LEDA: Status update and future outlook

Danny Science at Low Free 4 Decer











- LEDA is a hybrid experiment, consisting of 5 precision radio antennas that are cross-corre against 251 antennas in a der core.
- We can use this to monitor the ionosphere, measure the gain of the antennas, and monitor to improve our sky model.
- That is: this movie is only of in for calibration via the visibilitie



- Three-state frontend board (FEE) switch between antenna, load and noise diode (ala Rogers & Bowman 2012)
- Switching triggered by PPS, or can be controlled remotely



$$T_{ant} = T_{diode} \frac{P_{ant} - P_{load}}{P_{diode} - P_{load}} + T_l$$















frequency axis removed. Data from Dec 26 2014

256x



11-14 hrs LST, single antenna, 26-29 Dec 2014 5 order polynomial removed



- MCMC code by Gianni Ber Jonathan Zwart (paper in p
- Input: calibrated spectrum
- Parameter estimation and selection via the evidence
- Nth order polynomial + inv gaussian for HI (3 paramet

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 $1_{a} = (1_{a} / \mathbf{I} Z)$

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- March-November 2015: developm testing of new radiometer receiver
- 16-20 December 2015: site visit ar instrument upgrades.
- January-April 2016: science obser





- Hirose MS147 test ports added for measurement of S-parameters (ref coefficients) in the field.
- Swapped low-pass filter for bandpa
- Dual-diode calibration instead of d load (load is << sky temp)
- Improved attenuation between amp stages for better reflection character
- Well characterized in labs, S-parar measured, thermal stability and alla variance tested & performing admi



Increasing hot and cold load power increases sensitivity of 3-state calibrated data











- Full calibration pipeline for single-anten complete, including MCMC parameter extraction.
- Work under way on next-generation cali pipeline (multi-antenna, ionosphere & b modelling).
- New receiver boards tested, characterized ready for deployment in a few weeks.
- Winter science observations begin Jan
- Calibration pipeline paper should be co out soon.
- Ask me about post-correlation beamform

Backup slides

Beamformer / single dish approach (intensity mapping)



- Instruments with angular resolution also be used.
 - Single dishes with low-f feeds (e.g. Parkes, GBT, Effelsberg, Jodrell)
 - Beamformed low-f arrays (LWA, LOFAR, LEDA)
- This approach **is equivalent** to intermapping, as proposed for 21cm E at lower redshift (e.g. *Pen et. al. 2*)
- Collecting area **does not** increase thermal sensitivity.
- Angular information is nonetheless useful for foreground subtraction. See Liu, A., Pritchard, J., Tegmark, M., Loeb, A. (*Global 21cm signal experiments: a designer's gu* Phys. Rev. D 87, 043002



Disadvantage #1: Beam sidelobes are frequency-dependent

Disadvantage #2: Antenna/beam pattern may be harder to model as system is necessarily far more complicated

Disadvantage #3: Large dishes at low-f may have alt-az dependent response (K. Bannister, personal comm.)

A voltage beam is given by: $b(t) = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{v}(t)$





- A post-correlation beamformer may form multiple beams on the sl
- If regularly gridded, the beams for an image.
- This approach may provide good calibration via continuous compari known sources (e.g. Cas A, Cyg A
- We are investigating this as an alternative approach for LEDA



Interferometric approach



Image: Presley et. al. (2015)

- Presley et. al. (2015) suggest the densely-packed interferometers sensitive to the monopole signal M. Presley, A. Liu, and A. Parsons, "Measuri Cosmological 21 cm Monopole with an Interferometer," submitted to ApJ.
- Vedantham (2014) used a lunar occultation trick with LOFAR, bu limited by systematics.

H. K. Vedantham, L. V. E. Koopmans, A. G. Bruyn,et. al. "Lunar occultation of the diffuse LOFAR measurements between 35 and 80 M MNRAS, 450 2291-2305 2015.

 LEDA has short baselines, so we be able to use the Presley et. al. technique.





rice et. al., "Optimal Partitioning of SKA-Low Antenna Elements", SKA Memo 150, 20⁻







Calibration slides







LEDA - Calibration strategy



C-16



COAX



LEDA - Airconditioning switching



Correlator slides

LEDA-512 Correlator

orrelator	Ν	B (MHz)	N ² B (GHz)
ALMA	66	8000	34800
CHIME	256	400	26206
eVLA	27	8000	5830
LEDA	288	58	4810
ARMA	23	4000	2120
PAPER	128	30	819
MWA	128	30	492
SMA	8	32	256
pdBl	288	1	829
RTFAAC	288	1	829
.OFAR	48	32	737



LEDA-512 Correlator

ELERATING RADIO ASTRONOMY SS-CORRELATION WITH GRAPHICS CESSING UNITS

LARK, P. C. LA PLANTE, L. J. GREENHILL 107.4264 [astro-ph]]

ALABLE HYBRID FPGA/GPU FX RELATOR

Z, L. J. GREENHILL, B. R. BARSDELL, G. BERNARDI, A. N, M. A. CLARK, J. CRAIG, D. PRICE, G. B. TAYLOR, F. ZEL, D. WERTHIMER



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