

Gen2 extended remote system (GERS)

Introduction

The software, Gen2 extended remote system (GERS), can display all eight Gen2 displays, which will be helpful for you to monitor the status of observations from the user's home and office. Usually, it is sufficient to show only a subset of the most important displays; your SA can explain which ones will be the most useful for your observation. The internal tests by our staff showed that it is very portable, speedy, and efficient. Currently, we are glad to provide this as a beta service for your observational convenience. The GERS (alias g2remote) software is opening with a mild 'shared-risk' mode. For your observations, we recommend connecting to the SA/Operator via Zoom for communication and using this GERS software to monitor the observation status. If you do not plan to use the Mitaka remote observation room in Japan, or if one of your team members will participate in Zoom only, then we recommend you or your participants use the GERS system.

Policies

The maximum number of simultaneous GERS observers is two (Max two connections). If you want to see the GERS screen in three or more places, we recommend sharing the GERS screen with the Zoom screen sharing function.

Procedures

For Open-Use Observers

1. PI should notify [observer information](#) to observers-infodesk@naoj.org three weeks prior to the observation.
2. Once you receive an email that your observation with GERS has been accepted, you can install GERS.

For non-Open-Use Observers

Please contact gers-infodesk.org to apply GERS.

Note: GERS should be prepared at least two weeks prior to the observation date. We may not be able to accommodate last minute GERS observation requests less than 3 days prior to the observation date, even if it is unavoidable.

Requirements & Installation

Please refer to the following links for the latest versions of the operation.md (operation_jp.md) and install.md (install_jp.md) files.

<https://github.com/naojsoft/g2remote/blob/master/README.md>

For First-time GERS users

Please visit the web site <<https://github.com/naojsoft/g2remote>> where you can download the software and follow the instructions in the "install" and "operation" files. Follow the instructions and send the newly generated public key (".pub" version only) to us. Keep the private key safe in a separate empty folder. After we receive your public key, we will send configuration files to you necessary to operate the GERS; put these in the same folder as the private key.

1. Download and install 'g2remote' program.
2. Send 'gen2_connection.pub' file to us.
3. Receive configuration files from us.
4. Connection Test
5. Observation

For Repeat GERS users

-Repeat users do not need to generate a new public key, but the configuration files need to be updated for the current semester. After receiving an email requesting the use of GERS, we will send configuration files to you necessary to operate the GERS.

-If you would like to use GERS in the same semester, you do not need to generate a new public key, also you are able to use the same config file. You can use the program exactly as before. In that case, simply send us an email requesting to use GERS.

Additional information for GERS users

- Testing should be done anytime between 10 am and 5pm (HST) on the day of the observation.
- GERS users in the 1st half night should disconnect 5-min before the switching time, and for those in the 2nd half night should connect 5-min after the switching time.
- The observers of the 2nd half-night program:
 - Do not connect GERS before the switching time.
 - Firstly, connect with Zoom before switching time and check the observers of the 1st half program disconnect GERS connection.

Zoom Information

A zoom connection is necessary for communication with the operation staff members (Operators and SAs) but also with your other observers. GERS shows the Gen2 displays for monitoring of your observations but does not provide communication tools. The Zoom ID and password to be used on the day will be provided in advance via email. The policy regarding the use of Zoom for the observation is as follows.

https://www.naoj.org/Observing/Proposals/Visit/zoom_policy.html

Contact

If you have any questions about GERS and Zoom system, please contact gers-infodesk@naoj.org.