# **SIGTRAN Protocol Analysis and Simulation**



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#### **User Adaption layers**

- ➤ M2UA (MTP Level 2 User Adaption)
- ➤ M3UA (MTP Level 3 User Adaption)
- SCCP User Adaption (SUA)
- ISDN User Adaption (IUA)



#### What is SIGTRAN?

- SIGTRAN Its a protocol suite used to carry PSTN signaling (SS7, ISDN, TUP and SCCP etc.) over SCTP as a Transport protocol in an IP network developed by IETF group called SIGTRAN Working Group
- SIGTRAN working group purpose is to address the transport of packet-based PSTN signaling over IP Networks by considering functional and performance requirements of the PSTN signaling

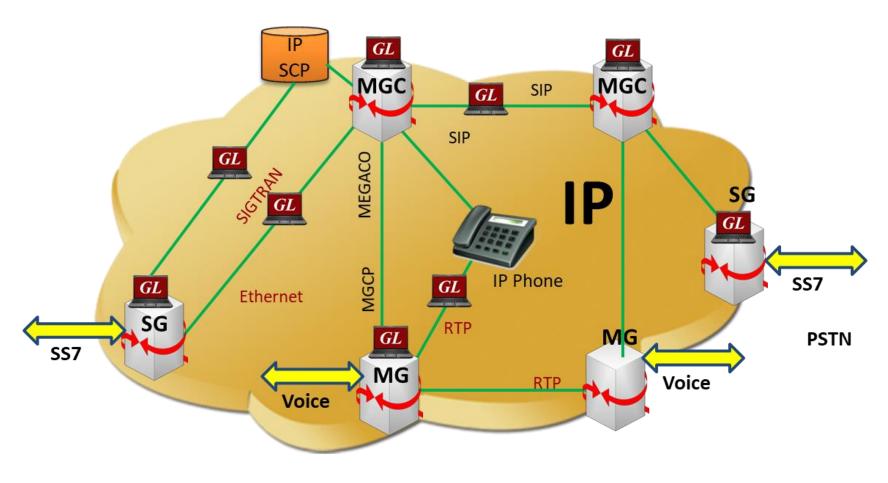


## **History of SIGTRAN**

- The main difference between these two schemes (i.e. PSTN and IP) is that the long-distance carrier is replaced by an IP network. So we convert a long-distance call into two local calls plus long-distance IP transport. Thus the IP Telephony Service Provider (ITSP) can offer a cheaper price to its customers
- The costs of transporting the speech using an IP network are lower than those of a long-distance carrier, as the whole facilities are shared among all the users and there is no dedicated channels
- If we have a dedicated full-duplex circuit to transmit a telephone conversation we make poor use
  of it, as most of the time at least one of the parties will be silent (at least that is the idea) and its
  channels unused



### **Architecture View of SIGTRAN**



SS7 over IP (SIGTRAN) Analysis and Simulation

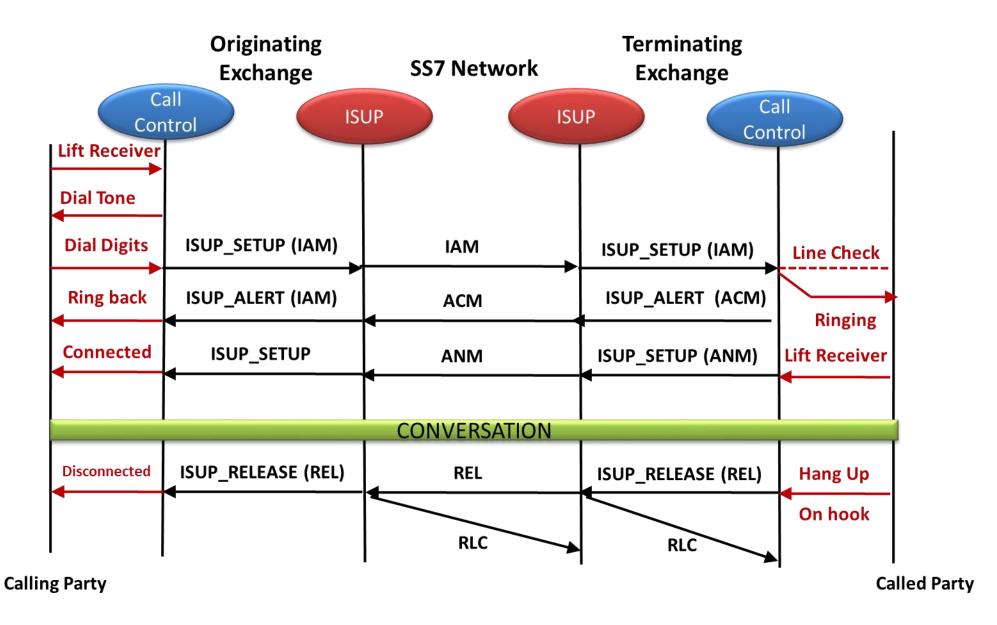


### **SIGTRAN**

- In the SIGTRAN architecture view, gateways connect the SS7 and IP networks. We can identify the three elements carrying PSTN signaling over IP network i.e. MG, SG and MGC. The SS7-IP gateways translates and transport the SS7 signaling through the IP network, Both the media data and the signaling can traverse the IP network and reach the destination, providing the same kind of services that the PSTN offers while making a better use of the network that carries the voice stream
- Media Gateway (MG) The media gateway converts media provided PSTN network to the format required in IP network.
   For example, Media Gateway terminates PSTN media streams, packetizes the voice and delivers the packets to the IP network. At the receiver side, it performs the reverse function
- Signaling Gateway (SG) The Signaling gateway receives and translates signaling from PSTN network and send across
   IP network and vice-versa
- Media Gateway Controller (MGC) Controls the parts of the call state that pertain to connection
- control for media channels in a MG i.e. registration and resource management at MG
- IP SCP (IP enabled Service Control Point) This exists wholly within the IP network, but is addressable from the SS7 network



### SS7 SIGTRAN Call Scenario

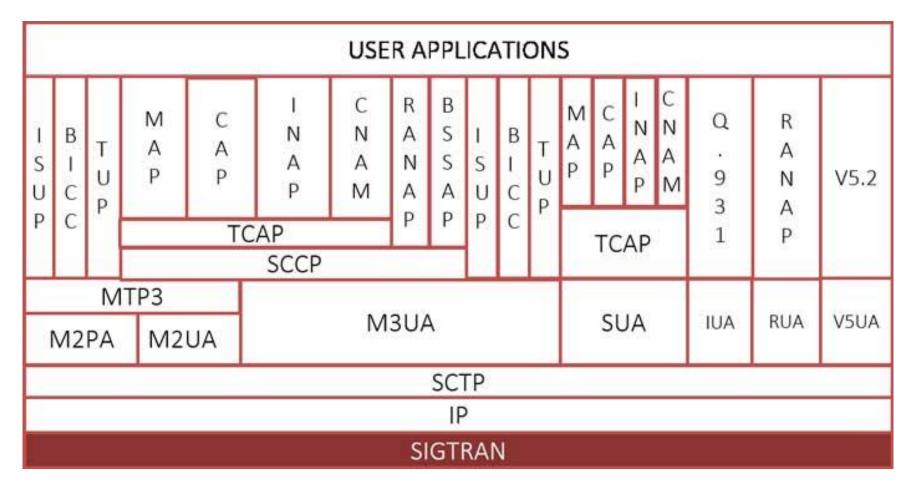




#### SIGTRAN Protocol Stack

The protocol stack includes protocols such as:-

- SCTP (Stream Control Transmission Protocol)
- M3UA, M2UA, SUA, IUA, M2PA, DUA, V5UA (All User Adaptation Protocols)





## **User Adaption Layers**

- To make SS7 or ISDN or TCAP signaling transport over IP networks possible, an SS7-IP gateway must provide the means for translating SS7 messages into IP datagrams, and vice-versa
- However, that translation can be done at several layers. Even though there is no need to provide
  translation at all levels in the SS7 stack, adaptation modules (Layers) are developed and can translate
  SS7 signaling at the SCCP level, as well as MTP3 and MTP2 (there are even two proposals for MTP2)

#### Each UA has applicability -

- SUA provides services of SCCP to its users like TCAP
- V5UA provides services of V.5.2
- ➤ M2UA, M2PA provides services of MTP2 to MTP3
- > IUA provides services of LAPD to Q.931
- M3UA provides services of MTP3 to ISUP, SCCP
- > DUA provides services of LAPD to DPNSS/DASS2



## **User Adaption Layers**

#### M3UA (MTP3-User Adaptation Layer)

The MTP3-User Adaptation Layer (M3UA) works at a lower layer than SUA. It directly replaces MTP3, and it provides support for the transfer of all SS7 MTP3-User Part messages, such as ISUP or SCCP over IP using SCTP.

#### **M2UA (MTP2-User Adaptation Layer)**

MTP2 level we have two different protocols that translates SS7 into IP. One of them is the MTP2-User Adaptation Layer (M2UA) and the other is MTP2-User Peer-to-Peer Adaptation Layer (M2PA). They both replace the MTP2 protocol, adapting the MTP3 protocol to the SCTP/IP stack.

#### **IUA (ISDN Q.921-User Adaptation Layer)**

The ISDN Q.921-User Adaptation Layer (IUA). The ITU-T recommendation Q.921 defines the data link level protocol used in ISDN signaling, also known as the Link Access Procedures on the D-channel (LAPD). IUA replaces Q.921 and uses SCTP as the transport layer, and provides transparent adaptation to Q.921 users, such as Q.931.



# **User Adaption Layers**

#### **SUA (SCCP-User Adaptation Layer)**

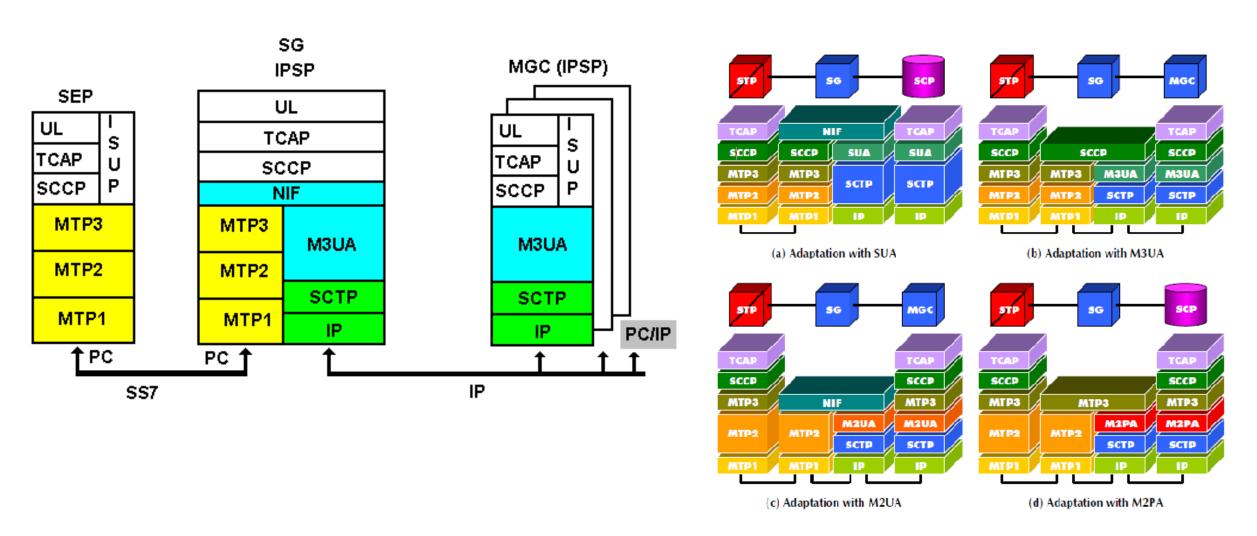
- The SCCP-User Adaptation Layer (SUA) is a protocol designed to transport any SCCP-User signaling (such as TCAP) over IP using SCTP, in a seamless way
- SUA can be used between a Signaling Gateway (SG) and an IP signaling endpoint (a Service Switching Point (SSP) or Service Control Point (SCP)), but can also provide transport of SCCP user information directly between IP endpoints rather than through a SG
- The SG is needed only to assure interoperability with SS7 signaling in the switchedcircuit network. It also supports all the features SCCP protocol supports in the IP network

#### **Nodal Interworking Function (NIF)**

Basically, the NIF serves as an interface between PSTN stack layers and Adoption layers within the SG



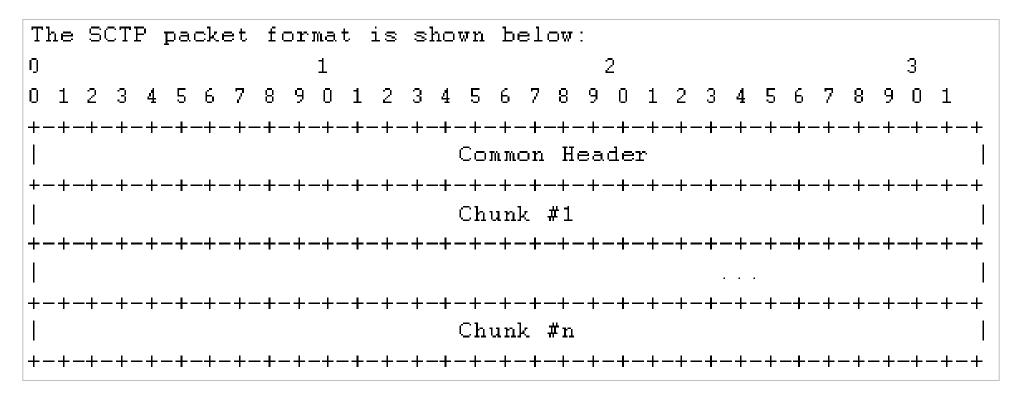
## **Conversion at Signaling Gateway**





### SCTP

- SCTP is a reliable connection-oriented, multi-homing, multi-streaming transport protocols used to carry the application data in an IP network
- SCTP is designed to transport Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) signaling messages over IP networks, but is capable of broader applications by SIGTRAN group to overcome the limitations of TCP such as Head-of-line blocking, Multi-homing and Sync attacks etc.





# SCTP vs TCP vs UDP

Services/Features	SCTP	ТСР	UDP
Connection-oriented	yes	yes	no
Full duplex	yes	yes	yes
Reliable data transfer	yes	yes	no
Partial-reliable data transfer	optional	no	no
Ordered data delivery	yes	yes	no
Unordered data delivery	yes	no	yes
Flow control	yes	yes	no
Congestion control	yes	yes	no
ECN capable	yes	yes	no
Selective ACKs	yes	optional	no
Preservation of message boundaries	yes	no	yes
Path MTU discovery	yes	yes	no
Application PDU fragmentation	yes	yes	no
Application PDU bundling	yes	yes	no
Multistreaming	yes	no	no
Multihoming	yes	no	no
Protection against SYN flooding attacks	yes	no	n/a
Allows half-closed connections	no	yes	n/a
Reachability check	yes	yes	no
Psuedo-header for checksum	no (uses vtags)	yes	yes
Time wait state	for vtags	for 4-tuple	n/a



# **Applications**

- Replaces high cost traditional circuit-switched network with the cheaper IP network
- SIGTRAN associations are capable of delivering high bandwidth in a single connection
- Using SIGTRAN protocols the application vendor like SMSC, HLR, ASG, can support heavy SS7 traffic
- Stack can be used between SG-SG, SG-MGC, SG-IP SCP etc.



### **Hardware and Software**

- Hardware
- Signaling Gateway
- Media Gateway
- Software
- Media Gateway Controller/Softswitch
- Signaling Gateway Simulator/Emulators



### **SIGTRAN Vendors**

- Signaling Gateway Performance Technologies
- SS7 C7 SG Squire Technologies
- MACH7-SIGTRAN Stack that supports SUA, M3UA, M2UA, M2PA, IUA and SCTP Telsys
- HP OpenCallInternet Protocol Signaling Transfer Gateway HP
- OpenCall IP-STG) bridges the next-generation Internet Protocol (IP) and the SS7 networks, enabling service
  providers to connect present and future applications across multiple networks
- Essentra CX Media Gateway Controller VolTec
- Essentra SG signaling gateway and a separate media gateway both controlled by the Essentra CX, this solution enables increased E1/T1 capacity and signaling links
- SIGTRAN Stack i.e. SCTP and User Adaptation called SIGTRAN-BRICKS Netbricks
- SIGTRAN Software Protocol Stack Team UP Telco Solutions
- SIGTRAN Testing Software Simulation and conformance Testing Valid8
- Stinga SS7 simulator SS7 simulation over IP through SIGTRAN (SCTP/M3UA) UTEL Systems
- Media Gateway AudioCodes, Avaya, Cisco etc
- SIGTRAN protocol Analyzer SAFIRE Tracer Plug-In for SIGTRAN Protocol Analysis SAFIRE
- QOS Analyzer for SIGTRAN JDSU
- SIGTRAN Analysys LinKBIT
- The most comprehensive solutions for monitoring and troubleshooting new complex SIGTRAN networks Agilent
   Technologies Inc.

### **SIGTRAN Products**

GL provides comprehensive test tools to test integrated services such as carring both PSTN signaling and Media Over IP Network and testing of PSTN Signaling carried over IP i.e. SIGTRAN using simulation tool s (i.e. MAPS™ SS7 Over IP and MAPS™ ISDN Over IP) and Analysis (SIGTRAN Analyzer). Media Conversion using MGC (i.e. MAPS™ Megaco or MAPS™ MGCP).

- SIGTRAN Analyzer (PKV105)
  - ➤ Supports Detailed analyss of SIGTRAN stack layer such as M2UA, M2PA, M3UA, IUA, SUA and SCTP for ITU, ANSI, ETSI standards
  - ➤ Displays the key fields of SS7 and ISDN Protocols in separate columns
- MAPS™ SS7 SIGTRAN Emulator (PKS130)
  - > SS7 SIGTRAN simulates IP part of Signaling gateway or Softswitch (MGC) carrying ISUP message over IP network using SCTP as transport layer
  - ➤ Its supports ISUP -> M3UA -> SCTP-IP stack
  - Used to Test Signaling Gateway and Softswitch (MGC) or IP SSP
- MAPS™ ISDN SIGTRAN Emulator (PKS135)
  - ➤ ISDN SIGTRAN simulates IP part of Signaling gateway or Softswitch (MGC) carrying ISDN message over IP network using SCTP as transport layer
  - ➤ Its supports ISDN -> IUA -> SCTP-IP stack
  - Used to Test Signaling Gateway and Softswitch (MGC) or IP SSP



# **SIGTRAN Analyzer (PKV105)**



# **SIGTRAN** Analyzer Includes

- Virtual Packet Analysis (VPA) view
- Default panes summary, detail, and hex dump of the frame data views
- Optional panes statistics and call trace views



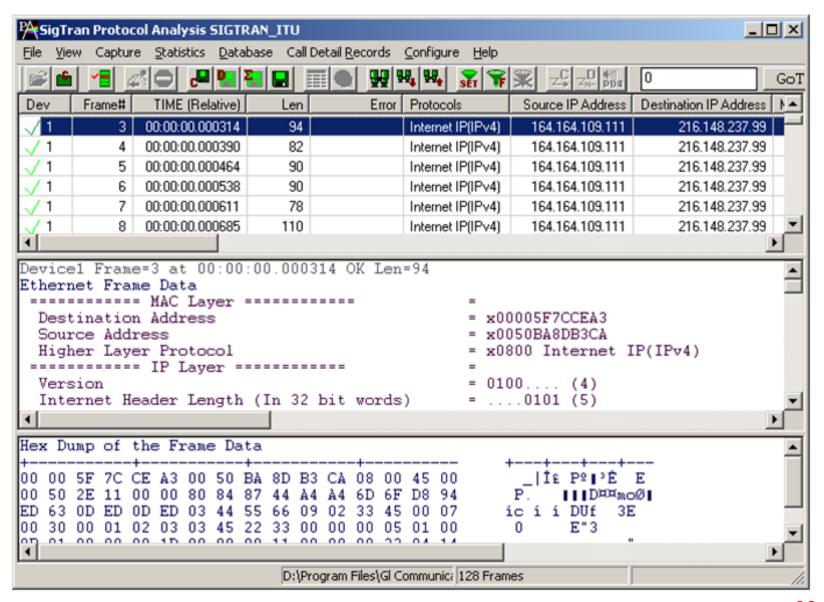
## **Key Features**

- Supports Real-time as well as Off-line analysis
- Summary View displays M2UA Class, M2UA Type, M3UA Type and SUA Class, SUA Type, Called and Calling number, SCCP message type, SSN, INAP information
- Detailed View displays easy to understand decodes of the user-selected frame
- Hex Dump View displays the frame information in HEX and ASCII format
- Statistics View displays call and MSU statistics at any link or entire link set
- Call Trace View isolates call specific information such as status of each call (active/ completed),
   duration of completed call, OPC, DPC, CIC, Called and Calling Party Numbers, and more
- Search and filtering capabilities for both real-time as well as offline analysis
- Provides the 'Capture Filter' option to filter M2UA, M2PA, M3UA and SUA frames on the specified ports



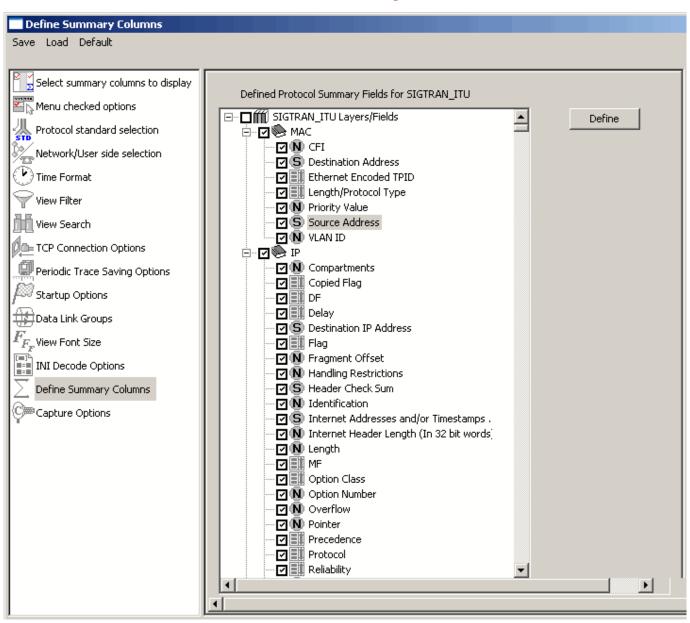
# **Real-Time Analysis**

- Default panes summary, detail, and hex dump of the frame data views
- Optional panes statistics and call trace views



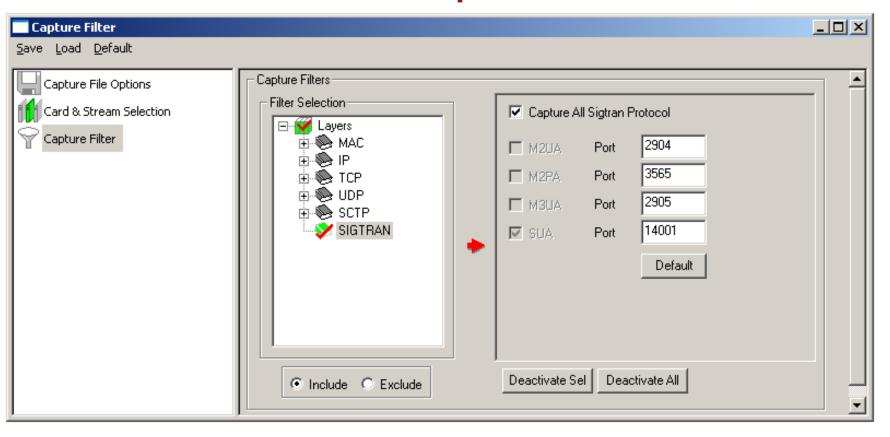


# **Define Summary Column**



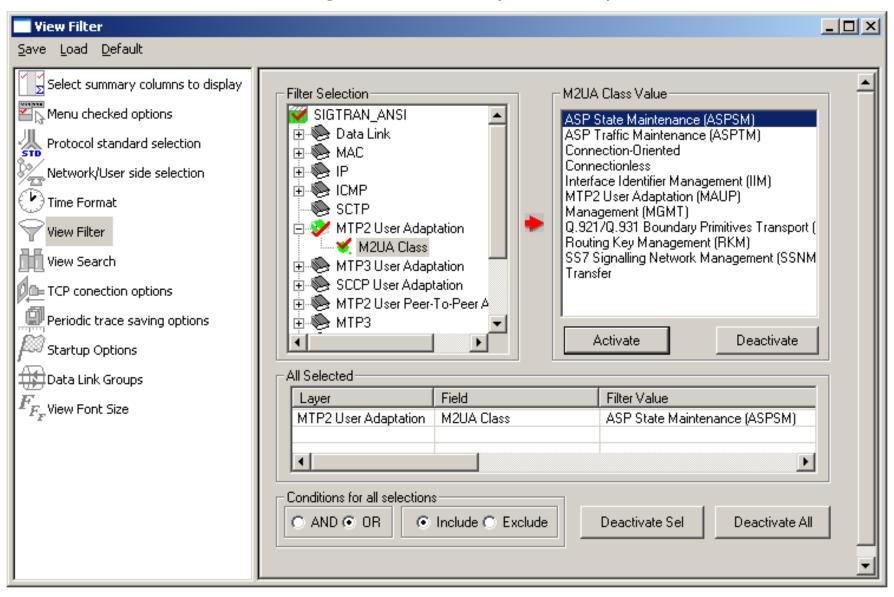


# **Real-Time Capture Filter**



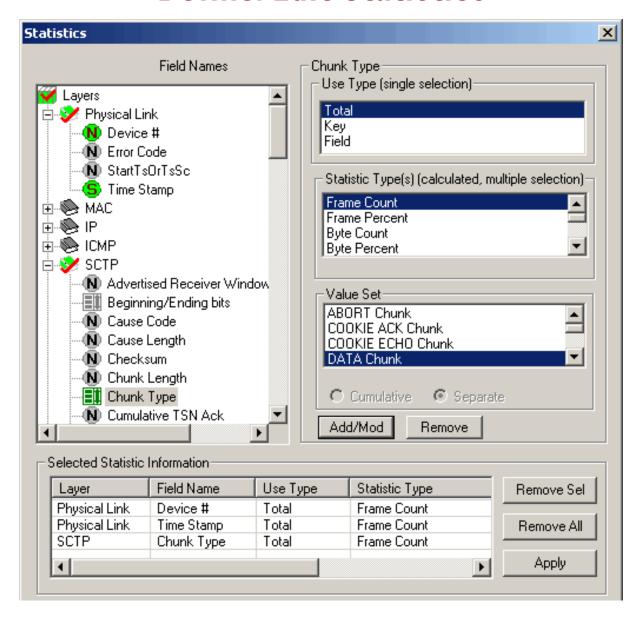


# **Display Filter (Offline)**



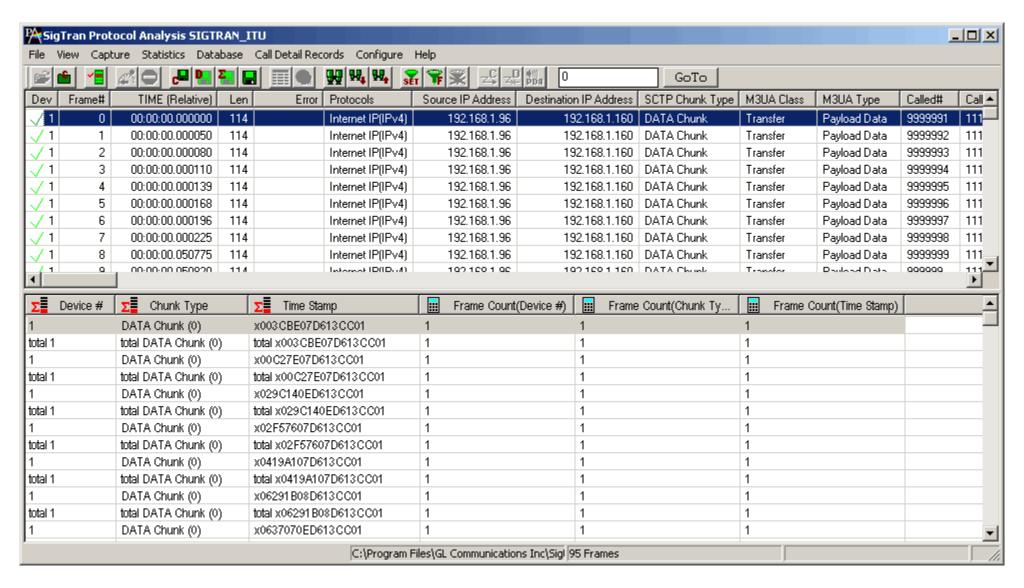


#### **Define/Edit Statistics**



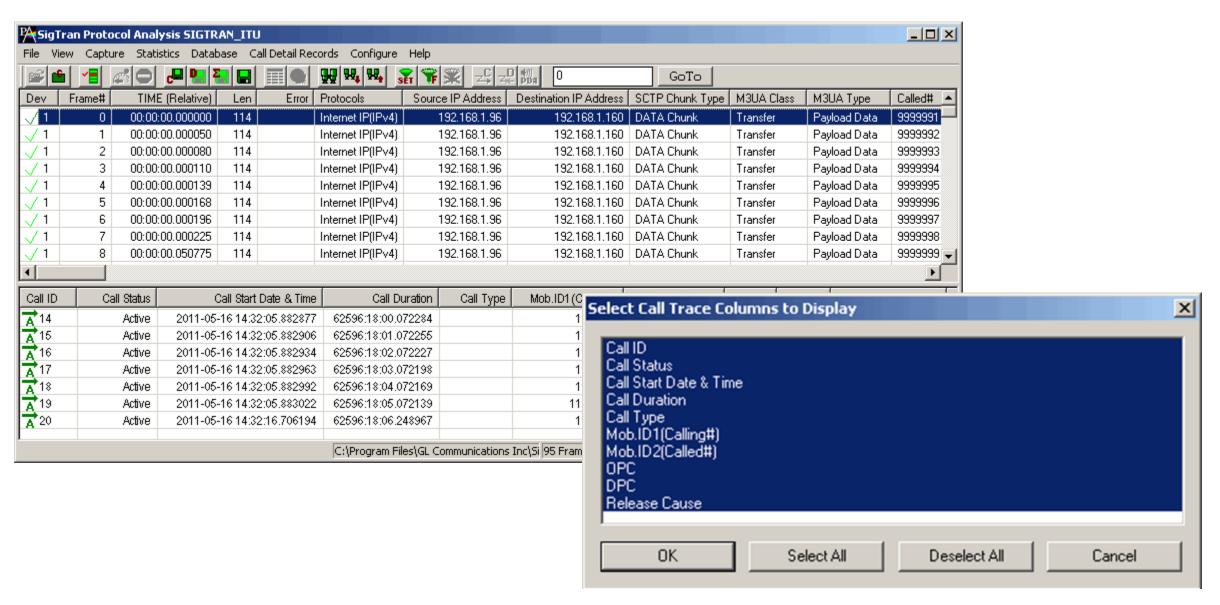


### **Statistics View**





#### **Call Detail Records**

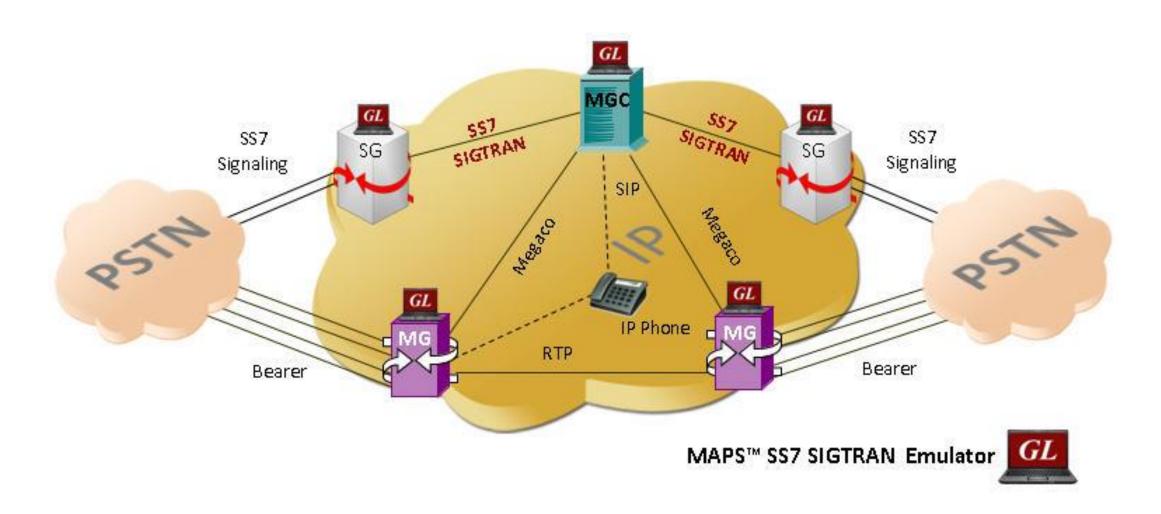




# MAPS™ SS7 SIGTRAN Emulator (PKS130)



# MAPS™ - SIGTRAN (SS7 over IP)





## MAPS™ - SIGTRAN Key Features

- SS7 simulation over IP
- User-friendly GUI for configuring the SS7 M3UA Layers
- User Configurable Signaling Links
- Supports M3UA and SCTP protocol machine
- Multiple M3UA links
- Access to all ISUP Message Parameters Initial Address, Subsequent Address, Release messages, and more
- User controlled access to optional ISUP parameters such as timers
- Subsequent Address Message (SAM) configurations available
- Fully Supported Continuity Testing (COT) that includes both COT messages
- Logging of all SS7 Messages in real time. Each SS7 message displays CIC values defined within the message



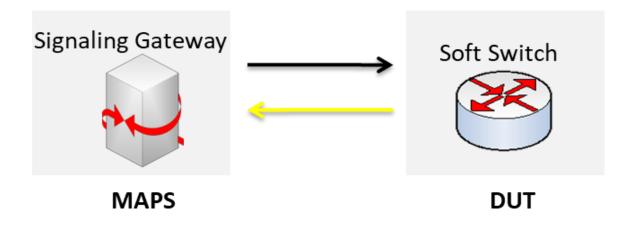
# **Supported Protocol Standards**

Supported Protocols	Standard / Specification Used	
SS7 SIGTRAN		
ISUP ITU	ITU - Q.761, Q.762, Q.763 and Q.764	
ISUP Conformance testing	ITU - Q.784.1	
ISUP ANSI	ANSI - T1.113.1 to T1.113.4	
ISUP UK	ND1007:2007/01 TSG/SPEC/007	
M3UA ITU	RFC 3332	
M3UA ANSI	RFC 3332	
M2PA	RFC 4165	
M2UA	RFC 3331	

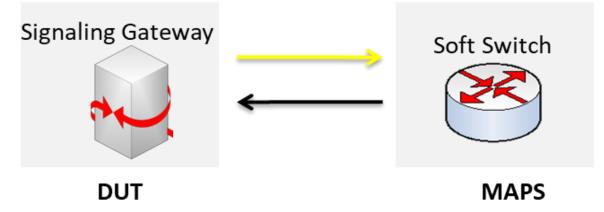


# MAPS™ - SS7 SIGTRAN Configuration

#### Scenario: MAPS™ acting as Signaling Gateway

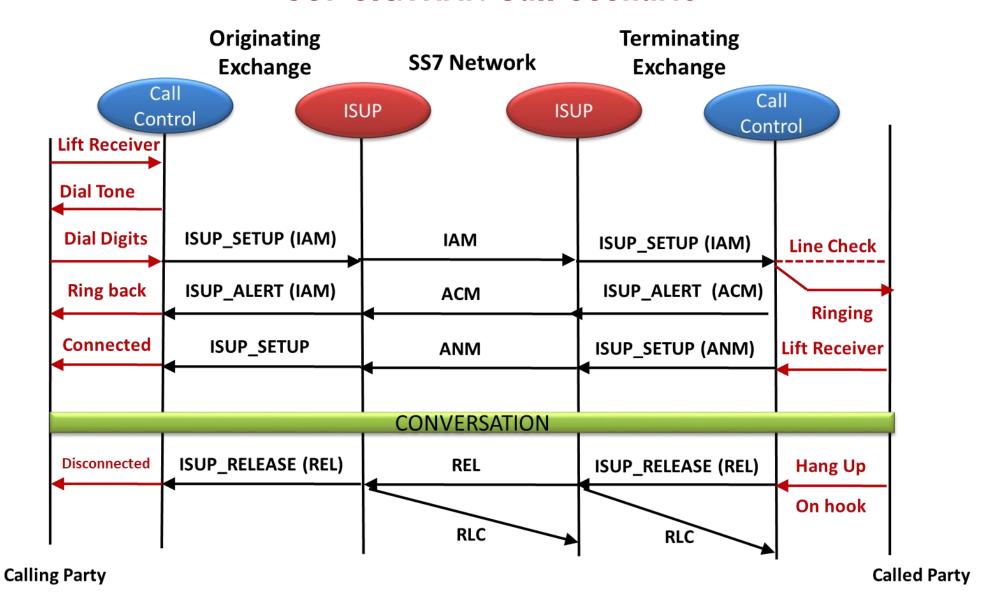


#### Scenario: MAPS™ acting as Soft switch



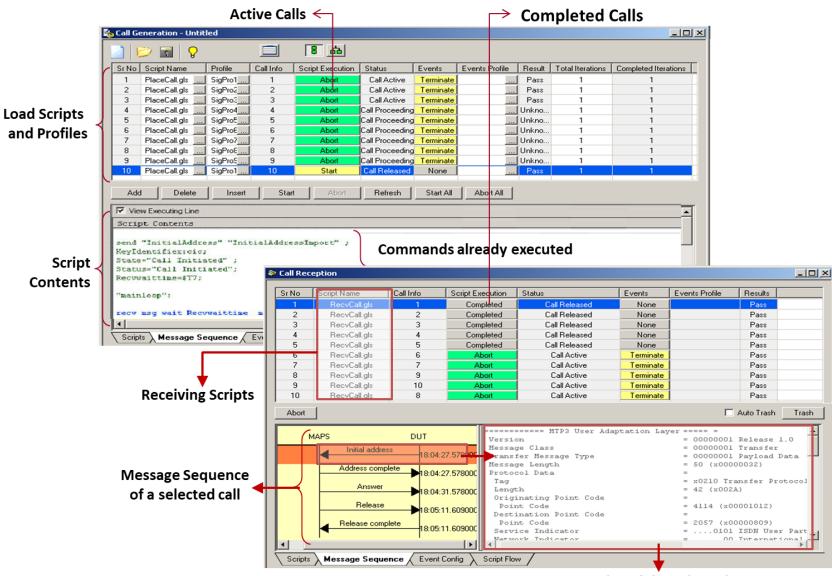


### SS7 SIGTRAN Call Scenario





# MAPS™ SS7 SIGTRAN- Call Generation and Reception

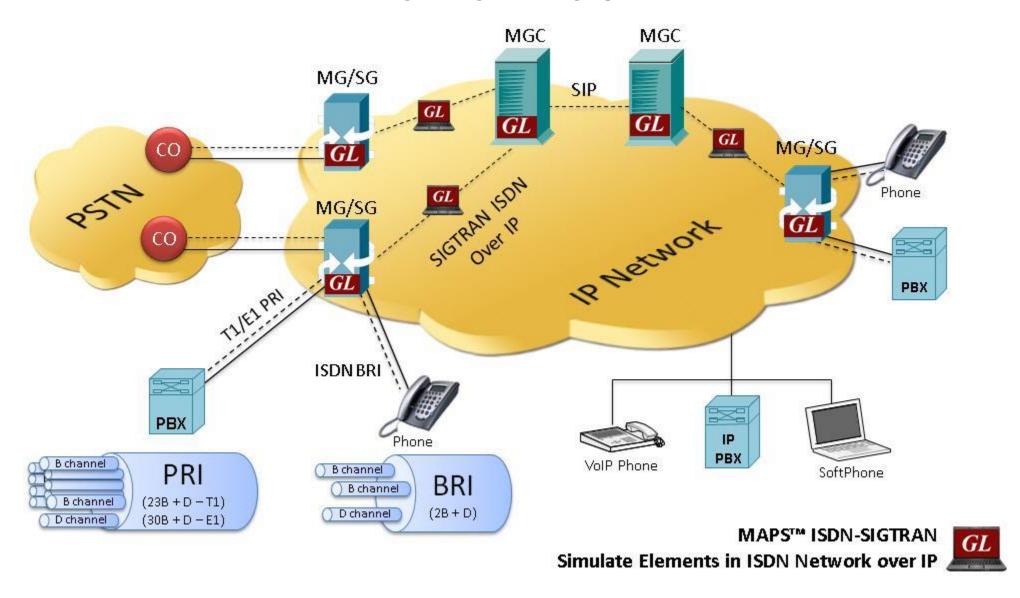




# MAPS™ ISDN SIGTRAN Emulator (PKS135)



### MAPS™ ISDN - SIGTRAN





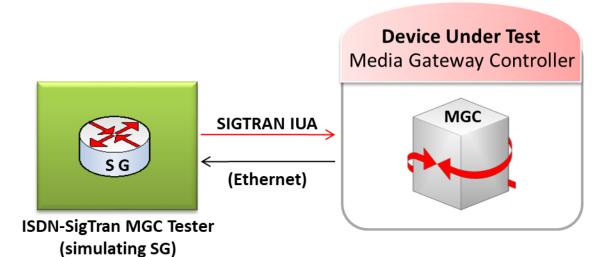
## MAPS™ ISDN SIGTRAN Key Features

- Simulates ISDN signaling over IP (ISDN-SIGTRAN)
- Generates and process all ISDN messages such as Setup, Connect, Release messages, and more
- Switch and Subscriber Emulation
- User controlled access to optional ISDN parameters such as timers
- Provides various release cause codes such as rejected, no user response, user busy, congested, and so on to troubleshoot the problems in ISDN
- Impairments can be applied to messages to simulate error conditions
- Supports scripted call generation and automated call reception

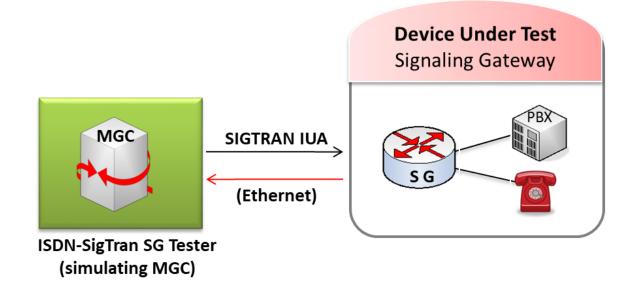


# MAPS™ ISDN SIGTRAN Configuration

Scenario: MAPS™ acting as MGC

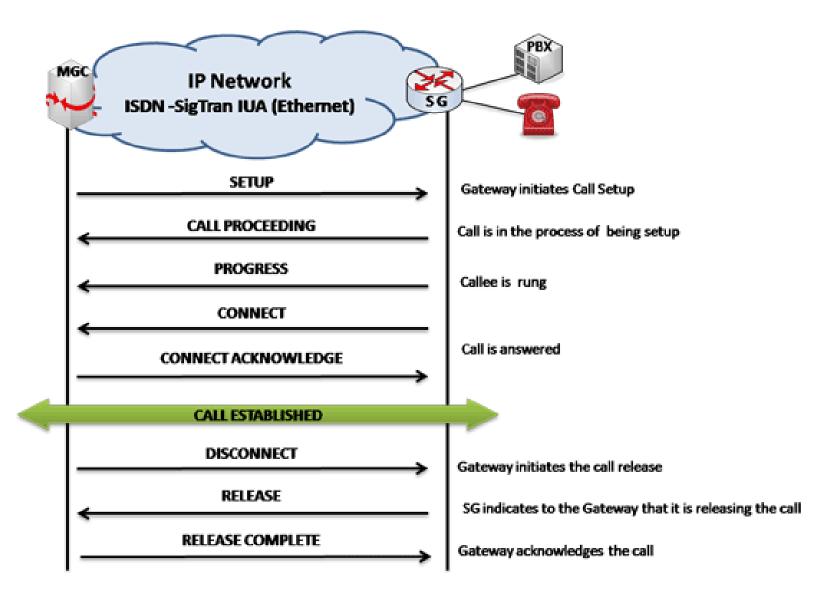


Scenario: MAPS™ acting as Signaling GW



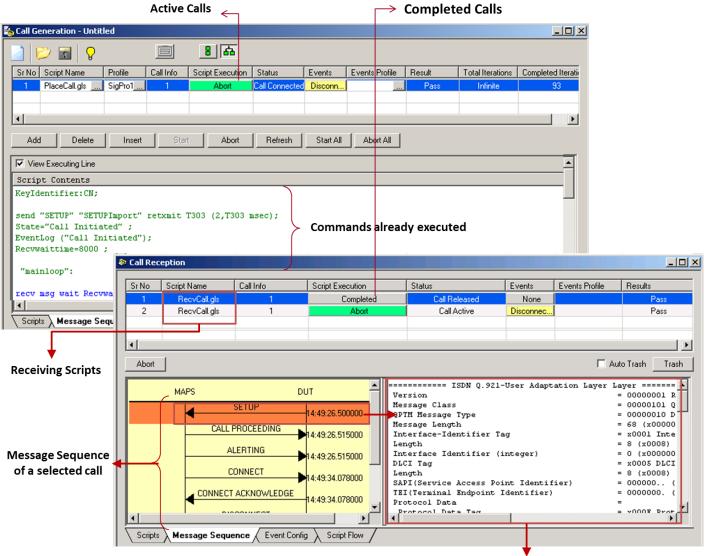


### ISDN SIGTRAN Call Scenario





# MAPS™ - ISDN SIGTRAN Call Generation & Reception





# **Buyer's Guide**

Item No.	Item Description	
PKV100	PacketScan™ Software (required)	
PKV105	SIGTRAN Analyzer Software (optional)	
PKS130	MAPS™ SIGTRAN (SS7 simulation over IP)	
PKS135	MAPS™ ISDN SIGTRAN (ISDN over IP)	
XX120	SS7 Analyzer Software (T1 or E1)	
XX100	ISDN Analysis Software (T1 or E1)	
XX649	MAPS™ SS7 (requires xx600)	
XX648	MAPS™ ISDN (requires xx600)	



# Thank You

