

MEMO

Date:	02/07/2023	Ref.:	EUCL-EST-ME-8-015
From:	René Laureijs on behalf of the Euclid Science Team (EST)	Visa:	
To:	The Euclid science community		
Copy:			

Subject: Proprietary data sharing in the Euclid Science Collaboration

Summary: This memo provides a guideline for collaborations between the different parties mentioned in the Euclid Science Management Plan. We define the Euclid Science Collaboration and specify the scope of the Euclid proprietary data rights. It is acknowledged that collaborations within the ESC should respect the intellectual properties of the parties and the internal collaboration conditions (like the code of conduct) within each party. This is enforced by signed agreements between the parties.

Memo

The Euclid Science Collaboration (ESC) is the community of scientists with Euclid proprietary data rights as mentioned in the Euclid Science Management Plan (SMP, [AD1]). The ESC consists of the members of the Euclid Consortium (EC) and the teams led by the two Independent Legacy Scientists (ILSs). ESA affiliated scientists are also part of the ESC but are by agreement of the Euclid Science Team (EST) considered common members of the EC.

The ILSs were selected through ESA announcements of Opportunity in July 2010 and February 2012 following the policy provided in the SMP. They have been appointed by the ESA Director of Science, and their contracts are renewed on a 3-year basis. The ILSs “are granted early access to all Euclid data for the exclusive purpose of carrying out the science programme defined in their proposals” and “collaboration with other proprietary data holders is encouraged under coordination of the EST” (quotes from the SMP).

For the set of Euclid data that are considered proprietary we refer to the ESA document “Rules on Information, Data and Intellectual Property” [AD2], which states that for ESA led missions, such as Euclid, ESA is the owner of all raw and calibrated data. Since the policy does not give further details on the meaning of “raw” and “calibrated” data, we specify them for Euclid in this memo.

- The **raw data** are the products generated by the LE1 processor encompassing spacecraft and payload housekeeping data, and the instrument science data.
- The **calibrated data** is the set of science products (images and spectra) derived from the LE1 products. These products consist of Euclid data with physical units and are corrected for known instrumental effects on a best effort basis. Separate calibration products, e.g. master flatfields, can be provided as part of the dataset. We mention products obtained from the upstream processing functions VIS and NIR for images, and SIR for spectra.

The EST shall approve the set of calibrated data products. Members of the Euclid Science Collaboration have access to these raw and calibrated data products for their own research projects during the proprietary periods mentioned in the SMP.

The EST acknowledges the protection of intellectual property within the ESC: other data products that are derived from these data sets are proprietary to the groups that have developed the scientific algorithms and tools to produce them until public data release. In case of the products processed by the Science Ground Segment, the remaining Level 2 and Level 3 data shall be EC proprietary until public data release.

The sharing of the proprietary products between parties in the ESC can only take place with mutual agreement between two parties. An agreement shall describe the scientific scope (project description) of the collaboration, and the sharing of algorithms, tools, and complementary non-Euclid data. As the sharing of data between teams implies a level of intra-team collaboration, collaboration conditions such as the size and composition of the participating teams and the code of conduct could be part of such an agreement. An agreement must be reported to the EST, as it could have an impact on the access to the science archive managed by ESA.



It may be technically not possible to prevent ILS members to have access in the Euclid Science Archive System to EC proprietary data not covered by an agreement for sharing. In that case the EST demands that ILS members sign a non-disclosure agreement.

Reference

[AD1] ESA/SPC(2012)19: Euclid Science Management Plan, version 2.4 (24/05/2013)

[AD2] ESA/REG/008: Rules on information, data and intellectual property (23/04/2014)