

HOW I RECEIVE SSTV IMAGES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Gerald Nauman, KN4FM
Massanutten Amateur Radio Association
March 5, 2026

Vintage SSTV



EQUIPMENT



ANTENNA

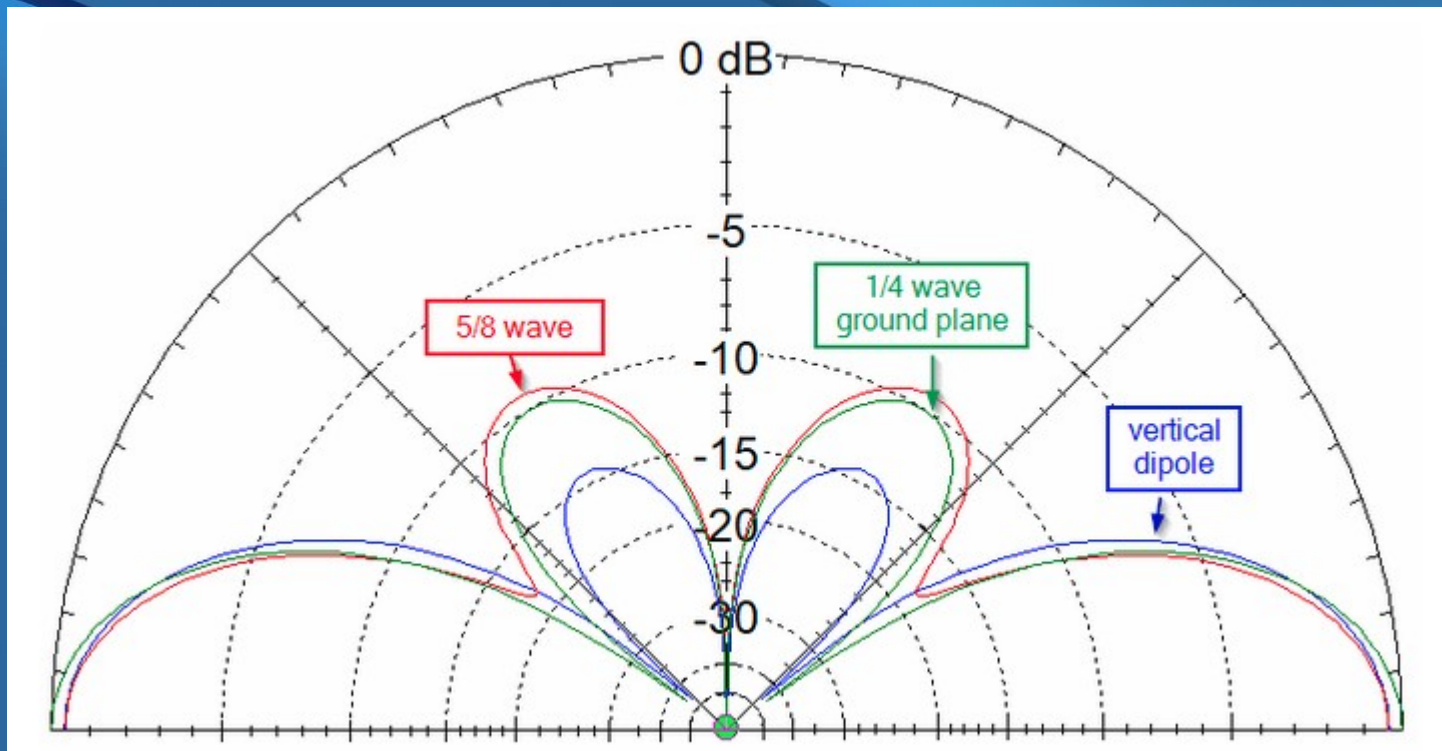
HIGH GAIN IS NOT REQUIRED

CLEAR VIEW OF SKY IS DESIRED

SIMPLE ANTENNA WORK VERY WELL

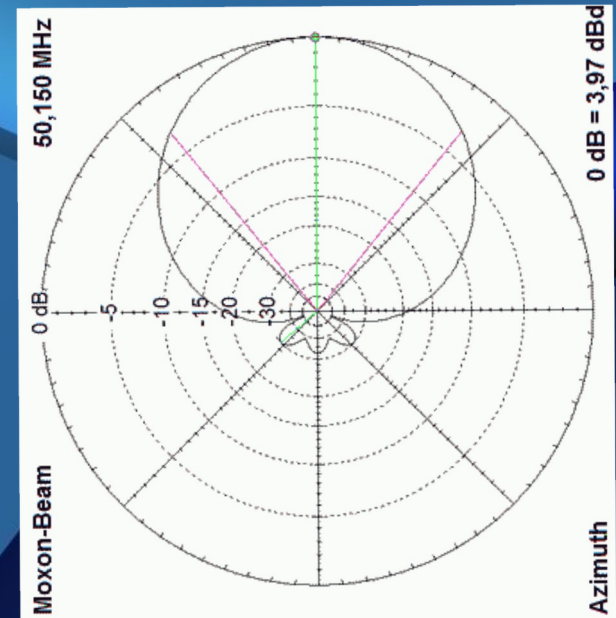
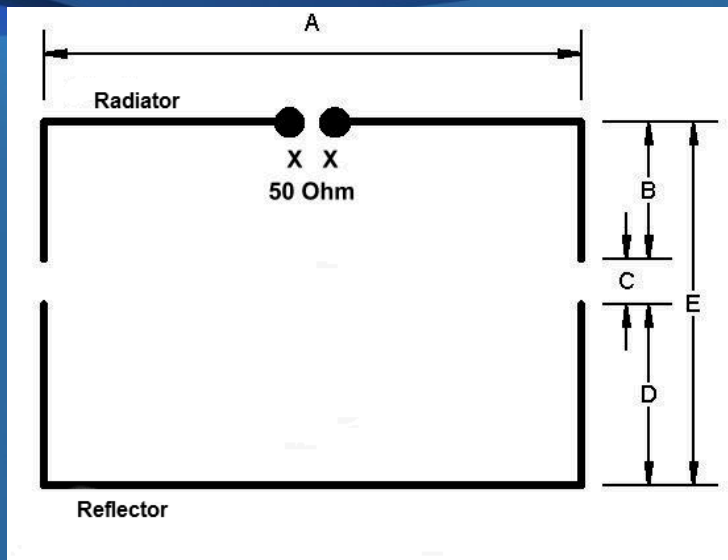
ANTENNA

Problem with a vertical?



ANTENNA

I use a Moxon:



RADIO

TWO METER VHF FM RADIO

FREQUENCY: 145.800 MHz

DON'T WORRY ABOUT DOPPLER SHIFT

SOUND CARD

COMPUTER SOUND CARDS ARE NOT RECOMMENDED
44.1 KHz response

ANY SOUND CARD USED FOR DIGITAL MODE WORK

SIMPLE USB DONGLE WORKS VERY WELL
48 Khz response

\$8 - \$10 from Amazon

Cable to connect radio to sound card mic

COMPUTER

LAPTOP

DESKTOP

RASPBERRY PI

OPERATING SYSTEM:
Linux, Windows

SOFTWARE

DEPENDS ON OPERATING SYSTEM

SATELLITE TRACKING SOFTWARE:

FOR LINUX: GPREDICT

FOR WINDOWS: ORBITRON

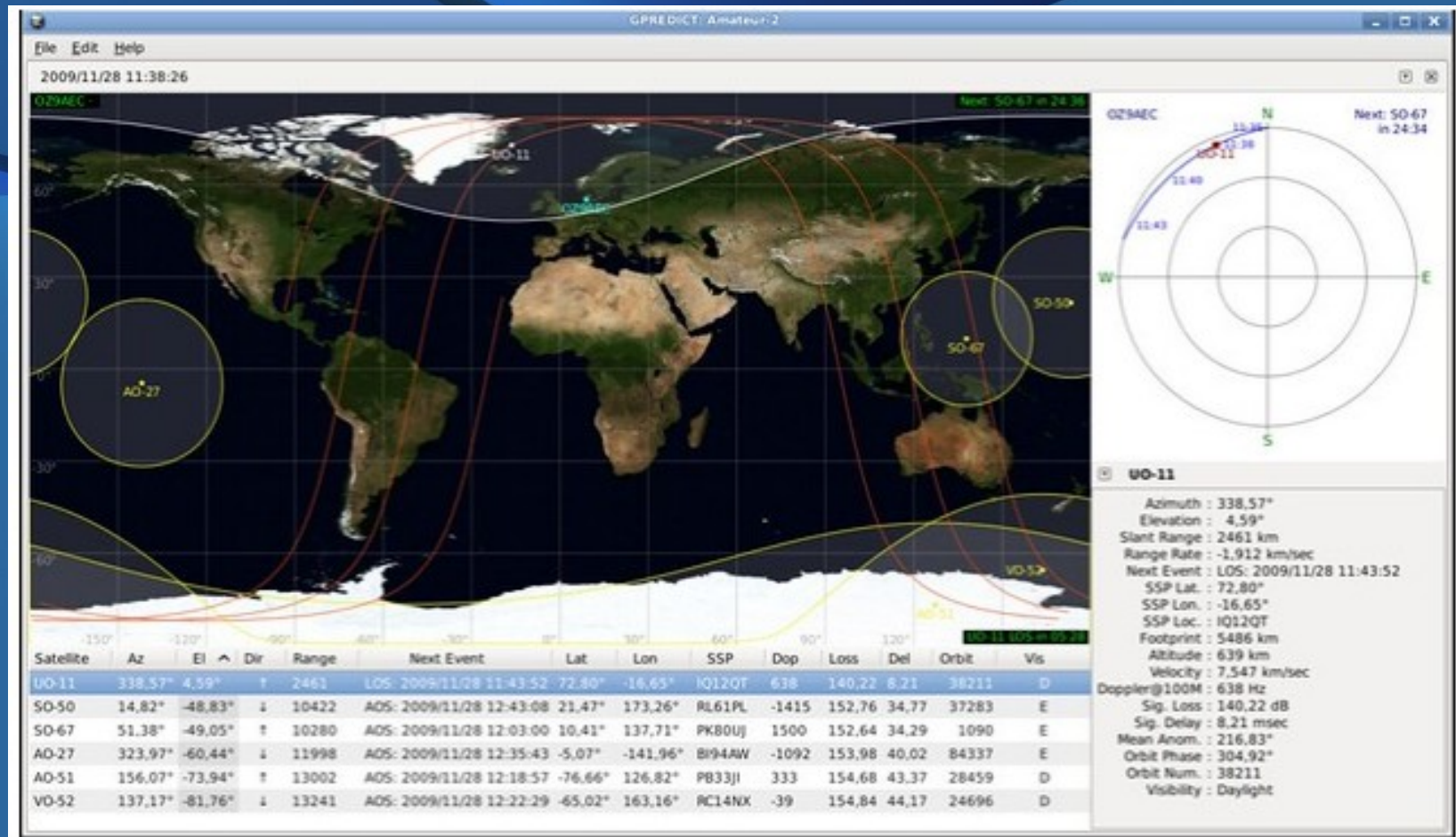
IMAGE DECODING:

FOR LINUX: QSSTV

FOR WINDOWS: MMSSTV

THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR BOTH OS

GPREDICT



QSSTV

The screenshot displays the QSSTV 9.4.4 software interface. The main window features a menu bar with 'File', 'Options', and 'Help'. Below the menu are tabs for 'Receive', 'Transmit', and 'Gallery'. A toolbar contains icons for play, stop, refresh, save, and print. The central area is a large spectrogram showing a signal with a color scale on the right. To the right of the spectrogram is a control panel with the following settings:

- SSTV** (selected) / **DRM**
- Auto Slant:
- Autosave:
- Sensitivity: Low
- Mode: Auto
- Default Image format: jpg
- Save if Complete (%): 40
- Call: LOG QSO
- No sync

At the bottom right of the control panel, there is a table with the following data:

Max dB Range		Avg	
-40	+	21	+
-	-	-	-
		0.90	+
			-

The status bar at the bottom of the window contains the following elements: 'No Rig', a frequency dropdown set to '144.8875', 'WF Text', 'BSR', 'WF ID', 'CW ID', and a 'PTT' button with a green indicator light.

SOME IMAGES



SOFTWARE SOURCES

GPREDICT:

github.com/csete/gpredict

QSSTV:

github.com/ON4QZ/qsstv

ISS SCHEDULED TRANSMISSION:

ariss.org/upcoming-sstv-events.html

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

amasat.org.uk/beginners/iss-sstv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4yHEtHGm_7