



16065 - The irradiation and atmospheric escape of the brightest gaseous super-Earth

Cycle: 27, Proposal Category: GO
(Availability Mode: SUPPORTED)

INVESTIGATORS

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VISITS

<i>Visit</i>	<i>Targets used in Visit</i>	<i>Configurations used in Visit</i>	<i>Orbits Used</i>	<i>Last Orbit Planner Run</i>	<i>OP Current with Visit?</i>
01	(1) PI-MEN WAVE	STIS/CCD STIS/FUV-MAMA	5	08-Mar-2021 11:00:19.0	yes
51	(1) PI-MEN WAVE	STIS/CCD STIS/FUV-MAMA	5	08-Mar-2021 11:00:22.0	yes

10 Total Orbits Used

ABSTRACT

The recent discovery of Pi Men c, a super-Earth transiting an outstandingly bright nearby star ($V = 5.67$; 18 pc), presents an unrivalled opportunity to study the atmosphere of a small planet just above the radius-period valley. While the expected transit signature of the atmosphere in the optical/infrared is very small, the high-energy environment of the planet is thought to be favourable for large transit absorption features in the far-

ultraviolet due to an escaping, extended upper atmosphere. Using simultaneous XMM-Newton and HST observations, we propose to perform both a full reconstruction of the differential emission measure in order to characterise the high-energy irradiation impinging on the planet, and a sensitive search for evaporation signals due to these photons.

OBSERVING DESCRIPTION

We will observe the FUV transit of the brightest ($V = 5.7$), gaseous, transiting super-Earth: Pi Men c. The host star is a G0 dwarf slightly larger than the Sun. Our primary aim with these HST observations is to probe material evaporating from the planet's atmosphere by measuring absorption in lines associated with H, C, and O.

We will use the STIS instrument with the echelle grating E140H. Our science goals in observing a planet transit with sufficient out of transit baseline necessitate all 5 orbits awarded occurring consecutively in a single visit. HST has previously observed this target before (proposal ids 14633 and 15699), but not with this specific setup.

These orbits were awarded as part of a joint proposal from XMM-Newton cycle AO-19, and the observations should be conducted contemporaneously with the XMM-Newton observations, which also aim to cover the transit of the planet at both X-ray and near-UV wavelengths. Putting the data from the two spacecraft together should also result in a precise measurement of the high-energy environment in which the planet resides, a key input to models of photoevaporation.

Proposal 16065 - Visit 01 - The irradiation and atmospheric escape of the brightest gaseous super-Earth

Mon Mar 08 16:00:23 GMT 2021

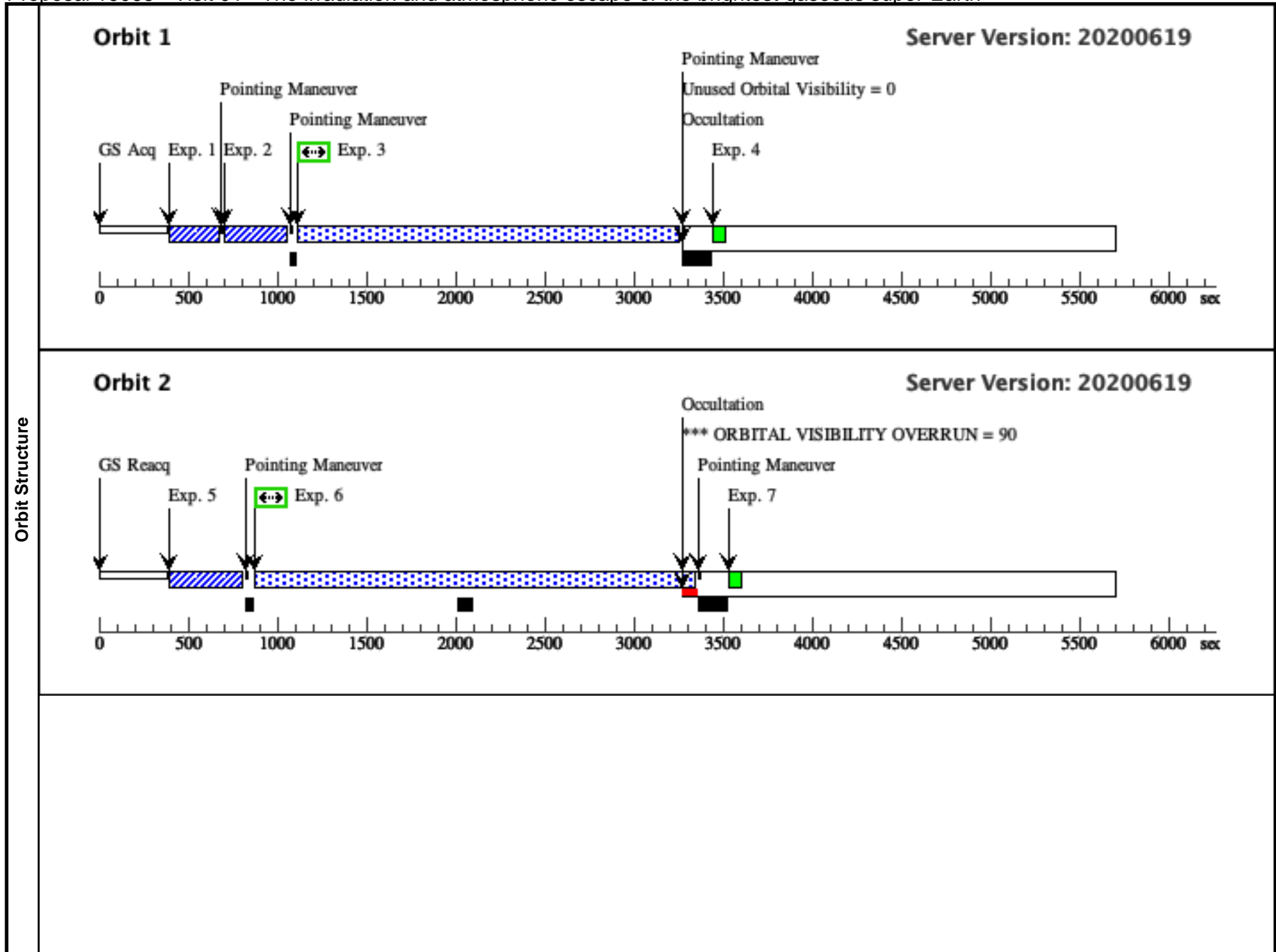
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Exposures	1	ACQ (STIS.ta.141 0291)	(1) PI-MEN	STIS/CCD, ACQ, F28X50OIII	MIRROR		PHASE 0.9675 TO 0.9755	Sequence 1-4 Non-Int in Visit 01	2 Secs (2 Secs) [==>]	[1]
	2	ACQ/PEAK (STIS.sp.14 10289)	(1) PI-MEN	STIS/CCD, ACQ/PEAK, 52X0.05	G430L 4300 A			Sequence 1-4 Non-Int in Visit 01	1 Secs (1 Secs) [==>]	[1]
	3	SCI E140H (STIS.sp.14 10383)	(1) PI-MEN	STIS/FUV-MAMA, TIME-TAG, 0.2X0.2	E140H 1271 A		BUFFER-TIME=1000; WAVECAL=NO	Sequence 1-4 Non-Int in Visit 01	2253 Secs (1989 Secs) [==>1989.0 Secs]	[1]
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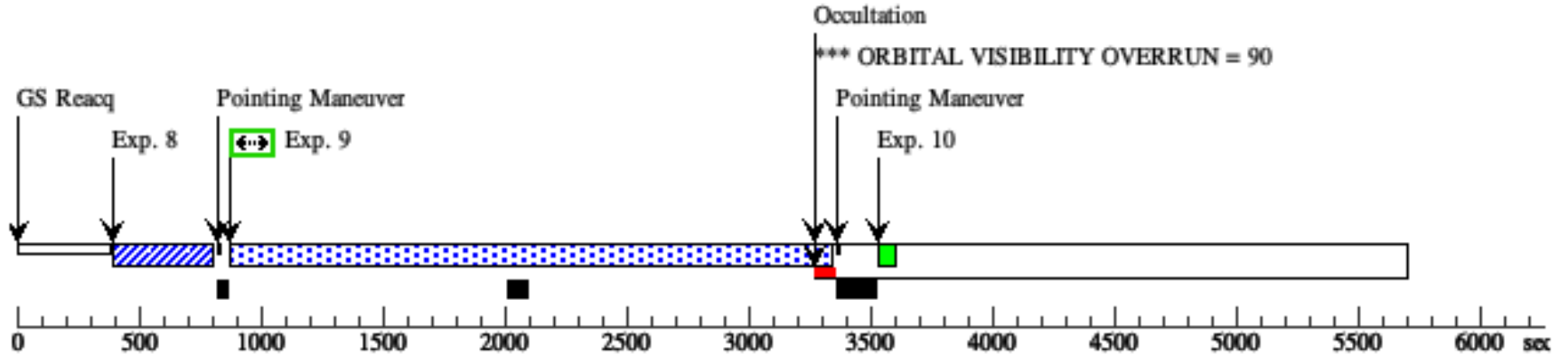
Proposal 16065 - Visit 01 - The irradiation and atmospheric escape of the brightest gaseous super-Earth

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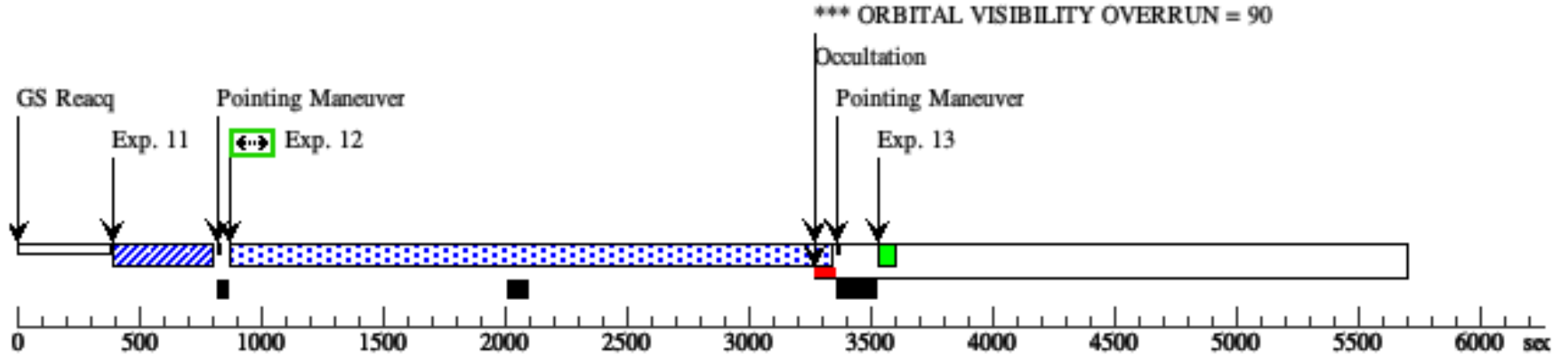
Orbit 3

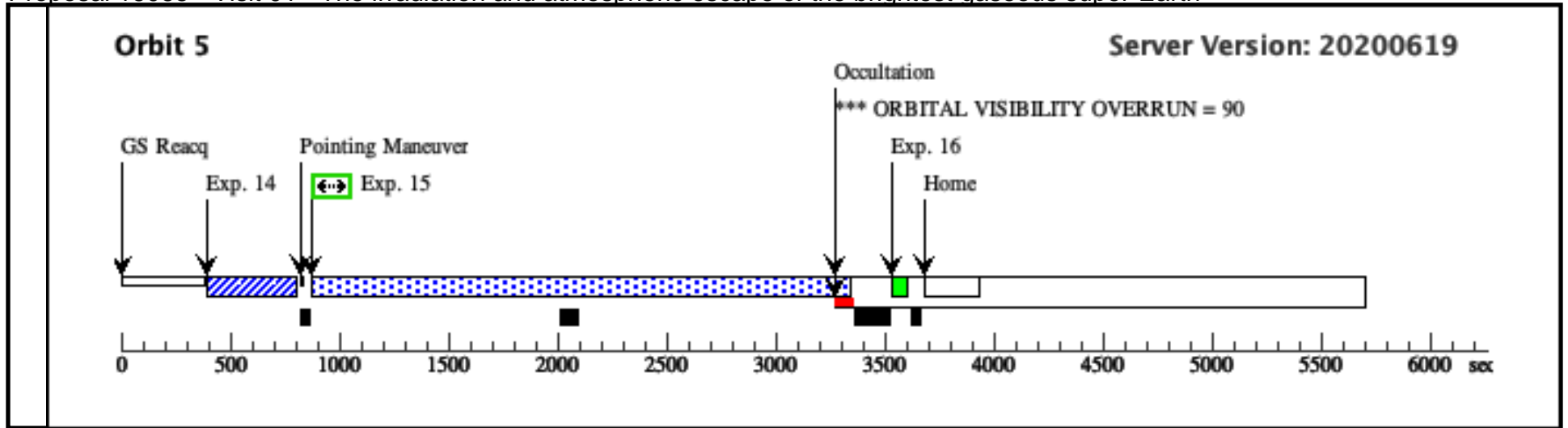
Server Version: 20200619



Orbit 4

Server Version: 20200619





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Mon Mar 08 16:00:24 GMT 2021

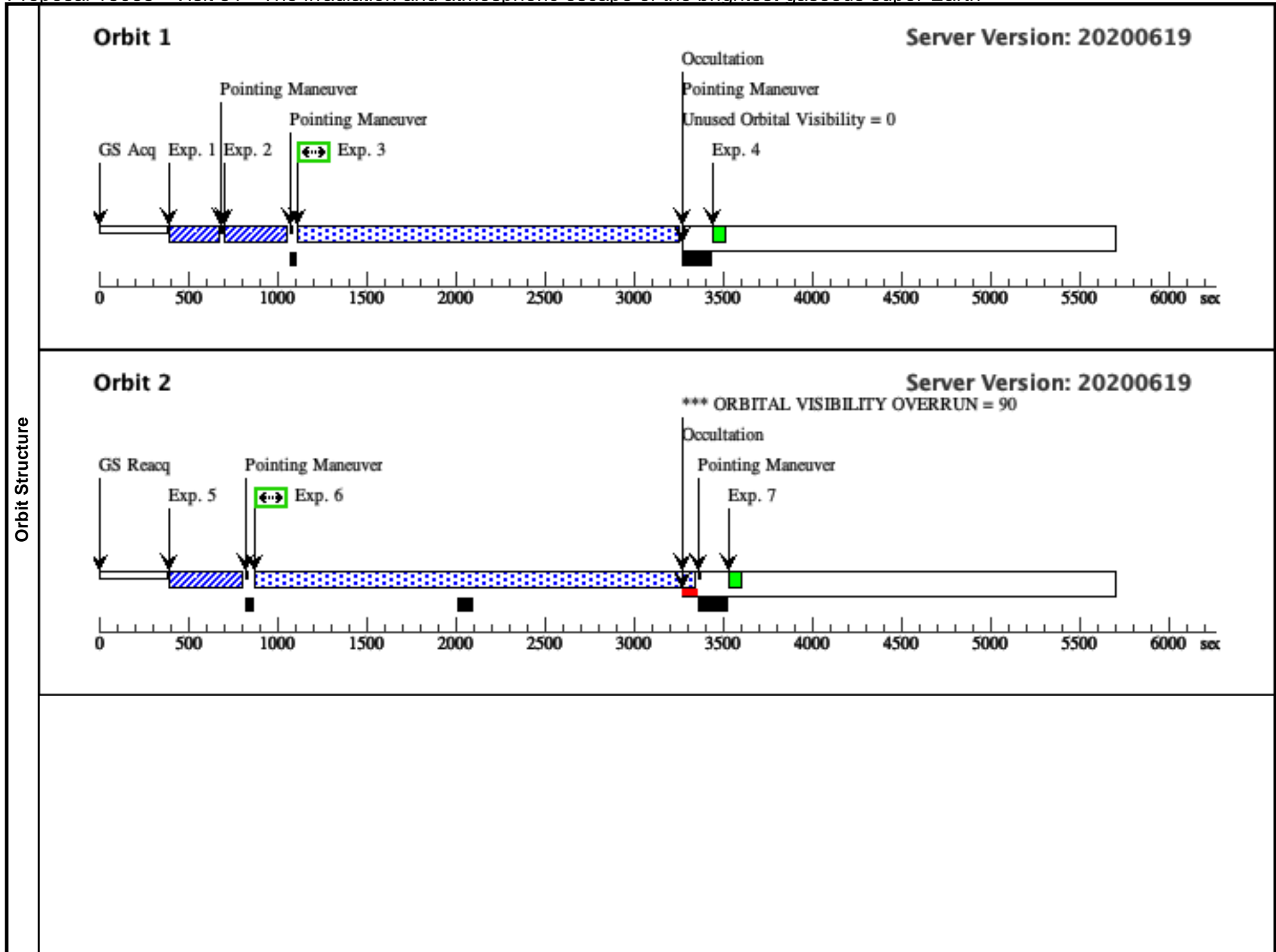
Visit	Proposal 16065, Visit 51 Diagnostic Status: Warning Scientific Instruments: STIS/CCD, STIS/FUV-MAMA Special Requirements: SCHED 70%; Period 6.2679 D AND ZERO-PHASE HJD2458325.50400																																								
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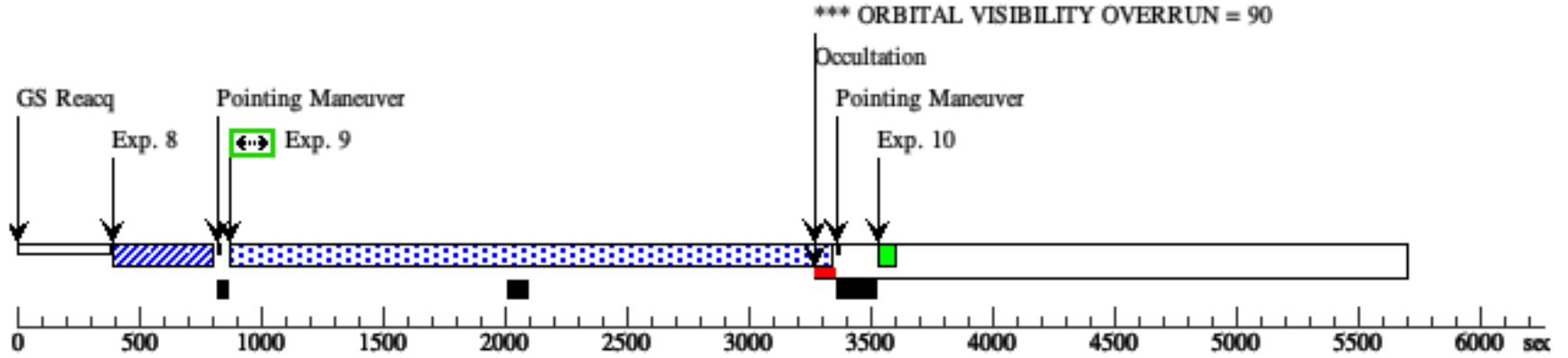
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Orbit 3

Server Version: 20200619



Orbit 4

Server Version: 20200619

