Rain Sensor R-RS485
with RS485 Interface

Technical data
and notes for installation

Description

The R-RS485 Rain Sensor recognizes precipitation and sends the current status once every second. This data flow can be received and analyzed by an end device such as SPS, PC or MC. If the DCF signal cannot be received, the data is output approx. every 1.35 seconds.

The R-RS485 has four connections. Data output is at terminals A and B. Terminals 1 and 2 are for the power supply (24 V DC). The connections are **not resistant to pole reversal**. Connecting them incorrectly **will destroy** the interface components**.**

Functions:
• Heated **precipitation sensor** (1.2 watts): No false reports as a result of fog or dew. Dries quickly after precipitation has stopped

Technical data

Housing:	Plastic material
Colour:	White / translucent
Mounting:	On-wall
Protection category:	IP 44
Dimensions:	approx. 96 x 77 x 118 (W x H x D, mm)
Weight:	approx. 160 g
Ambient temperature:	Operation -30…+50°C, Storage -30…+70°C
Operating voltage:	24 V DC
Current:	max. 105 mA, residual ripple 10%
Data output:	RS485
Heating rain sensor:	approx. 1.2 W

The following standards were referenced with regard to evaluating electromagnetic compatibility of the product:
• EN 60730-1:2000-11 + A11:2002
The product has been tested by an accredited EMC laboratory according to the abovementioned standards.
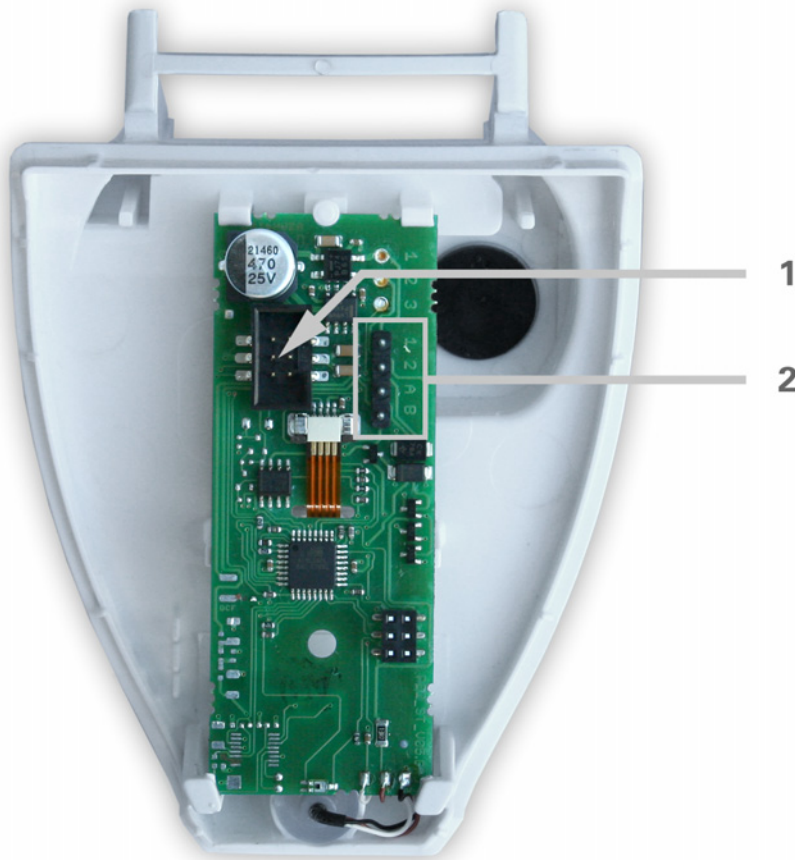
PCB layout

Fig. 1

1   *Socket for connecting cables to rain sensor in housing cover*
2   *Socket for connection*
     1: +24 V DC | 2: GND | A: Data | B: Data

Transfer protocol

All characters and/or digits are based on the ASCII standard, i.e. every reading processed internally as an integer or float value will always be broken down into and transferred in its individual ASCII format characters. They must then be reassembled in the reverse process by the receiver.

Transfer rate:	19200 Baud
Data bits:	8
Stop bit:	1
Parity:	none

The checksum is calculated along by the receiver by adding all received bytes up until byte 35 and then compared with the checksum transferred from the R-RS485.

Byte No.	Char	Meaning
1	W	Weather data start
2-20	–	–
21	Rain	Rain: J = Yes; N = No
22-35	–	–
36	Checksum: 1st digit	Checksum 1st digit (thousands)
37	Checksum: 2nd digit	Checksum 2nd digit (hundreds)
38	Checksum: 3rd digit	Checksum 3rd digit (tens)
39	Checksum: 4th digit	Checksum 4th digit (ones)
40	End	End 0x03

Installation and commissioning

| **The sensor may only be installed, tested, put into operation and troubleshot by a person qualified to do so.** | |

When connecting the sensor, do not connect any live wires (switch off the mains fuse first) and take precautionary measures to prevent them from being accidentally switched back on. Make sure all connections are correct. An incorrect connection could destroy the sensor or any electronic devices connected to it.

The sensor must be used for its intended purpose only. Any improper modification or failure to observe the operation instructions will void all guarantees or claims to warranty.
When unpacking, check the unit immediately for any mechanical damage. The supplier must be informed immediately of any damage caused during transport.

| **The sensor must not be put into use if damaged.** | |

If there is any cause to believe that safe operation is no longer guaranteed, the system must be rendered inoperative and secured against being switched on unintentionally.
The sensor may only be operated as a stationary installation; i.e. only when mounted and after all installation and initialization procedures are complete, and only in the environment it is intended for.

Elsner Elektronik is not liable for any changes to standards or defaults after publication of the operation instructions.

Position

Choose an installation position in the building rain can be recognized unhindered by the sensor. The device must not be installed underneath any structural parts from which

water can still drip onto the rain sensor after it has stopped raining or snowing. There must be at least 60 cm of free space underneath the sensor to allow it to measure the wind correctly and to prevent it from being snowed in when it snows.
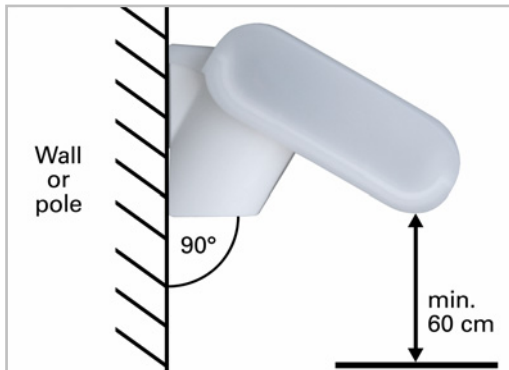
Fig. 2
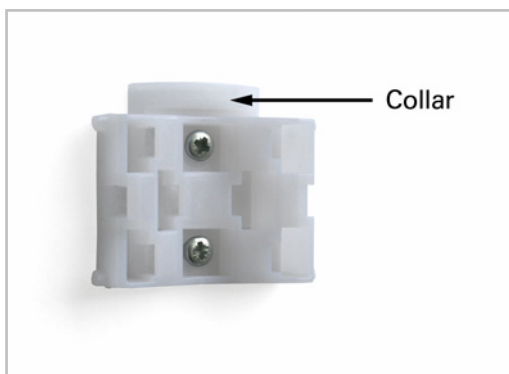The sensor must be mounted onto a vertical wall (or pole).
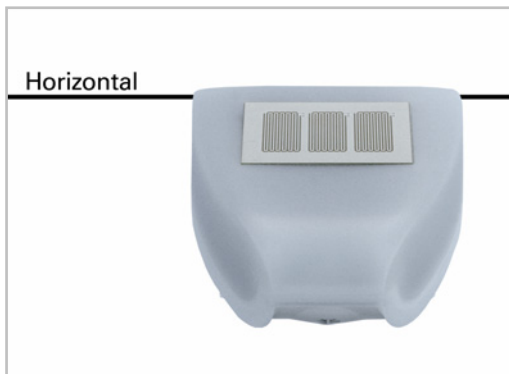
Fig. 3
The sensor must be mounted horizontally in the lateral direction.
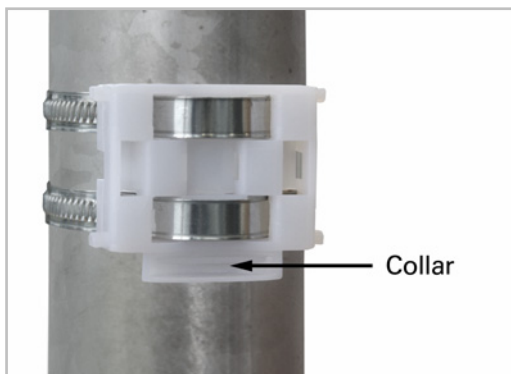
Attaching the mount

The sensor comes with a combination wall/pole mount. The mount comes adhered by adhesive strips to the rear side of the housing.
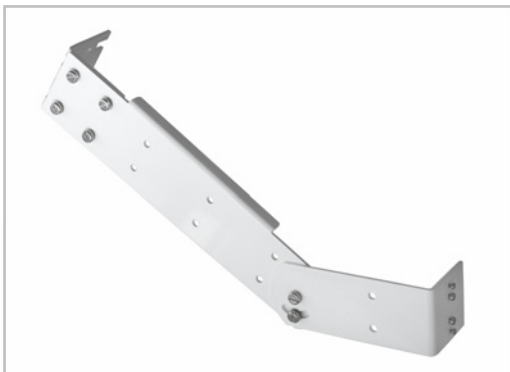Fasten the mount vertically onto the wall or pole.

Fig. 4
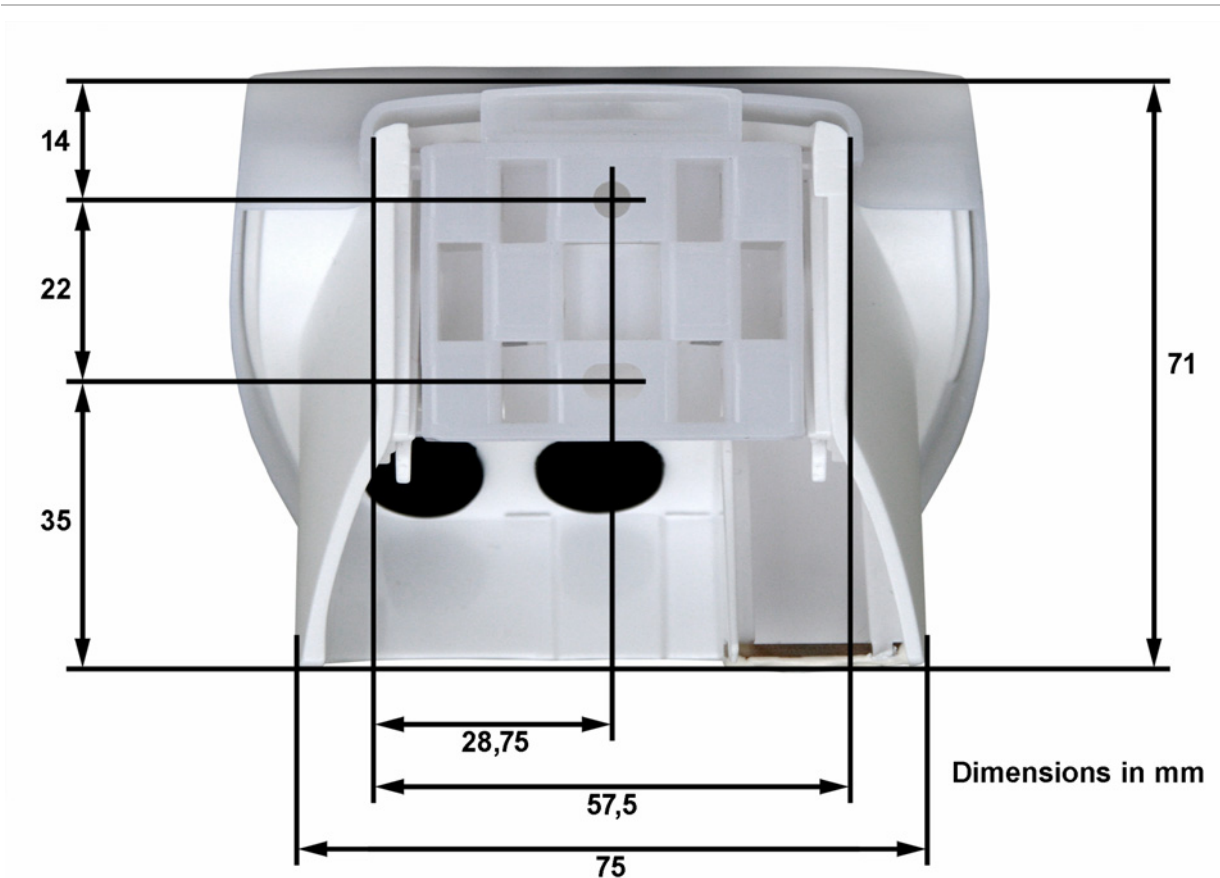When wall mounting: flat side on wall, crescent-shaped collar upward.

Fig. 5
When pole mounting: curved side on pole, collar downward.

Collar

Fig. 6
An additional, **optional accessory** available from Elsner Elektronik is an articulated arm for flexible wall, pole or beam mounting of the weather station.

View of rear side and drill hole plan

14

22

35

71

28,75

57,5

75

Dimensions in mm

Fig. 7 a: Dimensions of rear side of housing with bracket. Subject to change for technical enhancement.
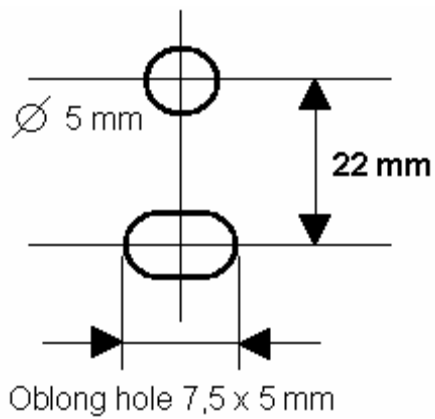
Fig. 7 b: Drill hole plan

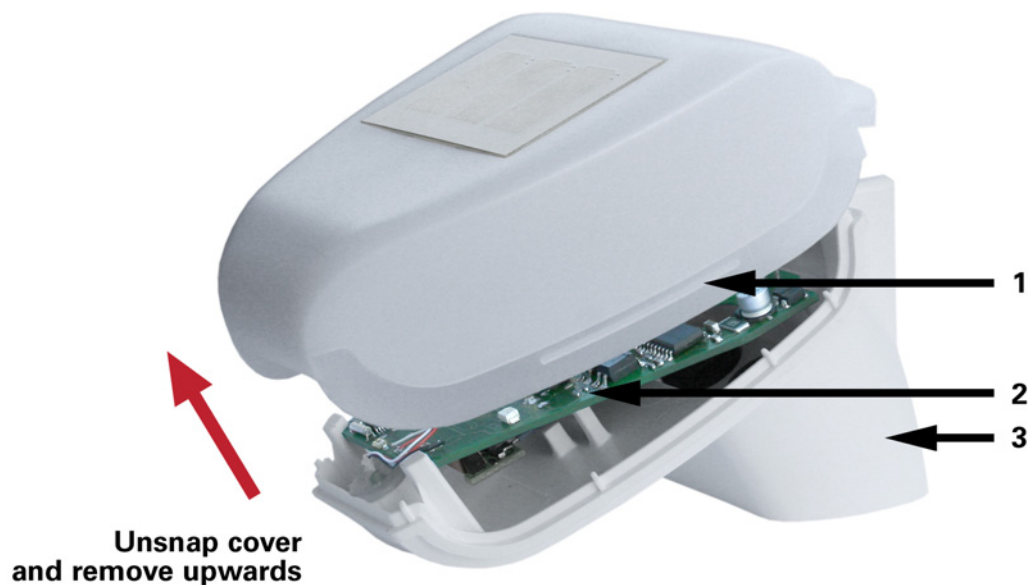# Preparing the sensor

Unsnap cover and remove upwards

Fig. 8
1   Cover snaps
2   Circuit board
3   Bottom part of housing

The sensor cover with the rain sensor snaps in on the left and right along the bottom edge (see Fig. 8). Remove the sensor cover. Proceed carefully, so as not to pull off the wire connecting the PCB in the bottom part with the rain sensor in the cover (wire with push-connector).

Push the connection cable through the rubber seal on the bottom of the weather station and push the power and bus cables onto their designated terminals. The connection is by typical telephone cable (J-Y(ST)Y $2 \times 2 \times 0.8$).

Mounting the weather station

Close the housing by putting the cover back over the bottom part. The cover must snap in on the left and right with a definite "click".

Fig. 9
Make sure the cover and bottom part are properly snapped together! This picture is looking at the closed sensor from underneath.

Fig. 10
Push the housing from above into the fastened mount. The bumps on the mount must snap into the rails in the housing.

To remove it, the sensor can be simply pulled upwards out of the mount, against the resistance of the fastening.

Notes on installation

Do not open the device if water (rain) could get in: even a few drops could damage the electronics inside.
When mounting, you must take care not to pull off or kink the wire connecting the PCB with the rain sensor.

Remove all existing protection labels after installation.

Maintenance

The device must be checked for dirt on a regular, twice-yearly basis and cleaned if necessary. A dirty sensor can lead to a constantly rain announcement.