

Source: TSG RAN WG2

To: TSG RAN WG3

Cc: TSG SA4

Title: Liaison Statement to clarify transmission of variable-rate codec mode commands on the lu -interface

During last two RAN WG2 meetings the support of variable rate codecs in UTRAN has been discussed. Based on information received from SMG12 and 3GPP TSG-SA Codec Working Group the following assumptions have been followed:

- For downlink data transfer the transcoder is located in the core network
- For uplink data transfer the transcoder is located in the UE
- The codec mode control is executed in UTRAN, more precisely in the SRNC.

Figure 1 presents the basic signalling exchanges based on the previous assumptions.

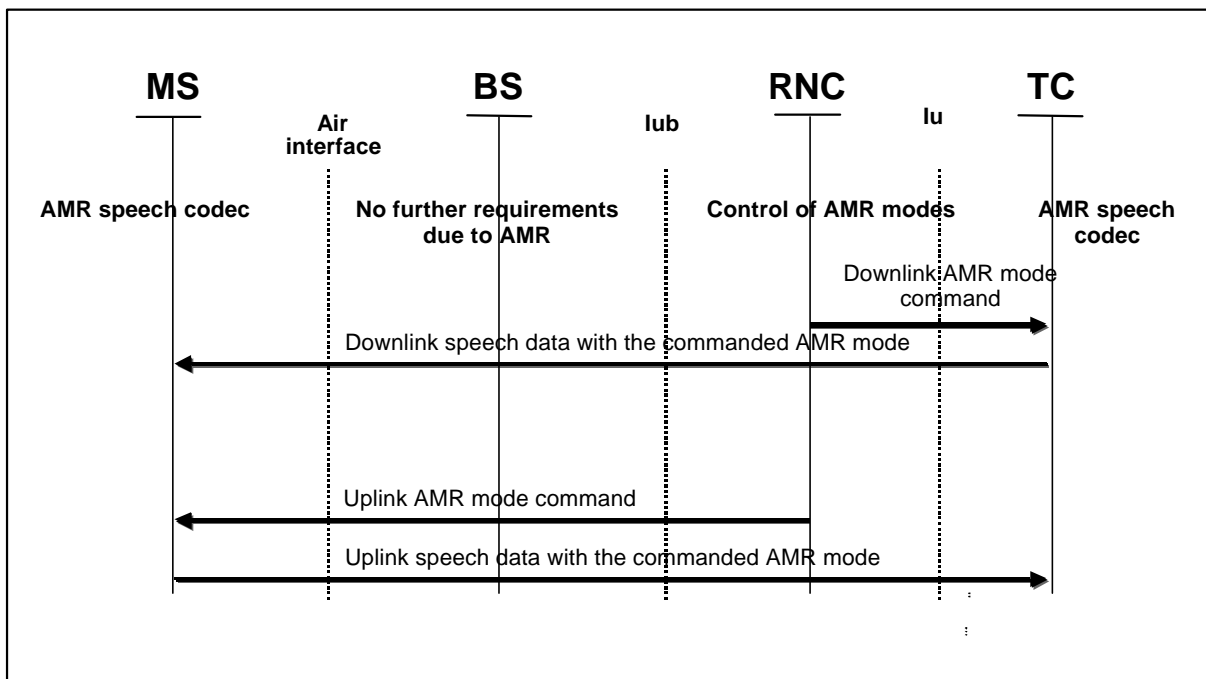


Figure 1: AMR codec mode control in WCDMA, overview

From figure 1 WG2 would like to emphasize the need to send downlink codec mode commands (e.g. AMR mode command) over the Iu-interface to enable the control of codec modes between the SRNC and TC. In GSM this transmission is performed with the aid of inband signalling. It should be noted that the requirement is that one AMR mode command can be sent every transmission time interval (TTI).

WG2 would like to inform WG3 of the existing assumption to confirm that the necessary support on the Iu-interface exists.

Further, WG2 would appreciate to receive a short description on how the transmission of these codec mode commands is planned to be addressed on the lu, emphasizing possible points, if any are found, where description on the codec mode command transmission in WG2 documents might be needed.