

CALL FOR MUSE SCIENCE VERIFICATION PROPOSALS

Deadlines

SV Run: June 20-29, 2014

Deadline for SV proposals: May 6th, 2014

MUSE, the *Multi-Unit Spectroscopic Explorer*, has a modular structure composed of 24 identical IFU modules sampling a near-contiguous 1x1 arcmin FOV with a spatial sampling of 0.2 arc seconds in wide-field mode.

MUSE is currently only offered in wide-field mode and is fully described at: <http://www.eso.org/sci/facilities/paranal/instruments/muse.html>

In line with the VLT Science Operations Policy (www.eso.org/sci/activities/vltsv), MUSE will be offered to the community for Science Verification (SV) for 10 nights at the end of June 2014. All astronomers in the community are invited to participate in this unique opportunity to obtain early science with MUSE and thus to demonstrate the scientific capabilities of this unique instrument.

Proposals will be reviewed by an internal panel and allocated time on the basis of scientific merit and feasibility, as well as in the demonstrated ability of the PI's to deliver results on a timely basis. Only proposals making full use of the full multiplex capabilities of MUSE will be considered. Notice that given the timing of the SV process, proposals submitted to the OPC for P94 will not be considered for SV and that, all other things being equal, preference will be given to proposals covering RA ranges not reachable during P94.

The list of protected targets for MUSE Guaranteed Time Observations is given at <http://www.eso.org/sci/observing/teles-alloc/gto/94.html>. Observations of targets protected by MUSE GTO will not be accepted for SV.

The observations will be conducted in Service Mode by a dedicated team of ESO astronomers. The MUSE SV team will be able to assist the successful PI's in the preparation and optimisation of the OB's on a best effort basis.

The latest version of the MUSE data reduction pipeline will be available for reduction of the SV data and the SV team will try - on a best efforts basis - to provide pipeline-reduced data to all SV PIs. Remember, however, that the

standard practice for Science Verification (www.eso.org/sci/activities/vltsv/svdoc.pdf) is that all data are made public worldwide immediately after passing the usual quality control checks, and this will also be the case for data processed by the SV team.

Please read the documentation carefully and use the MUSE exposure time calculator (www.eso.org/observing/etc/) to estimate the exposure times. Overheads may be estimated using the information in the Overheads webpage, which is available at <http://www.eso.org/sci/facilities/lpo/cfp/overheads.html>.

In order to simplify the distribution of the proposals to the reviewers, please use the special LaTex template that can be downloaded from the MUSE science verification web site (<http://www.eso.org/sci/activities/vltsv/>). Proposals may also be prepared using any suitable text editor following the guidelines of the LaTex template, but please send us **only the pdf output** and please do not send finding charts at this time. The SV team will request these in due course.

Applications should be sent by EMAIL to jmelnick@eso.org with copy to jvernet@eso.org not later than May 6, 2014.