



Joint Proposals

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Joint Proposal

a “**joint proposal**” is a proposal that requests time on *two or more* separate observatories but is submitted to a single observatory for scientific peer review.

Science can **only be achieved** through the **combination** of the data from multiple observatories



Joint Proposal

ALMA and ESO/VLT, VLA, JWST

ALMA has Joint Proposal agreements with ESO/VLT, VLA, JWST

Main observatory: Observatory from which largest time allocation is requested

Partner observatory: Observatory from which smaller time allocation is requested

Proposals are submitted to **Main Observatory**. When accepted, proposal is automatically also accepted on the **Partner Observatory**

Joint Proposal: Time allocation

How much time can be requested on partner observatory?

Maximum time allocated in Cycle
11 on partner observatories per
ALMA cycle (not per proposal!)

Partner	Maximum time ALMA can allocate on partner observatory
JWST	115 hours
VLA	5% of available time
VLT	50 hours



Joint Proposal: Time allocation

How much time can be requested on partner observatory?

Maximum time allocated in Cycle
11 on partner observatories per
ALMA cycle (not per proposal!)

Maximum time allocated by other
observatories on ALMA arrays

Partner	Maximum time ALMA can allocate on partner observatory	Maximum time partner observatory can allocate on each ALMA array
JWST	115 hours	115 hours
VLA	5% of available time	50 hours
VLT	50 hours	50 hours

Joint Proposal: Time allocation

How much time can be requested on partner observatory?

Maximum time allocated in Cycle
11 on partner observatories per
ALMA cycle (not per proposal!)

Maximum time allocated by other
observatories on ALMA arrays

Partner	Maximum time ALMA can allocate on partner observatory	Maximum time partner observatory can allocate on each ALMA array
JWST	115 hours	115 hours
VLA	5% of available time	50 hours
VLT	50 hours	50 hours

Accepted joint proposals are all given the [rank A in ALMA queue](#) and equivalent in partner observatories

ALMA Joint Proposals in practice

ALMA + ESO/VLT example with ALMA as Main Observatory

The proposal should be submitted to ALMA using the **ALMA OT** (<https://almascience.eso.org/proposing/observing-tool>)

Joint Proposals ?

Is this a Joint Proposal? Yes No

Type of Joint Proposal Main Partner

Observatory	Project Code	Requested Time
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 You can add VLT, and/or JWST, and/or VLA

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Joint Proposals ?

Is this a Joint Proposal? Yes No

Type of Joint Proposal Main Partner

Observatory	Project Code	Requested Time
VLT	N/A	0.00 h

Please provide the technical justification for the time requested on VLT as a joint proposal

- The **VLT requested time** must be entered.
- The OT will check that this is smaller than the requested time at ALMA.

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ALMA + ESO/VLT example with ALMA as Main Observatory

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Joint Proposals

Is this a Joint Proposal? Yes No

Type of Joint Proposal Main Partner

Observatory	Project Code	Requested Time
VLT	N/A	0.00 h

Add Partner Observatory Remove Partner Observatory

Please provide the technical justification for the time requested on VLT as a joint proposal

How do you estimate the VLT requested time?
➤ Pls will use the ESO Exposure Time Calculators
• (ETC, <https://www.eso.org/observing/etc/>)

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ALMA + ESO/VLT example with ALMA as Main Observatory

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Joint Proposals ?

Is this a Joint Proposal? Yes No

Type of Joint Proposal Main Partner

Observatory	Project Code	Requested Time
VLT	N/A	3.00 h

Please provide the technical justification for the time requested on VLT as a joint proposal

Number and type of targets (stars/extended sources, etc):

Apparent magnitude of targets in the relevant filter bands (for example JHK if NIR):

Instrumental modes requested (can be described via OB template names):

Constraints on lunar phase, sky transparency, seeing:

Time critical aspects (e.g. monitoring, or absolute time window):

PIs are responsible for summarizing the technical justification for the requested VLT observations



ALMA Joint Proposals in practice

What technical information needs to be provided?

For the relevant technical information that needs to be provided see the [ALMA proposers guide](#)

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3.5.2	ALMA proposals requesting VLA time	15
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ALMA Joint Proposals in practice

Submission and review of an ESO + VLT example: Phase 1

- The Joint Proposal must be submitted to ALMA by the normal ALMA deadline
- Based on the Technical Justification input in the ALMA OT, VLT projects will be evaluated based on the **technical feasibility** of the requested observations, the scheduling feasibility, time and observing constraints.
- ALMA Joint Proposals will be undergoing Distributed Peer Review as any ALMA (non-Large) Proposal



ALMA Joint Proposals in practice

Phase 2

- Upon acceptance of a Joint Proposal by **ALMA**, PIs will be requested to **submit** the project with the ESO proposal submission tool (<https://www.eso.org/sci/observing/phase1/p1intro.html>)
- The users will then proceed to prepare the **phase 2 Observing Blocks(OBs)** (<https://www.eso.org/sci/observing/phase2.html>) in preparation for observations and for a final detailed technical assessment
- Once the OBs have been prepared, projects will enter the ESO observing queue. Approved joint Projects will be allocated time in the **A-rank** class.



ALMA Joint Proposals in practice

Phase 2

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Warning: projects that, during preparation of the OBs, result in a larger observing time than requested in the proposal VLT Technical Justification, are subject to rejection on technical grounds at ESO's discretion.



ALMA as a partner observatory

Brief how-to

- Submit your proposal to the Main observatory (ESO/MLT, JWST, VLA)
 - Provide requested ALMA information as given in the respective proposer's guide
- If the proposal at the main observatory is accepted, you will receive instructions to prepare the ALMA observations using the OT
 - Select ALMA as the partner observatory
- A project code will be given, a contact scientist will be assigned etc. Everything like a normal program
- The observations will enter the queue with rank A and will remain in the queue for a maximum of 2 years



Joint proposals in practice

Submission and review of an ESO + VLT example

Equivalent procedures are in place for JWST and VLA, see the [ALMA proposers guide](#)

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Thank you!

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