



WHAT'S NEW?

...MOSTLY THE WEB-BASED OT

Cycle 13 proposal preparation day

Megan Lewis

ALMA Local Expertise Group (Allegro)

Leiden Observatory

March 27, 2026



What's New?

- **Band 2 on the 12m-array !**
- **web-based OT (observing tool) !**

- **Long baselines cycle C1-C10**
- **Improvements to coordinated observations**
- **Improvement to documentation about angular resolution and maximum recoverable scale**
- **Sun-target separation limit strongly enforced**
- **Time-constrained observations need to give all possible dates at time of submission**



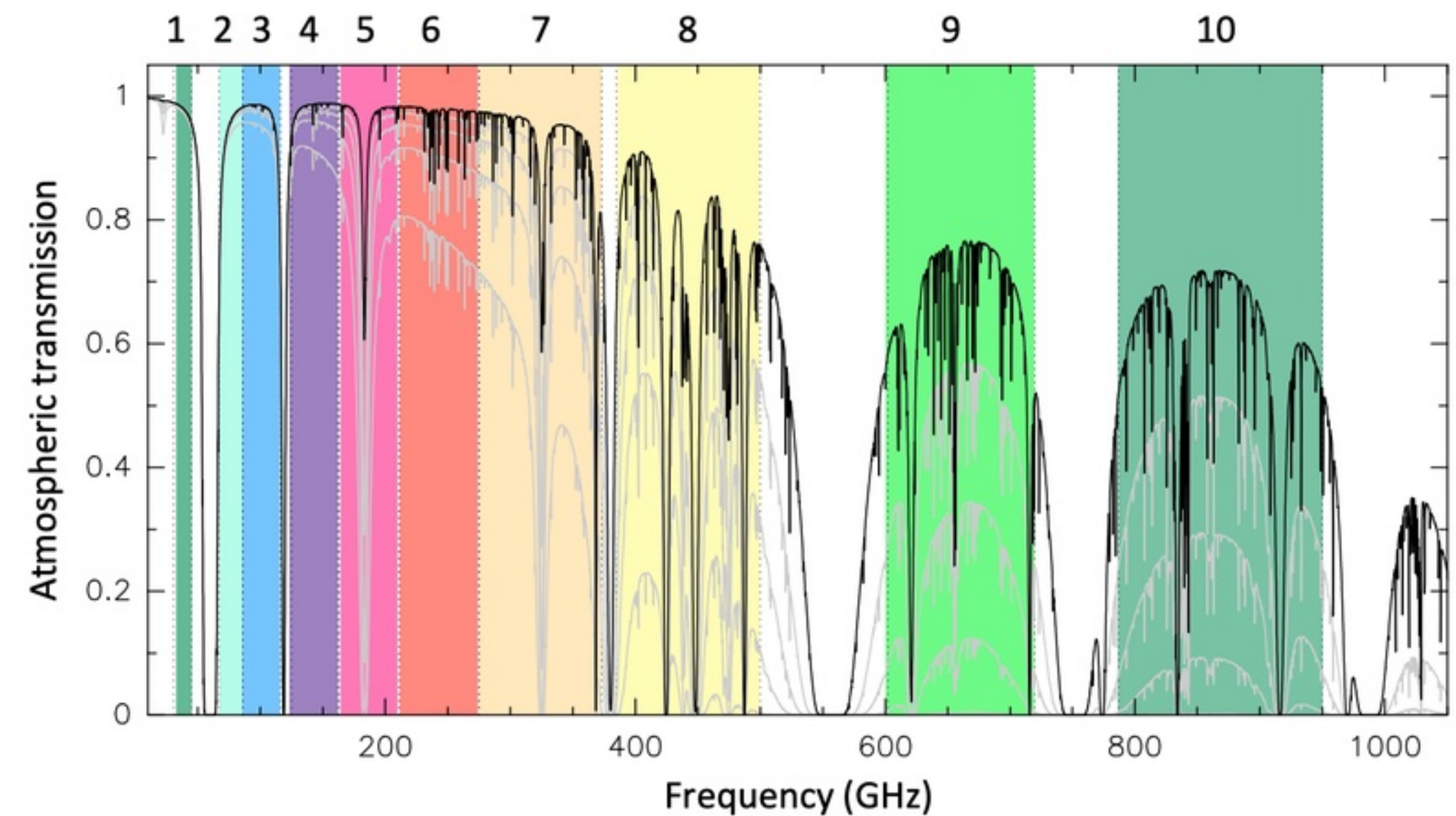
What's encouraged?

- **Stand alone ACA**
- **High frequency (Bands 8-10)**
- **Long-base lines low frequency (Bands 1-4)**



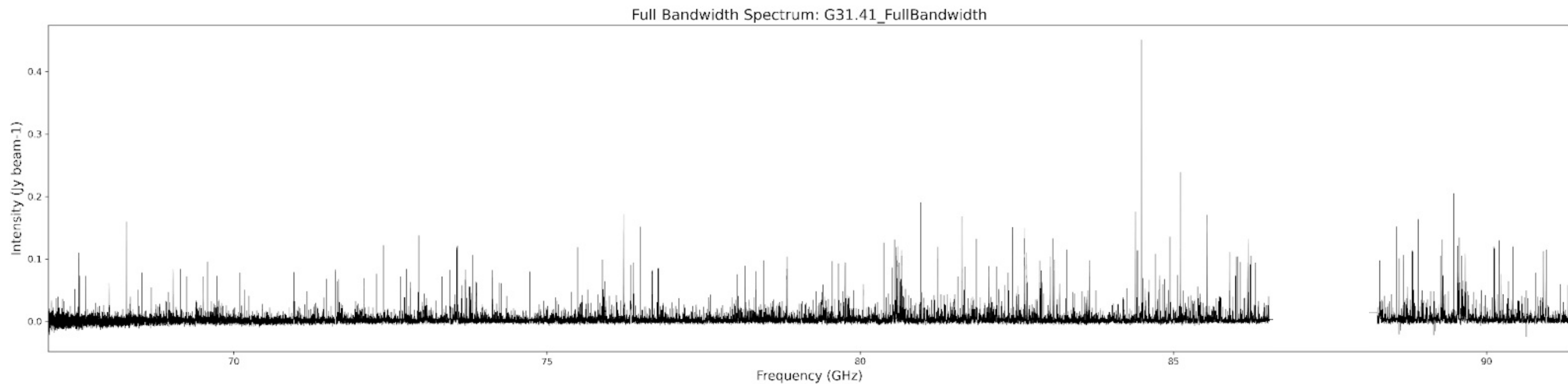
Band 2

- **12m array only**
- **67-116 GHz**
- **Fully overlaps with Band 3 - similar sensitivity**
- **OT will choose 2 or 3 automatically**
- **Full polarization**
- **8 GHz available to place spectral windows**



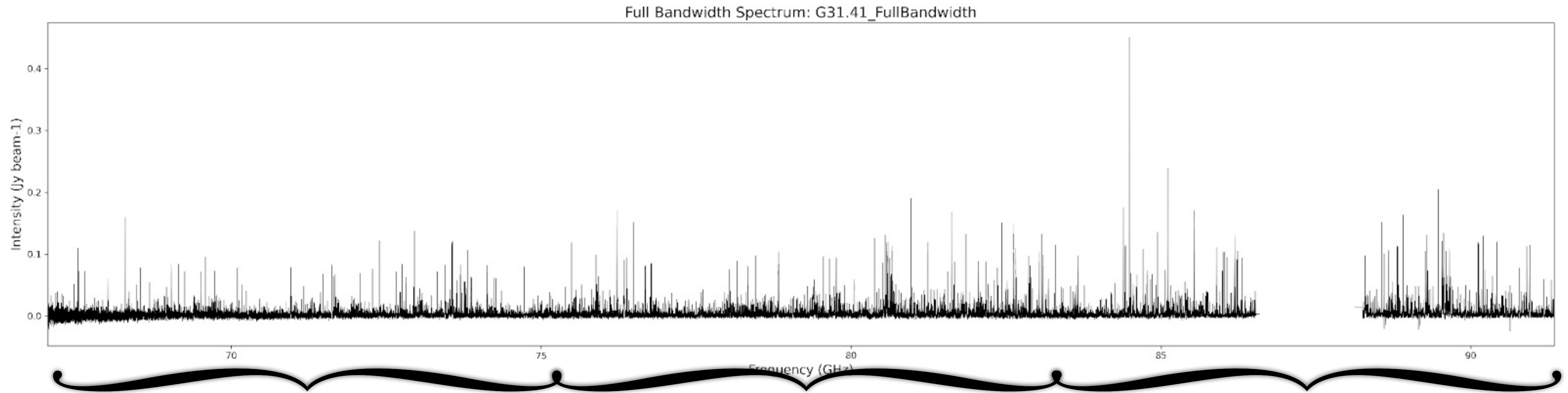


Band 2





Band 2



only 3 tunings!

Observing Tool

- Fully web-based
- Your previously submitted proposals are on a server which you can access
- No more downloading the OT
- No more sending aot files to collaborators
- Autosaving every 2 sec
- This is a beautiful change
- ...but be careful who you add to your proposal and when

A screenshot of the ALMA Observing Tool web interface. The browser address bar shows "cycle-13.sps.alma.cl/ngot/science-goals/science-plan#science-plan-table". The page title is "ALMA Observing Tool" and the subtitle is "A new water fountain system? The mm emission from a nascent pre-pla...". The interface includes a navigation bar with "Proposal" and "Science Plan" tabs. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for "Project Overview", "Time Summary", and "Data Volumes & Data Rates". The main content area displays a table of Science Goals with columns: Science Goal Name, No. Sources, Band, Spec. Type, No. Spec. Wind, Pol., Calibration Setup, Rep. Freq., Ang. Res., and Largest Sci. The table lists three bands: Band 1, Band 3, and Band 6. A sidebar on the left shows a tree view of the Science Plan structure, including "Band 1", "Band 3", and "Band 6", each with sub-items like "General" and "Field setup".

Science Goal Name	No. Sources	Band	Spec. Type	No. Spec. Wind	Pol.	Calibration Setup	Rep. Freq.	Ang. Res.	Largest Sci
Band 1	1	1	Spectral Line 4		Dual	System	42.10000 GHz	30.13389 arcsec	1.00000 arc
Band 3	1	3	Spectral Line 4		Dual	System	86.15000 GHz	14.72591 arcsec	1.00000 arc
Band 6	1	6	Spectral Line 4		Dual	System	230.53800 GHz	5.50284 arcsec	1.00000 arc



Links

- **Call for proposals:** <https://almascience.eso.org/proposing/call-for-proposals>
- **Proposer's guide:** <https://almascience.eso.org/documents-and-tools/cycle13/alma-proposers-guide>
- **Technical handbook:** <https://almascience.eso.org/documents-and-tools/cycle13/alma-technical-handbook>
- **Helpdesk:** <https://help.almascience.org/>

- **OT:** <https://almascience.eso.org/proposing/observing-tool>
- **Tutorial for OT:** <https://almascience.eso.org/proposing/observing-tool/video-tutorials>
- **User manual for OT:** <https://almascience.eso.org/documents-and-tools/cycle13/alma-ot-usermanual>