A bi-annual newsletter of Young Stars Radio Club
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For Private

Inside this issue:

Young Stars Radio Club :

- ***To create awareness about Shortwave Radio Listening***
- ***To promote the wonderful hobby of Dxing in India.***
- ***To provide a forum for discussion about the broadcasts of all national and international radio stations.***
- ***To strengthening the fraternity of friendship under the roof of radio listening and Dxing .***

All about us:

Young Stars Rado Club is a non-profit, non-commercial, & non-political group of hobbyists of short wave radio listening located in Hyderabad, India. Our club was started in the year 1984 with the motto to create awareness about the wonderful hobby of DXing and to strengthen the fraternity of friendship under the roof of radio listening

DXing - The wonderful hobby!

DXing is the art and science of listening to distant stations (D=distance X=xmitter or transmitter).

WHAT IS SHORTWAVE? short•wave Pronunciation: (shôrt'wāv')

Definition :
1. Elect.a radio wave shorter than that used in AM broadcasting, corresponding to frequencies of over 1600 kilohertz: used for long-distance reception or transmission.
2. Physics. An electromagnetic wave with a wavelength of approximately 200 meters or less, especially a radio wave in the 20 to 200 meter range.

Shortwaves:

short waves, radio waves whose frequencies range from about 3 to 25 megahertz (Mhz), corresponding roughly to the high-frequency band (see radio frequency). When they impinge on certain layers of the ionosphere, short waves are largely reflected back toward the earth. By one or more reflections between the earth and the ionosphere, a short-wave radio signal can be received at long distances from the transmitter.

Writing Useful Reception Reports and obtaining QSL Cards

Originally, listeners sent reception reports to stations to indicate how well signals were propagating around the world. Stations would verify and acknowledge the reception reports by sending a QSL card. Today many stations use real-time remote monitoring stations. These make listener reception reports less necessary, except in cases of regional interference. These days, QSL cards serve more for station promotion than for broadcast quality reports.

To receive a QSL card and station stickers from a radio station, you must send them a reception report in the format below. Given station backlogs, it may take from days to years to hear back from a station. In some cases, stations will let you choose your QSL card from images they post in magazines or on their web sites. Some QSL cards are quite artistic, such as Radio Japan's QSL collection. Others may depict imagery of national pride, history, celebrations, struggles, or current political initiatives.

RECEPTION CODES

When early radio stations began receiving broadcast signal quality reports from their listeners, efforts were undertaken to create reporting standards that would be recognized by stations worldwide. Standard codes helped stations quickly compare and interpret reports about their broadcasts. The first and most popular code was the SINPO code seen below, with each letter representing specific signal characteristics rated from 1 to 5.

If you find mention of the SINFO code, it is similar to the SINPO code with the term Propagation replaced by Fading. Both terms are essentially the same.

While the SINPO code may look concise, it soon becomes evident that it is very subjective. The original SINPO code defined technical specifications for each number; for instance, a 3 in the Propagation column meant a fixed number of signal fades per minute. Today these specifications are seldom adhered to; thus, people often rate the same signal differently.

Some inexpensive communications receivers and domestic radios do not provide a means for objective signal comparison. They commonly use signal strength S-meters that are merely tuning indicators, so meter readings are dependent on the setting of the RF gain control. In this case, your ears are a better judge of signal strength.

Some literature promotes SINPO as the best code for distance (DX) reporting; however, many listeners cannot accurately rate Propagation and cannot distinguish between man-made Interference and Natural atmospheric noise. Most professional monitoring stations use a simpler code. The following table shows how Interference, Natural Noise and Propagation are combined into a single Interference rating. The SIO code is based on the SINPO code, yet is much simpler to create.

When using the SIO code, it is best to perform your analysis in reverse. Evaluate the Overall Merit of the signal. How easy, pleasant or difficult is it to hear? Assign it a number. Now examine the reasons for your rating. For example, you may have an SIO of 244 if the Signal Strength is weak but there is no Interference. On the other hand, you may have an SIO of 442 if the Signal is strong and without Interference, but the broadcast audio was heavily distorted due to a fault in the transmitter.

Stations often have difficulty detecting certain problems with only transmitter-site signal measurements. In such cases, your critical report may alert a station to a problem. If you report Interference as a 1, 2 or 3, you should describe the interference. Evaluate the interference to see if it is on the same frequency (co-channel) by moving the tuning knob back and forth across your desired frequency. Determine whether the interference fades on both sides of your desired frequency, or if it strengthens while moving higher or lower in frequency relative to your desired frequency. Report whether the interference is lower, higher or the same in frequency to your desired frequency, and describe the interference sounds you hear. Next evaluate the signal for man-made or jamming interference. Man-made interference runs the gamut from hairdryers to automobile engines and power systems noise. It commonly sounds like clicks, buzzes and rough static. Jamming interference is designed to deliberately interfere with an international broadcaster's transmission, and is usually a strong buzzing sound. Jamming has generally decreased but is still common in the Middle East and Asia. Reception may also be spoiled by loud "crashes" caused by local thunderstorms near the receiver. Indicate if you are experiencing thunderstorms at the time of your report.

MAKING A RECEPTION REPORT - Following are the elements of a reception report:

Your **Name** and **Address** should be block-printed or typed on every sheet of your report. The **Station Address** should include the name of the particular program or presenter. English programs should be sent in c/o "English Language Service", Spanish programs in c/o "Spanish Language Service", etc. The **Date** should be in the format Saturday, 1 January 2000. The **Time** should be listed in "Coordinated Universal Time" (commonly shortened to the French abbreviation UTC). Some countries use "Greenwich Mean Time" (GMT), which is essentially the same as UTC until dealing with milliseconds. UTC time is unaffected by summer or winter daylight savings time. Most stations use the 24-hour clock system to avoid confusion with AM and PM (for instance, 9:00PM would be 2100). The **Frequency** should be listed in kilo-Hertz (kHz). Some older receivers use the term kilocycles (kcs), which is equivalent to kHz. If you know a station transmits on multiple frequencies, try the other frequencies and report on those too. Attempt to be accurate to 5 kilo-Hertz.

Multiple Samples of multiple frequencies on different days are more useful to a station than a single report on a single frequency. Note the reception quality of a number of frequencies carrying the same program over a period of three to six days. When a particular channel is blocked by interference, sometimes a station will check to see whether another frequency nearby is more suitable as an alternative.

Listing your **Receiver Type** is useful to the frequency department of a station. Quote the receiver description found in your manufacturer's brochure. (Example descriptions: 8-band SW dual-conversion portable, or Yaesu Musen FRG-100 Communications Receiver w/TCXO, dual-conversion superheterodyne, 50-30000kHz [USB/LSB, CW/NAR, AM/NAR, FM]). Be sure to indicate whether it is a "domestic" type (with mediumwave or VHF/FM as well as shortwave) or a "communications" type (made primarily for listening to shortwave broadcasts up to 30 MHz). It may be helpful to include the brand name and model as some stations compile statistics on common receiving equipment.

Your **Antenna Configuration** may indicate your ability to receive a station's signal. If you know your antenna type (also referred to as an aerial), list it by name, such as "magnetic long-wire balun", "inverted L", "dipole" or "telescopic rod." Many listeners create a very effective antenna by simply hanging a wire out the window. This configuration is often called a "random longwire aerial." If the wire is suspended between trees, refer to it as a "suspended longwire antenna." In addition, indicate the antenna length and the distances of each end of the antenna above the ground.

Program Details should include the program title, the name of the presenter, and some of the important points of the broadcast. For musical programs, note the performers' names. Demonstrate to the station that you were listening for at least 10 to 20 minutes.

Be sure to include your **Program Comments**. Stations really are interested in the impact of their programs. A good report will briefly address the following topics:

Was the material relevant and of interest? Was it presented with quality and clarity? Was it biased in its presentation? How did the material influence you? Was the presentation cohesive in its topics, music, and style? Did magazine-format programs cover topics of equal interest and relevance in a cohesive manner? Was the rate of speech clear and understandable? For musical programs, did you enjoy the music? Was there any interference?

UTC-IST Conversion Table

UTC	IST	UTC	IST
00.00	05.30	12.00	17.30
00.30	06.00	12.30	18.00(6)
01.00	06.30	13.00	18.30
01.30	07.00	13.30	19.00(7)
02.00	07.30	14.00	19.30
02.30	08.00	14.30	20.00(8)
03.00	08.30	15.00	20.30
03.30	09.00	15.30	21.00(9)
04.00	09.30	16.00	21.30
04.30	10.00	16.30	22.00(10)
05.00	10.30	17.00	22.30
05.30	11.00	17.30	23.00(11)
06.00	11.30	18.00	23.30
06.30	12.00	18.30	24.00(12)
07.00	12.30	19.00	00.30

International Broadcasting Bands

- **11 meters** - 25.67-26.10 MHz - Very little broadcasting activity in this band. Day reception tends to be poor, night reception nonexistent. Not to be confused with the Citizen's Band 11-meter allocation, which in most countries runs from 26.965 MHz to 27.405 MHz.
- **13 meters** - 21.45-21.50 MHz - Somewhat shaky day reception, very little night.
- **15 meters** - 18.90-19.02 MHz - Seldom used.
- **16 meters** - 17.48-17.90 MHz - Day reception good, night reception varies seasonally, with summer being the best.
- **19 meters** - 15.00-15.825 MHz - Day reception good, night reception variable, best during summer. Time stations such as WWV are clustered around 15 MHz.
- **22 meters** - 13.57-13.87 MHz - Similar to 19 meters; best in summer.
- **25 meters** - 11.50-12.05 MHz - Generally best during summer; said to be ideal during the period before and after sunset.
- **31 meters** - 9250-9995 KHz - Good year-round night band; seasonal during the day, with best reception in winter. Time stations are clustered around 10 MHz.
- **41 meters** - 7100-7350 KHz - Reception varies by region -- reasonably good night reception, but few transmitters in this band are targeted to North America.
- **49 meters** - 5900-6300 KHz - Good year-round night band; daytime reception is lacking.
- **60 meters** - 4750-5100 KHz - Mostly local reception, though usable at night. Time stations are clustered around 5000 KHz.
- **75 meters** - 3900-4050 KHz - Mostly used in Eastern Hemisphere, not widely recieved in the Americas.
- **90 meters** - 3200-3400 KHz - Mostly a local band, with limited long-distance reception at night.
- **120 meters** - 2300-2495 KHz - Mostly a local band, with time stations clustered around 2500 KHz. Not technically a short-wave band; resides in the upper reaches of the medium wave band.

"It is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing"

Global Radio Stations website - e-mail id's

Sr. No	Radio Station	Indian POB Addr	Website	e-mail id
1	Voice of America,	Vice of America, Post Box No.564 New Delhi 110001	www.voanews.com	letters@voa.gov pubaffairs@ibb.gov
2	BBC World Service,	BBC World Service, Post Box No.3031, New Delhi 110003	www.bbc.co.uk www.bbcworldservice.com	worldservice@bbc.co.uk
3	Voice of Russia	C/o.VOR Correspondent, E-7/2, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi—110057.	www.vor.ru	letters@vor.ru
4	Radio France International		www.rfi.fr	english.service@rfi.fr
5	Radio Romania International		www.rri.ro	engl@rri.ro & rri@rri.ro
6	Radio Prague, Czech Republic		www.radio.cz/en/html	cr@radio.cz
7	Radio Slovakia International		www.slovakradio.sk	englishsection@slovakradio.sk
8	Radio Canada International		www.radio-canada.ca	info@rcinet.ca
9	China Radio International, China	China Radio International, Ist Floor, 9, Rajdoot Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021	www.cbs.org.cn www.crienglish.com www.easyfm.com	crieng@cri.com.cn crieng@crifm.com
10	Radio Netherlands		www.rnw.nl	letters@rnw.nl
11	Deutsche Welle	Deutsche Welle PO Box-5211, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021	www.dw-world.de	info@dw-world.de
12	YLE Radio Finland		www.yle.fi/rinland	rfinland@yle.fi radio.world@yle.fi
13	Radio Japan NHK	Radio Japan - NHK New Delhi Office, 6th Floor, Meridian Commercial Complex, 8, Windsor Place, Janapath, New Delhi—110001.	www.nhk.or.jp/english/ Www.njk.or.jp/hindi/	nhkworld@nhk.jp
14	Radio Vlaanderen International		www.rvi.be	info@rvi.be
15	KBS WORLD		http://rki.kbs.co.kr	english@kbs.co.kr intnl@kbs.co.kr (for RKI newsletter)
16	Radio Australia		www.abc.net.au www.abc.net.au/ra	radio.australia@abc.net.au
17	Adventist World Radio		www.awr.org	letters@awr.org
18	Radio Free Europe		www.rferl.org	
19	Radio Taiwan Intnl		www.cbc.org.tw	cbs@cbs.org.tw
20	RTE Irland		www.rte.ie/radio/worldwide.html	radio1@rte.ie
21	WYFR	WYFR Family Radio, C/o. Rev.M.J. Alexander, TEKKALI, Dist. Srikakulam, A.P. India.	www.familyradio.com	international@familyradio.com
22	FEBA UK			angela@feba.uk
23	CVC		www.cvc.tv	voice@voice.com.au
24	Station KNLS Alaska		www.knls.org	KNLS@aol.com
25	RAI-Iraly		www.international.rai.it	international@rai.it
26	RTBF International			rtbfi@rtbfi.be
27	Poland		www.radio.com.pl	radio.polonia@polskieradio.pl
28	IRIB Iran		www.irib.ir/worldservice/englishradio	englishradio@irib.ir
29	Swedish Radio International		www.radiosweden.org	radiosweden@sr.se
30	Radio Veritas Asia		www.rveritas-asia.org	rveritas_asia@rveritas-asia.org
31	SLBC		www.slbc.lk	chmnslbc@slnet.lk
32	South Africa-Channel Africa		Www.channelafrica.org	meyerhelen@channelafrica.org
33	FEBC		www.febc.org	
34	ORF Radio Austria		oe1.orf.at	servicecentre@orf.at
35	All India Radio		www.allindiaradio.org	esd@air.org.in
36	Christian Science Monitor		www.csmonitor.com	
37	Vatican Radio		www.vaticanradio.org	engindia@vatiradio.va, sedoc@vatiradio.va
38	Radio Veritas Asia		www.r-veritas.asia.org	rveritas-asia@rveritas-asia.org

Shortwave Broadvcast Frequencies : March 26 to October 29. 2006

Station	Time-UTC	Frequency	Station	Time- UTC	Frequency
AIR	0000-0045	9705, 9950, 11620, 11645, 13605	France	1400-1500	21260
Canada	0000-0057	11700	Taiwan	1400-1500	15265
DW	0000-0100	9695,9825,9885	Thailand	1400-1430	9830
Ukraine	0000-0100	7440	Nepal	1415-1430	3230, 5005, 6100, 7165
CVC Intnl	0100-0300	7335	France	1400-1500	9580
Indonesia	0100-0200	9525, 11785, 15150	Canada	1500-1557	11675, 15360, 17720
Japan	0100-0200	15325, 17810, 17845, 17860	Japan	1500-1600	6190, 7200, 11730
WYFR	0100-0200	6065, 9505, 15195	Iran VOIRI	1530-1630	7330, 9940
Sweden	0130-0200	9435	DW	1600-1700	1548,6170, 9485, 17595
Hawai KWHR	0100-0500	17655	Taiwan	1600-1700	11815
FEBA	0115-0130	7365			
Australia	0130-0200	9660, 12080, 13670, 15240, 15415, 17715, 17750, 17795			
Vatican Radio	0140--0200	7335, 9650	VOA **Hindi**	0030-0100	7430, 9560, 11820
CRI	0200-0300	11770, 13640	BBC Hindi	0100-0130	6065, 7270, 11750, 13745, 15510
UK - BBC	0200-0300	11955, 15280, 15310, 15360, 17790	WYFR Hindi	0000-0100	15195
Romania	0400-0500	9780, 11820, 15110, 17870	SLBC Hindi	0030-0430	7275, 11905
Japan	0500-0600	15195, 17810	CVC Hindi	0100-0400	12070
Australia	0530-0700	9660, 12080, 13670, 15160, 15240, 15415, 15515, 17750	Pakisthan Hindi	0215-0300	9340, 11565
CRI	0600-0700	11770, 11880, 15140, 15350, 15465 17505, 17540	BBC Hindi	0230-0300	11995, 15215, 15405, 17710
Scotland Radio6	0600-0700	9290	Tehran Hindi	0230-0257	15165, 15205
Vatican City	0630-0645	15595	CRI Hindi	0300-0357	11640, 13720, 15350, 17500
CRI	0700-0800	11880, 15350, 15465, 17540	AIR Hindi	0315-0415	11840, 13695, 15075, 15185, 17715
Pakistan	0730-0830	15100, 17835	CVC Hindi	1100-1400	13765
Alaska-KNLS	0800-0900	11765, 11870	CRI Hindi	1300-1357	9635, 11675
KBS	0800-0900	9570, 9640	Japan Hindi	11890	
Malaysia	0830-1230	15295	Tashkent Hindi	1300-1330	7285, 15295, 17775
WYFR	0900-1000	5985, 6885, 9755	VOR Hindi	1300-1400	1269, 11500, 11755, 15605, 17570
Prague	0900-0927	9880, 21745	TWR-India Hindi	1300-1330	9445
CVC	0900-1100	11955	RVA-Hindi	1330-1400	11875
Mangolia	1000-1030	12085	SLBC Hindi	1330-1530	7275, 11905
RN	1000-1100	12065, 13710, 13820	BBC Hindi	1400-1445	6140, 7205, 9865, 11920, 15245
Voice of Korea	1000-1100	6185, 6285, 9335, 9850	CVC Hindi	1400-1700	9855
Iran VOIRI	1030-1130	15460, 15480	WYFR Hindi	1400-1500	9530
Vietnam	1100-1128	9840, 7220, 7285			
Taiwan	1100-1200	7445			
BBC	1100-1200	6195, 9740, 15310, 17760, 17790			
Singapore	1100-1400	6080, 6150			
Australia CVC	1100-1800	13635			
Italy –IRRS-SW	1200-1300	15740			
Austria	1205-1220	17715			
Prague	1300-1327	13580, 17540			
Austria	1245-1300	17715			
Laos R Vientiane	1330-1400	7145			
Prague	1400-1429	11600, 21745			
Australia HCJB	1330-1400	15405			
AIR	1330-1500	9690, 11620, 13710			
R Australia	1400-1500	5995, 6080, 7420, 9590			

Young Stars Radio Club

YSRC

Shortwave Bands - Best Listening Times:

Meter Band	Frequency (kHz)	Reception
120	2300-2500	Infrequent reception
90	3200-3400	Winter nights
75	4750-5060	Tropical stations, winter nights
49	5900-6200	Best at night
41	7100-7350	Best at night
31	9400-10000	Best at night, some day
25	11600-12160	Best at night, some day
22	13570-13870	Best day, some night
19	15100-15800	Best day, some night
16	17500-17900	Best day, some night
15	18900-19020	Best day
13	21450-21750	Best day
11	25600-26100	Best day

We're on the web:
www.geocities.com/ysrc_india/index.html

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YSRC wishes you a good listening and happy DXing. If you have any further queries, please feel free to write to us. We look forward to hear from you soon.