

V119a Update on ALMA Operations and Development Program - Autumn 2022

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

Operations: After the Return to Operations efforts and the completion of Cycle 7 on a best effort basis, Cycle 8 2021 observations have been carried out from October 1st 2021 as close to nominal as possible and are currently ongoing. The Cycle 9 (from Oct. 1st 2022) Call for Proposal has set yet a new record in terms of requested observing hours by the Community. This presentation will provide 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 towards Cycle 10, and the demonstration of different technologies towards ALMA2. Moreover, ALMA continues to establish the framework towards the implementation of the Wideband Sensitivity Upgrade (WSU) prioritized in the ALMA Development Roadmap, including the preparation of a formal description of the upgraded system design and the consequent requirement upgrade. An update on this process will be offered.