

Westerbork VLBI station report for the TOG meeting,  
Bad Kötzing/Wetzell, Germany, January 23-24, 2014

#### Regular Session Participation:

Westerbork participated in the M, C, X, P and L-band experiments of sessions 2013-2 and 2013-3.

In Session 2013-2, 11 dishes contributed to the WSRT tied-array. The remaining three dishes are in the process of being equipped with APERTIF front-ends.

Observing was successful; 1.3% observing time (2.9 of 221 hours) were lost in 2013-2 and 1.2% observing time (2.45 of 202 hours) were lost in 2013-3. FTP fringe files were produced by the system, and fringes were found on all occasions.

In 2013-2, 1.7 hrs were missed due to diskpack mount problems and 1.1 hrs due to LO problems. In 2013-3 0.25 hrs were missed due to backend problems and 2.2 hrs due to stormy weather. Furthermore, in 2013-2 calibration data for 13.5 hrs were not supplied due to a hard disk failure of the WSRT correlator.

The WSRT also participated in all scheduled RadioAstron Space VLBI observations with success. Data were recorded on disk packs and subsequently sent to the FTP server in Moscow. Furthermore the WSRT participated successfully in all scheduled e-VLBI observations.

#### Field System:

For session 2013-2 we used FSL8 (Lenny)+ FS-9.10.4  
For session 2013-3 we upgraded to FS-9.11.4  
Also the spare FS was upgraded to this version.

#### Mark5B:

For all sessions we used SDK8.2 + Firmware version 12.13  
All sessions worked ok with this firmware.  
Wb participated in tests for new jive5ab software.

#### Current versions:

DIMINO : Mark5B DIM : 2007y222d04h : 1 : mark5-XX : 1 : 1 : 2.7x : 0x1b :  
0x5bdb  
Linux : Etch 2.6.18-6-686:(Debian 2.6.18.dfsg.1-26etch2)  
Firmware : 12.13  
Current eVLBI software : jive5ab 2.4.1

#### Diskpack purchase:

In 2013 we purchased hardware to assemble 4 packs of 8 TB. They became available for session 2013-3.  
The plan is to do the same for 2014

Future Participation:

For 2014 Session 1, the WSRT will continue to support EVN/Global observations at the standard MFFE frequencies with 11 telescopes. By the summer of 2014, conversion of more dishes may be under way. It is expected that WSRT may be able to participate in session 2014-2 with a reduced amount of dishes (but at least 6 dishes).

In the longer term, WSRT will contribute with a single dish, equipped with the current MFFE at all frequencies. Tied array capability at L-band, using the Apertif frontends, will be added at a later stage.

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