

Keysight 85052C 3.5 mm Precision Calibration Kit

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1 General Information

Calibration Kit Overview

The Keysight 85052C 3.5 mm calibration kit is used to calibrate Keysight network analyzers up to 32 GHz for measurements of components with 3.5 mm connectors.

The 85052C is designed to be used in TRL 2-Port measurement calibration as implemented in vector network analyzers. TRL stands for Thru-Reflect-Line, naming the main standards used in the accuracy enhancement procedure.

The 3.5 mm connector is the most frequently used connector for frequency coverage up to 32 GHz. Well constructed 3.5 mm connectors and transmission lines can work up to 34 GHz. Metrology grade versions of this connector are used for high performance test ports and for calibration standards. All 3.5 mm female connectors are of the precision slotless (PSC-3.5) type. These connectors are designed for long repeatability when used with appropriate connector care and connection technique. SMA, SMA-compatible, or 3.5 mm connectors used on the test ports, adapters, cables, and calibration standards provide the most accurate and repeatable measurements.

TRL (Thru-Reflect-Line) represents a family of calibration techniques that measure various combinations of precision transmission lines and reflection standards to determine the 2-Port, 12-term VNA error coefficients. The specific calibration techniques described here use measurements of the zero-length thru (T), reflection standards (R) at each port, and one or more lengths of precision transmission line (L) of the same impedance to cover the desired calibration frequency range. At low frequencies where the required transmission line length becomes too long for precision work, the TRM (thru-reflect-match) calibration is used. The fixed loads in the kit are used as matched standards.

The 85052C calibration kit can also be used to perform 1-port calibrations using the open-short-load (OSL) and open-short-offset load techniques. The precision transmission lines can be used as precision offsets for the offset load calibrations.

Kit Contents

The 85052C 3.5 mm Precision Calibration Kit contains components useful for several different calibration techniques. The parts used for the TRL 2-Port calibration are:

- longer precision air line for 2 to 7 GHz
- shorter precision air line for 7 to 32 GHz
- male and female short circuits
- male and female open circuits
- male and female fixed loads

Other parts included are:

- three precision TRL adapters
- two adapter anti-rotation clamps
- airline insertion tools
- 5/16 inch, 90 N-cm (8 in-lb) torque wrench
- spanner wrench

- 4-mm hex balldriver
- calibration kit storage case

Refer to **Chapter 6, “Replaceable Parts,”** for a complete list of kit contents and their associated part numbers.

Broadband Loads

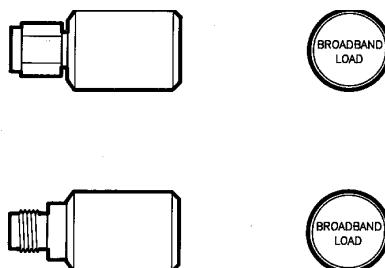
The broadband loads are metrology-grade terminations that have been optimized for performance up to 26.5 GHz. The rugged internal structure provides for highly repeatable connections. A distributed resistive element on sapphire provides excellent stability and return loss.

TRL 2-Port calibration allows measurement of the loads to determine the error coefficients. The default usage is TRM up to 2 GHz. It may be used up to 26.5 GHz by changing the calibration kit definitions. The “match” standards may be defined as infinite-length transmission lines whose input impedance is the reference impedance, Z_0 . They may be defined as loads also. See Keysight Application Note 1287-11 (Keysight part number 5989-4840EN), “Specifying Calibration Standards and Kits for Keysight Vector Network Analyzers.” You can view this document online at www.keysight.com by using the search function.

When the more accurate OSL calibration is desired, the broadband loads, in conjunction with the precision transmission lines and adapters, can be used in the offset load configuration. See **“Offset Load Calibration” on page 3-29**. An offset load can be considered a compound standard consisting of two known offsets (transmission lines) of different length and a load element. The definition of the offsets is the same as all offset transmission lines. The shorter of the two offsets can be a zero length offset. The load element is defined as a one-port reflection standard. An offset load standard is used when the response of the offset standards is known more precisely than the response of the load element. Measurement of an offset load standard consists of two measurements - both offsets terminated by the load element. The frequency range of the offset load standard should be set so that there will be at least a 20-degree separation between the expected response of each measurement. In cases where more than two offsets are used, the frequency range may be extended. This is because the internal algorithm at each frequency will search through all of the possible combinations of offsets to find the pair with the widest expected separation (to use in determining the actual response of the load element.) When specifying more than two offsets, the user should define multiple offset load standards.

These same broadband loads are used for the isolation part of the calibration. Exact equivalent responses are not required for this step.

Figure 1-1 0 to 26.5 GHz Loads — Male and Female Fixed Broadband Loads



Offset Opens and Shorts

The offset opens and shorts are built from parts that are machined to the current state-of-the-art in precision

Calibration Kit Overview

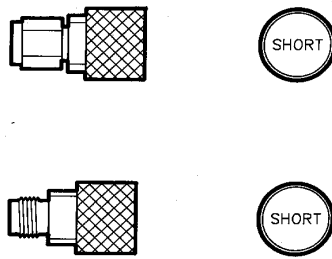
machining.

The offset short's inner conductors have a one-piece construction, common with the shorting plane. The construction provides for extremely repeatable connections.

The offset opens have inner conductors that are supported by a strong, low-dielectric-constant plastic to minimize compensation values.

Both the opens and shorts are constructed so that the pin depth can be controlled very tightly, thereby minimizing phase errors. The lengths of the offsets in the opens and shorts are designed so that the difference in phase of their reflection coefficients is approximately 180 degrees at all frequencies.

Figure 1-2 Reflection Standards — Male and Female Short Circuits



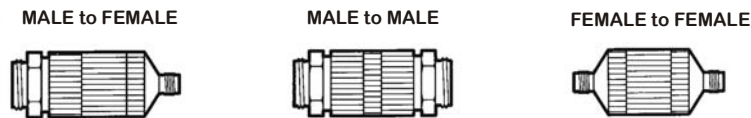
Precision Adapters

Like the other devices in the kit, the precision adapters are built to very tight tolerances to provide good broadband performance. The adapters utilize a dual-beaded connector structure to ensure stable, repeatable connections. The beads are designed to minimize return loss and are separated far enough so that interaction between the beads is minimized.

The precision adapters are designed so that their nominal electrical lengths are the same, which allows them to be used in calibration procedures for non-insertable devices.

Three precision adapters are included in this kit. Two are always recommended for the 3.5 mm TRL 2-Port measurement calibration. Complete performance verification assumes use of the precision adapters in this kit as the test ports.

Figure 1-3 Precision TRL Test Port Adapters



Recession Limits The female receptacle recession and the male pin recession, along with other mechanical specifications of Port 1 and Port 2, must be within limits to meet complete measurement specifications. If other connectors than these precision adapters are used as the test ports, they must be fully inspected. Using other than the highest quality connectors as the test ports will reduce accuracy and repeatability as well as possibly damaging the calibration standards.

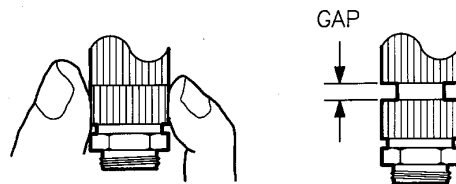
Precision Connectors For general use, any 3.5 mm precision slotless female connector can be used for the female test port. The 3.5 mm precision male connector used on the male end of these adapters is always required for measurements between 7-32 GHz in order to connect the 7-32 GHz air line in this kit. Any 3.5 mm precision male connector can be used at frequencies less than 7 GHz.

Installation Feature The precision adapter male connector has a special feature to allow installation of the 7-32 air line.

- Grasp the knurled sleeve and move the nut to its extended position by pulling on it.

This is the position used for measurement of the 7-32 GHz air line.

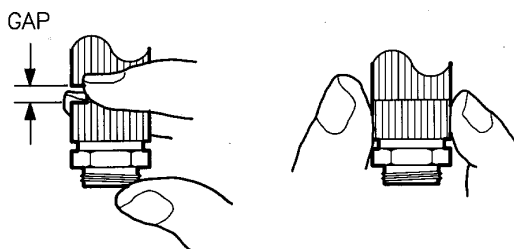
Figure 1-4 Extended Position



- Now move the sleeve forward and push the nut back into its standard position.

This position is used to install the 2-7 GHz air line, for connecting the other calibration standards, and for connecting the device under test.

Figure 1-5 Standard Position



Precision Airlines

The precision airlines are metrology-grade impedance reference devices. The characteristic impedance (Z_0) of the line establishes the reference impedance after error correction is applied. Each airline is always stored in its installation tool to help prevent damage and preserve cleanliness.

The shorter air line is used for measurement calibration over the 7 to 32 GHz frequency range. The longer air line is used for measurement calibration over the 2 to 7 GHz range. Each air line is fully specified at all frequencies within its stated range.

Figure 1-6 Line Standards — 7 to 32 GHz and 2 to 7 GHz Air Lines Installed in Tools with Storage Bottles



Figure 1-7 Polar Display Showing Phase Response of Longer Air Line Over 2 to 7 GHz Frequency Range

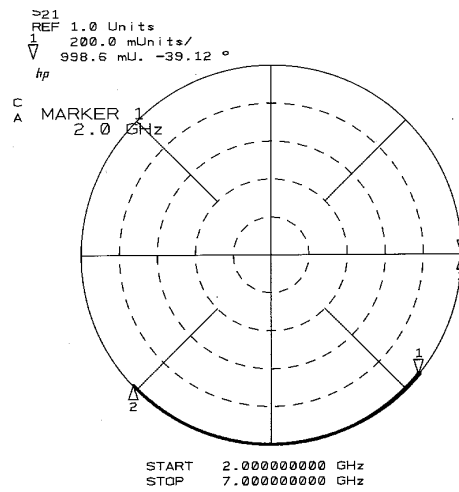
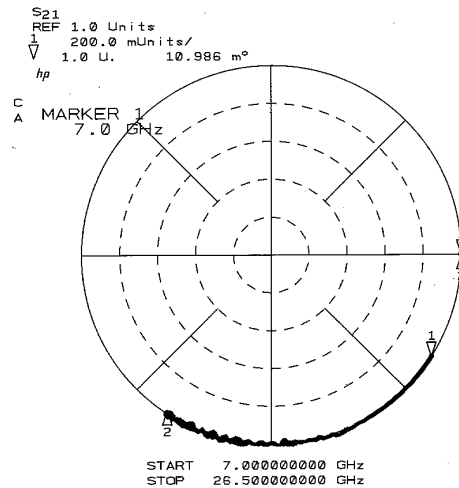
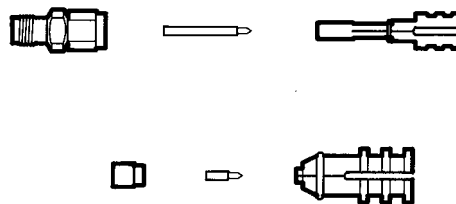


Figure 1-8 Polar Display Showing Phase Response of Shorter Air Line Over 7 to 26.5 GHz Frequency Range



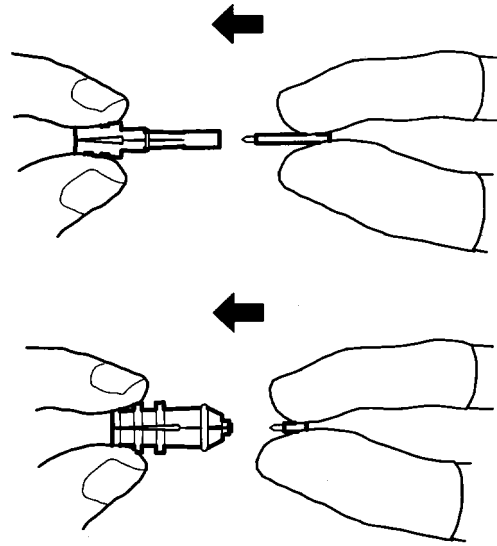
Each air line consists of a separate outer conductor and center conductor and includes its own tool used for installing and removing the parts from the test port. Both are insertable. Each has a male end and a female end. The male end of the air line fits into the installation tool.

Figure 1-9 Air Lines Removed from Installation Tools



CAUTION The parts may be removed for inspection, if necessary. The tool is always used to install the parts for calibration. Use extreme care in handling these parts. Use static dissipative finger sheaths, or “finger cots,” to prevent contamination. Liquid or solid residue on the connector parts will degrade performance. In particular, the inner conductors can be easily deformed by squeezing. Do not use metal tweezers or other devices to pick up or hold the parts.

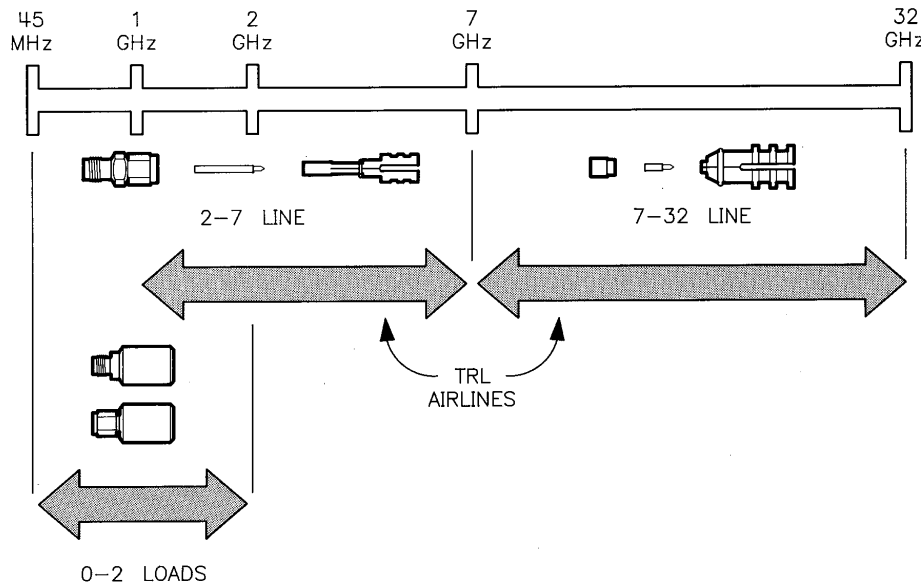
Figure 1-10 Installing the Air Lines in Installation Tools



Air Line Frequency Coverage The following illustration shows the frequency range covered by the air line and fixed loads for the Lines part of the TRL 2-Port calibration procedure. If measuring over the entire frequency range, measure the 7-32 Line first, then the 2-7 Line, then the 0-2 Loads. If measuring over a reduced frequency range, only those standards for that frequency range need to be measured. For example, if you are testing over the 3-22 GHz range, only the 7-32 Line and the 2-7 Line must be measured.

The standard label for the 2-7 Line would indicate that its data is valid only from 2 to 7 GHz. However, you may choose to use data from the 2-7 Line down to the 1 GHz by simply not measuring the 0-2 Loads. If the 0-2 Loads are measured after the 2-7 Line, the 0-2 Loads data will replace data from the 2-7 Line.

Figure 1-11 Frequency Coverage for Line Part of Measurement Calibration



Changing the Air Line Frequency Range Sometimes your application may require a frequency range slightly beyond the standard frequency range of one of the precision air lines. In this case, you may extend the frequency range of one of the air lines in order to accomplish the calibration by connecting only one of the air lines.

The error coefficients are determined with best accuracy when the Thru and the Line phase response is separated by ± 90 degrees at corresponding frequencies. When the transmission phase response of a line standard is the same or gets very close to zero or 180 degrees of the Thru standard at the same frequency, the result becomes less certain. The correct result cannot be determined when the phase response is exactly equal or 180 degrees apart. This is why a particular length air line covers a specific frequency range.

To evaluate the phase response, first do a simple transmission frequency response calibration using the Thru standard (Port 1 connected directly to Port 2), then measure the S_{21} phase of the air line. The standard air line frequency specifications provide for greater than 20 degrees separation.

Experiment with this by using the Modify Cal Kit function to change the Minimum Frequency or Maximum Frequency specification for the air line, and then performing the TRL 2-Port calibration procedure. With correction on, the trace noise on the error-corrected trace may increase at the points where the phase of the air line used for calibration approaches the phase of the Thru, often showing large discontinuities at the point where the phase of both standards are identical or separated by 180 degrees.

If this error is acceptable in your measurement, change the standard label for the air line and save the redefined cal kit for later use. If the error is not acceptable, reload the standard cal kit definition.

Tools

A torque wrench and spanner wrench are included in the kit to loosen and tighten the connectors. The small torque wrench is used for the 3.5-mm nuts. The large torque wrench is used for the 20-mm nuts on the precision adapters. It is included with the network analyzer. The spanner wrench is used to hold the precision adapter while using the appropriate torque wrench to tighten the connection.

Also included is the hex wrench for tightening and loosening the adapter anti-rotation clamp securing screws.

CAUTION When making connections, turn the nut on the device; never turn the device itself. Turning the device will cause excessive wear of both connector mating surfaces and cause debris to collect in the female receptacle.

Figure 1-12 Torque Wrench



Figure 1-13 Spanner Wrench

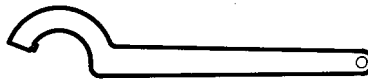


Figure 1-14 Torque Wrench (not included)

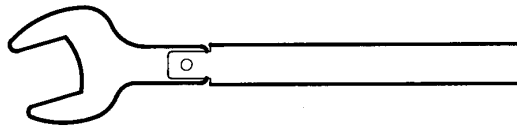


Figure 1-15 Hex Wrench for Adapter Anti-Rotation Clamp



3.5 mm Connectors

The 3.5 mm geometry connector is the most frequently used connector when frequency coverage up to 26.5 GHz, reasonable commonality, and durability is desired. Well constructed connectors and transmission lines can work up to 34 GHz. Metrology grade versions of this connector are used for high performance test ports and for calibration standards. Whether the device uses SMA, SMA-compatible, or 3.5 mm, the 3.5 mm connectors used on the test ports, adapters, cables, and calibration standards provide the most accurate and repeatable solution.

Calibration Definitions

The calibration kit must be selected and the calibration definitions for the devices in the kit installed in the network analyzer prior to performing a calibration.

The calibration definitions can be:

- resident within the analyzer
- manually entered from the front panel

Class assignments and standard definitions may change as more accurate model and calibration methods are developed. You can download the most recent class assignments and standard definitions from Keysight's Calibration Kit Definitions Web page at www.na.tm.keysight.com/pna/caldefs/stddefs.html

Refer to your network analyzer user's guide or embedded Help for instructions on manually entering calibration definitions, selecting the calibration kit, and performing a calibration.

Equipment Required but Not Supplied

Gages, connector cleaning supplies, test port anti-rotation clamps, and various electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection devices are not supplied with the calibration kit but are required to ensure successful operation of the kit. Refer to [Table 6-2 on page 6-4](#) for ordering information.

Incoming Inspection

Verify that the shipment is complete by referring to [Table 6-1 on page 6-2](#).

Check for damage. The foam-lined storage case provides protection during shipping. Verify that this case and its contents are not damaged.

If the case or any device appears damaged, or if the shipment is incomplete, contact Keysight Technologies. See [page 5-5](#) for contact information. Keysight will arrange for repair or replacement of incomplete or damaged shipments without waiting for a settlement from the transportation company.

When you send the kit or device to Keysight, include a service tag (found at the back of this manual) with the following information:

- your company name and address
- the name of a technical contact person within your company, and the person's complete phone number
- the model number and serial number of the kit
- the part number and serial number of the device
- the type of service required
- a *detailed* description of the problem

Recording the Device Serial Numbers

In addition to the kit serial number, the devices in the kit are individually serialized (serial numbers are labeled onto the body of each device). Record these serial numbers in **Table 1-1**. Recording the serial numbers will prevent confusing the devices in this kit with similar devices from other kits.

The adapters included in the kit are for measurement convenience only and are not serialized.

Table 1-1 Serial Number Record for the 85052C

Device	Serial Number
Calibration kit	
–m– broadband load	
–f– broadband load	
–m– open	
–f– open	
–m– short	
–f– short	
–m– to –m– precision adapter	
–m– to –f– precision adapter	
–f– to –f– precision adapter	
Long precision airline (2 to 7 GHz)	
Short precision airline (7 to 32 GHz)	

Precision Slotless Connectors

The female 3.5 mm connectors in this calibration kit are metrology-grade, precision slotless connectors (PSC). A characteristic of metrology-grade connectors is direct traceability to national measurement standards through their well-defined mechanical dimensions.

Conventional female center conductors are slotted. When mated, the female center conductor is flared by the male pin. Because physical dimensions determine connector impedance, electrical characteristics of the female connector (and connection pair) are dependent upon the mechanical dimensions of the male pin. While connectors are used in pairs, their male and female halves are always specified separately as part of a standard, instrument, or device under test. Because of these facts, making precision measurements with the conventional slotted connector is very difficult, and establishing a direct traceability path to primary dimensional standards is nearly impossible.

The precision slotless connector was developed to eliminate these problems. All PSCs are female. A PSC incorporates a center conductor with a solid cylindrical shell that defines the outside diameter of the female center pin. Its outside diameter and, therefore, the impedance in its region does not change. The inner part provides an internal contact that flexes to accept the allowed range of male pin diameters.

The calibration of a network analyzer having a conventional slotted female connector on the test port remains valid only when the device under test and all calibration standards have identical male pin diameters. For this reason PSC test port adapters are supplied in most calibration kits.

Precision slotless connectors have the following characteristics:

- There is no loss of traceable calibration on test ports when the male pin diameter of the connector on the device under test is different from the male pin diameter of the calibration standard.
- The female PSC and its mating male connector can be measured and specified separately as part of the device either is attached to.
- All female connectors can have a known, stable impedance based only on the diameters of their inner and outer conductors.
- Female calibration standards can be fully specified. Their specifications and traceability are unaffected by the diameter of the male mating pin.
- A fully traceable performance verification is made using a precision 50 ohm airline having a PSC.
- Measurement repeatability is enhanced due to non-changing connector characteristics with various pin diameters.

With PSCs on test ports and standards, the percentage of accuracy achieved when measuring at 50 dB return loss levels is comparable to using conventional slotted connectors measuring devices having only 30 dB return loss. This represents an accuracy improvement of about 10 times.

Clarifying the Terminology of a Connector Interface

In this document and in the prompts of the PNA calibration wizard, the gender of cable connectors and adapters is referred to in terms of the center conductor. For example, a connector or device designated as 1.85 mm –f– has a 1.85 mm female center conductor.

A connector gage is referred to in terms of the connector that it measures. For instance, a male connector gage has a female connector on the gage so that it can measure male devices.

Preventive Maintenance

The best techniques for maintaining the integrity of the devices in the kit include:

- routine visual inspection
- cleaning
- proper gaging
- proper connection techniques

All of these are described in [Chapter 3](#). Failure to detect and remove dirt or metallic particles on a mating plane surface can degrade repeatability and accuracy and can damage any connector mated to it. Improper connections, resulting from pin depth values being out of the observed limits (see [Table 2-2 on page 2-4](#)) or from bad connection techniques, can also damage these devices.

When to Calibrate

A network analyzer calibration remains valid as long as the changes in the systematic error are insignificant. This means that changes to the uncorrected leakages (directivity and isolation), mismatches (source match and load match), and frequency response of the system are small (<10%) relative to accuracy specifications.

Change in the environment (especially temperature) between calibration and measurement is the major cause in calibration accuracy degradation. The major effect is a change in the physical length of external and internal cables. Other important causes are dirty and damaged test port connectors and calibration standards. If the connectors become dirty or damaged, measurement repeatability and accuracy is affected. Fortunately, it is relatively easy to evaluate the general validity of the calibration. To test repeatability, remeasure one of the calibration standards. If you can not obtain repeatable measurements from your calibration standards, maintenance needs to be performed on the test port connectors, cables and calibration standards. Also, maintain at least one sample of the device under test or some known device as your reference device. A verification kit may be used for this purpose. After calibration, measure the reference device and note its responses. Periodically remeasure the device and note any changes in its corrected response which can be attributed to the test system. With experience you will be able to see changes in the reference responses that indicate a need to perform the measurement calibration again.

2 Specifications

Environmental Requirements

Table 2-1 Environmental Requirements

Parameter	Limits
Temperature	
Operating ^a	+20 °C to +26 °C
Storage	–40 °C to +75 °C
Error-corrected range ^b	± 1 °C of measurement calibration temperature
Relative humidity	Type tested, 0% to 95% at 40 °C, non-condensing

- a. The temperature range over which the calibration standards maintain conformance to their specifications.
- b. The allowable network analyzer ambient temperature drift during measurement calibration and during measurements when the network analyzer error correction is turned on. Also, the range over which the network analyzer maintains its specified performance while correction is turned on.

Temperature—What to Watch Out For

Changes in temperature can affect electrical characteristics. Therefore, the operating temperature is a critical factor in performance. During a measurement calibration, the temperature of the calibration devices must be stable and within the range shown in

Table 2-1.

IMPORTANT Avoid unnecessary handling of the devices during calibration because your fingers are a heat source.

Mechanical Characteristics

Mechanical characteristics such as center conductor protrusion and pin depth are *not* performance specifications. They are, however, important supplemental characteristics related to electrical performance. Keysight Technologies verifies the mechanical characteristics of the devices in the kit with special gaging processes and electrical testing. This ensures that the device connectors do not exhibit any center conductor protrusion or improper pin depth when the kit leaves the factory.

“[Gaging Connectors](#)” on page 3-6 explains how to use gages to determine if the kit devices have maintained their mechanical integrity. Refer to [Table 2-2](#) on page 2-4 for typical and observed pin depth limits.

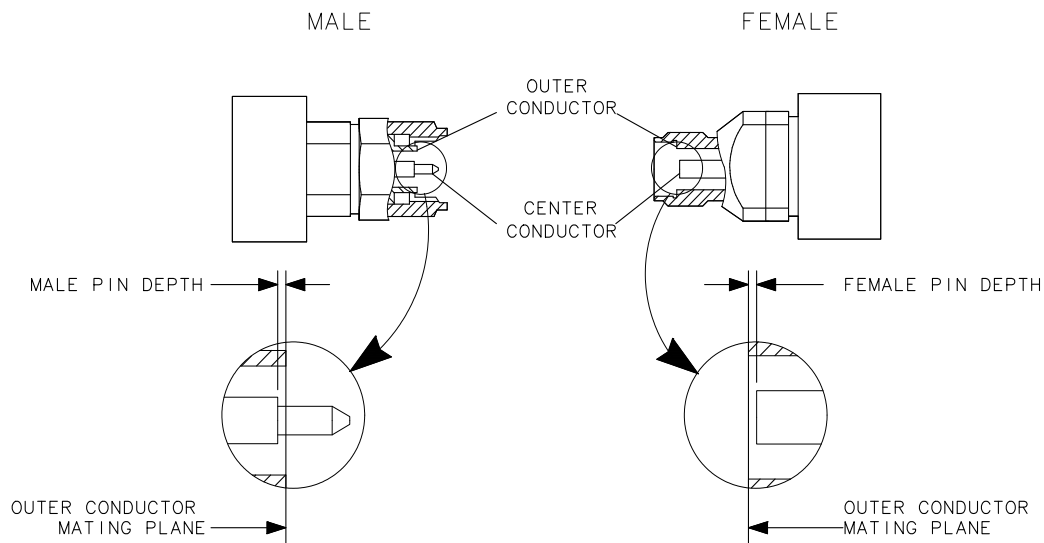
Pin Depth

Pin depth is the distance the center conductor mating plane differs from being flush with the outer conductor mating plane. See [Figure 2-1](#). The pin depth of a connector can be in one of two states: either protruding or recessed.

Protrusion is the condition in which the center conductor extends beyond the outer conductor mating plane. This condition will indicate a positive value on the connector gage.

Recession is the condition in which the center conductor is set back from the outer conductor mating plane. This condition will indicate a negative value on the connector gage.

Figure 2-1 Connector Pin Depth



wj63d

The pin depth value of each calibration device in the kit is not specified, but is an important mechanical parameter. The electrical performance of the device depends, to some extent, on its pin depth. The electrical

Mechanical Characteristics

specifications for each device in the kit take into account the effect of pin depth on the device's performance. **Table 2-2** lists the typical pin depths and measurement uncertainties, and provides observed pin depth limits for the devices in the kit. If the pin depth of a device does not measure within the *observed* pin depth limits, it may be an indication that the device fails to meet electrical specifications. Refer to **Figure 2-1** for a visual representation of proper pin depth (slightly recessed).

Table 2-2 Pin Depth Limits

Device	Typical Pin Depth	Measurement Uncertainty ^a	Observed Pin Depth Limits ^b
Opens	0 to -0.0127 mm 0 to -0.00050 in	+0.0064 to -0.0064 mm +0.00025 to -0.00025 in	+0.0064 to -0.0191 mm +0.00025 to -0.00075 in
Shorts	0 to -0.0127 mm 0 to -0.00050 in	+0.0041 to -0.0041 mm +0.00016 to -0.00016 in	+0.0041 to -0.0168 mm +0.00016 to -0.00066 in
Fixed loads	-0.0025 to -0.0254 mm -0.0001 to -0.00100 in	+0.0041 to -0.0041 mm +0.00016 to -0.00016 in	+0.0016 to -0.0295 mm +0.00006 to -0.00116 in
TRL adapter (test port end)	0 to -0.0508 mm 0 to -0.00020 in	+0.0041 to -0.0041 mm +0.00016 to -0.00016 in	+0.0041 to -0.0549 mm +0.00016 to -0.00036 in
TRL Adapter (airline end)	0 to -0.0051 mm 0 to -0.00020 in	+0.0041 to -0.0041 mm +0.00016 to -0.00016 in	+0.0041 to -0.0091 mm +0.00016 to -0.00036 in

- a. Approximately +2 sigma to -2 sigma of gage uncertainty based on studies done at the factory according to recommended procedures.
- b. Observed pin depth limits are the range of observation limits seen on the gage reading due to measurement uncertainty. The depth could still be within specifications.

Electrical Specifications

The electrical specifications in [Table 2-3](#) apply to the devices in your calibration kit when connected with a Keysight precision interface.

Table 2-3 Electrical Specifications for 85052C 3.5 mm Devices

Device	Specification	Frequency (GHz)
Broadband loads (male and female)	Return loss ≥ 46 dB ($\rho \leq 0.00501$) ^a	dc to ≤ 2
	Return loss ≥ 44 dB ($\rho \leq 0.00631$)	> 2 to ≤ 3
	Return loss ≥ 38 dB ($\rho \leq 0.01259$)	> 3 to ≤ 8
	Return loss ≥ 36 dB ($\rho \leq 0.01585$)	> 8 to ≤ 20
	Return loss ≥ 34 dB ($\rho \leq 0.01995$)	> 20 to ≤ 26.5
Offset opens ^b (male and female)	$\pm 0.65^\circ$ deviation from nominal	dc to ≤ 3
	$\pm 1.20^\circ$ deviation from nominal	> 3 to ≤ 8
	$\pm 2.00^\circ$ deviation from nominal	> 8 to ≤ 20
	$\pm 2.00^\circ$ deviation from nominal	> 20 to ≤ 26.5
Offset shorts ^b (male and female)	$\pm 0.50^\circ$ deviation from nominal	dc to ≤ 3
	$\pm 1.00^\circ$ deviation from nominal	> 3 to ≤ 8
	$\pm 1.75^\circ$ deviation from nominal	> 8 to ≤ 20
	$\pm 1.75^\circ$ deviation from nominal	> 20 to ≤ 26.5
Long precision airline ^c	Return loss ≥ 56 dB ($\rho \leq 0.00158$)	> 2 to ≤ 7
Short precision airline ^c	Return loss ≥ 50 dB ($\rho \leq 0.00316$)	> 7 to ≤ 26.5
Precision adapters	Return loss ≥ 30 dB ($\rho \leq 0.0316$)	dc to ≤ 2
	Return loss ≥ 27 dB ($\rho \leq 0.0447$)	> 2 to ≤ 3

- a. Broadband load characteristics ≤ 2 GHz are used only for TRL 2-port calibrations. 1-port calibrations use broadband load characteristics in the 45 MHz to 26.5 GHz frequency range.
- b. The specifications for the opens and shorts are given as allowed deviation from the nominal model as defined in the standard definitions.
- c. The specifications for the airlines is based on mechanical measurements. Refer to the calibration report included with you kit for the exact dimensions of your precision airlines. The values given in the calibration report take precedence over any other published values.

Certification

Keysight Technologies certifies that this product met its published specifications at the time of shipment from the factory. Keysight further certifies that its calibration measurements are traceable to the United States National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to the extent allowed by the institute's calibration facility, and to the calibration facilities of other International Standards Organization members. See ["How Keysight Verifies the Devices in Your Kit" on page 4-2](#) for more information.

3 Use, Maintenance, and Care of the Devices

Electrostatic Discharge**Electrostatic Discharge**

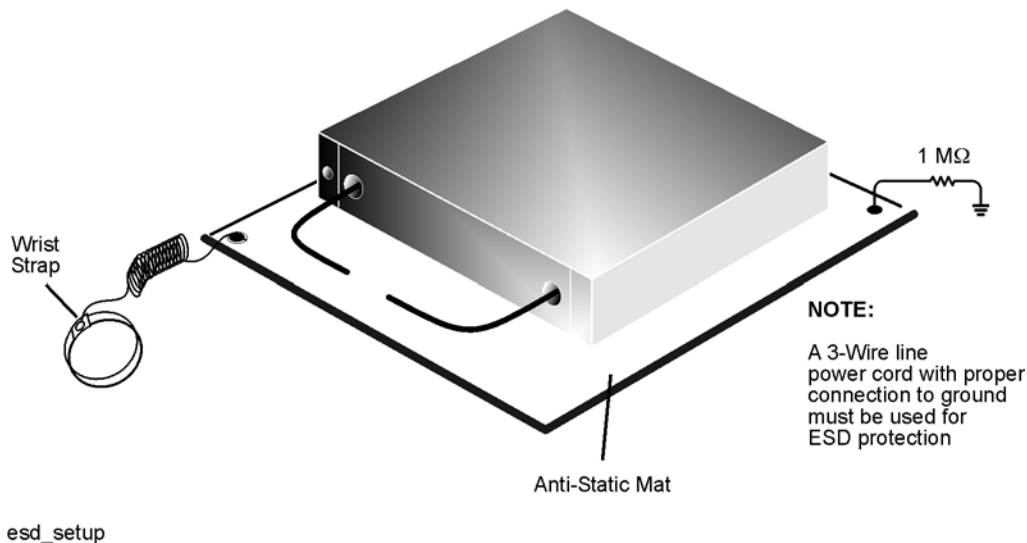
Protection against electrostatic discharge (ESD) is essential while connecting, inspecting, or cleaning connectors attached to a static-sensitive circuit (such as those found in test sets).

Static electricity can build up on your body and can easily damage sensitive internal circuit elements when discharged. Static discharges too small to be felt can cause permanent damage. Devices such as calibration components and devices under test (DUT), can also carry an electrostatic charge. To prevent damage to the test set, components, and devices:

- *always* wear a grounded wrist strap having a 1 M Ω resistor in series with it when handling components and devices or when making connections to the test set.
- *always* use a grounded, conductive table mat while making connections.
- *always* wear a heel strap when working in an area with a conductive floor. If you are uncertain about the conductivity of your floor, wear a heel strap.
- *always* ground yourself before you clean, inspect, or make a connection to a static-sensitive device or test port. You can, for example, grasp the grounded outer shell of the test port or cable connector briefly.
- *always* ground the center conductor of a test cable before making a connection to the analyzer test port or other static-sensitive device. This can be done as follows:
 1. Connect a short (from your calibration kit) to one end of the cable to short the center conductor to the outer conductor.
 2. While wearing a grounded wrist strap, grasp the outer shell of the cable connector.
 3. Connect the other end of the cable to the test port.
 4. Remove the short from the cable.

Figure 3-1 shows a typical ESD protection setup using a grounded mat and wrist strap. Refer to [Table 6-2 on page 6-4](#) for information on ordering supplies for ESD protection.

Figure 3-1 ESD Protection Setup



Visual Inspection

Visual inspection and, if necessary, cleaning should be done every time a connection is made. Metal particles from the connector threads may fall into the connector when it is disconnected. One connection made with a dirty or damaged connector can damage both connectors beyond repair.

Magnification is helpful when inspecting connectors, but it is not required and may actually be misleading. Defects and damage that cannot be seen without magnification generally have no effect on electrical or mechanical performance. Magnification is of great use in analyzing the nature and cause of damage and in cleaning connectors, but it is not required for inspection.

Look for Obvious Defects and Damage First

Examine the connectors first for obvious defects and damage: badly worn plating on the connector interface, deformed threads, or bent, broken, or misaligned center conductors. Connector nuts should move smoothly and be free of burrs, loose metal particles, and rough spots.

What Causes Connector Wear?

Connector wear is caused by connecting and disconnecting the devices. The more use a connector gets, the faster it wears and degrades. The wear is greatly accelerated when connectors are not kept clean, or are not connected properly.

Connector wear eventually degrades performance of the device. Calibration components should have a long life if their use is on the order of a few times per week. Replace components with worn connectors.

The test port connectors on the network analyzer test set may have many connections each day, and are therefore more subject to wear. It is recommended that an adapter be used as a test port saver to minimize the wear on the test set's test port connectors.

Inspect the Mating Plane Surfaces

Flat contact between the connectors at all points on their mating plane surfaces is required for a good connection. See [Figure 2-1 on page 2-3](#). Look especially for deep scratches or dents, and for dirt and metal particles on the connector mating plane surfaces. Also look for signs of damage due to excessive or uneven wear or misalignment.

Light burnishing of the mating plane surfaces is normal, and is evident as light scratches or shallow circular marks distributed more or less uniformly over the mating plane surface. Other small defects and cosmetic imperfections are also normal. None of these affect electrical or mechanical performance.

If a connector shows deep scratches or dents, particles clinging to the mating plane surfaces, or uneven wear, clean and inspect it again. Devices with damaged connectors should be discarded. Determine the cause of damage before connecting a new, undamaged connector in the same configuration.

Inspect Female Connectors

Inspect the contact fingers in the female center conductor carefully. These can be bent or broken, and damage to them is not always easy to see. A connector with damaged contact fingers will not make good electrical contact and must be replaced.

Cleaning Connectors

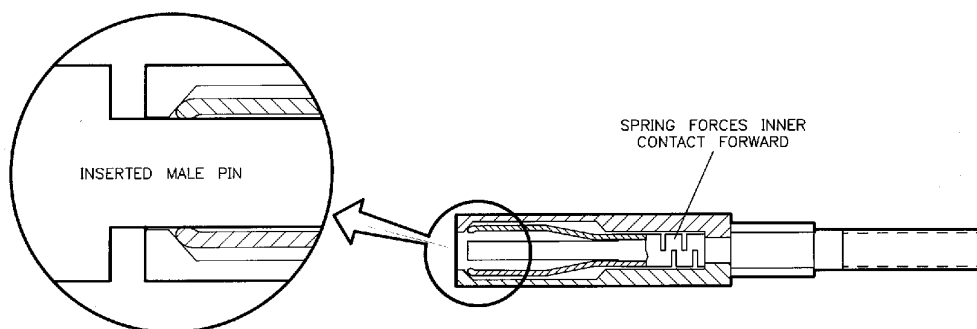
NOTE This is particularly important when mating nonprecision to precision devices.

The female 3.5 mm connectors in this calibration kit are metrology-grade, precision slotless connectors (PSC). Precision slotless connectors are used to improve accuracy. With PSCs on test ports and standards, the accuracy achieved when measuring at 50 dB return loss levels is comparable to using conventional slotted connectors measuring devices having only 30 dB return loss. This represents an accuracy improvement of about 10 times.

Conventional female center conductors are slotted and, when mated, are flared by the male pin. Because physical dimensions determine connector impedance, this change in physical dimension affects electrical performance, making it very difficult to perform precision measurements with conventional slotted connectors.

The precision slotted connector was developed to eliminate this problem. The PSC has a center conductor with a solid cylindrical shell, the outside diameter of which does not change when mated. Instead, this center conductor has an internal contact that flexes to accept the male pin.

Figure 3-2 Detail of Precision Slotless Female Connector



Cleaning Connectors

Clean connectors are essential for ensuring the integrity of RF and microwave coaxial connections.

1. Use Compressed Air or Nitrogen

WARNING Always use protective eyewear when using compressed air or nitrogen.

Use compressed air (or nitrogen) to loosen particles on the connector mating plane surfaces. Clean air cannot damage a connector or leave particles or residues behind.

You can use any source of clean, dry, low-pressure compressed air or nitrogen that has an effective oil-vapor filter and liquid condensation trap placed just before the outlet hose.

Ground the hose nozzle to prevent electrostatic discharge, and set the air pressure to less than 414 kPa (60 psi) to control the velocity of the air stream. High-velocity streams of compressed air can cause electrostatic effects when directed into a connector. These electrostatic effects can damage the device. Refer to “**Electrostatic Discharge**” earlier in this chapter for additional information.

2. Clean the Connector Threads

WARNING **Keep isopropyl alcohol away from heat, sparks, and flame. Store in a tightly closed container. It is extremely flammable. In case of fire, use alcohol foam, dry chemical, or carbon dioxide; water may be ineffective.**

Use isopropyl alcohol with adequate ventilation and avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing. It causes skin irritation, may cause eye damage, and is harmful if swallowed or inhaled. It may be harmful if absorbed through the skin. Wash thoroughly after handling.

In case of spill, soak up with sand or earth. Flush spill area with water.

Dispose of isopropyl alcohol in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental regulations.

Use a lint-free swab or cleaning cloth moistened with isopropyl alcohol to remove any dirt or stubborn contaminants on a connector that cannot be removed with compressed air or nitrogen. Refer to **Table 6-2 on page 6-4** for a part number for cleaning swabs.

- a. Apply a small amount of isopropyl alcohol to a lint-free cleaning swab.
- b. Clean the connector threads.
- c. Let the alcohol evaporate, then blow the threads dry with a gentle stream of clean, low-pressure compressed air or nitrogen. Always completely dry a connector before you reassemble or use it.

3. Clean the Mating Plane Surfaces

- a. Apply a small amount of isopropyl alcohol to a lint-free cleaning swab.
- b. Clean the center and outer conductor mating plane surfaces. Refer to **Figure 2-1 on page 2-3**. When cleaning a female connector, avoid snagging the swab on the center conductor contact fingers by using short strokes.
- c. Let the alcohol evaporate, then blow the connector dry with a gentle stream of clean, low-pressure compressed air or nitrogen. Always completely dry a connector before you reassemble or use it.

4. Inspect

Inspect the connector to make sure that no particles or residue remain. Refer to “**Visual Inspection**” on **page 3**.

Gaging Connectors

The gages available from Keysight Technologies are intended for preventive maintenance and troubleshooting purposes only. They are effective in detecting excessive center conductor protrusion or recession, and conductor damage on DUTs, test accessories, and the calibration kit devices. Do not use the gages for precise pin depth measurements. See [Table 6-1 on page 6-2](#) for part number information.

Connector Gage Accuracy

The connector gages are only capable of performing coarse measurements. They do not provide the degree of accuracy necessary to precisely measure the pin depth of the kit devices. This is partially due to the repeatability uncertainties that are associated with the measurement. Only the factory—through special gaging processes and electrical testing— can accurately verify the mechanical characteristics of the devices.

With proper technique, the gages are useful in detecting gross pin depth errors on device connectors. To achieve maximum accuracy, random errors must be reduced by taking the average of at least three measurements having different gage orientations on the connector. Even the resultant average can be in error by as much as ± 0.0001 inch due to systematic (biasing) errors usually resulting from worn gages and gage masters. The information in [Table 2-2 on page 2-4](#) assumes new gages and gage masters. Therefore, these systematic errors were not included in the uncertainty analysis. As the gages undergo more use, the systematic errors can become more significant in the accuracy of the measurement.

The measurement uncertainties in are primarily a function of the assembly materials and design, and the unique interaction each device type has with the gage. Therefore, these uncertainties can vary among the different devices. For example, note the difference between the uncertainties of the opens and shorts in [Table 2-2](#).

The observed pin depth limits in [Table 2-2](#) add these uncertainties to the typical factory pin depth values to provide practical limits that can be referenced when using the gages. See [“Pin Depth” on page 3](#). Refer to [“Kit Contents” on page 2](#) for more information on the design of the calibration devices in the kit.

NOTE

When measuring pin depth, the measured value (resultant average of three or more measurements) contains uncertainty and is not necessarily the true value. Always compare the measured value with the observed pin depth limits (which account for measurement uncertainties) in [Table 2-2](#) to evaluate the condition of device connectors.

When to Gage Connectors

Gage a connector at the following times:

- Prior to using a device for the first time: record the pin depth measurement so that it can be compared with future readings. (It will serve as a good troubleshooting tool when you suspect damage may have occurred to the device.)
- If either visual inspection or electrical performance suggests that the connector interface may be out of typical range (due to wear or damage, for example).
- If a calibration device is used by someone else or on another system or piece of equipment.
- Initially after every 100 connections, and after that as often as experience indicates.

Gaging Connectors

Gaging Procedures

Gaging Male 3.5 mm Connectors

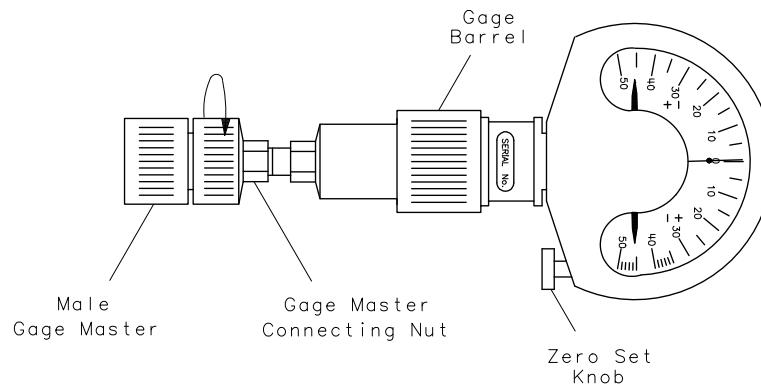
NOTE Always hold a connector gage by the gage barrel, below the dial indicator. This gives the best stability, and improves measurement accuracy. (Cradling the gage in your hand or holding it by the dial applies stress to the gage plunger mechanism through the dial indicator housing.)

1. Select the proper gage for your connector. Refer to [Table 6-2 on page 6-4](#) for gage part numbers.
2. Inspect and clean the gage, gage master, and device to be gaged. Refer to [“Visual Inspection”](#) and [“Cleaning Connectors”](#) earlier in this chapter.
3. Zero the connector gage (refer to [Figure 3-3](#)):
 - a. While holding the gage by the barrel, and without turning the gage or the device, screw the male gage master connecting nut onto the male gage, just until you meet resistance. Connect the nut finger tight. Do not overtighten.
 - b. Using an open-end wrench to keep the gage from rotating, use the torque wrench recommended for use with the kit to tighten the connecting nut to the specified torque. Refer to [“Final Connection Using a Torque Wrench” on page 12](#) for additional information.
 - c. As you watch the gage pointer, gently tap the barrel of the gage to settle the reading.
The gage pointer should line up exactly with the zero mark on the gage. If not, adjust the zero set knob until the gage pointer lines up exactly with zero.
 - d. Remove the gage master.
4. Gage the device connector (refer to [Figure 3-3](#)):
 - a. While holding the gage by the barrel, and without turning the gage or the device, screw the connecting nut of the male device being measured onto the male gage, just until you meet resistance. Connect the nut finger-tight. Do not overtighten.
 - b. Using an open-end wrench to keep the gage from rotating, use the torque wrench recommended for use with the kit to tighten the connecting nut to the specified torque. Refer to [“Final Connection Using a Torque Wrench” on page 12](#) for additional information.
 - c. Gently tap the barrel of the gage with your finger to settle the gage reading.
 - d. Read the gage indicator dial. Read *only* the black \pm signs; *not* the red \pm signs.
For maximum accuracy, measure the connector a minimum of three times and take an average of the readings. After each measurement, rotate the gage a quarter-turn to reduce measurement variations that result from the gage or the connector face not being exactly perpendicular to the center axis.
 - e. Compare the average reading with the observed pin depth limits in [Table 2-2 on page 2-4](#).

Figure 3-3 Gaging Male 3.5 mm Connectors

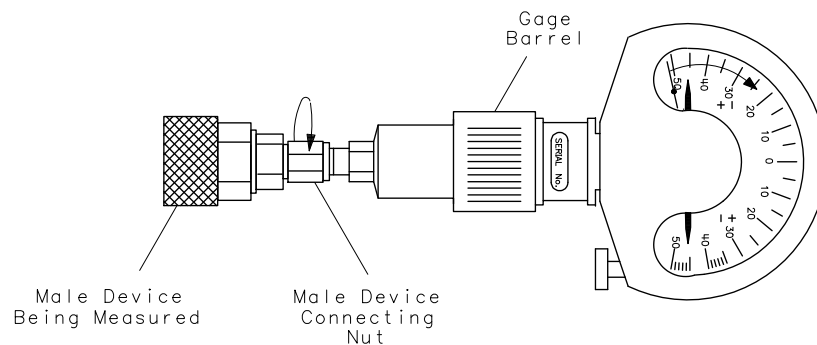
Zero the Connector Gage

- Screw the male gage master connecting nut onto the male gage.
- Torque the connecting nut.
- Gently tap the gage barrel to settle the reading.
- Using the zero set knob, adjust the gage pointer to line up exactly with the zero mark.
- Remove the gage master.



Gage the Device Connector

- Screw the male device connecting nut onto the male gage.
- Torque the connecting nut.
- Gently tap the gage barrel to settle the reading.
- Read recession or protrusion from the gage.
- Remove the device.
- Repeat two additional times and average the three readings.



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Gaging Connectors

Gaging Female 3.5 mm Connectors

NOTE Always hold a connector gage by the gage barrel, below the dial indicator. This gives the best stability, and improves measurement accuracy. (Cradling the gage in your hand or holding it by the dial applies stress to the gage plunger mechanism through the dial indicator housing.)

1. Select the proper gage for your connector. Refer to [Table 6-2 on page 6-4](#) for gage part numbers.
2. Inspect and clean the gage, gage master, and device to be gaged. Refer to [“Visual Inspection”](#) and [“Cleaning Connectors”](#) earlier in this chapter.
3. Zero the connector gage (refer to [Figure 3-4](#)):
 - a. While holding the gage by the barrel, and without turning the gage or the device, screw the female gage connecting nut onto the female gage master, just until you meet resistance. Connect the nut finger-tight. Do not overtighten.
 - b. Using an open-end wrench to keep the gage master from rotating, use the torque wrench recommended for use with the kit to tighten the connecting nut to the specified torque. Refer to [“Final Connection Using a Torque Wrench” on page 12](#) for additional information.
 - c. As you watch the gage pointer, gently tap the barrel of the gage to settle the reading.

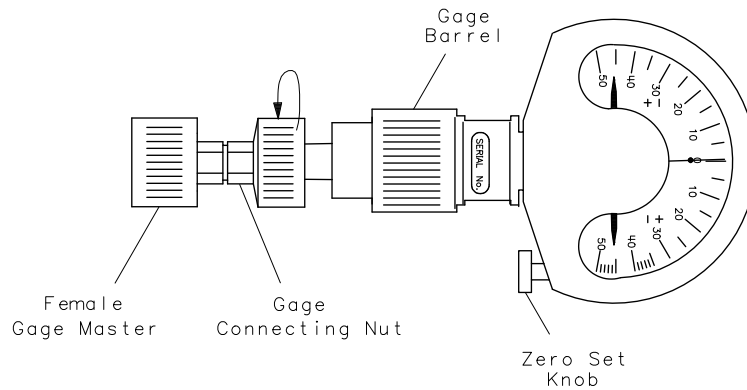
The gage pointer should line up exactly with the zero mark on the gage. If not, adjust the zero set knob until the gage pointer lines up exactly with zero.
 - d. Remove the gage master.
4. Gage the device connector (refer to [Figure 3-4](#)):
 - a. While holding the gage by the barrel, and without turning the gage or the device, screw the female gage connecting nut onto the female device being measured, just until you meet resistance. Connect the nut finger-tight. Do not overtighten.
 - b. Using an open-end wrench to keep the gage master from rotating, use the torque wrench recommended for use with the kit to tighten the connecting nut to the specified torque. Refer to [“Final Connection Using a Torque Wrench” on page 12](#) for additional information.
 - c. Gently tap the barrel of the gage with your finger to settle the gage reading.
 - d. Read the gage indicator dial. Read *only* the black \pm signs; *not* the red \pm signs.

For maximum accuracy, measure the connector a minimum of three times and take an average of the readings. Use different orientations of the gage within the connector. After each measurement, rotate the gage a quarter-turn to reduce measurement variations that result from the gage or the connector face not being exactly perpendicular to the center axis.
 - e. Compare the average reading with the observed pin depth limits in [Table 2-2 on page 2-4](#).

Figure 3-4 Gaging Female 3.5 mm Connectors

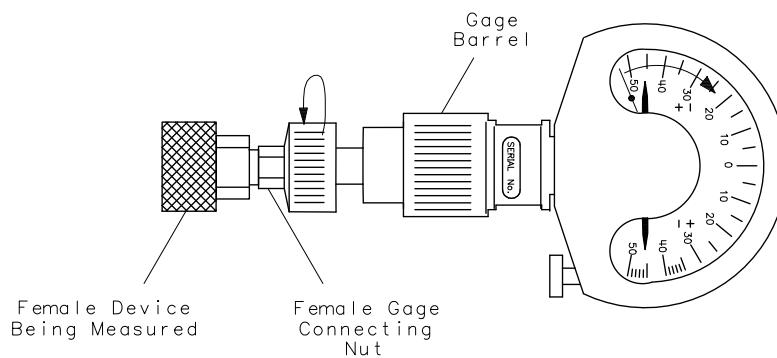
Zero the Connector Gage

- Screw the female gage connecting nut onto the female gage master.
- Torque the connecting nut.
- Gently tap the gage barrel to settle the reading.
- Using the zero set knob, adjust the gage pointer to line up exactly with the zero mark.
- Remove the gage master.



Gage the Device Connector

- Screw the female gage connecting nut onto the female device.
- Torque the connecting nut.
- Gently tap the gage barrel to settle the reading.
- Read recession or protrusion from the gage.
- Remove the device.
- Repeat two additional times and average the three readings.



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Connections**Connections**

Good connections require a skilled operator. *The most common cause of measurement error is bad connections.* The following procedures illustrate how to make good connections.

How to Make a Connection**Preliminary Connection**

1. Ground yourself and all devices. Wear a grounded wrist strap and work on a grounded, conductive table mat. Refer to [“Electrostatic Discharge” on page 2](#) for ESD precautions.
2. Visually inspect the connectors. Refer to [“Visual Inspection” on page 3](#).
3. If necessary, clean the connectors. Refer to [“Cleaning Connectors” on page 4](#).
4. Use a connector gage to verify that all center conductors are within the observed pin depth values in [Table 2-2 on page 2-4](#). Refer to [“Gaging Connectors” on page 6](#).
5. Carefully align the connectors. The male connector center pin must slip concentrically into the contact finger of the female connector.
6. Push the connectors straight together and tighten the connector nut finger tight.

CAUTION Do *not* turn the device body. Only turn the connector nut. Damage to the center conductor can occur if the device body is twisted.

Do *not* twist or screw the connectors together. As the center conductors mate, there is usually a slight resistance.

7. The preliminary connection is tight enough when the mating plane surfaces make uniform, light contact. Do not overtighten this connection.

A connection in which the outer conductors make gentle contact at all points on both mating surfaces is sufficient. Very light finger pressure is enough to accomplish this.

8. Make sure the connectors are properly supported. Relieve any side pressure on the connection from long or heavy devices or cables.

Final Connection Using a Torque Wrench

Use a torque wrench to make a final connection. [Table 3-1](#) provides information about the torque wrench recommended for use with the calibration kit. A torque wrench is included in the calibration kit. Refer to [Table 6-2 on page 6-4](#) for replacement part number and ordering information.

Table 3-1 Torque Wrench Information

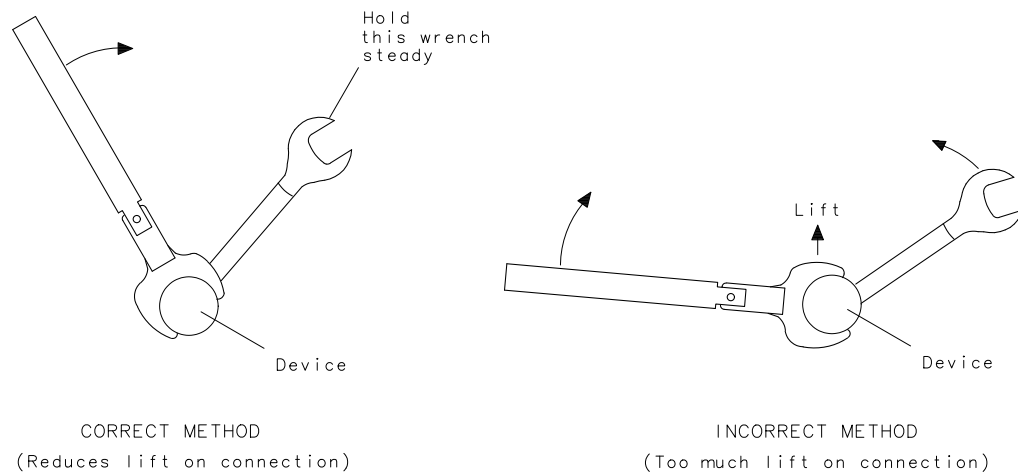
Connector Type	Torque Setting	Torque Tolerance
3.5 mm	90 N-cm (8 in-lb)	±9.0 N-cm (±0.8 in-lb)

Using a torque wrench guarantees that the connection is not too tight, preventing possible connector damage. It also guarantees that all connections are equally tight each time.

Prevent the rotation of anything other than the connector nut that you are tightening. It may be possible to do this by hand if one of the connectors is fixed (as on a test port). However, it is recommended that you use an open-end wrench to keep the body of the device from turning.

1. Position both wrenches within 90 degrees of each other before applying force. See [Figure 3-5](#). Wrenches opposing each other (greater than 90 degrees apart) will cause a lifting action which can misalign and stress the connections of the devices involved. This is especially true when several devices are connected together.

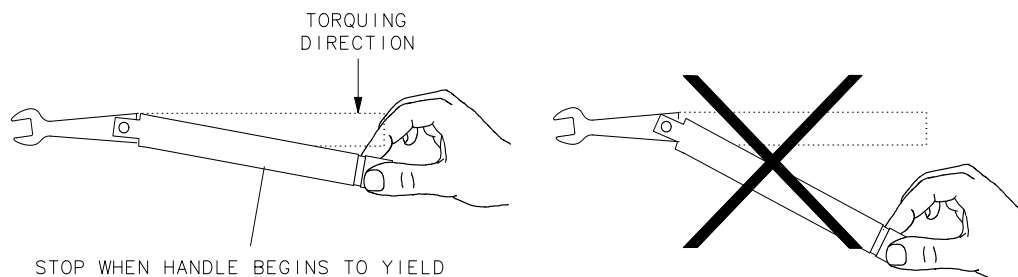
Figure 3-5 Wrench Positions



wj56f

2. Hold the torque wrench lightly, at the end of the handle only (beyond the groove). See [Figure 3-6](#).

Figure 3-6 Using the Torque Wrench



wj68d

3. Apply downward force perpendicular to the wrench handle. This applies torque to the connection through the wrench.

Do not hold the wrench so tightly that you push the handle straight down along its length rather than pivoting it, otherwise you apply an unknown amount of torque.

4. Tighten the connection just to the torque wrench break point. The wrench handle gives way at its

Handling and Storage

internal pivot point. See [Figure 3-6](#). Do not tighten the connection further.

CAUTION You don't have to fully break the handle of the torque wrench to reach the specified torque; doing so can cause the handle to kick back and loosen the connection. Any give at all in the handle is sufficient torque.

How to Separate a Connection

To avoid lateral (bending) force on the connector mating plane surfaces, always support the devices and connections.

CAUTION Do *not* turn the device body. Only turn the connector nut. Damage to the center conductor can occur if the device body is twisted.

1. Use an open-end wrench to prevent the device body from turning.
2. Use another open-end wrench to loosen the connector nut.
3. Complete the separation by hand, turning only the connector nut.
4. Pull the connectors straight apart without twisting, rocking, or bending either of the connectors.

Handling and Storage

- Install the protective end caps and store the calibration devices in the foam-lined storage case when not in use.
- Never store connectors loose in a box, or in a desk or bench drawer. This is the most common cause of connector damage during storage.
- Keep connectors clean.
- Do not touch mating plane surfaces. Natural skin oils and microscopic particles of dirt are easily transferred to a connector interface and are very difficult to remove.
- Do not set connectors contact-end down on a hard surface. The plating and the mating plane surfaces can be damaged if the interface comes in contact with any hard surface.

Configuring Port 1 and Port 2 of the Test Setup

Several configurations of the test setup are possible, depending upon the frequency range, available cables, operator convenience, and DUT requirements. Following is an example setup using the two-cable set, and two examples using a single cable. The appropriate precision adapters are installed on the ends of the cables and become Port 1 and Port 2.

Figure 3-7 Dual Cable Set

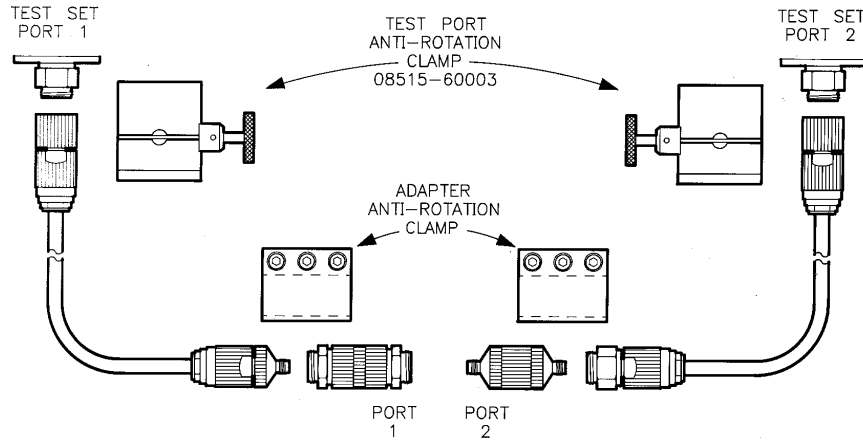


Figure 3-8 Single Cable, Port 1 Female

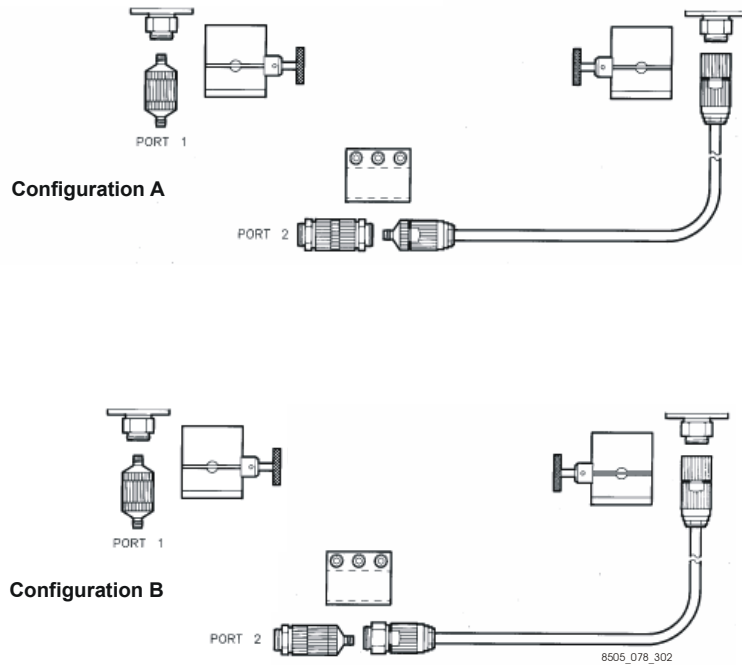
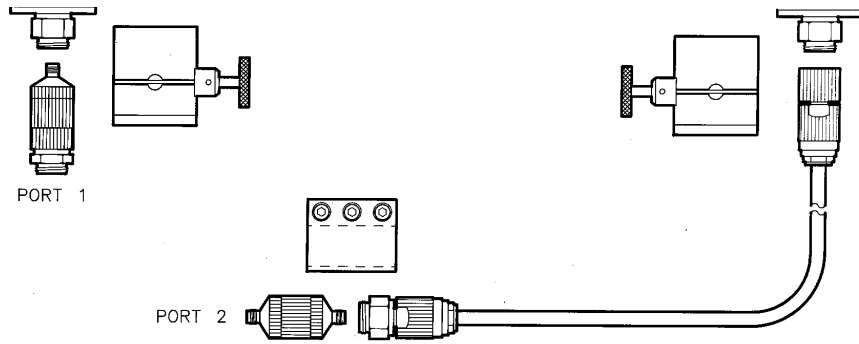


Figure 3-9. Single Cable, Port 1 Male



Installing Test Port Return Cables and Test Port Anti-Rotation Clamps

When all parts are ready for use, connect the test port extension cables and test port anti-rotation clamps (not included - see [Table 6-2 on page 6-4](#) for part number information). To connect a cable to the test set:

- Loosen the test port anti-rotation clamp securing screw and slide the clamp over the cable far enough to provide access to the cable connector.
- Connect the cable to the test port and tighten using the torque wrench.
- Slide the clamp toward the port, aligning it so that the flats on the clamp mate with flats around the test port. Tighten the clamp securing screw. This clamp keeps the cable from becoming loose from the test set connector.

Installing Precision Adapters and Adapter Anti-Rotation Clamps

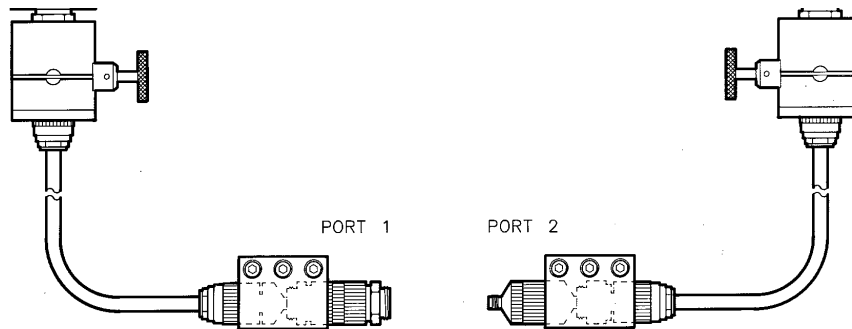
To install the precision adapters and adapter anti-rotation clamps:

- Connect the adapter to the cable, tighten finger tight, and then use the spanner and the torque wrench to achieve the final torque.
- Loosen the adapter anti-rotation clamp securing screws and slide the clamp over the adapter. Align the clamp so that it can grip both the cable connector body and the adapter body. Tighten the clamp securing screws. The screw tightening order is not important.

The adapter anti-rotation clamp assures that the TRL adapter does not become loose during calibration and measurement.

- Connect the second TRL adapter and its anti-rotation clamp to serve as Port 2.

Figure 3-10 Two Cable Setup with All Components



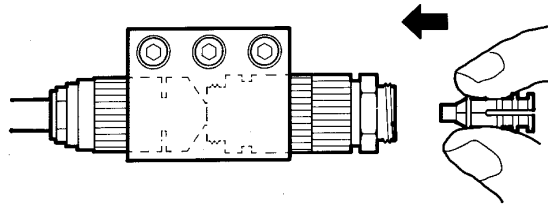
Using Precision Airlines

When Stop Frequency Is Greater than 7 GHz

If the stop frequency is greater than 7 GHz, install the 7-32 GHz air line as follows:

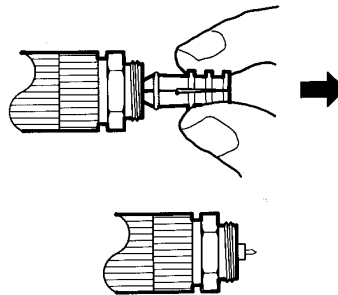
- Move the Port 1 nut to its standard position and carefully insert the air line into the male connector using the installation tool.

Figure 3-11 Insert Air Line



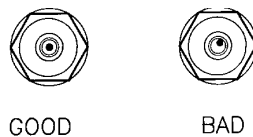
- Squeeze the installation tool (closing the slot) to release the center conductor. Then pull the tool away from the connector, leaving the outer and the center conductors in place.

Figure 3-12 Squeeze Tool to Release, Then Pull



- Examine the outer and center conductors to see that they are in place and concentric. If the center conductor is not centered, use the installation tool to align it.

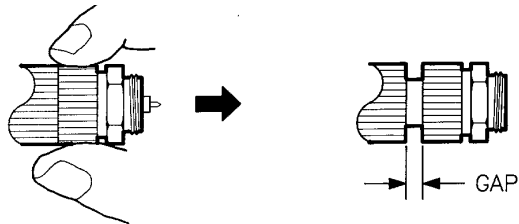
Figure 3-13 Check Concentricity



Using Precision Airlines

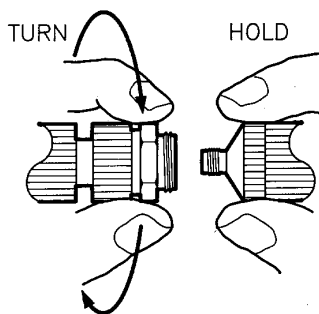
- Move the adapter nut to its extended position. For more information, refer to **“Precision Adapters”** on **page 5**.

Figure 3-14 Extended Position with Air Lines Installed



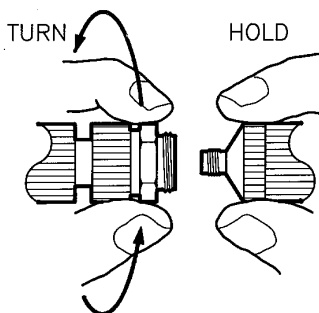
- Carefully align and engage the Port 2 female contact with the Port 1 male contact.
- Tighten finger tight, then use the spanner and torque wrenches to achieve the final torque.

Figure 3-15 Connect Port 2



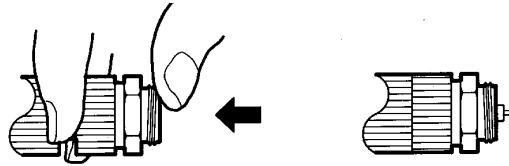
- To remove the 7-32 GHz air line: loosen the Port 1 nut, and then carefully move the Port 2 adapter away.

Figure 3-16 Disconnect Port 2



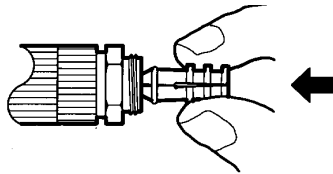
- Move the adapter nut to its standard position.

Figure 3-17 Standard Position with Air Line Installed



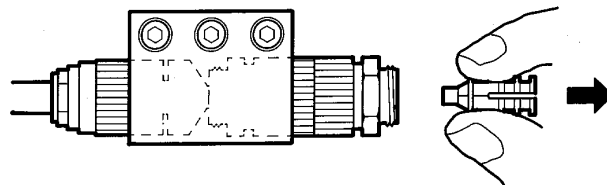
- Examine the outer and center conductors to see that they are in place.
- Carefully press the insertion tool onto the connector.

Figure 3-18. Connect the Insertion Tool



- Hold the tool close to the connector without squeezing the tool. Carefully pull the assembly away from the connector.

Figure 3-19 Remove the 7-32 Line



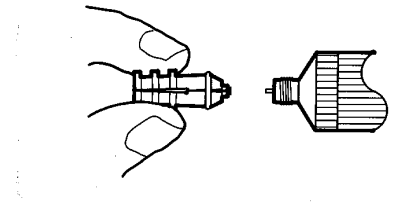
- Check to see that both the inner and the outer conductor have been removed and are secure in the installation tool.

If any part of the air line remains attached to the male port, first press the tool back onto the connector. Then, try to withdraw the tool and the air line parts again without closing the slot.

If the air line center conductor remains with the female port, use the installation tool to remove it as follows:

- Squeeze the tool and push it to engage the center conductor.
- Hold the tool close to the connector, squeeze the tool without closing the slot, and pull the assembly away.
- Use your fingers to remove the center conductor from the tool.

Figure 3-20 Remove Center Conductor from Port 2 (if necessary)



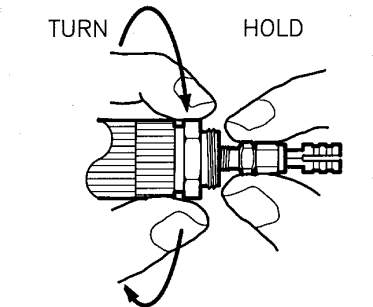
- Carefully insert the center conductor back into the installation tool, male end first.

When Start Frequency Is Less Than 7 GHz

If the start frequency is less than 7 GHz, install the 2-7 GHz air line as follows:

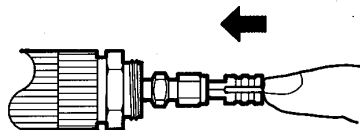
- Move the Port 1 nut to its standard position. Carefully insert the air line outer conductor and center pin into the male connector using the installation tool.
- Hold the air line outer conductor and tighten the Port 1 nut finger tight. Use the torque wrench to achieve the final torque.

Figure 3-21 Connect the 2-7 Line



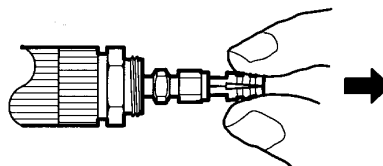
- Press the tool lightly to engage the center conductor.

Figure 3-22 Engage the Center Conductor



- Squeeze the tool to close the slot, then pull the tool away from the connector, leaving the center conductor.

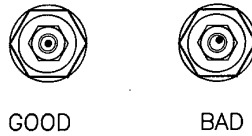
Figure 3-23 Remove the Tool



- Examine the outer and center conductors to see that they are in place and concentric. If the center

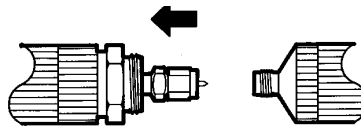
conductor is not centered, use the tip of the installation tool to align it.

Figure 3-24 Check the Concentricity



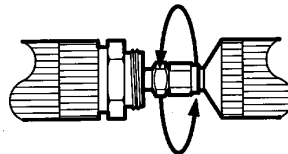
- Move the air line nut back to expose the center conductor. Carefully engage the Port 2 female contact with the Port 1 male contact. Be patient when making this connection because it is easy to move the center conductor off center.

Figure 3-25 Move the Nut Back



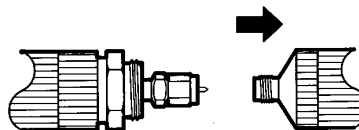
- Move the nut forward to engage the threads, tighten finger tight, then use the spanner and the torque wrench to achieve the final torque.

Figure 3-26 Connect Port 2



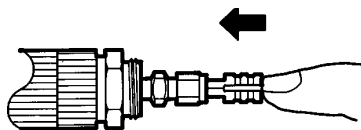
- To remove the 2-7 GHz air line: loosen the air line nut and carefully move Port 2 away from Port 1.

Figure 3-27 Disconnect Port 2



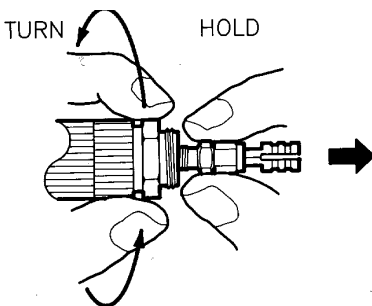
- Insert the tool and lightly press it to engage the center conductor.

Figure 3-28 Engage the Tool



- Loosen the adapter nut and then disconnect the outer conductor from the adapter. The center conductor will be removed with the outer conductor.

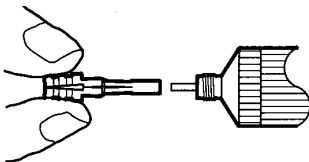
Figure 3-29 Remove 2-7 Line



NOTE

It is important to be very careful to move Port 2 away in a straight motion because the center conductor may stay Port 2. If the center conductor remains with the female port, use the installation tool to remove it. Carefully insert the center conductor back into the insertion tool, male end first.

Figure 3-30 Remove Center Conductor from Port 2 (if necessary)



Performing a TRL 2-Port Calibration for a Coaxial Device Measurement

TRL represents a family of calibration techniques that measure various combinations of transmission lines and reflection standards to determine the 2-Port 12-term error coefficients. The specific calibration technique described here uses measurements of the zero-length thru connection, identical reflection standards at each port, and one or more transmission lines of appropriate impedance and length for the frequency range. Both the TRL 2-PORT and the Full 2-Port calibration types use the same accuracy enhancement mathematics to correct the measured data. TRL, as implemented with this calibration kit, brings convenience, accuracy, and repeatability to the error correction process because the typical TRL calibration requires fewer parts that are simpler to connect and disconnect.

The procedure used for performing the TRL calibration is as follows:

1. Clean and inspect all connectors.
2. Initiate measurement calibration procedure and measure standards.
3. Verify the calibration.
4. Connect the device under test.

NOTE For information on TRL calibration for non-coaxial device measurements, refer to Keysight Product Note 8510-8A, "Applying the 8510 TRL Calibration for Non-Coaxial Measurements." Although the title specifies the 8510, this document contains a lot of good generic information about TRL calibration that is applicable to any vector network analyzer. To download a free copy, go to www.keysight.com and enter literature number 8510-8A in the Search box.

PNA-Series Network Analyzers

Rather than document here the details of the PNA procedure for performing a TRL calibration, Keysight recommends that customers use the PNA SmartCal (Guided Calibration). This PNA feature provides a step-by-step "wizard" interface to walk you through the calibration. Steps are explained using both text and graphics. For more information on SmartCal, refer to your PNA's embedded Help system. To view PNA Help online, go to www.keysight.com and type PNA Help in the Search box.

NOTE

Using adapter clamps, precision adapters, and air lines require too many instructions to all be included as prompts on the analyzer display during a TRL calibration procedure. For complete instructions on using these devices, please refer to the following sections in this manual:

- [“Precision Adapters” on page 1-5](#)
 - [“Precision Airlines” on page 1-6](#)
 - [“Installing Precision Adapters and Adapter Anti-Rotation Clamps” on page 3-18](#)
 - [“Using Precision Airlines” on page 3-19](#)
-

Adapter Removal Calibration

NOTE Adapter Removal calibration is NOT the most accurate calibration method for the PNA. For information on PNA calibration methods for measuring non-insertable devices, refer to your PNA's embedded Help system. To view PNA Help online, go to www.keysight.com and type PNA Help in the Search box.

General Theory

The following sequence describes the adapter removal method of calibration for measurement of a noninsertable device. Although this technique does require two separate 2-Port calibrations, it remains the only traceable method for minimizing the uncertainty in this measurement. The three precision adapters in this calibration kit provide the parts required to make the process relatively easy.

Detailed information about the adapter removal calibration is contained in Product Note 8510-13. To download a free copy, go to www.keysight.com and enter literature number 8510-13 in the Search box.

The previous calibration sequence assumed that the device under test is insertable; it has a male connector on one port and a female connector on the other port. Thus, the measurement system can be calibrated and then the test device inserted without changing the system test port connectors.

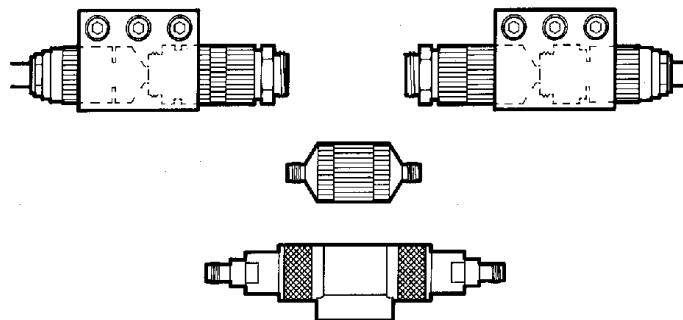
However, the majority of devices used in microwave systems are noninsertable. Of interest here are devices having either both male or both female 3.5 mm connectors on Port 1 and Port 2.

Noninsertable Device Configurations

Female to Female

If the device you are measuring has two female connectors, your setup would look like the figure below. The female-to-female precision adapter is substituted for the DUT to accomplish this calibration.

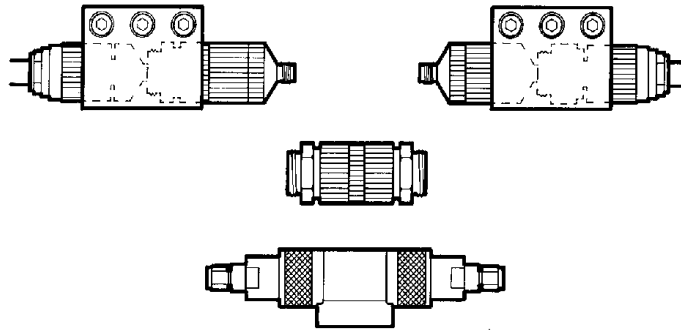
Figure 3-31 Female-Female Device Under Test



Male to Male

If the DUT you are measuring has two male connectors, your setup would look like the figure below. The male-to-male precision adapter is substituted for the DUT to accomplish this calibration.

Figure 3-32 Male-Male Device Under Test

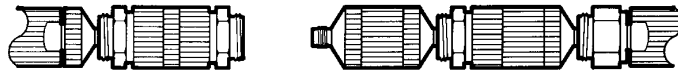


Adapter Removal Calibration Procedure

Create Cal Set for Port 1

First create the Port 1 calibration set by performing the TRL 2-Port calibration between Port 1 and the adapter. Keep the adapter connected to Port 2 during the entire procedure. Save the calibration in Cal Set 1.

Figure 3-33 Port 1 Cal Set



Create Cal Set for Port 2

Next create the Port 2 calibration set by performing the TRL 2-Port calibration between Port 2 and the adapter. Keep the adapter connected to Port 1 during the entire procedure. Save the calibration in Cal Set 2.

Figure 3-34 Port 2 Cal Set



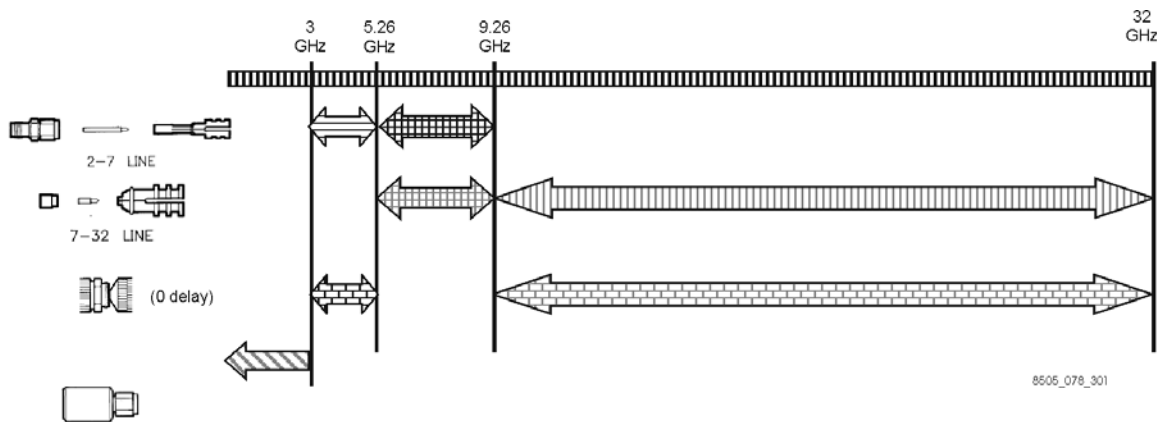
Offset Load Calibration

Offset load calibration uses the precision offset transmission lines to remove the reflection of the load. The transmission line's impedance now becomes the calibrated reference impedance, similar to the TRL calibration. Since many users want to be able to use the precision kit to perform precision 1-port calibrations, the offset load standards are defined for the PNA. This also enables the precision SOLT calibration. The PNA offset load calibration is very accurate. It accounts for both transmission loss and delay of the offset transmission lines. The solution also includes the impact of port match reflection tracking errors in a weighted least squares formulation. Phase margin requirements of offset load calibration are different from TRL calibration. See the following table and illustrations.

Table 3-2 Offset Load Calibration

Fixed load	<3 GHz
0 delay load - and - 2 to 7 GHz line with load	<=5.26 GHz
2 to 7 GHz line with load - and - 7 to 32 GHz line with load	<9.26 GHz
0 delay load - and - 7 to 32 GHz line with load	<=32 GHz

Figure 3-35 Offset Load Calibration: Frequency Range of Calibration Devices



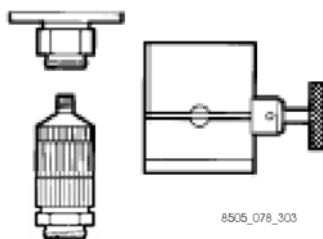
Offset Load Calibration

Offset Load Calibration Sequence for the PNA

Procedure A: Female Test Port on DUT

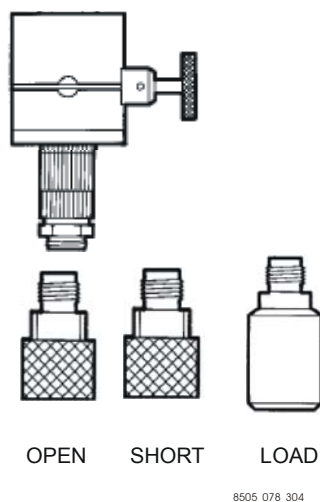
1. Using an anti-rotation clamp, connect and secure the –m– to –f– precision TRL adapter to the analyzer test port. In the remainder of Procedure A, this adapter will be referred to as the “retractable test port connector.”

Figure 3-36 Procedure A, Step 1 Illustration



2. Select **Guided Cal.**
3. Measure the open.
4. Measure the short.
5. Measure the load.

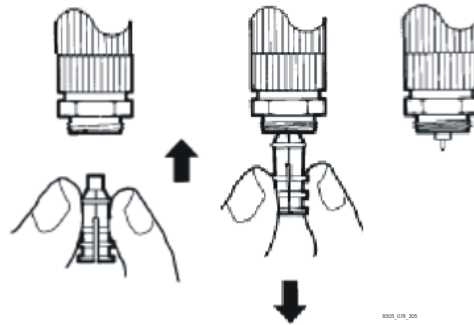
Figure 3-37 Procedure A, Steps 3–5



Before performing the following steps, see the section [“Using Precision Airlines” on page 3-19](#) for detailed instructions on how to connect and disconnect precision airlines to/from test port connectors.

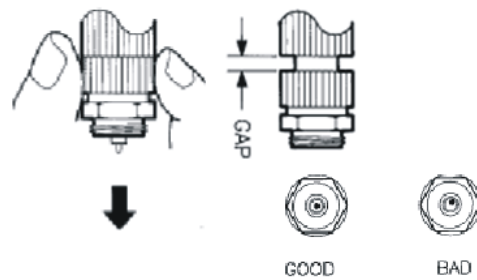
6. Connect the 7-32 GHz offset airline to the retractable test port connector.

Figure 3-38 Procedure A, Step 6 Illustration



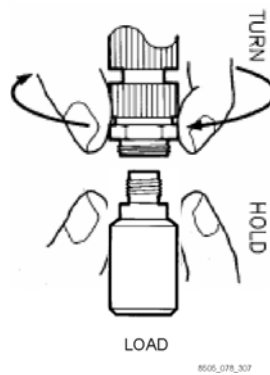
7. Check to make sure the center conductor and outer conductor are concentric.
8. Pull the outer ring of the retractable test port connector to extend the outer nut.

Figure 3-39 Procedure A, Steps 7 and 8 Illustration



9. Carefully connect the load to the retractable test port connector. Make sure the load is aligned and goes in straight.

Figure 3-40 Procedure A, Step 9 Illustration

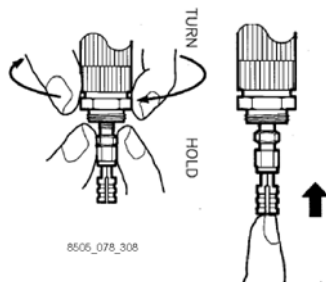


10. Measure the load, then disconnect it.
11. Disconnect the 7-32 GHz offset airline.

Offset Load Calibration

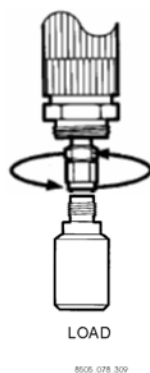
12. Push the extended outer nut back on the retractable test port connector.
13. Connect the 2-7 GHz offset airline to the retractable test port connector.

Figure 3-41 Procedure A, Steps 12 and 13 Illustration



14. Check to make sure the center conductor and outer conductor are concentric. Refer to [Figure 3-39 on page 3-31](#).
15. Carefully connect the load to the retractable test port connector. Make sure the load is aligned and goes in straight.

Figure 3-42 Procedure A, Step 15 Illustration

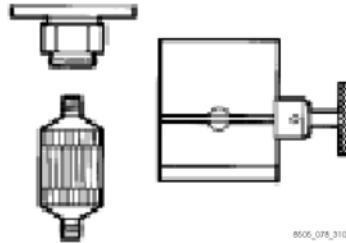


16. Measure the load.
17. Disconnect the 2-7 GHz offset airline.

Procedure B: Male Test Port on DUT

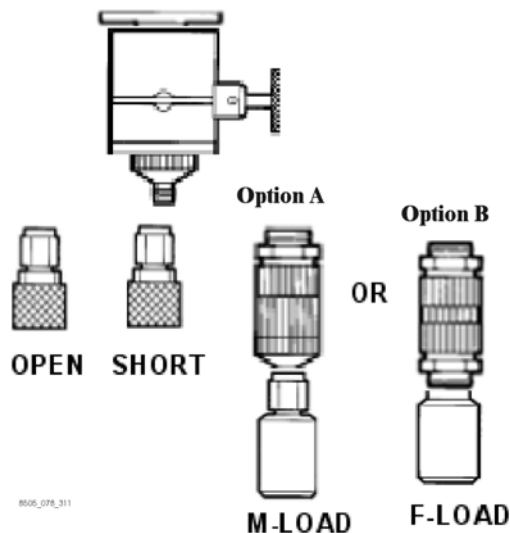
1. Using an anti-rotation clamp, connect and secure the –f– to –f– precision TRL adapter to the analyzer test port. In the remainder of Procedure B, this adapter will be referred to as the “test port connector.”

Figure 3-43 Procedure B, Step 1 Illustration



2. Select **Guided Cal**.
3. Measure the open.
4. Measure the short.
5. Make *one* of the following combinations:
 - Connect a –m– load to the –m– to –f– precision TRL adapter (Option A), *or*
 - Connect a –f– load to the –m– to –m– precision TRL adapter (Option B)
6. Connect either combination as the load to the test port connector.
7. Measure the load.

Figure 3-44 Procedure B, Steps 3–7 Illustration

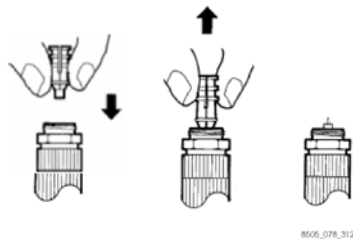


Before performing the following steps, see the section **“Using Precision Airlines”** on page 3-19 for detailed instructions on how to connect and disconnect precision airlines to/from test port connectors.

Offset Load Calibration

8. Connect the 7-32 GHz offset airline to the retractable connector of the adapter.

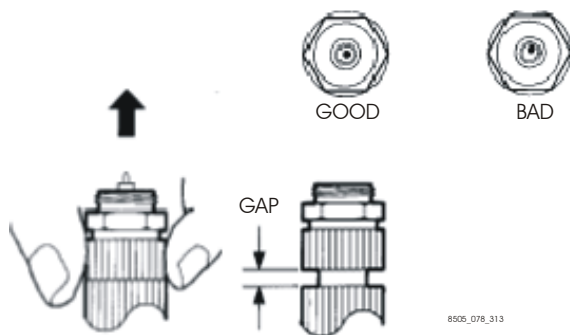
Figure 3-45 Procedure B, Step 8 Illustration



9. Check to make sure the center conductor and outer conductor are concentric.

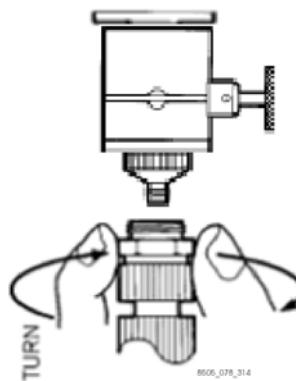
10. Pull the outer ring of the adapter to extend the outer nut.

Figure 3-46 Procedure B, Steps 9 and 10 Illustration



11. Carefully connect the airline/retractable connector of the adapter to the test port connector. Make sure the center contacts mate properly.

Figure 3-47 Procedure B, Step 11 Illustration



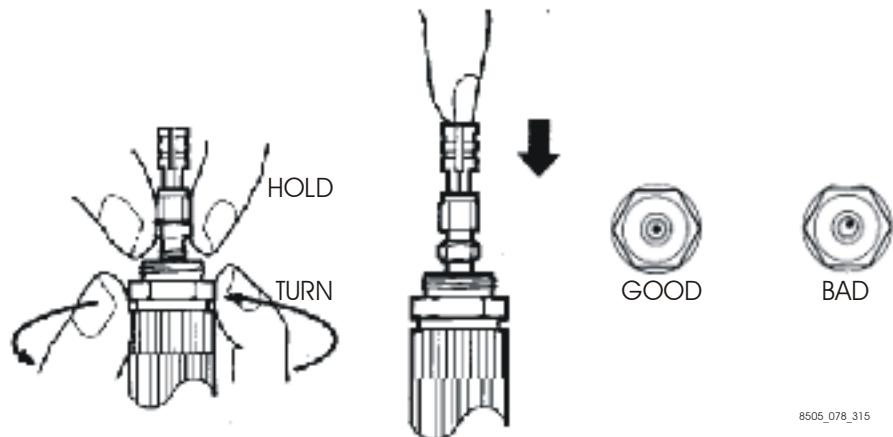
12. Measure the load.

13. Disconnect the adapter from the test port connector.

14. Disconnect the 7-32 GHz offset airline from the retractable connector of the adapter.

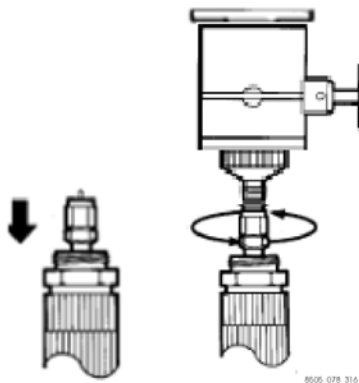
15. Push the extended outer nut of the adapter back.
16. Connect the 2-7 GHz offset airline to the retractable connector of the adapter.
17. Check to make sure the center conductor and outer conductor are concentric.

Figure 3-48 Procedure B, Steps 15–17 Illustration



18. Carefully connect the airline/retractable connector of the adapter to the test port connector. Make sure the center contacts mate properly.

Figure 3-49 Procedure B, Step 18 Illustration



19. Measure the load.
20. Disconnect the adapter from the test port connector.
21. Disconnect the 2-7 GHz offset airline from the retractable connector of the adapter.

To perform an Open/Short/Load/Offset Load calibration, perform a 1-port calibration. If the setup is like **Figure 3-8** Configuration A, use Option A of the female port, 1-port calibration. If the setup is like **Figure 3-8** Configuration B, use Option B of the female port, 1-port calibration.

4 Performance Verification

Introduction

The performance of your calibration kit can only be verified by returning the kit to Keysight Technologies for recertification. The equipment required to verify the specifications of the devices in the kit has been specially manufactured and is not commercially available.

How Keysight Verifies the Devices in Your Kit

Keysight verifies the specifications of these devices as follows:

1. The residual microwave error terms of the test system are verified with precision airlines and shorts that are directly traced to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The airline and short characteristics are developed from mechanical measurements. The mechanical measurements and material properties are carefully modeled to give very accurate electrical representation. The mechanical measurements are then traced to NIST through various plug and ring gages and other mechanical measurements.
2. Each calibration device is electrically tested on this system. For the initial (before sale) testing of the calibration devices, Keysight includes the test measurement uncertainty as a guardband to guarantee each device meets the published specification. For recertifications (after sale), no guardband is used and the measured data is compared directly with the specification to determine the pass or fail status. The measurement uncertainty for each device is, however, recorded in the calibration report that accompanies recertified kits.

These two steps establish a traceable link to NIST for Keysight to the extent allowed by the institute's calibration facility. The specifications data provided for the devices in the kit is traceable to NIST through Keysight Technologies.

Recertification

The following will be provided with a recertified kit:

- a new calibration sticker affixed to the case
- a certificate of calibration
- a calibration report for each device in the kit listing measured values, specifications, and uncertainties

NOTE A list of NIST traceable numbers may be purchased upon request to be included in the calibration report.

Keysight Technologies offers a *Standard* calibration for the recertification of the kit. For more information, contact the nearest Keysight Technologies sales or service office. See [“Contacting Keysight” on page 5-5](#).

How Often to Recertify

The suggested initial interval for recertification is 12 months or sooner. The actual need for recertification depends on the use of the kit. After reviewing the results of the initial recertification, you may establish a different recertification interval that reflects the usage and wear of the kit.

NOTE The recertification interval should begin on the date the kit is *first used* after the recertification date.

Where to Send a Kit for Recertification

Contact Keysight Technologies for information on where to send your kit for recertification. See [“Contacting Keysight” on page 5-5](#). Refer to [“Returning a Kit or Device to Keysight” on page 5-4](#) for details on sending your kit.

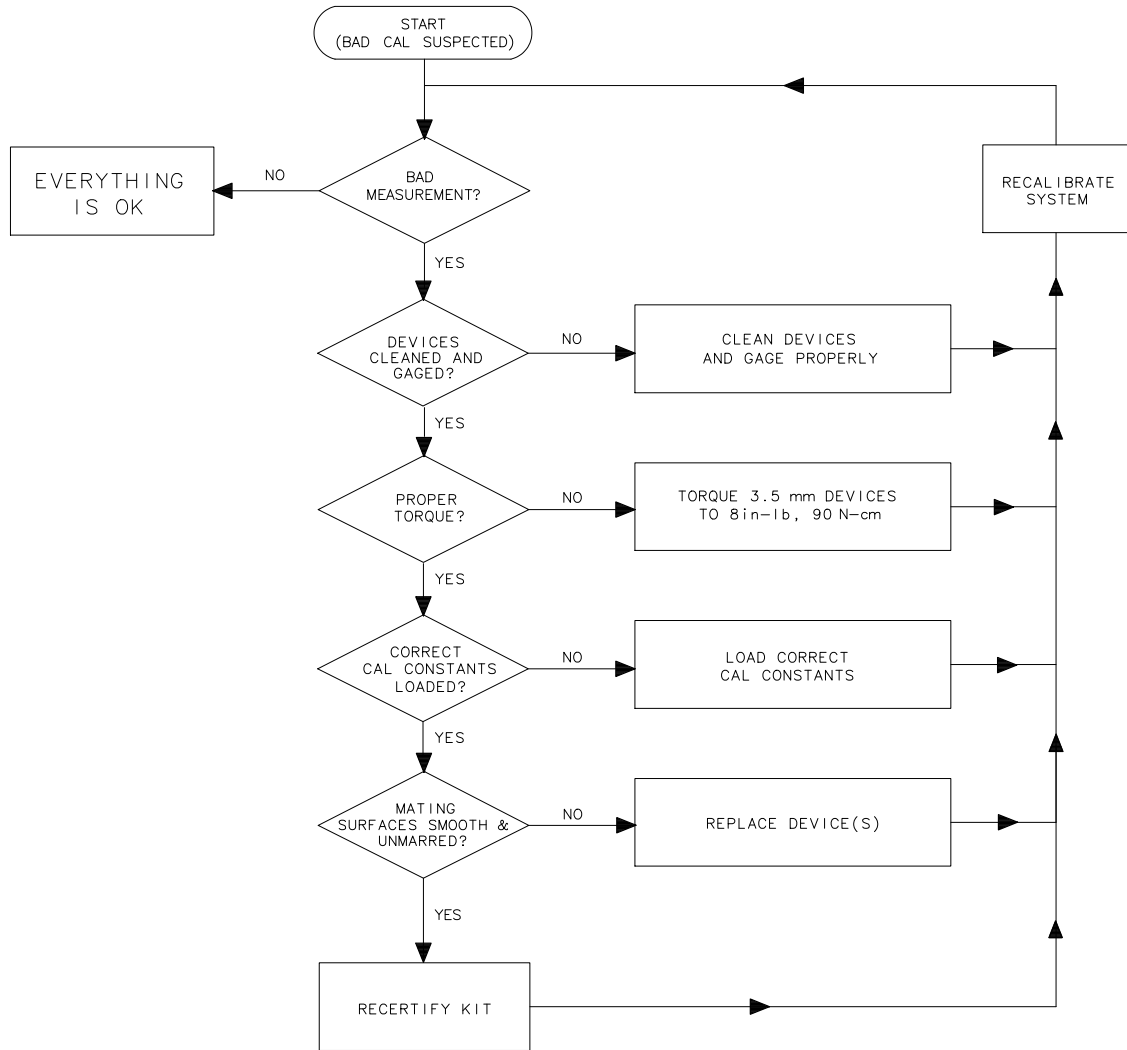
Performance Verification
Recertification

5 Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting Process

If you suspect a bad calibration, or if your network analyzer does not pass performance verification, follow the steps in [Figure 5-1](#).

Figure 5-1 Troubleshooting Flowchart



pk54c

Where to Look for More Information

This manual contains limited information about network analyzer system operation. For detailed information on using an ENA or PNA series network analyzer, refer to the appropriate user guide or Help file.

- To view the ENA or PNA Help, press the Help key on the front panel of the network analyzer.
- To view Help or a user guide online, use the following steps:
 1. Go to www.keysight.com.
 2. Enter your analyzer model number (Ex: N5242A) in the Search box and click **Search**.
 3. Under the heading **Manuals**, click on the title/hyperlink for the document PDF you want to view.

If you need additional information, see [“Contacting Keysight” on page 5-5](#).

Returning a Kit or Device to Keysight

If your kit or device requires service, contact Keysight Technologies for information on where to send it. See [“Contacting Keysight” on page 5-5](#) for information. Include a service tag (located near the end of this manual) on which you provide the following information:

- your company name and address
- a technical contact person within your company, and the person's complete phone number
- the model number and serial number of the kit
- the part number and serial number of each device
- the type of service required
- a *detailed* description of the problem and how the device was being used when the problem occurred (such as calibration or measurement)

Contacting Keysight

Assistance with test and measurements needs and information on finding a local Keysight office are available on the Web at:

www.keysight.com/find/assist

If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact your Keysight field engineer.

NOTE In any correspondence or telephone conversation, refer to the Keysight product by its model number and full serial number. With this information, the Keysight representative can determine whether your product is still within its warranty period.

6 Replaceable Parts

Introduction

Table 6-1 lists the replacement part numbers for items included in the 85052C calibration kit and Figure 6-1 illustrates each of these items.

Table 6-2 lists the replacement part numbers for items *not* included in the calibration kit that are either required or recommended for successful operation of the kit.

To order a listed part, note the description, the part number, and the quantity desired. Telephone or send your order to Keysight Technologies. See “Contacting Keysight” on page 5-5 for information.

Table 6-1 Replaceable Parts for the 85052C Calibration Kit

Description ^a	Qty Per Kit	Keysight Part Number
Calibration Devices (3.5 mm)		
–m– broadband load	1	00902-60005 <i>00902-60003^b</i>
–f– broadband load	1	00902-60006 <i>00902-60004^b</i>
–m– offset open	1	85052-60008
–f– offset open	1	85052-60009
–m– offset short	1	85052-60006
–f– offset short	1	85052-60007
Precision Adapters (3.5 mm)		
–m– to –m–	1	85052-60033
–f– to –f–	1	85052-60032
–m– to –f–	1	85052-60034
Precision Airlines		
Long, 2 to 7 GHz (includes insertion tool)	1	85052-60036
Short, 7 to 32 GHz (includes insertion tool)	1	85052-60035
Protective End Caps for Connectors		
Protective Cap 0.234 ID	as required	1401-0202
Protective Cap 0.313 ID	as required	1401-0208
Protective Cap 0.812 ID	as required	1401-0214

Table 6-1 Replaceable Parts for the 85052C Calibration Kit

Description ^a	Qty Per Kit	Keysight Part Number
Tools		
5/16 in, 90 N-cm (8 in-lb) torque wrench	1	8710-1765
Spanner wrench	1	08513-20014
4-mm hex balldriver	1	8710-1933
Adapter anti-rotation clamp	2	85052-20060
Calibration Kit Storage Case		
Box (without foam pads)	1	5180-8419
Foam pad (for lid)	1	5180-7807
Foam pad (for lower case)	1	85052-80037
Foam pad (in between lid and lower case)	1	5181-5522
Miscellaneous Items		
85052C User's and Service Guide ^c	1	85052-90078

- a. Refer to ["Clarifying the Terminology of a Connector Interface"](#) on page 1-15.
- b. Part numbers in *italic* typeface are for production assemblies and cannot be ordered by customers. Both the replacement part number and the production part number are interchangeable and have identical performance.
- c. See ["Printing Copies of Documentation from the Web"](#) on page ii.

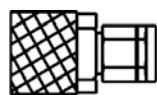
Introduction

Table 6-2 Items Not Included in the Calibration Kit

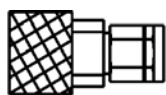
Description	Qty	Keysight Part Number
Connector Gages (3.5 mm)		
Gage Set (for female connectors)	1	85052-60043
Gage Set (for male connectors)	1	85052-60042
Tools		
7 mm open-end wrench	1	8710-1761
20 mm, 0.9 N-m (8 in-lb) torque wrench	1	8710-1764
Test port anti-rotation clamp	2	08515-60003
Slotless Connector Repair Kit		
3.5 mm slotless connector contact repair kit ^a	1	85052-60049
ESD Protection Devices		
Grounding wrist strap	1	9300-1367
Heel strap		9300-1308
5 ft grounding cord for wrist strap	1	9300-0980
2 ft by 4 ft conductive table mat with 15 ft grounding wire	1	9300-0797
Connector Cleaning Supplies		
Anhydrous isopropyl alcohol (>92% pure) ^b	--	--
Cleaning swabs	100	9301-1243

- a. All female connectors on the precision devices in this kit are slotless connectors. Refer to **“Inspect Female Connectors”** on page 3-3.
- b. Keysight can no longer safely ship isopropyl alcohol, so customers should purchase it locally.

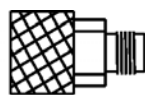
Figure 6-1 Component Identification Sheet for the 85052C Calibration Kit



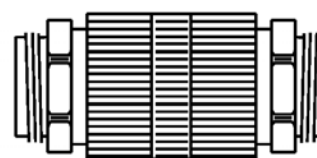
Male
Offset Short



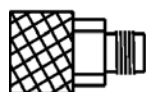
Male
Offset Open



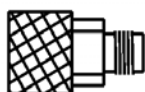
Female
Broadband Load



Male-to-Male
Precision Adapter



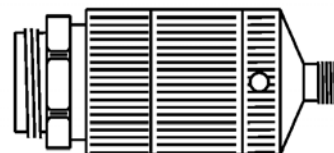
Female
Offset Short



Female
Offset Open



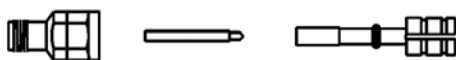
Male
Broadband Load



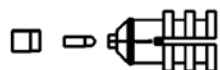
Male-to-Female
Precision Adapter



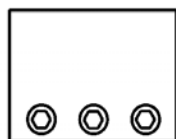
Female-to-Female
Precision Adapter



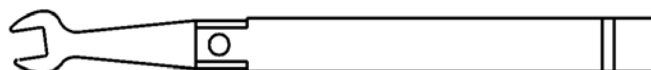
Long Airline (2-7 GHz)
and Insertion Tool



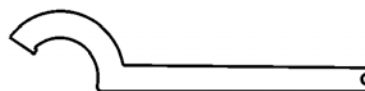
Short Airline (7-32 GHz)
and Insertion Tool



Adapter
Anti-Rotation Clamp
(2 Supplied)



5/16 Inch Torque Wrench
8 in-lb (90 N-cm)



Spanner Wrench



Hex Balldriver

NOT SHOWN:

- User's and Service Guide
- Storage case
- Protective end caps

pk57c

Replaceable Parts
Introduction

A Standard Definitions

Class Assignments and Standard Definitions Values are Available on the Web

Class assignments and standard definitions may change as more accurate model and calibration methods are developed. You can download the class assignments and standard definitions from Keysight's Calibration Kit Definitions Web page at <http://na.support.keysight.com/pna/caldefs/stddefs.html>.

For a detailed discussion of calibration kits, refer to the Keysight Application Note, "Specifying Calibration Standards and Kits for Keysight Vector Network Analyzers." This application note covers calibration standard definitions, calibration kit content and its structure requirements for Keysight vector network analyzers. It also provides some examples of how to set up a new calibration kit and how to modify an existing calibration kit definition file. To download a free copy, go to www.keysight.com and enter literature number 5989-4840EN in the Search window.

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