Minutes for AMiBA Telecon 20101125, UTC 2:00

Regular Meeting Time: UTC 2:00 Every Thursday
USA Dial-in = 1-877-505-6247; passcode 8339148 #; mod_code 2917771 #
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- General site issue:
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- Operation on site:
  - Lab
    -
  - IF/LO & Rx status
    - Ant2 coldhead was replaced. Ant2 was cooled yesterday.
    - Maintain 2 compressors (change absorbers) next week.
    - XY module: rotate the wire grid to have equal output on ant7-13 correlation but still don't see fringe on Venus. CT suggests to do sky dipping and then try to increase IFs to make sure it is not saturated. Kyle suggests back-forth scans instead of drift for better resolution in Fourier space. 2-patch?
    - Ant3 signal turned weak after Oct. 29.
  - Readout & Correlator
    - Will include the time sync check in operator's routines. A script is needed to compare time diff between CCC, TCS and GPS.
  - Observations:
    - No observations next week due to maintenance of compressors. Radio-alignment via Venus is scheduled on this Friday.
    - Want to try 2-patch optical tracking to isolate the discrepancy in modes of pointing (tracking vs. scattered).
- Dish , Mount, Pointing:
  - CCD1 was not working tested in Hilo lab. Peter contacted SBIG who requests return of the CCD for examining but gives no promise due to lack of spare parts.
  - Michael has modified a_boss to allow auto-pointing in one hexpol. Need tests.
  - Victor fit the radio pointing error (DR IT, method 1) with a sin(Az+phi) model and got a remnant <0.5', RMS~0.27'. What is the source of the pattern and why is it El independent?
  - First try of radio sky-sweeping (method 2); better coverage. Preliminary analysis shows the `flow' pattern persists, and some opposite directions compared to the previous probably due to flagging or/and S/N. To be posted on the blog.
  - 3 nights of radio pointing last week, 2 with old DR IT and 1 with revised DR IT. Only 5 out of 26 radio sources were detected (flux variation, low el)
    - For old DR IT: radio sources offsets are consistent in direction (a flow) but the amplitude is over 1'; broad direction change compared to Jupiter.
    - For rev. DR IT: Jupiter offset is flatter, ~0.5' (self-referenced) but >1' compared to Jupiter with the old DR IT. Radio sources offsets are not reduced as Jupiter and the flow direction is different.
  - Cracks on the 2ndaries are coating peeling off? Or thermal expansion? Will keep monitoring and take samples for experiment, as well as contact the vendor.
  - The split pointing seems indeed to introduce some systematics. We could (a) modify aboss (b) “stretch” the hexapod before obs; the later might also help on pointing deviation near the zenith.
  - Vertex todo: to install another logger to record HPC log file on next site trip.
- Platform, Deformation:
  - The feasibility to use the laser-ranging technique? The technique can provide z-axis information.
  - Strain-gauge measurement has similar results as before. Need further comparison.
  - Ask Vertex for codes to calculate the reacting force.
- Data Analysis & Science:
  - Proty will provide info from his pipeline for Sandor's uvfits generation, which is required in later Miriad analysis.
- Other:
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- Beyond 13 element:
  - Platform modification

        - Current plan to monitor platform deformation is to predict with FEA model and verify with photogrammetry (few tens of orientations), plus strain gauge monitoring.
    - Calibration system
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Traveling Schedule to Hilo: (current)

- Johnson

Traveling Schedule to Hilo: (proposed)

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