CASA-VLBI monthly meeting

Date: 2 May 2017, Arpad's office & telecon
Present: Arpad Szomoru, Des Small, Tammo Jan Dijkema, Mark Kettenis, Michael Janßen (IMAPP Nijmegen), Ilse van Bemmel

Walter Alef and Olaf Wucknitz could not attend.

Status of *fringecal*

Des has invited Olaf Wucknitz to the repository, but we haven't heard back from him yet about his own code. Des will contact him to get a link to the code. Tammo Jan doesn't have access yet, Des will invite him. Next step is to start the implementation of the CASA GSL solver in the C++ version of the task. That should be a matter of weeks.

Next week Iván Marti-Vidal will visit JIVE for a day and then we will discuss the polarization aspects of our CASA-VLBI tasks and interfaces with his polconvert task.

Status of other VLBI tasks

Mark is talking to Walter Brisken and Adam Deller about importing DiFX weights and how to properly handle the digital correction (AIPS DIGICOR in the task FITLD). He would like to fix the handling of the weights in *importfitsidi* in one go for both the DiFX weights and writing to the proper MS column. In the mean time, we should inform users that the current handling of weights is not correct. For the digital correction he plans to develop a prototype ACCOR-like task in CASA.

Contact with NRAO

It seems that NRAO is still busy wrapping up the CASA 5.0 release, we are holding off committing new code into the repositories until this is completed. Mark has contacted George Moellenbrock about the status of some of the JIRA tickets related to VLBI implementation. We would also like to know who will take over from Jeff Kern as CASA project manager, Ilse will ask around. It is suggested to visit NRAO sometime this fall, or get George over here for a visit.

Coordinating with RINGS WP 7.4 (dispersive delay fit)

Ilse will ask Anna if she is aware of our monthly meetings and interested to join. We also need a bit more information on the new post-doc who is hired by UMan and will come to JIVE for an introduction into the code development. Ilse will also ask Anna to include Michael on the circulation of the requirements document.

Other issues

Ilse has asked Ciriaco about the requirements for the BHC deliverables, but no reply yet. She will get in touch with Remo instead.

For the RadioNet workshop in October we need to have software that we can easily distribute to the participants. Making a local CASA build is not easy, but Mark suggests to make a patch to the CASA 5.0 release. We can make this available to participants a few weeks prior to the workshop, but will need to test this locally before summer.

Bitbucket may start charging for closed repositories. We can make this a public repository without any problem.

Actions
6: report on test with MeqSilhouette simulations is done
18: this is a continuous process
31,32: JIRA tickets awaiting action from George
37-38: await porting to C++
46: broadened to include weights at all steps of the calibration
48: committing code will not happen until after CASA 5.0 release

ID	Description	Owner	Ref.	Due
6	Write report on verification with AIPS (deliverable)	Ilse	151019	Ongoing
18	Process EVN data with CASA	Mark & Ilse	160115	Ongoing
31	Definition of gain curve in CASA	Mark	160620	
32	Implement apply Tsys for MS	Mark	160620	
37	Verification C++ fringecal against AIPS	Ilse/Des	160609	
38	Benchmark fringecal	TBD	160609	
46	Assess impact of weights	all	161219	Ongoing
48	Contact NRAO about CASA 5.0 code check	Des	170213	Ongoing
49	Verify data weights in simulated MS	Ilse	170213	Ongoing
52	Move components of fringecal to casacore	Des	170307	
53	Exchange information on fringe fit code	Olaf & Des	170328	
55	Invite Tammo Jan to Bitbucket repository	Des	170502	
56	Fix weight import in *importfitsidi*	Mark	170502	
57	Prototype ACCOR-task in CASA	Mark	170502	
58	Inform users about weights in *importfitsidi*	Mark	170502	
59	Contact Anna Scaife abt meetings and post-doc	Ilse	170502	Done
60	Contact NRAO abt replacement of Jeff Kern	Ilse	170502	
61	Test build of CASA with VLBI patches	All	170502	Summer

Next meeting: first full week of June
Ilse will send around a doodle poll