



### **Square Kilometre Array**

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www.skads-eu.org

Origins, CIEP Sèvres, 16 October 2007

Square Kilometre Array



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### Chris Carilli & Steve Rawlings,

### New Astronomy Reviews, Vol.48, Elsevier, Dec. 2004

### http://www.skads-eu.org/p/SKA\_SciBook.php

#### Square Kilometre Array

# Strong Field Tests of Gravity





Relativistic effects permit (re) determination of masses.

### ALL MUST AGREE

http://www.jb.man.ac.uk/~pulsar/

Binary orbit permits determination of masses





### **Strong Field Tests of Gravity**



- Large surveys will find exotic binarys
  - ~20 000 pulsars in the galaxy
  - Nearly edge-on Pulsar Black-hole binary (at least one)
    - Probe eg. Frame dragging, cosmic censorship, no hair theorem
- Pulsar timing array
  - Gravitational wave background



# **Probing the Dark Ages**

- When did the first luminous objects form?
- How did they form and over what period of time?

SKAD

 SKA will detect the Epoch of Reionisation and map the evolution history of the first luminous objects



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# **Cosmic Magnetism**



- Origin of magnetic fields
  - Dynamo?
  - **Primordial?**





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# Baryonic Acoustic Oscillations



- Improve signal confidence by measuring wiggles in separate redshift bins
- A catalog of a billion galaxies
- Position and redshift measured simultaneously

There are fluctuations at all scales but there is a preferred scale of around 1 deg.

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### **Cradle of Life**



- Protoplanetary disks resolved to Earth-like orbits
- Organic molecules
- Extrasolar planets
- Extra terrestrial intelligence





#### **Square Kilometre Array**





### **Transients**





- Pulsar is a special case of transient phenomena (periodic)
- Giant pulses
- Supernova
- Bursters
- ETI

fast time constant memory buffer for post analysis wide instantaneous, fully-sampled FoV



# The Unknown

- New discoveries always result from observations in new parameter space
  SKA
  - sensitivity
  - spatial resolution
  - spectral resolution
  - polarisation
  - time domain
  - observing speed (multibeaming)
- eg. CMB, pulsars, extra solar planets,...

SKA is designed for the Key Projects but with an overriding design philosophy of flexibility to maximise the likelihood of new discoveries

SKA

improves

all of

these



### **Worldwide SKA efforts**



- Europe
  - LOFAR
  - Square Kilometre Array Design Studies
    - 4 year study, 38MEuro (11MEuro from EU Framework Programme 6)
    - EMBRACE demonstrator at Westerbork and Nançay
- Australia & Canada
  - AU\$56M announced in 2007 Australian budget
  - ASKAP demonstrator
- South Africa
  - Karoo Array Telescope and MeerKAT
  - Over US\$200M confirmed by SA gov't for construction, infrastructure, including high capacity network to Karoo region.
- USA
  - Allen Telescope Array
  - Technology Demonstrator Programme (proposed)

### www.skads-eu.org



#### **Square Kilometre Array**

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# **SKA Reference Design (2)**





- Inner core (~1km) of densely packed phased-array tiles
- Surrounded by paraboloid dishes (~10m diameter)
- Dishes may have multibeam feeds (phased arrays or horn clusters)
- ~200 stations of ~100 dishes each out to a baseline of 3000km

# **Three Technologies**



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### **SKA Reference Design**



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### **Candidate site: Australia**





 Mileura Radio Quiet Zone

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#### **Square Kilometre Array**

# **Detailed Design for SKA**



- Square Kilometre Array Design Studies
  - 26 institutes in 13 countries
  - 38MEuro (including matching funds and EU funds)
  - Detailed design and costing, including signal transport, processing requirements, construction costs,...
  - www.skads.eu.org/p/memos.php

### www.skads-eu.org



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### Multibeaming with an Aperture Plane Phased Array



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