



ALMA scientific capabilites and first scientific results

Paola Andreani ESO-ALMA



Talk outline

- Review of the ALMA project and goals
- Review of the ALMA scientific capabilities
- First scientific results
 - High-redshift 'blobs' (+ redshift survey)
 - Clusters of galaxies
 - Outflows/AGN feedback in nearby active galaxies
 - SN1987A
 - Serendipity discoveries
- Full capabilities and future plans

The Atacama Large Millimeter Submillimeter Array (ALMA)



located in the Atacama desert in Chile on the Chajnantor plateu at 5000m
ALMA works at low frequencies (from 30GHz to 900 GHz)
50+4 12m + 12 7m high-precision antennas with baselines up to 16km.:
50x12m antennas (high-angular resolution and sensitivity)
+ ACA (Morita Array) 4x12m + 12x7m (for extended structures)

ALMA will be 10-100 times more sensitive and have 10-100 times better angular resolution compared to current millimeter interferometers.

ALMA Observatory

ALMA an international project



Where is ALMA?





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ALMA Site

Three sites in Chile ALMA Operations Site (AOS): high, dry site, Chajnantor Plateau (5000m) Operations Support Facility (OSF): Technical base (2900m) near San Pedro de Atacama Santiago headquarters





ALMA Operations Centres



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Resolution, (orcseconds)

Highest Level Science Goals

Bilateral Agreement Annex B:

ALMA has three level-1 science requirements:

Abili

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To detect spectral line emission from CO or C+ in a normal galaxy
 like the Milky Way at a redshift of z = 3, in less than 24 hours of observation.

To image the gas kinematics in a solar-mass protostellar/protoplanetary disc at a distance of 150 pc (~ distance of the star-forming clouds in Ophiuchus or Corona Australis), enabling the study of the physical, chemical, and magnetic field structure of the disc and to detect the tidal gaps created by planets undergoing formation.

To provide precise images at an angular resolution of 0.1" (accurately representing the sky brightness at all points where the brightness is greater than 0.1% of the peak image brightness). This requirement applies to all sources visible to ALMA that transit at an elevation greater than 20 degrees.

These requirements drive the technical specifications of ALMA

These science goals cannot be achieved by any other instrument

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ALMA Science Requirements

• These require the instrument to have certain characteristics:

High Fidelity Imaging

- ♦ Best images with current mm arrays 0.5" angular resolution
- 0.1" (comparable with that of optical telescopes)

This translates into requirements:

- high quality antennas,
- superior pointing precision.
- relative positions of the antennas determined accurately to compute the geometrical delay

== sufficient number of baselines (to cover adequately the uv plane (i.e., the time, frequency domain plane in which the data are sampled).

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ALMA Science Requirements

- These require the instrument to have certain characteristics:
- Routine sub-mJy Continuum / mK Spectral Sensitivity
 - Kinematics study requires spectroscopy with velocity resolutions
 <0.05 km/s (~10 kHz at 3mm)

• Wideband Frequency Coverage

Unknown galaxy redshift → large instantaneous bandwidths of the receivers + rapid tuning

• Correlator configuration

− to resolve thermal line widths → achieve resolution of 0.01 km/s at 100 GHz

ALMA Tuning for high-z lines

Wideband Frequency Coverage



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Carilli and Walter 2013

Spectral Line Channel Maps of CO(3-2) circumstellar disc HD 163296

Correlator configuration



ALMA Science Requirements

- The need of the Compact Array (ACA, Morita Array) and single dish
 - mode (single dish)
 - Any array fails to measure interferometrically the smallest spatial frequencies < 2/3 primary beam (PB)</p>
 - Filtering shortspacings information (the most extended structures) can introduce major artifacts in the resulting images.
- Submillimeter Receiver System + dry site
- Full Polarization Capability (dust and lines)
 - structure of the magnetic field in the larger protostellar regions and in the small protoplanetary disks
 - Hydrodynamics and magnetodynamics of star formation:
- System Flexibility (hardware/software)

ALMA Compact Array



Atacama Compact Array – fills in the short spacings. 11 (out of 12) 7m dishes in place. Plus 3 (out of 4) of the 12m dishes for total power.



M100 – 47 point mosaic

Band 3 (115 GHz) for 6 hours 13 antennae Sept 2011



CO (1-0) integrated intensity observed with BIMA(Helfer et al, 2003) (note slightly different scale).



Combining 12m and ACA data

Velocity field is much more complete





Specifications Demand Transformational Performance

- With these specifications, ALMA improves
 - Existing sensitivity, by about *two orders of magnitude*
 - Best accessible site on Earth
 - *Higi*Sensitivity: 100x
 Spatial Resolution: up to 100x
 Not
 Not
 Bandwidth: ~2x
 baselines or longer may be accommodated.
 - Wavelength Coverage, by a factor of two or more
 - Take advantage of the site by covering all atmospheric windows with >50% transmission above 30 GHz
 - Bandwidth, by a factor of a few
 - Correlator processes 16 GHz or 8 GHz times two polarizations

Scientific discovery parameter space is greatly expanded!

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ALMA antennae key specifications

fast switching of the antenna between target object and nearby calibrator both spatially and in frequency monitoring of a water vapor line along a direction near to the observation by a water vapor radiometer (WVR) (observing the 183GHz atmospheric water line.) Detect calibration sources (i.e. quasars) in a time short enough to minimize the atmospheric phase flutcuations

ightarrow needed correction as small as possible

3 different antenna manufacturers 4 different antenna types



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Antenna integration at the OSF and Transporter



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ALMA frequency bands

ALMA Band	Frequency Range (GHz)	Receiver Noise (K) over 80% of the RF band	Temperature (K) at any RF Frequency	To be produced by	Receiver Technology
1	31 - 45	17	26	tbd	HEMT
2	67 - 90	30	47	tbd	HEMT
3	84 - 116	37	60	HIA	SIS
4	125 - 163	51	82	NAOJ	SIS
5*	162 - 211	65	105	0S0	SIS
6	211 - 275	83	136	NRAO	SIS
7	275 - 373	147	219	IRAM	SIS
8	385 - 500	196	292	NAOJ	SIS
9	602 - 720	175	261	NOVA	SIS
10	787 - 950	230	344	NAOJ	SIS
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The ALMA receivers are built in different institutes/countries across the ALMA partnership



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ALMA Science Verification and Early Science

ALMA Early Science begins the transformation Sensitivity: ~10% full ALMA Resolution: up to ~0.4" (0.1" goal) Wavelength Coverage: 3-4 of final 8 bands (7 goal) Bandwidth: ~2x improvement Beginning the Discovery Space Expansion



Bright LESS (LABOCA Extended Chandra Deep Field South Submillimeter Survey) in Band 7

the brightest sources in the original LESS sample comprise emission from multiple fainter SMGs (35%).

Serendipitously detected bright emission lines in two SMG spectra (likely [CII] 158 micron emission at z=4.42 and z=4.44).

In Band 6 a z=4.8 LESS SMG and detected [NII] 205 micron emission line and assessed the metallicity of the SMG from the [NII] 205 micron and [CII] 158 micron flux ratio.

The metallicity in the SMG is consistent with solar, implying that the chemical evolution has progressed very rapidly in high-z SMGs

ALMA galaxy counts



ALMA Band 6 observations constrain the faint mm source number counts Hatsukade et al. 2013, ApJ, 769, 27

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ALMA Bands 3 and 7: strongly gravitationally lensed sources from the South Pole Telescope (SPT) survey: sources are composed of multiple components, indicative of gravitational lensing.

Gravitational lensing model: sources amplified by factor 4 - 22, \rightarrow lensed sources are ultra luminous starburst galaxies at high-z.

Blind redshift search in band 3: line detections in 23 sources, with 44 line features in the spectra, providing secure redshifts for ~70% of the sample, with a mean redshift of z=3.5.

A significant portion of SMGs are at high-z (z>4)

These new findings will impact our current understanding of the formation of massive galaxies at high-z.

Outflow in the starburst galaxy NGC 253

CO emitting clouds

Imaging a galaxy-scale molecular outflow

Image of an expanding molecular shells in the starburst nucleus (50-parsec resolution)

The extraplanar molecular gas:

closely tracks the Ha filaments

connects to expanding molecular shells located in the starburst region

Molecular outflow rate Expanding molecular shells

- \rightarrow mass-outflow rate / star-formation rate ~1–3
- → starburst-driven wind limits the star-formation activity and the final stellar content.
- → The growth of large galaxies may be limited by strong wind-driven outflows
- → Star formation activity in the galaxy regulated by the starburst-driven wind and will therefore determine the final stellar content

The sensitivity of the ALMA data is an order of magnitude better than previous ¹²CO image of NGC253.



Blue and magenta contours are CO(1-0) emission at +/- 100 km/s around the nucleus of NGC 253 (Bolatto ea. 2013)



High-velocity CO emission feature redshift to 200km/s interpreted as an outflow with molecular mass 3.6 $10^6 M_{\odot}$ and a rate of $7M_{\odot}/yr$. The flow in part driven by the central star formation, but mainly boosted by the AGN through its radio jets.



Central dust lane (dim blue background Coloured structures near the centre: AL No HCO+ HCC \rightarrow no high density gas







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Russell + 2013

ALMA Opens a Powerful New Window into Supernova Ejecta

SN 1987A



CO and SiO in the SN87A inner ejecta.

Abundant Si isotopes, ²⁸Si and ²⁹Si imaged over partial velocity extents.

C/O clumps contain at least 0. 01 M_{\odot} of ¹²CO (x10 measured in the first few years after the explosion)

Indebetouw + 2014

¹²CO and dust have continued to form over the past 25 years.

ALMA views the full velocity range of emission, unobscured by dust.

Gravitational lenses of PKS 1830-211

Chromatic behaviour not due to micro/milli-lensing (too tight variability timescale)



Serendipitous detection of a dusty starburst galaxy ALMA J0107



we expect 0.011 sources with > 1 Jy km/s per ALMA FOV (2800 arcsec2) and bandwidth (7.5 GHz)

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Tamura el, 2014

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4x sensitivity 16x resolving power

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Full capabilities







ALMA Future Development

ALMA beyond ALMA

- ALMA will allow transformational science thanks to the sensitivity, angular resolution, spectral coverage and image fidelity, but...
- The baseline ALMA project will only achieve a fraction of the full potential of the site and instrument
- Incomplete Receiver Complement
- Limited Wide Field Capabilities
- Limited Correlator and Data Rate Capabilities
- Extended baselines (30-50km), VLBI (200-10000km)
- Advanced Calibration, Software, Science Tools....



Band 5 Science





Phasing ALMA for VLBI

The Even Horizon Telescope and Sgr A*



Summary

- ALMA Early Science is just the beginning
 Cycle 2 Dec 5th additional capabilities and time
- It is already producing transformational science (some examples have been shown)
- ALMA is slowly reaching its full capabilities
 - Full Science Operations in 1-2yrs
- ALMA is a long lifetime observatory with a healthy Development Plan

