Effelsberg Station Report

Effelsberg has installed the patches to allow disk of more than 2 TB in disk packs on the Mark5B+ and Mark5C. The patch works fine and we could record 32 TB disk packs until the end and the bank was automatically switched to another 32 TB disk pack. With this patch it is possible again to erase disk packs in Bank B.

The DBBC is running on firmware V104_2, which is the most recent DDC software version. It supports variable gain settings for every BBC and increases the accuracy for Tsys and Tcal measurements (see plots below). The Field System was updated to version 9.11.6.

As part of the High Sensitivity Array Effelsberg is regularly using the RDBE in poly phase filter bank (PFB) and digital down converter (DDC) mode. The control of the DDC version is now mostly implemented in the FS and also observations with two RDBEs were successfully tested with the VLBA (so called DDC-8 mode). All RDBE DDC data is written in VDIF format now. Only PFB writes Mark5B data.

A new K-band receiver was installed in 2014. It has been successfully tested in N14K2 in the second EVN Session and will be our new VLBI K-band receiver. The system is not fully calibrated yet, but this will be done within the next months