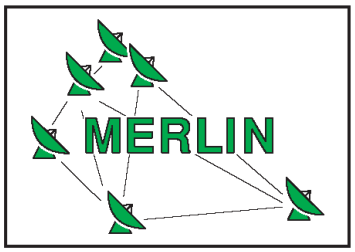
The University of Manchester
Jodrell Bank
Observatory

MANCHESTER 1824



Science & Technology Facilities Council

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Semester 09A Observations : February - June 2009

Deadline for Receipt of Proposals - 30th September 2009.

Observing frequencies available:-

L-Band - 1.33 GHz to 1.43 GHz and 1.57 GHz to 1.73 GHz*

C-Band - 4.5 GHz to 5.2 GHz and 6.0 GHz to 6.8 GHz*

- The Lovell Telescope will be available for short periods only during Semester 09A**.
- It is envisaged that frequency flexibility between full observing runs will be available.
- There will be MERLIN + EVN observations in this semester. Proposals to go to the EVN PC.

Proposals should be submitted via the MERLIN Web-based Proposal Tool.
Available at http://www.merlin.ac.uk/propsub/Northstar/

Please note that during Semester 09A MERLIN operations will continue at a reduced level as e-MERLIN is commissioned. Observations will be on a 'best efforts' basis and the MERLIN operations team will make every effort to obtain data for highly-rated proposals. Not all MERLIN antennas may be available during Semester 09A and observations may have to be restricted to a sub-set of telescopes. Please note that K-Band will not be available during Semester 09A.
Some e-MERLIN commissioning time is expected to become available during Semester 09A. Further details will be released on the e-MERLIN web pages during the Semester.
The system parameters for observations of a continuum source **in good weather conditions** are :-

	L-band	C-band	
Maximum angular resolution	∼150	∼ 40	(milliarcsec)
R.M.S. noise level for 12-hr. on source	∼ 60 / 30**	∼ 60 / 30**	(μJy beam^{-1})
Maximum bandwidth per polarisation	∼ 15	∼ 15	(MHz)

Further general information, and specific information regarding Key Programmes can be obtained via

www	URL http://www.merlin.ac.uk/propsub/
Access to NorthStar	URL http://www.merlin.ac.uk/propsub/northstar.html

* The maximum rate at which the observing frequency can be switched within an observing band for multi-frequency synthesis (MFS) observations is approximately once every five minutes.
** Use of the Lovell Telescope reduces the expected R.M.S. noise levels from ∼ 60 μJy/beam to ∼ 30 μJy/beam.

For spectral line work throughout the Semester, users are referred to Table 4.4 of the MERLIN User Guide Version 3, which is available online. The minimum total bandwidth is 250 kHz.

The University of Manchester, Jodrell Bank Observatory, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 9DL, England