

Programme:

1. *Array status – H. Munk*
2. *Observatory update – R. Pizzo*
3. *LTA update – A. Renting*
4. *Update on ionospheric phase screens – M. Mevius & B. van der Tol*
5. *(Update on Cycle 0 Pulsar projects – J. Hessels)*
6. *LOFAR Galactic Radio Recombination Line Survey (LG-RRLS) – R. Oonk*

News regarding the observing system

Station calibration

- Station calibration:
 - Following station maintenance and installation of Sync optic boards (for the IS), calruns have performed on the involved stations.
 - Recently data taken for
 - all RS (mode 1,3 – analysis in progress),
 - FR606 (installed mode 3 and 5)
 - analysis in progress for other IS data.

- Updated status available at

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

News regarding the observing system



- Operations were suspended during the last two weeks to put in place the network infrastructure needed for COBALT
- Friday 13 September the system was brought back to life and test runs successfully took place during the week-end
- On Monday 16 September, optimization procedures generated issues in the observing system.

News regarding the observing system: Stability & performance

- Overall stability is good:
 - Observations stable (during past week-end)
 - Pipelines:
 - Mostly stable, but occasional swapping is experienced

- Issues:
 - Scheduling pipelines is still a manual process. Usage of CEP2 cannot be optimized till a batch scheduling system for pipelines will not be in place.

News regarding the observing system : Archive

- Several delays in the ingestion of raw data and pipeline data products
- Several ingest jobs still problematic – unreliable statuses reported by MoM
- Data removal from CEP2 was slower than expected
- More in Adriaan's talk

News regarding Cycle 0 observations



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	
e-VLBI from 17/09 9 UTC to 18/09 13 UTC; real-time e-VLBI at 4Gb/s test till 17:00 UTC PLUS 4Gb/s of bandwidth for Effelsberg and Onsala, for 12:00 - 17:00 UTC																										
38, 16th September	Mon	Recovery of the system after network reconfiguration																				LC0_039 Mrk 501	LC0_039 SS433	Pulsars		
	Tue	Pulsars					Recovery of the system										MSSS - 16 hrs									
	Wed	MSSS -16 hrs					Recovery of the system; DE601, DE602, DE603, DE605, FR606, UK608 to ILT mode at 13 UTC; SE607 to ILT mode at 17 UTC							DDT_006 (B1822-09 with WSRT) - 7 hrs					LC0_028 - Cygnus A - 4hrs							
	Thu	Stress system runs and TBB runs																				LC0_019 (EoR) 10h NCP				
	Fri	LC0_019 (EoR) 10h NCP					Stress system runs and TBB runs			MSSS - 8hrs							Stress system runs and TBB runs			LC0_039 Mrk 501	LC0_039 SS433	LC0_009 - 3C9 - 6hrs				
	Sat	LC0_009 - 3C9 - 6hrs		Stress system runs and TBB runs					Pulsars										LC0_003 - PanSTARRS		LC0_009 - 3C9 - 6hrs					
	Sun	LC0_009 - 3C9 - 6hrs		Pulsars										DDT_006 (B1822-09 with WSRT) - 7 hrs					LC0_003: zenith strip							

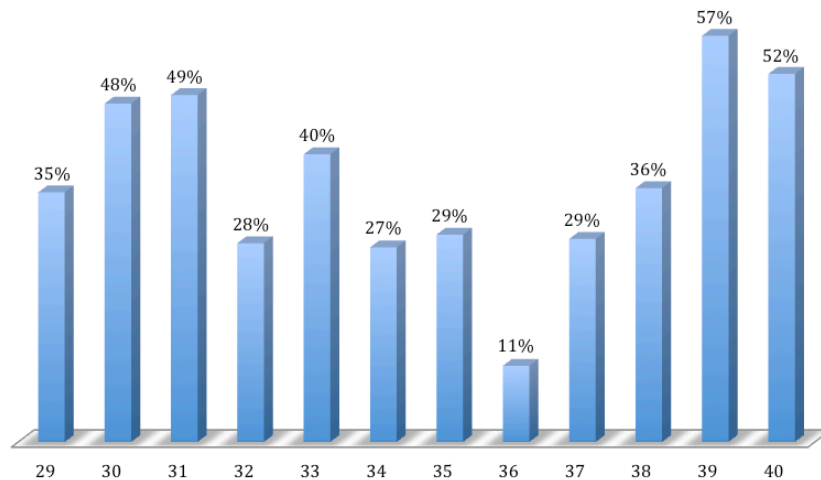
- Detailed Cycle 0 schedule till the end of the Cycle (including extension) available on ASTRON website:

<https://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/lofar/cycle-0-schedule/cycle-0-schedule>

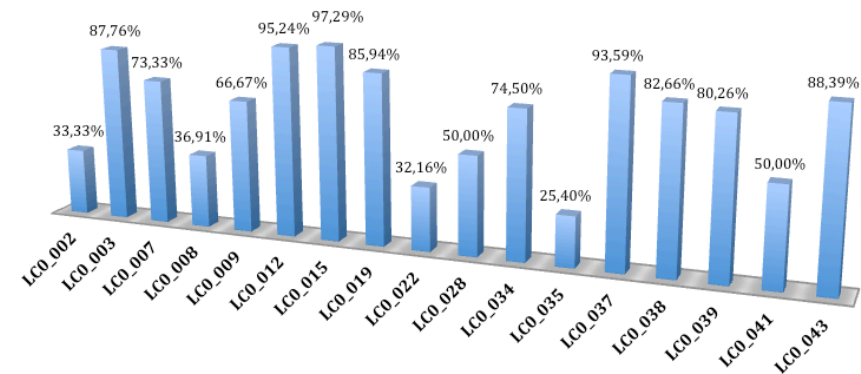
- Check the schedule and inform Science Support in case of issues

News regarding Cycle 0 observations: Efficiency and projects status

Efficiency during the third trimester of Cycle 0



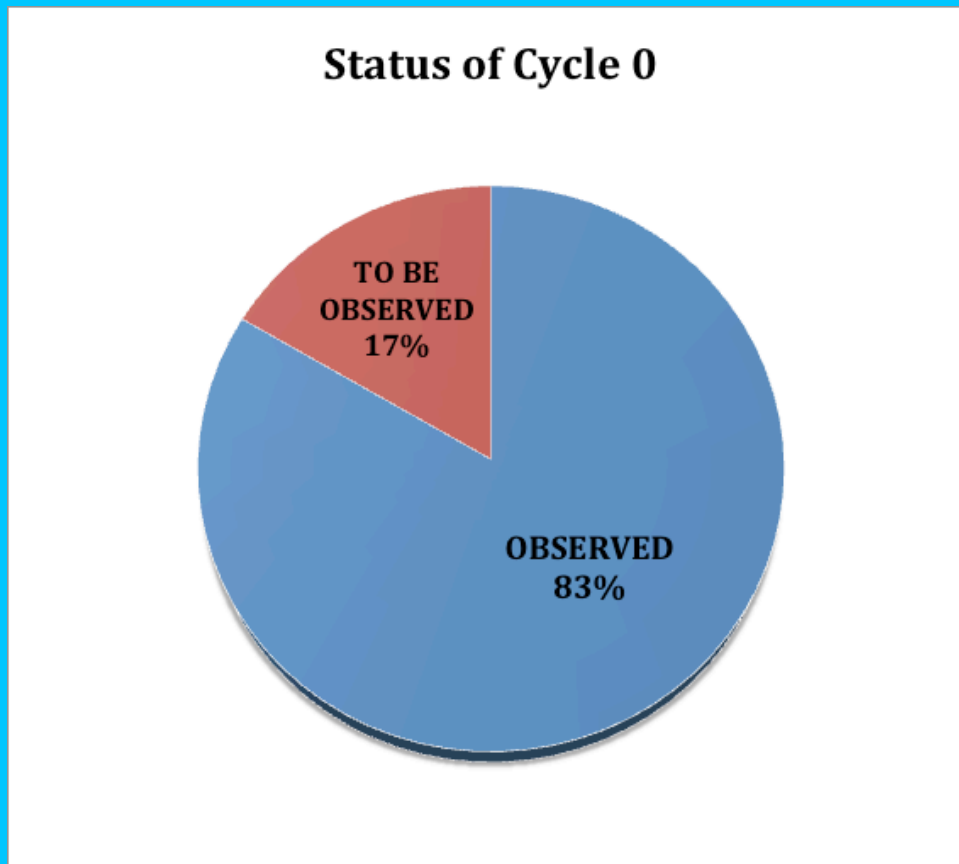
Status of active Cycle 0 projects



- Low efficiencies caused by serious problems caused by the summer temperatures were experienced by the Dutch stations
- So far, 21 Cycle 0 projects out of the accepted 38 have been completed. The remaining 17 will be completed during the extension of the Cycle.

News regarding Cycle 0 observations

- Due to the low observing efficiencies of the last trimester, more Cycle 0 hours than were originally planned will need to be observed during the extension of the Cycle



- 1980 hours observed, 385 hours remaining
- To be performed within November 15th
- See indeed updated online schedule

LC0_DDT proposals



- July 31th was the deadline for submission of DDT proposals requesting extension of Cycle 0 projects
- 11 proposals have been received – 8 have been accepted

PROJECT CODE	PI	TITLE
DDT0001	R. Paladino	Low Frequency Properties of the Magnetized ISM in M33
DDT0002	A. Karastergiou	ARTEMIS on LOFAR: real-time searches for fast transients with international LOFAR stations
DDT0003	J. Verbiest	Pulsar Timing with LOFAR
DDT0004	J. M. Griessmeier	Measuring the energy of Saturn's lightning with LOFAR
DDT0006	A. Shulevsky	Constraining the duty cycle of the cluster radio galaxy 4C35.06
DDT0007	R. Courtin	Supplementary observation of Saturn's deep atmosphere with LOFAR for the determination of the abundance of water
DDT0010	G. De Bruyn	The LOFAR EoR window on the North Celestial Pole
DDT0011	L. Gurvits	HI absorption at $z > 5$

- In total, 161 observing hours (+ 264 in stand alone mode) have been awarded

LC1 proposals



- Deadline was September 6th, 12 UT
- 55 **regular proposals** and 3 **envelope sheets** have been received
- Technical review panel meets tomorrow, Thursday 19 September
- Proposals shared with Consortia and PC
- LOFAR PC meeting: 24-25 October
- Start Cycle 1: 15 November

CEP news:

- CEP-2: fairly stable

- CEP-1:
 - Ice nodes becoming progressively unstable – back-up your data elsewhere!
 - Staging areas cleared up every week by removing pipeline data older than 4 weeks – we have the deletion scripts and we are not afraid to use them (cit. R. Fallows)

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities



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

- 1 October : CEP Stop day
- 7-11 October : Imaging Busy Week (Hamburg)