



# LOFAR Use Cases - DAC21

**V.N. Pandey, Yan Grange  
(ASTRON, NL)  
ESCAPE WP2, 21 Oct 2021**



## Contents:-

- Overview (LOFAR, Workflow)
- Use Case 1 - Data Lake as Long Term Archive
- Use Case 2 – Data Processing, ESAP, DLaas
- Use Case 3 – Legacy Archive Import (??)
- Use Case 4 – Beyond DAC21 (not covered)

Low Band Antennae  
(10-90 MHz)

High Band Antennae  
(110-240MHz)

LOFAR Central Core  
(Super Terp)

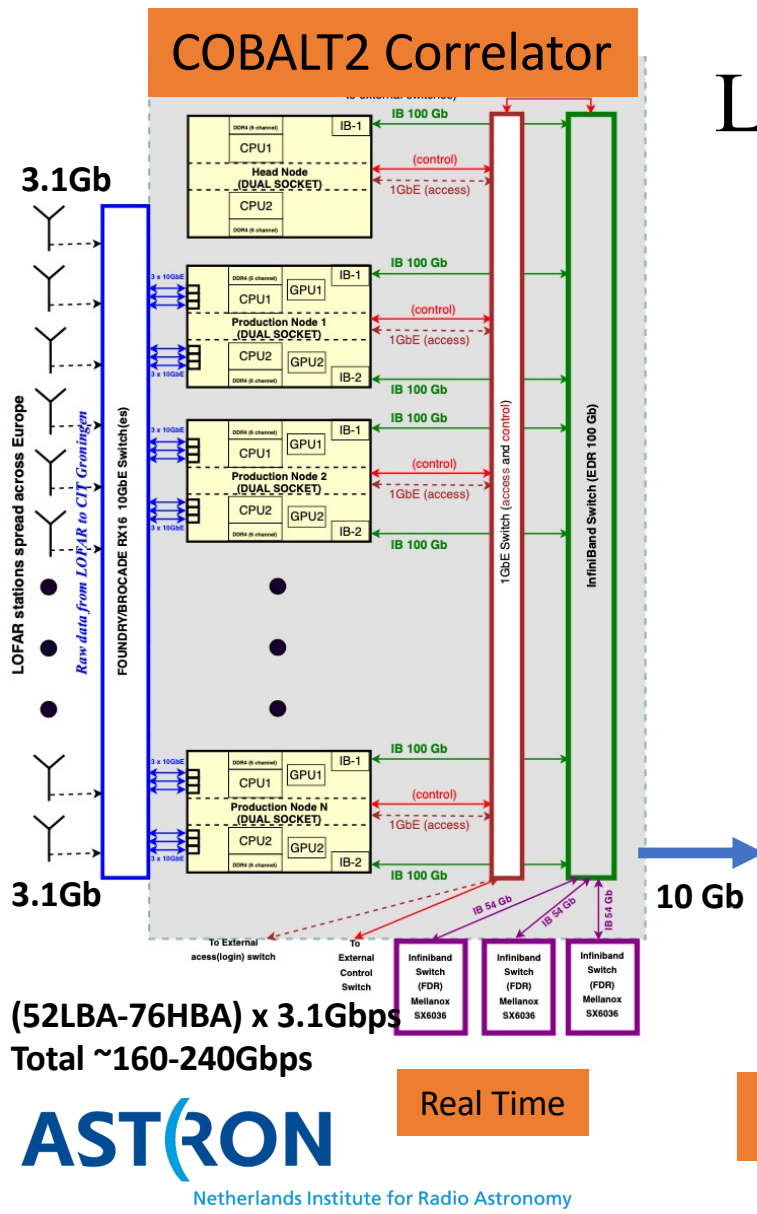




# LOFAR in one slide

From the first stars to lightning on earth,  
and anything in between (10-240MHz)





# LOFAR - Workflow



Central Processing Cluster

Offline – Near Real Time

Total ~ 50PB  
expected ~ 4-7PB/year

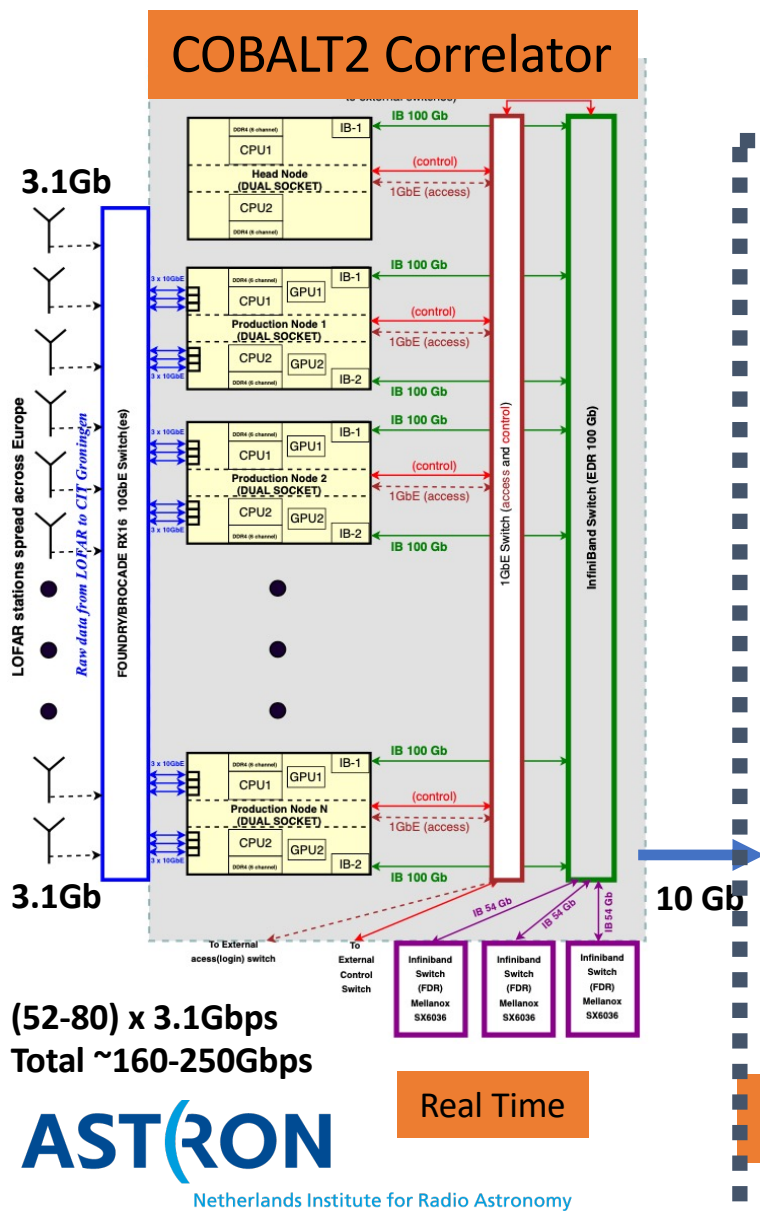
20 Gb



LOFAR – Long Term Archive (LTA)

Apertif Archive (iRODS)





*Ideally, storage of the offline processing is the input RSE.*



Central Processing Cluster

Offline – Near Real Time

*This could be Data Lake (incl future new LTA sites)*



LOFAR – Long Term Archive (LTA)

Total ~ 50PB  
expected ~ 4-7PB/year

20 Gb

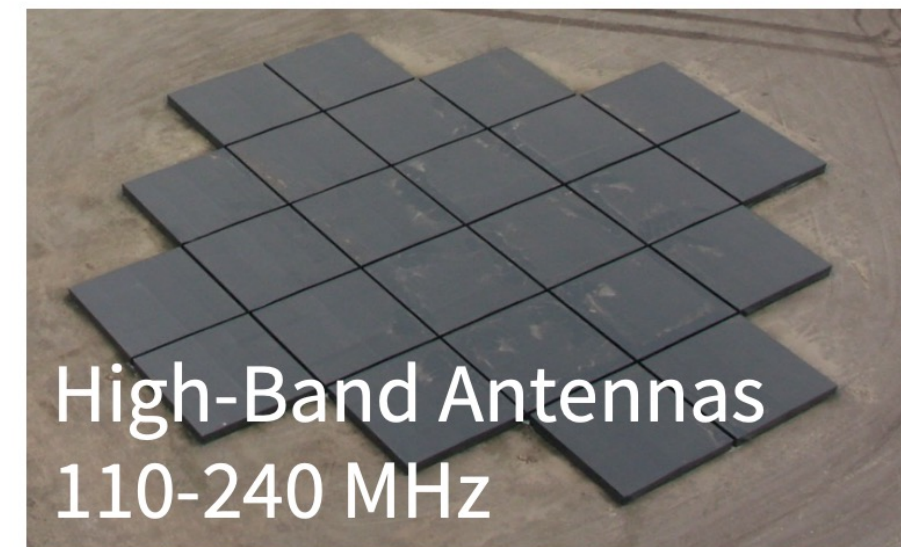
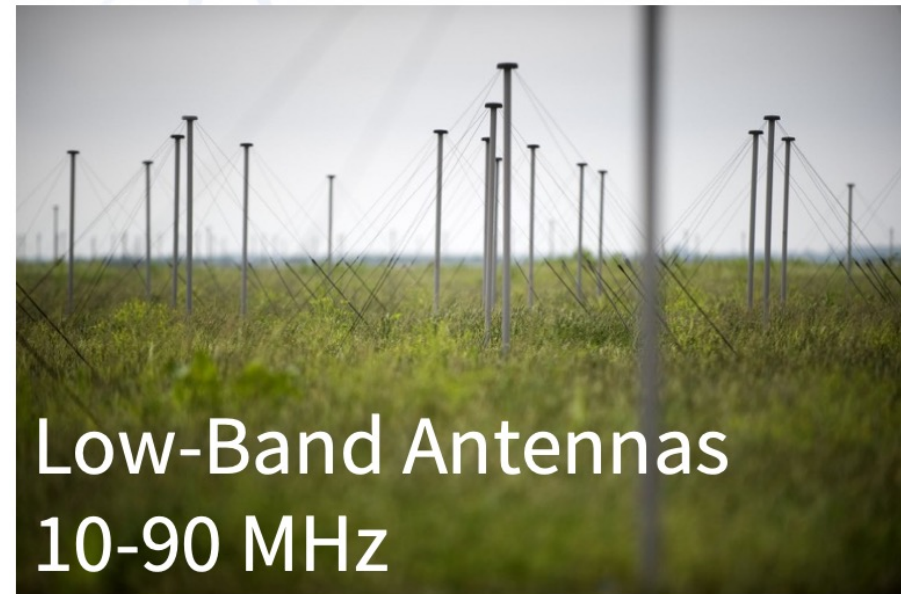
# Looking into near future

## LOFAR Upgrade (Planned):-

- LOFAR Mega Mode (multiple overlapping science cases in parallel) (<30% data increase)
- **DUPPLO (Both LBA & HBA Observations in parallel)** (<50% data increase)
- **LOFAR2.0 (more stations & upgrade)** (increase depends on plan but <<50% increase)
- Except occasional cases 20Gb is acceptable.

**ASTRON**

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy





# Use case 1: Datalake as LTA

- Ingest data from a two nodes representing our processing cluster into the datalake (“LTA”)
  - Typically we have 20Gbit/s data streams right now so 2 nodes with 10Gbit interfaces attempt to model that
  - 1 Targets, 2 calibrators
  - Typically 6-8 hr observations, so the tests also takes similar time.
- Manual transfer to a non-deterministic RSE.
  - Ideally this would be the storage of the Central Processing.
  - But maybe we want to upload it manually (for operational reasons) but then we may want to use tooling optimised for our data



# Use case 1: Datalake as LTA (QoS)

Stage	QoS level	Comment
Upload	Fast (non-det RSE)	Upload is to a non-deterministic RSE. Storage that needs to be able to support 10Gbps ingest (or more)
First day after upload	Fast + Cheap	In normal circumstances this would be a week, but for DAC21 we keep it to a day. Keep data on fast storage to give the user the chance to get to the data. NB: This Fast can be a different one from the upload one, as long as the user can get the data from there.
Second day after upload (“forever”)	Cheap	Data can be on a cheap QoS for the rest of its lifetime. For processing (Use Case 2) there will be a step putting it back to a Fast QoS for downloading/direct data access.

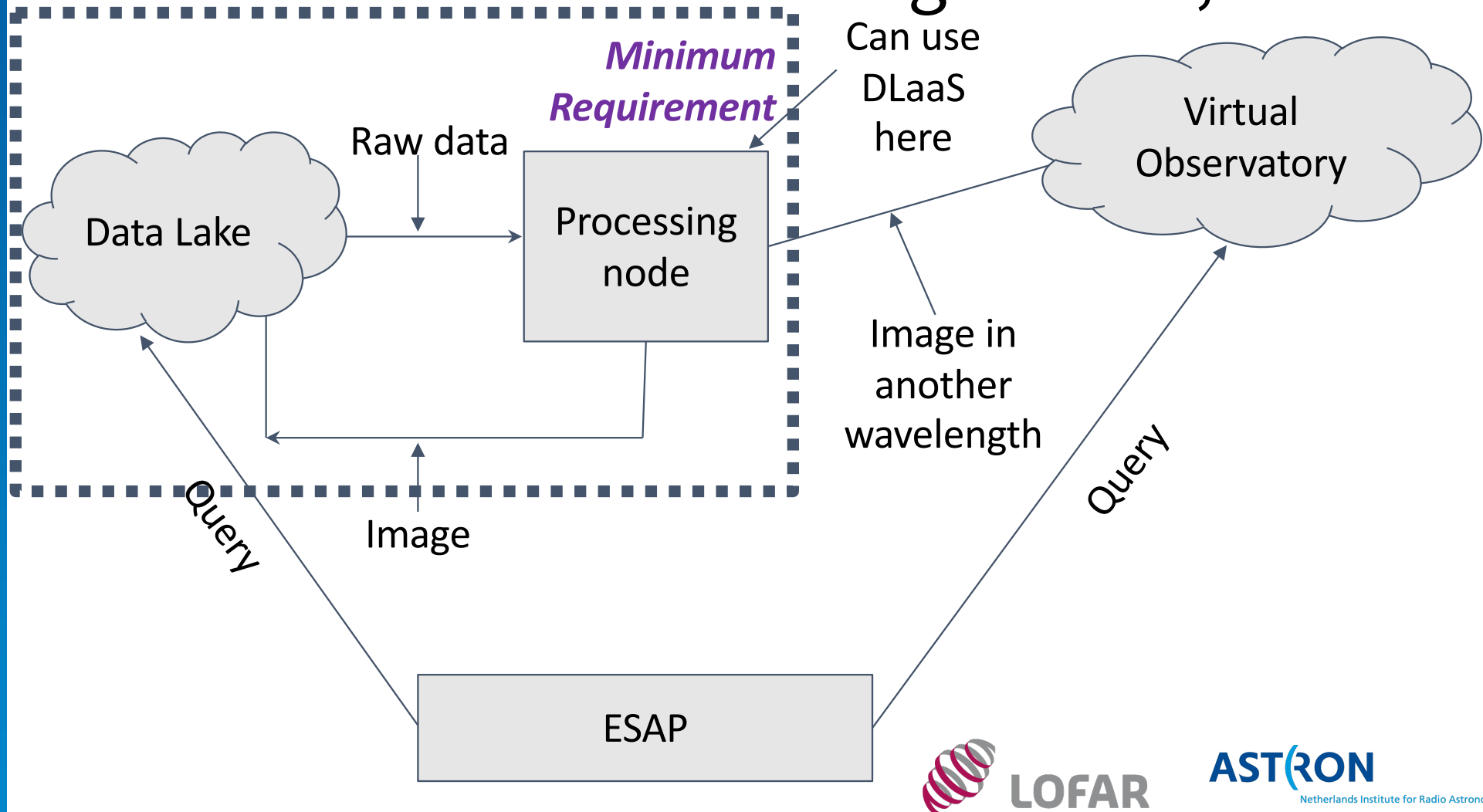


# Use case 1: To do

- Non-deterministic RSE for upload (need to follow up on this\*)
- Prepare data (One observation already there and another to be selected)
- Prepare two nodes of upload (one is ready, other one is being requested)
- Data Volume: (~15-20 TB); we will monitor progress and success measures will be defined.
- Typically 15TB of data in 480 files (~60G per file for target, 2GB per file cal).



## Use case 2: Data Processing & ESAP, DLaaS





## Use case 2:

- Use data that is on the data lake to make an image, and combine it with the image of another wavelength to create a multiwavelength image (optional).
  - For an image we need a **target** and a **calibrator** observation that each consist of many (244) **sub bands** (i.e. frequency band data).
    - Want to create one **dataset** for the **target** and one for the **calibrator**
    - Create a **container** (the 'processing package') with both the **target** and **calibrator** dataset.
    - Maybe for demonstration purpose, create another **dataset** with the currently present **target** and the same **calibrator** as before to show that a **dataset** can be in multiple containers.
    - We will use one of our custom build pipelines (Prefactor or Raphtor) and perhaps pre-calibrated data set to save processing time.
    - Some of the data to be used may not be public but the resulting image will be public.



## Use case 2: (QoS)

Stage	QoS level	Comment
Staging	Fast + Cheap	Fast QoS is the place where users will access the data.
First day after staging	Fast + Cheap	In normal circumstances this would be a week, but for DAC21 we keep it to a day. Keep data on fast storage to give the user the chance to get to the data.
Second day after staging (“forever”)	Cheap	Basically back to the normal long-term stage

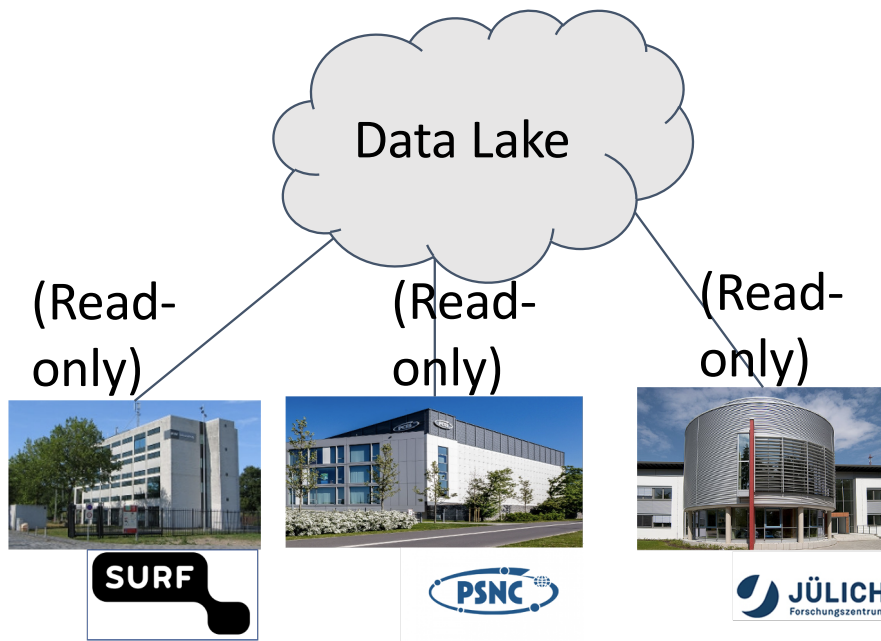


## Use case 2: To do

- Data on the data lake to be processed/imaged.
- Get a DLaaS notebook with LOFAR software (in a singularity container).
- We will monitor progress and success measures will be defined.
- DLaaS notebook with LOFAR software stack
- DLaaS that can read the ESAP shopping basket
  - “poor man’s solution is copy-pasting, and this is already there.
- Find a good-looking (extended) source (nice image)
- Data Volume (~2-3 TB)



# Use case 3: Legacy Archive Import



The current LTA

For DAC21 one location is of course enough. Proposal to use SURF

## Use case 3: To do

- Need to discuss with AAI experts whether cross-VO transfers are realistic.
- Else we need to set up a special RSE

## Use case 3: To do

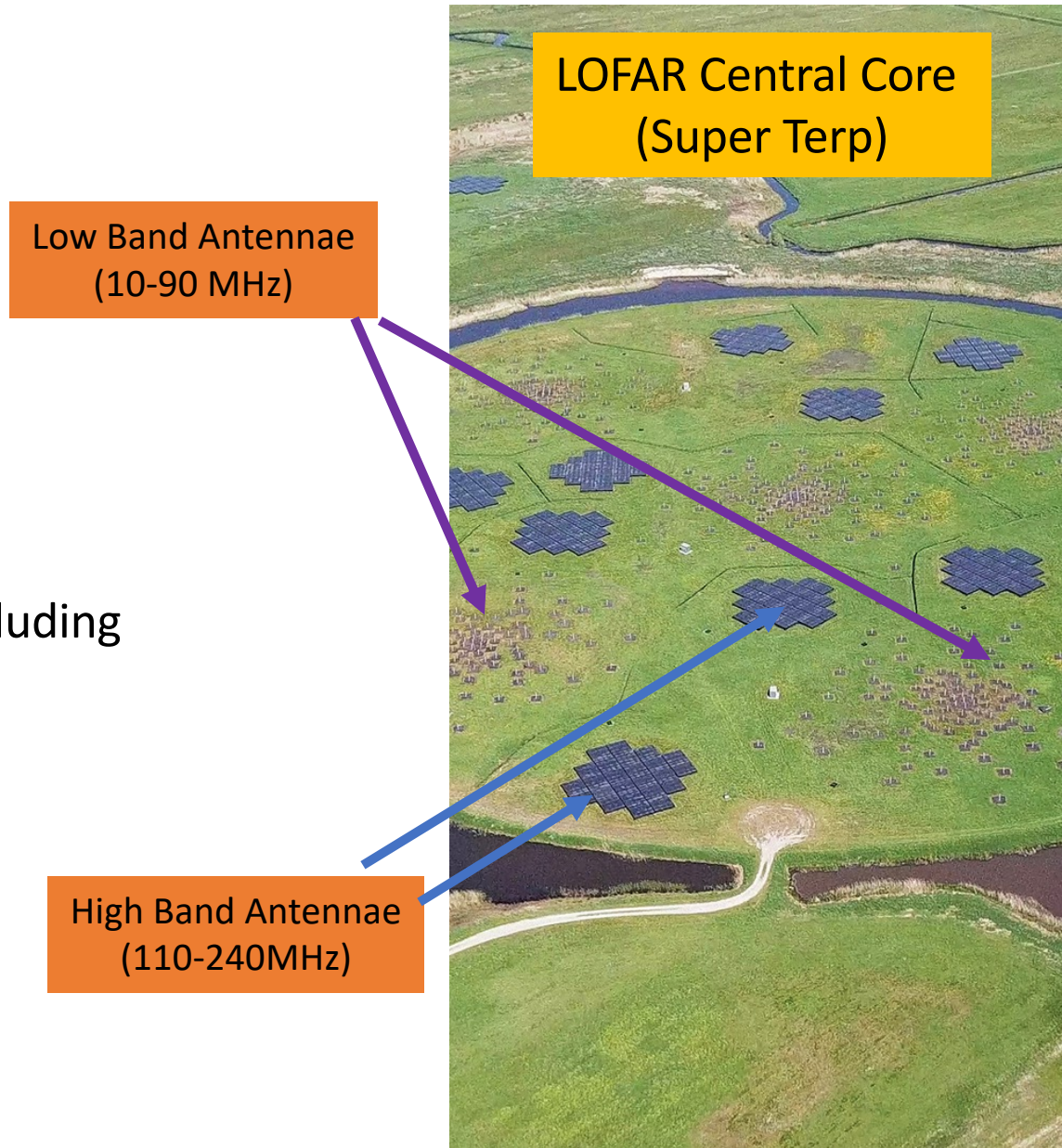
- In a transition phase, one would like to include current archives in the Data Lake
  - Complication of integration of an existing LTA end point in the ESCAPE Rucio:
    - Multi-VO support (with VO-crossing data streams... Simple translation `lofar:/lofar/user => escape:/lofar` is probably enough).
  - Keep it read only (though `lofar:/lofar/user` is read-only anyway)
  - ‘legacy’ LTA initially only contains unregistered data. Not sure what the best approach here is (register all that’s there, only register that what users request, ...)
- If the multi-VO is too complex, we can assume in the future the LOFAR Rucio will probably run in the same VO as the LTA so we could create a special RSE which simulates the LTA.
- This may be considered a ‘special QoS’ level, but haven’t thought this through...

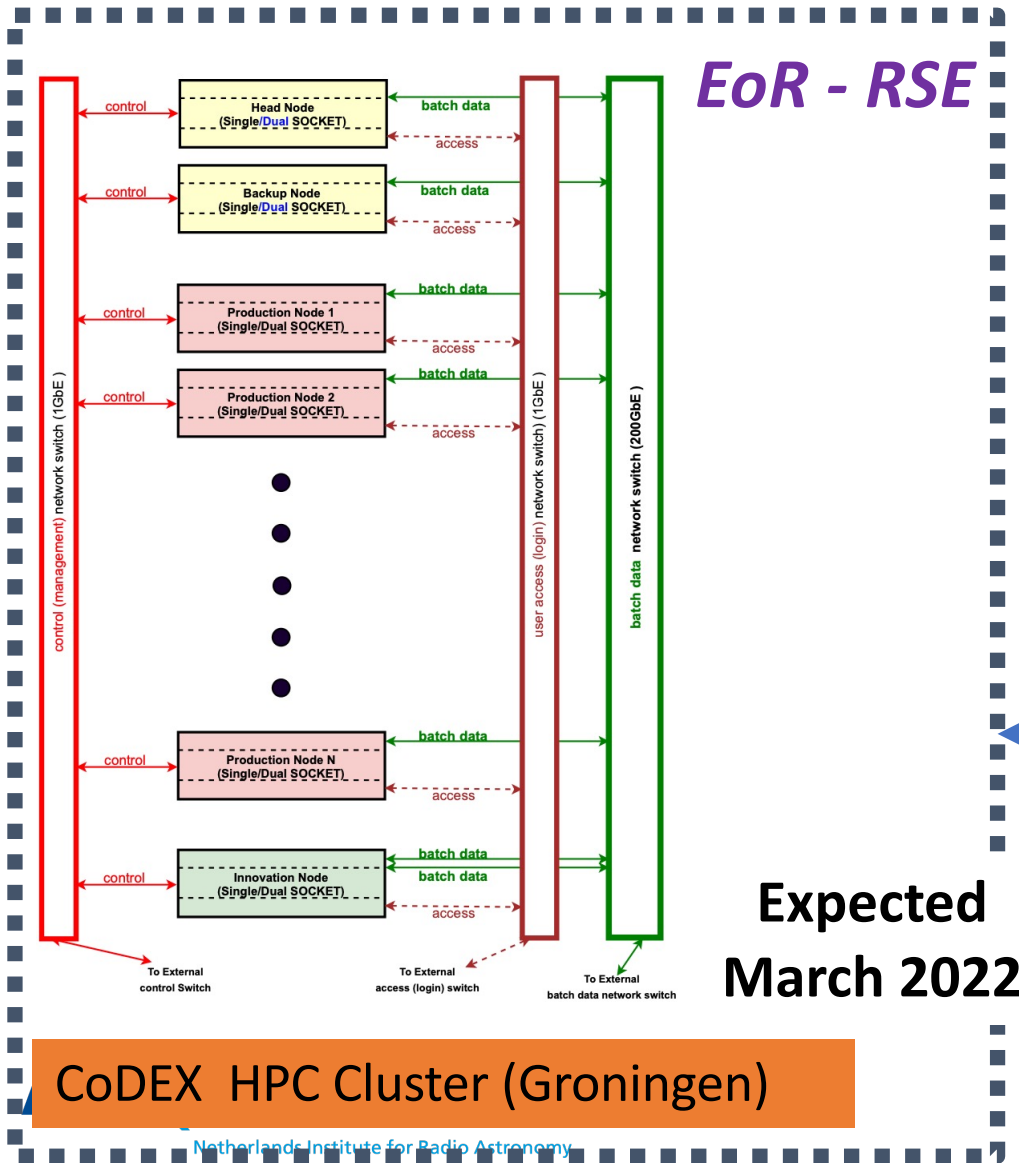




## Plans (Dates):-

- Nov 2-5 (Preparation)
- Nov 9-12 – Mock tests
- Nov 22-26 – DAC21
- 2022 – CoDEX node as RSE (local) including EoR Data







# Thank You

ESCAPE - The European Science Cluster of Astronomy & Particle Physics ESFRI Research Infrastructures has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Grant Agreement n° 824064.

