Welcome: STFC & UKATC

UK-Thailand Capacity Building Workshop
Oct. 2019
UKATC

- UK’s national lab for astronomical instrumentation
- Co-located with U. Edinburgh’s Institute for Astronomy (IfA)
- Incl. Higg’s Centre for Innovation (in partnership with UoE)
- Incl. ROE Visitor Centre
  - Part of UKATC-led National Laboratories Public Engagement programme
STFC

- UKATC is part of the Science & Technology Facilities Council...
- ...which is part of UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)
- STFC annual budget: ~£675M
- Staff: ~2000, across 6 sites
In astronomy, STFC funds:

- Facilities
- R&D
- Exploitation
UKATC

- ~85 staff, with skills/expertise across all aspects of astronomy
  - Science, management, system eng., optics, mechanical, electrical, detectors, software

- 70-80% of programme is astronomy:
  - Leading roles in facility-class instruments
  - Partner roles developing key sub-systems
  - Smaller R&D projects

- 20-30% of non-astronomy projects:
  - Earth Observation, Diamond Light Source, healthcare
  - Use connections & skills to support commercial companies
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Thanks!