

V134a Update on ALMA Operations and Development Program - Spring 2022

A. Gonzalez, M. Fukagawa, D. Iono, S. Sakamoto, G. Kosugi, K. Sugimoto, T. Kojima, K. Kikuchi (NAOJ), and the ALMA Project team

In this presentation, we will offer an update on ALMA Operations and Development Program.

Operations: Cycle 7 observations, which originally started in October 2019 and stopped in March 2020 due to the global pandemic, were resumed in March 2021 after the recovery of the array and finished at the end of September 2021 after visiting long baseline configurations. Cycle 8 2021, which received a record request of observing hours, started as planned from October 1st 2021. This presentation will provide a summary of Cycle 7, an update on the latest situation with respect to the status of Cycle 8 2021 operations and the planning towards Cycle 9.

Development: NAOJ is collaborating in the development of receivers for Bands 1 (led by ASIAA) and 2 (led by ESO), and the ACA Spectrometer (led by KASI) in addition to initial studies in hardware and software. In this presentation, we will provide an update on the status of the different projects and studies. In particular, we will report on the status of work towards the implementation of Band 1 and the ACA Spectrometer in ALMA, and the demonstration of different technologies towards ALMA2. Moreover, several working groups have been established to consider the update of technical requirements to address the top-level science goals and related development priorities highlighted in the ALMA Development Roadmap and to be implemented during the ALMA2 phase of the Project. An update on this process will be offered.