

Heiner Jürs DD0KP

Mühlheim am Main, October 5th 2019



Agenda

- QO-100 our first Phase-4 geostationary satellite (P4-A)
- QO-100 transponders
- Antenna
- RX for the narrowband transponder
- RX for the wideband transponder
- TX and amplifiers
- SDRs for RX and TX

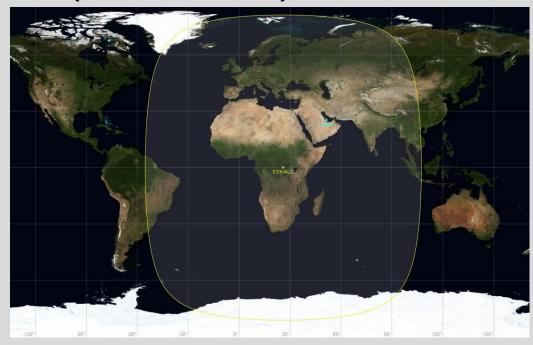
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Es'hail-2 was launched on November 15th 2018 on a Falcon 9 from SpaceX.

It is primarily a communication and TV-Broadcast satellite for the middle east.

Es'Hail-2 is positioned on 26° East and covers Europe, Africa and most of Asia.

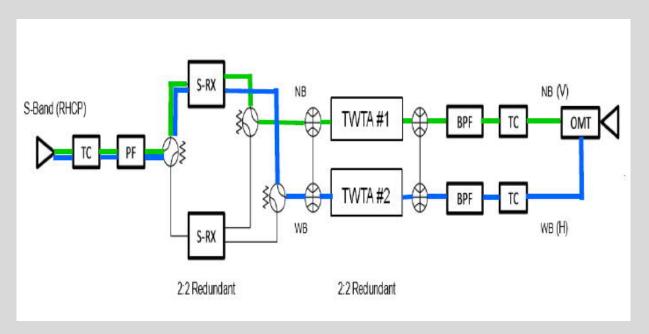






Peter DB2OS (chairman of AMSAT-DL) convinced the owners in Qatar to add 2 transponders for Ham Radio (\uparrow 13cm Uplink / \downarrow 3cm Downlink).

QO-100 features a 250 kHz wide linear-transponder for narrowband modes as well as a 8 MHz wide transponder for digital wideband modulation (mostly DATV in DVB-S2).





Specifications were developed by AMSAT-DL, the payload was built my MELCO in Japan and kindly paid by Qatar.

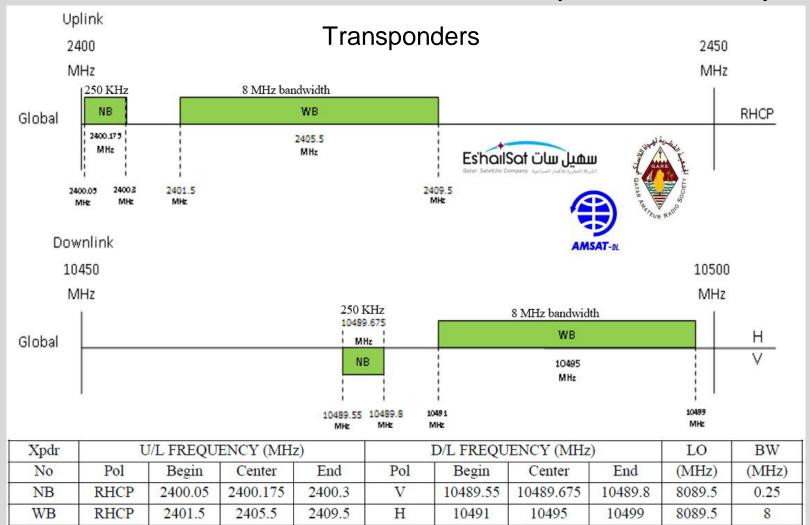
After extensive testing the Ham Radio transponders were released for general use on February 14th 2019.





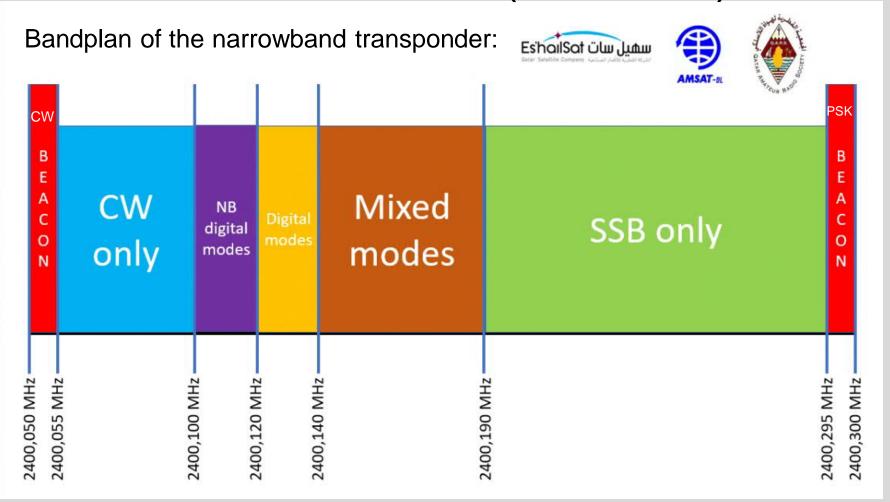
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http://www.amsat-dl.de



Operating modes on the narrowband transponder of QO-100:

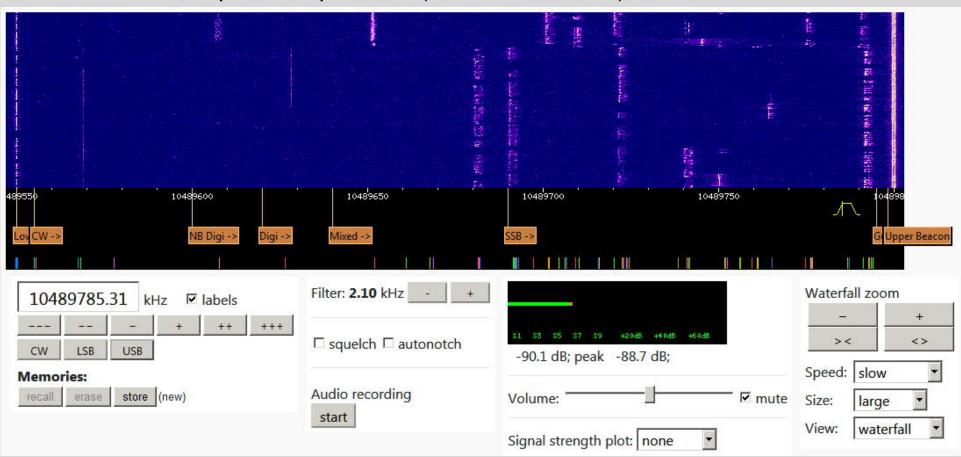
- SSB
- FreeDV
- CW
- RTTY
- SSTV / KG-STV
- FAX
- Feldhell
- Digimodes such as PSK31, FT8 etc.



Maximum bandwidth is 2.7 kHz, no analog FM and no digital FM modes to be used!

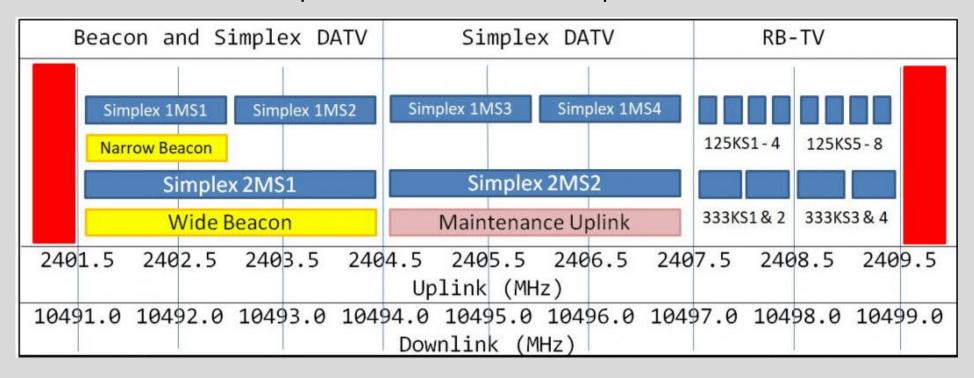


Narrowband transponder spectrum (BATC Web SDR)



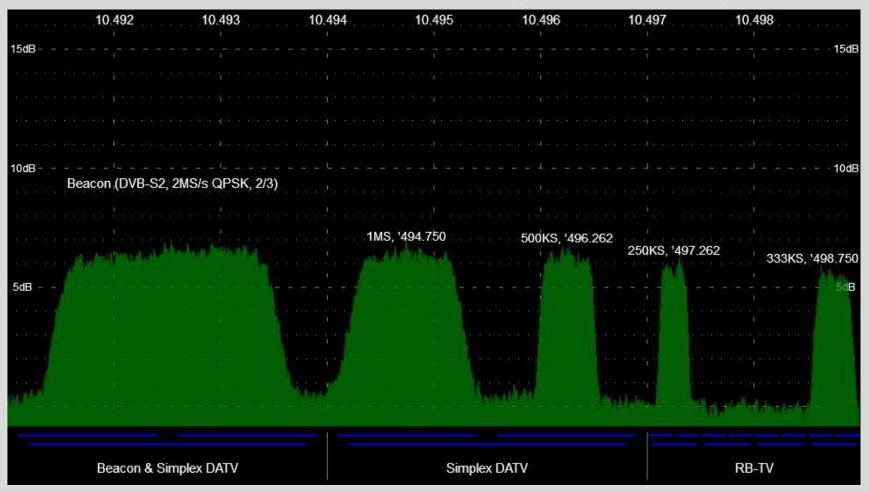
http://eshail.batc.org.uk/nb/

Bandplan of the wideband transponder



Most transmissions are in DVB-S2 (QPSK, 8PSK, 16APSK, 32APSK), only few transmissions in DVB-S (QPSK)

Used symbolrates are 66, 125, 250, 333, 500, 1000, 2000 ksps



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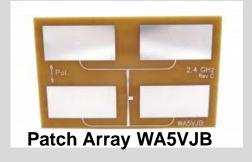
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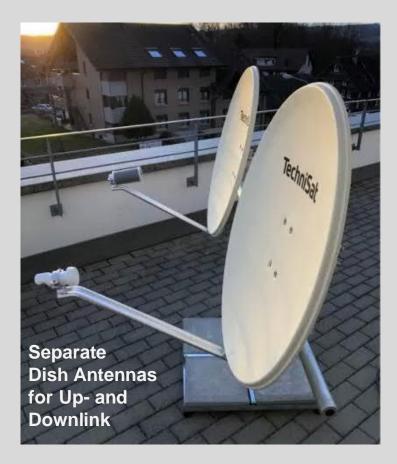
Antennas for QO-100











2.4 GHz uplink of NB and WB TPX is RHCP, 10 GHz downlink of NB TPX is vertical, WB TPX is horizontal.

Feeds for QO-100









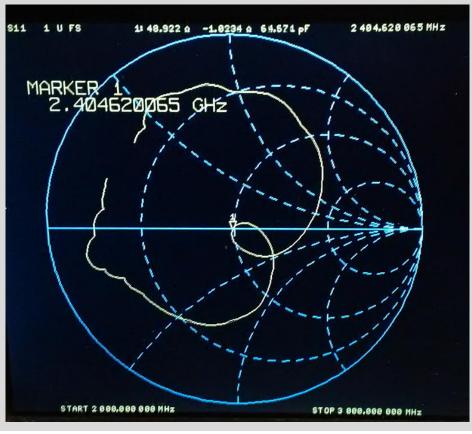








POTY Feed for QO-100





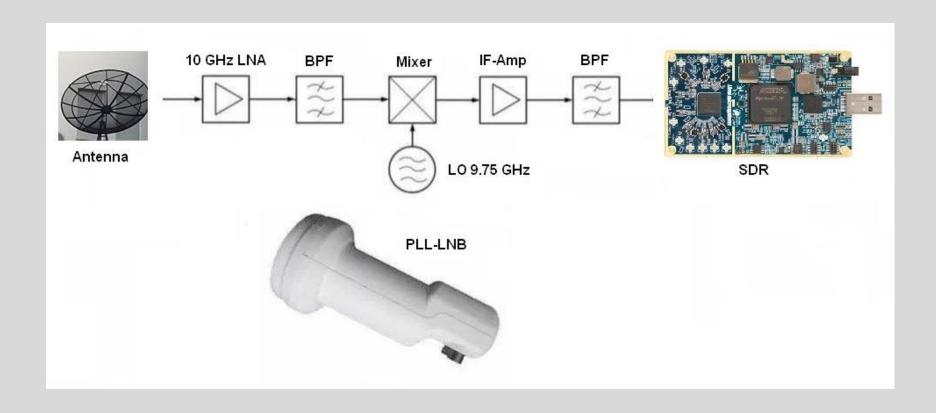
Antennas for QO-100



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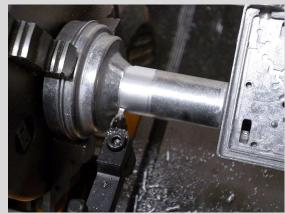
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PLL-LNBs for QO-100



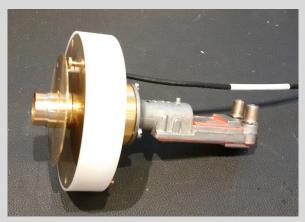
PLL-LNBs for QO-100





Megasat Diavolo





Octagon Dual OTSLO

SDRs for RX of NB TPX











Airspy 2

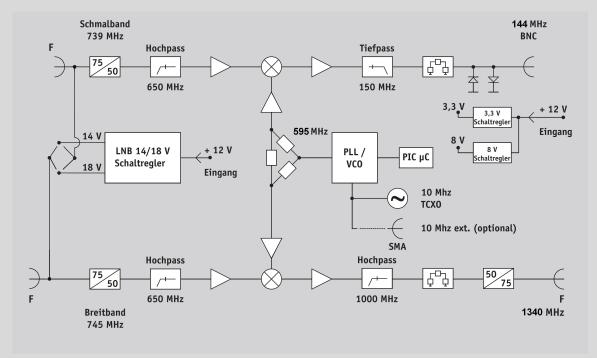
RX for QO-100



Downconverter AMSAT-DL Price: 178,50€

Converts the IF of both polarizations to conveniant bands:

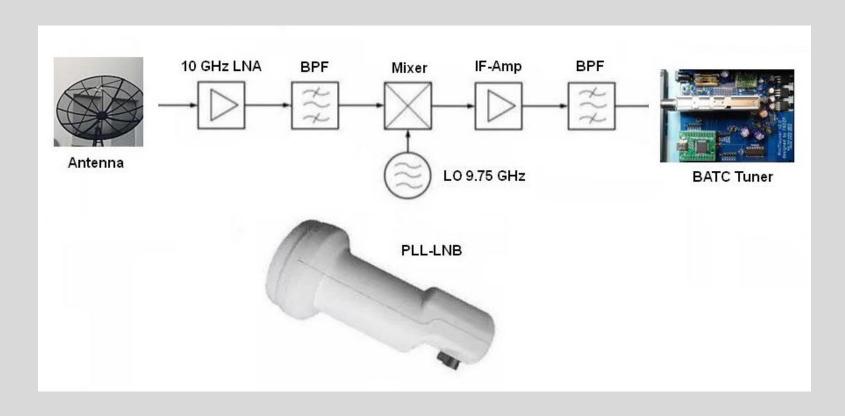
- 1340 MHz for WB TPX to use Sat-TX
- 144 MHz for NB TPX to use 2m (T)RX



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PLL-LNBs for QO-100



DATV-RX for QO-100





Minitiouner (Kit from BATC or REF) Frequency range 143-2450 MHz Software Minitioune from F6DZP Supports all symbolrates and modes

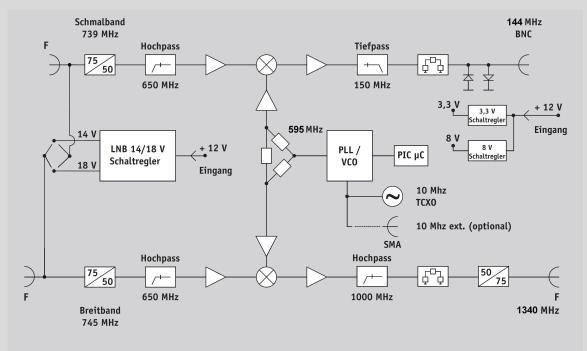
DATV-RX for QO-100



Downconverter AMSAT-DL

Converts the IF of both polarizations to conveniant bands:

- 1340 MHz for WB TPX to use Sat-TX SF8008
- 144 MHz for NB TPX to use any 2m (T)RX

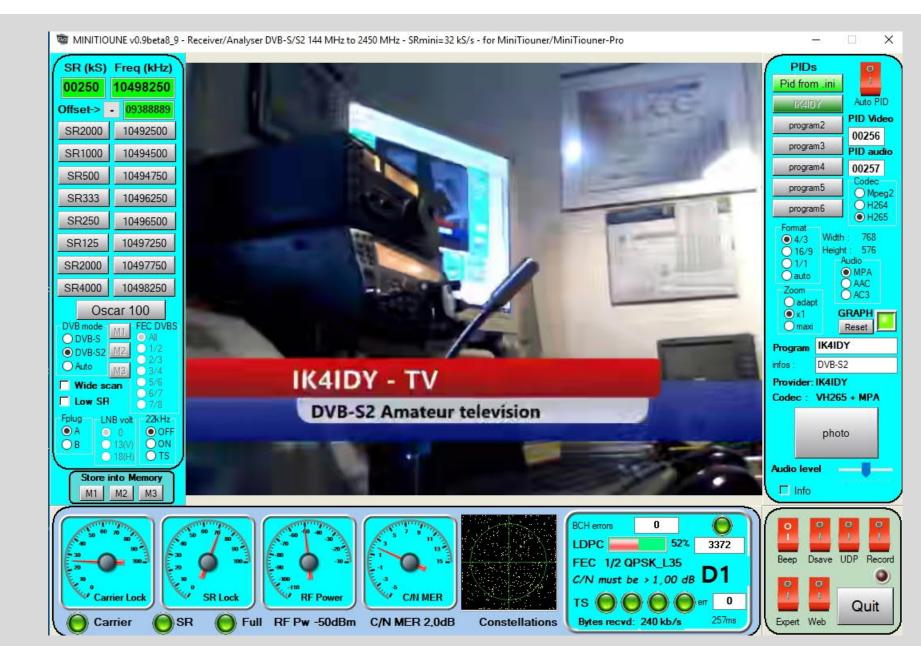




OCTAGON SF8008 4K UHD 2160p H.265 HEVC E2 Linux DVB-S2X Single Sat Receiver

Sat-TX SF8008 supports symbol rates 250kS and higher

DATV



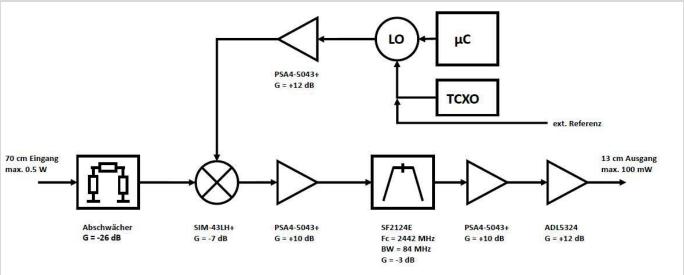
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NB TX for QO-100



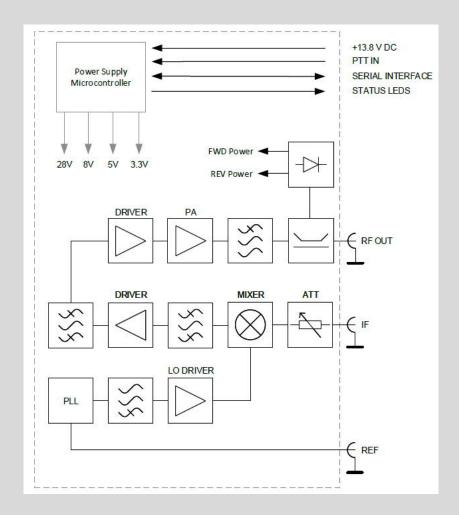
Upconverter AMSAT-DL 70cm input (max 500mW) 13cm output (max. 100mW) 99€



NB TX for QO-100

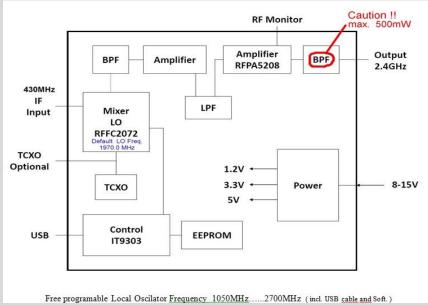


Upconverter Kuhne MKU UP 2424 B 2m or 70cm input (max 5W) 13cm output (20W) 10 MHz ref. freq. input 949 €

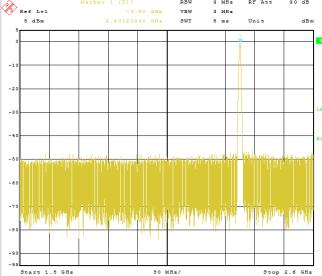


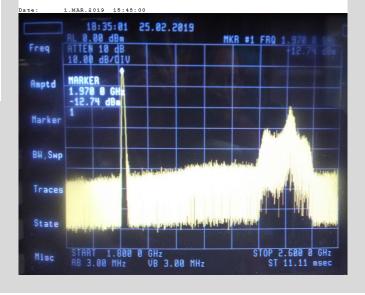
NB TX for QO-100 Ref 1/1 s dBn





HIDES BU-500 upconverter 2m or 70cm input (max. 10mW) 13cm output (max. 500mW) 169 US\$ / 135€





NB TX for QO-100



SG-Labs Transverter TR2300 from LZ5HP

IF=70cm input (max. 5W)
RF=13cm(NF=1.5dB typ., Pout=2W typ.)
Switchable LO including split mode

200€

How much power for SSB via QO-100

Many users use a 80cm dish and approximately 2-4 Watt

DD1US using 300mW with a linear patchfeed in a 1.8m dish DD0KP using 8W with the POTY feed in a 60cm dish

Some are using a long helix-antenna (20-40 turns) and use approximately 10-20 W

No uplink signal should result in a downlink signal stronger than the beacons

How much power for DATV via QO-100



Starting point is that an 8 MHz of DVB-S2 transmission will require 100W into a 2.4m dish

Power Budget (Watts)					
	8 MHz	4 MHz	2 MHz	1 MHz	0.5MHz
2.4m	100	50	25	12.5	6.25
1.7m	200	100	50	25	12.5
1.2m	400	200	100	50	25
0.85m	800	400	200	100	50

Source: BATC

PAs for QO-100



SG-Labs 13cm PA LZ5HP Pout=20W @28V, Gp=16dB 126 €





Surplus amplifiers (e.g. Ebay), mostly ex UMTS with lower gain & power @2.4 GHz but still useable with low efficiency

WIFI amplifiers for 2.4 GHz typ. 3dB under spec but useable (4W ca. 50€)

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SDRs for QO-100

Besides traditional upconverter schemes as described before, modern SDR TRX provide a cost efficient solution for RX and TX of both, NB and WB TPX

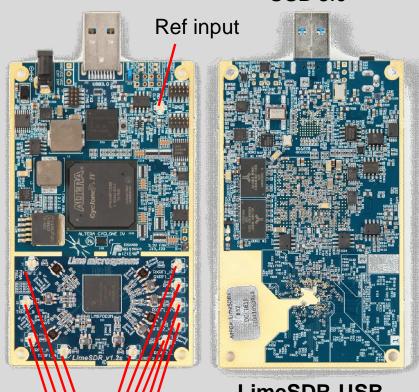
Only drawback is that always a PC is needed

Especially the Lime-SDRs and ADALM Pluto can be used to transmit NB and DATV signals directly at 2.4 GHz

They support full duplex operation as needed to satellite communications

LimeSDR

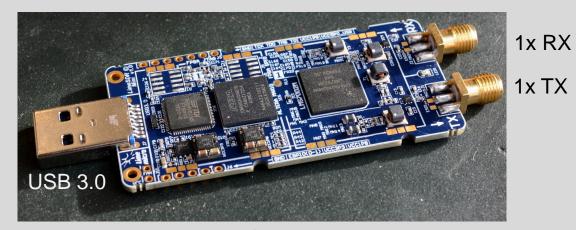
USB 3.0



4x TX outputs 6x RX inputs

LimeSDR-USB

The LimeSDR USB and mini can be used up to 3.6 GHz for RX and TX



LimeSDR-mini

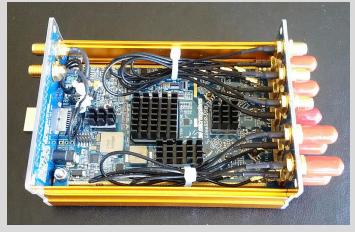
LimeSDR in metal case











LimeSDR with GPIO-board



LimeSDR-USB

LimeSDR-GPIO board supported by SDR-Radio software

LimeSDR with LMS8001 companion board



The LimeSDR companion board supports frequencies from 5-10 GHz



LimeSDR-USB HF – 3.6 GHz

LMS8001 Companion board 5-10 GHz



The Pluto SDR can be used up to 6 GHz for RX and TX

USB 2.0

PWR

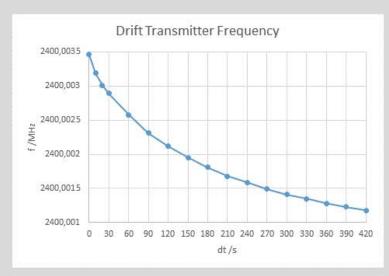


ADALM Pluto

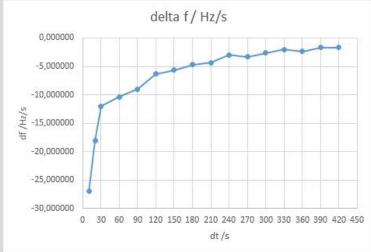
ADALM Pluto open



ADALM Pluto as a network SDR TRX

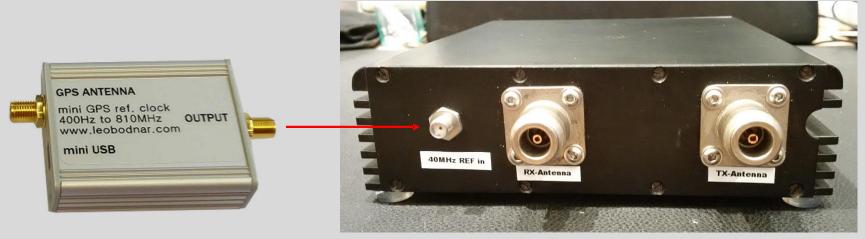


Nice, but:

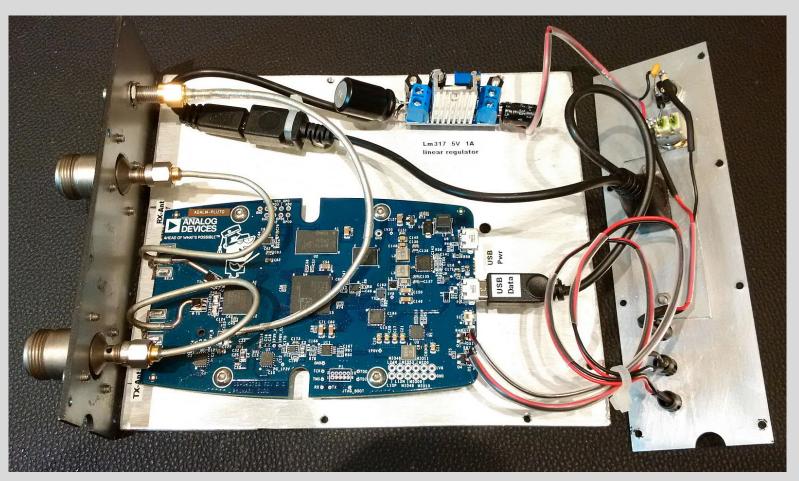


Internal 40 MHz TCXO needs to be replaced by a better TCXO or by an external reference





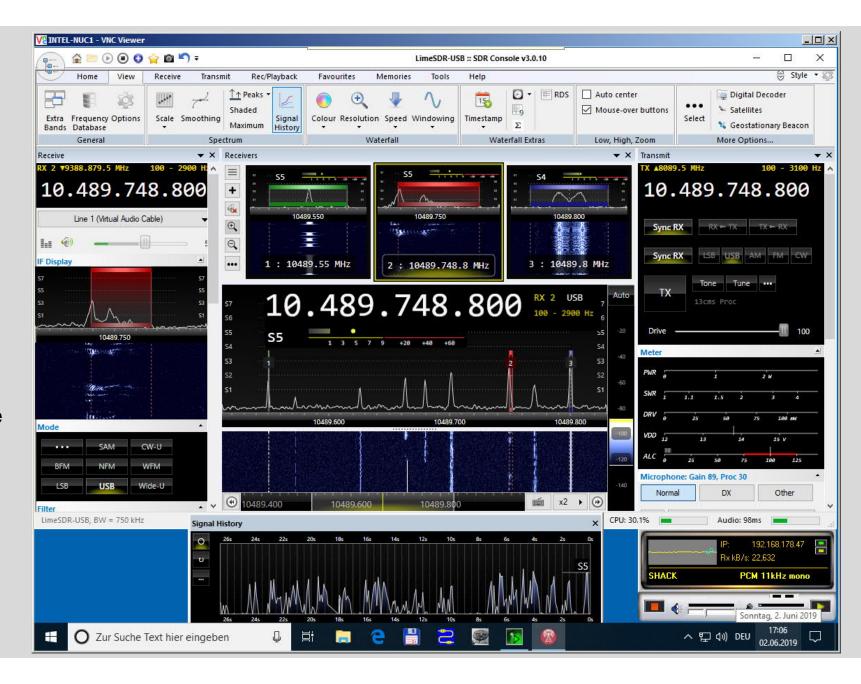
ADALM Pluto in shielded encasing with external 40 MHz reference input



ADALM Pluto in shielded encasing with external 40 MHz reference input

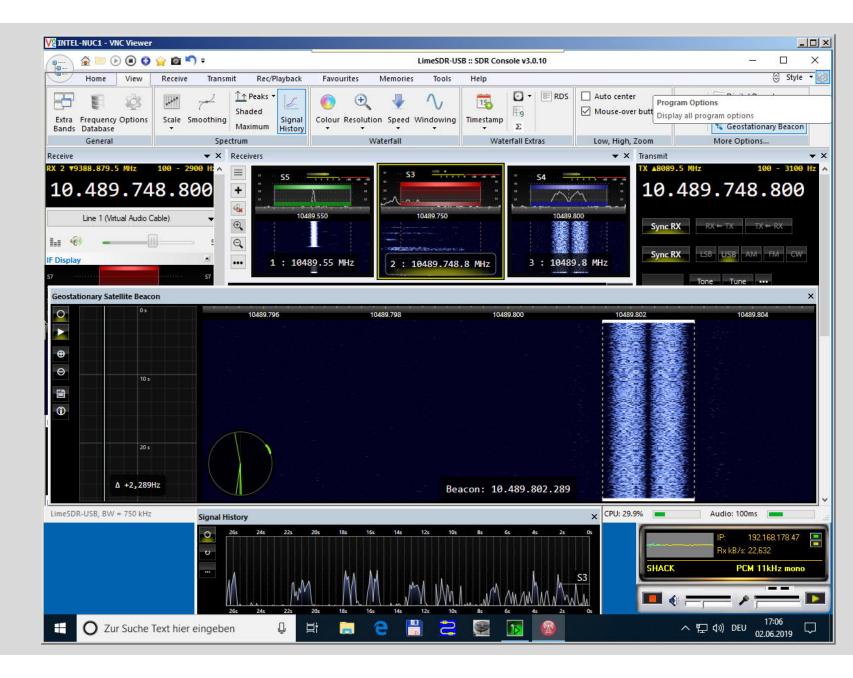
SDR-Radio

Fullduplex with automatic tracking of RX and TX frequency and mode



SDR-Radio

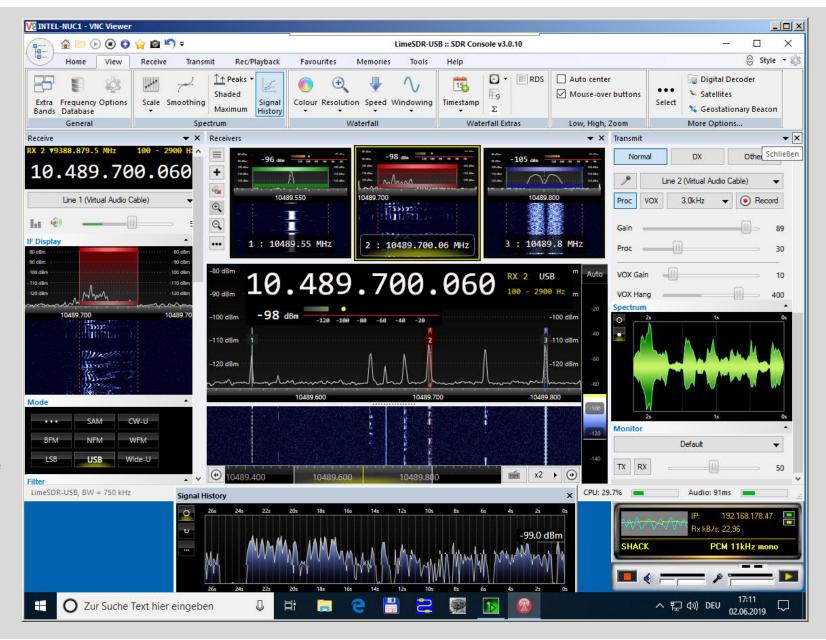
Locking the receiver to the PSK beacon elimininates the drift of the LNB



SDR-Radio

Multiple receiver windows conveniant to check beacon levels and own signal

Transmit Audio Scope and spectrum available



Many thanks for your attention