



Next Generation Very Large Array

# A next-generation Very Large Array (ngVLA)

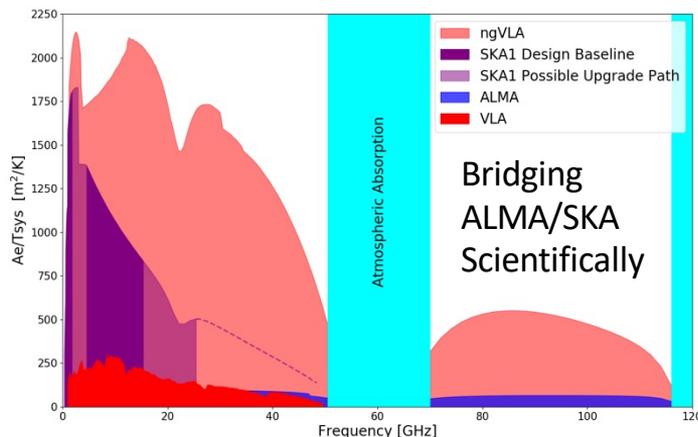
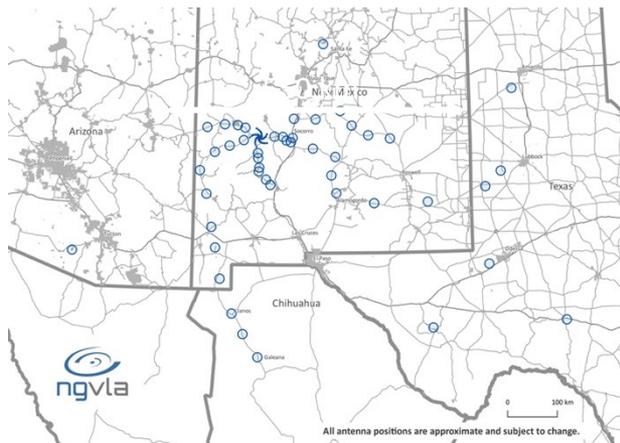
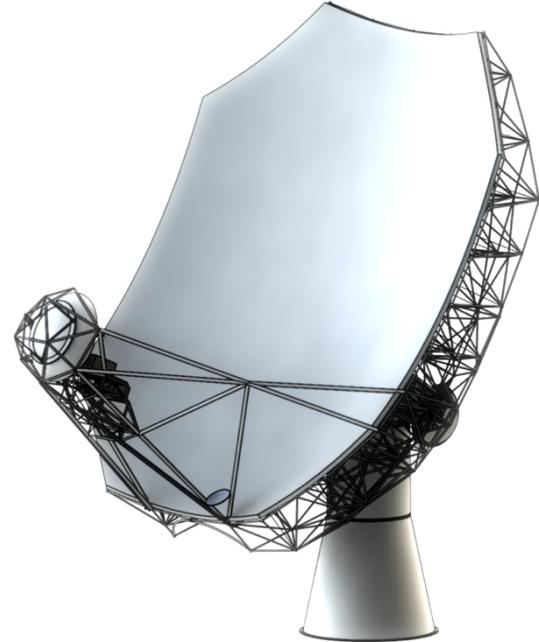
Eric J. Murphy – ngVLA Project Scientist

[ngVLA.nrao.edu](http://ngVLA.nrao.edu)



# A next-generation Very Large Array (ngVLA)

- Scientific Frontier: **Thermal imaging at milli-arcsec resolution**
- Sensitivity/Resolution Goal: **10x sensitivity & resolution of JVLA/ALMA**
- Frequency range: **1.2 –116 GHz**
- Located in Southwest U.S. (NM, TX, AZ) & MX, centered on VLA
- Low technical risk (reasonable step beyond state of the art)



Complementary suite of meter-to-submm arrays for the mid-21<sup>st</sup> century

- < 0.3 cm: ALMA 2030
- 0.3 to 3 cm: ngVLA
- > 3 cm: SKA

<http://ngvla.nrao.edu>

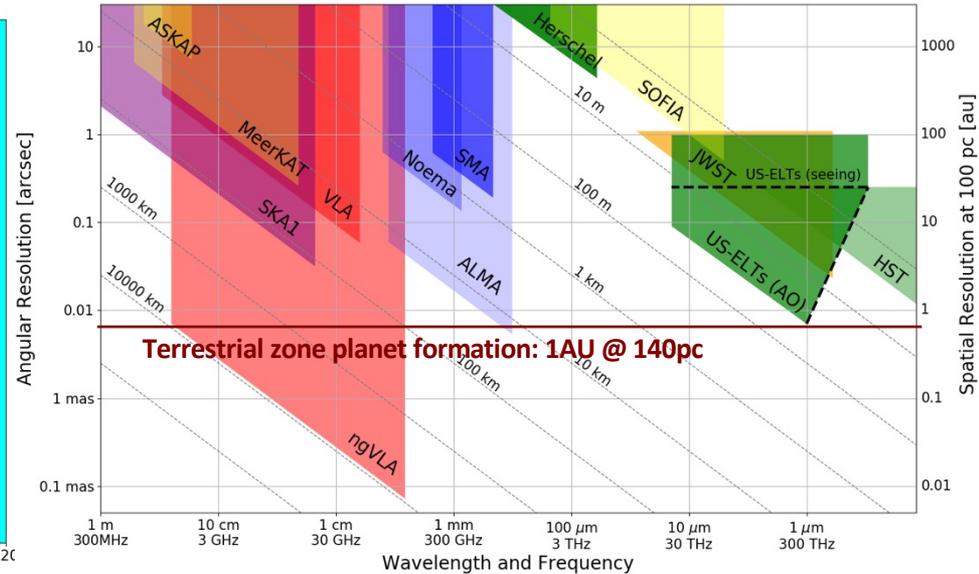
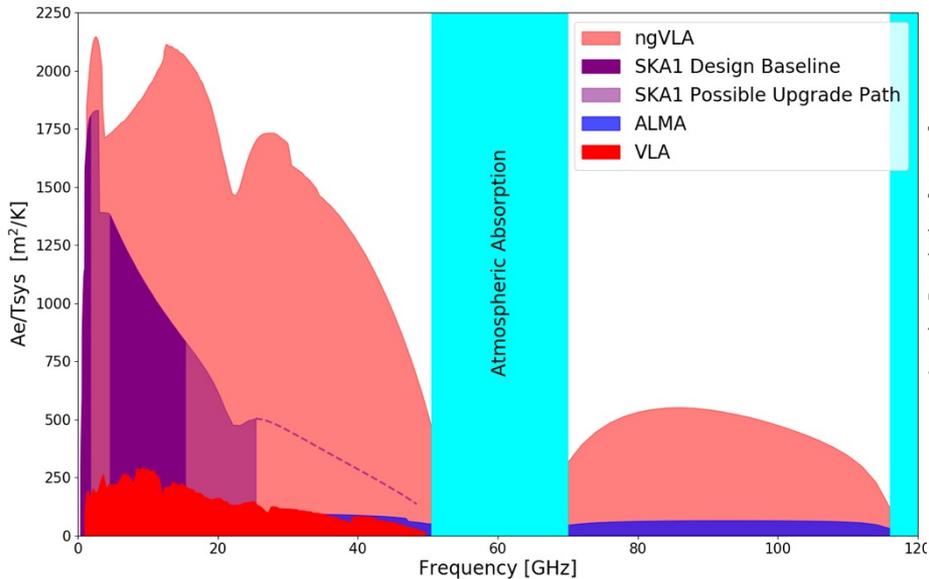


# ngVLA Key Science Goals (ngVLA memo #19)

1. *Unveiling the Formation of Solar System Analogues on Terrestrial Scales*
2. *Probing the Initial Conditions for Planetary Systems and Life with Astrochemistry*
3. *Charting the Assembly, Structure, and Evolution of Galaxies Over Cosmic Time*
4. *Using Pulsars in the Galactic Center as Fundamental Tests of Gravity*
5. *Understanding the Formation and Evolution of Stellar and Supermassive BH's in the Era of Multi-Messenger Astronomy*

# Bridging SKA & ALMA Scientifically

Thermal Imaging on mas Scales at  $\lambda \sim 0.3\text{cm}$  to  $3\text{cm}$

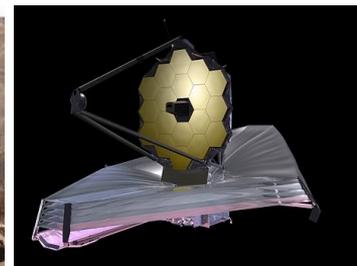
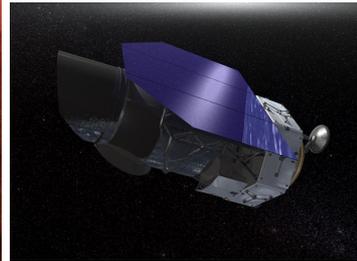
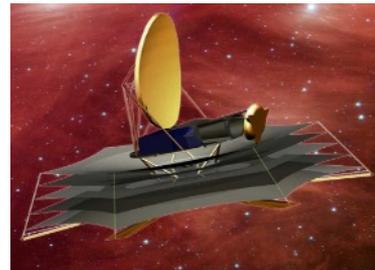
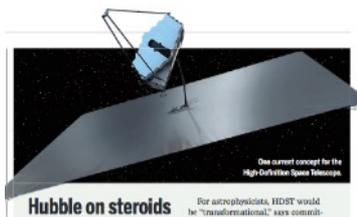
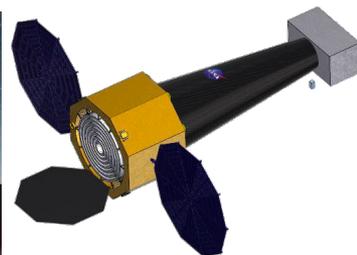


Complementary suite from cm to submm arrays for the mid-21<sup>st</sup> century

- **< 0.3cm:** ALMA 2030 superb for chemistry, dust, fine structure lines
- **0.3 to 3cm:** ngVLA superb for terrestrial planet formation, dense gas history, baryon cycling
- **> 3cm:** SKA superb for pulsars, reionization, HI + continuum surveys

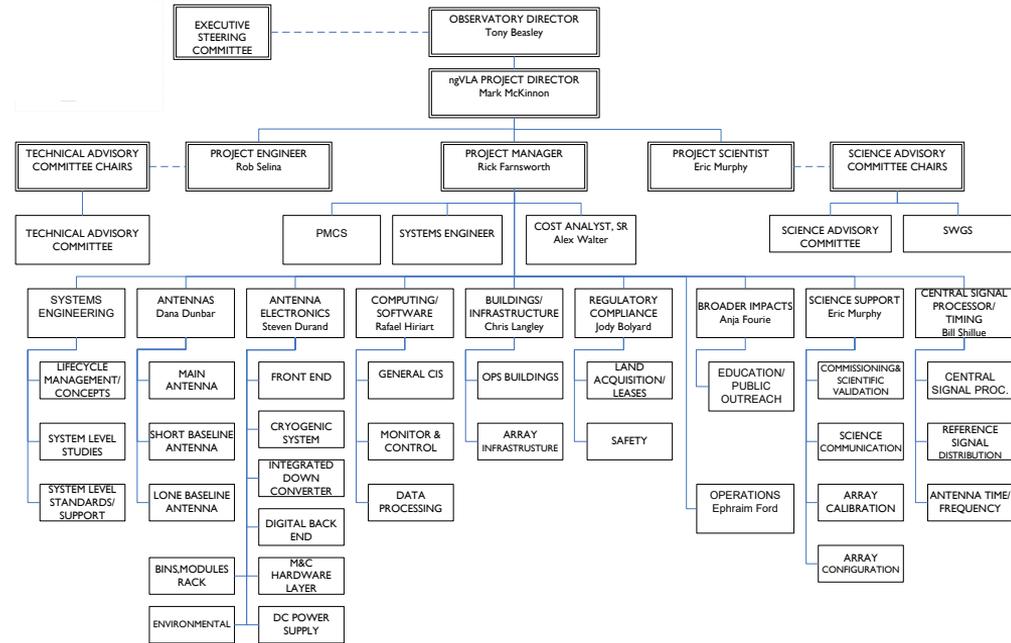
# Highly Synergistic with Other Facilities on Similar Timescales

- SKA/Lynx
  - Atomic/non-thermal
  - *Molecular/thermal*
- ALMA
  - Warm/star-forming
  - *Cold/dense fuel for SF*
- LUVOIR/HabEx
  - Image earth-like planets
  - *Image terrestrial-zone planets forming*
- OST (FIR surveyor)
  - C/WNM & WIM
  - *Cold Molecular Medium*
- TMT/GMT
  - *Stellar Mass and Unobscured SF*
  - *Dense Gas and Obscured SF*
- JWST/WFIRST
  - *Continuing its legacy in many areas of astrophysics*



# ngVLA Project

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY  
ngVLA  
DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT  
As of October 2019



## Project Office leadership team:

- Project Director: Mark McKinnon
- Project Manager: *Chris Langley*
- Project Scientist: Eric Murphy
- Project Engineer: Rob Selina
- Cost Analyst: Alexia Nalewaik
- System Engineer: Thomas Kusel

## • 10 Integrated Product Teams (IPTs).

## • MREFC-style project definition.

## • Actively engaged science and technical advisory councils.

# ngVLA

## Science Advisory Council

- Interface between the Community & NRAO -- Est. Sept 2016
- Recent/Current Activities:
  - Lead SWGs: science use cases → telescope requirements
  - SOC for science meeting in June 2017/2018/2019
  - Lead Science case development → ‘Science Book’ & Astro2020 White Papers
  - Document Review: e.g., Sci Reqs, Ops Con, Ref Observing Program, etc.
  - Help with preparation of Astro2020 APC white papers



### Executive Committee

Alberto Bolatto (Maryland: **co-Chair**)

Andrea Isella (Rice: **co-Chair**)

Brenda Matthews (NRC–Vic: **SWG1 Chair**)

Danny Dale (Wyoming: **SWG2 Chair**)

Dominik Riechers (Cornell: **SWG3 Chair**)

Joseph Lazio (JPL: **SWG4 Chair**)

Shri Kulkarni (Caltech)

James Di Francesco (NRC–Vic)

### International Participation



東京大学  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO



RIKEN

UNIVERSITY OF  
ALBERTA



# Strong Community Participation



Cornell University



# 2018 Science Meeting

- Meeting was science-focused and wavelength agnostic
  - Brought together a broad cross—section of community
- 3 Parallel Sessions:
  - Origins of Exoplanets and Protoplanetary Disks
  - Mechanisms of Galaxy Evolution
  - Black Holes and Transient Phenomena
- 200+ registrants and **70+ students!** - We are creating our next-generation of users

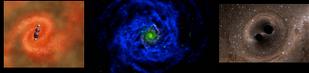


## Astrophysical Frontiers in the Next Decade: Planets, Galaxies, Black Holes, & the Transient Universe

June 26-29, 2018  
Hilton Downtown Portland  
Portland, Oregon USA

This conference will bring a large cross-section of the community together to discuss how to address the highest-priority astrophysical questions of our time. Parallel sessions will focus on:

- Exoplanet and Protoplanetary Disk Origins
- Galaxy Evolution Mechanisms
- Black Holes & Transient Phenomena



**PLENARY SPEAKERS**

Ilse Cleeves (CIA/UVa)	Michael Kramer (Max Planck)
Sebastian Heinz (UW Madison)	Alex Pope (UMass)
Andrea Isella (Rice U)	Karin Sandstrom (UCSD)

**SGC CHAIRS**

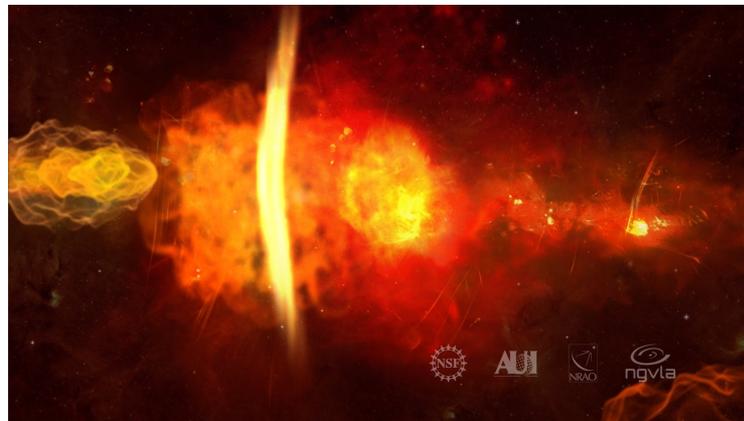
Cedric Geary (UT Austin), Laura Chomiuk (MSU), Brenda Matthews (NRC, Canada)
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   <http://go.nrao.edu/ngVLA18>



# 2019 Science Meeting: Radio/mm Astrophysical Frontiers in the Next Decade

- 25-27 June, 2019 in Charlottesville:  
<http://go.nrao.edu/ngVLA19>
- Focus on compelling Astro2020 Science WPs requiring cm/mm observations.
- Early Career participation strongly encouraged
  - Housing covered for presenting students



# First Internationally-Led Science Meeting!

*Broad Participation Largely Dominated by Early Career Astronomers*

- NAOJ-ngVLA Science Meeting: September 16-20, 2019 in Mitaka, Japan
- **~100 Participants!**
- Forward looking talks covering broad scientific interests.



# Successful Community Engagement Activities

*Broad Participation Largely Dominated by Early Career Astronomers*

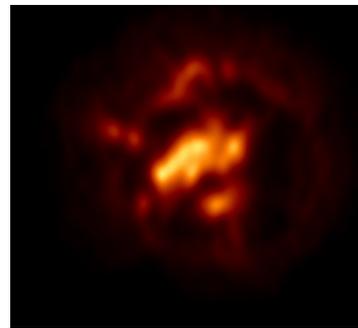
<http://go.nrao.edu/ngVLA18>



<http://go.nrao.edu/ngVLA19>



- Science Meetings
- Short Talk Series
- Community Studies
- ngVLA Town Hall



ngVLA Short Talk Series



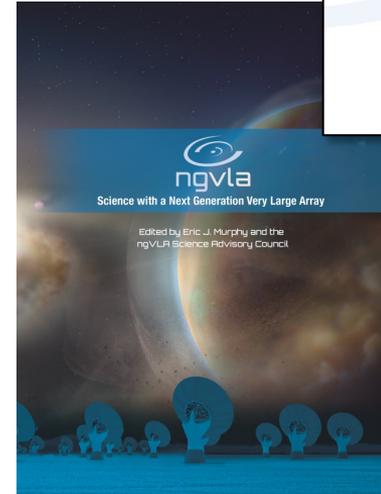
Compact Objects and Energetic Phenomena in  
the Multi-Messenger Era

July 14-15, 2020

Virtual Mini-Conference

# Science and Technical Documentation

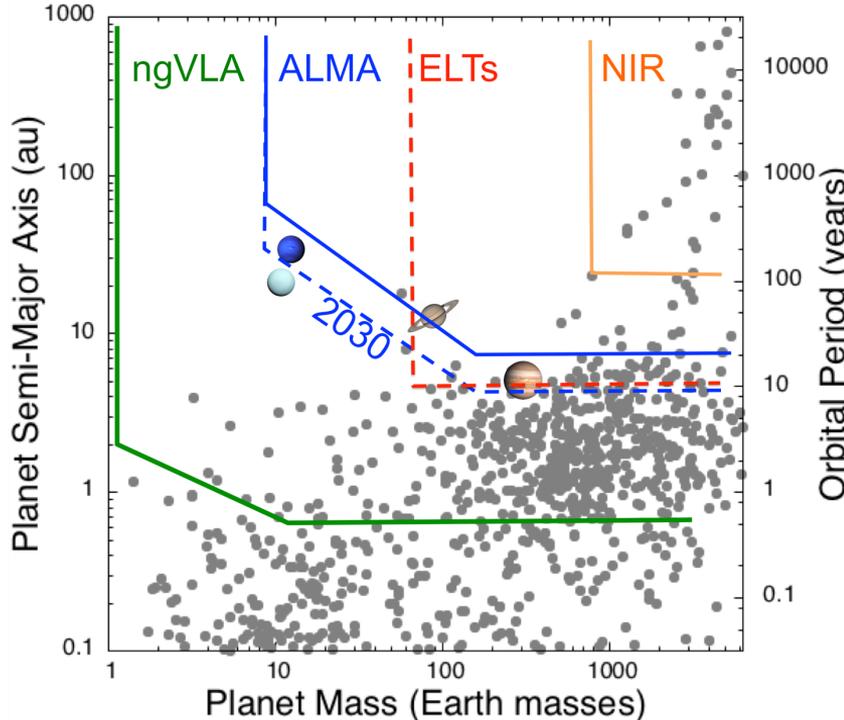
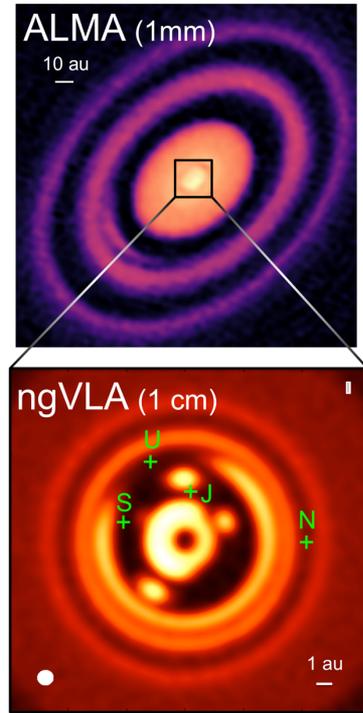
- **ngVLA Science Book published** (Dec 2018)
- Facilitated community **submission of ngVLA science white papers** to Astro2020 Decadal Survey (Jan 2019)
  - 15% specifically mentioning ngVLA
- **Submitted ngVLA facilities (APC) white paper** to Astro2020 Decadal Survey (Jul 2019)
- **ngVLA Reference Design Concept completed** (Aug 2019)
  - <https://ngvla.nrao.edu/page/refdesign>
- **Presented to Astro2020 RMS Panel** (Dec. 2019)
- **Submitted (120 pg) Response to Astro2020 Decadal Survey RFI** (Nov. 2019) + Second Response (Mar. 2020)



<https://ngvla.nrao.edu/page/projdoc>

# KSG1: Unveiling the Formation of Solar System Analogues

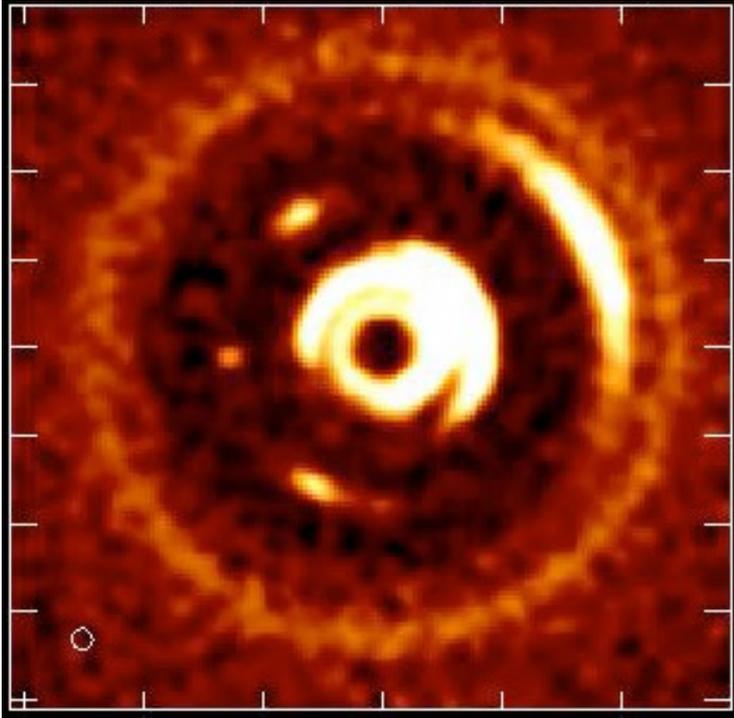
*The ngVLA will measure the planet IMF down to ~5-10 Earth masses and unveil the formation of planetary systems similar to our own Solar System.*



- ALMA observation of HD163296 at 1mm along with a simulated 1 cm ngVLA observations (Ricci et al. 2019) of the innermost 24 au region at 1 au resolution for Jupiter-, Saturn-, and Neptune-like planets.
- The distribution of exoplanets and young planets embedded in circumstellar disks: Then ngVLA will discover many hundreds of planets with orbital periods <10 Myr.

# KSG1: Unveiling the Formation of Solar System Analogues

*The ngVLA will measure the orbital motion of planets and related features on monthly timescales.*



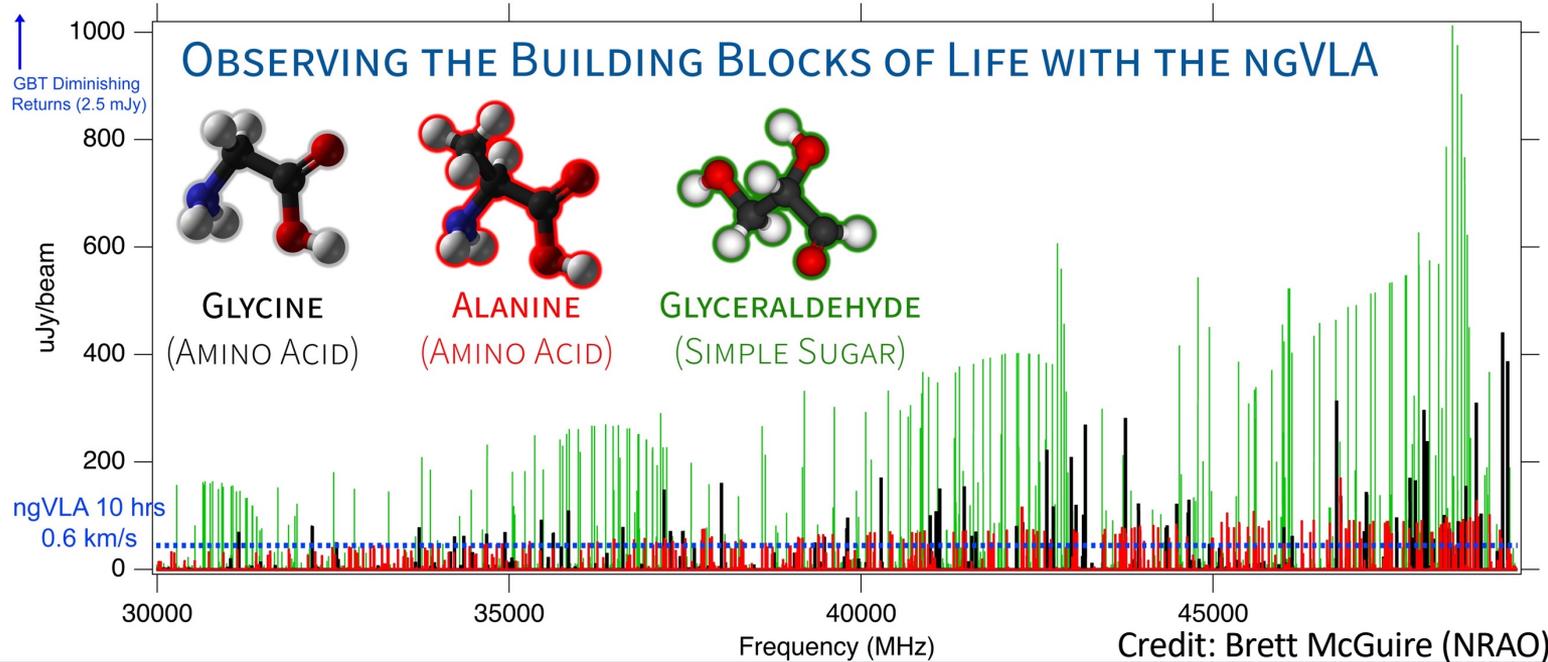
*The ngVLA will measure the planet IMF down to ~5-10 Earth masses and unveil the formation of planetary systems similar to our own Solar System.*

Simulated 100 GHz ngVLA observations of a newborn planetary system comprising a Jupiter analogue orbiting at 5 AU from a Solar type star.

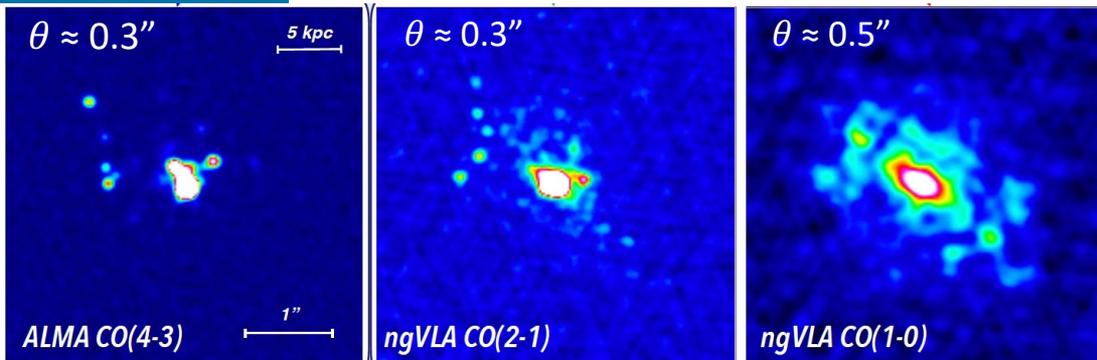
Ricci et al. (2018)

# KSG2: Probing the Initial Conditions for Planetary Systems and Life with Astrochemistry

The ngVLA can detect complex pre-biotic molecules and provide the chemical initial conditions in forming solar systems and individual planets

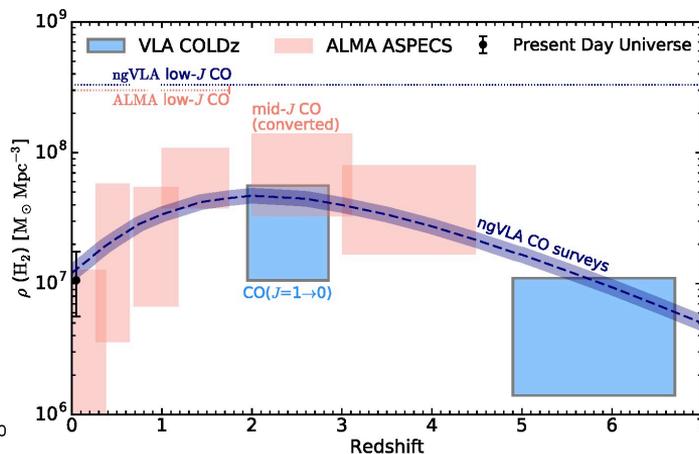
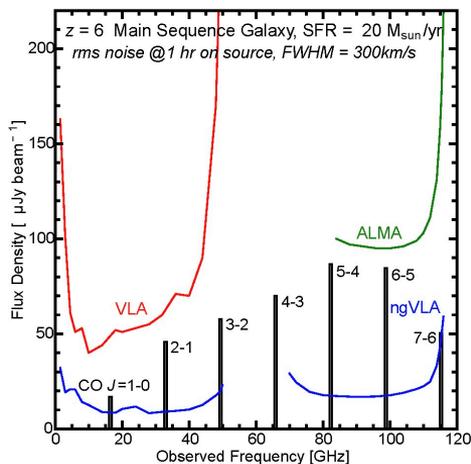


# KSG3: Charting the Assembly, Structure, and Evolution of Galaxies from the First Billions Years to the Present



SMG at  $z = 4.4$ ;  $SFR \approx 400 M_{\odot} / \text{yr}$   
**Total molecular gas content largely missed by high-J lines**

Credit: Caitlin Casey (UT Austin)

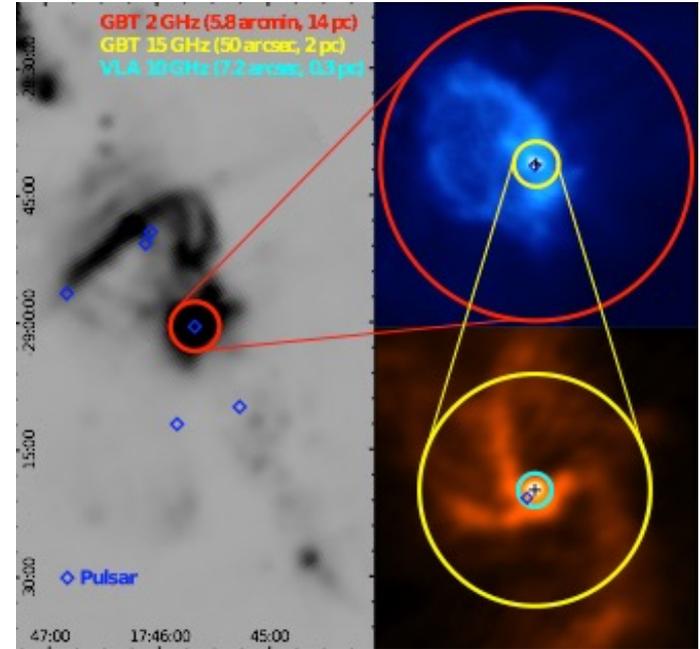


The ngVLA will routinely detect molecular gas in “normal” galaxies at  $z=6$  via **low-J transitions that remain inaccessible to ALMA.**

The ngVLA will provide  $>10x$  improvement in our knowledge of the cold molecular gas content throughout cosmic time.

# KSG4: Using Pulsars in the Galactic Center as Fundamental Tests of Gravity

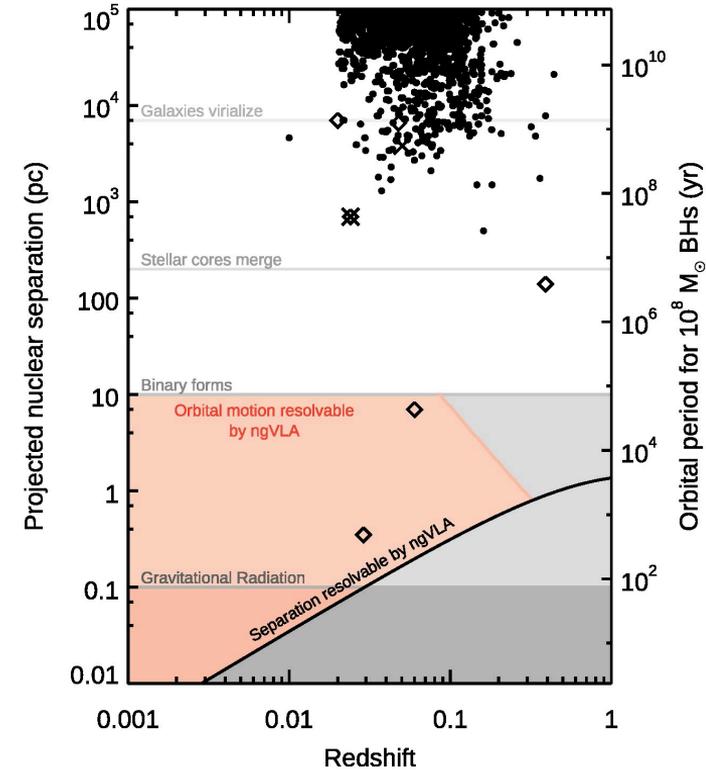
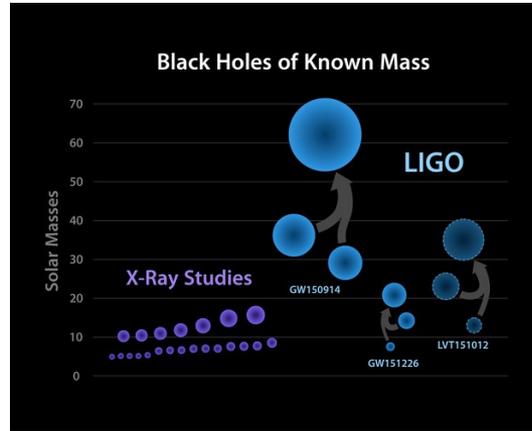
- The ngVLA sensitivity and frequency coverage will probe deeper than currently possible into the GC area looking for pulsars, which are moving clocks in the space-time potential of Sgr A\*
- New tests of theories of gravity, constraints on exotic binaries, SF history, stellar dynamics and evolution, and ISM at the GC
- Estimates are as high as 1,000 PSRs. Only known example is PSR J1745-2900 magnetar, which are extremely rare (<1%)



Credit: R. Wharton

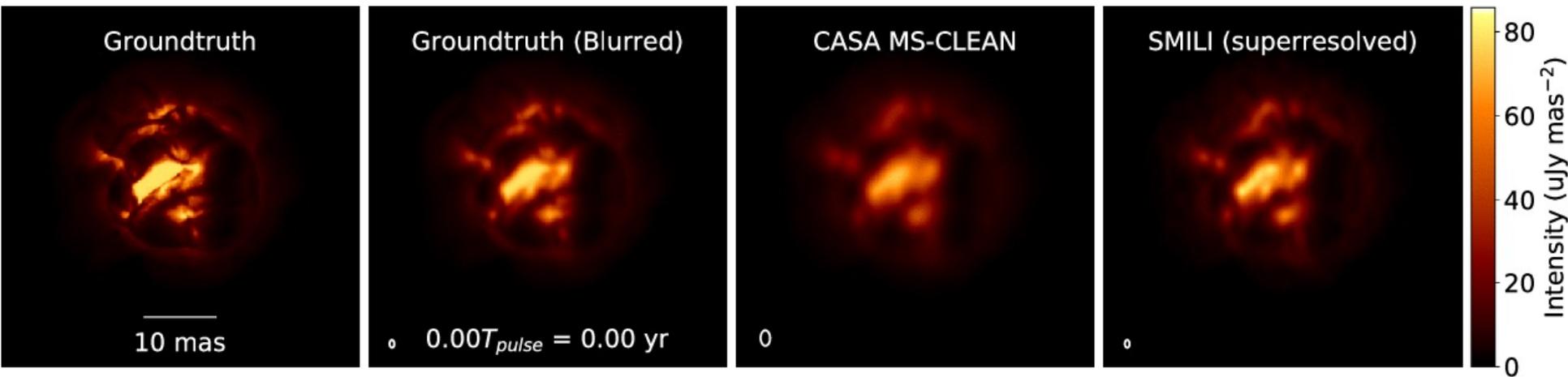
# KSG5: Understanding the Formation and Evolution of Black Holes in the Era of *Multi-Messenger Astronomy*

- Unaffected by dust obscuration, the ngVLA's sensitivity and angular resolution will be able to:
  - Resolve dual AGN and BH binaries.
  - Measure proper motions over 5 year periods (orange shaded region), including sources detect by GWs
- Search for BHs across all masses, including weakly accreting BHs in the MW via proper motions



# Science Highlight: Star Formation and Stellar Evolution

*The ngVLA will measure the in-situ gas motions from material shed around AGB stars.*



Simulation based on 3D hydrodynamic model of AGB star Atmosphere from Freytag et al. (2017):

- ngVLA Main Array at 46 GHz
- 1.5 mas  $\sim$  0.04 stellar radii at  $d=150\text{pc}$
- 1.3 year pulse period
- Observed every 2-3 weeks

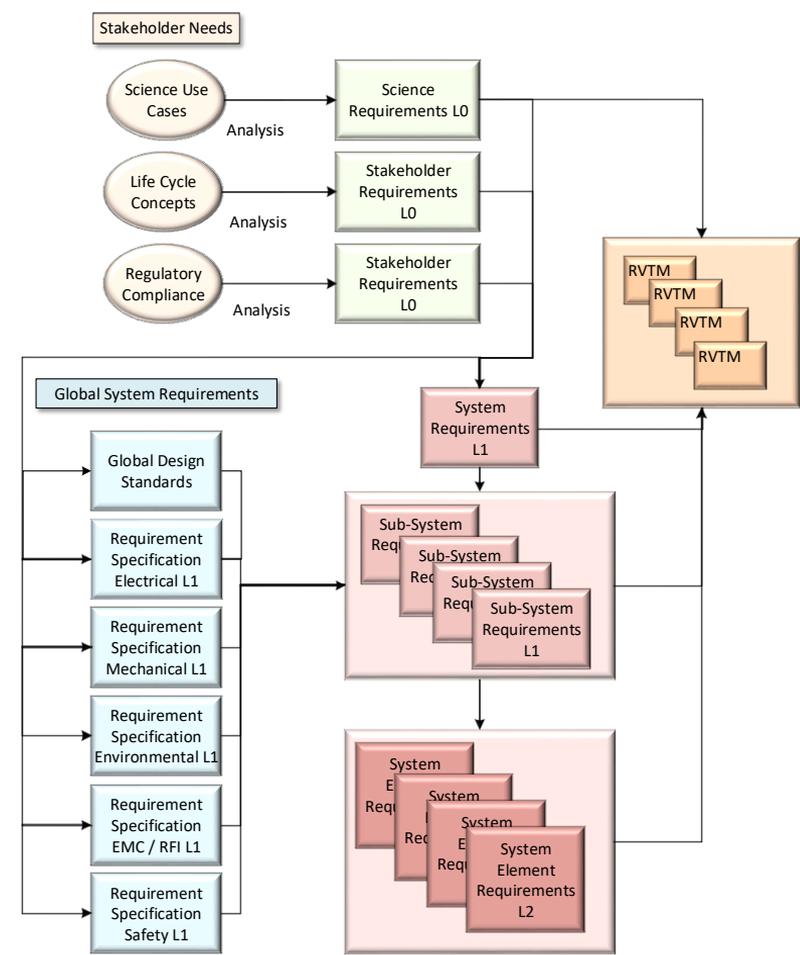
**ngVLA Memo #66**

Credit: K. Akiyama & L. Matthews  
based on models from B. Freytag

**Supported by ngVLA Comm Study Program**

# Requirements Flow-Down

- Begins with Science Use Cases (>80)
  - Distilled into ~200 unique observations
- Prioritization by SAC
  - 5 KSGs born out of various use cases
- Converted into Level 0 Science Reqs.
  - 37 Requirements to support KSGs
    - 18 Functional Reqs.
    - 19 Performance Reqs.
- Translated into Level 1 Technical Reqs.
  - 180+ System Level Reqs.
- **Next Step: Full Level 2 Technical Reqs.**



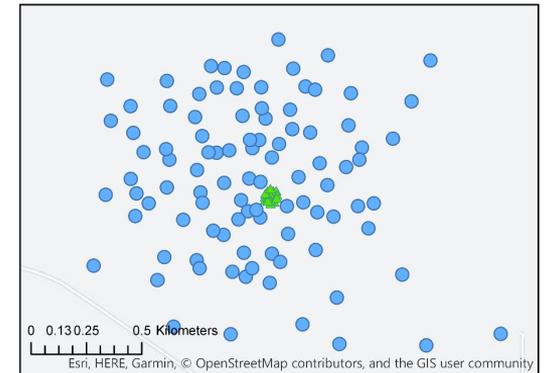
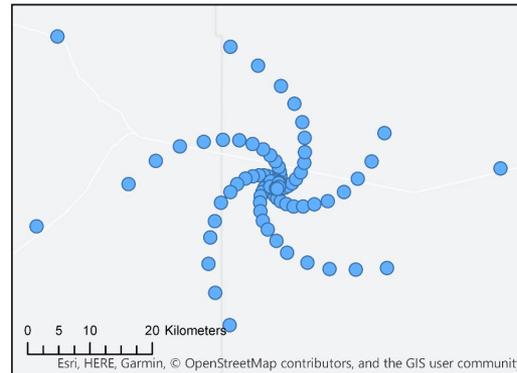
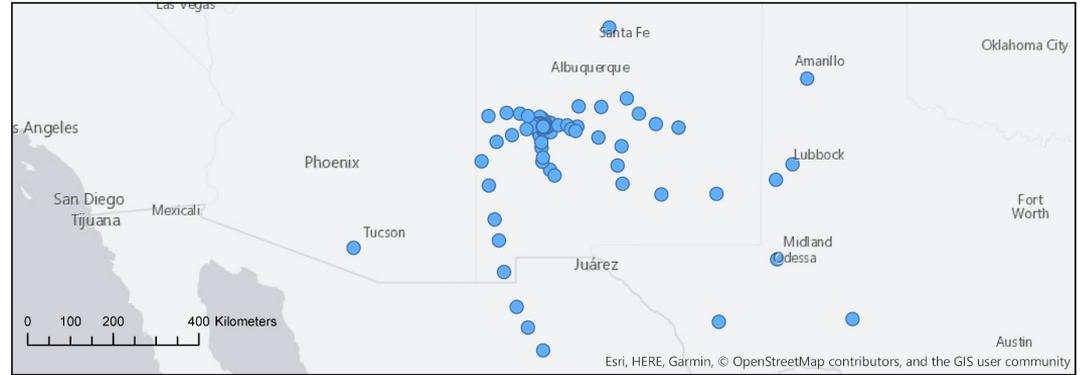
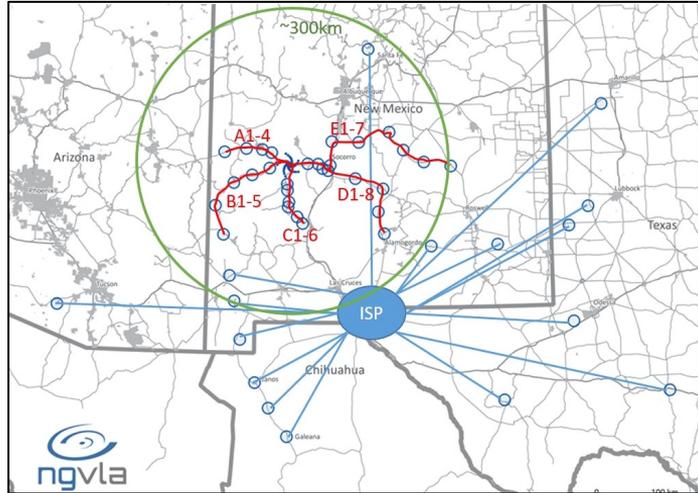


- **1.2 - 116 GHz** Frequency Coverage
- **Main Array:** 214 x 18m offset Gregorian Antennas.
  - Fixed antenna locations across NM, TX, AZ, MX.
- **Short Baseline Array:** 19 x 6m offset Greg. Ant.
  - Use 4 x 18m in TP mode to fill in ( $u, v$ ) hole.
- **Long Baseline Array:** 30 x 18m antennas located across continent for baselines up to 8860km.

Band #	Dewar	$f_L$ GHz	$f_M$ GHz	$f_H$ GHz	$f_H: f_L$	BW GHz
1	A	1.2	2.35	3.5	2.91	2.3
2	B	3.5	7.90	12.3	3.51	8.8
3	B	12.3	16.4	20.5	1.67	8.2
4	B	20.5	27.3	34.0	1.66	13.5
5	B	30.5	40.5	50.5	1.66	20.0
6	B	70.0	93.0	116	1.66	46.0

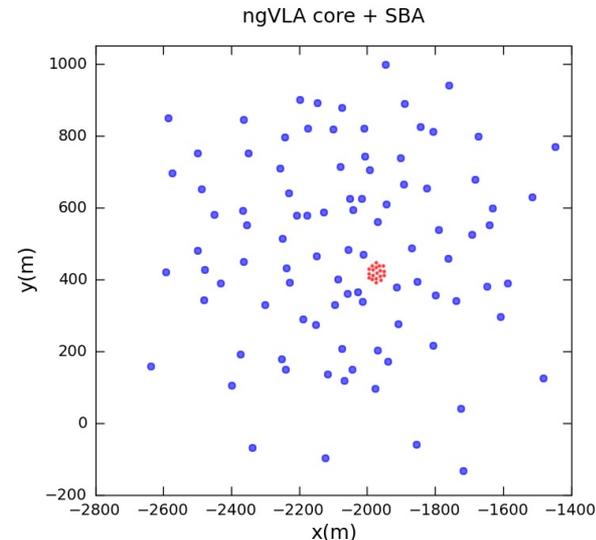
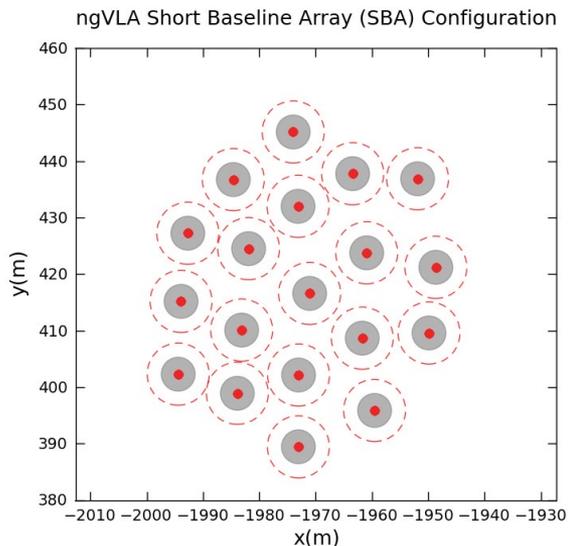
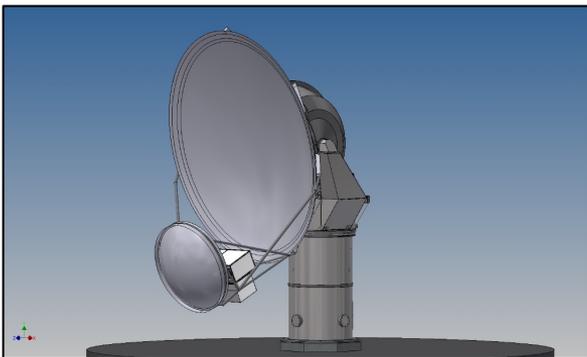
# The Main Array (MA) Configuration

Radius	Collecting Area Fraction
$0 \text{ km} < R < 1.3 \text{ km}$	44%
$1.3 \text{ km} < R < 36 \text{ km}$	35%
$36 \text{ km} < R < 1000 \text{ km}$	21%



# Short Baseline Array (SBA)

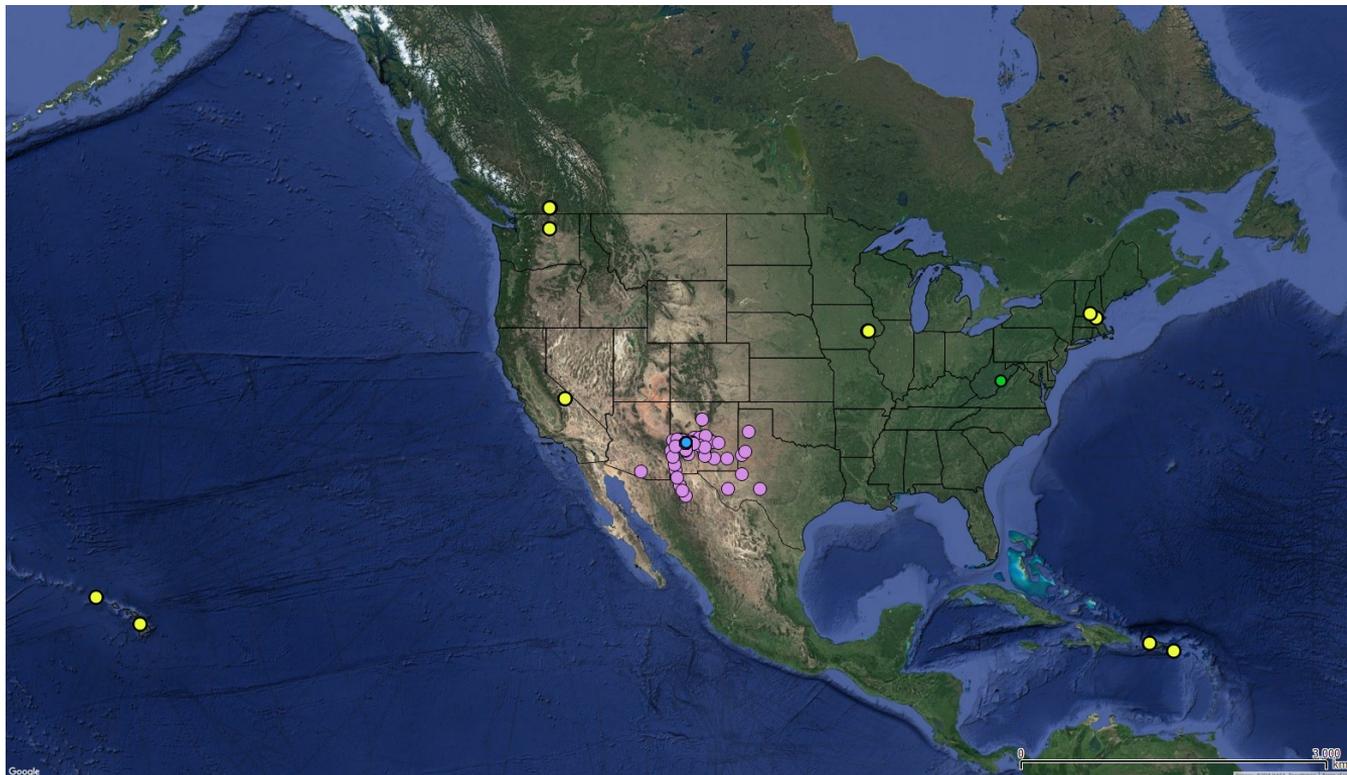
- SBA of 19 x 6m
- Total Power Array of 4 x 18m (included as part of the 214 main array).



# Long Baseline Array (LBA)

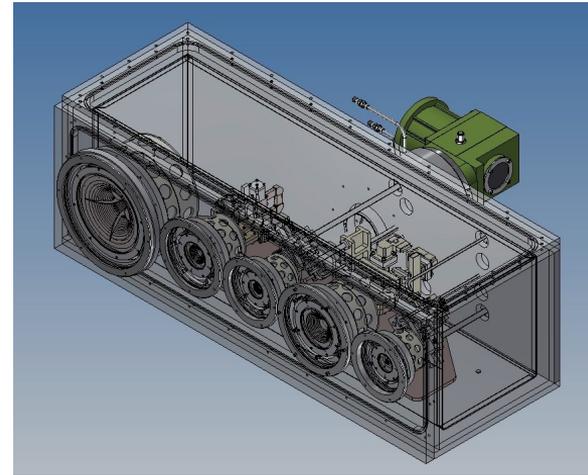
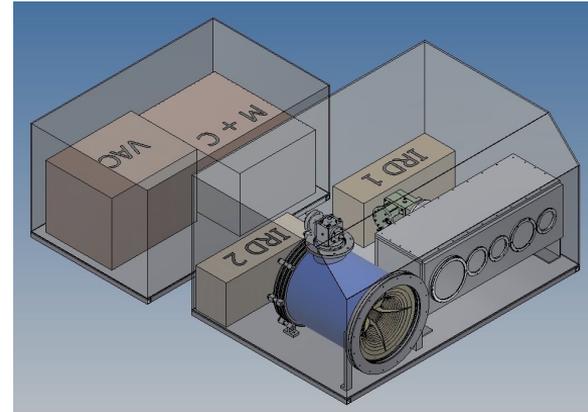
- 30 Antennas at 10 sites.
- Balance between Astrometry & Imaging Use Cases.

Qty	Location	Notes
3	Puerto Rico	Arecibo Site
3	St. Croix	Existing VLBA Site
3	Kauai, Hawaii	Kokee Park Geo. Obs.
3	Hawaii, Hawaii	Not MK Site
2	Hancock, NH	Existing VLBA Site
3	Green Bank, WV	GBO
2	Brewster, WA	Existing VLBA Site
3	Penticton, BC	DRAO
4	North Liberty, IA	Existing VLBA site.
4	Owens Valley, CA	Existing VLBA site.



# Front End Concept

- 6 Bands in 2 Cryogenic Dewars
- 1.2-3.5 GHz and 3.5-12.3 GHz Quad-Ridge Horns, 3.25:1 bandwidth, coaxial LNAs.
- 12.3-50.5 GHz using three 1.67:1 BW corrugated horns and waveguide LNAs.
- 70-116 GHz 1.67:1 BW corrugated horn and waveguide LNAs with block down conversion.
- Single stage down-conversion to baseband for 5 bands. Direct SSB or IQ sampling using modular devices @ FE.
- Two-stage Gifford-McMahon cryogenic system with variable-speed cryocoolers and compressors for reference design.



# Antenna Concept

NRC 18m

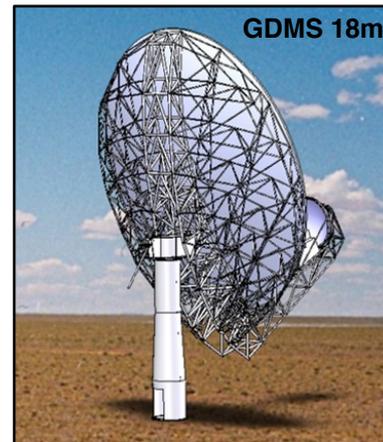


- **Feed Low:** Maintenance requirements favor a receiver feed arm on the low side of the reflector.
- **Mount concept:** Leaning towards pedestal concepts for life-cycle cost. W/T under evaluation.
- **Drives:** All motor-gearbox; gearbox and linear drives; all direct drive, etc.
- **Materials:** Traditional Al panels & steel BUS; composite reflector and mix of steel and carbon BUS.

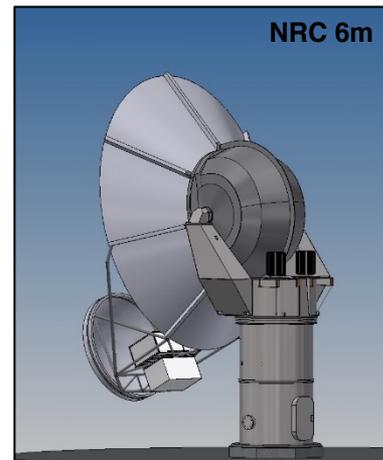
## Key Specifications

18m Aperture	Offset Gregorian
Shaped Optics	4° Slew & Settle in 10 sec
Surface: 160 $\mu\text{m}$ rms	Referenced Pointing: 3" rms

GDMS 18m



NRC 6m



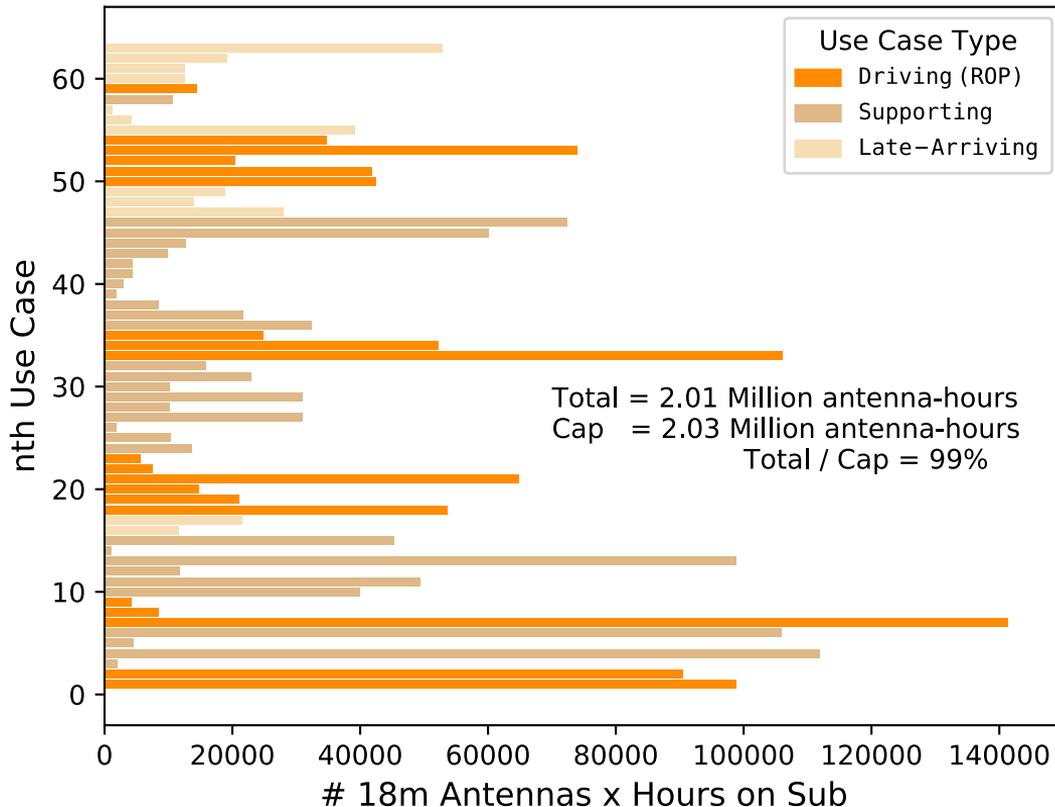
# S/W and Computing Considerations

- **Operations Concept:** SRDP (Science Ready Data Products) Telescope
  - Both for 1<sup>st</sup> Observations and Archive projects.
- **Post Processing:** Analysis shows that storing the raw visibilities will be tractable when ngVLA goes into operations.
  - Data processing is post-facto, with system sized for average throughput.
  - Average Data Rate – 7.6 GB/s. Designed for 320 GB/s peak.
  - 4 hr. observation – 109 TB. Requires ~1000 cores to process in a few days.
- **Computing:** 2B Core-hr: Challenging, but can be met w/ COTS cluster.
  - Set by time resolution, spectral resolution, and multi-faceting in imaging
  - Some low-frequency, full-beam, AW-projection cases restricted in early operations.

# Anticipated Usage

- Built a **Reference Observing Program (ROP)** for a 70% “learning” year
  - Driving use cases only
  - Filled ~ 2000 hours
  - For Astro2020
  - *Demonstrates we can achieve KSGs*
- Build an **Envelope Observing Program (EOP)** for a 95% “typical” year
  - All use cases
  - Fill 8330 hours
  - *To inform Computing needs and Ops Concept*

ngVLA Expected Observing Program - Version 2020 Aug 12



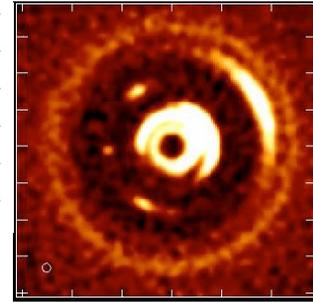
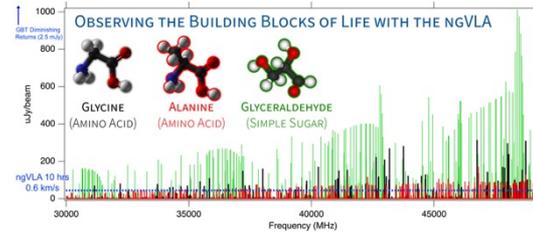
# Current Goals & Initiatives

- Current goals:
  - Be ready to react to a positive Astro2020 Decadal Survey outcome.
    - Currently expected this month (June 2021)
  - Advance the ngVLA Conceptual Design for NSF MREFC Candidacy
- Current initiatives:
  - Continue to build and hone the ngVLA science case
    - Driven by the community and coordinated by NRAO
    - Update/incorporate additional science cases to ngVLA Science Book
  - Develop ngVLA Conceptual Design and Requirements Baseline
    - Finalize antenna design and prototype
    - Work towards a finalized Conceptual Design to be external reviewed in Q1 FY22

# Status & Performance

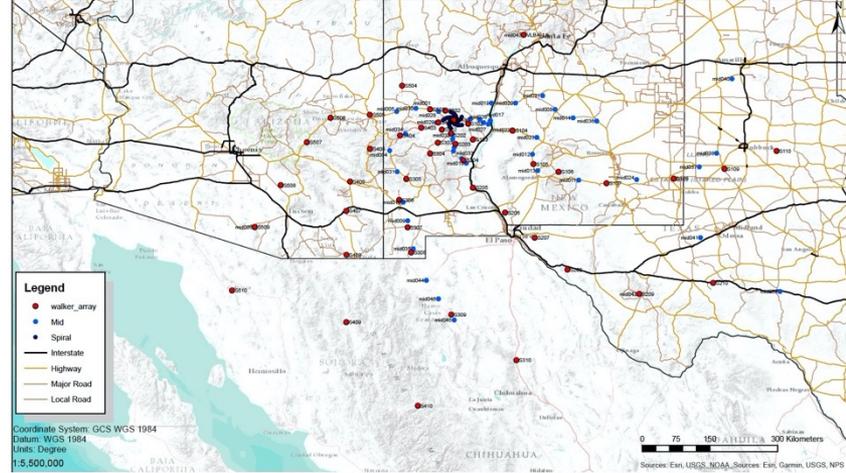
- ngVLA now funded through its own Cooperative Support Agreement with NSF
- Continue strong community engagement and participation through ngVLA SAC and sponsored events
- Updating requirements and retiring existing risks through management and systems engineering
- Awaiting NSF/MSIP award to fund prototype antenna.
- Continuing to identify and develop Broader Impact/Participation Opportunities with IPTs vis a strategic communication plan.

# FY20 Activities

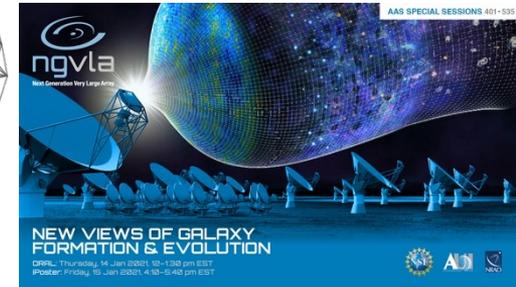
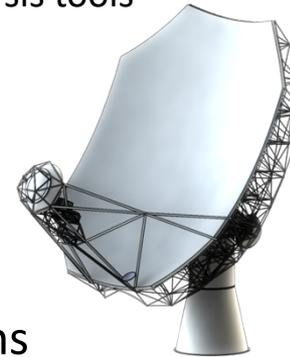


- ✓ **Respond/Present to Astro2020 Program Panel RFIs**
  - Presented to RMS Panel (Feb. 2020) + Response to 2<sup>nd</sup> RFI (Mar. 2020)
- ✓ **Submit MSIP proposal for antenna detailed design and prototype**
  - Validated antenna used to support ongoing university-based intensity mapping experiment (i.e., Caltech/COMAP-EoR)
- ✓ **Conduct System Requirements external review**
- ✓ **Support ngVLA technical meetings**
  - SPIE Astronomical Telescopes & Instrumentation, *San Diego (Dec 13-18)*
  - NARSM 2020, Montreal (July 5-10 – *Virtual*)
- ✓ **Support ngVLA science meetings**
  - *Compact Objects in the Multi-Messenger Era,*
    - *Virtual (July 14 – 15, 2020) + Saint Paul MN (Jun 23 – 25, 2021)*
- **Test 5 WVRs on VLA Antennas w/ new Tipping Radiometer**
- **Continue to Develop ngVLA Broader Impact/Participation Plan**

# FY21 Activities



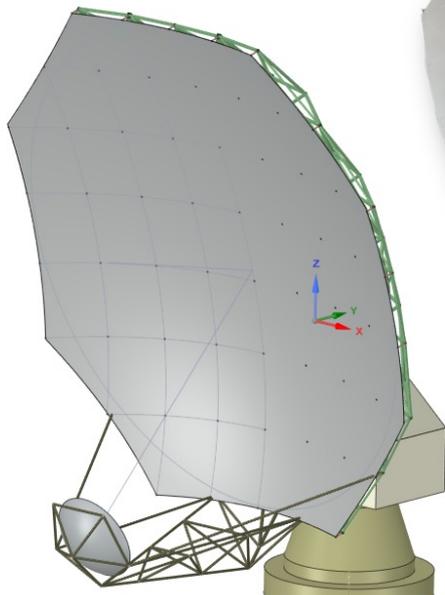
- Hosted Special Session at AAS
- Supporting ngVLA Community Studies
  - 7 approved and 4 funded
- Hired new ngVLA Research Associate
- Document Prep. for FY22 Conceptual Design Review (**Requirements Baselined**)
  - Substantial update to the configuration and simulation analysis tools
  - CSV Test Planning
  - Software Requirements Capture
  - Observing Mode Calibration Strategy
  - ...
- Awaiting MSIP Funding for Antenna Final Design and Prototype Kickoff
- Ramp up on Preliminary Design on all major systems



# ngVLA Antenna Development

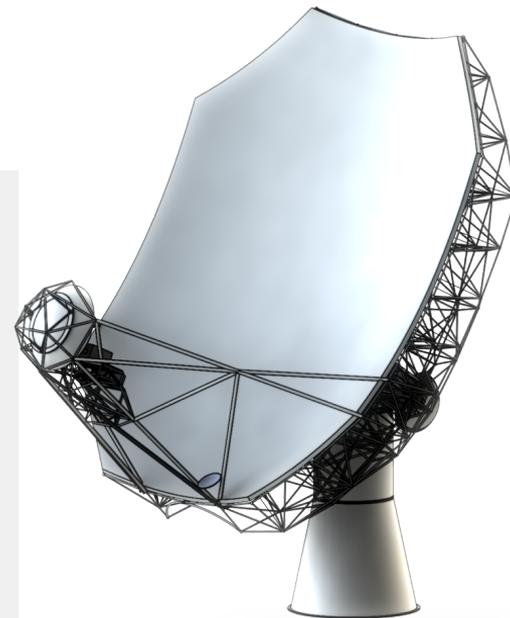
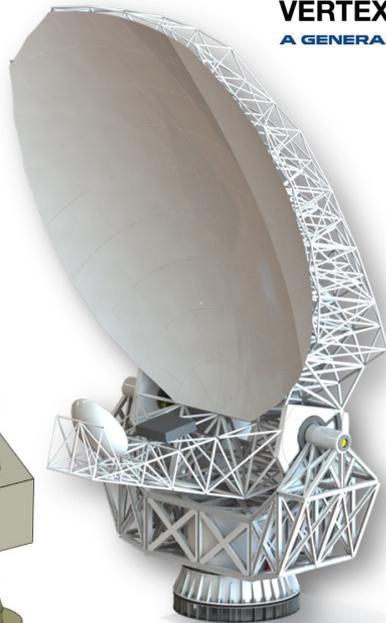
VERTEX ANTENNENTECHNIK GmbH

A GENERAL DYNAMICS COMPANY



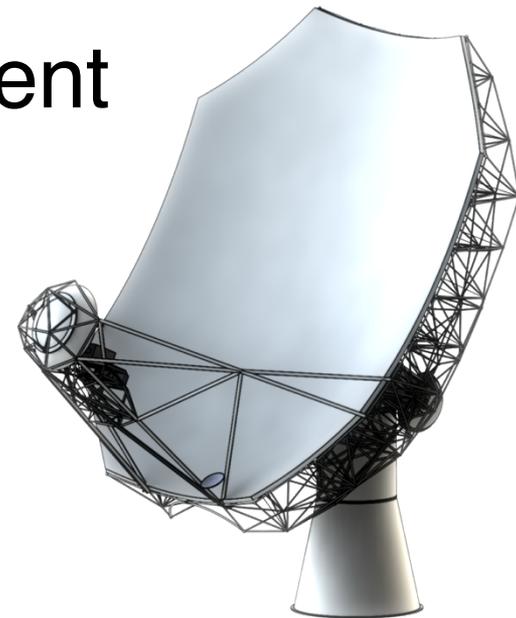
 **MT MECHATRONICS**

An OHB  
Company



mtex | antenna technology

# ngVLA Antenna Development

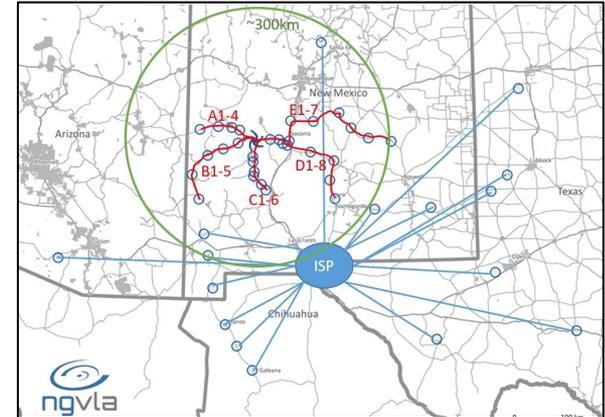


- Contract Awarded to mtex
- Antenna contract contains 4 options
  - Baseline – Preliminary Design Phase 1
  - Option 1 - Preliminary Design Phase 2
  - Option 2 - Prototype Development
  - Option 3 – Final Design
- FY21 antenna budget supports the Baseline option
- NSF MSIP funding supports the 3 remaining options
  - Does not include Project Office Funding

# Broader Initiatives

- Supporting Astro2020 Decadal Survey (TRACE)
- Building University, Industrial and International Partnerships
- Education and Public Outreach Campaign.
- Broadening Participation
- Fostering Broader Impacts to the Community (e.g. Rural Broadband)

## NRAO Broadening Participation Research & Training Experiences Pipeline Grade School through Professional



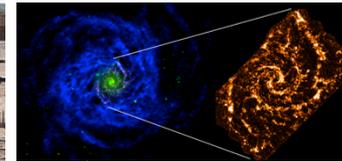
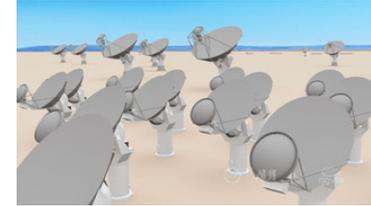
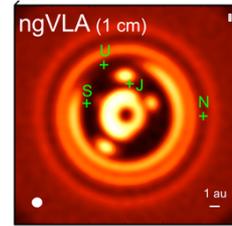
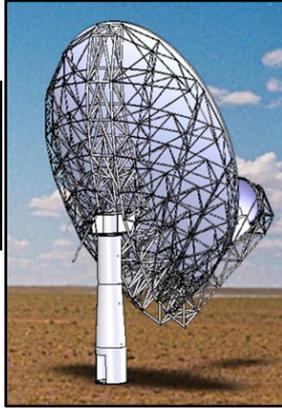
# Cost Estimate: Const. & Ops.

- Most recent cost estimate for construction:
  - **\$1.9B** in 2018 base-year dollar point estimate, **\$2.25B** risk adjusted.
  - Seeking ~25% International Partner Contributions (discussions underway),  
⇒ **<2018\$1.4B U.S. Contribution to ngVLA, <\$1.7B risk adjusted**
- Target operations budget of **2018\$92.7M/yr** (core: 85M/yr + extended: 8M/yr).
  - Operations, maintenance, computing, archiving, etc. Optimize as part of design.
  - Expect changes to Observatory-wide administration & science operations model.

# Project Timeline

**Astro 2020**  
Decadal Survey on Astronomy and Astrophysics

The National Academies of  
SCIENCES  
ENGINEERING  
MEDICINE



2019

2021

2023

2025

2028

2034

ngVLA  
Submission  
to Astro2020

Prototype Delivered  
to VLA Site

Submit ngVLA Proposal to  
NSF/MREFC

Astro2020 Recommendation Published

Complete NSF/MREFC FDR

ngVLA Construction →

Initiate ngVLA Early Science  
(> VLA capabilities)

Achieve Full  
Science Operations

