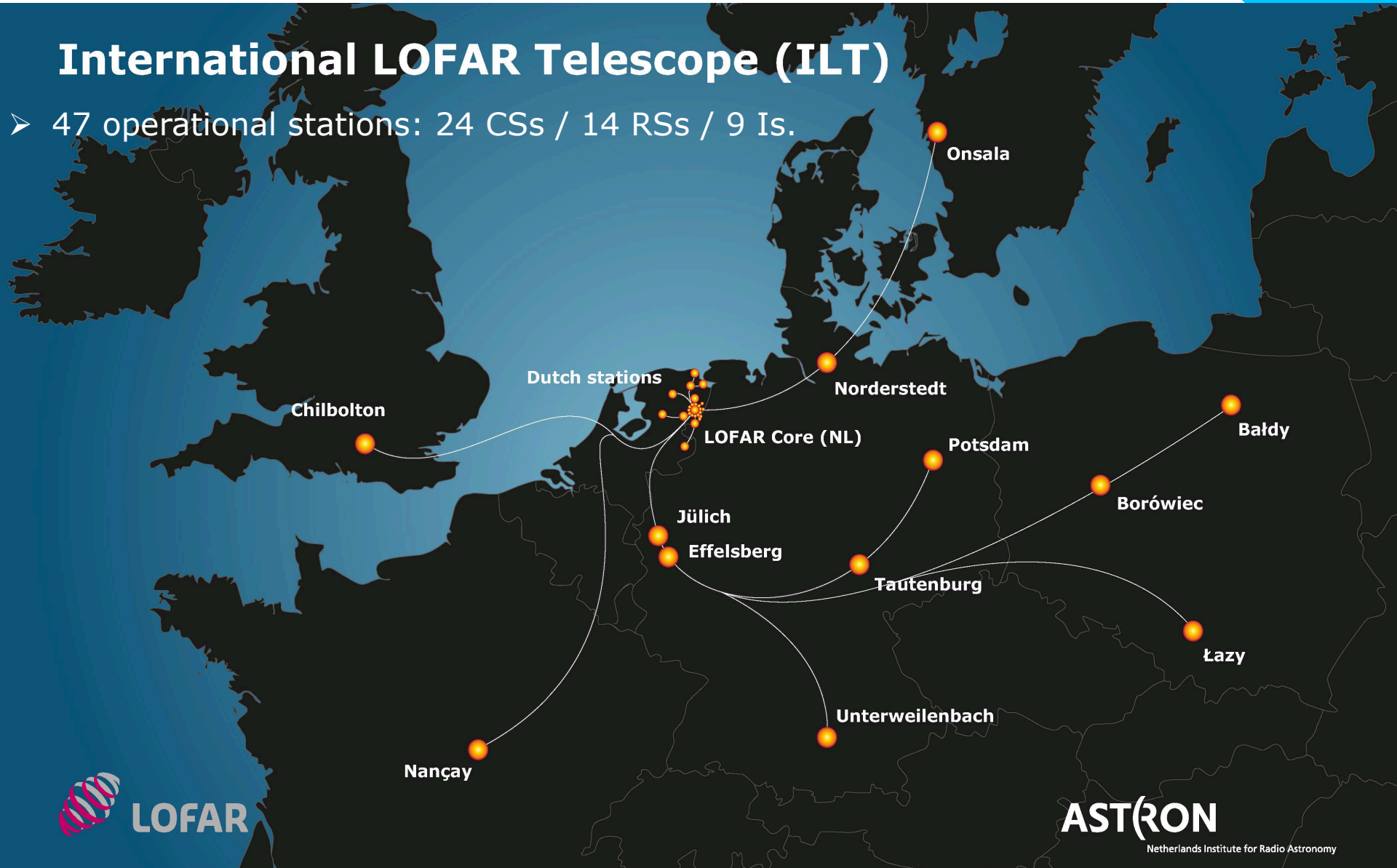# ASTRON

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

Programme:

1. *Array status & Observatory update – M. Iacobelli*

2. *Calibrating the LBA – F. de Gasperin*

3. *RRL and Nearby AGN – k. Emig*

4. *Simultaneous Nightside Interplanetary and Ionospheric Scintillation – R. Fallows*

5. *AOB*

Array Status

International LOFAR Telescope (ILT)

➢ 47 operational stations: 24 CSs / 14 RSs / 9 Is

➢ Integration and calibration of Polish stations ongoing.

Onsala

Dutch stations

Chilbolton

Norderstedt

LOFAR Core (NL)

Bałdy

Potsdam

Jülich

Effelsberg

Borówiec

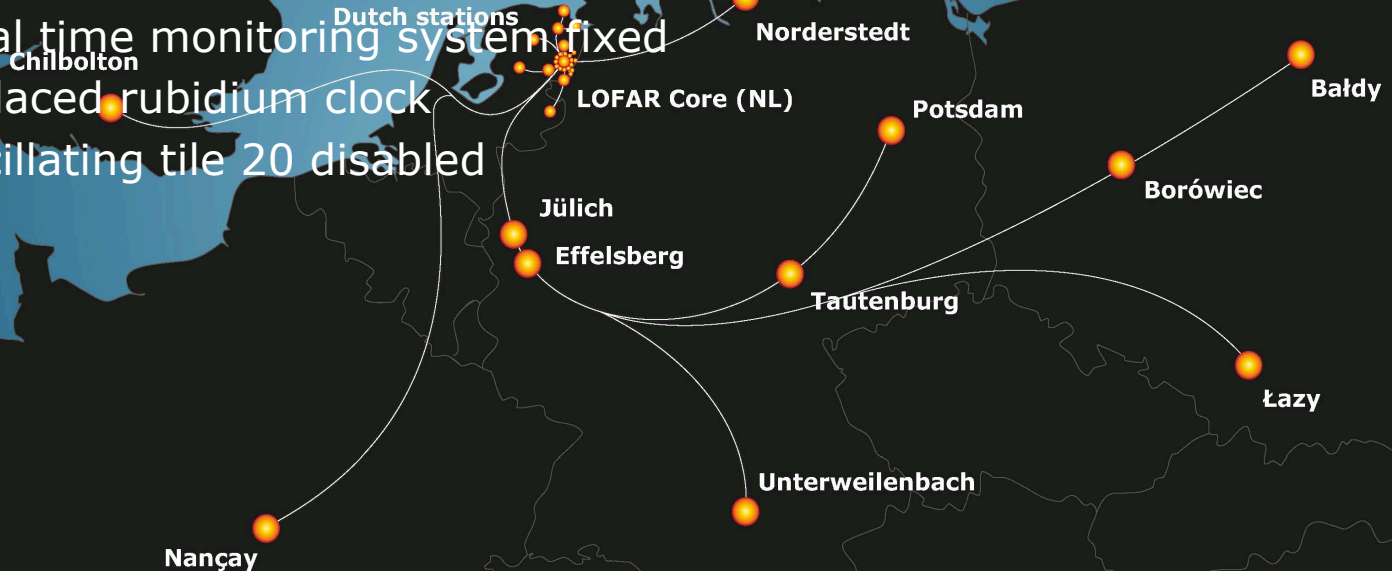Tautenburg

Łazy

Unterweilenbach

Nançay

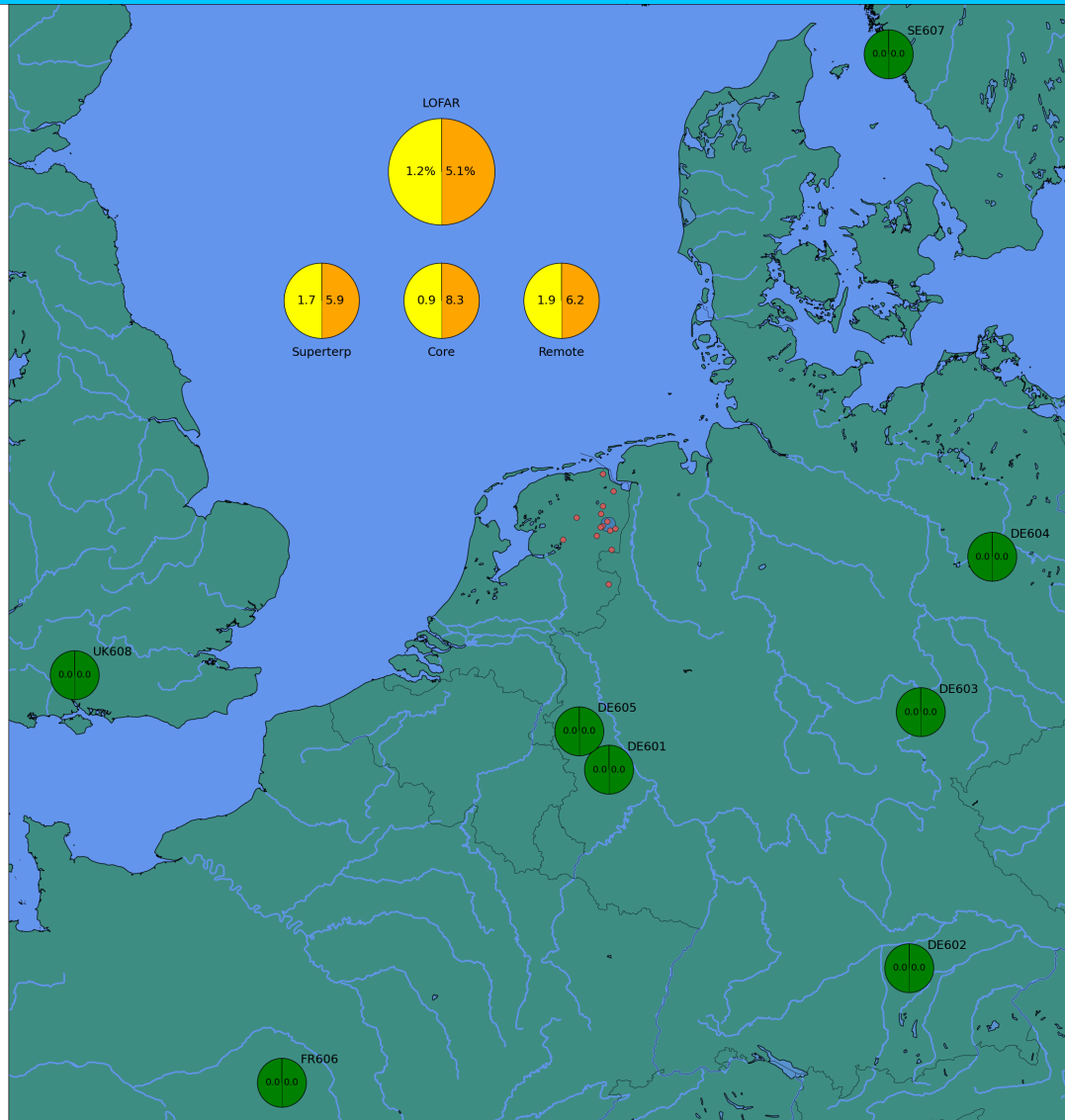# Array Status

International LOFAR Telescope (ILT)

➢ 47 operational stations: 24 CSs / 14 RSs / 9 Is

➢ Integration and calibration of Polish stations ongoing.

➢ Station maintenance:
  - CS011 replaced SPUBoard1 powersupply broken
  - DE602 Real time monitoring system fixed
  - PL611 replaced rubidium clock
  - RS210 oscillating tile 20 disabled

Onsala

Norderstedt

Dutch stations

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Overview, including IS

LBA: 1.2%; HBA: 5.1%

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

> ➢ Color coding of non-operational components per stations:
> - all operational
> - <5% non-operational
> - <15% non-operational
>
> HBA: CS001, CS002, CS004, CS005, CS006, CS017, CS021, CS032, CS101, CS501, RS210, RS307, RS310
>
> LBA: RS210, RS306
>
> - >15% non-operational
>
> HBA: CS030, CS301, CS302, CS401, RS306, RS406

News regarding the observing system

➢ Minor delay with processing. Minor issues with the ingest.

➢ Station calibration status:

Overview available at: *http://www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/astronomers/current-status*

- ▪ Calibration tables mode3: update starting for Dutch stations.

- ▪ PL610: calibration tables all modes for HBA; LBA delayed because of RFI.

- ▪ PL611/612: station calibration done for LBA/HBA all modes.

News regarding the observing system

Software roll-out January 25th 2016: LOFAR release 2.15

- Changes / fixings for AWImager, NDPPP, PyBDSM.

Release notes available at: *http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=engineering:release_notes_lofar_2.15*

Stop Day February 2nd 2016:

- MonetDB database GSM has been moved from ldb002 to ldb003.

- CEP3 users will now use LOFAR-Release-2_15_0 or Pulp-2_15_0.

News regarding Cycle 5 observations

Week 5	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		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
February	1 Mon		LC5_002 - 2 hr HBA		TBB + test runs				System tests		LT5_004 - LOTAAS - 4hrs HBA; all international stations switched to ILT mode at 9 UT				System tests		LC5_022 - LS1+61303 - 5hrs HBA - CEP3 - DO NOT MOVE!!		TBB + test runs			LT5_009 - 3C196 - 6hrs HBA			
	2 Tue	LT5_009 - 3C196 - 6hrs HBA		TBB + test runs		LT5_004 follow-up 15 min	TBB + test runs		STOP DAY										Validation / Warmup runs			LC5_017 - P143+52 o06 - 8hrs LBA - CEP3			
	3 Wed	LC5_017 - P143+52 - 8hrs LBA - CEP3			STATIONTEST		System tests		LC5_023 - 8hrs HBA							LT5_003 - J0305+11 - 2hrs HBA		DDT5_002 - 55 CnC - 8hrs - LBA*			
	4 Thu	DDT5_002 - 55 CnC - 8hrs - LBA*				TBB + test runs	System tests					LT5_004 - LOTAAS - 4hrs HBA			TBB + test runs			LT5_009 - 3C196 - 6hrs HBA			
	5 Fri	LT5_009 - 3C196 - 6hrs HBA		TBB + test runs			LT5_004 - LOTAAS - 4hrs HBA		System tests; all international stations switched to local mode at 9 UT						TBB + test runs			LC5_017 - P142+55 o04 - 8hrs LBA - CEP3			
	6 Sat	LC5_017 - P142+55 - 8hrs LBA - CEP3			TBB + test runs			LT5_003 - Pulsar Timing - HBA			TBB + test runs							LT5_009 - NCP - HBA				
	7 Sun	LT5_009 - NCP - HBA							LT5_003 - Pulsar Timing - HBA														

➢ Cycle 5 observing programme ongoing: ~45% completed.

  Detailed Cycle 5 schedule available here: *http://www.tiny.cc/LC5*

➢ 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*

News regarding Cycle 6

➢ Deadline 9 March 12 UT

➢ Call for proposals sent out last week

➢ Update of documentation is ongoing

CEP news:

- ➢ CEP4
  - ▪ The cluster has been accepted and software installation is ongoing.
- ➢ CEP2
  - ▪ Disk space situation often concerning.
  - ▪ Locus096 used for spare parts (raid controller).
- ➢ CEP3
  - ▪ Disk space of CEP3 commissioning node lof021 73% 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.

Calendar LOFAR activities:

➢ Next LSM : 17 February 2016 (volunteers welcome)

➢ FACTOR Busy Week : 22-25 February 2016
➢ 1st LBA Busy Week : 29 February – 4 March

➢ 3rd LOFAR users meeting : 4 April 2016
➢ LOFAR Science Meeting : 5-6 April 2016
➢ LOFAR ILT Technical Operations Meeting: 7-8 April 2016
➢ Survey KSP Meeting : 7-8 April 2016

Deadline registration LOFAR meetings is 14 March !

➢ 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