



frequency provided that the adjacent signals were themselves clean.

Selectivity

The selectivity on all bands on FM was very slightly lopsided, but very good on 12.5kHz channelling and superb on 25kHz channelling. On SSB the 3dB bandwidth was just about right, the skirts being quite sharp down to -60dB, thus giving a very good shape factor. The pass-band ripple was minimal on the SSB filter, thus helping received audio to be better than on the IC251E. I quite liked the optional CW narrow filter for it did have less loss than usual, although its shape was not

ideal.

The S-meter on FM offers a very poor performance from S3 to 9 + 20dB, the actual difference being only round 10dB between these points. On SSB and CW the S-meter scale covers a far greater range, and this is very useful.

Frequency Accuracy

We checked frequency accuracy on receive on both SSB and CW. The 50MHz band was excellent, whereas 2m and 70cm were up to only 300Hz out. The intended frequency is that indicated when a carrier is zero beat on SSB, but with a beat note of 700Hz on CW. This CW offset could be annoying for

some users whilst convenient for others and I cannot really show any preference in the case of the 726. I was a little annoyed by a slight shift from USB to LSB on SSB of 100Hz. We used our Marconi 2019 generator with an external standard synchronised to Rugby on 60kHz for checking frequency accuracy. On FM best SINAD was always obtained right on channel which shows excellent alignment of the discriminator.

The reciprocal mixing performance was checked 20kHz and 100kHz off channel on 6m and 2m, and just as 100kHz off, on 70cm, since my lab. equipment is itself not good enough for testing this parameter close in on UHF, and there is no point in quoting meaningless readings. I am just slightly unhappy with the 20kHz figures for they show some synthesiser noise present on the local oscillator, the ratio between noise and reciprocal mixing level averaging at 94dB (82dB ref. 12dB SINAD point). This figure is certainly not bad, though, and better than many other rigs, but what is rather fascinating is the exceptionally good figure on the same two bands at 100kHz spacing, 6m representing an overall dynamic range from this parameter of 110dB, and 2m being around 104dB. I am not altogether happy about some critics giving receiver dynamic range calculated just from the reciprocal mixing ratio for, as you can see, the figure depends upon how near the carrier you get to make the measurement. The

