

# IEEE Standard for Computation of Energy Efficiency Upper Bound for Apparatus Processing Communication Signal Waveforms

IEEE Communications Society

Developed by the  
Green ICT Standards Committee

IEEE Std 1923.1™-2021

# IEEE Standard for Computation of Energy Efficiency Upper Bound for Apparatus Processing Communication Signal Waveforms

Developed by the

**Green ICT Standards Committee**  
of the  
**IEEE Communications Society**

Approved 9 February 2021

**IEEE SA Standards Board**

**Abstract:** A method for computation of an energy efficiency upper bound for an apparatus (wireless or wired) processing a particular communication signal waveform is specified in this standard. This method utilizes the signal envelope probability density function in combination with apparatus' power dissipation characteristics to calculate the energy efficiency upper bound. The purpose of this standard is to provide a consistent tool to other Working Groups and other practitioners who need to evaluate any communication signal waveforms potential for energy efficiency when implemented in hardware.

**Keywords:** energy efficiency, IEEE 1923.1™, modulation, power amplifier, signal waveforms

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## Participants

At the time this IEEE standard was completed, the EECH Working Group had the following membership:

**Sara Biyabani, *Chair***  
**Rida Khan, *Secretary***

Muhammad Mahtab  
Alam  
Mark Azadpour

A.A. Biyabani  
Azza Eltraify  
Mohamed Musa

Ana Carolina Riekstin  
Suresh Sugumar  
Daniel Wong

The following members of the individual Standards Association balloting group voted on this standard. Balloters may have voted for approval, disapproval, or abstention.

Muhammad Mahtab  
Alam  
Sara Biyabani  
Gary Brown  
Pin Chang  
Robert Fish

James Gilb  
Marco Hernandez  
Werner Hoelzl  
William Kefauver  
Rida Khan  
Venkatesha Prasad

R.K. Rannow  
Mark Sturza  
Mehmet Ulema  
Lisa Ward  
Daniel Wong  
Yu Yuan

When the IEEE SA Standards Board approved this standard on 9 February 2021, it had the following membership:

**Gary Hoffman, *Chair***  
**Vacant Position, *Vice Chair***  
**John D. Kulick, *Past Chair***  
**Konstantinos Karachalios, *Secretary***

Edward A. Addy  
Doug Edwards  
Ramy Ahmed Fathy  
J.Travis Griffith  
Thomas Koshy  
Joseph L. Koepfinger\*  
David J. Law  
Howard Li

Daozhuang Lin  
Kevin Lu  
Daleep C. Mohla  
Chenhui Niu  
Damir Novosel  
Annette Reilly  
Jon Walter Rosdahl

Dorothy Stanley  
Mehmet Ulema  
Lei Wang  
F.Keith Waters  
Karl Weber  
Sha Wei  
Howard Wolfman  
Daidi Zhong

\*Member Emeritus

## Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1923.1-2021, IEEE Standard for Computation of Energy Efficiency Upper Bound for Apparatus Processing Communication Signal Waveforms.

IEEE Std 1923.1™ provides a methodology to calculate the intrinsic energy efficiency of waveforms used in wireless communication transmitters [standardized in 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G NR (New Radio), as well as WLAN (Wireless Local Area Network)], for specific device implementation. IEEE Std 1923.1 deals with analog circuits.

This standard provides a generic upper-bound methodology called Modulation-Available Energy Efficiency(MAEE) to quantify the energy efficiency of linear transmitters as a primary performance metric when using any given communication signal waveform. The impact of the semiconductor device technology is taken into account in MAEE as a determining factor together with the waveform transmitted. Non-linear transmitters will be treated in future revisions. Examples of application of MAEE to 2G through 5G and non-cellular are presented.

The MAEE is provided in terms of both a detailed algorithm and example MATLAB code.

## Acknowledgements

The Working Group especially acknowledges the contributions of its Chair, Earl McCune, who passed away shortly before the publication of this standard. Earl was an IEEE Fellow and an emeritus MTT Distinguished Microwave Lecturer. He was a member of multiple IEEE conference committees and served as the Chair of the Energy Efficient Communications Hardware Standards Working Group.

Earl received his BSEE/CS from UC Berkeley, CA, USA MSEE from Stanford, and Ph.D. from UC Davis, CA, USA. His research interests included RF circuits and systems including modulation design, with an emphasis on jointly maximizing throughput and energy efficiency while also minimizing implementation cost. He was a Silicon Valley serial entrepreneur, and had 91 issued US patents.

This standard is dedicated to his memory.

## Contents

1. Overview .....	10
1.1 Scope .....	10
1.2 Purpose .....	10
1.3 Word usage .....	10
2. Normative references .....	11
3. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations .....	11
3.1 Definitions .....	11
3.2 Acronyms and abbreviations .....	11
4. Background .....	12
5. Computation of energy efficiency upper bound for linear amplifiers .....	13
5.1 Overview .....	13
5.2 Procedure for linear amplifiers .....	14
6. Examples .....	15
Annex A (informative) Pseudocode for the linear amplifier MAEE algorithm .....	18
Annex B (informative) Circuit power dissipation principles .....	20
Annex C (informative) MATLAB™ sample code for the linear amplifier algorithm .....	23
Annex D (informative) Bibliography .....	27

# IEEE Standard for Computation of Energy Efficiency Upper Bound for Apparatus Processing Communication Signal Waveforms

## 1. Overview

### 1.1 Scope

This standard specifies a method for computation of an energy efficiency upper bound for an apparatus processing a particular communication signal waveform. This method utilizes the signal envelope probability density function in combination with apparatus' power dissipation characteristics.

### 1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to evaluate communication signal waveforms potential for energy efficiency.

### 1.3 Word usage

The word *shall* indicates mandatory requirements strictly to be followed in order to conform to the standard and from which no deviation is permitted (*shall* equals *is required to*).<sup>1,2</sup>

The word *should* indicates that among several possibilities one is recommended as particularly suitable, without mentioning or excluding others; or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required (*should* equals *is recommended that*).

The word *may* is used to indicate a course of action permissible within the limits of the standard (*may* equals *is permitted to*).

The word *can* is used for statements of possibility and capability, whether material, physical, or causal (*can* equals *is able to*).

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<sup>1</sup>The use of the word *must* is deprecated and cannot be used when stating mandatory requirements, *must* is used only to describe unavoidable situations.

<sup>2</sup>The use of *will* is deprecated and cannot be used when stating mandatory requirements, *will* is only used in statements of fact.