

MWA EXTERNAL INSTRUMENTS POLICY

Version 4.0 2012 July 01 (Tingay)

Version 5.0 (Heald), approved by the MWA Board on 2019 December 13

- Updated to consistency with Phase II Collaboration Agreement

We here present the policy for the use of external instruments with the Murchison Widefield Array (MWA).

An external instrument is defined as a piece of hardware or software that is not part of the baseline MWA as defined in the Project Management Plan, is not part of the MWA project plan, and whose development and implementation is not overseen by the MWA project team. Scientists (either members of the MWA collaboration, or non-members) who wish to use an external instrument must adhere to the points outlined in this policy:

1. This policy will be periodically reviewed and revised by the MWA Board, according to changes in project conditions.
2. If users of this policy identify issues relevant to this policy, but not explicitly covered by this policy, these issues can be raised in writing to the MWA Board Chair, for consideration by the Board.
3. Proposals for external instruments should be provided to the MWA Principal Scientist, who will coordinate endorsement with the MWA Management Team, and will make a recommendation to the MWA Board.
4. A funding proposal for an external instrument must have the endorsement of the MWA Board prior to submission, as outlined in the MWA Policy on Funding Proposals.
5. A funding proposal for an external instrument must include sufficient resources for operations.
6. The implementation (if funded) of an external instrument, or attaching of existing instrument to the MWA, must be approved by the MWA Board following recommendation from the Management Team.
7. The MWA project is committed to providing support for the external instrument only if Board approval is obtained. The nature of this support, including support during operations, will be defined in a letter from the MWA Board to the Principal Investigator of the external instrument.

8. Data obtained with an external instrument must be made available to the MWA and external users as outlined in the MWA data policy.
9. Time allocation for use of the external instrument will be through the MWA TAC, as described in the MWA Time Allocation Policy. Applications to utilize an external instrument with the MWA must be made to the MWA TAC; this is in addition to the requirement of receiving the endorsement of the MWA Board and of the management team.
10. Where practical, and notwithstanding the requirements of the MWA data policy, the external instrument should be made available MWA members for their own science projects, where these projects do not conflict directly with the science being pursued by the builders of the external instrument.