

# MeerKAT Large Survey Projects (~70%)



imaging

- **LADUMA (Deep atomic hydrogen)**
- **MIGHTEE (Deep continuum imaging of the early universe)**
- **Fornax (Deep HI Survey of the Fornax cluster )**
- **MHONGOOSE (targeted nearby galaxies HI)**
- **MeerKAT Absorption Line Survey (extragalactic HI absorption)**

Time domain

- **ThunderKAT (exotic phenomena, variables and transients)**
- **TRAPUM (pulsar search)**
- **MeerTime (pulsar Timing)**



SKA Key Science themes



# Indo-SA Flagship Programme in Astronomy

Joint Exploration of the Deep Radio Sky with MeerKAT and the GMRT:  
The Pathway to the SKA



With Dharam Lal: Tata Institute for Fundamental Research, NCRA

Department of Science and Technology  
Government of India

Final Workshop: June 2019



Astronomy  
sub-Agency



# SuperMIGHTEE

- Combined data increases sensitivity to  $\sim 1$  microJy (0.5-2.7 GHz)
- Provides matched resolution ( $5''$ ) at 0.5-0.8 GHz
- Ultra broad band spectra from 0.5 – 2.7 GHz for microJy radio sources
- HI science to higher redshift (and high resolution for stacking)
- Ultra-broad band polarimetry to measure Faraday complexity
  - 3.2 times the Faraday synthesis precision





# FAST-MeerKAT and Cosmic Magnetism in the SKA Era

Fast-MeerKAT and SKA Pathfinders Synergies

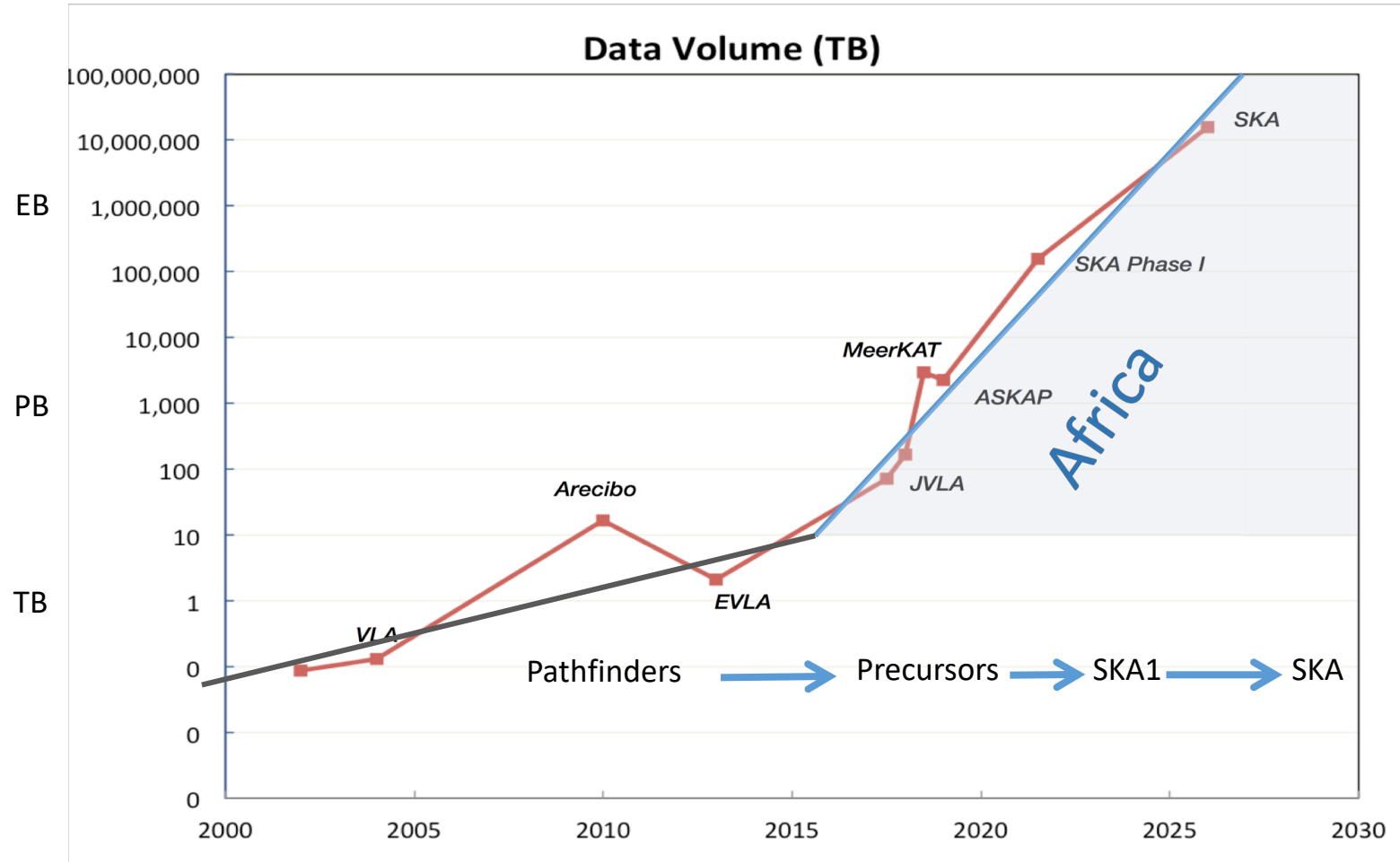
2018 Radio Astronomy Forum, Pingtang, China, June 2018

(see also proposal 13)





# Growth of Data Volumes to Radio Astronomers

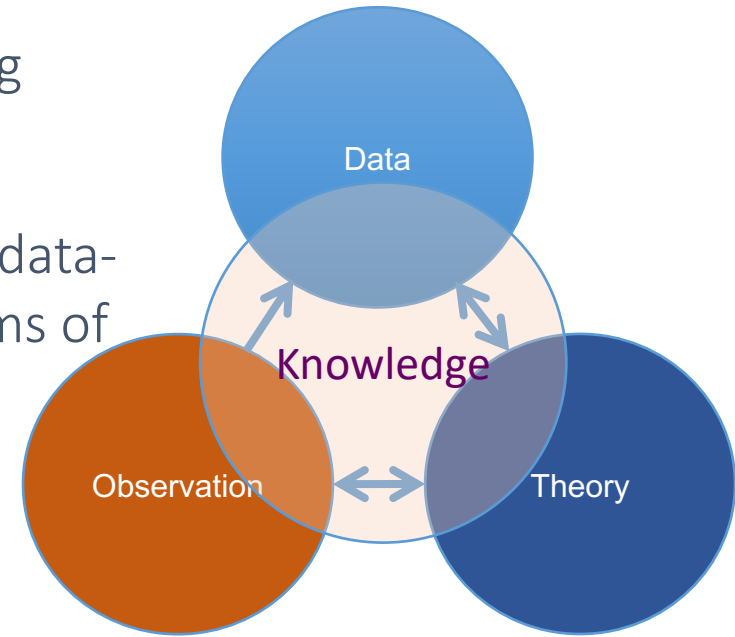




# The Challenge: data to knowledge



- Managing exponential increase in rates and volumes.  
(**network, transport, data-centric architectures**)
- Empowering the end user for multi-purpose processing, analytics, data mining and exploration (**cloud, HPC**)
- Fusion with big multi-wavelength data and big simulations (**cloud, federated data**)
- Collaboration, sharing and joint execution of data-intensive projects by globally distributed teams of researchers (**cloud, e-science platforms**)



# Proposal to BRICS STI Framework Programme

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Call 2017



BRICSKA:

## Big Data Research Infrastructure Collaboration toward the SKA

(Proposal 12 and 14 in package)

Project Leader:

South Africa: Russ Taylor (UWC,UCT) + 16 researchers @ 6 institutions  
(UWC, UCT, Pretoria, Rhodes, Zululand, IAU/OAD)

Partners:

- China: Chenzhou Cui (Chinese Academy of Sciences, NAOC) + 14 researchers @ 6 institutions
- India: Yogesh Wadadekar (TIFR, National Centre for Radio Astrophysics) + 4 researchers @ 3 institutions
- Brazil: Luiz Gadelha (National Laboratory for Scientific Computing) + 4 researchers @ 2 institutions

# Big Data Research Infrastructure Collaboration toward the SKA

- ***Open source cloud implementation and technologies***, including open source systems for provisioning of infrastructure, platforms, software and tools for big data processing and analytics, globally federated cloud environments, and systems for data transport and distribution and data fusion between federated cloud nodes.
- ***Development of novel algorithms and HPC software for processing and analysis of big (radio) astronomy data***, including
  - processing pipelines for raw data to science products, including development of workflows systems and research data management and reproducible science technologies.
  - Algorithms for data mining big data for information, including machine learning
  - cloud-based visual analytics of remote big data
  - science gateway and portal technologies for user access to the federated cloud environment and to cloud processing, analytics and visualisation tools.
- ***Building open source based architecture and tools to enable deployment of HPC systems*** by agile provisioning of HPC in the cloud to take advantage of parallelism, concurrency for massive radio astronomy data set processing.
- ***Human Capital Development*** through training programs and through development and delivery of data driven outreach and education projects and programs with cloud enabled platforms



# African Data Intensive Research Cloud



*IST-Africa 2016 Conference Proceedings*

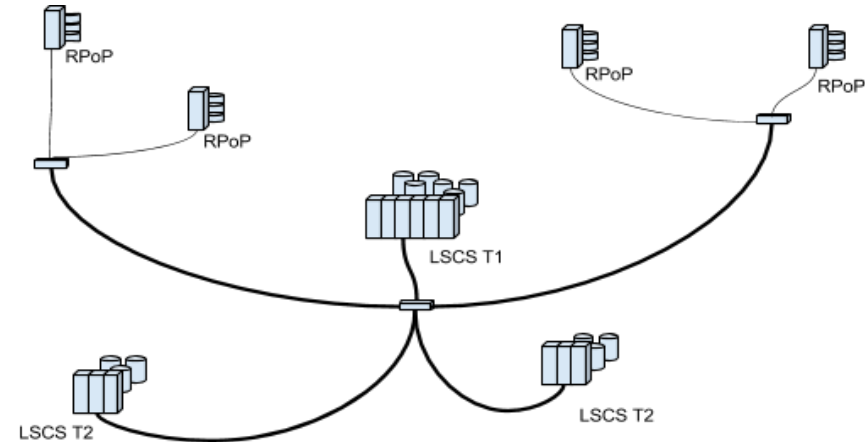
*Paul Cunningham and Miriam Cunningham (Eds)*

*IIMC International Information Management Corporation, 2016*

*ISBN: 978-1-905824-54-0*

## The African Data Intensive Research Cloud

Rob SIMMONDS<sup>1</sup>, Russ TAYLOR<sup>2,3</sup>, Jasper HORRELL<sup>4</sup>, Bernie FANAROFF<sup>5</sup>, Happy SITHOLE<sup>6</sup>, Sakkie JANSE VAN RENSBURG<sup>7</sup>, Boeta PRETORIUS<sup>8</sup>



# AstroCloud: Astronomy cloud of China-VO

## AstroCloud: A Distributed Cloud Computing and Application Platform for Astronomy

Chen-Zhou Cui, Bo-Liang He, Chang-Hua Li,  
Dong-Wei Fan, Shan-Shan Li, Lin-Ying Mi, Zi-  
Huang Cao, Si-Si Yang, Yun-Fei Xu, Yue Chen,  
Zheng Li, Xu Han

Center for Information and Computing, National  
Astronomical Observatories, CAS,  
Beijing, China  
Email: ccz@bao.ac.cn

Ce Yu, Jian Xiao, Zhi Hong, Shucheng Yin, Chen  
Li

School of Computer Science, Tianjin University  
Tianjin, China

Chuanjun Wang, Yufeng Fan, Jianguo Wang, Junyi  
Chen

Gaomeigu Observatory, Yunnan Astronomical  
Observatories, CAS  
Kunming, China

Hailong Zhang  
Information Center, Xinjiang Astronomical Observatory,  
CAS  
Urumqi, China

Liang Liu, Na Gao, Zherui Yang  
Information Center, Purple Mountain Observatory, CAS  
Nanjing, China

Xiao Chen, Min Liu  
Computing Center, Shanghai Astronomical Observatory,  
CAS  
Shanghai, China

Cuilan Qiao, Kangyu Du  
College of Physical Science and Technology, Center  
Normal University  
Wuhan, China

Liying Su, Wenming Song  
College of Mechanical Engineering and Applied  
Electronics Technology, Beijing University of  
Technology  
Beijing, China

Screenshot

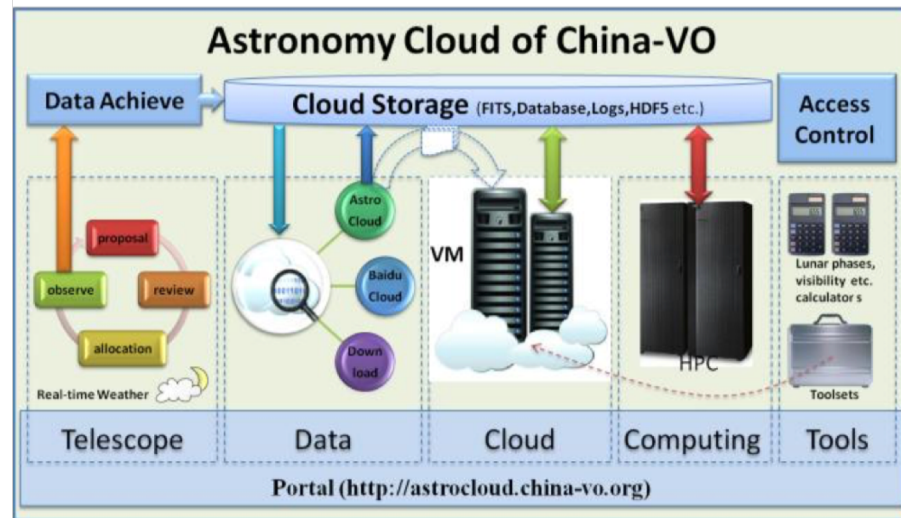
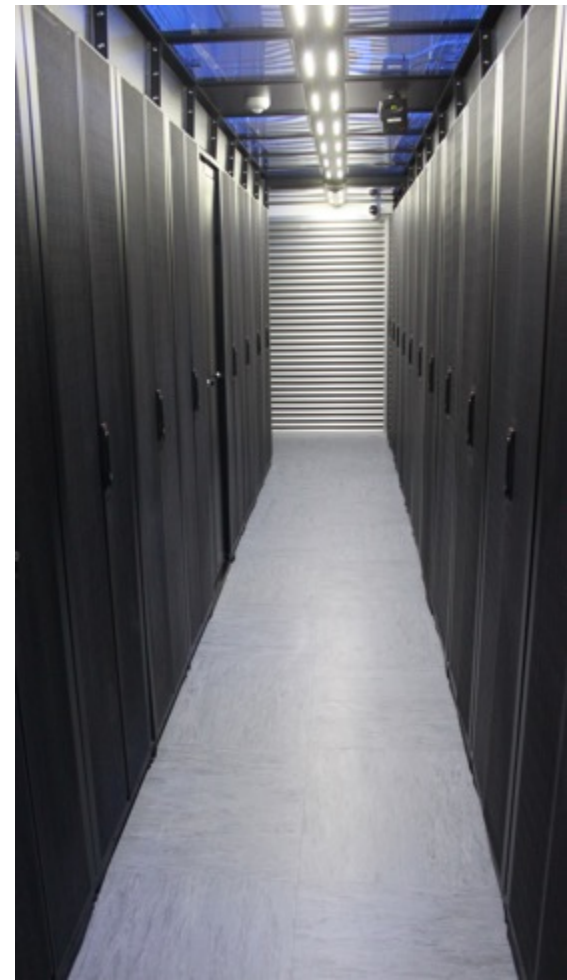
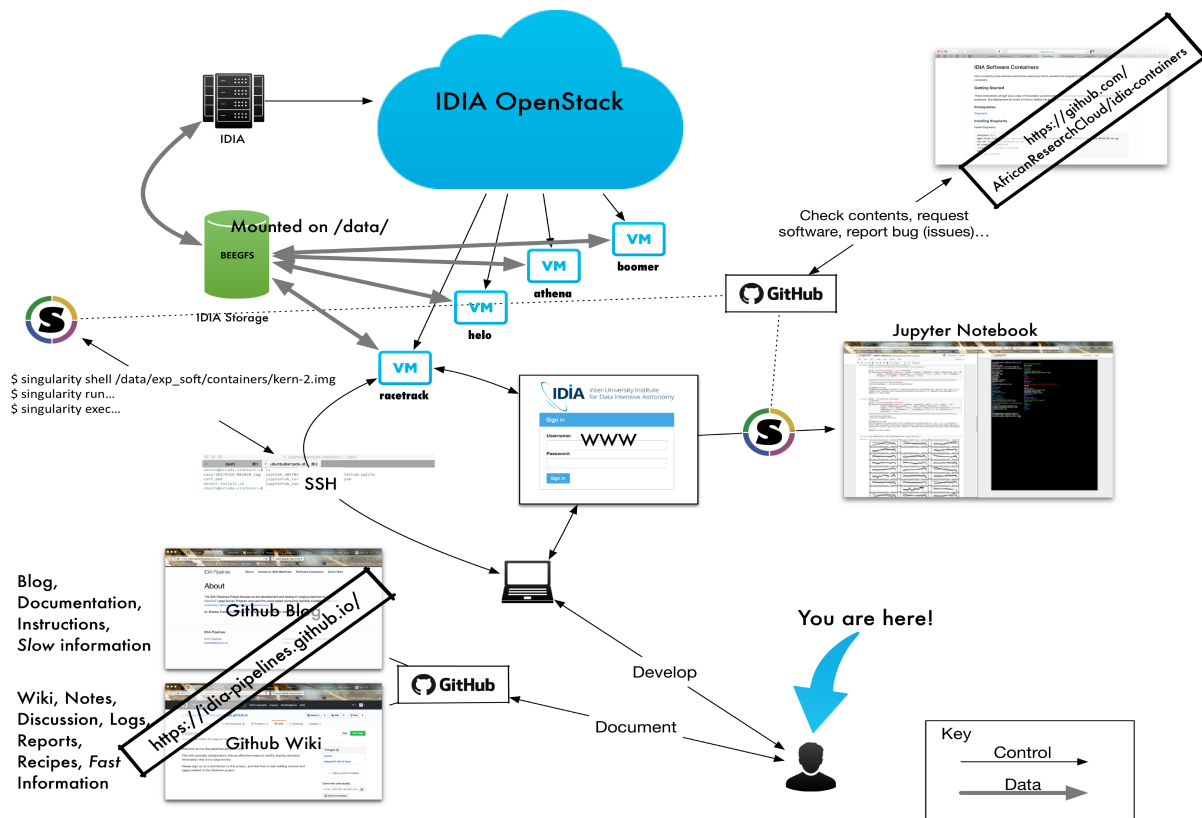


Figure 1. High level overview of the astro cloud platform

# IDIA Data-Intensive Cloud: V1.0 Jan 2017

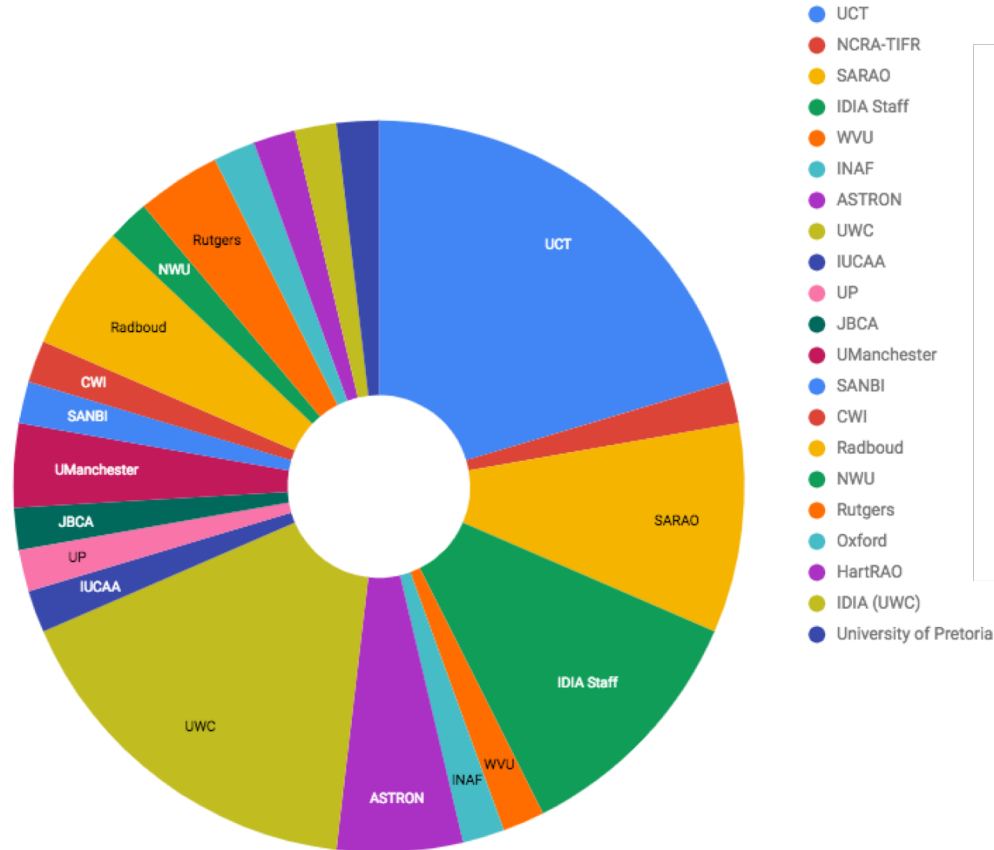




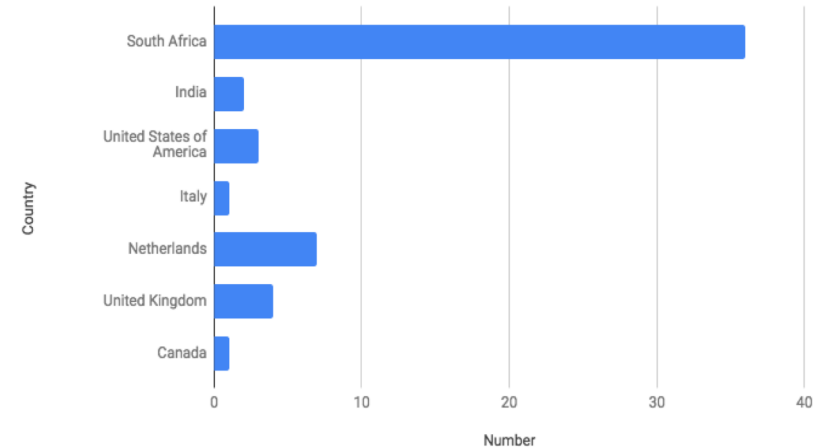
# IDIA Cloud MeerKAT Science Users



Science User Institutions



Science Users: Country



# ILIFU: Tier 2 Data Intensive Research Facility



## Data Intensive Research Cloud V2.0

Joint investment DST/DIRISA, IDIA, Computational Biology (NIH)

- Astronomy (IDIA, SARA0)
  - Data Intensive Astronomy with priority on MeerKAT Large Survey Programs
  - Precursor SKA Regional Science Centre
- Data Intensive Bioinformatics
  - Tuberculosis Surveillance in Africa (UWC)
  - Imputation service for African human genetics (UCT)
  - Omics for Precision Medicine (SU)
- Research Data Management (CPUT)
- South African Data Intensive Research Cloud federation with T1 and T3 infrastructure



# Data Intensive Astronomy Cloud



```
1 # date =
2 # flux =
3 # class
4 #
5 # In the
6 # space
7 # second
8 # xdel =
9 # xpol =
10 # target
11
12
13
14 class ob
15 def
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25 class datasets:
26 count = 0
27 names = []
28 def __init__(self, name, telescope, observations):
29 self.name = name
30 self.observations = observations
31 self.telescope = telescope
32 dataset.count += 1
33 dataset.names.append(name)
34
35 #-----CDPS-----
36 CDFS_obs = []
37 XNDS_obs = []
38 ENI_325_obs = []
39 DEEP2_obs = []
40
41 #-----CDPS-----
42 #CDFS_obs.append(observation('15aug2015', '0', '0', '1', '0', '1', '3', ['CDPS']))
43 CDFS_obs.append(observation('16aug2015', '4', '4', '2', '5', '2', '5', ['HDOF_P1']))
44 CDFS_obs.append(observation('17aug2015', '0', '0', '1', '1', '3', '1', ['HDOF_P1']))
45 CDFS_obs.append(observation('18aug2015', '2', '2', '0', '3', '0', '3', ['HDOF_P1']))
46 CDFS_obs.append(observation('19aug2015', '0', '0', '2', '3', '2', '3', ['HDOF_P1']))
47 CDFS_obs.append(observation('14sep2015', '0', '0', '1', '3', '1', '3', ['HDOF_P1']))
48
49 CDFS = dataset('CDFS', 'GHRT', CDFS_obs)
50
51 #-----XNDS-----
52 XNDS_obs.append(observation('05dec2013', '0', '0', '2', '3', '2', '3', ['XDS']))
53 XNDS_obs.append(observation('06dec2013', '0', '0', '2', '3', '2', '3', ['XDS']))
54 XNDS_obs.append(observation('07dec2013', '0', '0', '2', '3', '2', '3', ['XDS']))
55 XNDS_obs.append(observation('08dec2013', '0', '0', '2', '3', '2', '3', ['XDS']))
56 XNDS_obs.append(observation('09dec2013', '0', '0', '2', '3', '2', '3', ['XDS']))
57
58 XNDS = dataset('XNDS', 'GHRT', XNDS_obs)
59
60 #-----ENI_325-----
61 ENI_325_obs.append(observation('22may2007', '0', '0', '1', '0', '0', '0', ['1603+546']))
62 ENI_325_obs.append(observation('24may2007', '0', '0', '1', '0', '0', '0', ['1601+550']))
63 ENI_325_obs.append(observation('25may2007', '0', '0', '2', '0', '0', '0', ['1611+564']))
64 ENI_325_obs.append(observation('28may2007', '0', '0', '1', '0', '0', '0', ['1620+550']))
65 ENI_325_obs.append(observation('07jun2007', '0', '0', '1', '0', '0', '0', ['1608+537']))
66
67 ENI_325 = dataset('ENI_325', 'GHRT', ENI_325_obs)
68
69 #-----DEEP2-----
70 DEEP2_obs.append(observation('04apr2017', '0', '0', '2', '2', '2', '2', ['DEEP_2']))
71
72 DEEP2 = dataset('DEEP2', 'MeerKAT', DEEP2_obs)
```

### First Stage Calibration Script

This script runs standard full-polarization calibration on raw visibility data sets. Russ Taylor: 07 June 2017, Adapted from casa python script.

Set preflag=True to flag the data before calibration

Set postflag=True to flag again after calibration

Select the data set to process with "data = <dataset>"

Other parameters are explained in the Set Parameters cell.

```
In [1]: 1 import os, time, sys, string, shutil
2 import numpy as np
3 sys.path.append('/users/russ/data/')
4 from datasets import *
5 execfile("/users/russ/data/meerkat_pol.py")
```

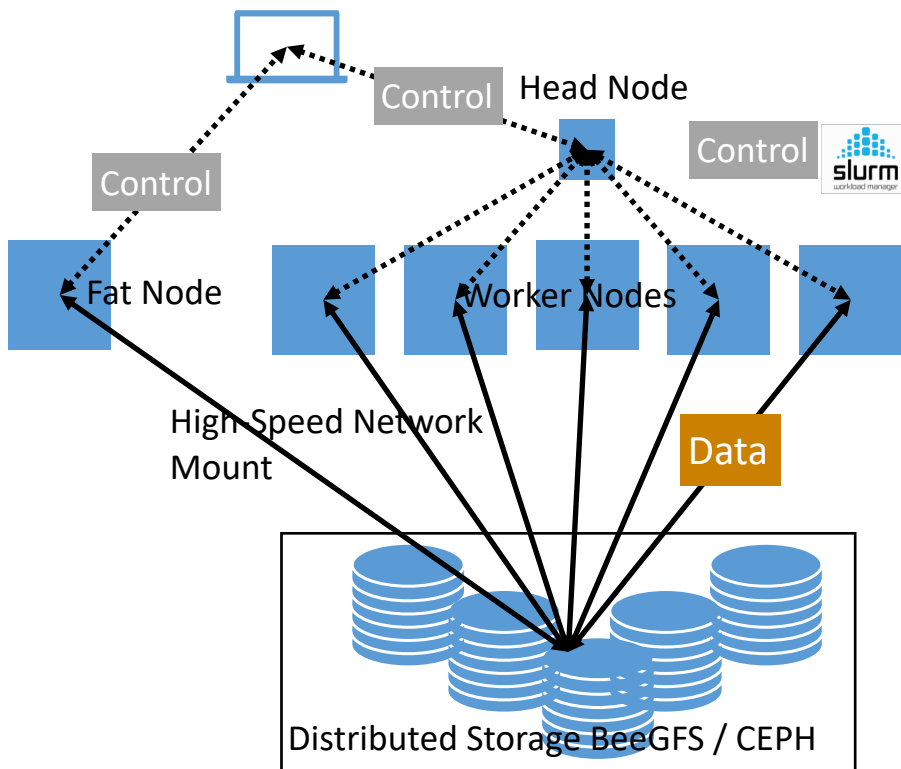
### Set Parameters

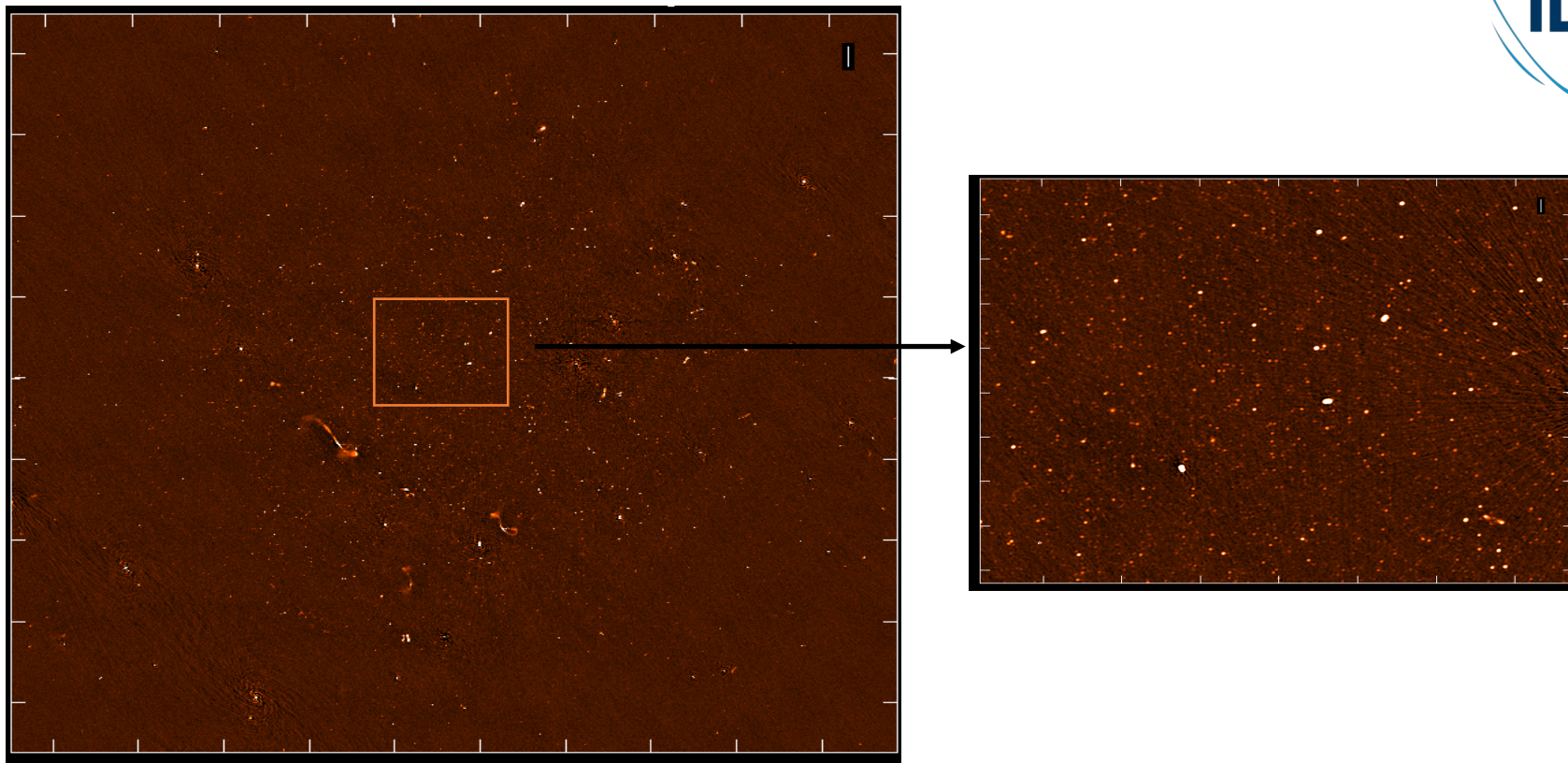
```
In [2]: 1 ionosphere = False           # create ionosphere correction calibration table as first step
2 preflag = False               # flag the data before calibration
3 postflag = True               # flag the data again after calibration
4
5 data = DEEP2
6 print "Using %s data set %s with %d observations." % (data.telescope, data.name, len(data.observations))
7
8 if(data.telescope=="MeerKAT"):
9     gainchannels = '1028-3068' # channel range to use for time-dependent gain calibration
10    splitchannels = '100-4000' # channels to split for imaging
11    subplotval = 821
12 else:
13     gainchannels = '40-216'    # channel range to use for time-dependent gain calibration
14     splitchannels = '12-243'   # channels to split for imaging
15     subplotval = 931
16
```

CASA in Jupyter Notebooks



- 



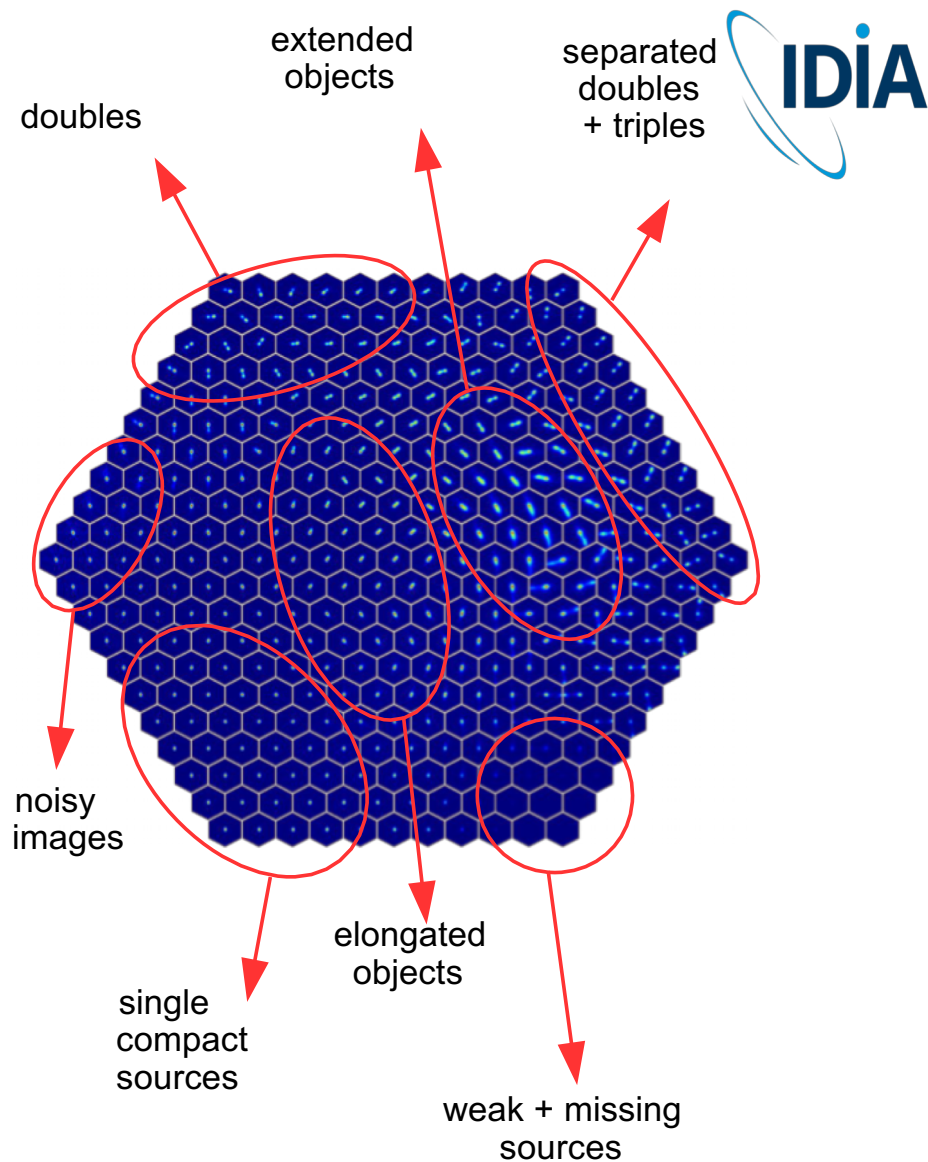
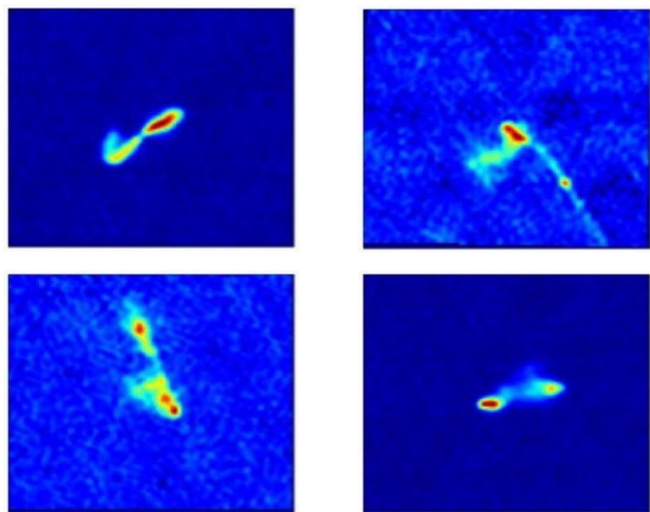


MeerKAT MIGHTEE CDFS Data.

Stokes-I Map of 55-dish 4k/**856 MHz** Data: Noise Limited!

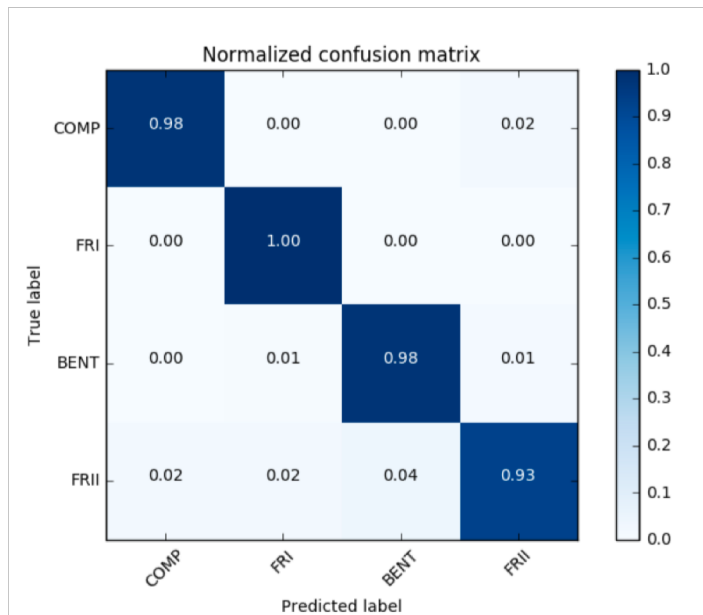
# Self-organized maps

Automated & Unsupervised  
Classification & Outlier Selection

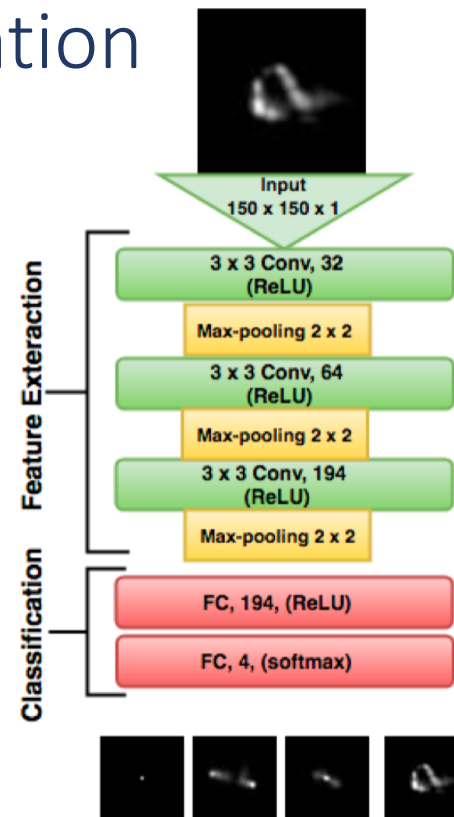


Polsterer et al. 2015

# CNN for radio galaxy classification

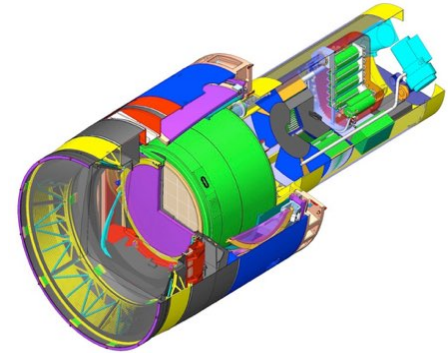
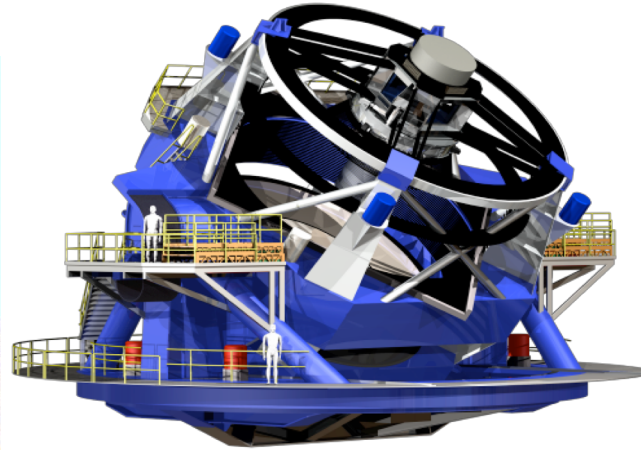


**Figure 8.** Normalized Confusion Matrix on our testing dataset, where the true labels at Y axis and Predicted labels at the X axis, the blue boxes at the diagonal represents the recall values .



**Figure 6.** Deep CNN model architecture. In this Figure each convolutional layer (Conv) is followed by ReLU activation function and Max-pooling function. The number in each box represents the number of channels in the corresponding feature map.

# Multi-wavelength: Fusion of optical/IR and radio

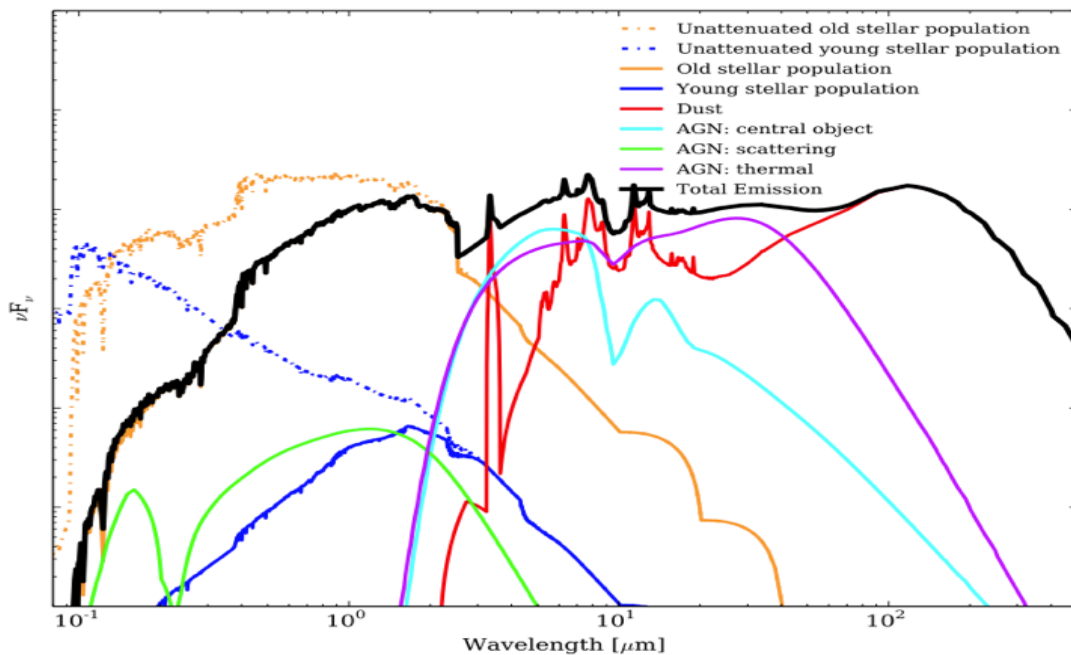


- **The Ultimate Optical Transient Survey Facility in the SKA Era**
  - 8-m class telescope equipped with 3.2 Gigapixel camera
  - Operational 2020, US-led international collaboration
- LSST & SKA share a number of Science Goals and Data Challenges and are timed and placed so as to be able to be exploited jointly

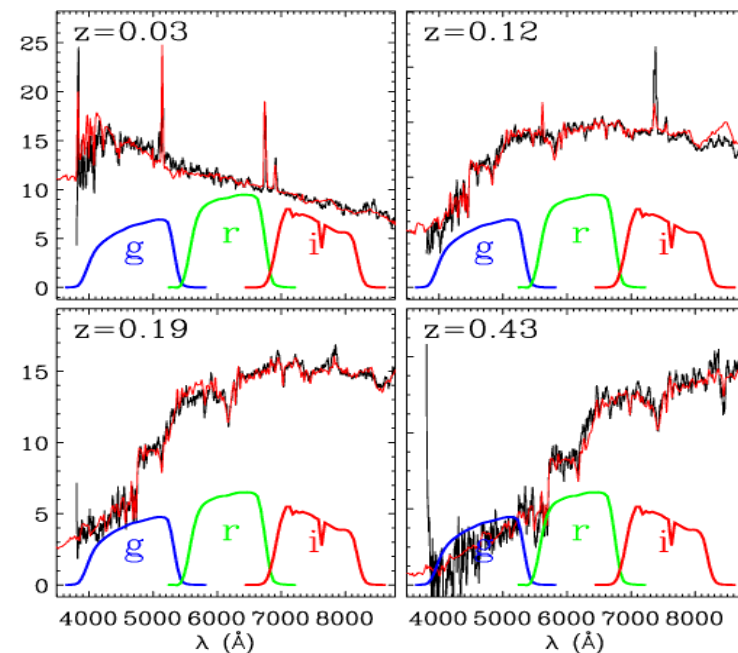


# Multi-wavelength data encode redshift and physics

Spectral energy distributions of different types of emission



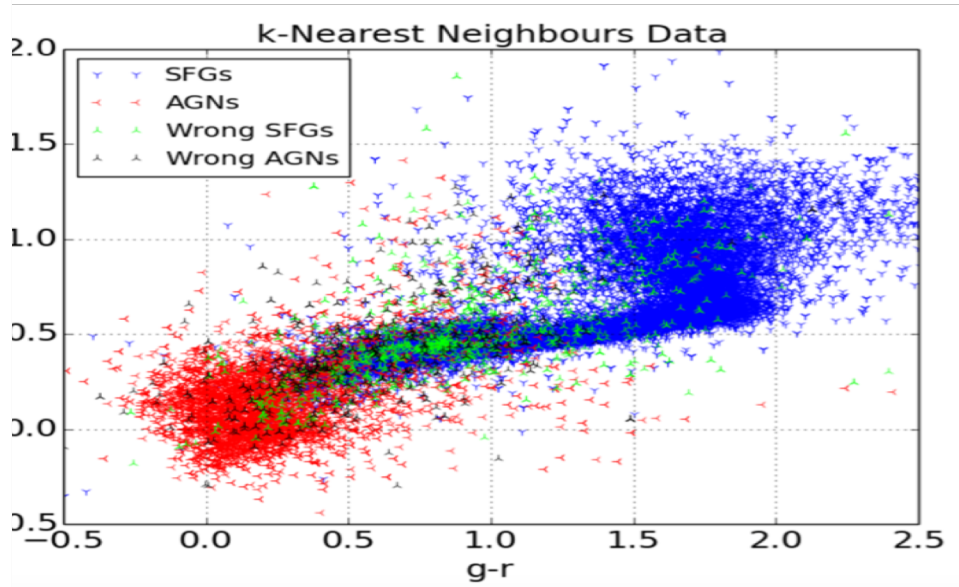
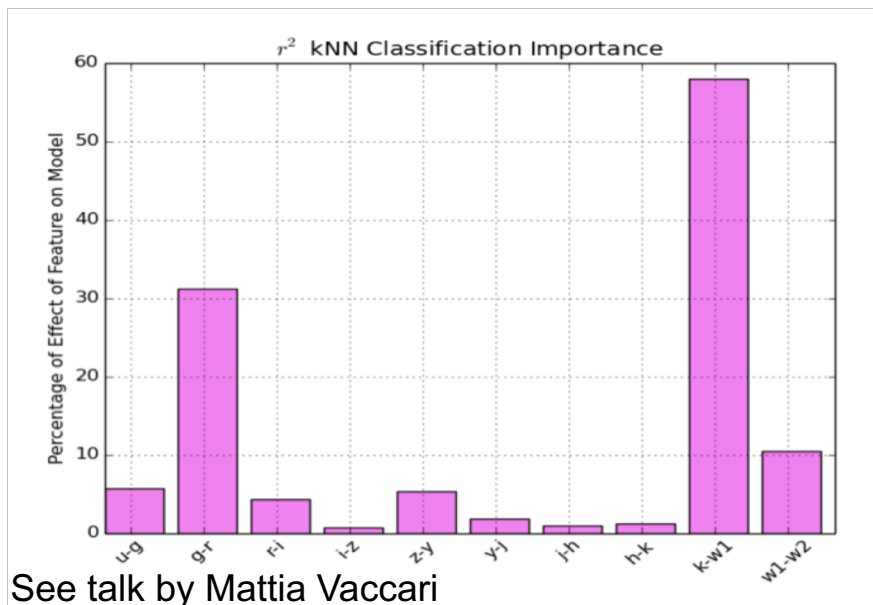
Relative Photometry changes with redshift





# Cloud-enabled **Machine Learning**

- Case Study : combining SDSS & WISE multi-band photometry to classify sources as SFGs/AGNs
- Feature Ranking to Optimise Feature Selection





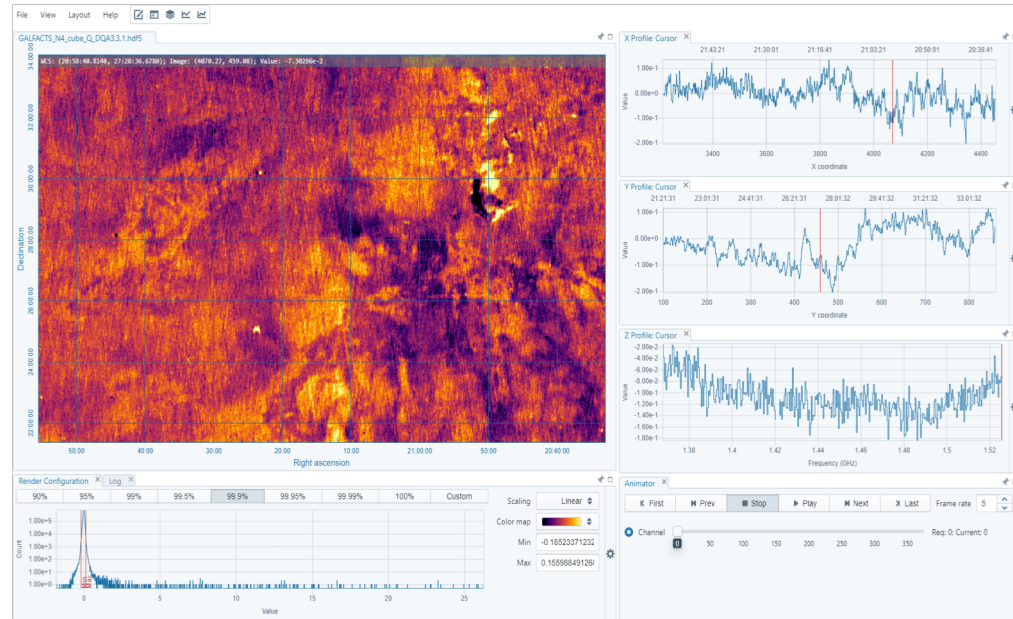
# Visual analytics of big data in the cloud



## Cube Analysis and Rendering Tool for Astronomy

IDIA (South Africa) – NRAO (US) – ASIAA (Taiwan)

- To be deployed at ALMA Regional Science Centres
- Cloud-based Visual analytic of remote large MeerKAT cubes



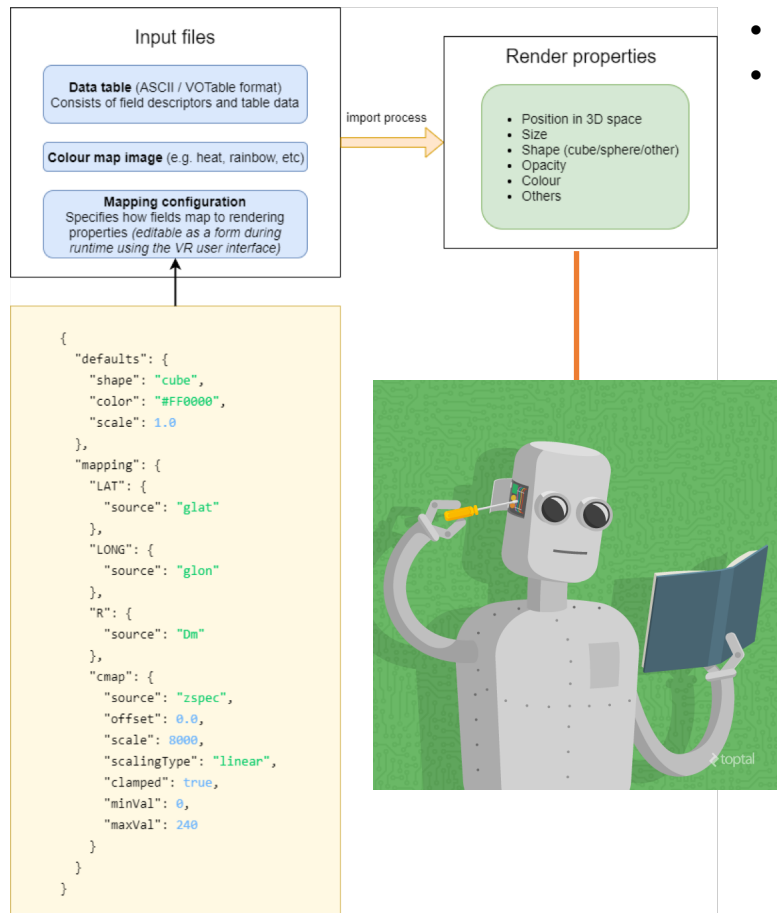
<http://cartavis.github.io>



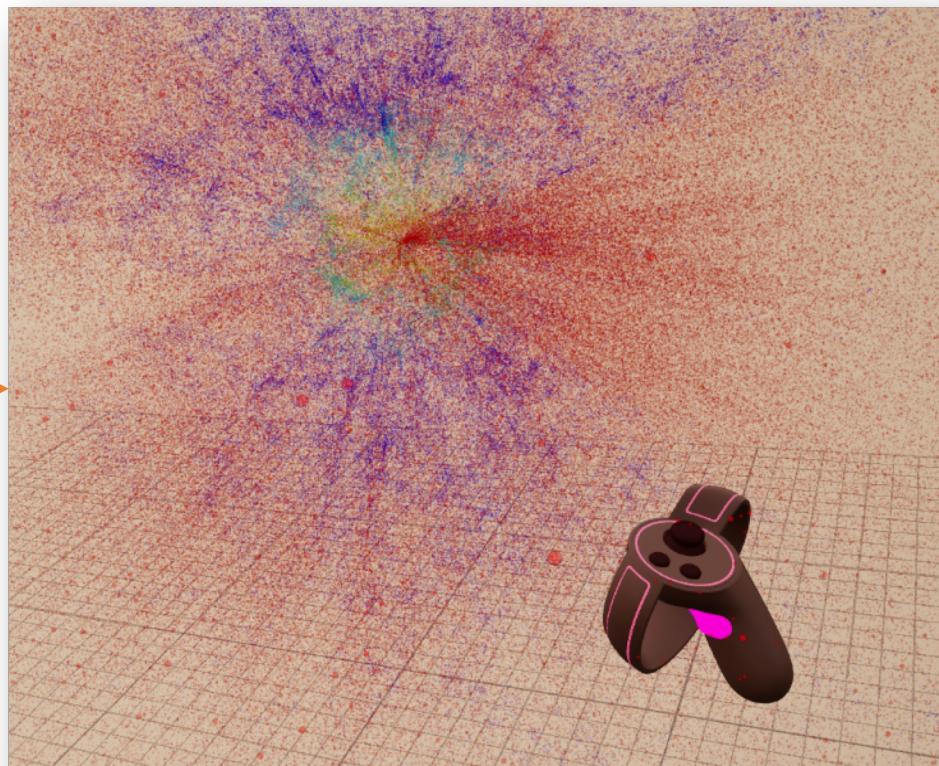
# Exploring the N-dimensional Multi-wavelength Universe



# Big data in Virtual Reality



- supports over 1M data points
- User can move around data by walking around room
- Web-based user interface on user's (virtual) wrist

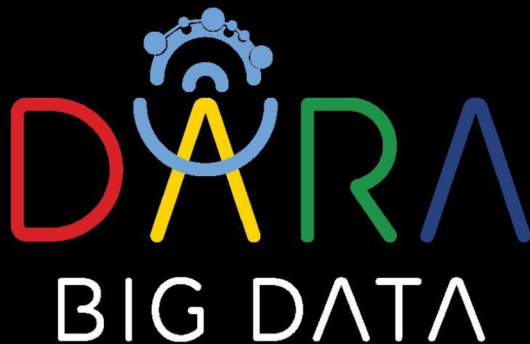


# Cloud for HCD, Development and Outreach



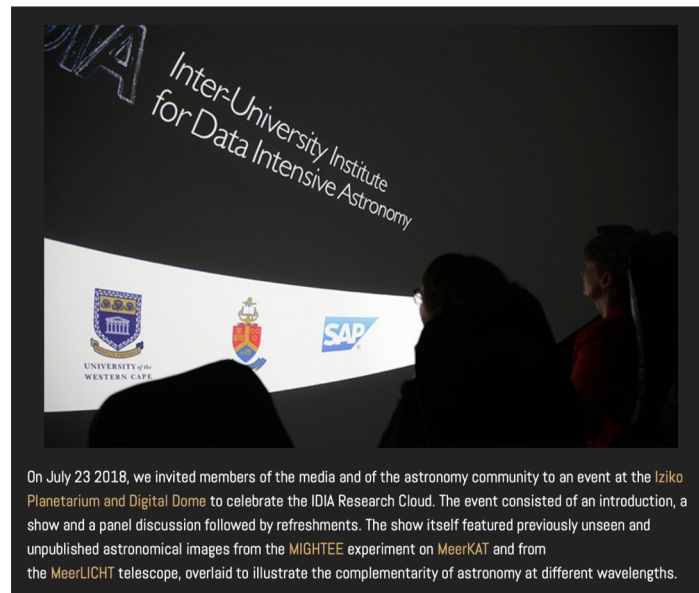
IDIA partners with the SARA0 Big Data Africa school.

Published on September 11, 2018 by carolune



Development in Africa with Radio Astronomy

The week of 10 – 17 September 2018 sees the 2nd Big Data Africa school take place near Cape Town. Organised by SARA0 as part of the Newton Fund's DARA Big Data project, the school brings 27 students from 8 African countries together with lecturers, local and international, to take part in an intense, hands-in academic school where they get first hand experience with big data. IDIA has partnered with the school and the students develop and run projects on the IDIA research cloud. The projects offered to the students of the school range from radioastronomy to cybersecurity.



On July 23 2018, we invited members of the media and of the astronomy community to an event at the Iziko Planetarium and Digital Dome to celebrate the IDIA Research Cloud. The event consisted of an introduction, a show and a panel discussion followed by refreshments. The show itself featured previously unseen and unpublished astronomical images from the MIGHTEE experiment on MeerKAT and from the MeerLICHT telescope, overlaid to illustrate the complementarity of astronomy at different wavelengths.

<https://youtu.be/II0luYySON4>

## Big Data Research Infrastructure Collaboration toward the SKA

### Short term implementation (1-3 years)

- Workshops and student/researcher exchanges focused on the development, testing and improvements of big data technologies in the areas of
  1. Open source cloud implementation and technologies
  2. Development of novel algorithms and HPC software for processing and analysis of big astronomy data
  3. Build open source based architectures and tools to enable deployment of cloud-based HPC systems, and
  4. Human capital development (in collaboration with OAD).

### Medium-term implementation (3-5 years)

- continued workshops and student/researcher exchanges with active development in high performance computing data processing and the use of cloud-based tools for data visualization and analytics
- The establishment of a BRICS federated network of cloud-based infrastructure for data intensive astronomy and related research

### Additional Resources

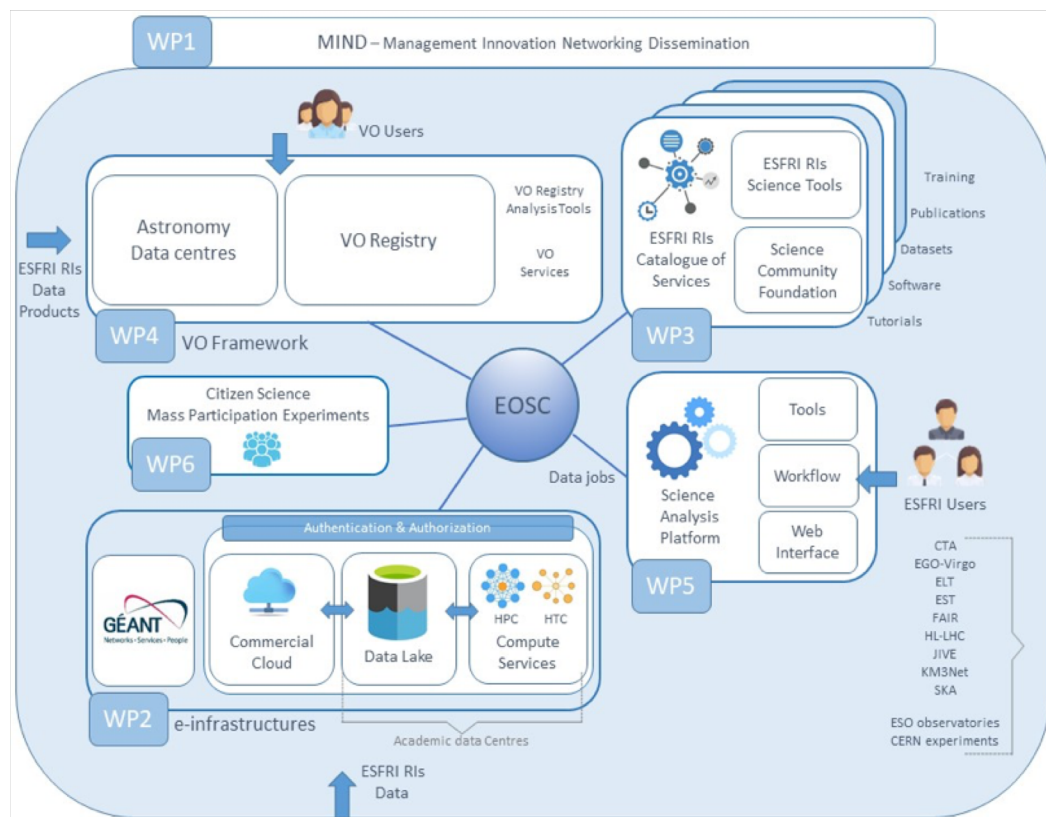
- Funding for equipment to build BRICS cloud infrastructure (hardware and software)
- Student and postdoctoral fellowship bursaries to develop joint BRICS big data projects



*ESCAPE aims to address the Open Science challenges shared by ESFRI facilities as well as other pan-European research infrastructures in astronomy and particle physics*



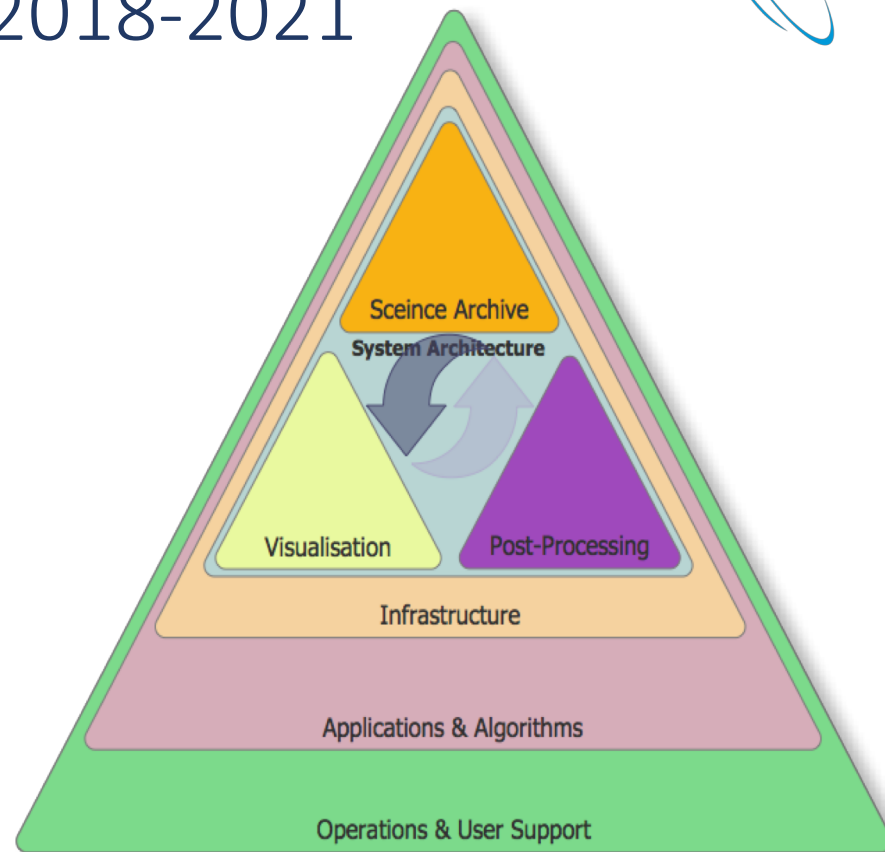
- EC H2020 (16 M€, 2019-2023)
- Partners include SKA, CTA, KM3Net, EST, ELT, HL-LHC, FAIR, CERN, ESO, JIVE
- Led by CNRS, 32 different EU institutions
- ASTRON leading Science Platform WP
- Work kicks off in January 2019





# Australia Development 2018-2021

- ☆ \$4M seed funding received
- ☆ AusSRC Management Committee has been formed (ICRAR, CSIRO, ASKAP, MWA, PAWSEY)
- ☆ Science Advisory Panel to the Project Teams has been formed
- ☆ AusSRC Project Team forming will be completed in Q1 2019
- ☆ AusSRC major funding request for SKA1 (Q2 2020)



# Canadian Initiative for Radio Astronomy Data Analysis



## > **CIRADA** ([cirada.ca](http://cirada.ca))

- enhanced data products (EDPs) for VLASS, CHIME and ASKAP surveys
- advanced re-processing of raw data
- unified processing software stack
- cross-matches, advanced analytics, visualisation
- long-term archiving and data access
- ***enables full science return from major Canadian science & instrumentation programs***

## > Administrative structure

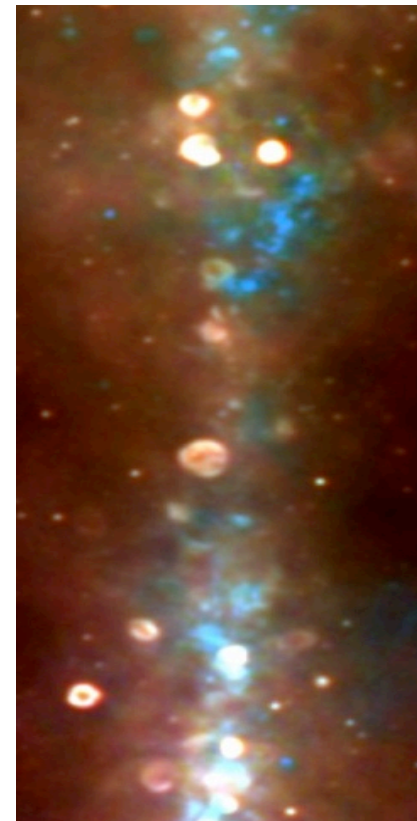
- CFI Innovation Fund 2017: \$10.6M
- PI: Bryan Gaensler ; Deputy PI: Erik Rosolowsky
- five year program, commenced April 2018
- six Canadian universities: Toronto, Alberta, McGill, Queen's, UBC, Manitoba
- plus NRC/CADC, Compute Canada, NRAO, ASTRON, IDIA, Cornell, Berkeley, Minnesota



Dunlap Institute for

Astronomy & Astrophysics

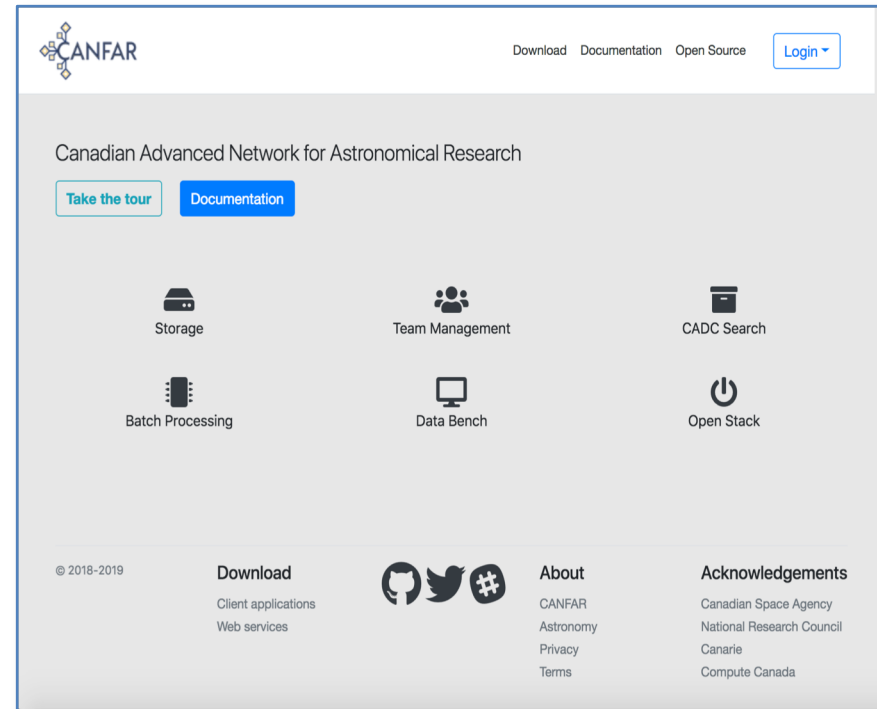
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

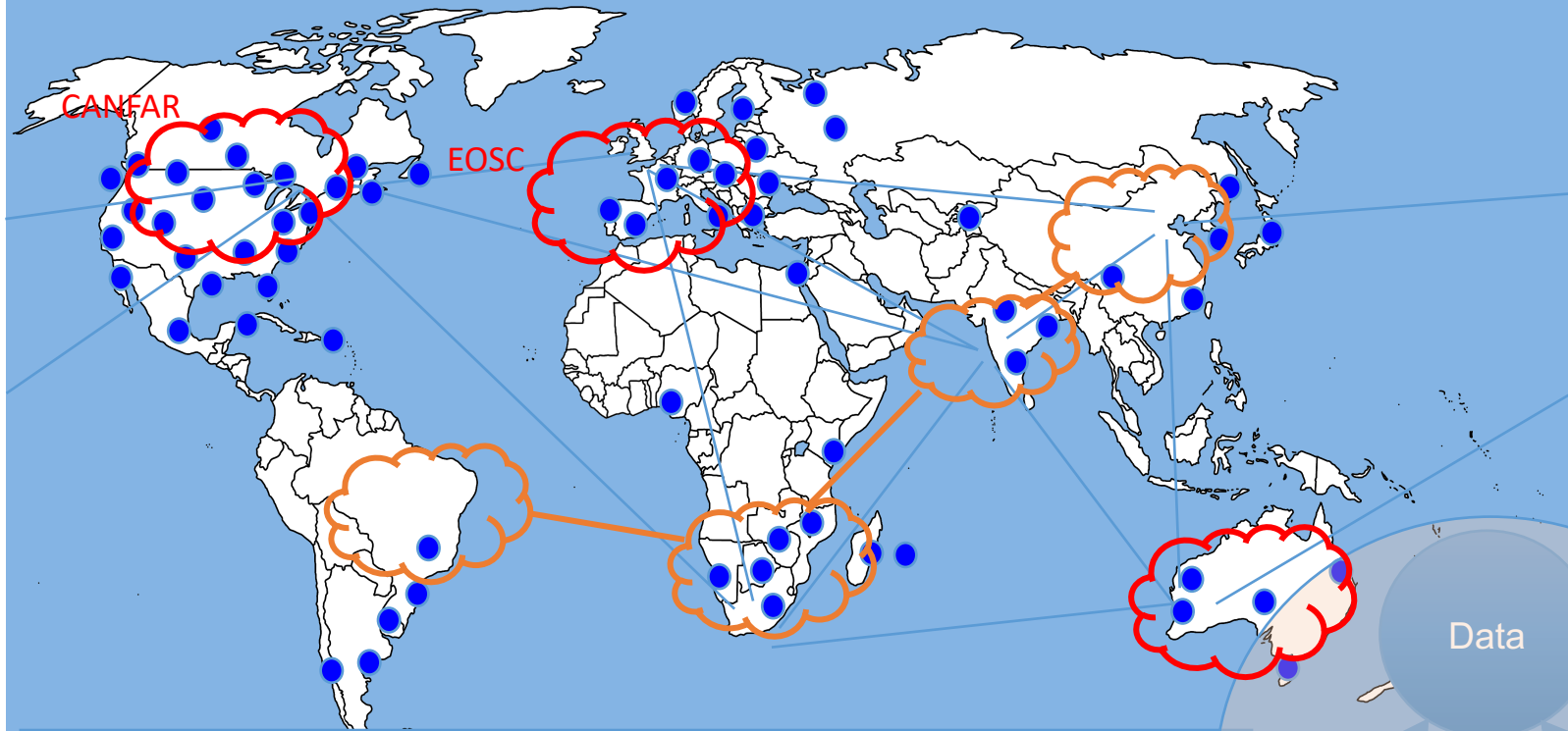


Hindson et al. & Johnston-Hollitt et al.

## Science platform and cloud ecosystem for data intensive astronomy

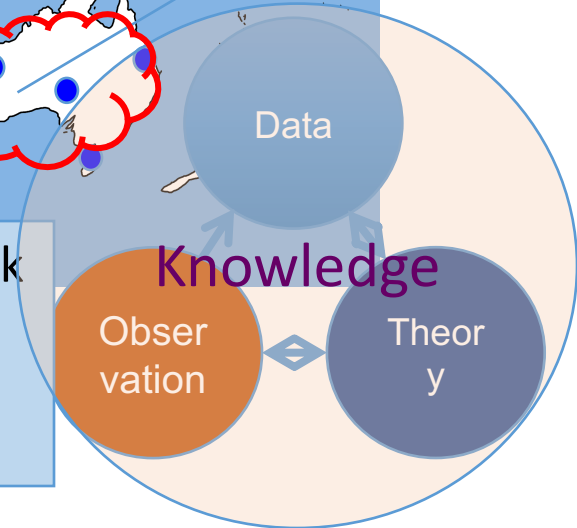
- User services
  - User storage
  - Interactive and batch processing
  - User databases
- Federated research cloud resources provided by Compute Canada
- Integrated:
  - Authentication and authorization
  - Access to telescope data
  - Access to user storage
- Extending capabilities and capacity to support radio data projects (CIRADA)





## BRISKA: Federated BRICS Big Data Astronomy Network

- Collaborative development of big data technologies for joint exploitation of big astronomy data
- Integrate into global network





# Big Data Research Infrastructure Collaboration toward the SKA

## Tangible outputs:

- A network of federated cloud-based infrastructure and e-science tools
- Cloud-based provisioning of HPC for automated processing pipelines
- A wide-field VLBI post-processing data pipeline and source extractor as Jupyter notebook, new technologies and modalities for visualization such as machine learning enhanced visual analytics of cloud-based remote data
- A visual classification tool improving upon radio galaxy zoo to browse, classify and annotate radio sources to discover the unexpected and leverage the power of multi-wavelength data
- Cloud-enabled systems for fusion of and joint analytics of LSST and radio data
- Innovate data analytics tools for large data sets driven by machine learning techniques
- Cloud-based tools for collaborative exploration by distributed research teams
- A cloud-based astronomy and data science toolkit for outreach and development

We expect this collaboration to have far-reaching effects toward developing data intensive expertise and experience in South Africa.

# CHINESE – SOUTH AFRICAN COLLABORATIONS IN ASTRONOMY: WORKSHOP PROGRAM



## The Big Data Challenge in Astronomy

With Cui Chenzhou: Director, Centre of Information and Computing, NAOC  
Project Manager, Chinese Virtual Observatory

Final workshop: First quarter 2019