

IOTA/EA observation campaign

There are cases that observing a certain occultation event with a large number of people can be overwhelmingly beneficial in terms of scientific value and educational outcomes. For example, when you want to understand the size and shape of a flyby target on a planetary exploration mission, when you want to detect the atmosphere, moons, rings, of small solar system bodies, or when you want to have fun at a local astronomical observation event etc..

In such cases, you can propose an observation campaign to IOTA/EA. We may be able to help bring many observers together for a particular occultation observation.

Please fill out this [TEMPLATE](#) and email it to iota-ea_core@googlegroups.com.

For more information, please read below before submitting.

IOTA/EA has already conducted several observation campaigns. For example, the occultation of the asteroid (704) Interamnia, which was observed across national and regional borders to commemorate the establishment of IOTA/EA, the occultation observation to improve the orbit accuracy of (155140) 2005 UD (a multi-flyby target candidate of the DESTINY+ mission), and the occultation observations to discover the atmospheres, satellites, rings, etc. of outer solar system bodies.

If a researcher wants to gather a large number of observers for his/her own research and obtain occultation observation data from multiple locations, he/she can propose an IOTA/EA observation campaign.

If the observation campaign acquired sufficient data for a scientific paper, observers participating in the campaign may become co-authors of the paper (or be listed in the acknowledgements); for example, all participants in the occultation observation campaign for DESTINY+ mission, it was happened on October 03, 2021, became co-authors of the paper "Multi-chord observation of stellar occultation by the near-Earth asteroid (3200) Phaethon on 2021 October 3 (UTC) with very high accuracy, Publications of the Astronomical Society of Japan, 2022, psac096, <https://doi.org/10.1093/pasj/psac096>".

In addition to that, the DESTINY+ mission team sent a letter of appreciation to all observers who participated in the campaign.

In the case of the occultation observation campaign for the Hayabusa2# flyby object (98943) 2001 CC21, the Hayabusa2# mission team sent a letter of appreciation and JAXA goods to the all observers.

Thus, the observation campaign benefits both professional and amateur astronomers.

Anyone can propose an observation campaign. Once the proposal has been received by the Board, it will be discussed at the Board meeting. If the proposal is accepted, it becomes an IOTA/EA Observation Campaign, and then IOTA/EA will provide support as requested by the proposer (e.g., announcing observations, preparing deployment plan maps, preparing reporting forms, archiving data, etc.).

The proposer is responsible for compiling and reporting the results of the observations to the IOTA/EA (even if the observation is not successful due to bad weather, etc., please report such situation to the IOTA/EA).

The results of the observation campaign will be published on the IOTA/EA website.