

SRCNet project overview LOFAR LTA Development Meeting

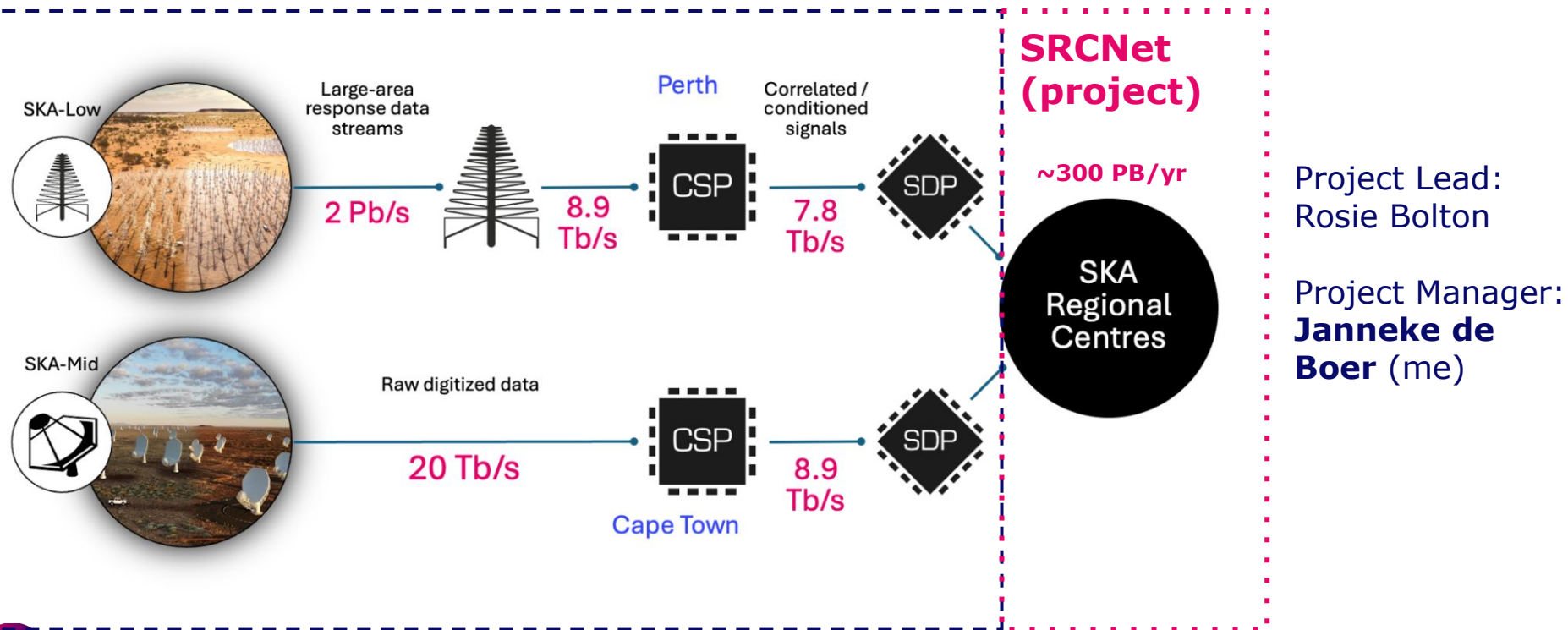
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SRCNet Project Manager

1 July 2026



Why the SKA Regional Centres???

Several stages of cool, amazing, cutting edge data processing within the observatory... but **NO USER ACCESS**



What are the SKA Regional Centres?

- The data volumes are too big to download
=> everything happens on the SRCNet

Current tools:

Indigo IAM

CAOM

PanDA

Rucio

CANFAR

CRIC

Harbor

Grafana

Tools can change!

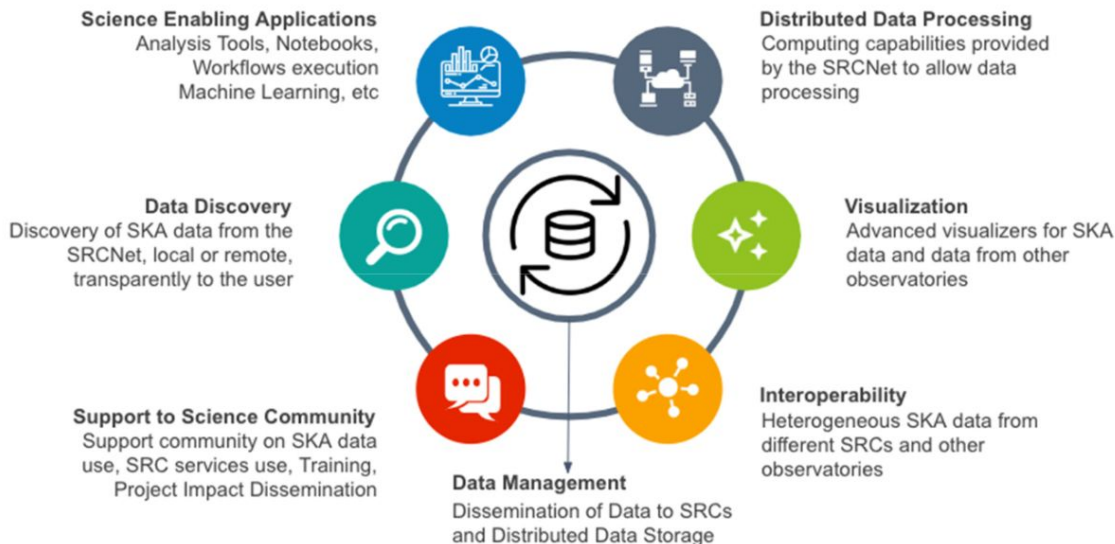


Figure 4. SRCNet node blueprint conceptual representation.

All the SRC blueprint implementations, the data lake, and the protocols involved will compose the SRCNetwork or SRCNet.



Behind the scenes - all should be hidden from user

Several sites (around 10-20) spread globally

Data replication must be efficient, and minimised

"Move the user (or code) to the data" where possible



The bulk SRCNet science archive will be centrally managed

SRC Operations Group able to trigger replications

At least 2 copies on different SRCs, but also consider storage class (eg. disk faster but more expensive than tape) - data lifecycle support

Auto-recovery if one site fails

Users shouldn't have to care which site is hosting them - consistent experience across sites



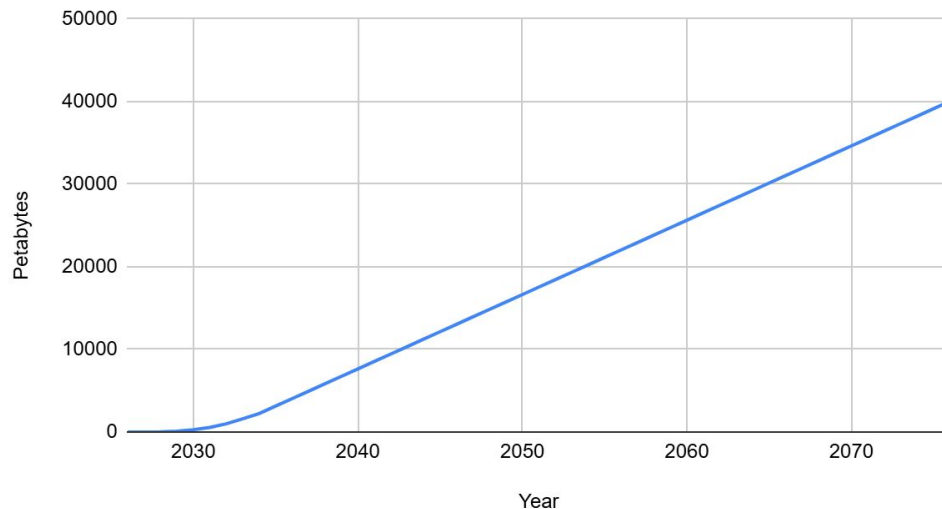
SRCNet project - big data project

Expected telescope output

Year	Annual increase (PB)	Cumulative total (PB)
2026	0	0
2027	0.5	0.5
2028	0.5	0.9
2029	25.6	26.5
2030	65.4	91.9
2031	88.5	180.4
2032	150	330.4
2033	198.8	529.1
2034	215	744.1
2035	300	1044.1

Data to store: 300 PB/year, 2 replicas,
user data products = ~ 900 PB/year

SKA data volumes

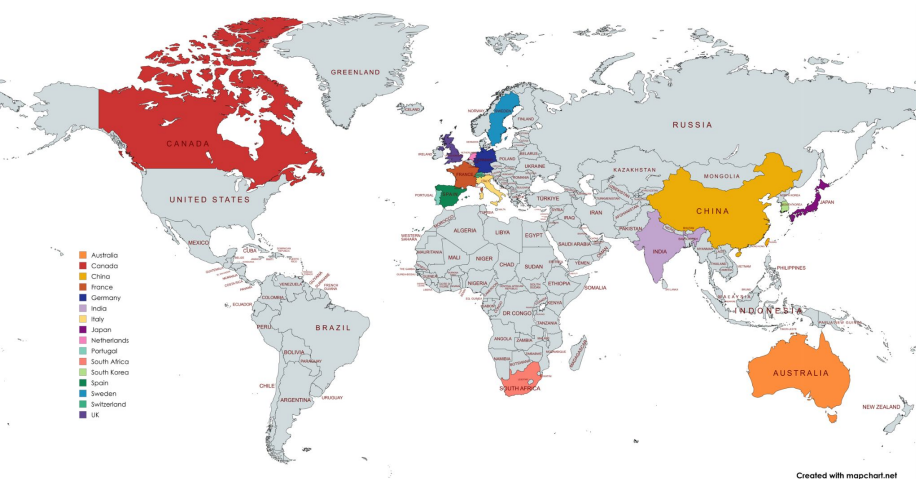


Steady state after 2035



The SRCNet Project

The SRCNet Project aims to deliver a working SRC Network in time for formal start of SKAO Operations, and for intermediate science verification stages



Created with mapchart.net



Currently ~120 members, 62 person-worth of effort, spread over 14 countries + SKAO

SRCNet project structure



Lead: Jeremy Coles

Service Operations

Node operations, deployments etc



Lead: Jesus Salgado

Software development

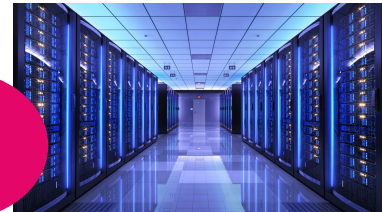


Lead: Carmen Toribio

Science Delivery

User facing, helpdesk, workflows, testing

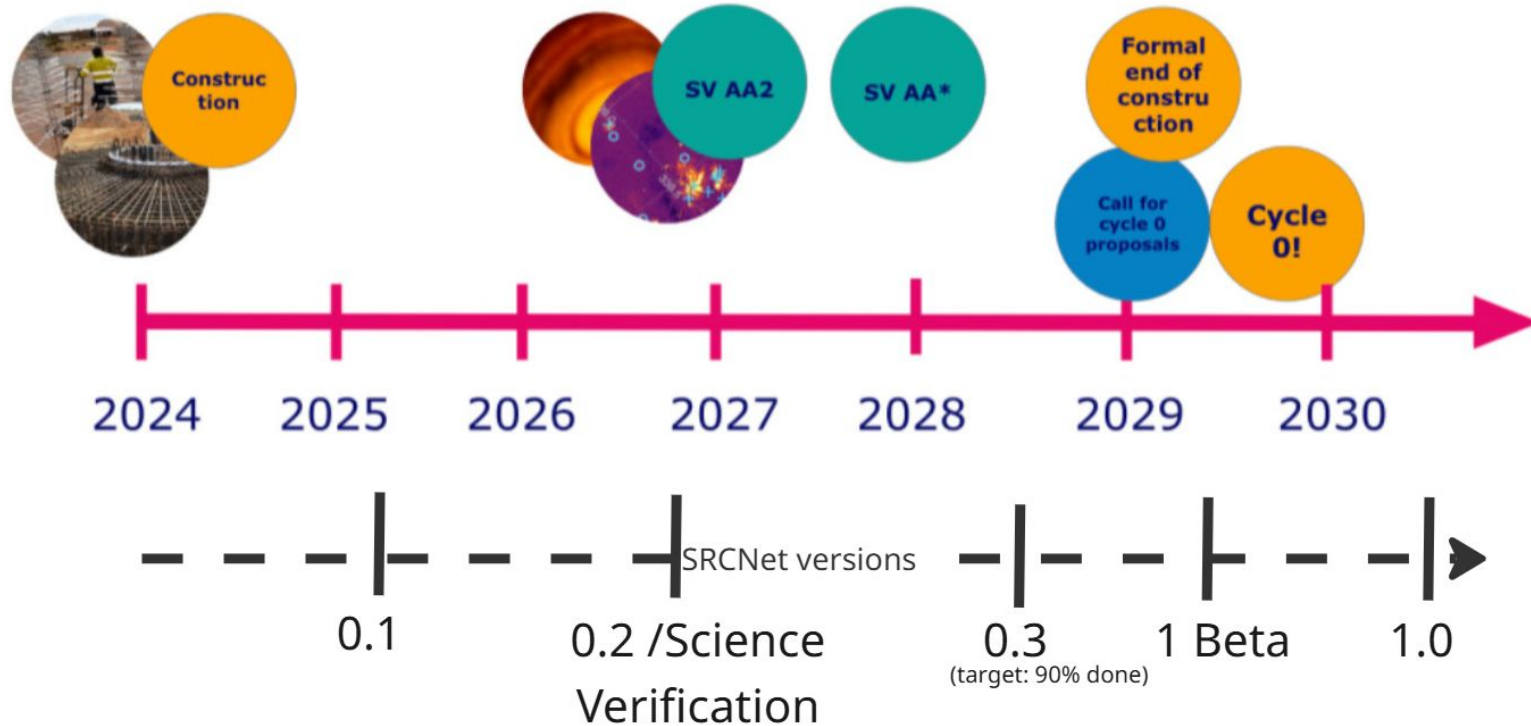
Infrastructure



More on this later



Timeline SRCNet project



SRCNet 0.1 is internal to the project

So why is it exciting? Proof of concept established across many sites

SRCNet 0.1
2025



Milestone passed!

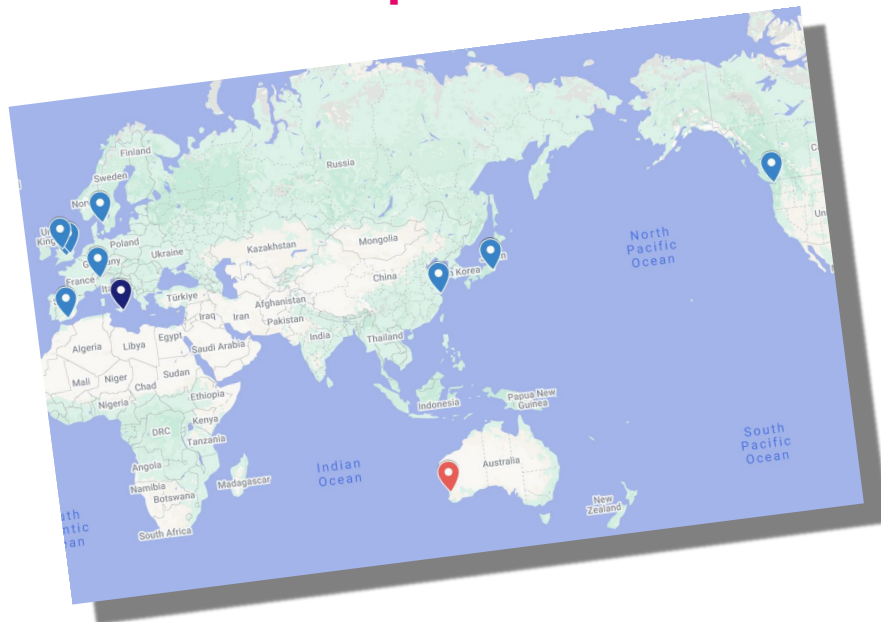
9 nodes now

Test campaigns
successfully run

Data movement between
sites centrally managed

Data ingestion at SDP
location in Perth

Internal version, testing
architecture



Millions of global
data transfers
made in test
campaigns already

Key:

- 0.1 nodes (Spain, Switzerland, SKAO, Sweden, UK, China, Japan, Canada, Italy)
- SKAO ingestion site (Pawsey)

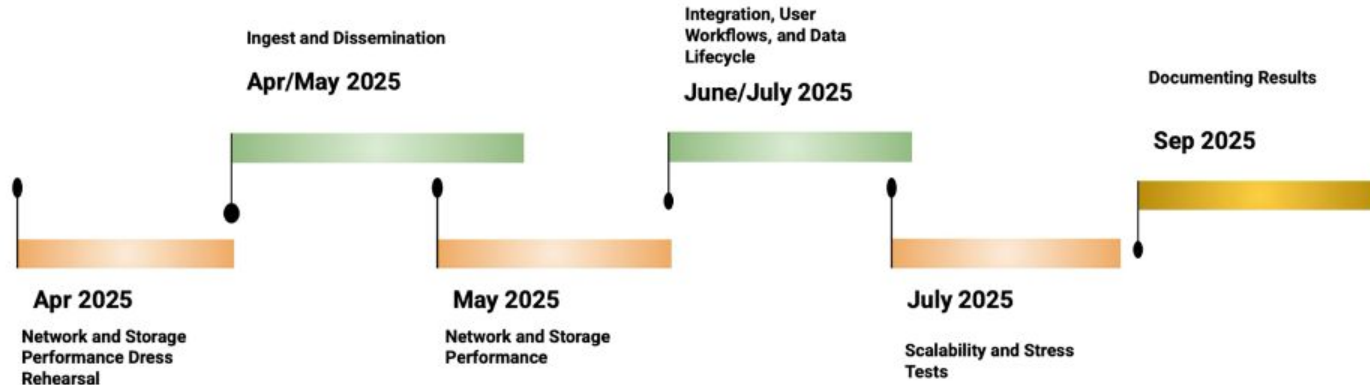
- **Centrally managed** data archive of 8 PBytes total
- Ingestion of data from an SDP site (Pawsey) on SKAO resources
- **Trust between sites** allowing resources to be integrated



Test campaigns 2025

SRCNet v0.1 Test Campaigns:

- Verification of deployments at sites
- Validation of Architecture, inputting into v0.2+ design
- Support and build the Operationalisation of distributed sets of teams



Data movement and data lifecycle testing



Test campaigns outcomes

9 Nodes successfully deployed and integrated, all were involved in the test campaigns

Rucio and FTS fun facts:

- 2 PB transferred during test period
- 1.7M files (3.3M including functional tests)
 - 1M in <24 hours
- Up to 150 TB per day transferred
- Up to 20Gb/s throughput

Main issues

- Expired tokens (FTS)
- Large file transfers (e.g. >1TB)
 - Long-haul ~30MB/s
 - Close-by ~500 MB/s



Next steps in the SRCNet project

Including, not limited to:

- Compute - very difficult to estimate
- Distributed computing
- MoUs; get something more than trust
- Helpdesk; internal and external



Compute estimation (OLD)

Year	Compute (PFLOPS)
2027	0.5
2028	2.5
2029	5
2030	10
2035	25



Infrastructure

- SRCNet is not the only big data project in the world
- Let's work together

=> Operator forum

- Release processes
- K8 Pods and Slurm Jobs to Read and Write in the Rucio SRC and User Dirs

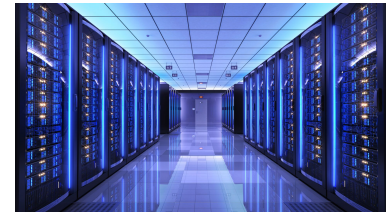
=> SRCNet Infraforum starting soon

- OpenStack on bare metal, or as a Kubernetes service?
- Ceph storage architecture, nr of clusters
- # GBs per core (8?) - per physical or virtual core?

Interested? Let me know - boer@astron.nl



Most cringy collaboration image I could find -Togetherplatform



SRC | Net

SKAO Regional Centre Network

End

Public confluence page:

<https://confluence.skatelescope.org/display/SNC/>

