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EXPANDING THE FRONTIERS OF SPACE ASTRONOMY

Science Planning for JWST Cycle 1 Pre-launch ERS Support

Neill Reid, Associate Director for Science, STScI

JSTUC: 27 July 2018



What's happened since October 2017?

- Early Release Science program selected in early November 2017
 - 106 proposals submitted; 13 selected
 - Further details see <https://jwst.stsci.edu/observing-programs/approved-ers-programs>
- Cycle 1 General Observer Call for Proposals released November 30 2017
- Cycle 1 Guaranteed Time Observers observing programs (APT files) finalised
- Cycle 1 General Observer was scheduled for April 6 2018 & TAC for 6/2018
 - TAC essentially completely populated
- The process was paused on March 27 when NASA announced revised schedule
 - Launch date set as May 2020 based on recommendations from Standing Review Board
 - TAC disbanded & community informed
 - GO Proposal deadline set to no earlier than February 1 2019
 - Incorporating results from a “lessons learned” review to improve the proposal process



The GO1 user survey and future development

- The survey ran from April 16-May 1, 2018. We received 318 responses, including 50+ pages of comments.
- We summarized the results and presented to the project, the science telecon and the JSTUC. A JWSTObserver news item was published on July 24.
- On May 22, the JWST mission office and user support leads circulated “high-level guidance” based on the survey results and solicited specific recommendations from STScI teams.
- 24 proposals were submitted by June 26. Each proposal identifies how it addresses one or more issues identified in the survey.
 - Includes ways to improve training, improved user tools and diverse options to mitigate the ETC learning curve, and ways to improve documentation.
- Review of the proposals is ongoing; some have already been approved for implementation.

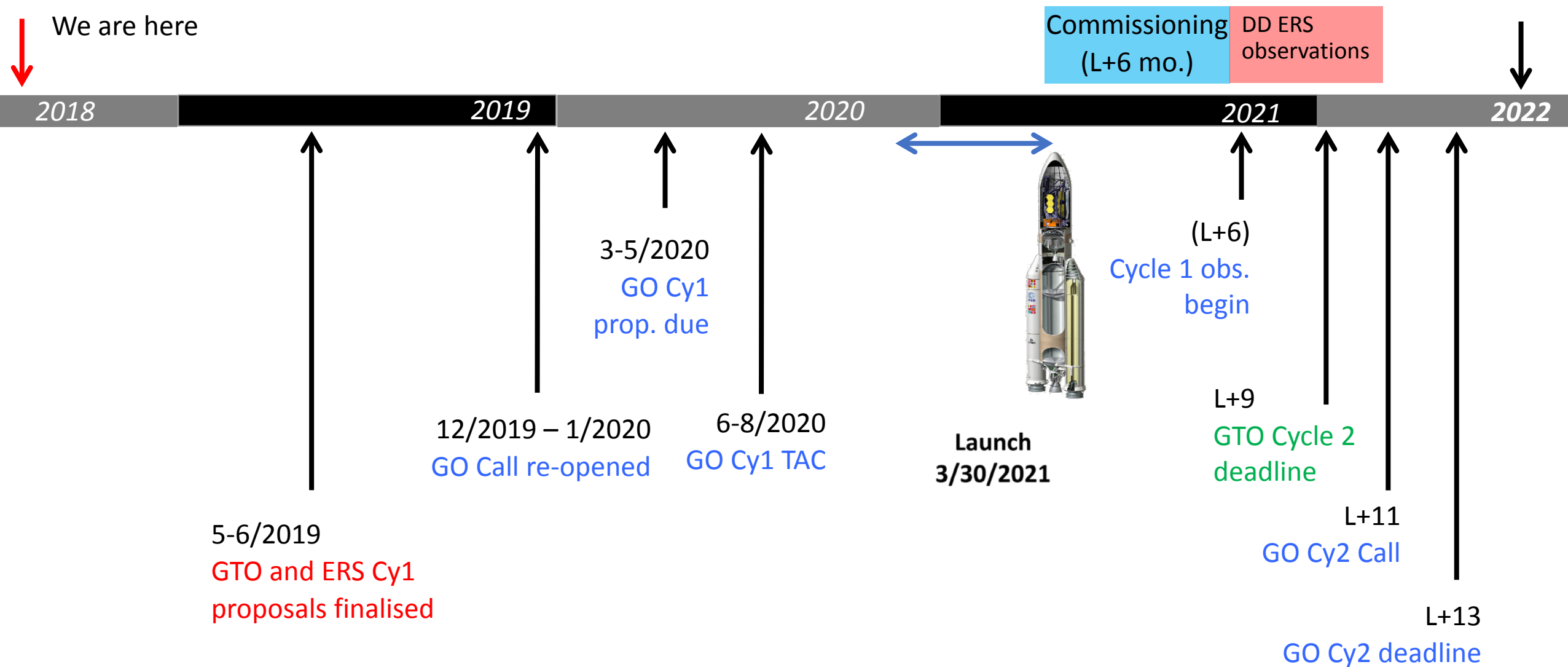


Cycle 1 proposal timeline

- NASA has announced a revised schedule based on recommendations from the Independent Review Board
 - Launch date set as March 30 2021
- STScI will set the Cycle 1 proposal schedule to accommodate contingency planning
 - GO Call will be re-issued in late 2019/early 2020 (allow at least 14 months to launch date)
 - Cycle 1 GO deadline posted as no earlier than February 2020
- GTO proposers will have an opportunity to revise and update their proposals
 - Revisions must be approved as consistent with the current program goals by the Program Scientist for the JWST Program and by the STScI Director
 - Proposals must be finalised 7 months prior to the GO Call being re-issued (NASA Policy 8)
- ERS proposals will also be finalised prior to re-issuing the Cycle 1
 - Currently considering setting the same deadline as for GTOs
- Standard associated procedures
 - Standard duplication rules apply regarding Cycle 1 GO programs
 - GO Proposers will check for potential duplications using the MAST tool – no spreadsheets
 - Scientifically unjustified duplicate observations will not be permitted
 - All proposals will be processed using the same version of Astronomer's Proposal Tool (APT 28.x.x)

JWST Science Planning Timeline (July 2018)

Cycles 1 & 2 Call for Proposals





ERS team support

- ERS programs were selected in anticipation of an October 2018 launch
 - Launch delay introduces significant complications for the selected teams
- STScI raised the issue with the Independent Review Board as a top-10 concern
 - IRB has endorsed the concern
 - The Project will provide additional funding to sustain teams through the interregnum
- Developed schedule for FY19/20 budget input from ERS teams
 - 7/24/2018: Telecom with ERS leads
 - 8/1/2018: FY19/20 Budget request letters issued by Grants
 - Teams will be provided guidance on funding levels & allowable expenses
 - 9/13/2018: Budget submission deadline
 - Internal review by STScI
 - 10/15/2018: Budget approval letters sent to ERS teams
 - FY19 funding made available
 - 9/1/2019: Interim reports due
 - Internal review by STScI
 - 10/1/2019: FY20 made available
- Schedule for prime ERS funding will be developed at a later date
 - Anticipate funding at levels appropriate to the original proposals



Summary

- Infrastructure for Cycle 1 GO program is in place
 - And has been given a live test!
- Revised schedule outline has been developed to match March 30 2021 launch
- GTOs will have an opportunity to revise and update proposals
 - Deadline for final submission will be 7 months prior to re-issuing the Cycle 1 Call
- ERS teams will also have an opportunity to update proposals
 - Teams will be provided with additional funding to sustain efforts through FY19 & FY20
- We anticipate re-issuing the Cycle 1 GO Call in late 2019/early 2020
 - Proposal deadline in Spring 2020, no earlier than Feb 2020
 - Final schedule will be set based on detailed preparations required for Cycle 1 long-range plan



Waiting – but worth the wait!





Backup



JWST Observer article – July 24 2018

<https://jwst.stsci.edu/news-events/news/News%20items/jwst-cycle-1-proposal-survey-follow-up>

Brief highlights:

- 318 respondents, 2/3 faculty/staff & 1/3 students/postdocs
- 40% had not used APT; 20% had not used the ETC
- 60% found the ETC complex to use
- 60% had not used the Help desk; those that had used it had favourable comments
- Comments on JDOx were broad-ranging – some loved it; some were less favourable
- Users had not discovered all the tools and information sources.