

Programme:

1. *Array status & Observatory update – S. ter Veen*
2. *The Calibration and Imaging Tiger Team: progress update – T. J. Dijkema*
3. *Some recent results on 3C196 – G. de Bruyn*
4. *LOFAR observations of Abell 1682 – A. Clarke*

Array Status

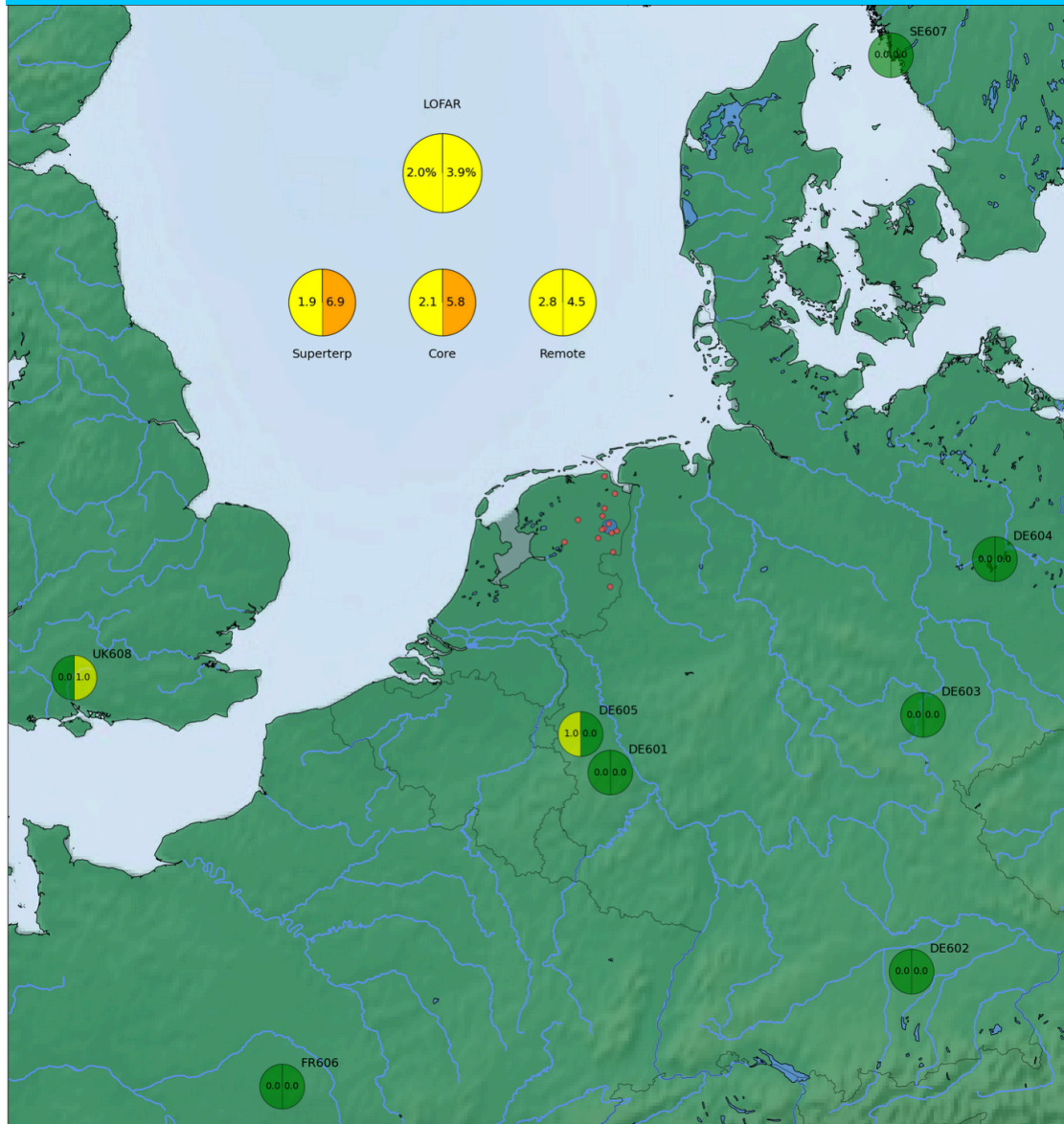


- 38 operational NL stations
 - 24 CSs
 - 14 RSs
- 9 Is (3 new stations to come)
- Maintenance planned on several stations:
 - RS509 broken TBB board, replacement in the spring
 - DE604 broken RSP board, under investigation
- DE609 search for source of RFI (in LBA) in progress
- SE607 possibly increased RFI because of nearby logging

Overview, including IS

LBA: 2.0%; HBA: 3.9%

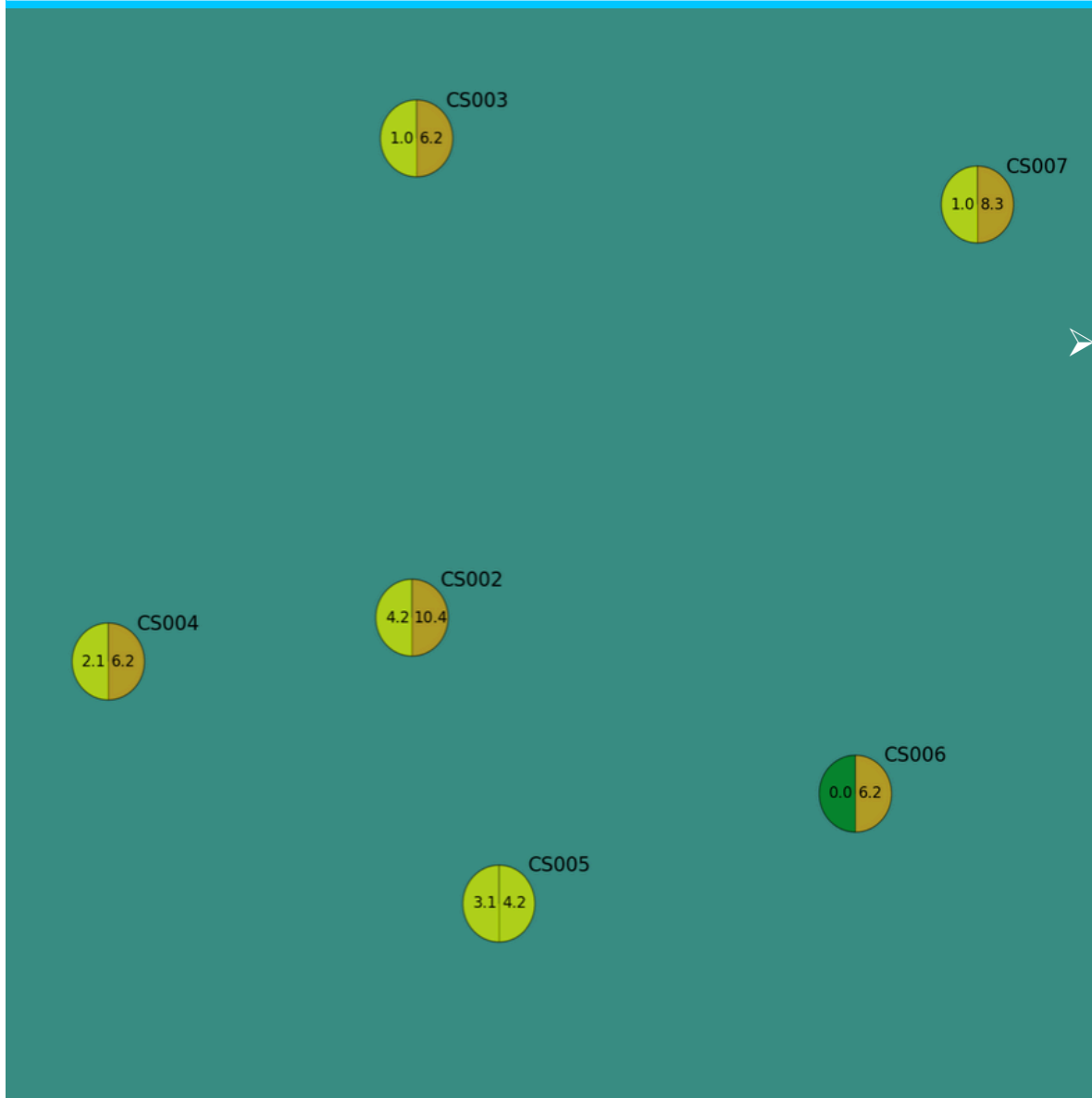
see https://proxy.lofar.eu/array_status/



- Color coding of non-operational components per stations:
- all operational
 - <5% non-operational
 - <15% non-operational
 - >15% non-operational

Superterp

LBA: 1.9%; HBA: 6.9%

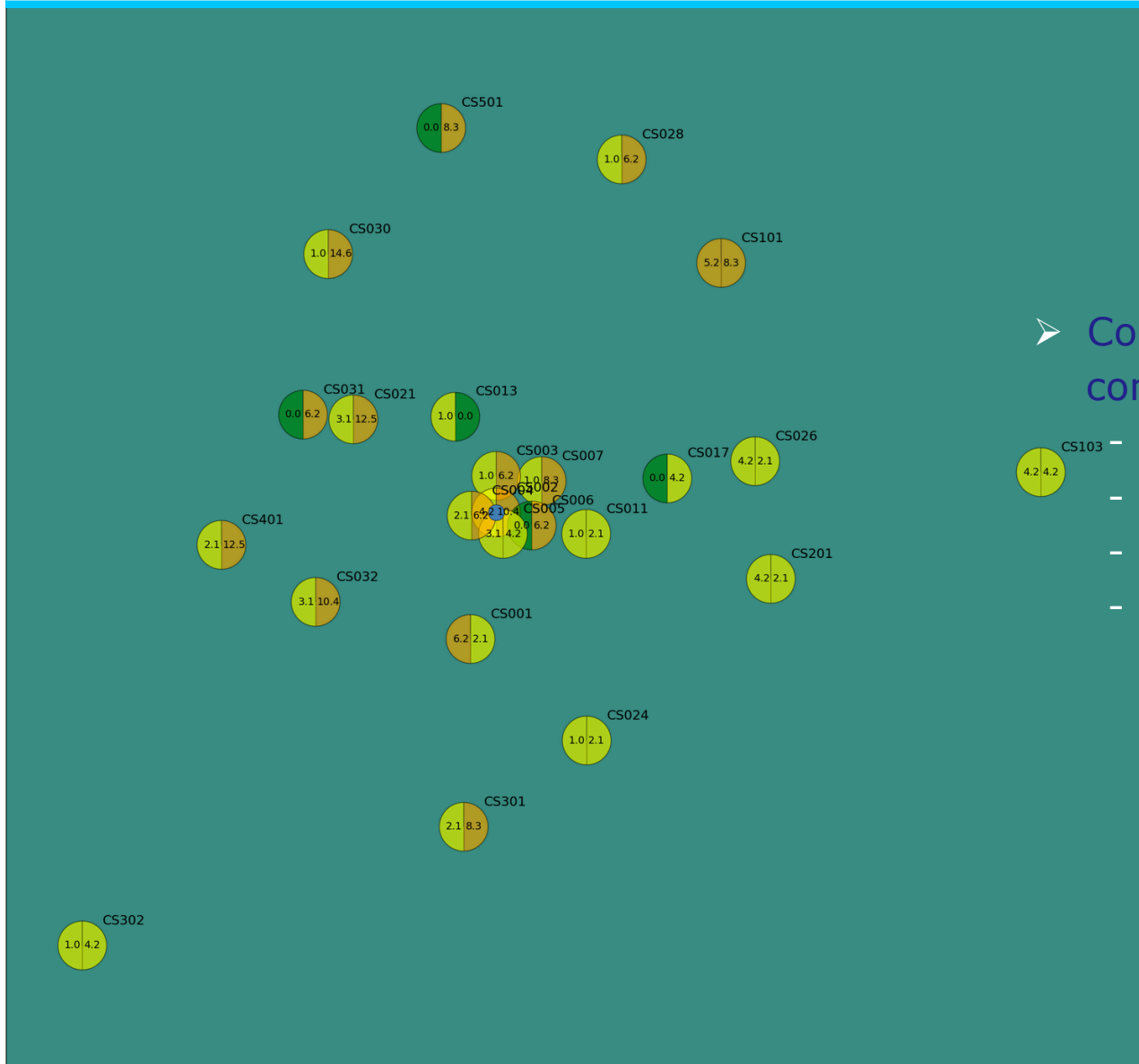


➤ Color coding of non-operational components per stations:

- all operational
- <5% non-operational
- <15% non-operational
- >15% non-operational

Core Stations

LBA: 2.1%; HBA: 5.8%



➤ Color coding of non-operational components per stations:

all operational

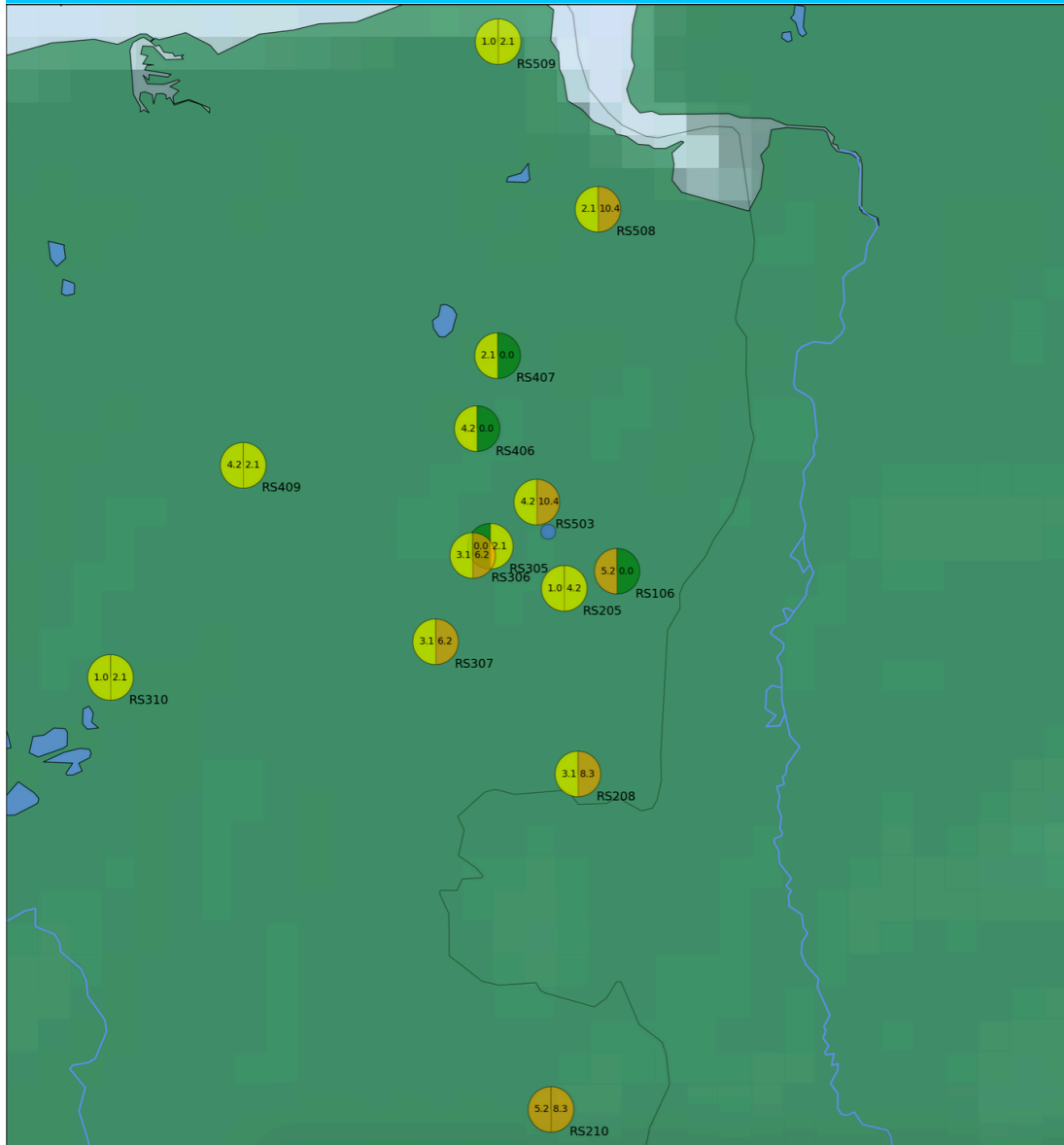
<5% non-operational

<15% non-operational

>15% non-operational

Remote Stations

LBA: 2.8%; HBA: 4.5%



- Color coding of non-operational components per stations:
- all operational
 - <5% non-operational
 - <15% non-operational
 - >15% non-operational

News regarding the observing system



- System performed relatively fine during the last 2 weeks.
 - SOFTWARE ROLL-OUT: Main change: standardized communication protocol
 - More robust system
 - Pipelines: LT3_001 small backlog because of LOBOS, LC2_025 finally runs
 - Locus084 RAID controller replaced

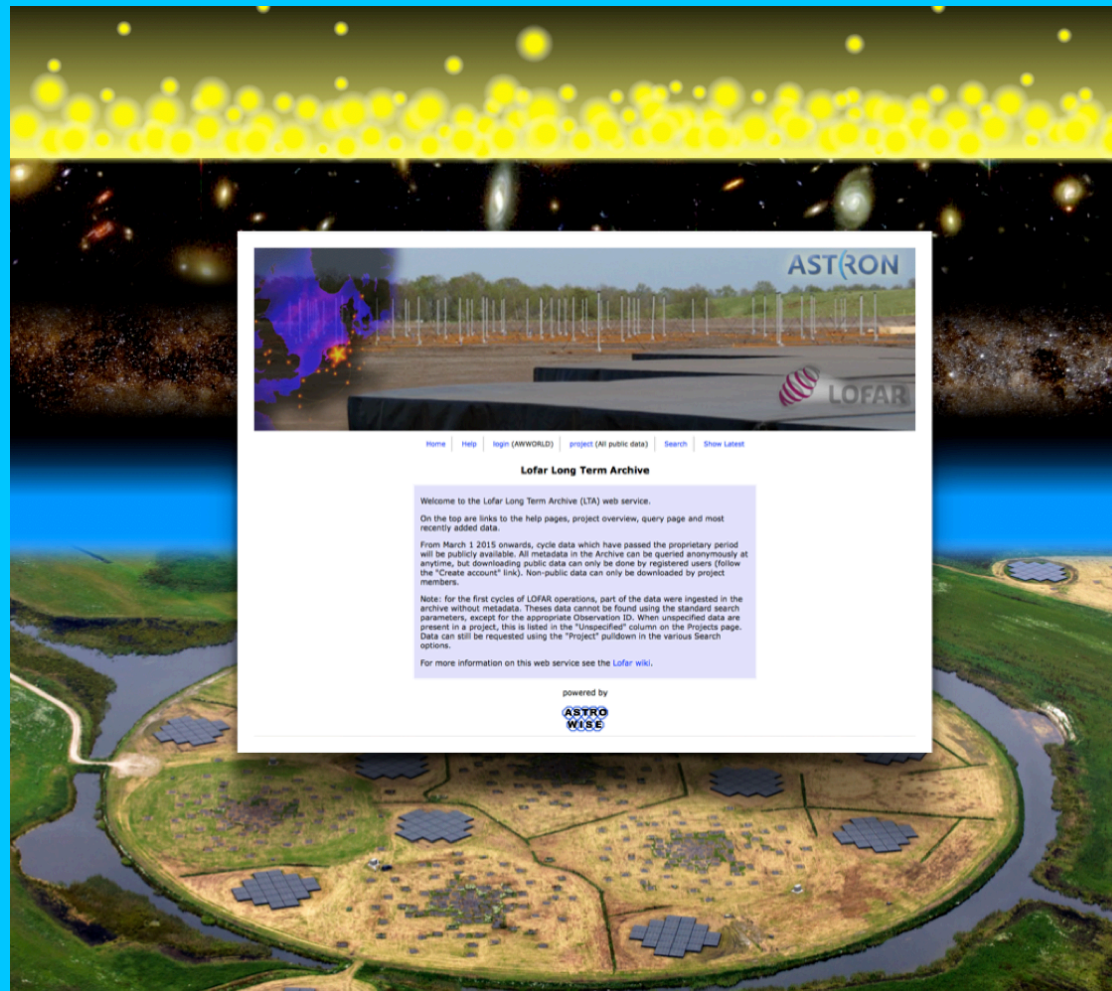
- Station calibration status:
 - mode 1-7 no changes
 - mode 3 new data recorded for all stations
 - mode 5 new data recorded for all stationsOverview available at:
<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/astronomers/current-status>

- LTA performance: minor delays, ingest speed not constant, under investigation

News regarding the observing system



- LOFAR data is public! Since March 2nd 2015, scientific data has been made publicly available through the LOFAR Long Term Archive (LTA).



News regarding the observing system



- Wrong information about broken antennas in MS between Jan 26 and Feb 25
- Database erased by accident, only new elements logged
- PIs have been notified
- Does not affect: products of pre-processing, calibrator, and target pipelines
- Affects: Imaging pipeline products, AWimager, BBS, smart-demix
- Correction script and instructions available at:

<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/observing-capabilities/depth-technical-information/system-notes/incorrect-informat>

Cycle 4 proposals

- 37 regular proposals, 1 envelope sheet
- TAG meets 25 March
- PC meeting 6-7 May
- Start of the cycle 15 May

News regarding Cycle3 observations



Week 12		UT	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Approximate LST			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
March	16	Mon	LC3_028 - EoR 3C196	IoS/TBB runs		LC3_014 - LOTAAS	System tests; all international stations except FR606 switched to ILT mode at 9 UT										IoS/TBB runs	LC3_008 - P75 - 9hrs								
	17	Tue	LC3_008 - P75 - 9hrs			STATIONTEST			SOFTWARE ROLL OUT; FR606 switched to ILT mode at 9 UT				System tests			IoS/TBB runs	LC3_009 - Gam 1 Leo - 8hrs									
	18	Wed	LC3_009 - Gam 1 Leo - 8hrs			IoS/TBB runs			LC3_014 - LOTAAS	System tests		LC3_007 - LOBOS Commissioning - 24hrs														
	19	Thu	LC3_007 - LOBOS Commissioning - 24hrs										System tests		STATIONTEST			LC3_008 - P77 - 9hrs								
	20	Fri	LC3_008 - P77 - 9hrs			IoS/TBB runs			System tests	DDT3_??? solar obs; all international stations switched to local mode at 9 UT			System tests		LC3_038 - J0030+0451	System tests			IoS/TBB runs	LC3_006 - 3C225 LBA - 6hrs						
	21	Sat	LC3_006 - 3C225 LBA - 6hrs	IoS/TBB runs												IoS/TBB runs	LC3_014 - LOTAAS	IoS/TBB runs	LC3_008 - P78 - 9hrs							
	22	Sun	LC3_008 - P78 - 9hrs			IoS/TBB runs															LC3_025 - NGC3998 - 8.6hrs					
Week 13		UT	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Approximate LST			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	23	Mon	LC3_025 - NGC3998 - 8.6hrs				LC3_030 - RA 16	System tests					LC3_030 - RAs 22	LC3_035 - J0034-0534	LC3_030 - RAs 2,7					COMMISSIONING2015 Long Baseline 10hrs - 3C295 / 4C+39.37						
	24	Tue	COMMISSIONING Long Baseline 10hrs - 3C295 / 4C+39.37				LC3_014 - LOTAAS							LC3_035 - J0034-0534					LC3_008 - P80 - 9hrs							

- Cycle 3 observing programme: ~ 53% completed. Detailed Cycle 3 schedule available here:
- <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1jDWvZmpH0ycusJTwbSMU6SxQYK5efawtk0jHSxMbo9M/pubhtml>
- Changes can be applied on daily base: in case of questions/issues contact Science Support
- ****Always cc sciencesupport@astron.nl and include the proposal code in the subject line****₁₁

CEP news:



➤ CEP2

- Disk space situation always concerning (especially after weekends).
- Locus084 RAID controller repaired, but a new problem with data system found.

➤ CEP3

- Lof009 broken, problem with the RAID controller
- CEP3 info and users schedule available at:
<http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=cep3:start>
- New policy regulating access to CEP3 and data handling available at:
<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/observing-capabilities/depth-technical-information/cycle-1-observing-and-processin>
- Many requests of extensions to access CEP3: monitoring of node usage during allocated time is ongoing. The evaluation of future requests will be based on such statistics.

Calendar LOFAR activities:



- Next LSM : 1 April
- Start of LOFAR Cycle 4 : 15 May
- LOFAR Users Meeting (Assen) : 1 June
- LOFAR Science Meeting (Assen) : 2-3 June
- MSSS Workshop (ASTRON) : 4-5 June
- LOFAR news email list:
<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/subscribe-lofar-news/subscribe-lofar-news>