VSOP AO3 PROPOSAL COVER SHEETS

DEADLINE : 1 October, 1999
SEND TO : VSOG, ISAS, 3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Sagamihara, Kanagawa 229-8510, JAPAN

(1) Date prepared : 1 October, 1999

(2) Proposal title : VSOP Observations of Centaurus A

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(5) Proposal Abstract :

We have observed Centaurus A (Cen A) at 5 GHz and obtained the highest resolution (2.15×0.524mas) image. The light-month jet of Cen A exhibits a prominent bending with real angle of >45 degree. No such heavy bending has been found in any AGN. We consider this bending is a key feature for investigating the jet physics, and propose follow-up observations of Cen A by VSOP. This bending could be interpreted with two categories of theoretical models, magnetic field or particle dominant models. Interestingly, these two models predict different motions of the bending. Monitoring the structural variability focusing on the bending of the jet, would let us obtain a clue of physical process of AGN jet acceleration in the light-month scale. Space VLBI observation is the best solution for this observation, because the space baseline fill the sparse ground baselines for high quality imaging.

(6) Proposal Category (indicate all that apply):

Object type:

☑ AGN, ☐ Maser, ☐ Stellar, ☐ Pulsar, ☐ Other :

Observation type:

☑ Continuum, ☐ Spectral Line, ☐ Polarization, ☐ Time-critical, ☐ Other :

(7) Number of proposed experiments

An 'experiment' is one or more observations of one source at a fixed HALCA set-up. A request to observe the same source at 1.6 GHz and separately at 5 GHz requires two columns to be filled in in item (8) below. A request to observe the same source with HALCA simultaneously observing at 1.6 GHz and 5 GHz requires one column to be filled in. Multi-epoch observations of the same source at the same frequency – a 'monitoring experiment' – requires only one column to be filled in. Suggested observing dates, especially for for time-critical and monitoring experiments, should be specified in item (11).

The number of experiments in this proposal is: 1

(8) Details of proposed experiments

	Experiment 1	Experiment 2	Experiment 3	Experiment 4
Source name (J*hhmm*±*ddmm*)	J1325-4301			
Alternative name	Cen A			
RA(J2000) (hh mm ss.ssss)	13 25 27.6150			
Dec(J2000) (dd mm ss.ssss)	-43 01 08.8050			
Observing frequency band (GHz)	5			
Continuum observations:				
Standard VSOP freq. channels?	☑	☐	☐	☐
Channel A range (MHz)				
Channel B range (MHz)				
Spectral line observations:				
Ch.A spectral line rest freq. (MHz)				
Ch.A LSR velocity (km/s)				
Ch.B spectral line rest freq. (MHz)				
Ch.B LSR velocity (km/s)				
FWHM of field of view required (mas)				
Min. spectral channels per IF channel	64			
Correlator averaging time (sec)	2			
No. of correlating passes (if >1)				
Total flux density (Jy)	3			
Correlated flux (mJy)	200			
Ground Radio Telescopes:				
Suggested array given at Item (11)?	☑	☐	☐	☐
GRT observing mode:				
128Mbps LCP (standard)	☑	☐	☐	☐
128Mbps LCP/RCP	☐	☐	☐	☐
256Mbps LCP/RCP	☐	☐	☐	☐
Preferred correlator:				
No preference	☐	☐	☐	☐
Mitaka	☑	☐	☐	☐
Penticton	☐	☐	☐	☐
Socorro	☐	☐	☐	☐
Monitoring programs:				
Number of observations	2			
Mean interval (days)	2 months			
Related VSOP proposal code(s)	V140B			

(9) VSOP spacecraft observing mode (see Section 3 and Table 5 of the VSOP Proposer's Guide):

☑ 2 channel x 16 MHz, 2-bit (Standard mode),

☐ Other:

Phase calibration tones:

☑ On (Standard continuum mode),

☐ Off (Standard spectral line mode)

(Include justification of any non-standard choice at (11) below)

(10) Assistance with preparation of ground telescope schedule files:

☑ VSOG assistance requested, ☐ Consultation desired, ☐ No assistance required

(11) Additional notes to the scheduler :

Three VLBA stations (MK, FD, PT), phased-AT are required (detail is in the main text).
One more telescope in Australia is expected.
Preferred range of date for scheduling is February - April, 2000.

(12) Attach a scientific and technical justification, not in excess of 2 pages of text and 2 pages of figures. Refer to the VSOP Announcement of Opportunity for detailed instructions. Preprints and reprints will not be forwarded to the Scientific Review Committee.

EITHER e-mail the completed LaTeX file to submit@vsop.isas.ac.jp and send two paper copies of the complete proposal to:

VSOP Observing Proposals
VSOP Science Operations Group
Institute of Space and Astronautical Science
3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Sagamihara
Kanagawa 229-8510 JAPAN

OR e-mail the completed LaTeX Cover Sheets file and, in a separate e-mail, the postscript file of the scientific and technical justification, to submit@vsop.isas.ac.jp

Information from the Cover Sheets of scheduled proposals will be made available from the VSOP WWW site.

Proposals must be received at ISAS by 1 October 1999