

<h2 style="margin: 0;">CHANGE REQUEST</h2>		Please see embedded help file at the bottom of this page for instructions on how to fill in this form correctly.
25.301	CR	Current Version: 3.3.0
GSM (AA.BB) or 3G (AA.BBB) specification number ↑		↑ CR number as allocated by MCC support team
For submission to: SA 7 <small>list expected approval meeting # here ↑</small>	for approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for information <input type="checkbox"/>	strategic <input type="checkbox"/> non-strategic <input type="checkbox"/> <small>(for SMG use only)</small>

Form: CR cover sheet, version 2 for 3GPP and SMG The latest version of this form is available from: ftp://ftp.3gpp.org/Information/CR-Form-v2.doc

Proposed change affects: (U)SIM ME UTRAN / Radio Core Network
(at least one should be marked with an X)

Source: Siemens Atea **Date:** _____

Subject: Ciphering and Integrity

Work item: Security

Category:	F Correction <input type="checkbox"/> A Corresponds to a correction in an earlier release <input type="checkbox"/> B Addition of feature <input type="checkbox"/> C Functional modification of feature <input type="checkbox"/> D Editorial modification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Release:	Phase 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Release 96 <input type="checkbox"/> Release 97 <input type="checkbox"/> Release 98 <input type="checkbox"/> Release 99 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Release 00 <input type="checkbox"/>
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(only one category shall be marked with an X)

Reason for change: Detail on ciphering is removed from TS 25.301. Instead a reference to the security architecture is put in place. Besides ciphering, also data integrity is discussed.

Clauses affected: 8

Other specs affected:	Other 3G core specifications <input type="checkbox"/> Other GSM core specifications <input type="checkbox"/> MS test specifications <input type="checkbox"/> BSS test specifications <input type="checkbox"/> O&M specifications <input type="checkbox"/>	→ List of CRs: → List of CRs: → List of CRs: → List of CRs: → List of CRs:	
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Other comments: _____



help.doc

<----- double-click here for help and instructions on how to create a CR.

8 Ciphering Security

The ciphering architecture is specified in TS 33.102 [15], [clause 6.6](#).

[The integrity architecture is specified in TS 33.102 \[15\], clause 6.5.](#)

8.1 Location of ciphering function in the UTRAN protocol architecture

The ciphering function is performed either in the RLC sub-layer or in the MAC sub-layer, according to the following rules:

- If a logical channel is expected to be supported on common transport channel and has to be ciphered, it can not use the transparent mode of RLC (it should use the UM RLC mode instead).
- If a logical channel is using a non-transparent RLC mode (AM or UM), ciphering is performed in the RLC sub-layer.
- If a logical channel is using the transparent RLC mode, ciphering is performed in the MAC sub-layer (MAC-d entity).

According to this model, ciphering when applied is performed in the SRNC and the UE, and the context needed for ciphering (CK, HFN, etc.) is only known in SRNC and the UE.

8.2 Input parameters to the ciphering algorithm

8.2.1 Overview

When ciphering is performed in the RLC sub-layer, it performs the encryption/decryption of the ciphering unit of an RLC PDU, based on XOR combining with a mask obtained as an output of the ciphering algorithm. For UM RLC, the ciphering unit is defined as the UMD PDU minus the first octet. The first octet comprises the sequence number used as LSB of the COUNT parameter. For AM RLC, the ciphering unit is defined as the AMD PDU minus the two first octets. These two octets comprise the sequence number used as LSB of the COUNT parameter.

When ciphering is performed in the MAC sub-layer, it performs the encryption/decryption of a MAC SDU (RLC PDU), based on XOR operation with a mask obtained as an output of the ciphering algorithm.

Requirements and interfaces to the generic algorithm are specified in TS 33.105 and described in the following figure.

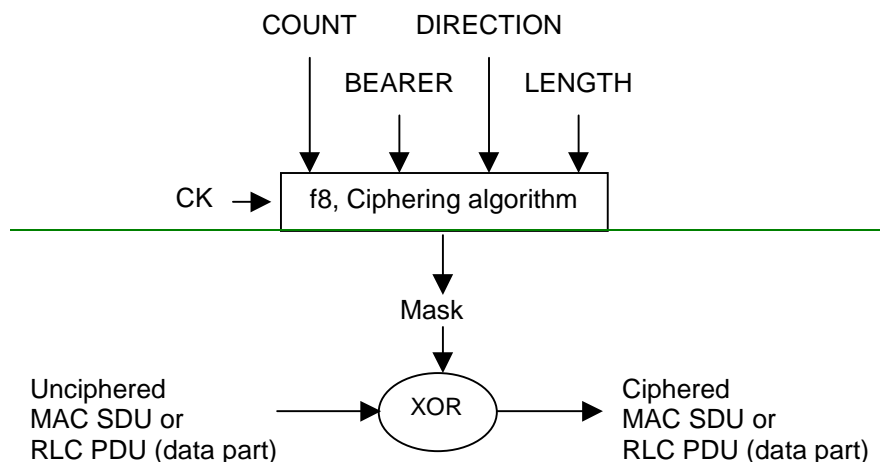


Figure 28: Ciphering algorithm and parameters

8.2.2 Cipherring algorithms parameters

8.2.2.1 COUNT

COUNT shall be at least 32 bits long. It is composed of a ‘long’ sequence number called Hyper Frame Number HFN, and a ‘short’ sequence number, which depends on the cipherring mode, as described below. There is one cipherring sequence per logical channel using AM or UM mode plus one for all logical channels using the transparent mode (and mapped onto DCH).

The Hyper Frame Number (HFN) is initialised by the UE and signalled to the SRNC before cipherring is started. It is used as initial value for each cipherring sequence, and it is then incremented independently in each cipherring sequence, at each cycle of the ‘short’ sequence number. When a new RAB / logical channel is created during a RRC connection, the highest HFN value currently in use is incremented, and used as initial value for the cipherring sequence of this new logical channel. The highest HFN value used during a RRC connection (by any cipherring sequence) is stored in the USIM, and the UE initialises the new HFN for the next session with a higher number than the stored one. If no HFN value is available in USIM, the UE randomly selects a HFN value.

Depending on the requirements (e.g. how many successive RRC Connections can use the same cipherring key), it may be sufficient to use only the most significant bits of HFN in the re-initialisation (and set LSBs implicitly to zero). This may be necessary at least if the HFN value needs to be included in the RRC Connection Request message.

The ‘short’ sequence number is:

- For RLC TM on DCH, the CFN of the UEFN is used and is independently maintained in UE MAC and SRNC MAC-d. The cipherring sequence number is identical to the UEFN.
- For RLC UM and AM modes, the RLC sequence number is used, and is directly available in each RLC PDU at the receiver side (it is not cipherrered). The HFN is incremented at each RLC SN cycle.

The figure below presents some examples of the different COUNT parameters, assuming various sizes for the ‘short’ sequence numbers. This proposal permits to exchange a unique HFN and also to use a unique CSN size, which should permit to reduce the implementation complexity of the cipherring function. In this example, the HFN is 25 bits long, and only the 20 MSB are used for the CSN of the RLC AM mode.

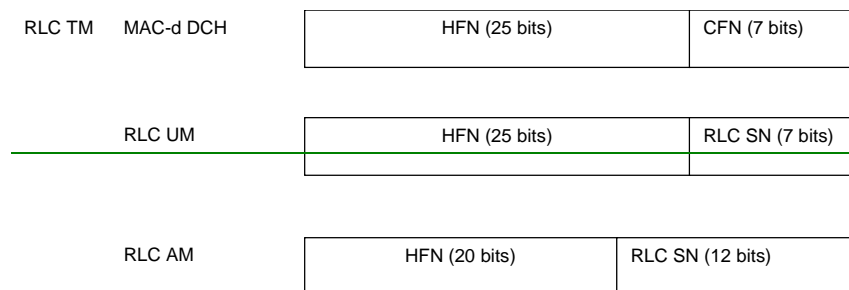


Figure 29: Example of cipherring sequence number for all possible configurations

8.2.2.2 Cipherring key, CK

CK is established between the UE and SRNC during the authentication phase. In the two key solution, the CS domain bearers are cipherrered with the most recent cipher key agreed between the user and the 3G MSC (CK-CS). The PS-domain bearers are cipherrered with the most recent cipher key agreed between the user and the 3G SGSN (CK-PS). The signalling link is cipherrered with the most recent cipher key established between the user and the network, i.e., the youngest of CK-CS and CK-PS.

To ensure performing the right cipherring function at the RLC and MAC layers, three conditions must be met:

- Each logical traffic channel can only transfer the information either from CS domain or PS domain, but not from both.
- RRC maps a given Radio Bearer to a given domain in order to derive the correct key to utilise for each RB.
- The RLC and MAC layers receive the Radio Bearer IDs and CKs they should use from RRC.

~~8.2.2.3~~ ~~BEARER~~

~~This parameter indicates the logical channel identity, which shall be unique within a RRC connection. It is used as input parameter of the ciphering algorithm to ensure that the same ciphering mask is not applied to two or more parallel logical channels having the same CK and same COUNT. Each logical channel is ciphered independently.~~

~~8.2.2.4~~ ~~Direction~~

~~This parameter indicates the transmission direction (uplink/downlink).~~

~~8.2.2.5~~ ~~Length~~

~~This parameter indicates the length of the keystream block (mask) to be generated by the algorithm. It is not an input to the keystream generation function.~~