



# **EVLA Construction Status**

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- Fundamental Goal: By building on existing infrastructure, multiply ten-fold the VLA's observational capabilities.
- Full frequency coverage from 1 to 50 GHz.
  - 8 frequency bands with cryogenic receivers.
  - Two separately-tunable polarization pairs, with no restrictions on their tuning (unlike current VLA).
- 1 μJy point-source continuum sensitivity (most bands)
- New correlator with 8 GHz/polarization capability
  - 16384 minimum channels/baseline with full polarization
  - Full recirculation capability for increased flexibility
  - 128 independently tunable frequency slots.
- Noise-limited full-beam imaging in all Stokes parameters.



## Organization

- Work on EVLA is subdivided into 11 WBS elements
- EVLA project is embedded within NRAO-NM Operations
  - Benefits from effort contributed by operations
  - But, can be adversely affected by low operations budget



#### **EVLA Organization Chart**





## **Budget**

- Funding
  - \$59M total from NSF @ ~\$5M/year through 2011
  - WIDAR correlator (~\$17M) from Canadian partner
  - \$2M from Mexican partner
  - ~\$16M in NRAO-Ops contributed effort
- Project contingency
  - In January 2007, contingency increased to highest level in project history (16% of cost to complete)
  - Currently, contingency is estimated at \$2.9M (11.3%)
    - Could be as low as \$2.2M (8.6%) depending upon outcome of upcoming negotiation on joint software development effort with ALMA
- Descope Options
  - Not considering at this time
  - Possibilities:
    - Solar mode ... \$0.2M
    - X-band ... \$1.0M
    - Ku-band ... \$1.3M



Project contingency, as percent of cost to complete the project, for all actions approved by the control change board as of March 2007





### Schedule

- Coarse schedule:
  - Last antenna Q2 2010
  - Correlator operational Q3 2010
  - Last receiver (X) Q3 2013
- On track to achieve goal of retrofitting 12 antennas to the EVLA design by Sep 30, 2007 (see Perley talk)
  - Account for over 25% of VLA antenna hours
  - In Sep 2006, accelerated rate for antenna retrofits as schedule recovery measure
- Correlator delivery paces "real" EVLA capability (see Rupen talk)
  - Install prototype correlator (testing only) Q2 2008
  - Begin board installation for final correlator – Q2 2009
    - Complete installation Q2 2010









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- Maintain antenna retrofitting rate
  - Potential impact of VLBA tiger team visits in summer 2007
- Continue to expedite receiver production
  - Continue focus on C-band OMT and Ka-band receiver for new, early, science capability?
- Closely monitor correlator progress, and expedite schedule where possible
- Ensure software delivery is matched to hardware capabilities (see Butler talk)
  - Near term: Monitor and control, observation preparation, and post-processing software for prototype correlator
  - Mid term: Ongoing development of user-facing software
  - Long term: Algorithm development for wide-band, wide-field imaging

