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Lessons from ALMA Software Development

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The Atacama Large Millimeter/Submillimeter Array (ALMA) is among the largest ground-based astronomical projects undertaken to date. The SKA will face many of the same challenges as ALMA: development in a distributed environment, deployment in a remote location, and a large international collaboration plus the technical challenges of building a complex, flexible and cutting edge instrument.

I will present a few of the lessons learned thus far during the construction of ALMA, both technical and managerial, and some strategies for addressing similar issues in the design and construction of the SKA.

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