

SWG co-chairs meeting notes 16 April 2024

Attending:

Co-chairs: Bhal Chandra Joshi, Neeraj Gupta, Abhirup Datta, Fernando Camilo, John Ilee, Katie Mulrey, Rohit Sharma, Mark Sargent, Tessa Vernstrom, Viviana Casasola, Andrei Messinger, Fatemeh Tabatabaei, Jason Hessels, Cherry Ng, Jack Radcliffe

SKAO: Robert Braun, Wendy Williams (Notes), Philippa Hartley

Apologies: Marta Spinelli, Jacco van Loon

Commissioning timeline: (RB)

Questions

Jason: Will the same access policy govern all stages (commissioning, science verification, shared risk, proposal observations)?

RB: Access policy really kicks in at (shared risk and subsequent) observation cycles. All data prior to this will be 100% public, and not accounted for by member share under the access policy. Maybe not even for shared risk.

Jason: What does the overlap of KSP preparation and commissioning mean?

RB: This is meant to show preparatory observations that benefit KSP planning undertaken as part of the commissioning process, not actual KSP observations.

Abhi: For the public data, will there be some kind of protoSRC/data archive for accessing the data?

RB: The interim SRC Project Lead appointment has now been made following recent Council approval. SRCnet should be in existence to support access to AA2 data products. Prior to that, it is still not clear what might be available.

Bhal Chandra: Overlapping times of SV and KSPs - how will the interaction happen between SV and KSP teams.

RB: We envisage calls for suitable targets/modes to test that desired KSP science will be able to be done. The possibility is there to have SV targets useful for KSP planning benefit, rather than driving the commissioning plans. But we are open to discussions for things missing from the commissioning plan. (Note that a year ago we had a talk from Robert Laing on commissioning plans and we should repeat this.)

Mark S.: Long timescales for KSP preparation: does this mean early data will have some products (e.g. full visibilities) that will not be available later.

RB: Yes... but this will always be possible, even later on. Small amounts of full data (calibrated or even raw visibilities) will be available for testing purposes (like refining observing strategy or processing techniques), before taking vast amounts of KSP data.

Mark: This point has not been very clearly made to the community.

Construction update (RB)

Meetings (RB)

Comments:

Andrei: EOR SKA science meeting Beijing July.

Jason: LOFAR family meeting <https://indico.lofar.eu/event/3/overview>

SKA science meeting 2025 (PH)

Will be styled around updating the chapters in the SKA science book, and adding new chapters.

Link to SKA science book: <https://pos.sissa.it/215/>

Jason: For update/resubmission of chapters, who has priority for leading it? The person who did it before, or someone new?

RB: We want to encourage a refresh (without overriding or not acknowledging who did it before) but will not force the issue.

Jason: Is it the plan for the SWGs to sort this out internally?

RB: Yes. Doesn't preclude independent submissions. But primarily through SWGs.

Mark: It would be good to encourage synergies with other instruments/facilities that were not considered previously.

Fatemeh: Also collaboration with ESO surveys.

RB: The white paper from the ESO-SKA collaboration meeting last year will be completed by then.

SDC3b (PH)

Andrei: would the image-based power spectrum give away additional information?

Philippa: it would be a distinct ionisation history. Something extra.

SWG collaboration (PH)

Confluence & Slack

Bhal Chandra: Is the confluence a paid option? To not be limited by numbers in the free version.

PH: Yes.

Bhal Chandra: Slack would be useful for core members only at least.

RB: That would help to keep costs down.

Jason: What about mattermost? (Free)

Mark: Also rocketchat. (Free)

AOB

Bhal Chandra: Pulsar SWG. Already initiated process of updating chapters... have mailed previous leads. Either to do it again or nominate a new lead.

Mark S: Regarding SWG core membership and refreshing? How much say from the SKAO Science Team?

RB: SWG core membership should be undertaken internal to SWGs - to include the most interested and active members. Only in selecting SWG chairs do we play a coordinating role to keep representation and diversity balanced.

Mark S: Who do we send sensitivity calculator feedback to?

Wendy: sciops@skao.int