# **Quick Start Guide**

# Updated for ELEKTOR July/August 2016 SDR Shield

## G8JCFSDR Build 282 - 2020-11-01



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## 1 Introduction

The G8JCFSDR is a software implementation of a conventional radio, Software Defined Radio, using Digital Signal Processing techniques. Modern Personal; Computers are so powerful, that what was once only possible in the realm of the specialist engineer, is now easily carried out on any general purpose PC. The G8JCFSDR in conjunction with simple down-converter hardware provides an extremely cost-effective, incredibly flexible and versatile receiver combination. Because the radio is implemented in software, features which would be prohibitively expensive or almost impossible to implement in hardware become simply a matter of programming and CPU/Memory consumption, eg fully variable filters with 50Hz skirts.

The G8JCFSDR is optimised for HF communications, although with suitable down-converters there is no reason why other frequency ranges cannot be handled.

This guide focuses on using the G8JCFSDR in combination with the Elektor May 2007 IQ USB down-converter, and the Elektor July 2016 SDR Shield - aka SDR Reloaded - however much of what is written here applies to any other down-converter.

I have many different down-converters here, some which I have designed and built myself, some purchased, and some sent to me. I can say that from a price/performance and feature perspective, the Elektor 5/2007 USB down-converter is right up there at the top of the pile, and after 40 years of playing about with radios, this is the first radio I have ever owned which has a calibrated S-Meter !!

I hope you enjoy using the G8JCFSDR as much as I have enjoyed writing it and re-learning so much about Fourier !

Thank You

Peter GM8JCF

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## 2 What's new in Build 282?

Build 282 has many bug fixes and new features.

#### 2.1 Higher IF sampling rates of :

- 48000 48KHz spectrum display width
- o 96000 96KHz spectrum display width
- 192000 192KHz spectrum display width
- 384000 384KHz spectrum display width

G8JCFSDR - Configuration						
General SoundCard VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About						
AF OUT Device Speakers (Realtek High Definition Audio)						
IF IN Device Line-In/Mic-In (2- SB X-Fi Surround 5.1)						
-01.54 Degrees						
Phase Correction						
Gain Correction						
-0.0011						
1 Bit Correction for ADC Sound Card Sampling Rate 48000 96000 192000 294000						
QK <u>Apply</u> <u>Cancel</u>						

assuming that your sound card can support these higher rates – every soundcard I have used supports 48000, and most support 96000, with some supporting 192000, and very few (very expensive) supporting 384000.

Note that the AF output sampling frequency is always 48000 samples/second enabling one to use the inbuilt soundcard and speaker(s) of your system whilst using a higher specification sound card to capture the IF output from the SDR down converter.

#### 2.2 Synchronous AM Demodulation, SAM.

- SAM demodulation can be of help when fading, QSB, causes the AM carrier to almost disappear into the noise. Also, when there is adjacent channel interference. QRM, SAM can be useful to select the opposite sideband to the one being interfered with.
- o SMD SAM Double Sideband, ie both sidebands used
- SMU SAM Upper Sideband
- SML SAM Lower Sideband
- The SAM lock indicator will light up green when the G8JCFSDR's internal numerically controlled oscillator is locked to the AM carrier.



### 2.3 Additional Calibration Functionality – Elektor SDRShield only

• The SDRShield calibration window has been augmented to provide additional functionality including an improved frequency calibration method.



The IQ Cal Freq facility when switched on generates a carrier 1 KHz up from the current tuned frequency on CLK0 of the SI5351.
 If you have a V 2 SDRShield then attach a short length, eg 30cm, of wire to the CLK0 header pins,.
 If you have a V1 SDRShield then very good soldering skills are required if you want to use this

facility, ie not recommended.

Follow the procedure for IQ balance/Image rejection described in 4.7.

The SMeter Cal Freq when switched on generates a 10 KHz square wave on CLK2 of the SI5351 as described in Burkhard Kainka's book, 7.2, "SDR Hands-on Book". The output from CLK2 is 3V3 pk-pk or 1.65 V RMS. SMeter levels are measured in micro-volts, uV, so we use an attenuator and the fact that square waves are rich in harmonics to generate signals in the uV range at HF.



This arrangement will generate an S9 (50uV) signal at 7MHz, S8 at 14MHz, S7 at 28MHz.

2.4 Manually upload firmware to the SDRShield.

• Click the upload button and the firmware will be uploaded to the SDRShield.

## 2.5 Rotary Encoder Tuning, 1602 I2C LCD - Elektor SDRShield only

Using the rotary encoder for real hardware/knob tuning, and optionally an LCD for frequency display.

- Connect a rotary encoder, eg ALPS EC16B2410408 RS 265-1723, A & B to pins 2 & 3 respectively and to OV.
- Connect a 1602 I2C LCD, eg <u>https://hobbycomponents.com/displays/74-i2c-serial-lcd-1602-module</u> or of course eBay, to pin A4(SDA) and pin A5(SCL), you will also need to connect Vcc and GND to the I2C LCD module of course.



- Make sure the G8JCFSDR is not running
- o Start up a terminal emulator, eg Tera Term, PUTTY,

set the baud rate to 115200, set the send line endings to CRLF, connect to the SDRShield's Arduino UNO, type v<Enter> and the shield should respond with 1.3<Enter> turn the rotary encoder clockwise and the SDRShield should send d 1<Enter> turn the rotary encoder anti-clockwise and the SDRShield should send d -1<enter> If the direction is reversed, swap the connections to 2 & 3.

If you have installed an optional I2C 1602 LCD, then in the terminal emulator type f 123456 123456 1<Enter> and the LCD should display 123,456

Disconnect from the Arduino, close the terminal emulator.

• Start up the G8JCFSDR,

Enable the Shaft Encoder in Configuratio

G8JCFSDR - Configuration		
General SoundCard VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/	F DREAM Spectrum Display	Controls About
SDRModel	Use Intel SPL ?	<b>V</b>
ElektorSDRShield	Keyboard Support	
	Auto-Track Presets	<b>V</b>
	ScrollWheel Tune over 'scope?	_ <b>_</b>
	Enable Shaft Encoder	
E:\Programming\G8JCFSDR	Shaft Encoder Auto Rate	
Set Save Recordings Path	Power On SDR on Start-Up	
	Keep On Top	
Process Priority High	Title Bar Off	
	Calibrate Elektor SDR	Calibrate
<u>Q</u> K <u>Apply</u>	Cancel	

 use the rotary encoder to change the tuned frequency, and if you have installed the optional I2C 1602 LCD, the LCD should show the tuned frequency.

## **3** General Operation of Controls

The G8JCFSDR tries to perform as close as possible to a real HF communications receiver within the constraints of not having real knobs and dials of course! (unless you have an Elektor SDR Shield !!!)

### 3.1 General Operation of Controls

Most of the controls used in the G8JCFSDR are standard windows controls, eg Checkboxes, Radio Buttons, Buttons and so on. These controls work exactly as you would expect.

#### 3.2 Scrollable Labels

But in order to try and come as close as possible to real 'knobs' or dials, the G8JCFSDR has a new control called "Scrollable Labels". All the controls which work in this way are shown ringed in Red below.



Scrollable Labels operate as follows :-

Move the mouse pointer over the scrollable label, the mouse cursor will change to a vertical double-ended arrow, the colour of the control will change, and if you have configured HiLite Border in Configuration on the Controls tab, a 3D recess, and a tooltip explaining the purpose of the control will appear.

Use the mouse scrollwheel to change the value displayed.

If you hold down the SHIFT key at the same time, the numbers will change faster, ie larger increments.

If you hold down the CTRL key at the same time, the numbers will change more slowly, ie smaller increments.

If you RIGHT mouse click over the scrollable label, the control will be set to its Default value.

If you have Keyboard Support enabled in Configuration, then the UP and DOWN keys can be used to change the values, the modifiers CTRL and SHIFT can be used in the same way as for the mouse scrollwheel. The SPACEBAR will set the control to its default value.

#### 3.3 Slider Controls

Slider Controls work as expected, except that RIGHT clicking on the slider will set the slider to its default value.

## 3.4 Dial Controls

Dial Controls are used in the Virtual Tuning Dial, the AF output level control, and the Noise Reduction Control. To use these controls, move the mouse over the dial, then press and hold down the LEFT mouse button, now drag the dial around in a circular motion to change its value. The dial controls have been provided because they can be rather than being the only way of doing something, generally it's much more convenient and easier to use the scrollable label equivalent.

## 4 Frequency Control

The G8JCFSDR may be tuned in many ways

- Scrollwheel over the frequency display
- Keyboard UP/DOWN arrow keys
- Virtual Tuning Knob
- Point 'n Click
- Slide 'n Tune
- Receiver Incremental Tuning, RIT
- Presets

### 4.1.1 Free Tuning

Make sure the Yellow Padlock is not visible by single clicking over the Frequency Display. Then as you move the mouse across the Frequency Display, the red dashed bounding box will move with your mouse pointer showing the digit over which the mouse is located. At the same time, the tuning step which will be used is shown on the face of the Virtual Tuning Dial, and also at the right hand side of the frequency display. In this way you can tune with a precision or increment of 1dHz, 1Hz, 10Hz, 100Hz, 1KHz, 10KHz, 100KHz, 1MHz, and 10MHz. If you have enabled Keyboard Support in Configuration, then U can use the UP & DOWN arrow keys instead of the scrollwheel, and the LEFT & RIGHT keys to select the digit.

## 4.1.2 Setting the Tuning Step or Rate

## Click & Lock

To lock the tuning display,



click once over the digit which represents the tuning step you want to work with, the Yellow Padlock symbol will be displayed showing that Tuning is locked. So if you click over the 1KHz digit, the display will tune in steps of 1KHz.



To unlock the tuning rate, click once again, the yellow padlock will disappear.

#### Select Lock or Tuning Rate

Right single click over the frequency display and select Set Tune Rate from the dropdown menu.



A drop down list of tuning steps will be displayed, in the example 5KHz is a good tuning step for the HF AM broadcast bands



Select the required Tuning Step. Next to the Yellow Padlock, the selected tuning step will be displayed. The centre of the virtual tuning knob will also show the selected tuning rate. Now when you change the frequency using the scrollwheel or UP/DOWN arrows, the frequency will change in steps of the selected tuning step, in this example 5KHz.

Right clicking over the virtual tuning knob will also enable you to select a tuning step as previously described.



## 4.1.2.1 Keyboard UP/DOWN arrow keys

Move the cursor over the digit in the Frequency Display, then use the UP and DOWN arrow keys to change the digit. Use LEFT & RIGHT arrow keys to select which digit to change. SPACEBAR locks the tuning step.

## 4.2 Point 'n Click

Point the mouse at the signal of interest on the Spectrum Analyser, and LEFT mouse click once

## 4.3 Slide 'n Tune

Press and hold down the left mouse button over the slider above the scope area, then slide the mouse left or right to drag the filter over the signal of interest. The main 7 segment didplay will show the tuned frequency.



Right mouse click will set the slider to its default value. To fine tune the slide 'n tune frequency, move the mouse over the slider, then use the mouse scroll-wheel to increment/decrement the frequency. As with scrollable labels, if you hold down the SHIFT key at the same time, the numbers will change faster, ie larger increments, and if you hold down the CTRL key at the same time, the numbers will change more slowly, ie smaller increments. The main benefit of Slide 'n Tune is found in the Amateur bands. The Elektor 5/2007 IQ downconverter doesn't have a real DDS chip – that's part of achieving the great price - so the tuning steps are at best 1KHz apart, and at the higher frequencies as you change frequencies, the CY27EE16 PLL needs time to settle leading to jumps in the tuning. With the Slide 'n

Tune mechanism, tuning is carried out inside the G8JCFSDR in software, and very smooth tuning with 1 Hz resolution takes place.

### 4.4 Presets

Select the Main Band, eg Broadcast Bands, then select the sub-band, eg 41m, then click on one of the radio buttons. To store a frequency into a preset, single left mouse click on a preset whilst holding down the SHIFT key. To edit a preset, RIGHT mouse click over a preset and follow the drop down menu.

## 4.5 Virtual Tuning Dial

Press and hold down the left mouse button over the Virtual Tuning Dial, and then drag the dial round in a circular motion

## 4.6 RIT

The RIT is a scrollable label allowing +12KHz –12KHz tuning without changing the main VFO frequency

## 4.7 IMAGE REJECTION - aka I/Q Balance

Tune in a strong AM broadcast station, or better still use a signal generator if you have one. You should see the signal strongly at the 12KHz position of the Spectrum Scope, (1) and a much weaker signal 24Khz away, (2) which is the image signal.

G8JCFSDR - ElektorSDRShield	an sale the sub-band, op	etter, there club on any i	f the radio ballism.	
Power         Display           0 on         0 comp           0 off         0 std           0 off         0 std           0 Ext         -19.1 dB           1.0.274         0 Full	7 8 9 +6 12 18 24 30 36 NB(a) on NR(a) on - L M H O O O	x 1 dHz 🔒 TinySCR 151 RIT 0 MHz	IGHZ KPD HZ	x 1 dHz B(26:58
Mode         Filters           ▲ M         BC         400 Hz         Notch           US8         2.2 kHz         Music           LSB         AM1         3.2 kHz           DRM         Pass         4.0 KHz         6400 Hz           EM         0         5.0 KHz         50 Hz	Votch IF Filtr AGC V IF Man Fast Mirror Track Normal Auto 0 Hz Slow 1000 Hz 5.0 S	-BroadcastBands ►LW ● MW ● 120 ● 31 ● 25 ● 22 ● 1548 ● 1215 ● 693 ● 1035 ● 1440 ● 1341	WW           90         75         60           19         17         16           1449         1395         1593           693         558         1278	<ul> <li>49</li> <li>43</li> <li>41</li> <li>11</li> <li>990</li> <li>1152</li> <li>882</li> <li>873</li> <li>810</li> <li>1107</li> </ul>
▶         II         ■         ≫I         I	AF Out     Ourected IF	00:00:00 0 Elapsed	00,000,000         Sample Rate           Size (KB)         0 49K () 24K ()	● 12K ● 6K ● 3k 330 MB/Hr
(1)	-012 -023			1.0 Gain -33 Shift 100 Brite Phase
	-035			-Chn2- Show Fitr
28 802 806 8.0	814 818 822 058 070 070 070 070 070 070 070 07	826 830 834 Montry Mandalport and Manager	838 842 84 2)	Chn2 1.0 Gain 0 Shift 100 Brite Y Mode ↓ In Fast 8 23

If the IQ signals from the down-converter were perfectly balanced in phase and amplitude, there would be no image signal at all - this is one of huge benefits of IQ DSP.

To improve the IQ balance, ie minimise the image signal, Click the Config button to bring up Configuration. Then click the Soundcard tab.

6	G8JCFSDR - Configuration						
	General SoundCard	VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About					
	AF OUT Device	Speakers (Realtek High Definition Audio)					
	IF IN Device	Line-In/Mic-In (2- SB X-Fi Surround 5.1)					
		-01.54 Degrees					
	Phase Correction						
	Gain Correction	······					
		-0.0011					
	1 Bit Correction for ADC	Sound Card Sampling Rate 96000					
		OK <u>Apply</u> <u>Cancel</u>					

Move the Configuration window so that you can clearly see the G8JCFSDR Spectrum Scope.

G8JCFSDR - Elekto	AF OUT Device	Primary Sound Driver	
Power         Display           ○ On         ○ Comp           ○ Off         Std           ○ In         ○ Trul           I.0.274         ○ Full           Mode         Filter           ○ AM         BC         40           ○ US8         AM1         3.           ○ DRM         Pass         4.1           ○ FM         ○ 5.1	IF IN Device Phase Correction Gain Correction 1 Bit Correction for AD0	Line-In/Mic-In (Sound Blaster Live! 24-bit External)	
Soundcard         Pre D           Soundcard         Pre D           B         802           MugMuku (MugMuku)         MugMuku (MugMuku)		OK         Apply         Cancel           -012         -012         -012           -035         -047         -035           -047         818         822058         826         830         834         838         842         8           -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -070         -093         -010	6K 3k 330 MB/Hr 1.0 Gain -10 Shift 100 Brite 3m2- 1.0 Gain 0 Shift 100 Brite 3m2- 1.0 Gain 0 Shift 100 Brite 5weep 4,000 Hz/Div 822,000 Hz (Mode Lin Fas 24 23
Peak In 881 -31 dB	Peak Out 6,873 -14 dB	AGC Level 9 19.1 dB DSP Window 6% 2,523 uS LO 0 810 000 Hz ⊻ L<->R	E Config ZeroS 🗸 On

Adjust the 'Scope settings to reflect the picture above, in particular set the speed settings as shown These settings make the spectrum display much more steady and hence easier to spot the image minimum.

Now click on the Gain Correction slider, and using your mouse-wheel or cursor arrows adjust the gain so that the image signal is minimised. Then Click on the Phase Correction slider and adjust the phase for minimum Image signal. You will probably need to go back and forth between the two sliders to achieve maximum image rejection.



In the case shown above -60dB was easily achievable using an AM broadcast station as the signal source. With a signal generation it is much easier to achieve higher Image rejection.

Click Apply, OK to exit Configuration.

Don't forget to reset the 'scope speed settings by right clicking over each one - they should be 8 and 23 respectively.

## 5 Configuring G8JCFSDR for use with ELEKTOR May 2007 IQ USB SDR Down-Converter

This document is a short user guide to using the G8JCFSDR with the ELEKTOR May 2007 IQ USB SDR Down-Converter.

#### 5.1 Obtaining the G8JCFSDR.

The G8JCFSDR software may be downloaded from <a href="http://www.g8jcf.dyndns.org">http://www.g8jcf.dyndns.org</a>. If you are running Microsoft Vista then you will also need to install a key file of DirectX8. The file <a href="http://windows\system32\DX8VB.DLL">c:\windows\system32\DX8VB.DLL</a> is not part of the standard VISTA OS and must be manually installed. The simplest thing to do, is to Google for VISTA DX8VB.DLL DOWNLOAD and download it. Then register the DLL using **regsvr32 c:\windows\system32\DX8VB.DLL**. If there are any other Vista specifics, they will notified on the Vista issues page at <a href="http://www.g8jcf.dyndns.org">http://www.g8jcf.dyndns.org</a>.

#### 5.2 Running the G8JCFSDR

Using the Start Menu, find G8JCF, then select the G8JCFSDR programme.

#### 5.3 First Time Run of G8JCFSDR

If this is the first time you have ever run the G8JCFSDR, then it will initialise itself to default values.

Make sure the G8JCFSDR is set for Full display, click on the Full radio button



The G8JCFSDR should look something like the screen shot below



The most important item to change is the Spectrum Analyser screen display mode from Linear mode to Logarithmic mode. Make sure the check box marked LIN is <u>unchecked</u>. Also make sure the checkbox Fast is <u>unchecked</u>.



Next set the scope display to Spectrum Analyser mode by clicking on the Freq checkbox. Also make sure the Show Filtr checkbox is checked so that you can see which frequencies are being received.



Next turn on the Performance Stats. Click the On checkbox.



Click the Close radio button to close down G8JCFSDR and save your settings.



Restart the G8JCFSDR from Start | Run or your Start Menu item. Check that that settings you just changed have persisted.







## 5.4 Configuring the G8JCFSDR

Next you have to configure the G8JCFSDR for the ELEKTOR May 2005 USB IQ down-converter hardware.

Click the Config button.



The Configuration window should be displayed

G8JCFSDR - Configuration						
General Soundcard VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel	I/F   DREAM   Spectrum Display	Controls About				
SDRModel	Use Intel SPL ?	Г				
Elektor 2007-05 IQ SDR	Keyboard Support					
Hamlib Model	Auto-Track Presets					
SAT-Schneider:DRT1 2502 🔽	ScrollWheel Tune over 'scope?					
	Enable Shaft Encoder					
C:\Documents and Settings\Peter Carnegie\My Documents	Shaft Encoder Auto Rate					
Set Save Recordings Path	Power On SDR on Start-Up					
	Show Clock ?					
	Title Bar Off					
	Cancel					

Select the ELEKTOR 2007-05 IQ SDR from the SDRModel dropdown list.

While you are here, you may as well make sure that the Keyboard Support Checkbox is checked, and that the Auto-Track Presets checkbox is checked. Make sure that all the other checkboxes are unchecked.

Next you must select the soundcard. Click on the Soundcard tab. The Soundcard tab will be displayed.

G	G8JCFSDR - Configuration						
	General	Soundcard	VFO DDS S	erial I/F   Paralle	I I/F   DREAM	Spectrum Display	/ Controls About
	AF OUT D	evice	SoundMAX Digital /	Audio 💌			
	IF IN Devi	ice	SoundMAX Digital /	Audio 🔽	01 54 Degrees		
	Phase Cor	rection					
	Gain Corre	ection			1.0081		
			<u>o</u> k	Apply	,	<u>C</u> ancel	

If you have several soundcards installed, then select the soundcard into which you have plugged the audio cable from your ELEKTOR IQ SDR board. If you only have one soundcard, then leave the settings at the default settings. Make sure that you MUTE the Line-In on the Playback settings for your soundcard, and that you have selected Line-In on your Recording Settings

🚺 Volume Control						Recording Cor	ntrol				
Options Help						Options Help					
Volume Control	Wave	CD Player	Microphone	Aux	Line In	CD Player	Microphone	Aux	Line In	Phone	Stereo Mix
Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:
♦───	▶ _ 4			👂 🕂 🖣 🍕		▶ ∢	▶ _ 4	₿ 4	▶ _ 4	▶ _ ↓ ♦	▶ _ 4
Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:
Mute all	Mute <u>M</u> ute	<u> </u>	✓ <u>M</u> ute <u>A</u> dvanced	₩ute Mute	✓ Mute	Select	Select	Select	Select	Select	Select
SoundMAX Digital Audio						SoundMAX Digital Aud	io				

G8JCFSDR - Configu	uration
General Soundcar	rd VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About
IF Offset (Hz)	0 012 000
Lo Side LO ?	
LO Divider	4 Local Oscillator Output Frequency = (Desired Tuned
PLL Multiplier	Frequency + IF Offset) * ( LO Divider / PLL Multiplier)
XTAL Frequ (Hz)	0
L	
	<u>QK</u> <u>Apply</u> <u>Cancel</u>

Next the VFO parameters need configuring. Click the VFO tab.

Make sure all of the values are as shown in the screenshot above.

Next the Interface to the CY27EE16 chip must be configured

G8JCFSDR - Configuration
General Soundcard VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About
DDS Clock (Hz) 300 000 000 Calibrate
DDS Auto Refresh
DDS I/F Control C Par C Ser C USB C Null C NTI USB C FTDI US232C • FTDI FT232
CV27EE16 Visit Constitution
CY27EE16 Xtal Capacitance
OK Apply Capital

Click and select the FTDI FT232 DDS I/F Control. Set the CY27EE16 Xtal Capacitance slider about halfway. For now leave DDS Auto Refresh unchecked. The DDS Clock entry is not relevant for the ELEKTOR 2007-05 SDR and should be left at the value shown.

The rest of the tabs in configuration may be used later to change colours, configure use of DREAM.EXE and so on. For now these options don't matter.

Click Apply, then click OK.

Close and Restart the G8JCFSDR to make sure that the configuration changes you have just made are persisted.

## 5.5 Calibration

Turn on the G8JCFSDR so that it starts receiving by clicking the On radio button in the Power frame.



#### 5.5.1 Image Rejection Calibration

The ELEKTOR 2007-05 is an IQ downconverter which relies on exact balance between two signals exactly 90 degrees out of phase for image rejection. The first step is check that the Soundcard is connected and setup properly. The next step is to adjust the phase angle difference and amplitude balance between the left and right channels.

Click the CAL radio button. The G8JCFSDR will select the built-in 5MHz S9+40 Calibration signal.

Set the Scope controls as shown



You should see two peaks at 5000 KHz and 5024Khz indicating that the 5MHz Cal signal is being received together with its image.



Now to check that the Soundcard is IQ capable, set the controls as show below.

If your Soundcard is setup correctly you should see a slowly rotating square on the display, ie a Lissajous curve of the Right and Left channels, showing that Left & Right channels are 90 degrees out of phase.

As further confirmation change the scope mode to Time, and after adjusting the Timebase you should see the left and right signals with a 90degree shift between them.



If you do not see these displays, then your soundcard is not setup correctly or isn't functioning in Stereo mode. Until you get these displays, there is no point in trying to proceed with the Image Rejection calibration steps.

Some people have reported that their soundcards, especially some Creative Labs models, have a 1 bit time difference between left and right channels. If that is the case with your soundcard, you can try checking the 1 bit ADC setting on the Soundcard tab

G	G8JCFSDR - Configuration						
	General Soundcard	VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About					
	AF OUT Device	Primary Sound Driver					
	IF IN Device	Primary Sound Capture Drive					
	Phase Correction	U3.15 Degrees					
	Gain Correction						
		1.0123					
	1 Bit Correction for All C						
		OK Apply Cancel					
	_						

B GBJCFSDR - Elektor 2007-05 IQ SDR	
Power         Display           ● On         ● Comp           ● Off         ● Std           ● Ext         ● Comp           1.0.208         ● Full	A         X         10 KHz         S         O         O         O         O         O         O         I         X         10 KHz         X </th
_ModeFilters DynNotch ∎ LF Filtr ∎ L_AGC - ♥-	HF Amateur Radio
○ AMI         ● USB         ● 400 Hz         ■ IF         ● Man         ● Fast           ● AMI         ● USB         ○ 2.0 kHz         ■ Mirror         ○ Track         ● Normal           ● BC         ● 3.0 kHz         ■ Music         ■ Auto         ○ Hz         ● Slow	● 160 ● 80m ● 40 ● 30 ● 20 ● 17 ● 15 ● 12 ● 10
● <u>D</u> RM ● <u>E</u> M ● <u>E</u> M ● <u>5.0 KH</u> 2 <u>2300 Hz</u> <u>1000 Hz</u> <u>1000 Hz</u> <u>1000 Hz</u> <u>1000 Hz</u> <u>1000 Hz</u> <u>1000 Hz</u> <u>1000 Hz</u>	● 3779         ● 3703         ● 3789         ● 3719         ● 3744         ● 3770           ● 3764         ● 3697         ● 3673         ● 3797         ● 3699         ● 3707
IF Atteruator RF Input Select ● JdB ● -10dl ● -20dB ● Wide ● MW ● SW ● EXT ● AUX:	
	00;00;00 Elapsed Size (KB) □ Sample Rate
Sound and Pre Demod Post Demod AF Out Corrected IF	1.0 Gain
-010 -020 -030	0 Shift Time 100 Smite Phase
-040	Chn2 – Chn2 – Show Fltr
-060 -060 -080	
	Lin Fast 12 1
Peak In 8,565 -12 dB Peak Out 41 -58 dB AGC Gain 0.93 -0.6 df	B DSP Window 8% 3,422 uS LO 20 048 000 H₂

If your Soundcard is proper 2 channel, then proceed and set the controls of the G8JCFSDR as shown below

The G8JCFSDR should display as above. The Cal mode selects a 5MHz signal at S9+40dB as the input signal. Select the –10dB IF Attenuator position. The spectrum analyser shows the main 5MHz signal at around –10dB down, and its image signal 24KHz away at 5024 KHz at around –50dB down, ie around 40dB image rejection.

Select Pre Demod, then adjust the Chn1 shift control until the main 5Mhz signal is just at the –10dB line on the spectrum analyser – place the mouse cursor over the Chn1 Shift control and use the scrollwheel to move the spectrum line for the 5MHz main signal.

Soundcard O Pre Demod O Pre	ost Demod 🔍 AF Out	Corrected IF			_Chn1-√_	_Scope — ✓ <sub>1</sub>
		000			1.0 Gain	Ereq
		-010			-8 Shift	Time
		-020			LUU Brie	Phase
		-040			- Chn2	Show Fltr
		-050			0.9 Gain	-Sweep
		-060			0 Shift	4,000 Hz/Div
<i> </i>	\	070			TOO Brite	5,012,000 Hz
marter har return the set of a surger	What we are a second sector	However Barrowsky	the norther and which we are	Will and the state of the second for	Y Mode	
Alater	- M. Colling Med M. A. III.	-090			🐙 🗌 Lin 📗	Fast 12 1
		100				

Next click on the Config button to bring up the Configuration Window, and then click on the Soundcard tab.

G	BJCFSDR - Configurat	ion
	General Soundcard	VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About
	AF OUT Device	Primary Sound Driver
	IF IN Device	Primary Sound Capture Drive
	Phase Correction	
	Gain Correction	
		1.0123
	1 Bit Correction for AD	
		<u>OK</u> <u>Apply</u> <u>Cancel</u>

Right click on the Gain Correction slider to set its value to 1.0000.

Right click on the Phase Correction slider to set its value to 00.00 degrees.

#### 5.5.2 Phase Correction

Now very carefully move the Phase Correction slider and you should see the image signal at 5024 Khz change in height. Set the slider to the position where the 5024 KHz image signal is at its smallest or lowest value.

#### 5.5.3 Amplitude Correction

Now very carefully move the Gainrection slider and you should see the image signal at 5024 Khz change in height. Set the slider to the position where the 5024 KHz image signal is at its smallest or lowest value.

You may need to go back and adjust the phase and adjust the amplitude several times to obtain best results, but achieving –50dB image rejection is easily achieved, and with a bit of patience –60dB image rejection can be achieved.

Press Apply, Press OK

#### 5.5.4 Frequency Calibration

The next step is to calibrate the crystal oscillator in the CY27EE16.

Follow the instructions for uploading InitCal.bin using the Elektor software. InitCal.bin initialises the CY27EE16 to accept adjustment of the crystal capacitance via software.

Attach an antenna to the Elektor IQ SDR.

Select SW. Tune the G8JCFSDR to a strong shortwave signal, I find the Dutch station on 5955 KHz to be a reliable strong signal here in the UK, available at most times of the day and night.



You should see a display like this.

🗱 GBJCFSDR - Elektor 2007-05 IQ SDR	
Power         Display           ● On         ● Comp           ● Off         ● Std           ● Std         ● Ext           1.0.208         ● Full	A         x 1 KHz         6         9         6         9         6         1 KHz         x 1 KHz
Mode         Filters         Dyn         Notch         IF         Filtr ✓         AGC - ✓	AM BroadcastBands       49         LW       MW       120       90       75       60       49       43       41         32       25       22       19       17       16       13       11         6195       6175       5955       6200       5960       6180         6210       6219       6095       5990       6200       6020
IF Attenuator       RF Input Select         O 0dB       -10dB       -20dB       Wide       MW       SW       EXT       ALIX         ●       > III       >>>          ALIX         ●       > III       >>              ALIX	I ● AUX2 ● AUX3 ● CAL 00:00:00 000,000 Size (KB) OO:00:00 000,000 Size (KB)
Soundation         Pre Definition         Past Definition         AP Out         Connected 1P           000         -010         -020         -020         -020         -020         -020         -020         -040	6 211       6 215       6 219       6 223       6 227       6 2       6 211       6 215       6 219       6 223       6 227       6 2       0.9 Gain       Sweep
Peak In 3,751 -19 dB Peak Out 4,385 -17 dB AGC Gain 3.83 11.7 d	B         DSP Window         9% 3,749 uS         LO         24 828 000 Hz         L<->R         Config         ZeroS         V         On

Now press Config to bring up the Config window and select the DDS tab.

G8JCF5DR - Configuration
General Soundcard VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About
DDS Clock (Hz) 300 000 Calibrate
DDS Auto Refresh
DDS I/F Control C Par C Ser C USB C Null C NTI USB C FTDI US232C © FTDI FT232
CY27EE16 Xtal Capacitance

Adjust the CY27EE16 Xtal Capacitance slider carefully so that the carrier of the strong station is aligned with the yellow vertical line on the spectrum analyser. If you want to get really accurate, select USB or LSB mode and adjust the Xtal Capacitance until you are zero beating with the strong stations carrier.

Press Apply, then OK.

## 5.5.5 SMeter Calibration

The 5Mhz Cal signal level is set to S9+40dB which is full scale. Select CAL as before, select –10dB for IF attenuator, select AM.



Now bring up the volume control for the soundcard, select recording properties.

🚺 Recording Cor	itrol				
Options <u>H</u> elp					
CD Player	Microphone	Aux	Line In	Phone	Stereo Mix
Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:	Balance:
Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:
Select Select	Select	Select	✓ Select	Select	Select
SoundMAX Digital Audi	io				

Carefully adjust the Line In slider so that the sMeter just lights up the +30dB red led.

## 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 +6 12 18 24 30 36

Now select –20dB IF attenuation. The sMeter will drop by 10dB as shown.

## 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 +6 12 18 24 30 36

Finally select 0dB IF attenuation. The sMeter will show full scale, ie S9+40dB.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 +6 12 18 24 30 36

## 6 Configuring G8JCFSDR for use with Elektor SDR Shield July/August 2016

To use the G8JCFSDR with the Elektor SDR Shield proceed as follows.

- 1) Download the G8JCFSDR from http://www.g8jcf.dyndns.org/index.htm
- 2) Install the G8JCFSDR
- 3) Make sure that no program is connected to the virtual Serial Port of your Arduino, eg Arduino IDE, this is VERY important.
  - G8JCFSDR - Sat Schneider DRT1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 +6 12 18 24 30 36 x 1000 Hz 0.0 d KPD IF Filtr I W Notch ō 400 Hz 0 2.2 kHz Ō Track O No  $\odot$ 3.2 kHz Auto  $\cap$ 0 4.0 KHz  $\cap$  $\circ$ 216  $\cap$ 0 207 🔵 5.0 KHz 0 225 0 77 P13 O P14 O P16 **198** P15 198 ♦ ► Ⅱ ■ ≫ K< </p> 🛎 🖬 ٠ ● 48K ● 24K ● 12K ● 6K ● 3k 330 MB/H Elapsed Size (KB) O Pre Corr Soundcard AF Out ected IF - + hn1− ✓ ✓ Freq Time Pha -047 1119 -058 Show Fit 1099 11 4.000 Hz/Div 100 Bri Lin > E Config eroS 🗸 0 0 dB ak Out AGC Leve
- 4) Startup the G8JCFSDR, but do **NOT** click the "Power On" button.

5) Click on the **Config** button - if it's not visible, Click "Display Full" - and the Configuration window will be displayed.

General Soundcard	VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F	DREAM Spectrum Display Cont	rols About
Sat Schneider DRT1	SDRModel 🗸	Use Intel SPL ? Keyboard Support	
SAT-Schneider:	Hamlib Model	Auto-Track Presets ScrollWheel Tune over 'scope? Enable Shaft Encoder	
F:\Programming\G8J	CFSDR Save Recordings Path	Shaft Encoder Auto Rate Power On SDR on Start-Up Show Clock ?	
Process Priority	Realtime 💌	Title Bar Off	
	<u>О</u> К <u>А</u> рріу	Cancel	

6) Click on the **DDS** tab.



- 7) Click on the Ser radio button
- 8) Click on the **Serial I/F** tab, and select the appropriate Com Port; only port numbers 1~16 are valid.

General   Soundcard   VFO   DDS   Serial I/F   Parallel I/F   DREAM   Spectrum Display   Controls   About	
Bit Period 0.000005000 Default	
OK <u>Apply</u> <u>Cancel</u>	

9) Click on the **General** tab, and select **ElektorSDRShield** from the **SDRModel** drop down combo.

General Soundcard VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F	DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About	1
SDRModel Sat Schneider DRT1 Lazy Dog LD1(EXTIO) EXTIO_Generic.dll EXTIO_SI570.dll Bonito RadioJet - EXTIO_RJ10.dll FiFiSDR - EXTIO_FiFi.dll Non-IQ, 455 KHz Down Converter	Use Intel SPL ? Keyboard Support Auto-Track Presets ScrolWheel Tune over 'scope? Enable Shaft Encoder Shaft Encoder Shaft Encoder	
Process Priority Realtime	Power On SDR on Start-Up     Image: Constant Start-Up       Show Clock ?     Image: Constant Start	
	Cancel	

10) Click on the **Soundcard** tab, and select the appropriate soundcard input for the I/Q input from the SDR Shield, and output for the loudspeakers.

General Soundcard	/FO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About
AF OUT Device	Primary Sound Driver
IF IN Device	Line-In/Mic-In (Sound Blaster Live! 24-bit External)
Phase Correction	00.00 Degrees
Gain Correction	0.0000
1 Bit Correction for ADC	
	OK Apply Cancel
G8JCFSDR - Configurati	on
G8JCFSDR - Configurati General SoundCard	on VF0   DDS   Serial I/F   Parallel I/F   DREAM   Spectrum Display   Controls   About
G8JCFSDR - Configurati General SoundCard AF OUT Device	on VFD   DDS   Serial I/F   Parallel I/F   DREAM   Spectrum Display   Controls   About   Speakers (Realtek High Definition Audio)
G8JCFSDR - Configurati General SoundCard AF OUT Device IF IN Device	on VF0   DDS   Serial I/F   Parallel I/F   DREAM   Spectrum Display   Controls   About   Speakers (Realtek High Definition Audio) Line-In/Mic-In (2- SB X-Fi Surround 5.1)
G8JCFSDR - Configuration General SoundCard AF OUT Device IF IN Device Phase Correction	on VF0   DDS   Serial I/F   Parallel I/F   DREAM   Spectrum Display   Controls   About   Speakers (Realtek High Definition Audio)  Line-In/Mic-In (2- SB X-Fi Surround 5.1)  -01.54 Degrees
G8JCFSDR - Configurati General SoundCard AF OUT Device IF IN Device Phase Correction Gain Correction	ON VF0 DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About Speakers (Realtek High Definition Audio) Line-In/Mic-In (2- SB X-Fi Surround 5.1) -01.54 Degrees
G8JCFSDR - Configurati General SoundCard AF OUT Device IF IN Device Phase Correction Gain Correction 1 Bit Correction for AD0	ON VF0 DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About Speakers (Realtek High Definition Audio) Line-In/Mic-In (2- SB X-Fi Surround 5.1) -01.54 Degrees -0.0011 C Sound Card Sampling Rate 95000 ▼ 48000 95000 192000

In Build 282 or later, you can select IF sampling rates from 48000, 96000,192000,384000 samples per second.

11) Click on the VFO tab

General Soundcar	d VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About
IF Offset (Hz) Lo Side LO ?	0 000 000
LO Divider PLL Multiplier	Local Oscillator Output Frequency = (Desired Tuned Frequency + IF Offset) * (LO Divider / PLL Multiplier)
XTAL Frequ (Hz)	
	<u>QK</u> <u>Apply</u> <u>Cancel</u>

- 12) Set IF Offset to 0
- 13) Set LO Divider to 1
- 14) Set PLL Multiplier to 1
- 15) Click Apply, click OK, to exit configuration.

G8JCFSDF	R - ElektorSDR	Shield			<u>.</u>			(and				
On     On	Display Comp Std Ext Full	2 3 4 5 Mute - - <b>23.2</b> dB	6789 NB(a) L M	9 +6 12 18 On - NR( H L On - On - NR(	24 30 36 a) on - M H	x 1 KHz TinySCR 127 RIT 0	MHz		Z KPD	Hz {6;{	3:48	x 1 KHz
Mode           ● ▲M         ● 且C           ● USB         ● LSB         ● ▲M           ● DRM         ● Ba           ● EM         ●	Fiters 0 400 Hz 0 2.2 kHz 11 0 3.2 kHz 0 4.0 KHz 0 5.0 KHz	Notch Music 4000 Hz 50 Hz	Notch IF Mirror Auto 0 Hz 1770 Hz	IF Filtr	AGC ✓ Fast Normal Slow 5.0 mS 10.0 S	<ul> <li>BroadcastBa</li> <li>LW</li> <li>31</li> <li>203</li> <li>225</li> </ul>	MW         ①         120           25         ②         22           203         ②         216           207         ③         77	<ul> <li>90</li> <li>19</li> <li>234</li> <li>P13</li> </ul>	LW 75 17 252 P14	60     16       16     16       59     10       P15     10	49 () 13 () 162 () P16 ()	43 (*) 41 11 153 (*) 207 198 (*) 198
<ul> <li>▶ □□</li> </ul>	■ » K d	2	•				00:00:00	000,000,000	Sample F	ate	к 🔿 6К С	) 3k 330 MB/Hr
Soundcard	Pre Demod	Post Demo	od 🔘 AF Out	: O Co	rrected IF		Elapseu	Size (KB)		- + <sub>-</sub> (	hn1— <mark>⊻</mark> ⊣	
Soundcard	Pre Demod	O Post Demo	od () AF Out	: Co	-012 -023 -035 -047			Size (KB)			2hn1— ✓ 1.0 Gain -33 Shift 100 Brite	Scope V Freq Time Phase Show Fitr
95 1099	Pre Demod	<ul> <li>Post Demo</li> <li>1107</li> </ul>	od O AF Out	: Co	rrected IF -012 -023 -035 -047 1119 058 -070 -081 -093 -105	1123 1	127 1131	5/2e (KB)	1139		1.0 Gain -33 Shift 100 Brite Inn2→ 1.0 Gain 0 Shift 100 Brite Mode Lin	Scope V Freq Time Phase Show Fitr Sweep 4,000 Hz/Div 1,119,000 Hz

16) Click "Power **On**" to start receiving.

- 17) The G8JCFSDR will display a window saying that the Arduino firmware needs to be updated.
- 18) Follow the onscreen instructions, and the G8JCFSDR will automatically upload the correct firmware to the Arduino.
- 19) Once the firmware upload has been completed, the G8JCFSDR will start receiving.
- 20) Once you are happy that the G8JCFSDR is properly controlling the SDR Shield, you will probably want to perform a Calibration.
- 21) Tune to a known good frequency in the 10MHz range, see Radio Time Signal Stations
  - a. In Europe 9996 KHz is pretty good,
  - b. In North/South America 10000KHz, eg WWV
  - c. In India 11000KHz.
- 22) Click the Config button,
- 23) Click the General tab,

	SDRModel		Use Intel SPL ?	
ElektorSDRShield		•	Keyboard Support	
	Hamlib Model		Auto-Track Presets	
SAT-Schneider	:DRT1 25	02 🔻	ScrolWheel Tune over 'scope?	
			Enable Shaft Encoder	
F:\Programming\G8	JCFSDR		Shaft Encoder Auto Rate	
Set Save Recordings Path		Power On SDR on Start-Up		
00			Show Clock ?	
Process Priority	Normal	•	Title Bar Off	
			Calibrate Elektor SDR	Calibrate

24) Click the Calibrate button and the calibration window will be displayed.

Calibrate Elektor SDR Shield				
Official Frequency Actual Frequency	7,265,000 Hz 7,265,000 Hz	<u>H</u> elp		
New Cal Factor	162,990 ppb	<u>R</u> eset <u>Apply</u>		
SMeter Cal Freq Arduino SW Ver	10,000 F 0	In/Off		
	<u>D</u> one			

25) Click the Help button, and follow the onscreen instructions.

Elektor SDR Shield Calibration Help				
To Calibrate the SI5351 Oscilator proceed as follows Tune in to a strong well known SW AM broadcast station or better still use an accurate calibrated signal source such as a signal generator set to 10.000000 MHz In Europe, there is a time standard station on 9996 KHz which is usually quite strong, in North America, WWV may b Select LSB demodulation mode - you will probably hear a bea Ensure that the Low Freq cutoff of the filter is 0 In the Scope source down at the bottom of the main window Select AF Out, then in the Scope pane select Time You should see a sinewaye albeit with poise	e of use at frequer			
Click the Config button, Select General tab	-			
Close				

## 7 DRM - Digital Radio Mondiale

If you want to listen to DRM broadcasts then you need to configure G8JCFSDR to use DREAM.EXE Click the Config button to bring up the Configuration window, then select the DREAM tab.

G8JCFSDR - Configuration					
	General Soundcard VFO DDS Serial I/F Parallel I/F DREAM Spectrum Display Controls About				
Run DREAM.EXE on DRM       Image: Close Soundcard on DRM Mode         Close Soundcard on DRM Mode       Image: Close Dream on Mode Change         Close Dream on SDR Exit       Image: Close Dream On SDR Exit					
	DREAM Program C:\Program Files\Dream\dream.exe				
	DREAM Prog Args -M 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0				
	Defaults				
	<u>QK</u> <u>Apply</u> <u>Cancel</u>				

Use the Browse button to locate your copy of DREAM.EXE.

Next check the checkboxes as desired. The settings shown are reasonably good, but of course it's up to your preferences. The options are as follows :-

Run DREAM.EXE on DRM	When DRM demodulation mode is selected on the G8JCFSDR, DREAM.EXE is automatically executed
Mute SDR AF on DRM Mode Selected	When DRM demodulation mode is selected, mute the G8JCFSDR's audio output
Close Soundcard on DRM Mode	When DRM demodulation mode is selected, release the soundcard so that DREAM.EXE can use it – Required for Windows 98 – leave unchecked for Windows XP or newer
Close Dream on Mode Change	When a different demodulation mode than DRM is selected, close the Dream program – usually best to leave this option unchecked.
Close Dream On SDR Exit	If Dream is running when the G9JCFSDR is Closed, then also close down Dream.exe

#### Dream Window

When Dream.exe is started, you can chose how it appears on the screen. If you choose Default, then Dream.exe will startup however it was last displayed. If Min is selected, then Dream.exe will start up minimized to the Taskbar. If Hide is selected, then Dream.exe will start up hidden and you won't be able to see it. The best option probably is to select Min.

#### Dream Prog Args

The greyed area is automatically set by G8JCFSDR when Dream.exe is run including "-C 3" for IQ mode. The second box enables you to supply any additional options which you want to Dream.exe. %CURFREQ% is a special argument, when Dream.exe is run, G8JCFSDR will replace %CURFREQ% with the actual operating frequency in KHz.

After you have made any changes, press Apply, then Press OK.