

**Digital TV
Rigs and Recipes
Part 3
DVB-S**

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3 Introduction

For optimal transmission, data not only has to be coded to MPEG2 (Motion Picture Experts Group), which reduces the data rate of the ITU-R BT.601 interface from 270 Mbit/s to typically 3 Mbit/s to 5 Mbit/s, but also subjected to a special type of modulation (see "Digital TV Rigs and Recipes" – Part 1 "ITU-R BT.601/656 and MPEG2"). A comparison of analog modulation with the modulation used in digital video broadcasting (DVB) reveals that DVB modulation yields a flat spectrum with a constant average power density across the channel bandwidth.

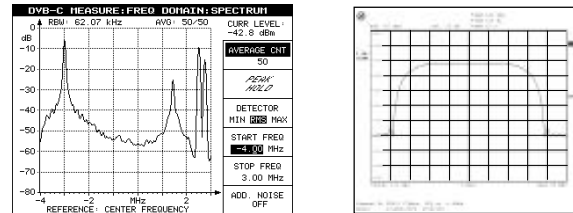


Fig. 3.1 Comparison of B/G PAL spectrum and DVB-S spectrum

This modulation mode results in optimal utilization of the transmission channel in all DVB modes, i.e. DVB-C (cable), DVB-S (satellite) and DVB-T (terrestrial). In this chapter, the special characteristics of DVB-S will be discussed.

3.1 DVB-S Modulation (Satellite) to EN 300 421

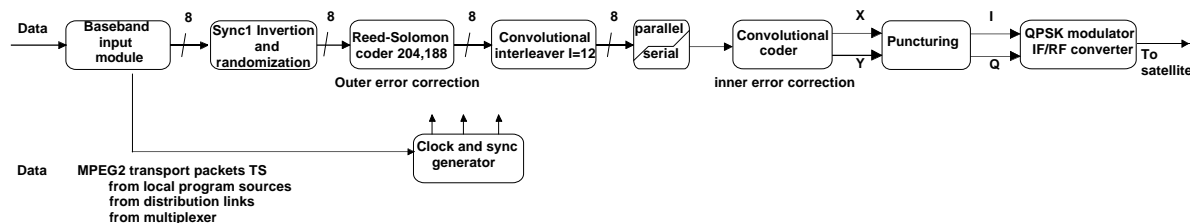


Fig. 3.2 Block diagram of DVB-S modulator/converter

3.1.1 Baseband Input Module

The MPEG2 transport stream (TS) packets are routed to the "DVB room" of the "digital TV house" via one of the following interfaces (see also "Digital TV Rigs and Recipes" – Part 1 "ITU-R BT.601/656 and MPEG2", "Introduction"):

- SPI (synchronous parallel interface)
- ASI (asynchronous serial interface)
- SSI (synchronous serial interface)
- SDTI (serial digital transport interface)
- HDB3 (high density bipolar of order 3)
- ATM (asynchronous transfer mode)

The baseband input module reconstructs the original TS data, optimizes return loss, and corrects amplitude and phase response versus frequency. It supplies all the required information to the clock and sync generator block, which acts as a central clock generator for all blocks of the DVB modulator. Information includes, for example, the data rate, which is derived from the incoming TS data, and in the case of the SPI interface, also sync byte signalling for the TS packet and data valid signalling via the data valid line. The reconstructed TS packets are taken from the baseband input module to the next block, i.e. sync word inversion and randomization.

3.1.2 Sync Word Inversion and Randomization for Energy Dispersal

After the input module, the TS packets undergo the first processing step: sync word inversion and randomization for energy dispersal.

Data randomization – or rather scrambling – ensures a constant average output level of the modulator signal.

The PRBS polynomial $1 + x^{14} + x^{15}$ disperses the data, but not the sync words (0x47), of the TS packets (for TS packet structure refer to "Digital TV Rigs and Recipes" – Part 1 "ITU-R BT.601/656 and MPEG2", section 1.8 "Transport Stream (TS)"). The polynomial has a length of 1503 bytes. This exactly corresponds to eight TS packets minus the bitwise inverted sync word of the first TS packet, whose value is now 0xB8. The 15-bit PRBS register is loaded with the sequence 100101010000000 after each 8-packet cycle. The inverted sync word marks the beginning of the randomized sequence.

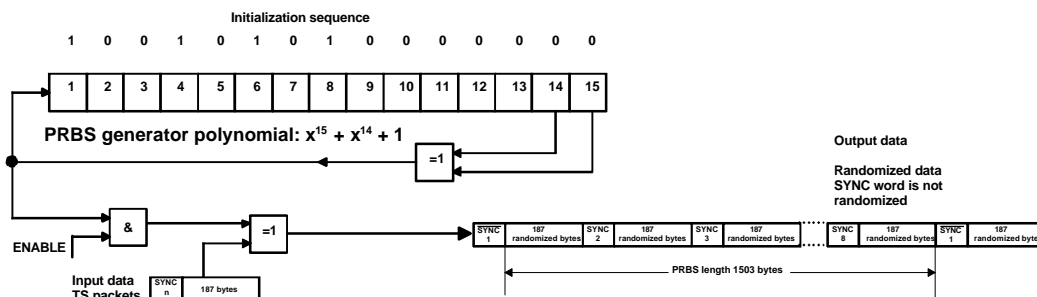


Fig. 3.3 Sync 1 inversion and randomization

This TS processing step is identical for the three DVB systems, cf Part 2 "DVB-C" and Part 4 "DVB-T".

This TS processing step, too, is identical for the three DVB systems, cf Part 2 "DVB-C" and Part 4 "DVB-T".

Sync word inversion and randomization

PRBS polynomial	$x^{15} + x^{14} + 1$
Initialization of PRBS register	100101010000000
Length of polynomial	1503 bytes
Length of randomized sequence	1503 bytes + inverted sync byte = 8 TS packets
Sync word	0x47
Bitwise inverted sync word	0xB8

Table 3.1

RS FEC

TS packet length	188 + 16 = 204 bytes
Correction	Up to 8 errored bytes per TS packet
Corrective capacity	BER of $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ to $1 \cdot 10^{-11}$

Table 3.2 Reed-Solomon forward error correction

3.1.3 Reed-Solomon (RS) Forward Error Correction (FEC)

Following randomization, 16 error control bytes are appended to the TS packets, which are thus enlarged to 204 bytes.

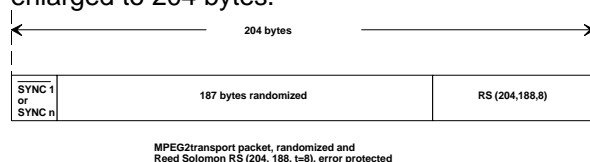


Fig. 3.4 204, 188, t = 8 Reed-Solomon error control coding

Using Reed-Solomon (204, 188, t = 8) error control coding, up to eight errored bytes per TS packet can be corrected in the receiver/decoder. Moreover, a bit-error ratio (BER) of $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ can be corrected to obtain a quasi-error-free (QEF) data stream with residual BER of $< 1 \cdot 10^{-11}$.

Note:

The BER of $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ is used as a reference in all quality measurements in digital TV (DTV).

3.1.4 Convolutional Interleaver

Transmission errors usually corrupt not only a single bit but many bits following it in the data stream. Consequently the designation error burst, which may comprise up to several hundred bits. The bits may even be deleted. The Reed-Solomon correction capacity of eight bytes per TS packet is insufficient in such cases. So an interleaver is used to insert at least 12 bytes (the convolutional interleaver has 12 branches, see Fig. 3.5) and at most 2244 bytes from other TS packets between neighbouring bytes of a TS packet. This allows burst errors of max. $12 \times 8 = 96$ bytes to be corrected if only eight or fewer errored bytes per TS packet occur after the deinterleaver in the receiver/decoder.

Interleaver

Branches	$I = 12$
Memory depth of FIFOs	$M = 17 (= 204 / I)$ bytes
Sync bytes	Always routed in branch 0

Table 3.3

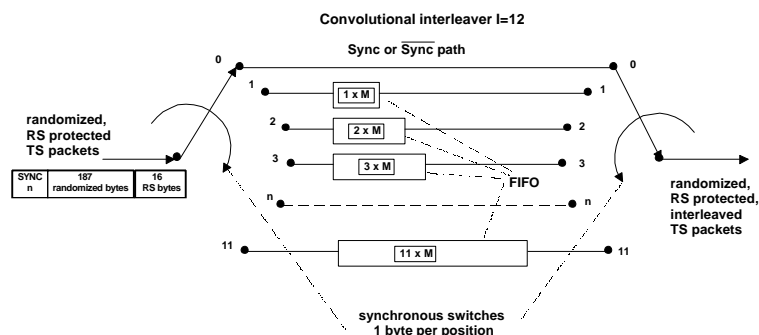


Fig. 3.5 Convolutional interleaver

This TS processing step, too, is identical for the three DVB systems, cf Part 2 "DVB-C" and Part 4 "DVB-T".

After the convolutional interleaver, TS processing is different for the different DVB standards.

3.1.5 Convolutional Coder

In DVB-S, further error protection is added to the TS data by means of convolutional coding and (Viterbi) decoding. This additional forward error protection is necessary because DVB-S signals are subject to additional interference during transmission in the form of atmospheric disturbances. Unlike DVB-C transmission, which relies on a fixed cable network with constant conditions, DVB-S transmission quality may be seriously impaired, for example by rain clouds gathering or a thunderstorm coming up. Yet, DVB-S should provide a clearly better reception quality than analog satellite systems. This is achieved through the second FEC, which is implemented by means of the convolutional coder in the DVB-S modulator.

The convolutional coder has the following characteristics:

Length (constraint length)	$k = 7$
Generator polynomials	$G1 = 171 \text{ OCT (X)}$ and $G2 = 133 \text{ OCT (Y)}$

Table 3.4 Data of convolutional coder

The generator polynomials determine the outputs at the shift register with $k = 7$.

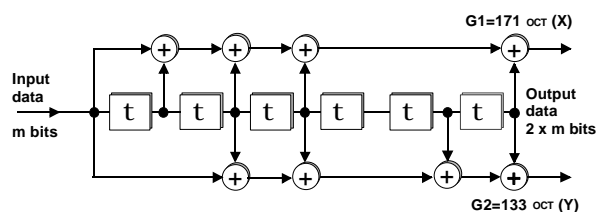


Fig. 3.6 Convolutional coder in DVB

From k bit input data, $2 \times k$ bit output data is obtained, i.e. the useful data rate decreases by a factor of 2. To reduce this high redundancy at least in part, the output data is punctured, i.e. defined bits of the output data are deleted to reduce the output data rate.

3.1.6 Puncturing Scheme

The bit-serial data is doubled between the input and the output of the convolutional coder. The scheme shown below illustrates what bits of the X or Y output are deleted, how the remaining bits are sorted into two continuous data streams applied to the I and Q inputs of the DVB-S QPSK (quadrature phase shift keying) modulator, and the code rate P (also referred to as puncturing rate).

The Viterbi decoder of the DVB-S receiver can improve the BER based on the remaining redundancy. The code rate indicates the ratio of input data rate to output data rate. Possible values are given in Fig. 3.7. The combined use of Viterbi FEC and RS FEC permits an input BER of about 2×10^{-2} at the DVB-S receiver, depending on the code rate.

The Viterbi decoder corrects the bit error ratio to

$$\text{BER} \leq 2 \cdot 10^{-4}$$
and
the RS FEC to

$$\text{BER} \leq 1 \cdot 10^{-11}$$

Note:

The BER of $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ before RS FEC is the reference value in all measurements of transmission quality.

Up to this point, the processing steps for DVB-S and DVB-T are almost the same. Both use a convolutional coder. The difference is in the sorting of the punctured bits: with DVB-S the two outputs are directly applied to the I and Q inputs of the modulator, whereas the DVB-T coder has a bit-serial output.

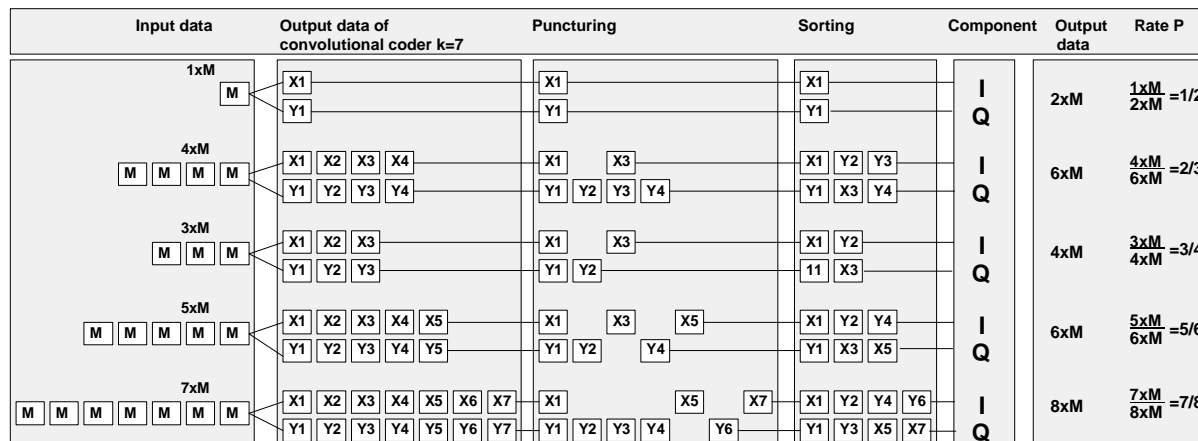


Fig. 3.7 DVB-S puncturing scheme

3.1.7 I and Q Components

Two bits – of the I and Q output data streams of the puncturing block – are mapped into a DVB-S symbol. This means that each symbol carries two bits of information. Gray coding is used to allocate the bits to the respective points of the constellation diagram. This is illustrated by the figure below:

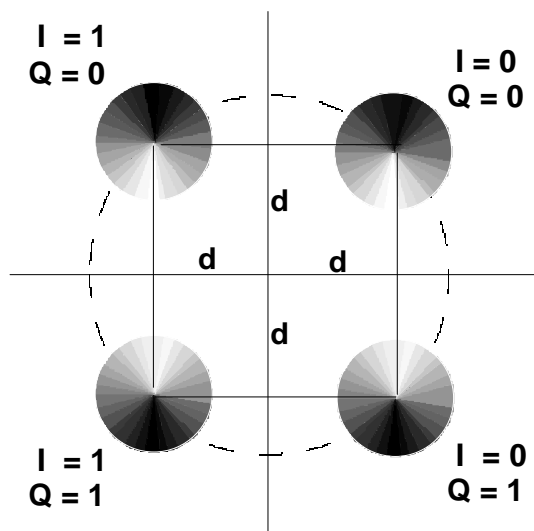


Fig. 3.8 QPSK constellation diagram

The symbols at the output of the DVB-S modulator are $\sqrt{\cos}$ roll-off filtered analog pulses with a spectrum approximating a $\sin(x)/x$ function and two amplitude levels each for the I and the Q component. The resulting signals, therefore, have a defined flat spectrum (see Fig. 3.1, right, and section 3.3 "QPSK Spectrum for DVB-S").

A symbol consists of a pair of I and Q values arranged orthogonally through modulation. "I" stands for the inphase and "Q" for the quadrature component.

3.2 DVB-S Signal Bandwidth

The symbols are $\sqrt{\cos}$ roll-off filtered analog pulses similar to a $\sin(x)/x$ function with a 3 dB bandwidth B in Hz corresponding to half the symbol rate S in symbols/s. The roll-off factor for DVB-S is $r = 0.35$. After double-sideband modulation, the signal bandwidth is obtained as the symbol rate in Hz.

The bit rate R in Mbit/s of the TS packets can be converted to the symbol rate of a QPSK system by the following equation:

$$S = R \cdot \frac{204}{188} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{P} \text{ Msymb/s} \quad \text{Equation 3.1}$$

The factor 204/188 takes into account Reed-Solomon error control coding; P takes into account the effect of puncturing.

In satellite transmission, the bit rate

$$R = 38.014706 \text{ Mbit/s}$$

is frequently used. This results in a Nyquist bandwidth f_N of

$$f_N = S = 27.5 \text{ MHz}$$

for the QPSK symbols, applying the code rate of $P = 3/4$ commonly used in DVB-S.

The required bandwidth B_T for the transponder channel is calculated from the symbol rate and the roll-off factor as follows:

$$B_T = S \cdot (1 + r) \text{ MHz}$$

For a roll-off factor of 0.35, the following transponder bandwidth is obtained:

$$B_{\text{transponder}} = 27.5 \cdot 1.35 = 37.125 \text{ MHz}$$

The new 1E generation of Astra satellites offers 36 MHz transponder bandwidth. This extends the 33 MHz bandwidth of Astra satellites 1A to 1D by 3 MHz, but still does not match the preferable DVB-S symbol rate of 27.5 Msymb/s. Investigations were, therefore, carried out with the aim of reducing the roll-off factor. It was found that a roll-off factor of 0.28 or 0.25 in the DVB-S modulator has hardly any impact on the demodulated signal in the DVB-S receiver. For this reason, a roll-off factor of 0.27 is mostly used today.

Applying a roll-off factor of 0.27, the following transponder bandwidth is obtained:

$$B_{\text{transponder}} = 27.5 \cdot 1.27 = 34.925 \text{ MHz} \\ \text{i.e. } < 36 \text{ MHz}$$

For the 33 MHz transponders, lower symbol rates are defined. The maximum possible symbol rate in compliance with DVB-S specifications is:

$$S = 33 / 1.35 = 24.444 \text{ Msymb/s}$$

3.3 QPSK Spectrum for DVB-S

The European Standard EN 300 421 defines the tolerances of the DVB-S spectrum as follows:

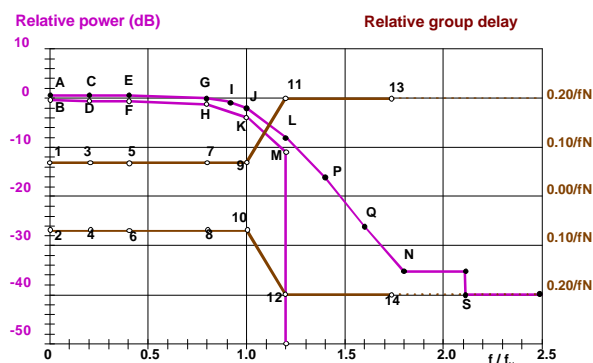


Fig. 3.9 DVB-S spectrum

Definition of points shown in Fig. 3.9

Relative power, upper tolerance limit		
Point	Frequency	Relative power (dB)
A	$0.0 \cdot f_N$	+0.25
C	$0.2 \cdot f_N$	+0.25
E	$0.4 \cdot f_N$	+0.25
G	$0.8 \cdot f_N$	+0.15
I	$0.9 \cdot f_N$	-0.50
J	$1.0 \cdot f_N$	-2.00
L	$1.2 \cdot f_N$	-8.00
P	$1.4 \cdot f_N$	-16.00
Q	$1.6 \cdot f_N$	-24.00
N	$1.8 \cdot f_N$	-35.00
S	$2.12 \cdot f_N$	-40.00
Relative power, lower tolerance limit		
B	$0.0 \cdot f_N$	-0.25
D	$0.2 \cdot f_N$	-0.40
F	$0.4 \cdot f_N$	-0.40
H	$0.8 \cdot f_N$	-1.10
K	$1.0 \cdot f_N$	-4.00
M	$1.2 \cdot f_N$	-11.00

Relative group delay *, upper tolerance limit		
Point	Frequency	Relative group delay
1	$0.0 \cdot f_N$	$+0.07 / f_N$
3	$0.2 \cdot f_N$	$+0.07 / f_N$
5	$0.4 \cdot f_N$	$+0.07 / f_N$
7	$0.8 \cdot f_N$	$+0.07 / f_N$
9	$0.9 \cdot f_N$	$+0.07 / f_N$
11	$1.0 \cdot f_N$	$+0.07 / f_N$
13	$1.2 \cdot f_N$	$+0.2 / f_N$
Relative group delay *, lower tolerance limit		
2	$0.0 \cdot f_N$	$-0.07 / f_N$
4	$0.2 \cdot f_N$	$-0.07 / f_N$
6	$0.4 \cdot f_N$	$-0.07 / f_N$
8	$0.8 \cdot f_N$	$-0.07 / f_N$
10	$0.9 \cdot f_N$	$-0.07 / f_N$
12	$1.0 \cdot f_N$	$-0.07 / f_N$
14	$1.2 \cdot f_N$	$-0.2 / f_N$

*) The numerical values are expressed as (group delay $\cdot f_N$), i.e. for a "normal" satellite channel with 27.5 Msymb/s the group delay of $\tau \leq 5.1$ ns is defined up to the Nyquist frequency.

Table 3.5 DVB-S spectrum

3.4 $\sqrt{\cos}$ Filtering

The symbols shaped by $\sqrt{\cos}$ filters in the transmitter and the receiver yield a spectrum similar to a $\sin(x)/x$ function with a constant amplitude- and group-delay frequency response.

$\sqrt{\cos}$ filtering in the transmitter and the receiver, therefore, produces spectrum edges as shown in Fig. 3.11 "Spectrum obtained by cos roll-off filtering". The degree of approximation to an ideal $\sin(x)/x$ spectrum depends on the selected roll-off factor. The smaller this factor, the better the approximation to an ideal $\sin(x)/x$ spectrum.

Plotting the level along a linear scale, the following theoretical spectrum is obtained at the output of the DVB-S modulator:

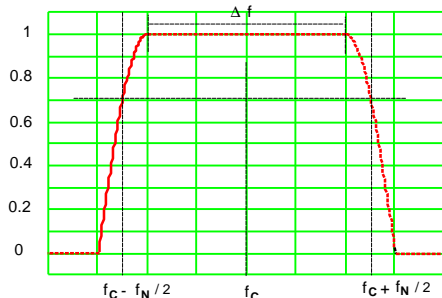


Fig. 3.10 Spectrum obtained by $\sqrt{\cos}$ filtering

Clearly discernible are the steep edges at low levels at the left and right boundaries of the spectrum produced by $\sqrt{\cos}$ filtering. Attenuation at the Nyquist frequencies of $f_c \pm f_N/2$ is 3 dB. The roll-off factor r is the ratio of the Nyquist bandwidth to the flat "rooftop" of the spectrum.

$$r = \frac{f_N}{\Delta f} - 1$$

$\sqrt{\cos}$ filtering in the transmitter and the receiver yields the cos roll-off edges:

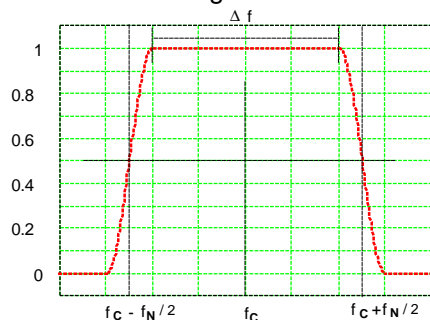


Fig. 3.11 Spectrum obtained by cos roll-off filtering

It can be seen that after cos filtering the edges at low levels at the left and right boundaries of the spectrum are flatter and rounder. Attenuation at the Nyquist frequencies of $f_c \pm f_N/2$ is now 6 dB.

To illustrate this, Fig. 3.12 shows the $\sqrt{\cos}$ and cos filter edges in greater detail:

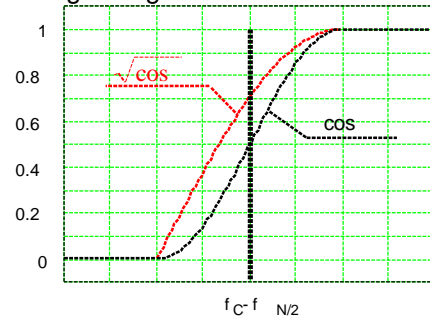


Fig. 3.12 Edges obtained with $\sqrt{\cos}$ roll-off and cos roll-off filtering

The combined filtering in the transmitter and the receiver serves two purposes:

1. optimal approximation to an ideal $\sin(x)/x$ spectrum and thus a flat useful spectrum;
2. signal filtering in the receiver and thus useful channel selection.

3.5 DVB-S Key Data

Modulation		QPSK
Symbol form		similar to $\sin(x)/x$, $\sqrt{\cos}$ roll-off filtered
Roll-off factor		0.35 (0.28, 0.25)
Most frequently used bit rate R	Mbit/s	38.014706
Symbol rate S	Msymb/s	$S = R \cdot \frac{204}{188} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{P}$
Most frequently used symbol rates S	Msymb/s	27.5 (at 36 MHz bandwidth) 24.44 (at 33 MHz bandwidth)

Table 3.6

3.6 Measurements in DVB-S Systems

An MPEG2 multiplexer or MPEG2 generator supplies video, audio and other data in the form of TS (transport stream) packets with a defined data rate R.

TV Test Transmitter SFQ modulates this data as required for the following standards:

DVB-C (digital video broadcasting – cable),
DVB-S (digital video broadcasting – satellite),
DVB-T (digital video broadcasting – terrestrial),
ATSC with 8VSB (advanced television systems committee with eight-level trellis-coded vestigial sideband)

and the American cable standard
ITU-T Rec. J.83/B.

TV Test Transmitter SFL was designed specially for applications in production. It comes in five models tailored to the above standards:

SFL-C for DVB-C (EN 300 429)
SFL-S for DVB-S (EN 300 421, EN 301 210)
SFL-T for DVB-T (EN 300 744)
SFL-V for ATSC/8VSB
SFL-J for ITU-T Rec. J.83/B

To optimally adapt to the TS signal parameters, TV Test Transmitters SFQ and SFL measure the data rate of the input transport stream and convert it to the current symbol rate as appropriate for the modulation mode used, or the data rate is calculated from a predefined symbol rate. Then the data is modulated in compliance with the DTV (digital television) standard in question and transposed to the RF.

For measurements to the DTV standards, SFQ and SFL modulate the TS data stream strictly in accordance with DTV specifications. Apart from this, defined modulation errors can be introduced into the ideal signal, so creating reproducible signal degradation. Such stress signals are indispensable in DTV receiver tests to determine system limits.



TV Test Transmitter SFQ

Condensed data of SFQ

Frequency range	0.3 MHz to 3.3 GHz
Level range	-99.9 dBm to +4 dBm
MPEG2 inputs	ASI SPI TS PARALLEL
Error simulation	
I/Q amplitude imbalance	±25 %
I/Q phase error	±10 °
Residual carrier	0 % to 50 %
Special functions	scrambler, Reed-Solomon, all interleavers can be switched off
DVB-C	
Modulation	16QAM, 32QAM, 64QAM, 128QAM, 256QAM
DVB-S	
Modulation	QPSK
Code rate	1/2, 2/3, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8
DVB-T	
Modulation	QPSK, 16QAM, 64QAM
	non-hierarchical, hierarchical
FFT mode	8k and 2k
Bandwidth	6 MHz, 7 MHz, 8 MHz
Puncturing	1/2, 2/3, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8
ATSC	
Modulation	8VSB
Bandwidth	6 MHz
Data rate	19.392658 Mbit/s ±10 %
Symbol rate	10.762 Msymbol/s ±10 %
Internal test signals	null TS packets, null PRBS packets PRBS (2 ²³ - 1 and 2 ¹⁵ - 1)
Options	fading simulator, noise generator, input interface, BER measurement, turbocoding

Condensed data of SFL-S

Frequency range	0.3 MHz to 3.3 GHz
Level range	-140 dBm to 0 dBm
MPEG2 inputs	ASI SPI TS PARALLEL
Error simulation	
I/Q amplitude imbalance	±25 %
I/Q quadrature offset (phase offset)	±10 °
Residual carrier	0 % to 50 %
Special functions	scrambler, Reed-Solomon, all interleavers can be switched off
Modulation	QPSK, 8PSK, 16QAM
Internal test signals	null TS packets, null PRBS packets PRBS (2 ²³ - 1 and 2 ¹⁵ - 1)
Options (on request)	noise generator (SFL-N), turbocoding



TV Test Transmitter SFL-S

3.6.1 Important Requirements To Be Met By DVB-S Test Transmitter

This section deals in particular with the requirements to be met by TV Test Transmitter SFQ in DVB-S measurements. The statements made below also apply to TV Test Transmitter SFL-S.

Test transmitters are needed to simulate potential errors in the DTV modulator and distortions in the transmission channel. From the two types of signal degradation it is determined to what extent a receiver still operates correctly when non-standard-conforming signals are applied. For tests on a DVB-S set-top box (STB), for example, the test transmitter should be capable of producing defined deviations from the standard in addition to the common parameter variations of, for example, Tx frequency or output level.

STBs have to undergo function tests in at least three frequency ranges:

- in the lowest RF channel,
- in a middle RF channel, and
- in the highest RF channel.

TV Test Transmitter SFQ is capable of setting any frequency between 0.3 MHz and 3.3 GHz, thus offering a frequency range by far exceeding the range presently defined for DVB-S. Frequencies of interest can also be stored in the form of a channel table.

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION
1750.000 MHz	-30.0 dBm	DVB-S QPSK

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION	I/Q CODER
RF FREQUENCY	EDIT		
FREQUENCY →	1750.000 MHz		
FREQUENCY SHIFT →	0.000 MHz		
CHANNEL →			
CHANNEL TABLE →	NONE		

Fig. 3.13 Frequency setting on SFQ

Another test is for verifying error-free reception at a minimum level of typically -70 dBm. SFQ features a setting range between +6 dBm and -99 dBm, which in any case includes the required minimum level.

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION
1750.000 MHz	-30.0 dBm	DVB-S QPSK

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION	I/Q CODER
RF LEVEL	EDIT		
RF LEVEL →	-30.0 dBm		
RF LEVEL SHIFT →	0.00 dB		
RF LEVEL MODE	NORMAL		
RF ALC MODE →	AUTO		
RF ALC OFF MODE →	SAMPLE & HOLD		
RF ALC SEARCH ONCE	PASSED		
RF ALC LEARN TABLE			

Fig. 3.14 Level setting on SFQ

In the DVB-S modulation mode, modulator- and transmission-specific settings can be made, including noise superposition and the generation of fading profiles. SFQ is thus capable of simulating all signal variations and degradations occurring in a real DVB-S system. The degraded signal generated by the "stress transmitter" SFQ is used for testing the STB's susceptibility to errors and interference.

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION	SYMBOLRATE
1750.000 MHz	-30.0 dBm	DVB-S QPSK	27.500 MSym/s

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION	I/Q CODER	BASEBAND
MODULATION	SATELLITE	EDIT		
► SATELLITE →	► CONSTELLATION →	► DVB-S QPSK →		
DVB-C QAM →	I/Q →	DVB-S 8PSK →		
DVB-T COFDM →	I/Q PHASE ERROR →	DVB-S 16QAM →		
ITU-T J.83/B →	CARRIER SUPPRESSION →	QPSK TURBO →		
ATSC 8VSB →	I/Q AMPL. IMBALANCE →	QPSK TURBO →		
I/Q EXTERNAL →	NOISE →			
FM →	FADING →			
FM EXTERNAL →	CW/MODULATION →			

Fig. 3.15 Setting of modulator- and transmission-specific parameters in DVB-S mode

Detailed information on the above parameters will be found in section 3.6.3 "Error Sources in DVB-S".

Further important settings for the DVB-S system can be made in the "I/Q CODER" menu. Here the TS (transport stream) parameters for the modulator can be selected.

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION	SYMBOLRATE
1000.000 MHz	-30.0 dBm	DVB-S QPSK	27.500 MSym/s

RF FREQUENCY	RF LEVEL	MODULATION	I/Q CODER	BASEBAND
I/Q CODER	EDIT	MEASURE		
INPUT SELECT →	ASI	38.015 MBit/s		
INPUT DATA RATE →		2.493 MBit/s		
USEFUL DATA RATE →	27.500 MSym/s			
SYMBOL RATE →				
PACKET LENGTH →				
MODE →	AUTO	188 BYTE		
ROLL OFF →	0.35			
RATE →	3/4			
SPECIAL →				

Fig. 3.16 DVB-S settings in I/Q CODER menu

3.6.2 Power Measurement

Measurement of the output power of a DVB transmitter is not as simple as that of an analog transmitter. In the analog world, the actual power of the sync pulse floor is measured at a sufficiently large bandwidth and displayed as the actual sync pulse peak power. A DVB signal, by contrast, is characterized by a constant power density across the Nyquist bandwidth (see Fig. 3.17), which results from energy dispersal and symbol shaping in the DVB modulator. Consequently, only the total power in a DVB channel is measured.

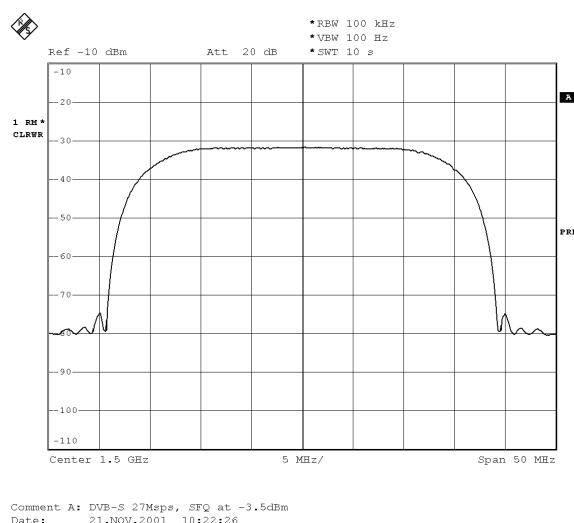


Fig. 3.17 Constant power density in a DTV channel (the $\sqrt{\cos}$ roll-off filter edges are clearly discernible)

The measurement bandwidths (resolution bandwidths - RBWs) of a spectrum analyzer are very small compared to the Nyquist bandwidth of a DVB-S signal. Information about the channel power can be gained by converting the measurement bandwidth to the signal bandwidth, taking into account the analyzer-specific correction factor. This method is, however, complicated and involves a considerable degree of inaccuracy.

Two more precise methods of measuring DVB-S signal power are known to date:

3.6.2.1 Mean Power Measurement with Power Meter NRVS and Thermal Power Sensor



Condensed data of Power Meter NRVS with Thermal Power Sensor NRV-Z51

NRVS	
Frequency range	DC to 40 GHz
Level range	100 pW to 30 W (depending on sensor)
Readout	
Absolute	W, dBm, V, dBmV
Relative	dB, % W or % V, referred to a stored reference value
Remote control	IEC 625-2/IEEE 488.2 interface
Max. input voltage	50 V
NRV-Z51	
Power sensor	thermal
Impedance	50 Ω
Connector	N type
Frequency range	DC to 18 GHz
Level range	1 μW to 100 mW

Thermal power sensors supply the most accurate results if there is only one DVB channel in the overall spectrum.

Plus, they can easily be calibrated by performing a highly accurate DC voltage measurement, provided the sensor is capable of DC measurement. To measure the DVB power, however, the DVB signal should be absolutely DC-free.

3.6.2.2 Mean Power Measurement with Spectrum Analyzer FSEx, FSP or FSU

If a conventional spectrum analyzer is used to measure power, its maximum measurement bandwidth will not be sufficient for a satellite channel. State-of-the-art spectrum analyzers, by contrast, allow broadband power measurements between two user-selected frequencies. The large Nyquist bandwidth of DVB transmission channels poses therefore no problems. Moreover, all kinds of amplitude frequency

response that may occur in a satellite channel are taken into account, whether these are just departures from flat or caused by echoes. Based on this principle, the Rohde & Schwarz Spectrum Analyzers FSEx, FSP and FSU measure mean power in a DVB channel with an accuracy of ≤ 1.5 dB.

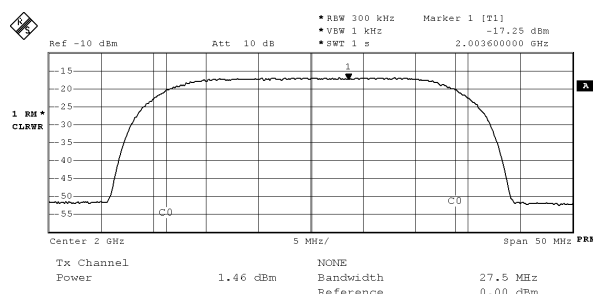


Fig. 3.18 a Power measurement with frequency cursors, Nyquist channel power (BW = 27.5 MHz)

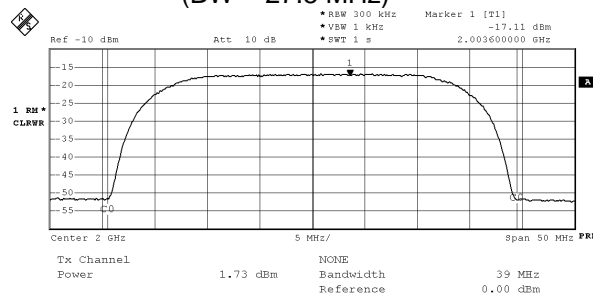


Fig. 3.18 b Power measurement with frequency cursors, total channel power (BW = 39 MHz)

A frequency cursor (C0) is placed on the lower and another one on the upper frequency of the DVB-S channel. The spectrum analyzer calculates the power for the band between the cursors. The method provides sufficient accuracy as long as the transponder channels are sufficiently spaced from each other in frequency and thus clearly separated. Given the normal DVB-S transponder assignment, i.e. without guard channels, results may be falsified however.



SPECTRUM ANALYZER FSP

Condensed data of FSP

Frequency range (FSP3/7/13/30)	9 kHz to 3/7/13/30 GHz
Amplitude measurement range	-140 dBm to +30 dBm
Amplitude display range	10 dB to 200 dB in steps of 10 dB, linear
Amplitude measurement error	<0.5 dB up to 3 GHz, <2.0 dB from 3 GHz to 13 GHz, <2.5 dB from 13 GHz to 20 GHz
Resolution bandwidth	1 Hz to 30 kHz (FFT filters), 10 Hz to 10 MHz in 1, 3 sequence EMI bandwidths: 200 Hz, 9 kHz, 120 kHz
Detectors	Max Peak, Min Peak Auto Peak, Quasi Peak, Sample, Average, RMS
Display	21 cm (8.4") TFT LC colour display, VGA resolution
Remote control	IEC 625-2/IEEE 488.2 (SCPI 1997.0) or RS232C
Dimensions (W x H x D)	412 mm x 197 mm x 417 mm
Weight (FSP3/7/13/30)	10.5/11.3/12/12 kg



SPECTRUM ANALYZER FSEx

Condensed data of FSE/FSEB

Frequency range	20 Hz/9 kHz to 3.5/7 GHz
Amplitude measurement range	-155/-145 dBm to +30 dBm
Amplitude display range	10 dB to 200 dB in steps of 10 dB
Amplitude measurement error	<1 dB up to 1 GHz, <1.5 dB above 1 GHz
Resolution bandwidth	1 Hz/10 Hz to 10 MHz in 1, 2, 3, 5 sequence
Calibration	amplitude, bandwidth
Display	24 cm (9.5") TFT LC colour or monochrome display, VGA resolution
Remote control	IEC 625-2/IEEE 488.2 (SCPI 1997.0) or RS232C