

# WALLABY Project Policy

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Ver.	Date	Changes	Authors
1.0	25/10/2023	Initial version	TW, BQF, LSS, KLW, BC
1.1	11/07/2024	Added paragraph on data access and usage limitations	TW

## 1. Overview

This policy document describes the procedure for gaining access to proprietary WALLABY data for the purpose of scientific analysis by WALLABY team members. This includes the use of data for Masters and PhD projects. It covers the use of value-added (level 7) data sets that have been produced by the WALLABY post-processing pipelines and have been made available internally to the WALLABY team. The policy does not apply to the use of WALLABY data that have already been released to the public.

## 2. Project Proposals

WALLABY team members who wish to use proprietary WALLABY data in a scientific paper are required to first submit a project proposal. Project proposals should describe the planned data usage leading to the **publication of a single paper** and must be led by a WALLABY team member. Proposers should first consult the list of existing projects<sup>1</sup> to ensure that their proposed project does not overlap in scope with any previously approved project, as otherwise the proposal may get rejected.

While WALLABY cannot control the use of data that have already been released to the public, team members are nevertheless encouraged to submit a formal proposal for the intended use of public data as well. This will help with the coordination of science activities within the WALLABY team and reduce the risk of duplicating effort.

All project proposals must be submitted using a dedicated [online form](#).<sup>1</sup> Proposals can be submitted at any time and will be reviewed by the WALLABY Management Team in consultation with the relevant science working group chairs on a case-by-case basis. The Management Team will attempt to advise the project leader of the outcome of the review within 2 weeks of submission, although in some cases this process could take longer, e.g. during holiday periods or if conflicts are identified and need to be resolved first.

When approving new projects, the Management Team may request changes to the scope or management of the project. Project leaders must adhere to all such requests, as otherwise the project may be terminated at the discretion of the WALLABY PI(s). Details of all accepted

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<sup>1</sup> <https://tinyurl.com/wallaby-proposal>

projects, including the title and abstract of the project and the name of the project leader, are made available to the entire WALLABY team.<sup>2</sup>

### 3. Project Membership

All approved science projects are open to participation from other WALLABY team members. Team members who are interested in joining a particular project must contact the project leader to formally sign up and start contributing. Only in exceptional circumstances can project members be removed by the project leader after consultation with the PI(s).

**Project membership does not automatically warrant co-authorship on any paper produced by the project**, as co-authorship should only be granted based on merit by taking into account individual contributions to the paper. Please see the [WALLABY Publication Policy](#) for details.

Project members can choose to terminate their project membership at any time by advising the project leader of their decision.

### 4. Project Duration and Reporting

All WALLABY science projects, including those that are part of a Masters or PhD project, need to be completed within 2 years of approval and will automatically expire after that. This time frame is in line with the maximum proprietary period of internally released WALLABY data.

Leaders of approved projects are required to provide regular project updates every 6 months at the monthly WALLABY science meeting or similar events. In addition, project leaders are required to introduce any newly approved projects at the earliest convenient WALLABY science meeting.

### 5. Data Access

Approved projects are required to access and analyse WALLABY data in accordance with the project description in the associated proposal at the time of approval. Any use of WALLABY data beyond the scope of the original proposal requires a separate project proposal to be submitted and approved.

Calibrated level 6 imaging data produced by the ASKAPsoft processing pipeline for WALLABY, including Stokes-I mosaics of each individual WALLABY footprint, will be immediately released to the public through CASDA subject to quality control (see Fig. 1).

In addition, active science projects will be given proprietary access to all value-added (level 7) data internally released to the WALLABY team. This includes source catalogues, images, spectra and kinematic models created by the WALLABY post-processing pipelines, including the source finding, kinematic modelling and high-resolution imaging pipelines.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://tinyurl.com/wallaby-projects>

Public releases of WALLABY value-added level 7 data are expected to occur annually and will include all value-added data that were internally released to the WALLABY team up to 12 months before the public release date. This implies a time period of 1–2 years during which team members have proprietary access to the most recent WALLABY value-added data products.

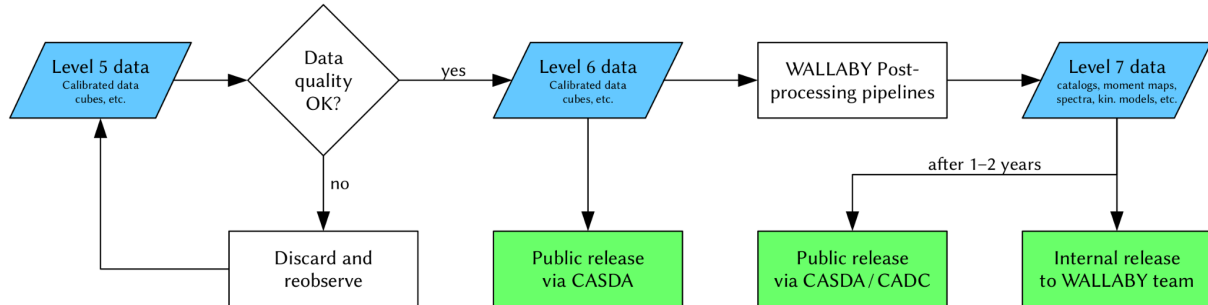


Fig. 1: Schematic overview of the ASKAP / WALLABY data flow and release cycle.

## 6. Further Information

- Policy documents:  
<https://wallaby-survey.org/policies>
- Proposal submission form:  
<https://tinyurl.com/wallaby-proposal>
- List of approved science projects:  
<https://tinyurl.com/wallaby-projects>