

MAGIC: Policy

1. Organization

The MAGIC Collaboration is formed by member institutes to construct, maintain and operate two Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes (IACT) at the Canary Island La Palma. All costs are covered by those member institutions by cash and in-kind contribution as defined in the MoU signed by all groups. Due to this structure, all data collected by the MAGIC telescopes, including auxiliary instruments, are owned by the whole collaboration. The top-most governing body is the MAGIC Collaboration Board (CB), where every member institute is represented. The daily operation is led by the Spokesperson (SP) and their deputy, both elected by all full members (see 3.1) of the collaboration. The SP nominates an executive board (EB), approved by the CB, to support them in this task.

2. Observation Program

The MAGIC telescopes are pointing devices with a small field of view, so the scientific exploitation relies on an observation program that defines the objects to be investigated. In average, if conditions permit, MAGIC operates about 1500 hours per year in IACT mode¹. Data are preprocessed and made available to the Collaboration at an official data center.

Once per year, there is an open call for observational proposals. The SP nominates (and CB approves) a Time Allocation Committee that is ranking all proposals based on scientific merit, considering overlapping visibility of sources. The ranking will be approved by the CB and the observations are scheduled to follow the ranking on best effort basis. External scientists that submitted a successful proposal are teamed up with MAGIC experts to ensure best data analysis.

3. Access Groups

There exist several levels of scientists regarding access to MAGIC. Scientists at all those levels can submit observation proposals. Non-public information gained by any kind of access to MAGIC must be kept confidential until that information is officially published.

3.1 Full Members

Scientists are full members if they are affiliated to a member institute, and they personally contribute to maintenance and operation beyond data analysis and interpretation. The personal contribution of each full member is regularly checked.

Full members have access to any MAGIC data and have the right to sign any publication that contains not-yet published MAGIC data.

¹ Additional time can be spent to investigate Stellar Intensity Interferometry (SII) and other developments.

3.2 Associate Members

Scientists can become associate members if they are proposed by a member institute and are willing to personally contribute to the success of MAGIC. Each Associate member must be approved by the CB, and their contributions will regularly be evaluated. An associate member gets access to all information but does not gain the right to sign all MAGIC publications. An associate scientist signs only those papers they significantly contributed to.

3.3 External Scientists

External Scientists may be granted access to a subset of information limited to e.g., the production of a given paper. External scientist may get invited by MAGIC or may contact the MAGIC SP if they are interested in a project that uses MAGIC data or facilities. An external scientist signs only those papers they significantly contributed to.

Scientist who submitted a successful observation proposal as PI or Col and who are neither full nor associate members, will be treated as external scientists.

4. Publications

As default, analyzed data are published in scientific journals; preliminary data can also be shown in conferences. Any publication or presentation of not-yet published MAGIC data needs to be blessed by the Spokesperson (who can delegate this task to a committee).

Any full member of the MAGIC collaboration has the right to sign any publication containing not-yet published MAGIC data. The block of authors from the MAGIC collaboration is fully alphabetic. The ordering of authors that are not full MAGIC members, as well as the order of blocks of authors from different collaborations, if applicable, shall be agreed on a case-by-case basis, depending on the respective contribution to that paper.

Any conference contribution containing not-yet published MAGIC data must be given 'on behalf of the MAGIC collaboration'.

Access to raw-level data of published results can be requested by anybody. But since it might intrinsically contain not-yet published information, a non-disclosure agreement can be asked for.

5. Data Preservation

While all data are owned by the MAGIC collaboration, it is clear the collaboration will not last forever. It is the intention of the MAGIC collaboration to convert all data into a format agreed by the community, and, latest at the end of the collaboration, hand it over to a reasonable follow-up organization or make all data public.