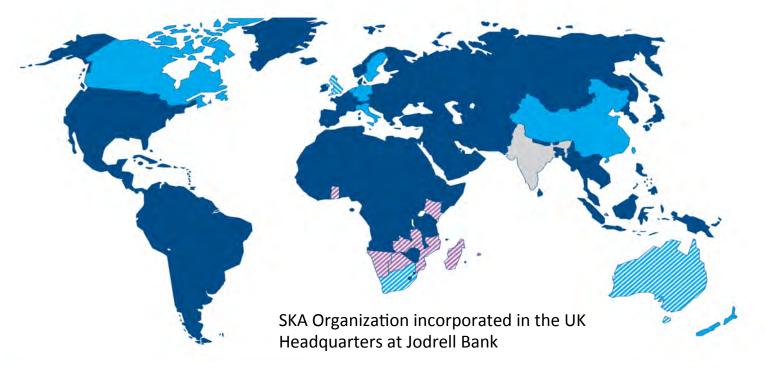
### SKA Global Partnership





Associate members

Member SKA Phase 1 and Phase 2 host countries

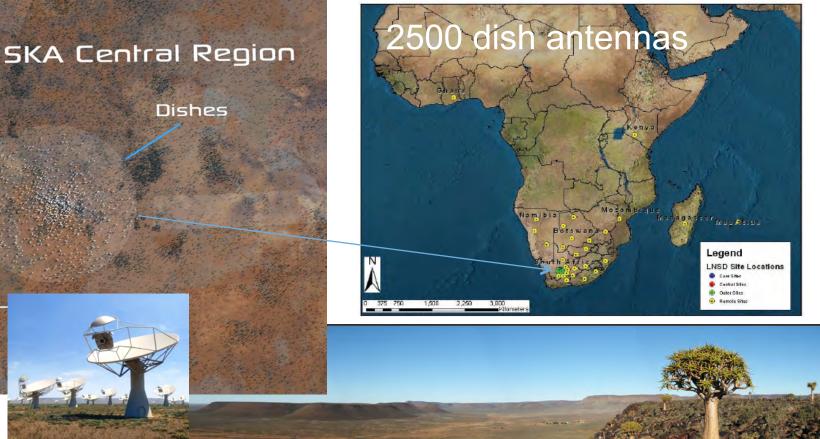
Non-member SKA Phase 2 host countries

Full members

SKA Headquarters host country

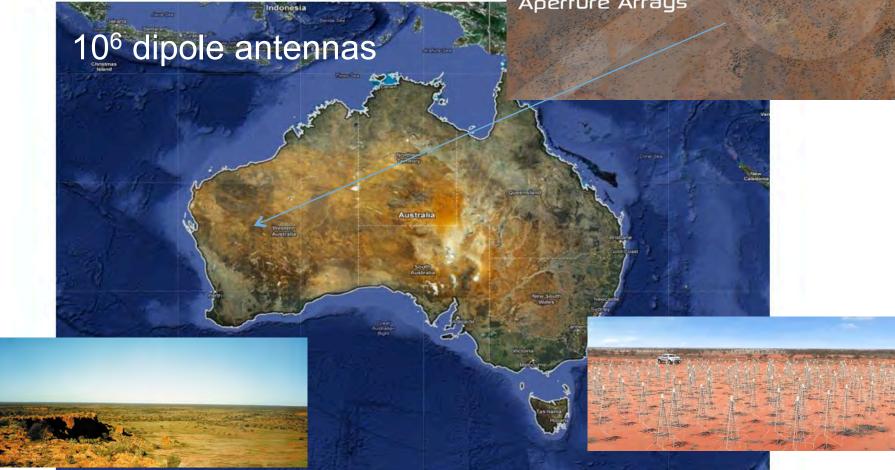
#### Southern Africa: SKA-mid frequency dish array

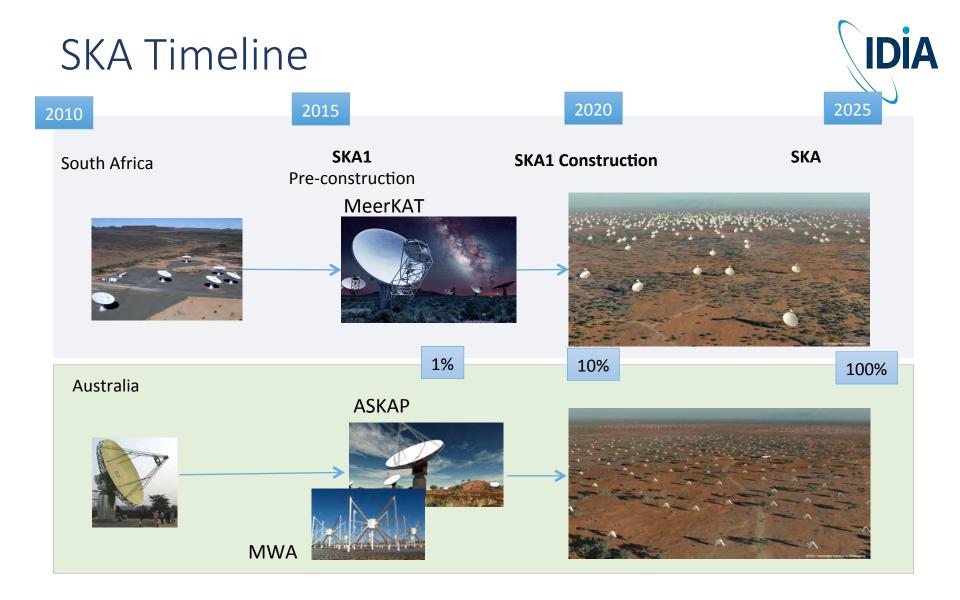




#### Australia – SKA Low

Sparse Aperture Arrays





### MeerKAT - phase 0 of SKA-mid



- 64 13.5m offset parabolic dishes with single-pixel feeds
- Constructed at SA SKA Site for incorporation into SKA1

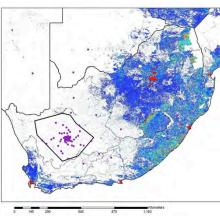




# MeerKAT under construction at the SA SKA Site IDiA



- 16 antennas mid 2016
- 32 antennas early 2017
- 64 antennas late 2017



# Sociology of Radio Astronomy



 Much of the key science en route to the SKA will be achieved via large-scale survey mode observing programs executed by globally distributed teams of researchers



## MeerKAT Large Survey Projects

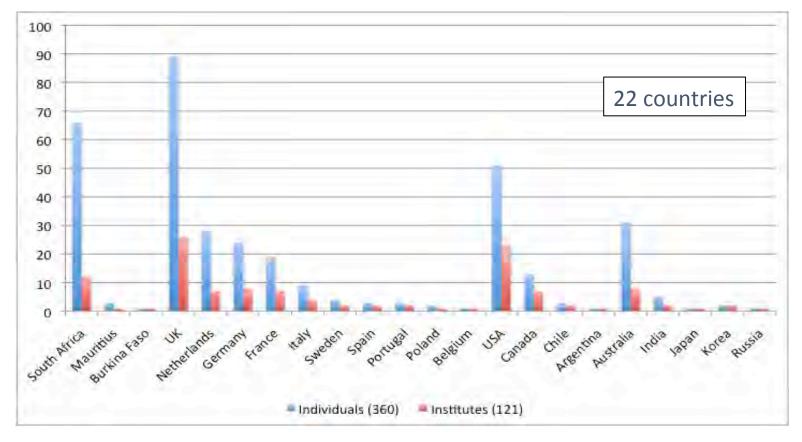
- LADUMA (Deep atomic hydrogen)
- MIGHTEE (Deep radio imaging of the early universe)
- ThunderKAT (exotic phenomena, variables and transients)
- TRAPUM (pulsar search)
- Pulsar Timing
- MESMER (High-z CO)
- MeerKAT Absorption Line Survey
- MHONGOOSE (Nearby HI)
- Fornax MeerKAT HI Survey of Fornax
- MeerGAL (Galactic Plane Survey)







#### MeerKAT Large Surveys (43,000 hours allocated)



# Time Domain Imaging: ThunderKAT and MeerLICHT

#### ThunderKAT

- Real-time imaging of MeerKAT Data Stream
- Targetted and commensal

#### MeerLICHT

- 60cm fully robotic optical telescope
- Field of view 1.6 x 1.6 degrees, slaved to MeerKAT

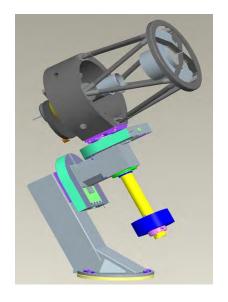
#### Two time-domain data streams

• Rapid robotic triggers for follow up – VoEvent tools





#### Patrick Woudt and Venessa McBride (UCT)



### LADUMA

Dec



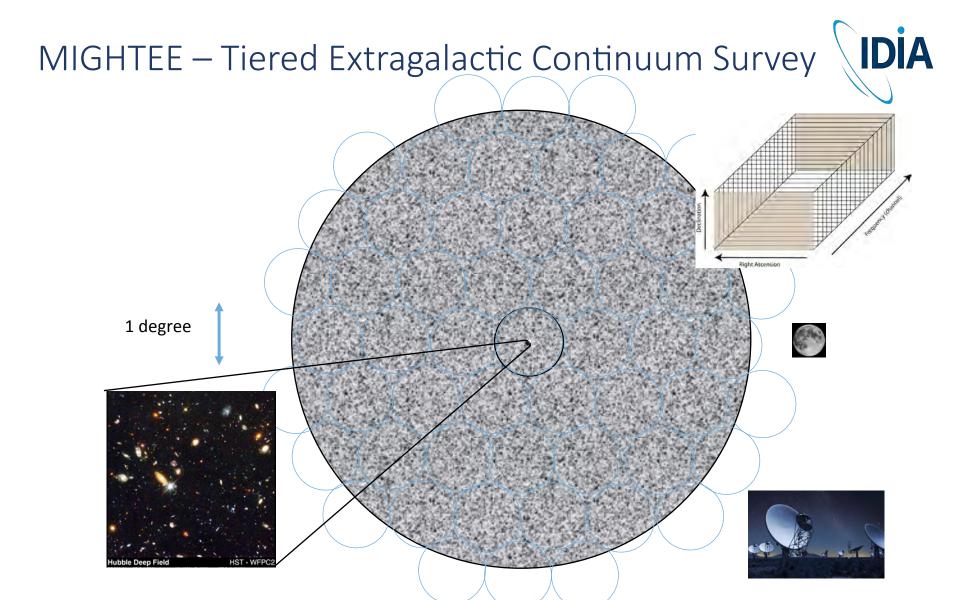
- 5000 h to make the deepest observations of neutral hydrogen (HI) in galaxies to date
- probe the gas content of galaxies back in cosmic time over half the age of the universe.
- Image cube ~1 TB per sq deg.

Looking At the Distant Universe with the MeerKAT Array

(Blyth, Holwerda & Baker)

D

LA



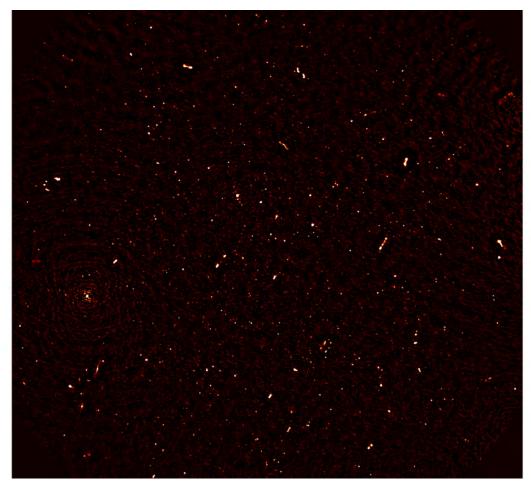


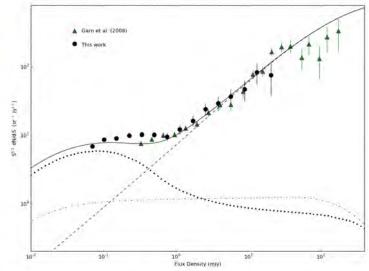
# MeerKAT Survey project Image Data Sizes

- MIGHTEE 20 sq. deg
  - Channel width ~1 MHz, 1000 channels per band, 2" pixels
  - four polarizations ( $\alpha$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\nu$ , S) ~ 1 TB per band
  - Three bands ~ 3 TB
- LADUMA 1 sq. deg.
  - Channel width ~2 KHz, 32,000 channels for 770 MHz
  - $(\alpha, \delta, \nu) \sim 0.5$  TB per band per sq deg.
  - Two bands ~1 TB
- A wide area survey 100 sq. deg  $\rightarrow$  ~ 5 100 TB
- All sky survey ~ 1 PB

### The loneliness of Radio Data

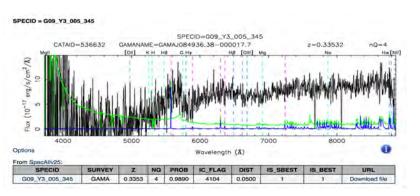


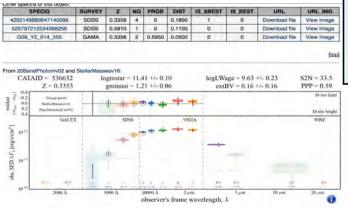




## Large Multi-wavelength Data Sets

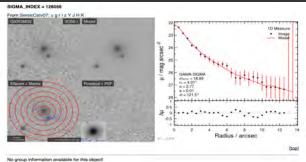






Michelle Cluver, Mattia Vaccari (UWC), Tom Jarret (UCT)

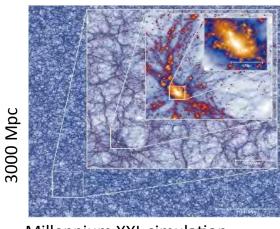




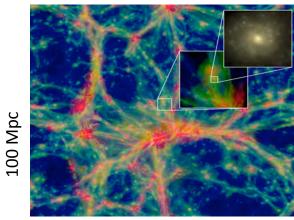
## Multi-Scale Universe Simulations

Big Data meets big simulations

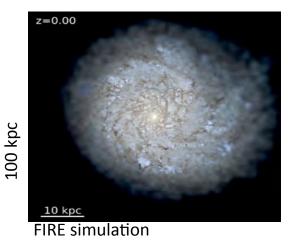
- "Hubble volume" simulations (~Gpc):
- "Cosmological" simulations (~100Mpc):
- "Zoom" simulations (~1 Mpc)



Millennium XXL simulation Romeel Dave (UWC)

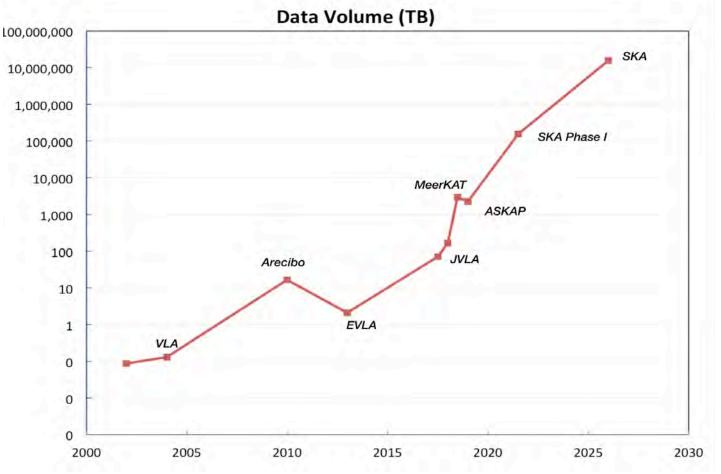


Eagle simulation

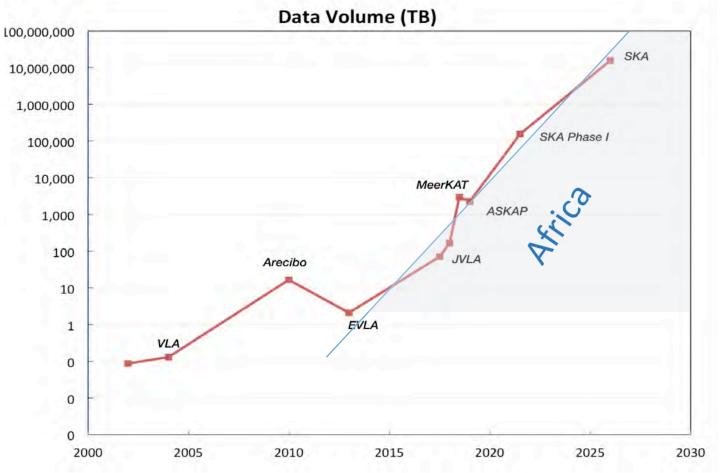




# Growth of Data Volumes to Radio Astronomers



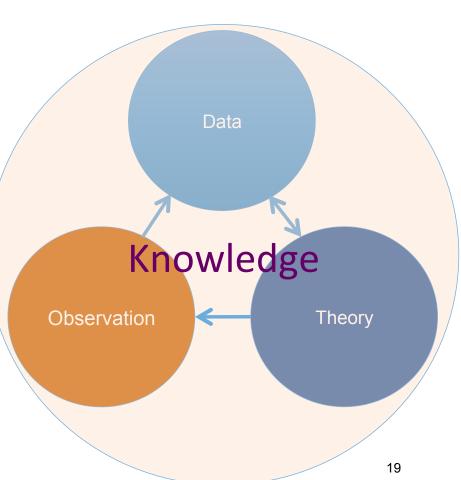
# Growth of Data Volumes to Radio Astronomers





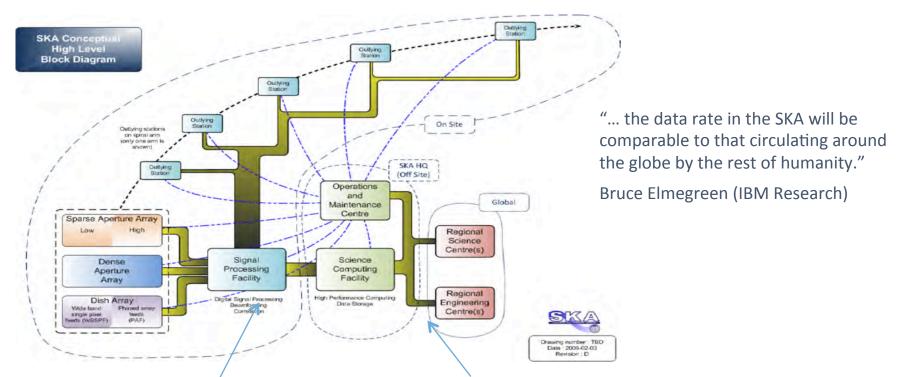
# The Challenges: data to knowledge

- Exponential increase in rates and volumes
- Complex, multi-purpose, processing and analysis for a key science questions, and data mining and exploration
- Interface of big data with big simulations
- Collaborative execution of big data science projects by globally distributed teams of researchers



#### Data Flow....



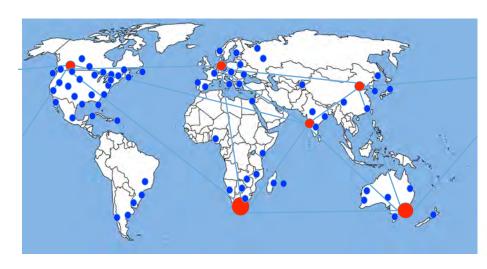


Very Large but well defined BIG data problem – a streaming data engineering challenge Somewhat smaller but much more complex BIG data problem – astronomy, data science, engineering, sociology, governance, politics, business

## SKA Global Partnership in Data



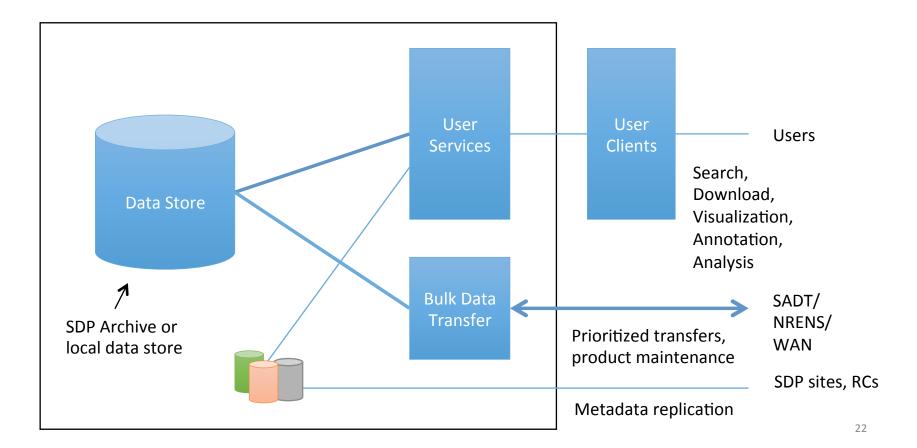
- SKAO Board established SKA Data Flow Panel with rep from each country
- Data Flow Steering Group
  - Russ Taylor (Inter-University Institute for Data Intensive Astronomy)
  - Paul Alexander (Cambridge Institute for Astronomy)
  - Michael Weiss (Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy)
  - Peter Quinn (International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research)
- Develop concept document for SKA Data Flow and SKA Regional Science Data Centres







## SKA Data Delivery Design Architecture





## SKA Data Delivery IVOA services

- Currently proposing to host the following services in for the SKA Data Delivery Systems
  - TAP Discovery (Table Access Protocol) with ObsCore Data Model
  - SIA Discovery Service (Simple Image Access)
  - SSA Discovery service (Simple Spectral Access)
  - DataLink Service (used to link related data and metadata)
- Additional service supported for Observatory support
  - SODA service (to provides cutouts)
- VOEvent (used to send transient alerts) also supported by SKA Telescope Manager



#### SKA Precursor Regional Science Data Centres

- MoU to collaborate on development of Precursor SKA RSDC
  - ASTRON (Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy)
  - NWO (Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research)
  - IBM-NL
  - IDIA
  - SKA SA

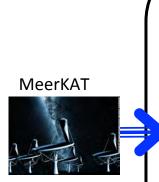
Signed 17 November 2015





#### SKA Precursor Regional Science Data Centres

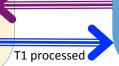
MeerKAT and LOFAR data and use cases



#### MeerKAT Telescope (SKA SA)

- generate and manage telescope data
- First Stage processing
  - flagging
  - Near-real time calibration and imaging
  - Data quality assessment
- T1 data store
  - calibrated and averaged visibilities
  - Image repository

Science products



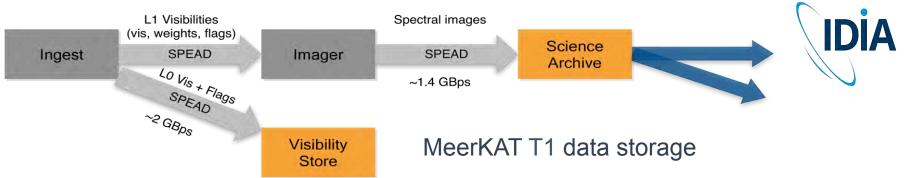
Tier 2 Facility (University Partners)

- Project-based data extraction from T1 data store
- Processing aggregate data to scientific image data sets
- Post-processing, analytics
- Visualization and data mining
- Platform co-development for global data intensive project collaboration and data sharing.

#### Global nodes



**Research and Development Collaboration** 



#### **Visibility Store**

- Telescope visibility data
- 18 PB capacity; at CHPC Cape Town.
- Data stored on LT07 tape.
- Data access: No direct access; staged from tape.

#### **Science Archive**

- Telescope image cubes
- 10 PB capacity; site redundant.
- Data stored on HDDs.
- Data stored in CEPH object store:
  - 130000 objects per image cube
  - Object metadata stored in Apache Solr or Elastic.co
- Data access:
  - Direct via RADOS; Amazon S3 gateway
  - $\circ$  VO gateway

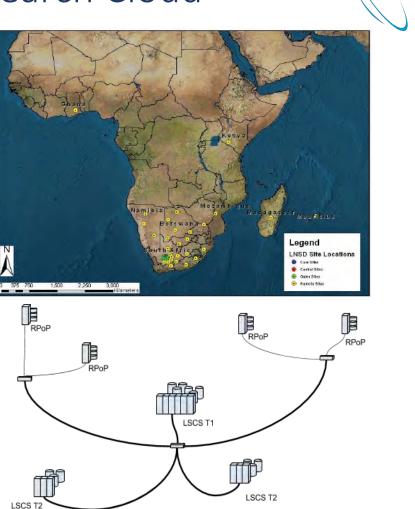


## Tier 2 Data Processing Facility

- Funded and managed by IDIA University partners
- 3-4 PB persistent spinning disk storage to aggregate project visibilities from T1 data store
- Data-centric, high performance computing cluster
- On-going development platform for data processing and postprocessing algorithms and catalogue outputs
- Cloud enabled services and distributed platform for projectbased data access, apps to data, workflows, analytics, visualization,...
- Part of a national, distributed, tiered, data-intensive research infrastructure – African Data Intensive Research Cloud

## African Data Intensive Research Cloud

- Platform for data access and research on astronomy big data toward the SKA era
- Bring together distributed infrastructure and resources into a tiered federated cloud around data, software, analytics, visualization, collaboration,..
- Proto-type under development between IDIA partners (UCT, UWC, UP, NWU), and SKA-SA, CHPC, Canonical, Dell,...
- Initial focus on astronomy but expand to other data challenged domains, e.g. bioinformatics

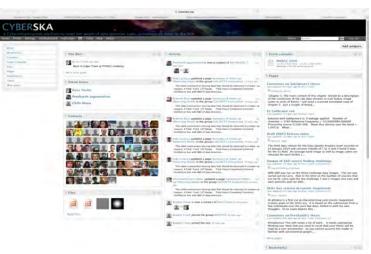


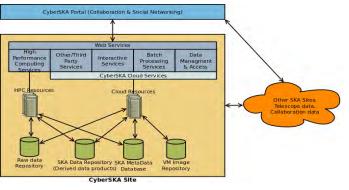




#### CyberSKA: A cloud-enabled Big Data Research Platform

- Collaboration
  - Portal built on social networking and sharing technologies
- Data Management
  - Scalable collaborative access, sharing and searching of distributed (BIG) data sets
- Data Visualization and Visual analytics
  - On-line interactive visualization of remote Big Data
- Third Party Applications
  - Community driven site with common API





# ch Platform

#### CyberSKA: A cloud-enabled Big Data Research Platform

• 620 members from around the world



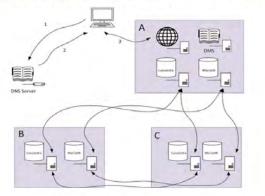
# Federated CyberSKA Platform



# Integrating Globally Distributed Resources into the CyberSKA Platform

David Aikema, Rob Simmonds and Russ Taylor - info@cyberska.org

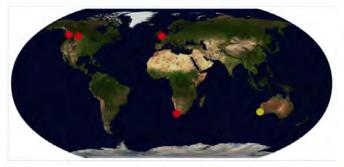
#### Restructuring for a globally-distributed system



- DNS based geolocation used to connect to the nearest CyberSKA instance – Region A in this case.
- Metadata describing files in the DMS instances in each region is stored in Apache Cassandra database that provides eventually consistent replication of this metadata between regions.
- MariaDB using multi-master replication with global transaction ID support is used to distribute portal configuration and account information.

CyberSKA operates two platforms - one for production use and another for experimental purposes. This poster outlines some of the developments in our experimental testbed.

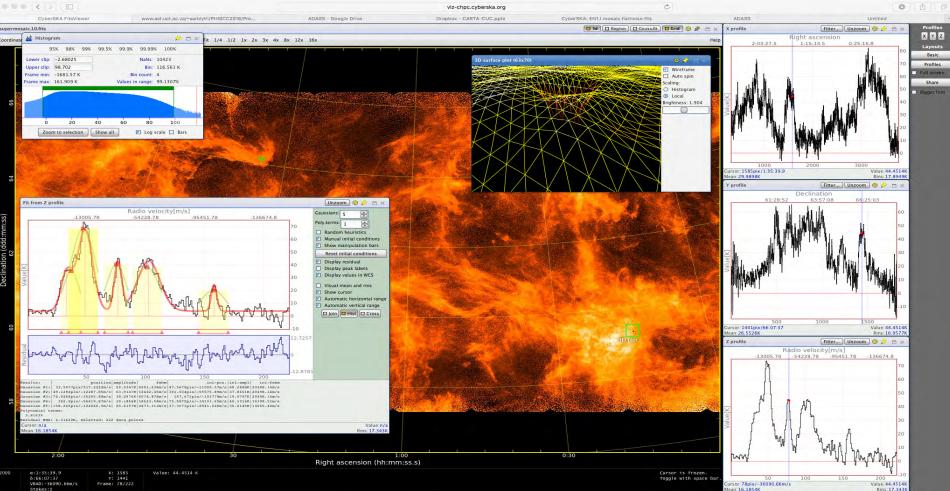
#### CyberSKA Testbed Resource Locations



Red indicates currently active resources in the testbed whereas yellow indicates resources awaiting integration

## CyberSKA Visual Analytics Tool







# File Formats for scaling to Big Data

#### • FITS

- First released in 1981
- Widely used in astronomy
- Sequential access only
- HDF5
  - Generic container format, can be used with any data model
  - Supports parallel read/write access and streaming



### SA<sup>3</sup> IVOA Collaboration

- Setup SA IVOA PostgreSQL database with CAOM data model
- Run IVOA tools provided by CADC
  - CADC a partner in the SKA SDP Data Delivery design work package
- Perform data engineering required to support MeerKAT data
  - Work with HDF5 data files
  - Support MeerKAT radio data
- Host MeerKAT and SALT/SAAO metadata
- Time series data model?
- explore IVOA approaches to multi-wavelength data fusion, analytics and mining for MeerKAT large survey projects