The Beginner's Guide to JCMT Observing Projects

The lifecycle of a project and the responsibilities of the proposing team and the observatory.

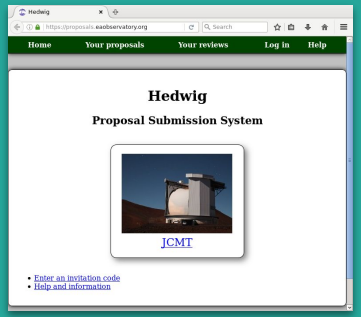
Before Observing

Team propose a Project

- ➔ Proposal is Assessed by TAC/Referees.
- ➔ Awarded time (hopefully).
- ➔ Assigned a priority in the upcoming semester.

Project Created in the OMP and team notified!

Hedwig

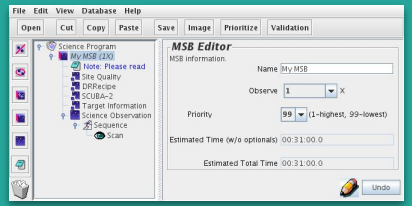


Team upload MSBs

- ➔ Friend of Project (FoP) checks MSBs.
- ➔ If required, back and forth between FoP and team.
- ➔ FoP enables project in queue once MSBs are OK.

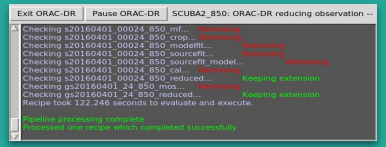
Project MSBS are now in the queue for observing!

JCMT-OT



During Observing

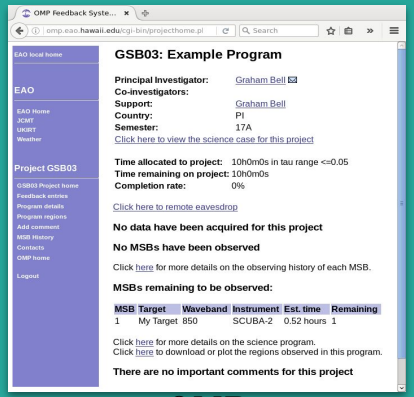
- ➔ MSBs sit in queue for observing.
- ➔ Telescope observes MSBs based on weather, availability and TAC priority.
- ➔ OMP ‘flex’ account emails team every night with details of observations.
- ➔ Links/emails available to follow observing live.
- ➔ Pipeline reduced observations are uploaded to CADC every night.



ORAC-DR

Team check data promptly

- Using your CADC account* download data from archive.
- Report problems and request time back if required (via flex).
- Follow observing live through email links/zoom.
- Update science program/MSBs if required.
- Check DR and ask for changes to recipe and re/running of data.



OMP

*http://www.cadc-ccda.hia-iha.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/en/auth/request.html

After Observing

Team finalise data reduction

- ➔ Observatory provides software, pipelines and support.
- ➔ FoP and SciCom staff available for questions and help.

Team analyse data and publish

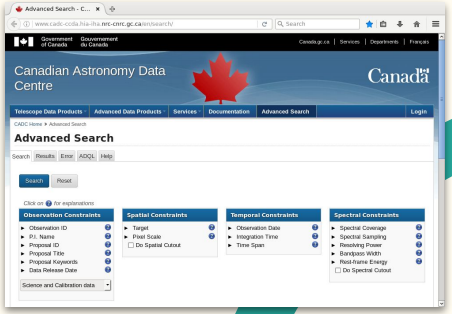
- Quote their JCMT project code in the observations or acknowledgements section of paper.
- Acknowledge JCMT and cite relevant instrument papers.

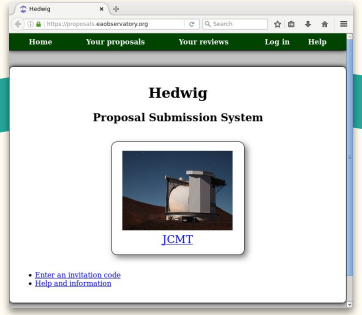
- ➔ FoP and Observatory staff available for help with technical issues/calibration etc.

Provided software

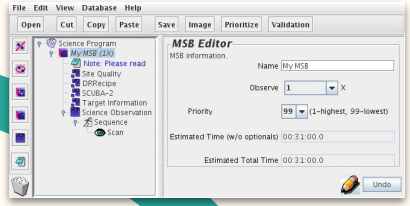
Hedwig

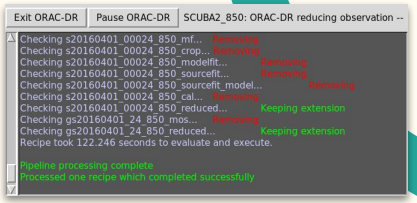
CADC





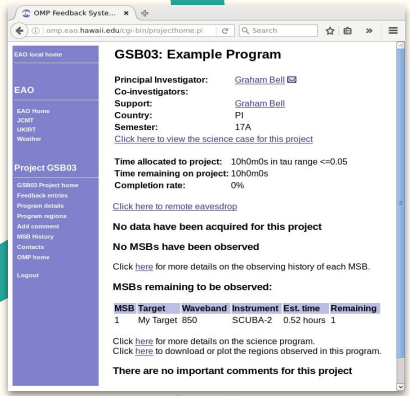
JCMT-OT





ORAC-DR

QT



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Proposals are submitted using Hedwig

https://proposals.eaobservatory.org

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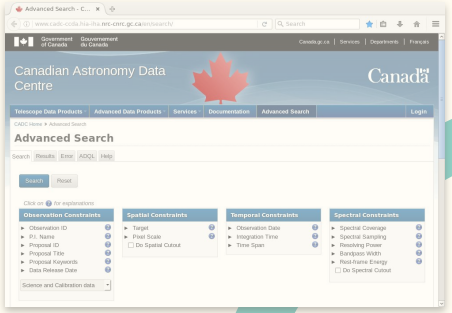

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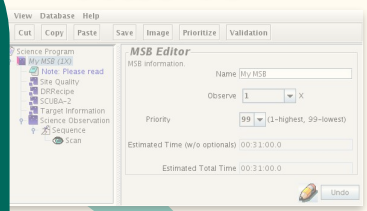

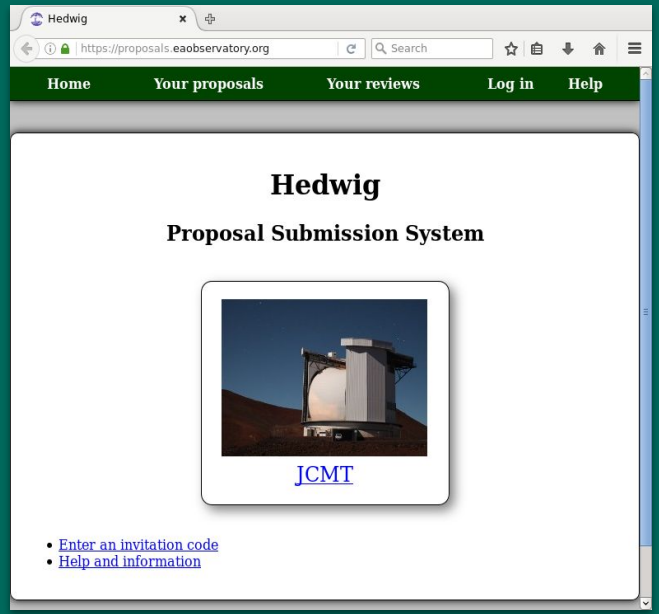

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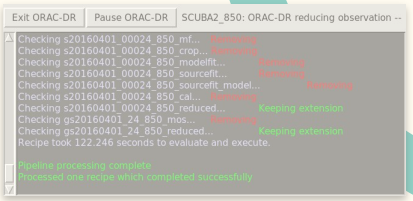

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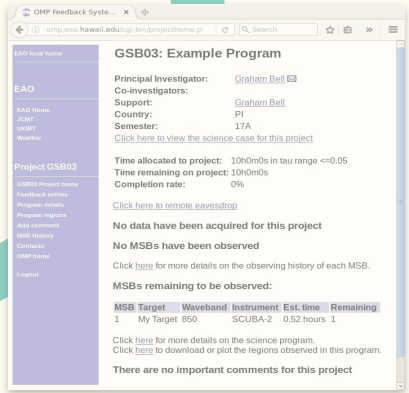

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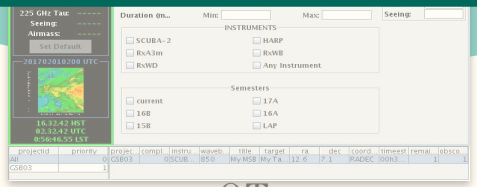

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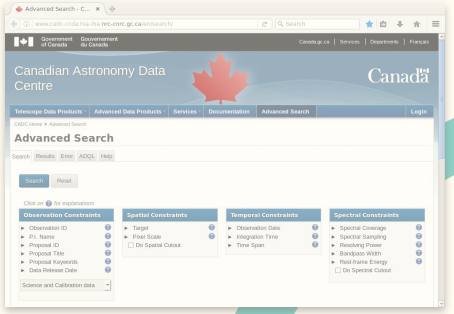
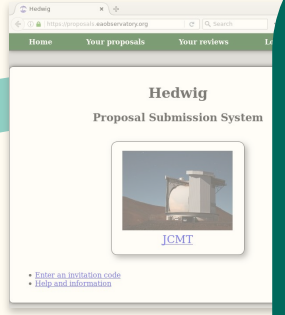
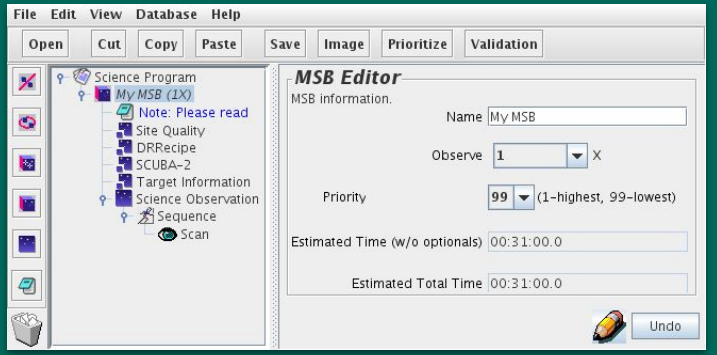
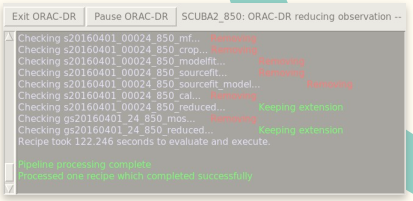


Hedwig

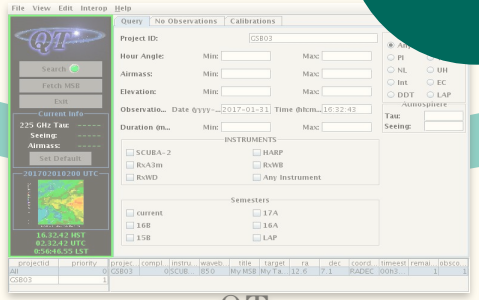


MSBs are created and uploaded using the JCMT Observing Tool (JCMT-OT)

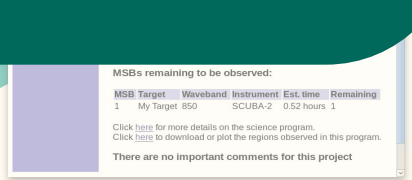




ORAC-DR



QT



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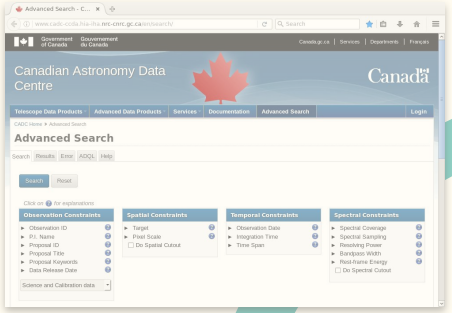

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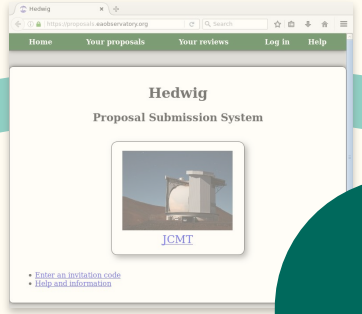
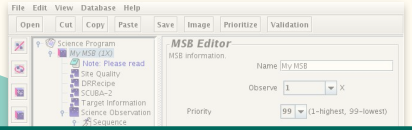
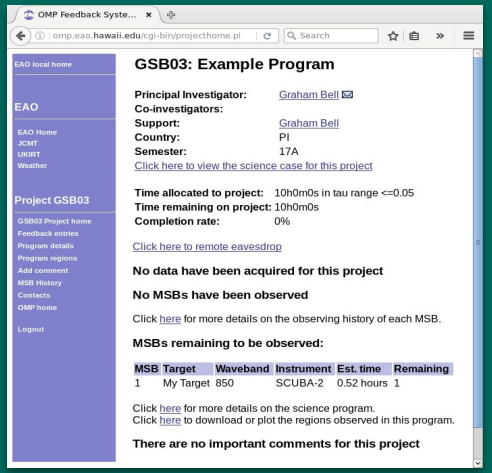
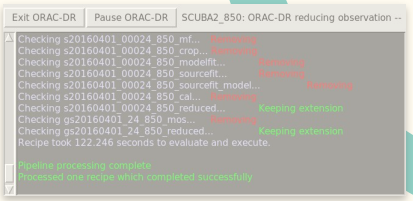


JCMT-OT



Progress of the observing program is monitored using the OMP. Includes links to follow a night's observing live.





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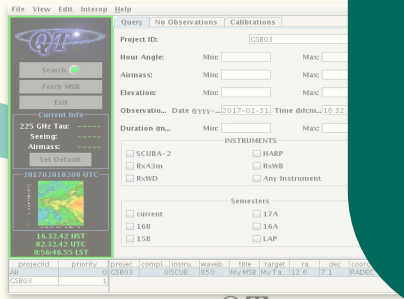

QT

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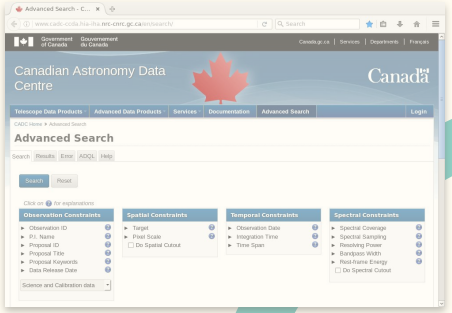
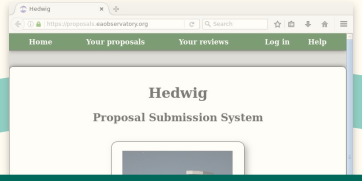
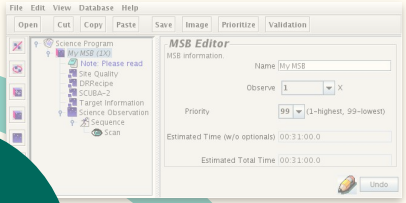
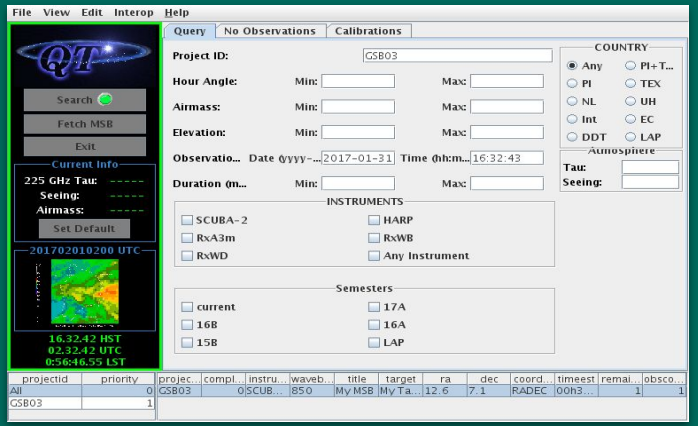
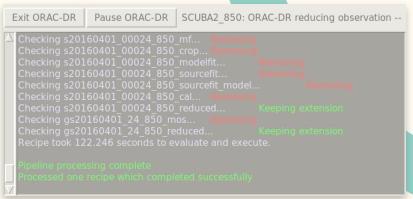






Telescope operators use the Query Tool (QT) to select the appropriate project to observe based on scientific ranking and current conditions





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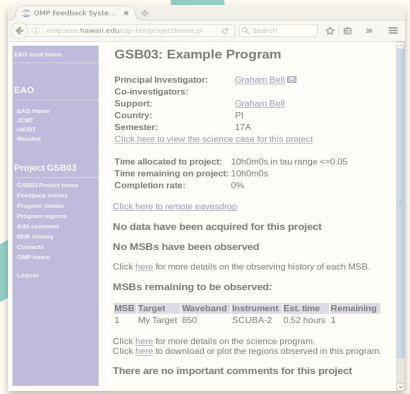

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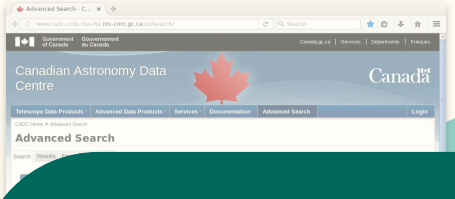
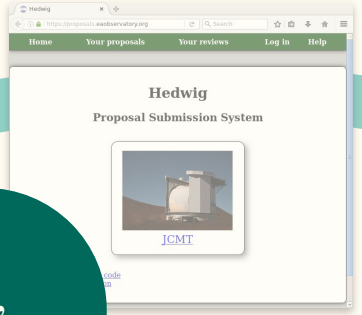
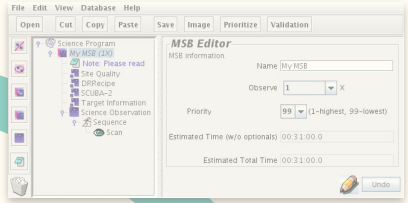


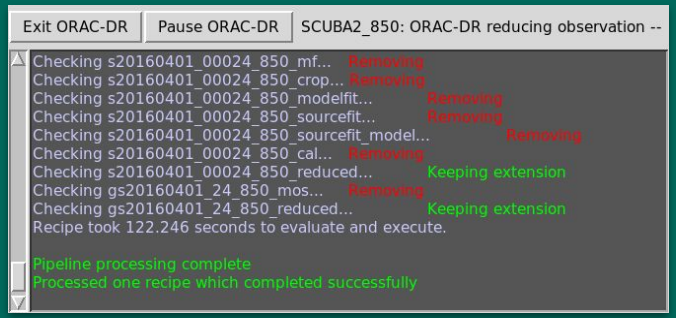
Hedwig

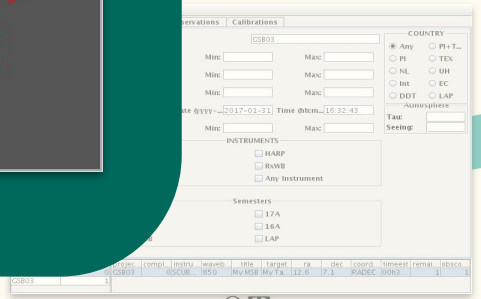


JCMT-OT

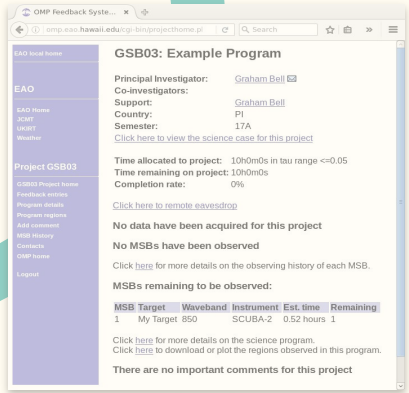


The ORAC-DR Data Reduction pipelines are run on the observations, both during the night so the Telescope Operator can assess quality, and the next day for a high quality reduction.





QT



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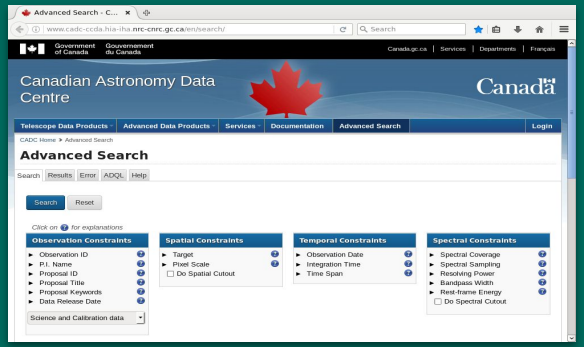
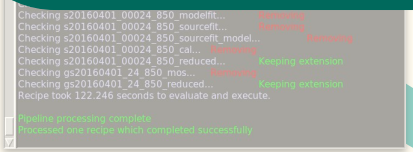
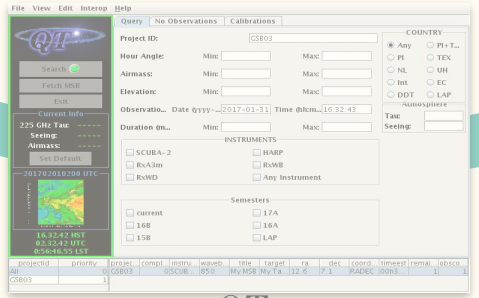
JCMT-OT

Raw and Reduced data are uploaded within 24 hours to the JCMT Science Archive at CADC.





ORAC-DR



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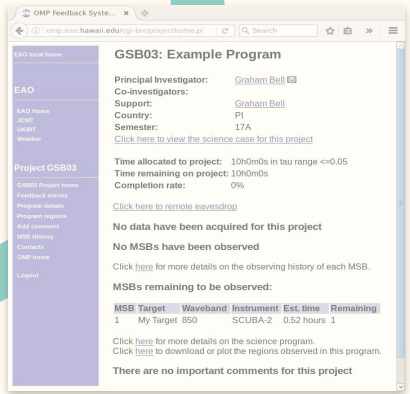

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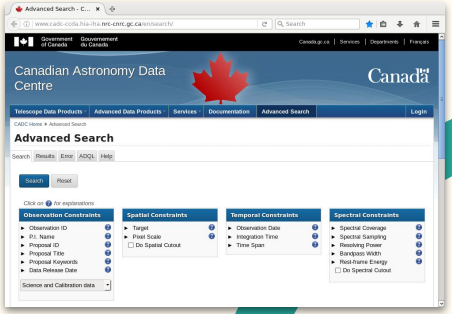

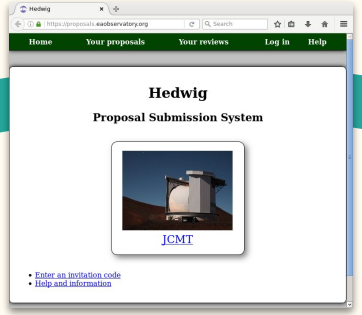

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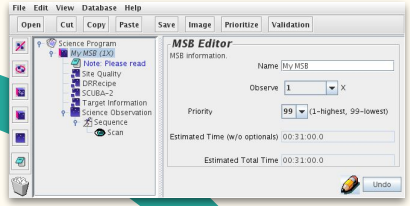

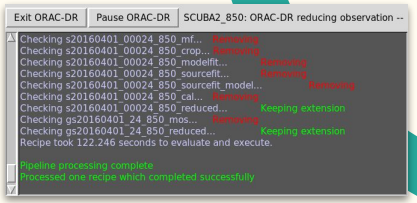

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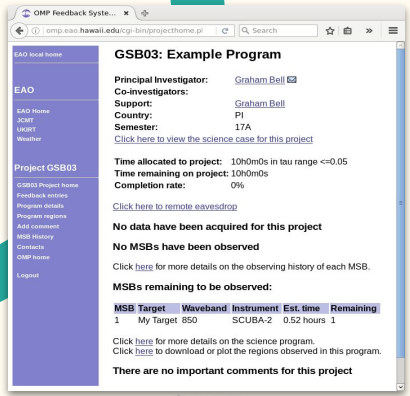

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1 year later...

- ➔ 1 year after the end of the semester data are taken in, they become publicly available to the world at CADC.
- ➔ Other scientists can now make use of the data.

You'll search, you'll filter,
you'll find the awful truth
Are you ready for...

THE JCMT SCIENCE ARCHIVE!

Now at a CADC near you!