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*Technical Specification*

**Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+);  
Layer 1;  
General requirements  
(3GPP TS 44.004 version 5.3.0 Release 5)**

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# 1 Scope

The present document defines the service offered by the physical layer (3GPP TS 45-series of Technical Specifications) of the MS-BS interface (3GPP TS 45- and 44-series of Technical Specifications). Its main objective is to be a guidance for the interface between the 3GPP Technical Specifications in the 45-series and the 44-series. It also specifies the format of signalling channels and the order of bit transmission.

As far as possible, the present document makes use of the layering principles of the Reference Model for Open System Interconnection (OSI) as contained in ITU-T Recommendations X.200 and X.210.

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## 1a 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 TS 22.011: "Service accessibility".
- [3] 3GPP TS 43.013: "Discontinuous Reception (DRX) in the GSM System".
- [4] 3GPP TS 43.020: "Security-related network functions".
- [5] Void.
- [6] Void.
- [7] 3GPP TS 44.003: "Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface; Channel structures and access capabilities".
- [8] 3GPP TS 44.005: "Data Link (DL) layer; General aspects".
- [9] 3GPP TS 44.006: "Mobile Station - Base Station System (MS - BSS) interface; Data Link (DL) layer specification".
- [10] Void.
- [11] 3GPP TS 44.018: "Mobile radio interface layer 3 specification; Radio Resource Control Protocol".
- [12] Void.
- [13] Void.
- [14] 3GPP TS 44.012: "Short Message Service Cell Broadcast (SMSCB) support on the mobile radio interface".
- [15] Void.
- [16] Void.
- [17] Void.

- [17a] 3GPP TS 44.060: "General Packet Radio Service (GPRS); Mobile Station (MS) - Base Station System (BSS) interface; Radio Link Control/Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC) protocol".
- [18] Void.
- [19] Void.
- [20] Void.
- [21] Void.
- [22] Void.
- [23] Void.
- [24] Void.
- [25] Void.
- [26] Void.
- [26a] 3GPP TS 44.118: "Mobile radio interface layer 3 specification; Radio Resource Control (RRC) Protocol, Iu Mode".
- [26b] 3GPP TS 44.160: "Radio Link Control/Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC) protocol, Iu Mode"
- [27] 3GPP TS 45.001: "Physical Layer on the Radio Path (General Description)".
- [28] 3GPP TS 45.002: "Multiplexing and multiple access on the radio path".
- [29] 3GPP TS 45.003: "Channel coding".
- [30] Void.
- [31] 3GPP TS 45.005: "Radio transmission and reception".
- [32] 3GPP TS 45.008: "Radio subsystem link control".
- [33] 3GPP TS 45.010: "Radio subsystem synchronization".
- [34] Void.
- [35] ITU-T Recommendation X.200: "Information technology; Open Systems Interconnection; Basic Reference Model: The basic model".
- [36] ITU-T Recommendation X.210: "Information technology - Open systems interconnection - Basic Reference Model: Conventions for the definition of OSI services".
- [37] 3GPP TS 48.058: "Base Station Controller - Base Transceiver Station (BCS-BTS) Interface Layer 3 Specification"

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## 2 Interfaces to the physical layer

The physical layer (layer 1) is the lowest layer in the OSI Reference Model and it supports all functions required for the transmission of bit streams on the physical medium. These bit streams are transferred on traffic channels, packet data traffic channels and control channels as defined in 3GPP TS 44.003.

NOTE: For GSM application the physical layer may also be referred to as the radio subsystem. However, the radio subsystem supports functions additional to those described in the present document.

The physical layer interfaces the Data Link Layer, the Radio Link Control and Medium Access Control layer and the supported functional units of the application (figure 2).



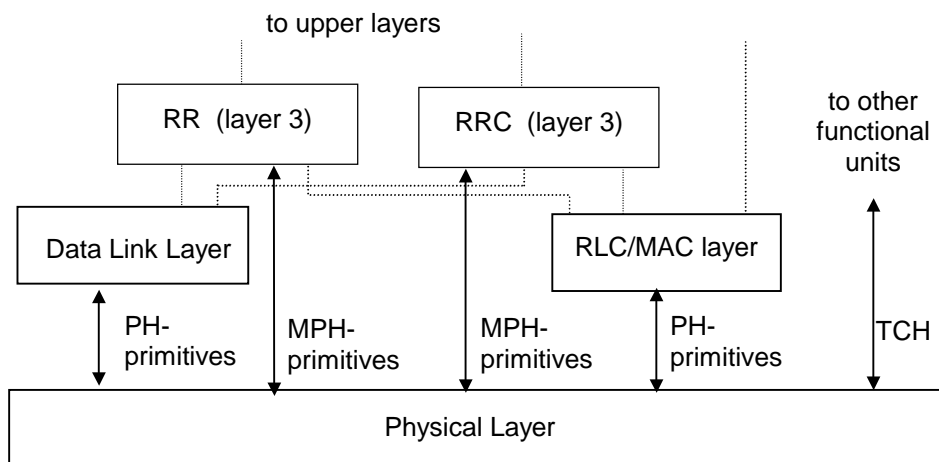


Figure 2: Interfaces with the Physical Layer

## 2.1 Interface to the Data Link Layer

The physical layer interfaces the data link layer. On this interface control channels are supported. The data link layer is specified in 3GPP TS 44.005 and 44.006. Communication between the Physical Layer and the Data Link Layer is in an abstract way performed by means of PH-primitives. They do not constrain implementations.

NOTE: The terms physical layer and layer 1, and data link layer and layer 2, will be used synonymously in the present document.

The PH-primitives exchanged between the physical layer and the data link layer are used for the transfer of layer 2 frames. They are also used to indicate the establishment of channels to layer 2.

### 2.1a Interface to the Radio Link Control and Medium Access Control layer

The physical layer interfaces the Radio Link Control and Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC) layer. On this interface packet data control channels and packet data traffic channels are supported when MS is operating in *A/Gb mode*; when MS is operating in *Iu mode*, traffic channels, dedicated control channels, packet data control channels and packet data traffic channels are supported. The RLC/MAC layer is specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 (*A/Gb mode*) and 3GPP TS 44.160 (*Iu mode*). Communication between the Physical Layer and the RLC/MAC layer is in an abstract way performed by means of PH-primitives. They do not constrain implementations.

The PH-primitives exchanged between the physical layer and the RLC/MAC layer are used for the transfer of RLC/MAC blocks. They are also used to indicate the establishment of packet data physical channels (*A/Gb mode*) or shared basic physical subchannels (*Iu mode*) to the RLC/MAC layer.

## 2.2 Interface to radio resource management

The physical layer interfaces the radio resource management (RR or RRC) entity of layer 3 in the MS and in the network. When the MS is operating in *A/Gb mode* the radio resource management is provided by the RR entity whilst when operating in *Iu mode* the radio resource management is provided by the RRC entity.

Communication is performed in an abstract way by means of MPH-primitives. They do not constrain implementations.

The primitives exchanged with the RR-management entity are related to the assignment of channels, physical layer system information (including measurement results), etc.

## 2.3 Interface to other functional units

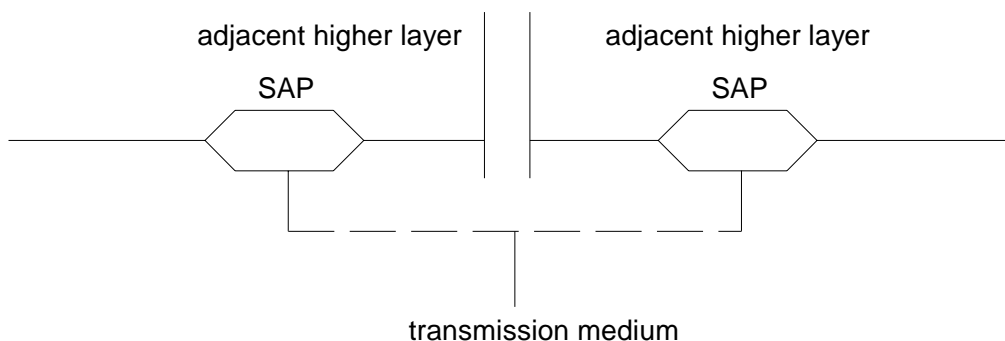
The physical layer interfaces other functional units in the MS and in the network for supporting traffic channels. These interfaces are described in the 26, 27 and 46 series of Technical Specifications.

# 3 Service of the physical layer

The physical layer supports transfer of bit streams on the radio medium according to the Technical Specifications of the 45-series. The scope of the 45-series of Technical Specifications is the definition of a framework for operation on the radio medium. The application of this framework on the radio medium results in a transmission service. General characteristics of the service obtained by applying the framework of the 45-series at the operation on the radio medium are described in this clause.

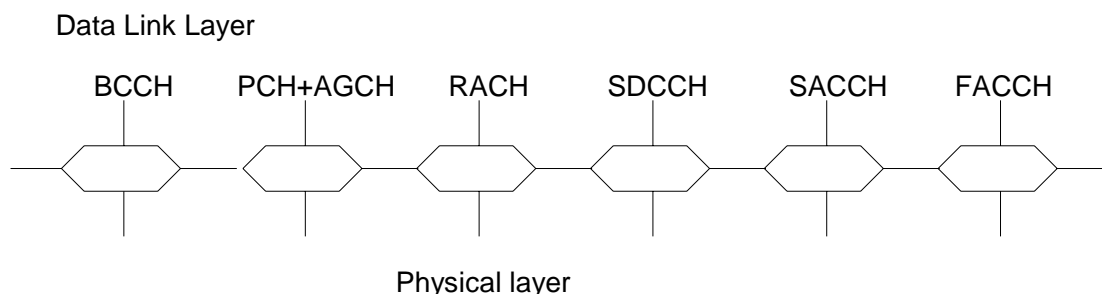
## 3.1 Service Access Point

In the Reference Model for Open System Interconnection, Service Access Points (SAPs) of a layer are defined as gates through which services are offered to an adjacent higher layer (see Figure 3.1.a). Through a SAP the physical layer offers a service to the data link layer. The SAP is used both for the control of the service providing entity (in case this is the physical layer; commands related to the establishment and release of channels) and the transfer of data (in case of the physical layer; the transfer of bits). The physical layer service access points defined in the present document differ from the OSI physical layer Service Access Points; the layer 3 RR-management instead of the data link layer controls the SAPs (establishment and release of channels).

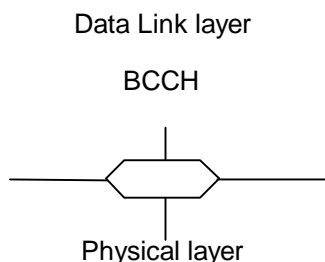


**Figure 3.1.a: Service Access Point principle**

On the physical layer of the GSM system a SAP is defined between the physical layer and the data link layer for each control channel (figure 3.1.b and figure 3.1.b1). The characteristics of SAPs (channels) are listed in 3GPP TS 44.003.

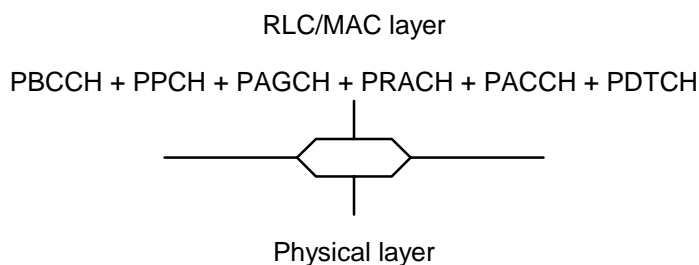


**Figure 3.1.b: SAPs between the physical layer and the data link layer when the MS is operating in A/Gb mode**

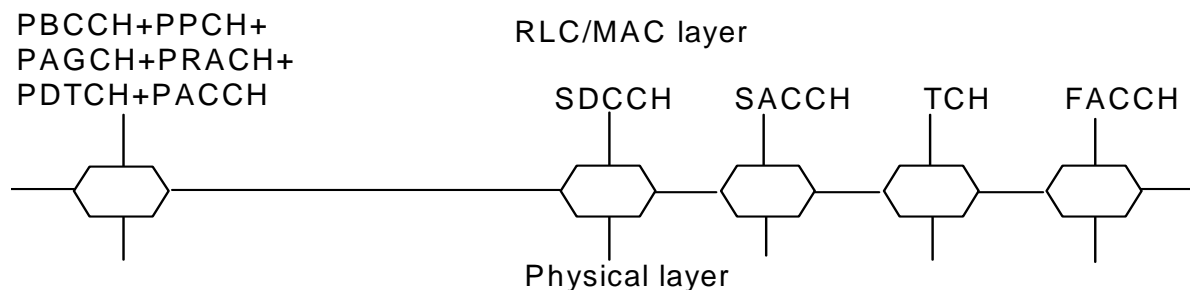


**Figure 3.1.b1: SAPs between the physical layer and the data link layer when the MS is capable of operating in *Iu mode***

Moreover, on the physical layer of the GSM system a SAP is defined between the physical layer and the RLC/MAC layer for the packet data control channels, dedicated control channels (*Iu mode*), traffic channels (*Iu mode*) and the packet data traffic channel (See Figure 3.1.c and Figure 3.1.d). Multiplexing of these channels is controlled by the RLC/MAC layer, see 3GPP TS 44.060 (*A/Gb mode*) and 3GPP TS 44.160 (*Iu mode*). The characteristics of channels are listed in 3GPP TS 44.003.



**Figure 3.1.c: SAP between the physical layer and the RLC/MAC layer when the MS is operating in *A/Gb mode***



**Figure 3.1.d: SAP between the physical layer and the RLC/MAC layer when the MS is operating in *Iu mode***

## 3.2 Service of the physical layer

The physical layer offers a transmission service on a limited set of logical channels. The BS and MS access capabilities and the characteristics of logical channels (SAPs) are defined in 3GPP TS 44.003.

**NOTE:** Between 3GPP TS 44.003 and the 3GPP TS 45.0xx series there is a slight difference in terminology. The "channels" mentioned in 3GPP TS 44.003 are "logical channels" according to the 3GPP TS 45.0xx series (especially 3GPP TS 45.002). The "CCCH", a channel name commonly used in the 3GPP TS 44.0xx series, covers the logical channels of the type RACH, PCH and AGCH. Similarly, the "PCCCH" covers the logical channels of the type PPCH, PAGCH and PRACH.

For an MS operating in *A/Gb mode*, logical channels are multiplexed on physical channels. Physical channels are the units scheduled on the radio medium. Some are reserved by the network for common use (e.g. a combination of CCCH and BCCH), others are assigned to dedicated connections with MSs (dedicated physical channels), or are assigned to a shared usage between MSs for packet switched data traffic (packet data physical channels). In time, the combination of logical channels used on an assigned physical channel may change. Allowed combinations of logical channels on a

physical channel are defined in 3GPP TS 44.003. Data on SAPs of control channels is exchanged in discrete blocks with a size of 23 or 21 (SACCH) octets. Data on a SAP of packet data traffic channels is exchanged in discrete blocks with a size dependent on the block type (see clause 7).

For an MS operating in *Iu mode*, logical channels are multiplexed on basic physical subchannels. Basic physical subchannels are the units scheduled on the radio medium. Some basic physical channels are reserved by the network for common use (e.g. BCCH); dedicated basic physical subchannels are assigned to dedicated connections with MSs, shared basic physical subchannels are assigned to a shared usage between MSs for packet switched data traffic. In time, the combination of logical channels used on an assigned basic physical subchannel may change. Allowed combinations of logical channels on a basic physical subchannel are defined in 3GPP TS 44.003. Data on SAPs of control channels is exchanged in discrete blocks with a size of 23 or 21 (SACCH) octets. Data on a SAP of packet data traffic channels is exchanged in discrete blocks with a size dependent on the block type (see clause 7).

Synchronization between layer 1 and layer 2 (data link layer) is provided for piggy-backing of RR (receive ready) frames, and the starting of timers (T200). See also 3GPP TS 44.006. Synchronization between the physical layer and the RLC/MAC layer is provided for the handling of timers, and the multiplexing of logical channels. See also 3GPP TS 44.060 (*A/Gb mode*) and 3GPP TS 44.160 (*Iu mode*).

- **Error detection:**

The physical layer offers an error protected transmission service, it includes error detection functions and to a lower level, error correction functions. Erroneous received frames are not offered to the data link layer or the RLC/MAC layer. The probability of one or more errors in a physical block transferred by the physical layer is defined in 3GPP TS 45.005. Due to not specified methods of quality detection, the probability of residual errors in transferred blocks may vary between implementations.

- **Encryption:**

Security related functions implemented at the physical layer are described in 3GPP TS 43.020.

An overview of the functions specified in the 45-series which create the service of the physical layer can be found in 3GPP TS 45.001.

### 3.2.1 Specific services of the physical layer in the MS

The access capability service of the physical layer in the MS differs depending on the nature of the channel (traffic, packet data traffic or broadcast/common channels).

- **Establishment of dedicated physical channels (*A/Gb Mode*):**

Establishment of dedicated physical channels on the physical layer is controlled by the radio resources management of layer 3 (3GPP TS 44.018). During operation on a dedicated physical channel, the physical layer measures the signals of neighbouring base stations and the signal quality of the used dedicated physical channel. Measurements are transferred to layer 3, measurement control information is offered by layer 3.

- **Establishment of dedicated basic physical subchannels (*Iu mode*):**

Establishment of dedicated basic physical subchannels on the physical layer is controlled by the radio resources management of layer 3 (3GPP TS 44.018 and 3GPP TS 44.118). During operation on a dedicated basic physical subchannel, the physical layer measures the signals of neighbouring base stations and the signal quality of the used dedicated basic physical subchannel. Measurements are transferred to layer 3, measurement control information is offered by layer 3.

- **Establishment of packet data physical channels (*A/Gb mode*):**

Establishment of packet data physical channels on the physical layer is controlled by the radio resource management of layer 3. Packet access and the reservation of radio resource on packet data physical channels is controlled by the RLC/MAC layer in co-operation with layer 3 (3GPP TS 44.060 and 3GPP TS 44.118). During operation on packet data physical channels, the physical layer measures the signals of neighbouring base stations and the signal quality of the used packet data physical channel. Measurements are transferred to layer 3, measurement control information is offered by layer 3.

- **Establishment of shared basic physical subchannels (*Iu mode*):**

Establishment of shared basic physical subchannels on the physical layer is controlled by the radio resource management of layer 3. Packet access and the reservation of radio resource on shared basic physical subchannels is controlled by the RLC/MAC layer in co-operation with layer 3 (3GPP TS 44.160 and 3GPP TS 44.118). During operation on shared basic physical subchannels, the physical layer measures the signals of neighbouring base stations and the signal quality of the used shared basic physical subchannel. Measurements are transferred to layer 3, measurement control information is offered by layer 3.

- **cell/PLMN selection in idle mode or in packet mode:**

In idle mode or in packet mode, the physical layer selects the best cell with its BCCH/CCCH in close co-operation with layer 3, meeting requirements for PLMN selection specified in 3GPP TS 22.011. The idle mode procedures are not modelled within the present document. Examples of procedures for cell selection are described in 3GPP TS 45.008. The physical layer performs automatic crossover.

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## 4 Primitives of the physical layer

The Physical layer interacts with other entities as illustrated in figure 2.1. The interactions with the data link layer of Dm channels and the interactions with the RLC/MAC layer of packet data physical channels (*A/Gb mode*), shared or dedicated basic physical subchannels (*Iu mode*) are shown in terms of primitives where the primitives represent the logical exchange of information and control between the physical layer and adjacent layers. They do not specify or constrain implementations. The interactions between the physical layer and layer 1 entities for Bm/Lm channels are for further study. For the physical layer two sets of primitives are defined:

- **Primitives between physical layer and data link layer and RLC/MAC layer respectively:**

PH - Generic name - Type: Parameters.

- **Primitives between layer 1 and the RR-management layer 3 entity:**

MPH - Generic name - Type: Parameters.

### 4.1 Generic names of primitives between layers 1 and 2 for the transfer of layer 2 frames and RLC/MAC blocks

The following primitive generic names are defined on the SAPs between the physical layer and the data link layer:

a) PH-DATA:

The PH-DATA primitives are used on a SAP to pass message units containing frames used for data link layer and RLC/MAC layer respective peer-to-peer communications to and from the physical layer.

b) PH-RANDOM ACCESS:

The PH-RANDOM ACCESS (PH-RA) primitives are used on the SAP of the RACH and the PRACH to request and confirm (in the MS) the sending of a random access frame and to indicate (in the network) the arrival of a random access frame. For MS operating in *A/Gb mode*, the random access protocols are specified in 3GPP TS 44.018 and 3GPP TS 44.060 respectively; for MS operating in *Iu mode*, they are specified in 3GPP TS 44.160.

c) PH-CONNECT:

The PH-CONNECT primitive is used on a SAP to indicate that the physical connection on the corresponding control channel or packet data physical channel (*A/Gb mode*) or shared basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*) has been established.

d) PH-READY-TO-SEND:

The PH-READY-TO-SEND primitive is used by the physical layer to trigger, if applicable, piggy backing, the start of timer for the data link layer or the RLC/MAC layer and the forwarding a data unit to the physical layer. It is passed to the upper layer just before a new physical block is transmitted.

e) PH-EMPTY-FRAME:

The PH-EMPTY-FRAME primitive can be used by the data link layer and the RLC/MAC layer to indicate that no frame has to be transmitted after receiving the PH-READY-TO-SEND primitive. It enables polling of several upper layer entities by the physical layer and support DTX.

## 4.2 Generic names of primitives between layer 1 and the RR-management entity of layer 3

The following primitive generic name is defined between layer 1 and the RR-management entity of layer 3:

- MPH-INFORMATION:

MPH-INFORMATION (MPH-INFO) primitives are used for the control of the physical layer by the RR-management of layer 3. This information activates and deactivates, configures and deconfigures, through connects and disconnects physical and logical channels. It is also used for the transfer of measurements and measurement control information from layer 1 to layer 3.

## 4.3 Primitive types

The primitive types defined in the present document are:

- a) REQUEST:

The REQUEST primitive type is used when a higher layer is requesting a service from a lower layer.

- b) INDICATION:

The INDICATION primitive type is used by a layer providing a service to notify the next higher layer of activities in the layer. This activities are directly related to the occurrence of a REQUEST primitive on the peer-protocol side.

- c) RESPONSE:

The RESPONSE primitive type is used by a layer to acknowledge receipt from the INDICATION primitive type.

- d) CONFIRM:

The CONFIRM primitive type is used by the layer providing the requested service to confirm that the activity has been completed.

## 4.4 Parameter definition

Primitives contain a variable amount of parameters. The primitives with included parameters are listed in table 4.1.

**Table 4.1: Primitives of the physical layer**

primitive	entity	direction	message unit					
			channel control parameters	system information	absolute frame No.	measurement		
MPH-INFO-REQ	MS/BS	RR(L3)	PH(L1)	x	x			
MPH-INFO-CON	MS/BS	PH(L1)	RR(L3)	x	x			
MPH-INFO-IND	MS/BS	PH(L1)	RR(L3)	x	x		x	
PH-CONNECT-IND	MS/BS	PH(L1)	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	x				
PH-READY-TO-SEND	MS/BS	PH(L1)	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	x			x	
PH-EMPTY-FRAME	MS/BS	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	PH(L1)	x				
PH-DATA-REQ	MS/BS	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	PH(L1)	x	x			
PH-DATA-IND	MS/BS	PH(L1)	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	x	x			x
PH-RA-REQ	MS	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	PH(L1)	x				
PH-RA-IND	BS	PH(L1)	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	x			x	
PH-RA-CON	MS	PH(L1)	DL(L2) RLC/MAC	x			x	

Parameters involved in the primitive exchange with the physical layer are:

a) Message unit:

The message unit contains peer-to-peer information of a layer. It is transferred by the physical layer to the peer layer.

b) Channel control parameters:

These parameters contain information for channel control, specified in 3GPP TS 44.018 and 3GPP TS 44.060 for MS operating in *A/Gb mode*, 3GPP TS 44.118 and 3GPP TS 44.160 for MS operating in *Iu mode*.

c) System information:

This information is exchanged in the cell/PLMN selection procedures. It may also contain control information for DRX (sleep mode, see 3GPP TS 43.013).

d) Absolute Frame Number:

The absolute frame number is used (in combination with a random access identifier) to uniquely identify a random access.

e) Measurements:

This parameter is used to report the quality of a dedicated physical channel (MS and network) and to report the quality of surrounding BCCH carriers (MS only).

## 5 Physical layer procedures

### 5.0 General

The main body of physical layer procedures is specified in 3GPP TS 44.018 and 3GPP TS 44.060 for MS operating in *A/Gb mode*, 3GPP TS 44.118 and 3GPP TS 44.160 for MS operating in *Iu mode*, and 3GPP TS 45.008.

### 5.1 States of the physical layer

In the physical layer of the MS the following states are defined:

NULL: the equipment is switched off;

SEARCHING BCH: the physical layer tracks the best BCCH;

BCH: the physical layer listens to a BCCH/CCCH or PBCCH/PCCCH and is able to do random access;

TUNING DCH: For MS operating in *A/Gb mode* the physical layer seizes on a respective dedicated physical channel or packet data physical channel; for MS operating in *Iu mode* the physical layer seizes on a basic physical subchannel;

DCH: For MS operating in *A/Gb mode* the physical layer has seized a respective dedicated physical channel or packet data physical channel and may establish and through connect logical channels; For MS operating in *Iu mode* the physical layer has seized a basic physical subchannel and may establish and through connect logical channels.

NOTE: BCH = Bcch/ccch physical CHannel or pbccch/pcch physical channel;  
DCH = Dedicated physical CHannel or packet data physical channel for MS operating in *A/Gb mode*;  
Dedicated basic physical subCHannel or shared basic physical subchannel for MS operating in *Iu mode*.

Figure 5.1 gives a general state diagram of the physical layer. All state transitions of the physical layer are controlled by MPH-INFORMATION primitives.

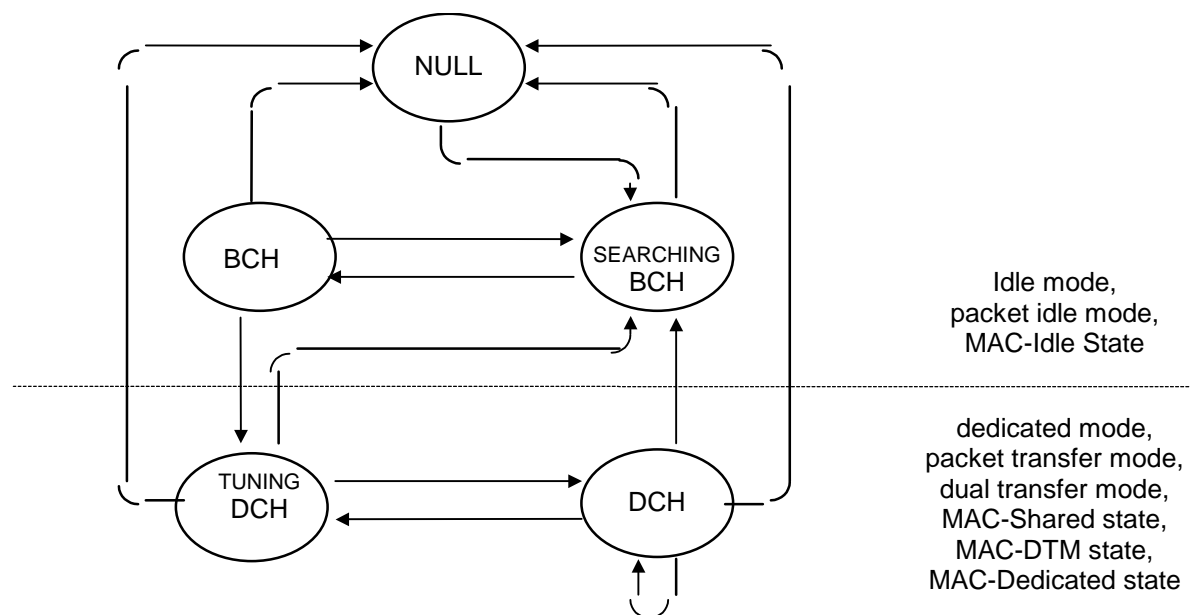


Figure 5.1: States of the physical layer in the MS

The states of the physical layer in the network are not specified. The states in the network will reflect the other characteristics of operation on channels.



## 5.2 Control procedures

Requirements and examples of procedures for idle mode and for packet mode operation of the MS are specified in 3GPP TS 22.011 and 45.008. In the idle mode and packet mode procedures the physical layer tracks the best cell and may tune on their BCCH/PBCCH in order to enable layer 3 to read the system information of the BCCH/PBCCH. This system information of the BCCH/PBCCH is used in the selection process.

## 5.3 Physical layer interface procedures

Three types of primitives are defined for the communication between the physical layer and the data link layer both in the MS and the network. When a control channel, packet data physical channel (*A/Gb mode*), or a shared basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*) is being established, a PH-CONNECT-INDICATION is offered to the data link layer or the RLC/MAC layer, the one which is applicable, on the corresponding SAP. On an established full duplex control channel (DCCHs) in both MS and network, on an established packet data physical channel (*A/Gb mode*), or a shared basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*) or on the established BCCH/CCCH in the MS, physical blocks received correctly are offered on the corresponding SAP in PH-DATA-INDICATION primitives. On a full duplex control channel (DCCHs) or on the BCCH/CCCH in the network, the data link layer will offer physical blocks to be transmitted in PH-DATA-REQUEST primitives. On a packet data physical channel (*A/Gb mode*) or shared basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*), the RLC/MAC layer will offer physical blocks to be transmitted in PH-DATA-REQUEST primitives. In the MS in idle mode or in packet idle mode, random accesses on RACH or on PRACH can be offered in PH-RANDOM ACCESS-REQUEST primitives. The physical layer of the MS will perform a random access as soon as possible. The physical layer of the MS will confirm the data link layer or the RLC/MAC layer, the one which is applicable, the transmission of the random access attempt in a PH-RANDOM ACCESS-CONFIRM. This confirmation contains the absolute frame number in which the random access is transmitted. The physical layer of the BS offers correctly received random accesses to the data link layer or the RLC/MAC layer, the one which is applicable, in a PH-RANDOM ACCESS-INDICATION. This indication contains the absolute frame number in which the random access is received.

---

# 6 Physical layer protocol header

## 6.0 General

The physical layer implements a peer-to-peer protocol for the control of timing advance and power control at the operation on dedicated physical channels (*A/Gb mode*) or dedicated basic physical subchannels (*Iu mode*), and further, for the control of timing advance at the operation on packet data physical channels (*A/Gb mode*) or shared basic physical subchannels (*Iu mode*). For this purpose a two octet physical header is defined on all blocks transferred via the SACCH, a logical channel always present on a dedicated physical channel (*A/Gb mode*) or dedicated basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*). Further more, a 16 octet information field is defined on downlink blocks transferred via the PTCCCH, a logical channel present on a packet data physical channel (*A/Gb mode*) or shared basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*).

## 6.1 Physical layer protocol fields and procedures

Procedures for handling the ordered and actual power level fields are specified in 3GPP TS 45.005 and 45.008. The ordered MS power level field and the actual MS power level field are coded as the binary representation of the "power control level", see 3GPP TS 45.005.

Procedures for handling the ordered and actual timing advance fields are specified in 3GPP TS 45.010. The numbers corresponding to the timing advance steps in 3GPP TS 45.010 are included binary coded in the 7 bit or in case of GSM 400 8 bit ordered and actual timing advance fields of the physical layer header.

For all the bands except GSM 400, the values 0 to 63 are valid TA values. The bit pattern "1111111" indicates that the field does not contain a timing advance value. All other bit combinations (64 to 126 decimal) are reserved. For all bands except GSM 400 bit 8 is set to spare.

For GSM 400, the values 0 to 219 decimal are valid TA values. The bit pattern "11111111" indicates that the field does not contain a timing advance value. The remaining values 220 to 254 are reserved.

A MS in packet transfer mode (*A/Gb mode*) or MAC-shared state (*Iu mode*) which is assigned a TAI shall, when receiving a PTCCH downlink block on the packet data physical channel (*A/Gb mode*) or shared basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*) containing PACCH, read the corresponding ordered timing advance field in that PTCCH block. The ordered timing advance fields corresponding to other TAIs than the assigned one shall be ignored.

Procedures for handling the FPC\_EPC (Fast Power Control/Enhanced Power Control) field (bit 6 of octet 1 in the SACCH downlink block) are specified in 3GPP TS 45.008 and 3GPP TS 48.058. The FPC\_EPC field has different interpretation depending on the channel mode of the channel to which the SACCH is associated, and whether that channel is in EPC mode..

If the channel mode is such that FPC may be used, the FPC\_EPC field indicates whether Fast Measurement Reporting and Power Control mechanism is used. It is coded as follows:

Value:

- 0 Fast Power Control not in use,
- 1 Fast Power Control in use.

If the channel is in EPC mode, the FPC\_EPC field indicates whether EPC procedures are used for MS (uplink) power control. It is coded as follows:

Value:

- 0 EPC not in use for MS power control,
- 1 EPC in use for MS power control.

If the channel mode is such that FPC may not be used and the channel is not in EPC mode, the MS shall ignore the value of the FPC\_EPC field.

## 7 Block transmission

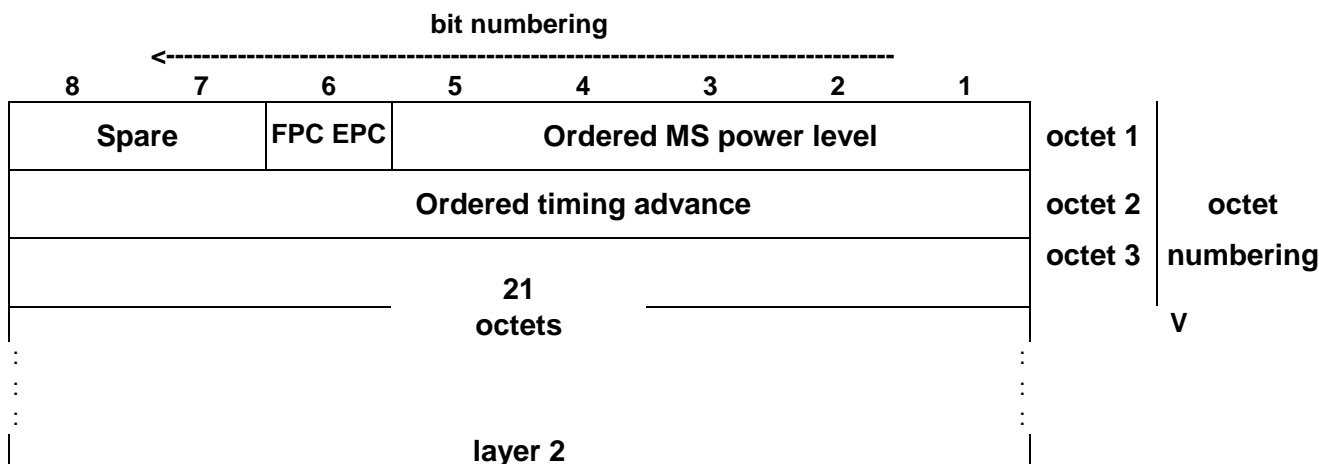
### 7.0 General

The format of the blocks transmitted on the physical interface depends on the mode (*A/Gb* or *Iu mode*) in which the MS is connected to the network, as specified in this section.

#### 7.1 SACCH downlink block format

##### 7.1.1 A/Gb mode

The 23 octets of SACCH blocks are used in the downlink in the following way:



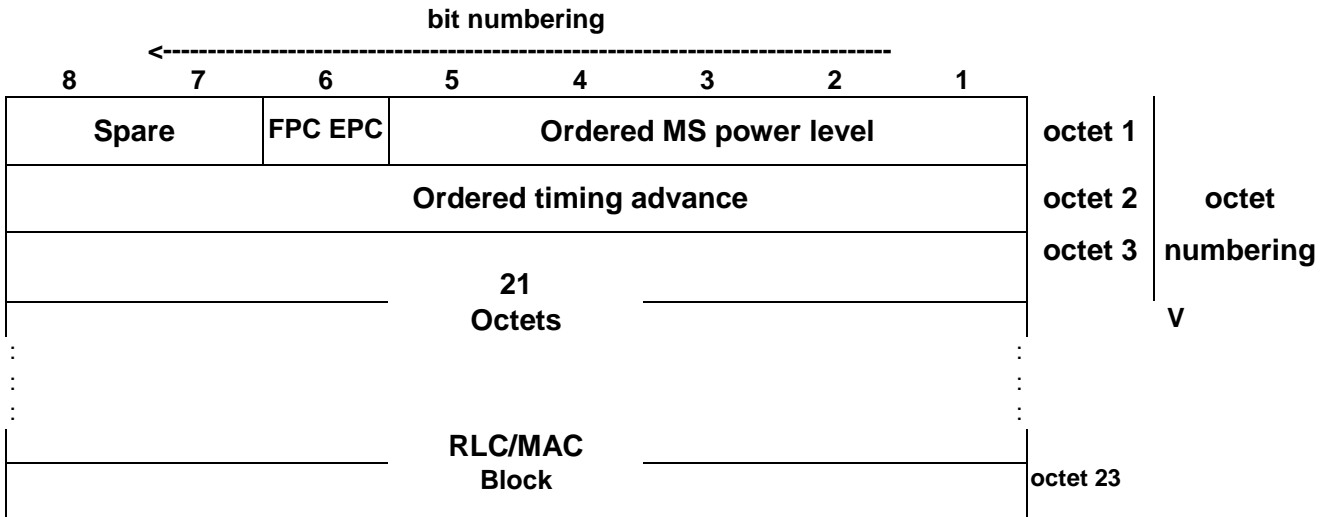


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.006 applies.

Figure 7.1.1: SACCH downlink block format for MS operating in *A/Gb mode*

### 7.1.2 *Iu mode*

The 23 octets of SACCH blocks are used in the downlink in the following way:



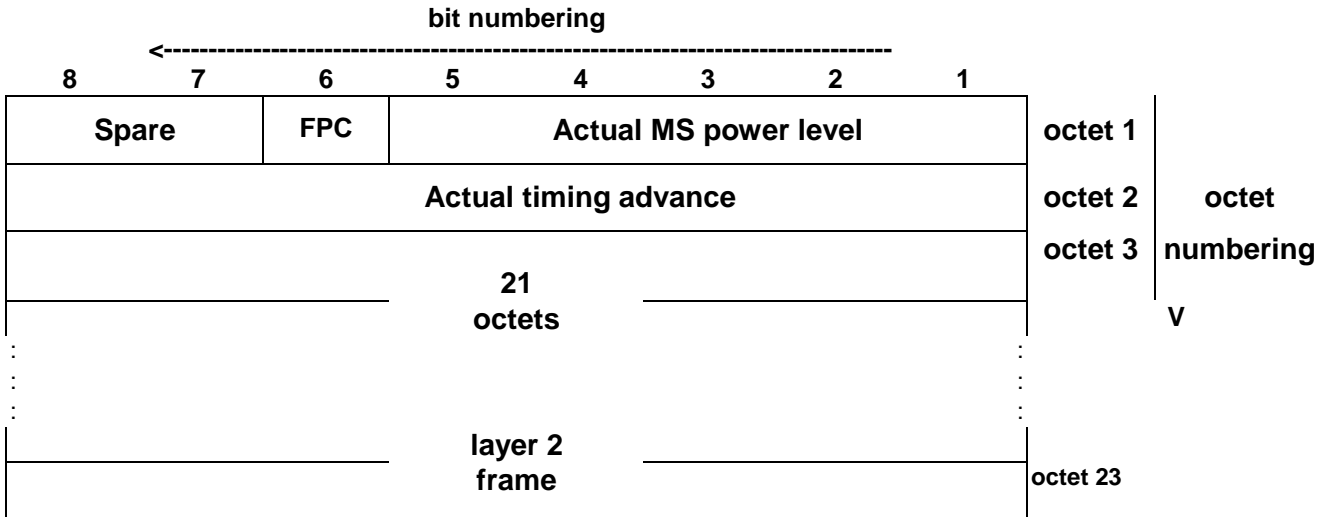
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.1.2: SACCH downlink block format for MS operating in *Iu mode*

## 7.2 SACCH uplink block format

### 7.2.1 A/Gb mode

The 23 octets of SACCH blocks are used in the uplink in the following way:

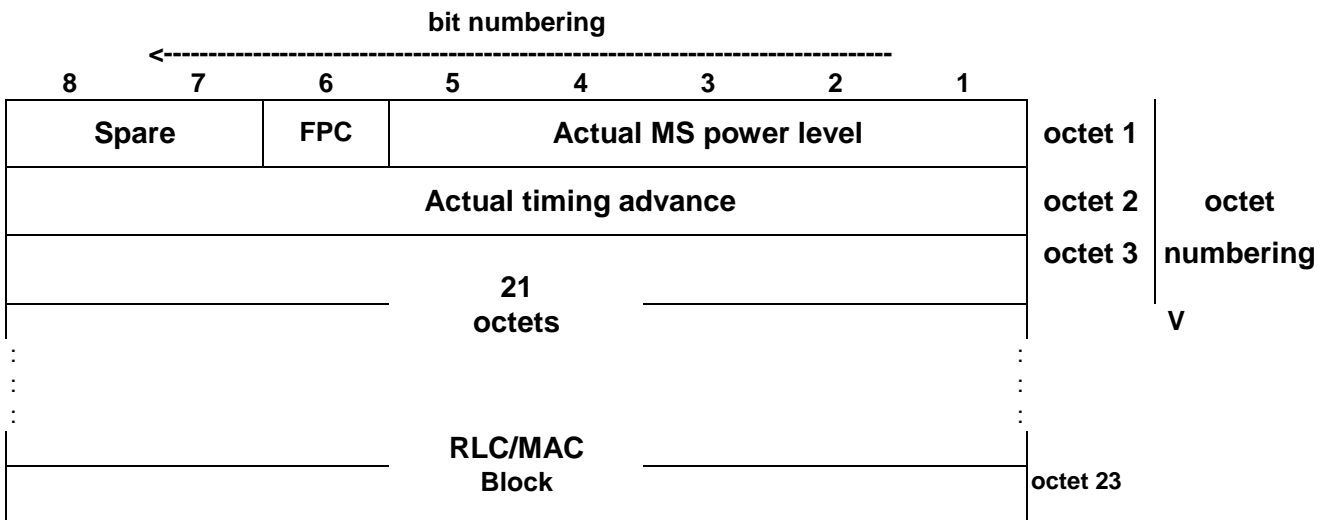


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.006 applies.

Figure 7.2.1: SACCH uplink block format for MS operating in A/Gb mode

### 7.2.2 lu mode

The 23 octets of SACCH blocks are used in the uplink in the following way:



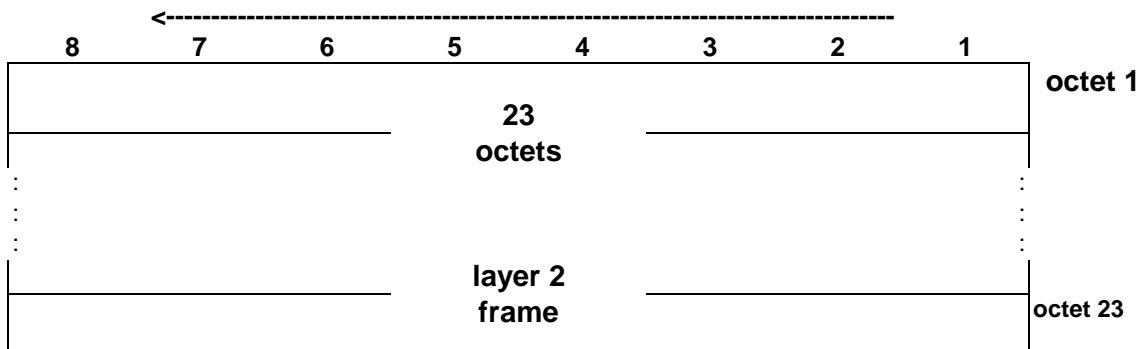
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.2.2: SACCH uplink block format for MS operating in lu mode

## 7.3 FACCH/SDCCH/CCCH/BCCH/CBCH downlink block format

### 7.3.1 CCCH/BCCH/CBCH downlink block format

The 23 octets blocks are used in the downlink in the following way:



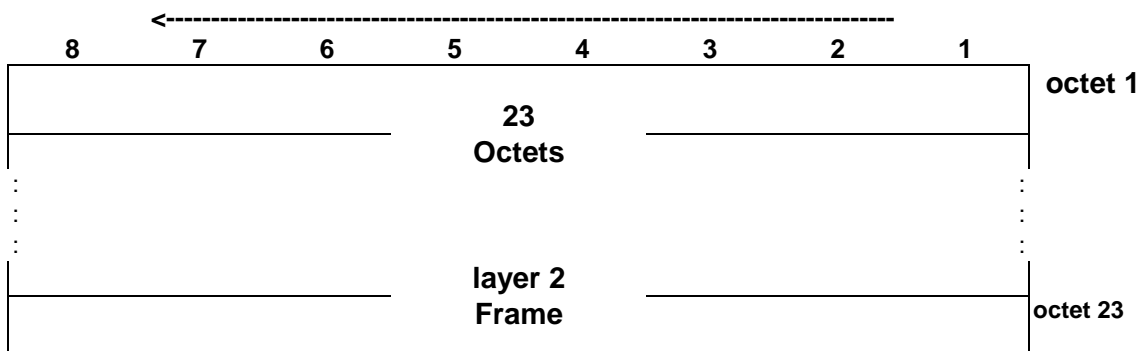
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.006 and 44.012 applies.

Figure 7.3.1: BCCH/CCCH/CBCH downlink block format

### 7.3.2 FACCH/SDCCH downlink block format

#### 7.3.2.1 A/Gb mode

The 23 octets blocks are used in the downlink in the following way:

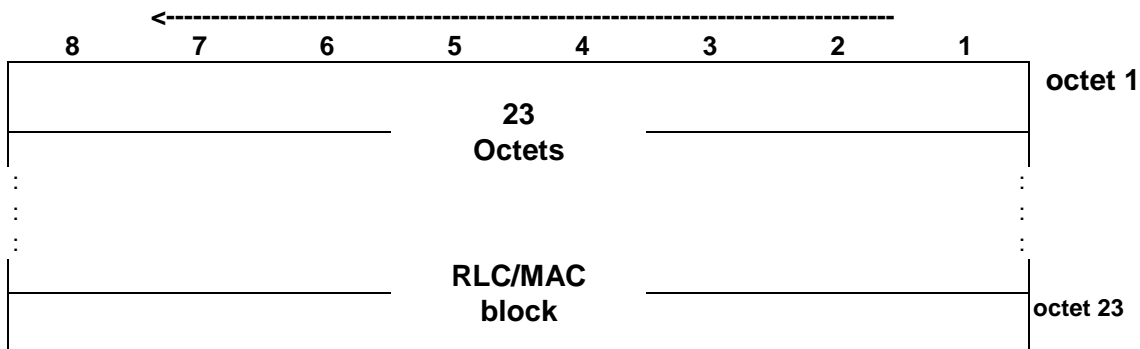


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.006 and 3GPP TS 44.012 applies.

Figure 7.3.2.1: FACCH/SDCCH downlink block format for MS operating in A/Gb mode

#### 7.3.2.2 lu mode

The 23 octets blocks are used in the downlink in the following way:



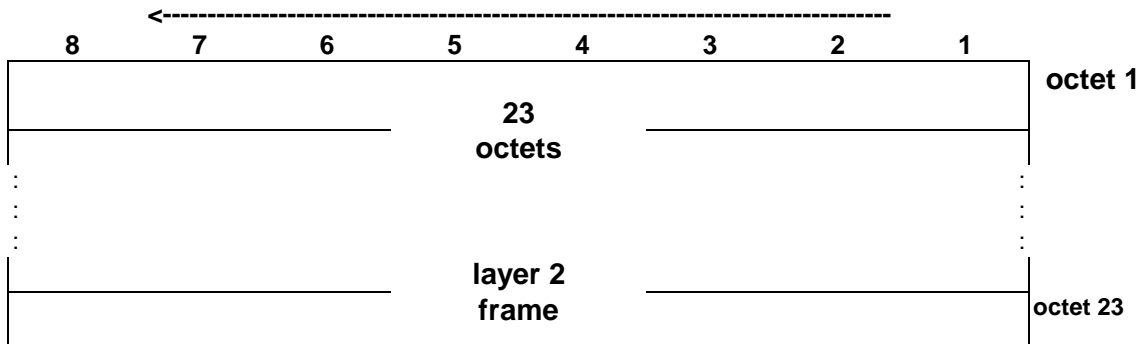
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.3.2.2: FACCH/SDCCH downlink block format for MS operating in lu mode

## 7.4 FACCH/SDCCH uplink block format

### 7.4.1 A/Gb mode

The 23 octets blocks are used in the uplink in the following way:

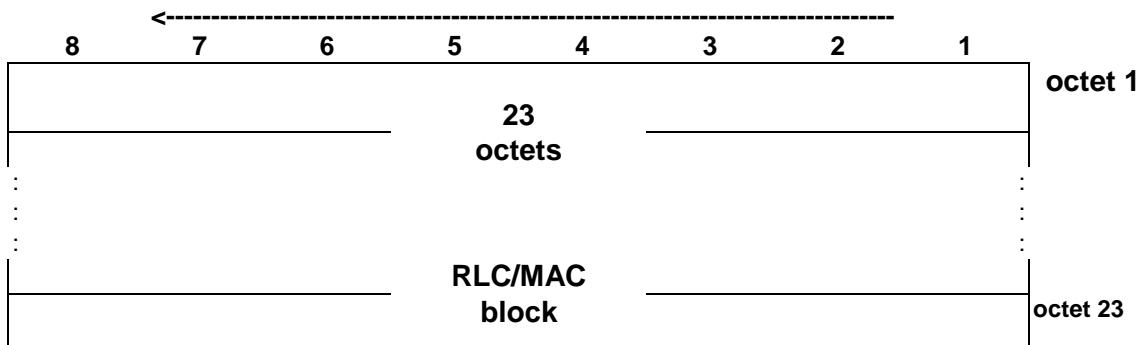


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.006 applies.

Figure 7.4.1: FACCH/SDCCH uplink block format for MS operating in A/Gb mode

### 7.4.2 lu mode

The 23 octets blocks are used in the uplink in the following way:

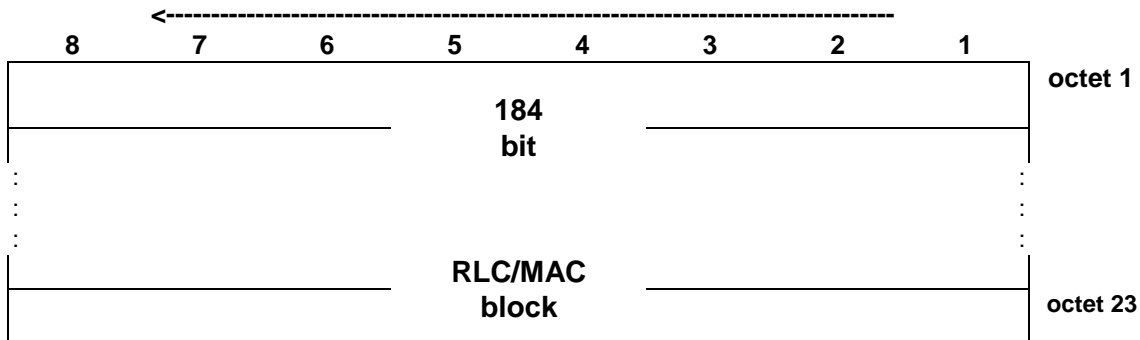


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.4.2: FACCH/SDCCH uplink block format for MS operating in lu mode

## 7.5 PBCCH/PCCCH downlink/PACCH block format

The 84 bit (23 octets) blocks are used in the following way:



NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

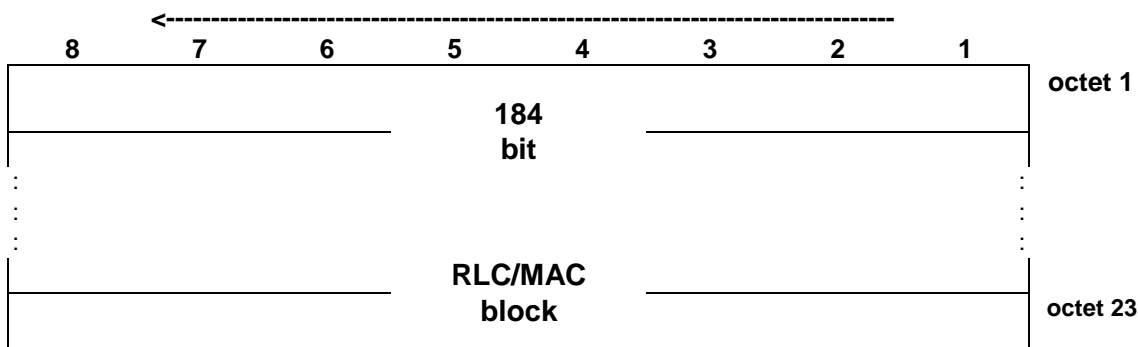
Figure 7.5: PBCCH/PCCCH downlink/PACCH blockformat

## 7.6 PDTCH block formats

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, the block formats shown hereafter are valid for both uplink and downlink directions.

### 7.6.1 PDTCH block type 1 (CS-1) format

The 184 bit (23 octets) blocks are used in the following way:

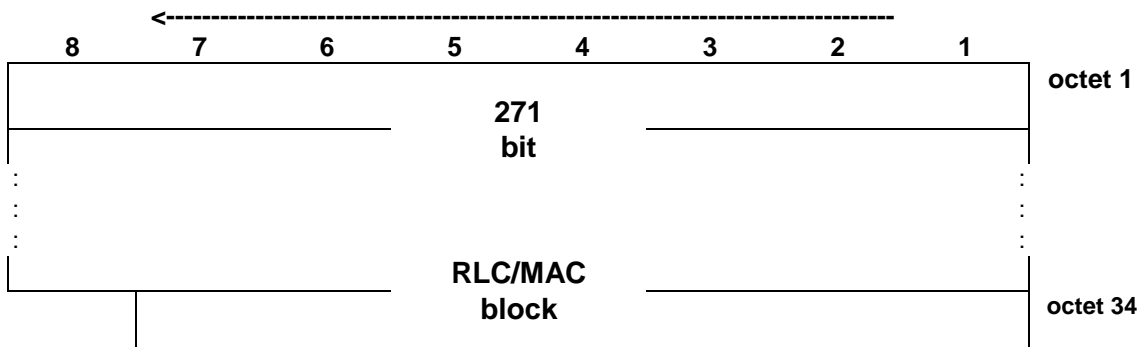


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.1: PDTCH block type 1 (CS-1) format

### 7.6.2 PDTCH block type 2 (CS-2) format

The 271 bit blocks are used in the following way:

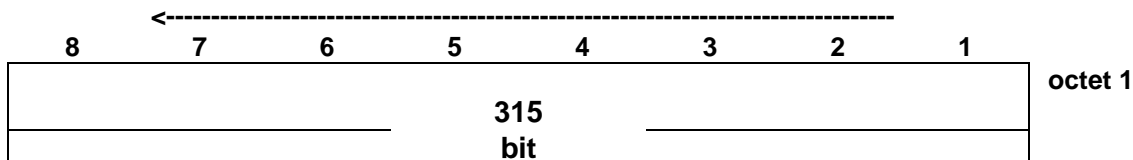


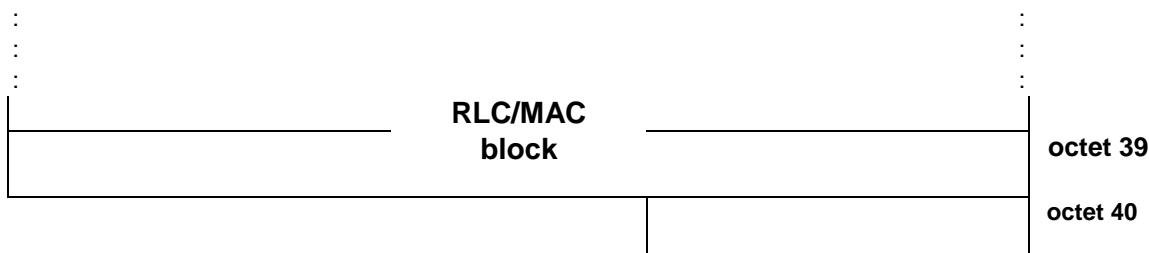
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.2: PDTCH block type 2 (CS-2) format

### 7.6.3 PDTCH block type 3 (CS-3) format

The 315 bit blocks are used in the following way:



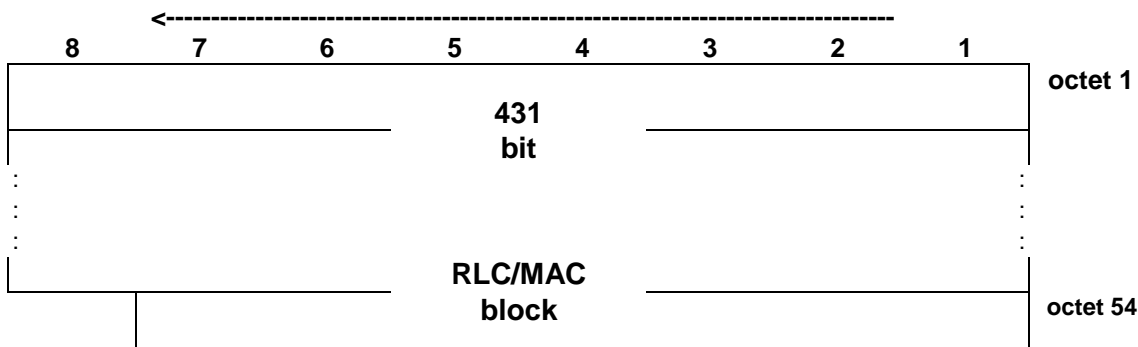


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.3: PDTCH block type 3 (CS-3) format

### 7.6.4 PDTCH block type 4 (CS-4) format

The 431 bit blocks are used in the following way:

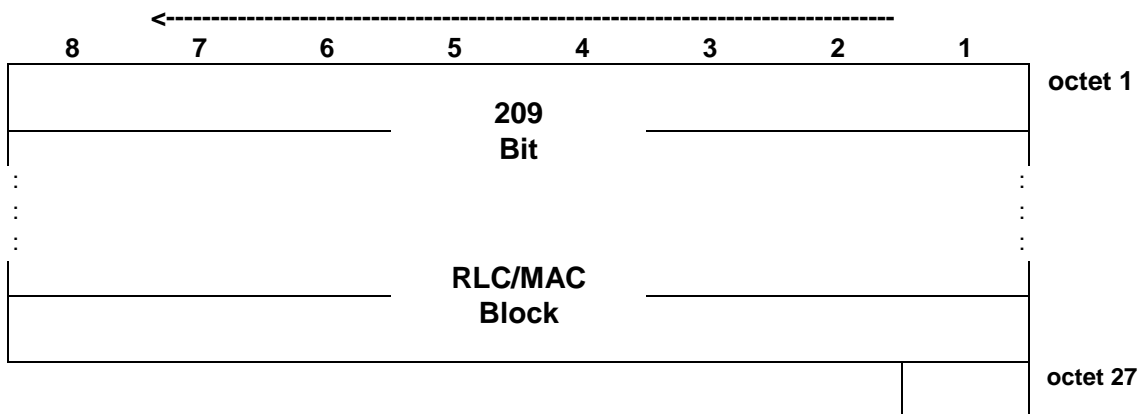


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.4: PDTCH block type 4 (CS-4) format

### 7.6.5 PDTCH block type 5 (MCS-1) format

The 209 bit blocks are used in the following way:



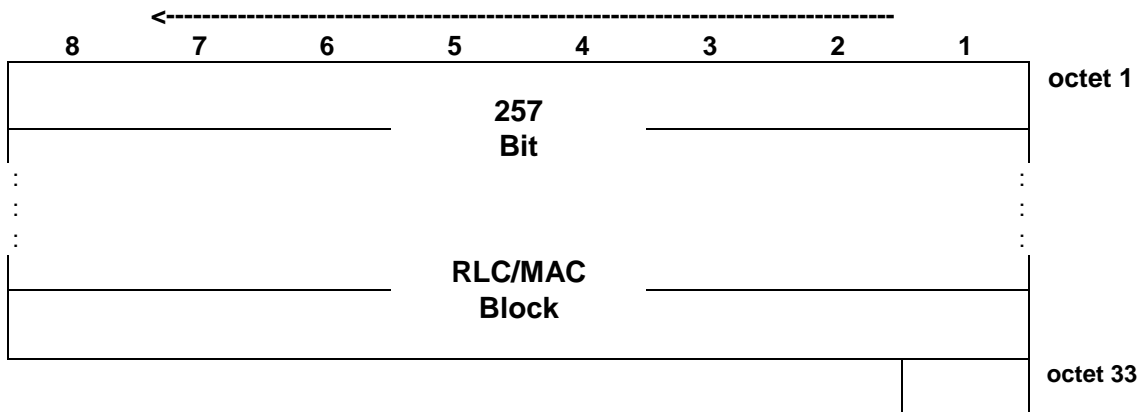
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.5: PDTCH block type 5 (MCS-1) format



### 7.6.6 PDTCH block type 6 (MCS-2) format

The 257 bit blocks are used in the following way:

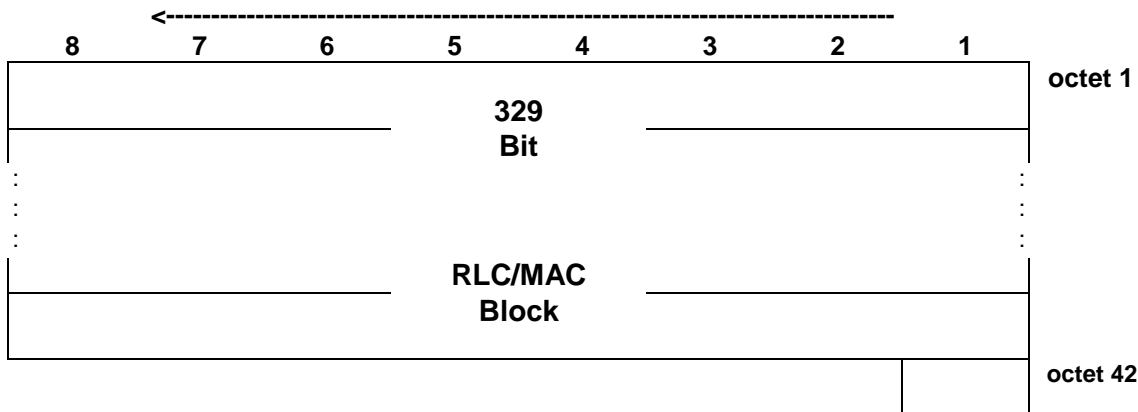


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.6: PDTCH block type 6 (MCS-2) format

### 7.6.7 PDTCH block type 7 (MCS-3) format

The 329 bit blocks are used in the following way:

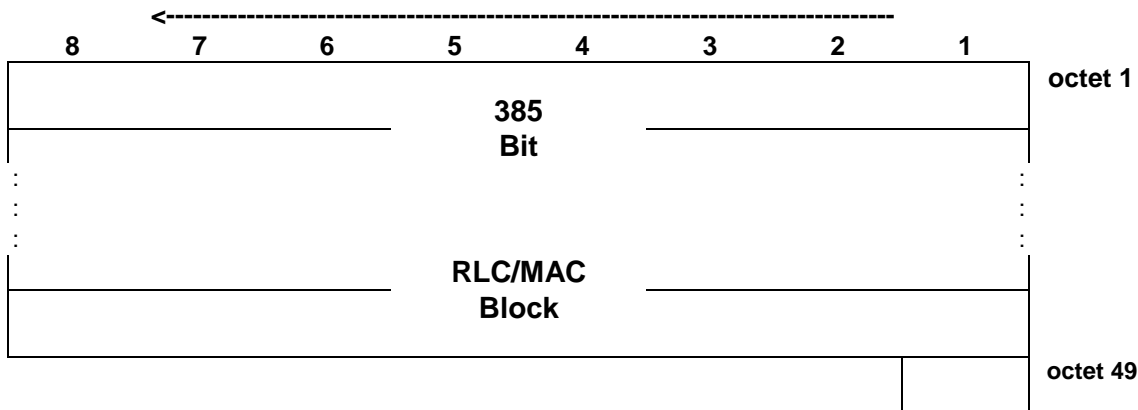


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.7: PDTCH block type 7 (MCS-3) format

### 7.6.8 PDTCH block type 8 (MCS-4) format

The 385 bit blocks are used in the following way:



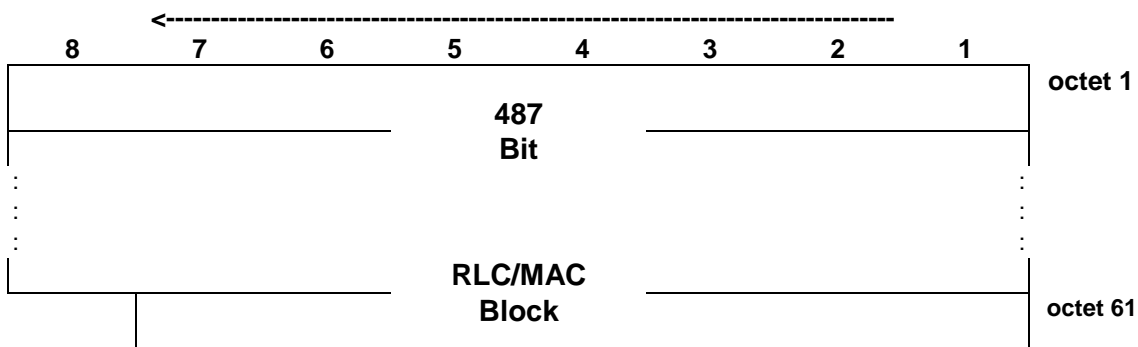
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.6.8: PDTCH block type 8 (MCS-4) format**

### 7.6.9 PDTCH block type 9 (MCS-5) format

#### 7.6.9.1 Uplink

The 487 bit blocks are used in the following way:

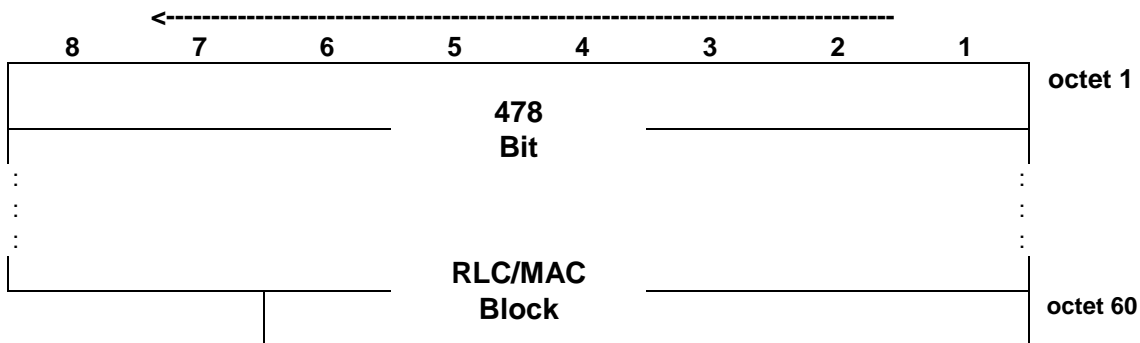


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.6.9.1: PDTCH block type 9 (MCS-5) uplink format**

### 7.6.9.2 Downlink

The 478 bit blocks are used in the following way:



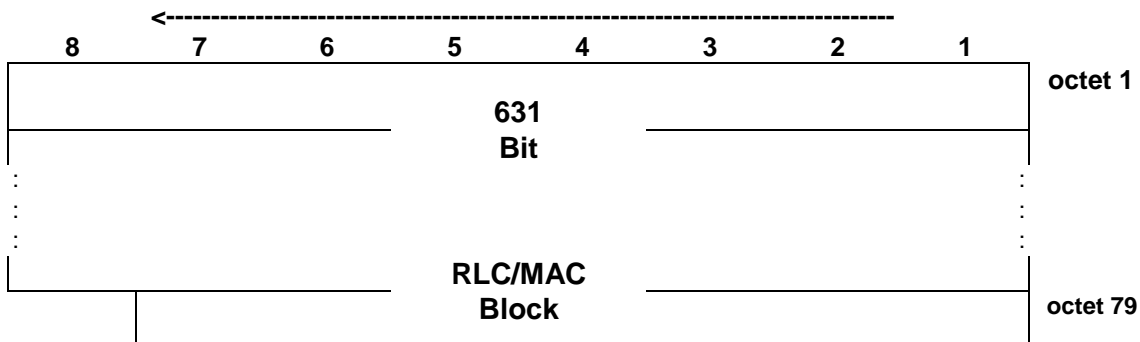
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.9.2: PDTCH block type 9 (MCS-5) downlink format

### 7.6.10 PDTCH block type 10 (MCS-6) format

#### 7.6.10.1 Uplink

The 631 bit blocks are used in the following way:

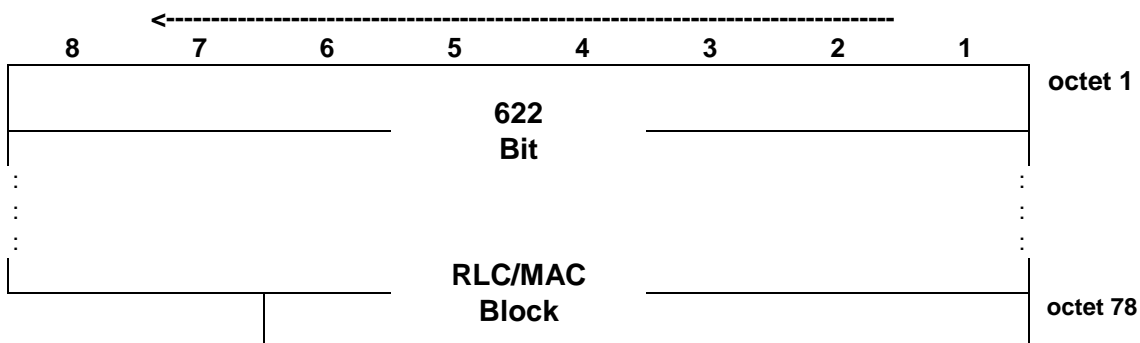


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.10.1: PDTCH block type 10 (MCS-6) uplink format

#### 7.6.10.2 Downlink

The 622 bit blocks are used in the following way:



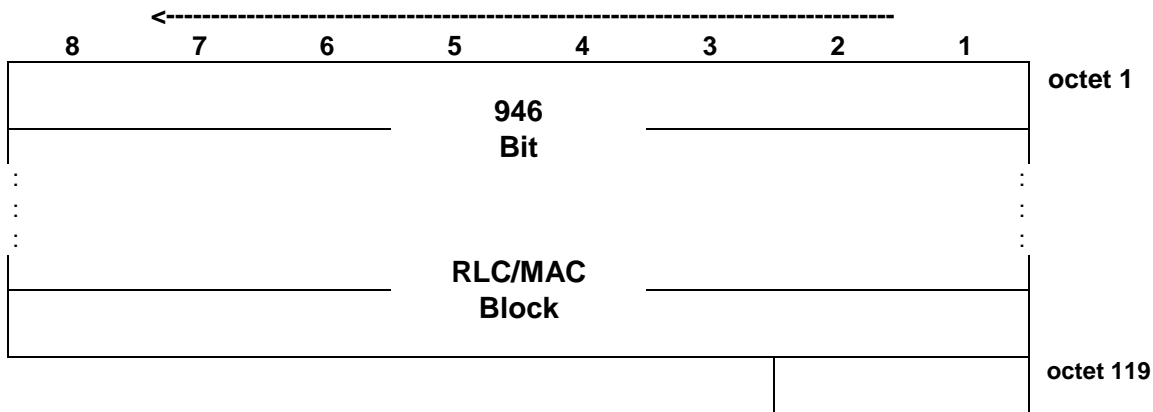
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.6.10.2: PDTCH block type 10 (MCS-6) downlink format**

### 7.6.11 PDTCH block type 11 (MCS-7) format

#### 7.6.11.1 Uplink

The 946 bit blocks are used in the following way:

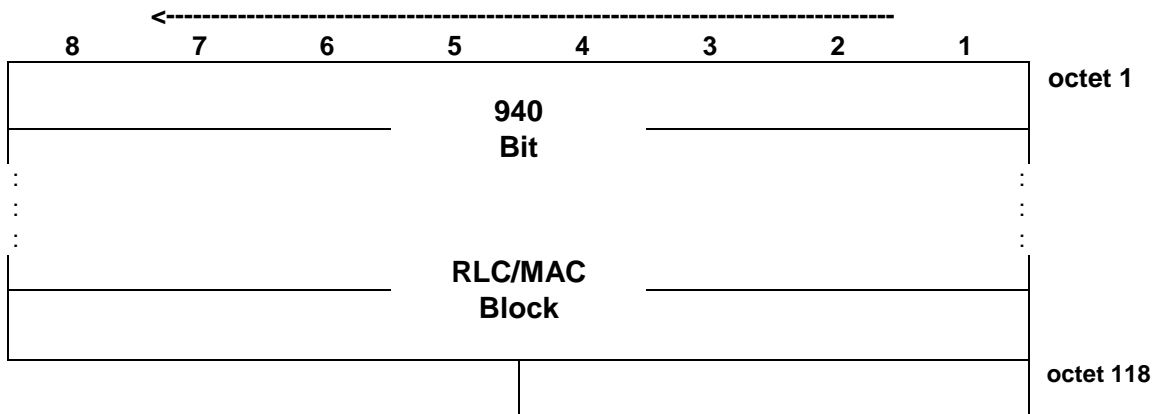


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.6.11.1: PDTCH block type 11(MCS-7) uplink format**

#### 7.6.11.2 Downlink

The 940 bit blocks are used in the following way:



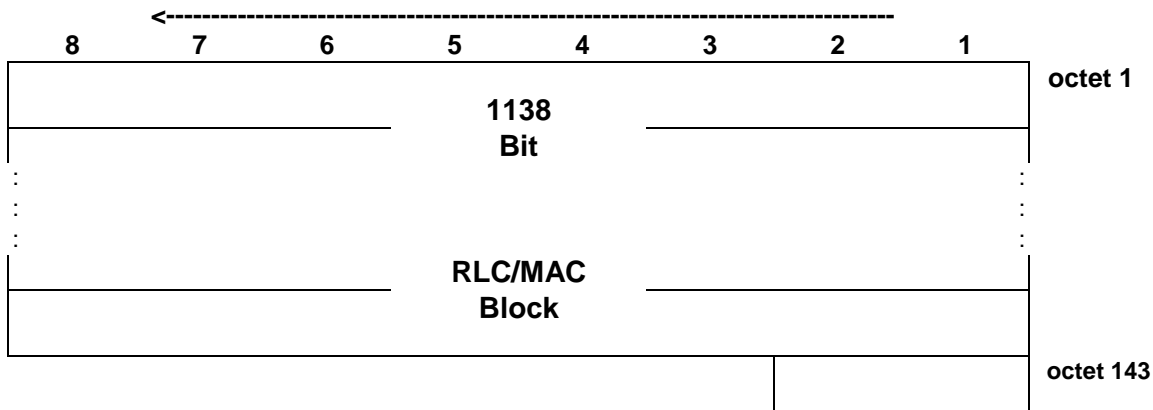
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.6.11.2: PDTCH block type 11 (MCS-7) downlink format**

## 7.6.12 PDTCH block type 12 (MCS-8) format

### 7.6.12.1 Uplink

The 1138 bit blocks are used in the following way:

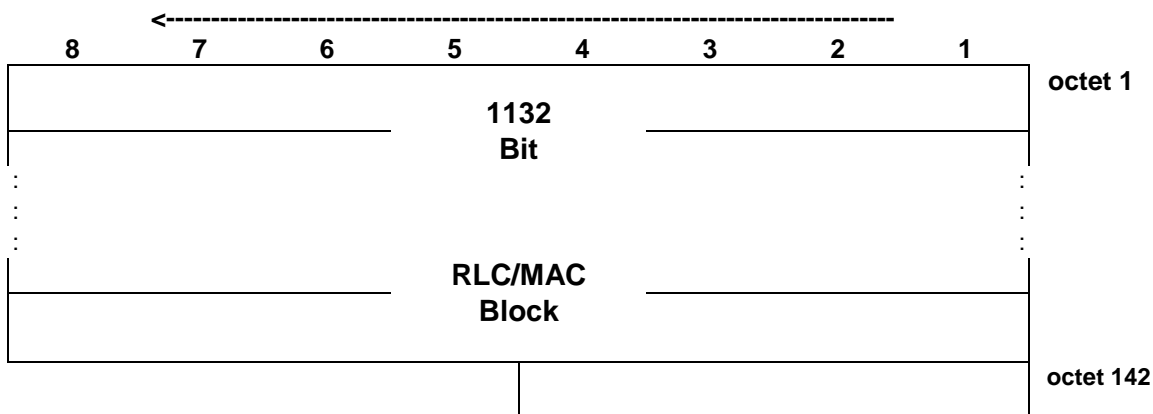


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.6.12.1: PDTCH block type 12 (MCS-8) uplink format**

### 7.6.12.2 Downlink

The 1132 bit blocks are used in the following way:



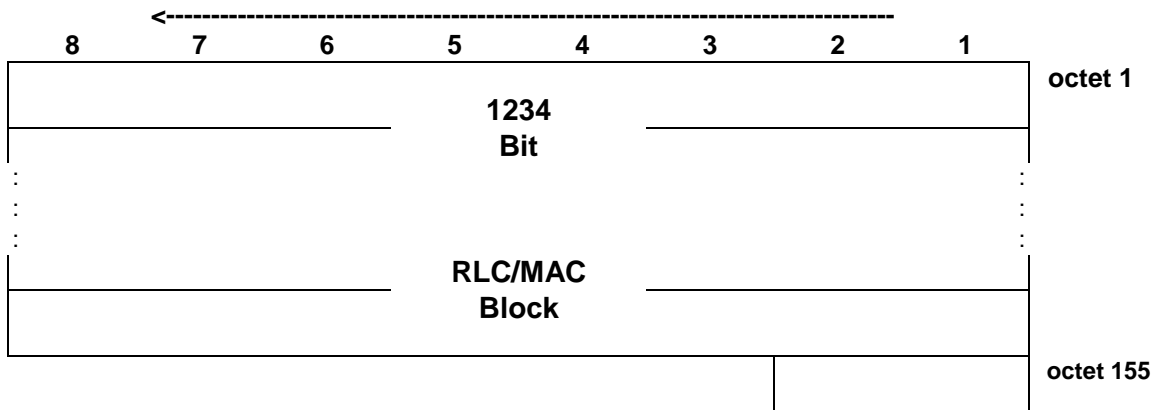
NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.6.12.2: PDTCH block type 12 (MCS-8) downlink format**

### 7.6.13 PDTCH block type 13 (MCS-9) format

#### 7.6.13.1 Uplink

The 1234 bit blocks are used in the following way:

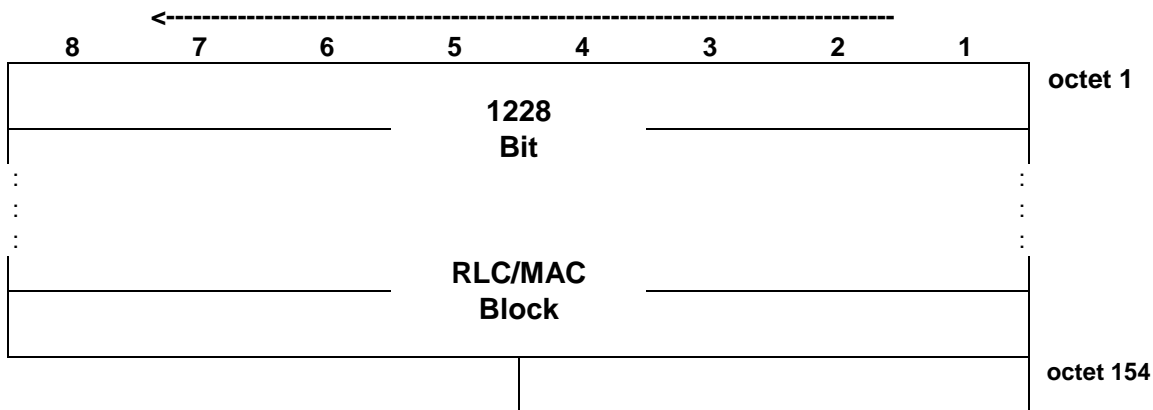


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.13.1: PDTCH block type 13 (MCS-9) uplink format

#### 7.6.13.2 Downlink

The 1228 bit blocks are used in the following way:

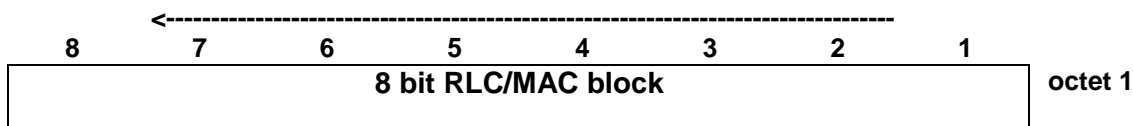


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

Figure 7.6.13.2: PDTCH block type 13 (MCS-9) downlink format

### 7.7 PRACH uplink/PACCH uplink short acknowledgement block formats

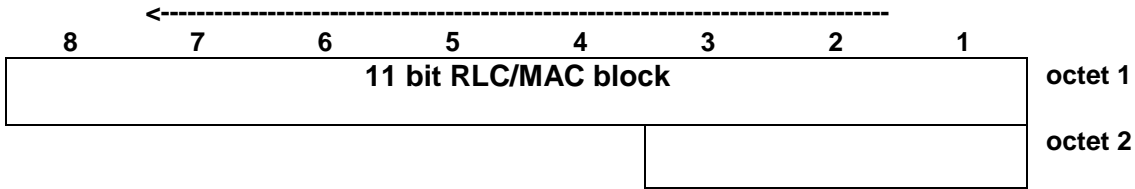
Two alternative PRACH uplink/PACCH uplink short acknowledgement block formats are specified. The 8 bit (1 octet) blocks are used uplink in the following way:



NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.7.a (sheet 1 of 2): PRACH uplink/PACCH uplink short acknowledgement block format**

The 11 bit blocks are used uplink in the following way:

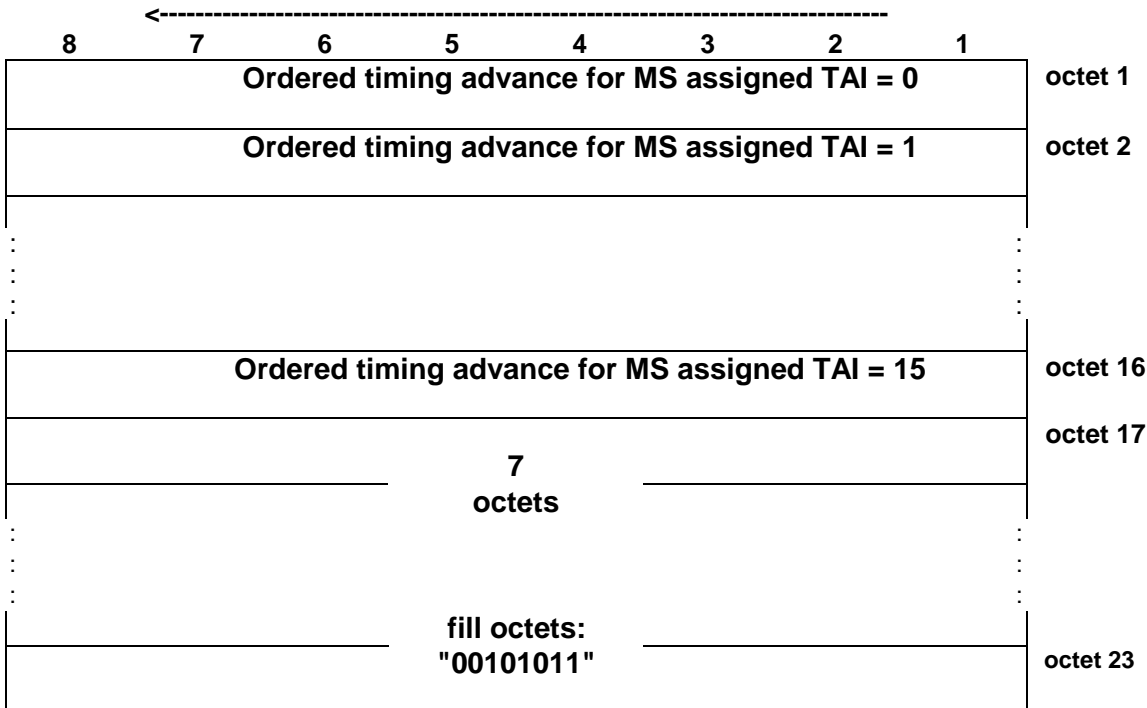


NOTE: The numbering convention specified in 3GPP TS 44.060 applies.

**Figure 7.7.b (sheet 2 of 2): PRACH uplink/PACCH uplink short acknowledgement block format**

## 7.8 PTCCH downlink block format

The 184 bit (23 octets) blocks are used downlink in the following way:



**Figure 7.8: PTCCH downlink block format**

The field mapping convention in this clause is that when a field is contained within a single octet, the highest bit number of the field represents the highest order value and lowest bit number of the field represents the lowest order value.

Spare bits are encoded with the binary value "0". Fill octets are encoded with the binary value "00101011".

## 7.9 PTCCH uplink block formats

Two alternative PTCCH uplink block formats are specified. The 8 bit (1 octet) blocks are used uplink in the following way:

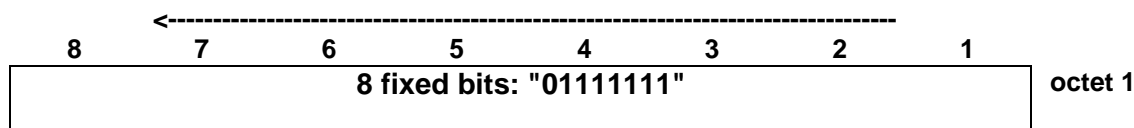


Figure 7.9.a (sheet 1 of 2): PTCCH uplink block format

The 11 bit blocks are used uplink in the following way:

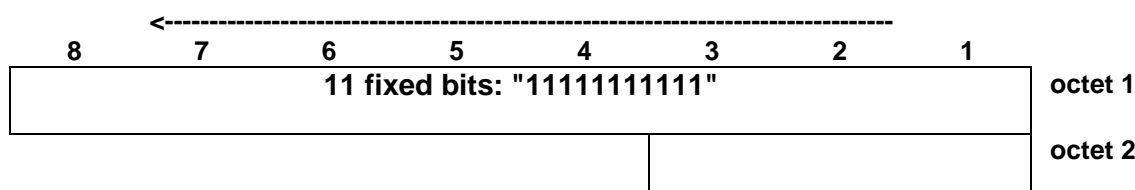


Figure 7.9.b (sheet 2 of 2): PTCCH uplink block format

The field mapping convention of clause 7.10 applies. In the addition, when a field spans more than one octet, the order of bit values within each octet progressively decreases as the octet number increases. In that part of a field contained in a given octet the lowest bit number represents the lowest order value.

## 7.10 Order of bit transmission

On channels for normal burst transmission having a block format with an integer  $N$  number of octets, the  $N$  octets are mapped onto  $8N$  bits,  $d(0)$  to  $d(8N-1)$ , defined in 3GPP TS 45.003 clause 4 and 5 as follows:

Bit  $m$  of octet  $n$  shall be transmitted as bit  $d((n-1)*8+m-1)$  with  $m=(1..8)$  and  $n=(1..N)$ .

On channels for normal burst transmission having a block format with a non-integer number of octets, or for transmission having a defined block format but which does not follow the normal burst transmission, the octets are mapped onto  $M$  bits,  $d(0)$  to  $d(M-1)$ , defined in 3GPP TS 45.003 clause 5 as follows:

Bit  $m$  of octet  $n$  shall be transmitted as bit  $d(8(n-1) + m-1)$  with  $n = (1 .. ((M-1) \text{ DIV } 8) + 1)$  and  $m = (1 .. \min(8, (M - 8(n-1))))$ , and where 'DIV' is the integer division operator.

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## 8 Vocabulary

The terminology used in the present document is as follows:

- **Idle mode:**

In this mode the MS is not allocated any dedicated physical channel; when the MS is operating in *A/Gb mode* it listens to the CCCH and the BCCH, whilst when operating in *Iu mode* it listens to the PCCCH and the PBCCH.

- **Dedicated mode:**

In this mode the MS is allocated a dedicated physical channel, at least containing two logical channels, only one of them being a SACCH.

- **Packet mode:**

In this mode the MS is ready to access and operate on a packet data physical channel (*A/Gb mode*) or shared basic physical subchannel (*Iu mode*). When the MS is operating in *A/Gb mode*, packet mode includes the sub-



states packet idle mode and packet transfer mode(see 3GPP TS 44.060). When the MS is operating in *Iu mode*, packet mode includes the sub-states MAC-Idle and MAC-Shared (see 3GPP TS 44.160).

- **Packet Idle Mode:**

In packet idle mode, the mobile station is prepared to transfer LLC PDUs on packet data physical channels. 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. The mobile station is allocated radio resource on one or more packet data physical channels for the transfer of LLC PDUs.

- **Dual Transfer Mode:**

In dual transfer mode, the mobile station is allocated radio resources providing an RR connection (3GPP TS 44.018) and a Temporary Block Flow on one or more packet data physical channels. The allocation of radio resource for the RR connection and the Temporary Block Flow is co-ordinated by the network in agreement with the capabilities of the mobile station in dual transfer mode.

- **MAC-dedicated:**

A MAC-control-entity state where a DBPSCH is assigned and no SBPSCH is assigned. This state only applies in *Iu mode*.

- **MAC-DTM:**

A MAC-control-entity state where at least one DBPSCH and one SBPSCH are assigned. This state only applies in *Iu mode*.

- **MAC-Idle:**

A MAC-control-entity state where no basic physical subchannel is assigned.

- **MAC-Shared:**

A MAC-control-entity state where at least one shared basic physical subchannel is assigned.

- **Physical block:**

The physical block is the minimal unit which can be transferred by the physical layer.

- **Dedicated physical channel:**

The physical blocks scheduled on the radio medium assigned to a dedicated connection with a MS.

- **Packet data physical channel:**

The physical blocks scheduled on the radio medium assigned to a shared usage between MSs for packet switched data traffic.

- **Physical channel:**

A **physical channel** uses a combination of frequency and time division multiplexing and is defined in terms of a radio frequency channel sequence and a timeslot sequence. A physical channel uses the same timeslot number in every TDMA frame. The complete definition of a particular physical channel consists of a description in the frequency domain, and a description in the time domain (see 3GPP TS 45.002).

- **Basic physical channel:**

A **basic physical channel** is defined as a physical channel for which the TDMA frame number sequence is 0,1,.. FN\_MAX, where FN\_MAX is the maximum TDMA frame number for a hyperframe (i.e. all TDMA frames on a timeslot).

- **Basic physical subchannel:**

A **basic physical subchannel** is defined as a basic physical channel or a part of a basic physical channel and an associated multiframe structure. A basic physical subchannel can either be shared or dedicated.

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## Annex A (informative): Change History

TSG #	TSG Doc.	CR	Rev	Subject/Comment	New
GP-04	-	-	-	April 2001. Conversion to 3GPP layout and number.	44.004 v4.0.0
GP-06	GP-011675	002		Introduction of Enhanced Power Control	5.0.0
GP-07	GP-012311	004		Editorial corrections	5.1.0
GP-07	GP-012357	006		Enhanced Power Control Alignment with 48.058	5.1.0
GP-09	GP-021234	007	4	Introduction of Rel 5 Functionality	5.2.0
GP-17	GP-032469	008		Incorrect incorporation of CR 007	5.3.0
GP-17	-	-	-	References editorially corrected to consistent style throughout the document	5.3.0

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## History

<b>Document history</b>		
V5.1.0	January 2002	Publication
V5.2.0	February 2002	Publication
V5.3.0	December 2003	Publication