



ID de Contribution: 63

Type: Non spécifié

An overview of pulsar observations with French radio telescopes

mercredi 15 septembre 2021 11:55 (25 minutes)

The study of pulsars started at the Nançay Observatory in the mid-1980s, after the discovery of the first millisecond pulsar. Since then, several generations of instruments have been developed as well as a wide spectrum of projects ranging from the characterisation of emission processes or the production of precise ephemerides for high energy observatories to the use of pulsars as natural clocks to test alternative theories of gravity or to detect low frequency gravitational waves. I will present a summary of current scientific activities around radio pulsars in France, mainly from the point of view of the Nançay-Orléans group and through the prism of observations with the NRT, NenuFAR, LOFAR and MeerKAT radio telescopes.

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Classification de Session: Radio observations of HE phenomena