

# AN4875 Application note

# STCOMET smart meter and power line communication system-on-chip G3-PLC characterization

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#### Introduction

This document is aimed at describing the electrical characteristics and communication performance of a power line communication (PLC) node based on the EVLKSTCOMET10-1 hardware and G3-PLC firmware operating in the CENELEC A frequency band (9 - 95 kHz).

The EVLKSTCOMET10-1 is a development kit for the STCOMET platform, exploiting the performance capability of the full-featured STCOMET10 device.

The STCOMET10 is a single device integrating a flexible power line communication (PLC) modem with a fully embedded analog front-end (AFE) and a line driver, a high performance 3-channel metrology function and a Cortex™-M4 application core.

Compliance test results are reported for electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) applicable standards, along with transmission and reception characterization measurements.

Please check for the EVLKSTCOMET10-1 hardware documentation, evaluation software and firmware libraries at st.com/powerline. For specific software or firmware releases, you may need to contact directly the STMicroelectronics sales office.



Figure 1: STCOMET development kit - EVLKSTCOMET10-1

June 2016 DocID029338 Rev 1 1/42

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L	( )	11		3 I I	

1	Safety r	ecommendations4			
2	STCOM	ET smart	meter and power line communication		
3	Test equ	uipment		6	
4	-	-	aracteristics		
	4.1		input supply requirements (J13)		
	4.2		C input supply requirements (J7)		
5	Power li	•	cteristics		
	5.1		ling characteristics		
6	Transm		cteristics		
	6.1		ρ		
	6.2		er output voltage		
		6.2.1	VCC = 15 V		
		6.2.2	8 V ≤ VCC ≤ 18 V	12	
	6.3	Line coup	ling insertion loss	13	
	6.4	Output po	ower	14	
	6.5	TX digital	gain	15	
7	Receive	r characte	eristics	16	
	7.1	Reception	n filter characteristics	16	
	7.2	Receiver	sensitivity test setup	17	
	7.3	Input nois	e level	17	
	7.4	Sensitivity	y level	20	
8	EN5006	5 complia	nce tests	22	
	8.1		-1: General requirements, frequency bands and agnetic disturbances	23	
		8.1.1	Test setup	23	
		8.1.2	Determination of the bandwidth (EN50065-1 section 6.2.1)	25	
		8.1.3	Determination of output level (EN50065-1 section 6.2.2)	25	
		8.1.4	Maximum output levels - sub-band above 9 kHz up to 95 kHz (EN50065-1 section 6.3.1.2)	26	
		8.1.5	Disturbance limits - application outside sub-bands (EN50065-1 section 7.1)	28	
		8.1.6	Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 3 kHz to 9 kHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.1)	29	

AN4875 Contents

11	Revision	history.		41
10	Normativ	ve referei	nces	40
9	Reference	ces		39
	8.3	EN50065	-7: equipment impedance	37
		8.2.1	Electrical Fast Transients (EFT) and Surge Immunity	36
	8.2	EN50065	-2-3: immunity requirements	36
		8.1.9	Radiated disturbance field strength (EN50065-1 section 7.3)	35
		8.1.8	Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 150 kHz to 30 M (EN50065-1 section 7.2.3)	
		8.1.7	Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 9 kHz to 150 kHz (EN50065-1 section7.2.2)	

### 1 Safety recommendations

The STCOMET development kit must be used by <u>expert technicians only</u>. Due to the high voltage (85 - 265 V ac) present on the non-isolated parts, special care must be taken in order to avoid electric risks for people safety.

There are no protections against high voltage accidental human contact.

After a disconnection of the board from the mains all the live part must not be touched immediately because of the energized capacitors.

It is mandatory to use a mains insulation transformer to perform any tests on the high voltage sections, using test instruments like, for instance, spectrum analyzers or oscilloscopes.

Do not connect any probe to high voltage sections if the board is not isolated from the mains supply, in order to avoid damaging instruments and demonstration tools.

When configured for metering evaluation, the STCOMET development kit is not isolated and ground will be tied to the line. Do NOT connect instrument probes that can bring the earth connection to the line, thus potentially damaging the STCOMET development kit and the instruments and creating electrical risk.

STMicroelectronics assumes no responsibility for the consequences of any improper use of this development tool.

# 2 STCOMET smart meter and power line communication system-on-chip description

The STCOMET is a device that integrates a narrow-band power line communication (NB-PLC) modem, a high-performance application core and metrology functions.

The PLC modem architecture has been designed to target the EN50065, FCC, ARIB compliant PLC applications. Together with the application core, it enables the STCOMET platform to support the PRIME, IEC 61334-5-1, G3-PLC, IEEE 1901.2, METERS AND MORE, and other narrow-band PLC protocol specifications.

The metrology sub-system is suitable for the EN 50470-1, EN 50470-3, IEC 62053-21, IEC 62053-22, and IEC 62053-23 compliant class1, class0.5 and class0.2 AC metering applications.

For further details, please refer to point 1. in References.

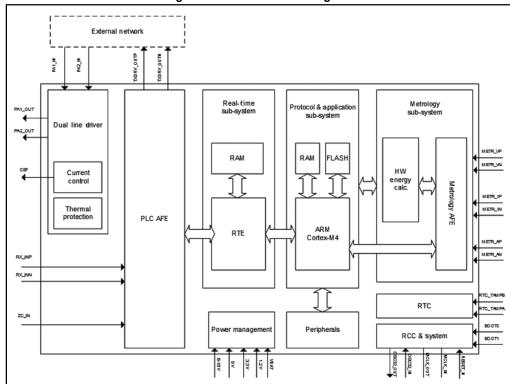


Figure 2: STCOMET block diagram

Test equipment AN4875

## 3 Test equipment

The measurements results reported in this document have been obtained using the following instruments:

Table 1: Electrical instruments used for testing

Equipment designation	Equipment reference	Purpose	
Spectrum analyzer	Rohde & Schwarz FSU	TX and RX signal power measurement	
Spectrum analyzer	Agilent E4443A	RX Input noise power measurement	
Differential active probe	Agilent 1141A	Differential, high impedance, low level signal measurements	
Probe control and power module	Agilent 1142A	Agilent 1141A probe supply and control	
Two-line V-network LISN (x2)	Rohde & Schwarz ENV216	Connecting DUT (STCOMET development kit) to AC mains – reference line impedance	
50 Ω attenuator	Trilithic 2010926004-R	Transmitted signal attenuation	
EMC-EMI filter (x3)	Schaffner FN2080-6-06	Mains noise filtering	
DC power analyzer Agilent N6705A		Power supply and current consumption measurement	

## 4 Power supply characteristics

### 4.1 Three DC input supply requirements (J13)

The connector J13 is the standard connector to be used for STCOMET main board supplying. This connector is designed to couple with the VIPer26H PSU board.

The test setup for the measurements performed in this section is described in Figure 4.

Table 2: Electrical characteristics – power supply – J13

Parameter	Value				Notes	
Parameter	Min.	Тур.	Max.	Unit	Notes	
VCC power supply voltage	8	15	18	٧	-	
VCC power supply current absorption – RX mode	ı	2.1	ı	mA	-	
	-	40	ı	mA	TX with no load	
VCC power supply current absorption – TX mode	-	119	-	mA	TX over EN50065 AMN	
	-	665	-	mA	TX over 2 Ω AMN	
5 V supply voltage	4.75	5	5.25	٧	TX over EN50065 AMN	
5 V supply current absorption – RX mode	-	60	-	mA	-	
5 V supply current absorption – TX mode	-	11	-	mA	-	
3V3 supply voltage	-	3.3	-	V	-	
3V3 supply current absorption – RX mode	-	110	-	mA	3V3_AUX current consumption is not included in the 3V3 current.	
3V3 supply current absorption – TX mode	-	95	-	mA	3V3_AUX current consumption is not included in the 3V3 current.	
3V3_AUX supply current absorption	-	30	-	mA	-	

The current to be supplied on the VCC is linked to the load connected to the J6 at the mains level. This relation is illustrated in Figure 3.

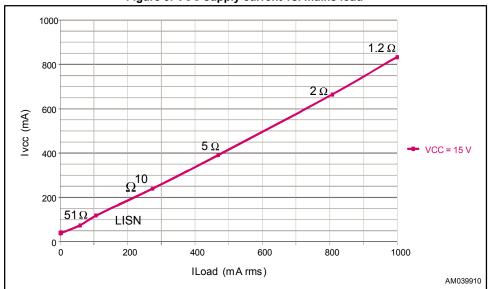


Figure 3: VCC supply current vs. mains load

### 4.2 Single DC input supply requirements (J7)

The connector J7 allows supplying the STCOMET main board with a single power supply for safe usage of the kit. In this mode, the connection to mains is not required while performing electrical tests and software/firmware development.

Note that the power consumption in this mode is <u>not</u> optimized.

Table 3: Electrical characteristics – power supply – J7

Davamatav		Va	lue		Notes	
Parameter	Min.	Тур.	Max.	Unit	Notes	
Power supply voltage	8	ı	15	>	15 V recommended for best PLC performance	
Power supply current absorption – RX mode	-	191	ı	mA	-	
	-	176	-	mA	TX with no load	
Power supply current absorption – TX mode	-	253	-	mA	TX over EN50065 AMN	
	-	825	-	mA	TX over 2 Ω AMN	

## 5 Power line characteristics

## 5.1 Line coupling characteristics

Table 4: Line coupling parameters

Symbol	Parameter	Value [typ.]	Unit
f <sub>C</sub>	Center frequency	61.5	kHz
Vin	Withstanding voltage for surge and burst tests	> 4.0	kV

#### 6 Transmitter characteristics

The voltages and currents in the transmission chain (line driver output, line coupling circuit and line load) vary depending on the load connected at the mains level (J6). This section is illustrating graphically the behavior of those parameters.

#### 6.1 Test setup

Transmitter characterization has been performed using the setup illustrated in Figure 4 below.

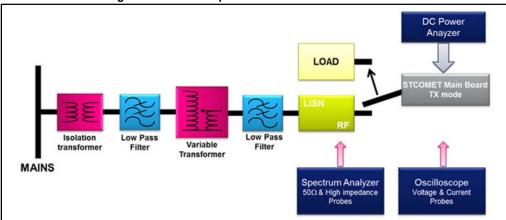


Figure 4: Bench setup for transmission measurements

8

Instruments references are described in Table 1.

Low pass filters (Schaffner FN2080-6-06) attenuate noise from mains in the CENELEC-A band.

The variable transformer allows changing the mains voltage amplitude. This kind of module generates usually less noise than any AC supply.

It is recommended to configure the spectrum analyzer input coupling to DC, otherwise the power measurement for frequency below 50 kHz may be wrong.

A DC power analyzer is used to supply the STCOMET main board while measuring the current consumption.

The STCOMET development kit mains output J6 is either connected to the LISN for the spectrum analysis or to a variable load for the power consumption measurement.

#### Transmitter output voltage 6.2

#### 6.2.1 **VCC = 15 V**

The output voltage delivered at STCOMET line driver output (PA1 OUT - PA2 OUT) and at the development kit output (J6) is given in the following figures, according to the load applied at the J6 connector, and with VCC = 15 V (typical value).

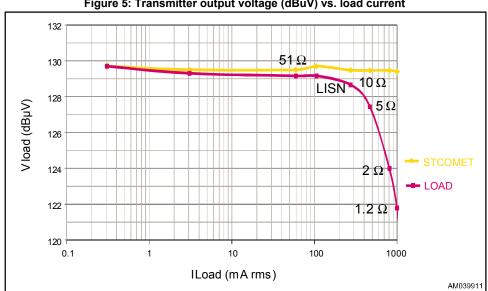


Figure 5: Transmitter output voltage (dBuV) vs. load current

LISN Vload (V)  $51\Omega$  $10\,\Omega$ 5Ω **→** STCOMET - LOAD  $2 \Omega$  $1.2~\Omega$ 0.1 10 100 1000 ILoad (mArms) AM039912

Figure 6: Transmitter output voltage (V rms) vs. load current

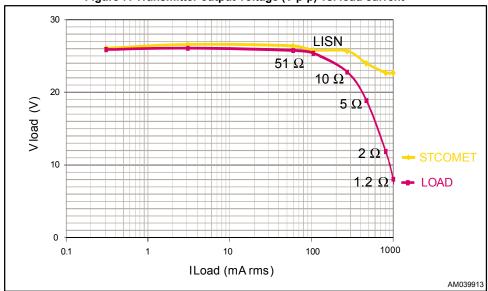


Figure 7: Transmitter output voltage (V p-p) vs. load current

### 6.2.2 8 V ≤ VCC ≤ 18 V

Figure 8 below illustrates the maximum differential output voltage achievable by the STCOMET line driver versus the VCC level, when the STCOMET development kit is connected to a LISN.

The goal is to keep enough margin for the power amplifier to have a linear output.

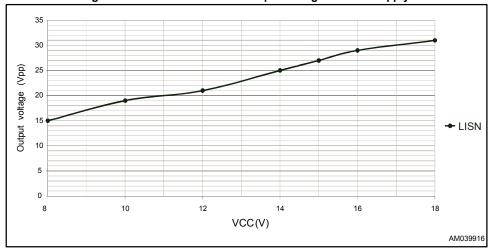


Figure 8: STCOMET maximum output voltage vs. VCC supply

## 6.3 Line coupling insertion loss

Figure 10 illustrates the difference between the voltage generated by the STCOMET line driver and the voltage applied on the load. Those insertion losses are due to the coupling circuit non-negligible impedance.

Figure 9: Coupling circuit on STCOMET development kit

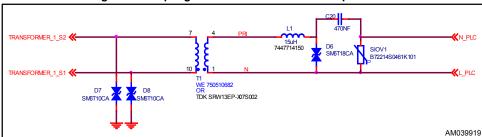
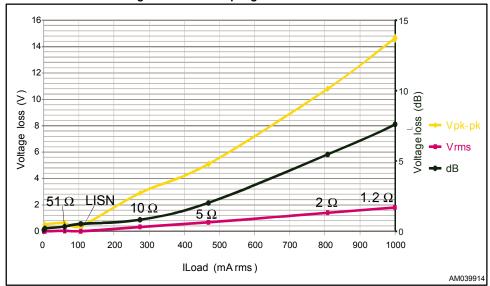


Figure 10: Line coupling loss vs. mains load



#### 6.4 Output power

Figure 11 below illustrates the relationship between the current into the load connected at the J6 and:

- The power absorbed from the VCC supply (green trace, right Y-axis),
- The power delivered by the STCOMET line driver (yellow trace, left Y-axis),
- The power delivered to the load (pink trace, left Y-axis).

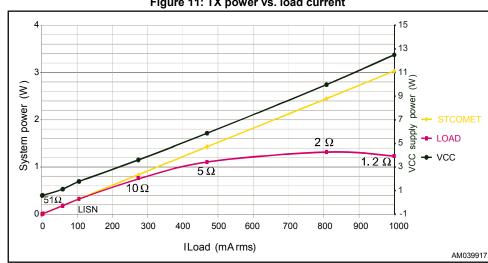


Figure 11: TX power vs. load current

Figure 12 illustrates the efficiency of the STCOMET line driver (yellow trace) according to the load connected at the J6.

The pink trace is representing the efficiency of the full TX chain, including the losses in the coupling circuit.

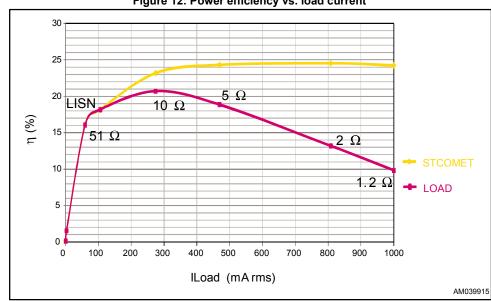


Figure 12: Power efficiency vs. load current

47/ DocID029338 Rev 1 14/42

## 6.5 TX digital gain

Figure 13 is illustrating the STCOMET line driver output voltage according to the TX digital gain setting.

Please note that the X-axis is reporting decimal values, although the hexadecimal format is used in STCOMET settings.

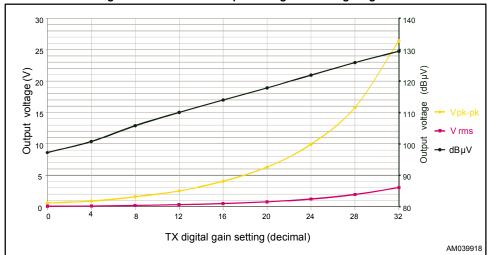


Figure 13: Line driver output voltage vs. TX digital gain

Receiver characteristics AN4875

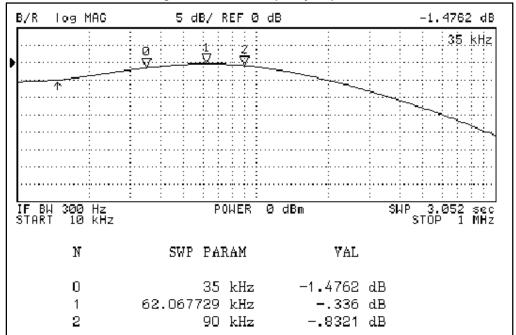
### 7 Receiver characteristics

### 7.1 Reception filter characteristics

Table 5: Reception filter parameters

Symbol	Parameter	Value [typ.]	Unit
fc	Center frequency	60	kHz
Q	Quality factor	0.54	-
BW <sub>3dB</sub>	Band-pass 3-dB bandwidth	110	kHz
G <sub>RX</sub>	Voltage gain at f = fc	-0.45	dB

Figure 14: RX filter frequency response

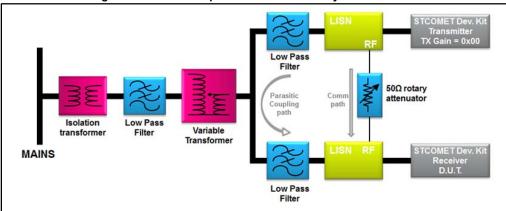


AN4875 Receiver characteristics

### 7.2 Receiver sensitivity test setup

Because of the very low amplitude of the signals measured in this section, the bench setup of Figure 15 has been used in order to perform reliable measurements.

Figure 15: Bench setup for receiver sensitivity measurement





Instrument references are described in Table 1.

One STCOMET development kit is used as a transmitter for sensitivity vs. PER measurements. Its TX digital gain is set to minimum value in order to keep its output signal as low as possible and minimize the effect of the parasitic coupling path through the LISN and power supply connections.

Measurements of sensitivity vs. modulation are done according to the following procedure:

- Set attenuation = 0 dB
- Measure transmitted signal at receiver D.U.T. input (J6) = L<sub>IN(0dB0</sub>
- Increase attenuation until PER = 5% = Att<sub>5%</sub>
- Calculate sensitivity = L<sub>IN(0dB)</sub> Att<sub>5%</sub>

### 7.3 Input noise level

Table 6 gives the noise power measured at STCOMET RX\_IN inputs, using an Agilent E4443A spectrum analyzer with an integrated low noise amplifier and the 1141A high impedance differential probe.

Table 6: Input noise level

Parameter	Condition	Main board standalone	Main board PSU included	Unit
	CEN-A 35 - 95 kHz	12.4	31.6	dΒμV
RX_IN input noise power	ARIB STD-T84 35 - 400 kHz	20.5	35.7	dΒμV
μ σ π σ π	G3-FCC 150 - 490 kHz	15.8	25.4	dΒμV

Receiver characteristics AN4875

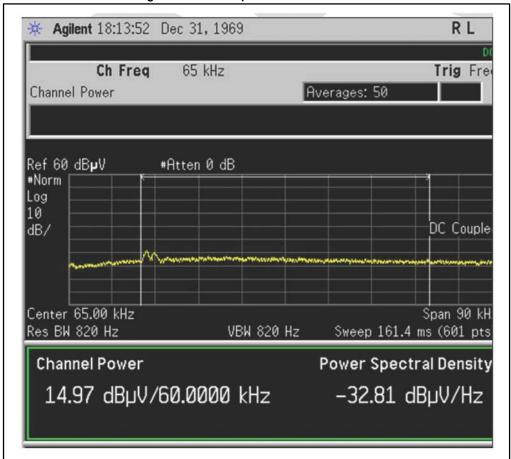
Figures 16 and 17 come from the following calculation:

Noise power (STCOMET) = noise power (measured) – noise power (intrinsic probe)

#### Example for CEN-A band:

- Intrinsic probe noise = 15.0 dBµV (probe shortcut)
- Measured noise = 16.9 dBµV
- Result noise =  $10 \times \log (10^{17dB\mu V/10} 10^{15dB\mu V/10}) = 12.4 dB\mu V$

Figure 16: Intrinsic probe noise CEN-A band



AN4875 Receiver characteristics

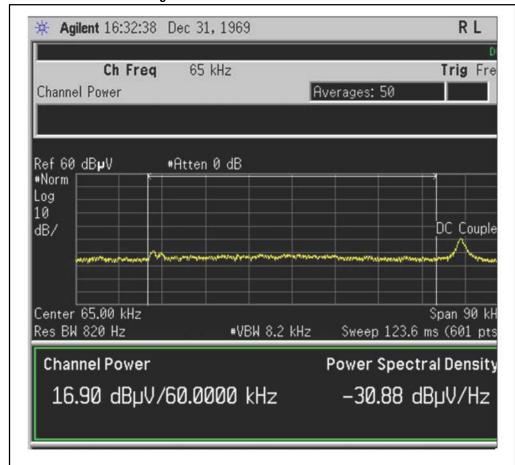


Figure 17: Measured noise in CEN-A band

#### Comments on reported figures:

- The noise power measured at STCOMET RX\_IN inputs on the standalone main board configuration corresponds to the typical input referred noise of the STCOMET itself.
   We can deduce that the main board design has a limited impact on the kit sensitivity.
- The noise level measured is higher when the PSU board is used (as expected). However it is important to notice that, as shown by Figure 18 for the CEN-A band, this noise level is mainly linked to a few spurious tones affecting only specific G3-PLC subcarriers, thus giving a marginal impact on overall sensitivity (see following section).

Receiver characteristics AN4875

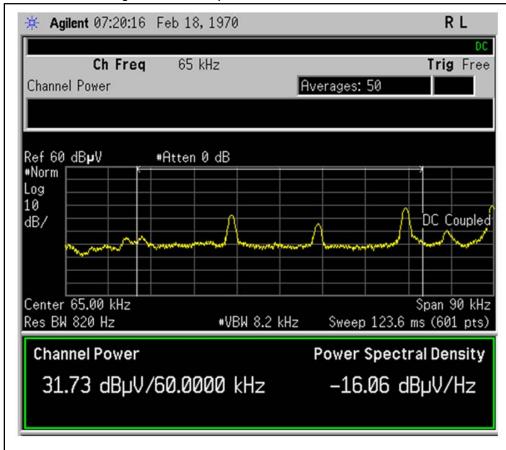


Figure 18: CEN-A input noise level - PSU board active

## 7.4 Sensitivity level

Table 7 reports the minimum input signal level that can be applied to the STCOMET development kit mains connector J6, while guaranteeing a maximum PER ("Packet Error Rate") of 5%.

Parameter	Condition	Main board standalone	Main board PSU included	Unit
	ROBO - coherent - PER < 5%	20	23	dΒμV
	ROBO - differential - PER < 5%	20	24	dΒμV
	BPSK - coherent - PER < 5%	23	27	dΒμV
Receiver	BPSK - differential - PER < 5%	25	30	dΒμV
sensitivity (J6 level)	QPSK - coherent - PER < 5%	26	30	dΒμV
	QPSK - differential - PER < 5%	28	32	dΒμV
	8PSK - coherent - PER < 5%	30	34	dΒμV
	8PSK - differential - PER < 5%	32	37	dΒμV

Table 7: STCOMET development kit sensitivity vs modulations

AN4875 Receiver characteristics

> It is noticeable that the PSU impact on the sensitivity is lower than its impact on the noise level measurement. For example, for ROBO coherent modulation:

- In Table 6: PSU board increases RX IN noise level by 19.2 dB
- In Table 7: PSU board decreases sensitivity by 3 dB only

This is due to G3-PLC OFDM intrinsic signal resilience to SNR variations in the band.

R L \* Agilent 16:39:56 Dec 31, 1969 Ch Freq 65 kHz Trig Free Averages: 50 Channel Power Ref 60 dBpV #Atten 0 dB #Norm Log 10 DC Coupled dB/ Center 65.00 kHz Span 90 kHz Res BW 820 Hz #VBW 8.2 kHz Sweep 123.6 ms (601 pts) **Power Spectral Density Channel Power** 32.50 dBµV/60.0000 kHz -15.28 dBµV/Hz

Figure 19: PSU impact on input noise level - CEN-A band

In Figure 19, we can observe that the noise floor of the trace with the PSU active (yellow) is comparable with the lab PSU (blue trace). This is coherent with the sensitivity difference reported in Table 7 and shows that the noise tones have a limited impact on sensitivity.

## 8 EN50065 compliance tests

Table 8: List of standard tests required for EMC compliance to EN50065 – subset related to G3-PLC implementation

Туре	Basic standard	Test	Result	Notes	
PLC transmission:	EN 50065-1	Bandwidth measurements	PASS	-	
conducted measurement	EN 50065-1	Maximum output levels	PASS	-	
Conducted disturbance measurements	EN 50065-1, EN 55022	Conducted emissions (9 kHz – 30 MHz)	PASS	-	
Radiated disturbance measurement	EN 50065-1, EN 55022	Radiated emissions (30 MHz – 1 GHz)	PASS	-	
	EN 61000-4-6	RF conducted signals immunity test (150 kHz – 80 MHz, 10 V rms)	PASS		
Conducted	EN 50065-2-3	Narrow-band signals immunity test (95 kHz - 150 kHz; 150 kHz - 30 MHz)	PASS	In case of non-metering applications, communicating outside the CENELEC A band, please refer to the	
immunity	EN 61000-4-4	Fast Transients Immunity test (2 kV, 5 kHz)	PASS	immunity requirements listed in the EN50065-2-1 document, which may set lower limits for some	
	EN 61000-4-5	Surge Immunity test (4 kV, common mode and differential mode)	PASS	tests.	
Radiated immunity	EN 61000-4-3	RF radiated signals immunity test (150 kHz - 80 MHz, 10 V rms)	PASS	In case of non-metering applications, communicating outside the CENELEC A band, please refer to the immunity requirements listed in the EN50065-2-1 document, which may set lower limits for some tests.	
Input impedance	EN50065-7	RX impedance	PASS	-	
measurement		TX impedance	PASS	-	

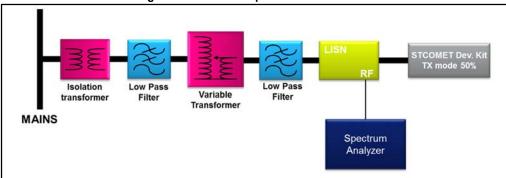
22/42 DocID029338 Rev 1

# 8.1 EN50065-1: General requirements, frequency bands and electromagnetic disturbances

### 8.1.1 Test setup

The tests in this section have been performed using the following setup:

Figure 20: Bench setup for EN50065-1 tests





Instruments references are described in Table 1.

The STCOMET development kit is configured for transmitting 192 ms packets with a 50% average duty cycle as shown in Figure 21.

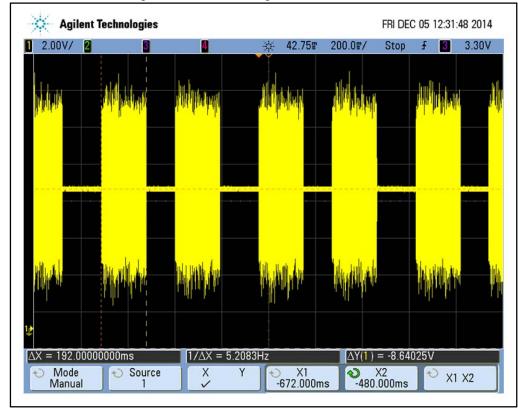


Figure 21: Transmitted signal for EN50065-1 tests

The STCOMET development kit settings are the following:

- VCC = 15 V
- TX digital gain = maximum

#### 8.1.2 Determination of the bandwidth (EN50065-1 section 6.2.1)

Table 9: Determination of the bandwidth

Spectrum analyzer setup	Measurement results
RBW = 100 Hz	
Detector = PEAK MAX.	<b>Signal bandwidth = 58.6 kHz</b> (91.87 kHz – 33.33 kHz)
Trace display = MAX. HOLD	

×RBW 100 Hz Marker 3 [T1 ] 91.87435897 kHz 06.35 ط8ي∪ UBW 300 Hz 91.874358974 kHz Ref 120 dByV ×Att 35 dB SWT 14.5 s 120 Offset 1 [T1 ] 10 dB 108.50 dBµV 37.583717949 kHz -110-2 [T1 ] 0,57 ط8ء88 33.333205128 kHz 100 20 Span 120.56 kHz 63.28 kHz 12.056 kHz/

Figure 22: Determination of the bandwidth (EN50065-1 section 6.2.1)

#### 8.1.3 Determination of output level (EN50065-1 section 6.2.2)

According to the tests results in section 8.1.2, the signal bandwidth of the STCOMET development kit is equal to 58.6 kHz with a center frequency of 62.6 kHz. Therefore, the following conclusions are valid for the execution of the tests "6.3 Maximum Outputs Levels" in EN50065-1:

- The kit operating band is 9 kHz 95 kHz
- The kit signal is considered as a wide-band signal
- The spectrum analyzer RBW must be set to 100 kHz (unless otherwise specified).

## 8.1.4 Maximum output levels - sub-band above 9 kHz up to 95 kHz (EN50065-1 section 6.3.1.2)

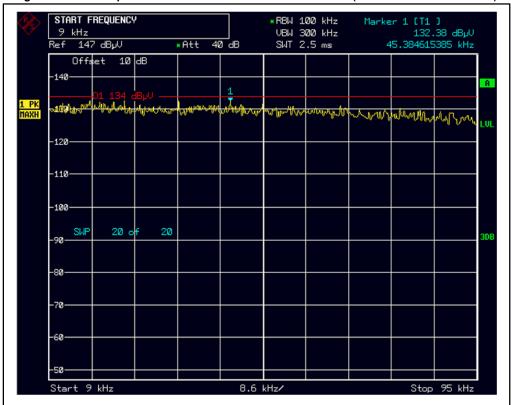
#### 8.1.4.1 Basic test: RBW = 100 kHz (EN50065-1 section 6.3.1.2-b1)

As the transmitted signal is wide-band, the basic test shall have the following settings:

Table 10: Basic test: RBW = 100 kHz

Spectrum analyzer setup	Measurement results	Limit	Verdict
RBW = 100 kHz			
Detector = PEAK MAX.	Max. level = 132.4 dBμV	134 dBµV max.	PASS
Trace display = MAX. HOLD			

Figure 23: Max. output level - RBW = 100 kHz - 9 kHz to 95 kHz (EN50065-1 section 6.3.1.2)



As we can notice, the test result above is quite tight to the standard limit. This is linked to the measurement method: due to the signal bandwidth measured at 52.6 kHz, the spectrum analyzer bandwidth must be set to 100 kHz (no possible step between 50 kHz and 100 kHz). On another hand, the measurement center frequency is sweeping from 9 kHz to 95 kHz, which is very low compared to the resolution bandwidth. Consequently, a portion of the signal negative spectrum is integrated in the power measurement itself.

A second method has been used to measure the maximum output level, namely the Channel power measurement.

This method is using narrow resolution bandwidth (2 kHz), allowing rejecting sufficiently the negative spectrum power for measurements performed from 9 kHz to 95 kHz.

26/42 DocID029338 Rev 1

The Channel power function allows integrating the power across specified frequency bandwidth (58.6 kHz) so that the real output level is measured.

The result is illustrated in Figure 24 and the output level measured is equal to 124.14 dB $\mu$ V. The margin in respect to the standard is quite comfortable.

This measurement method has been compared to a further method, using an oscilloscope, and is giving similar results.

Figure 24: Max. output level – RBW = 2 kHz - 9 kHz to 95 kHz (EN50065-1 section 6.3.1.2)



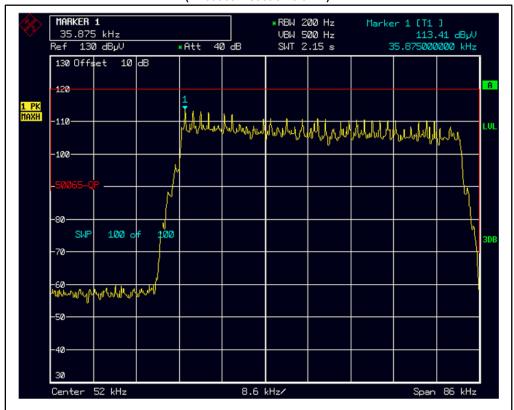
#### 8.1.4.2 Additional test: RBW = 200 Hz (EN50065-1 section 6.3.1.2-b2)

As the transmitted signal is wide-band, the additional measurement (RBW = 200 Hz) must be executed.

Table 11: Additional test: RBW = 200 Hz

Spectrum analyzer setup	Measurement results	Limit	Verdict
RBW = 200 Hz			
Detector = PEAK MAX.	Max. level = 113.4 dBμV	120 dBµV max.	PASS
Trace display = MAX. HOLD			

Figure 25: Max. output level – RBW = 200 Hz – from 9 kHz to 95 kHz (EN50065-1 section 6.3.1.2)



## 8.1.5 Disturbance limits - application outside sub-bands (EN50065-1 section 7.1)

The STCOMET development kit operates with G3-PLC FW in the CENELEC A band (9 kHz to 95 kHz). Therefore, the disturbance tests are performed in the following bands:

- 3 kHz to 9 kHz
- 95 kHz to 150 kHz
- 150 kHz to 30 MHz

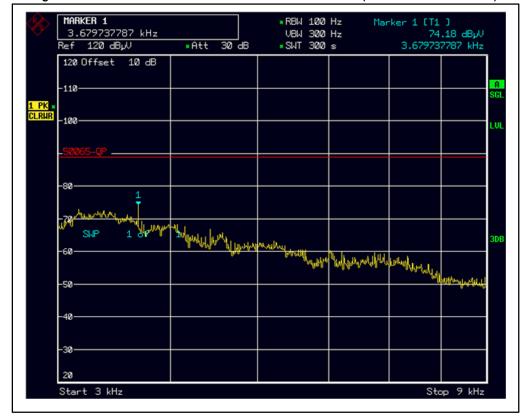
28/42 DocID029338 Rev 1

# 8.1.6 Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 3 kHz to 9 kHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.1)

Table 12: Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 3 kHz to 9 kHz

Spectrum analyzer setup	Measurement results	Limit	Verdict
RBW = 100 Hz, Detector = PEAK MAX., Trace display = MAX. HOLD	Max. level = 57.9 dBμV	89 dBμV max.	PASS

Figure 26: LINE conducted disturbance – from 3 kHz to 9 kHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.1)



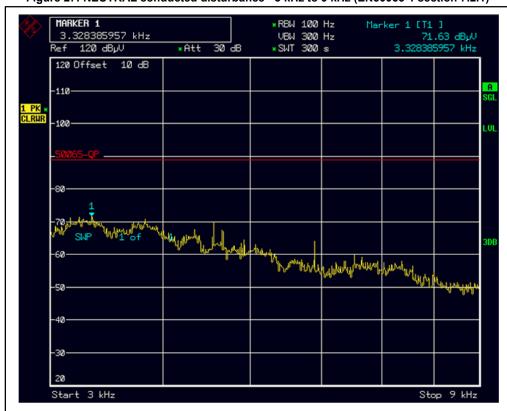


Figure 27: NEUTRAL conducted disturbance - 3 kHz to 9 kHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.1)

# 8.1.7 Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 9 kHz to 150 kHz (EN50065-1 section7.2.2)

The band from 9 kHz to 95 kHz (A band) is skipped in this test since this is the G3-PLC operating band.

Table 13: Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 9 kHz to 150 kHz

Spectrum analyzer setup	Measurement results	Limit	Verdict
Start = 95 kHz			
Stop = 150 kHz			
RBW = 200 Hz	Max. level: 48	Decreasing linearly with the logarithm of	
Detector = QUASI- PEAK	dBμV/LINE; 48 dBμV/NEUTRAL	frequency from (9 kHz – 89 dBμV) to (150 kHz - 66 dBμV), 95 kHz =>69.734 dBμV	PASS
Trace display = CLEAR WRITE			

Figure 28: LINE conducted disturbance – from 95 kHz to 150 kHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.2)



Figure 29: NEUTRAL conducted disturbance - from 95 kHz to 150 kHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.2)



## 8.1.8 Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 150 kHz to 30 MHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.3)

Two measurements are performed, with quasi-peak detector and average detector, and compared with the associated limits.

Table 14: Conducted disturbance - frequency range from 150 kHz to 30 MHz

Spectrum analyzer setup	LISN setup	Measurement results	Limit	Verdict
RBW = 9 kHz Detector = QUASI-PEAK + AVERAGE Trace display = CLEAR WRITE	150 kHz high pass filter enabled	Max. level: 48 dBμV/LINE; 48 dBμV/NEUTRAL	Quasi-peak detector:  Decreasing linearly with the logarithm of frequency from (150 kHz - 66 dBµV) to (500 kHz - 56 dBµV)  God bpv from 500 kHz to 5 MHz God dBµV from 5 MHz to 30 MHz  Average detector:  Quasi-peak limits minus 10 dB	PASS

Figure 30: LINE conducted disturbance – from 150 kHz to 30 MHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.3)

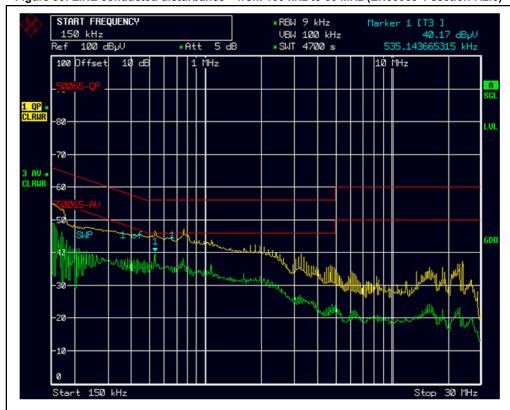


Figure 31: NEUTRAL conducted disturbance – from 150 kHz to 30 MHz (EN50065-1 section 7.2.3)

34/42 DocID029338 Rev 1

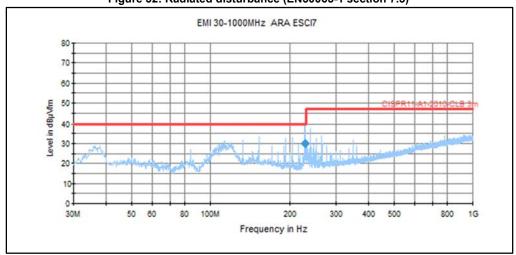
### 8.1.9 Radiated disturbance field strength (EN50065-1 section 7.3)

Figure 32 illustrates the radiated disturbances generated by the STCOMET development kit. The tests have been performed by an external laboratory.

Table 15: Radiated disturbance field strength

Analyzer setup	Measurement results	Limit	Verdict
Detector = QUASI-PEAK	Max. level: 38 dBμV/LINE; 38 dBμV/NEUTRAL	30 to 230 MHz: 40 dBμV/m 230 MHz to 1 GHz: 47 dBμV/m Since the measurement distance is reduced at 3 meters, the limits are increased by a factor of 10 dB compared to EN50065-1limits.	PASS

Figure 32: Radiated disturbance (EN50065-1 section 7.3)



### 8.2 EN50065-2-3: immunity requirements

#### 8.2.1 Electrical Fast Transients (EFT) and Surge Immunity

External DC Source (Jack) PAN Coordinator 2 x 680 µH inductors Pulse PE-53119NL Isolation transformer 50Ω STCOMET Dev. Kit **PAN Device** E.U.T. 10 cm Metal sheet SURGE / EFT **GENERATOR MAINS** GROUND

Figure 33: EFT and Surge Immunity test setup

During the EFT and Surge Immunity tests, a communication is established between the E.U.T (STCOMET development kit) and the stimulus generator (STCOMET kit main board supplied by an external 15 V DC source on J7).

The stimulus acts as a PAN coordinator, and the E.U.T. acts as a PAN device. The coordinator is sending frames to the E.U.T. and expects to receive a frame answer in the reverse direction ("ping").

The coordinator is displaying on the LCD the total number of transmitted frames and the number of error frames.

36/42 DocID029338 Rev 1

#### 8.3 EN50065-7: equipment impedance

For a PLC node, particular attention must be paid to the impedance of the line coupling circuit. Specifically:

- In the receiving (idle) mode, the coupling impedance must be high enough to make the power line source impedance negligible and to minimize the mutual interference between different PLC nodes connected to the same network
- In the transmitting mode, the coupling impedance must be very low inside the signal bandwidth but high enough for out-of-band frequencies.

According to such requirements, the EN50065-7 standard document fixes the following constraints for the PLC node operating in the A band:

- Tx mode:
  - Free in the range from 3 to 95 kHz
  - 3 Ω from 95 to 148.5 kHz
- Rx mode:
  - 10 Ω from 3 to 9 kHz
  - 50  $\Omega$  between 9 and 95 kHz only inside the signal bandwidth (free for frequencies outside the signal bandwidth)
- 5 Ω from 95 to 148.5 kHz.

Figure 34 and Figure 35 show the input impedance magnitude vs. frequency measured in the reception and transmission mode.

The impedance magnitude values prove that the STCOMET reference design is compliant with the EN50065-7 requirements. At the same time, the line interface gives an efficient signal coupling both in the transmission and reception.

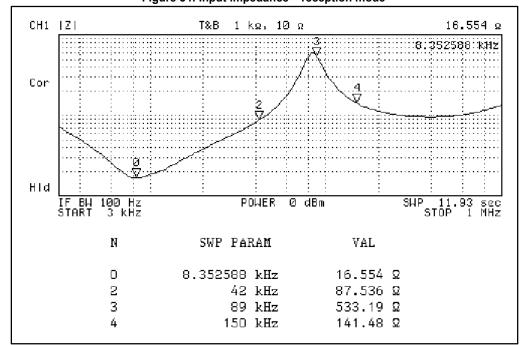
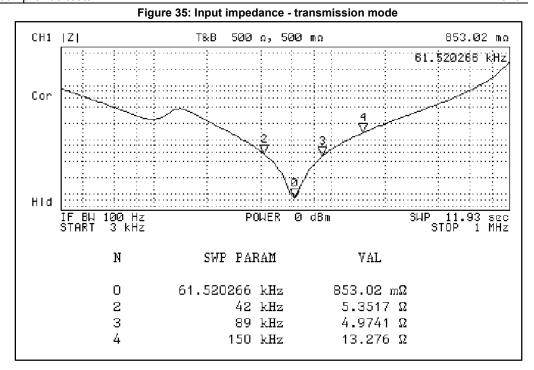


Figure 34: Input impedance - reception mode



AN4875 References

#### 9 References

- STCOMET datasheet
- Getting started with the STCOMET platform development environment (UM1833) STCOMET smart meter and power line communication system-on-chip development kit application note (AN4732)
- STCOMET development kit schematics and PCB layout.

Normative references AN4875

## 10 Normative references

40/42

EN50065: Signaling on low voltage electrical installations in the frequency range 3 kHz to  $148.5\ \text{kHz}.$ 

- Part 1: General requirements, frequency bands and electromagnetic disturbances
- Part 2-3: Immunity requirements
- Part 4-2: Low voltage decoupling filters Safety requirements
- Part 7: Equipment impedance.

AN4875 Revision history

## 11 Revision history

**Table 16: Document revision history** 

Date	Version	Changes
09-Jun-2016	1	Initial release.

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42/42