



WP4: ERIC scope:
The International LOFAR Telescope



JIVE

Joint Institute for VLBI
ERIC

WP4

ERIC scope: The International LOFAR Telescope

Jumping JIVE Final Review

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Goals

Jumping JIVE: Strengthen JIVE, advocate its services and enlarge its partnerships

WP4: Investigate feasibility to expand scope JIV-ERIC to International LOFAR Telescope (ILT)

- JIVE and ILT both support a distributed telescope network spread over a number of countries
 - Geographical / Institutional overlap
- Both rely on a central facility for correlation and data curation, quality control and users' interface
 - Technological overlap
 - Services overlap



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Methodology

- Comparative study operations models
- Comparative study governance & financing models
- Workshops on options to proceed
- Reporting to JIVE Council and ILT Board
- Conclusions / follow-up actions



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Findings

- Important areas of synergy and complementarity identified:
 - Exploitation: large-scale distributed facilities
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 - Core technologies: long-baseline interferometry & data analysis
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 - Science facilitation: e.g. transient sources
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 - Presence: substantial Infrastructures in the European Research Area



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Impact

- Important areas of synergy and complementarity identified:
 - Exploitation: large-scale distributed facilities
 - Operators more aware of each other's best practices, joint students/apprentices
 - Core technologies: long-baseline interferometry & data analysis
 - reinforced collaboration on development activities (e.g. within ORP)
 - Science facilitation: e.g. transient sources
 - Presentations / cross-fertilization at science meetings (e.g. EVN Symposium)
 - Presence: substantial Infrastructures in the European Research Area
 - Intensified interaction on optimal interface to stakeholders and policy makers



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Successful outcome

Perspectives gained in WP4 led to a focus on distinct paths in the short term:

- ILT: evolution to a LOFAR ERIC in its own right, as it needs to:
 - Cohere current and prospective partners and their financing
 - Realise the jointly funded major LOFAR2.0 upgrade
 - Exploit under joint policies a distributed 24/7 observatory infrastructure
- JIVE: ongoing discussion with EVN on enhanced engagement

JIVE and ILT have improved knowledge and contacts helping to strengthen each other

- Increased awareness of areas of synergy
- Short lines of communication to act in concert on joint interests in e.g. RadioNet

JIVE staff provided expert assistance in preparing the LOFAR ERIC Step1 application!

It has been noted for the future that

- ERICs are vehicles for collaborations in the European infrastructure landscape
- JIVE and LOFAR operating models and partnerships may become more similar over time
- Evolution of the scope of the ERIC(s) will not be excluded