

The first presentation in this conference trip, I had with CN2017 in Ladek Zdroj, Poland (a member of the EU), in the premises of a tourist resort “Zamek na Skale” (means “the Castle on the Rock”). While traveling to that event, I used a train from Krakow to Wroclaw. The ride took around 3.5 hrs, so I spent that time by experimenting with Polish *APRS* network. (*APRS* stands for Automatic Packet/Position Reporting System.) Of course, my equipment included GU93030SM-USB so the passengers in the train had an opportunity to see that GPS-mouse in action (Fig. 1, 2, & 3).



Fig. 1

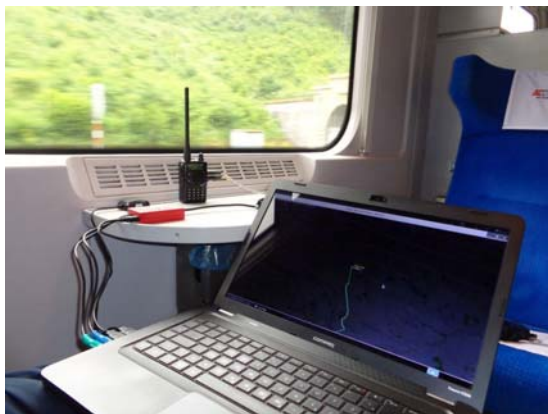


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

As seen in the photos, GU93030SM-USB was placed near the train compartment's window, so it perfectly followed the train's location on the *APRS* software maps (Fig. 4, 5, & 6).



Fig. 4

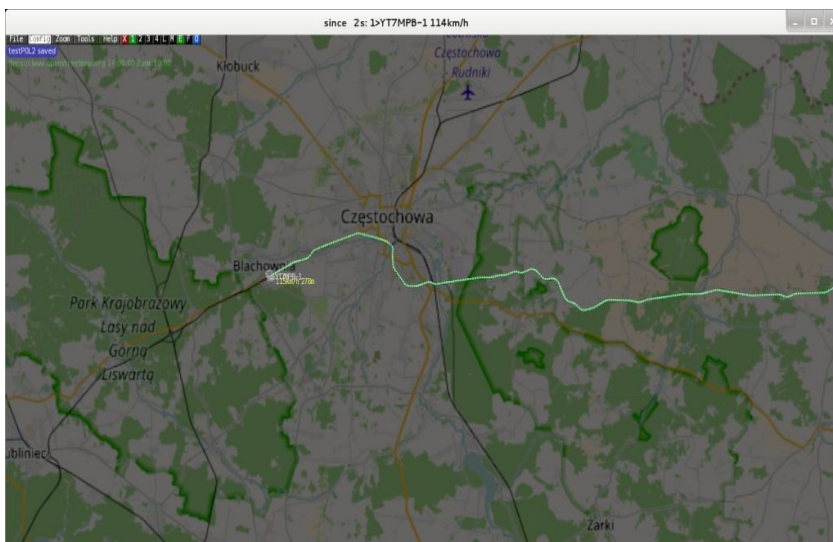


Fig. 5

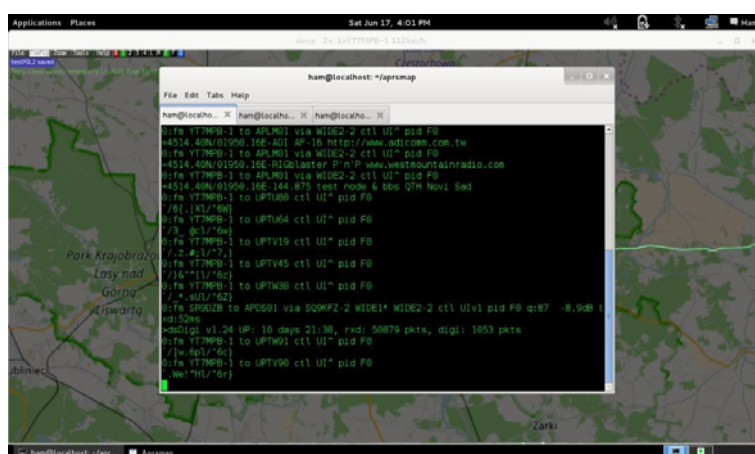


Fig. 6

The conference started on June 20 and my amateur radio tutorial was chosen to be the first presentation (Fig. 7). I had several slides related to both GU93030SM-USB and GT-901 G-mice and, of

course, the both receivers. I had GU93030SM-USB attached to my presentation laptop, and GT-901 attached to the SCS Tracker modem (Fig. 8-12).



Fig. 8



Fig. 7

Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11



Fig. 12



Some conference participants even wanted to be photographed with me and YIC devices (Fig. 13-14):



To describe recent experiments I did with GU93030SM-USB, I had a photo of myself running a portable APRS packet radio station consisting of a laptop computer, a sound card packet interface, GU93030SM-USB, and a portable VHF radio. (Fig. 15 & 16).



Fig. 15

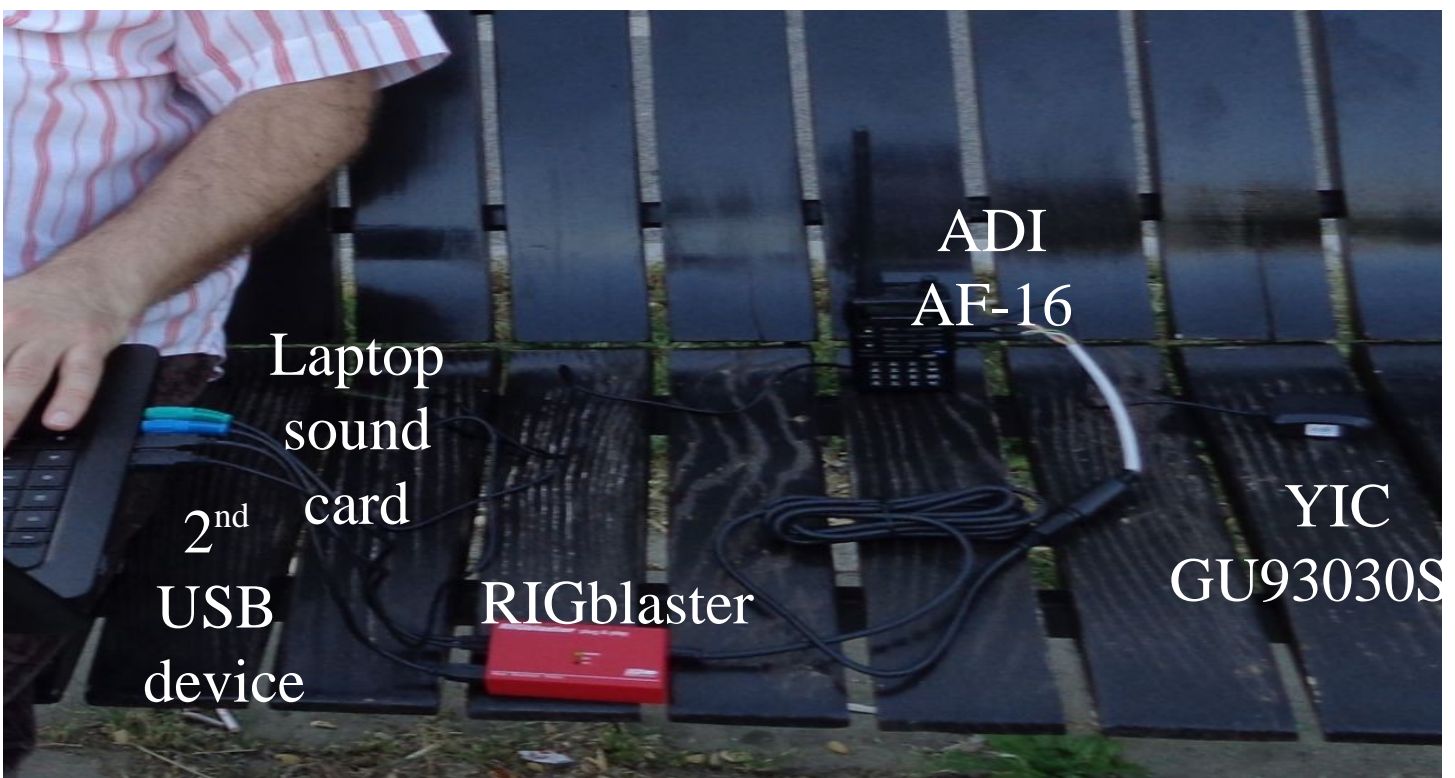


Fig. 16

After finishing activities in CN2017, I had to take more train ride, at first back to Wrocław, following by a train from Wrocław to Rzeszów. Both rides took roughly 8 hours, so once again I used GU93030SM for locating myself – this time in the opposite direction and more (Fig. 17). During that long and tiring travel of some 450 km I passed through the railway stations of Lubliniec (Fig. 18), Kraków Główny (Fig. 19), Tarnów (Fig. 20), and Debica (Fig. 21).





Fig. 17



Fig. 18



Fig. 19



Fig. 20



Fig. 21

Finally I arrived to Rzeszow city where I was the special guest lecturer with Politechnika Rzeszowska (means “University of Technology in Rzeszow”). My hosts and assistants were Mateusz SP8EBC (Fig. 22, left) and Prof. Dominik Strzalka, Vice-Dean for Development and Cooperation with the Economy (Fig. 22, right).

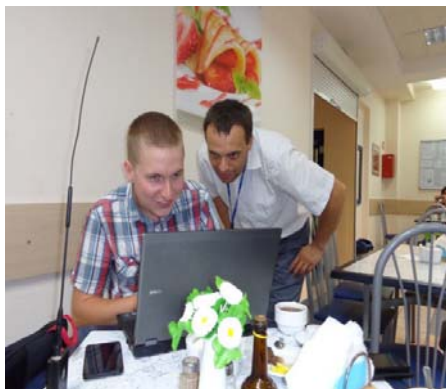


Fig. 22

Prof. Strzalka officially opened the session (Fig. 23), followed by an introductory speech of Adam SP8N, the chair of the local chapter of Polish amateur radio union PZK (Fig. 24).



Fig. 23



Fig. 24



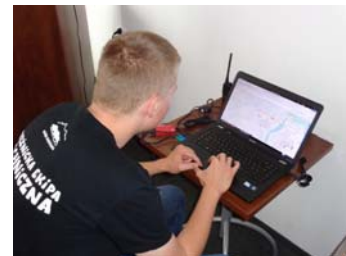
Fig. 25



Fig. 26

Both Adam (Fig. 25) and Mateusz (Fig. 26) provided interesting insights into the actual state of the amateur radio in Poland, and in usage of the APRS as an “Amateur Radio Internet of Things before it became Modern :- )”

After the 4-hour session was over, Mateusz wanted to further examine GU93030SM and other electronics I was using there, so I gave him an opportunity to do so (Fig. 27-29):



I finished the journey in Poland by performing another technical display and lecture with SP9KPG amateur radio club, OT12 division of PZK and HS Kraków Foundation.

The second part of my conference travel was occurred in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia (also the member of the EU). I made some practical experiments with APRS while visiting the “UFO”, an 100+ meter high observatory on Danube river bank in Bratislava. Of course, GU93030SM was placed on a position from where it was about to pick up GPS satellite signals (Fig 28-30):



Fig. 28



Fig. 29



Fig. 30

In general, GU93030SM performed very well. In the trains it perfectly followed the railway lines on the map. However, in some temporary 'fixed' locations (such as in the “UFO” above), its readings varied  $\pm 10$  meters or even more, and did change every 5-10 seconds, as if I had moved outside the “UFO” observatory or walked around the location, while in reality I was constantly sitting in the chair (as in Fig. 30).

My next conference travel might happen in Autumn 2017 for engineering events in India, Australasia region, or elsewhere.

Miroslav Skoric