



From the Depression to the Heavenly Palace - an Introduction to FAST and CSST

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The Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical radio Telescope (FAST) is a Chinese mega-science astronomical facility located in the Guizhou Province of Mainland China. Upon its completion in September 2016, FAST became the largest single-dish radio facility in the world. FAST started its science operation in April of 2019 and has discovered many exciting radio transient objects. On the other hand, the China Space Station Telescope (CSST), a flagship astronomical facility of the China Manned Space Program, is expected to start science operations around 2024. With a wide-field, broad-bandwidth 2-meter space telescope, it will provide both imaging and spectroscopic capabilities to conduct astronomical surveys and targeted observations. In this talk, I will discuss the current status of the FAST and the CSST projects, their key science goals, and the aspirations and perspectives from their early operations. I will also mention a few other space-based and ground-based astronomical facilities currently under construction or in planning in China.