



SKA challenges

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TITAN meeting

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- * SKA : Next Generation Radio Telescope
 - Science with SKA
- Radio interferometry
- Cosmology with SKA
 - * H_I redshift survey
 - Intensity mapping
- Summary

SKA - Next Generation Radio Telescope

SKA: Next generation radio telescope

Large FOV, high resolution, large bandwidth, digital radio interferometer

- SKA-Low (50-350 MHz) in Murchinson area in Australia , using phased array of antenna
 - \$ 512 stations, each with 256 antennae (total=131072 antenna), maximum baseline ~ 74 km, total collecting area about 400 000 m²
- SKA-Mid, (0,35-15.4 GHz) in Karoo region in South Africa, using 197 steerable dishes, off axis design, cryogenic receiver
 - 133 × D=15m diameter dishes + 64 × D=13.5m MeerKAT dishes, 5 receivers (selectable) to cover 6 frequency bands, max baseline ≈ 150 km, total collecting area about 30 000 m²
- * SKAO headquarters at Jodrell-Bank, Manchester, UK

https://www.skao.int/en/explore/telescopes/ska-low

https://www.skao.int/index.php/en/explore/telescopes/ska-mid





SKA-low 131072 antennae, organised into 512 stations, each with 256 antenna Total collecting area ~ 400 000 m²

50 - 350 MHz

Maximum baseline : 74 km

How does SKA-Low compare?

Compared to the LOFAR telescope in the Netherlands, which is currently the best similar instrument in the world, SKA-Low will have 25% better resolution, eight times the sensitivity, and will be able to survey the sky 135 times faster.





https://www.skao.int/en/explore/telescopes/ska-low

SKA-mid dish (15 m) 133 x 15 m dishes + 64 MeerKAT 13.6 m dishes Total collecting area ~ 30 000 m²

350 MHz - 15.4 GHz

Maximum baseline : 150 km





Who are we?

The Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO)

An inter-governmental organization, governed by a treaty. SKAO was born in January 2021.

Members	Australia, China, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa, Switzerland, UK
Accession stage	France, Spain, Germany
Membership negotiations	Canada
Interim agreements	India, Sweden
Early stages	Japan, South Korea



Construction Strategy

- Target: build the SKA Baseline Design (197 Mid dishes; 512 Low stations: AA4)
- Not all funding yet secured, therefore following Staged Delivery Plan (AA*)
- Develop the earliest possible working demonstration of the architecture and supply chain (AA0.5).
- Then maintain a continuously working and expanding facility that demonstrates the full performance capabilities of the SKA Design.

Milestone Event (earliest)		SKA-Mid (end date)	SKA-Low (end date)	
AA0.5	4 dishes 6 stations	2024 Dec	2024 Aug	
AA1	8 dishes 18 stations	2025 Nov	2025 Oct	
AA2	64 dishes 64 stations	2026 Oct	2026 Sep	
AA*	144 dishes 307 stations	2027 Aug	2028 Jan	
Operation Review	ons Readiness	2027 Nov	2028 Apr	
End of Construction		2028 Jul	2028 Jul	

Best argument for further investment is a working system!

First science expected in 2026/27

Slide / 25

Slide borrowed from a presentation by C. Cesarsky (chair person, SKAO council) **SKA-1 Cost** ≈ 650 **M**€

SKA total Cost ≈ 2100 M€

SKA science

Very broad coverage in astrophysics, cosmology and physics

- Study the Epoch of Reionisation (EoR) at z ~ 6-12 and explore the Cosmic Dawn, up to z <~ 30
- Cosmology, dark matter and dark energy

SKA-Low

SKA-Mid

- Galaxy evolution, cosmic history of baryons
- * Cosmic magnetism: magnetic field and their impact on structure formation
- * The transient sky in radio, stellar explosions and influence of compact objects on their environment
- * Gravity, Gravitational waves and compact objects
- Formation of stars and planetary systems, search for complex molecules in close planetary nebulae

Red Book 2018 - SKA Cosmology Science WG https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.02743



Illustration from a slide by C. Ferrari **Table 1.** Frequency coverage of SKA1 in the Design Baseline. Bands listed in bold will be deployed as part of the funded Design Baselines. While Bands 3 and 4 are part of the Design Baseline they are not funded at present.

Cosmology	SKA1 Band	Frequency Range	Available Bandwidth	
	Low	50 – 350 MHz	300 MHz	
0.35 <z<3< th=""><th>Mid Band 1</th><th>0.35 – 1.05 GHz</th><th>700 MHz</th></z<3<>	Mid Band 1	0.35 – 1.05 GHz	700 MHz	
0 <z<0.35< th=""><th>Mid Band 2</th><th>0.95 – 1.76 GHz</th><th>810 MHz</th></z<0.35<>	Mid Band 2	0.95 – 1.76 GHz	810 MHz	
	Mid Band 3	1.65 – 3.05 GHz	1.4 GHz	
	Mid Band 4	2.80 – 5.18 GHz	2.38 GHz	
	Mid Band 5a	4.6 – 8.5 GHz	3.9 GHz	
	Mid Band 5b	8.3 – 15.3 GHz	2 x 2.5 GHz	



		Cosmo H	I surveys		
0 MHz	300 MHz	770 MHz	1.4 GHz	6.7 GHz	12.5 GHz
)5-0.35	0.05-0.35	0.35-1.05	0.95-1.76	4.6-8.5	8.3-15.3
Low	Low	Mid	Mid	Mid	Mid
327	120	109	60	12.5	6.7
11	4	0.7	0.4	0.08	0.04
300	300	700	810	3900	2 x 2500
26	14	4.4	2	1.3	1.2
1850	800	300	140	90	85
2-600	6–300	1–145	0.6–78	0.13–17	0.07–9
5.4	5.4	13.4	13.4	80.6	80.6
x 3.9	4 x 3.9	4 x 3.1	4 x 3.1	4 x 3.1	4 x 3.1
226	226	210	210	210	210

https://arxiv.org/pdf/1912.12699.pdf

Radio interferometers

Radio-telescopes / Interferometers

 $\lambda = 21 \text{ cm}$; $\nu = 1420 \text{ MHz}$

Radio observation: spectro-photometry Single dish diffraction limited : λ /D Interferometer resolution : λ / Baseline Interferometer FOV : λ/D Sensitivity limited by receiver / environment noise : T_{sys}

D	S	λ/D
10 m	78.5 m^2	1.2 deg
50 m	2000 m^2	15′
300 m	70 000 m^2	2.5′

 $S_* = \frac{T_{sys}}{A_e \sqrt{t_{int} \,\delta\nu}} \qquad \text{Large collecting area for} \\ \text{sensitivity}$

High angular resolution through interferometry with long baselines

- Single reflector single receiver (feed)
- Single reflector multiple receivers (feeds) in the focal plane (10 - 100)
- Single reflector and phased array in the focal plane
- Several antenna : interferometry
- Dense array of antenna (no reflector) : aperture synthesis



HAR AND

Effelsberg 100 meter radiotelescope, Germany

https://www.mpifr-bonn.mpg.de/en/effelsberg

NRT, (Nançay, France)

https://www.obs-nancay.fr







Photo : © Jeff Dai - https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap160929.html

FAST (Five hundred meter Spherical Radio Telescope) https://fast.bao.ac.cn

From visibilities to maps

$$\begin{split} s_{i}(\nu) &= \iint d\hat{n} \ E(\hat{n},\nu)D_{i}(\hat{n},\lambda)e^{i(\vec{k}_{EM}.\vec{r})} & L(\hat{n},\nu) = D_{i}(\hat{n},\nu)D_{j}^{*}(\hat{n},\nu) \\ I(\hat{n},\nu) &= D_{i}(\hat{n},\nu)D_{j}^{*}(\hat{n},\nu) \\ I(\hat{n},\nu) &= D_{i}(\hat{n},\nu)D_{j}^{*}(\hat{n},\nu) \\ I(\hat{n},\nu) &= E(\hat{n},\nu)E^{*}(\hat{n},\nu) \\ \iint d\hat{n} \ \widehat{I(\hat{n},\nu)L(\hat{n},\nu)}e^{i(\vec{k}_{EM}.\vec{\Delta r}_{ij})} \\ & \text{Number of } \\ \text{Number of } \\ N_{ij}(\nu) &= \iint d\hat{n} \ \widehat{I(\hat{n},\nu)L(\hat{n},\nu)}e^{i(\vec{k}_{EM}.\vec{\Delta r}_{ij})} \\ & \text{Antenna response} \\ & \text{Angular domain} \\ \hat{n} &\to (\alpha,\beta) \longrightarrow \\ I(\alpha,\beta,\nu) \longrightarrow \\ I(\alpha,\beta,\nu) \longrightarrow \\ L(\alpha,\beta,\nu) \longrightarrow \\ \mathcal{L}((u,v),\nu) \\ \mathcal{L}(u,v),\nu) \\ \mathcal{V}_{ij}(\nu \to \lambda) \simeq \iint dudv \ \widehat{I}((u,v),\nu) \ \mathcal{L}(u - \frac{\Delta x_{ij}}{\lambda},v - \frac{\Delta y_{ij}}{\lambda},\nu) \end{split}$$

A visibility corresponds approximately to a weighted measurement in the Fourier (u,v) plane

Use of FFT for map reconstruction, but the relation is not exact and (u,v) plane coverage is incomplete



SKA bands, noise level



Cryogenic receivers for SKA-Mid



Systematic errors are the limits, as often

SKA-I system design baseline V2 report, *P. Dewdney* (2016)

https://www.skao.int/sites/default/files/documents/ d1-SKA-TEL-SKO-0000002_03_SKA1SystemBaselineDesignV 2_1.pdf



Figure 11: Location of SKA1-mid dishes (red dots) on the ground in the central area of the Karoo SKA site at two different scales

The black and white circles show the location of the MeerKAT antennas. The background is from Google Earth.



Figure 12: Location of entire SKA1-mid antenna array on the ground

SKA-I configuration

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Figure 10: Naturally-weighted u-v coverage of SKA1-mid for an 8 hour track at Declination Document No.: SKA-TEL-SKO-000000**20**deg, using only a single frequency channel Revision: 03 Date: 2016-02-26

SKA-I system design baseline V2 report, *P. Dewdney* (2016)

https://www.skao.int/sites/default/files/documents/ d1-SKA-TEL-SKO-0000002_03_SKA1SystemBaselineDesignV 2_1.pdf



AU⁻

Cosmology with H_I redshift survey

Structure formation and evolution a cosmological probe



A slice through the SDSS galaxy 3D distribution

Zehavi et al. ApJ 2011, arXiv:1005.2413

Some major cosmological probes

Optical surveys: SDSS - DES -LSST - Euclid - DESI ...

Supernovae (SN)

- Galaxy Clusters (CL)
- Weak Lensing (WL) SKA
- Galaxy clustering (LSS / GC)
- * BAO \rightarrow d_A(z), H(z)
- BAO/RSD

21cm IM

*

Cosmo. related SKA1 surveys

- Medium-Deep Band 2 (0.95-1.75 GHz) SKA1-Mid survey, covering 5000 deg² with total 10 000 hours (few years) integ. time. Continuum Weak Lensing survey and H_I galaxy redshift survey z ≤ 0.4
- Wide Band 1 (0.35-1.05 GHz) SKA1-Mid survey, covering 20000 deg² with total 10 000 hours (few years) integ. time. Continuum galaxy survey, H_I Intensity Mapping (IM) survey , 0.35 ≤ z ≤ 3 redshift range
- * Deep SKA1-Low survey 100 deg² with total 5 000 hours, 200-350 MHz band , $3 \le z \le 6$

Red Book 2018 - SKA Cosmology Science WG https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.02743

A galaxy at z=0.3 , D_L =1500 Mpc

- ✤ 21 cm Radio emission
 - · 10^9 M_☉ de H_I → $3 \ 10^{27}$ watts (total emitted power)
 - Received power $\approx 10^{-24} \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ spread over } \sim 1 \text{ MHz}$ (few photons / m^2 /s)
 - \Rightarrow (10-30 W/m²/Hz = 100 μ Jy) Jansky : 1Jy = 10⁻²⁶ W/Hz/m²
- Optical / visible light
 - · 10^9 10^{10} L_☉ → ≥ 10^{35} watts (total emitted power)
 - Received power $\approx 10^{-16} \text{ W}/\text{m}^2$
 - $\sim Or \; 10^{\text{-}17} \; W \, / \, m^2 \;$ in given photometric band (~ 10 photons / m²/s)

21 cm signal from a H_I rich galaxy at cosmological distances

$A(m^2)$	Tsys (K)	$S_{lim}\left(\mu Jy ight)$
5000	50	66
5000	25	33
100000	50	3,5
100000	25	1,7

 S_* in μ Jy for : $t_{integ} = 24$ hours $\delta \nu = 1$ MHz

Z	S ₂₁ (μJy)
0,25	175
0,5	40
1	9,6
1,5	3,5
2	2,5

 S_{21} in μ Jy for $10^{10} M_{\odot}$



$$S_{\rm lim} \propto \frac{T_{\rm sys}}{A_e} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t_{\rm int}}\delta\nu}$$
$$\rightarrow t_{\rm int} \propto \left(\frac{A_e}{T_{\rm sys}}\right)^2$$

Survey Speed Figure of Merit SS_{FoM}





https://arxiv.org/pdf/1912.12699.pdf







SKA-Observatory (Square Kilometer Array) https://www.skatelescope.org/

SKA H_I galaxy redshift survey



https://arxiv.org/abs/1412.4700

Constraints on DE and MG from SKA1 (forecasts)



Wide

Figure 12. Forecast constraints on phenomenological modified gravity parameters using the broadband shape of the power spectrum, detected using the HI galaxy sample of the Medium-Deep Band 2 Survey. Planck and DES (galaxy clustering only) constraints are included for comparison. The improvement from adding SKA1 is comparable to DES. Specifications for DES were taken from Lahav et al. (2010).

1.0

0.0

1.4

 $P/P_{\rm max}$

Void count

Modified

gravity

Figure 15. Forecast marginalized parameter constraints for w_0 and w_a from the void counts of the HI galaxy Medium-Deep Band 2 Survey (grey), Planck (blue), and both combined (yellow). Apart from the cosmological parameters, we have also marginalized over uncertainty in void radius (Sahlén & Silk, 2016), and in the theoretical void distribution function (Pisani et al., 2015).

 $p/q = w_0 + (1-a) w_a$

See <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.02743</u> and its reference list

Post EoR Intensity Mapping with SKA

Intensity Mapping

- SKA1 constraining power for cosmological parameters, DE EoS specially, is not competitive with optical surveys, due to the limited redshift reach of the H_I galaxy redshift survey
- * Intensity Mapping allows to extend significantly the accessible redshift range
- * However, the SKA1-Mid array configuration is not well suited to IM Use of individual dishes *or possibly the central core in interferometric mode*
- * 3D Intensity Mapping, similar to CMB
 - Measure integrated emission (brightness temperature) of HI from IGM and gas in galaxies, in cells 10-1000 Mpc³
 - * Subtract foregrounds, and compute P(k,z) on 3D maps $T21(\alpha,\delta,\nu)$
 - * Possible to reach higher redshifts (z ~ 1-2) with SKA1-Mid
- * Separating the cosmological signal from the foregrounds (Galactic synchrotron, radiosources ...) is a big challenge
- Residual fluctuations due to noise, specially in non interferometric mode is also a challenge

LSS : Power spectrum and different scales



Constraints on Cosmology from SKA-1 IM survey

HI auto-correlation P(k) from SKA1 IM

 \boldsymbol{z}



The price to pay ...

Foregrounds: Extracting cosmological signal

 Foregrounds, dominated by Milky Way synchrotron emission and radio sources are 1000-10000 brighter than the cosmological signal (1-10 K in cold parts of the sky, compared to <0.1 mK for the cosmological 21cm)



Mode mixing / foregrounds



R.Ansari - Jan 2022 (18)

Mode mixing - A realistic illustration

Top: reconstructed 3D maps - bottom After simple 2nd order polynomial subtraction

Perfect instrument - frequency independent gaussian beam Imperfect foreground model

Tianlai T16D - NCP survey Residual mode mixing



map pixels (ra,dec) - 5' pixels

R.Ansari - Jan 2022 (19)

Other probes / science goals - Synergy with optical surveys

- * Particle DM search through H_I redshift survey cross-correlated with γ -ray maps
- * Probing neutrinos masses , inflationary features
- * Nature of DM (wdm ...) using IM P(k) at small scales
- * Cosmic dipole, using distribution of continuum radio-sources
- * Cross-correlation with optical surveys :
 - Multi-tracer map of LSS : Control of systematics
 - * Photometric redshift calibration , Photo-z for SKA continuum survey



Summary (highlighting some of the conclusions of the SKA Cosmology WG Red Book)

H_I galaxy redshift survey

• The HI galaxy sample will reach extremely high number densities at $z \leq 0.2$, making it possible to reliably identify even small cosmic voids, and obtain high-SNR cross-correlations with γ -ray maps. The resulting void sample can be used as a complementary probe of matter clustering that is particularly sensitive to modified gravity effects, while the γ -ray cross-correlations can be used to detect dark matter annihilation.

Synergy with other surveys/instruments

• Using the SKA with other telescopes can provide complementary physical constraints, e.g. from the combination of optical weak lensing with radio intensity mapping, and vital cross-checks of results by comparing dark energy constraints from optical surveys to those from the SKA. Cross-correlations of probes can measure signatures which would otherwise be buried in noise.

Intensity Mapping

• Synergies of the intensity mapping surveys with optical surveys such as LSST and *Euclid* are crucial for multi-wavelength cosmology and systematics mitigation (see more detailed discussion below). In particular, they will provide ground breaking constraints on ultra-large scale effects such as primordial non-Gaussianity, potentially a factor of 10 better than current measurements.

Summary

- * Outstanding technical challenges for building the two instruments : infrastructure, optics, mechanics, cryogenic, electronics
- * SKA is a digital interferometer, with great many numerical challenges, well beyond other large astronomical instruments
- The complexity of interferometric data analysis (RFI, calibration, map making ...) makes it an ideal application domain for state of the art algorithms, from the sparse representation, inverse problems, statistics and deep learning
- Component separation, to extract 21cm cosmological signal is another major challenge for the intensity mapping
- But SKA will open / or widen the observation window in radio of the universe, including the unique possibility of exploring the EoR





Swiss SKA Days 2022 - https://indico.skatelescope.org/event/936/timetable/?view=standard

Planning for Science with SKA @ Swiss SKA Days https://indico.skatelescope.org/event/936/contributions/8818/attachments/8184/13487/SwissDays2022_Bourke.pdf

Un papier forecast pour DE models with IM/Tianlai <u>https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.3847/1538-4357/ac0ef5/pdf</u>

Cross correlating 21cm with optical Padmanabhan , refregier & Amara https://arxiv.org/pdf/1909.11104.pdf

> Cosmic Radio dipole https://arxiv.org/pdf/1810.04960.pdf

> Another cosmic dipole <u>https://arxiv.org/pdf/1606.06751.pdf</u>

Cosmological probes and Dark energy (I)

- Large Scale Structure (LSS) : shape (power spectrum or correlation function) and its evolution with redshift is a powerful cosmological probe - in particular the BAO feature in the LSS
- * Baryon Acoustic Oscillations (**BAO**) : Measurement of characteristic scales \rightarrow d_A(z), H(z)
- * Supernovae (**SN**): Measure of apparent SNIa luminosity as a function of $\rightarrow d_{L}(z)$
- * Weak lensing (**WL**) : Measure of preferred orientation of galaxies \rightarrow d_A(z), growth of inhomogeneities (structures / LSS)
- * Galaxy Clusters (**CL**) : number count and distribution of clusters \rightarrow d_A(z), H(z), Structure formation (LSS)
- * Integrated Sachs Wolf (**ISW**) effect : effect of evolving gravitational potential in large scale structures (with redshift)

Cosmological probes (II)

- * 1- Study the geometry of the universe (FLRW metric) with a distance-redshift relation depending on the cosmological parameters (energy-matter densities)
 - Standard candles : SNIa , gravitational sirenes (GW)...
 - Standard ruler probes : BAO
- Study the dynamics of structure formation : observe the LSS form and evolve through cosmic time (redshift)
 - * Matter distribution using tracers (LSS) or the gravitational potential through lensing
- Statistical properties of matter distribution in the universe and its evolution with time (redshift) is one of the major tools/probes to test the cosmological model, determine its parameters: Dark matter and dark energy properties, neutrinos masses ...
- * The analysis is often carried out using the correlation function (or the spatial or angular power spectrum P(k) , C(l) ...

Foregrounds



- Exploit foregrounds smooth frequency dependence (power law ∝ ν^β) for Galactic synchrotron and radio sources
- Instrumental effects (mode mixing), Polarisation leakage / Faraday rotation ...

Wang et al. 2006 (EoR) Ansari et al. (2012) - A&A Shaw et al (2015) ApJ Wolz et al. (2016) - MNRAS Zuo et al. (2019) - AJ + many more !

- Mapping LSS with 21cmIM → few arc min resolution is sufficient
- → Large instantaneous field of view (FOV>few deg) and bandwidth (BW > 100 MHz)
- Use of dense interferometric arrays (small size reflectors) to insure high sensitivity to low k and large instantaneous FOV

45 Mpc

20 Mpc

8.5 Mpc

0.3 Mpc

0.3 Mpc

0.3 Mpc

z=2

z=1

- Or a single dish with multi-beam focal plane receivers
- Instrument noise (Tsys)
- Foregrounds / radio sources and component separation



L=100 m array radio instrument \rightarrow ang. resolution $\delta\theta \sim \lambda/L$ deteriorating with redshift z Spectral resolution 100 kHz

→ excellent redshift precision $\delta z/z \sim 10^{-4}$

						z=0.5	
Z	δθ	d _{LOS} (Mpc)	Н	δd_{\perp} (Mpc)	δd₁ (Mpc)		
0,5	15′	1945	90	8,5	~0.3	ľ /	
1	20′	3400	120	20	~0.3		/
2	30′	5320	200	45	~0.3		/
3	40′	6320	300	75	~0.3	R.Ansari - Ja	n 2022

IM instrumental challenges (incomplete summary)

- * Packed array transit interferometer (chosen for most of the dedicated projects)
- Large instantaneous field of view → small individual reflector size (few meters)
- * Large instantaneous bandwidth (400 MHz ... 1 GHz)
- Large number of feeds: few hundreds to few thousands feeds and long observation (integration) time → decrease projected noise level on sky
- technological challenge : cost effective design and construction of large number of feeds and associated electronics, while maintaining uniformity, construction quality and performance
- Digital interferometry with such large arrays, technologically feasible through the use of FPGA + CPU/GPU's
- * Feed cross-couplings and correlated noise
- Instrument stability bandpass smoothness and calibration
- Phase calibration Interferometry / beam forming
- * Individual feed beam response (simulation + on site measurements) side lobe issues
- ✤ Array calibration : redundant baselines an advantage for calibration ✓
- Array grating lobes : disadvantage of regular arrays which perform poorly in terms of mode mixing X



Many others (forecasts, phenomenology ...) Random selection

Karagiannis et al, arXiv:1911.03964 Santos et al, arXiv:1501.03989 Villaescusa et al, arXiv:1609.00019 Villaescusa et al, arXiv:1609.00019 Witzemann et al, arXiv:1804.09180 Witzemann et al, arXiv:1711.02179 Chen et al, arXiv:2010.07985 SKA-WG , Bacon et al. arXiv:1811.02743

21 cm 3D Intensity Maps



SKA Science Working Groups & Focus groups

The Science Working Groups (SWGs) and Focus Groups (FGs) are scientific advisory bodies that provide input to the SKA Organisation on issues related to the design, construction, and future operations of the SKA that are likely to affect the Observatory's scientific capability, productivity and user relations. In addition, the FGs have a more specific, technical focus.

If you are interested in participating in any of the groups, please contact the current chairs or corresponding project scientists via the website link below.

- Cosmology
- Cradle of Life
- Epoch of Reionization
- Extragalactic Continuum (galaxies/AGN, galaxy clusters)
- Extragalactic Spectral Line
- HI galaxy science
- High Energy Cosmic
 Particles (FG)
- Magnetism
- Our Galaxy
- Pulsars
- Solar, Heliospheric & Ionospheric Physics
- Transients
- VLBI (FG)





- f Square Kilometre Array
- **X⁺ You Tube** The Square Kilometre Array

For more, visit



astronomers.skatelescope.org/science-working-groups

SKA-Observatory (Square Kilometer Array) https://www.skatelescope.org/