



Directorate of Scientific Programme

D/SCI/DJS/AP/val/23356

Paris, 22 October 2007

To Science Community

INTEGRAL Announcement of Opportunity for Key Programme Observing Proposals for the AO-6 Cycle of Observations

Dear Colleague,

I am very pleased to invite you to respond to the second “Announcement of Opportunity for Key Programme Proposals” by submitting key programme proposals for observations to be performed with the International Gamma-ray Astrophysics Laboratory (INTEGRAL) satellite or for obtaining data rights to targets within the previously approved Key Programmes.

The gamma-ray observatory INTEGRAL is the second medium-sized mission of ESA’s Horizon 2000 Science Programme. It was launched on a Proton rocket on 17th October 2002 and offers astronomers a unique opportunity to perform high resolution spectroscopy in the energy range from 20 keV to 8 MeV (Spectrometer SPI) and high angular resolution imaging in the energy range from 15 keV to 10 MeV (Imager IBIS). Concurrent monitoring of high energy sources is performed by the co-aligned monitors in the 3 keV to 35 keV X-ray band (X-ray Monitor JEM-X) and in the optical wavelengths (V, 500 – 600 nm) by the Optical Monitoring Camera OMC.

An INTEGRAL Key Programme (KP) is a scientific investigation which requires a significant fraction of the total observing time (of the order of 1 Ms or more) in order to achieve its scientific objectives. Examples are ultra-deep observations of nucleosynthesis emission and/or diffuse gamma-ray emission (lines and continuum), or studies of faint extragalactic sources.

This Announcement solicits proposals for KP observations only, to be carried out in the period from August 2008 to August 2009 during the timeframe of the AO-6 cycle of observations.

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Proposers from all over the world are welcome to participate. All proposals will be subject to an independent peer review by the INTEGRAL Time Allocation Committee (TAC). Potential proposers are expected to prepare and submit proposals in electronic form by the deadline given below using the INTEGRAL Proposal Generation Tool software. The documentation, list of approved Key Programme observations and proposal submission and support software for this Announcement are being made available on line at:

<http://integral.esac.esa.int/>

The key milestones for this Announcement are:

Release of Announcement of Opportunity:	22 October 2007
Due date for Proposals:	30 November 2007, 15:00 CET
Final TAC approved programme:	January 2008

I wish you success with your proposals to use the INTEGRAL observatory.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Southwood', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

David Southwood
Director of the ESA Scientific Programme

Copy: SCI-O, SCI-OA, SCI-S, SCI-SA, C. Winkler, P. Kretschmar