

ILT-TO meeting April 11, 2011 (ILT Technical Operations)

The ILT Technical Operations meeting is held at the start of a LOFAR observing semester. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss operations procedures for the ILT, covering all aspects from observation scheduling to station maintenance. The audience for this meeting consists of (technical) personnel involved in running and maintaining the station.

This second meeting was held on April 11, 2011, at ASTRON in Dwingeloo.

Presentations

[Meeting presentation \(Harm Munk\)](#)

Notes from the ILTO, March 23, 2010, at ASTRON in Dwingeloo

All but the Onsala stations have been built. The LBAs at the Jülich station have been installed late in April 2011.

A sixth German station will be built near Bielefeld, probably in 2012.

eVLBI will require approximately 4 Gb/s bandwidth. That will not leave sufficient bandwidth for two international stations to share the same 10 Gb/s fibre to Groningen. Changing the number of beamlets on the fly will not reduce bandwidth: it merely pads the unused channels with zeroes.

Having sufficient bandwidth to connect all international stations at the same time would enable the study of ionospheric effects.

While installing the LOFAR software at Jülich, in casu NDPPP, it was found that the software was designed for single user clusters: if run on a multi-user cluster the software breaks because it has to compete for computing resources with other jobs.

Effelsberg station (DE601)

The LBA's were installed in 2008, the HBA's in 2009. In December 2010 the Rb-clock broke down. Since then, no fringes have been observed with DE601. Also, pulsars could not be observed but this might be due to a software problem.

Eight apparently broken RCU boards have been tested at ASTRON and appear to be functioning correctly. The problem is now being investigated in Effelsberg again. It has been decided not to replace the RCU boards in Effelsberg (they lack overvoltage protection on the antenna inputs).

Action Items			
Nr	Description	Due date	Action holder

Action Items			
1	Determine eVLBI bandwidth requirements	Harm Munk	
Row 2 Col 1	some colspan (note the double pipe)		
Row 3 Col 1	Row 2 Col 2	Row 2 Col 3	

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