ASTRON

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

Radio Observatory Report

Station/Item	Cabinet	LBA	HBA	Fibre	CEP connection	Validated
CS302	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS307	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS503	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS106	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS208	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS030	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS401	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS021	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS032	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS306	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS301	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS501	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS509	green	green	green			
CS103	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS001	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS002	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS003	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS004	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS005	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS006	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS007	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS024	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS201	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS101	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS026	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS205	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS017	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS011	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS013	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS028	green	green	green	green	green	green
CS031	green	green	green	green	green	
RS305 (RS104)						
RS210						
RS310						
RS404						
RS406	green	green	green	green	green	green
RS407						
RS409						
RS410						
RS508	green	green	green	yellow		
Effelsberg	green	green	green	green	green	green
Tautenburg	green	green	green	green	green	green
Garching	green	green	green	green	green	green
Potsdam	green	green	green	green	yellow	green
Juelich	green	green	green	green	yellow	
Nancay	green	green	green		green	green
Onsala						
Chilbolton	green	green	green	green	green	green
Totals	40	40	40	38	36	36

Observations

- LEA128: Observations of 3C196 and NCP to monitor the performance of the array
- LEA122: Interferometric and BF observations of Jupiter
- Test HBA observations using 17 beams
- MKSP: Observations of J0218+43
- LEA064: LBA observation of Virgo A
- LEA032:HBA observation of Cygnus X3 in low state
- MSSS: test HBA observations of Cygnus A at ~239 MHz
- Pulsar observations

Observations are processed through RFIConsole and averaged to the compute nodes.

Processed data can be moved to the LTA in SARA for archiving or retrieval to other computing facilities

Contact: sciencesupport @astron.nl for more information.

Issues affecting the observing System

- **PROBLEM Feb 4-Feb 25**: A bug in beamlet allocation resulted in only a number of subbands to have valid data.
- Corrected code rolled out to NL stations on Feb 25 and on all international stations by Mar 7.

- Stopdays March 7 & 8**:**
  - Due to maintenance of the cooling at CEP all systems were shutdown on Mar 7.key;
  - Regular maintenance continued until Mar 8 lunchtime.

- LCE061 can not boot; probably a bad disk.
- LSE014 crashes after high loads. Investigation continuing
- LSE012 still problems with rebuilding RAID after a disk replacement.
- Repairs of broken LBAs.
- CS501: Network connection still a problem (report on previous LSM too optimistic)

Updates: Issue Tracker Tutorial & MAC Robustness Busy Week

A tutorial on the use of the LOFAR Issue Tracker:
https://proxy.lofar.eu/redmine/
will be given today at 13:30-14:30

EVO session
Name: "LOFAR Issue Tracker Tutorial"
Passwd: litt01   (zero one)

MAC Robustness Busy week
A lot of improvements in the MAC stability and consistency.
- Robustness against scheduling mistakes
- Restart of controllers if detected that they stopped
- Observation abort also stops BG processes Imporvement in alarming for software failures
- Warning when scheduling mutually exclusive HBA of NL and International stations

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities

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

- 21-25 March   : Magnetism KSP Busy Week in Bonn

  (use of Phase I cluster)

- 28 Mar-1 Apr   : Imaging Busy Week in Dwingeloo

  (use of Phase I cluster)

- 11-15 April   : Pulsar Busy Week in Dwingeloo

  (use of Phase I cluster)