

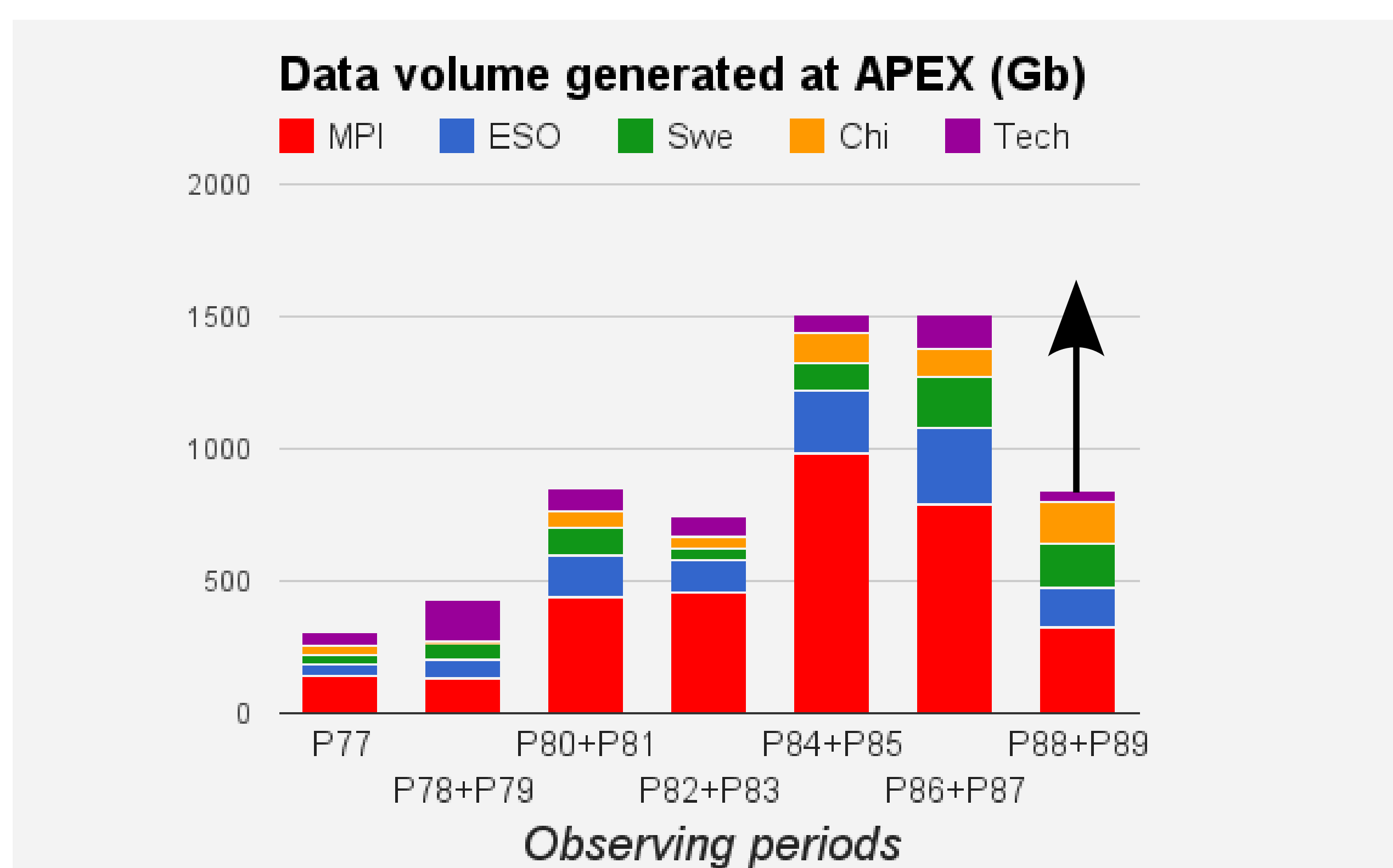
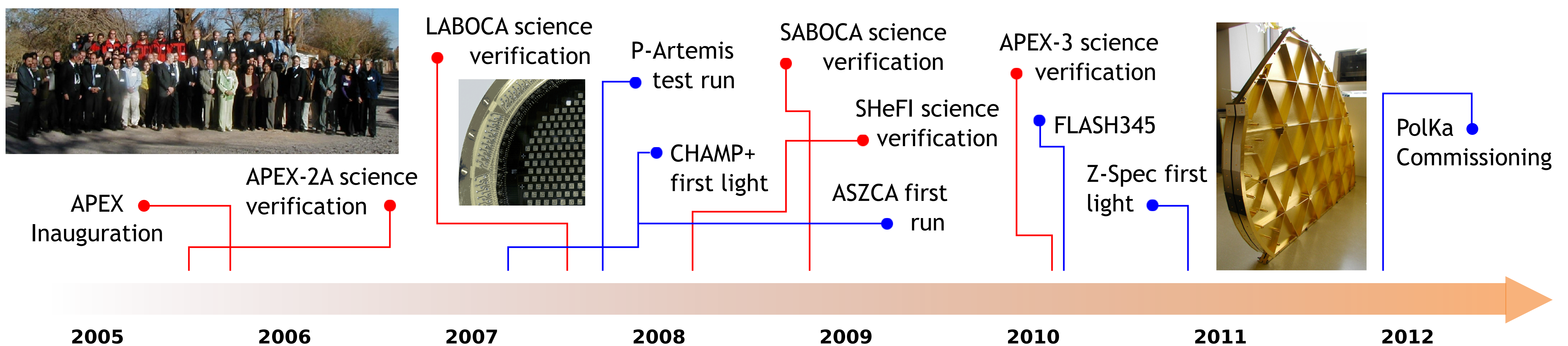
# From APEX to your desk: six years collecting data

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## Abstract

Since its inauguration in 2005, APEX has gone through 12 successful half-yearly observing periods. During these years a suite of forefront, in most cases experimental, instrumentation has been hosted to make best use of the outstanding climate conditions over the Chajnantor plateau. The remote location of APEX and the short staffing at the observatory makes the data flow from the telescope to your desk a not straightforward process which has historically involved quite some manual intervention. The old scheme of science data being copied into hard disks, and then shipped to the different partners is being replaced in 2012 by a new system, which renders this process more prompt and efficient. We are switching to an automated data transfer system through the network which makes use of the existing infrastructure connecting ESO Chile with ESO Garching. This new approach drastically reduces overhead times between observations being done and the PIs having access to their data, allowing PIs some kind of interaction during the observing run, and the possibility of quick data analysis and publication of results.

## APEX across the years...

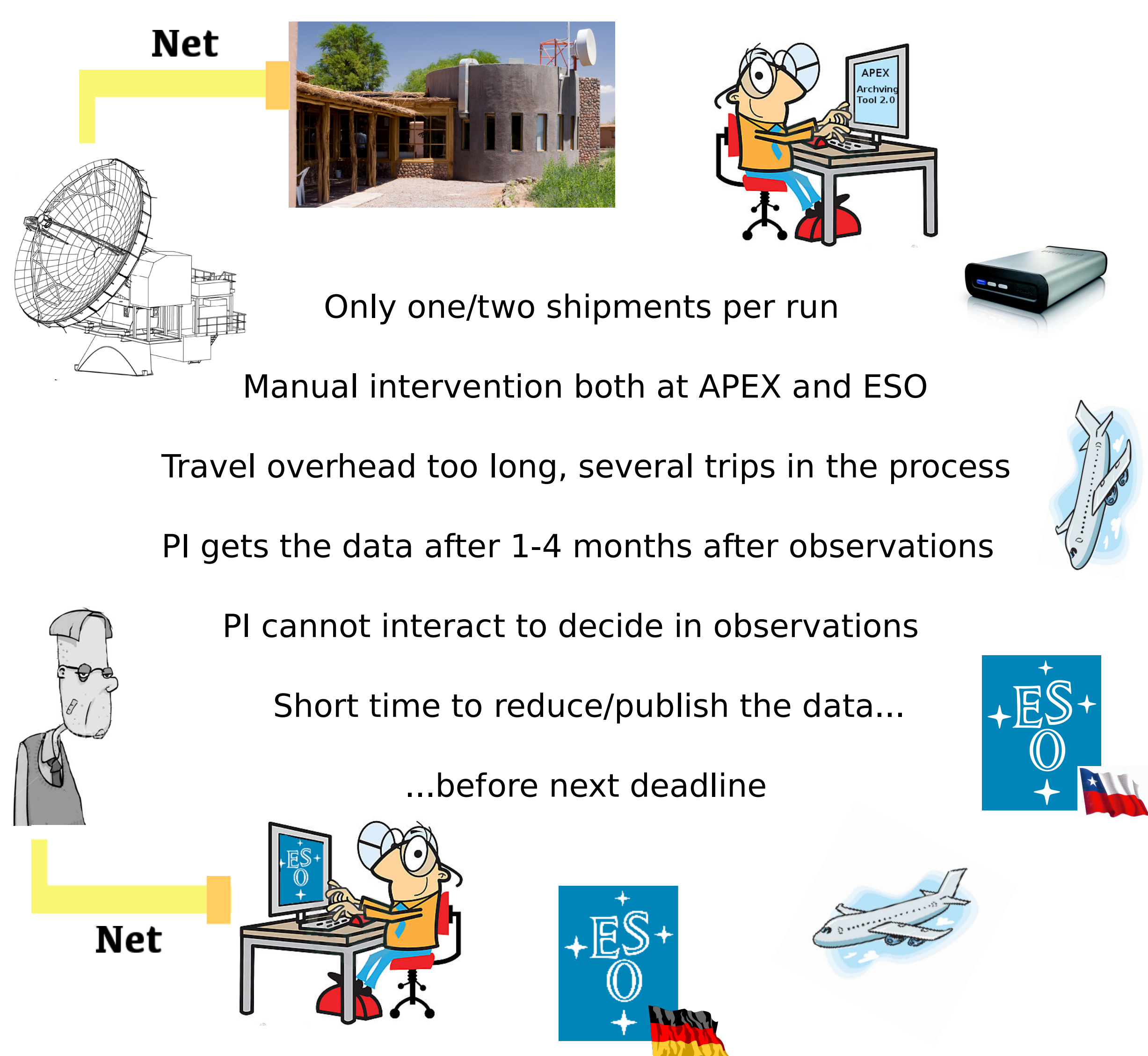


## Data production

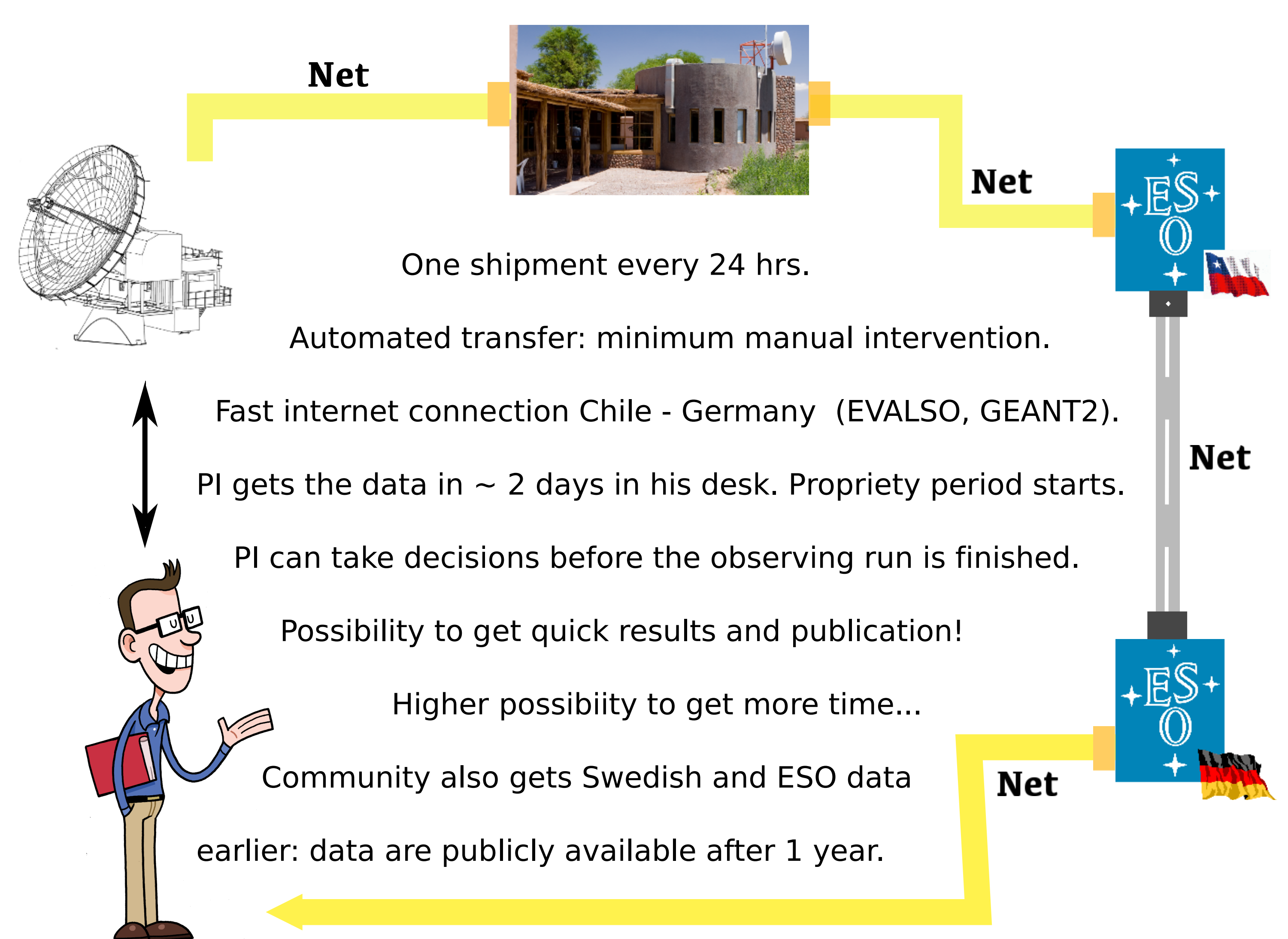
- From 0.3 to 1.5 TByte/year and increasing (but still... 1/100th of ALMA or VST+VISTA data rates)
- Raw MBFITS, calibrated CLASS data, obslogs, quick reduction
- Big producers: CHAMP+ (multi-beam) and 24-h observations
- Higher rates foreseen with future instrumentation
- Backups: Sequitor + ESO archive + Partners (data are safe!)

## Archiving procedures

### PAST



### NEAR FUTURE



**Acknowledgements:** The APEX Science Operations Group takes care about sanity check, quick reduction and backup of your data. At the ESO side, several departments are involved in the APEX data archiving: Archive Department, Archive Operations Group, Database Contents Management Group, Data Flow System Group, Operations Technical Support Group, and ESO/APEX User Support department. Thanks to ESO-Vitacura IT department for their support and to the Data Handling Administrators Group in Paranal for advice. Special thanks to our APEX software engineers for all their efforts!