP entity, triggering an SCG activation request. There is no need to optimize for a corner case.  |
| Apple | Disagree |  |
| LG | Disagree | We do not think the network indicates the SCG deactivation when the UE has a data to be transmitted. Thus, there is no old RRC message in SRB3 at receiving the SCG deactivation message.  |
| Lenovo, Motorola Mobility | Disagree |  |
| Futurewei | Agree | RRC delayed to next activation will be out of date. It should be discarded upon the deactivation. |
| Qualcomm | Agree |  |
| Samsung | Agree | The network cannot know if UE generated such UL RRC message or not, i.e. the network is not able to avoid this case before indicating SCG deactivation. |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Agree | On Ericsson's comment: a message in PDCP for SRB3 cannot trigger SCG activation, this would require modifying the specification and as you commented, this is a corner case.So we think discard is ok. |
| Fujitsu | Agree |  |
| NEC | Agree |  |
| ZTE | Disagree |  |
| Intel | Agree |  |
| Sharp |  | Confliction between measurement report and SCG deactivation would be a rare case. However, UE implementation need to make sure that UE will not trigger SCG activation by such erroneous RRC message. Something needs to be specified. |
| Spreadtrum | Agree |  |
| vivo | Agree |  |
| CMCC | Disagree |  |
| China Telecom | Agree |  |
| CATT | Disagree | The old RRC message can be sent via MCG. |

**Summary**: 11 out of 20 companies agreed to this while 8 companies disagreed to it and 1 company commented that something needs to be specified. Given that we had the same discussion on this issue two times, Rapporteur assumes that we can follow the majority view.

**Proposal 6. The old RRC message for SRB3 is discarded upon SCG deactivation (i.e. trigger the PDCP entity to perform SDU discard and re-establish the RLC entity for SRB3).**

# Conclusion

**Proposal 1. Upon SCG deactivation, instruct the SCG MAC entity to perform partial MAC reset (FFS for the details).**

**Proposal 2. Upon SCG deactivation, UE keeps all *timeAlignmentTimers* (e.g. associated with the PTAG and STAG) running, if configured.**

**Proposal 3. UE implementation ensures that data loss for UM DRB inside UE (e.g. due to RLC/PDCP re-establishment) is avoided upon SCG activation.**

**Proposal 4. Upon SCG deactivation, the reordering delay for UM DRB can be resolved by UE implementation (e.g.** s**top and reset t-Reordering timer, if running, and deliver all the stored PDCP SDUs to upper layers).**

**Proposal 5. Do not suspend SRB3 upon SCG deactivation.**

**Proposal 6. The old RRC message for SRB3 is discarded upon SCG deactivation (i.e. trigger the PDCP entity to perform SDU discard and re-establish the RLC entity for SRB3).**