

EVN Users Meeting June 2002, Bonn

- EVN Action Plan - Phil Diamond
- Technical Developments - Michael Garrett
- EVN Pipeline - Cormac Reynolds
- Telescope Positions & Phase Referencing - Bob Campbell
- Discussion - responses to Questionnaire

Users Questionnaire - June 2002

Proposals

- Coversheet
 - info could be presented better x 2
 - too VLBA specific; not up to date
 - More info for Global
 - should be LaTeX x2
 - why do we still have to concatenate!
 - Should be easier to specify details for >2 sources
- Electronic Submission
 - Acknowledgement that proposal printed OK x 2
 - Contact for concerned proposers
 - Deadline rules
 - Should allow attachments
- Review
 - Wide range of opinions from different referees

Scheduling

- EVN/Global VLBI Sessions
 - Targets of Opportunity difficult
 - Want more sessions x3
 - block schedule should be explicit eg JB-1, On-85
- Using Sched
 - Hard to find appropriate setup file x2
 - Want set of standard setup files
 - Want EVN examples on www
 - Polarization & line x2 observations difficult - help when sched complains that setups inconsistent
 - S/X difficult!
 - Single pol with 1:4 difficult for 512 Mb/s
 - More info for Globals
 - Need shorter guide which is EVN Specific
 - eg effect on continuous tape motion on Tsys measurements
 - Group repeat structure could be improved eg Target+multiple ref

'Central Scheduling'

- why not x2
- not interested: don't trust anybody else
- Good if done well! Concern that schedule will not be well optimized
- Concern that won't cope with complex schedules

Observing capabilities

- shortcomings in capabilities
 - amplitude calibration x2
 - multi-frequency observations x 2
 - Mixed bandwidth mode for continuum + line
 - Methanol capability is poor: Good science needs better receivers
 - Wider band front ends (eg 6.0 & 6.7 GHz for OH/CH3OH)
 - Slow slew times for high freq phase ref x2
 - 43 GHz

- Short baselines
- Data quality - what has most impact
 - poor data from individual stations x 2
 - polarization
 - amplitude calibration x 4
 - Poor uv-coverage for methanol

Correlation

- correlator capabilities
 - multiple fields
 - barrel roll
 - multiple stations per tape
 - data rate for high spectral resolution x2

Data Analysis

- Tsys calibration
- Facilities in AIPS/aips++
 - would like calibration transfer (like VLBA)
 - Ionospheric calibration for EVN
 - EVN spectral line
 - apply gscale from calibrator
 - on-line flagging for EVN
 - could be tailored for EVN esp. spectral line
- Pipeline
 - mostly in favour; some not interested
 - would like target images x 4
 - concern that users won't attempt to improve these
 - great for archive
 - Good for feedback, but could be presented more concisely
 - limited scope
 - concern about poor quality of default approach - especially FRING solutions

Outreach/Information

- Newsletter OK
- EVN Observational Status Report - like NRAO
- Publish practical info from summer schools

Other Comments

- Lack of user input for MkV/PC-EVN
- Release of 'archive' data