



International  
Centre for  
Radio  
Astronomy  
Research

# SKA Design at ICRAR & Industry Involvement

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Curtin University



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WESTERN**  
AUSTRALIA



Government of Western Australia  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet  
Office of Science

# SKA Signal & Data Path along Design Elements



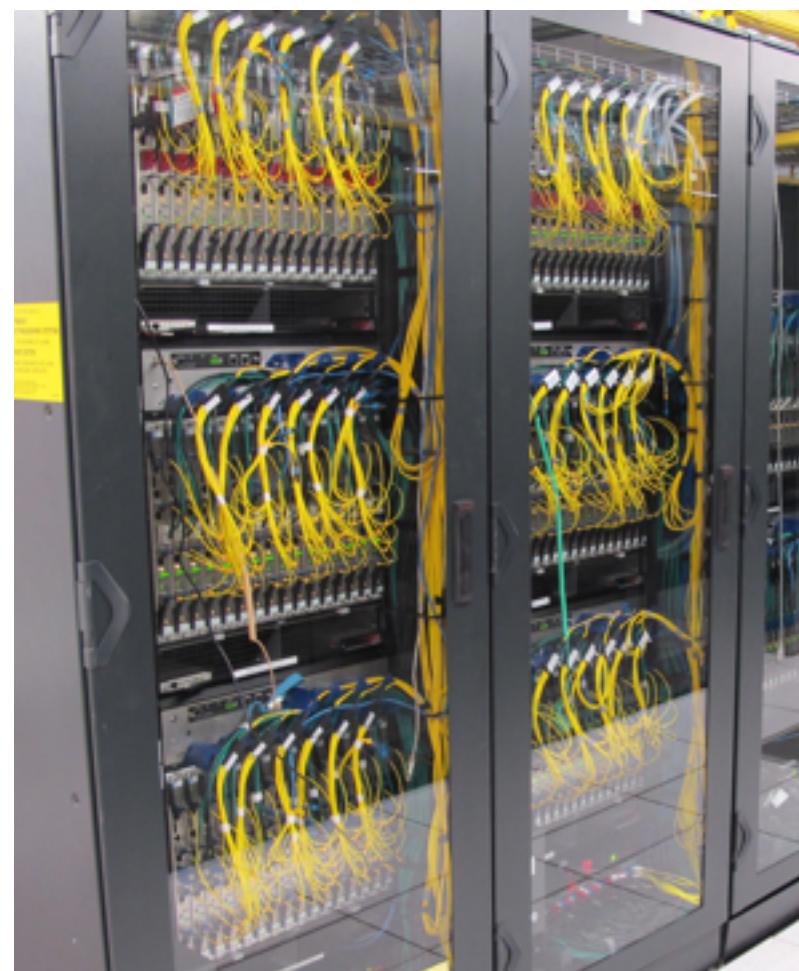
LFAA  
DISH



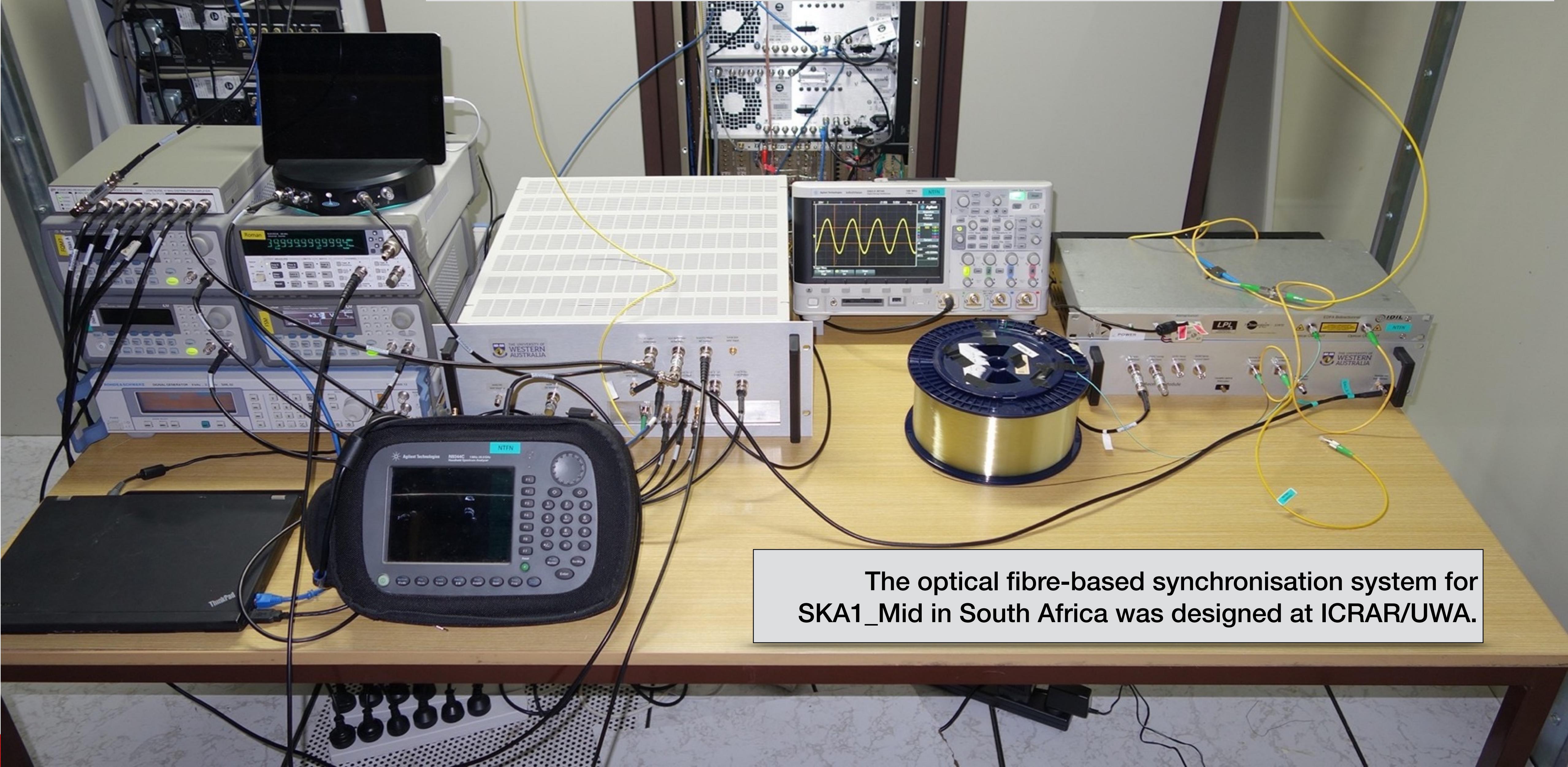
Correlator  
CSP

Data Intensive  
Astronomy

Science Data  
Processor

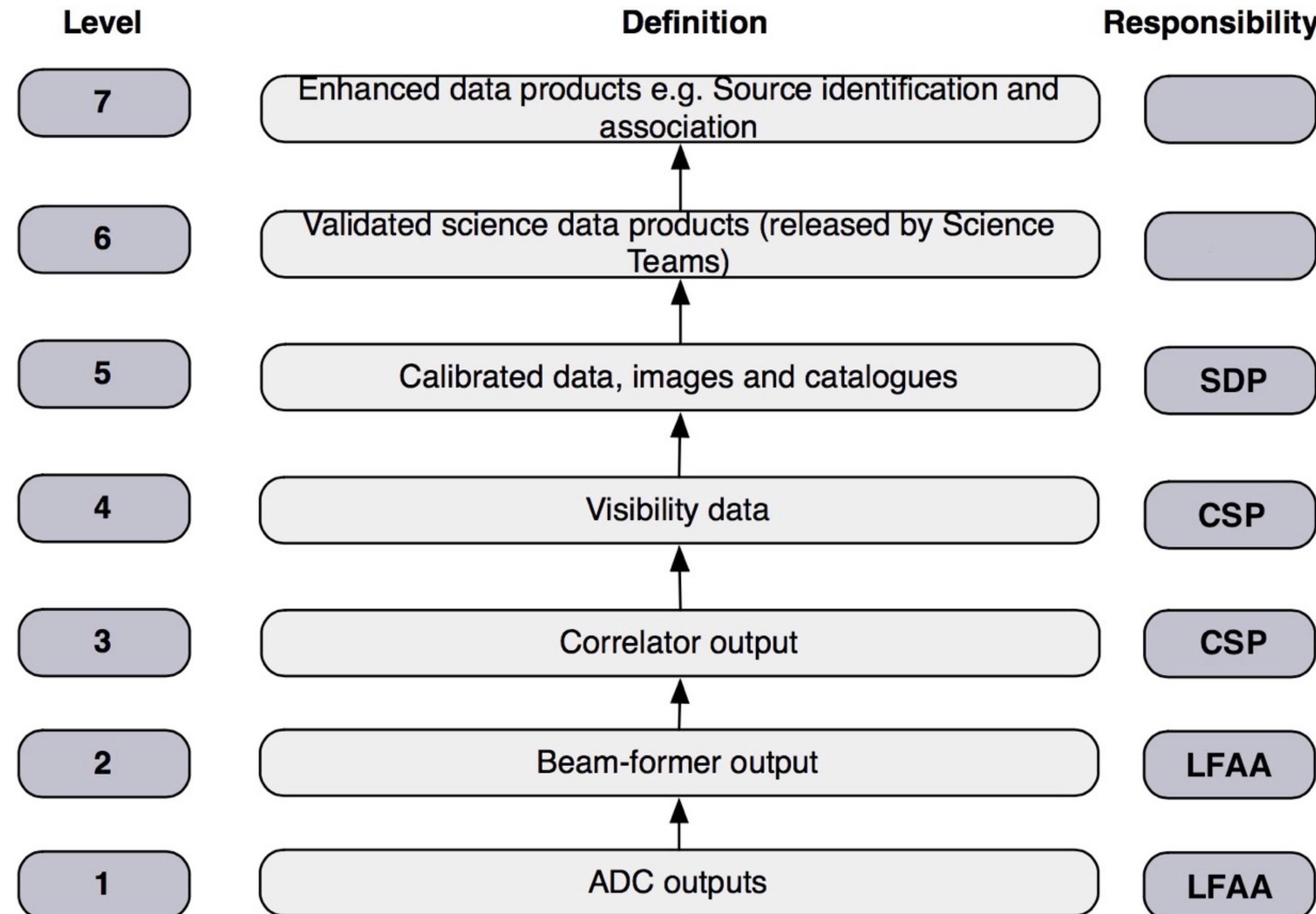


# Signal and Data Transport (SaDT) Consortium



The optical fibre-based synchronisation system for SKA1\_Mid in South Africa was designed at ICRAR/UWA.

# Data Product Levels





# The SDP Consortium



- 23 Partners in 11 countries
  - Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Portugal, Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom (UCam Lead)
- 9 Work Areas: at ICRAR 22 FTE over 3 years
  - leads data layer WP, contributes to ARCH, COMP, LMC, MGT, SE
- 5 Supercomputing Centres
  - Pawsey (Perth), HPCS (Cambridge), CHPC (Cape Town), BSC (Barcelona), Forschungszentrum Jülich
- Pre-Construction is self-funded by member countries



# Project Rialto

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Full federal grant title:  
“Finalising the SDP Design and Preparing for SKA  
Construction”.

Internal project name: Rialto  
as in Ponte di Rialto in Venice, because it ...

- bridges extended precon with next SKA phase,
- integrates DALiuGE with ASKAPsoft,
- spans data flow design to SKA Regional Centres.





# SKA SDP Pre-Construction at ICRAR

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**Focus:**

- 1. Execution Framework**
- 2. Preservation System**

**Furthermore:**

**Architecture, Compute Platform, PM, SE, LMC**

# SDP Preservation - Storage Volume

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	LOW	MID	
Long term storage volume	110	340	PB
Medium Performance Buffer	30	100	PB
Science Data Volume (HPSOs)	55	170	PB
8 TB drives LTS (0.11+0.34 EB)	13750	42500	Unit
26 TB drives LTS	4200	13000	Unit

=> need high resilience against bit errors

# Preservation Design

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- medium and long term storage system
  - for intermediate and final science data products
  - capacity: 0.13 and 0.45 Exabyte for MTS and LTS
  - ingest bandwidth: 200 Gbps
  - populates science product catalogue
  - packages, indexes, stores and backs up data products
  - is extensible, interoperable, resilient and scalable
- 
- no archive: (external) users have no direct access

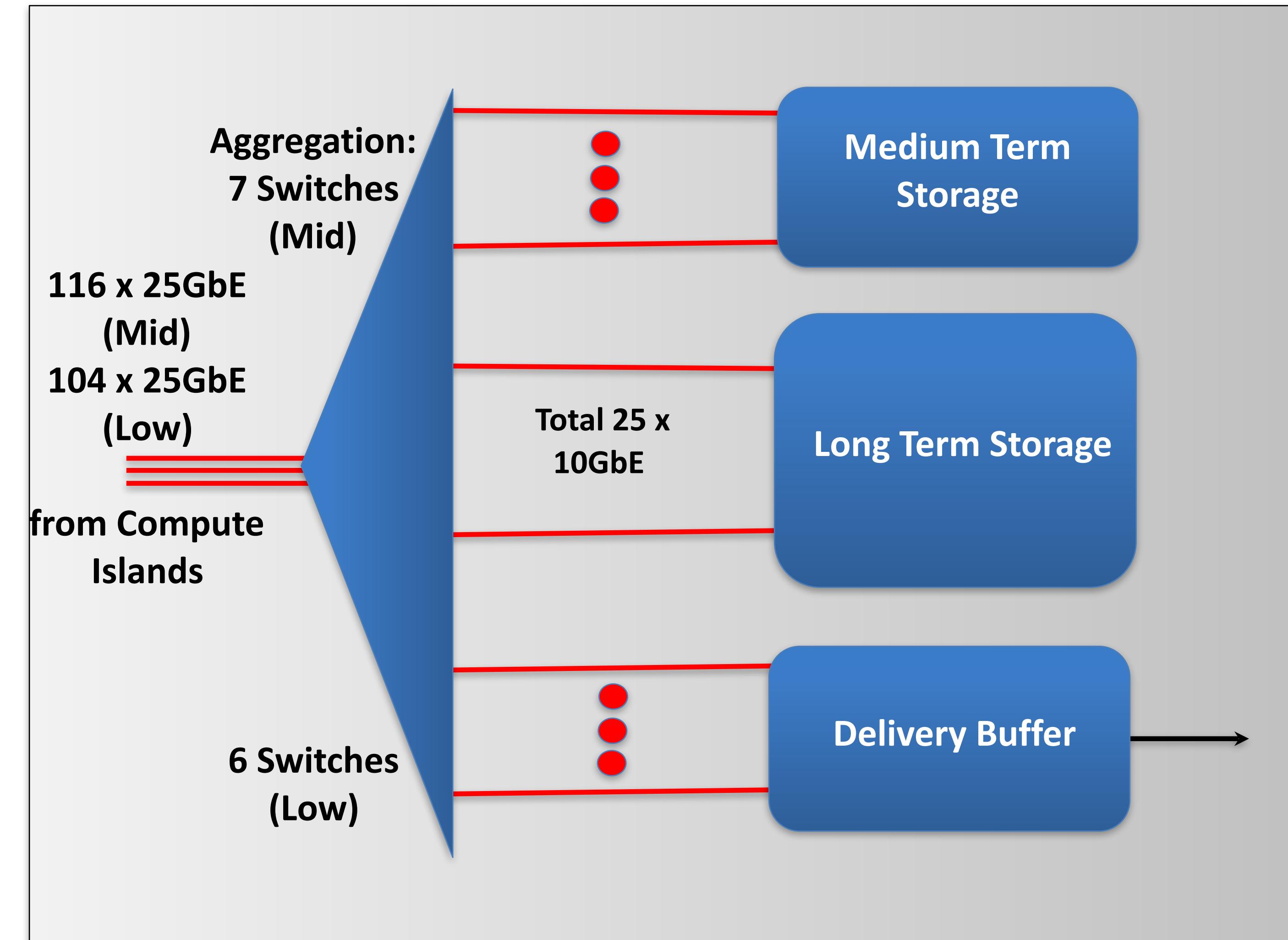




# Science Data Products & IVOA Support

IVOA Standard Protocols and Model Candidates			
Data Product Type	Discovery	Access	Data Model
Image cube	TAP, SIAv2, DataLink	SODA	ObsCore, NDimCubeDM
UV-grid	TAP, SIAv2, DataLink	SODA	ObsCore, NDimCubeDM
Calibrated visibilities	TAP, SIAv2, DataLink	SODA	ObsCore, NDimCubeDM
GSM/LSM catalogue	TAP, DataLink	TAP	STC, CharDM, PhotDM
Pulsar timing solution	TAP, DataLink	TAP	ObsCore, TimeSeriesDM
Pulsar & transient cand.	TAP, DataLink	TAP	(PSRFITS)
Science product catalog.	TAP, DataLink	TAP	RegTAP, STC, CatalogDM

# Preservation & Delivery Interconnect



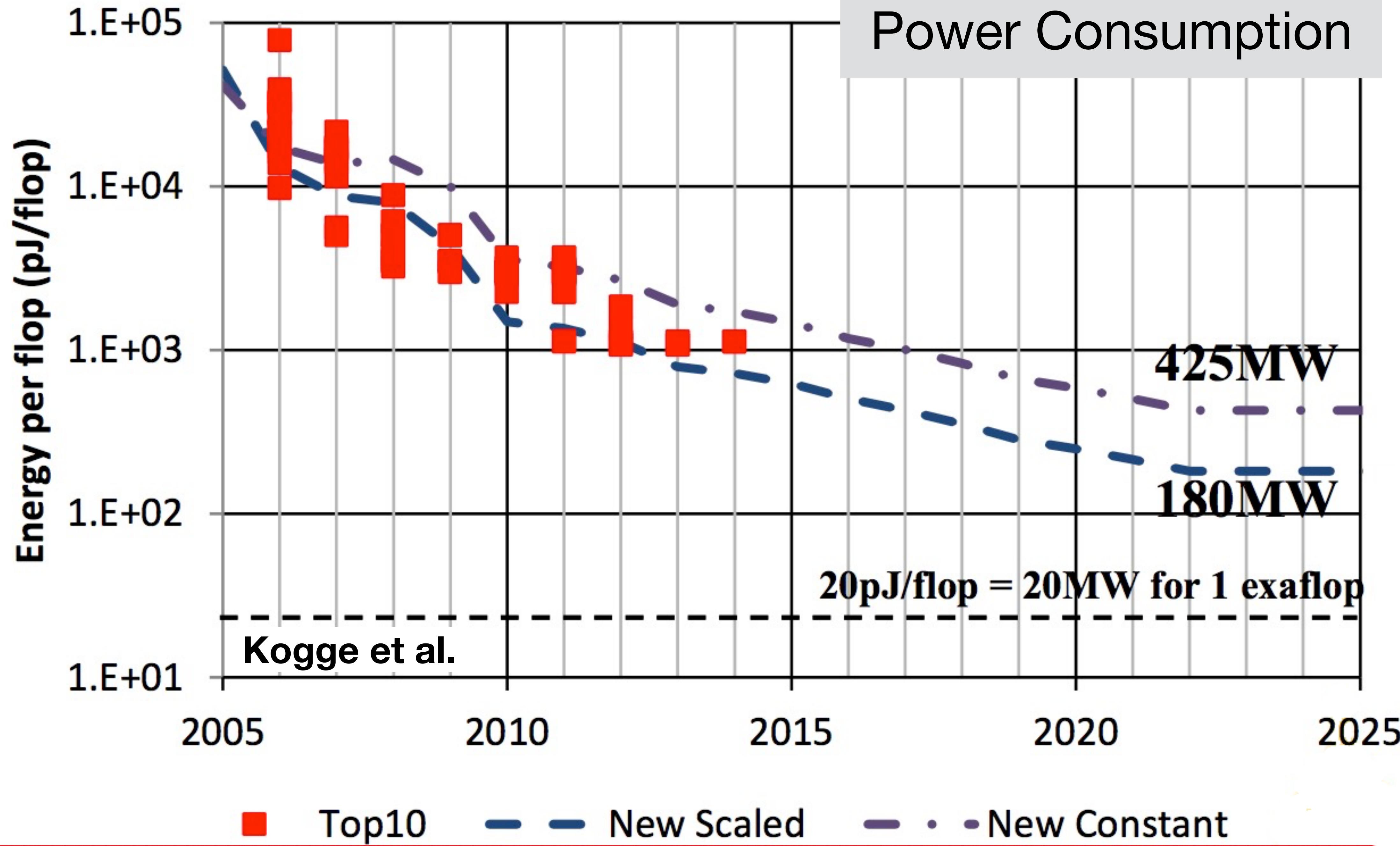
# SDP Design Challenge

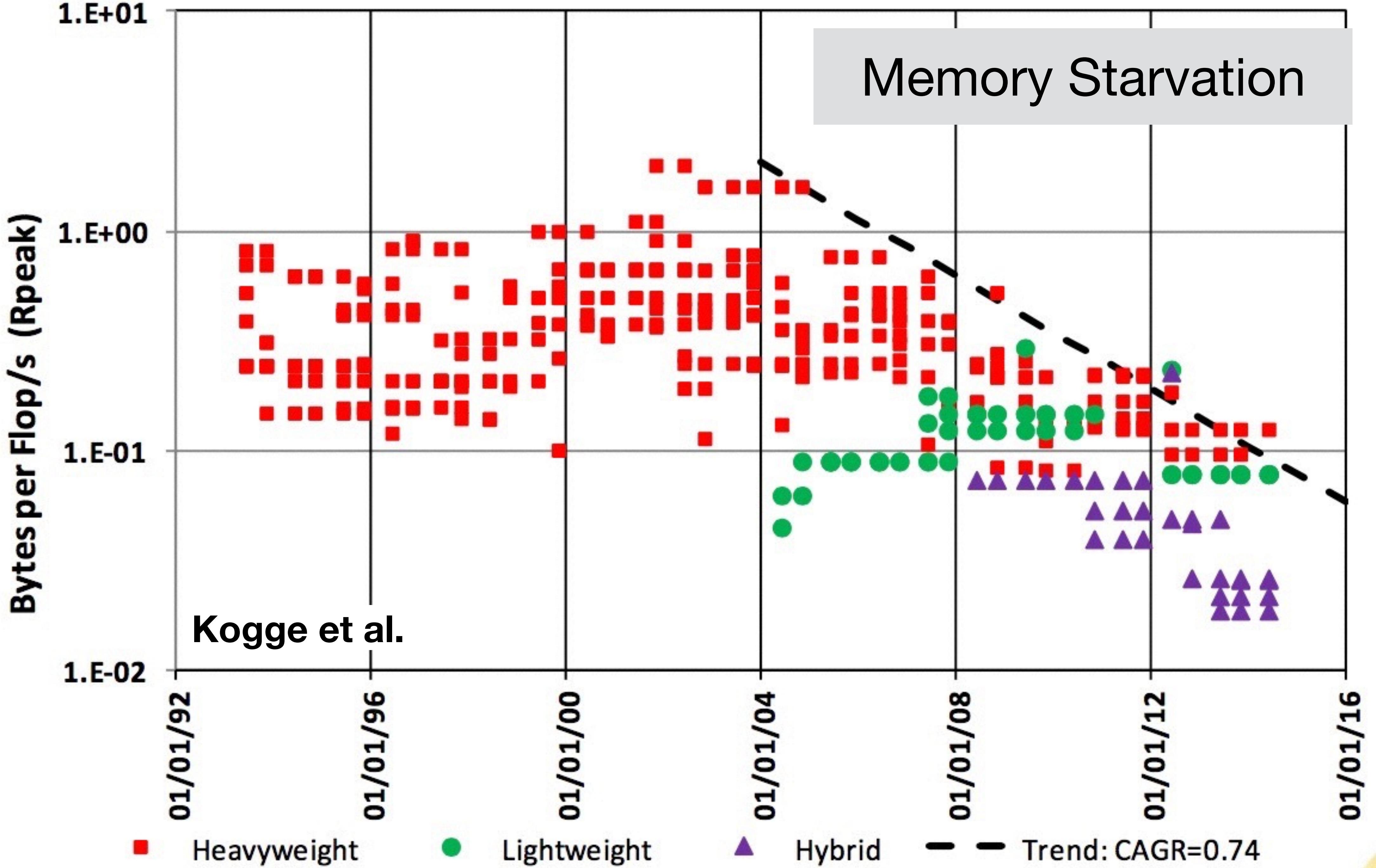
- Power Budget: <5 MW
- Compute Efficiency: target is 10 % [FLOP/W]
- Sustain Throughput: 0.4 TByte/s/telescope
- Optimize Data Locality
- Error Resilience
- Automated Calibration
- Multiplicity of Input Streams
- Variety of Observing Modes

# Size after Rebasing

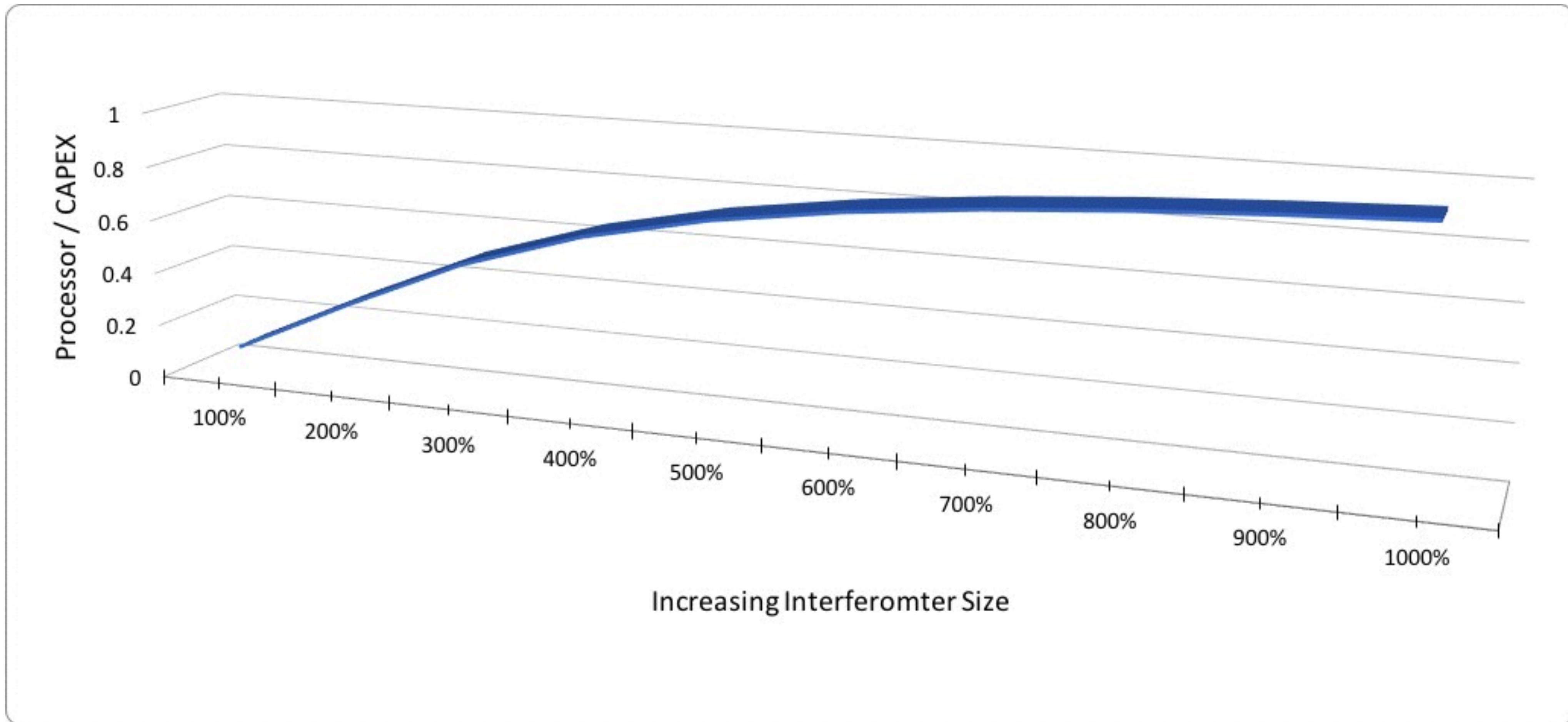
Telescope	SKA1 Low rebaselined	SKA1 Mid rebaselined
Antennae / Dishes	130000	200
max. Baseline [km]	65	150
Frequency channels	65,536	65,536
Complex Correlations / s	3.8E+10	6.4E+10
Image side length [pix]	16000	20000

# Power Consumption



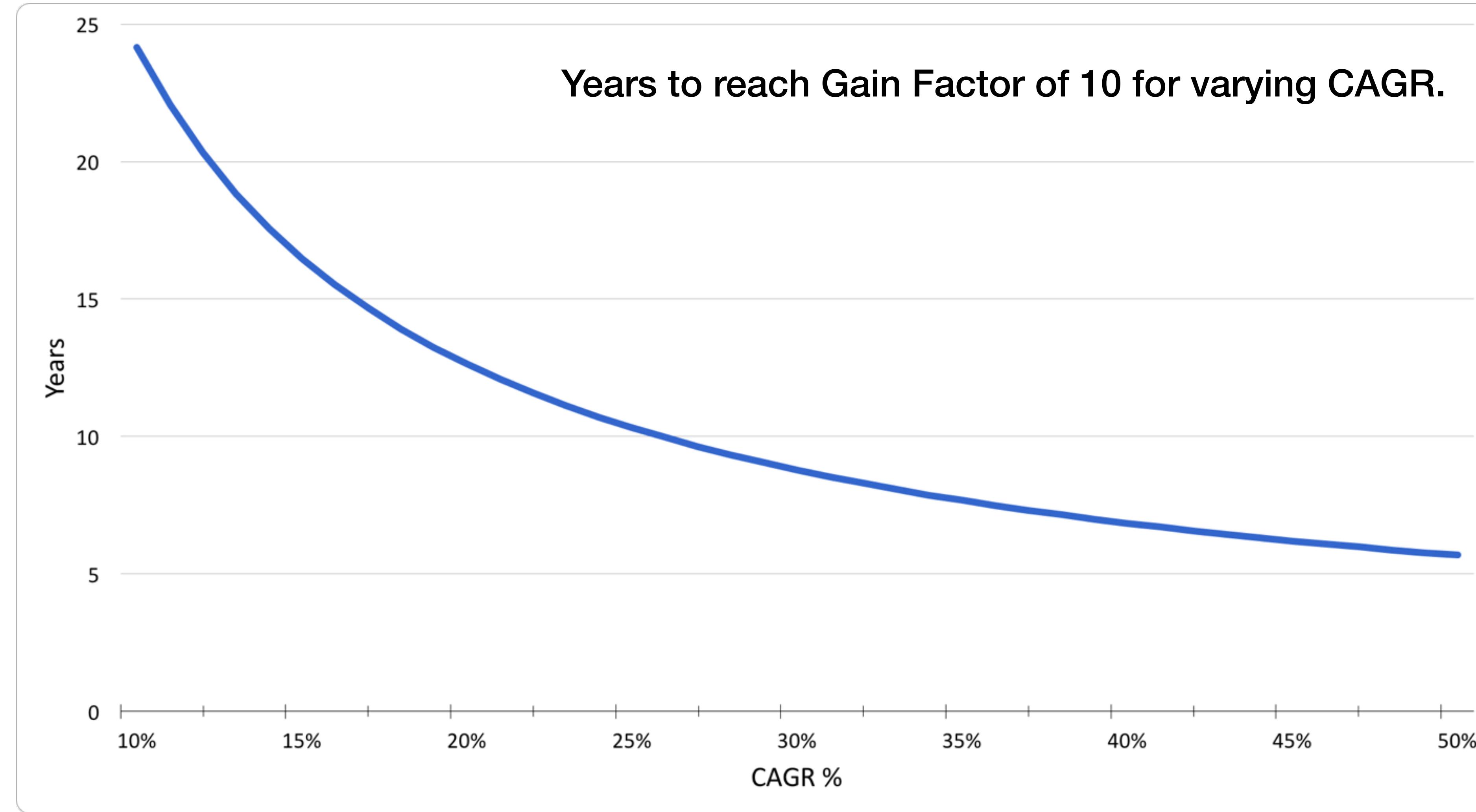


# Doubling Interferometer means 8x Processing - $O(n^3)$



Processing System quickly dominates CAPEX when increasing Interferometer Size.

# $O(n^3)$ and Impact on Timeline



At 24 month doubling rate (CAGR 41%) it takes 7 years to gain a factor of 10,  
The rebaselining downsized by a factor of 10.



# Finding Slack in SDP System

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- **data format:** Measurement Set (MS) v2 table system  
v3 initiative by SKAO, NRAO etc.; JPIP/JPEG2000 for vis.
- **storage manager:** ADIOS (Adaptable I/O System)  
abstract parallel IO interface from application
- **cluster management**  
e.g. OpenStack for bare metal performance in contrast to VM
- **Containerization:** e.g. Docker  
machine learning: RFI detection and classification
- **scheduling:** DAG; NP hard
- **algorithms/math:** BDA, facetting  
review data reduction/calibration approach
- **going from batch to stream processing**



# SDP Execution Framework Prototype DALiuGE

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## DALiuGE – Data-Activated Liu (流) Graph Engine

- <https://github.com/ICRAR/daliuge>
- 20,000 lines of Python code + minimal C library code
- refs
  - <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2213133716301214>
  - <https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.07617>

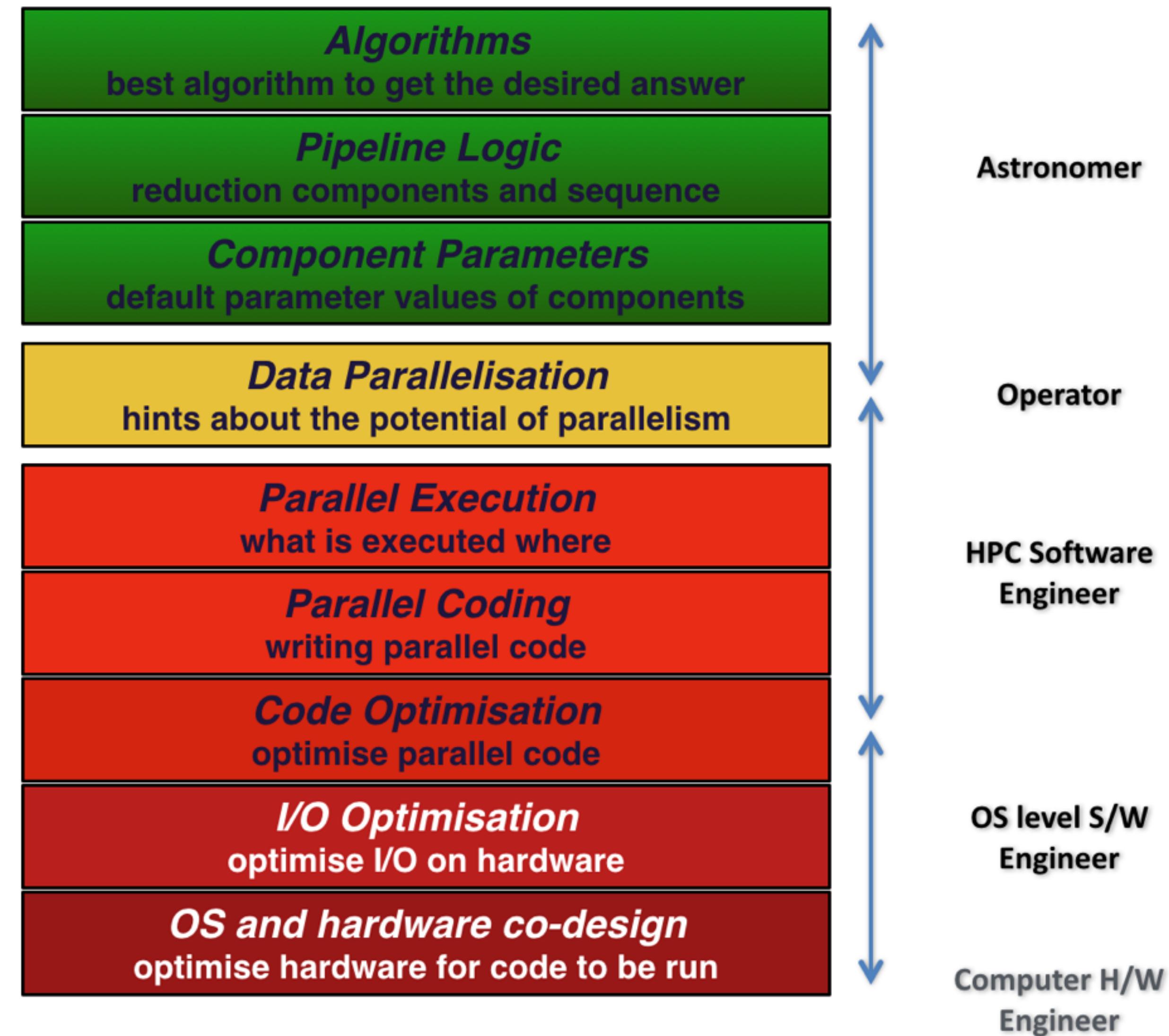


# Data-centric Approach

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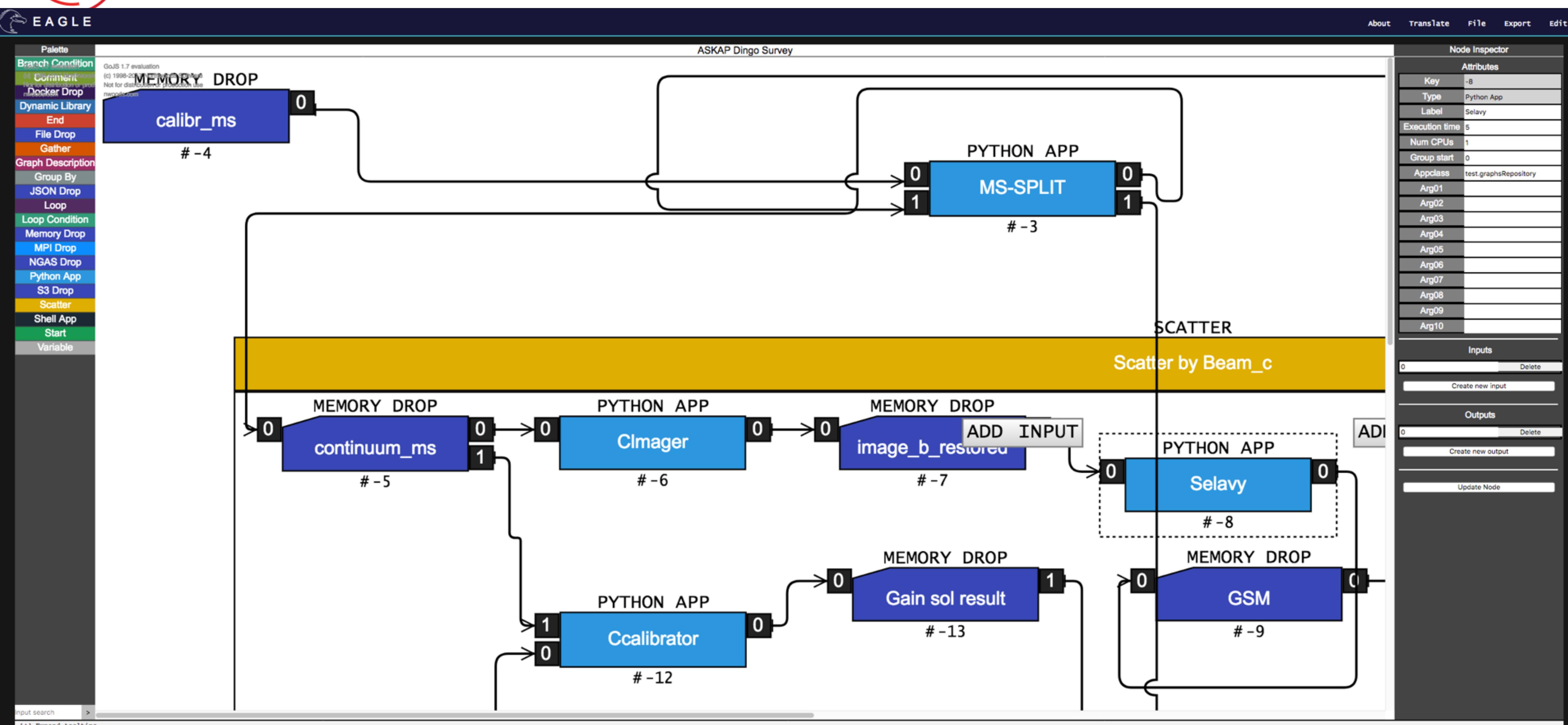
- + control of data locality
  - + exploitation of data parallelism
  - + works with commodity hardware
  - + no global file system required, just a GUID server like Ceph
  - + DAG based control flow; not limited by single master node
  - + load-balancing
  - + fault tolerance: depends on storage manager
- 
- idle times when waiting for matching data

# Separation of Concerns facilitated by DALiuGE





# EAGLE ... Editor for the Astronomical Graph Language Environment





# Code Reuse - JACAL (Joint Astronomy imaging and CALibration)

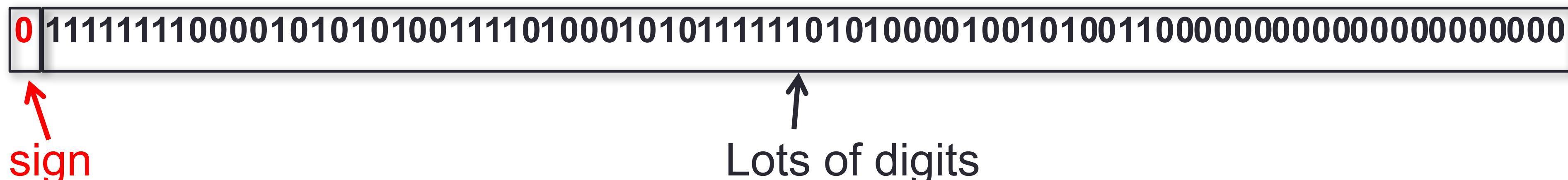
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## JACAL - a Rialto project deliverable:

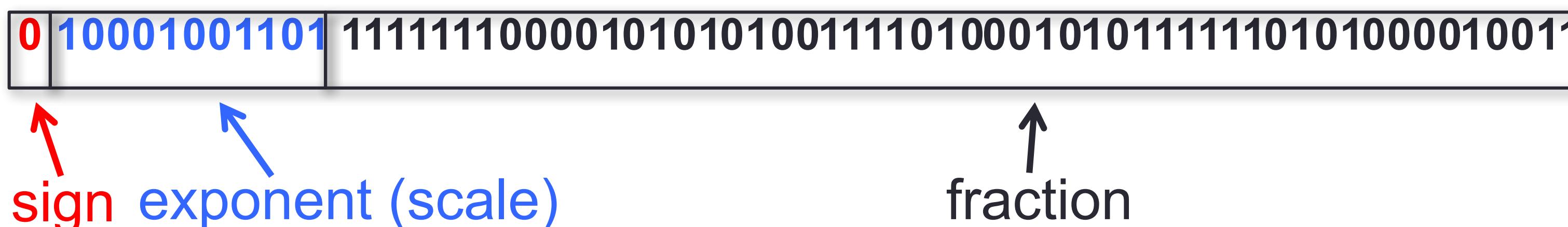
- **Investigate reuse of ASKAPsoft in context of SKA1-Low**
- **Integrate with DALiuGE to scale system performance**
- **Resulting source package JACAL (ASKAPsoft & DALiuGE)**
- **Determine workload characteristics/data access patterns of algorithmic components**
- **Reuse MWA archival data and codes:**
  - e.g. continuum imaging and precision spectral line work at low frequencies

# Unum Number Format by Gustafson

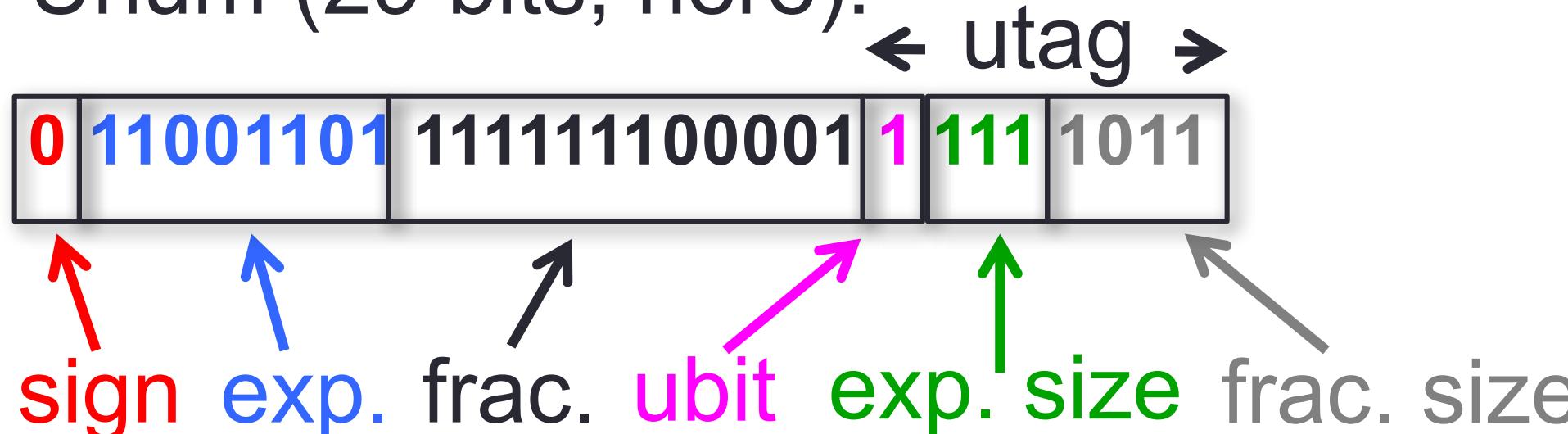
# Sign-Magnitude Integer (80 bits)



# IEEE Standard Float (64 bits):

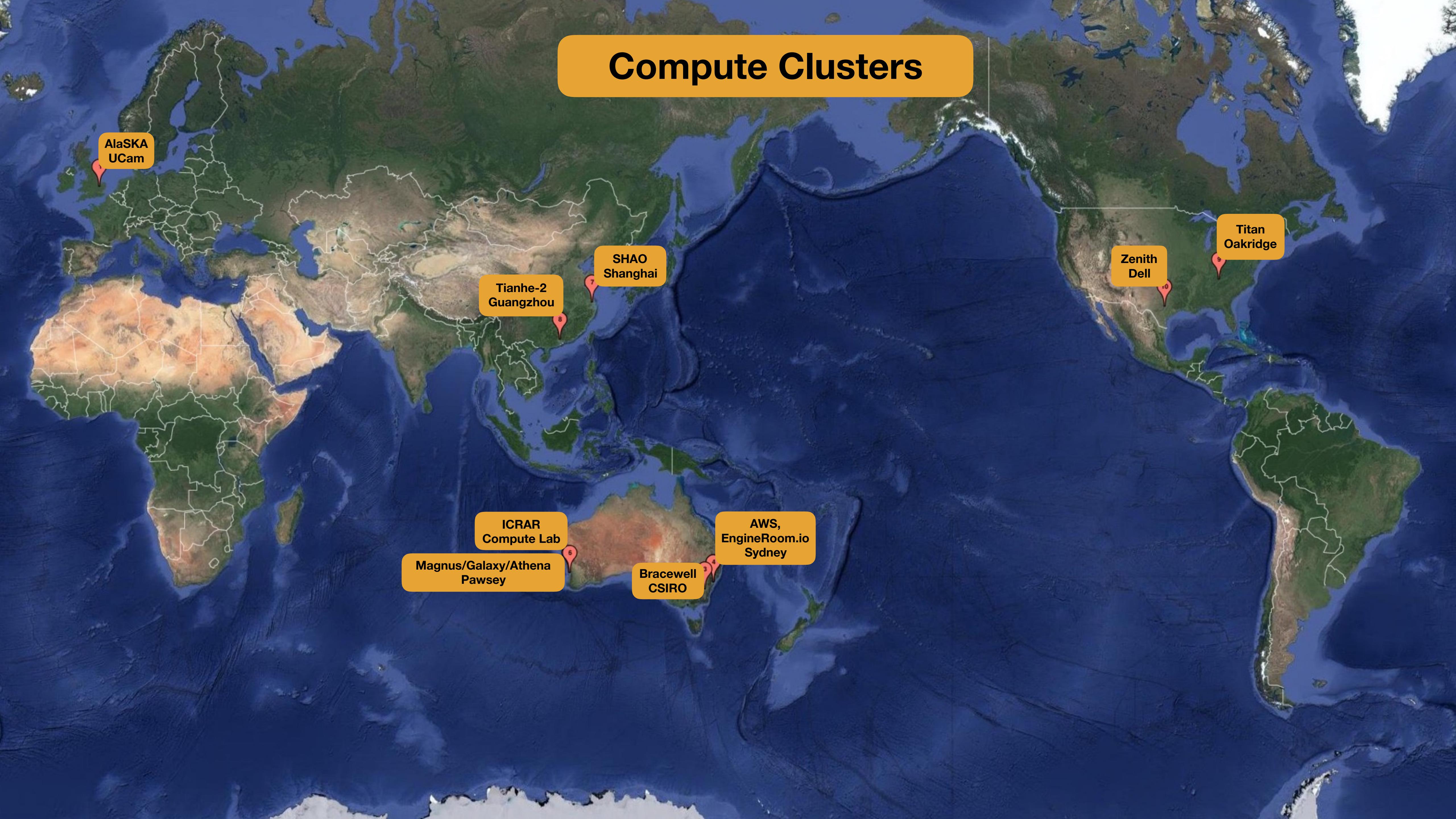


# Unum (29 bits, here):

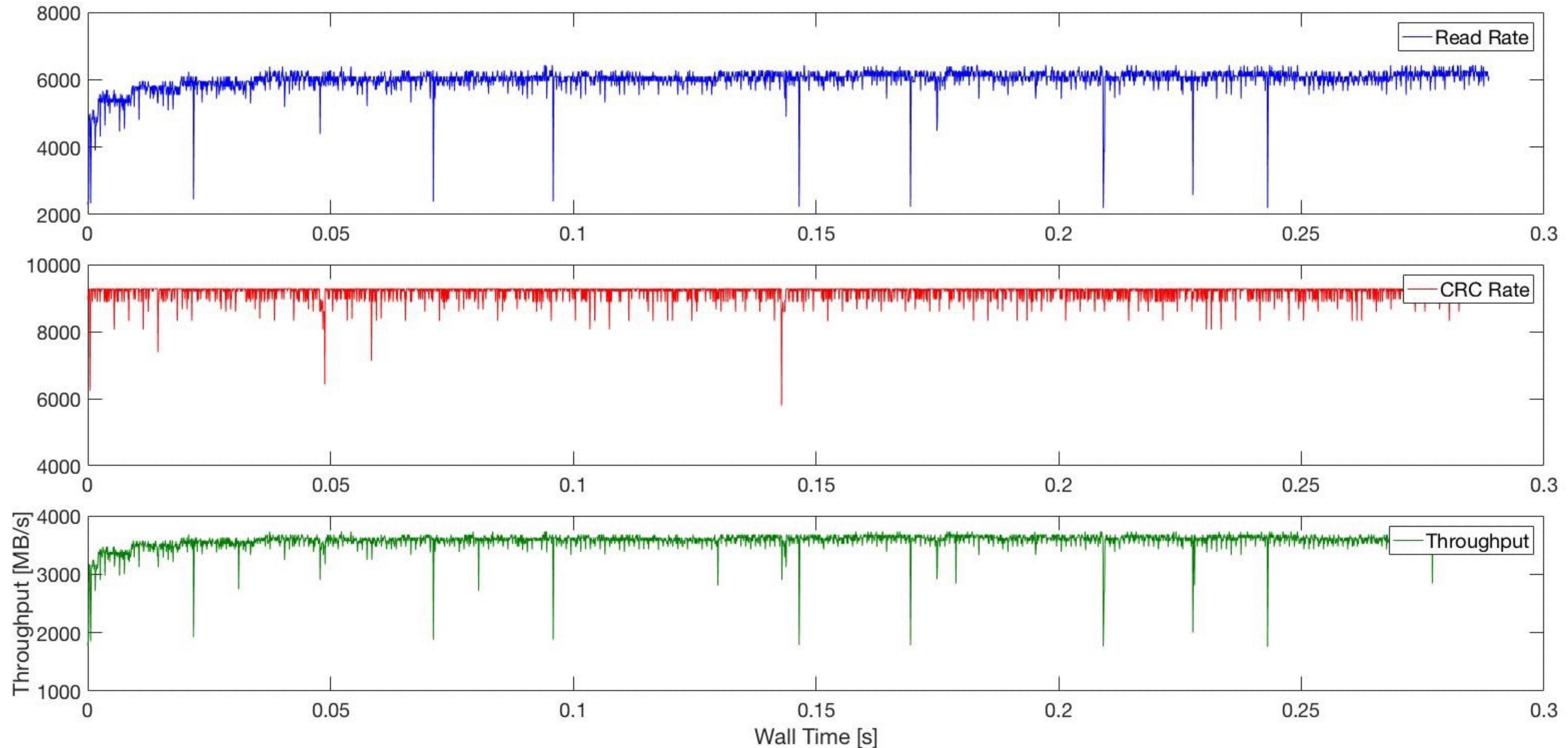


*Self-descriptive “utag” bits track  
and manage uncertainty, exponent  
size, and fraction size*

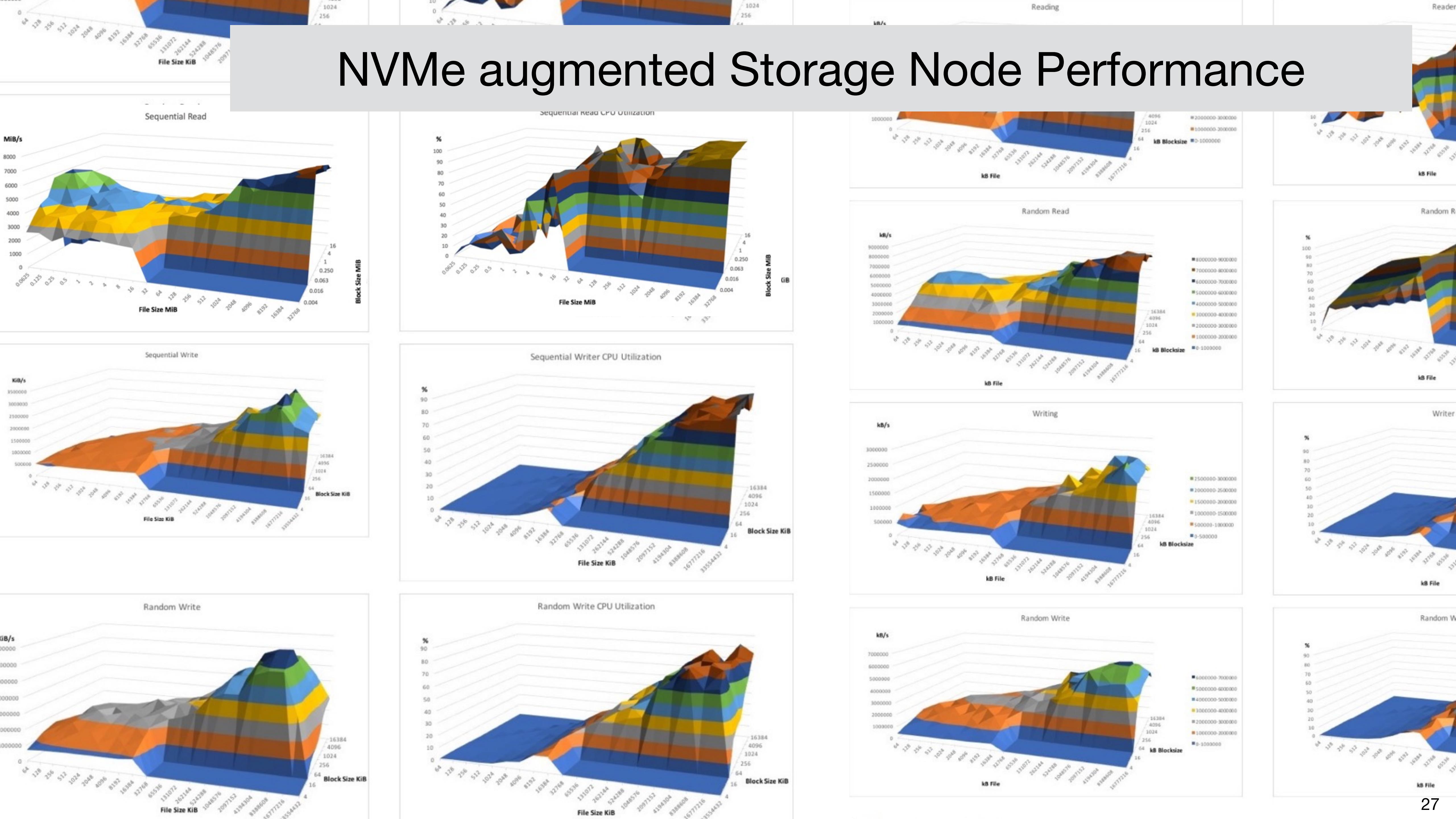
# Compute Clusters



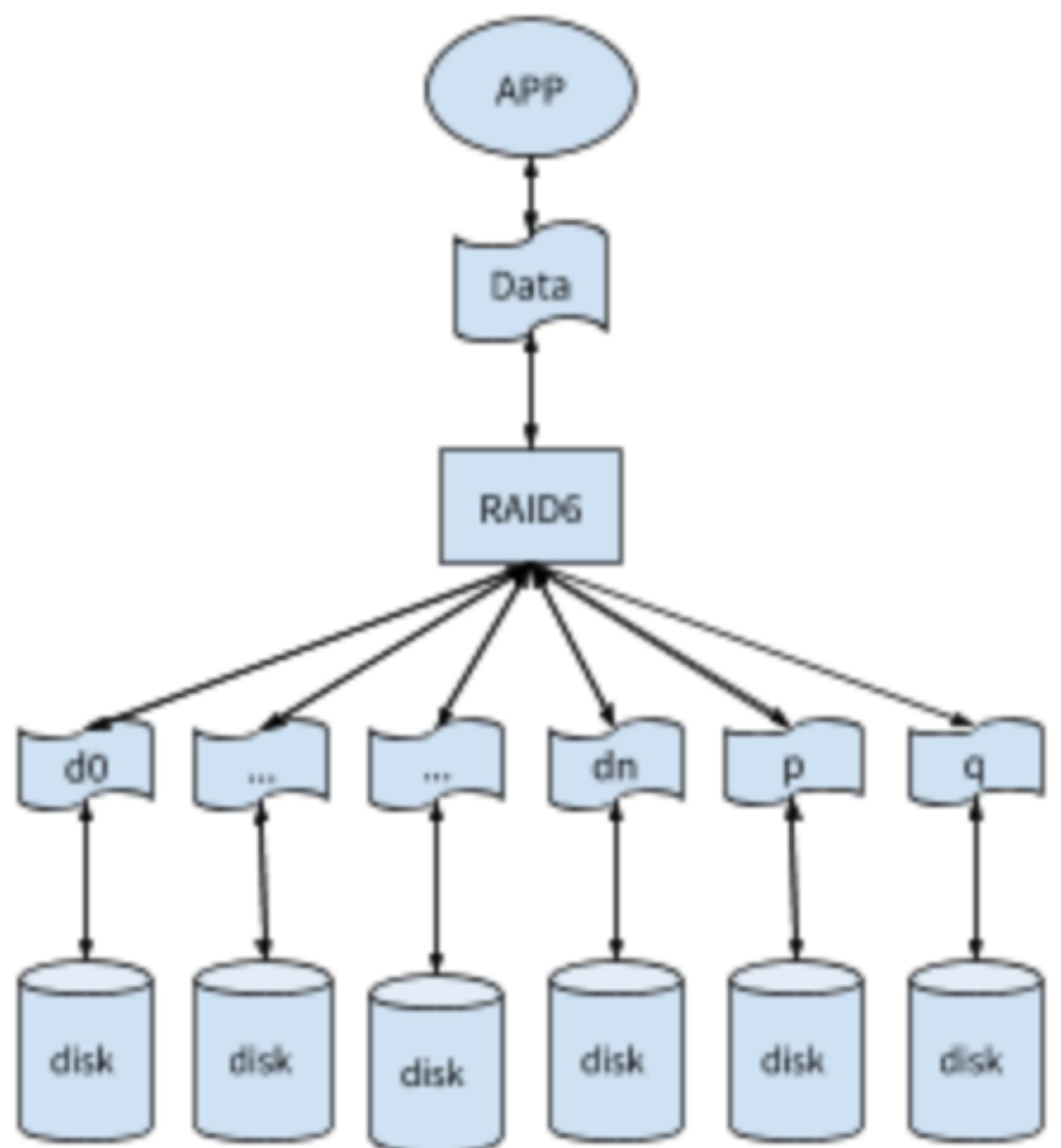
# CRC Calc Rate on Xeon Phi (KNL)



# NVMe augmented Storage Node Performance

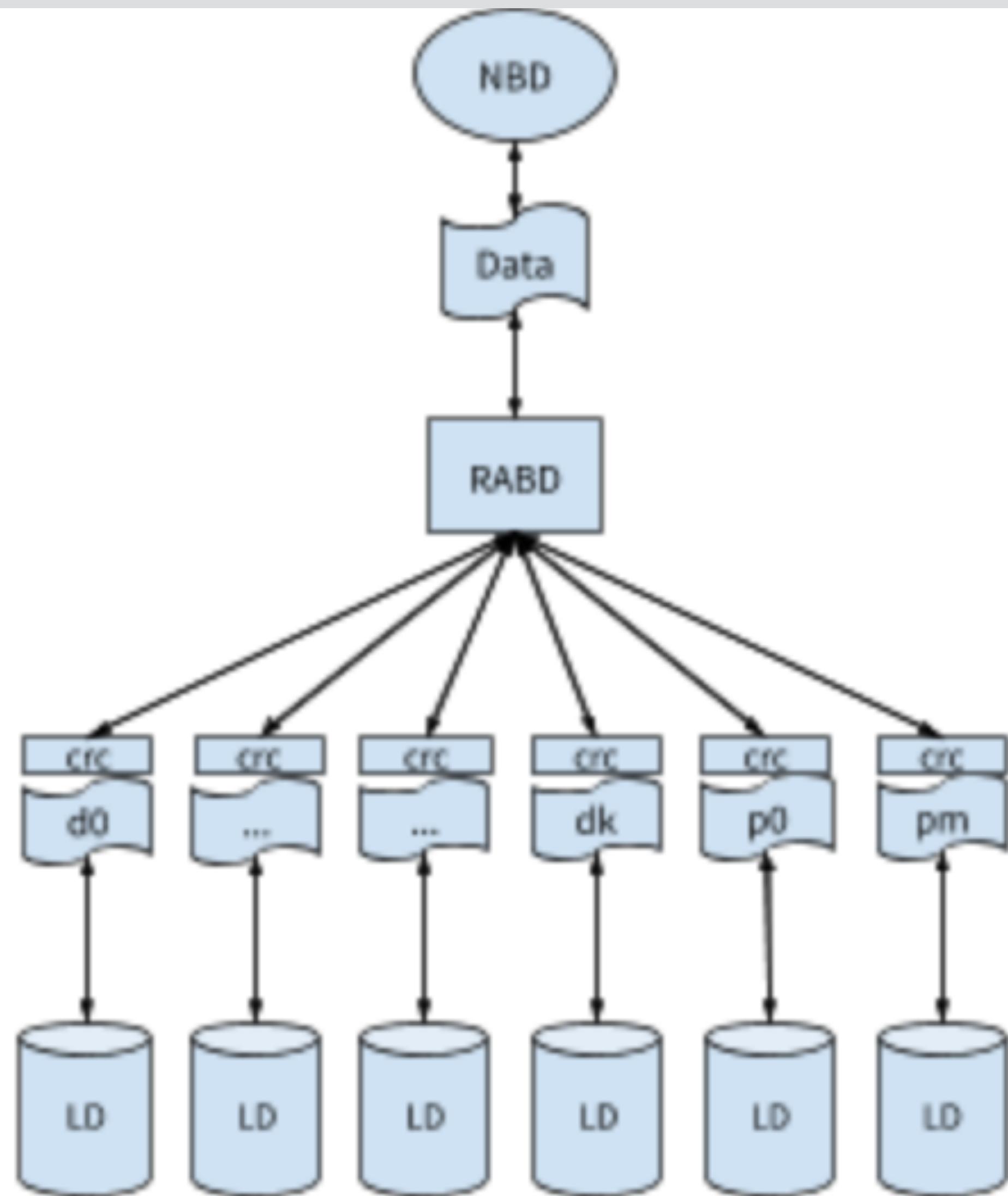


## RAID6



Maximum of 2 parity ( p and q ) no matter the amount of data

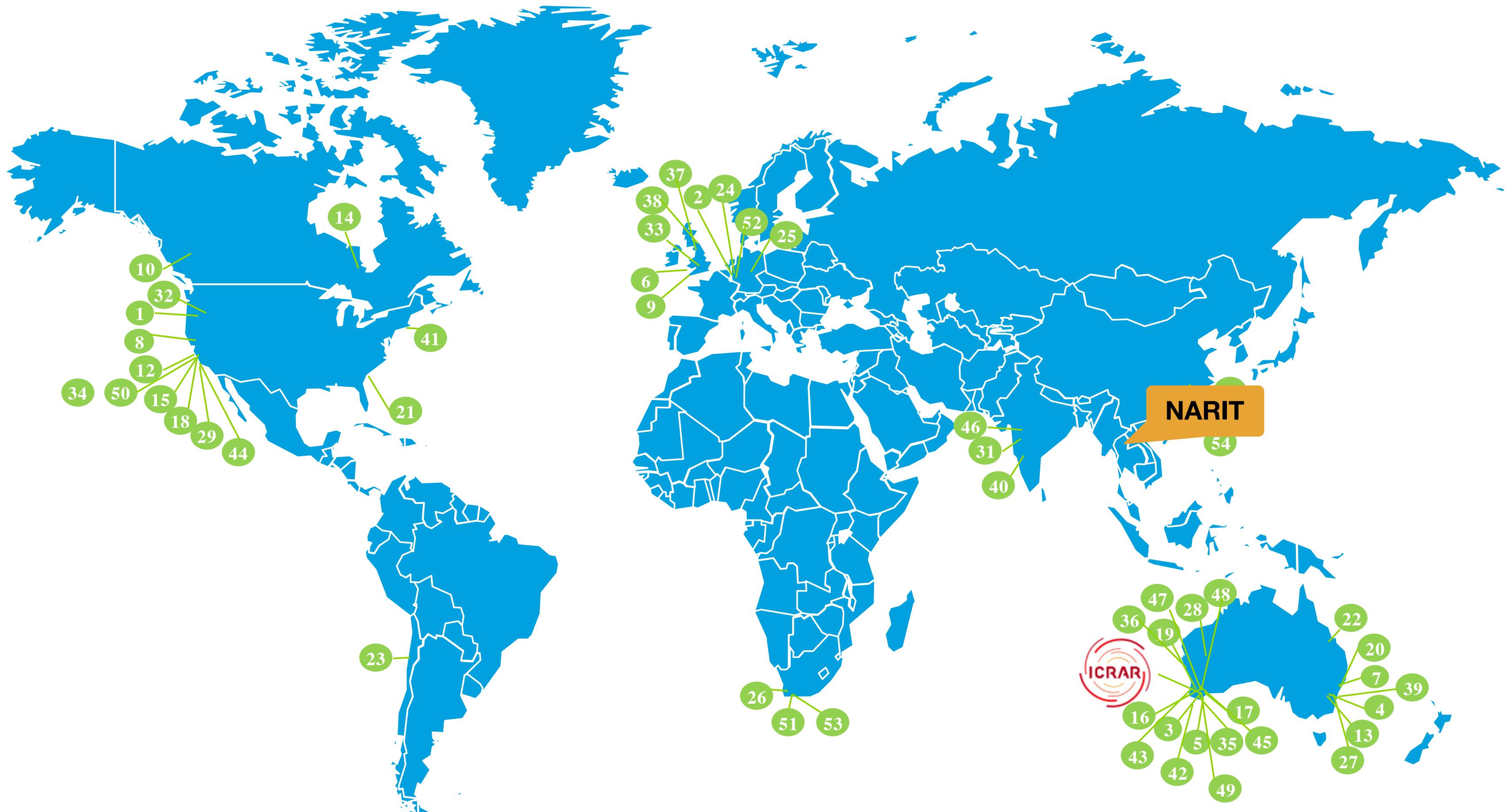
## Radio Astronomy Block Device



RABD can be configured to store up to 127 parity blocks with its data with a maximum recommended configuration being 96 data blocks with 32 parity across 128 logical devices.



# Industrial & Academic Collaboration Partners



Map Ref. No.	Collaboration Partner
1	Amazon
2	ASTRON
3	Astronomy WA
4	Australian NZ SKA coordination committee (ANZSCC)
5	Balance Utility Solutions
6	BIOS IT
7	CAASTRO
8	California Institute of Technology
9	Cambridge University
10	Canadian Astronomical Data Centre (CADC)
11	Chinese Academy of Science
12	CISCO
13	CSIRO
14	CSP work package consortium (Led by National Research Council of Canada)
15	Data Direct Networks
16	Future engineering and communications
17	IBM Australia
18	INTEL
19	IVEC
20	Jet Cut
21	John Hopkins University
22	Kaelus
23	Large synoptic survey telescope Chile
24	LFAA work package consortium (Led by ASTRON)
25	Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics
26	MeerKAT/SKA RSA
27	Motion technologies
28	MWA consortium
29	NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
30	National Astronomical Observatory of China
31	National Centre for Radio astrophysics (NCRA)
32	Nvidia
33	Oxford University
34	PANSTARRS
35	Pawsey Centre
36	Poseidon Scientific Instruments (Now owned by Raytheon)
37	PrepSKA committee
38	SKA Project Development Office
39	Questacon
40	Raman Research Institute RRI
41	Raytheon
42	Romteck
43	Scitech
44	SGI
45	SPICE
46	Suzlon Energy
47	Systemic
48	Thoughtworks
49	Tooling Solutions
50	University of California, Davis
51	University of Cape Town
52	University of Groningen
53	University of Western Cape
54	VLBI team in Shanghai and India

# Industrial Co-Design

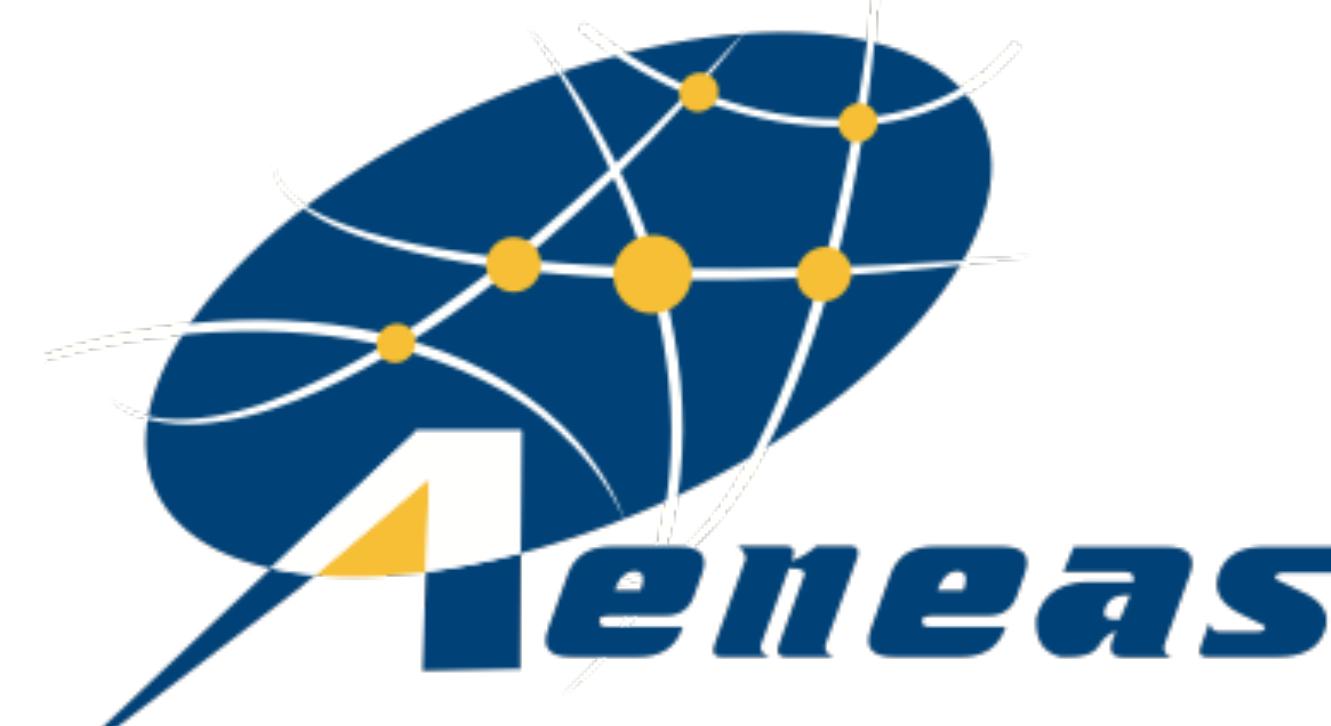
Company	Area of Collaboration
Amazon Web Services	<b>On demand compute and storage services</b> <b>AstroCompute: computing in the Cloud grant scheme</b>
BT	<b>Data analysis and data mining</b>
DDN	<b>Provider of high performance storage solutions</b>
Intel	<b>Access to core accelerators and silicon based, high-performance storage products</b>
Kakadu Software	<b>JPEG2000 based solutions</b>
Nyriad	<b>GPU acceleration, compression and erasure coding,</b> <b>Radio Astronomy Block Device</b>
SGI	<b>Compute cluster and storage design</b>
Systemic	<b>System and software engineering (SysML)</b>
ThinkBottomUp	<b>Distributed Database engine</b>
Thoughtworks	<b>S/w development environment and methodology</b>

- **co-design**
- **technical review**
- **exchange of product roadmaps**
- **product evaluation**
- **catch up meetings**



# Developing Roadmaps to (SKA) Regional Centres

EU



Advanced European Network of E-infrastructures  
for Astronomy with the SKA

Funded: 15.07.16

Australia

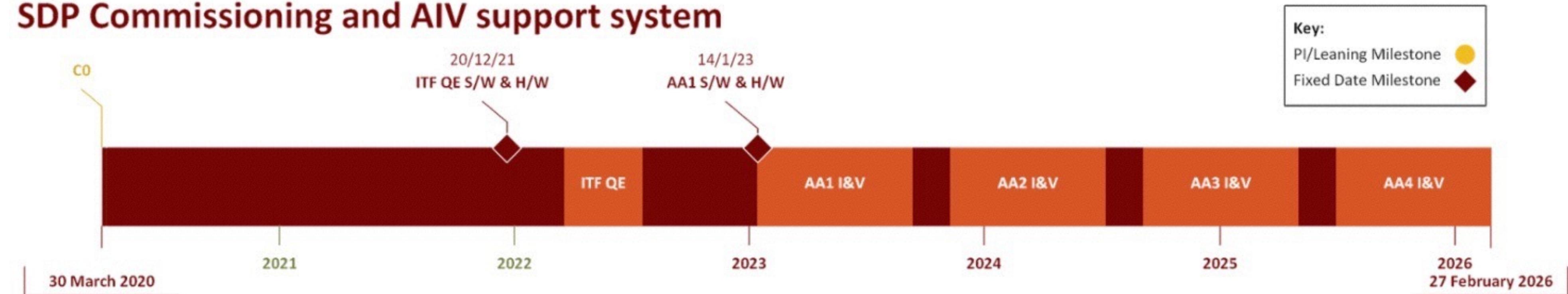


Exascale Research Infrastructure for Data in  
Asian-Pacific astroNomy Using the SKA

Launched 10.04.17

<http://eridanus.net.au>

## SDP Commissioning and AIV support system



## SDP Operational System

