



U.S. EXTREMELY **LARGE**  
**TELESCOPE** PROGRAM

# US-ELTP User Services: Enabling Transformational Community Research

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# Guiding principles for the US ELT Program

- Enable **transformational science** through US access to a bi-hemispheric ELT system
- Enable and support large-scale, systematic, collaborative research (**Key Science Programs**)
- Provide **outstanding user support** commensurate with the proposed US-ELTP investment
- **Broaden participation in TMT/GMT science** and foster research inclusivity
- **Engage and represent the whole US community** in GMT and TMT governance, scientific planning, and instrumentation development

**All US astronomers should benefit from national participation  
in a US ELT Program**

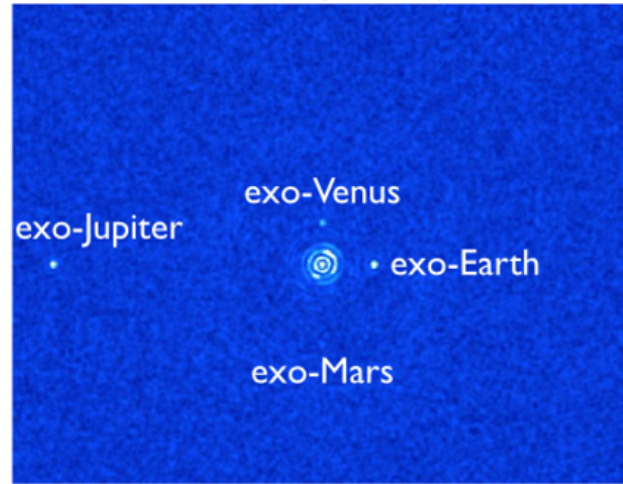


# Key Science Programs (KSPs)

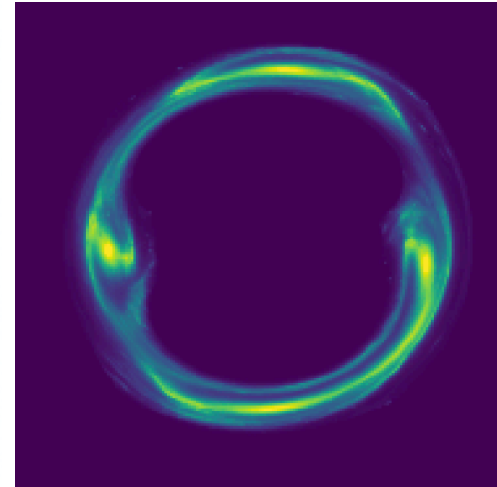
- **Scientific legacy** through systematic investment in **large-scale, transformative research** using TMT and GMT
- Projects on scales difficult to realize within current GMT/TMT partner shares
  - The US national community will have the largest partner share in these observatories
- At least half of US-ELTP observing time will be devoted to **Key Science Programs**
  - $\geq 80$  nights/year for GMT+TMT combined
- Broad, inclusive scientist participation in KSPs via open collaboration models
  - Harness resources of a diverse research community
  - Spread scientific benefits widely through the community
- Data products with high archival reuse value
- Also, observing time for smaller, PI-class **Discovery Science Programs**
  - Nimble, responsive to new discoveries, new opportunities, new ideas

# Highlights of community-developed KSP concepts

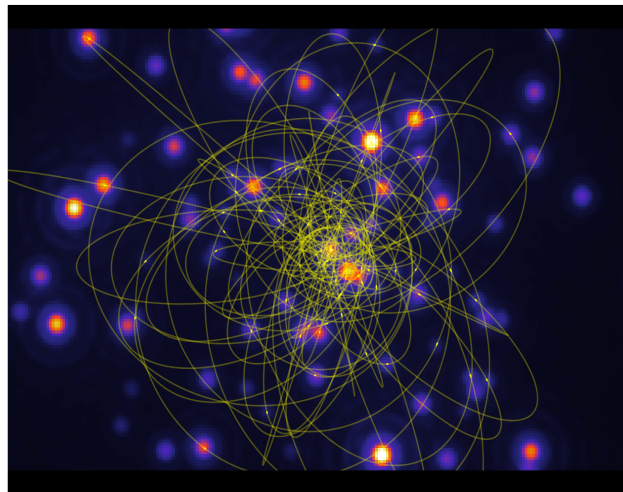
**Extrasolar Planets  
and the Search for  
Extraterrestrial Life**



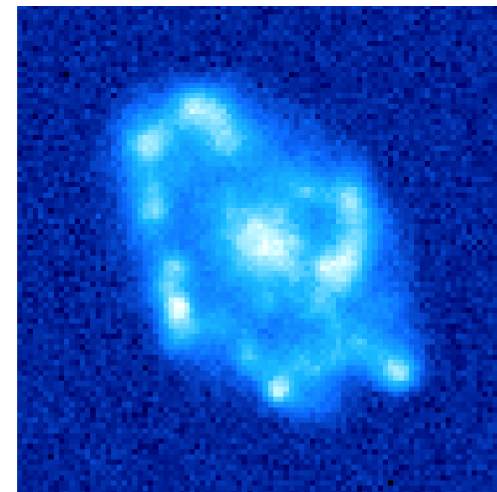
**The Dark Universe  
and Physics Beyond  
the Standard Model**



**Extreme Gravity: from  
Gravitational Waves  
to Supermassive  
Black Holes**



**Resolving the  
Physics of Galaxy  
Evolution**



+ Solar System, Stars & Stellar Evolution, Explosive Transients, and more

**Actual, future KSPs would be selected by peer-review**



# NOIRLab will provide end-to-end user support

## ■ NOIRLab US-ELTP services

- Observing Time Allocation
- Observation Management
- Queue scheduling system
- Data Management and Archiving
- Data Reduction and Calibration
- Data Analysis Tools
- Documentation, Training, and Help Desks

## NOIRLab precursors

NOIRLab Time Allocation

Gemini Program Platform (GPP)

Gemini automated scheduler

NOIRLab and Gemini Data Archives

CTIO/KPNO wide field imager pipelines; Rubin DM

Astro Data Lab; Rubin Science Platform

Documentation & help desks

- User support tools will be available to the US national community and to TMT and GMT partners

# Observing Time Allocation



**TMT and GMT will be open to any US astronomer with a great idea**

- Apply for either or both TMT and GMT, and for other telescopes offered through NOIRLab, through a single proposal process
- Peer-review process designed to mitigate conflicts of interest and implicit bias
- PI-class **Discovery Science Programs** and large-scale **Key Science Programs**
- Track projects from proposal submission to publication to archival data products
- Community engagement to support development of Key Science Programs and organization of broad, inclusive research teams

# Observation Management



## Uniform community interfaces for GMT and TMT

- Phase I (proposal) and Phase II (observation preparation) systems
  - Integrate tools to evaluate exposure time, identify guide stars, etc.
  - Designed to support and assist new users, not just insiders/experts
- Dynamic/adaptive scheduling system for TMT and GMT
  - Accommodate queue/service and classical/visitor modes (+ other modes as required)
  - Assemble observations into prioritized queue based on target visibility, atmospheric conditions, timing constraints, instrument availability, etc.
  - Flexible and responsive to changing conditions and constraints
  - Accommodate interrupts (ToOs, etc.)
  - Enable coordinated observations (TMT+GMT, or with other NOIRLab telescopes)

# Data Management and Archiving



**All TMT/GMT data will be archived and available for US community research**

- Data transfer, archiving, and distribution for all GMT and TMT observing time
  - Raw, calibrated, and reduced data
  - High-level science products from Key Science Programs
  - Full implementation of proprietary controls
  - Public discoverability and accessibility after proprietary period
  - Long-term archiving and stewardship
- Integration with other systems
  - TMT & GMT data management systems
  - Automated calibration and pipeline execution
  - US-ELTP Data Science Suite
  - DOI generation and publication tracking

**Target** Search via coordinates

Object Name (Used to find RA, Dec values)  
An astro-object i.e. m31

RA 0.0  
(in decimal degrees)

Dec 0.0

Radius 0.01

Get Coordinates

Enter Position List

**Image & Telescope / Instrument** Search a image processing and specific telescope and instrument

Filter Select option

Observation Type Select option

Process Type Select option

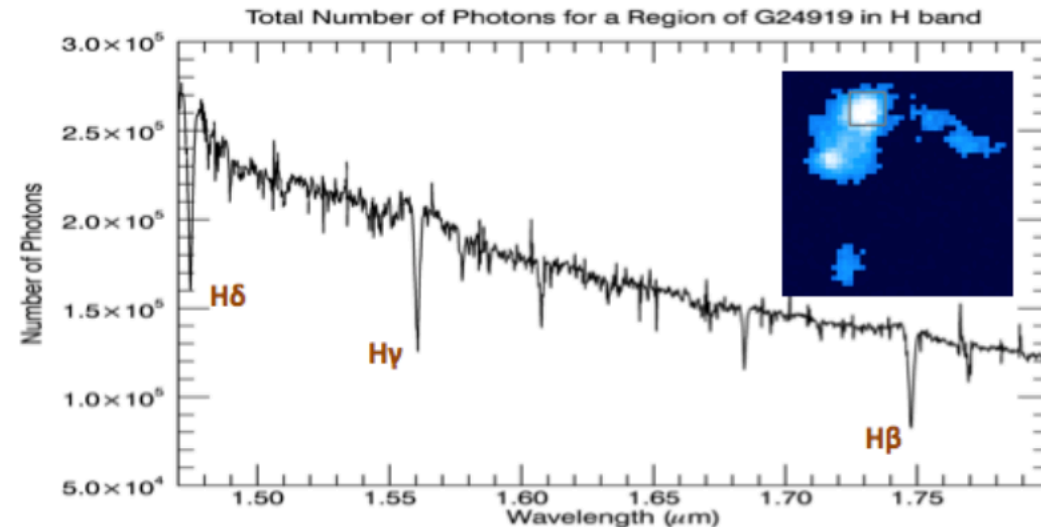
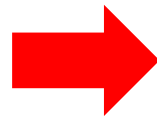
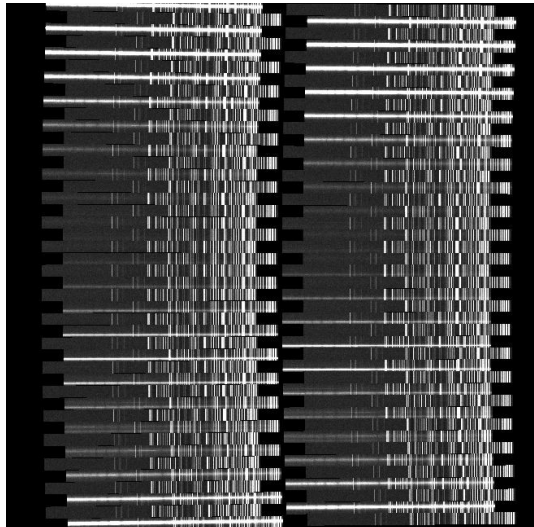
Telescope & Instrument Select option



# Data Reduction and Calibration

## Removing barriers for carrying out research with TMT/GMT data

- Pipelines will be provided by instrument teams and deployed in NOIRLab environment
- NOIRLab will operate pipelines to produce and archive reduced/calibrated data products
- External users can also access and operate pipelines on the NOIRLab platform
- NOIRLab will collaborate with GMT/TMT teams and community on further evolution of pipelines



## Outstanding support for data analysis enhances scientific productivity

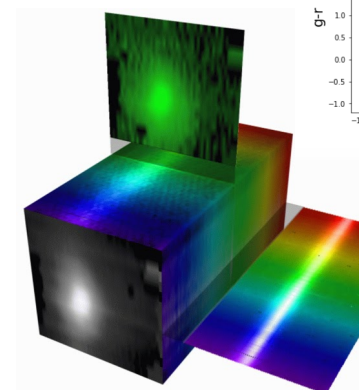
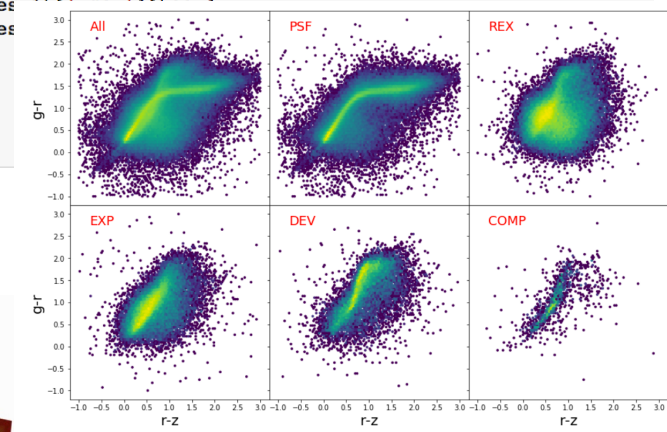
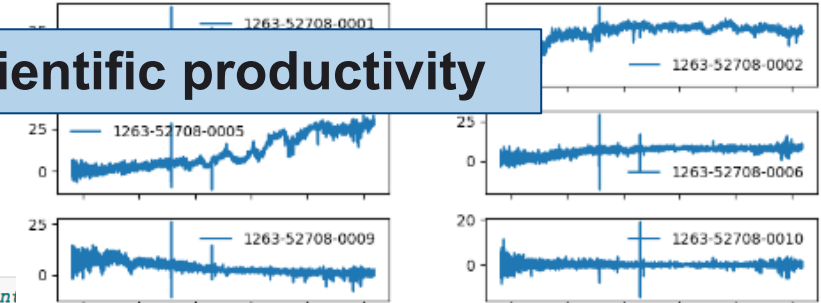
- High-level data visualization and analysis tools
- Interactive notebook and/or login environments
- Common astronomy software stack available to users
- Catalog query capabilities
- Support for multi-user collaboration
- User-driven data publication capabilities
- Integration with other NOIRLab data holdings and services

```
In [6]: # Select range of in
thres = 5. #threshold value for S/N (here, making it more stringent than query)
keep = (result['snr_g']>thres)&(result['snr_r']>thres)&(result['snr_z']>thres)

# Colors
g_r = result['gmag'][[keep]] - result['rmag'][[keep]]
r_z = result['rmag'][[keep]] - res
z_w1 = result['zmag'][[keep]] - res

len(g_r)

# Classification per object type
objtype = result['type'][[keep]]
```





# Supporting US astronomers in the global ELT era

- US community access to forefront, bi-hemispheric OIR observatories has been central to the National Observatory's mission for more than 50 years
- US-ELTP user support services will build from decades of experience at NOIRLab
- Outstanding user support from proposal to publication enhances scientific productivity
- The US ELT Program will carry these principles into the global ELT era:
  - Access for all US astronomers
  - Minimize barriers for community use of telescopes and their data
  - Broaden participation in frontier US-ELTP research

## Stay tuned!

This year, we will be asking for **your input** on use cases and science requirements for US-ELTP user support services.



<https://noirlab.edu/public/projects/useltp/>

