



East Asia Proposal Rankings



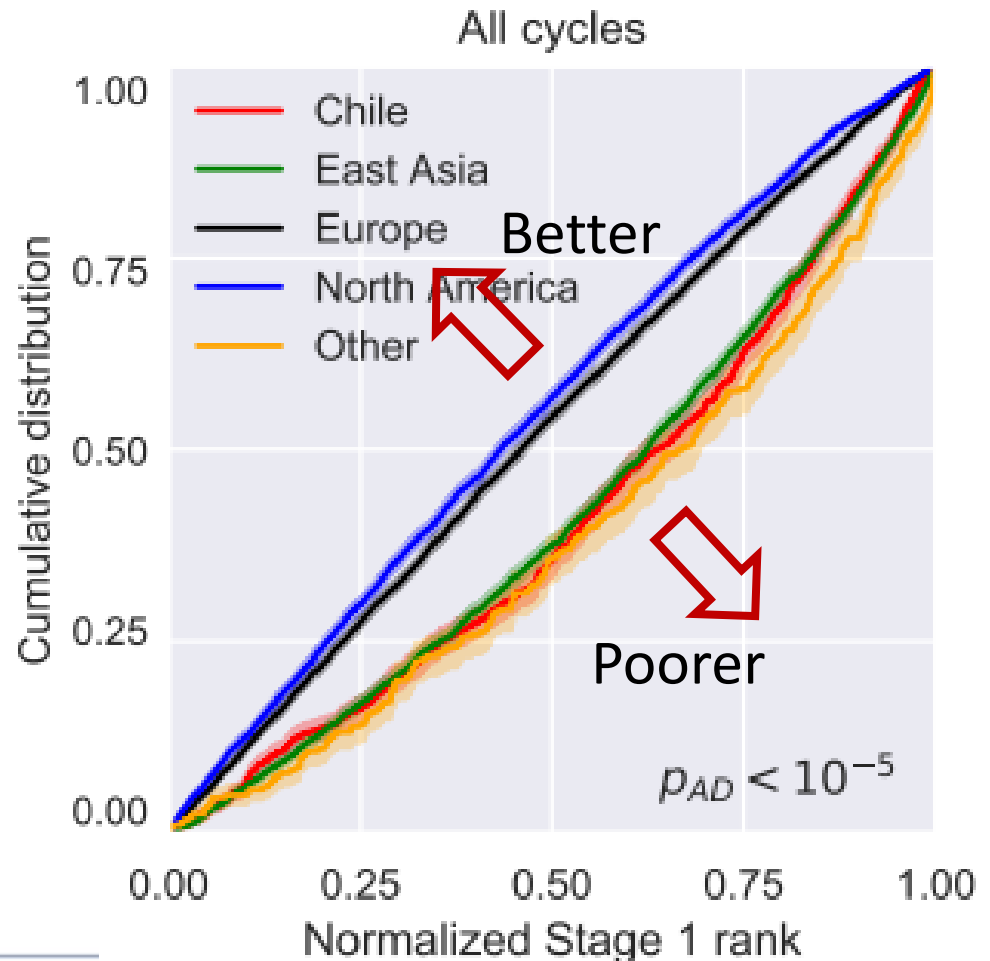
“Systematics in the ALMA Proposal Review Rankings”

J. Carpenter 2019, PASP, 132, 1008 (2020)

Cumulative Stage 1 rankings for each region
(Top-ranked proposals have a normalized rank = 0)

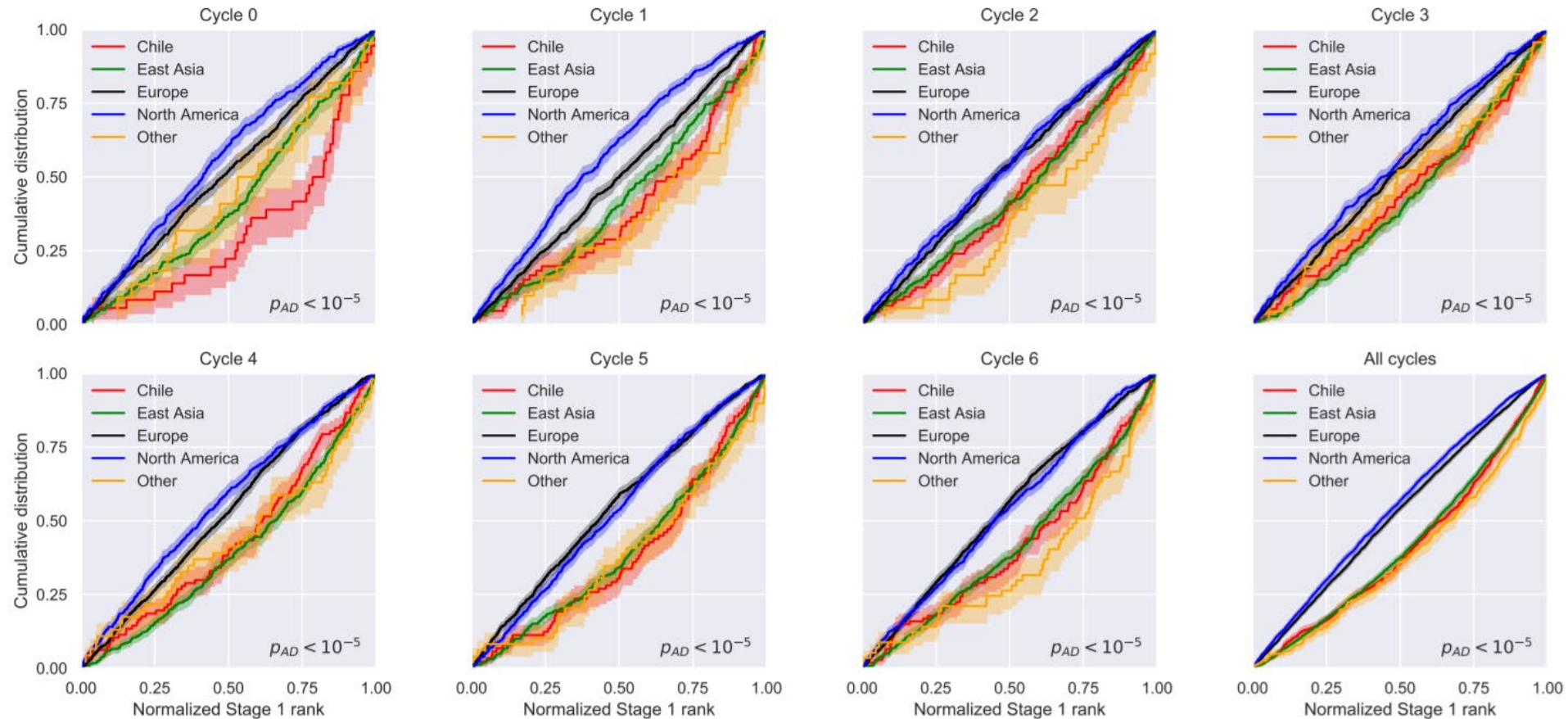
Two significant trends:

- Proposal rankings are systematically lower than EU and NA.
- PIs who submit an ALMA proposal in multiple cycles have systematically better proposal ranks



Proposal rankings in each cycle

Green = EA



Why are EA rankings poorer?



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1. English proficiency

Needless to say.

2. High-context communication culture

We rely on the common backgrounds or knowledge (culture) when we communicate. We do not clearly say things in the daily conversation.

3. Writing style





Suggestion: writing style

- There was a noticeable difference in writing style.
 - EA proposals sound too conservative
 - Presenting the current knowledge and proposed observations to improve the knowledge, with a minimal discussion as to how new data and an improved understanding of the proposed targets would impact our understanding of astrophysical processes on a broader level. NA/EU reviewers and reviewers who are not experts on that field, would favor the proposals that are selling and stand out.
 - English proficiency may not be a major factor; reviewers cannot spend a lot of time for each proposal, thus they focus on the major science points.
 - Japanese are not good at putting a clear context. It is hard to get what is the purpose and how proposers want to achieve the purpose.
 - EA scientists cannot include the same level/amount of information as in EU and NA proposals in the limited number of pages due to the lack of proficiency.



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