ALMA Capability

Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array





50 x 12m 12 x 7m 4 x 12m TP

ALMA antennas on the Chajnantor Plateau

latitude = -23° (upper declination limit for ALMA = $+47^{\circ}$)

Chile

Korea ALMA Project

http://alma.kasi.re.kr

한국천문연구원 전파천문본부 ALMA 그룹



2023.04 11-13, AOS, Chile GPU Spectrometer training for JAO engineers

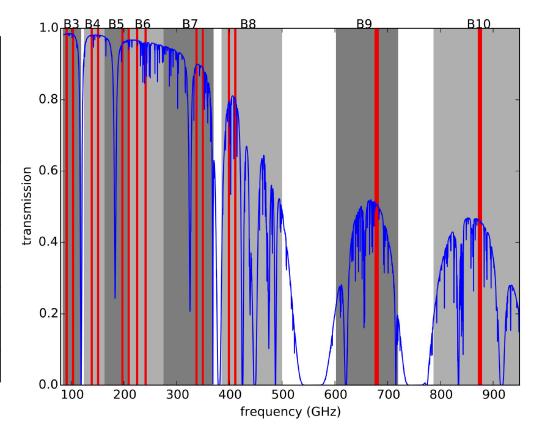


2023.05 OSF, Chile

2023.07.31-08.04 Summer school, Sobaeksan

ALMA receiver Bands

Band	Frequency range Wavelength ran		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



Configuration

C43-1, C43-2, C43-10



Compact configuration





ALMA antenna in transit on borad of the transporter

Configuration & angular resolution

		Band	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Config.	$\mathbf{L}_{ ext{max}}$	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 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 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 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 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

Absolute flux accuracy (8 solar system objects, 40 quasars)

- 5% for Band 1, 3, 4 & 5
- 10% for Band 6, 7 & 8
- 20% for Band 9 & 10

Total Power flux accuracy

- 5% for Band 1, 3, 5, 6, & 7
- 15% for Band 8

Astrometry accuracy

- nominal accuracy of the absolute position measurement (standard deviation) is at best 5% (0.0075 arcsec) of the synthesized beam for angular resolutions larger than about 150 mas.
- At higher angular resolutions, the best absolute astrometric accuracy decreases to 10% of the synthesized beam

Cycle-12 Configuration Schedule

Start Date	Configuration	Longest baseline	LST: Best conditions		
1-Oct-2025	C-8	8.5 km	22-10		
20-Oct-2025	C-7	3.6 km	23-11		
10-Nov-2025	C-6	2.5 km	1-13		
1-Dec-2025	C-5	1.4 km	2-14		
20-Dec-2025	C-4	0.78 km	4-15		
10-Jan-2026	C-3	0.50 km	5-17		
1-Feb-2026	No observations due to maintenance				
1-Mar-2026	C-1	0.16 km	8-21		
26-Mar-2026	C-2	0.31 km	9-23		
20-Apr-2026	C-3	0.50 km	11-0		
10-May-2026	C-4	0.78 km	12-2		
31-May-2026	C-5	1.4 km	13-4		
23-Jun-2026	C-6	2.5 km	15-6		
28-Jul-2026	C-5	1.4 km	17-7		
18-Aug-2026	C-4	0.78 km	19-8		
10-Sep-2026	C-3	0.50 km	20-9		

Number of antennas:

- At least forty-three antennas in the 12-m Array.
- At least ten 7-m antennas (for short baselines) and three 12-m antennas (for single-dish maps)

Receiver bands:

• Receiver Bands 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 (7.0, 3.0, 2.0, 1.6, 1.3, 0.85, 0.65, 0.45, and 0.35 mm, respectively).

12-m Array Configurations:

- Cycle 11 (Cycle 12) includes 12-m Array configurations C-1 through C-10 (C-8).
- Maximum baselines between 0.16 km and 16.2 km (8.5km) depending on array configuration. longer than 3.6 km (i.e., C-7 through C-10, as offered in Cycle 11) are considered "long-baseline configurations".

Spectral-line, continuum, and mosaic observations:

- Spectral-line and continuum observations with the 12-m Array and the 7-m Array in Bands 1 and 3 through 10.
- Single-field interferometry (Bands 1 and 3 through 10) and mosaics (Bands 1 and 3 through 9) with the 12-m Array and the 7-m Array.
- Single-dish spectral-line observations in Bands 3 through 8.

Polarization:

- Single-pointing, on-axis, full linear and circular polarization for both continuum and full spectral resolution observations in Bands 1 and 3 through 7 on the 12-m Array.
- Single-pointing, on-axis linear polarization on the stand-alone 7-m Array in Bands 1 and 3 through 7. The field of view is limited to the inner one third of the primary beam.
- Mosaics are supported for linear polarization continuum maps using the 12-m Array but not yet for the standalone 7-m Array. The spectral setup for polarization mosaics is limited to the current default continuum frequency setups.

Total Power Array: TP Array can only be used for spectral-line observations (not continuum) in Bands 3 through 8.

Spectral scan mode: only one point per target is used (no mosaic)

Proposal Type

1. Regular proposal ("S")

estimated execution time does not exceed 50 hours on the 12-m Array or 150 hours on the 7-m Array in stand-alone mode

2. Target of Opportunity proposal ("T")

Targets and/or time of observation are not known in advance.

(Note: Regular proposals wrongly submitted by the PI as ToO proposals may be rejected on technical grounds)

PIs should specify the number of triggers needed

: to use a first epoch of observations to assess target properties (e.g., suitability for monitoring), it is recommended that PIs create single-visit Science Goals (SGs) for this purpose, separate from multi-visit SGs for any subsequent monitoring.

Trigger: the Project Trigger Submission Page available at the ALMA Helpdesk

3. Large program ("L")

estimated execution time of greater than 50 hours on the 12-m Array (with or without accompanying ACA time) or 150 hours on the 7-m Array in stand-alone mode.

Large Programs cannot include time-critical or ToO observations, full polarization measurements, solar observations, VLBI, Phased Array mode, Astrometric observations or observations requiring band-to-band calibration or bandwidth switching calibration

4. mm-VLBI and Phased Array proposal

- VLBI (Campaign mode)
- 7 mm (Band 1) or 3 mm (Band 3) for Global Millimeter VLBI Array (GMVA)
- -1.3 mm (Band 6) or 0.87 mm (Band 7) for the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) network
- Phased Array ("P"): Band-1, 3, 6, & 7
- 5. Solar observation: only continuum at Band-3, 5, 6,& 7

6. Joint proposals (Joint Proposals accepted by ALMA will be assigned Grade A)

•Pls must submit their Joint Proposals to the observatory that requires the most observing time. In the case of ALMA, the relevant time request will be the amount of time requested for the 12-m Array, or the 7-m Array in case of ACA stand-alone proposals.

Partner	Maximum time ALMA can allocate on partner observatory	Maximum time partner observatory can allocate on each ALMA array
JWST	115 hours	115 hours
VLA	5% of available time	50 hours
VLT	50 hours	50 hours

Table 2: Amount of time that can be allocated by ALMA on partner observatories and the amount of time that can be allocated by partner observatories on each ALMA array (i.e., 12-m, 7-m, and TP).

Proposal Preparation, submission, and review

1. Dual-Anonymous proposal review

: the proposal team does not know the identity of the reviewers and the reviewers do not know the identity of the proposal team

Proposals that do not follow the dual-anonymous guidelines may be subject to disqualification General Guidelines pertaining to all Programs

(https://almascience.nao.ac.jp/proposing/alma-proposal-review/dual-anonymous)

2. Scientific Justification

- one single PDF, English, maximum file size is 20MB (including figures, tables, and references)
- Proposal Latex format
 (https://almascience.nrao.edu/proposing/proposal-template)
- Font size: no more than 15% of the text is smaller than 12 points.

 The proposal will be rejected
- 4 pages: Regular, ToO, Solar, VLBI, Phased Array and DDT
- 6 pages : Large Programs
- ·Large Program management plan (a separated 1-page PDF)
 - include the description of the computing resources available to the team to reduce and analyze ALMA data

Science Case

- a brief justification of the requested sensitivity and angular resolution (full details in the Technical Justification)
- a knowledgeable but broad-based audience
 (since proposal reviewers are selected with expertise that covers the various topics within a proposal category)

Large Program

- An assessment of the scheduling feasibility: it should be completed within one cycle. So the program must satisfy the configuration/LST restriction.
- A description of the data products (including any non-ALMA products) that will be delivered by the team for ingestion into the ALMA archive
- A publication plan

3. Technical Justification

- Sensitivity source brightness, the requested sensitivity and S/N ratio
- Imaging and correlator configuration angular resolution, maximum recoverable scale
- Spectral setup

If a proposal does not conform to the advertised capability, it can be declared technically infeasible either during the proposal review process or during the Phase 2.

Proposal validation, submission and withdrawal

- A proposal can be updated and submitted again to the ALMA Archive many time as needed by the PI before the proposal deadline.
- DDT proposals are not overwritten, only be submitted once

4. Proposal evaluation

DPR (Distributed Peer Review)

- PI proposals
- Maximum number of Proposals sets: 5 (recommended 3)
- If the PI does not have a Ph.D. at the time of proposal submission, the PI can still be the reviewer, but a mentor must be identified at the time of the proposal submission

APRC (ALMA Proposal Review Committee)

- Large Program
- 16-18 members of the scientific community drawn from the five ALMA science categories
- External reviews

5. Proposal Selection (22.5% EA)

Grade A: 33 %

Grade B: 67%

Basic rules

1.All participants in the review process must behave in an **ethical manner**. If it is found that a reviewer has not behaved in an ethical manner or did not complete their reviews in good faith, **the proposal(s) on which the reviewer is acting as the designated reviewer may be rejected.**

All participants in the review process are expected to behave in an ethical manner.

- Reviewers will judge proposals solely on their scientific merit.
- Reviewers will be mindful of bias in all contexts.
- Reviewers will declare all major conflicts of interest.
- The proposal reviews will be constructive and avoid any inappropriate language.

All proposal materials related to the review process are strictly confidential.

- The assigned proposals may not be distributed or used in any manner not directly related to the review process.
- Any data, intellectual property, and non-public information shown in the proposals may be used only for the purpose of carrying out the requested proposal review.
- The assigned proposals and the reviews may not be discussed with anyone other than the Proposal Handling Team, the APRC, or the assigned mentor when applicable.
- All electronic and paper copies of the proposal materials must be destroyed as soon as a reviewer completes the proposal review process.

6. Proposal Confidentiality

Proposal tile, abstract, name and region of the PI, and the names of Co-Is

- Grade A & B: public soon after PI are informed of the outcome of the Proposal review process
- Grade C: public as soon as its first data are archived

Proposal metadata (source position, frequency, integration time)

- Grade A: public soon after the proposal review process is completed
- Grade B & C: public as soon as the first data are archived