



# CSA Perspective

JSTUC Meeting #17  
STSci, 11-11-2024

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# Update on Programmatic activities

- CSA AOs for JWST grant funding
  - CSA Announcement of Opportunity for cycle 3 grants released in July.
  - Preparing for CSA Cycle 4 AO.
- CSA staffing at STScI
  - 3 positions filled (1 FGS, 2 NIRISS).
  - Ongoing process for hiring of a new CSA astronomer to be based at STScI.
- Engineering support contract during operations
  - Long-term contract signed in July with Honeywell.

# JWST Exclusive Access Period Survey

- Survey of the Canadian community in collaboration with the Joint Committee on Space Astronomy (CASCA/CSA)
- Survey details at [JCSA Exclusive Access Period Survey](#)
  - **Distribution date:** Sent on September 18
  - **Closure date:** Closed on October 23
  - **Target Audience:** All CASCA members
- Arguments in favor and against eliminating or shortening EAP in back-up material.
- Response Rate
  - **Total Responses:** 43
  - **Response Rate:** ~ 7% of CASCA and ~ half of JWST observers in Canada

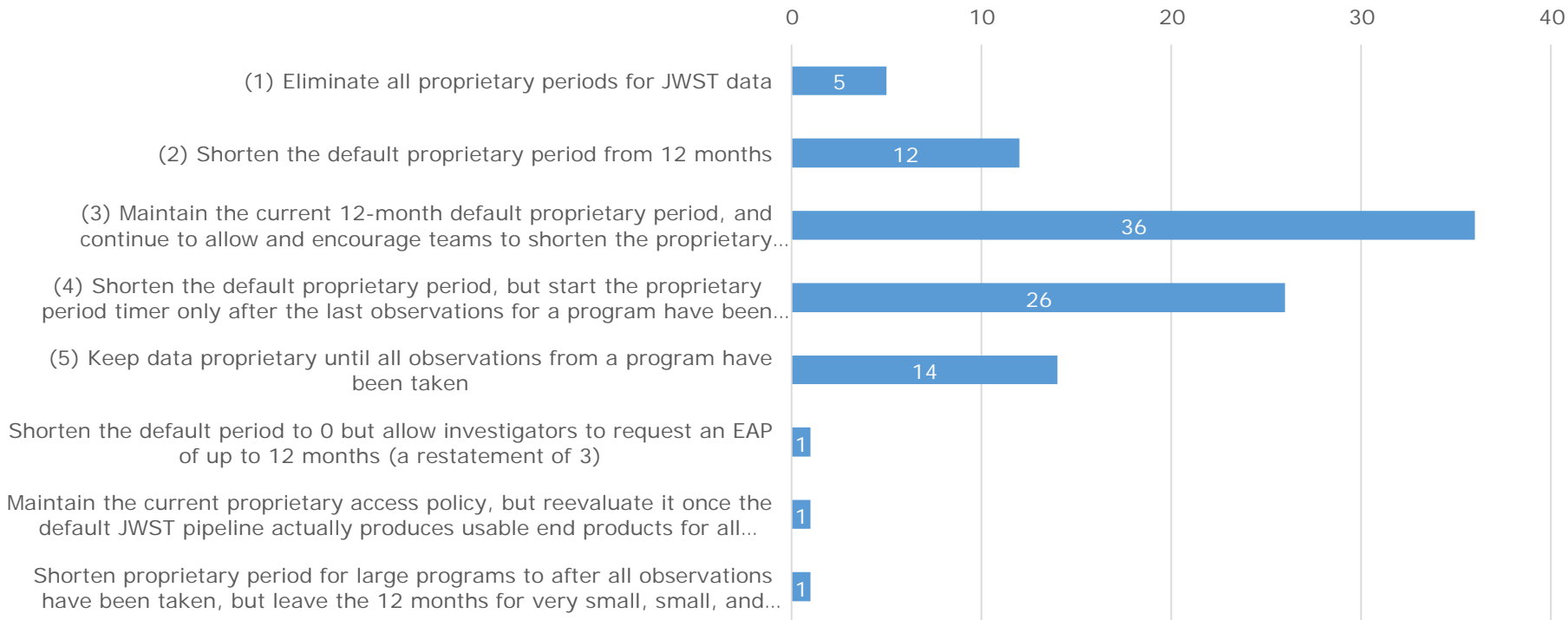
# Question 1.a.

**Question 1.a.** Given the above factors, which possible solutions would you recommend? Please select three options from below. Space is provided to write-in other possible solutions not listed here.

- (1) Eliminate all proprietary periods for JWST data.
- (2) Shorten the default proprietary period from 12 months.
- (3) Maintain the current 12-month default proprietary period, and continue to allow and encourage teams to shorten the proprietary period at the proposal stage.
- (4) Shorten the default proprietary period, but start the proprietary period timer only after the last observations for a program have been taken.
- (5) Keep data proprietary until all observations from a program have been taken.
- Other:

# Question 1.a. responses

Which possible solutions would you recommend?



# Question 1.b.

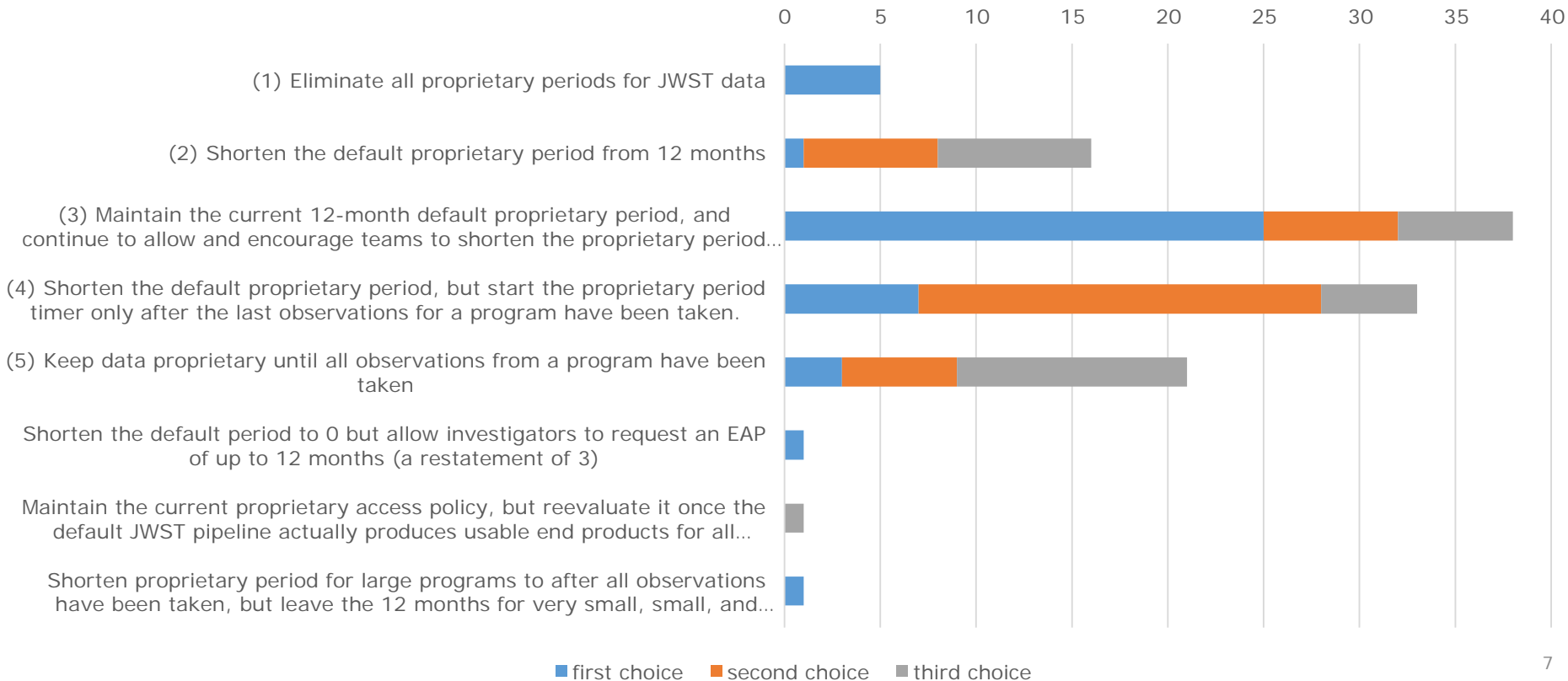
**Question 1.b.** Please rank your selections above in order from most recommended to least.

Your answer

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# Question 1.b. responses

## Ranked Selections



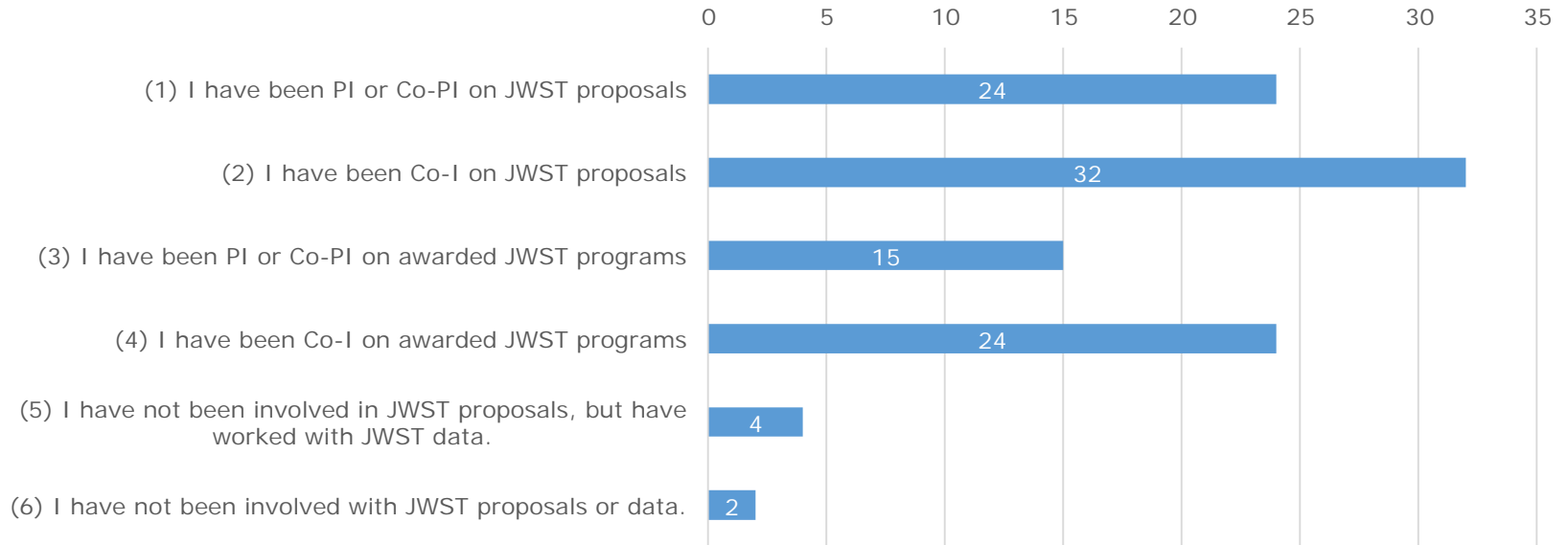
# Question 2

**Question 2.** What has been your use of JWST? Select all that apply.

- (1) I have been PI or Co-PI on JWST proposals.
- (2) I have been Co-I on JWST proposals.
- (3) I have been PI or Co-PI on awarded JWST programs.
- (4) I have been Co-I on awarded JWST programs.
- (5) I have not been involved in JWST proposals, but have worked with JWST data.
- (6) I have not been involved with JWST proposals or data.

# Question 2 responses

What has been your use of JWST?



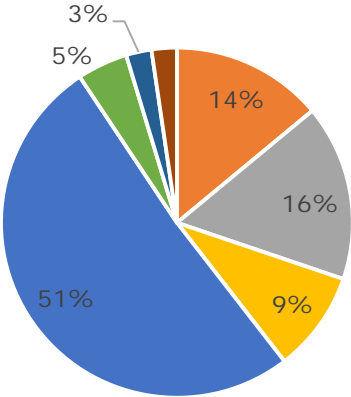
# Question 3

**Question 3.** What is your academic status? Please select one. Space is provided to write-in other responses not listed here.

- (1) Undergraduate student
- (2) Graduate student (PhD or MSc)
- (3) Postdoctoral researcher
- (4) Tenure-track faculty or researcher
- (5) Tenured faculty or researcher
- (6) Emeritus or retired
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

# Question 3 responses

What is your academic status?



- (1) Undergraduate student
- (2) Graduate student (PhD or MSc)
- (3) Postdoctoral researcher
- (4) Tenure-track faculty or researcher
- (5) Tenured faculty or researcher
- (6) Emeritus or retired
- Senior Program Scientist
- chercheur senior

# Key Findings

- **Little support:** There is little support for eliminating all proprietary periods on JWST data.
- **Preferred Solution:** The favorite solution among respondents is to maintain the current 12-month default proprietary period.
- **Alternative Suggestions:** Some respondents support a shorter proprietary period, but with the timer starting when all observations have been taken.



**Thank you!**

# Back-up Material

## A. Arguments in favour of shortening or eliminating the proprietary period:

1. Ensure that JWST, as a publicly-funded science investment, delivers data for broadest use as soon as the data are available.
2. Maximize the impact of JWST data by allowing immediate access to the widest possible scientific community, and by enabling fastest possible follow-up.
3. Improve equitable access to JWST data by sharing them with scientists who may otherwise have limited resources to invest in developing JWST proposals.
4. Motivate research teams to publish high-impact JWST data promptly.
5. In cases where similar proposals may have been submitted by more than one team, allowing access to the data to all interested teams.
6. The proposing team has already been rewarded for the JWST program through financial support, so they already have an advantage in analyzing the data.

## B. Arguments against shortening or eliminating the proprietary period:

1. A winning JWST proposal takes significant preparatory effort and careful scientific motivation. The winning team should be allowed a first opportunity to analyze the data, in recognition of their effort.
2. The data become public after the nominal proprietary period. The wider community will get access at that time.
3. Proposing teams are already free to opt for shorter proprietary periods (3 or 6 months), or to even eliminate their proprietary period altogether. Doing so is considered as a positive factor in evaluating JWST proposals, so it encourages faster or open data access already where appropriate.
4. Observations during any given Cycle may be spread out over up to 12 months. If researchers feel compelled to rush analysis with only partial data, the quality and utility of the publications may suffer. There is thus a benefit to only releasing observations publicly when they have reached the appropriate depth and completeness.
5. A reasonable proprietary time improves the equitable use of JWST data by allowing less well-funded teams (e.g. in Canada and Europe the JWST-specific research funding for accepted proposals is lower than in the US) sufficient opportunity to analyse the data and publish despite having more limited resources.
6. A reasonable proprietary time provides a scientific advantage for the participating communities (NASA, ESA, CSA) which fund the telescope operations.

# Canadian Space Agency



# Agence spatiale canadienne