

HDTV Contribution in Europe

Didier Debellemanière Head of Technical Development EBU Eurovision Operations



HDTV Contribution in Europe

- The HDTV feed carries up to about five time the amount of information compared to SDTV but broadcasters may not want to pay five time more for the bandwidth
- Two standards will coexist in Europe: 720p/50 and 1080i/25, and therefore conversion will have to be achieved
- ▶ Distribution will be made using H264/AVC compression



Issues in the Choice of Transmission Parameters

- ▶ Modulation: use of DVB-S2 to improve efficiency
- Compression: MPEG2 is the only viable technology for contribution today. Effects of cascading with MPEG4 have to be considered
- Conversion 1080i/720p can be made before or after the contribution link



Eurovision DVB-S2 tests

- Eurovision has organised DVB-S2 tests on May 23th-24th
- ▼ Tests were organised in contact with N/ACT group
- V Two objectives:
 - Check interoperability between Tandberg TT1280 and Newtec NTC/2280
 - Compare efficiency with DVB-S



Eurovision DVB-S2 tests

- Measurements performed with full transponder configuration:
- (Worst case operational condition with respect to transponder load, carrier intermodulation,...).
- Measurement equipment from Geneva EBU E/S was used.
- (Confidence measurements, no academic precision).



Measurement Method

Reference measurement in DVB-S

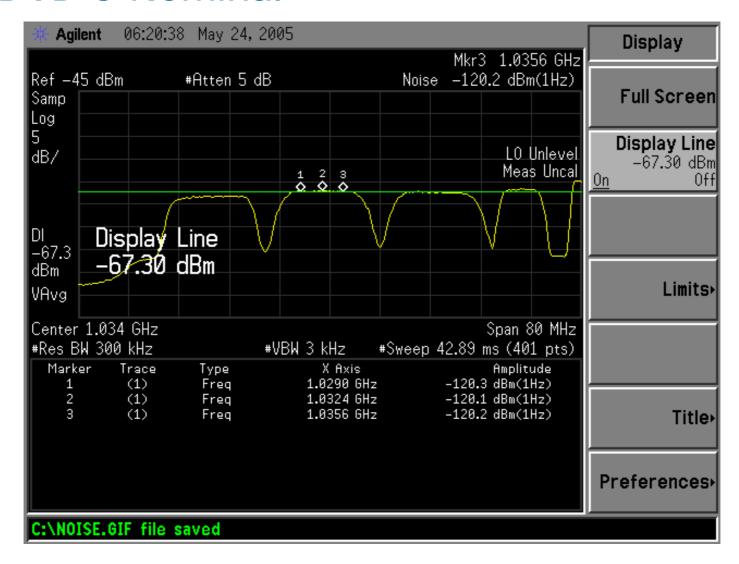
- ✓ Uplink of DVB-S carrier @ nominal level from Geneva E/S
- ✓ Fill-up remaining channels on same transponder (Stockholm) and Brussels)
- ✓ Measure receive Fs/no of nominal DVB-S carrier.
- ✓ Reduce uplink power until QEF was reached (QEF was defined) as one minute of error-free video transmission)
- ✓ Measure receive Fs/no of DVB-S carrier at OFF
- ✓ Link margin = nominal Es/no threshold Es/no

DVB-S2 measurement

- ✓ Same steps as for a DVB-S carrier for different DVB-S2 parameters
- Link margin compared with the DVB-S link margin

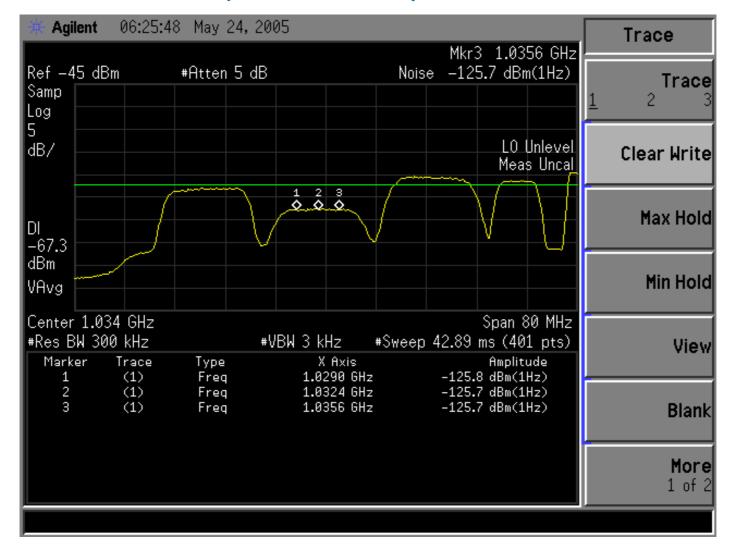


DVB-S Nominal



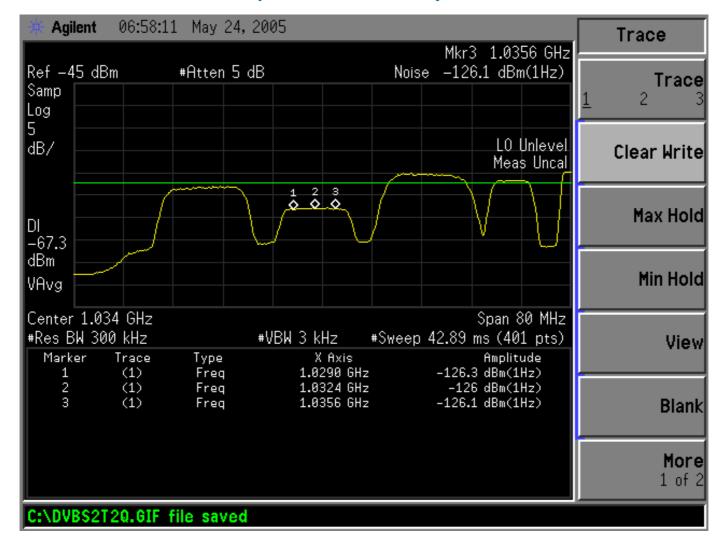


DVB-S QEF (QPSK 7/8)





DVB-S2 QEF (8PSK 2/3)





DVB-S2 Testing: Conclusion

Measurement offered two valid DVB-S2 candidates:

8PSK 2/3

Link Margin 0,5dB better than QPSK 7/8 in DVB-S Spectral Efficiency is 20% better than DVB-S

8PSK ³/₄

Link Margin 0,7dB worse than QPSK 7/8 in DVB-S Spectral Efficiency is 35% better than DVB-S



DVB-S2 Testing: Conclusion/2

- DVB-S2 offers the possibility to reduce the bandwidth with 25% and offers a small increase in link margin
- Even higher bandwidth reduction can be obtained at the cost of 0,7dB link margin
- Satellite tests confirm ETSI simulations
- 60 Mbit/s payload can be transported in 36 MHz on W3A



Compression for contribution

- ▶ MPEG2 4:2:2P@HL is the only solution viable today
- ▶ Limited information is available about cascading MPEG2 and H264/AVC compressions
- Is-it possible to convert 1080i to 720p after a first compression?



Eurovision compression tests

- Eurovision will organize tests beginning of December 2005, to check parameters to be used during soccer world cup 2006 in Germany
- Tests are organized in contact with N/HD-NET group and Technical Department
- Two objectives:
 - Test cascade of MPEG2 and H264/AVC at various bit rates
 - Test quality of 1080i to 720p conversion, before and after contribution link



Test setup

