

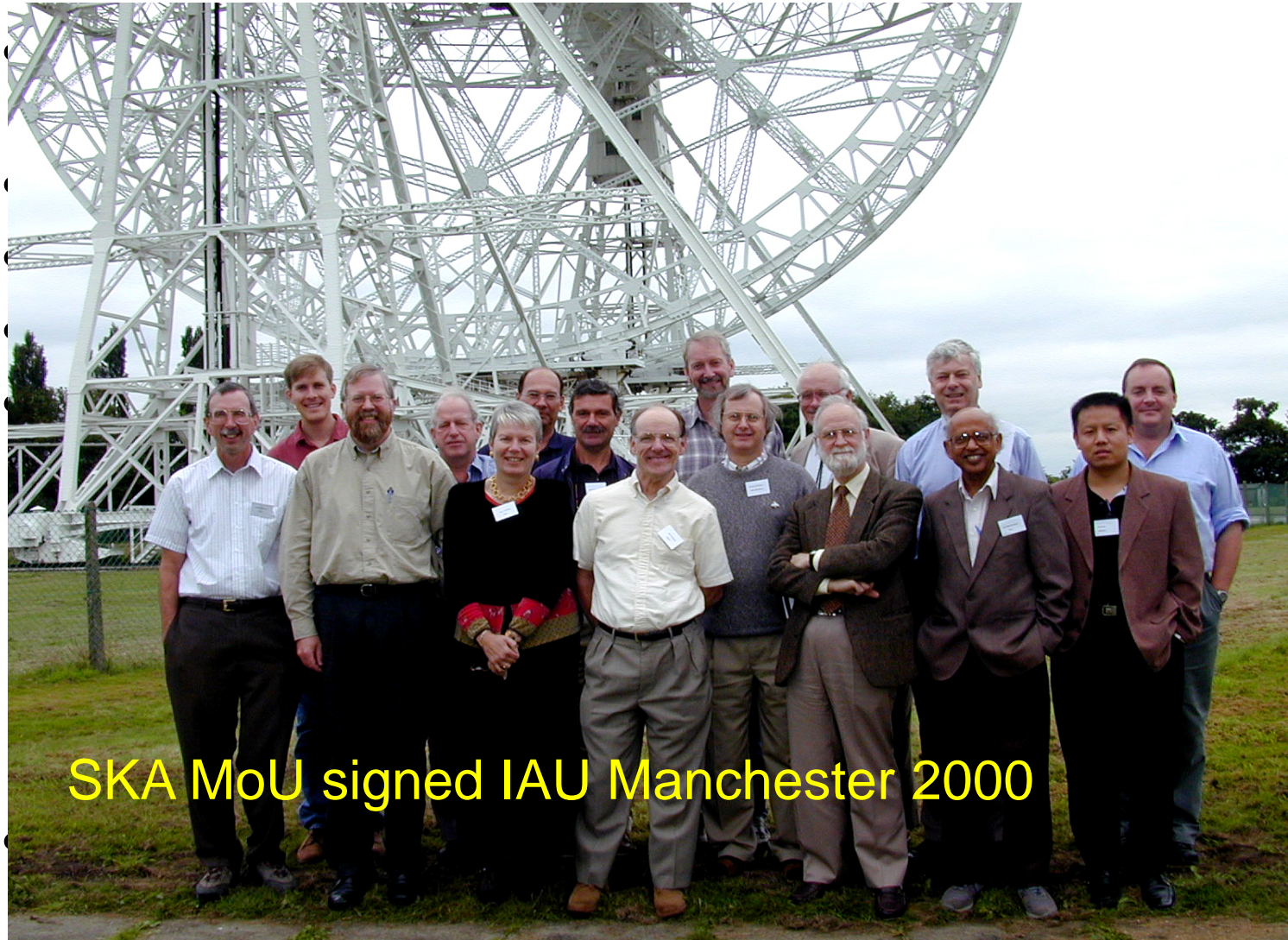


# “The Lasting Legacy of SKADS”

Peter Wilkinson



# How did SKADS emerge?



SKA MoU signed IAU Manchester 2000

e

cale



# How did SKADS emerge?



WHERE	WHEN	WHAT
ASTRON	18 Dec 2002	Initial Coordination : AvA and PNW to organise the effort within RadioNet-1
Medicina	13 Feb 2003	Multi-beam technology coordination SAMBA and BEST & THEA++ etc
Jodrell	7/8 May 2003	Working plans: Array System architecture & beam forming
Schiphol	20 June 2003	“Supporting Actions” & the focus should be “MBRACE”
Nancay	11/12 Sep 2003	Detailed planning of response to FP6 Design Study Call
Brussels	17 Nov 2003	Bilateral with EC – our response to Design Study Call
Florence	25/26 Nov 2003	WP structure & who participates in proposal?
Schiphol	18 Dec 2003	Detailed planning of WPs
Capetown	17 Jan 2004	“SKADS “ name – major roles in proposal finalised
Schiphol	23 Jan 2004	DS-T structure coordinated via “feasibility studies” and “technical preparatory work”



# How did SKADS emerge?



WHERE	WHEN	WHAT
Madrid	3-4 Feb 2004	Finalising DS-Tn structure; coordinators & participants
ASTRON	Feb-March 2004	Proposal Writing.... (and a skiing holiday!)
Schiphol	6 July 2004	“Expecting” 10M funding from EC - coordinating national the matching efforts
Jodrell	17 Dec 2004	Meeting of UK-SKADS team with (EC-SKADS Coordinator + ASTRON) team → DoW update
ASTRON	9 Feb 2005	DS4 tie-up (to include T6 2-PAD)
Zandaam	24 Feb 2005	Finalising contents of DoW → final EC negotiations
Limelette	17 Nov 2005	SKADS Kick-off meeting
(Plus many other telecons and national, ESKAC and other meetings)		

Mistakes were made !.... but time to correct before proposal



## FP6 SKADS: coordinator AvA



- Designed as a “complete” programme
  - Scientific and technical simulations
  - Basic technology R&D
  - Practical demonstrators of AAs & electronic beam forming
  - A costed design for an entire SKA

“The structure is optimized to continuously map the scientific requirements onto the technical specifications to produce a common design goal. “

- Programme unusual for EC: national >> EC funding
  - but EC funding was the crucial catalyst



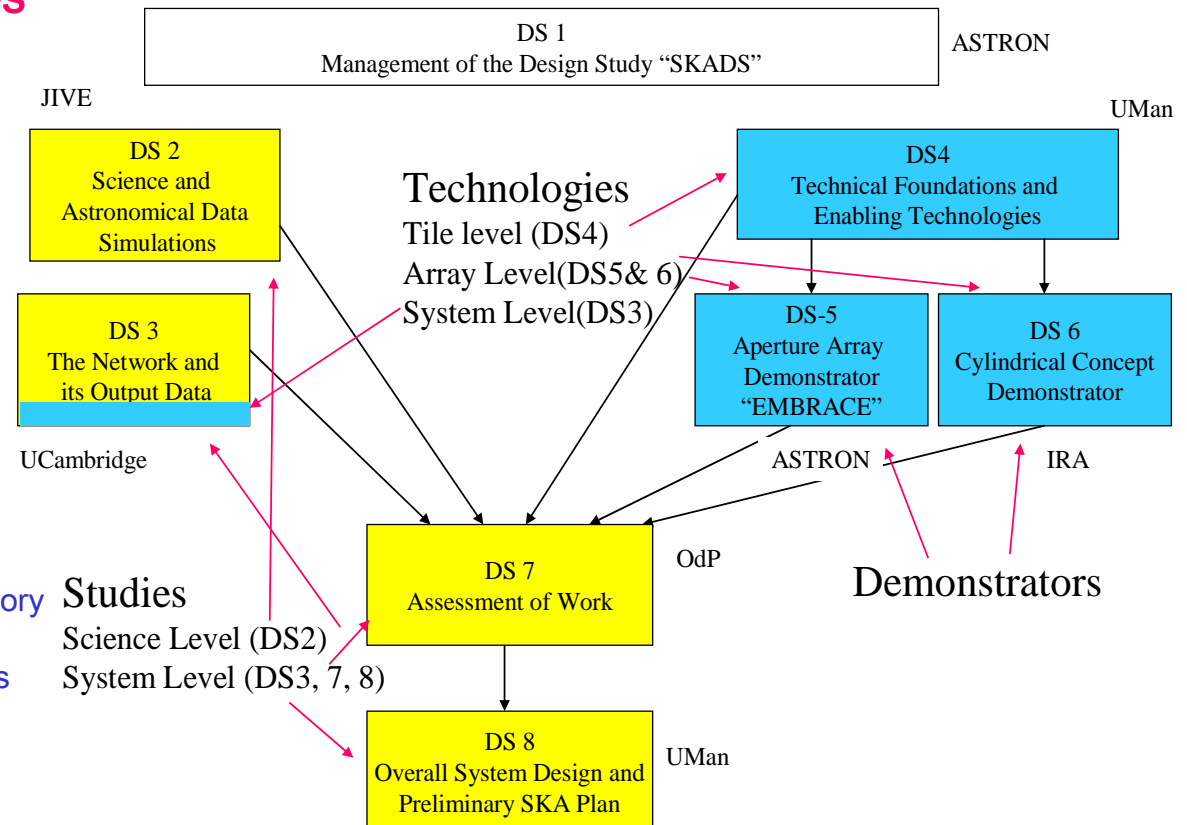
# SKADS Main Objectives - AvA

A 40M€ program (incl. 10M€ EC) to

- Demonstrate Technological Readiness
- Demonstrate Scientific Readiness
- Target costing issues

FP6 DS Structure:

Blue = Technical Preparatory work  
 Yellow = Feasibility Studies





## SKADS; The European Design Study towards the Square Kilometer Array

The next giant leap in RadioAstronomy

A European project  
involving 29 partners from Radio Astronomy  
Institutes, Universities and Industry in 8 EU countries plus  
Russia, South Africa, Australia & Canada

***A Cohering Program towards 2009***



© NFRA

**A. van Ardenne**  
**SKADS Coördinator**

ASTRON, P.O. Box 2, 7990 AA Dwingeloo  
The Netherlands (info@skads-eu.org)  
[www.skads-eu.org](http://www.skads-eu.org)



# The final DoW took a long time....!



## SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Structuring the European Research Area Specific Programme

### RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES ACTION

Contract for a

1 0 JAN. 2008

DESIGN STUDY

implemented as

SPECIFIC SUPPORT ACTION

### *Annex I - "Description of Work"*

Project acronym: SKADS

Project full title: Square Kilometre Array Design Studies

Project start date: 1 July 2005





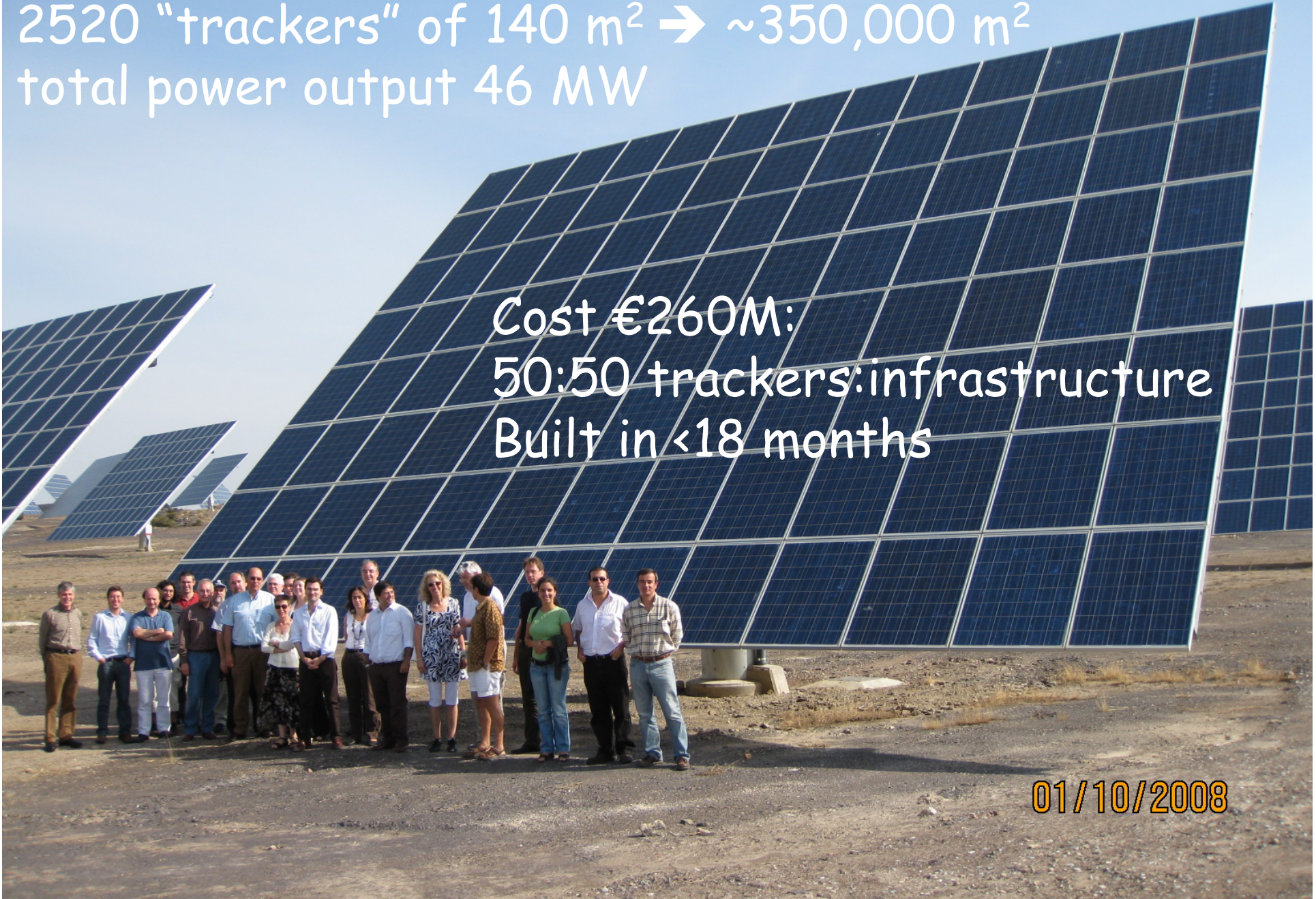
# Some mid-SKADS Memories



ACCIONA Solar-voltaic power station Portugal  
2520 "trackers" of 140 m<sup>2</sup> → ~350,000 m<sup>2</sup>  
total power output 46 MW

Cost €260M:  
50:50 trackers:infrastructure  
Built in <18 months

01/10/2008







# What did SKADS produce?



## **Final Report**

### ***SKADS***

*Square Kilometre Array Design Studies*

### **Design Study**

implemented as

### **Specific Support Action**

Contract number: *011938*

Project coordinator: *Prof. Ir. A. van Ardenne*

Project website: [www.skads-eu.org](http://www.skads-eu.org)

Project Duration : *54 months from 01/07/2005 to 31/12/2009*

**Project funded by the European Community  
under the “Structuring the European Research Area” specific programme  
Research Infrastructures Action**



## What did SKADS produce?



43 science papers and reports

46 technical papers and reports



plus a brochure...



# What did SKADS produce?



**Widefield Astronomy and Technologies for the SKA**  
4 - 6 November 2009 at Limelette, Brussels, Belgium  
SKADS Conference and Marie Curie SKADS Workshop

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Emphasizing:** Status and astronomical capabilities of Widefield Techniques  
Dense and Sparse Arrays for Innovative Science  
Present SKADS Achievements; science, simulations and techniques  
Technological readiness of phased array sub-systems  
System design-scenarios for SKA

**SCHEDULE:**  
Abstract deadline: September 18, 2009  
Paper acceptance: October 1, 2009  
Full paper deadline: November 30, 2009

**Registration deadline: October 18, 2009 (expiry of block booking of rooms!)**  
Publication - A Conference book will be available for all participants by March, 2010

**Abstracts:** The abstract should be not more than 300 words.  
**Full paper:** A full paper will be 4-8 pages and may refer to posters as well as oral contributions.  
**Contributions:** Will be presented as posters or oral session.  
Acceptance as oral or poster presentation will be communicated October 1, 2009

**PRACTICALITIES:**  
**Registration:** Please register before October 18 at [www.skads.eu/form/limelette2.html](http://www.skads.eu/form/limelette2.html)  
**Registration fee:** € 150,00, including lunches, dinners and proceedings  
The conference fee should be paid by bank transfer to the ASTRON bank account before October 24, 2009. Please mention "Your name + SKADS conference" when making the transfer. The bank account details are:  
- name: "Sighting Astronomy, Dwingeloo, the Netherlands"  
- bank account number: 64.23.05.180  
- bank address: Fortis Bank, PO Box 1014, 3000 BV, Rotterdam  
IBAN: NL76FTSB0042305180  
SWIFT CODE: FTSBNL2R

**Booking of hotel rooms:** We made a block booking of rooms at the Château de Limelette. Room price € 125,00/night including breakfast. Room reservations will be made by us based on your registration details. For any questions please contact the LOC at [info@skads.eu](mailto:info@skads.eu)

**Registration desk open!**  
Tuesday, November 3, 2009 11.00 - 12.00  
16.00 - 19.00  
Wednesday, November 4, 2009 12.30 - 13.30

**SOC:** Paul Alexander, Arnold van Ardenne, Rafael Bachiller, Wim van Driel, André van Es, Andrew Faulkner, Thijs van der Hulst, Dion Kant

**LOC:** Arnold van Ardenne, André van Es, Truus van den Brink, Andrew Faulkner, Steve Torchinsky  
Contact: [info@skads.eu](mailto:info@skads.eu)

**SC:** Michael Kramer, Shello Montebugnoli, Tom Quidston, Steve Rawlings, Matlo Santés, Steve Torjinskiy, Jan Garraffini de Vaate, Peter Wilkinson, Anton Zensus

[www.skads.eu/form/limelette2.php](http://www.skads.eu/form/limelette2.php)

10"

SKADS is funded jointly by the partner institutes, with the largest single contribution coming from the European Commission Sixth Framework Programme. The total budget for SKADS is 38M€, of which 10.48M€ is provided by FP6.

Wide Field Science and Technology for the Square Kilometre Array

The final SKADS Conference, 4-6 November 2009, Château de Limelette, Belgium

The proceedings contains 73 contributions for a total of 421 pages.



# Marie Curie Training...



**First MCCT\_SKADS Training School** →  
*23-29 September 2007, Medicina (Bologna, Italy)*

**Design of Wideband Receiving Array Systems**  
*26 – 30 November 2007, Dwingeloo (Netherlands)*



**Science and Instrumentation workshop on Wide-field imaging and calibration**  
Groningen, the Netherlands, March 2-7 and Dwingeloo, the Netherlands, March 8-21, 2008.

**Astronomy in the Next Decade :Synergies with the Square Kilometre Array**  
*14-18 April 2008, Bonn, Germany*

**Radio Astronomy: fundamentals and the new instruments**  
*26 August - 4 September 2008, Sigüenza, Spain*



# Marie Curie Training...



**Deep Field Imaging with the SKA** →  
*25-29 August 2008, Cambridge, UK*

**Multi-field and multi-beam science with SKA**  
*15-27 March 2009, Oxford, UK*



**Towards the SKA: increasing the evolution rate in radio astronomy**  
*24-28 August 2009, Paris, France*

**Towards third generation calibration in radio astronomy**  
*27 September – 10 October 2009, Nançay, France*

**The SKA and Digital Signal Processing**  
*9th-13th November 2009, University of Manchester, UK*





# The SKADS “legacy”



A European  
in preparation  
global SKA  
field across  
number of  
been raised  
involved

A clear  
aperture  
astronomy  
science

## Memo 122

### The Aperture Arrays for the SKA: the SKADS White Paper

The SKADS Team

System Group:

Andrew Faulkner (Chair)  
Paul Alexander  
Arnold van Ardenne  
Rosie Bolton  
Jaap Bregman  
Andre van Es  
Mike Jones

Dion Kant  
Stelio Montebugnoli  
Philippe Picard  
Steve Rawlings  
Steve Torchinsky  
Jan Geralt bij de Vaate  
Peter Wilkinson

April 2010

led engineers  
operating the  
new to the  
In a  
process has  
recently

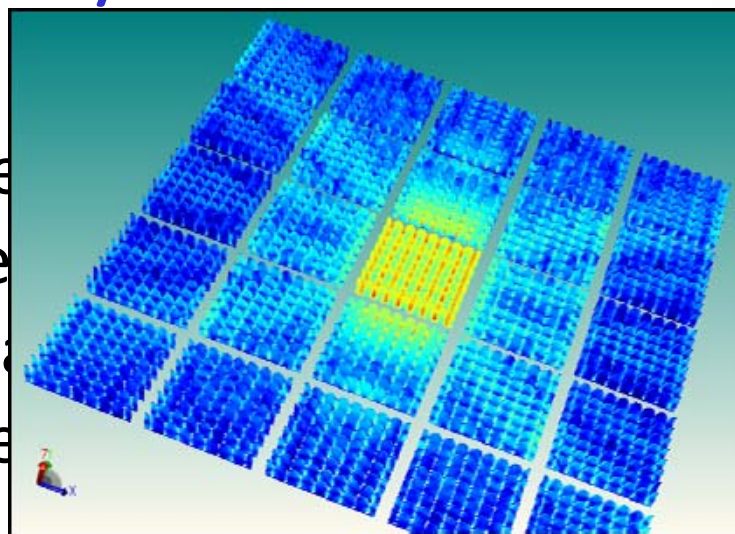
as a result  
of  
ultimately  
the SKA



# The SKADS "legacy"

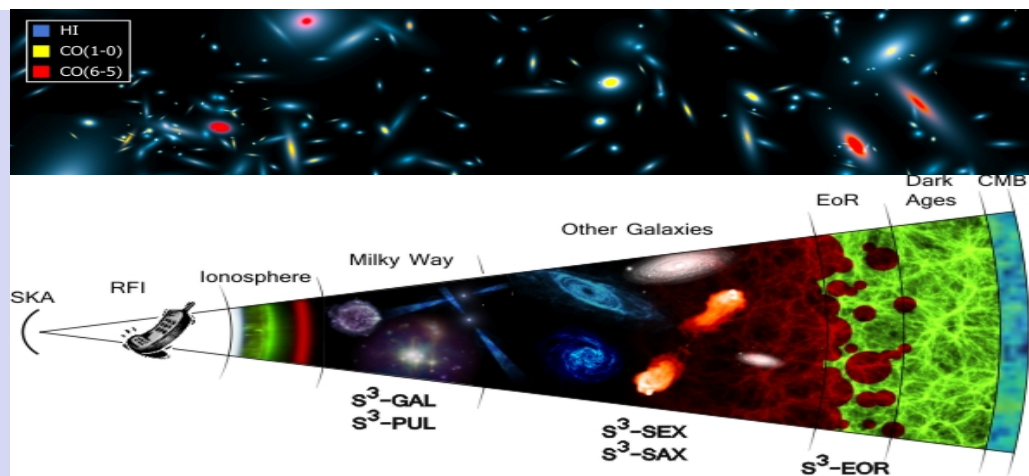


Newly developed engineering  
also for the first time, the  
arrays and noise performance  
interactions at circuit level



powered  
anna  
the

- S<sup>3</sup>SEX
- S<sup>3</sup>SAX
- S<sup>3</sup>PUL
- S<sup>3</sup>GAL
- S<sup>3</sup>EOR
- S<sup>3</sup>Tools
- The SKADS VT





# The SKADS "legacy"



SKADS created  
made clear  
choices regarding  
costing and

Most of the  
program  
concept

## Memo 93

### SKADS Benchmark Scenario Design and Costing

Paul Alexander  
Rosie Bolton  
Andrew Faulkner  
Steve Torchinsky  
Arnold van Ardenne  
Peter Wilkinson  
Marco de Vos  
Laurens Bakker  
Simon Garrington  
Georgina Harris  
Tim Ikin  
Mike Jones  
Dion Kant  
Roshene McCool  
Parbhu Patel  
On behalf of the SKADS team

06/07

## Memo 111

### SKADS Benchmark Scenario Design and Costing – 2 (The SKA Phase 2 AA Scenario)

R. Bolton  
A. Faulkner  
P. Alexander  
S. Torchinsky  
A. van Ardenne  
P. Wilkinson  
M. de Vos  
L. Bakker  
S. Garrington  
G. Harris  
T. Ikin  
M. Jones  
D. Kant  
D. Kettle  
R. McCool  
P. Patel  
J. Romein

07/09

and  
in  
tegrated

AAVP, a  
the AA-

→ "PREPSKA" → SKA Preconstruction phase

Without SKADS probably no PrepSKA support by EC



# SKADS follow-ons: AAVP by AvA



Implementing a high performance AA-mid in

SKA<sub>2</sub>

Acknowledgements to the SKA Design Studies FP6 programme and Aperture Array Verification Programme

• Andrew Faulkner

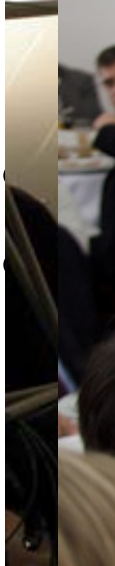
to be



SKADS follows on AVA by AVA SKADS



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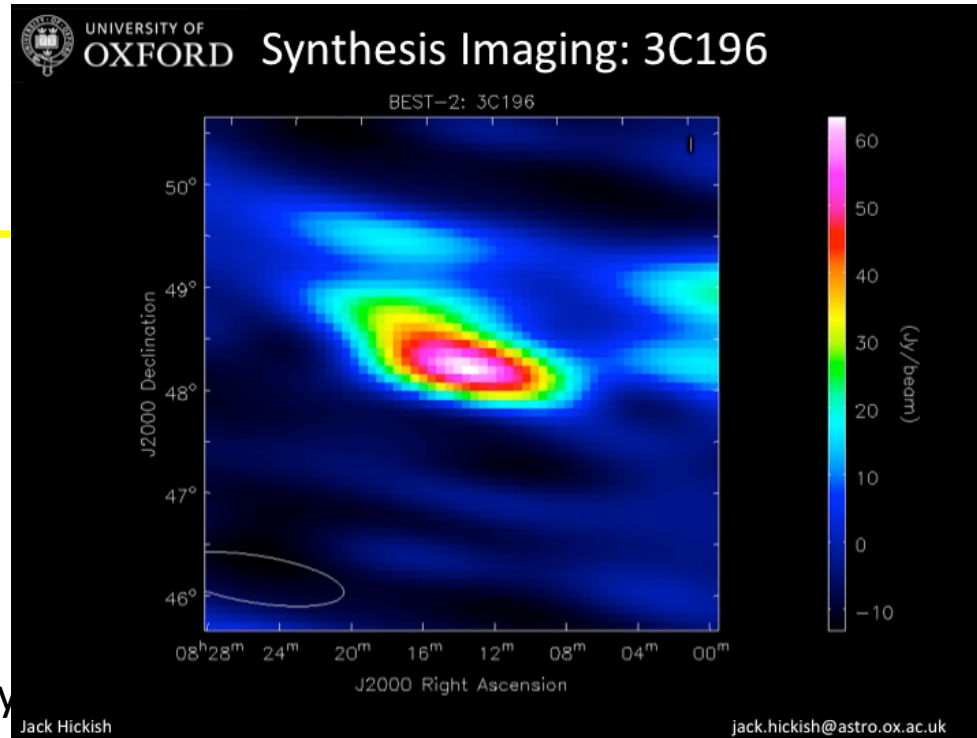
e)



# SKADS follow-ons: BEST-2



4 Rx  
Each  
Cylin.



- 32 Rx @ 408 MHz
- Tsys ~ 90 K
- Bw = 16 MHz
- Area= 1400 m<sup>2</sup>
- One Pol.
- 8 (24x7 m) cylinders
- 21 beams

- Refit of 8 cylinders to a Cross Array
- Beamforming collaboration with Berkeley CASPER group and with U. Oxford

- Applying for funds to extend to 24 more cylinders
- Aim is space debris orbit tracking: 93 beams in FoV of ~40 deg<sup>2</sup>



# SKADS follow-ons: Octagonal Ring Antenna (ORA)



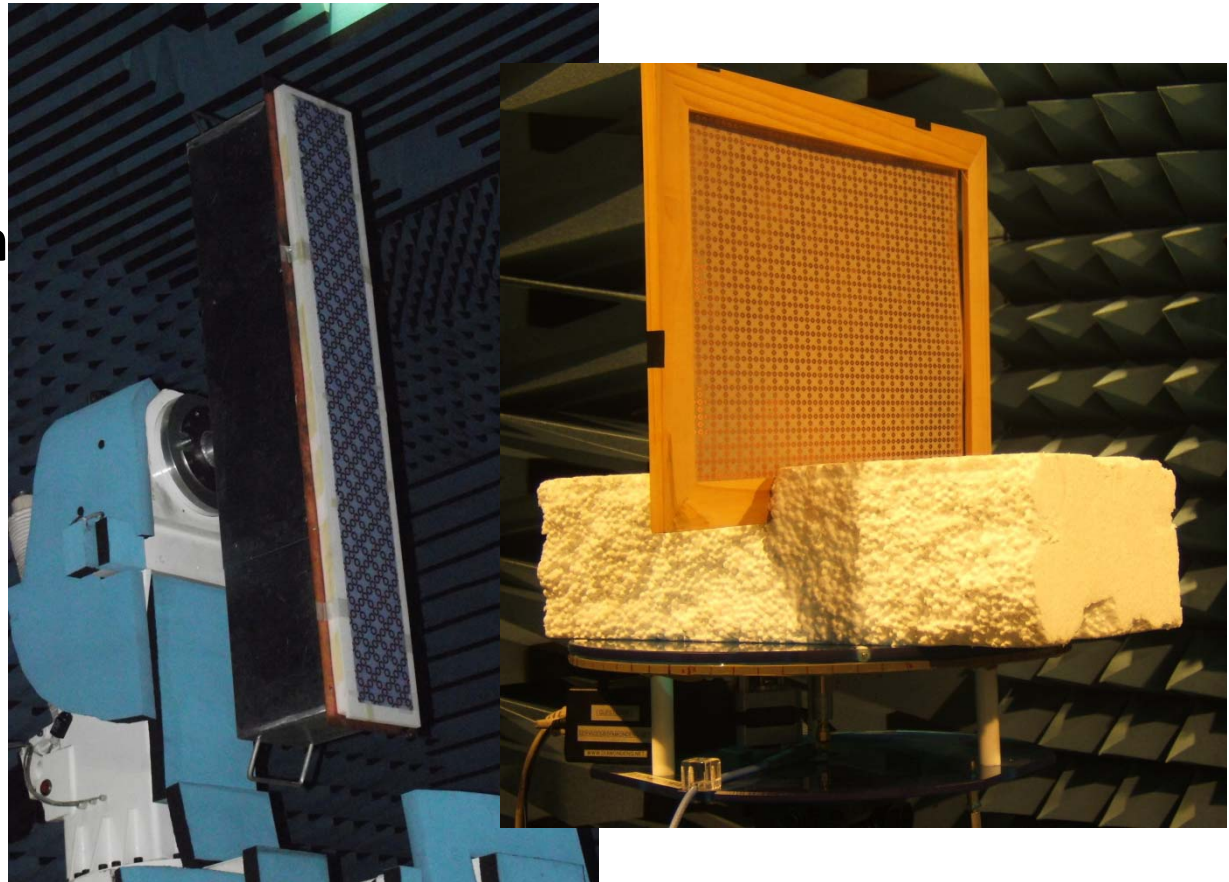
Ongoing studies for

**Mobile communication  
base station**

690-2700 MHz.

**Airborne radar**

C-X band (3-10GHz) &  
**X-Ku band (8.5-18GHz)**





## SKADS follow-ons:

(SAMBA & 2-PAD) → “MUST”



Low-cost, multi-disciplinary, staff+students to design, build & operate



6.75 x 3m GRP frame  
 $A_{\text{eff}} = 20\text{m}^2$  in each polarisation

- Q3 2013: Prototype: 5 frames at Jodrell Bank + CASPER-based DSP
- Goal: “RAPIDE” 100 frames (2000 m<sup>2</sup>) for world-class pulsar+ transient science plus public outreach





A few final smiles...



# In the police wagon..





# Orthogonal visions...





but one direction is special....



Wide Field Astronomy and Technology for the SKA  
The Final SKADS Conference  
Chateau de Limelette, 4-6 November 2009



Wide Field Astronomy and Technology for the SKA  
The Final SKADS Conference  
Chateau de Limelette, 4-6 November 2009



image by SATorchinsky

The great coordinator

