ECSV Discussion
18 September 2012, 10am in room 317

Attendees:

Sanjay Bhatnagar, Bryan Butler, Claire Chandler, Vivek Dhawan, Miller Goss, Eric Greisen, Huib Intema, Jeff Kern, Kristine Lynch, Josh Marvil, Robert Mutel, Steve Myers, Kristina Nyland, Juergen Ott, Frazer Owen, Rick Perley, Nurur Rahman, Dave Roberts, Michael Rupen, Bob Sault, Deb Shepherd, Ravi Subrahmanyan, Joan Wrobel

Minutes:

News:
- Bob Sault will be leaving tomorrow. He will be back this fall.
- Joe Lazio will be here 24-28 September.   He will be working on science and pulsar commissioning.

Correlator and general system health (Vivek, Michael)
- We will be doing high frequency observing all day today given the beautiful weather.
- Hardware problems:
    - One chip in a baseline board in the correlator is having problems and this is being investigated.
    - There are a couple of issues with antennas:
        - EA11, 3-bit samplers have unstable delays (bouncing delays).
        - EA22-A, the 8-bit path is giving bursts of high amplitude power.   This will require hardware replacement.
- The OPT appears to be doing the right thing for 3-bit setup now.
- The executor function set-up for 3-bit observing is almost there.   We are almost ready to start building SBs for 3-bit with the OPT (it will still have to have model2script run on it and then manually submit the file for a little while).
- A minimum of 3min setup time is needed for the re-quantizer set up.
    - Note: We need to evaluate the fractional overhead needed for 3-bit observing proposals.
- Sub-array testing was done last night.   There is a problem with the Configuration Mapper (CM): if one sub-array makes changes to the correlator configuration, it destroys the configuration of the other sub-arrays.
    - Bob Mutel will be testing sub-arrays with his science project (C and X band continuum).

Software status (Bryan):
- A new version of the executor was installed yesterday to pick up some functionality needed for 3-bit.   Some issues were found yesterday with the CBE (Correlator backend) associated with this installation.   Martin is working on this.

- We have a test version of the archive tool that calls CASA in a different way so the archive retrieval should be fixed.   This is being tested now.

CASA (Jeff, Steve, Juergen) -
- The CASA feature freeze was completed.
  - o Juergen is creating a list of what needs to be tested and he is compiling the release notes.   He has given the information on what needs to be tested to Claire so she can identify who would be the best person to test the different features.
  - o The test release will move into the stable version of CASA next week.
- We will soon be deciding the process of what we will do in the next cycle. ALMA and EVLA pipelines will take up most of the available CASA effort. This next cycle starts development on 15 October 2012.
  - o Inputs are needed this week from the different projects about what their highest priority requirements are for this next release.
  - o Steve will set up a meeting in early October to define the priority list.
- Last month Betsy Mills made the casaguides more organized and user-friendly.
  - o She created a new front page:
    http://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php?title=NewPage
  - o She also made slight organizational changes to the following pages:
    http://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php?title=HTT2 (hints tips and tricks)
    http://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php?title=UST2 (User scripts and tasks)
  - o And created:
    http://casaguides.nrao.edu/index.php?title=List_of_All_Tutorials
- Deb reviewed it and it looks good.   Juergen will also review the content and Deb's comments and put this new one in place.   Juergen will have this ready for the release next week.

Status on the Spectral Line Commissioning Plan (Juergen):
- The current draft plan defined by Juergen is based on the Program Operating Plan (POP) planning input.
- Juergen received input from various people and he will talk to them to identify what needs testing (scope of each item) and when we need to test.
- Juergen is developing this plan on google docs:
- https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AplRv_tuedVzdGxob3FLQ1 9yVEI1NEdIRG8wX21tYnc