# RF chipset verification for UMTS LTE (FDD) with R&S®SMU200A and R&S®FSQ Application Note

#### Products:

- | R&S<sup>®</sup> SMU200A | R&S<sup>®</sup> FSQ
- | R&S<sup>®</sup> SMU-K55 | R&S<sup>®</sup> FSQ-K100
- | R&S<sup>®</sup> EX-IQ-Box | R&S<sup>®</sup> FSQ-K101

This application note describes how to verify and validate a LTE (FDD) RF chipset using R&S<sup>®</sup> SMU200A vector signal generator, R&S<sup>®</sup> FSQ signal analyzer and R&S<sup>®</sup> EX-IQ Box. The related signal generation as well as signal analysis is described.



# **Table of Contents**

1	Motivation
2	Generic principles of UMTS LTE (FDD)6
2.1	OFDMA – Downlink Transmission Scheme6
2.2	SC-FDMA – Uplink Transmission Scheme10
3	Equipment requirements12
4	RF chipset verification 14
4.1	Basics14
4.2	Tx verification14
4.3	Rx verification15
4.4	About digital IQ16
4.5	Changes on RF chipset validation with digital IQ17
5	Reference Measurement Channels for 3GPP LTE 20
6	Transmitter verification; settings and measurements 22
6.1	LTE uplink signal generation with SMU22
6.2	Configuring the EX-IQ-Box in conjunction with the SMU26
6.3	FSQ settings for Tx verification27
6.4	General measurement aspects
6.5	TX measurements
6.5.1	RF output power
6.5.2	Peak-average-power ratio, using CCDF33
6.5.3	Frequency Error & Transmit Modulation
6.5.4	Spectrum Emission Mask (SEM)
6.5.5	In-band emission
6.5.6	Spectrum flatness, flatness difference and channel group delay40
6.5.7	Adjacent Channel Leakage Power Ratio (ACLR)42
6.5.8	Spurious Emissions45
7	Receiver verification; settings and measurements 47
7.1	LTE downlink signal generation with SMU47
7.2	FSQ settings for Rx verification51

7.3	Rx measurements	53
7.3.1	Power measurements	53
7.3.2	EVM vs. subcarrier, vs. symbol and vs. subframe	54
7.3.3	Crest Factor CCDF	57
7.3.4	Intermodulation characteristics, IIP3 and IIP2	58
7.3.5	1 dB compression point	61
7.3.6	Noise Figure	62
7.3.7	Other measurements	63
8	Abbreviations	65
9	Literature	67
10	Additional Information	67
11	Ordering Information	68

# 1 Motivation

In recent years industry alliances have been formed by leading network operators, chipset manufacturers, infrastructure vendors, and wireless device manufacturers in order to push UMTS Long Term Evolution, accomplish an early market entry and to ensure interoperability between networks, network components and wireless devices. One goal for those alliances is to standardize features and requirements for LTEcapable devices, although common availability is not expected before Q4 2009. Such devices are currently under development by all major handset manufacturers, using the proprietary RF and baseband chipsets provided by leading semiconductor companies. In the early stages of development it is essential for the design engineers to prove and verify the design as fulfilling the transmitter and receiver requirements outlined in 3GPP specification Release 8 TS 36.101, version 8.3.0, dated September 2008. Although the specification still has a preliminary status- meaning not all relevant TX and RX measurements are fully described and specified - it is important to verify uplink and downlink for the RF chipset, since customers are relying on the performance keeping the tight limits. Beside new technology, requiring new or modified measurements, the way of testing the chipset changes. The key word is digital IQ data. The use of analog IQ signals between the Baseband IC and RF IC, which is today the standard method, will not be maintained for advanced technologies like LTE or WiMAX. Rohde & Schwarz, as a leading provider of test and measurement solutions, already addresses the needs of verifying LTE-capable RF ICs using a digital IQ interface. This application provides an overview how to test a proprietary LTE-capable RF chipset using Rohde & Schwarz signal generation and signal analysis products, and additional equipment made necessary by the presence of a digital IQ interface.

This document assumes basic knowledge of 3GPP LTE technology as provided in [1].

# 2 Generic principles of UMTS LTE (FDD)

#### 2.1 OFDMA – Downlink Transmission Scheme

For a more efficient use of the available spectrum OFDMA was selected and introduced as the downlink transmission scheme for 3GPP LTE. The basic principle of OFDM is explained in [1]. Two types of frame structure are defined for LTE, one for FDD and one for TDD mode. The duration of an LTE radio frame is equal for both modes with  $T_f = 307200 * T_s = 10$  ms. An FDD radio frame is divided into 10 subframes, where a subframe consists of two time slots ( $T_{slot} = 15360^*T_s = 0.5$  ms). The time slots in a radio frame a numbered from 0 to 19. In the frequency domain the number of orthogonal subcarriers, will depend on the available bandwidth. The subcarrier spacing  $\Delta f$  is defined as 15 kHz, giving a symbol duration of T<sub>symbol</sub> = 1/ $\Delta f$  = 66.7 µs. That implies a number of symbols per time slot, which depends on which of the two defined cyclic prefix is used. As explained in [2] the cyclic prefix is used in OFDM to make the symbol robust against the time-dispersive characteristic of the radio channel. Without the cyclic prefix the subcarriers might lose their orthogonality, at least partly, when they are transmitted. The length of the cyclic prefix is selected so, that it exceeds the maximum duration of time-dispersion expected to be experienced. An increase in the duration of the cyclic prefix reduces the system performance, which results in a tradeoff between signal corruption due to time-dispersion and overall system performance. Since time-dispersion increases with cell-size, two cyclic prefixes are defined for LTE. The normal cyclic prefix is used for small-cell environments, whereas the extended cyclic prefix is used where an extreme time-dispersion is expected. For normal cyclic prefix use the number of available OFDM symbols in the downlink is 7, for extended cyclic prefix only 6 OFDM symbols are available.

Configuration	Number of symbols	Cyclic Prefix length in samples	Cyclic Prefix lengths in µs
Normal Cyclic Prefix ∆f = 15 kHz	7	160 for 1 <sup>st</sup> symbol 144 for other symbols	5.2 µs for 1 <sup>st</sup> symbol 4.7 µs for other symbols
Extended Cyclic Prefix ∆f = 15 kHz	6	512	16.7
Extended Cyclic Prefix ∆f = 7.5 kHz	3	1024	33.3

Table 1: Parameters for LTE FDD downlink frame structure type 1

This variation on cyclic prefix explains the varying the resource allocation for different users in the downlink. Resources for data and control information transmission in LTE are allocated in the form of resource blocks. A resource block is defined as the number of the subcarrier ( $N_{sc}^{RB}$ ) and a number of OFDM symbols ( $N_{symb}^{DL}$ ). 12 subcarriers are forming a resource block, giving an occupied bandwidth of 180 kHz in the frequency domain. As explained above, the number of OFDM symbols varies according to the cyclic prefix used. A subcarrier and an OFDM symbol form a resource element, mapping control information or data. Figure 1 shows the downlink resource grid.



#### Figure 1: Downlink resource grid

Depending on the assigned bandwidth, the number of subcarriers varies and so the number of resource blocks differs. The 3GPP specification defines the possible bandwidths resulting in the number of resource blocks shown in Table 2.

#### Table 2: Number of resource blocks for different LTE bandwidths

Channel Bandwidth [MHz]	1.4 <sup>1)</sup>	<b>1.6</b> <sup>2)</sup>	3 <sup>1)</sup>	3.2 <sup>2)</sup>	5	10	15	20
Bandwidth configuration	6	7	15	16	25	50	75	100
(Resource Blocks)	0	'	15	10	25	50	15	100
<sup>1)</sup> only used for FDD mode								

<sup>2</sup>) and the set of the TDD and the

<sup>2)</sup> only used for TDD mode

With an occupied bandwidth of 180 kHz for one resource block at a given channel bandwidth of 10 MHz equal to 50 resource blocks, a transmission bandwidth of 9 MHz is required. The FFT size to generate the required subcarrier is 1024, where 600 subcarriers containing the 50 resource blocks. The remaining 424 subcarrier are used as 212 guard subcarrier preceding and following the resource blocks. One or more

resource blocks are allocated to an UE; the allocation in the frequency domain can be modified every transmission time interval of 1 ms (= 1 sub-frame) in the time domain. The allocations are determined by the base station (enhanced Node B, eNodeB) based on various parameters, such as channel quality and traffic in the cell. Figure 2 shows an example for an allocation to six users.





Transmitting Control Information. Before transmitting user data the receiver needs to be informed about the resources which have been allocated, and how the data to be sent is configured. This L1/L2 control information is transmitted on the Physical Downlink Control Channel (PDCCH). This QPSK-modulated channel occupies the first OFDM symbols of a subframe, where the number of symbols depends on the amount of information to be transmitted. This number varies between 1 and 4 symbols and depends on the frame structure (duplex mode), support of MBMS<sup>1</sup> and the available bandwidth [5]. The exact number of symbols is indicated by another downlink channel, the Physical Control Format Indicator Channel (PCFICH). This channel is also QPSKmodulated and is carried on specific resource elements groups (see Figure 1) in the first OFDM symbol of the subframe, depending on the assigned bandwidth as well as on the physical-layer cell identity. Four different formats of PDCCH are available, providing different numbers of bits to transmit control information - at maximum 576 bits. The kind of downlink control information is also divided into different formats, depending on which kind of information needs to be transmitted to the UE. Six formats<sup>4</sup> are defined [4], providing the ability to schedule uplink or downlink transmission, in compact, very compact, or with spatial multiplexing mode, as well as power regulation for the uplink physical channels. The Physical HARQ Indicator Channel (PHICH) another downlink physical control channel carries feedback for several UE's, whether a data packet was received by the eNodeB and subsequently decoded successfully. Beside these channels the Packet Broadcast Channel (PBCH) carries broadcast information and the Physical Multicast Channel (PMCH), carries MBMS user data.

<sup>1</sup> MBMS – Multimedia Broadcast Multicast Service;

to be specified with 3GPP Release 9

<sup>2</sup> DCI format 0, 1, 1A, 1C, 2, 3 and 3A

Higher layers provide the information to be transmitted for all these channels. In addition the physical layer itself generates signals, which are used for channel estimation and to demodulate user data (Downlink Reference Signal, DLRS) as well as for synchronization (Primary and Secondary Synchronization Signal, P-Sync und S-Sync). A basic principle of OFDM is that synchronization in both time and frequency is essential for coherent demodulation. Therefore DLRS are inserted in the first and fifth OFDM symbol of a time slot, with a spacing in the frequency domain of six subcarriers. Four reference signals are given per resource block, if only one antenna port is used. However, as the use of more antennas is planned - necessary to achieve the LTE targets for data rate and average user data throughput - more resource elements per resource block are reserved and blocked for DLRS transmission, but only four reference signals per resource block are transmitted identifying the antenna port. The DLRS are generated as a product of a pseudo-random sequence and an orthogonal sequence. In addition, frequency hopping can be applied to the DLRS with a period of one radio frame. Figure 3 shows an example for transmitting reference signals using two antennas.



#### Figure 3: Downlink Reference Signals (DLRS) for 2 antenna ports

To simplify identification of symbol and radio frame timing, overall transmission bandwidth, antenna configuration and cyclic prefix length – all carried on the PBCH – two synchronization signals are transmitted; LTE uses a hierarchical cell search scheme similar to WCDMA. The primary synchronization signal transports the physical layer cell identity (0, 1 or 2). The secondary synchronization signal carries the physical layer cell identity group (0 ...168). Both signals are transmitted twice per radio frame on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> OFDM symbol of the first slot in the time domain. The repetition period is 5 ms. In the frequency domain the synchronization signals occupy 62 of the 72 reserved subcarrier equal to 6 resource blocks around the DC subcarrier.

**User data transmission.** The user data in the downlink is transmitted on the Physical Downlink Shared Channel (PDSCH), which one can be QPSK, 16QAM or 64QAM-modulated and is assigned to the remaining resource blocks.

#### 2.2 SC-FDMA – Uplink Transmission Scheme

A major disadvantage for any communication system using OFDM as multiple access scheme is the high crest factor or peak-to-average power-ratio (PAPR) of the system. Using OFDM(A) in the uplink would greatly increase the uplink interference. Therefore a low-PAPR transmission scheme with flexible bandwidth assignment and orthogonal multiple access not only in the time domain but also in the frequency domain was a requirement to reduce uplink interference. The transmission scheme, best fulfilling these requirements and subsequently selected for the LTE uplink is Single Carrier FDMA (SC-FDMA). In SC-FDMA the technique used to generate the uplink signal is called Discrete Fourier Transformation-spread-OFDM (DFT-s-OFDM). The basic principle is shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4: Block Diagram of DFT-s-OFDM (Localized Transmission)

The major difference between the downlink and uplink transmission scheme is that each subcarrier in the uplink carries information about each transmitted modulation symbol ((b) in Figure 5), whereas in downlink each subcarrier only carries information related to one specific modulation symbol ((a) in Figure 5). The peak-to-average power-ratio is minimized and thus the uplink interference.



Resources for uplink transmission are also allocated based on resource blocks, using the same number of subcarriers, same time domain parameterization as in the downlink, but for normal and extended cyclic prefix only.

**User data transmission and control information.** The user data is transmitted on the Physical Uplink Shared Channel (PUSCH), which can be QPSK, 16QAM or 64QAM-modulated. When at the same time data is received on the downlink, the appropriate control information (ACK, NACK also scheduling requests) assigned to that transmission is multiplexed within the data to be sent on the PUSCH. When no data transmission is scheduled for the uplink, the feedback information is transmitted on a separate channel, the Physical Uplink Control Channel (PUCCH). This channel carries than the ACK/NACK and when the UE wants to transmit data the scheduling request. The UE is than informed on the PDCCH, which resources have been reserved for its data transmission. The other physical channel in the uplink is the Physical Random Access Channel (PRACH), which is used by the UE to enter the network first time based on a well-defined procedure.

Like the downlink also the uplink generates its own physical signals for the same purpose, independently from higher layers. The demodulation signals are used to demodulate the transmitted data properly, sounding reference signals are used to estimate the channel. The eNodeB can assign resources quickly at any time, when the UE requests resources for data transmission.

## 3 Equipment requirements

This application note describes the verification and validation of a LTE RF chipset using the R&S® SMU200A vector signal generator and R&S® FSQ signal analyzer. For specific parts of the application other R&S equipment can also be used. The following table shows which alternative R&S products are suitable for Tx and Rx verification.

	R&S products	TX Verification	RX Verification	TX and RX Verification
ş	R&S® SMU200A	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
nal ator	R&S® SMJ	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Sig ener	R&S® AMU200A	$\checkmark$	*	-
Ū	R&S® SMBV100A	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
<b>ر</b> ۵	R&S® FSQ	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
trun /zer:	R&S® FSG	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
spec vnaly	R&S® FSV	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
04	R&S® FMU	×	$\checkmark$	-

#### Table 3: Products to be used

The following abbreviations are used in the following text for R&S® test equipment

- R&S refers to Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co KG,
- R&S® SMU200A Vector Signal Generator is referred to as SMU,
- R&S® SMBV100A Vector Signal Generator is referred to as SMBV,
- R&S® FSQ Vector Signal Analyzer is referred to as FSQ,

The following minimum configuration applies to SMU and FSQ.

#### Table 4: Options and minimum firmware versions required for R&S instruments

R&S® FSQ, R&S® FS	6G
Firmware Version	4.45 (required for ACLR, SEM), 4.35 (FSQ), 4.39 (FSG)
Hardware Options	FSQ-B17 (Digital Baseband Interface)
Software Options	FS-K100 (LTE DL Analysis), FS-K101 (LTE UL Analysis), EUTRA/LTE Analysis Software 2.2 Beta 7
R&S® SMU200A	
Firmware Version	2.05.222.24
Hardware Options	SMU-B17 (Analog/Digital Baseband Inputs), SMU-B18 (Digital Baseband Output)
R&S® EX-IQ Box	
Firmware Version	00.00.13-143

Basics

# 4 RF chipset verification

#### 4.1 Basics

For transmission the RF chipset determines a part of the layer 1 functionality in a wireless device, and consequently the IQ modulation/demodulation process, as well as the mapping onto the carrier frequency for the selected frequency band. Nowadays advanced RF chipsets from leading chipset manufacturers support almost all frequency bands for the appropriate standard. For LTE these are the same frequency bands for LTE TDD. Verification tests are executed for each of the supported bands, in early development stage very often multiple frequencies per band are tested, later in development this is reduced to three frequencies per band: low, mid and high, in order to save test time.

Additionally the tests for TX and RX are executed for three different temperature ranges, for example at -30°C, 25°C and 85°C, where either a temperature chamber is used or the RF chipset is cooled down directly. These tests at different temperatures are done to ensure the operability of the device within different climatic conditions.

In general the chipset itself is assembled on an adaptor board, which provides the necessary interfaces for feeding in the specific test signals (baseband or RF) and data ports for controlling the chipset. Controlling the chipset often requires a vendor-specific software tool or solution.

#### 4.2 Tx verification

Figure 6 shows the general measurement setup for transmitter verification for a common RF chipset with the SMU and the FSQ.

Rx verification



The SMU is used to generate an uplink baseband signal, which is then fed to the analog I and Q input for the RF IC normally located on an adaptor board. The remote controlled chipset provides the IQ modulation and amplification; meaning an up-conversion of the signal to an RF frequency so that it can be transmitted over the antenna. The signal from the antenna is directly connected to the RF port of the FSQ, where the uplink RF signal is measured and verified against the specified limits within the 3GPP specification. For the measurements, performed in general see chapter 6. This setup validates the complete transmitter chain. For specific transmitter component measurements such as on the synthesizer the measurement setup changes.

#### 4.3 Rx verification

On the RX side the SMU is used to generate an RF DL signal at a low output power fed into the antenna port of the adaptor board, which interfaces with the chipset. The chipset performs the amplification using a Low Noise Amplifier (LNA), demodulates the signal and splits the signal into an I- and Q-portion. The separated I- and Q-signal is then fed into the analog I and Q input of the FSQ, where the signal is analyzed. Figure 7 shows the required measurement setup.

About digital IQ



This setup analyzes the complete receiver chain. For measurements on specific components, such as the LNA, the setup changes. The signals are than fed into the LNA, taken from the LNA and analyzed. Accessing specific components depends on the design and is very often customer specific.

#### 4.4 About digital IQ

The method described above, using analog IQ data between the base band integrated circuit (BB IC) and the radio frequency integrated circuit (RF IC), is today's standard method for verifying both ICs. In the recent years several attempts have taken place to define a common digital interface between the BB and the RF IC. DigRF is such an attempt to define a digital serial interface standard for wireless devices.. Today there are two variants of the DigRF standard available DigRFv1.12 and DigRFv3.09, which one is not backward compatible<sup>3</sup>. The standardization for DigRF, which is driven by an industry alliance called MIPI, focuses on the physical interface and the protocol running on this interface. The protocol configures the interface itself and arranges the transport of the digital data between both circuits. For the physical layer parameters, depending on the supported air interface standard, like data rate, system clock speed, as well as pin usage are defined.

The benefits of a digital instead of an analog interface between the chipsets are:

- Less susceptibility to interference,
- Providing higher bandwidths/data rates,
- "Plug & Play" configurability,
- Interoperability between BB and RF ICs of different vendors,
- Easier and cheaper implementation (further cost reduction),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> DigRFv1.12 supports 2.5G standards (GSM, EGPRS); DigRFv3.09 supports 2.5G as well as 3G/3.5G standards (WCDMA/HSPA)

• Lower power consumption,

LTE specifies requirements such as higher data rates and a higher average user data throughput, high spectrum efficiency, using scalable bandwidths and MIMO principles. The DigRFv3.09 standard is not capable of supporting these challenging parameters, so for advanced technologies like LTE and WiMAX one more standard is currently under preparation: DigRFv4. Today<sup>4</sup> the specification of this standard is, like LTE, not completely finished. The protocol running on the physical interface is at the moment still a working item in the standardization process. A harmonization is expected for first half of 2009, although a first draft of the specification is available since November 2008. Due to the delays several companies, developing chipsets for LTE are going to use their own digital IQ format for now.

#### 4.5 Changes on RF chipset validation with digital IQ

The emerging use of digital IQ data between the BB and RF IC for LTE has made a big impact on the overall measurement setup. Up to now the digital baseband signal has been converted by the signal generator into an analog base band signal, often differential, and were fed using standard BNC connectors into the analog I and Q inputs of the adaptor board carrying the RF chipset. On the reverse direction the output of the RF chipset was analog I and Q signals, which have been fed into the analog base band input of a signal analyzer. In a device the baseband chipset handles the analog-digital and digital-analog conversion. With digital IQ, this conversion will be done at the RF IC, so that the signals between BB IC and RF IC become digital.

As there is currently no common digital interface standard that covers all applications, R&S uses its own, internal format to provide digital I/Q signals. This standard is referred to as DIGITAL IQ (TVR290). Via this interface standard R&S instruments, like the SMU and FSQ, can be connected directly to each other. However TVR290 can only be used between R&S equipment. To connect to equipment from other manufacturers using different digital IQ standards the R&S EX-IQ Box has been developed. With the EX-IQ Box the R&S internal format can be converted to digital I/Q formats as they are used today in the market for handsets as well as for base stations. The adaptation to customer-specific physical connectors is provided by break-out boards (see Figure 8). R&S provides support to design break-out boards suitable for other manufacturers equipment.

<sup>4</sup> as of October 2008



Figure 8: R&S® EX-IQ-Box shown with AMU convert R&S internal IQ data to different digital formats

With the help of the EX-IQ Box the radio frequency and baseband components of the device can be tested using a digital interface, not the interface itself. For TX validation of a LTE-capable RF chipset using a digital IQ format, the EX-IQ-Box is connected to the digital baseband output of the SMU (HW option SMU-B18). The output of the EX-IQ-Box is connected directly to the interface of the RF IC, feeding in the digital I- and Q-Signal. The RF IC does the digital-analog-conversion, IQ modulation with up-mixing to the RF frequency. The RF portion of the uplink signal can now be analyzed with an FSQ or FSG. Similarly the down-converted, digitized RF downlink signal is converted by the EX-IQ Box from the user-specific digital IQ format to the R&S format. This is fed into the digital baseband input of the spectrum analyzer (FSQ-B17), where the signal analysis is than executed. An appropriate measurement setup for both applications is shown in Figure 9.



#### Figure 9: Tx and Rx verification with EX-IQ Box

### 5 Reference Measurement Channels for 3GPP LTE

WCDMA (3GPP Release 99 and 4) successfully introduced reference measurement channels (RMC) for downlink and uplink to fix the variable parameter and ensure reliable and repeatable measurements. This proven strategy has continued with HSDPA and HSUPA. Fixed Reference Channel Handsets (FRC H-Set) for the specific UE categories have been defined for the downlink. For the uplink specific combinations of several parameters<sup>5</sup>, which the majority of transmitter measurements based on, have been specified. Only for specific test cases, mainly at the receiver side, other signal configurations need to be applied to the device under test. This will continue now also with LTE. Flexible parameters for the downlink and uplink, such as bandwidth, number of allocated resource blocks, used modulation schemes and number of transmitting and receiving antennas will be fixed for test purposes. This applies to both link directions, uplink and downlink as well as for both modes: FDD and TDD. For FDD the downlink reference measurement channel for the UE is specified. For the uplink, so far no proposal has been supplied to 3GPP. Nevertheless it is expected, that the basic parameters as proposed for the downlink will also be considered for the uplink. The following table shows today's status.

For the LTE TDD reference measurement channel no proposal has been made for downlink or uplink.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>circ}$  Gain factors  $B_{c}$  and  $B_{d}$  for HSDPA and HSUPA; Cubic Metric (CM), Maximum Power Reduction (MPR) for HSDPA and HSUPA and Absolute Grant Value and E-TFCI for HSUPA

Parameter	Unit	Downlink	Uplink
Channel bandwidth	MHz	10	10
Allocated Resource Blocks (RB)	Blocks	50	tbd
Subcarrier per RB		12	12
Allocated subframes per Radio Frame		10	10
Modulation		QPSK	QPSK
Coding Rate		1/3	1/3
Number of HARQ processes		8	tbd
Maximal number of HARQ transmissions		1	tbd
Information bit payload			
Sub-frames 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9	Bit	4392	tbd
Sub-frames 0	Bit	4392	tbd
Sub-frames 5	Bit	4392	tbd
Transport block CRC	Bit	24	tbd
Number of code blocks per subframe		1	tbd
Code block CRC size	Bit	0	tbd
Binary channel bits per subframe			
Sub-frames 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9	Bit	13800	tbd
Sub-frames 0	Bit	12960	tbd
Sub-frames 5	Bit	13512	tbd
Max. throughput averaged over 1 frame	kbps	4392	tbd

Table 5: LTE Reference Measurement Channels for Downlink and Uplink (FDD 10 MHz

The SMU can already generate appropriate uplink and downlink reference measurement channels based on the table above and the current specification. Configuring the SMU to generate and preparing the FSQ to analyze these kind of signals is described in the next sections.

# 6 Transmitter verification; settings and measurements

#### 6.1 LTE uplink signal generation with SMU

Before the bandwidth, resource blocks and number of subcarriers according to Table 5 can be selected the duplex mode and link direction needs to be set.



Figure 10: Basic configuration for a LTE uplink signal as a reference measurement channel

At the moment no proposal has been presented to 3GPP for an uplink reference measurement channel for LTE FDD. Nevertheless the principle used for WCDMA can be adopted for LTE, by mirroring the downlink parameters. For WCDMA a 12.2 kbps reference measurement channel was defined for downlink and uplink. Thus the general parameters for the LTE downlink, such as bandwidth, modulation scheme and antenna can be adopted to the uplink for LTE as well, as covered in Table 5. To provide a practical scenario with this measurement channel the following standard and technology-related things need to be considered. User data in the uplink is carried by the Physical Uplink Shared Channel (PUSCH). If there is a parallel downlink transmission the feedback information from the HARQ process, the channel quality (CQI) as well as scheduling requests, are multiplexed with the user data onto this

physical channel. When there is no uplink transmission granted to the user, control information is transmitted on a separate channel; the Physical Uplink Control Channel (PUCCH). This channel will be also used by other UEs for transmitting control information. In practice, this physical channel is most probably present at any time and will block resources, which can not be allocated to the device under test. A look at the mapping of the PUCCH to the available resources is therefore essential to understand the setup of the SMU and the configuration of FSQ.

The structure of the PUCCH can also be set in the configuration window. Per definition the PUCCH has multiple formats, six in all [4]. The use of these formats depends on the type of uplink control information to be sent. The cyclic prefix used (normal or extended cyclic prefix) has an impact on the format too. Given a channel bandwidth of 10 MHz, 50 resource blocks, equal to 600 subcarriers are available for control information and data transmission. In the time domain two resource blocks per time slot are for example assigned to carry the PUCCH, which means two resource blocks per subframe. To transmit this resource blocks a frequency region is reserved, which is located at the edge of the available bandwidth. The first resource block uses the lower edge of the spectrum, the second one uses the upper edge of the spectrum. This minimizes the effects of a possible frequency-selective fading affecting the transmission channel. Depending on the format used, this principle might be reversed, so that the first resource block uses the upper edge of the spectrum, and the second one uses the lower part. As a consequence not all 50 resource blocks of a 10-MHz channel can be assigned to an UE for data transmission. Instead just 46 are allocated in this example to the UE, giving an offset of two resource blocks (see Figure 11) at each side of the available bandwidth.

By selecting the appropriate button another window will appear, enabling the user to configure up to 4 UE's. For this scenario the configuration of just one UE is necessary, as the signal generator is used to simulate the BB IC.



Figure 11: Allocating resources for PUSCH transmission, activating channel coding

Selecting QPSK modulation for PUSCH and assigning 46 resource blocks with an offset of 2 resource blocks gives 13.248 physical bits per subframe for transmission (see Figure 12). Not all bits can be used for data transmission, as channel coding needs to be applied to the data. Via enhanced settings the transport block size can be defined. Taking into account that the UL reference measurement channel is not yet specified, the transport block size is set to 4392 bits as for the DL reference measurement channel (see Table 5).



Figure 12: Define the Transport Block Size (TBS)

In addition – so that all available bits are used for data transmission – the HARQ ACK(knowledge) Type must be set to 'None' as well as the Number of CQI Bits needed is set to zero.

The configuration of the uplink reference measurement channel is now finished, a final look at the SC-FDMA time plan shows the allocated resources and required physical signals.



Figure 13: SC-FDMA time plan for the uplink

Before switching on the generator, the output as digital IQ data via the Ex-IQ-Box needs to be configured.

Configuring the EX-IQ-Box in conjunction with the SMU

# 6.2 Configuring the EX-IQ-Box in conjunction with the SMU

It is expected that the majority of LTE-capable RF IC will use DigRFv4 interfacing the BB IC, when the standard becomes available in 2009. Currently several companies use their own, manufacturer-specific digital IQ formats. Mostly there are differences in data word size and length. This section describes how to configure the EX-IQ-Box in a general way.

The EX-IQ-Box is automatically recognized by the SMU. The generator will display an appropriate icon on the screen, depending on the interface, the box is connected too. The EX-IQ Box needs to be configured as digital IQ output. Before configuring the EX-IQ-Box, check and if necessary update the firmware. The update is performed by the connected R&S instrument in this case the SMU. Choose Menu  $\rightarrow$  Update PCI-FPGA and select the EX-IQ-Box to be updated.



#### Figure 14: Updating the EX-IQ-Box might be required

After the firmware check, the digital IQ output can be configured by selecting the appropriate functional block "AWGN/IMP A", going to section "Digital I/Q Output" and selecting "Settings..." (see Figure 15). By choosing the appropriate button the EX-IQ-Box output can be configured for the desired digital IQ.

FSQ settings for Tx verification



Figure 15: Automatic recognition and manual configuration of the EX-IQ-Box

#### 6.3 FSQ settings for Tx verification

All measurements, described in more detail in the following paragraphs, are executed for an uplink signal generated by the SMU. The FSQ must also be set up. The FSQ provides in the "Uplink Demodulation Settings" a check box, where "Auto Demodulation" can be selected. The information to demodulate the signal are extracted from the signal itself. With help of the general setting tab, shown in Figure 16, the LTE duplex mode, link direction, and frequency needs to be defined.

Transmitter verification; settings and measurements

FSQ settings for Tx verification



Figure 16: General and demodulation settings for the FSQ (UL, 10 MHz FDD)

In [6] the frequency bands supported by LTE are defined; the same as used for WCDMA/HSPA transmission. [7] defines for each frequency band the frequencies to be tested, based on the selected bandwidth. Assuming the RF IC under test supports frequency band I, the channels to be tested can be extracted from the following table.

Transmitter verification; settings and measurements

FSQ settings for Tx verification

Test range	BW [MHz]	N <sub>UL</sub>	Frequency UL [MHz]	N <sub>DL</sub>	Frequency DL [MHz]
	5	13025	1922.5	25	2112.5
Low	10	13050	1925	50	2115
	15	13075	1927.5	75	2117.5
	20	13100	1930	100	2120
Mid	5/10/15/20	13300	1950	300	2140
	5	13575	1977.5	575	2167.5
High	10	13550	1975	550	2165
	15	13525	1972.5	525	2162.5
	20	13500	1970	500	2160

Table 6: Test frequencies for E-UTRA channel bandwidth for operating band I [7]

The advanced uplink signal characteristic (see Figure 17), which includes defining the resource for the PUCCH has a big impact on the subframe configuration.

Figure 17: Uplink Advanced Signal Characteristics

						8
Uplink Signal	Charac	teristics Uplink Advance	ed Signal Characteristic	\$		
Signal						
3GPP	*	Rel. Power	0.00 dB			
	0.00	Parameter u	1	DFT Precoding	Г	
Truncation	9	Parameter q	0			
		n_DMRS	0			
		Delta Sequence Shift	0			
		P - m - m - m	[CA74C -	Del Device		0.00 48
	-	Sequence		Net Power	-	0.00 00
10	-	Subcamer Ultset	1 0	No. of Subcamers	1	0
	0.00	Parameter u	1			
Truncation	-	Parameter q	0			
None	٠	Number of Subbands/M	4			
		)				
	4					
		1				
	Uplink Signal Signal 3GPP Truncation	Uplink Signal Charac Signal 3GPP	Uplink Signal Characteristics Uplink Advance Signal 3GPP Rel. Power 0.00 Parameter u Truncation Parameter q n_DMRS Delta Sequence Shift nal Sequence 0 Subcarrier Offset 0.00 Parameter u Truncation Parameter u Truncation Parameter q None Number of Subbands/M	Uplink Signal Characteristics Uplink Advanced Signal Characteristic Signal GPP  Rel. Power  O.00 dB  OParameter u  Truncation  None  Number of Subbands/M  A	Uplink Signal Characteristics Uplink Advanced Signal Characteristics Signal 3GPP Rel. Power 0.00 dB 0.00 Parameter u 1 DFT Precoding 7 Parameter q 0 DFT Precoding 0 Parameter q 0 Param	Uplink Signal Characteristics Uplink Advanced Signal Characteristics Signal 3GPP  Rel. Power 0.00 dB  OParameter u 1 DFT. Precoding Parameter q 0 Parameter q 0 Rel. Power Rel. Power Rel. Power Rel. Power Rel. Power Rel. Power Parameter u 1 Truncation Parameter u 1 Truncation Parameter q 0 Non of Subcarriers Number of Subbands/M 4

In the example for the uplink reference measurement channel 4 resource blocks are allocated for PUCCH transmission. This allocation will be reflected by the subframe configuration, where for a 10 MHz bandwidth with 50 resource blocks only 46 resource blocks are allocated for PUSCH transmission with an offset of two resource blocks on both ends of the spectrum.

#### 6.4 General measurement aspects

One of the major differences between CDMA-based 3G/3.5G technologies and OFDMbased LTE is the lack of a definition for a transmission filter. In WCDMA/HSPA a Root-Raised-Cosine (RRC) filter with a roll-off factor of  $\alpha$  = 0.22 is specified by the standardization body 3GPP. The use of this filter increases the signal bandwidth of 3.84 MHz to a transmission bandwidth of 4.68 MHz. It also explains, why a channel bandwidth of 5 MHz is necessary to achieve the required out-of-channel performance for not disturbing adjacent channels.

For LTE no filter is specified. This has the advantage that the filter can be optimized for in-channel performance or out-of-channel performance. Improving the in-channel performance, meaning the modulation quality, results in an improved Error Vector Magnitude (EVM). Out-of-channel performance is evaluated by measuring Adjacent Channel Power (ACP) and Spectrum Emission Mask (SEM). Rohde & Schwarz is addressing the open filter definition by offering three different filter types especially designed for EUTRA/LTE. As indicated by the name, two of these filters are designed to improve the in-channel (EVM) or the out-of-channel performance (ACP). The third filter is a trade-off between in-channel and out-of-channel performance with good ACP and acceptable modulation quality (STANDARD<sup>6</sup>).

As shown in Figure 18 the filter, which is applied to the signal, can be selected via the filter/clipping button.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> The notation 'STANDARD' does have no relationship with the 3GPP specification

General measurement aspects

EUTRA/LTE A	<u> elix</u>		
State	On		
Set To Default	Save Recall		
Data List Management	Generate Waveform File		
3GPP Version	Release 8 (TS 36.211 V8.3.0)		
Duplexing	FDD		
Link Direction	Uplink (SC-FDMA) •	EUTRA/LTE A: Filter/Clipping Settin	igs 🙆 📃
Sequence Length	1 Frames 💌	State D	omain Windowing
Contra of Secondaria		Transition Time	5.0 us
Frame Configuration			Filter
Filter/Clipping	LTE / Clip Off	Filter	EUtra/LTE
Trigger Marker	Auto	Optimization	EVM
Clock	Parming 1 Internal	Roll Off Factor Cut Off Frequency Shift Sample Pate Variation	2 EVM ACP
		Sample Kate Variation	Clipping
		State	F 0
		Clipping Level	100 %
		Clinning Made	Vector Bala

Figure 18: Selecting a specific filter type for LTE

Beside these supplied filters all R&S signal generators support user-specific filtering to the signal (see Figure 19).

#### Figure 19: User-specific filtering

EUTRA/LTE A: Filter/Llippi	ng Settings	
Time D	omain Window	ing
State		⊢ On
Transition Time		5.0 us 💌
	Filter	
Filter	User	
Load User Filter		None
Filter Mode	Realtime	
Sample Rate Variation	15.3	60 000 000 MHz 💌
	Clipping	
State		⊢ On
Clinning Loval		100 8
Cupping Level		1 100 1 % -
Clipping Mode		Vector  i+jq
	688	
	<b>1</b>	

*Note:* In the remainder of section 6 use the STANDARD filter unless another filter is shown.

#### 6.5 TX measurements

#### 6.5.1 RF output power

A first step in verification is to measure the exact output power of the RF IC. The output power is measured and recorded for different gain factors for the power amplifier in the transmitter chain. Another method to measure the power is to use the result summary, where the frame power for the physical channel, demodulation reference and sounding signals are displayed (see Figure 26).





Different signal shapes can be seen, depending on the filter used. The following three example screenshots (Figure 21 to Figure 23) showing the impact of the three different filter types used in the SMU, on the shape of the uplink signal. Figure 21 shows the impact of the filter STANDARD.



Figure 21: Power versus frequency (UL FDD, 10MHz), filter: STANDARD

The default values for the EVM-optimized filter are a roll-off factor of  $\alpha$  = 0.10 and a cut-off frequency shift of -0.20.



Figure 22: Power versus frequency (UL FDD, 10MHz), filter: EVM

The filter optimized for ACP uses a cut-off frequency shift of 0.34.



Figure 23: Power versus frequency (UL FDD, 10MHz), filter: ACP

As show in Figure 22 compared to Figure 23 the signal is falling off more smoothly, which is resulting in much better EVM performance. The strong filtering applied to the signal by using the ACP filter (Figure 23) will decrease modulation quality, but improves the ACP and minimizes therefore the impact to other channels or signals.

#### 6.5.2 Peak-average-power ratio, using CCDF<sup>7</sup>

SC-FDMA is used in the uplink to overcome one of the disadvantages of OFDM: the high peak-to-power average ratio (PAPR). With SC-FDMA a Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) is performed, before the Inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT. The modulation symbols are spread, so that each subcarrier is carrying a part of each modulation symbol. In OFDM(A) each subcarrier is carrying a specific symbol per subcarrier (see Figure 5).

The PAPR is estimated by calculating the Conditional Cumulative Distribution Function (CCDF), which describes the probability distribution of the signal power.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> CCDF – Conditional Cumulative Distribution Function



Figure 24: Peak-to-average power ratio, estimated with CCDF (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: STANDARD

The PAPR depends on the filter used as well as on the modulation format, in contrast to the downlink, where OFDM(A) is used as transmission scheme.

#### 6.5.3 Frequency Error & Transmit Modulation

**Frequency Error.** The frequency error should be in the range of  $\pm 0.1 \text{ ppm}^8$  depending on the carrier frequency. For the LTE frequency range the frequency error can differ between  $\pm 77.7$  and  $\pm 198$  Hz, depending on the frequency band used. Compared to UTRA FDD, using the same frequency bands, these are tighter tolerances, meaning a higher demand on accuracy. The frequency error is displayed in the numeric overview of the measurement results (see Figure 26) and can be displayed for each subframe separately.

Error Vector Magnitude vs. subcarrier. There is a major dependency between the Error Vector Magnitude (EVM) and the phase noise of the voltage controlled oscillator (VCO) used in the IQ modulator of the device. Exceeding the limits for EVM, depending on the selected modulation scheme is an indication for a high phase noise, generated by the VCO and the Phase Locked Loop (PLL) controlling the VCO. Nonlinearities of components used in the device can also negatively affect the EVM. Evaluating the spectrum emission mask (SEM) will prove, whether the phase noise (only EVM fails) or nonlinearities (EVM and SEM - both are failing) are causing the problem. The estimation of EVM is an essential feature for proving the modulation quality for any single carrier transmission schemes using a digital modulation scheme. EVM measurements have been performed on devices since the introduction of 8PSK as modulation format with the upgrade of the 2G networks to Enhanced GPRS (EGPRS), later termed Enhanced Data Rates for Global Evolution (EDGE). In an EVM measurement the received signal is compared to a well-defined reference signal; the difference results in an error vector. The magnitude of the error vector should not exceed predefined limits to avoid errors in demodulating the signal.

So far all cellular standards are use single carrier transmission schemes, with only one signal analyzed to estimate the modulation quality. With LTE multi-carrier transmission schemes are used in downlink and uplink, with the number of orthogonal subcarriers dependent on the allocated resource blocks or transmission bandwidth, rather the

<sup>8</sup> ppm – parts per million

available channel bandwidth. For each of these subcarriers the EVM is estimated, depending on the modulation scheme used (QPSK, 16QAM or 64QAM). The measured values are compared against defined limits, which are 17.5% for QPSK and 12.5% for 16QAM. For 64QAM a tolerance of 8%, as for the downlink is under consideration. While 8% is portable the definition is open and awaiting a future version of the specification.. The support of 64QAM in the uplink is furthermore an optional feature for an LTE-capable UE, depending on the UE category. Figure 25 shows the graphical result for the EVM versus subcarrier measurement for a 10 MHz FDD uplink signal as peak, average and minimum value (blue, yellow, green curves). The x-axis shows the frequency, from where the occupied bandwidth can easily be estimated. The allocated 46 resource blocks are equal to 552 subcarriers, which gives a transmission bandwidth of 8.28 MHz (±4.14 MHz). The maximum and minimum EVM, based on the average curve, are highlighted as a numeric value for the affected subcarriers.

Figure 25: EVM versus subcarrier (UL FDD, 10 MHz), filter: STANDARD



Figure 26 shows the numeric overview of the measurement results for transmit modulation, showing beside the EVM various other parameters, which will be discussed later on. More than one EVM value is shown, one for physical channels, one for physical signals and an overall EVM. What does this signify?

Sync Stat Subframes Symbols Meas. Min 0.27	e ALL 140 Mean	Mean Limit	Capture Leng	th 20.10 ms	<u> </u>	GEHERAL SETTUNGS	MEAS
Subframes Symbols Meas. Min 0.27	ALL 140 Mean	Mean Limit	May	1445316454		SETTINGS	
Min 0.27	Mean	Mean Limit	May	1 660 CO 1000	1		
0.27			CF154A	Max Limit	Unit	DEMOD	
Deskishing and	0,27		0,27		2	SETTINGS	
0.14	0,15		0,16		*		
					2		SET
2,12	0,98		2,12		Hz	DISPLAY	
	0,00				ppm	GRAPH LIST	
	-108,14				dB		( FRI L
	0.00				dB	EVM VS	
	-0,01					CARPIER	
-30,64	-30,64		-30,64		dBm		DIS
-30,64	-30,64		-30,64		dBm	1	
					dBm	EVM VS	
	7,37				dB	STMBOL	MK
						EVM VS Subframe	
	-30,64	2,12 0.98 0.00 -108,14 0.00 -0.01 -30,64 -30,64 -30,64 -30,64 -7,37	2,12 0.98 0.00 -108,14 0,00 -0,01 -30,64 -30,64 -30,64 -30,64 -30,64 -30,64 -30,64	2,12 0,98 2,12 0,00	2,12         0,98         2,12           0,00         -106,14	0.11         0.11 <th< td=""><td>0.5.5         0.5.6         7.3           2.12         0.98         2.12         Hz           0.00         50m         60m           -108.14         60m         60m           0.00         60m         60m           -30.64         -30.64         -30.64         60m           -30.64         -30.64         -30.64         60m           7.37         60m         60m</td></th<>	0.5.5         0.5.6         7.3           2.12         0.98         2.12         Hz           0.00         50m         60m           -108.14         60m         60m           0.00         60m         60m           -30.64         -30.64         -30.64         60m           -30.64         -30.64         -30.64         60m           7.37         60m         60m

Figure 26: Numeric Transmit Modulation Parameters (UL, 10 MHz FDD)

As explained in section 2.2 LTE uses different types of signals in both directions for various purposes. Physical signals, directly generated in the layer 1, are used for synchronization, channel estimation (uplink as well as downlink) and cell identification (downlink only). The other types of signals are the physical channels, carrying user data, control and scheduling information. Physical signals are divided into two parts for the uplink. The demodulation reference signals (DRS) are associated with PUSCH and/or PUCCH. These signals are used by the base station for a correct, coherent demodulation of the uplink. The PUCCH, carrying scheduling requests, ACK/NACKs, CQI, PMI<sup>9</sup> or RI<sup>10</sup>, depending on the format used, is only present when no data is transmitted. When a data transmission is proceeding the control information is multiplexed with these data, so that no PUCCH is required. Neither the PUSCH nor the PUCCH are present, for example, when no data is transmitted and no feedback on a parallel downlink data transmission needs to be reported back to the base station.

Sounding reference signals (SRS) are issued by the UE to estimate the radio channel in frequency areas, other than the allocated one. The information collected by the base station based on the SRS is used for scheduling and helps to decide and assign resources for data transmission in the uplink.

Uplink reference measurement channel resources are allocated to the UE according to the application and desired resources, and data is transmitted on the PUSCH. The physical signal, generated by the UE and on which EVM is measured is therefore a DRS. The DRS and SRS are special CAZAC sequences, Zhadoff-Chu sequences. CAZAC stands for Constant Amplitude Zero Auto Correlation. The signals amplitude is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> PMI – Pre-coding Matrix Indicator (for MIMO)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> RI – Rank Indication (for MIMO)

constant and "zero auto correlation" indicates, that the signals do not correlate (much) with each other.

Figure 27 shows the constellation display for the uplink signal.



Figure 27: Constellation Display for complete UL signal (UL FDD, 10 MHz)

Using the evaluation filter the DRS can be found in SC-FDMA symbols #3 and #10, transmitted over the entire bandwidth, meaning all 552 subcarriers (±276 subcarriers).

**Error Vector Magnitude vs. symbol.** EVM can be estimated for consecutive SC-FDMA symbols; the measurement is called "EVM versus symbol". In the time domain there are seven SC-FDMA symbols per time slot when normal cyclic prefix is used, and six when extended cyclic prefix is used. The measurement is carried out for a complete radio frame, meaning for 140 SC-FDMA symbols.



Figure 28: EVM versus symbol (UL FDD, 10 MHz)

This type of measurement is more important than an alternative due to lack of a specification for a transmit filter. Aggressive filtering will add time distortion to the

signal, which will reduce the effects of the cyclic prefix, which can cause unwanted intersymbol interference. For this reason it is essential to estimate the EVM over time, meaning for symbol duration.

#### 6.5.4 Spectrum Emission Mask (SEM)

By analyzing the spectrum emission mask (SEM) it is possible to conclude whether the failure of the EVM measurement is related to the VCO, or comes from non-linearities generated by components used in the device under test. The 3GPP specification defines – as for WCDMA and HSPA – exact limits, which shall not be exceeded by the device. For a given bandwidth of 10 MHz the following limits are defined for an out-of-band transmission.

#### Table 7: Measurement limits for SEM (UL, 10 MHz FDD)

∆f <sub>ooa</sub> in MHz	±01	±12.5	±2.55	±56	±610	±1015	±1520	±2025
Power in dBm per BW	-18		10	-	13	-25	10	849
Measurement Bandwidth	30 kHz	1 MHz						

It is important to notice, that the power values (in dBm) for out-of-band emissions vary, depending on the resolution bandwidth (30 kHz and 1 MHz). This is a method already used for WCDMA and HSPA Spectrum Emission Mask measurements. Transferring the results of Table 7 into a graphical format is shown Figure 29.



Figure 29: Spectrum Emission Mask (SEM) normalized to 1MHz

The y-axis shows the measured power value related to the 1 MHz resolution bandwidth. Although for ±1.0 MHz adjacent to the occupied channel, the resolution bandwidth is specified with 30 kHz. Converting the specified tolerance of -18 dBm/30 kHz to a resolution bandwidth of 1 MHz results in a limit of -2.77 dBm/1 MHz. This new harmonized value is taken as the limit instead of dividing the diagram into two separate areas, where one is related to a resolution of 30 kHz and the other to 1 MHz, as it is used for the spectrum emission mask measurement for WCDMA and HSPA. An increase in channel bandwidth also increases the limit requirements for the 30 kHz resolution bandwidth versa decrease in bandwidth decreases the limit requirements. In addition enhanced requirements can be signaled by the network to the device. The

network signaling values (NS\_0x) re-define not just the tolerances for spectrum emission mask, but also the limits for maximum output power, adjacent channel power depending on the EUTRA frequency band used, channel bandwidth and allocated resource blocks. The details can be found in [3], Table 6.2.4-1. The present application note assumes, that the RF IC is supporting EUTRA frequency band I, uplink 1920 to 1980 MHz, where for SEM measurement no additional requirement is specified.

Figure 30 shows now the SEM measurement according to the 3GPP specification with a resolution bandwidth of 30 kHz and 1 MHz, which is the reason for the shape of the signal.

Start Freq. Rel.         Start Freq. Rel.         Start Freq. Rel.           -20,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -6,00 MHz         -6,00 MHz           -50,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz	0 MHz) k List top Freq. Rel. -15,00 MHz -10,00 MHz -5,00 MHz -5,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	Sync State     RBW     1,00 MHz     1,00 MHz     1,00 MHz     0,03 MHz     0,03 MHz     1,00 MHz	Freq. at Δ to Limit 1,934430000 GHz 1,939831000 GHz 1,943933000 GHz 1,94500000 GHz	Captur Pwr Abs [dBm] -58,45 -57,50 -27,82 -46,49	Pwr Rel [d8] -58,45 -57,50 -27,82	∆ to Limit (dB) -33,46 -44,50	GENERAL SETTINGS A DEMOD SETTINGS	MEA
Start Freq. Rel.         St           -20,00 MHz         -15,00 MHz           -15,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -5,00 MHz         -5,00 MHz           -6,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz           -10,00 MHz         -10,00 MHz	k List top Freq. Ref. -15,00 MHz -0,00 MHz -8,00 MHz -6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	RBW 1,00 MHz 1,00 MHz 1,00 MHz 0,03 MHz 1,00 MHz	Freq. at A to Limit 1,934430000 GHz 1,939631000 GHz 1,943933000 GHz 1,94500000 GHz	Pwr Abs [dBm] -58,46 -57,50 -27,82 -46,49	Pwr Rel [d8] -58,45 -57,50 -27,82	Δ to Limit [dB] -33,48 -44,50	DEMOD SETTINGS	
Start Freq. Rel.         Start Freq. Rel.<	top Freq. Rel. -15,00 MHz -0,00 MHz -0,00 MHz -5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	REW 1,00 MHz 1,00 MHz 1,00 MHz 0,03 MHz 0,03 MHz 1,00 MHz	Freq. at <u>A</u> to Limit 1,934430000 GHz 1,939631009 GHz 1,943933000 GHz 1,945000000 GHz	Pwr Abs [dBm] -58,46 -57,50 -27,82 -46,49	Pwr Rel (dB) -58,45 -57,50	∆ to Limit [dB] -33,45 -44,50	DEMOD	
-20,00 MHz -15,00 MHz -10,00 MHz -6,00 MHz 5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	-15,00 MHz -10,00 MHz -6,00 MHz -5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	1,00 MHz 1,00 MHz 1,00 MHz 0,03 MHz 0,03 MHz 1,00 MHz	1,934430000 GHz 1,939531009 GHz 1,943933000 GHz 1,945000000 GHz	-58,46 -57,50 -27,82 -46,49	-58,46 -57,50	-33,46 -44,50		
-15,00 MHz -10,00 MHz -6,00 MHz 5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	-10,00 MHz -8,00 MHz -5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	1,00 MHz 1,00 MHz 0,03 MHz 0,03 MHz 1,00 MHz	1,939631009 GHz 1,943933000 GHz 1,945000000 GHz	-57,50 -27,82 -46,49	-57,60	-44,50	·	-
-10,00 MHz -6,00 MHz 5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	-6,00 MHz -5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	1,00 MHz 0,03 MHz 0,03 MHz 1.00 MHz	1,943933000 GHz 1,945000000 GHz	-27,82	-27.82			
-6,00 MHz 5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	-5,08 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	0,03 MHz 0,03 MHz 1,00 MHz	1,945000000 GHz	-46.49		-17,82	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	SET
5,00 MHz 6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	0,03 MHz 1,00 MHz			-46,49	-28,49	DISPLAY	
6,00 MHz 10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	1,00 MHz	1,955040000 GHz	-51,87	-51,87	-33,87	GRAPH LIST	
10,00 MHz 15,00 MHz	15,00 MHz		1,956067000 GHz	-24,59	-24,59	-14,59		FIL
15,00 MHz		1,00 MHz	1,960176000 GHz	-57,90	-57,90	-44,90	SPECTRUM	
	20,00 MHz	1,00 MHz	1,969358000 GHz	-58,43	-58,43	-33,43	MACON.	1.100
	Result 9	Scaling Factor: 0	1.00 dB				B	į.
10-								
0			hundrehundreh	4				
20							INBAND EMISSION SLOTO SLOTI	
50 60 70 1930			1950	1955	1960 1	265 1920	CHAINEL FLATNESS FLAT GRDEL	
PTURE DSP	5 194	0 1345	Frequency [MHz]	1300	1360	13/0	CHAIMEL FLATHESS	PRE

Figure 30: Spectrum Emission Mask measurement with FSQ (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: STANDARD

#### 6.5.5 In-band emission

EVM measurements are only performed on resource blocks, allocated to the user. Not all 50 resource blocks either in the uplink or in the downlink can be assigned to one user due to the need for control channels, such as PUCCH or PDCCH. In this example 46 resource blocks are assigned at maximum to a single user for a given bandwidth of 10 MHz. In real network operation fewer than 46 resource blocks are allocated to one user, in fact they are of course allocated to more than one. Therefore the impact of a user to non-allocated resources must be estimated. That ensures, that the transmission of own user data in the uplink via the PUSCH does not interfere with the data transmission of other users as well as with transmitting control information on a control channel. The measurement for estimating the interference – given as power – affecting non-allocated resource blocks, is called in-band emission measurement. An absolute and relative in-band emission are measured, where the relative in-band emission is derived from the absolute in-band emission. Both results are expressed in

dB. With an FSQ the measurement can be performed for each subframe individually for time slot 0 and time slot 1 versus the resource block indices.



Figure 31: In-band emissions subframe #0, time slot #0 and #1 (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: STANDARD

#### 6.5.6 Spectrum flatness, flatness difference and channel group delay

The definition of the Error Vector Magnitude foresees, that the measurement takes place after the IDFT. The EVM is measured by estimating and removing the sampling timing offset and the RF frequency offset.



This will however hide possible problems in the transmitter at the power amplifier and IQ modulator. Therefore additional EVM testing or further measurements are necessary, to check for problems. The two additional requirements, defined to ensure excellent transmitter performance are spectrum flatness and flatness difference. With

the spectrum flatness measurement, the power variations of a subcarrier are compared to the average power of all subcarriers, in dB.

On the other hand it is an estimation of the frequency response H(f) of the transmission channel, where the flatness difference shows the deviation to this estimation. This variance is measured in dB.



Figure 33: Spectrum Flatness and flatness difference (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: STANDARD

Also of interest is the channel group delay measurement. As group delay is the derivative of the phase of the signal, the group delay can only be constant when the phase of the signal is linear. Since the phase is never straight linear, the group delay can not be constant. Group delay always exists, but only reduces signal, if it exceeds the guard interval, the cyclic prefix. If the group delay exceeds cyclic prefix it cause intersymbol interference to the digital modulated signal.



Figure 34: Group delay measurement (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: STANDARD

The group delay varies, depending on the filter used. The filter optimized for EVM will decrease the group delay, whereas the ACP-optimized filter will increase the group delay.

#### 6.5.7 Adjacent Channel Leakage Power Ratio (ACLR)

LTE will use the same frequency bands, used by WCDMA/HSPA. As a consequence LTE will coexists with WCDMA/HSPA. Different frequencies of the same frequency band might be used, for downlink as well as uplink. Therefore it is important to verify the impact of an LTE signal on a WCDMA/HSPA signal, using the Adjacent Channel Leakage Power Ratio (ACLR) measurement. This measurement characterizes the distortions of the power output from the transmitter, which can cause interference to adjacent channels – whether they are WCDMA/HSPA or LTE. For the impact on WCDMA/HSPA, the power of the LTE signal is measured using a root-raised cosine filter with a resolution bandwidth of 3.84 MHz and a roll-off factor of  $\alpha = 0.22$  in an offset of 5 and 10 MHz (UTRA<sub>ACLR1</sub> and UTRA<sub>ACLR2</sub>) from the edge of the allocated bandwidth. The filter is moved to the desired frequency and the power of the signal is integrated for the resolution bandwidth. The resulting power value is than displayed for the desired frequency offset in this case 5 and 10 MHz.

Figure 35 shows an LTE signal (blue graph) configured as uplink reference measurement channel, with 10 MHz bandwidth at a carrier frequency of  $f_c$  = 1950 MHz and a power level of -35 dBm. The spectrum shows also a WCDMA uplink signal (black graph,  $f_{UTRA, ACLR2}$  = 1937.5 MHz) as well as an HSDPA uplink signal (green graph,  $f_{UTRA, ACLR1}$  = 1942 MHz).



Figure 35: Spectrum showing LTE, WCDMA and HSDPA uplink signals

The limits for ACLR measurement are 33 dB respectively 36 dB for UTRA  $_{\rm ACLR1/2}$  as shown in Table 8.

Table 8:General re	auirements	for ACLR	measurement	in LTE

BW in MHz	1.4	3	5	10	15	20
UTRA ACLR1	33 dB					
UTRA ACLR2	-	-	36 dB	36 dB	36 dB	36 dB
E-UTRA <sub>ACLR1</sub>	30 dB					

As for SEM measurement, the network can send additional requirements to the UE for specific deployment scenarios. Assuming an RF IC supporting frequency band I the limits of the ACLR measurement for UTRA<sub>ACLR2</sub> changes to 43 dB. In an offset of 10 MHz from the occupied bandwidth, the transmission power must have dropped by 43 dB. In the following two figures a ACLR measurement is performed to verify the tolerances defined for the presence of a WCDMA signal. Figure 36 shows now the ACLR measurement using the filter optimized for EVM. As highlighted the ACP is acceptable and is not exceeding the specified limits.

reg 1.95 GHz	CPIC	ell Grp / ID Auto / Group 0 / ID 0	Master Ref Level	12.50 dBm, 25 dB	1	
de UL FDD, 50 F	RBs (10 MHz) Sync S	tate	Capture Length	20.10 ms	GEHERAL	MEA
djacent Channel	Power List Limit Adjacent: Limit Alternate	-33d8 -3648			SETTINGS	
<b>6</b>	Render Hele		10000		A	
Channel	Bandwidth	Spacing(Offset)	Lower	Upper	DEMOD	
18	9MHz		8,04	dem	SETTINGS	
Adjacent	3,84MHz	7,5MHz	-46,63.08	-46,90 08	27	_
Alternate	3,84MH2	12,90842	-65,54 08	+65,44.08		SET
					DISPLAY	
					GRAPH LIST	2
						FIL
					77,533,62	-
					PVT	
					11222501	1
						DIS
						DRS
in and Channel	Bassa Association of Astern	Second Printer Stations 1970	100 00 LL			DIS
jacent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. ( Naise Connection	Channel Cairlier: 384McpsUTH	4A RBW: 100.00344:		EVM	Dis
jacent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 3.84 Mops UTP on: Of	A RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		EVM	DIS
acent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 3.84 Mcps UTP nr: Of	NA RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		EVM	DIS
jacent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Carrectio	Channet Carrier: 3.84 Mcps UTP nr: Of	A RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz 5'WT: 500.0 ma		EVM B	Dis
0 10	Powei Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 3.84 Mcps UTR nr: Of	AA RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz 5WT: 500.0 ms		B SPECTRUM	DIS
jacent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 3.84 Mops UTP m: Of	NA RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		EVM B SPECTRUM	DIS
0	Power Azsumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 3.84 Mops UTP m:	A RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		33 SPECTRUM	DIS
0 10 20 40	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channet Carrier: 3.84 Mcps UTP or: Of	A RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		23 SPECTRUM CORSTELL	DIS
0 10 20 30 40	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 384 Mcps UTR nr: OF	A R8W: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		EVM 38 SPECTHUM CONSTELL	DIS
0 0 10 20 20 40 50	Power Assumed Adj. C Noize Correctio	Channel Carrier: 384 Mops UTP m: Of	A BBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 m		23 SPECTRUM CONSTELL	DIS
0 0 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 384 Mops UTP nc	A RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		39 SPECTRUM CORSTELL	нк
0 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 384 Mcps UTR	A BBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 m		B SPECTRUM CORSTELL STATISTICS	нк
acent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 384 Mops UTP m: Of	A RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 ms		B SPECTRUM CONSTELL STATISTICS	
acent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correctio	Channel Carrier: 3.84 Mcps UTP m: Of	A BBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 m	1965 11	IB SPECTRUM CORSTELL STATISTICS /MESC	
acent Channel 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correction	Channel Carrier: 384 Mcps UTR m: OF 1945 1950 Frequency JMH3	A R8W: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 m	1965 19	EVM SPECTRUM CORSTELL STATISTICS (MESC	
acent Channel	Power Assumed Adj. C Noise Correction	Channel Carrier: 3.84 Mcps UTR m: OF 1945 1950 Frequency (MHz	A RBW: 100.00 kHz FF VBW: 1.00 MHz SWT: 500.0 m 1955 1960	1965 11	EVM SPECTINIA CONSTELL STATISTICS /MBSC	DIS

Figure 36: ACLR measurement in presence of a WCDMA signal (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: EVM

A much better performance is achieved, when an ACP-optimized filter is used. The ACLR improves by approximately 20 dB.



Figure 37: ACLR measurement in presence of a WCDMA signal (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: ACP

As well as interfering with a WCDMA/HSPA signal interference with an LTE signal from another network operator is possible. For this situation the impact on the neighbouring LTE signal is analyzed with the second part of the ACLR measurement. A rectangular filter with a variable resolution bandwidth, depending on the allocated bandwidth, is used to estimate the impact on this LTE signal. For a reference measurement channel with a channel bandwidth of 10 MHz, the resolution bandwidth for the rectangular filter is defined as 9 MHz. The limit for ACLR in presence of another LTE signal is 30 dB (see Table 8).



Figure 38: ACLR in presence of another LTE signal, same BW (UL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: STANDARD

#### 6.5.8 Spurious Emissions

To measure spurious emissions the RF IC is connected to a spectrum analyzer with a frequency range of at least 12.75 GHz. The signal is analysed for defined frequency ranges using a measurement filter with a specified resolution bandwidth. The clearly defined limits may not be exceeded. The tolerances are summarized in the following table.

Table 9: Spurious Emission Limits for LTE

Frequency range	Maximum Level	Measurement BW
9 kHz ≤ f < 150 kHz	-36 dBm	1 kHz
150 kHz < f < 30 MHz		10 kHz

Transmitter verification; settings and measurements

TX measurements

30 MHz < f < 1 GHz		100 kHz
1 GHz < f ≤ 12.75 GHz	-30 dBm	1 MHz

# 7 Receiver verification; settings and measurements

#### 7.1 LTE downlink signal generation with SMU

Table 1 in section 5 shows the settings for the downlink reference measurement channel for LTE FDD. The signal can be configured very easily using a SMU, since the majority of the parameters are based on each other. A few things to be taken into account, as described below.

First of all, the general settings need to be applied to the signal, like setting the right frequency depending on [7] as well as selecting duplex method, link direction, channel bandwidth and the antennas used.



Figure 39: Applying the general setting for the LTE downlink signal 10 MHz, FDD

Next step is the frame configuration. By pushing the frame configuration tab the appropriate window will appear. As for uplink, no tall resources can be allocated to the UE for user data transmission. Selecting three allocations for the first subframe is necessary for the transmitting of control and broadcast information. As explained in

section 2.1 the physical layer generates valid demodulation, synchronization and reference signals.



Figure 40: Configuration of the first subframe (DL, 10 MHz FDD), part I

The primary and secondary synchronization signals occupy 62 of the 72 reserved subcarriers<sup>11</sup> around the DC carrier and are transmitted on the second last and last OFDM symbols of the first time slot of the first subframe. The PBCH follows the synchronization signals, using the next four OFDM symbols in time domain and all 72 subcarriers in frequency domain. The channel responsible for carrying the control information can be configured by hitting the appropriate tab in the frame configuration screen. The PCFICH, and therefore the number of OFDM symbols used for the PDCCH, can be configured as well as power levels to be used for this type of control channel. The configuration and all settings described above are shown in Figure 41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 6 resource blocks = 72 subcarrier are reserved for transmission of synchronization signals and broadcast information



Figure 41: Configuring the first subframe (DL, 10 MHz FDD), part II

Due to synchronization signals in the first time slot of subframe #0 as well as reference signals in every resource block a number of resource elements are not available for data transmission. This is also valid for the downlink physical channels, carrying control and broadcast information. The PDCCH is present in every subframe, therefore the first two symbols in each subframe, depending on the settings, are always occupied by this control channel. Deducting reference signals, synchronization signals, and control channels at maximum 12960 Bit can be used for data transmission using QPSK modulation for PDSCH. By following the definition for the reference measurement channel, the transport block size (TBS) needs to be set to 4392 Bit for all 10 subframes (see Table 5, see Figure 42).



Figure 42:Setting the Transport Block Size (TBS) for the first subframe (DL, 10 MHz FDD), part III

Since the TBS is equal for every subframe, the setting is applied automatically to each subframe by just configuring one frame is described above. This is the reason, why the number of configurable subframes is selected as 1 (see Figure 40). In the case, that a different TBS needs to be set for the individual subframes, the number of configurable subframes needs to be increased. Each subframes needs then to be configured individually.

The configuration of the SMU is now complete and the generator can be switched on. The overall time plan is shown in Figure 43.

FSQ settings for Rx verification



Figure 43: Overall time plan for 1 radio frame (DL, 10 MHz FDD)

#### 7.2 FSQ settings for Rx verification

Since a digital IQ standard is used on the RF IC, as described for TX verification, the output of the device under test needs to be converted into the R&S used DIGITAL IQ format (TVR290) using the EX-IQ Box. To prepare the FSQ:

- From the "General Settings" tab select
  - Digital IQ as input source,
  - FDD as duplexing method,
  - o Downlink as link direction
- From the "Demodulation Settings" select Auto-demodulation as downlink demodulation settings.

FSQ settings for Rx verification



Figure 44: General and demodulation settings for the FSQ (DL, 10 MHz FDD)

It is also possible to set this manually be selecting in 'Signal Characteristic' tab the right parameters like the used modulation scheme as well as the number of resource blocks, which are assigned for user data transmission in downlink. These are 50 resource blocks, based on the definition of the downlink reference measurement channel for 10 MHz. In the advanced signal characteristics tab for the downlink, the presence of the PDCCH and furthermore PCFICH as set on the signal generator side, needs to be indicated by activating the appropriate check boxes.

Synchronization Signal	Settings			
P-/S-SYNC Repetition Perio	d 10 Slots	<ul> <li>P-SYNC Rel Power</li> </ul>	0.00 dB	P-/S-SYNC Sequence P-Internal S-Internal
		S-SYNC Rel. Power	0.00 dB	
Reference Signal Stru	cture			
PRS Initialization	36.211 v8.2.0	Rel Power	0.00 dB	Pseudo-Rand. Seq. R_prs Internal
Subcarrier Offset	Auto	Orthogonal Seq.	S0 💌	
TDD Settings				
JL/DL Allocations	Conf. 0	TDD Allocations	DL,S,UL,UL,UL,DL,	S.UL.UL.UL
Misc Settings				
PRB Symbol Offset	2	-		
PBCH Length	4 Symbols	PBCH Sym. Offset	7	
PCFICH Present	A			
PHICH Number of Groups		0 PHICH Duration	Normal	
PDCCH Present	5			
A DESCRIPTION OF A DESC		0		

Figure 45: Downlink Advanced Signal Characteristics (DL, 10 MHz FDD)

#### 7.3 Rx measurements

#### 7.3.1 Power measurements

Output and standard power vs. frequency is measured. The output power is analyzed in the time domain displaying power versus time as shown in Figure 46. Two complete radio frames (= 20 ms) are displayed. The primary and secondary synchronization signals are highlighted (light and dark blue bars). From the graph the repetition rate for the synchronization signals, can be detected, as it is a half radio frame, or in this case 5 ms.



Figure 46: Power versus time (DL FDD, 10 MHz), filter: STANDARD



A standard power versus frequency measurement is shown in Figure 47.

Figure 47: Power Spectrum (DL FDD, 10 MHz), filter: STANDARD

#### 7.3.2 EVM vs. subcarrier, vs. symbol and vs. subframe

As for the uplink, the Error Vector Magnitude versus carrier rather than symbol can be measured for the downlink. As for uplink, the filter has an impact to the results. The results shown in following figures are achieved using the EMV-optimized filter.



Figure 48: EVM vs. subcarrier and vs. symbol (DL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: EVM

By changing the filter type to ACP the results change completely as shown in Figure 49. The strong filtering acts a like a delay and is impacting the signal quality at the edge of the transmission bandwidth. The EVM is increased so much, that under real conditions the performance is not good enough to use a higher order modulation scheme.

Figure 49: EVM vs. subcarrier (DL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: ACP



Figure 50 shows the constellation display for the complete downlink signal, featuring the QPSK-modulated user data, the reference and the synchronization signals.



Figure 50: Constellation Display for complete DL signal

The constellation display in Figure 51 shows the reference signals as part of the downlink signal. Reference signals are always transmitted time-wise in the 1<sup>st</sup> (symbol #0) and 5<sup>th</sup> OFDM symbol (symbol #4) for SISO operation. The frequency spacing between the reference signals is six subcarriers. Based on this the first reference signal for 10 MHz LTE downlink signal is expected in OFDM symbol 0 at subcarrier - 300. This is shown in the left constellation display. The right constellation display shows the reference signal carried in symbol #4 on subcarrier -297.

#### Figure 51: Constellation Display showing the DL reference signals



Besides user data and the reference signals, synchronization signals are part of the first subframe. These are shown in Figure 52.



Figure 52: Constellation Display showing synchronization signal (P- and S-Sync)

#### 7.3.3 Crest Factor CCDF

A numeric overview of all measurement parameters can be displayed by the FSQ.

💠 Rohde & Schwarz El	ITRA/LTE Analysis	oltware Version 2.2 E	leta 7					
Freq (Digital IQ)		CP/Cell Grp/ID Nor	m / Grp 0 / ID 0	Master Re	fLevel			
Mode DL FDD, 50 RBs	(10 MHz)	Sync State OK	ync State OK Capture Length 20.10 ms (308736 Sam.)		GENERAL	MEAS		
Result Summary	Subfran Symbol	nes ALL Select s Meas. 140	tion Antenna 1				SETTINGS	
ltem	Min	Mean	Mean Limit	Max	Max Limit	Unit	DEMOD	
EVM PDSCH QPSK		0,24	17,50			24	SETTINGS	
EVM PDSCH 160AM			12,50			2	-	
EVM PDSCH 640AM			8.00			x		SETUP
EVM Phys. Channel	0,22	0,24		0,27		*	DISPLAY	
EVM Phys. Signal	0,21	0,23		0,27		24	GRAPH LIST	
EVMAI	0,22	0.24		0,27		24		FILE
Frequency Error	0,17	-0,20		0,17		Hz	EVMIVS	10.000
Sampling Error	-0,02	0.01		0,04		ppm	CARRIER	7
IQ Offset	-75,02	-74,57		-74,11		dB		DISP
IQ Gain Imbalance	-0,01	0,00		0.00		dÐ		
10 Quadrature Error	-0,01	-0,01		-0,01			EVM VS SYMBOL	
Frame Power	-25,47	-25,44		-25,44		dBm		MKRS
Crest Factor		10,45				dB		
							FRED ERR VS-SYMBOL	
							EVM VS SUBFRAME	
TAPTURE								
EXITEUTRALITE	EUTRALTE		RUN SGL	RUH CONT	REFRESH	SCREELA		PRESET

Figure 53: Numeric overview of DL measurement parameters

The last parameter listed in the table is the crest factor, also known as peak-to-average power ratio (PAPR). The maximum PAPR for LTE is approximately 12 dB, the same as it is for WiMAX, a competing technology for broadband wireless.



Figure 54: CCDF (DL, 10 MHz FDD), filter: STANDARD

#### 7.3.4 Intermodulation characteristics, IIP3 and IIP2

Intermodulation refers to unwanted spectral components generated by the non-linear behaviour of semiconductor components in signal processing, such as the power amplifier or IQ modulator. Mathematically, non-linear behaviour is approximated, using the Taylor series, where the detailed derivation can be found in [10]. With just a single-tone signal, such as a sinus, as input to the receiver chain, harmonics will be created in the output. These harmonics are created by non-linearities and are at multiples of the input frequency. Using two signals at frequencies  $f_{in,1}$  and  $f_{in,2}$  as input to the receiver (also called two-tone driving) will result in intermodulation products.



#### Figure 55: Intermodulation products up to 3rd order for two-tone driving

With help of the Taylor series it can be shown, that beside the harmonics of each input frequency  $(2f_{in,1}, 3f_{in,1} \text{ and } 2f_{in,2}, 3f_{in,2}) 2^{nd}$  order intermodulation products occur at the sum and the difference of the input frequencies  $(f_{in,1}+f_{in,2}, f_{in,2}-f_{in,1})$  and  $3^{rd}$  order intermodulation products occur at  $2f_{in,1}-f_{in,2}$ ,  $2f_{in,1}-f_{in,2}$  as well as at  $2f_{in,1}+f_{in,2}$  and  $2f_{in,2}+f_{in1}$ . The outcome spectrum is shown in Figure 55. In general the even numbered intermodulation products are far away from the two input signals, when the offset between the two tones is very small and can be suppressed by filtering. The odd-

numbered intermodulation products are close to the input signals and can therefore not suppressed by filtering. In addition there is a relationship between the power level of the  $2^{nd}$  order harmonic and  $2^{nd}$  order intermodulation products, which is 6 dB, 9.54 dB for the  $3^{rd}$  order. To determine the interference caused by intermodulation products the n-th order intercept points are estimated. The input intercept point is the point at which the intermodulation product would reach the same power level as the interfering, stimulating signal, which is fed into the receiver's input. The intercept points with the most practical relevance are the  $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$  order input intercept points (IIP2 and IIP3). IIP3 describes the superficial intermodulation behaviour, IIP2 describes the demodulation characteristics in the baseband.

Figure 56: Estimation of Input Intercept Point 3 and 2 [9]



 $3^{rd}$  order input intercept point (IIP3). To assess the LTE receiver for resistance from interference from internally generated intermodulation products, the receiver is tested according to 3GPP specification for its average throughput ( $R_{av}$  in kbps) in presence of third-order intermodulation products, by using two signals with equal power level as interferer. The first interferer is a CW signal, the second is another LTE signal, where

the bandwidth is dependent on the bandwidth of the user LTE signal. According to 3GPP TR 36.101 V8.2.0, chapter 7.8, the two interferers are using a fixed power level ( $P_{test}$ ) of -46 dBm. The wanted signal mean power is calculated by taking the reference sensitivity value for the QPSK-modulated LTE reference measurement channel (REFSENS = -97 dBm) and adding a bandwidth dependent value of 6 dB giving -91 dBm. Depending on the bandwidth, the offset of the interferer to the carrier frequency f<sub>c</sub> is calculated. For 10 MHz bandwidth the first interferer, the CW signal is placed ±12.5 MHz from the carrier. The second interferer, the modulated LTE signal, is placed at twice the offset of the first.



Figure 57: Intermodulation characteristics for LTE (DL,10 MHz FDD)

Calculating the intermodulation products for the first interferer scenario with an offset of  $\pm 12.5$  MHz from the carrier frequency  $f_c$  – respectively  $\pm 25$  MHz for the second scenario – shows, that the odd intermodulation products, especially the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order, are close to the downlink carrier frequency and would interfere with the user signal and so impact the data throughput. A possible throughput measurement as required by 3GPP in the related specification [3] is only in signalling mode possible, when the UE sends the required information for calculating the throughput on the uplink channel. The data throughput R<sub>av</sub> is calculated as for HSPA, by counting the *ACK*nowledged and *Non-ACK*nowledged data blocks and transferring this into a Block Error Rate (BLER). Average throughput and BLER are linked to each other by the Nominal Average Information Bit Rate, which depends on the signal configuration and therefore on the selecting reference measurement channel. The Nominal Average Information Bit Rate is defined according to 3GPP and is, as given in Table 5, 4392 kbps.

Formula 1: Calculating the BLER and average user data throughput R<sub>av</sub>

$$BLER = \frac{NACK + DTX}{ACK + NACK + DTX} \le 0.1$$
  

$$R_{av} = (1 - BLER) * Nom. Avg. Inf. Bit Rate$$

For RF IC level testing this method is simply not practical, due to the lack of baseband chipset and protocol stack functionality. The method only makes sense at a later stage of the development, this method would make sense. At chipset level another, indirect measurement of the IIP3 is a sufficient method to verify the receivers behaviour for  $3^{rd}$  intermodulation products. The method differs in that way, that two CW signals are used as interferer. To test the linearity of the receiver itself, these two interferers are placed very close to the carrier frequency, with just an offset, for example 1 MHz. Additionally half-duplex-tests are made, where the offset frequencies are chosen so that a  $3^{rd}$  order modulation product occurs exactly on the carrier frequency  $f_c$ . The first offset frequency is set to be the same as the uplink frequency, e.g. for E-UTRA Band I as  $f_{in,1} = f_{TX} = 1950$  MHz. The second interferer is either set at  $f_{in,2} = 2f_{in,1} - f_{RX}$  or  $f_{in,2} = (f_{in,1}+f_{RX})/2$ . The receiver is tuned to one of the  $3^{rd}$  order intermodulation product frequencies and the IIP3 is measured.

2<sup>nd</sup> order input intercept point (IIP2). The biggest contribution to the 2<sup>nd</sup> order intermodulation product and therefore to the 2<sup>nd</sup> order input intercept point (IIP2) is caused by cross modulation by the mixer in the receiver. The IIP2 is a virtual point, which can not be directly measured, since the receiver would already be in compression at that power level (see Figure 56). The IIP2 can be determined under various conditions, for different interferers at various frequencies. One way to measure the IIP2 is to use two CW signals generated at an offset from the carrier frequency f<sub>c</sub> and a small offset from each other, e.g. 1 MHz. The offset to the carrier frequency for FDD validation relates to the duplex distance, meaning the distance between downlink and uplink, which depends on the testing frequency band. For the RF IC assumed in this application note supporting frequency band I, the duplex distance is 190 MHz. The first interferer will be generated at a frequency offset of fc+190 MHz, the second one at f<sub>c</sub>+191 MHz. Both interferers are the only signals fed into the RF IC. The RF IC will mix the two interferers down to the baseband, where the IP2 analysis is performed and the IIP2 is estimated. Using a conventional signal generator two signal generators would be needed to generate two CW signals, as also high-end signal generators are not free of intermodulation. With a two-path SMU just one signal generator is required.

#### 7.3.5 1 dB compression point

The intermodulation products are examined to analyze the non-linear behavior of the RF IC. Linearity is estimated by measuring the 1 dB compression point at a selected input frequency, which gives a good indication of the performance of the low noise amplifiers used in the RF IC. By focusing on the amplifier it can be shown, that the output power typically exhibits a linear correspondence to the input power as it changes. The ratio output power to input power, the amplifiers gain, stays constant, up to a critical point beyond which the gain decreases, as the maximum power of the amplifier is reached. The amplifier compresses. This behavior is shown in Figure 58.



The 1 dB compression point specifies the output power of the receiver at which the signal lags behind the ideal output by 1 dB. There are two preferred ways to measure the 1dB compression point with a signal generator and spectrum analyzer approach as shown in the setup in Figure 7. Before measuring the compression, the setup needs to be calibrated by taking the DUT of the setup and estimating the reference level offset. The details are explained in [10]. For the standard method a CW signal is used, generated at a frequency, e.g. 2140 MHz, with a power level of for example  $P_{in} = -60$  dBm. Stepwise the power of the signal generator is increased by 1 dB and the output power of the receiver is measured with the analyzer. The 1 dB compression point is reached, when the change of the output power do not correspond anymore to 1 dB (± measurement tolerance).

For any kind of wideband receiver, such as LTE or WCDMA, another method of measuring the 1dB compression point is also used. This method is referred to as desensitization test. For the method two CW signals are input to the receivers input, with the second interferer at a particular frequency offset from the first. Both signals use initially the same power level. The level of the second interferer is increased by 1 dB steps until the output power of the receiver no longer corresponds to a change of 1 dB.

#### 7.3.6 Noise Figure

The components in the RF IC receiver will all contribute noise to the received signal. This receiver noise will effect the receivers sensitivity as well as the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) at the output of the receiver. A way to estimate the impact of the receiver

noise on the received signal is to measure of the noise figure (NF). The easiest method to measure the NF is to compare the SNR at the receivers input ( $SNR_{input}$ ) to the SNR at the output of the receiver ( $SNR_{output}$ ).

Formula 2: Calculation of the receiver's Noise Figure

$$NF\big|_{dB} = SNR_{input} - SNR_{output} = \frac{S_{in}}{N_{in}}\bigg|_{dB} - \frac{S_{out}}{N_{out}}\bigg|_{dB}$$

The input SNR is calculated by setting the power of the incoming signal  $S_{input}$  in relation to the noise  $N_{input}$ , which is the basic noise as a product of Boltzmann's constant k and an appropriate temperature T, normally room temperature<sup>12</sup>. The output SNR is calculated by taking the output power  $S_{out}$ , which is the input power of the signal plus the gain of the low noise amplifier in the receiver chain relative to the noise,  $N_{out}$ , measured at the receivers output, when no signal is present at the input.

#### 7.3.7 Other measurements

Beside the concrete RF measurements other parameters are measured at chip level to ensure the operability of the RF IC.

**S-Parameter and VSWR measurements.** One such measurement is the receiver's input impedance. This measurement requires a network analyzer, for example R&S<sup>®</sup> ZVA, R&S<sup>®</sup> ZVB or R&S<sup>®</sup> ZVL.

Figure 59: VSWR, S-Parameter measurement with R&S ZVL



For transmitting as well as receiving it is important that the output and input impedance differ from the expected matching of 50 Ohm. Otherwise a poorer value for noise in the

<sup>12</sup> k = 1,3806504(24)\*10<sup>-23</sup> J/K, T = 293.15 K (20°C)

receiving direction results due to an increase in the insertion loss. In the transmitting direction a high mismatch than 50 Ohms would result in higher reflection back to the transmitter, causing also an increase in the insertion loss.

# 8 Abbreviations

3GPP	3rd Generation Partnership Project
ACK	Acknowledgement
ARQ	Automatic Repeat Request
BCCH	Broadcast Control Channel
CCDF	Complementary Cumulative Density Function
СР	Cyclic Prefix
CQI	Channel Quality Indicator
CRC	Cyclic Redundancy Check
DCI	Downlink Control Information
DL	Downlink
DL-SCH	Downlink Shared Channel
DRS	Demodulation Reference Signal
eNB	E-UTRAN NodeB, enhanced Node B
E-UTRA	Evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access
E-UTRAN	Evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network
FDD	Frequency Division Duplex
HSDPA	High Speed Downlink Packet Access
HSPA	High Speed Packet Access
HSUPA	High Speed Uplink Packet Access
LTE	Long Term Evolution
NACK	Negative Acknowledgement
OFDM	Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing
OFDMA	Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access
PAPR	Peak-to-Average Power Ratio
PBCH	Physical Broadcast Channel
PDCCH	Physical Downlink Control Channel
PDSCH	Physical Downlink Shared Channel
PHY	Physical Layer
PMI	Precoding Matrix Indicator
PUCCH	Physical Uplink Control Channel
PUSCH	Physical Uplink Shared Channel
QAM	Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
QPSK	Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
RF	Radio Frequency

Abbreviations

Rx measurements

RI	Rank Indicator
SC-FDMA	Single Carrier – Frequency Division Multiple Access
SISO	Single Input Single Output
SRS	Sounding Reference Signal
TDD	Time Division Duplex
UCI	Uplink Control Information
UE	User Equipment
UL	Uplink
UL-SCH	Uplink Shared Channel

### 9 Literature

[1] Application Note 1MA111\_2E; UMTS Long Term Evolution (LTE) Technology Introduction, Rohde & Schwarz,

[2] E. Dahlmann, S. Parkvall, J. Sköld, P. Beming; 3G Evolution – HSPA and LTE for Mobile Broadband; Academic Press,

[3] 3GPP TS 36.101 V8.3.0; User Equipment (UE) radio transmission and reception (Release 8),

[4] 3GPP TS 36.211 V8.4.0; Physical Channels and Modulation (Release 8),

[5] 3GPP TS 36.212 V8.4.0; Multiplexing and channel Coding (Release 8),

[6] 3GPP TS 36.521-1 V2.0.0; User Equipment (UE) conformance specification, radio transmission and reception Part 1: conformance testing (Release 8),

[7] 3GPP TS 36.508 V0.1.0; Common test environments for User Equipment (UE); Conformance testing (Release 8),

[8] 3GPP TR 36.803 V2.0.0; User Equipment (UE) radio transmission and reception (Release 8),

[9] C. Rauscher; Fundamentals of Spectrum Analysis, Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG,

[10] Application Note 1MA71\_0E; Measuring the Non-linearities of RF Amplifiers using Signal Generator and Spectrum Analyzer, Rohde & Schwarz,

[11] 3GPP TR 25.913 V7.3.0; Requirements for Evolved UTRA (E-UTRA) and Evolved UTRAN (E-UTRAN) (Release 7)

## 10 Additional Information

This application note is updated from time to time. Please visit the website 1MA138 to download the latest version.

Please send any comments or suggestions about this application note to <u>TM-Applications@rsd.rohde-schwarz.com</u>.

# 11 Ordering Information

#### **Vector Signal Generator**

R&S® SMU200A	Frequency range 100 KHz to 2 2CHz for	1141.2005.02
R&3@ 3MU-B 102	1st RF Path	1141.0003.02
R&S® SMU-B103	Frequency range 100 KHz to 3GHz for 1st RF Path	1141.8603.02
R&S® SMU-B104	Frequency range 100 KHz to 4GHz for 1st RE Path	1141.8703.02
R&S® SMU-B106	Frequency range 100 KHz to 6 GHz for 1st RF Path	1141.8803.02
R&S® SMU-B202	Frequency range 100 KHz to 2.2 GHz for 2nd RF Path	1141.9400.02
R&S® SMU-B203	Frequency range 100 KHz to 3 GHz for	1141.9500.02
R&S® SMU-B9	Baseband Generator with digital modulation	1161.0766.02
	(realtime) and ARB (128 M Samples)	
R&S® SMU-B10	Baseband Generator with digital modulation (realtime) and ARB (64MSamples)	1141.7007.02
R&S® SMU-B11	Baseband Generator with digital modulation (realtime) and ARB (16MSamples)	1159.8411.02
R&S® SMU-B13 R&S® SMU-K55 R&S® SMU-K255 R&S® SMU-B14 R&S® SMU-B15 R&S® SMU-K74 R&S® SMU-K62	Baseband Main Module Digital Standard 3GPP LTE/EUTRA Digital Standard 3GPP LTE/EUTRA for WinIQSIM2 Fading simulator Fading simulator extension 2x2 MIMO Fading AWGN	1141.8003.02 1408.7310.02 1408.7362.02 1160.1800.02 1160.2288.02 1408.7762.02 xxxx.xxxx.xx
R&S® SMJ100A		1403.4507.02
R&S® SMJ-B103	Frequency range 100 kHz - 3 GHz	1403.8502.02
R&S® SMJ-B106	Frequency range 100 kHz - 6 GHz	1403.8702.02
R&S® SMJ-B9	Baseband generator with digital modulation	1404.1501.02
	(realtime) and ARB (128 M Samples)	
R&S® SMJ-B10	Baseband Generator with digital modulation	1403.8902.02
	(realtime) and ARB (64MSamples)	
R&S® SMJ-B11	Baseband Generator with digital modulation (realtime) and ARB (16MSamples)	1403.9009.02
R&S® SMJ-B13	Baseband Main Module	1403.9109.02
R&S® SMJ-K55	Digital Standard 3GPP LTE/EUTRA	1409.2206.02
R&S® SMJ-K255	Digital standard 3GPP LTE/EUTRA for WinIQSIM2	1409.2258.02
R&S® SMATE200A		1400.7005.02
R&S® SMATE-B103	Frequency range 100 KHz to 3 GHz for	1401.1000.02
	1st RF Path	
R&S® SMATE-B106	Frequency range 100 KHz to 6 GHz for 1st RF Path	1401.1200.02
R&S® SMATE-B203	Frequency range 100 KHz to 3 GHz for	1401.1400.02
R&S® SMATE-B206	Frequency range 100 kHz - 6 GHz for 2nd RF path	1401.1600.02
R&S® SMATE-B9	Baseband Generator with digital modulation	1404.7500.02

	(real time) and ARB (128 M samples)	
R&S® SMATE-B10	Baseband Generator with digital modulation	1401.2707.02
	(realtime) and ARB (64MSamples)	
R&S® SMATE-B11	Baseband Generator with digital modulation	1401.2807.02
	(realtime) and ARB (16MSamples)	
R&S® SMATE-B13	Baseband Main Module	1401.2907.02
R&S® SMATE-K55	Digital Standard 3GPP LTE/EUTRA	1404.7851.02
R&S® AMU200A	Baseband signal generator, base unit	1402.4090.02
R&S® AMU-B9	Baseband generator with digital modulation	1402.8809.02
	(realtime) and ARB (128 MSamples)	
R&S® AMU-B10	Baseband generator with dig. modulation (realtime)	1402.5300.02
	and ARB (64 MSamples)	
R&S® AMU-B11	Baseband generator with dig. modulation (realtime)	1402.5400.02
	and ARB (16 MSamples)	
R&S® AMU-B13	Baseband main module	1402.5500.02
R&S® AMU-K55	Digital Standard LTE/EUTRA	1402.9405.02
R&S® AMU-K255	Digital Standard LTE/EUTRA for WInIQSIM2	1402.9457.02
R&S® AMU-B14	Fading Simulator	1402.5600.02
R&S® AMU-B15	Fading Simulator extension	1402.5700.02
R&S® AMU-K74	2x2 MIMO Fading	1402.9857.02
R&S® AFQ100A	IQ modulation generator base unit	1401.3003.02
R&S® AFQ-B10	Waveform memory 256 Msamples	1401.5106.02
R&S® AFQ-B11	Waveform memory 1Gsamples	1401.5206.02
R&S® AFQ-K255	Digital Standard LTE/EUTRA, WinIQSIM 2 required	1401.5906.02
Signal Analyzer		
R&S® ESO3	20 Hz to 3.6 GHz	1155 5001 03
R&S® FSQ8	20 Hz to 8 GHz	1155.5001.08
R&S® FSQ26	20 Hz to 26 5 GHz	1155 5001 26
R&S® FSQ40	20 Hz to 40 GHz	1155 5001 40
R&S® FSG8	9 kHz to 8 GHz	1309.0002.08
R&S® FSG13	9 kHz to 13.6 GHz	1309.0002.13
R&S® FSV3	9 kHz to 3.6 GHz	1307.9002.03
R&S® FSV7	9 kHz to 7 GHz	1307.9002.07
R&S® FSQ-K100	EUTRA/LTE Downlink / BS Analysis	1308.9006.02
R&S® FSV-K100	EUTRA/LTE Downlink / BS Analysis	1310.9051.02
R&S® FSQ-K101	EUTRA/LTE Uplink / UE Analysis	1308.9058.02
R&S® FSV-K101	EUTRA/LTE Uplink / UE Analysis	1310.9100.02
R&S® FSQ-K102	EUTRA/LTE Downlink, MIMO	1309.9000.02

#### About Rohde & Schwarz

Rohde & Schwarz is an independent group of companies specializing in electronics. It is a leading supplier of solutions in the fields of test and measurement, broadcasting, radio monitoring and radiolocation, as well as secure communications. Established 75 years ago, Rohde & Schwarz has a global presence and a dedicated service network in over 70 countries. Company headquarters are in Munich, Germany.

#### **Regional contact**

Europe, Africa, Middle East +49 1805 12 42 42\* or +49 89 4129 137 74 customersupport@rohde-schwarz.com

North America 1-888-TEST-RSA (1-888-837-8772) customer.support@rsa.rohde-schwarz.com

Latin America +1-410-910-7988 customersupport.la@rohde-schwarz.com

Asia/Pacific +65 65 13 04 88 customersupport.asia@rohde-schwarz.com

Certified Quality System ISO 9001 DQS REG. NO 1954 QM

Certified Environmental System ISO 14001 DQS REG. NO 1954 UM

This application note and the supplied programs may only be used subject to the conditions of use set forth in the download area of the Rohde & Schwarz website.

Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG Mühldorfstraße 15 | D - 81671 München Phone + 49 89 4129 - 0 | Fax + 49 89 4129 – 13777

www.rohde-schwarz.com