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Sarah Wood - 2025-03-11 - General

You can specify a range of dates when your observations should be executed in the ALMA Observing Tool. Proposals may involve time-critical, multiple-epoch observations, and continuous monitoring of a target over a fixed time interval, but their execution is restricted to the time slots reserved for Cycle 2 science observations. Therefore proposals with an execution time tolerance of less than 2 weeks cannot be guaranteed and may be rejected on technical grounds, even though they validate in the OT. This should not prevent observations of recurring phenomena with predictable times (such as, say, maximum elongations of planetary satellites), as long as their occurrences are spread over a sufficiently wide fraction of the Cycle 2 observing period and as long as the number of epochs that need to be observed remains relatively small with respect to the total number of suitable epochs across the Cycle.

Please refer to Section 5.3 of the [ALMA Cycle 2 Proposer's Guide](#) for more information on time-critical and monitoring observation during Cycle 2.

You can read how to include time constraints in section 5.3.5.5 the [Observing Tool User Manual](#).

Related knowledgebase articles:

- [Under what conditions can I request time-constrained ACA observations of predictable phenomena?](#)
- [Can I set up monitoring observations with the OT? What is the difference between "Multiple Epochs" and "Continuous Monitoring"?](#)