

## Radio Observatory Report

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# Developments of the Observing System

- CS21: 16 HBA tiles to be repaired \*
- CS30: 5 HBA tiles under investigation
- CS301: problems investigated
  
- Progress with ITRF Beamsolver (M. Brentjens' talk).
- Tests and corrections of HBA dipole polarization ongoing (next slide)

## OFFLINE CLUSTER

- Clearing up /data1. Will keep it clear for routine use in observations.
- Will clear up /data2
- We plan a short time between observation and raw data removal

Will contact users re. any raw data remaining in the storage disks.

**LAST CALL** for clearing up work areas in LCE nodes.

Please tidy up your area OR contact the observatory on why and what you need to keep for a bit longer and what to archive.

*Observatory "White Board" in Wiki* ([http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=operator:current\\_station\\_overview](http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=operator:current_station_overview))

# HPA dipole polarization

- HBA dipole polarizations of 13 stations are 100% checked and repaired.
- 5 stations repaired and need to be checked.
- RS106 and RS503 contain 27 and 10 faulty polarized elements and will be repaired; RS306 & RS509 are measured.

More information from  
H. Meulman  
([meulman@astron.nl](mailto:meulman@astron.nl))

HBA elements with wrong polarisation

Station	measured	repaired	Measured after repair	Measured Final	OK!	Number of repaired elements
CS001					4 juni 2010	384
CS003					3 juni 2010	50
CS004					8 juni 2010	1
CS005		2				
CS006					23 juli 2010	0
CS007					28 juli 2010	6
CS017					27 juli 2010	0
CS024					15 juni 2010	288
CS101						4
CS103						53
CS201		81				
CS301					23 juli 2010	4
CS401		3				
CS501					13 september 2010	1
RS106	27					
RS205					9 juni 2010	202
RS208					28 juli 2010	2
RS306 ●						
CS026					10 september 2010	2
RS307 ●					17 september 2010	6
RS503 ●	10					
CS002						
CS011						
CS013						
CS021						
CS028						
CS030						
CS031						
CS032						
CS302						
RS509						
Effelsberg						
Tautenburg					25 maart 2010	5
Garching					30 juni 2010	3
Chilbolton					2 september 2010	0
Nancay					7 juli 2010	6

# Observations & other developments

- Observations for the Transients KSP:
  - Follow-up of LIGO events (LEA004).  
No automatic triggering yet
- Continued multi-epoch imaging+pulsar observation for the Transients KSP (LEA032).

**This week:** Further Beamsrerver tests

**Planned:** **LEA128** using the new beamsrerver

With the goal of moving towards a consolidated observatory ASTRON formed a "LOFAR Commissioning Coordination Group", reporting directly to the Director of the Radio Observatory

Consists of: A. Polatidis, H. Munk, R. Nijboer and M. Wise.

- Assess the progress,
  - determine timelines,
  - prioritise the development of the functionality based on the commissioning plan and available resources,
  - direct the work of the people involved,
  - identify bottlenecks,
  - suggest appropriate solutions to the management.
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- Coordinate and direct activities of individuals and existing study and working groups (and may form others for different purposes).
  - Review communication protocols with the working groups of developers and commissioners (both from ASTRON and the other LOFAR partners).
  - Ask and welcome advice from groups or individuals participating in the development and commissioning of LOFAR

# CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities

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

- 4 October : CEP Stopday
- 11-15 October : LOFAR Data School
- 18-22 October : Magnetism KSP Busy Week
- 27 October : CEP stopday (extra)
- 1 November : CEP stopday
- 1-5 November : Pulsar Busy Week (Dwingeloo)







# Use of the Offline Cluster

## Commissioners:

- please clear up your work area in the Compute Nodes when finished:
  - Particularly if you have copied a sideband of raw data
  - any previous iterations of (N)DPPP
  - clear out any data used for "educational purposes"
  - notify support scientists if datasets are ready to be archived.
- Datasets in the Storage nodes:
  - Please notify support scientists/observers when you are satisfied with NDPPP-ed data, to *remove* raw data from storage nodes.
- **IMPORTANT:** Lots of data from previous busy weeks - Please DELETE THEM

## REMINDER

PLAN: During observations requiring high data-rates, the storage disks will not be NFS mounted to the compute nodes.

*Advanced warning will be given to users*

*Please communicate with the radio observatory ([sciencesupport@astron.nl](mailto:sciencesupport@astron.nl)) if you need to run an intensive job yourselves.*