# **[102-e-NR- 5G\_V2X\_NRSL-PHYprocedure-01] Email discussion/approval regarding the following aspects for HARQ operation**

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* Issue 3-1: Details of indicating groupcast HARQ feedback option
* Issue 3-2: Capturing PSFCH reception behavior in the specifications
* Issue 3-3: Exact location of PSFCH slots in the time domain

By 8/21, followed by potential TPs by 8/26 – Hanbyul (LGE)

**1. Details of indicating groupcast HARQ feedback option**

Q1: Do you support physical layer signaling to indicate groupcast with HARQ feedback Option 1 (i.e., NACK only) without distance-based feedback?

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| Company | Answer | Comment |
| NTT DOCOMO | Yes | RAN1 concluded in the last meeting that the operation is feasible from L1 signaling perspective.  RAN2 agreed that the operation is supported.  Based on the above two, RAN1 should support it. |
| Sharp | Yes | Same reason as NTT DOCOMO. |
| Ericsson | Yes | Due to RAN2 agreement. |
| ZTE, Sanechips | yes | This is aligned to RAN2 agreements and RAN1 conclusion. |
| Intel | Yes | RAN1 should follow RAN2 agreement if there is no big issue (we assume no) |
| Futurewei | No | While we understand RAN2 made a decision, we think that without distance-based feedback, option 1 can create issues: it essentially implies that we support transmission with implicit ACK. Because of half duplex issues, a UE might miss a transmission, and not even be aware of it. This is always a risk with option 1, but at least the distance threshold can somehow contain it. Before having signaling for opt 1 without distance RAN1 should first discuss the cases for which opt 1 without distance should be enabled (e.g., only low priority services) |
| OPPO | Yes | Similar view as NTT DOCOMO. |
| QC | Yes | RAN2 has reached an agreement, and RAN1 has concluded that this is feasible to support from signaling point of view. |
| CATT | Yes | RAN2 has agreed to support this operation, RAN1 should support it. |
| NEC | Yes | Same view as NTT DoCoMo |
| Apple | Yes | To support RAN2 agreement. |

Q2: If the answer to Q1 is yes, which option is used to indicate groupcast with HARQ feedback Option 1 (i.e., NACK only) without distance-based feedback?

* + Option 1: SCI format 2-A is used
    - Option 1-1: A value of Cast type indicator in SCI format 2-A is used to indicate groupcast HARQ feedback option 1 without distance-based feedback
    - Option 1-2: Additional 1-bit indicator in SCI format 2-A is introduced to indicate whether the distance-based feedback is applied or not.
  + Option 2: SCI format 2-B is used
    - Option 2-1: Communication range requirement field in SCI format 2-B is used to indicate distance-based HARQ-ACK feedback is disabled
  + Option 3: Others (please specify)

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| Company | Preferred option | Comment |
| NTT DOCOMO | Option 1-1 | 2-A is better since if 2-B is used, the unused overhead is not so small.  Cast type indicator has a reserved state. The state can be used. Meanwhile, additional bit degrades performance. |
| Sharp | Option 2-1 | It would be better to have the “Groupcast Option 1” support in one place. |
| Ericsson | Option 1-1 | We think, it is a straightforward approach to use cast type indicator in SCI format 2-A for this purpose which avoid extra overhead which is unnecessary. |
| ZTE, Sanechips | Option 1-1 | This option is the simplest one. SCI format 2-A already contains a code-point to potentially support this. |
| Intel | Option 2-1 or  Option 1-3 (see details) | Our first preference is to keep SCI format 2-B for NACK-only operation and use a codepoint of comm range to indicate ‘no range information’  The second preference is Option 1-3: to use cast type set to ‘broadcast’ AND enable feedback request. |
| OPPO | Option 1-1 | The reserved codepoint can be used to indicate the HARQ feedback option, no necessary to introduce additional field. |
| QC | Option 2-1 | The simplest change is to keep SCI format 2-B for NACK-only operation and use a codepoint of comm range to indicate ‘no range information’.  This is also a preferred option from extensibility point of view, there is currently 9 spared values for communication range in format 2-B. Option 1-1 means there is no other spared value for format 2-A, so no extension beyond R16 is possible. |
| CATT | Option 1-1 | From the overhead aspects, option 1-1 is preferred. |
| NEC | Option 1-1 | No additional field will introduced |
| Apple | Option 2-1 | Associating “Groupcast HARQ feedback Option 1” with SCI format 2-B (distance-based or non-distance-based) makes the category clear.  Also, the usage of the only reserved codepoint of “cast type indicator” in SCI format 2-A may prevent any further extension in a future release. |

**2. Capturing PSFCH reception behavior in the specifications**

Q3: Do you agree to capture UE behavior that physical layer reports HARQ-ACK information of the received PSFCH to higher layer?

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| Company | Answer | Comment |
| NTT DOCOMO | Yes | In LTE, UE receives HARQ-ACK on PHICH and it is reported to higher layer, which is captured in spec (36.213 – section 8.3).  We can follow the direction; i.e. capture UE behavior of HARQ-ACK report from PHY to higher layer.  In addition to Q4/Q5, report for PSFCH RX drop might be described as 16.5? |
| Sharp | Yes | In fact, we think this should be done along with restructuring the “PSFCH reception” as already captured for mode 1 in section 16.5 of 213.  There are three levels of UE behaviors pertaining to PSFCH reception: (1). Determine one value for each PSFCH time/frequency/code resource; (2). Perform (1) for all PSFCH resources associated with one PSSCH transmission. (3). For mode 1 only, depending on type of HARQ-ACK codebook, for one or more of the PSSCH transmissions granted by a DCI format, perform (2) to determine one or more values to report in UL.  In our view (1) and (2) are common to mode 1 and 2, and should be captured in one place (in section 16.3.1) so that a HARQ-ACK value can be determined for a PSSCH transmission, and reported to higher layers. (3) should be separately captured (i.e. in section 16.5) for mode 1).  (In comparison, in the current specs, (1),(2) and (3) are messed up and are captured for mode 1 only, in section 16.5 of TS 38.213.) |
| Ericsson | Yes | We are fine with capturing it. |
| ZTE, Sanechips | ok | We can be fine if most companies want this, although we think it is not necessary to specify this intra-UE behavior. |
| Intel | Ok |  |
| Futurewei | Yes |  |
| OPPO | Yes |  |
| QC | Yes |  |
| CATT | Yes |  |
| NEC | Yes |  |
| Apple | Yes |  |

Q4: If the answer to Q3 yes, what is the UE behavior when SL HARQ-ACK information includes NACK-only (i.e., groupcast option 1)?

* + Option 1: UE reports NACK if the UE determines NACK from the received PSFCH. It reports ACK, otherwise.
  + Option 2: Others (please specify)

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| Company | Preferred option | Comment |
| NTT DOCOMO | Option 2 | Reuse description of 16.5 with some update; i.e.  “if the UE receives a PSFCH associated with a SCI format 2-B  - report ACK when the UE determines absence of PSFCH reception for each PSFCH reception occasion from the number of PSFCH reception occasions; otherwise, report NACK” |
| Sharp | Option 1 | Wording can be resolved at TP phase. |
| Ericsson | Option 1 |  |
| ZTE, Sanechips | Option 1 | The wording can have two alternatives:   * Alt-1: to put NACK determination in “if” case and ACK determination in “otherwise” case. (Option 1 as above) * Alt-2: to put ACK determination in “if” case and NACK determination in “otherwise” case. (Option 2 from DoCoMo)   GC option-1 has signal reception for NACK only, i.e., UE should interpret an ACK reception if either it does not receive anything or something that it cannot interpret as NACK. To choose Option 1 as from FL proposal seems a better choice. |
| Intel | Option 1 |  |
| Futurewei | Option 2 | The UE should report NACK if it receives NACK on PSFCH. If it receives nothing, it should report that “no NACK” has been received, since not receiving NACK either means implicit ACK or that the packet has not been received at all |
| OPPO | Option 1 |  |
| CATT | Option 1 |  |
| NEC | Option 1 |  |
| Apple | Option 1 |  |

Q5: If the answer to Q3 yes, what is the UE behavior when SL HARQ-ACK information includes ACK or NACK (unicast and groupcast option 2)?

* + Option 1: UE reports NACK if the UE determines NACK from the at least one received PSFCH. It reports ACK if the UE determines ACK from all the received PSFCH(s).
  + Option 2: UE report NACK if the UE determines NACK from the at least one received PSFCH. It reports ACK if the UE determines ACK from all the received PSFCH(s). DTX is reported otherwise.
  + Option 3: Others (please specify)

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| Company | Preferred option | Comment |
| NTT DOCOMO | Option 3 | Reuse description of 16.5 with some update; |
| Sharp | Option 1 | Wording can be resolved at TP phase. |
| Ericsson | Option 1 | We believe that we don’t have to capture DTX signaling. |
| ZTE, Sanechips | Option 1 | DTX reporting is not necessary according to 38.321 (copied below). It is strange to report DTX for a groupcast option 2 process.  ------------------------------the following is only for unicast-----------  1> if PSFCH reception is absent on the PSFCH reception occasion:  2> increment *numConsecutiveDTX*;  --------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- |
| Intel | Option 1 |  |
| Futurewei | Option 1 |  |
| OPPO | Option 3 | We have discussed how to report HARQ-ACK on uplink in 16.5. We can reuse them with necessary update.  At least, the option 1 and option 2 are not correct in my view. In both options, the following modification is necessary:  “ It reports ACK if the UE determines ACK from all the ~~received~~ expected PSFCH(s)” |
| QC | Option 3 | UE reports ACK if both of the 2 following conditions are met “the UE determines ACK from all the received PSFCH(s) *and UE determines no NACK from all the received PSFCH”.* UE reports NACK otherwise. |
| CATT | Option 3 | From our understanding, the behavior of unicast could be different from that of groupcast option 2.  For example, in Groupcast option 2, the DTX is similar as that of NACK, no need to introduce DTX in groupcast.  However, in unicast, the DTX is used for RLF management in RAN2. |
| NEC | Option 1 |  |
| Apple | Option 1 | We do not need a separate DTX reporting. |

**3. Exact location of PSFCH slots in the time domain**

Q6: Which options is used to define PSFCH slot location in a resource pool when PSFCH resource period is N,

* + Option 1: Logical slot index #0, #N, #2N, …. within 10240 ms period
  + Option 2: Logical slot index #N-1, #2N-1, #3N-1, … within 10240 ms period
  + Option 3: Logical slot index …, #M-2N, #M-N, #M within 10240 ms period, where logical slot #M is the last slot of a resource pool
  + Option 4: Others (please specify)

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| Company | Preferred option | Comment |
| NTT DOCOMO | Option 1, or  Option 2 |  |
| Sharp | Option 4 | No strong opinion on Option 1/2/3, but we think *MinTimeGapPSFCH* should also be taken into account. |
| Ericsson | Option 3 | In our view, option 1 and option 3 are similar in the sense that either the first slot (Option 1) or the last slot (Option 3) is always a PSFCH slot. However, Option 3 provides the following additional benefits compared to Option 1:   * Less wasteful of resources, because the PSFCH resources in first slot is useless since it cannot be used (due to *MinTimeGapPSFCH*.) * Option 3 always results in the least number of dangling/orphan slots at the end of the resource period/pool which cannot be used for HARQ feedback based transmissions. This is also an advantage compared to Option 2. * Option 3 does not require truncating the resource pool period to be a multiple of N.   The MinTimGapPSFCH can be further taken into account in Option 3 by skipping the PSFCH slot that has index smaller than MinTimeGap PSFCH. |
| ZTE, Sanechips | Option 1 | Option 1 can avoid so-called ‘orphan’ PSSCH slots. Option 3 is technically the same as option 1, but option 1 is simpler. |
| Intel | Option 3 | On the resource pool border there will be no issue of mapping of more than N PSSCH slots to one PSFCH occasion |
| Futurewei | Option 1 | We can also accept option 2 as second preference |
| OPPO | Option 1 or Option 2 |  |
| QC | Option 2 | This is the simplest solution. There is also no issue of mapping more than N PSSCH slots to one PSFCH occasion, given this is a rare occasion. |
| CATT | Option 1 | Option 1 is more simple to avoid “orphan” PSSCH slots. |
| NEC | Option 2 | MinTimGapPSFCH may always cause 'orphan' PSSCH/PSCCH slots in one resource pool period. Coordination with next resource pool should be discussed. |
| Apple | Option 2 or Option 3 | Option 1 seems to always have waste on the first PSFCH slot. |

Q7: Do you think the number of logical slots of a resource pool is always a multiple of N, the PSFCH resource period?

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| Company | Answer | Comment |
| NTT DOCOMO | Yes | Otherwise, some PSSCH resources would not be associated with PSFCH resources, according to Q6 and the current specification. To solve this issue, further discussion would be necessary, which is not good way in maintenance phase. |
| Sharp | Yes | If this is not the case, for a given resource pool, some of the PSSCH transmissions have associated PSFCH resources while others don’t have. Exceptions have to be identified and fixed one by one in the specs (including in RAN2 specs) e.g. for the cases where a selected/granted resource may not have associated PSFCH resource etc. |
| Ericsson | No | We don’t think that such restriction on the configuration is necessary. See also our response to Q6. |
| ZTE, Sanechips | Depending on conclusion from Q6. | If option 1 or option 3 in Q6 is agreed, it is not necessary to have this restriction. If option 2 was agreed in Q6, we prefer to have this restriction to avoid ‘orphan’ slots. Q6/Q7 could be merged into one discussion. |
| Intel | No | Given the answer to Q6, it is an unnecessary restriction |
| Futurewei | Yes | We agree that it does not strictly have to be the case. For example, on some slots, there could only be transmissions with no associated PSFCH. However, having the number of logical slots as a multiple of N is not a strong restriction and can simplify the system |
| OPPO | No | Firstly, we need to clarify “the number of logical slots of a resource pool”. How to define the number of the logical slots of a RP? The slots of a RP is repeated in the time domain. Once it is configured, the logical slots of the RP will repeat in time domain until it is re-configured. There is no obvious stating time and ending time of the RP. |
| QC | Yes | This will simplify the procedure a lot. |
| CATT | Yes | It could simplify the system |
| NEC | Depending on Q6 |  |
| Apple | Yes | This simplifies the design. |