3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 #116-e DocNumber

Electronic meeting, 1th – 12th November 2021

Agenda Item: 8.13.2.1

Source: Ericsson

Title: [AT116-e][850][SONMDT] Handover related SON aspects again (Ericsson)

Document for: Discussion, Decision

# Introduction

This contribution addresses the following offline discussion:

* CB on Thursday:
* **[AT115e][850][SON/MDT]** Handover related SON aspects again **(Ericsson)**

Scope: focus on proposals 5-14 in R2-2110889.

Intended outcome: Report

Deadline: 05:00 UTC, Wednesday November 10th

To aid better communication between the respective delegates handling this topic from different companies, it is requested to fill-in the contact information.

**Contact Information**

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| --- | --- | --- |
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# Discussion

## CHO related

Proposal 5 RAN2 to further discuss the need to include in the RLF-Report an indicator indicating whether the last executed HO before the RLF in the target cell was a CHO HO.

There is one proposal on discussion related to including the HO type of the last executed HO. To help the discussions, the rapporteur has depicted the scenarios in the Figure 1. Scenario depicted in (a) shows a normal HO scenario and the scenario depicted in (b) shows a CHO scenario. In both scenarios, the content of the previousPCell and timeConnFailure is the same as shown in the figure

1. Normal HO scenario

(b) CHO scenario

RLF

RLF

CHO from cell-A to cell-B

Normal HO from cell-A to cell-B

previousPCell 🡪 CellA

timeConnFailure 🡪 2 seconds

previousPCell 🡪 CellA

timeConnFailure 🡪 2 seconds

Figure : Scenarios involving RLF followed by (a) normal HO (b) conditional HO

Based on the above, the proponents (in the #899 email discussion) of including the HO type indicator mentions that there is a need to differentiate whether the HO from cell-A to cell-B was a normal HO or a CHO so that the corresponding HO parameters can be tuned accordingly. The proponents mentioned that the CHO parameters are different from the normal HO parameters.

Thus, rapporteur would like to ask the following question.

Question-1: Do you agree to include an indicator in the RLF report indicating whether the last executed HO before the RLF in the target cell was a CHO HO?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** | |
| **Qualcomm** | **Disagree** | We have agreed to include the flag in the neighboring cell measurement to indicate if the cell was configured as the target cell. This flag should be sufficient to indicate whether the last executed HO before the RLF in the target cell was a CHO HO.  We don’t need an additional flag. | |
|  |  |  | |
| Ericsson | Agree | The scenario as shown above is the case when the UE has successfully completed the HO and then declares RLF in the target cell. Once the HO is completed, the UE would not remember the CHO configuration i.e., there is no neighbor cell information included specific to CHO candidates. So, what Qualcomm mentions is not applicable in this scenario (their argument is applicable if the UE declares HOF while excuting the HO).  The HO triggering settings used for CHO are different from that of a legacy HO triggering settings. Therefore, it is important to know which setting to tune. | |
| NEC | Agree | Considering the triggering conditions for CHO can be different from triggering conditions for other types of HO, we see some benefit of this. | |
| **OPPO** | **Disagree** | Agree with Qualcomm. In addition, new introduced timer between reception of the CHO command and execution of the CHO is another indication.  Regarding Ericsson’s comment, UE could decide the duration of remembering the CHO configuration in case of UE might suffer from RLF at target cell. | |
| vivo | See comments. | | In the case that UE successfully completes the HO and then declares RLF in the target cell, there seems to be no means to indicate the previous HO was a CHO, according to the current spec and agreements (since it will be considered as a radio link failure event instead of a HO failure event, the UE would not record the CHO candidate flag or the new timer which will be defined for HOF case in the procedural text).  However, we are not sure about the motivation of having the parameter-tuning use case for CHO in the above scenario. We think the current SHR and RLF report mechanisms for CHO are sufficient for this purpose. By having various parameters in such reports but with less motivated purpose would not only be detrimental for UE’s storage/operation complexity, but also requires the NW to further filter out the unncessary information. Thus the use case should be carefully justified.  We are ok to accept this indicator if the majority agrees the use case. |
| LG | Disagree | | Agree with Qualcomm and OPPO. |
| Nokia | Agree | |  |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

## DAPS related

Proposal 6 RAN2 to further discuss the need to include in the RLF-Report an indicator indicating that the last executed HO before the RLF in the target cell was a DAPS HO.

The scenario is the same as depicted in Figure 1 but instead of CHO, the DAPS HO is used.

Thus, rapporteur would like to ask the following question.

Question-2: Do you agree to include an indicator in the RLF report indicating whether the last executed HO before the RLF in the target cell was a DAPS HO?

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| **Company** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| **Qualcomm** | **Disagree** | The presence of *timeConnSourceFailure* in the RLFreport is sufficient to represent this. |
| Ericsson | Agree | Again, the scenario here is that the UE successfully completes the DAPS HO and then declares the RLF in the target cell. So, the UE wouldn’t inlcude timeConnSourceFailure as mentioned by Qualcomm.  The HO parameters used for DAPS execution could be different from that of normal HO and therefore, it is valuable to know whether the previously completed HO is a DAPS HO or a normal HO. |
| NEC | Agree | Considering the triggering conditions for DAPS HO can be different from triggering conditions for other types of HO, we see some benefit of this. |
| OPPO | Agree | Agree with Ericsson |
| vivo | See comments in Q1. |  |
| LG | Disagree | We are still not clear why this indication is really necessary. The DAPS handover configuration is provided based on coordination between target cell and source cell, it is enough to the network to know the last handover type. |
| Nokia | Agree |  |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

## SHR related

There are several open issues related to SHR.

One such open issue is related to whether the source cell or the target cell configures the T304 related threshold value.

Proposal 7 The value of the T304 threshold to be provided in the SHR configuration is configured by the target cell.

The following technical reasonings are mentioned in the respones of the #899 email discussion:

1. Agreeing companies
   1. Source cell doesn’t know the value of T304. It is arbitrary for the source cell to configure the threshold without knowing the value of T304.
   2. If the source cell is to decide on the T304 percentage value, it may choose a fixed value because it has no idea about T304 value.
   3. Target node can also use the SHR to optimize its HO related parameters like T304 value that it configures in the future.
2. Disagreeing companies
   1. T304 threshold for the SHR configuration is not necessarily related to the T304 absolute value set by the target cell.
   2. SHR is used by the source node to optimize the relevant parameters, such as the threshold to trigger HO.

Based on this, rapporteur would like to ask the following question.

Question-3: Do you agree that the value of the T304 threshold to be provided in the SHR configuration is configured by the target cell?

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| **Company** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree | In my understanding, the purpose of the SHR is to detect and report any lower layer issue during a successful handover, such that parameters can be optimized to alleviate lower layer issues during a handover.  In my understanding, this if SHR generated with the indication of T304 issue, the target cell should do the analysis of the SHR. In the scenario, where SHR is generate due to the issue with T304, the target needs to optimize its handover parameters.  Note that optimizing T304 is not the purpose of SHR. However, handover parameters needs to be optimizied by the target. |
| Ericsson | Agree |  |
| NEC | Disagree | SHR is used by the source node to optimize the timing/triggering conditions of handover procedure. So we think it is up to the source to configure SHR parameters. |
| OPPO | Agree |  |
| vivo | Disagree | Views are expressed that if the SHR is used by the source node, it should be the source node to enable this mechanism (by setting the triggering conditions), and if used by the target node then it should be configured by target node instead.  According to TR 37.816 (5.3.2.5 Successful HO Report), the Successful HO Report can be both utilized by the source and target gNB for further analysis. So we think both configuration options (either by target or source) can be justified.   |  | | --- | | **TR 37.816 (5.3.2.5 Successful HO Report)**  Upon reception of a Successful HO Report, the receiving node is able to analyse whether its mobility configuration needs adjustment. Such adjustments may result in changes of mobility configurations, such as changes of RLM configurations or changes of mobility thresholds between the source and the target. In addition, target NG RAN node, in the performed handover, may further optimize the dedicated RACH-beam resources based on the beam measurements reported upon successful handovers. |     If the T304 configuration is set by the target node, the source node must be aware of the triggering value, so new signalling should be specified for the communication between source and target nodes.  **If the T304 configuration is set by the source node,** the source source node can still properly select one of the percentages from the candidate values without knowing the exact value of T304, therefore **avoiding the unnecessary signalling overhead and the corresponding specification efforts.**  So we prefer the option that T304 threshold to be provided in the SHR configuration is configured by the source node. |
| LG | Agree | Since T304 is configured by target, it seems reasonable that the target cell configures the T304 threshold. |
| Nokia | Mostly agree | With the observations that if percentages are used as threshold values (agreed in RAN2#115e), the source node does necessarily need to know T304 value and that both source and target could use the information in SHR triggered by T304 for optimization purposes. |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

Another topic discussed in #899 email discussion is related to if and when the UE includes the RA-InformationCommon in the SHR.

Proposal 8 RAN2 to discuss when the RA-InformationCommon should be included in the SHR:

a. Only in case the SHR is generated due to T304 above the threshold (8/16)

b. It should never be included (8/16)

The following technical reasonings are mentioned in the respones of the #899 email discussion:

1. Companies supporting option-A
   1. RA-InformationCommon corresponding to SHR could be replaced or deleted from RA report.
   2. There is currently no way to link a specific RA report in the RA report list with the SHR
   3. There is no indicator or timestamp to associate the SHR to a specific entry in the RA-Report
2. Companies supporting option-B
   1. Already part of RA-report. No need to duplicate it..

Based on this, rapporteur would like to ask the following question.

Question-4: Which is the following option is preferred for the inclusion of RA-InformationCommon in the SHR?

Option-1: RA-InformationCommon is included in SHR when T304 is above the threshold

Option-2: RA-InformationCommon is not included in SHR

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| **Company** | **Option-1 / Option-2** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Option 2 | Successful RACH information is already included in the RA report. The network can correlate them based on the cell ID information in both SHR and RA-report. |
| Ericsson | Option-1 | As listed above, it is difficult to correlate the SHR contents with RA report contents as there is no timeStamp in any of these reports. |
| NEC | Option 2 | Network can obtain RA-information form RA-report based on the cell ID information, rapurpose and etc. So there is no need to have a duplicate report. |
| OPPO | Option-1 | Agree with Ericsson. As addresed in our paper R2-2110104, if UE has performed several times of RACH towards the same cell for the same purpose, i.e., handover, the network would not know which RACH entry in the RA report corresponds to the handover triggering SHR recording, which is illustrated in the following figure.    To save the UE signalling overhead, we should identify under which sceanrio (e.g., T304 is above the threshold) it is necessary to include the RACH related information in the SHR. |
| vivo | Option-1 |  |
| LG | Option-2 | Agree with Qualcomm. RA-InformationCommon is already part of ra-Report. |
| Nokia | Option 2 | No need to include RA-InformationCommon in SHR. It is already part of ra-Report. |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

Another topic discussed in #899 email discussion is related to the impact of SHR and RLF report being generated for the same HO event.

Proposal 9 RAN2 believes that it is not a problem if both the SHR and RLF-Report are generated after the same HO, and it is not a problem if the network fetches them separately.

The following technical reasonings are mentioned in the respones of the #899 email discussion:

1. Companies who believes there is an issue
   1. Since the two reports were caused by a single event, it may be beneficial to correlate them for further parameters analysis
   2. The UE will report to the network both the SHR and the RLF-Report for the same HO event.
   3. It is not clear how the network implementation can fix this issue, given that there will not be any indicator or timestamp linking the RLF-Report to the SHR (and viceversa).
   4. In DAPS HO case, where UE experience RLF is source during HO failure and then UE successfully HO to target the UE generates both SHR and RLF report.
2. Companies who believe there is no issue
   1. The two reports have different optimization objectives
   2. This is related to network implementation issue
   3. The network needs to collect enough SON reports and then can do a full anaysis on the issues.

Based on this, rapporteur would like to ask the following question.

Question-5: Do you agree that it is not a problem if both the SHR and RLF-Report are generated after the same HO, and it is not a problem if the network fetches them separately?

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| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Yes |  |
| Ericsson | No | We believe the network cannot resolve this issue as there is no time stamp in RLF report and/or SHR |
| NEC | Yes |  |
| OPPO | Yes but | We agree it is a problem, the network might be confused to what extent to tune the measurement reporting criteria for HO. But whether or not to have spec imapct on resolving this problem remains questionable.  For the UE, one feasible way to solve the problem could be triggering a timer when the SHR is received by the UE. Before the expiration of the timer, if a RLF occurs, the UE needs to discard the SHR or stop the process of reporting it towards the network. Such operation has spec impact.  For the network, suppose the source gNB receives both SHR and RLF report with similar location information included but without the timestamp information, the source gNB cannot know the SHR and RLF corresponds to the same HO, and could therefore not discard the SHR. However, the source gNB could simply always prioritize the information from RLF report over the SHR for tuning the measurement reporting threshold, and therefore no spec impact is foreseen. |
| vivo | See comments. | We agree that it is not feasible for NW to solve the issue, but the need to solve the issue seems to require further justification, as proposed by the opponents.. |
| LG | Yes | We think it can be handled by NW implementation. |
| Nokia | No | If both reports are generated and fetched (at different points in time) by the network, they need so somehow be correlated as they were triggered by the same event /chain of events. |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

Another topic discussed in #899 email discussion is related to the scenario of including information related to the short-stay/ping-pong in the SHR.

Proposal 10 The SHR does not include information on whether the UE is handed-over to another cell early after the successful HO.

Almost all companies agreed with this proposal in the previous email discussion.

Based on this, rapporteur would like to ask the following question.

Question-6: Do you agree that the SHR does not include information on whether the UE is handed-over to another cell early after the successful HO?

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Yes |  |
| Ericsson | Yes |  |
| NEC | Yes |  |
| OPPO | Yes |  |
| vivo | Yes |  |
| LG | Yes |  |
| Nokia | Yes |  |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

Another topic discussed in #899 email discussion is related to UP measurements in the SHR.

Proposal 11 Related to the UP measurements to be included in the SHR, the UE should include at least the following:

a. User plane interruption at handover, as evaluated at PDPC layer without considering duplicates

Proposal 12 The user plane interruption at handover, as evaluated at PDPC layer without considering duplicates is defined as follows: “Time from the last packet received from the source and the first non-duplicate packet received from the target, measured at the time of reception of the first non-duplicate packet from the target cell.”

Almost all companies agreed with this proposal-11 and proposal-12 in the previous email discussion.

Based on this, rapporteur would like to ask the following questions.

Question-7: Do you agree that the UE should include UP interruption time at HO as evaluated at PDCP layer without considering duplicates in the SHR?

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| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | Agree with the UP measurement (but the measurement should be performed by the network) | In my understanding, the SON/MDT philosophy has been that UE does not need to report unnecessary measurements that can be computed by the network. Reporting of such information increases the size of reports and we should avoid reporting the measurements that the network can determine by itself.  As this information is available at the network, our preference is that network can obtain such measurement by itself, instead of UE reporting these measurements. |
| Ericsson | Agree | This has to be a UE based measurement as it is not possible to correlated time information collected by two nodes that are asynchronized. Thus, UE based reporting is needed. |
| NEC | Yes | We are OK to report this for DL data interruption time in SHR. |
| OPPO | Agree with comments | Agree with Qualcomm |
| vivo | Agree | If the measurement can be performed by NW, UE-based reporting is not necessary |
| LG | Yes |  |
| Nokia | Yes |  |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

Question-8: Do you agree with the following definition for UP interruption time at HO as evaluated at PDCP layer without considering duplicates?

“Time from the last packet received from the source and the first non-duplicate packet received from the target, measured at the time of reception of the first non-duplicate packet from the target cell.”

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| **Company** | **Yes/No** | **Comments** |
| Qualcomm | We prefer measurement to be obtained at the network | Based on our preference, we want to modify:  “Time from the last packet transmitted from the source and the first non-duplicate packet transmitted from the target, measured at the time of transmission of the first non-duplicate packet from the target cell.” |
| Ericsson | Yes | As exaplained to the previous question, UE based measurement is needed. |
| NEC | Yes |  |
| OPPO | We prefer measurement to be obtained at the network | Agree with Qualcomm |
| vivo | Yes |  |
| LG | Yes |  |
| Nokia | Yes |  |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

Another topic discussed in #899 email discussion is related to the additional scenarios for reporting SHR.

Proposal 13 RAN2 to discuss the following issues related to the SHR:

a. Support of inter-RAT SHR reporting

b. Including the time between the source RLF and DAPS HO completion

c. How to discard the stored SHR at T304 expiry

d. How to indicate SHR availability in case of RRCReconfigurationComplete message has already been generated

Rapporteur requests companies to be pragmatic here regarding what is essential to be included in Rel-17 considering the remaining time.

Question-9: Which of the following topics needs to be addressed in Rel-17?

a. Support of inter-RAT SHR reporting

b. Including the time between the source RLF and DAPS HO completion

c. How to discard the stored SHR at T304 expiry

d. How to indicate SHR availability in case of RRCReconfigurationComplete message has already been generated

e. None

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| **Company** | **a, b, c, d, e** | **Comments** |
| **Qualcomm** | **C** | A should be of low priority.  B is not an identifier of the performance. This is not needed or can be referred to from question 8.  D needs further discussion whether we want to consider this. In my view, the situation under discussion is UE performs successful DAPS HO and UE sends RRCReconfigurationComplete message, thereafter we have RLF at the UE. This scenario was never discussed in the SHR perspective. Furthermore, in our view there is no optimization objective here because UE cannot fallback to source anyways after the successful complition of DAPS HO. Therefore, after successful DAPS HO, optimization of source and UE link have very less significance. |
| Ericsson | C | (C) is the minimal thing we need to do in Rel17. |
| NEC | C, D | A, this can be treated with low priority.  B, we are not sure if we need this considering we already have UP interruption time.  C, in case of T304 expiry, the UE should report RLF-report, and the stored SHR of this HO should be deleted.  D, to clariy the scenarios of this issue, it can happen for the following two kinds of situations:   1. T304 threshold condition of SHR is fulfilled after the generation of RRCReconfigurationComeplete message 2. SHR scenario 3b, i.e. “Successful HO completion, but RLF in source during DAPS HO”, i.e. the HO is successful, but source RLF happens after the generation of RRCReonfigurationComplete messsage.   If without any enhancement, there would be long delay of reporting and the stored SHR may be discared or replaced. |
| OPPO | C |  |
| vivo | C |  |
| LG | c |  |
| Nokia | B, C | A is too early/complex for considerations |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

In the #899 email discussion, some companies indicated additional SHR triggering conditions.

Proposal 14 RAN2 to discuss the need for the following SHR triggering conditions:

a. T310/T312 in target cell is started after a short time of successful HO

b. The number of preamble attempt in target cell is greater than one threshold

c. If the UP interruption time is above a certain threshold

d. Configured CFRA RACH resource not used and the UE is forced to use the CBRA for HO.

Rapporteur requests companies to be pragmatic here regarding what is essential to be included in Rel-17 considering the remaining time.

Question-10: Which of the following triggering condition for SHR do you support?

a. T310/T312 in target cell is started after a short time of successful HO

b. The number of preamble attempt in target cell is greater than one threshold

c. If the UP interruption time is above a certain threshold

d. Configured CFRA RACH resource not used and the UE is forced to use the CBRA for HO.

e. None

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| **Company** | **a, b, c, d, e** | **Comments** |
| **Qualcomm** | **e** | 1. SHR purpose is to determine lower layer issues during the handover. Once the handover is completed UE should release the SHR configuration. Note that SHR reporting purpose is not MRO. 2. RACH information included in the RA-report should be sufficient. We should remember that there are dedicated SON reports for different optimization objectives. This is the optimization of the RACH procedure, it should not be considered under the SHR, otherwise, we will keep making every single SON report unnecessarily huge. 3. It should be an IE instead of a trigger condition for reporting. 4. Same understanding on this as in b. |
| Ericsson | e | To save time in Rel-17, we can postpone such triggers to Rel-18 |
| NEC | e | Any other triggering conditions can be discussed in furture release. |
| oppo | d | As our comments in Question-4, if UE has performed several times of RACH towards the same cell for the same purpose, i.e., handover, the network would not know which RACH entry in the RA report corresponds to the handover triggering SHR recording |
| vivo | e | Ok to postpone the discussion to Rel-18. |
| LG | e |  |
| Nokia | B,c,d | Not for a) because SHR content is stable once the UE completed HO. If RLF happens after this point, RLF report will be generated. |
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**Rapporteur summary:**

To be added later

# Conclusion

**To be added later.**