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| Guideline |

G1139

The Technical Specification of VDES

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20181010 – ENAV22

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|  |  |  |

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# Introduction

## Purpose of the document

This Guideline has been prepared to provide technical information required in the development of VDES equipment, which integrates the functions of VHF data exchange (VDE), application specific messages (ASM) and the automatic identification system (AIS) in the VHF maritime mobile band (156.025-162.025 MHz).

This document refers to ITU Recommendation ITU-R M.2092-0, and is not intended to replace that document. The IALA Guideline on Technical Specifications of VDES provides additional detail on VDES, and will be amended as required to reflect experience in implementing the technical solutions for VDES. As this IALA Guideline is revised, input will be included, as appropriate, as a working document towards a revision of ITU-R M.2092. It is intended that this input will be provided to the appropriate working group of ITU following the results of the ITU WRC-19.

Persons using this document are encouraged to provide comments, corrections and further input on developments to IALA. In addition, persons who are implementing VDES are invited to participate in further work on the system through the IALA ENAV Committee. It is noted that, as VDES develops, any deployment of VDES will need to comply with the appropriate ITU regulation, once they are agreed.

It is noted that, following WRC-15, the full satellite capability of VDES is being studied at ITU and will be reviewed at WRC-19. This IALA Guideline includes the full capability (including satellite).

## Background

AIS is well recognised and accepted as an important tool for safety of navigation and is a carriage requirement for SOLAS vessels (Class-A). With increasing demand for maritime VHF data communications, AIS has become heavily used for maritime safety, maritime situational awareness and port security. As a result, high loading of AIS 1 and AIS 2 created a need for additional VHF data channels. Using the VHF marine band (International Radio Regulations Appendix 18) AIS can broadcast data to vessels in the vicinity of the AIS unit. AIS can also transmit an addressed message.

International Telecommunications Union (ITU) has recognised the efficiency and the necessity for digital communications, has produced technical standards and has revised the VHF marine band (Radio Regulations Appendix 18) to designate channels for data transmission. It is recognized that both analogue voice communications and digital communications will share the band. The VDES, as envisioned by IALA and presented to ITU, addresses the identified need to protect AIS along with essential digital communications contributions for e-Navigation and GMDSS Modernization.

Both voice and data communications coexist in the VHF marine band. The developments in maritime radio technology, including the introduction of software defined radios (SDR) coupled with enhanced capabilities for digital data exchange over existing VHF marine band spectrum resulted in the development of the VHF Data Exchange System (VDES). VDES builds on the experience gained through the development of AIS, and also provides the capability to transmit to a specific vessel (addressed); to all units in the vicinity (broadcast); to a group of vessels (addressed); or to a fleet of vessels (addressed).

Consequential to WRC-15, the ITU standard for VDES, Recommendation ITU-R M.2092-0, was approved. A remaining outstanding issue is the approval of the satellite component for the VDE channels which is targeted for approval at WRC-19.

The expected implementation pf VDES is provided in Figure 1.

**2020**

**2021**

**2018**

**2019**

**2016**

**2017**

**2022**

**2023**

AIS + VDE Terrestrial Initial Operational Capability

VDES Terrestrial Initial Operational Capability

VDES Full Operational Capability

AIS

AIS 1  
AIS 2

VDE-SAT uplink/downlink

VDE-TER

VDE-TER + ASM (incl. uplink)

VDE-TER; VDE-SAT + ASM

VDE-TER

ASM 1  
ASM 2

Figure 1 - Implementation of VDES

The introduction of VDES is expected to happen through four operational phases:

1. (2016) AIS exists as defined by ITU.R M.1371-5 on the AIS frequencies, and Coastal Stations use the ASM and VDE frequencies for Voice VHF.
2. (2017-2018) Post WRC-15 - AIS+ASM: Regionally, where there is an urgent need for offloading the AIS VDL from significant ASM traffic, it is recommended to allow the introduction of 4-channel AIS + ASM devices. These devices may receive and transmit ASM on the ASM1 and ASM2 frequencies, but shall discontinue their transmit capability, using the existing GMSK modulation after January 1st 2019 unless a software upgrade enables them to participate in the modulation and access scheme agreed for the ASM frequencies according Recommendation ITU-R M.2092. Note that the ASM frequencies will need to be shared with the VHF voice service from Coast Stations in many areas during this time frame.
3. (2019) the WRC-19 will consider and decide regarding VDE-SAT.
4. (2019-2020) Post WRC-19 operational capability established. Note that both the ASM and VDE frequencies may still need to be shared with the voice VHF service in many areas.
5. (2021+) When a satellite service is developed, full operational capability of the VDES including the Satellite frequencies can be achieved.

## Document Structure

The document is provided in a series of Annexes.

Annex A - provides common technical elements of VDES

Annex B - describes the technical characteristics of the ASM channel that will support applications specific messages in order to improve the efficiency of application-specific message transmissions and to protect the original function of the AIS. The ASM channels will also support a satellite uplink.

Annex C - describes the technical characteristics of the VDE terrestrial channels providing an efficient terrestrial data transfer link enabling a wide variety of applications for the maritime community.

Annex D - describes the technical characteristics of VDE-SAT Service that will support multi-cast multi-package data transfers and shore originated unicast multi-package data transfers via satellite.

Annex E - describes the characteristics necessary for each component of the VDES to share the available spectrum such that impact between services is minimized and AIS is respected.

# Operational CharacteristiCs

In general, VDES should meet the following:

1. The system should give its highest priority to the automatic identification system (AIS) position reporting and safety related information.
2. The system installation should be capable of receiving and processing the digital messages and interrogating calls specified by this Recommendation.
3. The system should be capable of transmitting additional safety information on request.
4. The system installation should be able to operate continuously while under way, moored or at anchor.
5. The system should use for the terrestrial links time-division multiple access (TDMA) techniques, access schemes and data transmission methods in a synchronized manner as specified in the Annexes.
6. The system should be capable of various modes of operation, including the autonomous, assigned and polled modes.
7. The system should provide flexibility for the users in order to prioritize some applications and, consequently, adapt some parameters of the transmission (robustness or capacity) while minimizing system complexity.
8. The system should address the use cases identified in Report ITU-R M.2371.

## General Description of VDES

A detailed overview of VDES, and VDES operations, is provided in IALA Guideline 1117 (latest edition). In essence, The VDES provides a variety of means for the exchange of data between maritime stations, ship-to-ship, ship-to-shore, shore-to ship, ship-to-satellite and satellite-to-ship. The VDES functionally includes the AIS, either by integration, by interface connection or by radio frequency connection.

## VDES functions and frequency usage

The system concept, including VDES functions and frequency usage are illustrated pictorially in Figure 2 (full system). Please note – SAT Up is received only by Satellite.



Figure 2 - VDES functions and frequency use – full system

# VDES channel usage in accordance with ITU RR Appendix 18

This section provides information on channel usage between terrestrial stations and between satellite and terrestrial stations.

## VDES: data exchange between terrestrial stations

* AIS 1 (channel 2087) and AIS 2 (channel 2088) are AIS channels, in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.1371
* ASM 1 (channel 2027) and ASM 2 (channel 2028) are the channels used for application specific messages (ASM)
* VDE1-A lower legs (channels 1024, 1084, 1025, 1085) are ship-to-shore VDE
* VDE1-B upper legs (channels 2024, 2084, 2025, 2085) are shore-to-ship and ship-to-ship VDE.

## VDES: data exchange between satellites and terrestrial stations

* AIS 1 (channel 2087) and AIS 2 (channel 2088) are terrestrial AIS channels that are also used as uplinks for receiving AIS messages by satellite
* Long Range AIS using channel 75 and channel 76 are specified channels to be used as uplinks for receiving AIS messages by satellite. SAT Up1 (channel 2027) and SAT Up 2 (channel 2028) are used for receiving ASM by satellite
* SAT Up3 (channels 1024, 1084, 1025, 1085, 1026 and 1086) are used for ship-to-satellite VDE uplinks
* SAT Downlink (channels 2024, 2084, 2025, 2085, 2026 and 2086) are used for satellite-to-ship VDE downlinks.

# Identification

Identification and location of all active maritime stations is provided automatically by means of the AIS. All VDES stations should be uniquely identified. For the purpose of identification, a unique numerical identifier is used as defined by the following:

* If the unique identifier has a range which is less than 999999999, then this number is defined by the latest version of Recommendation ITU-R M.585.
* If the unique identifier has a range which is greater than 999999999, then this is number is free form.

# Presentation interface protocol

For VDES transceivers:

* data may be input via the presentation interface to be transmitted by the VDES station;
* data received by the VDES station should be output through the presentation interface.

# Technical Characteristics

A general overview of the technical aspects of VDES is provided in IALA Guideline 1117. This section provides more detailed technical characteristics.

## Shipborne VDES receivers are protected

As in AIS, shipborne VDES receivers are on the upper legs of RR Appendix 18, 4.6 MHz above the lower legs, which facilitates protection by filtering from receiver blocking by ships VHF radios.

## SAT Downlink

The satellite downlink complies with the power flux-density (PFD) mask described in Table A4-1 to minimize interference to terrestrial services and to maximize reception by ship VDES stations.

## VDES1 uses both legs of the duplex channels

Channel capacity is utilized for the duplex channels in VDE1 by using the lower legs (VDE1-A) for ship-to-shore and the upper legs (VDE1-B) for shore-to-ship and ship-to-ship digital messaging.

Table 1 describes the RR Appendix 18 channels used for the various applications of VDES.

Table 1 - RR Appendix 18 channels for VHF data exchange systems applications: Automatic identification system, application specific messages, VHF data exchange

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RR Appendix 18 channel number | | Transmitting center frequencies (MHz) | |
|  | | Ship stations (ship-to-shore) (long range AIS) Ship stations (ship-to-satellite) | Coast stations Ship stations (ship-to-ship) Satellite-to-ship |
| AIS 1 | | 161.975 | 161.975 |
| AIS 2 | | 162.025 | 162.025 |
| 75 (long range AIS) | | 156.775 (ships are Tx only) | N/A |
| 76 (long range AIS) | | 156.825 (ships are Tx only) | N/A |
| 2027 (ASM 1) | | 161.950 | 161.950 |
| 2028 (ASM 2) | | 162.000 | 162.000 |
| VDE SAT | | 157.2875 | 161.8625  160.9625 |
| VDE TER (100KHz BW channel) | | 157.2375 | 161.8375 |
| VDE1 TER (50KHz BW channel) | | 157.2125 | 161.8125 |
| VDE2 TER (50KHz BW channel) | | 157.2625 | 161.8625 |
| VDE1 TER (25KHz BW channel) | | 157.200 | 161.800 |
| VDE2 TER (25KHz BW channel) | | 157.225 | 161.825 |
| VDE3 TER (25KHz BW channel) | | 157.250 | 161.850 |
| VDE4 TER (25KHz BW channel) | | 157.275 | 161.875 |

## VHF data exchange system functions and frequency usage engineer’s perspective

The VDES functions and frequency usage from an engineer’s perspective are illustrated pictorially in Figure 3.



Figure 3 - VHF data exchange system functions and frequency usage engineer’s perspective

# Functions of VDES

The priority and timing of transmissions shall be in accordance with the following service priorities:

Highest Priority 1: AIS transmissions on AIS channels

Priority 2: specified and approved ASM transmissions on ASM channels

Priority 3: all other data exchange on VDE channels

The VDES receivers shall always be active. It is understood that transmissions by own equipment will impair reception by own equipment on own ship.

The VDES should support the following: Automatic Identification System; Application-Specific Messages; VDE Terrestrial; VDE Satellite; VDES sharing options.

## Automatic Identification System

The AIS will operate as defined by Recommendation ITU-R M.1371.

# Definitions / Acronyms and References

The definitions of terms used in this Guideline can be found in the International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA Dictionary) at <http://www.iala-aism.org/wiki/dictionary> and were checked as correct at the time of going to print. Where conflict arises, the IALA Dictionary should be considered as the authoritative source of definitions used in IALA documents.

## Definitions

**Control Station** Coast base station, satellite or other VDES station that is transmitting bulletin board and provides routing services to the maritime cloud.

## Acronyms

**3GPP** Third generation partnership project

**ACK** Acknowledgement

**ADDC** Assigned data transfer

**ACPR** Adjacent channel power ratio

**AIS** Automatic identification system

**AOS** Acquisition-of-signal

**APSK** Amplitude phase shift keying

**ARQ** Automatic repeat request

**ARSC** Announcement response channel

**ASC** Announcement signalling channel

**ASM** Application-specific messages

**ATDMA** Allocated Time-Division Multiple Access

**AWGN** Additive white Gaussian noise

**BBSC** Bulletin board signalling channel

**BCH** Bose Chaudhuri Hocquenghem, an error-correcting-code

**BER** Bit error rate

**BPSK** Binary phase shift keying

**BT** Bandwidth-time

**CEPT** European conference of postal and telecommunications administrations

**CDMA** Code division multiple access

**CG** Coding gain

**CIR** Carrier to interference ratio

**C/M** Carrier to multipath

**CNR** Carrier to noise ratio

**COMSTATE** Communication state

**CPM** Continuous phase modulation

**CQI** Channel quality indicator

**CR** Code rate

**CRC** Cyclic redundancy check

**CRL** Configuration revision level

**CS** Carrier sense

**CIRM** Comité International Radio Maritime

**CSTDMA** Carrier sense time division multiple access

**CW** Continuous wave

**DA** Doherty amplifier

**DLS** Data link service

**DPD** Digital pre-distortion

**EDN** End delivery notification

**EDF** End delivery failure

**EIRP** Equivalent isotropic radiated power (e.i.r.p.)

**ERP** Effective radiated power (e.r.p.)

**ET** Envelope tracking

**FATDMA** Fixed access time-division multiple access

**FEC** Forward error correction

**FIFO** First-in first-out

**GMSK** Gaussian-filtered minimum shift keying

**GNSS** Global navigation satellite system

**HS** Hexslots

**IALA** International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities

**ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization

**ID** Identification

**IEC** International Electrotechnical Commission

**IMO** International Maritime Organization

**IP** Internet protocol

**LC** Logical channels

**LEO** Low-earth orbiting

**LFSR** Linear feedback shift register

**LME** Link management entity

**LNA** Low noise amplifier

**LOS** Loss-of-signal

**LSB** Least significant bit

**MEO** Medium-earth orbiting

**MAC** Media access control

**MCS** Modulation and coding scheme

**MDC** Multicast data channel

**MMSI** Maritime mobile service identity

**MSB** Most significant bit

**NF** Noise figure

**NM**  Nautical mile

**NRZI** Non-return to zero inversion

**OFDM** Orthogonal frequency division multiplexing

**OSI** Open systems interconnection

**PAPR** Peak to average power ratio

**PC** Physical channels

**PL** Physical layer

**PFD** Power flux-density

**ppm** parts per million

**PSK** Phase shift keying

**QAM** Quadrature amplitude modulation

**QPSK** Quadrature phase shift keying

**RADC** Random access short messaging channel

**RATDMA** Random access time-division multiple access

**RAC** Random access channel

**RF** Radio frequency

**RSC** Recursive systematic convolutional

**RQSC** Random access resource request

**RR** Radio regulations

**RSSI** Received signal strength indication

**SCTDMA** Slot carrier sense time division multiple access

**SFTP** Secure file transfer protocol

**SI** Selection interval

**SMTP** Simple mail transfer protocol

**SNMP** Simple network management protocol

**SNR** Signal to noise ratio

**SOLAS** Safety of Life at Sea Convention

**SOTDMA** Self-organized time division multiple access

**SS** Spreading sequences

**Sym** Symbol

**SYNC** Synchronization

**TBB** Terrestrial bulletin board

**TBBSC** Terrestrial bulletin board signalling channel

**TDMA** Time division multiple access

**UDC** Unicast data channel

**UDP** User data protocol

**UTC** Coordinated universal time

**VDE** VHF data exchange

**VDES** VHF data exchange system

**VDE-SAT** VHF data exchange-satellite

**VDL** VHF data link

**VHF** Very high frequency

## References

[RD-1] ETSI EN 302 583 (V1.2.1) – Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB); Framing Structure, channel coding and modulation for Satellite Services to Handheld devices (SH) below 3 GHz.

[RD-2] TM Synchronization and Channel Coding. Recommendation for Space Data System Standards, CCSDS 131.0-B-2. Blue Book. Issue 2. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, August 2011.

[RD-3] R. Mueller, On Random CDMA with Constant Envelope, ISIT 2011.

[RD-4] Recommendation ITU-R P.372 – Radio Noise.

[RD-5] Recommendation ITU-T V.42 (03/2002) – Series V: Data Communication over the Telephone Network – Error control – Error-correcting procedures for DCEs using asynchronous-synchronous conversions.

1. Common Technical Elements of VDES

This annex describes those elements of VDES that may be common across the ASM and VDE Channels.

1. Protocol Layer
   1. Protocol layer overview

The VDES architecture should utilize the open systems interconnection layers 1 to 4 (physical layer, link layer, network layer, transport layer) as illustrated in Figure 4. The responsibilities of the OSI layers for preparing VDES data for transmission and explained further in this section.

|  |
| --- |
| Application layer |
| Presentation layer |
| Session layer |
| Transport layer |
| Network layer |
| Link layer |
| Physical layer |

Figure 4 - Seven-layer OSI model

* 1. Physical layer

This layer provides transmission and reception of raw bit streams over a physical medium including signal modulation, filtering/shaping upon transmission, and amplification, filtering, time and frequency synchronization, demodulation, and decoding upon reception.

* + 1. Transmission accuracy figures
       1. Symbol timing accuracy (at the output)

The timing accuracy of the transmit signal should be better than 5 ppm.

* + - 1. Transmitter timing jitter

The timing jitter should be better than 5% of the symbol interval (peak value).

* + - 1. Slot transmission accuracy at the output

The slot transmission accuracy should be better than 100 µs peak relative to UTC time reference for ship stations.

* + 1. Frame Structure

The system uses the Recommendation ITU-R M.1371 concept of a frame. A frame equals one (1) minute and is divided into 2 250 slots. Access to the data link is, by default, given at the start of a slot. The VDES frame structure is identical and synchronized in time to UTC (as in AIS). The general slot formats are shown in Figure 5 and Figure 6.

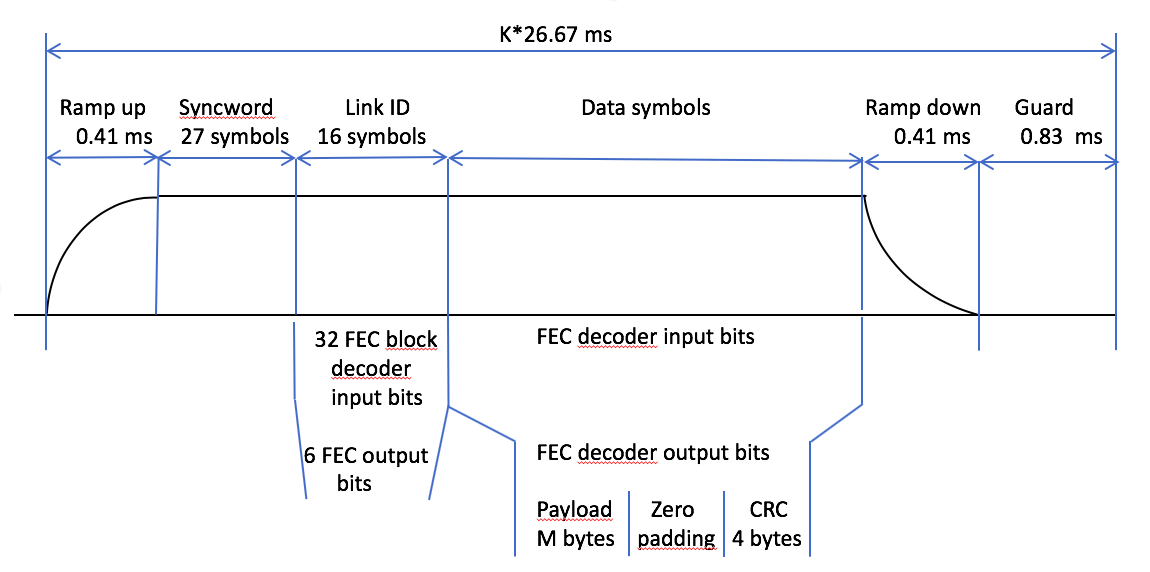


Figure 5 - ASM-TER and VDE-TER General Packet Format

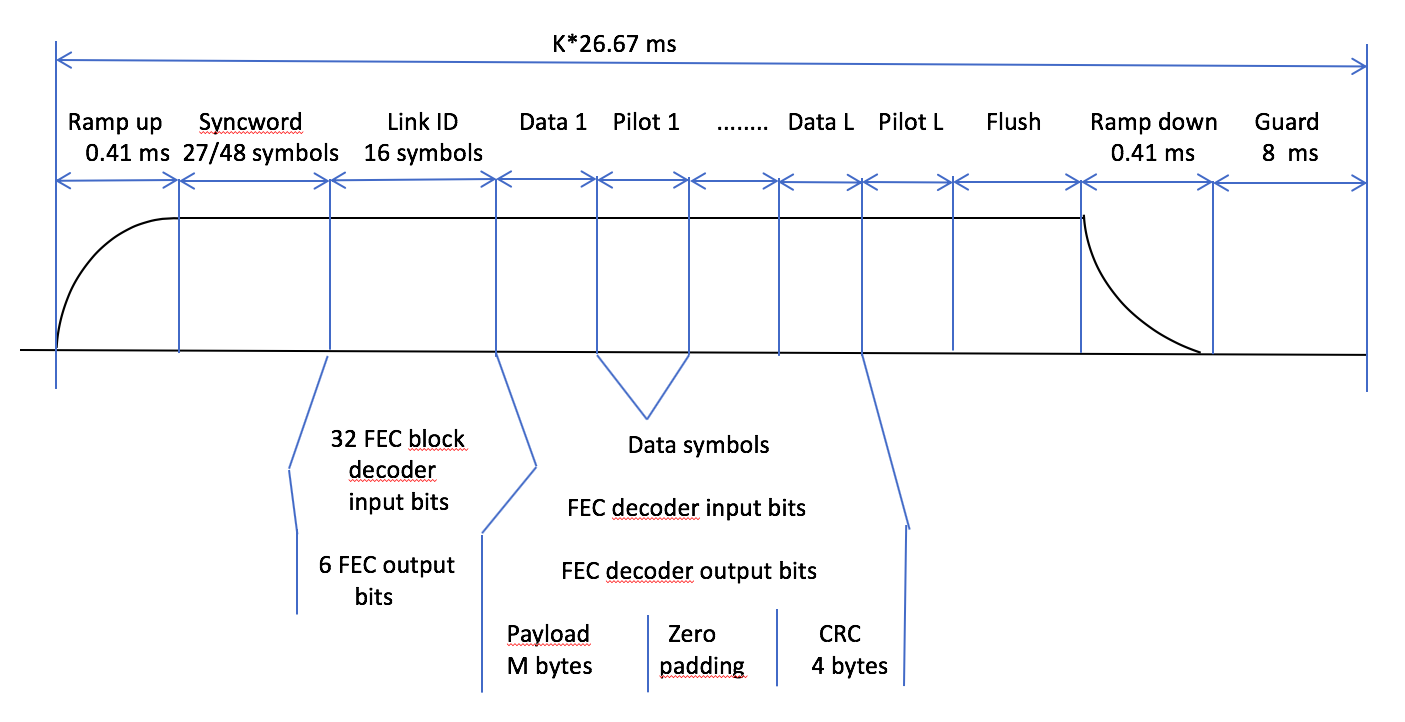


Figure 6 - ASM-SAT and VDE-SAT General Packet Format

* + - 1. Frame hierarchy definition

The frame hierarchy is shown in Figure 7. The frame hierarchy definition is independent of the assigned bandwidth to the VDE channel



Figure 7 - Frame Hierarchy for shared frequency

##### A 1.2.2.1.1 Slot

The slot is a time interval of approximately 26.667 ms (60 000 / 2 250 = 80/3 ≈ 26.667).

The slot should be cyclically numbered by a slot number ranging from 0 to 5.

##### A 1.2.2.1.2 Hexslot

Six slots should form a Hexslot (HS). The HS has duration of 160 ms. The HS should be numbered cyclically from 0 to 4. The HS should be incremented after every 6 slots.

##### A 1.2.2.1.3 Uberslot

Five Hexslots should form a Uberslot (US). The US should have duration of 800 ms. The US should be numbered by a US Number. The US should be cyclically numbered from 0 to 14. The US should be incremented whenever the Hexslot returns to 0.

##### A 1.2.2.1.4 Sub frame

Fifteen US should form a sub frame. The sub frame should have a duration of 12 seconds. The sub frame should be numbered by a sub frame number. The PL-frame should be cyclically numbered from 0 to 4. The sub frame should be incremented whenever the US returns to 0.

* + 1. Burst transmission structure
       1. Ramp up

The ramp up time from −50 dBc to −1.5 dBc of the power shall controlled rise time and occur in 416 µs. A gradual ramp-up period provides important spectral shaping to reduce energy spread outside the desired signal modulation bandwidth, and reduces interference to other users of the current and adjacent channel. The modulation during ramp up is not specified.



* + - 1. Training sequence

Table 3 shows the syncwords used for VDES.

Table 3 - SYNCWORDS for VDES

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Usage | Symbol size | Sequence | Type | Comment |
| ASM-TER | 27 | 1 1111100110101 0000011001010 | 1+ Barker13+ inverted Barker13 | TC under consideration |
| VDE-TER |
| ASM-SAT | 27 | 010001010010010000000110011 | Best autocorrelation for differential detection | Based on search.  Looses 0.3% of packets at Es/N0 of 5 dB |
| VDE-SAT |
| VDE-SAT | 48 | 000100011110011011000001010111011010110111101000 | Needs to work at Es/N0 of -2 dB |

The Double Barker sequence used for ASM-TER and VDE-TER allows for detection of the 2 correlation peaks and the 13 bit known noise in between. Furthermore, the correlation peak size indicates frequency offset.

* + - 1. Bit mapping for training sequence

For training the following mapping applies:

* 1 maps to π/4 QPSK symbol 3 (1, 1) (see Figure 12)
* 0 maps to π/4 QPSK symbol 0 (0, 0).

For π/4 QPSK bit mapping, see A 1.2.8.

* + - 1. Link IDLink ID

The Link IDLink ID defines the channel configurations. The Link IDLink ID is used to index the table of channel configurations, see Tables 7, 8, 9, and 10.

The Link IDLink ID follows the training sequence for transmissions, see Figure 5 and Figure 6, and uses π/4 QPSK bit mapping, see A 1.2.8.

The Link IDLink ID consists of 6 bits (D0, D1, D2, D3, D4, D5) encoded into a sequence of 32 bits using biorthogonal (32,6) code. The code is a first order Reed-Muller code with generator matrix:

The code shall be bit scrambled using the scrambling word 11000010111000101000111001001111. This results in the Link IDLink ID coding of Table 4.

Table 4 - Link IDLink ID code words for VDES

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Link Conf ID** | **Bit-scrambled code word** | **Link Conf ID** | **Bit-scrambled code word** |
| 0 | 11 00 00 10 11 10 00 10 10 00 11 10 01 00 11 11 | 32 | 01 00 00 00 00 00 10 11 01 10 01 11 11 01 10 01 |
| 1 | 11 00 01 10 11 10 00 10 11 11 00 01 10 11 00 00 | 33 | 01 00 01 00 00 00 10 11 00 01 10 00 00 10 01 10 |
| 2 | 11 00 10 10 10 01 11 01 10 00 11 10 10 11 00 00 | 34 | 01 00 10 00 01 11 01 00 01 10 01 11 00 10 01 10 |
| 3 | 11 00 11 10 10 01 11 01 11 11 00 01 01 00 11 11 | 35 | 01 00 11 00 01 11 01 00 00 01 10 00 11 01 10 01 |
| 4 | 11 01 00 01 11 10 11 01 00 00 00 01 01 00 00 00 | 36 | 01 01 00 11 00 00 01 00 11 10 10 00 11 01 01 10 |
| 5 | 11 01 01 01 11 10 11 01 01 11 11 10 10 11 11 11 | 37 | 01 01 01 11 00 00 01 00 10 01 01 11 00 10 10 01 |
| 6 | 11 01 10 01 10 01 00 10 00 00 00 01 10 11 11 11 | 38 | 01 01 10 11 01 11 10 11 11 10 10 00 00 10 10 01 |
| 7 | 11 01 11 01 10 01 00 10 01 11 11 10 01 00 00 00 | 39 | 01 01 11 11 01 11 10 11 10 01 01 11 11 01 01 10 |
| 8 | 11 10 00 01 01 01 00 01 10 11 11 01 01 11 11 00 | 40 | 01 10 00 11 10 11 10 00 01 01 01 00 11 10 10 10 |
| 9 | 11 10 01 01 01 01 00 01 11 00 00 10 10 00 00 11 | 41 | 01 10 01 11 10 11 10 00 00 10 10 11 00 01 01 01 |
| 10 | 11 10 10 01 00 10 11 10 10 11 11 01 10 00 00 11 | 42 | 01 10 10 11 11 00 01 11 01 01 01 00 00 01 01 01 |
| 11 | 11 10 11 01 00 10 11 10 11 00 00 10 01 11 11 00 | 43 | 01 10 11 11 11 00 01 11 00 10 10 11 11 10 10 10 |
| 12 | 11 11 00 10 01 01 11 10 00 11 00 10 01 11 00 11 | 44 | 01 11 00 00 10 11 01 11 11 01 10 11 11 10 01 01 |
| 13 | 11 11 01 10 01 01 11 10 01 00 11 01 10 00 11 00 | 45 | 01 11 01 00 10 11 01 11 10 10 01 00 00 01 10 10 |
| 14 | 11 11 10 10 00 10 00 01 00 11 00 10 10 00 11 00 | 46 | 01 11 10 00 11 00 10 00 11 01 10 11 00 01 10 10 |
| 15 | 11 11 11 10 00 10 00 01 01 00 11 01 01 11 00 11 | 47 | 01 11 11 00 11 00 10 00 10 10 01 00 11 10 01 01 |
| 16 | 10 00 00 11 00 11 01 11 01 01 10 11 00 01 10 10 | 48 | 00 00 00 01 11 01 11 10 10 11 00 10 10 00 11 00 |
| 17 | 10 00 01 11 00 11 01 11 00 10 01 00 11 10 01 01 | 49 | 00 00 01 01 11 01 11 10 11 00 11 01 01 11 00 11 |
| 18 | 10 00 10 11 01 00 10 00 01 01 10 11 11 10 01 01 | 50 | 00 00 10 01 10 10 00 01 10 11 00 10 01 11 00 11 |
| 19 | 10 00 11 11 01 00 10 00 00 10 01 00 00 01 10 10 | 51 | 00 00 11 01 10 10 00 01 11 00 11 01 10 00 11 00 |
| 20 | 10 01 00 00 00 11 10 00 11 01 01 00 00 01 01 01 | 52 | 00 01 00 10 11 01 00 01 00 11 11 01 10 00 00 11 |
| 21 | 10 01 01 00 00 11 10 00 10 10 10 11 11 10 10 10 | 53 | 00 01 01 10 11 01 00 01 01 00 00 10 01 11 11 00 |
| 22 | 10 01 10 00 01 00 01 11 11 01 01 00 11 10 10 10 | 54 | 00 01 10 10 10 10 11 10 00 11 11 01 01 11 11 00 |
| 23 | 10 01 11 00 01 00 01 11 10 10 10 11 00 01 01 01 | 55 | 00 01 11 10 10 10 11 10 01 00 00 10 10 00 00 11 |
| 24 | 10 10 00 00 10 00 01 00 01 10 10 00 00 10 10 01 | 56 | 00 10 00 10 01 10 11 01 10 00 00 01 10 11 11 11 |
| 25 | 10 10 01 00 10 00 01 00 00 01 01 11 11 01 01 10 | 57 | 00 10 01 10 01 10 11 01 11 11 11 10 01 00 00 00 |
| 26 | 10 10 10 00 11 11 10 11 01 10 10 00 11 01 01 10 | 58 | 00 10 10 10 00 01 00 10 10 00 00 01 01 00 00 00 |
| 27 | 10 10 11 00 11 11 10 11 00 01 01 11 00 10 10 01 | 59 | 00 10 11 10 00 01 00 10 11 11 11 10 10 11 11 11 |
| 28 | 10 11 00 11 10 00 10 11 11 10 01 11 00 10 01 10 | 60 | 00 11 00 01 01 10 00 10 00 00 11 10 10 11 00 00 |
| 29 | 10 11 01 11 10 00 10 11 10 01 10 00 11 01 10 01 | 61 | 00 11 01 01 01 10 00 10 01 11 00 01 01 00 11 11 |
| 30 | 10 11 10 11 11 11 01 00 11 10 01 11 11 01 10 01 | 62 | 00 11 10 01 00 01 11 01 00 00 11 10 01 00 11 11 |
| 31 | 10 11 11 11 11 11 01 00 10 01 10 00 00 10 01 10 | 63 | 00 11 11 01 00 01 11 01 01 11 00 01 10 11 00 00 |

The Link ID is not used by the SAT link.Link IDLink ID

* + - 1. Data with CRC-32

The data payload with its appended CRC-32 is interleaved (refer to Table 4) encoded (refer to A 1.2.4.1), scrambled (refer A 1.2.6 ) and bit mapped.

Unused payload data is zero-filled.



Figure 8 - Order of operations for TDMA; if CR=1 FEC is not applied

* + - 1. Bit scrambling

Scrambling of the user data is required to avoid the power spectral density to be concentrated in the narrow band. Refer to A 1.2.6 for the detailed definition of the scrambler sequence.

* + - 1. Guard time

The guard time consists of the ramp down time from full power to −50 dBc of less than or equal to 416 µs. The remaining time is for delay and jitter.

* + 1. Forward Error Correction
       1. Encoder Structure

This paragraph defines the general structure of the forward error correction encoder to be used on the satellite and the terrestrial component of the VDES. The overall structure follows the specification in the ETSI EN 302 583 standard [RD-1].

The general encoder structure is depicted in Figure 9. The encoder consists of two recursive systematic convolutional (RSC) encoders concatenated in parallel. Each encoder produces 3 output bits per input bit. The first RSC encoder produces the bits X, Y0 and Y1, while the second encoder produces the bits X’, Y’0 and Y’1. The <pi> block in Figure 9 represents the interleaving function as described in section A 1.2.4.3.

The first encoder gets as input a word **u** of k bits, with k, as specified in A 1.2.4.3. The second encoder input is denoted by **u**’ and it is a permuted version of the vector **u**. The input **u** is the data (including padding and CRC), with MSB of each byte first. For example, if the data is 0x7F, 0xA5, … **u** will be 01111111 10100101 ….



Figure 9 - Turbo encoder structure (high-level)

* + - 1. Constituent codes

The constituent codes are specified by the transfer function

where

The constituted encoder definition is provided in Figure 10. For the first k clocks the switch is in position (a), i.e. information is fed into the encoder. For the subsequent 6 clocks, the switch is moved to position (b) to handle the RSC trellis termination. In the first 3 termination clocks, only the RSC 1 (upper branch) is output, while in the subsequent 3 termination clocks, only the output of RSC 2 (lower branch) is provided. The termination is thus given by the sequence of 6 termination bits (X, Y0, Y1, X’, Y’0, Y’1) with X output first.



Figure 10 - RSC code encoder

* + - 1. Interleaver definition

The interleaver specification follows [RD-2].

First factorize *k* = *k*1 *k*2, where the parameters *k*1 and *k*2 depend on the choice of the respective code, where *k* is the information block length. Then select prime numbers and puncturing parameters values as given in Table 4.

Table 4 - Interleaver and Puncturing Parameters for Different Information lengths / code rates

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Link Conf ID** | **Nominal code rate** | **Information length** | **k1|k2** | **p1|p2|p3| p4| p5| p6| p7| p8** | **Puncturing**  **ID** | **Tail**  **ID** |
| 4 | 3/4 | 952 | 4|238 | 113|31|59|163|29|181|101|11 | 8 | 8a |
| 5\* | 3/4 | 288 | 2|144 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 6\* | 3/4 | 672 | 2|336 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 7\* | 3/4 | 1056 | 2|528 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 8\* | 1/2 | 192 | 2|96 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6 |
| 9\* | 1/2 | 448 | 2|224 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6 |
| 10\* | 1/2 | 704 | 2|352 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6 |
| 11 | 1/2 | 432 | 2|216 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6 |
| 12 | 3/4 | 972 | 2|486 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 13 | 3/4 | 1296 | 2|648 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 14 | 1/2 | 896 | 2|448 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6 |
| 15 | 3/4 | 2016 | 4|504 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 16 | 3/4 | 2688 | 4|672 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 17 | 1/2 | 1792 | 4|448 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6 |
| 18 | 3/4 | 4032 | 4|1008 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 19 | 3/4 | 5376 | 8|672 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 8 | 8 |
| 20 | 1/4 | 96 | 2|48 | 37|83|211|61|107|101|149|167 | 2 | 2a |
| 21 | 2/3 | 736 | 2|368 | 139|17|241| 47|109|11|29|163 | 7a | 7a |
| 22 | 2/3 | 3120 | 16|195 | 89|47|239|17|127|59|43|31 | 7a | 7b |
| 23 | 2/3 | 4544 | 4|1136 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 7b | 7b |
| 24 | 5/6 | 3788\*2 | 4|947 | 127|251|227|173|139|149|101|7 | 9 | 9 |
| 25 | 1/2 | 4776 | 12|398 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6a |
| 26 | 1/4 | 5456\*7 | 16|341 | 37|41|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 2 | 2a |
| 27 | 1/2 | 6032\*19 | 16|377 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 6 | 6b |
| 28 | 1/4 | 5280\*4 | 16|330 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 2 | 2b |
| 29 | 1/4 | 5552\*6 | 16|347 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 2 | 2c |
| 30 | 1/4 | 5320\*13 | 14|380 | 31|37|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 2 | 2c |
| 31 | 1/4 | 5328\*22 | 16|333 | 31|41|43|47|53|59|61|67 | 2 | 2d |
| New1 | 1/4 | 312 | 2|156 | 37|79|29|139|151|97|181|157 | 2 | 2e |
| New2 | 1/3 | 4280 | 8|535 | 59|37|157|167|239|83|163|29 | 4 | 4a |
| New3 | 1/3 | 4160\*2 | 16|260 | 163|157|149|137|197|47|241|251 | 4 | \*\* |



\*) No previous definitions or simulations results available, but a default configuration suggested.

\*\*) No tail bits.

Table 4 will be extended as different information block lengths are defined.

This FEC will be calculated by first choosing prime numbers *pq*, *q* ∈ (1, ..., 8) as given in Table 4.

The following operations shall be performed for *s* ∈ (1, ..., *k*) to obtain the permutation numbers π(*s*):

The permutation numbers shall be interpreted such that the *s*th bit read out after interleaving is the π(*s*)th bit of the input information block.

* + - 1. Rate Adaptation

Rate adaptation is obtained by puncturing the encoder output as in § 5.3.1 of [RD-1], as recalled in Table 5 for the first *k* clocks, and as in [RD-1].

The puncturing table for the termination part is given in Table 6. The last two rows of Table 6 are not part of [RD-1].

Table 5 - Puncturing Patterns for Data Bit Periods

| TABLE A1-5 - Puncturing and repetition patterns for tail bit periods (last 6 clocks)   | Punct. Pattern ID | Code Rate | Punct. / Rep. Pattern (X; Y0; Y1; X’; Y’0; Y’1 | X; Y0; Y1; X’; Y’0; Y’1 | …) | | --- | --- | --- | | 0 | 1/5 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | | 1 | 2/9 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | | 2 | 1/4 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | | 2a | 1/4 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | | 2b | 1/4 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | | 2c | 1/4 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | | 2d | 1/4 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 2e | 1/4 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;0;0 | | 3 | 2/7 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | | 4 | 1/3 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | | 4a | 1/3 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 2;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | 0;0;0;0;1;0 | | 5 | 2/5 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | | 6 | 1/2 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | | 6a | 1/2 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 6b | 1/2 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 7 | 2/3 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 7a | 2/3 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 7b | 2/3 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | | 8 | 3/4 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | | 8a | 3/4 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 9 | 5/6 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 |   For each rate, the puncturing table shall be read first from left to right and then from top to bottom. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

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Within a puncturing pattern, a ‘0’ means that the symbol shall be deleted and a ‘1’ means that a symbol shall be passed. A ‘2’ or a ‘3’ means that two or three copies of the symbol shall be passed. This is relevant for the termination periods. In particular

* For the rate 1/5 turbo code (Punct\_Pat\_ID=0), the tail output symbols for each of the first three tail bit periods shall be XXXY0Y1, and the tail output symbols for each of the last three tail bit periods shall be X’X’X’Y’0Y’1.
* For the rate 2/9 turbo code (Punct\_Pat\_ID=1), the tail output symbols for the first and the second output period shall be XXXY0Y1, for the third output period XXY0Y1, for the fourth and fifth output period X’X’Y’0Y’1, and for the sixth (last) output period X’X’X’Y’0Y’1.
* For the rate 1/4 turbo code (Punct\_Pat\_ID=2), the tail output symbols for each of the first three tail bit periods shall be XXY0Y1, and the tail output symbols for each of the last three tail bit periods shall be X’X’ Y’0Y’1.

All other code rates shall be processed similar to the given examples above with the exact puncturing patterns to be derived from [RD-1].

The puncturing table for the termination part is given in Table 6. The last rows of the table are introduced in this document to obtain higher rates and are not part of [RD-1].

Table 6 - Puncturing and Repetition Patterns for Tail Bit Periods (last 6 clocks)

| | **Punct. Pattern ID** | **Code Rate** | **Punct. / Rep. Pattern (X; Y0; Y1; X’; Y’0; Y’1 | X; Y0; Y1; X’; Y’0; Y’1 | …)** | | --- | --- | --- | | 0 | 1/5 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | | 1 | 2/9 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 3;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;3;1;1 | | 2 | 1/4 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | | 2a | 1/4 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | | 3 | 2/7 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 2;1;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | | 4 | 1/3 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 2;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | 0;0;0;2;1;0 | | 5 | 2/5 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;1;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;1;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | | 6 | 1/2 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | | 7 | 2/3 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | | 7a | 2/3 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 7b | 2/3 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | | 8 | 3/4 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | | 8a | 3/4 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 1;0;1;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;1 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | | 9 | 5/6 | 1;1;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 1;0;0;0;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;1;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 | 0;0;0;1;0;0 |   For each rate, the puncturing table shall be read first from left to right and then from top to bottom. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

* + 1. CRC

The 32 bit ITU-T V.42 [RD-5] polynomial 0x04C11DB7 CRC is appended to the last segment of the datagram. The CRC is calculated over all fragments of the datagram datagram (including any zero padding) with MSB of each byte processed first. The resulting 32 bit CRC is appended MSB first so the receiver can verify that the result is 0x00000000 when calculated over data+padding+CRC.

F(x) = x32 + x26 + x23 + x22 + x16 + x12 + x11 + x10 + x8 + x7 + x5 + x4 + x2 + x + 1

Initial state: 0xFFFFFFFF

* + 1. Bit scrambling

The bit scrambler shown in Figure 11 uses the polynom:

F(x)=1 + x-14 + x-15

and the initialization sequence as indicated in the top of Figure 11. For each transmitted packet, the bit scrambler is re-initialized. The MSB shall be the first output bit.

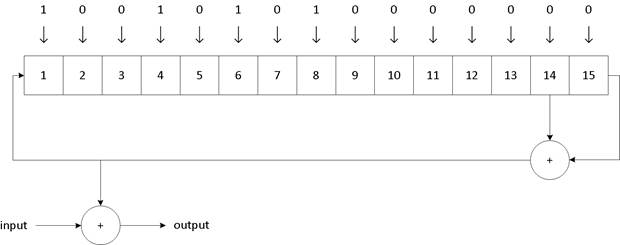


Figure 11 - Bit scrambling

* + 1. Modulation Coding Schemes

All MCS formats are defined in the Link ID in Tables 7, 8, 9 and 10 (refer to Figure 5 and Figure 6). The Channel Quality Indicator (CQI) value is used by the Adaptive Coding and Modulation (ACM) mechanism.

Table 7 - ASM Link ID parameters

| PL format # | ASM-MCS-1.16-1 | ASM-MCS-1.16-2 | ASM-MCS-1.16-3 | ASM-MCS-1.16-4 | | ASM-MCS-1.16-5 | | ASM-MCS-1.16-6 | ASM-MCS-1.16-7 |  | |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Li nk Config ID | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 (SAT) | | 5 | | 6 | 7 |  | |  |  |  |
| Channel BW | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | kHz |
| Roll off filtering[[1]](#footnote-1) | 0,35 | | | | | | | | | | | | |  |
| Signal BW | 13,0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | kHz |
| Symbol rate | 9,6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | ksps |
| Burst size | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | | 1 | | 2 | 3 |  | |  |  | slots |
| Guard time | 0,83 | | | | 8 | | 0,83 | | | | | | | ms |
| Burst duration | 25,8 | 52,5 | 79,2 | 72,0 | | 25,8 | | 52,5 | 79,2 |  | |  |  | ms |
| Symbols/ burst | 248 | 504 | 760 | 691 | | 248 | | 504 | 760 |  | |  |  | symbols |
| Ramp-up/down | 4/4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | symbols |
| Ramp-up/down | 0,41/0,41 | | | | | | | | | | | | | ms |
| Syncword size | 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | | symbols |
| Syncword modul. | PI/4 QPSK ( 00/11 only) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Link Config ID symbols | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | symbols |
| Link Config ID modul. | Pi/4 QPSK | | | | | | | | | | | | |  |
| Net symbols/ burst | 197 | 453 | 709 | 640 | | 197 | | 453 | 709 |  | |  |  | symbols |
| Channel bits | 394 | 906 | 1418 | 1280 | | 394 | | 906 | 1418 |  | |  |  | bits |
| Padding+FEC tail\*\*\* | 10+0 | | | | 0+11 | | 0+10 | | | | | | | bits |
| FEC decoder input symbols | 192 | 448 | 704 | 634.5 | | 192 | | 448 | 704 |  | |  |  | symbols |
| FEC decoder input bits | 384 | 896 | 1408 | 126 | | 384 | | 896 | 1408 |  | |  |  | bits |
| FEC output bits | 384 | 896 | 1408 | 952 | | 288 | | 672 | 1056 |  | |  |  | bits |
| FEC output bytes | 48 | 112 | 176 | 119 | | 36 | | 84 | 132 |  | |  |  | bytes |
| Modul. | PI/4 QPSK | | | | | | | | | | | | |  |
| Bits / symbol | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | |  |
| FEC rate | 1 | | | | 3/4 | | | | | |  | | |  |
| Es/N0 on AWGN | 11,0 | 11,0 | 11,0 | 4,5 | | 5,3 | | 5 | 4,8 |  | |  |  | dB |
| C/(N0+I0) threshold | 50,8 | 50,8 | 50,8 | 44,3 | | 45,1 | | 44,8 | 44,6 |  | |  |  | dBHz |
| Minimum CQI value | 50 | 51 | 53 | 43 | | 45 | | 45 | 45 |  | |  |  |  |

Table 8 - VDE-TER Link ID parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PL format  # | TER-MCS-1.25 | TER-MCS-3.25 | TER-MCS-5.25 | TER-MCS-1.50 | TER-MCS-3.50 | TER-MCS-5.50 | TER-MCS-1.100 | TER-MCS-3.100 | TER-MCS-5.100 |  |
| Link Config ID | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |  |
| Channel BW | 25 | | | 50 | | | 100 | | | kHz |
| Roll off filtering | 0,3 | | | | | | | | |  |
| Signal BW | 25,0 | | | 49,9 | | | 99,8 | | | kHz |
| Symbol rate | 19,2 | | | 38,4 | | | 76,8 | | | ksps |
| Burst size | 1 | | | | | | | | | slot |
| Guard time | 0,83 | | | | | | | | | ms |
| Burst duration | 25,8 | | | | | | | | | ms |
| Symbols/burst | 496 | | | 992 | | | 1984 | | | symbols |
| Ramp-up/down | 8/8 | | | 16/16 | | | 32/32 | | | symbols |
| Ramp-up/down | 0.41/0.41 | | | | | | | | | ms |
| Syncword size | 27 | | | | | | | | | symbols |
| Syncword modulation | PI/4 QPSK ( 00/11 only) | | | | | | | | |  |
| Link Config ID size | 16 (32,6 block code) | | | | | | | | | symbols |
| Link Config ID modulation | PI/4 QPSK | | | | | | | | |  |
| Net symbols/burst | 437 | | | 917 | | | 1877 | | | symbols |
| Channel bits | 874 | 1311 | 1748 | 1834 | 2751 | 3668 | 3754 | 5631 | 7508 | bits |
| Padding + FEC tail\*\*\* | 10+0 | 3+12 | 8+12 | 30+12 | 51+12 | 72+12 | 158+12 | 243+12 | 328+12 | bits |
| FEC decoder input symbols | 432 | | | 896 | | | 1792 | | | symbols |
| FEC decoder input bits | 864 | 1296 | 1728 | 1792 | 2688 | 3584 | 3584 | 5376 | 7168 | bits |
| FEC output bits | 432 | 972 | 1296 | 896 | 2016 | 2688 | 1792 | 4032 | 5376 | bits |
| FEC output bytes | 54 | 122 | 162 | 112 | 252 | 336 | 224 | 504 | 672 | bytes |
| Modulation | PI/4 QPSK | 8PSK | 16 QAM | PI/4 QPSK | 8PSK | 16 QAM | PI/4 QPSK | 8PSK | 16 QAM |  |
| FEC rate | 1/2 | 3/4 | 3/4 | 1/2 | 3/4 | 3/4 | 1/2 | 3/4 | 3/4 |  |
| Es/N0 on AWGN | 1,0 | 7,9 | 10,2 | 1,0 | 7,9 | 10,2 | 1,0 | 7,9 | 10,2 | dB |
| C/(N0+I0) threshold | 43,8 | 50,7 | 53,0 | 46,8 | 53,7 | 56,0 | 49,9 | 56,8 | 59,1 | dBHz |
| Minimum CQI value | 42 | 53 | 56 | 46 | 57 | 59 | 49 | 60 | 62 |  |

Table 9 - VDE-SAT UpLink ID parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PL format | SAT-MCS-1.50-2 | SAT-MCS-1.50-3 | SAT-MCS-1.50-4 | SAT-MCS-3.50-2 | SAT-MCS-5.50 |  |
| Link Config ID | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24\*\* |  |
| Channel bandwidth | 50 | | | | | kHz |
| Roll off filtering | 0,25 | | | | |  |
| Signal bandwidth | 42,0 | | | | | kHz |
| CDMA chiprate | 33,6 |  | | | | kcps |
| Codelength | 16 | chips |
| Symbol rate | 2,1 | 33,6 | | | | ksps |
| Burst size | 5 | 1 | 3 | | | slots |
| Guard time | 8 | | | | | ms |
| Burst duration | 125,3 | 18,7 | 72,0 | | | ms |
| Symbols/burst | 263 | 627 | 2419 | | | symbols |
| Ramp-up/down | 14/14\* | | | | | symbols |
| Ramp-up/down | 0.41/0.41 | | | | | ms |
| Syncword size | 48 | 27 | | | | symbols |
| Syncword modulation | QPSK/CDMA (00/11) | PI/4 QPSK (00/11) | | | |  |
| Link ID size | 0 | 16 (32,6 block code) | | | | symbols |
| Link ID modulation | NA | PI/4 QPSK | | | |  |
| Pilot symbol distance | 17 | NA | | 20 | | symbols |
| Total pilot symbols | 12 | 0 | | 71 | | symbols |
| Net symbols/burst | 201 | 556 | 2348 | 2277 | 2277 | symbols |
| Channel bits | 352 | 1112 | 4696 | 6831 | 9108 | bits |
| Padding + FEC tail\*\*\* | 0+18 | 0+8 | 4+12 | 3+12 | 2\*(0+8) | bits |
| FEC decoder input symbols | 192 | 552 | 2340 | 2272 | 2277 | symbols |
| FEC decoder input bits | 384 | 1104 | 4680 | 6816 | 4546\*2 | bits |
| FEC output bits | 96 | 736 | 3120 | 4544 | 3788\*2 | bits |
| FEC output bytes | 11 | 92 | 390 | 568 | 947 | bytes |
| FEC subblock | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 |  |
| Modulation | QPSK/ CDMA | PI/4 QPSK | | 8PSK | 16QAM |  |
| FEC rate | 1/4 | 2/3 | | | 5/6 |  |
| Es/N0 on AWGN | -0,9 | 3,9 | 3,9 | 8,0 | 12,2 | dB |
| C/(N0+I0) threshold | 32,3 | 49,2 | 49,2 | 53,3 | 57,5 | dBHz |
| Minimum CQI value | 32 | 49 | 51 | 54 | 58 |  |

\*) For spread sequence it is 14/14 chips.

\*\*) FEC block is split into two sub-blocks in order to avoid very long FEC block.

\*\*\*) Given as padding + FEC tail bits, where the tail bits are according to Table 6

Table 10 – VDE-SAT DownLink ID Parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PL format | SAT-MCS-0.50-1 | SAT-MCS-1.50-1 | | | SAT-MCS-3.50-1 | | SAT-MCS-0.100 | | SAT-MCS-0.150 | | SAT-MCS-0.300 | | SAT-MCS-0.500 | |  | |
| Link Config ID | 25 | 26 | | | 27 | | 28 | | 29 | | 30 | | 31 | |  | |
| Channel BW | 50 | | | | | | 100 | | 150 | | 300 | | 500 | | kHz | |
| Roll off filtering | 0,25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |
| Signal BW | 42,0 | | | | | | 90,0 | | 141,0 | | 291,0 | | 492 | | kHz | |
| CDMA chiprate | 33,6 |  | | | | | 72,0 | | 112,8 | | 232,8 | | 393,6 | | kcps | |
| Codelength | 8 | 2 | | | | | | | | chips | |
| Symbol rate | 4,2 | 33,6 | | | | | 36,0 | | 56,4 | | 116,4 | | 196,8 | | ksps | |
| Burst size | 90 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | slots | |
| Guard time | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ms | |
| Burst duration | 2392,0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ms | |
| Symbols/burst | 10046 | 803371 | | | | | 86112 | | 134908 | | 278428 | | 470745 | | symbols | |
| Ramp-up/down | 14/14 | | | | | | 30/30 | | 47/47 | | 967/96 | | 162/162 | | symbols / chips | |
| Ramp-up/down | 0.41/0.41 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ms | |
| Syncword size | 48 | 27 | | | | | 48 | | | | | | | | symbols | |
| Number of syncwords | 10 | 35 | | | | | 32 | | | | | | | |  | |
| Total syncword symbols | 480 | 945 | | | | | 1536 | | | | | | | | symbols | |
| Syncword distance | 1004 | 2268 | | | | | 2690 | | 4214 | | 8697 | | 14705 | | symbols | |
| Syncword modulation | BPSK/ CDMA | PI/4 QPSK  (00 /11) | | | | | BPSK/CDMA | | | | | | | |  | |
| Link Config ID | 0 (not used) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | symbols | |
| Link Config ID modulation | BPSK/ CDMA | PI/4 QPSK | | | | | BPSK/CDMA | | | | | | | |  | |
| Pilot distance |  | 27 | | | | |  | | | | | | | | symbols | |
| Total pilots symbols |  | 2940 | | | | |  | | | | | | | | symbols | |
| Net symbols/burst | 9562 | 76458 | | | 76458 | | 84546 | | 133325 | | 276796 | | 469047 | | symbols | |
| Burst stuffing bits | 0 | 1 | | | 6 | | 2 | | 5 | | 0 | | 7 | | bits | |
| Channel bits | 9562 | 152915 | | | 229368 | | 84544 | | 133320 | | 276796 | | 469040 | | bits | |
| Padding + FEC tail\* | 0+10 | 7\*(3+18) | | | (0+8)\*19 | | 4\*(0+16) | | 6\*(0+12) | | 13\*(0+12) | | 22\*(0+8) | | bits | |
| FEC decoder input symbols | 9552 | 76384 | | | 76406 | | 84480 | | 133248 | | 276640 | | 468864 | | symbols | |
| FEC decoder input bits\* | 9552 | 152768 | | | 229216 | | 84480 | | 133248 | | 276640 | | 468864 | | bits | |
| FEC output bits | 4776 | 7\*5456 | | | 19\*6032 | | 4\*5280 | | 6\*5552 | | 13\*5320 | | 22\*5328 | | bits | |
| FEC output | 597 | 7\*682 | | | 19\*754 | | 4\*660 | | 6\*694 | | 13\*665 | | 22\*666 | | bytes | |
| FEC sub-blocks | 1 | 7 | | | 19 | | 4 | | 6 | | 13 | | 22 | |  | |
| Modulation | BPSK/  CDMA | PI/4 QPSK | | | 8PSK | | BPSK/CDMA | | | | | | | |  | |
| FEC rate | 1/2 | 1/4 | | | 1/2 | | 1/4 | | | | | | | |  | |
| Es/N0 on AWGN | -2,0 | -2,4 | | | 5,0 | | -2,0 | | | | | | | | dB | |
| C/(N0+I0) thres | 34,2 | 42,9 | | | 50,3 | | 40,6 | | 42,5 | | 45,6 | | 47,9 | | dBHz | |
| Minimum CQI value | 33 | 44 | | | 52 | | 40 | | 44 | | 47 | | 49 | |  | |

[continuation of table above, so make columns fit…

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PL format | SAT-MCS-xxx | SAT-MCS-xxx | SAT-MCS-xxx |  |
| Link Config ID | New1 | New2 | New3 |  |
| Channel BW | 50 | | | kHz |
| Roll off filtering | 0,25 | | |  |
| Signal BW | 42,0 | | | kHz |
| CDMA chiprate | 33,6 |  | | kcps |
| Codelength | 8 | chips |
| Symbol rate | 4,2 | 33,6 | | ksps |
| Burst size | 15 | | | slots |
| Guard time | 8 | | | ms |
| Burst duration | 392,0 | | | ms |
| Symbols/burst | 1646 | 13171 | | symbols |
| Ramp-up/down | 14/14 | | | symbols/chips |
| Ramp-up/down | 0.41/0.41 | | | ms |
| Syncword size | 48 | 48 | 27 | symbols |
| Number of syncwords | 4 | 6 | 6 | symbols |
| Total syncword symbols | 192 | 288 | 162 | symbols |
| Syncword distance | 531 | 2619 | 2619 | symbols |
| Syncword modulation | BPSK / CDMA | BPSK | PI/4-QPSK (00 /11) |  |
| Link Config ID | (32,6) block-code will not work for downlink C/(N0+I0) (Es/N0) thresholds | | | symbols |
| Pilot distance | 8 |  | 27 | symbols |
| Total pilots symbols | 180 |  | 480 | symbols |
| Burst symbol duration\* | 1641 | 13143 | 13122 | symbols |
| Net symbols/burst | 1269 | 12855 | 12480 | symbols |
| Channel bits | 1269 | 12855 | 24960 | bits |
| Padding + FEC tail | 0+21 | 0+15 | 0+0 | bits |
| FEC decoder input symbols | 1248 | 12840 | 12480 | symbols |
| FEC decoder input bits | 1248 | 12840 | 2\*12480 | bits |
| FEC output bits | 312 | 4280 | 2\*4160 | bits |
| FEC output | 39 | 535 | 1040 | bytes |
| Modulation | BPSK/  CDMA | BPSK | PI/4 QPSK |  |
| FEC rate | 1/4 | 1/3 | 1/3 |  |
| Es/N0 on AWGN | -4,5 | -3,6 | -0,6 | dB |
| C/(N0+I0) threshold | 31,6 | 41,7 | 44,7 | dBHz |
| Minimum CQI value | 31 | 42 | 45 |  |

\*) Burst symbol duration is number of symbols from syncword preamble to syncword postamble, disregarding ramping symbols

* + 1. Bit mapping

The bit mappings used throughout the Annexes are shown in Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14. .

The first output from the bit scrambler is mapped to the MSB of the first symbol, the second bit to the next bit in the symbol, and so on until the LSB of the symbol has been filled, then mapping continues in the next symbol. If more bits are needed to complete the last symbol, 0 shall be used.The initial state of the alternating π/4 QPSK bit mapping is defined such that the first symbol of the training sequence is mapped to the constellation defined by points , , , (shown in green in Figure 12); the next symbol is mapped to the constellation defined by points , (shown in purple in Figure 12); the third symbol is mapped to the same constellation as the first symbol; and so on.

The modulation accuracy requirements for π/4 QPSK are:

* + - 1. The RMS error vector in any burst shall be less than 0.1
      2. The peak error vector magnitude shall be less than 0.3 for any symbol



Figure 12 - Bit Mapping for π/4 QPSK



Figure 13 - 8PSK symbol to bit mapping



Figure 14 - Bit Mapping for 16QAM

* + 1. Antenna gain for VDES ship stations

Existing ship antennas may be used for VDES. The maximum antenna gain for these antennas ranges from 2 dBi to 10 dBi.

A ship antenna with a minimum gain at 0 degrees elevation of 2 dBi at the receiver input is required.

* + 1. Noise and interference level

The noise floor is a function of many sources such as vessel electronics, other radio equipment, power supplies, etc., and sensitivity is also reduced by RF cabling losses and the LNA noise figure. Table 11 presents representative values for the receiver noise figure.

Table 11 - Ship receiver noise figure calculations

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Antenna noise temperature\* | 245.0 | K |
| LNA noise figure | 6.0 | dB |
| LNA noise temperature | 813.8 | K |
| Feed loss noise temp at LNA | 0.0 | K |
| Antenna noise temp at LNA | 245.0 | K |
| System noise temp at LNA | 1058.8 | K |
| System noise temp at LNA | 30.2 | dBK |
| \* The galactic background antenna noise temperature is 245 K at 160 MHz [RD-4]. | | |

* + 1. Transmitter requirements for VDES
       1. Transmitter power

Except for Annex B, Table 12 defines the requirements for VDE station transmitters, for the transmit spectrum mask, see Figure 15. The resolution bandwidth for the mask measurement is 300Hz.

Table 12 - Transmitter parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Transmitter parameters | Requirements | Condition |
| Frequency error | 1.5 ppm | normal |
| Frequency error | 3 ppm | extreme |
| Maximum transmit power capability | For ship stations: Transmit average power should be at least 1 watt and not exceed 25 watts at the transmitter output.  For shore stations: Transmit average power should be at least 12.5 watt.  ±1.5 dB normal, +2/−6 dB extreme | Conducted |
| Maximum adjacent power levels for 25 kHz channel | ∆*fc* < ±12.5 kHz: 0 dBc[[2]](#footnote-2)  ±12.5 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±25 kHz: below the straight line between  −25 dBc at ±12.5 kHz and –70 dBc at ±25 kHz  ±25 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±62.5 kHz: −70 dBc | |
| Maximum adjacent power levels for 50 kHz channel | ∆*fc* < ±25 kHz: 0 dBc  ±25 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±37.5 kHz: below the straight line between  −25 dBc at ±25 kHz and –70 dBc at ±37.5 kHz  ±37.5 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±125 kHz: −70 dBc | |
| Maximum adjacent power levels for 100 kHz channel | ∆*fc* < ±50 kHz: 0 dBc  ±50 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±62.5 kHz: below the straight line between  −25 dBc at ±50 kHz and –70 dBc at ±62.5 kHz  ±62.5 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±250 kHz: −70 dBc | |
| Spurious emissions | −36 dBm  −30 dBm | 9 kHz to 1 GHz  1 GHz to 4 GHz |

Figure 15 - Slotted Transmission Mask (VDE)

* + - 1. Ship e.i.r.p. vs. elevation angle

The minimum ship e.i.r.p. vs elevation angle is shown in Table 13. There are no minimum e.i.r.p. requirements above 80 degrees elevation. Table 13 is based on a linear transmitter meeting the maximum Adjacent Channel Interference levels defined in Table 12. For saturated operation, the e.i.r.p. shall be 3 dB higher.

Table 13 - Minimum ship e.i.r.p. vs. elevation angle

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Ship elevation angle | Ship antenna gain | Minimum ship e.i.r.p. with 6 W transmitter |
| degrees | dBi | dBW |
| 0 | 3 | 10.8 |
| 10 | 3 | 10.8 |
| 20 | 2.5 | 10.3 |
| 30 | 1 | 8.8 |
| 40 | 0 | 7.8 |
| 50 | −1.5 | 6.3 |
| 60 | −3 | 4.8 |
| 70 | −4 | 3.8 |
| 80 | −10 | −2.2 |
| 90 | −20 | −12.2 |

* + - 1. Shutdown procedure

An automatic transmitter hardware shutdown procedure and indication should be provided in case a transmitter continues to transmit for more than 2 s. This shutdown procedure should be independent of software control.

* + - 1. Safety precautions

The VDES installation, when operating, should not be damaged by the effects of open circuited or short-circuited antenna terminals.

* 1. Link layer

This layer ensures reliable transmission of data between ships, ship and shore, and ship and satellite. This layer will further be responsible for packing data into messages and providing access to the data transfer medium using TDMA techniques.























































1. 1. Transport layer

This layer ensures reliable transmission of the data segments between ships, ship and shore, and ship and satellite, including segmentation, acknowledgement and multiplexing.

* + 1. Presentation interface protocol

Data, which is to be transmitted by the station, may be input via the presentation interface; data, which is received by the station, should be output through the presentation interface. The formats and protocol used for this data stream are defined by IEC 61162 series.

* + 1. End to end protocols

Existing Internet protocols such as UDP, SNMP, secure file transfer protocol (SFTP), simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) are used.

Terrestrial IP protocols are assumed to be terminated at the Control Station gateway.

* + 1. Ship, application and device physical addressing

Most commercial ships use a 7-digit IMO number of which the last is a checksum, thus the IMO system can address 1 million ships. The 4 byte VDES physical addressing field has 4.3 × 109 unique IDs. The Control Station or the access network will therefore include a Network Address Translator that converts either a 16 byte IPv6 address or a 7 digit IMO number to this 4 byte ship ID.

The number of networked applications / devices on ships is growing fast and the datagrams will, where needed, include sub addresses.

* + 1. Terrestrial network addressing

IPv6 with 16 byte addressing is used.

To support multiple connections/applications from a ship, up to 255 sessions with unique IDs can be supported, these can be routed to different IPv6 addresses.

* + 1. Mobility management

Last transaction coarse position or AIS location data stored in the Control Station database is used to route paging of ships.

* + 1. addressing of ships, gateways and devices

VDES will be accessed from shore using Internet, and it is desirable to use standard protocols such as email.

A database at the gateway will allow shore users to define their own meaningful ship, gateway and device names.

1. Technical characteristics of the Application Specific Message (ASM) channels for the VDES in the VHF maritime mobile band
2. Introduction

This section describes those elements of the ASM that are unique to ASM operation. It contains a description of the different protocols according to the OSI layer model and recommends implementation details for each layer. For those elements that are common, the cross reference into Annex 1 is provided.

The system should use TDMA techniques in a synchronized manner.

This Annex describes the characteristics of the TDMA access schemes which include random access TDMA (RATDMA), Multiple Incremental TDMA (MITDMA), fixed access TDMA (FATDMA), techniques. Slot carrier sense TDMA (SCTDMA) may be implemented as an option. The behaviour should be in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.1371-5 Annex 7.

* 1. OSI layers

Refer to Annex A.

* + 1. Physical layer

Convert digital transmission packet to π/4 Quadrature Phase-Shift Keying (QPSK) signal to modulate transmitter.

* + 1. Link layer

The link layer is divided into three sub-layers with the following tasks.

* + - 1. Link management entity

This sub layer has the following functions:

* Assemble ASM message bits
* Order the ASM message bits into 8-bit byte for assembly of transmission packet.
  + - 1. Data link services

This sub layer has the following functions:

* Calculate CRC of the ASM message bits (see A 1.2.5)
* Append CRC to ASM message to complete creation of transmission packet contents.
* Complete assembly of transmission packet.
  + - 1. Media access control

Media access control provides a method for granting access to the data transfer to the VHF data link (VDL). The method used is a TDMA scheme using a common time reference.

* + 1. Network layer

The network layer is responsible for the management of priority assignments of messages, distribution of transmission packets between channels, and data link congestion resolution.

* + 1. Transport layer

The transport layer is responsible for converting data into transmission packets of correct size and sequencing of data packets.

1. Physical layer
   1. Parameters
      1. General

The physical layer is responsible for the transfer of a bit-stream from an originator, out on to the data link. The performance requirements for the physical layer are summarized in Tables 22, 23 and 24.

The low setting and the high setting for each parameter is independent of the other parameters.

Table 1 - Minimum required time division multiple access transmitter characteristics

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter name | Units | Low setting | High setting |
| Channel spacing (encoded according to RR Appendix 18 with footnotes)(1) | kHz | 25 | 25 |
| ASM 1 (2027)(1) | MHz | 161.950 | 161.950 |
| ASM 2 (2028)(1) | MHz | 162.000 | 162.000 |
| Transmit output power | W | 1 | 12.5 |
| (1) See Recommendation ITU-R M.1084, Annex 4. | | | |

* + 1. Transmission media

Data transmissions are made in the VHF maritime mobile band. Data transmissions should use ASM 1 and/or ASM 2 channels.

* + 1. Multi-channel operation

The ASM station should be capable of receiving on two parallel channels and transmitting on two independent channels. Two separate TDMA receiving processes should be used to simultaneously receive on two independent frequency channels. One TDMA transmitter may be used to enable TDMA transmissions on one or two independent frequency channels.

ASM transmission should alternate between the two ASM channels

MITDMA linked transmissions should be on the same channel.

* 1. Transceiver characteristics

The transceiver should perform in accordance with the characteristics set forth herein, see Table 23 and Figure 16. The resolution bandwidth for the mask measurement is 300Hz.

Table 23 - Minimum required time division multiple access transmitter characteristics

| Transmitter parameters | Requirements |
| --- | --- |
| Carrier power error | ±1.5 dB |
| Carrier frequency error (normal) | 1.5 ppm |
| Carrier frequency error (extreme) | 3.0 ppm |
| Slotted modulation mask | ∆*fc* < ±8 kHz: 0 dBc[[3]](#footnote-3)  ±8 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±16 kHz: below the straight line between  −25 dBc at ±8 kHz and –60 dBc at ±16 kHz  ±16 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±25 kHz: below the straight line between  −60 dBc at ±16 kHz and –70 dBc at ±25 kHz  ±25 kHz < ∆*fc* < ±62.5 kHz: −70 dBc |
| Spurious emissions | −36 dBm: 9 kHz ... 1 GHz  −30 dBm: 1 GHz ... 4 GHz |

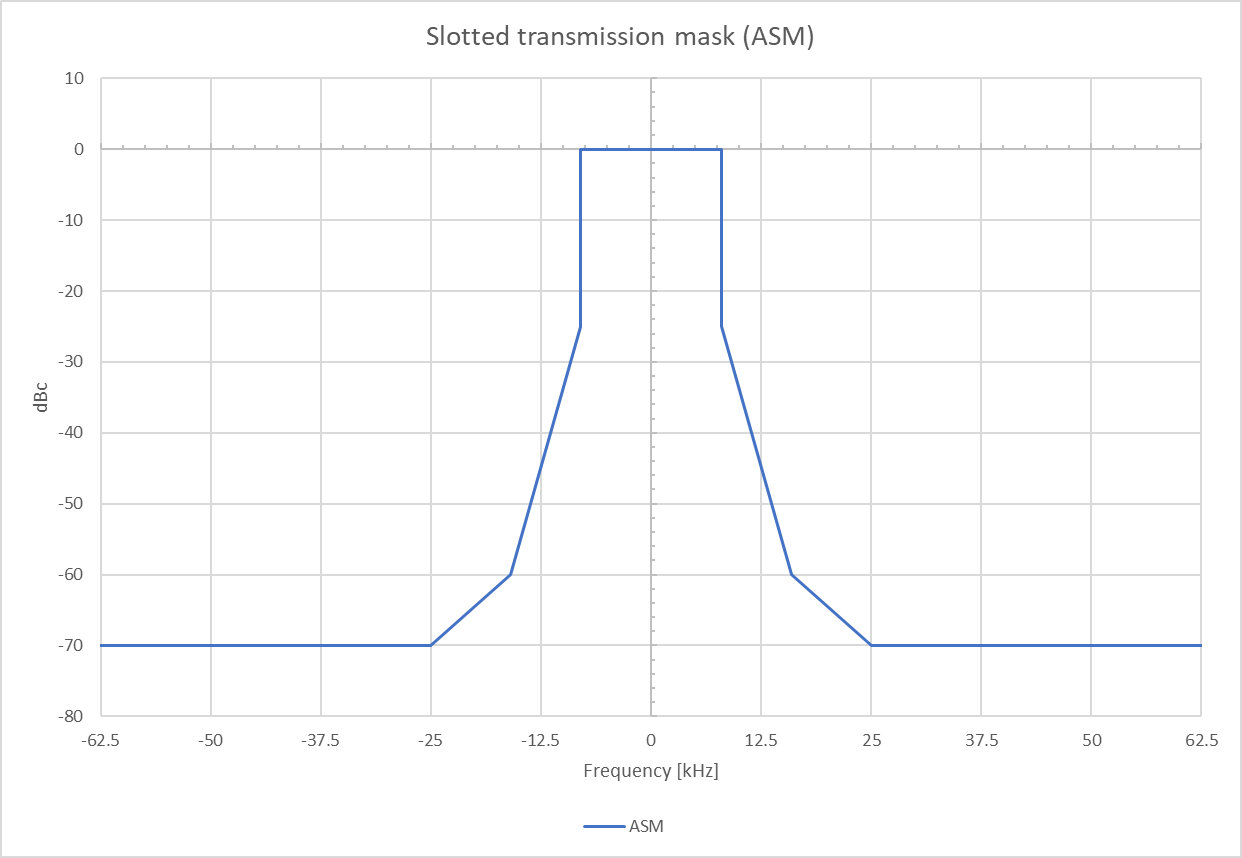


Figure 16 - ASM Slotted modulation mask

Table 24 - Minimum required time division multiple access receiver characteristics without FEC

| Receiver parameters | Requirements |
| --- | --- |
| Sensitivity | 20% PER @ −107 dBm |
| Error behaviour at high input levels | 1% PER @ −77 dBm 1% PER @ −7 dBm |
| Adjacent channel selectivity | 20% PER @ 70 dB |
| Spurious response rejection | 20% PER @ 70 dB |
| Intermodulation response rejection | 20% PER @ 74 dB |
| Spurious emissions | −57 dBm (9 kHz to 1 GHz) −47 dBm (1 GHz to 4 GHz) |
| Blocking | 20% PER @ 86 dB |

* 1. Modulation scheme

The base modulation is defined by the Link ID, see Table 7.

For the modulation bit mapping, see Annex A.

* 1. Data transmission bit rate

The transmission bit rate should be 19.2 kbit/s ±10 ppm for π/4 QPSK.

* 1. Frame structure

For the generic definition of the frame structure, see Annex A.

* 1. Signal information

Signal information selects the modulation scheme and coding according to the Link ID defined in Table 7.

* 1. Forward error correction and Bit Scrambling

When forward error correction is used, it will be used as defined in Annex A. Interleaving and bit scrambling are used, as defined by the FEC designated in the signal information. In the event of no FEC, bit scrambling according to Annex A shall be implemented.

* 1. Transmitter transient response

The time taken to switch from transmit to receive conditions, and receive to transmit conditions, should not exceed the transmit ramp up and ramp down, see Annex A 1.2.3.1. It should be possible to receive a message from the slot directly after or before own transmission.

The equipment should not be able to transmit during channel switching operation.

* 1. Transmitter power

The power level is determined by the link management entity (LME) of the link layer.

Provision should be made for two levels of nominal power (high power, low power) as required by some applications. The default operation of the ASM station should be on the high nominal power level.

The nominal levels for the two power settings should be 1 W (average power) and 12.5 W (average power); tolerance should be within ±1.5 dB.

1. Link layer

The link layer specifies how data is packaged in order to apply error detection and correction to the data transfer. The link layer is divided into three sub-layers.

* 1. Sub-layer 1 – medium access control

The medium access control (MAC) sub layer provides a method for granting access to the data transfer medium, i.e. the VHF data link. The access scheme is TDMA using a common time reference.

* 1. TDMA synchronization

TDMA synchronization is achieved using an algorithm as described below.

The TDMA receiving process should not depend on slot boundaries.

Synchronization other than UTC direct may be provided by the AIS system.

* 1. Coordinated universal time direct

A station, which may aquire timing directly from coordinated universal time (UTC) source having the required accuracy.

* 1. Coordinated universal time indirect

A station, which is unable to get direct access to UTC, but has access to the AIS system, may get its synchronization from the AIS system.

* 1. Time division

The slot and frame are as defined in Annex A. Access to the data link is, by default, given at the start of a slot. The frame start and stop coincide with the UTC minute, when UTC is unavailable the AIS system may provide the frame synchronization.

B 3.5.1 Slot phase and frame synchronization

Slot phase synchronization and frame synchronization is done by using information from UTC or from the AIS system.

B 3.5.1.1 Slot phase synchronization

Slot phase synchronization is the method whereby the slot boundary is synchronized with a high level of synchronization stability, thereby ensuring no message boundary overlapping or corruption of messages.

B 3.5.1.2 Frame synchronization

Frame synchronization is the method whereby the current slot number for the frame is known.

B 3.5.2 Slot identification

Each slot is identified by its index (0-2249). Slot zero (0) should be defined as the start of the frame.

B 3.5.3 Slot access

The transmitter should begin transmission by turning on the RF power at slot start.

The transmitter should be turned off after the last bit of the transmission packet has left the transmitting unit. This event must occur within the slots allocated for own transmission. The slot access is performed as described in Annex A 1.2.2.

B 3.5.4 Slot state

Each slot on an ASM channel can be in one of the following states:

* Free: meaning that the slot is unused on the channel within the receiving range of the own station for AIS/ASM/VDE
* Internal allocation allocated by own station for the purpose of AIS/ASM/VDE/long range transmission
* AIS Available –externally allocated by an AIS which may be considered as a candidate slot
* AIS Unavailable –externally allocated by an AIS which should not be considered as a candidate slot for the following reasons:
* SOTDMA slot timeout = 0
* FATDMA allocated slot
* ASM Unavailable – Externally allocated by an ASM station within the receiving range of the own station
* VDE Unavailable – slots allocated to own station for VDE reception
  1. Sub layer 2 – data link service

The data link service (DLS) sub layer provides methods for:

* data link activation and release;
* data transfer; or
* error detection, correction and control.

B 3.6.1 Data link activation and release

Based on the MAC sub layer the DLS will listen, activate or release the data link. A slot, marked as free or externally allocated, indicates that own equipment should be in receive mode and listen for other data link users.

B 3.6.2 Data transfer

Data transfer should use a bit-oriented protocol and should be in accordance with this standard.

B 3.6.2.1 Packet format

Data is transferred usingthegeneric transmission packet as defined in Annex A, Figure 5 and Figure 6.

The packet should be sent from left to right. The training sequence is be used to synchronize the VDES receiver.

B 3.6.2.2 Summary of the transmission packet

The data packet is defined in Table 25.

The ASM channel configurations are defined by Link ID table, Table 7.

Table 25 - Packet symbol structure for π/4 QPSK modulation scheme

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Description |
| Ramp up | 4 symbols |  |
| Training sequence | 27 symbols | Necessary for synchronization |
| Link ID | 16 symbols | Decoded from (32,6) biorthogonal code  ASM channel configurations as defined in Link ID table |
| Data | 1 slot: 176 2 slot: 432  3 slot: 688 symbols | The symbol count and the information bits varies according to coding rate as defined by the Link ID field |
| CRC | 16 symbols | The CRC only includes the data field |
| Ramp Down | 4 symbols | Distance delay and jitter |
| Guard Time | 13 symbols | Distance delay and jitter |
| Total | 1 slot: 256  2 slot: 512  3 slot: 768 symbols |  |

B 3.6.2.3 Transmission timing

The modulation may be applied during the ramp up period, but it shall not be considered as part of the training sequence

B 3.6.2.4 Long transmission packets

A station may occupy a maximum of 3 consecutive slots, as defined by the Link ID, for one (1) continuous transmission. Only a single application of the overhead (ramp up, training sequence, flags, CRC, guard time) is required for a long transmission packet.

B 3.6.3 Error detection and control

Error detection is accomplished using a CRC polynomial as described in Annex A.

B 3.6.4 Forward Error correction

Forward error correction should be handled as described in Annex A, and specified by the Link ID see Table 7.

* 1. Sub layer 3 – link management entity

The LME controls the operation of the DLS, MAC and the physical layer.

B 3.7.1 Access to the data link

There should be different access schemes for controlling access to the data transfer medium. The application and mode of operation determine the access scheme to be used.

The access schemes are MITDMA, RATDMA, and FATDMA.

B 3.7.1.1 Cooperation on the data link

The access schemes operate continuously, and in parallel, on the same physical data link. They all conform to the rules set up by the TDMA. The ASM system must give priority to the AIS system when accessing the physical data link.

B 3.7.1.2 Candidate slots

Slots, used for transmission, are selected from *candidate slots* in the selection interval (SI) which is defined as 225 slots.

The selection process uses received data from AIS, ASM and VDE.

There should be, at minimum, a set of eight candidate slots to choose from.

The candidate slots are primarily selected from slots that are free on AIS, ASM and VDE.

The available AIS slots are as defined in Recommendation ITU-R M.1371 and must only be taken from the most distant station(s) within the SI.

If the candidate slot set contains less than eight slots, additional candidate slots can be obtained by using the following rules and order (rule 1 followed by rule 2):

* Rule 1: available slot on one AIS channel and free on the other AIS and free on the ASM and VDE channels
* Rule 2: available slot on both AIS channels (AIS1 and AIS2) and free on all ASM and VDE channels.

When selecting candidates for messages longer than one (1) slot, a candidate slot should be the first slot in a consecutive block of slots that conform to the selection criteria stated above.

If the station cannot find sufficient number of candidate slots, the station should not transmit and should re-schedule the transmission.

The candidate slot selection process also has to consider time periods reserved for the reception of the bulletin board.

The purpose of maintaining a minimum of eight candidate slots within the same probability of being used for transmission is to provide high probability of access to the link.

Note that the AIS and VDE channels need only to be considered when ASM and the other system share the same antenna. Or when there is not sufficient isolation to support independent operations such that the AIS station will still meet its receiver performance requirements.

B 3.7.2 Modes of operation

There should be two modes of operation, autonomous and assigned. The default mode should be autonomous.

B 3.7.2.1 Autonomous

A station operating autonomously should determine its own schedule for transmission. The station should automatically resolve scheduling conflicts with other stations.

B 3.7.2.2 Assigned

A station operating in the assigned mode takes into account the transmission schedule of the assigning message when determining when it should transmit.

B 3.7.3 Channel access schemes

The access schemes, as defined below, should coexist and operate simultaneously on the TDMA channel. The access scheme FATDMA is as defined in Recommendation ITU-R M.1371.

B 3.7.3.1 Multiple incremental time division multiple access (MITDMA)

The MITDMA access schemes allows a station to pre-announce transmission slots that the station will use in the future. A single MITDMA transmission may be used to schedule up to three future transmissions with each transmission occupying up to 3 slots.

B 3.7.3.2 Multiple incremental time division multiple access algorithm (MITDMA)

MITDMA is a method of chaining slot allocations together for the purpose of transmitting messages. The first transmission within a MITDMA chain will be a single slot transmission using RATDMA access. Further transmissions will be allocated by the MITDMA communication state.

Receiving stations should mark these slot allocations as unavailable.

MITDMA may chain up to 15 transmissions together in a single frame. See section B5.4.

B 3.7.3.3 Random access time division multiple access (RATDMA)

RATDMA is used when a station needs to allocate a slot, which has not been pre-announced. This is generally done for the first transmission slot during MITDMA chain, or for messages of a non-repeatable character.

B 3.7.3.4 Random access time division multiple access algorithm

The RATDMA access scheme should use a probability persistent (p-persistent) algorithm as described in this paragraph (see Table 26).

When a candidate slot is selected, the station randomly selects a probability value (LME.RTP1) between 0 and 100. This value should be compared with the current probability for transmission (LME.RTP2). If LME.RTP1 is equal to, or less than LME.RTP2, transmission should occur in the candidate slot. If not, LME.RTP2 should be incremented with a probability increment (LME.RTPI) and the station should wait for the next candidate slot in the frame.

The SI for RATDMA should be 225 time slots, which is equivalent to 6 s. The candidate slot set should be chosen within the SI, so that the transmission occurs within 6 s.

Each time that a candidate slot is entered, the p-persistent algorithm is applied. If the algorithm determines that a transmission shall be inhibited, then the parameter LME.RTCSC is decremented by one and LME.RTA is incremented by one.

LME.RTCSC can also be decremented as a result of another station allocating a slot in the candidate set. If LME.RTCSC + LME.RTA < 8 then the candidate set shall be complemented with a new slot within the range of the current slot and LME.RTES following the slot selection criteria.

B 3.7.3.5 Random access time division multiple access parameters

The following parameter are used to control the RATDMA scheduling:

Table 26 - RATDMA Parameters

| Symbol | Name | Description | Minimum | Maximum |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RTCSC | Candidate slot counter | The number of slots currently available in the candidate set. NOTE 1 – The initial value is always 6 or more (see § 3.3.1.2). However, during the cycle of the p-persistent algorithm the value may be reduced below 6 | 1 | 225 |
| RTES | End Slot | Defined as the slot number of the last slot in the initial SI, which is 133 slots ahead | 0 | 2249 |
| RTPS | Start probability | Each time a new message is due for transmission, LME.RTP2 should be set equal to LME.RTPS. LME.RTPS shall be equal to 100/LME.RTCSC.  NOTE 2 – LME.RTCSC is set to 6 or more initially. Therefore LME.RTPS has a maximum value of −16 (100/6) | 0 | 16 |
| RTP1 | Derived probability | Calculated probability for transmission in the next candidate slot. It should be less than or equal to LME.RTP2 for transmission to occur, and it should be randomly selected for each transmission attempt | 0 | 100 |
| RTP2 | Current probability | The current probability that a transmission will occur in the next candidate slot | RTPS | 100 |
| RTA | Number of attempts | Initial value set to 0. This value is incremented by one each time the p-persistent algorithm determines that a transmission shall not occur | 0 | 224 |
| RTPI | Probability Increment | Each time the algorithm determines that transmission should not occur, LME.RTP2 should be incremented with LME.RTPI. LME.RTPI shall be equal to(100 − LME.RTP2)/LME.RTCSC | 1 | 16 |

B 3.7.3.6 Network access and entry of a new data stream

At power on, a station should monitor the TDMA channels for one (1) minute to determine channel activity, other participating member IDs, current slot assignments and reported positions of other users, and possible existence of base stations, as shown in Figure 17. During this time, a dynamic directory of all members operating in the system should be established. A frame map should be constructed, which reflects TDMA channel activity. After one (1) minute has elapsed, the station may be available to transmit ASM messages according to its own schedule.



Figure 17 - Network Access for MITDMA and RATDMA

B 3.7.3.7 RATDMA channel access

When the ASM station needs to transmit a single ASM message which is not repeated periodically, it should use RATDMA access.

B 3.7.3.8 MITDMA channel access

When the ASM station needs to transmit a block of ASM messages, or if it needs to transmit ASM message periodically, it should use MITDMA access.

B 3.7.9 Message structure

The messages should have the following structure shown in Figure 34 inside the data portion of a data packet.

Training sequence

MSG

ID

Link CFG

ID

Data

CRC

Figure 18 - Message Structure

Each message is described using a table with parameter fields listed from top to bottom. Each parameter field is defined with the most significant bit first.

Parameter fields containing sub-fields (e.g. communication state) are defined in separate tables with sub-fields listed top to bottom, with the most significant bit first within each sub-field.

B 3.7.9.1 Message identification

The message ID should be 4 bits long and should have a range of 0 – 16. The message ID should identify the message type.

B 3.7.9.2 User identification

The user ID should be a unique identifier and is 30 bits long. All ASM messages will contain the user identifier to identify the source of the transmission.

B 3.7.9.3 Incremental time division multiple access message structure

The MITDMA message structure is shown in Figure 19.

Training sequence

MSG

ID

Link CFG

ID

Data

CRC

User

ID

Communication State

Figure 19 - ATDMA Message Structure

B 3.7.9.4 Multiple Incremental time division multiple access communication state

The communication state provides the information used by the slot allocation algorithm in the MITDMA concept.

The MITDMA communication state is structured as shown in Table 27.

Table 27 - MITDMA communication state parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Description | Minimum | Maximum |
| Transmit block counter | 4 | A decrementing counter used to indicate how many transmissions are left to transmit within the chain  A value of 1 indicates this is the last transmission within the chain  A value of 0 indicates a recurring transmission. | 0 | 15 |
| Block Identifier | 4 | This identifier uniquely identifies the block of data within the transmit chain. This identifier also maps to the acknowledgment for addressed messages. | 0 | 15 |
| Slot Increment 1 | 8 | Offset to the next slot to be used, referenced to the current transmission start slot.  A value of 0 indicates no additional slot allocations | 20 | 255 |
| Number of Slots 1 | 2 | Indicates the number of consecutive slots, which are allocated, starting at the slot increment  A value of 0 indicates the 8 bits from Slot Increment 1 become the MSB for the Slot Increment 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Slot Increment 2 | 8 | Offset to the next slot to be used, referenced to the slot specified by slot increment 1 (or current transmission slot if the Number of Slots 1 is set to 0)  A value of 0 indicates no additional slot allocations | 20 | 255 45001 |
| Number of Slots 2 | 2 | Indicates the number of consecutive slots, which are allocated, starting at the slot increment | 1 | 3 |
| Slot Increment 3 | 8 | Offset to the next slot to be used, referenced to the slot specified by Slot Increment 2 | 20 | 255 |
| Number of Slots 3 | 2 | Indicates the number of consecutive slots, which are allocated, starting at the slot increment | 1 | 3 |
| Total bits | 38 |  |  |  |
| Note 1:  When combining Slot Increment 1 and Slot Increment 2 as a 16 bit field. This value should not exceed 2 frames. | | | | |

1. Network layer

The network layer should be used for:

* Establishing and maintaining channel connections
* Management and priority assignments of messages
* Distribution of transmission packets between channels
* Data link congestion resolution.
  1. Multi-channel operations

Two frequencies have been designated in RR Appendix 18 for ASM transmissions. These frequencies are:

* ASM1 (Channel 2027, 161.950 MHz)
* ASM2 (Channel 2028, 162.000 MHz)

Channel access is performed independently on each of the two channels. Generally, ASM transmission should alternate between the two channels when available.

Terrestrial transmissions of acknowledgements to addressed messages should be done on the channel as the initial message was received.

Chained transmissions using MITDMA shall all be done on the same channel.

* 1. Management of priority assignment for messages

ASM messages support message priority. The priority of the message is determined by the PI interface. The messages are serviced in order of priority. Messages with the same priority are dealt with in a FIFO order.

* 1. Data link congestion resolution

As the data link becomes loaded, the availability of transmission slots will reduce. When the data link is loaded to such a level as reception of ASM message`s is jeopardized, measures should be taken to reduce the loading.

ASM channel loading shall be measured independently per channel over a window of the past 2250 slots (1 Minute).

The amount of ASM transmissions on a specific channel shall be adopted to the channel loading on that channel.

The maximum number of slots allocated by one station on one channel shall not exceed 50 slots over a period of one minute (2.2% duty cycle).

B 4.3.1 Mandatory quiet times

After the completion of a singular Non-MITDMA ASM channel transmission or a complete MITDMA transmission block chain, the ASM station shall wait for a specific time before additional transmission can be scheduled. This time is referred to as Quiet Time. The Selection Interval for finding candidate transmission slots starts after the Quiet Time.

For a singular transmission, Quiet Time shall per default be one second per timeslot.

For an MITDMA linked transmission chain, the Quiet Time is a function of the number of transmission slots within that chain. The Quiet Time shall be increased by one second per time slot used in the transmission chain.

The Quiet Time shall be increased with a multiplier, depending on channel load (Table 28).

Table 28 - Quiet Time Multiplier

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Channel load | <10% | 10%-30% | 30%< |
| Multiplier | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Quiet Time [seconds] = Transmission slots \* Multiplier | | | |

1. Transport layer

The transport layer is responsible for:

* converting data into transmission packets of correct size;
* sequencing of data packets;
* interfacing protocol to upper layers.
  1. Definition of transmission packet

A transmission packet is an internal representation of some information which can ultimately be communicated to external systems. The transmission packet is dimensioned so that it conforms to the rules of data transfer. Transmission packets are fixed block sizes on slot boundaries with a maximum of 3 consecutive slots. When data does completely fill the block, then padding bits with the value of 0 should be added to completely required block size.

* 1. ASM identifier

Addressed and broadcast binary messages should contain a 16-bit application identifier (Table 29)

Table 29 - ASM identifier parameters

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bit | Description |
| 15-6 | Designated area code (DAC). This code is based on the maritime identification digits (MID). Exceptions are 0 (test) and 1 (international). Although the length is 10 bits, the DAC codes equal to or above 1 000 are reserved for future use |
| 5-0 | Function identifier. The meaning should be determined by the authority which is responsible for the area given in the designated area code |

Whereas the application identifier allows for regional applications, the application identifier should have the following special values for international compatibility.

* 1. Transmission packets

B 5.3.1 Addressed Messages

Addressed messages are point to point communications between VDES stations. Addressed messages may require an acknowledgment. When an acknowledgement is required and not received, the VDES stations may retransmit the message.

B 5.3.2 Broadcast messages

A broadcast message lacks a destination identifier ID. Therefore, receiving stations should not acknowledge a broadcast message up to 3 times.

B 5.3.4 Conversion to presentation interface messages

Each received transmission packet should be converted to a corresponding presentation interface message and presented in the order they were received regardless of message category. Applications utilizing the presentation interface should be responsible for their own sequencing numbering scheme, as required. For a mobile station, addressed messages should not be output to the presentation interface, if Destination ID (unique identifier) is different to the ID of own station (own unique identifier).

B 5.3.5 Conversion of data into transmission packets

The transport layer should convert data, received from the presentation interface into transmission packets. If the data exceeds the maximum limit, then a negative acknowledgement should be returned on the PI

* 1. MITDMA access

When the length of the data requires more than 3 consecutive slots, then the data should be divided up into sub-groups of 3 slot packets and MITDMA should be used to chain the transmissions together. A total of 15 MITDMA transmissions may be chained together. If the data provided by the PI exceeds this limit, a negative acknowledgment should be provided on the PI.

If data transmissions are repetitive in nature, and have a transmit interval less than 2 frames (4 500 slots), then MITDMA should be used to maintain the link.

If multiple messages are queued for transmission, then MITDMA should be used to allocate slots for the additional messages.

When using MITDMA for addressed messages, the MITDMA will provide the return slot for the message acknowledgment as specified in Slot Increment 3 during block identifier 2, 1 or 0.

B 5.4.1 MITDMA access example

An MITDMA access example is shown in Figure 20. The first transmission (Tx 1) of a MITDMA chain is always a single slot transmission.

Determine the candidate slots for the Tx 1. Apply the RATDMA algorithm until the transmit criteria is meet.

Before transmitting at Tx 1, determine the candidate slots for up to three additional transmissions. Randomly select the transmit slots from the candidate slot lists. Calculate the offsets for these future transmissions. This information is provided in the MITDMA communication state. Slot Increment 1 reserves Tx 2, Slot Increment 2 reserves Tx 3, and Slot Increment 3 reserves Tx 4.

Before transmitting at Tx 2, determine the candidate slots for the next transmission, e.g. Tx 5. Randomly select a transmit slot from the candidate slot list. This information is provided in the MITDMA communication state. Slot Increment 1 reserves Tx 3, Slot Increment 2 reserves Tx 4, and Slot Increment 3 reserves Tx 5.

If this is a broadcast message, then starting at Tx n-2, the unused Slot Increments are set to 0. If this is an addressed message, then the following process happens.

At Tx n-2, determine the candidate slots for the acknowledgment message. Randomly select the acknowledgment slot from the candidate slot list. Calculate the offset for the ACK Slot. This information is provided in the MITDMA communication state. Slot Increment 1 reserves the Tx n-1, Slot Increment 2 reserves the Tx n, and Slot Increment 3 reserves the ACK Slot.

At Tx n-1 a new offset is calculated for the ACK Slot. This information is provided in the MITDMA communication state. Slot Increment 1 reserves the Tx n, Slot Increment 2 reserves the ACK Slot, and Slot Increment 3 is set to 0.

At Tx n a new offset is calculated for the ACK Slot. This information is provided in the MITDMA communication state. Slot Increment 1 reserves the ACK Slot, Slot Increment 2 and 3 are set to 0.

At the ACK Slot, the receiving station transmits the acknowledgment message.



Figure 20 - MITDMA Access Example

1. Packet structure

The ASM transmission packets are used to transport data from one ASM station to another. There are multiple types of packet definitions which use different address modes and channel access schemes. The packet structures are defined by the message identifier.

* 1. General packet structure

The generic data packet is defined in Table 30.

Table 30 - General packet structure

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Descriptions |
| Ramp up | 8 bits | 417 us |
| Training sequence | 54 bits | Necessary for synchronization |
| Link ID | 32 bits | Six information bits decoded from (32,6) biorthogonal code  ASM channel configurations as defined in Link ID, see Table A1-6  Note that the Link ID will identifiy how many slots make up the message. |
| Message | 1 slot: 352  2 slot: 864  3 slot: 1376  SAT : 1232 | The symbol count and the information bits varies according to coding rate as defined by the Link ID field |
| CRC | 32 bits | The CRC only includes the data field |
| FEC termination bits | 12 bits | Set to zero when not used |
| Ramp Down | 8 bits | 417 us |
| Guard Time | 14 bits TER  158 bits SAT | Distance delay TER 729 us  Distance delay SAT 8.02 ms |
| Total | 1 slot: 512  2 slot: 1024  3 slot: 1536 |  |

* 1. Message summary

The defined message types are summarized Table 31.

Table 31 – Message Summary

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Message ID | Name | Description | Access scheme | Communication State |
| 1 | Scheduled Broadcast Message | Broadcast data using communication state | FATDMA RATDMA MITDMA | MITDMA |
| 2 | Broadcast Message | Broadcast data with no communication state | FATDMA RATDMA | none |
| 3 | Scheduled Individual Addressed Message | Individual addressed data with communication state. Requires acknowledgement | FATDMA RATDMA MITDMA | MITDMA |
| 4 | Individual Addressed Message | Individual addressed data with no communication state. Requires acknowledgement | FATDMA RATDMA | none |
| 5 | Acknowledgment Message | This message is used to provide and acknowledgment for one or more addressed messages | FATMDA RATDMA MITDMA | none |
| 6 | Geographical Multicast Message | Addressed to a group of stations defined by their geographical location with no communication state. No acknowledgment required. | FATDMA RATDMA | none |

* 1. Message 1: Scheduled broadcast message

This ASM message is used to broadcast data to all targets, and utilizes MITDMA communication state. Multiple messages, or periodically broadcasted messages may be chained together using the MITDMA communication state. The first transmission in the chain will use RATDMA to access the link, and all additional transmission will use slots allocated by the MITDMA communication state. Scheduled broadcast message is defined in Table 32.

Table 32 - Scheduled broadcast message

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Description |
| Message ID | 4 | 1 - Broadcast message with MITDMA communication state |
| Retransmit flag | 1 | Indicates that this is a retransmission of data |
| Repeat Indicator | 2 | Used by the repeater to indicate how many times a message has been repeated.  0 - 3; 0 = default; 3 = do not repeat any more |
| Communication State | 38 | MITDMA communication state as described in section 3.3.3.1 |
| Source ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| ASM identifier | 16 | Application identifier and described in section 5.2 |
| Data Count | 11 | 1 – Max data count |
| Binary Data | 1 slot – 248  2 slot – 760  3 slot – 1272  SAT – 1128 | Application data as specified by the ASM Identifier.  The available length of the binary data is specified by the LinkConfigId.  Unused payload data is zero-filled |

* 1. Message 2: Broadcast message

This ASM message is used to broadcast data to all targets, and does not contain a communication state. These broadcast messages are used for non-periodic transmission of data, and access the link using RATDMA. Broadcast message is defined in Table 33.

Table 33 - Broadcast Message

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Description |
| Message ID | 4 | 2 - Broadcast message with no communication state |
| Retransmit flag | 1 | Indicates that this is a retransmission of data |
| Repeat Indicator | 2 | Used by the repeater to indicate how many times a message has been repeated.  0 - 3; 0 = default; 3 = do not repeat any more |
| Source ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| ASM identifier | 16 | Application identifier and described in section 5.2 |
| Data Count | 6 | Spare Bits – reserved for the future |
| Binary Data | 1 slot – 280  2 slot – 792  3 slot – 1304  SAT – 1160 | Application data as specified by the ASM Identifier.  The available length of the binary data is specified by the LinkConfigId. |

* 1. Message 3: Scheduled addressed message

This ASM message is used to send data to an individual target, and utilizes MITDMA communication state. Multiple transmission of messages, or periodically transmissions of messages may be chained together using the MITDMA communication state. The first transmission in the chain will use RATDMA access the link, and all additional transmission will use slots allocated by the MITDMA communication state.

These transmissions require the destination station to return a message acknowledgment (Message 5). This addressed message supplies the return slot for the message acknowledgment. Scheduled addressed message is defined in Table 34.

Table 34 - Scheduled addressed message

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Description |
| Message ID | 4 | 3 – Individually addressed message with MITDMA communication state |
| Retransmit flag | 1 | Indicates that this is a retransmission of data |
| Repeat Indicator | 2 | Used by the repeater to indicate how many times a message has been repeated.  0 - 3; 0 = default; 3 = do not repeat any more |
| Communication State | 38 | MITDMA communication state as described in section 3.3.3.1 |
| Source ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| Destination ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| ASM identifier | 16 | Application identifier and described in section 5.2 |
| Data Count | 11 | 1 – Max data count |
| Binary Data | 1 slot – 216  2 slot – 728  3 slot – 1240  SAT – 1096 | Application data as specified by the ASM Identifier.  The available length of the binary data is specified by the LinkConfigId. |

* 1. Message 4: Addressed message

This ASM message is used to send data to an individual target, and does not contain a communication state. This message is used for non-periodic transmission of data, and access the link using RATDMA.

These transmissions require the destination station to return a message acknowledgment (Message 5). The destination station will use RATDMA to send the message acknowledgment. Addressed message is defined in Table 35.

Table 35 - Addressed message

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Description |
| Message ID | 4 | 4 – Individually addressed message with no communication state |
| Retransmit flag | 1 | Indicates that this is a retransmission of data |
| Repeat Indicator | 2 | Used by the repeater to indicate how many times a message has been repeated.  0 - 3; 0 = default; 3 = do not repeat any more |
| Source ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| Destination ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| ASM identifier | 16 | Application identifier and described in section 5.2 |
| Data Count | 6 | Spare bits – reserved for future use |
| Binary Data | 1 slot – 248  2 slot – 760  3 slot – 1272  SAT – 1128 | Application data as specified by the ASM Identifier.  The available length of the binary data is specified by the LinkConfigId. |

* 1. Message 5: Acknowledgment message

This ASM message is used to return message acknowledgments to one or more addressed messages. Note that this message should always use Link ID of 8 (1/2 coding rate). Acknowledgement message is defined in Table 36.

Table 36 - Acknowledgment message

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Description |
| Message ID | 4 | 5 – Multiple acknowledgment message with no communication state |
| Retransmit flag | 1 | Indicates that this is a retransmission of data |
| Repeat Indicator | 2 | Used by the repeater to indicate how many times a message has been repeated.  0 - 3; 0 = default; 3 = do not repeat any more |
| Source ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| Destination ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| ACK/NACK Mask | 16 | Specifies which MITDMA block ids failed. Bit map field with the LSB representing Block id 1, the MSB representing Block Id 16.  “1” indicates a packet failed  “0” indicates the packet was received ok |
| Coding rate adaption request | 2 | 0: Maintain MCS  1: Increment MCS (higher rate)  2: Decrease MCS  3: Reserved for future uses |
| Signal Quality Indicator | 8 | Received C/N0 in dBHz |
| Zero padding | 1 slot – 255  SAT – 1135  As required | Padding bits are added as require to complete the block size. These bits are not available for future use. |

* 1. Message 6: Geographical multicast message

This ASM message is used to broadcast data to a group of stations as defined by the specified geographical area. The broadcast message does not contain a communication state. These broadcast messages are used for non-periodic transmission of data, and access the link using RATDMA. Geographical multicast message is defined in Table 37.

Table 37 - Geographical multicast message

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | Number of bits | Description |
| Message ID | 4 | 6 – Geographical addressed message with no communication state |
| Retransmit flag | 1 | Indicates that this is a retransmission of data |
| Repeat Indicator | 2 | Used by the repeater to indicate how many times a message has been repeated.  0 - 3; 0 = default; 3 = do not repeat any more |
| Source ID | 32 | The Unique Identifier of the transmitting station as described in Annex 1 section 3.2 |
| Longitude 1 | 18 | Longitude of area to which the group assignment applies; upper right corner (north-east); in 1/10 min (±180°, East = positive, West = negative) |
| Latitude 1 | 17 | Latitude of area to which the group assignment applies; upper right corner (north‑east); in 1/10 min (±90°, North = positive, South = negative) |
| Longitude 2 | 18 | Longitude of area to which the group assignment applies; lower left corner (south-west); in 1/10 min (±180°, East = positive, West = negative) |
| Latitude 2 | 17 | Latitude of area to which the group assignment applies; lower left corner (south‑west); in 1/10 min (±90°, North = positive, South = negative) |
| ASM identifier | 16 | Application identifier and described in section 5.2 |
| Data Count | 11 | 1 – Max data count |
| Binary Data | 1 slot – 216  2 slot – 728  3 slot – 1240  SAT – 1096 | Application data as specified by the ASM Identifier.  The available length of the binary data is specified by the LinkConfigId. |



1. Technical characteristics of VDE-terrestrial in the maritime mobile band
2. Introduction

This section describes those elements of the VDE-TER that are unique to VDE-TER operation.  For those elements that are common, the cross reference into Annex A is provided. It contains a description of the different protocols according to the OSI layer model and recommends implementation details for each layer.

Data transmission is made in the VHF maritime mobile band. Data transmissions are made within the spectrum allocated for the VDE1-A and VDE1- B. The spectrum may be used as 25 kHz, 50 kHz or 100 kHz channels.

The system should use TDMA techniques in a synchronized manner.

1. OSI layer

Refer to Annex A.

1. Physical layer
   1. Range

The communication range of terrestrial VDE is typically 20−50 NM.

* 1. Transmitter Parameter settings

Refer to Annex A for transmitter parameter settings for mobile stations.

* 1. Antenna

Terrestrial VDE may share the same antenna(s) with the other subsystems AIS, ASM,

Refer to Annex A.

* 1. Modulation
     1. Waveforms

The waveforms are defined in Annex A, Modulation and Coding Schemes.

* + 1. Bit Mapping

For bit mappings, see Annex A.

* 1. Sensitivity and Interference

VDE uses adaptive modulation and coding to maximise spectral efficiency and throughput. Sensitivity and interference levels for the supported modulation methods are given in Table 39.

Table 39 - Sensitivity and Carrier to Interference Ratios

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Modulation Coding Scheme | 25 kHz | | 50 kHz | | 100 kHz | |
| Sensitivity (dBm) | CIR  (dB) | Sensitivity (dBm) | CIR  (dB) | Sensitivity (dBm) | CIR  (dB) |
| MCS-1\* | −110 | 8 | −107 | 8 | −104 | 8 |
| MCS-3\* | −104 | 14 | −101 | 14 | −98 | 14 |
| MCS-5\* | −102 | 16 | −99 | 16 | −96 | 16 |
| \* Modulation Coding Schemes, see Table . This table assumes a BER of 1e-6. | | | | | | |

* 1. Symbol timing accuracy

Refer to Annex A.

* 1. Transmitter timing jitter

Refer to Annex A.

* 1. Slot transmission accuracy at the output

Refer to Annex A.

* 1. Frame structure

Refer to Annex A.

1. Link layer
   1. TDMA hierarchy

TDMA hierarchy describes the use of slots in a time interleaved pattern, thus non-continuous in time. Figure 21 details the TDMA layout. Note that the numbers inside each block indicate the slot number. Time runs from top to bottom from left to right.

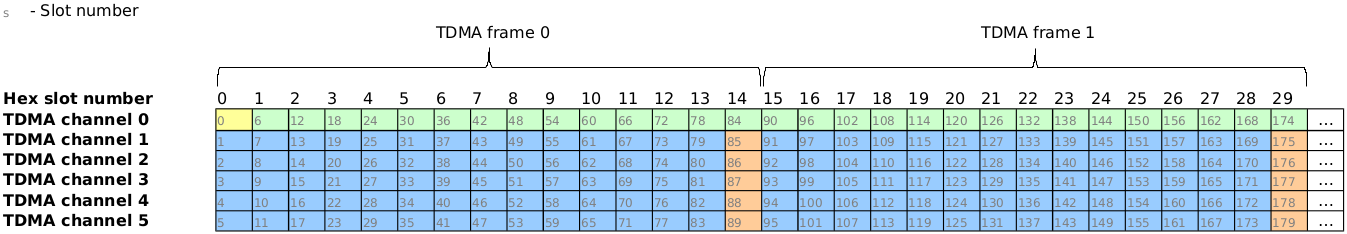


Figure 21 - TDMA hierarchy

* + 1. TDMA channel

A TDMA channel refers to all the slots with the same offset in a hexslot. Every 6th slot is part of the same TDMA channel. 6 TDMA channels are defined. Figure 22 shows each TDMA channel as a horizontal line of slots.

* + 1. TDMA frame

A TDMA channel is divided into TDMA frames. The duration of a TDMA frame is defined as 15 slots within a TDMA channel. TDMA frames are numbered from 0 to 24.

The functionality to configure a TDMA frame length by a shore station exists, but is reserved for future use.

* + 1. TDMA slot

A TDMA slot defines the slot number within a TDMA frame. With the TDMA frame length of 15 slots, the TDMA slots will be cyclically numbered from 0 to 14.

* 1. Link Layer Definitions
     1. Logical Channel

Logical Channels define functions for a set of continuous slots within a TDMA channel and may repeat in a TDMA channel. See C 4.14.

* + 1. VDE Slotmap

Each Physical Channel is associated with one VDE slotmap to map Logical Channels to slots for one frame. See C 4.16.

* + 1. Bulletin board

The bulletin board message is sent by the control station to define the Physical Channels with their VDE Slotmap for a control station service area. See C 4.15.

* + 1. Short data message

The short data message refers to the data transfer protocol used for transmission of payload in one slot only.

* + 1. Data session

A data session refers to the data transfer protocol used for transmission of payload in a TDMA frame. See C 4.20.

* + 1. Multisession data transfer

Multisession data transfer, refers to multiple data sessions chained together to be able to transmit arbitrary payloads. See C 4.20 .

* + 1. Data fragment

During a data session, the data may be broken into multiple data fragments to be transmitted in separate slots. The data fragments refer to the Start Fragment, Continuation Fragment and End Fragment VDE messages. See C 4.20.

* 1. Control station service area

Control stations may transmit a bulletin board message with its control station service area. The bulletin board content only applies to vessels inside the control station service area. While vessels are inside a control station service area, all data session transmissions between ships should take place via the control station.

Ships outside the control station service area may communicate directly. In this case AIS receptions may be used to determine if a ship is within range. In the future the combined AIS/VDES transceivers will set a bit in their periodic AIS report that indicates VDES support.

A ship inside the control station service area, may not communicate with a ship outside the control station service area.

* 1. Resource Management

The connection between ship and shore is session oriented with a Logical Channel being reserved for a particular ship for a given time.

Ship originated short data messages can be sent on the Random Access Channels without resource allocation.

During heavy network loading, the network control may introduce time dispersion for resource requests, modify the maximum allowed number of ship originated short data messages or only allow traffic with high priority levels.

* 1. Endianness

The same endianness is used as in AIS. See ITU-R.M1371-5 Annex 1 3.3.7.

When data is output on the VHF data link it should be grouped in bytes of 8 bits from top to bottom of the table associated with each message. Each byte should be output with least significant bit first. Multi-byte words are transmitted least significant byte first.

* 1. Data Structures

VDE packet transmissions shall always fit into one slot. The number of bits transmitted per VDE packet shall be fixed, depending on the Link ID used. A packet shall consist of one or multiple VDE messages, zero padding and a 4 byte CRC.

The two cases are shown in Figure 22.

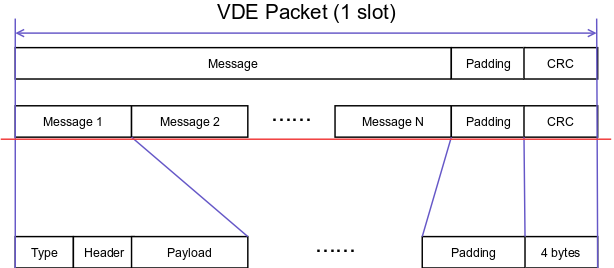


Figure 22 - Single/Multiple Message, zero padding and CRC structure

Note that the padding is defined as a separate message. The 4 byte CRC is always at the end of the packet. Preamble and FEC flushing bits are not shown.

* 1. Session assignment

A session ID is assigned to every new data session by the data receiving station. The first data fragment will announce the total number of fragments to be transmitted. A session ID is valid until all the data session fragments have been transmitted and successfully acknowledged, or negatively acknowledged. To avoid the generation of duplicate session IDs and causing conflicting data sessions near each other, the following resource allocating algorithm is proposed:

The first session ID generated after a station’s power up, should start at zero and be incremented by one for every session ID generation request, independent of station requesting the session ID.

* 1. Adaptive Coding and Modulation/Rate Adaption

The signal and interference environment are expected to change with time and location. The control station may measure channel quality of the received ship signal and request the ship to adjust the Link ID to maximize throughput. The physical channel may not be changed dynamically according to the environment, thus the physical channel in use determines the Link ID’s available for selection as determined by the physical channel bandwidth.

The Link ID is not allowed to be changed by a control station on failure of reception of data fragments. This is because the overall data payload is fragmented based on the Link ID used during a data transfer and the fragmentation cannot be re-adjusted for individual fragments in a data transfer.

The control station is only allowed to change the Link ID after all the fragments in a session have been successfully received. If the channel deteriorates to the extent that further communication at the current Link ID is not possible, then the complete data session will fail and may be retransmitted at a more robust Link ID by the application layer.

A ship will report a Channel Quality Indicator (CQI) equivalent to received C/N0 (based on a Link Adaption Model) to the control station which may adjust the Link ID for the next session to minimise PER.

During ship-to-ship communication outside of control station service area, the Link ID can be controlled by the resource allocating ship. The details for rate adaptation are not defined in this document.

The Link Adaption Model has not been defined and will be defined for future use.

* 1. Slot Functions
     1. Bulletin board signalling channel

Bulletin board signalling channel (BBSC) slots are reserved for bulletin board message transmissions.

* + 1. Random access channel

Random access channel (RAC) slots are reserved for requests, resource allocations or short data message transmissions by mobile stations.

* + 1. Announcement Signalling Channel

Announcement signalling channel (ASC) slots are reserved for requests, assignments or ad-hoc one-slot data transmissions by the control station.

* + 1. Data Channel

Data channel (DC) slots are reserved for data transmission messages.

* + 1. Data Signalling Channel

Data signalling channel (DSCH) slots are reserved for acknowledgements, resource allocation and resource de-allocations for the DC within the same TDMA channel.

* + 1. VDE-TER default slot functions

The default slot functions are defined in Figure 23 and Figure 24.

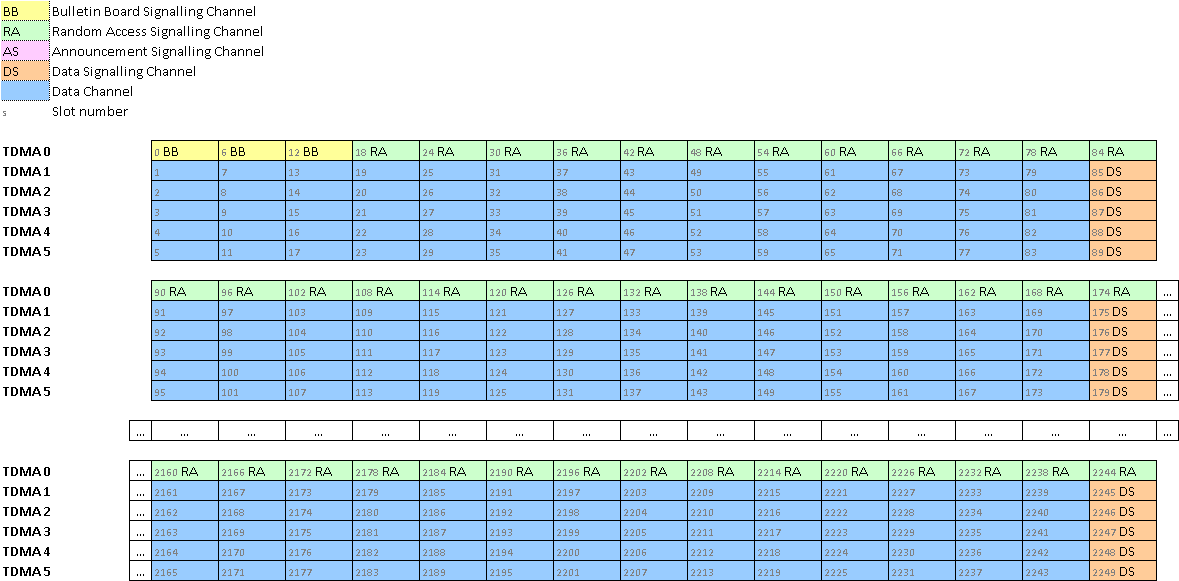


Figure 23 - VDE-TER Ship to Shore default slot functions (lower leg)

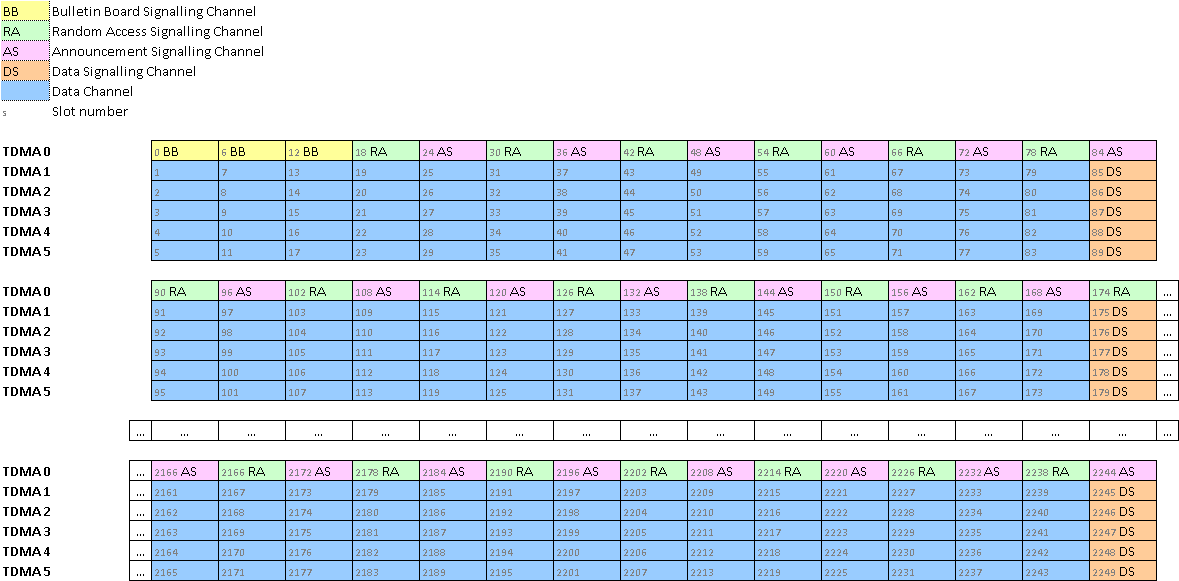


Figure 24 - VDE-TER Ship to Ship and Shore to Ship default slot functions (upper leg)

* 1. VDE Message Summary

Table 20 – VDE Message Summary

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type | Name | Description | Slot Function |
| 0 | Media access control | Changes random access selection interval. | BB, AC |
| 4 | Resource allocation | Allocated LC resource to data session. | AC, RAC, DSCH |
| 13 | ACK/NACK | Acknowledgement or negative-acknowledgement. | AC, RAC, DSCH |
| 14 | Very short ACK/ACM (satellite only) |  |  |
| 20 | Bulletin board message | Bulletin board message used for control station service area configuration. | BB |
| 41-56 | Very short RA message from ship (satellite only) |  |  |
| 58-73 | Very short RA message from ship (satellite only) |  |  |
| 74 | Start fragment | Start data fragment of data session. | DC |
| 75 | Continuation fragment | Middle data fragment of data session. | DC |
| 76 | End fragment | Last data fragment of data session. | DC |
| 81 | Padding byte | Byte used for padding. | BB, AC, RAC, DSCH |
| 90 | Resource request/ Transmission announcement | Request resource from station or announce transmission to follow. | AC, RAC |

* 1. VDE Message Descriptions
     1. Media access control

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Media access control | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 000 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to  216-1 | 2 | Length | 8: Total size in bytes, fixed at 8 bytes |
| 3 | 0-255 | 1 | Media Access priority level | Reserved for future use. Always 0. |
| 4 | 0-511 | 2 | Random access selection interval | The Random Access scheme selection interval in hexslots.  0 – Default selection interval applies |
| 5 | 0-127 | 1 | Short data message limit | Maximum allowed number of Short Data Message transmissions on the RACH during a frame. |
| 6 | 0-255 | 1 | System status | 0: Normal  10: Busy  20: Temporarily out of service  30: Scheduled out of service |

Note:

Provides methods for granting data transfer access.

When a mobile station receives a MAC message, this message takes preference over the BB message parameters and the mobile station should apply the random access selection interval for a duration selected randomly between 4 and 8 minutes. After the expiry of the duration, the random access selection interval should revert back to the parameters specified by the BB. Similar as behaviour specified in ITU-R.M1371-5 3.14.

If the random access selection interval is set to 0, then the BB random access selection interval applies.

* + 1. Resource allocation

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Resource allocation | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 004 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total size in bytes, variable. |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Source ID | Source MMSI number. |
| 4 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Destination ID | MMSI number of ship being assigned a logical channel. |
| 5 | 0-255 | 1 | Logical Channel Tx | Logical channel assigned to the session for transmission. Transmission only applies to data slots.(1) LC of 255 indicates no resource. |
| 6 | 0-255 | 1 | Logical Channel Rx | Logical channel assigned to the session for reception. Reception only applies to data signalling slots.(1) LC of 255 indicates no resource. |
| 7 | 0-255 | 1 | TDMA frame delay | The number of TDMA frames to delay before the resource may be used. Default 0. (2) |
| 8 | 0-255 | 1 | Session ID | Session ID. The session is uniquely identified by the combination of the session ID, transmitting station MMSI, receiving station MMSI and channel. |
| 9 | 0-255 | 1 | CQI | Received C/N0 in dBHz |

Notes:

The resource allocation message will always be sent on the signalling channel when being sent in response to a Resource Request (#90) message and will always be sent in the assigned TDMA channel when sent in response to a Continuation Fragment (#75). When the Resource Allocation message is being sent in the assigned TDMA channel, then the message must be transmitted in the same VDE packet as the Ack (#13) message. See Fragment Continuation for more details.

* + - 1. When assigning a Logical Channel, then both the Logical Channel Tx and the Logical Channel Rx must have identical TDMA channel numbers. The assigned LCs may have the same Physical Channels for simplex communication and different Physical Channels for duplex communication.
      2. The TDMA frame delay allows for the efficient transferral of Logical Channels from one vessel to another with as little as possible wasting of slots.
    1. Ack/Nack

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ACK/NACK | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 013 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total size in bytes. |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Source ID | Source MMSI. |
| 4 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Destination ID | Destination MMSI. |
| 5 | 0-255 | 1 | Session ID | Session ID of data session. |
| 6 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | ACK/NACK mask | With fragments numbered from 1 to 14, the relevant bit is set for failed fragments 1 to 14. Fragment 1’s failure status is set in the least significant bit. Fragments not used is set to 0. |
| 7 | 0-255 | 1 | CQI | Received C/N0 in dBHz |
| 8 | 0-255 | 1 | ACM or EDN | 0: Maintain Link ID.  1: Increment Link ID (higher rate)  2: Decrease Link ID.  3: End Delivery Notification  The Link ID may only be changed if all the fragments have been successfully received and the ACK/NACK mask is set to 0. Changing the Link ID must not change the channel bandwidth. |
| 9 | 0-255 | 1 | Power setting | 0: Maintain Power Level  1: Increase Power Level (Reserved for future use).  2: Decrease Power Level (Reserved for future use). |

Notes:

The ACK/NACK message will be transmitted in the Data Signalling Channels on the same Logical Channel as defined by the “Logical Channel Rx” assigned by the Resource Allocation (#4).

During short addressed message transmissions, the ACK/NACK message will be transmitted on the RAC.

* + 1. Very short Ack/Acm – satellite only

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very short ACK/ACM (11 bytes) – satellite only | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 014 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Ship ID | Total size in bytes. |
| 3 | 0-255 | 1 | Session ID |  |
| 4 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | ACK/NACK mask | Relevant bit set for failed fragments 1 to 16. The MSB is set for fragment 16 and the LSB for fragment 1. For example, 0x0005 to indicate fragment 1 and fragment 3. |
| 5 | 0-255 | 1 | CQI | Received C/N0 in dBHz |
| 6 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | CRC-2 | 16 bit CRC used |

* + 1. Resource request/Transmission announcement

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Resource request/Transmission announcement | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 90 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total packet size in bytes. |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Original Source ID | Source MMSI of station where the message originated from. |
| 4 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Node Source ID | Source MMSI of the current node transmitting the message. |
| 5 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Node Destination ID | Destination MMSI of the current node receiving the message. |
| 6 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Original Destination ID | Destination MMSI of the original destination. |
| 7 | 0-255 | 1 | Priority | Set to 0. Reserved for future use. |
| 8 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Terminal capabilities | 0: Full VDE functionality (default)  1: Limited to one VDE receiver |

Note:

The Resource request message will be transmitted on the RAC by ships and ASC by shore stations.

The four MMSI numbers allow for multiple hops of data messages between many stations. The original source and original destination IDs are the end points of the communication while the node source and node destination IDs are the immediate stations communicating with each other during the current hop.

* + 1. Short data message (with Ack)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Short data message (with ACK)** | | | | |
| **Field no** | **Value (Dec)** | **Size (bytes)** | **Function** | **Comment** |
| 1 | 92 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total size in bytes, variable. |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Source ID | Source MMSI. |
| 4 | 0 to 255 | 1 | Session ID | Session ID. The session is uniquely identified by the combination of the session ID, transmitting station MMSI, receiving station MMSI. |
| 5 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Destination ID | Destination MMSI. |
| 6 | 0 to 255 | 1 | Retransmission no | Starts with value 0 and increments with every retransmission. Handles lost ACKs  Value of 255 indicates no ACK is requested. |
| 7 |  | Variable | Payload |  |

Note:

Must always be transmitted on the RAC by ship and ASC by shore station. The short data message ACK message must be transmitted on the RAC by ship and ASC by shore.

* + 1. Bulletin board message

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bulletin board message | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 020 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total size in bytes, variable |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Source ID | Source MMSI. |
| 4 | 0 to 255 | 1 | Control station ID |  |
| 5 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Bulletin Board version | Version number of this Bulletin Board  All valid versions are stored in the ship terminal (includes Configuration Message) |
| 6 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Validity of this version | Lifetime of this version in number of 1 minute frames  Up to 45 days |
| 7 | 0 to 255 | 1 | TDMA frame size | The size of TDMA frames in hexslots.  May have the following values:  2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 15 (default)  Only 15 have to be supported. |
| 8 |  | Variable | Physical Channel definitions | See Physical Channel Definition TABLE 20. |
| 9 | 0 to 255 | 1 | Modulation, coding and protocol versions supported | Reserved for future use. Set to zero.  Defines a mandatory base set and optional more capable versions. Network ID segmentation could be used to distinguish different network types.  ASM reception flag one of the parameters for satellite.  Reserved for future use. Must be set to 0. |
| 10 |  | 7 | Control station service area point 1 | Parameter (longitude and latitude) defining the control station service area North East corner.  GNSS rectangle longitude and latitude as defined in Recommendation ITU-R M.1371 Annex 5 3.1 and used for AIS Message 1, 2, 3 position report. |
| 11 |  | 7 | Control station service area point 2 | Parameter (longitude and latitude) defining the control station service area South West corner.  GNSS rectangle longitude and latitude as defined in Recommendation ITU-R M.1371 Annex 5 3.1 and used for AIS Message 1, 2, 3 position report. |
| 12 |  | 32 | Authentication and integrity sequence | Reserved for future use. Set to zero. |
| 13 |  | 9 | Padding | Reserved for future use. Set to zero. |

Table 20 - Physical Channel Definition

| Name | Value | Field size (bits) | Comment |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Number of Physical Channels N | 0 to 255 | 8 | Number of physical channels defined in control station service area. |
| Physical Channel 0 (PC0) number | 0 to 255 | 8 | Defines the first physical channel number. |
| PC0 Channel Frequency Index (CFI) | 156-162.0375 MHz, 12.5 kHz step  Channels 0-482 | 9 | VDES lower leg:  97: 157.2125 MHz (TER default)  101: 157.2625 MHz  105: 157.3125 MHz (SAT default)  ASM:  476: 161.950 MHz  480: 162.000 MHz |
| PC0 Bandwidth | 0 to 2 | 2 | 0 – 25kHz  1 – 50kHz  2 – 100kHz (default) |
| PC0 Tx flag | 0 or 1 | 1 | 0 – mobile may not transmit on this PC  1 – mobile may transmit on this PC |
| PC0 RA Selection Interval | 0 to 511 | 9 | The Random Access scheme selection interval in hexslots. 0 for default. |
| PC0 Short Data Message Limit | 0 to 127 | 7 | Maximum allowed number of Short Data Message transmissions on the RACH during a frame. |
| PC0 Logical Channel Definition | See Logical Channel Definition Table 21. | Variable | Defines the logical channel definition of physical channel 0 |
| … | … | … | ... |
| Physical Channel N (PCN) number | 0 to 255 | 8 | Defines the last physical channel number. |
| PCN Channel Frequency Index (CFI) | 156-162.0375 MHz, 12.5 kHz step  Channels 0-482 | 9 | VDES upper leg:  465: 161.8125 MHz (TER default)  469: 161.8625 MHz  473: 161.9125 MHz (SAT default) |
| PCN Bandwidth | 0 to 2 | 2 | 0 – 25kHz  1 – 50kHz  2 – 100kHz (default) |
| PCN Tx flag | 0 or 1 | 1 | 0 – mobile may not transmit on this PC  1 – mobile may transmit on this PC |
| PCN RA Selection Interval | 0 to 511 | 9 | The Random Access scheme selection interval in hexslots. 0 for default. |
| PCN Short Data Message Limit | 0 to 127 | 7 | Maximum allowed number of Short Data Message transmissions on the RACH during a frame. |
| PCN Logical Channel Definition | See Logical Channel Definition Table 21. | Variable | Defines the logical channel definition of physical channel N. |

Table 21 - Logical Channel definition

| Name | Value | Field size (bits) | Comment |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TDMA 0 LC Count | 0 to 63 | 6 | Number of logical channels defined inside TDMA channel 0. |
| TDMA 1 LC Count | 0 to 63 | 6 | Number of logical channels defined inside TDMA channel 1. |
| TDMA 2 LC Count | 0 to 63 | 6 | Number of logical channels defined inside TDMA channel 2. |
| TDMA 3 LC Count | 0 to 63 | 6 | Number of logical channels defined inside TDMA channel 3. |
| TDMA 4 LC Count | 0 to 63 | 6 | Number of logical channels defined inside TDMA channel 4. |
| TDMA 5 LC Count | 0 to 63 | 6 | Number of logical channels defined inside TDMA channel 5. |
| LC 0 Function | 0 to 4 | 3 | Slot Function for Terrestrial  0 – Bulletin Board  1 – Random Access  2 – Announcement Signalling  3 – Data  4 – Data Signalling  Slot Function for Satellite  0 – Bulletin Board  1 – Random Access  2 – AS/Data Down  3 – Data Down  4 – Data Up |
| LC 0 Repeat | 0 to 511 | 9 | Slot duration of function. When set to 0, the slot function is set to a duration of 1 slot and doesn’t repeat. |
| … | … | … | ... |
| LC N Function | 0 to 4 | 3 | Slot Function for Terrestrial  0 – Bulletin Board  1 – Random Access  2 – Announcement Signalling  3 – Data  4 – Data Signalling  Slot Function for Satellite  0 – Bulletin Board  1 – Random Access  2 – AS/Data Down  3 – Data Down  4 – Data Up |
| LC N Repeat | 0 to 511 | 9 | Slot duration of function. When set to 0, the slot function is set to a duration of 1 slot and doesn’t repeat. |
| Padding | 0 | 4 if total number of LC definition pairs are even.  0 if total number of LC definition pairs are odd. | Padded with 0 valued bits to ensure byte allignment of Logical Channel Definition. |

Note:

See C 4.15 for explanation.

See E 7 for example.

* + 1. Very short RA message from ship – satellite only

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very short RA message from ship (11 bytes, with ACK) – satellite only | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 041-056 | 1 | Type | 16 types of content/ |
| 2 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Ship ID |  |
| 3 | 0-255 | 1 | Destination | Preset IPv 6 list |
| 4 |  | 3 | Payload |  |
| 5 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | CRC-2 | 16 bit CRC used |

* + 1. Very short RA message from ship – satellite only

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very short RA message from ship (11 bytes, without ACK) – satellite only | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 058-073 | 1 | Type | 16 types of content |
| 2 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Ship ID |  |
| 3 | 0-255 | 1 | Destination | Preset IPv 6 list |
| 4 |  | 3 | Payload |  |
| 5 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | CRC-2 | 16 bit CRC used |

* + 1. Start fragment

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Start fragment | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 074 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total size in bytes, variable |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Source ID | Source MMSI of the current node transmitting this message. |
| 4 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Destination ID | Destination MMSI of the current node receiving this message.  Set to 0 for broadcast. |
| 5 | 0-255 | 1 | Session ID | Session ID. The session is uniquely identified by the combination of the session ID, Source ID, Destination ID and channel. |
| 6 | 0 to 255 | 1 | Number of Fragments | Must be a value from 1 to 14. |
| 7 |  | Variable | Payload |  |

Note:

Must always be transmitted on the TDMA channel (derived from the Logical Channel) as assigned by a resource allocation.

Will always be transmitted to carry payload of first data fragment.

* + 1. Continuation fragment

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Continuation fragment | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 075 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total size in bytes, variable. |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Source ID | Source MMSI. |
| 4 | 0-255 | 1 | Session ID | Session ID. The session is uniquely identified by the combination of the session ID, Source ID, Destination ID and channel. |
| 5 | 0-255 | 1 | Fragment Number | Fragment number with value 2 to 13 |
| 6 |  | Variable | Payload |  |

Note:

Must always be transmitted on the data channel (derived from the Logical Channel) as assigned by a resource allocation.

* + 1. End fragment

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| End fragment | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 076 | 1 | Type |  |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 2 | Length | Total size in bytes, variable. |
| 3 | 0 to 232-1 | 4 | Source ID | Source MMSI. |
| 4 | 0-255 | 1 | Session ID | Session ID. The session is uniquely identified by the combination of the session ID, Source ID, Destination ID and channel. |
| 5 | 0-255 | 1 | Fragment Number | Fragment number with value 2 to 14 |
| 6 | 0-255 | 1 | Continue Data Session | 0 – Ends data session.  1 – Continues data session with new session ID. |
| 7 |  | Variable | Payload |  |

Note: The resource allocation broadcast by the base station repeatedly broadcasts during the TDMA Frame length.

Must always be transmitted on the data channel (derived from the Logical Channel) as assigned by a resource allocation.

Will always be transmitted on last fragment signalling the end of Logical Channel use, unless only one fragment will be transmitted. When only one fragment will be transmitted, then only a Start Fragment will be transmitted.

* + 1. Padding single byte

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Padding single byte | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bytes) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 081 | 1 | Type | 1 byte padding |

* 1. Cyclic redundancy check

Refer to A 1.2.5.

* 1. Acknowledgement (ACK)

All datagrams without CRC errors are acknowledged over the satellite link.

Acknowledgement behaviour for the terrestrial link is described in C 4.20.

* 1. Logical Channels (LC)

A logical channel defines a grouping of slots that can be uniquely identified and assigned for a specific use.

Logical Channels map slots to slot functions. Logical Channel numbers are used to assign resources to data sessions.

* 1. Bulletin Board

The Bulletin Board message defines the slot map for each Physical Channel. The Bulletin Board content is defined in C 4.11.7. A Bulletin Board message defines a list of Physical Channels and each Physical Channel Definition contains six TDMA Channels, each TDMA channel can contain one or more Logical Channels.

A Logical Channel definition starts by announcing the number of Logical Channel definitions per TDMA Channel. Each TDMA Channel, in turn, gets its number of Logical Channels defined by function and duration item pairs. The complete TDMA Channel slotmap is built up by repeating each TDMA channel’s Logical Channel definition from the first hexslot up to the end of a frame. The Logical Channels must be sized to ensure the repeating pattern aligns with a full frame.

The relationship between LC and Physical Layer for ship to shore, shore to ship, ship to ship and satellite to/from ship mappings are shown in Figure 26, Figure 27 and Figure 28.

*A VDES station shall always use the latest valid Bulletin Board that is received. The Bulletin Board shall be used in the frame immediately following the frame in which it is received.*

The Bulletin Board may be transmitted in either the upper or the lower leg. The mobile station must therefore always listen for the bulletin board announcement in both upper leg and lower leg.

* 1. VDE-TER default physical channel and slotmap

A slotmap defines the LC of all the slots in a frame. Each Physical Channel in a VDES system will have a valid slotmap defined. By monitoring the Terrestrial Bulletin Board, ships will determine if they are within a control station service area and adopt the Physical Channel and slotmap from the Bulletin Board. In the absence of a Bulletin Board the default Physical Channel and slotmap will be applied.

The default Physical Channel centre frequency is located in the middle of each VDE1 upper (161,8375MHz) and lower VDE leg (157,2375MHz) and the default bandwidth is set to 100kHz.

Default LC for VDE lower and upper legs are defined as shown in Figure 25 and Figure 26.

Signalling only takes place in RA, ASC and DSCH slots. For VDE-TER, the default slot map keeps all signalling in TDMA 0 channel and at the DSCH slot at the end of every TDMA frame.

TDMA 1-5 channels are broken into TDMA frames of 15 slots where data transfer can take place on the first 14 (DC) slots while the 15th slot (DSCH) is used for ACK/NACK and resource allocation signalling.

The default Link ID for all BBSC, RA and ASC slots is 17 (Pi/4 QPSK-100kHz) and the default Link ID for all DC and DSCH slots is 19 (16 QAM-100kHz). The Link ID is set by the control station. The control station can optimise the capacity used for random access and signalling based on traffic loading.

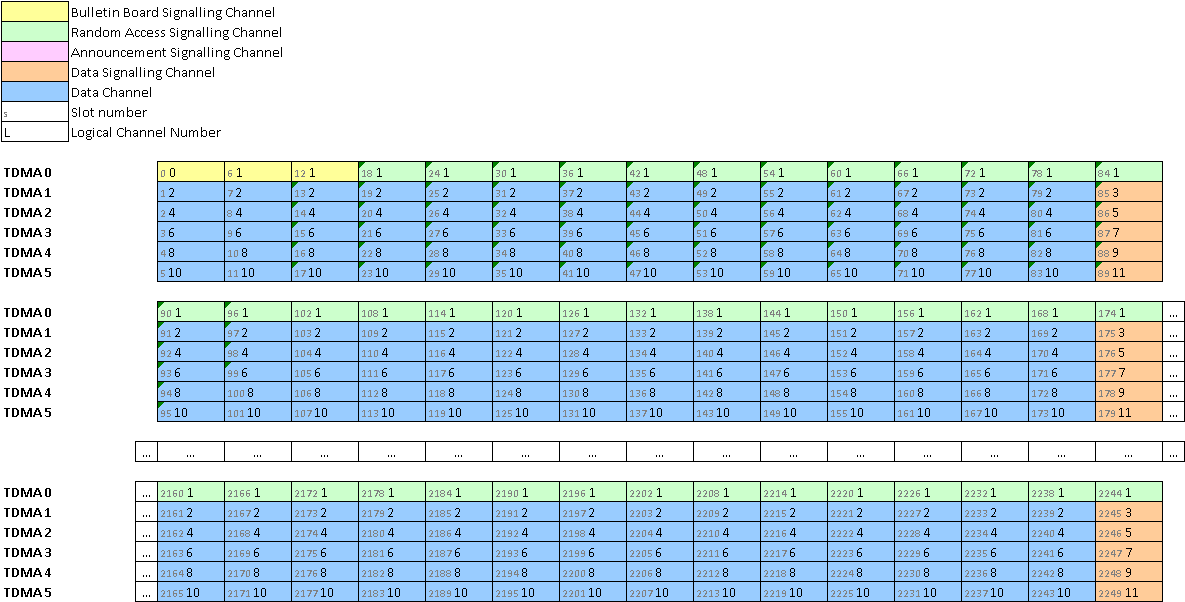


Figure 25 - VDE-TER Ship to Shore default slot to LC mapping (lower leg)

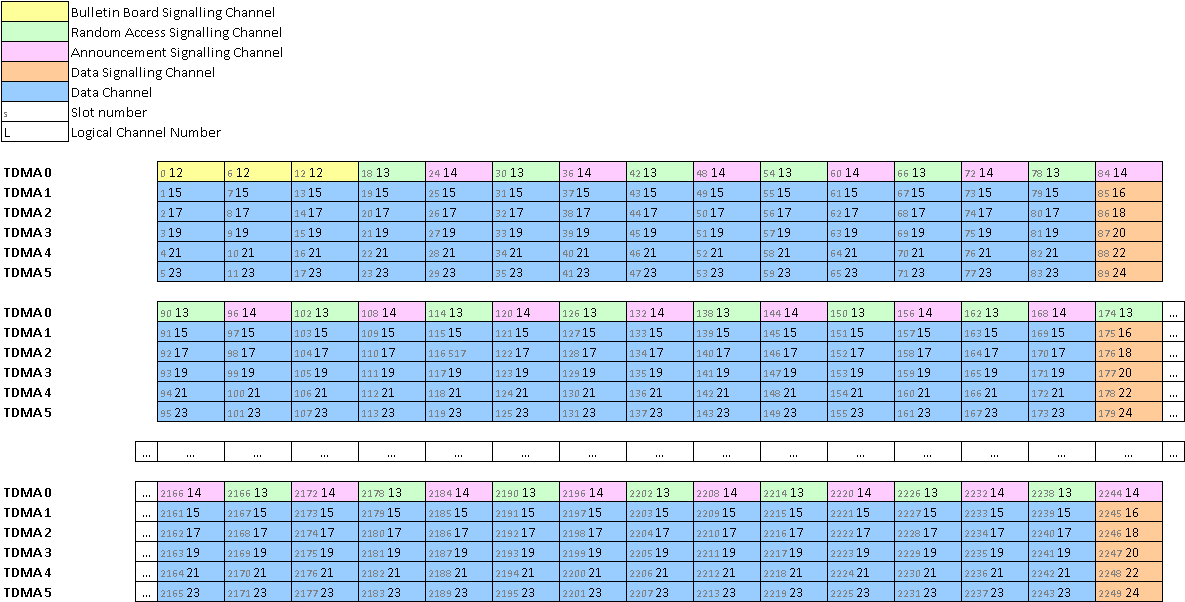


Figure 26 - VDE-TER Ship to Ship default slot to LC mapping (upper leg)

* 1. VDE-SAT default Bulletin Board

Hexslot numbering is not used by VDE-SAT because physical layer formats with length 1, 3, 5 are used on uplink and 90 slots is used for downlink. Global slot numbering from 0 to 2249 is used.

Figure 27 shows the default half-duplex satellite LC channel mapping.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | SBB+  ASC | ASC+ Data Down | Data Down  1 | Data Down  2 | | Data Down  3 | | Data Down  4 | | Data Up  1 | | Data Up  2 | | Data Up  3 | | Data Up  4 | | Data Up  5 | | Data Up  6 | RACH | |
| Global start slot | 0 | 90 | 180 | 270 | | 360 | | 450 | | 540 | | 570 | | 600 | | 630 | | 660 | | 690 | 720 | |
| Size in slots | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | | 90 | | 90 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | 90 | |
| Logical channel | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 | | 11 | 12 | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Repeat 1 |  | ASC+ Data Down | Data Down  1 | Data Down  2 | | Data Down  3 | | Data Down  4 | | Data Up  1 | | Data Up  2 | | Data Up  3 | | Data Up  4 | | Data Up  5 | | Data Up  6 | RACH | |
| Global start slot | 810 | 900 | 990 | | 1080 | | 1170 | | 1260 | | 1290 | | 1320 | | 1350 | | 1380 | | 1410 | 1440 | |
| Size in slots | 90 | 90 | 90 | | 90 | | 90 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | 90 | |
| Logical channel | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 | | 11 | 12 | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Repeat 2 |  | ASC+ Data Down | Data Down  1 | Data Down 2 | Data Down  3 | | Data Down 4 | | Data  Up  1 | | Data  Up  2 | | Data  Up  3 | | Data  Up  4 | | Data  Up  5 | | Data  Up  6 | | | RACH |
| Global start slot | 1530 | 1620 | 1710 | 1800 | | 1890 | | 1980 | | 2010 | | 2040 | | 2070 | | 2100 | | 2130 | | | 2160 |
| Size in slots | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | | 90 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | 30 | | | 90 |
| Logical Channel | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 | | 11 | | | 12 |

Figure 27 - VDE-SAT half duplex default slot to LC mapping (upper and lower leg)

Downlink slots are transmitted by the satellite 2 ms before UTC epoch, and uplink slots are received 2 to 10 ms after UTC epoch. This could cause the satellite to 4 to 12 ms of a packet when switching from receive to transmit. The last receive slot before a transmit slot is therefore not used. For the default configuration, the last RACH slot is not used.

The VDE-SAT and ASM-SAT uplink formats use slots lengths 1, 3 and 5 and these are repeated until all allocated/assigned slots in a Logical Channel are used.

In the default Bulletin Board, all uplink data Logical Channels are 30 slots long and may contain 30, 10 or 6 assigned transmissions for burst lengths 1,3 or 5 slots. These slots are assigned using the LC number and a LC Position (LCP). The LC Position number can range from 1 to 90 (7 bit field).

For the default Bulletin Board, a ship can only transmit 3 times during a 1-minute frame. There are also three periods of 12 s when the ship is not transmitting, thereby providing quiet periods when ships with 10s AIS reporting interval can be detected.

Table 20 shows the Logical Channel parameters for a frequency pair. For VDE-TER the lowest frequency pair starts with LC 0, the 2nd start with 13. Up to 127 LCs can be supported. For VDE-SAT the highest frequency starts with LC 0.

The ship equipment shall prevent any transmission on channels 16 and 70 for all Bulletin Board settings.

* 1. Digital Signature of Bulletin Board

It is assumed that a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) is established with primarily IMO as Certificate Authority (CA), and that ITU-T X.509 (10/2016) is used for public key certificates and the PKI implementation. The PKI will serve several systems and among these VDES. For VDES the primary purpose is to attach a digital signature to the Bulletin Board (BB) issued by a VDES control station to authenticate the control station transmitting the BB.

Ships will need to retrofit a dedicated PKI unit to their bridge system or build the functionality into the VDES equipment. This unit provides cryptographic services to both general and bridge network applications. The unit will utilize a smartcard for tamper-proof storage of the security credentials.

In case the verification of the signature fails on the VDES mobile station this shall be flagged to the user. The system shall continue its operation as if the signature was verified.

Cryptographic algorithm for the end-entities digital signatures is the Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA). The Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC) public key shall therefore be 256 bit. With this key size, the recommendations from RFC 5480 states that the minimum bits of security should be 128, the message digest algorithm SHA-256, and the curve secp256r1. The lifetime of the selected key material is 3 years.

Communication with separate PKI unit shall be based on network protocol.

* 1. Data transfer protocols

The following downlink protocols shall be supported:

* Shore originated broadcast
* Ship originated broadcast inside/outside control station service area
* Shore to ship addressed message
* Ship to shore addressed message
* Ship to ship addressed message inside/outside control station service area
* Shore to ship short data message
* Ship to shore short data message
* Ship to ship short data message
  1. Data Session Transmission and Continuation

For each data session between two stations, each station will be assigned one Logical Channel for data transmission and one Logical Channel for acknowledgement reception. The two Logical Channels must have identical TDMA Channel numbers but does not have to be on the same Physical Channel. This ensures adequate processing time between message transmissions. When both Logical Channels are on the same Physical Channel, the session is considered simplex (Figure 28). When the two Logical Channels are on different Physical Channels, the session is considered duplex (Figure 29).

Logical Channels assigned for data transmission sessions must have a DC slot function, while Logical Channels assigned for acknowledgement reception, must have DSCH slot function. See C 4.9.

Figure 29 and Figure 30 shows examples of the required slot use during simplex and duplex data session transmissions when 14 fragments are transmitted during each data session. Two TDMA channels are shown from different Physical Channels.

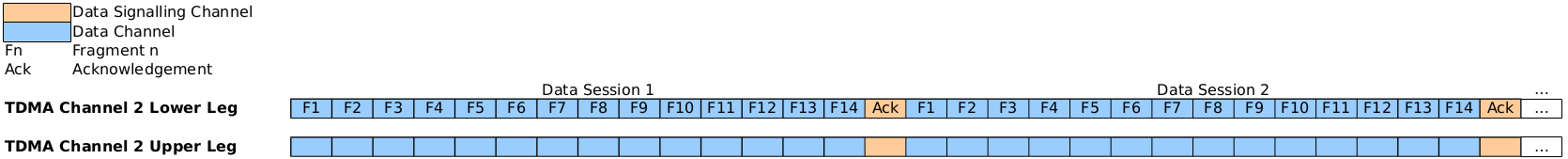


Figure 28 - Simplex data session

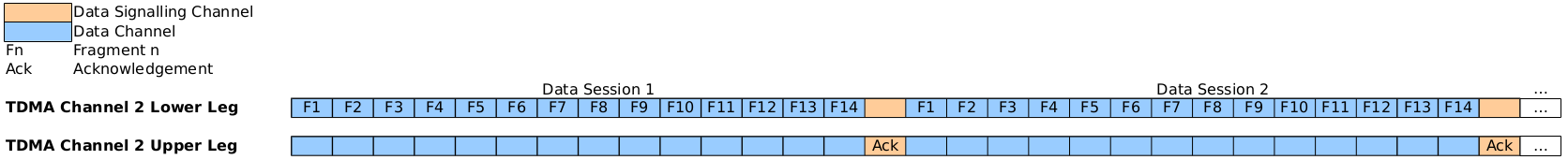


Figure 29 - Duplex data session

All data fragments will be transmitted on DC slots on the assigned Logical Channel only. ACK/NACK messages will be transmitted on the DSCH slots as assigned.

When data exceeds the data packet payload capacity, then data must be broken up and transmitted in fragments. During successful data session transmission, each session will fit into a TDMA frame. This will result in a maximum of 14 fragments per data session (one in each DC slot), before reaching a DSCH slot used for the ACK/NACK.

The first data fragment starts with a Start Fragment (#74) message, continues with Continuation Fragment (#76) messages from fragment 2 onwards and ends with an End Fragment (#76) message.

When only one fragment is transmitted, the one fragment must be a Start Fragment (#74).

When two fragments are transmitted, then transmission order will be

Start Fragment (#74)

End Fragment (#76)

When three fragments are transmitted, then transmission order will be

Start Fragment (#74)

Continuation Fragment (#75)

End Fragment (#76)

Etc.

If the maximum number of fragments (14) are being used and there are data left for transmission, then the data transmission can be continued by requesting a new session ID for the next data session. The data transmission can be continued by setting the “Continue Data Session” parameter in the End Fragment (#76) message to 1. On successful transmission, the data transmission session will be acknowledged with an ACK/NACK (#7) message and a logical channel and session ID will be immediately assigned by means of a Resource Allocation (#4) message. Both messages ACK/NACK (#7) and Resource Allocation (#4) will be transmitted in the same data signalling slot. If no more LC resources are available, then an ACK/NACK #7 message may be transmitted with the ACM or EDN parameter set to 3.

* 1. Data Session Retry

During data session transmission, it is expected of data fragments to be lost occasionally. When some data fragments are not received, the receiving station shall transmit a NACK message (#13) and flag the lost fragments in the ACK/NACK mask parameter.

The transmitting station shall retry transmission of each individual fragment for a maximum of 3 times before giving up.

The receiving station shall request retransmission of data fragments for a maximum of 3 attempts.

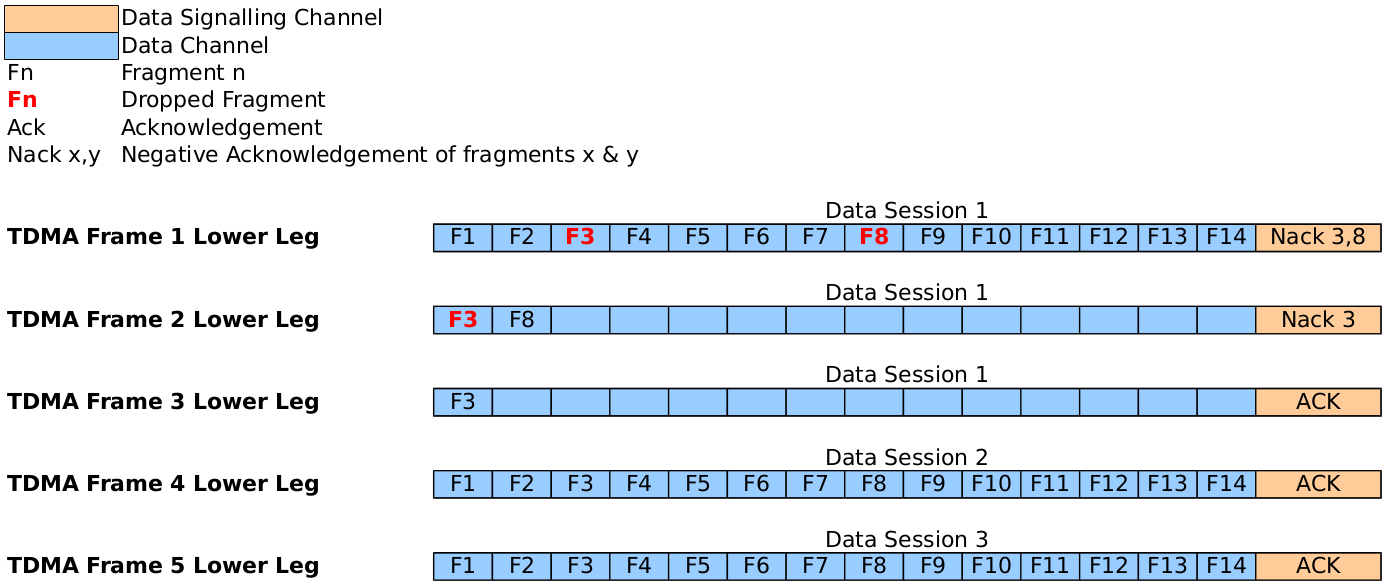


Figure 30 - Simplex Data Session Retry

* 1. Cooperation with AIS

VDE transmissions must always give preference to AIS transmissions. It would be expected of AIS message transmissions to occasionally conflict with VDE message transmission times. This conflict would cause VDE messages not to be transmitted and cause the data session retry mechanism to retransmit the dropped VDE message.

A data session may greatly decrease the amount of VDE-AIS message transmission conflicts by monitoring the future slots in the current TDMA frame. During the transmission of the Start Fragment (#74), the number of fragments will be announced in the Start Fragment (#74) message. Before determining the number of fragments to be announced, the future slots can be monitored for internally allocated AIS transmissions during the current TDMA frame of the transmission LC. If the maximum number of fragments would be announced, then the announced number of fragments will be decremented by one for every VDE-AIS messate transmission conflict.

For example, if the transmitting station wanted to transmit Start Fragment (#74) with an announcement of 14 fragments but detects one AIS message transmission conflict with one of the VDE data fragments, then the transmitting station may transmit Start Fragment (#74) with an announcement of 13 fragments. This way the transmitting station will avoid the data session retry from happening and slowing down the data transfer.

* 1. Short data message

Vessels may transmit short data messages in RAC slots as long as the vessel adheres to the selection interval and short data message transmission limits while inside the control station service area. When vessels are not inside a control station service area, then the default selection interval and short data message transmission limits apply.

To minimize transmissions to ships outside communications range, short data message transmission limit applies. Sending short data messages to other ships shall not use more than 2 slots over a duration of 1 minute.

* 1. Random access channel scheme

When a message is scheduled for immediate RAC transmission, then all transmission candidate slots must be gathered over the selection interval. The default selection interval is 150 slots, but may be set via a control station. Only slots with slot function set as RAC may be considered as candidate slots. As an AIS transceiver forms part of the VDES system, the AIS transmission schedules must also be considered. AIS will always have priority over VDE transmissions.

One candidate slot will be randomly selected from all the available candidate slots. If no candidate slot is available or if for some reason, the VDE message could not be transmitted (AIS messages could be scheduled after the VDE schedule), then the VDE transmission will fail and the normal retry mechanism will follow. The retry mechanism will allow up to 3 retries of the RAC transmission.

* 1. Announcement channel access scheme

Ad hoc messages (messages 4, 90 & 92) shall be transmitted on AC by the control station and transmitted on RAC by a mobile station to avoid any conflicts between control station and mobile stations.

When scheduling a message for AC transmission, then the first available announcement slot may be selected for transmission. A control station may choose to use RAC slots for the transmission of ad hoc messages during high congestion but must always use the Random Channel Access Scheme when accessing the RAC.

* 1. Logical Channel access

A resource assignment message assigns two LCs. One LC for TX and one LC for RX. In addition, the LC pair is assigned with a TDMA frame delay. The LC assignment goes into effect after the TDMA frame delay expires.

After the assignment of LCs to a vessel, the vessel may immediately start transmitting in the allowed LCs. Only DC slots may be used for transmission and only DSCH slot may be used for the reception of ACK/NACK and resource re-assignment or de-assignment messages.

* 1. Logical channel use map

Each station must continuously monitor the activity of VDE logical channels to be able to assign LC resources when required. A station must keep a map of all LCs and mark all of the LC as free. Whenever any data is received in a LC, reserve that LC as unavailable for the current TDMA frame and for the following three TDMA frames. Whenever a LC is used for own station transmission or reception, then a LC must be marked as internally assigned for the current TDMA frame and for the following three TDMA frames.

* 1. Logical channel assignment

When a ship is outside of the control station service area, the receiving ship should be capable of assigning a LC to another ship after reception of a Resource Request message. The LC assignment must be made by randomly selecting a free LC from the Logical Channel Use Map.

* 1. Retry mechanism

All individual message transmissions and receptions will in general be retried three times before the session will fail and be removed. Because of different selection intervals of different access schemes, the rules for the general retry mechanism will not hold for all the situations and all the special rules and cases will be shown in the state diagrams.

The retry timeouts will also be modified as the selection interval gets changed via the control station.

* 1. Data transfer protocol Detail
     1. Shore originated broadcast

The sequence diagram for shore originated broadcast without ACK is shown in Figure 31. The transfer starts with a resource allocation. The diagram shows a large multi-fragmented data session.



Figure 31 - Shore originated broadcast sequence diagram

* + 1. Ship originated broadcast outside control station service area

The sequence diagram for ship originated broadcast outside of control station service area is shown in Figure 32.



Figure 32 - Ship originated broadcast outside control station service area sequence diagram

* + 1. Ship originated broadcast inside control station service area

The sequence diagram for ship originated broadcast inside of control station service area is shown in Figure 33.



Figure 33 - Ship originated broadcast inside control station service area sequence diagram

* + 1. Shore to ship addressed message

The sequence diagram for shore to ship addressed message is shown in Figure 34. The transfer starts with a Resource Request/Transmission Announcement message to announce the source and destinations of the data session. In the same slot, a Resource Allocation message is transmitted to assign a logical channel to the data session. The diagram shows a large multi-fragmented data session. Up to 14 fragments are sent before the ship sends a selective NACK indicating which fragments have to be resent. The Logical Channel is kept allocated until all fragments have been received by the ship and an ACK has been received or a retry limit has been exceeded.

The datagram payload has source, destination and format encapsulated for routing and presentation purposes.



Figure 34 - Shore to ship addressed message sequence diagram

* + 1. Ship to shore addressed message

The sequence diagram for ship to shore addressed message is shown in Figure 35. The transfer starts with a Resource Request message to request a logical channel for the data session. The following Resource Allocation message is transmitted to assign a logical channel to the data session. The diagram shows a large multi-fragmented data session.

The datagram payload has source, destination and format encapsulated for routing and presentation purposes.



Figure 35 - Ship to shore addressed message sequence diagram

* + 1. Ship to ship addressed message outside control station service area

The sequence diagram for ship to ship addressed message outside of control station service area is shown in Figure 36. The transfer starts with a Resource Request message to request a logical channel for the data session. The following Resource Allocation message is transmitted to assign a logical channel to the data session. The diagram shows a large multi-fragmented data session.

The datagram payload has source, destination and format encapsulated for routing and presentation purposes.



Figure 36 - Ship to ship addressed message outside control station service area sequence diagram

* + 1. Ship to ship addressed message inside control station service area

The sequence diagram for ship to ship addressed message inside of control station service area is shown in Figure 37. The transfer starts with a Resource Request message to request a logical channel for the data session. The following Resource Allocation message is transmitted to assign a logical channel to the data session. The diagram shows a large multi-fragmented data session.

The datagram payload has source, destination and format encapsulated for routing and presentation purposes.



Figure 37 - Ship to ship addressed message inside control station service area sequence diagram

* + 1. Shore to ship short data message

The sequence diagram for shore to ship short data message is shown in Figure 38. This protocol is used for short data messages that fit within a single transmission burst.

The ship sends and ACK when the message is received correctly, otherwise the shore may automatically retry until the retry limit is reached.



Figure 38 - Shore to ship short data message sequence diagram

* + 1. Ship to shore short data message

The sequence diagram for ship to shore short data message is shown in Figure 39. This protocol is used for short data messages that fit within a single transmission burst. A random slot in the randomizing interval given in the MAC signalling is used for the transmission.

The shore sends and ACK when the message is received correctly, otherwise the ship may automatically retry until the retry limit is reached.



Figure 39 - Ship to shore short data message sequence diagram

* + 1. Ship to ship short data message

The sequence diagram for ship to ship short data message is shown in Figure 40. This protocol is used for short data messages that fit within a single transmission burst. A random slot in the randomizing interval given in the MAC signalling is used for the transmission.

The receiving ship sends and ACK when the message is received correctly, otherwise the transmitting ship may automatically retry until the retry limit is reached.



Figure 40 - Ship to ship short data message sequence diagram

* 1. Data Transfer Protocol State Diagrams
     1. SHIP TO SHIP ADDRESSED MESSAGE OUTSIDE CONTROL STATION SERVICE AREA

The state diagrams Figure 41 and Figure 42 shows an example of an implementation for the default PC and LC.

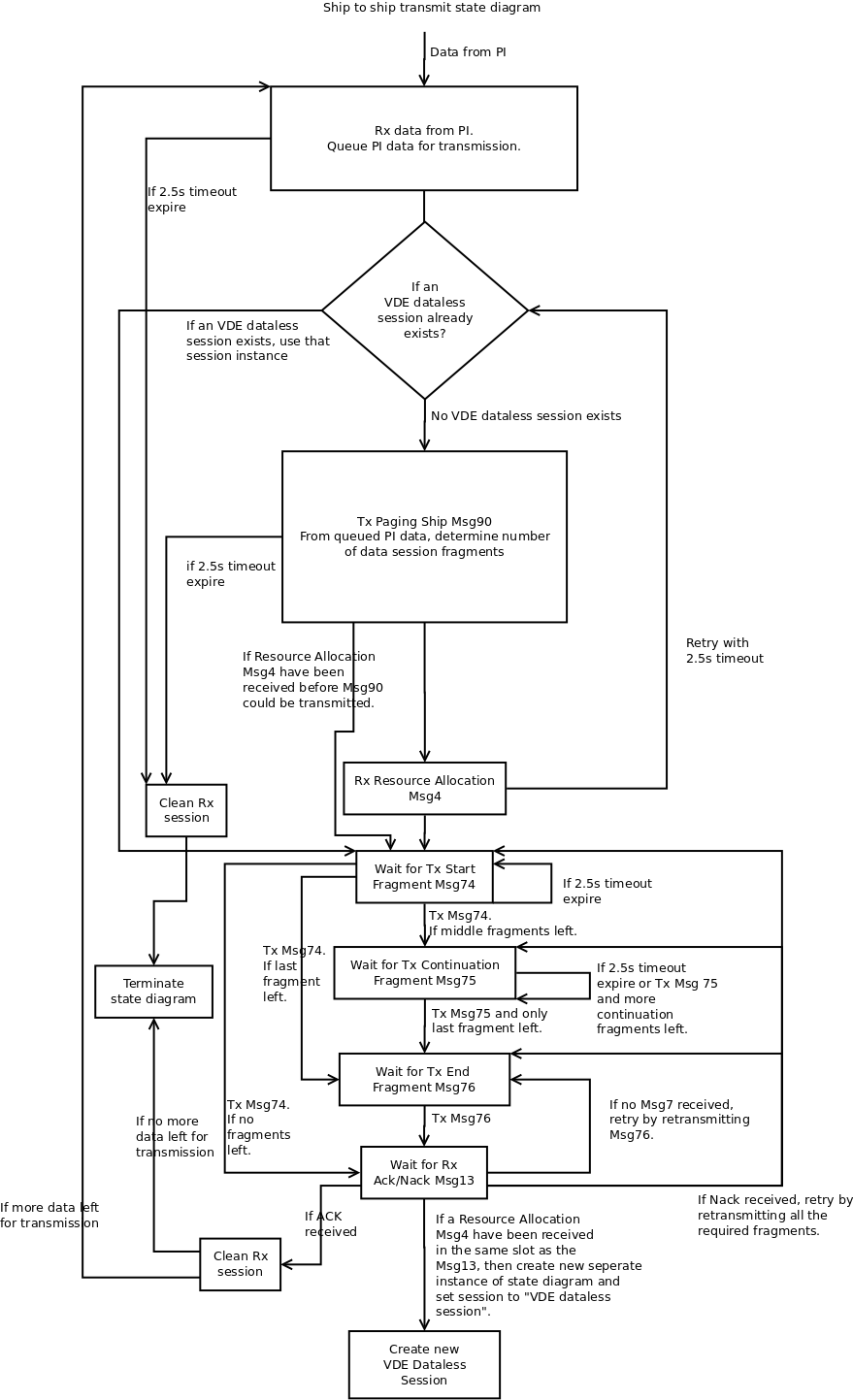


Figure 41 - Example Addressed ship to ship transmit state diagram

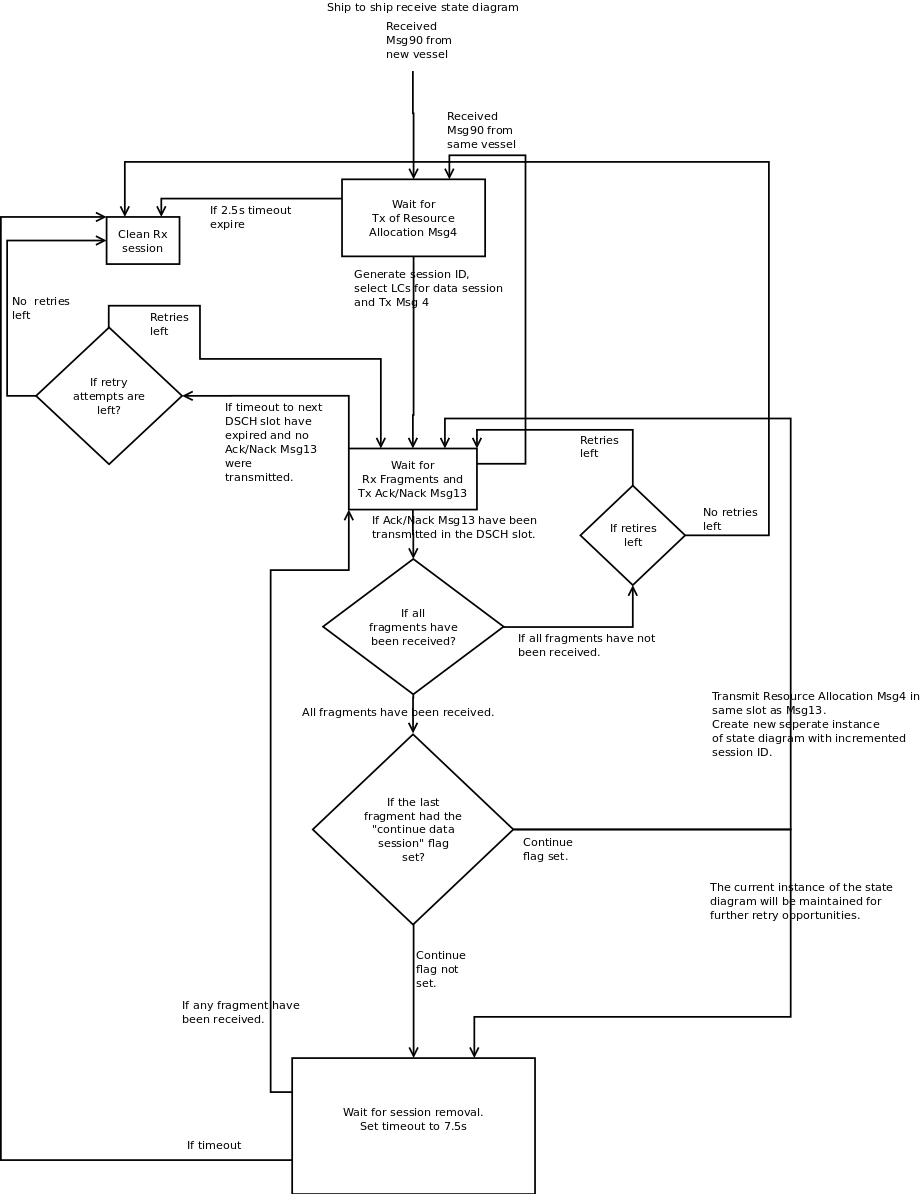


Figure 42 - Example Addressed ship to ship receive state diagram

* 1. Segmentation of VDE payload

For the transmission of VDE data, the VDE payload data shall be entered via the PI by means of an EDM sentence. See C 8.1. Each EDM sentence enters an EDM data chunk and a sequential ID to be transmitted as VDE payload.

VDE payload segments get packed inside the fragment as shown in Figure 43.

Payload size

Sequential ID

Data Chunk

Type

Header

Payload

Padding

CRC

Fragment header

Payload

VDE Packet

Start fragment/

Continuation

fragment

Segment.

See C 4.31.1.

Segment 1

Segment 2

Segment 3

Segment 4

Total segments

Segment Number

Four segments from

four EDM sentences.

A segment may span multiple fragments,

but not multiple data sessions.

Figure 43 - Segmentation of VDE payload

Segments may span multiple fragments, but not multiple data sessions. EDM sentence data should normally be added as one segment. Only when a segment is found to span multiple data sessions, may the segment be split into multiple segments to align segments on data session boundaries. See Figure 44.

EDM seq ID 1 data

Fragment 14 of data session 1

Payload

Data from 3 separate

EDM sentences.

Segment seq ID 1

Segment seq ID 2 (1 0f 2)

Segment seq ID 3?

Four segments from

three EDM sentences.

Fragment 1 of data session 2

Payload

Segment seq ID 2 (2 0f 2)

EDM seq ID 2 data

EDM seq ID 3 data

Figure 44 - Segmentation across data session boundaries

* + 1. Segment description

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Segment | | | | |
| Field no | Value (Dec) | Size (Bits) | Function | Content |
| 1 | 1-15 | 4 | Total segments | Total number of segments to transfer the EDM sentence’s data. |
| 2 | 1-15 | 4 | Segment number | The current segment number |
| 2 | 0 to 216-1 | 16 | Sequential ID | Sequential ID of matching EDM sentence. |
| 3 | 0 to 216-1 | 16 | Payload size | Size of the segment payload data only. (Bytes) |
| 4 |  | Variable | Payload Data | Payload data. |

1. Network layer

The priority assignment, distribution of transmission packets and data link congestion resolution requires close integration with the link layer. The responsibility of the network layer was therefore moved to the link layer.

1. Transport layer

The reliable transmission of data segments, segmentation, acknowledgement and multiplexing requires close integration with the link layer. The responsibility of the transport layer was therefore moved to the link layer.

1. Session Layer

The session handling of PI sentence data requires close integration with the link layer. The responsibility of the session layer was therefore moved to the link layer.

1. Presentation Interface Layer

The information contained in this section is provisional and is intended for guidance and is the subject of liaison with appropriate international bodies.

All VDE sentences transmitted and received will use “VE” as talker ID.

The two modes of operation on VDE is (a) Autonomous Data Transfer or (b) Raw VDES Phy Access.

In Autonomous Data Transfer mode, all the VDE communication takes place on the data level. Only the data gets transferred over the presentation interface using the EDM and EDO sentences while all of the link layer communication takes place automatically.

In Raw VDES Phy Access mode, all the VDE communication takes place by means of specifying each individual VDE message over the presentation interface using the ERM, ERO, ETA and ESI sentences. No VDE link layer messages will be scheduled automatically by the system. It is left up to the user to conform to the VDE link layer specifications. While this mode offers more flexibility, an in-depth knowledge of the VDE link layer is required to be able to use this mode.

Mobile stations will always operate in VDES Autonomous Data Transfer mode. Raw VDES Phy Access mode will only be available in VDES base stations.

* 1. VDE data message sentence

EDM sentences are used for initiating VDE data transmission when the sentence is sent to the presentation interface. When data has been successfully received over the VDE radio frequency link, then EDM sentences are output over the presentation interface to contain the VDE data.

The EDM sentence resembles the use of the VDM AIS sentence.

Sentence:

$--EDM,<seq\_nr>,<source\_mmsi>,<dest\_mmsi>,<data>,<fill\_bits>\*<HH><CR><LF>

<seq\_nr> : Sequence number of the PI data session. (0-999)

<source\_mmsi> : MMSI of source. Only applicable when receiving VDE data over the

RF link. When the EDM sentence is sent to the presentation

interface, value is ignored and must be null.

<dest\_mmsi> : MMSI of destination. Null field implies broadcast.

<data> : Encapsulated binary data to transmit. May contain a maximum of

498 bytes of data (or 664 chars).

The data limitation is constrained by the payload limit of a

VDE data session when using the lowest data rate, because EDM

payload can not currently span multiple VDE data sessions.

<fill\_bits> : Number of fill bits.

<HH> : The checksum field.

<CR><LF> : Carriage return and line feed characters.

Example:$VEEDM,3,987654321,123456789,13u?etPv2;0n:dDPwUM1U1Cb069D,0\*72

* 1. VDE data message sentence own-vessel report

EDO sentences are sent with every successfully transmitted data packet over VDE RF link. For each transmitted EDO sentence, an exact EDM will appear on the receiving side. (Except for sequence number value.)

The EDO sentence resembles the use of the VDO AIS sentence.

Sentence:

$--EDO,<seq\_nr>,<source\_mmsi>,<dest\_mmsi>,<data>,<fill\_bits>\*<HH><CR><LF>

<seq\_nr> : Sequence number of PI data session. (0-999)

<source\_mmsi> : MMSI of source.

<dest\_mmsi> : MMSI of destination. Null field implies broadcast.

<data> : Encapsulated binary data received. May contain a maximum of

498 bytes of data (or 664 chars).

<fill\_bits> : Number of fill bits.

<HH> : The checksum field.

<CR><LF> : Carriage return and line feed characters.

Example:$VEEDO,3,987654321,123456789,13u?etPv2;0n:dDPwUM1U1Cb069D,0\*70

* 1. VDE data message sentence ACK/NACK

EAK sentence is used for ACK/NACK of each EDM sentence and is associated with the EDM sentence with the same seq\_nr and dest\_mmsi.

Sentence:

$--EAK,<seq\_nr>,<dest\_mmsi>,<edm\_status>\*<HH><CR><LF>

<seq\_nr> : Sequence number of PI data session. (0-999)

<dest\_mmsi> : MMSI of destination. Null field implies broadcast.

<edm\_status> : EDM sentence status. 0-3

0 - Accepted in queue.

1 - Transmission success and successfully received by

destination.

2 - Transmission failure.

3 - Transmission queue full. Retry later.

<HH> : The checksum field.

<CR><LF> : Carriage return and line feed characters.

Example:$VEEAK,3,987654321,2\*40

* 1. Raw VDES Phy Access message sentence

ERM sentences are used in combination with the ETA sentence, for initiating Raw VDES Phy Access message transmissions when the sentence is sent to the presentation interface. When used in this way, the total amount of data may never be more then allowed by the modulation index specified by the ETA sentence. If the total amount of data is less then the maximum, then the rest of the VDE message will automatically be appended with zero padding messages as specified by ITU 2092. On the reception of VDE radio frequency messages, the station will output ERM sentences on the presentation interface to contain the complete VDE message. Only enabled during Raw VDES Phy Access mode.

The EDM sentence resembles the use of the VDM AIS sentence.

Sentence:

$--ERM,<total\_sen>,<sen\_nr>,<seq\_nr>,<data>,<fill\_bits>\*<HH><CR><LF>

<total\_sen> : Total number of sentences required to send data. (1-99)

<sen\_nr> : Sentence number. (1-99)

<seq\_nr> : Sequence number. (0-99)

<data> : VDE message binary data.

<fill\_bits> : Number of fill bits.

<HH> : The checksum field.

<CR><LF> : Carriage return and line feed characters.

Example:$VEERM,1,1,1,987654321,123456789,13u?etPv2;0n:dDPwUM1U1Cb069D,0\*66

* 1. Raw VDES Phy Access message sentence own-vessel report

ERO sentences are output for all Raw VDES Phy Access messages transmitted. Only enabled during Raw VDES Phy Access mode.

The ERO sentence resembles the use of the VDO AIS sentence.

Sentence:

$--ERO,<total\_sen>,<sen\_nr>,<seq\_nr>,<source\_mmsi>,<dest\_mmsi>,<data>,<fill\_bits>\*<HH><CR><LF>

<total\_sen> : Total number of sentences required to send data. (1-99)

<sen\_nr> : Sentence number. (1-99)

<seq\_nr> : Sequence number. (0-99)

<source\_mmsi> : MMSI of source.

<dest\_mmsi> : MMSI of destination. Null field implies broadcast.

<data> : Encapsulated binary message.

<fill\_bits> : Number of fill bits.

<HH> : The checksum field.

<CR><LF> : Carriage return and line feed characters.

Example:$VEERO,1,1,1,987654321,123456789,13u?etPv2;0n:dDPwUM1U1Cb069D,0\*64

* 1. VDE transmission slot assignment

ETA sentences are used, in combination with the ERM sentence, to transmit VDE messages over the air. The mechanism works the same way the TSA-VDM sentence transmission pair works in AIS. The ETA sentence must be transmitted first and the seq\_nr and dest\_mmsi must match.

Only enabled during Raw VDES Phy Access mode.

Sentence:

$--ETA,<seq\_nr>,<centre\_freq>,<link\_id>,<frame\_time>,<slot\_nr>\*<HH><CR><LF>

<seq\_nr> : Sequence number. (0-99)

<centre\_freq> : Specifies the transmission centre frequency in Hz

<link\_id> : Specifies the Link ID to use as specified by ITU 2092.

<frame\_time> : Identification of slot frame for the start slot number.

Format is HHMM (hours, minutes) in the range 0000 to

2359. When null, the start slot number is for the next

occurrence of the slot.

<slot\_nr> : Start slot number of requested transmission.

<HH> : The checksum field.

<CR><LF> : Carriage return and line feed characters.

Example:$VEETA,1,161825000,11,1240,212\*51

* 1. VDE signal information

ESI sentence is used in combination with a ERM or ERO sentence and will follow the ERM or ERO sentence.

The sentence gives extra signal information and is only enabled during Raw Phy Access mode.

The ESI sentence resembles the use of the VSI AIS sentence.

Sentence:

$--ESI,<seq\_nr>,<centre\_freq>,<link\_id>,<time>,<slot\_nr>,<sig\_str>,<sig\_to\_no>,<cqi>\*<HH><CR><LF>

<seq\_nr> : Sequence number. (0-999)

<centre\_freq> : Specifies the transmission centre frequency in Hz

<link\_id> : Specifies the Link ID to use as specified by ITU 2092.

<time> : Time of message arrival in format: hhmmss.ss

This is the UTC hour, minute,

and second and decimal fraction of second measurement

for when an AIS message signal is received. Time given to 1ns.

(246060-not available)

<slot\_nr> : Slot number of message arrival. (9999-not available)

<sig\_str> : Signal strength.

<sig\_to\_no> : Signal to noise ratio.

<cqi> : Channel quality indicator.

<HH> : The checksum field.

<CR><LF> : Carriage return and line feed characters.

Example:$VEESI,1,161825000,11,124055.2034,212,12,12,12\*5A

* 1. EPV Command or report equipment property value

EPV sentence as defined in IEC 61993-2 Annex E, but with the property identifiers shown in Table 2.

Table 2 – Property identifier

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Property identifier | Property meaning | Value range |
| 120 | Link ID setting | 0 – Autonomous Link ID  1-32 – Tx Link ID set as defined by Tables 7-10. |

1. Technical Characteristics of VDE-SAT service in the VHF Maritime Mobile Band
2. Introduction

This section describes those elements of the VDE-SAT that are unique to VDE-SAT operation.  For those elements that are common, the cross reference into Annex 1 is provided. In this context, the following types of functionality are envisaged:

* VDE-SAT allows two-way communications and transmit-only:
* Shore initiated polling of information from ships (satellite-ship-satellite)
* Ship initiated enquiry for information from shore (ship-satellite-ship)
* Ship initiated data transfer to shore (ship-satellite)
* Collection of information from transmit-only VDES terminals (ship-satellite). This could be either event driven or periodic. The slot and frequency band for this service should be assigned by the bulletin board and announcement signalling channels.
* Downlink multicast multi-packet data transfer (satellite-ship)
* Shore originated unicast multi-packet data transfer via satellite (satellite ship)

In this annex low earth orbit (LEO) satellites with 600 km altitude are considered to present typical examples of VDE satellite solutions. It should be noted that other orbital selections are also possible according to the overall system design consideration.

The focus of this annex is to describe the physical layer of the OSI model as defined in Annex A. The overall description of the link, network and the transport layers is provided in Annex A.

1. Technical Characteristics of VDE-SAT service in the VHF Maritime Mobile Band
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* Ship initiated enquiry for information from shore (ship-satellite-ship)
* Ship initiated data transfer to shore (ship-satellite)
* Collection of information from transmit-only VDES terminals (ship-satellite). This could be either event driven or periodic. The slot and frequency band for this service should be assigned by the bulletin board and announcement signalling channels.
* Downlink multicast multi-packet data transfer (satellite-ship)
* Shore originated unicast multi-packet data transfer via satellite (satellite ship)

In this annex low earth orbit (LEO) satellites with 600 km altitude are considered to present typical examples of VDE satellite solutions. It should be noted that other orbital selections are also possible according to the overall system design consideration.

The focus of this annex is to describe the physical layer of the OSI model as defined in Annex A. The overall description of the link, network and the transport layers is provided in Annex A.

1. VDE-SAT physical layer
   1. VDE-SAT uplink key parameters

This section outlines assumptions regarding the VDE-SAT system parameters that are used as representative examples in this annex.

* + 1. Satellite to surface distance range

The orbit height determines the satellite range variations. For example, for a 600 km LEO the maximum range is 2 830 km. For timing purposes, a maximum range of 3 000 km will be used.

The minimum range is equal to the orbit height. For a LEO satellite at 600 km altitude the minimum range will be 600 km. This value is used to determine the minimum propagation delay time. Considering these exemplary values for the minimum and maximum ranges, the path delay will vary from 2 ms to 10 ms, a variation of 8 ms as shown in Figure 45 and Figure 46.

For the VDE-SAT downlink, in addition to the relative delays between signal receptions at a vessel from different satellites, there could be absolute delay due to other sources such as signal processing delay. The satellite service provider should pre-compensate for absolute delay.



Figure 45 - VDE-SAT downlink timing



Figure 46 - VDE-SAT Uplink timing

* + 1. Satellite transmission carrier frequency error

The satellite transmission carrier frequency error is the sum of the satellite transmission frequency error and Doppler, and the frequency uncertainty at the receiver. The transmit frequency error at the satellite shall be less than 1 ppm, i.e. ±160 Hz.

A LEO satellite will move at a speed of about 8 km/s and this will cause a maximum Doppler of ±4 kHz at VHF.

* + 1. Ship station transmitter requirements

For ship station transmitter requirements, see Annex A.

* + 1. Ship station antenna gain

For ship station antenna gain, see Annex A.

* + 1. Ship station noise plus interference level

For noise plus interference level of ship station, see Annex A.

* 1. Link budget analysis

The link *C*/*N*0 is determined by the transmitted e.i.r.p., path losses, propagation losses, receiver sensitivity/figure of merit and local interference levels.

* + 1. VDE-SAT downlink link budget

Examples of link budgets for the VDE-SAT downlink are provided in the following sections.

* + - 1. **Satellite downlink e.i.r.p.**

The e.i.r.p. can be derived from PFD mask given in Table 40.

Table 40 - Proposed power spectral and PFD mask

Table 41 shows the theoretical maximum satellite e.i.r.p. as a function of elevation angles for this mask.

Table 41 - Satellite maximum e.i.r.p. vs. elevation angle

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ship Elevation angle θ  (degrees) | Powerflux density on ground  (dBW/m2/4 kHz) | Satellite range  **(km)** | Maximum downlink satellite e.i.r.p.  **(dBW in 25 kHz)** |
| 0 | −149.0 | 2 831 | −1.0 |
| 10 | −147.4 | 1 932 | −2.7 |
| 20 | −145.8 | 1 392 | −4.0 |
| 30 | −144.2 | 1 075 | −4.6 |
| 40 | −142.6 | 882 | −4.7 |
| 50 | −139.4 | 761 | −2.8 |
| 60 | −134.0 | 683 | 1.6 |
| 70 | −133.0 | 635 | 2.0 |
| 80 | −132.0 | 608 | 2.6 |
| 90 | −131.0 | 600 | 3.5 |

* + - 1. **Satellite e.i.r.p. vs. elevation**

Most of the satellite coverage area and visibility time will be at low elevation angles, and high elevation angle coverage may be sacrificed without significant system capacity loss.

The following two satellite antennas have been analysed and are acceptable.

1) Yagi Antenna: For this antenna, the link budget is optimised for 0 degrees ship elevation angle using a three element Yagi antenna with the satellite pointed at the horizon is given in Table A4-3. Assuming a peak antenna gain of 8 dBi, a transmit RF power of −12.4 dBW in 25 kHz will ensure compliance with the PFD limit. Satellite e.i.r.p. vs. ship elevation is shown in Table 42.

Table 42 - Satellite e.i.r.p. vs. elevation using a Yagi antenna

| Ship elevation angle (degrees) | Nadir offset angle (degrees) | Boresight offset (degrees) | Satellite antenna gain  (dBi) | Satellite e.i.r.p. in circular polarization (dBW) | Satellite range (km) | PFD dBW/m2/4 (kHz) | Table A4‑1 PFD limit dBW/m2/ (4 kHz) | PFD margin (dB) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | 66.1 | 0 | 8 | −4.4 | 2 830 | −152.4 | −149.0 | 3.4 |
| 10 | 64.2 | 1.9 | 8 | −4.4 | 1 932 | −149.1 | −147.4 | 1.7 |
| 20 | 59.2 | 6.9 | 8 | −4.4 | 1 392 | −146.2 | −145.8 | 0.4 |
| 30 | 52.3 | 13.8 | 7.8 | −4.6 | 1 075 | −144.2 | −144.2 | 0.0 |
| 40 | 44.4 | 21.7 | 6.9 | −5.5 | 882 | −143.4 | −142.6 | 0.8 |
| 50 | 36 | 30.1 | 5.5 | −6.9 | 761 | −143.5 | −139.4 | 4.1 |
| 60 | 27.2 | 38.9 | 3.6 | −8.8 | 683 | −144.5 | −134.0 | 10.5 |
| 70 | 18.2 | 47.9 | 0.7 | −11.7 | 635 | −146.7 | −133.0 | 13.7 |
| 80 | 9.1 | 57 | −2.2 | −14.6 | 608 | −149.2 | −132.0 | 17.2 |
| 90 | 0 | 66.1 | −5.5 | −17.9 | 600 | −152.4 | −131.0 | 21.4 |

2) Isoflux antenna: This antenna is designed to point at the nadir direction providing a symmetric radiation pattern around the pointing direction. Assuming a peak antenna gain of 2 dBi, a transmit RF power of −5 dBW in 25 kHz will ensure compliance with the PFD limit. Satellite e.i.r.p. vs. ship elevation is shown in Table 43.

Table 43 - Satellite e.i.r.p vs. elevation using an isoflux antenna

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ship elevation angle (degrees) | Nadir offset angle (degrees) | Boresight offset (degrees) | Satellite antenna (gain dBi) | Satellite e.i.r.p. in circular polarization (dBW) | Satellite range (km) | PFD dBW/m2/4 (kHz) | Table A4‑1 PFD limit dBW/m2/4 (kHz) | PFD margin (dB) |
| 0 | 66.1 | 0 | 2 | −3.0 | 2 830 | −151.0 | −149.0 | 2.0 |
| 10 | 64.2 | 1.9 | 1.5 | −3.5 | 1 932 | −148.2 | −147.4 | 0.8 |
| 20 | 59.2 | 6.9 | 1 | −4.0 | 1 392 | −145.8 | −145.8 | 0.0 |
| 30 | 52.3 | 13.8 | −0.5 | −5.5 | 1 075 | −145.1 | −144.2 | 0.9 |
| 40 | 44.4 | 21.7 | −2 | −7.0 | 882 | −144.9 | −142.6 | 2.3 |
| 50 | 36 | 30.1 | −4 | −9.0 | 761 | −145.6 | −139.4 | 6.2 |
| 60 | 27.2 | 38.9 | −5 | −10.0 | 683 | −145.7 | −134.0 | 11.7 |
| 70 | 18.2 | 47.9 | −7 | −12.0 | 635 | −147.0 | −133.0 | 14.0 |
| 80 | 9.1 | 57 | −8 | −13.0 | 608 | −147.6 | −132.0 | 15.6 |
| 90 | 0 | 66.1 | −8.5 | −13.5 | 600 | −148.0 | −131.0 | 17.0 |

* + - 1. **Link *C*/(*N*0+*I*0)**

The nominal signal level and *C*/(*N*0+*I*0) vs. elevation for a 25 kHz channel are provided in Table 42 and Table 43 for Yagi and Isoflux on-board antennas. The assumed ship antenna gain is 3 dBi and the system noise temperature is 30.2 dBK as shown in Table 11.

Because the downlink is PFD limited, increasing the channel bandwidth to 50 kHz or 100 kHz will increase the signal level and *C*/(*N*0+*I*0) by 3 and 6 dB respectively. Limiting the service area to ship elevation angles between 10 and 55 degrees also improves the link margin by 3 dB.

The Isoflux antenna improves the link budget at low elevation angles and provides a wider symmetrical coverage area, but requires a 5 times larger transmitter power on the satellite.

The link budget results with a satellite Yagi antenna is shown in Table 44. Isoflux antenna is shown in Table 45.

It should be noted that the analyses based on single satellite visibility.

Table 44 - Link budget with satellite Yagi antenna (transmit RF power = −12.4 dBW/25 kHz)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ship elevation angle  (degrees) | Satellite EIRP in circular polarization  (dBW) | Satellite range  (km) | Path loss  (dB) | Polarization loss  (dB) | Ship antenna gain  (dBi) | Antenna signal level  (dBm) | *C*/*N*0  (dBHz) | Noise level in 25 kHz BW  (dBm) | *C*/(*N*0+*I*0) (dBHz) |
| 0 | −4.4 | 2 830 | 145.6 | 3 | 3 | −120.0 | 48.4 | −116 | 40.0 |
| 10 | −4.4 | 1 932 | 142.2 | 3 | 3 | −116.7 | 51.7 | −116 | 43.3 |
| 20 | −4.4 | 1 392 | 139.4 | 3 | 2.5 | −114.3 | 54.1 | −116 | 45.7 |
| 30 | −4.6 | 1 075 | 137.2 | 3 | 1 | −113.8 | 54.6 | −116 | 46.2 |
| 40 | −5.5 | 882 | 135.4 | 3 | 0 | −114.0 | 54.4 | −116 | 46.0 |
| 50 | −6.9 | 761 | 134.2 | 3 | −1.5 | −115.6 | 52.8 | −116 | 44.4 |
| 60 | −8.8 | 683 | 133.2 | 3 | −3 | −118.0 | 50.4 | −116 | 41.9 |
| 70 | −11.7 | 635 | 132.6 | 3 | −4 | −121.3 | 47.1 | −116 | 38.7 |
| 80 | −14.6 | 608 | 132.2 | 3 | −10 | −129.8 | 38.6 | −116 | 30.2 |
| 90 | −17.9 | 600 | 132.1 | 3 | −20 | −143.0 | 25.4 | −116 | 17.0 |

Table 45 - Link budget using Isoflux antenna (transmit RF power = −5.0 dBW/25 kHz)

| Ship elevation angle  (deg) | Sat. EIRP (dBW) | Path loss (dB) | Pol. loss (dB) | Ship antenna gain  (dBi) | Ship G/T (dB/K) | *C*/*N*0 no interference (dBHz) | Antenna level  (dBm) | Noise level in 25 kHz  (dBm) | *C*/(*N*0+*I*0) (dBHz) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | −3.0 | 145.6 | 3 | 3 | −27.2 | 49.8 | −118.6 | −116 | 41.4 |
| 10 | −3.5 | 142.2 | 3 | 3 | −27.2 | 52.7 | −115.7 | −116 | 44.2 |
| 20 | −4.0 | 139.4 | 3 | 2.5 | −27.7 | 54.5 | −113.9 | −116 | 46.1 |
| 30 | −5.5 | 137.2 | 3 | 1 | −29.2 | 53.7 | −114.7 | −116 | 45.3 |
| 40 | −7.0 | 135.4 | 3 | 0 | −30.2 | 53.0 | −115.4 | −116 | 44.5 |
| 50 | −9.0 | 134.2 | 3 | −1.5 | −31.7 | 50.7 | −117.7 | −116 | 42.3 |
| 60 | −10.0 | 133.2 | 3 | −3 | −33.2 | 49.2 | −119.2 | −116 | 40.8 |
| 70 | −12.0 | 132.6 | 3 | −4 | −34.2 | 46.8 | −121.6 | −116 | 38.4 |
| 80 | −13.0 | 132.2 | 3 | −10 | −40.2 | 40.2 | −128.2 | −116 | 31.8 |
| 90 | −13.5 | 132.1 | 3 | −20 | −50.2 | 29.8 | −138.6 | −116 | 21.4 |

* + 1. VDE-SAT uplink link budget

Examples of link budgets for the VDE-SAT uplink are provided in the following sections.

* + - 1. **Ship station e.i.r.p. vs. elevation angle**

For ship station e.i.r.p vs elevation angle, see Annex A.

* + - 1. **Satellite antenna gain**

Table 46 presents the gain of a 3-element Yagi satellite antenna with a peak gain of 8 dBi as a function of elevation angle.

Table 46 - Satellite antenna gain vs. ship elevation angle

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ship elevation angle (deg) | Nadir offset angle (deg) | Boresight offset angle (deg) | Satellite antenna gain (dBi) |
| 0 | 66.1 | 0 | 8 |
| 10 | 64.2 | 1.9 | 8 |
| 20 | 59.2 | 6.9 | 8 |
| 30 | 52.3 | 13.8 | 7.8 |
| 40 | 44.4 | 21.7 | 6.9 |
| 50 | 36 | 30.1 | 5.5 |
| 60 | 27.2 | 38.9 | 3.6 |
| 70 | 18.2 | 47.9 | 0.7 |
| 80 | 9.1 | 57 | −2.2 |
| 90 | 0 | 66.1 | −5.5 |

* + - 1. **Satellite system noise temperature**

The satellite noise level at the receiver input is shown in Table 47. Without external interference, the system noise temperature is 25.7 dBK.

Table 47 - Satellite receiver system noise temperature

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Antenna noise temperature | 200.0 | oK |
| Feed losses | 1.0 | dB |
| LNA noise figure | 2.0 | dB |
| LNA noise temperature | 159.7 | oK |
| Feedloss noise temp. at LNA | 56.1 | oK |
| Antenna noise temp. at LNA | 158.9 | oK |
| System noise temp. at LNA | 374.7 | oK |
| System noise temp. at LNA | 25.7 | dBK |

* + - 1. **Uplink *C*/*N*0**

The baseline uplink link budget is given in Table 48. It is optimised for 0 degree ship elevation angles.

It can be seen from Table 48 that the *C*/*N*0 is better than 74 dBHz for ship elevation angles between 0 and 65 degrees.

Table 48 - VDE-SAT Uplink link budget, 6 W ship transmit power

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ship elevation angle  (deg) | | Ship antenna gain  (dBi) | Ship e.i.r.p. (dBW) | Polarization loss  (dB) | Range  (km) | Path loss (dB) | Satellite antenna gain  (dBi) | Satellite G/T (dB/K) | C/N0  (dBHz) |
| 0 | 3 | | 10.8 | 3 | 2 830 | 145.56 | 8 | −17.6 | 73.2 |
| 10 | 3 | | 10.8 | 3 | 1 932 | 142.25 | 8 | −17.6 | 76.5 |
| 20 | 2.5 | | 10.3 | 3 | 1 392 | 139.40 | 8 | −17.6 | 78.9 |
| 30 | 1 | | 8.8 | 3 | 1 075 | 137.16 | 7.8 | −17.8 | 79.4 |
| 40 | 0 | | 7.8 | 3 | 882 | 135.44 | 6.9 | −18.7 | 79.2 |
| 50 | −1.5 | | 6.3 | 3 | 761 | 134.16 | 5.5 | −20.1 | 77.6 |
| 60 | −3 | | 4.8 | 3 | 683 | 133.22 | 3.6 | −22 | 75.2 |
| 70 | −4 | | 3.8 | 3 | 635 | 132.58 | 0.7 | −24.9 | 71.9 |
| 80 | −10 | | −2.2 | 3 | 608 | 132.21 | -2.2 | −27.8 | 63.4 |
| 90 | −20 | | −12.2 | 3 | 600 | 132.09 | -5.5 | −31.1 | 50.2 |

* + 1. Propagation effects

The received signal level on-board a ship will vary due to a number of factors as shown in Table . A Rice distribution with a carrier to multipath (*C*/*M*) ratio of 10 dB and fading bandwidth of 3 Hz is assumed (see Figure 47), however the system shall be adaptable to handle significantly worse and better propagation conditions. Mid-latitude fade depths due to ionospheric scintillation are shown in Table 50.

Table 49 - Ionospheric effects for elevation angles of about 30° one-way traversal

(derived from Recommendation ITU-R P.531)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Effect | Frequency dependence | 0.1 GHz | 0.25 GHz | 1 GHz |
| Faraday rotation | 1/*f* 2 | 30 rotations | 4.8 rotations | 108° |
| Propagation delay | 1/*f* 2 | 25 µs | 4 µs | 0.25 µs |
| Refraction | 1/*f* 2 | < 1° | < 0.16° | < 0.6′ |
| Variation in the direction of  arrival (r.m.s.) | 1/*f* 2 | 20′ | 3.2′ | 12′′ |
| Absorption (auroral and/or  polar cap) | ≈1/*f* 2 | 5 dB | 0.8 dB | 0.05 dB |
| Absorption (mid-latitude) | 1/*f* 2 | < 1 dB | < 0.16 dB | < 0.01 dB |
| Dispersion | 1/*f* 3 | 0.4 ps/Hz | 0.026 ps/Hz | 0.0004 ps/Hz |
| Scintillation (1) | See Rec.  ITU-R.P.531 | See Rec.  ITU-R P.531 | See Rec.  ITU-R P.531 | > 20 dB peak-to-peak |
| \* This estimate is based on a TEC of 1 018 electrons/m2, which is a high value of TEC encountered at low latitudes in day-time with high solar activity.  (1) Values observed near the geomagnetic equator during the early night-time hours (local time) at equinox under conditions of high sunspot number. | | | | |

Table 50 - Mid-latitude fade depths due to ionospheric scintillation (dB)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Percentage of time (%) | Frequency (GHz) | | | |
| 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 1 |
| 1.0 | 5.9 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 0.5 | 9.3 | 2.3 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| 0.2 | 16.6 | 4.2 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| 0.1 | 25.0 | 6.2 | 1.0 | 0.3 |

Figure 47 - Ricean fade depth probability

* 1. Protection of the radio astronomy service in the 150.05-153 MHz band from harmful interference from the VDE-SAT downlink

An appropriate protection limit for Radio Astronomy service in the 150.05-153.0 MHz band would be −238 dBW/m2 in a 2.95 MHz bandwidth centred around 152 MHz. Accordingly, the maximum VDE-SAT downlink emission in the 150.05-153 MHz band should be below values shown in Table 51.

Table 51 - Maximum satellite unwanted emissions in the 150.05-153 MHz band

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ship elevation angle (deg) | RAS limit (W/m2/ 2.95 MHz) | Range (km) | Sat. max. interference e.i.r.p. | | |
| (W) | (dBW) | (dBW/Hz) |
| 0 | 1.58E-24 | 2830 | 1.60E-10 | −97.97 | −162.67 |
| 10 | 1.58E-24 | 1932 | 7.43E-11 | −101.29 | −165.99 |
| 20 | 1.58E-24 | 1392 | 3.86E-11 | −104.14 | −168.83 |
| 30 | 1.58E-24 | 1075 | 2.30E-11 | −106.38 | −171.08 |
| 40 | 1.58E-24 | 882 | 1.55E-11 | −108.10 | −172.80 |
| 50 | 1.58E-24 | 761 | 1.15E-11 | −109.38 | −174.08 |
| 60 | 1.58E-24 | 683 | 9.29E-12 | −110.32 | −175.02 |
| 70 | 1.58E-24 | 635 | 8.03E-12 | −110.95 | −175.65 |
| 80 | 1.58E-24 | 608 | 7.36E-12 | −111.33 | −176.03 |
| 90 | 1.58E-24 | 600 | 7.17E-12 | −111.44 | −176.14 |

* 1. Bit mapping

For bit mappings, see Annex A.

* 1. Spread spectrum with constant envelope

Direct sequence spreading with constant envelope can be implemented according to the spreading strategy [RD-3]. This provides a way to generate constant envelope signals whilst allowing the use of linear modulations (i.e. BPSK, or QPSK for data modulation). In this approach, the CPM spreading sequences are selected such that the spread symbols maintain quasi continuous phase even at the transition from one symbol to the next. The CPM spreading principle is provided in Figure 48.



Figure 48 - CPM Spreading Principle

In order to avoid phase discontinuity at the data symbol transitions, the proposed solution is to adapt the spreading sequence to the modulation data. In other words, the CPM spreading sequence at the edge of each symbol is adapted according to the new input modulation symbol value to avoid any phase discontinuity. Such a solution produces a small loss at the receiver as the receiver does not know the edge symbol part of the used CPM spreading sequence. For a spreading factor of 16 or higher, the resulting correlation loss experienced by the receiver due to this issue is less than 0.25 dB. Performance losses with respect to conventional spreading is thus quite negligible provided that SF = 16 or larger is used.

The CPM spreading sequences are computed and optimized off-line and then stored in the memory of the terminals and receivers. A single spreading code is sufficient for all the users in the system. There is thus no need for storing multiple spreading sequences but just a single spreading sequence.

The stored spreading sequence (see G1139-1) is then applied starting from the preamble and continuing in the data part (as shown in Figure 41). The generated constant envelope spreading output sequence is given by

where represents the QPSK modulated input signal of length  symbols. Thus, . It should be noted that the generated spreading sequence is actually partly dependent on the modulation symbols in order to ensure continuity of the signal phase when the modulation symbol changes (Figure 40). The spreading sequence to be generated is oversampled by a factor relative to the chip rate. The total number of constant envelope output samples then becomes , where one single input QPSK symbol is spread to output samples. The output sample index is ranging from to , and the input symbol index as function of the output sample index is related by . Here the floor operator rounds down to the nearest integer towards minus infinity. Furthermore, two predefined two-dimensional complex valued tables, and , containing optimised constant envelope spreading signature sequences are utilised in the constant envelope spreading process. The table is applied for generating the spreading sequence for the first half of an input symbol, while is used for the second half, where a half symbol period consists of output samples. The present table to use, either or , is decided by the modulus index value given by , where % defines a modulus operator. The first dimensional, representing sample time, table indexes and are given by and , where is the first dimensional size of the and tables. In our case, the spreading sequence is designed as maximum length, i.e. , and . The modulus in the timing index expressions is not needed. The second dimensional table indexes, and , depend on and are based on differential QPSK symbol quadrant computation. Given the applied Gray-coded QPSK bits-to-symbol mapping definition, the belonging quadrant is given by

and the second dimensional table indexes

and

As the differential phase table indexes and , the overall size of the and the tables becomes , thus containing complex valued constant envelope values.

The specified constant envelope spreading scheme is at present only applicable for the SAT-MCS-1.50-2 physical layer burst format, with Link Config ID equal to 20, for which and . The signature spreading sequences are optimised for an oversampling factor =16, and the signature table is stored in the ASCII file “cpa\_SF16\_NS16\_BL261.txt”, and the table is stored in file “cpe\_SF16\_NS16\_BL261.txt”. The table entities within the files are oriented in rows and 8 columns. The row number thus directly related to the first dimensional table indexes, and . The first, third, fifth and seventh columns contain the real part of the complex valued entities, while the second, fourth, sixth and eighth columns hold the imaginary part. The full relationship between a loaded ASCII file table, , and a signature table becomes

where and the row and column of are assumed counted from one.

Even if the signature sequences are optimised for =16, appropriate constant envelope spreading sequences for =8 and =4 can be generated by decimating the signature spreading tables in time, i.e. along the first dimensional table index, by a decimation factor equal to 2 or 4 correspondingly.

Figure 50 illustrates the power spectral properties of the proposed modulation scheme (with spreading factor 16). Due to its constant envelope properties, this modulation scheme can operate with a transmit power amplifier operating close to saturation while maintaining a low power leakage to adjacent channels.



Figure 49 - Proposed Spreading in the CPM

Figure 50 - Power spectral properties of spread spectrum with constant envelope

* 1. Baseband shaping and quadrature modulation

For baseband shaping of symbols, see Annex A.

* 1. Transmission timing accuracy

For transmission accuracy figures, see Annex A.

* 1. Half duplex and full duplex satellites

The system can be configured for both half and full duplex satellites as shown in Figure 51.



Figure 51 - Half-duplex and full duplex satellite operation

* 1. Frame structure

For frame and transmission burst structure, see Annex A.

* 1. Pilots and Syncword symbol location and modulation

Pilot symbols are utilised for some of the VDE-SAT uplink and downlink PL burst waveforms. A pilot symbol is a single symbol with unity power mapped to the constellation point . Single pilot symbols are regularly distributed over the burst, and the position of each pilot symbol is defined by the pilot distance. Denoting the pilot distance, the very first pilot symbol in the burst is located symbols after the last symbol of the preceding training sequence. For the VDE-SAT uplink PL format SAT-MCS-5.50, the syncword size is 27 symbols and the pilot distance is 33 symbols. Counting from zero, the last training sequence symbol is thus located at symbol position 26, the first pilot symbol is located at position 43, and the next pilot symbol at position 76.

For VDE-SAT downlink, uniformly repeated syncword are utilised for synchronisation purpose. The bit pattern sequence of a repeated syncword is equal to the preamble training sequence, as defined for VDE-SAT in Table A1-2. The location of the uniformly repeated syncwords is given by the syncword distance, defined as the distance between the first symbol of two subsequently syncwords. For the VDE-SAT downlink PL format SAT-MCS-0.50-1, the syncword distance is 1004 symbols. The first symbol of the preamble syncword and the first repeated syncword in such a burst waveform is thus located at postion 0 and 1004 correspondingly.

Both uniformly repeated syncword and regularly distributed single pilot symbols are utilised for the π/4 QPSK and 8PSK modulated VDE-SAT downlink burst waveforms. The location of the repeated syncword and distributed pilot symbols is given by the pilot distance and the syncword distance as previously outlined. The first pilot symbol following a given syncword is thus always located  symbols after the last symbol of that particular syncword. Furthermore, the distance from the last single pilot symbol preceding a given syncword to the first symbol of that particular syncword is also  symbols. For the VDE-SAT downlink PL format SAT-MCS-1.50-1 and SAT-MCS-3.50-1, both the syncword size and the pilot distance is 27 symbols, and the syncword distance is 2268 symbols. The last preamble syncword symbol is thus located at position 26, the first pilot symbol at position 40, and the next pilot symbol at position 67. The location of the last pilot symbol preceding the first repeated syncword becomes 2254, and the first repeated syncword symbol is located at position 2268.

A generalised PL burst structure containing both uniformly repetitive syncword and regulary distributed single pilot symbols is visualised in the figure below. The distance is referred to as “half a pilot distance” in the figure.

For PL burst waveform applying π/4 QPSK, 8PSK and 16QAM modulation, the syncword is π/4 QPSK modulated. Odd symbol position indexes are then mapped to symbol constellation points that are phase offset by +45 degree from the nominal QPSK symbol constellation points used for even symbol position indexes. This even and odd position indexes toggling rule, as described in Section A 1.2.7 and visualised in Figure 12 shall also be applied for the uniformly repeated syncword. This rule results in two different syncword modulation signal patterns for these particular PL burst waveforms when the syncword distance is an even number of symbols.

For π/4 QPSK modulated PL burst waveforms, single pilot symbols located at odd symbol position indexes are phase offset by π/4 from the nominal QPSK symbol constellation points as all other odd symbol positioned symbols in the actual burst.

Syncword

(preamble)

Syncword distance

Data

Pilot

Pilot

Data

Data

Pilot

Pilot

Data

Syncword

Pilot distance

Half a

pilot distance

Half a

pilot distance

Figure 52 - General PL burst structure with repetitive sync word and distributed single pilot symbols

* 1. Forward Error Correction and interleaving

For forward error correction and interleaving, see Annex A.

* 1. VDE-SAT link configuration formats

For link configurations available for the VDE-SAT uplink and downlink, see Annex A.

* 1. VDE-SAT Downlink Block Channel Interleaver

A block channel interleaver is considered on the VDE-SAT downlink in order to reduce the impact of the channel short blockage (for example due to the AIS transmission from the vessel or fast fading events). The channel interleaver is applied to the code-words at the output of the encoder.

The interleaver can be applied on data blocks by column permutation (as long as the number of columns can be made as an integer power of 2). The interleaver memory in this case (from the point of view of the transmitter) is written by row and read by columns after having applied an inter-column permutation. The proposed column permutation is resulting from reading the column index in the reverse order (bit shuffling), i.e. the column with index i5 i4, i3 i2, i1, i0 become the column i0, i1,i2, i3, i4, i5, where i0, i1 i2 i3 i4 and i5 are the bits representing a given number.

In more general cases (where the number of columns is not an integer power of 2), the interleaver index can be made available as table-lookup.

1. VDE-SAT link layer

For description of the link layer, see Annex A.

1. Network layer

For description of the network layer, see Annex A.

1. Transport layer

For description of the transport layer, see Annex A.

1. Resource Sharing Method for VDES Terrestrial and Satellite Services
2. INTRODUCTION

This annex describes how resource sharing (i.e. in time and frequency) for utilizing the VHF spectrum available between different VDES services and stations should be accomplished.

A ship may be within range of multiple controlling shore stations. This annex describes a method for coordinating time and frequency resources between multiple controlling shore stations, particularly the use of bulletin boards and announcement signalling channels, as defined in Annexes A and C.

The VDE-SAT is an effective means to extend the VDES to areas outside of coastal VHF coverage. However, due to the large footprint of satellite, the VDE-SAT downlink signal may interfere with VDE-TER in the coastal areas when satellite is in visibility. Similarly, the terrestrial ship-to-shore VDE signals can interfere with the satellite reception of VDE-SAT uplink when a VDE Satellite is in the field of view. The method described in this annex for resource sharing is derived based on the characteristics of VDE-TER and VDE-SAT, particularly the use of bulletin board and announcement signalling channels, as defined in Annexes A, B and C.

The channels 24, 84, 25, 85, 26 and 86 are allocated for VDE, with the lower leg frequencies used for ship-to-shore and the upper leg frequencies used for shore-to-ship and ship-to-ship. The channels 2027 (ASM 1) and 2028 (ASM 2) are allocated for ASM. Currently, 2 alternative frequency utilization plans for VDES are under consideration. They describe how resources are allocated and shared between VDE-TER, VDE-SAT and ASM. These 2 alternative frequency utilization plans are illustrated in Figure 53, and described further in this section.



Figure 53 - RR APPENDIX 18 and VDES frequency utilization plans

* 1. Frequency plan alternative 1

Frequency plan alternative 1 allow for utilization of the channels 24, 84, 25, 85, 26 and 86 in a shared manner between VDE-TER and VDE-SAT.

* The four channels 1024, 1084, 1025 and 1085 are shared between ship-to-shore and ship-to-satellite (VDE-SAT uplink) services
* The two channels 1026 and 1086 are exclusively reserved for ship-to-satellite (VDE-SAT uplink) services
* The four channels 2024, 2084, 2025 and 2085 are shared among shore-to-ship, ship-to-ship and satellite-to-ship (VDE-SAT downlink) services
* The two channels 2026 and 2086 are exclusively reserved for satellite-to-ship (VDE-SAT downlink) services.
* Two channels 2027(ASM 1) and 2028 (ASM 2) are shared between ship-to-shore, ship-to-ship, shore-to-ship and ship-to-satellite services
  1. Frequency plan alternative 2

Frequency plan alternative 2 allow for utilization of channels 24, 84, 25 and 85 primarily for VDE-TER, while channels 26 and 86 exclusively reserved for VDE-SAT uplink. VDE-SAT uplink is also possible in channels 24, 84, 25 and 85, but the VDE-SAT uplink in these channels do not impose constraints on VDE-TER. Frequencies are exclusively reserved for VDE-SAT downlink within the frequency range 160.9625 MHz to 161.4875 MHz, which is not channelized in RR Appendix 18.

* The four channels 1024, 1084, 1025 and 1085 are reserved for ship-to-shore services, but ship-to-satellite (VDE-SAT uplink) services are possible without imposing constraints on ship-to-shore services
* The four channels 2024, 2084, 2025 and 2085 are reserved for shore-to-ship and ship-to-ship services, but ship-to-satellite (VDE-SAT uplink) services are possible without imposing constraints on shore-to-ship and ship-to-ship services
* The four channels 1026, 1086, 2026 and 2086 are exclusively reserved for ship-to-satellite (VDE-SAT uplink) services.
* Frequencies are exclusively reserved for satellite-to-ship (VDE-SAT downlink) services within the frequency range 160.9625 MHz to 161.4875 MHz, which is not channelized in RR Appendix 18
* Two channels 2027(ASM 1) and 2028 (ASM 2) are shared between ship-to-shore, ship-to-ship, shore-to-ship and ship-to-satellite services

1. VDES resource sharing principles
   1. AIS priority

Understanding that when transmissions occurs a VDES mobile station with a single antenna will suffer decreased receiver sensitivity, care must be taken to respect the AIS transmission and reception as the highest priority.

* 1. Coordination between ASM and VDE

VDE ship transmissions should be coordinated with transmissions on the ASM channels to ensure that ASM messages with new safety and navigational related information can be received.

* 1. Shore station VDES control area

The VDES resource assignments in the proximity of a shore station is monitored and controlled by a shore station. Shore stations utilize terrestrial bulletin board (TBB) and announcement signalling channels (ASC) to coordinate the resource assignment within the control area. The shore station may incorporate information regarding VDE satellite communications within the TBB and ASC. The shore station may acquire the VDE satellite information directly from the VDE-Satellite downlink (the satellite bulletin board and ASC) or in coordination with the satellite service providers.

There are dedicated slots and frequency bands for TBB and ASC that are reserved to communicate the required information to each vessel in the control area of a shore station. The default (or initial) assignment are described in Annex E 4.

* 1. VDE-SAT resource assignment

Each satellite should use bulletin board and announcement channels (as defined in Annexes A and C) to communicate the VDE-SAT resource assignments (both downlink and uplink) to vessels in the coverage area.

There are dedicated slots and frequency bands for the satellite bulletin board and announcement channels that are reserved to communicate the required information to each vessel in the field of view of a satellite.

Since the satellite coverage may include several shore station control areas, the VDE-SAT resource assignment should respect all requirements of shore control areas that are within the field of view at any given time. Within each satellite orbit the information regarding the resource assignment should be updated according to the shore station control areas in the satellite field of view.

A default (or initial) VDE-SAT resource allocation is defined Annex E 4 to serve as the starting point for the resource sharing.

1. VDE-TER Resource sharing between multiple controlling shore stations

The allocation of frequency and time slots used for the bulletin board announcement must be coordinated between controlling stations. Other resource assignments are managed based on the content of the bulletin board and announcement signalling channels. The assignment may change dynamically (according to temporal demands).

There are dedicated resources in channel 2024 and 2084 that are assigned to the terrestrial bulletin board and announcement channels, as described in Annexes A and C.

Channels 2024, 2084, 2025 and 2085 are shared between multiple controlling stations. The resource sharing must be coordinated between shore station operators. This coordination can be done either directly between the operators or rely on the bulletin board and announcement channels of the shore stations, depending on the shore control areas, the resource assignment may vary. As an initial configuration for resource sharing, the controlling shore stations should adopt a static assignment in time and frequency.

1. VDE-TER and VDE-SAT downlink resource sharing
   1. Resource sharing with frequency plan alternative 1

With frequency plan alternative 1, the channels 2026 and 2086 are dedicated to VDE-SAT downlink. Within these exclusive VDE-SAT channels, there are dedicated time slots that are assigned to the satellite bulletin board and announcement signalling channels as described in Annexes A and C. Other slot assignments in the exclusive VDE-SAT frequency bands are managed based on the content of the bulletin board and announcement signalling channels. The assignment may change dynamically (according to the satellite coverage or temporal demands).

Channels 2024, 2084, 2025 and 2085 are shared between VDE-SAT Downlink and VDE-TER. Depending on the satellite coverage area and the shore control areas, the resource assignment may vary.

There are dedicated time slots in channel 2024 and 2084 that are assigned to the terrestrial signalling channel and terrestrial bulletin board, as described in Annexes A and C. These slots should not be used by VDE-SAT downlink when a VDE shore station is within the satellite coverage area.

A shore station may assign the full resources of channels 2024, 2084, 2025 and 2085 for terrestrial services when there is no transmitting VDE satellite in the field of view.

When a transmitting VDE satellite is in the field of view the resource sharing between VDE-SAT downlink and VDE shore-to-ship and ship-to-ship must be coordinated between the shore operator and the satellite operator. This coordination can be done either directly between the operators or rely on the bulletin board and announcement channels of the satellite and shore stations. As an initial configuration for resource sharing, a static assignment in time and frequency should be adopted by the terrestrial and satellite entities.

* Channels 2024 and 2084 are exclusively used for terrestrial VDE, maintaining the original signalling assignment that was described above
* Channels 2026 and 2086 are exclusively used for VDE-SAT downlink, maintaining the original signalling assignment that was described above
* Channels 2025 and 2085 are time-shared between VDE-SAT downlink and VDE terrestrial services. The time sharing is based on time intervals of 2.4 s (90 slots) that are assigned periodically to VDE-SAT and VDE terrestrial services

As the starting point of VDES resource sharing or in the absence of coordination between the shore and satellite operation, this resource sharing method should be used.

Coordination of resource sharing between VDE ship-to-ship and VDE-SAT downlink for areas not controlled by a VDE shore station is managed by the VDE-SAT bulletin board, as described in Annex D. As a starting point for this resource sharing or in the absence of any VDE-SAT bulletin board, the resource sharing method described above should be used.

* 1. Resource sharing with frequency plan alternative 2

With frequency plan alternative 2, the frequency band from 160.9625 MHz to 161.4875 MHz is dedicated to VDE-SAT downlink. The frequencies in this band are not channelized in RR APPENDIX 18. Within this exclusive VDE-SAT band, there are dedicated channels and time slots that are assigned to the satellite bulletin board and announcement signalling channels as described in Annexes A and D. Other slot assignments in this exclusive VDE-SAT frequency band are managed based on the content of the bulletin board and announcement signalling channels. The assignment may change dynamically (according to the satellite coverage or temporal demands).

1. Sharing between different VDE satellite systems

The sharing between two or more satellite systems is coordinated between the satellite operators and organized through the bulletin board, delivered by satellites in VDE-SAT downlink band, as described in Annexes A and D. Ships use the satellite bulletin boards for channel and resource configuration.

The waveform used for the bulletin board should allow for detection of overlapping signals received from multiple satellites. The use of direct sequence spreading as defined in Annex D, allows for detection of up to 8 overlapping satellite signals.

1. VDE-TER and VDE-SAT uplink resource sharing
   1. Resource sharing with frequency plan alternative 1

With frequency plan alternative 1, the lower frequency bands, channel 1026 and 1086 are dedicated to VDE-SAT uplink while channels 1024, 1084, 1025 and 1085 are shared between VDE-TER and VDE-SAT.

The exclusive VDE-SAT uplink channels may be used for dedicated (demand assigned) or random access to satellite. Since there is no VDE terrestrial interference on these two channels, these channels should be used for higher priority message (safety, distress, acknowledgement, etc.).

Through the bulletin board, a shore station may assign the full resources of channels 1024, 1084, 1025 and 1085 for terrestrial services when there is no receiving VDE satellite in the field of view.

When a transmitting VDE satellite is in the field of view the resource sharing between VDE-SAT uplink and VDE-TER ship-to-shore must be coordinated between the shore operator and the satellite operator. This coordination can be done either directly between the operators or rely on the bulletin board and announcement channels of the satellite and shore stations. As an initial configuration for resource sharing, a static assignment in time and frequency should be adopted by the terrestrial and satellite entities.

* Channels 1024 and 1084 are exclusively used for VDE-TER ship-to-shore
* Channels 1026 and 1086 are exclusively used for VDE-SAT uplink (ship-to-satellite)
* Channels 1025 and 1085 are time-shared between the VDE-SAT uplink and VDE-TER services. The time-sharing is based on time intervals of 1 hexslot (6 slots) that are assigned alternately to VDE-SAT and VDE-TER services

As the starting point of VDES resource sharing or in the absence of coordination between the shore and satellite operation, this resource sharing method should be used.

* 1. Resource sharing with frequency plan alternative 2

With frequency plan alternative 2, the utilization of channels 24, 84, 25 and 85 is primarily for VDE-TER. VDE-SAT uplink is also possible in channels 24, 84, 25 and 85, but the VDE-SAT uplink in these channels do not impose constraints on VDE-TER and should only use resources not reserved by VDE-TER.

Channels 26 and 86 exclusively reserved for VDE-SAT uplink. Therefore, on these channels no resources are shared and no sharing scheme is required.

1. The baseband shall employ a root raised cosine filter [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. where 0 dBc is average. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. where 0 dBc is 12.5W average power. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)