



Prof. Victor Parro
Director
Centro de Astrobiología (CSIC-INTA)
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28850, Madrid, Spain

Dear Prof. Prada,

This letter is to express the interest of the Centro de Astrobiología (CAB, INTA-CSIC) in the MAAT project at GTC. The proposal matches our expertise and scientific objectives. We are convinced that the research supported through this project will advance the goals of an outstanding international project that will provide the GTC with unique capabilities.

MAAT@GTC is devised as a Visitor IFS-mode that will allow the OSIRIS spectrograph at the 10.4 m GTC the capability to perform Integral-Field Spectroscopy over a seeing-limited field of view 14.20" x 10" with a slice width of 0.303", and will provide broad spectral coverage with low / moderate resolution ($R=600$ up to 4100) in the 360 - 1000 nm spectral range. Its top-level requirements will broaden its use to the needs of a group of researchers at CAB for a wide range of activities mainly in the field of brown dwarfs and planetary mass objects, star formation, and extragalactic astronomy. These science projects are currently limited by the availability of optimal spectroscopic resources, especially on large aperture telescopes. MAAT at GTC would fill in an important missing component in our programs. We will seek ways to provide synergy with current and upcoming surveys at different wavelengths, such as Euclid and JWST.

The scientific reach of MAAT@GTC is proving to be very substantial with a major impact on Astronomy and Cosmology. The Centro de Astrobiología would be pleased to collaborate at this phase with the Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía (CSIC) and its partners on this initiative.

Sincerely,

Víctor Parro
Director CAB