ASTRON

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

Programme:

1. *Array status – H. Munk*
2. *Observatory update – R. Fallows*
3. *LTA status – A. Renting*
4. *MSSS update – G. Heald*
5. *LC0_019 – EoR progress report – G. de Bruyn*
6. *The imaging tiger team – G. Heald*

Array Status

Current Status:

- 38 operational NL stations
- 24 CSs
- 14 RSs
- 8 ISs

- NL stations CS TBB memory upgrade installation completed, RS started
- Possible cause found for high temperature/RSP problems: design error in TDS (Time Distribution System) board
- Rb-clock UK608 broke down on August 20 (after SyncOptic installation), new clock will be send this week
- SynOptic installed on DE605, SE607
- RS106: broken Rb-clock, replaced

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

Network, CEP Status

Network

•Network re-configuration at RUG-CIT September 2-13 (in preparation for Cobalt)

- LOFAR NL-stations will be switched off
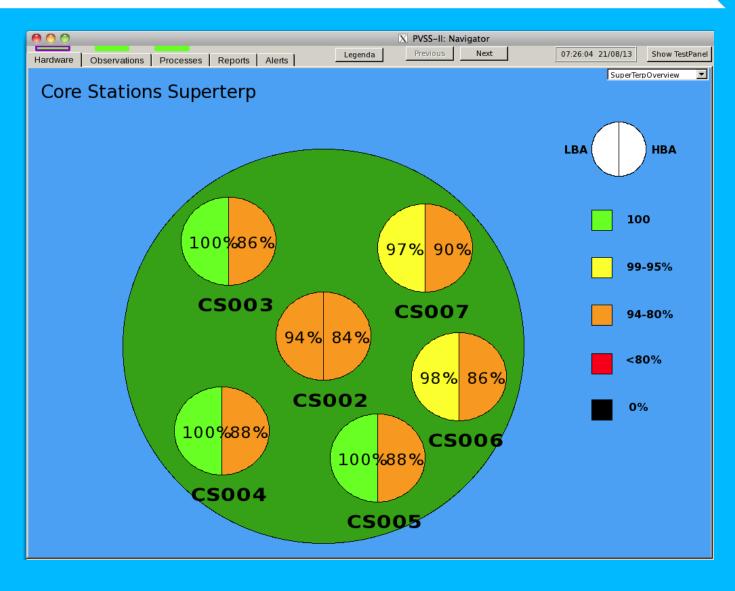- CEP-I/II available <u>except on Thursday-Friday 12-13</u>, but spurious interruptions are possible
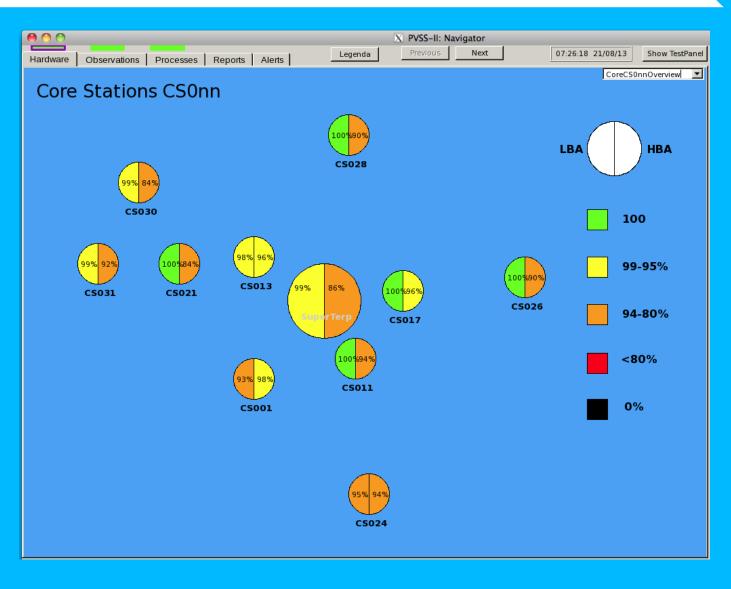
BG/P

•Performance is nominal

CEP-I/II(/III)

Next stop day: Tuesday, September 3: only BG/P maintenance
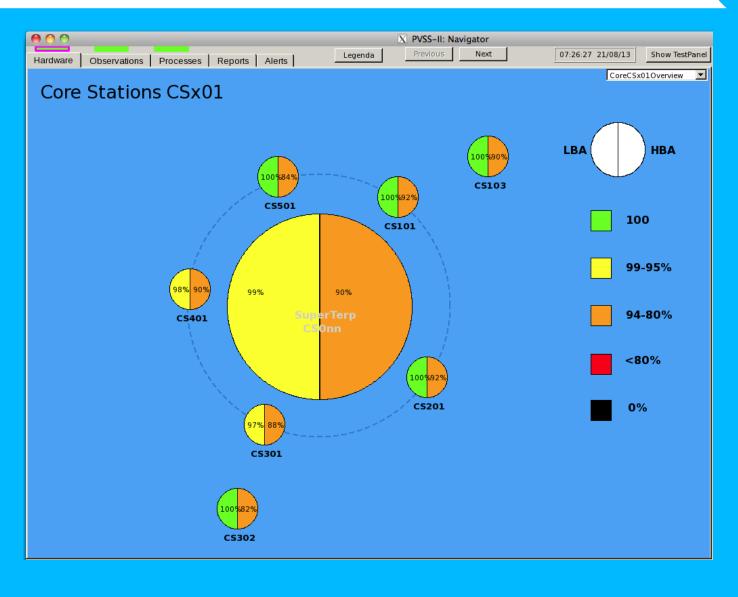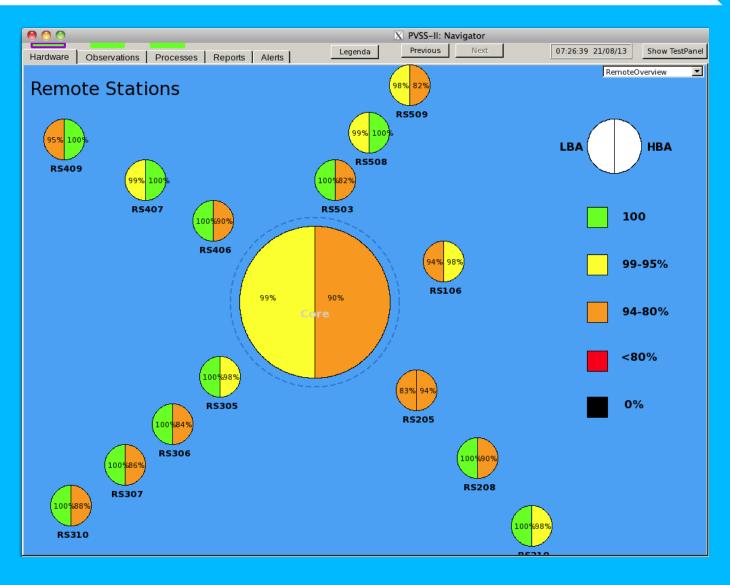
Superterp

Core

Core x01 and outside

Remote

International

CEP Status

- CEP2:

  - Some nodes becoming full due to backlog of raw data.

- CEP1:

  - Heavy users of /data areas are requested to **clean up their data regularly**. Please remember that CEP1 is for current processing of data. It is not an archive.

  - Staging areas are getting full. Cycle 0 pipeline data have a grace period of 4 weeks in these areas. Data older than this are now being removed weekly.

  - Nodes becoming increasingly unstable: Please ensure important data are backed up elsewhere.

News regarding the observing system: Stations

- The Dutch summer combined with a backlog of repairs due to the holidays has meant that many observations have failed or could not be run over the last six weeks.

- We will continue to observe remaining Cycle 0 time during the extension.

News regarding the observing system: Stability and performance

- Overall stability is good:

    - Observations are stable.

    - Pipelines are mostly stable, but heavy memory usage on locus nodes sometimes causes problems.

- Issues:

- Scheduling of pipelines is still a manual process leading to overload or under-use of CEP2 on occasion.

News regarding the observing system: Archive

- The search tools in the Astro-wise web page have been updated to make it easier to find your data. Comments and suggestions for improvement always welcome.

Cycle 0 Observations

Week 34, 19th August

Week number	week day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Mon	Stress system runs + TBB runs				LC0_040 - J0332+5434 - 2hrs		Stress system runs + TBB runs	LC0_027 repeat - Sun - 9 hours; DE601, DE602, DE603, DE605, FR606, SE607, UK608 to local mode at 9 UTC											Test LC0_043	Stress system runs + TBB runs		LC0_043 - Stephan's Quintet - 8hrs			
	Tue	LC0_043 - Stephan's Quintet - 8hrs				Stress system runs + TBB runs			COBALT TESTING											Test LC0_016	Stress system runs + TBB runs		LC0_016 - Stephan's Quintet - 8hrs			
	Wed	LC0_016 - Stephan's Quintet - 8hrs				LC0_040 - J0304+1932 - 2hrs		Stress system runs + TBB runs		Pulsars; DE601, DE602, DE603, DE605, FR606, SE607, UK608 to ILT mode at 9 UTC										Stress system runs + TBB runs			LC0_043 - Stephan's Quintet - 8hrs - REPEAT			
	Thu	LC0_043 - Stephan's Quintet - 8hrs - REPEAT				Stress system runs + TBB runs				LC0_039 monitoring; stress system runs									Test LC0_012	Stress system runs + TBB runs		LC0_039 - SS433 - 1 hr	LC0_012 - NGC6251 - 10hrs		
	Fri	LC0_012 - NGC6251 - 10hrs							Stress system runs + TBB runs		MSSS - HBA - 8 hrs											LC0_037 - CIZA - 10hrs			
	Sat	LC0_037 - CIZA - 10hrs				Pulsars									LC0_003 - PanSTARRS	Stress system runs + TBB runs				LC0_012 - 3C452 - 10hrs					
	Sun	LC0_012 - 3C452 - 10hrs				MSSS - HBA - 8 hrs								DDT0007 - Saturn - 5hrs						LC0_043 - IC 10 - 8hrs					

Week 35, 26th August

Week number	week day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Mon	LC0_043 - IC10 - 8hrs			Stress system runs + TBB runs										DDT0007 - Saturn - 5hrs						LC0_043 - IC 10 - 8hrs				
	Tue	LC0_043 - IC10 - 8hrs			LC0_007 - Eps Eri - 3hrs				ROLL OUT SOFTWARE V. 1.15						SYSTEM RECOVERY						LC0_012 - 3C452 - 10hrs				
	Wed	LC0_012 - 3C452 - 10hrs				SYSTEM RECOVERY																		LC0_012 - 3C41 - 10hrs	
	Thu	LC0_012 - 3C41 - 10hrs																		Pulsars					
	Fri		LC0_015 - XMM-LSS - 3hrs			LC0_040 - 0528+2200 - 2hrs									LC0_003 - PanSTARRS								LC0_037 - Perseus - 10hrs		
	Sat	LC0_037 - Perseus - 10hrs								Pulsars												LC0_035 - M15 repeat - 4 hrs			
	Sun	LC0_007 - Ups And - 2hrs	LC0_007 - Ups And - 2hrs			MSSS - HBA - 16 hrs																	LC0_035 repeats - 8 hrs		

Detailed Cycle 0 schedule till the end of the 'semester' available on ASTRON website:
https://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/lofar/cycle-0-schedule/cycle-0-schedule

Check the schedule and inform Science Support in case of issues

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Cycle 0 Extension

- Cycle 0 Extension starts in under two weeks.

- Observing efficiency will be reduced to cope with testing for COBALT.

    - Includes a two-week period (currently first half of September) of network re-configuration which means observations cannot be run. CEP facilities should be generally available, except for short duration access issues to the portal, but are likely to be unavailable in the latter half of the second week. We will give users as much warning as possible.

- DDT proposals for the extension are under review.

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities

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

- Cycle 1 proposal deadline: 12 UT 6th September
- Next Stop Day: 1st October
- Imaging Busy Week: 7-11 October (tentative)