

Observational log CHARA/VEGA 2015-10-29

Observers: Frédéric, Jana, and Olli

Instruments: VEGA & CLIMB

Configuration:

Telescope	Beam	PoP
E1	B1	P1
E2	B2	P2
W1	B3	P1
W2	B1	P5
S1	B2	P4
S2	B3	P5

Beginning of the observation:

- 01.37 Arrived to the control room.
01.40 Starting preparation of VEGA.
01.52 The sky is mostly clear now. They have just had a little shower from scattered clouds at the mountain, the humidity is rising steeply, and there is a strong wind. Olli wants to wait a bit before opening the domes.
02.10 Charger at my computer stopped working, Frédéric has brought a desktop PC to replace the NB.
02.47 We are opening the domes. The weather conditions are poor (seeing $r_0 \leq 5$ cm) and we still may close due to strong wind.

Programme: V52 (Cepheids), PI: N.Nardetto

- 02.52 Using science target [HD187929](#) to co-phase baselines E1E2.
02.58 VEGAICS stopped responding. We have to restart it.
03.07 All the corresponding controls had to be restarted as well.
03.20 Centring slits.
03.26 Alignment of VEGA and CLIMB in progress.
03.27 VEGAICS crashed again. Restarting.
03.35 We have fringes on CLIMB, but rather weak ones.
03.42 We do not receive any signal at the cameras for no obvious reason. The ICS crash must have propagated into camera controls.
03.46 VEGA fringes found. The VEGA-CLIMB (E1-B1, E2-B2) offset=135 um, cart offset=1460 um.
03.53 We have lost fringes on CLIMB.
03.59 Wind gusts are getting stronger (30 kph).
04.02 Olli had to close the domes because of the wind.
05.05 Another VEGAICS crash. Frédéric is restarting everything.
05.06 We are still waiting for improvement of the weather. Nonetheless there will be no observations for the programme V52.
05.45 The VEGAICS froze up again.
05.50 The wind speed is still > 20 kph.
06.29 We noted that VEGAICS is dead again, right after we clicked on Test Server.
07.11 VEGAICS seems to crash after running the Test Server, but usually not right after the first running, but after several ones.
07.13 The humidity has risen above 80%. I have a bad feeling about this.
07.40 Jean-Michel is looking for the cause of the ICSVEGA crashes.
07.44 The humidity has almost reached 90%.
09.21 The ICSVEGA bug has been hopefully fixed by Jean-Michel.
10.11 The weather is not improving at all.
10.26 The ICSVEGA did not crash since Jean-Michel has implemented his fix.

End of the observation:

11.30 The humidity is >85%, the wind is still strong and there is roughly one hour till
the end of the night, so we call it a day.
12.00 Bon soir.

!The time is given in UTC+00.