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Schedule Preparation

EVN User Support & Operations

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Recap: EVN proposal

3 x three-week regular observing sessions + 10 monthly eEVN days

Global / Regular + eEVN / ToO / Short

Scientific + technical justification

2 pages of text + 2 pages of fig, table

Proposal deadlines at 16:00 UTC on

FEB
1

JUN
1

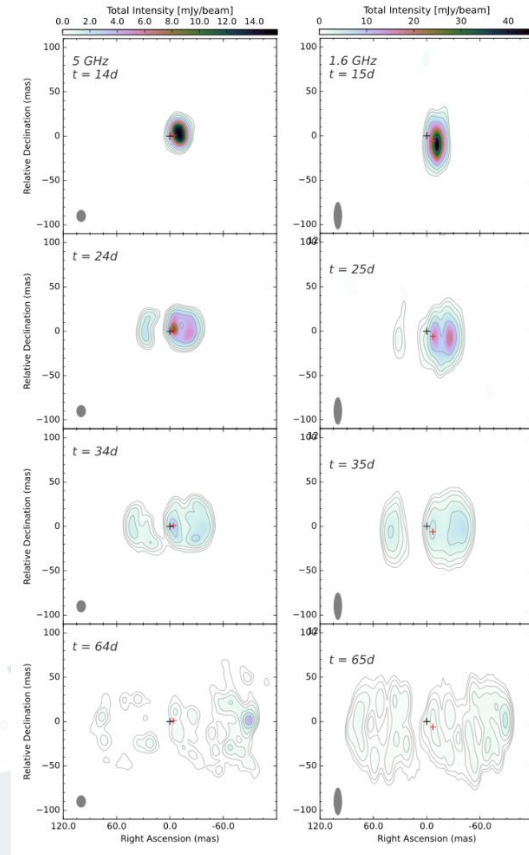
OCT
1

See
Call for
Proposals

Recap: Science case - RS oph

2006 and 2021 outburst, resolved in multiple components at 2 weeks and remained significantly bright up to 2 months (O'Brien et al., 2006, Lico et al., 2024)

- Measure brightness temperature
- Spectral indices
- Determine geometrical configuration
- (Expanding bipolar ejecta)
- Outflow velocities
- Properties of the orbital plane



Recap: Science case - RS oph

Observations at **1.6 & 5 GHz** from < 20 days and 60 days after the outburst (rapid evolution)

Request of **e-MERLIN**

- Radio continuum for extended structures with increased sensitivity
- Improve UV coverage

Trigger criteria:

Flux densities in ~ several 10 mJy in the 10-30 days time range

Recap: Proposal submission - Northstar

proposal.jive.eu



Welcome to NorthStar
for EVN

EUROPEAN
VLBI
NETWORK

Username:

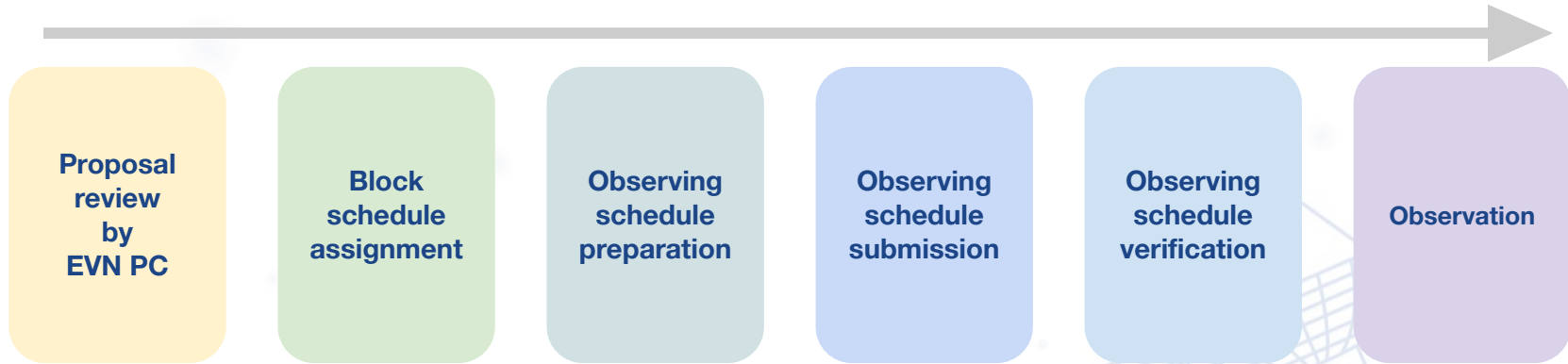
Password:

Log in

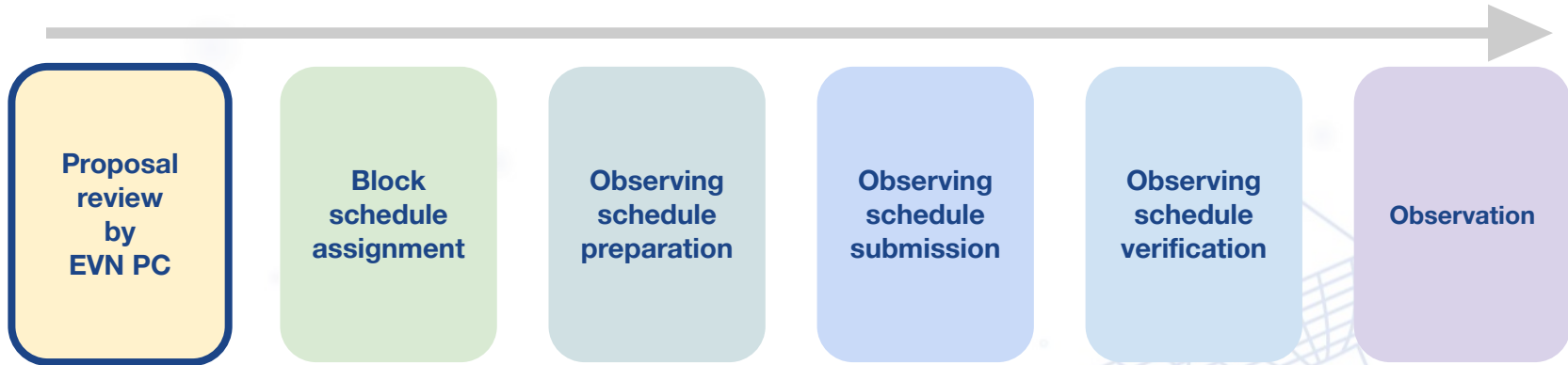
[Register as new user](#) [Password forgotten?](#) [Send Questions/Problems](#) [Help](#)



What comes next?



EVN scheduling process



Results / Feedback from EVN PC

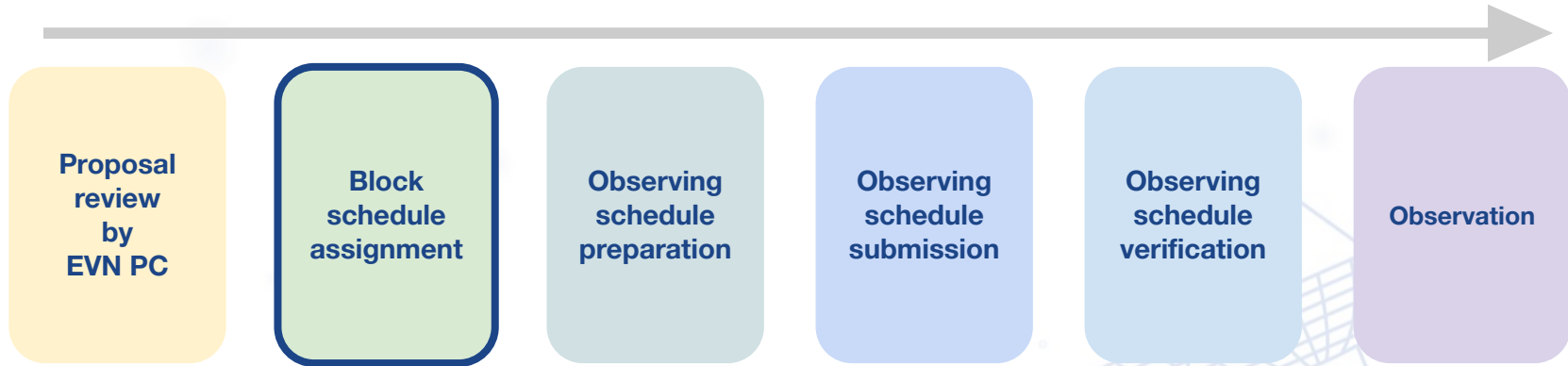
→ **Approved** (fully / partially) / **Resubmit** / **Reject**

Grade: **0.5** = highest priority to **2.5** = lowest priority

This does not mean the observation is scheduled. it will be added to the observing queue.

The proposal is valid for 2 years (1 year for trigger)

EVN scheduling process



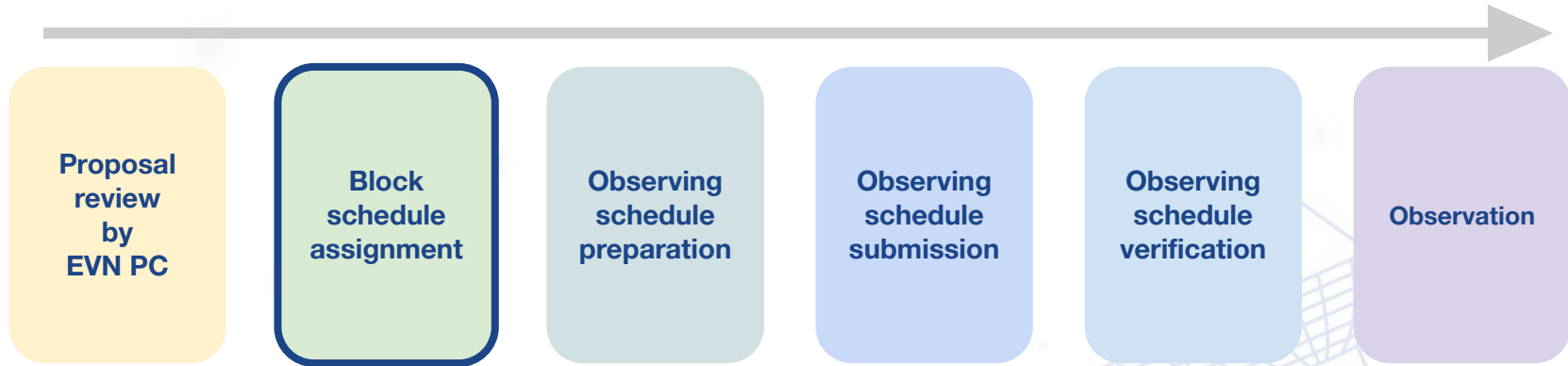
When your trigger criteria have been met

→ inform **EVN PC chair** (jack.radcliffe@manchester.ac.uk),

JIVE operation (campbell@jive.eu),

EVN scheduler (oh@jive.eu)

EVN scheduling process



You (PI) will receive an email from the scheduler

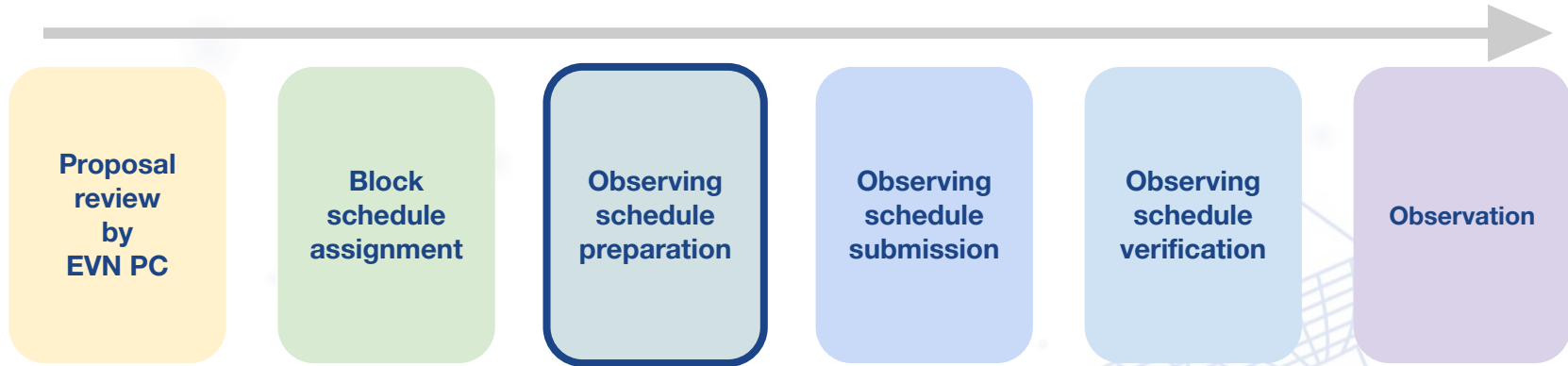
ET999 6cm 2048 L+R Jb2Wb1EfMcOn85T6UrTrHhIr+MER 2200(12/05)-0600(13/05)UT

Sr, Nt not available

Carefully check the UT range → **planobs**

Confirm by reply as soon as possible

EVN scheduling process



You are responsible for preparing your observing schedule

Another email from JIVE ops:

- Support Scientist (cc'd in the email)
- Frequency setup `evn6cm-2Gbps-32MHz.set`

→ **key file** (Florian's talk later)

What to prepare

pySCHED (<https://github.com/jive-vlbi/sched>)

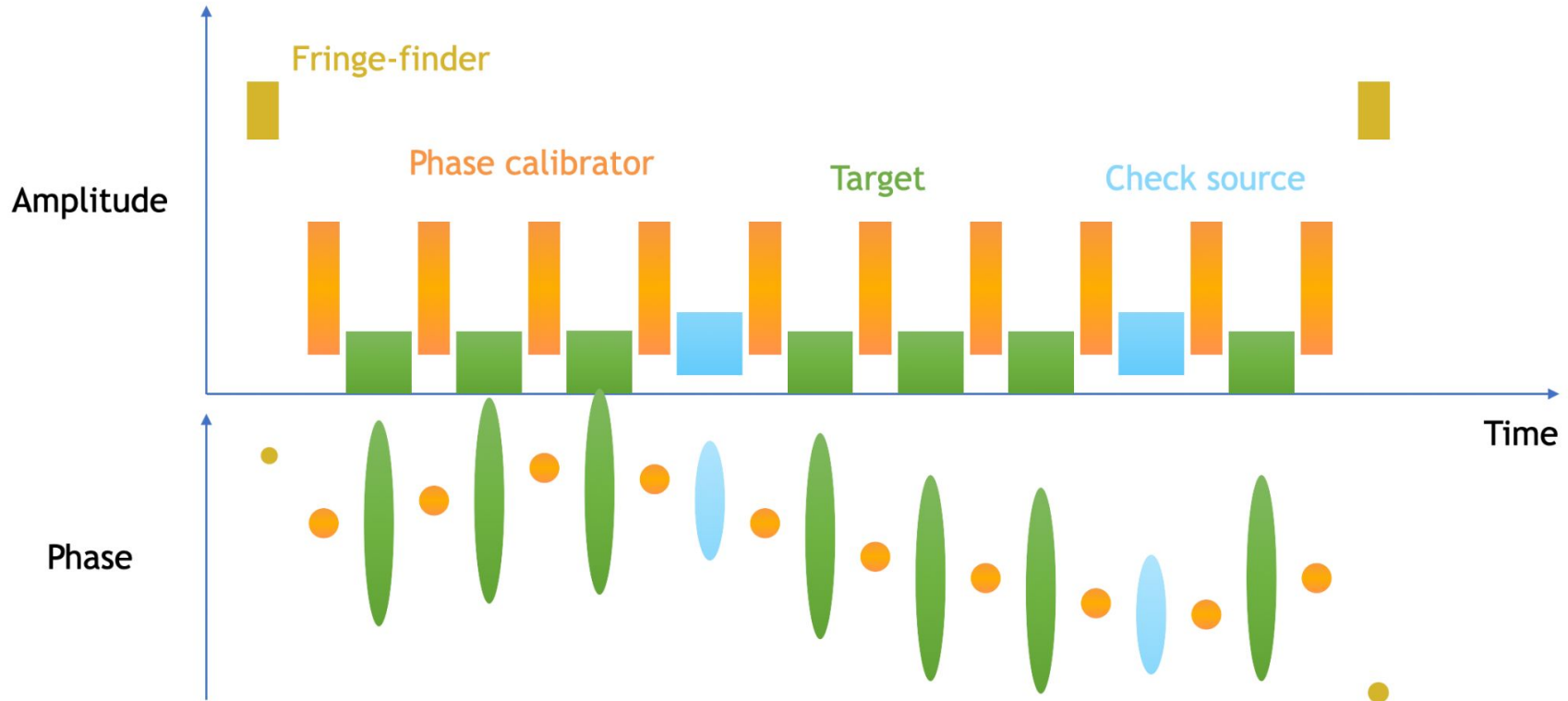
+ **key file template** (evlbi.org/observing-schedule-preparation)

Source information

- Target / phase-reference
- Fringe finder
- Check source

Fringe Finder / Check source

<https://www.evlbi.org/calibrators>



Things to consider

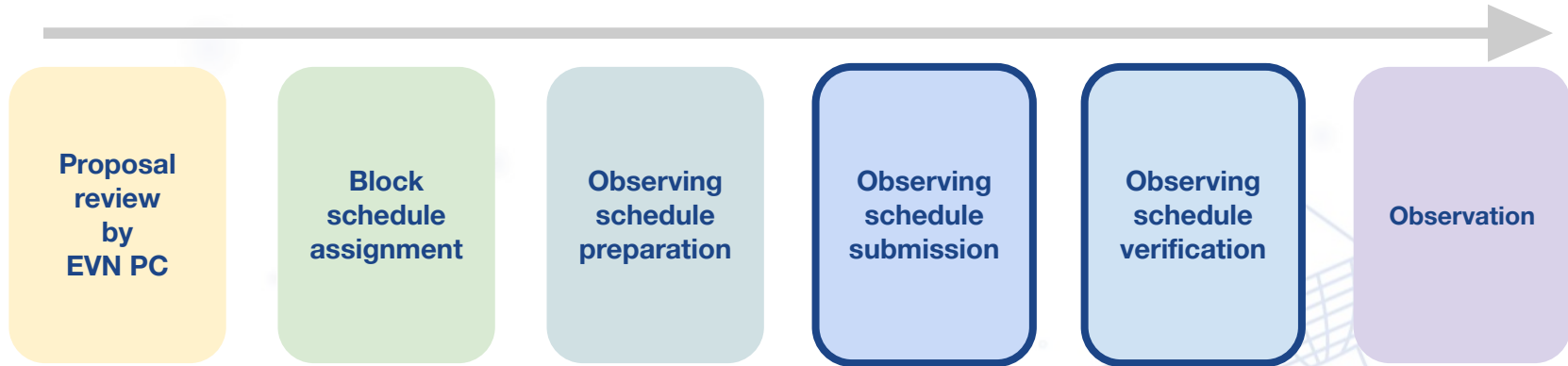
(<https://www.evlbi.org/observing-schedule-preparation>)

EVN includes a wide variety of telescopes

- Target / Phase-ref cycle → coherence time
- Slewing time (Big telescopes are slow!)
- 12 scans / hr limit (JB1 / T6)
- Elevation limit
- Gaps for Tsys measurements
- 8-min pointing gap for Ef

Frequency band	Recommended cycling time (minutes)
L (21/18 cm)	4-6
C/M (6/5 cm)	4-6
X (3.5 cm)	2-4
K & Q (1.3 & 0.7 cm)	2

Ready to observe



Send your key file to jops@jive.eu

Support scientist ↔ PI

Correlation parameters later on

Looking for help?

Your **support scientist** is your first point of contact

General inquiries:

usersupport@jive.eu

Mattermost chat →

coms.evlbi.org

