

REPORT ON THE RADIO**NET**3 NETWORKING ACTIVITY

TITLE: GERMAN ALMA USERS' MEETING 2014

DATE: Sept 23, 2014

TIME: 1 HOUR

LOCATION: BAMBERG, GERMANY

MEETING WEBPAGE: www.astro.uni-bonn.de/ARC/splinterAGT2014.shtml

HOST INSTITUTE: RHEINISCHEN FRIEDRICH-WILHELMS-UNIVERSITÄT
BONN, FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER-UNIVERSITÄT ERLANGEN-
NÜRNBERG

PARTICIPANTS NO: 20

REPORT:

1. Programme of the meeting

Welcome - S. Mühle, U. Bonn

ALMA: Introduction and Current Status - S. Randall, ESO

Support for (prospective) ALMA Users - S. Mühle, U. Bonn

ALMA Science Highlights - B. Magnelli, U. Bonn

XCLASS: automatic line fitting of ALMA data - A. Sanchez-Monge, U. Cologne

mmVLBI with a phased ALMA - E. Ros, MPIfR

2. Scientific Summary

The Atacama Large Millimeter/Submillimeter Array (ALMA) is a revolutionary interferometer for mm and submm astronomy, located at an elevation of 5000m in the Atacama Desert in Chile. When fully completed, it will offer an increase in sensitivity and angular resolution of up to two orders of magnitude over all previously existing mm/submm interferometers. ALMA is built and operated by a global collaboration between Europe (ESO), North America (NRAO) and East Asia (NAOJ), in cooperation with Chile.

ALMA will consist of 66 antennas in a main array, compact array and as total power antennas. It will perform observations at wavelengths from 0.3 mm to 3.6 mm offering continuum sensitivities of 10^{-5} to 10^{-3} Jy/beam in 60 sec (7.5 GHz bandwidth). It can reach angular and spectral resolutions as small as 0.005" and 0.05 km/s and will deliver science data that have undergone comprehensive quality assessment and pipeline data reduction.

ALMA Regional Centres (ARCs) provide the interface between ALMA and the users and offer support at all stages of an ALMA project. In Europe, the ARC is organised as a network of regional nodes with a central node at ESO, Garching. The German ARC node, the node for the community in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, is hosted by the universities of Bonn and Cologne.

The latest German ALMA Community Days, kindly sponsored in part by RadioNet3, took place on 05-06 November 2013 at the Argelander-Institut für Astronomie in Bonn with the aim of reviewing ALMA's current status and preparing the community for the upcoming Early Science observing cycle 2. The Call for ALMA proposals for Cycle 3 is foreseen for March 2015 and the German ARC node plans to hold Community Days well in advance of the proposal deadline again. In order to bridge the long gap between those two events, the German ARC node invited all astronomers in Germany, Austria and Switzerland to gather for the German ALMA Users' Meeting 2014 in Bamberg on 23 September 2014.

The event took place in connection with the annual meeting of the Astronomische Gesellschaft (German Astronomical Society) in Bamberg on 22-26 September 2014. The goals of this gathering were to reach out to the German, Austrian and Swiss communities of astronomers, to update (prospective) ALMA users on the status and latest developments of ALMA, to foster the communication between the ARC node and the local ALMA communities, and in general to offer a platform for (prospective) ALMA users for discussion and networking.

This was the first time that a meeting of this format was held during a meeting of the Astronomische Gesellschaft. About 20 astronomers, mostly young people, attended the event that

took place during the lunch break of the main meeting. There was no current Call for Proposals and the demand for support of existing ALMA projects was already met by other means, so that only a small number of experienced ALMA users came to Bamberg for this brief event. However, thanks to the inclusive character of the gathering without mandatory prior registration, the meeting fully reached its goal of attracting potential new ALMA users among the local astronomical communities.

3. Attendance list

In line with the inclusive character of the meeting, attendance was not registered by an attendance list. There were 20 participants from Germany / ESO.

4. Financial Report / RadioNet3 contribution

The RadioNet3 contribution of 133,27 € was used for logistics.

5. Conference Proceedings and Web page

All the information regarding this meeting can be found at <http://www.astro.uni-bonn.de/ARC/splinterAGT2014.shtml>.

Given the extensive online documentation available for the topics of all the talks, conference proceedings are not foreseen. Instead, links to the most important sources of information are provided on the meeting webpage.