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Investigation of Issues in Technical Parameter Measurement and Maintenance for Cable Digital Television: Postprint

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Date: 2023-10-08T00:00:00+00:00

Abstract

With the continuous development of society and the advancement of the times, people's living standards have undergone profound transformations compared to the past, thereby imposing exceptionally high demands on television technology. The continuous advancement of cable digital television technology has substantially promoted the reform and development of television technology. Upon achieving comprehensive mastery of cable digital television technical parameter measurement and system architecture, maintenance operations for cable digital television technology can be effectively conducted, ensuring the normal operation of cable digital television networks and significantly improving the quality and efficiency of overall maintenance work. This paper investigates the measurement of cable digital television technical parameters and related maintenance issues, and proposes rational and scientific recommendations.

Full Text

Discussion on Measurement and Maintenance of Technical Parameters for Cable Digital Television

Abstract: As society progresses and living standards improve dramatically, demands on television technology have increased significantly. The continuous development of cable digital television technology has substantially advanced television technology reform. Through comprehensive mastery of cable digital television technical parameter measurement and system architecture, effective maintenance can be implemented to ensure normal network operation and significantly improve maintenance quality and efficiency. This paper discusses issues related to cable digital television technical parameter measurement and maintenance, proposing reasonable and scientific recommendations.

Keywords: Cable Digital; Television Technology; Parameter Measurement; Maintenance

1. Composition of Cable Digital Television Systems

As an important product of social development, cable digital television fully integrates television media and scientific technology. Specifically, cable digital television systems have been gradually applied in television systems in recent years. The system primarily consists of several components: a user management subsystem, a network management subsystem, and a front-end source subsystem. The front-end source subsystem mainly includes satellite receiver units, while the multiplexing and scrambling subsystem comprises scrambler groups and multiplexer groups. During operation, various factors can affect the cable digital system, leading to security issues. Analyzing the composition of cable digital television systems is a prerequisite for parameter measurement. Based on this analysis, overall maintenance objectives can be established to timely detect different elements of the system, judge and analyze system parameters, and achieve systematic maintenance through scientific methods, thereby ensuring orderly cable television operation.

2.1 Different Detection Cycles

Detection during maintenance is essential. The first phase is basic detection, which primarily checks fundamental parameters such as TS synchronization, continuous counting, and sync bytes. The second phase is periodic detection, which examines parameters at regular intervals, including CAT, transmission, and PCR intervals. The third phase is supplementary detection, which focuses on NTT, buffer errors, and other aspects. Conducting detection at different cycles is crucial for timely identification of parameter issues.

2.2 Error Measurement

2.2.1 Level 1 Errors Level 1 errors mainly include the following points: detection of TS synchronization loss issues—through detecting whether bytes have anomalies to determine TS synchronization loss phenomena, where five consecutive normal bytes can determine that no synchronization loss has occurred, while two consecutive normal bytes indicate that synchronization loss has occurred; PAT error—refers to no content being found in PAT's 0x0000; continuous counting error—refers to the absence of correct TS packet header counting, preventing the decoder from decoding; PMT error—refers to PMT's PID not appearing once within 0.5 seconds, which affects decoder switching time; PID error—refers to errors in PID code streams within the television system.

2.2.2 Level 2 Errors Level 2 errors mainly include: transmission error—the transmission indicator in the TS packet header is not 0 but 1; PCR accuracy

error—PCR accuracy must exceed 500ns, otherwise it is considered an error; PTS error—broadcasting and transmission time exceeds 70ns.

2.2.3 Level 3 Errors Level 3 errors have relatively lower impact on cable digital television technical parameters. There are many types of level 3 errors, which can be divided into ten categories. Maintenance of level 3 errors is relatively simple, as targeted measures can effectively resolve specific issues.

2.3 Buffer Analysis

Buffer analysis is primarily used for in-depth analysis of buffer storage and system conditions in the system target decoder for each program. Buffer capacity represents the size of the buffer, buffer data indicates the percentage of data present in the buffer at a given moment, and buffer output rate represents the speed at which different types of data leave the buffer. MPEG-2 specified buffer errors mainly consist of overflow and underflow errors, describing the frequency of different errors.

2.4 Level Measurement Requirements

The methods adopted for level measurement primarily use parameters such as digital channel carrier-to-noise ratio and modulation error rate.

2.4.1 Measurement Purpose Understanding the network technical indicators of cable digital television technology is essential for future network planning and design. During debugging, relevant indicators must be carefully analyzed, and factors related to set-top boxes and other aspects must not be neglected. Maintenance work should be performed thoroughly, especially after network activation, when relevant items must be measured promptly to ensure effective output of network technical indicators, which are established based on design requirements. Additionally, when network faults are discovered, using the above measurement methods can effectively identify the causes and resolve them quickly.

3. Maintenance Requirements for Cable Digital Television Technology

3.1 Analysis of Indicators Three main factors directly affect the downstream technical indicators of cable digital television systems: cable television HFC network indicators, front-end QAM modulator indicators, and existing set-top box indicators. The front-end QAM modulator indicators are the primary source of system indicators, but the HFC network cannot improve the indicators provided by the front-end—it can only degrade them. Therefore, for the front-end, it is necessary to ensure high technical indicators as much as possible, but these cannot be improved without limit. From the current technical perspective,

there is no need to consider non-linear distortion indicators of front-end equipment, only modulation error rate and other indicators. Meanwhile, preventing front-end indicators from being degraded by the HFC network is essential to ensure that system output indicators can effectively meet set-top box technical requirements.

3.1.1 Set-Top Box Factors The set-top box is an important carrier in cable digital television technology, and its normal operation significantly impacts cable digital television. Therefore, detection of set-top box parameters is a top priority that requires sufficient attention. It is necessary to detect parameters of the set-top box's basic equipment and HFC system network to ensure normal operation and conduct comprehensive detection of the set-top box's operating conditions to ensure compliance with corresponding technical indicator requirements. The set-top box, as a user terminal subsystem, has a minimum level of 47dB and a bit error rate above 10^{-4}. During actual operation, the indicator error rate must not exceed 25dB. Additionally, whether the operational stability index meets system requirements also affects digital television maintenance effectiveness.

3.1.2 Modulator Factors Modulators have a significant impact on cable digital television technical parameters. To ensure normal operation of cable digital television, modulators must be detected and controlled, with modulation error rate minimized as much as possible. The simplest method is to avoid transmitting programs through frequency points with low modulation error rates, which can largely control fault occurrence.

3.2.1 System Debugging System debugging is an important component of maintenance debugging, with specific standards and requirements guiding corresponding debugging work according to system indicators. When debugging the front-end QAM modulator, the first step is to select the modulation frequency point, then process the modulation signal and level values, and finally complete recording. Compared with analog system debugging, the optical link debugging process shows basically no difference, after which corresponding testing is conducted to verify normal system operation.

3.2.2 System Maintenance To minimize the probability of digital television system failures, regular system maintenance and structural optimization are necessary. During maintenance, relevant indicators must be carefully analyzed, and factors related to set-top boxes must not be neglected. Typically, when cable digital television system failures occur, the following situations arise: first, no television programs can be received; second, only some programs can be received; third, mosaic artifacts appear in programs. When these failures occur, they indicate faults in the user's set-top box or television, requiring maintenance of the cable digital television fault. If problems cannot be resolved after maintenance, professional maintenance personnel must be dispatched to locate and resolve the faults.

This paper provides a detailed analysis of cable digital television technical parameter measurement and proposes relevant maintenance methods for existing problems. To ensure normal television system operation, it is necessary to fully understand all technical parameters and adopt corresponding measures to maintain cable digital television technology issues, thereby safeguarding normal television system operation. Based on the above discussion, cable digital television technical parameter measurement is essential, and strengthening its implementation is necessary to effectively resolve existing problems.

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Source: ChinaXiv — Machine translation. Verify with original.