

# P275 FM Broadcast Analyzer

## User Manual

Firmware version 2.2c r2  
Hardware version 10.2016

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## Related Documents

Visit the Website for the latest documentation version and the following additional documentation:

- FM Scope - User Guide ([http://pira.cz/fm\\_broadcast\\_analyzer/fmscope.pdf](http://pira.cz/fm_broadcast_analyzer/fmscope.pdf))
- RDS Spy - RDS Decoder for Windows (<http://rdsspy.com/download/mainapp/rdsspy.pdf>)

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## Introduction

The P275 FM Broadcast Analyzer is a stand-alone low-cost solution for FM broadcast analysis. It provides complete FM modulation and basic AF spectrum measurements in FM radio band through the combined antenna and MPX input.

Built-in LCD display and control interface allows to measure and collect data in terrain without need of any PC computer. Serial interface and the control software provide a possibility of remote control, data viewing and automated data logging.

This kind of analyzer is essential equipment for all FM radio stations to ensure compliance with basic technical broadcast standards and to accomplish the highest audio quality possible.

### Main highlights

- Stand-alone design, completely DSP based from IF to outputs
- Compliant with CEPT/ERC REC 54-01 E and ITU-R SM.1268
- Dual-conversion receiver
- Built-in LCD display and RS-232 interface
- Built-in USB interface
- Firmware updates are free
- Easy to use

### Measurements, indications and outputs

- Overall frequency deviation incl. histogram
- Modulation power (MPX power)
- Baseband spectrum, RF carrier spectrum
- Pilot deviation, RDS deviation
- Pilot-to-RDS phase difference
- FM carrier frequency offset
- Reception quality and signal strength
- Stereo balance meter
- MPX peak to peak voltage
- Headphones audio output
- Alarm logic or general purpose outputs
- RDS/RBDS decoder

**Please read this entire manual and familiarize yourself with the controls before attempting to use this equipment.**

The equipment has been thoroughly tested and found to be in proper operating condition when shipped. The manufacturer is not liable for any damages, including but not limited to, lost profits, lost savings, or other incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use of this product.

No part of this manual may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or information storage and retrieval systems, for any purpose other than the purchaser's personal use.

It is our intention to provide you with the best documentation possible to ensure successful use of the product. If you wish to provide your comments on organization, clarity, subject matter and ways in which our documentation can better serve you, please mail us your comments.

Information in this document is subject to change without notice.

Revision: 2024-09-10

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## Electromagnetic compatibility



The manufacturer declares that the product complies with the essential requirements of applicable European Directives and carries the CE marking accordingly and in conformity with the following product standards:

EMC Standard	Test conditions	Notes
EN 55011:2009	Class B	
In line with EN 61326-1:2013:		
EN 61000-3-2:2014		1)
EN 61000-3-3:2013		1)
EN 61000-4-2:2009	Contact discharge $\pm 4$ kV Air discharge $\pm 8$ kV	
EN 61000-4-3:2006	3 V/m (80 MHz - 1 GHz) 3 V/m (1.4 GHz - 2 GHz) 1 V/m (2 GHz - 2.7 GHz)	
EN 61000-4-4:2012	L, N conductors $\pm 1$ kV Capacitive way (antenna cable) $\pm 1$ kV	1)
EN 61000-4-5:2006	L, N conductors $\pm 0.5$ kV	1)
EN 61000-4-6:2009	3 V, 150 kHz - 80 MHz	
EN 61000-4-11:2004	0% UT during half cycle 0% UT during full cycle 70% UT during 25 cycles short interruption: 0% UT during 250 cycles	1)

Test report no.: 414103294AE1  
 Issued by: Testing laboratory no. 1004.3, ITC, a.s., CZ  
 Date: 2016-10-25

## Notes:

1) With standard power supply.

## Technical Specifications

Parameter	Condition	Value
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### General

Supply voltage	USB, J2	5.0 V DC $\pm 10\%$
	battery	2.3 – 4.3 V DC (2x or 3x AA NiMH)
	internal (J17)	5.0 V DC $\pm 5\%$
Supply current	LCD off	80 mA
	LCD on	140 mA
	battery	Up to 280 mA @ 2.4 V
External power supply connectors		USB Micro, pin header
Mainboard dimensions		115 x 65 mm
CPU		70 MIPS DSP
Data connector		RS-232 (DCE, 9 pins), bidirectional, USB (FTDI based, virtual serial port)
Communication speed		19200 or 115200 bps (autodetect)
Communication mode		1 stop bit, 8 data bits, no parity, (no flow control)
RX buffer length		40 bytes
Signal input		BNC type, combined antenna (RF) and MPX input with internal switch.

### Antenna (RF) Input

Recommended source impedance		50 $\Omega$
Frequency range	guaranteed	76.0 – 108.0 MHz
	extended	64.0 – 108.0 MHz
Tuning step		selectable 50 kHz or 100 kHz
Input sensitivity	S/N 26 dB	4 $\mu$ V
	basic measurements	30 $\mu$ V
	full measurements	70 $\mu$ V
Maximum input level		1000 mV (20 mW)
Intermodulation immunity		basic (single input LC circuit with coil tap)
Intermediate frequency (IF)	1 <sup>st</sup> IF	10.7 MHz
	2 <sup>nd</sup> IF	0.325 MHz $\pm$ 0.005 MHz
Image rejection	+ 21.4 MHz	23 dB
IF bandwidth		280 kHz



Never connect RF power output from the transmitter directly to the device's antenna input!

## Measurements

Frequency deviation range	min.	0 – 121 kHz
Frequency deviation error	1 kHz sine	< ± 1.5 kHz
	typical content	< ± 2 kHz
Modulation power range	min.	-12 – 14 dBr
Modulation power error	-6 – 6 dBr	± 0.2 dBr
Pilot deviation error	6.8 kHz	± 0.2 kHz
RDS deviation range		0.8 – 17.9 kHz, note 4
RDS deviation error	full signal	± 5% ± 0.5 kHz
Pilot-to-RDS phase difference error		± 4 deg.
Baseband frequency response flatness	10 Hz – 60 kHz	± 0.3 dB
Stereo balance error		± 0.5 dB
Signal level (RSSI) range	typical	0 – 90 dB $\mu$ V
	battery pwr supply	20 – 90 dB $\mu$ V
Signal level (RSSI) error	60 dB $\mu$ V	± 3 dB $\mu$ V
	30 – 75 dB $\mu$ V	± 5 dB $\mu$ V
	0 – 90 dB $\mu$ V	not specified

## MPX Input

Input impedance		2.3 k $\Omega$
Recommended source impedance		600 $\Omega$ or less
Maximum MPX level	peak to peak	8.0 Vpp
Bandwidth	-1 dB	100 kHz
Vertical resolution		12 bits
Peak to peak voltage error	1 kHz sine	± 2% ± 0.010 Vpp
Pilot level range		0.010 – 2.250 Vpp
RDS level range		0.002 – 3.400 Vpp

## Alarm Outputs

Maximum current from pin 1		100 mA
Maximum current from/to pin 2, 3, 4, 5		15 mA (internally limited by 390R serial resistor)



Don't open the cover (boxed versions)! No user adjustable parts inside! Risk of damage!  
Never use the equipment if there's any visible damage on its electrical parts! In that case  
disconnect all cables, remove accumulators and contact the vendor or manufacturer.

## Headphones audio output

Audio channels		2 (left and right)
Output impedance	typ.	100 $\Omega$
Output level	no load	adjustable 0.1 – 4.0 V <sub>pp</sub> @ 75 kHz
Signal to noise ratio	75 kHz dev.	60 dB
Stereo decoder separation	1 kHz	>26 dB
Distortion	1 kHz	1 %

## Internal RDS/RBDS Decoder

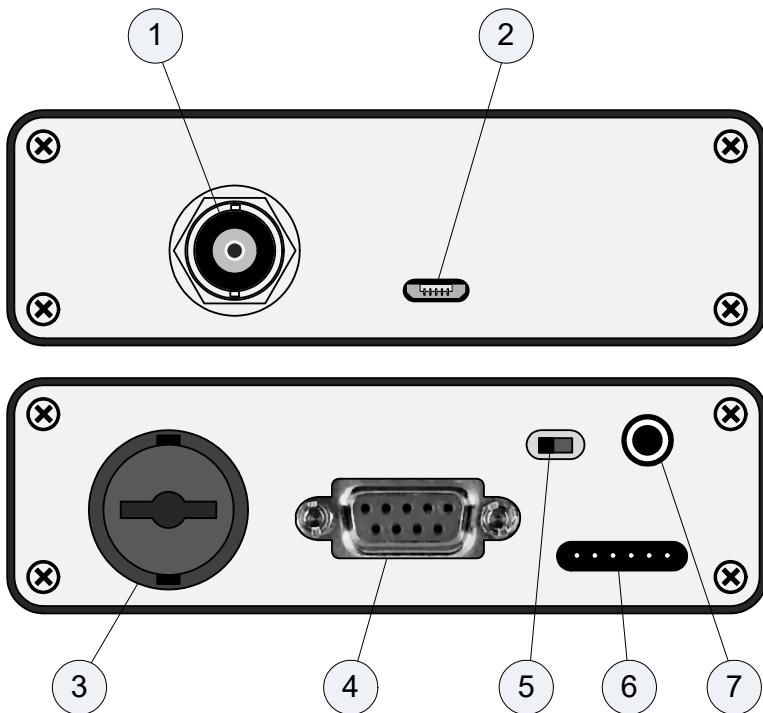
RDS filter and demodulator		DSP based
RDS source		Antenna (RF) or MPX input
RDS groups detected		All RDS groups 0A-15A, 0B-15B
RDS services supported		PS, PI, PTY, PTYN, TP, TA, M/S, DI, AF, EON, ECC, LIC, PIN, RT, CT, AID, RT+, LPS
RDS groups decoded		0A, 0B, 1A, 2A, 2B, 3A, 4A, 10A, 14A, 15A
Minimum RDS deviation ( $\Delta F_{\text{rds}}$ )	antenna (RF) input	1.0 kHz
Minimum RDS level	MPX input	4 mV <sub>pp</sub>
Antenna input sensitivity (average BER = 5 % or less, single station, no interference)	$\Delta F_{\text{rds}}=2.0$ kHz	25 $\mu\text{V}$
	$\Delta F_{\text{rds}}=3.4$ kHz	18 $\mu\text{V}$
	$\Delta F_{\text{rds}}=6.8$ kHz	9 $\mu\text{V}$

### Notes (Technical specifications):

1. pp = peak-to-peak value; BER = Block Error Rate
2. Due to inherent reception the unit may have reduced sensitivity at 102.4 MHz.
3. Very strong el. field intensity (above 130 dB $\mu\text{V}/\text{m}$ ) may cause additional measuring error or may disallow the measurement.
4. If pilot and RDS are not synchronized, the range reduces to 1.5 – 17.9 kHz. Spurious RDS detection may occur on stations without RDS if the station's signal is noisy or specific static sine tones are transmitted. If ARI system is used simultaneously with RDS on the same transmitter, the RDS deviation value should not be taken into consideration. Instead of this the Windows application and MPX spectrum graph gives an image about signal level of each component.

## Side connectors and controls

Following figure applies to the AI-boxed version only.



1	<b>Input</b>	BNC 50Ω input connector. Accepts RF as well as MPX signal. See section 'Menu' for details. See section 'Antenna input' and 'MPX input' for specifications.
2	<b>USB Micro</b>	Allows connection of external 5V power supply or connection to a PC. See section 'Power supply' for details. See section 'USB and COM Port Communication' for details.
3	<b>Battery holder</b>	A space for optional battery. Open the cover using a coin. Press and rotate clockwise to close the cover. The unit accepts R6 AA size NiMH cells (2 pieces).
4	<b>RS-232</b>	Serial RS-232 connector female type. See section 'USB and COM Port Communication' for pin assignment.
5	<b>Battery off/on</b>	Activates built-in battery voltage converter – turns on the unit if the NiMH cells are inserted. Does not have any effect on external power supply. See section 'Power supply' for details.
6	<b>Alarm outputs (J2)</b>	Optional alarm outputs 2.54mm (0.1") pitch pin header. See section 'Alarm output' for details. See section 'Mainboard composition' for pin assignment.
7	<b>Headphones output</b>	2-channel audio output provided on 3.5mm Jack. See section 'Headphones audio output' for specifications.



## Power supply

Several power supply inputs are provided. They can be combined together in general but some limitations may exist. Please read carefully all the specifications below.

### USB Micro connector

Use this connector for supplying the FM analyzer from a PC computer or +5V power supply (DC wall adapter). Maximum ripple of the power supply voltage shall not exceed 100 mVpp.

This connector is polarity protected for currents up to 2 A. Connecting the power supply the unit is always turned on, i.e. the power off/on switch, if present, has no effect if the unit is powered via the USB connector.



The USB micro connector allows the device to be powered from various sources. To keep this advantage, avoid strong force when using this connector. To remove dirt and restore good conductivity, use compressed air.



Never exceed specified voltage value at this connector! It may cause permanent damage to the device! Do not pull in and out the cable with strong force! Do not let the cable hang freely from tables or shelves!



The USB port should be rated to full **500 mA** current! When supplying the unit from USB bus, it is a better choice to connect the unit to the USB interface on the main board. Supplies for pocket USB hubs and for some USB interfaces of lap-top and desk top computers may not be sufficient.

### Battery power supply connector

Use this connector (J13) for supplying the FM analyzer from 2x or 3x 1.2V NiMH accumulator or another low voltage power supply (see the device specifications). When powered via the battery connector, an optional off/on switch may control the device. Due to safety reasons, the unit does not charge the accumulators.



Performance may be impaired when the device is powered this way.  
 Never exceed specified voltage value at the battery power supply connector! It may cause permanent damage to the device!  
 Disconnect or remove accumulators from the unit when it is not in use!  
 Disconnect the USB cable in order to allow operation from the battery.  
 Be careful not to lose the battery holder cover!

### Internal power supply connectors

For embedding purposes the board provides power supply inputs at some internal connectors. These connectors are polarity protected for currents up to 2 A. Maximum ripple of the power supply voltage shall not exceed 50 mVpp.

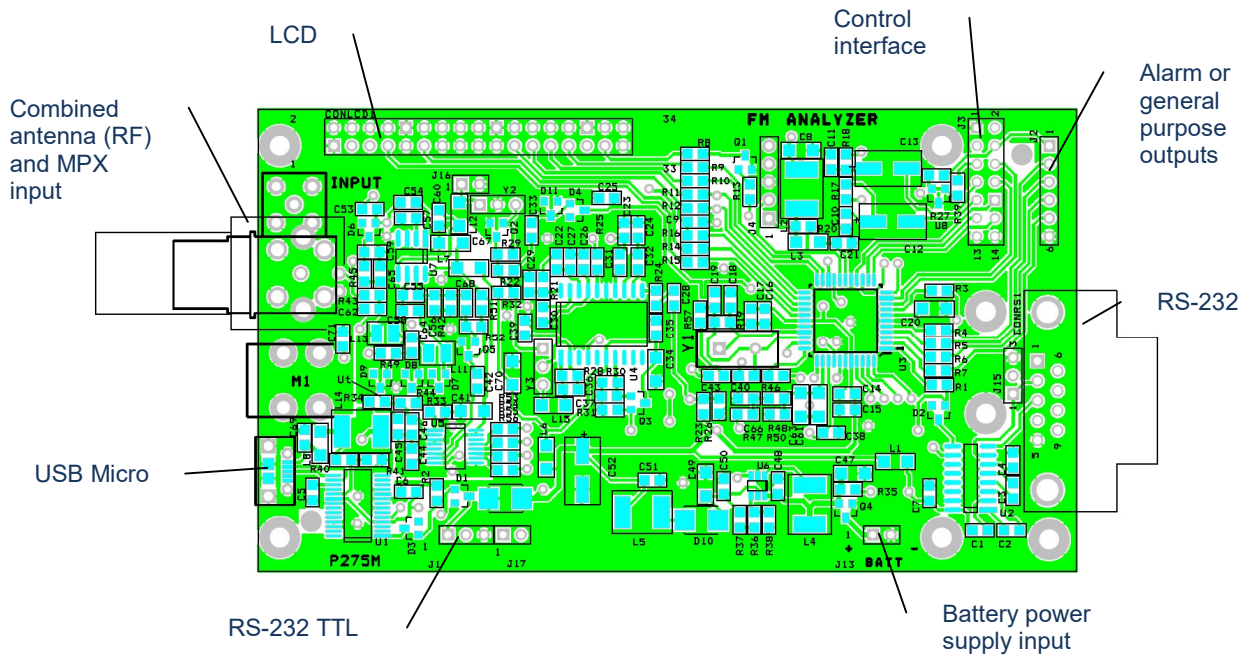
Connector	Pin number	Meaning	Notes
<b>J2</b> (Alarm outputs)	1	+5V	Fused.
	6	Ground	
<b>J3</b>	1	Ground	
	4	+5V	
<b>J17</b>	1	+5V	<i>Preferred.</i> Automatically disconnects USB power supply.
	2	Ground	

The USB Micro connector and the J2 or J3 power supply connector cannot be used at the same time (in such a case, place a serial Schottky diode to the internal power supply path).



Never exceed specified voltage value at these connectors! It may cause permanent damage to the device!

## Mainboard composition



<b>J2 – Alarm outputs / General purpose outputs *</b>	
1	+5V
2	Alarm 1 (Signal lost)
3	Alarm 2 (Silence)
4	Alarm 3 (Overmodulation)
5	Alarm 4 (Pilot or RDS level error)
6	Ground

<b>CONLCD1 – Opt. LCD connector (HD44780, 20x4)</b>	
1	Ground
3	+5V
5	V0
7	RS
9	Ground
11	E
13	Ground
15	Ground
17	Ground
19	Ground
21	DB4
23	DB5
25	DB6
27	DB7
29	LED+
31	LED-

<b>CONRS1 – RS-232 communication port</b>	
2	TxD
3	RxD
5	Ground

<b>J15 – Internal RS-232 communication port</b>	
1	TxD
2	RxD
3	Ground

<b>J1 – Internal TTL RS-232 communication port</b>	
1	RxD (TTL)
2	TxD (TTL)
3	Ground

<b>J13 – Battery power supply connector</b>	
1	+2.2 to +4.3 V input
2	Ground

<b>J17 – Internal 5V power supply connector</b>	
1	+5 V input
2	Ground

\* Notes (Alarm outputs / General purpose outputs):

The Alarm outputs can be used as independent general purpose logical outputs or as an RDS TA output. See the section "List of commands and configuration registers" for more details.

Maximum current from/to pins 2-5 is limited by internal 390R serial resistors.

<b>J3 – Optional control interface</b> ( <i>see the Annexes for connection example</i> )	
1	Ground
2	Battery converter on/off switch: Leave unconnected for enabling the converter. Tie to ground for disabling the converter.
3	Optional 10 MHz REF input for precise carrier offset measurement
4	+5V
5	Reserved, do not connect.
6	Auxiliary port TxD (Reserved)
7	Audio output Left
8	Auxiliary port RxD (Reserved)
9	Audio output Right
10	Button OK (pull-up resistor already on board)
11	Button DOWN (pull-up resistor already on board)
12	Button UP (pull-up resistor already on board)
13	Ground
14	Ground

<b>J4 – Optional CPU control</b>	
1	+5V
2	Reset – hold low for at least 2 $\mu$ s to reset the device. Equivalent to ASCII command RESET*X
3	Ground
4	Reserved - do not connect
5	Reserved - do not connect

#### Adjusting elements

*There are no adjusting elements on the board.*

*Note: The device provides four serial communication ports (USB, RS-232, J15 and J1). These ports are internally linked together so the user may select any of these ports that best fits the communication requirements. When requesting data via any port, all ports will send the reply. The user must ensure that different ports on the board will not receive requests at the same time.*



Note for boxed version: There are no user-adjustable elements inside! Don't open the cover!

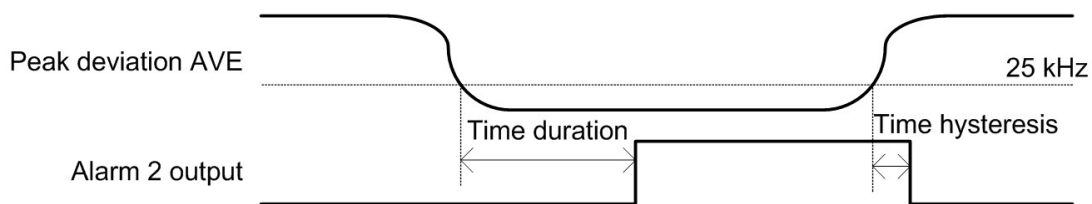
## Alarm outputs

The device provides four independent logic outputs that are set by specific alarm conditions. These outputs can be used for direct LED driving, switching to backup transmission equipment, signaling via GSM gateway etc.

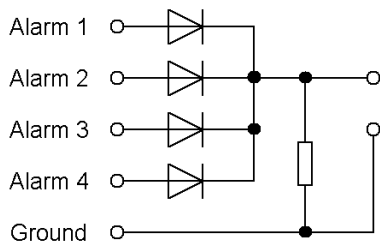
The alarm outputs are active high. If the alarm condition is no longer valid, appropriate output is driven back to low when the time hysteresis elapses. Almost all parameters are user configurable. With factory default values the alarm behavior is as showed in this table:

Alarm output	Factory default condition	Interpretation
Alarm 1: Signal lost	Signal quality < 4 (time duration 30 seconds)	FM transmitter failure or signal for the P275 device is too weak for permanent monitoring.
Alarm 2: Silence	$\Delta F$ AVE < 25 kHz (time duration 1 minute)	There's no audio or the audio level is too low. Broadcast automation system has crashed or studio's mixing console has been set improperly or connection between studio and transmitter has been lost.
Alarm 3: Overmodulation	$\Delta F$ MAX Hold > 88 kHz and [Histogram Max At > 78 kHz or $\Delta F$ AVE > 78 kHz] (time duration 1 minute)	Transmitter problem or sound processing problem or unauthorized manipulation with the broadcast equipment or signal too bad (alarm 1 interpretation may apply).
Alarm 4: Pilot or RDS level error	$\Delta F$ Pilot < 5.8 kHz or $\Delta F$ Pilot > 7.7 kHz or $\Delta F$ RDS > 8.5 kHz (time duration 1 minute)	Stereo encoder fault or transmitter problem or unauthorized manipulation with the broadcast equipment.

The user must ensure that the device will receive the station's signal in appropriate quality. To resume the monitoring on desired frequency automatically after eventual power drop out, save the settings using menu item File/Save Settings. To configure the alarms see the section 'USB and COM Port Communication' in this document and appropriate section in the FM Scope User Guide.



Alarm response example.






Application example – Logical sum (OR function) of alarm outputs.

# Operating Instructions

## Power-up

On power-up, the device requires no heating time. After a few seconds the unit is ready for operate. The antenna, audio and data cables can be connected regardless of the operating state.

## Control buttons

Button	Meaning
	Go to previous page or menu item, tune up, volume up.
	Go to next page or menu item, tune down, volume down.
	OK, enter the menu, confirm the option.

## Menu

### Navigation in the menu

- To enter the menu or submenu, press the OK button.
- To leave the submenu, go to the Return item, then press the OK button.
- To leave the menu entirely, select an option or go to the Return item, then press and hold the OK button.

### List of menu items

Menu item	Meaning
1 – Tune	Tune to a desired frequency in FM band (manual tuning) or select the MPX input.
2 – Scan	Tune using a scan mode (automatic tuning, stops on each station).
3 – Page Context	Items in this submenu appear depending on what page is being active.
MPX Spectrum FFT	Shows graphical representation of the MPX spectrum
Show Peaks	Selects between overall peak deviation and Pos/Neg representation.
Histogram Data	Show frequency deviation histogram values.
Set as Normal	Consider the 2nd IF as a normal (see Carrier frequency offset)
More RDS Data	Show more Radio Data System information.
4 – File	
Save Settings	Save settings (incl. current frequency tuned)
Load Data	Load measured data and RDS data from EEPROM.
Save Data	Save measured data and RDS data into EEPROM.
5 – Clear Data	Clear all measured values in operational memory.
6 – Settings	
Volume	Adjust audio volume in steps.
Force Mono	Disable the stereo decoder.
MPX Input	MPX options for correct voltage calculation: source impedance, load impedance
Corrections	Power supply ripple suppressing, audio output deemphasis etc.
DIP Switches	Further configuration options (frequency range etc.)
HD Radio Mode	Temporarily disables detection of near channel interference (see RF Measurements)
7 – Measuring	Enable/Disable the measuring.

### Switching between antenna (RF) input and MPX input

The input connector is shared by two internal modules - the RF module and the MPX module.

To enable the MPX input, tune the frequency to **0.00 MHz** (following the end of the band in any direction).

The MPX label will appear instead of the signal quality indicator.

```

0.00 MHz T MPX D1
u:  MAX  5.45 VPP
   AVE  3.61 VPP
   RMS  1.2  dBu

```

Where applicable, the device keeps all functionality for the MPX input (stereo decoder, audio output, RDS decoder) except that measurement of FM deviation in kHz is replaced by peak-to-peak voltage measurement.

### Save Data

```

106.10 MHz T■■■■■ D4
//Save Data.....
File 1  No Data

```

The FM analyzer can store data from up to 30 measurements into internal EEPROM memory. This memory does not lose the data after power-off.

Select the Save data menu item and choose unused file position (or rewrite any existing position).

In addition, current frequency and these RDS information are saved: PS, PI, PTY, TP, TA, M/S, RT, EON, AF, DI, group statistics.

The Save Data feature also supplies a preset memory function for tuning frequencies.

### Load Data

```

106.10 MHz T■■■■■ D4
//Load Data.....
File 1  106.10 MHz

```

Select the Load data menu item and choose the file required. The data are identified by the frequency.

To use the file as a frequency preset:

- Make sure the Measuring option in the menu is enabled
- Load the file

To use the file for the purpose of reading all stored data:

- Disable (uncheck) the Measuring option in the menu
- Load the file
- You may browse the data, send them via serial port or continue in measurement by enabling the Measuring option.

### Headphones output volume



The menu item Volume allows adjusting of audio volume in steps. The volume can be set separately for the antenna (RF) input and for the MPX input.

*Note: The headphones output is not suitable for rebroadcast or streaming purposes.*

### MPX Spectrum FFT

The FFT screen covers frequency range from 0 to 80 kHz and signal levels between -10 and -50 dB. By pressing Up or Down, the display will show the axis description.

The FFT is available in both the RF and MPX mode. Detailed spectrum is accessible via the FM Scope software.

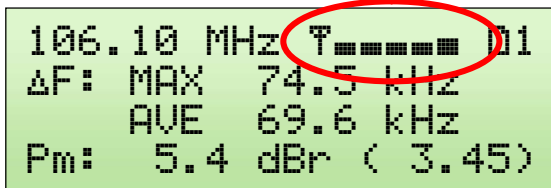
### Low battery indication

When the system voltage drops below 4.5 V, for example due to low battery, the “BATT” indicator is showed. It’s on the user’s responsibility to finish the measurement and switch off the unit as soon as possible. When the system voltage drops below 4.3 V, the CPU will stop operating. Actual system voltage is indicated on page 9.

Disregard for the low battery indicator may result in data loss and accumulator damage!

## RF Measurements

### Signal quality



The signal quality indication does not reflect the signal strength directly. It's a result of the following input parameters and influences:

- Noise level (measured in baseband above 100 kHz)
- Multipath propagation
- Intermodulation
- Amplitude ripple (AM modulation)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> IF frequency (frequency offset) – "in-channel" check

The essential condition for the measurement is enough signal level on the antenna input and sufficient frequency spacing between the stations. Not all signals that you can listen can be also measured. The following scale illustrates it and it's valid in general:

Signal level	1 $\mu$ V	10 $\mu$ V	100 $\mu$ V	1000 $\mu$ V
Reception on typical receiver	Mono only	Poor quality stereo	High quality stereo	
Measurement ability	Not possible	Basic	Full	

The basic measurement includes modulation power, pilot level and RDS decoding. The full measurement includes overall frequency deviation and RDS level. In noisy environment or in a location with many strong stations the minimum signal level may increase.

It's possible to say that optimal signal strength range and reception conditions for full measurement coincide with the requirements placed on high quality stereo reception. This rule determines the demands closely.

Signal reception quality table:

Signal	Meaning
T	No signal.
T ■	Weak signal detected.
T ■ ■ ■	Signal still unusable for measurement.
T ■ ■ ■ ■	Poor signal. Basic measurement is possible with reduced accuracy for RDS level. Full measurement is not possible.
T ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	Good signal. Full measurement is possible with partially reduced accuracy.
T ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	Excellent signal.

*Note: For proper measurement of modulation characteristics, internal bandwidth for RF signal is fixed at 280 kHz. In locations where stations are present in 200 kHz or even 100 kHz spacing, the device may indicate insufficient signal quality unless signal of the adjacent stations is rejected enough by positioning of the receiving antenna.*



Following tables illustrate approximate max. measuring distance as a result of transmitter's ERP power and measuring conditions:

Estate housing, telescopic antenna:

ERP	Max. distance
1 W	300 m
10 W	800 m
100 W	3 km
1 kW	8 km
10 kW	20 km
100 kW	40 km

Open space, hill, Yagi antenna:

ERP	Max. distance
1 W	800 m
10 W	3 km
100 W	7 km
1 kW	20 km
10 kW	50 km
100 kW	100 km

### Recommended operating conditions

- Stable dipole or better antenna, in the desired transmitter site direction
- 60 dB $\mu$ V level of the signal being measured
- Strongest station on the FM band not exceeding the signal being measured by more than 30 dB
- At least 0.4 MHz spacing from other stations, if these have higher level than the signal being measured.

### Selecting an antenna



There is no general choice for the antenna.  
The requirements for the antenna differ with local conditions and kind of use.

The essential condition for the measurement is enough signal level of the desired station on the antenna input. Not all signals that you can listen on any conventional radio receiver can be also measured. It's possible to say that optimal signal strength range for full measurement coincides with the range which is required for high quality stereo reception. If we apply this rule, it's clear that simple telescopic or whip antennas are not enough for many applications. On the other hand special calibrated antennas for EMI and RF field applications have no reason for FM modulation measurements.

In the transmitter's near field (up to 1 km distance from the transmitter) any piece of wire connected to the antenna input should be sufficient. When measuring other than only local stations or where number of stations reaches a couple of tens, a single dipole or 3-element Yagi antenna will give considerably better results, compared to simple telescopic or whip antenna. In many cases this kind of antenna must allow positioning in horizontal plane in order to boost signal of stations being measured and suppress signal of all other stations.

Always make sure there is no pulse interference source near the antenna. These sources especially include computers, cars, electric motors, PWM regulators, high voltage lines etc. Assure stable antenna position during the measurement so the device can examine the signal characteristics reliably. Especially the frequency deviation should not be measured in motion like in ridden car.

*Hint: Keep on mind that with fixed omni-directional antenna, the number of stations with excellent reception (full measurement ability) usually does not exceed 15, regardless of how many strong stations are on air overall in the location. This may be caused due to multipath propagation of many station signals, as well as by the receiver's limited selectivity (restricted by requirement of proper FM deviation measurement) and intermodulation predisposition of the receiver's simple front-end. If the station of interest is 30 dB or more below the strongest stations, finding the best antenna position may be necessary to reduce this ratio and to ensure full measurement ability.*

### Measurement using the transmitter's test RF output

Many FM broadcast transmitters are equipped with a test RF output. This output is primarily not intended for modulation characteristics measurement using an analyzer based on a receiver like the P275. In most cases the RF test output can be used for this purpose but this usually does not bring any advantage.

Special care is required before connecting the analyzer to this output. Make sure the output signal power does not exceed 20 mW (13 dBm). In some cases the test RF output gives 30 dBm (1 W) or more. That signal must be attenuated to less than 20 mW before connecting to the analyzer!

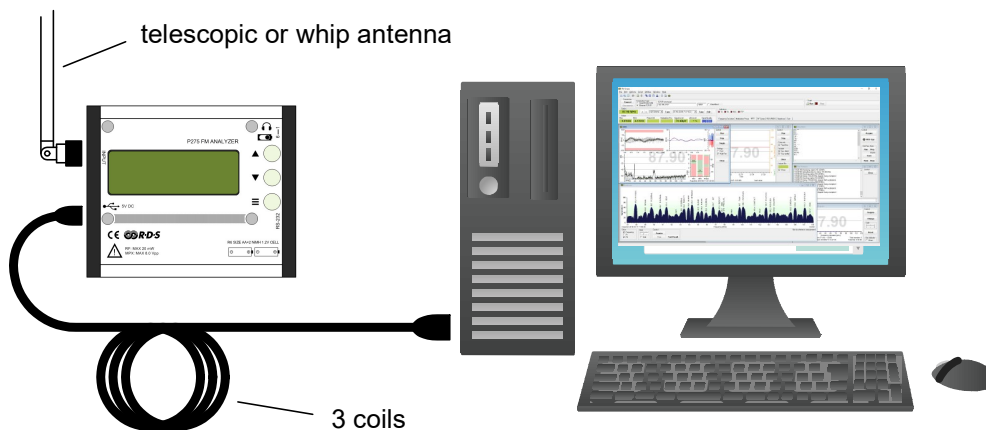
It is sometimes better not to use the test output and get the signal "from air". The modulation characteristics are not affected in near field. Another recommended way is to connect only the transmitter's and analyzer's ground (shielding).

On the transmitter sites where many transmitters are operating the user may be forced to find one of the methods mentioned that gives full quality result. It's due to intermodulations caused by many strong signals and their harmonics that are present in this environment.

### Measuring when connected to a PC

Personal computer (PC) is a strong source of unwanted RF signals which may cause interference with the signal being measured. Sometimes, when using telescopic aerial, the reception quality may decrease once a 'live' data cable (USB or RS-232) is connected to the FM analyzer. This phenomenon does not occur when using external antenna because well symmetrized antenna suppresses this kind of interference. However, a telescopic aerial is not symmetrized, thus the device case as well as outer side of the data cable effectively becomes a part of the receiving antenna, bringing all unwanted RF signals from the PC.

The solution is usually simple. Make a few coils on the data cable to cut off the RF path between the device and the interference source:



### Measuring of stations carrying HD Radio (United States only)

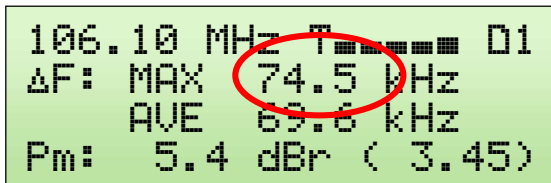
The HD Radio (IBOC FM) spectrums partially overlap with the original FM channel. That overlap is almost inaudible but inevitably affects measurements of the FM parameters. The P275 normally detects increased noise floor and hides the values which are potentially affected.

For adjusting or measuring the FM parameters, the HD Radio channels should be temporarily switched off.

A special option is available in the menu Settings – HD Radio Mode, which effectively disables the interference detection to allow measurements of FM stations carrying HD Radio. Since the device does not monitor operating conditions in this mode, using of this option is on your own risk.

## Overall frequency deviation (peak frequency deviation)

Frequency deviation ( $\Delta F$ ) is used in FM radio to describe the maximum (peak) instantaneous difference between an FM modulated carrier frequency, and the nominal carrier frequency.

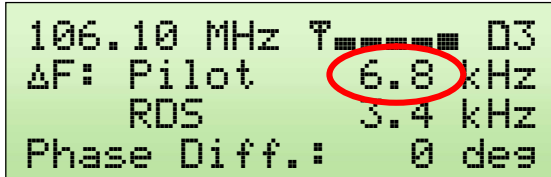


The overall peak frequency deviation shall not exceed **75 kHz**.

The peak hold values of the deviation are taken during a measuring time of 50 ms, 20 times per one second. From this array of values the MAX, AVE and MIN values are calculated and showed. These values represent signal characteristics in last second. The measurement is fully **continuous** over the signal, without any gaps. Moreover, MIN Hold and MAX Hold functions are provided. The MAX Hold value represents the maximum deviation found in last 10 seconds. Since it may be affected by pulse interference, interpret it very carefully. **Remember that any "Hold" or "MAX" function based on a single number cannot fully and adequately describe the FM modulation characteristics as the histogram function can (described thereafter).**

## Pilot deviation

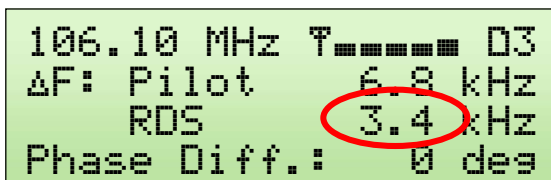
In FM stereo broadcasting, a pilot tone of 19 kHz indicates that there is stereophonic information. The receiver doubles the frequency of the pilot tone and uses it as a phase reference to demodulate the stereo information. The (L+R) main channel signal is transmitted as baseband audio in the range of 30 Hz to 15 kHz. The (L-R) subchannel signal is modulated onto a 38 kHz subcarrier occupying the baseband range of 23 to 53 kHz.



The deviation range of the FM carrier caused by pilot tone is from **6.0 kHz** to **7.5 kHz**. The recommended value is **6.8 kHz**.

## RDS deviation

Radio Data System (RDS), is a standard from the European Broadcasting Union for sending small amounts of digital information using conventional FM radio broadcasts. Radio Broadcast Data System (RBDS) is the official name used for the U.S. version of RDS. The two standards are nearly identical, with only slight differences. Both use a 57 kHz subcarrier to carry data.



The deviation range of the FM carrier caused by RDS/RBDS is from **1.0 kHz** to **7.5 kHz**. The most used value is around **3.0 kHz**. This value should be considered as a minimum if dynamic PS or TMC service is being broadcasted.

## Pilot-to-RDS phase difference

The 57 kHz for RDS subcarrier was chosen for being the third harmonic of the pilot tone for FM stereo, so it would not cause interference or intermodulation with it. The amount by which RDS subcarrier and third harmonic of pilot tone are out of step with each other can be expressed in degrees from 0° to 360°. Since the RDS signal is based on its carrier phase alternating, the full angle reduces to straight angle and we can equate 90 degrees = -90 degrees.

```
106.10 MHz 7■■■■■ D3
ΔF: Pilot    6.8 kHz
    RDS      3.4 kHz
Phase Diff.: 0 Deg
```

During stereo broadcasts the RDS subcarrier will be locked either in phase (**0 degrees**) or in quadrature (**90 or -90 degrees**) to the third harmonic of the pilot-tone. The tolerance on this phase angle is **±10 degrees**.

A value out of the specification is however not to be considered as a critical failure, i.e. there's no need to solve that situation promptly.

If no value is given, the RDS and pilot are not in stable phase relation. In that case check if pilot or MPX signal is connected to the RDS encoder input and external synchronization is enabled. Follow the instructions supplied with your transmission equipment.

Set the phase difference when the transmission equipment works under common conditions and after enough time of warm-up. The phase difference depends a little on the transmission equipment temperature and other physical quantities.

## Modulation power (MPX power, P<sub>m</sub>)

The modulation power is a relative power of the MPX signal averaged over 60 seconds according to the formula:

$$\text{modulation power} = 10 \log \left\{ (2/60 \text{ s}) \int (\Delta f(t)/19 \text{ kHz})^2 dt \right\} \quad [\text{dBr}]$$

0 dBr corresponds to an average power of a signal equivalent to the power of a sinusoidal tone which causes a peak deviation of 19 kHz.

Intensive audio dynamics compression as well as increasing overall peak deviation causes the modulation power to rise.

```
106.10 MHz 7■■■■■ D1
ΔF: MAX    74.5 kHz
    AVE    69.6 kHz
Pm: 5.4 dBr ( 3.45)
```

The modulation power limit, if defined in your country, is usually **0 dBr** or **+3 dBr**. Please refer to your local communications authority for more information.

Since the modulation power is averaged over last 60 seconds, first value can appear after one minute from power-up or tuning to a new frequency. However the analyzer reduces this time using estimation method during first minute so it shows an estimated value of the modulation power almost immediately, saving considerably the operator's time but still keeping compliance with standards. This is indicated by the 'Pm:' symbol blinking. Relevancy and accuracy of the modulation power value increases with each second. After the first minute elapses, the value is accurate from this moment and the 'Pm:' symbol stops blinking.

The measurement should represent typical modulation of the programme material of the broadcasting station. The observation time should be at least 15 minutes or in some cases one hour may be required to be sure to measure representative programme material.

The value in (...) is a linear representation of the modulation power, 0 dBr = 1.00.

## Frequency deviation histogram

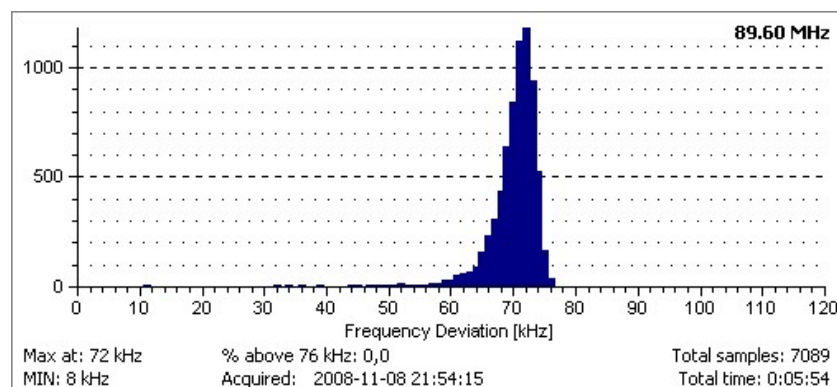
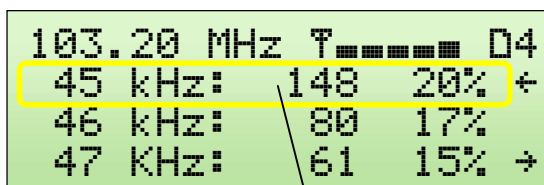
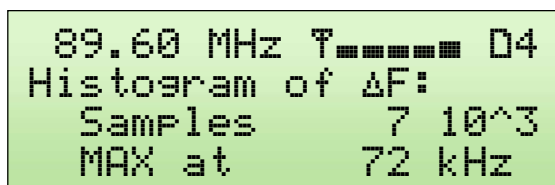
To provide more information the deviation is better represented by histogram rather than only displaying the highest value in over a certain period of time. In this device the histogram of frequency deviation is processed as follows:

- Obtain **N peak hold values (samples)** of the deviation, each taken during a measuring time of **50 ms**. The measuring time has influence on the distribution plot and hence must be standardised in order to ensure repeatability. The 50 ms ensures that the peak values of the deviation are captured even at modulating frequencies as low as 20 Hz.
- Discard the samples that have been taken in presence of noise or interference.
- Divide the range of frequency deviation of interest (0 – 120 kHz) into 1 kHz resolution to give relevant number of bins.
- For each bin, count the number of samples which have a value within the bin. The result is a distribution plot of the deviation – frequency deviation histogram (see the figure below).
- Add counts in each bin from left to right and normalise by N. The result is a plot of the accumulated distribution which starts with a probability of 100 % from the lowest deviation and will finish with a probability of 0 % at the highest deviation.

The measurement should represent typical modulation of the programme material of the broadcasting station. The observation time should be at least 15 minutes or in some cases one hour may be required to be sure to measure representative programme material.

*Note: Samples associated with the deviation of 121 kHz represent all values above 120 kHz.*

*Note: Samples are added to the histogram only when the signal quality ensures that the values measured have a sense. This extends the histogram readability in the cases the reception quality is not good enough.*



148 samples of the signal have 45 kHz peak deviation.

20 % of all samples have 45 kHz or more peak deviation.

The histogram example (graphical representation).

## Service details

Several service values are provided on page 5:

```

89.60 MHz T■■■■■ D5
Signal:      62 dBuV
2nd IF:      325.3 kHz
Noise/AM:    0 / 0%

```

The Signal represents real signal strength on the device input in dB $\mu$ V unit. The Signal value has two main reasons:

- In production / service process: To adjust antenna input circuitry and trace the signal path.
- During measurements: To find the best antenna position (strongest signal) resulting in the best suppression of pulse interference (as recommended for peak deviation measurements).

Use of the 2nd IF parameter is described on following page.

The Noise Level value is proportional to the noise voltage behind the FM demodulator. It's used as a main indicator of the signal quality. The user should consider this value as dimensionless variable. The value does not evaluate the original signal but it reflects only the reception quality in the current place and using current antenna and equipment.

There's an additional peak amplitude modulation indicator. The AM on the received signal may occur for various reasons, including but not limited to transmitter failure, broadcast antenna coupler, motion, interference, multipath propagation and other characteristics of the environment. In general the AM modulation of the signal is undesirable. Thus whenever possible the user should choose such antenna placement and direction that maintains a low or zero AM level. AM below 15 % has usually no effect on the measurement.

The AM indication is available only for a limited range of input signal strength and its accuracy is not specified.

## Simple stereo balance meter

To show the stereo balance meter, navigate to page 8. The stereo decoder must be enabled (in submenu 'Settings' uncheck the menu item 'Force mono').

The simple stereo balance meter helps to maintain the same peak signal level in both right and left audio channels if stereo encoder is present in the transmission chain. The best value is around 0 dB (1:1). No special audio signal is required to be broadcasted but it's preferable to use a sample with no stereo information.

```

106.10 MHz T■■■■■ D8
L: ■■■■■■■■■■■■
R: ■■■■■■■■■■■■
L/R Balance: -0.4 dB

```

## Carrier frequency offset

The unit can provide a relative carrier frequency offset from the nominal frequency. Although there is no calibrated frequency normal included for this purpose, it can be simply found in the band. If any station can be considered as a frequency etalon, the device can be used to adjust correct carrier frequency on the transmitter with 0.1 kHz precision.

### To determine the carrier frequency offset

Under normal conditions the page 5 shows second IF frequency:

```
89.60 MHz T===== D5
Signal:      62 dBuV
2nd IF:      325.3 kHz
Noise/AM:    0 / 0%
```

Now select menu item 'Set IF as Normal' in 'Page Context' submenu:

```
89.60 MHz T===== D5
/Page Context.....
3 Set IF as Normal
```

The Offset value appears which is 0.0 on the station selected as Normal:

```
89.60 MHz T===== D5
Signal:      62 dBuV
Offset:      0.0 kHz
Noise/AM:    0 / 0%
```

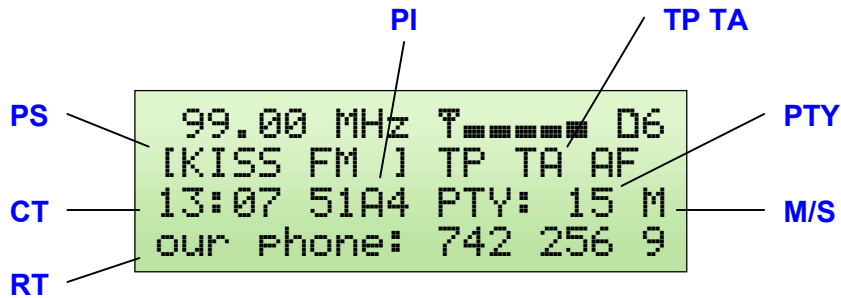
Now tune to any other station:

```
92.20 MHz T===== D5
Signal:      57 dBuV
Offset:      -0.7 kHz
Noise/AM:    0 / 0%
```

Still not sure how to read the result of this example? If real frequency of the station at 89.6 MHz is exact, real frequency of the station at 92.2 MHz has -0.7 kHz offset so its exact value is 91.1993 MHz

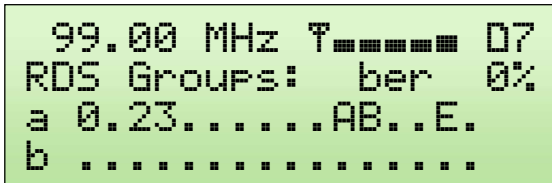
## Radio Data System decoding

If RDS is being broadcast by the station or it is present in the input MPX signal, page 6 shows the basic RDS information:

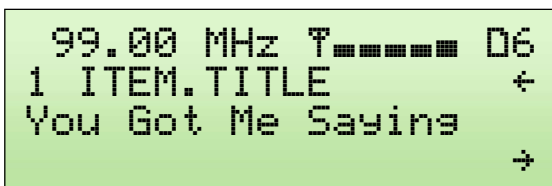
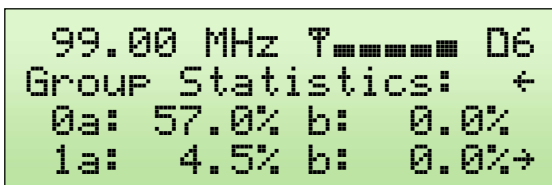
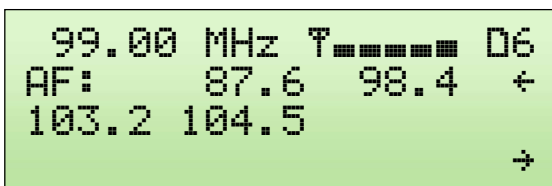
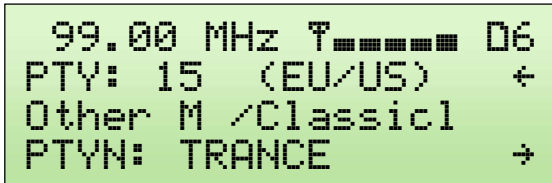


If RT+ service is being broadcast, the RT line contains [ ] symbols indicating begin and end of each RT+ tag in the text. More information is provided on RDS sub-pages 15 to 17.

When the RDS decoder is active, page 7 shows block error rate (ber) and indicates RDS groups that are being received. This gives quick survey of the RDS services present in the RDS stream. The group numbers are in hexadecimal representation:



Detailed RDS information is accessible from page 6 or 7 under the menu item Page Context/More RDS Data. Total 50 sub-pages are provided. Last 32 sub-pages are reserved for group content viewer.





### Group order viewer

When you access the Group order sub-page, internal group order buffer starts filling. The group order buffer capacity is 18 groups. The group order is showed after about 2 seconds and locked for viewing.

```

89.10 MHz T■■■■■ D5
0a 0a 0a 0a 2a 8a ←
8a 0a 0a 1a 0a 0a
2a 3a 8a 8a 0a 0a →

```

Read the group order line per line from left to right. To view current group order again, go to previous or next sub-page and then back.

### Group content viewer

When you access any Group content sub-page, the group content is showed on each error-less reception of the group type desired. After reception of 3 groups the process is locked for viewing. To view current group content of the desired group type again, go to previous or next sub-page and then back. The content does not stay in memory, a new content is received instead.

```

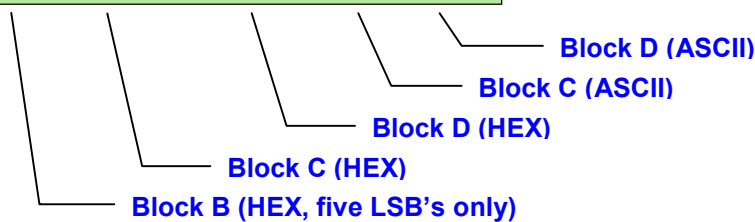
89.10 MHz T■■■■■ D5
...
Group Content 0a →

```

```

89.10 MHz T■■■■■ D5
00 EB10 2020 ^ . ←
01 7522 4352 u² CR
02 7B47 2031 <G 1 →

```

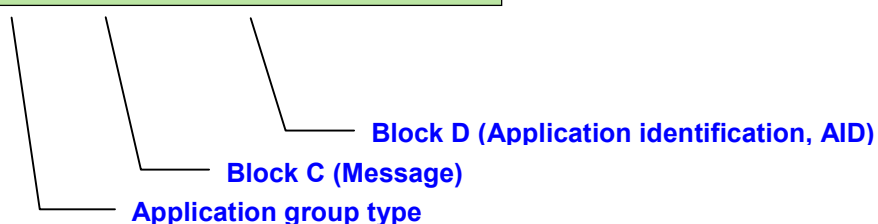


Special case is group type 3a (ODA AID) where application group type is directly showed:

```

89.10 MHz T■■■■■ D5
8a 0646 CD46 .F \F ←
8a 0646 CD46 .F \F
8a 0646 CD46 .F \F →

```



**More RDS Data summary**

Sub-page	Service / Function
1	Detailed PTY, PTYN
2	EON (PI of other networks), ECC, LIC
3	RT type (A/B), latest RT
4	DI
5-7	AF list
8-13	Group statistics
14	CT, PIN
15	Static PS, current RT+ markers (running, toggle, type1, start1, length1, type2, start2, length2)
16-17	RT+ tag 1/2 class name and content
18	Group order (sequence)
19	Group content 0a
20	Group content 0b
...	...
25	Group content 3a (ODA AID)
...	...
50	Group content 15b

**List of RDS services**

RDS Service	Decoded by the device	RDS Groups
PI (Program Identification)	yes	All
PTY (Program Type)	yes	All
TP (Traffic Program)	yes	All
TA (Traffic Announcement)	yes	0a, 0b, 15b
M/S (Music/Speech)	yes	0a, 0b, 15b
DI (Decoder Identification)	yes	0a, 0b, 15b
PS (Program Service)	yes	0a, 0b
AF (Alternative Frequencies)	yes	0a
ECC (Extended Country Code)	yes	1a
LIC (Language Identification Code)	yes	1a
RT (Radiotext)	yes	2a, 2b
CT (Clock-Time and date)	yes	4a
PTYN (Program Type Name)	yes	10a
EON (Enhanced Other Networks)	yes (PI)	14a, 14b
AID (Application Identification)	yes	3a
RT+ (Radiotext Plus)	yes	3a, 2a, 2b (note 1)
LPS (Long PS)	yes	15a (note 3)
TDC (Transparent Data Channels)		5a, 5b
IH (In-house Applications)		6a, 6b
RP (Radio Paging)		7a, 13a
TMC (Traffic Message Channel)		3a, 8a (note 2)
EWS (Emergency Warning Systems)		9a

Notes:

- 1) Plus appropriate ODA groups.
- 2) This is the most frequent group type used for TMC. An indication in the AID group 3a is decisive.
- 3) The value is accessible via the data interface only.

### List of ODA applications

AID	Application name
125F	I-FM-RDS for Fixed and Mobile devices
1C68	ITIS In-vehicle database
4BD7	RT Plus
5757	Personal weather station
6552	Enhanced RadioText / eRT
7373	Enhanced early warning system
C350	NRSC Song title and artist
C3B0	iTunes tagging
C3C3	Traffic Plus
C4D4	eEAS
C737	Utility Message Channel
CD46	TMC
E123	APS Gateway
E1C1	Action code
E411	Beacon downlink

Notes:

This is not a complete ODA registration list reference.

Some applications are special purpose only or are used very rarely and may require special receiver.

### The most frequent RDS setting errors

Error	Implication	Solution
First PI digit is 0 (zero).	RDS is not working on some receivers.	First PI digit can't be 0. It should be set in accordance with the country where the station is located.
Two different stations have the same last two PI digits, for example 5AFF and 51FF.	Car radios switch between different stations oneself.	Stations that carry different program entire day must be unambiguously identified by the last two PI digits.
AF list contains more frequencies but second PI digit is 0, for example 603B.	Many receivers ignore the AF list and listener must tune manually to the strongest frequency.	The second PI digit can't be 0 if the station has more transmitters listed in AF.
The station uses only single transmitter but second PI digit is not 0, for example FFFF.	Car radios search for another frequency using PI seek, this takes up to one minute, of course without any result.	The second PI digit must be 0 if the station has only single transmitter (local station).
RT Type bit does not toggle upon the Radiotext update.	In some situations, the Radiotext may not update on the receiver.	Enable the automatic RT A/B Type bit toggle on the RDS encoder, especially if RT+ is in use.

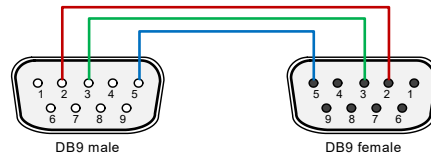
## USB and COM Port Communication

### Connecting the FM analyzer to a PC

For configuration and control requirements a PC is connected to the FM analyzer via standard RS-232 interface provided by D-SUB9 female connector (DCE) on the FM analyzer side. On the PC side locate an unused COM port. If the free port exists in a form of 25-pin connector, use a standard D-SUB9 (male) to D-SUB25 (female) adapter. It's preferable to use standard modem serial cable with one male and one female connector. Any USB to RS-232 adapter can be also used.

The P275 allows direct USB connection. Using appropriate drivers the device will appear as a new COM port in the system so the method of software access is the same for both the RS-232 or USB connections.

FM analyzer	PC
2 (TxD)	2 (RxD)
3 (RxD)	3 (TxD)
5 (GND)	5 (GND)



Configure the communication parameters as follows:

Transmission speed	19200 bps
Data bits	8
Parity	None
Stop bits	1
Flow control	None
Parity checking	No
Carrier detection	No

### Communication speed selection (autobaud feature)

By default, the device communicates at 19200 bps on all standard ports (USB, RS-232, J15 and J1). In applications where faster response is desirable, the device can be forced to communicate at 115200 bps. The speed is detected automatically according to the following rules.

#### Conditions for switching to 115200 bps

- Time interval between two falling edges of RxD signal is equal to transmission time of 2 bits @ 115200 bps.

To meet such condition: When communicating at 115200 bps, all commands should be preceded by character 0xFD.

*Note: The switching is immediate, i.e. following character is already received using the speed of 115200 bps.*

#### Conditions for switching to 19200 bps

- Power-up
- or 10 seconds of idle state on the port
- or detection of RS-232 framing error.

When communicating at 19200 bps, no precaution is necessary. It is a default communication speed.

The speed is indicated on the LCD, page 9.

## List of commands and configuration registers

Note 1: There is no need to validate the commands by any additional character or key, such as <Enter>.

Note 2: Some commands have their equivalent in the FM analyzer's menu.

Command	Meaning
*+	Tune up (one step)
*-	Tune down (one step)
*P	Switch on the modulation power sending
*p	Switch off the modulation power sending
*M	Switch on the MAX value sending
*m	Switch off the MAX value sending
*R	Switch on RDS groups content sending
*r	Switch off RDS groups content sending
*F	Tune to a frequency entered in kHz. Example (tune to 96.2 MHz): 096200*F
*S	Save settings to EEPROM, incl. DIP switches and alarm registers
*E	Enable the measuring mode
*L	Load station data saved in EEPROM memory. Example (load file 3): 03*L
*C	Clear data
*B	Enables internal stereo decoder
*b	Disables internal stereo decoder (force mono)
RESET*X	Hardware reset
DIPx:y*X	Set DIP switch. Example (set tuning step to 100 kHz): DIP2:1*X
ARx:yy*X	Set alarm register. Example (set silence detector threshold to 25 kHz): ARA:25*X
MEM xxxx:yyyy*X	Write value yyyy to memory address xxxx. Hexadecimal format. Reserved for special purposes.
*1 to *9	Switch the LCD view to page 1 to 9
*0	Activate the LCD backlight

### Commands returning a value

Command	Meaning
?B	Return all basic data
?F	Return current receiver's frequency
?R	Return the RDS deviation value
?L	Return the pilot deviation value
?P	Return modulation power value
?M	Return frequency deviation MAX value
?A	Return frequency deviation AVE value
?N	Return frequency deviation MIN value
?O	Return frequency deviation MIN Hold value
?Q	Return the signal quality (0-5)
?D	Return RDS data
?T	Return RDS group statistics
?E	Return the pilot-to-RDS phase difference
?G	Return the signal information (strength, IF, noise)
?H	Return the frequency deviation histogram data
?I	Return the 2 <sup>nd</sup> IF
?C	Return the channel balance (Hz*100/Hz*100, stereo mode only)
?c	Return the channel balance (fast variant with 50 ms hold time)
?X	Return frequency deviation MAX Hold value
?s	Return latest FFT data
?U	Return signal level
?V	Return firmware version. 8: version 2.0z, 9: version 2.1 or 2.1a, A: version 2.2, B: version 2.2a, C: version 2.2b
?a	Return memory content in ASCII format. * Syntax: (address),(length)?a Example (return latest radiotext): 19C,040?a
?h	Return memory content in HEX format. * Syntax: (address),(length)?h Example (return PI): 032,002?h
?v	Return address content in HEX format. Syntax: MEM xxxx?v Reserved for special purposes.
?f	Return precise carrier offset in Hz. Requires 10 MHz REF signal (see chapter Other Features)

Note:

\* See Annexes for commented memory map.

## DIP switches

	Meaning	0	1		Meaning	0	1
<b>DIP0</b>	LCD backlight	Auto	Manual	<b>DIP1</b>	Manual LCD backlight	Off	On
<b>DIP2</b>	Tuning step	50 kHz	100 kHz	<b>DIP3</b>	Scan sensitivity	Low	High
<b>DIP4</b>	(reserved)			<b>DIP5</b>	(reserved)		
<b>DIP6</b>	Noise cancellation between stations	Off	On	<b>DIP7</b>	Frequency range [MHz]	Standard 87.5 to 108.0	Extended 64.0 to 108.0
<b>DIP8</b>	MPX filter bandwidth for FM deviation measurements	70 kHz	90 kHz				

Note:

By default, all DIP switches are set to 0 except for DIP2.

## Alarm registers

Register	Meaning	Default value	Unit
<b>A</b>	Silence detector $\Delta F$ AVE minimum	25	kHz
<b>B</b>	Overmodulation $\Delta F$ MAX Hold maximum	88	kHz
<b>C</b>	Overmodulation Histogram MAX At maximum	78	kHz
<b>D</b>	Overmodulation $\Delta F$ AVE maximum	78	kHz
<b>E</b>	Pilot minimum	58	kHz/10
<b>F</b>	Pilot maximum	77	kHz/10
<b>G</b>	RDS minimum	00	kHz/10
<b>H</b>	RDS maximum	85	kHz/10
<b>I</b>	Signal lost time duration	03	s*10
<b>J</b>	Silence time duration	06	s*10
<b>K</b>	Overmodulation time duration	06	s*10
<b>L</b>	Pilot or RDS error time duration	06	s*10
<b>M</b>	Alarm time hysteresis (common to all alarms)	01	s
<b>N</b>	(Reserved – currently it may be used to store any value)	00	-

Notes (Alarm registers):

1. The alarm registers value range is 00 to 99 (DEC).
2. The built-in alarm feature works independently from any alarms realized in the Windows control software.
3. Due to characteristics of common radio signals it is not recommended to set very short time duration and very long time hysteresis.
4. For user-interactive setting of the alarm feature use the Windows FM Scope application. Select Options – Alarm Outputs in the main menu:

To store the settings to a non-volatile EEPROM memory, use the button  in tool bar.

### Using the Alarm output pins as general purpose outputs

Storing a special value to the time duration alarm registers (I to L) the alarm output is overridden by user defined state. This special value can be either GD for logical low (0) or GH for logical high (1).

This feature can be used for switching of external circuits using up to four independent logical outputs. General purpose outputs can be controlled regardless of the operating mode.

J1 – Alarm output pin number	Command required	
	to force low (0)	to force high (1)
2	ARI:GD*X	ARI:GH*X
3	ARJ:GD*X	ARJ:GH*X
4	ARK:GD*X	ARK:GH*X
5	ARL:GD*X	ARL:GH*X

Notes:

1. Pin 1 is located on the right.
2. It may take up to one second before the pin state is updated.
3. To control the pin state from the FM Scope script, use the command `send`, for example:  
`send(ARI:GD*X)`
4. To reactivate all alarms, place valid numerical values (00-99) into the time duration registers. Optionally store the setting to EEPROM and restart the unit.



### Using the Alarm output pins as RDS TA output

Any alarm pin can follow the RDS TA (Traffic Announcement) state:

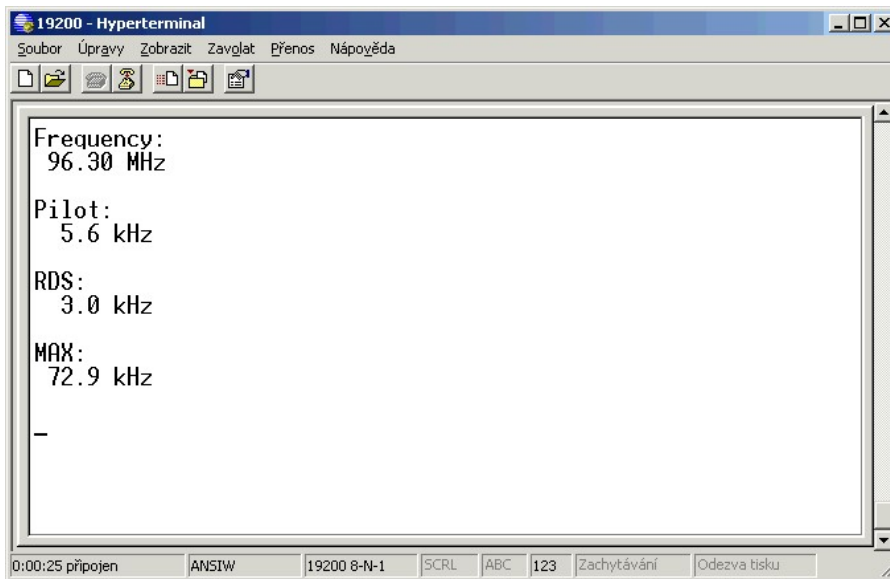
J1 – Alarm output pin number	Command required
2	ARI:TA*X
3	ARJ:TA*X
4	ARK:TA*X
5	ARL:TA*X

### Data format

The format of all data returned by the device is defined as follows:

**key**+" : "+Chr (13)+Chr (10)+Chr (13)+Chr (10)  
(if return value is empty)

**key**+" : "+Chr (13)+Chr (10)+**value**+Chr (13)+Chr (10)+Chr (13)+Chr (10)  
(otherwise)



Example of the outputs when using Windows HyperTerminal. Local echo is off.

## List of keys

Key	Invoked by	Key	Invoked by
Frequency	?F	Pilot	?L
G	*R	RDS	?R
PS	?D	RDS Group Statistics	?T
PI	?D	MAX	?M or *M
RT	?D	AVE	?A
LTO	?D	MIN	?N
CT	?D	IF	?I
PTY	?D	ASCII	xxx,yyy?a
MS	?D	HEX	xxx,yyy?h
TP	?D	FV	?V
TA	?D	Signal Quality	?Q
AF	?D	Fast Signal Info	?G
DI	?D	Modulation Power	?P
EON	?D	Pm	*P
ECC	?D	RDS Phase Difference	?E
LIC	?D	Histogram Data	?H
PTYN	?D	FFT	?s
PIN	?D	MAX Hold	?X
R/L	?C	Level	?U
Fast R/L	?c	Carrier Offset	?f
BER %	?D	RT Plus	?D
RTP Bits	?D		

## Other Features

### Firmware update

The FM analyzer has a firmware update capability. This allows easily implementing of new features. When a new firmware version is released, a special simple Windows application provides the firmware update. The firmware updates are provided at no additional costs.

1. Connect the FM analyzer to any local COM port or USB port.
2. Run the update utility, select the COM port and click Start! button.
3. Turn on the FM analyzer if not done yet.
4. The upgrade process is fully automated and takes about 3 minutes.

Please refer to the web site for more information.

Don't forget to download also latest control software and manual!

### Precise carrier frequency offset measurement

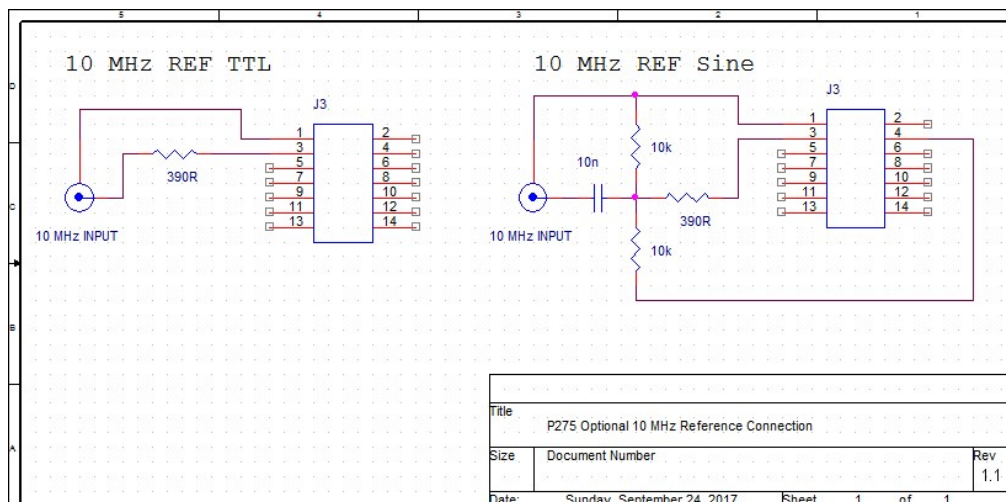
For the purpose of very accurate carrier frequency measurement (resolution 1 Hz, typical accuracy  $\pm 10$  Hz), the device provides an input for optional 10 MHz reference signal (from calibrated generator, GPS receiver etc.).



This function is not available to AI-boxed version.

The 10 MHz reference signal needs to be connected to pin 3 of the internal header J3. See the schematic diagram for details. Once the reference signal is connected and station is tuned, the carrier offset value can be read from the device via any communication port. Related command is ?f

If the reference signal is not valid or the reception is insufficient, no value is returned



## Annexes

### Memory map

Address	Length	Content	Unit
01A	002	Current receiver's frequency raised by 1065	kHz*10
020	002	DIP switches (bit 0 = DIP0)	-
024	002	Pilot deviation	Hz*10
026	002	RDS deviation	Hz*10
028	002	Pilot to RDS phase difference	deg.
02A	002	$\Delta F$ MAX	Hz*10
02C	002	$\Delta F$ AVE	Hz*10
02E	002	Modulation power (linear)	1/100
030	002	$\Delta F$ MIN Hold	Hz*10
032	002	RDS PI	-
034	008	RDS static PS	-
03C	001	RDS PTY	-
03E	002	RDS status bits, bit 10: CT indicator, bit 9: RT indicator, bit 8: RT Type (A/B), bit 7: AF indicator, bit 6: TP, bit 5: TA, bit 4: MS, bits 3 to 0: DI.	-
040	020	RDS group counters (0a, 0b, 1a, 1b, ... 15b)	-
060	01A	RDS AF list	channel No.
07A	008	RDS EON PI (up to 4)	-
082	001	Signal quality	-
088	002	$\Delta F$ MAX Hold	Hz*10
08E	001	Amplitude modulation (0xFF = not available)	%
144	002	$\Delta F$ in last 50 ms time period (0xFFFF = not available due to noise)	Hz*10
146	002	Noise level averaged over 1 sec.	-
19C	040	RDS RT	-
1DC	008	RDS PTYN	-
1E4	001	RDS CT Hour	-
1E6	001	RDS CT Minute	-
1EA	003	RDS MJD	-
1EE	001	RDS RT+ group type	-
1EF	001	RDS RT+ status	-
1F0	001	RDS RT+ item 1 type	-
1F1	001	RDS RT+ item 1 start	-
1F2	001	RDS RT+ item 1 length	-
1F3	001	RDS RT+ item 2 type	-
1F4	001	RDS RT+ item 2 start	-
1F5	001	RDS RT+ item 2 length	-
1F8	001	RDS PIN day	-
1F9	001	RDS PIN hour	-
1FA	001	RDS PIN minute	-
1FB	001	RDS LIC	-
1FC	001	RDS ECC	-
1FD	001	RDS CT local time offset	half of hour

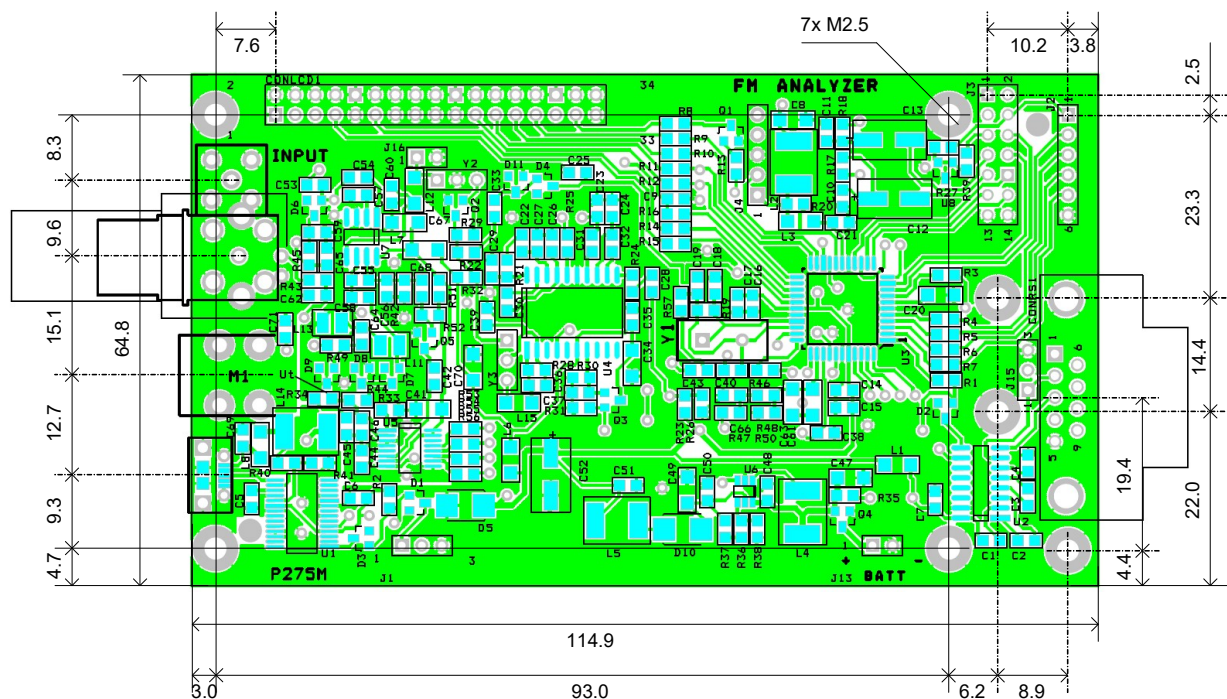
48C	002	Instant Modulation power (linear)	1/2503
4CE	001	Alarm - Silence detector $\Delta F$ AVE minimum	kHz
4CF	001	Alarm - Overmodulation $\Delta F$ MAX Hold maximum	kHz
4D0	001	Alarm - Overmodulation Histogram MAX At maximum	kHz
4D1	001	Alarm - Overmodulation $\Delta F$ AVE maximum	kHz
4D2	001	Alarm - Pilot minimum	kHz/10
4D3	001	Alarm - Pilot maximum	kHz/10
4D4	001	Alarm - RDS minimum	kHz/10
4D5	001	Alarm - RDS maximum	kHz/10
4D6	001	Alarm - Signal lost time duration	s*10
4D7	001	Alarm - Silence time duration	s*10
4D8	001	Alarm - Overmodulation time duration	s*10
4D9	001	Alarm - Pilot or RDS error time duration	s*10
4DA	001	Alarm - Alarm time hysteresis	s
572	0F4	$\Delta F$ Histogram	-
770	020	RDS Long PS	-

*Important notes:*

*Lower byte is carried first (higher byte is placed at Address+1 for 2-bytes variables).*

*The Address and Length values are in HEX format.*

## Mainboard mechanical drawing



All dimensions are in [mm]

Control interface (J3) connection example

