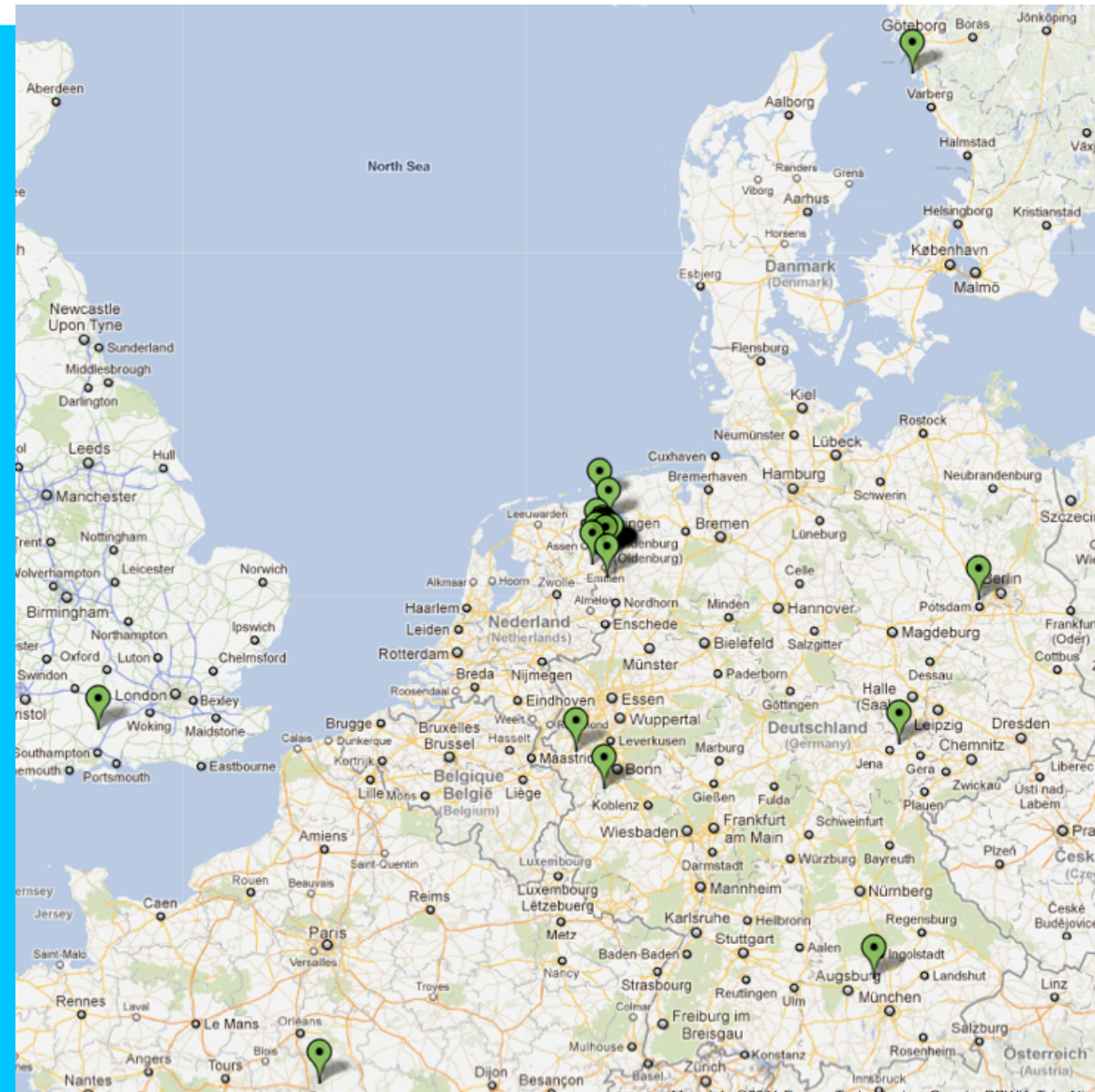


Programme:

- 1) *Observatory update - Roberto Pizzo*
- 2) *Overview of commissioning procedure - Michael Wise*
- 3) *Update on NCP imaging - Jess Broderick*
- 4) *Update on PPS synchronization issue - Andre Gunst*
- 5) *Status beam tests - George Heald*
- 6) *CME detection - Richard Fallows*
- 7) *Pulsar Busy Week update - Jason Hessels*
- 8) *MSSS update - George Heald*

Observatory Status



Current Status:

33 operational NL stations

24 core + 9 remote

8 Intern. stations part of the array.

*3*10Gb/s lines operational*

Started construction of RS407,305,409 (20-30 km)

www.astron.nl/radio-observatory/astronomers/current-status ²

News regarding observations and commissioning



- System sensitivity observations performed on a regular basis
- Cause of the issue of synchronization of the RSPs' AP boards identified (see Andre Gunst talk)
- MSSS observations in LBA problematic during the Easter week-end – repeated the past week-end. Connection problems affected the data writing. Solution:
 - Increased the number of concurrent NFS threads
 - Data Writer made dependent only from local home directories on locus nodes

News regarding observations and commissioning

- Further commissioning observations approved by the TAG took place (recently: Bootes in LBA and in HBA; M51 in HBA)
- MSSS: 78% done

CEP news:

- locus002 will receive a new main board during the next stopday
- CEP2 is very stable: all locus nodes available for observations
- CEP2 overview :

[http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php
id=operator:current_station_overview#state_of_locus_nodes](http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=operator:current_station_overview#state_of_locus_nodes)

CEP STOP DAY: May 7th 2012

Disk space problematic on CEP2

- Limited space is available to record new observations, but not enough disk space to pre-process them
- Throwing away data is not a feasible option – data that are on disk are all needed for the future

Until the situation is relieved, we have suspended observing interferometric imaging

To relieve the situation, we:

1. have started transfer of raw MSSS data close to A-team sources to SARA and Target
2. expedite the development and deployment of the new NDPPP with integrated demixing with highest priority in the next sprint of the software team. When delivered, we can prepare raw MSSS data for calibration and imaging at CEP-2. This will make the raw data available for archiving too
3. will make NDPPP available at the Target site to pre-process data there locally
4. will commence proper LTA ingest of the raw MSSS data after Target is back on-line after a maintenance/upgrade next week
5. restore the pre-processed MSSS data from Target to CEP-2 for further processing on CEP-2.

We will resume observing as soon as the hard disk usage of each operational locus node is below 90% (most likely after the week-end)

For the long term we aim to immediately run new NDPPP pre-processing on MSSS observations after observing, allowing proper archiving of raw data and pre-processed data immediately afterwards.

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities



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

- 19 Apr : Busy Thursday
- 21 – 25 May : Long Baselines Busy Week (Bonn)