

Event-Driven Operations on JWST

Elizabeth A. Barker, Dean Zak, Vicki Balzano

Space Telescope Science Institute



The JWST is designed to operate in an event-driven manner, allowing for automated and efficient commanding of the observatory. The JWST Operations Scripts Subsystem defines and controls operations through on-board scripts, written in JavaScript, and multiple simultaneous threads of execution, which support parallel operations. All science and calibration programs will be prepared on the ground and then transmitted to the spacecraft for execution according to the Observatory Plan and Observatory events. Operations proceed as commands are sent and verified with on-board telemetry, maintaining the health and safety of the Observatory and efficient observations.

Event-Driven Operations

An ordered sequence of operational steps that are executed based upon the completion of the prior step

- ✧ Scheduling ground software time-orders activities and specifies constraints, such as time → generated **Observation Plan**
- ✧ On-board Operational Software, with access to key telemetry items, initiates each activity after previous activity completes and when its constraints are met → generated **Visit File**

- ✧ NO on-board reordering of activities
- ✧ Can SKIP activities based upon a limited set of events:

Event	Telemetry
Time window violation	observatory time
Failed guide star acquisition	success/fail indicator
Failed SI target acquisition	success/fail indicator
Science Instrument offline	SI status indicator

Observation Plan Example

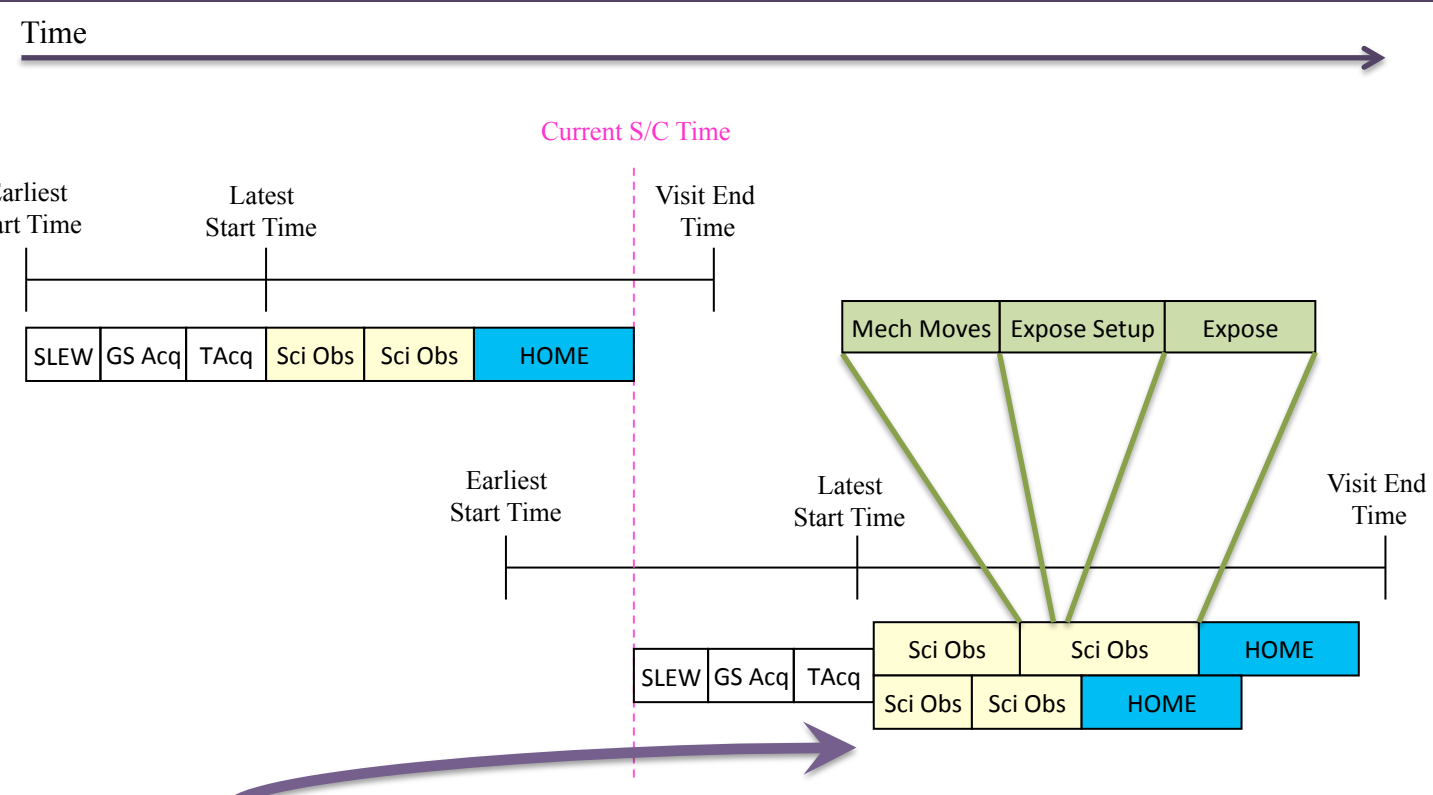
Ordered list of Visit files to execute in order:

Visit	Earliest Start	Latest Start	Latest End
V93065001001	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00
V93065001002	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00
V93065002001	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00
V93065002002	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00
V93065003001	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00
V93065003002	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00
V93065004001	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00
V93065004002	2012-001/02:00:00	2025-001/01:00:00	2025-001/03:00:00

SLEW statement;

Previous Visit:

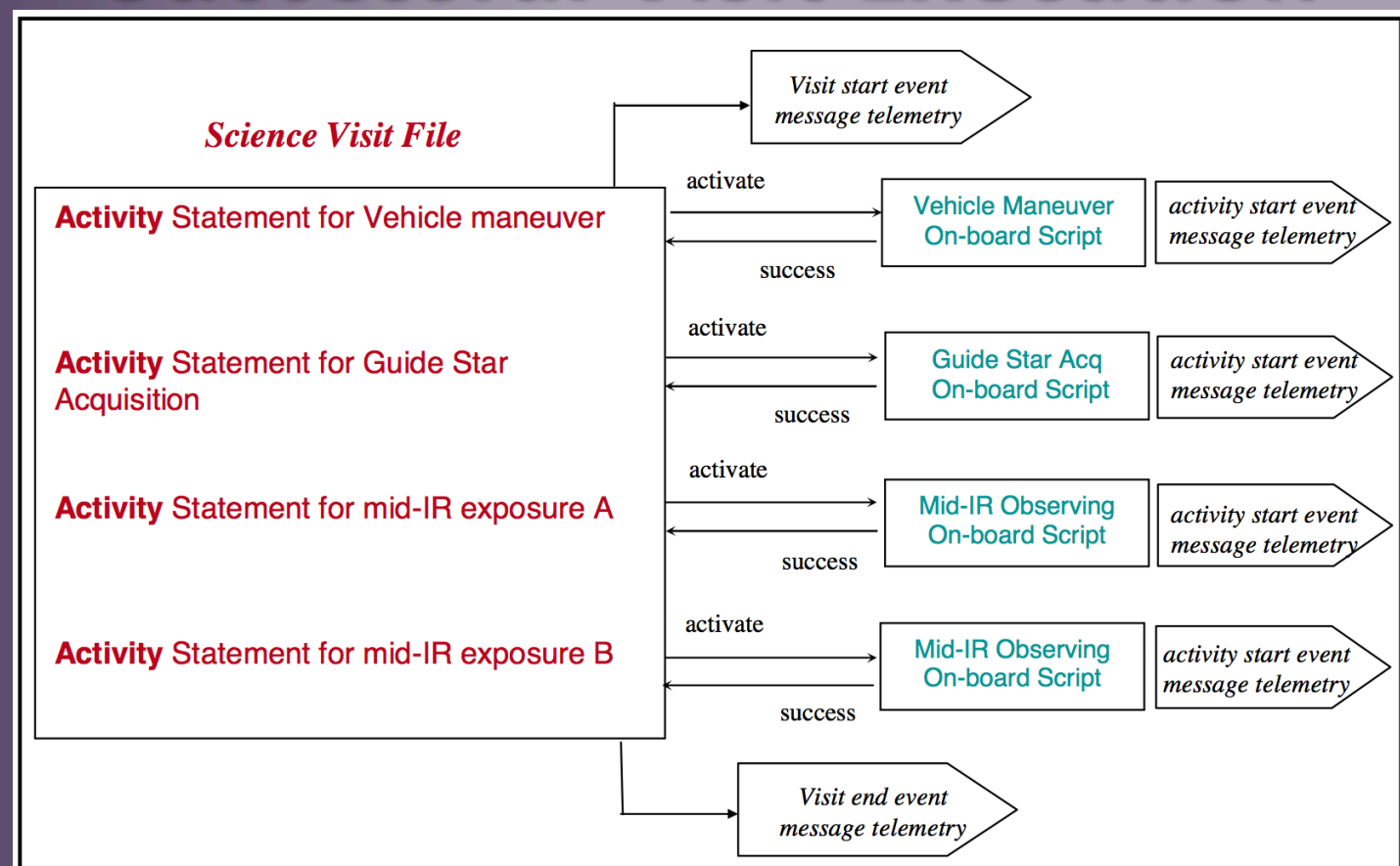
Next Visit: Science Parallel



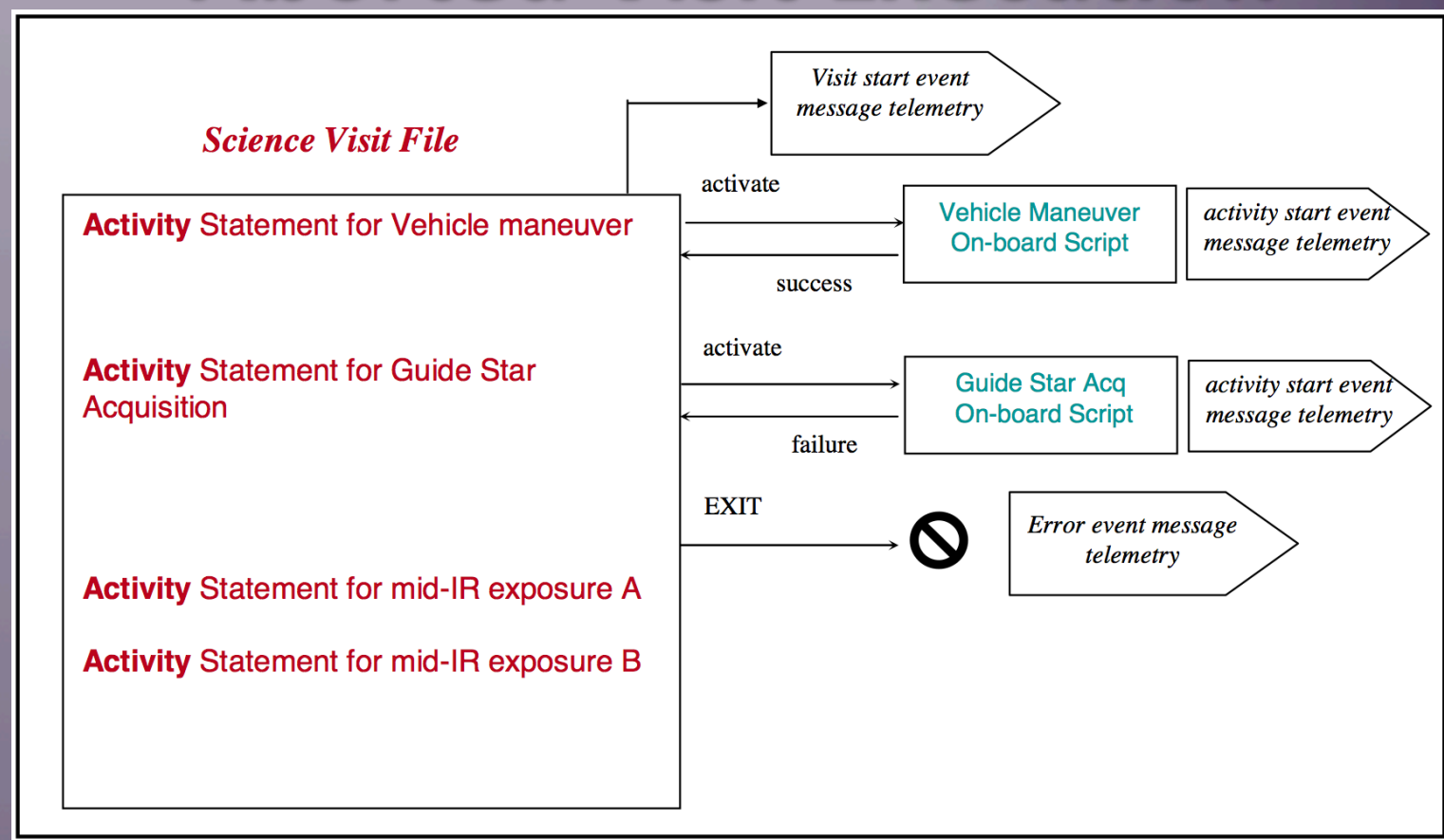
Parallel Science and Calibration Activities:

- ✧ Occur within the Visit file
- ✧ If one parallel activity encounters ERROR:
 - ➔ Other parallel activity completes
 - ➔ Rest of Visit may be skipped, depends on error

Successful Visit Execution



Aborted Visit Execution



Visit End Activities

