



# SLOVENSKI STANDARD SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003

01-december-2003

---

8 [[ ]Hb]`W] b]`hY`\_ca i b]\_UW`g\_]`g]ghYa `fZuU&ŽL`E`AcV]`bUdcghUUE`Ja Ygb]\_g]ghYa UVUnbY`dcghUY`fA G!6 GGL`E`GdYWZ]\_UW`UdcXU`cj bY`dcj Yncj UbY`d`Ugh] f] GA`\$(`\$\* žfUh`] ]WU) `%%&L

Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+) (GSM); Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface; Data Link (DL) layer specification (GSM 04.06 version 5.1.1)

## iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)

[SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003)

[https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003)

[b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003)

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: **ETS 300 938 Edition 2**

---

### **ICS:**

|           |   |  |
|-----------|---|--|
| 33.070.50 | Globalni sistem za mobilno telekomunikacijo (GSM) | Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) |
|-----------|---|--|

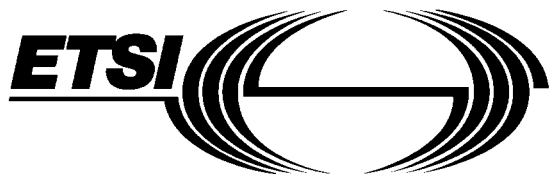
**SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003**

**en**

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244ecc4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003>



**E**UROPEAN  
**T**ELECOMMUNICATION  
**S**TANDARD

**ETS 300 938**

September 1997

Second Edition

Source: ETSI SMG

Reference: RE/SMG-030406QR

ICS: 33.020

**Key words:** Digital cellular telecommunications system, Global System for Mobile communications (GSM)



**Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+);  
Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface;  
Data Link (DL) layer specification  
(GSM 04.06 version 5.1.1)**

**ETSI**

European Telecommunications Standards Institute

**ETSI Secretariat**

**Postal address:** F-06921 Sophia Antipolis CEDEX - FRANCE

**Office address:** 650 Route des Lucioles - Sophia Antipolis - Valbonne - FRANCE

**X.400:** c=fr, a=atlas, p=etsi, s=secretariat - **Internet:** secretariat@etsi.fr

Tel.: +33 4 92 94 42 00 - Fax: +33 4 93 65 47 16

**Copyright Notification:** No part may be reproduced except as authorized by written permission. The copyright and the foregoing restriction extend to reproduction in all media.

© European Telecommunications Standards Institute 1997. All rights reserved.

## iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)

[SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003>

## Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Foreword .....   | 7  |
| 0 Scope .....  | 9  |
| 0.1 Normative references .....   | 9  |
| 0.2 Abbreviations .....  | 9  |
| 1 General.....   | 10 |
| 1.1 Options.....   | 10 |
| 2 Frame structure for peer-to-peer communication .....   | 11 |
| 2.1 General .....  | 11 |
| 2.2 Frame delimitation and fill bits .....   | 13 |
| 2.3 Address field .....  | 13 |
| 2.4 Control field.....   | 14 |
| 2.5 Length indicator field.....  | 14 |
| 2.5a Short L2 header type 1 .....  | 14 |
| 2.6 Information field .....  | 14 |
| 2.7 Transparency.....  | 14 |
| 2.8 Format convention .....  | 14 |
| 2.8.1 Numbering convention .....   | 14 |
| 2.8.2 Order of bit transmission .....  | 14 |
| 2.8.3 Field mapping convention .....   | 14 |
| 3 Elements of procedures and formats of fields for Data Link Layer peer-to-peer communication..... | 15 |
| 3.1 General .....  | 15 |
| 3.2 Address field format.....  | 15 |
| 3.3 Address field variables.....   | 16 |
| 3.3.1 Address field extension bit (EA) .....   | 16 |
| 3.3.2 Command/response field bit (C/R).....  | 16 |
| 3.3.3 Service access point identifier (SAPI) .....   | 16 |
| 3.4 Control field formats.....   | 16 |
| 3.4.1 Information transfer format - I .....  | 16 |
| 3.4.2 Supervisory format - S.....  | 17 |
| 3.4.3 Unnumbered format - U .....  | 17 |
| 3.4a Short L2 header type 1 .....  | 17 |
| 3.5 Control field parameters and associated state variables.....                                   | 17 |
| 3.5.1 Poll/Final bit.....  | 17 |
| 3.5.2 Multiple frame operation - variables and sequence numbers .....                              | 18 |
| 3.5.2.1 Modulus .....  | 18 |
| 3.5.2.2 Send state variable V(S).....  | 18 |
| 3.5.2.3 Acknowledge state variable V(A).....   | 18 |
| 3.5.2.4 Send sequence number N(S) .....  | 18 |
| 3.5.2.5 Receive state variable V(R).....   | 18 |
| 3.5.2.6 Receive sequence number N(R) .....   | 19 |
| 3.5.2.7 Other parameters and variables .....   | 19 |
| 3.5.3 Unacknowledged operation variables and parameters .....                                      | 19 |
| 3.6 Length indicator field format .....  | 19 |
| 3.7 Length indicator field variables .....   | 19 |
| 3.7.1 Length indicator field extension bit (EL) .....  | 19 |
| 3.7.2 More data bit (M).....   | 19 |
| 3.7.3 Length indicator (L) .....   | 20 |
| 3.8 Commands and responses.....  | 20 |
| 3.8.1 Information (I) commands.....  | 20 |
| 3.8.2 Set asynchronous balanced mode (SABM) command .....  | 21 |
| 3.8.3 Disconnect (DISC) command.....   | 22 |
| 3.8.4 Unnumbered information (UI) command.....   | 22 |
| 3.8.5 Receive ready (RR) command/response .....  | 22 |

|          |  |    |
|----------|--|----|
| 3.8.6    | Reject (REJ) command/response .....  | 23 |
| 3.8.7    | Receive not ready (RNR) command/response.....                              | 23 |
| 3.8.8    | Unnumbered acknowledgement (UA) response.....                              | 23 |
| 3.8.9    | Disconnected mode (DM) response .....                                      | 23 |
| 4        | Elements for layer-to-layer communication .....                            | 24 |
| 4.1      | Definition of primitives and parameters.....                               | 24 |
| 4.1.1    | Generic names .....  | 24 |
| 4.1.1.1  | DL-ESTABLISH.....  | 24 |
| 4.1.1.2  | DL-RELEASE .....   | 24 |
| 4.1.1.3  | DL-DATA.....   | 24 |
| 4.1.1.4  | DL-UNIT DATA .....   | 24 |
| 4.1.1.5  | DL-SUSPEND .....   | 24 |
| 4.1.1.6  | DL-RESUME .....  | 24 |
| 4.1.1.7  | DL-RECONNECT .....   | 25 |
| 4.1.1.8  | DL-RANDOM ACCESS.....  | 25 |
| 4.1.1.9  | MDL-RELEASE .....  | 25 |
| 4.1.1.10 | MDL-ERROR .....  | 25 |
| 4.1.1.11 | PH-DATA .....  | 25 |
| 4.1.1.12 | PH-RANDOM ACCESS .....   | 25 |
| 4.1.1.13 | PH-CONNECT .....   | 25 |
| 4.1.1.14 | PH-READY-TO-SEND .....   | 25 |
| 4.1.1.15 | PH-EMPTY-FRAME.....  | 25 |
| 4.1.2    | Primitives types.....  | 25 |
| 4.1.2.1  | REQUEST.....   | 25 |
| 4.1.2.2  | INDICATION .....   | 26 |
| 4.1.2.3  | RESPONSE .....   | 26 |
| 4.1.2.4  | CONFIRM .....  | 26 |
| 4.1.3    | Parameter definition.....  | 26 |
| 4.1.3.1  | Message unit.....  | 26 |
| 4.1.3.2  | Channel type .....   | 27 |
| 4.1.3.3  | Service Access Point .....   | 27 |
| 4.1.3.4  | Release mode .....   | 27 |
| 4.1.3.5  | Error cause .....  | 27 |
| 4.1.3.6  | Establish mode .....   | 27 |
| 4.1.3.7  | L2 header type .....   | 27 |
| 4.2      | Primitive procedures .....   | 31 |
| 5        | Definition of the peer-to-peer protocol LAPDm.....                         | 32 |
| 5.1      | General.....   | 32 |
| 5.2      | General Protocol Procedures.....   | 33 |
| 5.2.1    | Unacknowledged information transfer .....                                  | 33 |
| 5.2.2    | Acknowledged multiple frame information transfer .....                     | 33 |
| 5.3      | Procedures for unacknowledged information transfer .....                   | 33 |
| 5.3.1    | General .....  | 33 |
| 5.3.2    | Transmission of unacknowledged information .....                           | 33 |
| 5.3.3    | Receipt of unacknowledged information.....                                 | 33 |
| 5.4      | Procedures for establishment and release of multiple frame operation.....  | 34 |
| 5.4.1    | Establishment of multiple frame operation .....                            | 34 |
| 5.4.1.1  | General .....  | 34 |
| 5.4.1.2  | Normal establishment procedures .....                                      | 34 |
| 5.4.1.3  | Procedure on expiry of timer T200: Normal establishment. ....              | 35 |
| 5.4.1.4  | Contention resolution establishment procedure.....                         | 35 |
| 5.4.1.5  | Procedure on expiry of timer T200: contention resolution<br>(MS only)..... | 37 |
| 5.4.2    | Information transfer .....   | 37 |
| 5.4.2.1  | General requirements .....   | 37 |
| 5.4.2.2  | Error conditions.....  | 38 |
| 5.4.2.3  | Fill frames .....  | 39 |
| 5.4.3    | Suspension and resumption of multiple frame operation .....                | 39 |
| 5.4.3.1  | General .....  | 39 |
| 5.4.3.2  | Suspension .....   | 40 |
| 5.4.3.3  | Resumption.....  | 40 |

## ETS 300 938 (GSM 04.06 version 5.1.1): September 1997

|                      |           |   |    |
|----------------------|-----------|---|----|
|                      | 5.4.3.3.1 | Procedure after channel change.....   | 40 |
|                      | 5.4.3.3.2 | Procedure after returning to the old<br>channel (MS only) .....   | 41 |
| 5.4.4                |           | Termination of multiple frame operation.....  | 42 |
|                      | 5.4.4.1   | General .....   | 42 |
|                      | 5.4.4.2   | Normal release procedure .....  | 42 |
|                      | 5.4.4.3   | Procedure on expiry of timer T200 for normal release .....  | 42 |
|                      | 5.4.4.4   | Local end release procedure .....   | 43 |
| 5.4.5                |           | Idle state .....  | 43 |
| 5.4.6                |           | Collision of unnumbered commands and responses .....  | 43 |
|                      | 5.4.6.1   | Identical transmitted and received commands .....   | 43 |
|                      | 5.4.6.2   | Different transmitted and received commands.....  | 44 |
|                      | 5.4.6.3   | Unsolicited DM response and SABM or DISC command....  | 44 |
| 5.5                  |           | Procedures for information transfer in multiple frame operation .....   | 44 |
|                      | 5.5.1     | Transmitting I frames .....   | 44 |
|                      | 5.5.2     | Receiving I frames.....   | 45 |
|                      | 5.5.2.1   | P bit of the received I frame set to "1" .....  | 45 |
|                      | 5.5.2.2   | P bit of the received I frame set to "0" .....  | 45 |
|                      | 5.5.3     | Receiving acknowledgement.....  | 45 |
|                      | 5.5.3.1   | On receipt of a valid I frame .....   | 45 |
|                      | 5.5.3.2   | Receiving supervisory command frames with the P bit set<br>to "1" .....   | 46 |
|                      | 5.5.4     | Receiving REJ frames.....   | 46 |
|                      | 5.5.4.1   | Receipt of a valid REJ frame .....  | 46 |
|                      | 5.5.4.2   | Transmitting frames.....  | 47 |
|                      | 5.5.5     | Receiving RNR frame.....  | 47 |
|                      | 5.5.6     | Data link layer own receiver busy condition .....   | 49 |
|                      | 5.5.7     | Waiting acknowledgement.....  | 49 |
| 5.6                  |           | Abnormal release and re-establishment of multiple frame operation .....   | 50 |
|                      | 5.6.1     | Criteria for re-establishment.....  | 50 |
|                      | 5.6.2     | Criteria for abnormal release.....  | 50 |
|                      | 5.6.3     | Procedures for re-establishment .....   | 50 |
|                      | 5.6.4     | Procedures for abnormal release .....   | 50 |
| 5.7                  |           | Exception condition reporting and recovery for multiple frame operation .....   | 51 |
|                      | 5.7.1     | N(S) sequence error.....  | 51 |
|                      | 5.7.2     | Timer recovery .....  | 51 |
|                      | 5.7.3     | Invalid frame condition .....   | 52 |
|                      | 5.7.4     | N(R) sequence error.....  | 52 |
| 5.8                  |           | List of system parameters.....  | 52 |
|                      | 5.8.1     | Timer T200.....   | 52 |
|                      | 5.8.1.1   | For SAPI=0 and SAPI=3.....  | 52 |
|                      | 5.8.1.2   | For SAPIs other than 0 or 3.....  | 53 |
|                      | 5.8.2     | Maximum number of retransmissions (N200).....   | 53 |
|                      | 5.8.2.1   | For SAPI=0 and 3 .....  | 53 |
|                      | 5.8.2.2   | For SAPIs other than 0 or 3.....  | 53 |
|                      | 5.8.3     | Maximum number of octets in an I, UI, SABM and UA frame partially or<br>entirely available for the information field (N201) ..... | 53 |
|                      | 5.8.4     | Maximum number of outstanding I frames (k) .....  | 53 |
|                      | 5.8.5     | Maximum number of octets in a Layer 3 message .....   | 54 |
| 5.9                  |           | System performance requirements .....   | 54 |
| 6                    |           | Special protocol operation on SAPI=0 and SAPI=3 .....   | 55 |
| Annex A (normative): |           | Random access procedures.....   | 56 |
| A.1                  |           | Description of the procedure .....  | 56 |
|                      | A.1.1     | Procedure in the MS .....   | 56 |
|                      | A.1.2     | Procedure in the BS.....  | 56 |
| A.2                  |           | Format.....   | 56 |
| Annex G (normative): |           | Handling of frames with parameter errors in the address, control and length<br>indicator fields.....                              | 57 |

|         |   |    |
|---------|---|----|
| G.1     | General.....  | 57 |
| G.2     | Parameter errors in the address field .....         | 57 |
| G.2.1   | Unallocated SAPI .....                              | 57 |
| G.2.2   | Wrong value of the C/R bit.....                     | 57 |
| G.2.3   | EA bit set to "0" .....                             | 57 |
| G.3     | Parameter errors in the control field .....         | 57 |
| G.3.1   | Supervisory frames .....                            | 57 |
| G.3.2   | Unnumbered frames .....                             | 58 |
| G.4     | Parameter errors in the length indicator field..... | 58 |
| G.4.1   | EL bit error.....                                   | 58 |
| G.4.2   | Information frames .....                            | 58 |
| G.4.3   | Supervisory frames .....                            | 58 |
| G.4.4   | DISC and DM frames .....                            | 58 |
| G.4.5   | SABM UA and UI frames .....                         | 58 |
| History | .....   | 59 |

## iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)

[SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003>

## Foreword

This European Telecommunication Standard (ETS) has been produced by the Special Mobile Group (SMG) of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

This ETS defines the data link layer protocol of the Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface within the digital cellular telecommunications system.

The contents of this ETS is subject to continuing work within SMG and may change following formal SMG approval. Should SMG modify the contents of this ETS, it will be resubmitted for OAP by ETSI with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

Version 5.x.y

where:

- y the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated in the specification;
- x the second digit is incremented for all other types of changes, i.e. technical enhancements, corrections, updates, etc.

The specification from which this ETS has been derived was originally based on CEPT documentation, hence the presentation of this ETS may not be entirely in accordance with the ETSI drafting rules.

Annexes B to F were deleted from the original specification, however, for referencing purposes the annex numbering has been maintained.

## iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW

### Transposition dates

|   |   |                  |
|---|---|------------------|
| Date of adoption:   | <b>(standards.iteh.ai)</b>  | 5 September 1997 |
| Date of latest announcement of this ETS (doa):  | <a href="https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-05c274cc4cc/sist-ts-300-938-e2-2003">https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-05c274cc4cc/sist-ts-300-938-e2-2003</a> | 31 December 1997 |
| Date of latest publication of new National Standard or endorsement of this ETS (dop/e): |   | 30 June 1998     |
| Date of withdrawal of any conflicting National Standard (dow):                          |   | 30 June 1998     |

Blank page

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

[SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003>

## 0 Scope

This European Telecommunication Standard (ETS) defines a data link layer protocol to be used for signalling, and possibly also for other applications, on the MS-BS interface.

### 0.1 Normative references

This ETS incorporates by dated and undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this ETS only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references, the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

- [1] GSM 01.04 (ETR 350): "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Abbreviations and acronyms".
- [2] GSM 04.01: "Digital cellular telecommunications system; Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface; General aspects and principles".
- [3] GSM 04.03: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface Channel structures and access capabilities".
- [4] GSM 04.04 (ETS 300 936): "Digital cellular telecommunications system; Layer 1 General requirements".
- [5] GSM 04.05 (ETS 300 937): "Digital cellular telecommunications system; Data Link (DL) layer General aspects".
- [6] GSM 04.07 (ETS 300 939): "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Mobile radio interface signalling layer 3; General aspects".
- [7] GSM 04.08 (ETS 300 940): "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Mobile radio interface layer 3 specification".
- [8] GSM 04.10 (ETS 300 941): "Digital cellular telecommunications system; Mobile radio interface layer 3 Supplementary services specification; General aspects".
- [9] GSM 04.12 (ETS 300 943): "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Short Message Service Cell Broadcast (SMSCB) support on the mobile radio interface".
- [10] GSM 05.02 (ETS 300 908): "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Multiplexing and multiple access on the radio path".
- [11] GSM 08.56: "Digital cellular telecommunications system; Base Station Controller - Base Transceiver Station (BSC - BTS) interface; Layer 2 specification".
- [12] GSM 08.58: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Base Station Controller - Base Transceiver Station (BSC - BTS) interface; Layer 3 specification".
- [13] CCITT Recommendation Z.100: "Specification and description language (SDL)".

### 0.2 Abbreviations

Abbreviations used in this ETS are listed in GSM 01.04.

## 1 General

This ETS describes the frame structure, elements of procedure, format of fields and procedures for the proper operation of the Link Access Procedure on the Dm channel, LAPDm.

NOTE 1: The term Dm channel is used for convenience to designate the collection of all the various signalling channels required in the GSM system. See also GSM 04.03.

The concepts, terminology, overview description of LAPDm functions and procedures, and the relationship with other Technical Specifications are described in general terms in GSM 04.05.

The frame formats defined for LAPDm are based on those defined for LAPD. However, there are important differences between LAPDm and LAPD, in particular with regard to frame delimitation methods and transparency mechanisms. These differences are necessary for operation within the constraints set by the radio path.

LAPDm supports two modes of operation:

- unacknowledged operation using UI frames;
- acknowledged operation using the multiple frame procedure.

As a choice of implementation, the two modes of operation may be implemented independently of each other. This is possible since there is no interactions between the two modes, other than queuing at the transmitter, even when they coexist on the same physical channel. For BCCHs and CCCHs only the unacknowledged mode of operation needs to be implemented.

LAPDm is used for information sent on the control channels BCCH, AGCH, PCH, FACCH, SACCH and SDCCH as defined in GSM 04.03.

NOTE 2: AGCH and PCH are (sometimes referred to by the collective name CCCH and FACCH, SACCH and SDCCH are, similarly, referred to by the collective name DCCH.

LAPDm may also be used on other types of channel.

NOTE 3: As stated in GSM 04.05, the term "data link layer" is used in the main text of this Technical Specification. However, mainly in figures and tables, the terms "layer 2" and "L2" are used as abbreviations. Furthermore, in accordance with GSM 04.07 and GSM 04.08, the term "layer 3" is used to indicate the layer above the data link layer.

This Technical Specification is organized as follows:

The frame structure for peer-to-peer communication is given in clause 2. The elements of procedure and formats of fields are given in clause 3. The elements of layer-to-layer communication are contained in clause 4. The details of the peer-to-peer procedures are given in clause 5. Section 6 summarizes the special protocol operations used mandatorily with SAPI=0 and SAP = 3.

The specification for the random access channel is contained in annex A, even though it is not a LAPDm function. This part of the ETS is descriptive and does not constrain the implementation of the random access function. The procedure is used for CHANNEL REQUEST on the RACH and HANDOVER ACCESS on the main DCCH.

(Annexes B to F are deleted).

Annex G gives an overview of actions taken on frames containing parameter errors.

### 1.1 Options

Support of short L2 header type 1 is an option in both the mobile station and the network; under certain conditions the support is mandatory, as specified in other Specifications. A layer 2 protocol entity not implementing short L2 header type 1 shall diagnose an E/A bit error and proceed as defined in annex G.2.3.

## 2 Frame structure for peer-to-peer communication

### 2.1 General

All data link layer peer-to-peer exchanges are in frames conforming to one of the formats shown in figure 1. Several format types are shown in the figure:

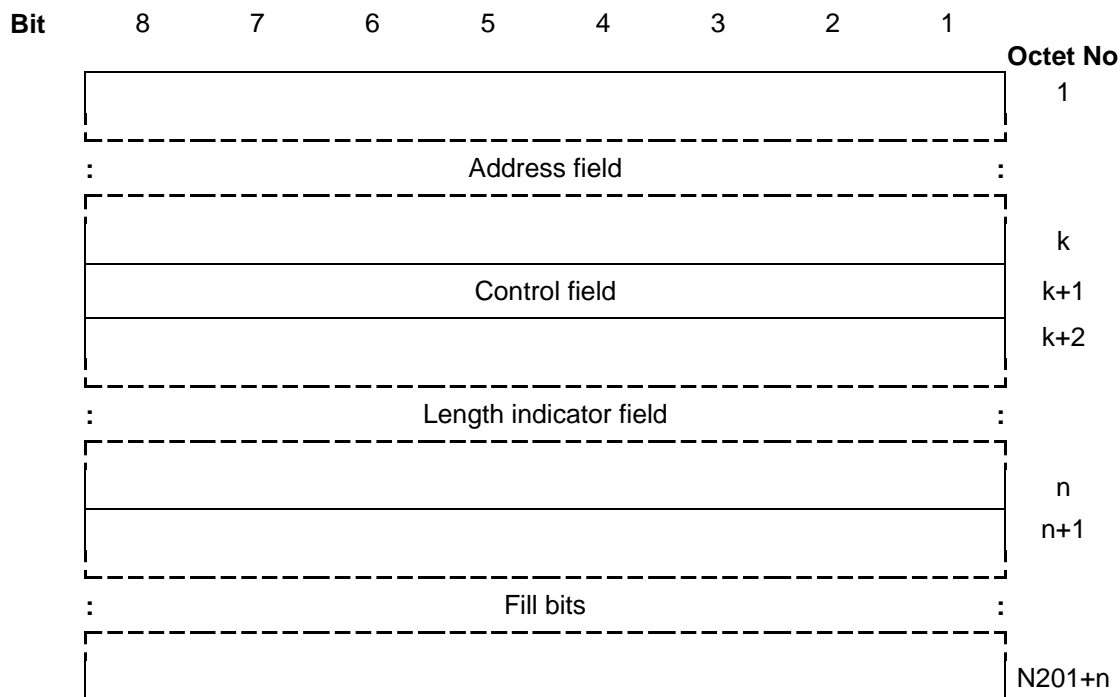
- Format A is used on DCCHs for frames where there is no information field.
- Formats B and Bter are used on DCCHs for frames containing an information field:
  - format Bter is used on request of higher layers if and only if short L2 header type 1 is supported and a UI command is to be transmitted on SAPI 0;
  - format B is applied in all other cases.
- Format Bbis is used only on BCCH, PCH, and AGCH.
- In addition there is a Format C for transmission of random access signals.

Format C frames are described in annex A. Format A, B, Bbis and Bter frames are described in the remainder of this ETS.

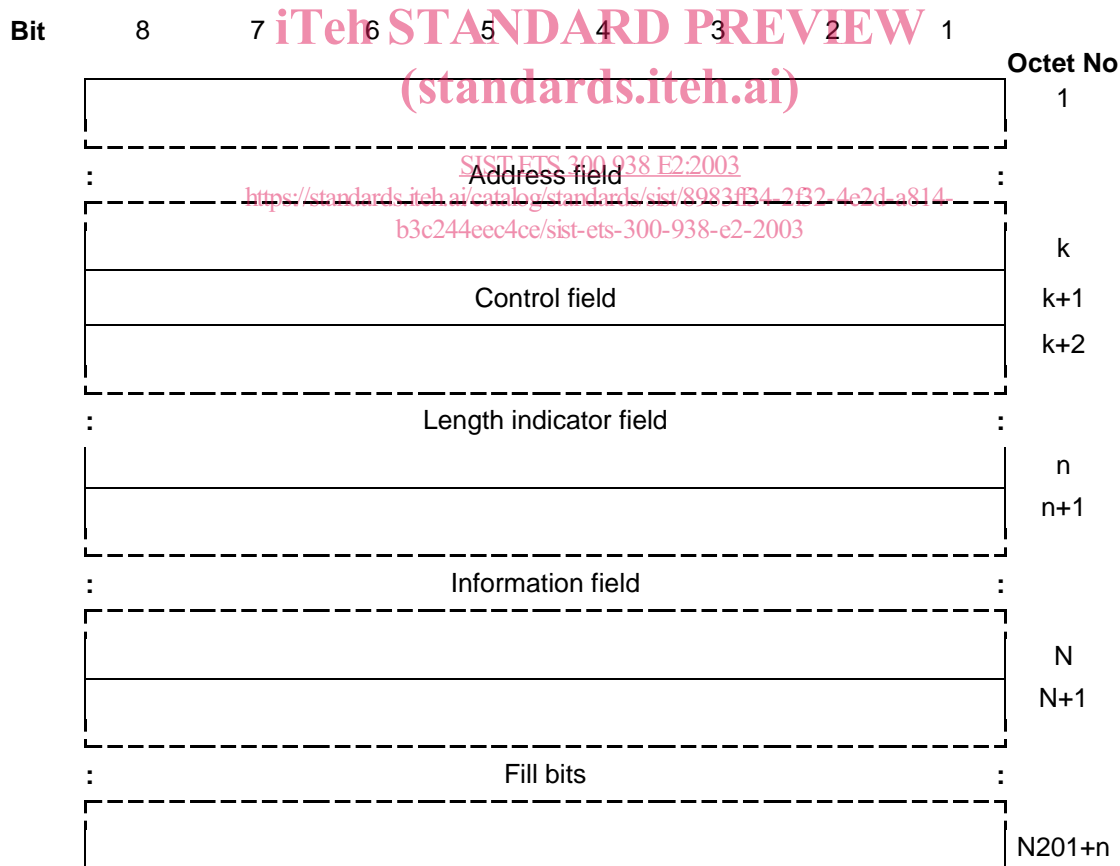
**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

[SIST ETS 300 938 E2:2003](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8983ff34-2f32-4e2d-a814-b3c244eec4ce/sist-ets-300-938-e2-2003>



Format type A



Format type B

Figure 1/GSM 04.06 (sheet 1 of 3): General frame formats

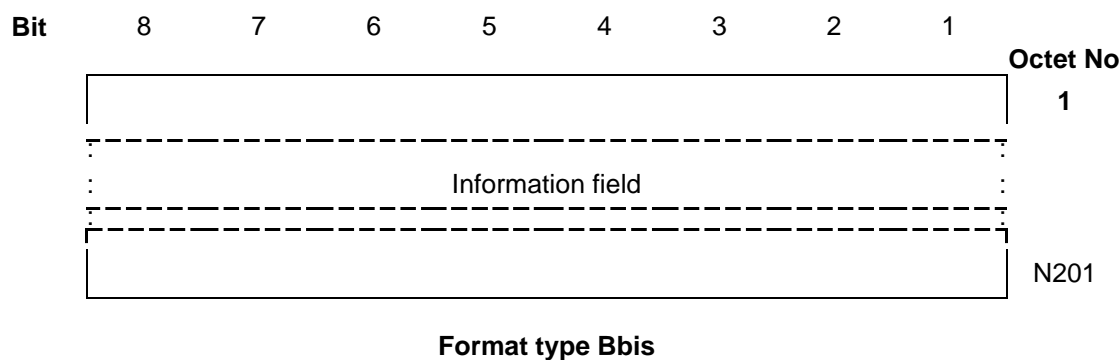


Figure 1/GSM 04.06 (sheet 2 of 3): General frame formats

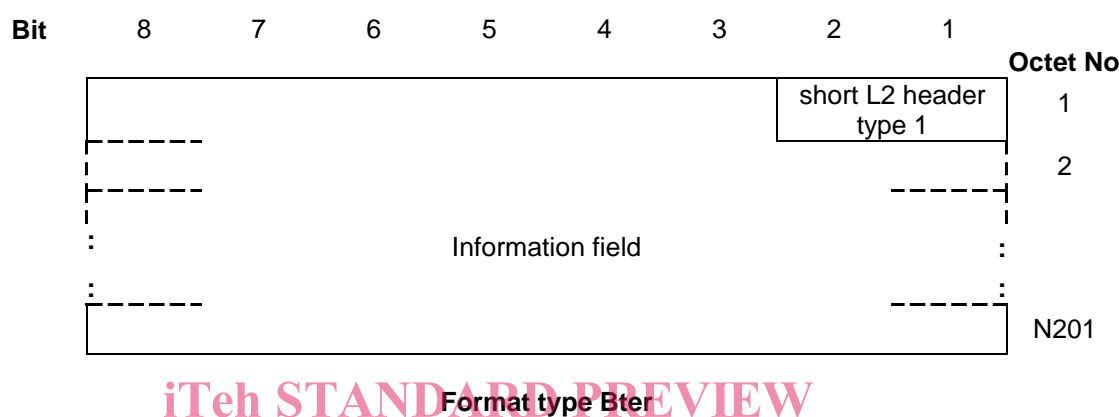


Figure 1/GSM 04.06 (sheet 3 of 3): General frame formats

The parameter N201 is the maximum number of octets which are partially or entirely available for the information field of a frame. It depends on the type of channel and the format, see subclause 5.8.3.

## 2.2 Frame delimitation and fill bits

Frame delimitation is provided by the physical layer:

- in format type A and B frames at the beginning of the frame for determining the start of the first octet in the address field, in format type Bter frames for determining the start of the octet containing the short L2 header type 1 (which is also the first octet used for the information field), and in format type Bbis frames for determining the start of the first octet for the information field;
- at the end of the frame for determining the last bit of the frame.

The end of the useful part of the frame, i.e. the end of the length indicator field in type A frames and the end of the information field in type B frames, is determined by a length indicator contained in the length indicator field. The useful part of a Bbis frames takes all N201 octets of that frame. The useful part of a Bter frame takes all N201 octets of that frame except those bits of octet 1 which contain the short L2 header type 1.

If a frame contains a length indicator has a value less than N201, the frame contains fill bits. Octets containing fill bits shall take the binary value "00101011", when sent by the network. Octets containing fill bits shall take the value "00101011" or "11111111", when sent by the mobile station.

NOTE: The value "00101011" is chosen due to the modulation and interleaving scheme used in the GSM system.

## 2.3 Address field

The address field may consist of a variable number of octets. However, for applications on control channels the field consists of only one octet. The address field identifies the SAP for which a command