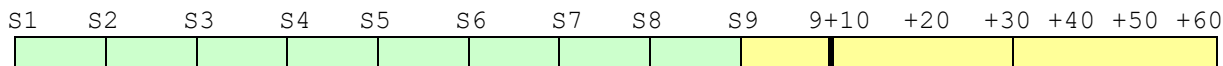


S-meter reading FT-897D

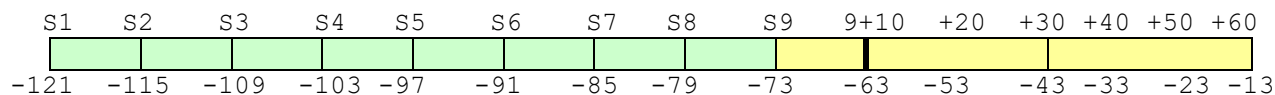
The coloured picture as shown here, represents the S-meter of my FT-897D, as displayed on the main display. Please note that I have tried to resemble the actual display, by depicting the vertical stripes as on the original. The 'fat' line is in fact the S9+10 level. The space beyond S9+10 shows 2 spaces: one of 20 and one of 30 dB:



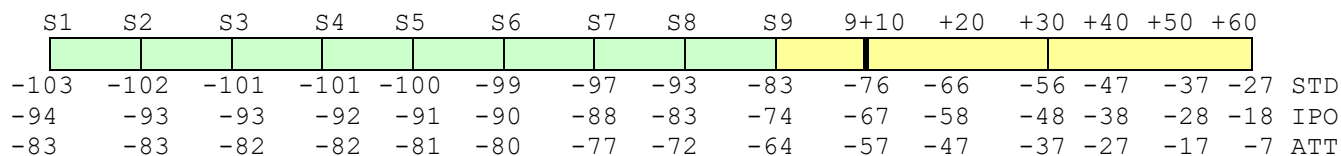
On the display, there is an 'exact' S indication. When a signal passes the first stripe this shows S1, when it passes the second stripe it shows S2, and so on.

During a measurement session in March 2008, it became evident that the lower S-numbers are very inaccurate.

This is what it should be. The values are in dBm (0 dB is 1mW@50 ohms)



This is what it shows when the FT-897 is 'standard', with IPO on and with ATT on



STD means: preamp is 'on' and the attenuator is 'off'

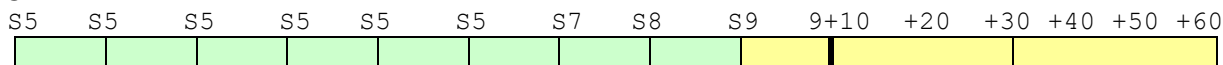
IPO means: Interception Point Optimization is 'on' (and the preamp is then in fact 'off')

ATT means: Attenuator is 'on'. The attenuator is -20dB

Looking at the above, it becomes evident that only with IPO selected, the S-meter resembles in some way what it should be. This, by coincidence, is the way I use it -in general- for 80 meter operation.

Here is the S-meter as it should ROUGHLY be interpreted in real life:

IPO:



The measurement were performed at the facilities of The ProjectGroup PG.540 at portacabin of Scouting De Buffalo's in Zandvoort, using available Signal Generator.