

GLOW-SKA 2018 (K. Mannheim)

Advancing towards SKA membership of Germany

22.01. Negotiations SKAO-MPG (+Uni)

03.04. Letter from BMBF in response

Exclude: Full membership, M&O cost share for Universities, additional funding for MPG, BMBF as legal partner (consortium MPG&Uni instead)

29.05. Meeting at BMBF (minutes)

Andrea Fischer (711) offers to write and explain to SKAO that membership at the current time is impossible, but Germany is interested in keeping doors open. Re-entering the next German roadmap process (current one is halted) may be possible. Recommendation to get involved with other Big Players in research data infrastructure (September workshop at BMBF).

MPG decides to extend MeerKAT in line with the early implementation array scenario of SKAO

- Universities should now found VDA as legal entity to host project „extended MeeKAT“
- Contributions? Research data infrastructure?

Enabling the data infrastructure for SKA in Germany

30.01. Workshop at HTW centered on memory-based computing („The German Machine“)

22.08. Visit of MdB Steier (KI Kommission, Forschungsausschuss) at DZNE in Bonn: Prototype „The German Machine“ (Heßling)

29.05. Call issued by BMBF on data quality and curation and radio-astronomy proposal submitted in response (PI: Hoefft)

04.-05.10. ErUM Workshop at BMBF

- May 2019: Call planned for research data infrastructure (funds from digital agenda and beyond limitations of 711)
- Need to place SKA data needs visibly in workshop recommendation
- Consider Exascale data analysis machine as viable target (KIT, FZJ, ...)

Contact Editors...



Exascale data analysis requires new computer architectures

„The German Machine“

Exascale online data analysis

Exascale data volumes

Long-term archival of raw data is not sustainable

Science Data Processing: Reduction of raw data with real-time analysis software and dissemination of ready-to-use data products

Pilot study: Science data processing for (extended) MeerKAT employing the novel Memory-Based Computing technology (workshop-series at HTW, memo 29.05.2017, 30.05.2018)

Verein für Datenintensive (Radio-) Astronomie (VDA)

Motivation:

Wrap-up by Stefan Wagner

Despite strong commitment of the scientific community, the ministry pulled out of SKAO in 2014 and denied an evaluation of the proposal to place SKA on the national roadmap.

In a joint meeting with the community in 2016, the ministry suggested that the community sets up a legal body to represent the community interested in joining SKA.

2017: funding for engagement in SKA precursor MeerKAT.

2018: Endorsement by RdS; detailing the charter (finished)

Membership *to be discussed*:

Member assembly accepts new members. It is understood that all signatories of the Lol will be accepted irrespective of the set of 'founding members'.

To be discussed:

Options to recruit members (institutions) in IT community.

Seeking membership in industry (e.g. SAP, HPE, IBM, T-Systems ...)

Next steps

Final iteration of statutes (defined through agreement by 7 or more founding members)

Kuratorium: ...

Membership fees: ...

Representatives: ...

Registration: ...

Formalities:....

Next steps

Kuratorium:

This structure is a placeholder that might enable BMBF interaction. In case VDA will represent Germany in SKAO, the involvement of public funding may require formal oversight by the ministry.

BMBF has no intentions at the moment,

but it appears that setting up the possibility now might be less cumbersome than changing the statutes whenever the need arises.

Next steps

Membership fees:

Main necessity: Costs for legal process, costs for VDR-specific information material (order 1000 Euro / year)

Options: fixed fee / member (order 100 Euro / year)

fixed fee / scientist (order 20 Euro / year)

Different membership categories:

Single institutions

Organisations with multiple institutions (MPG,...)

Industry

Next steps

Vorstand:

Board will be elected by members in founding meeting
(which will follow formal registration of the society).

Vorstand =

Vorsitzender, stellv. Vorsitzender, Schriftführer, Kassenwart, xxx

Interim board required for formal registration

Candidates:

Stefan Wagner, KM,, ...

Registration

Legal registration (Amtsgericht/Finanzamt):

The society will be formally registered at

This has no implications regarding a future formal seat.

Considerations: an active member needs to be present (most formal work relies on this individual).

Experienced (and appraised (!)) local tax office.

Contacts to politics (Bonn, Berlin), major (committed) supporting institutions (HGF, MPG, ...) is an asset.

Should be easy to reach

and institutionally supported (e.g. postal address)

Verein: SKA or 'Big Data'

- (1) Part of the SKA-interested community is focused on the data challenge rather than in astrophysics.
- (2) BMBF identifies data challenge as natl. priority and encourages SKA community to broaden the scope in communicating SKA.
- (3) Data challenges are a major (unique) aspect of SKA and any solution may also serve other needs in astrophysics.
 - ~ 300 Pbyte/year: transport, on-line processing, archiving, access.
 - SW and HW developments needed to tackle data challenge.
 - Industry cooperation are commencing.

Verein may identify data challenge as top priority to be symbolized by name and constitution (tbd).