

Nano VNA

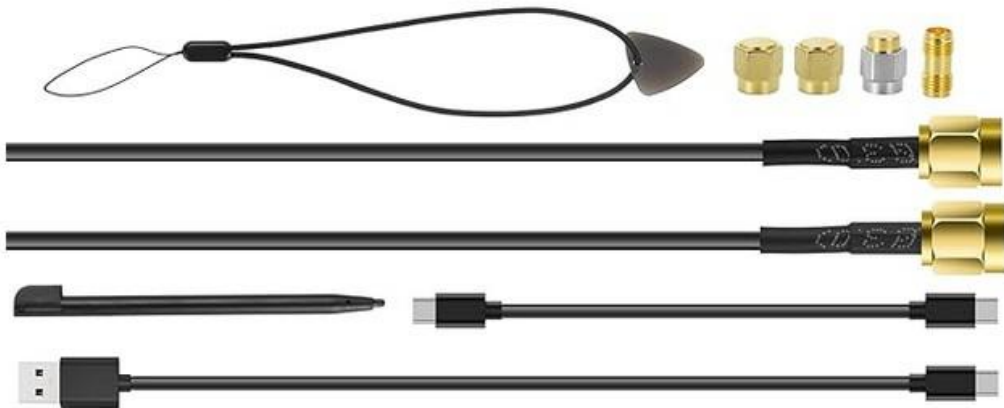
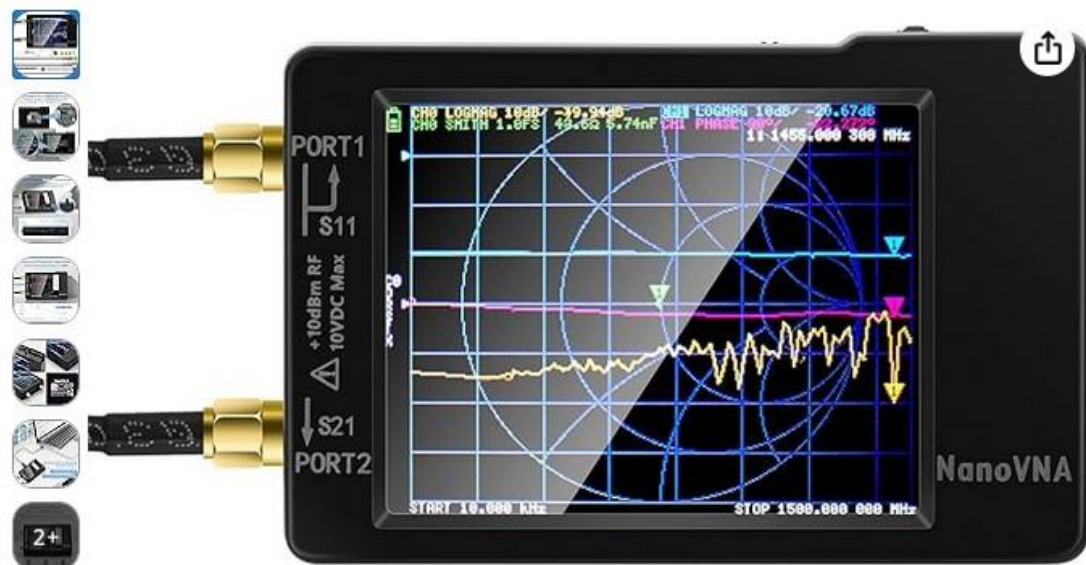
For the North Florida Amateur Radio Society

Sam Hancock – K4NAV

Bruce Sherman – N4OQV

12 MAR 2026

The NANO VNA (vector network analyzer) may be considered the “Swiss Army Knife” for amateur radio. It’s capable of many tasks hams can use day to day on the bench, in the shack or in the field. *A quality Nano VNA can be purchased on AMAZON for less than \$50!*



[Click to see full view](#)

[Upgraded] AURSINC NanoVNA-H Vector Network Analyzer 9KHz -1.5GHz Latest HW V3.7 HF VHF UHF Antenna Analyzer, Measuring S Parameters, SWR, Phase, Delay, Smith Chart

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Antenna	Radio
Brand	AURSINC
Color	Black
Number of Channels	2
Impedance	50 Ohms
Maximum Range	300 Meters

\$47⁴⁹

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➤ **ANTENNA ANALYSIS AND TESTING**

- **Determine SWR**

- Check antenna and feedline for resonance at the desired frequency

- **Impedance matching**

- Measure the impedance of an antenna and adjust to transmitter's resonance (e.g. 50Ω 's)

- **Resonance testing**

- Identify the resonant frequency of an antenna

➤ **TRANSMISSION LINE TESTING**

- **Coaxial cable analysis**

- Measure loss
- Check for faults
- Analyze length using time-domain reflectometry (TDR) features

- **Velocity factor determination**

- Calculate the velocity factor of a transmission line

- **Smith Chart Analysis**

- Allows visualization of impedance and phase characteristics of feedlines and antennas

➤ **FILTER DESIGN AND TUNING**

- **Design Verification**
 - Test and tune bandpass, low-pass, high-pass or notch filters for desired performance
- **Insertion loss measurement**
 - Evaluate the insertion loss and bandwidth of RF filters

➤ **RF CIRCUIT TESTING**

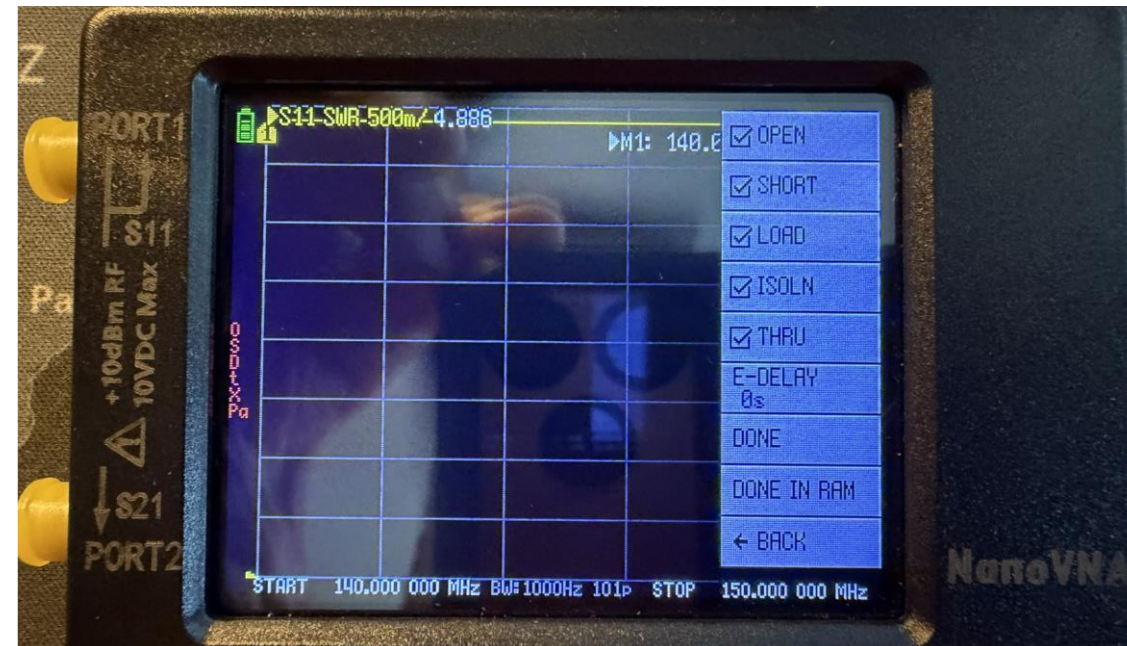
- **Component analysis**
 - Measure the properties of inductors, capacitors, resistors and resonators at RF frequencies
- **Matching network design**
 - Optimize matching networks for amplifiers and other RF components
- **Balun testing**
 - Evaluate the performance and balance of baluns or ununs

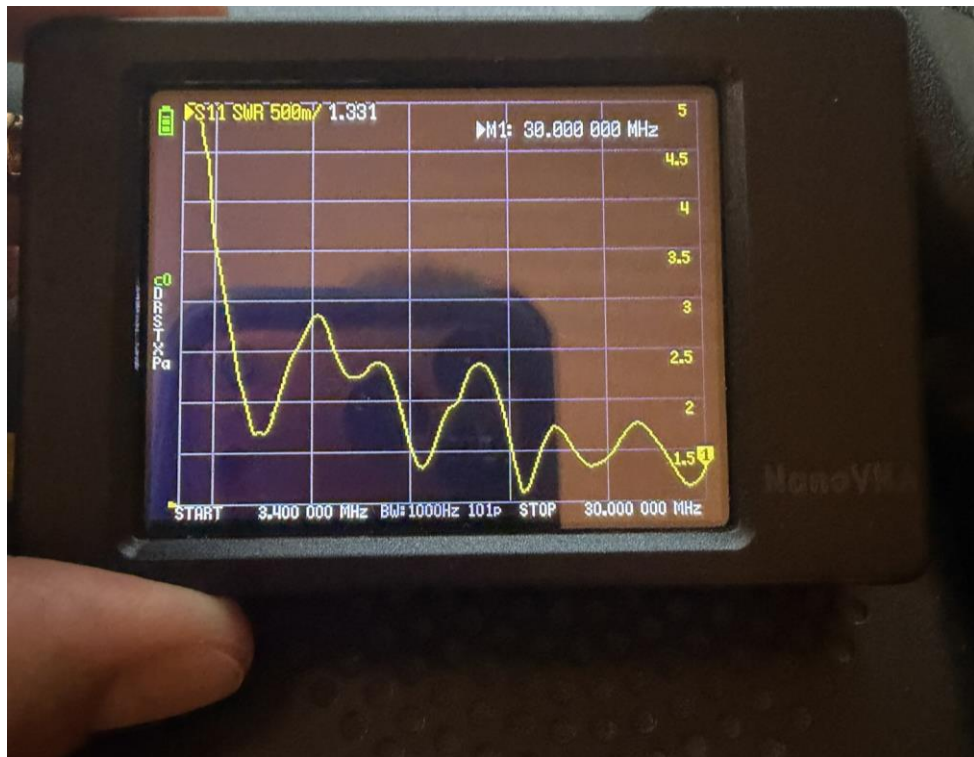
➤ **Amplifier and Transmitter Optimization**

- **Impedance matching**
 - Match the amplifier's output impedance to the load for maximum efficiency
- **Harmonic Testing**
 - Evaluate the harmonics of a transmitter with appropriate filters

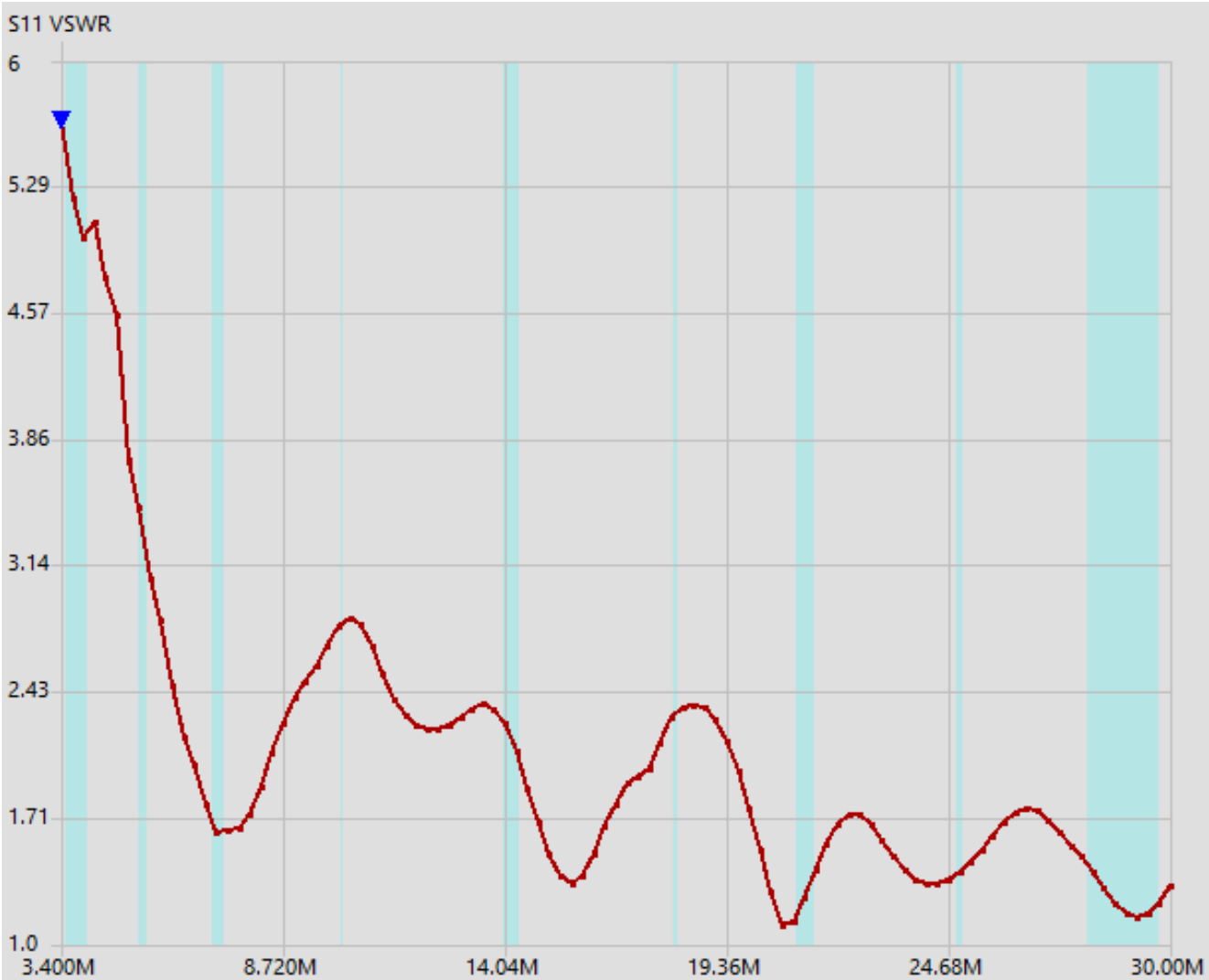
Calibration

- Open
- Short
- Load
- Isolation
- Thru





NanoVNA Saver
https://nanovna.com/?page_id=90



Sweep control

Start Center
 Stop Span
 Segments 266.0kHz/step
 Sweep settings ...
 100%
 Sweep Stop

Markers

Marker 1
 Marker 2
 Marker 3
 Enable Delta Marker Reference
 Hide data Locked

TDR

Estimated cable length: 24.382m
 Time Domain Reflectometry ...

Reference sweep

Set current as reference
 Reset reference

Serial port control

Port Rescan
 Disconnect Manage

Files ... Calibration ...

Display setup ... About ...

Marker 1

Frequency: 21.2220 MHz
 Impedance: 44.5-j9.44 Ω
 Series L: 70.776 nH
 Series C: -794.66 pF
 Parallel R: 46.522 Ω
 Parallel X: 1.6459 μH
 VSWR: 1.260
 Return loss: -18.795 dB
 Quality factor: 0.212
 S11 Phase: 114.44°
 S21 Gain: -71.352 dB
 S21 Phase: 133.85°

Marker 2

Frequency: 3.66600 MHz
 Impedance: 123+j125 Ω
 Series L: 5.4287 μH
 Series C: -347.19 pF
 Parallel R: 250.14 Ω
 Parallel X: 10.641 μH
 VSWR: 5.219
 Return loss: -3.370 dB
 Quality factor: 1.021
 S11 Phase: 23.95°
 S21 Gain: -69.034 dB
 S21 Phase: 110.65°

Marker 3

Frequency: 29.2020 MHz
 Impedance: 43.3-j148m Ω
 Series L: -807.78 pH
 Series C: 36.772 nF
 Parallel R: 43.285 Ω
 Parallel X: 431.14 fF
 VSWR: 1.155
 Return loss: -22.853 dB
 Quality factor: 0.003
 S11 Phase: -178.64°
 S21 Gain: -84.013 dB
 S21 Phase: 103.96°

S11

Min VSWR: 1.110 @ 20.6900MHz
 Return loss: -25.657 dB

S21

Min gain: -96.020 dB @ 13.2420MHz
 Max gain: -68.686 dB @ 6.59200MHz

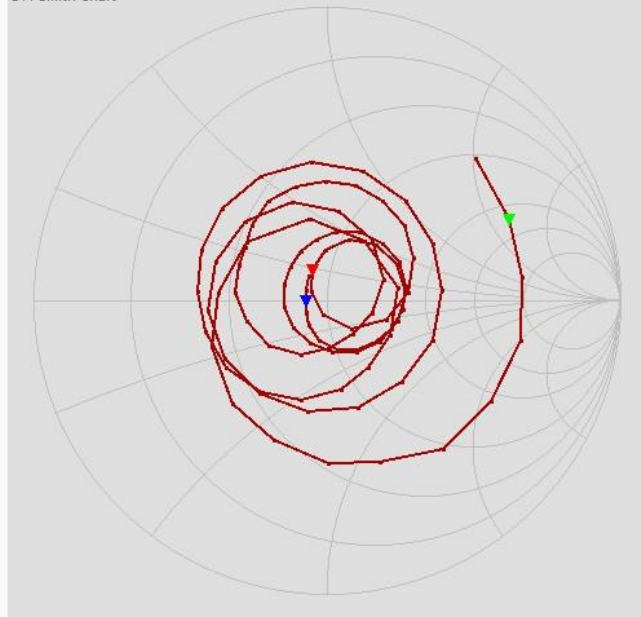
S11 VSWR



S11 Return Loss (dB)



S11 Smith Chart









Sweep control

Start Center
 Stop Span
 Segments 266.0kHz/step

 100%

Markers

Marker 1  
 Marker 2  
 Marker 3  

Enable Delta Marker Reference

Locked 

TDR

Estimated cable length: 24.382m

Marker 1

Frequency: 21.2220 MHz
 Impedance: 44.5+j9.44 Ω
 Series L: 70.776 nH
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 Parallel X: 10.641 μ H

VSWR: 5.219
 Return loss: -3.370 dB
 Quality factor: 1.021
 S11 Phase: 23.95°
 S21 Gain: -69.034 dB
 S21 Phase: 110.65°

Reference sweep

Set current as reference

Reset reference

Serial port control

Port COM6 (NanoVNA)

Marker 3

Frequency: 29.2020 MHz
Impedance: 43.3-j148m Ω
Series L: -807.78 pH
Series C: 36.772 nF
Parallel R: 43.285 Ω
Parallel X: 431.14 fF

VSWR: 1.155
Return loss: -22.853 dB
Quality factor: 0.003
S11 Phase: -178.64°
S21 Gain: -84.013 dB
S21 Phase: 103.96°

S11

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Max gain: -68.686 dB @ 6.59200MHz

Sweep control

Start Center

Stop Span

Segments 266.0kHz/step

Sweep settings ...

100%

Sweep Stop

Markers

Marker 1 ■ ●

Marker 2 ■ ●

Marker 3 ■ ●

Enable Delta Marker Reference

Hide data Locked ●

TDR

Estimated cable length: 24.382m

Time Domain Reflectometry ...

Reference sweep

Set current as reference

Reset reference

Serial port control

Port Rescan

Disconnect Manage

Files ... Calibration ...

Display setup ... About ...

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Series L: 70.776 nH	Quality factor: 0.212
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S11

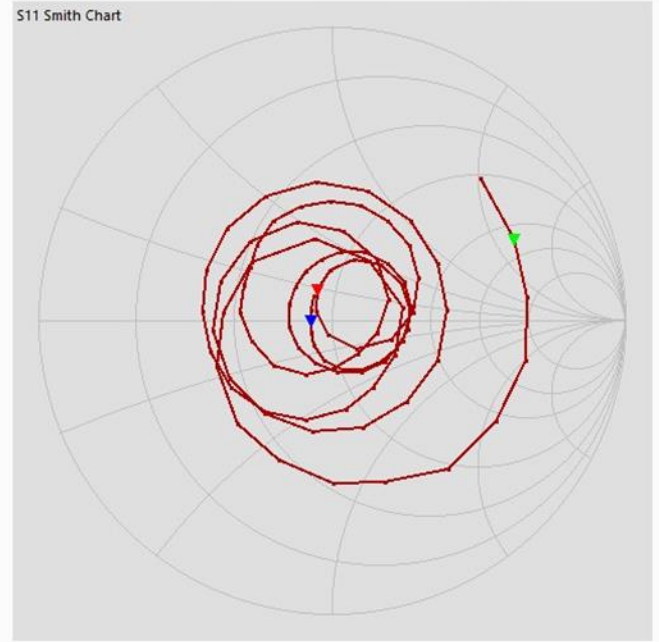
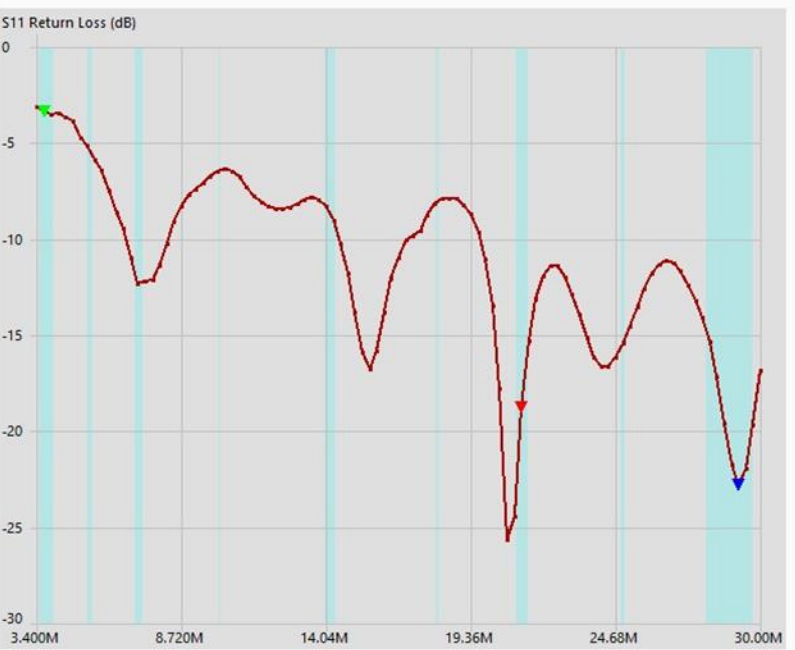
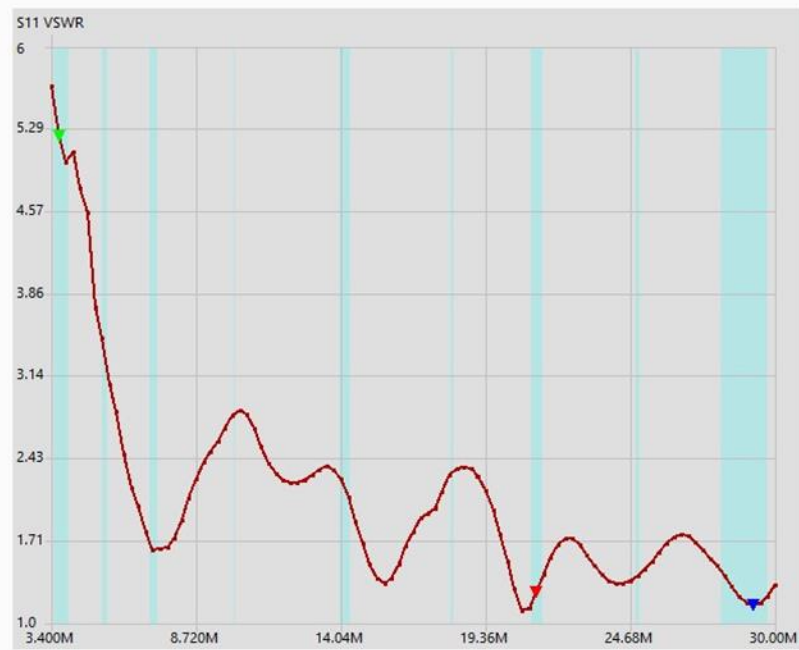
Min VSWR: 1.110 @ 20.6900MHz

Return loss: -25.657 dB

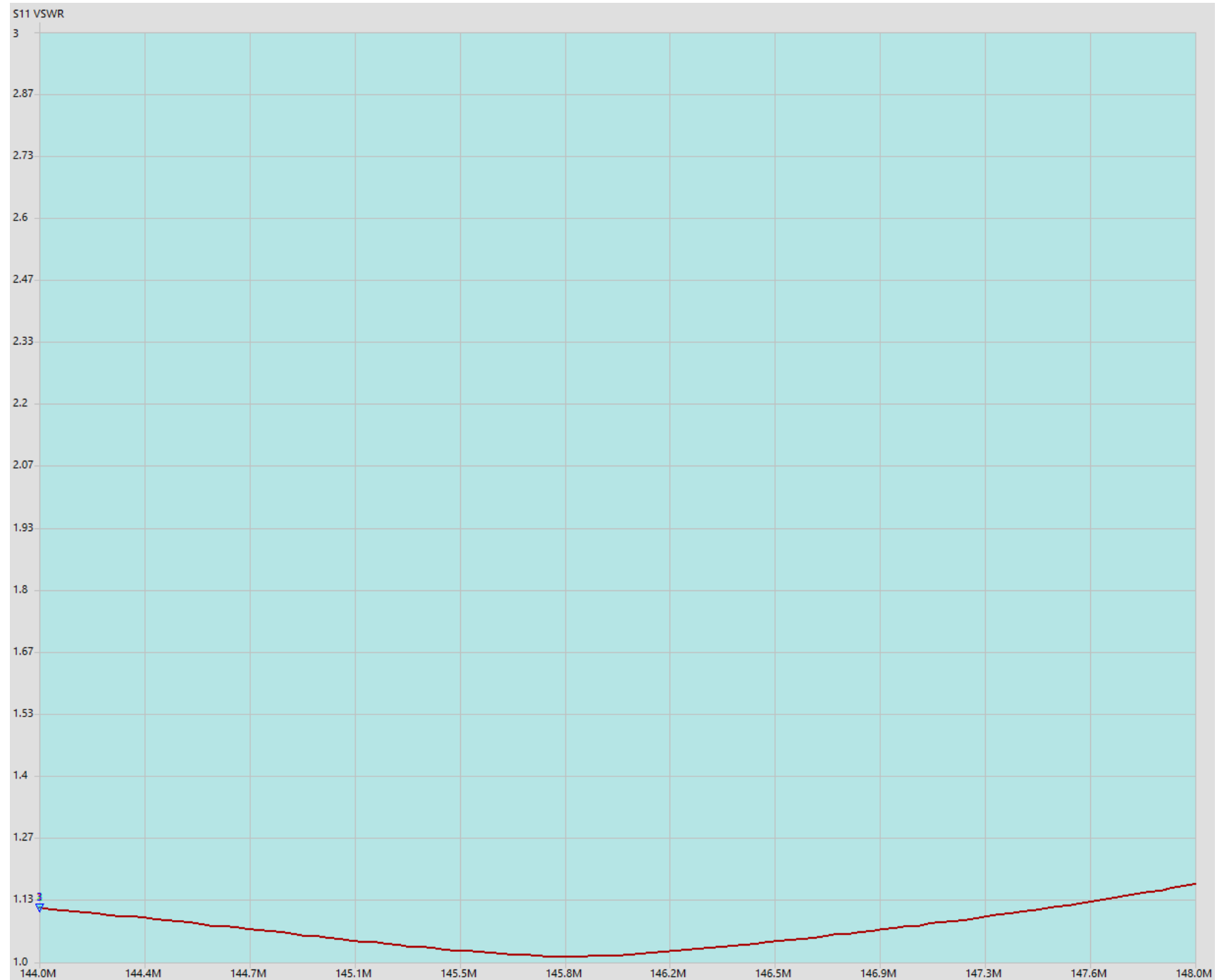
S21

Min gain: -96.020 dB @ 13.2420MHz

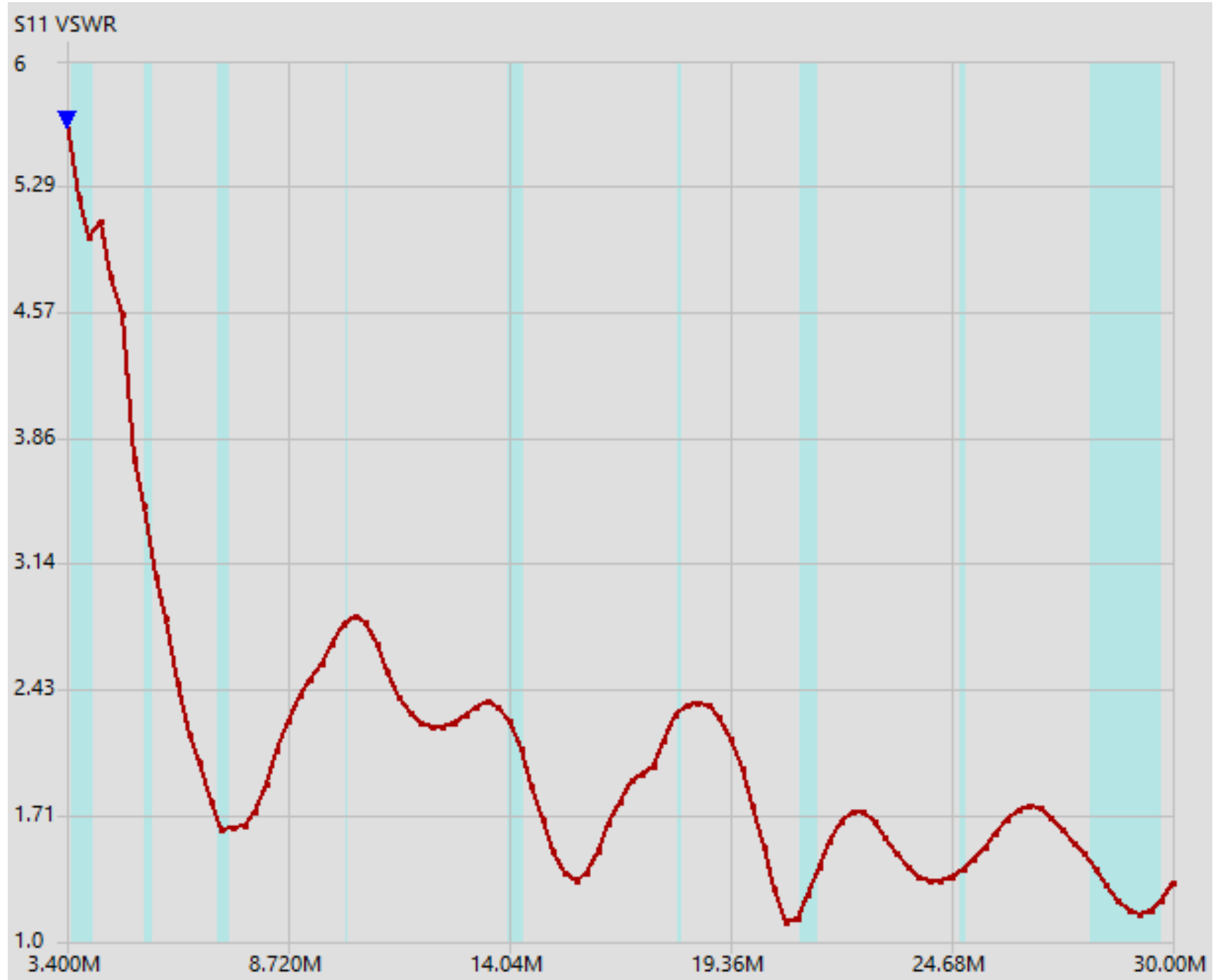
Max gain: -68.686 dB @ 6.59200MHz



Arrow II Yagi 2M
VSWR



My compromised
EFRW (57 ft)
VSWR

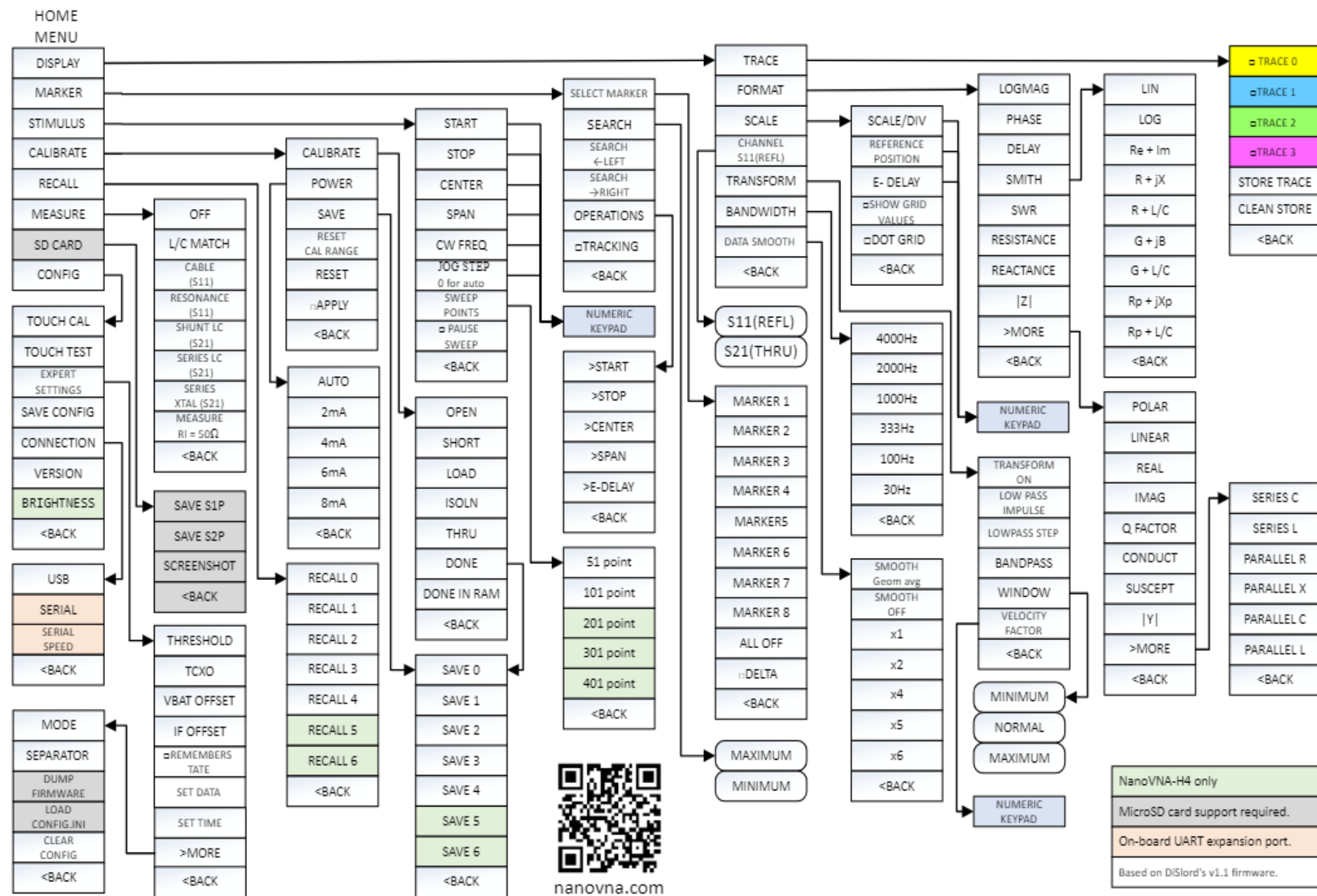


EFRW
Smith Chart

S11 Smith Chart



NanoVNA Menu Structure Map



- Best way to learn is to use it...you can't break it.
- There are many YouTube videos to get you started
- Much more capability beyond checking SWR
- NanoVNA Saver program makes it much easier

