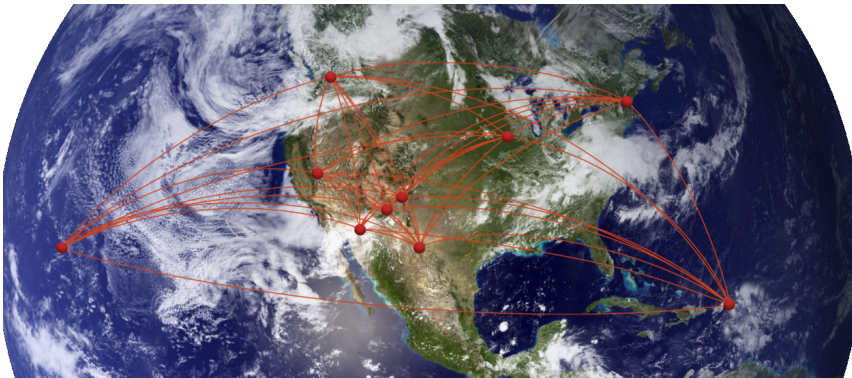
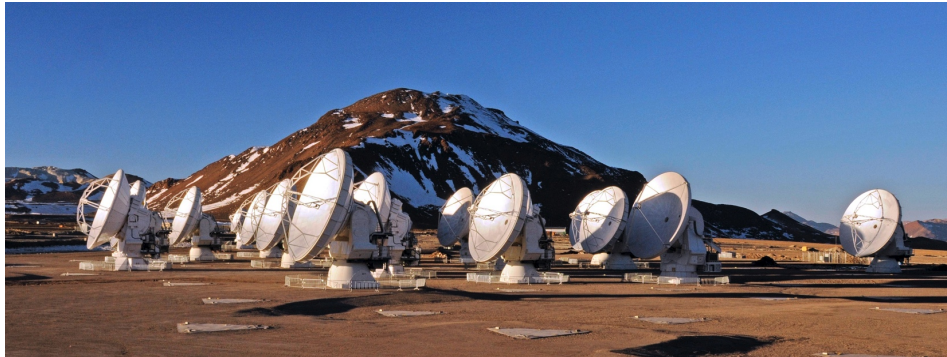


# National Radio Astronomy Observatory



**Sabrina Stierwalt**  
**ALMA Staff Scientist**



Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array  
Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array  
Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope  
Very Long Baseline Array



# NRAO:

## One Observatory, Four Facilities





# NRAO:

## One Observatory, Four Facilities



Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array:  
a 66-antenna array in Chile

# NRAO:

## One Observatory, Four Facilities



Jansky Very Large Array:  
a 27-antenna array in New Mexico



# NRAO:

## One Observatory, Four Facilities



Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope: world's largest fully steerable radio telescope, in West Virginia

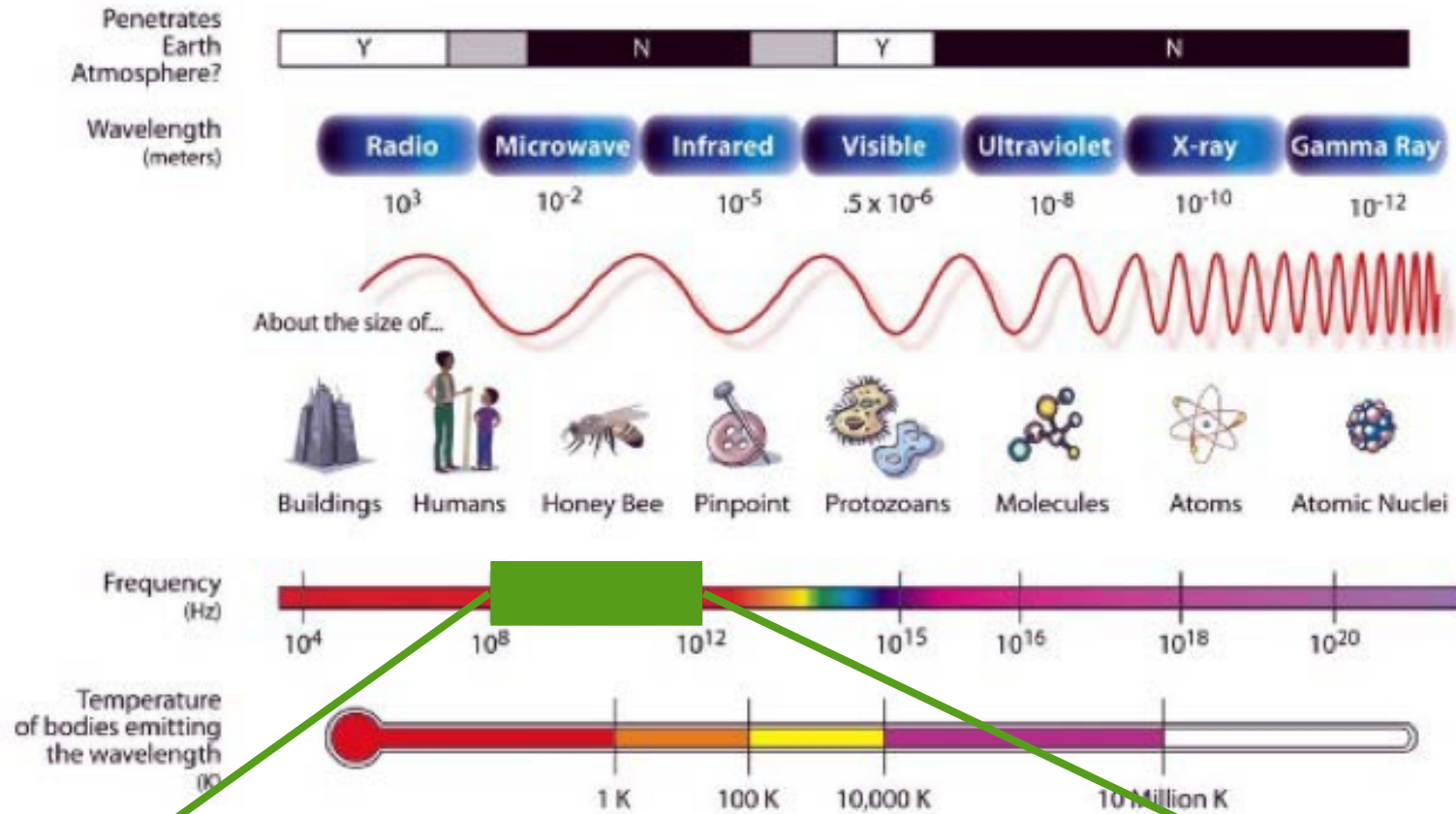
# NRAO:

## One Observatory, Four Facilities



Very Large Baseline Array:  
ten radio antennas spanning 8000 km





**GBT**  
0.1 - 120 GHz  
3000 - 3 mm



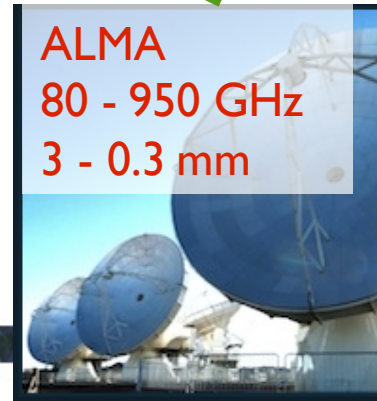
**VLBA**  
1 - 100 GHz  
300 - 3 mm



**VLA**  
1 - 50 GHz  
300 - 6 mm



**ALMA**  
80 - 950 GHz  
3 - 0.3 mm



# Broad Science Topics with NRAO Telescopes

- ◆ **Sun** – coronal mass ejections, magnetic field activity
- ◆ **Solar system, KBOs** – atmospheres, astrometry, composition
- ◆ **Star-forming regions** – dust and gas environment, kinematics (infall, outflows, jets), proto-planetary disks, cores, chemistry, feedback, and natal cloud / star interactions
- ◆ **Exoplanets** – direct imaging, gaps in disks, kinematics
- ◆ **Pulsars** – neutron star physics, pulse morphology, gravity, ISM probe
- ◆ **Galactic structure** – spiral arms, bars, global atomic and molecular gas properties
- ◆ **Nearby galaxies** – molecular / atomic gas content and kinematics, dynamics of galaxies at high resolution, star formation, obscured SF, gas flow, astrochemistry
- ◆ **Galaxy groups and clusters** – atomic and molecular gas across systems, star formation efficiency, kinematics, dynamical mass measurements
- ◆ **Black holes** – mass measurements, kinematics
- ◆ **High redshift galaxies** – extragalactic background light, source counts, star formation history and efficiency, evolution of gas content (atomic and molecular)
- ◆ **Cosmology** –  $H_0$  measurement, SZE



# What is ALMA?

A global partnership to deliver a revolutionary millimeter/submillimeter telescope array (in collaboration with Chile)

- ◆ North America (US, Canada, Taiwan)
- ◆ Europe (ESO)
- ◆ East Asia (Japan, Taiwan)

66 reconfigurable, high precision antennas  
 $\lambda \sim 0.3 - 8.6\text{mm}$ . Array configurations between 150 meters and >16 kilometers: 192 possible antenna locations:

- ◆ Main Array: 50 x 12m antennas
- ◆ Total Power Array: 4 x 12m antennas
- ◆ Atacama Compact Array (ACA): 12 x 7m antennas

Array Operations Site is located at 5000m elevation in the Chilean Andes

Provides unprecedented imaging & spectroscopic capabilities at mm/submm  $\lambda$



# What is ALMA?

Array configurations between 150 meters and >16 kilometers: 192 possible antenna locations:



<http://youtu.be/YMISe-C8GU8>





**ALMA is a telescope for  
*all* astronomers**

**Observing with ALMA – A Primer  
(Cycle 4)**

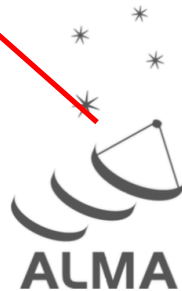
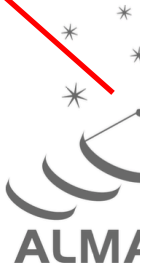
Doc 4.1, ver. 3 | March, 2016

Doc 4.2, ver. 1.0 March 2016

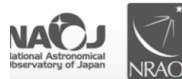
User Support:  
**ALMA Cycle 4 Proposer's Guide**

Doc 4.3, ver. 1.0 | March 22, 2016

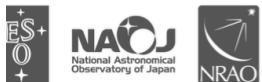
**ALMA Cycle 4 Technical Handbook**



[www.almascience.org](http://www.almascience.org)



[www.almascience.org](http://www.almascience.org)



[www.almascience.org](http://www.almascience.org)

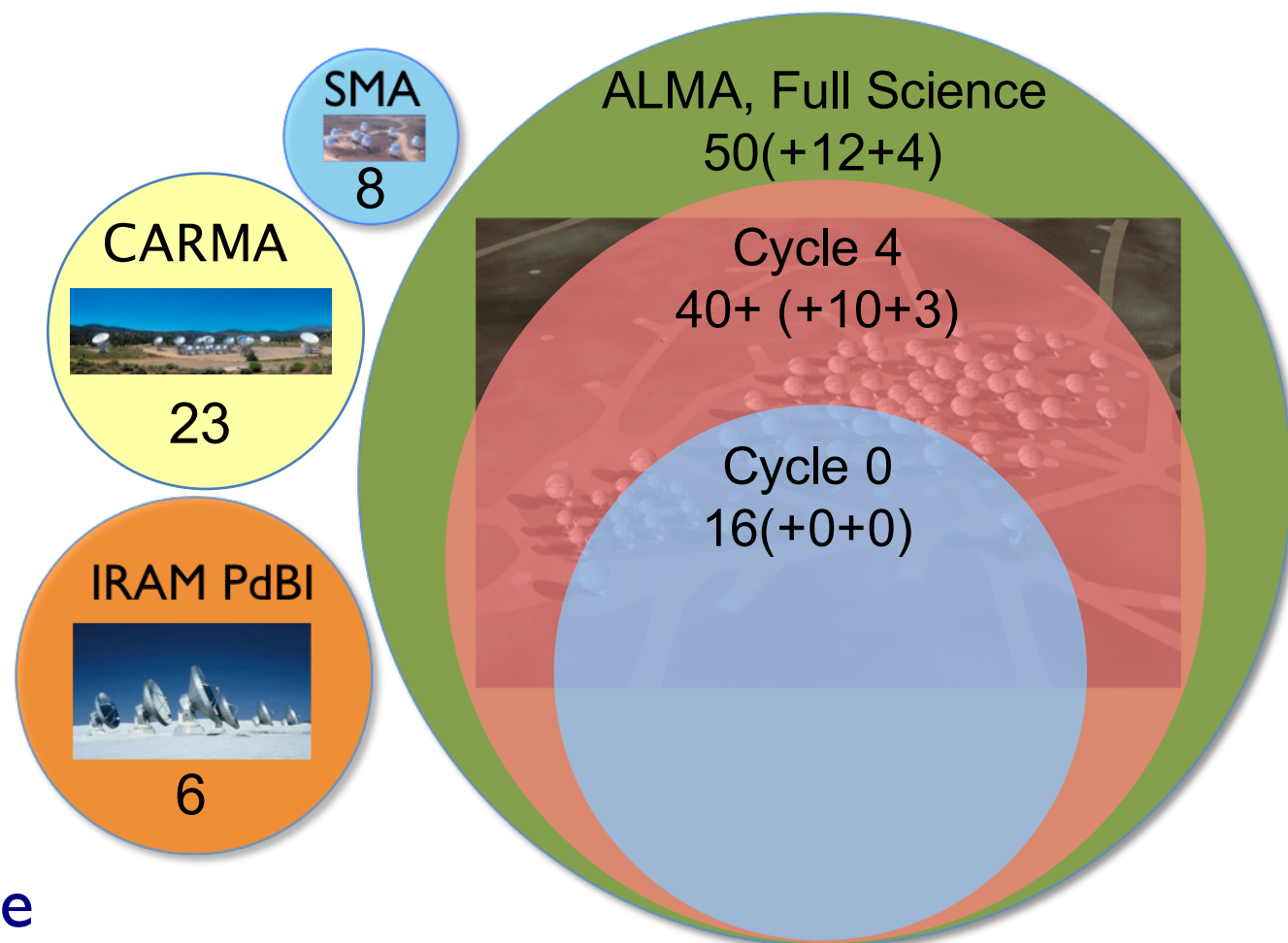
# ALMA Capabilities in a Nutshell...

- ◆ Angular resolution down to  $0.015''$  (at 300 GHz)
- ◆ Sensitive, precision imaging 84 to 950 GHz (3 mm to  $315\ \mu\text{m}$ )
- ◆ State-of-the-art low-noise, wide-band receivers (8 GHz bandwidth)
- ◆ Flexible correlator with high spectral resolution at wide bandwidth
- ◆ Full polarization capabilities
- ◆ Estimated 1 TB/day data rate
- ◆ All science data archived
- ◆ Pipeline processing

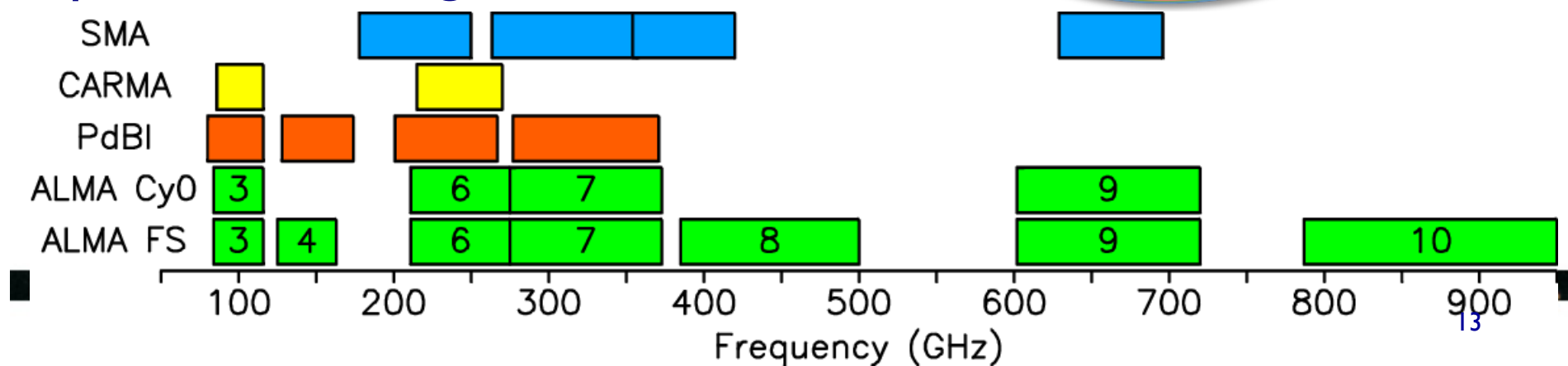
ALMA will be 10-100 times more sensitive and have 10-100 times better angular resolution than current mm interferometers



Collecting Area  
~ sensitivity



## Spectral Coverage





# ALMA Current Status

- Construction Project ended in September 2014
- Routine science observing has been out to greater than 10 km baselines (C36-8) thanks to the highly successful Long Baseline Campaigns in 2014 and 2015
- **All 66 antennas accepted**
  - Currently all 66 antennas are at the high site (AOS), of which ~47 on average (up to max ~54) are being used for Cycle 3 observations
  - Some construction and verification items remain to be finished (e.g., wide-field polarization; various observing modes)
- The ACA (Atacama Compact Array) or Morita Array – up to 12x7m antennas and 4x12m antennas for TP observations – has been accepted and is being used for Cycle 3 observations
- More on Capabilities later... however, first on to science!

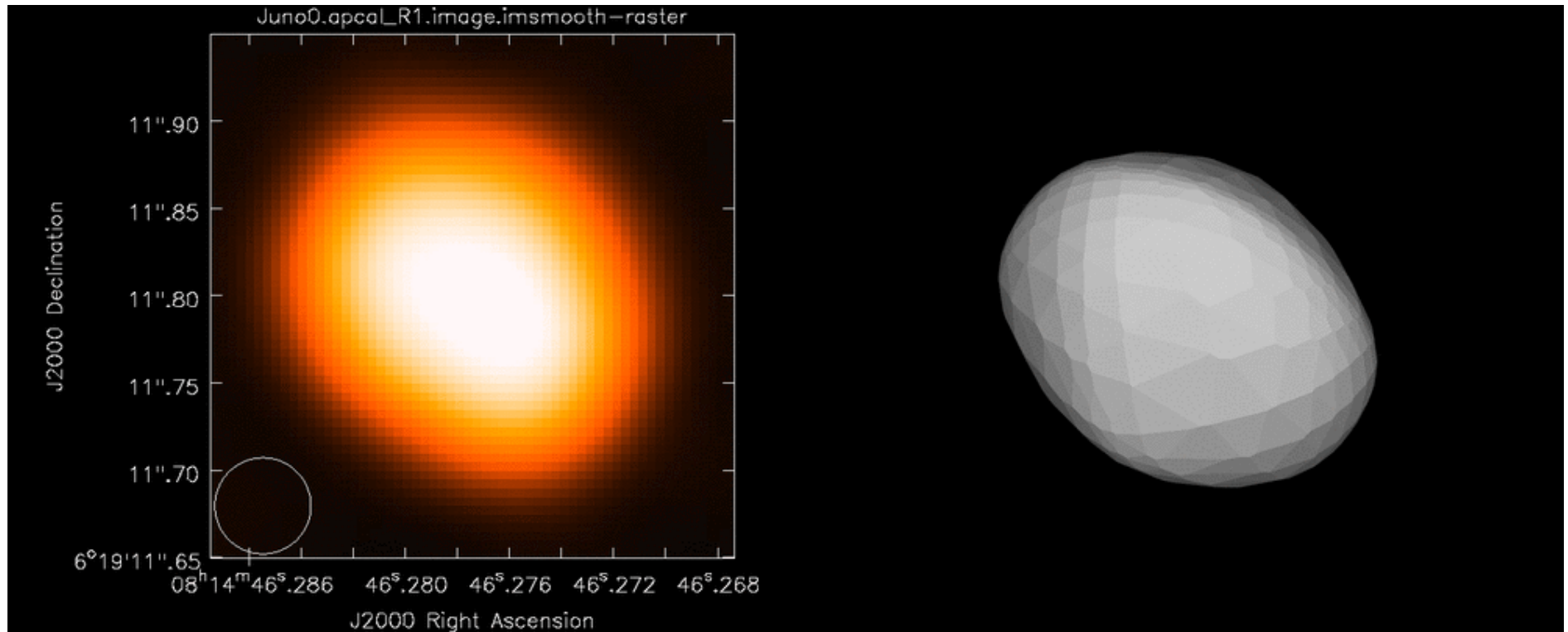
# Band 6 Observations of Juno (SV)

Frequency = 233 GHz;

Five consecutive executions over 4.4 hours

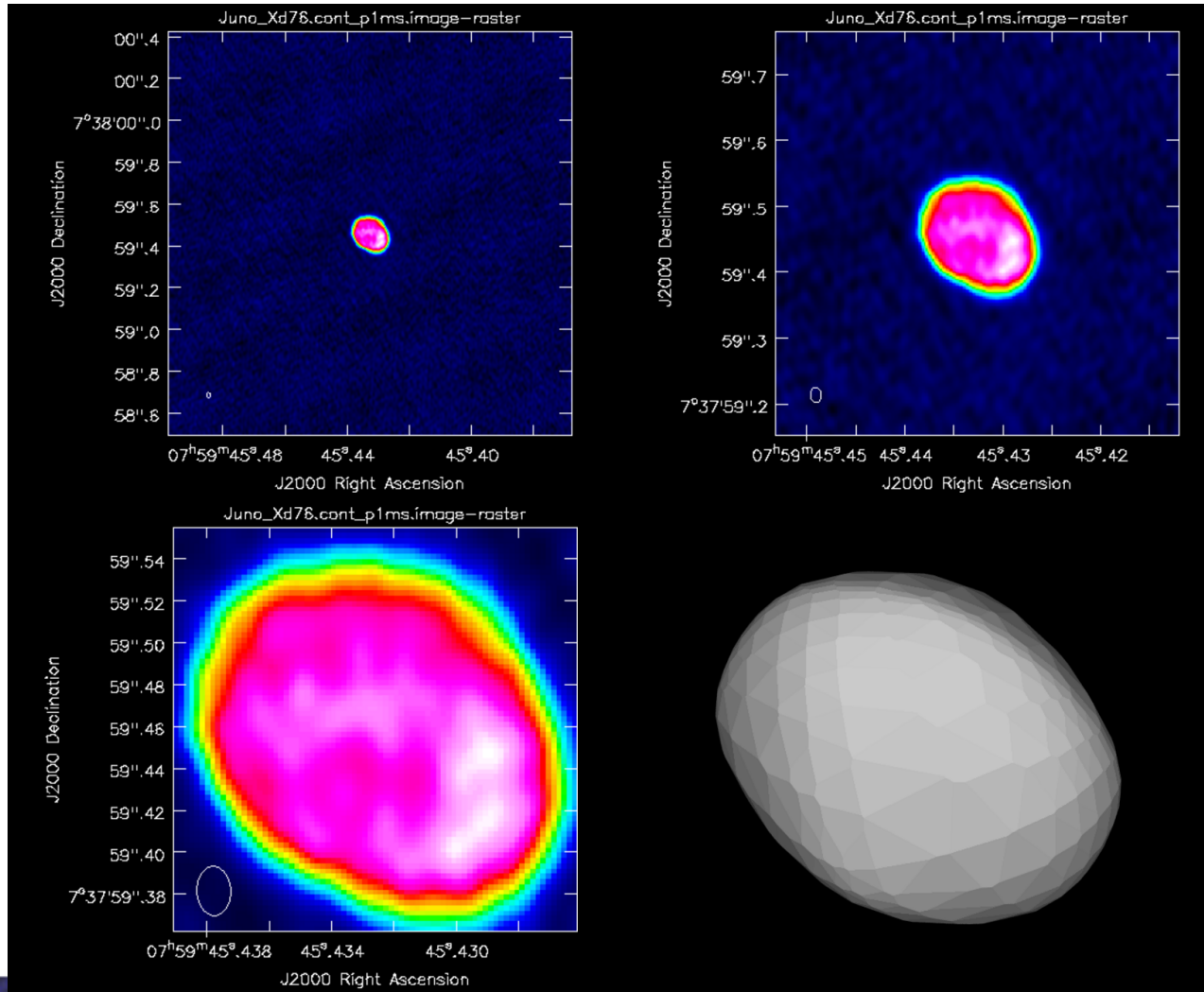
Beamsize  $\sim 0.04'' \times 0.03''$  ( $\sim 60 \times 45$  km)

Model: Durech et al. 2010: **Database of Asteroid Models from Inversion Techniques**



# Band 8 Observations of Juno – TEST DATA

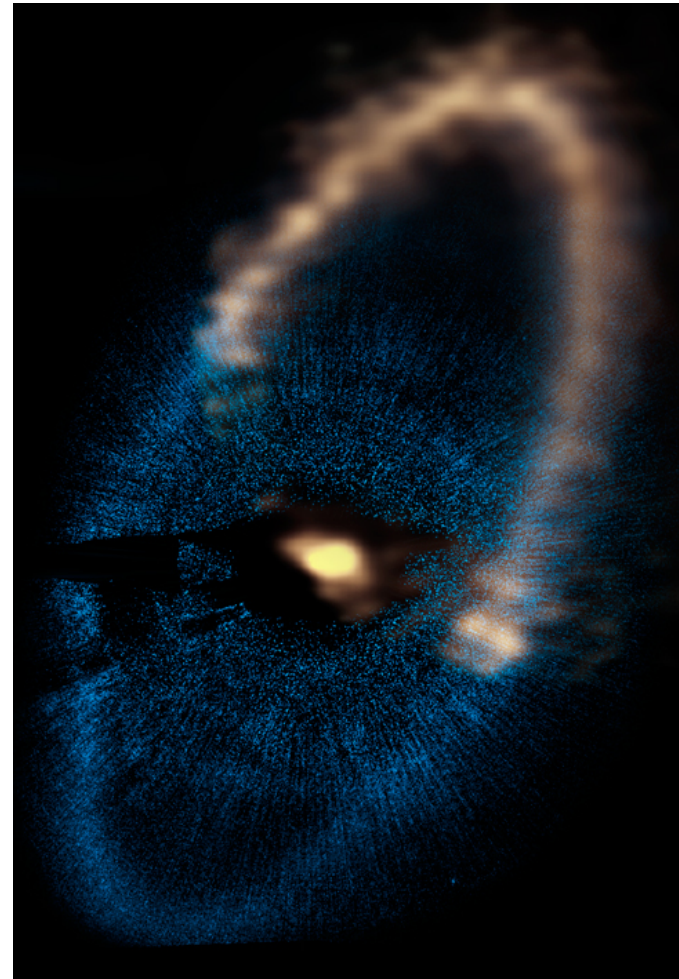
Frequency = 409 GHz; Beamsize=0.023'' x 0.016'' (35x24 km)





# Formation of Planetary Systems

- ◆ Remarkably thin, sharp-edged Fomalhaut debris disk: 13-19 AU wide
- ◆ Two shepherding planets likely corral the disk on either side
- ◆ Each exoplanet < 3 Earth masses
- ◆ Data acquired with only 15 ALMA antennas

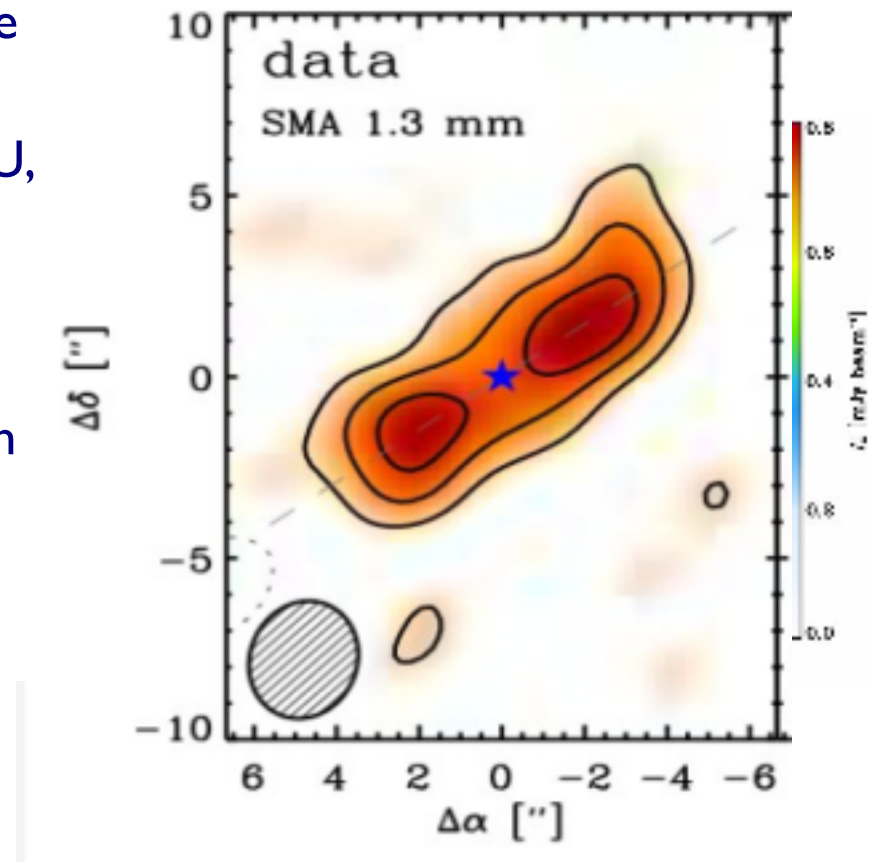


Boley et al. 2012

# AU Mic: Young Solar System Analog

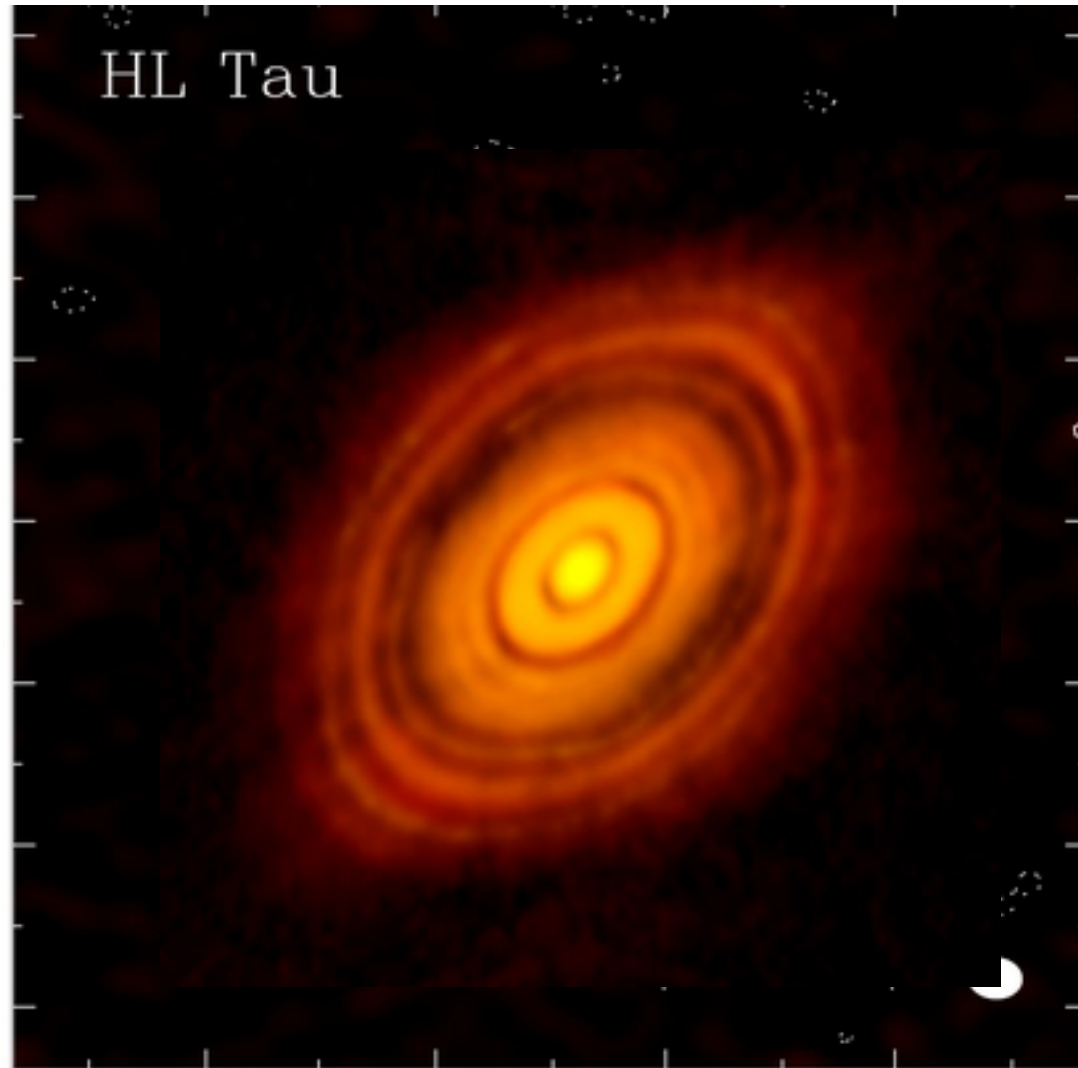
- ◆ Two debris emission components
- ◆ Central peak: stellar photosphere + asteroid-like belt at a few AU?
- ◆ Outer dust belt extends to 40 AU, to break in scattered light profile
  - ◆ truncated, reminiscent of classical Kuiper Belt
  - ◆ no detectable asymmetries in structure or position: compatible with Uranus-like planet

MacGregor et al. 2013



Wilner et al. 2010

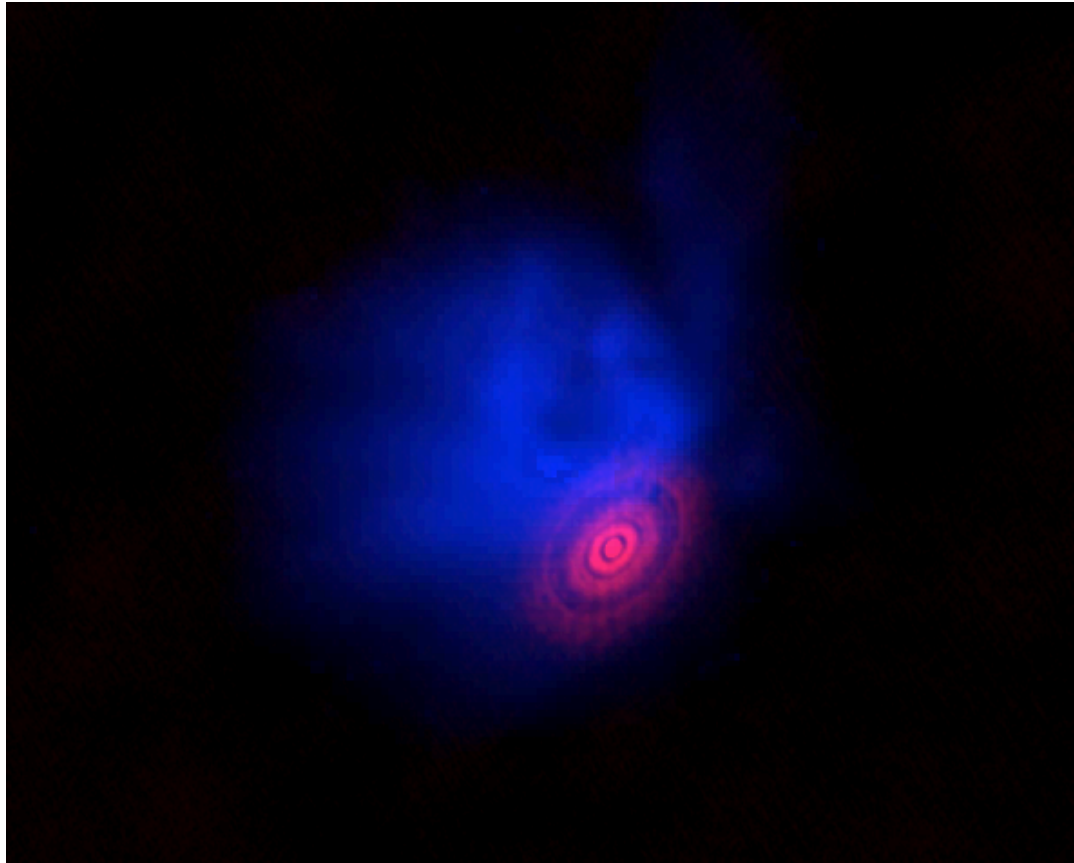
# ALMA Long Baseline Campaign



ALMA Observation of HL Tau, resolution of  $\sim 5\text{AU}$  (35 mas)



# Long Baseline Campaign: HL Tau



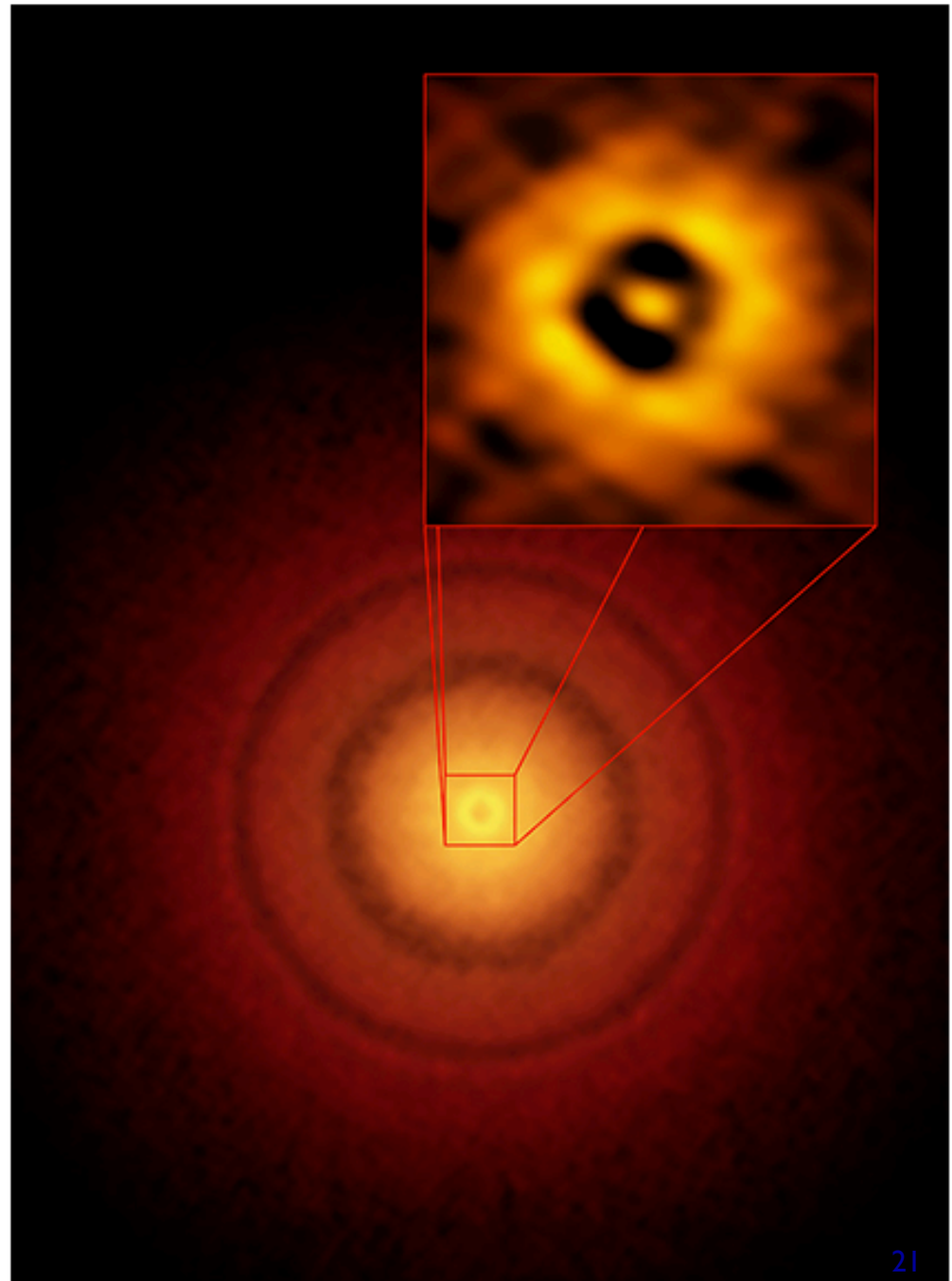
- Complementary to Hubble (blue—scattered light from unseen star).
- Presence of several planets at such a young age is “disturbing” to planet formation theories

**HL Tau ALMA Image:  
455 Million views**

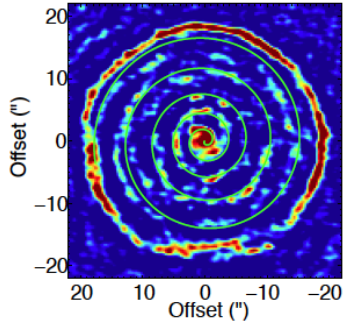
# **TW Hydrae Press Release out today!**

ALMA's better-than Hubble resolution details as small as the Earth's distance from the Sun may be discerned in this young (10Myr) nearby (175 light years) planet forming Sun-like star

Andrews et al. 2016



# ALMA Measures Stellar Feedback



**Maercker et al 2012**



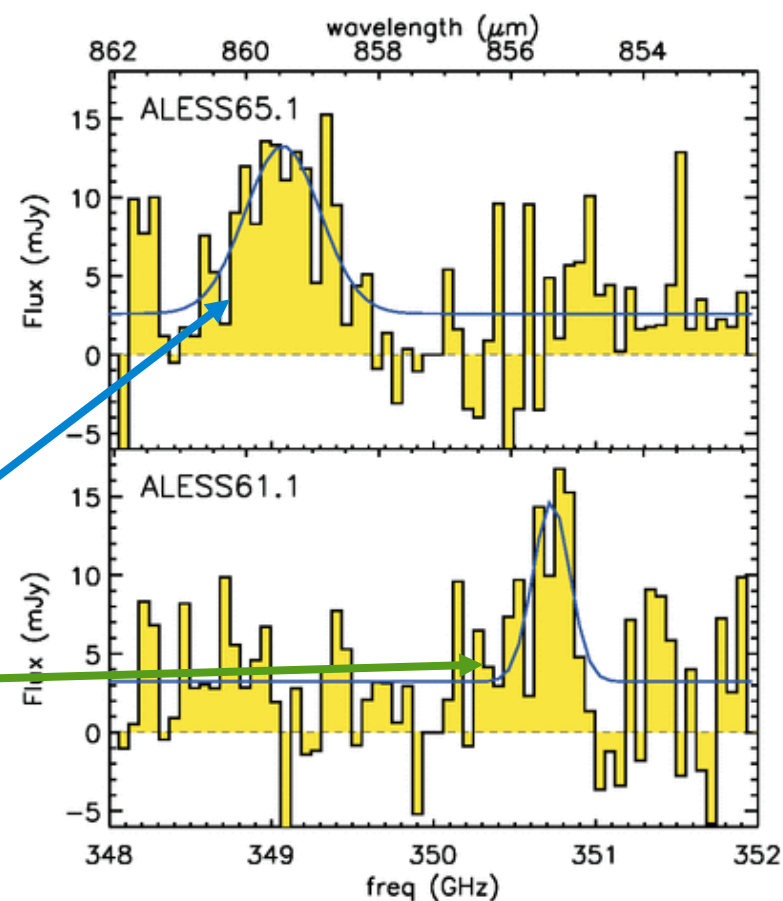
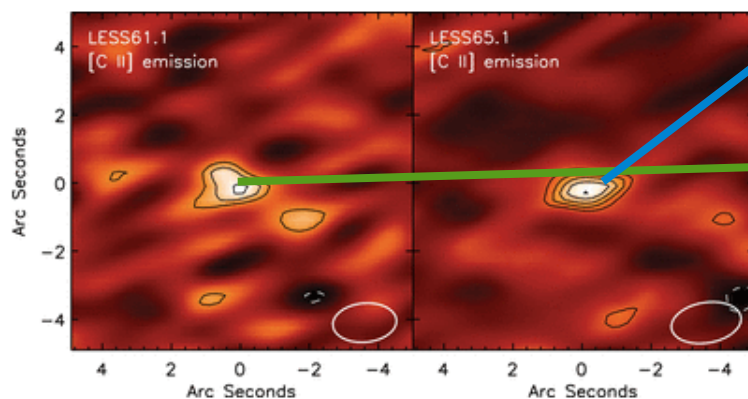
- ALMA's high sensitivity high resolution CO image measures the mass ( $0.003 M_{\text{sun}}$ ) and timescale (200 years) of feedback to the interstellar medium from the AGB star R Sculptoris and reveals the star to be a binary



## Serendipitous [C II] Detection

ALMA 870  $\mu\text{m}$  continuum observations of 100+ submm galaxies resulted in serendipitous detection of [CII] in two galaxies at  $z \sim 4.4$

- ◆ Bright end of cooling function evolves strongly between  $z \sim 0$  and 4.4
- ◆ Increased interstellar medium cooling at higher  $z$  due to higher star formation rates

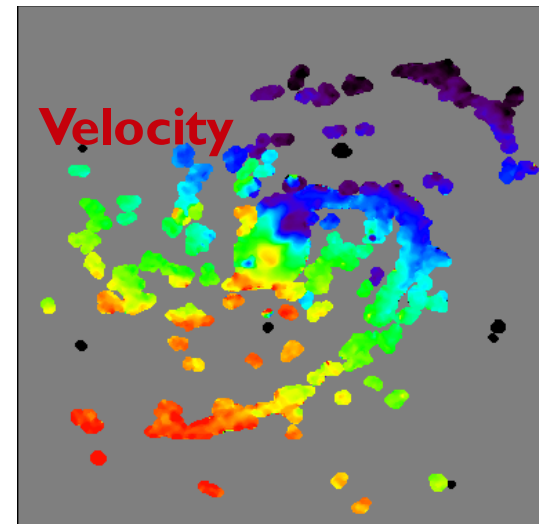
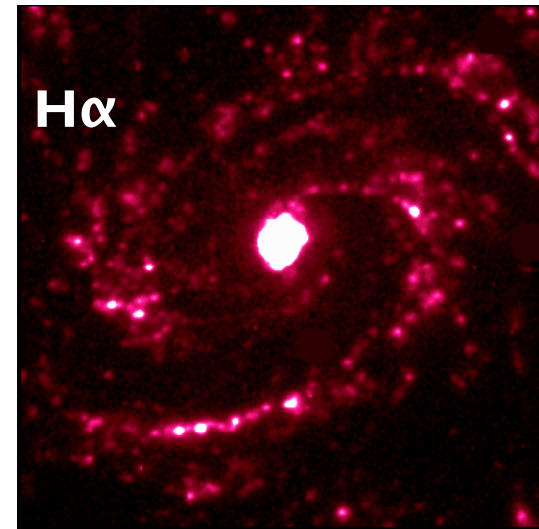
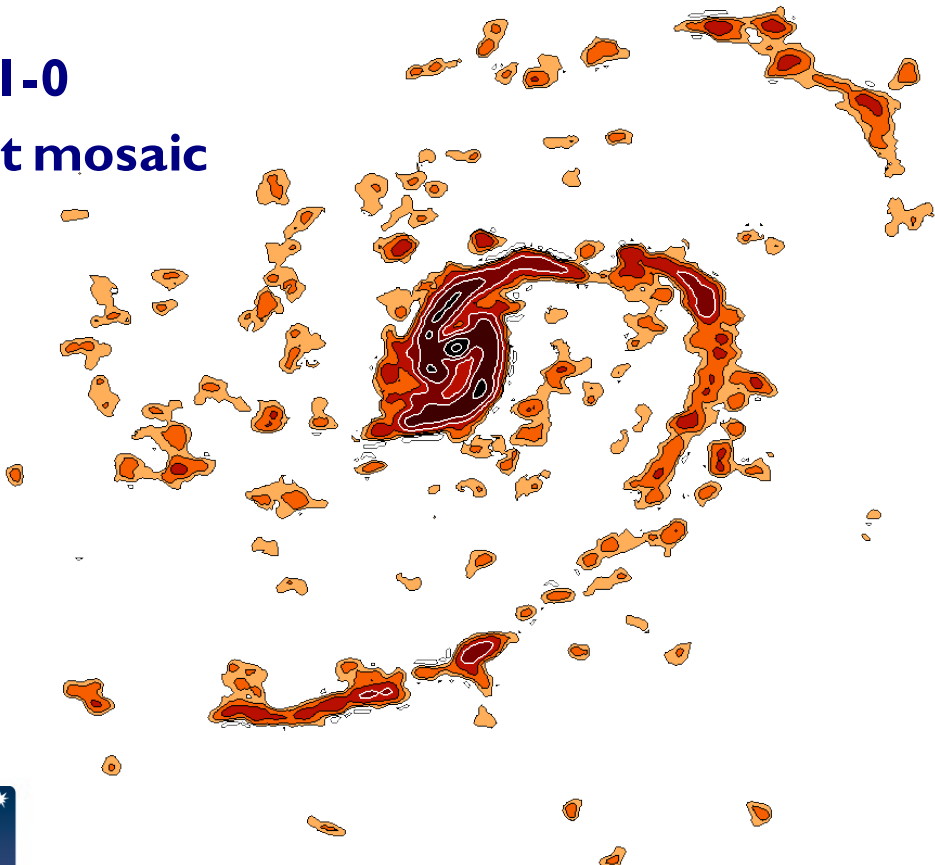


Swinbank et al. 2012

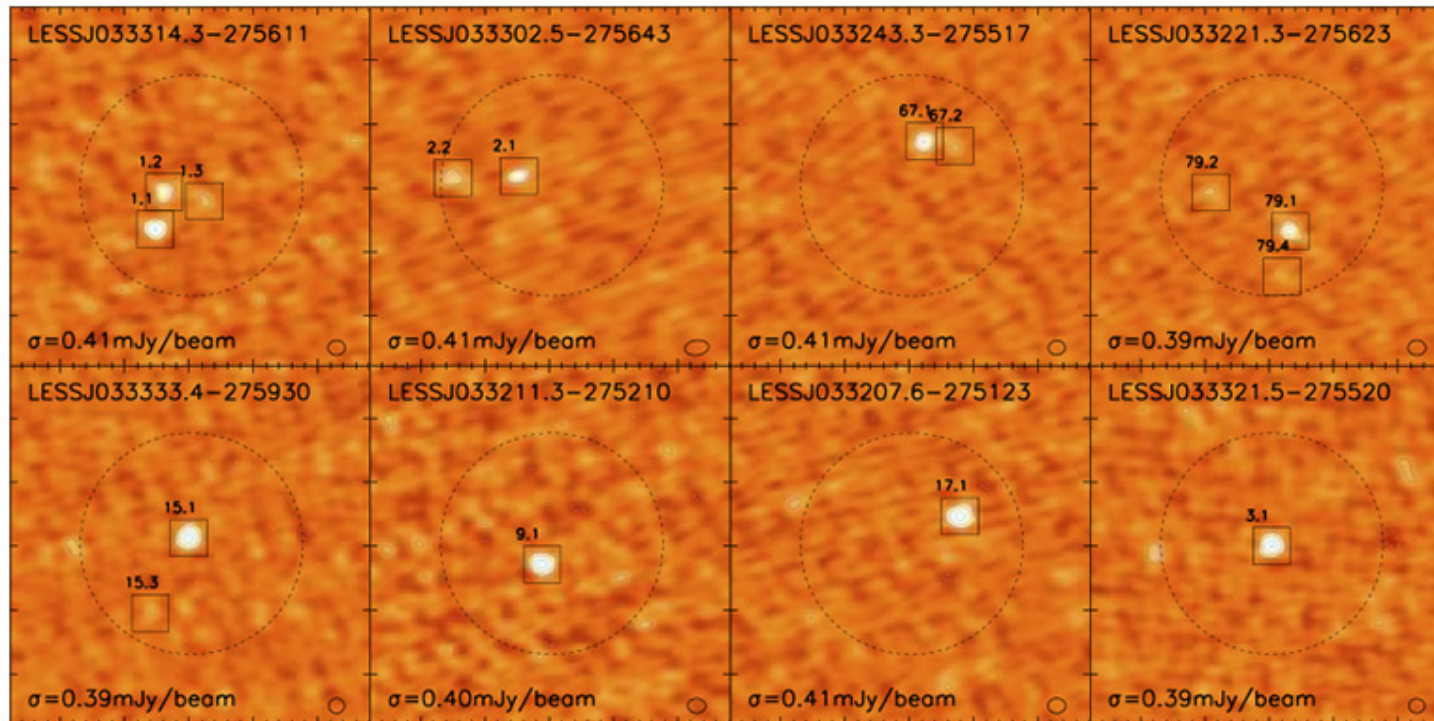
# ALMA Images Nearby Galaxies

Science verification imaging of M100

CO I-0  
47-pt mosaic



# Resolving High-z Submm Galaxies



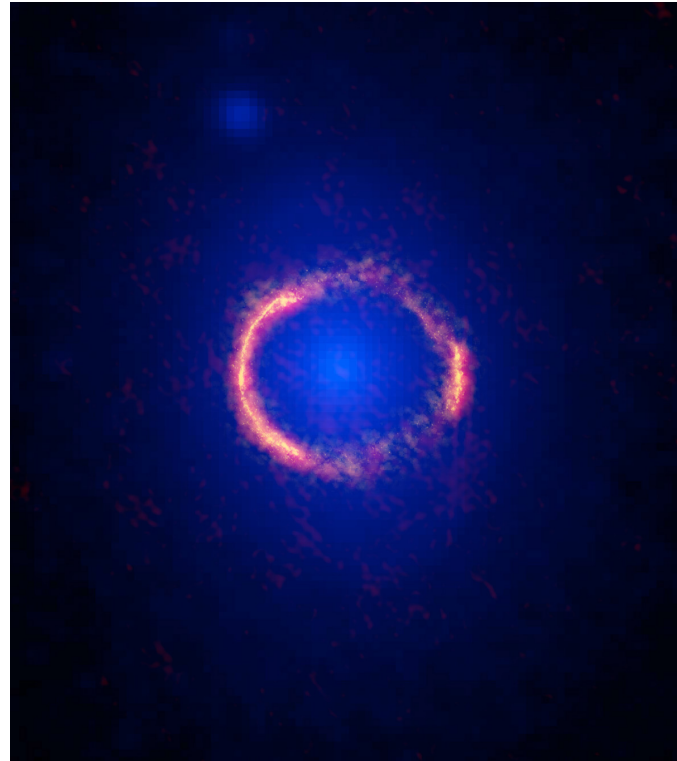
Hodge et al. 2013

- ◆ 126 submm sources observed with ALMA at 870  $\mu\text{m}$
- ◆ 2x deeper, 10x higher angular resolution than previous surveys
- ◆ **99 sources detected in 88 fields, integration time ~120 sec**
- ◆ Significant multiplicity (35-50%) found at 0.2'' resolution

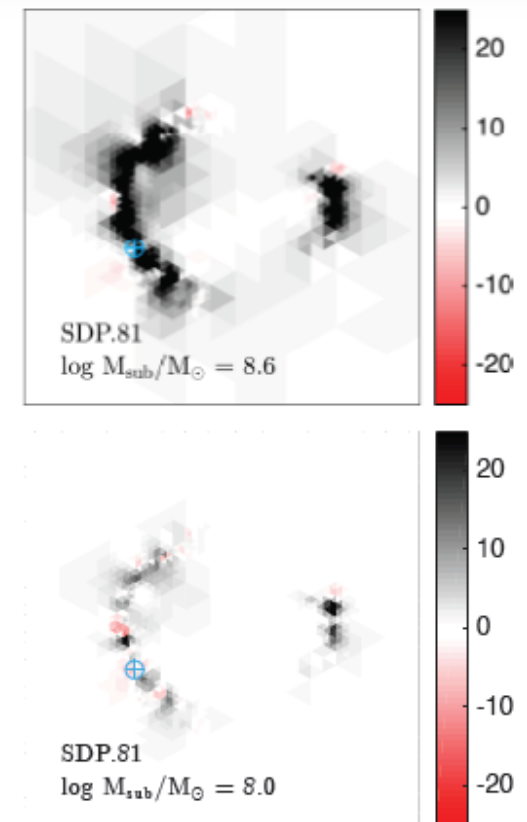
# Resolving High-z Submm Galaxies

## SDP.81

- ◆ Foreground galaxy acts as a gravitational lens
- ◆ Lensed galaxy at  $z \sim 3$
- ◆ Observed as part of the long baseline campaign (baselines out to 15 km)
- ◆ 23 mas resolution achieved



Looking for subhaloes in SDP.81.  
(Hezaveh et al 2016)

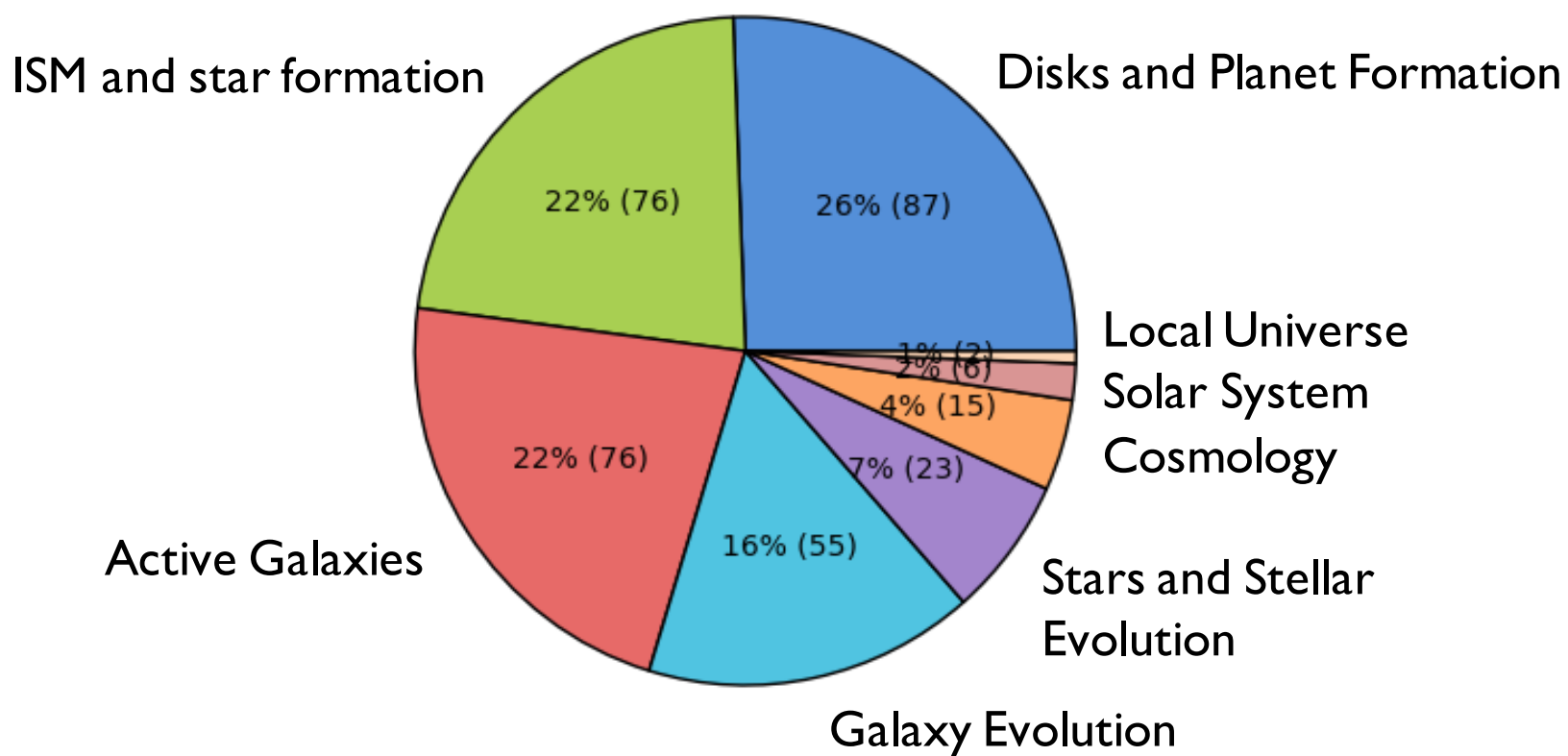




# Recent ALMA Results

340 ALMA Publications to date

Refereed ALMA publications (total: 340)





20-23 September 2016, Indian Wells, CA (near Palm Springs)

More information: <http://go.nrao.edu/ALMA5years>

SOC

- Crystal Brogan (NRAO, USA)
- John Carpenter (JAO, Chile)
- Vivien Chen (National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan)
- Aeree Chung (Yonsei University, Korea)
- Pierre Cox (JAO, Chile)
- Michiel Hogerheijde (Leiden University, Netherlands)
- Daisuke Iono (NAOJ, Japan)
- Kirsten Kraiberg Knudsen (Chalmers University, Sweden)
- Dan Maronne (University of Arizona, USA)
- Munetake Momose (Ibaraki University, Japan)
- Karin Oberg (Harvard University, USA)
- Eva Schinnerer (MPIA, Germany)
- Leonardo Testi (ESO, Germany)
- Christine Wilson (McMaster University, Canada)
- Al Wootten (NRAO, USA)
- Franz Bauer (PUC)



# ALMA Development Program

- Goals
  - Incorporate development ideas from the NA ALMA community into the ALMA Development Program
  - Support development of conceptual and detailed designs for new or upgraded ALMA Observatory capabilities
  - Support ALMA-relevant, long-term R&D
- Upgrades progress through three phases:
  - 1) Conceptual study
  - 2) Prototype/pre-production
  - 3) Full production and implementation
- Priorities are science-driven

# ALMA Development Program

- Call topics of particular interest are
  - Focal Plane Arrays
  - Phased Array Feeds
  - Increased ALMA bandwidth
- North American ALMA Partners and the North American radio astronomy community at-large are eligible to participate in the Program
- Collaborations are encouraged
- Your participation is welcome and appreciated
  - There will be a special Splinter Session at the June AAS meeting in San Diego
- Please direct your questions to Bill Randolph, Program Manager  
([wrandolp@nrao.edu](mailto:wrandolp@nrao.edu))



# The Green Bank Telescope in 2016



Next GBT, VLA, VLBA/HSA/VLBI proposal deadline is

**August 01, 2016 at 5pm EST**

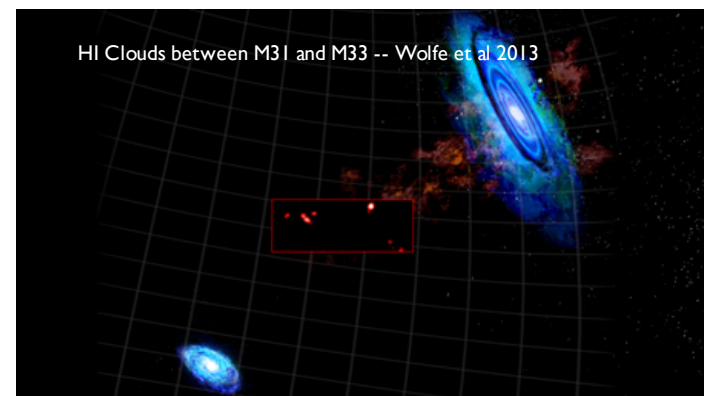
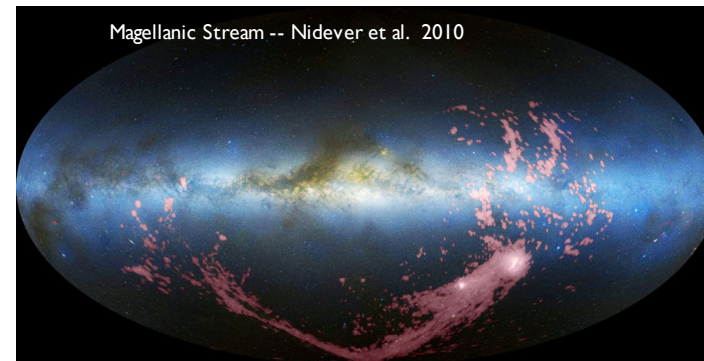
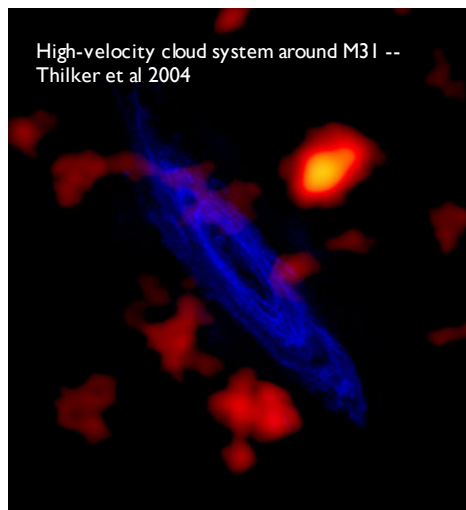
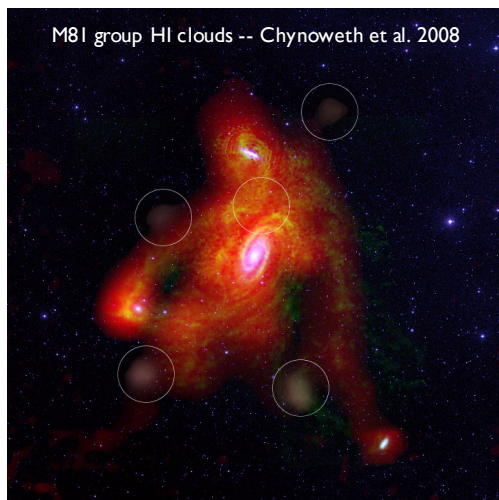
which is for semester “17A” (Feb 2017 – Aug 2017 observations)



# GBT Studies of faint HI -- unequalled sensitivity

GBT offers ability to detect HI to  $N_{\text{HI}} \sim 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

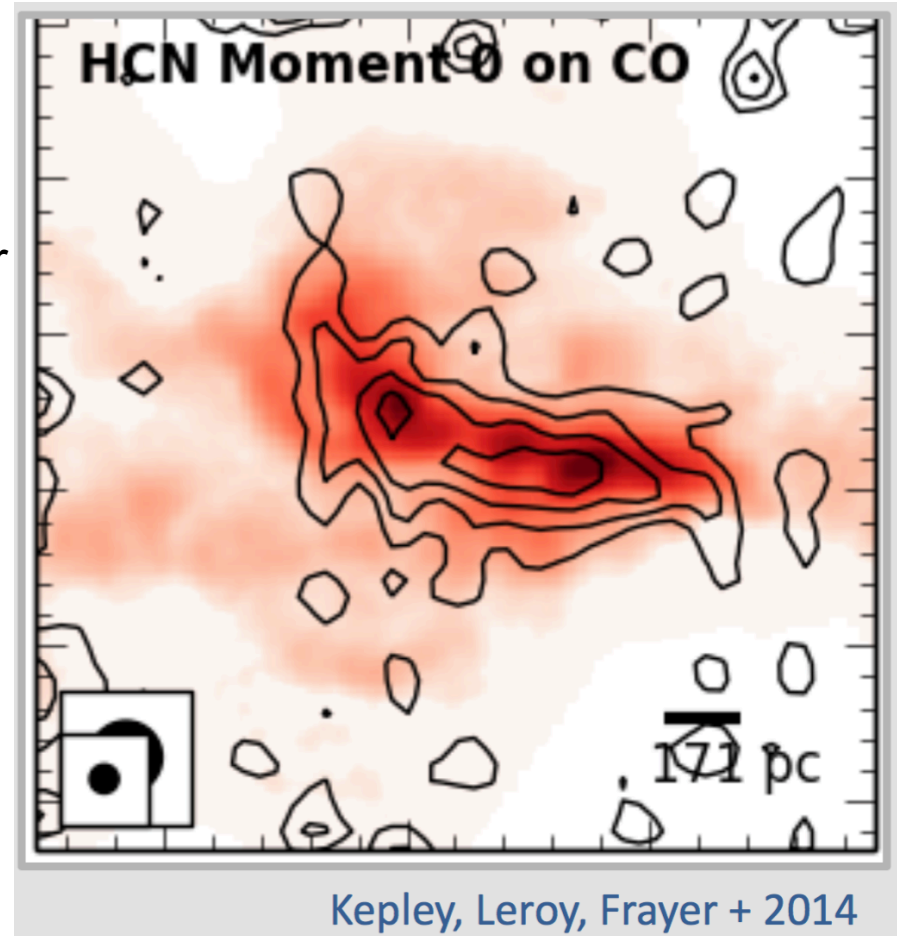
- Interactions
- Outflows from winds and fountains
- Cool gas accretion



# GBT maps dense molecular gas in nearby galaxies

## Starburst Galaxy M82

- HCN and HCO<sup>+</sup> map the dense molecular gas most closely linked to star formation
- Observed simultaneously at 4 mm over ~15 hours

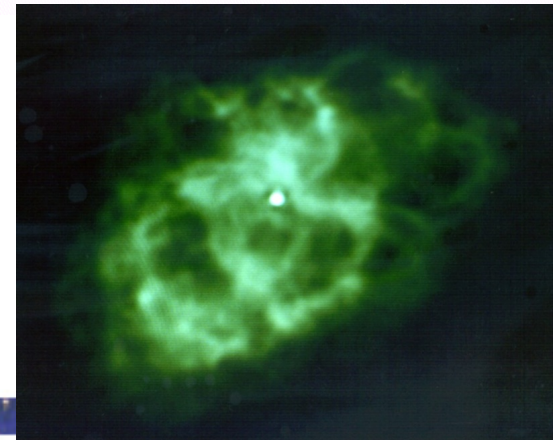
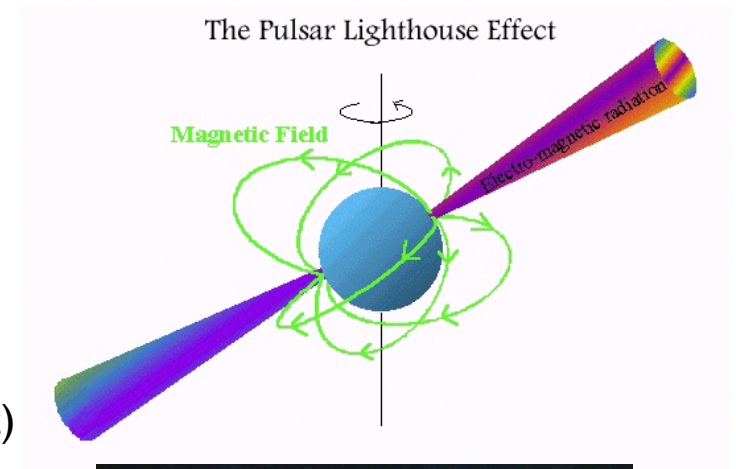


# The GBT remains the world's premier pulsar observatory

*(Quiet Zone, collecting area, receivers, detectors, sky coverage)*

## The Pulsar Renaissance:

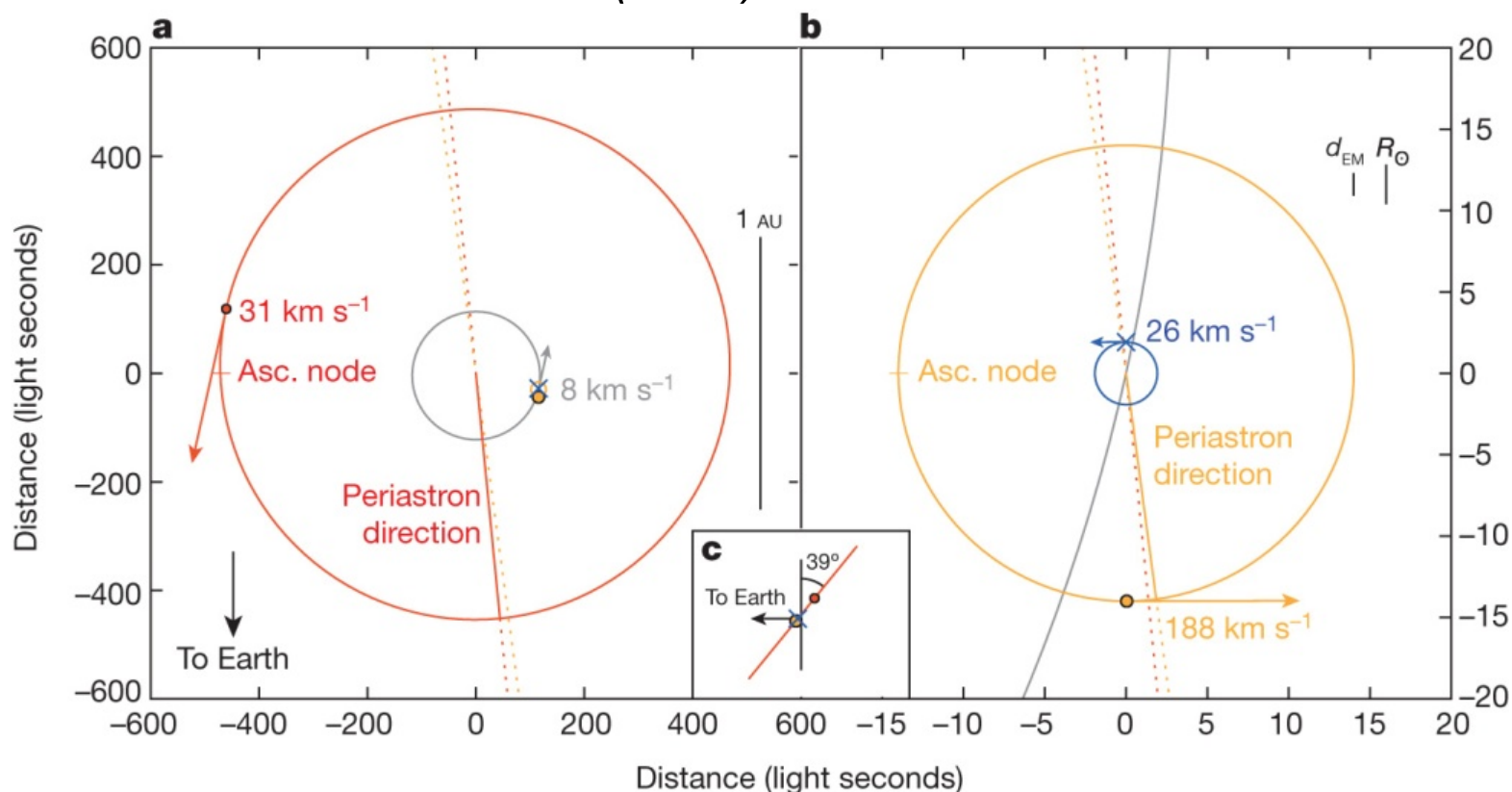
- Fastest Pulsar
- Most Massive Pulsar
- Pulsars in Globular Clusters
- Tests of General Relativity
- Relativistic Spin Precession
- Pulsar in a three-body system
- Coolest white dwarf star (a diamond as big as the Ritz)





# GBT Discovery of a Pulsar in a Triple System

*Ransom et al. Nature (2014)*



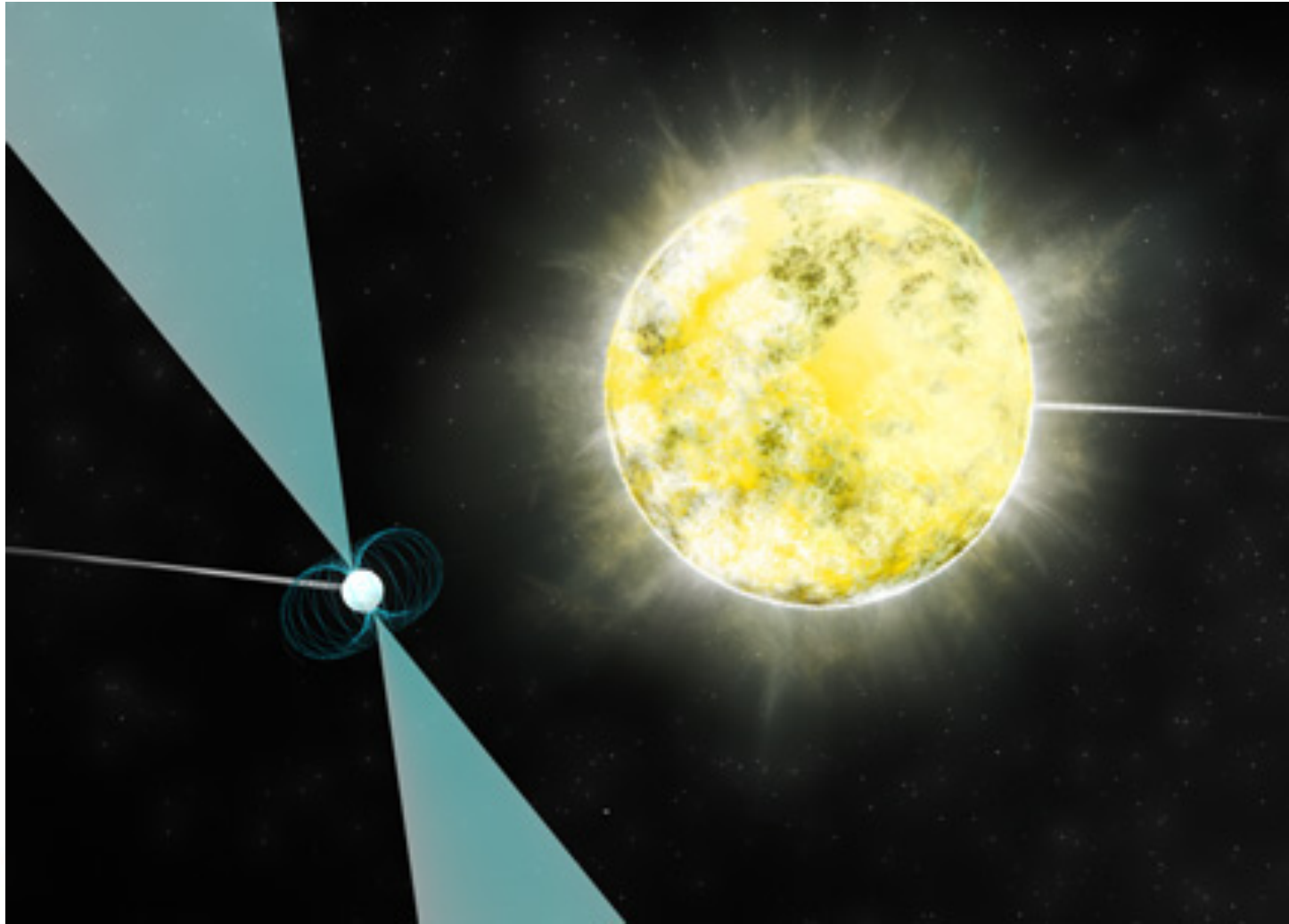
Masses:  $1.4378(13)$ ,  $0.19751(15)$ ,  $0.4101(3) M_\odot$

Angle between orbital planes:  $1.20(17) \times 10^{-2} \text{ deg}$

*Testing the Equivalence Principle*

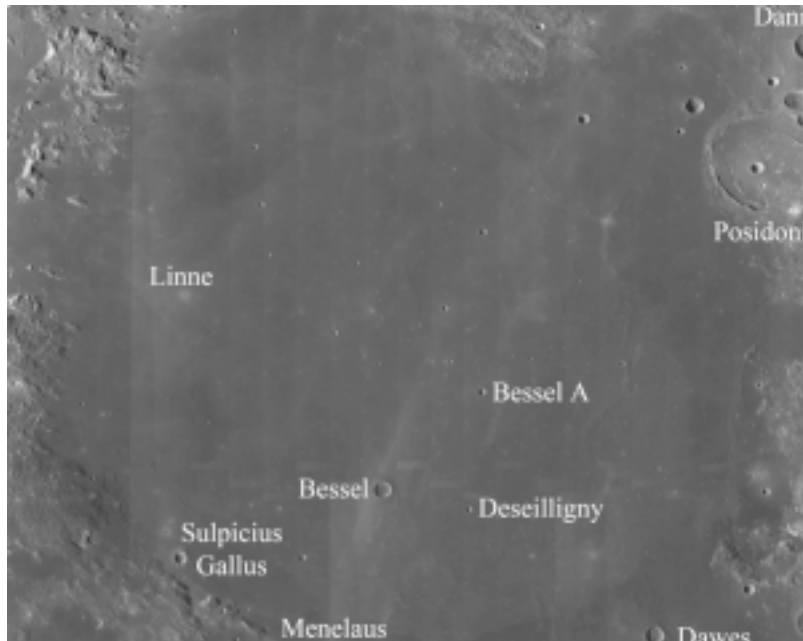
# A Solid Carbon “Diamond” Star Orbiting a Pulsar

*Kaplan et al. (2014)*

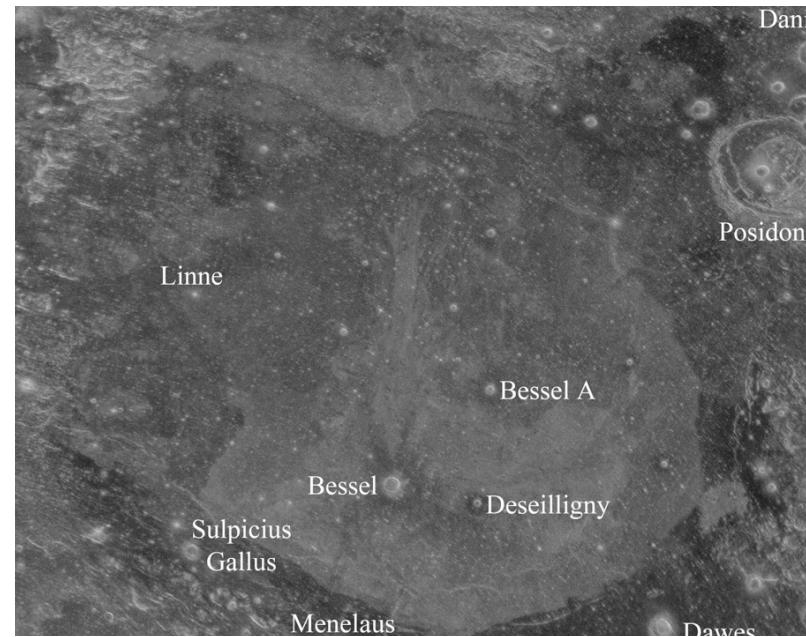


# GBT Bi-static radar studies with Arecibo

*Campbell, B.A. et al. 2014 JGR-P*



Optical



70cm radar

"The 70 cm backscatter differences provide a view of mare flow-unit boundaries, channels, and lobes unseen by other remote sensing methods."

-- Campbell, B.A. et al. JGR-P 2014

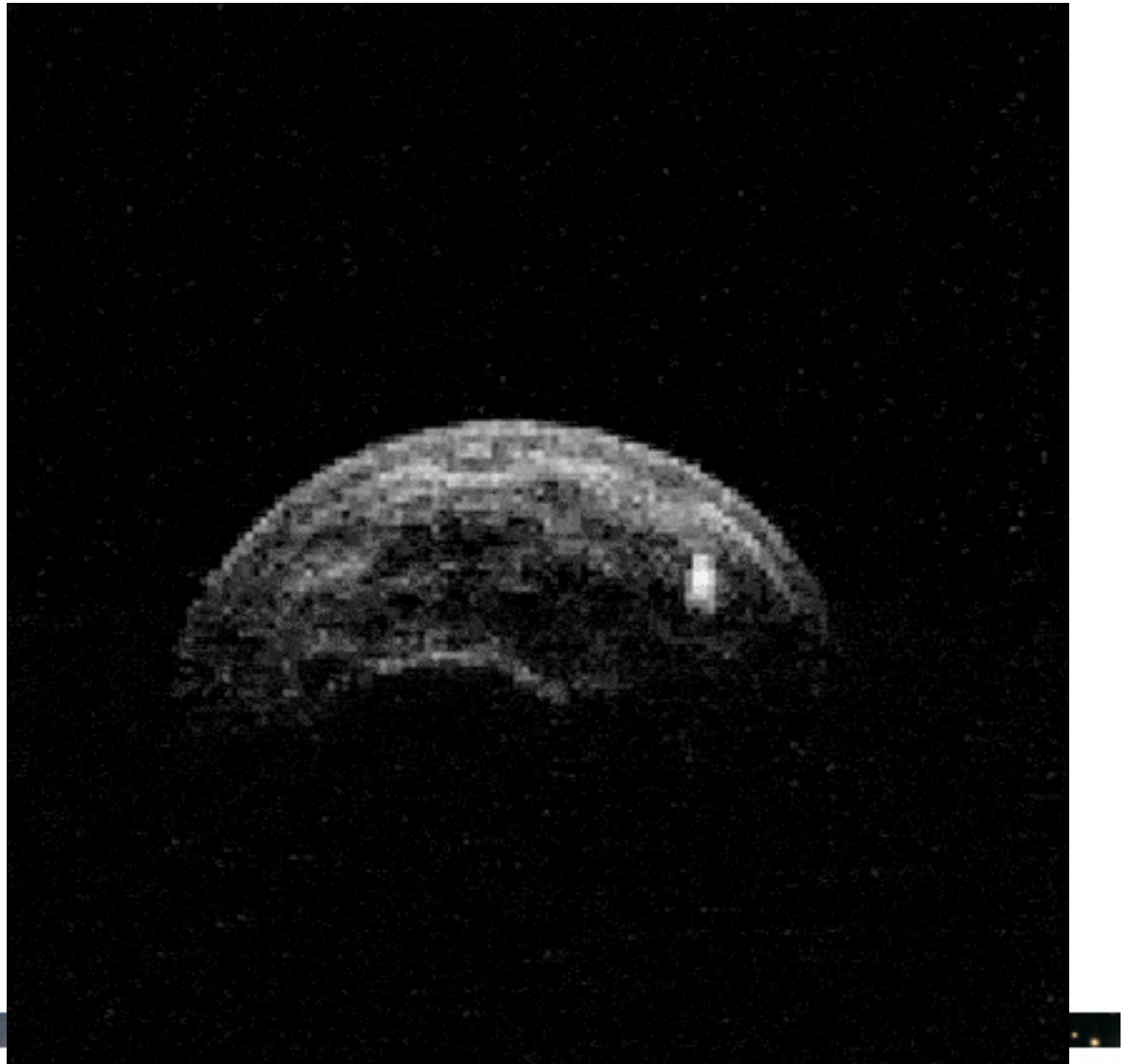
**New GBT radar backend in 2014 from JPL**

# Asteroid 2004 BL86

## DSS/Goldstone - GBT Radar

### GBT Radar Tracks NEAs

- Observed in Jan 2015
- 4 meters resolution
- NEA passing by at 4 x the distance to the Moon
- It has a moon!



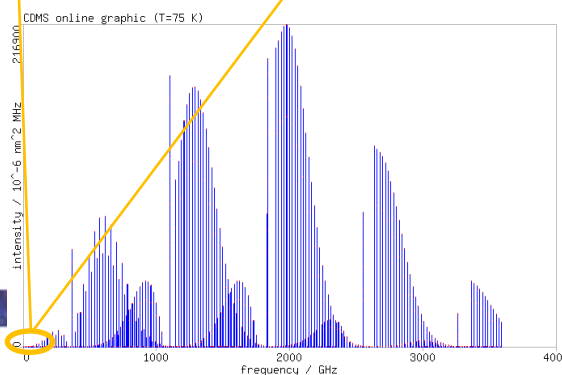
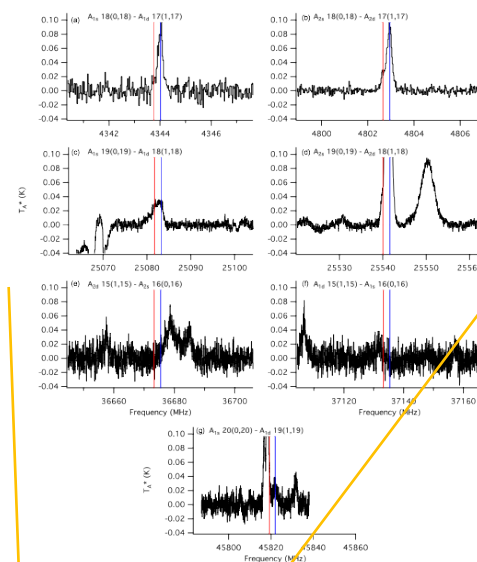
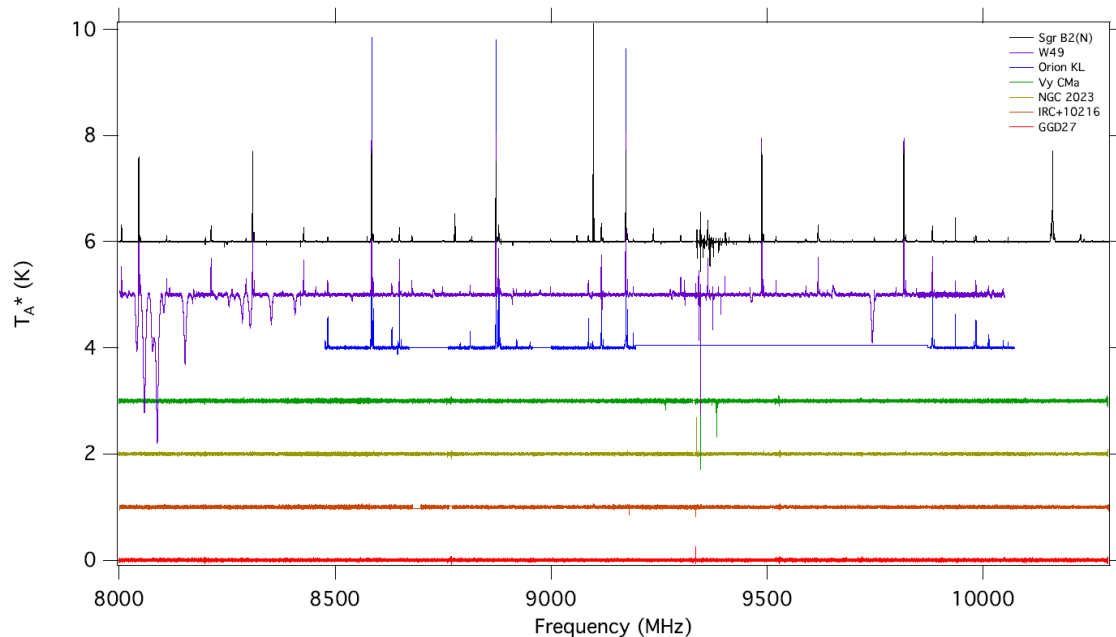


# Investigating Prebiotic Organic Chemistry at Centimeter Wavelengths

## The GBT PRIMOS Survey

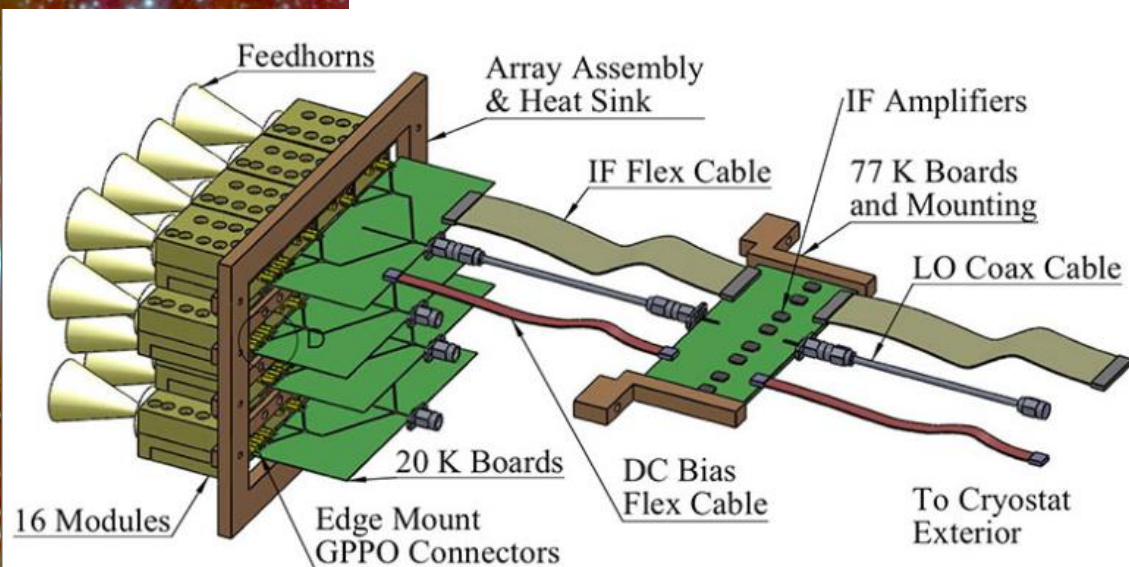
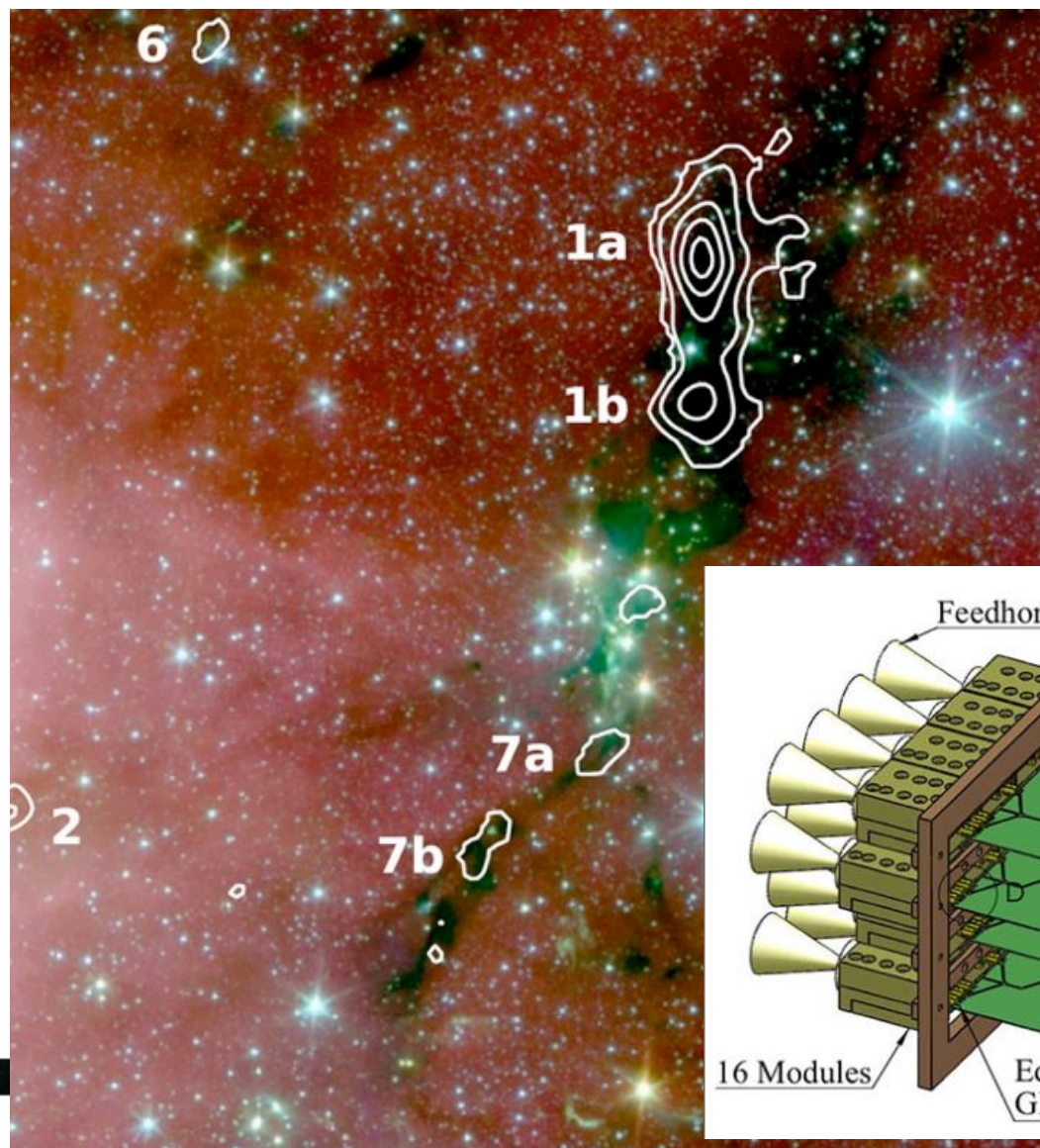
Centimeter-wave observations are a powerful tool for the identification of new molecules:

- Spectral line survey of molecular cloud SgrB2N
- **At least 1-2 new molecule detections a year come from PRIMOS for the last 7 years**
- Low line density makes definitive detections possible with fewer lines. Observations at mm/submm wavelengths suffer too much line confusion given the complexity of spectra of even the simplest asymmetric top molecules.

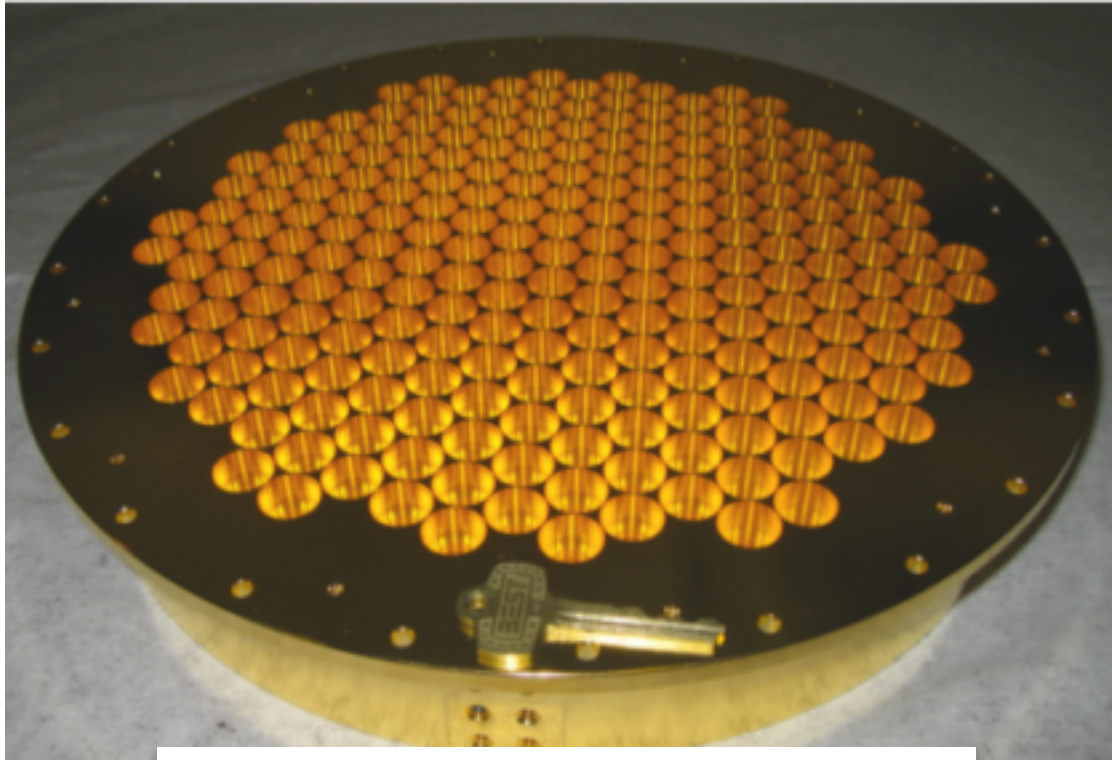


# ARGUS – 8" GBT spectroscopy at 3mm

- 16 element scalable 75-115 GHz FPA
- Stanford/CIT-JPL/UMd/Miami/NRAO  
(NSF grant to Stanford)



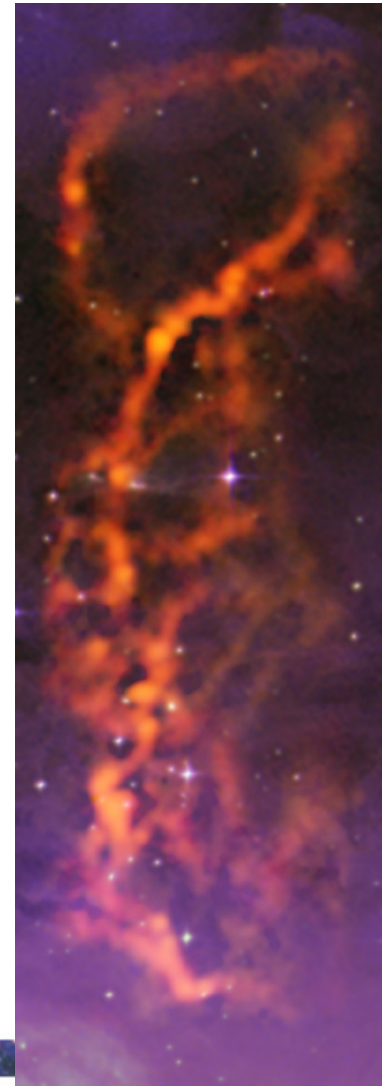
# GBT MUSTANG - 2 (NSF grant to Univ Penn)



223 pixels

>4' FOV

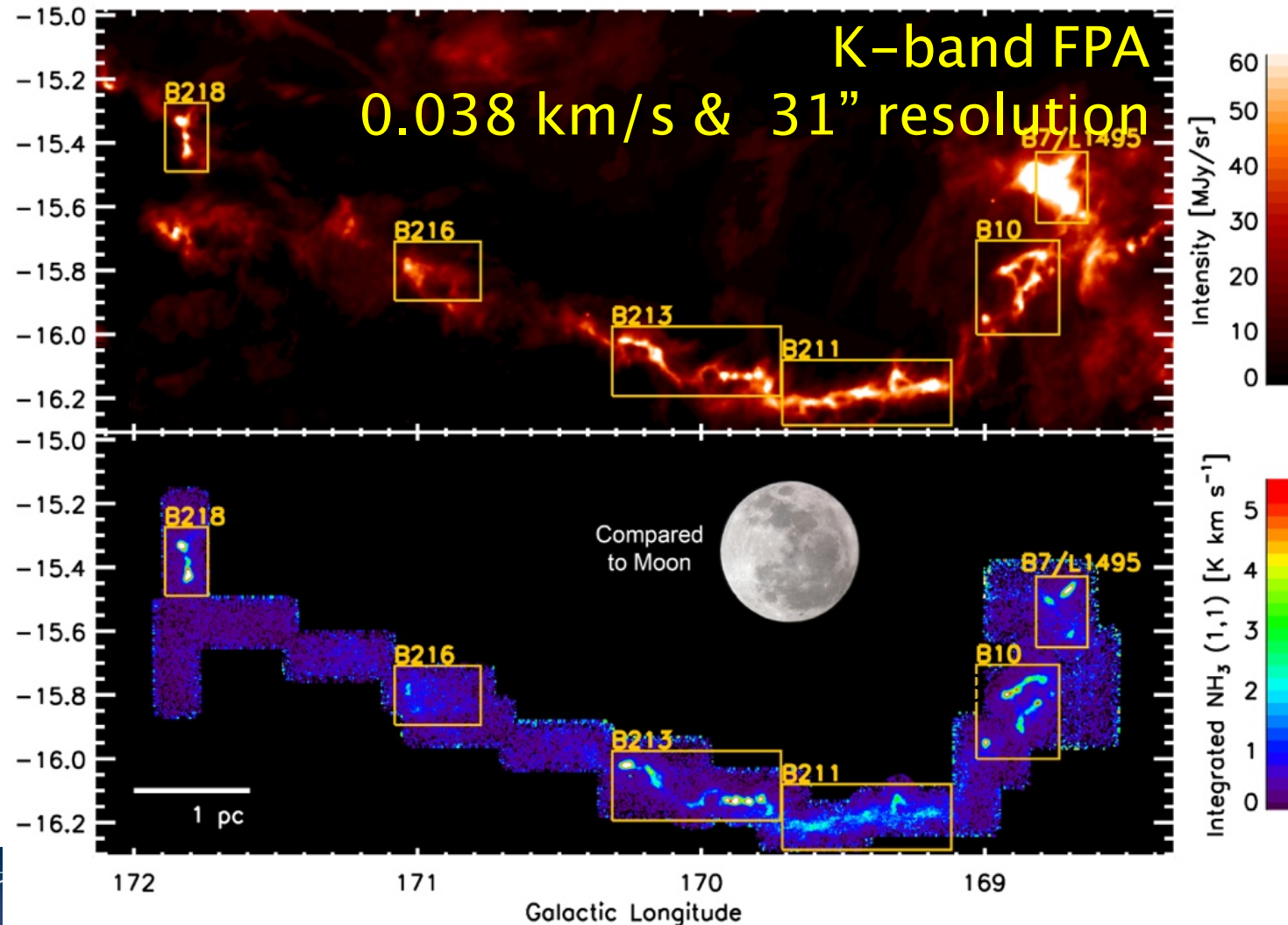
35x faster than MUSTANG





# Star Formation in a Filament in Taurus Molecular Cloud

Deep ammonia observations over 3 degrees (8pc cloud)





# The Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array

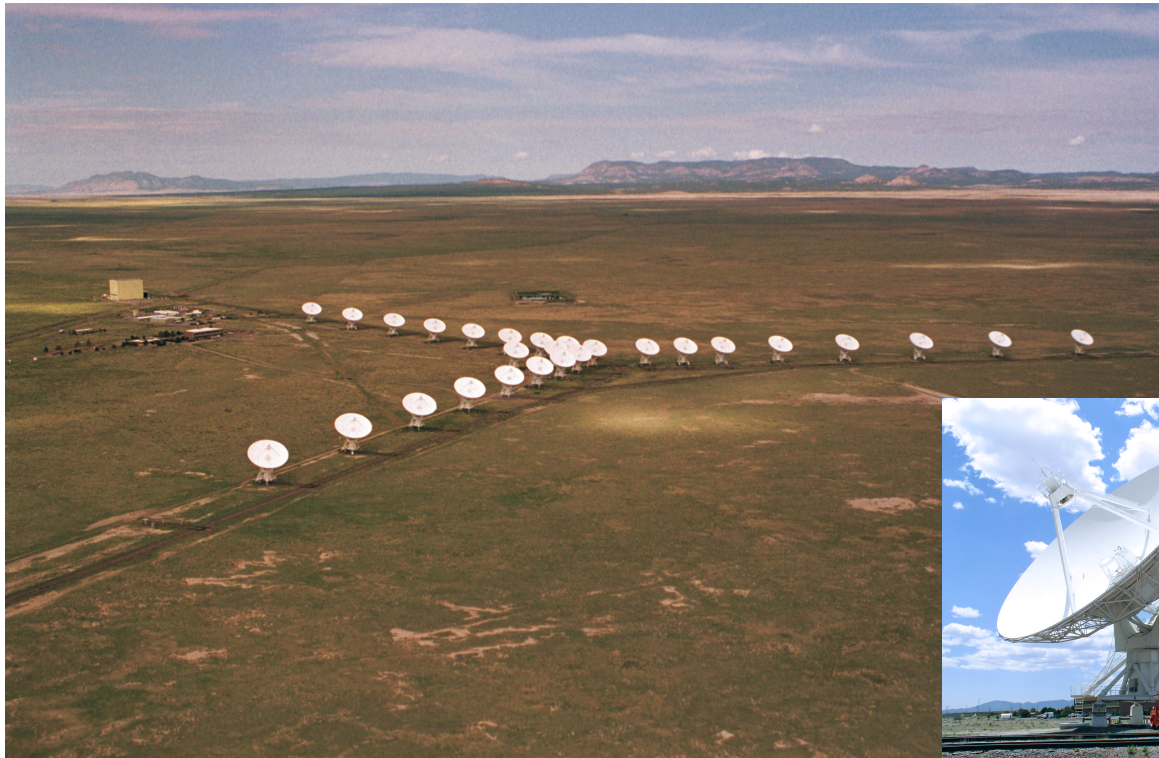


Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array  
Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array  
Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope  
Very Long Baseline Array



# The (Jansky) VLA

- 27x25m antennas (antennas in the shape of a Y) reconfigurable on baselines 35m to 36km
- located in New Mexico at 2100m altitude



# Angular Resolution

- With reconfiguration of the antennas, the array can vary its spatial resolution by a factor of  $\sim 40$ .
- Configuration sequence: D ( $B_{\max} \sim 1$  km)  $\rightarrow$  C  $\rightarrow$  B  $\rightarrow$  A ( $B_{\max} \sim 36$  km).
- Reconfiguration every  $\sim 4$  months.
- Hybrid configurations (DnC, CnB, BnA) extend for about 2 weeks in between regular configurations.
- The August 1, 2016 deadline is for the C and D configurations.

Configuration	A	B	C	D
$B_{\max}$ (km <sup>1</sup> )	36.4	11.1	3.4	1.03
$B_{\min}$ (km <sup>1</sup> )	0.68	0.21	0.035 <sup>5</sup>	0.035
	Synthesized Beamwidth $\theta_{\text{HPBW}}(\text{arcsec})^{1,2,3}$			
74 MHz (4 band)	24	80	260	850
1.5 GHz (L)	1.3	4.3	14	46
3.0 GHz (S) <sup>6</sup>	0.65	2.1	7.0	23
6.0 GHz (C)	0.33	1.0	3.5	12
8.5 GHz (X) <sup>7</sup>	0.23	0.73	2.5	8.1
15 GHz (Ku) <sup>6</sup>	0.13	0.42	1.4	4.6
22 GHz (K)	0.089	0.28	0.95	3.1
33 GHz (Ka)	0.059	0.19	0.63	2.1
45 GHz (Q)	0.043	0.14	0.47	1.5

# The VLA

- **Nine Frequency Bands**
  - Eight cryogenic bands, covering 1 – 50 GHz. Utilizes cassegrain subreflector.
  - One uncooled, prime-focus band, covering 50 – 450 MHz.
- **Up to 8 GHz instantaneous bandwidth**
  - Provided by two independent dual-polarization frequency pairs, each of up to 4 GHz bandwidth per polarization.
  - All digital design to maximize instrumental stability and repeatability.
- **Full polarization correlator with 8 GHz instantaneous BW**
  - Provides 64 independent ‘sub-correlators’, and 16384 spectral channels.
  - Many specialized operations modes (burst, pulsar binning, phased arrays ...)



# Full Frequency Coverage with Outstanding Performance

There are eight cassegrain focus systems, and one prime focus system.

Band (GHz)		SEFD (Jy) (27 antennas)
.05 -- .45	P	~60
1-2	L	13
2-4	S	9.5
4-8	C	8.5
8-12	X	8.1
12-18	Ku	8.1
18-26.5	K	13
26.5-40	Ka	22
40-50	Q	45

Eight feeds around the cassegrain secondary focus ring.



# Basic Features of the ‘WIDAR’ Correlator

The correlator’s basic features (not all implemented yet):

- **64 independent full-polarization subbands**
  - Each can be tuned to its own frequency, with its own bandwidth (128 MHz to 31.25 kHz) and spectral resolution (from 2 MHz to .12 Hz)
- **100 msec dump times with 16384 channels and full polarization**
  - Faster if spectral resolution, BW, or number of antennas is decreased.
- **Up to 8 sub-arrays.** Maximum to date is three.
- **Phased array capability** with full bandwidth – for pulsar and VLBI applications. Two different subarrays can be simultaneously phased.
- **Special pulsar modes:** 2 banks of 1000 time bins, and 200 msec time resolution (all spectral channels), or 15 msec (64 channels/sp.window). Undergoing testing; See RSRO.

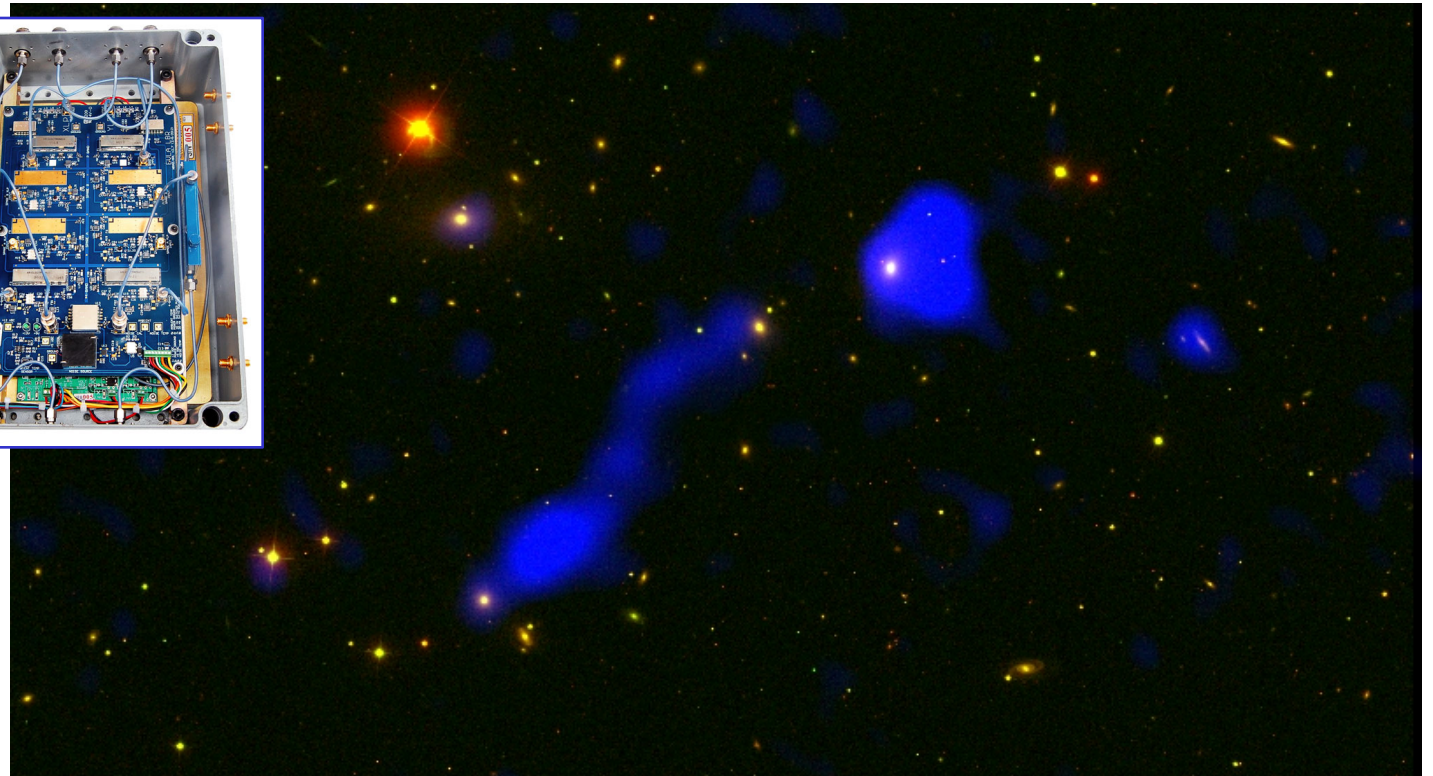


# Two Telescopes in One

## VLITE (VLA Ionospheric and Transient Experiment)



AVLITE pipeline-processed image of the giant radio galaxy IC 711 in the galaxy cluster Abell 1314

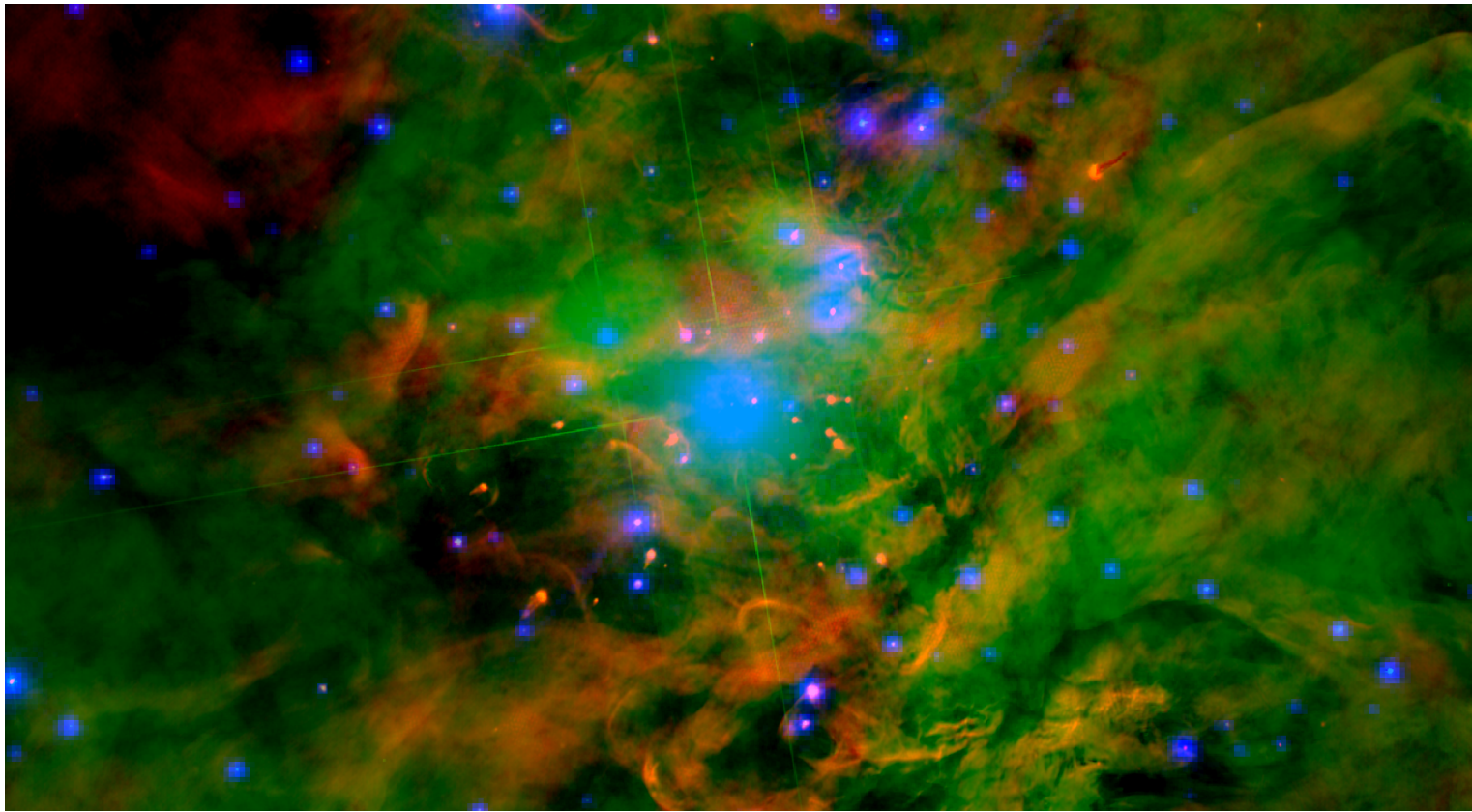


Credit: Radio (blue) from VLITE on the NRAO VLA.  
Optical (red and green) from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey.  
U.S. Naval Research Laboratory/Dr. Tracy Clarke



# Time-Domain Astronomy

A multiwavelength study of the Orion nebula searches for young stellar variability



Credit: Red: VLA 6 cm continuum, J. Forbrich et al.

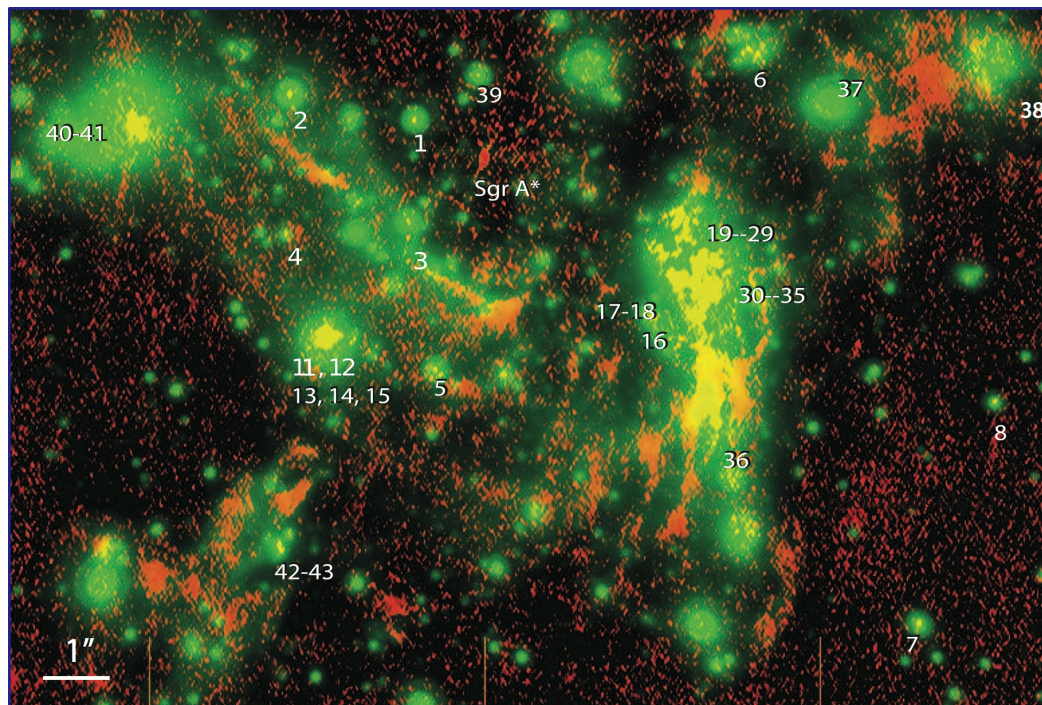
Green: Optical data, Hubble Space Telescope, Robberto et al. 2013

Blue: X-rays, Chandra, Getman et al. 2005



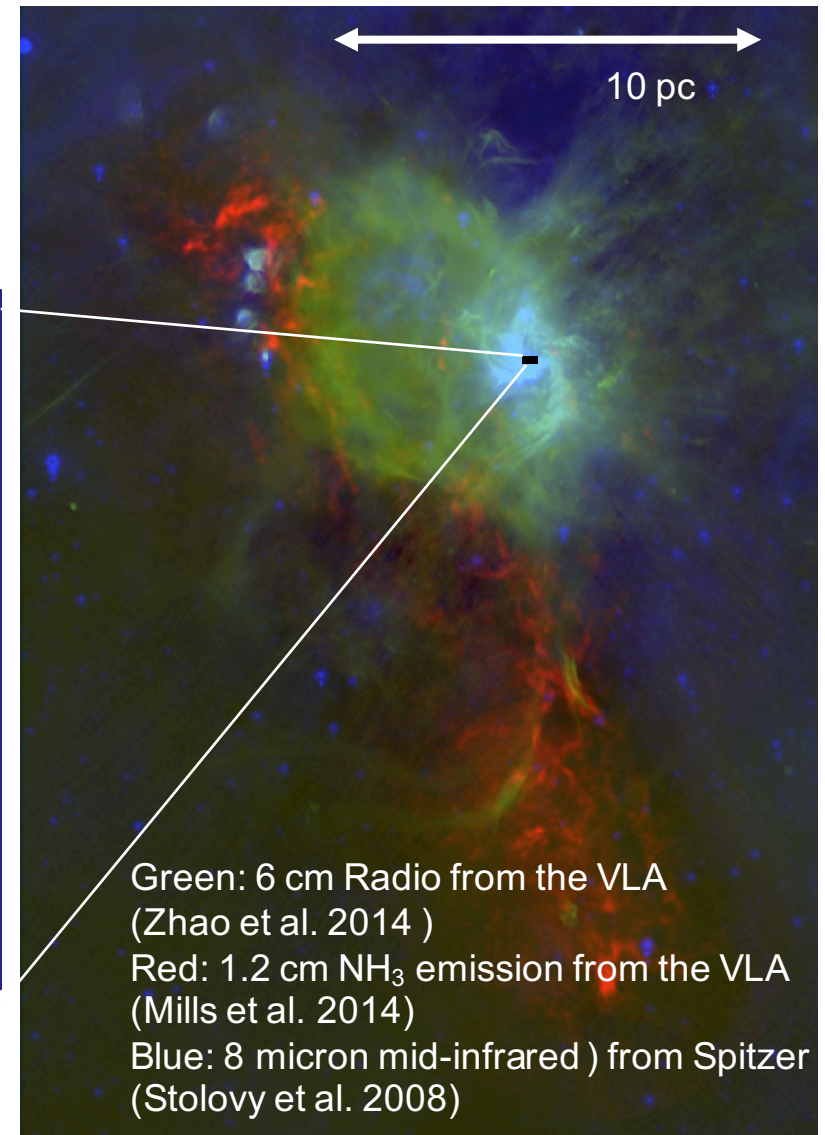
# A Sensitive view of the Invisible Universe

Ionized and molecular gas around the supermassive black hole in the center of our Galaxy



Red: 7mm radio VLA observations

Green: 3.8 um adaptive optics image from the VLT  
(Yusef-Zadeh et al. 2014)



Green: 6 cm Radio from the VLA  
(Zhao et al. 2014 )

Red: 1.2 cm NH<sub>3</sub> emission from the VLA  
(Mills et al. 2014)

Blue: 8 micron mid-infrared ) from Spitzer  
(Stolovy et al. 2008)

# Capabilities of Interest (for 2016B)

## General Observing (GO)

- Full 8 GHz bandwidth with 16384 spectral channels – 2 MHz spectral resolution (full pol), 1 MHz resolution (Stokes I)
- All 64 subband pairs can be separately tuned, and set to any of 128, 64, 32, 16, ... , 0.03125 MHz widths.
- Up to 16384 spectral channels (no recirculation), or up to 1,048,576 (with recirculation)
- Three simultaneous, fully independent subarrays using standard 8-bit continuum setups
- Mix 3-bit and 8-bit modes.
- Phased Array (for VLBI).



# Capabilities of Interest (for 2016B)

## Resident Shared Risk Observing (RSRO)

- Access to extended capabilities that require more testing
  - In exchange for a period of residence
- Correlator dump times  $< 50$  msec
  - Including as short as 5 msec for transient detection
- Frequency averaging in the correlator
- Data rates above 60 MB/s
- P-band (230-470 MHz) polarimetry and spectroscopy
- 4-band (58-84 MHz) commissioning and testing
- Pulsar observations
- More than 3 subarrays with the 8-bit samplers
- Subarrays with the 3-bit samplers
- Complex VLBI observing modes with the phased array



# Next Generation Very Large Array

**Killer Gap:** *Thermal imaging on milliarcsecond scales at  $\lambda \sim 0.3\text{cm}$  to  $3\text{cm}$*

## Notional Specifications

- Collecting area: spec = 5x VLA; goal = 10x VLA
- Frequency range: 1–50 GHz + 70–115 GHz
- Configuration: 50% to 3km; 40% to 200km; 10%? to 3000km

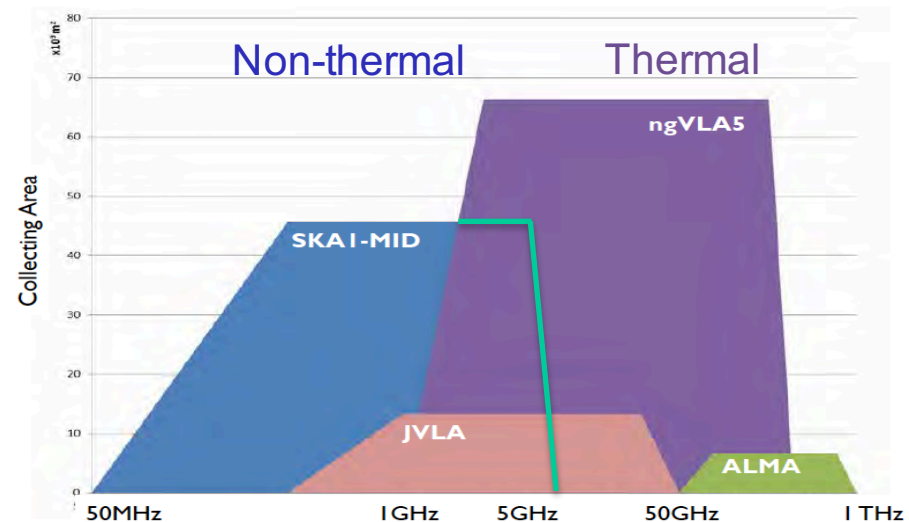
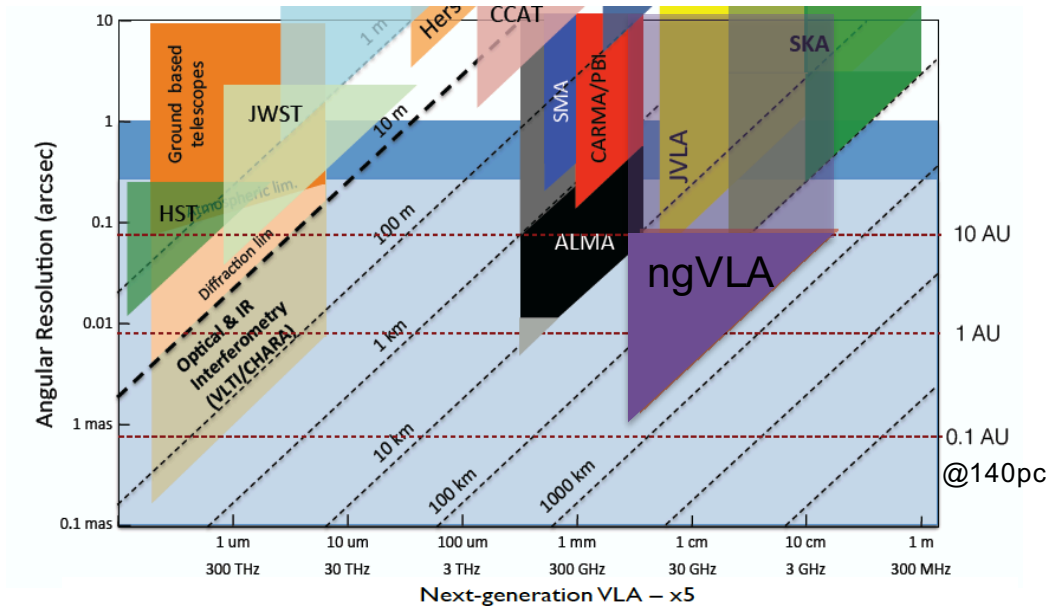




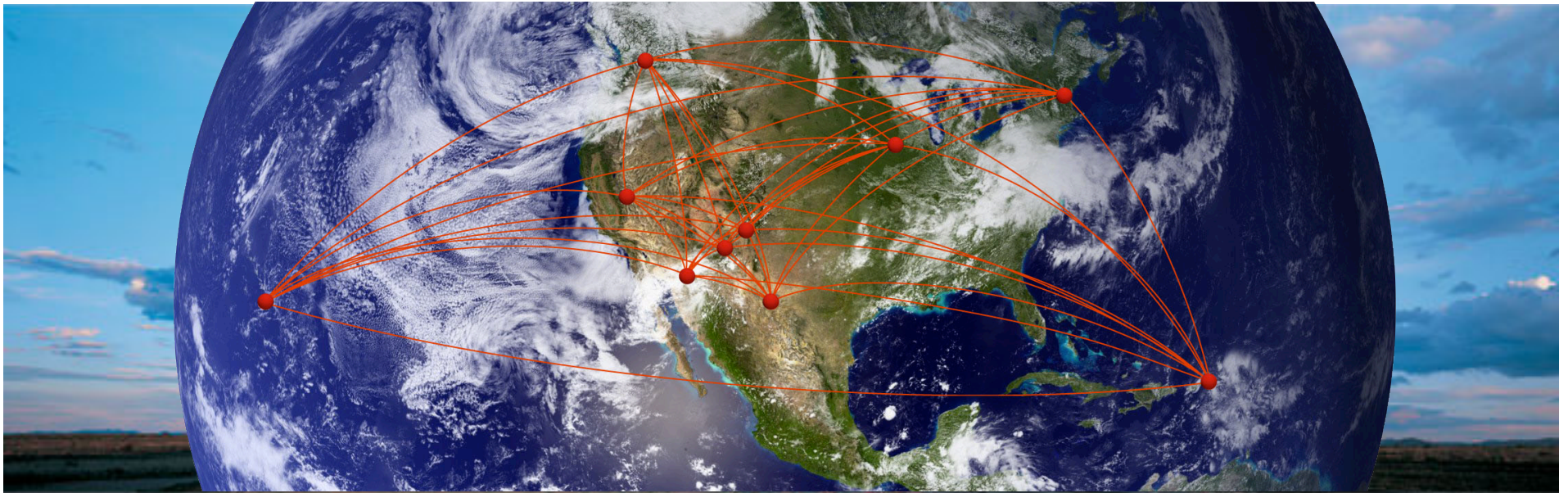
## Killer Gap: Opening parameter space

Order of magnitude improvements

- Resolution  $\sim 15\text{mas}$  @  $1\text{cm}$  ( $180\text{km}$ )
- Sensitivity  $\sim 0.2\mu\text{Jy}$  ( $1\text{cm}$ ,  $10\text{hr}$ ,  $8\text{GHz}$ )
- $T_B \sim 1\text{K}$  @  $15\text{mas}$ ,  $1\text{cm}$



# The Very Long Baseline Array

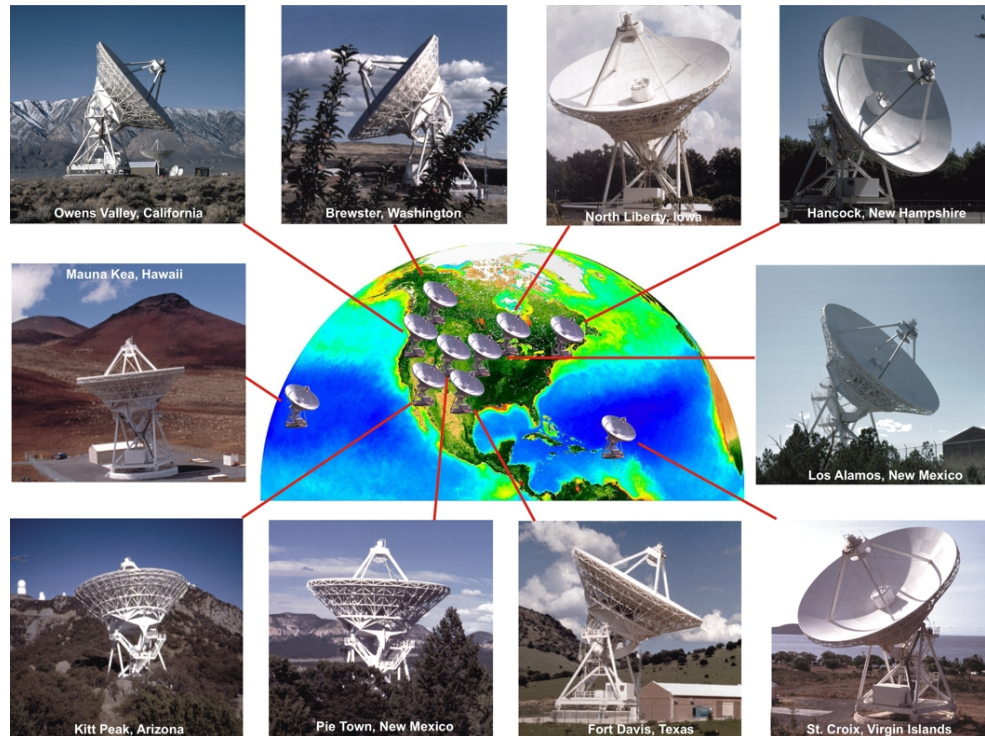


Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array  
Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array  
Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope  
Very Long Baseline Array



# The VLBA

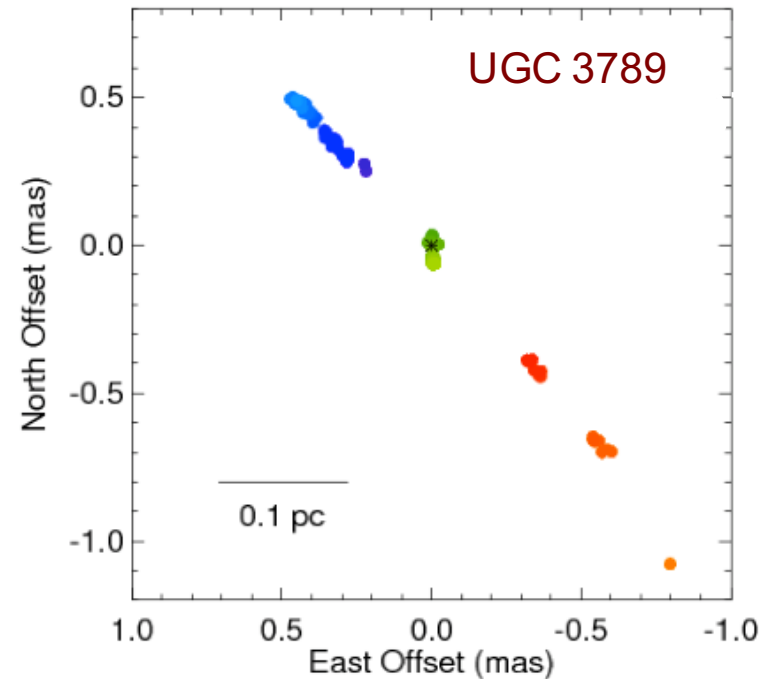
- A dedicated VLBI array
- 10 identical 25-m antennas.
- Spanning Mauna Kea to St. Croix
- Baselines 200 to 8600 km
- Frequencies 310 MHz to 90 GHz
- Sensitive to compact structures with  $T_b > 10^5$  K
- Software correlator, DiFX





# Resolution!

- 25 *milli* arcsecond at 330 MHz.
- 80 *micro* arcsec at 90 GHz.
- 1 mas is
  - 0.1 AU at 100 pc (Galactic)
  - 10 AU at 10 kpc
  - 1000 AU at 1 Mpc (Extragal)
  - 5 pc at 1 Gpc



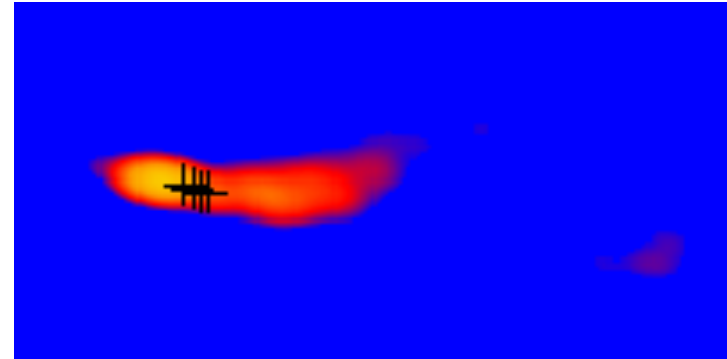
The Megamaser Cosmology Project  
(Braatz et al.)

Mapping H<sub>2</sub>O maser disks in AGNs  
to measure H<sub>0</sub> and determine SMBH masses



# Fast Response & Monitoring

- Dedicated array
- Targets of Opportunity
- Monitoring



AGN 1222+216

Example: The MOJAVE project (Lister et al.)

Examining the evolution of AGN jets and their magnetic fields, and the medium into which the jets are expanding

# Astrometry

- Astrometry: parallax and proper motions.
  - Instrumental stability with long baselines
  - $< 0.1$  mas positions are routine
  - $0.01$  mas demonstrated in some cases
  - Allows 1% distance measurements at 1 kpc

Example: Distance to Pleiades  
(Melis et al. 2014)

$$d = 136.2 \pm 1.2 \text{ pc (1\%)}$$



# Astrometry

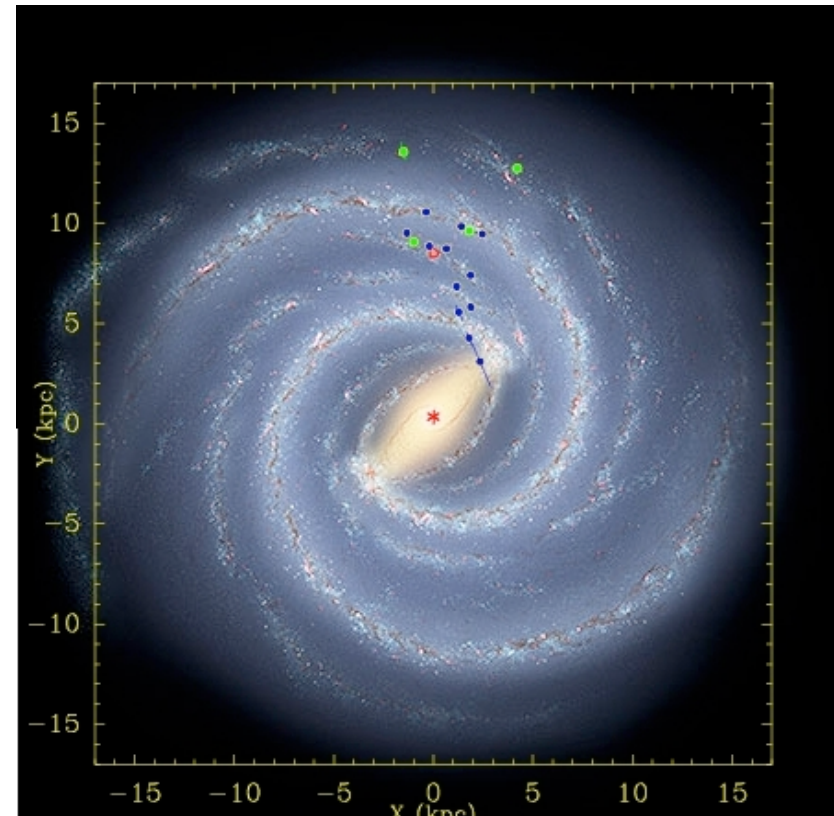
- Astrometry: parallax and proper motions.
  - Instrumental stability with long baselines
  - $< 0.1$  mas positions are routine
  - $0.01$  mas demonstrated in some cases
  - Allows 1% distance measurements at 1 kpc

## Example: BeSSeL (Reid et al. 2014)

Mapping Galactic structure and measuring fundamental parameters by measuring parallaxes and proper motions of SF regions

$$R_0 = 8.4 \pm 0.6 \text{ kpc}$$

$$\Theta_0 = 254 \pm 16 \text{ km/s}$$



# VLBA Frequency bands and Sensitivity

$\lambda(\text{cm})$	$\nu(\text{GHz})$	$\sigma(\mu\text{Jy/beam})$ in 8 hrs at 2Gbps
90 cm	0.312 - 0.342	266*
50 cm	0.596 - 0.626	681*
21 cm	1.35 - 1.75	10-12
13 cm	2.15 - 2.35	12
6 cm (upgrade)	3.9 - 7.9	6-9
4 cm	8.0 - 8.8	11-15
2 cm	12.0 - 15.4	18
1 cm	21.7 - 24.1	18-22
7 mm	41.0 - 45.0	40
3 mm	80.0 - 90.0	180†

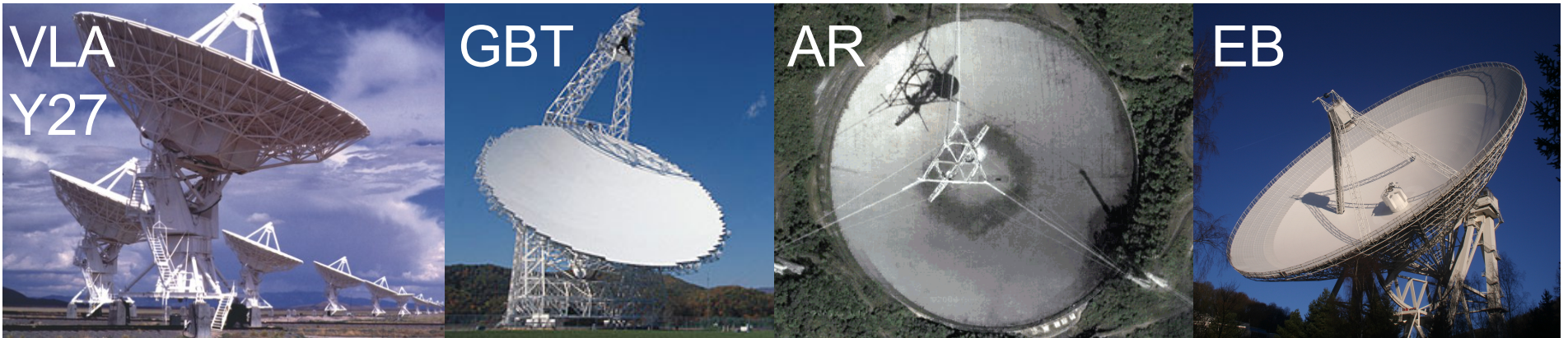
- 2 Gbps recording delivers a bandwidth of 256 MHz with two polarizations.
- 90 cm band assumes 32 MHz of bandwidth.
- 50 cm band assumes 4 MHz of bandwidth.

\* Narrower bandwidths

† 8 stations



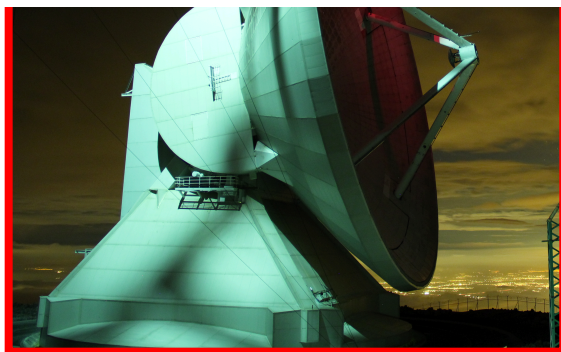
# The High Sensitivity Array (HSA): To boost the sensitivity of the VLBA by an order of magnitude





# The High Sensitivity Array at 3mm

VLBA+LMT+GBT offered under the VLBA RSRO program



# Important Links

NRAO Help Desk

<https://help.nrao.edu>

VLA Observational Status Summary

[go.nrao.edu/vla-oss](https://go.nrao.edu/vla-oss)

VLA Exposure Calculator

<https://obs.vla.nrao.edu/ect/>

Proposal Submission Tool

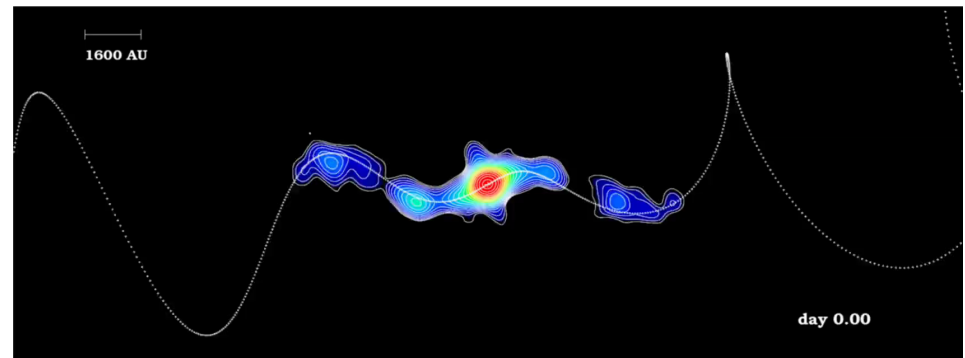
[my.nrao.edu](https://my.nrao.edu)

CASA— data reduction software

<http://casa.nrao.edu/>

VLA Calibration Pipeline

<https://science.nrao.edu/facilities/vla/data-processing/pipeline>



SS433 at 26 GHz (0.095"; 520 AU resolution)

Credit: Miodusweski & Miller-Jones, EVLA demo science