

144 MHz Tropo to / vers IT9 !

Dimanche 2 janvier 2022, une ouverture inespérée s'est produite sur 144 MHz, un "duct" vers la Sicile (IT9) ! Il s'agissait bien de Tropo, IT9GSF (Fabio) était visible sur mon écran en FT8 durant environ 4h30 (13h24 > 17h52 UTC), avec un QSB lent. J'ai eu la chance de contacter Fabio dans l'après-midi, il est situé en JM67SS, soit à 1615 km de moi. Vu le niveau des signaux, un contact n'aurait pas été possible en SSB ni en CW, seul le FT8 le permettait. Plus tôt dans la journée, Frank, PA4EME avait aussi déjà spotté IT9GSF (merci Frank). Cliquez sur la capture d'écran WSJT-X pour agrandir.

On Sunday 2 January 2022, an unexpected opening occurred on 144 MHz, a "duct" to Sicily (IT9)! It was well Tropo, IT9GSF (Fabio) was visible on my screen in FT8 for around 4h30 (13h24 > 17h52 UTC), with a slow QSB. I was lucky enough to contact Fabio in the afternoon, he is located in JM67SS, 1615 km from me. Given the signal level, contact would not have been possible in SSB nor CW, only FT8 allowed it. Earlier in the day, Frank, PA4EME already spotted IT9GSF too (thanks Frank). Click on the WSJT-X screenshot to enlarge.

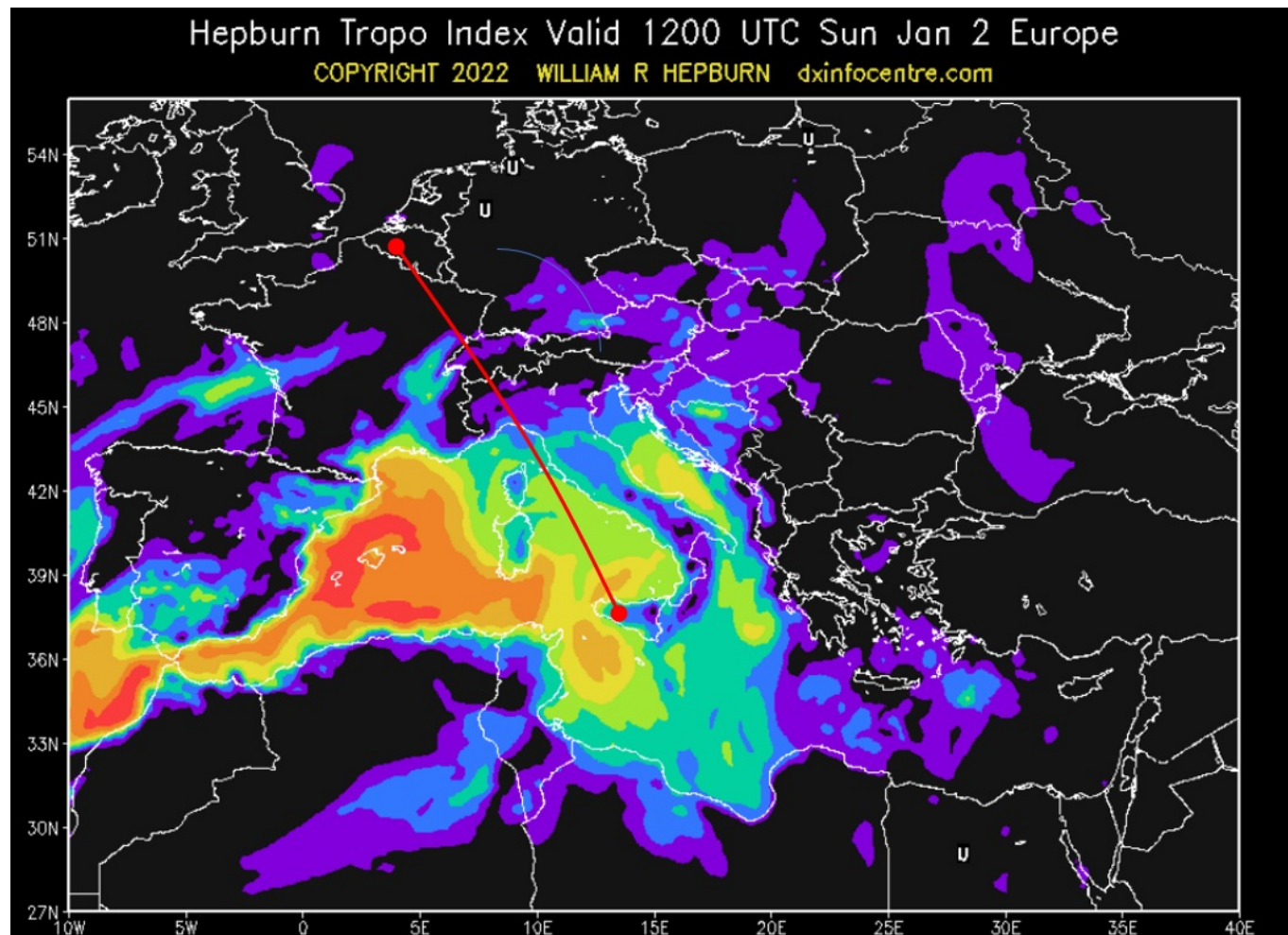
The screenshot shows the WSJT-X software interface on a Raspberry Pi. The main window displays two columns of band activity data. The left column shows received signals, and the right column shows transmitted signals. The interface includes a top menu bar, a central display area with a frequency readout of 144,174,000 Hz, and a bottom control panel with various buttons and settings.

Band Activity				Rx Frequency						
UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message	UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message	
141330	-7	0.2	1827	CQ PA2CV J032	135145	Tx	1579	~	IT9GSF ON4KHG JO10	
141330	-21	0.2	1301	CQ PD1ECA J032 a1	135200	-12	0.2	2098	~	ON4KHG IT9GSF -24
141400	-16	0.2	1996	DL1SBY IT9GSF -23	135215	Tx	1579	~	IT9GSF ON4KHG R-12	
141400	-8	0.1	1931	PD7TTL F5PBG -14	135245	Tx	1579	~	IT9GSF ON4KHG R-12	
141400	-7	0.1	942	ON3RV PD0MHZ RRR	135315	Tx	1579	~	IT9GSF ON4KHG R-12	
141430	-7	0.1	1895	PD7TTL F5PBG RR73	135345	Tx	1579	~	IT9GSF ON4KHG R-12	
141430	-21	0.1	847	CQ F6BQX IN96	135400	-19	0.2	2099	~	ON4KHG IT9GSF -24 a3
141445	27	0.1	2176	CQ ON/PE1ITR	135415	Tx	1579	~	IT9GSF ON4KHG R-12	
141445	6	-0.0	1452	CQ ON3RV JO21	135430	-15	0.2	2099	~	ON4KHG IT9GSF RR73
141445	-15	0.1	1685	CQ ON6TA JO10	135445	Tx	1579	~	IT9GSF ON4KHG 73	
141445	-24	0.1	570	CQ IZ2MHO JN45 a1	135500	-15	0.2	2097	~	CQ IT9GSF JM67
141500	11	0.5	1447	CQ DX F4FSG JN29	135515	Tx	1579	~	CQ 340 SSB	
141500	3	0.2	1881	CQ F5PBG JN28	135530	-11	0.2	2096	~	CQ IT9GSF JM67
141500	-16	0.2	802	G4JIX F1NQP R-16	135545	Tx	1579	~	CIAO 73	
141515	28	0.1	2176	CQ ON/PE1ITR	135600	-15	0.2	2095	~	CQ IT9GSF JM67
141515	4	-0.1	1451	CQ ON3RV JO21	135730	-17	0.2	2094	~	IW2GSC IT9GSF -05
141515	-17	0.1	1686	CQ ON6TA JO10	135800	-15	0.3	2093	~	IW2GSC IT9GSF -05
141515	-24	0.3	623	PA8KM M0FXX R-10	135830	-15	0.2	2092	~	IW2GSC IT9GSF -05
141530	3	0.3	1866	CQ F5PBG JN28	135900	-19	0.2	2092	~	IW2GSC IT9GSF RR73
141530	-3	-1.4	2115	DK6OW F5PTO -15	140330	-18	0.2	2094	~	CQ IT9GSF JM67
141530	-21	0.2	795	G4JIX F1NQP R-16	140400	-13	0.3	2094	~	CQ IT9GSF JM67
					140430	-13	0.2	2093	~	CQ IT9GSF JM67

L'amélioration des conditions de propagation ("duct") sur la Mer Méditerranée est clairement visible sur la carte de W. Hepburn. Encore fallait-il avoir la géométrie

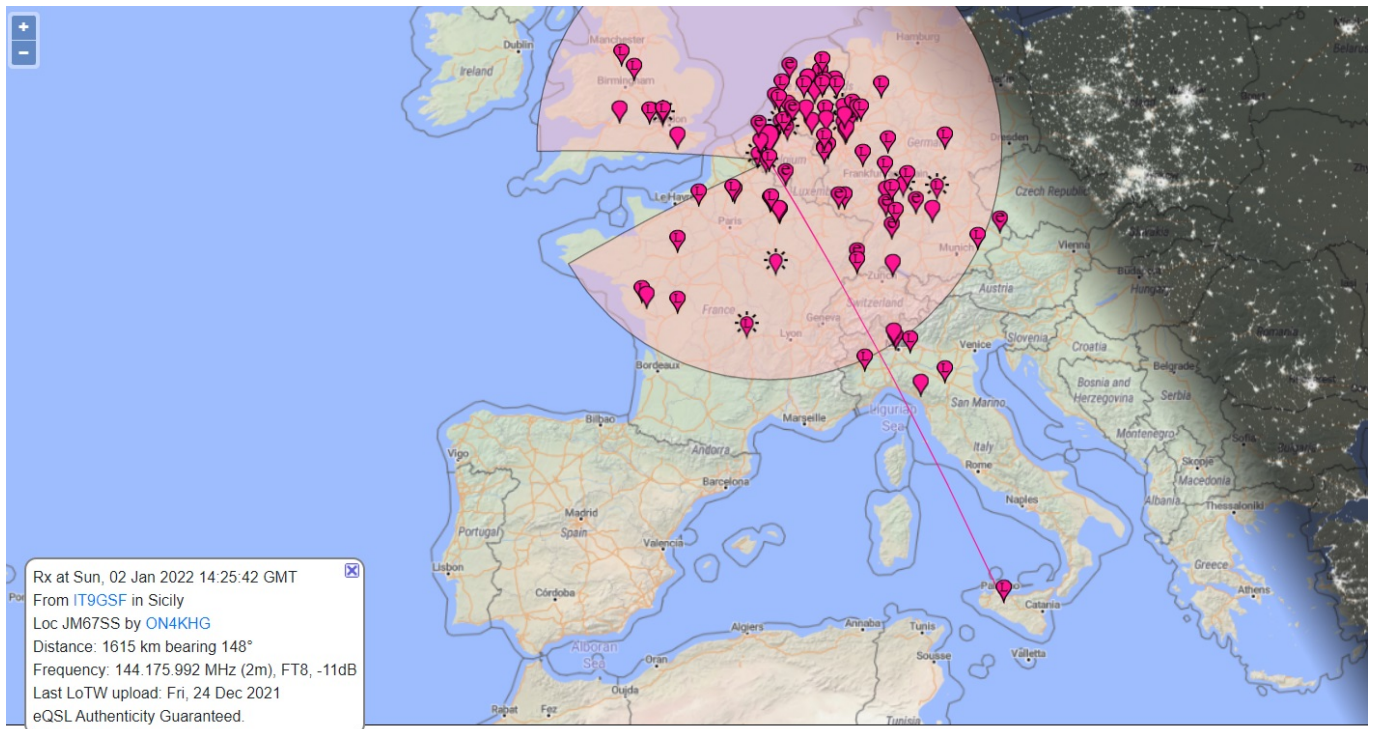
adéquate pour pouvoir entrer dans ce duct.

The improvement of the propagation conditions (“duct”) on the Mediterranean Sea is clearly visible on the map of W. Hepburn. However, it was necessary to have the right geometry to be able to enter this duct.



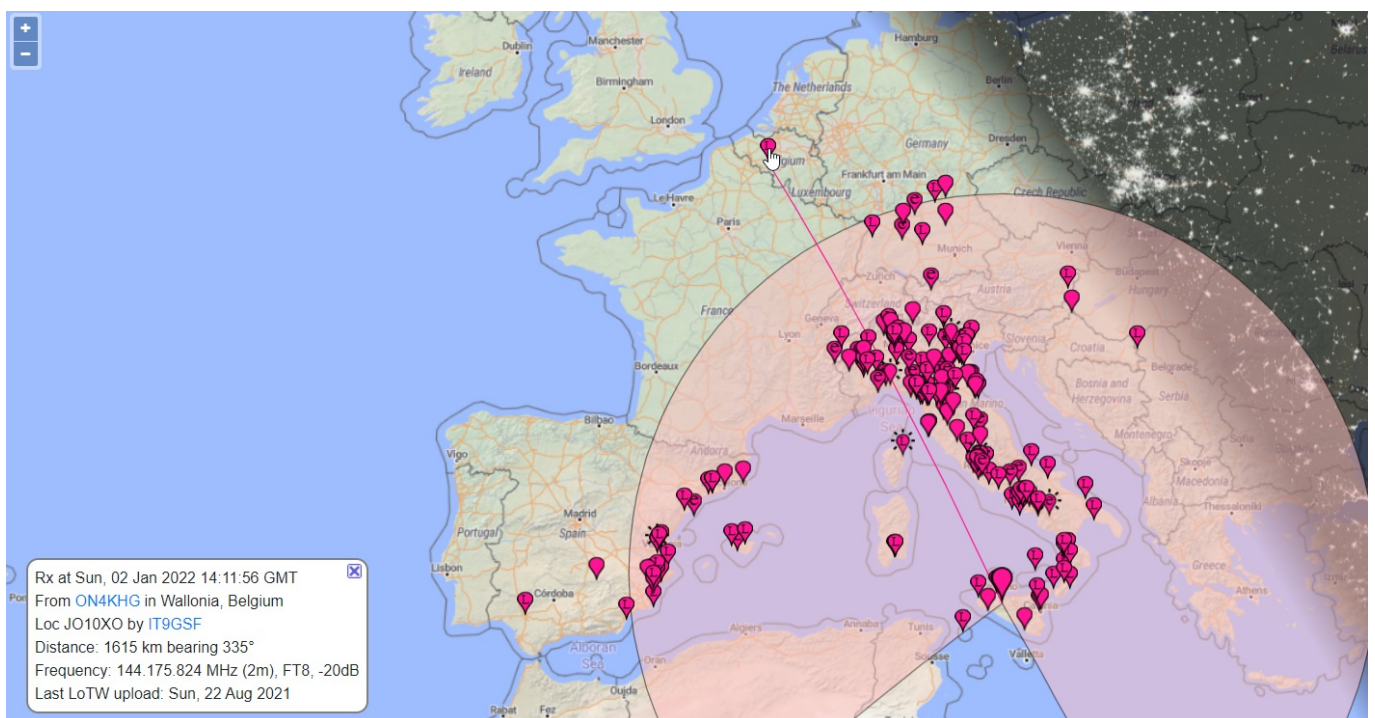
Ci-dessous les stations que j’ai vues jusque peu avant 14h30 (il y en a encore eu d’autres par la suite). On voit les stations du nord de l’Italie et IT9GSF.

Below are the stations I saw until shortly before 14h30 (there were some more afterwards). You can see the stations in Northern Italy and IT9GSF.



Et plus bas, les stations que voyait Fabio, IT9GSF au même moment. Ils ne sont pas visibles sur la carte à ce moment-là mais ON/PE1ITR en J020EE et DF2ZC en J030RN ont aussi contacté IT9GSF.

And further down, the stations that Fabio, IT9GSF was seeing at the same time. They are not visible on the map at that time but ON/PE1ITR in J020EE and DF2ZC in J030RN also contacted IT9GSF.



Et finalement le log de Fabio durant cette journée (source MMMonVHF).

And finally the log of Fabio during that day (source MMMonVHF).

