**3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #119bis-e** **R2-22xxx**

**Electronic, 10th – 19th October, 2022**

**Source: Huawei, HiSilicon**

**Title: [AT119bis-e][014][NR18] SENSE**

**Document for: Discussion and Decision**

# 1 Introduction

This document aims at gathering and summarizing companies views for the following offline discussion:

* [AT119bis-e][014][NR18] SENSE (Huawei)

Scope: Treat R2-2209304, R2-2209917, R2-2209918, R2-2210098, R2-2210099, R2-2210100, R2-2210515, R2-2210532, R2-2210529, R2-2210618, R2-2210631. Determine agreeable parts, Open points etc., based on agreeable parts, progress LS out. If applicable progress TP / Draft CRs.

Intended outcome: Report, Agreeable LS out, agreeable TP/Draft CR if applicable.

Deadline: For CB W1 Fri

The following contributions are considered in this email discussion according to Chair indication.

By Email [014] (11)

LS-in from CT1:

R2-2209304 LS on SENSE feature (C1-225338, contact: Huawei, Hislicon)

LS-out draft:

R2-2209917 Reply LS on SENSE feature (vivo)

R2-2210532 Reply LS on SENSE feature (Huawei, Hisilicon)

R2-2210631 Draft Reply LS on SENSE feature (Deutsche Telekom)

Discussion paper:

R2-2209918 Discussion on SENSE feature (vivo)

R2-2210098 Discussion on RAN2’s impact of SENSE (OPPO)

R2-2210529 Discussion on RAN Aspects of Signal Level Enhanced Network Selection (Huawei, Hisilicon)

R2-2210618 Discussion on SENSE feature (Deutsche Telekom, Thales, Ericsson, Telecom Italia)

CR:

R2-2210099 36.304 CR on SENSE (OPPO)

R2-2210100 38.304 CR on SENSE (OPPO)

R2-2210515 38.304 CR on SENSE feature (vivo)

# 2 Company contact details

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Name | Email Address |
| Huawei, HiSilicon | Li Qiang | qiangli3@huawei.com |
| Vodafone | Alexey Kulakov | Alexey.kulakov1@vodafone.com |
| Ericsson | Mattias Bergström | Mattias.a.bergstrom@ericsson.com |
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# 3 Discussion

**Question 1: Do you have any comment on the LS-in (R2-2209304)?**

Companies please to provide comment and answer on Question 1 in the following table.

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| Company | Answer (Yes/No) | Comment |
| Vodafone | no |  |
| Huawei | No |  |
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**Question 2: whether the UE-AS needs to be aware of the SENSE-threshold? If “Yes”, what does the UE-AS do with the SENSE-threshold?**

Related text quoted from contributions is provided in the following table for discussion reference.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contribution | Related text |
| R2-2209918  (vivo) | From our understanding, Operator controlled signal threshold are visible for both UE AS layer and upper layers. The upper layers and AS layer can use this signal threshold for PLMN selection and cell selection, respectively. |
| R2-2210515  (vivo) | If Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology is configured, it’s up to UE implementation how to derive cell measurement quantity (e.g., derived by the highest beam measurement quantity value or the linear average of the power values of up to nrofSS-BlocksToAverage of highest beam measurement quantity values above absThreshSS-BlocksConsolidation). |
| R2-2210098  (OPPO) | To realize this feature, UE AS layer needs to be aware of the new threshold and report those PLMNs which have met the operator control signal threshold independently of high-quality PLMNs. |
| R2-2210100  (OPPO)  Note: similar proposal in R2-2210099 | If the Operator controlled signal threshold for NR is provided by NAS and if the UE can read one or several PLMN identities in the strongest cell or the multiple strongest cell(s) in case of operation with shared spectrum channel access, each found PLMN (see the PLMN reading in TS 38.331 [3]) shall be reported to the NAS as an Operator controlled quality PLMN (but without the RSRP value) and any associated CAG-ID, provided that the following Operator controlled signal threshold criterion is fulfilled:  1. For an NR cell, the measured RSRP value shall be greater than or equal to the Operator controlled signal threshold. |
| R2-2210529  (Huawei) | Proposal 3: SENSE capable UE needs to consider the "Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology" during the cell selection procedure. |
| R2-2210618 (Deutsche Telekom) | From this, it is clear that in case the “Operator controlled signal threshold” is set on the USIM, the UE additionally applies the Operator controlled signal threshold as an additional criterion in each step of the selection process inside NAS, with no RAN2 impact expected on the current support for PLMN selection process as defined in TS 36.304.  Observation 1: Having analysed the SENSE feature, it is clear that, for this feature to work, there is no impact on legacy interfaces between upper layers and AS layer for support of PLMN selection. Hence there is no need to discuss or change any RAN2 specifications to support of the SENSE feature or any further optimisation in RAN2 for cell selection. |

Companies please to provide answer on Question 2 in the following table.

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| Company | Answer (Yes/No) | If “Yes”, what does the UE-AS do with the SENSE-threshold? |
| Vodafone | no | In our understanding the sense feature is based on NAS and AS would just provide RSRP values to NAS where the sense threshold will be applicable |
| Ericsson | No | SENSE is for **network selection** and is using the SENSE-threshold which is e.g. on the SIM card. **NAS** uses the threshold when performing network selection. NAS will get a list of PLMNs from AS (both high quality PLMNs (above -110 dBm) and other PLMNs (below -110 dBm) for which the measured RSRP will also be provided) and will select network considering the SENSE-threshold.  AS will (and should) report PLMNs to NAS in the same way as today, even if SENSE is applied in NAS. AS does not even need to know that NAS is having a SENSE-threshold.  It seems some propose that AS should get the SENSE-threshold to do some filtering (e.g. avoid reporting some low-quality PLMNs). But that does not bring any benefits in our view. NAS can (completely on its own) filter PLMNs using the threshold, it doesn’t bring any benefits that AS is doing some pre-filtering. |
| Huawei | Yes | Technically, stop at the PLMN selection phase and ignore the subsequent cell selection cannot make the SENSE feature really work.  SENSE-threshold is larger than the S-criterion, If UE-AS does not know the SENSE-threshold but select a cell according to the S-criterion, then the SENSE UE camping on that selected cell may still fail to get desired connection. And cell-reselection may not work if there is no SENSE-satisfied cell in higher priority frequency. |
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**Question 3: whether the NAS→AS interface needs to be enhanced? If “yes”, what enhancements are needed and whether such enhancements need to be specified?**

Related text quoted from contributions is provided in the following table for discussion reference.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contribution | Related text |
| R2-2209918  (vivo) | If there is any interaction between upper layers and AS layer on forwarding this signal threshold, this is totally the internal implementation of the device, as what we have done for IMSI. IMSI is NAS parameter but also used at AS layer for paging occasion calculation, while there is no text indicating NAS forwards IMSI to AS layer.  …  Proposal 1 No need to specify the interaction between AS layer and upper layers for PLMN selection for SENSE feature. |
| R2-2210100  (OPPO)  Note: similar proposal in R2-2210099 | If the Operator controlled signal threshold for NR is provided by NAS and if the UE can read one or several PLMN identities in the strongest cell or the multiple strongest cell(s) in case of operation with shared spectrum channel access, each found PLMN (see the PLMN reading in TS 38.331 [3]) shall be reported to the NAS as an Operator controlled quality PLMN (but without the RSRP value) and any associated CAG-ID, provided that the following Operator controlled signal threshold criterion is fulfilled:  1. For an NR cell, the measured RSRP value shall be greater than or equal to the Operator controlled signal threshold. |
| R2-2210529  (Huawei) | We believe the interface between the UE AS and NAS needs a certain enhancement, the "Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology" should be provided along with the selected PLMN ID in step 4.  Proposal 2: the UE NAS provides the "Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology" with the selected PLMN ID to the UE AS, and updates the "Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology" when the previously delivered "Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology" changed. |
| R2-2210618 (Deutsche Telekom) | Observation 1: Having analysed the SENSE feature, it is clear that, for this feature to work, there is no impact on legacy interfaces between upper layers and AS layer for support of PLMN selection. Hence there is no need to discuss or change any RAN2 specifications to support of the SENSE feature or any further optimisation in RAN2 for cell selection. |

Companies please to provide view and answer on Question 3 in the following table.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Answer (Yes/No) | If “Yes”, what enhancements are needed and whether need to specify the enhancements? |
| Vodafone | No | We currently do not see a reason to enhance this interface.  If my understanding is correct: Also the step 4 of R2-2210529 is in our view probably not really needed. I guess the functionality discussed here is described in DT document under: “In the unlikely case that the “Operator controlled signal threshold” is set, but no PLMN is above the defined threshold, NAS may perform a second iteration of the process, i.e., without applying the “Operator controlled signal threshold” (Figure 3), which is the legacy PLMN selection process defined in TS 22.011. |
| Ericsson | Np | Agree with Vodafone |
| Huawei | Yes | The interface needs to be enhanced for delivering the SENSE-threshold from NAS to AS, since AS needs the SENSE-threshold for cell selection.  SENSE-threshold can be updated, so whenever the delivered SENSE-threshold changes, NAS needs to inform AS of the lasted SENSE-threshold.  We think above enhancements need to be specified, since current clause 4.1 of TS 38.304 already specifies NAS to provide the selected PLMN, associated RAT(s), EPLMNs etc. to AS. |
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**Question 4: whether the AS→NAS interface needs to be enhanced? If “yes”, what enhancements are needed and whether such enhancements need to be specified?**

Related text quoted from contributions is provided in the following table for discussion reference.

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| --- | --- |
| Contribution | Related text |
| R2-2209918  (vivo) | When *Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology* is configured and this is visible for AS layer, the AS layer can only report the PLMNs which fulfill *Operator controlled signal threshold per access technology*. However, this does not bring much benefit but may result in NAS layer cannot know the reported PLMN is high-quality PLMN or the PLMN just satisfies *Operator controlled signal threshold*, which may impact the PLMN selection scheme in NAS layer. So, there is no need to specify anything on the UE interaction between AS layer and upper layers. |
| R2-2210100  (OPPO)  Note: similar proposal in R2-2210099 | If the Operator controlled signal threshold for NR is provided by NAS and if the UE can read one or several PLMN identities in the strongest cell or the multiple strongest cell(s) in case of operation with shared spectrum channel access, each found PLMN (see the PLMN reading in TS 38.331 [3]) shall be reported to the NAS as an Operator controlled quality PLMN (but without the RSRP value) and any associated CAG-ID, provided that the following Operator controlled signal threshold criterion is fulfilled:  1. For an NR cell, the measured RSRP value shall be greater than or equal to the Operator controlled signal threshold. |
| R2-2210529  (Huawei) | Proposal 1: SENSE capable UE needs to report the full band scan results for each frequency with RAT indication. |
| R2-2210618 (Deutsche Telekom) | Observation 1: Having analysed the SENSE feature, it is clear that, for this feature to work, there is no impact on legacy interfaces between upper layers and AS layer for support of PLMN selection. Hence there is no need to discuss or change any RAN2 specifications to support of the SENSE feature or any further optimisation in RAN2 for cell selection. |

Companies please to provide view and answer on Question 4 in the following table.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company | Answer (Yes/No) | If “Yes”, what enhancements are needed and whether need to specify the enhancements? |
| vodafone | no |  |
| Huawei | Yes | SENSE-threshold is configured per access technology, current sub-clauses 5.1.1.2 and 5.1.1.3 of TS 38.304 specify UE-AS to report only PLMN ID and RSRP value/high-quality to UE-NAS, so UE-NAS does not know the reported RSRP value/high-quality is for which access technology, consequently the UE-NAS does know which SENSE-threshold (per access technology) should be used to filter out the PLMN ID(s). So associated RAT info also need to be reported with the RSRP/high-quality & PLMN ID.  We think above enhancements need to be specified. |
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**Question 5: whether SENSE feature can be applied to all UEs (include RedCap UEs)?**

Related text quoted from contributions is provided in the following table for discussion reference.

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| --- | --- |
| Contribution | Related text |
| R2-2210098  (OPPO) | In NR, industrial sensors are a typical use case for RedCap UEs and RAN2/4 have defined measurement relaxation for stationary RedCap UEs. In our understanding, SENSE feature can be applied to all these UEs. |

Companies please to provide view and answer on Question 5 in the following table.

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| Company | Answer (Yes/No) | View |
| Vodafone | Yes | In my view, the new threshold should be applicable to all UEs. The relaxation and specific of the measurements is one thing the applicability of the threshold is in my view totally different and should be UE cat agnostic |
| Ericsson | - | Not a RAN2 discussion. |
| Huawei | Yes | No specific requirement for RedCap UE to support SENSE feature, agree with Vodafone |
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# 4 Conclusion

*To be filled*