



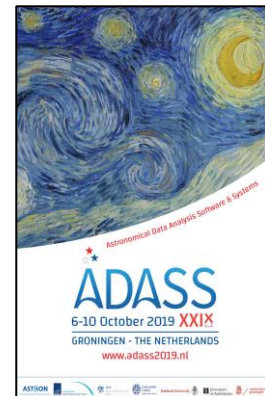
## LOFAR NEWSLETTERS JULY-AUGUST 2019

Previous LOFAR newsletters are collected [here](#).

### **Announcements:**

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- The Cycle 13 proposal submission deadline is approaching: Wednesday, 11 September, 12 UT (noon). The call can be found [here](#).
- COBALT 2, the next generation correlator and beamformer for the LOFAR telescope, has been officially put in production last July. This makes new applications with LOFAR possible and makes the array ready for the future. More details can be found in this [press release](#).
- ASTRON, together with seven other Dutch astronomical institutes, is organizing the 29th annual international Astronomical Data Analysis Software & Systems (ADASS) conference between 6-10 October 2019, in Groningen (The Netherlands). ADASS provides a *unique* forum for scientists and programmers concerned with algorithms, software and software systems employed in the acquisition, reduction, analysis, and dissemination of astronomical data. The preliminary programme of the conference can be found [here](#). Early bird registration closes TODAY, 30 August, 23:59 CEST. After this deadline, it will still be possible to register for the event, but an increased cost. More information about the event can be found on the [conference website](#).



### **Array status:**

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- 38 stations operational in the Netherlands: 24 core and 14 remote stations. 13 international stations operational: DE601, DE602, DE603, DE604, DE605, FR606, SE607, UK608, DE609, PL610, PL611, PL612, IE613.

- The new LOFAR station in Latvia (LV614) passed the site acceptance tests. Remote access to the station is now enabled. Station calibration will be completed by the end of September. After that, LV614 will be included in production observations.
- A new international station will be built in Italy by the end of 2022.
- The overview of non-operational antenna elements for LBA and HBA is available [here](#).

### **Observing System Status:**

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- Above average observing failures were experienced because of the extreme summer temperatures in the Netherlands.
- Efforts are ongoing to monitor and improve the staging performance of the Juelich LTA site. These have already led to positive outcomes.

### **Software development status (J. Annyas):**

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- The transfer of the LOFAR software to the Git code repository has been completed successfully.
- The Station Monitor software has been rolled out to make better use of the RTSM and Station Tests.

### **Science Delivery Framework – Production Pipeline Enhancement (SDF-PPE; R. Pizzo & T. Shimwell)**

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- In Cycle 12, the Radio Observatory is already offering to a few appropriate projects data products processed through Prefactor3. Remaining development work is required to offer the pipeline on a large scale.
- A plan is in progress about the next steps of the project, which will align the work with that of other projects like EOSC and ESCAPE to deliver pipeline processing on LTA infrastructures.

## **LOFAR2.0 (W. van Cappellen)**

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The design of the LOFAR2.0 Station and Timing distributor progressed according to plan. The requirements and the baseline design will be reviewed at the Station PDR on September 25-26 in Dwingeloo.

## **Observing Programmes**

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- Cycle 12 observing programme: 45% complete. The observing schedule can be found [here](#).
- Cycle 11 observing programme: ~98% complete. The observing schedule can be found [here](#).

## **Calendar next LOFAR activities:**

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*The dates of LOFAR Status Meetings, roll-outs and stop days are listed in an online calendar that is available [here](#). In particular, we emphasize:*

- Cycle 13 proposals submission deadline: 11 September, 12 UT (noon)
- Progress reports submission deadline: 16 October, 12 UT (noon)
- Next LOFAR bulletin: October 2019