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Radio Astronomy 101 – The Canadian Edition

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Radio Astronomy is a relatively young branch of astronomy that takes advantage of radio-frequency emission, instead of the more familiar optical emission. Radio telescopes can “see” through dust and gas in a way that allows us to probe farther into space, and thus further back in time than optical telescopes can. The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory (DRAO), nestled in the hills of the Okanagan Valley, has been, and continues to be, a world leader in radio astronomy, both in terms of observations and engineering. In this atypical Canadian talk (sorry), I will brag about major advancements and initiatives undertaken at DRAO, and how DRAO has changed radio astronomy around the world.