



# DR2X

JO 40 QL

July Contest  
2024

2m QRO  
&  
10 GHz  
QRPp

## Dear friends

This year's July contest has something in common with last year's: No summer weather at all. At least on Saturday afternoon. While the weather was fine in the morning, it became increasingly cloudy as predicted. After the start of the contest, it rained more heavily and, above all, we had a gale-force wind. But fortunately we did not have any thunderstorms like in southern Germany. There was only one flash of lightning in the distance. On Sunday it was dry again all day, although not very warm.

Once again, only five antenna systems were in place. In addition, a small omnidirectional antenna with vertical polarisation was set up exclusively for reception. We hope for some more QSOs, because not every hobby colleague has a Yagi with horizontal polarisation at home. In fact, there were only few QSOs with louder signal on this vertical antenna. So you will not win a contest with it. But conversely, the effort required to set up this receiving antenna was very low. Let us see if we stick with it in the future.

We were also QRV on 10 GHz microwave just for fun. But more on that later.

## Thank you for the points and best 73



*From left to right standing: Michael **DF2FA**, Eugen **DL3ZAL***

*From left to right sitting: Eberhard **DG7NCY**, Nino **DL3IAS**, Dirk **DK7CM**, Jörg **DL6ZBN**, Matthias **DL8DAU***



## Station and Antennas for 2m



### Equipment & Antennas @ 2m

- Elecraft K3s transceiver
- Kuhne transverter TR144H+40 with 14 MHz IF
- BEKO power amplifier 750 Watt out
- Additional crystal filter for the 14 MHz IF (built by DA0FF)
- Heil headset
- Schurr CW paddel
- Logging programm WinTest
- 2x2x9, 2x4x4, 2x8, 1/2 Vertical (only for RX)





Contest Operation and Results on 2m

UTC	1. OP	2. OP
14 - 16	DL3IAS	
16 - 18	DLFDAU	
18 - 20	DG7NCY	DL3ZAL DL3ZAL
20 - 22	DL3ZAL	DL3ZAL?
22 - 00	DL6ZBN	*
00 - 02	DL6ZBN	
02 - 04	DLFDAU	
04 - 06	DL3IAS	
06 - 08	DG7NCY	*DLFDAU
08 - 10	DL3ZAL	*
10 - 12	DF2FA	*DK7CH
12 - 14	DLFDAU	*

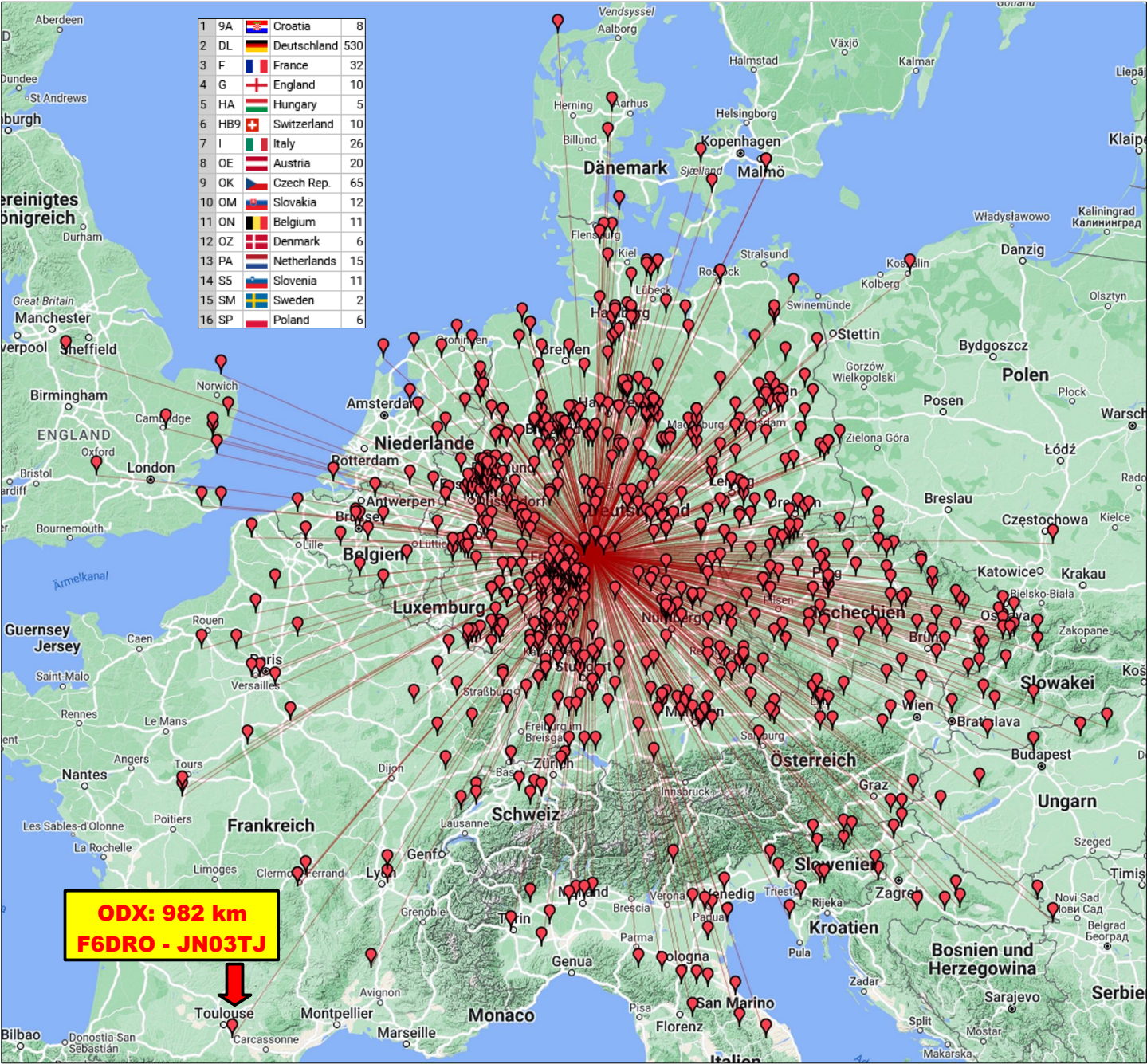


IO91	IO93	JN03	JN07	JN09	JN15	JN18	JN19	JN24	JN25
JN28	JN35	JN36	JN37	JN38	JN39	JN44	JN45	JN46	JN47
JN48	JN49	JN53	JN54	JN55	JN56	JN57	JN58	JN59	JN63
JN64	JN65	JN66	JN67	JN68	JN69	JN75	JN76	JN77	JN78
JN79	JN85	JN86	JN87	JN88	JN89	JN95	JN97	JN98	JN99
JO01	JO02	JO10	JO11	JO20	JO21	JO22	JO23	JO30	JO31
JO32	JO33	JO40	JO41	JO42	JO43	JO44	JO45	JO46	JO47
JO50	JO51	JO52	JO53	JO54	JO55	JO60	JO61	JO62	JO63
JO64	JO65	JO70	JO71	JO72	JO73	JO80	JO84	JO90	KN08

BAND	QSO	DUP	LOC	POINTS	AVG PTS	AVG DIS
144	768	2	90	231567	301.5	301.9
TOTAL	768	2	90	231567	301.5	301.9

ENDERGEBNIS: 231 567

At times, the conditions were not good at all. In the end, our result was slightly worse than July 2023 with a claimed 801 QSOs and 257 509 Points.





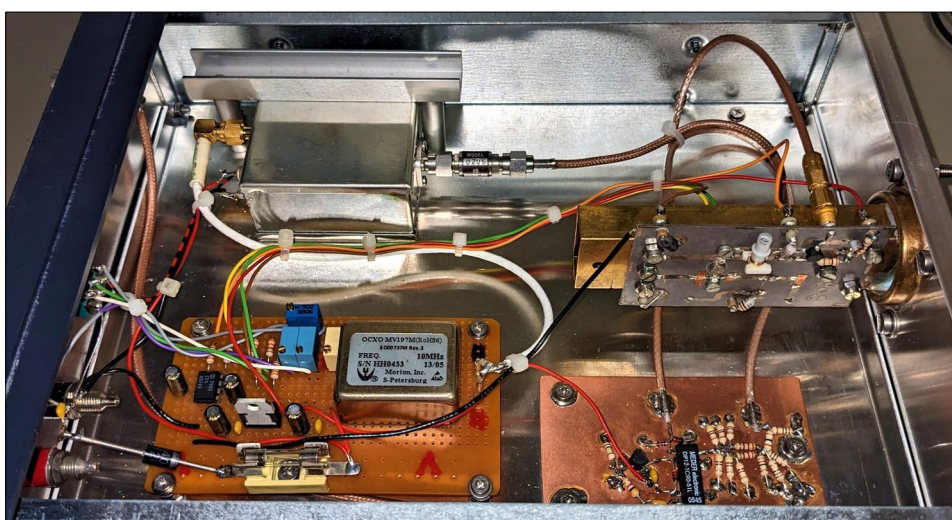
## QRPP Adventures on 10 GHz (Part 1)

Although DR2X is a VHF contest group, there are always opportunities to experiment on other frequencies. This time again I took my QRPP Mini Transverter "Portable Simple" for 10 GHz with me. The goal: A new Tropo ODX with this simple transverter from the nearby "Herchenhainer Höhe" (JO40PL) to Daniel DL3IAE in the Palatinate (JN49DG). For this July Contest Walter DH6FAE and Frank DG5FEB are also going to be QRV from JO40PL as usual. So they should get points from the DR2X location (JO40QL). Of course, a single callsign cannot be active from several locations in a contest. I therefore needed the support of my DR2X colleagues.

We started at the DR2X site on Saturday evening. Eberhard DG7NCY kindly took over the two QSOs between Gunzenau and Herchenhain. Our signal was weak (no line of site), but it was sufficient for SSB. Another potential QSO candidate was Günter DL5FCW near Frankfurt (JO40EA). As we were too weak for SSB, Eugen DL3ZAL made this QSO with his CW skills. Incidentally, this was Eugen's first ever 10 GHz QSO.

### Equipment & Antenna @ 10 GHz

- Transverter "Portable Simple", design by DC0DA
- TX Output SSB: 0,25 mW
- TX Output CW: 2 mW (fix frequency 10368,15 MHz)
- Noise figure around 10 dB
- 10 GHz PLL XO (10224 MHz or 10368,15 MHz) by DF9NP
- Morion 10 MHz OCXO
- YAESU FT817 as 2m IF transceiver
- Original FT817 hand microphone
- Palm Mini CW paddel with the Code Cube
- Antenna 48 cm parabolic dish PROCOM (Gain 27 dBD)
- 12 V / 6 Ah LiFePO4 battery by EREMIT





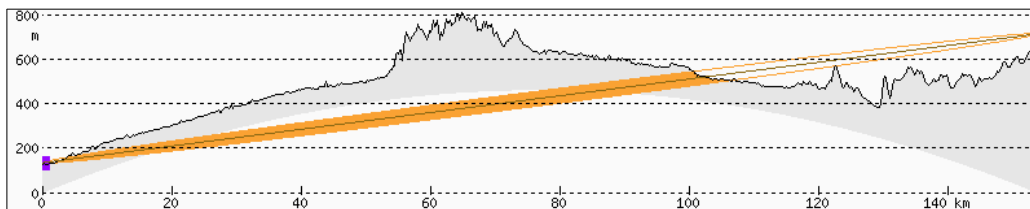
## QRPp Adventures on 10 GHz (Part 2)

Sunday morning at 10:00 Matthias DL8DAU and I started our short visit to JO40PL. Matthias already knew this QTH well from earlier amateur radio and bicycle activity. We met Frank and Walter on site. Frank was already QRV, but Walter still had to set up his station. After my station was up and running, the Feldberg / Taunus beacon DB0MOT was copied with big signal. Visibility was relatively good. In addition to the Taunus and the Odenwald, the skyline of Frankfurt could be seen to the naked eye. It was a little bit colder than in Gunzenau as we were 200 metres higher.

Shortly afterwards I was able to meet Daniel on the ON4KST chat for a sked. His QRO signal (20 000 mW) was as expected very loud. After a short optimisation my 2 mW QRPp signal was weak, but perfectly audible in the Palatinate. So it was no problem to do a CW QSO over a distance of 154 km. But it was not loud enough for SSB (10 dB less TX power). **Attention: We had no Line of sight!** This meant an additional attenuation of at least 40 dB. With line of sight, FM would have been possible without any problems.

I offered Matthias the opportunity to make a QSO with my station. However, as an EME operator, he is used to do QRO. Therefore he preferred Frank's station with an TX output of 8 000 mW for his first ever 10 GHz QSO in SSB. There were no other potential QSO candidates for our QRPp signal at this time.

At 12:00 Matthias and I were back at DR2X. And nothing stood in the way for the well-deserved barbecue lunch.



**VIDEO** A look around JO40PL (4 MB)

<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/D7XOQXCATHOSStCkw-TYCC>

**VIDEO** DL8DAU 1<sup>st</sup> 10 GHz QSO (10 MB)

<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/sSjZbFuQTPyTPlS7eUsrw>

**VIDEO** Big SSB Signal from DL3IAE (4 MB)

<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/tIDg2-BORHKeB7xBriyWMg>





## *Impressions*

