Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) Protocol **Analysis and Simulation**



What is GSM?

 Global System for Mobile (GSM) is a second generation cellular standard developed to cater voice services and data delivery using digital modulation

Based on ETSI standards

- GSM is a digital system with an over-the-air bit rate of 270 kbps. The frequency range is 1,850 to 1,990
 MHz (mobile station to base station)
- GSM utilizes the time or frequency division multiple access (TDMA / FDMA) concept
- GSM uses Gaussian minimum shift keying (GMSK)
- GSM specifications follow the stipulations for the bottom three layers (physical, data link, & network layers) of the OSI model



Advantages of GSM over Analog System

- Capacity increases
- Reduced RF transmission power and longer battery life
- International roaming capability
- Better security against fraud (through terminal validation and user authentication)
- Encryption capability for information security and privacy
- Compatibility with ISDN, leading to wider range of services



GSM Specifications

• GSM 900

- ➤ Mobile to BTS (uplink): 890-915 Mhz
- > BTS to Mobile(downlink):935-960 Mhz
- Bandwidth: 2* 25 Mhz

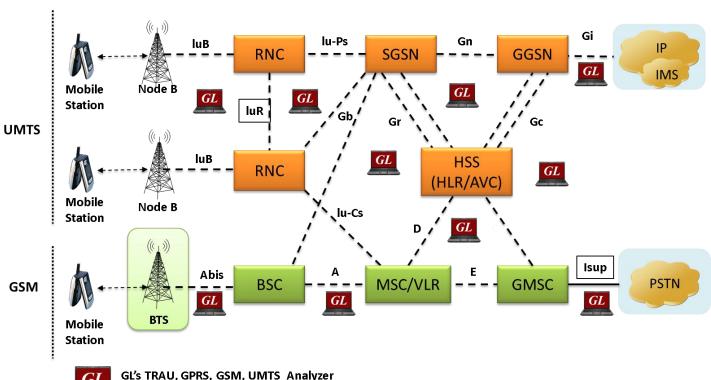
• GSM 1800

- ➤ Mobile to BTS (uplink): 1710-1785 Mhz
- > BTS to Mobile(downlink) 1805-1880 Mhz
- Bandwidth: 2* 75 Mhz
- PCS 1900 or DCS 1900
- The only frequency used in the United States and Canada for GSM



GSM System Architecture

- Network Switching Subsystem (NSS) Its main components include:
 - Mobile Switching Center (MSC)
 - ➤ Home Location Register (HLR)
 - Visitor Location Register (VLR)
 - Authentication Center (AUC)
 - Equipment Identity Register (EIR)
- Base Station Subsystem (BSS) Its main components include:
 - Base Transceiver Station (BTS)
 - Base Station Controller (BSC)
- Mobile Station (MS) Its main components include:
 - Mobile Equipment (ME)
 - Subscriber Identity Module (SIM)
- Operation SubSystem (OSS) Its main components include:
 - Operations and Maintenance Center (OMC)
 - Network Management Center (NMC)
 - Administration Center (ADC)







T1 E1 Analyzer Hardware Platforms



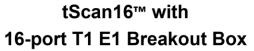
tProbe™ - Portable USB based T1 E1 VF FXO FXS and Serial Datacom Analyzer



Dual T1 E1 Express (PCIe) Board



Quad / Octal T1 E1 PCle Card







TDM mTOP™ Solutions

mTOP tProbe FXO FXS Dual UTA



1U tProbe with FXO and FXS1





Base Station Subsystem (BSS)

Base Transceiver Station (BTS)

- ➤ Encodes, encrypts, multiplexes, modulates and feeds the RF signals to the antenna.
- > Frequency hopping
- ➤ Communicates with Mobile station and BSC
- Consists of Transceivers (TRX) units

Base Station Controller (BSC)

- ➤ Manages Radio resources for BTS
- > Assigns Frequency and time slots for all MS's in its area
- ➤ Handles call set up
- > Transcoding and rate adaptation functionality
- > Handover for each MS
- > Radio Power control
- > It communicates with MSC and BTS



Network Switching Subsystem (NSS)

- Carries out switching functions and manages the communications between mobile phones and the PSTN
- Allows mobile phones to communicate with each other
- Includes the following elements
 - Mobile Switching Center (MSC)
 - Capable of receiving a short message from a Service Center (SC)
 - Interrogating an HLR for routing information and message waiting data, and delivering the short message to the MSC of the receiving MS
 - ➤ Home Location Registers (HLR)
 - Connection of mobile subscribers and definition of corresponding subscriber data
 - Maintenance of a database of mobile subscribers and corresponding subscriber data
 - Subscription to basic services
 - Registration/deletion of supplementary services
 - Activation/deactivation of supplementary services



Network Switching Subsystem (NSS)

- ➤ Visitor Location Registers (VLR)
 - Functions for setting up and controlling calls, including supplementary services
 - Functions for handling speech path continuity for moving subscribers (handover)
 - Functions for updating mobile subscribers' location (location updating and location canceling) in the different location registers
 - Functions for updating mobile subscriber data
- > Authentication Center (AUC)
 - a RANDom number (RAND)
 - a Signed RESponse (SRES)
 - a Ciphering Key (Kc)
 - generates user specific authentication parameters on request of a VLR authentication parameters used for authentication of mobile terminals and encryption of user data on the air interface within the GSM system
- ➤ Equipment Identity Register (EIR)
 - registers GSM mobile stations and user rights stolen or malfunctioning mobile stations can be locked and sometimes
 even localized



GSM Signaling Interfaces

- Um Air interface used for exchanges between a MS and a BSS
- Abis Abis interface allows control of the radio equipment and radio frequency allocation in the BTS
- A A interface is between the BSS and the MSC. The A interface manages the allocation of suitable radio resources to the MSs and mobility management
- B The B interface between the MSC and the VLR uses the MAP/B protocol. Most MSCs are associated with a VLR, making the B interface "internal"
- C The C interface is between the HLR and a GMSC or a SMS-G. MAP/C protocol over the C interface is used to obtain the routing information required to complete the call
- D The D interface is between the VLR and HLR, and uses the MAP/D protocol to exchange the data related to the location of the MS and to the management of the subscriber

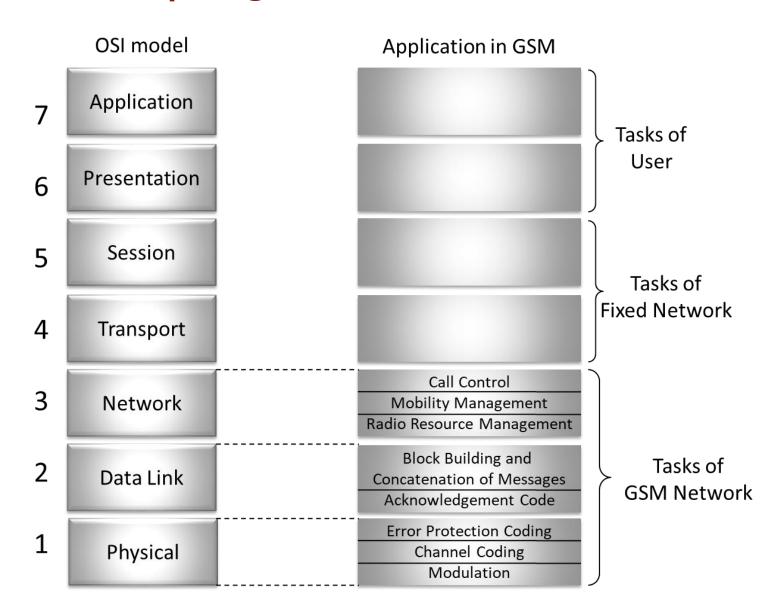


Interfaces

- E The E interface interconnects two MSCs. The E interface exchanges data related to handover between the anchor and relay MSCs using the MAP/E protocol
- F The F interface connects the MSC to the EIR, and uses the MAP/F protocol to verify the status of the IMEI that the MSC has retrieved from the MS
- G The G interface interconnects two VLRs of different MSCs and uses the MAP/G protocol to transfer subscriber information, during e.g. a location update procedure
- H The H interface is between the MSC and the SMS-G, and uses the MAP/H protocol to support the transfer of short messages
- I The I interface (not shown in Figure 1) is the interface between the MSC and the MS. Messages exchanged over the I interface are relayed transparently through the BSS



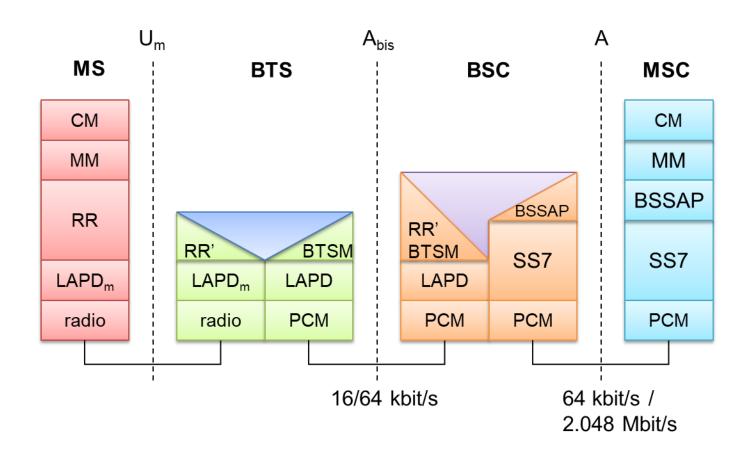
Comparing GSM layers with OSI model





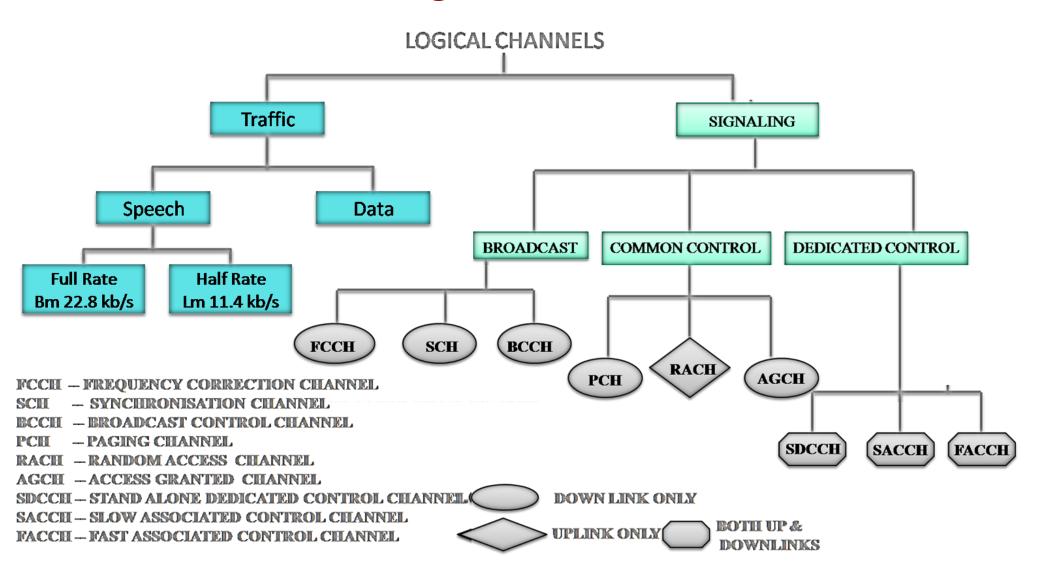
GSM Protocol Layers for Signaling

- CM Connection Management
- MM Mobility Management
- RR Radio Resource Management
- LAPDm Link Access Protocol D-Channel Modified
- BSSMAP Base Station Subsystem
 Mobile Application Part





Logical Channels



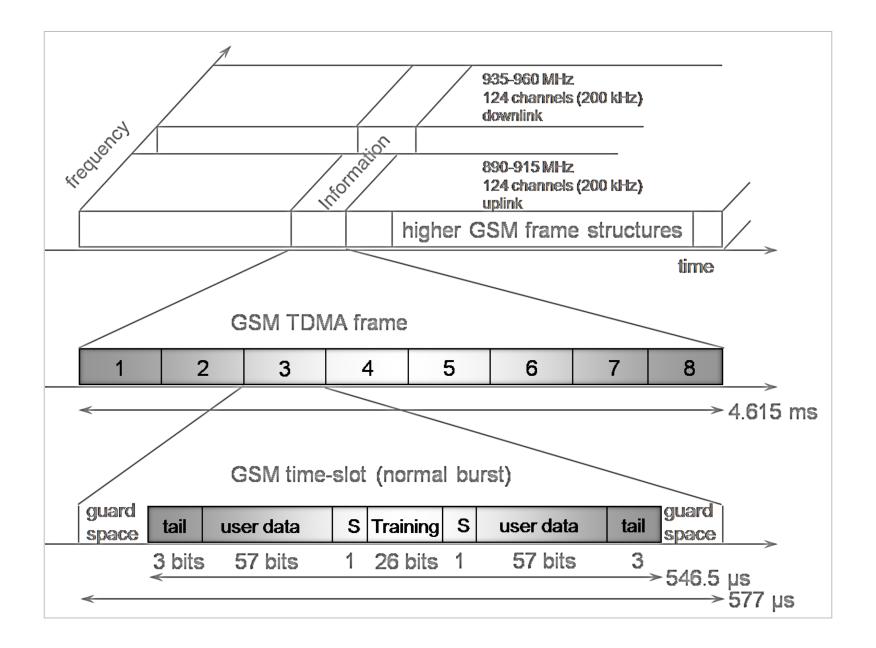


GSM Services

- Tele-services Telecommunication services that enable voice communication, fax transmission via mobile phones
 - ➤ Offered services Mobile telephony, Emergency calling
- Bearer or Data Services Include various data services for information transfer between GSM and other networks like PSTN, ISDN etc. at rates from 300 to 9600 bps
 - ➤Offered services Short Message Service (SMS), Unified Messaging Services(UMS), Group 3 fax, Voice mailbox, Electronic mail
- Supplementary Service
 - ➤ Call related services Call Waiting, Call Hold, Call Barring, Call Forwarding, Multi Party Call Conferencing, CLIP, CLIR, CUG

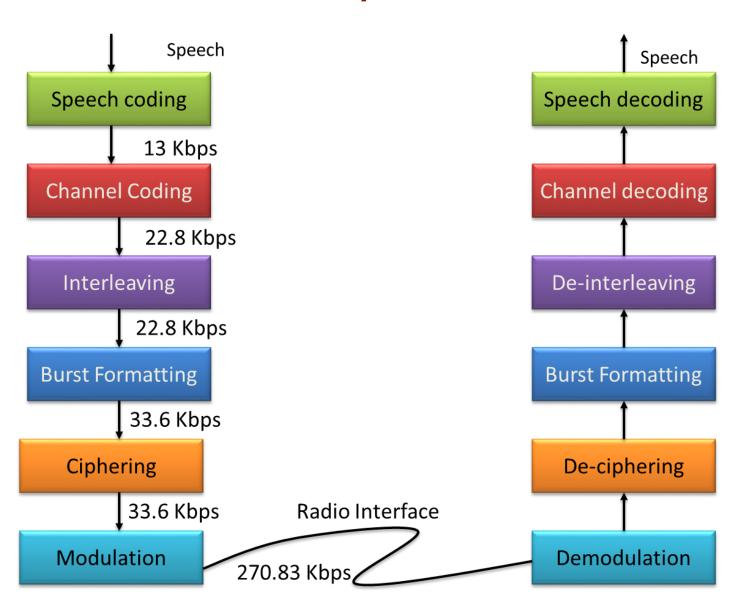


GSM Frame Structure





GSM Operation





Message Format

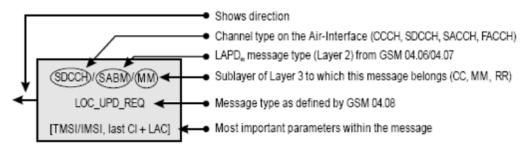


Figure 1.4(a) Format for messages over the Air-interface (LAPD_m, GSM 04.08).

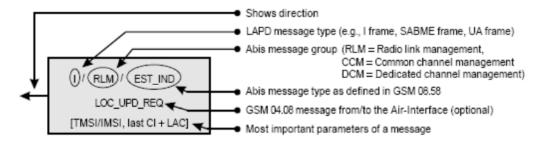


Figure 1.4(b) Format for messages over the Abis-interface (LAPD, GSM 08.58).

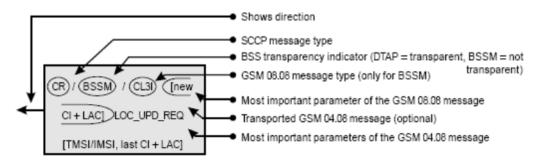


Figure 1.4(c) Format for messages over the A-interface [SS7, signaling connection control part (SCCP), GSM 08.06, GSM 08.08].



Message Format

Figure 1.4(c) Format for messages over the A-interface [SS7, signaling connection control part (SCCP), GSM 08.06, GSM 08.08].

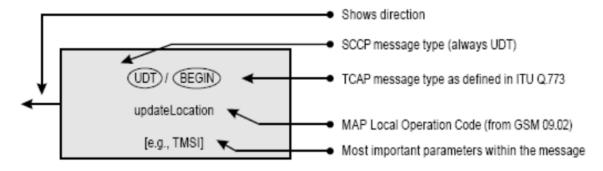


Figure 1.4(d) Format for mobile application part (MAP) messages over all network switching subsystem (NSS) interfaces [SS7, SCCP, transaction capabilities application part (TCAP), MAP].

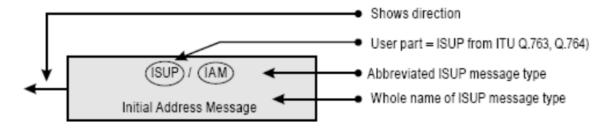
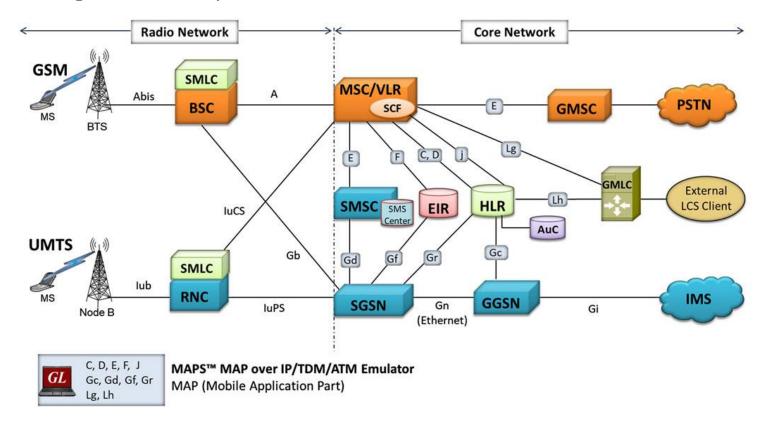


Figure 1.4(e) Format for ISUP messages between MSCs and toward the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) [SS7 and the ISDN user part (ISUP)].



Mobile Application Part (MAP) Signaling for GSM and UMTS Networks

- The components in the MSCs such as HLR, AuC, EIR, and the VLR are interconnected by MAP signaling
- MAP uses Signaling System No. 7 (SS7) as carrier and provide services to mobile phone users such as roaming, call handling, non-interruptive handover, and more





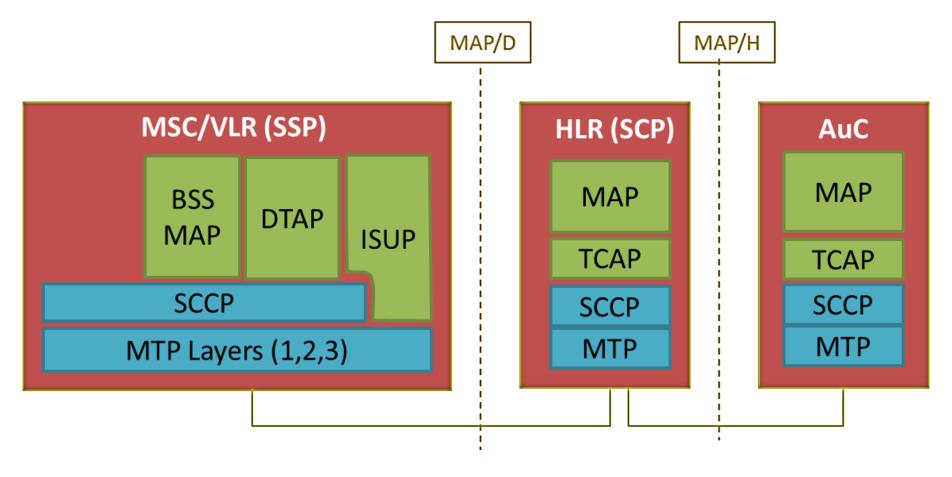
Mobile Application Part (MAP) Signaling

- Some of the GSM/UMTS Circuit Switched interfaces transported over SS7 using MAP signaling are:
 - ➤B -> MSC to VLR
 - ➤C -> MSC to HLR
 - ➤D -> VLR to HLR
 - ➤ E -> Inter-MSC handover
 - ➤F -> MSC to EIR
- There are also several GSM/UMTS PS interfaces transported over SS7 using MAP signaling :
 - ➤ Gr -> SGSN to HLR
 - ≽Gd -> SGSN to SMS-C
 - ➤Gc -> GGSN to HLR
 - ➤ Gf -> SGSN to EIR



Typical Protocol Stack

• The Mobile Application Part (MAP) is the application-layer protocol that resides on top of the SS7 protocol stack, and is carried within Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP) messages

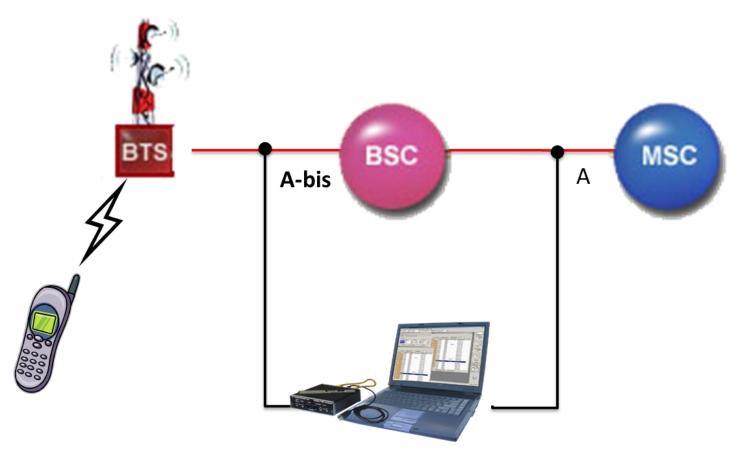




GL's GSM Protocol Analysis and Simulation



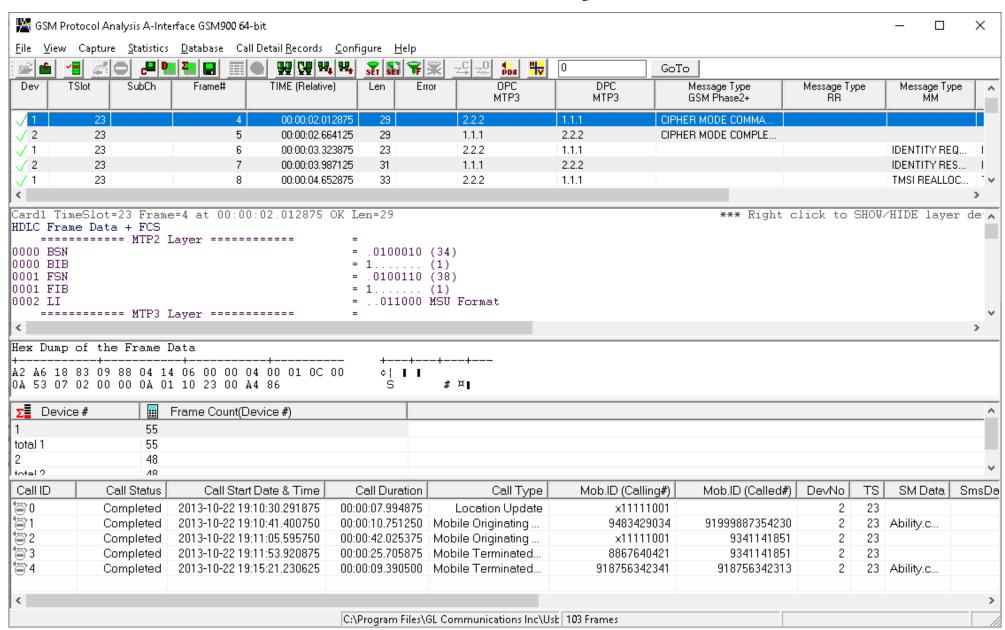
GL's GSM Analyzer



GL GSM Analyzer



GL's GSM Analyzer





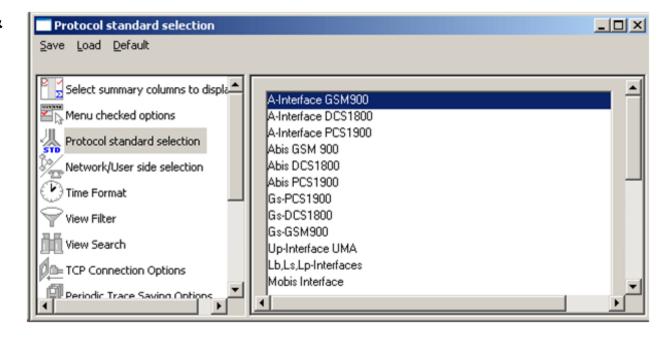
Key Features

- Monitor GSM network real-time, offline, as well as remote
- Multiple streams of GSM traffic on various T1 E1 channels can be simultaneously decoded with different GUI instances
 - ➤ Displays Summary, Detail, Hex-Dump, Statistics, and Call Detail View
- Any protocol field can be added to the summary view, filtering, and search features providing users more flexibility to monitor required protocol fields
- Option to create multiple aggregate column groups and prioritize the groups as per the requirement to display the summary results efficiently
- Allows the user to create search/filter criteria automatically from the current screen selection
- Captured frames can later be used for traffic simulation
- Remote monitoring capability using GL's Network Surveillance System



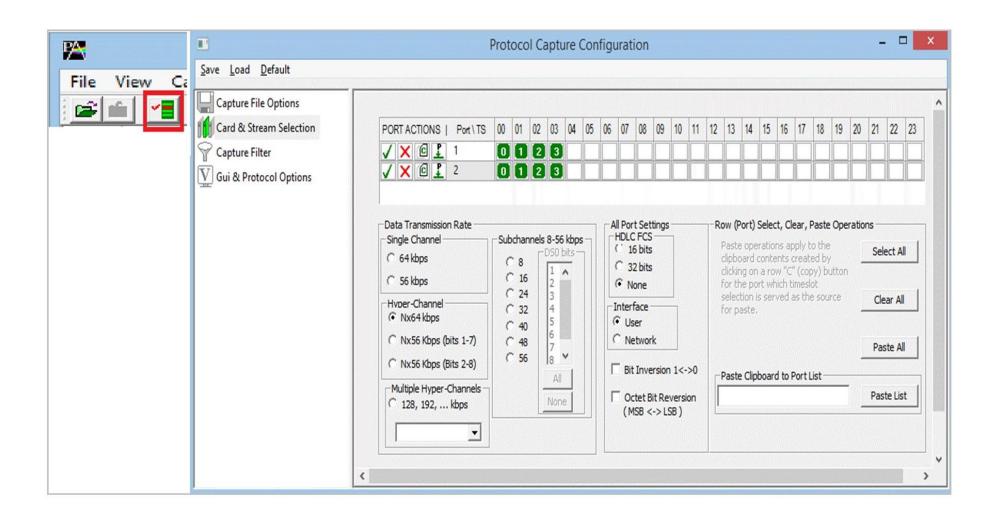
Protocol Standards

- A Interface MTP2, MTP3, SCCP, BSSMAP, SMS, MM, & CC
- Abis Interface LAPD, BTSM, RR, SMS, MM &
 CC
- Gs Interface MTP2, MTP3, BSSAP+
- Lb, Ls, Lp Interface RRLP, BSSLAP.
 SMLCPP, LLP, BSSAP-LE, SCCP, MTP3, & MTP2
- UP Interface UMA Protocols , TCP, UDP, IP,
 &MAC
- Motorola Proprietary Mobis Interface





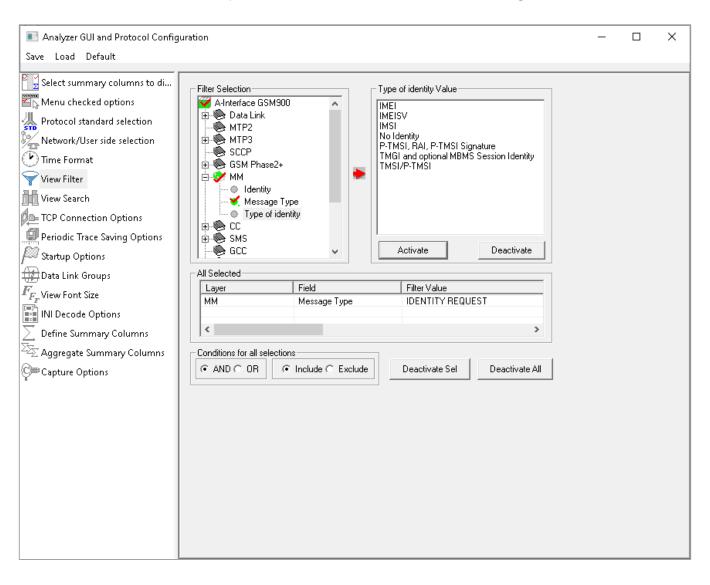
Real-time Capture





Filtering Criteria

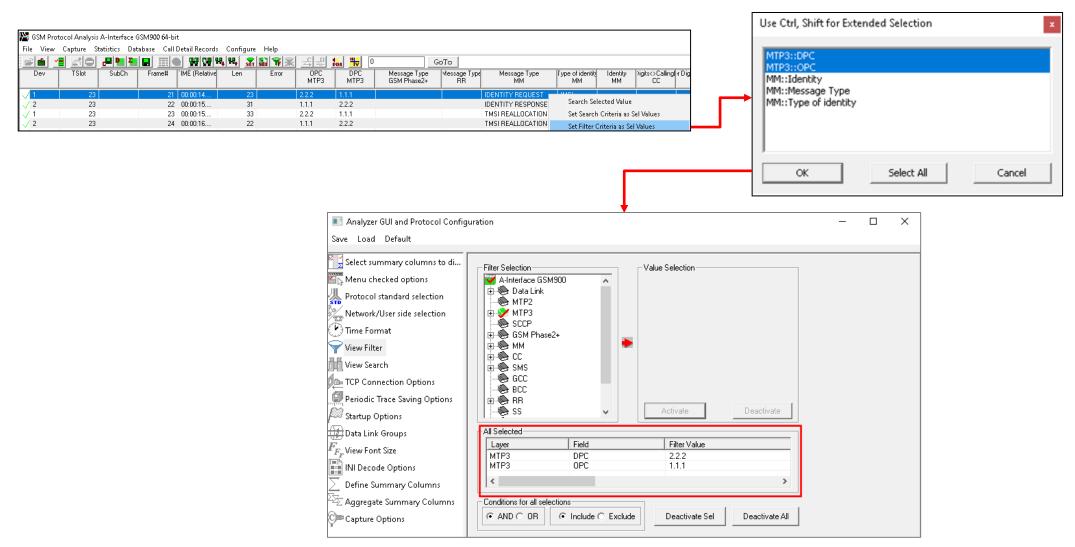
• Search and Filter features provide very fast search/filter for finding the required frames





Filtering Criteria From Screen Selection

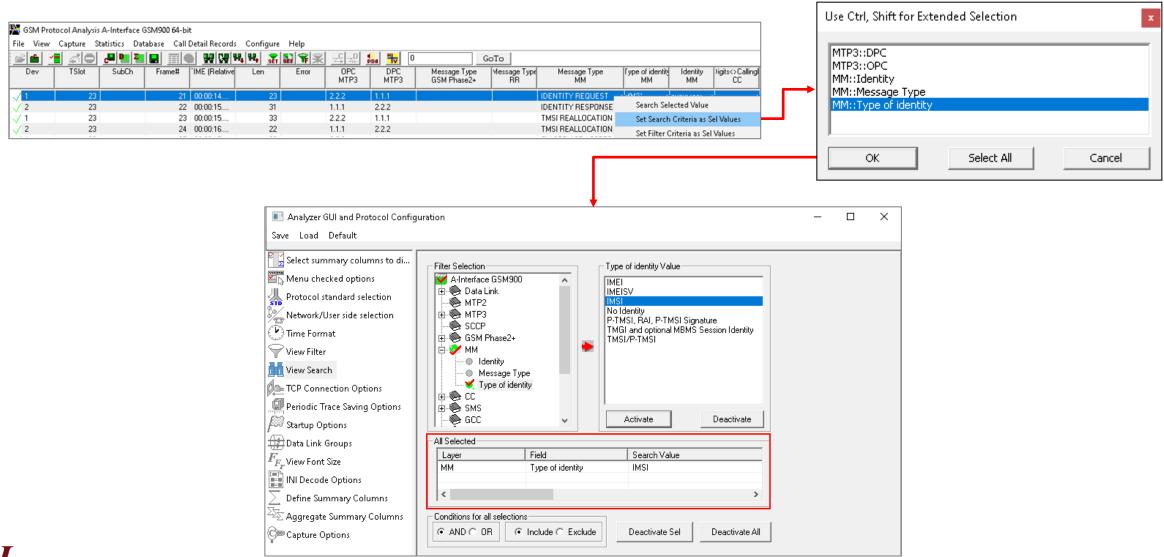
Allows the user to create filter criteria automatically from the current screen selection





Search Criteria From Screen Selection

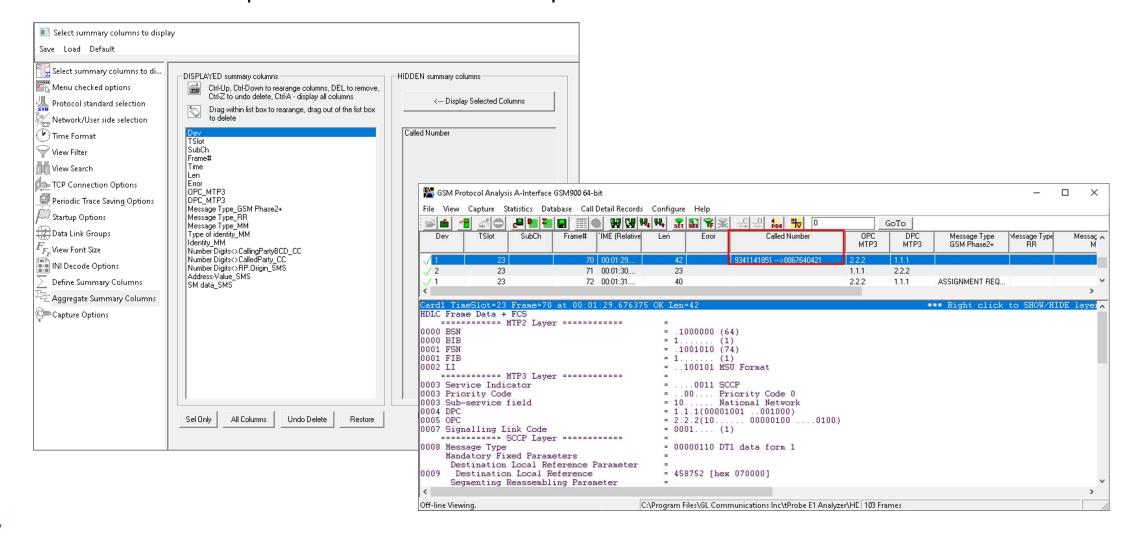
Allows the user to create search criteria automatically from the current screen selection





Define Summary Columns

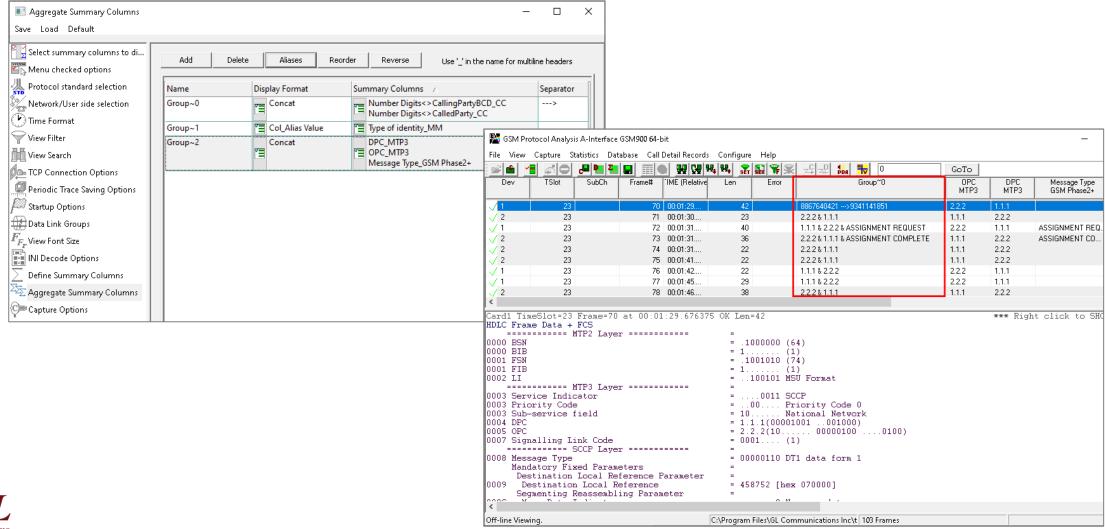
- Required protocol fields can be added through Define summary column option
- User can remove the protocol field which is not required





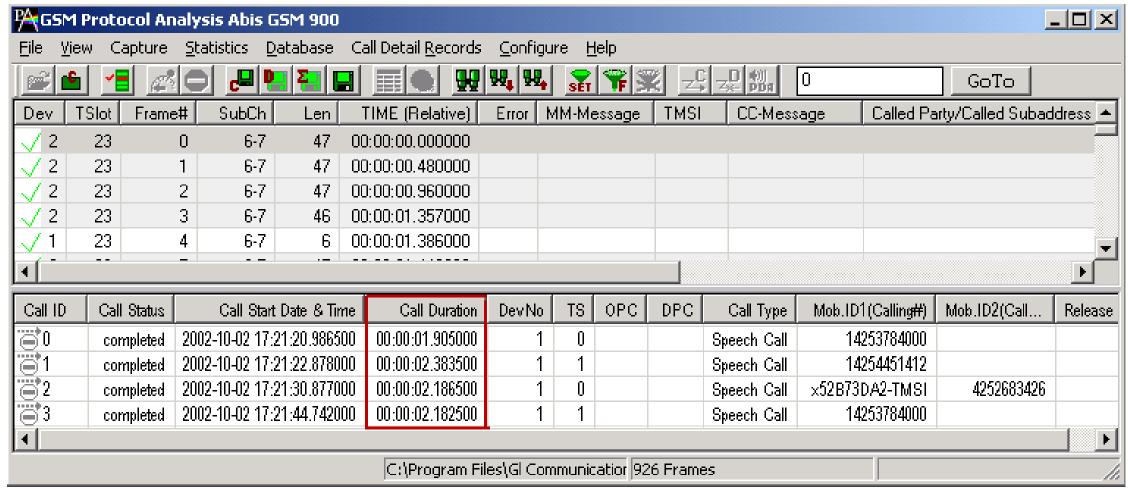
Aggregate Group Column

The user can create multiple aggregate column groups and prioritize the groups as per the requirement to display
the summary results efficiently



Call Detail Records

Call trace defining important call specific parameters such as call ID, status (active or completed),
 duration, CRV, release complete cause etc. are displayed





Applications

- Used as independent standalone units as "probes" integrated in a network surveillance systems
- Triggering, collecting, and filtering for unique subscriber information and relaying such information to a back end processor
- Collecting Call Detail Records (CDR) information for billing

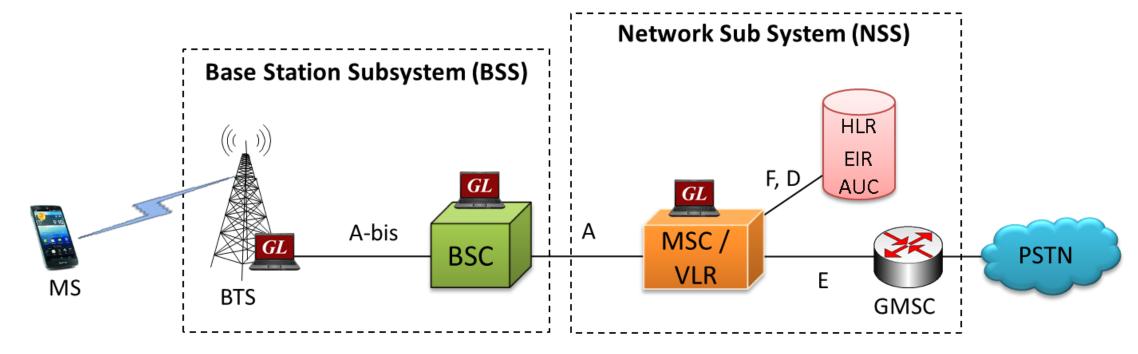


MAPS™ GSM A Emulator (Testing over T1 E1)



MAPS™ - GSM A Emulator (XX692)

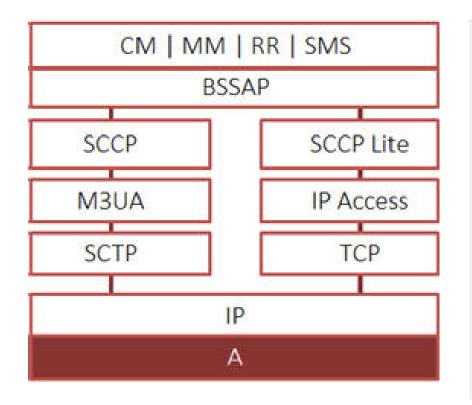
- Scripted GSM A Interface simulation over TDM (T1 E1) using GL's MAPS™
- Simulates BSC and MSC entities







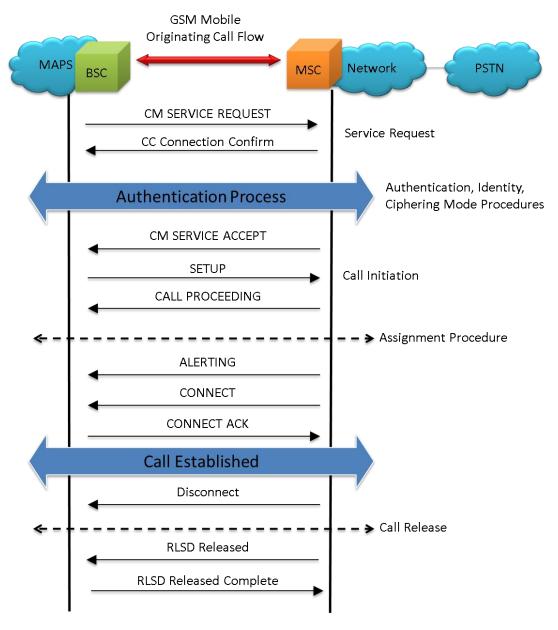
Supported Protocol Standards



Supported Protocols	Standard / Specification Used	
SCCP	Q.713, CCITT (ITU-T) Blue Book	
SCTP	RFC 4960	
TCP	RFC 793	
МЗИА	RFC 3332	
BSSMAP / DTAP	3GPP TS 08.08 V8.9.0, 3GPP TS 48.008 V10.0.0 (2011-01)	
MM/CC	3GPP TS 04.08 V7.17.0	
RR	3GPP TS 04.18 V8.13.0	
SMS	3GPP TS 03.40 V7.5.0 & 3GPP TS 04.11 V7.1.0 GSM 03.38 version 7.2.0 Release 1998	

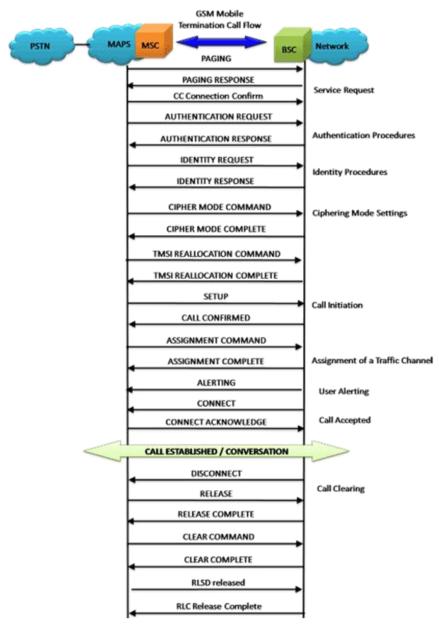


GSM A Mobile Originating Call Flow



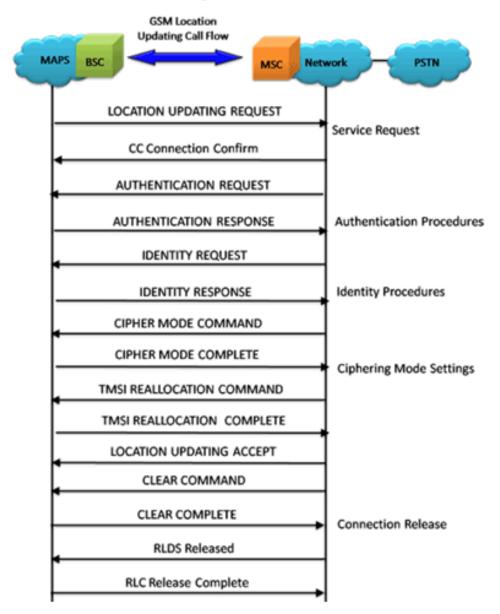


GSM A Mobile Terminating Call Flow



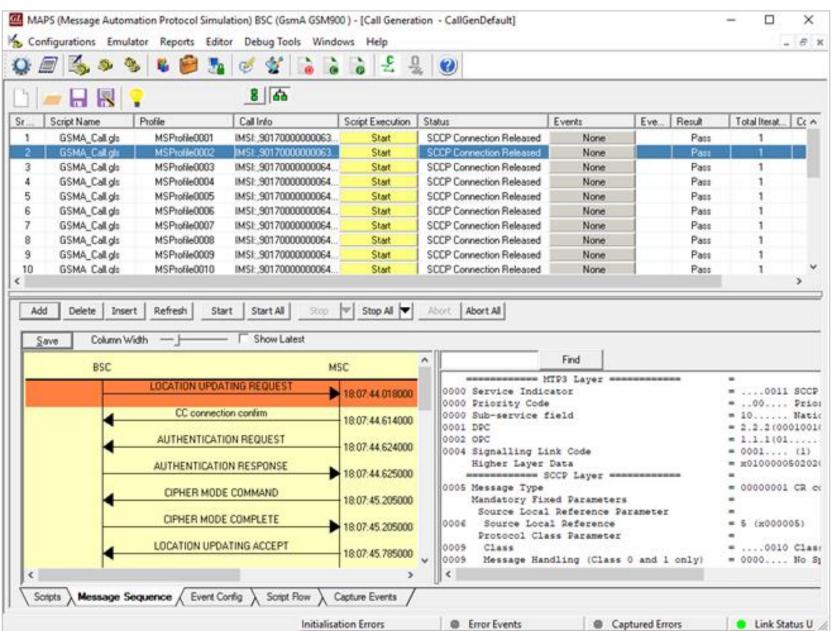


Location Updating Call Flow



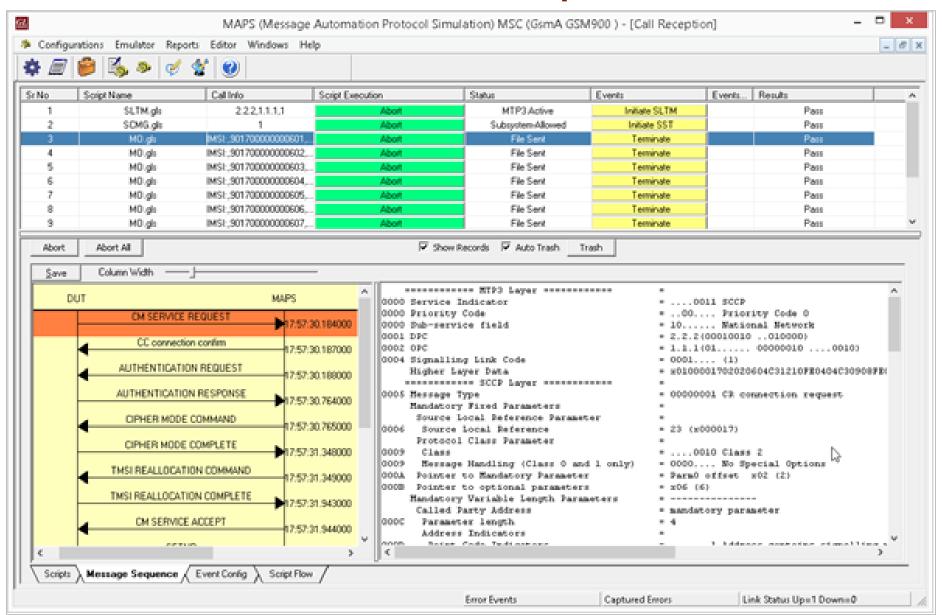


GSM A Call Generation





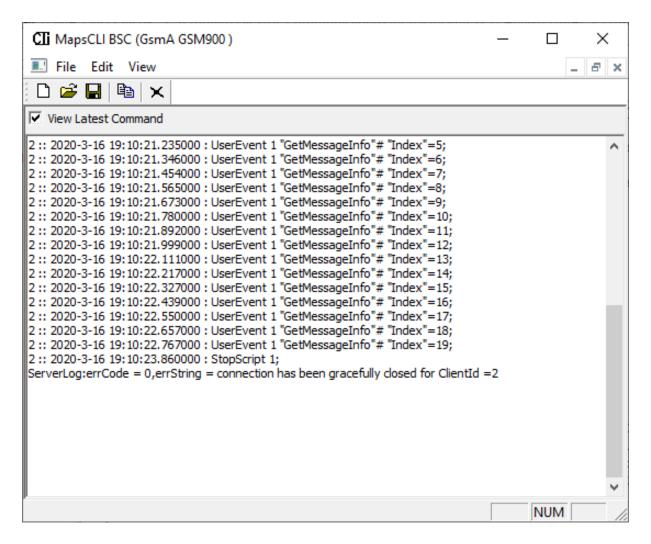
GSM A Call Reception





MAPS™ GSMA Command Line Interface (CLI)

MAPS GSMA CLI Server



Sample Python Client Script

```
Python 3.7.5 Shell
                                                                        П
File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help
Python 3.7.5 (tags/v3.7.5:5c02a39a0b, Oct 15 2019, 00:11:34) [MSC v.1916 64 bit
(AMD64)1 on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
= RESTART: C:\Program Files\GL Communications Inc\Octal Xpress T1 Analyzer\MAPSC
LI\MAPS Python Client\examples\gsma\BSC\GSMA PlaceCall.py
GSMA Server Connection... True
GSMA Testbed Starting ... True
GSMA Profile Loading... True
Check M3UA Health Status... True
GSMA Call Initiated... True
Call Status... Answered
Send File started
Send File Completion: 806
GSMA Call Terminating... True
Total Signalling Messages 20
GSMA LastMSGRcv: 19:10:19.115 <-
                                       RLSD released
   ======= MTP3 Laver =======
0000 Service Indicator
                                               = ....0011 SCCP
0000 Priority Code
                                               = ..00.... Priority Code 0
0000 Sub-service field
                                               = 10..... National Network
0001 DPC
                                               = 2.2.2(00010010 ..010000)
0002 OPC
                                               = 2.2.2(10..... 00000100 ....01
0004 Signalling Link Code
                                               = 0001.... (1)
    Higher Laver Data
                                               = x040000030000030300
    ====== SCCP Laver =======
0005 Message Type
                                               = 00000100 RLSD released
    Mandatory Fixed Parameters
     Destination Local Reference Parameter
0006 Destination Local Reference
                                               = 3 (x000003)
      Source Local Reference Parameter
0009 Source Local Reference
                                               = 3 (x000003)
     Release Cause Parameter
000C Release Cause
                                               = 00000011 SCCP user originated
000D Pointer to optional parameters
                                               = x00 (0)
    Mandatory Variable Length Parameters
                                               = None
     Optional Variable Length Parameters
                                               = None
```

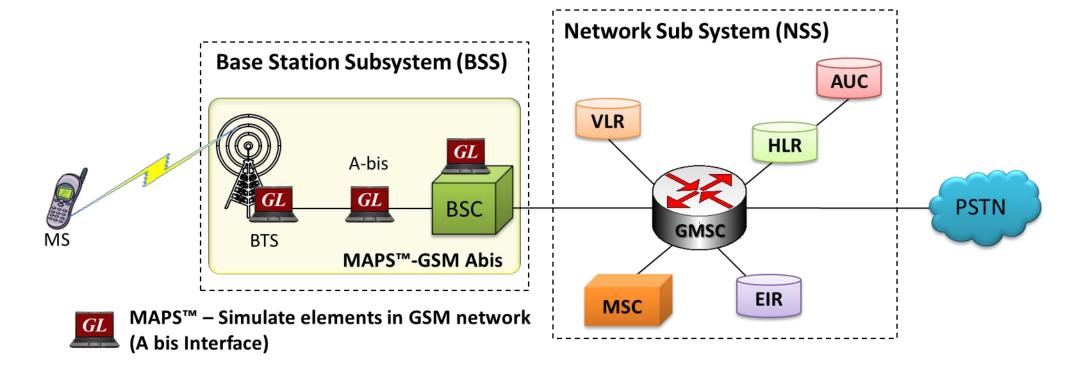


MAPS™ GSM Abis Emulator (Testing over T1 E1)



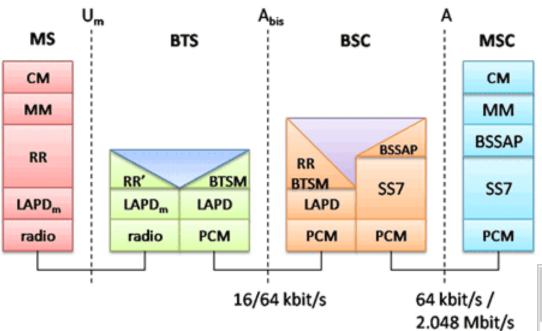
MAPS™ - GSM Abis in the Network

- Scripted GSM Abis Interface simulation over TDM (T1 E1) using MAPS™
- Simulates BSC and BTS entities





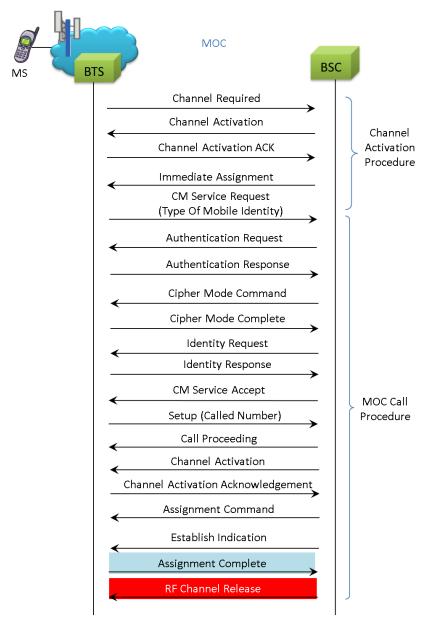
Supported Protocol Standards



Available Standards	Supported Protocols	Standard / Specification Used
GSM Abis 900	BTSM	3GPP TS 08.58 V8.6.0
	MM	3GPP TS 04.08 V7.17.0
	СС	3GPP TS 04.08 V7.17.0
	RR	3GPP TS 04.18 V8.13.0
	SMS	3GPP TS 03.40 V7.5.0 & 3GPP TS 04.11 V7.1.0 GSM 03.38 version 7.2.0 Release 1998

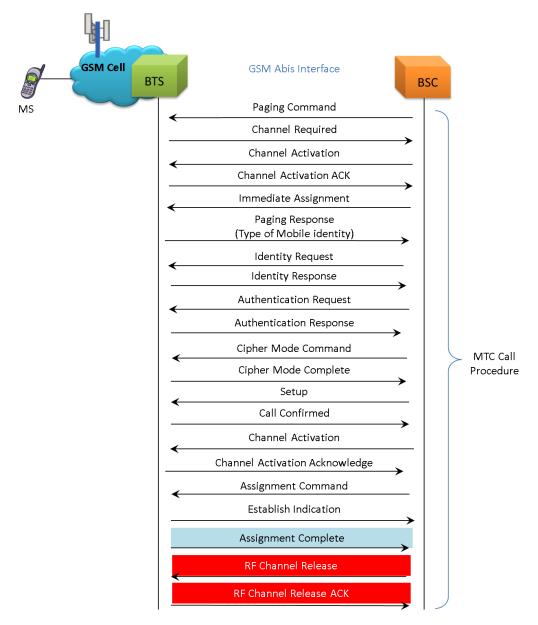


GSM Abis Mobile Originating Call Flow



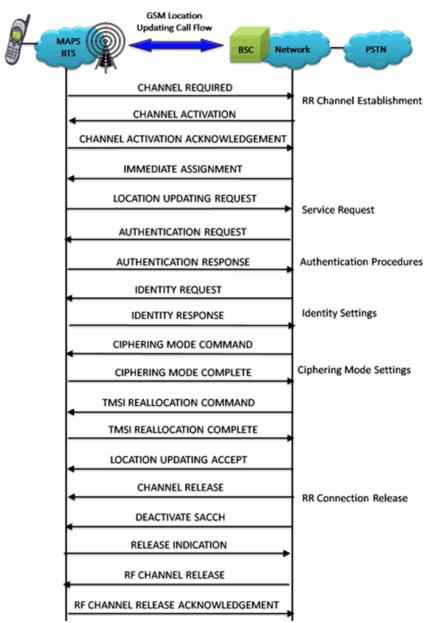


GSM Abis Mobile Terminating Call Flow



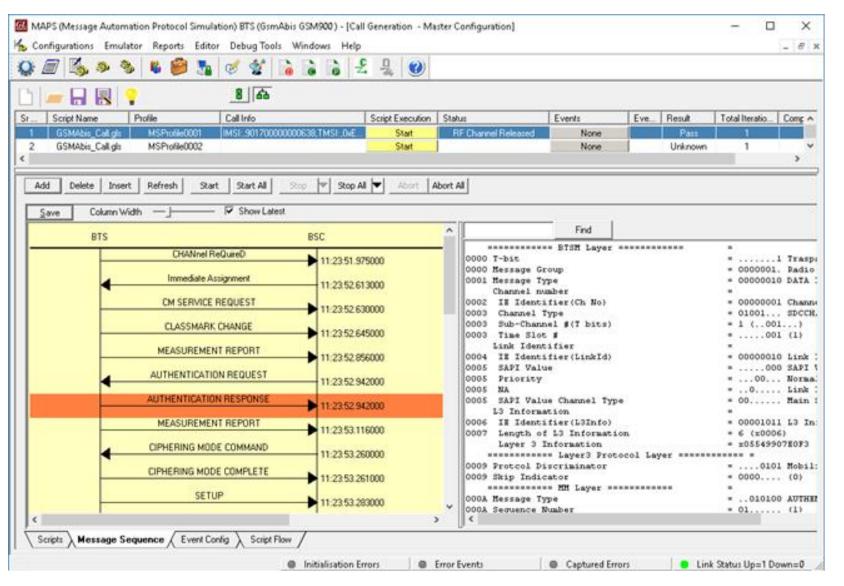


GSM Abis Location Updating Call Flow



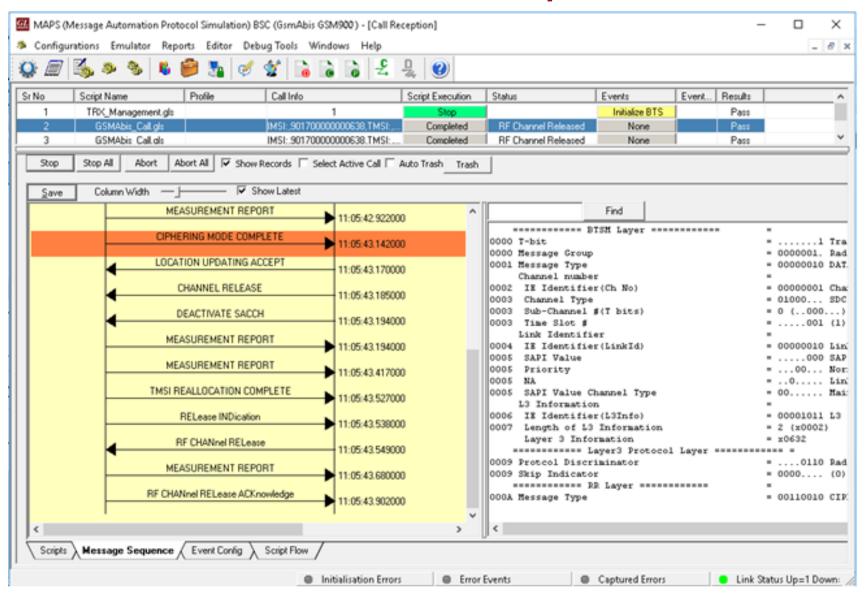


GSM Abis Call Generation





GSM Abis Call Reception



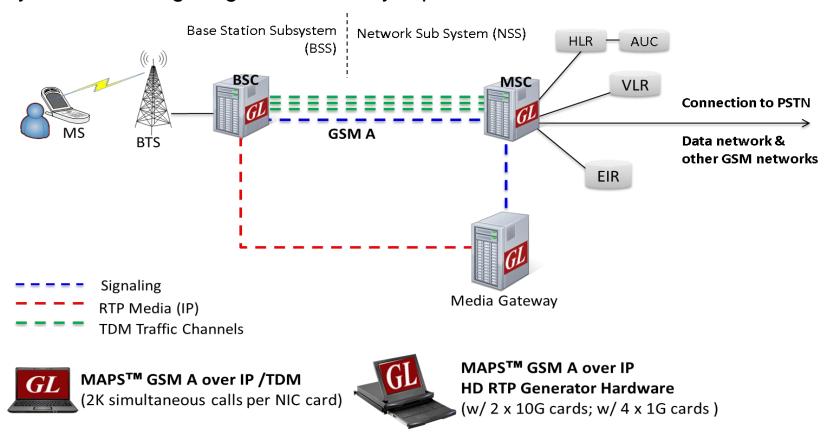


MAPSTM - GSMAoIP (GSM A over IP) (PKS137)



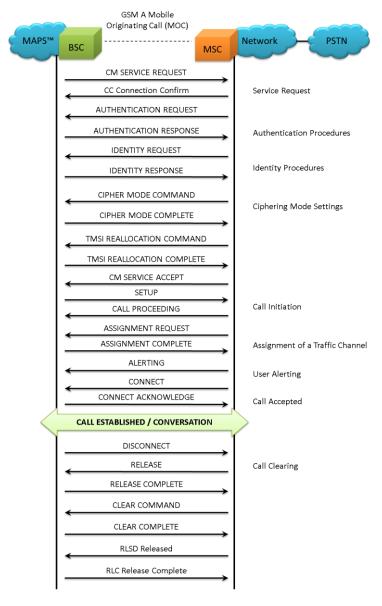
MAPSTM - GSMAoIP

- Scripted GSM A simulation over IP using MAPS™
- Simulates BSC or MSC entities
- User-friendly GUI for configuring the SCTP Layer parameters



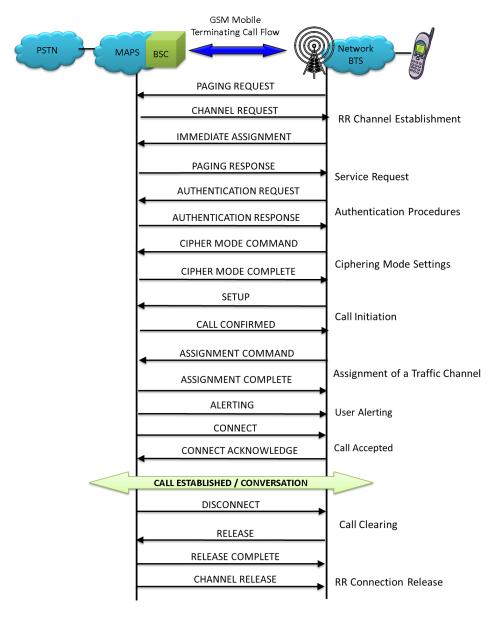


GSMAoIP Mobile Originating Call Flow



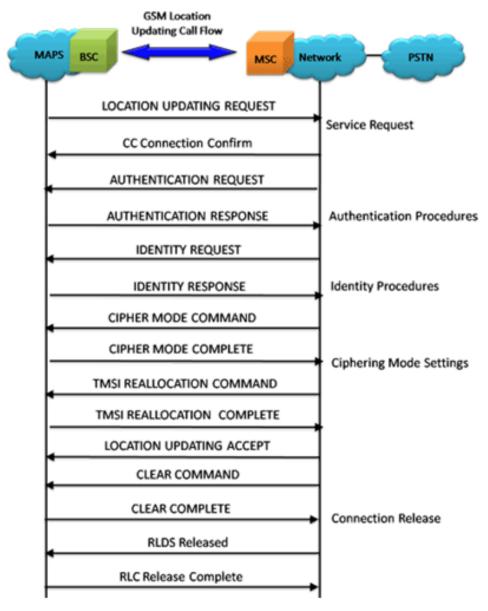


GSMAoIP Mobile Terminating Call Flow



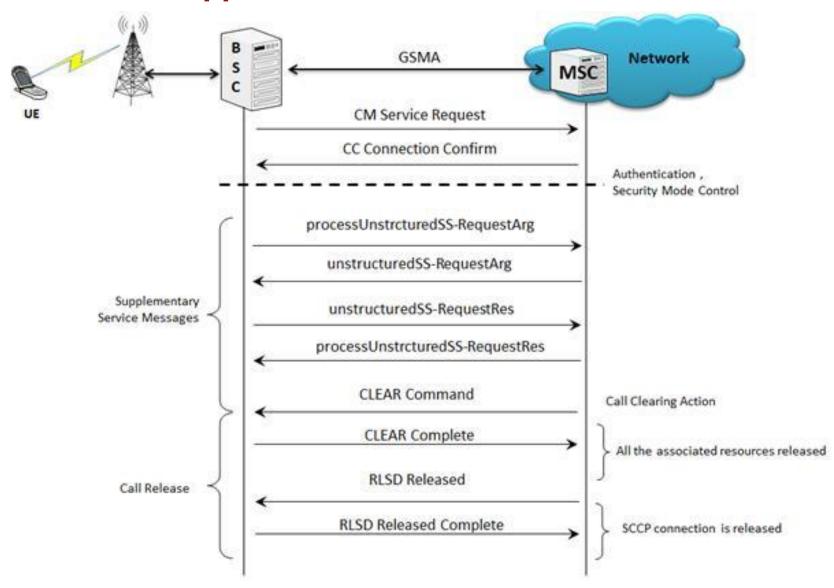


GSMAoIP Location Updating Call Flow



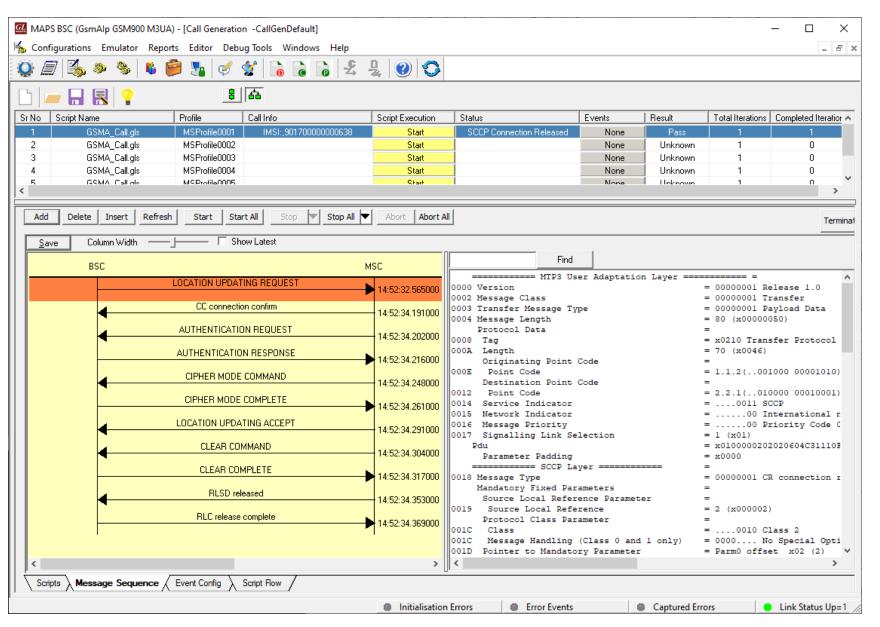


GSMAoIP Supplementary Service Activation Call Flow



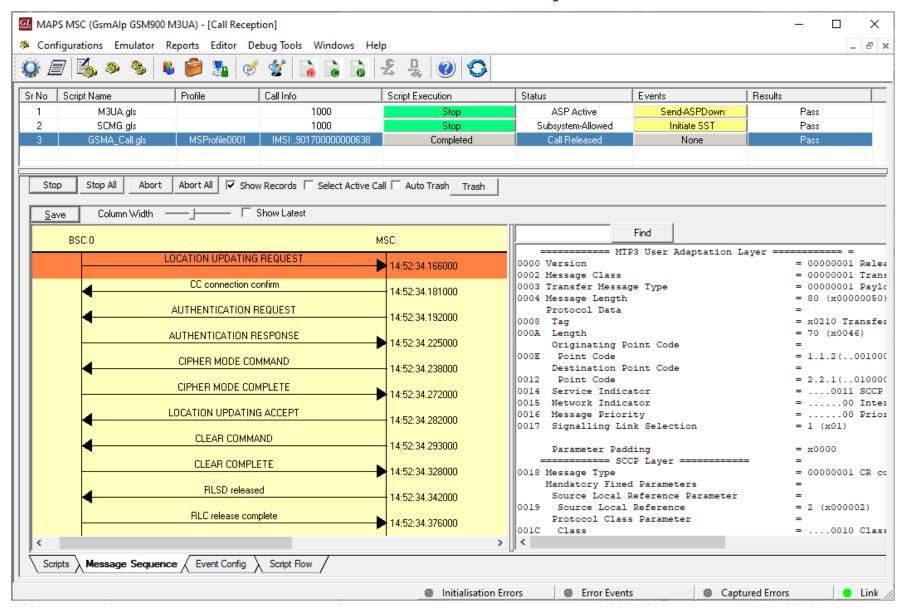


GSMoIP Call Generation





GSMoIP Call Reception

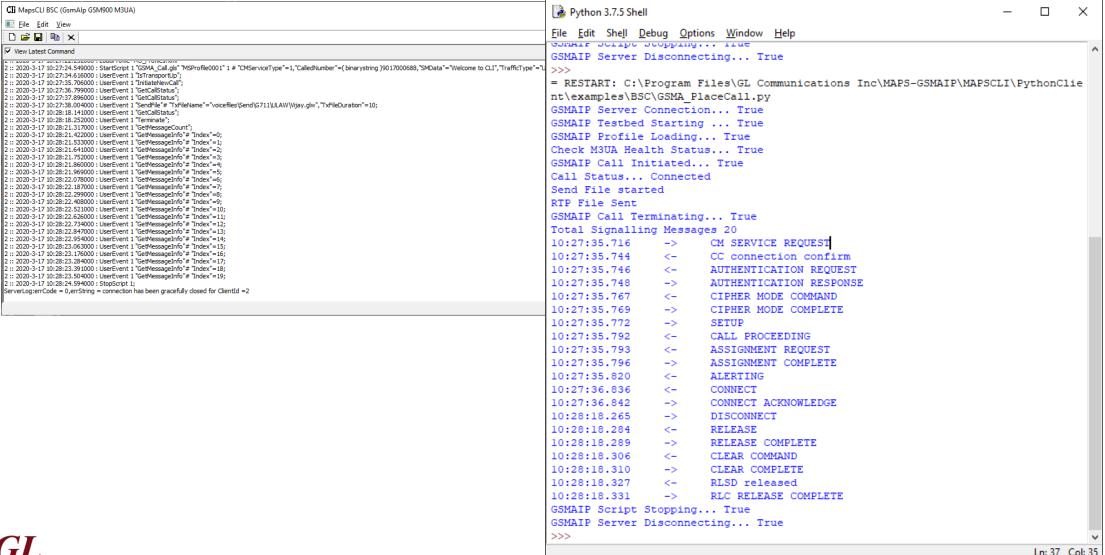




MAPS™ GSMA over IP Command Reference Interface (CLI)

MAPS GSMAIP CLI Server

Sample Python Client Script

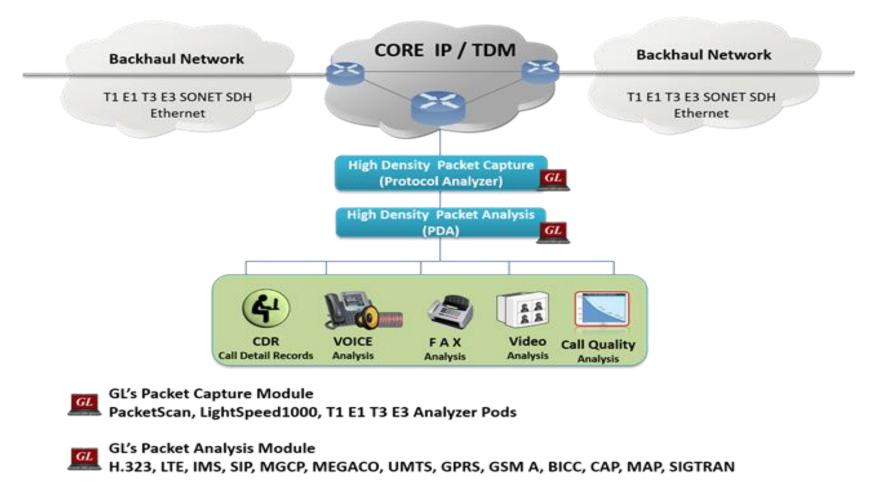


GSM Packet Data Analysis (PDA)



Packet Data Analyzer over TDM

 Monitors live TDM networks including capture, analysis, and reporting of every call-in detail. Supported protocols include CAS, ISDN, ISUP, CAMEL, MAP, INAP, and GSM



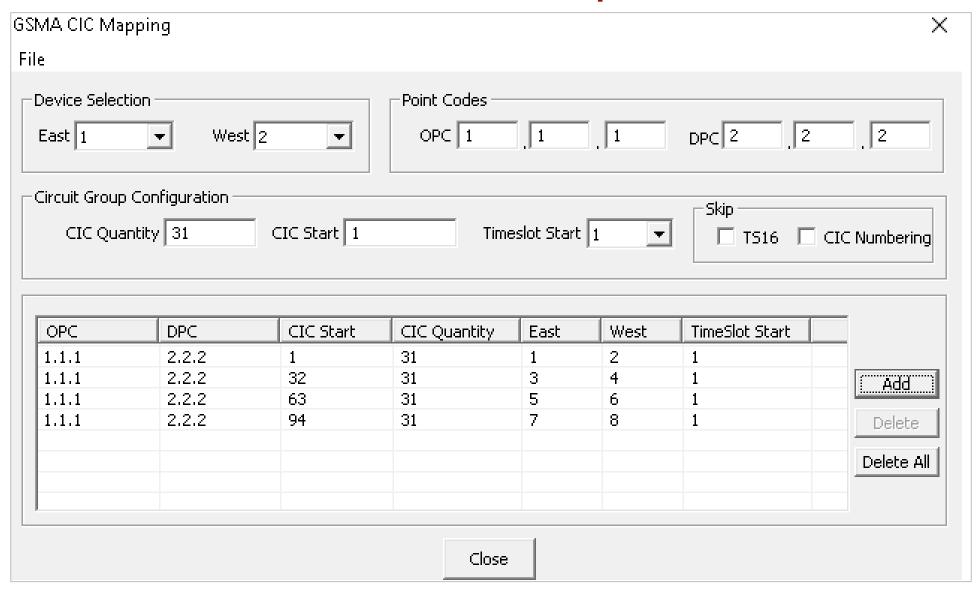


Main Features

CDR, Call Flow, Statistics, and Report Generation	 Isolates call specific information for each individual call from the captured data and displays the information in an organized fashion 	
	A host of call and message counters gives the user an instantaneous snapshot of the traffic on the network	
	Pictorial representation of the statistics including ladder diagrams for the calls of various protocols	
	Ability to export and analyze call detail records of completed calls in CSV file format.	
	These reports can be further fed to DB and accessed using GL's NetSurveyorWeb™ Lite for analysis	
	Isolates calls, a graphical call flow diagram can be created from a call trace	
	Filters on CDR information feature is used to search required calls by using "key" as CDR parameters	
	 Event counters on CDR information provides over all count of completed events such as total calls, active calls, completed calls, purged calls, failed calls, calls per second, remaining calls and more 	
	Flexible options are provided to interchange/hide the columns as required	
Traffic Recording	Supports capturing of voice, digits, tones and FAX etc. to *.PCM file format	
Triggers and Actions	Filter captures based on protocol parameters such as OPC, DPC or CIC in case of ISUP followed by a set of actions such as save call, send mail, trigger alarm notification etc. for the completed calls	
Exporting Calls	 Supports saving the selected calls from traffic analyzer into *.HDL, *.PCAP, or *.PCAPNG formats 	



Data Link Group





Traffic Recording Configurations

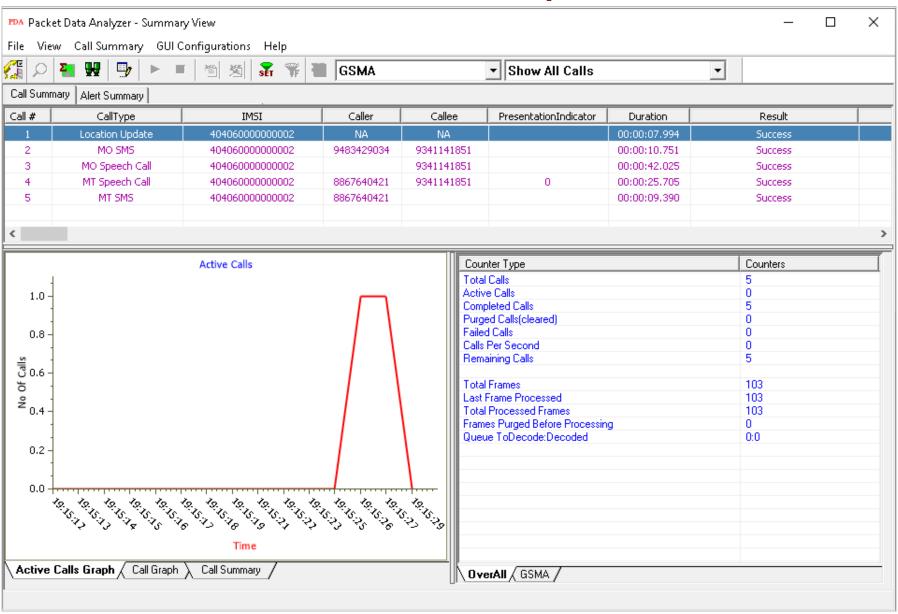
Traffic Recording Configuration X		
Traffic Recording		
Recording (Non Segmented)		
Directory C:\Program Files\GL Communications Inc\E		
Record Duration 0 sec {0 to Record Entire Call Duration}		
Include Absolute Path in CDR		
✓ Segmented Recording		
Directory C:\Program Files\GL Communications Inc\E		
No. of Segments 3 Segment Length 8 sec		
Max Simultaneous Recordings 200		
Create Subfolder Every 1 min		
Activate Close		



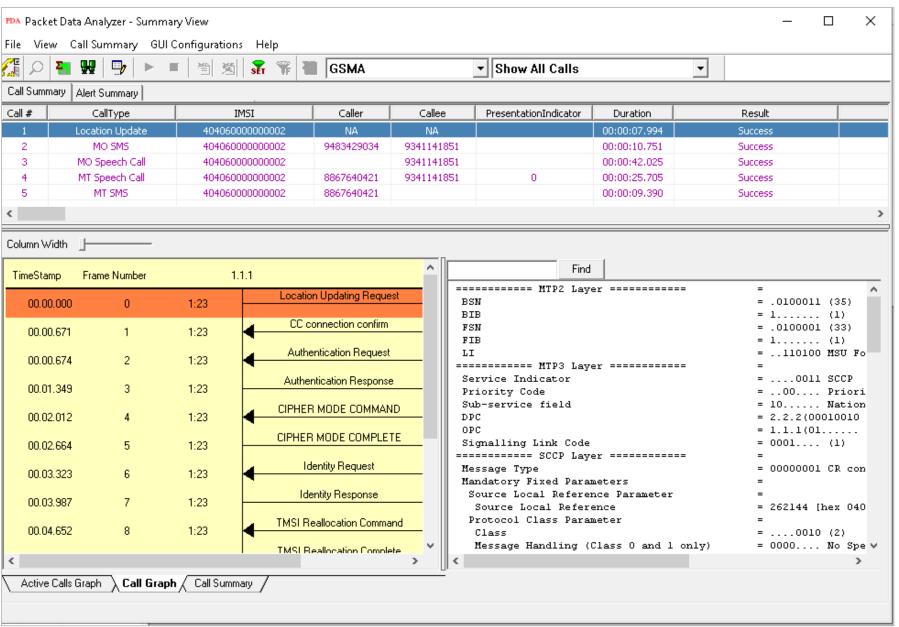
GSMA Call Summary



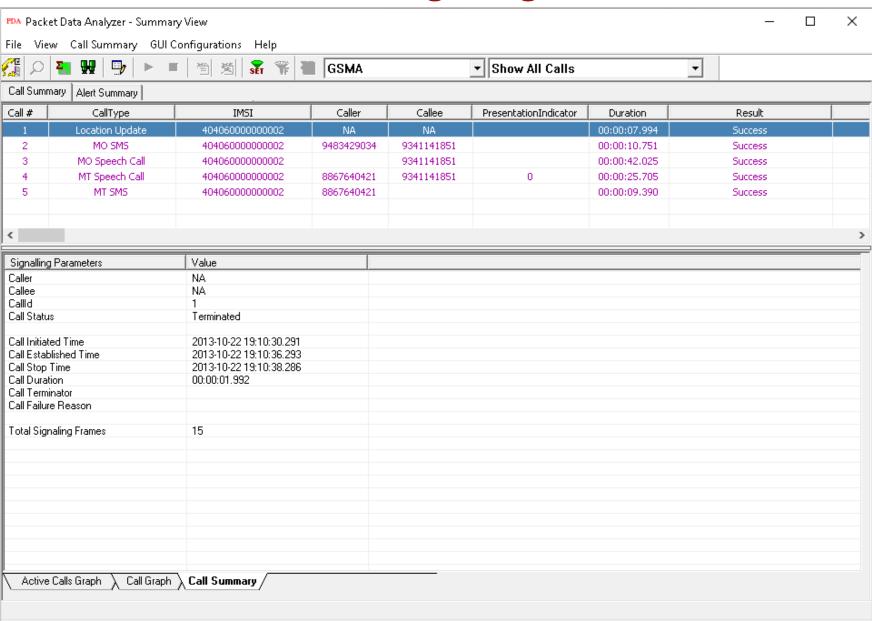
Active Call Graph



Summary View



Call Summary - Signaling Parameters

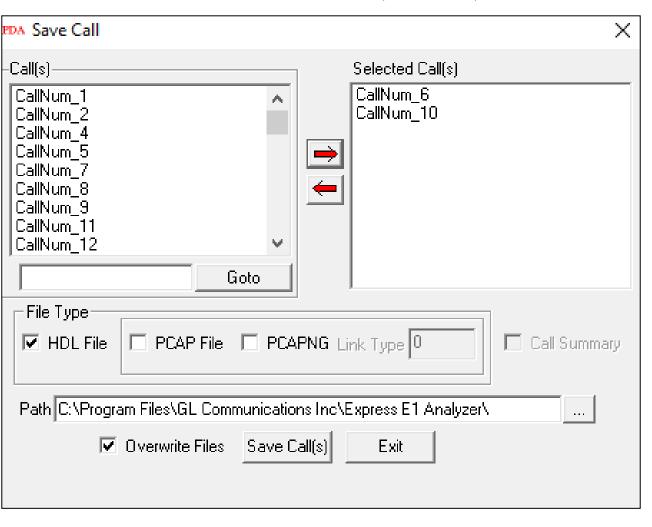


Triggers and Action Settings



Save Call to File

Allows the users to save the filtered files either in *.HDL, *.PCAP, or *.PCAPNG format



Audio Recording

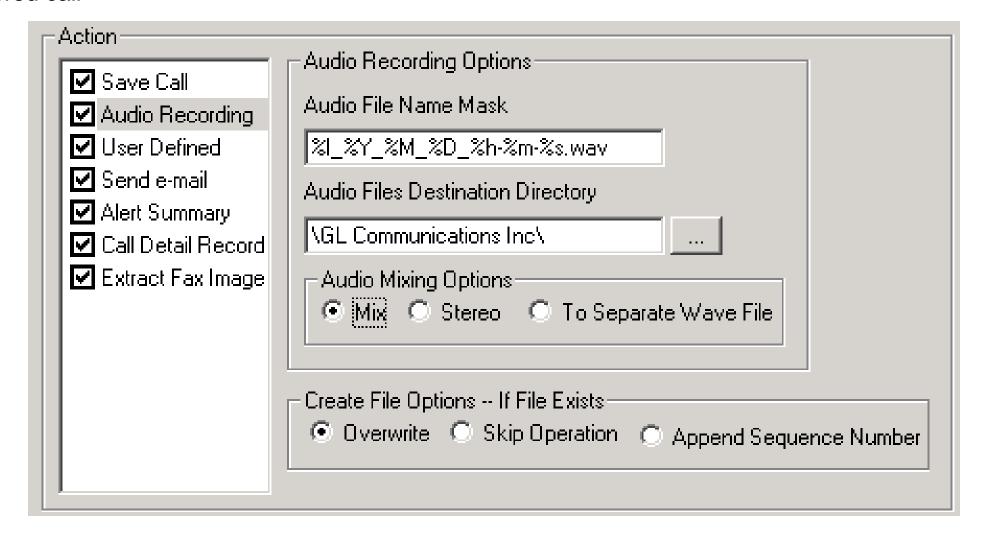
Allows to save the filtered files as the voice files in *.wav format

✓ Save Call ✓ Audio Recording ✓ User Defined ✓ Send e-mail ✓ Alert Summary ✓ Call Detail Record ✓ Extract Fax Image	Audio Recording Options Audio File Name Mask %I_%Y_%M_%D_%h-%m-%s.wav Audio Files Destination Directory \GL Communications Inc\ - Audio Mixing Options - Mix O Stereo O To Separate Wave File
	Create File Options If File Exists Overwrite Skip Operation Append Sequence Number



Send e-mail

 With this option, the Packet Data Analyzer sends an e-mail containing useful information about each filtered call





Alert Summary

• This option allows the user to set the alarm type and alarm message for the selected triggering type

_Action	
Save Call Audio Recording User Defined Send e-mail Alert Summary Call Detail Record Extract Fax Image	Alarm Type Warning ▼ Alarm Message Triggers at the specified value



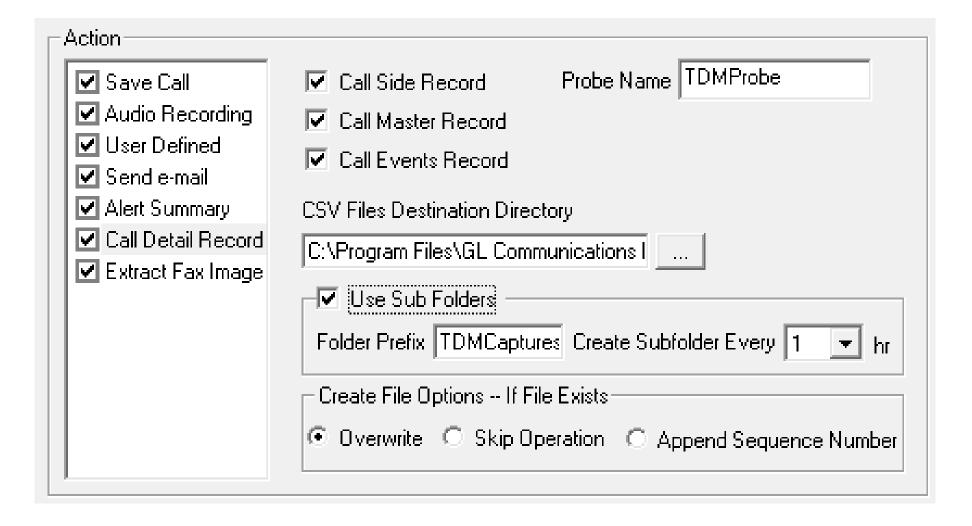
Alert Summary

PDA Packet Data Analyzer - Summary View View Help File 1 A Call Summary Alert Summary Protocol Message Threshold Value Caller Callid Call# Type Callee Callee Number GSMA 9341141851 9341141851 9483429034 9341141851 Critical 3 GSMA Callee Number Critical 9341141851 9341141851 9341141851 Callee Number 8867640421 9341141851 GSMA Critical 9341141851 9341141851



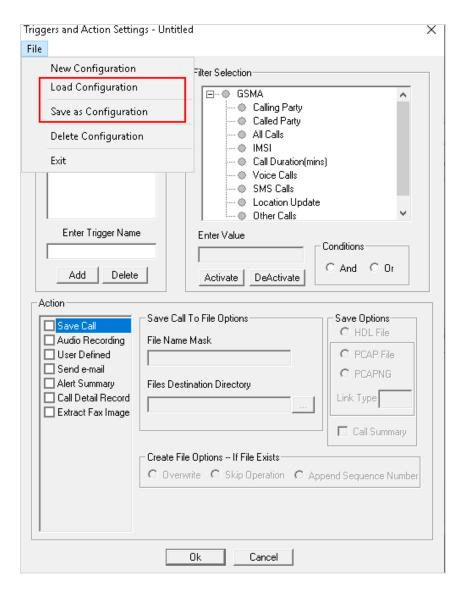
Call Detail Record (CDR)

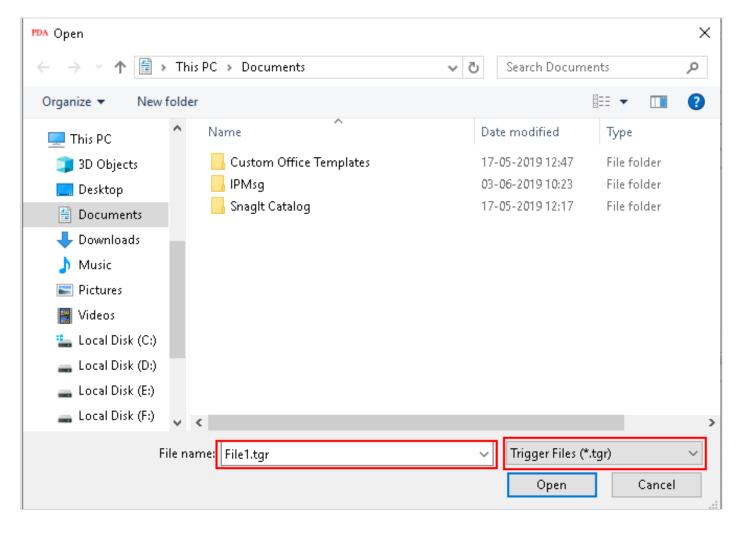
With this option, the Packet Data Analyzer can output call detail records (CDR) in the form of three Comma Separated
 Value (CSV) files such as Call Side Record, Call Master Record, and Call Events





Load or Save Configurations

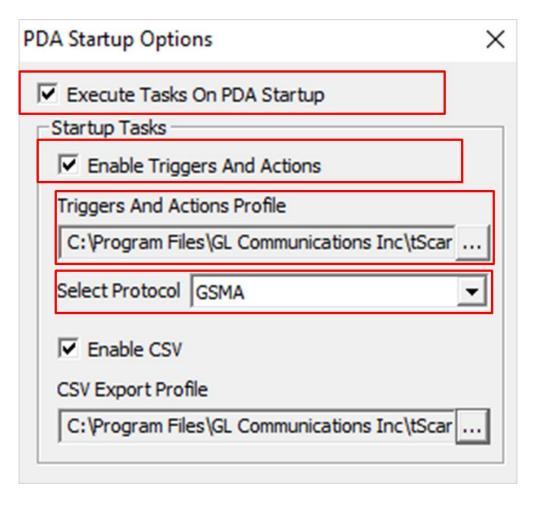






PDA Startup Options

- Allows user to configure start-up tasks which will be started automatically whenever PDA is launched
- Loads the selected Triggers and Actions profile while invoking PDA





Thank You

