

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

JOINT DEVELOPMENT GROUP
FOR THE
MILLIMETER ARRAY

Recognizing that the Millimeter Array (MMA) proposed by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) will be a major advance in the capability to study astronomical phenomena at short radio wavelengths; that the MMA builds upon the pioneering work underway at the Berkeley-Illinois-Maryland Array (BIMA) and the Owens Valley Radio Observatory (OVRO); and that the expertise in the university millimeter-wave interferometry groups can and should be utilized in developing the MMA; the NRAO, BIMA, and OVRO agree to form a Joint Development Group (JDG) for the purpose of organizing and conducting development work required for the MMA.

It is agreed that federal funds designated for MMA development and made available to AUI/NRAO will be allocated to development activities both at the NRAO and at the universities as defined by an annual Development Plan. This Plan will be prepared by NRAO in consultation with the JDG and presented to the National Science Foundation (NSF) as part of NRAO's annual Program Plan. The JDG will maintain a continuous review of progress in all sub-elements of the overall development program to ensure the timely availability of results necessary to the successful completion of the project.

The JDG will include at-large members from other university groups or organizations invited to join the effort by the NRAO after consultation with the principals to this MOU. Meetings of the JDG will be chaired by the NRAO Director or his designated representative. The JDG will begin to function immediately, even though funds for MMA development are unlikely to be available before 1992 at the earliest. NRAO will cover the travel and meeting costs for these initial activities out of regular operations funds until they can be covered from funds specified for the MMA.

The organization of MMA development activities by the JDG established through this MOU should not be construed as limiting either continuing development of millimeter-wavelength technology by the university groups following the MMA development phase or the overall responsibility of the NRAO for the entire MMA project.

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