Using the FT-817 on FT8

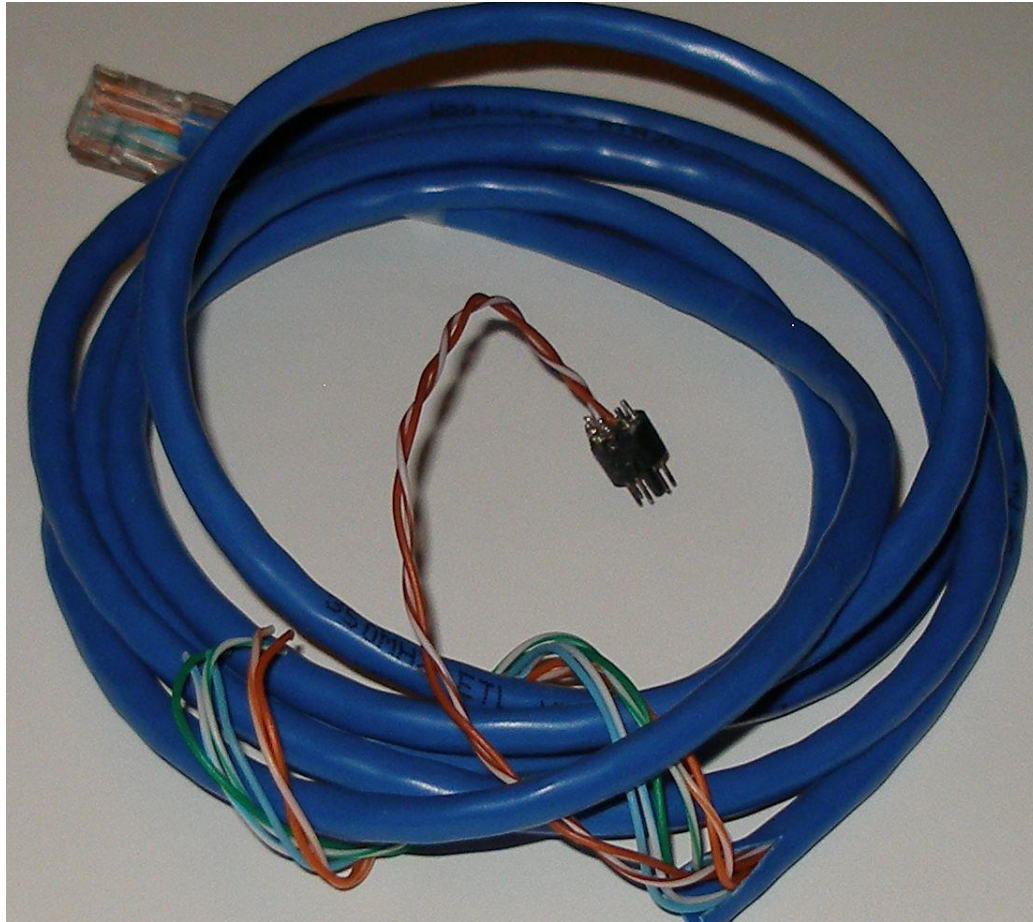## This worked for me

N5PGH

Equipment

- Dell I-5 w/9 pin RS232 serial port
- Windows 7 OS
- Fox Delta SC1 Sound Card Interface
- FT-817D
- Yaesu CAT cable CT-62 This is a serial (RS232) to "ACC" cable

Equipment

- Misc passive cables: 3 stereo audio

- Special cable for SC1. RJ45 pins 7&8 to "data" pins 3&4. I had to make this one to keep it "amateur". The plug is from a ps2 mouse or keyboard.
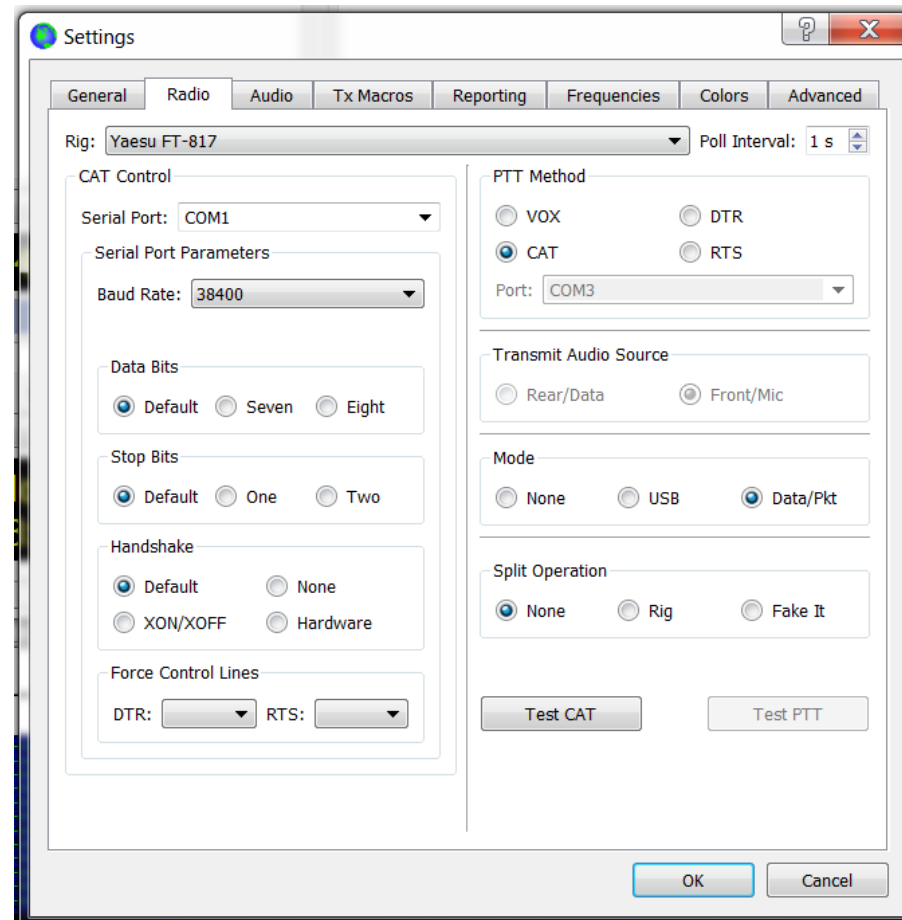
Special interface cable

Radio setup

- Chk/Set CAT RATE (14) 38400

- Chk/Set DIG-MODE (26) user-u

- Remove mic

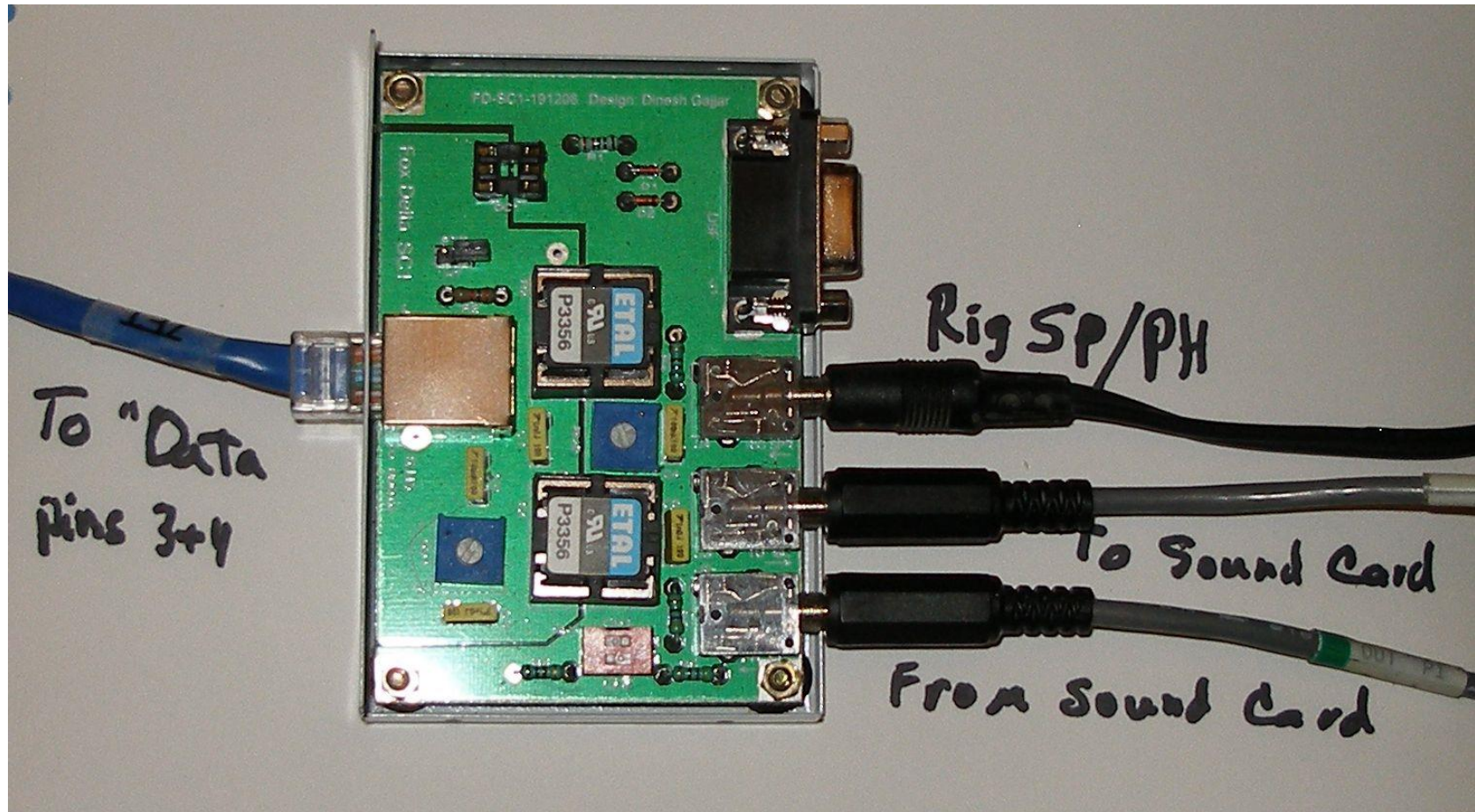- Switch SP/PH to PH(one)

- Power off while setting up FT8

Setup FT8

- Set up FT8 per the instructions and as well as a time sync software.

- I use a GPS puck with nmeatime2

- Exit FT8 before plugging in cables

FT8 FT817D settings

Interface

Hookup procedure

- With power off and FT8 not running:

- Set PC audio in and out levels to 50%

- Connect all cables per interface instructions. I used the PC mic and spkr connectors in the rear of the computer.

- Connect dummy load to radio with a power meter inline

Hookup procedure

- Start FT8

- Power up FT817D

- Put FT8 in transmit mode (Tune) and adjust audio level to radio using mini vr to keep power out below compression point

- Connect antenna and adjust audio level to pc using both radio volume control and mini vr in interface to show about 35 db on FT8 level meter

Normal operation

- The order of starting FT8 and power to the radio is not important.

- The mic is not plugged in while running FT8

- If you have any operational questions, come to the meeting and ask

Notes

- Once you set the speaker output level on the pc (50 %), leave it alone. If you change it, the radio power will also change accordingly.

- On my Dell, plugging an audio cable into the front connector kills the audio to the rear

- Support for Win 7 ends Jan, 2020. If you continue to use it, and disconnect the pc from the internet, you will need a non-internet based time sync solution.

Notes

- I use a GPS puck with nmeatime2.

- The GPS puck I have is a Pharos GPS-360 which was used with Microsoft Streets

- http://visualgps.net/index.html#nmeatime2-content

- Learn more about time sync here:

- https://www.lammertbies.nl/comm/info/GPS-time.html