Networking Enhancement for a GM1358 Sound Level Meter (the swiss army knife)

Digest

There is a large choice of sound pressure level meters on the market, from pretty cheap to awfully expensive ones.

The cheap ones have frequently a sufficient accuracy for many purposes (albeit not being suitable for a legal enforcement). Most of them have however either no, or extremely primitive reporting abilities.

The purpose of this development is to provide networking and reporting abilities as close to IEC 61672-1:2013 specifications as possible to an extremely cheap sound pressure level meter GM1358, by adding a ESP8266 WiFi microcontroller to it.

In the first variant sound pressure level meter + WiFi adapter + Online Dashboard the total value of the bill of material will be below 30€! seitenzeh

The ESP8266 microcontroller will be small enough to fit into the original case of the GM1358 and the requested soldering will be limited to three wires.

With soldering skills, you can do the job in less than 10 minutes.

Your modified GM1358 will then provide USB and WiFi connectivity and be programmable to do the coolest things that only high-end devices will provide:

Evaluation of the noise level according to following time response standards (simultaneously):

- Fast (Attack t=125mS, Decay t=125mS)
- Slow (Attack t=1S, Decay 4,3dB /sec)
- Impulse (Attack t=125mS, Decay 2,9dB /sec)
- Real peak value by the minute (125mS resolution, not the maximum of readings)
- Background level (t=2000s, excluding NAT)

Statistics according to residential aircraft noise standards:

(steady noise equivalents)

- Leg 1 minute
- Leq for each hour of the day
- Leg for 24h
- Leg daytime 06:00 to 22:00
- Leg nighttime 22:00 to 6:00
- Leq 22:00 to 24:00
- Lden

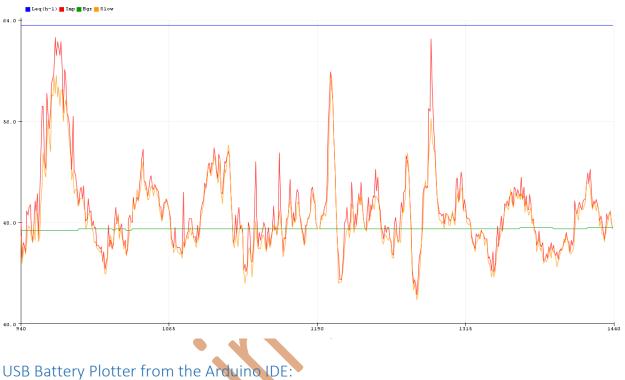
(number above threshold)

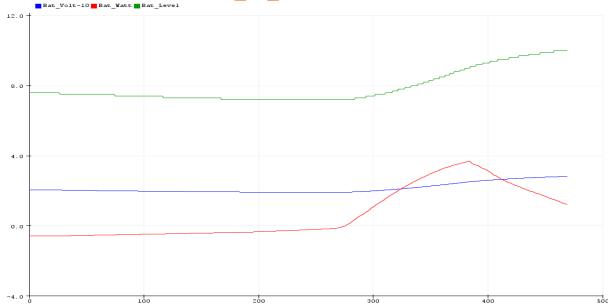
- NAT for each hour of the day
- NAT for 24h
- NAT daytime 06:00 to 22:00
- NAT nighttime 22:00 to 6:00
- NAT 22:00 to 24:00

Additionally the program can grab weather information from openweathermap.org and provide the corresponding meteorological conditions.

 a) You can report all this information over the USB port using a terminal program or the Serial Monitor of the Arduino IDE.
 Over the Serial Plotter you can get a graphical output of the noise or battery evolution history:

USB Sound Plotter from the Arduino IDE:





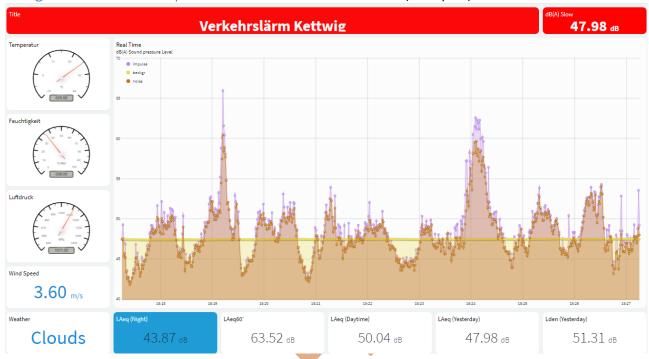
The plotter and reporting abilities of the Arduino IDE are however limited and you can only have one output at a time.

With a free cloud service as e.g Thinger.io, much more features can be used.

Cloud service Thinger

You can register free to the Cloud service Thinger.io to plot information in a very versatile way. You then can get fast real-time dashboards (that build up over time on screen) and also send information to data buckets from which you get historical data (immediately available)



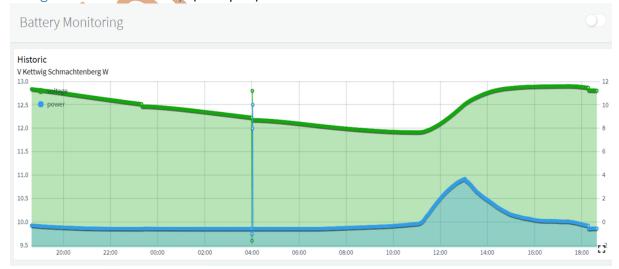


With solar hardware and a separate casing, you may also build the system with the ability to be solar powered including a solar power monitor to report all information about the battery condition and the power fed by the solar panel.

You will then operate the system without electrical connection to your computer, using the Cloud service Thinger.io.

Full extension with weather report, solar power report, noise level (needs solar hardware):

Thinger historical battery (example2)



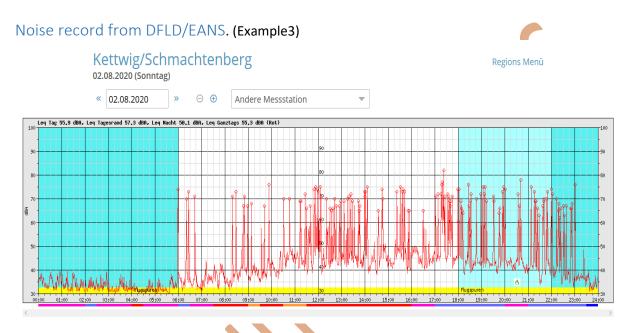
You can also build a split system with the SPL meter (+ the solar power circuitry) being located outside gathering and transmitting the sound (and battery) values over WiFi/ UDP

(Long Range LoRa is planned)

to another bare ESP8266 located inside that will provide the statistics over USB/ Thinger.

Last but not least, and back to the historical roots of the whole concept, the system is able to additionally to Thinger transmit over USB a single byte per second according to a proprietary "AK-Modulbus protocol" to a feeder program running e.g on a Raspberry Pi forwarding hourly reports to the European aircraft noise network . http://www.eans.net/EANSindex.php

This network is providing a very long time lobby-independent storage of aircraft/railway noise information managed by residentials, currently totaling about 700 privately and communal operated noise stations throughout Europa.

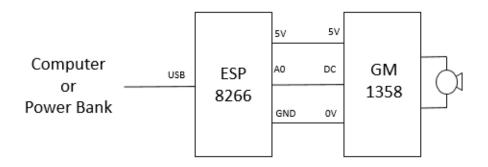


Energy considerations

The built-in 9V alkaline battery block, provides about 24 hours of operation (@ 11mA). With the retrofitted ESP8266 the total consumption will be about 48 mA, which will drain the battery block within about 8 hours only.

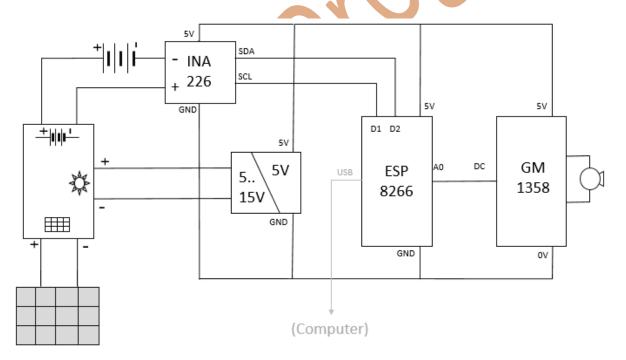
Fortunately, you can also power the system over the USB socket of the ESP8266 and provide over two days of continuous operation from a 3000mA lithium 18360 battery.

Hardware schematics Simple version



Solar Powered Version with battery reporting

If you want a 24/24/365 off-grid operation on solar power, depending on your location (e.g. at a 45° latitude) you will need a 12V 30Ah battery and (at least) a 20W solar panel, you can hardly imagine how little energy such as solar panel still delivers on a rainy winter day!



Bill of material

Simple version

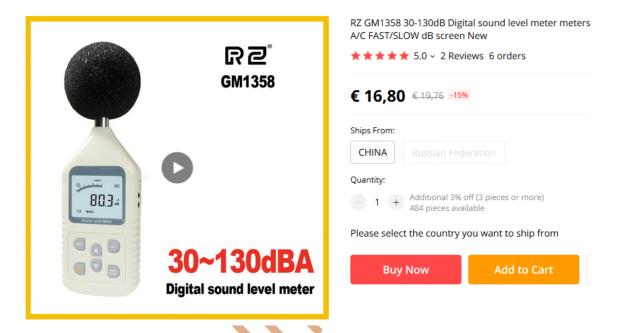
You will need exactly that model of Sound level meter: GM 1358

Do not order another model!

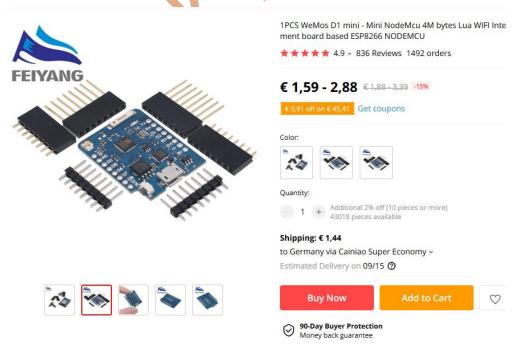
That one has the unique feature of providing a linear 0..1V DC signal output that is tied to GND and the ability to autostart when powered with 5V.

It can interface with an ESP 8266 with only 3 wires.

You can find some devices on eBay.com, but you will find the best offers on AliExpress to largely varying prices. Anything below 30€ is OK...



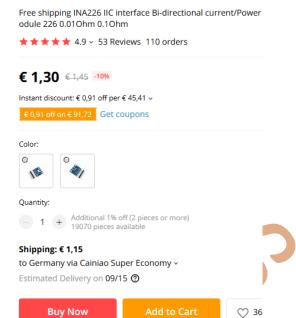
https://www.aliexpress.com/item/1647511133.html



https://www.aliexpress.com/item/32831353752.html

Option Solar power & monitoring





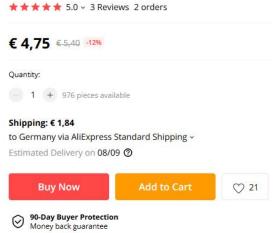
90-Day Buyer Protection Money back guarantee

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Solar Charge Controller 12V 10A PWM Intelligent Solar Controller C Of Multiple Home Protection System #20









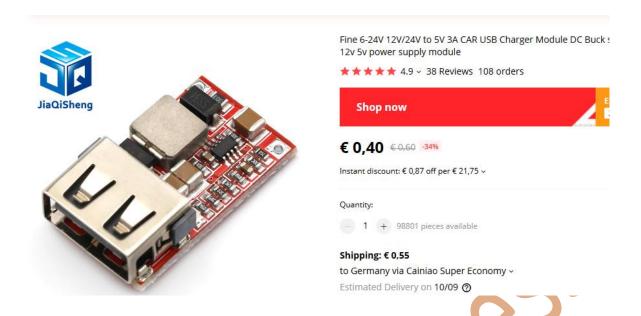








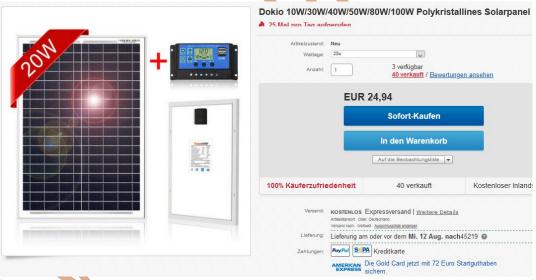
https://www.aliexpress.com/item/4000083888167.html



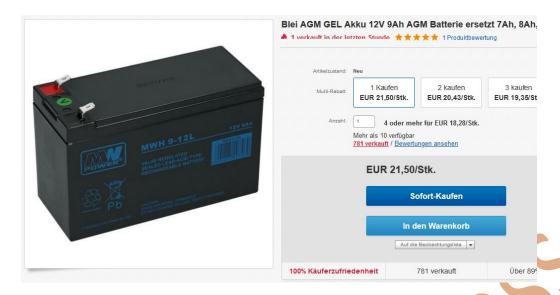
Order a 12V 12Ah or more lead acid battery and a 20W or more solar panel locally.

Take care to order <u>solar suited batteries and solar panels with a glass front and an aluminum frame</u>. Avoid cheap solar stuff with resin front, they will decay within a few months in bright sun.

Here are some examples from Germany:



(this combo-offer already includes the solar controller and even the USB 5V power supply)

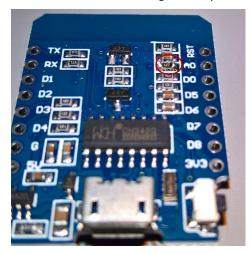


You may use an existing car battery if you have one in acceptable condition, <u>but do not buy one</u>: car batteries are not optimized for longer periods of operation with a voltage below 13,8v and will decay rapidly.

Modification of the GM1358 Simple Version

The GM1358 is easy to dismantle, remove 4 screws: 2 at the top and 2 in the battery compartment and you can open the casing.

The first thing might sound scaring but it is easier as it looks: we need to bridge one very tiny resistor on the ESP8266 to change the input range from 0..3.3V to 0..1V.



Take a single strand of electrical wire and solder it to bridge the resistor close to A0 as shown:

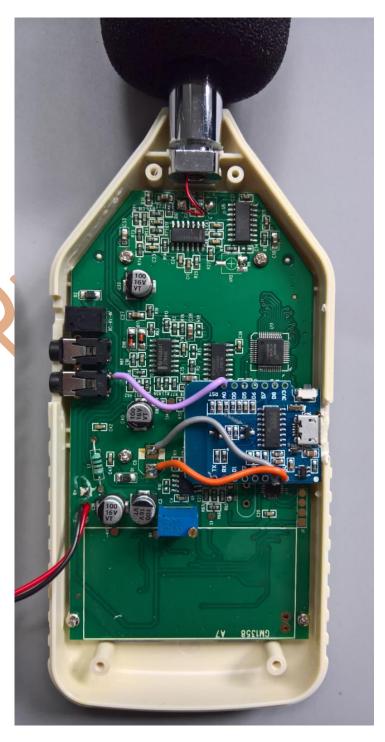
Solder the grey wire

to GND and the pad on the PCB board, solder the orange wire to GND and the pad on the PCB board, solder the pink wire to AO and the inside contact of the DC jack

Grind the plastic case to free room for the USB plug.

Glue the ESP8266 as shown. Screw the case back. Done!





Outdoor / Solar Version



to be described in detail later...



Software

To operate the noise station you will need a WLAN connection and internet connectivity. You will need to upload the program to the ESP 8266.

For that, if you don't have it already, you should install the Arduino programming Interface (IDE) from www.arduino.cc, on your favourite PC, and then install the ESP framework.

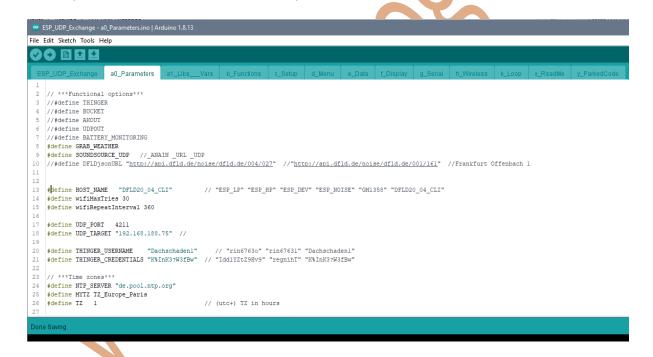
Cf these instructions: https://randomnerdtutorials.com/installing-the-esp32-board-in-arduino-ide-windows-instructions/

Optionally you could register to two free services:

The first step will be to create a free account at www.thinger.io (you can manage two devices free of charge) and optionally create a free account at www.openweathermap.org http://www.openweathermap.org if you want to get weather information for your location.

The current files of my program are hosted on GitHub:

https://github.com/rin67630/Swiss-Army-Knife-for-GM1380-Sound-Pressure-Meter You may download all .ino files in a folder of your choice and start the Arduino IDE:



I have built the program on the top of my framework ESP-Krarajan on GitHub: https://github.com/rin67630/ESP-Karajan, which takes care of ancillary tasks like, booting to the network and providing scheduling and timing functionalities.

The Arduino IDE provides tabs to split the program into well-structured subparts, so you can jump easily during development between every subpart:

- a0) parameters and options to use the program (the only part you really need to modify)
- a1) libraries and global variables used
- b) different functions used in the program
- c) setup process
- d) menu
- e) data processing
- f) display (not used here...)
- g) serial reports
- h) wireless processes
- k) finally the scheduler itself which will periodically start the routines listed from d) to h).

Additionally two tabs with comments only are added for convenience:

x_ReadMe and y_ParkedCode, where you can put reminders and code examples.

In my programming style, I deliberately refrain to use too abstract c++ concepts in order to make the program accessible to the majority of people with a minimum of Arduino experience. I also did put a great attention to comment my code indicating the reason why I have done most steps in that way.

Basically, unless you know exactly what you are doing the only Tab, for you to make changes is a0 parameters and options.

The software is written to operate on different hardware configuration and can gather data from different sources.

```
#define HOST_NAME "GITHUB"
// ***Functional Configuration***
#define WEATHER_SOURCE_URL //_URL _NONE (UDP planned)
#define BATTERY SOURCE UDP
                            //_INA _UDP _NONE
#define SOUND SOURCE UDP
                            // ANAIN URL UDP NONE
//#define DFLDjsonURL "http://api.dfld.de/noise/dfld.de/004/027"
//"http://api.dfld.de/noise/dfld.de/001/161" //Frankfurt Offenbach 1
#define THINGER
#define WRITE_BUCKETS
                             //(Comment out, if second device @ Thinger)
#define Console@ Serial
                             // Port for user inputs
#define Console1 Serial
                             // Port for user output
#define Console2 Serial
                            // Port for midnight report
#define Console3 Serial
                            // Port for boot messages
#define Console4 Serial
                             // Port for AK-Outputs
//#define PUBLISH DFLD
                              //If this is the DFLD master, comment out else
//#define PUBLISH BATTERY
                              //If this is the battery master, comment out else
//#define PUBLISH SOUND
                              //{
m If} this is the sound master, comment out else
#define UDP_TARGET "192.168.xxx.xxx" // Client address for Sound or Battery if defined
#define UDP_PORT
// ***Credentials***
#define SMARTCONFIG // (WiFi Credentials over GogglePlay/Apple App SmartConfig)
// alternatively to Smartconfig App, you can comment out Smartconfig and enter your credentials
//#define WIFI_SSID "Enter Your SSID'
//#define WIFI_PASS "Enter Yout Password"
#define wifiMaxTries 30
#define wifiRepeatInterval 1000
String OPEN_WEATHER_MAP_APP_ID =
                                      "Application TD":
String OPEN WEATHER MAP LOCATION ID =
                                      "Location Id";
String OPEN_WEATHER_MAP_LANGUAGE =
                                      "de";
boolean IS_METRIC =
                                      true;
```

```
#define THINGER USERNAME
                            "Username"
#define THINGER_CREDENTIALS "Credentials"
// ***Time zones***
#define NTP_SERVER "de.pool.ntp.org"
#define MYTZ TZ Europe Paris
#define TZ
                                            // (utc+) TZ in hours
           1
// ***Acoustical parameters***
#define Ao94 1024 \, // 747 \, for AK module with offset and 2,5v \, | 1050 for linear 0..1V
#define Ao47 530
                  // 458 for AK module with offset and 2,5v | 550 for linear 0..1V
#define UPPER_LIMIT_DB
                                     78 // Just defines the upper/lower limit of plots
#define
        LOWER LIMIT DB
#define
        EVENT THRESHOLD LEVEL
                                     52 // Begin of Exceedance level
#define MEASUREMENT_THRESHOLD_LEVEL 48 // Begin of measurement level
#define
        MIN EXCEEDANCE TIME
                                     15 // Minimum duration of an event
#define MAX EXCEEDANCE TIME
                                    60 // Maximum duration of an event
#define LISTENING_TIME
                                     50 // mimimum time between events
// ***Electrical parameters***
//#define DEVICES_FOUND INA.begin(3, 40000) //3A Max, 40mOhm Shunt
#define SHUNT
                40000
                         // 16666 = 0,1 Ohm +// 0,020hm or 40000
#define AMPERE
                         // 10 or 5
                3
#define SERIAL_SPEED 9600 //9600 115200 230400
#define MIN_VOLT 9.6
                         // 11.8 9.6
#define MAX VOLT 12.8
                         // 14.2 12.8
#define MIN_AMP -0.8
#define MAX_AMP +0.8
#define MIN WATT -1
#define MAX_WATT +8
```

In the first chapter ***Functional configuration*** you will determine:

```
a) The host name (for your WiFi and e.g. for Thinger
```

```
b) Whether you will be using Weather information, mainly you will use
   URL
               to get the information from openweathermap.org.
    NONE
              if you don't need the weather information.
```

c) Configure the source of the battery information:

```
_NONE,
           if you don't have any battery information.
           if you have an INA226 module to measure current and voltage
INA
_UDP
           if you have in the same network another ESP8266
           running the same sketch as a master
```

d) Configure the source of the sound information

```
NONE,
           if you don't have any battery information
 ANAIN
           if the sound level is coming from the analog input A0
 UDP
           if you have in the same network another ESP8266
            running the same sketch as a master
URL
           if the sound level is coming from a JSON URL of www.dfld.de
(then you need to uncomment the next line and provide the URL
that will provide the sound information)
```

The line #define THINGER is determining, if you are using the cloud services of thinger.io. If you do not, please un-comment that line.

The lines with #define CONSOLEx determine where some parts of the sketch are issued. Normally to Serial, with additional UARTS ports like Serial1 are possible.

The line #define WRITE_BUCKETS must be un-commented if you are using a second device in one Thinger account. (Only one device is supposed to write the buckets defined in the common program (buckets are longtime storage at Thinger)

In the next chapter ***Credentials***, you will enter the credential information for different services.

The sketch is using SmartConfig a facility from Espressif that enables to configure your WiFi credentials we do not need to recompile the whole sketch.

You have got three possibilities:

- a) If you ever have a run your ESP8266 with another sketch containing the credentials successfully, then the ESP has stored how to connect in its nonvolatile memory and you just can't go on without caring for credentials.
- b) If you never have run your ESP8266 with credentials, you can comment out #define SMARTCONFIG and enter your credentials in the 2 next lines, after having removing the slashes. After successful connection, it is recommended to return to the initial active SMARTCONFIG and for security remove your credentials from the sketch
- c) You can reconfigure your ESP8266 from an Android or Apple smartphone to every local WiFi to which you have access.
 - To do that, please download the application ESP SMARTCONFIG from the respective appstore and follow the instructions there.

USB-Serial Menu

The Software provides a simple "single character" command-line menu over the USB serial line.

Commands are given by a single character and executed over [return]

Commands are stackable: you can give several characters then [return]; all commands will be executed in sequence.

Example: U+++ means: Apply 94&47dB Defaults and Increase Offset by 3dB.

Usually an upper case letter sets the function and the lower case reset the function.

Control actions

'Z': //Reset the ESP device
'C': //Apply 94dB Calibration
'c': //Apply 47dB Calibration
'U': //Apply 94&47dB Defaults
'+': //Increase Offset by 1dB
'-': //Reduce Offset by 1dB

Control Display

(abandoned, could be re-implemented, it would need a display, Thinger is more powerful and needs no hardware)

'0': //Display mode 0

•••

'3': //Display mode 3

Periodical reports over the USB serial line

'A': //serialPage AK

(this is not a printable report, it issues one byte every second to feed the DFLD website)

'P': //Periodical Reports on 'p': //Periodical Reports off

Options for periodical reports:

'D': //Day Report
'H': //Hour Report
'h': //no Hour Report

* these reports are designed to produce serial Plotter compatible results.

Example1: PDHmsE means: Print Daily, Hourly, no minute, no second, Events

Example 2: p means: stop printing reports.

Example 3: P means: resume printing reports with last options Example 4: Sd means: now with Second reports without Daily reports.

One shot reports

n.b. these reports stop periodical reports, resume with "P" to return to periodical printing.

'L': // Leq Report by 24h
'N': // NAT Report by 24h

'B': // Battery Report by 24H

'b': // Battery Report (Actual measurements)

'?': //List parameters

'~': //List WLAN / Radio settings.

Report examples

Minute Hour and Events

Menu command MHEP:

```
08:55:59.490 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.928 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
08:56:59.461 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.927 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
08:57:59.462 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.926 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
08:58:59.502 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.925 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
08:59:59.489 -> BatAhBat:0.000 A0dBLEQ:58.8 WindSpeed:0 Direction:1072693248
08:59:59.536 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.924 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
09:00:59.478 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.923 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
09:01:59.466 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.922 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
09:02:47.466 -> PKTm: 09:01:37 PKdB:52.8 ATdB: 50.2 ATsec:48 PK-10dB: 49.7 PK-10sec: 41 NAT:1
09:02:59.489 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.921 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
09:03:59.488 -> Bat_Volt-10:1.920 Bat_Watt:-0.593 Bat_Level:7.200
```

Menu command L:

Leq : for	· Saturo	day, 08	August	2020									
Hour	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
Leq dB	58.1	58.3	58.3	58.4	58.4	58.5	58.6	58.7	58.8	61.1	65.4	65.8	
Hour	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	ď
Leq dB	66.0	66.2	66.3	62.9	63.2	63.6	63.8	54.0	56.3	56.6	57.3	57.8	

Menu command N:

NAT : f	or Satu	ırda	y, 0	8 <i>F</i>	August	: 2	020								4			
Hour	00		01		02		03	04	05	06	07	08	09	4	10	M	11	7
NAT	00		00		01		00	01	00	00	00	00	01	T	24	T	23	
Hour	12		13		14		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		22		23	
NAT	1 20		21		19	1	96	12	99	34	12	13	91	M.	91		99	- 1

Menu command B:

Battery F	History :												
Hour	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
Bat Ah	-0.045	-0.047	-0.048	-0.048	-0.048	-0.048	-0.048	-0.049	-0.049	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	
Hour	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
Bat Ah	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	-0.044	-0.044	-0.044	-0.044	l

Automated reporting on Serial 1 (e.g. on thermic-printer) or on UDP:

This is an example of the ongoing event + midnight summary report

NAT: (Number of Above Threshold in hour;

PKTime: (Peak Time of the event)

Leg4: (Level equivalent for the time defined by max-10dB to max-10dB on the other side)

t10: (time defined by max-10dB to max-10dB on the other side)

Leg3:: (Level equivalent for the time above threshold)

t AT: (Time above threshold)

NAT | PKTime | PKdB | Leq4 | t10 | Leq3 | tAT | 09 18:46:07 72.0 67.6 28 66.9 66 01 19:03:48 72.9 68.5 27 67.8 66 02 | 19:16:37 | 69.8 | 65.6 | 23 | 65.2 | 51 03 | 19:18:56 | 65.2 | 62.3 | 25 04 | 19:21:32 | 66.5 | 63.6 | 33 62.3|50 |63.4|69 05 | 19:31:20 | 64.6 | 60.0 | 17 |60.1|33 06 19:49:01 62.8 59.2 21 59.3 | 41 07|19:55:36|69.9|65.1|24 |64.8|53 08 19:57:44 70.7 67.8 25 |67.1|59 01 20:00:22 64.7 61.6 30 |61.6|60 02 20:12:42 63.9 61.2 32 |61.2|63 03 20:36:49 69.5 66.4 29 |66.2|61 04 20:45:26 64.5 61.3 25 61.4 49 05|20:58:18|68.5|65.2|22 |64.9|48 01 21:10:13 68.2 65.2 34 |64.9|75 02 21:21:39 70.7 66.8 28 66.2|67 03|21:33:48|72.2|68.6|30 |68.1|69 04 21:38:24 71.7 67.7 24 67.2|55 05 21:41:08 74.4 71.2 27 |70.5|64 06|21:43:09|70.7|68.0|31 |67.6|70 07 21:45:01 70.1 66.4 23 65.8 54 08 21:46:41 72.9 69.1 32 68.8 70

```
09|21:48:48|71.7|68.9|30 |68.4|68
01 22:02:02 69.2 66.6 25
                           66.2|56
02|22:05:02|72.2|68.4|22
                           |67.2|60
03 | 22:07:24 | 68.3 | 65.3 | 28
                           65.2|57
04 22:14:10 74.1 68.6 19
                           67.7|49
05|22:19:29|69.1|66.5|27
                           |66.2|58
06 22:24:02 67.0 64.1 28
                           |64.0|57
07 | 22:25:55 | 69.8 | 65.6 | 26
                           65.2|58
08|22:28:26|69.0|65.5|26
                           |65.0|59
09 22:33:42 65.6 62.7 26
                           62.7|52
01 23:10:48 57.3 54.0 22
                           |55.0|31
02|23:16:23|59.9|54.6|23
                           |55.5|30
03 23:23:34 58.8 54.5 51 55.3 64
04 23:41:10 56.0 51.2 44 51.5 46
Daily Report for
```

Sunda	ay, 23	August	2020
Hour	Leq	NAT	Ah
00	39.3	026	-0.039
01	39.5	000	-0.037
02	37.1	000	-0.036
03	36.8	000	-0.035
04	37.0	000	-0.035
05	43.9	001	-0.035
06	43.4	002	-0.035
07	52.5	010	-0.040
80	47.6	004	-0.038
09	52.5	010	-0.040
10	52.4	017	-0.037
11	52.3	008	-0.018
12	33.2	012	+0.000
13	57.9	012	+0.000
14	55.1	013	+0.132
15	59.0	010	+0.000
16	58.1	015	+0.000
17	59.3	013	+0.000
18	56.2	009	+0.000
19	53.3	008	+0.000
20	49.9	005	+0.000
21	57.1	009	+0.000
22	54.8	009	+0.000
23	48.1	004	+0.000
Extra	a hours	cf. Ma	in.
25	48.1	000	+0.000
26	49.0	197	-0.295
27	52.5	157	-0.295

NAT|PKTime |PKdB|Leq4|t10|Leq3|tAT| 01|00:48:56|57.3|52.8|47|53.5|55 01|05:58:36|76.2|73.3|24|72.4|59 01 06:15:56 70.9 65.8 26 65.3 60 02 | 06:21:05 | 71.2 | 66.0 | 24 | 65.5 | 55 03 | 06:45:38 | 68.5 | 65.7 | 29 | 65.5 | 61 05 | 08:14:30 | 56.5 | 51.8 | 32 | 52.5 | 36 06 | 08:17:54 | 67.2 | 63.7 | 18 07 | 08:47:40 | 74.6 | 69.5 | 20 01 | 09:05:24 | 71.5 | 67.9 | 25 |63.2|42 168.2|58 |67.0|64 02 | 09:09:36 | 59.0 | 54.9 | 51 03 | 09:15:44 | 72.5 | 69.6 | 28 55.6 76 |69.1|64 04|09:25:56|72.5|69.0|27 |68.2|66 05 | 09:32:01 | 62.2 | 58.0 | 37 58.0 72 06 09:34:02 58.1 52.9 42 153.6 49 07 | 09:35:25 | 57.5 | 53.7 | 43 |54.5|57 08 | 09:40:17 | 75.6 | 72.4 | 30 71.1 84 09 | 09:42:43 | 62.6 | 57.4 | 52 57.9 86 10|09:44:18|59.9|57.0|20 |57.4|35 11 | 09:46:54 | 61.5 | 55.9 | 39 |56.6|55 12 09:53:19 69.5 56.0 60 56.5 95 00|09:59:03|59.9|56.0|22 |56.8|30 |

28

42.1

52.4

040

013

+0.000

+0.000

To hold the solar panel: https://www.thomann.de/de/thomann_orchesterpult.htm ~15€ To hold the electronics and battery:

https://www.thomann.de/de/flyht_pro_uac_universal_alu_case_s.htm ~50€

