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Future of astronomy at SALT and SAAO

Friday 29 June 2018 14:00 (25 minutes)

The South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) turns 200 years in 2020. It is the premier optical astronomy research facility on the African continent. The Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) is a 10m class telescope, the largest one in the Southern Hemisphere, and the flagship facility at the Sutherland observing site that SAAO operates. I will summarise the current status of SALT and highlight some recent science results. I will present the new science focus strategy including transient astrophysics, exoplanets, and galaxy evolution, that both SALT and SAAO have recently adopted. I will talk about the development plans for the next years supporting those focused science goals.

Presenter: Prof. VAISANEN, Petri (South African Astronomical Observatory)

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