

## LLAMA: A NEW MM AND SUBMM OBSERVING FACILITY

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**The current status of the project LLAMA, acronym of *Large Latin American Millimetre Array* is very briefly described in this paper. This project is a joint scientific and technological undertaking of Argentina and Brazil on the basis of an equal investment share, whose main goal is both to install and to operate an observing facility capable of exploring the Universe at millimetre and sub/millimetre wavelengths. This facility will be erected in the Argentinean province of Salta, at a site located 4830m above sea level.**

### 1. GENERAL

LLAMA, that stands for *Large Latin American Millimetre Array*, is a joint scientific and technological undertaking of Argentina and Brazil on the basis of an equal investment share, whose main goal is both to operate an observing facility at millimetre and sub-millimetre wavelengths.

The construction phase of this facility is being financed by Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovative Production (MINCyT, Argentina), Government of Salta province (Argentina), and Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP) from Brazil.

This facility will be erected in the northwestern extreme of Argentina, in the region known as Alto Chorrillos located some 20 km westwards from the town of San Antonio de los Cobres (SAC), and about 180 km to the south-southeast of the place where both ALMA and single dishes like APEX and ASTE are located.

The instrument will be able to carry out observations in two modes, namely: *a*) the stand alone mode, and *b*) the VLBI mode. In the first mode it will be observed as a radiometer on its own, whilst in the second one it may be, together with ALMA, APEX, and/or ASTE part of a local VLBI network.

The antenna constructed by Vertex may be arriving into Zárate port (Argentina) by early August 2017, and by early/mid November 2017 should be arriving at Alto Chorrillos, its final erection site.

It is worth mentioning that LLAMA will also allow solar observations to be carried out.

Last, but not least, it should be emphasized that this observatory will be open to the world astronomical community on the basis of collaboration with astronomers of both funding countries.

Updated information on this project can be found in its web page (<http://www.llamaobservatory.org>).

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