

ASTERICS

What is Europe doing to facilitate multi-messenger
astrophysics worldwide?

Rob van der Meer
NWO-I / ASTRON

ASTERICS

Astronomy ESFRI & Research Infrastructure Cluster Project

- EC Horizon 2020 funding 2015 – 2019
- 26 partners (Institutes and Universities; no RIs)

ESFRI

European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures

[kind of quality certificate for RIs]

New astro (particle) physics RIs

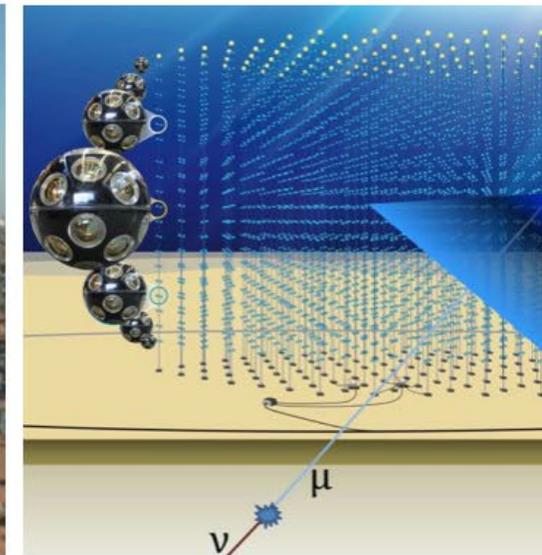
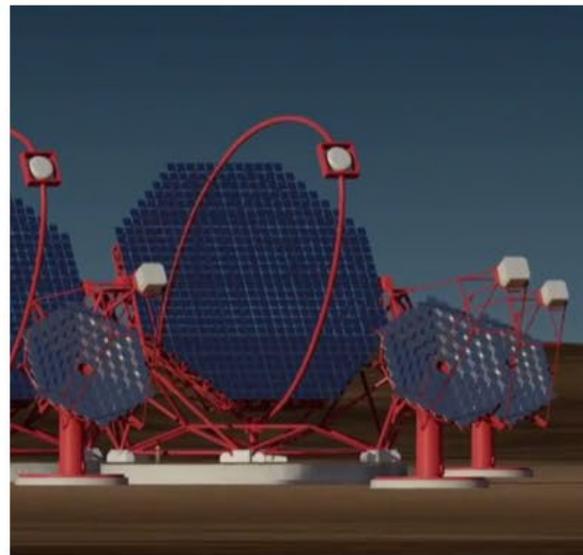
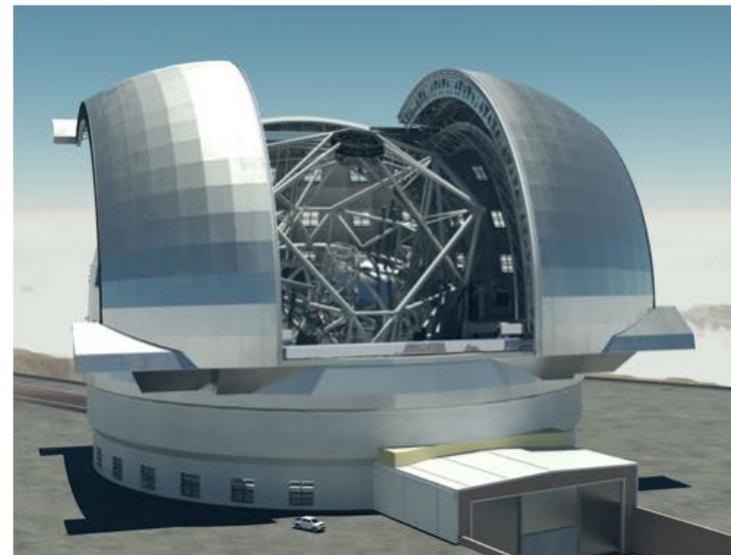
4 major future telescopes

Optical
E-ELT

γ
CTA

Radio
SKA

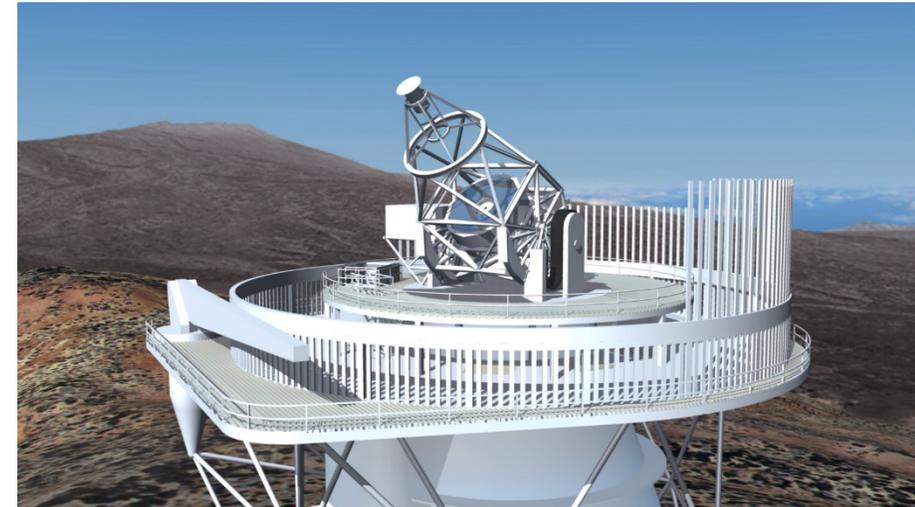
ν
KM3NeT



astro (particle) physics RIs

2 projects added later

Ligo GW Virgo Optical (Solar)
EST



ASTERICS goals

Collaboration where possible

Analysing together

Virtual Observatory (VO)

Sharing Data Analysis tools

(re-)use data in new ways

Citizen Science

IVOA: International Virtual
Observatory Alliance

RDA: Research Data Alliance

Observing together

Scheduling

Timing

Alerting

White Rabbit (WRE)

Developing together

Data extraction/movement

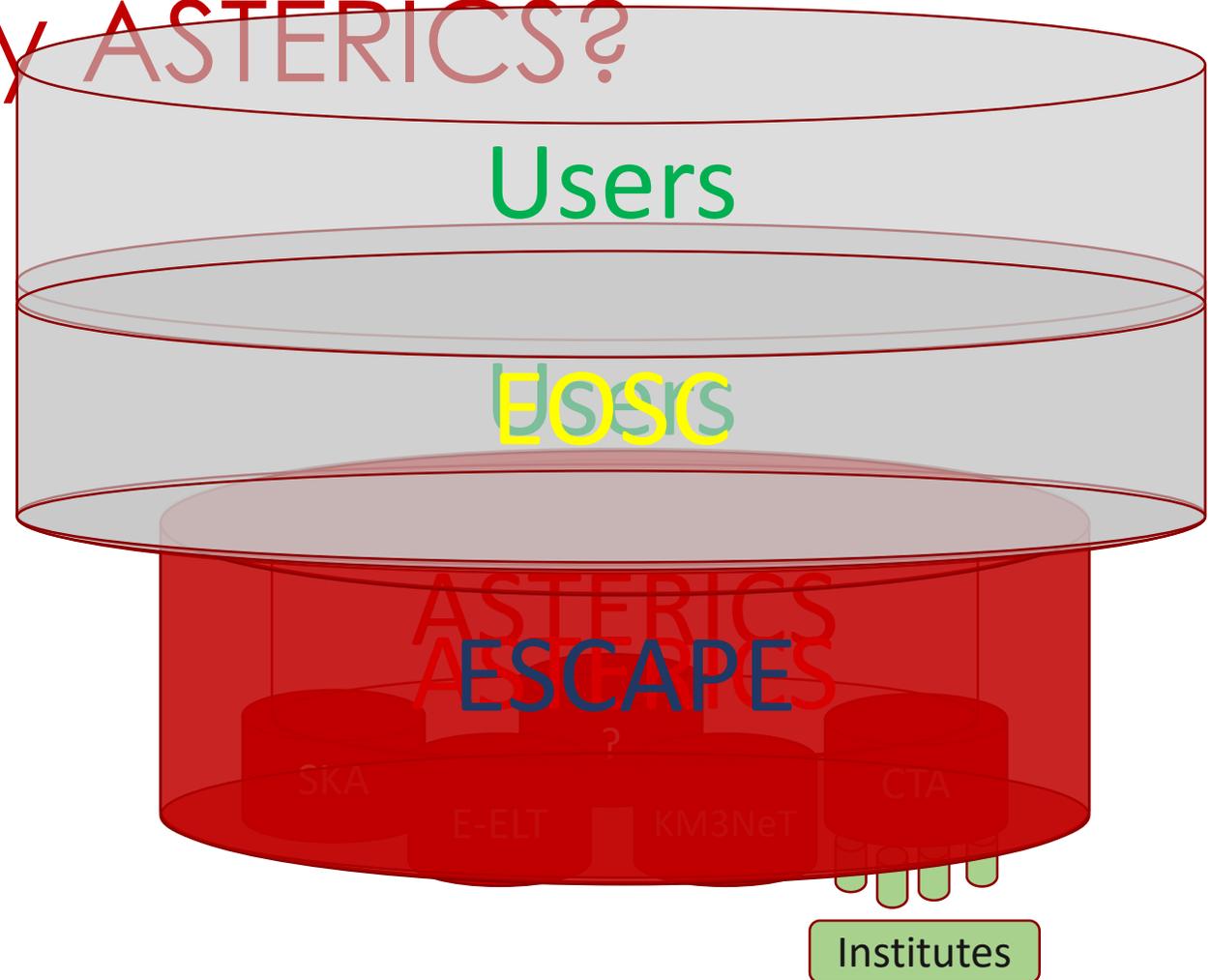
Data storage/retrieval

Data analysis

International Policy Forum

Why ASTERICS?

- Flatten boundaries
- Find synergies
- Create community
- Multi-messenger



ASTERICS results

www.asterics2020.eu

- Softw
- Train
- Repe



**MULTI-
MESSENGER
ASTROPHYSICS**



**SERVICES FOR
LARGE
DATASETS**



**SOFTWARE FOR
(BIG) DATA
ANALYSIS**



**VIRTUAL
OBSERVATORY
PRODUCTS**



TRAINING
Update and share your
knowledge and expertise
with the multi-messenger

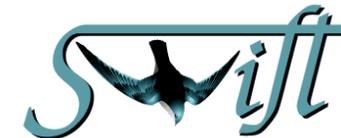
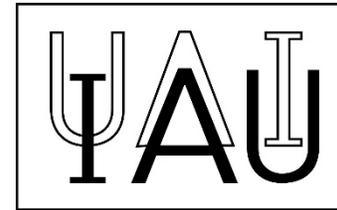
ASTERICS Follow-up

- Recent increase in collaboration in **multi-messenger astrophysics**, both for planned observations and in response to transients
 - Transient phenomena are the next ‘big thing’
 - Gravitational waves → LSST and SKA → millions of raw events per night!
 - All could require follow-up – how do we do this efficiently?
- **ASTERICS**: a network of facilities and organizations involved in multi-messenger astrophysics
- **Multi-messenger platform (MMP)** project used the ASTERICS network and aimed to **play a coordinating role** in translating ideas and tools into a platform to serve the multi-messenger community

The **Multi-Messenger Platform (MMP)** facilitates collaborative, follow-up observing by joining together and adding to available tools

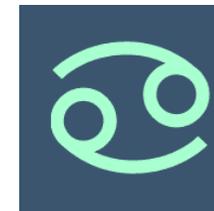
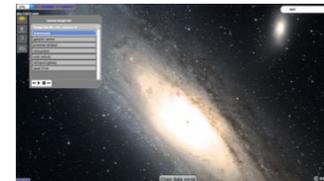
Stakeholders

- Participants in ASTERICs video conferences about the needs to coordinate multi-messenger astrophysics, linked to the following organizations/facilities:



Initiative Proliferation

- Target Filtering - event brokers add value to the event stream
- Collaboration - skills, access to instruments, manpower
- Observation scheduling – multi-instrument coordination, editing
- Context building – harvest archive data, correlate alerts
- Tools - Aladin Lite, LCO TOM toolkit
- Interface definition
- Umbrella projects



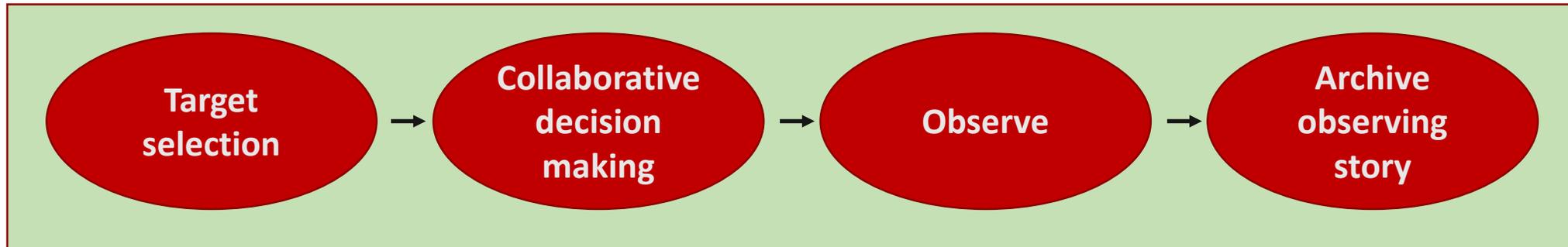
SciMMA



Multi-messenger platform

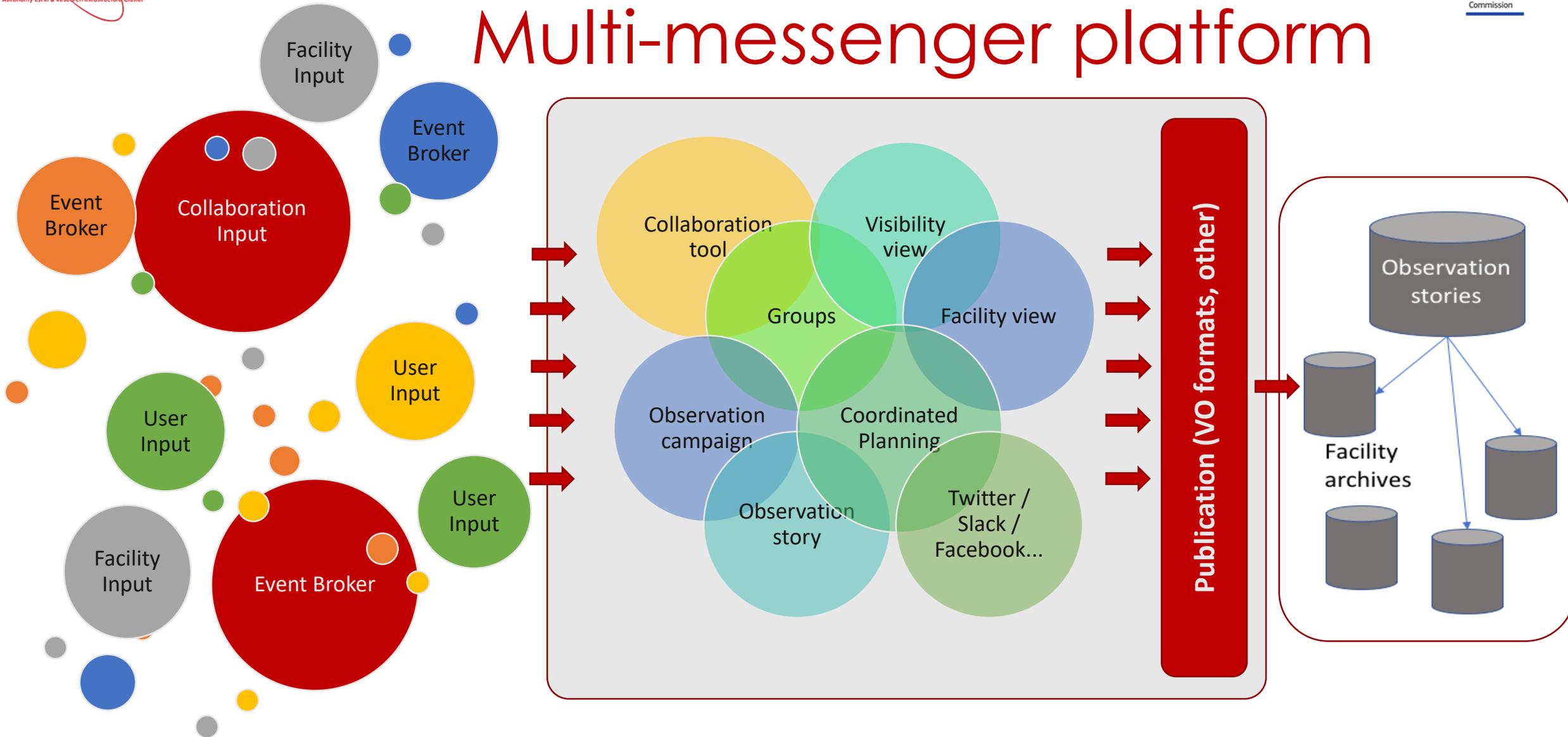
- Current state of the field:
 - Many components focusing on various parts of the overall process, but no coordinated plan.
 - Can they be joined together to make an end-to-end process?

MM Platform



- Aim of the MMP project:
 - Show where interfaces are required, and gaps that must be filled
 - Complement and add to existing tools – **not** compete!

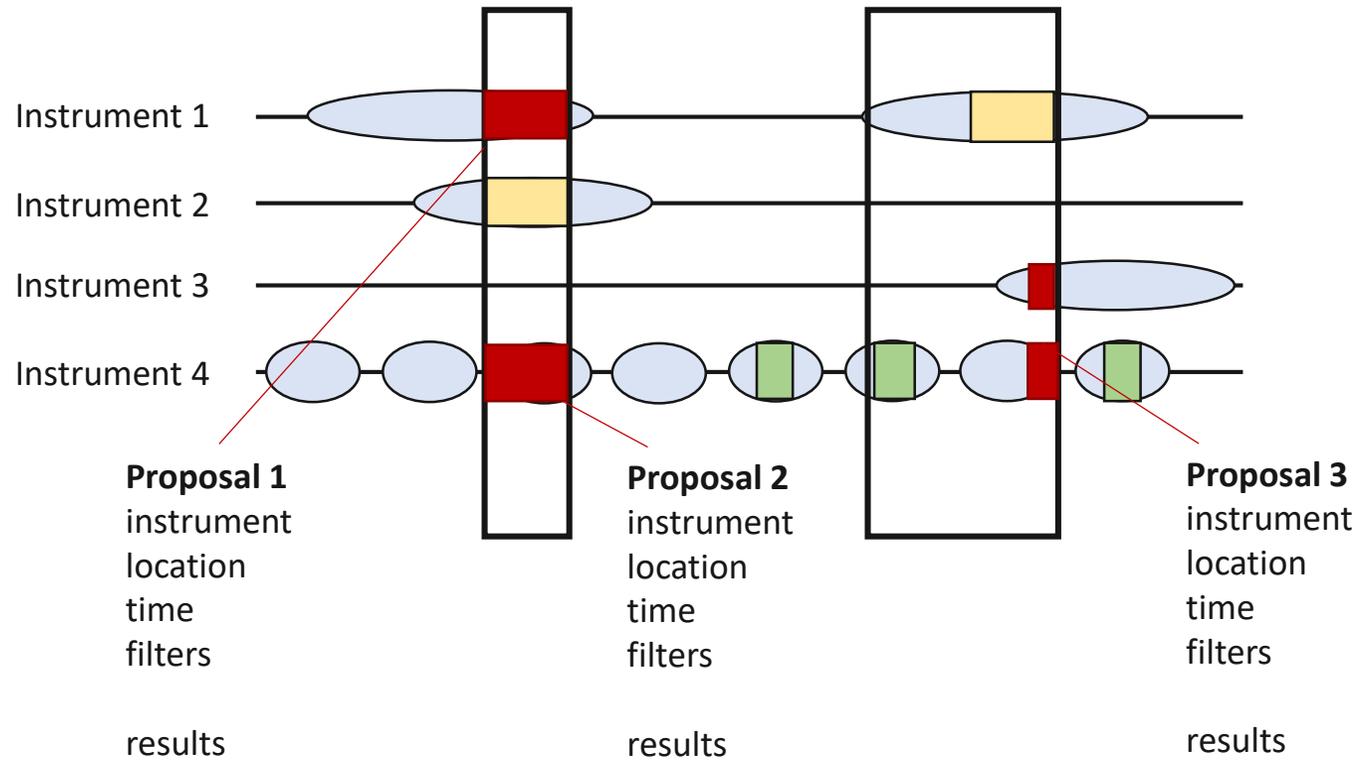
Multi-messenger platform



Pilot Scheduling Visualizer

Query object
visibility services to
find out what
location is visible for
each instrument

Query observation
locator services to
find out which
instruments are
planning to observe
that location in the
future



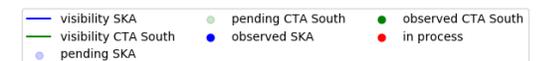
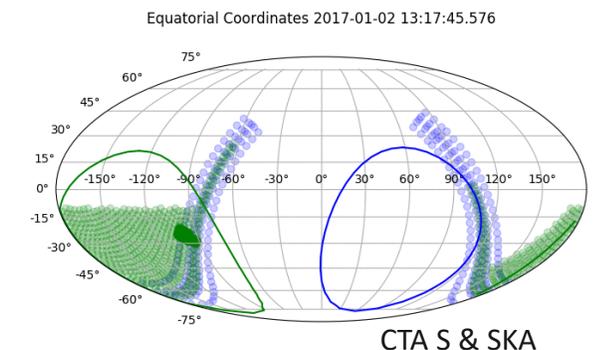
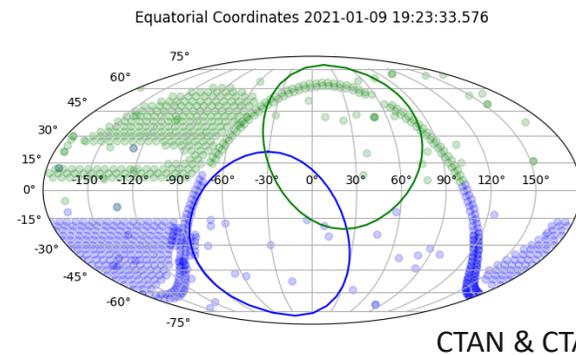
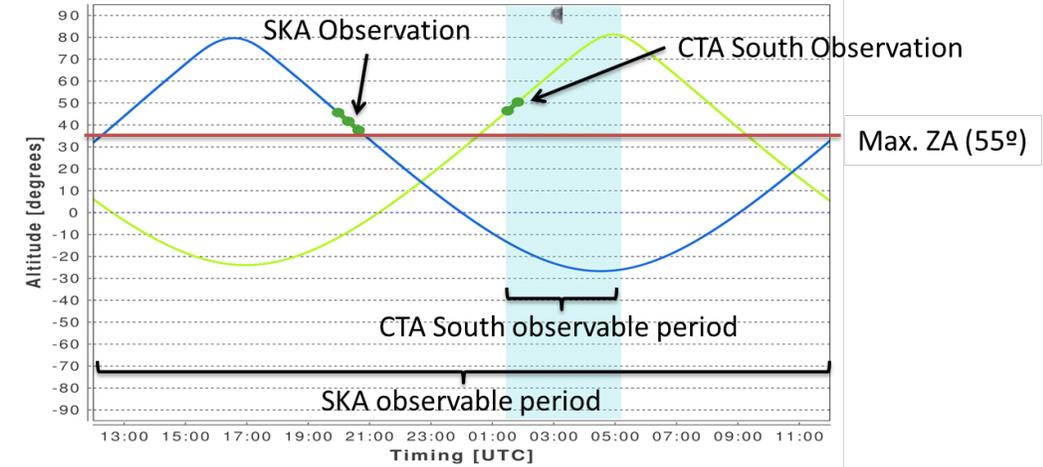
The system plans and
tracks new observation
proposals for the target
objects

Combine historical information about
the location with visibility and future
plans for observations

Coordinate the best times to request
new follow-up observations

Multi-observatory scheduling

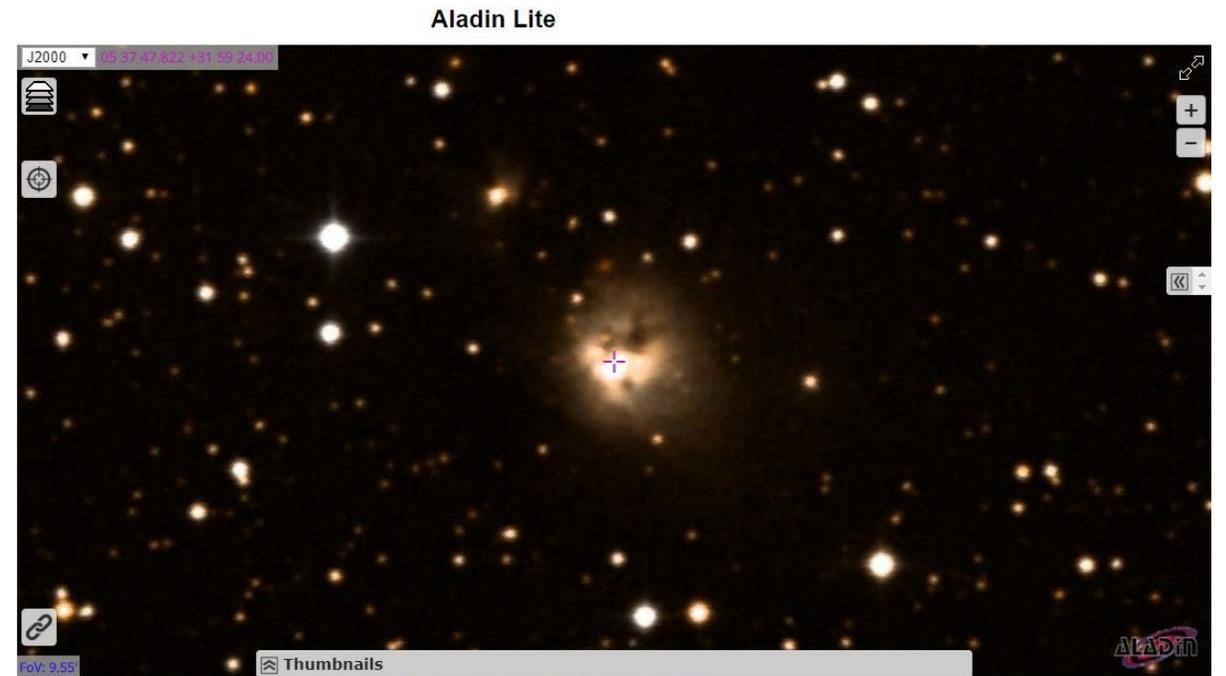
- Science cases
 - Transient events (GRBs, GWs, etc.)
 - Surveys
 - Proposals from guest observers
- Problem conditions
 - Operation constraints from each facility
 - Observational strategies from science cases
 - Common optimization objectives are considered (duty cycle, priority objects, etc.)
 - **Additional Objective for MM science** → Maximize coincident observations or minimize the distance between them



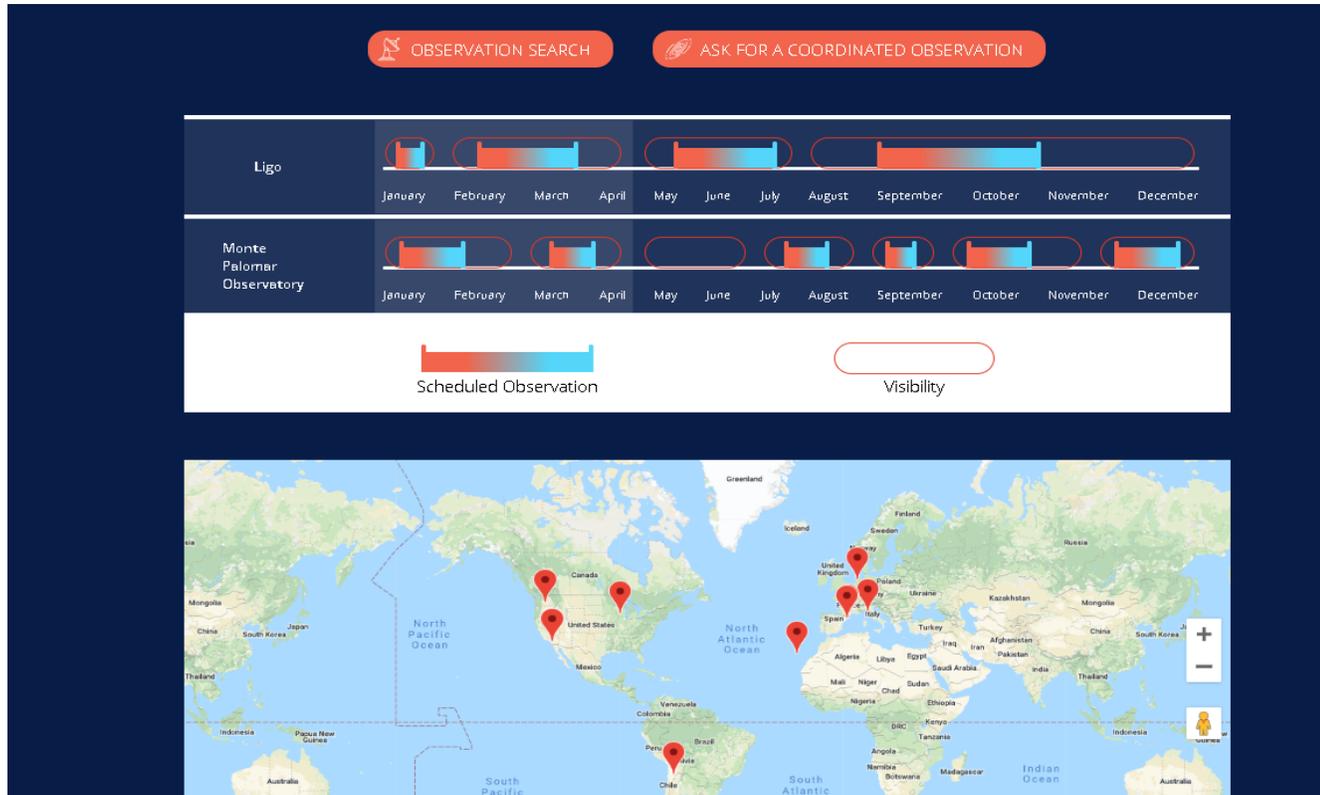
MMP, a VO app



- VO compliant formats for:
 - Data sharing (objects visibility, observatory plans) → ESA protocols on visibility and object location (ObsLocTAP, ObjVisSAP)
 - Data gathering (event brokers, transient events) → VOEvents
- Visualization: Aladin lite
- Coordinated planning format with VO-compliant output



Prototype



Cherenkov Telescope Array

Map title lorem ipsum dolor set

Building on the technology of current generation ground-based gamma-ray detectors (H.E.S.S., VERITAS and MAGIC), CTA will be ten times more sensitive and have unprecedented accuracy in its detection of high-energy gamma rays.

[OBSERVATION SEARCH](#) [ASK FOR A COORDINATED OBSERVATION](#)

If you subscribe to this observatory you will receive alerts from it. [SUBSCRIBE](#)

Location & contact

38788 Santo Domingo, Santa Cruz de Tenerife

<https://www.cta-observatory.org/>

Working on

RA: 1h 0 min 0 s DEC: 10 0' 0"
April 24, 2019

RA: 1h 0 min 0 s DEC: 10 0' 0"
April 24, 2019

RA: 123123123 DEC: 12312312
March 22, 2019

[ALL OBSERVATIONS](#)

News

CTA Prototype Telescope, the Schwarzschild-Couder Telescope, Achieves First Light

March 22, 2019

MMP Conclusions

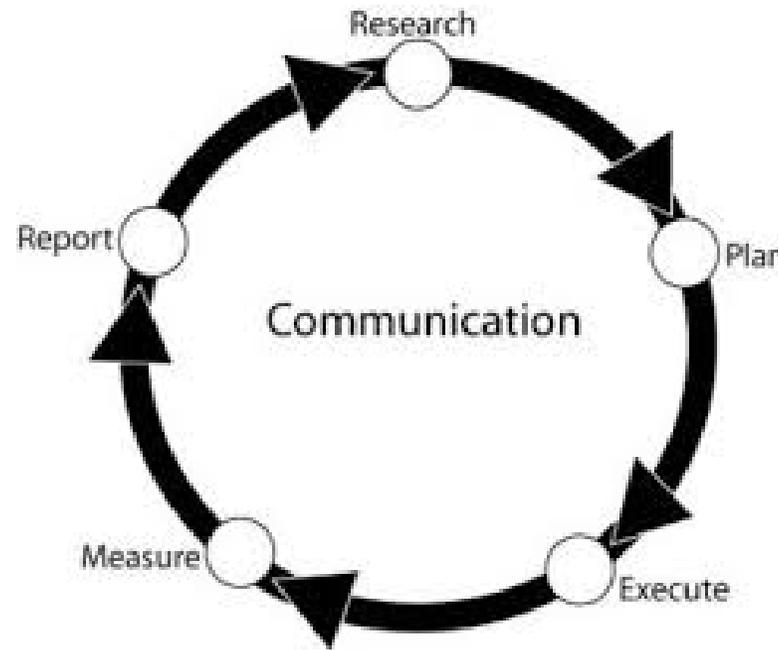
- Multi-Messenger observations give the full context of a source or a phenomenon and new science can be learned.
- The transient flood is coming & the joint observation of steady sources is more feasible.
- Preparations are well underway but are not coordinated.
- A joined-up view of the efforts has been missing - the platform project group was formed to fill the gap.
- **The MMPlatform brings together tools for use in performing collaborative, multi-messenger observations, from target selection, through follow-up observing, to data archive.**
- The ASTERICS community and other stakeholders form an environment favourable to this enterprise.
- The platform will be useful to individual astronomers and facilities alike.
- Next steps: identify opportunities and collaborations to continue the work with the final aim to develop a functioning platform.

Way to continue

- Use prototype
- Review results
- Expand prototype

- Find funding for more
- Policy Forum

- Implement more tools
- Attract users



- www.asterics2020.eu

- asterics@astron.nl

- meer@astron.nl