Cable to Connect Xiegu X5105 to the (BG5ROJ) Digital Modem

The digital modem for RTTY and PSK (sold on eBay) designed by BG5ROJ has a 6 pin mini din female socket for connection to transceivers, as shown below on the upper right. A cable is supplied for connecting the modem to the FT-817 and other popular rigs, but not for the X5105.

Having failed in my attempt to solder a mini din 8 pin plug to one end of the supplied cable (immediately melting the plastic disk holding the 8 pins), I purchased two cables – a mini din 6 pin male- to-male (PS/2) cable, and a mini din 8 pin male-to-male (RS232) cable. I cut a length from one end of each cable, and created a Frankenstein's monster by splicing them together, as shown in Figure 1.

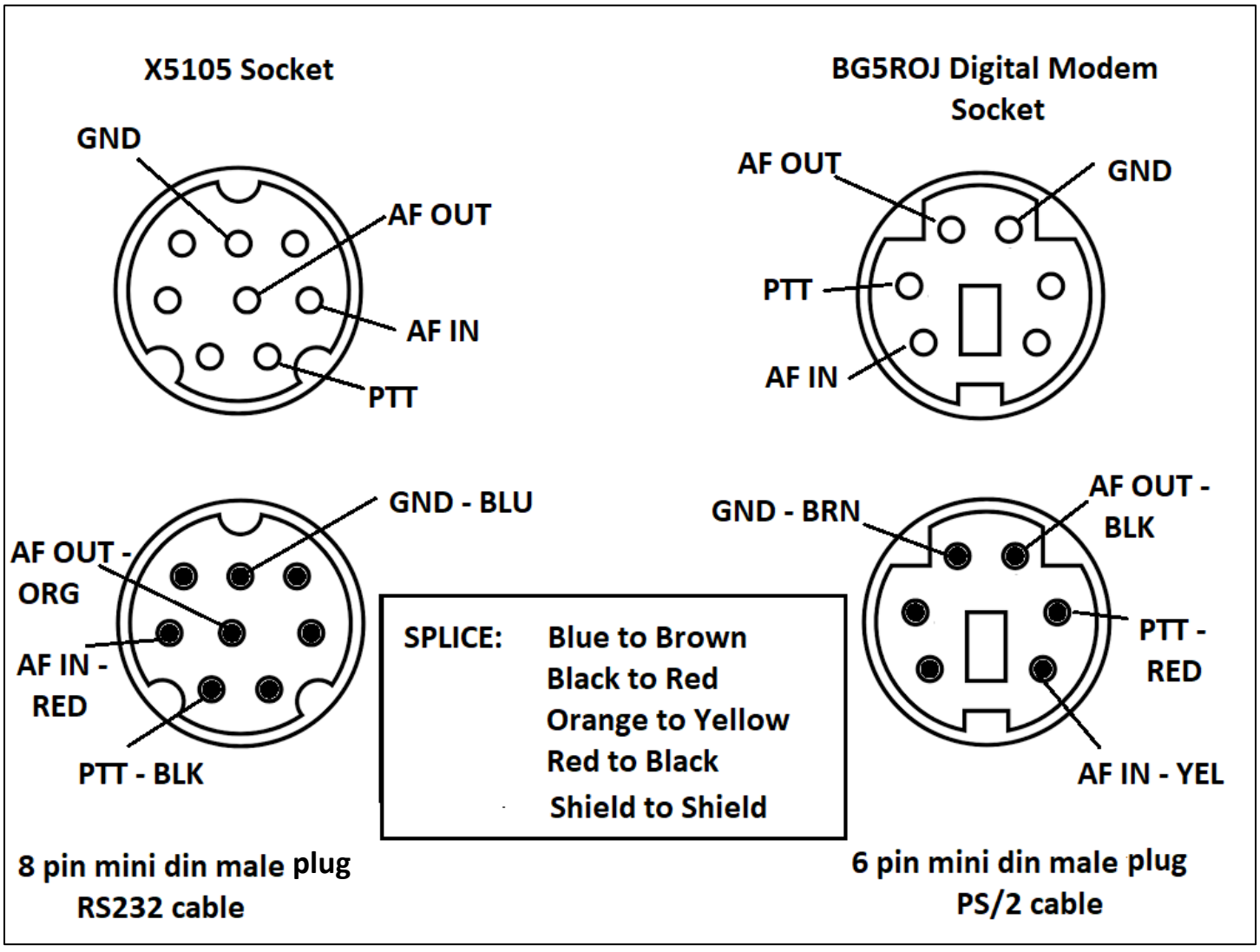

Figure 1. Modem cable splice

There's no standard color coding for these cables, so check with a continuity tester. I snipped away the unused wires and stripped about ¼ inch of insulation from each of the wires to be spliced. I put a large diameter piece of heat shrink tubing over one of the cables, then slipped a short piece of small diameter heat shrink tubing over one wire from each pair to be spliced. Then I twisted the pairs of wires together, soldered them (being careful not to shrink the tubing while soldering). After trimming the soldered wires to about 1/8 inch, I folded

each solder joint away from the heat shrink tubing, slipped the tubing over the joint, and applied heat. Then I covered the whole thing with the larger diameter piece of tubing.

The final step is to trim away the thin plastic sheath closest to the end of the X5105 plug. I used an X-ACTO knife. This allows the plug to fit more securely into the X5105. See Figures 2. And 3.

Figure 2. Untrimmed

Figure 3. Trimmed

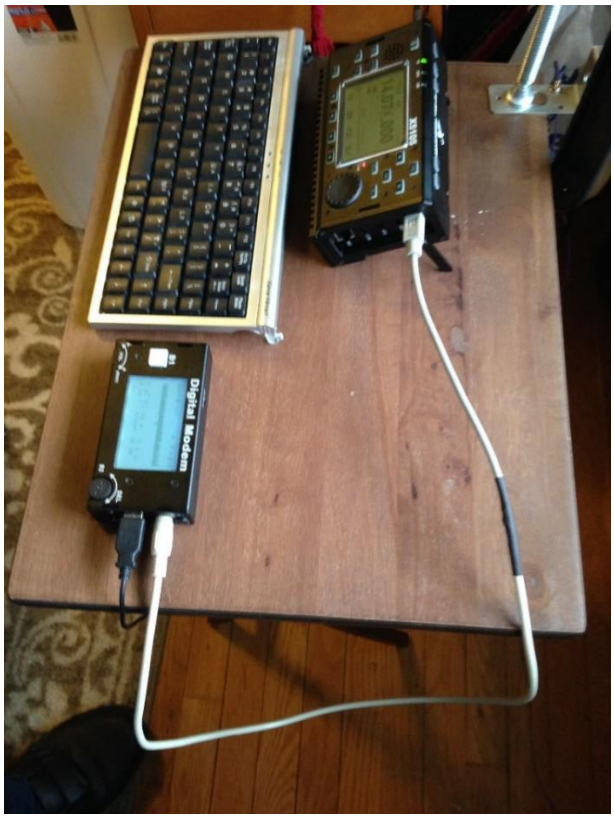

Figure 4. Modem cable deployed

The deployed cable is shown in Figure 4. And there's enough left over to make a spare! I stuffed it all in one of the plastic bags that came with the cables, along with a copy of this document, and threw it into the "junk box."