



**THE SARDINIA RADIO TELESCOPE  
DATA MANAGEMENT  
FROM OBSERVING TO ARCHIVING**

Picture by  
Sergio Poppi

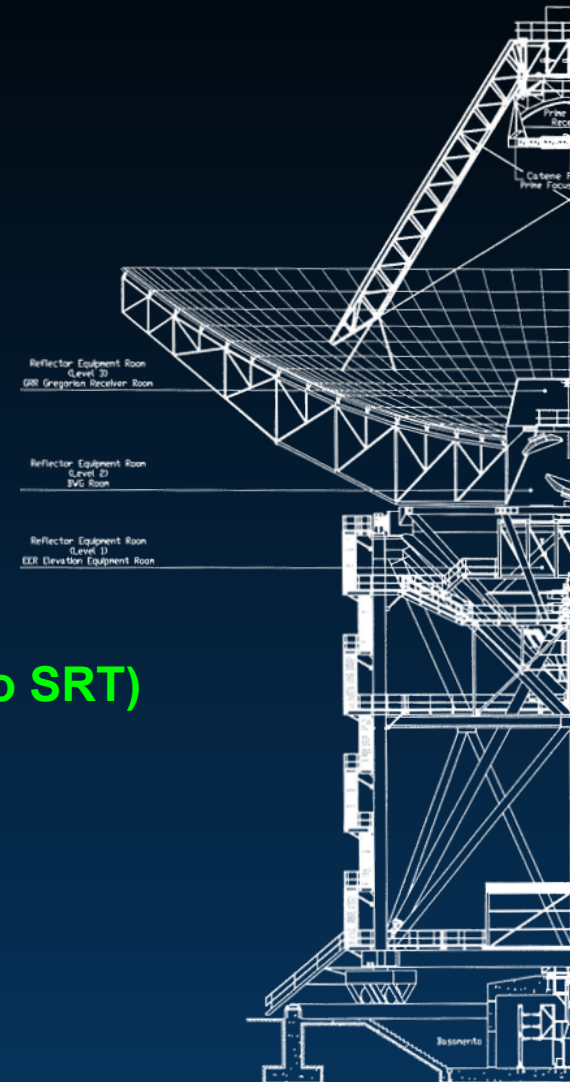
# SARDINIA RADIO TELESCOPE

## SINCE 2012

- 64 meters - active surface
- single and multi feed receivers / multiple backends
  - total power
  - xarcos (until 2022)
  - pdfb3 (until 2024)
  - leap (EPTA project)
    - roach1 + hpc cluster
  - sardara
    - roach2 : hpc nodes (1:1)

## 2019-2023 PON PIR01\_00010 (Potenziamento tecnologico SRT)

- 0.3 GHz - 116 GHz
  - new receivers (1 - 2 - 7 - 16 - 19 feeds)
  - new backend recorders
    - skarab : hpc nodes (x:y)
  - new hpc and storage





# HOW MANY DATA ? A BIT OF HISTORY

## SCIENTIFIC COMMISSIONING - EARLY SCIENCE (2012-2016)

- total power - xarcos = 122 GB
- pdfb3 = 2 TB
- sardara + roach2 = 7.5 TB

**TOT 11 TB**

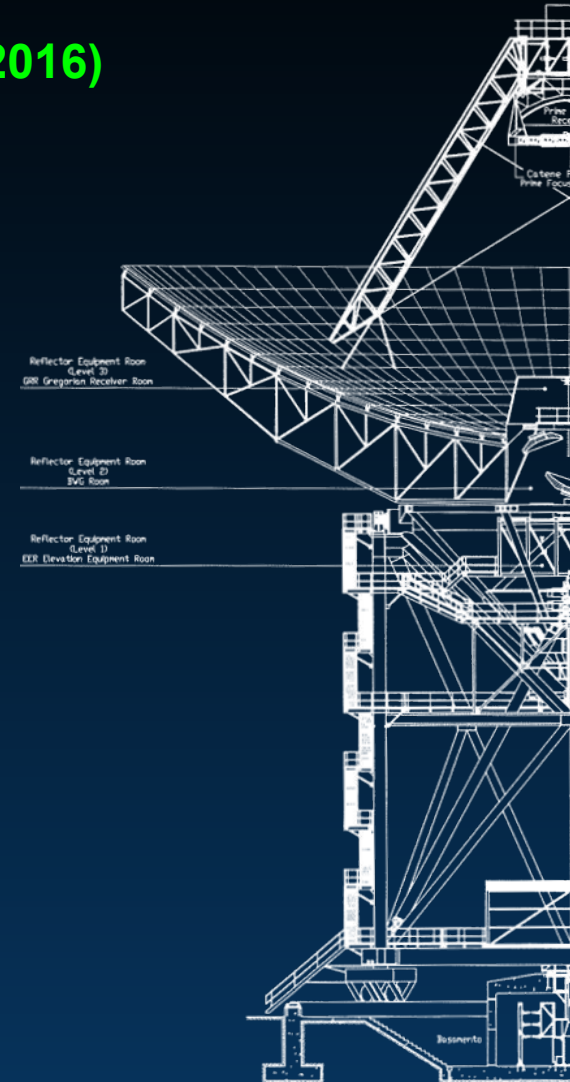
## SSA MAINTENANCE (2017) - NO DATA

## RECOMMISSIONING AND CALL (2017 - 2020)

- total power - xarcos = 122 GB
- pdfb3 = 9.4 TB
- sardara + roach2 = 19 TB

**TOT 28 TB**

## PON UPGRADE (2020-2023) - NO DATA



# RESTART AFTER PON UPGRADE

## PRE-PON RECEIVERS WITH NEW BACKENDS

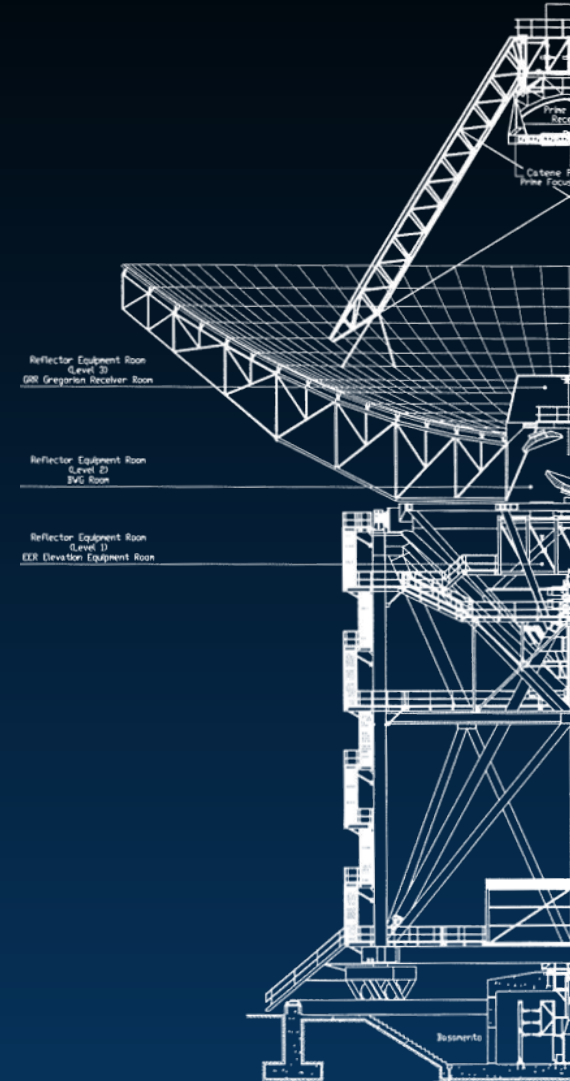
2023 (since oct) = **11 GB** (only maintenance)

2024 (12 months)

- total power - (xarcos) = **210 GB**
- pdfb3 = **2.2 TB**
- sardara roach2 = **3.2 TB**
- bcalc skarab = **6.3 TB**

2025 (2 months C K receivers)

- total power - xarcos = 0
- pdfb3 = **355 MB** (under decommissioning)
- sardara roach2 = **460 GB** -> **6 TB/year**
- bcalc skarab = **557 GB** -> **6 TB/year**



# HOW MANY DATA IN THE FUTURE ?

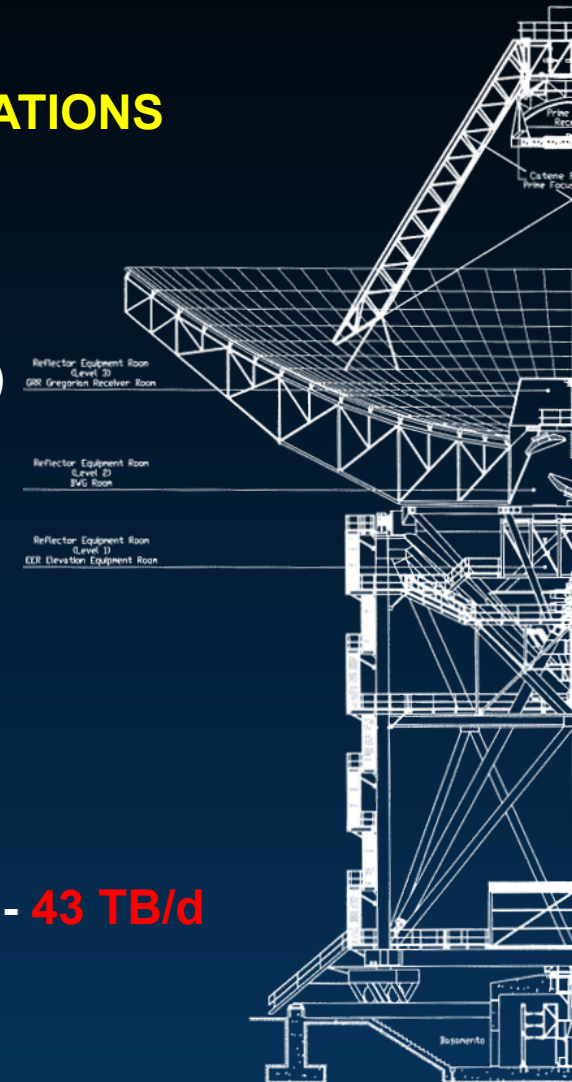
**12 TB/y = UNDERESTIMATED IN FULL TIME OPERATIONS  
AND WITH ALL RECEIVERS**

## Expected maximum datarates

- C BAND (1 feed) K BAND (7 feed) LP BAND (2 feed)
  - sardara roach2
  - **125 GB/h - 2.4 TB/d**

## NEW MULTIFEED RECEIVERS

- W BAND (16 feed) - Q BAND (19 feed)
  - bcalc skarab
  - **100 - 500 MB/s = 360 GB/h - 1.8 TB/h = 8.6 TB/d - 43 TB/d**
  - MISTRAL and TRI BAND datarate = not critical



# FROM RECEIVERS TO DISCOS

## DIGITALIZATION AND RECORD RAW DATA

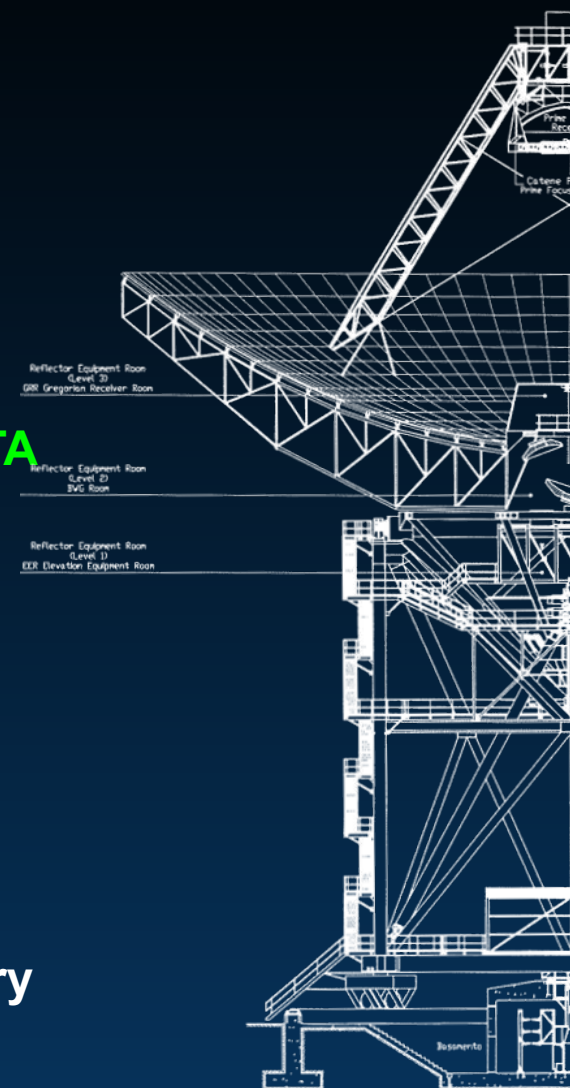
- from different receivers (single and multifeed)
- with multiple backends
  - on local ssd backend's disks

## ADD A FITS COMPLIANT HEADER TO BUILD FINAL DATA

- merge by backend's custom software
  - managed on backend's cluster nodes
  - temporary processed on local cluster's disks
  - final data on discos-ssd storage buffer

## MAXIMUM WRITE PERFORMANCE IS REQUIRED: SSD

- pros = performance
- cons = small and expensive / death without recovery



# LOCAL REAL TIME ACCESS

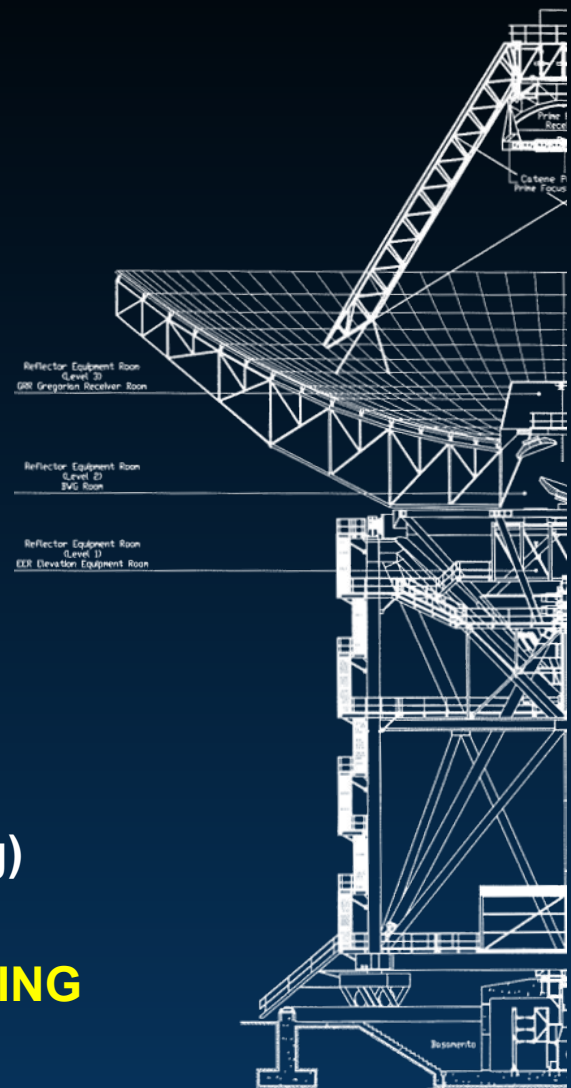
## BUFFER DATA DISK

- 36 TB ssd (Rocky 8)
- zfs with minimum redundancy
- ready for lustre if needed
  - compliant OS kernel multiple Lustre version
  - CentOS 7 discos - Rocky8 - 9 HPC
- shared over a private 10/100 Gbps ethernet

## ACCESS BY LOCAL PREPROCESSING TOOLS

- quicklook (browser)
- discos2class converter (read only nfs)
- copy to local scratch HDD (rsync - python watchdog)

**WE NEED TO BALANCE BETWEEN DATA MERGING  
AND CONCURRENT USER'S ACCESS**



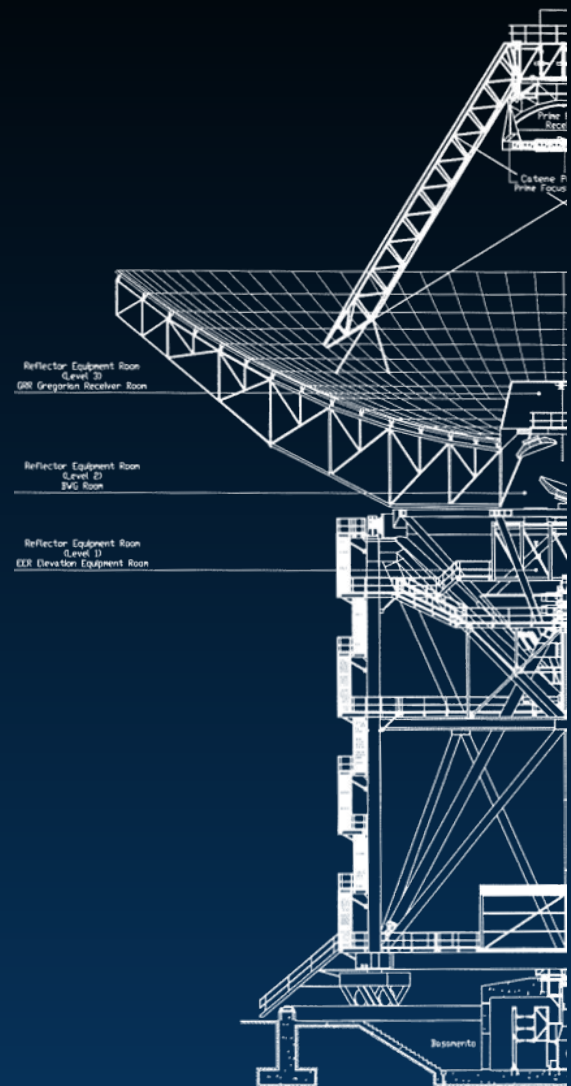
# PROCESSING AND SAVING DATA

## COPY (MIRROR) TO STORAGE “SCRATCH LIKE”

- 2 x 360 TB HDD (zfs + Lustre)
- interactive operations required
- ready for hpc local processing
- private project id ownership access
  - NIS authentication and mount

## COPY TO SRT STORAGE

- only if the buffer-ssd is not working
- async copy from buffer-ssd to storage
  - 70 TB hdd zfs partition
- **async copy from partition to partition on sftp storage**
  - remote access by project id
    - populating homes
    - change permissions and ownership





# CRITICAL POINTS

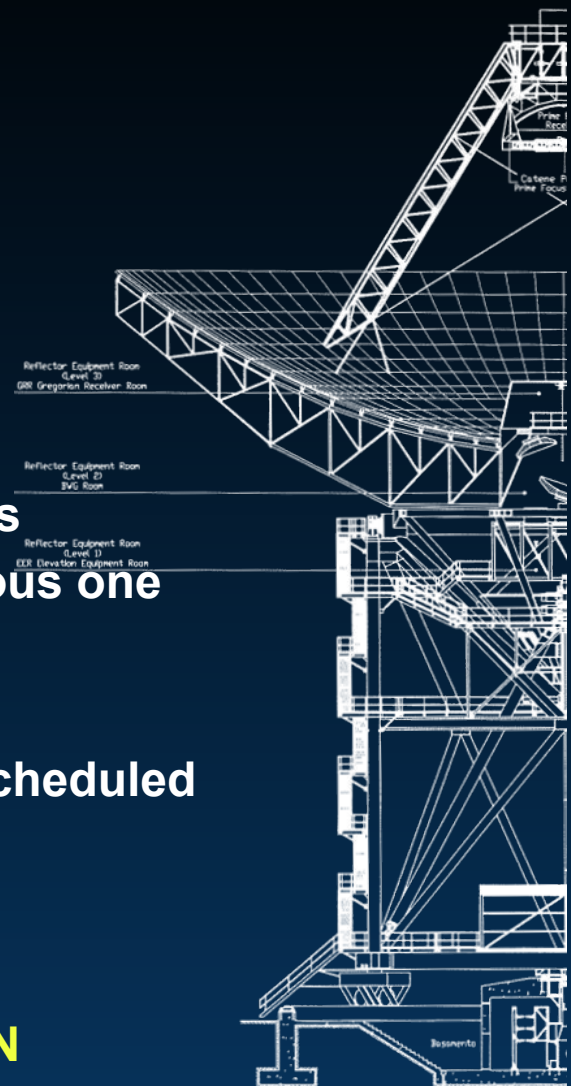
## LOCAL MIRROR FROM SSD TO HDD

- watchdog + pynotify + rsync (quasi real time)
- different write speed between ssd and hdd storage
  - increasing latency in mirror process
- rsync “freezes” a filelist
  - copy is not aligned with new incoming files
- multiple rsync process overload the server resources
  - a mirroring can start before the end of the previous one

## SAVE TO STORAGE

- not enough time to extract data in case of full time scheduled telescope (*Dynamic scheduling* is in progress)
- manual crontab schedule is required

## MULTIPLE SSD-BUFFERS CAN BE A SOLUTION



# LONG TERM ARCHIVE

## ARCHIVE TO IA2 COMPLIANCE

- SRT backends produce fits-like “custom” format
- human error can be possible (i.e wrong PID on schedule)
- header check is required

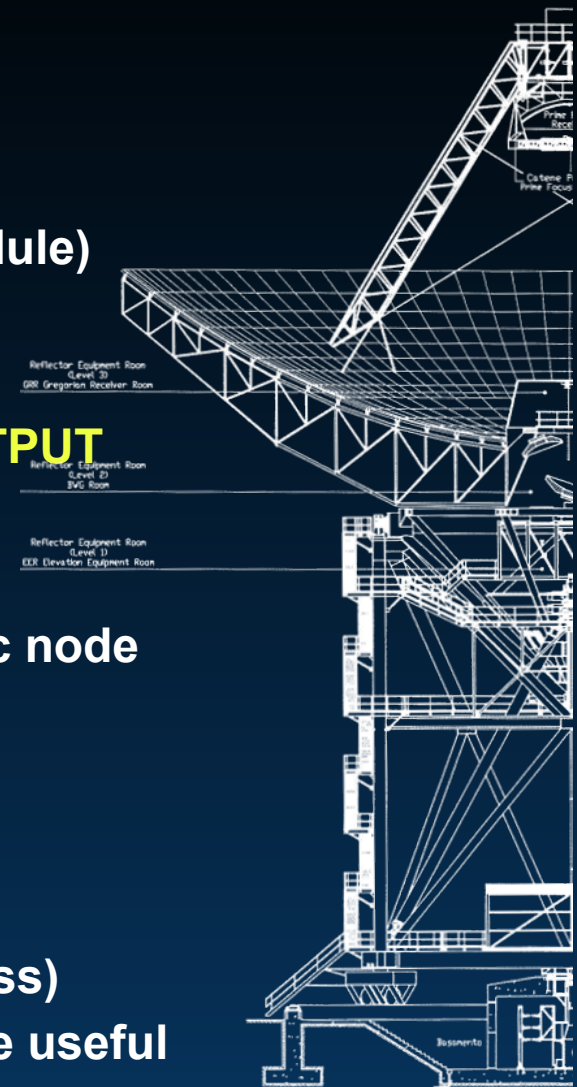
## TEAM WORKING GROUP TO MADE BACKEND OUTPUT ARCHIVE COMPLIANT

## NADIR IA2 SERVER

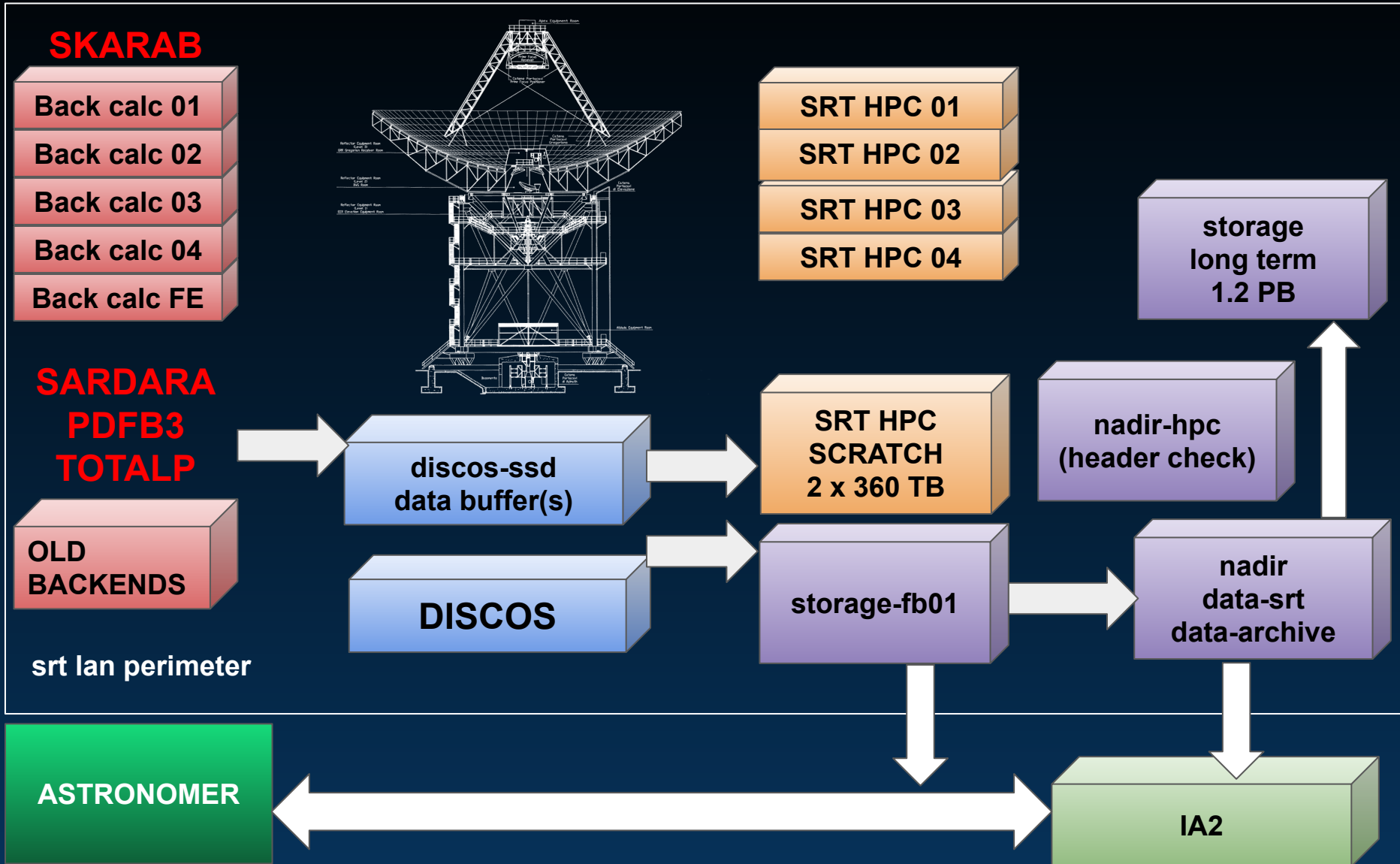
- from storage to “raw header” folder shared with hpc node
- running checks and correct (also manual)
- ingested to IA2 and finally copied to

## SRT STORAGE LONGTERM

- 1.2 PB hdd Lustre (not available for direct user access)
- tape library for offline very long term storage could be useful



# FINAL RECAP DETAILS



THE SARDINIA RADIO TELESCOPE DATA MANAGEMENT FROM OBSERVING TO ARCHIVING

A.Fara - Technologist INAF Osservatorio Astronomico di Cagliari - Responsible for SRT ICT

WS "Archives and data management systems in the big data era" - Bologna 26-28/02/25

# CONCLUSIONS

**SRT data management is a complex pipeline that requires to balance between**

- **performances**
- **real time interactive access**
- **data retrieve**
- **safe storage**
- **long term archive**

**The automation of all the pipeline requires that backend and archive developers work in synergy on the data format, to reduce the manual checks and the implementation of a reliable ICT storage infrastructure.**

