

SKA-France

Monthly bulletin

January 2017

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News from the SKA-France coordination

Organisation of the French SKA White Book

In collaboration with AS SKA-LOFAR, we have recently launched the [organisation of the French SKA White Book](#).

Content

The publication of this document is intended to present an **overview of the scientific, technological and industrial interests of the French community for the SKA**, stressing in particular those areas in which our expertise will have the greatest impact.

Compared to other national white books published prior to 2015 (a non-exhaustive list is provided at the [SKA-France web page](#)), our document will have to take into account:

- * The publication in 2015 of the book edited by the SKA Organization "[Science with the Square Kilometer Array](#)"
- * The ongoing organisation of **Key Science Projects**, currently discussed within the [SKA Science Working Groups](#). More information is available on the websites of the two last **SKA Science Conferences organised by SKAO**:
 - [Stockholm 2015](#)
 - [Goa 2016](#)

Timing

We aim at completing the French SKA White Book before the next update of the roadmap (early 2018). We have therefore fixed the following timeline:

- (a) **January 2017**: identification of colleagues interested in participating, grouped by thematic and according to the modalities described below



SKA Prospectus

The SKA Organisation has recently published a very complete [Prospectus](#), which includes an overall vision of the SKA concept, its science, organisation and challenges.

The first [SKA French Industry Meeting](#) (Nice, December 2015) has been selected to illustrate the intense activity of SKA member and observer countries to gather national industry around the SKA project (see page 29 of the [Prospectus](#)).

- (b) **February-March 2017:** identification of the articles to be written for each topic and drafting of their structure and content. The various groups will organise themselves through videoconferences and / or workshops. A list of meetings organised for this aim is provided at the [SKA-France webpage](#). The SKA-France coordinator is available to participate to each of these meetings to give the general framework and to answer questions
- (c) **Mid/end March 2017:** general workshop of 2-3 days to gather all the drafts, homogenise them and finalise the format (grouping of the different chapters, fixing the maximum number of pages per article, providing LaTeX macros ...)
- (d) **Mid-June 2017:** all articles are sent to the SKA-France coordinator, in charge of the final edition of the White Book
- (e) **September 2017:** the White Book is ready for publication

Organisation

On the basis of the existing competences in the [SKA-France Advisory Committee](#) and, for non-covered topics, of colleagues who have expressed an interest in helping to draft the White Book, the following contacts have been identified for each wide research field:

- * **Extragalactic Astrophysics and Cosmology:** [Benoît Semelin](#), [Jean-Michel Martin](#) & [Guilaine Lagache](#)
- * **Planetology:** [Philippe Zarka](#)
- * **Fundamental Physics & Astrometry:** [Gilles Theureau](#) & [Sébastien Lambert](#)
- * **Transient Universe:** [Stéphane Corbel](#) & [Susanna Vergani](#)
- * **Physics of the Interstellar Medium:** [Marc-Antoine Miville-Deschenes](#), [Katia Ferrière](#), [Isabelle Ristorcelli](#), [Marta Alves](#), [Ludovic Montier](#)
- * **Stellar Physics and our Galaxy:** [Eric Josselin](#)
- * **Solar Physics:** [Nicole Vilmer](#)
- * **Signal Processing:** [André Ferrari](#)
- * **Technological Developments:** [Stéphane Bosse](#) & [Stéphane Gauffre](#)
- * **Industrial Prospects and Solutions:** [Gabriel Marquette](#)

These contacts will be in charge of:

- * Identifying the colleagues interested to collaborate to the White Book writing (point (a) of the list in the Timing section)
- * Coordinating the drafting phase for each topic (point (b))
- * Finalising chapters for which they are responsible and send them to the SKA-France coordinator (points (c) and (d))

All colleagues who are interested to participate to the French SKA White Book are invited to contact the responsible person(s) of the corresponding theme by February 3rd 2017

Please do not hesitate to contact the [SKA-France coordinator](#) for any further communication or request

Announcements

Second SKA-France Image Processing meeting

After the successful [first SKA-France Signal Processing meeting](#), the SKA-France coordination is organising a second workshop for French researchers developing new algorithms for radio interferometry. The meeting aims at (1) defining the list of algorithms which will be the object of collaboration within the group and which will be presented to industrial partners ready to commit human and material resources; (2) adopting a range of collaborative tools; (3) discussing the organisation of the chapters on signal processing in the SKA White Book

A [wiki page](#) has been set up to organise in detail the meeting and its agenda. The information to connect to the wiki page (username and password) was sent to the participants of the first SKA-France Signal Processing workshop. Those interested in participating and who have not received this information are asked to contact the [SKA-France Project Assistant](#).

The workshop will take place at the Lagrange Laboratory of Côte d'Azur Observatory (Nice) on February 27th, 2017. Practical information at the [SKA-France web page](#).

Workshop "Physics of the Interstellar Medium with the SKA"

The persons in charge of coordinating the "Physics of the interstellar medium" topic within the French SKA White Book (Marc-Antoine Miville-Deschênes from IAS, Katia Ferrière, Marta Alves, Isabelle Ristorcelli & Ludovic Montier from IRAP) are organising a workshop on the "Physics of the Interstellar Medium with the SKA" for the French community.

The goal of the workshop is to bring together interested researchers, to get them acquainted with the expected capabilities of the SKA, and to establish a first list of scientific topics related to the interstellar medium that are expected to benefit from the SKA and to be of interest to French researchers. This list will help the organisers a detailed outline for their chapter in the SKA-France White Book.

The meeting will be held at IRAP (Toulouse) on February 27-28, 2017. Registration and abstract submission can be done through the [website of the workshop](#). The deadline has been set to February 6, 2017.

Recommendations about SKA

The recommendations from the recent review of the Astrophysics and Astroparticle Physics Large Research Infrastructures by the ad-hoc High Committee of the Ministry for Research are expected to come out beginning of February.

Season's Greetings



Chiara Ferrari
for the SKA-France coordination

