Call for Proposals on IRAM Telescopes

The deadline for submission of observing proposals on IRAM telescopes, both the NOEMA interferometer and the 30-meter telescope, for the winter semester 2023/2024 is

14 September 2023, 17:00 CEST (UT + 2 hours).

For both observatories, the scheduling period is 01 December 2023 to 31 May 2024.
IRAM proposals should be submitted through the ***P**roposal **M**anagement **S**ystem* (**PMS**) at URL:

http://oms.iram.fr/pms/

Rules on preparing proposals can be found here. In addition, PMS provides on-screen instructions to guide the proposal editor through the submission process.

A detailed and updated description of the capabilities of the 30-meter telescope and the current status of NOEMA are given in two documents on the call for proposals page of the IRAM science portal.

Proposers are encouraged to check the header archive at the CDS for possible duplications of observations. In addition, the sources of the MIOP and NIKA2 large programs running in guaranteed time are protected during their proprietary period, as listed here.

Information on submission of proposals for VLBI is given on the website of the Global mm-VLBI Array (GMVA) for 3 mm observations and on the website of the Event-Horizon Telescope (EHT) for shorter wavelengths. VLBI proposals requesting time on the IRAM observatories are reviewed by the IRAM Program Committee.

General rules for observing time at the IRAM observatories are given here. A web page provides information on proprietary periods and data policy. European travel funds are available to support visits of eligible astronomers. Publications resulting from observations with IRAM observatories should include an acknowledgment.

C. Kramer & J.M. Winters

The 30-meter Telescope

The winter semester 2023/24 will be available for science projects. The upgrade of the 30-meter drive system is currently ongoing and it is planned to complete commissioning well before the start of the winter semester. The planning for the summer semester 2024 foresees a 3 months shutdown for a renewal of the reflector paint.

Submission of proposals for new Large Programs in open time are encouraged, both for EMIR and for NIKA-2 in total power.

A local contact will be assigned to new NIKA-2 total power projects as explained in the capabilities document (see below). Users of the NIKA-2 data reduction software `piic` are invited to regularly check for updates of the `piic` software and the `piic` tutorial on the `piic` homepage and to contact the helpdesk `piic@iram.fr` in case of any questions. Open time polarimetry for NIKA-2 is currently foreseen to be available starting with the summer semester 2024. An upgrade of NIKA-2 is planned for March 2024. To improve sensitivities, it is planned to replace dichroic, filters, and the 1-mm detector arrays followed by a short recommissioning.

The updated version of 30-meter capabilities document contains further news. It is available on the `Call for Proposals` page.

C. Kramer & M. Sanchez Portal

The NOEMA Interferometer

For the upcoming winter semester, strategic adjustments were made to the configuration planning. In response to the currently high pressure on the C configuration, IRAM decided to allocate more time to the C configuration and in turn to not schedule the B configuration for the upcoming winter semester. A preliminary schedule is outlined in Table 1. Adjustments to this provisional configuration planning will be made according to commissioning requirements, proposal pressure, weather conditions, and other contingencies.

Table 1: Configuration Schedule for the Winter 2023/2024 period

Conf	Scheduling Priority
C	November – December
A	January – February
C	February – April
D	May

Since the observing backlog and proposal pressure on the C-configuration, in particular at high frequencies, built up to a significant level, only proposals for observations below 150 GHz (representative frequency) will be accepted in this configuration for the upcoming winter semester.
Science targets that either can be self-calibrated, are circumpolar, or request ANY configuration, and hence allow flexible scheduling, are greatly welcome. Please note that extra-galactic proposals targeting the popular deep fields such as COSMOS and GOODS-North result in higher pressure factors for sources in the LST range between roughly 07h to 17h.

Two correlator modes of PolyFiX are available, which both continuously cover the full bandwidth offered by NOEMA: i) one at 2 MHz spectral resolution that can be combined with additional high-spectral resolution windows at 62.5 kHz channel spacing, and ii) one at 250 kHz uniform spectral resolution.

A detailed description of the current NOEMA capabilities and organizational considerations are given in a separate document on the `Call for Proposals` pages (or click directly on `this link` for the pdf document).

The NOEMA Science Operations group (sog@iram.fr) will be available to assist with program feasibility and optimization inquiries.

J.M. Winters