

RECOMMENDATION ITU-R F.383-8

**Radio-frequency channel arrangements for high-capacity
fixed wireless systems operating in the lower 6 GHz
(5 925 to 6 425 MHz) band**

(Question ITU-R 136/9)

(1959-1963-1966-1982-1986-1990-1992-1999-2001-2007)

Scope

This Recommendation provides radio-frequency (RF) channel arrangements for high-capacity fixed wireless systems (FWSs) operating in the 5 925 to 6 425 MHz band, which may also be used for low- and medium-capacity systems. The main text of as well as Annexes 1 to 3 to this Recommendation present a number of RF arrangements with channel separation of 5, 10, 20, 28, 29.65, 40, 60, 80 and 90 MHz in this frequency band.

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that it is desirable to interconnect fixed wireless systems (FWS) on international links in the 6 GHz band at radio frequencies (RF);
- b) that many interfering effects can be substantially reduced by a carefully planned arrangement of the radio frequencies in FWS employing several RF channels;
- c) that the use of digital modulation permits the use of the RF channel arrangements, originally defined for 1 800 telephone channel systems, for the transmission of digital channels with a bit rate of the order of 140 Mbit/s or synchronous digital hierarchy bit rates;
- d) that for these digital radio systems, further economies are possible by accommodating go and return channels on a single antenna;
- e) that digital techniques such as cross-polar interference cancellers (XPIC) may significantly contribute to the cross-polar discrimination improvement factor (XIF, defined in Recommendation ITU-R F.746), thus counteracting multipath propagation-induced depolarization;
- f) that when very high-capacity links (e.g. twice STM-1, Synchronous Transfer Mode-1) are required, further economy may be achieved using system bandwidths wider than the recommended channel separation, associated to high efficient modulation formats;
- g) that some administrations may need to deploy also low- and medium-capacity systems,

noting

that it may no longer be practical, because of the bandwidth of the modulated carrier, to use interleaved frequencies¹,

recommends

1 that the preferred RF channel arrangement for up to eight go and return channels with each channel accommodating a capacity of the order of 140 Mbit/s, or synchronous digital hierarchy bit rates and operating at frequencies in the lower 6 GHz band (Note 5), should be as shown in Figs. 1A, 1B or 1C and should be derived as follows:

Let f_0 be the frequency (MHz) of the centre of the band of frequencies occupied

f_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the lower half of the band

f'_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the upper half of the band;

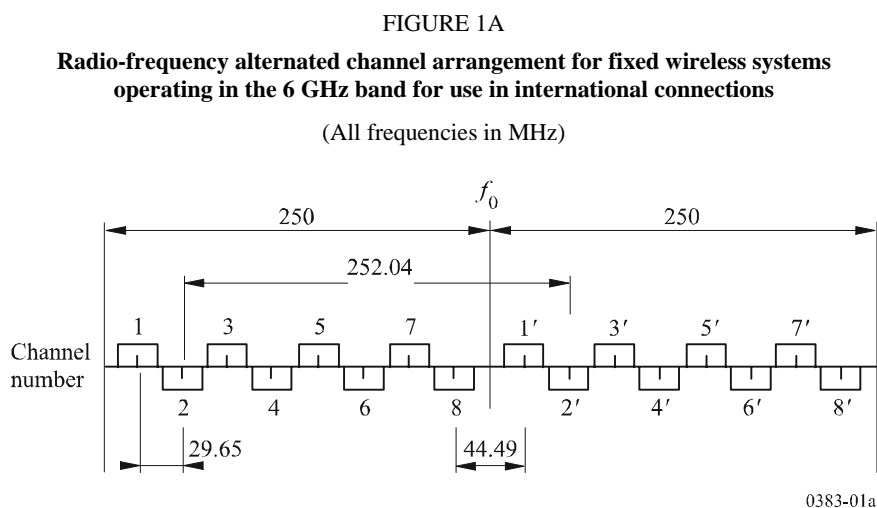
then the frequencies of individual channels are expressed by the following relationships:

$$\text{lower half of the band: } f_n = f_0 - 259.45 + 29.65 n \quad \text{MHz}$$

$$\text{upper half of the band: } f'_n = f_0 - 7.41 + 29.65 n \quad \text{MHz}$$

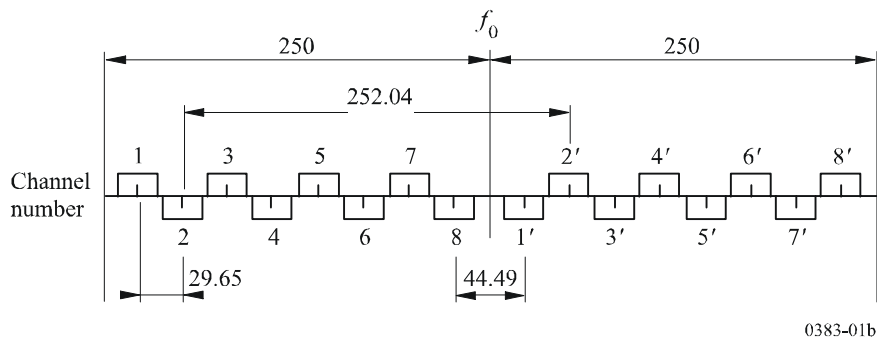
where:

$$n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 \text{ or } 8;$$



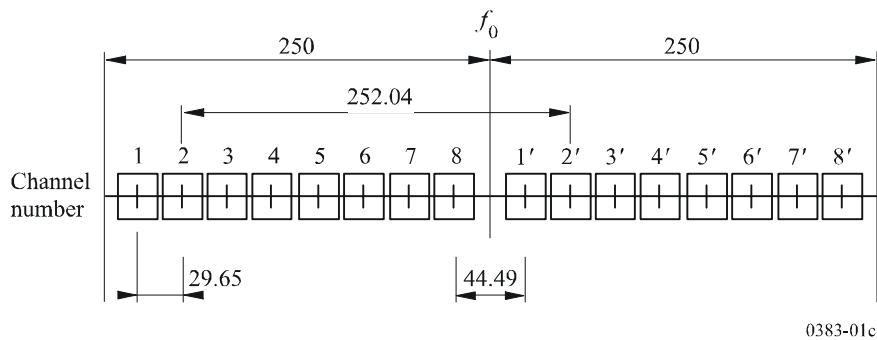
¹ Additional RF channels (with a 29.65 MHz separation) had been recommended for analogue systems, interleaved between those of the main pattern, their centre frequencies being 14.825 MHz below those of the corresponding main channel frequencies. They may have been maintained for their migration to digital high capacity systems; these channels may still be in use.

FIGURE 1B
Radio-frequency alternated channel arrangement for fixed wireless systems operating in the 6 GHz band for use in international connections
 (All frequencies in MHz)



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FIGURE 1C
Radio-frequency co-channel arrangement for fixed wireless systems operating in the 6 GHz band for use in international connections
 (All frequencies in MHz)



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2 that, in a section over which the international connection is arranged, all the go channels should be in one half of the band, and all the return channels should be in the other half of the band;

3 that the go and return channels on a given section should preferably use polarizations as shown below and in Fig. 1A (see Note 1):

	<i>Go</i>	<i>Return</i>
H(V)	1 3 5 7	1' 3' 5' 7'
V(H)	2 4 6 8	2' 4' 6' 8'

In past deployment of analogue systems up to 1 800 channels, the following alternative arrangement of polarization, shown also in Fig. 1B, has been used and possibly maintained in the initial migration to digital systems; it might still be in use by agreement between the administrations concerned (see Note 1):

	<i>Go</i>	<i>Return</i>
H(V)	1 3 5 7	2' 4' 6' 8'
V(H)	2 4 6 8	1' 3' 5' 7'

4 that when the equipment and network characteristics permit, co-channel frequency reuse of the arrangement in Fig. 1C can be employed, with the agreement of the administrations concerned, for improving spectral efficiency;

5 that when very high capacity links (e.g. twice STM-1) are required and network coordination permits, with the agreement of the administrations concerned, the use of any two adjacent 29.65 MHz channels specified in *recommends* 1 is possible, for wider bandwidth systems, with centre frequency lying in the central point of the distance between the two 29.65 MHz adjacent channels;

6 that the preferred centre frequency is 6 175.0 MHz; in addition, other centre frequencies may be used by agreement between the administrations concerned.

NOTE 1 – When common transmit-receive antennas are used and channel 8 is used together with channel 1', either in the arrangement of Fig. 1A or in the even more problematic arrangement of Figs. 1B and 1C, special branching and filters arrangement may be needed for limiting mutual impairments and permitting their common operation.

NOTE 2 – In a number of administrations in Region 1, a RF channel arrangement given in Annex 2 to this Recommendation is used in the frequency band 5 925 to 6 425 MHz.

NOTE 3 – Some administrations use different RF channel arrangement in the frequency band 5 925-6 425 MHz for high capacity digital FWS with a capacity of up to $2 \times$ STM-1 (see Annex 1).

NOTE 4 – Some administrations use different RF channel arrangements in the frequency band 5 925-6 425 MHz for digital FWS with various capacities up to STM-1 (see Annex 3).

NOTE 5 – Actual bit rates including overhead may be as much as 5% or more higher than net transmission rates.

Annex 1

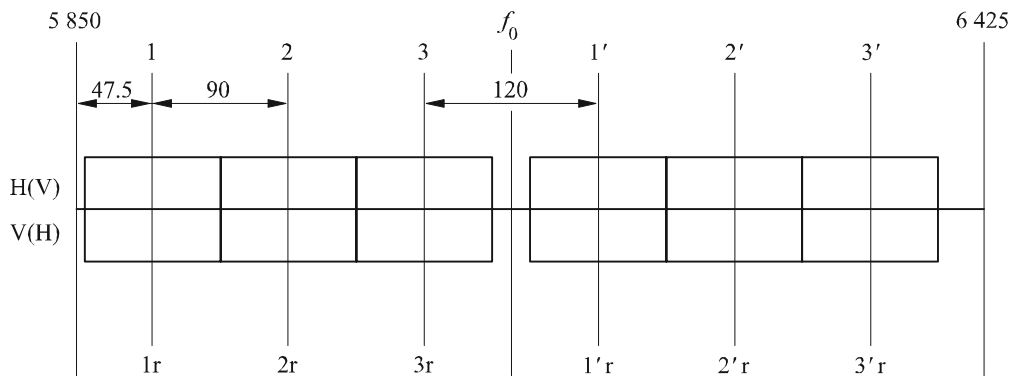
Frequency arrangements derived from a homogeneous frequency pattern for the 6 GHz band with channel separations of 90, 60 and 40 MHz

RF channel arrangements, derived from Recommendation ITU-R F.635, for the 6 GHz band are described below.

1 90 MHz co-channel RF channel arrangements for the lower 6 GHz band

The radio channelling plans shown in Fig. 2, for the frequency band 5 850-6 425 MHz are based upon the use of 140 Mbit/s systems employing reduced bandwidth quaternary phase-shift keyed (RB 4-PSK) modulation.

FIGURE 2
Radio-frequency channel arrangements for the lower 6 GHz band
 (All frequencies in MHz)



f_0 (centre frequency) = 6 137.5 MHz
 Symbol rate = 74 MBd
 $X = 1.22$ $Y = 1.62$ $Z = 0.64$

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2 60 MHz RF channel arrangements for the 6 GHz band

Table 1 describes RF channel arrangements for the band 5925-6425 MHz which are used for 16-QAM or 256-QAM systems. Further information on the applications given in Table 1 is given in Recommendation ITU-R F.635.

3 40 MHz RF channel arrangement for the lower 6 GHz band

The following RF channel arrangement provides six go and six return channels with a transmission capacity up to 2×155 Mbit/s for systems with a suitable higher level modulation and spectrum efficiency up to 7.75 bit/s/Hz. The RF channel arrangement should be derived as follows:

Let f_0 be the frequency (MHz) of the centre of the band of frequencies occupied, $f_0 = 6\ 175$
 f_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the lower half of the band
 f'_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the upper half of the band;

then the frequencies of individual channels are expressed by the following relationships:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{lower half of the band: } f_n &= f_0 - 260 + 40 n && \text{MHz} \\ \text{upper half of the band: } f'_n &= f_0 - 20 + 40 n && \text{MHz} \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \text{ or } 6.$$

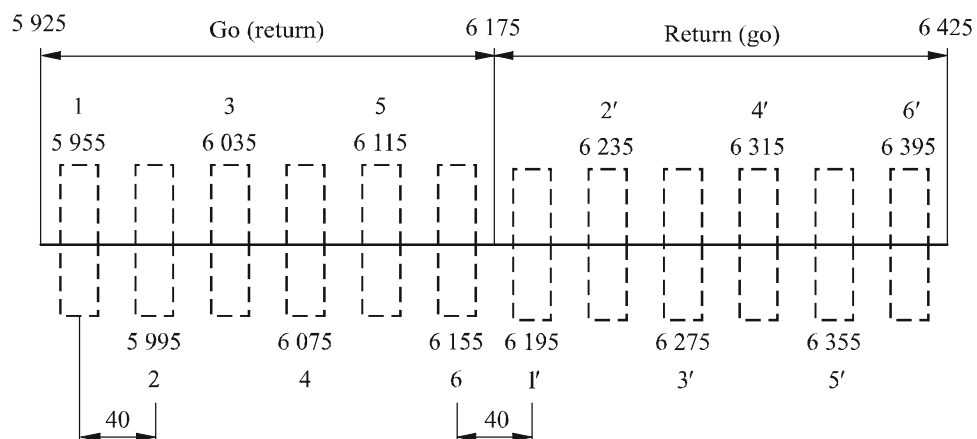
In the above arrangement band reuse by “co-channel dual polarization” may be utilized as shown in Fig. 3.

TABLE 1
RF channel arrangements for the 6 GHz band

Modulation (capacity per channel)	16-QAM (STM-1)	16-QAM (STM-1) 256-QAM (2 × STM-1)	256-QAM (2 × STM-1) ⁽¹⁾
Frequency band (MHz)	5 925-6 425	5 925-6 425	5 925-6 425
Centre frequency of the band f_0 (MHz)	6 175	6 175	6 175
Centre frequency of the carriers f_n (MHz)	$f_0 \pm (40 + 60 n)$ $n = 0, 1, 2, 3$	$f_0 \pm 20 n$ $n = 0, 1, \dots 12$	$f_0 \pm (15 + 10 n)$ $n = 0, 1, \dots 23$
Interleaved or co-channel	Co-channel	Co-channel	Co-channel
Transmission method	Single carrier transmission method	3-carrier transmission method (20 MHz bandwidth/carrier)	6-carrier transmission method (10 MHz bandwidth/carrier)
Number of channels	8	8	8
Channel separation XS (MHz) X	60 1.54	60 1.54	60 1.54
Centre gap YS (MHz) Y	80 2.06	80 2.06	80 2.06
Guardband ZS (MHz) Z	30 0.77	30 0.77	30 0.77

⁽¹⁾ This arrangement is applicable to hops under very severe propagation conditions.

FIGURE 3
40 MHz radio-frequency channel arrangement for radio-relay
systems operating in the lower 6 GHz band
(All frequencies in MHz)



Annex 2

**RF channel arrangement for FWS operating in the 6 GHz band
with a channel separation of 28 MHz**

This Annex describes a RF channel arrangement suitable for digital FWS with a channel bandwidth of 28 MHz. The RF channel arrangement is shown in Fig. 4 and is derived as follows:

Let f_0 be the frequency (MHz) of the centre of the band of frequencies occupied,
 f_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the lower half of the band,
 f'_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the upper half of the band,
 $f_0 = 6\,172$ MHz,
 duplex spacing = 266 MHz,

then the frequencies (MHz) of individual channels are expressed by the following relationships:

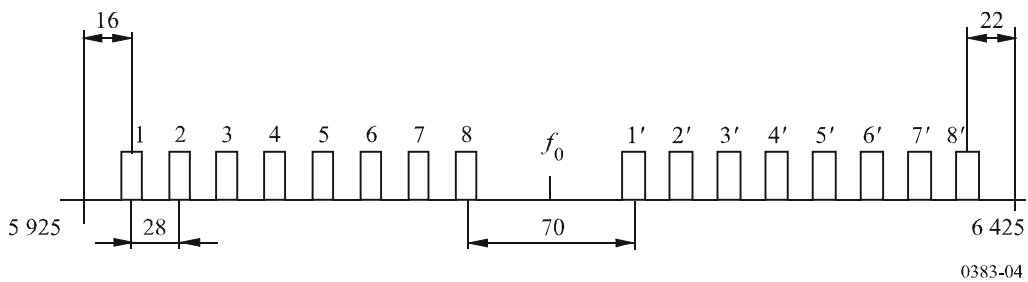
lower half of band: $f_n = f_0 - 259 + 28 n$

upper half of band: $f'_n = f_0 + 7 + 28 n$

where:

$n = 1, 2, \dots 8.$

FIGURE 4
**RF channel arrangement for FWS operating
 in the 6 GHz band with a channel separation of 28 MHz**
 (All frequencies in MHz)



Annex 3

RF channel arrangements in the lower 6 GHz band using 5, 10, 20 and 40 MHz channel separation

Some administrations may use the band 5 925-6 425 MHz, with radio channels of various width, for the transmission of digital TV signals and trunk networks between remote areas.

The basic 40 MHz channel arrangement shall be derived as follows:

Let f_0 be the frequency (MHz) of the centre of the band of frequencies occupied, $f_0 = 6\ 175$

f_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the lower half of the band

f'_n be the centre frequency (MHz) of one RF channel in the upper half of the band

Duplex spacing = 240 MHz,

Centre gap = 20 MHz

then the centre frequencies of 40 MHz channels are expressed by the following relationships:

$$\text{lower half of the band: } f_n = f_0 - 270 + 40 n \quad \text{MHz}$$

$$\text{upper half of the band: } f'_n = f_0 - 10 + 40 n \quad \text{MHz}$$

where:

$$n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.$$

The preferred channel separations for the basic 40 MHz are shown in Fig. 5.

Channel arrangements with lower 5, 10 and 20 MHz are obtained by subdividing the basic 40 MHz channels.

FIGURE 5
RF channel arrangements for digital FWS operating
in the lower 6 GHz band with 40 MHz separation

(All frequencies in MHz)

