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| **Radiocommunication Study Groups** |  |
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| Preliminary Draft New Report ITU-R M.[AMATEUR.CHARACTERISTICS] | |
| **Amateur and amateur-satellite services characteristics and usage in the  1 240-1 300 MHz frequency band** | |

# 1 Introduction

The frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz is allocated worldwide to the amateur service on a secondary basis and is used for a range of applications. The amateur-satellite service (Earth‑to-space) may operate in the frequency band 1 260-1 270 MHz under No. **5.282** of the Radio Regulations.

The frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz is also allocated worldwide to the Radionavigation-Satellite Service (RNSS) in the space-to-Earth direction on a primary basis. Many RNSS systems are operational and various types of RNSS receivers are being in use. Report ITU-R M.2458 summarizes the RNSS applications in this frequency band.

Resolution **774 (WRC-19)** invites ITU-R to study possible technical and operational measures to ensure the protection of RNSS (space-to-Earth) receivers from the amateur and amateur-satellite services in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz, without considering the removal of these amateur and amateur-satellite service allocations. This report responds to *resolves* 1 of Resolution **774 (WRC-19**) to perform a detailed review of the different systems and applications used in the amateur service and amateur-satellite service allocations in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz.

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# 2 Abbreviations and definitions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AFSK | Audio Frequency Shift Keying |
| AMSAT | International Amateur Satellite Organisation(s) |
| BNetzA | Federal Network Agency for Electricity, Gas, Telecommunications, Post and Railway |
| C4FM | Proprietary standard for digital voice and data communication ([YAESU](http://www.yaesu.com/indexVS.cfm?cmd=DisplayProducts&ProdCatID=249&encProdID=8B1A771611E9963B6AB769C0EC0F6B68&DivisionID=65&isArchived=0)) |
| CEPT | Conference Européenne des Administration des postes et des télécommunications |
| CEPT ECC | Electronic Communications Committee (CEPT) |
| ECC WGFM | Working Group Frequency Management (CEPT ECC) |
| ECC WGSE | Working Group Spectrum Engineering (CEPT ECC) |
| CSI | Galileo Expert Group on Compatibility, Signals and Interoperability |
| CW | Continuous wave (Amateur Service: Morse coded on-off keying of carrier) |
| DARC e.V. | Deutscher Amateur-Radio-Club e.V., Baunatal |
| DATV | Digital Amateur TV (applying DVB-S and DVB-S2 Standards) |
| DLR RfM | Deutsche Agentur für Luft-und Raumfahrt – Raumfahrt Management (German Aerospace Center) |
| DLR GfR | Certified Air Navigation Service Provider Galileo Control Center Oberpfaffenhofen ([www.dlr-gfr.de](http://www.dlr-gfr.de) ) |
| DMR | Digital Mobile Radio ([ETSI Standard](http://www.etsi.org/website/document/technologies/leaflets/digitalmobilradio.pdf)) |
| D-Star | Digital Smart Technology for Amateur Radio (Proprietary standard for digital voice and data communication ([ICOM](http://www.icomeurope.com/files/HAM_D-STAR_Europe_BRO_E_20150526.pdf))) |
| e.i.r.p. | Effective isotropic radiated power |
| FM ATV | Analogue (FM) Amateur TV |
| FSK | Frequency Shift Keying |
| IARU | [International Amateur Radio Union](http://www.iaru.org/regions.html) |
| [ICD](https://www.gsc-europa.eu/electronic-library/programme-reference-documents#Galileo%20pub) | Open Service Interface Control Document [Issue 1.3](https://www.gsc-europa.eu/system/files/galileo_documents/Galileo-OS-SIS-ICD.pdf) 12/2016 (EU Galileo) |
| [ISTA](https://www.unibw.de/lrt9) | Institute of Space Technology & Space Applications, Universität der Bundeswehr |
| ITU-R | International Telecommunication Union |
| JRC | EU Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy |
| MGM | Machine generated modes |
| [PSK31](http://rsgb.org/main/get-started-in-amateur-radio/operating-your-new-station/psk31-work-the-world-with-low-power/) | Phase Shift Keying Mode (31Hz) |
| RTTY | Radio Teletyping |
| SATV | Amateur Satellite TV |
| SSTV | Slow Scan TV |
| TDMA | Time Division Multiple Access |
| WPM | Words per minute (Morse telegraphy) |
| [WSPR](http://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjt.html) | Weak Signal Propagation Reporter |
| [WSJT-X](https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjtx.html) | Weak signal narrow-band data communication (Joe Taylor, K1JT) |

*{Editor’s note: Table to be updated at a later stage}*

# 3 Relevant publications (ITU Recommendations and Reports and others)

Recommendation ITU-R [M.1732](https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-M.1732/en) – Characteristics of systems operating in the amateur and amateur-satellite services for use in sharing studies

Report ITU-R [M.2458](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-REP-M.2458) – Radionavigation-satellite service applications in the 1 164-1 215 MHz, 1 215-1 300 MHz and 1 559-1 610 MHz frequency bands

Study Question ITU-R [48-7/5](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-QUE-SG05.48) – Related results of the WP 5A work on the Study Question on techniques and frequency usage in the amateur service and amateur-satellite service

Handbook [ITU-R 52](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-HDB-52) – Amateur and amateur-satellite services

IARU [R1] band plan for the band 1 240-1 300 MHz

<http://iaru-r1.org/index.php/spectrum-and-band-plans/uhf/23-centimeter>

Recommendation [ITU-R M.2034-0](http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-M.2034/en) - Telegraphic alphabet for data communication by phase shift keying at 31 baud in the amateur and amateur-satellite services.

{Editor’s note: An appropriate order of the publications should be taken into account}

# 4 Amateur and amateur-satellite service band plans in the 1 240‑1 300 MHz frequency band

Before going into the details of the individual amateur and amateur-satellite services applications in the 1 240-1 300 MHz frequency band it is necessary to understand the general way in which amateur and amateur-satellite services activities are organised to maximise usage of the various frequency bands and minimise interference between incompatible amateur service applications. This is achieved through the use of band plans which recommend where particular applications are used within each amateur and amateur-satellite service allocations. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) develops such band plans on behalf of all amateur services.

[The IARU coordinates and represents the interests of radio amateurs through its national member-associations. Three IARU regional organizations correspond to the ITU Radio Regions and are recognized as representing the amateur and amateur-satellite services by the regional telecommunications organizations.] [*20210429 Ed: Keep for now*]

Amateur and amateur-satellite services band planning is achieved on a regional basis in order to take into account the regional differences with the frequency allocations. The current IARU recommended band plans for the frequency range 1 240-1 300 MHz across the three regions are summarized in Table 1.

The usage of the frequency range by the amateur and amateur-satellite services is driven by the varied operational and experimental interests of the users themselves. To support this, each regional band plan is developed to maintain order, avoid conflict and interference between amateur service applications, provide understanding of the most suitable frequencies for specific activities and form a basis for intra and inter-service coordination when required.

The band plans are not mandatory in regional regulations but are strongly recommended for adoption and in general are followed by the individual national societies. In some cases, the regional IARU band plan may be adopted to some extent in national regulations, and it may need to be adjusted on a national basis to facilitate national coordination and sharing with other services in the band.

Respecting the band plan is common practice in the amateur service and is necessary to facilitate successful radio contacts especially between countries and for inter-regional communications.

The band plan is reviewed periodically and may be adjusted to reflect new technologies and evolving applications in the amateur services. External influences driven by the requirements to share with other services can also be taken into account. The regional band plans are maintained, published and approved by the IARU regional bodies.

The published band plans for each of the three regions may differ and may not be fully harmonised at the detailed level for every amateur service application. However, it is necessary to harmonise parts of the band for specific applications where these could involve inter-regional communications. This applies particularly to parts of the band recommended for narrowband weak signal applications.

Furthermore, the blocks identified for ATV use can accommodate a number of systems depending on the bandwidth occupied by the technology in use. The actual assignments are planned on a national basis.

Table 1

Global Summary of amateur service and amateur-satellite-service IARU band plans

| Frequency range  (MHz) | Applications | Comments |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 240-1 260 | Low bandwidth telegraphy, voice and data modes up to around 20 kHz.  Amateur TV (ATV using Analogue or Digital technologies). | Organised into channelized groups for voice and data applications in some regions.  One 16.75 MHz block is identified for ATV in this range in Region 1.  Two 6 MHz blocks are identified for ATV in Region 2. |
| 1 260-1 270 | Satellite uplink band. | In Region 2 simplex ATV is also identified for experimental use in this range. |
| 1 270-1 296 | Low bandwidth telegraphy, voice and data modes up to around 20 kHz.  Amateur TV (ATV using Analogue or Digital technologies). | Organised into channelized groups for voice and data applications in some regions.  One 18.994 MHz block is identified for ATV in this range in Region 1.  Two 6 MHz blocks are identified for ATV in Region 2. |
| 1 296-1 297 | Low bandwidth telegraphy, voice and data modes up to 3 kHz. | Focused on narrowband weak signal applications in all three regions including beacons. No channelization. |
| 1 297-1 300 | Low bandwidth voice and data modes up to around 20 kHz. Medium bandwidth data up to 150 kHz bandwidth. | Organized into channelized groups for voice and data applications in some regions. |

# 5 Applications and typical operational characteristics of the amateur and amateur-satellite services operating in the frequency band 1 240‑1 300 MHz

## 5.1 Amateur and amateur-satellite applications and station categories

The detailed list of amateur and the amateur-satellite services applications in the band 1 240‑1 300 MHz can be divided into three categories:

1) Home station

This refers to equipment located at the station licence holder’s home address.

2) Temporary “portable” station

A temporarily sited station is usually located in an advantageous position (usually high ground) away from a home station location and operational for a short period radiosport contest, an experimental long-distance communication test or a time-limited special activity event.

3) Permanent installation (sometimes referred to as “automatic” or “unmanned” stations)

Permanent installations refer to stations installed away from a home station. They operate as propagation beacons, voice, amateur television (ATV) or data repeaters. As permanently installed stations, these are licensed by the national authority in their own right for their designated location, operating frequency and output power. The licence and responsibility of the station operation are usually associated with an already licensed radio amateur operator known as the “keeper” of the installation.

Propagation beacons are usually intended to operate continuously and are required to transmit a short repeating message using on/off keying or a narrow-band FSK signal with call sign ID and location information.

Voice repeaters usually re-transmit narrow-band analogue and digital voice traffic when activated with a signal on the input frequency and are mostly associated with extending geographic coverage area. Data and ATV repeater stations transmit wider bandwidth amateur signals and ATV repeater stations may transmit test signals when not being accessed by a user station on the input channel. All repeater stations are required by national regulations to transmit identification information.

Satellite communications (1 260-1 270 MHz, Earth-to-space only; see RR No. **5.282**) and mobile stations are possible, but these are rare in this frequency band. Tables 2 and 3 provide a matrix of the amateur and amateur-satellite applications versus station categories:

Table 2

Narrow-band amateur and amateur satellite applications against the station category

| Application | Station type | | | | Max. bandwidth | Comments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Home | Temporary | Installation | |
| Repeater | Beacon |
| Voice (Analogue SSB) | Yes | Yes |  |  | 2 700 Hz | Long distance tropospheric weak signal communications. Radiosport operation (incl. EME). |
| Voice (Analogue NBFM) | Yes | Yes | Yes |  | 12 500 and 25 000 Hz (channel width dependent) | Local neighbourhood communications.  Satellite communications. |
| Voice (Digital) | Yes |  | Yes |  | 12 500 Hz | Local neighbourhood communications |
| Telegraphy (Morse code On/Off keying) | Yes | Yes |  | Yes | 500 Hz | Long distance tropospheric weak signal communications. Radiosport[[1]](#footnote-1) operation (incl. EME). |
| Machine Generated Modes e.g. RTTY, SSTV[[2]](#footnote-2), PSK31[[3]](#footnote-3), WSJT[[4]](#footnote-4) | Yes | Yes |  | Yes | 6 to 2 700 Hz  Mode dependent | Local and long distance tropospheric weak signal communications. (incl. EME). Imaging |
| Data e.g. AFSK 1k2, FSK 9k6, D‑STAR[[5]](#footnote-5), Digital Data 128 kbit/s | Yes | Yes (Mobile) | Yes |  | 12.5 to 150 kHz  Mode dependent | Local neighbourhood communication links. |

Table 3

Wide band amateur applications against the station category

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Application | Station type | | | | Max. bandwidth | Comments |
| Home | Temporary | Installation | |
| Repeater | Beacon |
| Analogue ATV(FM-TV) | Yes | Yes | Yes |  | 20 MHz | Legacy technology, deployments decreasing. |
| Digital ATV  (DVB Standards) | Yes | Yes | Yes |  | 1-8 MHz  Symbol rate dependent | State of the art technology, deployments increasing |

Modern ATV installations employ spectrally efficient digital TV transmitters based on DVB-S/MPEG-2 signals. Symbol rates of 2 MBd or 4 MBd operate in lower bandwidth channels and further experimentation continues to increase the spectrum efficiency of amateur TV signals. It has been shown possible to transmit HD MPEG-4 signals with symbol rates less than 333 kBd in a bandwidth as little as 500 kHz.

## 5.2 Typical amateur station antenna characteristics in the 1 240‑1 300 MHz band

There is no standard amateur station and in most cases the antenna installation at any individual amateur station is constrained or influenced by the physical location and town planning restrictions. The following antenna types are typical and based on deployments detailed in published information relating to activity periods and reports from radiosport contests. In general home and temporary stations use highly directional, narrow beam width antennas in this frequency range.

1) Home station and temporary “portable” station antennas

Home stations generally use a single directional antenna, however in a few cases multiple antennas are combined to increase the array gain. This is more usual for EME[[6]](#footnote-6) operators for whom high antenna gain is essential for overcoming the high path and reflection loss. A higher performance EME station might use instead a medium size dish antenna. Table 4 contains the antenna details:

Table 4

Typical home station and temporary “portable” station antennas

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Antenna type | Gain | 3 dB beam width |
| Single Yagi beam (23 to 55 element) | 18 to 21 dBi | 18° to 10° |
| Multiple Yagi beams (for EME)  Dish antenna (for EME) | 21 dBi  32 dBi (4 m diameter) | 10°  4° |

2) Permanent installation antennas

Permanent installations operate for different applications using a variety of antenna types characterized by different gain and directivity figures. However, most permanent installations antennas are less directional and (in the case of repeaters) are generally intended to provide coverage over a local area. It should be noted, that the antenna type used depends not only on the application but also on the local topography[[7]](#footnote-7). Table 5 summarizes antenna characteristics with indications of minimum, median and maximum parameter values of a typical installation.

Table 5

Antenna characteristic of a typical permanent installation

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Antenna types | Gain[[8]](#footnote-8) | Beamwidth in the azimuth plane. |
| Various (e.g. linear slot, co-linear array, horn, flat panel etc.) | Minimum = 2.15 dBi  Median = 13 dBi  Maximum: refer to footnote 7 for information | Median = 60° (−3 dB)  Maximum = Omnidirectional |

Antennas with linear polarization are mainly used, but occasionally circular polarization can also be found.

## 5.3 Typical amateur station power level distribution in the 1 240‑1 300 MHz band

Typical power level distribution can be derived from published information about the stations that submit information resulting from national activity periods and reports from radiosport contests.

NOTE: In the following tables the power is specified differently because of the different sources of information.

1) Home station and temporary “portable” station

Table 6

Transmitter power ranges in use

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Transmitter power  (watts) | % home stations | % temporary stations |
| Up to 10 | 47% | 61.5% |
| 11 – 25 | 9% | 7.5% |
| 26 – 100 | 26% | 7.5% |
| 101 – 300 | 12% | 15% |
| Over 300 | 6% | 7.5% |

{France comment: It would be necessary to specify in Table 6 what transmitter power corresponds to what type of signal (narrowband, wideband). These specifications would be useful for the simulations scenarios to be considered by WP 4C and for avoiding any confusion.}

2) Permanent installation

Propagation beacon and repeater station directories can be consulted to gather information on the permanent stations deployed within a territory. They are usually licensed to operate at a specific ERP. Table 7 summarises information on stations in current use extracted from published information from a number of countries:

Table 7

Transmitter radiated power ranges in use

| ERP  (watts) | % propagation beacons | % repeaters |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Up to 10 | 69% | 16% |
| 11 – 25 | 8% | 76% |
| 26 – 100 | 20% | 8% |
| 101 – 300 | 1% | 0% |
| Over 300 | 1% | 0% |

According to the information in Table 7, no repeater is currently in use with an ERP of more than 100 W. However, based on the extract from the license database of one administration on unmanned amateur radio stations parameters, it is indicated that some repeater / relay - stations are licensed to operate with a radiated power up to 380 W[[9]](#footnote-9) ERP, but the operational status of these stations is unknown. Note that there is a limit on the radiated power of unmanned stations given by national regulation and licensing conditions.

## 5.4 Representative antenna heights

The following antenna heights are representative of typical amateur station installations.

– Typical antenna height for a home station; 12 m above ground level.

– Typical antenna height for a temporary station; 3 m to 15 m above ground level.

– Typical height for a permanent installation station; 25 m above ground level.

Permanent installation stations are often installed at an advantageous location so as to take advantage of elevated local terrain or tall structures in order to increase the effective antenna height.

## 5.5 Amateur station 1 240-1 300 MHz band usage patterns

For all home and temporary “portable” station applications, narrow-band or wideband, the highest number of actively transmitting amateur stations can be found during the scheduled operating and radiosport contest periods. Table 8 summarises the total scheduled operating and contest periods scheduled in one region for a typical year. As these activities are usually formalised in the amateur operator calendars, the published national results[[10]](#footnote-10) can be consulted to determine the number of transmitting stations that were active during any one activity or contest period.

Table 8

Scheduled operating periods and active operating station numbers

| Usage type | Annual scheduled operating periods | Total active stations per scheduled operating period | Active temporary stations per scheduled operating period |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Narrow-band activity period and radiosport  (in the 1296-1297 MHz portion) | Total, on average 108 hours over a year | From 9 to 140 maximum depending on the country reviewed. | 15 to 20 maximum depending on the country reviewed. |
| EME activity  (in the 1296-1297 MHz portion) | 5 × 24-hour contest periods | Up to 10 maximum depending on the country reviewed.  (Maximum < 70 across the European area) | None |
| Wideband (typically ATV) activity period and radiosport  (in any portion identified for ATV applications) | Total, on average 120 hours over a year | From 1 to 24 maximum depending on the country reviewed.  (Maximum < 100 across the European area) | 10 maximum depending on the country reviewed. |

The figures presented in Table 8 can be used to estimate the amount of time over a one year period when certain parts of the band (depending on the activity) are at their busiest with the highest number of actively transmitting amateur stations. For those activities concentrated in the 1296 – 1297 MHz portion of the band and assuming the moon is visible for 24 hours (an over estimation) then the following can be deduced:

Total narrowband ‘busy hour’ activity period = 108 hours (1.2% of a year).

Total EME ‘busy hour’ activity period = 120 hours (1.4% of a year).

For the wideband activities taking place in the identified parts of the band plan, the following can be deduced:

Total wideband ‘busy hour’ activity period = 120 hours (1.4% of a year).

Table 8 also shows that the number of active stations involved in the EME and wideband activities is considerably lower than those active in the narrow band activities.

Permanent installation stations present a different scenario when considering the operational time. Unmanned amateur radio stations are more or less in continuous operation, while manned stations only transmit intermittently. Propagation beacon and repeater station directories from a representative region can be consulted to develop the summary presented in Table 9.

Table 9

Permanent Installation station operating periods in a typical year

| Usage type | Annual operation | Active installations |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Narrow-band propagation beacons | Transmitting continuously usually. | From 4 to 20 depending on the country reviewed.  Region 1 = 88 in total. |
| Narrow-band repeaters | Low and only when activated on the input frequency by a user station.  May transmit more regularly if a beacon mode is present. | From 9 to 19 depending on the country reviewed. |
| ATV repeaters (the users are usually home stations) | Low and only when activated on the input frequency by a user station in a random and sporadic manner.  May transmit more regularly if a beacon mode is present. | From 10 to 18 depending on the country reviewed.  5 to 10 users within the local coverage area transmitting one at a time. |

## 5.6 Activity factors of amateur transmitting stations in the 1 240‑1 300 MHz band

Activity factor considers the amount of time that any particular station is transmitting during any operational period of activity. All applications involve two-way communication requiring periods of reception as well as transmission. It is usual practice for any home station or temporary portable station to spend more time receiving than transmitting.

Maximum Activity Factor for home station and temporary “portable” stations = 50% and typically less.

Any permanent installation station operating in a beacon mode will exhibit a 100% activity factor.

## 5.7 User density of amateur transmitting stations in the 1 240-1 300 MHz band

1) Home station and temporary “portable” station

– For narrow-band activity periods the maximum density of transmitting stations = 0.000 2 stations/km2.

– For wideband activity periods the maximum density of transmitting stations = 0.000 1 stations/km2.

– For EME operations the maximum density of transmitting stations =   
0.000 013 stations/km2.

Recognising that not all active stations may submit a record of their activities, a 33% uplift has been added to the total active stations per scheduled operating period from Table 8.

2) Permanent installation

– For narrow-band data and voice repeaters the average density of transmitting stations = 0.000 3 stations/km2.

– For wideband ATV repeaters, the average density of transmitting stations = 0.000 1 stations/km2.

– For propagation radio beacon stations, the average density of transmitting stations = 0.000 1 stations/km2.

## 5.8 Table of transmitter characteristics and parameters [extracted from Recommendation ITU-R M.1732]

TABLE 10

Characteristics of amateur systems

| Parameter | Value | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Applications | Morse on-off keying, PSK31, NBDP | Analogue voice systems | Data, digital voice and multimedia systems |
| Frequency range(1) | 0.902-3.5 GHz | 0.902-3.5 GHz | 0.902-3.5 GHz |
| Necessary bandwidth and class of emission (emission designator) | 150HA1A 150HJ2A 60H0J2B 250HF1B | 2K70J3E 11K0F3E 16K0F3E 20K0F3E | 2K70G1D 6K00F7D 16K0D1D 150KF1W 2M50G7W |
| Transmitter power (dBW)(2) | 3 to 31.7 | 3 to 31.7 | 3 to 31.7 |
| Feeder loss (dB) | 1 to 6 | 1 to 6 | 1 to 6 |
| Transmitting antenna gain (dBi) | 10 to 42 | 10 to 42 | 10 to 42 |
| Typical e.i.r.p. (dBW)(3) | 1 to 45 | 1 to 45 | 1 to 45 |
| Antenna polarization | Horizontal, vertical | Horizontal, vertical | Horizontal, vertical |
| (1) Amateur bands within the frequency ranges shown conform to RR Article **5**.  (2) Maximum powers are determined by each administration.  (3) May be limited by RR Article **5** in some cases. | | | |

TABLE 11

Characteristics of Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) systems

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Parameter | Value |
| Frequency range(1) | 1.24-3.5 GHz |
| Necessary bandwidth and class of emission (emission designator) | 50H0A1A, 50H0J2A, 1K80F1B |
| Transmitter power (dBW)(2) | 17 to 31.7 |
| Feeder loss (dB) | 1 to 4 |
| Transmitting antenna gain (dBi) | 25 to 40 |
| Typical e.i.r.p. (dBW) | 40 to 68 |
| Antenna polarization | Horizontal, vertical, LHCP, RHCP |
| (1) Amateur bands within the frequency ranges shown conform to RR Article **5**.  (2) Maximum powers are determined by each administration.  *Usage note:* Main antenna beam direction can be assumed to be pointing above the horizon.  *Emission note:* EME increasingly employs digital “Weak Signal Modes” which are structured for very basic communications with low data rates and narrow bandwidth for best weak signal performance. | |

TABLE 12

Characteristics of amateur~~-~~satellite systems in the Earth-to-space direction

| Parameter | Value |
| --- | --- |
| Frequency range(1) | 1.24-3.5 GHz |
| Necessary bandwidth and class of emission (emission designator) | 150HA1A, 150HJ2A |
| Necessary bandwidth and class of emission (emission designator) (2) | 2K70J3E, 2K70J2E, 16K0F3E, 44K2F1D, 88K3F1D, 350KF1D,2M50G7W |
| Transmitter power (dBW)(3) | 3 to 31.7 |
| Feeder loss (dB) | 1 to 2 |
| Transmitting antenna gain (dBi) | 10 to 42 |
| Typical e.i.r.p. (dBW) | 3 to 45 |
| Antenna polarization | Horizontal, vertical, RHCP, LHCP |
| (1) Amateur bands within the frequency ranges shown conform to RR Article **5**.  (2) Any mode with a necessary bandwidth greater than 44 kHz may require higher e.i.r.p values than shown in the table to achieve a satisfactory link budget.  (3) Maximum powers are determined by each administration. | |

## 5.9 Band plan(s)

Amateur and amateur-satellite services band planning is achieved on a regional basis in order to take into account the regional differences with the frequency allocations. The current IARU recommended band plans for the frequency range 1 240-1 300 MHz across the three regions are summarized in the table below. (From Document [5A/276](https://www.itu.int/md/R19-WP5A-C-0276/en))

The published band plans for each of the three regions may differ and may not be fully harmonised at the detailed level for every amateur service application. However, it is necessary to harmonise parts of the band for specific applications where these could involve inter-regional communications. This applies particularly to parts of the band recommended for narrowband weak signal applications. (From Document [5A/276](https://www.itu.int/md/R19-WP5A-C-0276/en))

The three recommended band plans across each of the IARU regions can be summarized according to the table below:

TABLE 13

Global Summary of amateur service and amateur-satellite-service IARU band plans

| Frequency range (MHz) | Applications | Comments |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 240-1 260 | Low bandwidth telegraphy, voice and data modes up to around 20 kHz.  Amateur TV (ATV using Analogue or Digital technologies). | Organised into channelized groups for voice and data applications in some regions.  One 16.75 MHz block is identified for ATV in this range in Region 1.  Two 6 MHz blocks are identified for ATV in Region 2. |
| 1 260-1 270 | Satellite uplink band. | In Region 2 simplex ATV is also identified for experimental use in this range. |
| 1 270-1 296 | Low bandwidth telegraphy, voice and data modes up to around 20 kHz.  Amateur TV (ATV using Analogue or Digital technologies). | Organised into channelized groups for voice and data applications in some regions.  One 18.994 MHz block is identified for ATV in this range in Region 1.  Two 6 MHz blocks are identified for ATV in Region 2. |
| 1 296-1 297 | Low bandwidth telegraphy, voice and data modes up to 3 kHz. | Focused on narrowband weak signal applications in all three regions including beacons. No channelization. |
| 1 297-1 300 | Low bandwidth voice and data modes up to around 20 kHz. Medium bandwidth data up to 150 kHz bandwidth. | Organized into channelized groups for voice and data applications in some regions. |

Note 1: The blocks identified for ATV use can accommodate a number of systems depending on the bandwidth occupied by the technology in use. The actual assignments are planned on a national basis.

### 5.9.1 IARU-R1 band plan for the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz

Table XX provides the IARU Region 1 recommended usage of the allocations ([Band Plan](https://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php/spectrum-and-band-plans/uhf/23-centimeter)) by operators in the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services. National versions of this band plan may slightly differ due to national frequency allocations.

Table 14

IARU Region 1 UHF Band plan for 1 240-1 300 MHz (Varna, 2014)

| Frequency (MHz) | Maximum Bandwidth | Mode | Usage |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1240.000  1240.500 | 2700 Hz | All modes | Reserved for future |
| 1240.500  1240.750 | 500 Hz | Telegraphy and MGM | Beacons (reserved for future) |
| 1240.750  1241.000 | 20 kHz | FM Digital Voice | Reserved for the future |
| 1241.000  1243.250 | 20 kHz | All Mode | 1242.025-1242.250 repeater output (RS1-10)  1242.275-1242.700 repeater output (RS11-28)  1242.725-1243.250 Digital communications (RS29-50) |
| 1243.250  1260.000 | \* | ATV/Digital ATV | 1258.150-1259.350 repeater output |
| 1260.000  1270.000 | \* | Satellite Service |  |
| 1270.000  1272.000 | 20 kHz | All mode | 1270.025-1270.700 repeater output (RS1-28)  1270.725-1271.250 Digital communications (RS29-50) |
| 1272.000  1290.994 | \* | ATV/Digital ATV |  |
| 1290.994  1291.481 | 20 kHz | FM digital voice  repeater input | RM1 (1291.000) – RM19 (1291.475) 25 kHz spacing |
| 1291.494  1296.000 | \* | All modes | 1293.150-1294.350 repeater input (R20-R68) |
| 1296.000  1296.150 | 500 Hz | Telegraphy MGM | 1296.000-1296.025 moon bounce  1296.128 PSK21 centre of activity |
| 1296.150  1296.800 | 2700 Hz | Telegraphy SSB MGM | 1296.200 narrowband centre of activity  1296.400.1296.600 linear transponder input  1296.500 fax  1296.600 narrowband centre of activity (MGM, RTTY)  1296.600-1296.700 linear transponder input  1296.750-1296.600 local beacons |
| 1296.800  1296.994 | 500 Hz | Telegraphy MGM | beacons exclusive |
| 1296.994  1297.481 | 20 kHz | FM digital voice  repeater output | RM0 /1297.000) – RM19 (1297.475) 25 kHz spacing |
| 1297.494  1297.981 | 20 kHz | FM digital voice | 1297.500 SM20  1297.500 centre of FM activity  1297.725 digital voice calling frequency  1297.900-1297.975 Simplex FM internet gateways  1297.975 SM39 |
| 1298.000  1299.000 | 20 kHz | All modes | General mixed analogue or digital use 25 kHz spacing  1298.025 RS1  1298.975 RS39 |
| 1299.000  1299.750 | 150 MHz | All modes | Arranged as 5x 150 kHz channels for high-speed DD use  Centres: 1299.075, 1299.225, 1299.375, 1299.525, 1299.675 (+/- 75 kHz) |
| 1299.750  1300.000 | 20 kHz | All modes | 8x 25 kHz channels (available for FM/DV use)  Centres : 1299.775-1299.975 |
| \* Bandwidth limits according to national regulations | | | |

# 6 Relationship between RNSS system frequencies in 1 240-1 300 MHz and amateur service application band plans

The figure below highlights the relationship between the various RNSS systems usage across the range 1 240-1 300 MHz and the IARU band plans:

Figure 1

Timeline

Description automatically generated

Note 1: GLONASS navigation receivers manufactured before 2006 can receive navigation signals in frequency band from 1 237.8275 MHz to 1 260.735 MHz.

Note 2: In Region 2 ATV is also identified for experimental use in this range.

The frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz is allocated worldwide to Earth Exploration-Satellite Service (active), Radiolocation Service (RR No. **5.329** applies), the Space Research Service and the Radionavigation-Satellite Service (RNSS) in the space-to-Earth direction on a co-primary basis. The frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz is also allocated worldwide to RNSS in the space-to-space direction on a co-primary basis. Additional services are allocated in some countries by footnotes RR No. **5.330** (fixed and mobile) and RR No. **5.331** (radionavigation).

Many RNSS systems and networks are operational in or adjacent to the 1 240-1 300 MHz portion of the 1 215-1 300 RNSS (space-to-Earth) and (space-to-space) primary allocations, as described in Recommendation ITU-R M.1787, and various types of RNSS receivers are used with those systems and networks. Report ITU-R M.2458 summarizes the RNSS applications in this frequency band.

The band 1 240-1 260 MHz is currently used by the Russian Federation GLONASS system, while the band 1 250-1 280 MHz is used by the Chinese COMPASS system and the band 1 260-1 300 MHz is used by the European Galileo system as well as the Japanese QZSS system. The same band is also planned to be used by the Korean KPS. Some transmissions of the United States’ Global Positioning System in the 1 215-1 240 MHz band also extend above 1 240 MHz.

The frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz is also allocated worldwide to the amateur service on a secondary basis and is being used for a range of applications. The amateur-satellite service (Earth‑to-space) operates in the frequency band 1 260-1 270 MHz on a secondary basis under No. **5.282** of the Radio Regulations.

The RNSS, Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services characteristics and parameters are provided in the relevant ITU-R recommendations (see section 3 above). Those were completed by additional information from Administrations on current and planned systems of the RNSS, Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services to WPs 4C and 5A. The full set of characteristics, parameters and protection criteria to be used for interference studies are given in section 4 and 6. Technical and operational measures that could be employed to ensure the protection of RNSS are presented, and conclusions are drawn with regard to the coexistence studies.

1. See the [ITU Amateur and amateur-satellite](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-HDB-52-2014) handbook for further details of radiosport activities. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Slow Scan Television (SSTV) is an imaging protocol which us issued to transmit images at a relatively low speed by using a frequency modulated subcarrier or digital encoding. Such transmissions are designed to fit within the bandwidth of a voice channel. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. See Recommendation [ITU-R M.2034-0](http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-M.2034/en) which establishes a telegraphic alphabet and transmission protocols for phase shift keying at 31 baud (PSK31) in the amateur and amateur-satellite services. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. These WSJT applications consist of a number of highly structured data modes which send a limited amount of data with strong Forward Error Correction which allows the data to be recovered at very low signal-to-noise ratios. WSJT modes –Weak Signal Joe Taylor– are named after their inventor Dr Joe Taylor. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. D-STAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio) is a digital voice and data protocol specification for amateur radio. The system was developed in the late 1990s by the Japan Amateur Radio League and uses minimum-shift keying in its packet-based standard. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) communications use the Moon as a passive reflector which allows long distance communications between stations that have a simultaneous view of the moon. The reflected signals are very weak, though modern digital signal processing techniques and structured data modes reduce the need for high power transmitters. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. According to the extract from the database of one administration on unmanned amateur radio stations parameters, the antenna gain for 25th percentile, median and 75th percentile are 8.1 dBi, 11.2 dBi and 12.7 dBi. Minimum and maximum gain are found to be 2.15 dBi and 21.5 dBi. However, a gain of 21.5 dBi is exceptionally high in this application. It should be noted, that those installations mostly operate in hilly and mountainous areas. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Feeder loss not included which may be up to 3 dB. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. According to the extract from the license database of one administration on unmanned amateur radio stations parameters, 30% of repeaters are licensed to operate with an ERP of more than 100 W. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. The analysed results were published by the national radio amateur societies in several European countries. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)