

Interfacing the MMDVM to a pair of CDM 1250 Uhf Radios

By: Mark K Ward N6IB

## **The Shopping List for your Home-Brew MMDVM Repeater Project using Motorola CDM 1250 Uhf radios**

Before we attempt getting started on this project, you will first need go shopping for a few essentials before beginning:

1. Raspberry Pi 3 (Amazon) \$39-45ea
2. Raspberry Pi Case (Amazon)\$6.00 - \$20ea
3. Power supply for Raspberry Pi (Amazon) \$8.00-\$10.00
4. Ardueino Due or Due Clone gets power from the pi USB. (Amazon) \$18.50-\$25.00ea
5. Ardueino Due Case Geaux Robot (Amazon) \$12.00
6. Scan-Disk Ultra Class 10 Micro SD Card with adaptor 32GB (Amazon) \$15.00ea
7. MMDVM rev 1.0.1 with pig tail(Bruce Given VE2GZI) [Bruce.Given@Gmail.com](mailto:Bruce.Given@Gmail.com) \$60.00 + \$10.00 Shipping
8. HLN9457A quantity 2 (E-Bay) \$8.00-15.00 ea
9. Pin crimper Kinee Dupont (Amazon) \$20.00
10. Solder (Amazon) \$6.00-\$10.00
11. Soldering Iron Weller WES51 Recommended for the HAM and his or her projects worth the money (Amazon) \$99.95
12. Heat Gun (Amazon) \$20.00-\$40.00
13. Heat shrink multiple sizes I recommend a heat shrink kit(Amazon) \$10.00
14. 100k Ohm 2W +-5% resistor sold in a package of 5 usually (\$10)
15. Cat 5e stranded used for interfacing the CDM radios to the MMDVM board your local hardware store
16. CDM 1250 Radios Model: AAM25RKD9AA2AN. 403-470MHZ 45W Qty 2 (E-Bay) \$75-\$150
17. Motorola Power Cables HKN4137A Qty 2 (E-Bay) \$10.00
18. Jumpers Mini-UHFMale :NMale for radios LMR 240 three Ft Qty 2 (E-Bay) \$14.00 ea
19. Duplexer BPBR preferred if going to comm site if at home or low level Notch Duplexer will work. Hill top duplexers go for (\$250.00 - \$500) Notch duplexers (\$50-100)  
*Essentials source on your own or borrow from a friend*
20. 25amp 12VDC Switching power supply
21. Service monitor
22. OScope with probe
23. Programming cable for CDM radios
24. Mototola CPS rev 06.12.09 or earlier

A home brew repeater complete for under \$700 as opposed to \$5000 industrial not to bad and they work well

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## **Download your image and set up the Pi and Ardueino interfacing to the Brandmeister DMR Network**

There are many images available, however the one I have used has all the essentials and works very well. I use the DMR-UTAH mmdvm\_Pixel\_DMR-UTAH :

[https://drive.google.com/uc?export=download&id=0BxeyR6\\_rxGV1Mk12X2owVUpBSVE](https://drive.google.com/uc?export=download&id=0BxeyR6_rxGV1Mk12X2owVUpBSVE)

This image has the tool to upload the firmware to the Arduino and all the essentials pre-loaded into the image so my references to getting things going in this text will pertain to this image

- 1) Now that you have your Pi assembled the image loaded on to your SD card and your Arduino assembled and interfaced to the pi, you will need to sit the MMDVM board on the Arduino connect the micro USB to the port closest to the barrel on the Arduino and connect it to the pi power up the Pi and log into the device. User name is : pi the password is: raspberry
- 2) Go to the start menu then to the folder Ham Radio select towards the bottom Update all. This will download the latest firmware, MMDVMHost, and MMDVMCal repository directly from the GitHub and install it on your Pi and place them in the appropriate folders for you.
- 3) Go to start menu then to the folder Ham Radio select the icon ArdueinoIDE. This queues up the software to update the firmware on the Ardueino and MMDMV to the latest required software to work with board revision 1.0.1 the firmware is 12-30-16
- 4) Once the application is running, you will see a button that looks like a arrow going to the right it is called update configuration hit that and you will burn the firmware to your DUE and MMDVM.
- 5) You will need to access a file named: MMDVM.ini. This file is located in the following directory: /home/pi double click on it from the file manager and it will open up a text box you will need to edit it with your information. The file will look something like this:

[General]

Callsign=your call sign

Timeout=180

Duplex=1

# ModeHang=10

RFModeHang=10

NetModeHang=3

Display=None

Daemon=0

[Info]

RXFrequency=446000000

TXFrequency=441000000

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Power=45  
Latitude=your latitude in decimal  
Longitude=your longitude in decimal  
Height=your antenna height in meters  
Location=city and state  
Description=description of your repeater  
URL=your web site URL

[Log]  
# Logging levels, 0=No logging  
DisplayLevel=1  
FileLevel=1  
FilePath=/mnt/ramdisk  
FileRoot=MMDVM

[CW Id]  
Enable=1  
Time=10

[DMR Id Lookup]  
File=DMRIds.dat  
Time=24

[Modem]  
Port=/dev/ttyACM0  
# Port=\\.\\.COM3  
TXInvert=0  
RXInvert=0  
PTTInvert=0  
TXDelay=100  
DMRDelay=0  
RXLevel=16  
TXLevel=50  
# CWIdTXLevel=50  
# D-StarTXLevel=50  
# DMRTXLevel=50  
# YSFTXLevel=50  
# P25TXLevel=50  
OscOffset=0  
# RSSIMultiplier=1  
# RSSIOffset=10  
Debug=0

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### [D-Star]

Enable=0  
Module=C  
SelfOnly=0

### [DMR]

Enable=1  
Beacons=1  
Id=your repeater id  
ColorCode=1  
SelfOnly=0  
# Prefixes=234,235  
CallHang=3  
TXHang=4  
#Blacklist=  
#DstIdBlackListSlot1RF=  
#DstIdBlackListSlot2RF=  
#DstIdWhiteListSlot1RF=  
#DstIdWhiteListSlot2RF=  
#DstIdBlackListSlot1NET=  
#DstIdBlackListSlot2NET=  
#DstIdWhiteListSlot1NET=  
#DstIdWhiteListSlot2NET=  
TGRewriteSlot1=0  
TGRewriteSlot2=0  
BMAutoRewrite=0  
BMRewriteReflectorVoicePrompts=0  
DirectDial=0  
TargetTG=9  
#RewriteMapSlot1=  
#RewritemapSlot2=

### [System Fusion]

Enable=0  
RemoteGateway=0

### [P25]

Enable=0  
NAC=293

### [D-Star Network]

Enable=0  
GatewayAddress=127.0.0.1

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```
GatewayPort=20010  
LocalPort=20011  
Debug=0
```

```
[DMR Network]  
Enable=1  
Address=74.91.118.251  
Port=62031  
Jitter=300  
# Local=3350  
Password=passw0rd  
RSSI=0  
Slot1=1  
Slot2=1  
Debug=0
```

```
[System Fusion Network]  
Enable=0  
LocalAddress=127.0.0.1  
LocalPort=3200  
GwyAddress=127.0.0.1  
GwyPort=4200  
Debug=0
```

```
[P25 Network]  
Enable=0  
GatewayAddress=127.0.0.1  
GatewayPort=42020  
LocalPort=32010  
Debug=0
```

```
[TFT Serial]  
# Port=modem  
Port=/dev/ttyAMA0  
Brightness=50
```

```
[HD44780]  
Rows=2  
Columns=16
```

```
# For basic HD44780 displays (4-bit connection)  
# rs, strb, d0, d1, d2, d3  
Pins=11,10,0,1,2,3
```

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```
# Device address for I2C  
I2CAddress=0x20
```

```
# PWM backlight  
PWM=0  
PWMPin=21  
PWMBright=100  
PWMDim=16
```

```
DisplayClock=1  
UTC=0
```

```
[Nextion]  
# Port=modem  
Port=/dev/ttyAMA0  
Brightness=50  
DisplayClock=1  
UTC=0  
IdleBrightness=20
```

```
[OLED]  
Type=3  
Brightness=0  
Invert=0
```

[file:///usr/share/applications/mmdvm-mmdvmhost\\_service\\_restart.desktop](file:///usr/share/applications/mmdvm-mmdvmhost_service_restart.desktop)

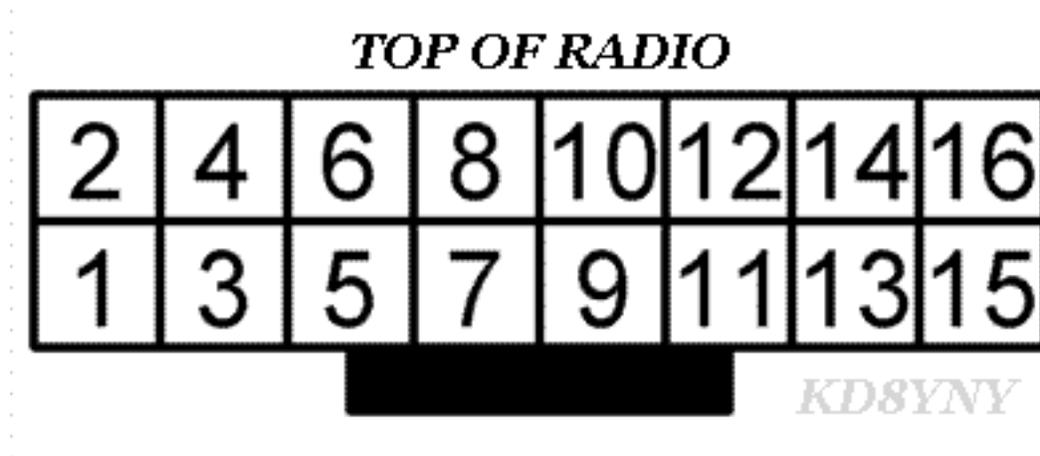
- 6) Go to Start than Ham Radio then to Start MMDVMHost this will get your initial interface on the network
- 7) Go to: brandmeister.network
- 8) Select repeaters
- 9) Search for your repeater ID after a few minutes you should see your node on the Master server if you see this you have been successful in connecting to the network

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### Interfacing the CDM 1250 Radios with the MMDVM Modem this is the wiring harness process

The CDM radio has a 20 pin accessory connector on the back of the radio. However, we can use the 16 pin accessory connector a used with the GM300 radius radios and Maxtrac radios. When we plug this in, the last two pins to the right and left are not used only the inner 16 with the locking tab being in center. The pins I will be referring to are the numbers on the 16 pin connector and not the 20 pins as the CDM uses the same program numbering for the inner 16 pins.



Pin 5 = Transmit Audio	Configure in CPS to FLAT TX audio
Pin 3 = PTT	Configure pin in CPS to (Data PTT) Active Low
Pin 10 = +12vdc for ignition sense	Configure pin CPS to follow ignition and connect to + 12vdc
Pin 11 = Receive Audio	Configure in CPS to FLAT Receive AUDIO
Pin 7 = Ground	
Pin 8 = Carrier Detect	

Wiring for the 8 pin plug is labeled as follows).

Pin (1) CTRL not used in this case  
Pin (2) COS/STAT\_1 cos carrier from the RX radio  
pin (3) RX Audio connect a 100k Ohm 2W resistor in series with this RX audio from the discriminator in the CDM is too hot and needs padding for it to work with the CDM **don't skip this step you will pull your hair out if you do and it won't work!!**  
pin (4) RX GND

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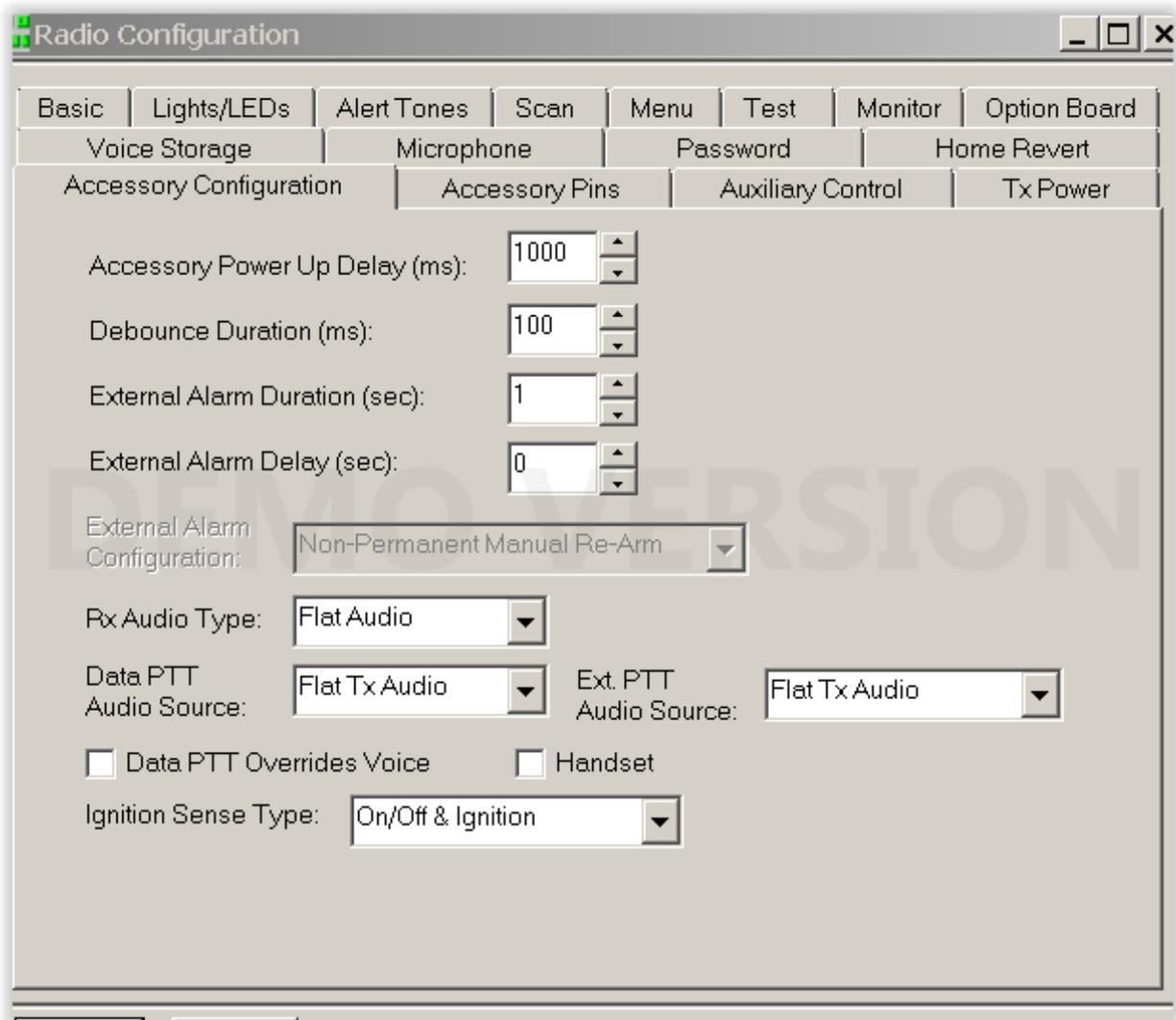
pin (5) TX GND

pin (6) TX Audio

pin (7) PTT

pin (8) STAT\_2 not used in this case

### Configuration of the Motorola CDM in Motorola CPS this Step is Very Important



This is the section under radio configuration after the radio was read where we set the Receive Audio and Transmit Audio to Flatt all the way across the board. This is an essential step as the digital wave form requires audio to be as flat as possible to minimize errors and bit errors which is commonly referred to as packet loss.

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## Pin Assignments in CPS

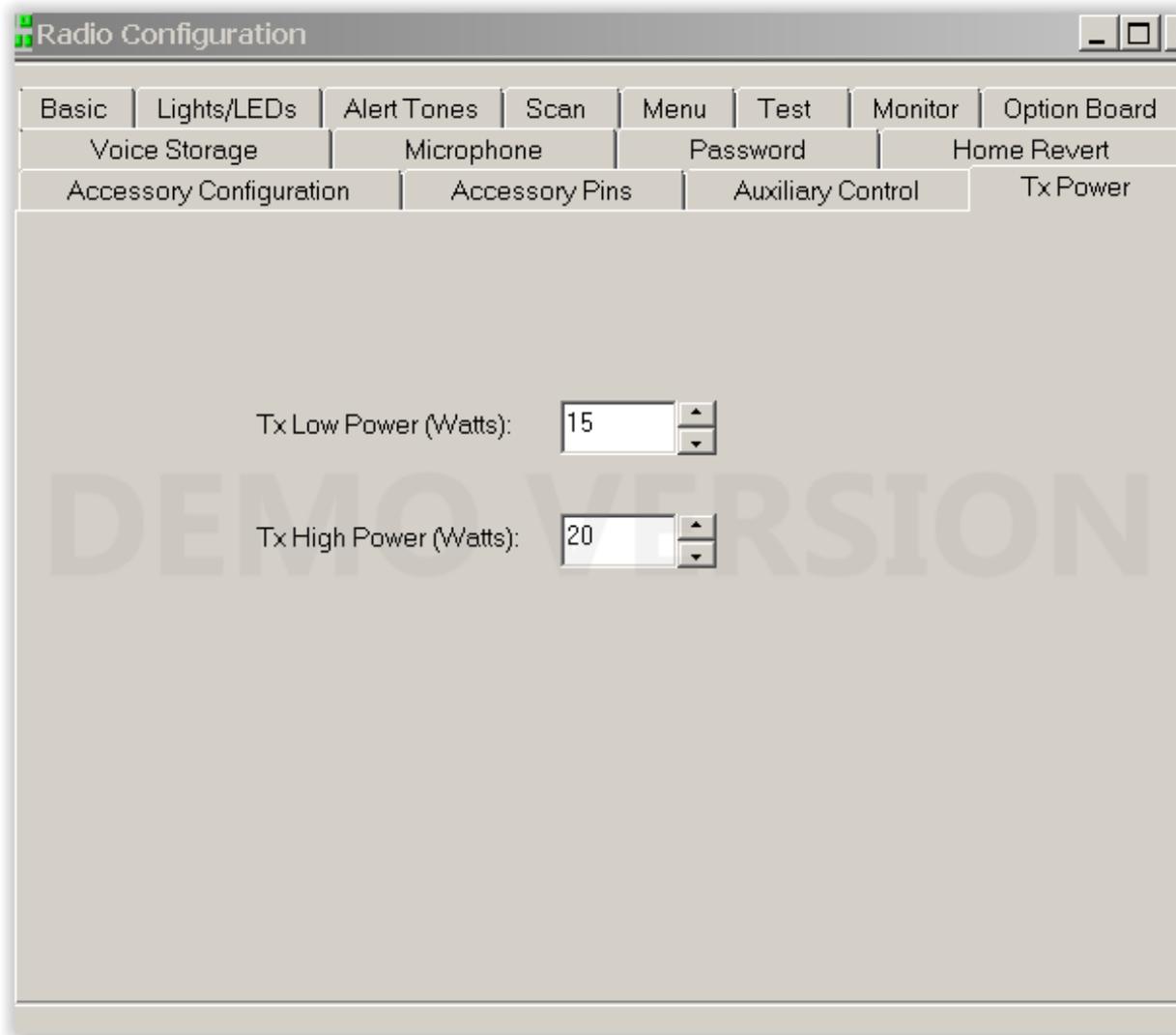
Pin #	Function Selection (Direction)	Active Level	Debounce Enable
3	Data PTT (Input)	Low	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Null	Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Null	Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	PL and CSQ Detect/Talkgroup Detect (Output)	Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Null	Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Null	Low	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Null	Low	<input type="checkbox"/>

This step tells the radio which port to utilize when communicating to the MMDVM modem also another important step to not over look

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### Power Setting of Radio This example is for a 25 W Radio



Because these radios are mobile they were never designed to run at 100% duty cycle I recommend setting the High power level to between 50-60% of full power and Lo power to 25-30% this will ensure that the PA doesn't fail before you are ready. I also recommend getting a fan to place on the PA unit to keep it cool.

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### Setting the Transmit audio levels

Go to Start then access Ham radio click on MMDVM cal select DMR audio setting grab your service monitor set up to monitor over the air your frequency and have it set up where you can see deviation levels in KHz mode

Version: 1 "MMDVM 20161230 (D-Star/DMR/System Fusion/P25/RSSI/CW Id)"

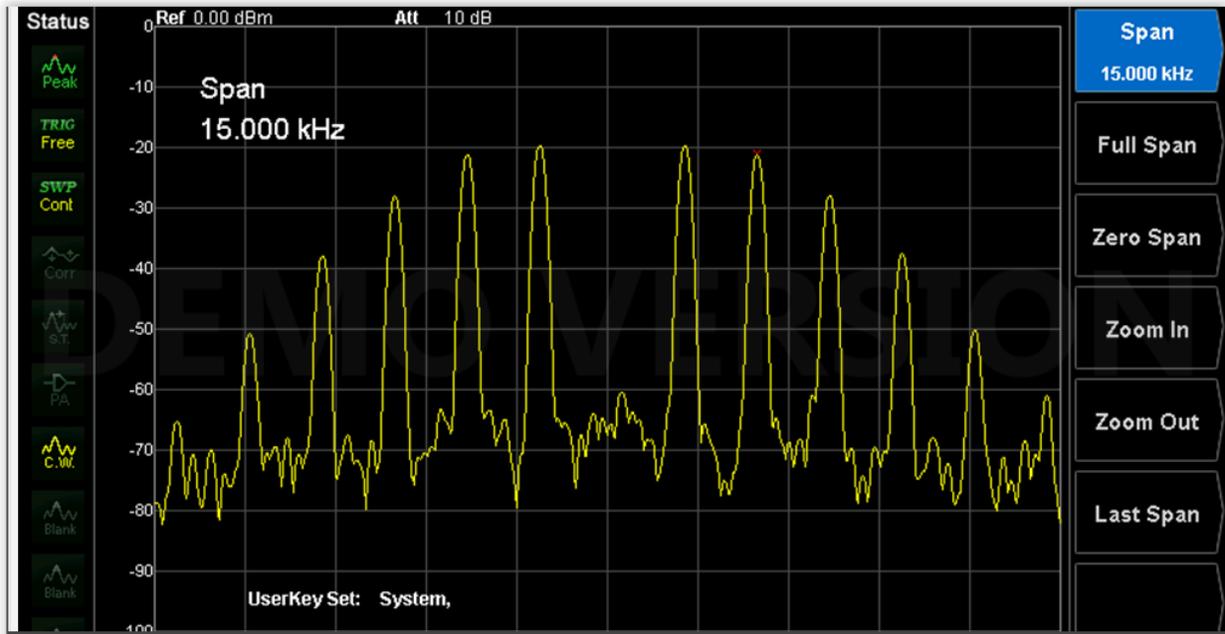
The commands are:

- H/h Display help
- I Toggle transmit inversion
- i Toggle receive inversion
- P/p Toggle PTT inversion
- Q/q Quit
- R Increase receive level
- r Decrease receive level
- T Increase transmit level
- t Decrease transmit level
- D DMR Deviation Mode (Adjust for 2.75Khz Deviation)
- d D-Star Mode
- S/s RSSI Mode
- V/v Display version of MMDVMCal
- <space> Toggle transmit

Once that is done hit the space bar to key the radio you will see a note to adjust deviation to 2.75Khz you will also hear a 1000Khz tone being generated adjust the TX pot till you attain 2.75KHz deviation and the TX audio is set. This effectively sets up the transmit stage of the radio for what is know as 1<sup>st</sup> carrier drop-out and places all the power into the sidebands of the DMR carrier. On a service monitor set to the frequency set dispersion to 15Khz and you should see this while the radio is the DMR Calibration mode while transmitting. You should see the main carrier is completely dropped out or nulled this is referred to as first carrier drop out.

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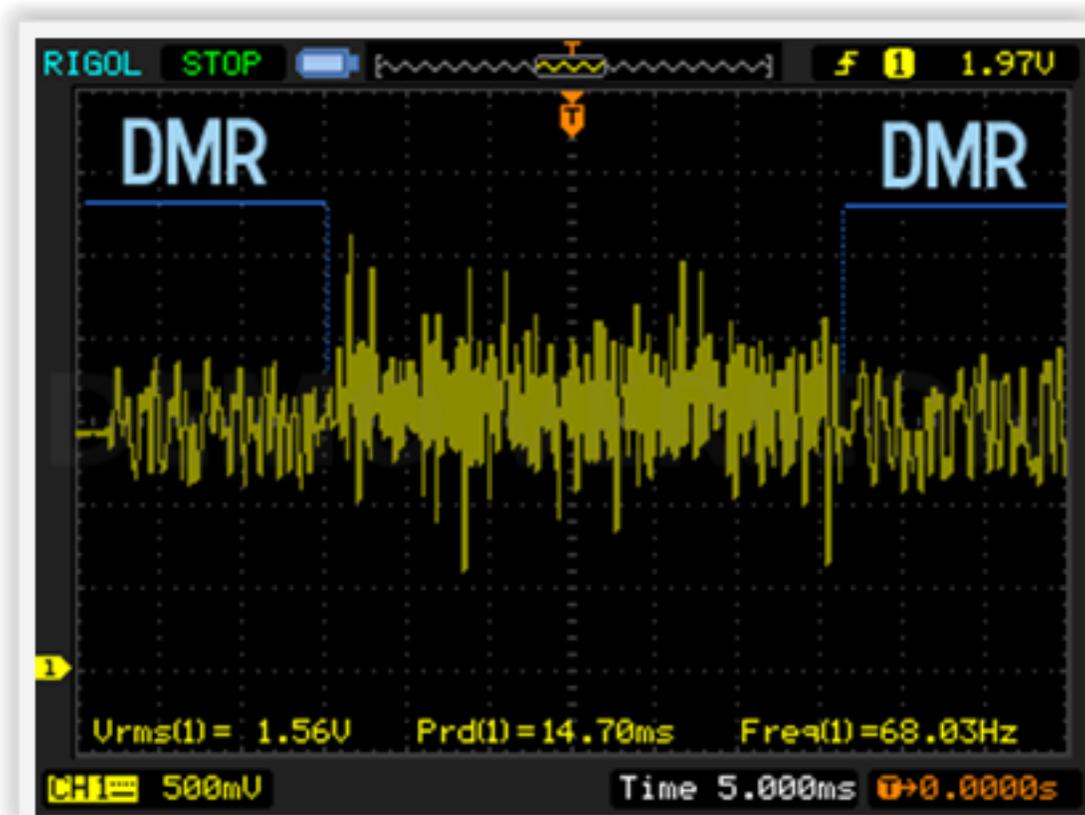
### Setting the Receive Levels

Hook the receiver unit to your signal generator and generate 1000Khz tone at 1.275Khz deviation

Set your O-Scope up to measure 1v ac Pk to Pk at 1volt per div at sweep speed of 100mS

Take measurement from A11 of the Ardueino DUE and adjust the RX pot to measure 1 volt peak to peak be sure that it does not go above the 1 volt line a little below is fine.

You are done!!!! With audio levels on the MMDVM board that is.



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### Wrapping things up

Go to Start Menu, Ham radio , Start MMDVMHost back ground service

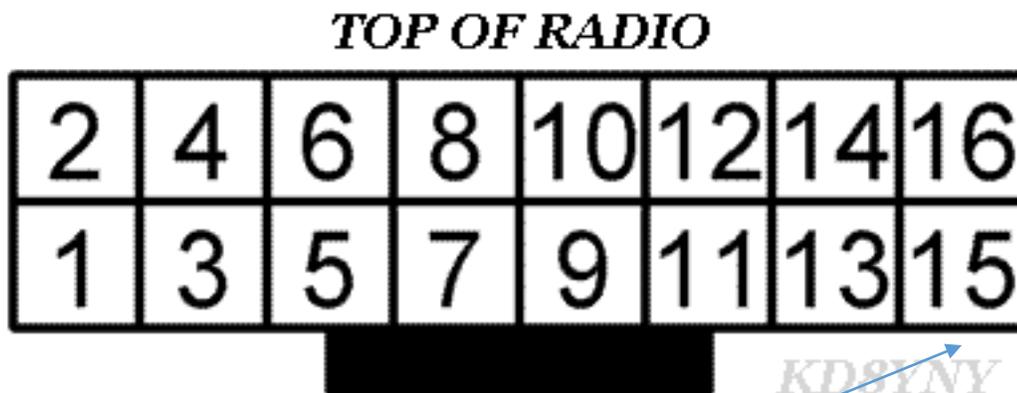
Go to Start Menu, Ham radio, MMDVMHost Background Console

You should see your pi Ardueino log into the network once connected key your radio. You should see the headers and packets going across the screen when you are done it should say call duration and BER rate if your BER is < 0.9% you are good if its above 1% slowly adjust the RX level up and down in the MMDVM.ini save and restart service.

```
[Modem]
Port=/dev/ttyACM0
# Port=\\.COM3
TXInvert=0
RXInvert=0
PTTInvert=0
TXDelay=100
DMRDelay=0
RXLevel=16    Adjust this
TXLevel=50    Adjust this
```

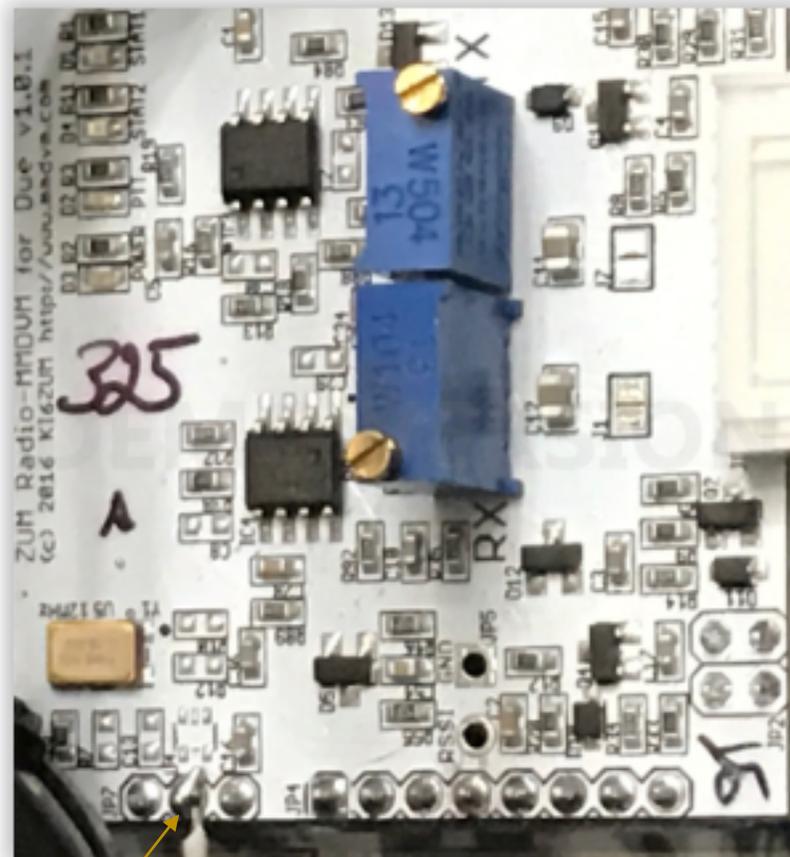
**Hooking up RSSI Data Tap point from the Motorola CDM to the MMDVM board for reporting value to the Brandmeister network**

On the CDM you will need to connect a jumper from Pin 15 on the CDM



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To this pin on the MMDVM board

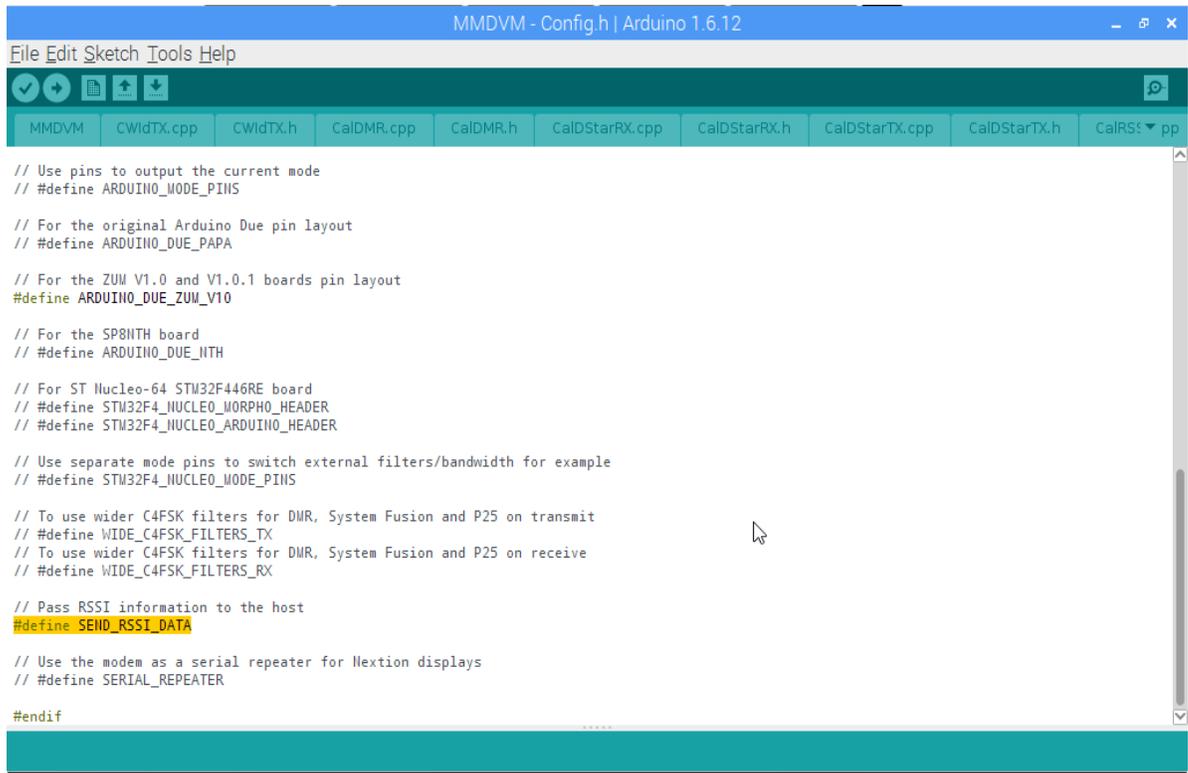


attach the other end of the jumper to this test point on the MMDVM

The next step is to modify the config.h file located in: /home/pi/MMDVM/config.h  
The configuration file should look like this:

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```
// Use pins to output the current mode
// #define ARDUINO_MODE_PINS

// For the original Arduino Due pin layout
// #define ARDUINO_DUE_PAPA

// For the ZUM V1.0 and V1.0.1 boards pin layout
#define ARDUINO_DUE_ZUM_V10

// For the SP8NTH board
// #define ARDUINO_DUE_NTH

// For ST Nucleo-64 STM32F446RE board
// #define STM32F4_NUCLEO_MORPHO_HEADER
// #define STM32F4_NUCLEO_ARDUINO_HEADER

// Use separate mode pins to switch external filters/bandwidth for example
// #define STM32F4_NUCLEO_MODE_PINS

// To use wider C4FSK filters for DMR, System Fusion and P25 on transmit
// #define WIDE_C4FSK_FILTERS_TX
// To use wider C4FSK filters for DMR, System Fusion and P25 on receive
// #define WIDE_C4FSK_FILTERS_RX

// Pass RSSI information to the host
#define SEND_RSSI_DATA

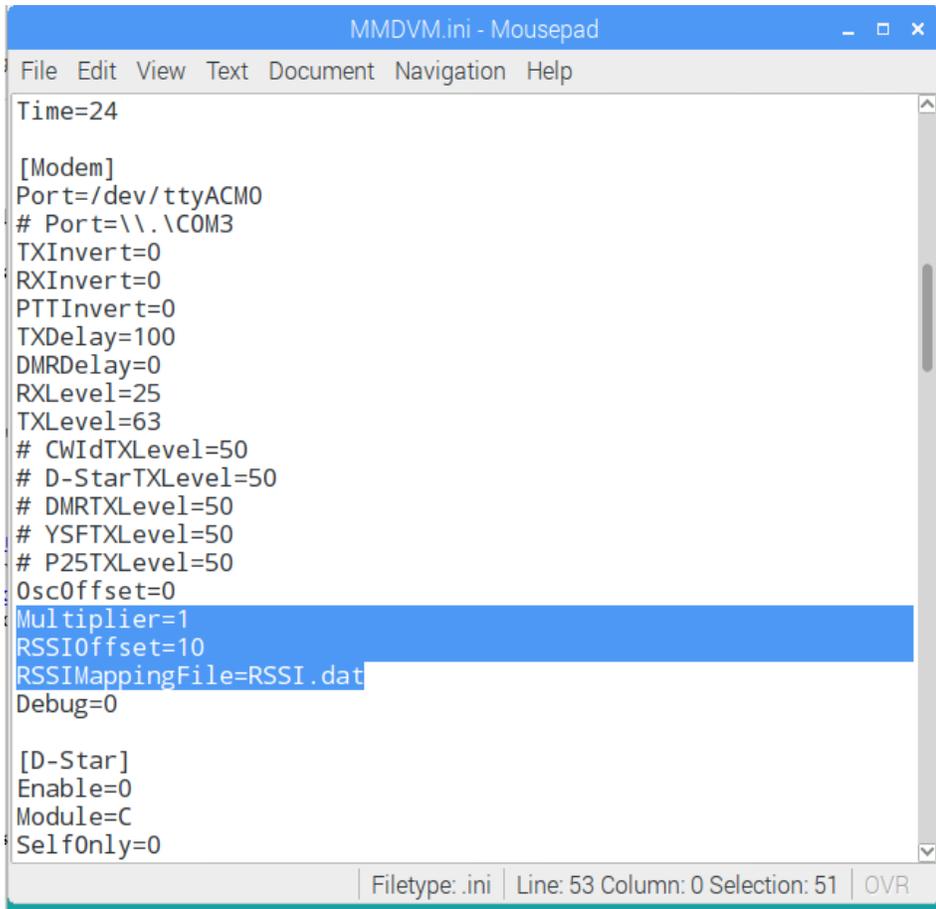
// Use the modem as a serial repeater for Nexiton displays
// #define SERIAL_REPEATER

#endif
```

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The next step is to modify the MMDVM.ini file located: /home/pi/Applications  
The file should look like this:

A screenshot of a text editor window titled "MMDVM.ini - Mousepad". The window has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "View", "Text", "Document", "Navigation", and "Help". The main text area contains the following configuration: Time=24, [Modem], Port=/dev/ttyACM0, # Port=\\.\COM3, TXInvert=0, RXInvert=0, PTTInvert=0, TXDelay=100, DMRDelay=0, RXLevel=25, TXLevel=63, # CWidTXLevel=50, # D-StarTXLevel=50, # DMRTXLevel=50, # YSFTXLevel=50, # P25TXLevel=50, OscOffset=0, Multiplier=1, RSSIOffset=10, RSSIMappingFile=RSSI.dat, Debug=0, [D-Star], Enable=0, Module=C, SelfOnly=0. The status bar at the bottom shows "Filetype: .ini | Line: 53 Column: 0 Selection: 51 | OVR".

```
MMDVM.ini - Mousepad
File Edit View Text Document Navigation Help
Time=24
[Modem]
Port=/dev/ttyACM0
# Port=\\.\COM3
TXInvert=0
RXInvert=0
PTTInvert=0
TXDelay=100
DMRDelay=0
RXLevel=25
TXLevel=63
# CWidTXLevel=50
# D-StarTXLevel=50
# DMRTXLevel=50
# YSFTXLevel=50
# P25TXLevel=50
OscOffset=0
Multiplier=1
RSSIOffset=10
RSSIMappingFile=RSSI.dat
Debug=0
[D-Star]
Enable=0
Module=C
SelfOnly=0
Filetype: .ini | Line: 53 Column: 0 Selection: 51 | OVR
```

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Now you will need to put the calibrated RSSI values for the CDM radio into the RSSI.dat file. The file is located: /home/pi/Applications/MMDVMHost/RSSI.dat

The file should look like this:

```
-----  
# This file maps the raw RSSI values to dBm values to send to the DMR network. A  
# number of data  
# points should be entered and the software will use those to work out the in-between  
# values.  
#  
# The format of the file is:  
# Raw RSSI Value          dBm Value  
#  
# For example  
# 1134          -90  
# 1123          -100  
# 1000          -109  
346   -137  
381   -124  
443   -115  
485   -110  
560   -100  
629   -90  
698   -80  
740   -75  
787   -70  
819   -65  
830   -60  
832   -55
```

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### Inside look of Completed Concept

