



SKA SWG Update

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20 January 2026



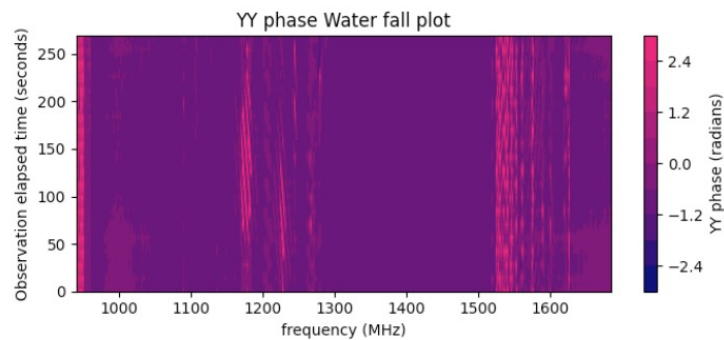
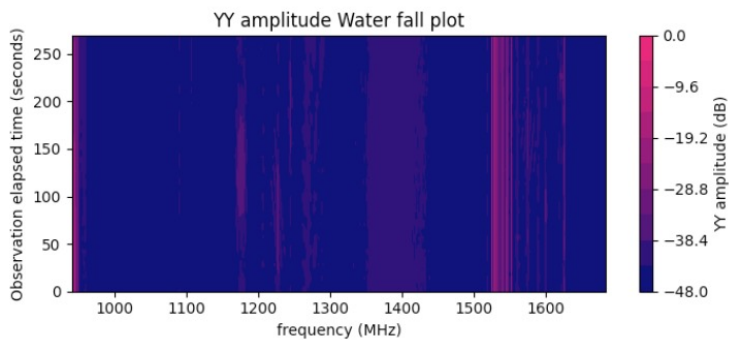
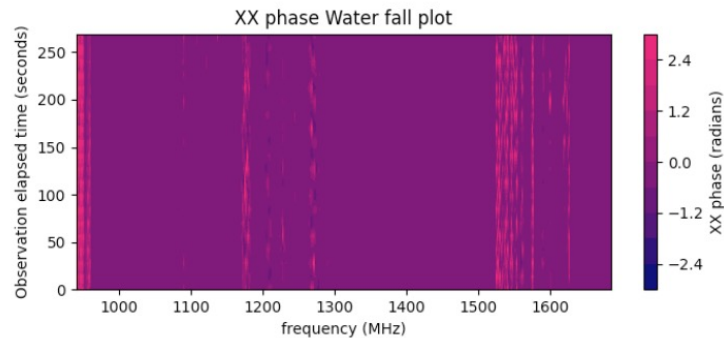
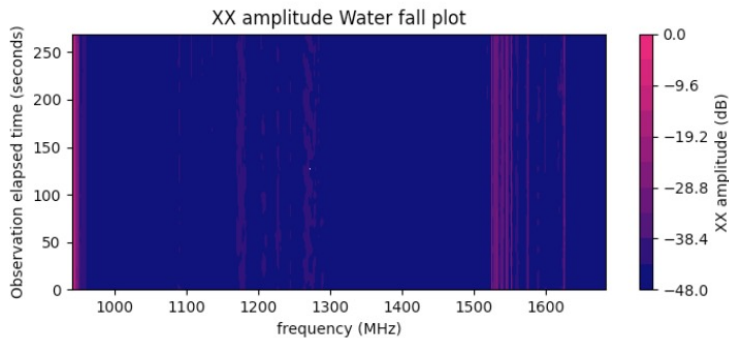
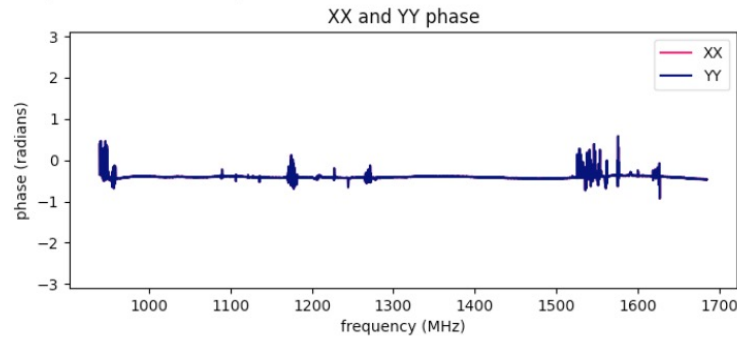
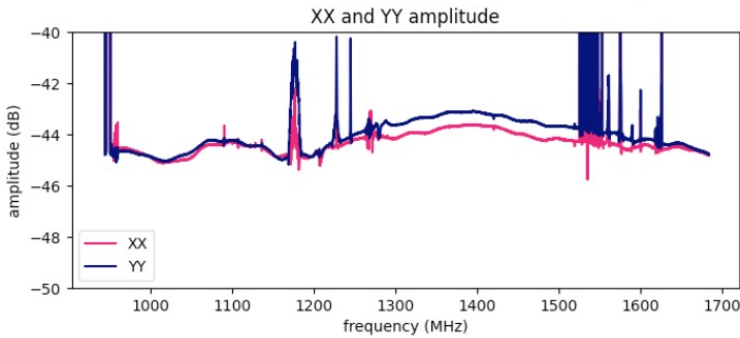
SKA Science Update

- Mid and Low Construction/commissioning updates
 - Mid first Fringes!
- SKAO Science Book
 - Chapter revision progress
- Community Engagement plans: Webinar series
- EAS 2026
- Job opportunities



Mid Commissioning update

Band 2 SKA001-100 cross-correlation amplitude and phase toward J1939-634 on 5 December 2025

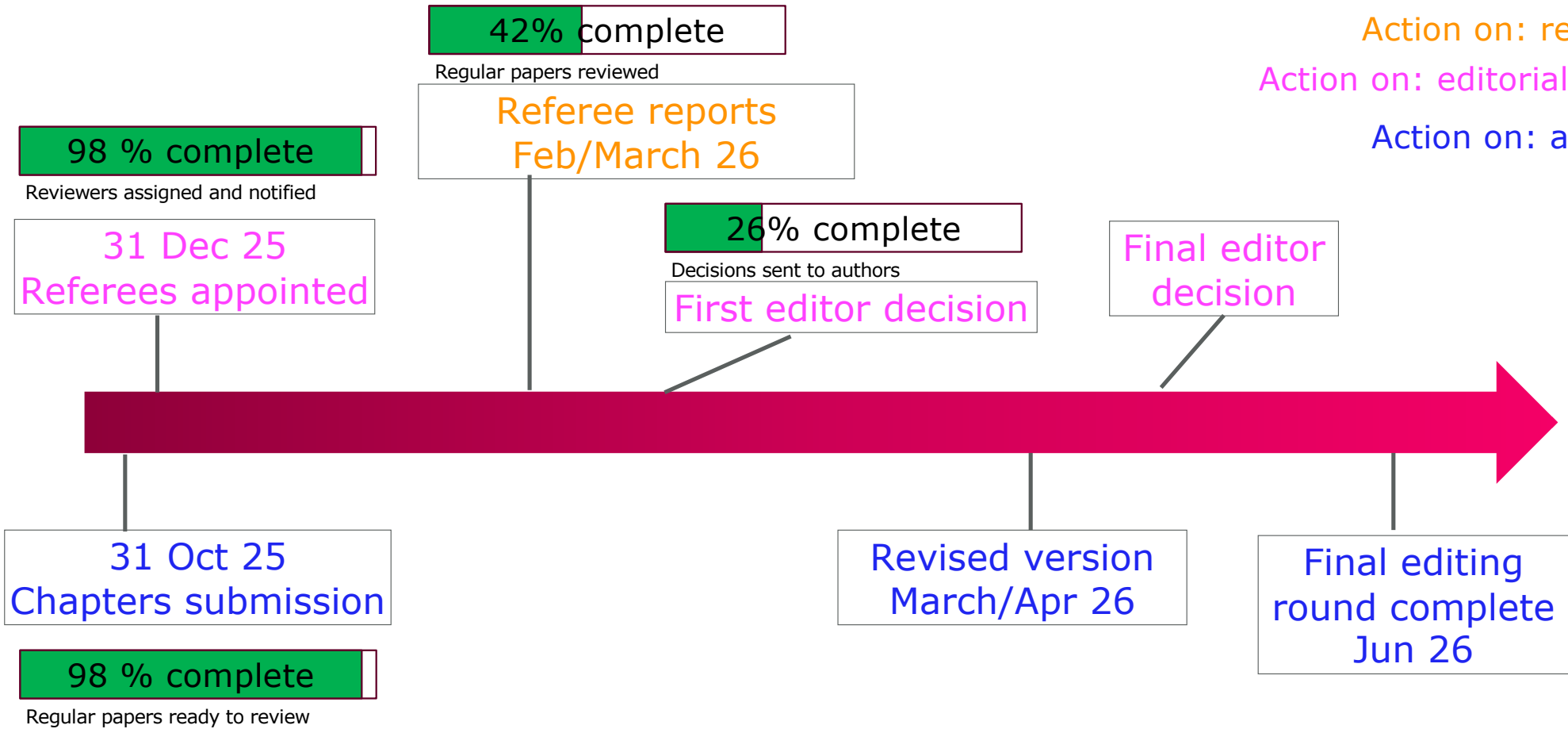


First fringes!

- Baseline = 439 m
- 5 min observation
- Good time stability, system working as expected
- Next milestone: first image!!

Image produced by Shin'ichiro Asayama from data taken by the System AIV team with support from the ATLAS team

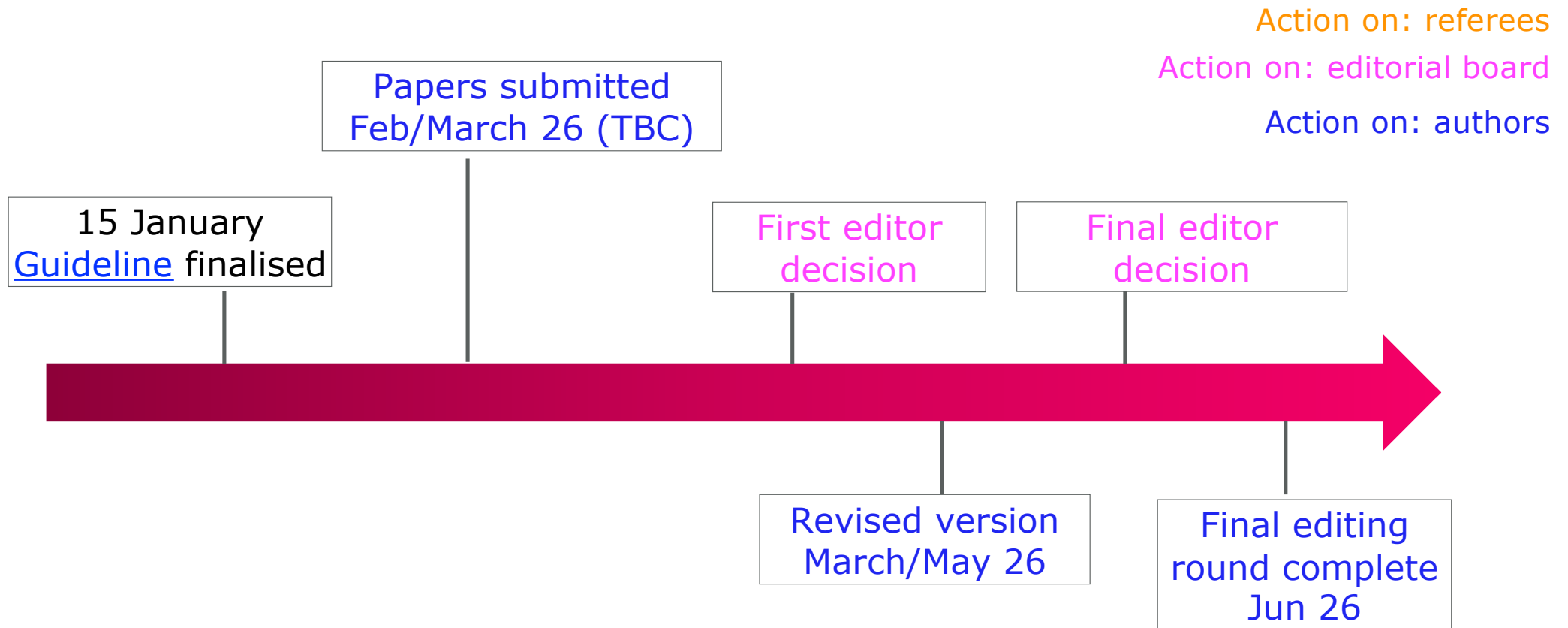
Timeline – regular papers



Action on: referees
Action on: editorial board
Action on: authors



Timeline – SWG overview papers



Online publication

- Papers to be submitted to ArXiv once in their final accepted version (around June 26)
- An HTML list of all papers will be submitted in advance; papers will link automatically to it
- SKAO's website will also provide and overlay and links to the papers



Book structure

Proposed Book sections:

- SWG overview chapters
- Sun, Earth and Planets
- Formation and evolution of Sun and stars
- Galaxies
- The Cosmos
- The extreme Universe
- Methods and techniques

- Authors will indicate their paper's category at re-submission
- Editorial board to check and confirm
- Table of contents created
- SWG overview chapters: linking papers within sections to the SWG main goals



Science Community Webinars

- Content will vary; may include
 - Latest milestones & future timeline
 - Commissioning and Verification updates
 - Operations planning updates
 - SKA Regional Centre updates
 - Science Data Processor updates (demos, pipelines)
 - SKAO planned activities over the next 4 months
 - **Q & A (plenty of time allocated)**
- Webinars, not normal zoom meetings
 - Registration in advance (code of conduct, ...), curated Q&A



Science Community Webinars

- Inaugural webinar – November 18
- 2nd Webinar: final Dates/Times to be confirmed, but for now:
 - **Tues March 31**, two time slots
- Registration details etc will be sent via swg-all initially
 - plan to set up a separate sign-up email for future webinars



SKAO Science Verification and beyond: preparing users for the SKA era

Special Session SS20

- **The SKAO at a glance: a project overview.** Session aimed at introducing the SKAO, its current status, and early commissioning results. It will cover the project overview, capabilities and rollout of modes, available SKAO tools, and an overview of the Science Gateway and SRCNet.
- **Preparing for AA2 Science Verification.** Will focus on the upcoming SKA-Low AA2 SV, with invited contributions spanning a broad range of SKA-Low science. It will outline the key AA2 validation activities required to ensure the system is ready to deliver its science objectives.
- **Community Engagement: from science ideas to SV data products—** through demos of proposal preparation tools, and presentations of SV ideas (ePosters) to facilitate an open discussion.



A one-day Special Session led by the SKAO to prepare the community for SV

Chair: Belen Alcalde Pampliega

SOC: Shari Breen, Anna Bonaldi , Joseph R. Callingham , Cathryn Trott, Mark Sargent



Upcoming job opportunity

- SKA Observatory scientist!
 - Within the Scientific Services Team, SKAO HQ
 - *An amazing opportunity for an experienced researcher in the field of astronomy to contribute to the scientific direction and success of the SKA Observatory.*
- Job add to go live asap! Contact anna.bonaldi@skao.int for more information



Any Other Business

- News from SWG Chairs?

- ...

We recognise and acknowledge the Indigenous peoples and cultures that have traditionally lived on the lands on which our facilities are located.

SKAO

www.skao.int
www.skao.int/en/science-users