

SWG Chairs Telecon 15-December-2020

Notes: Evan Keane

Participants: SWGs: Abhirup Datta, Adriano Ingallinera, Andrei Mesinger, Anna Nelles, Eduard Kontar, Fernando Camilo, Francoise Combes, Jan Forbrich, Jason Hessels, Laurent Lamy, Mark Sargent, Stefano Camera, Valentina Vacca, Willem van Straten

Apologies: Alvis Raccanelli, Divya Oberoi, George Heald,

SKAO: Robert Braun, Anna Bonaldi, Philippa Hartley, Evan Keane, Jeff Wagg

IGO/Council

Robert summarised recent IGO ratification status. As of today, 5 complete (NL, AU, ZA, IT, PT). Announcement from UK expected tomorrow (16th). This means 1st Council meeting will be at end of Jan 2021.

Science Meeting 2021

Anna described the upcoming SKA science meeting, 15-19 March. This will use the OnAir platform. Plenary talks will have registration opening this week, with a deadline of Jan 20th. These will be pre-recorded, but with live Q&A, and re-played in different time zones.

Also splinter sessions to be organised by the SWGs.

Also, there will be posters accepted with a later deadline.

JH: What is criteria for selection of plenary talks? Scientific interest only or link to SKA?

AB: Yes, must be relevant to SKA and pathfinders/precursors. Also wish to represent the diversity of our SKA community in all respects.

SDC2

Philippa described the current progress. All is going well. Still on schedule for challenge processing to begin on January 15th. Performing very final checks on data sets. Test data cube is 1 TB. FoV 20 deg², 950-1150 MHz. Less bandwidth so as to allow more freq resolution of this range. Have simulated imperfect continuum subtraction.

28 teams in total registered so far, with 161 people. Wide representation geographically, and in seniority. Majority of teams want to do deep learning with GPUs, a bit more requests for GPUs than had been anticipated. Consequently, there is an abundance of CPU resources.

Computational resource partners: IRIS UK, CSCS Switzerland, Engage SKA Portugal, IAA Spain, INAF ICT Italy, Aus proto-SRC, Shanghai proto-SRC, SKA France. Each team gets access to one of these once registered, and that they have made an initial submission with one of the test datasets.

PauloS: if one has first results from SDC2 for SKA meeting is it against spirit of challenge to present those?

PH: I like that idea and think it would be great to see.

RB: I agree too

AB: The aim with this challenge is also to provide a self-scoring service. All results would be preliminary, but I think it would be very interesting to see what people have been developing.

General access to SWG-specific talks/meetings

Many great on-going events within SWGs happening virtually. Lots of cross-SWG interest in this. Request issued to Chairs as to whether this would be welcome and if so how to do that? Maintain central repository of URLs? Advertise in monthly mailings to full SWG membership?

LaurentL: We are in favour of this

AbhirupD: We have a telecon in EoR/CD group every second Thursday of the month. Happy to have it get a much larger audience. Senior PhD students and postdocs are the main target audience.

JasonH: SALF-VII conference held a couple of weeks ago. Talks available here:

<https://salfconference.org/salf-vii-2020-talk-schedule/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKgdIEJF8-rv1jsnzHt3aSQ/videos>

StefanoC: For cosmology we will have our large yearly meeting in January. Welcome others at this and our bi-monthly telecons

ValentinaV: We have regularly alternating telecons, plenaries with talks, then only chairs. Always welcome more participation.

Adrianol: We are also interested in having wide participation like this.

EduardK: If there is SWG-general information, perhaps this could be organised into joint sessions every ~1/2 year rather than monthly postings?

Willem: Also agreed. Participants from other SWGs would be welcome and it would be good to advertise broadly. To date, the pulsar SWG has not had regular meetings, but this may change in the near future.

Jason: In the Transients SWG we're now moving to a meeting each 2 months, and we intend to start with a nice student talk.

AnnaB involuntarily volunteers for organising posting method for these events.

MarkS: We probably want the URL link, but also a brief highlight list in the monthly mailings.

AOB

AB: The registration fee for the Science Meeting is 40 GBP, 20 GBP for students. Need to recover some costs of the online platform but still trying to keep it as accessible as possible. We really need the established provider, especially with our time zone spread etc. we are a bit more complex than some conferences.

JH: How time-boxed are we for the SWG plenary session planning. Any platform restrictions?

AB+RB: no such restrictions

WvS: Today sent email to the Pulsar SWG requesting nominations for next 2 co-chairs. Elections if needed. Timeline is to have Chairs in place by mid-February.

LaurentL: Mentioned that there is some growing interest in the CoL group in planetary science that may over-lap with topics covered by the SHI working group.

RB: CoL introductory sentences on web page could be updated to reflect evolving scope.

FernandoC: Last month after 10 years, 2.5 years after the inauguration, the _last_ approved survey project (Fornax survey) commenced. Great milestone! Call for proposals closed in September. 3400 hours requested for 1000 hours available. Reviews in progress at the moment.

See you all in 2021!