Noto Station Status Report

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Abstract The Noto VLBI Station has been operational in the past two years, except for short periods of maintenance totaling two months. The current status of the antenna is provided.

1 The Noto 32-m Antenna: General Information and Current Status

The Noto 32-m antenna is a Cassegrain radio telescope operated since 1989, by the Istituto di Radioastronomia, now part of the INAF (Istituto Nazionale di AstroFisica).

The main feature of this instrument is an active surface, allowing continuous correction of gravitational deformation during observations.

At present the radio telescope operates in the frequency range 2.3–45 GHz.

The DBBC & FILA10G is operating for VLBI observations. As of the end of 2016, ESCS (Enhanced Single-dish Control System), a new antenna control system, has been installed to allow single dish observations and testing, calibration, and configurations of the receivers.

As of the end of 2015 a severely degraded subreflector has been replaced with a refurbished one. Also the mechanical part of the subreflector has been completely overhauled.

In 2016 the main structure of the elevator operating on the antenna has been replaced.

Istituto di Radioastronomia INAF, Noto

Noto Network Station

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2 Geodetic VLBI Observations

In 2015 and 2016 Noto has participated in nineteen routine geodetic 24-hour sessions: four IVS-T2, five IVS-CRF, eight EUROPE, and two VITA sessions.