CLAIMS

1. A communication method, comprising:

receiving, at a packet data convergence protocol, PDCP, layer, a first data unit and a second data unit, wherein the first data unit corresponds to a first number, the second data unit corresponds to a second number, and the second number is larger than the first number;

discarding the first data unit when a discard timer corresponding to the first data unit expires and the first data unit is not submitted by a radio link control, RLC, layer of the first apparatus to a lower layer of the RLC layer, and wherein the RLC lyaer is a lower layer of the PDCP layer; and

triggering first information by a first PDCP entity when the first data unit is discarded, wherein the first information indicates that a data unit is discarded and the first PDCP entity is an entity in the PDCP layer.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein triggering first information by a first PDCP entity when the first data unit is discarded comprises:

triggering the first information by the first PDCP entity when the first data unit is discarded and the second data unit is not discarded.

3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the first information indicates that M data units are discarded, the M data units comprise the first data unit, and M is a positive integer.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the first information indicates M numbers, and the M numbers are numbers corresponding to the M data units.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the first information comprises the 1st number in the M numbers.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein when M is larger than 1, the first information further comprises a first bitmap, a 1st bit in the first bitmap corresponds to a next neighboring number of the 1st number in the M numbers, and last M–1 numbers in the M numbers are determined based on bits whose values are a first value in the first bitmap.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein that the last M–1 numbers in the M numbers are determined based on the bits whose values are the first value in the first bitmap comprises:

when a value of a bit in the first bitmap is the first value, a data unit corresponding to the bit is discarded; and/or when a value of a bit in the first bitmap is a second value, a data unit corresponding to the bit is not discarded, wherein the first value and the second value are different.

8. The method according to claim 6 or 7, wherein bits in the first bitmap correspond, in ascending order of numbers, to the next neighboring number of the 1st number in the M numbers and one or more subsequent numbers.

9. The method according to claim 3, wherein the first number is a count value;

the second number is a count value; and/or,

the M numbers are M count values.

10. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the first data unit is a service data unit, SDU, or a protocol data unit, PDU.

11. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the second data unit is a service data unit, SDU, or a protocol data unit, PDU.

12. A communication apparatus including modules configured to implement the method according to any one of claims 1 to 11.

13. The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the communication apparatus comprises a user equipment, UE, or a chip.

14. A computer-readable storage medium, wherein the computer-readable storage medium stores a computer program or instructions; and when the computer program or the instructions are executed, the method according to any one of claims 1 to 11 is implemented.

15. A computer program product, wherein the computer program product comprises a computer program or instructions; and when the a computer program or instructions are run on a communication apparatus, the method according to any one of claims 1 to 11 is implemented.