

Noto Observatory Report and Activities
September 2008

1. Antenna, Receivers and Microwave Technology

At present the main issue for the antenna functionality is still the azimuth rail, but it's actually uncertain whether INAF in short time will support the repair expenses.

A new antenna driving software has been realised able to support all the functionalities available with the TIW ACU and is able to control with better precision. The new software has also a web interface.

The 43 GHz receiver was working with only one polarization and the replacement of a front-end amplifier has been done in the NRAO laboratories. The amplifiers has been mounted during this September and tests are underway.

The 86 GHz is still an issue. Functionality measurements in laboratory showed pretty high system temperature so the receiver has been moved to MPI in Bonn to be repaired. A new testing campaign is expected in the end of this year.

2. Acquisition Terminal and Digital Technology

A complete DBBC system is under construction for Noto. This process has been accelerated because of the numerous problems met with the analog base band converters. These caused several failures in VLBI experiments

3. Logistics

A new building in Noto has been completed. New laboratories are available and so a part of it will host the Spin-off company in charge for the construction of the DBBC systems.