

PM 6685 PM 6685R

Technical Data

Universal Frequency Counter Rubidium Frequency Counter Calibrator

Cal lab performance you can take anywhere

The PM 6685 frequency counter from Fluke brings cal lab accuracy to field measurements. With 10 digits per second, plus overflow (displays 11th and 12th digits), it delivers high-accuracy measurements instantly. The PM 6685 is easy to use, compact and – most important of all – it has today's smartest input triggering for frequency measurements. The battery option for the PM 6685 maintains oven stability for 20 hours, giving you instant oven performance even after long transportation.



PM 6685

- 300 MHz basic input range; options for 3 or 8 GHz
- Ultra High Stability Oven: up to 5×10^{-9} within 10 min.
- Battery supply in combination with Ultra High Stability Oven for On-Site calibration
- Displays 10 digits in a second
- Smart AUTO trigger eliminates guesswork, provides errorfree measurements
- Analog Bar Graph displays signal strength and input sensitivity to assist instrument setup and RF tuning applications
- Nulling function lets you use any value as input reference

- Digit blanking function to eliminate distraction due to insignificant digits in your readings
- Connect-and-go convenience for testbench and field use
- Optional IEEE-488 (SCPI) interface

GSM Network operators

Depending on the cellular radio system network operators and the internal procedures and budgets, the calibration requirement can be fulfilled with the following solutions from Fluke.

- PM6685 with the Ultra-High-Stability oven oscillator in the small housing (with or without battery supply) to check base stations, offering a low initial cost solution (6 month calibration interval for a margin of 3x better than GSM specification)
- PM6685R **Rubidium** Frequency Counter/Calibrator, to check base stations, providing low cost of ownership, (10 year calibration interval, for a margin of 50x better than GSM specification).

Ultra High Stability Timebase

The Ultra-High-Stability oven oscillator PM9692 fills the gap between the best crystal oscillators currently available and the Rubidium oscillator. The short warm-up time of 10 min. to reach 5×10^{-9} of final value makes it the ideal solution for many on-site calibration applications.

The PM9692 oscillator in the smaller housing of the PM6685, provides adequate accuracy to handle the fast-growing need for calibration of digital cellular telephony systems and other calibration applications, very cost effectively.

PM6685R - Today's most accurate frequency counter

The PM 6685R from Fluke is the most accurate portable frequency counter on the market. It offers all the functionality of the PM 6685, plus the stability and accuracy of a built-in Rubidium atomic reference.

High stability, high accuracy and short warm-up times make this instrument ideal for high-accuracy calibration procedures outside the cal lab environment, such as in base station transmitters of large telecommunication networks like GSM.

The short warm-up time means that the PM 6685R is ready for use within minutes after transport.

Additional features

PM 6685R

- High accuracy and short warm-up times:
 - 5 min. to lock
 - 4×10^{-10} within 10 min.
 - Aging 1×10^{-9} in 10 year
- Calibrates any application specific frequency
- 10 MHz buffered Rubidium reference output
- 2 year warranty on Rubidium-element

Technical Specifications PM 6685

Measuring Functions

Refer to table 1 for measurement uncertainty information.

Frequency A, C

Range

Input A: 10 Hz to 300 MHz
Input C: 100 MHz to 3.0 GHz (PM 9624)
300 MHz to 8 GHz (PM 9638)

Resolution: 10 digits/s measurement time

Burst Frequency A

Frequency Range: 100 Hz to 80 MHz
PRF Range: 1 Hz to 1 MHz
Pulse Width Range: 0.8 μ s to 50 ms, min. 3 periods of this signal

Burst Frequency C

Frequency Range: as Channel C option
PRF Range: up to 1 MHz
Pulse Width Range: 0.5 μ s to 1.5 s

Period A

Range: 3,3 ns to 100 ms (aver.)
Resolution: 10 digits/s measurement time

Ratio A/E, C/A

Range: 10^{-9} to 10^9
Frequency Range:
Input A: 10 Hz to 300 MHz
Input E: 10 Hz to 80 MHz
Input C: 100 MHz to 3.0 GHz (PM 9624)
300 MHz to 8 GHz (PM 9638)

Pulse Width A

Range: 6 ns to 10 ms
Frequency Range: 50 Hz to 60 MHz
Voltage Range: 100 mV p-p to 70V p-p

Duty Factor A

Range: 0 to 1
Frequency Range: 50 Hz to 60 MHz
Voltage Range: 100 mV p-p to 70V p-p

Totalize A

Event counting on input A with manual start and stop
Range: 0 to 10^{14}
Frequency Range: 0 to 100 MHz

Input and Output Specifications

Input A

Frequency Range: 10 Hz to 300 MHz
Coupling: AC
Impedance: 1 M Ω /25 pF or 50 Ω , VSWR < 2:1

Sensitivity:

Sinewave: 10 mV rms, 10 Hz to 50 MHz
15 mV rms, 50 MHz to 100 MHz
20 mV rms, 100 MHz to 150 MHz
30 mV rms, 150 MHz to 200 MHz
50 mV rms, 200 MHz to 300 MHz
50 mV p-p, 3 ns minimum pulse width
30 mV p-p to 70V p-p

Pulse:

Dynamic Range:

Manual Trigger:

Sensitivity Range: 10 mV rms to 10V rms, variable in 3 dB steps, indicated on a bar graph
Trigger Level: Selectable for optimum triggering on waveforms with duty factors <0.25, 0.25 to 0.75 and >0.75

Trigger Slope:

Auto Trigger:

Automatic setting of input signal conditioning circuits for optimum triggering on different amplitudes and waveforms
Frequency: Minimum 50 Hz
Sensitivity Range: 10 mV rms to 25V rms
Signal Monitor: A bar graph displays actual input signal level in 3 dB steps, 10mV rms to 10V rms

Low Pass Filter:

Damage Level:

100 kHz nominal 3 dB point.
Minimum 40 dB attenuation at 1 MHz.
1 M Ω : 350V (DC + AC peak) at dc to 440 Hz, falling to 12V rms at 1 MHz and above
50 Ω : 12V rms

Input C (Option PM 9624)

Frequency Range:	100 MHz to 3.0 GHz
Prescaler Factor:	64
Operating Input Voltage Range:	
100 MHz to 300MHz	20 mV rms to 12V rms
0.3 GHz to 2.5 GHz	10 mV rms to 12V rms
2.5 GHz to 2.7 GHz	20 mV rms to 12V rms
2.7 GHz to 3.0 GHz	100 mV rms to 12V rms
Amplitude Modulation:	DC to 0.1 MHz: Up to 94% depth 0.1 to 6 MHz: Up to 85% depth Minimum signal must exceed minimum operating input voltage
Impedance:	50Ω nominal, AC coupled, VSWR <2.5:1
Max Voltage without Damage:	12V rms, pin-diode protected
Connector:	Type N Female

Input C (Option PM9638)

Frequency Range:	300 MHz to 8 GHz
Prescaler Factor:	512
Operating Input Voltage Range:	
0.3 to 0.5 GHz	-21 to +30 dBm (20mV to 7V rms)
0.5 to 3.0 GHz	-27 to +30 dBm (10mV to 7V rms)
3.0 to 4.5 GHz	-21 to +30 dBm (20mV to 7V rms)
4.5 to 6.0 GHz	-15 to +30 dBm (40mV to 7V rms)
6.0 to 8.0 GHz	-9 to +30 dBm (80mV to 7V rms)
Impedance:	50Ω nominal, VSWR<2.1
Connector:	N-type, female

External Reference Input D

The use of external reference is indicated on the display	
Input Frequency:	10 MHz standard.
Voltage Range:	200 mV rms to 10V rms
Impedance:	Approx 1 k (AC coupled)

Input E

Used in Ratio A/E and external arming/gating modes	
Frequency Range:	DC to 80 MHz
Pulse Width:	6 ns minimum
Slew Rate:	2V/μs minimum
Trigger Level:	TTL level, 1.4V nominal
Trigger Slope:	Positive or negative
Impedance:	Approx 2 kΩ (DC coupled)
Damage Level:	±25V peak

Reference Output G

Frequency:	10 MHz, sine wave
Output Level:	>1V rms into 50Ω load,
Coupling:	AC

Auxiliary Functions**External Arming/External Gate**

External signal on input E can be used to inhibit start and/or stop triggering.
Stop arming is not applicable to Pulse Width and Duty Factor measuring modes.
Start Arming Delay: OFF or 200 ns to 5s in 100 ns steps

Nulling/Frequency Offset

Nulling enables measurements to be displayed relative to a previously measured value or to any frequency offset value entered via front panel keys

Other Functions

Measuring Time:	Single cycle or 100 ns to 15 s
Local/Preset:	Go to local function in remote mode, or preset counter to default setting in local mode
Restart:	Starts a new measurement
Display Hold:	Freezes measurement result. Start and stop of the totalization in TOT A MAN.
Check:	Applies 10 MHz to the measuring logic
Display:	LCD with high-luminance backlight
Number of Digits:	10 digits plus exponent (+2)
Blanking:	Least significant digits can be blanked
Bar graph:	Displays input signal level or sensitivity setting in 3 dB steps from 10mV rms to 10V rms

Auxiliary Menu:

The following functions are available from the AUX MENU and via the GPIB interface	
Save/Recall:	20 complete instrument settings. 10 settings can be user protected
GPIB-Address:	Read and temporarily change via front panel keys. (Set new address on rear panel switch.)
Burst Frequency:	A and C input, set synchronization delay time
PRF:	A and C input, set synchronization delay time
Trigger Slope:	Positive or negative slope
Arming Start:	Positive or negative slope, set start arming delay time
Arming Stop:	Positive or negative slope
Null:	Read and change stored offset frequency
Display Overflow:	Display of the 11th and 12th digits
Test:	Select selftests
Program Version:	Display instrument and GPIB program versions
Time Out:	OFF or 100 ms to 25.5s in 100 ms steps
Analog Output:	Select digits and scaling factor (included with GPIB-option)
Display Backlight:	On/Off

Measuring function	Random Uncertainty rms	Systematic Uncertainty	LSD Displayed
Frequency Period	$\pm \frac{\sqrt{(250\text{ps})^2 + 2x (\text{Trigger Error})^2}}{\text{Measuring Time}} \times \text{Freq. or Period}$	$\pm \text{Time Base Error} \times \text{Freq. or Period}$ $\pm (250 \text{ ps/Meas. time}) \times \text{Freq. or Period}$	$\frac{250\text{ps} \times \text{Freq. or Period}}{\text{Measuring Time}}$
Ratio f_1/f_2	$\pm \frac{\sqrt{(\text{Prescaler Factor})^2 + 2x (f_1 \times \text{Trigger Error of } f_2)^2}}{f_2 \times \text{Measuring Time}}$		$\frac{\text{Prescaler Factor}}{f_2 \times \text{Measuring Time}}$
Pulse Width (Auto Trigger)	$\pm \sqrt{(250 \text{ ps})^2 + 2x (\text{Trigger Error})^2}$	$\pm \text{Time Base Error} \times \text{Pulse Width}$ $\pm 0.5 \times \text{Transition Time} \pm 1.5 \text{ ns}$	100 ps
Duty Factor	$\pm \sqrt{(250 \text{ ps})^2 + 2x (\text{Trigger Error})^2} \times \text{Frequency}$	$\pm (0.5 \times \text{Transition Time} \pm 1.5 \text{ ns}) \times \text{Frequency}$	1×10^{-6}

Table 1. Measurement Uncertainties and LSD Displayed

Random Uncertainty

Random uncertainty is due to quantization error, short-term Time Base stability, internal noise and input signal noise. The random uncertainty can be reduced by increasing the measurement time.

Trigger Error: Internal noise and input signal noise, expressed as an rms Trigger Error.

$$\text{Trigger Error} = \frac{\sqrt{(e_{\text{amp}})^2 + (e_n)^2}}{\text{Signal slew rate (V/s) at trigger point}}$$

Where:

e_{amp} = rms input amplifier noise (250 μV rms typical) e_n = rms noise of the input signal over a 300 MHz bandwidth

Systematic Uncertainty

See crystal oscillator specifications for aging and possible frequency deviation due to the oscillator's temperature dependency

LSD Displayed

Unit value of Least Significant Digit (LSD) displayed. After calculation, the LSD value is rounded to the nearest decade before display (for example >0.5 Hz will be 1 Hz and <0.5 Hz will be 0.1 Hz). LSD blanking is available to reduce displayed resolution. Measuring times >1s can give significance in > 10 digits. The 11th and 12th digits can be displayed using the display overflow function.

Options

Battery Unit (Option PM 9623)

The PM 9623 is a rechargeable battery unit and external DC supply unit for mounting inside the counter (not supporting PM 6685R).

Battery Type:	Sealed lead-acid cells
Battery Capacity:	At 25°C
Standby Mode:	Typically 20 hours with Oven Time Base
Operating Mode:	Typically 3 hours without options, 2.5 hours with Oven Time Base, and 2 hours with Oven Time Base and Input C
Recharge Time:	Typically 8 hours in standby mode
Battery Protection:	Overcharge and deep discharge protection
External DC:	12V to 24V via socket on rear panel (16V to 24V to charge internal battery)
Line Failure Protection:	Counter automatically switches to internal battery or external DC when the line voltage falls below 90V AC

Temperature range:

Operating:	0°C to +40°C
Storage:	-40°C to +50°C
Weight:	1.5 kg (3.3 lb)

GPIO Option (PM 9626/031)

Programmable Functions:	All front panel and AUX MENU functions
Compatibility:	IEEE 488.2-1987, SCPI 1991.0
Interface Functions:	SH1, AH1, T6, L4, SR1, RL1, DC1, DT1, E2
Maximum Measurement Rate to Internal Memory:	200 to 1600 readings/s, depending on measurement function and internal data format
Internal Memory Size:	764 to 2600 readings, depending on measurement function and internal data format
Maximum Bus Transfer Rate from internal memory:	50 to 1000 readings/s, depending on internal data format and output data format
Data Output Format:	ASCII, IEEE double precision floating point
Time Out:	Off or 100 ms to 25.5s in 100 ms steps
Analog Output:	0 to 4.98V in 20 mV steps, derived from three consecutive digits selected from the measurement result
Output Impedance:	200 Ω

Timebase Options

Option model:	PM668-/-1-	PM668-/-5-	PM668-/-6-	PM668-/-7-
Retro-fittable option:	non retrofit.	PM9691/011	PM9692/011	non retro-fit.
Time base type:	Standard	OCXO	OCXO	Rubidium
Uncertainty due to: Calibration adjustment tolerance, at + 23°C ± 3°C	<1x10 ⁻⁶	<2x10 ⁻⁸	<5x10 ⁻⁹	<5x10 ⁻¹¹
Ageing: per 24 hr. per month per year	n.a. <5x10 ⁻⁷ <5x10 ⁻⁶	<5x10 ⁻¹⁰ ❶ <1x10 ⁻⁸ <7.5x10 ⁻⁸	<1x10 ⁻¹⁰ ❷ <3x10 ⁻⁹ <2x10 ⁻⁸	n.a. <5x10 ⁻¹¹ ❸ <2x10 ⁻¹⁰ ❹
Temperature variation: 0°C-50°C, 20°C-26°C (typ. values)	<1x10 ⁻⁵ <3x10 ⁻⁶	<5x10 ⁻⁹ <6x10 ⁻¹⁰	<2.5x10 ⁻⁹ <4x10 ⁻¹⁰	<3x10 ⁻¹⁰ <5x10 ⁻¹¹
Power voltage variation: ± 10%	<1x10 ⁻⁸	<5x10 ⁻¹⁰	<5x10 ⁻¹⁰	<1x10 ⁻¹¹
Short term stability: τ = 1 s (Root Allan Variance) τ = 10 s (typical values) τ = 100 s	not specified	<1x10 ⁻¹¹ <1x10 ⁻¹¹ n.a.	<5x10 ⁻¹² <5x10 ⁻¹² n.a.	<5x10 ⁻¹¹ <1.5x10 ⁻¹¹ <5x10 ⁻¹²
Power-on stability: Deviation versus final value after 24hr on time, after a warm-up time of:	n.a.	<1x10 ⁻⁸ 10 min	<5x10 ⁻⁹ 10 min	<4x10 ⁻¹⁰ 10 min
Total uncertainty , for operating temperature 0°C to 50°C, at 2σ (95%) confidence interval: 1 year after calibration 2 years after calibration	<1.2x10 ⁻⁵ <1.5x10 ⁻⁵	<1x10 ⁻⁷ <2x10 ⁻⁷	<2.5x10 ⁻⁸ <5x10 ⁻⁸	<4x10 ⁻¹⁰ ❺ <6x10 ⁻¹⁰ ❻
Typical total uncertainty , for operating temperature 20°C to 26°C, at 2σ (95%) confidence interval: 1 year after calibration 2 years after calibration	<7x10 ⁻⁶ <1.2x10 ⁻⁵	<1x10 ⁻⁷ <2x10 ⁻⁷	<2.5x10 ⁻⁸ <5x10 ⁻⁸	<2.5x10 ⁻¹⁰ ❻ <5x10 ⁻¹⁰ ❼

- n.a. Not discernible, negligible versus 1°C temperature variation.
 ❶ After 48 hours of continuous operation, PM9692 typical value 1 x 10⁻¹⁰/24h
 ❷ After 1 month of continuous operation
 ❸ After first year, or < 5 x 10⁻¹⁰ during first year. Aging during 10 year <1 x 10⁻⁹
 ❹ After 14 days of continuous operation

Explanation

Calibration Adjustment Tolerance is the maximal tolerated deviation from the true 10MHz frequency after a calibration. When the reference frequency does not exceed the tolerance limits at the moment of calibration, an adjustment is not needed. Total uncertainty is the total possible deviation from the true 10MHz value under influence of frequency drift due to ageing and ambient temperature variations versus the reference temperature. The operating temperature range and the calibration interval are part of this specification.

General Specifications
Environmental Conditions

Temperature (excl. PM 9623)	
Operating:	0°C to +50°C
Storage:	-40°C to +70°C
Humidity:	95% RH, 0°C to 30°C
Altitude Operating:	Up to 4600m (15000 ft)
Non-operating:	Up to 12000m (40000 ft)
Vibration:	3G at 55 Hz per MIL-T-28800D, Class 3, Style D Half-sine 40G per MIL-T-28800D, Class 3, Style D. Bench handling.
Shock:	Shipping container.
Reliability:	MTBF 30 000 hours
Safety:	CSA 22.2 No 1010-1, EN 61010-1 (1997), CAT II, Pollution degree 2.
EMC:	EN61326/A1 (1998)

Power Requirements

AC:	90 to 265V rms, 45 to 440 Hz, max 30W
DC (PM 9623):	Internal battery or external 12 to 24V DC, max 2A

Mechanical Data

Width	210 mm (8.25 in)
Height	86 mm (3.4 in)
Depth	395 mm (15.6 in)
Weight:	Net 3.2 kg (7 lb); shipping 5.5 kg (12 lb)

Additional Specification for PM6685R

(where these differ from the standard model PM6685)
 Short-term (Root Allan Variance of reference Oscillator)
 See Timebase Options table

Warm-up time (at 25°C)

Unlocked status indicated by LED	
Time to lock	approx. 5 min.
Retrace:	< 2.5 x 10 ⁻¹¹

Power requirements (at 25°C)

Voltage	90 ... 264 Vrms, 47 ... 63Hz
Power rating	<100W for <5 min., 47W continuous operation

Dimensions and weight

Width	315 mm (12.4 in)
Weight	Net 5.5 kg (12 lb)
Shipping weight	8.8 kg (19 lb)

Ordering Information

Basic Model

PM 6685/011	Universal Frequency Counter 300 MHz incl. Standard Time Base
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Rubidium Reference Basic Model

PM 6685R/071	Rubidium Frequency Counter/Calibrator
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<i>Included with Instrument</i>	<i>One year product warranty, line cord, operator manuals on CD-ROM, Getting Started booklet, and Certificate of Calibration practices</i>
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Input Frequency Options

PM 6685/_6_	3.0 GHz Input C included (PM 9624) *
PM 6685/_7_	8 GHz Input C included (PM9638)

Time Base Options

PM 6685/_1_	Standard Time Base
PM 6685/_5_	Very High Stability Oven Time Base (PM 9691)
PM 6685/_6_	Ultra-High-Stability Oven Time Base (PM 9692)
PM 6685R/_7_	Rubidium Time Base ¹⁾

*1) Product physical dimensions are larger with rubidium time base.
The rubidium time base is not customer installable.*

Battery Unit and GPIB Interface Options

PM 6685/_ _1 or PM 6685R/_71	No Battery Unit or GPIB Interface
PM 6685/_ _3	Battery Unit (PM 9623) included
PM 6685/_ _6 or PM 6685R/_76	GPIB Interface and Time & Frequency Analysis SW TimeView for DOS included

Example, Ordering Configuration

To order the 300 MHz PM 6685 version with Standard Time base, 3.0 GHz input C and GPIB Interface, select the complete Model Number PM 6685/616

Options and Accessories

PM 9624	3.0 GHz Input C *
PM 9638	8 GHz Input C Option
PM 9691/01	Very High Stability Oven Time Base
PM 9692/01	Ultra-High-Stability Oven Time Base
PM 9623 **	Battery & DC Supply Unit
PM 9622/00	Rack Mount Kit for PM 6685R
PM 9622/02	Rack Mount Kit for PM6685
PM 9627	Carrying Case
PM 9627H	Heavy Duty Aluminium Carrying Case
PM 9639	2.3 GHz 500Ω probe 10:1 (BNC)

* PM 9624 specification 3.0 GHz in combination with PM 6685(R)

** PM 9623 can not be fitted in PM 6685R

When ordered together with the basic counter, options are factory installed.

SW Drivers

MET/CAL

HPVEE

Manuals:

PM 6685	Operator on CD-ROM
PM 6685	Program on CD-ROM
PM 6685	Getting Started Booklet
PM 6685	Service

on request
procedures are available
driver is available

Factory Warranty

One year product warranty
Two year warranty on
Rubidium Reference System, Lifetime
Limited Warranty on Rubidium Lamp

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