Introduction to WSPR

Weak
Signal
Propagation
Reporter

Jon, WA9JBR John, WA5MLF



WSPR Overview

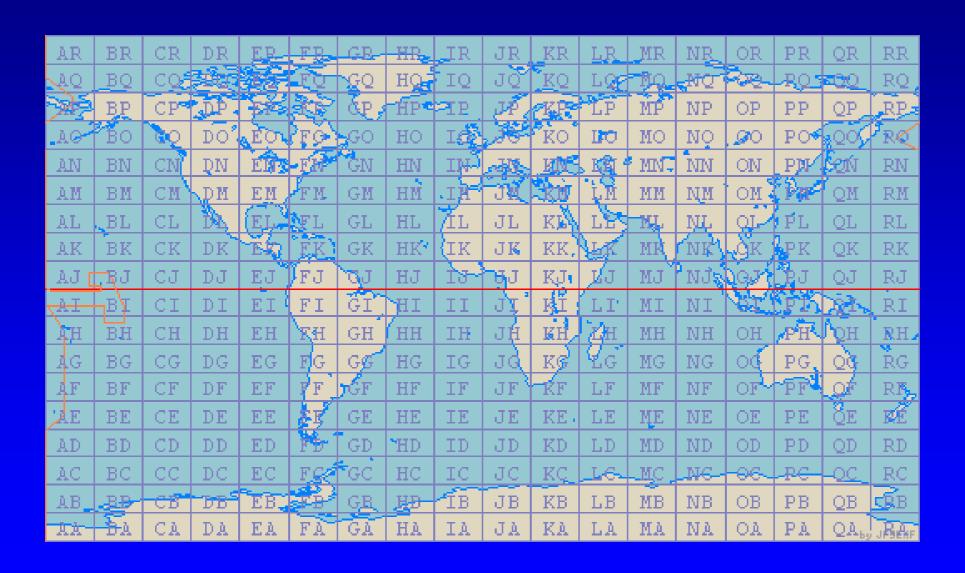
WSPR implements a protocol designed for probing potential paths with low-power transmissions. Normal transmissions carry a station's callsign, Maidenhead grid locator, and transmitter power in dBm. e.g. WA9JBR EM40ji 37 dBm The program can decode signals with S/N as low as -28 dB in a 2500 Hz bandwidth. Stations with Internet access can automatically upload their reception reports to a central database called WSPRnet, which includes a mapping facility.

Joe Taylor, K1JT



Nobel Prize in Physics in 1993 for discovery of
the first orbiting pulsar using radio astronomy
Author of the WSJT software package
for long distance low power
weak signal communications
(includes FT8, FT4, WSPR, JT65, etc)

Maidenhead Locator Fields AA-RR



dBm to Watts equivalents

dBm	W	mW
0	0.001	1
10	0.01	10
20	0.1	100
30	1	1,000
40	10	10,000
50	100	100,000

Transmission Protocol

- The digital protocol used by WSPR is based on the Manned Experimental Propagation Transmitter (MEPT) design by Murray Greenman, ZL1BPU
- The term "manned" distinguishes this mode from unattended beacons that are not permitted or are difficult to license in some parts of the world.
- The version adapted by Joe Taylor for WSPR adds his initials: MEPT-JT.

WSPR Mode Description

RF carrier is shifted up by a tone between 1400-1599 Hz where it is modulated by continuous phase 4-tone frequency shift keying (FSK) (F1D emission type)

Bandwidth = 6 Hz

Each tone represents one symbol:

Symbol 0 = 0 Hz Symbol 1 = 1.465 Hz Symbol 2 = 2.93 Hz Symbol 3 = 4.395 Hz

Symbol rate is 1.465 baud

Each symbol represents 2 bits.

- The first bit is from the 50 bits of message data (28 for callsign, 15 for grid square, 7 for power). The application of forward error correction expands these 50 bits to 162 bits.
- The second bit is from the pseudo-random sequence of 162 bits used for accurate time and frequency synchronization.

Slow and Steady

Transmission starts 1 second into an even minute

Transmission lasts approximately 110 seconds

Most stations are set to transmit 20% of the time and receive for 80% of the time.

The 200 Hz band window allows 33 stations to transmit simultaneously. The randomized transmit times enable 165 stations to share the space during a 10-minute period.

Decodes S/N as low as -28 dB

WSPR Data Applications

- 1. Antenna Analysis
- 2. Propagation Analysis
- 3. Communication Circuit Evaluation
 - Propagation path reliability
 - Equipment performance

Why WSPR Mode

Provides real-time propagation information
Spots uploaded to wsprnet.org
Antenna testing – low power requires efficiency
Low power allows operation from Solar energy

QRP equipment is ideal for implementation It's something to play with.

Relative sensitivity of modes

Mode	S/N Required	Power example
WSPR	-27 dB	5 W
Olivia	-17 dB	50 W
PSK31	-7 dB	500 W
RTTY	+5 dB	8,000 W
SSB	+10 dB	25,000 W

WSPR Mapping

Receiving stations with Internet access automatically upload reception reports to a central database at http://wsprnet.org The web site is written and maintained since 2008 by Bruce Walker, W1BW, to provide a central repository for WSPR reception reports. 500+ stations participating per day

WSPR Frequencies

The default USB dial frequencies (MHz):

0.136*, 0.4742*, 1.8366, 3.5926, 5.2872*,

7.0386, 10.1387, 14.0956, 18.1046,

21.0946, 24.9246, 28.1246, 50.293,

70.091*, 144.489, 432.300, 1296.500

200 Hz segment in each band

*frequencies not authorized in U.S.

Band Hopping

- WSPR mode allows those with CAT-controlled radios to investigate propagation on many bands without user intervention.
- Coordinated hopping enables a sizable group of stations around the world to move together from band to band, thereby maximizing the chances of identifying open propagation paths.

ref: WSJT-X User Guide v 2.7.0, sec 10.1

	2190m	630m	160m	80m	60m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m	4m	2m	70cm	23cm
Sunrise grayline			7	7		V	V	V									
Day						7	V	V	7	7							
Sunset grayline			V	V		V	V	V									
Night			V	V		V	V	V									
Tune				V		V	V	V	V	V	V	V					
Rx only					V												

WSPR – Station requirements

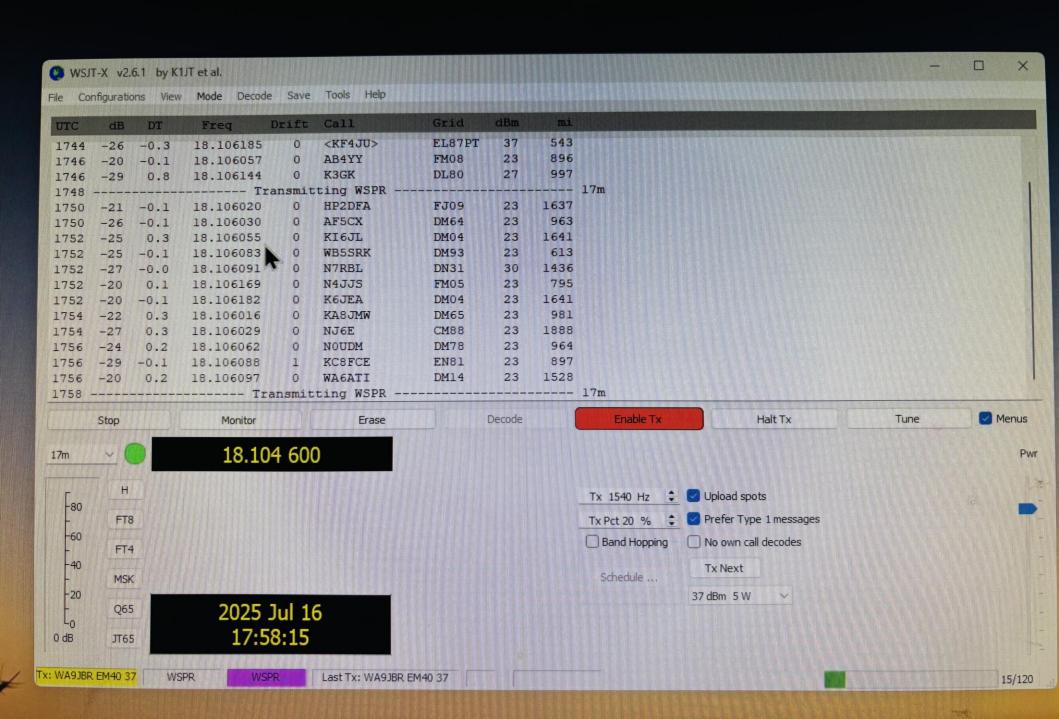
- SSB receiver or transceiver and antenna
- Computer running the Windows, Linux, FreeBSD, or OS X operating system.
- 1.5 GHz or faster CPU and at least 100 MB of available RAM
- Monitor with at least 800 x 600 resolution
- Sound card supported by your operating system and capable of 48 kHz sample rate

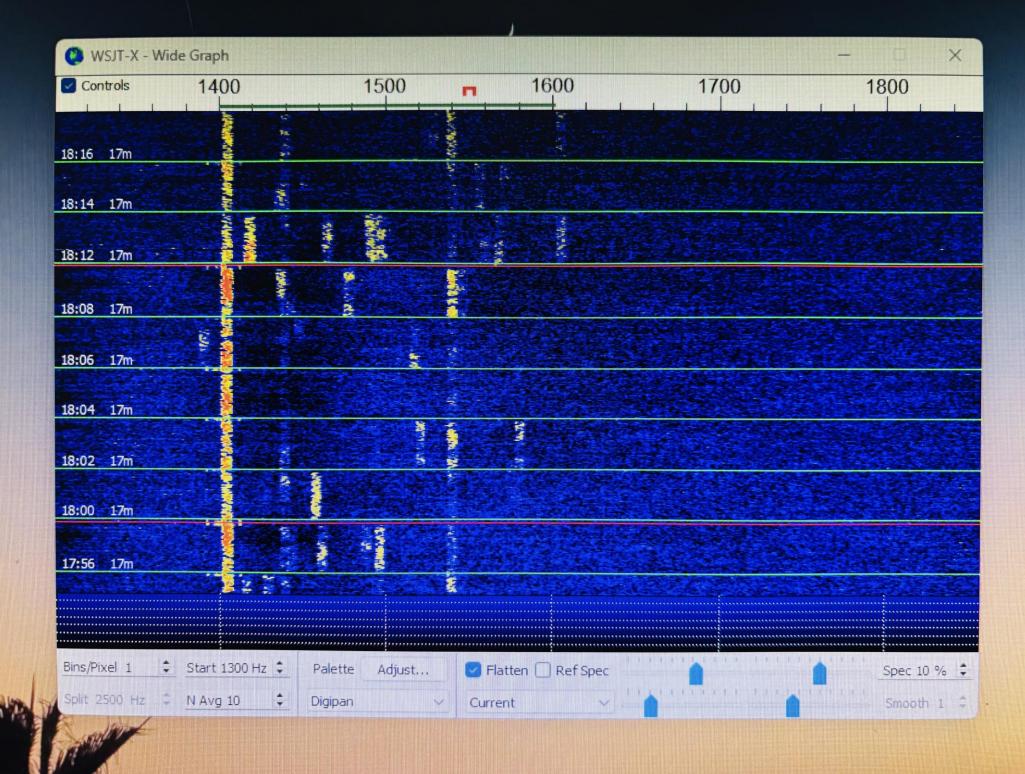
WSPR – Station requirements

- If you will transmit as well as receive, an interface using a serial port to key your PTT line or a serial cable for CAT control.

 Alternatively, you can use VOX control.
- Audio connection(s) between
 receiver/transceiver and sound card
- A means for synchronizing your computer clock to UTC

Demonstration





0 475700R KG9DUK 0 475700R JA7KBR

.475700R WW6D 0.475700R DL6OW-WTM 0.4757

0 475700R W0AIR 0.475700R SM2DJK/15

0.475700R K2ZN 0.475700R SWL/FN110D 0.475

0.475

0.475

0.475

0.4757

0.4757

0.4757

0.4757

0.4757

1.838100

1.838100



Activity

LF

Stations active in the last 10 minutes. Frequencies are mean reported frequencies for each station during the interval

119

Create new account Request new password

Username *

Password

Log in

Frequencies

er login

USB dial (MHz): 0.136, 0.4742, 1.8366, 3.5686, 5.2872, 5.3647. 7.0386, 10.1387, 13.5539, 14.0956, 18.1046, 21.0946, 24.9246, 28.1246, 50.293, 70.091, 144.489, 432.300 1296.500

3rd Party Maps and Data

WSPR Rocks! MOXDK Map **KB9AMG Monthly Stats** WA2ZKD Spot Analysis DJ2LS WSPR Spot Heat Map LU7AA/LU7ABF Maps/Graphs

V	K6MJM	0.137437	PA0SLT/4	0.137500R	VK6BSA	0.137500R	7L4IOU1	0.137500R	G6JTB	0.137500R	DJ6DK	0.137500R	G8HUH 0.137573R	
G	GOTCY	0.137495	G0GHK/KIWI	0.137500R	PA0OCD/1	0.137500R	PAORDT	0.137500R	DK0AUE	0.137500R	VK2AN	0.137500R		
0	G4CLO	0.137520	EA3IHV	0.137500R	DL6OW-MH	0.137500R	7L4IOU2	0.137500R	OH2FTB	0.137500R	OE9RMV	0.137500R		
H	KA4WIM	0.137567	N1VF/K	0.137500R	LA3EQ	0.137500R	JP10DJ/SDR	0.137500R	OZ1KVB	0.137500R	SV8RV	0.137500R		
61	G80CV/SDR	0.137500R	VE6ARS	0.137500R	KG9DUK	0.137500R	7L4IOU4	0.137500R	PA0OCD	0.137500R	G4ZFQ	0.137500R		
	N6IO I	0.137500R	7L4IOU3	0.137500R	EA5DOM	0.137500R	PA3GUK	0.137500R	VK5ZVS	0.137500R	172000/VE	0.137500R		
	MM1PTT	0.137500R	DL4RU	0.137500R	UB1APE	0.137500R	VK5HW	0.137500R	URV06607	0.137500R	W0AIR	0.137500R		
	GM4DIJ	0.137500R	PA0SLT/3	0.137500R	ZP4KFX	0.137500R	IZ6QQTRX	0.137500R	EA4GHB	0.137500R	JA7KBR	0.137500R		
	LY4PR	0.137500R	SWL/FN110D	0.137500R	DK8EE	0.137500R	VK5WA	0.137500R	VK5CV	0.137500R	KL7L	0.137500R		
	DM7BBH	0.137500R	DL6OW-WTM	0.137500R	DBOSTB	0.137500R	NS8C	0.137500R	VK5FQ/W	0.137500R	F4FPR	0.137570R		

R HB9TMC

	VI	NOLA	3.413034	JAULIAV	0.415150	PGZA	K HBay CON	KE RIZISLZ	基础设置	R G8OCV/SL	JR 0.4/5/00R	LASAV	U.4/5/UUR	DL4RU	0.4/5/001	KIDROZIR	0.4/5/001	R K2ZN	0.4/5/00	RISWLIEN
	D	K2DB	0.475639	F6CWA	0.475761	SWL/HU1UB	R OE3GBB/C	R PA7EY/WD		R PA3GUK	0.475700R	JA3TVF	0.475700R	MOXDK	0.475700F	R VK3KHZ	0.475700F	EASIHV	0.4757001	R HB9AUR
	N	I4WLO	0.475645	DLOAO	R	JG3HGD/SDR	R PDOOHW	R OH3LMN/k	awı ı	R PA3GUK/P	0.475700R	SM3LNM	0.475700R	W1FRV	0.475700F	R GM4DIJ	0.475700R	KC8QDF	R 0.475700F	R VK5FQM
MF 1	54 5	Q9T	0.475679	GOKTN	R	HB9VQQ/RS	R PA1JMS	R PAOSLT/A		R F4ASK	0.475700R	F4DXU	0.475700R	LA3EQ/M	W 0.475700F	GOGHK/KIN	WI 0.475700R	WOAIR	0.475700F	R SM2DJK/
POPELLE S	04	G3ZSE	0.475692	DL9SW	R	HB9VQQ/KL	R PEOMJX	R G4ZFQ	,	R DF1VB	0.475700R	JP10DJ/SDR	0.475700R	DK0AUE	0.475700R	URV06607	0.475700R	7L4I0U2	0.475700R	LY4PR
	P	W3RMR	0.475700	HA3PMF	R	2E0ILY/KIWI	R OE9GHV	R F4VTQ		R PAOSLT/4	0.475700R	7L4IOU4	0.475700R	VK5WA	0.475700R	PA1W/P	0.475700R	VE3HOA	0.475700R	G4MSA
	1	DL4XJ	0.475700	HA3PG	R	DC1RDB	R ON5KQ	R DC0DX	ı	R JH3XCU-2	0.475700R	PA0RDT	0.475700R	DL8BBY	0.475700R	DM7BBH	0.475700R	W7GAJ	0.475700R	G0VQH
		S52AB	0.475721	DK6UG	F	PI4THT	R HB9VQQ	R JA6SOQ	0.475286	R IW3HBX	0.475700R	W4WLO/2	0.475700R	DF6DBF	0.475700R	K6CRS	0.475700R	VK7TAZ	0.475700R	OH2FTB
		OE2UKL	0.475727	OE5IGP	F	OE3GBB/Q2	R DD5FZ	R N9MKC	0.475691	R DF9RB	0.475700R	W4WLO/1	0.475700R	G6AVK	0.475700R	NS8C	0.475700R	WW6D	0.475700R	DL6OW-W
A PARTY P	411	DL9GCW	1.838030	G4HSB	1.83807	0 G4VZO	1.838146 G8A0	E R OE9G	HV R P	G2A F	HB9VQQ/RE	R DF1DR	R G6UQ	Z 1.8	36600R GM	4JRT 1.8	338100R VK3	KHZ 1.8	38100R TF	1A
		PU7ZWT	1.838034	WB6YR	W 1.83809	G4JQT/P	1.838190 DD5F	Z R HB9V	QQ R 2E	EOILY/KIWI F	KFS	R ON5KQ	R KBOLO	J 1.8	36600R OK2	2PYA 1.8	38100R PH1	WRF 1.8	38100R PA	OSLT/4
		SM0FKI	1.838037	MOOLS	1.83809	99 VK3YCQ	R DC1F	RDB R PA10	R D	D5XX F	KD7EFG	R DC7TO	R DL1LS	L 1.8	37500R IW3	HBX 1.8	38100R DK0	AUE 1.83	88100R DN	9DSF
		JA6SOQ	1.838040	VK7JJ	1.83810	00 GOKTN	R OE30	BB/Q2 R F4VT	Q/M R PA	AOSLT/A F	PA1JMS	R KA70EI-9	R CT1ET	L/1 1.8	37500R VK2	ZEE 1.8.	38100R G4M	SA 1.83	8100R G81	JRE .

R OE9TAV

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		JA6SOQ	1.838040 V	rk7JJ	1.838100 G0KTN	R OE	3GBB/Q2	R F4VTQ/M	R PAOSLT/A	R PA1JMS	R KA70EI-9	R CT1ETL/1	1.837500	R VK2ZEE	1.838100F	R G4MSA	1.838100	R G8URE	1.8381
160m	161	SA7CND	1.838043 E	BV7YA	1.838111 VK2WF	R VK	SARG I	R DK6UG	R HB9VQQ/RS	R OE9TAV	R PA7EY/WD	R AA1A	1.8375616	R VK6KCH	1.838100F	DL1ECN-	8 1.838100F	R DL7TBR	1.8381
Ibum	101	GM4HAM	1.838056	W3RMR	1.838121 HA3PMF	R OE	3GBB/Q	R SA6BSS/HL	R KD7EFG-1	R PD00HW	R DLOPF	R DL3GAK	1.838054F	R BV7AU	1.838100R	PA3GUK	1.838100F	R PA1W/P	1.83810
		EI7HZB	1.838060	/K2HL	1.838128 MM0ZBH	R DK	(8FT I	R ON4RST	R M7DOY	R PI4THT	R DF80E	R OK2BVG/RX1	1 838100F	DL4RU	1.838100R	GODUB	1.838100F	DK3SS	1.83810
	444	DL4IB	1.838065	VK3CYD	1.838133 HA5GB	R OE	3XOE I	R OH3LMN/KIWI	R F4VTQ/S	R KFS/OMNI	R OK2IP	R GM4DIJ	1.838100F	VK7TAZ	1.838100R	F70297	1.838100R	SM3LNM	1.83810
		OZ7IT	1.838066	WB6CXC	1.838135 HB9VQQ/KL	R KP	PH1 I	R PA5KT-15	R HB9TMC	R PE0MJX	R KFS/O	R MM1PTT	1.838100F	DARCT13	1.838100R	DK7AM	1.838100R	G7CKX/SDR5	1.83810
		DAZIN	1 232067	VIZDY	1 838146 VK5ADG-2	PKP	н н	SWI/HU1UB	R F4VTO	R G47FO	R VK2AMA	P VKEWA	1 8381000	GROCVISDE	1 838100D	DE1KHY	1.838100D	LYILC	1 838100

R EI4HQ

0.475699R DJ6DK

LA4PGA

OK0EMW 0.475603 K1BZ 0.475744 PA5KT-15

VK61X 0.475634 IA0HXV 0.475750 DC24

3570007 DL8DX 3570046 VK2EFM 3570080 DF7PE 3.570102 KG4LDK 3.570119 G4MKR 3.570139 RU0LL 3.570162 S53EFI 3.570186 G0KTN R SWLJN44 R PAOSLT/A R W2NAF-3 R W3USR-1













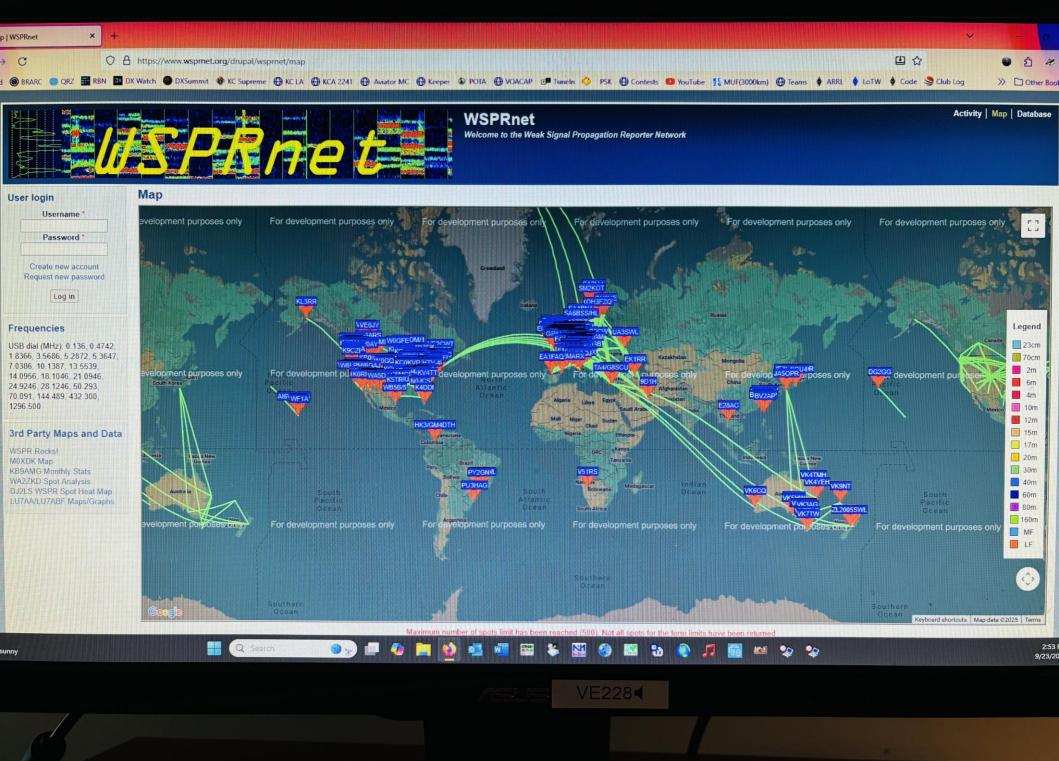




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Username *

Password*

Create new account Request new password

Log in

Frequencies

USB dial (MHz): 0.136, 0.4742, 1.8366, 3.5686, 5.2872, 5.3647, 7.0386, 10.1387, 13.5539, 14.0956, 18.1046, 21.0946, 24.9246, 28.1246, 50.293. 70.091, 144.489, 432.300, 1296.500

3rd Party Maps and Data

WSPR Rocks! MOXDK Map **KB9AMG Monthly Stats** WA2ZKD Spot Analysis DJ2LS WSPR Spot Heat Map LU7AA/LU7ABF Maps/Graphs

Database

Band

All v

Show only spots on this band

Mode

All

Filter by mode.

Count 50

Maximum number of spots to show (10000)

Call

WA9JBR

Only show spots of this callsign. Use * at the end (only) for wildcard searches.

Reporter

Only show spots reported by this call. If same as "Call", then show spots of this call OR heard by this call. Use * at the end (only) for wildcard searches.

In last

24 Hours V

Consider spots only of this recent time period

Sort by

Timestamp v

Field to sort by

Reverse

Check to reverse sort order

Unique

Check to show only unique call/reporter combinations

Exclude Special Callsigns

Excludes calls starting with Q and 0, typically used for balloon telemetry

Update

For issues with this site, email the WSPRNET Admin Team or post to the site forum. Downloads and more information about WSPR program and the MEPT_JT mode, as well as other modes by Joe Taylor (K1JT), can be found at the WSJT Home Page.













































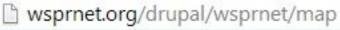


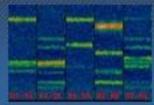












WSPRnet

Weak Signal Propagation Reporter Network

Chat | Activity | Map |

Spot Count

156,966,993 total spots 164,503 in the last 24 hours 3,915 in the last hour

Frequencies

USB dial (MHz): 0.136, 0.4742, 1.8366, 3.5926, 5.2872, 7.0386, 10.1387, 14.0956, 18.1046, 21.0946, 24.9246, 28.1246, 50.293, 70.091, 144.489

KP4MD

- My account
- Create content
- · Log out

Who's online

There are currently 52 users and 55 guests online.

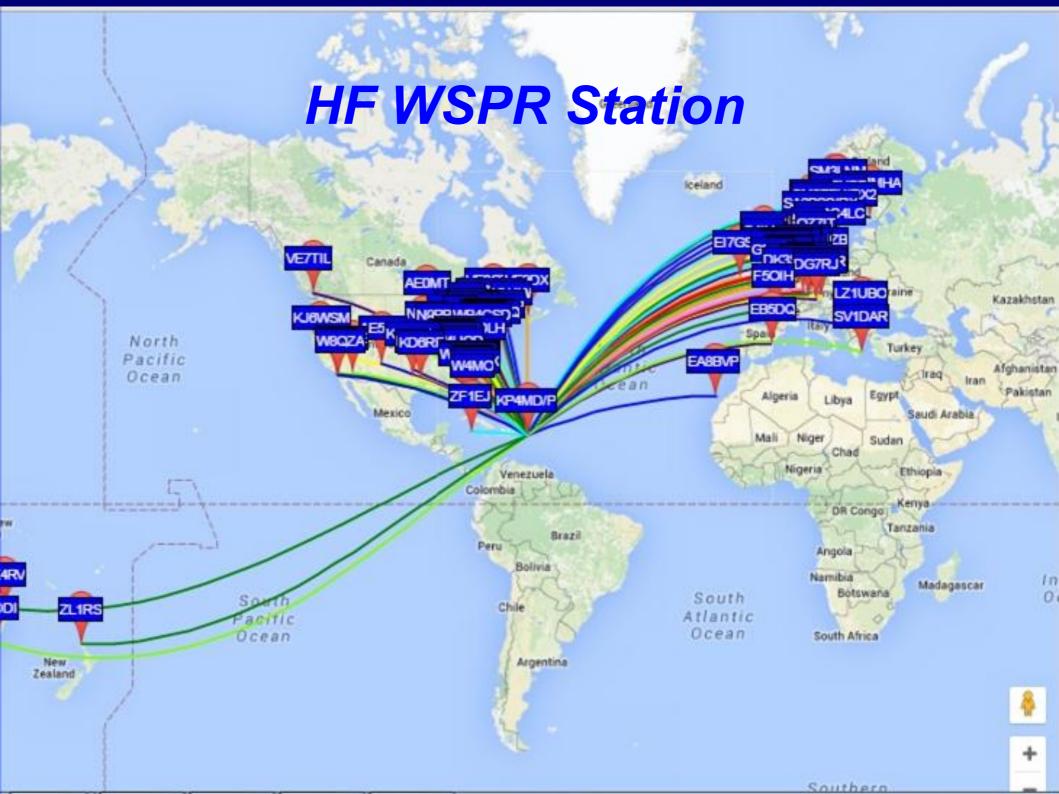
Online users

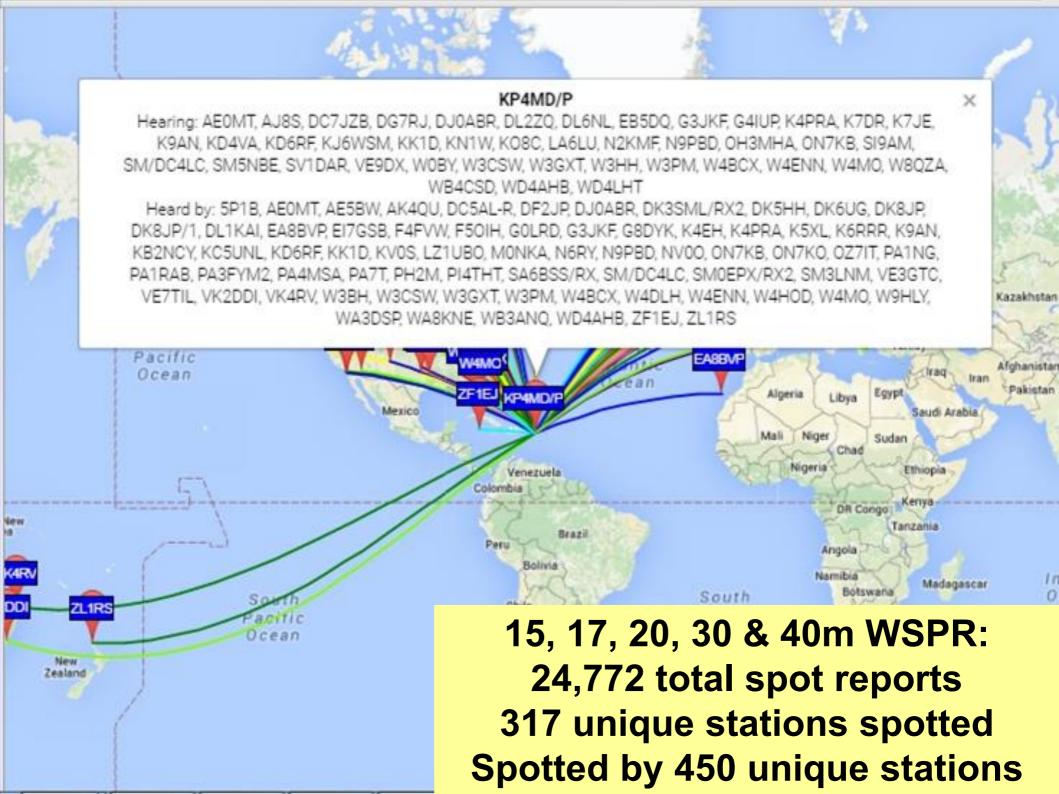
- KP4MD
- N2JR

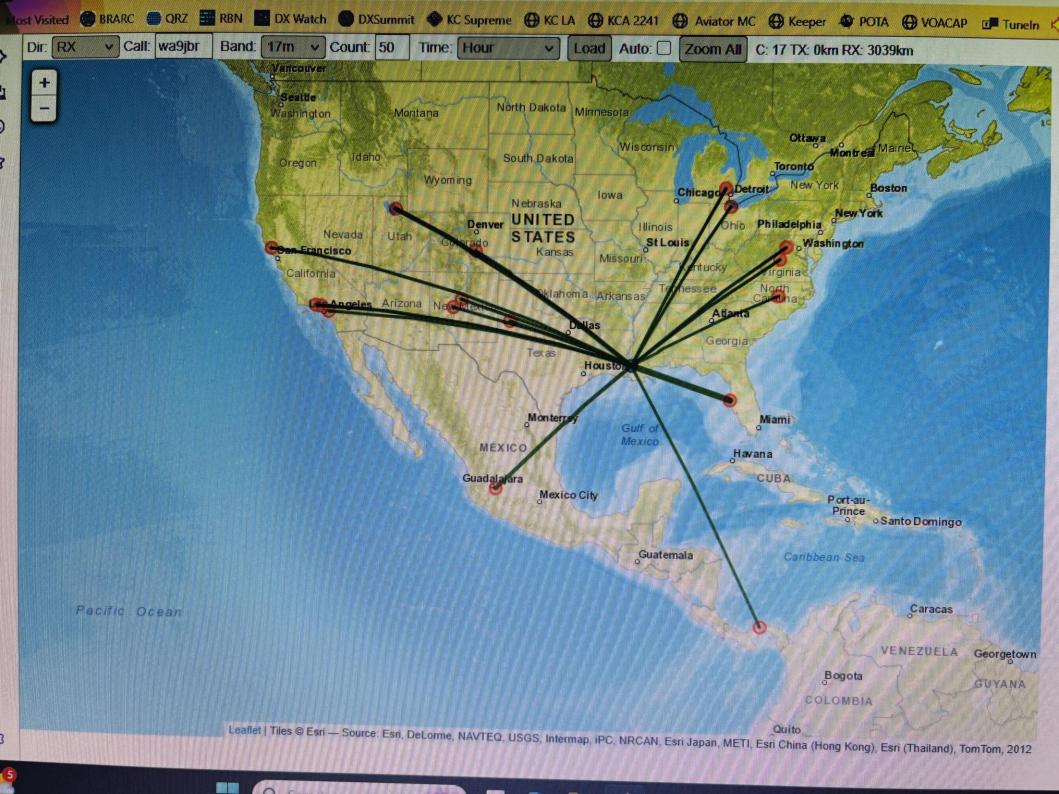
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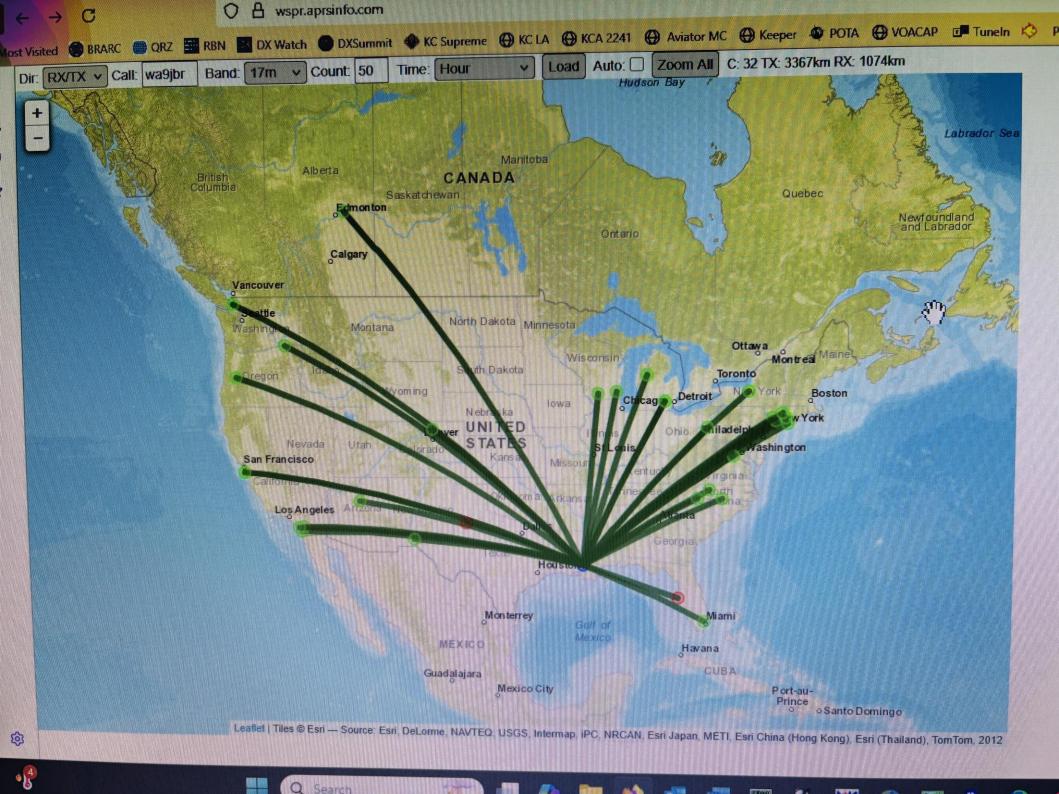
Propagation Map











Applications

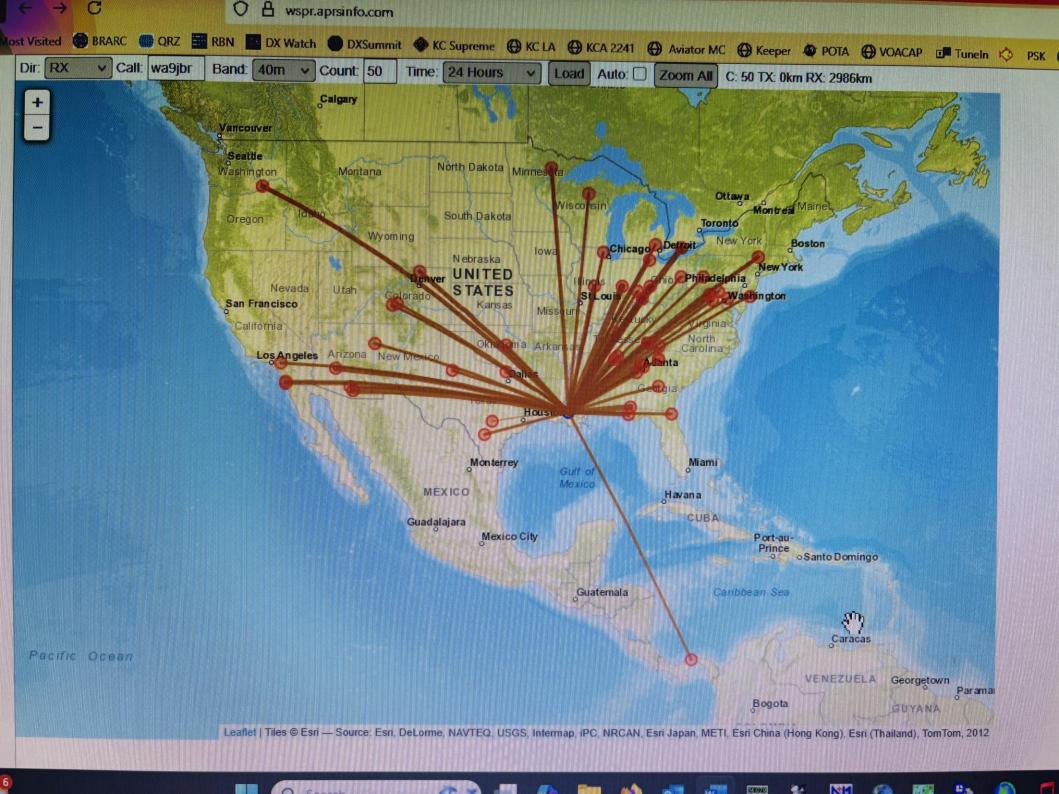
1. Check propagation on desired bands

2. Compare performance of different antennas

Investigation # 1

- What is nighttime propagation like on 40 m during the summer at my QTH?

- □ I copied 40 m WSPR beacons from 7pm to 7am.
- □ Approximately 4,000 reports received
- □ I analyzed RX reports for the following stations:
 - ☐ HP2DFA (Panama @ 0.2W)
 - □ K7FTQ (WA @ 1.0W)
 - N9NIC (WI @ 0.2W)
 - □ N3EYQ (NY @ 0.5W)



- 0002 -16 1.0 7.040051 0 WW0WWV DN70 30 1043
- 0002 -25 -0.1 7.040060 0 <...> DM68HI 23 1074
- 0002 -14 -0.4 7.040105 0 W4CVG EM78 37 666
- 0002 -16 -0.1 7.040108 0 K0XG EM79 23 724
- 0002 -30 0.0 7.040123 0 KB0EE DN70 23 1043
- 0002 -33 -0.1 7.040159 0 HP2DFA FJ09 23 1637
- 0002 -26 0.2 7.040179 0 WY8R EN82 23 955
- 0002 -12 0.2 7.040185 0 KX4DQ EM66 23 491
- 0004 -11 0.2 7.040002 0 WM4B EM82 23 510
- 0004 -19 0.0 7.040007 0 WB5SRK DM93 23 613
- 0004 -23 1.1 7.040051 0 WW0WWV DN70 30 1043
- 0004 -21 0.2 7.040137 0 WR4I FM08 23 896
- 0004 -22 -0.1 7.040156 0 N8FWG EN62 23 871
- 0004 -27 -0.1 7.040159 1 W4MGA FM17 23 954

Conclusion

- Best southern propagation (HP9DFA)
 - 11pm 5am CDT
- Best NW propagation (K7FTQ)
 - 12am 1am & 3am 5am CDT
- Best northern propagation (N9NIC)
 - 9pm 5am
- Best NE propagation (N3EYQ)
 - 12am 7am CDT

Investigation #2

- Compare effectiveness of my G5RV antenna to my 20 m dipole on 17 m
- for the afternoon.

Method

- For one hour in the afternoon
- (2000 2100 Z), transmit a 5 W beacon on 17 m and alternate between the two antennas. Compare signal reports from various stations.

Antennas

G5RV

- 55 ft high
- Broadside east west
- 4.1 SWR on 17 m

20 m Dipole

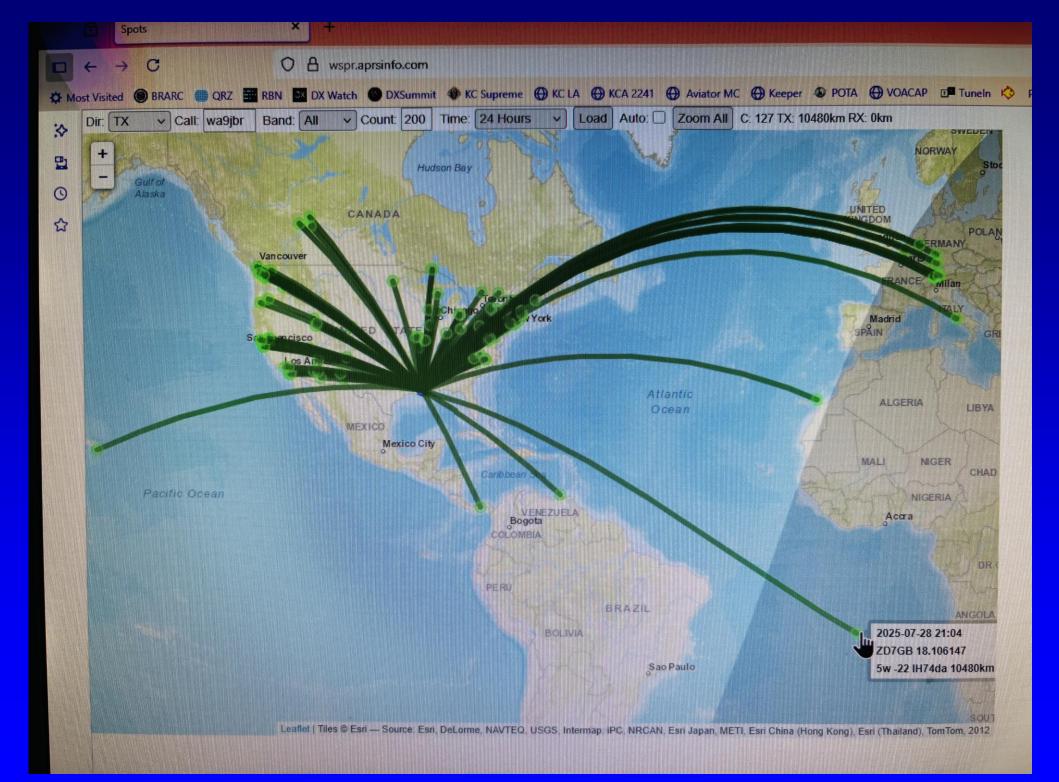
- 70 ft high
- Broadside north south
- 4.6 SWR on 17 m

NA Station Reports

- WC2L (NY)
- ACOG/ND (ND)
- ACOG/B1 (MO)
- VE6PDQ
- KB7GF (WA)
- WA7LNW (UT)

DX Station Reports

- ZD7GB (St. Helena)
- HB9VQQ (Switzerland)
- EA8BFK (Spain)
- ON5KQ (Belgium)
- OE9GHV (Austria)



Conclusion

Based on 3dB or better signal for NA

20 m dipole performed better to N & NE

G5RV performed better to NW

Conclusion continued

Comparing signals for DX stations

20 m dipole performed better to EU

G5RV performed slightly better to AF

No propagation to the Pacific





Currency € £ \$

Shopping Cart 0 item(s) - \$0.00 ▼

Home

Kit sets

Kits

Components

GPS Modules

Firmware

Categories

Kit sets (2)

Kits (17)

Components (4)

GPS Modules (1)

Firmware (6)

Home » Ultimate3S QRSS/WSPR kit

Ultimate3S QRSS/WSPR kit



Product Code: U3S

Availability: 349

Price: \$33.00

Available Options

* LPF Band:

--- Please Select --- ▼

Add kits:

QLG1 GPS receiver (+\$23.00)

Final Thoughts

WSPR is a powerful tool for determining propagation to your QTH.

 You can just monitor signals or transmit a beacon to see how well you are getting out.