



Frequency Measuring Test — April 2012

The Frequency Measuring Test (FMT) continues its successful “round-table” format when it takes to the airwaves on the evening of April 19 (April 20 UTC). The test moves to Thursday from the November FMT’s usual Wednesday evening, giving everyone an opportunity to participate. Recognizing the higher solar flux, the FMT will lead off with a 20 meter segment — one transmission beaming east and the other west from K5CM in Oklahoma with both transmissions on the same frequency. The sponsors are particularly interested in your comments on frequency differences observed between the directions due to propagation-related effects.

K5CM will lead off on 20 meters with the call-up followed by a key-down period. Following the 20 meter transmission, K5CM will then begin on 40 meters, handing off the frequency to W8KSE who leads with a call-up and then performs a key-down transmission before handing it off to W6OQI and then WA6ZTY.

Your job is to measure and report the frequencies of all the stations.¹ The stations will be close to the same frequency but not *exactly* on the same frequency! For the 40 and 80 meter transmissions, do *not* assume that all stations will be within the pass band of a CW filter. Be prepared to tune if necessary!

The test will begin on 20 meters near 14055 kHz at 10 PM EDST on April 19. That is on Thursday evening in North America and all times are listed in EDST in Table 1. (For our friends in Europe, that is 0200 UTC on the morning of April 20.) There will be four stations in the 40 meter round-table near 7055 kHz beginning at 10:30 PM: K5CM (OK), W8KSE (OH), W6OQI (CA) and WA6ZTY (CA). The test will then move to 80 meters near 3569 kHz beginning at 11 PM (0300 UTC). The 80 meter stations will be K5CM, W8KSE and W6OQI.

For more information and any updates in procedure, tune in to the ARRL’s Frequency Measuring Test web page at www.arrrl.org/frequency-measuring-test. Results will be reported using the regular web page format provided by WA7BNM. More information on frequency measuring techniques and exercises can be found on K5CM’s website at www.k5cm.com. — *Ward Silver, N0AX*

¹QST articles more than five years old are available to ARRL members at www.arrrl.org/arrrl-periodicals-archive-search. Use the keyword FMT to find previous articles.

FMT Schedule in Eastern Daylight Saving Time*

20 Meter Time Line (near 14055 kHz)

Beaming East

K5CM 10:00 PM call up (3 mins)
K5CM 10:03 key down (2 mins)

Beaming West

K5CM 10:05 call up (3 mins)
K5CM 10:08 key down (2 mins)

40 Meter Time Line (near 7055 kHz)

K5CM 10:30 PM call up (3 mins)
K5CM 10:33 key down (2 mins)
K5CM 10:35 turnover to W8KSE (1 min)
W8KSE 10:36 call up (2 mins)
W8KSE 10:38 key down (2 mins)
W8KSE 10:40 turnover to W6OQI (1 min)
W6OQI 10:41 call up (2 mins)
W6OQI 10:43 key down (2 mins)
W6OQI 10:45 turnover to WA6ZTY (1 min)
WA6ZTY 10:46 call up (2 mins)
WA6ZTY 10:48 key down (2 mins)
WA6ZTY 10:50 end and announce FMT move to 80 meters

80 Meter Time Line (near 3575 kHz)

K5CM 11:00 PM call up (3 mins)
K5CM 11:03 key down (2 mins)
K5CM 11:05 turnover to W8KSE (1 min)
W8KSE 11:06 call up (2 mins)
W8KSE 11:08 key down (2 mins)
W8KSE 11:10 turnover to W6OQI (1 min)
W6OQI 11:11 call up (2 mins)
W6OQI 11:13 key down (2 mins)
W6OQI 11:15 end FMT announcement

*UTC = EDST + 4 hours

W1AW Schedule

W1AW’s schedule is at the same local time throughout the year. From the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November, UTC = Eastern US Time + 4 hours. For the rest of the year, UTC = Eastern US Time + 5 hours.



PAC	MTN	CENT	EAST	UTC	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
6 AM	7 AM	8 AM	9 AM	1300		FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
7 AM-1 PM	8 AM-2 PM	9 AM-3 PM	10 AM-4 PM	1400-1600 1700-1945	VISITING OPERATOR TIME (12 PM-1 PM CLOSED FOR LUNCH)				
1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	2000	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	2100	CODE BULLETIN				
3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	2200	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	2300	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	0000	CODE BULLETIN				
6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	0100	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
6 ⁴⁵ PM	7 ⁴⁵ PM	8 ⁴⁵ PM	9 ⁴⁵ PM	0145	VOICE BULLETIN				
7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	0200	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	0300	CODE BULLETIN				

◆ Morse code transmissions: Frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675 and 147.555 MHz.

Slow Code = practice sent at 5, 7½, 10, 13 and 15 WPM.

Fast Code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM.

Code bulletins are sent at 18 WPM.

◆ W1AW Qualifying Runs are sent on the same frequencies as the Morse code transmissions. West Coast qualifying runs are transmitted by K6YR and other West Coast stations on 3590 kHz and other frequencies. See “Contest Corral” in this issue. Underline one minute of the highest speed you copied, certify that your copy was made without aid, and send it to ARRL for grading. Please include your name, call sign (if any) and complete mailing address. Fees: \$10 for a certificate, \$7.50 for endorsements.

◆ Digital transmissions: Frequencies are 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095 and 147.555 MHz.

Bulletins are sent using 45.45-baud Baudot, PSK31 in BPSK mode and MFSK16 on a daily revolving schedule.

Keplerian elements for many amateur satellites will be sent on the regular digital frequencies on Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:30 PM Eastern Time using Baudot and PSK31.

◆ Voice transmissions: Frequencies are 1.855, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 18.16, 21.39, 28.59 and 147.555 MHz.

◆ Notes: On Fridays, UTC, a DX bulletin replaces the regular bulletins. W1AW is open to visitors 10 AM to noon and 1 PM to 3:45 PM Monday through Friday. FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station during that time. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy. In a communication emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: voice on the hour, teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour and CW on the half hour.

W1AW code practice and CW/digital bulletin transmission audio is also available real-time via the *EchoLink Conference Server* W1AWBDCT. The conference server runs concurrently with the regularly scheduled station transmissions.

During 2012, Headquarters and W1AW are closed on New Year’s Day (observed January 2), Presidents’ Day (February 20), Good Friday (April 6), Memorial Day (May 28), Independence Day (July 4), Labor Day (September 3), Thanksgiving and the following day (November 22 and 23), and Christmas and the day before Christmas (December 24 and 25). For more information, visit us at www.arrrl.org/w1aw.