



European Week of Astronomy and Space Science 3-6 April 2018- Liverpool

The Square Kilometre Array (SKA): a physics machine for the 21st Century

📅 06.04.2018 ⌚ 12:00 - 12:30 📍 Hall 1A 🗨️ Plenary

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¹ SKA Organisation

The Square Kilometre Array (SKA) is the next-generation radio-telescope and will be a true mega-science facility. SKA is being designed and built by a global partnership of 10 nations.

The SKA Observatory will have sites in Australia and South Africa and a headquarters in the United Kingdom; it will build on the precursor telescopes, such as MWA, ASKAP, HERA and MeerKAT, which have been constructed on the sites. The SKA is being designed as a physics machine for the 21st Century and will address a huge range of scientific questions such as the nature of gravity, the origins of the Universe and the origins of life.

The SKA is approaching the final stages of the detailed design phase. Funding of approximately €200M has been committed by the partner nations to deliver that design. The design will be complete at the end of 2018 and, assuming construction funding is secured, construction activities will begin in 2019.

In this talk, I will briefly describe the science that SKA will do; and will provide an update on the status of the project, including the technical challenges associated with the design and delivery of a true 'big data' facility