SA1: third year overview

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Outline

- Accomplishments in 2008
- Soft- and hardware developments
- Aims for 2009

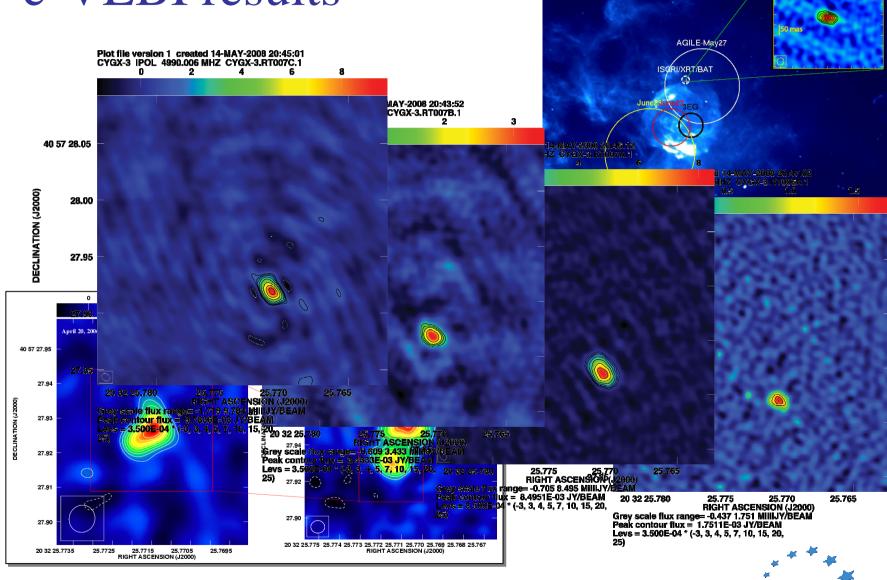


e-VLBI science/test runs

- 27 (18) e-VLBI science projects accepted since 2006:
- 2 failed (in early 2006)
- 15 active binary systems (Algol-type, X-ray or gamma-ray binaries);
 - 10 of these were ToO projects
 - 3 part of multi-wavelength campaign
 - 1 adaptive observation of 16 X-ray binaries (no detections..)
 - 1 triggered observation
- 10 determination of compactness of calibrator or target
- 1 spectral line run
- 1 supernova ToO
- Rapid access to EVN provides clear benefit to users (important for calibrator/multi-wavelength projects)
- Follow-up observations of bursting transients more successful in 2008



e-VLBI results



Operational improvements

- Overall improvement in third year:
 - Global connectivity
 - Bandwidth
 - Mark5B-based e-VLBI
 - Interoperability with K5 system
 - Inclusion of multiple Merlin stations (via "Merlincast")
 - On-the-fly fringe fitting
- Increase of production data rate from 256 Mbps to 512 Mbps for all regular EVN stations
- Full 1024 Mbps operational data transfer from subset (more to come..)
- Inclusion of Shanghai, Urumqi, Kashima, Westford, Hobart telescopes

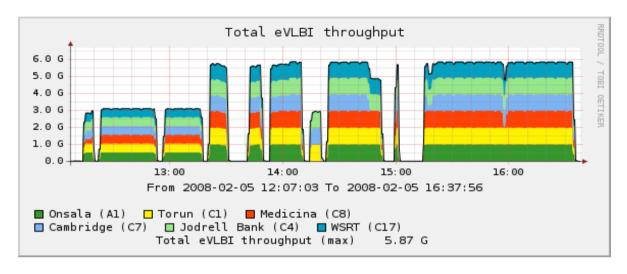


Operational improvements

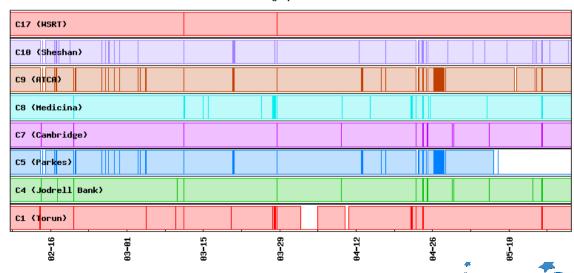
- Focus during third year:
 - Reaching higher data rates
 - Expanding global network
 - Operational efficiency
 - Operational flexibility (streaming vs recording)
 - Adaptive scheduling
- Multi-continent global e-VLBI demonstrations (Asia, Australia, South Africa, North and South America)
- 3-station 1024 Mbps fringes
- Adaptive scheduling demo



Higher data rates, new tools



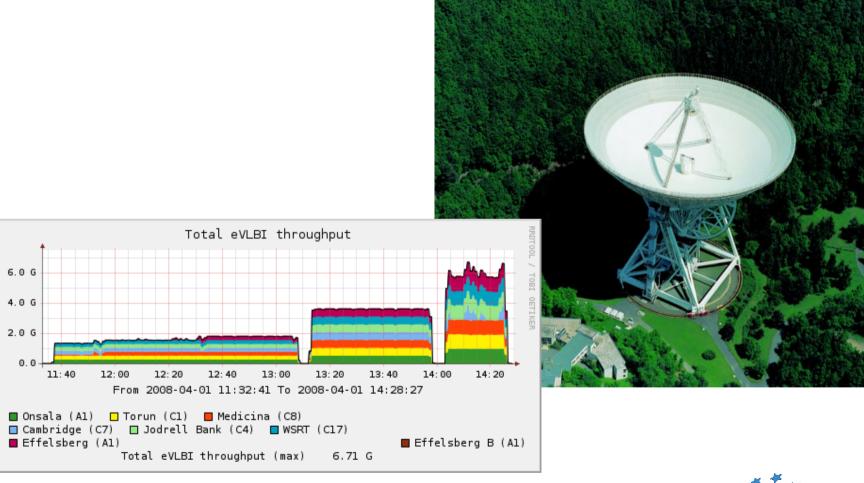
JIVE Lightpath status



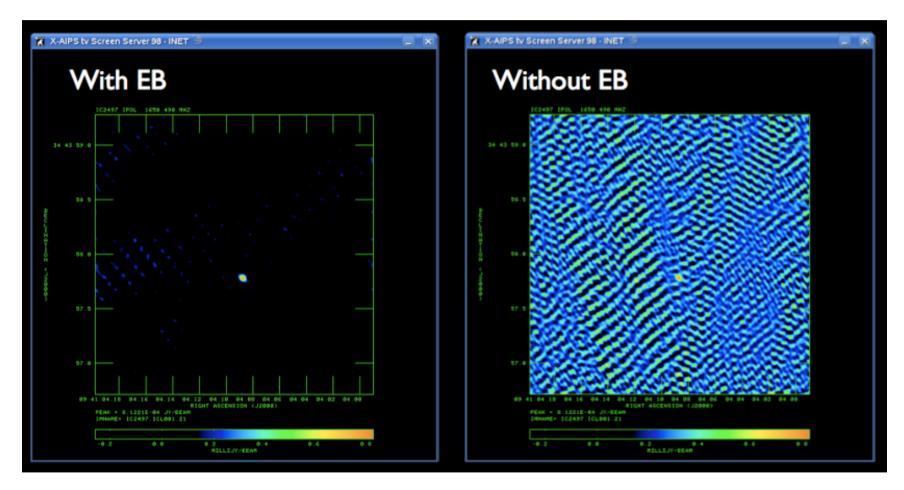
2009 January 21



The addition of the big dish, finally

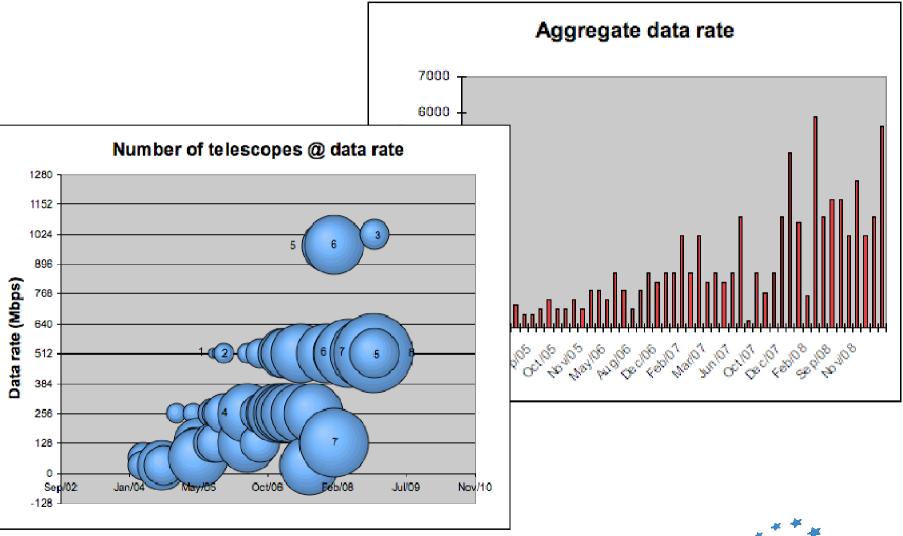


... And the resulting improvement





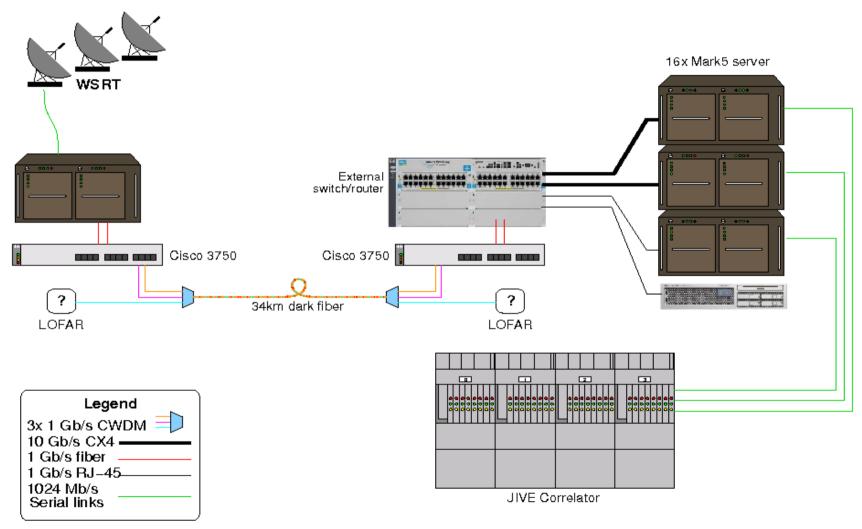
General data rate improvement



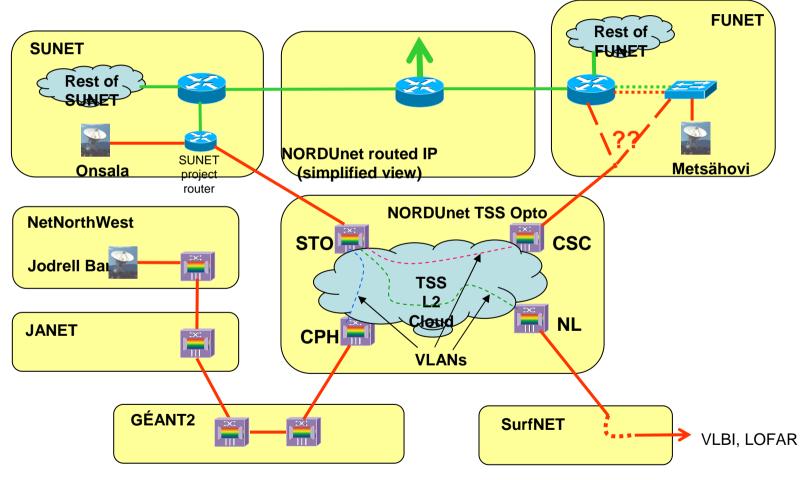
Slide #10

Passing the 1 Gbps speed bump:

e-VLBI at 1024Mb/s from WSRT to JIVE



Onsala to Manchester, JIVE

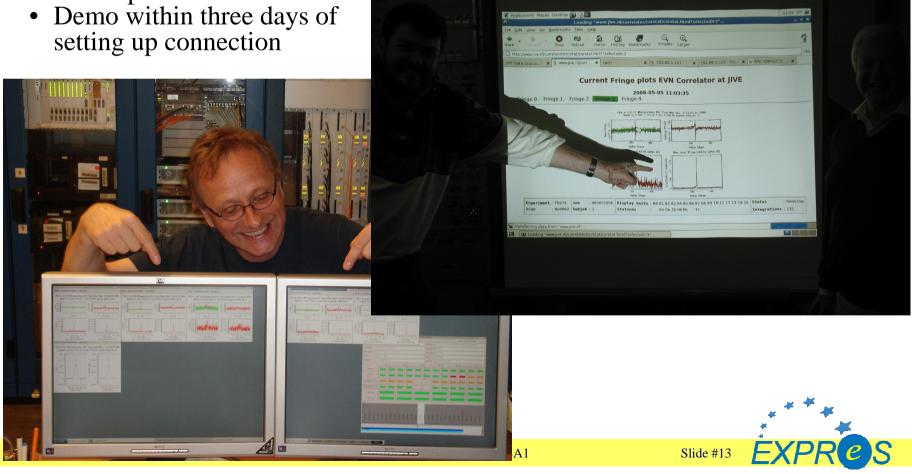


Slide #12

And this year, more demos

• First e-light Hartebeesthoek:

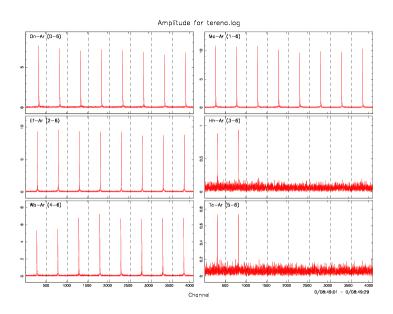
• Visit of group of highranking EC-officials to telescope site

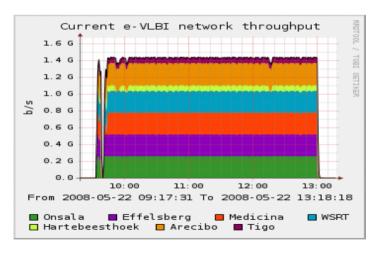


And even more demos



- TERENA 2008:
 - 4-continent e-VLBI
 - 4-continent fringes!
 - Mixed-configuration observation





Slide #14



Mark5 upgrade:

- e-VLBI capability in Mark5B (was nonexistent)
 - Dimino: modification of jivemark5a
 - Has been used extensively (Wb, Ef, Yb)
- Mark5B playback at EVN correlator
 - No problem with recorded data
 - e-VLBI: painfully slow development
 - Works in principle, some problems remain



Ongoing/upcoming developments

- Real-time download and extraction of station information
- On-the-fly pypeline (created for IYA demo)
- Automated correlator diagnostics
- (semi) automatic optimization of bandwidth use
- Adaptive observing
- Expansion of 1024 Mbps network
- Expansion of Merlincast
- First tests with eMERLIN?
- Upgrades at stations are needed (adequate mobos in Mk5s, new kernels, new ethernet interfaces)



More telescopes (?)

- Urumqi: temporary connection
- 2 more Chinese telescopes
- Yebes
- Ventspils
- Sardinia?
- Hartebeesthoek.....



End of 2009:

• operational e-VLBI

