

Minutes of SWG chairs telecon: 13 August 2016, 1300 - 1400 UTC

0) New Science Office member and changes to SWG allocations

- New Project Scientist Anna Bonaldi is now the primary liason for Cosmology and secondary for EoR, Continuum and Magnetism

1) SWG Core Groups

- We remind the SWGs that it is very useful to identify core members. This can help to improve communication between the SKAO and the broader community. Idea generally supported.

2) Recent Document Releases (on the SKA Science Docs page)

- System Requirements Release 9
 - This has now just been released. Next version (Release 10) is expected by December and should be the final one before the critical design reviews. Inputs from SWG members/collaborators welcome
[Rev09-SKA1 Level 1 System Requirement Specification](#)
- Science Error Budgets
 - This is an update of an earlier document that provides a science based specification budget for SKA1-Low and SKA1-Mid. A large fraction of these specifications have already been included in the System Requirements Release 9, the remainder need to be worked in to Release 10
[SKA1ErrorBudgets](#)
- Survey Speed
 - This has been put together with a help from our Australian colleagues and documents relative survey speeds of ASKAP and SKA1-Mid as well as exploring possible PAF deployments on SKA1-Mid
[SurveyPerformanceCalculations](#)

3) Custom Experiments Policy progress

Several ECPs have been submitted asking for a custom access to the data. Rather than dealing with this on a case-by-case basis, a document is being drafted to define a common policy to access the data at different points along the signal path. This will be circulated on the timescale of some weeks for inputs and comments.

4) Relevant Engineering Change Proposals (Band 5, ...)

ECP to split band 5. Science is good but cost implications and possible delay of the project due to changes in the design must be also considered. Review board was split on this and is now appointing an advisory panel to give an unbiased review before a final recommendation is made.

The ECP on LFAA configuration was also discussed. This has to be considered as accepted, some minor modifications are still for consideration however any new change proposal would be submitted by the end of September.

5) Upcoming Meetings:

- Goa2016, “Science for the SKA Generation and Workshop”
 - The list of speakers is now finalized: 57 out of 190 abstracts selected for the conference, plus review/summary KSP talks on Friday. Other presentations will be as a poster and quickly presented in “poster marathon” sessions. Next SOC meeting scheduled for Tue 20th 13-14 UK time. It is important at this stage to finalise hotel bookings and visa applications.
- EWASS2017, “Scientific Synergies enabled by the SKA”, 6x1.5h
 - A letter of intent has been submitted for this, outcome is expected in a few months
- IAU2018, “Science with SKA Precursors and prospects for the SKA”
Focus Meeting or possibly full Symposium
 - The opportunity has been discussed to submit a letter of intent for a symposium at IAU2018, with focus on science from SKA precursors. The idea was fully supported by the group.

6) AOB

- The next IGO negotiations will happen on 27 September. The preparatory work has progressed well so far.
- Rossella is chairing the writing of SKA Athena synergy white paper. Kick-off meeting to be organized.