



SKA MASUM 2022 meeting

Software

11 May 2022

Adam Avison, Marco Bartolini, Alan Bridger, Piers Harding, Peter Lewis, Vivek Mohile, Ben Mort, Aris Noutsos, Sonja Vrcic, Peter Wortmann



Overview

Software overview & Roadmaps

- SKA Software Solution overview
 - DP ART Roadmaps
 - OMC ART Rodmaps

Software & Computing Architecture

- Overview of the overall software architecture
- Software architecture at AA0.5

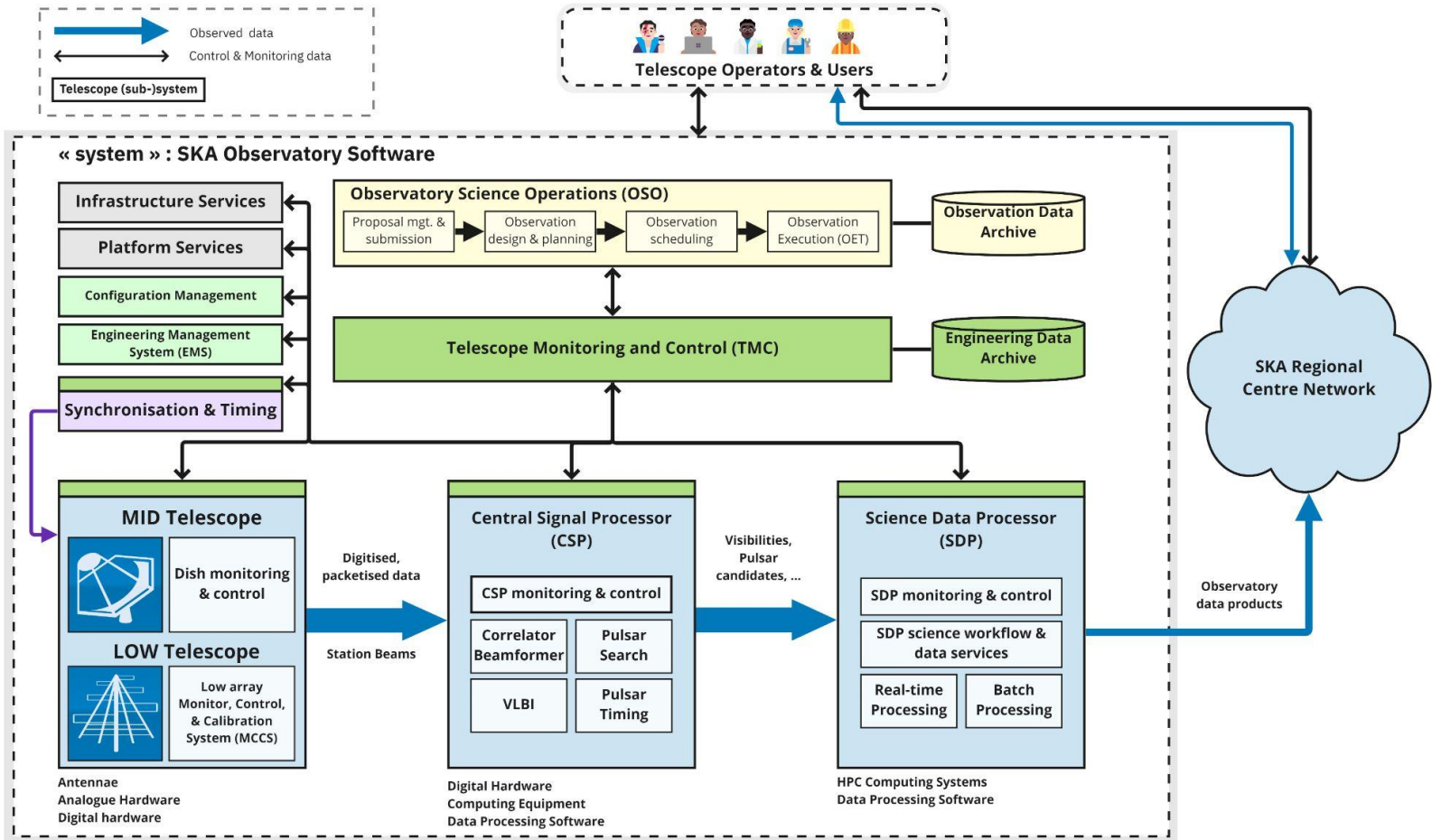
Software & computing impacts almost all aspects of the SKA observatory! ...



SKA Software Solution Overview

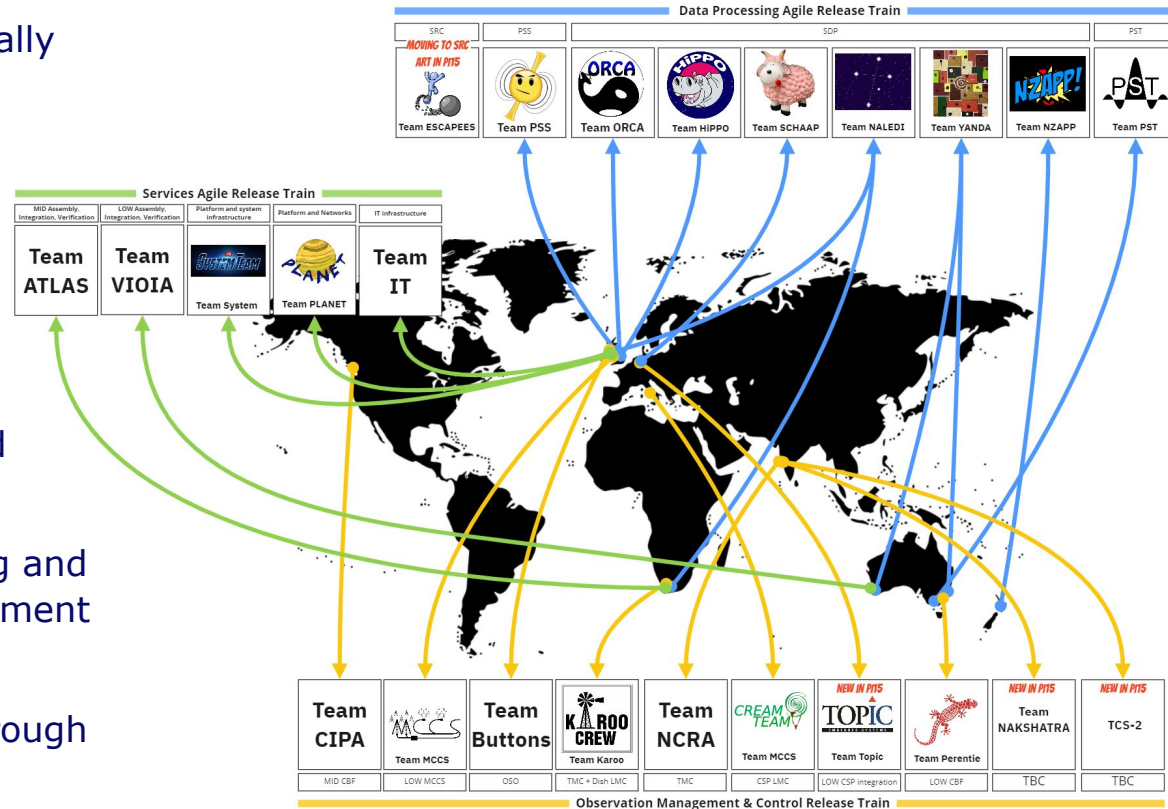


SKA Software - Key components

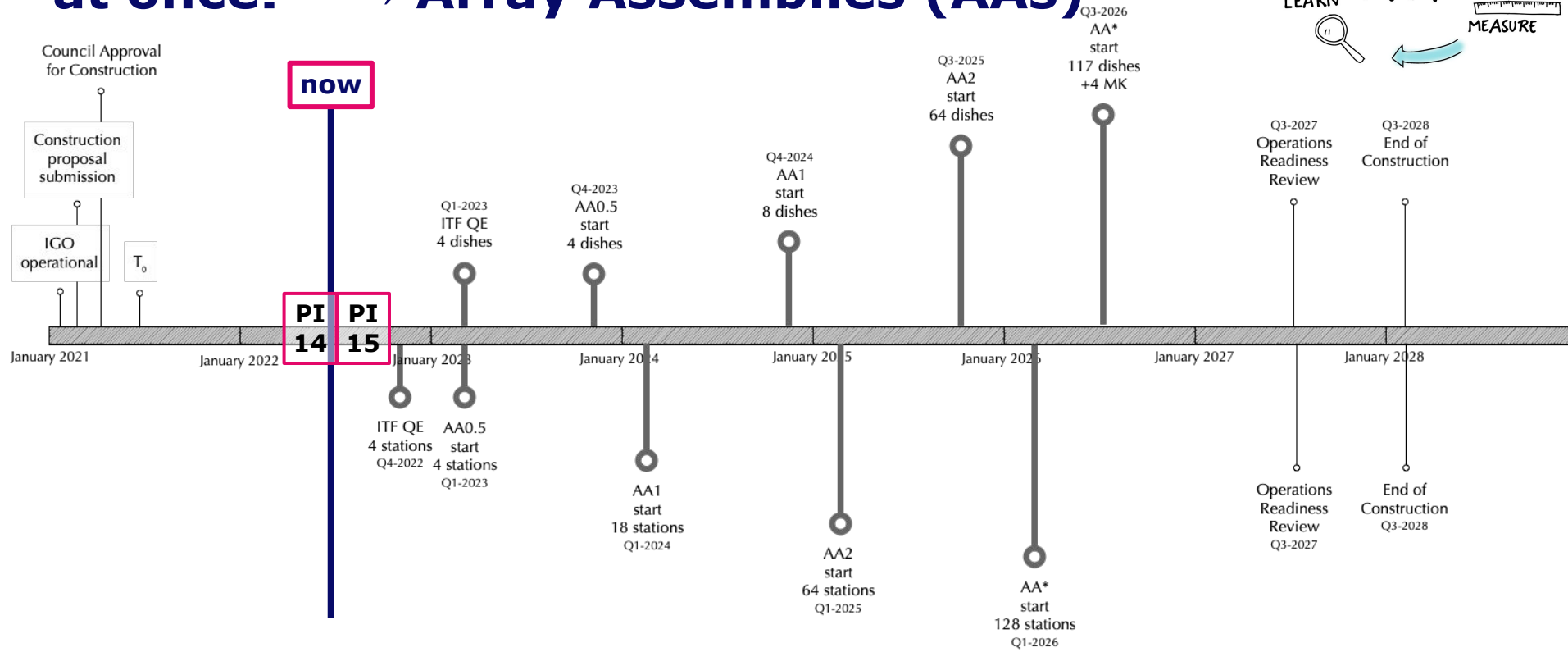
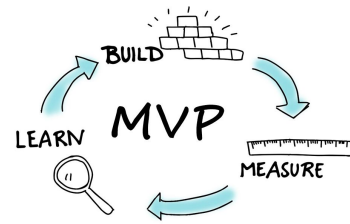


Organisation of SKA Software & Computing

- Coordinated effort of 21 → 23 globally distributed teams!
- Guided by the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe™)
- Three Agile Release Trains (ARTs) + SRC ART now ramping up for start in June
- Alignment between ARTs managed by the Solution Team
- All ARTs follow a 3-month planning and delivery cadence → Planning Increment (PI)
- Work shared with stakeholders through regular series of system demos



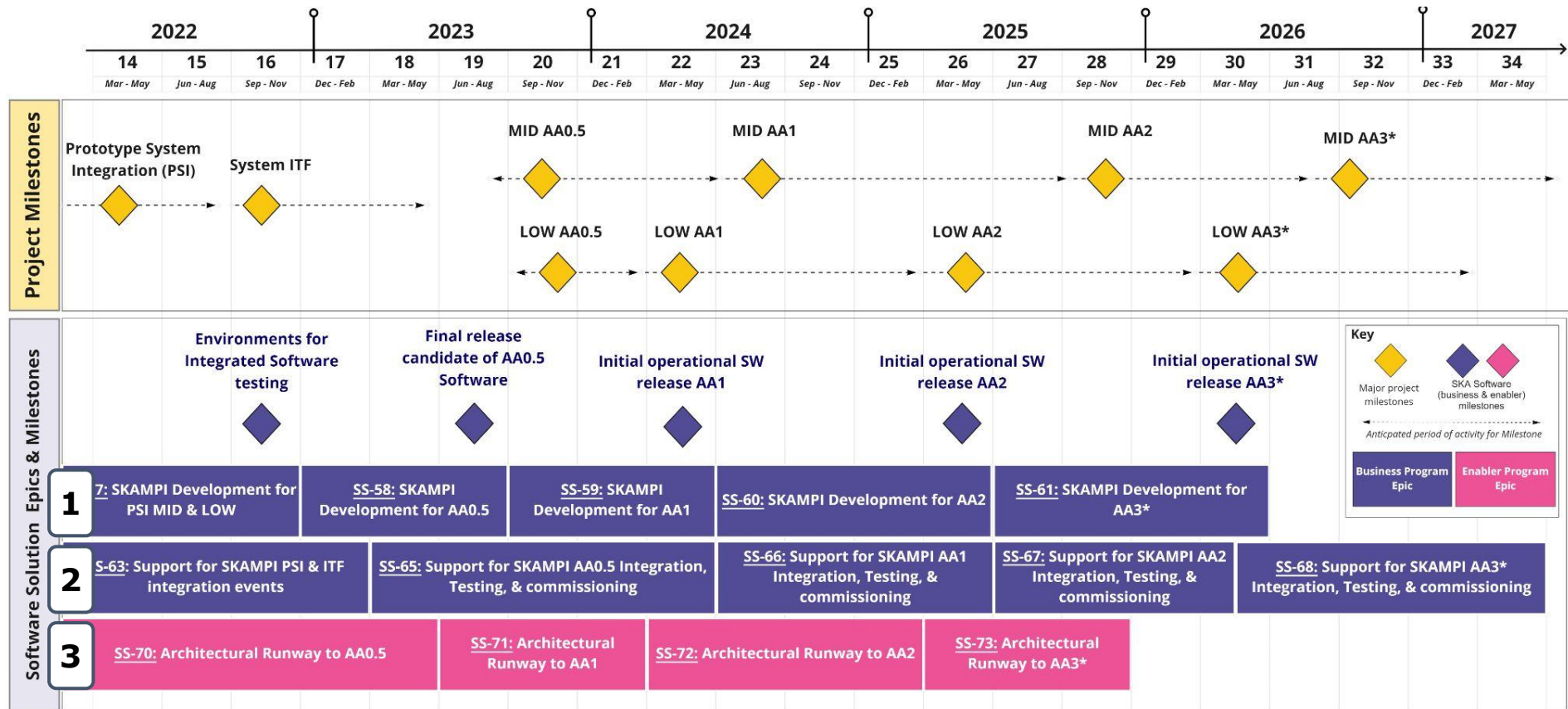
We cannot deliver everything at once! → Array Assemblies (AAs)



vertical scales are logarithmic wrt Array Assembly size

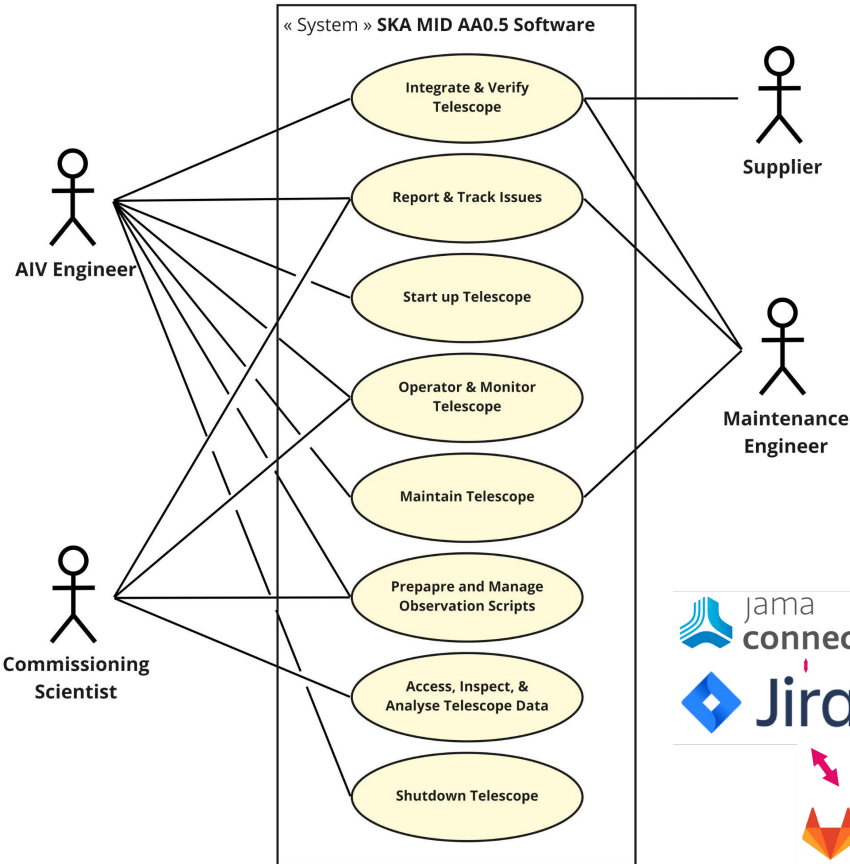


Strategic, Long-Term Solution Roadmap



Use Cases and Case Case flows

<https://confluence.skatelescope.org/display/SWSI/Solution+Use+Cases>



Use case: USE-22

Use case flow: USE-69

Operate and Monitor Telescope - Basic Flow

Flow Description:

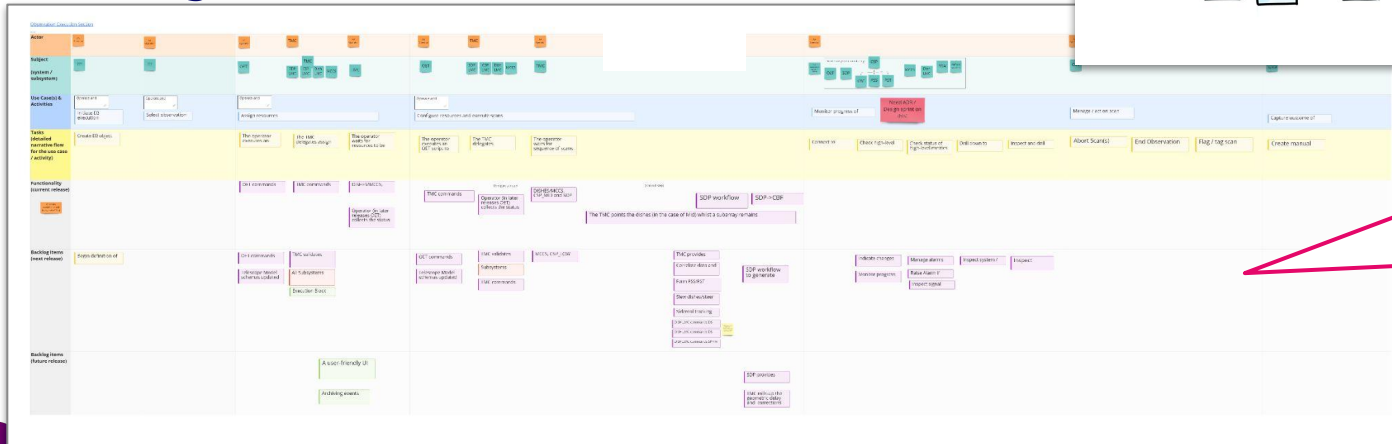
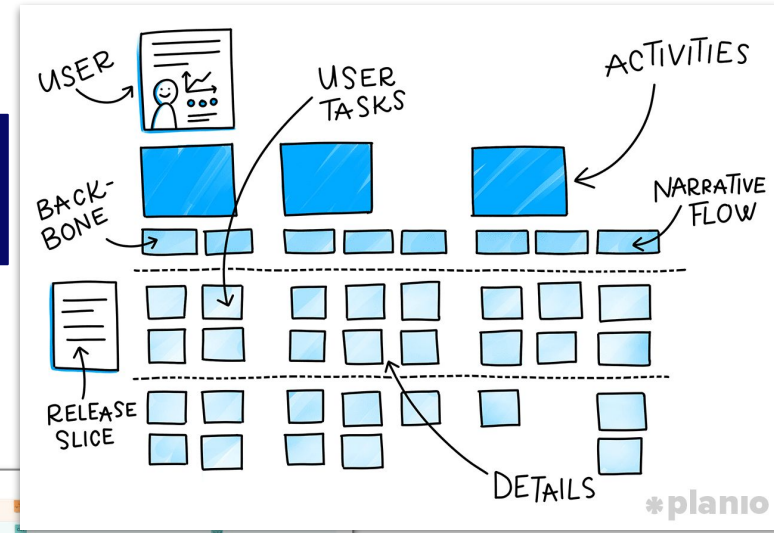
1. Data Generation
 1. For SKA1_Low Configuration: Station Beams are pointed at the designated location in SB, they track the source, and collect data
 2. For SKA1_Mid Configuration: Dishes point to the designated location in the SB, they track the source, and collect data
 3. Dish/beam signals are channelised, and delay corrections are applied
 4. Channelised data is correlated and processed into visibilities
 5. Data is beamformed into tied array beams
 6. Data is ingested by the SDP, collating and packaging it for further processing
2. Monitoring
 1. Telescope health and observation health is monitored
 2. Engineering and log data are archived
 3. Visibilities are displayed in QA/signal integrity displays

From Use Cases to "Story Mapping" ...

- Complements use cases, mapping:



- Adds context for reasoning about feature and release prioritisation
- Being used from PI15



Story mapping board for "Operator & Monitor" use case.

Outcome of the PI14 Roadmapping workshop

Current Solution Focus

Priorities for next 6-12 Months (2-4 PIs)

1. Robust, resilient, observable distributed control and monitoring system → user feedback from exploratory testing
2. Incremental delivery of integrated AA0.5 capabilities, needed for engineering and science commissioning, ahead of full AA0.5 deployment
→ Collaboration with AIV for system acceptance testing

Short term goals (PI15→16)

1. Exercise and test named release(s) of integrated software deploying AA0.5 MVP in established environments:
 - PSI-MID & PSI-LOW
 - Per-telescope, user accessible, sandbox/staging environment
2. Computing platform, including network and storage, for AA0.5 is well defined
3. System-level interfaces for tiled-array beamformer calibration



The screenshot shows a document portal interface with a table titled "AA0.5 Scenarios". The table has columns for Scenario, Author, Release date and revision, and File. The data rows are as follows:

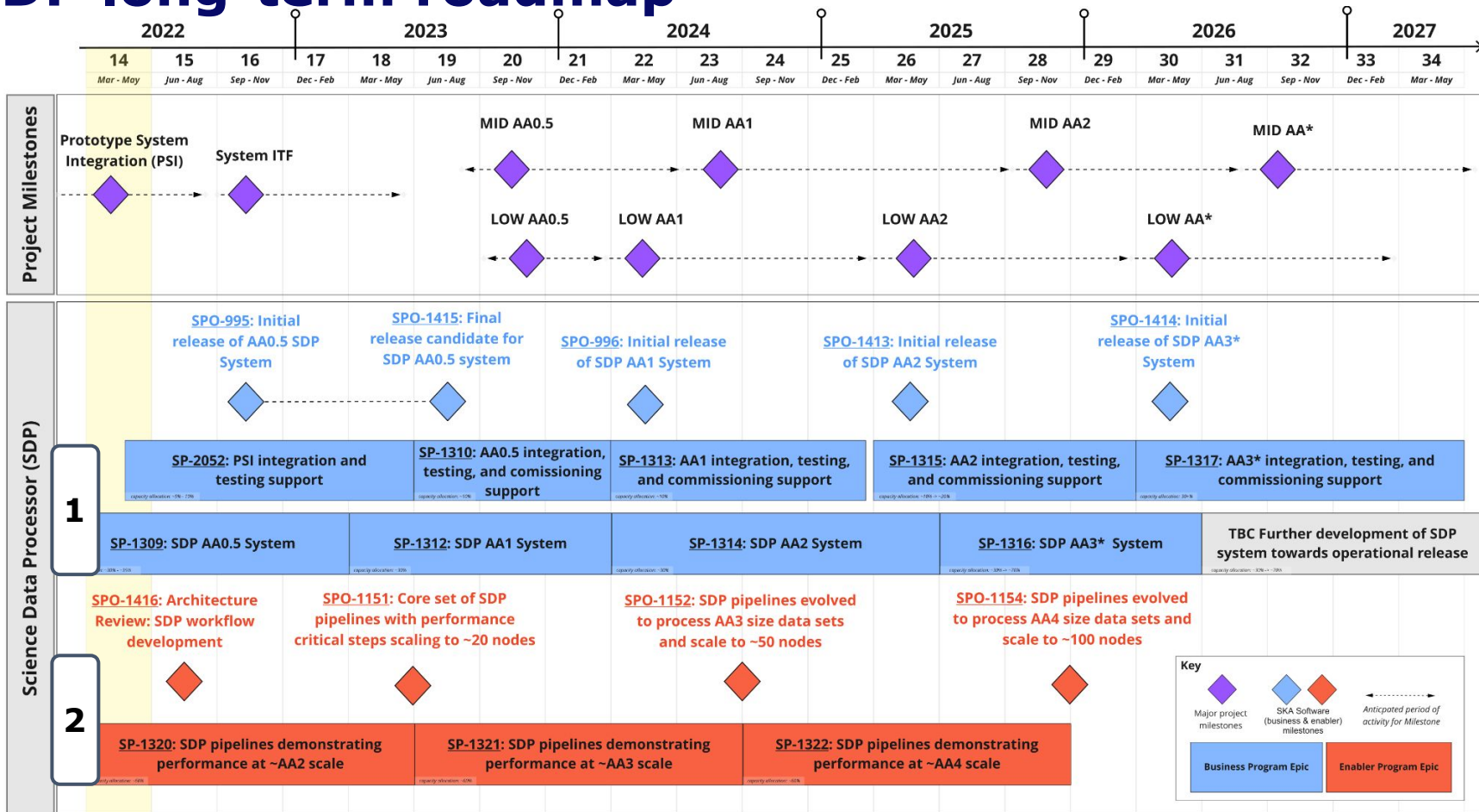
Scenario	Author	Release date and revision	File
AA0.5 MID Imaging in Band 2	Robert Laing	2021-07-21 Rev. 1	AA0.5_MID_Scenario_Imaging_in_Band_2.docx
AA0.5 LOW Imaging	Shinichiro Asayama	2021-07-06 Rev. 1	AA0.5_LOW_Scenario_Imaging.docx
AA0.5 MID Astro-holography	Shinichiro Asayama	2021-08-04 Rev. 2	AA0.5_MID_Scenario_Astro-holography_rev2.docx
AA0.5 MID Interferometric Pointing	Shinichiro Asayama	2021-08-05 Rev. 2	AA0.5_MID_Scenario_Interferometric_Pointing_rev2.docx
AA0.5 MID Beamformer Data Dynamic Range	Maciej Serylak	2021-07-25 Rev. 3	AA0.5_MID_Scenario_Beamformer_Data_Dynamic_Range.docx
AA0.5 MID Beamformer Adjacent Channel Leakage	Maciej Serylak	2021-07-25 Rev. 1	AA0.5_MID_Scenario_Beamformer_Adjacent_Channel_Leakage.docx
AA0.5 MID Array Phase Up Efficiency	Maciej Serylak	2021-07-26 Rev. 1	AA0.5_MID_Scenario_Array_Phase_Up_Efficiency.docx

Data Processing (DP) ART Roadmaps

 Team PSS	 Team PST	 Team ORCA	 Team HIPPO	 Team SCHAAP	 Team NALEDI	 Team YANDA	 Team NZAPP
PSS	PST	SDP					



SDP long-term roadmap



SDP Short Term Roadmap: Towards AA0.5

1. SDP system for capturing visibility data at AA0.5

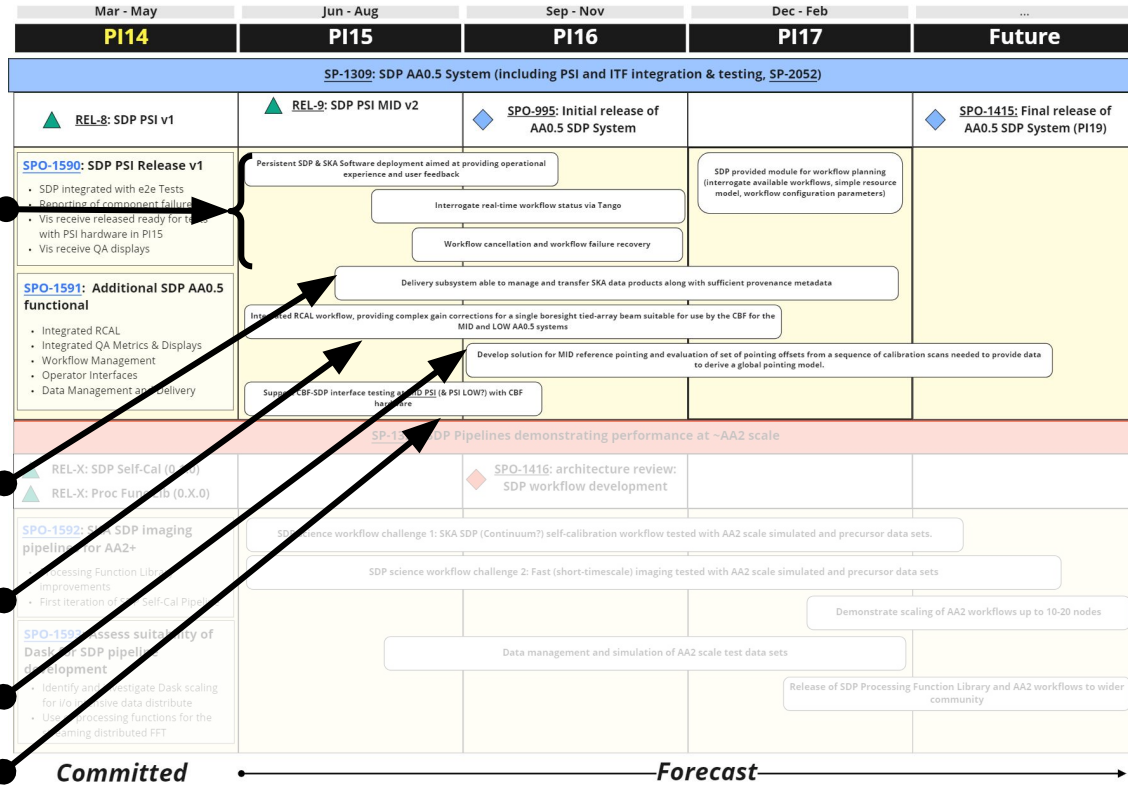
- Collaboration with OMC on operator interfaces
- Aiming for early operator feedback & exploratory testing starting from PI15

2. Data management for test data and data products

3. Pseudo-real-time tied-array beamformer calibration

4. MID pointing calibration

5. Support for PSI tests



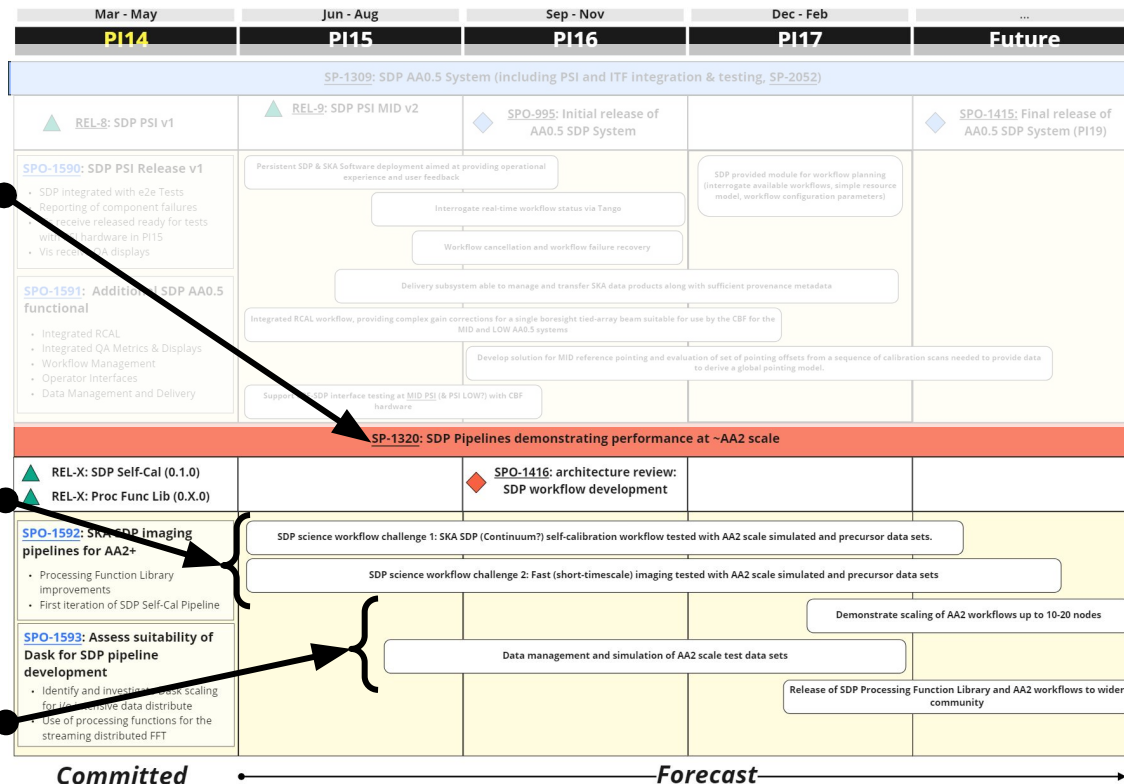
SDP Short Term Roadmap: Workflows @ AA2 scale

1. Establish approach to SDP workflow development initially targeting AA2 scale data sets

- SKA1 simulations & precursors
- Establish clean levels of abstraction in software

2. Starting with self-cal & Fast Imaging to exercise batch and real-time compute and science performance considerations

3. Collaboration with Services ART for infrastructure & platform (potential for co-design)



Committed

Forecast

PSS Roadmap to AA0.5... and beyond

- **Pipeline testing with MeerKAT**
observations of transients

- **Pipeline testing on MeerKAT servers**
(with GPUs/FPGAs)

- **Continuous Integration (CI)**
pipelines

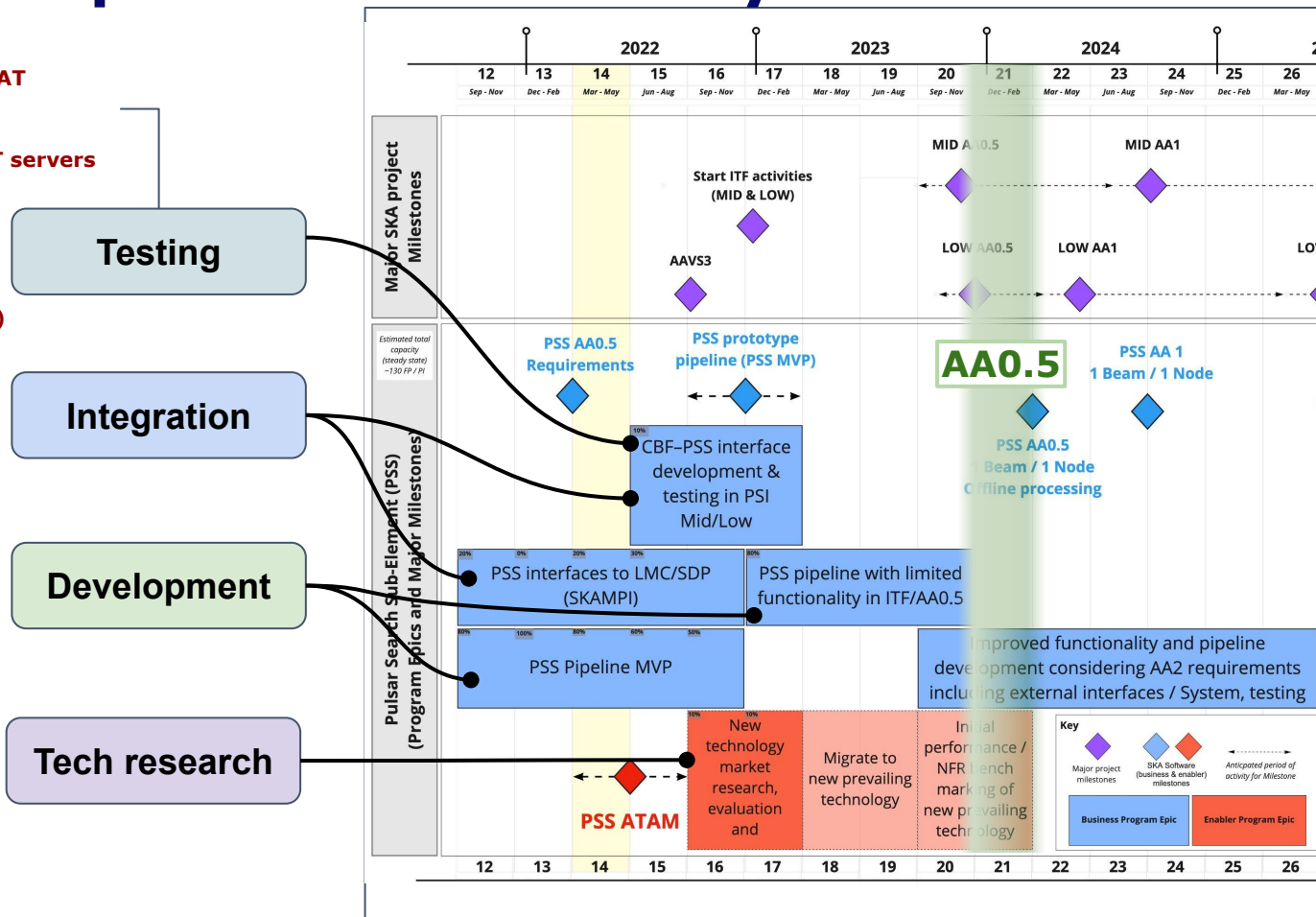
- **Integration/verification**
activities at the **Prototype System Integration (PSI)**
facilities (AUS/NL/CAN)

Pipeline functionality:

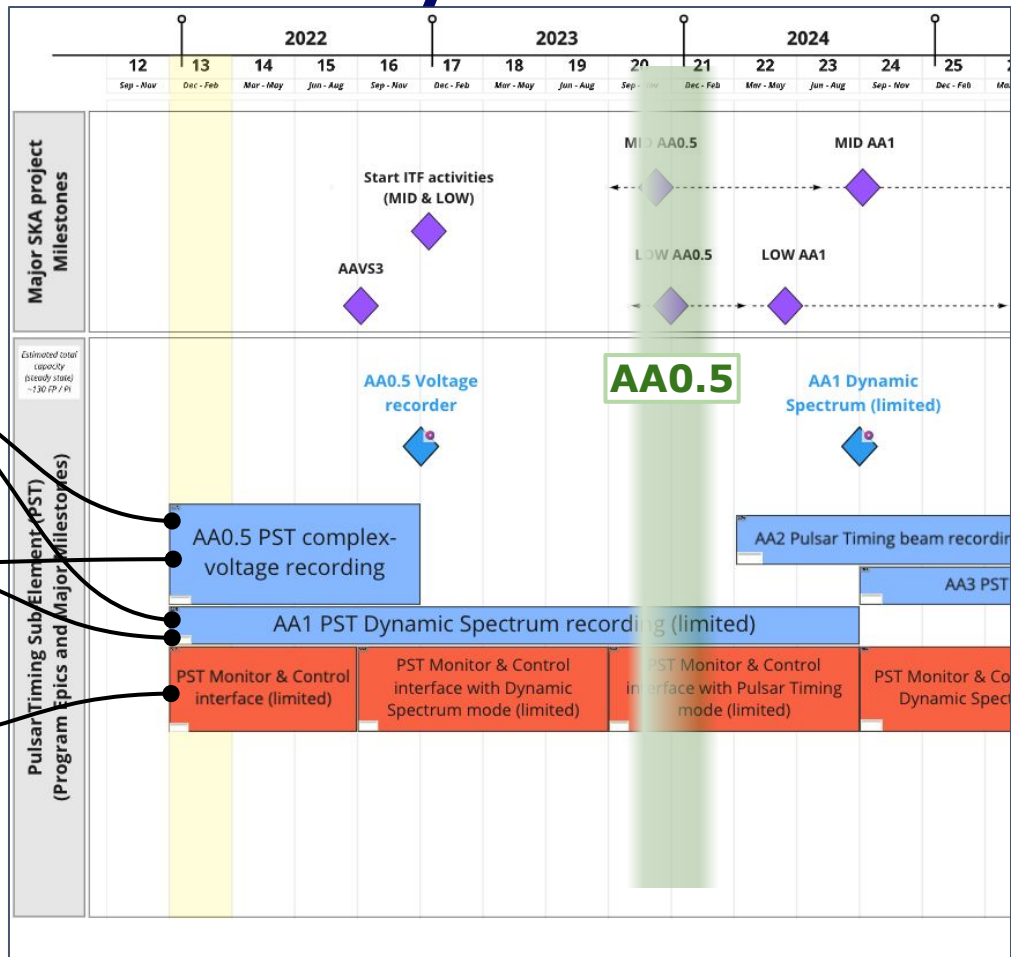
- Raw data capture
- Single Pulse Search (SPS)
- Acceleration Search (FDAS)

FPGAs/GPUs:

- Optimisation
- Testing
- Pipeline integration
(with SPS & FDAS)



PST Roadmap to AA0.5... and beyond



Low PSI deployment & testing

Testing

Pulsar timing pipeline:
 • Voltage recording
 • Dynamic spectrum recording
 • Pulsar timing

Development

Monitoring & Control SW

Integration



PSS & PST SW activities for SKA Mid & Low

Development

- **SKA Mid/Low receptor modules** for PSS-CBF interface
- **PSS Stokes/Complex voltage writers** for writing out raw data from the Mid/Low CBF to disk (AA0.5-AA1)
- **PST voltage recorder** pipeline for capturing Complex Voltages to disk from PST Mid/Low CBF

Testing

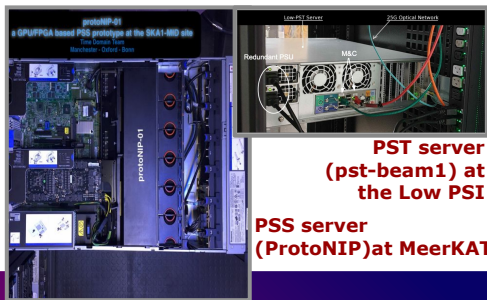
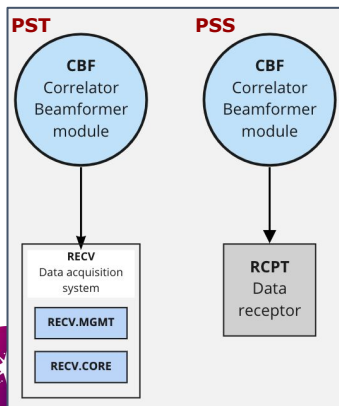
- **PSS single-pulse pipeline testing on MeerTrap** (MeerKAT) nodes with real data (RRAT observations)
- **PSS testing on ProtoNIP HW** (with FPGAs/GPUs) at MeerKAT
- **PST testing on Low PSI (CSIRO)** with Perentie prototype CBF HW
- **PSS pipeline testing with synthetic test vectors** (pulled from test-vector server in Manchester)

Integration

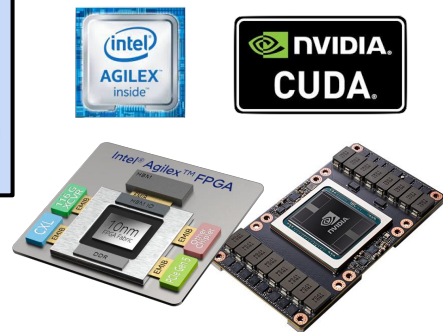
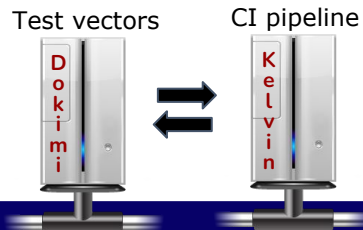
- **PSS Continuous Integration (CI) pipeline** running on Manchester server (Kelvin), for continuously executing and testing new versions of the code merged with the PSS repository
- **CSP (CBF, PSS, PST) integration and verification activities** at PSI Low (NL) by the TOPIC team, using CBF HW
- **PSS & PST Monitoring & Control SW** being developed by OMC and PST in order to integrate pulsar processing with TMC

Tech research

- **PSS: FPGA and GPU HW accelerators** are being optimised and benchmarked in order to select the ones that can deliver the required performance at AA4
- **GPU-accelerated tests of the PSS** single-pulse pipeline at MeerKAT



PST server (pst-beam1) at the Low PSI
PSS server (ProtoNIP) at MeerKAT



Observation Management and Control (OMC) ART Roadmaps



PMs: Adam Avison, Vivek Mohile, Pamela Klaassen, Gerhard le Roux & Giorgio Brajnik
Architects: Alan Bridger & Sonja Vrcic

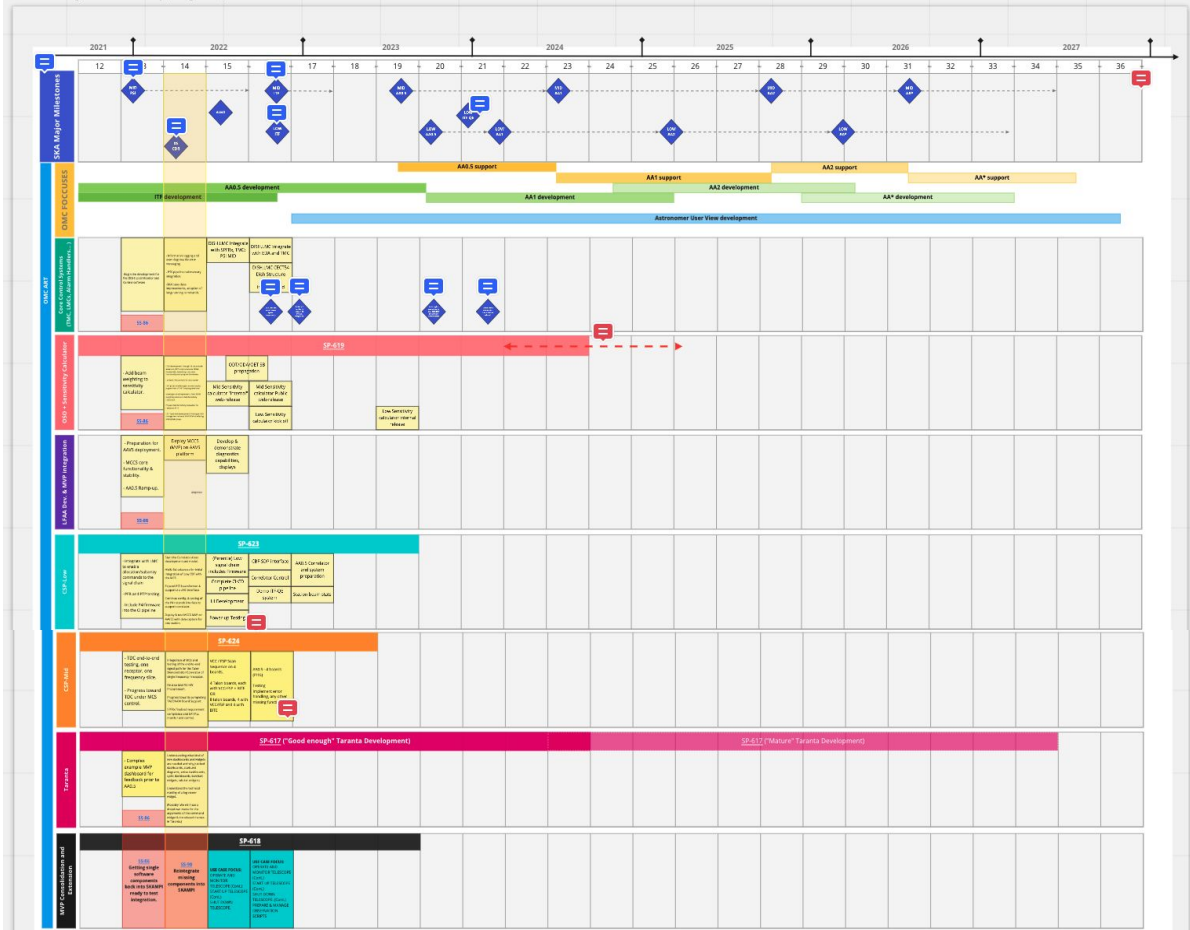


OMC Long-Term Roadmap

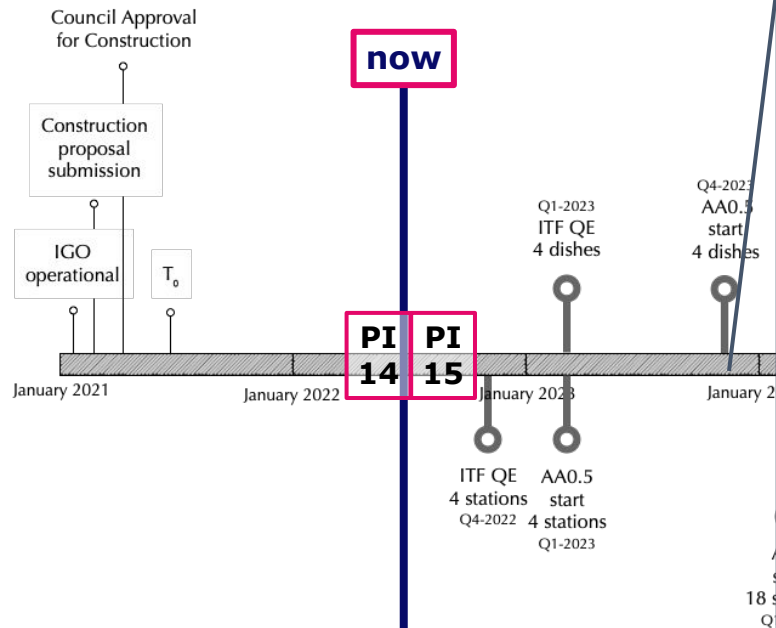
- [OMC Roadmap](#) updated in a more goal-oriented way.
- **Currently:** Goal focussed, split into “epics” based loosely around subsystems.
- **Coming Soon:** Use Case / User functionality focussed structure.

Link to [Miro Board](#)

OMC ART High-level Roadmap (long term)



What are we targeting at AA0.5



*Adapted from a slide in Robert Laing's presentation at PI14 planning

At AA0.5 OMC train / teams are focused on supporting* :

- Software for deployment of **minimal** arrays on-site
- Primary goal: end-to-end test of interferometry (and beam-forming)
- Initial control system primarily to support commissioning
- Validate key interfaces
- Verify fundamentals of system performance in a realistic operating environment (e.g. RFI, wind, temperature, ...)
- Reduce risk and identify potential failures including functional & non functional (scalability, reliability etc.)
- Develop AIV, Commissioning teams and procedures

verti

Wrt Array Assembly size



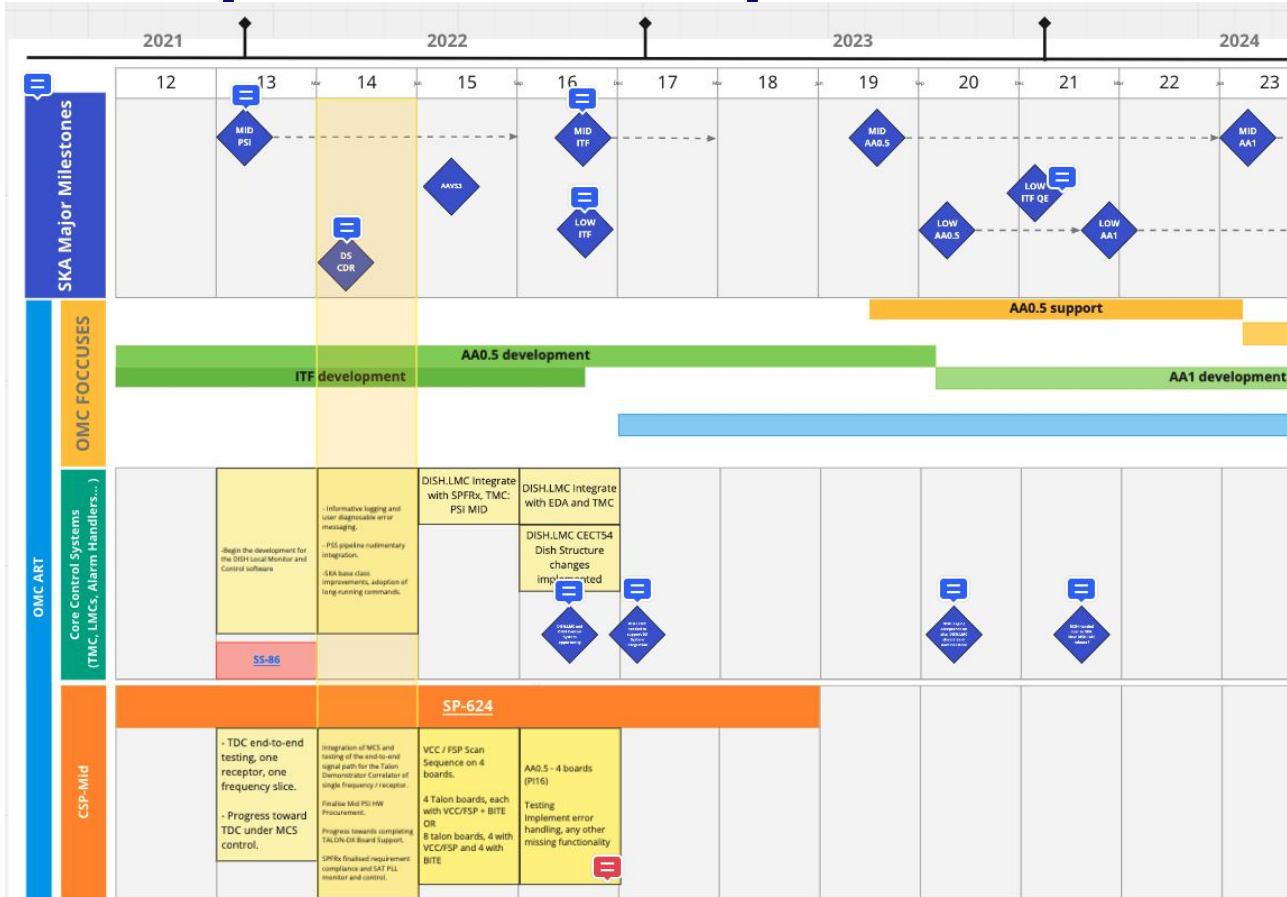
Highlights of some items we are focused on near term

- **Central Signal Processor (CSP):** End to end testing of the signal chain with simulated data
- **Observatory Science Operations (OSO):** Integration of vertical slice from ODT to OET using the ODA, to propagate Scheduling Blocks
- **Telescope Monitor and Control (TMC):** Re-integration and testing (after some critical refactoring of the software) of a full scan functionality from On/Off through to Assign resources to sub-array, Configure Scan and Scan

ODT = Observation Design Tool,
OET = Observation Execution Tool,
ODA = Observation Data Archive

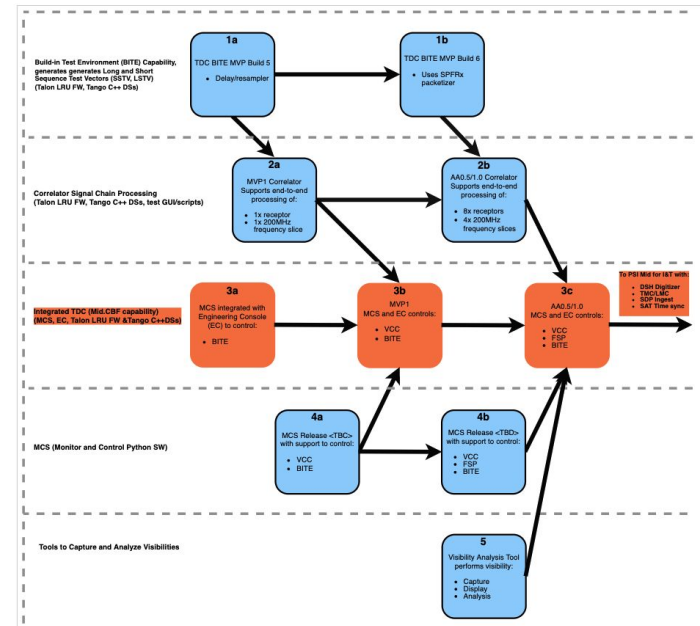
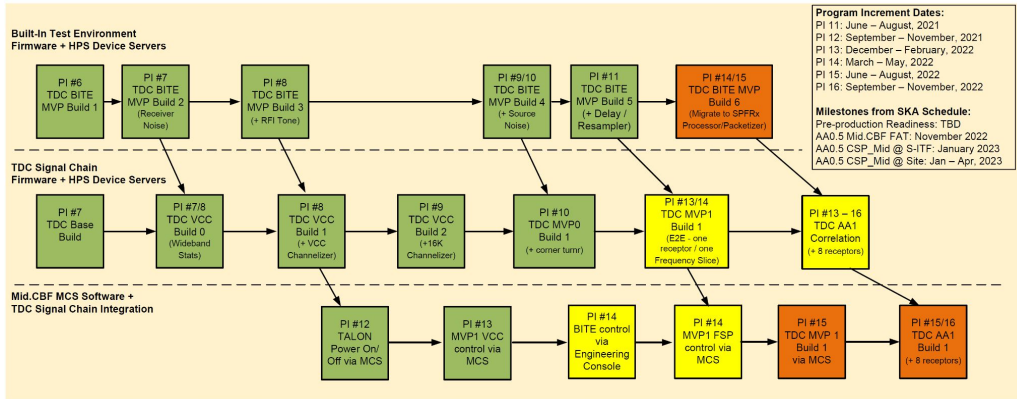


OMC: MID Specific Roadmap zoom-in



CSP.MID for AA0.5

- Testing of end-to-end signal chain. Targeting full AA0.5 signal processing capabilities by end of PI16.
- Integration of TDC with MCS and later CSP.LMC control.
- AA0.5 capabilities available on the required number of boards.



Thanks to CIPA team (Nicolas Loubser) <https://confluence.skatelescope.org/display/SE/TDC+AA0.5+Rollout+Plan> and <https://confluence.skatelescope.org/display/SE/TDC+Talon+LRU+based+Releases+for+AA0.5>



Dish LMC roadmap

For AA0.5 modify early 2019 C++ version of Dish LMC software.

Later gradual migration to Python implementation based on ska-tango-base.

Drivers for the approach (See [Dish LMC Roadmap](#))

At AA 0.5:

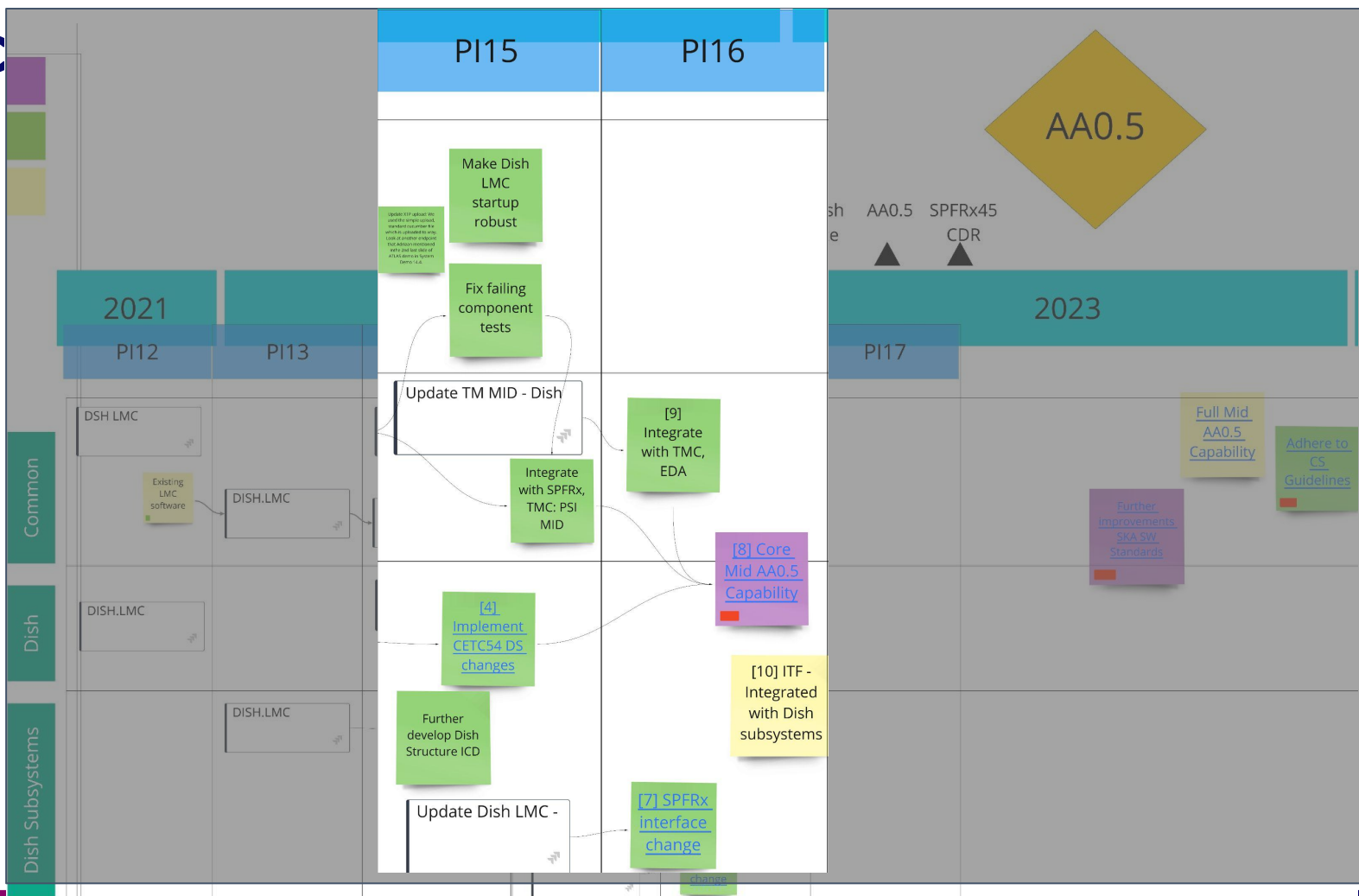
- TANGO framework allows easy integration of TANGO devices that are written in different languages (in this case C++ and Python)
- Maturity of Dish LMC software (in terms of functions supported and issues resolved after having integrated with other Dish subsystems),
- Less time for developing mature Python based Dish LMC at AA0.5

Later Migration:

- Benefit brought by using the Python implementation of ska-tango-base, and making Dish LMC compliant to latest SKA Software Standards and Control System Guidelines
- Python competency of SKA SAFe teams.



Dish LMC roadmap



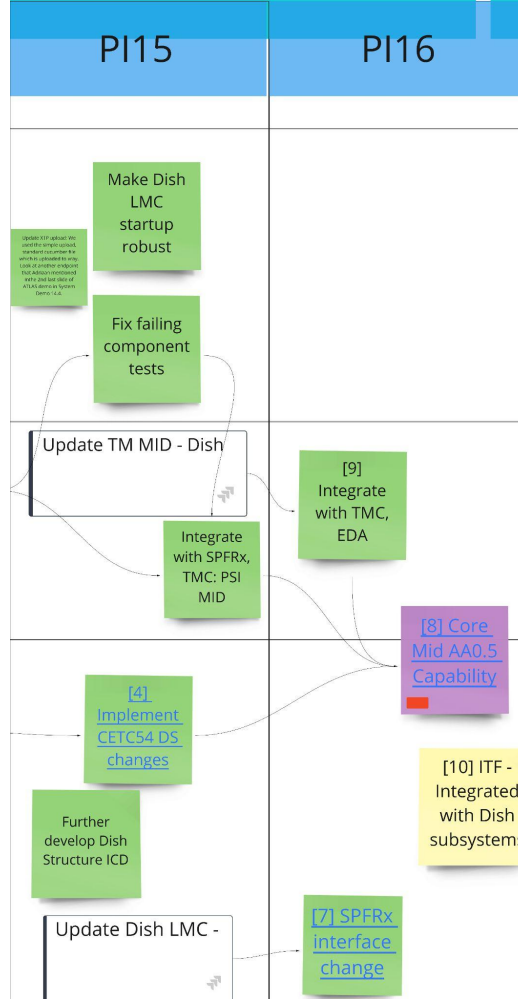
Common OMC Products at AA0.5

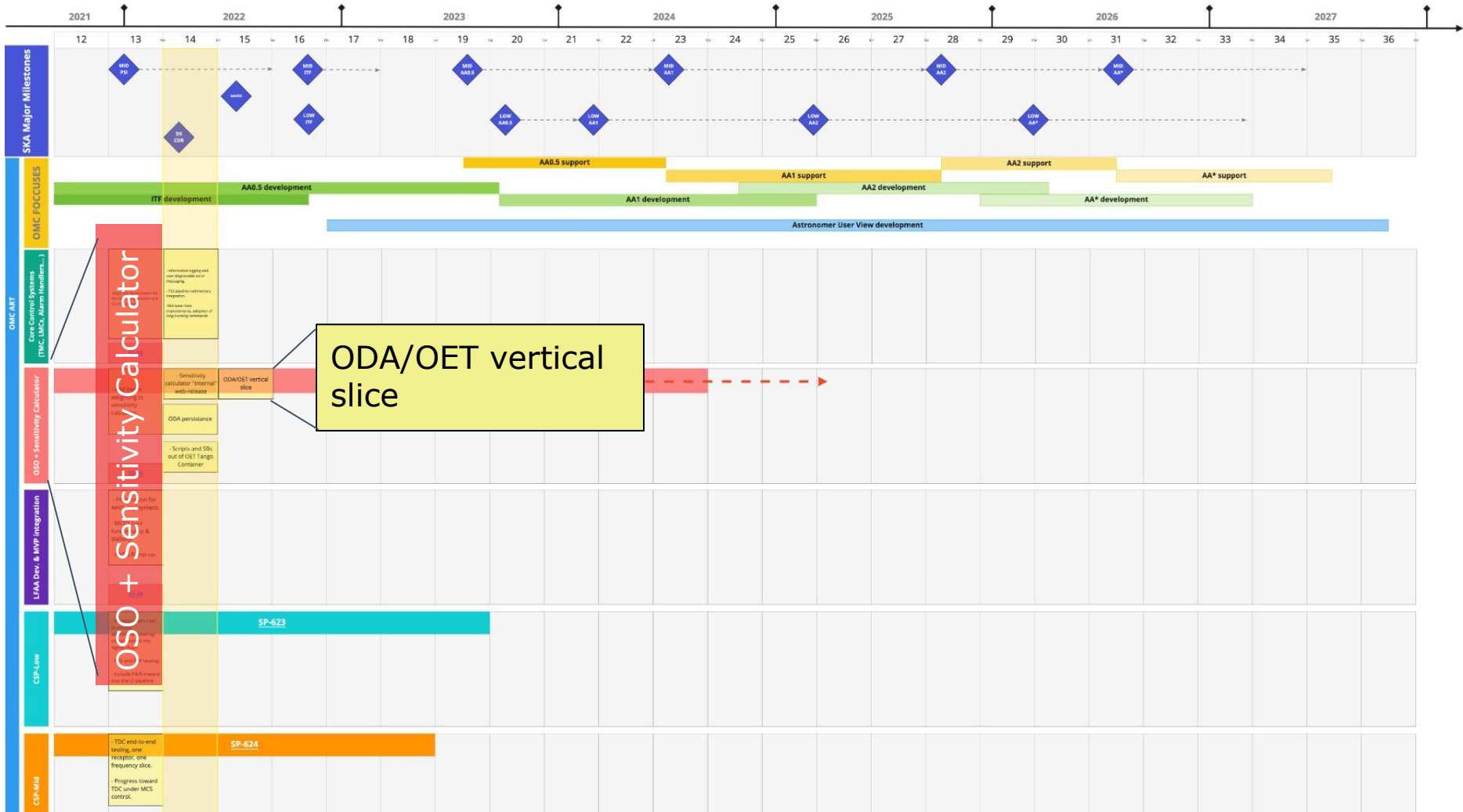
- **TMC:** Will be a reliable package enabling the basic operation and monitoring of the telescopes.
- **OSO:**
 - Allows the creation/editing/storage of Scheduling Block Definitions (SBDs) for AA0.5 capabilities.
 - Allows creation/editing/storage of Observing Scripts.
 - OET allows generation and execution of SB Instances (SBIs) derived from SBDs, but can drive observations without SBD/SBIs
 - Initial Shift Log tool available.



Dish LMC roadmap

PI15 PI16 plans





Per SDC and Member and Serial address
 ODA has been implemented, addition of engineering systems

SS-86

-Add beam weighting to sensitivity calculator.

-Sensitivity calculator "internal" web-release

DDA/ODEI vertical slice

SP-619

ODA persistence

-Scripts and SIs out of OI? Tarant Container

SS-88

-Preparation for AAVS deployment, MCES core functionality & stability
 -AAO.5 Ramp-up.

SS-88

-Integrate with IMC to enable abort/recovery commands to the signal man
 -PIB and PFB testing
 -Include PA/firmware into the CI pipeline

SP-623

-TDC end to end testing, one receptor, one frequency slice.
 -Progress toward TDC under MCES control.

SP-624

-Complex example MVP dashboard for feedback prior to AAO.5

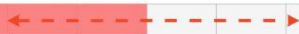
SP-617 ("Good enough" Taranta Development)

SP-617 ("Mature" Taranta Development)

SS-88

SS-86
 Getting single software components back into SKAMPI ready to test integration.

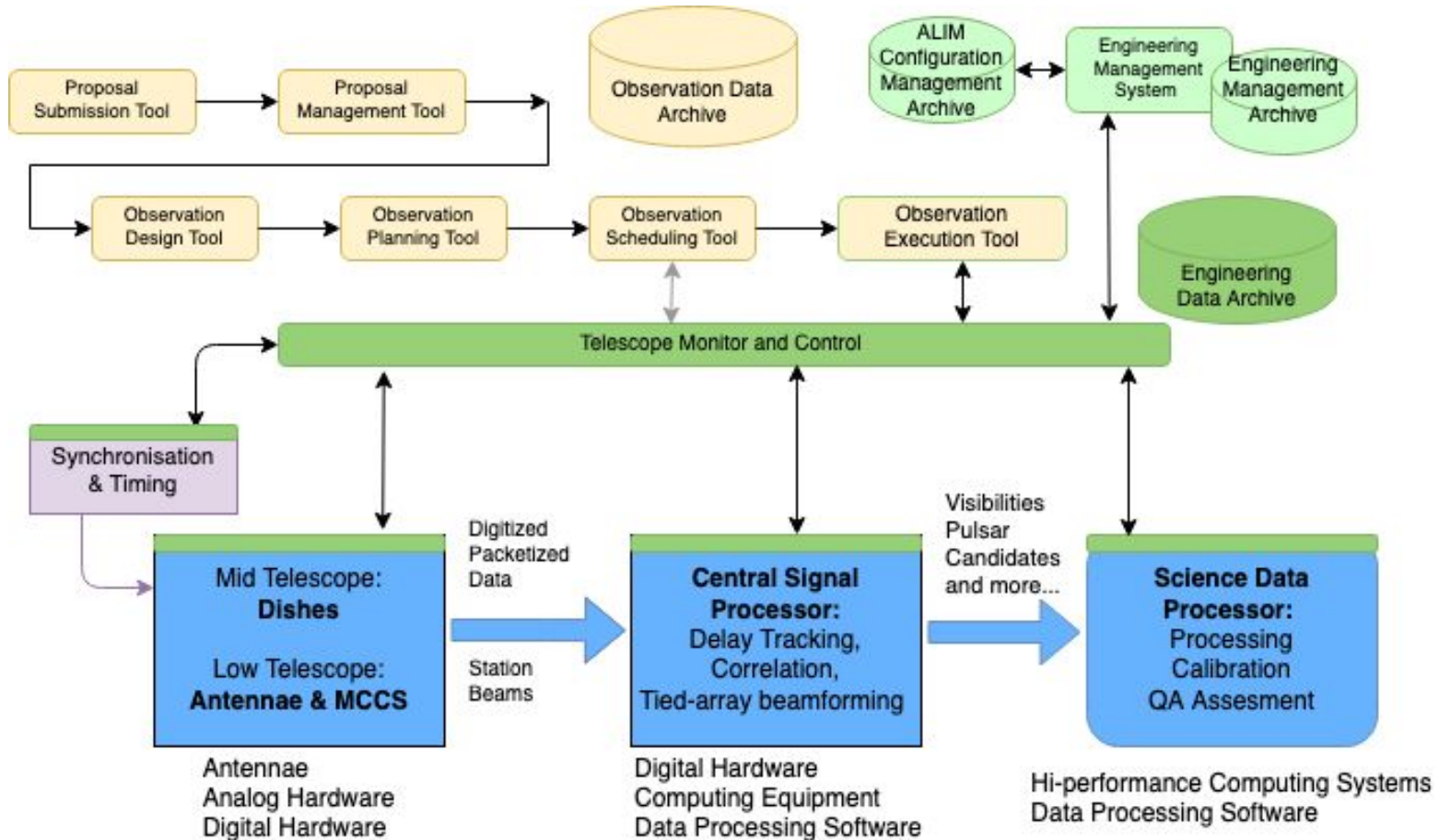
SP-618



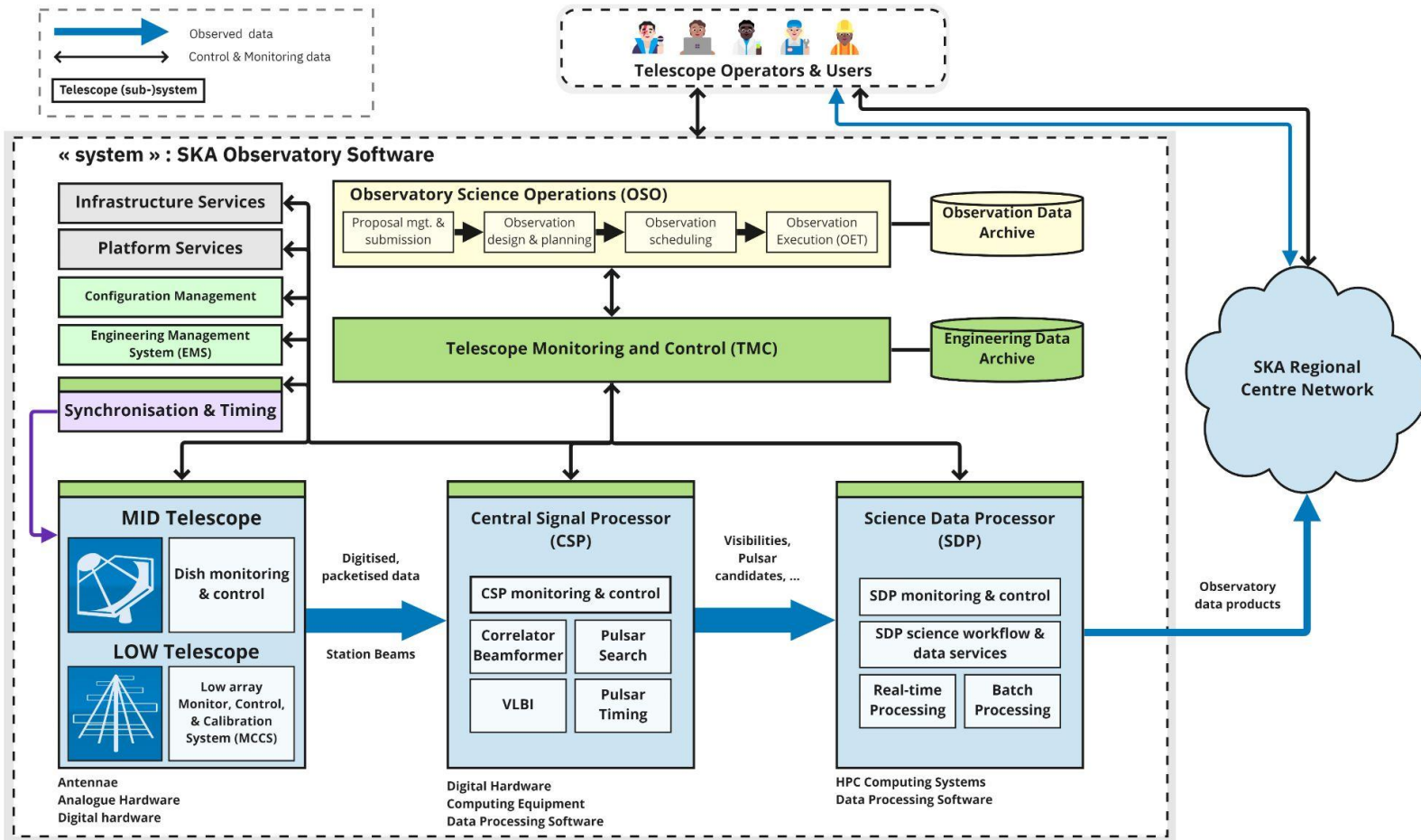
SKA MID Software Architecture



SKA Software - Key components



SKA Software - Key components



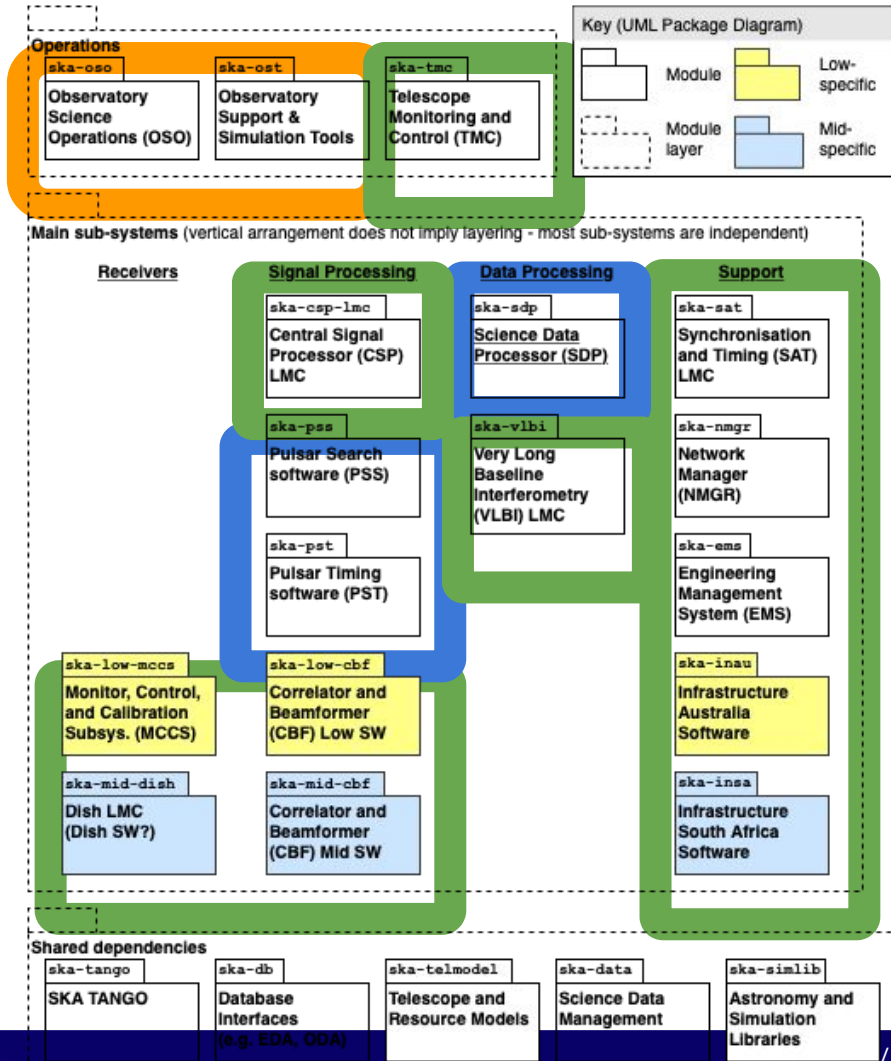
SKA Software modules view detail

<https://confluence.skatelescope.org/display/SWSI/Views%3A+Module>

Observation Management

Telescope Control System

Data Processing



Observation Monitoring and Control

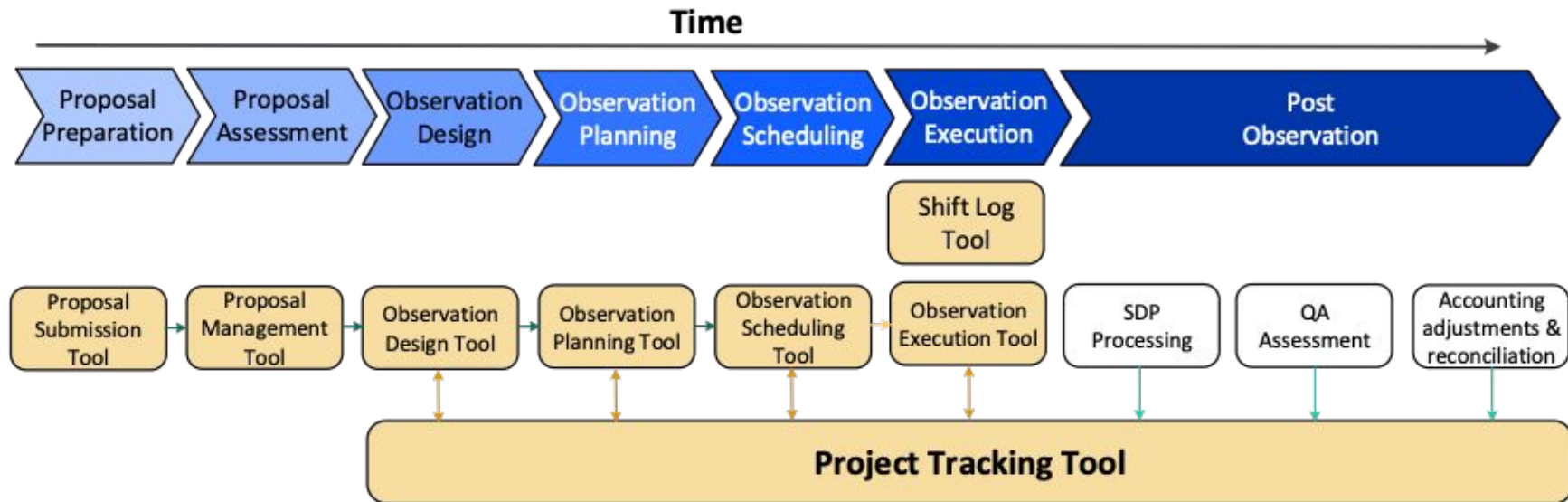
- OSO - Observatory Science Operations
- TMC - Telescope Monitoring and Control

- What is the purpose of the OSO and TMC?
 - Manage the design, scheduling and execution of all observing on both telescopes.
 - Correctly operate and monitor the observatory and telescopes.

- Why are they important for the telescope to function correctly?
 - Key interface between the science community users and the observatory.
 - Ensure efficient, complete and reliable data and meta-data collection.



Proposal Observation Flow



OSO is the suite of software tools that support the entire science process from proposal submission to data-product delivery.



Telescope Control System

The role of the Telescope Control System may be classified in the three key areas:

- ❑ Instrumental monitor and control
- ❑ Observation configuration, execution and monitoring
- ❑ Support for sub-arraying

Implementation is based on the

[TANGO controls framework](#)



Science Data Processor

SDP performs “main” data reduction (~factor 40) - challenges:

Performance & Scalability

- ❖ Compute, I/O & Storage
 - >10 Pflop/s effective
 - ~0.77 TB/s ingest rate
 - ~4 TB/s into processing
 - >40 PB tiered buffer
- ❖ Need to scale
 - Trivial (e.g. Ingest) and expensive (e.g. ICAL) workflows co-exist
 - SKA “>1” will be even harder on SDP

Modifiability & Maintainability

- ❖ Long lifespan (>50 yrs)
- ❖ Software changes
 - Execution Engines
 - Science Workflows
 - Processing Components
 - Data Models
- ❖ Hardware changes
 - Processing
 - Storage
 - Network

Buildability, Affordability

- ❖ COTS components
 - Get going quickly
 - Externalise/share maintenance
- ❖ Support agile development
 - Small functional increments
 - Parallel work of different teams

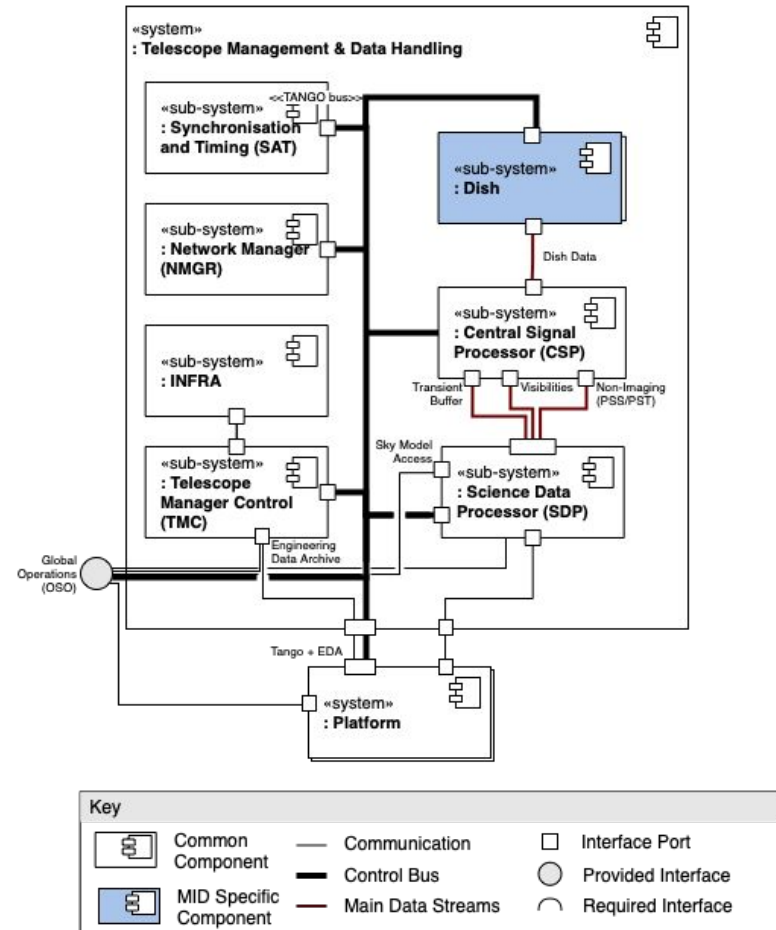
Testability

- ❖ Continuous Integration
 - Test outside SDP
 - Support different development speeds
 - ❖ Ensure scientific validity
 - Must trust pipelines with autonomous analysis
- Portability**
- ❖ SKA Low, SKA Mid, SRCs



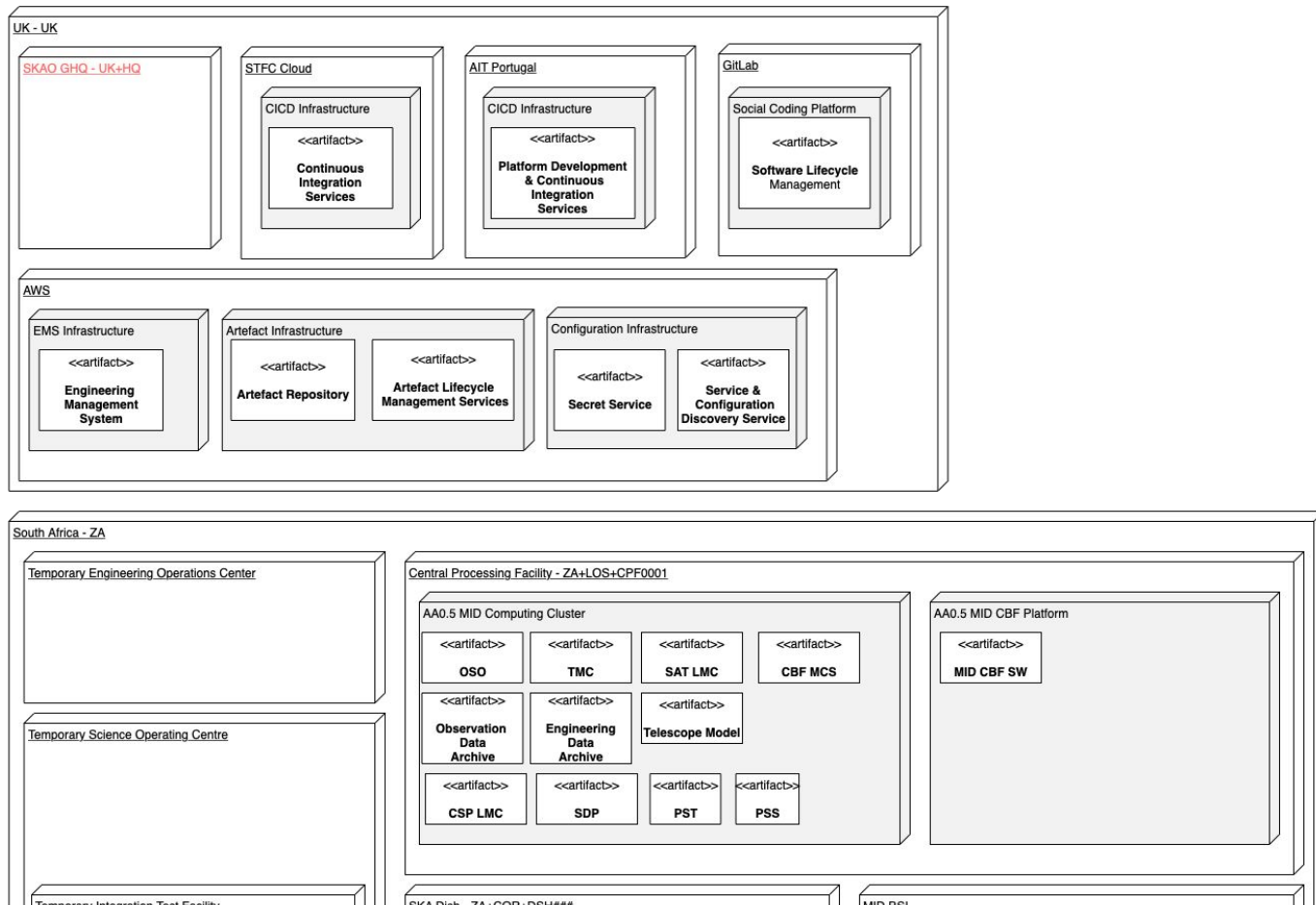
SKA MID Software in AA0.5

- **TMC** needs to be reliable and enable operations and monitoring
- **OSO** needs to provide enough functionalities to enable commissioning activity
- **SDP** is needed to enable calibration, quality monitoring and data ingest and storage



AA0.5 Deployment

- Current baseline
- Showing also some essential external components



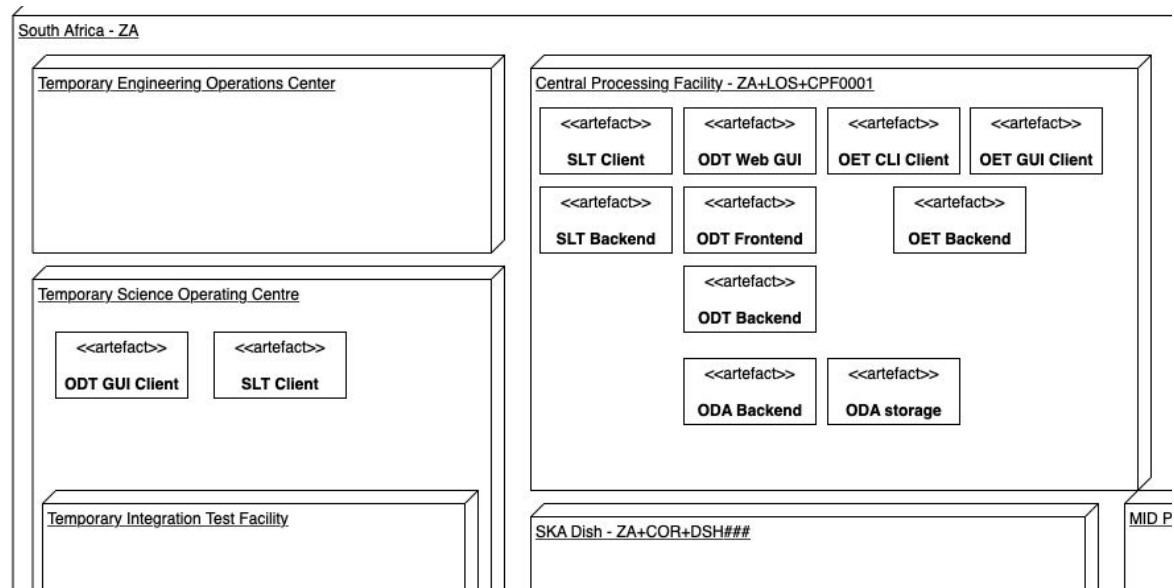
OSO capabilities at AA0.5

- Observation Design Tool (ODT) ability to create/edit/store SB Definitions consistent with the AA0.5 system capabilities.
 - Expected to be first version editors (i.e. simple)
- Ability to create/edit/store observing scripts
- Observation Execution Tool (OET) ability to retrieve and execute SB Instances derived from these definition
- OET ability to execute observing scripts outside SB context
- Initial version of Shift Log Tool (SLT) available to log operator comments.

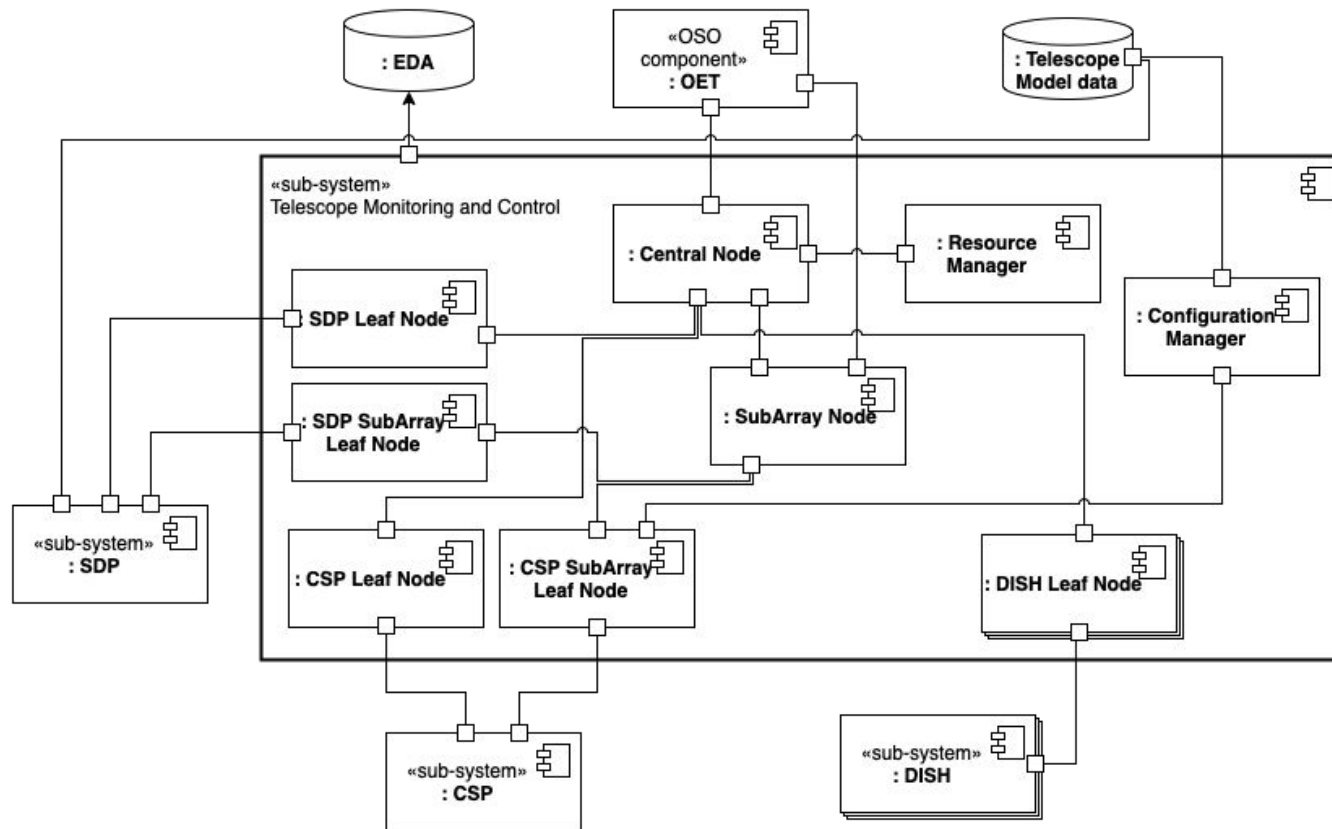


OSO Deployment

- Assume Observation Data Archive (ODA) storage at temporary CPF, but could be cloud-based.
- Assumed all UI clients (ODT, OET, SLT) available at temporary CPF. ODT and SLT clients additionally at SOC (and possibly SKAHQ?)

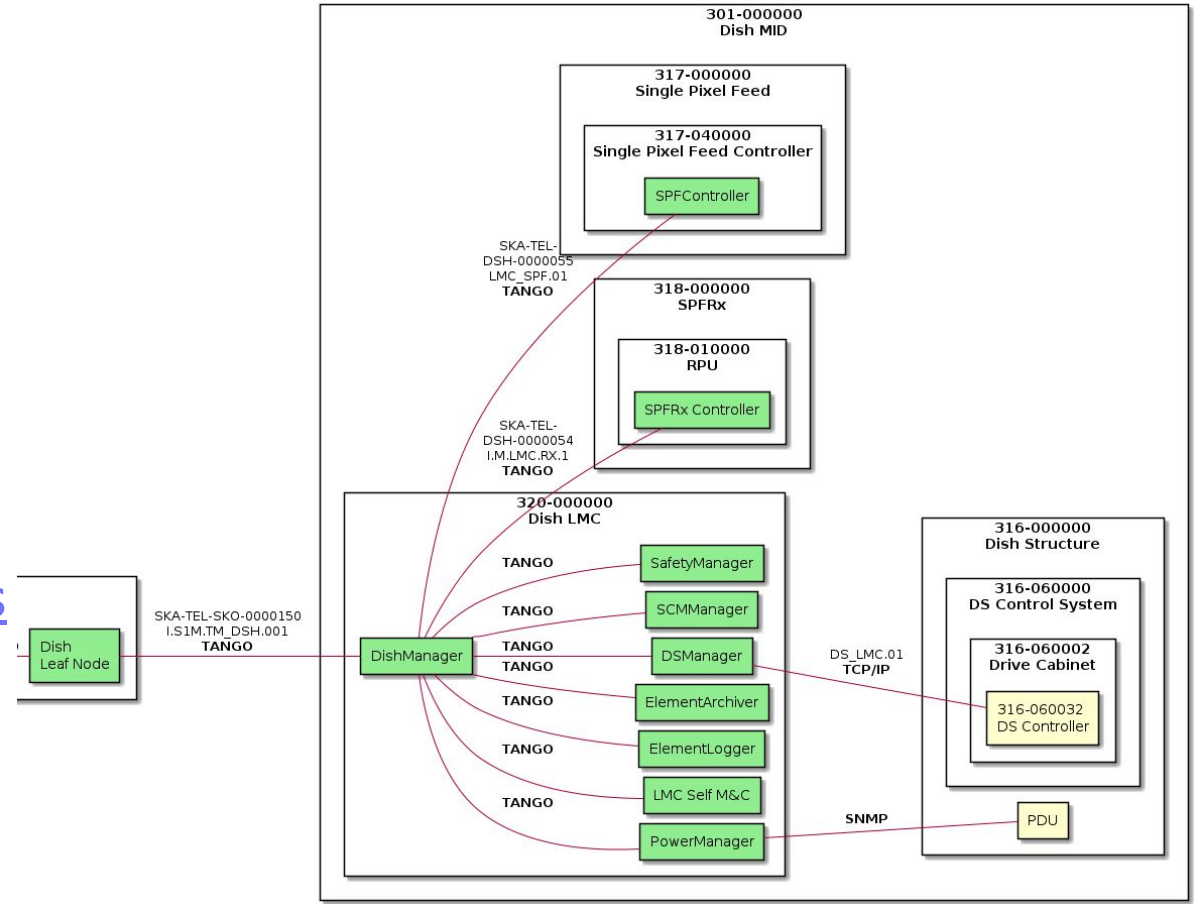


Overall TMC architecture AA0.5



Dish LMC

- Actively being implemented
- Captures new DS design and interfaces
- Great progress demonstrated in the Intermediate DS review, but highlights future areas of work:
 - Verification strategy
 - DS remote ICD details

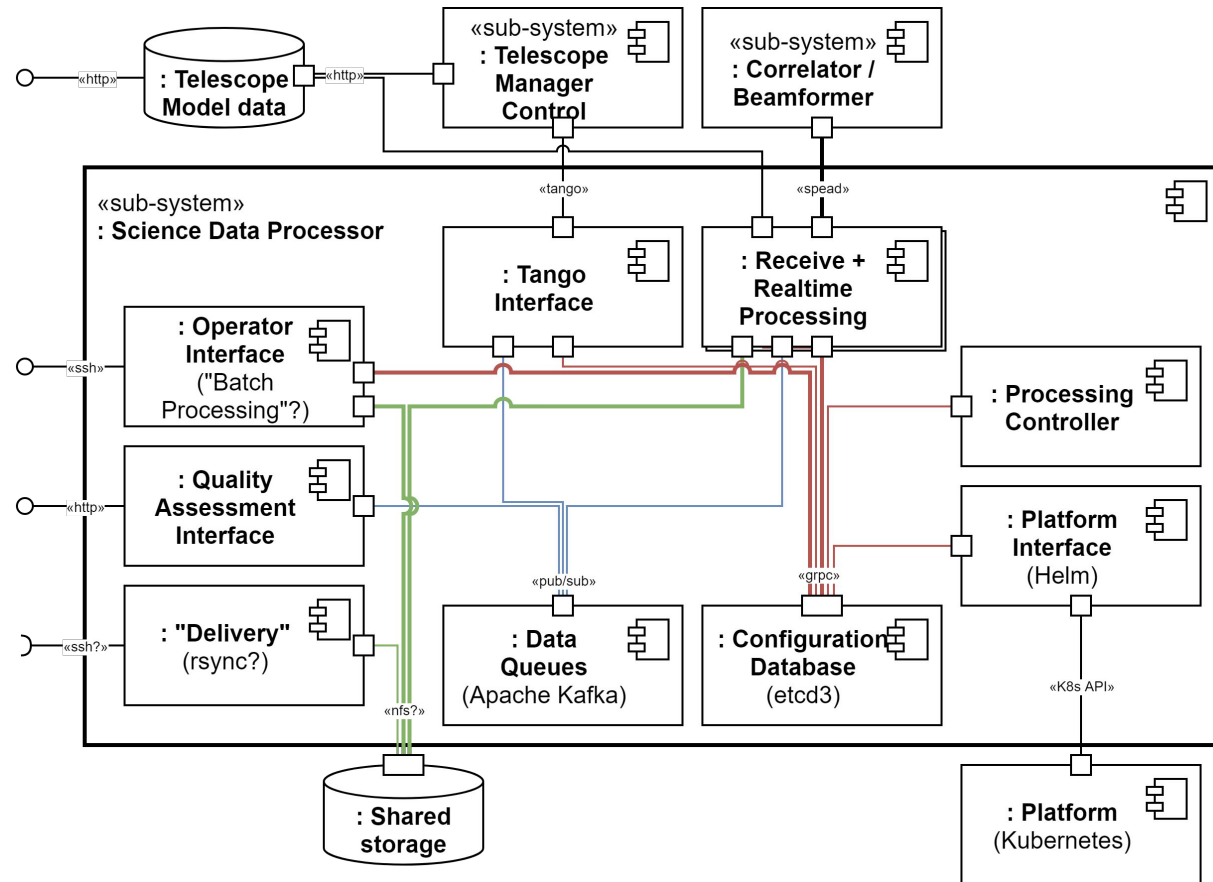


Overall SDP Architecture AA0.5

Notable features

- Batch processing
Simple CLI
- Storage
Shared storage
- Delivery
Synchronise with external location(s)?
- Quality information displays

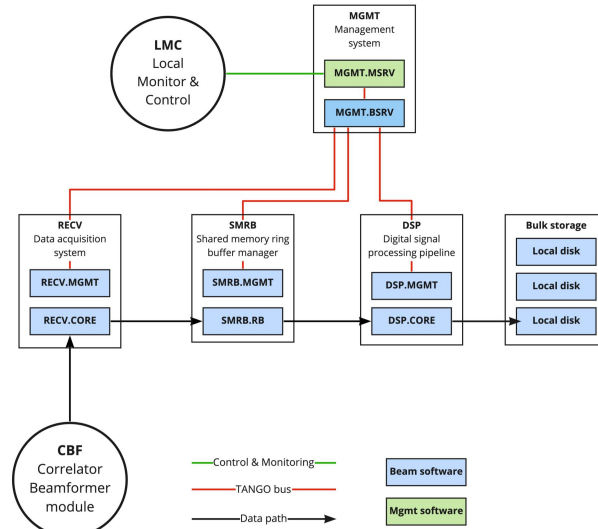
Robust fallbacks
(e.g. control via CLI)



[SDP Architecture AA0.5 C&C View](#)

Pulsar Processing for AA0.5

- Main driver at AA0.5 is to verify beamforming functionalities
- Missing link to SDP
- Processing can happen offline, needs storage functionality



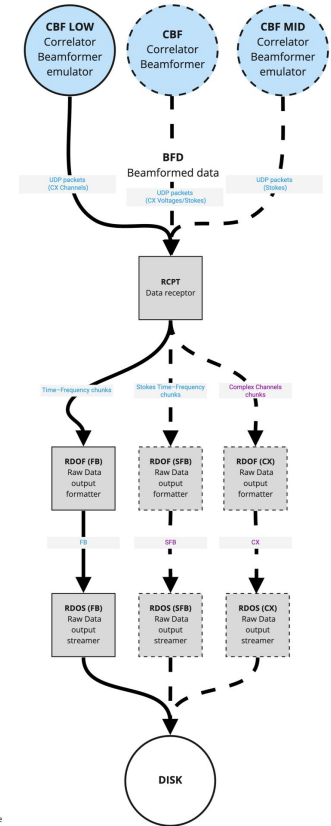
PST Architecture at AA0.5

RDOF - Raw Data Output Formatter
 RDOS - Raw Data Output Streamer
 FB - Total Power Filterbank
 SFB - Full Stokes Filterbank
 CX - Complex Channels Output Format

- - - Not yet implemented/Tested
 ——— Implemented

data type
 unimplemented data type

□ CPU implementation
 □ Unknown implementation / Buffer module

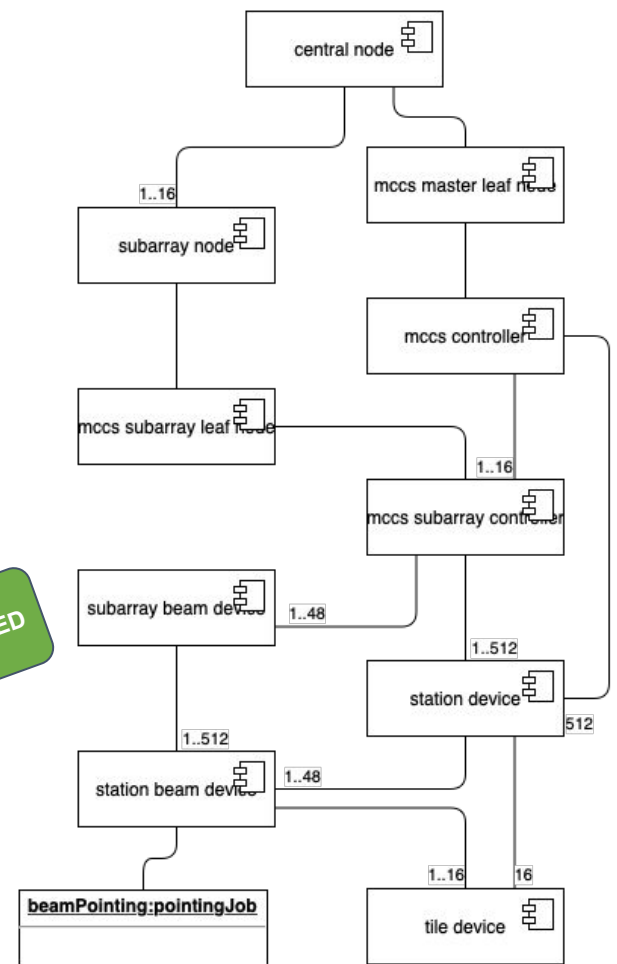


PSS Architecture at AA0.5



Developing the system

- Addressing detailed design decisions and gaps in the design of the software system
- Evolving our understanding of the system in successive iterations
 - ADR-57 Decide functional allocation of MID dish pointing corrections
 - ADR-56 CBF to SDP Interface for Early Array Releases



[ADR-23 component view](#)

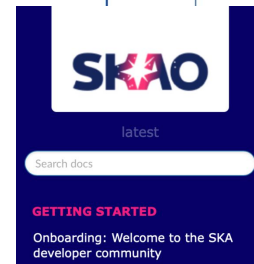
Software and Firmware Development Standards

- SKAO Organisational Standard
 - Applicable to all software and firmware, including all embedded software and PLC systems, such as those described in the IEC 16113-3 standard.
- Providing developer guidance on the [SKA developer portal](#)
- Providing software development infrastructure



FUNDAMENTAL SKA SOFTWARE & HARDWARE DESCRIPTION LANGUAGE STANDARDS	
Document Number	SKA-TEL-SKO-0000661
Document Type	STD
Revision	03
Author	Marco Bartolini, Nick Rees
Date	2021-04-28
Document Classification	UNRESTRICTED
Status	Released

Name	Designation	Affiliation	Signature	
Authored by:				
Marco Bartolini	Lead Software Architect	SKAO	<i>Marco Bartolini</i>	Date: Apr 28, 2021
Owned by:				
Marco Bartolini	Lead Software Architect	SKAO	<i>Marco Bartolini</i>	Date: Apr 28, 2021



Docs » SKA telescope developer portal

Edit on ↕ ⓘ 🗑

SKA telescope developer portal

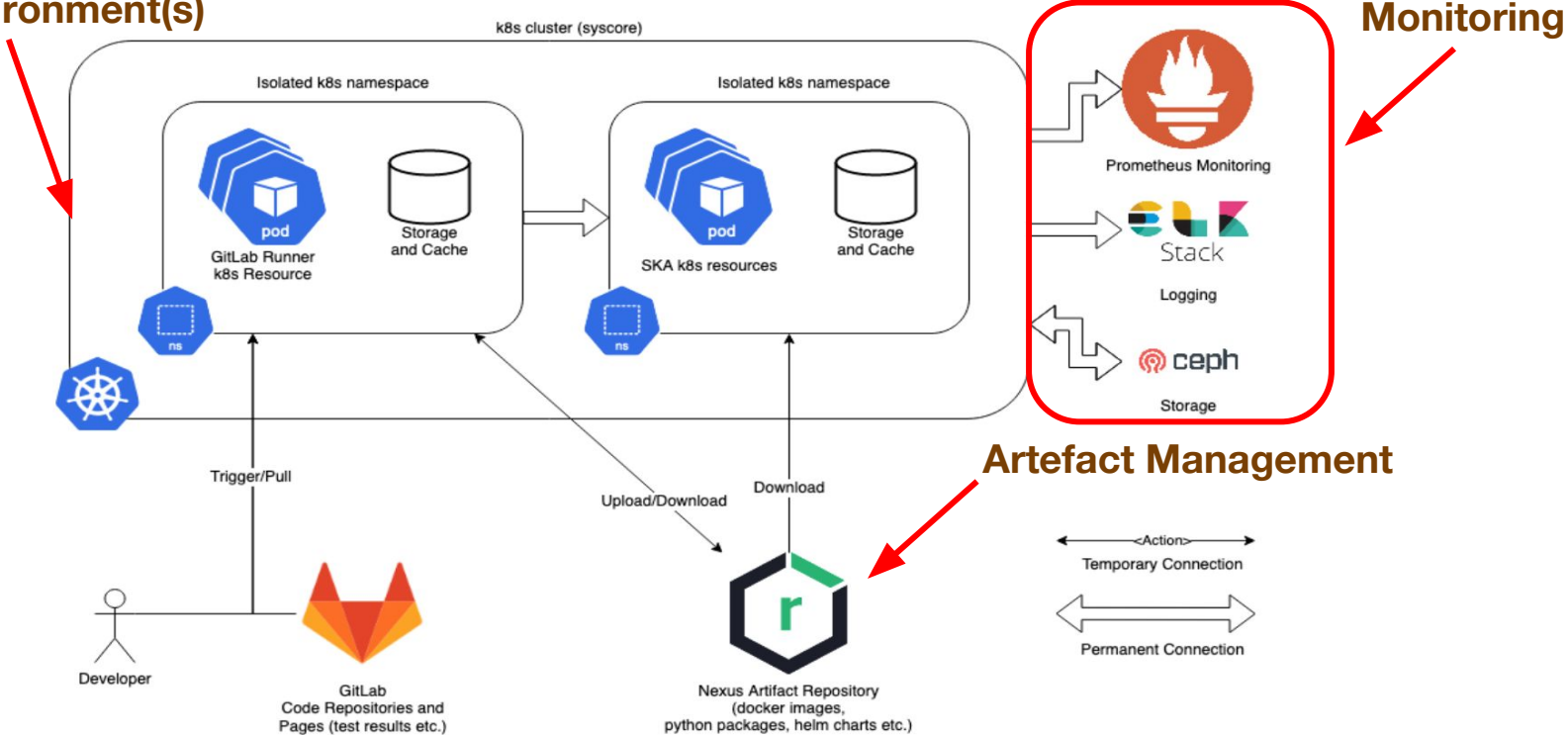
Welcome to the Square Kilometre Array software documentation portal. Whether you are a developer involved in SKA or you are simply one of our many users, all of our software processes and projects are documented or linked to in this portal.

The portal is frequently updated as the project evolves; if you feel that something is missing, please have a look at our [guide to contributing to the developer portal](#)



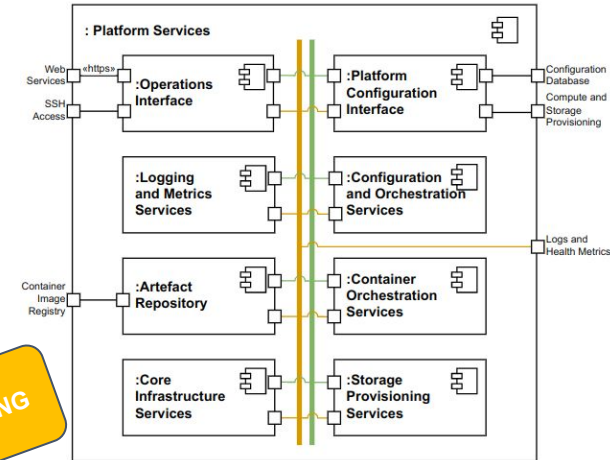
CI/CD Pipeline - GitLab and Kubernetes Centric

Runners & Environment(s)



Platform - Infrastructure Management

- Managing Compute and Storage as a programmable service using Software Defined Infrastructure technologies
 - [ADR-43 Determining the appropriate computing infrastructure management solution](#)
 - Developing consistent management resources across all SPC facilities (and potentially ITF, PSI, CPF etc.)
 - Supported by a dedicated team - focused on AA0.5/1.0



Platform C&C View



The Target Platform - Cloud Native

Universal
Application
Abstraction



kubernetes

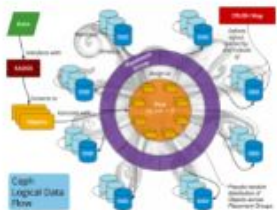
Abstract
Network and
Storage

Calico



Rook.io

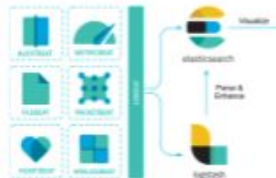
Universal
Storage



Universal Logging
and Monitoring



Prometheus

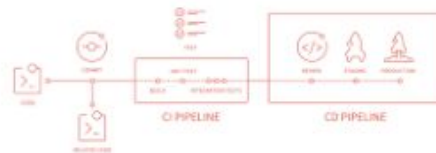


ElasticStack

Continuous Integration &
Deployment



GitLab CI



Cloud Infrastructure
Layer



openstack®



System Dashboards and user interfaces

- Web based
- Integrated with the TANGO system

SKAO MID Telescope - CSP Local Monitoring and Control - Simulated Subsystems version: 0.10.1

CSP - LMC	state	healthState	adminMode	obsState	simulationMode
Controller	STANDBY	OK	MAINTENANCE		
Subarray 01	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	EMPTY	
Subarray 02	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	EMPTY	
Subarray 03	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	EMPTY	

Controller	state	healthState	adminMode	obsState	simulationMode
C	STANDBY	OK	MAINTENANCE		
Subarray 01	ON	OK	MAINTENANCE	ABORTED	
Subarray 02	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	EMPTY	
Subarray 03	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	EMPTY	

Controller	state	healthState	adminMode	obsState	simulationMode
P	STANDBY	OK	MAINTENANCE		
Subarray 01	ON	OK	MAINTENANCE	ABORTED	
Subarray 02	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	EMPTY	
Subarray 03	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	EMPTY	

Controller	state	healthState	adminMode	obsState	simulationMode
p	STANDBY	OK	MAINTENANCE		
S	Beam 01	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	IDLE
T	Beam 02	OFF	OK	MAINTENANCE	IDLE

Spectrograms
Socket: connected, Serialisation: protobuf

Click on the baseline and polarisation label to see a detailed spectrogram

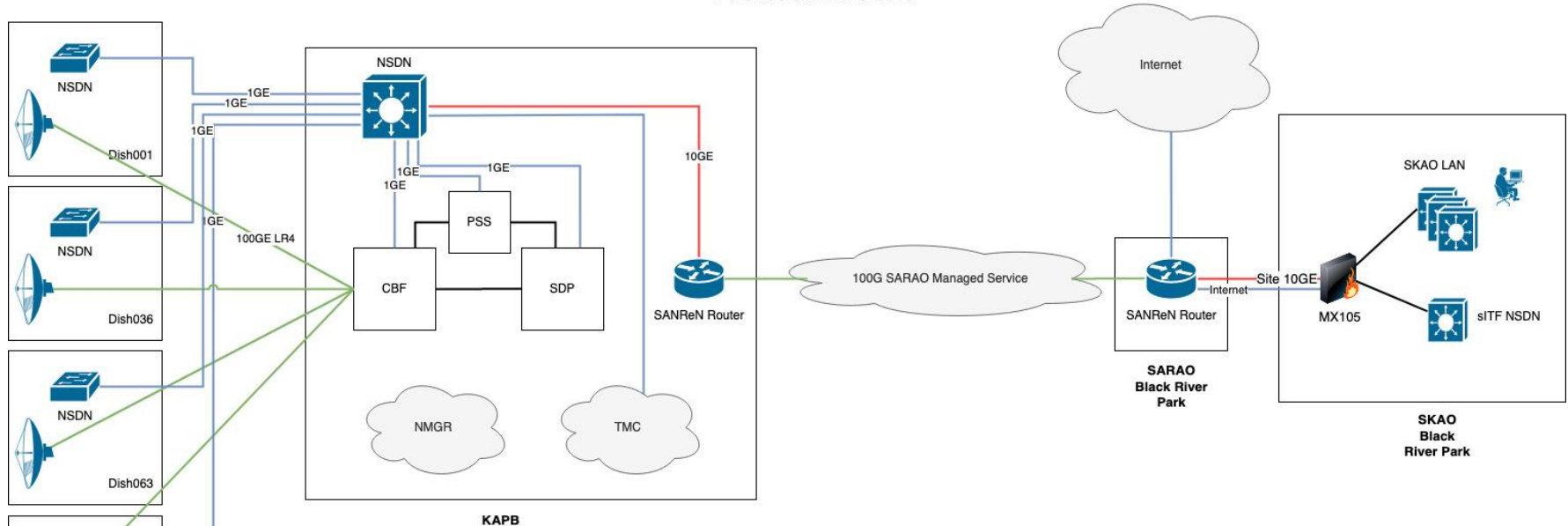
m000, m001-XX m000, m001-XY m000, m001-YX m000, m001-YY
m001, m002-YY m001, m006-XX m001, m006-XY m001, m006-YX
m000, m007-YX m000, m007-YY m002, m007-XX m002, m007-YX
m000, m008-XY m000, m008-YX m000, m008-YY m002, m008-XX

MeerKAT data being played through the SKA SDP QA displays



SKA MID AA0.5 Network

MID AA0.5
4 dishes all in the core

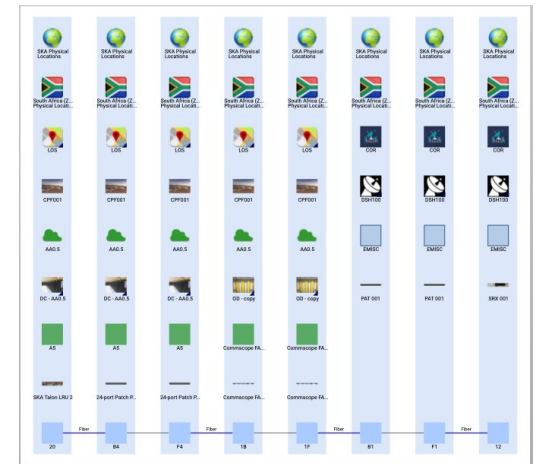
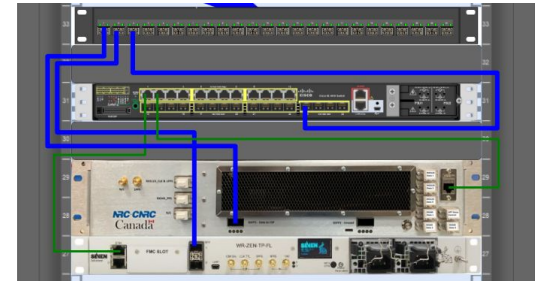
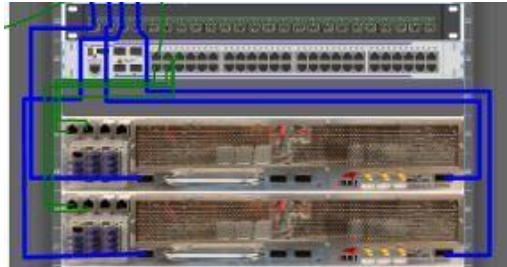


- Science data is directly connected from the 4 Dishes to the CBF via 100G LR4 Transceivers
- NSDN provides LMC connectivity via 1GE links to each Dish
- Access from site to Cape Town via SARAO managed 100G link



SKA MID AA0.5 in Netterrain

- AA0.5 will be represented in Netterrain
- Real equipment and fibre routing
- Dish and fibre routing from the SPFRx to the CBF shown here.



<https://netterrain-development.skao.int/Diagram/2400000003630>
<https://netterrain-development.skao.int/Diagram/24000000033831>



*We recognise and acknowledge the
Indigenous peoples and cultures that have
traditionally lived on the lands on which
our facilities are located.*

SKAO

www.skao.int

For reference: Robert's slide on AA0.5

- Deployment of **minimal** arrays on-site as early as possible
- Primary goal: end-to-end test of interferometry (and beam-forming)
- (Almost) **all** sub-systems (including initial control and data processing software)
 - Includes Dish/Station (not tested in ITF)
- Verify fundamentals of system performance
 - realistic operating environment (e.g. RFI, wind, temperature, ...)
- Interfaces
- Develop AIV, Commissioning teams and procedures
- Identify failures to meet requirements, lack of reliability
- Reduce risk by fixing problems as soon as possible, ideally before mass production
- Verify the supply chain

