

# Agenda

- The Basics
- Applications
- Hardware
- Software
- Panadapters
- Support & Information Sources
- Q&A



#### What is an SDR?

 A radio communication system where many components that have been traditionally implemented in *hardware*...

(e.g. mixers, filters, amplifiers, modulators/ demodulators, detectors, etc.)

...are implemented by **software** on a PC or embedded system.

- The hardware portion consists of pre-selection filters, possibly some IF filtering and a Analog-to-Digital Converter
- SDR is a technique, the actual implementation will vary by application:
  - e.g. Receivers tend to concentrate on wide bandwidth, Transceivers on narrower bandwidth at a specific frequency



## Why do I want an SDR Receiver?

#### Top Ten List

- 1. True general coverage
- 2. Work one frequency and still monitor the entire band (or another band!)
  - Panadapter (suddenly your eyes can do 1000X what only your ears could do previously, one signal at a time!)
- 3. Audio and IF Digital Signal Processing (DSP)
- 4. Filters! (brick-wall envelopes... improving all the time with s/w upgrades)
- 5. Harness the power of your existing Computer
- 6. Multiple VFOs and/or virtual receivers
- 7. Schedule and Record large bandwidths of the spectrum and tune later!
- 8. Record/playback of audio from a specific signal
- 9. Allows you to explore new applications:
  - Digital modes, WX satellites, radio astronomy, aircraft monitoring, digital stations, TV, DAB, Ionosondes etc etc
- 10. Can you ever have too many receivers?



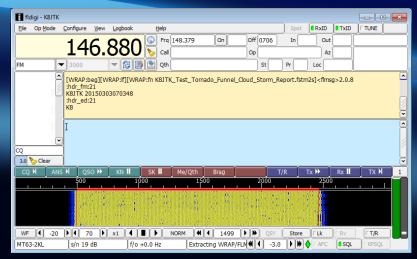
# Application Examples

(setup and use videos available at sdrplay.com)



### Fldigi Digital Decoding

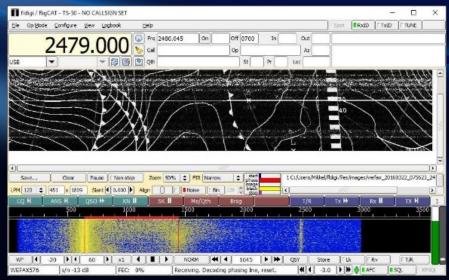
#### Eldigi NBEMS (Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System)



Credit: Jeff Kopcak, k8jtk

Fldigi: http://www.w1hkj.com

#### ...and WEFAX Decoding



Credit: Erik Mikkel Wied



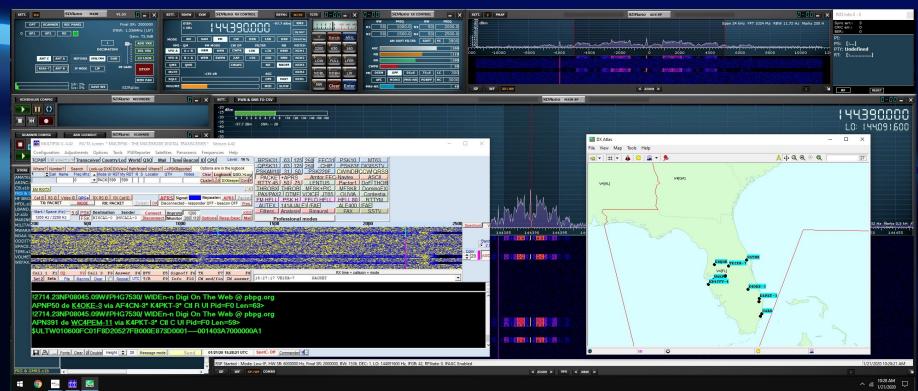
#### HF Weather Fax



Black Cat Systems: https://www.blackcatsystems.com



#### **MultiPSK**

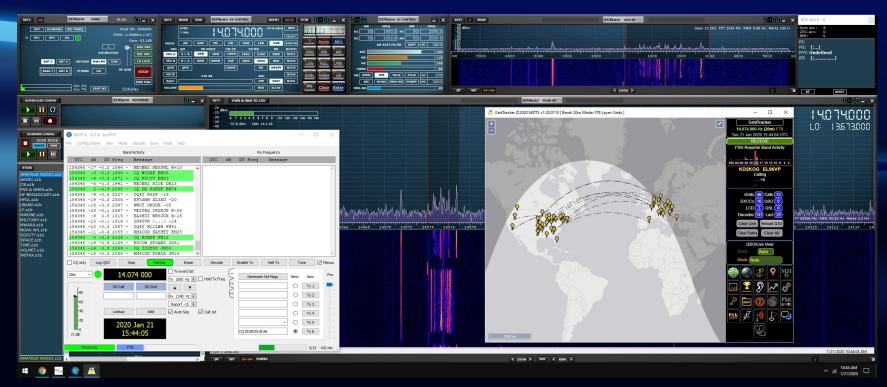


MultiPSK:

http://f6cte.free.fr/index\_anglais.htm



#### WSJT-X and GridTracker



WSJT-X: https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjtx.html

GridTracker: https://tagloomis.com/grid-tracker/

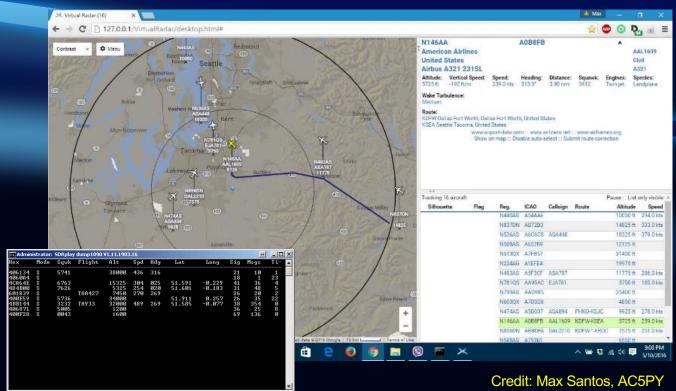


#### CSV Userlist Browser

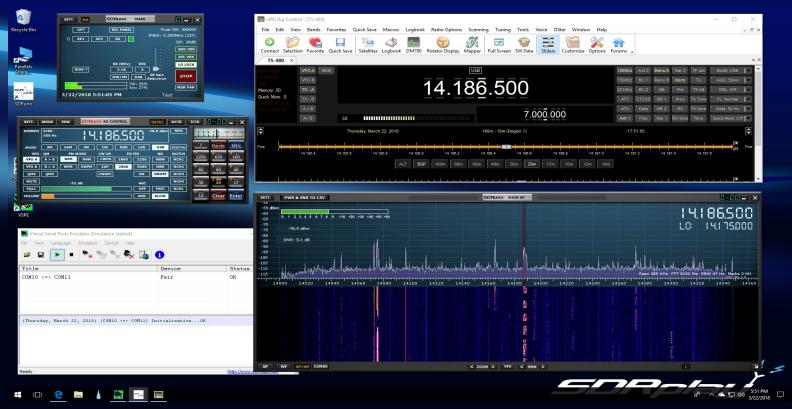


CSV User List Browser: https://www.df8ry.de/htmlen/home/ welcome.htm

# ADS-B decoding example using Dump1090 and VRS



### Ham Radio Deluxe (including DM-780 and Logbook)

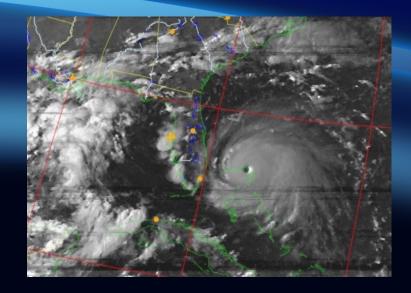


Ham Radio Deluxe: https://www.hamradiodeluxe.com/

Credit: Steve Brightman, KI5ENW

SDRolau

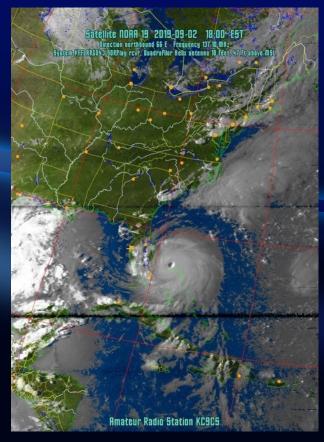
# NOAA Weather satellite (137 MHz) - Wxtoimg (RSP1)



User pictures from the facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/sdrplay/

Wxtoimg:

http://www.wxtoimg.com

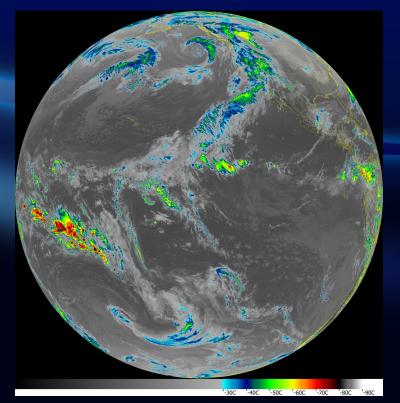


Credit: Hurricane Dorian by Bill Otten, KC9CS



# High Resolution imagery received from the NOAA GOES 16 and GOES 17 satellites (1.7GHz)





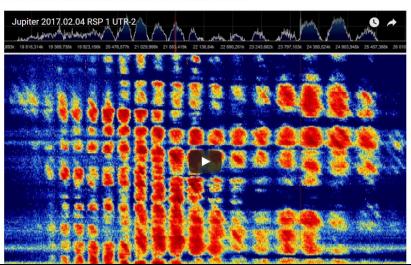


# Tune in to Jupiter!

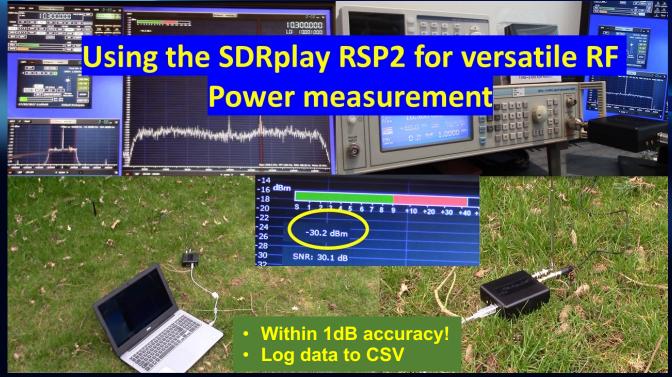
#### RECEIVING JUPITER NOISE BURSTS WITH AN SDRPLAY RSP1

Over on YouTube user MaskitolSAE has uploaded a video showing him receiving some noise bursts from Jupiter with his SDRplay RSP1. The planet Jupiter is known to emit bursts of noise via natural 'radio lasers' powered partly by the planets interaction with the electrically conductive gases emitted by Io, one of the the planets moons. When Jupiter is high in the sky and the Earth passes through one of these radio lasers the noise bursts can be received on Earth quite easily with an appropriate antenna

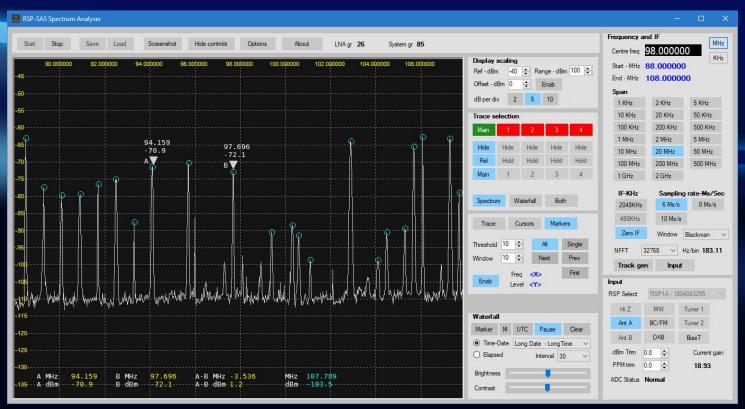
In his video MaskitoISAE shows the 10 MHz of waterfall and audio from some Jupiter noise bursts received with his SDRplay RSP1 at 22119 kHz. According to the YouTube description, it appears that he is using the <a href="UTR-2">UTR-2</a> radio telescope which is a large Ukrainian radio telescope installation that consists of an array of 2040 dipoles. A professional radio telescope installation is not required to receive the Jupiter bursts (a backyard dipole tuned to ~20 MHz will work), but the professional radio telescope does get some really nice strong bursts as seen in the video.



# Doubles as a new piece of RF lab kit: an RF Power meter – get one for work or play!



### SAS Spectrum Analyser – Make your RSP into a Spectrum Analyser!



# SDR hardware



## SDR Variety

Dongles

• \$100 – 300 Performance Good performance Wide Coverage · RSP, Airspy etc General **Purpose** Bied Performance dain • \$10 – 100 · Low performance Introductory 8-bit

Large cost adder
Modest performance gains

High End

- \$500 1000s
- High performance
- Specialized functionality
- RF Space, Flex, ELAD etc



**Price** 

#### Review of SDR receivers

- what to consider:
- Frequency Range: The range of frequencies the SDR can tune.
- ADC Resolution: Higher is better. More resolution means more dynamic range, less signal imaging, a lower noise floor, more sensitivity when strong signals are present and better ability to discern weak signals.
- Instantaneous Bandwidth: The size of the real time RF chunk available.
- RX/TX: Can the radio receive and/or transmit?
- Preselectors: Analogue filters on the front end to help reduce out of band interference and imaging.
- **Software:** Is your favourite package supported? Does manufacturer provide software and support?
- Price



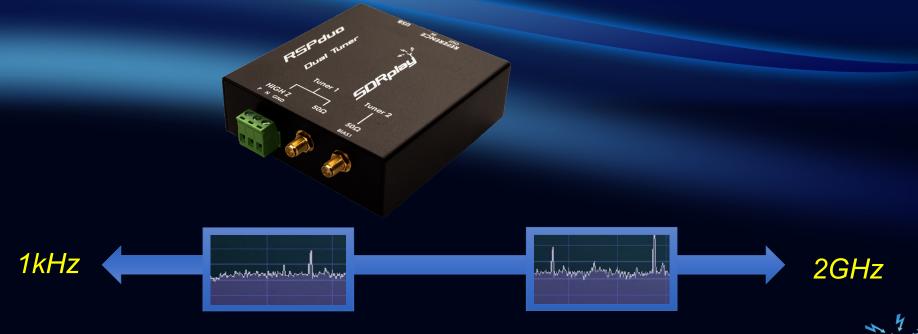
## Instantaneous bandwidth illustration



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## RSPduo - Dual independent tuners!

- Single 10MHz slice, like the other RSPs, or....
- Two independent "slices" anywhere in the coverage range



# SDRplay Receivers – RSP Family Characteristics

- Continuous SDR receiver coverage from VLF to 2 GHz
- All the amateur radio bands from VLF to 23cm
- High performance ADC technology (not another compromise SDR!)
- Built-in high performance front-end filters
- Use as a stand-alone general coverage receiver, or as a high resolution panadapter
- Visualize all the signals in multiple bands simultaneously
- SDRuno<sup>TM</sup> (Windows) and SDRconnect<sup>TM</sup> (multi-platform) SDR software provided free-of-charge
- Works with 3rd party SDR software e.g. HDSDR, SDR-Console, CubicSDR, SDR++
- Runs on a Raspberry Pi download SDRconnect
- Built-in remote operation (Client/server) SDRconnect
- Ideal for portable operation (powered via USB)
- Can be used as a Spectrum Analyzer or an RF Power Meter
- Backed by the world's biggest and best SDR support community!



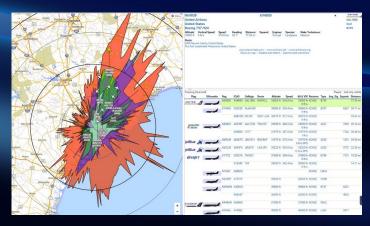
# RSPduo - Monitor two widely spaced bands simultaneously!



# RSPduo - Mix and match applications simultaneously!



ATC ~100MHz



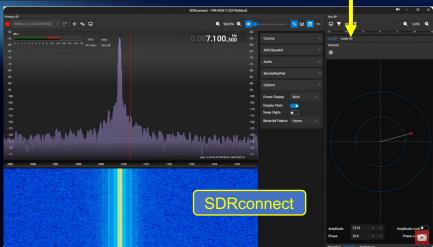
ADSB ~1GHz



# RSPduo - Diversity Tuning!!!



- RSPduo only
- MRC (Maximum Ratio Combination) for noise reduction (AUTO mode, SDRuno)
- Interference Rejection (Manual mode)





# RSPdx – Multiple Inputs & HDR



- Improved replacement for RSP2/pro
- 3 Software selectable inputs
- Additional 500kHz LPF for LF/VLF
- HDR mode for enhanced performance under 2MHz
  - Great for Dxers!
- Notch filters on all inputs
- BNC input for reception up to 200MHz
- Rugged steel case



# Software



## Software

- SDRplay owns and develops our own SDR software, optimized for the RSP family:
  - SDRuno<sup>™</sup>
- Full-featured Windows software
- Scanner & Scheduler
- SDRconnect<sup>™</sup> Multi-platform, Windows, Mac, Linux, Raspberry Pi
  - Client / Server capability
- SDRplay also provides a multi-platform API specification enabling 3rd party software including: SDRConsole, HDSR, SDR++ and CubicSDR
- All the above software packages are available free of charge!
- Supports 3<sup>rd</sup> party software e,g, Loggers, Digital Decoders, Plugins and Modules





CubicSDR





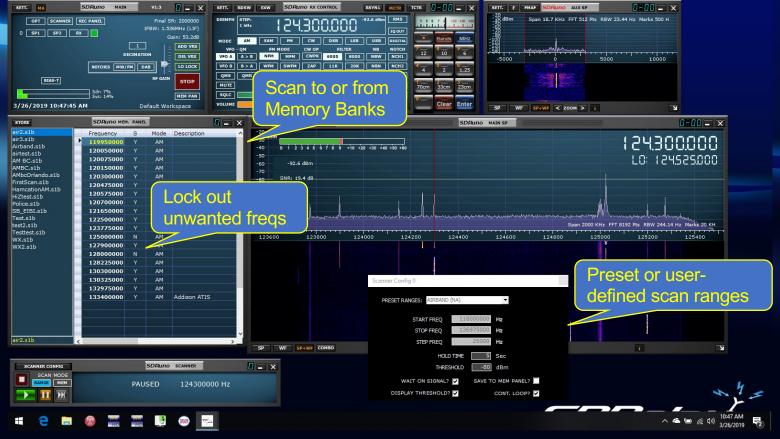
#### Multiple VFOs & different decode modes - simultaneously!



### RF power level + SNR measurement & logging



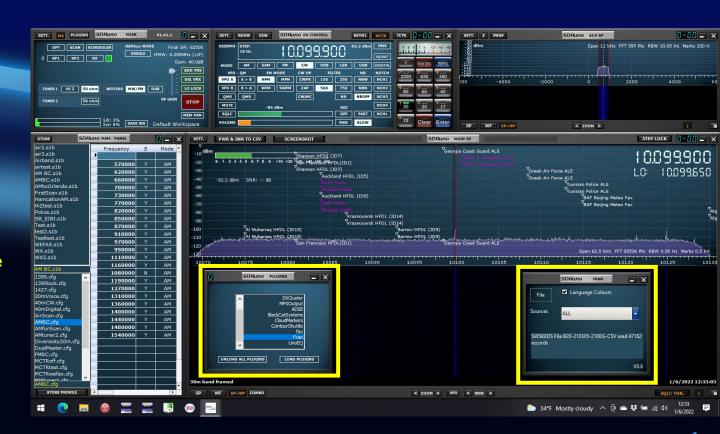
#### Scanning – scan a range of frequencies or your own preset frequencies



50Rplau

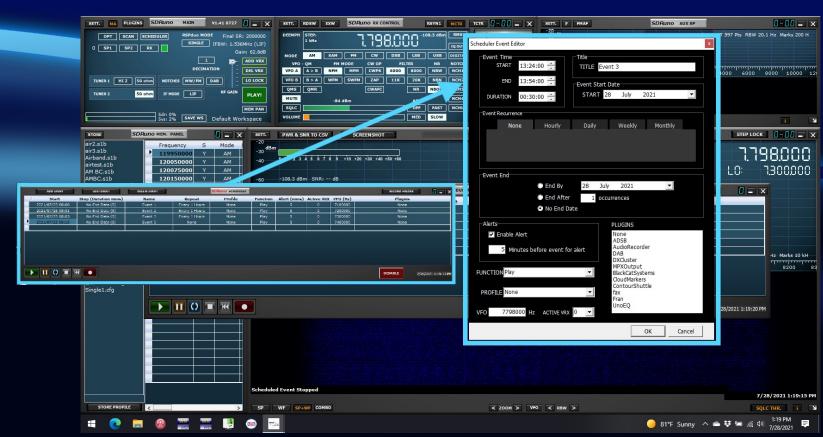
## **Plugins**

- Enhance receiver capabilities:
  - Annotation
  - Decoders
  - Controllers
  - > 3<sup>rd</sup> party Interface
  - Recorders
- SDRplay or 3<sup>rd</sup> party development





#### Scheduler



50Rplau

#### **Profiles**

- Ensure receiver is set up correctly for:
  - Scheduled events
  - Specific user scenarios
- Store a complete set of radio parameters including:
  - > LO and VFO
  - Sample rate (SR and DEC)
  - > Gain
  - > Input selection
  - Notch filters
  - VRX settings
- Examples:
  - > AM broadcast
  - > HF CW or FT8
  - > FM Broadcast

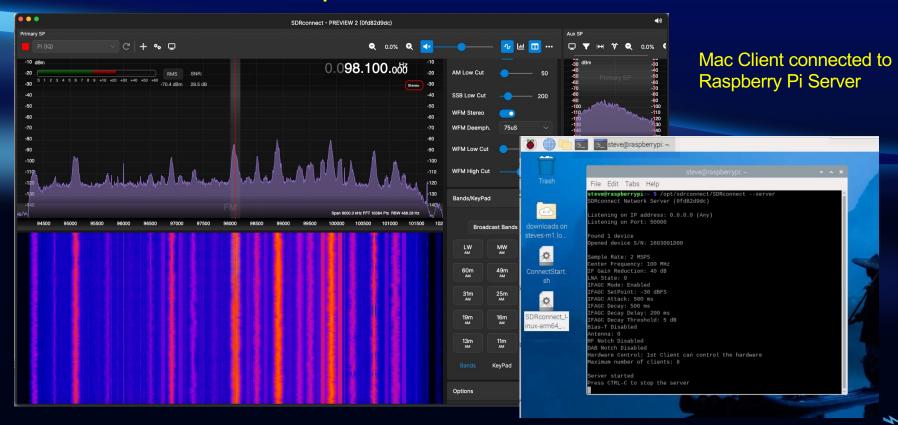


### Introducing SDRconnect

- Complete rewrite of SDRuno
  - Both SDRuno and SDRconnect can be installed on the same machine
  - SDRuno v1.42 will continue to be supported (bug fixes etc only)
- Cross Platform (64-bit: MacOS, Linux, Windows, Raspberry Pi)
- New Remote Server and Client (cross platform)
  - Access your RSP from anywhere home LAN or across the internet!
- Complete GUI rewrite and update
  - More intuitive / easy to use interface
  - Ability to lock panels together
- Modular architecture
  - Easily add additional functionality
- Compatible with all current RSPs (RSP1A, RSP1B, RSPdx, RSPduo)
  - Compatible with RSP2 & RSP2pro discontinued products
  - Due to hardware limitations the RSP1 is not supported, but SDRuno 1.42 can still be used
- Public Preview release available (see <a href="https://www.sdrplay.com/sdrconnect/">https://www.sdrplay.com/sdrconnect/</a> for updates)
  - · Additional features to be added when available



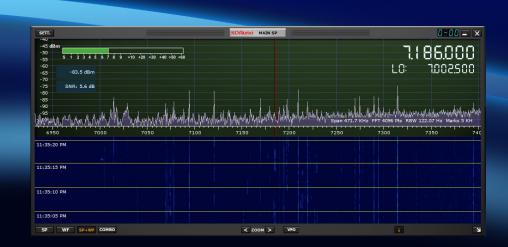
#### SDRconnect - Example screenshot



# **Panadapters**



#### What is a Panadapter?



"Go-to" choice for Kenwood, Yaesu, Icom, Elecraft etc!

- "Panadapter is short for Panoramic Adapter. The simple answer is that it allows us to see a panoramic display of the band our radio is tuned to. We can see every signal"\*.
- Early implementations used a PC soundcard to achieve this function but were therefore limited to 200 kHz of bandwidth because they rely on the sound card.
- The advent of affordable SDR hardware such as the RSP1A has allowed implementations with much greater bandwidth, and hence much more usefulness.
- Combined with readily available, and capable, SDR software Panadapters are now an affordable and easy to implement reality!

\* Definition courtesy KA9MOT http://mypanadapter.com/



#### Why panadapter?

- Add new capabilities / visibility to any rig
- Synchronize the the rig to the software if it has a CAT port
- · Work one frequency while monitoring the whole band
- Monitor multiple bands in addition to the one you're working
- Arbitrarily large spectrum scope
- Less cost, more features than factory add-ons,



#### Monitoring 3 bands with SDRuno



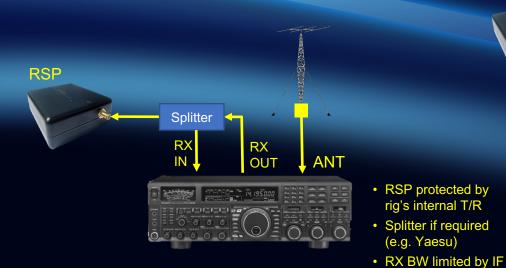
SDRplau

## The perfect Panadapter companion for your rig

- Any of the SDR Software programs that support RSPs can be used to provide a basic spectrum display.
- SDRuno, HDSDR, SDR Console and CubicSDR have built-in capabilities for CAT and other add-on software, to allow for communication between the SDR software and the transceiver.
- OmniRig is commonly used for synchronization/control between the Tx and SDR Rx, but other control software, e.g. HRD, DXlab etc. can be incorporated using SDRuno's CAT capability
- App notes and videos available from sdrplay.com



#### Use a T/R switch if not using protected transceiver IF or RF out!







- RSP protected by T/R
- T/R shares signal
- · Widest RX bandwidth
- Always connect PTT!





- RSP protected by rig's internal T/R
- Direct connection (e.g. Kenwood TS-590SG)

www.sdrplay.com

rig's internal T/R

(e.g. Yaesu)



## Support and further information



### SDRplay.com – Your gateway to information



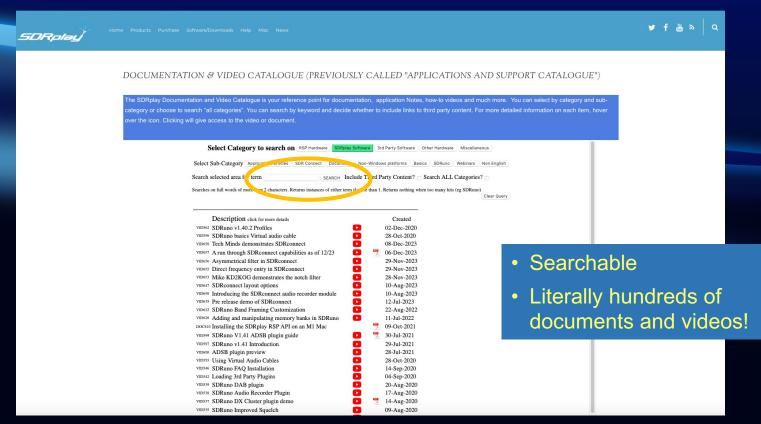


#### Software Downloads

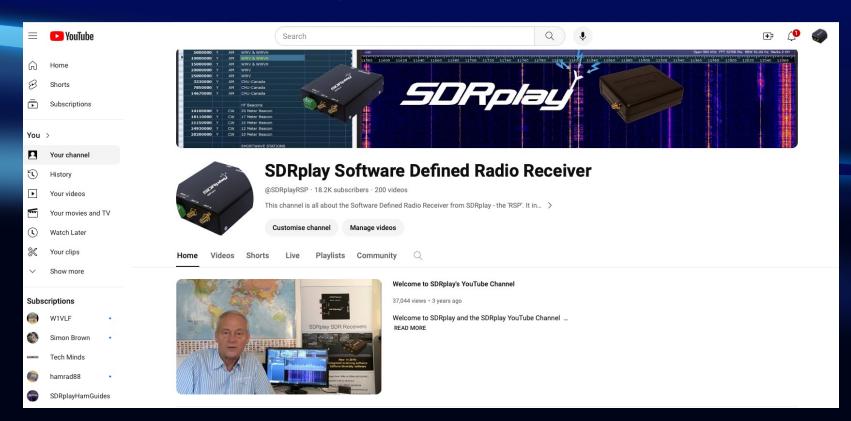




#### Documentation and Video Catalog



### How-to videos: SDRplay YouTube Channel



### Facebook Groups





## Direct support from SDRplay





Community Help Forums and groups



New User? Guided Installation Walk through



Get answers to your technical questions

communitybutton



Help with SDRconnect & Bug reporting



Documentation & Video Catalogue



Where's my order?



Which RSP is for you? Product Family Information



Other Questions



Check status of your help ticket



Damaged your RSP?
Repair Centres

#### For more information:

Thank You!

- Company website: www.sdrplay.com
  - Check out the Applications & Support Catalog at: https://www.sdrplay.com/apps-catalogue/
- Users Forum: <a href="https://groups.io/g/SDRPlayUsers">https://groups.io/g/SDRPlayUsers</a>
- Email: <a href="mailto:support-usa@sdrplay.com">support-usa@sdrplay.com</a>
- Facebook: <u>SDRplay</u>, <u>SDRuno</u> and <u>SDRconnect</u> specifically
  - Independent groups run by enthusiastic users!
- Where to purchase?
  - Ham Radio Outlet (US): <a href="https://www.hamradio.com">https://www.hamradio.com</a>

See our demo at the HRO booth!

