



ALMA Science Highlights and Future Capabilities

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ALMA Early Science



- ALMA Early Science C0, C1 & C2
 - >30-70% of the total number of antennas
 - ➤Maximum separation 3km
 - Already the most powerful submm observatory
- Enormous pressure to use ALMA worldwide
 Requests for 9 times the available time
 Top 8% science projects selected (ESO)

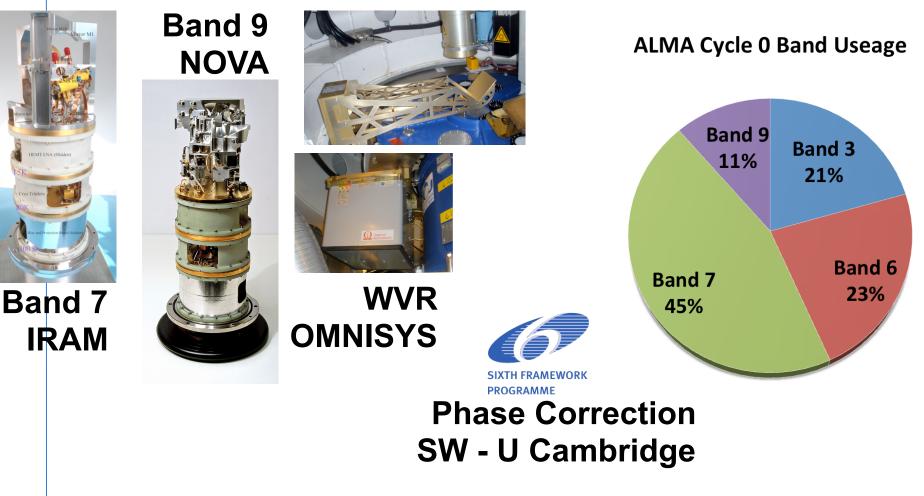




ALMA Frequency Bands Usage

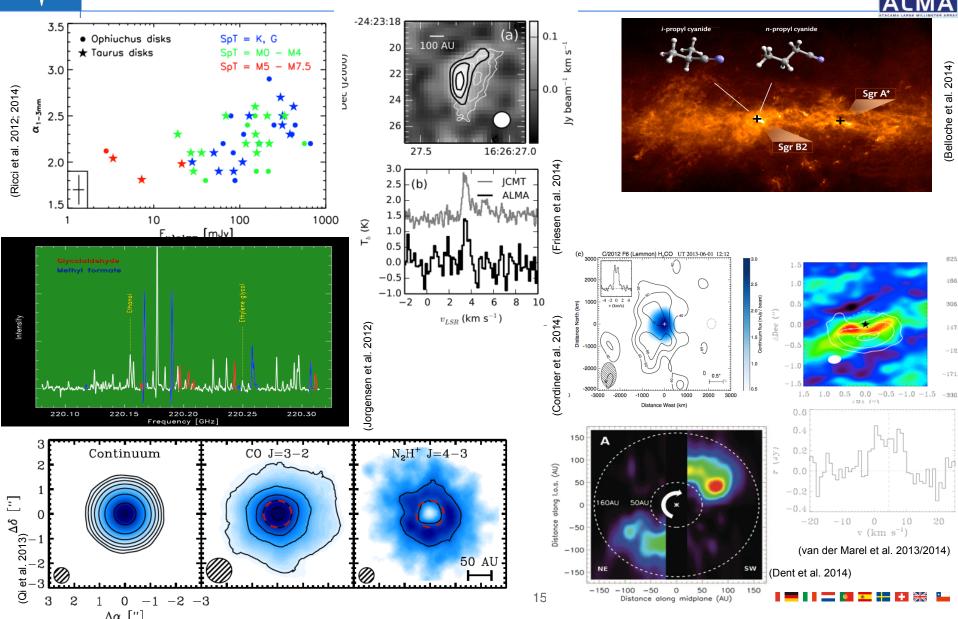


- ALMA is a Sub-millimeter Observatory
- Thanks to the Site and the Water Vapour Radiometers





Disks and star formation: evolution, planet formation, chemistry, surveys coming

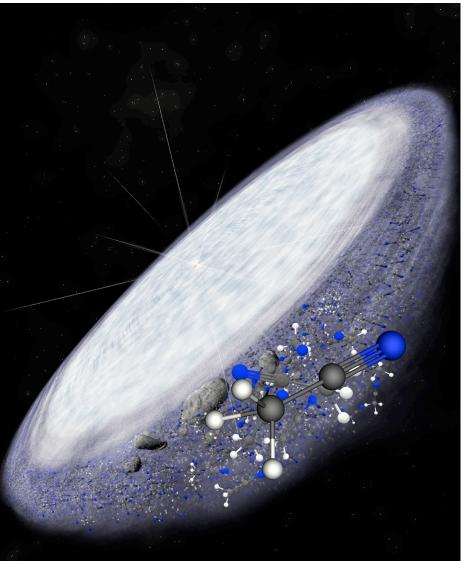




(Oeberg et al. 2015)

Complex molecules in protoplanetary disks





First detection of complex molecules in disks ➤CH₃CN ➤(also HCN and HC₃N)

Abundance similar to comets in SS

- COMs accompany simpler volatiles in protoplanetary disks
- The rich chemistry of the primordial SS is not unique

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Galaxies, high redshift Universe



257 GHz

257 GHz

295 GHz

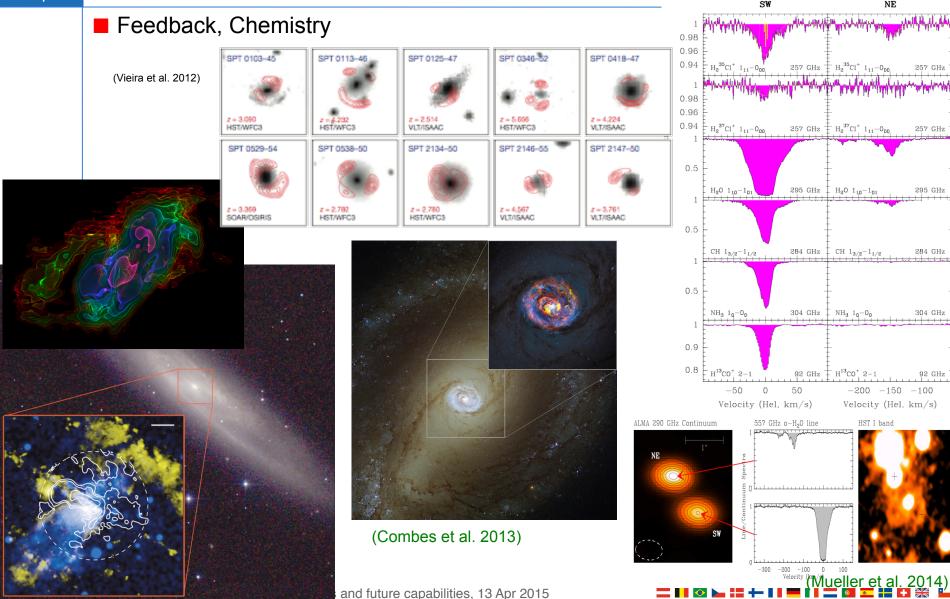
284 GHz -----

304 GHz

92 GHz

-200 -150 -100

HST I band



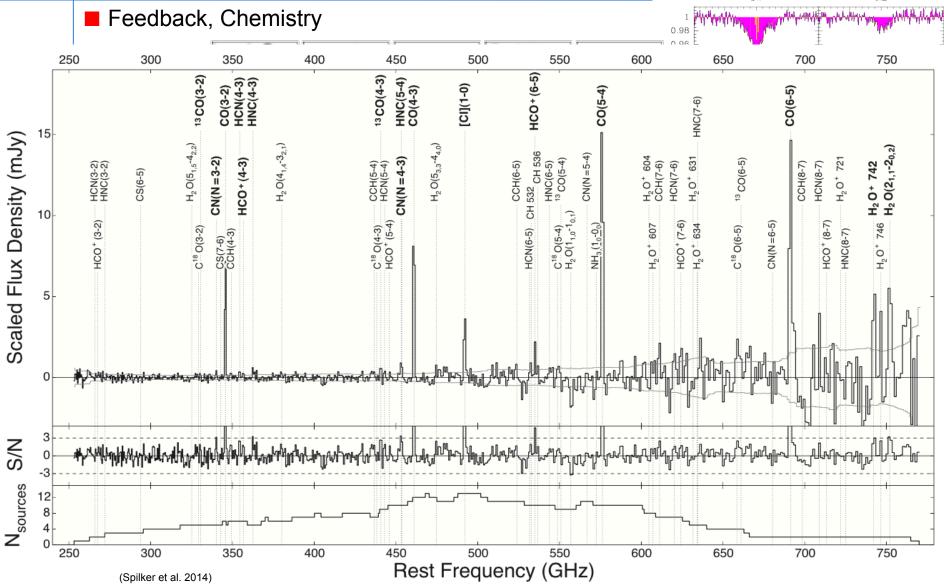
(Bolatto et al. 2013)



Galaxies, high redshift Universe



SW

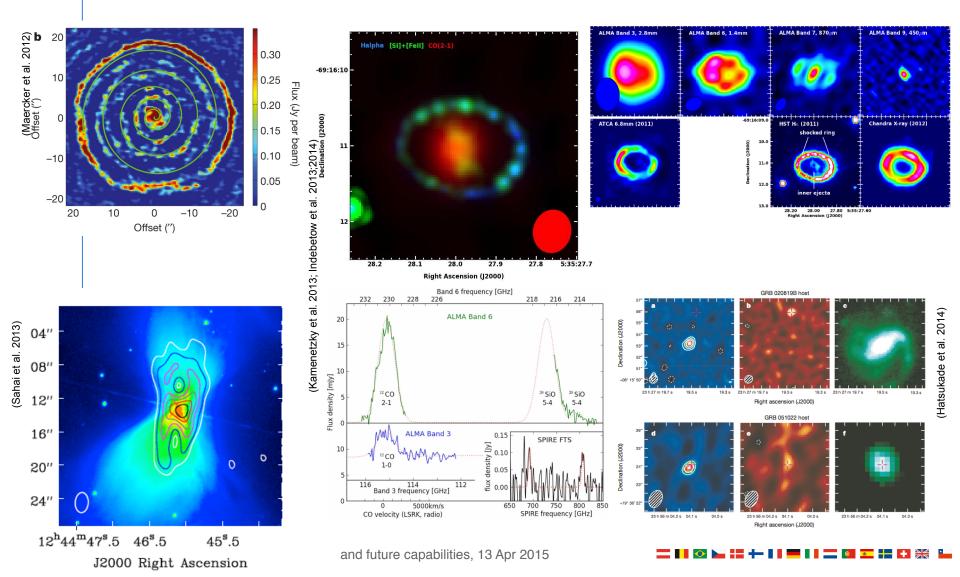


(Bolatto et al. 2013)



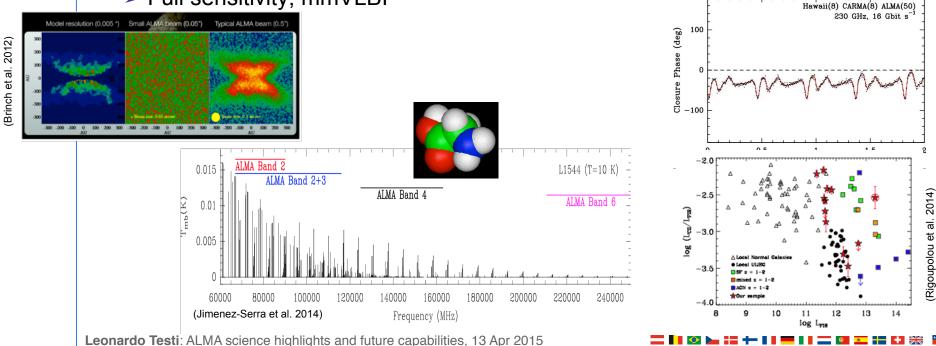
Enrichment of the ISM

Late stages of stellar evolution, supernovae, GRBs



Science Priorities for the Future

- Resolve planet formation in protoplanetary disks
 Full sensitivity (antennas) and angular resolution (baselines)
- Statistical census of Star Formation at high-z
 - Full sensitivity, efficient spectral scans
- Chemistry of Complex Organic Molecules and Water
 Full sensitivity, full frequency coverage, spectral flexibility
- Resolve Event Horizon of Supermassive Black Holes
 - > Full sensitivity, mmVLBI



(Doleman et al. EHT project)



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6/22/2014



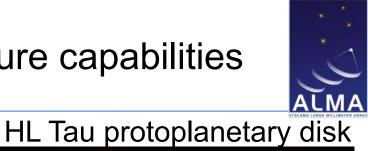
ALMA Exteded Ar

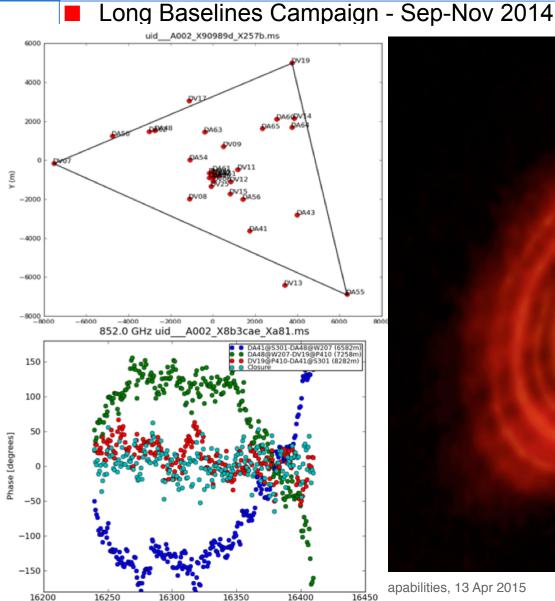
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Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe

6/22/2014

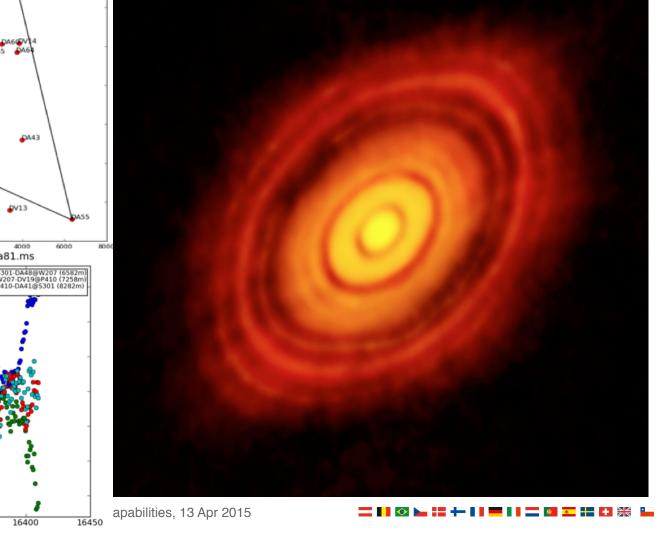
A glimpse of ALMA future capabilities





UT [s] 2014

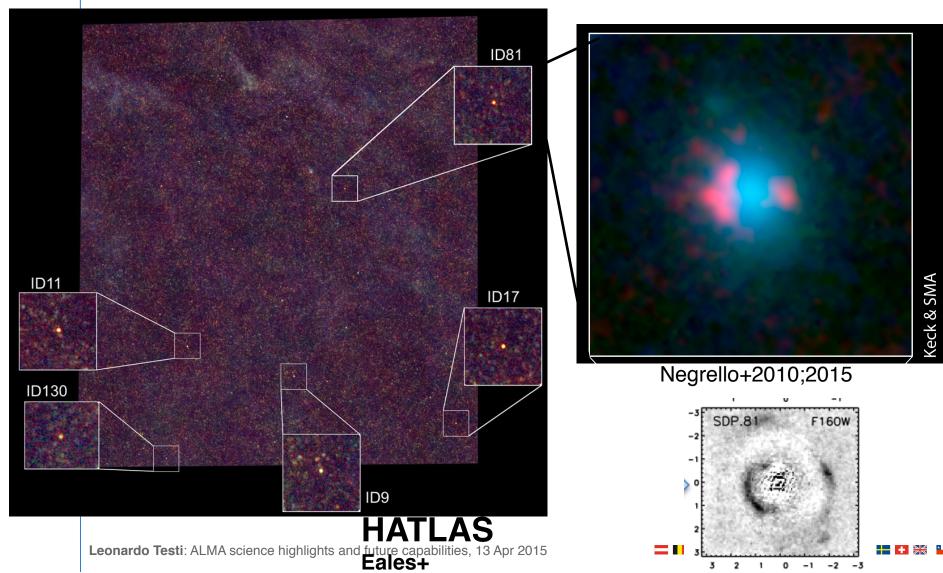
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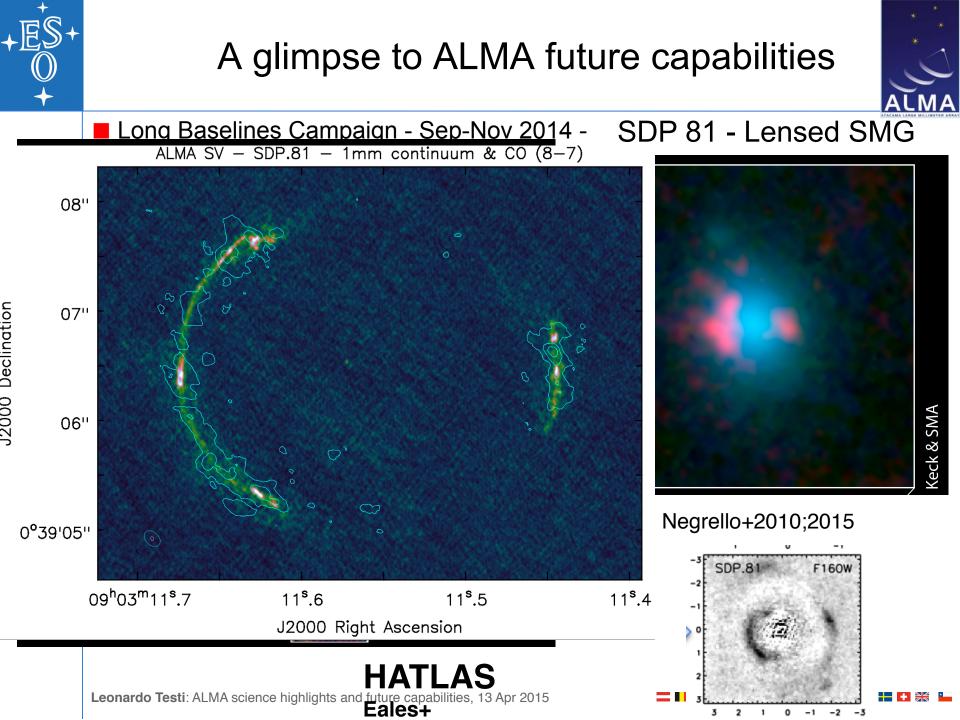


A glimpse to ALMA future capabilities



Long Baselines Campaign - Sep-Nov 2014 SDP 81 - Lensed SMG





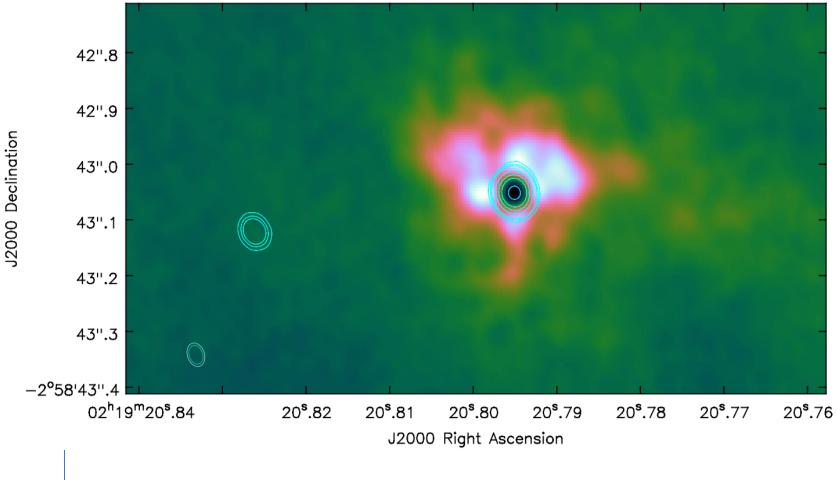
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A glimpse to ALMA future capabilities

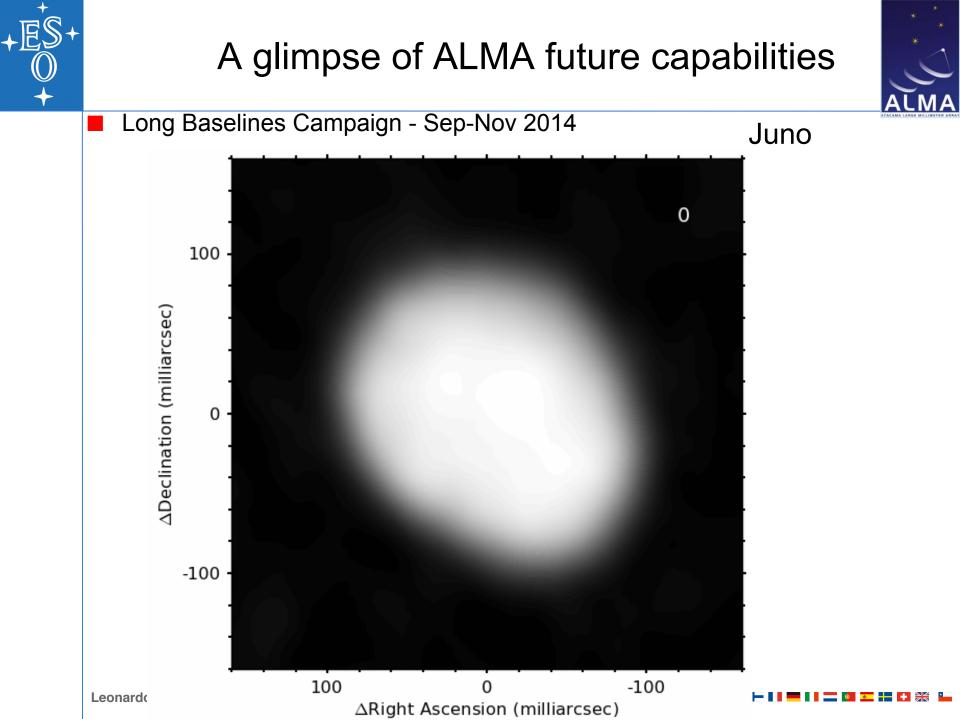


Long Baselines Campaign - Sep-Nov 2014 - Data Public Today MIRA - AGB star

ALMA SV - Mira - SiO(5-4) - 1.3mm continuum



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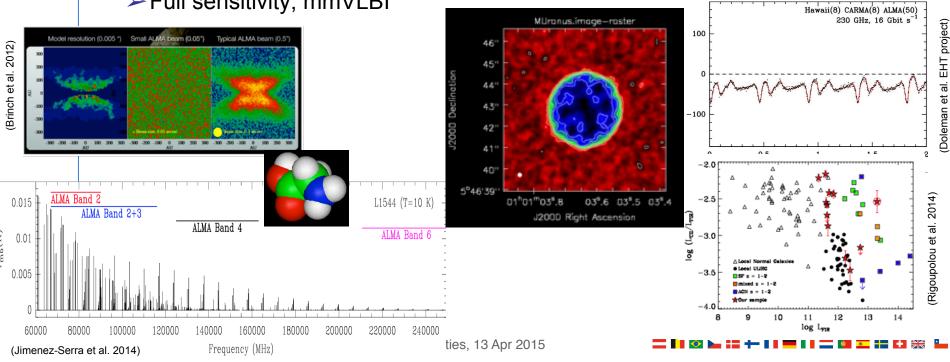




Science Priorities for the Future



- Resolve planet formation in protoplanetary disks > Full sensitivity (antennas) and angular resolution (baselines)
- Statistical census of Star Formation at high-z
 - > Full sensitivity, efficient spectral scans
- Chemistry of Complex Organic Molecules and Water > Full sensitivity, full frequency coverage, spectral flexibility
- **Resolve Event Horizon of Supermassive Black Holes**
 - Full sensitivity, mmVLBI



Timeline and near-/mid-term strategy



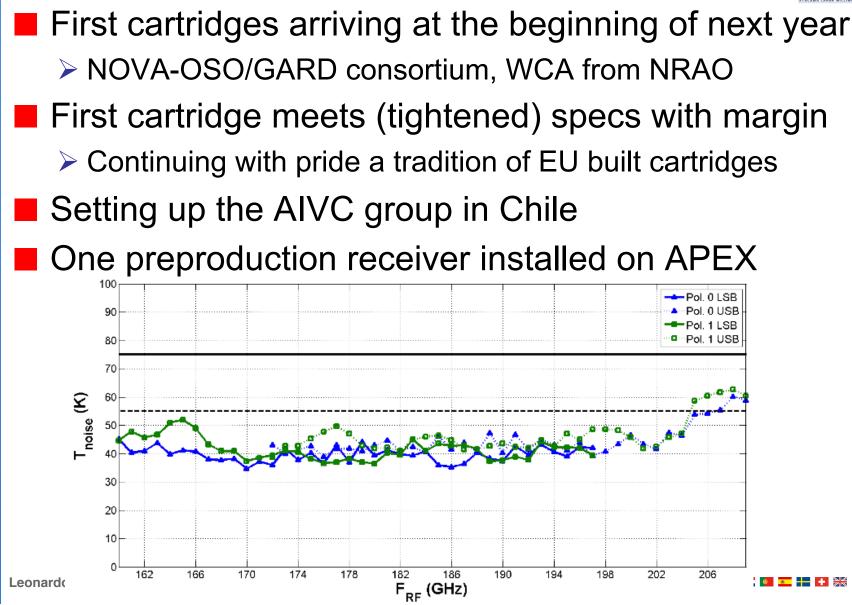
- Top priority: complete commissioning of the baseline ALMAtrilateral program
 - Full polarization, reach the target overall efficiency, full zero spacing capabilities, solar modes
- Recovery as part of the early development plan of science-critical capabilities descoped before 2005, revisit and develop key technologies
 - Bands 5, 1 and 2, mmVLBI, subarrays, data analysis software, data rates
 - > Where possible deploy more advanced technologies/capabilities
 - > Develop new ideas/technologies for future developments

Develop a scientific vision for ALMA in 2030

Science questions, complementary facilities, pathways for development





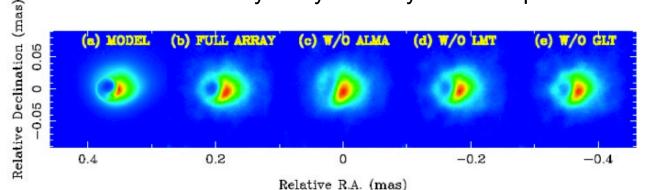




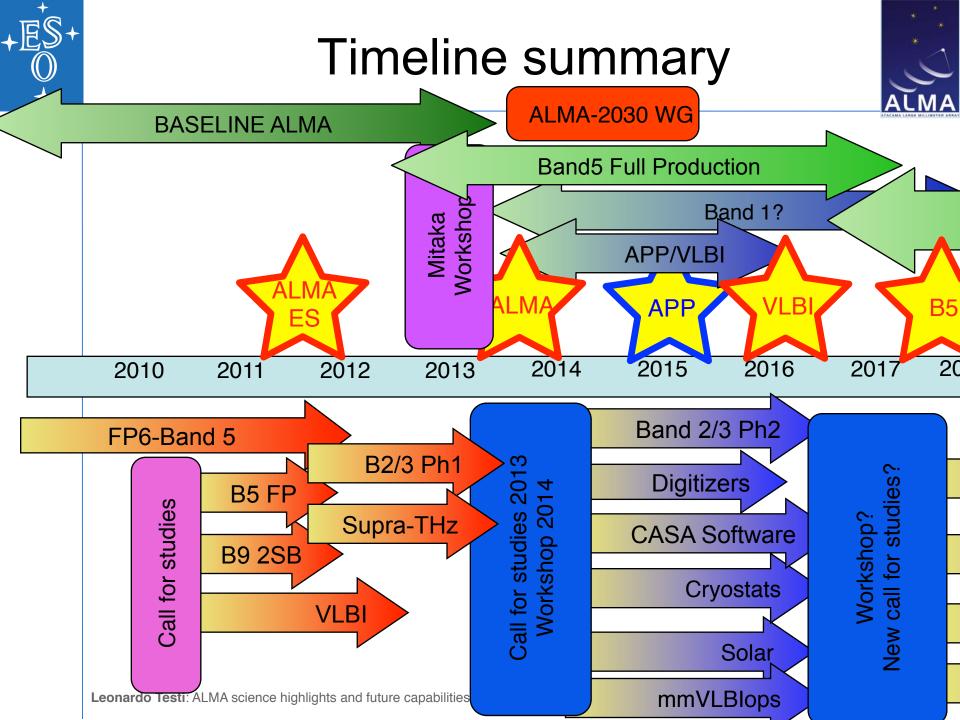


APP project makes steady progress

- H-maser installed successfully, new frequency standard, rubidium kept as backup
- Software acceptance Q2 2015
- First global tests planned for Q2 2015
- Towards a facility model for mmVLBI
 - ALMA-GMVA study running, led by MPIfR
 - > Workshop in Bologna: Jan 22-23, 2015
 - Followed by ASAC/Board discussion
 - WG led by Tony Beasley to define policies









ALMA 2030 effort



Led by ALMA Science Advisory Committee

- Survey of leading facilities in the 2020s
- Major science drivers in the 2020s and role of ALMA
- ALMA development pathways

Final version March 2015

Major Science Themes in the 2020-2030 Decade

Executive Summary

ALMA was designed to address many science questions in the broad area sometimes bundled under the umbrella question: "How does the Universe work?" This includes areas in which the submillimetre band has traditionally advanced knowledge, such as the physics and chemistry of the ISM, the formation of stars and disks, the structure and evolution of galaxies and AGN. ALMA also has the potential to contribute to the highest profile areas of astrophysics, namely the search for life elsewhere, and placing constraints on fundamental physics.

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PATHWAYS TO DEVELOPING ALMA

A document to inform the scientific discussions leading to the development of a roadmap for improvements in ALMA

Final version

ALMA DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP REPORT

Alberto Bolatto -- Chair, ASAC Chair, General Coordination

- Stuartt Corder -- Deputy Director, JAO Reliability & Efficiency lead
- Daisuke Iono -- EA Project Scientist Resolution, FOV, and Imaging Quality & Calibration lead
- Leonardo Testi -- EU Project Scientist Sensitivity, Spectral Coverage, and Flexibility lead

Alwyn Wootten -- NA Project Scientist Simultaneous Frequency Coverage, and Usability lead

Options for 2020s and beyond



Larger bandwidths and better receivers

- Datarate/data volume increase
- Aim to cover full bands instantaneously

Longer baselines

- Brightness sensitivity issues, ideally linked to sensitivity increase
- Increased wide field mapping speed
 - Panoramic detectors for interferometry (!)
 - Datarate/datavolume

The role of Archive will be more prominent than today Code to data => results to users



Outlook on Cycle 4



N.B.: These are all goals (some low risk, some somewhat higher)

Improved Spectral ScansSpectral line I,U,Q Stokes

mmVLBI

Solar Observing

OTF Interferometry (mapping speed, better uv reconstruction)

Several technical improvements: correlator linearity and modes, 90deg switching, single dish continuum, B9/10 sideband separation, V-stokes, full baselines length, subarrays





Summary



- ALMA is ramping up from Early Science towards Full Science Operations. The results from Science Verification and ALMA Cycle 0, 1 & 2 are transformational
- Key improvements for Cycle 3 will be long baselines, Band 10 and better stability/efficiency. Large Programmes and mmVLBI on track for Cycle 4, Solar observing may also make it. Band 5 on track for Cycle 5.
- Short-medium term upgrades being developed consistently with science priorities
 - Science driven R&D relevant for long term upgrades
- Option for a large single dish to be developed

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