

UK contributions to Rubin commissioning

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Overview / reminder of Rubin Project timescales

- Survey operations:
 - commence no earlier than October 2023
 - no more than 6 months later (90% confidence)
 - main risk: coronavirus impact on telescope and mount assembly during upcoming Chilean winter
 - we should know more in late 2021
- Science Verification and Validation:
 - sustained 2 month on-sky observing with LSSTCam
 - no earlier than July—September 2023
- Opportunistic on-sky commissioning observations:
 - ComCam during 2022
 - LSSTCam in first half 2023

Towards a UK role in Rubin commissioning as members of the SITCom team

Call for expressions of interest

- Summer 2020
- 23 responses from 14 groups, including:
 - Analysis of science verification data including machine learning and eyeballing
 - Operational rehearsals
 - Commissioning of active optics including strong lensing targets

Commissioning Support in UK in-kind proposal

- November 2020
- All expressions of interest represented in proposal
- A single team taking direction from US
- On-summit and remote data analysis contributions
- Focus on helping Rubin team pass Operational Readiness Review
- Accepted in full, emphasising experienced individuals on summit ($\geq 2 \times 3$ month tours), and significant training

Call for detailed proposals for UK contributions

- Summer 2021
- Precise timescales currently under discussion
- Proposals to be jointly reviewed with Chuck Claver's SITCom team
- Overall aim: selection of UK team complete before end of 2021
- More details will be announced no later than NAM in late July

Key take aways:

- We are **on track** to join Rubin's System Integration, Testing and Commissioning (SITCom) team via the in-kind process
- Rubin colleagues prioritise us helping them to **pass Operations Readiness Review**, not helping us commission our science pipelines
- UK team expected to be **embedded within SITCom**, with work delegated through their management structure (and me) to the team
- Explicit requests for help on:
 - Commissioning of **active optics** sub-systems, drawing on UK's VISTA expertise
 - Analysis of on-sky data and **cross-correlation with telemetry**
- Encouraging response to new ideas put forward by UK community (no detailed discussion yet):
 - **Visual inspection** of on-sky commissioning data
 - Operational **rehearsal** support
- I am continuing to advocate for (a small number of) **early career** colleagues to participate in on-summit commissioning
- [1] Stay tuned for call for detailed commissioning proposals, [2] come to the Early Rubin Science and Commissioning session at NAM, [3] engage with your Science Collaboration