NRAO Call for Proposals 2023A
Loránt Sjouwerman (NRAO)
Outline

• General NRAO proposal overview (Loránt Sjouwerman)
  – Proposal Submission Tool (PST) is used for
    • Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array (VLA)
    • Very Long Baseline Array (VLBA) / High Sensitivity Array (HSA)
    • Green Bank Telescope / Observatory (GBT / GBO)
      – GBT webinar was Tue July 12th, retrieve at this link
    • Global Millimeter VLBI Array (GMVA)
      – GBO/GMVA separate Call for Proposals but joint review process
      – Not for Atacama Large (sub)Millimeter Array (ALMA, every April)

• VLBA/HAS/GMVA details (Anna Kapinska)
• VLA details (Loránt Sjouwerman)
New for 2023A

• Split of the Active Galactic Nuclei review panel:

  **Change to the Science Categories**

  The AGN science category will be split into two in order to manage the increasing number of proposals received in this science area. The new categories will be

  - **HLA - High-Luminosity AGN:** AGN, high-luminosity: FR II radio galaxies, quasars, QSOs, blazars, BL Lacs
  - **LLA - Low-Luminosity AGN:** AGN, low-luminosity: FR I radio galaxies, FR 0 radio galaxies, Seyfert galaxies, quiescent SMBH, Sgr A*  

  All proposals submitted on or after 1 July 2022 will need to specify one of the following ten science categories: SSP, GWT, PCO, SFM, ISM, NGA, EGS, HLA, LLA, or HIZ.

• New VLA commensal system: [COSMIC-SETI](https://go.nrao.edu/cfp)

  [https://go.nrao.edu/cfp](https://go.nrao.edu/cfp)
NRAO Call for Proposals: Semester 2023A

https://science.nrao.edu/observing/call-for-proposals/2023a or permanent link for any current proposal call: https://go.nrao.edu/cfp

Submission deadline for Semester 2023A proposals is Monday, 1 August 2022, at 21:00 UTC (5pm EDT).

Joint proposals between VLA, GBT, and VLBA (i.e., NSF instruments) require separate proposals for each instrument (typically using the same scientific justification), except as elements of the High Sensitivity Array (HSA).
Joint Proposals with External Facilities

https://science.nrao.edu/observing/call-for-proposals/2023a/joint-proposals

VLA & VLBA proposals can request joint observations with space missions. Funding can be requested once time is granted.

- XMM-Newton (<=150ks/year)
- Chandra X-ray Observatory (<=120ks/year)
- Hubble 30 orbits/year
- Swift Observatory (<=300ks/year)
- Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope
Types of Proposals

Proposals submitted before deadlines (~ Feb 1st, ~ Aug 1st):

- Regular (<200h) ≤ 4 pages science justification
- Large (≥200h) ≤ 10 pages science justification; requires data reduction and release plan
- Triggered ≤ 4 pages science justification
  - observations of transients whose event times are unknown a priori; well-defined triggering criteria are required

Director's Discretionary Time (DDT, any time)

- Target of Opportunity (unexpected, unpredicted)
  - Explain why not proposed at regular deadline as a triggered proposal
- Exploratory Time for high risk/high yield or last minute projects
  - Need good reason why not proposed at regular deadline
- Education and public outreach (e.g. create an iconic image or educational opportunity for use in the classroom)
Other Considerations:

- **Filler Programs** (easy to schedule/fit between highly ranked observations):
  - Some programs are less dependent on “observing weather” conditions, LST range, array configuration or specific time slots. Such programs may be able to take advantage of "filler" time.

- **High Risk/Return** (think of scientific “test/fishing” observations)
  - As means to maximize scientific impact through cutting-edge, sometimes speculative observations. Often DDT/Exploratory Time

- **Commensal Observing** (simultaneous with “normal” observations):
  - The Observatory may support two kinds of commensal observing: commensal observing projects, and commensal systems.

- **Student Observing Support Program** (requested after time allocation!)
  - Competitive student funding in support of highly ranked proposals.

  [https://science.nrao.edu/opportunities/student-programs/sos](https://science.nrao.edu/opportunities/student-programs/sos)
Observing Types

- General Observing (GO): Well tested, standard observing modes.

- Shared Risk Observing (SRO): Access to extra capabilities not as well tested as GO.
  - Mixing setups in subarrays, high-frequency OTFM, eLWA (VLA+LWA)

- Resident Shared Risk Observing (RSRO): Access to capabilities that are not commissioned and/or not generally available.
  - One month of dedicated commissioning effort is expected for every 20 hours of telescope time awarded.
  - The period(s) of participation (residency) can be in person or remotely and may occur in advance of the observing time awarded.
  - For more detailed information consult: https://go.nrao.edu/vla-rsro
Proposal Submission Tool (PST)

• The PI and all Co-I's will need a "my.nrao.edu" account. To register, go to: https://my.nrao.edu

• Access the proposal submission tool through the portal, under the tab: Proposals

• Then you can click on New Proposal
  • Select instrument: VLA, GBT, VLBA/HSA, GMVA
  • Fill out instrument specific cover sheets

• For more detailed instructions, refer to the proposal submission guide at https://go.nrao.edu/pst-doc
Web Browser

We recommend using the Firefox web browser for the Proposal Submission Tool (PST).

User Accounts

Please remember to update your user profile, especially if you have moved to a new institution. Do not create a new account.

Proposal Confidentiality:

For successful proposals, the name of the Principal Investigator, proposal ID, title, hours awarded and proposal type (regular, triggered, Directors Discretionary Time...), as well as the list of Co-Investigators and the Abstract, are made public. Additional proposal metadata (such as source positions, observation frequencies, and integration times) are available publicly from the NRAO archive once data for a proposal has been collected.

Proposal Finder Tool - Search cover sheets of approved NRAO telescope proposals.

Archive Access Tool - Search for and access the data of observed projects.

Telescope News

Next Proposal Deadline: August 01, 2022 5 PM EDT (21 hours UT) in 20 days

Important All proposal authors must be registered users

Important Information for VLA/GBT/VLBA/HSA/VLBI Proposers

VLA Configuration Plans and Proposal Deadlines
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Legacy ID</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>PI Name</th>
<th>Created</th>
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Helpdesk

If you need help for any reason, you can get in touch with scientific staff through the NRAO helpdesk using your my.nrao.edu account credentials to log in at https://help.nrao.edu/.

- **Department Descriptions:**
  - CASA Data Reduction - Queries/Issues on data reduction using CASA
  - AIPS Data Reduction - Queries/Issues on data reduction using AIPS
  - VLA Observing - Observing strategies and guidelines, SB preparation/verification, Observation Preparation Tool (OPT, RCT, SCT), VLA Calibrators, VLA data quality and issues
  - VLA/VLBA Archive and Data Retrieval - NRAO archive tool (AAT), accessing and downloading data, remote access to data
  - VLA/GBT/VLBA Proposal Review - Questions from NRAO SRP and TAC members, Proposal Handling Tool (PHT)
  - VLA Pipeline - General VLA pipeline queries, request access to pipeline products, questions on using/running the pipeline
  - VLA Scheduling Support - Project availability in the OPT, general scheduling issues/concerns
  - Visitor Support - New Mexico - Questions about visiting NRAO-Socorro. NOTE: for visitor requests, please register using this linked form
  - VLA General Queries - Webpages, documentation, access/registration to my.nrao.edu, etc.

Please submit your questions **well before the deadline**. We attempt to respond as quickly as we can, especially before a proposal deadline.
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