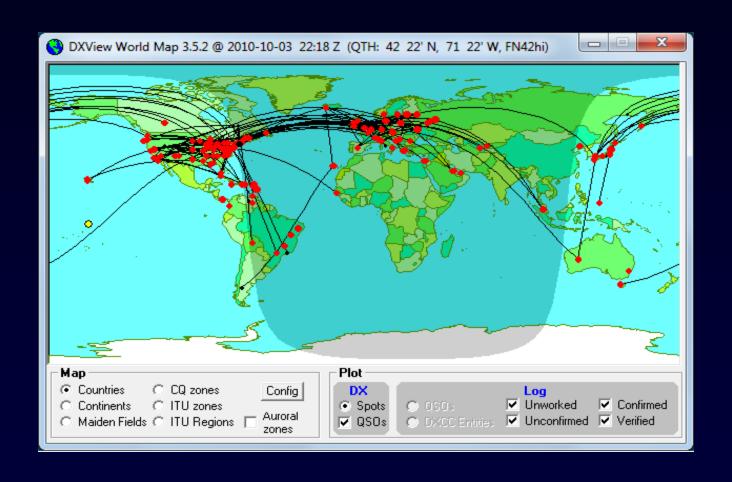
DXing with DXLab



Better DXing Through Software

DXing

The art and science
of making two-way contacts
with distant amateur radio stations
using phone, CW, or digital modes

DXLab: Better DXing Through Software

- Automates QSL wrangling and award submissions to liberate more time for DXing
- 2. Makes time spent DXing more productive by helping you
 - Find the DX you need
 - Work the DX you need

DXLab: Better DXing Through Software

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DXing With DXLab

- Introduction to the DXLab Suite
 - Drivers
 - Architecture
 - Multiple Views of Active DX
- Finding the DX You Need
- Working the DX You Need

Drivers

1. User-driven iterative development

- Online group with 5900+ participants
- Defect repairs get highest priority; goal is < 24 hours
- Public enhancement lists
- Frequent releases (several per month)

2. Powerful and Easy to Use

- Primarily for DXers
- Secondarily for casual operators

3. Runs on Windows NT, 2000, XP, Vista, 7, 8, 10, and 11

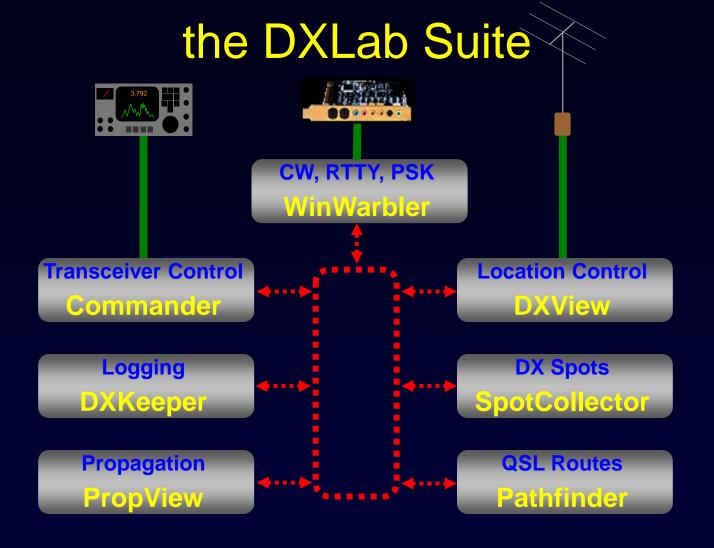
- and Mac in a virtual machine
- and Linux in a virtual machine

the DXLab Suite

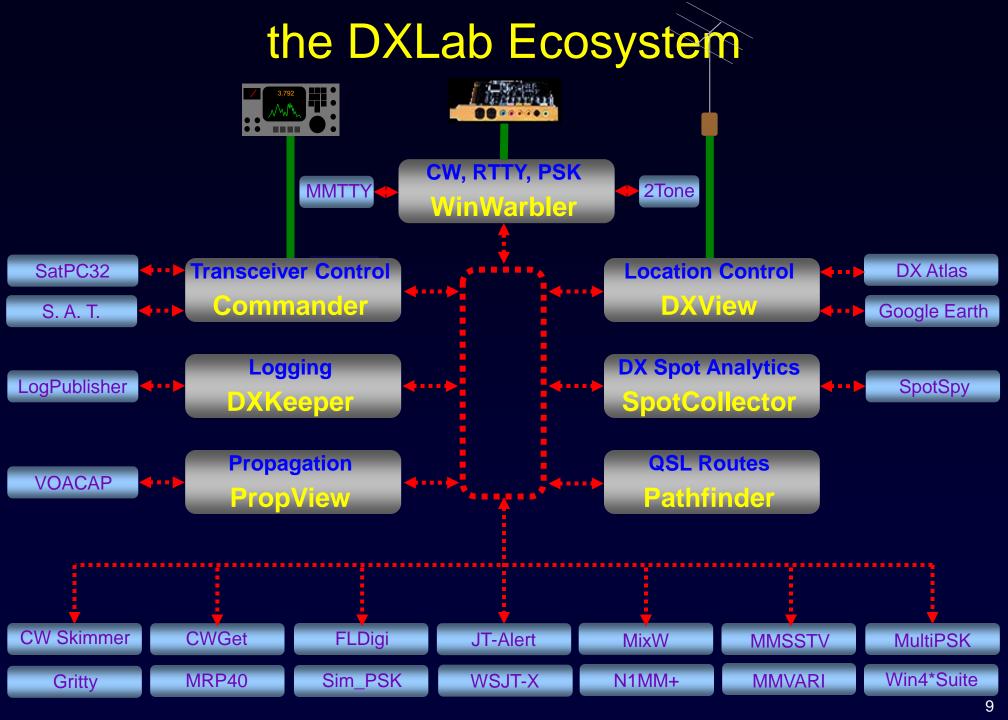
Eight free applications that run individually but

when run simultaneously sense each other's presence and

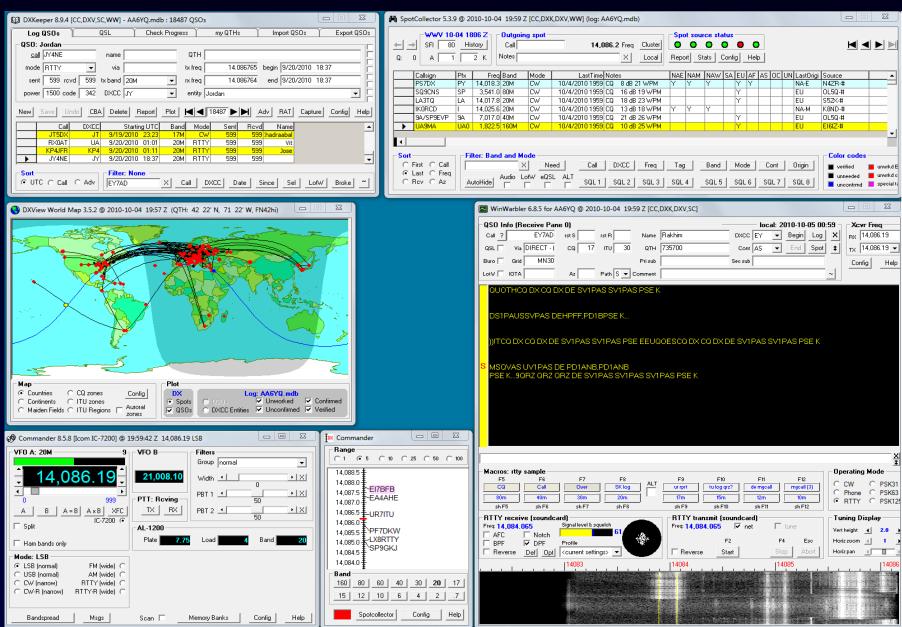
interoperate automatically



- Modular
- Loosely-coupled



A Suite of DXing Applications



Single Point of Control: DXLab Launcher

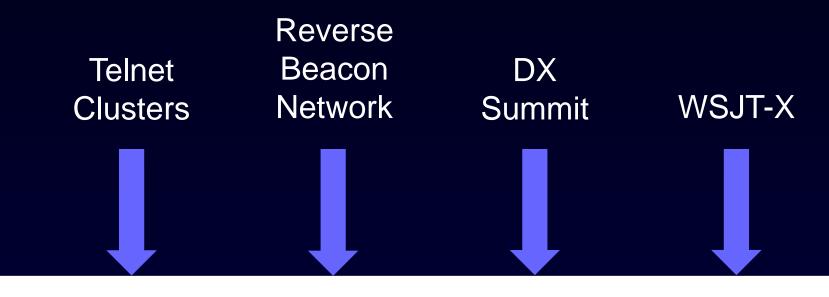


- Installation
- Upgrade
- Startup
- Shutdown

DXing With DXLab

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Active DX Database



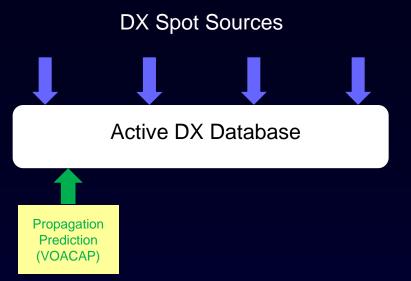
Call	Freq	QSX	Mode	First	Last	EU	AF	SA	NA-E	NA-M	NA-W	ОС	
P5DX	14.005	14.007	CW	0117z	0341Z	Y					Y	Y	
KP1RY	21.080	21.085	RTTY	0245Z	0356Z	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		_	

Active DX Database

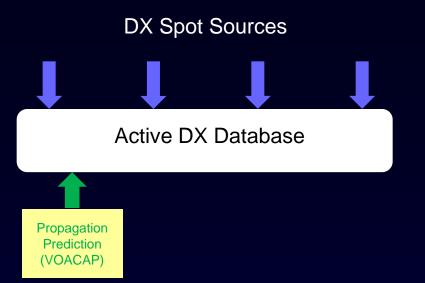
DX Spot Sources

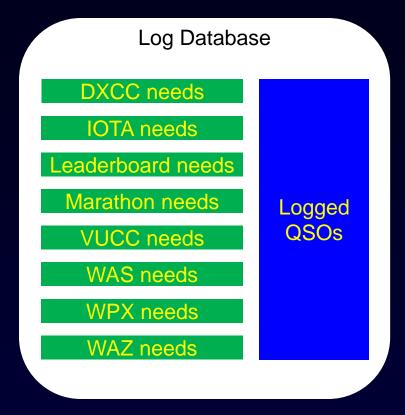
Active DX Database

What DX stations are QRV?



Which DX stations can I likely copy?

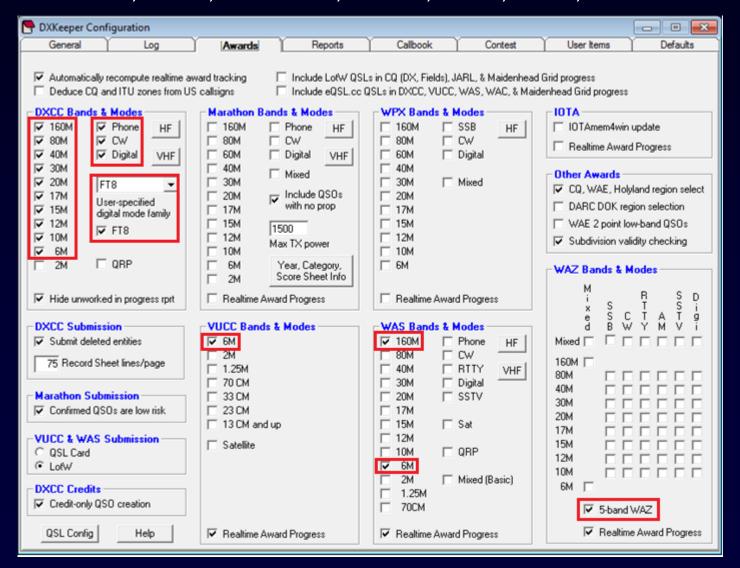


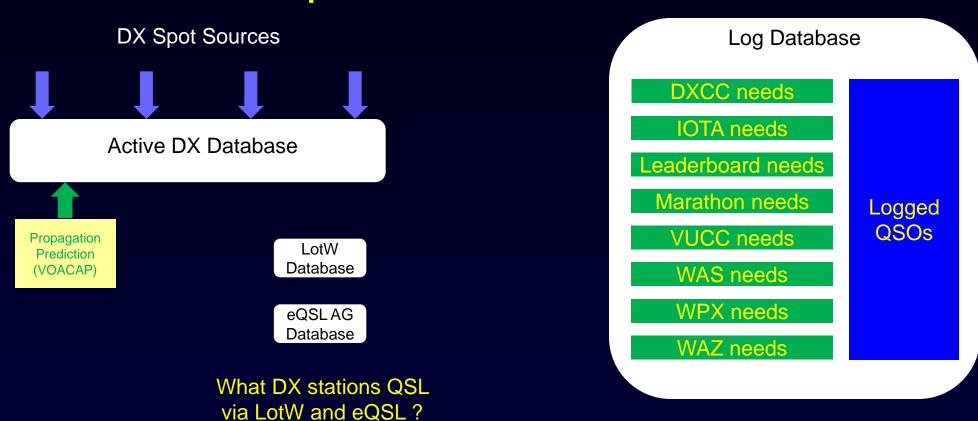


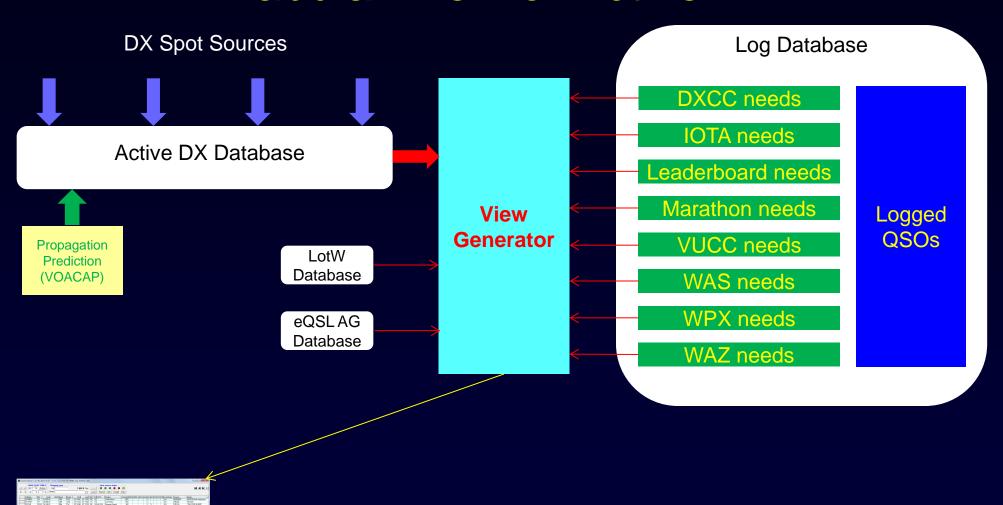
What QSOs and QSLs are "Needed" for the awards I'm pursuing on the bands and modes I've specified?

Specifying DXing Objectives

You can specify the bands and modes you are pursuing for each of DXCC, IOTA, Marathon, VUCC, WAS, WAZ, and WPX









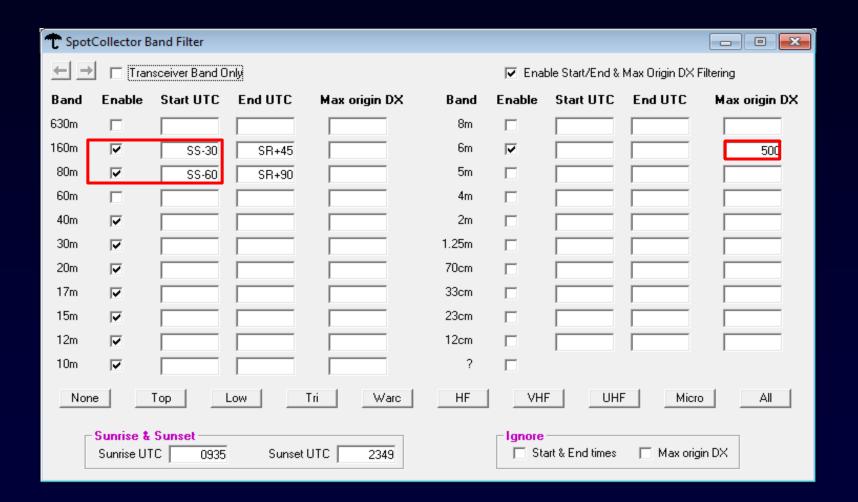
On 80m through 10m, PropView computes Short Path & Long Path SNR and probability

Font color indicates "needed" DX stations

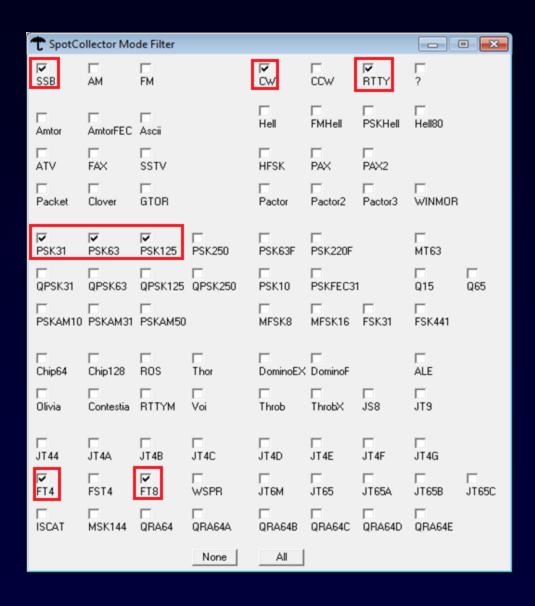
Background color indicates LotW and eQSL participation

This view is filtered by Band, Mode, and Origin

Band Filter



Mode & Origin Filters



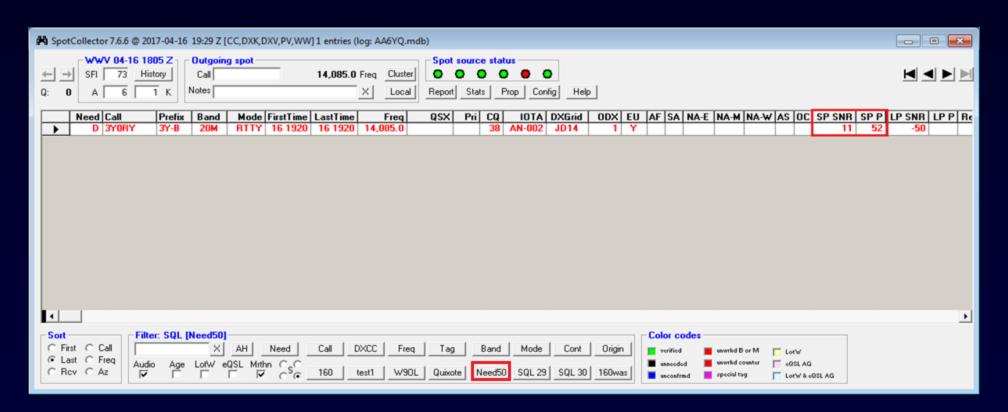


Needed DX on Selected Bands and Modes

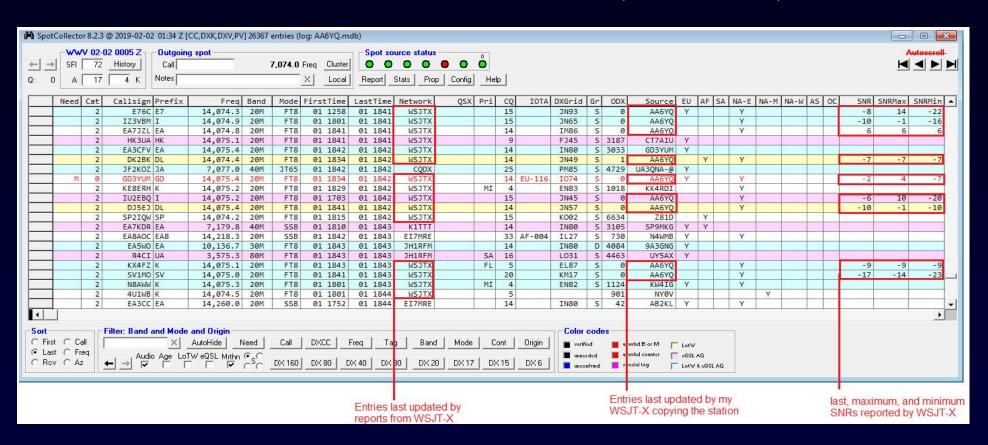


Needed DX on Selected Bands & Modes with SP Prob > 50%

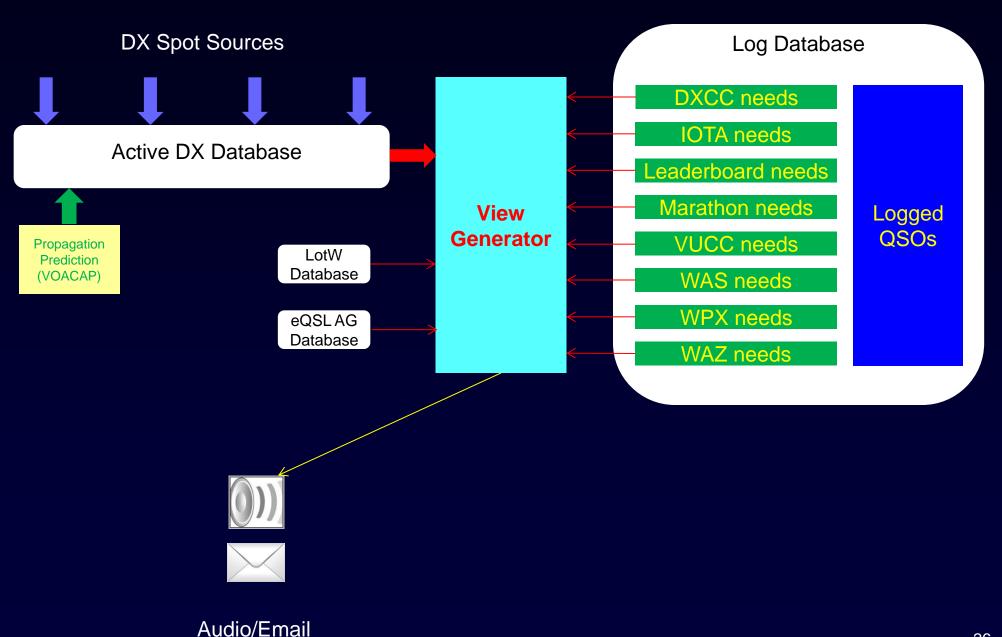
<NEEDFILTER> and <BANDFILTER> and <MODEFILTER> and <ORIGINFILTER> and (SPProb>50)



Entries for K1JT modes show last SNR, max SNR, min SNR



Audio and Email Views of Active DX

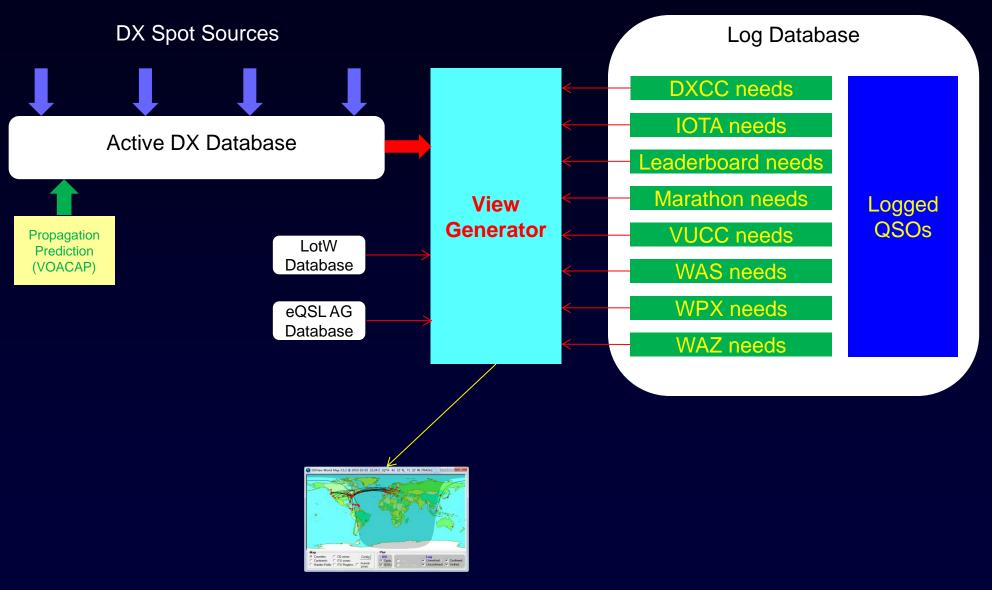


Audio and Email Views of Active DX

Creation of a new Active DX Database Entry for a needed DX station can trigger

- an audio announcement (callsign, "counter", band, mode)
- an outgoing email message (which can initiate a text message)

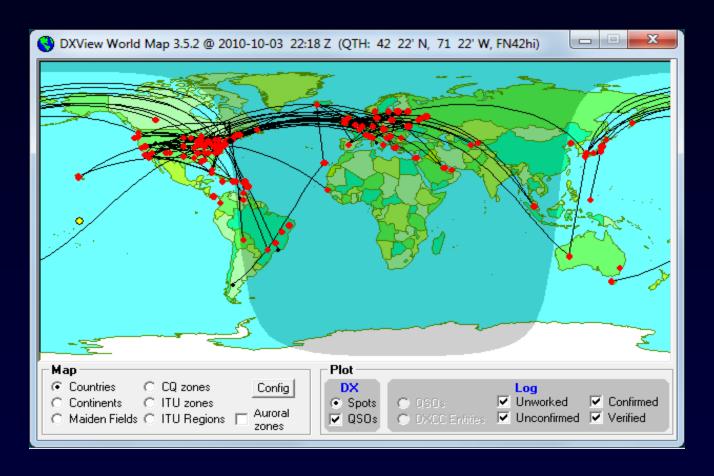
World Map View of Active DX



World Map

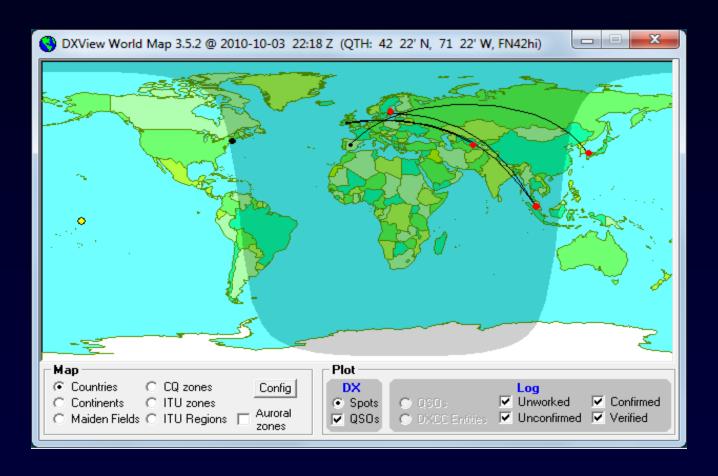
World Map View of Active DX

"Active DX on Selected Bands"

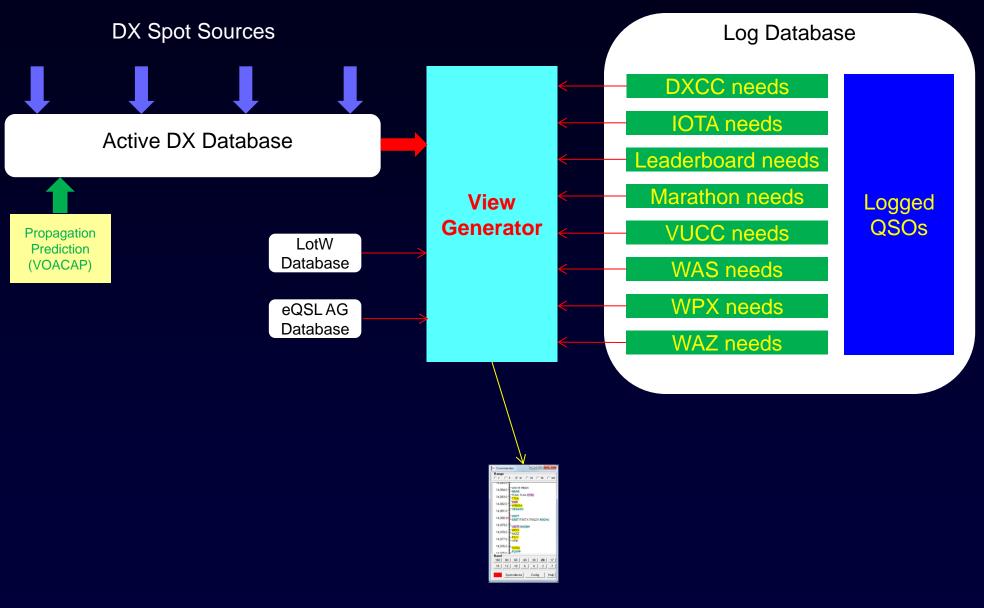


World Map View of Active DX

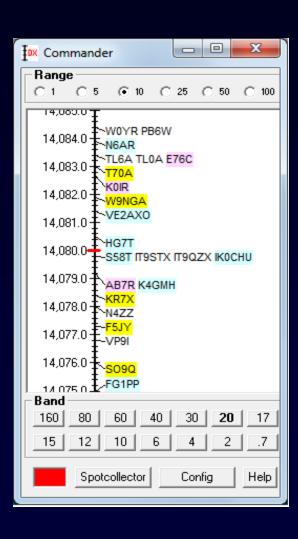
"160m"



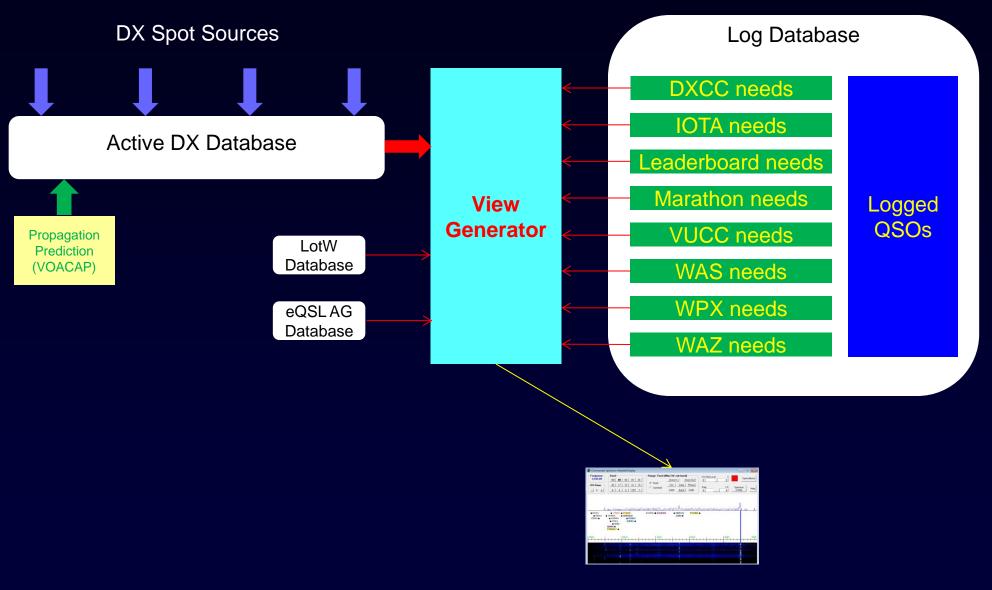
Bandspread View of Active DX



Bandspread View of Active DX

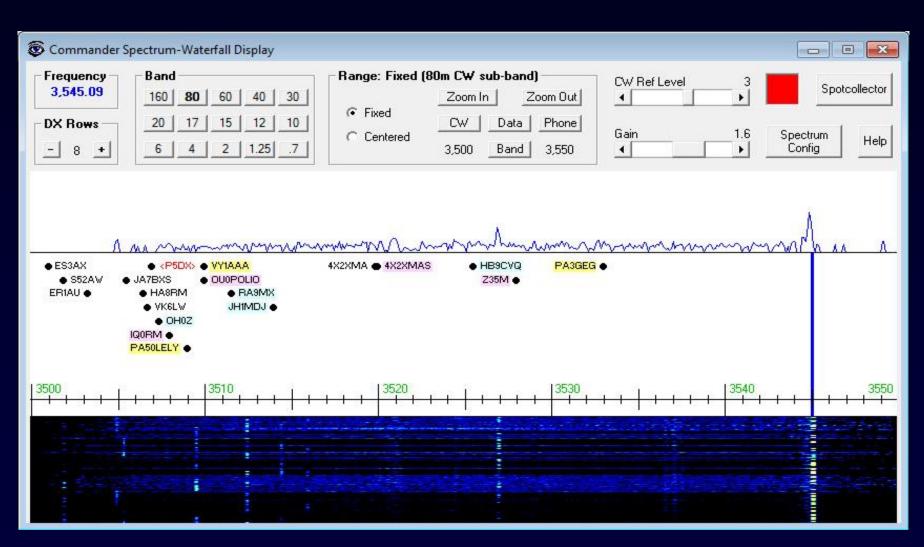


Spectrum-Waterfall View of Active DX

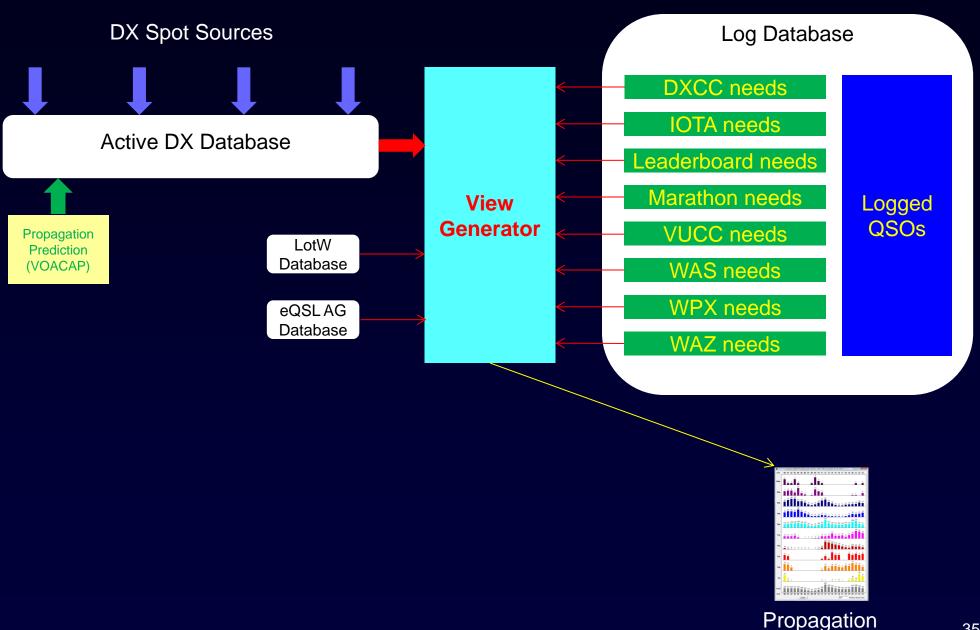


Spectrum-Waterfall View of Active DX

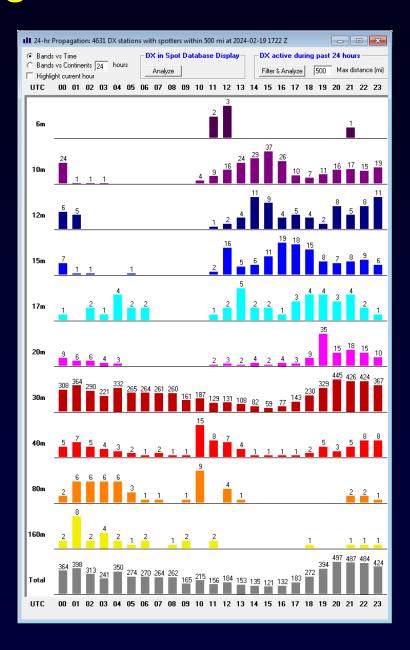
Icom 705, 7300, 7610, 7850, 7851, 9700; Elecraft K4



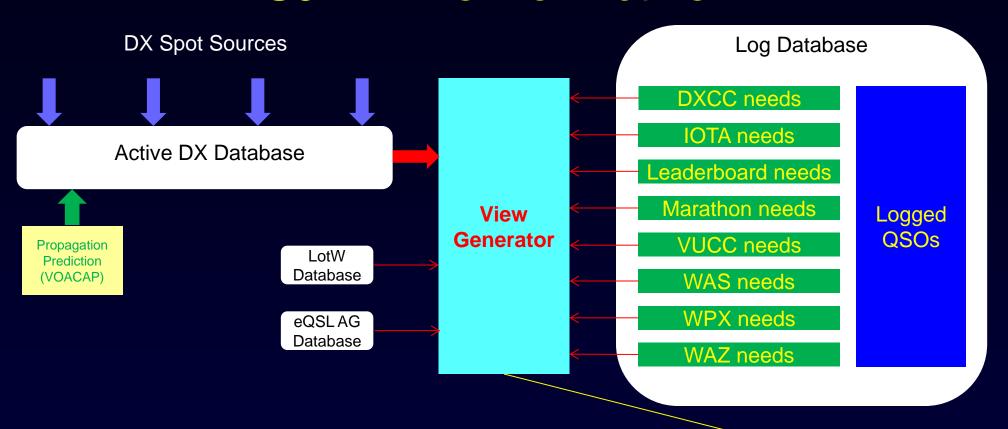
Propagation View of Active DX



Propagation View of Active DX



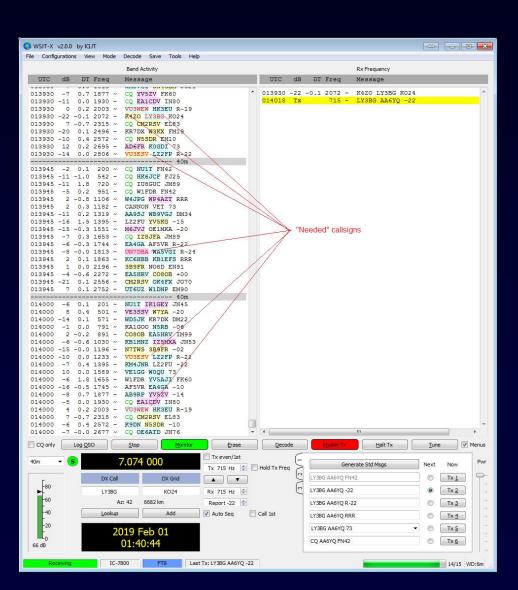
WSJT-X View of Active DX



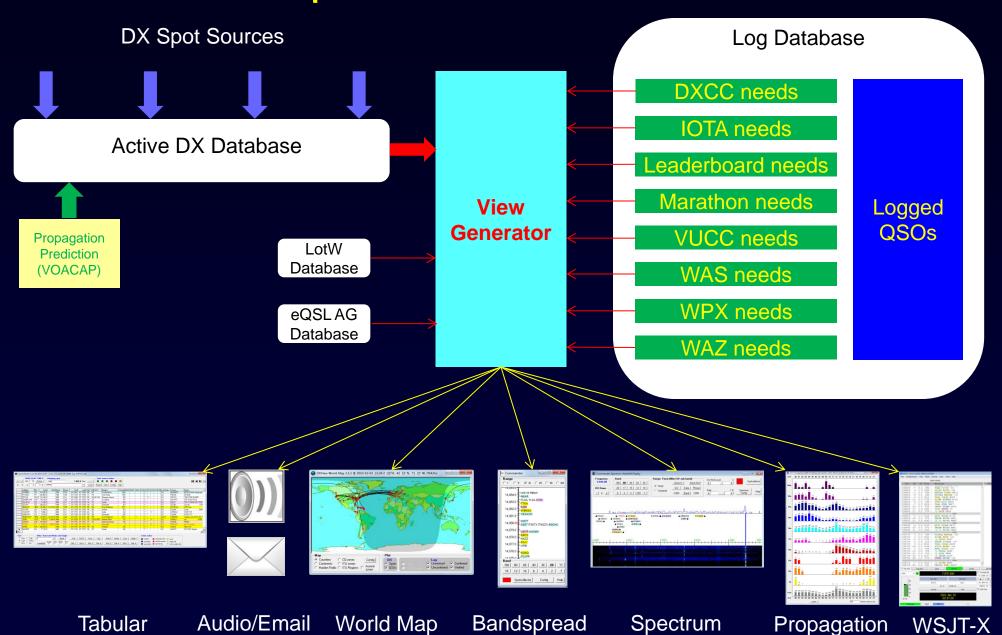


WSJT-X View of Active DX

Log Database



Multiple Views of Active DX

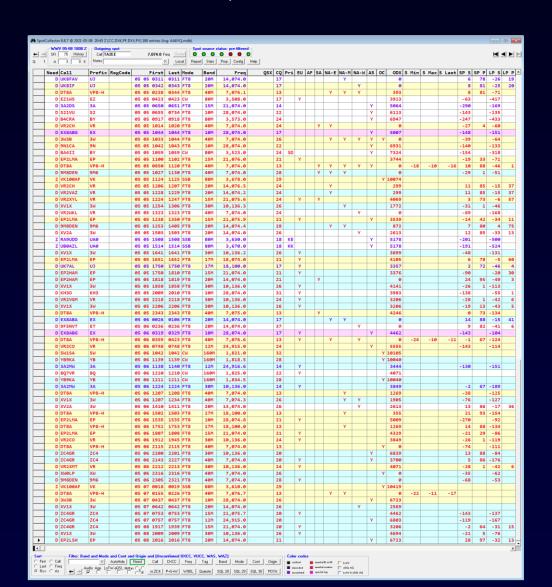


DXing With DXLab

- Introduction to the DXLab Suite
 - Architecture
 - Development Drivers
 - Multiple Views of Active DX
- Finding the DX You Need
- Working the DX You Need

Finding and Working Needed DX

What is QRV that I Need?



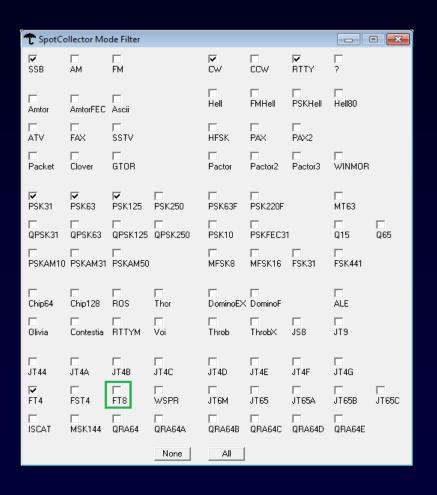
Interesting Targets

- 3W
- 5W
- 9M8
- 9N
- BA
- EP2LMA
- VP8-H
- VR
- XV
- YB
- ZC4

Almost All FT8!

Finding and Working Needed DX

What is QRV in other than FT8 that I Need?

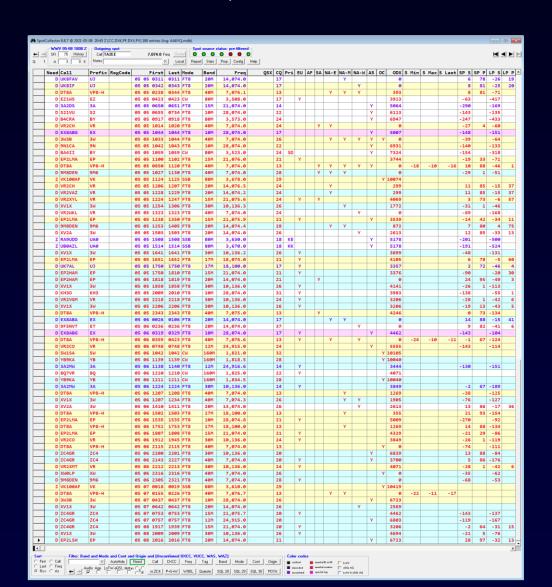




- Stations on 160m and 80m
 - EZ1WS not valid for DXCC
 - VK1000AF is in SSB, and is only needed for WAZ
 - The rest were spotted after my 1030Z sunrise

Finding and Working Needed DX

What is QRV that I Need?

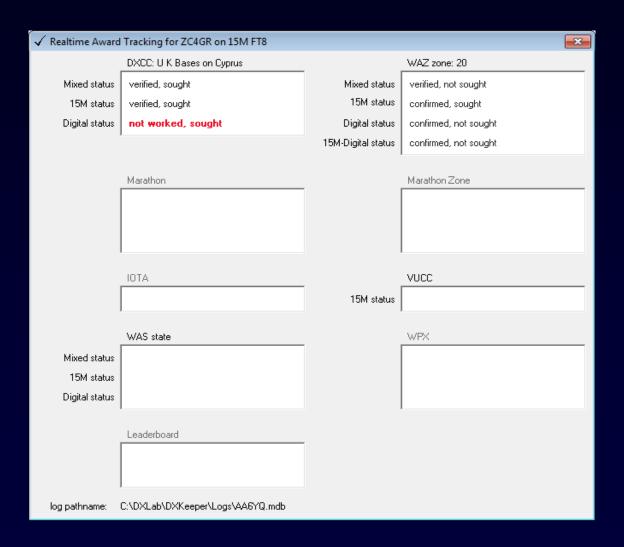


Interesting Targets

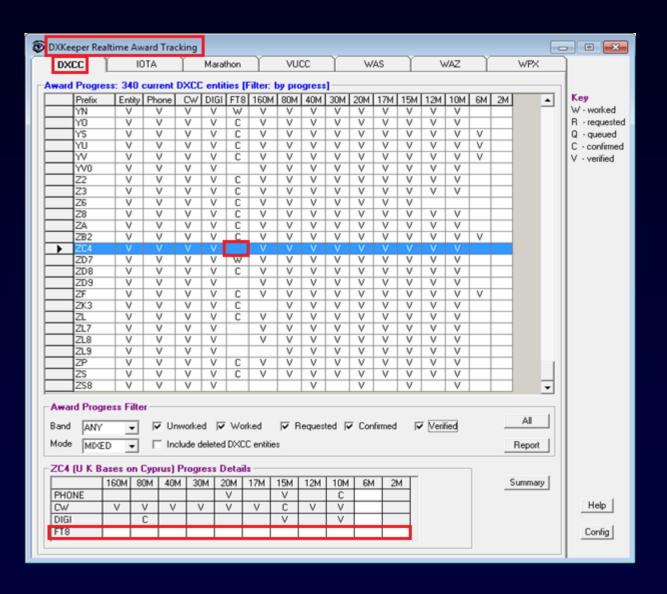
- 3W
- 5W
- 9M8
- 9N
- BA
- EP2LMA
- VP8-H
- VR
- XV
- YB
- ZC4

Almost All FT8!

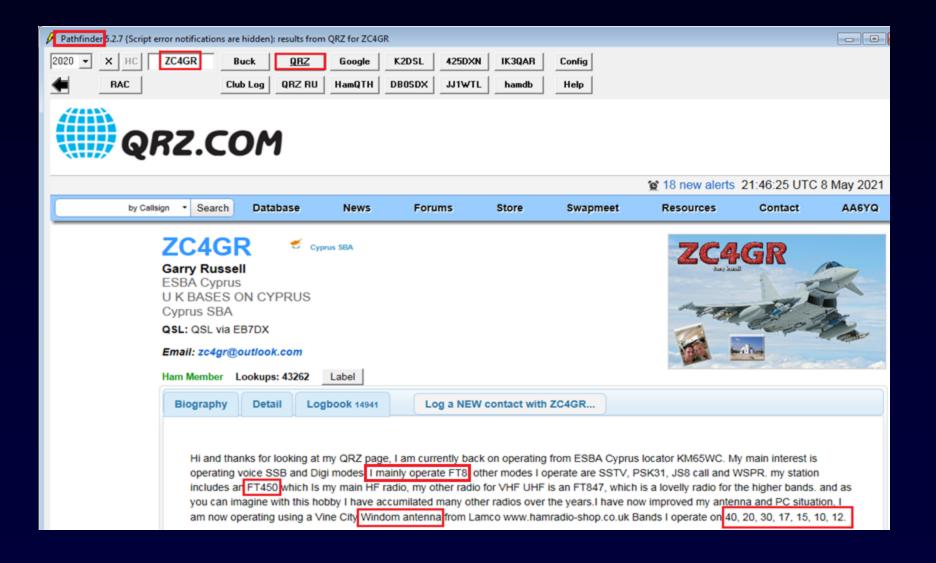
Award Tracking for ZC4GR on 15m FT8



DXCC Award Tracking for ZC4GR



ZC4GR on FT8 Looks Challenging



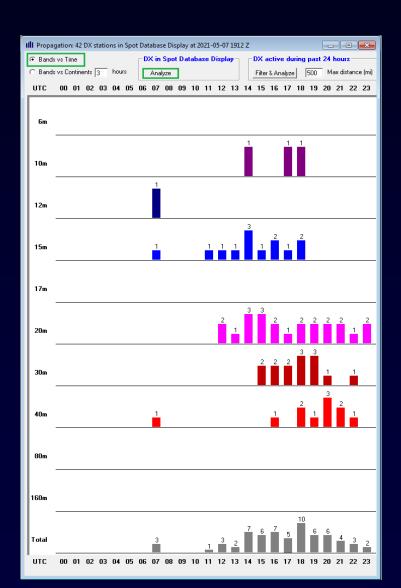
ZC4GR on FT8 Looks Challenging

Check for Recent Activity: 43 Entries from April 16 through May 8

A SpotCollector 8.8.7 © 2021-05-08 21:27 Z [CC,DXK,PF,DXV,PV] 43 entries (log: AA6YQ.mdb)										• X																	
WWV 05-08 2105 Z Outgoing spot Spot source status: pre-filtered																											
← →			Notes	EE						Prop Config																	┫┢┢
	Need		Prefix F	RegCode		First			Band	Freq	QSX CQ	_	$\overline{}$	AF S	A NA-E	NA-M	NA-W	AS	ос		S Min	S Max	S Last				LP P
	_		ZC4		04 16		1538		15M	21,076.0	20		Y							3602				-32	13	-35	11
\square	_		ZC4 ZC4		04 16 04 18		1943 1628		30M	10,137.5	20		Y			-				3444 4067				5 10	81 84	-148 -51	2
			ZC4		04 18		1825		10M	28,075.1	20		Y	٠,	Υ	+				4246				-46	4		- 4
	_		ZC4		04 18		1915		30M	10,136.0	20		•		•	+		Υ		6931				12	91	-121	
	_		ZC4		04 18		2031		30M	10,138.5	20							Y		6905				12	91	-121	
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		04 19	1420	1421	FT8	10M	28,076.3	20		Υ							4462				-135		-71	
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		04 19	1622	1638	FT8	30M	10,136.7	20		Υ							4266				-6	61	-161	
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		04 19	1826	1834	FT8	30M	10,136.0	20		Υ						Υ	3615				0	77	-159	
			ZC4		04 19		2023		40M	7,074.0	20		Υ							4694				-18	11		
			ZC4		04 20		1425		15M	21,074.0	20		Υ							4985				-25	23	-30	16
			ZC4		04 20		1806		40M	7,076.3	20		Υ							3766				-31		-270	
			ZC4		04 20		1911		30M	10,136.0	20		Υ					Υ		3127				5	81		
-	_		ZC4 ZC4		04 22 04 22		1409 1646		20M	14,074.0	20		Y	-		-				3444 3930				23 25	94 96	-60 -64	
\vdash			ZC4		04 22		1924		20M	14,074.0	20		Y	-		+				4087				28	97	-49	1
	_		ZC4		04 23		1830		15M	21,074.0	20		Y	_		+				3881				-26	21	-27	19
	_		ZC4		04 23		2136		20M	14,074.0	20		Υ		Y			Υ		0	-24	-11	-13	26	96	-68	
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		04 23	2326	2331	FT8	20M	14,074.0	20		Υ							4332				7	79	-41	6
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		04 25	1239	1240	FT8	20M	14,074.0	20							Υ		6770				19	92	-47	3
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		04 25	1446	1446	FT8	20M	14,076.0	20							Υ		5250				23	95	-59	
	_		ZC4		04 25	1533	1558	FT8	30M	10,136.0	20		Υ					Υ		4728				-20	5	-147	
	_		ZC4		04 25		1818		30M	10,136.0	20		Υ					Υ		4266				-7	60		
			ZC4		04 25		2104		40M	7,074.0	20		Υ							4462				-1	77	-231	
	_		ZC4		04 26		1536		30M	10,136.0	20		Υ	_		-		Υ		4694				-20	5	-147	
\vdash			ZC4		04 26		1708		30M	10,136.0	20		Y			-		Υ		3459				-6	61		
-			ZC4 ZC4		94 27 94 27		0742 1654		40M	7,075.4	20		Y							3615 3569				-8 -70	55	-240 -293	
\vdash			ZC4		04 27		1809		40M	7,074.0	20		Y	-		-		Υ		4462				-31		-271	
			ZC4		04 27		2004		40M	7,074.0	20		Υ .			+		-		4649				-1	76		
	_		ZC4		04 30		2342		20M	14,074.0	20		Υ	1	YY					86				29	97	-49	3
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		05 03	1148	1225	FT8	15M	21,074.0	20		Υ					Υ		3104				-25	23	-121	
	D	ZC4GR	ZC4		05 03	1352	1419	FT8	15M	21,075.7	20		Υ				Υ			1043				-41	6	-37	9
			ZC4		05 03		1643		15M	21,075.7	20		Υ							3311				-61	1	-37	9
			ZC4		05 03		1838		15M	21,074.0	20		Υ							3693				-59	1	-21	29
			ZC4		05 04		1553		20M	14,085.0	20							Υ		5250				26	96	-62	
	_		ZC4		05 04		1559		20M	14,075.0	20							Υ		5250				26	96	-62	
			ZC4 ZC4		95 96 95 96		2201		30M 40M	10,136.0	20		٧					Y		6839 3700				13	88	-84 -176	
			ZC4 ZC4		05 06 05 07		9753		40M	7,074.0	20		Y					Υ		4462				-143	86	-176 -137	
			ZC4		05 07 05 07		0753 0757		15M	24,915.0	20		1	-				Υ		6803				-119		-167	
 			ZC4			1917	1939		15M	21,074.0	20		Υ							3206				-2	64		15 —
										22,07.10	120		-														
Sort		Eilter: Dane	d and Mode a	and Cont and	l Origin -	and IDAC	C_7C41_					- Colo	r code														
C First		ZC4			Need		DXCC	Freq	Tag	Band Mode	Cont Origin	■ vei	ified		wrkd B or M	☐ LotW											
C Las			dio Age LoTV									- uni	needed	90.9	wrkd counter	C eQSL											
* He	C Az				000	DX 160	DX 80	UX 40	DX 30	DX 20 DX 17	DX 15 DX 6	un-	onfrmd	E spe	ecial tag	LotW#	& eQSL AG										

Working ZC4GR on FT8

Propagation View: Band vs. Time-of-Day Analysis of Recent Activity



When QRV?

• 15m: 11Z to 18Z

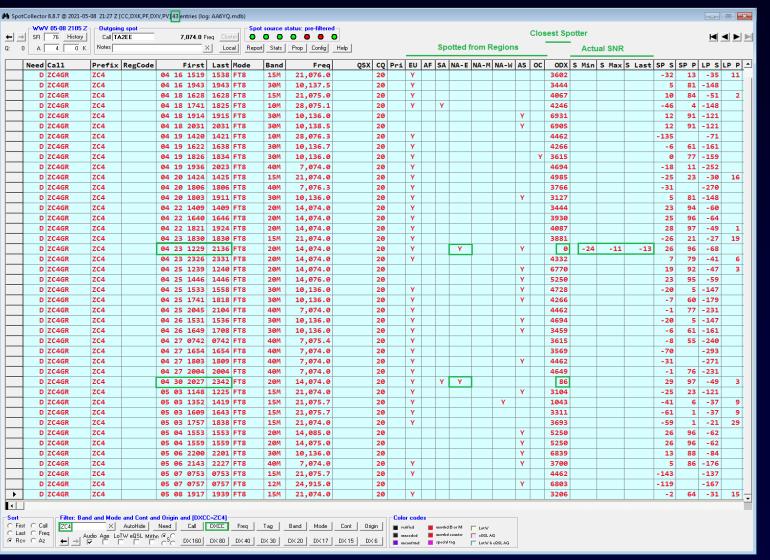
20m: 12Z to 23Z

• 30m: 15Z to 20Z

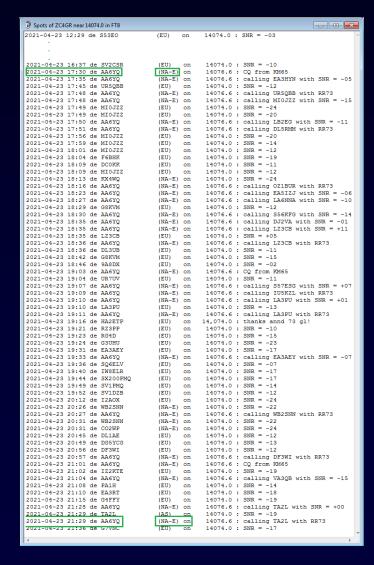
• 40m: 16Z to 21Z

Working ZC4GR on FT8

- No "Fox/Hound" frequencies
- Spotted from NA-E on 4/23 and 4/30
- Copied on 4/23



20m ZC4GR Spots on 4/23 @ 1229Z



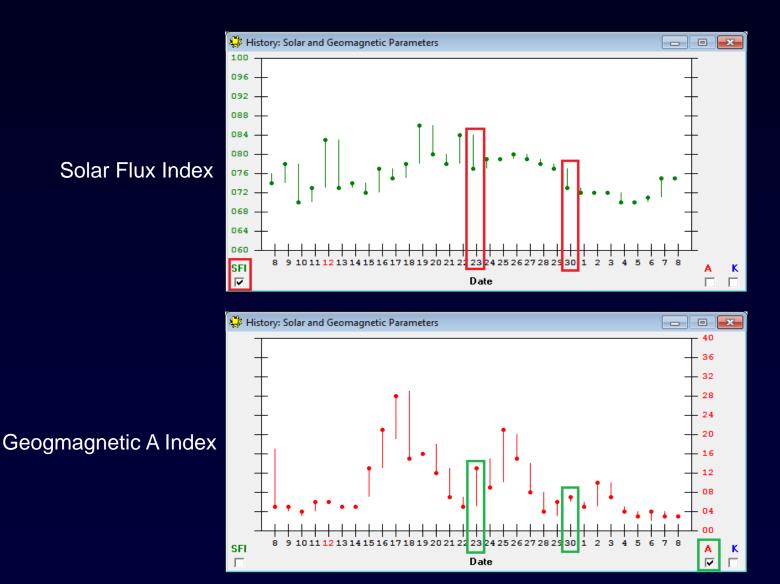
- QRV from 1229Z to 2136Z
- WSJT-X copied from 1730Z to 2129Z

20m ZC4GR Spots on 4/30 @ 2027Z

```
Spots of ZC4GR near 14074.0 in FT8
                                                                   - - X
2021-04-30 20:27 de DL4ZBY
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -16
                                    (EU)
                                           on
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -20
2021-04-30 20:43 de PY4WL
                                     (SA)
2021-04-30 21:27 de DD5ZZ
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -10
                                    (EU)
                                            on
2021-04-30 21:40 de ON4CJU
                                     (EU)
                                                 14,074.0 : FT8 - TNX QSO...
                                           on
2021-04-30 22:27 de SV9CVY
                                     (EU)
                                            on
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -18
2021-04-30 22:39 de K1JX
                                    (NA-E
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -21
                                           on
2021-04-30 22:44 de K1JX
                                     (NA-E) on
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -21
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -17
2021-04-30 22:48 de EA5HRW
                                     (EU)
2021-04-30 23:10 de W4IL
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -15
                                     (NA-E) on
2021-04-30 23:14 de W4IL
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -10
2021-04-30 23:32 de W4IL
                                     (NA-E) on
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -18
2021-04-30 23:40 de W4IL
                                     (NA-E)
                                                  14074.0 : SNR = -13
```

Propagation Conditions

SpotCollector collects "WWV spots" and maintains a 31-day history of SFI, A, and K



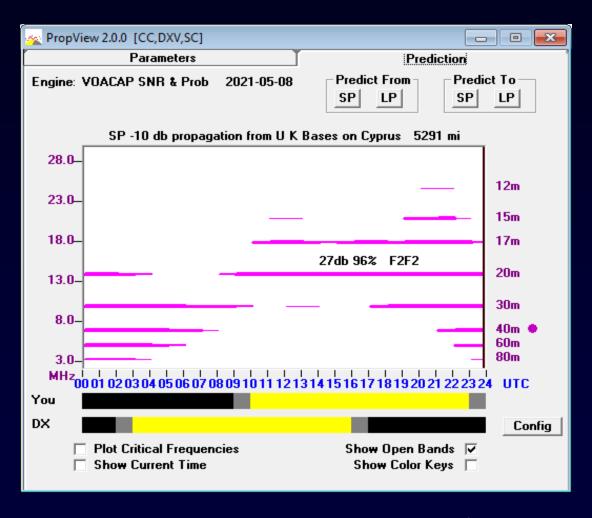
Check for Gray-Line Enhancement

💢 DXView Su	nrise/Sunset @ 19:	24:12 Z									
	DX: Cyp	rus (UK Military Bases	☐ Auto update	,							
Calculate	34 35' 5	9" N 32 58' 58" E	2021-04-01	Date Sunset GL Sta X							
C Sun rise	Latitude	Longitude	Starting Date	Selected Time							
Date	Sunrise GL Star	t Sunrise GL End	Sunset GL Start	Sunset GL End							

None!

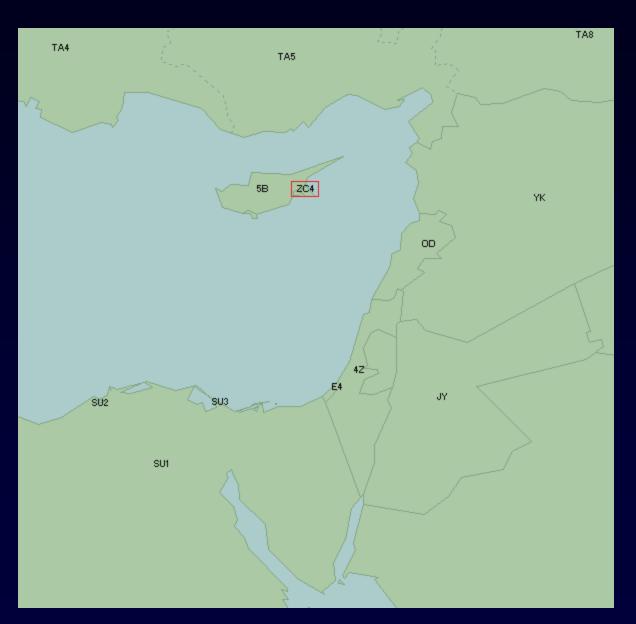
20m Propagation Forecast to ZC4

Solar Flux Index = 75, DX running 100 watts



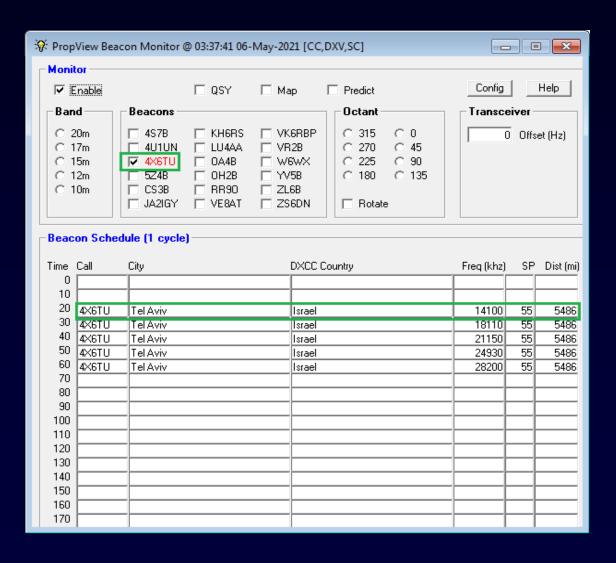
17m, 20m, 30m, and 40m look feasible

Check "Actual" Propagation



Check "Actual" Propagation

NCDXF 4X6TU Beacon is ~230 miles from ZC4



Check "Actual" Propagation

Who Near Me has been Spotting Stations Near ZC4?

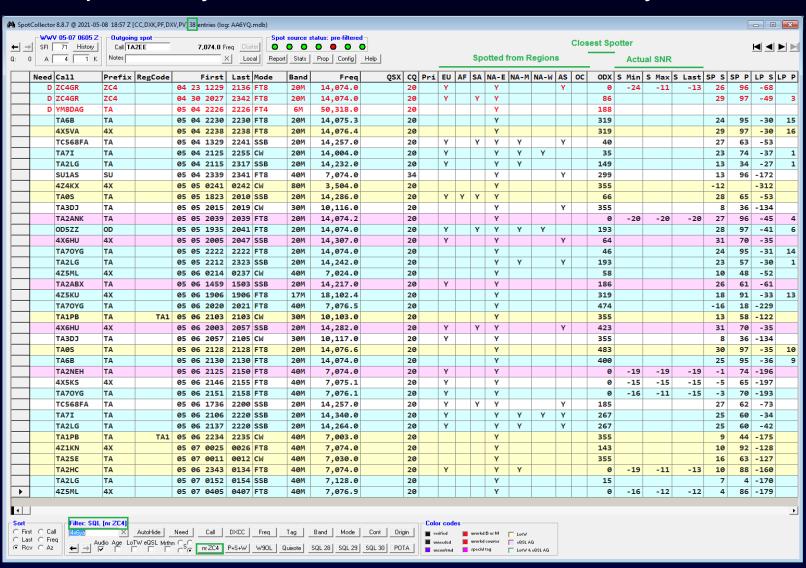
Define a "near ZC4" filter to show stations

- In ZC4, 5B4, TA, OD, 4X, SU
- spotted by stations less than 500 miles from my QTH

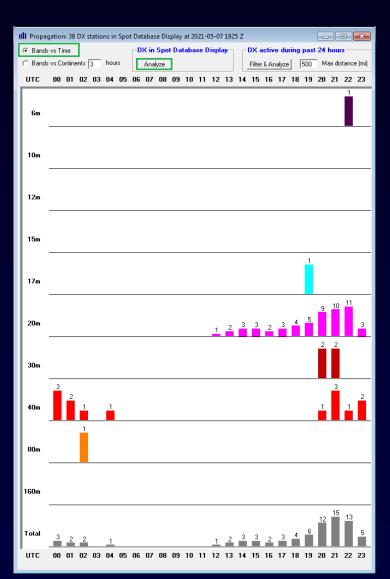


Propagation from "Near Me" to "Near ZC4"

Stations in ZC4, 5B4, TA, OD, 4X, SU spotted by stations within 500 miles of my QTH



Propagation from "Near Me" to "Near ZC4"



Propagation Openings?

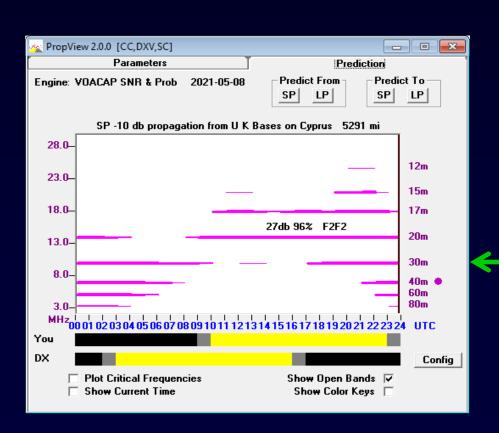
• 20m: 12Z to 23Z

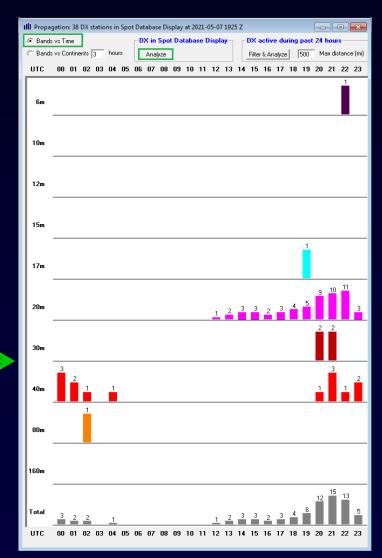
30m: 20Z to 21Z

• 40m: 20Z to 01Z

Compare Forecast & Actual Propagation

Solar Flux Index = 80, DX running 100 watts





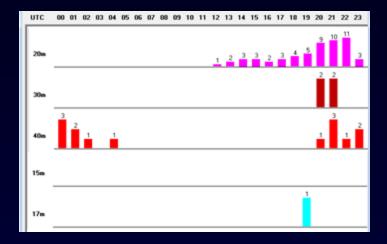
ZC4GR: The Plan

When QRV?

15m: 11Z to 18Z
 20m: 12Z to 23Z
 30m: 15Z to 20Z
 40m: 16Z to 21Z

Propagation Openings?

20m: 12Z to 23Z
 30m: 20Z to 21Z
 40m: 20Z to 01Z



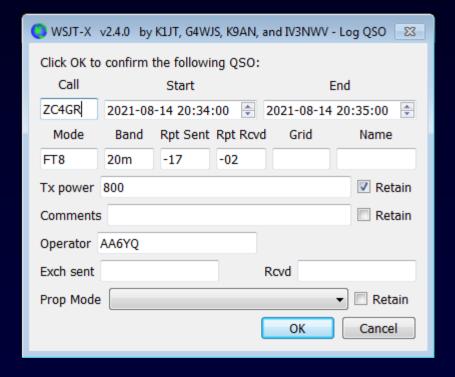
Monitor the 20m FT8 sub-band from 19Z through 23Z, especially

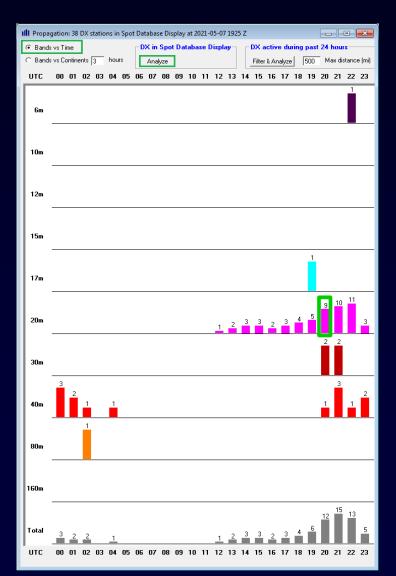
- when the Solar Flux Index is 75 or above
- when the NCDXF 4X Beacon can be copied

20m FT8 @20:12Z

```
Spots of ZC4GR near 14076.2 in FT8
                                                 14076.2 : CQ from KM65
2021-08-14 20:12 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:15 de IZ4UFO
                                    (EU)
                                                 14074.0 : ZC4GR called by IZ4UFO reported SNR = -10
                                           on
2021-08-14 20:18 de AA6YQ
                                                 14076.2 : calling YL2SW with SNR = +04
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14076.2 : calling YL2SW with RR73
2021-08-14 20:18 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:19 de AA6YQ
                                                 14076.2 : calling JK10ZS with RR73
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:20 de DL4DW
                                    (EU)
                                                 14074.0 : ZC4GR called by DL4DW reported SNR = -20
                                          on
                                                 14074.0 : ZC4GR called by DL8AKI reported SNR = -05
2021-08-14 20:26 de DL8AKI
                                    (EU)
2021-08-14 20:27 de AA6YQ
                                                 14076.2 : calling DL8AKI with RR73
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:29 de F4CQR
                                                 14074.0 : ZC4GR called by F4CQR reported SNR = -14
                                    (EU)
                                           on
                                                 14076.2: calling KZ9DX with SNR = -12
2021-08-14 20:29 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:31 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                 14076.2 : calling WA9WUD with SNR = -14
2021-08-14 20:34 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14076.2 : calling AA6YQ with SNR = -02
                                                 14076.2 : calling AA6YQ with RR73
2021-08-14 20:34 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:35 de AA6YO
                                                 14076.2 : calling KZ9DX with SNR = -09
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:39 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14076.2 : calling UA9AAE with SNR = -06
2021-08-14 20:48 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14076.2 : calling OK1EK with SNR = +24
2021-08-14 20:48 de OK1EK
                                                 14074.0 : ZC4GR called by OK1EK reported SNR = +00
                                    (EU)
                                           on
                                                14076.2 : calling CT1BWU with SNR = +05
2021-08-14 20:50 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14074.0 : ZC4GR called by CT1BWU reported SNR = -22
2021-08-14 20:51 de CT1BWU
                                    (EU)
2021-08-14 20:51 de AA6YQ
                                                14076.2 : calling CT1BWU with RR73
                                    (NA-E) on
2021-08-14 20:52 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14076.2 : calling PY3DXM with SNR = -08
2021-08-14 20:53 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14076.2 : CQ from KM65
                                                14,074.0 : All ok in Log 73.
2021-08-14 20:54 de CT1BWU
                                    (EU)
                                           on
                                                14076.2 : calling DL9QB with SNR = +11
2021-08-14 20:54 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14074.0 : ZC4GR called by DL9QB reported SNR = -09
2021-08-14 20:55 de DL9QB
                                    (EU)
                                           on
2021-08-14 20:56 de AA6YQ
                                    (NA-E) on
                                                14076.2 : calling DL9QB with RR73
                                                 14074.0 : ZC4GR called by EA3HKA reported SNR = -19
2021-08-14 20:57 de EA3HKA
                                    (EU)
```

```
203415 -17
            0.3 2193 ~ AA6YO ZC4GR -02
203415
       -6
            0.3
                 500 ~
                        CO HB9LBC JN47
            0.4 2922
203415
                         PJ4EVA 5X3R 73
            0.3 2565 ~
203415
                         CO HA7TM JN97
203415 -10
            0.3
                 659 ~
                         SM5FQQ PF1B R-01
                         PY2BMX 2E0ELA -20
203415 -16
                 203
203415
            0.3 2414 ~
                        LU6XQB OG2A KP11
                1275 ~
203415
                         5B4AHL F5RRS -06
203415
            0.6
                1491 ~
                         K4FW PA3EPP -14
203415
                         5B4AHL EB3JT JN01
203415
                 976 ~
                         KS3F IT9SSI 73
203415
                 606 ~
                        MW7FRN LA3BUA JP77
203415
            0.3 1639
                         PC2K EA3EDU R-21
203415 -15
                810 ~
                         6Y5DW NODOW EN26
203415
            0.4
                745 ~
                        GJ0KYZ KA2NFG R-03
203415
            0.7 1998 ~
                         AA6YQ UA3LSX KO65
203415
            0.7 1145 ~
                        HA1RB IK8BDA JM78
            0.3 2279 ~
203415 -10
                         G3VMW KN4CNU EM75
203415
            0.4 1426 ~
                        CQ SV2STE KN00
203415
                        KP4JFR RC1C 73
203415
            0.3 1761 ~
                        K4MM W4HKJ R-11
                 333
                        CQ 9A7PBV JN85
            1.3 2084 ~
                        CO UW5KW KO30
            0.3 2193 ~
203445
                 500 ~
                        CO HB9LBC JN47
203445
                        K4FW PA3EPP RR73
203445
                 606 ~
                        MW7FRN LA3BUA R-15
203445
                2922 ~
                        K6VVK 5X3R -12
203445
            0.3
                 659 ~
                         SM5FQQ PF1B 73
203445
            0.3 2565 ~
                         CQ HA7TM JN97
203445
            0.3 2084 ~
                         PP5TI UW5KW KO30
203445
            0.7 1144 ~
                         HA1RB IK8BDA JM78
203445
            0.3 2415 ~
                        LU6XQB OG2A KP11
203445
            0.3 1639 ~
                         PC2K EA3EDU 73
203445
            0.3
                 398 ~
                         5B4AHL EB3JT JN01
203445
            0.6
                 976 ~
                         CO IT9SSI JM78
203445 -16
                 202 ~
                         PY2BMX 2E0ELA -20
203445
            0.3 1703 ~
                         SV9RGI N5OB -15
203445 -18
            0.5
                871 ~
                         <KP4JFR> TK/F4HVZ/P
203445
            0.3
                748 ~
                         5B4AHL PA1EL JO22
203445
           0.5 1275 ~ 5B4AHL F5RRS RR73
```



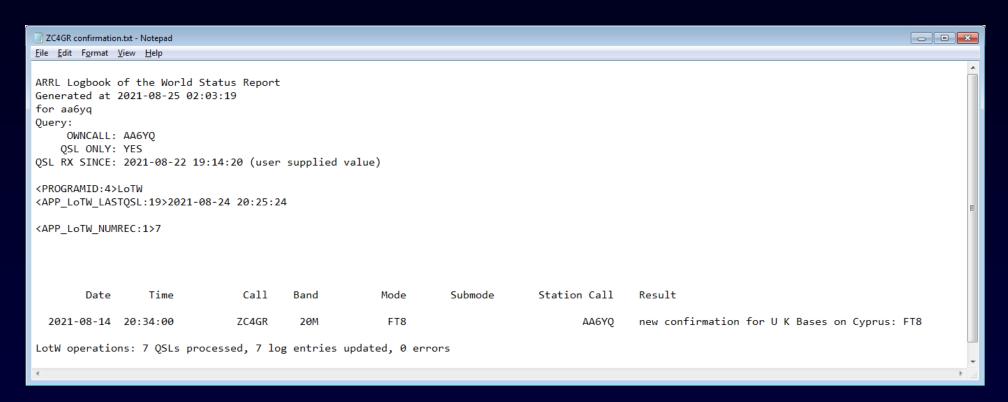


Propagation Openings?

• 20m: 12Z to 23Z

• 30m: 20Z to 21Z

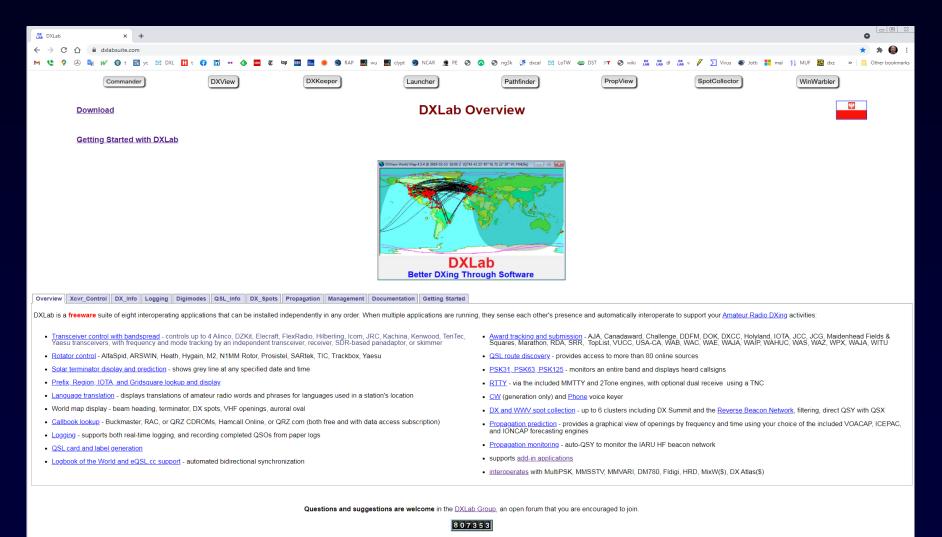
40m: 20Z to 23Z



DXing With DXLab

- Introduction to the DXLab Suite
 - Architecture
 - Development Drivers
 - Multiple Views of Active DX
- Finding the DX You Need
- Working the DX You Need

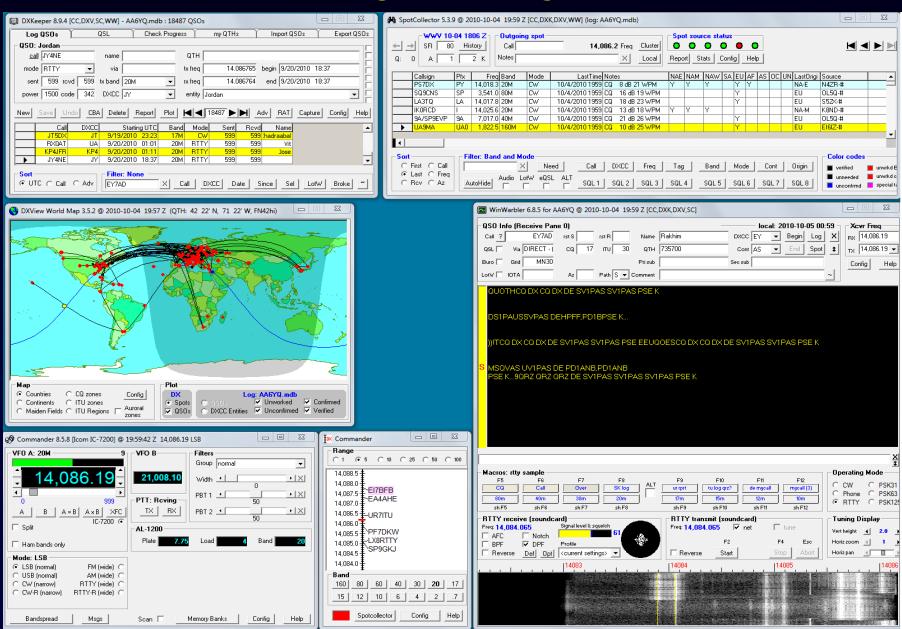
www.dxlabsuite.com



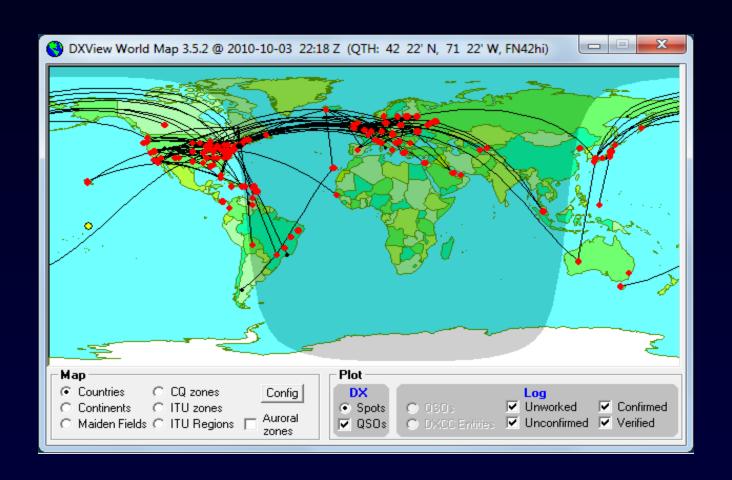
www.dxlabsuite.com



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