

FLDigi with PSK31 for Field Day

by Jeff McGrath, N1SC

Utah Digital Communication
Conference 2018

I took notes so you
don't have to!

Notes: tinyurl.com/udcc-2018

Slides: tinyurl.com/udcc-2018-slides

Take a Picture or Write Them Down!

Okay, let's get Started

- Disclaimer... I am an Amateur
 - But I did sleep at a Holiday Inn last night
- FLDigi can do a lot of things
 - We will not cover them all
- This is to get you ready to be successful with Digital Modes, specifically PSK31 for Field Day

Field Day

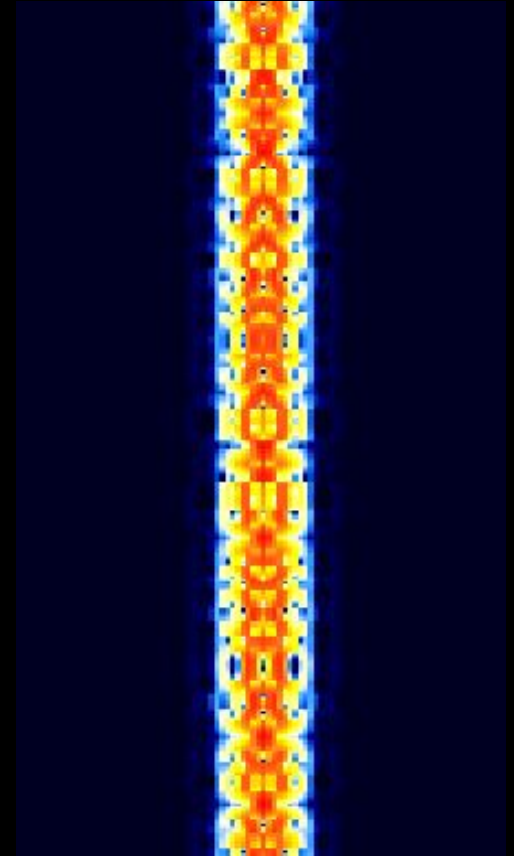
- What is Field Day?
- 24 Hours Straight
- ARRL Contest
- Since 1933
- 4th Full Weekend in June
 - June 23-24th for 2018
 - Always Sat to Sun
 - Noon to Noon (kind of)
- Chaos
- Company
- Food
- Party
- Freezing
- Hot
- Camping
- Fun

Why Digital Modes?

- PSK31 is a “Digital Mode”
- 2 Points Per Contact
- Multipliers
 - Modes vs Frequencies = More Points
 - Basically more chances to work more stations
 - Great with noise

Why PSK31 out of all the modes?

- PSK31 is Narrow
- 31 baud BPSK modulation
 - about 50 word-per-minute
- Fights QSB
- Approximately 60 Hz Wide
 - $2700 \text{ Hz} / 60 \text{ Hz} = 45 \text{ Signals}$
 - Usable from 300-3000 Hz
- No ECC, but it's Quick!
- Used HEAVILY (More Stations, More Points)

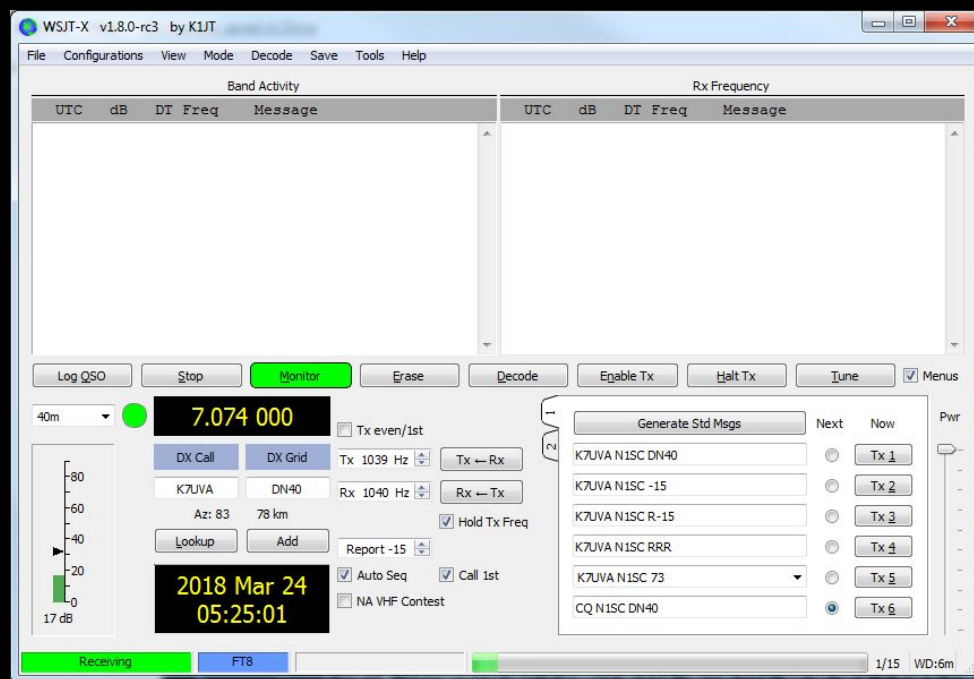


Other Modes

- Phone (USB, LSB, etc) 1 Point
- CW (morse code) 2 Points
- Digital (PSK31/RTTY) 2 Points

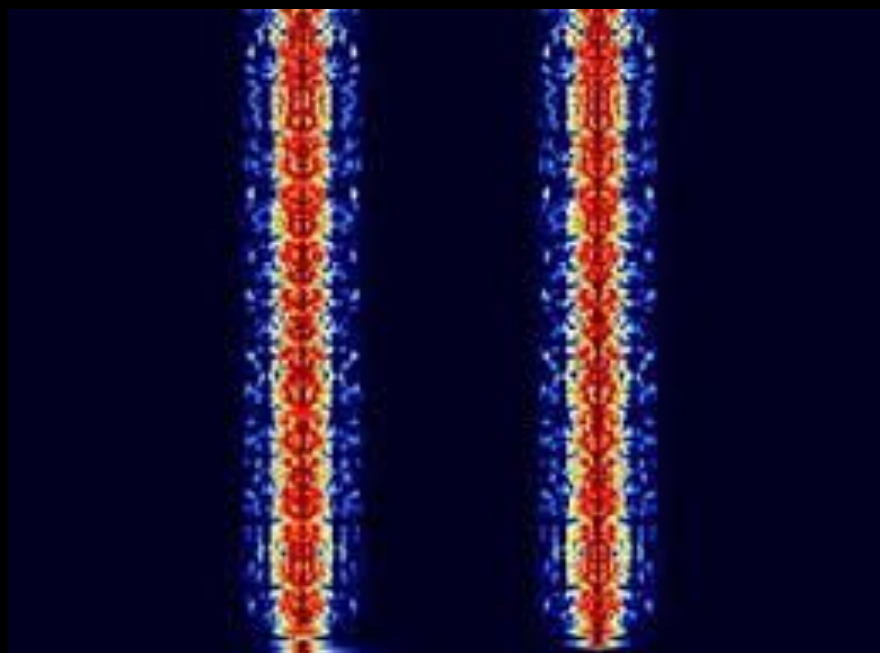
Other Digital Modes

- FT8 JT65 JT9
 - Narrow
 - Fast (but slow)
 - ECC up the Wazoo
 - Not for Contesting
 - 13 Char Limit



RTTY

- Great for FD
- Fewer Users, difficult to find
- You can jump to RTTY in FLDigi quickly



Download FLDigi

- Precompiled on Source Forge
 - Link is in the notes
- Sudo apt-get install fldigi for Ubuntu
- Mac, yeah sure, why would you do that to yourself?

Download N3FJP for Logging

- N3FJP is a great Windows Logging Software
 - Don't try it in WINE with Linux, lol
- Paid Product, Not Free
- Better than the built-in FLDigi Logging Software
- Better Linking Capabilities and Dup Checking
- More Intuitive and it works
- FDClient and FDServer are gross, ugly and hard to use

Hardware Considerations

- Second Monitor if possible
 - Logging
 - FLDigi
- USB Keyboard & Mouse (no trackpad)
- Laptop (with working battery)
- CAT Cable/Interface
- Audio (Signalink USB, RIGblaster, Tin Can & String)

FLDigi Built-in Logging

- Saves in an ADIF format
- Internal Log
- Flog (plugin)
- Cabrillo Exportable
- Difficult and Ugly
- Combines Phone / CW / Digital Logging
 - With the Client and FD Server

N3FJP Logging

- Saves in an ADIF format
- Runs locally as a “Server” to interface to FLDigi
- Sync’s with the main N3FJP Server
- Cabrillo Exportable for Submitting Logs
- Easy to Use
- Combines Phone / CW / Digital Logging
- SMB not TCP Recommended
- LOTW / eQSL
- Other Contacts (WSJT-X, Phone, Etc)

Terms

- CQ

- FD

- BTU

- AGN

- PSE

- QSL

- QRM

- QRN

- QSB

- QSY

- K

- KN

- QRZ

- SK

LOWER CASE IS FASTER

J 111111101

j 111101011

E 1110111

e 11

F 11011011

f 111101

F 11011011

f 111101

SP 1

SP 1

N 11011101

n 1111

1 10111101

1 10111101

S 1101111

s 10111

C 10101101

c 101111

Varicode Character Set

Where To Go?

3.**580** MHz 80 meter

7.**070** MHz 40 meter (regions 1,2)

7.035 MHz *40 meter (region 3)*

14.**070** MHz 20 meter

21.**070** MHz 15 meter

They're in the Notes!

Workflow

- Give your Call, Class, Section
- Get their Call, Class, Section
- Log QSO & Move on

● Hunt & Peck VS Running a Frequency

Let's See FLDigi

Enough Yapp'n your Trap

Show me the program already!

TNX FOR QSO 73 N1SC SK

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