

ECSV meeting, rm 280
26 Jan 2012

Attendees:

Action summary and known status as of Wed, 26 Jan at 9:40am:

Deb –

- OSS – there is nothing in the OSS about the baseline sensitivity and why folks would want to calculate this. We can give people a hint: Use 2 ants and sp channel width to get sensitivity on a single baseline. This is mentioned in low freq guide but it should also be mentioned in the OSS. See the VLBA OSS ([Joan](#)) for the text that can be added with minimal change. There are also several items that need updating – Deb will ask others to update.
 - **Status: not done yet.**
- With [Claire](#), organize who is responsible for EVLA content linked in the OSS and define a schedule of how often it needs to be updated. Work this out and report later.
 - **Status: Not done yet.**
- With [Mark](#), update the high frequency EVLA guide.
 - **Status: Getting there.** Mark gave Deb updates for the guide. Deb is making edits in media-wiki. Deb updated the the EVLA_Guides main page in media-wiki.
 - Deb is working with Gustaaf to understand how to migrate the media-wiki content to the main user structure in plone.
- With [Emmanuel](#), update the low frequency EVLA guide
 - **Status: DONE**
 - Emmanuel completed the update. Deb put it in the media-wiki content and checked all links.
 - This now needs to be migrated to plone. Deb will recommend to Gustaaf that he put this content on the main plone pages.
- CASA data reduction workshop support schedule
 - **Status: almost done.** With [Gustaaf](#), Deb has drafted a support schedule for science staff. She still needs to double check with a few folks to make sure they can support the times they are scheduled.

Claire –

- With [Gustaaf](#), define the dates for which the weather station is bad and let users know the work-around for this.
 - **Status: DONE.** Info is on the web and all affected PIs have been contacted.
 - A note has been added to 'known problems in archived data' <http://www.vla.nrao.edu/astro/archive/issues/> by Lorant and Gustaaf has asked John Benson to refer to this issue in all affected files.

Juergen –

- Update the EVLA Guide for Spectral line observing.
 - **Status: First draft due by 9 March.** Juergen will concentrate on the demo data right now and then the CASA workshop. Completing the Spectral line EVLA Guide is next on his list. A reasonable date to have this done is 9 March.

Mark –

- Define the template for proposal technical reviews by 16 Feb.
 - **Status: Delay for now.** – Mark will work on this when he gets back from the maser meeting in Cape Town (after 6 Feb).

Eric –

- Eric will check to see if documentation has been added in AIPS to help users understand the order of running UVSUB and CVAL.
 - **Status – DONE.** Eric has rearranged the relevant section in the Appendix E of the AIPS CookBook and added a strongly worded sentence about narrow bandwidth EVLA requiring UVLSF ahead of CVEL (and it is actually more correct scientifically as well).

Lorant –

- OPT manual – this needs updating.
 - **Status: Delay this action.** Claire decided that this update can be delayed until after we have defined the observing modes that will be offered as OSRO at the beginning of 2013.

Michael

- Michael will send Deb suggestions for future EVLA commissioning discussions.
 - **Status: DONE**
 - Michael has ‘fleshed out’ the current list and added nicely to it:
 - 31jan - Phased array – Bryan & Amy
 - Testing and deciding what correlator modes we will provide for full operations. Decision by the end of May.
 - Should be a series of discussions on this. Kick it off in February sometime? Probably begin by sending around some options, discussing those first in the software group. So maybe late Feb for ECSV. Do we not need some real plan (or discussable options) in time for the PASEO (Panel to Advise on Science and EVLA Operations) meeting? I would say we need to start planning earlier rather than later...
 - Spectral line
 - 3-bit sampling testing
 - The big question is how to use the samplers, which requires special testers (Vivek, Rick) for a while longer. At some point we will start standard tests of the new samplers as they come on but that will probably devolve on an

individual rather than a group, as that tends to be much more efficient. A general ECSV discussion will be most useful at the point where we have some real hard suggestions for how to observe with the 3-bit samplers; at that point we should discuss whether this is sensible, and start doing regular observational-type tests that may not require such special expertise. I would bet this is several months off.

- End of RSRO reports
 - How about a "beginning of RSRO" meeting after they've all arrived, to see what people are trying to do this semester?
- Correlator-related topics:
 - Fast dumps – March
 - 1st 2 weeks of Feb slotted for "current status" checks
 - Casey Law arrives early Feb
 - Subband anti-aliasing -- early May
 - Bob Sault's main focus this time, arriving March 6 for two months
 - Recirculation -- late Feb?
 - implications of recirculation for observers
 - what we can and cannot do at the moment
 - Subarrays -- March-ish?
 - Standard & complex setups for spectral line observations -- March/April
 - VLBI with the EVLA -- March/April???
- Mosaicking -- April?
 - Update from Steve et al., given that we have a LOT of mosaicking observations at high frequencies. Also Sanjay.
 - RFI excision (Urvashi demo & results) -- April???
 - Not sure whether this or another meeting would be more appropriate
- uv-coordinates & astrometry
 - Check with Vivek as to when this may be a more special-purpose topic than ECSV...
- The best images so far -- March???
 - What is the best achieved rms noise? dynamic range? spectral dynamic range? what limits this?
 - What is the typically achieved rms noise? dynamic range? Spectral dynamic range? what limits this?

All staff and RSROs who need CASA training before the workshop

- Review CASA tutorials
 - *Status: delay for a little while.* – Miriam is updating and double-checking the tutorials. Once that is done and people know how they will support

the workshop, Gustaaf will send out links to everyone so they can go through the tutorials for their own edification and so they can answer workshop attendees questions.