



Quick Guidances

Before using OT

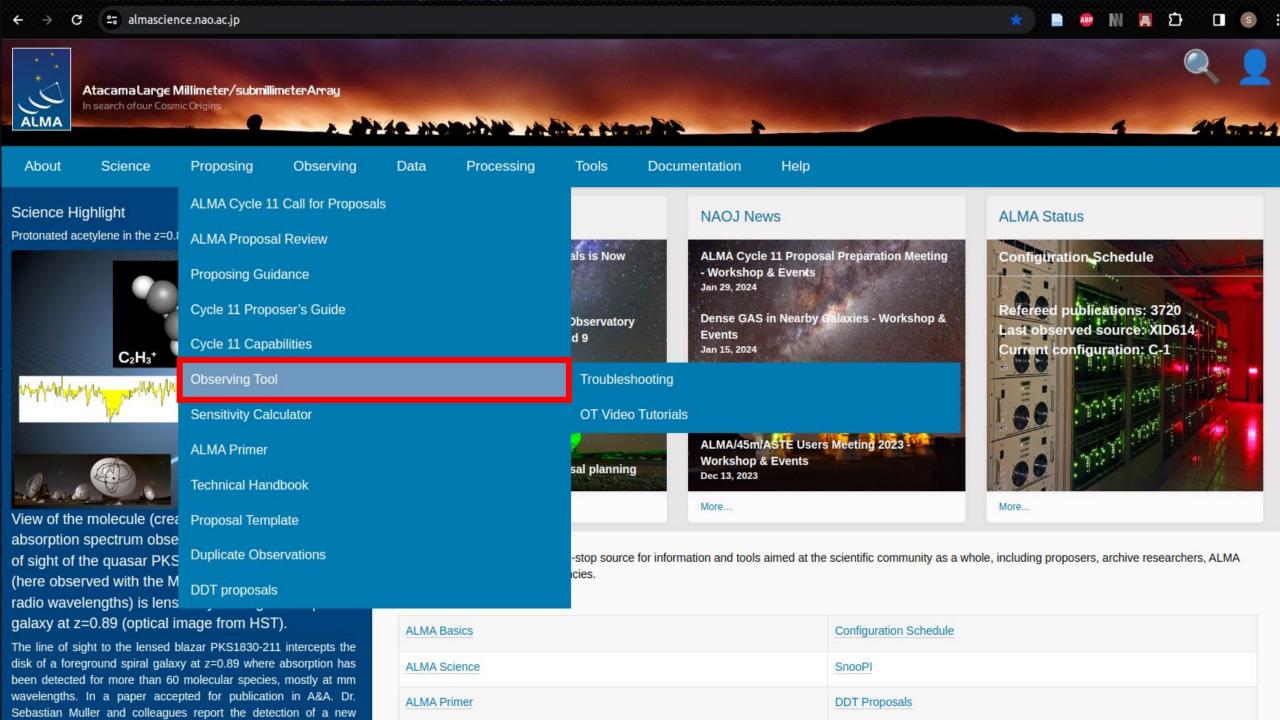
1 Important Input Parameters
Sclaes & Spectral Set up.

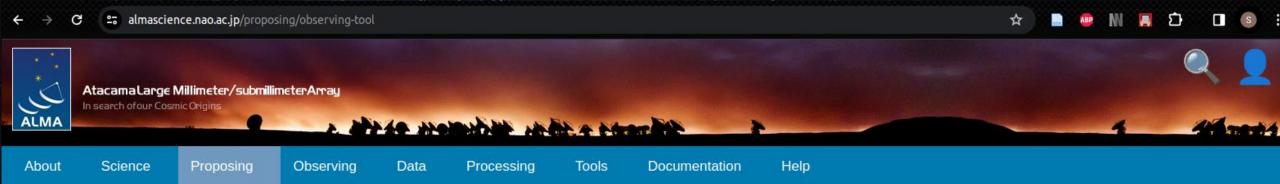
Procedures in OT

0 & A

Contents

Quick Guidance





Observing Tool

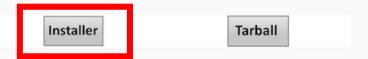
The ALMA Observing Tool (OT) is a Java desktop application used for the preparation and submission of ALMA Phase 1 proposals and, for those which are accepted, Phase 2 materials (Scheduling Blocks). It is also used for preparing and submitting Director's Discretionary Time (DDT) proposals and Supplemental Call (ACA stand-alone) proposals. The current Cycle 11 release of the OT is configured for the present capabilities of ALMA as described in the Proposer's Guide. Note that in order to submit proposals you will have to register with the ALMA Science Portal beforehand.

Download & Installation

The OT should run on all common operating systems and depends on a version of Java being available. The Cycle 11 version of the OT will come with its own version of Java 17 and thus the users need no longer worry about their local Java installation. Unfortunately, as Java 17 does not include Web Start, this version of the OT is no longer available. The Cycle 11 OT can be installed in two different ways, either with a modern installer or manually with a tarball distribution.

It is recommended that the OT be installed using the ALMA **OT Installer**. This uses a modern graphical interface to report the progress of the installation and allows the user to change various settings from their defaults, including the amount of memory the OT may use. The installation will produce an executable file that can be used to start the OT. If problems are encountered with the installer, then the tarball must be used.

The tarball version must be installed manually and the instructions for doing this have not changed.

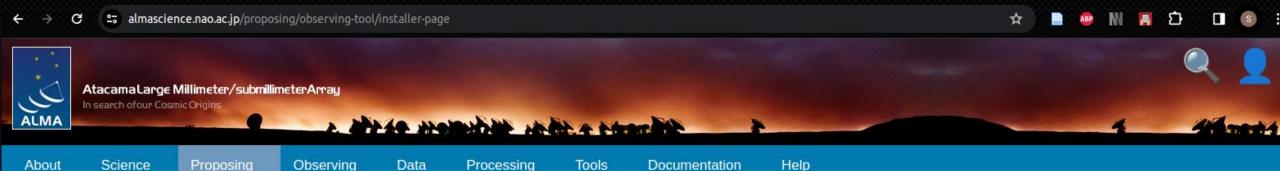


NOTE: For those who require the Cycle 10 version of the OT, it can be found here.

Documentation

Extensive documentation is available to help you work with the OT and optimally prepare your proposal:

. If you are a novice OT user you should start with the OT Quickstart Guide, which takes you through the basic steps of ALMA proposal preparation.



Installer Page



- Mac OS Installer
- Linux Installer
- Windows Installer

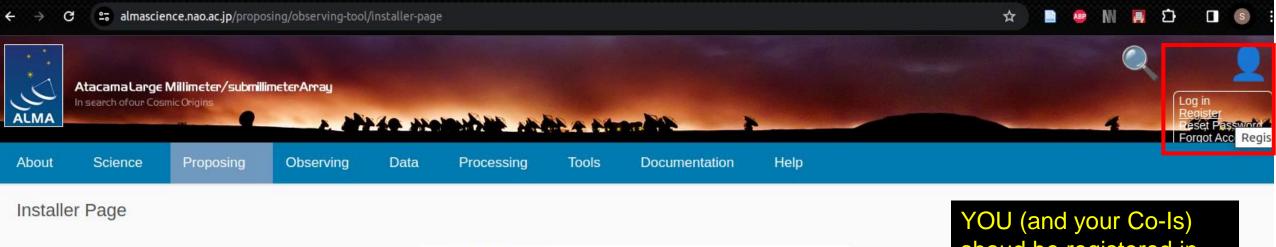
Click on one of the links next to the OT Logo to download the Cycle 11 OT Installer for your particular operating system. The Installer is an executable file which can be started by double-clicking in a file-manager window or started from a shell's command line. Once started, it will take you through a number of screens which, for example, allow you to change the default amount of memory available to the OT. In most cases you can just accept all the defaults using the 'Next' button and click 'Install' when you are happy.

After the Installer has finished, an executable file ('ALMA-OT.sh' on Linux and 'ALMA-OT.command' on Macs) should be found inside a directory named 'ALMAOT-C11-2024'. This can be run from the command line or by double-clicking in a file manager if this is configured in this way. We recommend that the name of this directory not be changed so that multiple versions of the OT (for use in different cycles) can be maintained on your computer. On Macs, a shortcut will be created on your Desktop with the name 'ALMAOT-C11-2024' - the OS will probably ask to control your Finder for this to happen. In the case of macOS, if the ALMA OT is started via clicking on the desktop icon, a separate terminal window opens which should not be shut down whilst the OT is running.

Additional Information

- . The Mac download is a zip archive which must first be opened in order to extract the installer. This will often be done automatically for you or a suitable program will be suggested ('Archive Utility').
- On Linux, typing 'sh almaot-C11-2024.bin' is the recommended way of starting the installer it should not be necessary to make it executable. However, if this does not work, please run "chmod u+x almaot-C11-2024.bin" and then "./almaot-C11-2024.bin".
- There may be various issues related to security when running the Installer. Mac users may need to give permission to run the tool by opening the 'Security & Privacy' menu of 'System Preferences' and this menu should also be set to allow the use of apps from 'identified developers'. Alternatively, running the installer by right-clicking and choosing 'Open' (maybe twice) might work. On Windows, we are aware of 'Defender SmartScreen' this can be bypassed by clicking on 'More Info'.
- It also appears that the installer will not work on older versions of macOS. So far, we only know that this is the case for 10.10 Yosemite. Users of this OS will have to use the tarball version.
- In contrast to the previous 'automated' OT installation (Web Start), the OT will no longer update itself automatically if an update is released. However, the OT will inform you if an update is available after which a new version of the OT Installer should be downloaded and the install procedure repeated. Re-running the Installer will overwrite the previous installation.

WARNING: Oracle have reported a serious incompatibility between macOS Sonoma 14.4 and Java which may result in the OT terminating unexpectedly – there is no workaround. Users are advised to avoid using Sonoma 14.4 and the OT if possible. If this is not possible and a user encounters this problem, the OT does have a project auto-backup facility which can be used as a recovery mechanism. Please contact the helpdesk should more information be required.



ALMA Observing Tool

- Mac OS Installer
- Linux Installer
- Windows Installer

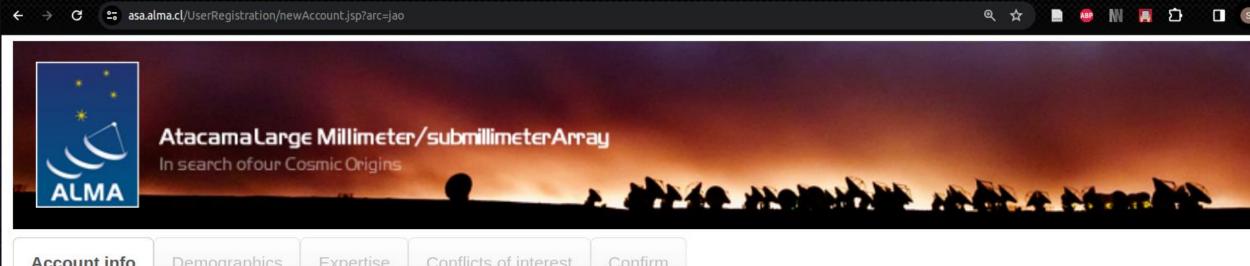
YOU (and your Co-Is) shoud be registered in ALMA site.

Click on one of the links next to the OT Logo to download the Cycle 11 OT Installer for your particular operating system. The Installer is an executable file which can be started by double-clicking in a file-manager window or started from a shell's command line. Once started, it will take you through a number of screens which, for example, allow you to change the default amount of memory available to the OT. In most cases you can just accept all the defaults using the 'Next' button and click 'Install' when you are happy.

After the Installer has finished, an executable file ('ALMA-OT.sh' on Linux and 'ALMA-OT.command' on Macs) should be found inside a directory named 'ALMAOT-C11-2024'. This can be run from the command line or by double-clicking in a file manager if this is configured in this way. We recommend that the name of this directory not be changed so that multiple versions of the OT (for use in different cycles) can be maintained on your computer. On Macs, a shortcut will be created on your Desktop with the name 'ALMAOT-C11-2024' - the OS will probably ask to control your Finder for this to happen. In the case of macOS, if the ALMA OT is started via clicking on the desktop icon, a separate terminal window opens which should not be shut down whilst the OT is running.

Additional Information

- . The Mac download is a zip archive which must first be opened in order to extract the installer. This will often be done automatically for you or a suitable program will be suggested ('Archive Utility').
- On Linux, typing 'sh almaot-C11-2024.bin' is the recommended way of starting the installer it should not be necessary to make it executable. However, if this does not work, please run "chmod u+x almaot-C11-2024.bin" and then "./almaot-C11-2024.bin".
- There may be various issues related to security when running the Installer. Mac users may need to give permission to run the tool by opening the 'Security & Privacy' menu of 'System Preferences' and this menu should also be set to allow the use of apps from 'identified developers'. Alternatively, running the installer by right-clicking and choosing 'Open' (maybe twice) might work. On Windows, we are aware of 'Defender SmartScreen' this can be bypassed by clicking on 'More Info'.
- It also appears that the installer will not work on older versions of macOS. So far, we only know that this is the case for 10.10 Yosemite. Users of this OS will have to use the tarball version.
- In contrast to the previous 'automated' OT installation (Web Start), the OT will no longer update itself automatically if an update is released. However, the OT will inform you if an update is available after which a new version of the OT Installer should be downloaded and the install procedure repeated. Re-running the Installer will overwrite the previous installation.



→ Next

Account info	Demographics	Expe	ertise	Conflicts of interest	Confirm	
New Ac	count R	egi	stra	ation		
First name		1	•			
Middle initials		(1)				
Surname		1	•			
Gender		1				
E-mail		1	•			
Re-type E-mail			0			

Receive optional emails

Important Input Parameters

Important parameters I

- Scales (Control and Performance; Field Setup)
 - Angular Resolution (beam size) ~ depend on the longest baseline
 - Maximum Recoverable Scale (MRS)
 - depends on the shortest baseline (~ 10 x beam size)
 - When the scale is loger than MRS, the emission is resolve out
 - Largest Angular Structure (LAS) should be shorther than MRS.
 - LAS > MRS → multiple configuration or ACA and TP are added.
 - Field of View (FOV)
 - FWHM of the 12m telescope primary beam
 - ~19 arcsec (33 arcsec) @ 300 GHz for 12m (7m)
 - Area of target is larger than 1/3 FOV, mosaic is needed.

Schadule for C11 configurations

Start date	Configuration	Longest baseline	LST for best observing conditions		
2024 October 1	C-3	0.50 km	\sim 22—10 h		
2024 October 20	C-2	0.31 km	\sim 23—11 h		
2024 November 10	C-1	0.16 km	\sim 1—13 h		
2024 November 30	C-2	0.31 km	\sim 2—14 h		
2024 December 20	C-3	0.50 km	\sim 4—15 h		
2025 January 10	C-4	0.78 km	\sim 5—17 h		
2025 February 1	No observations due to maintenance				
2025 March 1	C-4	0.78 km	\sim 8—21 h		
2025 March 20	C-5	1.4 km	$\sim923~\text{h}$		
2025 April 20	C-6	2.5 km	~ 11—1 h		
2025 May 20	C-7	3.6 km	\sim 13—3 h		
2025 June 20	C-8	8.5 km	\sim 14—5 h		
2025 July 11	C-9	13.9 km	\sim 16—6 h		
2025 July 30	C-10	16.2 km	\sim 17—7 h		
2025 August 20	C-9	13.9 km	\sim 19—8 h		
2025 September 10	C-8	8.5 km	$\sim 20 - 9~\mathrm{h}$		

AR and MRS for C11 configurations

		Band	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Config.	$\mathbf{L}_{\mathrm{max}}$	Freq. (GHz)	40	100	150	185	230	345	460	650	870
	\mathbf{L}_{\min}										
7-m	45 m	θ_{res} (arcsec)	31.5	12.5	8.35	6.77	5.45	3.63	2.72	1.93	1.44
	9 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	167	66.7	44.5	36.1	29.0	19.3	14.5	10.3	7.67
C-1	161 m	θ_{res} (arcsec)	8.45	3.38	2.25	1.83	1.47	0.98	0.74	0.52	0.39
	15 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	71.2	28.5	19.0	15.4	12.4	8.25	6.19	4.38	3.27
C-2	314 m	θ_{res} (arcsec)	5.75	2.30	1.53	1.24	1.00	0.67	0.50	0.35	0.26
	15 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	56.5	22.6	15.0	12.2	9.81	6.54	4.90	3.47	2.59
C-3	500 m	θ_{res} (arcsec)	3.55	1.42	0.94	0.77	0.62	0.41	0.31	0.22	0.16
	15 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	40.5	16.2	10.8	8.73	7.02	4.68	3.51	2.48	1.86
C-4	784 m	θ_{res} (arcsec)	2.30	0.92	0.61	0.50	0.40	0.27	0.20	0.14	0.11
	15 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	28.0	11.2	7.50	6.08	4.89	3.26	2.44	1.73	1.29
C-5	$1.4~\mathrm{km}$	θ_{res} (arcsec)	1.38	0.55	0.36	0.30	0.24	0.16	0.12	0.084	0.063
	15 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	16.8	6.70	4.47	3.62	2.91	1.94	1.46	1.03	0.77
C-6	$2.5~\mathrm{km}$	θ_{res} (arcsec)	0.78	0.31	0.20	0.17	0.13	0.089	0.067	0.047	0.035
	15 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	10.3	4.11	2.74	2.22	1.78	1.19	0.89	0.63	0.47
C-7	$3.6~\mathrm{km}$	θ_{res} (arcsec)	0.53	0.21	0.14	0.11	0.092	0.061	0.046	0.033	0.024
	64 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	6.45	2.58	1.72	1.40	1.12	0.75	0.56	0.40	0.30
C-8	$8.5~\mathrm{km}$	θ_{res} (arcsec)	0.24	0.096	0.064	0.052	0.042	0.028	0.021	0.015	0.011
	110 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	3.55	1.42	0.95	0.77	0.62	0.41	0.31	0.22	0.16
C-9	13.9 km	θ_{res} (arcsec)	0.14	0.057	0.038	0.031	0.025	0.017	0.012	0.0088	0.0066
	368 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	2.03	0.81	0.54	0.44	0.35	0.24	0.18	0.13	0.093
C-10	16.2 km	θ_{res} (arcsec)	0.11	0.042	0.028	0.023	0.018	0.012	0.0091	0.0065	0.0048
	244 m	θ_{MRS} (arcsec)	1.25	0.50	0.33	0.27	0.22	0.14	0.11	0.077	0.057
MILL PROPERTY		53459	SV.	- 596			N.	N N	13. 15		

Band 5 (around 183GHz) and 7-10 are recommended within LST ranges (not Dec-March)

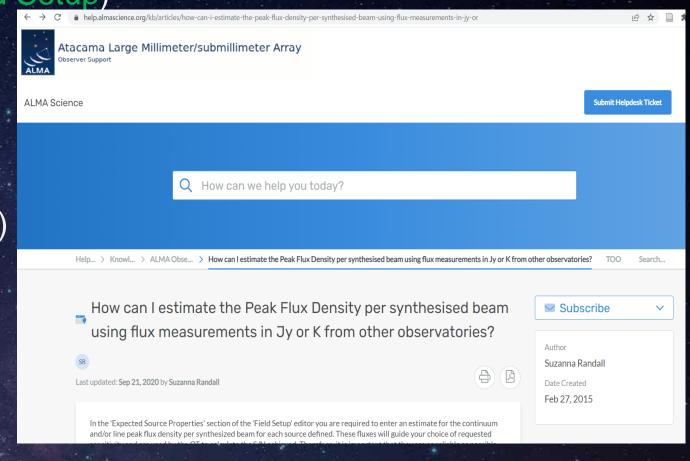
Most Extended configuration	Allowed Compact configuration pairings	Extended 12-m Array Multiplier	Multiplier if compact 12-m Array needed	Multiplier if 7-m Array needed	Multiplier if TP Array needed and allowed (with 7-m Array in 4x4-bit mode)	Multiplier if TP Array needed and allowed (with 7-m Array in 2x2-bit mode)
7-m Array	TP			1	1.7	1.4
C-1	7-m Array & TP	1		7.0	11.9	9.5
C-2	7-m Array & TP	1		4.7	7.9	6.3
C-3	7-m Array & TP	1		2.4	4.1	3.3
C-4	C-1 & 7-m Array & TP	1	0.34	2.4	4.0	3.2
C-5	C-2 & 7-m Array & TP	1	0.26	1.2	2.1	1.7
C-6	C-3 & 7-m Array & TP	1	0.25	0.6	1.0	0.8
C-7	C-4	1	0.23			
C-8	C-5	1	0.22			
C-9	C-6	1	0.21			
C-10	-	1				

Table A-2: Allowed Array Combinations and Time Multipliers. See Chapter 7 of the Technical Handbook for relevant equations and detailed considerations. If the array configuration that meets the AR request according to Table A-1 has a MRS that is smaller than the LAS request, the OT checks if adding more compact array configurations, following the restrictions of this Table, fulfills the LAS request. If so, the final setup consists of the selected combination of arrays. Otherwise, the OT returns a validation error.

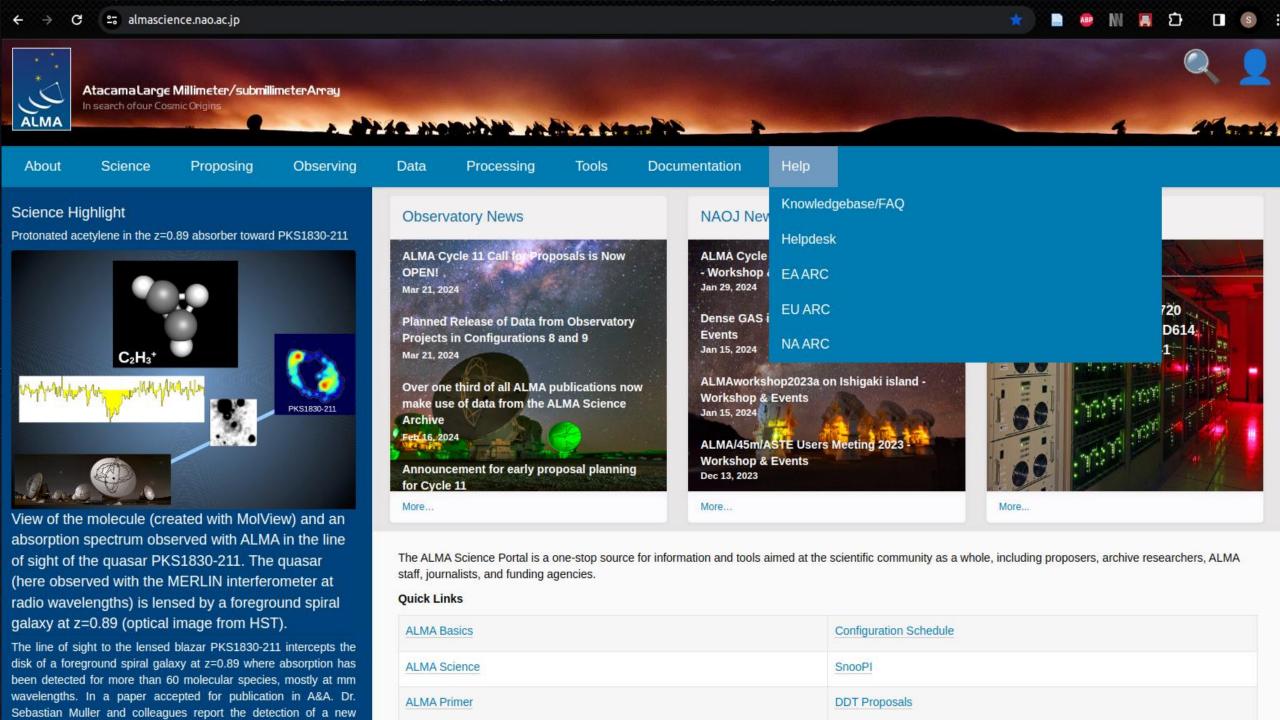
Important parameters II

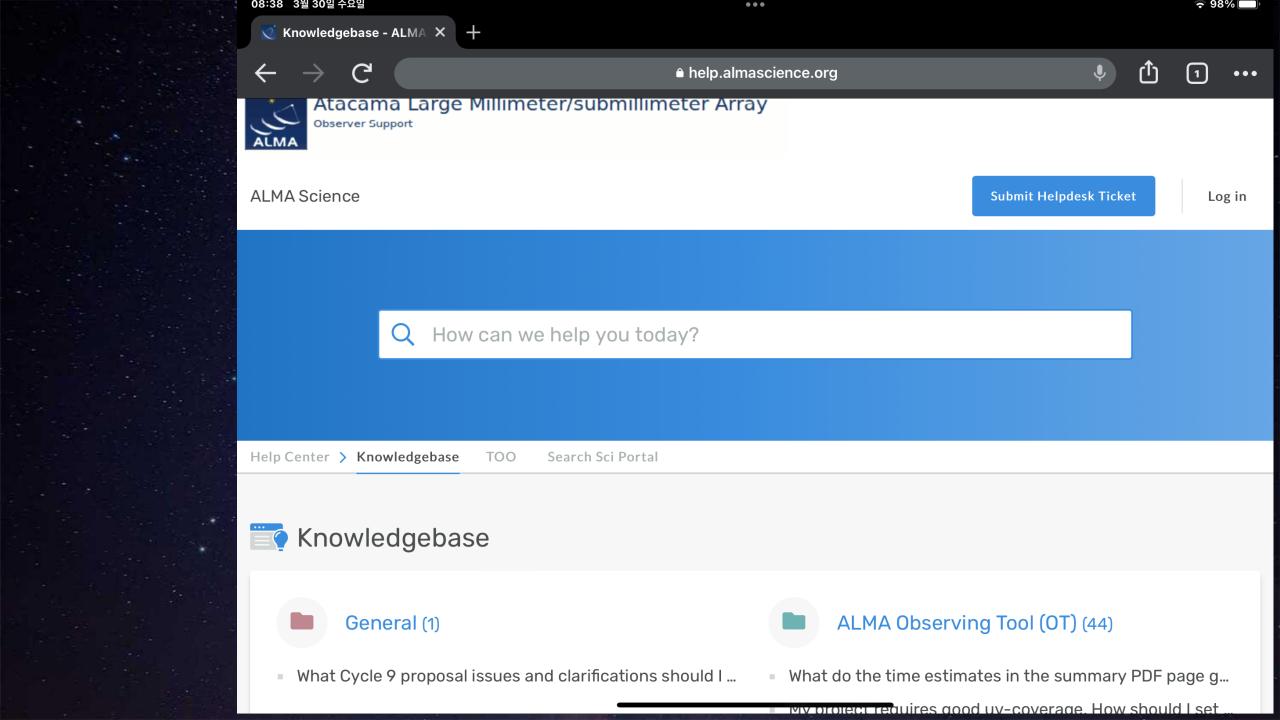
- Expected Source properties (Field Setup)
 - Position, souce velocity
 - Peak Flux Density per beam
 - SNR > 3
 - Polarization
 - linear > 0.1% (< 0.3 FOV)
 - circular > 1.8 % (<0.1 FOV)
 - Line width
 - > 3 x spectral resolution

You should describe how to derive/adopt these values in Technical Justification



https://help.almascience.org/kb/articles/how-can-i-estimate-the-peak-flux-density-per-synthesised-beam-using-flux-measurements-in-jy-or

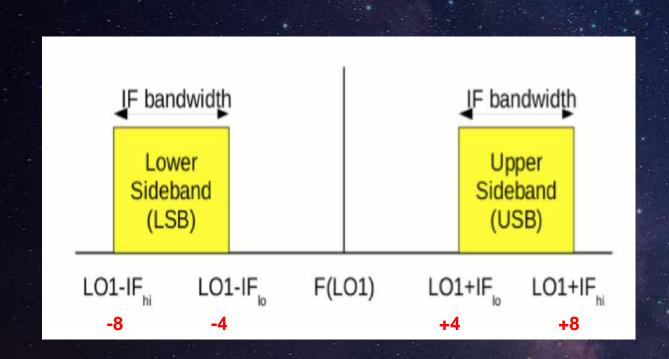




Important parameters III

- Spectral Setup
 - LSB and/or USB
 - 4 basebands (with 2GHz max. width)
 - 2 or 4 basebands in the one sideband

LSB/USB (<4GHz, ≤4 basebands)
Baseband (<2GHz, ≤4spws)
Spectral window(spw)



Band	Frequency range	Wavelength range	IF range	Type
	(GHz)	(mm)	(GHz)	
1	35-50	8.5 - 6	4-12	SSB
3	84 - 116	3.6 - 2.6	4 - 8	2SB
4	125 - 163	2.4 - 1.8	4 - 8	2SB
5	158 - 211	1.9 - 1.4	4 - 8	2SB
6	211 - 275	1.4 - 1.1	4.5 - 10	2SB
7	275 - 373	1.1 - 0.8	4 - 8	2SB
8	385 - 500	0.78 - 0.60	4 - 8	2SB
9	602 - 720	0.50-0.42	4 - 12	DSB
10	787 - 950	0.38 - 0.32	4-12	DSB

Spws in a baseband

- one faction 1
- two fraction ½
- four faction 1/4
- one fraction ½ + two fraction ¼

Spectral windows (SPW) should have the same resolution.

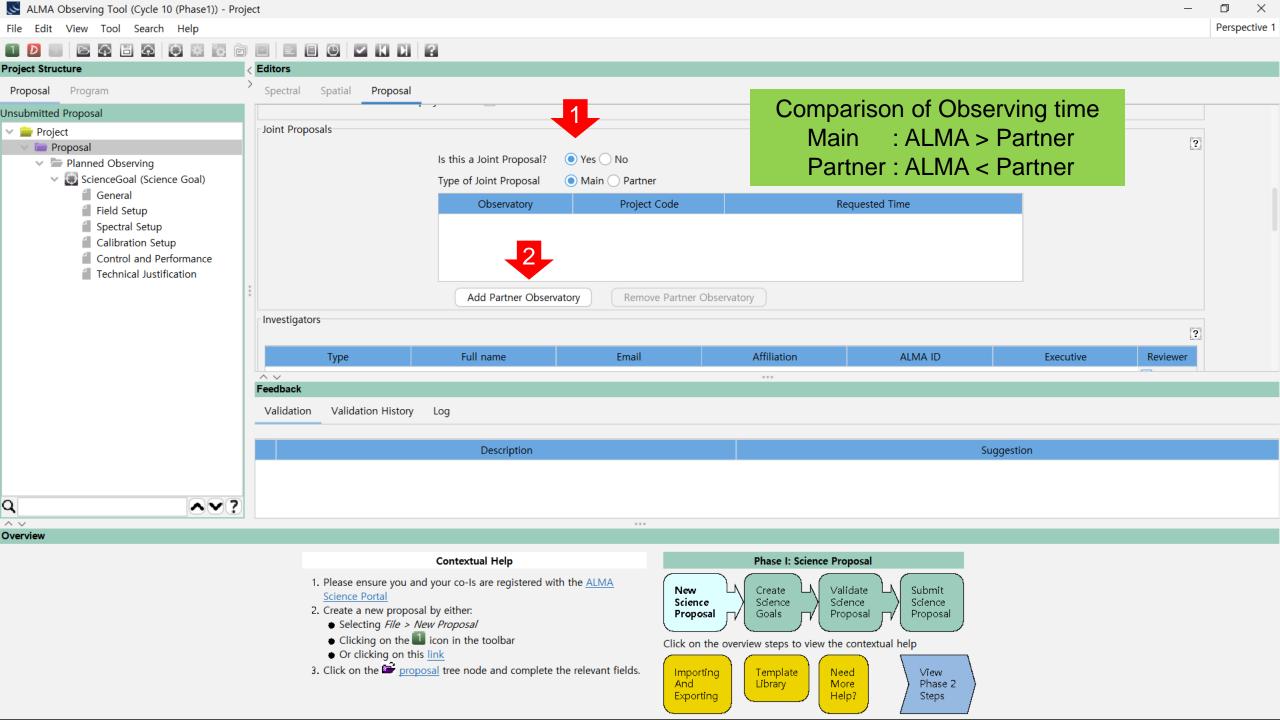
Bandwidth	Channel	Spectral	Number of	Correlator	Bit
	spacing	resolution	channels	\mathbf{mode}	Mode
(MHz)	(MHz)	(MHz)			
1875	15.6	31.2	120	TDM	
938	0.976	1.952	1024	FDM	4x4 ★
1875	0.488	0.976	3840	FDM	2x2
469	0.488	0.976	1024	FDM	4x4
938	0.244	0.488	3840	FDM	2x2
234	0.244	0.488	1024	FDM	4x4
469	0.122	0.244	3840	FDM	2x2
117	0.122	0.244	1024	FDM	4x4
234	0.061	0.122	3840	FDM	2x2
58.6	0.061	0.122	1024	FDM	4x4
117	0.0305	0.061	3840	FDM	2x2
58.6	0.0153	0.0305	3840	FDM	2x2

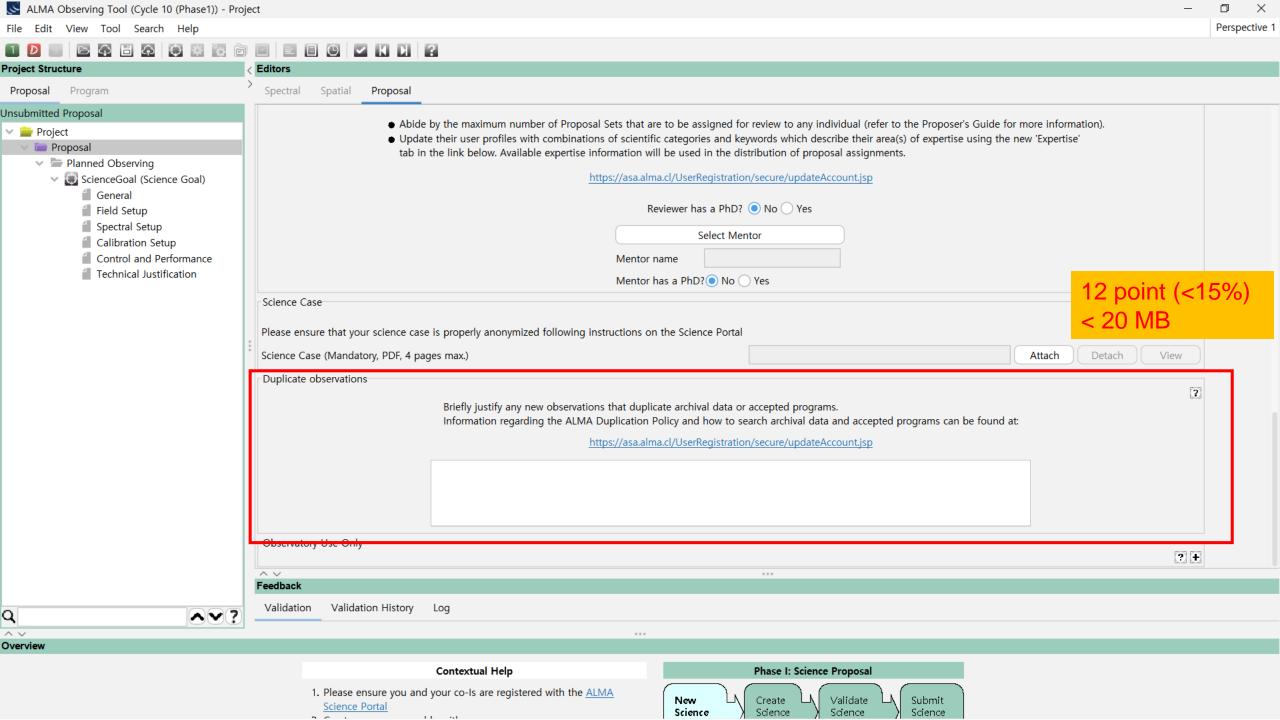
Table 5.1: Available spectral windows in multi-region mode (dual polarization). Each time the fraction is changed, the number of channels and bandwidth of a particular correlator mode is halved. Each row corresponds to a particular spectral resolution.

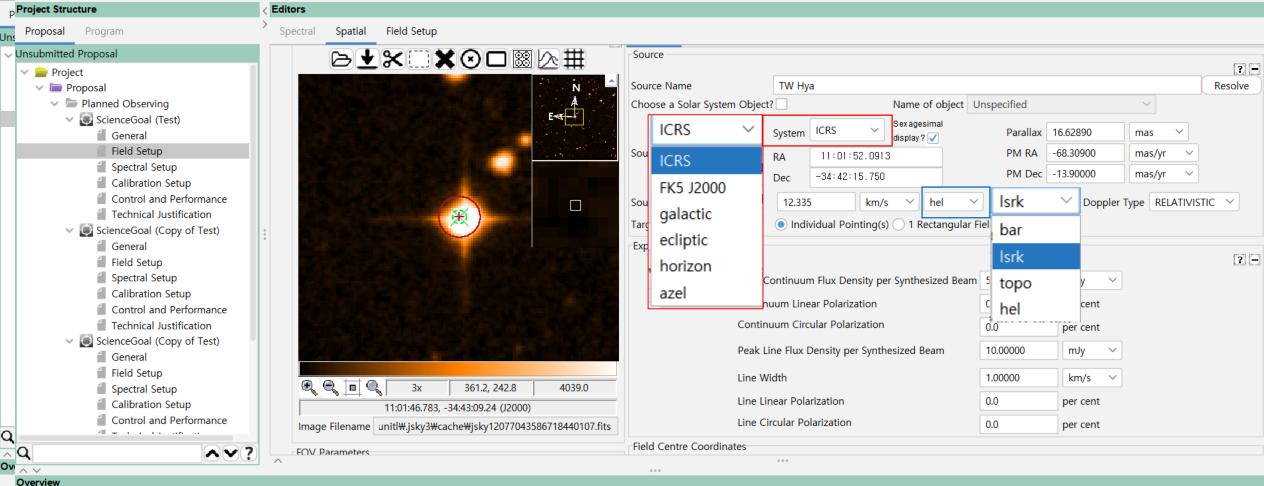
Spectral resolution \propto 1/ fraction for a given bandwidth

Fraction = 1		Fraction =	1/2	Fraction = $1/4$		
Bandwidth (MHz)	# channels	Bandwidth (MHz)	# channels	Bandwidth (MHz)	# channels	
1875	4096	937.5	2048	468.75	1024	
937.5	4096	468.75	2048	234.375	1024	
468.75	4096	234.375	2048	117.118	1024	
234.375	4096	117.118	2048	58.594	1024	
117.118	4096	58.594	2048	not availa	able	
58.594	4096	not available		not availa	ble	

Procedures In OT







Contextual Help

- 1. Please ensure you and your co-Is are registered with the ALMA Science Portal
- 2. Create a new proposal by either:

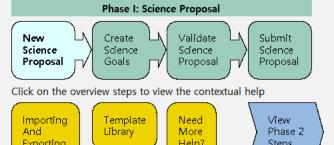
Edit

<u>V</u>iew <u>T</u>ool

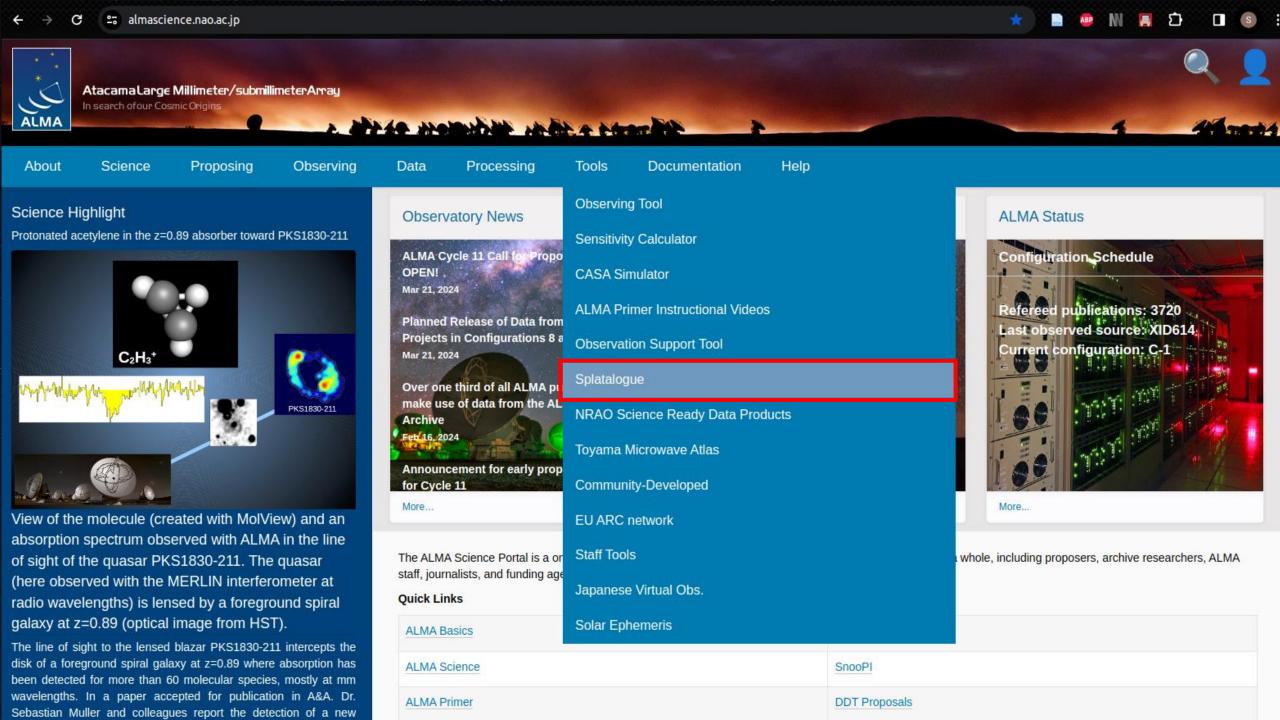
Search

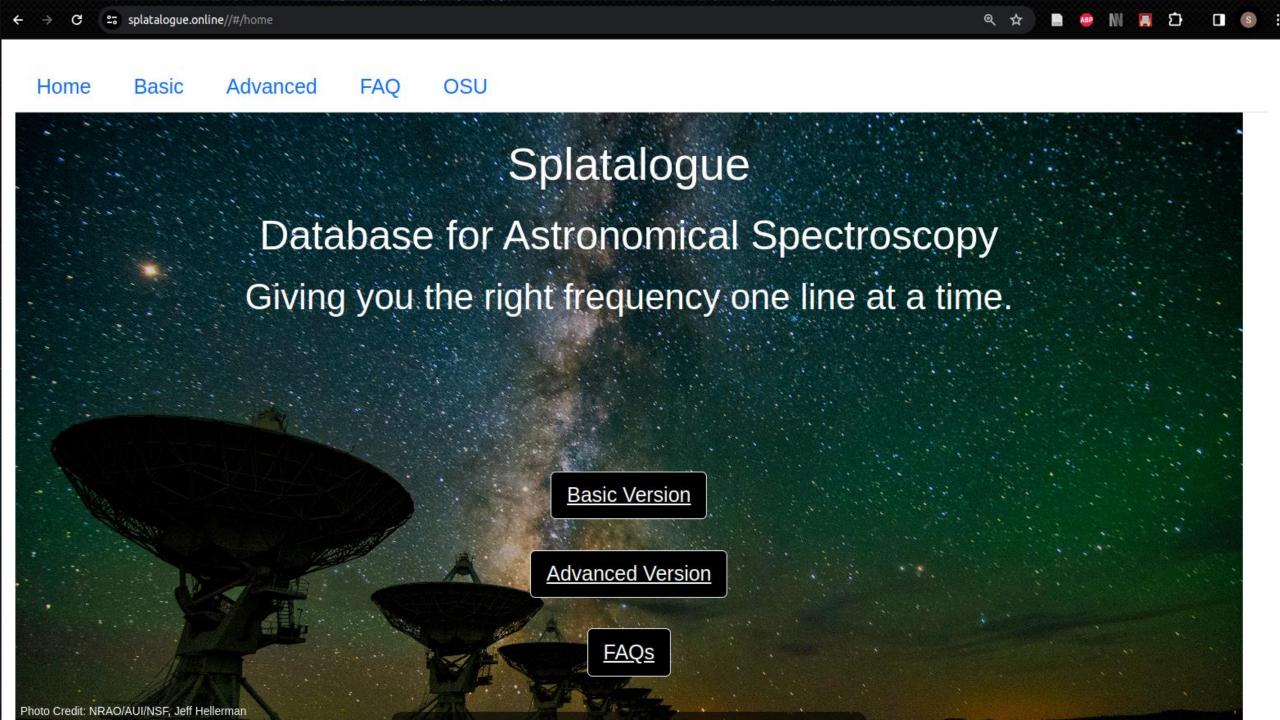
<u>H</u>elp

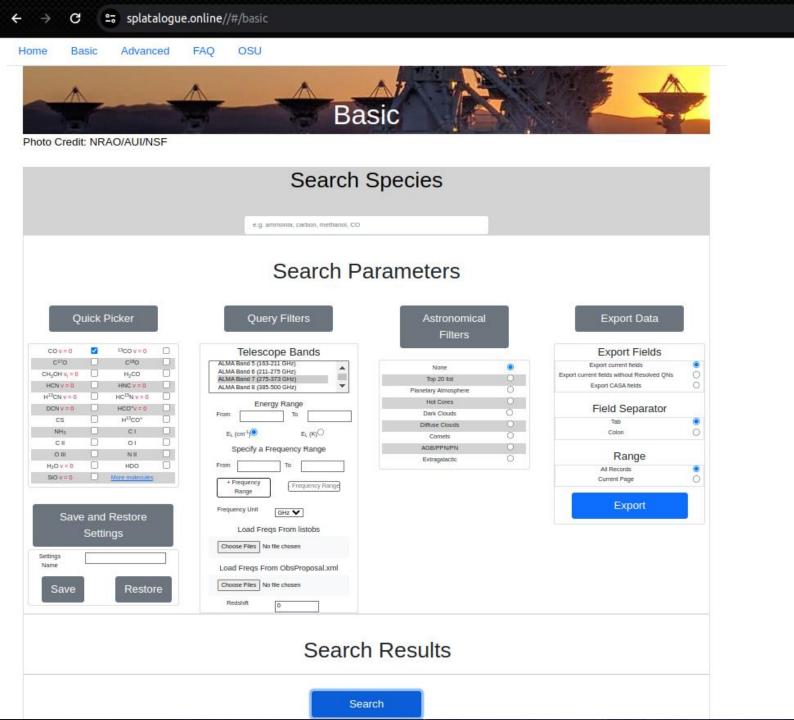
- Selecting File > New Proposal
- Clicking on the licon in the toolbar
- Or clicking on this link
- 3. Click on the proposal tree node and complete the relevant fields.



Stone







Check off the proposal tree flowe and complete the relevant flows.

M Create spectral windows centred on spectral lines

6

Max

950 🗘

0 🗘

Project Structu

∨ Im Prop

Proposal

Transition Filter

✓ Include description

Sky Frequency (GHz)

All lines

Min

Q

Overview

31.3

Receiver/Back End Configuration

Potentially selectable lines

Filtering unobservable lines

0 🔷 Max

Can't find the transition you're looking for in the

offline pool? Find more in the online Splatalogue. Search Online

Reset Filters

Lines in defined spws

Molecule Filter / Environment

Show all atoms and molecules

Upper-state Energy (K)

Unsubmitted Pi e.g. CO*2-1* or *oxide*

✓ Frequency Filters

ALMA Band

Exporting

Help?

Phase 2 Steps

