

# NRAO Proposal Tool (PST)

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NRAO Community Days

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# Creating an NRAO proposal

- Proposal Submission Tool (PST)
  - EVLA, VLBA, GBT, **but ...**
  - for ALMA, use ALMA OT
- This presentation: VLA-centric
- Accessing the PST
  - You must be registered at [my.nrao.edu](http://my.nrao.edu)
  - Also gives access to other services (e.g. OPT, archive)
  - Allows creating and submitting new proposals
  - Gives access to all proposals you are associated with regardless of your role (PI, co-I, contact author)



# National Radio Astronomy Observatory

Dashboard

Proposals

Reviews

Data Processing

Obs Prep

Helpdesk

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### Telescope News

Next Proposal Deadline In 10 Days - **February 01, 2013 5 PM EST (22 hours UT)**

**Important** **All proposal authors must be registered users**

**Important** [Information for VLA/GBT/VLBA/HSA/VLBI Proposers](#) - January 3, 2013

[VLA Configuration Plans and Proposal Deadlines](#) - January 3, 2013





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Options	Proposal ▼	Legacy ID ▼	Title ▼	P.I. Name ▼	Submitted ▼	Status ▼
Status: <input type="text" value="ALL"/>	VLA/2012-07-107     		This is a blank proposal created on Sunday August 19, 2012	Gustaaf van Moorsel		DRAFT
Telescope: <input type="text" value="ALL"/>	VLA/2012-07-100     		This is a blank proposal created on Tuesday August 7, 2012	Gustaaf van Moorsel		DRAFT
Trimester / Semester: <input type="text" value="ALL"/>	VLA/2012-06-094     		test SR and RSR	Gustaaf van Moorsel		DRAFT
Year: <input type="text" value="ALL"/>	VLA/2012-00-008     		tutorial	Gustaaf van Moorsel		DRAFT
	VLA/13A-127   	AE198	Cold gas in the Spiderweb: CO(1-0) study of a z=2 proto-cluster	Bjorn Emonts	08/01/2012	SUBMITTED
	VLA/12A-461   	AV339	A PST->OPT test project	Gustaaf van Moorsel	03/28/2012	SUBMITTED
	VLA/12A-152   	AE187	CO content of massive protocluster galaxies in the Early Universe: an EVLA study	Bjorn Emonts	08/01/2011	SUBMITTED
	VLA/12A-136   	AE186	Mapping widespread molecular gas in a z=2 radio galaxy: an EVLA/ALMA study	Bjorn Emonts	08/01/2011	SUBMITTED
	VLA/12A-121   	AY217	The Molecular Ring, a Testbed for the Study of Star Formation near Sgr A*	Farhad Yusef-Zadeh	07/31/2011	SUBMITTED
	VLA/11B-086   	AE182	Mapping widespread molecular gas in a z=2 radio galaxy: an EVLA/ALMA study	Bjorn Emonts	02/01/2011	SUBMITTED
	VLA/11B-067   	AY215	SiO, CH3OH, H2O and 44GHz Observations of the Galactic Center Molecular Ring	Farhad Yusef-Zadeh	02/01/2011	SUBMITTED
	VLA/11B-048   	AE181	CO content of massive protocluster galaxies in the Early Universe: an EVLA study	Bjorn Emonts	02/01/2011	SUBMITTED
	VLA/11A-166   	AM1064	Locating the fast HI outflows in radio galaxies	Raffaella Morganti	10/01/2010	SUBMITTED
	VLA/10C-204   	AY208	SiO, CH3OH, H2O and 44GHz Observations of the Galactic Center Molecular Ring	Farhad Yusef-Zadeh	06/01/2010	SUBMITTED
	VLA/10C-131   	AE178	CO content of massive protocluster galaxies in the Early Universe: an EVLA study	Bjorn Emonts	06/01/2010	SUBMITTED
	VLA/10B-207   	AS1036	The Pattern Speed of the Multiple-Armed Spiral Galaxy NGC	Jason	02/01/2010	SUBMITTED

# Proposal timeline

- Proposal deadlines
  - 2 per year: February 1 and August 1
  - E.g. this year: 13B (for second half of 2013) and 14A
  - No longer tied to VLA configurations
- After deadline:
  - All submitted proposals evaluated by Science Review Panel and Time Allocation Committee
  - Observers will be informed of allocated time (if any) and scientific priority
  - After a while, basic project information of successful proposals is transferred to OPT

# Types of proposals

- Regular ( $< 200\text{h}$ )  $\leq 4$  pages science justification
- Large ( $\geq 200\text{h}$ )  $\leq 10$  pages science justification; requires data reduction and release plan
- Triggered
  - pre-planned observations of transients whose event times are unknown a priori; well-defined triggering criteria are required
- Director's Discretionary Time
  - Not tied to proposal deadline
  - For a Target of Opportunity (unexpected, unpredicted, e.g. supernova in nearby galaxy) or
  - Exploratory Time for high risk/high yield projects

# PST – major elements

- General
- Authors
- Science Justification
- Sources – what do you want to observe
- Resources – instrumental setup
- Sessions – which of your sources do you want to observe with which of your resources
- Student Support



# Interactive session. 1: creating a proposal

- Log on to [my.nrao.edu](http://my.nrao.edu)
- Click on Proposals
- If you are on any proposals, they will be listed here. Click on New Proposal (upper right)
- Choose one telescope (here: EVLA) followed by Create in upper right
- It will list the new name at the top (e.g. VLA-2012-00-008). Click on that name.
- The tree structure of this new proposal is listed on the left, and the first part, 'General' is opened
- Click on Edit in the upper right

# Interactive session. 2: General

- Choose proposal type regular
- Scientific category: up to you!
- Abstract: type a few words (e.g. will be completed at a later date)
- Not a joint proposal
- Observing type: spectroscopy
- Observer present and staff support: up to you
- Click on Save in upper right

# Interactive session. 3: Authors

- Continue on to **Authors** in left tree
  - This should list yourself as sole author
  - Note that you are also PI and contact author
- Add one author (e.g. your neighbor) by clicking **Add**
- Type (part of) his/her name in search field and click **Search**
- In case of multiple hits indicate correct one and click **Save** and the new author will be listed
- Display order can be modified by using up/down
- Roles of PI and contact author can be reassigned

# Interactive session. 4: Science Justification

- Science justification: .pdf or .txt
  - Uploaded by add, browse, upload sequence
  - Can skip now; has to be present in order to submit
  - Max 4 pages (regular), 10 pages (large)
  - Both for science *and* technical justification

# Interactive session. 5: Sources

- Sources can be added in three ways
  - Manually
  - Search in NED/SIMBAD
  - Load from local data file
- After sources on left, click on New Source Group in upper right
- Give it a name and save
- Click search NED/SIMBAD and enter your favorite source (e.g. M31)
- Click Save

# Interactive session. 6: Resources

- After click on Resources in left tree click on Add on the top right
- Enter name, configuration, receiver, back-end on top line
- Note how choice of back-end affects correlator setup table
- Choose a transition from the list
- Select one correlator setup
- When happy, click on save

# Interactive session. 7: Sessions, Validating, and Submitting

- After click on Sessions in left tree click on New Session on the top right
- Enter session name and other information on top line
- Select a source group (here just one) and a resource (here just one)
- Enter time and rms you intend to reach (exposure calculator is useful here)
- Note Validate, Print and Submit buttons in upper left

# Estimating time in five steps

1. Determine physical detection limit (e.g.  $\text{atoms.cm}^{-2}$ )
2. Translate this into flux density ( $\text{mJy/beam}$ )
3. [Exposure calculator](#) tells time needed
  - E.g.  $4.5 \text{ hours}$
4. Add [overhead](#) for slewing and calibration
  - E.g.  $33\%$
5. Total time to ask for:  $6 \text{ hours}$