

Radio Observatory Report

Station/Item	Cabinet	LBA	HBA	Fibre	CEP connection	Validated
CS302						
RS307						
RS503						
RS106						
RS208						
CS030						
CS401						
CS021						
CS032						
RS306						
CS301						
CS501						
RS509						
CS103						
CS001						
CS002						
CS003						
CS004						
CS005						
CS006						
CS007						
CS024						
CS201						
CS101						
CS026						
RS205						
CS017						
CS011						
CS013						
CS028						
CS031						
RS305 (RS104)						
RS210						
RS310						
RS404						
RS406						
RS407						
RS409						
RS410						
RS508						
Effelsberg						
Tautenburg						
Garching						
Potsdam						
Juelich						
Nancay						
Onsala						
Chilbolton						
Totals	40	40	40	38	36	36

Observations

- LEA128: Observations of 3C196 and NCP to monitor the performance of the array
- LEA066: Long baseline observations of Taurus A
- LEA114: Observations of the FAN region
- LEA094: Testing multi-beam BF observations of the Moon
- LEA058: TBB trigger test observations
- Pulsar observations

Observations are processed through RFIconsole and averaged to the compute nodes.

Processed data can be moved to the LTA in SARA for archiving or retrieval to other computing facilities

Contact: sciencesupport@astron.nl & holties@astron.nl for more information.

Issues affecting the observing System

- Stopdays Feb 14 & 21:
 - whole LCU family systems received new root password and ssh key;
 - continued repairs of network
- LSE014 crashes after high loads.
- LSE012 reports problems with rebuilding RAID after a bad-disk replacement.
- Repairs of broken LBAs in CS003, CS006, CS024, CS032, CS302.
- DE604: (Potsdam): Problems with the fiber link.
- CS501: Network connection fixed

Updates: Issue Tracker & Imaging Busy Wednesdays



LOFAR Issue Tracker:
<https://proxy.lofar.eu/redmine/>

(next talk)

Imaging Busy Wednesday Feb 16:

Report:
www.lofar.org/operations/docu.php?id=commissioning:busy_wednesdays

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities

<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/astronomers/commissioning/commissioning-plan>

- 28 Feb – 4 Mar : “MAC robustness” Busy week
- 7 Mar : CEP stopday
- 21-25 March : Magnetism KSP Busy Week in Bonn
(use of Phase I cluster)
- 28 Mar-1 Apr : Imaging Busy Week in Dwingeloo
(use of Phase I cluster)
- 11-15 April : Pulsar Busy Week in Dwingeloo
(use of Phase I cluster)

Issue: Probable effect of RSP synchronisation on Calibration files

Due to clock skew, the Antenna Processors on the RSP boards do not all start at the same time.

Which AP starts a little bit too late this varies a little bit resulting in a non optimum use of the static calibration tables (estimated 0-5% of the AP's).

Working on a script to find a stable input delay configuration for all AP's to input in a configuration file.

As this effect has been in the system for a long time, we cannot be sure that the current calibration tables are all correct.

We assume that it affects a small portion at the moment.

This problem will most likely not be present at the superterp stations, they use different clock distribution boards which have better synchronisation between the cable outputs for the time distribution.