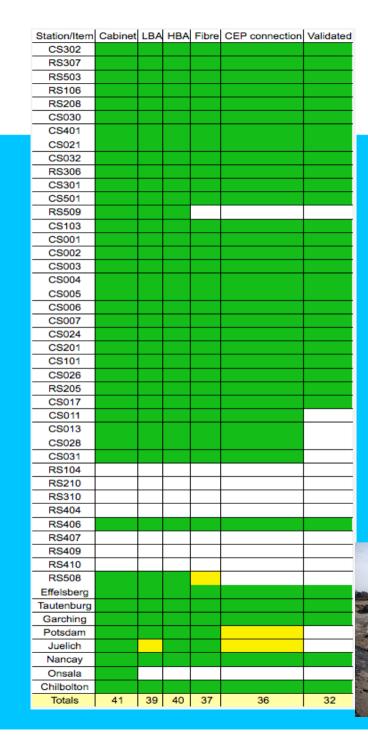


Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

Radio Observatory Report

ASTRON is part of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)



Current Status:

constructed

April 18, 2011

27 operational NL stations

(4 core, 2 remote)

20 core + 7 remote

6 stations partially constructed

6 International stations fully

5 International stations operational

1 Partially constructed (DE605 Juelich)

SE607 construction planned to start in

LOFAR

AST(RON

Observations



- LEA128: Observations of 3C196 and NCP to monitor the performance of the array
- LEA052: HBA observation of Abell 2255
- LEA060: HBA observation of NGC6251 (IBW#11)
- LEA032: HBA observations of J0329+54, SS433, Cyg X3 flare
- LEA066: LBWG test observations 3C147, Taurus A
- LLT052: Observation of M81 (IBW#11)
- LEA012: Test interferometric observations of the Sun
- LEA046: 3C465 (IBW#11)
- Pulsar observations

Since April 15 observations are recorded at CEP II cluster.

Contact: sciencesupport @astron.nl for more information.

Issues affecting the observing System



- **CEPII Cluster:**

- H/W delivery & installation is progressing.
- Previous week: test observations with various observing modes: BF, interferometry, TBB dumbs.
- Apr 13: Switched to using the new cluster for observations
- Used for routine observations from Apr 15.
- Expected teething problems
- Commissioning of cluster for observations and processing continues

- MAC Update April 18:

- MAC update to all stations NL and international
- Among other changes:
- Increase of digital voltage gain
- Correction of XY switch in LBA outer

News regarding the observing system and commissioning



-CS501: Network connection is still a problem -DE604 Potsdam: pending integration in the array -RSP boards jump to ERROR state: Monitored

Commissioning activity

-Pulsar Busy week (Apr 11-15)

-Imaging Busy Wednesday (Apr 13) http: //www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=commissioning:busy_wednesday s

-Report from Imaging Busy Week #10 http: //www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=commissioning:imag_busy_week

Issues affecting analysis of interferometric observations: BBS



- As of March 26, BBS expects all info (e.g. antenna field layout) to be present in the MeasurementSet.
- This will be the case for observations done after this date.
- For older observations the program "makebeamtables" can be used to add this information.

```
Details at:
http ://www.lofar.org/
    operations/doku.php?id=engineering:software:tools:makebea
    mtables
```

Or in the LOFAR Forum (General Category>System Alerts>) http://usg.lofar.org/forum/index.php?topic=677.0

http://usg.lofar.org/forum/index.php?topic=669.0

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities



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

O2-06 May : Imaging Busy Week in Leiden (register at:

http://www.lc.leidenuniv.nl/lc/web/2011/461/info.php3?wsid=461)

- 26-29 April : Rollout of SCHEDULER (ASTRON)
- •06-10 June : Magnetism KSP Busy Week (final date pending)



