

The Nordic Optical Telescope

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Director NOTSA

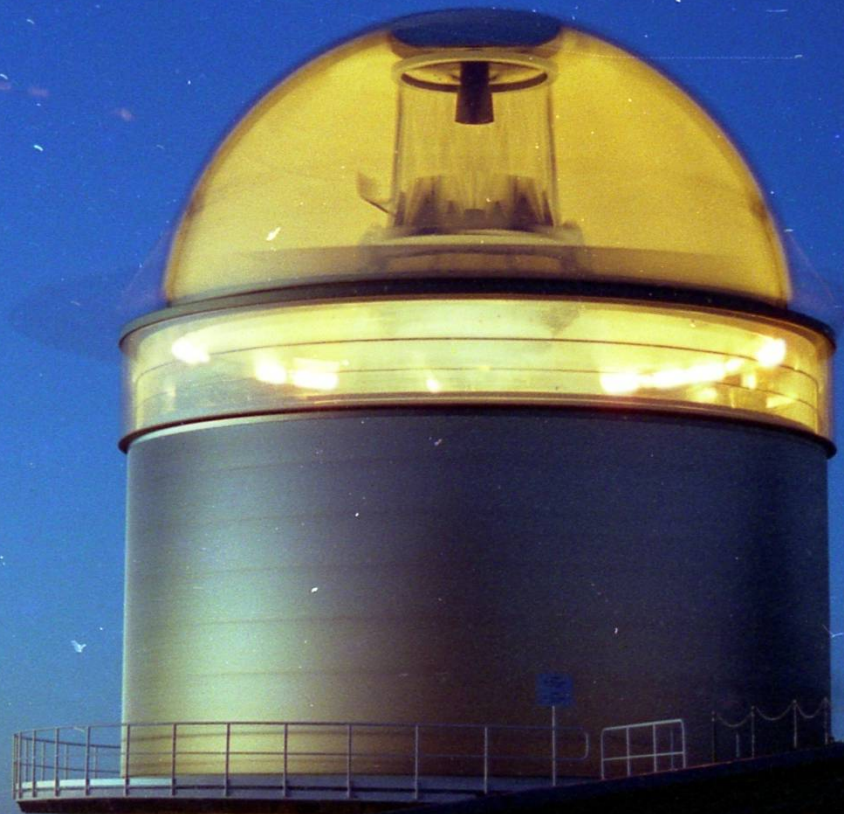


Photo: Jacob Clasen, NOT

What is NOT?

- 2.56 m mirror (T. Korhonen, Tuorla)
- High optical quality, negligible dome seeing
- Visitor and service mode observations
- Support personnel on call every night
- Fast, flexible, safe & easy-to-use telescope control system (upgraded in 2006)
- Altitude limit at 6° above horizon
- New autoguider system (2006)
- Instruments under quality control (since 2003)
- New data acquisition systems + script generators
- Data in MEF format with complete headers
- Quick-look and pipeline reductions
- Possibility to test out own instruments
- Training courses (local and/or remote)
- *Fully integrate Observing Block system being implemented*
- *Side-ports are being automated*

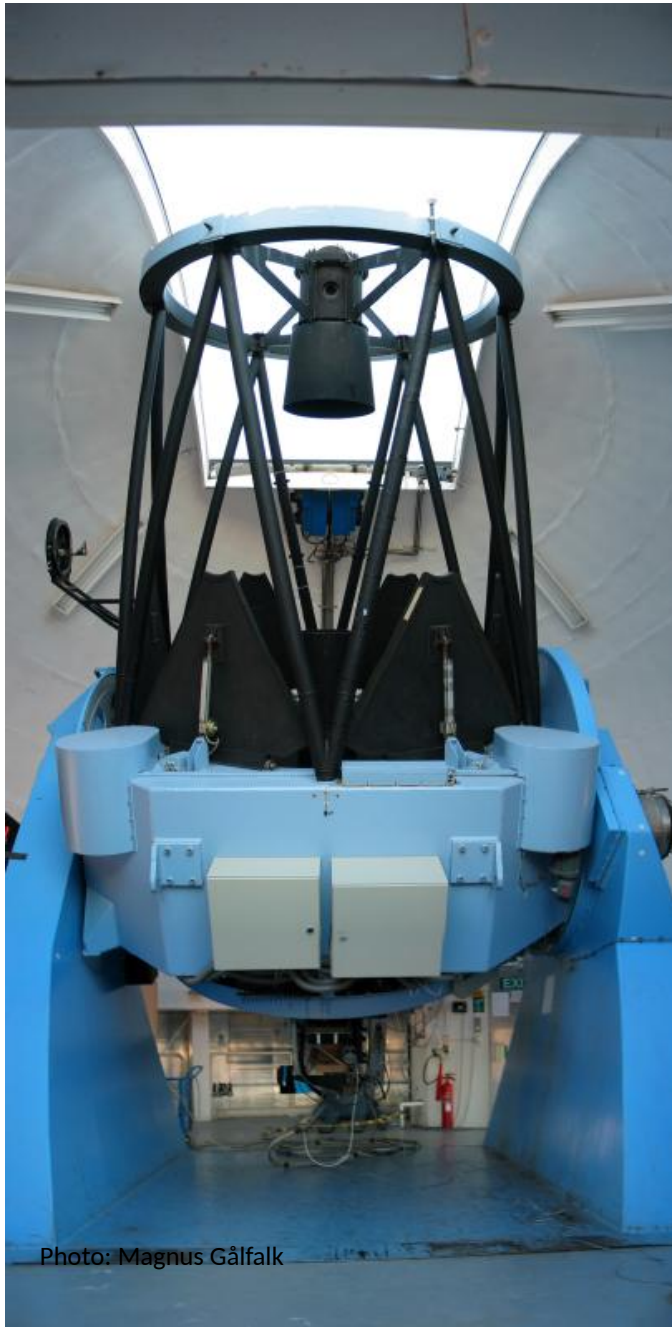


Photo: Magnus Gålfalk

Down time:

Weather (summer)	~10 %
(winter)	~35 %
Technical problems:	~0.5-1 %

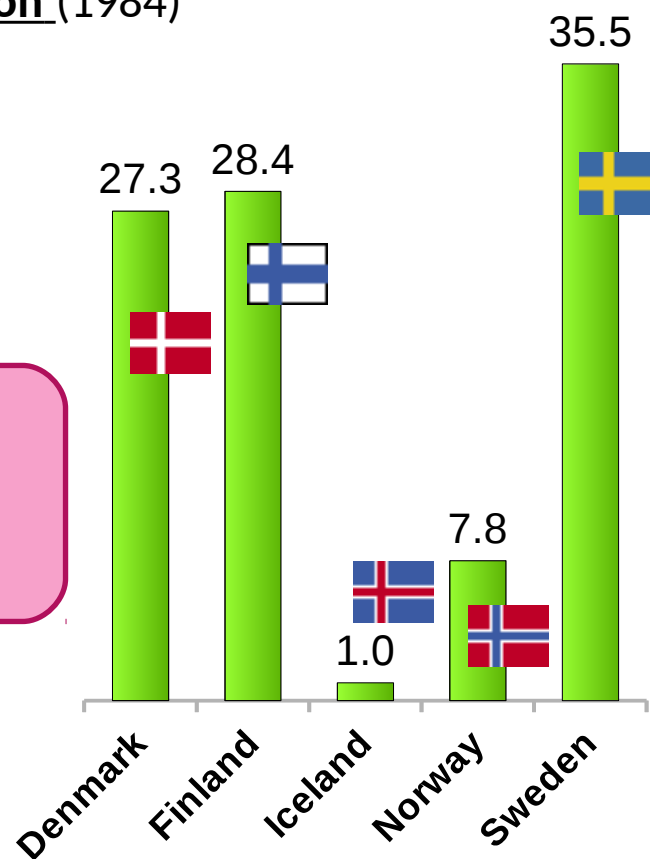


NOTSA

- The **Nordic Optical Telescope Scientific Association** (1984)
- Swedish non-profit organization ('Stiftelse')
- Inauguration and start regular operations in 1989
- Iceland joined in 1997
- Annual budget ~1.5M€

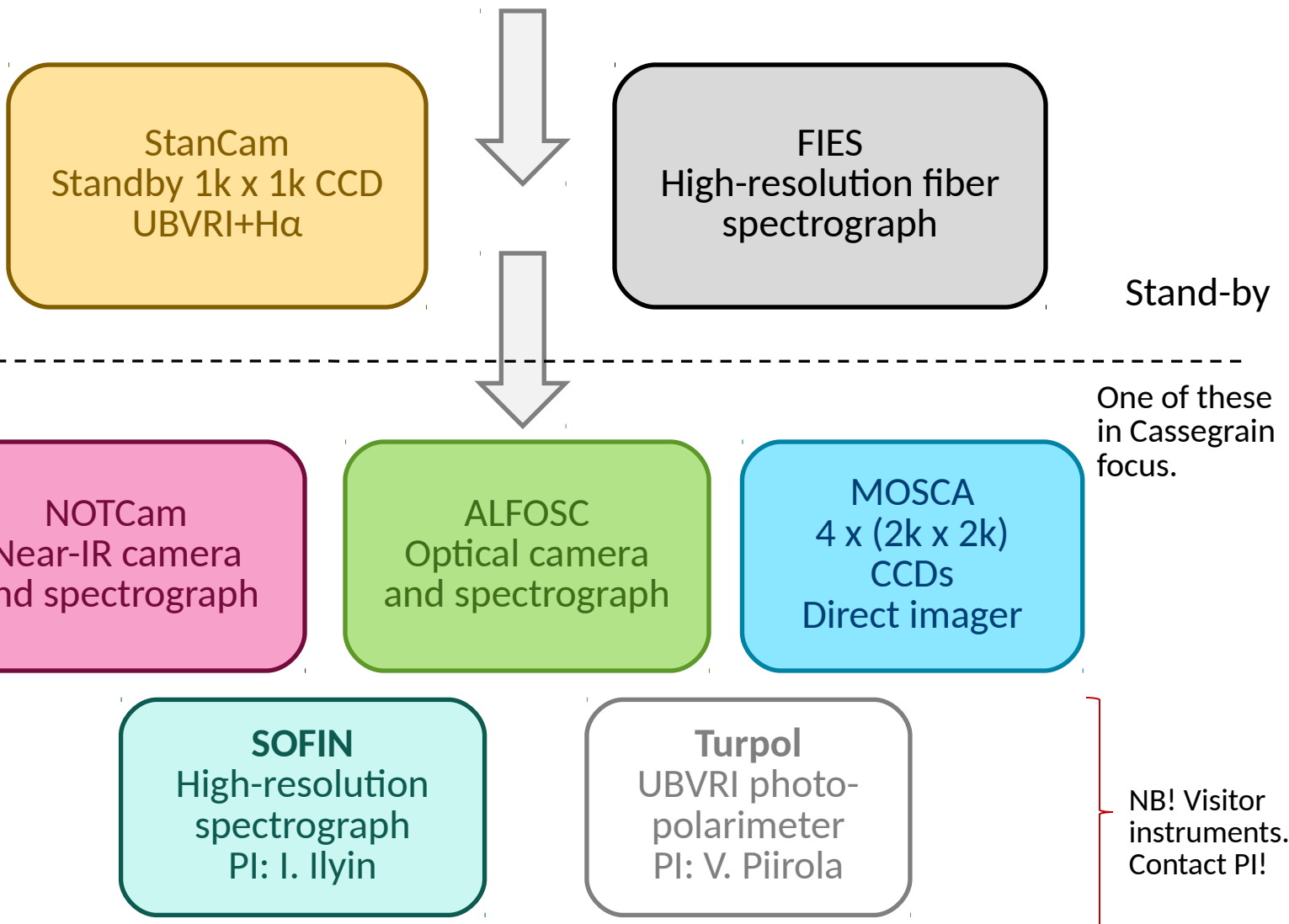
Executive body: NOT Council & Directorate
Observing Programmes Committee (OPC)
Scientific – Technical Committee (STC)

Participation %





Instrumentation



Proposal system

Regular proposals

- Call for proposals every semester (deadline Nov 18!)
- Integrated proposal system
 - ➡ Instrument setup
 - ➡ Contact and instruction emails
 - ➡ End-of-night reports

Large proposals

- Extended programs over multiple semesters (up to 3 years)

Fast-track proposals

- Short programs (4hr max)
 - ➡ Submit proposal at any time (answer within 2 weeks)
 - ➡ Data-base proposal processing



Observing

● Observing modes

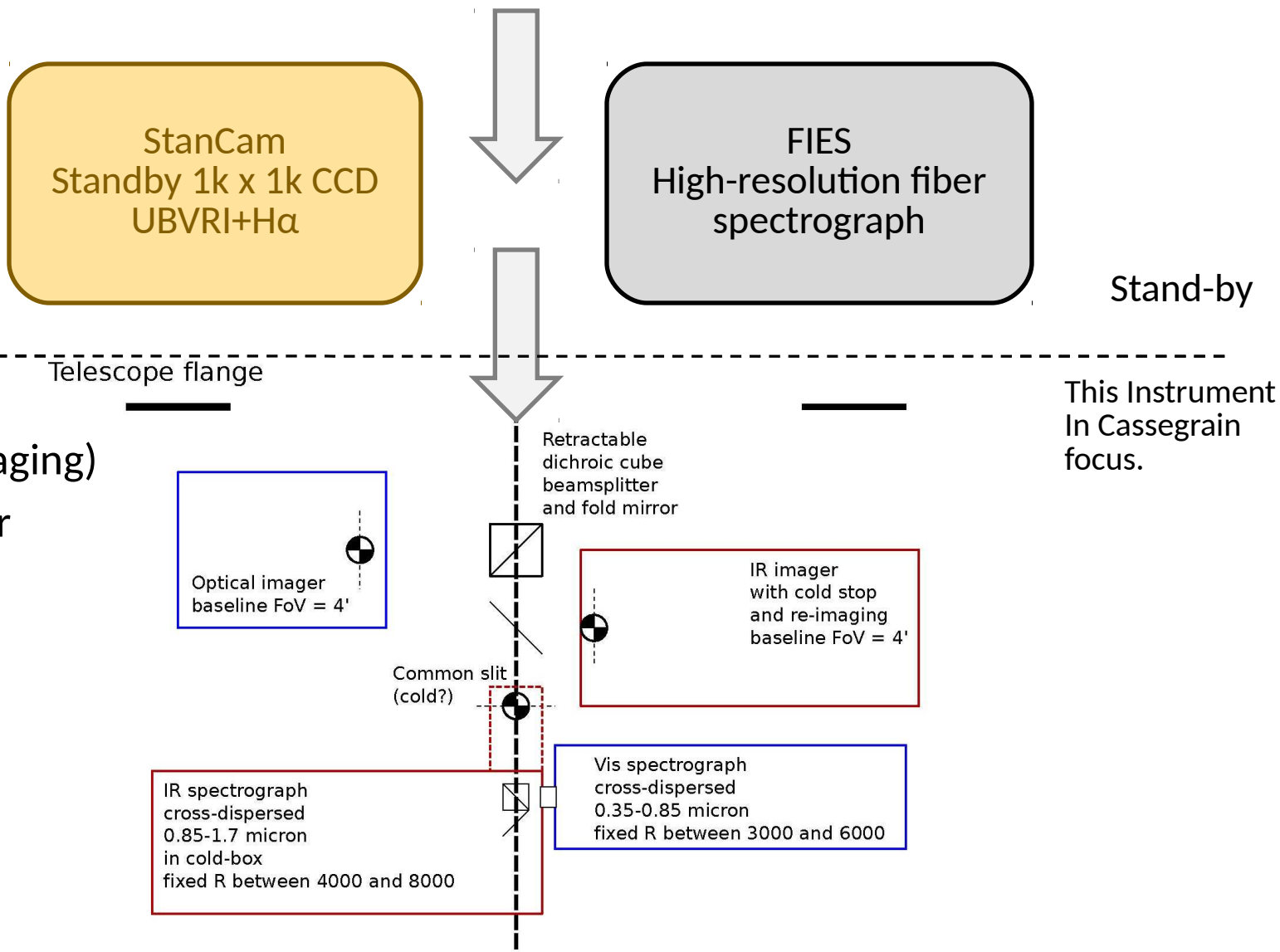
- ➔ Regular visitor mode
- ➔ Service mode (~50 nights per semester)
- ➔ Monitoring programs (8-10 programs per semester)
- ➔ ToO programs (~5 programs per semester)
 - ◆ Soft (dedicated nights)
 - ◆ Hard (same [any] night; possibly direct override)
 - ◆ Under development: *Rapid-Response mode* (<90 sec)
- ➔ Education programs
 - ◆ On-site courses
 - ◆ Remote courses

● Integrated observing system

- ➔ Shell scripting
- ➔ Observing Block system

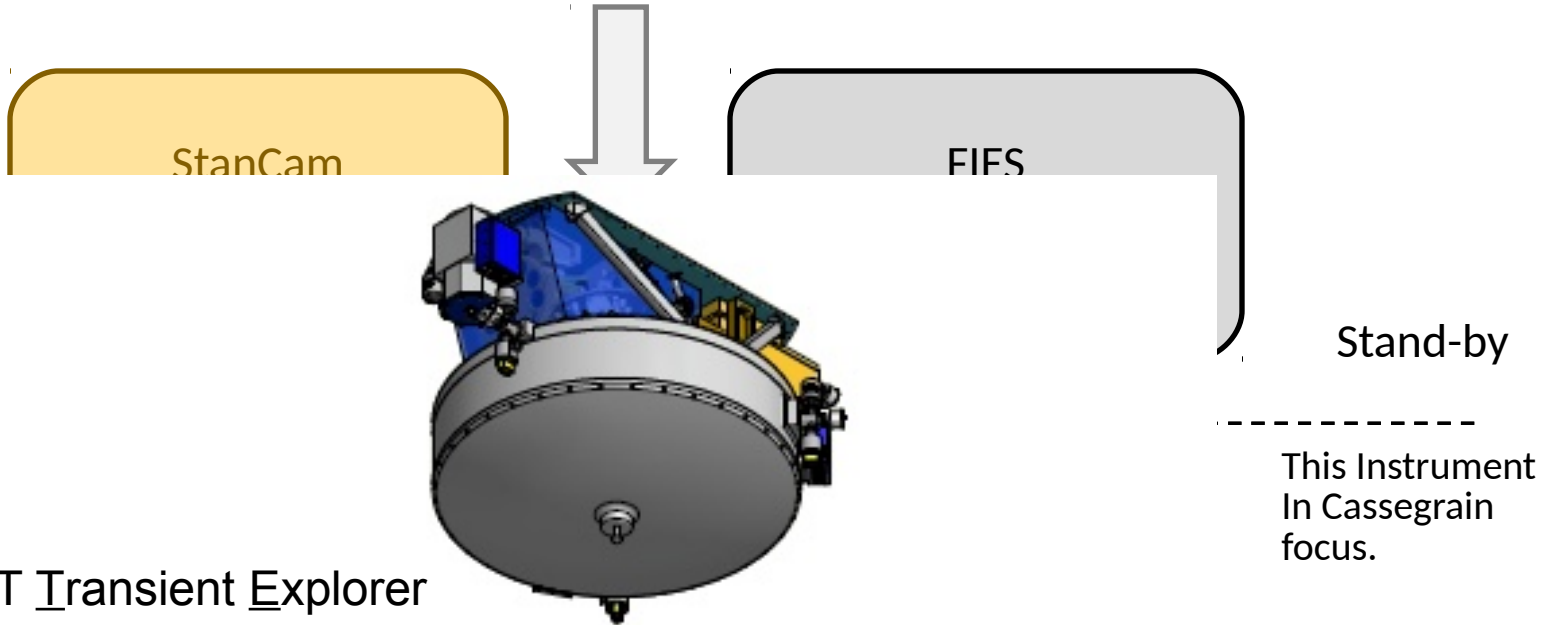


Future Instrumentation (2019)

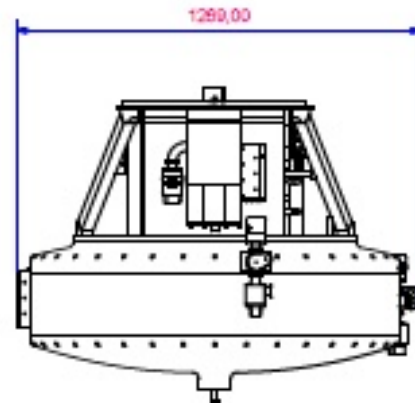
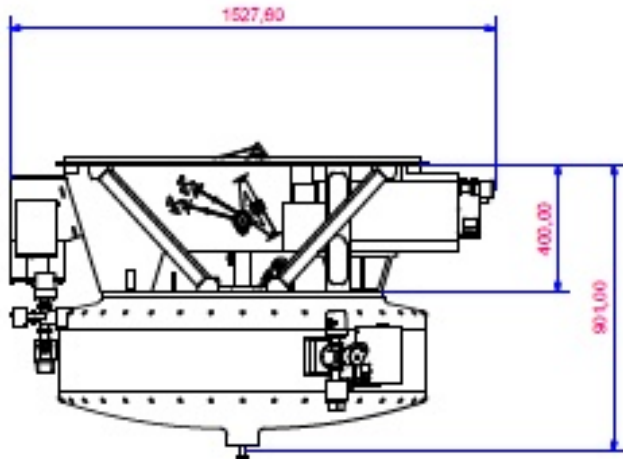




Future Instrumentation (2019)



NTE: NOT Transient Explorer



Changing organisation

Current situation

- Sweden withdrawing in stages (final February 2020)
 - ➔ Reduction in contribution 500kEuro
- NOTSA will be dissolved

Future structure

- Consortium
 - ➔ Hosting organisation (Nordic University)
 - ➔ National funding agencies DK, FI, IS and NO remain partners
 - ➔ External partners/contributors:
 - ◆ OPTICON, HELAS
 - ◆ ESA-SSA, TESS, Euclid
 - ◆ ZTF, Quasar monitoring

Operations

- Largely unchanged



NOT & OPTICON

- NOTSA has participated in the TNA under FP6, FP7-1 and FP7-2
 - ➔ Only access for non-Nordic and non-Spanish proposals
- Typical income FP6 and FP7-1 ~100kEuro/yr, FP7-2 ~50kEuro/yr
- NOT annual budget: ~1.75MEuro (2004-2012); ~1.5MEuro (2013-now)
- Small, but significant part of the budget (~1 FTE)
- Future (TNA) perspective...

The NOT Students



http://www.not.iac.es



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Nordic Optical Telescope

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