

**SLOVENSKI STANDARD**  
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Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+) (GSM); General Packet Radio Service (GPRS); Mobile Station (MS) - Base Station System (BSS) interface; Radio Link Control / Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC) protocol (GSM 04.60 version 6.3.1 Release 1997)

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*European Standard (Telecommunications series)*

**Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+);  
General Packet Radio Service (GPRS);  
Mobile Station (MS) - Base Station System (BSS) interface;  
Radio Link Control/ Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC)  
protocol  
(GSM 04.60 version 6.3.1 Release 1997)**

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MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS

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# Contents

Intellectual Property Rights.....	9
Foreword .....	9
1 Scope.....	10
2 References.....	11
3 Definitions and abbreviations .....	12
3.1 Vocabulary.....	12
4 Layered overview of radio interface .....	13
4.1 Layer services .....	14
4.2 Layer functions .....	14
4.3 Service primitives .....	14
4.4 Services required from lower layers.....	14
5 Introduction to the Medium Access Control (MAC) procedures .....	14
5.1 General.....	14
5.2 Multiplexing principles.....	15
5.2.1 Temporary Block Flow .....	15
5.2.2 Temporary Flow Identity.....	15
5.2.3 Uplink State Flag.....	15
5.2.4 Medium Access modes.....	15
5.3 Packet idle mode.....	16
5.4 Packet transfer mode.....	17
5.5 General procedures in packet idle and packet transfer modes .....	17
5.5.1 Mobile station side .....	17
5.5.1.1 Cell reselection .....	17
5.5.1.2 System information on PBCCH.....	18
5.5.1.2.1 Supervision of PBCCH_CHANGE_MARK and update of PBCCH information.....	18
5.5.1.2.2 Replacement of PBCCH .....	19
5.5.1.2.3 PSI1 reception failure .....	19
5.5.1.3 System information on BCCH.....	19
5.5.1.3.1 Supervision of BCCH_CHANGE_MARK and update of BCCH information .....	19
5.5.1.3.2 Establishment of PBCCH.....	20
5.5.1.3.3 SI13 reception failure.....	20
5.5.1.4 Acquisition of system information on the broadcast channel.....	20
5.5.1.4.1 Consistent sets of system information messages .....	21
5.5.1.4.2 Suspension of operation to receive system information .....	21
5.5.1.5 Discontinuous reception (DRX) .....	21
5.5.1.6 Page mode procedures on PCCCH.....	22
5.5.1.7 Frequency Parameters.....	23
5.5.2 Network side .....	24
5.5.2.1 System Information broadcasting .....	24
5.5.2.1.1 System information on PBCCH .....	24
5.5.2.1.2 System information on BCCH .....	24
5.5.2.1.3 System information on PACCH (and other logical channels).....	25
5.5.2.1.4 Consistent sets of system information messages .....	25
5.5.2.2 Paging.....	25
5.6 Measurement reports.....	26
5.6.1 Network Control (NC) measurement reporting .....	26
5.6.2 Extended measurement (EM) reporting .....	27
6 Paging procedures .....	27
6.1 Paging procedure for RR connection establishment .....	27
6.1.1 Paging initiation using paging subchannel on CCCH.....	27
6.1.2 Paging initiation using paging subchannel on PCCCH .....	27

6.1.3	Paging initiation using PACCH.....	28
6.1.4	Paging response.....	28
6.2	Paging procedure for downlink packet transfer .....	28
6.2.1	Paging procedure using paging subchannel on CCCH .....	28
6.2.2	Paging using paging subchannel on PCCCH.....	28
6.2.3	Paging response.....	28
7	Medium Access Control (MAC) procedures on PCCCH.....	29
7.1	TBF establishment initiated by the mobile station on PCCCH .....	29
7.1.1	Permission to access the network .....	29
7.1.2	Initiation of a TBF establishment .....	30
7.1.2.1	Initiation of the packet access procedure.....	30
7.1.2.1.1	Access persistence control on PRACH .....	30
7.1.2.2	Packet assignment procedure.....	31
7.1.2.2.1	On receipt of a PACKET CHANNEL REQUEST message .....	31
7.1.2.2.2	Packet access queuing notification procedure.....	32
7.1.2.2.3	Packet polling procedure.....	32
7.1.2.2.4	Packet access reject procedure.....	32
7.1.2.3	Contention resolution at one phase access.....	33
7.1.2.4	One phase packet access completion .....	33
7.1.2.5	Timing Advance .....	33
7.1.3	TBF establishment using two phase access .....	34
7.1.3.1	Initiation of the Packet resource request procedure.....	34
7.1.3.2	Packet resource assignment for uplink procedure.....	34
7.1.3.2.1	On receipt of a PACKET RESOURCE REQUEST message .....	34
7.1.3.3	Contention resolution at two phase access.....	35
7.1.3.4	Two phase packet access completion .....	35
7.1.3.5	Timing Advance .....	35
7.1.4	Abnormal cases .....	36
7.2	TBF establishment initiated by the network on PCCCH.....	36
7.2.1	Entering the packet transfer mode.....	36
7.2.1.1	Packet downlink assignment procedure.....	36
7.2.1.2	Packet downlink assignment procedure completion .....	37
7.2.1.3	Packet polling procedure .....	37
7.2.2	Abnormal cases .....	37
7.3	Procedure for measurement report sending in packet idle mode.....	38
7.3.1	Measurement report sending procedure initiated on PCCCH.....	38
7.3.1.1	On receipt of a PACKET CHANNEL REQUEST message.....	38
7.3.1.2	On receipt of a PACKET UPLINK ASSIGNMENT message .....	38
7.3.1.3	On receipt of a PACKET ACCESS REJECT message .....	39
7.3.1.4	Abnormal cases.....	39
7.3.2	Measurement report sending procedure initiated on CCCH.....	39
7.4	Cell Change Order procedures in Packet Idle mode .....	39
7.4.1	Cell Change Order procedure initiated on PCCCH.....	39
7.4.2	Cell Change Order procedure initiated on CCCH .....	40
7.5	Measurement Order procedures in Packet Idle mode .....	40
7.5.1	Measurement Order procedures initiated on PCCCH .....	40
7.5.2	Measurement Order procedures initiated on CCCH.....	41
8	Medium Access Control (MAC) Procedures in Packet Transfer Mode .....	41
8.1	Transfer of RLC data blocks.....	41
8.1.1	Uplink RLC data block transfer .....	41
8.1.1.1	Dynamic allocation uplink RLC data block transfer.....	42
8.1.1.1.1	PACCH operation .....	43
8.1.1.1.2	Resource Reallocation for Uplink .....	43
8.1.1.1.2.1	Abnormal cases .....	44
8.1.1.1.3	Establishment of Downlink TBF.....	45
8.1.1.1.3.1	Abnormal cases .....	45
8.1.1.2	Extended Dynamic Allocation uplink RLC data block transfer.....	45
8.1.1.2.1	Uplink PDCH Allocation .....	46
8.1.1.2.2	PACCH operation .....	46

8.1.1.2.3	Neighbour cell power measurements .....	46
8.1.1.3	Fixed Allocation uplink RLC data block transfer .....	46
8.1.1.3.1	Transfer of RLC/MAC blocks.....	47
8.1.1.3.2	Reallocation for open-ended TBF.....	48
8.1.1.3.2.1	At the beginning of each fixed allocation .....	48
8.1.1.3.2.2	Upon receipt of the reallocation request.....	48
8.1.1.3.2.3	Upon exhaustion of the current allocation .....	49
8.1.1.3.2.4	Ending the TBF .....	49
8.1.1.3.2.5	Abnormal Cases .....	49
8.1.1.3.3	Neighbour cell power measurements .....	50
8.1.1.3.4	PACCH operation .....	50
8.1.1.3.5	Establishment of Downlink TBF.....	50
8.1.1.3.5.1	Abnormal cases .....	51
8.1.1.4	Network initiated release of uplink TBF .....	52
8.1.1.5	Abnormal cases.....	52
8.1.2	Downlink RLC data block transfer.....	52
8.1.2.1	Downlink RLC data block transfer .....	53
8.1.2.2	Polling for Packet Downlink Ack/Nack and Packet Control Acknowledgement.....	53
8.1.2.3	Spare .....	54
8.1.2.4	Resource Reassignment for Downlink.....	54
8.1.2.4a	Establishment of downlink TBF after downlink TBF release .....	54
8.1.2.4.1	Abnormal cases .....	54
8.1.2.5	Establishment of uplink TBF .....	55
8.1.2.5.1	Abnormal cases .....	56
8.1.2.6	spare .....	56
8.1.2.7	Fixed allocation neighbour cell power measurements .....	56
8.1.2.8	Mobile station initiated downlink TBF release .....	57
8.1.3	Concurrent TBF procedures for half duplex operation .....	57
8.1.3.1	Spare .....	57
8.1.3.2	Spare .....	57
8.1.3.2.1	Saving downlink TBF state and initiating uplink TBF .....	57
8.1.3.2.2	Saving downlink TBF state and restoring uplink TBF state .....	57
8.1.3.2.3	Ending downlink TBF and restoring uplink TBF state .....	57
8.1.3.2.4	Saving uplink TBF state and initiating downlink TBF .....	58
8.1.3.2.5	Saving uplink TBF state and restoring downlink TBF state.....	58
8.1.3.2.6	Ending uplink TBF and restoring downlink TBF state .....	58
8.2	Packet PDCH Release.....	58
8.3	Procedure for measurement report sending in Packet Transfer mode .....	58
8.4	Cell Change procedures in Packet Transfer mode .....	58
8.4.1	Network controlled cell reselection completion .....	59
8.4.2	Abnormal cases .....	59
8.5	Measurement Order procedures in Packet Transfer mode .....	59
8.6	PACKET CONTROL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	60
8.7	Abnormal cases.....	60
8.7.1	Abnormal release with return to CCCH or PCCCH .....	60
8.7.2	Abnormal release with random access .....	60
8.7.3	Abnormal release with system information .....	60
9	Radio Link Control (RLC) procedures in packet transfer mode.....	61
9.1	Procedures and parameters for peer-to-peer operation .....	61
9.1.1	Send state variable V(S).....	61
9.1.1a	Control send state variable V(CS).....	61
9.1.2	Acknowledge state variable V(A) .....	61
9.1.3	Acknowledge state array V(B) .....	62
9.1.4	Block sequence number BSN.....	62
9.1.4a	Reduced Block Sequence Number RBSN.....	62
9.1.5	Receive state variable V(R).....	62
9.1.6	Receive window state variable V(Q).....	63
9.1.7	Receive state array V(N).....	63
9.1.8	Starting sequence number (SSN) and received block bitmap (RBB) .....	63
9.1.9	Window Size .....	63

9.1.9a	Filler octets.....	64
9.1.10	Segmentation of LLC PDUs into RLC data units.....	64
9.1.11	Re-assembly of LLC PDUs from RLC data units.....	64
9.1.11a	Segmentation of RLC/MAC control messages into RLC/MAC control blocks .....	64
9.1.11b	Re-assembly of RLC/MAC control messages from RLC/MAC control blocks .....	65
9.1.12	Priority of LLC PDUs .....	65
9.2	Operation during RLC/MAC control message transfer.....	65
9.3	Operation during RLC data block transfer.....	66
9.3.1	Countdown procedure .....	66
9.3.2	Acknowledged mode operation .....	67
9.3.2.1	Establishment of Temporary Block Flow .....	67
9.3.2.2	Operation of uplink Temporary Block Flow.....	67
9.3.2.3	Release of uplink Temporary Block Flow .....	67
9.3.2.4	Operation of downlink Temporary Block Flow.....	68
9.3.2.5	Release of downlink Temporary Block Flow .....	68
9.3.3	Unacknowledged mode operation .....	69
9.3.3.1	Establishment of Temporary Block Flow .....	69
9.3.3.2	Operation of uplink Temporary Block Flow.....	69
9.3.3.3	Release of uplink Temporary Block Flow .....	69
9.3.3.4	Operation of downlink Temporary Block Flow.....	70
9.3.3.5	Release of downlink Temporary Block Flow .....	70
9.4	Abnormal release cases.....	71
9.4.1	Abnormal release with random access .....	71
9.4.2	Abnormal release with cell reselection.....	71
10	RLC/MAC block structure.....	71
10.1	Spare bits .....	71
10.2	RLC data blocks.....	71
10.2.1	Downlink RLC data block.....	72
10.2.2	Uplink RLC data block .....	72
10.3	RLC/MAC control blocks.....	73
10.3.1	Downlink RLC/MAC control block.....	73
10.3.2	Uplink RLC/MAC control block.....	73
10.4	Header fields.....	73
10.4.1	Uplink state flag (USF) field .....	73
10.4.2	Retry (R) bit .....	73
10.4.3	Stall indicator (SI) bit.....	74
10.4.4	Supplementary/Polling (S/P) Bit .....	74
10.4.5	Relative Reserved Block Period (RRBP) field.....	74
10.4.6	Countdown Value (CV) field .....	75
10.4.7	Payload Type field .....	75
10.4.8	Final block indicator (FBI) bit .....	75
10.4.9	TLLI Indicator (TI) bit.....	75
10.4.9a	Address Control (AC) bit .....	76
10.4.9b	Final Segment (FS) bit .....	76
10.4.9c	Radio Transaction Identifier (RTI) field .....	76
10.4.9d	Direction (D) bit.....	76
10.4.10	Temporary Flow Identifier (TFI) field .....	77
10.4.10a	Power Reduction (PR) field .....	77
10.4.11	Extension (E) Bit.....	77
10.4.12	Block Sequence Number (BSN) field .....	77
10.4.12a	Reduced Block Sequence Number (RBSN) bit.....	77
10.4.13	More (M) bit .....	78
10.4.14	Length Indicator (LI) field .....	78
10.4.15	TLLI field.....	78
10.4.16	RLC data field .....	78
10.4.17	Control message contents field.....	78
11	Message functional definitions and contents .....	79
11.1	Handling of erroneous protocol data.....	79
11.2	RLC/MAC control messages .....	79



11.2.1	Packet Access Reject.....	80
11.2.2	Packet Control Acknowledgement .....	81
11.2.3	Packet Cell Change Failure .....	83
11.2.4	Packet Cell Change Order .....	83
11.2.5	Packet Channel Request .....	85
11.2.6	Packet Downlink Ack/Nack .....	87
11.2.7	Packet Downlink Assignment.....	89
11.2.8	Packet Downlink Dummy Control Block.....	91
11.2.8b	Packet Uplink Dummy Control Block.....	92
11.2.9	Packet Measurement Report.....	92
11.2.9b	Packet Measurement Order .....	95
11.2.10	Packet Paging Request .....	100
11.2.11	Packet PDCH Release .....	102
11.2.12	Packet Polling Request.....	102
11.2.13	Packet Power Control/Timing Advance .....	103
11.2.14	Packet PRACH Parameters .....	104
11.2.15	Packet Queueing Notification.....	104
11.2.16	Packet Resource Request .....	105
11.2.17	Spare .....	107
11.2.18	Packet System Information Type 1 .....	107
11.2.19	Packet System Information Type 2 .....	109
11.2.19.1	Reference Frequency Lists in PSI2.....	112
11.2.19.2	Cell Allocation in PSI2.....	112
11.2.19.3	GPRS Mobile Allocation in PSI2.....	112
11.2.19.4	PCCCH Description .....	112
11.2.19.5	Abnormal cases.....	112
11.2.20	Packet System Information Type 3 .....	112
11.2.21	Packet System Information Type 3 bis.....	118
11.2.22	Packet System Information Type 4.....	120
11.2.23	Packet System Information Type 5 .....	122
11.2.24	Spare .....	126
11.2.25	Packet System Information 13.....	126
11.2.26	Packet TBF Release .....	128
11.2.27	Spare .....	129
11.2.28	Packet Uplink Ack/Nack.....	129
11.2.29	Packet Uplink Assignment .....	132
11.2.30	Spare .....	137
11.2.31	Packet Timeslot Reconfigure .....	137
12	Information element coding .....	143
12.1	Overview.....	143
12.2	Message Type .....	143
12.3	Ack/Nack Description.....	144
12.4	ALLOCATION_BITMAP.....	146
12.5	Spare .....	147
12.6	Spare .....	147
12.7	Channel Request Description.....	147
12.8	Frequency Parameters .....	148
12.8.1	Abnormal cases .....	149
12.9	Global Power Control Parameters.....	149
12.10	Global TFI .....	151
12.10a	GPRS Mobile Allocation .....	151
12.10a.1	Abnormal cases .....	152
12.11	Packet Request Reference.....	152
12.12	Packet Timing Advance .....	153
12.13	Power Control Parameters .....	154
12.14	PRACH Control Parameters .....	154
12.15	Temporary Flow Identifier (TFI).....	156
12.16	Temporary Logical Link Identity (TLLI).....	157
12.17	Temporary Queueing Identifier (TQI) .....	157
12.18	TIMESLOT_ALLOCATION.....	157

12.19	TS_OVERRIDE .....	157
12.20	PAGE_MODE .....	158
12.21	Starting Frame Number Description .....	158
12.21.1	Absolute Frame Number Encoding : .....	158
12.21.2	Relative Frame Number Encoding : .....	158
12.22	Spare .....	159
12.23	Cell Identification .....	159
12.24	GPRS Cell Options .....	160
12.25	PCCCH Organization Parameters .....	161
12.26	Extension Bits IE .....	163
12.27	Non GPRS Cell Options IE.....	163
13	Timers and counters .....	163
13.1	Timers on the Mobile Station side .....	164
13.2	Timers on the network side .....	167
13.3	Counters on the Mobile Station side .....	168
13.4	Counters on the Network side .....	168
<b>Annex A (informative): Bibliography.....</b>		<b>169</b>
<b>Annex B (informative): RLC data block encoding.....</b>		<b>170</b>
B.1	Example 1.....	170
B.2	Example 2.....	171
B.3	Example 3.....	172
<b>Annex C (informative): Message Sequence Diagrams .....</b>		<b>173</b>
<b>Annex D (informative): Examples of Fixed Allocation Timeslot Assignment .....</b>		<b>174</b>
<b>Annex E (informative): Repeated Fixed Allocations .....</b>		<b>178</b>
<b>Annex F (informative): Examples of Countdown procedure operation .....</b>		<b>180</b>
F.1	Example 1.....	180
F.2	Example 2.....	180
F.3	Example 3.....	181
<b>Annex G (informative): Document change History .....</b>		<b>182</b>
History .....		185

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## Foreword

This European Standard (Telecommunications series) has been produced by the Special Mobile Group (SMG).

The present document specifies the procedures used at the radio interface (Reference Point Um, see GSM 04.02) for the General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Medium Access Control /Radio Link Control (MAC/RLC) layer within the digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+).

The contents of the present document are subject to continuing work within SMG and may change following formal SMG approval. Should SMG modify the contents of the present document it will then be re-submitted for OAP with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

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# 1 Scope

The present document specifies the procedures used at the radio interface (Reference Point Um, see GSM 04.02) for the General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Medium Access Control /Radio Link Control (MAC/RLC) layer.

When the notations for "further study" or "FS" or "FFS" are present in the present document they mean that the indicated text is not a normative portion of the present document.

The present document is applicable to the following GPRS Um functional layers:

- Radio Link Control functions,
- Medium Access Control functions, and
- Physical Link Control functions.

The procedures described in the present document are for the RLC/MAC functions of the GPRS radio interface (Um) when operating on a Packet Data Channel (PDCH).

GSM 03.64 contains an overview of the GPRS radio interface (Um).

GSM 04.03 and GSM 04.04 contains the definition of the control channels used in the present document.

GSM 04.07 contains a description in general terms of the structured functions and procedures of this protocol and the relationship of this protocol with other layers and entities.

GSM 04.08 contains the definition of GPRS RLC/MAC procedures when operating on the Common Control Channel (CCCH).

GSM 04.64 contains functional procedures for the Logical Link Control (LLC) layer.

## Application to interface structure

[SIST EN 301 349 V6.3.1:2005](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c27cb88e-b549-476d-9c8e-13a904891022/sist-en-301-349-v6-3-1-2005)

The RLC/MAC procedures apply to the interface structures defined in GSM 04.03. They use the functions and services provided by layer 1 defined in GSM 04.04. GSM 04.07 gives the general description of layer 3 including procedures, messages format and error handling.

## Test procedures

Test procedures of the GSM radio interface signalling are described in GSM 11.10 and GSM 11.2x series.

## Use of logical control channels

The logical control channels are defined in GSM 05.02. Two similar sets of logical channels are defined. The first set consists of the logical channels:

- Broadcast Control Channel (BCCH): downlink only, used to broadcast Cell specific information;
- Paging Channel (PCH): downlink only, used to send page requests to Mobile Stations (MSs);
- Random Access Channel (RACH): uplink only, used to request GPRS resources or a Dedicated Control Channel;
- Access Grant Channel (AGCH): downlink only, used to allocate GPRS resources or a Dedicated Control Channel;
- The second set consists of the logical channels:
  - Packet Broadcast Control Channel (PBCCH): downlink only, used to broadcast Cell specific information;
  - Packet Paging Channel (PPCH): downlink only, used to send page requests to Mobile Stations (MSs);
  - Packet Random Access Channel (PRACH): uplink only, used to request GPRS resources;
  - Packet Access Grant Channel (PAGCH): downlink only, used to allocate GPRS resources;

- Packet Associated Control Channel (PACCH): bi-directional, associated with a Temporary Block Flow (TBF);
- Packet Timing advance control channel uplink (PTCCH/U): used to transmit random access bursts to allow estimation of the timing advance for one MS in transfer state;
- Packet Timing advance control channel downlink (PTCCH/D): used to transmit timing advance updates for several MS. One PTCCH/D is paired with several PTCCH/U's.

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## 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.
- A non-specific reference to an ETS shall also be taken to refer to later versions published as an EN with the same number.

- [1] GSM 01.04: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Abbreviations and acronyms".
- [2] GSM 02.60: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Stage 1 Service Description of the General Packet Radio Service (GPRS)".
- [3] GSM 03.03: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Numbering, addressing and identification".
- [4] GSM 03.13: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Discontinuous Reception (DRX) in the GSM system".
- [5] GSM 03.64: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); General Packet Radio Service (GPRS); Overall description of GPRS radio Interface; Stage 2".
- [6] GSM 04.02: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); GSM Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN) access reference configuration".
- [7] GSM 04.03: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface Channel structures and access capabilities".
- [8] GSM 04.04: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Layer 1 General requirements".
- [9] GSM 04.05: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Data Link (DL) layer General aspects".
- [10] GSM 04.07: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Mobile radio interface signalling layer 3 General aspects".
- [11] GSM 04.08: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Mobile radio interface layer 3 specification".
- [12] GSM 04.64: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); General Packet Radio Service (GPRS); Logical Link Control (LLC)".
- [13] GSM 05.02: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Multiplexing and multiple access on the radio path".
- [14] GSM 05.03: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Channel coding".

- [15] GSM 05.08: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Radio subsystem link control".
- [16] GSM 05.10: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Radio subsystem synchronisation".
- [17] GSM 11.10: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Mobile Station (MS) conformity specification".
- [18] GSM 11.21: "Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2); The GSM Base Station System (BSS) equipment specification".

## 3 Definitions and abbreviations

Abbreviations used in the present document are listed in GSM 01.04 and GSM 02.60.

### 3.1 Vocabulary

The following terms are used in this Technical Specification:

**Block period:** A block period is the sequence of four timeslots on a PDCH used to convey one radio block.

#### GPRS multislot class

The term GPRS multislot class refers to the different mobile station capabilities to transmit and receive on different combinations of multiple PDCHs. The multislot classes are defined in GSM 05.02. Note that the mobile station may indicate different multislot classes for circuit mode services and for GPRS (see GSM 04.08). Different multislot class mobile stations are capable of supporting different medium access modes (see subclause 5.2.4).

**Packet idle mode:** In packet idle mode, the mobile station is prepared to transfer LLC PDUs on packet data physical channels (see subclause 5.3). The mobile station is not allocated any radio resource on a packet data physical channel; it listens to the PBCCH and PCCCH or, if those are not provided by the network, to the BCCH and the CCCH;

**Packet transfer mode:** In packet transfer mode, the mobile station is prepared to transfer LLC PDUs on packet data physical channels (see subclause 5.4). The mobile station is allocated radio resource on one or more packet data physical channels for the transfer of LLC PDUs.

**Radio block:** A radio block is the sequence of four normal bursts carrying one RLC/MAC protocol data unit (see GSM 04.04). (The one exception is a radio block occasionally used on PACCH consisting of a sequence of four access bursts, each carrying a repetition of one short RLC/MAC block.)

**Random values:** In a number of places in this Technical Specification, it is mentioned that some value must take a "random" value, in a given range, or more generally with some statistical distribution. For such random values refer to GSM 04.08.

**RLC/MAC block:** A RLC/MAC block is the protocol data unit exchanged between RLC/MAC entities (see clause 10 and GSM 04.04).

**RLC/MAC control block:** A RLC/MAC control block is the part of a RLC/MAC block carrying a control message between RLC/MAC entities (see subclause 10.3).

**RR connection:** An RR connection is a physical connection established between a mobile station and the network to support the upper layers' exchange of information flows. An RR connection is maintained and released by the two peer entities.

**RLC data block:** A RLC data block is the part of a RLC/MAC block carrying user data or upper layers' signalling data (see subclause 10.2).

**TBF abort:** The term "abort" as applied to TBF is used when the TBF is abruptly stopped without using the Release of TBF procedures defined in clause 9.

**TBF release:** The term "release" as applied to TBF is used when the TBF is stopped using one of the Release of TBF procedures defined in clause 9.

**Temporary Block Flow (TBF):** A Temporary Block Flow (TBF) is a physical connection used by the two RR peer entities to support the unidirectional transfer of LLC PDUs on packet data physical channels (see subclause 5.2.1).

**Uplink State Flag (USF):** The Uplink State Flag (USF) is used on PDCH channel(s) to allow multiplexing of uplink Radio blocks from different mobile stations (see subclause 5.2.3, clause 10 and GSM 05.02).

## 4 Layered overview of radio interface

The Radio Resource sublayer provides the functions necessary for

- Radio Resource (RR) management of packet data physical channels (PDCHs); and
- Radio Link Control and Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC) on packet data physical channels.

As shown in Figure 1, the RR sublayer provides services to the MM and LLC sublayers. The RR sublayer utilises the services of the Data Link layer (signalling layer 2) and the Physical Link layer. The packet logical channels PBCCH, PCCCH (including PPCH, PAGCH and PRACH), PACCH and PDTCH, are multiplexed onto the packet data physical channels on a per radio block basis.

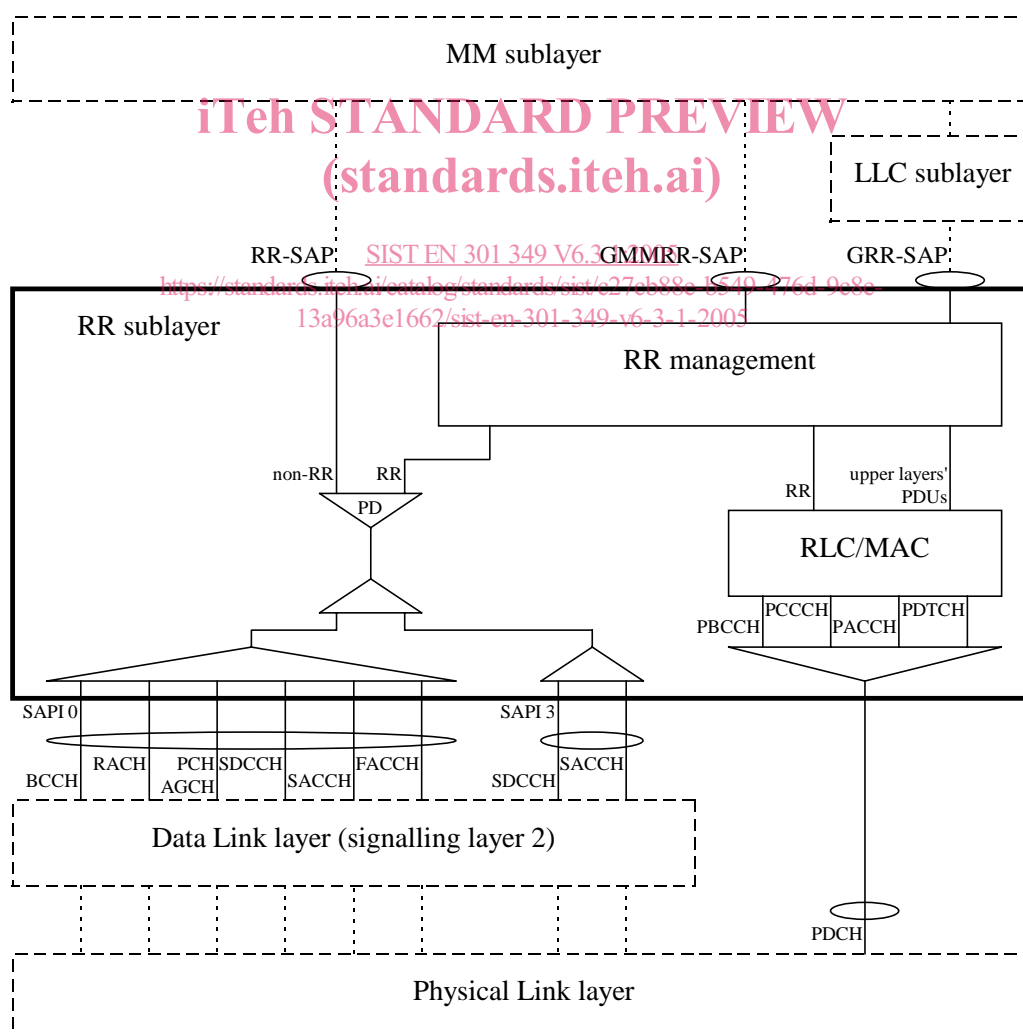


Figure 1: Protocol architecture of Radio Resource (RR) sublayer and RLC/MAC function