

Radio Observatory Report

Current Status:

27 operational NL stations

20 core + 7 remote

6 stations partially constructed
(4 core, 2 remote)

6 International stations fully constructed

5 International stations operational

DE605 Juelich Partially constructed

SE607 construction started

Station/Item	Cabinet	LBA	HBA	Fibre	CEP connection	Validated
CS302						
RS307						
RS503						
RS106						
RS208						
CS030						
CS401						
CS021						
CS032						
RS306						
CS301						
CS501						
RS509						
CS103						
CS001						
CS002						
CS003						
CS004						
CS005						
CS006						
CS007						
CS024						
CS201						
CS101						
CS026						
RS205						
CS017						
CS011						
CS013						
CS028						
CS031						
RS104						
RS210						
RS310						
RS404						
RS406						
RS407						
RS409						
RS410						
RS508						
Effelsberg						
Tautenburg						
Garching						
Potsdam						
Juelich						
Nancay						
Onsala						
Chilbolton						
Totals	41	39	40	37	36	32



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: 3C390, 8-beam observations (IBW#11)
- Pulsar observations

Since April 15 observations recorded with CEP II cluster

Contact: sciencesupport@astron.nl for more information.

Issues affecting the observing System

- **CEPII Cluster:**

- Routine observations with various observing modes: BF, interferometry, TBB dumps.
- 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
- Stability and optimization

- **MAC Update April 18:**

- Resource management left to Scheduler
- Minor issues, bugs

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

-Imaging Busy Wednesday (Apr 27)

http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=commissioning:busy_wednesdays

-Imaging Busy Week #11

http://www.lofar.org/operations/doku.php?id=commissioning:imag_busy_week_11

LOFAR Scheduler Roll Out

- Interacts with SAS/OTB data base
- Resource management, optimum use of telescope time & error correction
- Automatic scheduling of “Approved” observations

- Interferometric observations tested to work.
- Multiple weekend observations successful.

- Successfully recorded beam-formed data.
- Ongoing efforts to test & validate various BF modes.

- Validation tests and development ongoing.

- More to come...

CALENDAR of requested busy weeks and other LOFAR activities



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

- 02-06 May : Imaging Busy Week in Leiden (ongoing)
- 06 June : CEP stopday
- 06-10 June : Magnetism KSP Busy Week
- 20-24 June : Pulsar BW (proposed)

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:makebeamtables>

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>