

ECSV Discussion

5 June 2012, at 10am in room 317.

**Attendees:**

Bryan Butler, Claire Chandler, Mark Claussen, Joanna Corby, Vivek Dhawan, Barry Clark, Cornelia Lang, Heidi Medlin, Betsy Mills, Nirupam Roy, Michael Rupen, Deb Shepherd, Ken Sowinski, Ravi Subramanya, Gustaaf van Moorsel, Joan Wrobel,

**Minutes:**

New RSROs starting (all here 3 months):

- 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, here June & July and then back in October).

Correlator and general system health (Michael & Ken)

- Doing a fair bit of 3-bit testing, Cornelia is starting to reduce the 3-bit data, looking for issues.
  - Issue after 3-bit testing: the system is often in an odd shape that causes data to go missing unless there is a clearCorrelator command given. This is a serious problem and is being investigated at high priority.
- First Hittite sampler installed and looks good. Another two will be installed today on inner antennas.
- We have 4 phased array streams written to the Mk5 and these can be phased up. There will be a discussion on Wed to talk about calibration and plans.
- There is a new weather station. It has been turned on but it is not the official one yet. Bryan is working on the final issues with implementation.
- Data is being flagged due to a station board issue and this is being pursued. No science data was affected due to a quick response by the VLA operator.
- The archive is in good shape – one node is slow and James and John are looking into it. We can read old data – there is a kludge to revert to an older archive version when we read old data.
- We did a pulsar test in the last few weeks. Quasi-successful. Scott Ransom is working on the data evaluation.
- There has been progress with wide-band phasing although it takes about 10 scans to phase up and this should not happen. Barry is still working on this.

Software status (Bryan)

- There is a new version of the scheduler that moves blocks around a bit to make the start and stop times more flexible – we are trying to increase the efficiency of our observations and remove most of the gaps.
- There is a new version of TelCal with some bug-fixes.
- There will be a new version of the executor once some wide-band phasing fixes are in.
- OPT and OST are getting ready for the 1.13 release. OPT main work has been on the new resource catalog tool to help set up the correlator.
- For the proposal deadline we will have:
  - Updated versions of the PST (re-in-sourced now and we are starting to commit changes to the code)
    - We will have a PST load test (on web-test) in which everyone in the building submits a test block and unsubmits, as fast as possible.
  - Dave's stand-alone tool is almost done
  - Nirupam's spectral line visualization tool.
  - Shared-risk observing will have a stand-alone version of the RCT (like what we used for the summer school except that it will hook into the real data base).

#### Spectral line visualization tool (Nirupam)

- Inputs from last demo have been done and incorporated in the python version of the tool.
  - Can use velocity or z for extragalactic
  - Large number of lines then can input an input file.
  - Manual interaction to shift the baseband frequency possible now.
  - Display and summary output improved
- Python version ready for testing now
- The web-based version ready for testing by the 18<sup>th</sup> of June.
- Documentation being written - Joanna will help.

#### 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.