3GPP RAN WG4 Meeting #100-e R4-21xxxxx

Electronic meeting, 16 – 27th August 2021 (revision of R4-2112365)

Agenda item: 10.2.2

Source: Apple, Skyworks Solutions Inc., Ericsson

Title: TP on using next larger channel bandwidth solution

WI/SI: FS\_NR\_eff\_BW\_util

Release: Rel-17

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# 1 Introduction

During previous RAN TSG and WG4 meetings, several operators expressed an interest in enabling more efficient utilization of "non-standard" channel bandwidths, i.e. the ones which are not present now in TS 38.101 specifications. Referring to the corresponding operator requests, the following channel bandwidths were suggested by operators: 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 33, 35, 45. Thus, for "non-standard" channel bandwidths, which are not multiple of 5MHz, a new SI was agreed at the RAN#89 meeting aiming to study further which existing solutions can be used and whether new mechanism should be devised [1].

Most solutions and methods can be coarsely classified into the ones that require introduction of new channel bandwidths (either to the BS side only, or both to the UE and BS specifications) and the ones that leverage existing mechanism. In this paper we provide a text proposal for the "*using next larger channel*" solution.

# 2 Text proposal

## 6.1 Study of larger Channel BW than licensed BW

### 6.1.1 General Aspects

This clause describes, in general terms, how to utilize an irregular Channel Bandwidth by deploying the “larger channel Bandwidth” method.

The premise idea is that the system is configured with the larger channel bandwidth (indicated in System Information broadcasts as well as gNB filter configurations), but the actual number of scheduled RBs is restricted so that it matches actual spectrum allocation ensuring sufficiently large guard bands.



**Figure 6.1.1-1: Using the next larger channel bandwidth (example for 7MHz).**

One of the first critical aspects for this approach is the size of guard bands and the anticipated number of schedulable RBs. As for the standard channel bandwidths, both values are captured in the corresponding specification to avoid any misinterpretation on how many RBs can be configured and scheduled. Following the same principle for every irregular channel bandwidth is feasible, but that will create same amount of technical specification work as if the corresponding irregular channel bandwidth were explicitly added to the specifications. Thus, the number of "available" RBs can be calculated based on certain assumptions. [For instance, the number of available RBs can be calculated by taking the actual spectrum allocation size and guard bands from the next lager standard channel. Since the channel filter which is too wide cannot be expected to provide the usual stop-band attenuation at the edges of the irregular channel bandwidth and since the (i)FFT's filtering effect is limited, simulations will be needed to assess the performance degradation and the gap to the RF performance requirements where the margin in dB becomes negative. Using the next lower channel guard bands is in principle possible, but it will most likely result in violated requirements for legacy implementations].

Editor’s note: The section within brackets above is to be further analysed and possibly moved to a clause containing more details in later updates of the TR

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### 6.1.2 Signalling and configuration aspects

In this section we provide further signaling details on how to support irregular channels given the 7MHz allocation as an example.

The gNB broadcasts the carrier bandwidth and the bandwidth of the initial BWP (BWP#0) in SIB1. For the 7MHz allocation, SIB1 can indicate next larger standard channel bandwidth, i.e. 10 MHz, and that the initial BWP can be set to 5 MHz:

- SIB1-> servingCellConfigCommon-> downlinkConfigCommon-> frequencyInfoDL-> scs-SpecificCarrierList-> carrierBandwidth = 52 PRBs / subcarrierSpacing = 15 kHz

- SIB1-> servingCellConfigCommon-> downlinkConfigCommon-> initialDownlinkBWP-> genericParameters-> locationAndBandwidth = 25 PRBs

Once the UE established the RRC connection, the gNB can account for the UE capabilities and re-configure the UE accordingly. At this point the gNB may override the carrier bandwidth value that the UE obtained from SIB1 and configure a dedicated BWP with a bandwidth that differs from the bandwidth of BWP#0. gNB may configure a larger bandwidth part, that will cover the whole 7MHz allocation.

- ServingCellConfig-> downlinkChannelBW-PerSCS-List-> carrierBandwidth = 52 PRBs, subcarrierSpacing = 15 kHz

- ServingCellConfig-> downlinkBWP-ToAddModList-> bwp-Common-> genericParameters-> locationAndBandwidth = TBD PRBs

# 3 Conclusions

In this discussion paper we have presented the TP for TR 38.844 describing the number of "schedulable" RBs for a solution based on using the next larger NR standard channel bandwidth.

# 4 References

1. RP-202103, "New SID: Study on Efficient utilization of licensed spectrum that is not aligned with existing NR channel bandwidths", T-Mobile USA, Ericsson