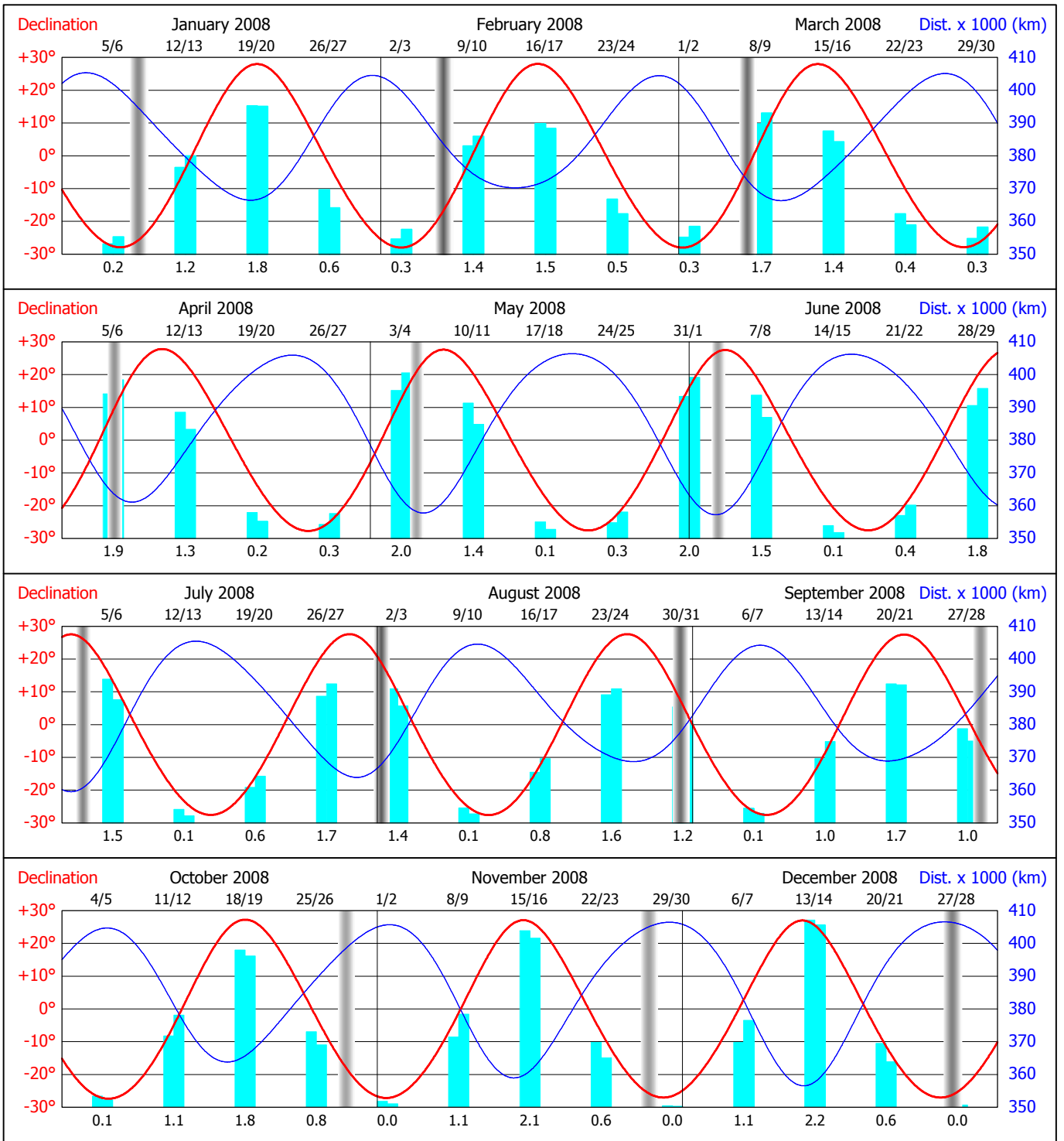


# Moon Calendar for the Year 2008, by Franck F5SE



- Vertical blue bars show the overall "quality" of each week-end for EME. The higher the bar, the "better" the week-end.
- Figures below bars show expected signal improvement, in dB, referred to apogee path loss, for Sundays at 00:00 UTC.
- Full scale span: 2.4 dB. Scale step: 0.4 dB per division. 0 dB level = Band path loss figure at apogee, as quoted below:
- 144 MHz: 252.8 dB, 432 MHz: 262.3 dB, 1296 MHz: 271.8 dB, 2.3 GHz: 276.9 dB, 3.5 GHz: 280.4 dB, 5.7 GHz: 284.8 dB, 10.4 GHz: 289.9 dB, 24 GHz: 297.2 dB, 47 GHz: 303.0 dB. Data computed for an apogee around 406500 km.
- To get the week-end path loss on a given band, subtract to band apogee figure the value printed under the week-end bar.
- The shading pattern below shows how close the Sun is to the Moon, at any time - the darker, the closer.
- Shading is only visible around New Moon date, appearing as a vertical gray bar.

Gray Scale calibration

Sun to Moon Distance, in degrees



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Theoretical average path loss at apogee.

Band	Loss
144 MHz	252.8 dB
432 MHz	262.3 dB
1296 MHz	271.8 dB
2320 MHz	276.9 dB
3470 MHz	280.4 dB
5.7 GHz	284.8 dB
10.4 GHz	289.9 dB
24 GHz	297.2 dB
47 GHz	303.0 dB

In order to obtain the average path loss for a given band and a given week-end, subtract the value displayed on the plot to the value given in the table above:

Example: band 1296 MHz, on 2008 November 15: loss = 271.8 – 2.1 = 269.7 dB.

Comments about preferred week-ends for sustained activity and contests.

These comments do not take declination into account.

Date	Comments
January 19/20	Good, just at perigee.
February 9/10	Fair.
February 16/17	Fair.
March 8/9	Fair.
March 15/16	Fair.
April 5/6	Good, but only on Saturday.
April 12/13	Fair.
May 3/4	Good.
May 10/11	Fair.
May 31 / June 1	Good.
June 7/8	Fair.
June 28/29	Good.
July 5/6	Fair.
July 26/27	Fair.
August 2/3	Fair.
August 23/24	Good.
September 20/21	Good.
October 18/19	Very good, at perigee.
November 15/16	Very good, at perigee
December 13/14	very good, at perigee (best perigee for 2008).

Remember !

Daily sked or random EME activity is not forbidden ! Any station having EME facilities is invited to operate as often as possible. Operating close to perigee, even outside of week-ends, is recommended. Take note that a 1dB signal improvement can "make it", even for operators using WSJT softwares.