

Programme:

- 1. Array status & Observatory update – M. Iacobelli*
- 2. Low-frequency CRRLs with LOFAR: an Update - R. Oonk*
- 3. DRAGNET and the search for new pulsars and fast transients with LOFAR - J. Hessels*
- 4. AOB*

Array Status

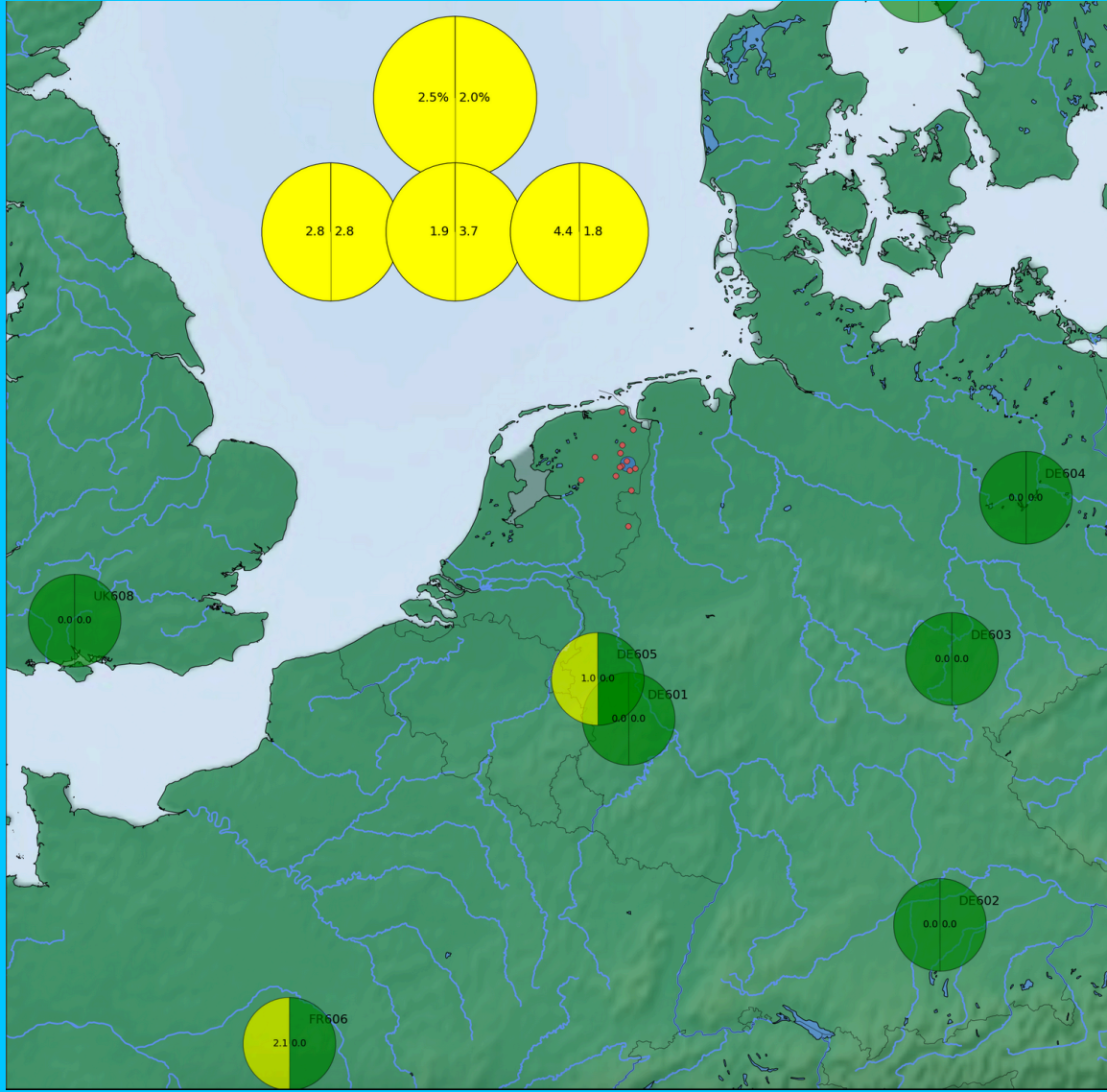


- Test new LCU in CS013: problems with clocks solved, issue with (old) software installed on the (new) hardware.
- Station maintenance:
CS001 CS002 CS003 CS004 CS006 CS007
CS021 CS024 CS030 CS302
RS106 RS205 RS210 RS407 RS409 RS509

Overview, including IS

LBA: 2.5%; HBA: 2.0%

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

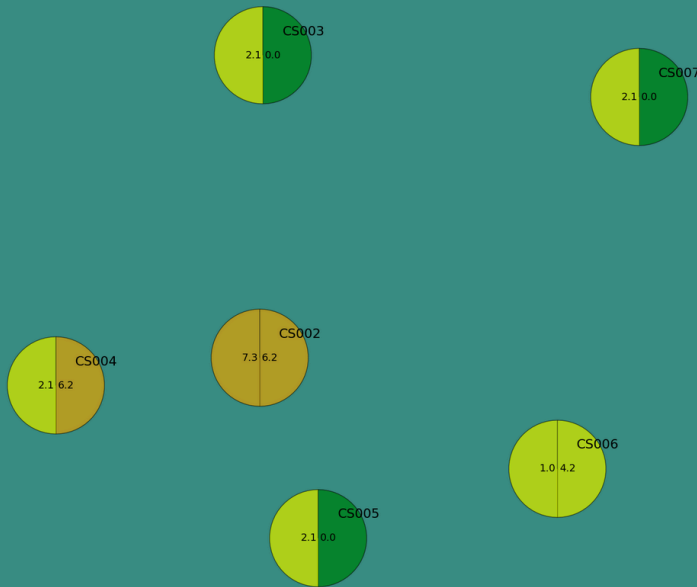


Color coding of non-operational components per stations:

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

Superterp

LBA: 2.8%; HBA: 2.8%

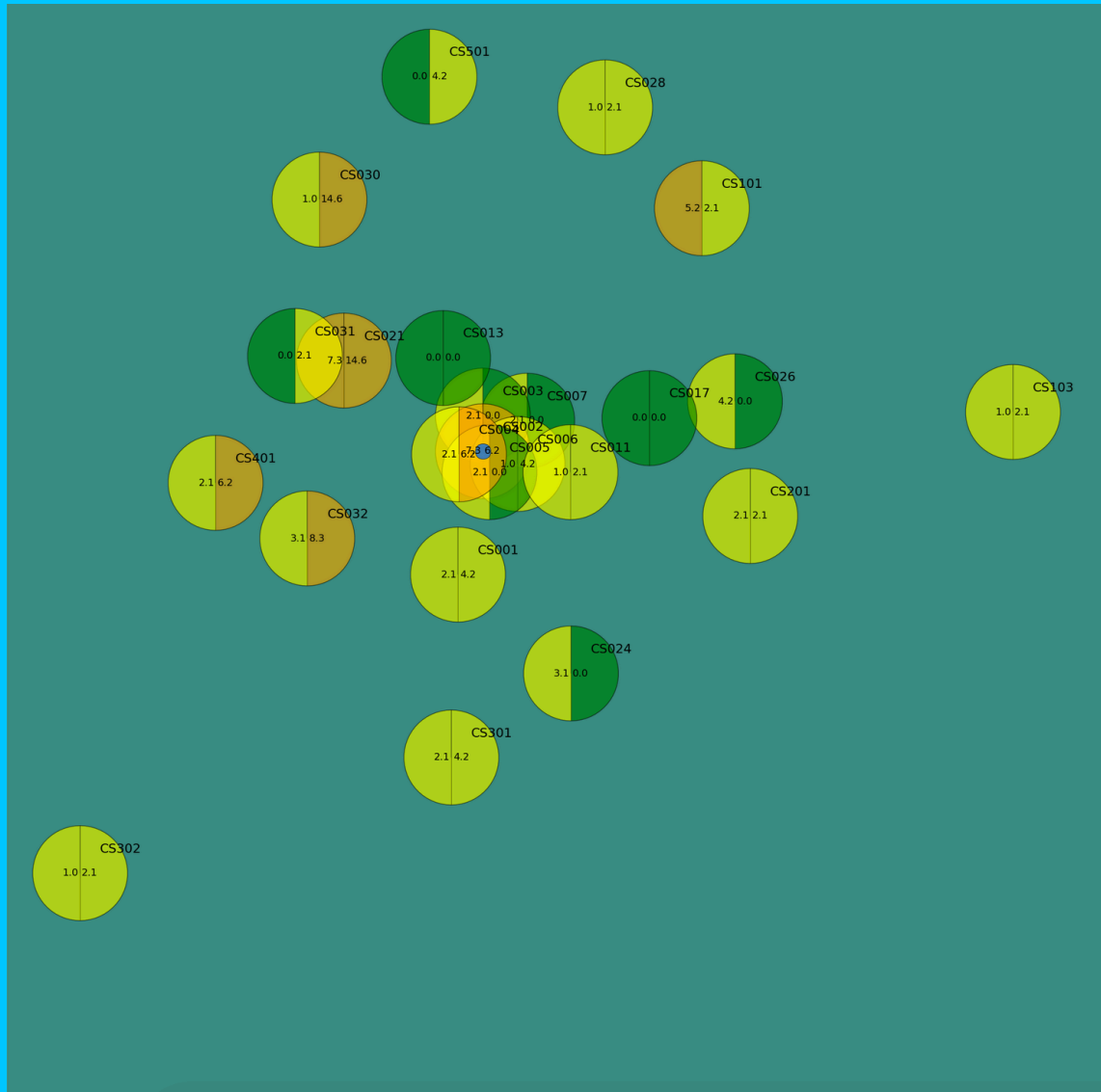


Color coding of non-operational components per stations:

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

Core Stations

LBA: 1.9%; HBA: 3.7%

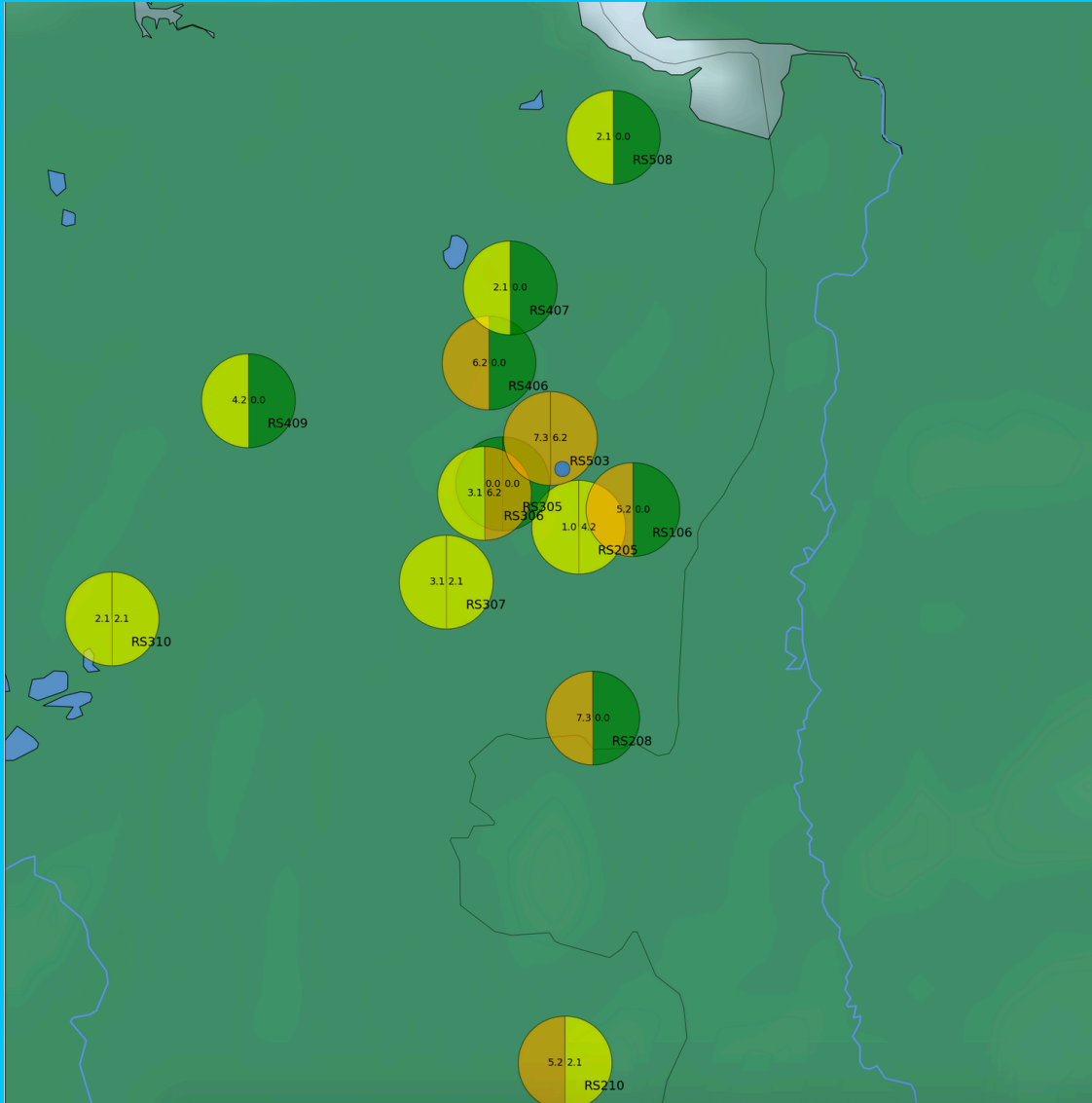


Color coding of non-operational components per stations:

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

Remote Stations

LBA: 4.4%; HBA: 1.8%



Color coding of non-operational components per stations:

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

➤ Station calibration status:

Overview available at:

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

- Calibration tables mode1: updated for all available CS & RS (i.e. except CS013, CS031)
- Calibration tables mode3: updated for all available stations (i.e. except RS208, RS409, DE604).

News regarding the observing system



- Problem with overheating stations on extremely warm days.
- Fiber cut affecting SE607.
- Delay queue of long baseline pipelines.
- Software roll-out to fix LOFAR BF TAB ring pointings.

- Issues fixed:
 - Bug in station adder of NDPPP, used for combining core stations into one when processing long baseline observations: weights not applied to the new MS when combining.
 - Casacore version issues impacting the long baseline pipeline.
 - Bug in the plots of broken elements per stations at https://proxy.lofar.eu/array_status/STATIONS/. If needed for analysis, users can contact science support for an accurate list of elements that were off during their measurement.

- Minor issues with the ingest.

News regarding Cycle4 observations

Week 34	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	Sup Sci on Duty	Softw. Eng. on Duty	eVLBI / unavailable stations
Approximate LST		23	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
August	17	Mon	LC4_028 - 3C449 - 10hrs HBA				TBB + test runs				LC4_003 - B09 - 2x15mins HBA	LC4_003 - B0943 - 15mins HBA	System tests				TBB + test runs		LC4_007 - 4C19.71 - 9hrs LBA ALL-INT				StV	JDM				
	18	Tue	LC4_007 - 4C19.71 - 9hrs LBA ALL-INT			TBB + test runs		LC4_034 - P146+50 - 8hrs HBA					System tests		LC4_030 - LOTAAS - 3hrs HBA		delays test (calibrator?) 8+hrs needed				MI	AR						
	19	Wed	delays test (calibrator?) 8+hrs needed					Cobalt RollOut & CleanUp logs			LC4_003 - B09 - 2x15mins HBA	System tests			LC4_015 - NGC3631 - 7hrs HBA REPEAT			TBB + test runs		Manu	WK							
	20	Thu	STATIONTEST			Commissioning - 3C011.1demix 256 ch				System tests				LC4_034 - P245+40 - 8hrs HBA				Com m. Oonk	LC	JS								
	21	Fri	Commissioning Oonk			System tests; all international stations switched to local mode at 9 UT			LC4_003 - B0950 - 15mins HBA	System tests			TBB + test runs	LC4_008 - ELAIS - 7hrs HBA				MI	AS									
	22	Sat	TBB + test runs										LC4_003 - B0950 - 15mins HBA	LC4_003 - B1022 - 30mins HBA	TBB + test runs				LC4_008 - ELAIS - 7hrs HBA									
	23	Sun	LC4_004 - 2336-01	TBB + test runs			LC4_004 - 0317+13, 0305+11	TBB + test runs				LC4_003 - B0950 - 15mins HBA	LC4_003 - B1022 - 30mins HBA	TBB + test runs			LC4_030 - LOTAAS - 3hrs HBA		TBB + test runs									

➤ Cycle 4 observing programme: ongoing: ~50% completed.

Detailed Cycle 4 schedule available here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14JsjFkFxSrK1vzYzaFhZH3jTeFbFht5GyuF3NyI3Qdw/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*

➤ CEP2

- Disk space situation not concerning !
- Disks of locus nodes from 95 to 99 to be cleaned up by Aug 31st! If needed taken out of use for spare parts.

➤ CEP3

- **Disk space of CEP3 commissioning node lof021 full !**
- 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.

Cycle 5 proposal call:

- Please be aware that no bugfixes have been made to Northstar this Cycle.
- ASTRON web pages have been updated. In particular review <http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/astronomers/asking-time/asking-time-0> including sections detailing elevation limitations and priority of targets.

RADIO OBSERVATORY

LOFAR

(Observing Proposals

(Asking for time

Home » Radio Observatory » Observing Proposals

(Regular Proposal Call Instructions

(Summary of ILT procedures

(Observing in single-station mode

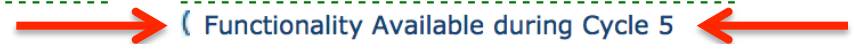
(Target List Order

(Full review and allocation mechanism

(Justification File Instructions

(Target declination limits

(Functionality Available during Cycle 5



Cycle 5 proposal call:

➤ LOFAR tools pages:

<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/lofar/lofar-tools/lofar-tools>

including a new frequency-to-SB converter which also presents bandpass plots for most modes.

LOFAR Frequency Calculator

Instrument

- LBA
 HBA

Clock

- 200 MHz
 160 MHz

Filter

110-190 MHz

Subband 230

Manual selection: 230

Frequency MHz

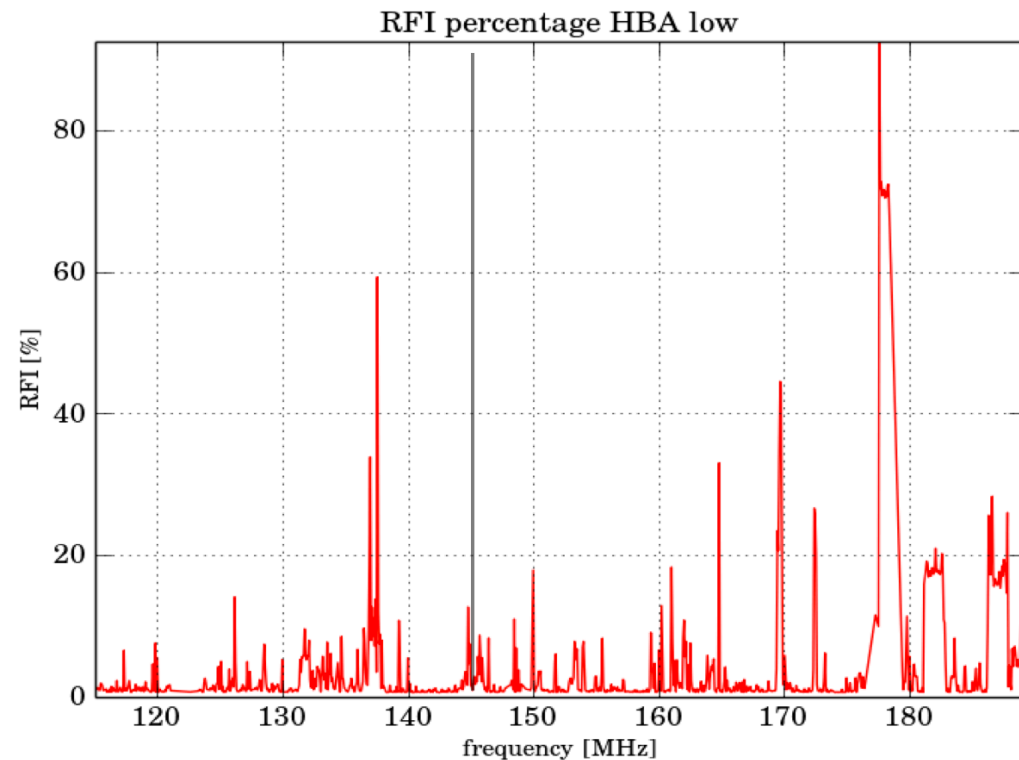
Manual selection: MHz

HBA
200 MHz
110-190 MHz

Subband: 230
Corresponds to: 144.921875 MHz

Frequency: --- MHz
Corresponds to: invalid sub-band
RFI percentage: 7.48038 %

Note: The RFI plot in the right panel is intended to be only a navigation aid.



Calendar LOFAR activities:

- Next LSM : 2 September (volunteers welcome)
- Long Baseline busy week : 24-28 August
- Cycle 5 proposal deadline : Wednesday, 9 September, 12 UT

- All accepted LOFAR DDT projects list:
<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/cycles/accepted-ddt-projects/accepted-ddt-projects>
- LSM presentations list & users suggestions:
http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=public:lsm_new:start

- LOFAR news email list:
<http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/subscribe-lofar-news/subscribe-lofar-news>