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Space data and information transfer systems — TM (telemetry) space data link protocol

*Systèmes de transfert des données et informations spatiales —
Protocole pour liaison de données spatiales TM (télémessure)*

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Foreword

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ISO 22645 was prepared by the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS) (as CCSDS 132.0-B-1, September 2003) and was adopted (without modifications except those stated in Clause 2 of this International Standard) by Technical Committee ISO/TC 20, *Aircraft and space vehicles*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Space data and information transfer systems*.

Space data and information transfer systems — TM (telemetry) space data link protocol

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the telemetry (TM) space data link protocol, a data link layer protocol as defined in ISO/IEC 7498-1, and is to be used over space-to-ground or space-to-space communications links by space missions.

The scope and field of application are furthermore detailed in subclauses 1.1 and 1.2 of the enclosed CCSDS publication.

2 Requirements

Requirements are the technical recommendations made in the following publication (reproduced on the following pages), which is adopted as an International Standard:

CCSDS 132.0-B-1, September 2003, *TM space data link protocol*.

For the purposes of international standardization, the modifications outlined below shall apply to the specific clauses and paragraphs of publication CCSDS 132.0-B-1.

Pages i to v

This part is information which is relevant to the CCSDS publication only.

Page 1-5

Add the following information to the references indicated:

[3] Document CCSDS 131.0-B-1, September 2003, is equivalent to ISO 22641:2005.

[4] Document CCSDS 135.0-B-1, January 2002, is equivalent to ISO 22647:—¹⁾.

[6] Document CCSDS 133.0-B-1, September 2003, is equivalent to ISO 22646:2005.

Page B-1

Add the following information to the references indicated:

[B2] Document CCSDS 102.0-B-5, November 2000, is equivalent to ISO 13419:2003.

[B3] Document CCSDS 103.0-B-2, June 2001, is equivalent to ISO 17433:2003.

[B5] Document CCSDS 910.4-B-1, May 1996, is equivalent to ISO 15396:1998.

1) To be published.

[B6] Document CCSDS 232.0-B-1, September 2003, is equivalent to ISO 22664:2005.

It has been agreed with the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems that Subcommittee ISO/TC 20/SC 13 will be consulted in the event of any revision or amendment of publication CCSDS 132.0-B-1. To this end, NASA will act as a liaison body between CCSDS and ISO.

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Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems

RECOMMENDATION FOR SPACE
DATA SYSTEM STANDARDS

TM SPACE DATA LINK PROTOCOL

CCSDS 132.0-B-1

BLUE BOOK

September 2003



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AUTHORITY

Issue:	Blue Book, Issue 1
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This document has been approved for publication by the Management Council of the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS) and represents the consensus technical agreement of the participating CCSDS Member Agencies. The procedure for review and authorization of CCSDS Recommendations is detailed in reference [B1], and the record of Agency participation in the authorization of this document can be obtained from the CCSDS Secretariat at the address below.

This Recommendation is published and maintained by:

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Office of Space Communication (Code M-3)
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Washington, DC 20546, USA

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STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS) is an organization officially established by the management of member space Agencies. The Committee meets periodically to address data systems problems that are common to all participants, and to formulate sound technical solutions to these problems. Inasmuch as participation in the CCSDS is completely voluntary, the results of Committee actions are termed **Recommendations** and are not considered binding on any Agency.

This **Recommendation** is issued by, and represents the consensus of, the CCSDS Plenary body. Agency endorsement of this **Recommendation** is entirely voluntary. Endorsement, however, indicates the following understandings:

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 - The anticipated date of initial operational capability.
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No later than five years from its date of issuance, this **Recommendation** will be reviewed by the CCSDS to determine whether it should: (1) remain in effect without change; (2) be changed to reflect the impact of new technologies, new requirements, or new directions; or, (3) be retired or canceled.

In those instances when a new version of a **Recommendation** is issued, existing CCSDS-related Agency standards and implementations are not negated or deemed to be non-CCSDS compatible. It is the responsibility of each Agency to determine when such standards or implementations are to be modified. Each Agency is, however, strongly encouraged to direct planning for its new standards and implementations towards the later version of the Recommendation.

CCSDS RECOMMENDATION FOR TM SPACE DATA LINK PROTOCOL

FOREWORD

This document is a technical Recommendation for use in developing flight and ground systems for space missions and has been prepared by the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS). The TM Space Data Link Protocol described herein is intended for missions that are cross-supported between Agencies of the CCSDS.

This Recommendation specifies a communications protocol to be used by space missions to transfer space application data over space-to-ground or space-to-space communications links. This Recommendation is developed from the specifications of the Data Link Layer portion of older CCSDS Recommendations (references [B2] and [B3]), which define essentially the same protocol and services but in a slightly different context.

This Recommendation does not change the major technical contents defined in references [B2] and [B3], but the presentation of the specification has been changed so that:

- a) this protocol can be used to transfer any data over any space link in either direction;
- b) all CCSDS space link protocols are specified in a unified manner;
- c) the specification matches the OSI Basic Reference Model (references [1] and [2]).

Together with the change in presentation, a few technical specifications in references [B2] and [B3] have been changed in order to define all Space Data Link Protocols in a unified way. Also, some technical terms in reference [B3] have been changed in order to unify the terminology used in all the CCSDS Recommendations that define space link. These changes are listed in annex C of this Recommendation.

Through the process of normal evolution, it is expected that expansion, deletion or modification to this document may occur. This Recommendation is therefore subject to CCSDS document management and change control procedures, as defined in reference [B1]. Current versions of CCSDS documents are maintained at the CCSDS Web site:

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Questions relating to the contents or status of this document should be addressed to the CCSDS Secretariat at the address indicated on page i.

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- National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA)/Japan.
- Russian Space Agency (RSA)/Russian Federation.

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- Swedish Space Corporation (SSC)/Sweden.
- United States Geological Survey (USGS)/USA.

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Document	Title and Issue	Date	Status
CCSDS 132.0-B-1	TM Space Data Link Protocol, Issue 1	September 2003	Original Issue

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Recommendation is to specify the Telemetry (TM) Space Data Link Protocol. This protocol is a Data Link Layer protocol (see reference [1]) to be used over space-to-ground or space-to-space communications links by space missions.

1.2 SCOPE

This Recommendation defines the TM Space Data Link Protocol in terms of:

- a) the services provided to the users of this protocol;
- b) the protocol data units employed by the protocol; and
- c) the procedures performed by the protocol.

It does not specify:

- a) individual implementations or products;
- b) the implementation of service interfaces within real systems;
- c) the methods or technologies required to perform the procedures; or
- d) the management activities required to configure and control the protocol.

1.3 APPLICABILITY

This Recommendation applies to the creation of Agency standards and to future data communications over space links between CCSDS Agencies in cross-support situations. The Recommendation includes comprehensive specification of the services and protocol for inter-Agency cross support. It is neither a specification of, nor a design for, real systems that may be implemented for existing or future missions.

The Recommendation specified in this document is to be invoked through the normal standards programs of each CCSDS Agency and is applicable to those missions for which cross support based on capabilities described in this Recommendation is anticipated. Where mandatory capabilities are clearly indicated in sections of the Recommendation, they must be implemented when this document is used as a basis for cross support. Where options are allowed or implied, implementation of these options is subject to specific bilateral cross support agreements between the Agencies involved.

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1.4 RATIONALE

The CCSDS believes it is important to document the rationale underlying the recommendations chosen, so that future evaluations of proposed changes or improvements will not lose sight of previous decisions.

1.5 DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

This document is divided into five numbered sections and three annexes:

- section 1 presents the purpose, scope, applicability and rationale of this Recommendation and lists the conventions, definitions, and references used throughout the Recommendation.
- section 2 provides an overview of the TM Space Data Link Protocol.
- section 3 defines the services provided by the protocol entity.
- section 4 specifies the protocol data units and procedures employed by the protocol entity.
- section 5 specifies the managed parameters used by the protocol entity.
- annex A lists all acronyms used within this document.
- annex B provides a list of informative references.
- annex C lists the changes from the older CCSDS Recommendation (reference [B3]).

1.6 CONVENTIONS AND DEFINITIONS

1.6.1 DEFINITIONS

1.6.1.1 Definitions from the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Basic Reference Model

This Recommendation makes use of a number of terms defined in reference [1]. The use of those terms in this Recommendation shall be understood in a generic sense; i.e., in the sense that those terms are generally applicable to any of a variety of technologies that provide for the exchange of information between real systems. Those terms are:

- a) blocking;
- b) connection;
- c) Data Link Layer;
- d) entity;
- e) flow control;

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- f) Network Layer;
- g) peer entities;
- h) Physical Layer;
- i) protocol control information;
- j) protocol data unit;
- k) real system;
- l) segmenting;
- m) service;
- n) Service Access Point (SAP);
- o) SAP address;
- p) service data unit.

1.6.1.2 Definitions from OSI Service Definition Conventions

This Recommendation makes use of a number of terms defined in reference [2]. The use of those terms in this Recommendation shall be understood in a generic sense; i.e., in the sense that those terms are generally applicable to any of a variety of technologies that provide for the exchange of information between real systems. Those terms are:

- a) confirmation;
- b) indication;
- c) primitive;
- d) request;
- e) response;
- f) service provider;
- g) service user.

1.6.1.3 Terms Defined in This Recommendation

For the purposes of this Recommendation, the following definitions also apply. Many other terms that pertain to specific items are defined in the appropriate sections.

aperiodic: not *periodic* (see below).

asynchronous: not *synchronous* (see below).

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delimited: having a known (and finite) length; applies to data in the context of data handling.

Mission Phase: a period of a mission during which specified communications characteristics are fixed. The transition between two consecutive Mission Phases may cause an interruption of the communications services.

periodic: of or pertaining to a sequence of events in which each event occurs at a fixed time interval (within specified tolerance) after the previous event in the sequence.

Physical Channel: a stream of bits transferred over a space link in a single direction.

space link: a communications link between a spacecraft and its associated ground system or between two spacecraft. A space link consists of one or more Physical Channels in one or both directions.

synchronous: of or pertaining to a sequence of events occurring in a fixed time relationship (within specified tolerance) to another sequence of events. Note that 'synchronous' does not necessarily imply 'periodic' or 'constant rate'.

1.6.2 NOMENCLATURE

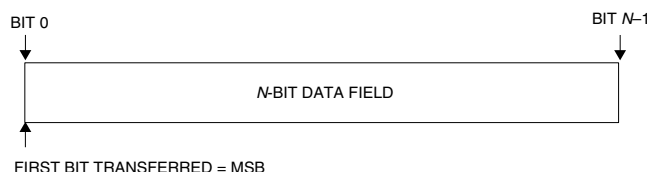
The following conventions apply throughout this Recommendation:

- a) the words 'shall' and 'must' imply a binding and verifiable specification;
- b) the word 'should' implies an optional, but desirable, specification;
- c) the word 'may' implies an optional specification;
- d) the words 'is', 'are', and 'will' imply statements of fact.

1.6.3 CONVENTIONS

In this document, the following convention is used to identify each bit in an N -bit field. The first bit in the field to be transmitted (i.e., the most left justified when drawing a figure) is defined to be 'Bit 0'; the following bit is defined to be 'Bit 1' and so on up to 'Bit $N-1$ '. When the field is used to express a binary value (such as a counter), the Most Significant Bit (MSB) shall be the first transmitted bit of the field, i.e., 'Bit 0' (see figure 1-1).

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**Figure 1-1: Bit Numbering Convention**

In accordance with standard data-communications practice, data fields are often grouped into eight-bit ‘words’ which conform to the above convention. Throughout this Recommendation, such an eight-bit word is called an ‘octet’.

The numbering for octets within a data structure starts with zero. By CCSDS convention, all ‘spare’ bits shall be permanently set to ‘0’.

1.7 REFERENCES

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommendation. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All documents are subject to revision, and users of this Recommendation are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the documents indicated below. The CCSDS Secretariat maintains a register of currently valid CCSDS Recommendations.

- [1] *Information Technology—Open Systems Interconnection—Basic Reference Model: The Basic Model*. International Standard, ISO/IEC 7498-1. 2nd ed. Geneva: ISO, 1994.
- [2] *Information Technology—Open Systems Interconnection—Basic Reference Model—Conventions for the Definition of OSI Services*. International Standard, ISO/IEC 10731:1994. Geneva: ISO, 1994.
- [3] *TM Synchronization and Channel Coding*. Recommendation for Space Data System Standards, CCSDS 131.0-B-1. Blue Book. Issue 1. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, September 2003.
- [4] *Space Link Identifiers*. Recommendation for Space Data System Standards, CCSDS 135.0-B-1. Blue Book. Issue 1. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, January 2002.
- [5] *CCSDS Global Spacecraft Identification Field Code Assignment Control Procedures*. Recommendation for Space Data System Standards, CCSDS 320.0-B-3. Blue Book. Issue 3. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, April 2003.
- [6] *Space Packet Protocol*. Recommendation for Space Data System Standards, CCSDS 133.0-B-1. Blue Book. Issue 1. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, September 2003.

NOTE – Informative references are listed in annex B.

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2 OVERVIEW

2.1 CONCEPT OF TM SPACE DATA LINK PROTOCOL

2.1.1 ARCHITECTURE

The TM Space Data Link Protocol is a Data Link Layer protocol (see reference [1]) to be used by space missions. This protocol has been designed to meet the requirements of space missions for efficient transfer of space application data of various types and characteristics over space-to-ground or space-to-space communications links (hereafter called space links).

Figure 2-1 illustrates the relationship of this protocol to the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) reference model (reference [1]). Two sublayers of the Data Link Layer are defined for CCSDS space link protocols as shown in reference [B4]. The TM Space Data Link Protocol corresponds to the Logical Link Sublayer, and provides functions of transferring various data using a fixed-length protocol data unit called the Transfer Frame. The Synchronization and Channel Coding Sublayer provides some additional functions necessary for transferring Transfer Frames over a space link. These functions are delimiting/synchronizing Transfer Frames, error-correction coding/decoding (optional), and bit transition generation/removal (optional). For the Synchronization and Channel Coding Sublayer, the TM Synchronization and Channel Coding Recommendation (reference [3]) must be used with the TM Space Data Link Protocol. How the TM Space Data Link Protocol is used in overall space data systems is shown in reference [B4].

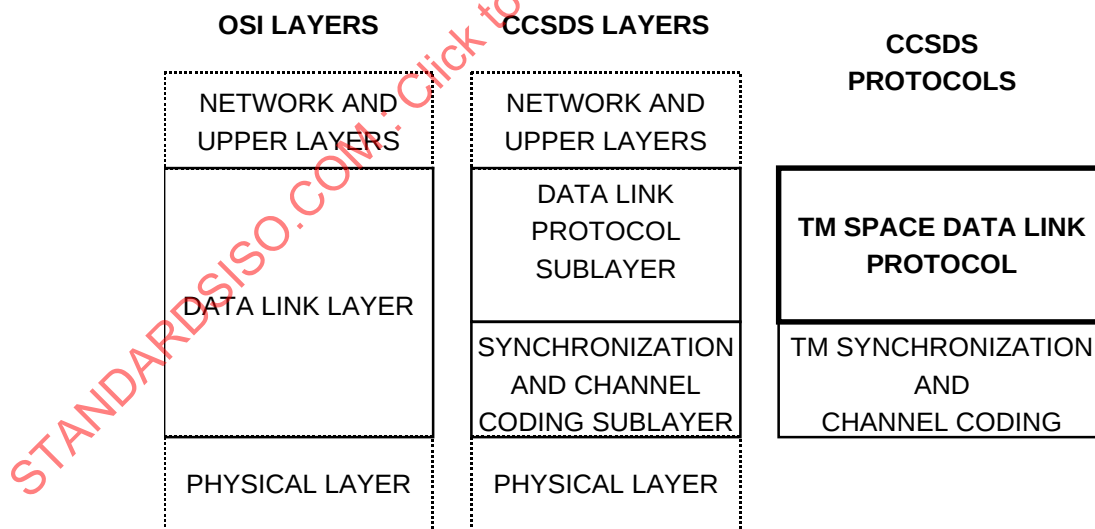


Figure 2-1: Relationship with OSI Layers

2.1.2 PROTOCOL FEATURES

The TM Space Data Link Protocol provides the users with several services to transfer service data units over a space link. To facilitate simple, reliable, and robust synchronization procedures, fixed-length protocol data units are used to transfer data through the weak-signal,

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noisy space links: their length is established for a particular Physical Channel (a single stream of bits transferred over a space link in a single direction) during a particular Mission Phase by management. These protocol data units are known as TM Transfer Frames (unless otherwise stated, the terms 'Transfer Frame' and 'Frame' in this document refer to the TM Transfer Frame). Each Transfer Frame contains a header which provides protocol control information, and a fixed-length data field within which higher-layer service data units are carried.

A key feature of the TM Space Data Link Protocol is the concept of 'Virtual Channels' (VC). The Virtual Channel facility allows one Physical Channel to be shared among multiple higher-layer data streams, each of which may have different service requirements. A single Physical Channel may therefore be divided into several separate logical data channels, each known as a 'Virtual Channel'. Each Transfer Frame transferred over a Physical Channel belongs to one of the Virtual Channels of the Physical Channel.

2.1.3 ADDRESSING

There are three identifier fields in the header of Transfer Frames: Transfer Frame Version Number (TFVN), Spacecraft Identifier (SCID), and Virtual Channel Identifier (VCID). The concatenation of a TFVN and a SCID is known as a Master Channel Identifier (MCID), and the concatenation of an MCID and a VCID is called a Global Virtual Channel Identifier (GVCID). Therefore,

$$\text{MCID} = \text{TFVN} + \text{SCID};$$

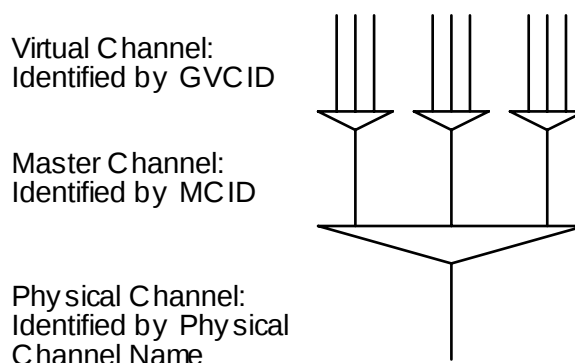
$$\text{GVCID} = \text{MCID} + \text{VCID} = \text{TFVN} + \text{SCID} + \text{VCID}.$$

Each Virtual Channel in a Physical Channel is identified by a GVCID. Therefore, a Virtual Channel consists of Transfer Frames with the same GVCID.

All Transfer Frames with the same MCID on a Physical Channel constitute a Master Channel (MC). A Master Channel consists of one or more Virtual Channels. In most cases, a Physical Channel carries only Transfer Frames of a single MCID, and the Master Channel will be identical with the Physical Channel. However, a Physical Channel may carry Transfer Frames with multiple MCIDs (with the same TFVN). In such a case, the Physical Channel consists of multiple Master Channels. A Physical Channel is identified with a Physical Channel Name, which is set by management and not included in the header of Transfer Frames.

The relationships between these Channels are shown in figure 2-2.

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**Figure 2-2: Relationships Between Channels****2.1.4 PROTOCOL DESCRIPTION**

The TM Space Data Link Protocol is described in terms of:

- a) the services provided to the users;
- b) the protocol data units; and
- c) the procedures performed by the protocol.

The service definitions are given in the form of primitives, which present an abstract model of the logical exchange of data and control information between the protocol entity and the service user. The definitions of primitives are independent of specific implementation approaches.

The procedure specifications define the procedures performed by protocol entities for the transfer of information between peer entities. The definitions of procedures are independent of specific implementation methods or technologies.

This protocol specification also specifies the requirements for the underlying services provided by the Channel Coding Sublayer and the Physical Layer.

2.2 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES**2.2.1 COMMON FEATURES OF SERVICES**

The TM Space Data Link Protocol provides users with data transfer services. The point at which a service is provided by a protocol entity to a user is called a Service Access Point (SAP) (see reference [1]). Each service user is identified by a SAP address.

Service data units submitted to a SAP are processed in the order of submission. No processing order is maintained for service data units submitted to different SAPs.

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NOTE – Implementations may be required to perform flow control at a SAP between the service user and the service provider. However, CCSDS does not make any recommendations for a scheme for flow control between the user and the provider.

The followings are features common to all the services defined by this Recommendation:

- a) unidirectional (one way) services: one end of a connection can send, but not receive, data through the space link, while the other end can receive, but not send;
- b) unconfirmed services: the sending user does not receive confirmation from the receiving end that data has been received;
- c) incomplete services: the services do not guarantee completeness, but some services may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user;
- d) sequence-preserving services: the sequence of service data units supplied by the sending user is preserved through the transfer over the space link, although there may be gaps and duplications in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

NOTE – This Recommendation assumes that these services are provided at the end points of a space link. However, this Recommendation makes no assumptions concerning how these end points are composed or configured either on-board a spacecraft or in a ground system. In a ground system, the services defined by this Recommendation may be extended or enhanced with Space Link Extension Services (reference [B5]).

2.2.2 SERVICE TYPES

2.2.2.1 Overview

The TM Space Data Link Protocol provides three service types (asynchronous, synchronous, and periodic) that determine how service data units supplied by the user are transferred in protocol data units over a space link.

The models shown below are intended only to illustrate the characteristics of services. They are not intended to guide or restrict design of on-board or ground systems.

2.2.2.2 Asynchronous Service

In asynchronous service, there are no timing relationships between the transfer of service data units supplied by the service user and the transmission of Transfer Frames generated by the service provider. The user may request data transfer at any time it desires, but there may be restrictions imposed by the service provider on the data generation rate. In this service (figure 2-3), each service data unit from a sending user is placed in a queue, the contents of which are sent to a receiving user in the order in which they were presented. Although

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transmission errors may prevent delivery of some data units, the service provider attempts to transfer all data units provided by the user exactly once. The timing of data transfer is determined by the provider in accordance with mission-specific rules, and may depend on the traffic at the time of transfer. The key feature of this service is that all of the service data units from the sending user are transferred, and transferred only once.

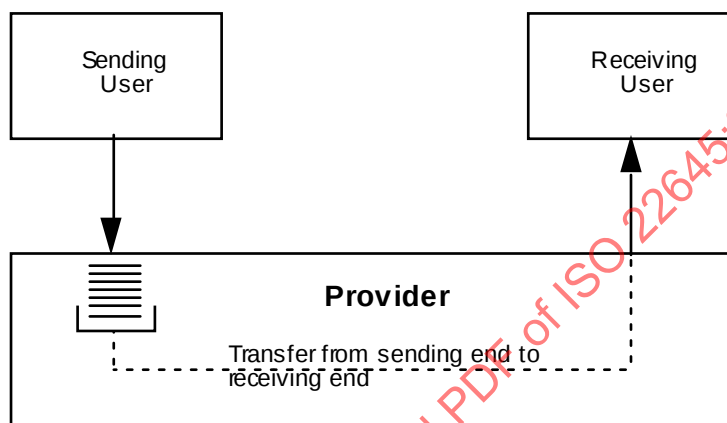


Figure 2-3: Asynchronous Service Model

2.2.2.3 Synchronous Service

In synchronous service, the transfer of service data units is synchronized with the release of either (1) Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel, (2) Transfer Frames of a Master Channel, or (3) all Transfer Frames of a Physical Channel. The transfer timing may be periodic or aperiodic.

In this service (figure 2-4), each service data unit from a sending user is placed in a buffer that can hold only one service data unit; the content of the buffer is sent to a receiving user at the time when a Transfer Frame is transmitted. The transmission timing of Transfer Frames is determined by the service provider according to mission-specific rules (usually known to the user). The key feature of this service, which is essentially time-division multiplexing, is that the timing of data transfer is driven by the transfer mechanism, not by individual service requests from the user. Thus a particular service data unit from a user might be sent once, several times (if the 'new' value is not placed in the buffer soon enough), or not at all (if one value is replaced by a second before the service provider can send it).

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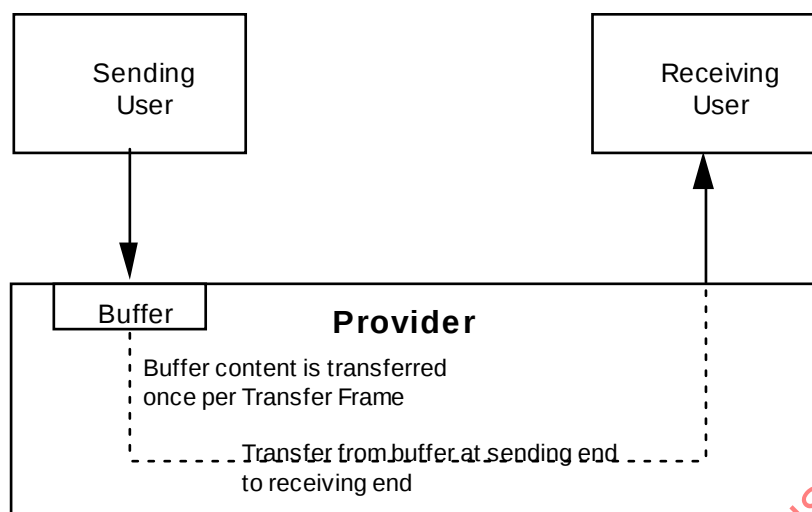


Figure 2-4: Synchronous Service Model

2.2.2.4 Periodic Service

Periodic service is a special case of synchronous service in which service data units are transferred at a constant rate. Periodic transfer from service interface to service interface is provided with a specified maximum delay and a specified maximum jitter at the service interface. There are three cases in which a synchronous service is periodic:

- if the service is associated with a Virtual Channel (or a Master Channel), and that Virtual (or Master) Channel produces Transfer Frames at a constant rate, then the service is periodic;
- if the service is associated with a Master Channel and there is only one Master Channel in the Physical Channel, then the service is periodic.

For periodic services, all service data units are sent only once if the user supplies service data units at the same rate as the rate at which the service provider transfers them.

2.2.3 SUMMARY OF SERVICES

2.2.3.1 General

Eight services are provided by the TM Space Data Link Protocol. Five of them (Packet, Virtual Channel Access, Virtual Channel Frame Secondary Header, Virtual Channel Operational Control Field, and Virtual Channel Frame) are provided for a Virtual Channel. Three of them (Master Channel Frame Secondary Header, Master Channel Operational Control Field, and Master Channel Frame) are provided for a Master Channel. Table 2-1 summarizes these services.

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Table 2-1: Summary of Services Provided by TM Space Data Link Protocol

Service	Service Type	Service Data Unit	SAP Address
Packet	Asynchronous	Packet	GVCID + Packet Version Number
Virtual Channel Access (VCA)	Asynchronous or Periodic	VCA_SDU	GVCID
Virtual Channel Frame Secondary Header (VC_FSH)	Synchronous or Periodic	FSH_SDU	GVCID
Virtual Channel Operational Control Field (VC_OCF)	Synchronous or Periodic	OCF_SDU	GVCID
Virtual Channel Frame (VCF)	Asynchronous or Periodic	Transfer Frame	GVCID
Master Channel Frame Secondary Header (MC_FSH)	Synchronous or Periodic	FSH_SDU	MCID
Master Channel Operational Control Field (MC_OCF)	Synchronous or Periodic	OCF_SDU	MCID
Master Channel Frame (MCF)	Asynchronous or Periodic	Transfer Frame	MCID

2.2.3.2 Packet Service

The Packet Service transfers a sequence of variable-length, delimited, octet-aligned service data units known as Packets across a space link. The Packets transferred by this service must have a Packet Version Number (PVN) authorized by CCSDS. For the Packet Version Numbers presently authorized by CCSDS, see reference [4]. The service is unidirectional, asynchronous and sequence-preserving. It does not guarantee completeness, nor does it signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

A user of this service is a protocol entity that sends or receives Packets with a single PVN. A user is identified with the PVN and a GVCID. Different users (i.e., Packets with different versions) can share a single Virtual Channel, and if there are multiple users on a Virtual Channel, the service provider multiplexes Packets of different versions to form a single stream of Packets to be transferred on that Virtual Channel.

2.2.3.3 Virtual Channel Access (VCA) Service

The Virtual Channel Access (VCA) Service provides transfer of a sequence of privately formatted service data units of fixed length, along with status fields, across a space link. The service is unidirectional, either asynchronous or periodic, and sequence-preserving. The service does not guarantee completeness but may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

For a given service instance, only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

2.2.3.4 Virtual Channel Frame Secondary Header (VC_FSH) Service

The Virtual Channel Frame Secondary Header (VC_FSH) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header (FSH) of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness but may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

For a given service instance only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

2.2.3.5 Virtual Channel Operational Control Field (VC_OCF) Service

The Virtual Channel Operational Control Field (VC_OCF) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units, each consisting of four octets, in the Operational Control Field (OCF) of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

For a given service instance only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

2.2.3.6 Virtual Channel Frame (VCF) Service

The Virtual Channel Frame (VCF) Service provides transfer of a sequence of fixed-length TM Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel, created by an independent protocol entity, across a space link. The service is unidirectional, either asynchronous or periodic, and sequence-preserving. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

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For a given service instance only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

The Virtual Channel Frame Service transfers the independently created TM Transfer Frames through a space link, together with TM Transfer Frames created by the service provider itself. This service is made available to trusted users who are certified during the design process to ensure that the independently created protocol data units do not violate the operational integrity of the space link. Necessarily, the independent Transfer Frames must have the same length as those generated by the service provider.

2.2.3.7 Master Channel Frame Secondary Header (MC_FSH) Service

The Master Channel Frame Secondary Header (MC_FSH) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header (FSH) of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness, but may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

Only one user can use this service on a Master Channel, and the user is identified with the MCID of the Master Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Master Channel.

2.2.3.8 Master Channel Operational Control Field (MC_OCF) Service

The Master Channel Operational Control Field (MC_OCF) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units, each consisting of four octets, in the Operational Control Field (OCF) of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness, but may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

Only one user can use this service on a Master Channel, and the user is identified with the MCID of the Master Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Master Channel.

2.2.3.9 Master Channel Frame (MCF) Service

The Master Channel Frame (MCF) Service provides transfer of a sequence of fixed-length TM Transfer Frames of a Master Channel, created by an independent protocol entity, across a space link. The service is unidirectional, either asynchronous or periodic, and sequence-preserving. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

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Only one user can use this service on a Master Channel, and the user is identified with the MCID of the Master Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Master Channel.

The Master Channel Frame Service transfers the independently created TM Transfer Frames through the space link, together with TM Transfer Frames created by the service provider itself. This service is made available to trusted users who are certified during the design process to ensure that the independently created protocol data units do not violate the operational integrity of the space link. Necessarily, the independent Transfer Frames must have the same length as those generated by the service provider.

2.2.4 RESTRICTIONS ON SERVICES

There are some restrictions on the services provided on a Physical Channel:

- a) if the Master Channel Frame Service exists on a Master Channel, other services shall not exist simultaneously on that Master Channel;
- b) on one Master Channel, the Virtual Channel Frame Secondary Header Service shall not exist simultaneously with the Master Channel Frame Secondary Header Service;
- c) on one Master Channel, the Virtual Channel Operational Control Field Service shall not exist simultaneously with the Master Channel Operational Control Field Service;
- d) if the Virtual Channel Frame Service exists on a Virtual Channel, other services shall not exist simultaneously on that Virtual Channel;
- e) on one Virtual Channel, the Packet Service shall not exist simultaneously with the Virtual Channel Access Service.

2.3 OVERVIEW OF FUNCTIONS

2.3.1 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

The TM Space Data Link Protocol transfers various service data units supplied by sending users encapsulated in a sequence of protocol data units using services of lower layers. The protocol data units, known as TM Transfer Frames, have a fixed length and must be transferred over a Physical Channel at a constant rate.

The protocol entity performs the following protocol functions:

- a) generation and processing of protocol control information (i.e., headers and trailers) to perform data identification, loss detection, and error detection;
- b) segmenting and blocking of service data units to transfer variable-length service data units in fixed-length protocol data units;

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- c) multiplexing/demultiplexing and commutation/decommutation in order for various service users to share a single Physical Channel;
- d) generation and removal of idle data to transfer protocol data units at a constant rate.

The protocol entity does not perform the following protocol functions:

- a) connection establishment and release;
- b) flow control;
- c) retransmission of protocol data units.

2.3.2 INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF PROTOCOL ENTITY

Figures 2-5 and 2-6 show the internal organization of the protocol entity of the sending and receiving ends, respectively. Data flow from top to bottom in figure 2-5, and from bottom to top in figure 2-6. These figures identify data-handling functions performed by the protocol entity and show logical relationships among these functions. The figures are not intended to imply any hardware or software configuration in a real system. Depending on the services actually used for a real system, not all of the functions may be present in the protocol entity.

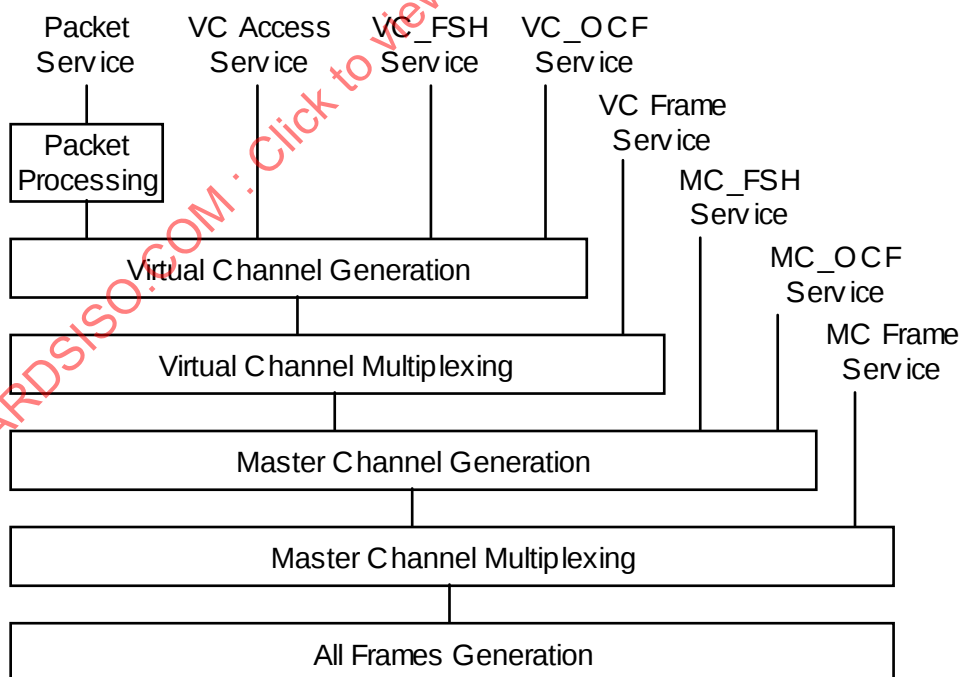


Figure 2-5: Internal Organization of Protocol Entity (Sending End)

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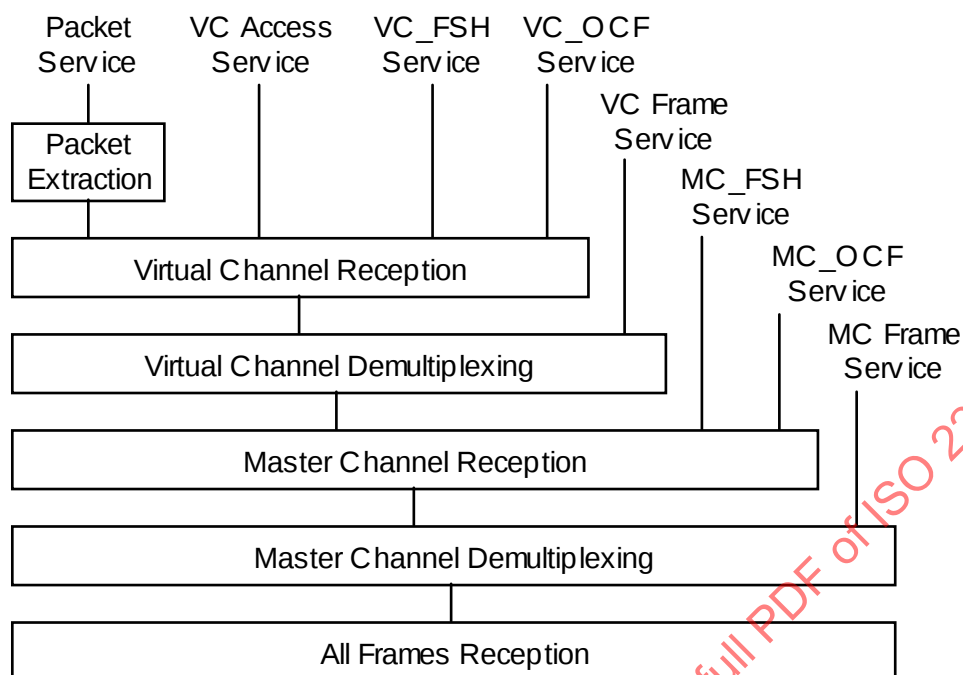


Figure 2-6: Internal Organization of Protocol Entity (Receiving End)

By extracting multiplexing/demultiplexing and commutation/decommutation functions from figures 2-5 and 2-6, the relationship among various data units can be shown as figure 2-7, which is known as the Channel Tree of the TM Space Data Link Protocol.

In figure 2-7, multiplexing (shown with a triangle) is a function of mixing, according to an algorithm established by the project, multiple streams of data units, each with a different identifier, to generate a single stream of data units. Commutation (shown with a box) is a function of concatenating, according to the formatting rule specified by the protocol definition, multiple data units, each from a different service, in a single protocol data unit sharing the same identifier.

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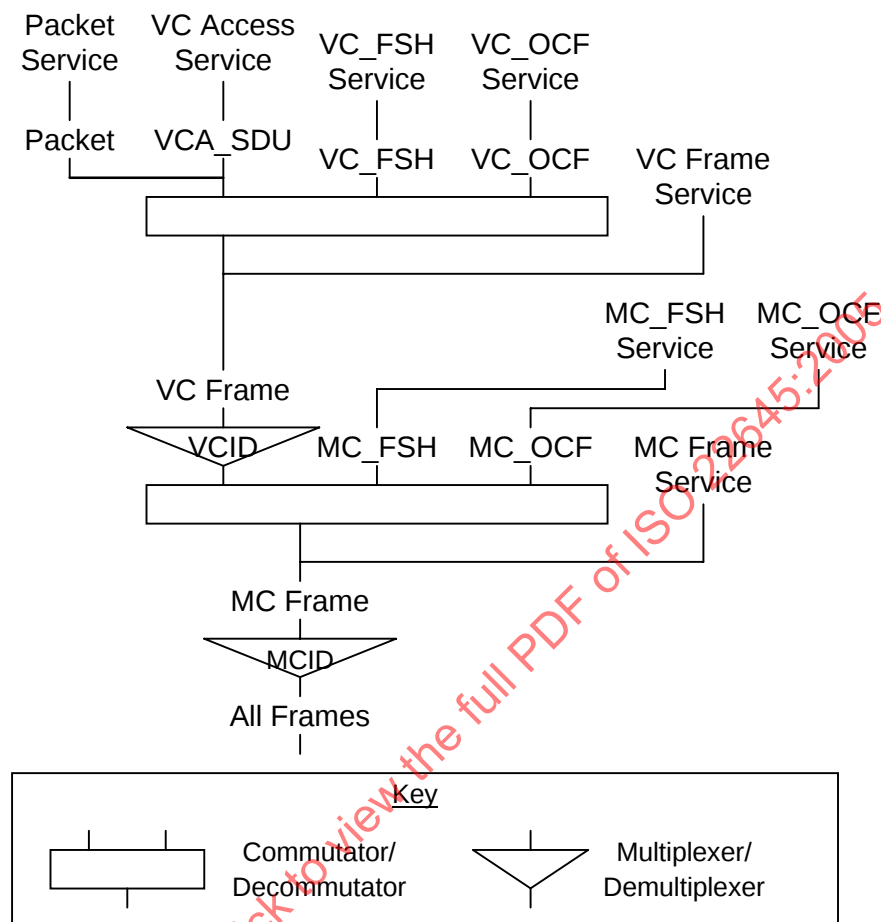


Figure 2-7: TM Space Data Link Protocol Channel Tree

2.4 SERVICES ASSUMED FROM LOWER LAYERS

2.4.1 SERVICES ASSUMED FROM THE SYNCHRONIZATION AND CHANNEL CODING SUBLAYER

As described in 2.1.1, the TM Synchronization and Channel Coding Recommendation (reference [3]) must be used with the TM Space Data Link Protocol as the Synchronization and Channel Coding Sublayer specification. The functions provided by the TM Synchronization and Channel Coding Recommendation are as follows:

- error control encoding and decoding functions (optional);
- bit transition generation and removal functions (optional);
- delimiting and synchronizing functions.

The Synchronization and Channel Coding Sublayer, then, transfers contiguous, fixed-length, delimited protocol data units as a contiguous stream of bits over a space link using the services of the underlying Physical Layer.

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2.4.2 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS TO LOWER LAYERS

The coding options of the TM Channel Coding and Synchronization Recommendation and the performance of the RF link provided by the Physical Layer shall be chosen according to the following criteria:

- a) the probability of misidentifying the MCID and VCID shall be less than a mission-specified value;
- b) the probability of not correctly extracting Packets from Transfer Frames using the First Header Pointer and the Packet Length Field shall be less than a mission-specified value.

In order to assure correct decoding at the receiving end, the same coding options must be applied to all Transfer Frames of a Physical Channel.

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3 SERVICE DEFINITION

3.1 OVERVIEW

This section provides service definition in the form of primitives, which present an abstract model of the logical exchange of data and control information between the protocol entity and the service user. The definitions of primitives are independent of specific implementation approaches.

The parameters of the primitives are specified in an abstract sense and specify the information to be made available to the user of the primitives. The way in which a specific implementation makes this information available is not constrained by this specification. In addition to the parameters specified in this section, an implementation may provide other parameters to the service user (e.g., parameters for controlling the service, monitoring performance, facilitating diagnosis, and so on).

3.2 SOURCE DATA

3.2.1 SOURCE DATA OVERVIEW

NOTE – This subsection describes the service data units that are transferred from sending users to receiving users by the TM Space Data Link Protocol.

The service data units transferred by the TM Space Data Link Protocol are as follows:

- a) Packet;
- b) Virtual Channel Access Service Data Unit (VCA_SDU);
- c) Frame Secondary Header Service Data Unit (FSH_SDU);
- d) Operational Control Field Service Data Unit (OCF_SDU);
- e) TM Transfer Frame.

3.2.2 PACKET

3.2.2.1 Packets shall be transferred over a space link via the Packet Service.

3.2.2.2 The Packets transferred by this service must have a Packet Version Number (PVN) authorized by CCSDS. Further, each Packet transferred must conform to the corresponding packet format specified by reference [4].

3.2.2.3 The position and length of the Packet Length Field of the Packets must be known to the service provider in order to extract Packets from Transfer Frames at the receiving end.

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NOTES

- 1 Packets are variable-length, delimited, octet-aligned data units, and are usually the protocol data unit of a Network Layer protocol.
- 2 For the PVNs presently authorized by CCSDS, see reference [4].

3.2.3 VIRTUAL CHANNEL ACCESS SERVICE DATA UNIT (VCA_SDU)

VCA_SDUs shall be transferred over a space link with the Virtual Channel Access Service.

NOTE – Virtual Channel Access Service Data Units (VCA_SDUs) are fixed-length, octet-aligned data units, the format of which is unknown to the service provider. Their length is established by management.

3.2.4 FRAME SECONDARY HEADER SERVICE DATA UNIT (FSH_SDU)

3.2.4.1 Frame Secondary Header Service Data Units (FSH_SDUs) shall be transferred over a space link with the VC_FSH or MC_FSH Service. Data units may be carried in every frame of a Virtual Channel, using the VC_FSH Service, or, in every frame of a Master Channel, using the MC_FSH Service.

3.2.4.2 Although the transfer of FSH_SDUs is synchronized with the Virtual Channel or Master Channel that will provide the transfer service, the creation of FSH_SDUs by the sending user may or may not be synchronized with the Virtual Channel or Master Channel. Such synchronization, if required for timing or other purposes, is a mission-design issue.

NOTE – Frame Secondary Header Service Data Units (FSH_SDUs) are fixed-length data units carried in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header (FSH), defined in 4.1.3, from a sending end to a receiving end. Their length may be of any constant value which is an integral number of octets, between 2 octets and 64 octets. It shall be static within the associated Master or Virtual Channel, and is established by management. Except for the Frame Secondary Header Identification Field defined in 4.1.3.2, CCSDS specifies no format or semantics for the content of an FSH_SDU.

3.2.5 OPERATIONAL CONTROL FIELD SERVICE DATA UNIT (OCF_SDU)

3.2.5.1 Operational Control Field Service Data Units (OCF_SDUs) shall be transferred over a space link with the VC_OCF or MC_OCF Service. Data units may be carried in every frame of a Virtual Channel, using the VC_OCF Service, or, in every frame of a Master Channel, using the MC_OCF Service.

3.2.5.2 Although the transfer of OCF_SDUs is synchronized with the Virtual Channel or Master Channel that shall provide the transfer service, the creation of OCF_SDUs by the

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sending user may or may not be synchronized with the Virtual Channel or Master Channel. Such synchronization, if required for timing or other purposes, is a mission-design issue.

NOTE – Operational Control Field Service Data Units (OCF_SDUs) are fixed-length data units, each consisting of four octets, carried in the Operational Control Field (OCF), defined in 4.1.5, from a sending end to a receiving end. As defined in 4.1.5, CCSDS specifies the use of the first bit of this field to indicate the type of data carried.

3.2.6 TM TRANSFER FRAME

Transfer Frames transferred by the Virtual Channel Frame and Master Channel Frame Services shall be partially formatted TM Transfer Frames, and the following restrictions apply:

- a) the Master Channel Frame Count Field of the Transfer Frames submitted to the Virtual Channel Frame Service shall be empty;
- b) if the MC_FSH Service exists on a Master Channel, the Transfer Frame Secondary Header and the Transfer Frame Secondary Header Flag of the Transfer Frames submitted to the Virtual Channel Frame Service on the same Master Channel shall be empty;
- c) if the MC_OCF Service exists on a Master Channel, the Operational Control Field and the Operational Control Field Flag of the Transfer Frames submitted to the Virtual Channel Frame Service on the same Master Channel shall be empty;
- d) the Frame Error Control Field of the Transfer Frames submitted to the Master or Virtual Channel Frame Service shall be empty, if it is present on the Physical Channel.

NOTE – The TM Transfer Frame is the fixed-length protocol data unit of the TM Space Data Link Protocol, but also can be used as the service data units of the Virtual Channel Frame and Master Channel Frame Services. Its format is defined in 4.1 of this Recommendation. The length of any Transfer Frame transferred on a Physical Channel must be the same, and is established by management.

3.3 PACKET SERVICE

3.3.1 OVERVIEW OF PACKET SERVICE

The Packet Service transfers a sequence of variable-length, delimited, octet-aligned service data units known as Packets across a space link. The Packets transferred by this service must have a Packet Version Number (PVN) authorized by CCSDS. For the Packet Version Numbers presently authorized by CCSDS, see reference [4]. The service is unidirectional, asynchronous and sequence-preserving. It does not guarantee completeness, nor does it signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

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A user of this service is a protocol entity that sends or receives Packets with a single PVN. A user is identified with the PVN and a GVCID. Different users (i.e., Packets with different versions) can share a single Virtual Channel, and if there are multiple users on a Virtual Channel, the service provider multiplexes Packets of different versions to form a single stream of Packets to be transferred on that Virtual Channel.

3.3.2 PACKET SERVICE PARAMETERS

3.3.2.1 General

The parameters used by the Packet Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in subsections 3.3.2.2 through 3.3.2.5.

3.3.2.2 Packet

The Packet parameter shall contain a Packet for transfer by the Packet Service.

NOTE – The Packet parameter is the service data unit transferred by the Packet Service. For restrictions on the Packets transferred by the Packet Service, see 3.2.2.

3.3.2.3 GVCID

The GVCID parameter shall contain a GVCID that indicates the Virtual Channel through which the Packet is to be transferred.

NOTE – The GVCID parameter is part of the SAP address of the Packet Service.

3.3.2.4 Packet Version Number

NOTE – The Packet Version Number parameter is part of the SAP address of the Packet Service and identifies the protocol entity of the upper layer that uses the Packet Service.

3.3.2.5 Packet Quality Indicator

3.3.2.5.1 The Packet Quality Indicator is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the Packet Service whether the Packet delivered by the primitive is complete or partial.

3.3.2.5.2 This parameter shall be used when the service provider is required to deliver incomplete Packets to the user at the receiving end.

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3.3.3 PACKET SERVICE PRIMITIVES**3.3.3.1 General**

The service primitives associated with the Packet Service are:

- a) PACKET.request;
- b) PACKET.indication.

3.3.3.2 PACKET.request**3.3.3.2.1 Function**

At the sending end, the Packet Service user shall pass a PACKET.request primitive to the service provider to request that a Packet be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Virtual Channel.

NOTE – The PACKET.request primitive shall be the service request primitive for the Packet Service.

3.3.3.2.2 Semantics

The PACKET.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

PACKET.request (Packet,
GVCID,
Packet Version Number)

3.3.3.2.3 When Generated

The PACKET.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the Packet.

3.3.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the PACKET.request primitive shall cause the service provider to transfer the Packet.

3.3.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The PACKET.request primitive shall be used to transfer Packets across the space link on the specified Virtual Channel.

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3.3.3.3 PACKET.indication**3.3.3.3.1 Function**

At the sending end, the service provider shall pass a PACKET.indication to the Packet Service user at the receiving end to deliver a Packet.

NOTE – The PACKET.indication primitive shall be the service indication primitive for the Packet Service.

3.3.3.3.2 Semantics

The PACKET.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

PACKET.indication (Packet,
GVCID,
Packet Version Number,
Packet Quality Indicator (optional))

3.3.3.3.3 When Generated

The PACKET.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the Packet Service user at the receiving end to deliver a Packet.

3.3.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the PACKET.indication primitive by the Packet Service user is undefined.

3.3.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The PACKET.indication primitive shall be used to deliver Packets to the Packet Service user identified by the GVCID and Packet Version Number. Incomplete Packets may be delivered (optional).

3.4 VIRTUAL CHANNEL ACCESS (VCA) SERVICE**3.4.1 OVERVIEW OF VCA SERVICE**

The Virtual Channel Access (VCA) Service provides transfer of a sequence of privately formatted service data units of fixed length, along with status fields, across a space link. The service is unidirectional, either asynchronous or periodic, and sequence-preserving. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

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Only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

3.4.2 VCA SERVICE PARAMETERS

3.4.2.1 General

The parameters used by the VCA Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in subsections 3.4.2.2 through 3.4.2.5.

3.4.2.2 VCA_SDU

NOTE – The VCA_SDU parameter is the service data unit transferred by the VCA Service. For restrictions on the VCA_SDUs transferred by the VCA Service, see 3.2.3.

3.4.2.3 VCA Status Fields

The Packet Order Flag (1 bit) and Segment Length ID (2 bits) may be used to convey information on the validity, sequence, or other status of the VCA_SDUs. Provision of this field is mandatory; semantics are user-optional.

NOTE – The VCA Status Fields parameter consists of the Transfer Frame First Header Pointer Field and three other bits of the Transfer Frame Status Field: the Packet Order Flag (1 bit), and Segment Length ID (2 bits). These are undefined by CCSDS when a Virtual Channel is used to transfer VCA_SDUs.

3.4.2.4 GVCID

The GVCID parameter shall contain a GVCID that indicates the Virtual Channel through which the VCA_SDU is to be transferred.

NOTE – The GVCID parameter is the SAP address of the VCA Service.

3.4.2.5 VCA_SDU Loss Flag

The VCA_SDU Loss Flag is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the VCA Service that a sequence discontinuity has been detected and that one or more VCA_SDUs have been lost. If implemented, the flag shall be derived by examining the Virtual Channel Frame Count in the Transfer Frames.

3.4.3 VCA SERVICE PRIMITIVES

3.4.3.1 General

The service primitives associated with the VCA Service are:

- a) VCA.request;
- b) VCA.indication.

3.4.3.2 VCA.request

3.4.3.2.1 Function

At the sending end, the VCA Service user shall pass a VCA.request primitive to the service provider to request that a VCA_SDU be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Virtual Channel.

NOTE – The VCA.request primitive shall be the service request primitive for the VCA Service.

3.4.3.2.2 Semantics

The VCA.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VCA.request	(VCA_SDU, VCA Status Fields, GVCHD)
-------------	---

3.4.3.2.3 When Generated

The VCA.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the VCA_SDU.

3.4.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the VCA.request primitive shall cause the service provider to transfer the VCA_SDU.

3.4.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The VCA.request primitive shall be used to transfer VCA_SDUs across the space link on the specified Virtual Channel.

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3.4.3.3 VCA.indication**3.4.3.3.1 Function**

At the sending end, the service provider shall pass a VCA.indication to the VCA Service user at the receiving end to deliver a VCA_SDU.

NOTE – The VCA.indication primitive shall be the service indication primitive for the VCA Service.

3.4.3.3.2 Semantics

The VCA.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VCA.indication	(VCA_SDU, VCA Status Fields, GVCID, VCA_SDU Loss Flag (optional))
----------------	--

3.4.3.3.3 When Generated

The VCA.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the VCA Service user at the receiving end to deliver a VCA_SDU.

3.4.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the VCA.indication primitive by the VCA Service user is undefined.

3.4.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The VCA.indication primitive shall be used to deliver VCA_SDUs to the VCA Service user identified by the GVCID.

3.5 VIRTUAL CHANNEL FRAME SECONDARY HEADER (VC_FSH) SERVICE**3.5.1 OVERVIEW OF VC_FSH SERVICE**

The Virtual Channel Frame Secondary Header (VC_FSH) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header (FSH) of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

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Only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

3.5.2 VC_FSH SERVICE PARAMETERS

3.5.2.1 General

The parameters used by the VC_FSH Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in subsections 3.5.2.2 through 3.5.2.4.

3.5.2.2 FSH_SDU

NOTE – The FSH_SDU parameter is the service data unit transferred by the VC_FSH Service in the Frame Secondary Header of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. For restrictions on the FSH_SDU transferred by the VC_FSH Service, see 3.2.4.

3.5.2.3 GVCID

The GVCID parameter shall contain a GVCID that indicates the Virtual Channel through which the FSH_SDU is to be transferred.

NOTE – The GVCID parameter is the SAP address of the VC_FSH Service.

3.5.2.4 FSH_SDU Loss Flag

The FSH_SDU Loss Flag is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the VC_FSH Service that a sequence discontinuity has been detected and that one or more FSH_SDUs may have been lost. If implemented, the flag shall be derived by examining the Virtual Channel Frame Count in the Transfer Frames.

3.5.3 VC_FSH SERVICE PRIMITIVES

3.5.3.1 General

The service primitives associated with the VC_FSH Service are:

- a) VC_FSH.request;
- b) VC_FSH.indication.

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3.5.3.2 VC_FSH.request**3.5.3.2.1 Function**

At the sending end, the VC_FSH Service user shall pass a VC_FSH.request primitive to the service provider to request that an FSH_SDU be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Virtual Channel.

NOTE – The VC_FSH.request primitive shall be the service request primitive for the VC_FSH Service.

3.5.3.2.2 Semantics

The VC_FSH.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VC_FSH.request	(FSH_SDU, GVCID)
----------------	---------------------

3.5.3.2.3 When Generated

The VC_FSH.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the FSH_SDU.

3.5.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the VC_FSH.request primitive shall cause the service provider to transfer the FSH_SDU.

3.5.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The VC_FSH.request primitive shall be used to transfer FSH_SDUs across the space link on the specified Virtual Channel.

3.5.3.3 VC_FSH.indication**3.5.3.3.1 Function**

At the sending end, the service provider shall pass a VC_FSH.indication to the VC_FSH Service user at the receiving end to deliver an FSH_SDU.

NOTE – The VC_FSH.indication primitive shall be the service indication primitive for the VC_FSH Service.

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3.5.3.3.2 Semantics

The VC_FSH.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VC_FSH.indication (FSH_SDU,
GVCID,
FSH_SDU Loss Flag (optional))

3.5.3.3.3 When Generated

The VC_FSH.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the VC_FSH Service user at the receiving end to deliver an FSH_SDU.

3.5.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the VC_FSH.indication primitive by the VC_FSH Service user is undefined.

3.5.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The VC_FSH.indication primitive shall be used to deliver FSH_SDUs to the VC_FSH Service user identified by the GVCID.

3.6 VIRTUAL CHANNEL OPERATIONAL CONTROL FIELD (VC_OCF) SERVICE**3.6.1 OVERVIEW OF VC_OCF SERVICE**

The Virtual Channel Operational Control Field (VC_OCF) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units, each consisting of four octets, in the Operational Control Field (OCF) of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

Only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

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3.6.2 VC_OCF SERVICE PARAMETERS

3.6.2.1 General

The parameters used by the VC_OCF Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in 3.6.2.2 through 3.6.2.4.

3.6.2.2 OCF_SDU

NOTE – The OCF_SDU parameter is the service data unit transferred by the VC_OCF Service in the Operational Control Field of Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel. For restrictions on the OCF_SDU transferred by the VC_OCF Service, see 3.2.5.

3.6.2.3 GVCID

The GVCID parameter shall contain a GVCID that indicates the Virtual Channel through which the OCF_SDU is to be transferred.

NOTE – The GVCID parameter is the SAP address of the VC_OCF Service.

3.6.2.4 OCF_SDU Loss Flag

The OCF_SDU Loss Flag is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the VC_OCF Service that a sequence discontinuity has been detected and that one or more OCF_SDUs may have been lost. If implemented, the flag shall be derived by examining the Virtual Channel Frame Count in the Transfer Frames.

3.6.3 VC_OCF SERVICE PRIMITIVES

3.6.3.1 General

The service primitives associated with the VC_OCF Service are:

- a) VC_OCF.request;
- b) VC_OCF.indication.

3.6.3.2 VC_OCF.request

3.6.3.2.1 Function

At the sending end, the VC_OCF Service user shall pass a VC_OCF.request primitive to the service provider to request that an OCF_SDU be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Virtual Channel.

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NOTE – The VC_OCF.request primitive is the service request primitive for the VC_OCF Service.

3.6.3.2.2 Semantics

The VC_OCF.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VC_OCF.request (OCF_SDU,
GVCID)

3.6.3.2.3 When Generated

The VC_OCF.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the OCF_SDU.

3.6.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the VC_OCF.request primitive shall cause the service provider to transfer the OCF_SDU.

3.6.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The VC_OCF.request primitive shall be used to transfer OCF_SDU across the space link on the specified Virtual Channel.

3.6.3.3 VC_OCF.indication

3.6.3.3.1 Function

At the sending end, the service provider shall pass a VC_OCF.indication to the VC_OCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver an OCF_SDU.

NOTE – The VC_OCF.indication primitive is the service indication primitive for the VC_OCF Service.

3.6.3.3.2 Semantics

The VC_OCF.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VC_OCF.indication (OCF_SDU,
GVCID,
OCF_SDU Loss Flag (optional))

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3.6.3.3.3 When Generated

The VC_OCF.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the VC_OCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver an OCF_SDU.

3.6.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the VC_OCF.indication primitive by the VC_OCF Service user is undefined.

3.6.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The VC_OCF.indication primitive shall be used to deliver OCF_SDUs to the VC_OCF Service user identified by the GVCID.

3.7 VIRTUAL CHANNEL FRAME (VCF) SERVICE**3.7.1 OVERVIEW OF VCF SERVICE**

The Virtual Channel Frame (VCF) Service provides transfer of a sequence of fixed-length TM Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel, created by an independent protocol entity, across a space link. The service is unidirectional, either asynchronous or periodic, and sequence-preserving. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to the receiving user.

Only one user, identified with the GVCID of the Virtual Channel, can use this service on a Virtual Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Virtual Channel.

3.7.2 VCF SERVICE PARAMETERS**3.7.2.1 General**

The parameters used by the VCF Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in subsections 3.7.2.2 through 3.7.2.4.

3.7.2.2 Frame

The Frame parameter shall be a TM Transfer Frame of the Virtual Channel specified by the GVCID parameter.

NOTES

- 1 The Frame parameter is the service data unit transferred by the VCF Service.

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- 2 The format of the GVCID parameter is defined in 4.1.
- 3 For restrictions on the TM Transfer Frames transferred by the VCF Service, see 3.2.6.

3.7.2.3 GVCID

The GVCID parameter shall contain a GVCID that indicates the Virtual Channel through which the Frame is to be transferred.

NOTE – The GVCID parameter is the SAP address of the VCF Service.

3.7.2.4 Frame Loss Flag

The Frame Loss Flag is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the VCF Service that a sequence discontinuity has been detected, and that one or more Transfer Frames of the specified Virtual Channel have been lost. If implemented, the flag shall be derived by examining the Virtual Channel Frame Count in the Transfer Frames.

3.7.3 VCF SERVICE PRIMITIVES**3.7.3.1 General**

The service primitives associated with the VCF Service are:

- a) VCF.request;
- b) VCF.indication.

3.7.3.2 VCF.request**3.7.3.2.1 Function**

At the sending end, the VCF Service user shall pass a VCF.request primitive to the service provider to request that a Frame be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Virtual Channel.

NOTE – The VCF.request primitive is the service request primitive for the VCF Service.

3.7.3.2.2 Semantics

The VCF.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VCF.request	(Frame, GVCID)
-------------	-------------------

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3.7.3.2.3 When Generated

The VCF.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the Frame.

3.7.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the VCF.request primitive shall cause the service provider to transfer the Frame.

3.7.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The VCF.request primitive is used to transfer Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel across the space link.

3.7.3.3 VCF.indication**3.7.3.3.1 Function**

At the sending end, the service provider shall pass a VCF.indication to the VCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver a Frame.

NOTE – The VCF.indication primitive is the service indication primitive for the VCF Service.

3.7.3.3.2 Semantics

The VCF.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

VCF.indication	(Frame, GVCID, Frame Loss Flag (optional))
----------------	--

3.7.3.3.3 When Generated

The VCF.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the VCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver a Frame.

3.7.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the VCF.indication primitive by the VCF Service user is undefined.

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3.7.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The VCF.indication primitive shall be used to deliver Transfer Frames of a Virtual Channel to the VCF Service user identified by the GVCID.

3.8 MASTER CHANNEL FRAME SECONDARY HEADER (MC_FSH) SERVICE

3.8.1 OVERVIEW OF MC_FSH SERVICE

The Master Channel Frame Secondary Header (MC_FSH) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header (FSH) of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

Only one user, identified with the MCID of the Master Channel, can use this service on a Master Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Master Channel.

3.8.2 MC_FSH SERVICE PARAMETERS

3.8.2.1 General

The parameters used by the MC_FSH Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in subsections 3.8.2.2 through 3.8.2.4.

3.8.2.2 FSH_SDU

NOTE – The FSH_SDU parameter is the service data unit transferred by the MC_FSH Service in the Frame Secondary Header of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. For restrictions on the FSH_SDU transferred by the MC_FSH Service, see 3.2.4.

3.8.2.3 MCID

The MCID parameter shall contain an MCID that indicates the Master Channel through which the FSH_SDU is to be transferred.

NOTE – The MCID parameter is the SAP address of the MC_FSH Service.

3.8.2.4 FSH_SDU Loss Flag

The FSH_SDU Loss Flag is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the MC_FSH Service that a sequence discontinuity has been detected, and

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that one or more FSH_SDUs may have been lost. If implemented, the flag shall be derived by examining the Master Channel Frame Count in the Transfer Frames.

3.8.3 MC_FSH SERVICE PRIMITIVES

3.8.3.1 General

The service primitives associated with the MC_FSH Service are:

- a) MC_FSH.request;
- b) MC_FSH.indication.

3.8.3.2 MC_FSH.request

3.8.3.2.1 Function

At the sending end, the MC_FSH Service user shall pass an MC_FSH.request primitive to the service provider to request that an FSH_SDU be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Master Channel.

NOTE – The MC_FSH.request primitive is the service request primitive for the MC_FSH Service.

3.8.3.2.2 Semantics

The MC_FSH.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

MC_FSH.request	(FSH_SDU, MCID)
----------------	--------------------

3.8.3.2.3 When Generated

The MC_FSH.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the FSH_SDU.

3.8.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the MC_FSH.request primitive causes the service provider to transfer the FSH_SDU.

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3.8.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The MC_FSH.request primitive shall be used to transfer FSH_SDUs across the space link on the specified Master Channel.

3.8.3.3 MC_FSH.indication

3.8.3.3.1 Function

At the sending end, the service provider shall pass an MC_FSH.indication to the MC_FSH Service user at the receiving end to deliver an FSH_SDU.

NOTE – The MC_FSH.indication primitive is the service indication primitive for the MC_FSH Service.

3.8.3.3.2 Semantics

The MC_FSH.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

MC_FSH.indication (FSH_SDU,
MCID,
FSH_SDU Loss Flag (optional))

3.8.3.3.3 When Generated

The MC_FSH.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the MC_FSH Service user at the receiving end to deliver an FSH_SDU.

3.8.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the MC_FSH.indication primitive by the MC_FSH Service user is undefined.

3.8.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The MC_FSH.indication primitive shall be used to deliver FSH_SDUs to the MC_FSH Service user identified by the MCID.

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3.9 MASTER CHANNEL OPERATIONAL CONTROL FIELD (MC_OCF) SERVICE

3.9.1 OVERVIEW OF MC_OCF SERVICE

The Master Channel Operational Control Field (MC_OCF) Service provides synchronous transfer of fixed-length data units, each consisting of four octets, in the Operational Control Field (OCF) of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service is unidirectional and sequence-preserving. The transfer is synchronized with the release of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

Only one user, identified with the MCID of the Master Channel, can use this service on a Master Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Master Channel.

3.9.2 MC_OCF SERVICE PARAMETERS

3.9.2.1 General

The parameters used by the MC_OCF Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in subsections 3.9.2.2 through 3.9.2.4.

3.9.2.2 OCF_SDU

NOTE – The OCF_SDU parameter is the service data unit transferred by the MC_OCF Service in the Operational Control Field of Transfer Frames of a Master Channel. For restrictions on the OCF_SDU transferred by the MC_OCF Service, see 3.2.5.

3.9.2.3 MCID

The MCID parameter shall contain an MCID that indicates the Master Channel through which the OCF_SDU is to be transferred.

NOTE – The MCID parameter is the SAP address of the OCF_SDU Service.

3.9.2.4 OCF_SDU Loss Flag

The OCF_SDU Loss Flag is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the MC_OCF Service that a sequence discontinuity has been detected, and that one or more OCF_SDUs may have been lost. If implemented, the flag shall be derived by examining the Master Channel Frame Count in the Transfer Frames.

3.9.3 MC_OCF SERVICE PRIMITIVES

3.9.3.1 General

The service primitives associated with the MC_OCF Service are:

- a) MC_OCF.request;
- b) MC_OCF.indication.

3.9.3.2 MC_OCF.request

3.9.3.2.1 Function

At the sending end, the MC_OCF Service user shall pass an MC_OCF.request primitive to the service provider to request that an OCF_SDU be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Master Channel.

NOTE – The MC_OCF.request primitive is the service request primitive for the MC_OCF Service.

3.9.3.2.2 Semantics

The MC_OCF.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

MC_OCF.request (OCF_SDU,
MCID)

3.9.3.2.3 When Generated

The MC_OCF.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the OCF_SDU.

3.9.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the MC_OCF.request primitive shall cause the service provider to transfer the OCF_SDU.

3.9.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The MC_OCF.request primitive shall be used to transfer OCF_SDUs across the space link on the specified Master Channel.

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3.9.3.3 MC_OCF.indication**3.9.3.3.1 Function**

At the sending end, the service provider shall pass an MC_OCF.indication to the MC_OCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver an OCF_SDU.

NOTE – The MC_OCF.indication primitive is the service indication primitive for the MC_OCF Service.

3.9.3.3.2 Semantics

The MC_OCF.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

MC_OCF.indication (OCF_SDU,
MCID,
OCF_SDU Loss Flag (optional))

3.9.3.3.3 When Generated

The MC_OCF.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the MC_OCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver an OCF_SDU.

3.9.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the MC_OCF.indication primitive by the MC_OCF Service user is undefined.

3.9.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The MC_OCF.indication primitive shall be used to deliver OCF_SDUs to the MC_OCF Service user identified by the MCID.

3.10 MASTER CHANNEL FRAME (MCF) SERVICE**3.10.1 OVERVIEW OF MCF SERVICE**

The Master Channel Frame (MCF) Service provides transfer of a sequence of fixed-length TM Transfer Frames of a Master Channel, created by an independent protocol entity, across a space link. The service is unidirectional, either asynchronous or periodic, and sequence-preserving. The service does not guarantee completeness, but it may signal gaps in the sequence of service data units delivered to a receiving user.

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Only one user, identified with the MCID of the Master Channel, can use this service on a Master Channel. Service data units from different users are not multiplexed together within one Master Channel.

3.10.2 MCF SERVICE PARAMETERS

3.10.2.1 General

The parameters used by the MCF Service primitives shall conform to the specifications contained in subsections 3.10.2.2 through 3.10.2.4.

3.10.2.2 Frame

The Frame parameter shall be a TM Transfer Frame of the Master Channel specified by the parameter MCID.

NOTES

- 1 The Frame parameter is the service data unit transferred by the MCF Service.
- 2 The format of the MCID parameter is defined in 4.1.
- 3 For restrictions on the TM Transfer Frames transferred by the MCF Service, see 3.2.6.

3.10.2.3 MCID

The MCID parameter shall contain an MCID that indicates the Master Channel through which the Frame is to be transferred.

NOTE – The MCID parameter is the SAP address of the MCF Service.

3.10.2.4 Frame Loss Flag

The Frame Loss Flag is an optional parameter that may be used to notify the user at the receiving end of the MCF Service that a sequence discontinuity has been detected, and that one or more Transfer Frames of the specified Master Channel have been lost. If implemented, the flag shall be derived by examining the Master Channel Frame Count in the Transfer Frames.

3.10.3 MCF SERVICE PRIMITIVES

3.10.3.1 General

The service primitives associated with the MCF Service are:

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- a) MCF.request;
- b) MCF.indication.

3.10.3.2 MCF.request**3.10.3.2.1 Function**

At the sending end, the MCF Service user shall pass an MCF.request primitive to the service provider to request that a Frame be transferred to the user at the receiving end through the specified Master Channel.

NOTE – The MCF.request primitive is the service request primitive for the MCF Service.

3.10.3.2.2 Semantics

The MCF.request primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

MCF.request	(Frame, MCID)
-------------	------------------

3.10.3.2.3 When Generated

The MCF.request primitive shall be passed to the service provider to request it to send the Frame.

3.10.3.2.4 Effect On Receipt

Receipt of the MCF.request primitive shall cause the service provider to transfer the Frame.

3.10.3.2.5 Additional Comments

The MCF.request primitive shall be used to transfer Transfer Frames of a Master Channel across the space link.

3.10.3.3 MCF.indication**3.10.3.3.1 Function**

At the sending end, the service provided shall pass an MCF.indication to the MCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver a Frame.

NOTE – The MCF.indication primitive is the service indication primitive for the MCF Service.

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3.10.3.3.2 Semantics

The MCF.indication primitive shall provide parameters as follows:

MCF.indication	(Frame, MCID, Frame Loss Flag (optional))
----------------	---

3.10.3.3.3 When Generated

The MCF.indication primitive shall be passed from the service provider to the MCF Service user at the receiving end to deliver a Frame.

3.10.3.3.4 Effect On Receipt

The effect of receipt of the MCF.indication primitive by the MCF Service user is undefined.

3.10.3.3.5 Additional Comments

The MCF.indication primitive shall be used to deliver Transfer Frames of a Master Channel to the VCF Service user identified by the MCID.

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4 PROTOCOL SPECIFICATION

4.1 PROTOCOL DATA UNIT

4.1.1 TM TRANSFER FRAME

4.1.1.1 A TM Transfer Frame shall encompass the major fields, positioned contiguously, in the following sequence:

- a) Transfer Frame Primary Header (6 octets, mandatory);
- b) Transfer Frame Secondary Header (up to 64 octets, optional);
- c) Transfer Frame Data Field (integral number of octets, mandatory);
- d) Operational Control Field (4 octets, optional);
- e) Frame Error Control Field (2 octets, optional).

4.1.1.2 The TM Transfer Frame shall be of constant length throughout a specific Mission Phase for any Virtual Channel or Master Channel on a Physical Channel. Its length shall be consistent with the specifications contained in reference [3]. The structural components of the TM Transfer Frame are shown in figure 4-1.

NOTES

- 1 The protocol data unit of the TM Space Data Link Protocol is the TM Transfer Frame. In this Recommendation, the TM Transfer Frame is also called the Transfer Frame, or Frame, for simplicity.
- 2 The combination of the Operational Control Field and the Frame Error Control Field is called the Transfer Frame Trailer.
- 3 The start of the Transfer Frame is signaled by the underlying Channel Coding Sublayer.
- 4 A change of Transfer Frame Length may result in a loss of synchronization at the receiver.

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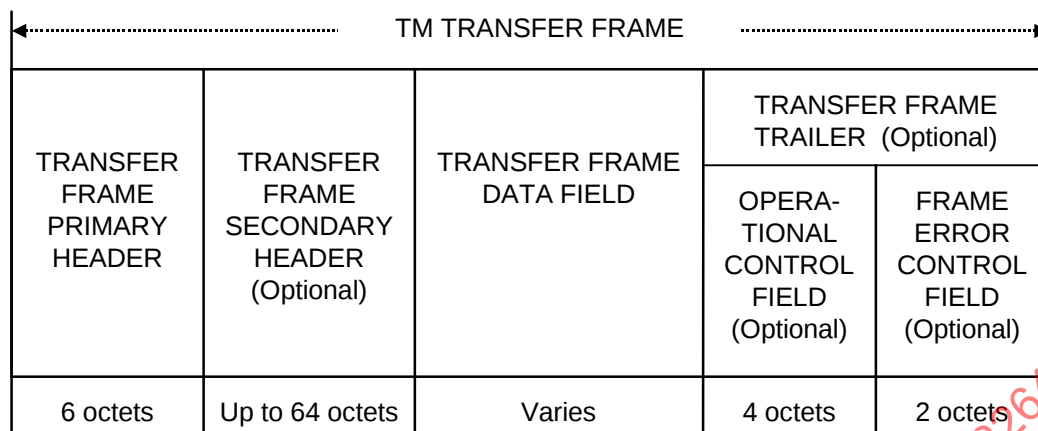


Figure 4-1: TM Transfer Frame Structural Components

4.1.2 TRANSFER FRAME PRIMARY HEADER

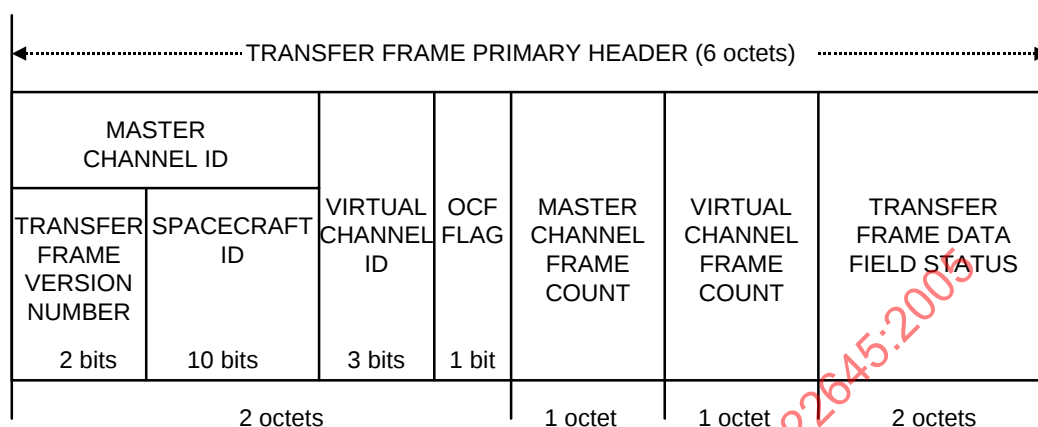
4.1.2.1 General

The Transfer Frame Primary Header is mandatory and shall consist of six fields, positioned contiguously, in the following sequence:

- Master Channel Identifier (12 bits, mandatory);
- Virtual Channel Identifier (3 bits, mandatory);
- Operational Control Field Flag (1 bit, mandatory);
- Master Channel Frame Count (1 octet, mandatory);
- Virtual Channel Frame Count (1 octet, mandatory);
- Transfer Frame Data Field Status (2 octets, mandatory).

The format of the Transfer Frame Primary Header is shown in figure 4-2.

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**Figure 4-2: Transfer Frame Primary Header****4.1.2.2 Master Channel Identifier****4.1.2.2.1 General**

Bits 0–11 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Master Channel Identifier (MCID). The Master Channel Identifier shall consist of:

- a) Transfer Frame Version Number (2 bits, mandatory);
- b) Spacecraft Identifier (10 bits, mandatory).

4.1.2.2.2 Transfer Frame Version Number

4.1.2.2.2.1 Bits 0–1 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the (binary encoded) Transfer Frame Version Number.

4.1.2.2.2.2 This 2-bit field shall identify the data unit as a Transfer Frame defined by this Recommendation; it shall be set to '00'.

NOTE – This Recommendation defines the Version 1 Synchronous Transfer Frame whose binary encoded Version Number is '00'.

4.1.2.2.3 Spacecraft Identifier

4.1.2.2.3.1 Bits 2–11 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Spacecraft Identifier (SCID).

4.1.2.2.3.2 The Spacecraft Identifier shall provide the identification of the spacecraft which is associated with the data contained in the Transfer Frame.

4.1.2.2.3.3 The Spacecraft Identifier shall be static throughout all Mission Phases.

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NOTE – The Secretariat of the CCSDS assigns Spacecraft Identifiers according to the procedures in reference [5].

4.1.2.3 Virtual Channel Identifier

Bits 12–14 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Virtual Channel Identifier (VCID).

NOTES

- 1 The Virtual Channel Identifier provides the identification of the Virtual Channel.
- 2 There are no restrictions on the selection of Virtual Channel Identifiers. In particular, Virtual Channels are not required to be numbered consecutively.

4.1.2.4 Operational Control Field Flag

4.1.2.4.1 Bit 15 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Operational Control Field Flag.

4.1.2.4.2 The Operational Control Field Flag shall indicate the presence or absence of the Operational Control Field. It shall be '1' if the Operational Control Field is present; it shall be '0' if the Operational Control Field is not present.

4.1.2.4.3 The Operational Control Field Flag shall be static within the associated Master or Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

NOTE – For the significance of the above-mentioned association, see 4.1.5.

4.1.2.5 Master Channel Frame Count

4.1.2.5.1 Bits 16–23 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Master Channel Frame Count.

4.1.2.5.2 This 8-bit field shall contain a sequential binary count (modulo-256) of each Transfer Frame transmitted within a specific Master Channel.

4.1.2.5.3 A re-setting of the Master Channel Frame Count before reaching 255 shall not take place unless it is unavoidable.

NOTE – The purpose of this field is to provide a running count of the Transfer Frames which have been transmitted through the same Master Channel. If the Master Channel Frame Count is re-set because of an unavoidable re-initialization, then the completeness of a sequence of Transfer Frames in the related Master Channel cannot be determined.

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4.1.2.6 Virtual Channel Frame Count

4.1.2.6.1 Bits 24–31 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Virtual Channel Frame Count.

4.1.2.6.2 This 8-bit field shall contain a sequential binary count (modulo-256) of each Transfer Frame transmitted within a specific Virtual Channel.

4.1.2.6.3 A re-setting of the Virtual Channel Frame Count before reaching 255 shall not take place unless it is unavoidable.

NOTE – The purpose of this field is to provide individual accountability for each Virtual Channel, primarily to enable systematic Packet extraction from the Transfer Frame Data Field. If the Virtual Channel Frame Count is re-set because of an unavoidable re-initialization, the completeness of a sequence of Transfer Frames in the related Virtual Channel cannot be determined.

4.1.2.7 Transfer Frame Data Field Status**4.1.2.7.1 General**

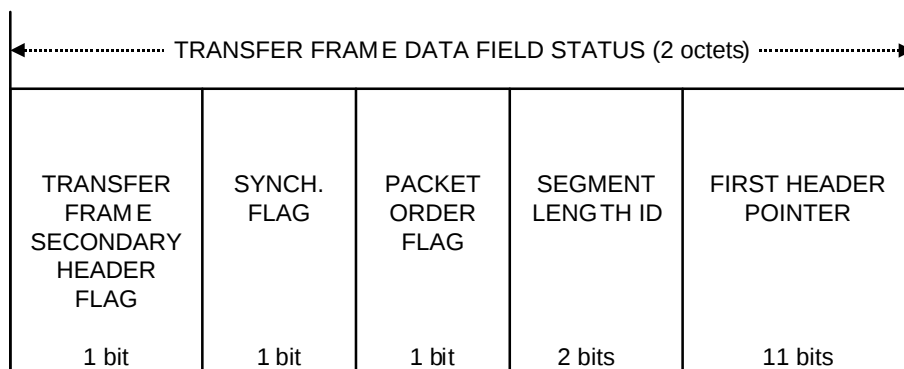
4.1.2.7.1.1 Bits 32–47 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Transfer Frame Data Field Status.

4.1.2.7.1.2 This 16-bit field shall be sub-divided into five sub-fields, as follows:

- a) Transfer Frame Secondary Header Flag (1 bit, mandatory);
- b) Synchronization Flag (1 bit, mandatory);
- c) Packet Order Flag (1 bit, mandatory);
- d) Segment Length Identifier (2 bits, mandatory);
- e) First Header Pointer (11 bits, mandatory).

NOTE – The format of the Transfer Frame Data Field Status is shown in figure 4-3.

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**Figure 4-3: Transfer Frame Data Field Status****4.1.2.7.2 Transfer Frame Secondary Header Flag**

4.1.2.7.2.1 Bit 32 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Transfer Frame Secondary Header Flag.

4.1.2.7.2.2 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Flag shall signal the presence or absence of the Transfer Frame Secondary Header. It shall be '1' if a Transfer Frame Secondary Header is present; it shall be '0' if a Transfer Frame Secondary Header is not present.

4.1.2.7.2.3 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Flag shall be static within the associated Master or Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

NOTE – For the significance of the above-mentioned association, see 4.1.3.

4.1.2.7.3 Synchronization Flag

4.1.2.7.3.1 Bit 33 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Synchronization Flag.

4.1.2.7.3.2 The Synchronization Flag shall signal the type of data which are inserted into the Transfer Frame Data Field. It shall be '0' if octet-synchronized and forward-ordered Packets or Idle Data are inserted; it shall be '1' if a VCA_SDU is inserted.

4.1.2.7.3.3 The Synchronization Flag shall be static within a specific Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

4.1.2.7.4 Packet Order Flag

Bit 34 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Packet Order Flag.

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NOTE – If the Synchronization Flag is set to ‘0’, the Packet Order Flag is reserved for future use by the CCSDS and shall be set to ‘0’. If the Synchronization Flag is set to ‘1’, the use of the Packet Order Flag is undefined.

4.1.2.7.5 Segment Length Identifier

4.1.2.7.5.1 Bits 35 and 36 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the Segment Length Identifier.

4.1.2.7.5.2 If the Synchronization Flag is set to ‘0’, the Segment Length Identifier shall be set to ‘11’.

NOTES

- 1 This Identifier was required for earlier versions of this Recommendation to allow for the use of Source Packet Segments, which are no longer defined. Its value has been set to the value used to denote non-use of Source Packet Segments in previous versions.
- 2 If the Synchronization Flag is set to ‘1’, then the Segment Length Identifier is undefined.

4.1.2.7.6 First Header Pointer

4.1.2.7.6.1 Bits 37–47 of the Transfer Frame Primary Header shall contain the First Header Pointer.

4.1.2.7.6.2 If the Synchronization Flag is set to ‘0’, the First Header Pointer shall contain the position of the first octet of the first Packet that starts in the Transfer Frame Data Field.

NOTE – If the Synchronization Flag is set to ‘1’, then the First Header Pointer is undefined.

4.1.2.7.6.3 The locations of the octets in the Transfer Frame Data Field shall be numbered in ascending order. The first octet in this Field is assigned the number 0. The First Header Pointer shall contain the binary representation of the location of the first octet of the first Packet that starts in the Transfer Frame Data Field.

NOTES

- 1 The purpose of the First Header Pointer is to facilitate delimiting of variable-length Packets contained within the Transfer Frame Data Field by pointing directly to the location of the first Packet from which its length may be determined.
- 2 The locations of any subsequent Packets within the same Transfer Frame Data Field will be determined by calculating the locations using the length field of these Packets.

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- 3 If the last Packet in the Transfer Frame Data Field of Transfer Frame N spills over into Frame M of the same Virtual Channel ($N < M$), the First Header Pointer in Frame M ignores the residue of the split Packet and indicates the start of the next Packet that starts in Frame M .

4.1.2.7.6.4 If no Packet starts in the Transfer Frame Data Field, the First Header Pointer shall be set to '1111111111'.

NOTE – The above situation may occur if a long Packet extends across more than one Transfer Frame.

4.1.2.7.6.5 If a Transfer Frame contains only Idle Data in its Transfer Frame Data Field, the First Header Pointer shall be set to '1111111110'.

NOTE – A Transfer Frame with its First Header Pointer set to '1111111110' is called an OID Transfer Frame, meaning that it has Only Idle Data in its Data Field (see 4.1.4.6).

4.1.3 TRANSFER FRAME SECONDARY HEADER

4.1.3.1 General

4.1.3.1.1 If present, the Transfer Frame Secondary Header shall follow, without gap, the Transfer Frame Primary Header.

4.1.3.1.2 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header is optional; its presence or absence shall be signaled by the Transfer Frame Secondary Header Flag in the Transfer Frame Primary Header (see 4.1.2.7.2).

4.1.3.1.3 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header shall consist of an integral number of octets as follows:

- a) Transfer Frame Secondary Header Identification Field (1 octet, mandatory);
- b) Transfer Frame Secondary Header Data Field (1 to 63 octets, mandatory).

4.1.3.1.4 If present, the Transfer Frame Secondary Header shall be associated with either a Master Channel or a Virtual Channel.

NOTE – The association of a Transfer Frame Secondary Header with a Master Channel allows data to be transferred synchronized with this Master Channel. The association of a Transfer Frame Secondary Header with a Virtual Channel allows data to be transferred synchronized with this Virtual Channel.

4.1.3.1.5 If present, this field shall occur within every Transfer Frame transmitted through the associated Master or Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

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4.1.3.1.6 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header shall be of fixed length within the associated Master or Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase. The format of the Transfer Frame Secondary Header is shown in figure 4-4.

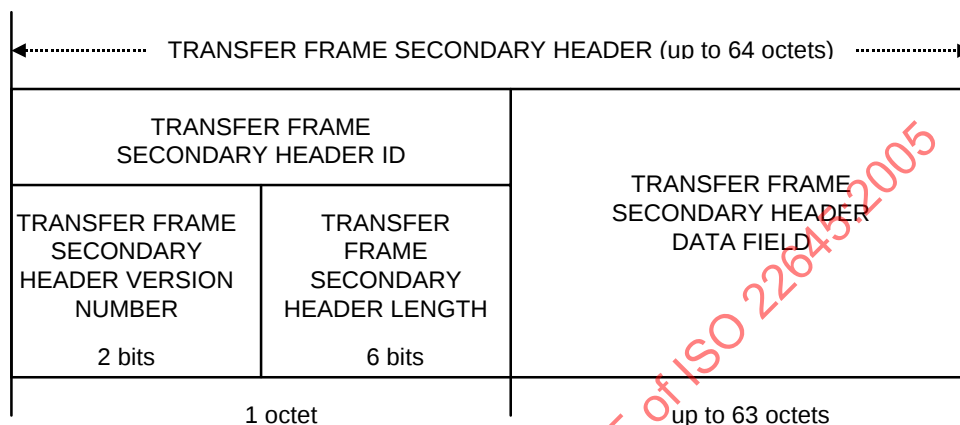


Figure 4-4: Transfer Frame Secondary Header

4.1.3.2 Transfer Frame Secondary Header Identification Field

4.1.3.2.1 General

4.1.3.2.1.1 Bits 0–7 of the Transfer Frame Secondary Header shall contain the Transfer Frame Secondary Header Identification Field.

4.1.3.2.1.2 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Identification Field shall be sub-divided into two sub-fields as follows:

- Transfer Frame Secondary Header Version Number (2 bits, mandatory);
- Transfer Frame Secondary Header Length (6 bits, mandatory).

4.1.3.2.2 Transfer Frame Secondary Header Version Number

4.1.3.2.2.1 Bits 0–1 of the Transfer Frame Secondary Header shall contain the (Binary Encoded) Transfer Frame Secondary Header Version Number.

4.1.3.2.2.2 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Version Number shall be set to '00'.

NOTE – This sub-field indicates which of up to four Secondary Header versions is used. The present Recommendation recognizes only one version, which is Version 1, the binary encoded Version Number of which is '00'.

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4.1.3.2.3 Transfer Frame Secondary Header Length

4.1.3.2.3.1 Bits 2–7 of the Transfer Frame Secondary Header shall contain the Transfer Frame Secondary Header Length.

4.1.3.2.3.2 This sub-field shall contain the total length of the Transfer Frame Secondary Header in octets minus one, represented as a binary number.

4.1.3.2.3.3 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Length shall be static within the associated Master or Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

NOTE – When a Secondary Header is present, this length may be used to compute the location of the start of the Transfer Frame Data Field.

4.1.3.3 Transfer Frame Secondary Header Data Field

4.1.3.3.1 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Data Field shall follow, without gap, the Transfer Frame Secondary Header Identification Field.

4.1.3.3.2 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Data Field shall contain the Transfer Frame Secondary Header data.

4.1.3.3.3 The Transfer Frame Secondary Header Data Field shall be of fixed length within the associated Master or Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

4.1.4 TRANSFER FRAME DATA FIELD

4.1.4.1 The Transfer Frame Data Field shall follow, without gap, the Transfer Frame Primary Header or the Transfer Frame Secondary Header if present.

4.1.4.2 The Transfer Frame Data Field, which shall contain an integer number of octets, has a length which varies and is equal to:

- a) the fixed Transfer Frame length which has been selected for use on a particular Physical Channel; minus
- b) the length of the Transfer Frame Primary Header plus the length of the Transfer Frame Secondary Header and/or the Transfer Frame Trailer (if any of these are present).

4.1.4.3 The Transfer Frame Data Field shall contain Packets, one VCA_SDU, or Idle Data.

4.1.4.4 VCA_SDUs shall not be mixed with Packets on the same Virtual Channel. Idle Data shall be transferred on a Virtual Channel that transfers Packets. Whether a particular Virtual Channel transfers Packets (and possibly Idle Data) or VCA_SDUs shall be established by management and static throughout a Mission Phase.

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4.1.4.5 If Packets are contained in the Transfer Frame Data Field, Packets shall be inserted contiguously and in forward order into the Transfer Frame Data Field.

NOTE – The first and last Packets of the Transfer Frame Data Field are not necessarily complete, since the first Packet may be a continuation of a Packet begun in the previous Transfer Frame, and the last Packet may continue in the subsequent Transfer Frame of the same Virtual Channel.

4.1.4.6 In the case where sufficient data (Packets including Idle Packets or a VCA_SDU) are not available to be inserted in a Transfer Frame Data Field at release time for a Transfer Frame, a Transfer Frame with a Data Field containing only Idle Data shall be transmitted. Such a Transfer Frame is called an OID (Only Idle Data in its Data Field) Transfer Frame. The First Header Pointer of an OID Transfer Frame shall be set to '1111111110' (see 4.1.2.7.6) and a project-specified 'idle' pattern shall be inserted into the Transfer Frame Data Field. The VCID of an OID Transfer Frame shall be one of the VCIDs used for transferring Packets.

NOTES

- 1 OID Transfer Frames are sent to maintain synchronous transmission of Transfer Frames and also to transmit data in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header and/or the Operational Control Field on a specific Virtual or Master Channel when there is no Packet to send.
- 2 OID Transfer Frames may be sent on Virtual Channels that also carry valid Packets, but it is preferred that a separate Virtual Channel be dedicated to carry Idle Transfer Frames unless there is a need to send Idle Transfer Frames on a specific Virtual Channel (e.g., to transmit data in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header and/or the Operational Control Field on a specific Virtual Channel).
- 3 An OID Transfer Frame can be generated whenever it is necessary (even in the middle of transmission of a Packet that is split into multiple Transfer Frames).
- 4 OID Data in the Transfer Frame Data Field of an OID Transfer Frame should not be confused with the Idle Packet specified in reference [6].

4.1.5 OPERATIONAL CONTROL FIELD

4.1.5.1 If present, the Operational Control Field shall occupy the four octets following, without gap, the Transfer Frame Data Field.

NOTE – The Operational Control Field is optional; its presence or absence is signaled by the Operational Control Field Flag in the Transfer Frame Primary Header (see 4.1.2.4).

4.1.5.2 If present, the Operational Control Field shall be associated with either a Master Channel or a Virtual Channel.

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NOTE – The association of an Operational Control Field with a Master Channel allows data to be transferred synchronized with this Master Channel. The association of an Operational Control Field with a Virtual Channel allows data to be transferred synchronized with this Virtual Channel.

4.1.5.3 If present, this field shall occur within every Transfer Frame transmitted through the associated Master or Virtual Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

4.1.5.4 The leading bit of the field, i.e., bit 0, shall contain a Type Flag with the following meanings:

- a) the Type Flag shall be '0' if the Operational Control Field holds a Type-1-Report which shall contain a Communications Link Control Word, the content of which is defined in reference [B6];
- b) the Type Flag shall be '1' if the Operational Control Field holds a Type-2-Report.

NOTE – The Type Flag may vary between Transfer Frames on the same Master or Virtual Channel that carries this field.

4.1.5.5 The first bit of a Type-2-Report (i.e., bit 1 of the Operational Control Field) shall indicate the use of this report as follows:

- a) if this bit is '0', the contents of the report are project-specific;
- b) if this bit is '1', the contents of the report are reserved by CCSDS for future application.

NOTES

- 1 The value of the first bit of a Type-2-Report may vary between Transfer Frames on the same Master or Virtual Channel that carries this field.
- 2 The purpose of this field is to provide a standardized mechanism for reporting a small number of real-time functions (such as retransmission control or spacecraft clock calibration); currently the use for retransmission control (Type-1-Reports) has been defined by CCSDS in reference [B6]. This issue of the Recommendation does not define the use of Type-2-Reports; however, it reserves the possibility to do so in future issues by restricting the utilization of the first bit.

4.1.6 FRAME ERROR CONTROL FIELD

4.1.6.1 General

4.1.6.1.1 If present, the Frame Error Control Field shall occupy the two octets following, without gap, the Operational Control Field if this is present, or the Transfer Frame Data Field, if an Operational Control Field is not present.

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4.1.6.1.2 The Frame Error Control Field is optional; its presence or absence shall be established by management.

4.1.6.1.3 If present, the Frame Error Control Field shall occur within every Transfer Frame transmitted within the same Physical Channel throughout a Mission Phase.

NOTES

- 1 The purpose of this field is to provide a capability for detecting errors which may have been introduced into the Transfer Frame during the transmission and data handling process.
- 2 Whether this field should be used on a particular Physical Channel shall be determined based on the mission requirements for data quality and the selected options for the underlying Channel Coding Sublayer. This field may be mandatory depending on the selected options for the Channel Coding Sublayer.

4.1.6.2 Frame Error Control Field Encoding Procedure

4.1.6.2.1 The Encoding Procedure shall accept an $(n-16)$ -bit Transfer Frame, excluding the Frame Error Control Field, and generate a systematic binary $(n, n-16)$ block code by appending a 16-bit Frame Error Control Field as the final 16 bits of the codeblock, where n is the length of the Transfer Frame.

4.1.6.2.2 The equation for the contents of the Frame Error Control Field is:

$$\text{FECF} = [(X^{16} \cdot M(X)) + (X^{(n-16)} \cdot L(X))] \text{ modulo } G(X)$$

where

- all arithmetic is modulo 2;
- n is the number of bits in the encoded message;
- $M(X)$ is the $(n-16)$ -bit message to be encoded expressed as a polynomial with binary coefficients;
- $L(X)$ is the presetting polynomial given by

$$L(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{15} X^i ;$$

$G(X)$ is the generating polynomial given by

$$G(X) = X^{16} + X^{12} + X^5 + 1.$$

NOTE – The $X^{(n-16)} \cdot L(X)$ term has the effect of presetting the shift register to all '1' state prior to encoding.

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4.1.6.3 Frame Error Control Field Decoding Procedure

The error detection syndrome, $S(X)$, is given by

$$S(X) = [(X^{16} \cdot C^*(X)) + (X^n \cdot L(X))] \text{ modulo } G(X)$$

where

- $C^*(X)$ is the received block, including the Frame Error Control Field, in polynomial form; and
- $S(X)$ is the syndrome polynomial which will be zero if no error is detected and non-zero if an error is detected.

4.2 PROTOCOL PROCEDURES AT THE SENDING END**4.2.1 OVERVIEW**

This subsection describes procedures at the sending end associated with each of the functions shown in figure 4-5. Data flow from the top to the bottom of the figure. This figure identifies data-handling functions performed by the protocol entity at the sending end and shows logical relationships among these functions. This figure is not intended to imply any hardware or software configuration in a real system. Depending on the services actually used for a real system, not all of the functions may be present in the protocol entity. The procedures described in this subsection are defined in an abstract sense and are not intended to imply any particular implementation approach of a protocol entity.

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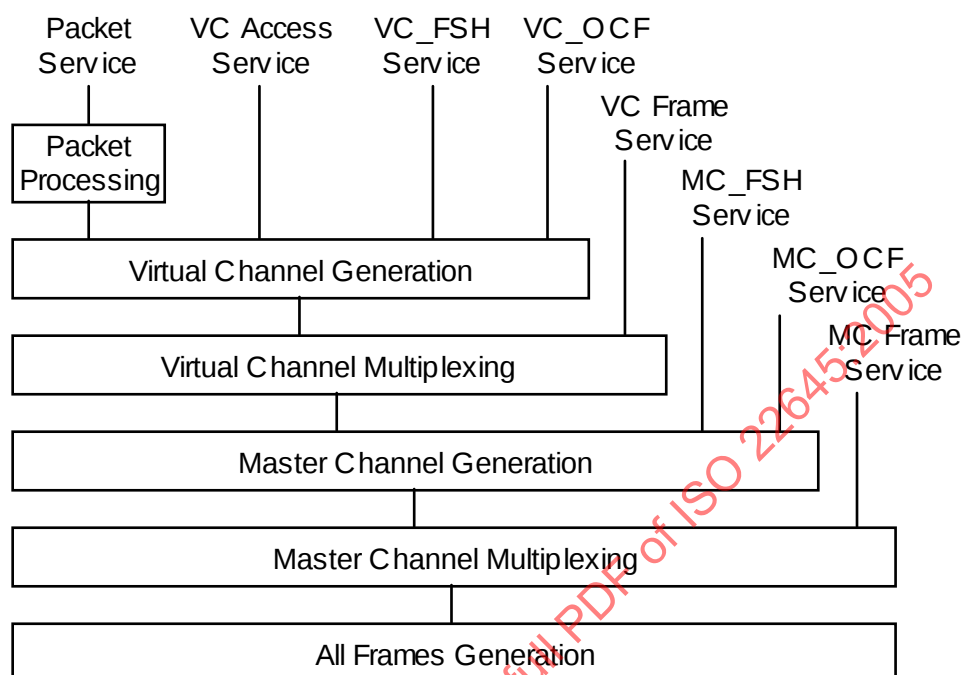


Figure 4-5: Internal Organization of Protocol Entity (Sending End)

4.2.2 PACKET PROCESSING FUNCTION

4.2.2.1 The Packet Processing Function shall be used to transfer variable-length Packets in the fixed-length Data Field of Transfer Frames.

NOTE – There is an instance of the Packet Processing Function for each Virtual Channel that carries Packets.

4.2.2.2 The Data Field of Transfer Frames shall be constructed by concatenating Packets together until the maximum Data Field length is exceeded. Any Packet that exceeds the maximum Data Field length shall be split, filling the Data Field completely, and starting a new Data Field on the same Virtual Channel with the remainder. Construction of the next Frame Data Field shall continue with the concatenation of Packets until it overflows.

4.2.2.3 If Packets of multiple versions are to be transferred on a Virtual Channel, Packets of these versions shall be multiplexed into a contiguous string of Packets before constructing Data Fields.

4.2.2.4 The First Header Pointer field shall be set to indicate the location of the first octet of the first Packet that starts within the Data Field of the Transfer Frame. If no Packet starts within the Data Field, the First Header Pointer shall be set to '1111111111'.

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4.2.2.5 The Packet Processing Function may generate 'idle' data in the absence of sufficient Packets supplied from the users at release time. The mechanism for generating idle data shall be to create an Idle Packet of appropriate length defined by reference [6].

NOTE – The shortest Idle Packet is seven octets in length (i.e., a six-octet header plus one octet of idle data). If the area to be filled in a Data Field is less than seven octets, then the Idle Packet will spill over into the beginning of the next Frame Data Field. If it is necessary, the Packet Processing Function may generate an 'idle' Data Field by setting the First Header Pointer to '1111111110'.

4.2.2.6 An abstract model of the Packet Processing Function is illustrated in figure 4-6.

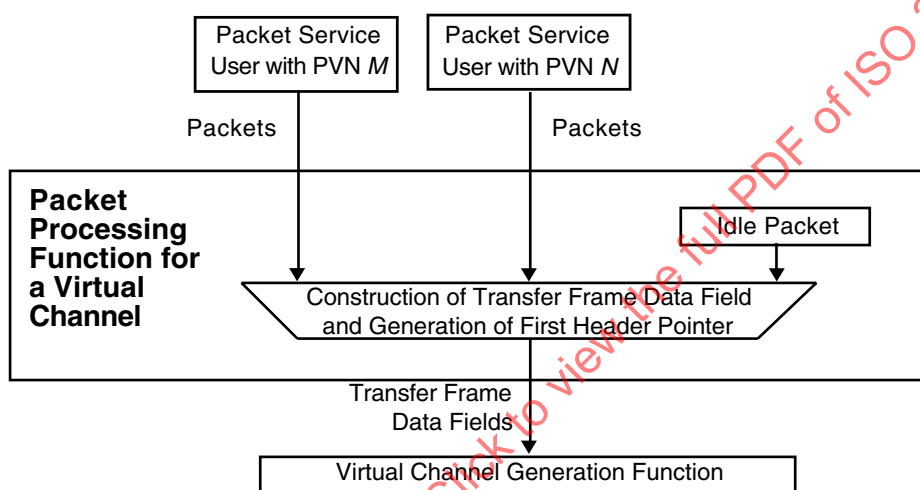


Figure 4-6: Abstract Model of Packet Processing Function

4.2.3 VIRTUAL CHANNEL GENERATION FUNCTION

NOTE – The Virtual Channel Generation Function is used to build the basic structure of Transfer Frames. It is also used to build the structure and the Primary Header of the Transfer Frames for transmission on each Virtual Channel. There is an instance of the Virtual Channel Generation Function for each Virtual Channel.

4.2.3.1 Transfer Frames shall be assembled by:

- a) placing a Transfer Frame Data Field (received from the Packet Processing Function) or a VCA_SDU (received from the VCA Service user) into the Transfer Frame Data Field; and
- b) generating the Transfer Frame Primary Header fields.

4.2.3.2 A Virtual Channel Frame Count shall be generated independently for each Virtual Channel and placed into the Primary Header.

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4.2.3.3 If there is a user of the VC_FSH Service for a particular Virtual Channel, an FSH_SDU supplied by the user shall be placed in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header. If there is a user of the VC_OCF Service for a particular Virtual Channel, an OCF_SDU supplied by the user shall be placed in the Operational Control Field.

The Master Channel Frame Count field of Transfer Frames shall be kept empty by the Virtual Channel Generation Function. The following fields of Transfer Frames, if present for the particular Physical or Master Channel, shall also be kept empty by the Virtual Channel Generation Function:

- a) MC_FSH;
- b) MC_OCF; and
- c) Frame Error Control Field.

4.2.3.4 An abstract model of the Virtual Channel Generation Function is illustrated in figure 4-7.

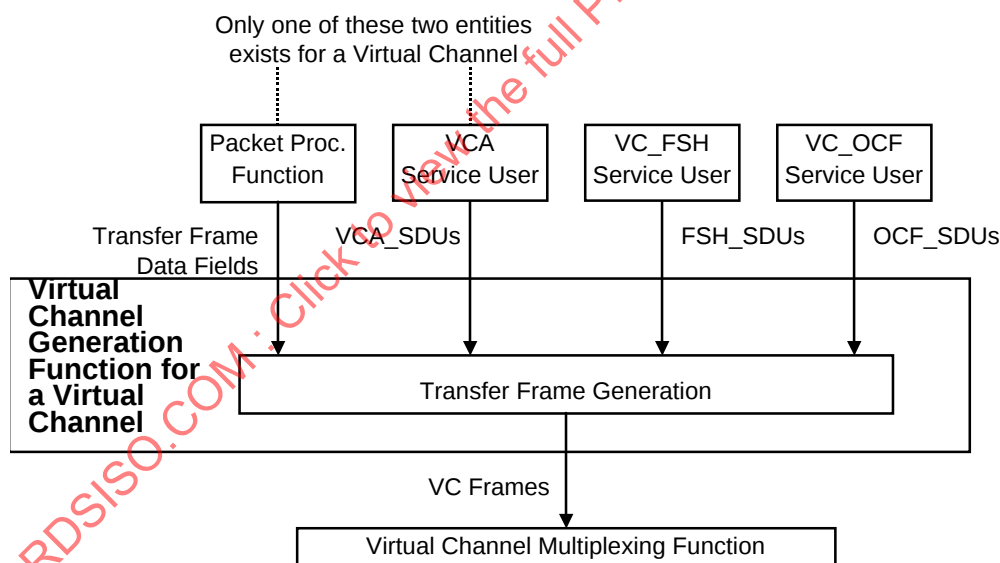


Figure 4-7: Abstract Model of Virtual Channel Generation Function

4.2.4 VIRTUAL CHANNEL MULTIPLEXING FUNCTION

4.2.4.1 The Virtual Channel Multiplexing Function shall be used to multiplex Transfer Frames of different Virtual Channels of a Master Channel.

NOTE – There is an instance of the Virtual Channel Multiplexing Function for each Master Channel that has multiple Virtual Channels.

4.2.4.2 The Virtual Channel Multiplexing Function shall multiplex Transfer Frames received from the instances of the Virtual Channel Generation Function and, if present, the

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Virtual Channel Frame Service users, and shall put them into a queue of Transfer Frames in an appropriate order that is set by management.

4.2.4.3 The algorithm used to order the Transfer Frames is not specified by CCSDS, but shall be defined by project organizations, considering factors such as priority, release rate, isochronous timing requirements, etc.

4.2.4.4 If there is only one Master Channel on the Physical Channel, the Virtual Channel Multiplexing Function shall create an OID Transfer Frame to preserve the continuity of the transmitted stream in the event that there are no valid Transfer Frames available for transmission at a release time. The OID Transfer Frame shall have its First Header Pointer set to '1111111110' and its VCID set to that of a Virtual Channel that carries Packets but does not support the VC_FSH or VC_OCF Service.

4.2.4.5 An abstract model of the Virtual Channel Multiplexing Function is illustrated in figure 4-8.

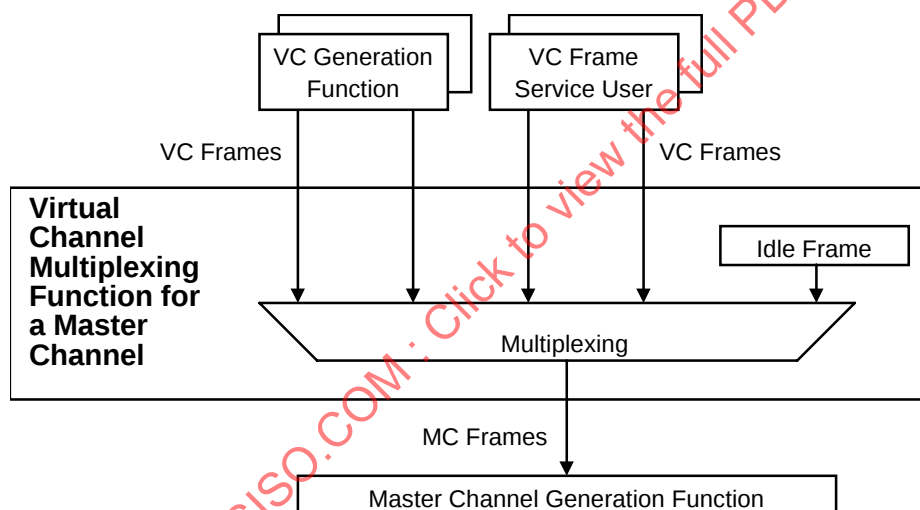


Figure 4-8: Abstract Model of Virtual Channel Multiplexing Function

4.2.5 MASTER CHANNEL GENERATION FUNCTION

4.2.5.1 The Master Channel Generation Function shall be used to insert Transfer Frame Secondary Header and/or Operational Control Field service data units into Transfer Frames of a Master Channel.

NOTE – There is an instance of the Master Channel Generation Function for each Master Channel.

4.2.5.2 If there is a user of the MC_FSH Service for a particular Master Channel, an FSH_SDU supplied by the user shall be placed in the Transfer Frame Secondary Header.

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4.2.5.3 If there is a user of the MC_OCF Service for a particular Master Channel, an OCF_SDU supplied by the user shall be placed in the Operational Control Field of a Transfer Frame.

NOTE – A Master Channel Frame Count is generated independently for each Master Channel and placed into the Primary Header.

4.2.5.4 An abstract model of the Master Channel Generation Function is illustrated in figure 4-9.

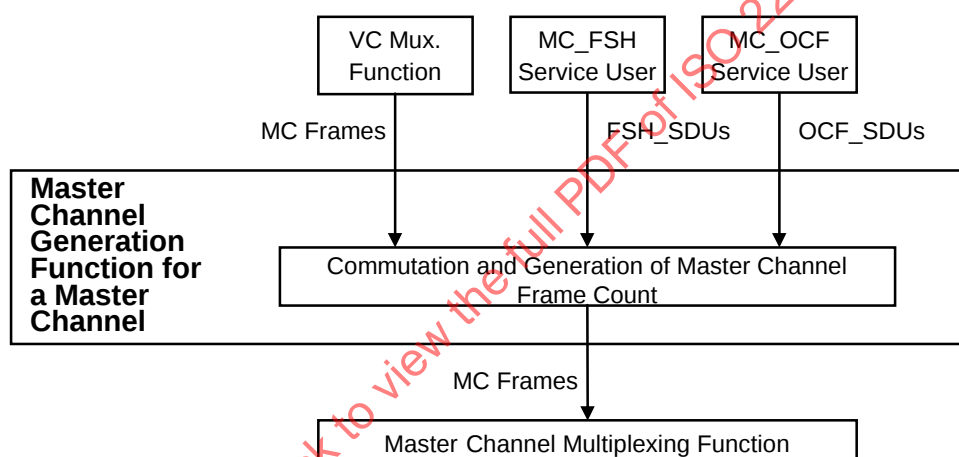


Figure 4-9: Abstract Model of Master Channel Generation Function

4.2.6 MASTER CHANNEL MULTIPLEXING FUNCTION

4.2.6.1 The Master Channel Multiplexing Function shall be used to multiplex Transfer Frames of different Master Channels of a Physical Channel.

NOTE – There is an instance of the Master Channel Multiplexing Function for each Physical Channel that has multiple Master Channels.

4.2.6.2 The Master Channel Multiplexing Function shall multiplex Transfer Frames received from the instances of the Master Channel Generation Function and, if present, the Master Channel Frame Service users, and shall put them into a queue of Transfer Frames in an appropriate order that is set by management.

4.2.6.3 The algorithm to be used to order the Transfer Frames is not specified by CCSDS but shall be defined by project organizations considering factors such as priority, release rate, isochronous timing requirements, etc.