

Journal of the Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers

Observation Submission Guide

Radio Astronomy is published six times per year as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file. A tentative publication schedule is provided in each issue in the Editors' Notes section.

Please consider submitting your radio astronomy observations for publication: any object, any wavelength. Strip charts, spectrograms, magnetograms, meteor scatter records, space radar records, photographs; examples of radio frequency interference (RFI) are also welcome.

We ask that you include the following information:

- ♦ One or more pictures—e.g., a strip chart, spectrogram, magnetogram, photograph, screen shot, etcetera. (See below for image format requirements.)
- ◊ A short description of what the observation represents; a sentence or two is fine.
- ♦ The name of the person who made the observation.
- ♦ When the observation was made.
- ♦ Where the observation was made (the observatory name, if any, and location).
- ◊ A short description of the hardware, software, and methods used to make the observation.

Please double check your observation to ensure easy mistakes have not been made; e.g., make sure dates and times are correct, that the antenna beam was pointed where you thought it was, and that the source was in the position you thought it was. It is often a good practice to see if your observation correlates with observations made by other observers.

Observation submissions should be made as a Microsoft Word document (.doc) file, a Rich Text Format (.rtf) file, a TeX (.tex) file, or a flat text (.txt) file. Other formats may be accepted with prior arrangements but may introduce delays in publishing.

Images used for illustration should be submitted as separate files. Photographs should be submitted as raster artwork (.jpg, .tiff, .gif, .png, .bmp) and should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi at full print size and the lowest compression level (highest quality) available. Screen shots should be submitted as bitmap (.bmp or .png) files. Line art charts should be submitted as vector artwork (.eps, .ai, .svg) when possible. If your images do not meet these requirements, we can still work with them; but, be aware that the published image quality may not be as good as you expect. Failure to submit separate images files may delay publication of your observation.

There are no file size limitations. If your images are large, that is fine; we will do the compression required to maintain quality while reducing file size.

Ideally, all the information for the observation—i.e., picture(s) and text—should fit on one page. Please submit your observation and image files as attachments to an email with "[RA-JSARA Observations]" in the subject line. Send submissions or inquiries to **observations@radio-astronomy.org**. If your image files are too large for an email (larger than 10 MB total), please contact us to make arrangements for upload.