3GPP TSG-RAN WG1 Meeting #100bis-e R1-20xxxxx

e-Meeting, April 20th – 30th, 2020

Agenda Item: 6.2.1.3

Source: Moderator (Ericsson)

Title: Feature lead summary #2 for Multi-TB scheduling for LTE-MTC

Document for: Discussion, Decision

# Introduction

In the Rel-16 work item on “Additional MTC enhancements for LTE” [1], one of the objectives is to specify support for scheduling of multiple DL/UL transport blocks.

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| The objective is to specify the following set of improvements for machine-type communications for BL/CE UEs.[...]**Scheduling enhancement:*** Specify scheduling multiple DL/UL transport blocks with single DCI for SC-PTM and unicast [RAN1, RAN2]
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RAN1 agreements made until RAN1#99 are summarized in [2] and RAN1 agreements made in RAN1#100e are listed below. RAN2 agreements are summarized in [3]. The endorsed L1 configuration parameter list can be found in [4], the initial RAN1 UE feature list in [5], and the endorsed RAN1 CRs in [6] – [16].

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| [**R1-2001056**](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100_e/Docs/R1-2001056.zip) Feature lead summary for Multi-TB scheduling for LTE-MTC Ericsson[**R1-2001185**](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100_e/Docs/R1-2001185.zip) Feature lead summary#2 for Multi-TB scheduling for LTE-MTC Ericsson[**R1-2001220**](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100_e/Docs/R1-2001220.zip) Feature lead summary#3 for Multi-TB scheduling for LTE-MTC Ericsson[100e-LTE-eMTC5-Multi-TB-01] – Johan (Ericsson)Email discussion/approval onHARQ/NDI/RV/FH encoding for both FDD and TDDby 2/27; if there is a spec impact, followed by endorsing the corresponding TP by 3/2**Conclusion**For FDD case:* For 36.212, use Futurewei’s TP in [R1-2001086](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100_e/Docs/R1-2001086.zip) as a basis, possibly with the clarification “From MSB to LSB” in each section.
* For 36.211 and 36.213, take the provided comments and proposals into account in contributions to the next meeting.

For TDD case:* There is no consensus in RAN1#100e for optimization (or elimination) of the TDD HARQ process grouping. The 36.212 seems adequate and potential corresponding 36.213 text can be added in the next meeting.

As per email decision posted on Mar. 4th, two companies prefer not to add “From MSB to LSB”, so:Agreement: The text proposal in [R1-2001086](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100_e/Docs/R1-2001086.zip) is endorsed for inclusion into TS36.212 editor’s CR.[100e-LTE-eMTC5-Multi-TB-02] – Johan (Ericsson)Email discussion/approval onHARQ-ACK bundling for both FDD and TDDby 2/27; if there is a spec impact, followed by endorsing the corresponding TP by 3/2As per email decision posted on Mar. 5th,:Agreement: The TP provided in [R1-2001214](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100_e/Docs/R1-2001214.zip) for TS36.213 section 10.2 is endorsed. To be included as part of the editor’s CR for TS36.213.[100e-LTE-eMTC5-Multi-TB-03] – Johan (Ericsson)Email discussion/approval onscheduling gaps for both unicast and multicastby 2/27; if there is a spec impact, followed by endorsing the corresponding TP by 3/2**Conclusion**For the unicast case* There is no consensus in RAN1#100e for the proposal to specify explicit unicast scheduling gaps.
* Since unicast scheduling gaps are included in the draft RAN1 UE feature list, there may be a need to update the feature list, and this is something that can be brought up in the email discussion for the feature list.

For the multicast case* There is no consensus in RAN1#100e for the proposal to insert the scheduling gaps before each TB instead of after each TB.
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This document provides a prioritized list of issues and proposals based on the contributions in [17] – [23].

# Issue #3: HARQ-ACK bundling size

RAN1#100e identified a need to define the mapping between DCI field ‘Multi-TB HARQ-ACK bundling size’ in 36.212 and parameter ‘M’ in 36.213. The 36.212 editor’s interpretation of the earlier RAN1 agreements is presented in Futurewei’s contribution [23].

Huawei’s contribution [17] and ZTE’s contribution [18] propose to map 0-3 in 36.212 to 1-4 in 36.213, whereas Qualcomm’s contribution [20] proposes to use 1 instead of 2 bits in the DCI and derive the bundle size from a table in the specification (see Section 2.3 in Huawei’s contribution, Section 2.2.4 in ZTE’s contribution, Issue #1 in Qualcomm’s contribution and Issue #2 in Ericsson’s contribution for further discussion).

Proposal 3-1: Discuss and decide on a mapping between DCI field ‘Multi-TB HARQ-ACK bundling size’ in 36.212 and parameter ‘M’ in 36.213.

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| **Company** | **Comments on Proposal 3-1** |
| Qualcomm | We propose a **„1-bit field in the DCI“** that determines the size of the bundles for the purposes of HARQ-ACK bundling. We propose to **endorse TP1 in Section 1 of [R1-2002174](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp/TSG_RAN/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100b_e/Docs/R1-2002174.zip).**Please note the following **„technical“** reasons for this—in addition to the point that there is **no „agreement“ on this field**, as has been outlined by us in the past.1. For less than 4 TBs scheduled (which is a practical use case), **we don‘t even have 4 states** to be represented by 2 bits. Please recall the often painful negotiations during this work item on **„saving every bit“ in the DCI design**—we must respect that principle here. Indeed, each bit added to the DCI reduces MPDCCH coverage.
2. In several cases, **many of the states (represented by 4 codepoints) are worse than others, making the worse states redundant**. See the examples below, where **for Fig. 1, [4,4] is worse than [2,3,3]** and in **Fig. 2, [2,2] is worse than [2,1,1]** when number of PUCCH & PDSCH repetitions are 1.

Figure 1: Throughput comparison for 8 HARQ processes.Figure 2: Throughput comparison for 4 HARQ processes.Moreover, as we highlight in the examples above, the „timeline limitations“ become an important issue when PUCCH has 1 repetition, and PDSCH has one repetition or PDSCH interleaving (with granularity 1) is enabled. As a result, this case should be treated differently from the case where this „timeline limitation“ is no longer a bottleneck.Keeping these in mind, we propose to **endorse TP1 in Section 1 of** [**R1-2002174**](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp/TSG_RAN/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100b_e/Docs/R1-2002174.zip), that essentially implements the following proposal:**Proposal 3-1-QC: The field “Multi-TB HARQ-ACK bundling size” is 1 bit that enables and disables HARQ-ACK bundling.** **- The bundle sizes are fixed in the specification depending on (#repetitions for PDSCH, #TBs, #reps for PUCCH, interleaving ON/OFF) as in the table below, where:** **- Case 1 is used if (“number of PDSCH repetitions = 1” or “interleaving is enabled”) and “number of PUCCH repetitions = 1”** **- Otherwise, case 2 is used**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1TB** | **2TB** | **4TB** | **6TB** | **8TB** |
| **Case 1** | **M=[1]** | **M=[2]** | **M=[2,1,1]** | **M=[2,2,2]** | **M=[2,3,3]** |
| **Case 2** | **M=[1]** | **M=[2]** | **M=[2,2]** | **M=[3,3]** | **M=[4,4]** |

***FURTHER NOTES: To us, it is extremely disappointing how some companies are trying to imply that a certain wording allows for a certain way of DCI signalling, while expressly precluding other forms of DCI signalling. This cannot be farther from the truth.******The agreement was to signal the „actual bundle size“ in the DCI. „How“ this was to be signalled, was NOT discussed. To us, „all“ the proposals on the table are an equally „allowed“ means to signal the bundle size. That’s exactly what our proposal does too: a DCI field that—in conjunction with the RRC parameter—tells the UE the size of the bundles.******The interpretation that the bundle size determination will be done only according to the current equations in the specification, and any other forms of determination will be expressly prohibited, is extremely unfortunate—and if we may say so, plain wrong.******We would also like to point out that even the current equation doesn‘t lead to „one size for all bundles“ in many instances. It cannot be „implied understanding“ that the „only allowed way“ to have different sizes for different bundles in a multi-TB PDSCH when a „remainder operation after a division“ dictates it. To us, such lines of reasoning are a disappointing means to block the discussion of alternative proposals that may have technical merit.******We would kindly request the companies to try to judge each solution—all of which (including ours, and including the current placeholder text) are „not precluded“—on the technical merits of each. We hope we can do this. As a group, we deserve better for ourselves than to try to disallow legitimate solutions from discussion and consideration, based on arbitrarily-constructed and flimsy technicalities.*** |
| FUTUREWEI | As stated by the moderator, the views of the editor on the earlier agreements and how the specifications work are in [R1-2002654](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp/TSG_RAN/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100b_e/Docs/R1-2002654.zip), “HARQ-ACK bundling for Multi-TB scheduling”. We encourage companies to read that document, as we only summarize a few points here:1. The editors made their best effort to produce specifications from the available agreements, and their efforts should not be disparaged.
2. The current specifications work.
3. The proposal from Qualcomm, in our view, does not follow the agreements. We understand from the statements above that Qualcomm feels it does.
4. Our paper clearly states that we are not trying to stop *any* technical discussion, not only for aspects noted during the endorsement process, but any other proposed implementation.

The moderator had previously suggested that we need to sort out the understanding of the agreements. Our view is in the paper. However, in our limited time it may be more productive to focus on the technical discussion. Technically, it appears to be flexibility/simplicity versus lower overhead and the ability to select certain preferered bundling options. FUTUREWEI has a slight preference for flexibility/simplicity, but may be open to update our view after hearing other views. |
| ZTE,Sanechips | For comparison, we should look at the issue from all aspects, peak transmission rate, uplink usage, total transmission time etc. Therefore we think 2bit method is the best. It is also aligned with the original intention of the agreement. We have given our detailes analysis in our tdoc , there's no need to paste the same content here, but we just want to recap the key observation/conclusion.1. The design should enable better performance for large #TB, i.e, 6 or 8 TB scheduling, when this happens flexible bundling pattern is needed to adapt to different status (initial scheduling vs retransmission) of each TB. Single or very limited fixed bundling pattern would cause the performance loss especially for the large TB number or colossal repetitions.2. Uplink resource usage should be considered. For example, when compare the bundling method [4,4] and [2,3,3]Case a: A total of 8 TB, includes first 4 new TBs and last 4 retransmitted TBs. Obviously, the former method is better and has less retransmission.Case b: All 8 TBs are new or retransmitted. It seems that latter method would be better, at the cost of more uplink usage. However, in this case, [2,2,2,2] seems to better than [2,3,3], and non-bundling may be the best. So, from the perspective of resource saving, [2,3,3] does not show any benefits compared with [4,4]. if we want to reduce the PDSCH retransmission, then non-bundling is preferred. If we want to reduce uplink subframes, then [4,4] is preferred. It is just a tradeoff, pattern [2,3,3] is not the best choice.3.Gap caused of timeline limitation is that important issue and the peak throughput performance is the same for [2,2] and [2,1,1]. Additionally, in many cases, when number of PUCCH & PDSCH repetitions are larger than 1, the throughput performance for [2,1,1] and [2,3,3] would be worse than [2,2] and [4,4] |
| Sierra Wireless | Firstly, I highly commend all editors as they do an amazing job with the agreements that we provide them. Thanks Brian for [R1-2002654](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100b_e/Docs/R1-2002654.zip) - it explains how we got here. I truly believe everyone wants two things – a clear/complete specification and good efficient design. WRT a clear/complete specification: If you assume the “Multi-TB HARQ-ACK bundling size” is linear from 1-4, we still need to define the bundle size to a bundle pattern. Good examples are shown in [R1-2002654](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100b_e/Docs/R1-2002654.zip) e.g. if NTB=8 and M=3 the bundle pattern could be {3,3,2} or {2,3,3} or {3,2,3} or {invalid} - this still needs to be defined so the specification in not complete yet.The only agreement we have is this general agreement to “Strive to reuse”:* Strive to reuse Rel-14 HARQ-ACK bundling feature as baseline at least for the non-interleaving case

We have no agreements that the bundling size DCI field is 2 bits - thus Sierra feels this is an open issue similar to the bundling pattern being an open issue and both should be taken together.Sierra’s preference is to have a 1:1 mapping of NTB scheduled and bundle patterns so that no DCI bits are needed. We express this view last meeting via email and in [R1-2000507](https://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_ran/WG1_RL1/TSGR1_100_e/Docs/R1-2000507.zip).

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| # of TBs scheduled | HARQ-ACK Bundle Pattern |
| 1 | 1 |
| 2 | {1,1} |
| 4 | {2,1,1} |
| 6 | {2,2,2) |
| 8 | {3,3,2} |

As with Rel14 Ack bundling design, bundling can be disable when PDSCH repeats are indicated in DCI.We can also unenthusiastically accept a 1-bit field and are open to bundle mappings. For example:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| # of TBs scheduled | HARQ-ACK Bundle Patterns (1-bit DCI) |
| 1 | 1, ?? |
| 2 | {1,1}, ?? |
| 4 | {2,1,1}, [{1,1,1,1}] |
| 6 | {2,2,2), [{1,1,2,2}] |
| 8 | {3,3,2}, [{2,2,2,2}] |

We are not open to a 2-bit field, as we do not feel this a good use of valuable DCI bits and two options per NTB is sufficiently flexibility. |
| Lenovo&Moto | We prefer 2 bit indication in DCI solution, which gives full flexibility to eNB scheduling, and should make the relationship between bit indication={00,01,10,11} and M={1,2,3,4}in TS36.213. |
| Ericsson | With a 2-bit DCI field, is the common understanding that each bundle will have the same size, meaning e.g. that when 8 TBs are scheduled, all bundles have either size 1, 2 or 4, and only 3 of the 4 values that can be indicated by the 2-bit DCI field have a meaning? |
| LG | We are fine with either 1-bit or 2 bit DCI field for budle size indication. In any cases, we prefer that all bundle have the same size.For example, if 1-bit indication is adopted, we would like to seggest to use only case 2 from proposal 3-1-QC. In our view, introducing additional bundling pattern only for repetition=1 is not a essential issue and benefits from it is marginal.Regarding Ericsson’s comment, we prefer that all bundles have the same size if 2-bit indication is adopted. |
| Nokia, NSB | Our preference is to use 2-bit DCI indication and clarify the mapping in the specifications as 0-3 in 36.212 to 1-4 in 36.21.The 1-bit solution provides some optimization but we feel the flexibility trade-off is not good enough and therefore prefer to have the full flexibility. |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | As we discussed in our contribution, we support 2 bits considering aspect considering the resource utilization, delay, flexiblity.2 bits field can provide more choices for determining the actual bundling size to fit the variable channel condition and the traffic.As shown in following figure, the [4,4] has the same time delay and resource utilization with [3,3,2] and [2,3,3], while [4,4] can save one PUCCH resource.In addition, as it has been agreed that the actual bundling size is indicated by DCI, at the maintenance phase, we don’t think we should easily revert an agreement if there’s no errors in it. |

# References

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