# Who needs sunspots?

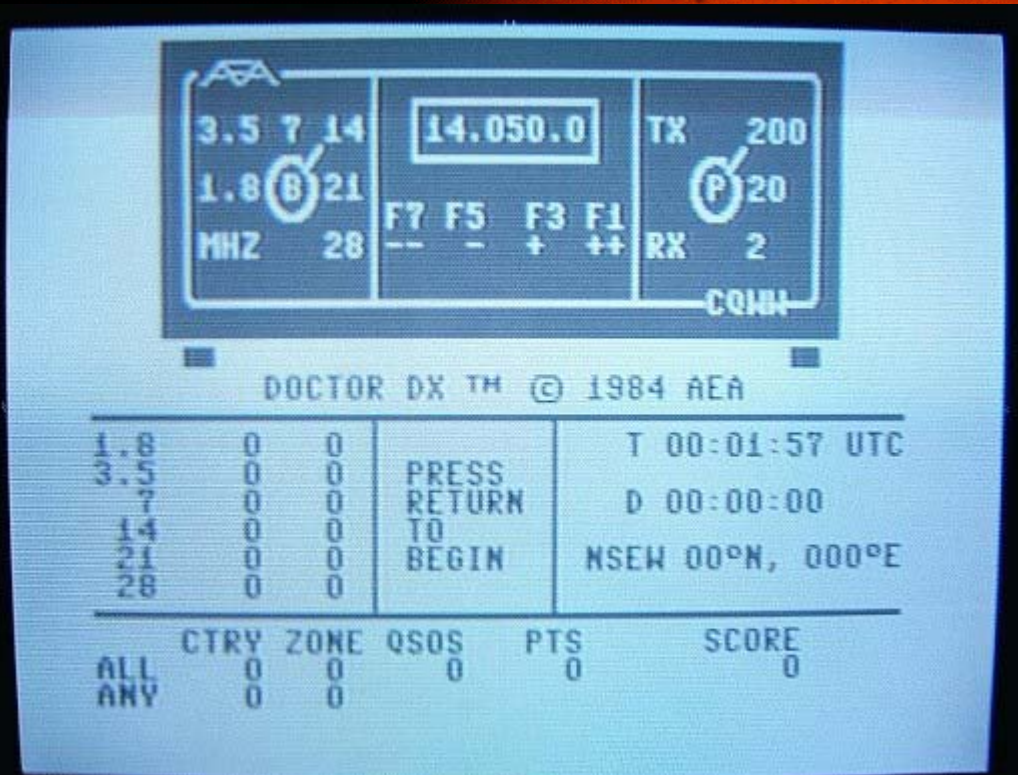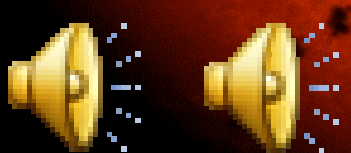## CW and Contest Training Software

Uli Ann
KK8I / DL2HBX

# Why use software?

- Play the 'radio' almost anywhere, anytime
- No Big Gun station required
- Prepare for contests and train CW skills
- Maximize training effect
- Dodge poor conditions (the sunspot thing…)
- Compete with others and have fun

# The old days – Doctor DX    C64 module, 1984



- Pre-CT era contest trainer
- Simulates entire contest, running and S&P mode
- Uses propagation model, derived from QTHs, time
- Multi rareness
- Simulates QRM and Lids
- Keyer connection

# PED by JE3MAS

- Pile-up trainer
- 1-8 (16) voices
- CT-like user interface
- Possibility to connect a keyer to LPT
- Competition mode
- BCC maintains a PED toplist for single and multi caller modes

# VPED by JE3MAS

- Phone pile-up simulation
- 1-8 voices
- CT-like user interface

- JE3MAS is working on XPED, an XP based contest simulation for CW and SSB (inkl. Packet spots, etc.)!

# RUFZ by DL4MM

```
RUFZ version 3.2   Toplist mode        @DL4MM 1991-2002

max. PARIS-speed= 357 cpm / 71.4 wpm  Points = 37652
min. PARIS-speed= 250 cpm / 50.0 wpm  Place  = 3

 1 KC3XN       -KC3N     18 FW0BB      -FW0DD
 2 F6NBK       -F6DNX    19 KA5AYB     -KA5YBK
 3 VP2M/......-VP2M/WA2UJH20 DF7FS     -DF7FH
 4 HL0FY       -HL9FY    21 ON/DL6GNM  -OD/DL1GBM
 5 8Q7NC       -8Q7DC    22 EP2HB      -EP2SB
 6 ES6NO       -ES6DO    23 DL2BCE     -DL2BCI
 7 HB0CB       -HD8CD
 8 FP8IH       -FP8DH
 9 K6SSB       -K6HHD
10 FT5XU       -FT5XV
11 3D2JS       -3D2JH
12 HL9NPT      -HL9DPT
13 EA8NGV      -EA7DGU
14 HK1XA       -5X1XA
15 7F2......   -ZF8/ZF2UB
16 EM4AVQ      -EO3AVK
17 HB0/HB9ABC -HB0/F6HKA

Attempt is finished .. <ENT> to continue_
```
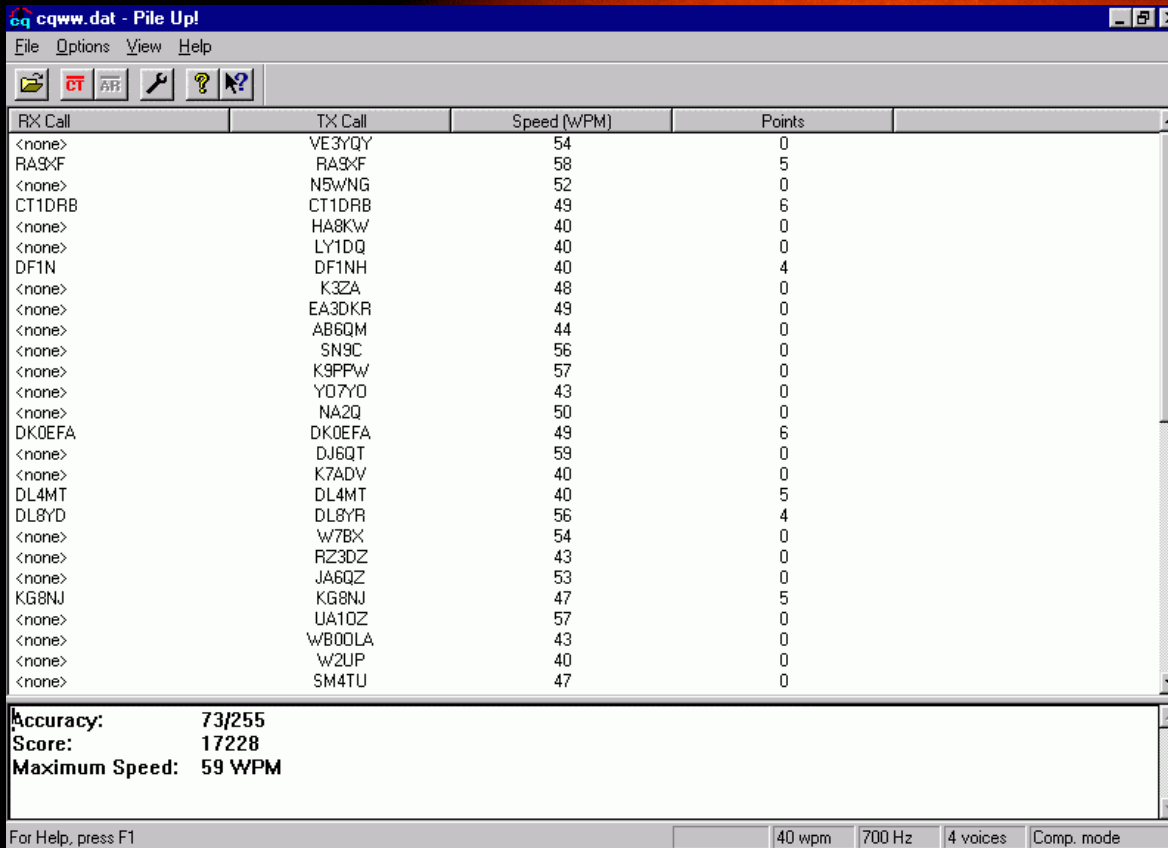
```
< SCORES > (4)
Nr Call     Pts   Max  At
 1  KK8I  39942 337   9
 2  KK8I  39653 337   9
 3  KK8I  37652 357   9
 4  KK8I  37416 378   9
```

- CW speed trainer
- 1 voice
- Competition mode
- DARC maintains a RUFZ toplist with more than 700 entries
- Top speed: 147 wpm (1 YL / 6 OMs)
- Top US speeds: K7QO 109 wpm W2UP 100 wpm
- XP based RufzXP in the works

# Pile Up! by G4ZFE

**Win95/98, Linux, 1997-1999**



| RX Call | TX Call | Speed (WPM) | Points |
|---------|---------|-------------|--------|
| <none> | VE3YQY | 54 | 0 |
| RA9XF | RA9XF | 58 | 5 |
| <none> | N5WNG | 52 | 0 |
| CT1DRB | CT1DRB | 49 | 6 |
| <none> | HA8KW | 40 | 0 |
| <none> | LY1DQ | 40 | 0 |
| DF1N | DF1NH | 40 | 4 |
| <none> | K3ZA | 48 | 0 |
| <none> | EA3DKR | 49 | 0 |
| <none> | AB6QM | 44 | 0 |
| <none> | SN9C | 56 | 0 |
| <none> | K9PPW | 57 | 0 |
| <none> | YO7YO | 43 | 0 |
| <none> | NA2Q | 50 | 0 |
| DK0EFA | DK0EFA | 49 | 6 |
| <none> | DJ6QT | 59 | 0 |
| <none> | K7ADV | 40 | 0 |
| DL4MT | DL4MT | 40 | 5 |
| DL8YD | DL8YR | 56 | 4 |
| <none> | W7BX | 54 | 0 |
| <none> | RZ3DZ | 43 | 0 |
| <none> | JA6QZ | 53 | 0 |
| KG8NJ | KG8NJ | 47 | 5 |
| <none> | UA1OZ | 57 | 0 |
| <none> | WB0OLA | 43 | 0 |
| <none> | W2UP | 40 | 0 |
| <none> | SM4TU | 47 | 0 |

Accuracy: 73/255
Score: 17228
Maximum Speed: 59 WPM

For Help, press F1 | 40 wpm | 700 Hz | 4 voices | Comp. mode

- Pile-up trainer
- 1-9 voices
- Requires ISA sound board
- Competition mode
- G4ZFE maintains a Pile Up! toplist
- Non-GUI version for Linux available
- Source code available

# CW Freak by JI0VWL

Windows, 2004



- CW speed trainer
- Similar to RUFZ, but simpler
- 1 voice
- Competition mode
- Fixed start speed 25 wpm in competition mode
- JI0VWL maintains toplist (20 / 50 QSO)

# Cyber CW Contest by N5RR  Windows, 1997-2004



- Contest trainer
- Simulates entire contest, running pile-ups, S&P
- Uses propagation model derived from QTHs, time
- Multi rareness
- Simulates noise, QRM, Lids, Cops
- Competition mode
- N5RR maintains a toplist
- Software is not freeware, free demo version

# Morse Runner by VE3NEA  Windows, 2004/2005



- Pile-up trainer
- Multiple voices
- Realistic simulation of QRN/QRM/QSB, Lids and noise
- Competition mode (1 hour)
- VE3NEA maintains a toplist with more than 600 entries already
- Topscores at 270 QSO / 1h
- Updates in the works

# Other Programs

- CTMODOKI by AH0K: CT training (DOS, 1992)
- TR Log by N6TR: TR training (DOS)
- HSTT by JE3MAS: Highspeed CW training (DOS, 1998)
- PileMania by JA1DYB: Pile-up (Win, 2004)
- VDMSound: Making DOS sound applications run under WindowsNT, XP

# Final Score

- CW and pile-up training programs help to prepare for a Contest / DXpedition – anytime, anywhere!
- Several interesting programs exist, most are Freeware
- Toplists are a good incentive to practice
- CW Speed training ☞ RUFZ
- Pile-up training ☞ Morse Runner
- Contest training ☞ Cyber CW Contest
- There are more exciting programs to come!

- Link to this presentation on QRZ.COM (KK8I)

TU!