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| **Recommendation ITU-R BT.1877-1**  **(08/2012)** |
| **Error-correction, data framing, modulation and emission methods for second  generation of digital terrestrial  television broadcasting systems** |
| **BT Series**  **Broadcasting service**  **(television)** |

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| **BO** | Satellite delivery |
| **BR** | Recording for production, archival and play-out; film for television |
| **BS** | Broadcasting service (sound) |
| BT | Broadcasting service (television) |
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| **RA** | Radio astronomy |
| **RS** | Remote sensing systems |
| **S** | Fixed-satellite service |
| **SA** | Space applications and meteorology |
| **SF** | Frequency sharing and coordination between fixed-satellite and fixed service systems |
| **SM** | Spectrum management |
| **SNG** | Satellite news gathering |
| **TF** | Time signals and frequency standards emissions |
| **V** | Vocabulary and related subjects |

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| ***Note***: *This ITU-R Recommendation was approved in English under the procedure detailed in Resolution ITU-R 1.* |

*Electronic Publication*

Geneva, 2012

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RECOMMENDATION ITU-R BT.1877-1

Error-correction, data framing, modulation and emission methods for   
second generation of digital terrestrial  
television broadcasting systems

(Question ITU-R 132-2/6)

(2010-2012)

Scope

This Recommendation defines error-correction, data framing, modulation and emission methods for the second generation of digital terrestrial television broadcasting transmission systems[[1]](#footnote-1) (referred to, outside ITU-R, as a DVB-T2 system). These systems have been developed such that they are compatible with the provisions of the GE06 Agreement. This Recommendation is intended for the digital terrestrial broadcasting transmission system, when high flexibility in the system configuration and broadcasting interactivity is of importance allowing for a wide-ranging trade-off between operation under minimal *C*/*N* levels or maximum transmission capacity[[2]](#footnote-2).

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

a) that the digital terrestrial television systems for use in broadcasting systems have been developed in Recommendation ITU‑R BT.1306, which are referred to as the current systems;

b) that digital terrestrial television broadcasting (DTTB) is being introduced in the VHF/UHF bands by some administrations from 1997;

c) that it may be desirable to support the simultaneous transmission of a hierarchy of nested quality levels (including low definition television (LDTV), high definition television (HDTV) and standard definition TV (SDTV) within a single channel;

d) that many types of interference, including co-channel and adjacent channel, ignition noise, multipath and other signal distortions exist in the VHF/UHF bands;

e) that it is necessary that the frame synchronization be capable of robustness in channels subject to transmission errors;

f) that it is desirable that the frame structure be adapted to different bit rate channels;

g) that recent developments in the field of channel coding and modulation have produced new techniques with performances approaching the Shannon limit;

h) that these new digital techniques would offer better spectrum and/or power efficiency, in comparison to the current systems, whilst maintaining the possibility to be flexibly configured to cope with the specific broadcasting bandwidth and power resources;

j) that the recommended system makes use of such techniques and thus allows for a wide‑ranging trade-off between operation under minimal *C*/*N* levels or maximum transmission capacity;

k) that the recommended system would be capable to handle the variety of advanced audiovisual formats currently available and under definition;

l) that the selection of a modulation option needs to be based on specific conditions such as spectrum resource, policy, coverage requirements, existing network structure, reception conditions, type of service required, cost to the consumer and broadcasters,

recommends

**1** that administrations wishing to introduce the second generation of DTTB systems may use the system outlined in Annex 1.

Annex 1

Currently two variants of the system are considered (referred to, outside ITU‑R, as a DVB-T2 system) – for fixed and mobile reception of SDTV and HDTV services (referred to as the T2-Base profile or simply DVB-T2) and for reception by very low capacity applications such as mobile broadcasting (referred to as the T2-Lite profile). T2-Lite signals may also be received by conventional stationary DVB-T2 receivers.

Table 1 provides general data about the second-generation multi-carrier system with multiple physical layer pipes (PLP) covering both profiles. Footnotes 9-13 to Table 1 contain information on restrictions with respect to the T2-Base and T2-Lite profiles. Specifications and implementation guidelines for both profiles of this system are found in Appendix 1.

TABLE 1

Parameters for the second generation of DTTB transmission system

Second-generation multi-carrier system with multiple physical layer pipes (PLP)(1)

| No. | Parameters | 1.7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)(2) | 5 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)(2) | 6 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM) | 7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM) | 8 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM) | 10 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)(2) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Used bandwidth | 1.54 MHz in normal mode | 4.76 MHz in normal mode 4.82 MHz in extended mode (8k mode) 4.86 MHz in extended mode (16k and 32k mode) | 5.71 MHz  in normal mode 5.79 MHz  in extended mode  (8k mode) 5.83 MHz  in extended mode  (16k and 32k mode) | 6.66 MHz  in normal mode 6.75 MHz  in extended mode (8k mode) 6.80 MHz  in extended mode (16k and 32k mode) | 7.61 MHz  in normal mode 7.72 MHz  in extended mode  (8k mode) 7.77 MHz  in extended mode (16k and 32k mode) | 9.51 MHz in normal mode 9.65 MHz in extended mode (8k mode) 9.71 MHz in extended mode (16k and 32k mode) |
| 2 | Number of radiated carriers |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1k mode(10) | 853 | 853 | 853 | 853 | 853 | 853 |
| 2k mode | 1 705 | 1 705 | 1 705 | 1 705 | 1 705 | 1 705 |
| 4k mode | 3 409 | 3 409 | 3 409 | 3 409 | 3 409 | 3 409 |
| 8k mode | 6 817 (8k mode) | 6 817 (8k mode) 6 913 (8k extended mode) | 6 817 (normal mode) 6 913 (extended mode) | 6 817 (normal mode) 6 913 (extended mode) | 6 817 (normal mode) 6 913 (extended mode) | 6 817 (8k mode) 6 913 (8k extended mode) |
| 16k mode |  | 13 633 (16k mode) 13 921 (16k extended mode) | 13 633 (normal mode) 13 921 (extended mode) | 13 633 (normal mode) 13 921 (extended mode) | 13 633 (normal mode) 13 921 (extended mode) | 13 633 (16k mode) 13 921 (16k extended mode) |
| 32k mode(10) |  | 27 265 (32k mode) 27 841 (32k extended mode) | 27 265 (normal mode) 27 841 (extended mode) | 27 265 (normal mode) 27 841 (extended mode) | 27 265 (normal mode) 27 841 (extended mode) | 27 265 (32k mode) 27 841 (32k extended mode) |
| 3 | Modulation modes | Constant coding and modulation (CCM)/variable coding and modulation (VCM) | | | | | |

TABLE 1 (*continued*)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Parameters | 1.7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)(2) | 5 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)(2) | 6 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM) | 7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM) | 8 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM) | 10 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)(2) |
| 4 | Modulation method | QPSK, 16-QAM, 64‑QAM, 256-QAM specific for each physical layer pipe | | | | | |
| 5 | Channel occupancy | To be defined (2) | | | See Rec. ITU-R BT.1206 | | To be defined (2) |
| 6 | Active symbol duration |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1k mode(10) | 554.99 μs | 179.2 μs | 149.33 μs | 128 μs | 112 μs | 89.60 μs |
|  | 2k mode | 1 109.98 μs | 358.4 μs | 298.67 μs | 256 μs | 224 μs | 179.20 μs |
|  | 4k mode | 2 219.97 μs | 716.8 μs | 597.33 μs | 512 μs | 448 μs | 358.40 μs |
|  | 8k mode | 4 439.94 μs | 1 433.6 μs | 1 194.67 μs | 1 024 μs | 896 μs | 716.8 μs |
|  | 16k mode |  | 2 867.2 μs | 2 389.33 μs | 2 048 μs | 1 792 μs | 1 433.6 μs |
|  | 32k mode(10) |  | 5 734.40 μs | 4 778.67 μs | 4 096 μs | 3 584 μs | 2 867.2 μs |
| 7 | Carrier spacing |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1k mode(10) | 1 801.91 Hz | 5 580.63 Hz | 6 696.75 Hz | 7 812.88 Hz | 8 929 Hz | 11 161.25 Hz |
|  | 2k mode | 900.86 Hz | 2 790 Hz | 3 348 Hz | 3 906 Hz | 4 464 Hz | 5 580.00 Hz |
|  | 4k mode | 450.43 Hz | 1 395 Hz | 1 674 Hz | 1 953 Hz | 2 232 Hz | 2 790.00 Hz |
|  | 8k mode | 225.21 Hz | 697.50 Hz | 837 Hz | 976 Hz | 1 116 Hz | 1 395.00 Hz |
|  | 16k mode |  | 348.75 Hz | 418.5 Hz | 488.25 Hz | 558 Hz | 697.50 Hz |
|  | 32k mode(10) |  | 174.38 Hz | 209.25 Hz | 244.125 Hz | 279 Hz | 348.75 Hz |

TABLE 1 (*continued*)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | **Parameters** | **1.7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)**(2) | **5 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)**(2) | **6 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **8 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **10 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)**(2) |
| 8 | Guard interval duration (3) | 1/128, 1/32, 1/16, 19/256, 1/8, 19/128, 1/4 of active symbol duration | 1/128, 1/32, 1/16, 19/256, 1/8, 19/128, 1/4 of active symbol duration | 1/128, 1/32, 1/16, 19/256, 1/8, 19/128, 1/4 of active symbol duration | 1/128, 1/32, 1/16, 19/256, 1/8, 19/128, 1/4 of active symbol duration | 1/128, 1/32, 1/16, 19/256, 1/8, 19/128, 1/4 of active symbol duration | 1/128, 1/32, 1/16, 19/256, 1/8, 19/128, 1/4 of active symbol duration |
| 1k mode(10) | 34.69, 69.37, 138.75 μs | 11.2, 22.4, 44.8 μs | 9.3, 18.6, 37.3 μs | 8, 16, 32 μs | 7, 14, 28 μs | 5.6, 11.2, 22.4 μs |
| 2k mode | 34.69, 69.37, 138.75, 277.50 μs | 11.2, 22.4, 44.8, 89.6 μs | 9.3, 18.6, 37.3, 74.6 μs | 8, 16, 32, 64 μs | 7, 14, 28, 56 μs | 5.6, 11.2, 22.4, 44.8 μs |
| 4k mode | 69.37, 138.75, 277.50, 554.99 μs | 22.4, 44.8, 89.6, 179.2 μs | 18.6, 37.3, 74.6, 149.3 μs | 16, 32, 64, 128 μs | 14, 28, 56, 112 μs | 11.2, 22.4, 44.8, 89.6 μs |
| 8k mode | 34.69, 138.75, 277.50, 329.53, 554.99, 659.05, 1 109.98 μs | 11.2, 44.8, 89.6, 106.4, 179.2, 212.8, 358.4 μs | 9.3, 37.3, 74.6, 88.6, 149.3, 177.3, 298.6 μs | 8, 32, 64, 75.9, 128, 152, 256 μs | 7, 28, 56, 66.5, 112, 133, 224 μs | 5.6, 22.4, 44.8, 53.2, 89.6, 106.4, 179.2 μs |
| 16k mode |  | 22.4, 89.6, 179.2, 212.8, 358.4, 425.6, 716.8 μs | 18.6, 74.6, 149.3, 177.3, 298.6, 354.6, 597.3 μs | 16, 64, 128, 152, 256, 304, 512 μs | 14, 56, 112, 133, 224, 266, 448 μs | 11.2, 44.8, 89.6, 106.4, 179.2, 212.8, 358.4 μs |
| 32k mode(10) |  | 44.8, 179.2, 358.4, 425.6, 716.8, 851.2 μs | 37.33, 149.33, 298.67, 354.67, 597.33, 709.33 μs | 32, 128, 256, 304, 512, 608 μs | 28, 112, 224, 266, 448, 532 μs | 22.4, 89.6, 179.2, 212.8, 358.4, 425.6 μs |
| 9 | Overall symbol duration |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1k mode(10) | 589.68-4578.69 μs | 190.4, 201.6, 224 μs | 158.6, 168, 186.6 μs | 136, 144, 160 μs | 119, 126, 140 μs | 95.20-112.00 μs |
| 2k mode | 1 144.67-1 387.48 μs | 369.6, 381, 403, 448 μs | 308, 317, 336, 373.3 μs | 264, 272, 288, 320 μs | 231, 238, 252, 280 μs | 184.80-224.00 μs |
| 4k mode | 2 289.34-2 774.96 μs | 739, 762, 806, 896 μs | 616, 635, 672, 746.6 μs | 527.9, 544, 576, 640 μs | 462, 476, 504, 560 μs | 369.60-448.00 μs |
| 8k mode | 4 474.63-5 549.92 μs | 1 444.8, 1 478.4, 1 523.2, 1 540, 1 612.8, 1 646.4, 1 792 μs | 1 204, 1 232, 1 269.3, 1 283.3, 1 344, 1 372, 1 493.3 μs | 1 032, 1 056, 1 088, 1 100, 1 152, 1 176, 1 280 μs | 903, 924, 952, 962.5, 1 008, 1 29, 1 120 μs | 722.4, 739.2, 761.6, 770, 806.4, 823, 896 μs |
| 16k mode |  | 2 889, 2 956.8, 3 046.4, 3 080, 3 225.6, 3 292.8,  3 584 μs | 2 408, 2 464, 2 538.6, 2 566.6, 2 686, 2 744, 2 986.6 μs | 2 064, 2 112, 2 176, 2 200, 2 304, 2 352, 2 560 μs | 1 806, 1 848, 1 904, 1 925, 2 016, 2 058, 2 240 μs | 1 444.8, 1 478.4, 1 523.2, 1 540, 1 612.8, 1 646.4, 1 792 μs |
| 32k mode(10) |  | 5 779.20-6 585.60 μs | 4 816-5 488 μs | 4 128-4 704 μs | 3 612, 3 696, 3 808, 3 850, 4 032, 4 116 μs | 2 889.6, 2 956.8, 3 046.4, 3 080, 3 225.6, 3 292.8 μs |

TABLE 1 (*continued*)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | **Parameters** | **1.7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)**(2) | **5 MHz multi- carrier (OFDM)**(2) | **6 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **8 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **10 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)**(2) |
| 10 | Transmission frame duration(6) | Frame starts with preamble and has a configurable number of symbols, with maximum duration of 250 ms. Minimum number of data symbols is 3 (32k mode) or 7 (other modes). Super-frame length is configurable, maximum 256 frames, 64 s | | | | | |
| 11 | Input stream format(4) | Either transport streams (TS) or generic streams (GS) | | | | | |
| 12 | System stream format | BB format(5) | BB format | | | | |
| 13 | Mode adaptation code | CRC-8 | | | | | |
| 14 | Channel coding(9) | LDPC/BCH code with block size of 64 800 (64 K)(10) or 16 200 (16 K) bits and code rates 1/3(9), 2/5(9), 4/9, 1/2, 3/5, 2/3,  11/15, 3/4(10), 4/5(10), 37/45(10), 5/6(10) | | | | | |
| 15 | Interleaving | Bit, cell and time interleaving separately for each physical layer pipe. Common frequency interleaving(1) | | | | | |
| 16 | Constellation rotation | None, 29 (QPSK), 16.8 (16-QAM), 8.6 (64-QAM) degrees or atn (1/16) (256-QAM)(10) | | | | | |
| 17 | Physical layer pipes (PLP) | Mode A with single PLP and mode B with multiple PLPs. Modulation, coding and time interleaving depth selectable separately for each PLP(1) (7) | | | | | |
| 18 | Data randomization/ energy dispersal | PRBS | | | | | |
|  | Initial scan | Fast scan process with special preamble symbol P1 | | | | | |
| 19 | Time/frequency synchronization | Preamble symbols P1 and P2. Scattered pilot carriers with 8 different pilot patterns available(13). Continual pilots | | | | | |
| 20 | MISO | An optional 2 × 1 Multiple Input Single Output (MISO) with Alamouti coding | | | | | |
| 21 | Receiver power consumption reduction | Physical layer pipes are organized as subslices in the frame. When receiving a single PLP only the preamble and relevant subslices are received and processed | | | | | |
| 22 | Layer 1 signalling | L1 signalling is carried by P2 symbols in the preamble. L1 pre-signalling is modulated with BPSK and coded with 1/4 16k LDPC. L1 post-signalling has configurable modulation and 1/2 16k LDPC coding. Option for in-band signalling within the PLP | | | | | |
| 23 | Layer 1 signalling | Either within the data PLPs or with special common PLP at the beginning of the frame | | | | | |

TABLE 1 (*end*)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | **Parameters** | **1.7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)**(2) | **5 MHz multi- carrier (OFDM)**(2) | **6 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **7 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **8 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)** | **10 MHz multi-carrier (OFDM)**(2) |
| 24 | PAPR (Peak-to-Average Power Ratio) | Active Constellation Extension (ACE) and Tone Reservation (TR) as options | | | | | |
| 25 | Future Extension Frames (FEF) | A super frame can include one or several FEF-parts. These can be used for future extensions of the system | | | | | |
| 26 | Net data rate | 0.22-10.17 Mbit/s, depending on FFT‑size, modulation, code rate, guard interval, pilot pattern, MISO, FEF, PAPR | 3.01-31.55 Mbit/s, depending on FFT‑size, modulation, code rate, guard interval, pilot pattern, MISO, FEF, PAPR | 4.01-37.8 Mbit/s, depending on FFT-size, modulation, code rate, guard interval, pilot pattern, MISO, FEF, PAPR | 4.68-44.1 Mbit/s, depending on FFT-size, modulation, code rate, guard interval, pilot pattern, MISO, FEF, PAPR | 5.35-50.4 Mbit/s, depending on FFT-size, modulation, code rate, guard interval, pilot pattern, MISO, FEF, PAPR | 5.93-63.23 Mbit/s, depending on FFT‑size, modulation, code rate, guard interval, pilot pattern, MISO, FEF, PAPR |
| 27 | Carrier-to-noise ratio in an AWGN channel | Depending on modulation and channel code. –1 to 22 dB(8) | | | | | |
| 28 | Time interleaving memory | 219+215 cells(11), 218 cells(12) | | | | | |
| BCH: Bose – Chandhuri – Hocquenghem multiple error correction binary block code  LDPC: Low density parity check  OFDM: Orthogonal frequency division multiplex  PRBS: Pseudo-random binary sequence….0  QAM: Quadrature amplitude modulation  QSPK: Quaternary phase shift keying. | | | | | | | |

*Notes relating to Table 1*

(1) Possibility for one or multiple physical layer pipes (PLP), each having its own specific modulation, coding and time interleaving depth, thus enabling service-specific robustness.

(2) Spectrum-shaping limits for digital terrestrial television systems using 5 MHz, 6 MHz and 10 MHz channels needs to be defined. The 1.7, 5 and 10 MHz channel variants are not normally used for TV-broadcasting purposes in the VHF III or UHF IV/V bands. The 7 and 8 MHz variants of the system are compatible with the GE06 Agreement with respect to spectrum usage. The 1.7 MHz variant is compatible with T-DAB frequency planning.

(3) All the fractions are not available for all FFT-modes.

(4) As defined in EN 302 755 (DVB-T2 standard), system support following input stream formats: GSE (Generic Stream Encapsulated format), GFPS (Generic Fixed-length Packetized Stream format), GCS (Generic Continuous Stream format) and MPEG-2 TS.

(5) Base band format, used in this second-generation broadcasting system.

(6) Values correspond to maximum frame length in OFDM symbols excluding P1 symbols. For 1k mode the maximum length is defined for guard interval duration of 1/16, 1/8 and 1/4. For 4k and 2k modes the maximum length is defined for 1/32, 1/16, 1/8 and 1/4. In the case of 32k mode non-applicable only 1/4 guard interval. For more information see EN 302 755 (DVB-T2 standard). Number of OFDM symbols for 1.7 MHz, 5 MHz, 6 MHz, 7 MHz, 10 MHz is to be defined.

(7) The system has a future option to spread the PLP subslices over multiple RF-channels within the frame. Time interleaving is applied over all these. Single profile receivers based on the first release of the specification do not support this.

(8) Simulated in Gaussian channels with BER 1 × 10−4 before BCH coding, without correction for pilot boosting (which is dependent on pilot pattern). The expected implementation loss due to real channel estimation needs also to be added to the figures. This will be significantly less than the corresponding figure for first-generation multi-carrier systems due to better optimization of the boosting and pattern densities for second-generation multi-carrier systems.

(9) Not used in T2-Base profile.

(10) Not used in T2-Lite profile.

(11) Applies to the T2-Base profile.

(12) Applies to the T2-Lite profile.

(13) T2-Lite profile has 7 pilot patters.

Appendix 1  
to Annex 1  
  
System standard

ETSI EN 302 755. Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB); Frame structure channel coding and modulation for a second generation digital terrestrial television broadcasting system (DVB-T2).

ETSI TR 102 831. Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB); Implementation guidelines for a second generation digital terrestrial television broadcasting system (DVB-T2).

1. The second generation of digital terrestrial television broadcasting transmission systems in this Recommendation is meant as systems offering higher bit rate capacity per Hz and better power efficiency in comparison to the systems described in Recommendation ITU‑R BT.1306, and there is no general requirement for backward compatibility with first-generation systems. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 2 For the first-generation systems information on planning parameters, protection ratios, etc. is already contained in relevant ITU-R Recommendations. For the second-generation systems, there is a need to study and include such information in the relevant ITU-R Recommendations. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)