

SKA-France

Monthly bulletin

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SKA-France in the SKAO News

A summary of the SKA-France initiatives from April 2018 to July 2018 is included in the August edition of the [SKA eNewsletter](#), for the last time in the section “[News from Observer Countries](#)”.

The [PDF version](#) of the SKA eNews is also available on line.

Activities

Interview to Guy Perrin about SKA and SKA-France

Following the announcement of CNRS joining the SKA Organisation on behalf of Maison SKA France (MSF) (see [monthly bulletin of last July](#)), **Dr. Guy Perrin** (Deputy Director, Head of Astronomy & Astrophysics Division at CNRS/INSU; Chair of the Board of MSF) **has been interviewed about the SKA project by the science magazine Futura Science.**

The article, [available on-line](#), offers a beautiful overview of the unique scientific objectives of the project, its technological challenges, as well as its development plan. G. Perrin stressed the interest towards the SKA not only of the French astronomical community, but also of national private companies, in particular in the very competitive fields of Big Data, high performance computing, electronics, green energy production and storage.



The Telescope Manager consortium concludes its design work

After its successful Critical Design Review in April 2018, the international SKA consortium “Telescope Manager” (TM), led by India’s National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), has made the final adjustment to the proposed design and formally concluded its work in August 2018.

Since November 2013, engineers and researchers of nine institutions from seven countries have conceived the design of the nervous system of SKA1: the hardware and software necessary to control the telescope and associated infrastructures.

Congratulations to all the team for this important step forward towards the construction of the future Observatory.

Announcements

New Science enabled by New Technologies in the SKA Era

8-12 April 2019, SKA Headquarters, Jodrell Bank, UK

The 2019 SKA Science Meeting will be held at the new SKA Headquarters at Jodrell Bank on April 8th to 12th, 2019.

The week will be divided into a 3-day science meeting, followed by a 2-day key science workshop.

The science meeting will focus on ongoing research with the SKA pathfinders and precursors, as well as other radio facilities. In particular, it will look at the new science enabled by new technologies (e.g. phased-array feeds) and new techniques (e.g. methods developed in data science). Additionally, new approaches needed to handle ever increasing data volumes, and to operate in increasingly hostile radio frequency interference environments will be examined.

The last 2 days will follow on from previous key science workshops where teams intending to propose for key science projects will continue their preparations. Furthermore, both the science meeting and key science workshop will inform what questions and data challenges should be tackled going forward in preparation for the even larger scale projects that will be undertaken with the SKA.

Conference website: <https://indico.skatelescope.org/event/467>

Important dates before the meeting:

- * October 26, 2018: Registration and abstract submission deadline
- * December 7, 2018: Talk/poster decisions from SOC communicated



Science at Low Frequencies

4-6 December 2018, Nagoya University, Japan

Thanks to a large number of radio telescopes with advanced technology, low-frequency radio astronomy has been developing rapidly, including the effort to detect the signature from the Epoch of Reionisation, transients and pulsars, all-sky surveys, studies of active galactic nuclei, planetary and solar physics, and space physics. With the next generation telescopes in mind, we need to understand the achievements and problems of existing telescopes.

This meeting is meant to provide a forum to share scientific results and techniques as well as to discuss the path toward the next generation facilities.

Conference website: <http://www.astro-th.phys.nagoya-u.ac.jp/SALF2018/index.html>

Important dates before the meeting:

- * October 15, 2018: Abstract submission closes
- * October 31, 2018: Registration closes

The New Era of Multi Messenger Astrophysics

25-29 March 2019, Groningen, The Netherlands

The ASTERICS collaboration, a Horizon 2020 funded project that collects knowledge and experiences from astronomy, astrophysics and particle physics and fosters synergies among existing research infrastructures and scientific communities, is pleased to announce a symposium organised to discuss the recent developments in the fields of gravitational waves, astrophysical neutrinos, the highly energetic dynamic sky, and to explore new methods for multi-messenger science and the related research infrastructures.

The past few years have been pivotal for multi-messenger astrophysics, with the first detection of gravitational waves from the merging of two neutron stars and the recent announcement of a high-energy neutrino event detected by IceCube coincident in direction and time with a gamma-ray flare from a blazar detected by Fermi. Gravitational Wave and Neutrino sources and their electromagnetic counterparts, together with new developments in transient astronomy, are a vibrant field where the nature of many phenomena is still unknown or debated. Furthermore, the new generation of sensitive, wide-field instrumentation across the entire electromagnetic and astroparticle spectrum (SKA, CTA, KM3NeT, ELT, Athena) are set to radically change the way we perceive the Universe. In the next decade, space and ground-based detectors will jointly explore the Universe through all its messengers. Adequate e-infrastructures and algorithms will be needed to manage and analyse the data.

Conference website: <http://multi-messenger.asterics2020.eu/>

CESRA2019: The Sun and the inner heliosphere

8-12 July 2019, Telegrafenberg, Potsdam, Germany

CESRA, the Community of European Solar Radio Astronomers, organises triennial workshops on investigations of the solar atmosphere using radio and other observations. Although special emphasis is given to radio diagnostics, the workshop topics are of interest to a large community of solar physicists. The format of the workshop will combine plenary sessions and working group sessions, with invited review talks, oral contributions, and posters.

The CESRA 2019 workshop will place an emphasis on linking the sun with the heliosphere, motivated by the launch of Parker Solar Probe in 2018 and the upcoming launch of Solar Orbiter in 2020. It will provide the community with a forum for discussing the first relevant science results and the future science opportunities, as well as an opportunity for evaluating how to maximise science return by combining space-borne observations with the wealth of data provided by new and future ground-based radio instruments, such as ALMA, E-OVSA, EVLA, LOFAR, MUSER, MWA, and SKA, and by the large number of well-established radio observatories.

Conference website: <http://meetings.aip.de/cesra2019/>

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for the **Maison SKA-France**