

ECSV Discussion

19 June 2012, 10am in room 317

Attendees:

Bryan Butler, Claire Chandler, Mark Claussen, Barry Clark, Vivek Dhawan, Kumar Golap, Miller Goss, Eric Greisen, Jeff Kern, Leonia Kogan, Cornelia Lang, Ann Mao, Drew Medlin, Heidi Medlin, Steve Myer, Frazer Owen, Rick Perley, Nirupam Roy, Deb Shepherd, Ken Sowinski, Ravi Subramanya, Gustaaf van Moorsel, Kathryn Weil, Joan Wrobel,

Minutes:

New REU starting:

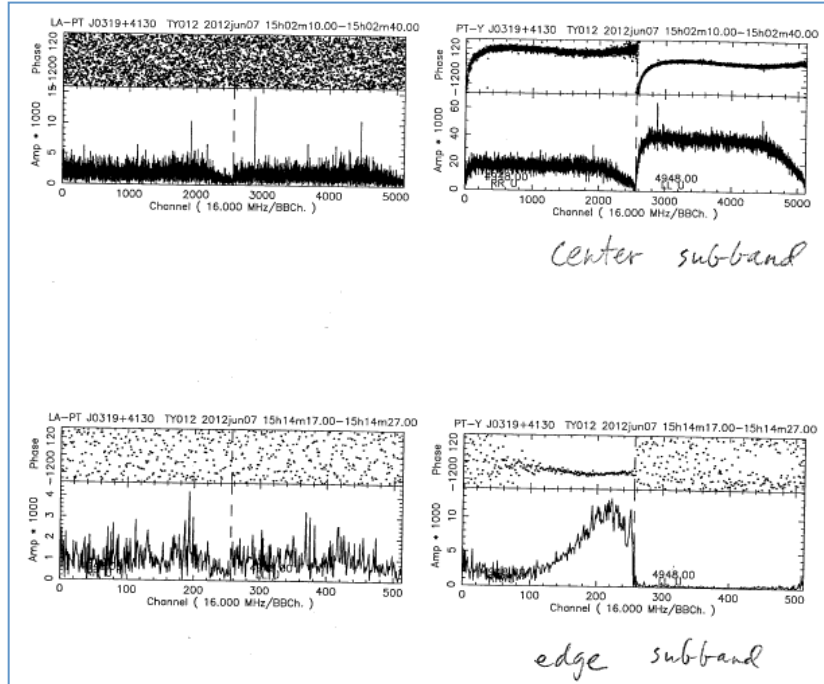
- Kathryn Weil (working with Steve on polarization)

New RSRO's who started just before the summer school:

- Nurur Rahman (working on linear polarization, L & S-band RFI flagging, re-weighting of the data after RFI flagging).
- Betsy Mills (working with Cornelia Lang on spectral line processing and analysis)
- Joanna Corby (working on spectral line documentation, pipeline testing and verifying the PST stand-alone tool and Nirupam's visualization tool).
- Ann Mao (working on polarization calibration and RM synthesis techniques).

Correlator and general system health (Ken)

- Sonja is working on CM to make it more flexible for the correlator – changes are very deep and will need lots of testing.
- 3-bit testing:
 - 3-bit obs still corrupt observations immediately afterwards, switched power data is missing.
- A new VCI schema was put in place – this is the correlator setup script commands. This change allows us to specify a more flexible setup of channels and allocates correlator resources (station boards and baseline boards) more flexibly. It also allows us to set integration times on the wide-band correlator which allows us to do more thorough 3-bit testing.
- Three 3-bit Hittite samplers have been installed so far, one more will be installed this week.
 - First one looked good, one was broken, the next one doesn't look great. Getting these working and evaluated is lower priority than getting the 3-bit system we currently have ready for our users and the call for proposals in July.
- Phased array testing:
 - Fringes found between VLA and PT. The single antenna in the VLA was found to be only 4.2 microsec away from 0 delay – a near miracle:



- Wide-band phasing status – it still takes about 10 scans to phase up. New software update in the Configuration Mapper (CM) should help with this problem – needs to be tested this week. This is adequate for testing but not for science yet.
- New weather station:
 - Bryan is evaluating the weather station output. Output values are not always being written out properly. Refraction might not be doing the right thing. New values are now being put into ‘wonderground.’

Software status and tool testing (Bryan)

- PST (Proposal Submission Tool) –
 - We are re-insourcing the PST from OpenSky and this is almost done and deployed on our test server. Dana Balser and Bryan have been testing it. The hard links that go to OpenSky servers are broken but these should be able to be fixed relatively easily.
 - This should be ready for testing soon – hopefully Friday.
- Dave’s stand-alone Correlator setup tool needed as input for proposals – used for general observing, will create a snapshot that can be attached in the proposal.
 - Ready for testing soon – maybe Friday
- Shared Risk observing using a stand-alone version of the Resource Catalog Tool (SRCT) –
 - Ready for testing soon – maybe Friday
- OPT (Obs Preparation Tool) – Dave Harland has a new version almost ready for testing.
- OST (Obs Scheduling Tool) – A bug found: SBs appear to overrun several seconds even though the OPT says it is not overrun.

- Stand-alone version of the RCT (Resource Catalog Tool) for shared-risk observing –
- Archive – May 15-June 3 and a couple of days around June 15 when we were writing flags incorrectly from the correlator. There is a script to fix this and it will be run tomorrow and notify folks that have already extracted their data.
- Correlator M&C – working on the configuration mapper and the Correlator Resource Monitor (as a system health test of the correlator). The CRM has been used to ID faulty components in the correlator and it has been very slow. Both these issues are being worked on. A new Executor was deployed yesterday to help with wide-band phasing testing.

Spectral line visualization tool testing (Nirupam)

- Web version is available in house at: <https://webtest.aoc.nrao.edu/cgi-internal/nroy/work.py>
- Betsy, Joanna, Juergen, Lorant and Emmanuel have been asked to test. Status?
- Betsy has done testing, her comments are minor
- ***Gustaaf, Mark, Deb will test this in the next 2 days, Bryan will also look at this tool and provide comments on layout or other software development issues.***

CASA status (Steve/Jeff)

- CASA 3.4 is out
- No support for 32 bit machines yet but this is being worked on.

Documentation preparation for the call for proposals (Everyone)

- Call must go to CV on 29 June. Documentation due date will be 1 July. So it can be reviewed and made consistent by 9 July.
- Status of various sections of the OSS:
 - Rick
 - 4.1 Resolution – ***DONE***
 - 4.3 EVLA Frequency Bands and Tunability – ***DONE***
 - 4.6 RFI - ***DONE***
 - 4.10 Cal and Flux Density Scale - today
 - 4.15 Snapshots - today
 - 4.16 Shadowing and Cross Talk - today
 - Emmanuel
 - 4.2 Sensitivity – ?
 - Steve
 - 4.4 FoV – ***not started yet***
 - 4.12 Polarization – ***not started yet***
 - 4.17 Combining configs and mosaicing – ***not started yet***
 - Claire
 - 4.7 Subarrays – ***not started yet***
 - 5.8 Data processing – ***not started yet***

- 5.9 Travel Support – ***not started yet***
 - 5.10 Student assistance – ***not started yet***
 - 5.11 Student Observing Support Program – ***not started yet***
- Vivek
 - 4.8 Positional accuracy – ***in work***
- Frazer
 - 4.9 Imaging – ***in work, question about whether this section should include information about imaging artifacts. The section should include information about imaging that needs to be considered when creating your observing program and proposal. Deb will work with Frazer to work out these issues.***
- George
 - 4.11 Complex Gain Calibration - ? (***Deb will follow up***)
- Michael
 - 4.5 Time Resolution & data rates - ? (***Deb will follow up***)
 - 4.13 Correlator Configs (with Deb) - ? (***Deb will follow up***)
 - 4.18 Pulsar observing (with Deb) - ? (***Deb will follow up***)
- Jon/Amy
 - 4.14 VLBI – ***Amy has started***
- Joan
 - 5.1 Obtaining Observing Time on the EVLA – ***DONE***
 - 5.2 Director’s Discretionary Time – ***DONE***
 - 5.5 Fixed date and dynamic scheduling – ***DONE***
- Gustaaf
 - 5.3 Helpdesk – ***DONE***
 - 5.6 Observations and remote observing – ***DONE***
 - 5.13 Reservations for the EVLA site and/or DSOC – ***DONE***
 - 5.14 Staying in Socorro – ***DONE***
 - 5.15 Help for Visitors to the EVLA and DSOC – ***DONE***
- Lorant
 - 5.4 Observing Preparation - ?
 - 5.7 Data Access – ?
- James/Bryan
 - 5.12 Computing at the DSOC - ***DONE (by James)***
- Deb
 - 1 Introduction – ***not started yet***
 - 2 Overview of the VLA – ***not started yet***
 - 3 EVLA early Science (change to a description of the VLA) – ***not started yet***
 - 4.13 & 4.18 – help Michael – ***not started yet***
 - 5.16 On-line information about the NRAO and the VLA – ***not started yet***
 - 6 Publication guidelines – ***not started yet***
 - 7 Documentation – ***not started yet***

- 8 Key Personnel (remove and refer to people to the helpdesk) – ***not started yet***
 - 9 Acknowledgements – ***not started yet***
- Other documentation (outside of the OSS)
 - Joan
 - Config plans web page – ***DONE***
 - Including LST availability plots – ***not started yet***
 - Michael, Emmanuel, Juergen
 - General Observing Setup-Tool (GOST) - ?
 - Nirupam
 - Vis tool – ***some work started, waiting for input***
 - Lorant, Emmanuel
 - Stand-alone RCT (SRCT) for shared risk - ?
 - Deb/Claire
 - Shared risk observing web page – ***not started yet***
 - RSRO web page update, include low-band – ***not started yet***
 - Gustaaf
 - FAQ update, add FUnaskedQs discussed at tech review meeting - ***working***
 - Jon, Amy
 - Phased VLA for VLBI – ? ***check with Amy (she leaves tomorrow).***