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Description automatically generated**Amateur Radio Using Digital Modes**

**Lab 5: Experimentation**

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# What you will need

* Laptop running up to date build of Windows, Linux or Mac OSX with external USB sound device installed and functional.
* Completion of Labs 1-4

# Purpose

Get familiar with various digital modes understanding their strengths and weaknesses.

# Introduction

Quick wins are inspirational and that was the focus of Lab 4 to make it easy to make your first digital contact using a popular mode known as PSK31.

In this lab we will continue to work in groups sharing frequency share a frequency making the same contacts but introducing you to other digital modes. Macros saved you from having some to say so this we will make the interaction “keyboard-to-keyboard.”

# Exercise

Repeat Lab 4 for each of the following digital modes

* RTTY
* MT63: MT632000L
* One of your choosing

Instead of using the QSO macro button for each contact, make it an interactive “keyboard-to-keyboard” conversation as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| STEPS |  | NOTES |
| 1. Click the T/R macro button to put the station into transmit mode. |  |  |
| 1. In the bottom/blue window type the station’s callsign then yours to begin conversation. |  | For example:  W2BBB DE W2H |
| 1. Hit return for a new lined then start typing a message. |  | Notice your typing speed relative to when the message is sent as indicated when a letter goes from blue to red. |
| 1. When your message us complete, close the transmission by typing the station’s callsign then yours appended with KN. |  | For example:  W2BBB DE W2H KN |
| 1. Click the T/R macro button to put the station back into receive mode. |  |  |

For each mode . . .

* What did you notice about the bandwidth used for each?
* What did you notice about speed comparisons between each?

I hope you enjoyed this introduction to Digital Modes and found it helpful.