# Cycle 7, 8 operation and Cycle 9 prospects

Misato Fukagawa East Asia ALMA Regional Center

21st December 2021



#### Role of the ALMA Regional Centers (ARCs)

Joint ALMA Observatory

**Effective array operations**: Execution of programs under suitable conditions **High availability of the array for science** : Repairs, Preventive maintenance



ARCs provide support for users in the respective regions so that they can concentrate on observing proposals and data analysis.

### Working as "one ALMA" on daily basis

- Development of the single-dish part of the Pipeline, single-dish part of CASA
- QA2, QA3, and data processing tools
- Archive, Helpdesk, Improvements for Phase 2 generation, Observing Tool, Scheduling, Science Portal etc.
- Contribution to commissioning of new observing capabilities, to preparations of offering the new modes (polarization, long-baseline high-freq, Solar, TPrelated, ACA spectrometer, Band 1)
- Contribution in the WG to investigate the algorithm for data combination (TP, 7 m, 12 m)
- Working on regional user-support items



Each management team, subsystem and working group basically consists of representatives from all the regions of ALMA.



#### Science Portal – almost everything is here





#### Completion of Cycle 7, smooth start of Cycle 8

#### Cycle 7 has been the most challenging cycle in ALMA's history

Array	Recovery Status Update		Cycle 8 2021	has started!	
Jan 25,	, 2021		Oct 04, 2021		
Dea	ALMA anticipates resuming science observations		Dear colleague	es,	
(hi I	Mar 15, 2021		On Friday 1 Oc	ctober the last Cycle 7 s	cience observ
b, I	Dea ALMA is now accepting Cycle 7 DDT proposals		-	nost challenging Cycle i	
At t	Mar 18, 2021		During the last	month, science data ha	ave been taker
day t	tow. antic ALMA Cycle 7 science observations have r	re-started	spatial resolution	on observations. Now, t	<u>he antenna co</u>
I	pow L et Mar 24, 2021				
	ALMA ALMA Cycle 7 Science Observations	s Status Update			
	ante reduce de te Apr 15, 2021	•			
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	number deliver start o Sin May 31, 2021				
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### Reached to the longest baseline in Cycle 7

• Execution status in Cycle 7  $\rightarrow$  Alvaro's presentation

#### Cycle 7

2022/1/

Start date	Start date Configuration Longest baseline		LST: Best conditions
1-Oct-19	C-4	0.78 km	22-10
20-Oct-19	C-3	0.50 km	23-11
10-Nov-19	C-2	0.31 km	1-13
30-Nov-19	C-1	0.16 km	2-14
20-Dec-19	C-2	0.31 km	4-15
10-Jan-20	C-3	0.50 km	5-17
1-Feb-20	No observation	ns due to maintenar	ice
1-Mar-20	C-4	0.78 km	8-21
20-Mar-20	C-5	1.4 km	9-23
20-Apr-20	C-6	2.5 km	11-1
20-May-20	C-7	3.6 km	13-3
20-Jun-20	C-8	8.5 km	15-5
11-Jul-20	C-9	13.9 km	16-6
30-Jul-20	C-10	16.2 km	17-7
20-Aug-20	C-9	13.9 km	19-8
10-Sep-20	C-8	8.5 km	20-9

After resuming PI science observations in March 2020, it was tried to follow the original configuration +1 year. The antenna relocations were delayed however due to the impact by the COVID-19 and the bad weather as announced in the Science Portal. Thanks to the great effort at the observatory,

the hybrid C-9/10 configuration started from September 1, which enabled the highest angular resolution observations in Cycle 7.



#### Data delivery time in Cycle 7

• The data delivery in ~June-August 2021 was impacted by the amplitude renormalization issue and QA3, but now the delivery status is back to normal.







## Amplitude scaling with Tsys for bright sources

- Two knowledge base articles in the Helpdesk:
  - "What errors could originate from the correlator spectral normalization and Tsys calibration?"
  - "What are the amplitude calibration issues caused by ALMA's normalization strategy?"
- Cases affected by this issue
  - Target sources with bright line/continuum, not negligible compared to Tsys, e.g., strong CO in galactic objects
  - both 12-m and 7-m
- How are the data affected?
  - Absolute flux density will be underestimated by  $\sim T$ 
    - $\sim T_{antenna} / T_{sys}$
- If the necessary renormalization factor is >2% at the spectral peak, the re-scaling is performed in the quality assurance in Cycle 8 (+ some data in Cycle 7).
- Please ask us in the Helpdesk if you are worried about the data in early Cycles.





## Note on the scheduling

- Users do not have to be worried about the antenna configurations in OT. The scheduling is done based on the requested angular resolution.
- What is the min/max angular resolution for the scheduling block?
- →Please see the Proposer's Guide (at the proposal planning stage) about the "range"
- →You can check in SnooPI, and in the Phase 2 part in the OT.





Regional support User Support

Taiwan node  $\rightarrow$  Yu-Nung's talk Korea node  $\rightarrow$  Jihyun's talk

- Calibrated MS delivery
  - We offer this service for data in all the cycles (but Cycle 0 where you can get the calibrated MS from the Archive)
- Japanese material
  - Website, textbook for data reduction
- Items from user end-to-end experience survey (interviews with users)
  - $\rightarrow$  Reported by Shimajiri-san in the discussion session later

#### Supplemental website https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~eaarc/DATARED/index.html

ALMA データ解析に関する情報



# Regional support User Support

- ALMA data reduction tutorials

  (1) June 15, 16 in 2021 for beginners
  (2) November 2, 5 in 2021 for imaging
  - Co-organized with NAOJ Astronomy Data Center
  - Textbook in Japanese on the website
  - Online tutorial worked well
- A larger, lecture-based summer school on radio astronomy
  - Realized based on the ALMA user survey!
  - September 16 ,17, 21, 22, 24 in 2021
  - Online lectures

#### Supplemental website https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~eaarc/DATARED/index.html

ALMA データ解析に関する情報





- Publication Support program
  - Publication fee, English editing fee, conference registration fee, Images in PR led by universities
    - Based on the inputs in the UM, JSAC, and discussion in the project
  - Post-COVID-19 (not yet): conference/colloquium abroad with oral presentations
  - 1<sup>st</sup> authors who has the affiliation in Japan, and who submitted (will surely submit for English editing) papers with ALMA data
  - Motivation
    - 1. Improving the scientific productivity, including papers with archival data
    - 2. Advertising science results in the international community



Internationalization will be important in particular for the young generation.







You can access the ALMA Science Archive through the Science Portal



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#### Archive updates/features

#### ALMA Science Archive in the Request Handler page





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#### ALMA Science Archive in the Request Handler page

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#### Archive features: ARI-L

Additional Representative Images for Legacy (ARI-L): A uniform set of full data cubes and continuum images of the data from Cycles 2-4.





# Pre-announcement for Cycle 9

The pre-announcement provides you a plan to assist the early proposal planning. Please wait for the CfP for details.

- What's new, new observing capabilities  $\rightarrow$  Nagai-san's talk
- Cycle 9 starts from October 2022
- Supplemental Call for the ACA only if needed for scheduling purposes. Please assume that there is no Supplemental Call in your proposal planning.
- We would like to encourage high-frequency proposals.
- As done in Cycle 8 2021, all Cycle 9 proposals will be reviewed through a dual-anonymous procedure.



	Observatory News	
	ALMA Cycle 9 Pre-Announcement Dec 15, 1921	
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ΡI	ease check the	
pr	e-announcement	
	nd further updates	
in	the Science Portal.	<b>Duret OL</b> 17
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December 15, 2021	Pre-announcement
March 24, 2022 (anticipated)	Call for Proposals
April 21, 2022	Proposal submission deadline