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SETI PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE: 50 YEARS IN 15 MINUTES

Abstract

2010 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the first modern observational SETI experiment. Although we have made tremendous strides on these past fifty years, confirmed detection of signals of intelligent extraterrestrial origin (the Holy Grail of SETI) still eludes us. This cursory overview will, of necessity, be brief. Its intent is to provide an historical perspective for the technical presentations to be made during this year's IAA SETI Science and Technology sessions. In fifteen minutes, we will highlight a half-century of SETI science and technology, and look ahead to the next half-century of progress.

KEYWORDS

SETI, radio astronomy, radio telescope, extraterrestrial intelligence