

From: crp@jach.hawaii.edu
To: ABRIDLE@NRAO.EDU
Cc: crp@jach.hawaii.edu
Subject: 30 m is a wavelength ??
Date: Tue, 15 Mar 1994 14:43:21 HST

Hi Alan,

a voice from the past.

. . . . the remote past.

. . . . the 10 MHz past !!!

Here's the scoop. Harvey Richer at UBC has got hiself convinced that the dark matter is brown dwarf/Jupiter kind of things, and by some torturous argument is convinced that it will show up at low radio frequencies. He would like a 10 MHz flux of M31 to clinch his argument. Do you think you could whip one off this weekend?

No . . . forget that. What he is after is a closer look at the olde data. I haven't paid a whole lot of attention to his requests because there is a fair amount of work involved, and I'm not really a believer. But short ago he despatched a student to DRAO who (predictably) could make neither head nor tail of the original charts that reside there (first step is the coordinate conversion from RA/Dec to pseudo-sidereal-time/beam-number: do you remember all this?), and instead went to my thesis and pulled a flux from the contour maps, 'calibrating' by doing the same for 3C123,196,310. Ingenious, but foolhardy. My recollection is that I put those sources on after the fact from the fluxes that you measured, and M31 was not among them.

I expect to be at DRAO next month, and will look out the old charts. In my mind the only way to get a flux at all is to go to the original charts, with no guarantee then that it will work at all. The prospect of dusting off that archive does not thrill at all.

However, before I get drawn into this any further I thought I'd better check with you to make sure I remember correctly the sequence of events back then. My recollection is that during your stay you deliberately set out to measure a number of sources, and those are the measurements published in the ancient and medieval Bridle/Purton. Where the original charts are I don't know, but in any case M31 was not done.

What came out of my stay there was mostly the background maps, such as they are. A terrible time putting them together, and ultimately I believed only the gross features, the plane and the spur. All the rest, particularly matching neighbouring decs, was a major kluge. Hence the perceived necessity at the time of putting the stronger sources on after the fact (not really underhanded, it was mentioned in the text. I think.) and the profound disbelief in what Harvey's student has done. And the currently perceived necessity of going back to the original charts. To add to my enthusiasm for this venture is the recollection of trying to get a flux for M31 lo those many years ago, unsuccessfully. But memory is dim on that one. If correct the notion of doing better at this juncture is even more of a comedy.

Any comments?

All best,

Chris.

Fromj abridle (Alan Bridle)
To: crp@jach.hawaii.edu
Subject: Re: 30 w is a wavelength ??
Date: Fri, 18 Mar 1994 12:55:34 -0500

Migawd, spooks from the past. M31, that is, not you ...
I remember trying to put together a contour map of M31 from
my thesis data, as it was one of the few things in the sky
that might be big enough to resolve. I'll have to see if
any of my old notes still exist....

As for the chart records and their conversion, I do have some
ancient notes still in the recesses of my office, but
absolutely nothing in my short-term neural net (i.e. I
can remember the existence of this project but none of
the messy details, which have all been overwritten with
things like AIPS help files and C++ syntax).

I'll see what/if I can come up with and get back to you!

A.

From: abridle (Alan Bridle)
To: crp@jach.hawaii.edu
Subject: Re: 30 m is a wavelength ??
Date: Wed, 23 Mar 1994 11:40:53 -0500

Hello again Chris,

Although I have a distinct memory of making a hand-drawn contour plot of the M31 region from the 10 MHz T after doing my thesis stuff I have been unable to come up with it amongst the geological strata/labeled debris in my office. It is conceivable that it is somewhere at home, and I will look there also. But here for what little it's worth is the record of survey charts of mine that may include the M31 region free of interference. The observing season would be 1965/1966, of course.

Beam 5: Jan 20 Channel 2
Beam 6: Dec 2 Channel 2
 Jan 21 Channel 2
 Jan 22 Channel 2
 April 6 Channel 4
Beam 7: Dec 3 Channel 3
 Jan 21 Channel 4
Beam 8: Jan 22 Channel 4
 Jan 23 Channel 3
Beam 9 Jan 21 Channel 3

I no longer have the slightest idea how and where the charts are organized at Drayoh. This is just from my written notes. I'm surprised I still have even that much!

I don't have a listing of when I might have tried "pointed scans", though it was on my target list and so there may be some. From the fact that I do not have it in my records of pointed-scan flux densities I suspect that I never figured out how to do the mispointing corrections for this source and therefore let it go. The one scruffy notation I can find in that arena is that it came it at 0.55 mA in Beam 7. Finding any pointed scans given that it did not make it into my list of sources to be taken seriously would be a tall order only the published or almost-published stuff is well documented, it turns out. So much for book-keeping almost 30 years later. I teach my own graduate students to do better (heh heh).

Any time you want the mutual impedances between rows again, I found 'em by the way. Possibly the Okanagan game farm would like them on a brass plaque.

Enjoy your trip home

A.