

# CNTAC matters

- ★ Mission
- ★ People
- ★ Statistics
- ★ Operations
- ★ Policies

A Call for Proposals is issued twice a year by the CNTAC with due dates around April 15 and October 15.

More detailed information can be found at the following links:

- Current Call for proposals (2012A)
- General rules for telescope time proposals (including eligibility)
- Historical subscription factors
- CNTAC guidelines for writing a good proposal for telescope time
- CNTAC 2012A form (Formato .tar, Formato .zip)
- Proposal submission
- CNTAC 2012A members
- **Previous Semesters**

<b>Semester 2012A</b>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Allocations</i>	<i>Panelists</i>
<i>Semester 2011B</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Allocations</i>	<i>Panelists</i>
<i>Semester 2011A</i>			
<i>Semester 2010B</i>			
<i>Semester 2010A</i>			
<i>Semester 2009B</i>			
<i>Semester 2009A</i>			
<i>Semester 2008B</i>			
<i>Semester 2008A</i>			
<i>Semester 2007B</i>			
<i>Semester 2007A</i>			
<i>Semester 2006B</i>			
<i>Semester 2006A</i>			

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The University of Chile has signed Scientific Cooperation Agreements with AURA (Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy), OCIW (Observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington), and NAOJ (National Astronomical Observatory of Japan) for the installation and operation of astronomical telescopes in the territory of Chile. Through these agreements, these institutions allow the access of Chilean scientists to the use of 10% of telescope time available with these instruments. **The Department of Astronomy of the University of Chile has the responsibility to administer such time and organizes a Chilean Telescope Allocation Committee (CNTAC), with the participation of local and international experts, with the purpose of making this time available to the Chilean community and promoting the development of the local astronomy.** Every semester the CNTAC announces a request for telescope proposals, receives the applications, evaluates the proposals, and makes the telescope time assignments.

- Chilean astronomers. For the purpose of applying for time to the CNTAC a **Chilean astronomer** is defined as a scientist with a M.S. or Ph.D. degree working in a Chilean institution where active scientific research is performed.

- Chilean graduate students with the sponsorship of his/her supervisor (holding the status of Chilean astronomer). A **Chilean graduate student** is defined as a student enrolled in a local graduate program. The student must attach to the proposal a letter from his/her supervisor.

## TIPS FOR SUCESSFUL CNTAC PROPOSALS

The CNTAC has the impression that the Chilean proposals, although mostly scientifically very interesting, could often be improved in style. Below we therefore present some criteria that are used by the CNTAC to evaluate the proposals and compiled a list of hints that may be helpful for the Chilean astrophysical community.

### Criteria for Selection of CNTAC proposals

Evaluation of CNTAC observing proposals are based on the following selection criteria, which are in general order of importance:

1. Scientific merit of the project and the expected impact of the observations
2. Importance to astronomy in general
3. Expertise of the applicants
4. Demonstration of truly Chilean involvement of the project (or, alternatively, importance to Chilean community) and participation of Chilean graduate students (whenever the main institution has a graduate program)
5. Demonstration of how the results will be made public
6. Demonstration of timely publication of these results and productivity of applicant(s)
- 7 Technical feasibility and justification for requested time/instrumentation

### Tips for a Successful Proposal

CNTAC 2011B Allocations

Proposal	PI Name	Telescope	Instrument	Allocation	TITLE (may be truncated)
11	R. Muñoz	BLANCO:	HYDRA	2.0	Searching for the Edge of the Large Magellanic Cloud
12	R. Muñoz	CLAY:	MIKE	1.0	Testing Dynamical Models of Star Cloud Formation with the Pisces Overdensity
14	K. Helminiak	CLAY:	MIKE	2.0	Accurate parameters of binary blue stragglers in globular clusters
15	R. Lachaume	CTIO 1.5m:	CHIRON	1.0	The unusually tight low-mass quadruple-lined spectroscopic ``binary' BD -22 5866: 3D orbits and n
18	D. Minniti	CTIO 1.5m:	CSPEC	6.3	The nature of 35 southern hard X-ray sources through optical spectroscopy
19	T. Anguita	SOAR:	SOI	2.0	Mass to light ratio evolution of galaxy scale lenses in the RCS2
21	K. Helminiak	CTIO 1.5m:	CHIRON	5.0	A radial velocity survey of detached eclipsing binaries from the ASAS catalogue.
21	K. Helminiak	EULER:	CORALIE	6.0	A radial velocity survey of detached eclipsing binaries from the ASAS catalogue.
22	A. Roman-Lopes	SOAR:	OSIRIS	2.0	SOAR-OSIRIS NIR Spectroscopic Survey of Galactic Massive stellar Candidates: Westerlund 2 an
24	W. Gieren	CLAY:	MIKE	2.0	Accurate dynamical mass and distance of a classical first overtone Cepheid
27	A. Alves-Brito	CLAY:	MIKE	1.0	Chemistry of the Aquarius Stream - characterising the nature of a galactic accretion event.
28	C. Lopez	NANTEN:	SMART	20 h	Kinematics of massive star forming regions.
30	A. Jordán	EULER:	CORALIE	5.0	Exploring the Diversity of Exoplanets through Confirmation of Transit Candidates using CORALIE
31	M. Curé	REM:		1.2	Probing the Inner Structure of Young Stellar Disks with Planet-Cleared gaps.
33	J. Clarke	BLANCO:	ISPI	2.0	A search for wide ultracool companions to M subdwarfs from SDSS
34	A. Day-Jones	BAADE:	FIRE	2.0	Exploring the sub-500K substellar luminosity function with FIRE
35	A. Day-Jones	BLANCO:	NEWFIRM,ISPI	2.0	Confirming benchmark ultracool dwarfs as members of binary systems from UKIDSS and VISTA
40	J. Nantais	BAADE:	IMACS	0.5	Identification and Structural Analysis of Globular
42	G. Pietrzynski	BAADE:	FourStar	1.5	An accurate empirical calibration of the surface brightness (V-K) color relation for early type stars
44	N. Lo	NANTEN:	SMART,AOS	50 h	Closing the gap in the turbulent energy cascade with neutral carbon and CO in the G333 star formi
46	A. Chené	CTIO 0.9m:	CFIM	5.0	Trigonometric parallax program for low-mass candidate members of nearby young kinematic group
47	A. Chené	CTIO 1.3m:	RCPS,ANDI	1.0	Weighing the Most Massive Stars.
48	H. Flohic	REM:	ROSS;REMIR	1.9	Monitoring of a Galactic Black Hole in Outburst
49	H. Flohic	CLAY:	MagE	0.5	The Masses of Supermassive Black Holes in AGNs with Double-Peaked Emission Lines
49	H. Flohic	BAADE:	FIRE	1.0	The Masses of Supermassive Black Holes in AGNs with Double-Peaked Emission Lines
50	F. Barrientos	BAADE:	FourStar	2.0	Optical and IR imaging of the largest sample of bright strong lensing cluster systems.
52	P. Rojo	EULER:	CORALIE	8.0	A Targeted Search for bright and short-period extrasolar planets
54	I. Dekany	BLANCO:	NEWFIRM	4.0	Near-Infrared Template Light Curves of RR Lyrae Stars in Globular Clusters
55	G. Galaz	SOAR:	SOI,Spartan	1.0	Optical and near-IR imaging of E+A galaxies: is dust obscuring incipient star formation?
57	L. Bronfman	ASTE:	CATS345	9.3 h	Molecular outflows in cometary globule 12
58	J. Jenkins	CLAY:	MIKE	0.5	A search for habitable extrasolar planets orbiting late-M dwarfs
59	M. Rubio	NANTEN:	SMART	50 h	Sub-millimeter Molecular Studies in the Magellanic Clouds:Neutral Carbon and high excitation gas

# People

- ★ Sebastian Lopez (Chair 2011B+)
- ★ Mario Hamuy (Chair 2006A-2011A)
- ★ Maria Teresa Ruiz (Chair 1999-2005)
- ★ Hernan Pulgar (computing support)
- ★ Mariela Fajardo, Alejandro Leal (logistics)

# People

Member	Institution	Panel	2006A	2006B	2007A	2007B	2008A	2008B	2009A	2009B	2010A	2010B	2011A	2011B	2012A
Barba	ULS	G													
Barrrientos	PUC	EG													
Bauer	PUC	EG													
Campusano	UCH	EG													
Carraro	ESO	G													
Catelan	PUC	G													
Chaname	PUC	G													
dePropis	CTIO	EG													
DiMarco	UCON	EG													
Escala	UCH														
Geisler	UCON	G													
Hardy	ALMA	EG													
Heathcote	SOAR														
James	CTIO	G													
Jordán	PUC														
Khono	NAOJ														
Kurtev	UVAL	G													
Lira	UCH	EG													
López	UCH	EG													
Mardones	UCH	G													
May	UCH														
Maza	UCH	EG													
Melnick	ESO	EG													
Méndez	UCH														
Mennickent	UCON	G													
Morrell	LCO														
Motta	UVAL	EG													
Nagar	UCON	EG													
Nyman	ALMA														
Padilla	PUC	EG													
Palunas	LCO	EG													
Phillips	LCO														
Puzia	PUC	EG													
Rainer	ALMA														
Rajogopal	SOAR														
Reisenegger	PUC														
Romanowsky	UCON														
Roth	LCO														
Ruiz	UCH	G													
Sakamoto	NAOJ?														
Schreiber	UVAL	EG													
vanderBliet	CTIO	G													
Walker	CTIO														
Zoccali	PUC	G													

# People

Member	Institution	Panel	2006A	2006B	2007A	2007B	2008A	2008B	2009A	2009B	2010A	2010B	2011A	2011B	2012A
Barba	ULS	G													
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Bauer	PUC	EG													
Campusano	UCH	EG													
Carraro	ESO	G													
Catelan	PUC	G													
Chaname	PUC	G													
dePropis	CTIO	EG													
DiMarco	UCON	EG													
Escala	UCH														
Geisler	UCON	G													
Hardy	ALMA	EG													
Heathcote	SOAR														
James	CTIO	G													
Jordán	PUC														
Khono	NAOJ														
Kurtev	UVAL	G													
Lira	UCH	EG													
López	UCH	EG													
Mardones	UCH	G													
May	UCH														
Maza	UCH	EG													
Melnick	ESO	EG													
Méndez	UCH														
Mennickent	UCON	G													
Morrell	LCO														
Motta	UVAL	EG													
Nagar	UCON	EG													
Nyman	ALMA														
Padilla	PUC	EG													
Palunas	LCO	EG													
Phillips	LCO														
Puzia	PUC	EG													
Rainer	ALMA														
Rajogopal	SOAR														
Reisenegger	PUC														
Romanowsky	UCON														
Roth	LCO														
Ruiz	UCH	G													
Sakamoto	NAOJ?														
Schreiber	UVAL	EG													
vanderBliet	CTIO	G													
Walker	CTIO														
Zoccali	PUC	G													

- ★ CNTAC members
- 30 from Chilean institutions
- 14 from the observatories
- Self-generated



# CNTAC interactions

## USERS (11B-12A)

- ★ 95 users
- ★ 9 institutions
- ★ 206 proposals



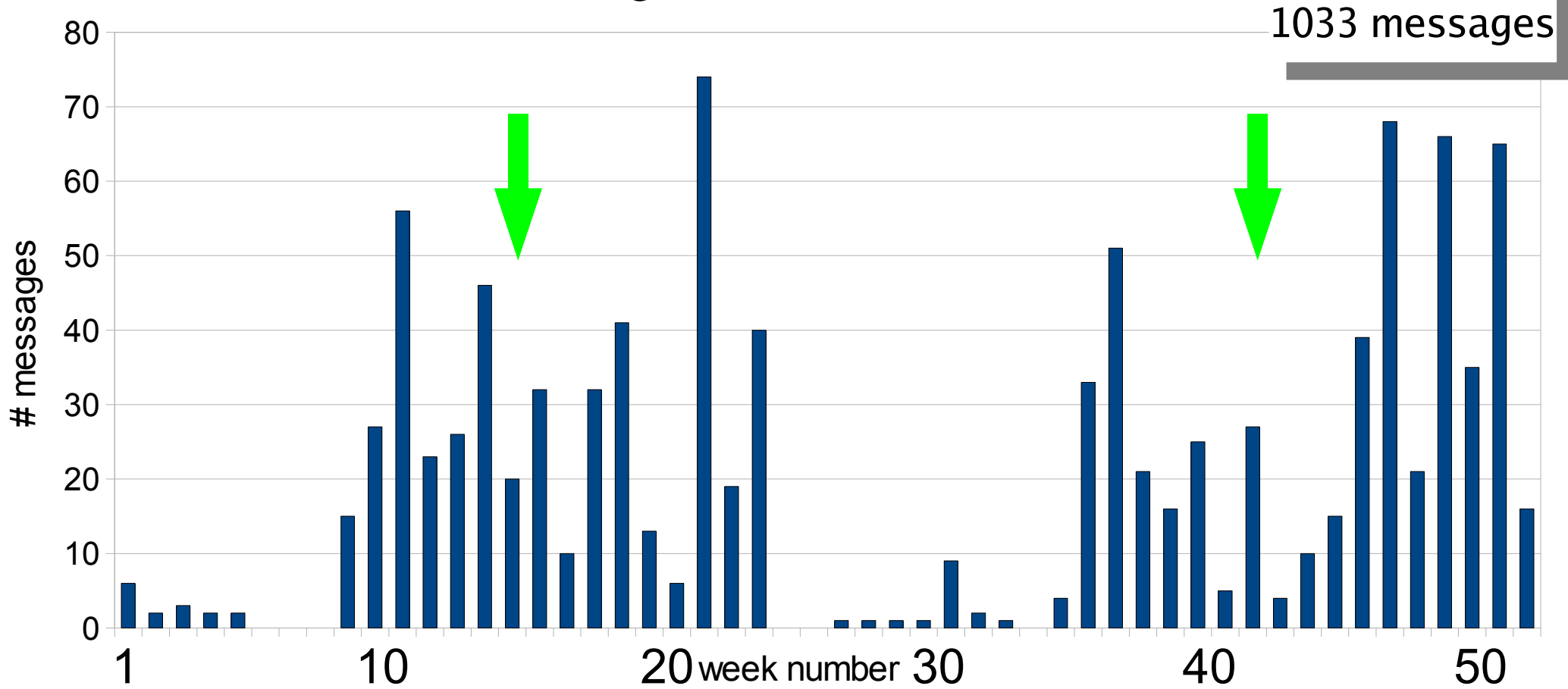
**CNTAC**

## OBSERVATORIES

- ★ 16 partners, 25 telescopes
  - CTIO Blanco, SARA, CS
  - CTIO SMARTS
  - CTIO PROMPT
  - SOAR
  - LCO Magellan, DuPont, Swope
  - LCO Warsaw
  - La Silla EULER
  - La Silla REM
  - La Silla TAROT
  - La Silla ESO-Schmidt
  - La Silla TRAPPIST
  - Mini-TAO
  - ASTE
  - NANTEN
  - QUIET
  - ACT

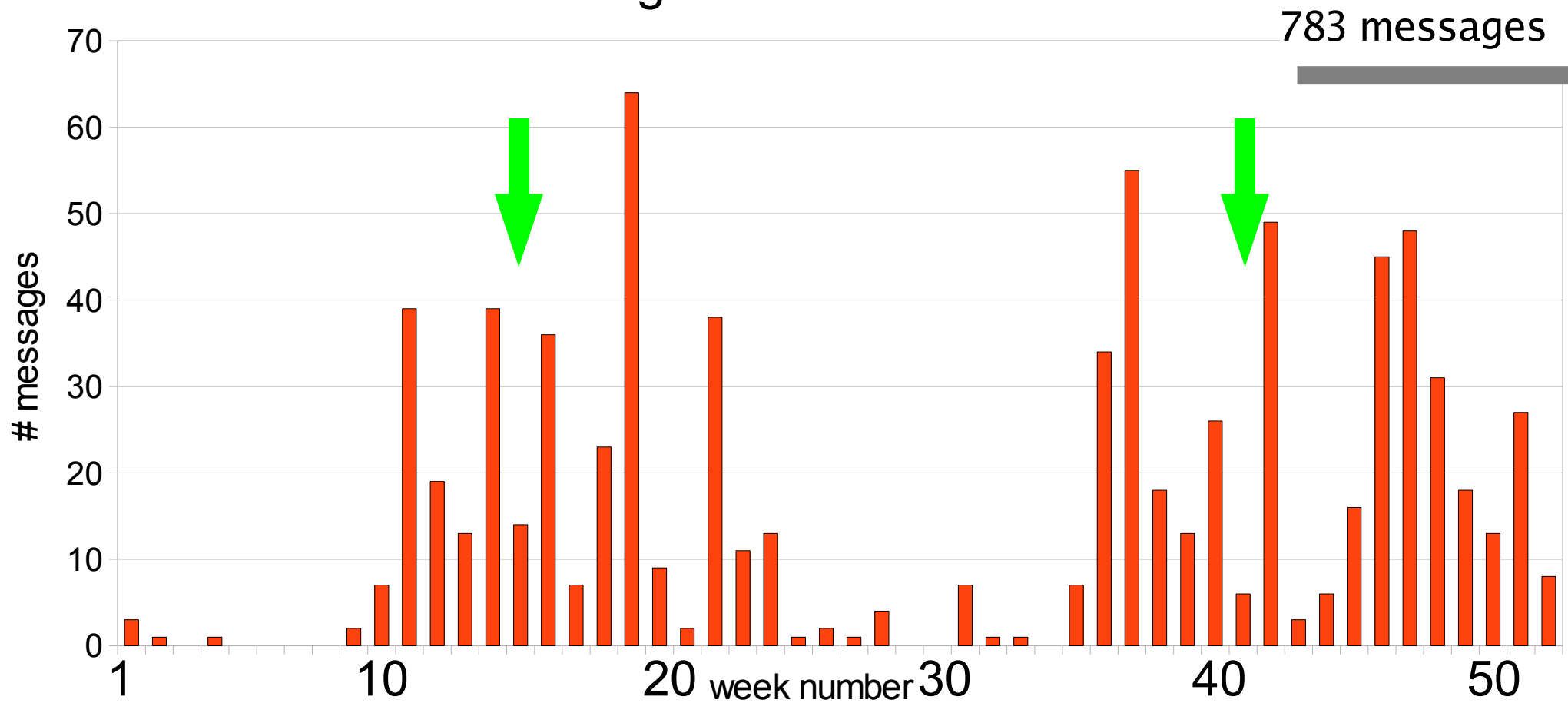
# E-mail traffic

messages received in 2011

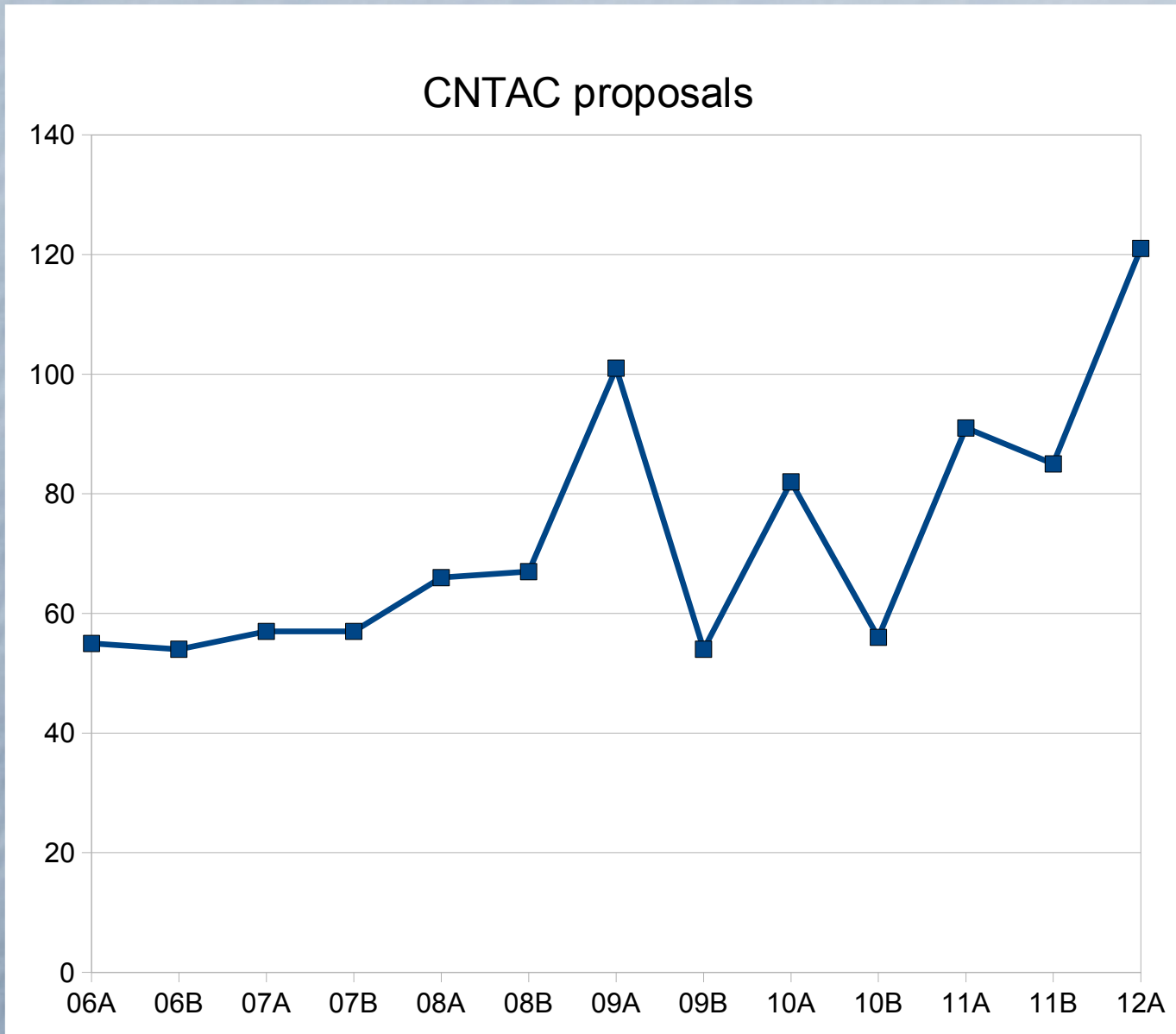


# E-mail traffic

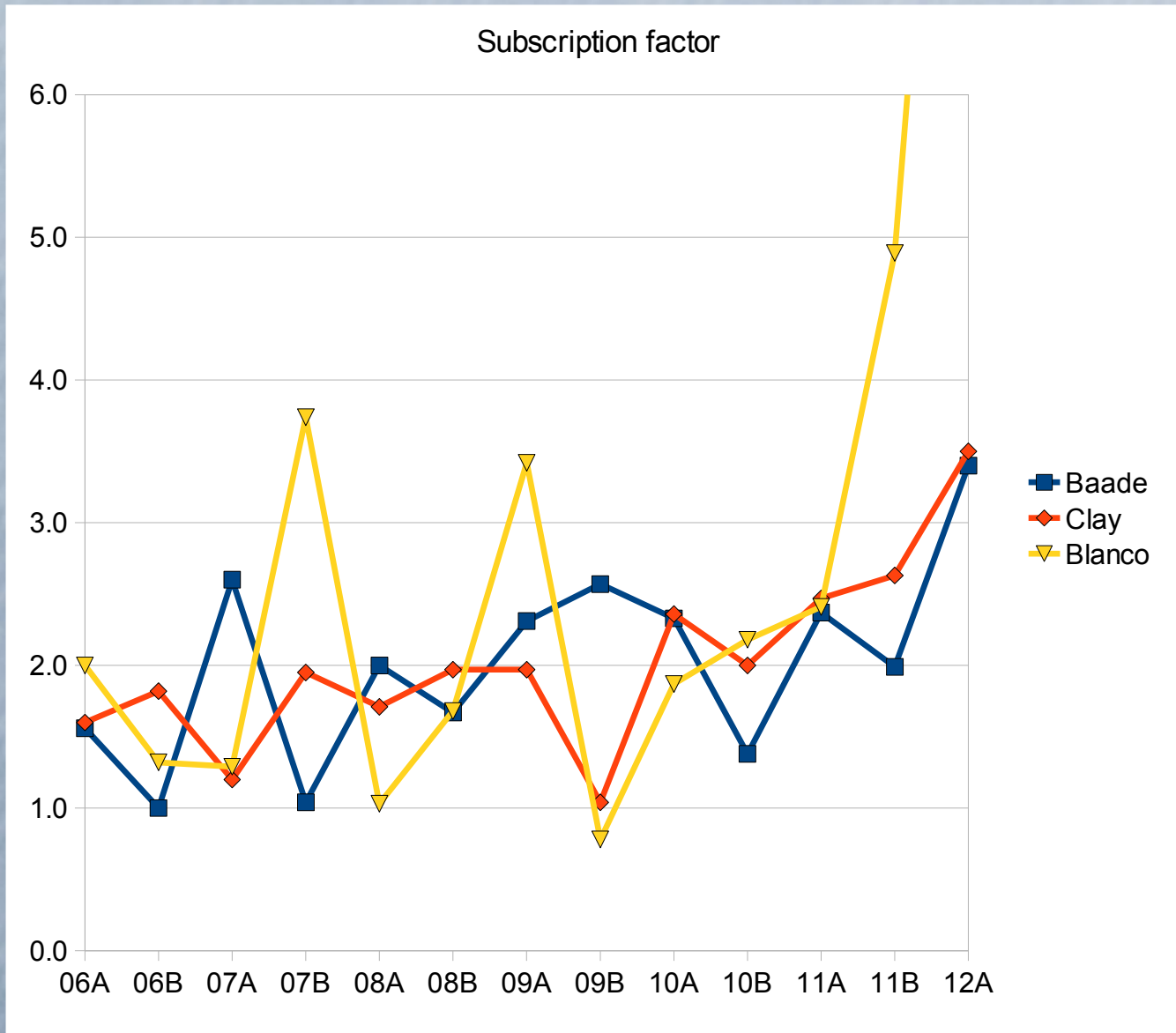
messages sent in 2011



# Submissions 2006A-2012A

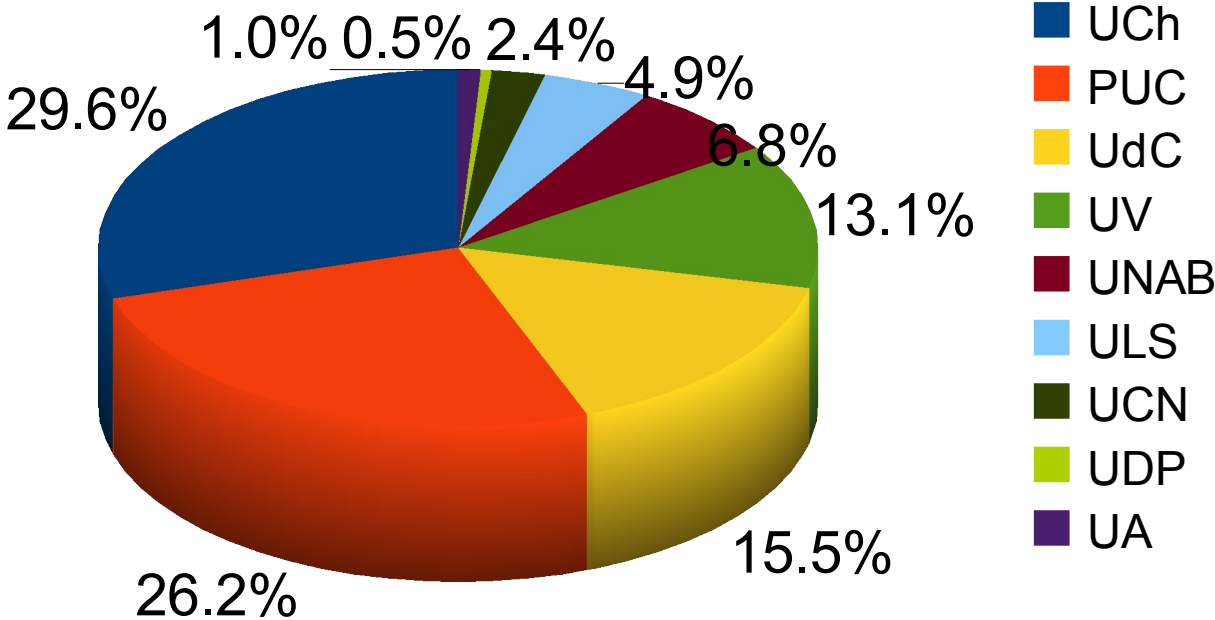


# Subscription factors 2006A-2012A



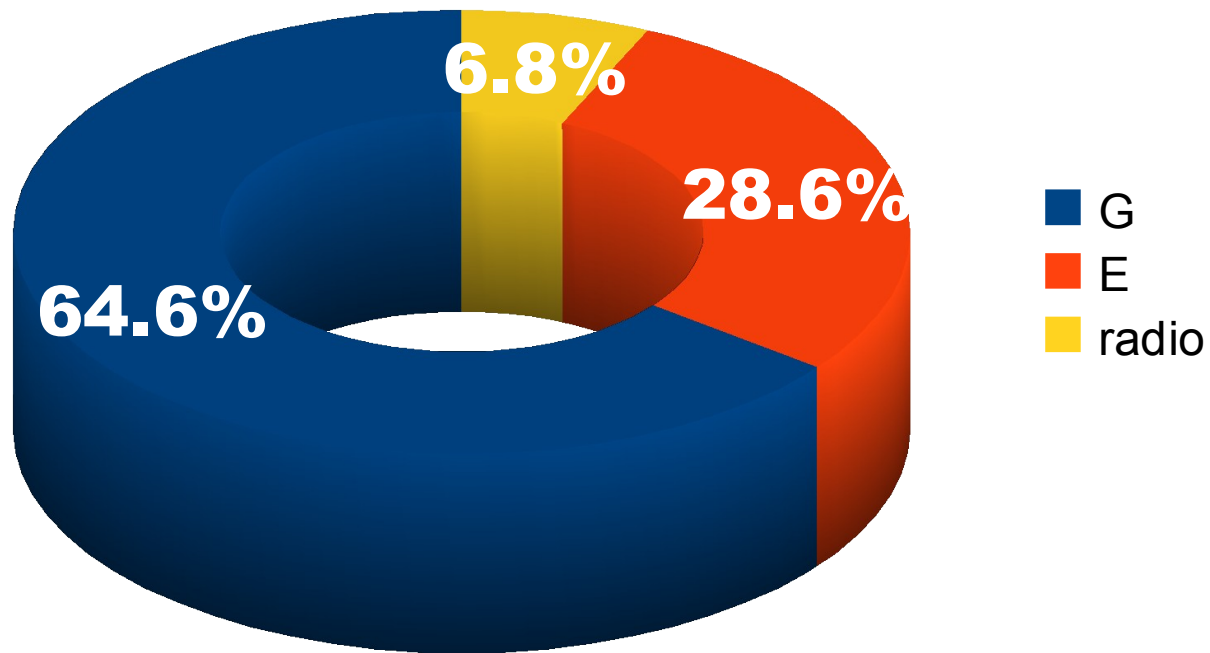
# Submission statistics 2011B-2012A

## proposals by institution



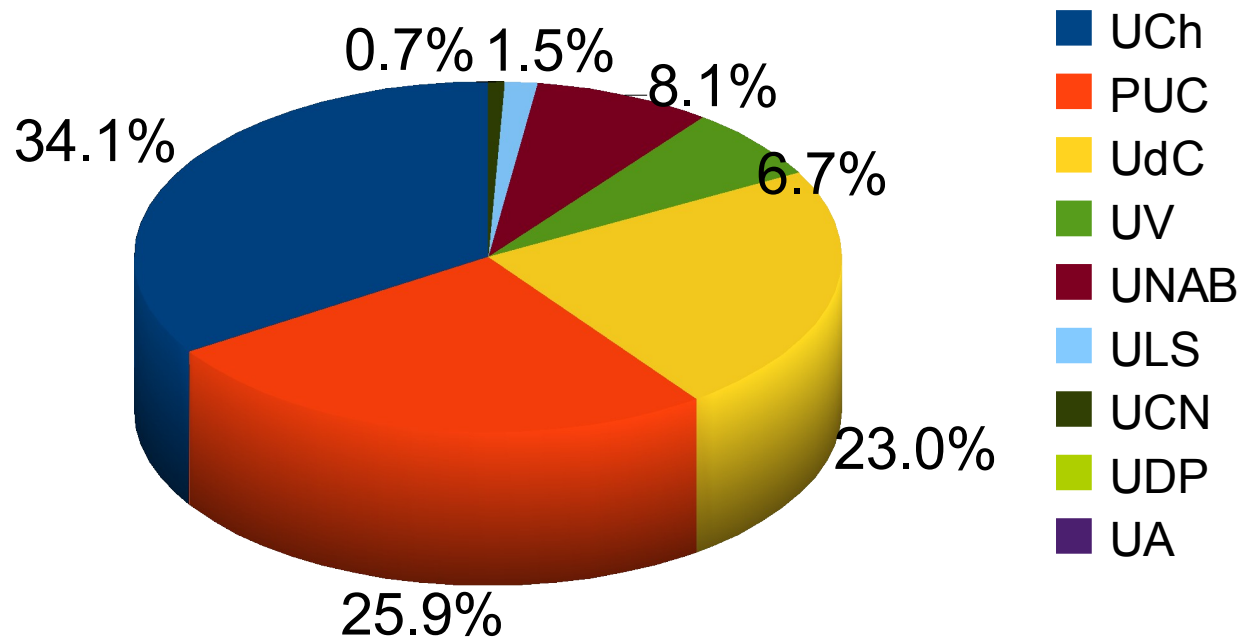
# Submission statistics 2011B-2012A

proposals by panel



# Awarded projects statistics 2011B-2012A

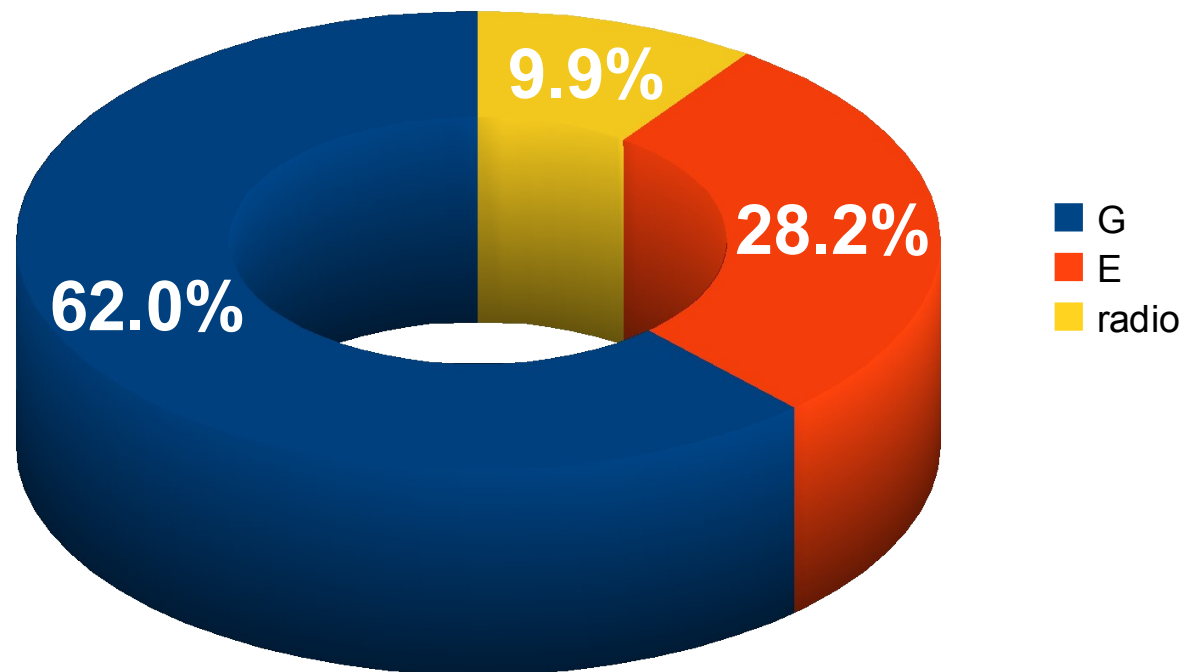
## awarded projects by Institution





# Awarded projects statistics 2011B-2012A

awarded projects by panel



# Operations (PI)

- ★ Prepare proposal
- ★ Submit proposal
- ★ Get CNTAC feedback
- ★ Phase II

TIME



# Chilean Telescope Time Allocation Committee

## Semester 2012A Call for Proposals

The Chilean Telescope Time Allocation Committee (CNTAC) invites the Chilean community to submit proposals for observations at the following facilities during the 2012A semester:

- **CTIO:** Blanco, SOAR, 1.5m, 1.3m, 1.0m, 0.9m, PROMPT, Curtis/Schmidt, SARA
- **LCO:** Baade, Clay, du Pont, Swope
- **National Telescopes:** Warsaw, Danish 1.54m, EULER, REM, ESO/Schmidt, TRAPPIST, MiniTAO
- **Radio-telescopes:** ASTE, NANTEN2, QUIET, ACT

The submission deadline is:

**MONDAY OCTOBER 17, 2011 (23:59 Chilean local time).**

Inicio

Acerca de ▾

Integrantes ▾

Docencia ▾

Investigación ▾

Noticias ▾

Extensión ▾

Intranet ▾



Viernes 06 de Enero del 2012

Buscar



## CNTAC 2011B

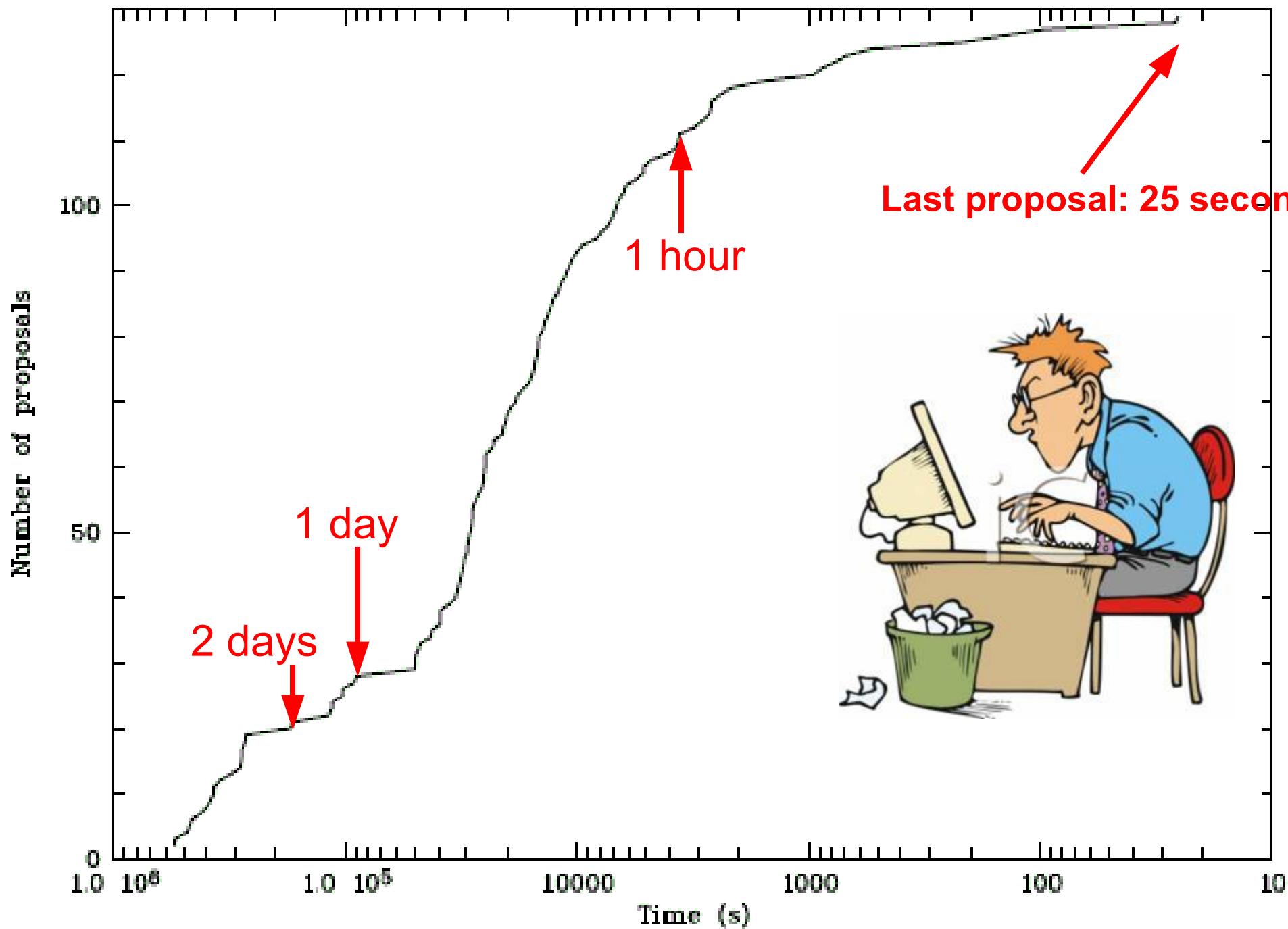
Please enter your E-Mail:

Upload your Proposal: (PDF format only)

Upload your proposal's LaTeX file

# 2012A: # proposals received vs. time span to deadline



## Operations (PI)

- ★ Prepare proposal
- ★ Submit proposal
- ★ Get CNTAC feedback
- ★ Phase II

## Operations (CNTAC)

- ★ Organize CNTAC
- ★ Prepare CfP
- ★ Prepare submission system
- ★ Proposal distribution
- ★ Meeting
- ★ Contact observatories
- ★ Send feedback
- ★ Follow-up

TIME

- ★ Prepare proposal
- ★ Submit proposal
- ★ Get CNTAC feedback
- ★ Phase II

**TIME**



- ★ Organize CNTAC
  - Get panelists
  - Agree on timeline
- ★ Prepare CfP
  - Ask observatories for
    - Time period
    - Availability, etc.
- ★ Prepare submission system
  - Scripts to create spreadsheets
  - Update LaTeX form
- ★ Proposal distribution
  - Prepare submission statistics
  - Referee appointments
  - 'Radio-proposals'
  - Web-based system
- ★ Meeting
  - Create spreadsheet with grades
  - Create presentation with stats, subscription factors, etc
  - Manage LT status reports, support letters, etc
  - Get previous semesters CNTAC feedback
  - Setup meeting
- ★ Contact observatories
  - Create & send separate spreadsheets
  - Manage long-term proposals
  - Telecon, trades
  - Create schedules
- ★ Send feedback
  - Different time scales
- ★ Follow-up

- ★ Prepare proposal
- ★ Submit proposal
- ★ Get CNTAC feedback
- ★ Phase II

**TIME**



- ★ Organize CNTAC
  - Get panelists ←
  - Agree on timeline
- ★ Prepare CfP
  - Ask observatories for
    - Time period
    - Availability, etc.
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- ★ Follow-up



# Panelists

- ★ Self-generated:
  - ➔ Outgoing panelist proposes three candidates
  - ➔ Candidate selected by consensus
- ★ '1+3'-semester appointments

# Referee appointments

- ★ 3 reviewers/proposal (1 PR, 2 SR)
- ★ Extra meeting open to all panelists
- ★ Criteria:
  - Reviewer not a PI nor Col (nor conflicted in any other regard)
  - Reviewer has expertise in the field
  - Reviewer not applying for time on same telescope
  - Reviewer's institution different from PI's
- ★ One of the reviewers Observatory rep.

=> Uneven distribution of proposals/panelist!

# Proposal appointments

Reviewer	s	1	total
	10	12	22
	25	21	46
	11	9	20
	34	17	51
	18	12	30
	21	4	25
	6	7	13
	22	9	31
	17	2	19
	50	5	55
	14	21	35
total	228	119	347

# Meeting course

★ Two sessions:

→ Extragalactic (half day)

→ Galactic (whole day)

- ★ Grades sent in advance and visible to everyone
- ★ Chair goes through all proposals, sorted by telescope and proposal number
- ★ Conflicted panelists leave the room
- ★ All proposals are discussed
  - PR summarizes project and justifies grade.
  - Then SRs express their opinions.
  - Then Chair asks for comments from others.
  - Then Chair asks for grade changes (usual case at large dispersion)
  - Radio proposals are handled separately with 2 external referees + 1 panelist

## Post-meeting process

- ★ Primary reviewers collect comments and produce feedback to be sent to PI
- ★ Send rankings/schedules to observatories
- ★ Trades (e.g., LCO)
- ★ Different time-scales!

## Fast-track CfP: optimize resources

- ★ If telescope time is under-subscribed,  
issue FT CfP right after CNTAC meeting
- ★ Review by UCh Director
- ★ Require minimum quality
- ★ 8 proposals received in 12A
- ★ 100% of offered time allocated

# Long-term proposals are popular

semester	#
10A	15
10B	13
11A	12
11B	12
12A	13

## 2. **CNTAC Long-term commitments for the semester 2012A:**

- CTIO 1.5m: 1 hour
- CTIO 1.3m: 47 hours
- CTIO 0.9m: 3 nights
- PROMPT: 280 hours
- REM: 75 hours
- Du Pont: 5 nights in the semester 2012A, 5 nights in the semester 2012B
- EULER: 6 nights

# Policies: how changes are implemented

- ★ Issues raised and discussed within the CNTAC meeting
- ★ CNTAC Chair / Panelists suggest actions
- ★ Actions are implemented
- ★ Examples:
  - ★ Fast-track process
  - ★ Long-Term projects
  - ★ PI guidelines
  - ★ LaTeX form
  - ★ etc