ASTRON

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

Programme:

1. *Array status & Observatory update – L. Cerrigone*
2. *LTA status update – A. Renting*
3. *MSSS status update – G. Heald*

International LOFAR Telescope (ILT)

Onsala

Dutch stations

Norderstedt

LOFAR Core (NL)

Chilbolton

Potsdam

Jülich

Effelsberg

Tautenburg

- *47 operational stations completed*
- *38 NL stations, 9 international stations*
- *3 new stations to come in Poland*

Nançay

Unterweilenbach

ASTRON

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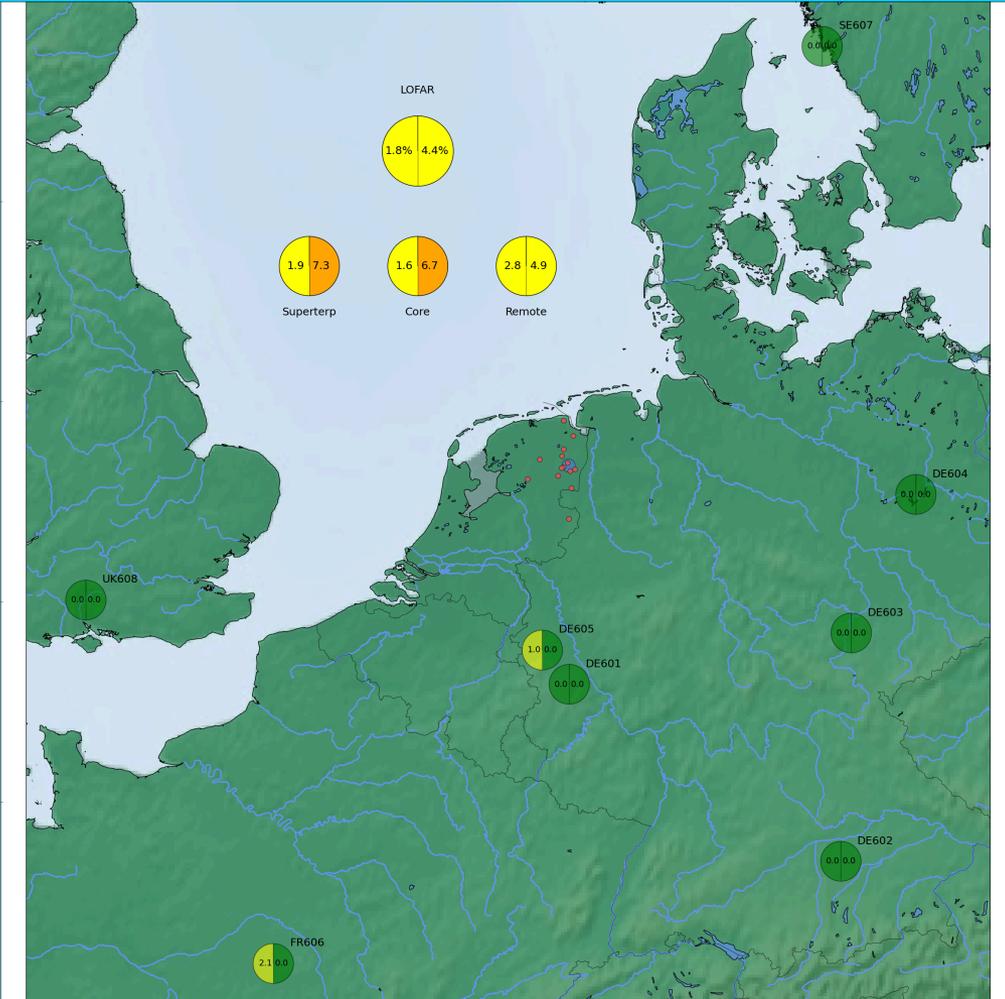# Array Status

International LOFAR Telescope (ILT)

- ➢ TBB board broken on RS509

- ➢ DE609: tests were performed in collaboration with local farmers and road workers. The outcome seems to point to a high-voltage line.

- ➢ Station maintenance is going on.

Overview, including IS

LBA: 1.8%; HBA: 4.4%

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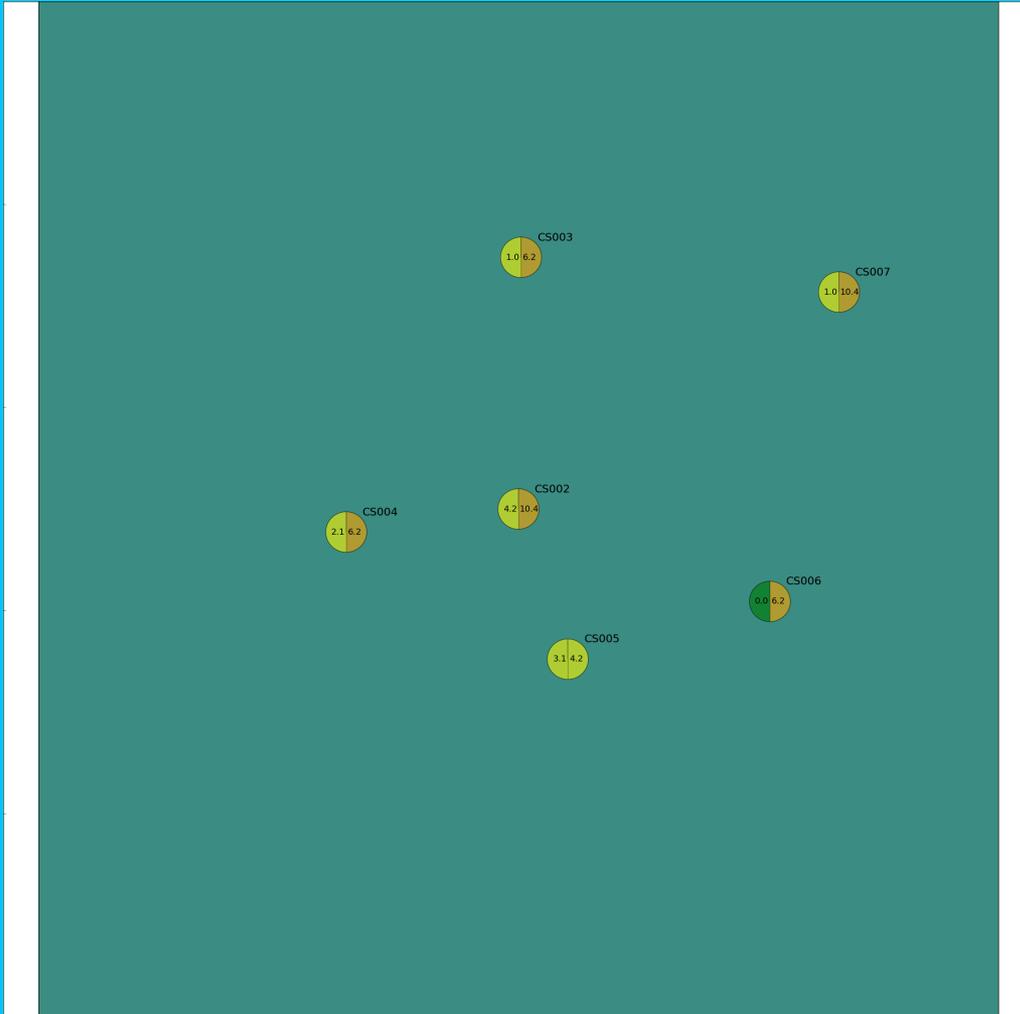

➢ Color coding for non-operational elements at the various stations

- ▪ All operational
- ▪ < 5% not operational
- ▪ < 15% not operational
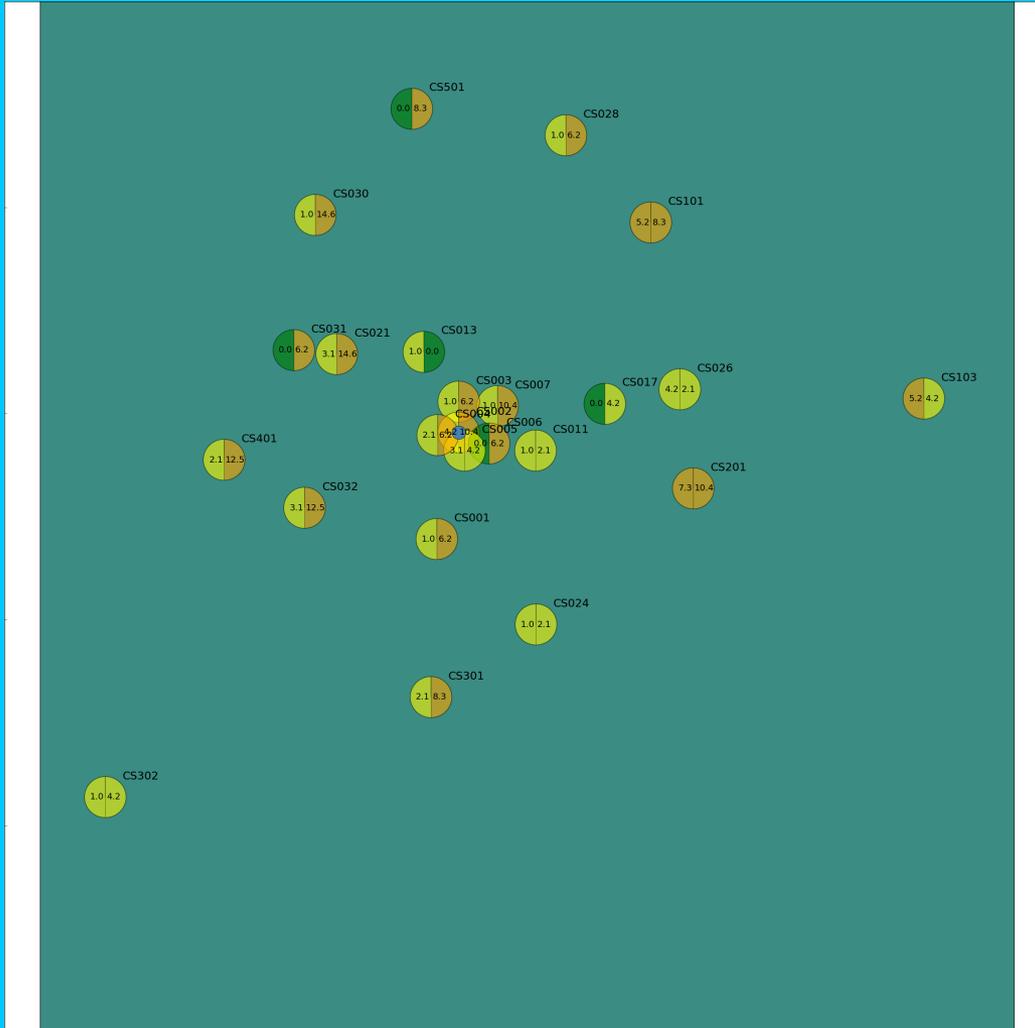- ▪ > 15% not operational

Superterp

LBA: 1.9%; HBA: 7.3%

> Color coding for non-operational elements at the various stations

- All operational
- < 5% not operational
- < 15% not operational
- > 15% not operational

Core Stations

LBA: 1.6%; HBA: 6.7%

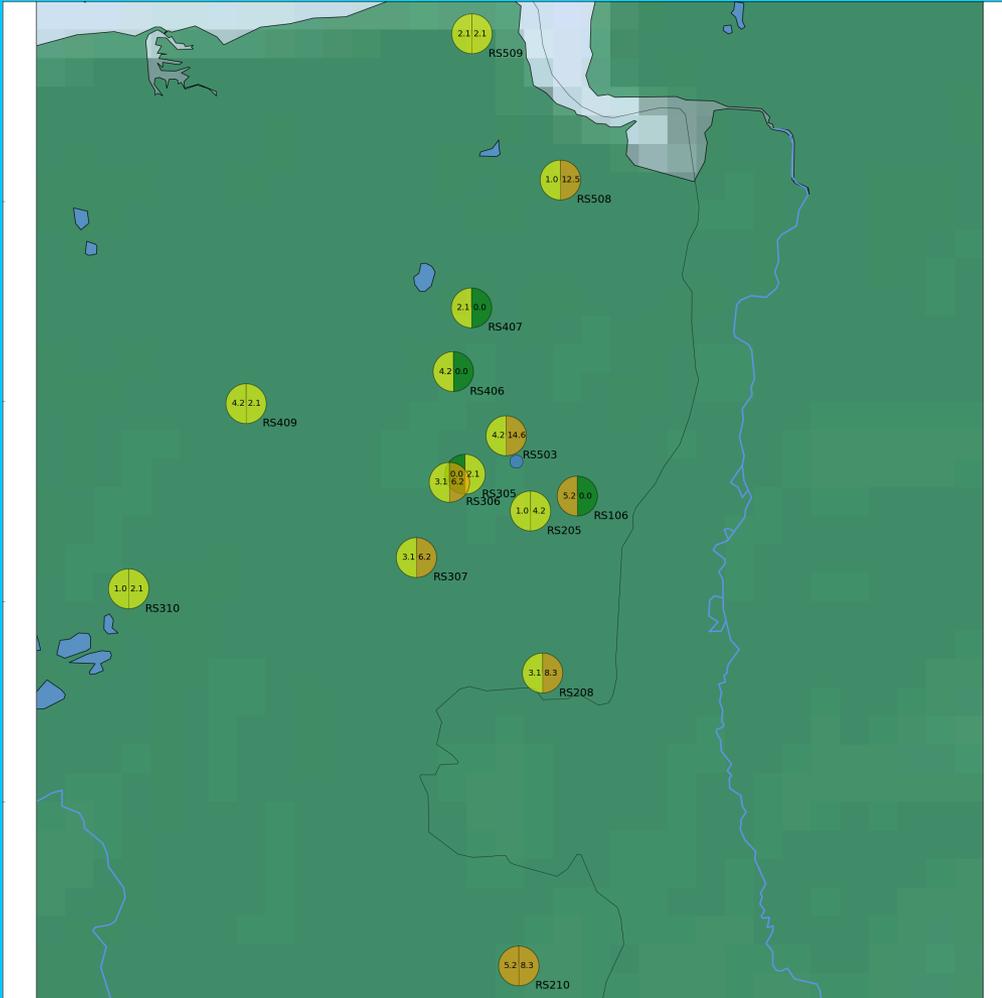> Color coding for non-operational elements at the various stations

- All operational
- < 5% not operational
- < 15% not operational
- > 15% not operational

Remote Stations

LBA: 2.8%; HBA: 4.9%

> Color coding for non-operational elements at the various stations

- All operational
- < 5% not operational
- < 15% not operational
- > 15% not operational

News regarding the observing system

- PC ratings were sent out to PIs for their **Cycle 4** proposals. PIs of projects with runs coming up soon have been contacted to define their observational setup.

- Cycle 4 observations will resume at the end of this week. Three runs of LC4 projects were already performed before the network reconfiguration, due to their high time sensitivity.

- Ingest: during the last week of observations before the reconfiguration, instability of the transfer caused a long queue and CEP2 disk-space issues. A few runs had to be postponed to cycle 4 at low priority.

- Station calibration: mode 5 tables were updated in April. Mode 1 and 3 data were acquired and new tables will be installed once the system is up and running again. New calibration will be performed after maintenance is completed. The RO is currently investigating alternative calibration methods that could speed up the process. These methods include the use of TBB data and holography.

News regarding the observing system

- CEP3 info and user schedule available at
  - http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=cep3:star

- 10 LC3 and 16 LC4 projects request CEP3 time

- 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.

Users are expected to make full use of the resources assigned to them within the period agreed upon. The granting of extensions is not the default and is expected to become less likely, due to the increasing demand for CEP3 time.

LOFAR Network Reconfiguration 18 – 29 May 2015

➢ Network reconfiguration of the CEP system started last week and is still going on. Parts of the system are gradually coming up again, once tests on their functionalities are performed with success.

➢ The reconfiguration aims at fixing known network issues. Old hardware was also unplugged and changed. This will ease the transition to new systems such as CEP4.

➢ Almost all the cable connections and switches (see sketch) were manually unplugged and replaced.

LOFAR Network Topology

LOFAR Network Reconfiguration
18 – 29 May 2015

➢ Stations are not connected yet. They will be by today or tomorrow.

➢ Issues so far: LDB001 and LDB002 systems are needed for Slurm and LTA staging/ingest. Staging was not possible for a few days.

➢ J.D. Mol will give a full update about the reconfiguration at the next LSM.

2nd LOFAR Users Meeting and 2015 LOFAR Science Workshop

➢ Registration is now closed.

➢ Information about the programmes and logistics can be found at

http://www.astron.nl/lofarscience2015/

At the Users meeting, a member of the KSPs will give a short update about the status of the project.

A discussion will be held about changes and improvements recommended by the users.

News regarding Cycle observations
CYCLE 4

- ➢ Detailed Cycle 4 schedule available here:
- ➢ https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14JsjFkFxSrK1vzYzaFhZH3jTeFbFHt5GyuF3NyI3Qdw/edit#gid=0
- ➢ Changes can be applied on a daily basis! Contact Science Support in case of questions/issues
- ➢ **Always cc 'sciencesupport@astron.nl' and include the proposal code in the subject line**

CALENDAR LOFAR activities

- Next LSM : 10 June – volunteers welcome!!!

- Start of Cycle 4 : started on 15 May

- 2nd LOFAR Users Meeting : 1 June, Assen

- The 2015 LOFAR Community Science Workshop : 2 – 3 June, Assen

- MSSS workshop : 4 - 5 June, ASTRON

Note: to subscribe to the lofar-news mailing list:

http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/subscribe-lofar-news/subscribe-lofar-news