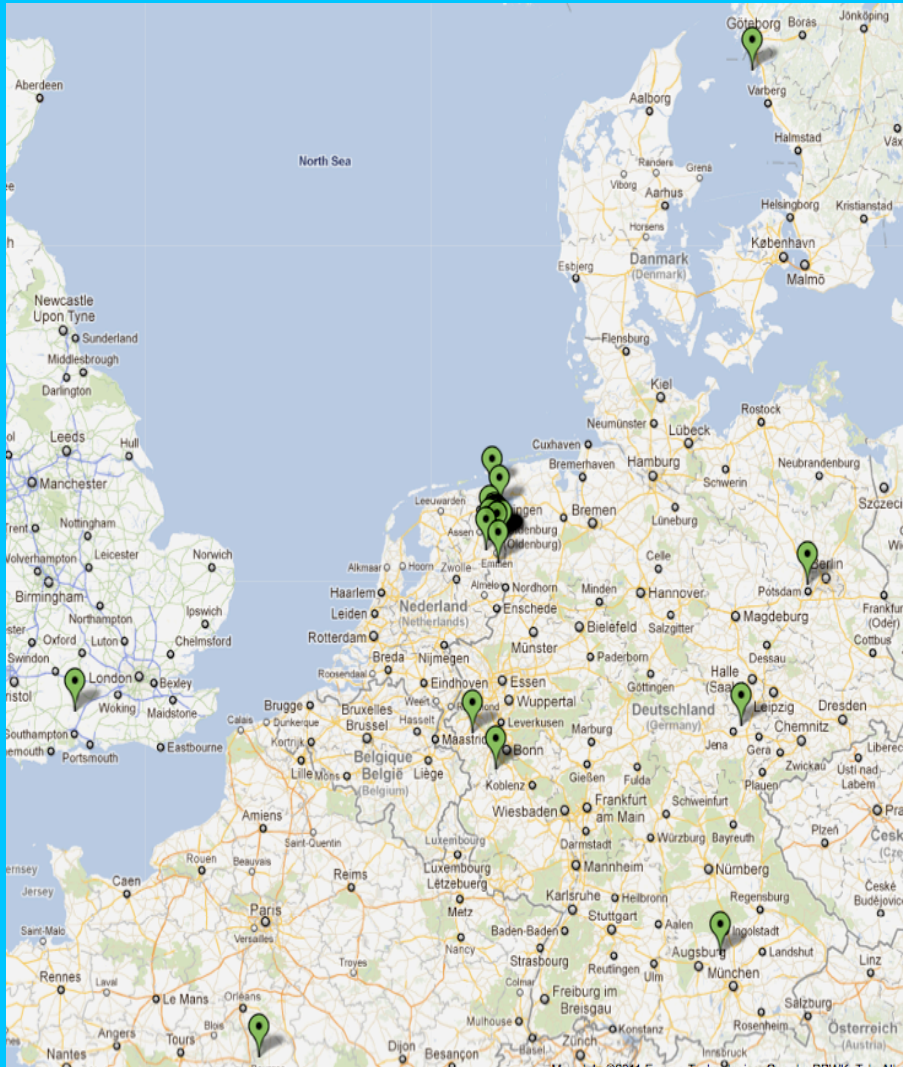


Programme:

1. *Observatory Update – R. Pizzo*
2. *MSSS update – G. Heald*
3. *Pulsar Busy Week update – J. Hessels*
4. *Update on IPS results – R. Fallows*
5. *Correction of dispersive delays using TEC models – A. Deller*
6. *Radio spectroscopy with LOFAR – R. Oonk*

Observatory Status



Current Status:

36 operational NL stations
24 core + 12 remote
8 International stations

- RS305, RS407: now part of array
- RS310/409: will follow in production before Christmas.
- FR606: Faulty air-con unit – cannot be used currently

www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/astronomers/current-status

News regarding the observing system



- Station calibration:
 - CS026,201,301,302,501+ RS305 and RS407 received new caltables
 - Recorded data for many other stations (also for RS310) – processing ongoing.
- Updated status available at

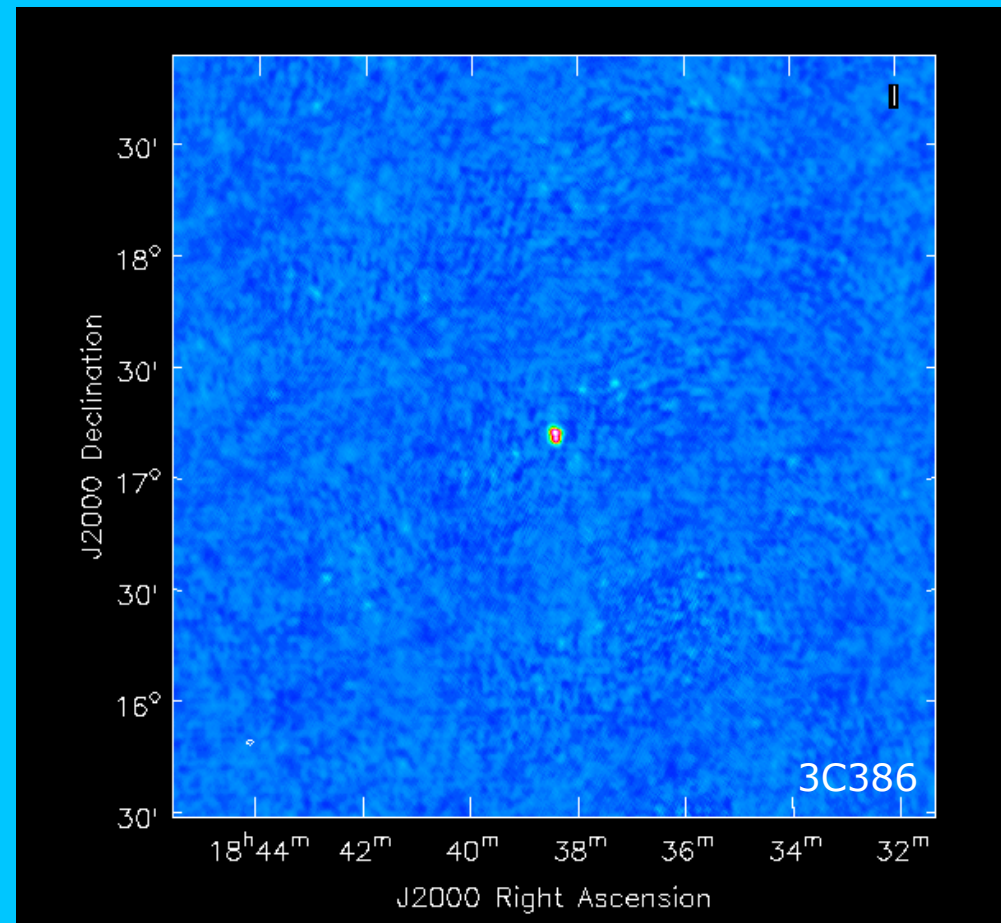
<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/astronomers/current-status>

News regarding the observing system: Updates, issues, tests

- Focus: bug fixes
- Small updates in MoM, Scheduler, SaS/MAC to make the system stable
- Correlator problems after first Cycle 0 run – solved by J.D. Mol.
- Network issue experienced last week during another LC0 run – isolated episode which did not occur anymore
- Test of parallel e-VLBI/LOFAR observations on December 6th and 11th: issue seems to be caused by DE602, which claims too much bandwidth when used in observations. Further investigations for a solution are currently in progress

News regarding the observing system: pipelines

- Cycle 0 HBA and LBA strategies being continuously tested.
- MSSS: continuing processing of old MSSS data - 1.5 months of the survey successfully processed
- During last two weeks, processing took place at a reduced rate, due to updates of the system
- Major cause of pipelines failure: pipelines take longer than expected
- Deletion of archived and processed MSSS data started



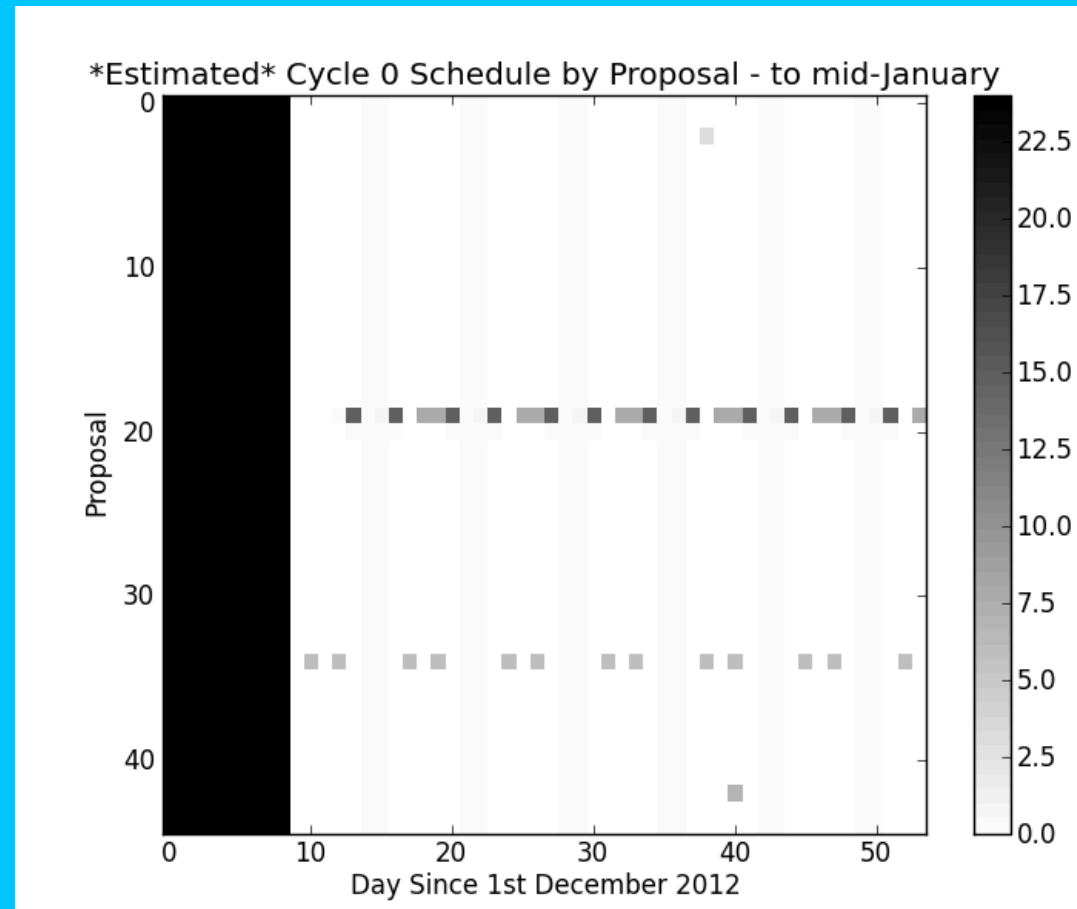
News regarding the observing system : Archive

- Archiving of raw and processed data is progressing:
 - Raw MSSS data from March and February now archived
 - Expect remaining MSSS raw data to be archived in the next few weeks.
 - LC0_019 transferred to Target cluster
- Target cluster down time (problems with the file system) during the past week-end – successful EoR runs started being transferred on Monday evening

News regarding Cycle 0 observations



- Cycle 0 started on December 1st with first EoR run (LC0_019)
- Efficiency for December-January ~ 20% - increasing through the 'semester'
- Cycle 0 lasting for 9 months
- Main focus for December-January: LC0_019 (EoR) and LC0_034 (pulsars) plus LC0_002 and LC0_042 – PI's will be contacted



News regarding observations and commissioning



- Solar observations – commissioning project completed last week
- System monitoring and validation runs
- Cycle 0 HBA and LBA observations being tested every day – practice with long runs

CEP news:

- CEP-2: stable
- locus100: intermittent problem with disk 7 (7/12/12)
- Problems with /staging4 during the last stop day:
 - lse011, lse021: replaced 2 disks

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities



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

- December 13 : Busy Thursday, Dwingeloo
- January 14-19 : Imaging busy week, Leiden
- January 9 : Next LSM