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Helsinki, Finland, 5-9 July 1999

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Changes shown with revision marks are based on the decisions of the last RAN3 meeting. These changes have yet to be formally approved by the WG.

**3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP);
Technical Specification Group (TSG) RAN;**

UTRAN I_u Interface: General Aspects and Principles

UMTS 25.410

3GPP

Reference

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Keywords

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3GPP

Postal address

Office address

Internet

secretariat@3gpp.org
Individual copies of this deliverable
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Intellectual Property Rights

Foreword

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

The contents of this TS are subject to continuing work within 3GPP and may change following formal TSG approval. Should the TSG modify the contents of this TS, it will be re-released with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

Version m.t.e

where:

m indicates [major version number]

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

y the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated into the specification.

Introduction

This clause is optional. If it exists, it is always the third unnumbered clause.

No text block identified.

1 Scope

The present document is an introduction to the ~~TSG-RAN-S3~~ UTS-25.410 series of ~~UMTS~~ Technical Specifications that define the Iu interface for the interconnection of Radio Network Controller (RNC) component of the UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network (UTRAN) to the Core Network of the UMTS system.

2 References

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

- References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non-specific.
- For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.
- For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies.
- A non-specific reference to an ETS shall also be taken to refer to later versions published as an EN with the same number.

[1] UTS-25.401, UTRAN Overall Description

[2] UTS-23.30, Iu Principles

[3] UTS-23.10

3 Definitions, symbols and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the [following] terms and definitions [given in ... and the following] apply.

Editor's Note - Definitions of Source RNS(C) and Target RNC(C) are required.

3.2 Symbols

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

3.3 Abbreviations

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

4 General Aspects

Editor's Note – Discussion is required about what information should be transferred from the UTRAN Architecture description to this document. Also, from other relevant documents (e.g. UTS-23.30 Iu Principles).

4.1 UTRAN Architecture

Editor's Note – this chapter should describe enough of the system architecture for the role of the interface to be understood.

See [1], chapter 8.1.

Editor's Note - Any explanation of source and target RNC/S that is needed, over and above the definitions above, should be added here.

4.2 I_u Interface General Principles

From a UTRAN perspective, maximising the commonality of the various protocols that flow on the I_u interface is desirable. This means at the minimum that :

- A common set of radio access bearer services will be offered by UTRAN to the Core Network nodes, regardless of their type (e.g. 3G-MSC or 3G-SGSN).

There will be a common functional split between UTRAN and the Core Network nodes, regardless of their type (e.g. 3G-MSC or 3G-SGSN).

Signalling in the radio network control plane shall not depend on the specific choice of transport layers.

4.3 I_u Interface Specification Objectives

See [2], chapter 4.1.

The I_u interface specifications shall facilitate the migration of some services from the CS-domain to the PS-domain. In particular, the I_u control plane RANAP protocol shall be common to both domains, and the I_u user plane protocol(s) shall be independent of the core network domain, except where a specific feature is only required for one domain.

Editor's Note – the two figures should be aligned with this assumption – probably by showing a single I_u UP protocol (rather than PS and CS specific). A separate contribution will be provided, to maintain alignment with 25.415.

4.4 I_u Interface Capabilities

[Editor's note: This chapter should shortly describe the I_u–Interface Capabilities. In order to avoid inconsistency between documents, reference to [2], chapters 4 and 5, has been made]

See [2], chapter 4.2.

4.5 I_u Interface Characteristics

5 Functions of the I_u Interface Protocols

Editor's Note – this section will either contain a functional division across the interface, and/or a reference to the appropriate bit of the UTRAN Architecture Specification

Congestion control shall be performed over the I_u user plane toward the IP domain using buffer management and no flow control.

6 I_u Interface Protocol Structure

6.1 General

The Radio Network signalling over I_u consists of the Radio Access Network Application Part (RANAP). The RANAP consists of mechanisms to handle all procedures between the CN and UTRAN. It is also capable of conveying messages transparently between the CN and the UE without interpretation or processing by the UTRAN.

Over the Iu interface the RANAP protocol is, e.g. used for:

- Facilitate a set of general UTRAN procedures from the Core Network such as paging -notification as defined by the notification SAP in [3].
- Separate each User Equipment (UE) on the protocol level for mobile specific signalling management as defined by the dedicated SAP in [3].
- Transfer of transparent non-access signalling as defined in the dedicated SAP in [3].
- Request of various types of UTRAN Radio Access Bearers through the dedicated SAP in [3].
- Perform the streamlining function.

The Radio Access Bearers are provided by the Access Stratum

6.2 Iu-CS

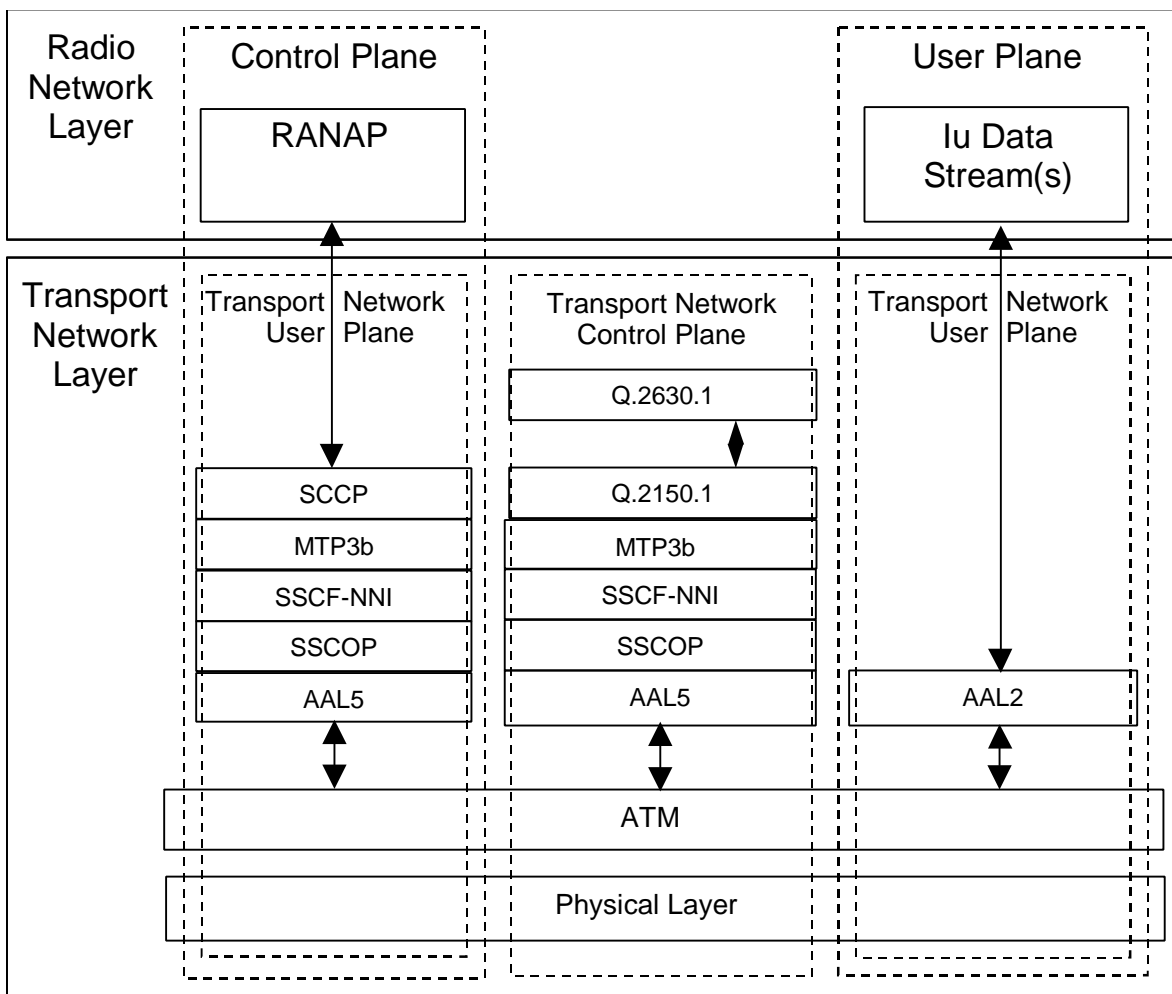


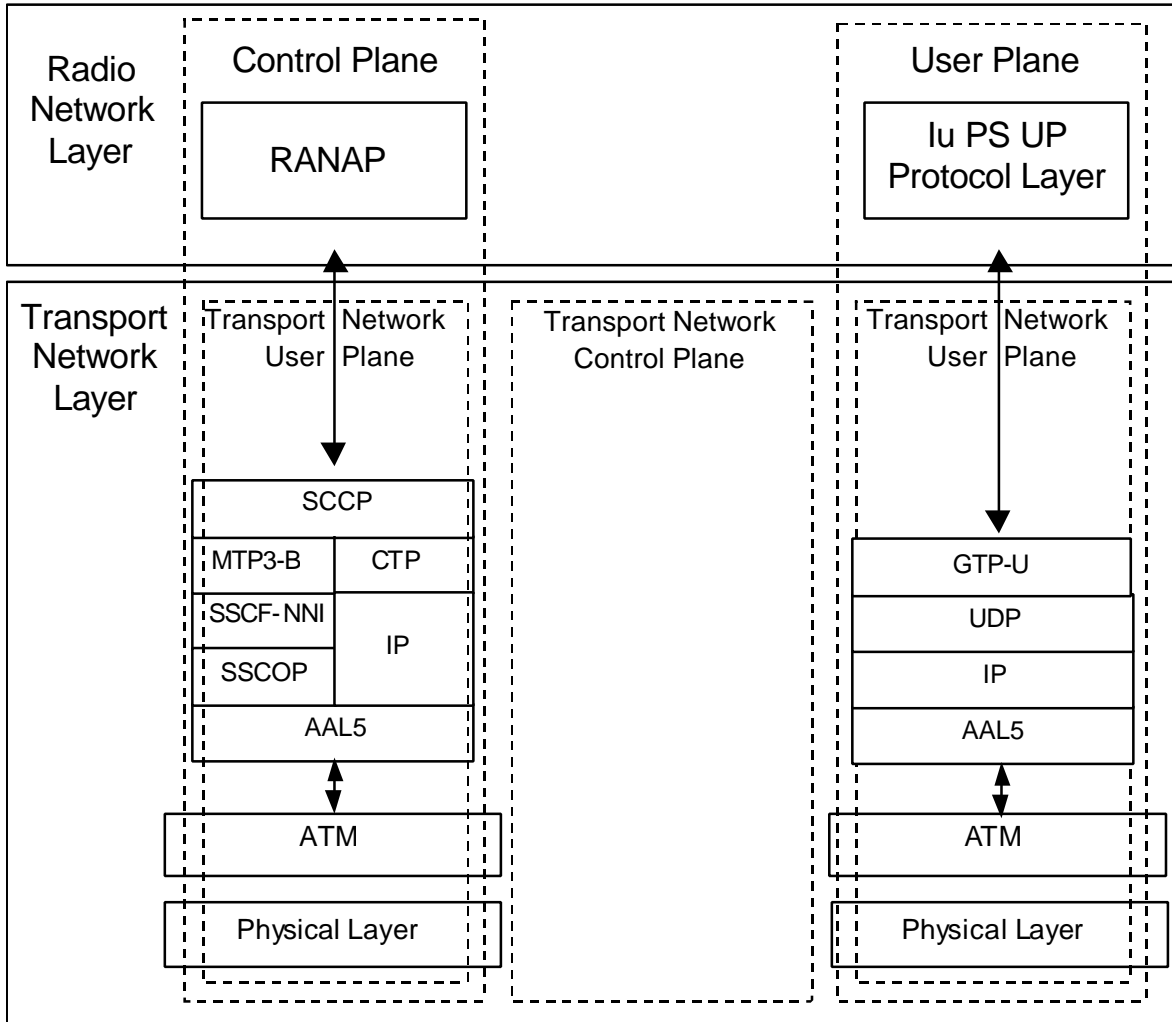
Figure 1. I_u –Interface Protocol Structure towards CS Domain

Figure 2. I_u –Interface Protocol Structure

Editor's note: Should the next sentence be in here or in [S325.414](#)?

Q.2630.1 is used as the ALCAP protocol for dynamically setup AAL-2 connections over Iu towards the PSTN Domain.

6.3 Iu-PS



Temporary Editor's Note – Relative to v.0.1.1 (TSGR3#3(99)416) GTP-U has been corrected to Transport Layer and the ATM/PHY layers have been removed from the transport layer control plane.

RANAP Signalling is used to establish, modify and release the GTP-U tunnels.

7 Other I_u Interface Specifications

7.1 UTRAN Iu Interface: Layer 1 (UMTS 25.411)

editor's note – text is required, but can be completed once S3.11 has been created.

7.2 UTRAN Iu Interface: Signalling Transport (UMTS 25.412)

UMTS 25.412 specifies the signalling bearers for the RANAP and ALCAP protocols for both Iu-PS and Iu-CS.

7.3 RANAP Specification (UMTS 25.413)

UMTS 25.413 specifies the RANAP protocol for radio network control plane signalling over the Iu interface.

7.4 UTRAN Iu Interface: Data Transport and Transport Signalling (UMTS 25.414)

UMTS 25.414 specifies the transport bearers for the user plane of the Iu interface. It also specifies the ALCAP protocol used to control these transport bearers.

7.5 UTRAN Iu Interface: CN-UTRAN User Plane Protocols (UMTS 25.415)

UMTS 25.415 specifies the user plane frame handling protocols for the Iu interface.

9 Bibliography

The following material, though not specifically referenced in the body of the present document (or not publicly available), gives supporting information.

Annex A (Informative) – Stability Information

Editor's Note - This section needs reformatting to align with the approved tabular format.

This annex details the stability of each section of the document, and notes areas where further text is required.

- 1 Stable
- 2 Will need references adding for other 25.41x documents
- 3 empty – should at least refer to 25.401, and the vocabulary document
- 4.1 Need to decide whether to include any information here to make it stand-alone
- 4.2 Current contents are stable, but more needed?
- 4.3 only a reference to UMTS 23.10.
- 4.4 as 4.3
- 4.5 EMPTY – Contributions required.
- 5 NEARLY EMPTY – Contributions (or references to 25.401) required.
- 6.1 Stable, but more needed?
- 6.2 Stable – any descriptions needed?
- 6.3 Now stable – any descriptions needed?
- 7 Needs text for 7.1, otherwise stable.

10History

Document history		
v 0.0.1	1999-02	Initial Specification Structure
V0.0.2	1999-02	Text from merged document included.
V0.0.3	1999-03	Updated with decision from WG3 #2 (inclusion of IP domain congestion control)
V0.1.0	1999-04	Approved by WG3
v.0.1.1	1999-05	Updated with decisions from WG3 #3 – mostly from Tdoc 344. References and Ch7 updated according to document renumbering.
<u>v.0.1.2</u>	<u>1999-06</u>	<u>Further changes after SWG review, and text from Iu SWG @ WG3#4 added. – This version was never treated.</u>
<u>v.0.2.1</u>	<u>1999-06</u>	<u>Approved at WG3#4, and showing changes agreed at that meeting – sentence on establishment of GTP-U tunnels, and commonality of U-plane protocols.</u>
Editor for 3GPP RAN <u>25.410</u> is:		
Richard Townend BT Tel.: +44 1473 605 429 Fax : +44 1473 623 683 Email : richard.townend@bt.com		
This document is written in Microsoft Word version 7/97.		