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Postal address

3GPP support office address
650 Route des Lucioles - Sophia Antipolis
Valbonne - FRANCE
Tel.: +33 4 92 94 42 00 Fax: +33 4 93 65 47 16

Internet
http://www.3gpp.org

Contents

Foreword

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- y the second digit is incremented for all changes of substance, i.e. technical enhancements, corrections, updates, etc.
- z the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated in the document.

1 Scope

The present document specifies the E-UTRA MAC protocol.

2 References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

- References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non-specific.
- For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.
- For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies. In the case of a reference to a 3GPP document (including a GSM document), a non-specific reference implicitly refers to the latest version of that document *in the same Release as the present document*.

[1] 3GPP TR 21.905: "Vocabulary for 3GPP Specifications".

[2] 3GPP TR 36.213: "Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Physical Layer Procedures".

[3] 3GPP TS 36.322: “Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Radio Link Control (RLC) protocol specification”.

[4] 3GPP TS 36.323: “Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Packet Data Convergence Protocol (PDCP) Specification”.

[5] 3GPP TS 36.212: “Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Multiplexing and channel coding”.

[6] 3GPP TS 36.214: “Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Physical layer; Measurements”.

[7] 3GPP TS 36.211: “Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Physical Channels and Modulation”.

[8] 3GPP TS 36.331: “Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Radio Resource Control (RRC); Protocol specification”.

[9] 3GPP TS 36.133: "Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Requirements for support of radio resource management".

[10] 3GPP TS 36.101: "Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); User Equipment (UE) radio transmission and reception".

[11] 3GPP TS 36.216: "Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Physical layer for relaying operation".

3 Definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the terms and definitions given in TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. A term defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same term, if any, in TR 21.905 [1].

Active Time: Time related to DRX operation, as defined in subclause 5.7, during which the UE monitors the PDCCH in PDCCH-subframes.

mac-ContentionResolutionTimer: Specifies the number of consecutive subframe(s) during which the UE shall monitor the PDCCH after Msg3 is transmitted.

DRX Cycle: Specifies the periodic repetition of the On Duration followed by a possible period of inactivity (see figure 3.1-1 below).

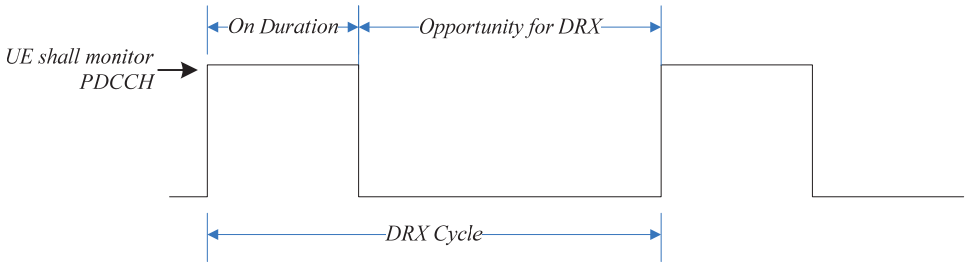

Figure 3.1-1: DRX Cycle

drx-InactivityTimer: Specifies the number of consecutive PDCCH-subframe(s) after the subframe in which a PDCCH indicates an initial UL or DL user data transmission for this UE.

drx-RetransmissionTimer: Specifies the maximum number of consecutive PDCCH-subframe(s) until a DL retransmission is received.

drxShortCycleTimer: Specifies the number of consecutive subframe(s) the UE shall follow the Short DRX cycle.

drxStartOffset: Specifies the subframe where the DRX Cycle starts.

HARQ information: HARQ information consists of New Data Indicator (NDI), Transport Block (TB) size. For DL-SCH transmissions the HARQ information also includes HARQ process ID. For UL-SCH transmission the HARQ info also includes Redundancy Version (RV). In case of spatial multiplexing on DL-SCH the HARQ information comprises a set of NDI and TB size for each transport block.

HARQ RTT Timer: This parameter specifies the minimum amount of subframe(s) before a DL HARQ retransmission is expected by the UE.

Msg3: Message transmitted on UL-SCH containing a C-RNTI MAC CE or CCCH SDU, submitted from upper layer and associated with the UE Contention Resolution Identity, as part of a random access procedure.

onDurationTimer: Specifies the number of consecutive PDCCH-subframe(s) at the beginning of a DRX Cycle.

PDCCH: Refers to the PDCCH [7], EPDCCH (in subframes when configured) or, for an RN with R-PDCCH configured and not suspended, to the R-PDCCH.

PDCCH-subframe: Refers to a subframe with PDCCH. For FDD UE operation, this represents any subframe; for TDD UE operation, if UE is capable of simultaneous reception and transmission in the aggregated cells, this represents the union of downlink subframes and subframes including DwPTS of all serving cells, except serving cells that are configured with *schedulingCellId* [8]; otherwise, this represents the subframes where the PCell is configured as a downlink subframe or a subframe including DwPTS.
For RNs with an RN subframe configuration configured and not suspended, in its communication with the E-UTRAN, this represents all downlink subframes configured for RN communication with the E-UTRAN.

PRACH Resource Index: The index of a PRACH within a system frame [7]

Primary Timing Advance Group: Timing Advance Group containing the PCell.

***ra-PRACH-MaskIndex*:** Defines in which PRACHs within a system frame the UE can transmit a Random Access Preamble (see subclause 7.3).

RA-RNTI: The Random Access RNTI is used on the PDCCH when Random Access Response messages are transmitted. It unambiguously identifies which time-frequency resource was utilized by the UE to transmit the Random Access preamble.

Secondary Timing Advance Group: Timing Advance Group not containing the PCell. A Secondary Timing Advance Group contains at least one Serving Cell with an UL configured.

Serving Cell: A Primary or a Secondary Cell [8].

Timing Advance Group: A group of Serving Cells that is configured by RRC and that, for the cells with an UL configured, using the same timing reference cell and the same Timing Advance value.

NOTE: A timer is running once it is started, until it is stopped or until it expires; otherwise it is not running. A timer can be started if it is not running or restarted if it is running. A Timer is always started or restarted from its initial value.

3.2 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. An abbreviation defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same abbreviation, if any, in TR 21.905 [1].

BSR	Buffer Status Report
C-RNTI	Cell RNTI
CQI	Channel Quality Indicator
E-UTRA	Evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access
E-UTRAN	Evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network
MAC	Medium Access Control
M-RNTI	MBMS RNTI
LCG	Logical Channel Group
PCell	Primary Cell [8]
PHR	Power Headroom Report
PMI	Precoding Matrix Index
P-RNTI	Paging RNTI
pTAG	Primary Timing Advance Group
PTI	Precoding Type Indicator
RA-RNTI	Random Access RNTI
RI	Rank Indicator
RN	Relay Node
RNTI	Radio Network Temporary Identifier
SCell	Secondary Cell [8]
SI-RNTI	System Information RNTI
SR	Scheduling Request
SRS	Sounding Reference Symbols
sTAG	Secondary Timing Advance Group
TAG	Timing Advance Group
TB	Transport Block
TPC-PUCCH-RNTI	Transmit Power Control-Physical Uplink Control Channel-RNTI
TPC-PUSCH-RNTI	Transmit Power Control-Physical Uplink Shared Channel-RNTI

4 General

4.1 Introduction

The objective is to describe the MAC architecture and the MAC entity from a functional point of view. Functionality specified for the UE equally applies to the RN for functionality necessary for the RN. There is also functionality which is only applicable to the RN, in which case the specification denotes the RN instead of the UE. RN-specific behaviour is not applicable to the UE.

4.2 MAC architecture

The description in this sub clause is a model and does not specify or restrict implementations.

RRC is in control of configuration of MAC.

4.2.1 MAC Entities

E-UTRA defines two MAC entities; one in the UE and one in the E-UTRAN. These MAC entities handle the following transport channels:

- Broadcast Channel (BCH);
- Downlink Shared Channel(s) (DL-SCH);
- Paging Channel (PCH);
- Uplink Shared Channel(s) (UL-SCH);
- Random Access Channel(s) (RACH);
- Multicast Channel(s) (MCH).

The exact functions performed by the MAC entities are different in the UE from those performed in the E-UTRAN.

The RN includes both MAC entities; one for communication with UEs and one for communication with the E-UTRAN.

If the UE is configured with one or more SCells, there are multiple DL-SCH and there may be multiple UL-SCH and RACH per UE; one DL-SCH and UL-SCH on the PCell, one DL-SCH, zero or one UL-SCH and zero or one RACH for each SCell.

Figure 4.2.1-1 illustrates one possible structure for the UE side MAC entity, and it should not restrict implementation.

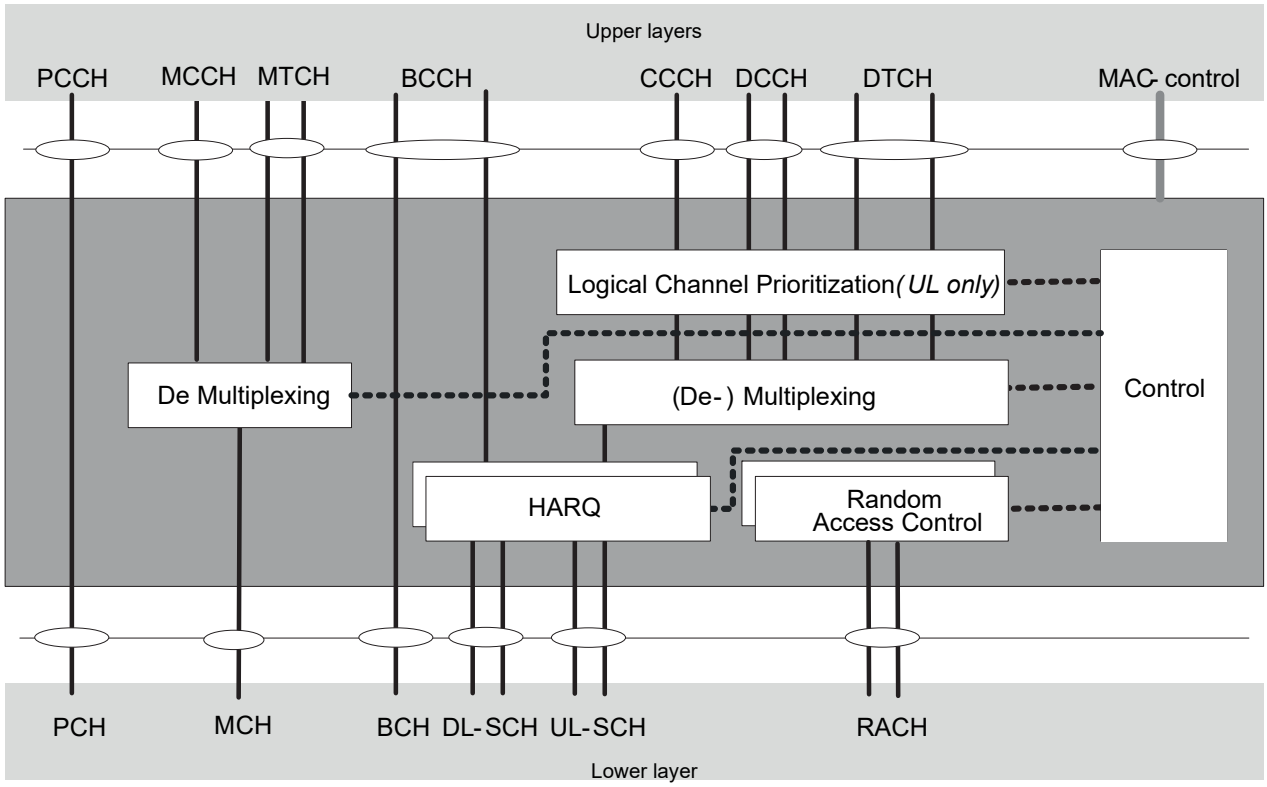

Figure 4.2.1-1: MAC structure overview, UE side

4.3 Services

4.3.1 Services provided to upper layers

This clause describes the different services provided by MAC sublayer to upper layers.

- data transfer
- radio resource allocation

4.3.2 Services expected from physical layer

The physical layer provides the following services to MAC:

- data transfer services;
- signalling of HARQ feedback;
- signalling of Scheduling Request;
- measurements (e.g. Channel Quality Indication (CQI)).

The access to the data transfer services is through the use of transport channels. The characteristics of a transport channel are defined by its transport format (or format set), specifying the physical layer processing to be applied to the transport channel in question, such as channel coding and interleaving, and any service-specific rate matching as needed.

4.4 Functions

The following functions are supported by MAC sublayer:

- mapping between logical channels and transport channels;
- multiplexing of MAC SDUs from one or different logical channels onto transport blocks (TB) to be delivered to the physical layer on transport channels;
- demultiplexing of MAC SDUs from one or different logical channels from transport blocks (TB) delivered from the physical layer on transport channels;
- scheduling information reporting;
- error correction through HARQ;
- priority handling between UEs by means of dynamic scheduling;
- priority handling between logical channels of one UE;
- Logical Channel prioritisation;
- transport format selection.

The location of the different functions and their relevance for uplink and downlink respectively is illustrated in Table 4.4-1.

Table 4.4-1: MAC function location and link direction association.

MAC function	UE	eNB	Downlink	Uplink
Mapping between logical channels and transport channels	X		X	X
		X	X	X
Multiplexing	X			X
		X	X	
Demultiplexing	X		X	
		X		X
Error correction through HARQ	X		X	X
		X	X	X
Transport Format Selection		X	X	X
Priority handling between UEs		X	X	X
Priority handling between logical channels of one UE		X	X	X
Logical Channel prioritisation	X			X
Scheduling information reporting	X			X

4.5 Channel structure

The MAC sublayer operates on the channels defined below; transport channels are SAPs between MAC and Layer 1, logical channels are SAPs between MAC and RLC.

4.5.1 Transport Channels

The transport channels used by MAC are described in Table 4.5.1-1 below.

Table 4.5.1-1: Transport channels used by MAC

Transport channel name	Acronym	Downlink	Uplink
Broadcast Channel	BCH	X	
Downlink Shared Channel	DL-SCH	X	
Paging Channel	PCH	X	
Multicast Channel	MCH	X	
Uplink Shared Channel	UL-SCH		X
Random Access Channel	RACH		X

4.5.2 Logical Channels

The MAC layer provides data transfer services on logical channels. A set of logical channel types is defined for different kinds of data transfer services as offered by MAC.

Each logical channel type is defined by what type of information is transferred.

MAC provides the control and traffic channels listed in Table 4.5.2-1 below.

Table 4.5.2-1: Logical channels provided by MAC.

Logical channel name	Acronym	Control channel	Traffic channel
Broadcast Control Channel	BCCH	X	
Paging Control Channel	PCCH	X	
Common Control Channel	CCCH	X	
Dedicated Control Channel	DCCH	X	
Multicast Control Channel	MCCH	X	
Dedicated Traffic Channel	DTCH		X
Multicast Traffic Channel	MTCH		X

4.5.3 Mapping of Transport Channels to Logical Channels

The mapping of logical channels on transport channels depends on the multiplexing that is configured by RRC.

4.5.3.1 Uplink mapping

The MAC entity is responsible for mapping logical channels for the uplink onto uplink transport channels. The uplink logical channels can be mapped as described in Figure 4.5.3.1-1 and Table 4.5.3.1-1.

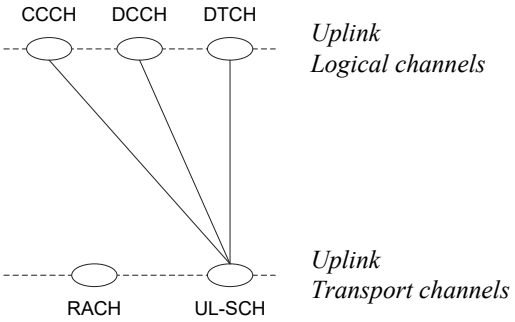

Figure 4.5.3.1-1

Table 4.5.3.1-1: Uplink channel mapping.

Transport channel / Logical channel	UL-SCH	RACH
CCCH	X	
DCCH	X	
DTCH	X	

4.5.3.2 Downlink mapping

The MAC entity is responsible for mapping the downlink logical channels to downlink transport channels. The downlink logical channels can be mapped as described in Figure 4.5.3.2-1 and Table 4.5.3.2-1.

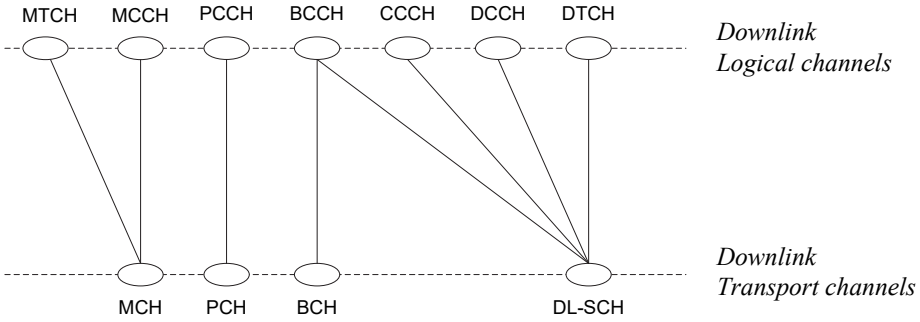

Figure 4.5.3.2-1

Table 4.5.3.2-1: Downlink channel mapping.

Transport channel / Logical channel	BCH	PCH	DL-SCH	MCH
BCCH	X		X	
PCCH		X		
CCCH			X	
DCCH			X	
DTCH			X	
MCCH				X
MTCH				X

5 MAC procedures

5.1 Random Access procedure

5.1.1 Random Access Procedure initialization

The Random Access procedure described in this subclause is initiated by a PDCCH order or by the MAC sublayer itself. Random Access procedure on an SCell shall only be initiated by a PDCCH order. If a UE receives a PDCCH transmission consistent with a PDCCH order [5] masked with its C-RNTI, and for a specific Serving Cell, the UE shall initiate a Random Access procedure on this Serving Cell. For Random Access on the PCell a PDCCH order or RRC optionally indicate the *ra-PreambleIndex* and the *ra-PRACH-MaskIndex*; and for Random Access on an SCell, the PDCCH order indicates the *ra-PreambleIndex* with a value different from 000000 and the *ra-PRACH-MaskIndex*. For the pTAG preamble transmission on PRACH and reception of a PDCCH order are only supported for PCell.

Before the procedure can be initiated, the following information for related Serving Cell is assumed to be available [8]:

- the available set of PRACH resources for the transmission of the Random Access Preamble, *prach-ConfigIndex*.
- the groups of Random Access Preambles and the set of available Random Access Preambles in each group (PCell only):

  The preambles that are contained in Random Access Preambles group A and Random Access Preambles group B are calculated from the parameters *numberOfRA-Preambles* and *sizeOfRA-PreamblesGroupA*:

  If *sizeOfRA-PreamblesGroupA* is equal to *numberOfRA-Preambles* then there is no Random Access Preambles group B. The preambles in Random Access Preamble group A are the preambles 0 to *sizeOfRA-PreamblesGroupA* – 1 and, if it exists, the preambles in Random Access Preamble group B are the preambles *sizeOfRA-PreamblesGroupA* to *numberOfRA-Preambles* – 1 from the set of 64 preambles as defined in [7].
- if Random Access Preambles group B exists, the thresholds, *messagePowerOffsetGroupB* and *messageSizeGroupA*, the configured UE transmitted power of the Serving Cell performing the Random Access Procedure, $P_{CMAX,\,c}$ [10], and the offset between the preamble and Msg3, *deltaPreambleMsg3*, that are required for selecting one of the two groups of Random Access Preambles (PCell only).
- the RA response window size *ra-ResponseWindowSize*.
- the power-ramping factor *powerRampingStep*.
- the maximum number of preamble transmission *preambleTransMax*.
- the initial preamble power *preambleInitialReceivedTargetPower*.
- the preamble format based offset DELTA_PREAMBLE (see subclause 7.6).
- the maximum number of Msg3 HARQ transmissions *maxHARQ-Msg3Tx* (PCell only).
- the Contention Resolution Timer *mac-ContentionResolutionTimer* (PCell only).

NOTE: The above parameters may be updated from upper layers before each Random Access procedure is initiated.

The Random Access procedure shall be performed as follows:

- Flush the Msg3 buffer;
- set the PREAMBLE_TRANSMISSION_COUNTER to 1;
- set the backoff parameter value in the UE to 0 ms;
- for the RN, suspend any RN subframe configuration;
- proceed to the selection of the Random Access Resource (see subclause 5.1.2).

NOTE: There is only one Random Access procedure ongoing at any point in time. If the UE receives a request for a new Random Access procedure while another is already ongoing, it is up to UE implementation whether to continue with the ongoing procedure or start with the new procedure.

5.1.2 Random Access Resource selection

The Random Access Resource selection procedure shall be performed as follows:

- If *ra-PreambleIndex* (Random Access Preamble) and *ra-PRACH-MaskIndex* (PRACH Mask Index) have been explicitly signalled and *ra-PreambleIndex* is not 000000:
  - the Random Access Preamble and the PRACH Mask Index are those explicitly signalled.
- else the Random Access Preamble shall be selected by the UE as follows:
  - If Msg3 has not yet been transmitted, the UE shall:
    - if Random Access Preambles group B exists and if the potential message size (data available for transmission plus MAC header and, where required, MAC control elements) is greater than *messageSizeGroupA* and if the pathloss is less than $P_{CMAX,c}$ (of the Serving Cell performing the Random Access Procedure) – *preambleInitialReceivedTargetPower* – *deltaPreambleMsg3* – *messagePowerOffsetGroupB*, then:
      - select the Random Access Preambles group B;
    - else:
      - select the Random Access Preambles group A.
  - else, if Msg3 is being retransmitted, the UE shall:
    - select the same group of Random Access Preambles as was used for the preamble transmission attempt corresponding to the first transmission of Msg3.
  - randomly select a Random Access Preamble within the selected group. The random function shall be such that each of the allowed selections can be chosen with equal probability;
  - set PRACH Mask Index to 0.
- determine the next available subframe containing PRACH permitted by the restrictions given by the *prach-ConfigIndex,* the PRACH Mask Index (see subclause 7.3) and physical layer timing requirements [2] (a UE may take into account the possible occurrence of measurement gaps when determining the next available PRACH subframe);
- if the transmission mode is TDD and the PRACH Mask Index is equal to zero:
  - if *ra-PreambleIndex* was explicitly signalled and it was not 000000 (i.e., not selected by MAC):
    - randomly select, with equal probability, one PRACH from the PRACHs available in the determined subframe.
  - else:
    - randomly select, with equal probability, one PRACH from the PRACHs available in the determined subframe and the next two consecutive subframes.
- else:
  - determine a PRACH within the determined subframe in accordance with the requirements of the PRACH Mask Index.
- proceed to the transmission of the Random Access Preamble (see subclause 5.1.3).

5.1.3 Random Access Preamble transmission

The random-access procedure shall be performed as follows:

- set PREAMBLE_RECEIVED_TARGET_POWER to *preambleInitialReceivedTargetPower* + DELTA_PREAMBLE + (PREAMBLE_TRANSMISSION_COUNTER – 1) * *powerRampingStep*;
- instruct the physical layer to transmit a preamble using the selected PRACH, corresponding RA-RNTI, preamble index and PREAMBLE_RECEIVED_TARGET_POWER.

5.1.4 Random Access Response reception

Once the Random Access Preamble is transmitted and regardless of the possible occurrence of a measurement gap, the UE shall monitor the PDCCH of the PCell for Random Access Response(s) identified by the RA-RNTI defined below, in the RA Response window which starts at the subframe that contains the end of the preamble transmission [7] plus three subframes and has length *ra-ResponseWindowSize* subframes. The RA-RNTI associated with the PRACH in which the Random Access Preamble is transmitted, is computed as:

$$\text{RA-RNTI} = 1 + t\_id + 10 * f\_id$$

Where t_id is the index of the first subframe of the specified PRACH ($0 \leq t\_id < 10$), and f_id is the index of the specified PRACH within that subframe, in ascending order of frequency domain ($0 \leq f\_id < 6$). The UE may stop monitoring for Random Access Response(s) after successful reception of a Random Access Response containing Random Access Preamble identifiers that matches the transmitted Random Access Preamble.

- If a downlink assignment for this TTI has been received on the PDCCH for the RA-RNTI and the received TB is successfully decoded, the UE shall regardless of the possible occurrence of a measurement gap:
  - if the Random Access Response contains a Backoff Indicator subheader:
    - set the backoff parameter value in the UE as indicated by the BI field of the Backoff Indicator subheader and Table 7.2-1.
  - else, set the backoff parameter value in the UE to 0 ms.
  - if the Random Access Response contains a Random Access Preamble identifier corresponding to the transmitted Random Access Preamble (see subclause 5.1.3), the UE shall:
    - consider this Random Access Response reception successful and apply the following actions for the serving cell where the Random Access Preamble was transmitted:
      - process the received Timing Advance Command (see subclause 5.2);
      - indicate the *preambleInitialReceivedTargetPower* and the amount of power ramping applied to the latest preamble transmission to lower layers (i.e., (PREAMBLE_TRANSMISSION_COUNTER – 1) * *powerRampingStep*);
      - process the received UL grant value and indicate it to the lower layers;
    - if *ra-PreambleIndex* was explicitly signalled and it was not 000000 (i.e., not selected by MAC):
      - consider the Random Access procedure successfully completed.
    - else, if the Random Access Preamble was selected by UE MAC:
      - set the Temporary C-RNTI to the value received in the Random Access Response message no later than at the time of the first transmission corresponding to the UL grant provided in the Random Access Response message;
      - if this is the first successfully received Random Access Response within this Random Access procedure:
        - if the transmission is not being made for the CCCH logical channel, indicate to the Multiplexing and assembly entity to include a C-RNTI MAC control element in the subsequent uplink transmission;

- obtain the MAC PDU to transmit from the "Multiplexing and assembly" entity and store it in the Msg3 buffer.

NOTE: When an uplink transmission is required, e.g., for contention resolution, the eNB should not provide a grant smaller than 56 bits in the Random Access Response.

NOTE: If within a Random Access procedure, an uplink grant provided in the Random Access Response for the same group of Random Access Preambles has a different size than the first uplink grant allocated during that Random Access procedure, the UE behavior is not defined.

If no Random Access Response is received within the RA Response window, or if none of all received Random Access Responses contains a Random Access Preamble identifier corresponding to the transmitted Random Access Preamble, the Random Access Response reception is considered not successful and the UE shall:

- increment PREAMBLE_TRANSMISSION_COUNTER by 1;
- If PREAMBLE_TRANSMISSION_COUNTER = *preambleTransMax* + 1:
  - if the Random Access Preamble is transmitted on the PCell:
    - indicate a Random Access problem to upper layers;
  - if the Random Access Preamble is transmitted on an SCell:
    - consider the Random Access procedure unsuccessfully completed.
- if in this Random Access procedure, the Random Access Preamble was selected by MAC:
  - based on the backoff parameter in the UE, select a random backoff time according to a uniform distribution between 0 and the Backoff Parameter Value;
  - delay the subsequent Random Access transmission by the backoff time;
- proceed to the selection of a Random Access Resource (see subclause 5.1.2).

5.1.5 Contention Resolution

Contention Resolution is based on either C-RNTI on PDCCH of the PCell or UE Contention Resolution Identity on DL-SCH.

Once Msg3 is transmitted, the UE shall:

- start *mac-ContentionResolutionTimer* and restart *mac-ContentionResolutionTimer* at each HARQ retransmission;
- regardless of the possible occurrence of a measurement gap, monitor the PDCCH until *mac-ContentionResolutionTimer* expires or is stopped;
- if notification of a reception of a PDCCH transmission is received from lower layers, the UE shall:
  - if the C-RNTI MAC control element was included in Msg3:
    - if the Random Access procedure was initiated by the MAC sublayer itself and the PDCCH transmission is addressed to the C-RNTI and contains an UL grant for a new transmission; or
    - if the Random Access procedure was initiated by a PDCCH order and the PDCCH transmission is addressed to the C-RNTI:
      - consider this Contention Resolution successful;
      - stop *mac-ContentionResolutionTimer*;
      - discard the Temporary C-RNTI;
      - consider this Random Access procedure successfully completed.

- else if the CCCH SDU was included in Msg3 and the PDCCH transmission is addressed to its Temporary C-RNTI:
  - if the MAC PDU is successfully decoded:
    - stop *mac-ContentionResolutionTimer*;
    - if the MAC PDU contains a UE Contention Resolution Identity MAC control element; and
    - if the UE Contention Resolution Identity included in the MAC control element matches the CCCH SDU transmitted in Msg3:
      - consider this Contention Resolution successful and finish the disassembly and demultiplexing of the MAC PDU;
      - set the C-RNTI to the value of the Temporary C-RNTI;
      - discard the Temporary C-RNTI;
      - consider this Random Access procedure successfully completed.
    - else
      - discard the Temporary C-RNTI;
      - consider this Contention Resolution not successful and discard the successfully decoded MAC PDU.
- if *mac-ContentionResolutionTimer* expires:
  - discard the Temporary C-RNTI;
  - consider the Contention Resolution not successful.
- if the Contention Resolution is considered not successful the UE shall:
  - flush the HARQ buffer used for transmission of the MAC PDU in the Msg3 buffer;
  - increment PREAMBLE_TRANSMISSION_COUNTER by 1;
  - If PREAMBLE_TRANSMISSION_COUNTER = *preambleTransMax* + 1:
    - indicate a Random Access problem to upper layers.
  - based on the backoff parameter in the UE, select a random backoff time according to a uniform distribution between 0 and the Backoff Parameter Value;
  - delay the subsequent Random Access transmission by the backoff time;
  - proceed to the selection of a Random Access Resource (see subclause 5.1.2).

5.1.6 Completion of the Random Access procedure

At completion of the Random Access procedure, the UE shall:

- discard explicitly signalled *ra-PreambleIndex* and *ra-PRACH-MaskIndex*, if any;
- flush the HARQ buffer used for transmission of the MAC PDU in the Msg3 buffer.

In addition, the RN shall resume the suspended RN subframe configuration, if any.

5.2 Maintenance of Uplink Time Alignment

The UE has a configurable timer *timeAlignmentTimer* per TAG. The *timeAlignmentTimer* is used to control how long the UE considers the Serving Cells belonging to the associated TAG to be uplink time aligned [8].

The UE shall:

- when a Timing Advance Command MAC control element is received:
  - apply the Timing Advance Command for the indicated TAG;
  - start or restart the *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with the indicated TAG.
- when a Timing Advance Command is received in a Random Access Response message for a serving cell belonging to a TAG:
  - if the Random Access Preamble was not selected by UE MAC:
    - apply the Timing Advance Command for this TAG;
    - start or restart the *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with this TAG.
  - else, if the *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with this TAG is not running:
    - apply the Timing Advance Command for this TAG;
    - start the *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with this TAG;
    - when the contention resolution is considered not successful as described in subclause 5.1.5, stop *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with this TAG.
  - else:
    - ignore the received Timing Advance Command.
- when a *timeAlignmentTimer* expires:
  - if the *timeAlignmentTimer* is associated with the pTAG:
    - flush all HARQ buffers for all serving cells;
    - notify RRC to release PUCCH/SRS for all serving cells;
    - clear any configured downlink assignments and uplink grants;
    - consider all running *timeAlignmentTimer*s as expired;
  - else if the *timeAlignmentTimer* is associated with an sTAG, then for all Serving Cells belonging to this TAG:
    - flush all HARQ buffers;
    - notify RRC to release SRS.

The UE shall not perform any uplink transmission on a Serving Cell except the Random Access Preamble transmission when the *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with the TAG to which this Serving Cell belongs is not running. Furthermore, when the *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with the pTAG is not running, the UE shall not perform any uplink transmission on any Serving Cell except the Random Access Preamble transmission on the PCell.

NOTE: A UE stores or maintains N_{TA} upon expiry of associated *timeAlignmentTimer*, where N_{TA} is defined in [7]. The UE applies a received Timing Advance Command MAC control element and starts associated *timeAlignmentTimer* also when the *timeAlignmentTimer* is not running.

5.3 DL-SCH data transfer

5.3.1 DL Assignment reception

Downlink assignments transmitted on the PDCCH indicate if there is a transmission on a DL-SCH for a particular UE and provide the relevant HARQ information.

When the UE has a C-RNTI, Semi-Persistent Scheduling C-RNTI, or Temporary C-RNTI, the UE shall for each TTI during which it monitors PDCCH and for each Serving Cell:

- if a downlink assignment for this TTI and this Serving Cell has been received on the PDCCH for the UE's C-RNTI, or Temporary C-RNTI:
  - if this is the first downlink assignment for this Temporary C-RNTI:
    - consider the NDI to have been toggled.
  - if the downlink assignment is for UE's C-RNTI and if the previous downlink assignment indicated to the HARQ entity of the same HARQ process was either a downlink assignment received for the UE's Semi-Persistent Scheduling C-RNTI or a configured downlink assignment:
    - consider the NDI to have been toggled regardless of the value of the NDI.
  - indicate the presence of a downlink assignment and deliver the associated HARQ information to the HARQ entity for this TTI.
- else, if this Serving Cell is the PCell and a downlink assignment for this TTI has been received for the PCell on the PDCCH of the PCell for the UE's Semi-Persistent Scheduling C-RNTI:
  - if the NDI in the received HARQ information is 1:
    - consider the NDI not to have been toggled;
    - indicate the presence of a downlink assignment and deliver the associated HARQ information to the HARQ entity for this TTI.
  - else, if the NDI in the received HARQ information is 0:
    - if PDCCH contents indicate SPS release:
      - clear the configured downlink assignment (if any);
      - if the *timeAlignmentTimer* associated with the pTAG is running:
        - indicate a positive acknowledgement for the downlink SPS release to the physical layer.
    - else:
      - store the downlink assignment and the associated HARQ information as configured downlink assignment;
      - initialise (if not active) or re-initialise (if already active) the configured downlink assignment to start in this TTI and to recur according to rules in subclause 5.10.1;
      - set the HARQ Process ID to the HARQ Process ID associated with this TTI;
      - consider the NDI bit to have been toggled;
      - indicate the presence of a configured downlink assignment and deliver the stored HARQ information to the HARQ entity for this TTI.
- else, if this Serving Cell is the PCell and a downlink assignment for this TTI has been configured for the PCell and there is no measurement gap in this TTI; and
- if this TTI is not an MBSFN subframe of the PCell or the UE is configured with transmission mode *tm9* or *tm10* on the PCell:
  - instruct the physical layer to receive, in this TTI, transport block on the DL-SCH according to the configured downlink assignment and to deliver it to the HARQ entity;
  - set the HARQ Process ID to the HARQ Process ID associated with this TTI;
  - consider the NDI bit to have been toggled;