

Definitions

Common definitions

- **TAC:** time allocation committee
 - **PI:** principal investigator
 - **co-I:** co-investigator (i.e. collaborator)
 - **Observing mode:**
 - **Queue:** an astronomer at the telescope observes targets for multiple programs during the night
 - **Classical:** the PI or a co-I travels to the telescope and observes the targets for their program
 - **ks, hours, nights:** common base units for time request (varies by observatory)
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Common definitions

- **exposure/integration time:** time collecting science photons
 - **overheads:** time spent on other things (slew, calibrations)
 - **total request = exposure time + overheads**
 - **Instrument class:** describes who maintains instruments
 - **facility:** maintained and operated by the observatory
 - **visiting:** maintained/operated by others
 - **PI-led:** requires instrument developers to be on the proposal and involved with the science
 - **proprietary period:** how long the data are private before they are available on a public archive
 - **Band 1/2/3:** the way Gemini refers to good (1/2) and bad (3) weather conditions
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Common definitions

- **KPNO:** Kitt Peak National Observatory, near Tucson, AZ
 - **CTIO:** Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory, near La Serena, Chile
 - **Phase I:** the first stage of a program, where the proposal is prepared. Phase II is for tasks related to accepted proposals (e.g., targeting file or budget preparation). Phase III (if it exists) is related to data reduction and analysis.
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Observatory/telescope locations

- <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1BMzRO1puXoGhZV7L0NCe6Qu2wXo4y6oW&u>
sp=sharing

