Ooty Radio Telescope

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National Centre for Radio Astrophysics Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

Observing Facilities

Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope

Ooty Radio Telescope



Radio Astronomy Facilities

- Giant Meter wavelength Radio Telescope (near Pune)
 - Multi-frequency synthesis imaging system
 - 25-km baseline
 - 30 antennas of each 45 m diameter
 - In the NCRA campus, 15m antenna (various Radio Physics Lab. projects)
- Ooty Radio Telescope (southern part of India)
 - Observing frequency 327 MHz
 - Steerable antenna of size 530m x 30m parabolic cylindrical antenna
 - Various astronomical observations and solar wind studies
 - Callisto Solar Spectrograph (part of worldwide radio net)
 - Frequency range 45 890 MHz
 - 300 kHz each channel bandwidth
 - solar radio spectrograph
 - Muthorai Radio Telescope for dedicated solar observations
 - 290 350 MHz
 - Steerable antenna of size 92m x 9m
 - fixed-frequency solar observations (high temporal resolution ~1 ms)

Ooty Radio Telescope (ORT)



- Latitude: 11°23' North Longitude: 76°40' East
- Equatorially mounted, off-axis parabolic cylinder
- 530m (N-S) x 30m (E-W)
- Reflecting surface made of 1100 stainless steel wires
- Feed 1056 $\lambda/2$ dipoles
- E-W Tracking and N-S Steering of ORT (~9.5 hours, ± 60°)



IPS measurements - advantages

- High sensitivity
- tracking
- good declination coverage
- less radio interference in this region

Operated by Radio Astronomy Centre National Centre for Radio Astrophysics Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (NCRA-TIFR)



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- 530m (N-S) x 30m (E-W) east-west tracking of ~9.5 hours
- North-South beam steering (± 65 deg. declination)
- High sensitivity, S/N ~ 25 (1s integration, BW 4 MHz)









ORT Correlated Beam Shape



09072013 - 0240-002



PSR B1642-03 Profile on 16 September 2012





e-Callisto – Worldwide Radio Network 24-hour Solar Observing





measurements: type II radio bursts, CMEs, shock waves, type III bursts etc. Data available at http://www.e-callisto.org/

Ooty e-Callisto

13 Jun 2010 Radio flux density (OOTY) Ooty India





Upgrades for Ooty Radio Telescope In collaboration with Raman Research Institute, Bangalore



ORT upgrade – Phase I



ORT as a 44-element programmable telescope

- Digitize RF from 44 half modules (11.5mx30m section of ORT)
- 44 numbers of Stage 1 and Stage 2 amplifiers, respectively, at the feed and at the bottom of the telescope
- Transporting signal via fiber optic link
- A distributed signal processing chain (12-ch A/D converts with Xilinx Spartan-6 FPGA-based pre-processing capability)
- RF digitization tested for all half modules, data transfer over optical fibre to central computers completed
- Software offline FX correlator developed and tested



Phase I





Figure 3.1: ORT RF Frontend for an array of 24 dipoles (Half module). The RF tapping location for the RF digital receiver is shown. The RF frontend is implemented within the line feed of the telescope.

Phase I



Figure 3.2: Frontend IF conversion subsystem, which generates a single IF output by combining the RF of 48 phased dipoles. The generated IF is then sent to the central receiver room for further processing.

Phase I – 44 half-module signals







ORT upgrade – Phase II

Major components

- ORT has been configured as a 264-element programmable telescope
 - To digitize RF for every 4-phased dipoles (2m x 30m section; 264 sections along the feed of ORT)
- 264 pre-amplifiers and a set of 264 low-loss cables bring RF outputs of pre-amplifiers to the fixed enclosures
- 264 Stage-II amplifiers plus filter (to provide ~80 dB gain)
- Fiber optic communication for distributing clock and data between central receiver and base of each module





Figure 3.20: Proposed NSPS implementation for configuring ORT as a 264 element programmable telescope.

ORT – Recent upgrades – sensitivity and field of view

- 2 Phases
 - Digitize RF from every 24 phased dipoles (~12-m section)
 - Digitization of 4-phased dipoles (~2-m section)
 - Field view 27 deg.
 - Full 264-element programmable system
- Software-based FX correlator

Parameter	Current	Phase-1	Phase-2
Bandwidth	4 MHz	18 MHz	40 MHz
FoV	2.3° x 2.2°	2.3° x 4.6°	2.3° x 27°
Sensitivity $(\tau = 1 s)$	40 mJy	12 mJy	8 mJy

Science with new Programmable Digital Receiver

ORT – a new versatile system for many astrophysical studies

IPS with ORT

- wide field of view (2° x 27°) within the field of view, number of beams can be formed (or beam can be formed at any given direction of the scintillating source)
- at a given time (~2-3 min of observing time) several scintillating sources can be observed
- provides increased spatial resolution of the sky coverage
- Improved tool for space weather Studies (physics of propagation of solar eruptions)

Interplanetary Scintillation



High sensitivity of ORT allows day-to-day IPS monitoring of large number of compact radio sources

Ooty IPS at 327 MHz

- Sensitive to solar wind irregularities scale size of $\sim 10 500$ km
- Heliospheric coverage
 - 10 250 Rsun
 - at all helio latitudes
- For each source- estimation of
 - power spectrum
 - scintillation index

Suitable calibration provides

- solar wind velocity
- density turbulence level





Source Size Distribution





1433-050 21112013 115715

BM 02

e= 22.6 hlat= 17.8

1433-050 21112013 115715

BM 03

e= 22.6 hlat= 17.8

1433-050 21112013 115715

BM 04

BM 08

BM 12

BM 04

20

10

e= 22.6 hlat= 17.8

Spectral Power

1433-050 21112013 115715

BM 01

e= 22.6 hlat= 17.8

Temporal Frequency (Hz)

offsour 21112013 121531

Nrec= 1 Mean 1583 RMS 6.6

 $P_{p} = 0.0 f_{p} = 0.0 f_{1} = 0.0 f_{2} = 0.0$

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BM 07

e=-99.0 hlat=-99.0



BM 06

Spectral Power (dB





1453-109 21112013 121720 e= 15.1 hlat= 14.2 BM 04 Nrec= 2 Mean 2075 RMS 5.5 $P_e = 1.8 f_e = 1.6 f_1 = 0.6 f_2 = 0.8$ -marin white the second of the second se 1453-109 21112013 121720 e= 15.1 hlat= 14.2 BM 08

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offsour 21112013 121531	
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Temporal Frequency (Hz)





Spectral Power (dB







1636-031 21112013 140003 e= 21.0 hlat= 63.4 BM 02 Nrec= 2 Mean 2074 RMS 3.3 $P_{e} = 0.4 f_{e} = 1.0 f_{1} = 0.3 f_{2} = 0.2$

Nrec= 1 Mean 2045 RMS 6.6 $P_{g} = 0.0 f_{g} = 0.0 f_{1} = 0.0 f_{2} = 0.0$ April Marine Container and a star the second



1633-409 21112013 135840

BM 10

e= 23.6 hlat=-40.5

1636-031 21112013 140003 e= 21.0 hlat= 63.4 BM 03 Nrec= 2 Mean 2080 RMS 6.0 $P_{e} = 1.6 f_{e} = 1.8 f_{1} = 0.8 f_{2} = 0.9$ -warden and and a free and a free of the second of the sec 1636-031 21112013 140003 e= 21.0 hlat= 63.4 BM 07 Nrec= 2 Mean 1742 RMS 30.0 $P_{e} = 31.5 f_{e} = 3.1 f_{1} = 0.3 f_{2} = 0.4$ WALMANN MANA MANNA JANANA MANNA 0 10 20

1633-409 21112013 135840
e= 23.6 hlat=-40.5 BM 11
Nrec= 1 Mean 2069 RMS 8.7 P_{e} = 2.1 f _e = 1.0 f ₁ = 0.5 f ₂ = 0.5
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IPS – Power Spectrum

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{t}) = \left\langle \Delta I(\mathbf{r}_{o}, \mathbf{t}_{o}) \Delta I(\mathbf{r}_{o} + \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{t}_{o} + \mathbf{t}) \right\rangle$$

$$P_{I} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \rho(0,t) \exp(-i2\pi ft) dt$$

$$\mathbf{m}^{2} = \frac{1}{\langle \mathbf{I} \rangle^{2}} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{I}}(\mathbf{f}) d\mathbf{f} \right]$$



Solar wind Density Turbulence

Density Turbulence

- * Scintillation index, m, is a measure of level of turbulence
- * Normalized Scintillation index, g = m(R) / <m(R)>
- * Quasi-stationary and transient/disturbed solar wind
 - $g > 1 \rightarrow$ enhancement in δNe
 - $g \approx 1 \rightarrow \text{ambient level of } \delta Ne$
 - $g < 1 \rightarrow$ rarefaction in δNe_{s}

Scintillation enhancement w.r.t. the ambient wind identifies the presence of the solar wind transient (CME/CIR) along the line-of-sight to the radio source





IPS temporal power spectrum

IPS – intensity fluctuations are caused by the solar wind density turbulence - time series transformation provides the temporal power spectrum

$$P(f) = (2\pi r_e \lambda)^2 \int dq \, C_{N_e}^2 \, \Phi_{N_e}(q) \, F_{\rm diff}(q) \, F_{\rm source}(q)$$

$$P(f) = (2\pi r_e \lambda)^2 \int_{-\infty}^{z} \frac{dz}{|V_p(z)|} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dq_y 4\sin^2 \left(\frac{q^2 z}{2k}\right) |V(q, z, \theta)|^2 R^{-\beta} q^{-\alpha}$$









Density Turbulence Spectrum



"Interplanetary Scintillations" (IPS)

- intensity fluctuations caused by the solar wind density turbulence
- This time series transformation provides the temporal power spectrum

$$P(f) = (2\pi r_e \lambda)^2 \int dq \, C_{N_e}^2 \, \Phi_{N_e}(q) \, F_{\rm diff}(q) \, F_{\rm source}(q)$$

 λ is wavelength of observation; r_e is classical electron radius. $F_{diff}(q) =$ Fresnel diffraction filter (attenuates low-frequency part of the spectrum) $F_{Source}(q) =$ Brightness distribution of the source (attenuates high frequency part)

Axial Ratio of Irregularity



When the density irregularities are field aligned and approximated with an ellipsoidal symmetry, the spatial spectrum of density fluctuations, $\Phi_{Ne}(q)$, for a radio source with the finite size, θ , will be

$$\Phi_{N_e}(q,0) \mid B(\theta) \mid^2 = (q_x^2 + \frac{q_y^2}{AR^2})^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \exp(-\frac{q^2}{q_i^2})$$

AR is the ratio of major to minor axes (axial ratio), which is the measure of degree of anisotropy of irregularities (α power-law index. q_i cut-off scale i.e., inner-scale size).

Interplanetary scintillation spectra











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Solar Wind Velocity Maps Observed at Ooty





Current 3D Ooty Density Reconstruction





The left movie shows an ecliptic cut through the 3D Ooty IPS density reconstruction and the right movie show a meridional cut (from East of the Sun-Earth line) of the same; both with the Earth on the right-hand side and it's orbit shown in each case

Thank You

