



# ASKAP Publications Policy

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# Contents

1	Introduction .....	2
	1.1 Summary.....	2
	1.2 Scope .....	2
	1.3 Related documents.....	2
	1.4 Glossary .....	3
2	Definitions.....	4
	2.1 Definition of an ASKAP Publication .....	4
	2.2 ASKAP Builders' List .....	4
3	ASKAP publication policy .....	5
	3.1 General Policies .....	5
	3.2 Key ASKAP Publications .....	6
	3.3 ASKAP Commissioning or Early Science Publications.....	6
	3.4 ASKAP Science Publications.....	7
	3.5 Publications Arising from Unreleased Data.....	8
	3.6 ASKAP PASA Paper Collection.....	8

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Summary

The ASKAP Publication Policy provides CSIRO staff and ASKAP science users with guidelines on the publication of design information, performance measurements and scientific results from the ASKAP telescope.

## 1.2 Scope

This document outlines the publication policy for ASKAP. This policy applies to all stages of the ASKAP project, from commissioning (e.g. the Boolardy Engineering Test Array, BETA) up to and including the completion of the full-scope ASKAP array. It will continue to apply during ongoing operations of ASKAP as a part of the Australia Telescope National Facility (ATNF).

This policy covers the publication of any results, technical papers, software descriptions, scientific data, system description papers and all publications relating to or utilising data from ASKAP by any persons within or outside of CSIRO.

This policy will be periodically reviewed by CSIRO. Questions relating to ASKAP publications should be addressed to the Program Director, ATNF Operations.

## 1.3 Related documents

This publication policy is intended to be consistent with the [ATNF Publications Policy](#) and the [ASKAP User Policy](#).

## 1.4 Glossary

The table below contains a glossary of acronyms used in this document.

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
<b>ACES</b>	ASKAP Commissioning and Early Science team
<b>ASKAP</b>	Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder
<b>ATNF</b>	Australia Telescope National Facility
<b>BETA</b>	Boolardy Engineering Test Array
<b>CASDA</b>	CSIRO ASKAP Data Archive
<b>CSIRO</b>	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
<b>MRO</b>	Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory
<b>PASA</b>	Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia
<b>RACS</b>	Rapid ASKAP Continuum Survey
<b>SST/SSP</b>	Survey Science Team / Project
<b>SKA</b>	Square Kilometre Array

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## 2 Definitions

### 2.1 Definition of an ASKAP Publication

In this policy, a publication is any scientific or technical document released in a public place, which includes refereed articles, conference proceedings, published catalogues, conference posters, books, and book chapters.

An ASKAP publication is any publication that describes the design of ASKAP or that includes or describes ASKAP data, algorithms, or software where these results have not been previously published elsewhere.

The ASKAP publication policy applies to the publication of all measurements or images derived from ASKAP, including sub-arrays (e.g. BETA or any other stage of ASKAP development). It also applies to technical descriptions directly relating to the design of any element, sub-system or system of ASKAP.

This policy does not apply to publications that describe the design of third-party (non-CSIRO) hardware, software or firmware that is designed for use in conjunction with ASKAP.

The term “commissioning data” refers to data taken by the ASKAP Commissioning and Early Science (ACES) team for the purpose of testing, demonstrating, or verifying the performance of ASKAP, BETA or any sub-array thereof. The term “early science data” refers to data taken as part of the ASKAP [Early Science Program](#) or approved extensions thereof. ASKAP science data are data taken as part of standard ASKAP science operations. Data taken during [Pilot Surveys](#) are classified as ASKAP science data for the purposes of this policy.

Additional ASKAP-related communications released under the CSIRO banner include web content, fact sheets, media releases and articles, information provided on the world-wide web and online social media platforms. Any additional communications or marketing material are covered by a separate document, the [ASKAP science promotion guidelines](#), and should be developed in consultation with the ATNF communications team identified in that document.

### 2.2 ASKAP Builders’ List

The ASKAP Builders’ List is a collection of names of the people that played a pivotal role in the overall inception, design and construction of ASKAP. These people should be acknowledged in certain key publications of ASKAP, as defined in this policy. The Builders List will be maintained by CSIRO and provided on request to intending authors by the ASKAP Project Scientist.

## 3 ASKAP publication policy

### 3.1 General Policies

- i. Authors of all ASKAP publications shall follow the guidelines on the ATNF Publications webpage: <http://www.atnf.csiro.au/research/publications>.
- ii. CSIRO authors shall adhere to the ATNF staff and students publications policy available here: <http://www.atnf.csiro.au/research/publications/policy.html>, including use of the mandatory CSIRO internal approval system.
- iii. The following acknowledgement should be given in all ASKAP scientific publications in refereed journals.

*The Australian SKA Pathfinder is part of the Australia Telescope National Facility which is managed by CSIRO. Operation of ASKAP is funded by the Australian Government with support from the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy. ASKAP uses the resources of the Pawsey Supercomputing Centre. Establishment of ASKAP, the Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory and the Pawsey Supercomputing Centre are initiatives of the Australian Government, with support from the Government of Western Australia and the Science and Industry Endowment Fund. We acknowledge the Wajarri Yamatji people as the traditional owners of the Observatory site.*

- iv. Refereed journal publications using data from ASKAP under the auspices of the Long Baseline Array should use the acknowledgement in 3.1(iii), but replace references to the “Australian SKA Pathfinder” or “ASKAP” with the phrase “Long Baseline Array”.
- v. The ATNF publications officer will maintain a [list of ASKAP publications](#) on the ATNF web pages.
- vi. All ASKAP publications should contain a reference to the appropriate ASKAP system description paper, <https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2021PASA...38....9H/abstract>. Papers using data from the earlier BETA array should instead cite <http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2014PASA...31...41H> or <http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2016PASA...33...42M> as appropriate.
- vii. In the event of a dispute over any ASKAP publication a panel comprising the following members will convene promptly to arbitrate;
  - Lead author, the relevant SSP PI (principal investigator), or their nominee
  - ASKAP Project Scientist
  - Program Director of ATNF Science or Program Director of Operations.

The ATNF Director may for reasons of availability or potential conflict of interest appoint a replacement for either of the last two above positions.

If agreement cannot be reached by the panel the matter will be referred to the ATNF Director, whose decision is final.

- viii. Serious breaches of the ASKAP Publication Policy could lead to loss of privileged access to ASKAP data.

## 3.2 Key ASKAP Publications

- i. Key ASKAP publications are refereed publications that include;
  - a. BETA and ASKAP system description papers,
  - b. publications that describe first measurements of the on-sky performance of BETA and ASKAP,
  - c. publications that describe for the first time results that utilise new techniques specific to ASKAP or phased array feeds (e.g. forming multiple beams, roll-axis and other novel techniques).
  - d. publications reporting for the first time results from ASKAP surveys where the full array was utilised. In this last case, each Survey Science Team shall nominate at least one landmark publication that will be elevated to Key Publication status.
  - e. publications that describe for the first time the design or measured performance of a BETA or ASKAP sub-system, e.g. the antenna, the correlator, the software pipeline, the phased array feed, the receiver chain, the data networks, the observatory etc.

The ASKAP Project Scientist and lead author of the proposed publication will jointly determine whether it qualifies as a Key ASKAP publication. In the event of any dispute the procedure in 3.1 (vii) will be followed.

- ii. The ATNF publications officer will maintain a list of Key ASKAP Publications alongside the extended list [available online](#).
- iii. Key ASKAP Publications are subject to the following review procedure. When beginning a new publication, the lead author sends an email to the exploders ASKAP\_Team@csiro.au and ASKAP\_ACES@csiro.au, and to the ASKAP Builder's List, outlining a proposed title, author list, intended journal and a short description of topics the paper will cover. The lead author should obtain email addresses for the current Builder's List from the ASKAP Project Scientist. Recipients of the email will then have a minimum of two weeks to contact the lead author to raise any questions relating to scope, content, or authorship of the paper and to indicate their wish to be included as a co-author. Prior to submission the lead author will email the final draft to the full list of co-authors and allow at least one week for responses. Please note that only authors who have given their express permission may be included on the author list.
- iv. The initial notification email from the lead author should make it clear that the paper in question is intended to be an ASKAP Key Publication.
- v. The author list for Key ASKAP Publications shall include the contributors to the work followed by (in alphabetical order) those members of the ASKAP Builders' List who have indicated their wish to 'opt in' as co-authors.

## 3.3 ASKAP Commissioning or Early Science Publications

- i. ASKAP Commissioning or Early Science Publications are refereed publications resulting from commissioning or early science data that focus on reporting new astronomical results. Key ASKAP Publications and ASKAP Sub-System Publications are excluded from this category and are dealt with in Sections 3.2 and 3.3 respectively.



- ii. The review procedure for ASKAP Commissioning or Early Science Publications is as follows. When beginning a new publication, the lead author sends an email to the `ASKAP_Team@csiro.au` and `ASKAP_ACES@csiro.au` email addresses outlining a proposed title, author list, intended journal and a short description of topics the paper will cover. ASKAP and ACES team members will then have a minimum of two weeks to contact the lead author to raise any questions relating to scope or content of the paper or to indicate their interest in inclusion as a co-author. Once an advanced draft of the paper is available, the final author list will be determined according to the procedure described in 3.4 (iii) below. Prior to submission the lead author will email the final draft to those co-authors and allow at least one week for final responses. Please note that only authors who have given their express permission may be included on the author list.
- iii. The author list for ASKAP Commissioning or Early Science Publications shall be compiled by the lead author using the following procedure:
  - a. Once in an advanced state, the paper shall be distributed to all potential authors: those who have worked with the lead author in preparing the paper, members of ACES and others who, in the opinion of either the lead author or the ASKAP Project Scientist, may have made contributions worthy of authorship (for example members of the ASKAP software or firmware development teams).
  - b. All recipients of the draft paper will have the choice of either declining authorship or preparing a statement summarising their own contribution to the work and submitting it to the lead author.
  - c. The lead author and the ASKAP Project Scientist will jointly judge whether each stated contribution is fairly represented, and if so whether it is worthy of authorship.
  - d. The paper will be completed with the selected authors with key contributors listed ahead of the ASKAP and ACES team members (in alphabetical order).
  - e. In the event of any disputed claims to authorship the process described in 3.1 (vii) above will be followed.

## 3.4 ASKAP Science Publications

- i. ASKAP Science Publications are publications that use data that have been released to the public on the CSIRO ASKAP Science Data Archive (CASDA). This includes released data from Pilot Surveys and Observatory Projects. Data that are still undergoing quality control are not considered released and must be treated according to section 3.6.
- ii. Authors of ASKAP Science Publications should adhere to the general policies in Section 3.1.
- iii. Persons accessing data directly from the CSIRO ASKAP Science Data Archive should adhere to the ASKAP Archive User Policy.
- iv. The authorship and review of ASKAP Science Publications should follow normal academic procedure. There are no additional requirements in relation to the author list of such papers, except in the case where the paper is also a Key Publication, in which case Section 3.2 applies.

## 3.5 Publications Arising from Unreleased Data

- i. In general, raw data or intermediate products that exist on the ASKAP operations disks and data that have been deposited in CASDA but not yet released should not be used in any publication. Exceptions to this include older data from the Early Science program (see Section 3.4), discoveries arising from quality control of the Rapid ASKAP Continuum Survey data, which are covered separately in the [RACS policy document](#), and any data covered by an overriding written agreement between all associated SSTs and CSIRO (such as early access for the purpose of issuing transient alerts).
- ii. In cases where time-critical or high-impact science arises from quality analysis conducted by a science team, the procedure should be to complete quality control and release the data prior to submission of the related publication. If this is not possible and no overriding agreement exists, the following procedure must be followed:
  - a. Prior to submission, the lead author sends an email to the ASKAP Project Scientist with a justification of the need to publish prior to data release.
  - b. The ASKAP Project Scientist will help the author identify areas of possible overlap with the /interests of other SSTs and mediate a cooperative authorship sharing arrangement between all interested parties.
  - c. The lead author sends an email to the group identified in the previous step, along with the ASKAP Team and ASKAP-ACES email exploders outlining a proposed title, author list, journal, and a description of topics the paper will cover. The email should make it clear that the proposed paper describes unreleased data.
  - d. All invited co-authors have a minimum of two weeks to approach the lead author to join the paper and discuss matters such as scope, intellectual property, etc. Prior to submission, the lead author will email the final draft to the co-authors and allow at least one week for final comments. Please note that for privacy and accountability, only authors who have given their express permission may be included on the author list.
  - e. The author list should first include key contributors to the work, followed by (in alphabetical order) all other authors who elected to join the paper.

## 3.6 ASKAP PASA Paper Collection

Authors choosing to publish in PASA may elect (at the time of submission) to join an existing collection, “The Australian SKA Pathfinder”. This collection covers ASKAP system and performance papers as well as science papers.



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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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