



# The ESO Exposure Time Calculator

Henri M. J. BOFFIN

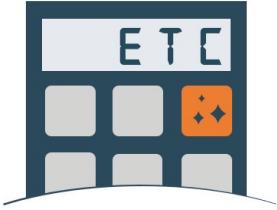


ETC Project manager:

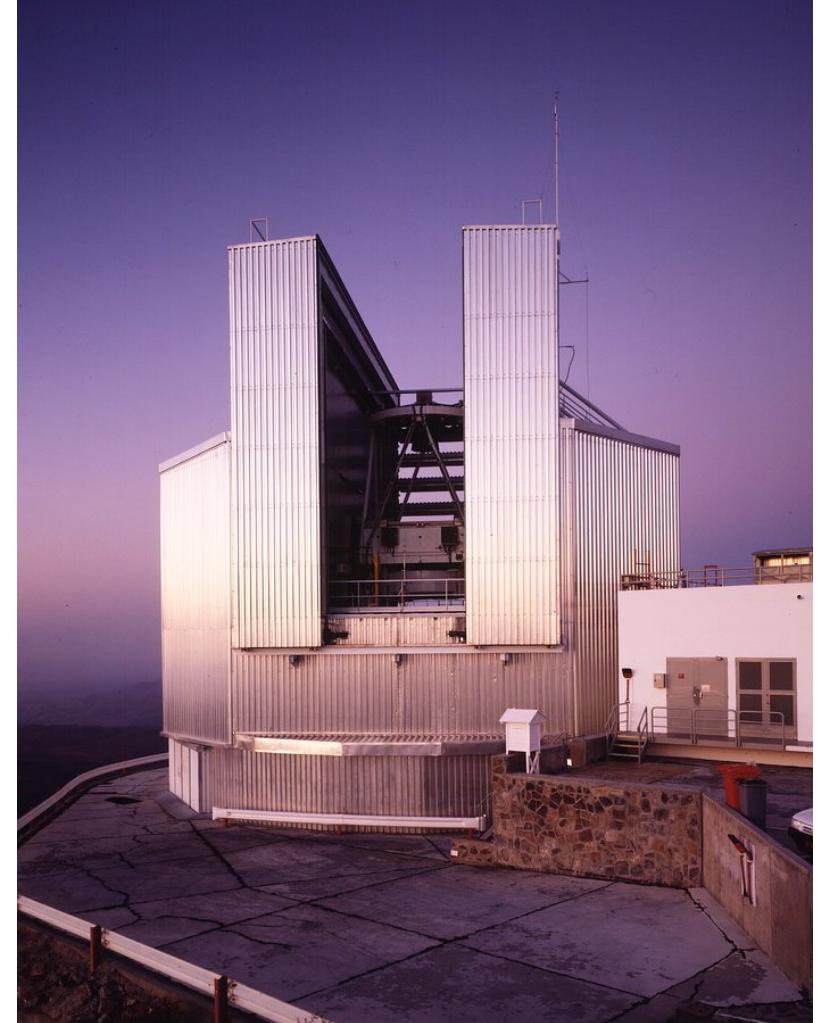
ETC Software engineers:

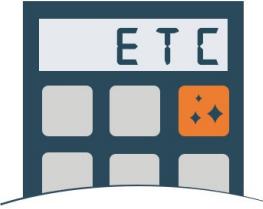
Jakob Vinther

Lars Lundin, David Huerta  
(former: Gurvan Bazin)

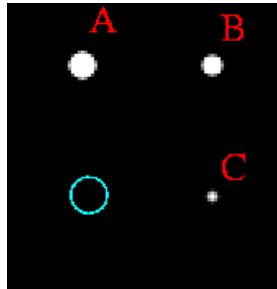


# Time is precious

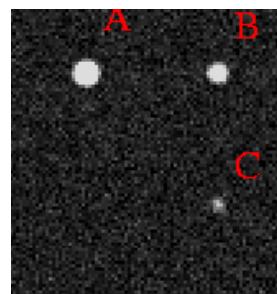




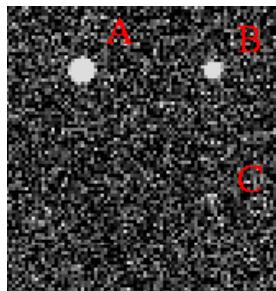
# Signal-to-noise



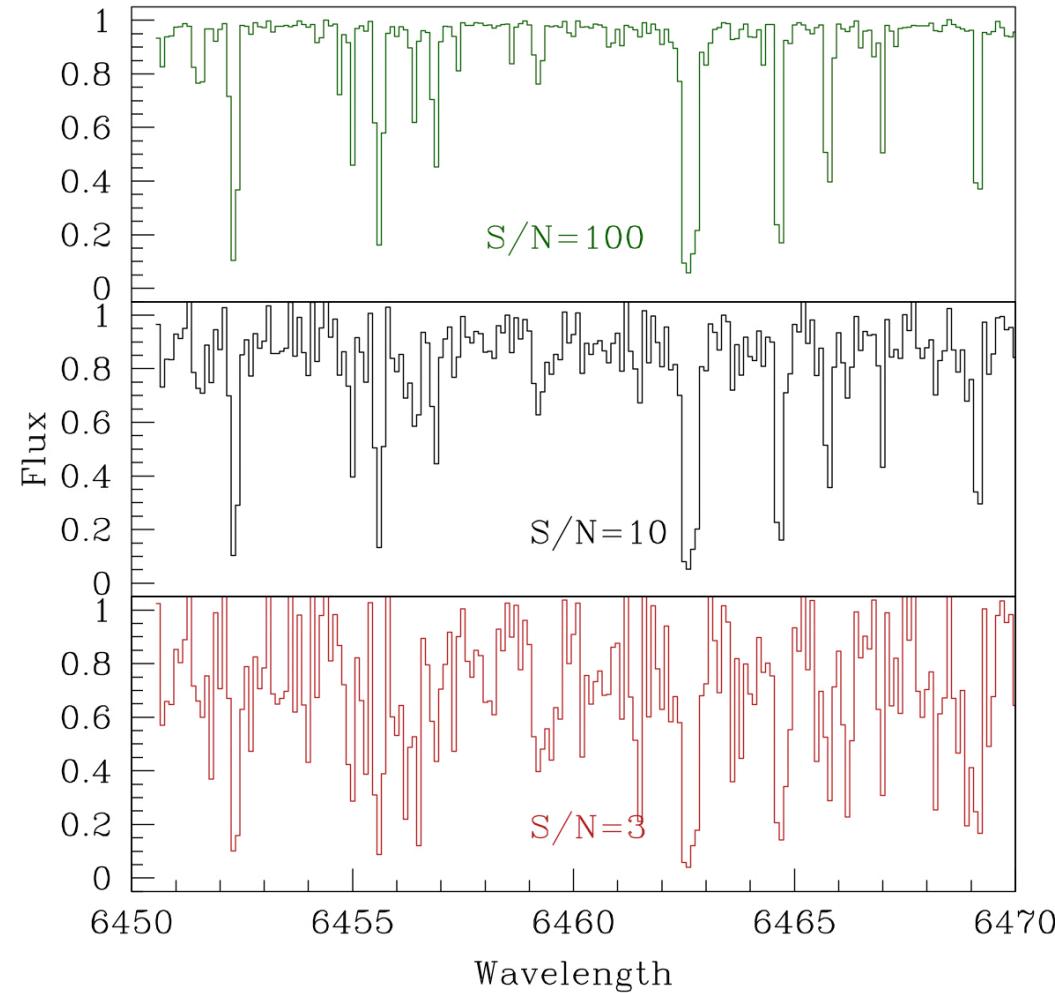
$t \sim 1111 \text{ s}$

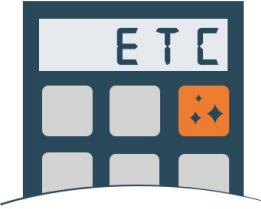


$t \sim 11 \text{ s}$



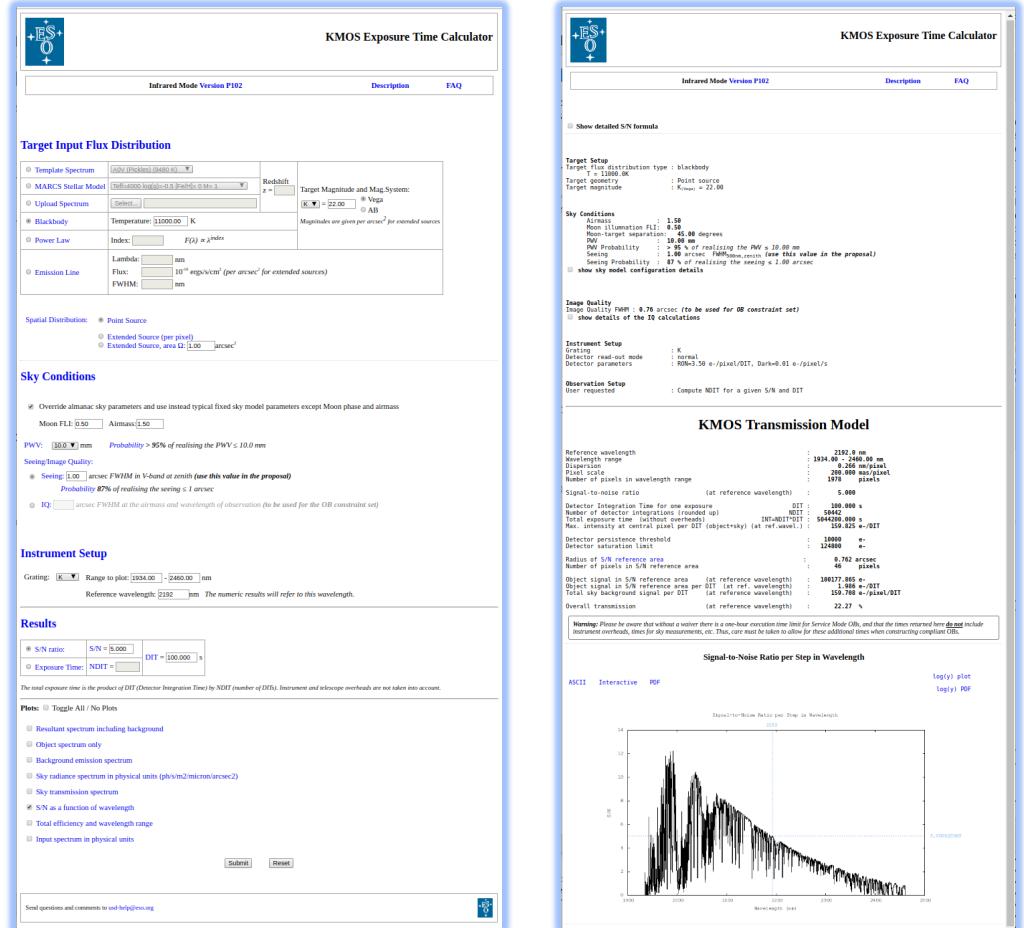
$t = 1 \text{ s}$





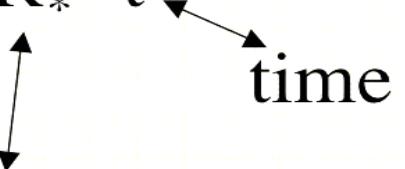
# What is an ETC?

- Predict **exposure time** to get required quality (**S/N**)
- Phase 1 - call-for-proposals (NOW!)
- Phase 2 - planning obs. details (making OBs)
- Astron. community / ESO
  - before, during, after observations
  - instrument studies, development, commissioning
- Doesn't include overheads!



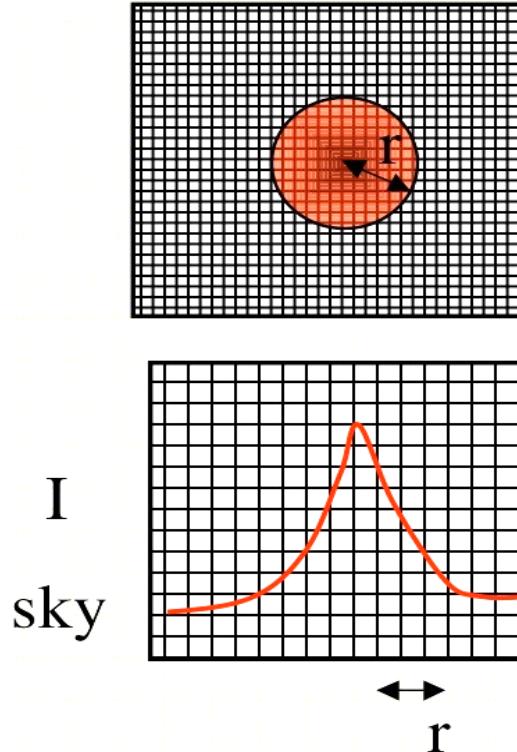


# Signal

- $\text{Signal} = R_* \cdot t$
- 
- A diagram showing a double-headed vertical arrow between two horizontal arrows. The top horizontal arrow points right and is labeled "time". The bottom horizontal arrow points right and has a curved arrowhead pointing up towards the top arrow.

detected e-/second

- Consider the case where we count all the detected e- in a circular aperture with radius  $r$ .

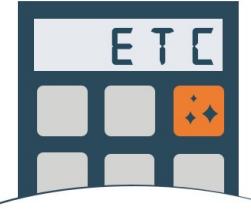


Source: Michael Bolte (UCOLICK)

Radius: large enough to encompass all flux, but not too big to reduce noise.

PSF

Non-AO:  
Gaussian with FWHM  $\sim$  seeing



# Noise sources

$$\sqrt{R_* \cdot t} \Rightarrow \text{shot noise from source}$$

$$\sqrt{R_{\text{sky}} \cdot t \cdot \pi r^2} \Rightarrow \text{shot noise from sky in aperture}$$

$$\sqrt{RN^2 \cdot \pi r^2} \Rightarrow \text{readout noise in aperture}$$

$$\sqrt{\text{Dark} \cdot t \cdot \pi r^2} \Rightarrow \text{shot noise in dark current in aperture}$$

$R_*$  = e<sup>-</sup>/sec from the source

$R_{\text{sky}}$  = e<sup>-</sup>/sec/pixel from the sky

$RN$  = read noise (as if  $RN^2$  e<sup>-</sup> had been detected)

Dark = e<sup>-</sup>/second/pixel

Source: Michael Bolte (UCOLICK)



Credit: ESO/INAF-VST/OmegaCAM. Acknowledgement: A. Grado, L. Limatola/INAF-Capodimonte Observatory



# Signal-to-noise

S/N for object measured in aperture with radius r:  $n_{\text{pix}} = \# \text{ of pixels in the aperture} = \pi r^2$

$$\text{Signal} \leftarrow R_* t$$
$$\text{Noise} \leftrightarrow \left[ R_* \cdot t + R_{\text{sky}} \cdot t \cdot n_{\text{pix}} + \left( RN + \frac{\text{gain}}{2} \right)^2 \cdot n_{\text{pix}} + \text{Dark} \cdot t \cdot n_{\text{pix}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$\sqrt{(R_* \cdot t)^2}$

Noise from the dark current in aperture

Readnoise in aperture

Noise from sky e- in aperture

All the noise terms added in quadrature  
Note: always calculate in e-

Source: Michael Bolte (UCOLICK)



# Exposure Time Calculators

## Target Input Flux Distribution

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Template Spectrum	AOD (Pickles) <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="button" value="..."/>	Redshift z = 0.00
<input type="radio"/> MARCS Stellar Model	Teff=4000 log(g)=−0.5 [Fe/H]=0 M=1 <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="button" value="..."/>	
<input type="radio"/> Upload Spectrum	Select... <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="button" value="..."/>	
<input type="radio"/> Blackbody	Temperature: <input type="text"/> K	Magnitudes are given per arcsec <sup>2</sup> for extended sources
<input type="radio"/> Power Law	Index: <input type="text"/> $F(\lambda) \propto \lambda^{\text{index}}$	
<input type="radio"/> Emission Line	Lambda: <input type="text"/> nm Flux: <input type="text"/> $10^{16}$ ergs/s/cm <sup>2</sup> (per arcsec <sup>2</sup> for extended sources) FWHM: <input type="text"/> nm	

Spatial Distribution:  Point Source  Extended Source

## Sky Conditions

Override almanac sky parameters and use instead typical fixed sky model parameters except Moon phase and airmass

Moon FLL:  0.50 Airmass:  1.50

## Seeing/Image Quality:

Seeing:  1.00 arcsec FWHM in V-band at zenith (use this value in the proposal)

Probability 87% of realising the seeing ≤ 1 arcsec

IQ:  arcsec FWHM at the airmass and wavelength of observation (to be used for the OB constraint set)

## Instrumental Setup

Resolution:  Standard  High

Filter:  v\_HIGH

Detector:  MIT red-optimized CCD  E2V blue-optimized CCD

Readout mode:  200kHz,2x2,low

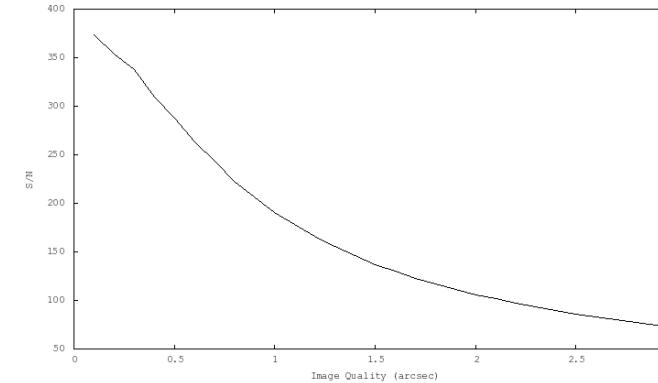
Polarimetry:  No Polarimetry  Linear or Circular Polarisation

## Results

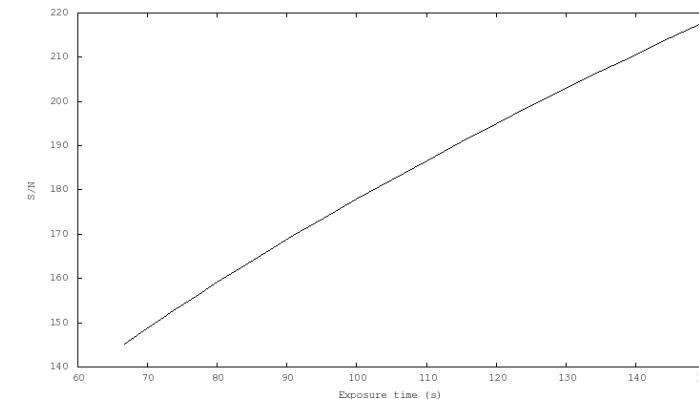
S/N:

Exposure Time:  100.0 s

## S/N vs Seeing



## S/N vs Exp. Time





# ESO ETCs

[www.eso.org/observing/etc](http://www.eso.org/observing/etc)

[etc.eso.org](http://etc.eso.org)

**KMOS Exposure Time Calculator**

Infrared Mode Version P102      [Description](#)      [FAQ](#)

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**Target Input Flux Distribution**

(radio) Template Spectrum    (radio) MARCS Stellar Model    (radio) Upload Spectrum    Redshift  Target Magnitude and Mag System:  Vega    All Magnitudes are given per arcsec<sup>2</sup> for extended sources

(radio) Blackbody    Temperature:  K     Point Source

(radio) Power Law    Index:  F( $\lambda$ ) =  $A\lambda^{-\beta}$

(radio) Emission Line    Lambda:  nm    Flux:  ergs/cm<sup>2</sup> (per arcsec<sup>2</sup> for extended sources)    FWHM:

Spatial Distribution:  Point Source     Extended Source (per pixel)     Extended Source, area  arcsec<sup>2</sup>

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**Sky Conditions**

Override almanac sky parameters and use instead typical fixed sky model parameters except Moon phase and airmass

Moon FLI:  Airmass:  Target FLI distribution type: blackbody Target f = 1.0000.0K Target separation: 45.00 degrees Seeing: 0.80 arcsec FWHM: 10.00 nm Seeing Probability: > 95 % of realizing the FWHM < 10.00 nm Seeing: 1.00 arcsec FWHM: 10.00 nm Seeing Probability: > 87 % of realizing the seeing < 1.00 arcsec

Show sky model configuration details

Image Quality: Seeing: 0.75 arcsec (to be used for OB constraint set) Show details of the IQ calculations

Instrument Setup

Grating:  normal    Detector read-out mode:  Observation Parameters: User requested: Compute NDT for a given S/N and DIT

**KMOS Transmission Model**

Reference wavelength:  nm    Wavelength range:  nm  
Detector:     Pixel scale:     Number of pixels in wavelength range:

Signal-to-noise ratio:  (at reference wavelength)

Detector Integration Time for one exposure:  DIT:  NDT:  Total integration time:  INTEGRATION TIME:  Max. intensity at central pixel per DIT (object+sky) (at ref. wavelength):  Detector persistence threshold:  Radius of S/N reference area:  Number of pixels in S/N reference area:

DIT:  Range to plot:  nm    Reference wavelength:  The numeric results will refer to this wavelength.

Object spectrum:  (at reference wavelength)    Object signal Ls/N reference area per DIT (at ref. wavelength):  (at reference wavelength)    Total sky background signal per DIT (at reference wavelength):  Overall transmission:  (at reference wavelength)

Warning: Please be aware that without a winter there is a one-hour execution time limit for Service Mode OBs, and that the times entered here do not include instrument overheads, times for data reductions, etc. Thus, care must be taken to allow for these additional times when constructing complex OBs.

**Signal-to-Noise Ratio per Step in Wavelength**

ASCII    Interactive    PDF    log(y) plot    log(y) PDF

Signal-to-Noise Ratio per Step in Wavelength

03/03/2021

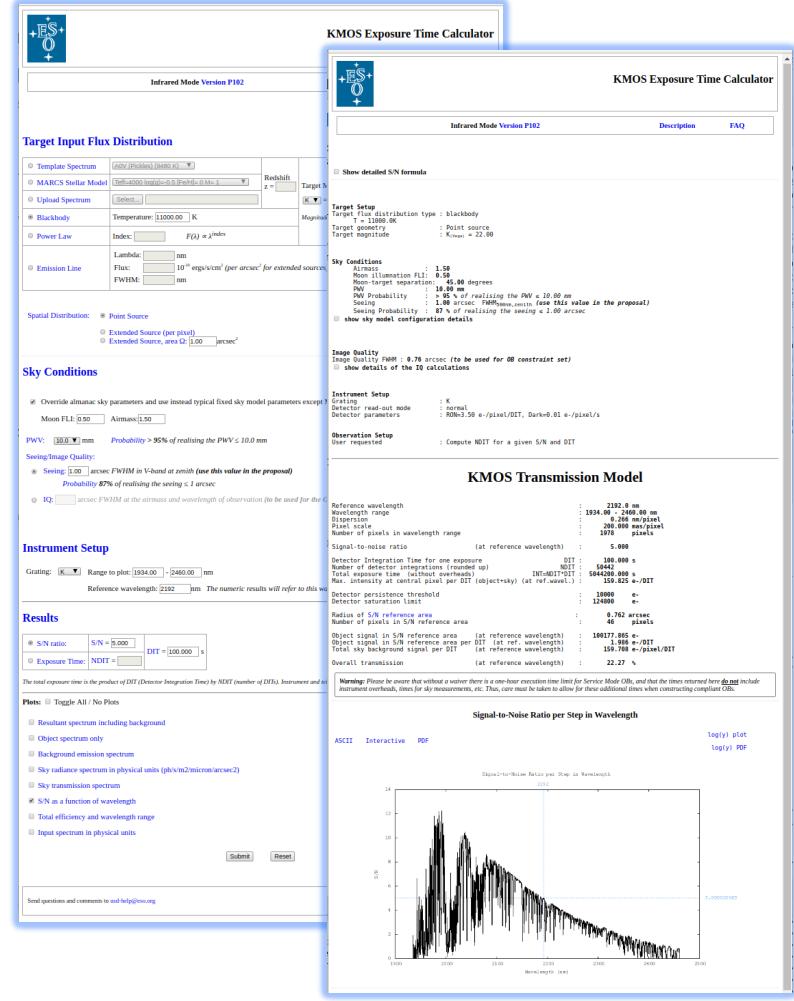
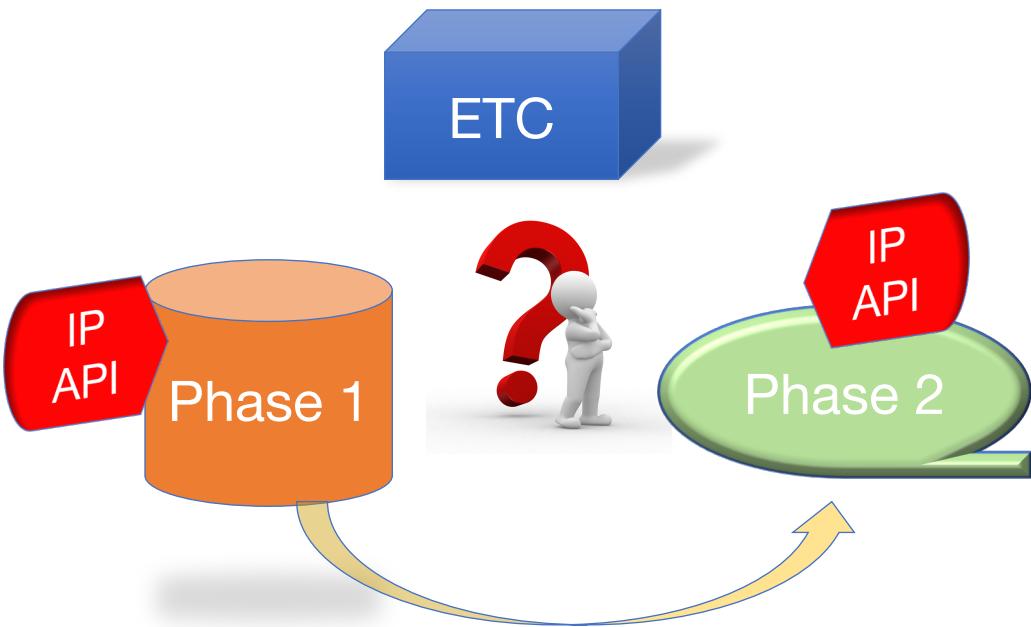
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# Current situation

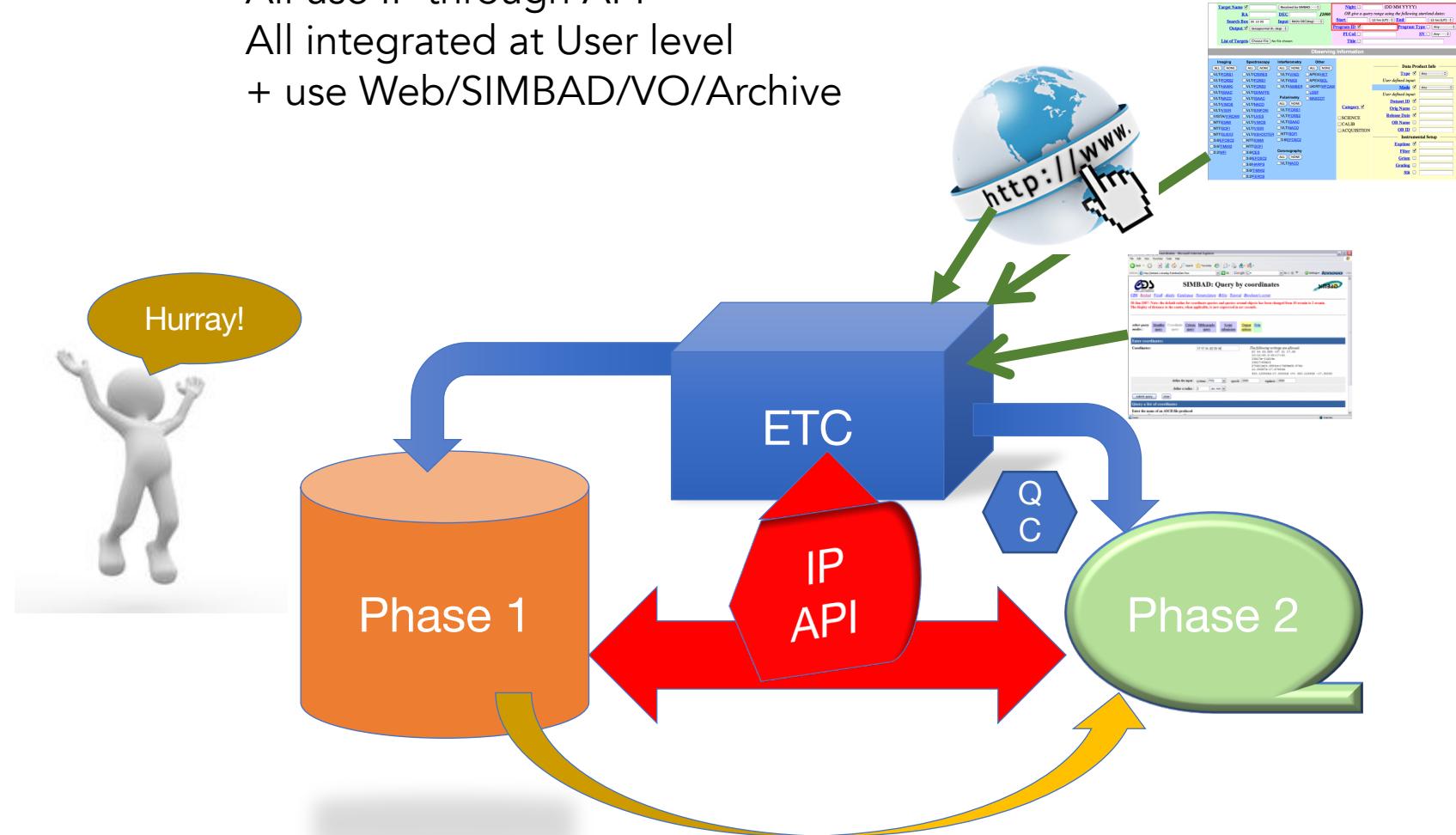
- Phase 1/2 is online, use similar look & feel
- ETC is still independent – different look & feel; no links to P1/P2

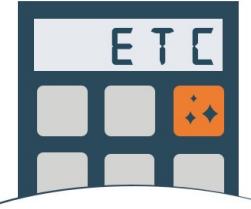




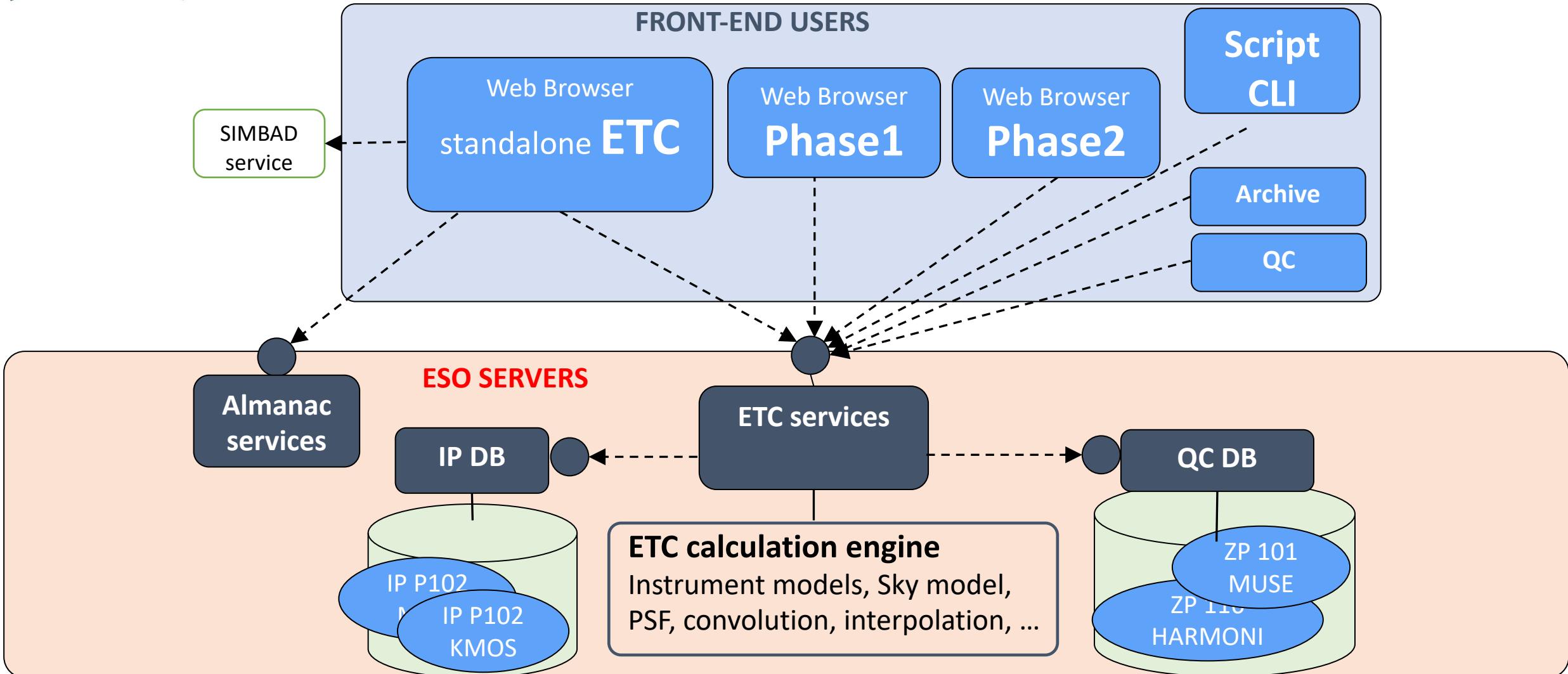
# Ideal → ETC 2.0

All use IP through API  
All integrated at User level  
+ use Web/SIMBAD/VO/Archive





# ETC 2.0 clients and resources





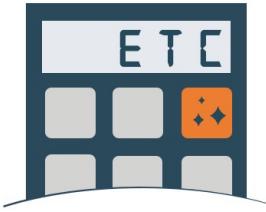
# ETC 2.0 technologies

## □ Front-end Angular framework

- One-page-web application framework
- Also used in the new Phase1/2 web interface (P1/P2)
- Follow same standards and re-use components

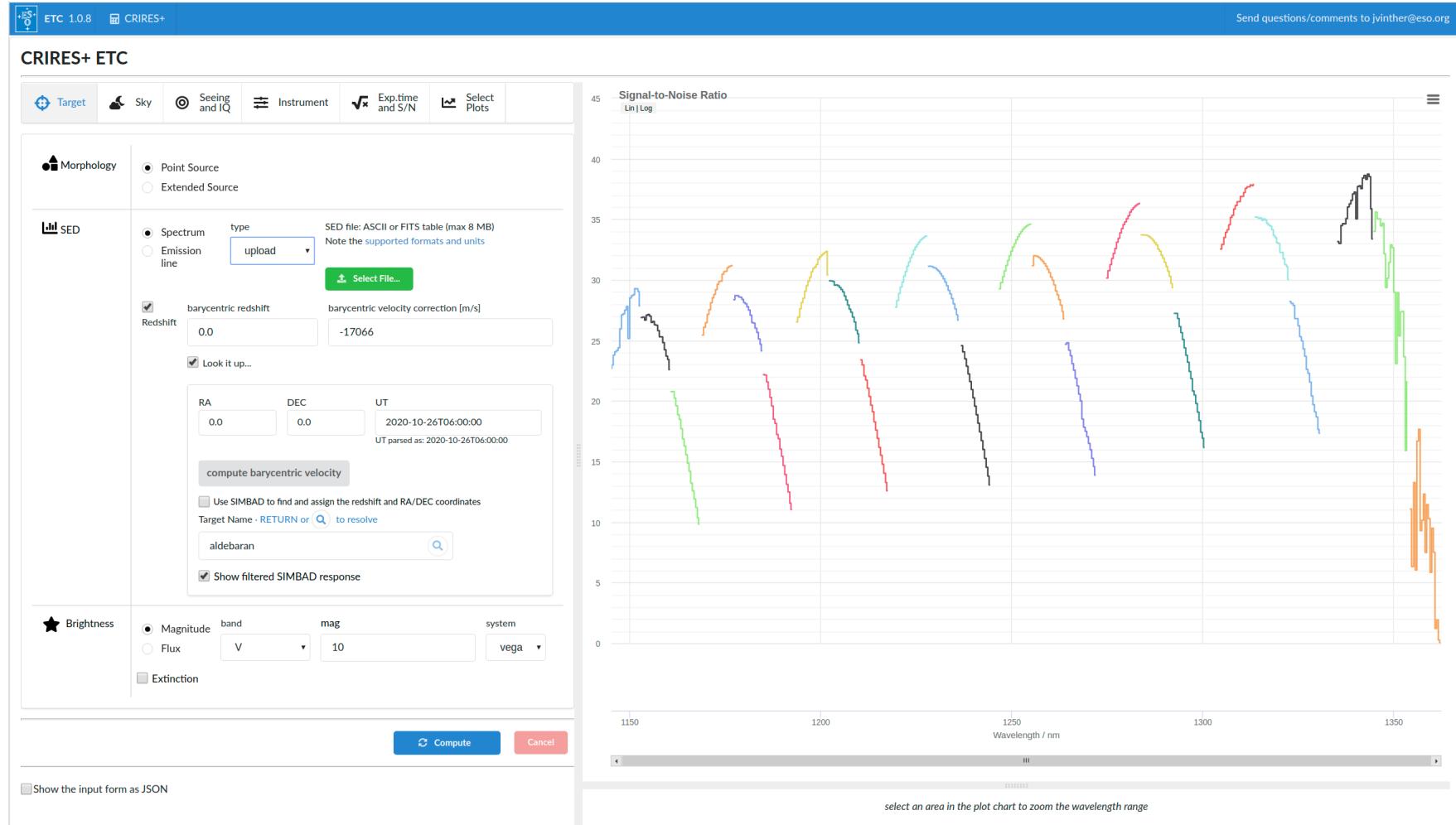
## □ Back-end Python

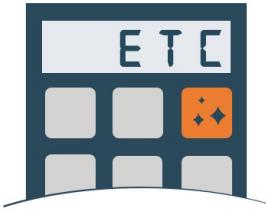
- Concise code
- Libs for scientific computing: NumPy, SciPy, AstroPy
- Django web framework
  - Python
  - Routing, database abstraction layers,...



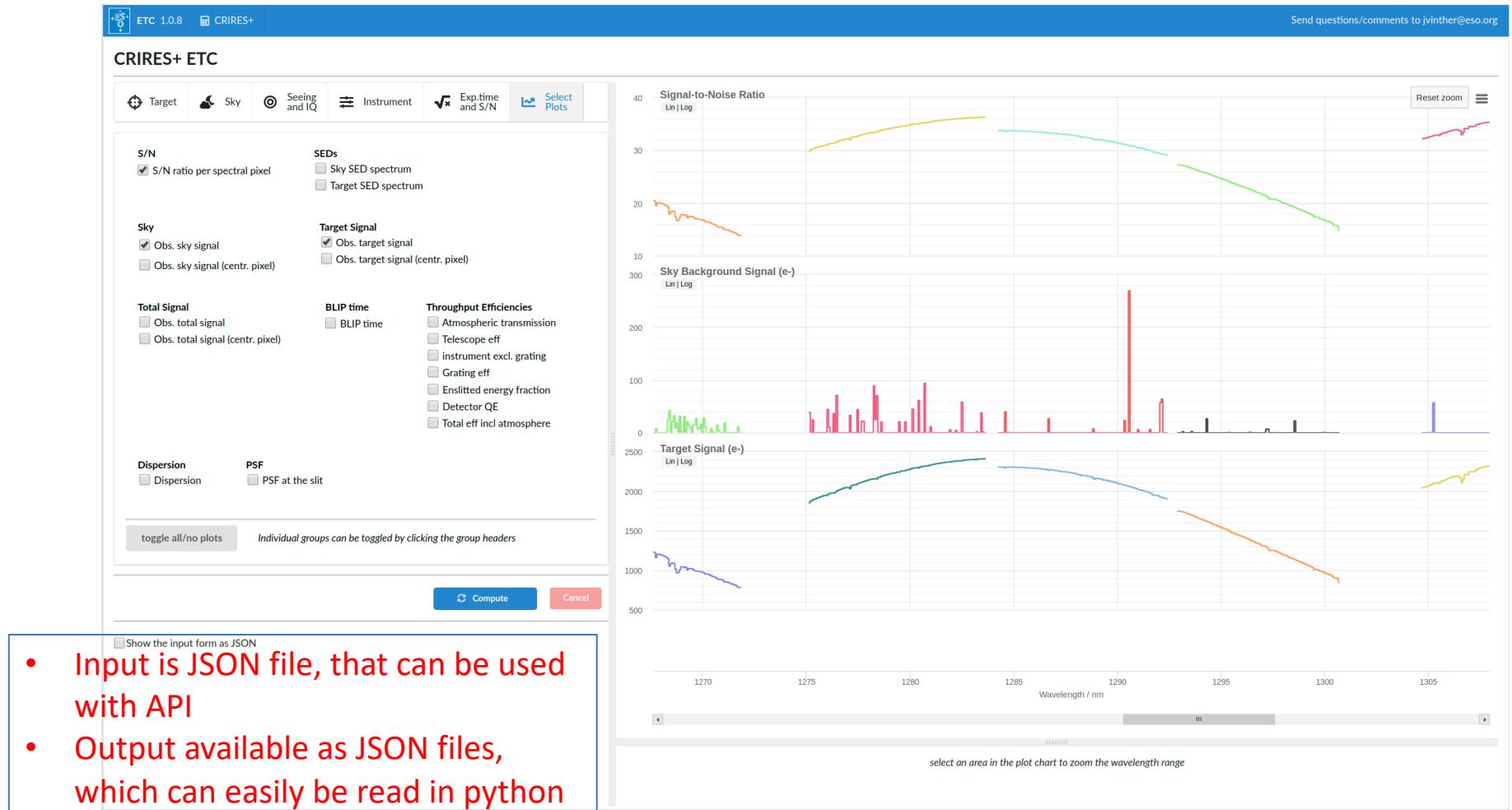
# ETC 2.0

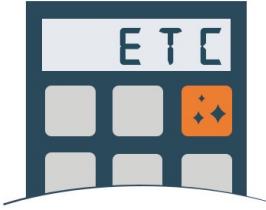
<https://etctestpub.eso.org/observing/etc/cries>





# ETC 2.0





- wget --post-file=input.json <https://etctestpub.eso.org/observing/etc/etcapi/Cries2/> -O output.json
- etc\_cli.py
- etc\_json2ascii.py
- etc\_plotreader.py

usd-help@eso.org