

R&S® ZNB

Vector Network Analyzers Getting Started



1316006202
Version 69

ROHDE & SCHWARZ
Make ideas real



This document applies to the following vector network analyzer models and their options:

- R&S® ZNB4, 9 kHz to 4.5 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K22
- R&S® ZNB4, 9 kHz to 4.5 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K22
- R&S® ZNB4, 9 kHz to 4.5 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K24
- R&S® ZNB4, 9 kHz to 4.5 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K24
- R&S® ZNB8, 9 kHz to 8.5 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K42
- R&S® ZNB8, 9 kHz to 8.5 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K42
- R&S® ZNB8, 9 kHz to 8.5 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K44
- R&S® ZNB8, 9 kHz to 8.5 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K44
- R&S® ZNB20, 100 kHz to 20 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K62
- R&S® ZNB20, 100 kHz to 20 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K62
- R&S® ZNB20, 100 kHz to 20 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K64
- R&S® ZNB20, 100 kHz to 20 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K64
- R&S® ZNB26, 100 kHz to 26.5 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K63
- R&S® ZNB26, 100 kHz to 26.5 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1334.3330K65
- R&S® ZNB40, 10 MHz to 40 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K72
- R&S® ZNB40, 100 kHz to 40 GHz, 2 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K82
- R&S® ZNB40, 100 kHz to 40 GHz, 4 test ports, order no. 1311.6010K84
- R&S® ZNB43, 100 kHz to 43.5 GHz, 2 test ports 2.92 mm, order no. 1334.3330K92
- R&S® ZNB43, 100 kHz to 43.5 GHz, 2 test ports 2.4 mm, order no. 1334.3330K93
- R&S® ZNB43, 100 kHz to 43.5 GHz, 4 test ports 2.92 mm, order no. 1334.3330K94
- R&S® ZNB43, 100 kHz to 43.5 GHz, 4 test ports 2.4 mm, order no. 1334.3330K95
- R&S® ZNBT8, 9 kHz to 8.5 GHz, 4 test ports (up to 24 ports optional), order no. 1318.7006K24
- R&S® ZNBT20, 100 kHz to 20 GHz, 8 test ports (up to 24 ports optional), order no. 1332.9002K24
- R&S® ZNBT20, 100 kHz to 20 GHz, 8 test ports (up to 24 ports optional), order no. 1332.9002K64
- R&S® ZNBT26, 100 kHz to 26.5 GHz, 8 test ports (up to 24 ports optional), order no. 1332.9002K34
- R&S® ZNBT40, 100 kHz to 40 GHz, 8 test ports (up to 24 ports optional), order no. 1332.9002K44

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1316.0062.02 | Version 69 | R&S®ZNB

Throughout this manual, R&S® is abbreviated as R&S.

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1 Safety and regulatory information

The product documentation helps you use the product safely and efficiently. Follow the instructions provided here and in the following sections.

Intended use

The product is intended for the development, production and verification of electronic components and devices in industrial, administrative, and laboratory environments. Use the product only for its designated purpose. Observe the operating conditions and performance limits stated in the specifications document.

Target audience

The target audience of this document includes developers and technicians, administrators and maintenance personnel performing RF signal measurements. The required skills and experience of the users depend on the test setup and application of the product.

Where do I find safety information?

Safety information is part of the product documentation. It warns you of potential dangers and gives instructions on how to prevent personal injury or damage caused by dangerous situations. Safety information is provided as follows:

- In [Section 1.1, "Safety instructions"](#), on page 7. The same information is provided in many languages in printed format. The printed "Safety Instructions" for "Mains-Powered Products, Not Heavy" (document number 1171.1771.99) are delivered with the product.
- Throughout the documentation, safety instructions are provided when you need to take care during setup or operation.

1.1 Safety instructions

Products from the Rohde & Schwarz group of companies are manufactured according to the highest technical standards. To use the products safely, follow the instructions provided here and in the product documentation. Keep the product documentation nearby and offer it to other users.

Use the product only for its intended use and within its performance limits. Intended use and limits are described in the product documentation such as the specifications document, manuals and the printed "Safety Instructions" document. If you are unsure about the appropriate use, contact Rohde & Schwarz customer support.

Using the product requires skilled persons or specially trained personnel. These users also need sound knowledge of at least one of the languages in which the user interfaces and the product documentation are available.

Reconfigure or adjust the product only as described in the product documentation or the specifications document. Any other modifications can affect safety and are not permitted.

Never open the casing of the product. Only service personnel authorized by Rohde & Schwarz are allowed to repair the product. If any part of the product is damaged or broken, stop using the product. Contact Rohde & Schwarz customer support at <https://www.rohde-schwarz.com/support>.

Lifting and carrying the product

The maximum weight of the product is provided in the specifications document. You can lift or carry the product by yourself, if you can manage the weight on your own. Alternatively, you can use lifting or transporting equipment. Follow the instructions provided by the equipment manufacturer.

Choosing the operating site

Only use the product indoors. The product casing is not waterproof. Water that enters can electrically connect the casing with live parts, which can lead to electric shock, serious personal injury or death if you touch the casing.

If Rohde & Schwarz provides accessories designed for outdoor use of your product, e.g. a protective cover, you can use the product outdoors.

You can operate the product up to an altitude of 2000 m above sea level. If a higher altitude is permissible, the value is provided in the specifications document. The product is suitable for pollution degree 2 environments where nonconductive contamination can occur. For more information on environmental conditions such as ambient temperature and humidity, see the specifications document.

Setting up the product

Always place the product on a stable, flat and level surface with the bottom of the product facing down. If the product is designed for different positions, secure the product so that it cannot fall over.

If the product has foldable feet, always fold the feet completely in or out to ensure stability. The feet can collapse if they are not folded out completely or if the product is moved without lifting it. The foldable feet are designed to carry the weight of the product, but not an extra load.

If stacking is possible, keep in mind that a stack of products can fall over and cause injury.

If you mount products in a rack, ensure that the rack has sufficient load capacity and stability. Observe the specifications of the rack manufacturer. Always install the products from the bottom shelf to the top shelf so that the rack stands securely. Secure the product so that it cannot fall off the rack.

Connecting the product

Before connecting the interfaces or measuring inputs of the product to other products or electrical circuits, make sure that the other products or electrical circuits provide

special protection against electric shock. This protection principle is referred to as SELV (safety extra-low voltage) and is based on a low voltage level and increased insulation. Exceptions are indicated by a measurement category on the product and given in the specifications document.

Connecting to power

The product is an overvoltage category II product. Connect the product to a fixed installation used to supply energy-consuming equipment such as household appliances and similar loads. Keep in mind that electrically powered products have risks, such as electric shock, fire, personal injury or even death. Replace parts that are relevant to safety only by original parts, e.g. power cables or fuses.

Take the following measures for your safety:



- Before switching on the product, ensure that the voltage and frequency indicated on the product match the available power source. If the power adapter does not adjust automatically, set the correct value and check the rating of the fuse.
- If a product has an exchangeable fuse, its type and characteristics are indicated next to the fuse holder. Before changing the fuse, switch off the product and disconnect it from the power source. How to change the fuse is described in the product documentation.
- Only use the power cable delivered with the product. It complies with country-specific safety requirements. Only insert the plug into an outlet with protective conductor terminal.
- Only use intact cables and route them carefully so that they cannot be damaged. Check the power cables regularly to ensure that they are undamaged. Also ensure that nobody can trip over loose cables.
- Only connect the product to a power source with a fuse protection of maximum 20 A.
- Ensure that you can disconnect the product from the power source at any time. Pull the power plug to disconnect the product. The power plug must be easily accessible. If the product is integrated into a system that does not meet these requirements, provide an easily accessible circuit breaker at the system level.



Cleaning the product

Use a dry, lint-free cloth to clean the product. When cleaning, keep in mind that the casing is not waterproof. Do not use liquid cleaning agents.

Meaning of safety labels

Safety labels on the product and its accessories warn against potential hazards.

	<p>Potential hazard</p> <p>Read the product documentation to avoid personal injury or product damage.</p>
	<p>Electrical hazard</p> <p>Indicates live parts. Risk of electric shock, fire, personal injury or even death.</p>

	<p>Hot surface Do not touch. Risk of skin burns. Risk of fire.</p>
	<p>Protective conductor terminal Connect this terminal to a grounded external conductor or to protective ground. This connection protects you against electric shock if an electric problem occurs.</p>

1.2 Warning messages in the documentation

A warning message points out a risk or danger that you need to be aware of. The signal word indicates the severity of the safety hazard and how likely it will occur if you do not follow the safety precautions.

WARNING

Potentially hazardous situation. Could result in death or serious injury if not avoided.

NOTICE

Potential risks of damage. Could result in damage to the supported product or to other property.

1.3 Korea certification class A



이 기기는 업무용(A급) 전자파 적합기기로서 판매자 또는 사용자는 이 점을 주의하시기 바라며, 가정외의 지역에서 사용하는 것을 목적으로 합니다.

2 Documentation overview

This section provides an overview of the R&S ZNB user documentation. Unless specified otherwise, you find the documents at:

2.1 Getting started manual

Introduces the R&S ZNB and describes how to set up and start working with the product. Includes basic operations, typical measurement examples, and general information, e.g. safety instructions, etc.

A printed version is delivered with the instrument. A PDF version is available for download on the Internet.

2.2 User manual and help

The user manual contains the description of all instrument modes and functions. It also provides an introduction to remote control, a complete description of the remote control commands with programming examples, and information on maintenance, instrument interfaces and error messages. Includes the contents of the getting started manual.

The contents of the user manual are available as help in the R&S ZNB. The help offers quick, context-sensitive access to the complete information for the instrument and its firmware.

The user manual is also available for download or for immediate display on the Internet.

2.3 Service manual

Describes the performance test for checking the rated specifications, module replacement and repair, firmware update, troubleshooting and fault elimination, and contains mechanical drawings and spare part lists.

The service manual is available for registered users on the global Rohde & Schwarz information system (GLORIS):

[R&S ZNB Classified Service Document](#)

2.4 Instrument security procedures

Deals with security issues when working with the R&S ZNB in secure areas. It is available for download on the internet.

Application notes, application cards, white papers, etc.

2.5 Printed safety instructions

Provides safety information in many languages. The printed document is delivered with the product.

2.6 Specifications document and brochure

The specifications document, also known as the data sheet, contains the technical specifications of the R&S ZNB. It also lists the firmware applications and their order numbers, and optional accessories.

The brochure provides an overview of the instrument and deals with the specific characteristics.

<https://www.rohde-schwarz.com/brochure-datasheet/ZNB>.

2.7 Release notes and open source acknowledgment (OSA)

The release notes list new features, improvements and known issues of the current software version, and describe the software installation.

The software uses several valuable open source software packages. An open source acknowledgment document provides verbatim license texts of the used open source software.

<https://www.rohde-schwarz.com/firmware/ZNB>.

An HTML version of the OSA is installed with the analyzer firmware. It can be opened from the main menu of the VNA's graphical user interface ("Help">"About">"Open Source Acknowledgment: Open...").

2.8 Application notes, application cards, white papers, etc.

These documents deal with special applications or background information on particular topics.

<https://www.rohde-schwarz.com/application/ZNB>

3 Preparing for use

Here, you can find basic information about setting up the product for the first time.

3.1 Lifting and carrying

The carrying handles are designed to lift or carry the instrument. Do not apply excessive external force to the handles.

See "[Lifting and carrying the product](#)" on page 8.

3.2 Unpacking and checking

1. Unpack the R&S ZNB carefully.
2. Retain the original packing material. Use it when transporting or shipping the R&S ZNB later.
3. Using the delivery notes, check the equipment for completeness.
4. Check the equipment for damage.

If the delivery is incomplete or equipment is damaged, contact Rohde & Schwarz.

3.3 Choosing the operating site

Specific operating conditions ensure proper operation and avoid damage to the product and connected devices. For information on environmental conditions such as ambient temperature and humidity, see the specifications document.

For safety information, see "[Choosing the operating site](#)" on page 8.

Electromagnetic compatibility classes

The electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) class indicates where you can operate the product. The EMC class of the product is given in the specifications document.

- Class B equipment is suitable for use in:
 - Residential environments
 - Environments that are directly connected to a low-voltage supply network that supplies residential buildings
- Class A equipment is intended for use in industrial environments. It can cause radio disturbances in residential environments due to possible conducted and radiated disturbances. It is therefore not suitable for class B environments.

If class A equipment causes radio disturbances, take appropriate measures to eliminate them.

3.4 Setting up the product

See also:

- ["Setting up the product"](#) on page 8
- ["Intended use"](#) on page 7

3.4.1 Placing the product on a bench top

To place the product on a bench top

1. Place the product on a stable, flat and level surface. Ensure that the surface can support the weight of the product. For information on the weight, see the specifications document.

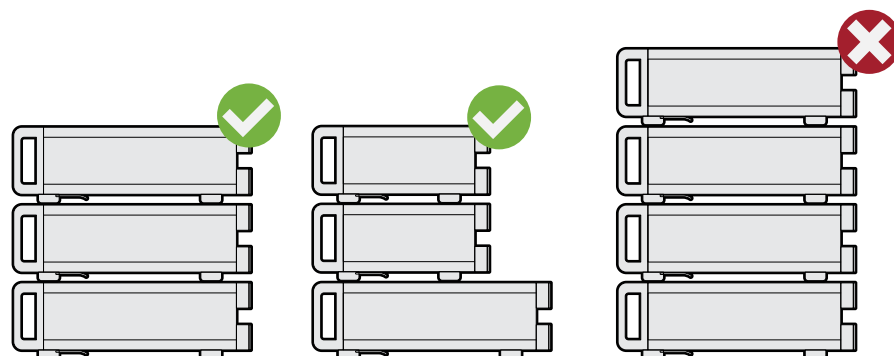
2. **CAUTION!** Foldable feet can collapse. For safety information, see ["Setting up the product"](#) on page 8.

Always fold the feet completely in or out. With folded-out feet, do not place anything on top or underneath the product.

3. **WARNING!** A stack of products can fall over and cause injury. Never stack more than three products on top of each other. Instead, mount them in a rack.

Stack as follows:

- If the products have foldable feet, fold them in completely.
- It is best if all products have the same dimensions (width and length). If the products have different dimensions, stack according to size and place the smallest product on top.
- Do not exceed the permissible total load placed on the product at the bottom of the stack:
 - 50 kg when stacking products of identical dimensions (left figure).
 - 25 kg when stacking smaller products on top (middle figure).



Left = Stacked correctly, same dimensions
Middle = Stacked correctly, different dimensions
Right = Stacked incorrectly, too many products

4. **NOTICE!** Overheating can damage the product.

Prevent overheating as follows:

- Keep a minimum distance of 10 cm between the fan openings of the product and any object in the vicinity to provide sufficient airflow and ventilation.
- Do not place the product next to heat-generating equipment such as radiators or other products.

3.4.2 Mounting the product in a rack

To prepare the rack

1. Observe the requirements and instructions in "[Setting up the product](#)" on page 8.
2. **NOTICE!** Insufficient airflow can cause overheating and damage the product. Design and implement an efficient ventilation concept for the rack.

To mount the R&S ZNB in a rack

1. Use an adapter kit to prepare the R&S ZNB for rack mounting.
 - a) Order a suitable rack adapter kit. See the specifications document.
 - b) Mount the adapter kit. Follow the assembly instructions provided with the adapter kit.
2. Lift the R&S ZNB to shelf height.
3. Grab the handles and push the R&S ZNB onto the shelf until the rack brackets fit closely to the rack.
4. Tighten all screws in the rack brackets with a tightening torque of 1.2 Nm to secure the R&S ZNB in the rack.

To unmount the R&S ZNB from a rack

1. Loosen the screws at the rack brackets.
2. Remove the R&S ZNB from the rack.
3. If placing the R&S ZNB on a bench top again, unmount the adapter kit from the R&S ZNB. Follow the instructions provided with the adapter kit.

3.5 Considerations for test setup

Cable selection and electromagnetic interference (EMI)

Electromagnetic interference (EMI) can affect the measurement results.

To suppress electromagnetic radiation during operation:

- Use high-quality shielded cables, for example, double-shielded RF and LAN cables.
- Always terminate open cable ends.
- Ensure that connected external devices comply with EMC regulations.

Regarding length and quality, the following requirements have to be met for cables that are directly connected to the R&S ZNB:

Table 3-1: Cable Requirements

Cable Type (Connector)	Requirement
RF cables (PORT 1, ..., PORT N)	Double shielded
BNC cables (various)	Double shielded
DB-25 (USER PORT)	Double shielded
Digital I/O (Direct Control	R&S ZN-B121, order no. 1323.9290.00
GPIB	Standard cable
Handler I/O	Standard cable
RFFE/GPIO	R&S ZN-Z25 (order no. 1334.3424.02)
DisplayPort (Monitor)	Standard cable
HDMI (Monitor)	Standard cable
DVI-D (Monitor)	2 ferrite cores
LAN	At least CAT6, S/FTP
PCIe	Standard cable
USB	Standard cables, length \leq 3m

Signal input and output levels

Information on signal levels is provided in the specifications document. Keep the signal levels within the specified ranges to avoid damage to the product and connected devices.

Preventing electrostatic discharge (ESD)

Electrostatic discharge is most likely to occur when you connect or disconnect a DUT.

- **NOTICE!** Electrostatic discharge can damage the electronic components of the product and the device under test (DUT).

Ground yourself to prevent electrostatic discharge damage:

- a) Use a wrist strap and cord to connect yourself to ground.
- b) Use a conductive floor mat and heel strap combination.

During operation, if the firmware observes a serious unexpected disturbance (e.g. due to ESD), it resets all hardware components to ensure proper instrument functioning. It then restores the user settings to the state before the disturbance and indicates the foregone hardware reset by an "Hardware communication problem [...]" information popup.

3.6 Connecting the analyzer to the AC supply

For safety information, see ["Connecting to power"](#) on page 9.

The network analyzer is automatically adapted to the AC supply voltage, which must be in the range of 100 V to 240 V at 50 Hz to 60 Hz. A line frequency of 400 Hz is also supported.

The AC power connector is located in the upper part of the rear panel (see [Section 4.2, "Rear panel"](#), on page 33).

1. Plug the AC power cable into the AC power connector on the rear panel of the product. Only use the AC power cable delivered with the product.
2. Plug the AC power cable into a power outlet with ground contact.

The required ratings are listed next to the AC power connector and in the specifications document.

3. If necessary, also ground the product using the grounding terminal \perp .

The maximum power consumption and the typical power consumption of the individual analyzer models are listed in the specifications document.

3.7 Switching the instrument on and off

To switch on the R&S ZNB

1. Switch the AC power switch to position I (On).

The AC power switch is located in the upper part of the rear panel, together with the mains connector and the fuse drawer; see [Section 4.2, "Rear panel"](#), on page 33.

After power-on, the analyzer automatically goes to standby or ready state, depending on the state of the standby toggle key at the front panel when the instrument was switched off last time.

2. If necessary, press the standby toggle key on the front panel to switch the instrument to the ready state.

See [Section 3.8, "Standby and ready state"](#), on page 18.

The instrument automatically performs a system check, boots the Windows® operating system and then starts the vector network analyzer (VNA) application. If it was terminated regularly, the VNA application restores all recall sets and instrument settings of the previous analyzer session.

To shut down the instrument

1. Press the standby toggle key.

Pressing the standby toggle key causes the instrument to save all loaded recall sets, to close the VNA application, to shut down Windows®, and to go to standby state (see [Section 3.8, "Standby and ready state"](#), on page 18).

Of course, you can also perform these steps manually, like in any Windows session.

2. If desired, set the AC power switch to position **O** (Off).

To disconnect from power

Prerequisite: The R&S ZNB is in standby state.

1. **NOTICE!** Risk of data loss. If you disconnect the product from power when it is in the ready state, you can lose settings and data. Shut it down first.

Set the switch on the power supply to position [0].

The LED of the standby toggle key is switched off.

2. Disconnect the R&S ZNB from the power source.

3.8 Standby and ready state



The standby toggle key is located in the bottom-left corner of the front panel. In standby state, the right, amber LED is on, in ready state, the left, green LED is on.

The standby power only supplies the power switch circuits and the optional high precision quartz (R&S ZNB-B4). In this state, it is safe to switch the AC power off and disconnect the instrument from the power supply. In ready state, all modules are power-supplied. When switched to ready state, the analyzer initiates its startup procedure.

Observe the instructions for startup and shutdown in [Section 3.7, "Switching the instrument on and off"](#), on page 17.

3.9 Windows operating system

The analyzer is equipped with a Windows® operating system, which has been configured according to the instrument's features and needs. Changes in the system configuration can be necessary to:

- Establish a LAN connection.

- Customize the properties of the external accessories connected to the analyzer.
- Call up additional software tools.

All necessary settings can be accessed from the Windows "Start" menu, in particular from the "Control Panel". To open the "Start" menu, press the Windows key in the toolbar or on an external keyboard.

NOTICE

Modifications of the operating system

The operating system is adapted to the network analyzer. To avoid impairment of instrument functions, only change the settings described in this manual.

Only execute programs that are authorized by Rohde & Schwarz for use on the instrument. Only modify installed software with updates released by Rohde & Schwarz.

User accounts and password protection

The analyzer uses a user name and password as credentials for remote access. Two user accounts with different levels of access are available on the instrument:

- "instrument" is the default account with standard rights to change system settings. Use this account for normal operation of the analyzer.
- "Admin" is the account for administering the operating system. This account is required, for instance, if you wish to install programs on the analyzer.



In the factory configuration, "894129" is preset as a password for both users. To protect the analyzer from unauthorized access, it is recommended to change the preset passwords.

To switch from one user account to another, log off from Windows and then log on again. The "switch user" functionality is disabled on the R&S ZNB.

Security updates and patches

Microsoft regularly creates security updates and other patches to protect Windows-based operating systems. They are released through the Microsoft Update website and associated update server. Update instruments using Windows regularly, especially instruments that connect to a network.

The analyzer is equipped with a Windows 10 IoT Enterprise LTSC/LTSC operating system, which is the embedded version of Windows 10 with long-term support for Windows security updates and patches. The firmware is tested with the following OS versions:

- Windows 10 IoT Enterprise 2016 LTSC
- Windows 10 IoT Enterprise 2019 LTSC
- Windows 10 IoT Enterprise 2021 LTSC

Firewall settings

A firewall protects an instrument by preventing unauthorized users from gaining access to it through a network. Rohde & Schwarz highly recommends using the firewall on your instrument. Rohde & Schwarz instruments are shipped with the Windows firewall enabled. All ports and connections for remote control are enabled.

Note that changing firewall settings requires administrator rights.

Virus protection

Take appropriate steps to protect your instruments from infection. Use strong firewall settings and scan any removable storage device used with a Rohde & Schwarz instrument regularly. It is also recommended that you install anti-virus software on the instrument. Rohde & Schwarz does NOT recommend running anti-virus software in the background ("on-access" mode) on Windows-based instruments, due to potentially degrading instrument performance. However, Rohde & Schwarz does recommend running it during non-critical hours.

For details and recommendations, see the Rohde & Schwarz white paper [1EF96: Malware Protection Windows 10](#).

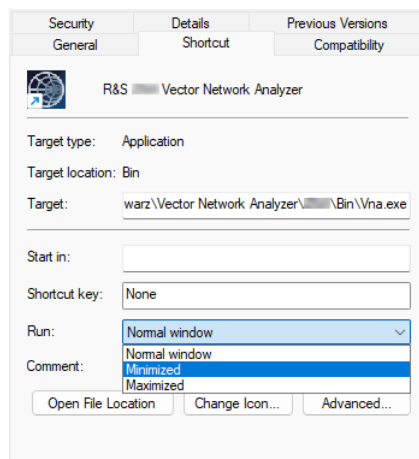
3.10 Minimizing the VNA application

With a minimized VNA application, you can access your analyzer's Windows® desktop or run other applications.

To exit the default full-screen mode of the VNA application, deselect System – [Display] > "View Bar" > "Title Bar Task Bar". Then use the standard Windows® title bar functions to minimize/maximize/close the application window.

To start the VNA application with a minimized window

1. Right-click the Vector Network Analyzer shortcut icon on the Windows desktop.
2. Open the "Properties" dialog.
3. In the "Shortcut" tab, select "Run: Minimized".



A software update restores the original shortcut properties.

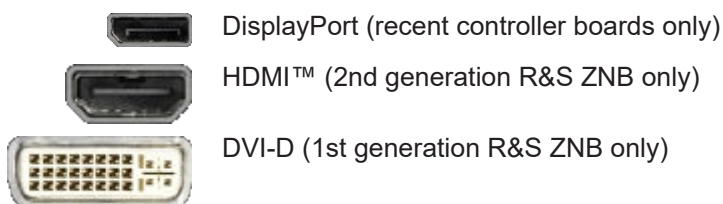
3.11 Connecting external accessories

The analyzer's standard PC interfaces (Monitor, USB, LAN) can be used to connect various accessories:

- An external monitor expands/displays the Windows® desktop, which is, by default, covered by the vector network analyzer (VNA) application window in full-screen mode.
- External keyboard and mouse simplify local control, in particular manual (GUI) operation of the VNA application.
- A printer can be used to create hardcopies of the measurement diagrams and traces from within the VNA application.
- A LAN connection can be established to access the analyzer's mass storage or control the analyzer from an external PC.
- Instruments equipped with the latest controller board can also be remote-controlled via USB.

3.11.1 Connecting a monitor

Connect a standard monitor to one of the monitor connectors on the rear panel of the instrument.



DisplayPort (recent controller boards only)

HDMI™ (2nd generation R&S ZNB only)

DVI-D (1st generation R&S ZNB only)

At the graphical user interface of the VNA, activate "System" – "Display" > "View Bar" > "Hard Key Panel" to add the (virtual) "Hard Key Panel" to the application window.


3.11.2 Connecting a keyboard

A keyboard can be connected to any of the USB connectors. After being auto-detected by the operating system, it can safely be disconnected and reconnected even during measurements.

Keyboard configuration

The default input language is English – US. Select "Settings" > "Time & language" > "Region"/"Language" from the Windows® Start menu to manage languages and keyboards.



To access Windows®, use the  button in the **toolbar** of the application window.


3.11.3 Connecting a mouse

A USB mouse can be connected to any of the USB type A connectors. After being auto-detected by the operating system, it can safely be disconnected and reconnected even during measurements.

Mouse configuration

Select "Settings" > "Devices" > "Mouse" from the Windows® "Start" menu to configure the mouse properties.



To access Windows®, use the  button in the **toolbar** of the application window.

3.11.4 Connecting a printer

A printer can be connected to any of the USB connectors. After successful installation, it can safely be disconnected and reconnected even during measurements.


Before printing (System – [Print]), the analyzer checks whether a printer is connected and turned on and whether the appropriate printer driver is installed.

Printer driver installation

If necessary, the printer driver installation is initiated using the operating system's "Add a printer or scanner". The control is self-explanatory. A printer driver must be installed only once.

A great variety of printer drivers are available on the analyzer. To obtain the complete list, select "Settings" > "Devices" > "Printers & scanners" from the Windows® "Start" menu.



To access Windows®, use the  button in the **toolbar** of the application window.

You can load updated and improved driver versions or new drivers from an installation disk, USB memory stick or another external storage medium. Alternatively, if the analyzer is integrated in a network, you can install driver data stored in a network directory. In either case, use the "Add a printer or scanner" control to complete the installation.

Printer configuration

Use the "Printer Setup" dialog of the firmware (System – [Print] > "Print ►") or the Windows® printer management to configure the printer properties and printing preferences.

3.11.5 Connecting a USB cable for remote control

Instruments equipped with the latest controller board can also be remote-controlled via USB. To prepare for remote control operation, connect a suitable USB 2.0 or 3.0 cable to the type B "USB Device" port on the rear panel of the instrument. With direct connection to a host device, a connecting cable A-B (plug type A onto plug type B) must be used.

For more information on remote control, refer to the Remote Control section of your analyzer's help system or user manual.

3.12 Remote operation in a LAN

A LAN connection is used to integrate the analyzer into a home/company network. LAN connectivity offers several applications, e.g.:

- Transfer data between a controller and the analyzer, e.g. to run a remote control program.
- Control the measurement from a remote computer using Remote Desktop or a similar application.
- Use external network devices (e.g. printers).

The analyzer uses a user name and password as credentials for remote access; see [Section 3.9, "Windows operating system"](#), on page 18 for details. To protect the analyzer from unauthorized access, it is recommended to change the factory setting.

3.12.1 Assigning an IP address

Depending on the network capacities, the TCP/IP address information for the analyzer can be obtained in different ways.

- If the network supports dynamic TCP/IP configuration using the Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP), all address information can be assigned automatically.
- If the network does not support DHCP, or if the analyzer is set to use an alternate TCP/IP configuration, the addresses must be set manually.

By default, the analyzer is configured to use a dynamic TCP/IP configuration and obtain all address information automatically. Hence it is safe to establish a physical connection to the LAN without any previous analyzer configuration.

NOTICE

Manual TCP/IP configuration

If your network does not support DHCP, or if you choose to disable dynamic TCP/IP configuration, you must assign valid address information **before** you connect the analyzer to the LAN. Contact your network administrator to obtain a valid IP address, because connection errors can affect the entire network.



Admin account

You need administrator rights to change the TCP/IP configuration. See [Section 3.9, "Windows operating system"](#), on page 18 for details.

To enter the TCP/IP address information manually

1. Obtain the IP address and subnet mask for the analyzer and the IP address for the local default gateway from your network administrator. If necessary, also obtain the name of your DNS domain and the IP addresses of the DNS and WINS servers on your network.
2. Tap the Windows icon in the toolbar, or press the Windows key in the System keypad (or on an external keyboard) to access Windows®.
3. Open the "Control Panel" and select "Network and Internet" > "Network and Sharing Center" > "Change adapter settings" for the Ethernet adapter connection.
4. Pass the Windows user account control, if necessary:
 - If your current account is an administrator account, select "Yes".
 - If your account is an account with standard user rights, enter the password of the administrator account and select "Yes".

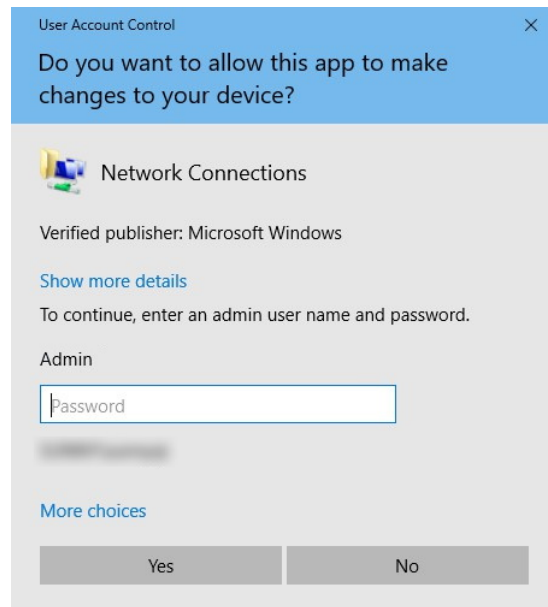
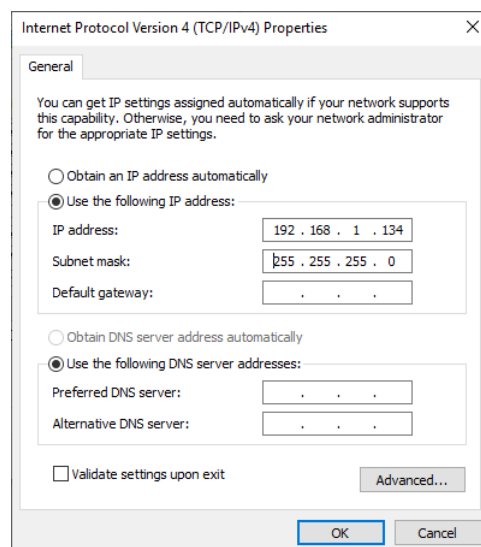


Figure 3-1: User Account Control dialog

5. In the "Ethernet Properties" dialog, select "Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)" and press "Properties".
6. In the properties dialog, enter the IP address information.



3.12.2 Using computer names

In a LAN that uses a DNS server (Domain Name System server), each PC or instrument connected in the LAN can be accessed via an unambiguous computer name instead of the IP address. The DNS server translates the host name to the IP address, which is especially useful when a DHCP server is used, as a new IP address can be assigned each time the instrument is restarted.

Each instrument is delivered with an assigned computer name, but this name can be changed. The default instrument name is a case-insensitive string with the following syntax:

ZNB<4|8|20|26|40|43>-<variant>-<serial_number>, ZNB40-N-<serial_number>

The serial number can be found on the rear panel of the instrument. It is the third part of the device ID printed on the barcode sticker:



ZNB40-84-102030, for example

3.12.3 Remote Desktop connection

Remote Desktop is a Windows® application that you can use to access and control the analyzer from a remote computer through a LAN connection. While the measurement is running, the analyzer screen contents are displayed on the remote computer, and Remote Desktop provides access to all applications, files, and network resources of the analyzer.



At the R&S ZNB, by default remote connections are enabled using a local group policy and remote access is granted to users instrument and administrator.

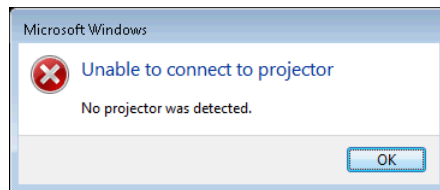
For detailed information about Remote Desktop and the connection, refer to the Windows® Help ("Windows Start Menu" > "Get Help").

To establish a remote desktop connection, proceed as follows:

1. Connect a remote Windows PC and your VNA to the LAN and make sure that an IP connection can be established.
2. At the remote Windows PC, open a remote desktop connection (type *Remote Desktop Connection* at the Windows Start/Search menu and hit enter).
3. In the "Remote Desktop Connection" dialog, enter the VNA's computer name or IP address and select "Connect"



If no external monitor is connected at the time you log in to the instrument via remote desktop, Windows® possibly displays the following error message:



This message can be safely ignored.

3.12.4 Windows® firewall settings

A firewall protects an instrument by preventing unauthorized users from gaining access to it through a network. In the default configuration of the R&S ZNB, the firewall is enabled. A remote desktop connection does not require any changes in the firewall settings.



Admin account

You need administrator rights to change the firewall settings. See [Section 3.9, "Windows operating system"](#), on page 18 for details.

Some actions require a different firewall configuration, e.g.:

- To transfer data with other hosts in the LAN, you have to allow "File and Printer Sharing".

To change the firewall settings, proceed as follows:

1. Access the operating system by pressing the Windows® key on the external keyboard. Open the "Control Panel".
2. Select "Windows Defender Firewall"
 - Select "Allow an app or feature through Windows Defender Firewall" to enable "File and Printer Sharing".
 - Select "Turn Windows Firewall on or off" to enable or disable the firewall.

Confirm the user account control message to allow the desired changes (see [Figure 3-1](#)). For detailed information about the firewall, refer to the Windows® Help.

4 Instrument tour

This section gives an overview of the control elements and connectors of the R&S ZNB and gives all information that is necessary to put the instrument into operation and connect external devices.

The meanings of the labels on the product are described in "[Meaning of safety labels](#)" on page 9.

4.1 Front panel

The front panel of the instrument consists of the touchscreen with the diagrams and softtool panels (left side), the hardkey area (right side) and the test port area below. Brief explanations on the controls and connectors, the hardkey area and the rear panel can be found in the next sections.

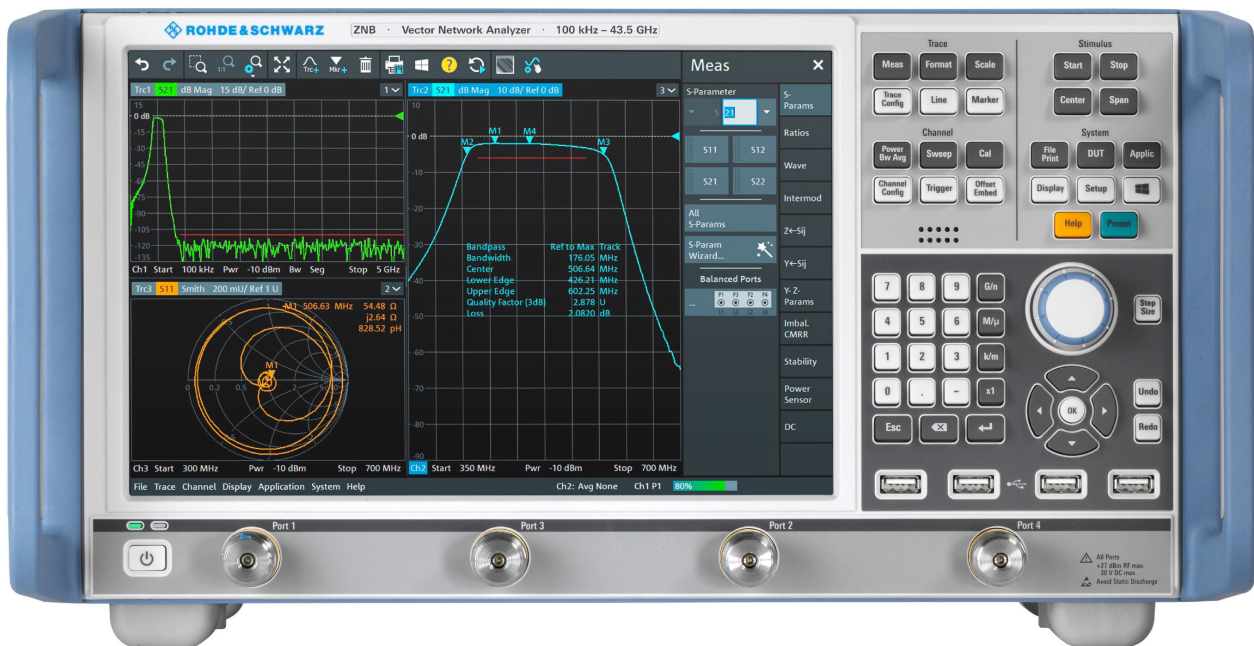


Figure 4-1: R&S ZNB43 with four ports

4.1.1 Touchscreen

The analyzer is equipped with a 12.1" diagonal WXGA, 18-bit color LCD touchscreen. The touchscreen presents all measurement results, mostly in the form of diagrams. Besides, all instrument functions can be accessed and operated by tapping the control elements on the touchscreen. For an introduction to touchscreen operation, refer to [Section 5.1, "Manual operation"](#), on page 37.

The following sections contain further useful information about manual control of the instrument.

- Refer to the other subsections of [Section 5, "Operating the instrument"](#), on page 37 to learn how to handle traces and diagrams, and how to use menus, keys and softtools.
- Refer to section "Concepts and Features" in the user manual or help system to obtain information about the results in the diagram.
- Refer to section "Display Menu" in the user manual or help system to learn how to customize the screen.
- Refer to the specifications document for the technical specifications of the display.



Screen saver

The screen saver function of the operating system can be used to switch off the display if the analyzer receives no command for a selectable period of time. The display is switched on again if any front panel key is pressed.

To enable the screen saver, access the Windows® operating system (e.g. by pressing the Windows key in the System keypad) and select "Control Panel > Power Options > Change Plan Settings > Turn off the display".

4.1.2 Function keys

Most of the keys in the Trace, Channel, Stimulus, and System keypads call up a related softtool of the analyzer GUI. Every softtool provides access to a group of related measurement settings.



The Trace keys give access to all trace settings, to the limit check settings, and to the marker functions including marker search.

- The [Meas] settings select the measured and displayed quantity.
- The [Format] settings define how measured data (traces) are presented.
- The [Scale] settings define how traces are scaled.
- The [Trace Config] settings store traces to the memory and perform mathematical operations on traces.
- The [Line] settings define limits for the measurement results, visualize them in the diagrams and activate/deactivate the limit check.
- The [Marker] settings position markers on a trace, configure their properties and select the format of the numerical readout. Markers can also be used to locate specific points on the trace, define the sweep range, and scale the diagram.



The Channel keys give access to the hardware-related (channel) settings.

- The [Pwr Bw Avg] settings define the power of the internal signal source, the IF bandwidth, and the sweep average.
- The [Sweep] settings define the scope of measurement, including the sweep type and the number of measured sweeps.
- [Cal] provides all functions that are necessary to perform a system error correction (calibration).

- [Channel Config] provides functions for channel management.
- The [Trigger] settings control the start of the measurement sequence.
- [Offset Embed] provides a selection of length offset parameters to shift the measurement plane.



The Stimulus keys ([Start], [Stop], [Center], [Span]) define the sweep range, depending on the sweep type.

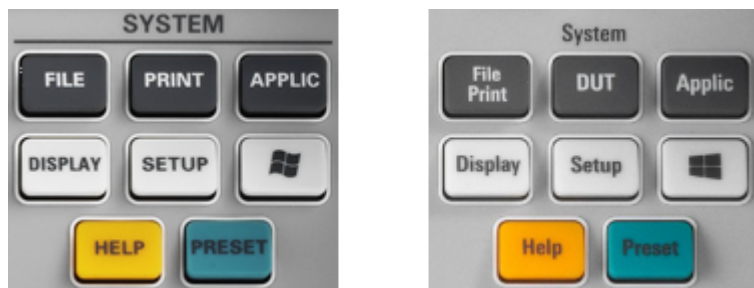


Figure 4-2: R&S ZNB system keys (left: 1st gen | right: 2nd gen)

The System keys provide general system settings.

- [File] provides standard Windows® functions used to create, save, recall or print recall sets, to copy the active screen and to shut down the application.
- The [Print] settings control an external printer that is used to print a hardcopy of the current recall set.
- [File Print] is available on 2nd generation R&S ZNB only. Gives access to the [FILE] and [PRINT] settings.
- [DUT] opens a wizard that allows you to set up a measurement by specifying the properties of the DUT (2nd generation R&S ZNB only)
- [Applic] gives access to external software tools and optional extensions of the analyzer firmware.
- [Display] gives access to all display settings and to the functions which activate, modify and arrange different diagrams.
- [Setup] provides general system settings which are not restricted to a particular recall set.
- The Windows® key opens the startup menu of the Windows® operating system from where you can perform system configurations and call up additional software utilities.
- [Help] opens the context-sensitive help system of the analyzer.
- [Preset] performs a preset of the instrument settings.

4.1.3 Data entry keys



The keys in the data entry keypad are used to enter numbers, units, and characters. The data entry keys are only enabled while the cursor is placed on a data input field in a dialog or in the Help navigation pane.

- The keys 0 to 9 enter the corresponding numbers.
- The function of the "." and "-" keys depends on the data type of the active input field:
 - In numeric input fields, the keys enter the decimal point and a negative sign for the entered numeric value. Multiple entries have no effect.
 - In character input fields, the keys enter a dot and a hyphen, respectively. Both entries can be repeated as often as desired.
- The function of the four unit keys depends on the data type of the active input field; see [Section 5.6, "Entering data"](#), on page 54.
 - In numeric input fields, the [G/n] and [M/μ] keys multiply the entered value with factors of $10^{\pm 9}$, $10^{\pm 6}$, $10^{\pm 3}$, respectively, and add the appropriate physical unit.
 - In character input fields, the [G/n], [M/μ], [k/m] keys enter the letters G, M, K, respectively. [x1] is equivalent to [↵] (Enter) and confirms the previous entry.
- [Esc] is used to:
 - Cancel entries / close dialogs without activating the entries made (equivalent to the "Close" button).
 - Close the help system.
- [↵] (Enter) is used to:
 - Activate the selected active control element, e.g. a button in a dialog or a link in the "Contents" page of the Help system.
 - Confirm selections and entries made and close dialogs. Same functionality as the [OK] button in the navigation area.
 - Compress or expand menus or the help system's table of contents
- [←] (Backspace) deletes the last character before the cursor position or the selected character sequence or numeric value.

4.1.4 Rotary knob

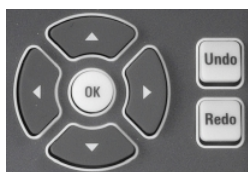


The rotary knob increases and decreases numerical values, scrolls within lists, activates controls and confirms entries.

- Turning the rotary knob to the left or right is equivalent to pressing the [↑] (up) or [↓] (down) navigation key multiple times.
- Pressing the rotary knob is equivalent to pressing the [↵] (Enter) data entry key or the [OK] navigation key.

[Step Size] opens an input box to select the steps (in units of the current physical parameter) between two consecutive numerical values. The step size is also valid for value changes using the [↑] (up) and [↓] (down) keys. See also [Section 5.6.2, "Using the numeric editor"](#), on page 55.

4.1.5 Navigation keys



Use the keys in the navigation keypad to navigate within the analyzer GUI and help system.

With [↑] (up) and [↓] (down) you can:

- Scroll up and down in lists, e.g. among menu items, in a list of keywords, or in the help system's table of contents or index
[↑] (up) becomes inactive as soon as the beginning of the list is reached. [↓] (down) becomes inactive as soon as the end of the list is reached.
- Navigate between table rows in diagrams
Then press [OK] to toggle between navigation and data entry mode.
- Increase and decrease numerical input values

Instead of pressing [↑] (up) or [↓] (down) you can also turn the rotary knob to the right or left, respectively.

The [←] (left) and [→] (right) keys are used to:

- Move the cursor to the left or right within input fields
- Navigate between table columns in diagrams.
(Then press [OK] to toggle between navigation and data entry mode.)
- Compress or expand menus or the help system's table of contents
- Move the highlighted item in the menu bar of the active application

[OK] is equivalent to pressing the rotary knob or the [↵] (Enter) key in the data entry keypad.

[Undo] reverses the last action, if possible. [Redo] reverses the action of the [Undo] button.

4.1.6 Standby key



The standby toggle switch is located in the bottom-left corner of the front panel.

The key serves two main purposes:

- Toggle between standby and ready state; see [Section 3.8, "Standby and ready state"](#), on page 18.
- Shut down the instrument; see [Section 3.7, "Switching the instrument on and off"](#), on page 17.

4.1.7 Front panel connectors

The test ports and four USB connectors are located on the front panel of the R&S ZNB.

4.1.7.1 Test ports



Numbered connectors:

- Type N female for R&S ZNB4 and R&S ZNB8
- 3.5 mm male for R&S ZNB20
- 2.92 mm (K) male for other R&S ZNB models

The test ports serve as outputs for the RF stimulus signal and as inputs for the measured RF signals from the DUT (response signals).

- With a single test port, it is possible to generate a stimulus signal and measure the response signal in reflection. For a measurement example, refer to [Section 6.2, "Reflection S-parameter measurement"](#), on page 70.
- With more than one test port, it is possible to perform full two-port, 3-port, ... , or n-port measurements; see [Section 6.1, "Transmission S-parameter measurement"](#), on page 64.

In the standard configuration, all test ports are supplied by a common source. Four-port instruments are available with an optional second source.



- Use a torque wrench when screwing RF cables on the test port connectors.
- See also [Section 3.5, "Considerations for test setup"](#), on page 16.

4.1.7.2 USB connectors

Four high-speed Universal Serial Bus connectors of type A.



The USB ports can be used to connect:

- External PC accessories such as mouse or other pointing devices, a keyboard, printer or external storage device (USB flash drive, CD-ROM drive etc.).
- External measurement equipment such as calibration units, power meters, signal generators or switch matrices.

4.2 Rear panel

This section gives an overview of the rear panel controls and connectors of the network analyzer.

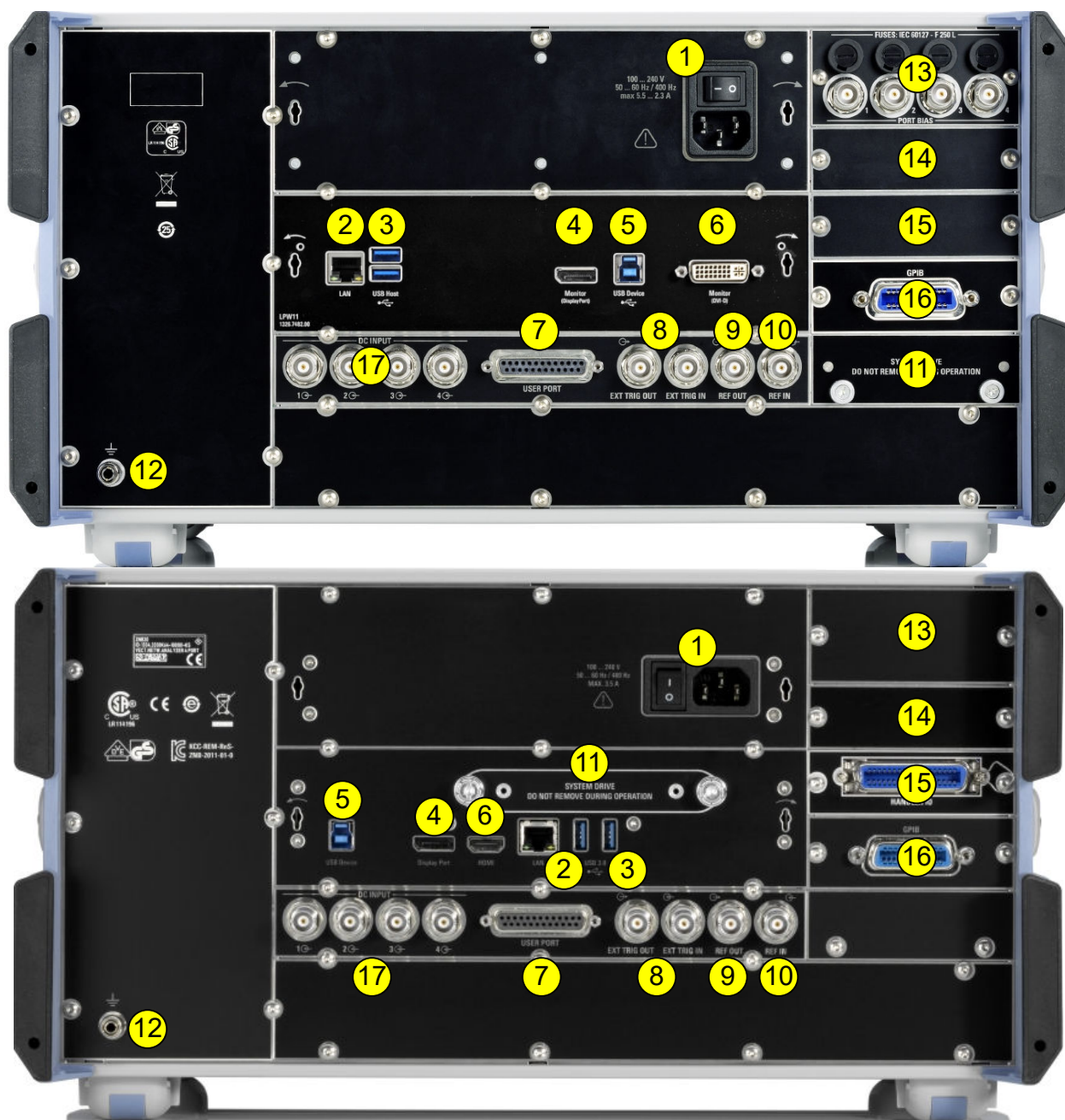


Figure 4-3: R&S ZNB rear view

top = 1st generation R&S ZNB (with latest CPU board LPW11)
 bottom = 2nd generation R&S ZNB (order nos. 1334.3330.xx)

Table 4-1: Rear panel connectors available on all instruments

Index	Label	Description
1	(Power I/O)	Power on / off switch, see Section 3.7, "Switching the instrument on and off" , on page 17
2	LAN	RJ-45 connector to integrate the instrument to a Local Area Network, primarily for remote control purposes. See Section 3.12, "Remote operation in a LAN" , on page 23.
3	USB / USB Host	Two additional type A USB 3.0 host connectors; similar functionality as the USB connectors on the front panel (see Section 4.1.7.2, "USB connectors" , on page 33).
4	Display Port	External monitor connector (DisplayPort); see Section 3.11.1, "Connecting a monitor" , on page 21. (n.a. for 1st gen R&S ZNB with CPU board before LPW11)
5	USB Device	Type B USB 3.0 device connector for remote control of the instrument (see Section 3.11.5, "Connecting a USB cable for remote control" , on page 23)
6	Monitor	External monitor connector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVI-D for 1st generation R&S ZNB • HDMI™ for 2nd generation R&S ZNB See Section 3.11.1, "Connecting a monitor" , on page 21.
7	USER PORT	25-pin D-Sub connector used as an input and output for low-voltage (3.3 V) TTL control signals
8	Trigger Out, Trigger In	Two BNC connectors for 5 V TTL external trigger signals
9	REF OUT	BNC output for the internal reference frequency of the analyzer. Use this connector to synchronize other instruments to the analyzer.
10	REF IN	BNC input for an external reference frequency. Use this connector to synchronize the analyzer to another device.
11	SYSTEM DRIVE	Contains the removable system drive of the instrument, containing all software (including the operating system and the VNA application) and data. Do not remove the system drive during operation. Option R&S ZNB-B19 provides an additional removable system drive (including operating system and firmware).
12	(Ground connector)	The ground connector provides the ground of the analyzer's supply voltage. Use this connector for ESD protection; see "Preventing electrostatic discharge (ESD)" on page 16.

Table 4-2: Optional rear panel connectors

Index	Label	Description
13	Bias Tees	<p>Two or four additional BNC inputs labeled PORT BIAS 1 ... 4 (for two-port or four-port analyzers). The inputs can be used to apply external DC voltages (biases) to the test ports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not available for 2nd generation R&S ZNB20 and for 1st generation R&S ZNB40 that are equipped with the new reflectometer board (order no. 1317.8015.03) • Optional for R&S ZNB4 8 • Always equipped for other R&S ZNB models • "Bias Tees", providing two or four additional BNC inputs labeled PORT BIAS 1 ... 4 (for two-port or four-port analyzers). The inputs can be used to apply external DC voltages (biases) to the test ports. <p>Note that there is no additional HW or SW switch for the bias tees, i.e. the voltage is applied to the RF port as soon as you connect the voltage source to the corresponding PORT BIAS connector.</p> <p>For fuse replacement, see the corresponding section in the maintenance chapter of the user manual.</p>
13	or internal RFFE - GPIO Interface	<p>R&S ZN-B15 "RFFE - GPIO Interface" (1st generation R&S ZNB only) 25-pin female connector, providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 independent RF Front-End (RFFE) interfaces according to the MIPI® Alliance "System Power Management Interface Specification". • 10 General Purpose Input/Output (GPIO) pins.
14	Device Control	<p>Option R&S ZNB-B12 "Device Control" provides a PCIe and a Direct Control connector.</p> <p>The Direct Control interface enables direct connections between the VNA measurement bus and one or more extension devices, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An external RFFE GPIO interface R&S ZN-Z15. • Switch matrices R&S ZN-Z8x.
15	HAN- DLER IO	Option R&S ZN-B14, Handler I/O (Universal Interface), providing a Centronics 36 input/output connector.
16	GPIB	Option R&S ZNB-B10 provides a GPIB bus connector according to standard IEEE 488 / IEC 625.
17	DC INPUT	Option R&S ZNB-B81 "DC Inputs" provides four BNC inputs for DC measurements (adjustable to different voltage ranges).

Match signals with 50 Ω to comply with EMC directives. See also [Section 3.5, "Considerations for test setup"](#), on page 16.

5 Operating the instrument

The following sections describe the basics of manual operation, i.e. how to access instrument functions and settings via the analyzer GUI. Manual operation is particularly useful for getting to know the instrument and for trouble shooting.

Manual and remote control of the instrument

Manual control of the R&S ZNB is possible either via its touchscreen and front panel keys, via locally connected keyboard and mouse (see [Section 3.11, "Connecting external accessories"](#), on page 21), or via Remote Desktop (see also [Section 3.12, "Remote operation in a LAN"](#), on page 23).

Alternatively, it can be remote-controlled via USB (latest controller board only), GPIB or LAN.

To their full extent, manual operation and remote control are described in the GUI Reference and Command Reference sections of the User Manual, respectively. GUI functions and related remote commands are linked bidirectionally. Background information is provided in the Concepts and Features section of the User Manual.

5.1 Manual operation

The analyzer functions are accessible via several tabbed softtools, each presenting related functions and settings. See [Section 5.2.4, "Softtools"](#), on page 44.

The function keys on the front panel or the on-screen "Hard Key Panel" open the most frequently used softtools.

Manual operation via function keys and softtools provides touch-friendly access to the instrument functions and settings, avoiding complicated menu structures and long operating sequences. In general, this approach is recommended. However, sometimes the toolbar or an object's context menu can offer a shortcut. The menu bar provides access to all instrument functions and settings.



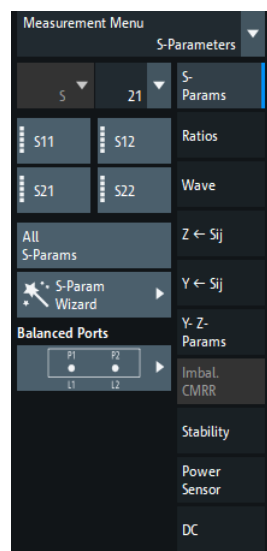
Figure 5-1: Function Keys

Using the front panel

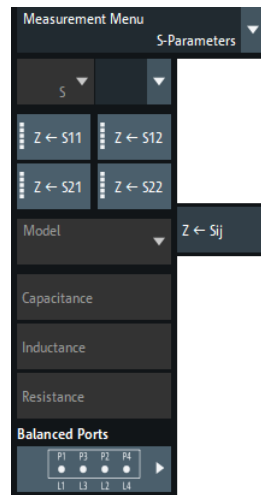
To access an instrument function:

1. Press a (virtual) key, e.g. the [Meas] key in the Trace section.

The corresponding softtool expands at the current docking position.



2. From the "Measurement Menu", select "S-Parameters".
3. Activate the desired softtool tab, e.g. "Z←Sij".



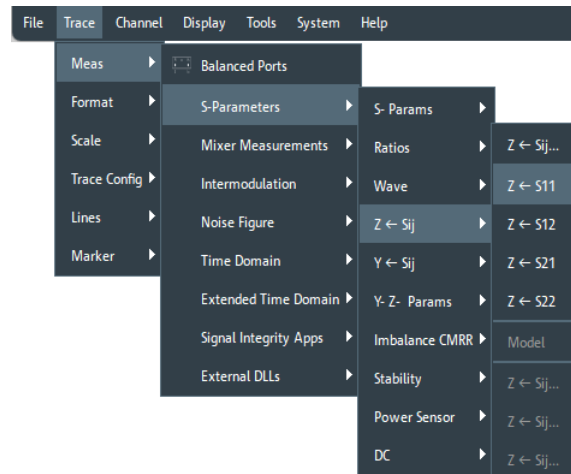
4. Select a control element, e.g. "Z←S11".

The diagram immediately reflects your selection. The active trace shows the measurement results for the selected measured quantity.

Using the menu bar

The menu bar at the bottom of the application screen provides alternative access to **all** instrument functions. To repeat the measured quantity selection described above,

- ▶ Select "Trace" – "Meas" > "S-Parameters" > "Z←Sij" > "Z←S11".

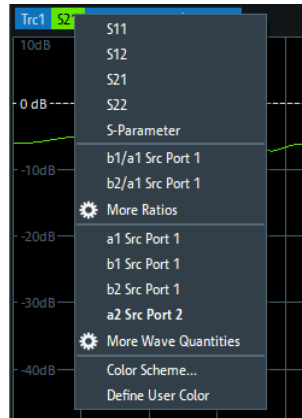


The diagram immediately reflects your selection. The active trace shows the measurement results for the selected measured quantity. At the same time, the related softtool tab is opened.

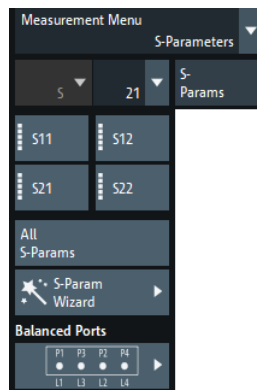
Using context menus

Context menus are another alternative for quick access to instrument settings.

1. Touch and hold (right-click) the measured quantity section in the trace info for a couple of seconds until the context menu appears.



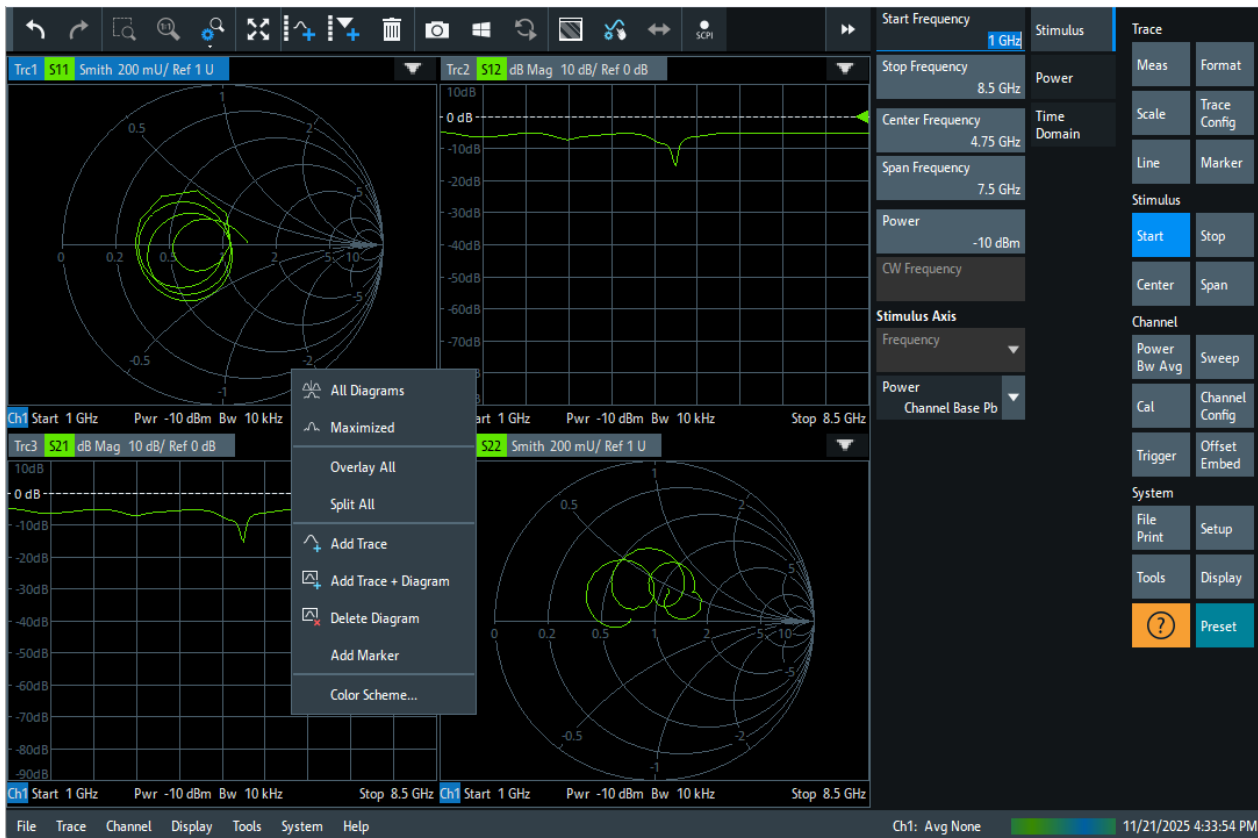
2. Select "S-Parameter" to open the "S-Params" softtool tab.



3. Select "S11".

5.2 Control elements of the application window

The application window of the analyzer GUI provides all control elements for the measurements and contains the diagrams for the results.



There are several alternative ways for accessing an instrument function:

- Using a function key on the (virtual) hardkey panel to open the related softtool (recommended, provides all settings)
- Using the menus and submenus of the menu bar (an alternative to the previous method)
- Using the context menus of certain display objects (for important actions in the context of this object)
- Using the icons in the toolbar above the diagram area (for frequent global actions)

These methods are described in more detail in the following sections.



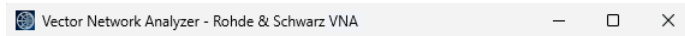
Customizing the screen

The contents of the screen and the size and position of many display and control elements are not fixed. You can display or hide most elements. You can also drag and drop traces, info fields, and even the softtool panel to your preferred position; see [Section 5.5.4, "Using drag and drop"](#), on page 53.

5.2.1 Title bar

By default, the analyzer GUI is shown in full-screen mode, covering the whole screen and hiding the Windows taskbar. However, you can toggle the full-screen mode using `System – [Display] > "View Bar" > "Title and Task Bar On"`.

If full-screen mode is switched off, the main application window of the vector network analyzer application provides a standard Windows® title bar.













5.2.2 Toolbar

The toolbar above the diagram area contains the most frequently used control elements of the user interface. All controls are also accessible via [Softtools](#).



The toolbar is divided into several icon groups, separated by vertical lines.

	<p>These icons represent the undo and redo actions that are also available via the menu bar items "System" > "Undo" / "Redo".</p> <p>Undo reverses the last action, redo reverses the last undo action (if possible).</p>
	<p>These icons control the zoom function (Trace – [Scale] > "Zoom").</p>
	<p>If multiple diagrams are configured, this icon toggles the "Maximize Diagram" action for the active diagram (System – [Display] > "Diagram" > "Maximize Diagram").</p>
	<p>These icons implement the following actions, from left to right:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a clone of the active trace to the active diagram (single tap; same as Trace – [Trace Config] > "Traces" > "Add Trace") or to an arbitrary/new one (drag & drop the  icon to the diagram area). • Add a new marker to the active diagram (single tap; similar to Trace – [Marker] > "Markers" > "Mkr<i>" or to an arbitrary one (drag & drop the "Mkr+" icon). • Delete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The active trace by tapping/clicking the trash icon – An arbitrary trace by dragging and dropping its trace info field on the trash icon – All markers of a trace by dragging and dropping the trace's marker info field on the trash icon – A single marker by dragging and dropping the marker symbol on the trash icon
	<p>These icons provide some helper functions. From left to right:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Save the current diagrams as a BMP, JPEG, PNG, SVG, or PDF file. • Open the Windows Start menu.
	<p>Restart the sweep in all channels.</p> <p>Same as Channel – [Sweep] > "Sweep Control" > "Restart Sweep"</p>
	<p>These icons provide the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toggle advanced diagram area editing, which makes rearranging and/or deleting diagrams a breeze. • Toggle other measurements (except the active trace) OFF ON

	Open the "METAS Reconnection" dialog This button is only visible if, option R&S ZNB-K50(P) "Measurement Uncertainty Analysis" is installed. It is only enabled if a METAS calibration is active.
	Open the SCPI recorder



You can toggle the visibility of the toolbar using System – [Display] > "View Bar" > "Tool Bar".

5.2.3 Hardkey panel

The (virtual) "Hard Key" panel provides on-screen access to the function keys of the R&S ZNB. Most of the function keys open a related softtool. For a short description, refer to section [Section 4.1.2, "Function keys"](#), on page 29.

Trace	
Meas	Format
Scale	Trace Config
Line	Marker
Stimulus	
Start	Stop
Center	Span
Channel	
Power Bw Avg	Sweep
Cal	Channel Config
Trigger	Offset Embed
System	
File Print	Setup
Tools	Display
?	Preset




The (virtual) "Hard Key" panel is particularly useful if the analyzer is controlled from an external monitor or Remote Desktop. It is hidden by default.

You can display the "Hard Key" panel using one of the following methods:

- Select System – [Display] > "View Bar" > "Hard Key Panel".
- Select "Display"> "View Bar" > "Hard Key Panel On" from the menu bar.
- Select "Hard Key" from the context menu of the softtool panel.

5.2.4 Softtools

Softtools display groups of related settings as a tabbed panel with a collapse/expand toggle . They can be opened via function keys on the front panel or the on-screen "Hard Key" panel, or via menu bar and context menu items.

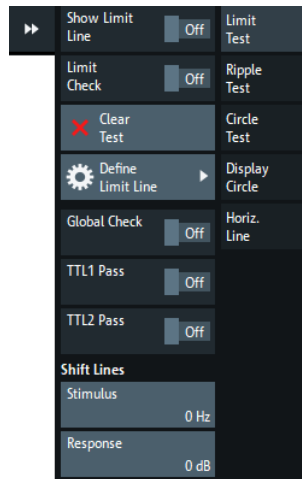



Figure 5-2: Lines softtool

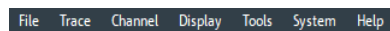
Some controls on the softtool tabs allow you to read and modify settings (e.g. "Stimulus" in the screenshot above), some perform actions (e.g. "Show Limit Line"), while buttons with a  symbol open additional dialogs (e.g. "Define Limit Line").



Use the context menu of the softtool panel to configure its position (right/left).

5.2.5 Menu bar

You can also access the analyzer functions via textual menus. The menu bar is located below the diagram area:



As in any Windows® application, menus can be controlled with the touchscreen or a mouse. A short tap (left mouse click) expands a menu or submenu. If a menu command has no submenu assigned, a short tap (left mouse click) opens a dialog, or directly activates the menu command. When a menu item is selected, the R&S ZNB displays the corresponding softtool.

Overview of menu functions

- The "File" menu provides functions to handle recall sets and trace files, to print or save diagram content, and to shut down the VNA application.
- The "Trace" menu provides all trace settings, the limit check settings, and the marker functions including marker search.

- The "Channel" menu provides all channel settings and activates, modifies or stores different channels.
- The "Display" menu provides all display settings and the functions for activating, modifying and arranging different diagrams.
- The "Tools" menu gives access to tools that extend the functionality of the analyzer firmware.
- The "System" menu provides functions that can be used to return to a defined instrument state, reverse operations, access service functions and define various system-related settings.
- The "Help" menu aids with the network analyzer and its operation.



You can configure the position of the menu bar (top/bottom) from the context menu of the softtool or hardkey panel. Furthermore, you can toggle its visibility using System – [Display] > "View Bar" > "Menu Bar".

5.2.6 Status bar

The status bar shows:




- The active channel
- The current channel's sweep averaging counter (e.g. "Ch<i>: Avg 9/10"), or "Ch<i>: Avg None" if averaging is disabled.
- The progress of the sweep
The progress bar also shows when the R&S ZNB prepares a sweep with new channel settings.
- The "EXT REF" symbol, if an external reference clock is used for synchronization.
- A symbol for redefined S-parameters, if the physical ports have been redefined.
- The switch matrix status symbol, if a switch matrix is configured.
(See the R&S ZNB User Manual)
- The current date and time

Ch1: Avg None  7/17/2024 11:29:33 AM

The progress bar shows a moving color gradient if the current sweep is too fast to be monitored, e.g. because the number of sweep points is low.

Additional icons in the status bar indicate a non-standard hardware setup.

Table 5-1: Additional status bar information

Icon	Description
	External reference clock
	Redefined physical ports
	Switch matrix



You can configure the position of the status bar (top/bottom) from the context menu of the softtool or hardkey panel. Furthermore, you can toggle its visibility using System – [Display] > "View Bar" > "Status Bar".

5.3 Touchscreen gestures

Instruments of the 2nd generation (order nos 1334.3330.xx) are equipped with capacitive screens, which allow for multi-touch gestures.

A touchscreen allows you to interact with the software using various finger gestures on the screen. The basic gestures supported by the software and most applications are described here. Further actions using the same gestures may be possible.



Tapping

Touch the screen quickly, usually on a specific element.

You can tap most elements on the screen; in particular, any elements you can also click on with a mouse pointer.

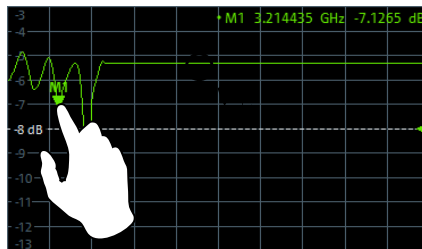
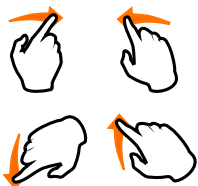


Figure 5-3: Tapping

Double-tapping

Tap the screen twice, in quick succession.

Double-tap a diagram to maximize it or to restore its original size.



Dragging

Move your finger from one position to another on the display, keeping your finger on the display the whole time.

By dragging your finger over a table or diagram you can pan the displayed area of the table or diagram to show results that were previously out of view.

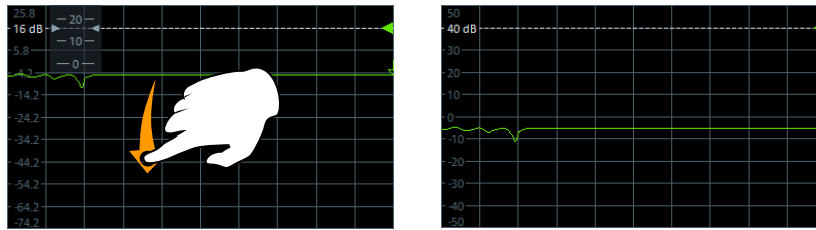
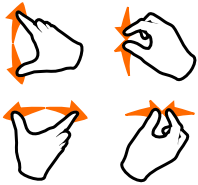


Figure 5-4: Dragging

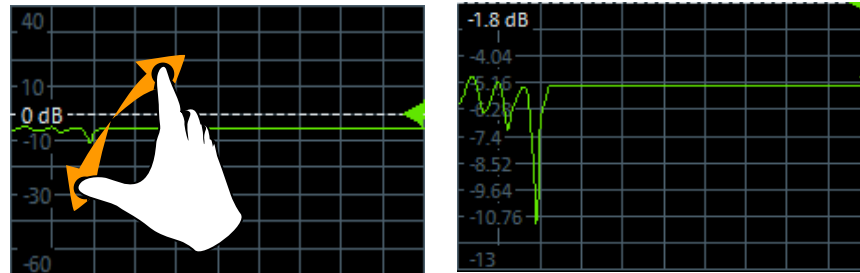


Spreading and pinching two fingers

Move two fingers apart on the display (spread) or move two fingers together on the display (pinch).

These gestures take effect for diagrams only. The effect depends on the current zoom mode (see [Section 5.7, "Scaling diagrams"](#), on page 57).

- In graphical zoom mode, when you spread two fingers in the display, you graphically zoom in vertically.



When you pinch two fingers in the display, you graphically zoom out vertically.

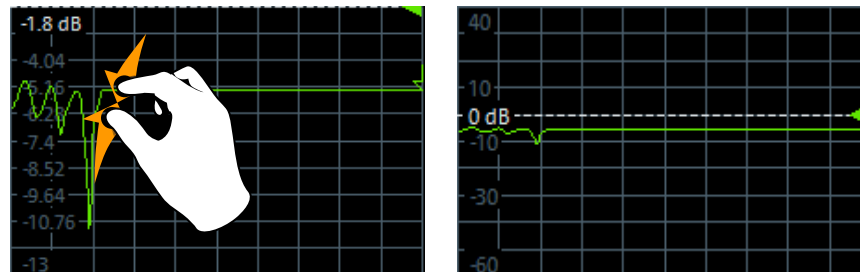


Figure 5-5: Pinching

While "Zoom Select" is active (toolbar icon or softtool button is toggled on), spreading and pinching is disabled. You can only select a rectangular area (using one finger) then.

- In stimulus zoom mode, spreading and pinching is disabled by default. Only while "Stim. Zoom Select" is active (toolbar icon or softtool button is toggled on), you can use spreading and pinching to modify the sweep area and/or the vertical scaling.

Mouse vs. touch actions

Any user interface elements that react to actions by a mouse pointer also react to finger gestures on the screen, and vice versa. The following touch actions correspond to mouse actions:

Table 5-2: Correlation of mouse and touch actions

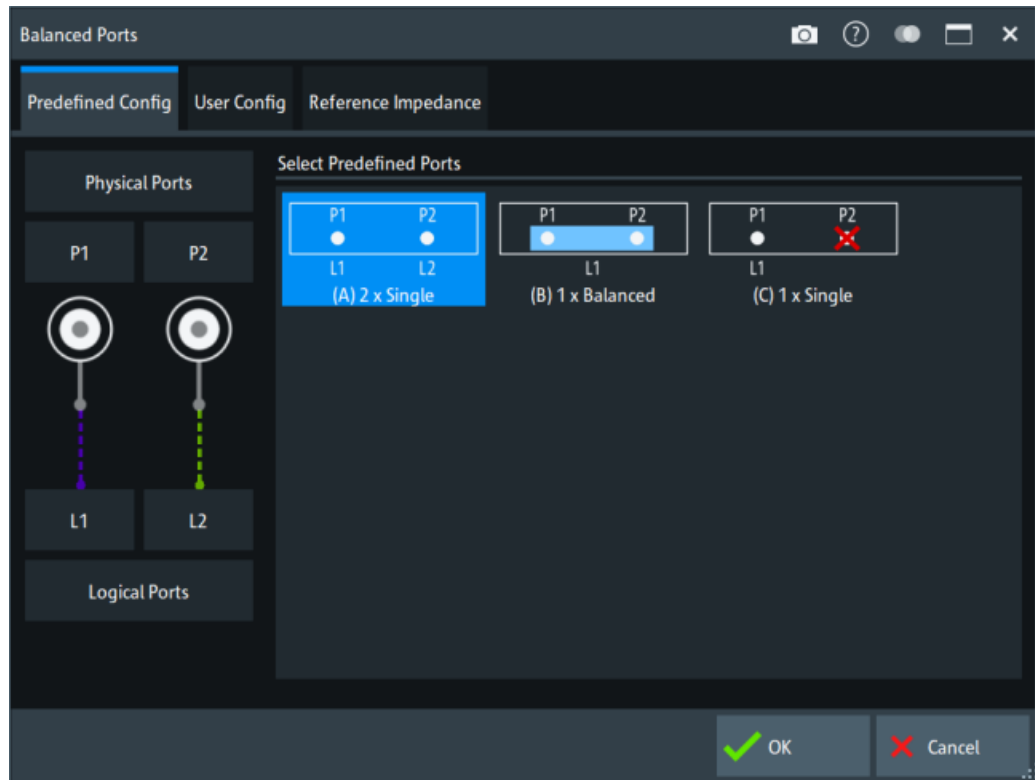
Mouse operation	Touch operation
Click	Tap
Double-click	Double-tap
Click and hold	Touch and hold
Right-click	Touch, hold for 1 second and release
Drag&drop (= click and hold, then drag and release)	Touch, then drag and release
n.a. (Change hardware settings)	Spread and pinch two fingers
Mouse wheel to scroll up or down	Swipe
Dragging scrollbars to scroll up or down, left or right	Swipe
In (graphical) zoom mode only: dragging the borders of the displayed rectangle to change its size	Touch, then drag and release

Example:

You can scroll through a long table in conventional mouse operation by clicking in the table's scrollbar repeatedly. In touchscreen operation, you can scroll through the table by dragging the table up and down with your finger.

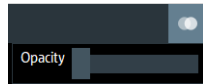
5.4 Working with dialogs

Dialogs provide groups of related settings and allow you to make selections and enter data in an organized way. The settings are visualized, if possible. An example is shown below.





All dialogs are operated in a similar way.

- The title bar of each dialog contains some convenience functions:
 - Use the "Opacity" function to let the display elements behind the dialog shine through.



Note: This is a global setting, i.e. it applies to all dialogs.

- The  icon creates a screenshot of the dialog.
- The  button opens the help system, which provides context-sensitive information on the dialog's settings.
- Drag and drop the lower right corner of the dialog to modify its size.
- Some dialogs are subdivided into tabs, containing groups of related settings. Activate a tab to access those settings.

5.5 Handling diagrams, traces, and markers

The analyzer displays measurement results as traces in rectangular diagrams. Markers are used to read specific numerical values and to search for points or regions on a trace. The following section presents some of the graphical tools the R&S ZNB provides for trace and marker handling.



For further reference

Refer to section "Concepts and Features" in the R&S ZNB Help or in the User Manual to learn more about traces, channels, and screen elements.


5.5.1 Adding traces and diagrams

A new trace is required if you want to measure and display an additional quantity.

Typical scenario: The transmission coefficient S_{21} is measured as described in [Section 6.1, "Transmission S-parameter measurement"](#), on page 64. A trace is added to display the reflection coefficient S_{11} for comparison.



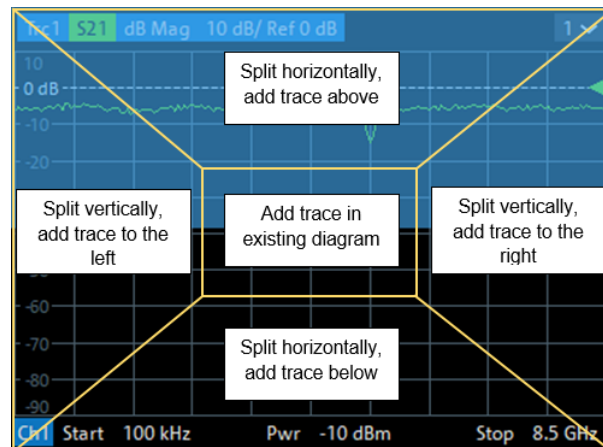
To create a trace:

1. Drag the  icon from the toolbar into a diagram.

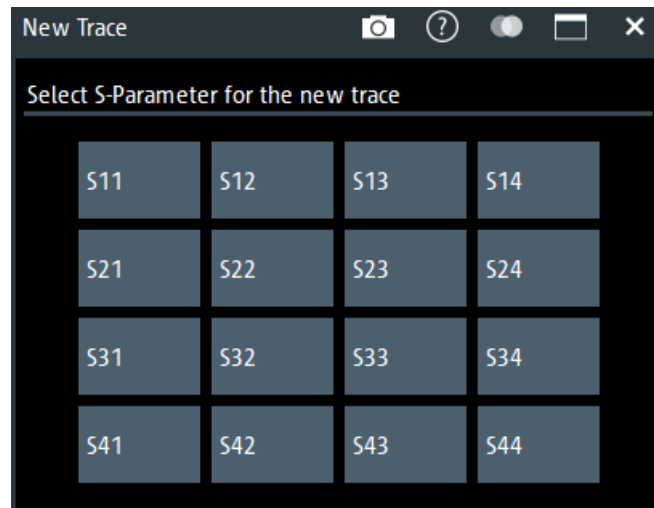
The diagram changes its color scheme and contents as shown below.



2. Select the adequate drop position, depending on whether you want to display the new trace in the existing diagram, or whether you want to add a new diagram. The highlighted area indicates the target diagram.



- In the dialog box that opens when you release the "New Trace" icon, select the S-parameter to be measured.
For a four-port analyzer:



The R&S ZNB generates a new trace for the selected S-parameter.



Alternative control elements

You can also drag and drop a softkey representing a measured quantity to create a trace. Or simply select another softkey to change the measured quantity of the active trace.


Select Trace – [Trace Config] to access more trace handling functions. Select System – [Display] to access more diagram handling functions.

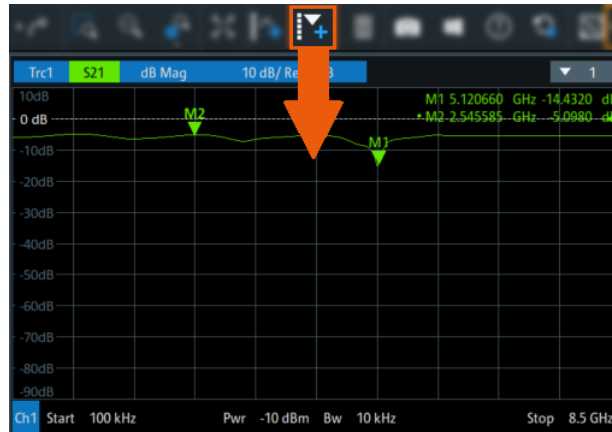
5.5.2 Adding markers

A marker is needed, for instance, to read a particular numerical trace value.

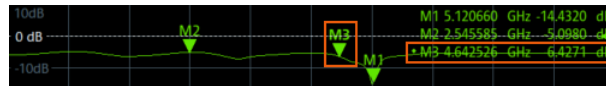


To add a new marker:

- Drag and drop the  icon from the toolbar to the desired position in the target diagram.



The marker appears on the target diagram's active trace. The marker info field displays the stimulus value (x-axis value) and response value (y-axis value) at the marker position. The response value varies as the analyzer continues performing sweeps.



Active trace, alternative control elements


The trace line of the active trace in the upper part of the diagram is highlighted. If the diagram contains several traces, first activate the target trace, then add the marker.

The Trace – [Marker] softtool provides more functions for marker handling. In particular, any marker offered in the "Markers" tab can be positioned on the active trace using drag & drop.

5.5.3 Deleting display elements



Markers, traces, diagrams, and other display elements are most conveniently deleted using the "Delete" icon in the toolbar above the diagram area.

- To delete a single marker, drag it in vertical direction to release it from the trace and drop it onto the "Delete" icon.
To delete a set of markers, drag and drop their marker info field onto the "Delete" icon.
Deleting a marker and its info field also disables the associated marker function.
- To delete a trace, drag and drop its trace line onto the "Delete" icon. The active trace can also be deleted by tapping/clicking the "Delete" icon.
Note however, that the last remaining trace cannot be deleted.
- To delete a diagram, drag and drop its dropdown handle  onto the "Delete" icon.
Note however, that the last remaining diagram cannot be deleted.
- To delete a channel, drag and drop all associated traces onto the "Delete" icon.

Note however, that the last remaining channel cannot be deleted.

- To hide the limit lines and disable the limit check, drag and drop the PASS / FAIL message onto the "Delete" icon. The limit line itself is not deleted and can be reused.

The context menu of some display elements also provides the "Delete" function.



Undo function

If you happen to delete a display element unintentionally, you can restore it using the "Undo" toolbar icon.

5.5.4 Using drag and drop

You can drag and drop many of the R&S ZNB's control and display elements to change their size and position. The drag and drop functionality is often more convenient to use than the equivalent buttons of the softtool panels. The following table gives an overview.

Table 5-3: Drag and drop functionality for various screen elements

Screen element	Action	Drag and drop...
Diagram	Create	See Section 5.5.1, "Adding traces and diagrams" , on page 50
	Resize	Separator between adjacent diagrams
	Delete	See Section 5.5.3, "Deleting display elements" , on page 52
Trace	Create	See Section 5.5.1, "Adding traces and diagrams" , on page 50
	Move vertically	Reference line marker (right diagram edge)
	Move into other or new diagram	Trace line
	Delete	See Section 5.5.3, "Deleting display elements" , on page 52
	Reset / suspend graphic zoom	"Zoom" element in additional trace line --> "Delete" icon; see Section 5.7.1, "Using the graphical zoom" , on page 57
Marker	Create	See Section 5.5.2, "Adding markers" , on page 51
	Move horizontally	Marker symbol
	Delete	Marker or marker info field --> "Delete" icon; see Section 5.5.3, "Deleting display elements" , on page 52
Marker info field	Add	See Section 5.5.2, "Adding markers" , on page 51
	Move within diagram	Marker info field (move to one of several predefined positions)
	Delete	See Section 5.5.3, "Deleting display elements" , on page 52

5.6 Entering data

The analyzer provides dialogs with various types of input fields where you can enter numeric values and character data. Data entry with a mouse and an external keyboard is a standard procedure known from other Windows® applications. However, there are various other ways to enter data.

5.6.1 Using front panel keys


You can use the keys in the data entry keypad to enter numbers, units, and characters.



To enter a numeric value:

1. Select a numeric data input field to activate it.
2. Press the data entry keys.
 - Use [0] to [9] to enter the corresponding numbers.
 - Use [.] to enter a decimal point.
 - Use [-] to change the sign of the value.
 - Use [G/n], [M/μ], [k/m], or [x1] to multiply the entered value with factors of $10^{(-9)}$, $10^{(-6)}$, $10^{(-3)}$ or 1 and to add the appropriate physical unit.

To enter a character string:

1. Tap a character data input field to activate it.
2. Press the data entry keys as if you were writing a short message on your mobile phone.
 - Use [0] to [9] to enter the corresponding numbers.
 - Use [.] and [-] to enter a dot or hyphen.
 - Use [G/n], [M/μ], or [k/m] to enter the letters G, M or K (case-insensitive).
 - Use the  (backspace) key to correct wrong entries, deleting the character to the left of the current cursor position.

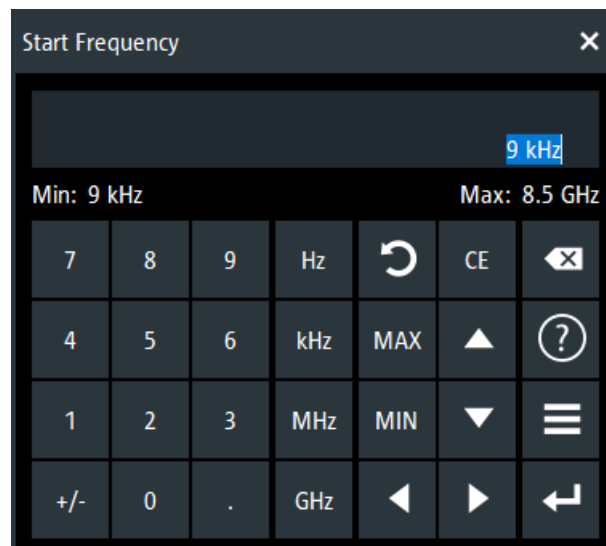
- Press [↵] (Enter) to complete an entry.
 - Press [Esc] to discard the entries made.
- To enter letters other than G, n, M, μ , K or m you can also use one of the methods described in the following sections:
 - [Section 5.6.3, "Using the analyzer's on-screen keyboard"](#), on page 56
 - [Section 5.6.4, "Using the Windows® on-screen keyboard"](#), on page 56

5.6.2 Using the numeric editor

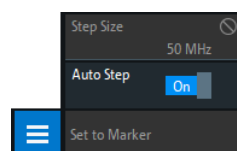
The "Numeric Editor" is a tool for convenient entry and modification of numeric values. It is available for all numeric input fields in the analyzer GUI.

Operation with touchscreen or mouse:

1. Double-tap (double-click) a numeric input field in a dialog or on a softtool to open the numeric editor.



2. Use the buttons in the numeric keypad to enter a value.
3. Add a unit (buttons "Hz", ..., "GHz")
4. Use the up/down buttons to increment/decrement the value by the current "Step Size".
5. Use the menu button to expand the dialog:



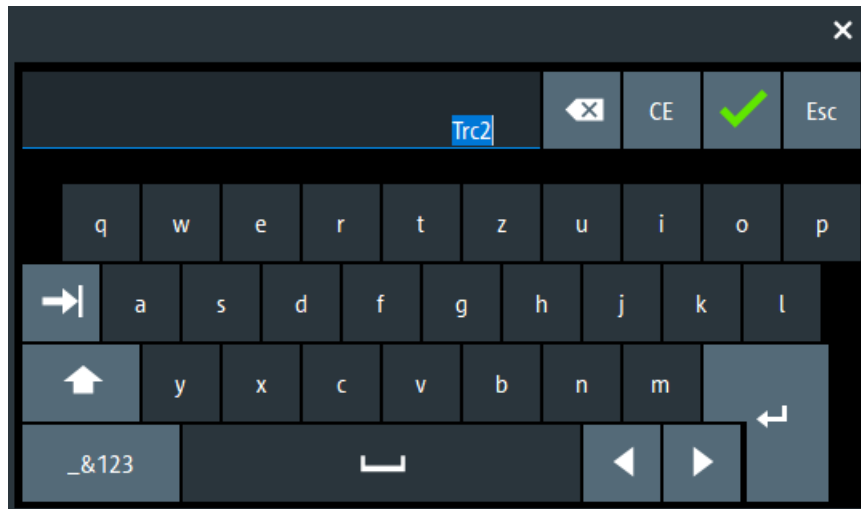
This unhides the functions to set the "Step Size" and the "Set to Marker" function.

The latter is enabled if the active trace has markers with a suitable stimulus or response unit.

6. After completing the input, select ↵ to apply the new value and close the editor.

5.6.3 Using the analyzer's on-screen keyboard

The on-screen "Keyboard" allows you to enter characters, in particular letters, without an external keyboard. It is available for all text input fields in the analyzer GUI.



1. Activate a character data input field in a softtool or a dialog.
2. Double-tap/click the input field to open the on-screen keyboard.
3. Select character buttons to compose the input string.
4. Select "Enter" to apply your selection and close the keyboard.

5.6.4 Using the Windows® on-screen keyboard

The Windows® on-screen keyboard allows you to enter characters, in particular letters, even if an input field cannot call up the analyzer's own on-screen keyboard. Examples are input fields in standard Windows® dialogs.

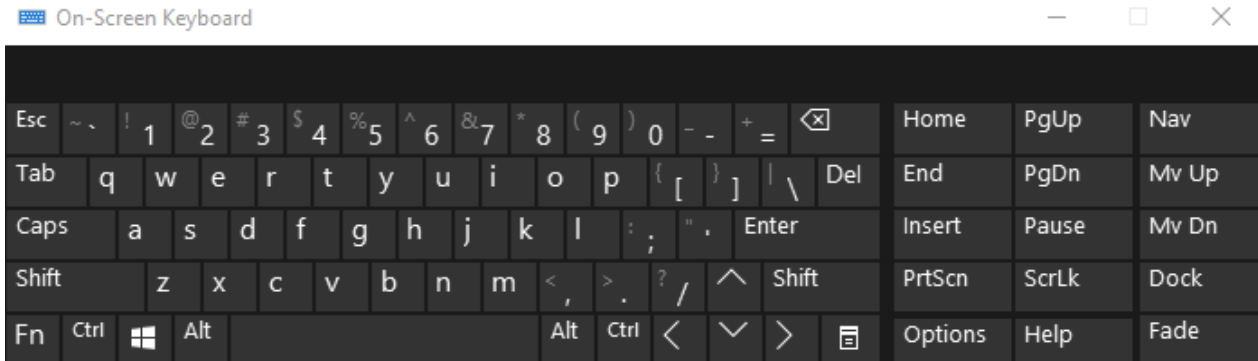


Figure 5-6: Windows on-screen keyboard

To call up the on-screen keyboard:

1. Open the System – [Applic] softtool.
2. Select "External Tools" > "Screen Keyboard".

5.7 Scaling diagrams

The analyzer provides various tools for customizing the diagrams and for setting the sweep range. Choose the method that is most convenient for you.

5.7.1 Using the graphical zoom

The graphical zoom function magnifies a rectangular portion of the diagram (zoom window) to fill the entire diagram area. The sweep points are not affected.

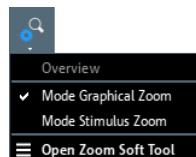


The graphical zoom function is only supported for cartesian trace formats. For (inverted) Smith and polar diagrams, it is not available.



To activate the graphical zoom:

- Select the "Zoom Config" icon in the toolbar above the diagram area and make sure that the graphical zoom mode is active:

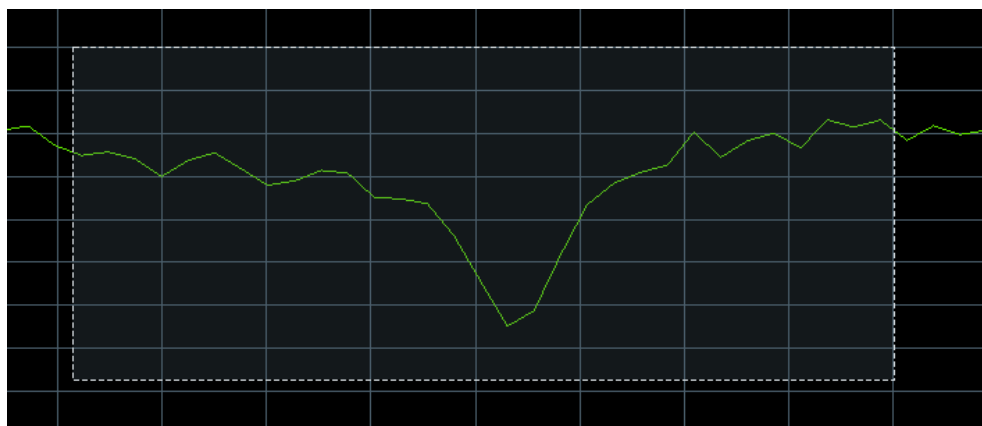


- Select the "Zoom Select" toggle button in the toolbar above the diagram area.



The icon changes its background color from black to blue.


- In the active diagram area, select an appropriate rectangular area.



The zoomed view shows the selected rectangle, scaled in both horizontal and vertical direction. In general, the zoom window covers only a part of the sweep range; the horizontal distance between the sweep points increases. The reduced display range is indicated in an additional zoom line in the channel info area.

Ch1	Start	1 GHz	Pwr	-10 dBm	Stop	6 GHz
	Start	3.92 GHz	Zoom	Trc1	Stop	5.96 GHz

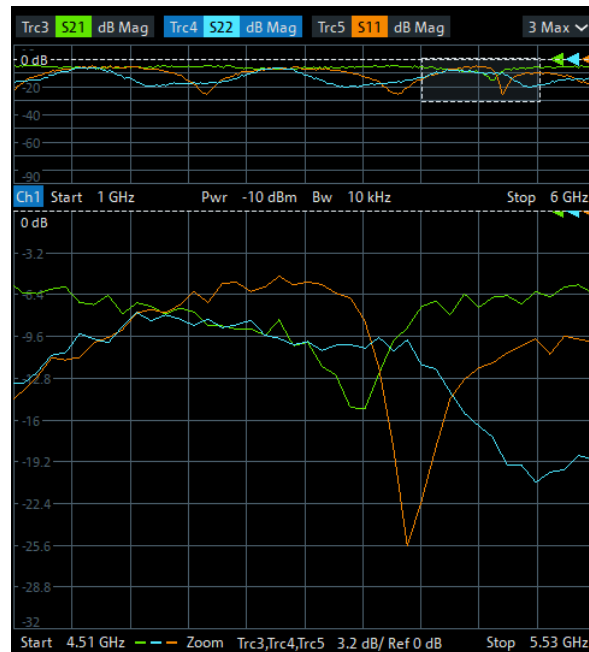


Use the "Zoom Reset" icon to restore the original diagram. Alternatively, you can drag and drop the "Zoom" label from the additional channel info line onto the  toolbar button.



Alternative settings

- The Trace – [Scale] > "Zoom" softtool tab allows you to define the displayed zoom range numerically. It can also be opened from the menu of the "Zoom Config" toolbar icon.
- If the active diagram is graphically zoomed, "Overview On" in the "Zoom" softtool tab toggles an overview. The upper part of the diagram then shows a small version of the unzoomed diagram. You can move the zoomed part of the trace by moving the rectangular area in the overview.



- To zoom the stimulus range (keeping the number of sweep points constant), use the "Zoom Config" toolbar icon and select "Mode Stimulus Zoom". Then use the "Zoom Select" icon to narrow the sweep range and adjust the vertical scaling.

Refer to the R&S ZNB Help or User Manual for details.

5.7.2 Setting the sweep range

The sweep range for all related channels is displayed in the channel info area at the bottom of each diagram:

Ch1	Start	10 MHz	Pwr	-10 dBm	Bw	10 kHz	Stop	4 GHz
Ch2	Start	1 GHz	Pwr	-10 dBm	Bw	10 kHz	Stop	6 GHz
Ch3	Start	5 GHz	Pwr	-10 dBm	Bw	10 kHz	Stop	8.5 GHz
Trc4	Start	-1 ns	Time Domain				Stop	4 ns

To change the sweep range of the active channel, use one of the following methods:

- Use the [Start], [Stop], [Center], and [Span] function keys from the Stimulus section.
- Double-tap (with a mouse: double-click) the "Start" or "Stop" label in the channel list.

- Tap and hold (with a mouse: right-click) the "Start" or "Stop" label in the channel list and select "Start Frequency", "Stop Frequency", "Center Frequency", or "Frequency Span" from the context menu.
- Select "Start Frequency", "Stop Frequency", "Center Frequency", "Span Frequency" from the "Channel" > "Stimulus" menu.
- Use the "Set by Marker" functions (Trace – [Marker] > "Set by Marker"; see [Section 5.7.6, "Set by marker"](#), on page 61).

5.7.3 Reference value and position

The analyzer provides three parameters for changing the scale of the vertical (response) axis:

- Changing the "Ref Value" or "Ref Pos" shifts the trace in a vertical direction and adjusts the labels of the vertical axis. "Ref Value" also works for radial diagrams.
- Changing the "Scale/Div" modifies the value of the vertical or radial diagram divisions and thus the entire range of response values displayed.

The "Scale/Div" and the "Ref Value" are indicated in the scale section of the trace info. In the example below, a "Scale/Div" of 10 dB and a "Ref Value" of 0 dB is used.

Trc1 S21 dB Mag 10 dB/ Ref 0 dB Math

To change such a scale parameter, use one of the following methods:

- Open the Trace – [Scale] > "Scale Values" softtool tab and proceed from there.
- Tap and hold (with a mouse: right-click) the scale section in the trace info and select a setting from the context menu.
- Select a setting from the "Trace" > "Scale" menu.
- Use "Set by Marker" functions (Trace – [Marker] > "Set by Marker"; see [Section 5.7.6, "Set by marker"](#), on page 61).

5.7.4 Auto scale

The "Auto Scale" function adjusts the scale divisions and the reference value so that the entire trace fits into the diagram. To access "Auto Scale", use one of the following methods:

- Open the Trace – [Scale] > "Scale Values" softtool tab and select "Auto Scale Trace" or "Auto Scale Diagram".
- Tap and hold (with a mouse: right-click) the scale section in the trace info and select "Auto Scale Trace" from the context menu.
- Select "Auto Scale Trace" or "Auto Scale Diagram" from the "Trace" > "Scale" menu.

5.7.5 Circular diagrams

The radial scale of a circular diagram ("Polar", "Smith" or "Inverted Smith") can be changed with a single linear parameter, the "Ref Value". The reference value defines the radius of the outer circumference.

- Increasing the "Ref Value" scales down the polar diagram.
- Decreasing the "Ref Value" magnifies the polar diagram.

The "Ref Value" is indicated in the scale section of the trace info.

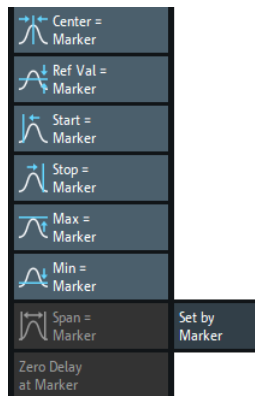
Trc1 S21 Polar 400 mU / Ref 2 U

To change the "Ref Value" setting, use one of the following methods:

- Locate it on the Trace – [Scale] > "Scale Values" softtool tab.
- Tap and hold (with a mouse: right-click) the scale section in the trace info and select the parameter from the context menu.
- Select the parameter from the "Trace" > "Scale" menu.
- Use the "Set by Marker" functions; see [Section 5.7.6, "Set by marker"](#), on page 61.

5.7.6 Set by marker

The "Set by Marker" functions are a convenient tool for scaling (in particular: magnifying) diagrams without entering explicit numeric values. You simply place a marker to a trace point and use the marker values to change the sweep range or move the trace relative to the vertical axis. The touchscreen or a mouse makes it easier to activate (touch/click) or move (drag and drop) markers.



To set the sweep range using markers, use one of the following methods.

Set "Start" and "Stop" values in the diagram:

1. Create two normal markers, e.g. the markers "Mkr 1" (default label "M1") and "Mkr 2" (default label "M2").
See [Section 5.5.2, "Adding markers"](#), on page 51.

2. Place "M1" to the start value of the desired sweep range and tap Trace – [Marker] > "Set by Marker" > "Start = Marker".
3. Place "M2" to the stop value of the desired sweep range and tap Trace – [Marker] > "Set by Marker" > "Stop = Marker".

Use a definite "Span":

1. Create a marker.
2. Enable "Delta Mode" for this marker.
The analyzer automatically creates an additional reference marker.
3. Place the reference marker to the start value of the desired sweep range.
4. Set the value of the delta marker to the desired sweep range and tap Trace – [Marker] > "Set by Marker" > "Span = Marker".

To move the trace in a vertical direction, proceed as follows:


1. Create a normal marker, e.g. the marker "Mkr 1" (default label "M1").
2. Place "M1" to a particular trace point, e.g. use the "Marker Search" functions to locate a maximum or minimum on the trace.
3. Select Trace – [Marker] > "Set by Marker" > "Max = Marker" to move the trace towards the upper diagram edge, leaving the values of the vertical divisions ("Scale/Div") and the overall vertical scale unchanged. Analogously, select "Min = Marker" to move the trace towards the lower diagram edge, or select "Ref Val = Marker" to move the trace towards the "Ref Value".



You can also use marker values in the "Numeric Editor"; see [Section 5.6.2, "Using the numeric editor"](#), on page 55.

5.7.7 Enlarging a diagram

The analyzer provides different tools for customizing the contents and size of the diagrams:

- Select  from the toolbar to maximize the active diagram. Or, equivalently, select System – [Display] > "Diagram" > "Maximize Diagram".
If enabled the active diagram is always maximized.
- Double-tap/click a diagram to maximize it and make all its traces except the active one invisible.
- The "Menu Bar", the "Status Bar", the "Hard Key Panel", and the "Title Bar" can be hidden to gain space for the diagrams (System – [Display] > "View Bar").
- The System – [Display] > "Config" softtool tab defines optional display elements for the interior of the diagrams.

Use the context menu of the diagram, the System – [Display] key or the "Display" menu to access the display settings.

6 Performing measurements

This section takes you through a sample session with a R&S ZNB network analyzer and describes basic operation tasks.



Prerequisite

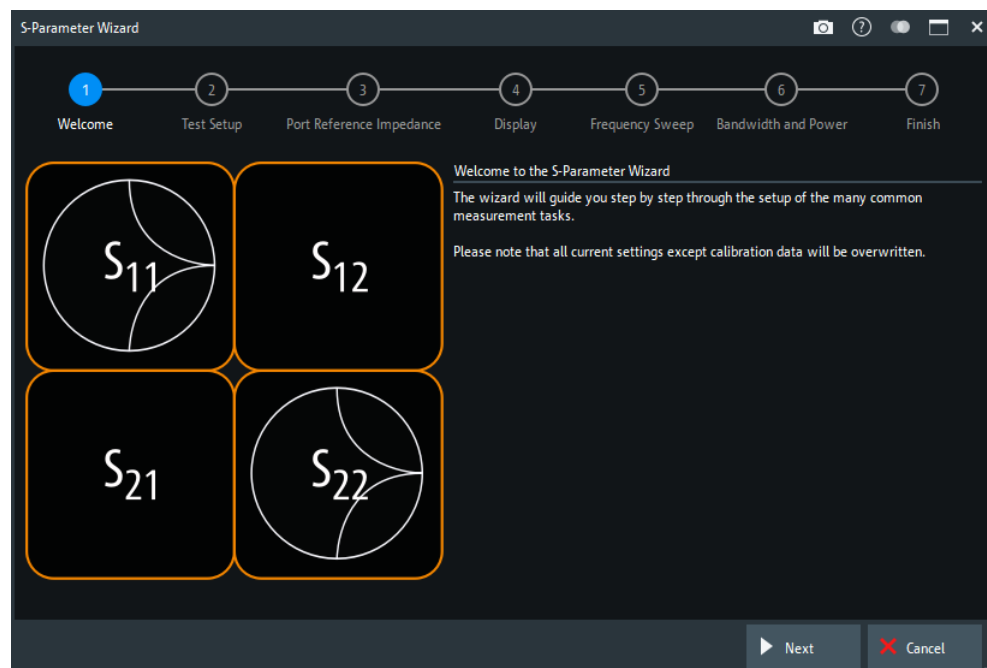
The instrument is set up, connected to the mains system, and started up as described in [Section 3, "Preparing for use"](#), on page 13.



Use the "S-Parameter Wizard" accessible via

Trace – [Meas] > "Measurement Menu: S-Parameters" > "S-Params" > "S-Param Wizard"

to measure S-parameters in a straightforward way. The wizard provides a series of dialogs where you can select the test setup, screen configuration and measurement parameters, configure the essential channel settings and perform a guided calibration.



Measurement stages in the wizard

The individual dialogs of the "S-Parameter Wizard" correspond to the typical stages of any measurement:

1. Prepare the measurement.
2. Select the test setup.
3. Define port impedances.
4. Select the measurement parameters and the diagrams.

5. Define the sweep range.
6. Adjust the source and receiver settings (source power, measurement bandwidth).
7. Perform a calibration (optional).

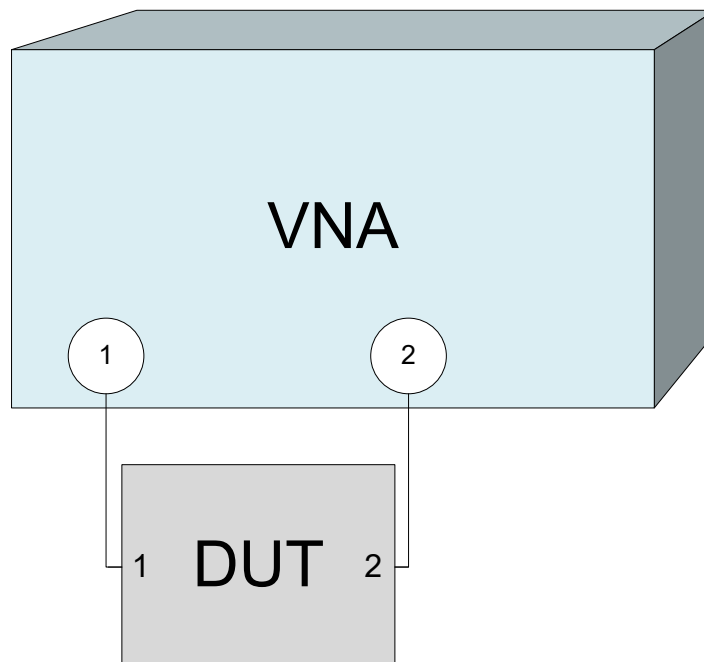
6.1 Transmission S-parameter measurement

In a transmission measurement, the analyzer transmits a stimulus signal to the input port of the device under test (DUT) and measures the transmitted wave at the DUT's output port. The trace settings allow you to select the measured quantities and display formats, depending on what you want to learn from the data. A minimum of two analyzer test ports are required for transmission measurements.

In the following example, the analyzer is set up for a two-port transmission measurement. A frequency sweep range is selected, the instrument is calibrated and the measurement result is analyzed using various display formats.

6.1.1 Connecting the instrument for transmission measurements

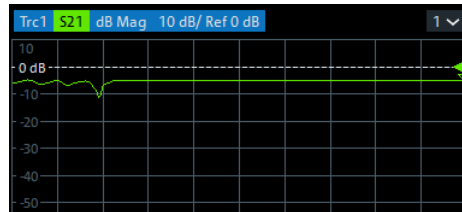
To prepare a transmission measurement, you have to connect your DUT (which for simplicity we assume to have appropriate connectors) in-between a pair of analyzer test ports. It is recommended that you preset the R&S ZNB to start from a well-defined instrument state.




1. Connect the DUT between test ports 1 and 2 of the network analyzer as shown above.

- Use the [Preset] key to restore a well-defined instrument state.

The analyzer is now set to its default state, measuring the transmission S-parameter S_{21} .



Drag&drop the  toolbar icon onto the diagram area to create additional traces (and diagrams).

6.1.2 Selecting the sweep range and other parameters

After a system preset the display shows a diagram with a dB magnitude scale, and the S-parameter S_{21} is selected as a measured quantity. This S-parameter is the forward transmission coefficient of the DUT. It is defined as the ratio of the transmitted wave at the DUT's output port (port no. 2) to the incident wave at the DUT's input port (port no. 1).

The R&S ZNB automatically adjusts its internal source and receiver to the selected measured quantities: For an S_{21} measurement, a stimulus signal (termed a_1) is transmitted at the analyzer port no. 1; the transmitted wave (termed b_2) is measured at port 2. The stimulus signal from the analyzer port no. 2 is not needed except for some calibration types.

By default the sweep range is set to the frequency range of the analyzer, which can be unsuitable for your DUT. The following procedure shows you how to configure a smaller sweep range.

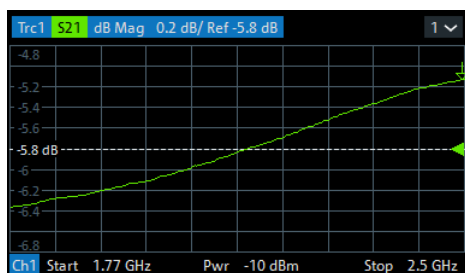
- Select Stimulus – [Start] and set the "Start Frequency" to the lowest frequency you want to measure (e.g. 1.77 GHz).

For convenient numeric entry, double-tap/click the input field to open the "Numeric Editor" (see [Section 5.6.2, "Using the numeric editor"](#), on page 55).

Tip: If you use the data entry keys at the front panel for data entry, type [1][.][7][7] and terminate the entry with the [G/n] key.

Refer to [Section 5.6, "Entering data"](#), on page 54 to learn more about entering numeric values and characters.

- In the "Stop Frequency" input field, enter the highest frequency you want to measure (e.g. 2.5 GHz).
- Select Trace – [Scale] > "Scale Values" and activate the "Auto Scale Trace" function. The analyzer adjusts the scale of the diagram to fit in the entire S_{21} trace, leaving an appropriate display margin.



Tip: Refer to [Section 5.7, "Scaling diagrams"](#), on page 57 to learn more about the different methods and tools for diagram scaling.



By default, data acquisition at port 2 starts immediately. For DUTs with large group delay ($> \sim 10$ ns), and if the sweep is optimized for speed, the data acquisition window can partly overlap with the signal from the previous sweep point. In this case, it is recommended to configure an additional **measurement delay**: Start with a measurement delay of 0, and increase it until the S_{21} trace becomes stable.

6.1.3 Calibrating the instrument

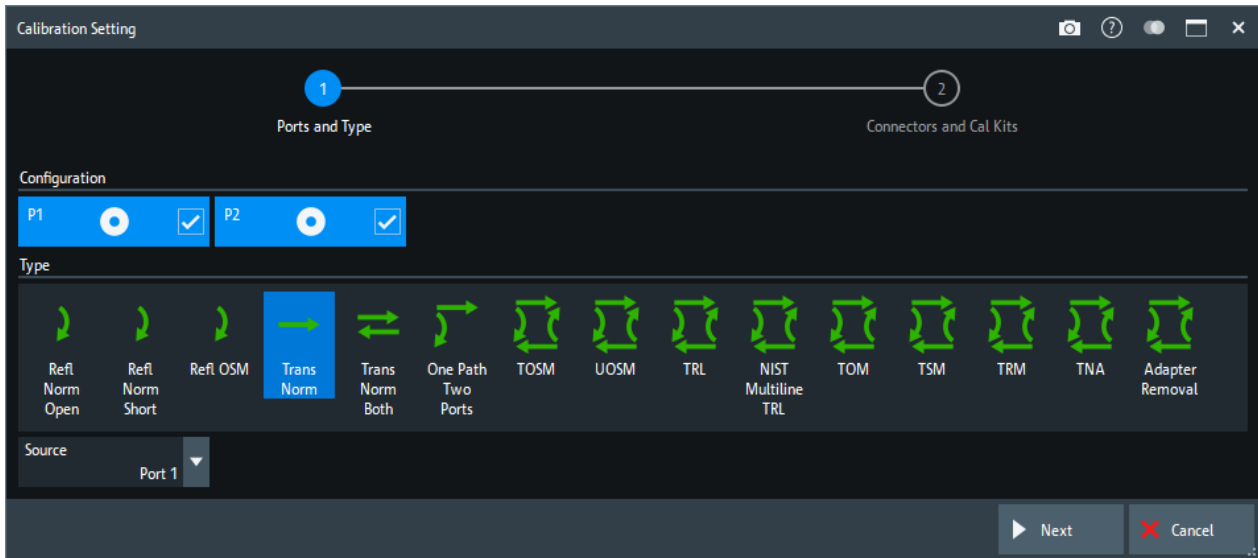
Calibration (system error correction) is the process of eliminating systematic, reproducible errors from the measurement results. E.g., in the current test setup, the connecting cables between the analyzer ports and the DUT introduce an attenuation and a phase shift of the waves. Both effects impair the accuracy of the S-parameter measurement.

The analyzer provides a wide range of sophisticated calibration methods for all types of measurements. The calibration method to select depends on the expected system errors, the accuracy requirements of the measurement, on the test setup and on the types of calibration standards available.

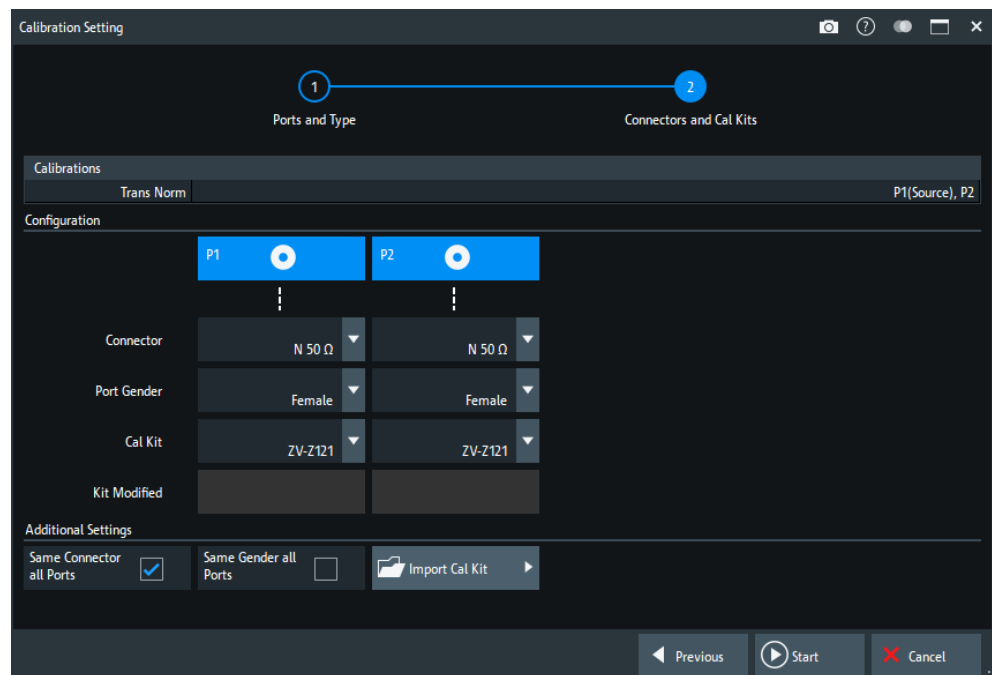
The following example requires a calibration kit with a male Through standard with known transmission characteristics for the related test port connector type and gender. With a single Through, it is possible to perform a transmission normalization, compensating for a frequency-dependent attenuation and phase shift in the signal paths.

Due to the R&S ZNB's calibration wizard, calibration is a straightforward, guided process.

1. Replace the DUT by the Through standard of your calibration kit. Make sure to disconnect all calibration units.
2. Select Channel – [Cal] > "Start (Manual)" to open the "Calibration Setting" wizard.
3. Pick port 1 (P1) and port 2 (P2), choose the calibration type "Trans Norm", and select port 1 as source port.

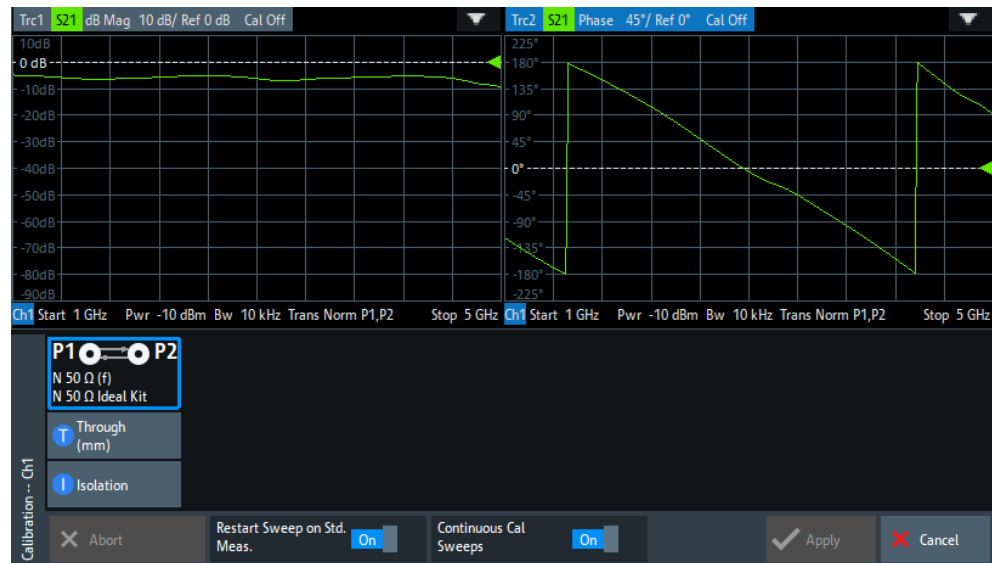


4. Select "Next" to proceed to the next page of the "Calibration Setting" wizard.
5. Select the test port connector type and gender (here: N 50 Ω , female, corresponding to a male Through standard), and the calibration kit (here: R&S ZV-Z121).



6. Tap "Start".
7. The calibration dock widget indicates the standard measurements that make up a "Trans Norm" calibration.
Select "Through (mm)" to initiate the measurement of the connected Through standard. Measuring the isolation between ports 1 and 2 is optional. Skip it for now.

Transmission S-parameter measurement



The analyzer performs a calibration sweep for the measured quantity S_{21} . The magnitude and phase of the result is displayed in two diagrams, together with the expected typical result for a Through standard. The similarity of real and expected traces indicates that the Through standard has been properly connected. After the R&S ZNB has completed the calibration sweep and calculated the correction data, the "Apply" button is enabled.

8. Select "Apply" to close the wizard.

The system error correction is calculated and applied to the current channel. A "Cal" label appears in the trace list.

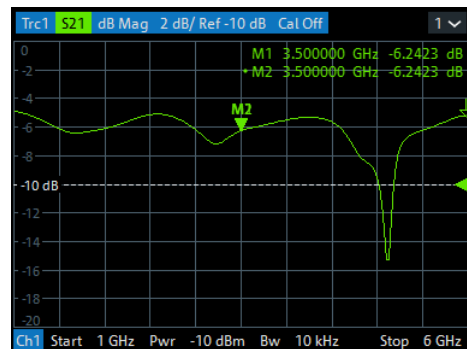
To proceed with the measurement, remove the Through standard and connect the DUT again.

6.1.4 Evaluating data

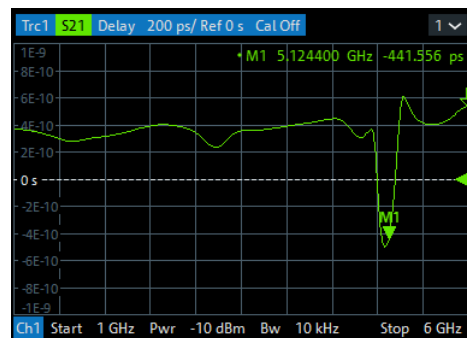
The analyzer provides various tools to optimize the display and analyze the measurement data. For instance, you can use markers to determine maxima and minima on the trace, and change the display format to obtain information about the group delay of the transmitted wave.

1. Select Trace – [Marker] > "Markers" > "Mkr 1".

This places marker "M1" to its default position (center of the sweep range). A marker symbol (triangle) appears on the trace, a marker info field in the upper right corner of the diagram. The marker info field displays the stimulus value (frequency) and response value (magnitude of the transmission coefficient converted to a dB value) at the marker position.



2. Select Trace – [Marker], activate the "Marker Search" softtool tab and activate "Min" search.
The marker jumps to the absolute minimum of the curve in the entire sweep range. The marker info field shows the coordinates of the new marker position.
3. Select Trace – [Format] and choose the "Delay" of the transmission coefficient as the displayed quantity.
The group delay represents the propagation time of the wave through the DUT; it is displayed in a Cartesian diagram. The marker info field shows the frequency and group delay at the marker position.



Refer to the information on trace formats in the help system or in the user manual to learn more about the diagram properties.

6.1.5 Saving and printing data

The analyzer provides standard functions for saving measurement settings and for saving or printing the results. You can use these functions as if you were working on a standard PC. Moreover you can export your trace data to an ASCII file and reuse it in a later session or in an external application.



Data transfer is made easier if external accessories are connected to the analyzer or if the instrument is integrated into a LAN. Refer to [Section 3.11, "Connecting external accessories"](#), on page 21, and [Section 3.12, "Remote operation in a LAN"](#), on page 23 to obtain information about the necessary steps.

1. Activate the System – [File] > "Trace Data" softtool tab.
2. In the "Trace Data" softtool tab, select "Export" – "ASCII" to open the "Export Data - ASCII Files" dialog.
3. In the "Export Data - ASCII Files" dialog:
 - a) Select a file location ("Look in:").
 - b) Enter a filename ("File name:").
 - c) Select "Save".

The analyzer writes the data of the active trace to an ASCII file and closes the dialog.

4. Activate the "Print" softtool tab (System – [File] > "Print").
5. In the "Print" softtool tab, select "Print" to print the diagram area or "To Clipboard" to copy it to the Windows clipboard.
6. Select System – [File] > "Recall Sets" > "Save" to open the "Save" dialog for recall sets.
7. In the "Save" dialog:
 - a) Select a file location ("Look in:").
 - b) Enter a name for the recall set file ("File name:").
 - c) Select "Save".

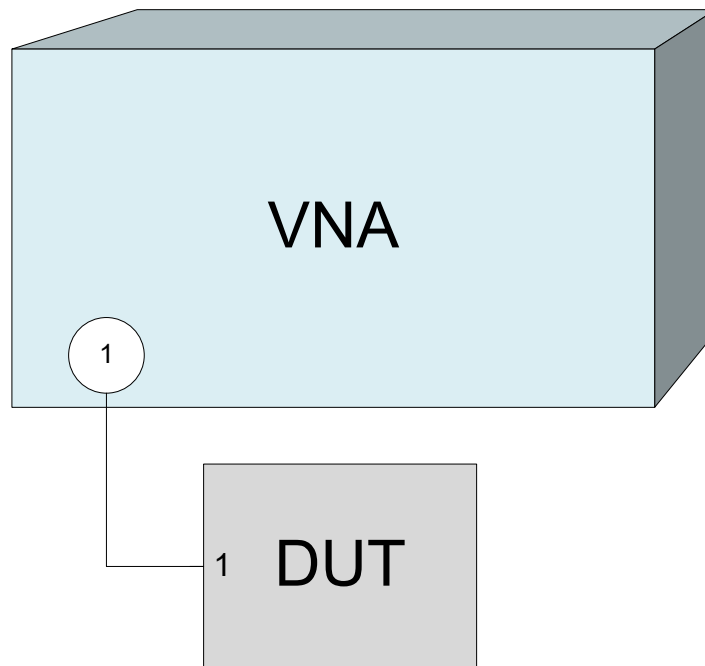
The analyzer saves the active recall set, containing channel, stimulus and trace settings, to a `znx` file. This recall set can be restored in a later session.

6.2 Reflection S-parameter measurement

In a reflection measurement, the analyzer transmits a stimulus signal to the input port of the device under test (DUT) and measures the reflected wave. Different trace formats allow you to express and display the results, depending on what you want to learn from the data. Only one analyzer test port is required for reflection measurements.

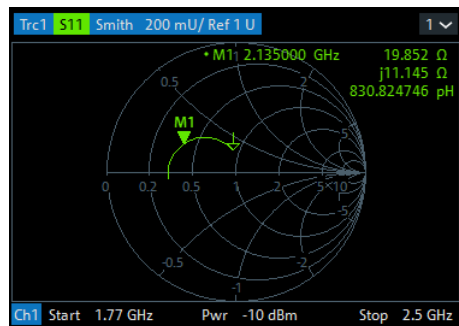
In principle, a reflection measurement involves the same steps as a transmission measurement. Note the following differences:

- The basic test setup for reflection measurements involves a single DUT and analyzer port. For instance, you can connect the input of your DUT to port 1 of the analyzer as shown below.



You can also use the basic transmission test setup, e.g. if you want to measure reflection and transmission parameters in parallel.

- The analyzer provides special calibration types for reflection measurements (Refl. Norm., OSM, ...). Use the calibration wizard and select an appropriate type. A full n-port calibration (TOSM, UOSM, TNA ...) corrects the system errors for all transmission and reflection S-parameters.
- Some of the trace formats are particularly suited for reflection measurements. For instance, you can display the measured reflection coefficient S_{11} in a Smith chart to obtain the complex input impedance at DUT port 1.



7 Firmware update



Admin account

You need administrator rights to install a new firmware. See [Section 3.9, "Windows operating system"](#), on page 18 for details.



64-bit only

For analyzer firmware versions ≥ 3.0 , 32-bit Windows is no longer supported. Only 64-bit firmware is available.

To upgrade your instrument to 64-bit Windows 10, contact Rohde & Schwarz service.

7.1 Update information

Rohde & Schwarz firmware releases are thoroughly tested concerning backward compatibility of features and performance.

A prerequisite for publishing a new firmware release is the fact that according to our test results a re-calibration is not required after updating an instrument to this new version.

7.2 Firmware downgrade

Generally, it is not recommended to use an earlier version than the latest version available. In some cases, the older versions do not support the hardware used in your instrument.

Usually you can downgrade to a previous version by executing the related firmware setup file.



Downgrade to an earlier firmware version

To downgrade the firmware from a version ≥ 4.00 to an earlier version, it is required to uninstall the firmware using the **uninstall shortcut** on the Windows desktop before proceeding with the installation.

7.3 Firmware installation

The analyzer firmware is supplied as a single executable setup file (*.exe).

To install the firmware:

1. Copy the setup file to any storage medium accessible from the analyzer. This can be either the internal mass storage drive, an external storage medium (USB flash drive, external CD-ROM drive) or a network drive (LAN).
The default name of the internal drive is C : . External storage devices are automatically mapped to the next free drive, i.e. D : , E : etc.
2. Run the setup file from the Windows® Explorer. Follow the instructions of the setup wizard.
Setup files can be reinstalled.

8 Contacting customer support

Technical support – where and when you need it

For quick, expert help with any Rohde & Schwarz product, contact our customer support center. A team of highly qualified engineers provides support and works with you to find a solution to your query on any aspect of the operation, programming or applications of Rohde & Schwarz products.

Contact information

Contact our customer support center at www.rohde-schwarz.com/support, or follow this QR code:



Figure 8-1: QR code to the Rohde & Schwarz support page

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