

V101a Update on ALMA Operations and Development Program - Autumn 2021

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

Operations: Cycle 7 observations, which originally started in October 2019, were resumed in March 2021 after the recovery of most of the array. In addition, the Observatory has prepared for the next cycle of scientific observations, Cycle 8 2021, with a deadline for observation proposals in April 2021. All these activities progress at the same time that the COVID-19 pandemic continues posing challenges in Chile and worldwide. This presentation will provide an update on the latest situation with respect to the status of Cycle 7 operations and the planning towards Cycle 8 2021, which is planned to start in October 2021.

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.