

Wb VLBI operations

- Sessions 2 and 3 went OK
- No new hardware in operation (yet)
- Westerbork operations drops in priority to favour LOFAR

Digital tied array

- A fully digital tied array system was designed to interface directly to a Mark5B
- The Mark5B upgrade kit arrived in Aug 2005
- There were fabrication problems with the output boards
- BUT a design flaw was found in the digital filtering!

Digital Tied Array (TADU)

- The basis is FPGAs, which can be re-programmed to provide 16,8,4...MHz filters from the 20,10,5... MHz of the Westerbork IFs
- There is enough flexibility in the boards to re-design the filters, but this has badly delayed the project. The re-design is now going on
- Some time in spring 2007 it should be working

Other developments

- Wb may get involved in ESA Galileo checkout
- This may allow us to buy a DBBC to record the signal
- In parallel we are modifying our single-dish setup to maximize the instantaneous bandwidth