

ALMA Telescope

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ALMA Telescope Latest News

Recently, astronomers have captured the central region of our Milky Way and unveiled a complex network of filaments of cosmic gas in unprecedented detail with the help of the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) telescope..

About ALMA Telescope

- **Location:** The **Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA)** is a **radio telescope** located in the **Atacama Desert in Chile**.
- It is a **state-of-the-art radio-telescope** that studies **celestial objects at millimetre and submillimetre wavelengths**.
- It has been fully functional since 2013.
- It was designed, planned and constructed by the US's **National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO)**, the **National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ)** and the **European Southern Observatory (ESO)**.

Properties of ALMA Telescope

- It also has **extraordinary sensitivity**, which allows it to detect even extremely faint radio signals.
- It consists of **66 high-precision antennas**, spread over a **distance of up to 16 km** in the **Atacama Desert** of northern Chile.
- These antennas can be moved closer together or farther apart for different perspectives – like the zoom lens of a camera.

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Major Discoveries of ALMA Telescope

- In 2013 it discovered **starburst galaxies** earlier in the universe’s history than they were previously thought to have existed.
- It provided detailed images of the **protoplanetary disc surrounding HL Tauri** — a very young T Tauri star in the constellation Taurus, approximately 450 light years from Earth.
- It helped scientists observe a **phenomenon known as the Einstein ring**.
 - **The Einstein ring** occurs when light from a galaxy or star passes by a massive object en route to the Earth, in extraordinary detail.

Source: **Phy.Org**

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