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What Is WSJT?

WSJT is a computer application. Other known ham computer applications are Digipan, Winpsk, Zakanaka etc. Joe Taylor wrote the WSJT application for the original purpose of working meteor scatter using a code developed by Joe called FSK441. After the initial testing and proving of WSJT Joe has made it available to the radio amateur community. Later Joe added another mode, which he called JT43. This mode is for extending the range of amateur stations using Line of Sight, Tropo-Scatter or Ground Wave propagation paths. In this JT43 application, Joe's objective was to develop a mode that could be used with the existing radio technology that most amateurs were using. No new equipment would be required. Signals can be copied below the receiver noise.

WSJT was picked by Joe to mean (Weak Signal JT). Joe's radio call is K1JT. Similarly we see JT43. In the WSJT application there are two operating modes FSK441 and JT43. The FSK441 mode is for operating meteor scatter but unlike the older High Speed CW the computer now decodes the pings and displays them in print in the receive window. The program provides a method of saving wave files and printing the decoded text to a text file if one wishes to use these features. Distances between station and direction pointing are provided on screen.

WSJT is a windows based program. Users are encouraged to become familiar with meteor scatter procedures and to invest time in researching this article and others on the web. Other sites are provided elsewhere in this article. As with all applications, the help files should be read in their entirety.

Why Use WSJT?

- Because six meters in not always open
 - o Work stations 400 -1400 miles away anytime of the day using meteor scatter
 - o Extend the ground wave operating range of your station 300 500 miles
- Improve your grid count (Multipliers) in contests, which have no opening.
 - o The band does not have to open to work many distant stations
- Personal satisfaction.
 - o Thrill of pings and decoded print
 - Latest technology applied
 - o Working stations you can not hear
 - o Awards / achievements
- Challenge of setting up and operating a digital station for meteor scatter and weak signal modes. Conquering new challenges.
- To acquire new knowledge
 - Computers and soundboards
 - Characteristics of meteors and radio waves
 - Meteor Showers
 - Learn how to make and keep schedules

No doubt, each will have his own reasons for using WSJT. If you're willing to invest a little time, effort and research you too will be rewarded with making QSO's when you previously never had the ability to do so.

Where do I?

Where do I find information on interfacing my radio and sound card?

http://www.qsl.net/wm2u/

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Where can I purchase an interface?

http://www.packetradio.com/PSK31.htm

Where do I download WSJT?

http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT/

http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT/BETA154.TXT

Where do I download D4?

http://www.thinkman.com/dimension4/

Where is the WSJT Registry?

http://www.aa1yn.com/wsjt/

Are there any egroups that focus on Meteor Scatter and Weak Signal?

http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SixScatterWeakSig/?yguid=6309253

http://www.nitehawk.com/rasmit/ws1_15.html

Are there some good web pages for meteor scatter data?

http://www.qsl.net/w8wn/hscw/hscw.html

http://www.alltel.net/~wb5apd/

Where is the Ping Jockey Page?

http://www.pingjockey.net/cgi-bin/pingtalk

The above is only the beginning of data available that you can find on the web. Use your search engines to locate many more sites.