ALMA CYCLE II

The Joint ALMA Observatory (JAO) will start Cycle 11 observations in October 2024. A Call for Proposals with detailed information on Cycle 11 was issued on March 21 and the deadline for proposal submission is April 25, 2024, at 15:00 UT.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ALMA Cycle 11 will start in October 2024 and will span 12 months. The JAO anticipates having 4,300 hours for approved science observations on the 12-m Array and 4,300 hours on the Atacama Compact Array (ACA), also known as the Morita Array. Antenna configurations C-1 to C-10 (with maximum baselines between 0.16 and 16.2 km) will be offered during this cycle. Observations that are particularly encouraged include: ACA, especially in the Local Sidereal Time (LST) range of 20h to 10h; High frequency (Bands 8, 9, and 10) in any configuration; Low frequency (Bands 1, 3, and 4) at long baselines (C-7, C-8, C-9, and C-10).



21 March 2024

Release of the ALMA Cycle 11 Call for Proposals and Observing Tool, and opening of the archive for proposal submission

1 October 2024

Start of Cycle 11 observations, spanning 12 months

30 September 2025 End of Cycle 11

PROPOSAL TYPES

• The proposal types in Cycle 11 will be the same as in Cycle 10. Principal Investigators submitting a proposal to ALMA for Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) observations in ALMA bands 1 or 3 made in concert with the Global mm-VLBI Array (GMVA) at 7mm and 3 mm must also have submitted a proposal to the GMVA network by 31 January 2024.

- In the main 12-m Array, antenna configurations C-1 to C-10, with maximum baselines between 0.16 and 16.2 km, will be offered.
- Large Program proposals can be submitted for a subset of observing modes (see the Call for Proposals for more details).
- Joint Proposals can be submitted including requests at ESO/VLT, NRAO/VLA and JWST.

TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES

The anticipated Cycle 11 capabilities are:

Number of antennas

- At least 43 antennas will be available from the 12-m Array.
- At least ten 7-m antennas (for short baselines) and three 12-m antennas (for single-dish maps) will be available in the ACA.
- The following technical capabilities will be available this Cycle for the first time:
- Full polarization in Band 1 on the 12-m Array. The polarization accuracy and capability will be the same as in Bands 3–7.
- Band 1 on the 7-m Array for Stokes I only (no Stokes Q/U/V).
- High-frequency and long-baseline observations with Band 9 in C-10 configuration, and

Receiver bands

• Receiver Bands 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 (wavelengths of about 7, 3.1, 2.1, 1.6, 1.3, 0.87, 0.74, 0.44 and 0.35 mm, respectively).

12-m Array Configurations

• Maximum baselines for the antenna configurations will vary from 0.16 km to 16.2 km.

Band 10 in configurations of C-9 and C-10.

• 4x4-bit spectral mode on the 7-m Array (dual polarization). The 4x4 mode is available for the 7-m Array and allows spectral setups that are fully compatible with those of the 12-m Array.

• Also, there are no longer time caps except for the 50 hour limit on Phased Array, the LP caps, and DDT caps.

NEW IN CYCLE II

The following technical capabilities will be available this Cycle for the first time:



Band 1 Polarization on 12-m



High-Frequencies on Long Baselines





Band 1 on 7-m

THE PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS

 All proposals requesting fewer than 50 hours on the 12-m Array, and ACA stand-alone proposals requesting fewer than 150 hours on the 7-m Array will be reviewed through the distributed peer review system.

- Large Programs will be reviewed by a panel of experts.
- All Cycle 11 proposals will be reviewed through a dual-anonymous procedure.

