Introduction to Imaging in CASA



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Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array
Expanded Very Large Array
Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope
Very Long Baseline Array



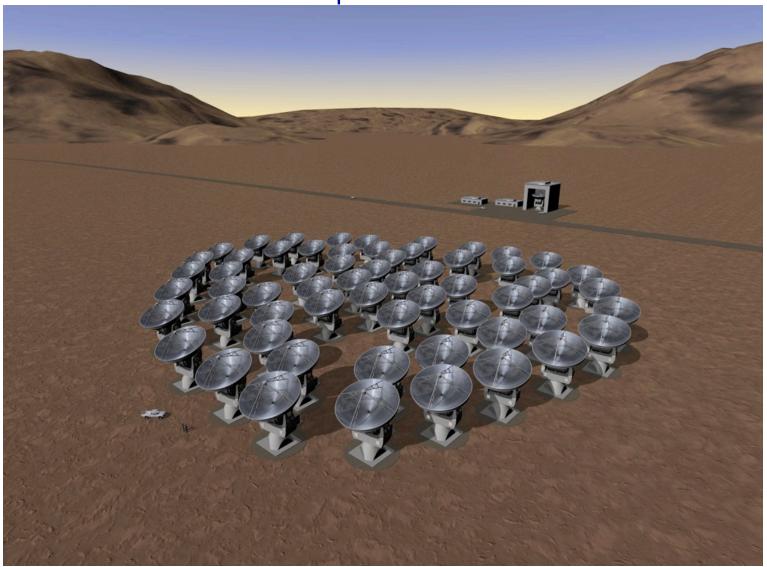
Overview

- Goals of this talk:
 - Gain some intuition for interferometric imaging
 - Introduce deconvolution in CASA (CLEAN)
 - Introduce various imaging methods available in CASA
- More formal description of imaging available in NRAO Synthesis Imaging Workshop lectures



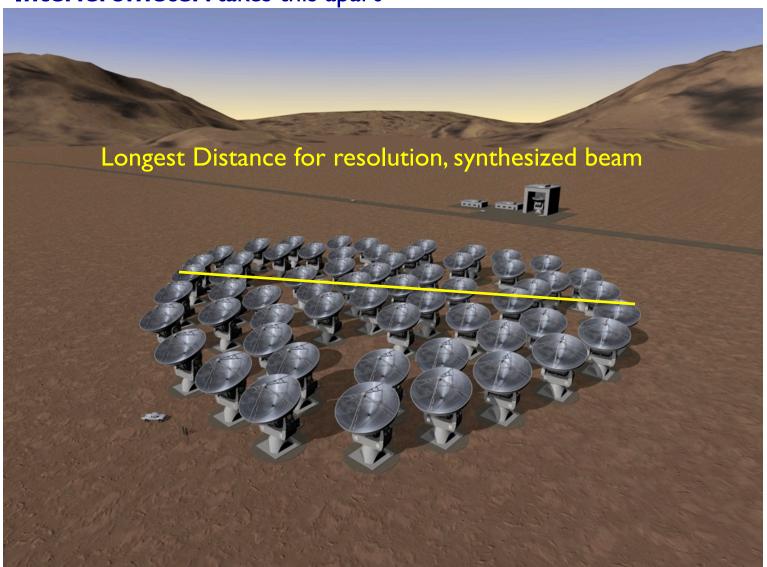
Single dish: diameter is responsible for sensitivity, field of view, resolution

Interferometer: takes this apart

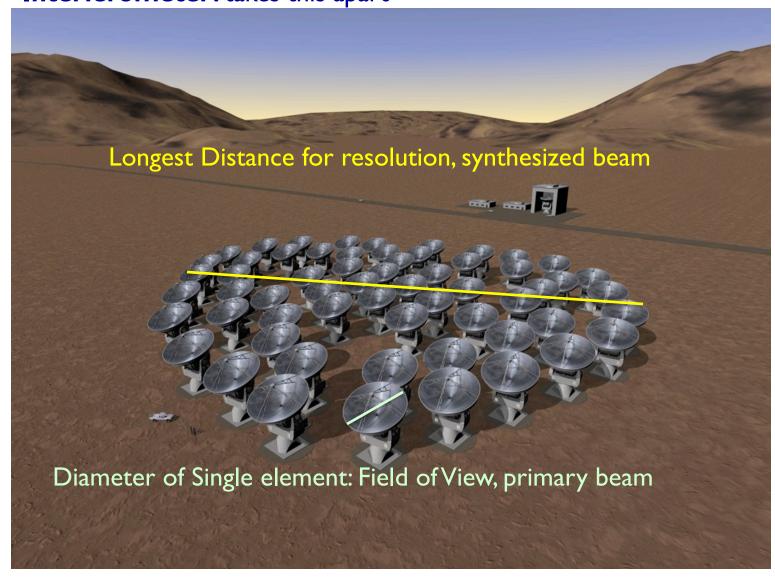


Single dish: diameter is responsible for sensitivity, field of view, resolution

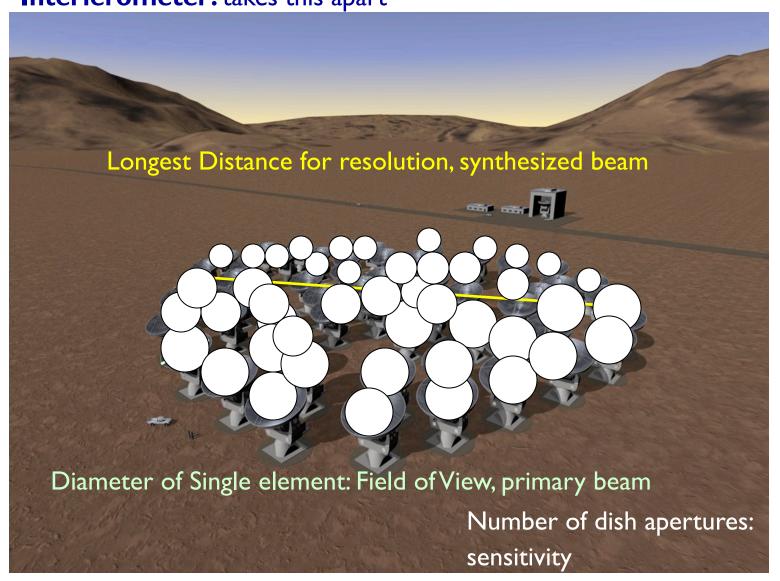
Interferometer: takes this apart



Single dish: diameter is responsible for sensitivity, field of view, resolution **Interferometer:** takes this apart



Single dish: diameter is responsible for sensitivity, field of view, resolution **Interferometer:** takes this apart



From Sky Brightness to Visibility

- I. An interferometer measures the interference pattern observed by pairs of apertures
- 2. The interference pattern is directly related to the source brightness. In particular, for small fields of view the complex visibility, V(u,v), is the 2D Fourier transform of the brightness on the sky, T(x,y)

(van Cittert-Zernike theorem)

Fourier space/domain

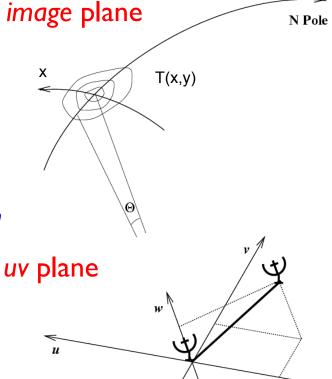
$$V(u,v) = \int \int T(x,y)e^{2\pi i(ux+vy)}dxdy$$

$$T(x,y) = \int \int V(u,v)e^{-2\pi i(ux+vy)}dudv$$

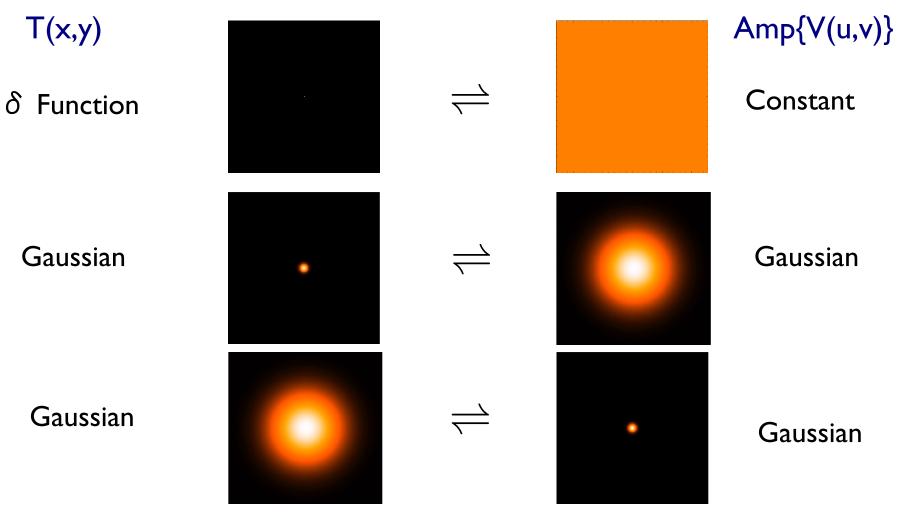
$$T(x,y) = \int \int V(u,v)e^{-2\pi i(ux+vy)}dudv$$

Image space/domain





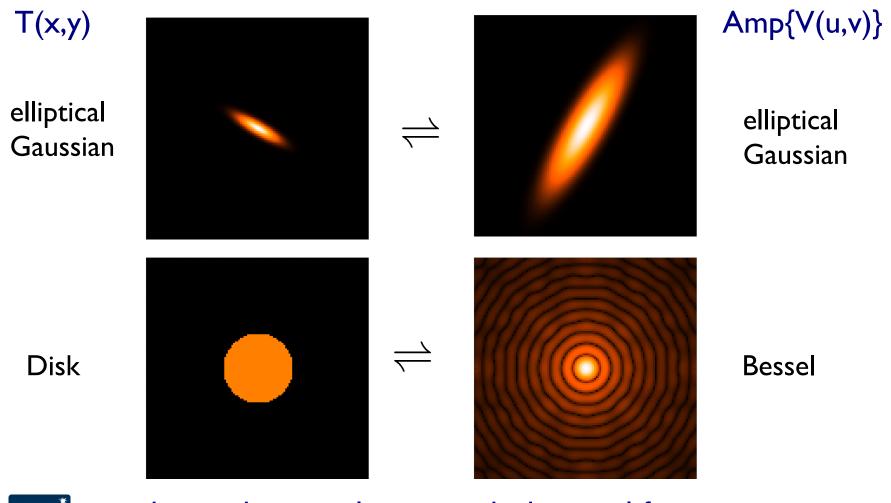
Some 2D Fourier Transform Pairs





narrow features transform to wide features (and vice-versa)

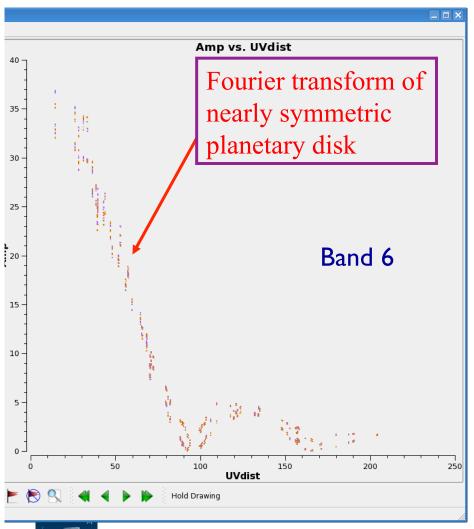
More 2D Fourier Transform Pairs

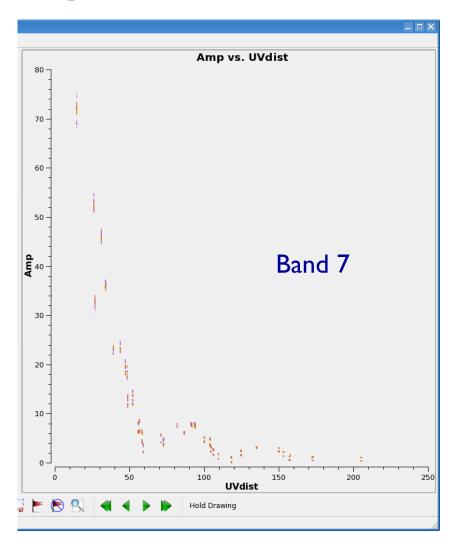




sharp edges result in many high spatial frequencies (sinc function, "ringing", Gibbs phenomenon)

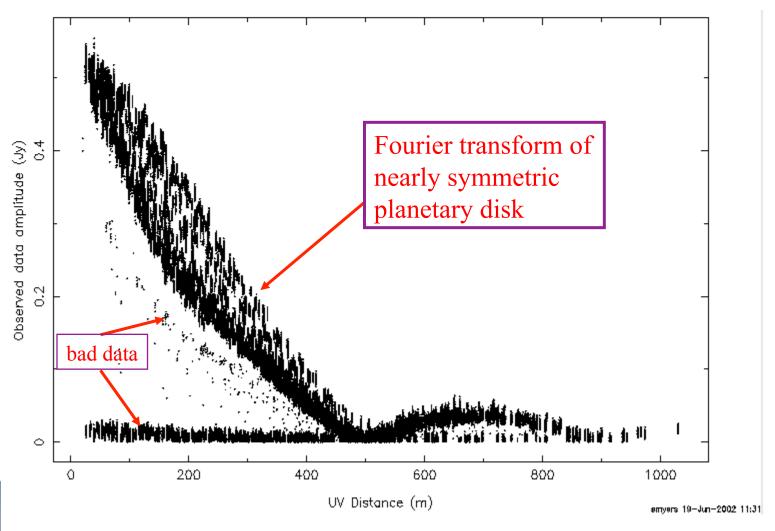
ALMA observes planetary disk







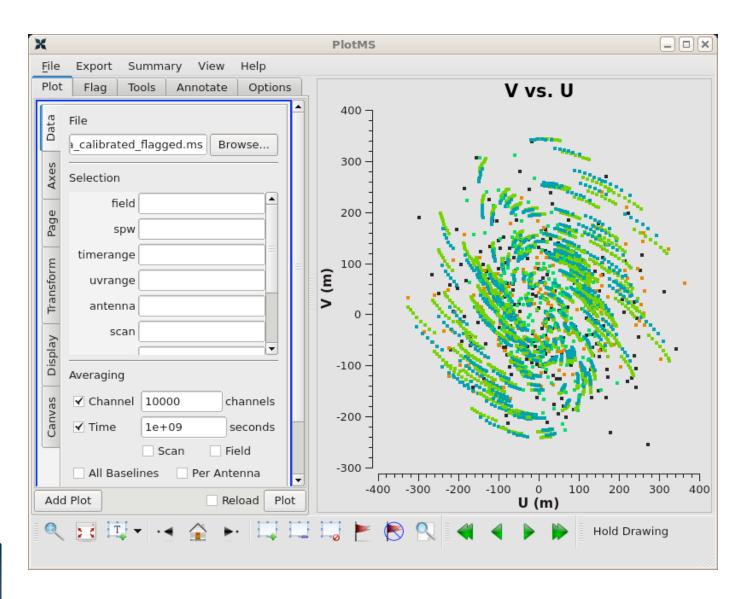
VLA observes Jupiter (6cm)





S.T. Myers

Plotms: Versatile examination of UV data

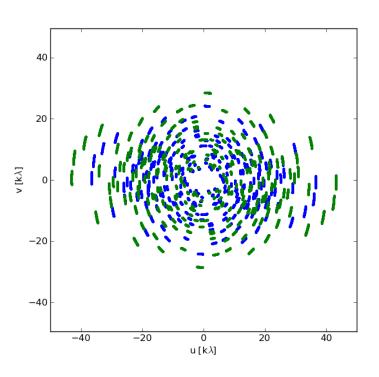


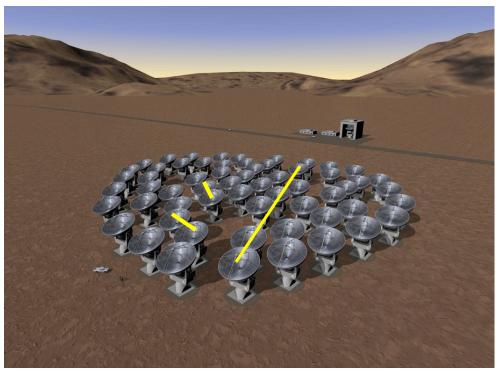


Sampling Function

Interferometers cannot see the entire Fourier/uv domain. But each antenna pair samples one spot:

imperfect image





Small uv-distance: short baselines (measure extended emission)
Long uv-distance: long baselines (measure small scale emission)
Orientation of baseline also determines orientation in the uv-plane
Each visibility has a phase and an amplitude

Dirty Images from a Dirty Beam

We sample the Fourier domain at discrete points

$$B(u,v) = \sum_{k} (u_k, v_k)$$

The inverse Fourier Transform is

$$T^{D}(x,y) = FT^{-1}\{B(u,v) \times V(u,v)\}$$

The convolution theorem tells us

$$T^D(x,y) = b(x,y) \otimes T(x,y)$$

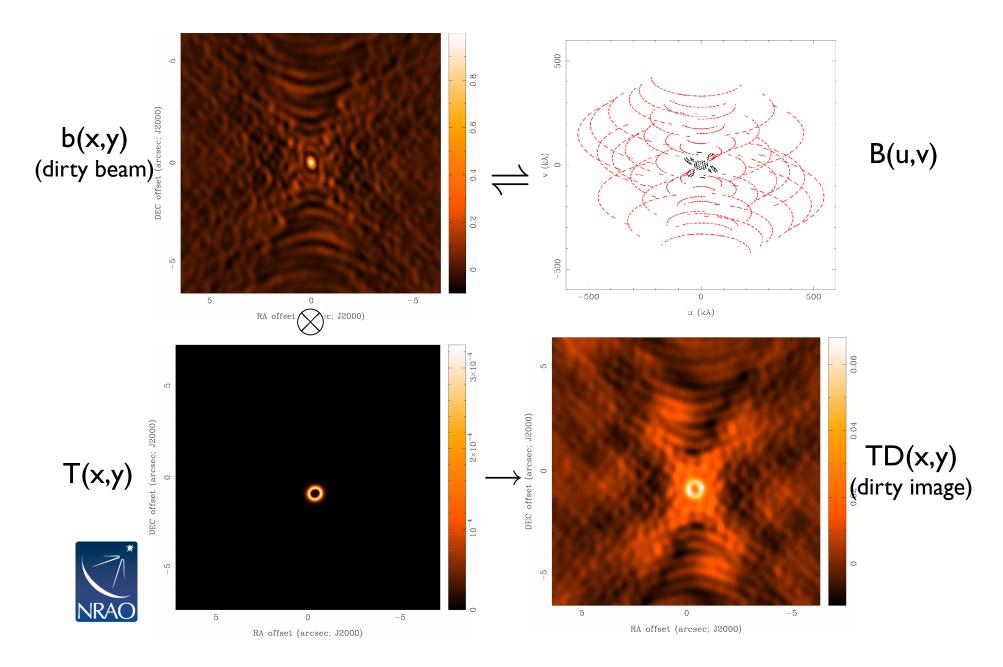
Where the point spread function is

$$b(x,y) = FT^{-1}\{B(u,v)\}\$$

- Fourier transform of sampled visibilities yields the true sky brightness convolved with the point spread function ("dirty beam")
- The "dirty image" is the true image convolved with the "dirty beam"



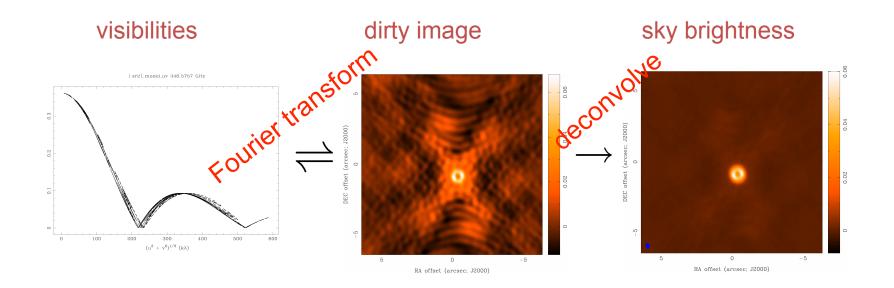
Dirty Beam and Dirty Image



How to analyze (imperfect) interferometer data

Image plane analysis

- dirty image TD(x,y) = Fourier transform $\{V(u,v)\}$
- deconvolve b(x,y) from TD(x,y) to determine (model of) T(x,y)





CLEAN in CASA

CLEAN is **the** imaging task in CASA. It:

- takes the calibrated visibilities
- grids them on the UV-plane
- performs the FFT to a dirty image
- deconvolves the image
- restores the image from clean table and residual

Modes/Capabilities:

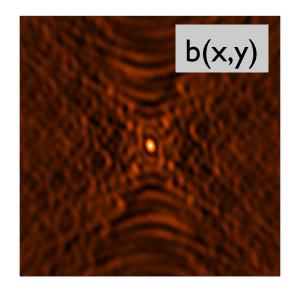
- continuum: incl. multi-frequency synthesis (radial extend of each visibility due to bandwidth), and Taylor term expansion (to derive spectral index and curvature
- spectral line: data cubes (many planes) grids in velocity space, takes account of Doppler shift of line
- mosaicking: combine multiple pointings to single image
- w-projection/faceting for images beyond the half-power point
- outlier fields to deconvolve strong sources in primary beam sidelobes
- multiscale cleaning
- primary beam correction

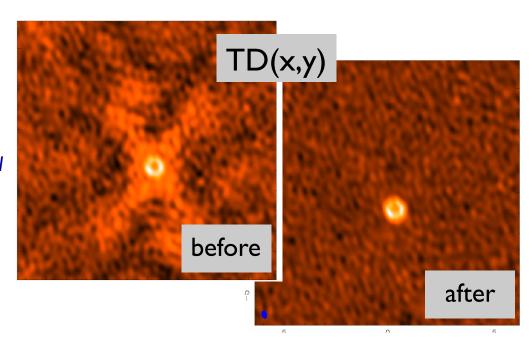


Basic CLEAN Algorithm

- A. Initialize a residual map to the dirty map
 - I. Start loop
 - 2. Identify strongest feature in residual map as a point source
 - 3. Add this point source to the clean component list
 - 4. Convolve the point source with b(x,y) and subtract a fraction g (the loop gain) of that from residual map
 - 5. If stopping criteria not reached, do next iteration
- B. Convolve Clean component (cc) list by an estimate of the main lobe of the dirty beam (the "Clean beam") and add residual map to make the final "restored" image





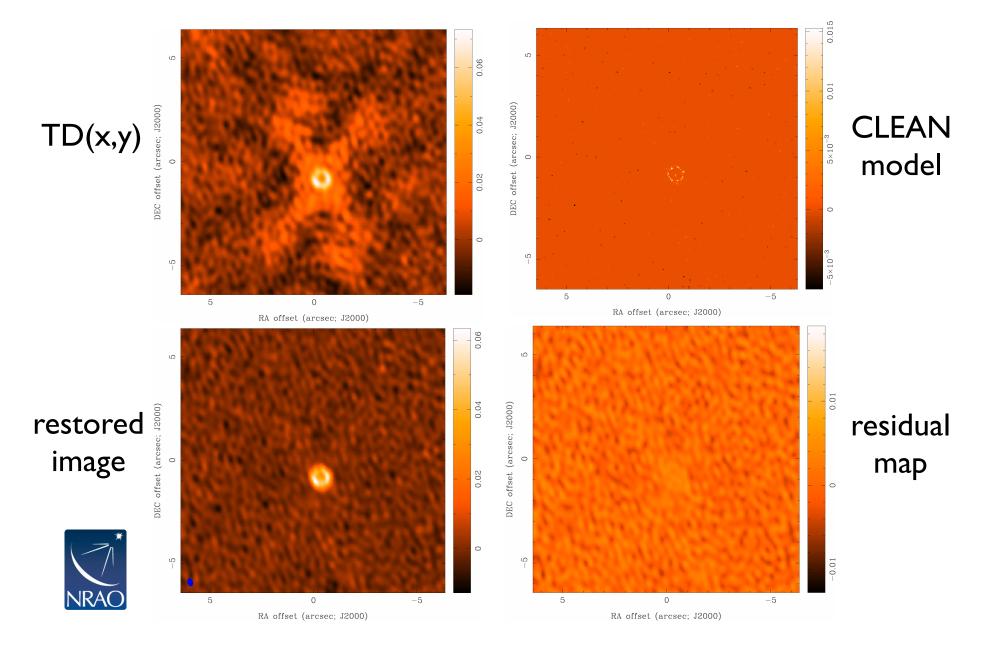


Basic CLEAN Algorithm (cont.)

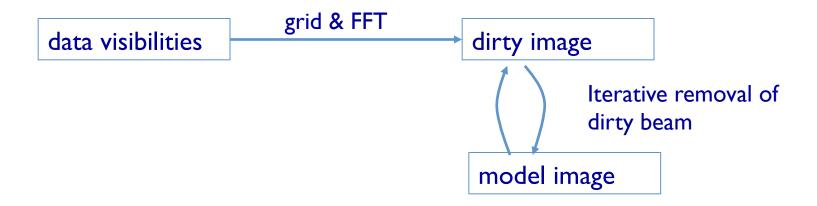
- Stopping criteria
 - residual map max < multiple of rms (when noise limited)
 - residual map max < fraction of dirty map max (dynamic range limited)
 - max number of clean components reached (no justification)
- Loop gain
 - good results for g ~ 0.1 to 0.3
 - lower values can work better for smoother emission, $g \sim 0.05$
- Easy to include a priori information about where to search for clean components ("clean boxes")
 - very useful but potentially dangerous!



CLEAN



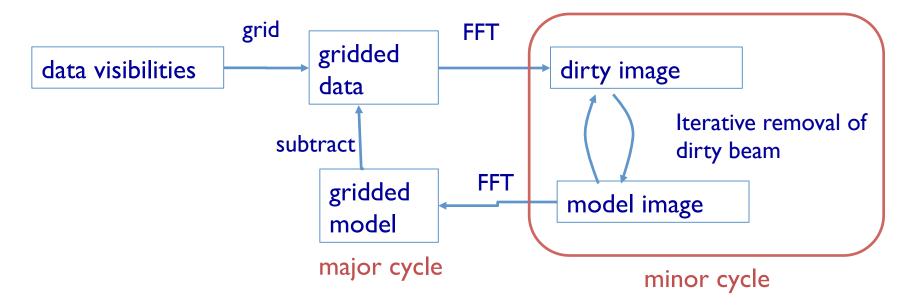
Deconvolution algorithms: Hogbom



- Subtracts full PSF in image domain
- For complex images, errors can build



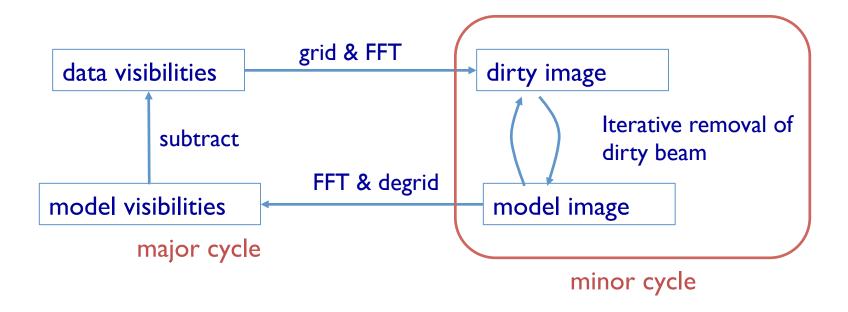
Deconvolution algorithms: Clark



- Subtracts truncated PSF in image domain
- Periodically subtracts from gridded data in uv domain



Deconvolution algorithms: Cotton-Schwab



Cotton-Schwab (csclean):

- subtracts truncated PSF in image domain
- major cycle subtracts from full visibilities
- significant I/O per major cycle

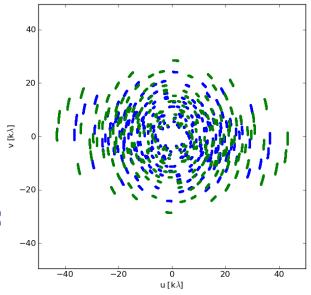


Dirty Beam Shape and Weighting

- Each visibility point is given a weight in the imaging step
- First piece: weight given by Tsys, integration time, etc.

Natural

- Each sample inversely weighted by variance
- There are many samples at short baselines, so natural weighting will give the largest beam and the best surface brightness sensitivity (and sometimes pronounced wings in the dirty beam)



Uniform

- · each visibility is given a weight inversely proportional to the sample density
- Weighs down short baselines, long baselines are more pronounced. Best resolution;
 poorer noise characteristics

Briggs (Robust)

- A graduated scheme using the parameter robust; compromise of noise and resolution
- In CASA, set robust from -2 (~ uniform) to +2 (~ natural)
- robust = 0 often a good choice



Taper: additional weight function to be applied (typically a Gaussian to suppress the weights of the outer visibilities – be careful, however, not to substantially reduce the collecting area)

Dirty Beam Shape and Weighting

- Each visibility point is given a weight in the imaging step
- First piece: weight given by Tsys, integration time, etc.
- Natural

Adjust the weighting to match your science goal:

- → Detection experiment/weak extended source: natural (maybe even with a taper)
- → Finer detail of strong sources: robust or even uniform

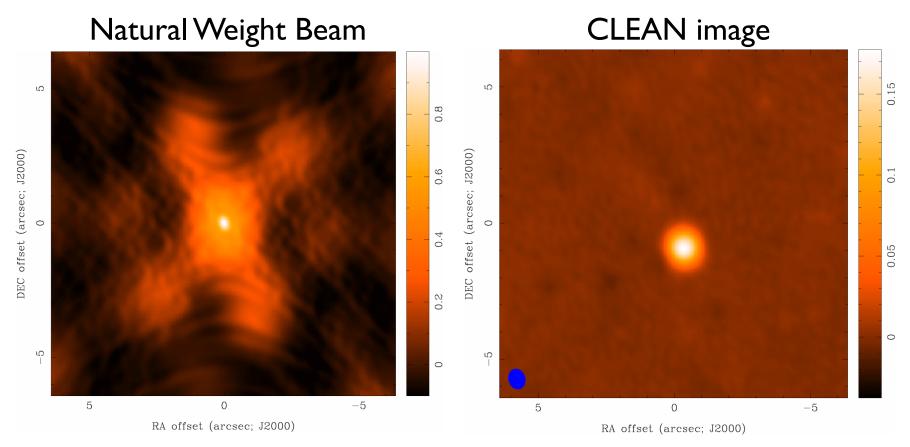
Liggs (Itobuse)

- A graduated scheme using the parameter robust; compromise of noise and resolution
- In CASA, set robust from -2 (~ uniform) to +2 (~ natural)
- robust = 0 often a good choice



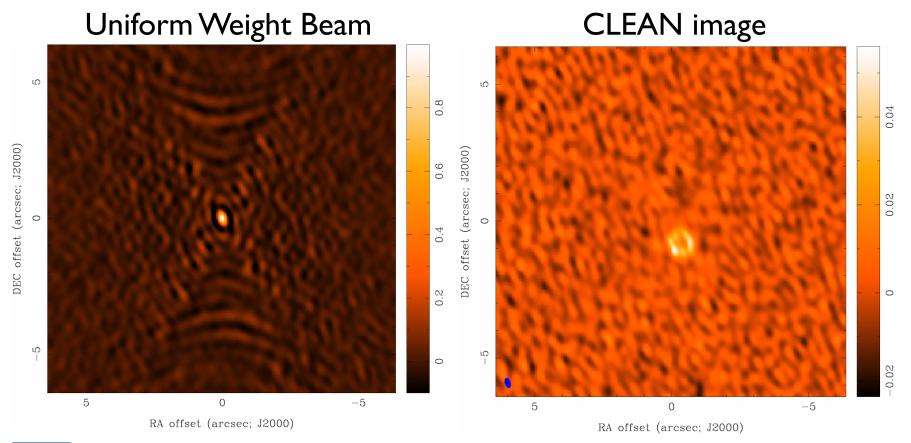
Taper: additional weight function to be applied (typically a Gaussian to suppress the weights of the outer visibilities – be careful, however, not to substantially reduce the collecting area)

Imaging Results



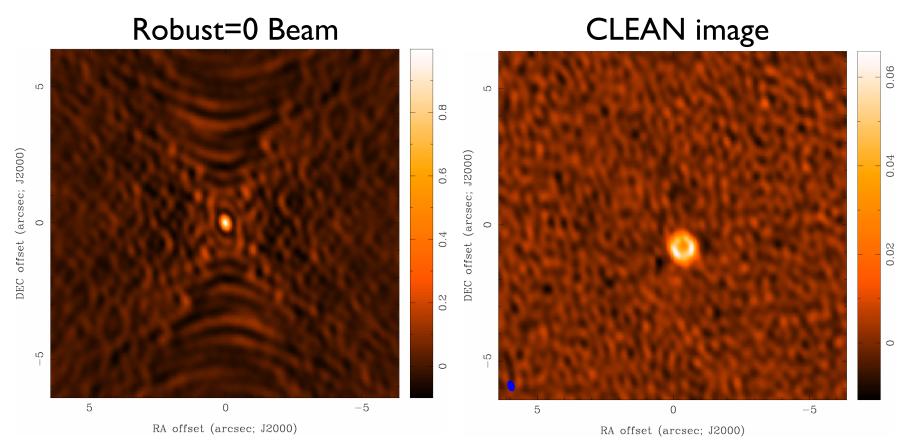


Imaging Results





Imaging Results





CLEAN in CASA:

inp(clean) clean :: Invert and deconvolve images with selected algorithm # Name of input visibility file imagename Pre-name of output images outlierfile 1.1 Text file with image names, sizes, centers for outliers field Field Name or id 1.1 spw Spectral windows e.g. '0~3', '' is all selectdata True Other data selection parameters Range of time to select from data timerange uvrange Select data within uvrange Select data based on antenna/baseline antenna Scan number range scan observation # Observation ID range intent # Scan Intent(s) mode 'mfs' Spectral gridding type (mfs, channel, velocity, frequency) aridmode Gridding kernel for FFT-based transforms. default='' None 500 Maximum number of iterations niter gain 0.1 Loop gain for cleaning threshold '0.0mJv' Flux level to stop cleaning, must include units: '1.0mJy' psfmode 'clark' Method of PSF calculation to use during minor cycles imagermode 'csclean' Options: 'csclean' or 'mosaic', '', uses psfmode 1.5 Controls how often major cycles are done. (e.g. cyclefactor 5 for frequently) - 1 # Cycle threshold doubles in this number of cyclespeedup iterations multiscale Deconvolution scales (pixels); [] = standard [1 clean interactive False Use interactive clean (with GUI viewer) mask Cleanbox(es), mask image(s), region(s), or a [] imsize = [256, 256] # x and y image size in pixels. Single value: same for both = ['1.0arcsec'] x and y cell size(s). Default unit arcsec. phasecenter Image center: direction or field index 1.1 restfreq Rest frequency to assign to image (see help) 'T' Stokes params to image (eg I,IV,IQ,IQUV) stokes weighting 'natural' Weighting of uv (natural, uniform, briggs, ...) uvtaper Apply additional uv tapering of visibilities False modelimage Name of model image(s) to initialize cleaning restoringbeam Output Gaussian restoring beam for CLEAN image False Output primary beam-corrected image pbcor minpb 0.2 Minimum PB level to use True if to save model visibilities in usescratch False MODEL DATA column allowchunk False # Divide large image cubes into channel chunks # for deconvolution



Basic Image Parameters: Pixel Size and Image Size

Pixel size

- should satisfy $\Delta x < 1/2 u_{max}$, $\Delta y < 1/2 v_{max}$ (Nyquist)
- in practice, 5 to 8 pixels across the main lobe of the beam

Image size

- Consider FWHM of primary beam (e.g. ~ 20" at Band 7)
- Be aware that sensitivity is not uniform across the primary beam (may need primary beam correction)
- Use mosaicking to image larger targets
- Not restricted to powers of 2; CASA performs best at given image sizes,
 rule of thumb: 2ⁿ* 10
- If there are bright sources in the sidelobes, they will throw sidelobes onto the image, so image large to be able to clean them out, or use outlierfile to specify the positions of outlier fields



Output of CLEAN

Minimally:

my_image.flux
 Relative sky sensitivity

• my_image.image Cleaned and restored image (Jy/clean beam)

my_image.maskClean "boxes"

my_image.model
 Clean components (Jy/pixel)

my_image.psfDirty beam

my_image.residual
 Residual (Jy/dirty beam)

If CLEAN is started again with same image name, it will try to continue deconvolution from where it left off. Make sure this is what you want. If not, give a new name or remove existing files with rmtables('my_image.*')

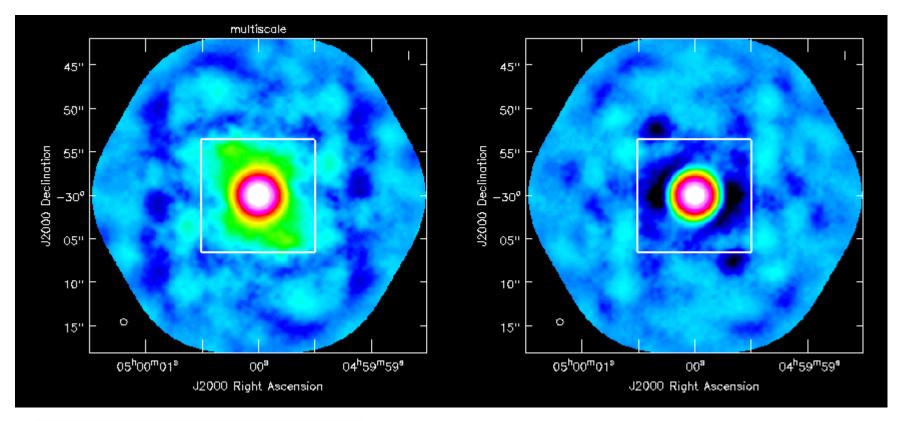
Also: try NOT to do CTRL+C as it could corrupt your MS when it touches the visibilities in a major cycle.



Multi-scale CLEAN

multi-scale

"classic" scale



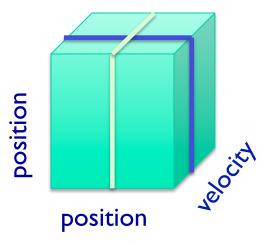
multiscale = [0, 5, 12, 24, 50] # Deconvolution scales (pixels); [] = # standard clean



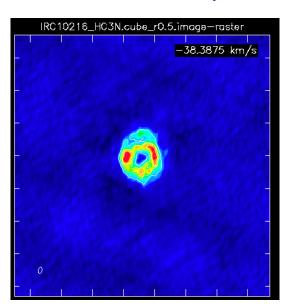
Instead of delta functions, one can use extended clean components to better match emission scales (multiscales, typically paraboloids)

Pick delta function, half the largest emission and a few in between

Imaging spectral lines

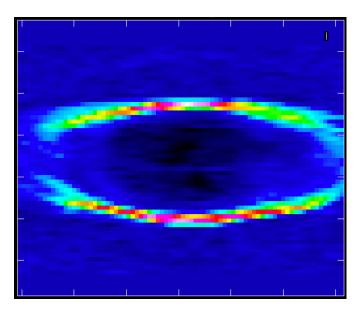


Channel map



Fixed velocity, polarization, etc.

Position-velocity map



One fixed position, polarization, etc.

Imaging spectral lines

```
node
                  = 'velocity'
                                       Spectral gridding type (mfs, channel,
                                      velocity, frequency)
    nchan
                          100
                                    # Number of channels (planes) in output
                                      image; -1 = all
                     '300km/s'
                                    # Velocity of first channel: e.q
    start
                                       '0.0km/s'(''=first channel in first
                                        SpW of MS)
    width
                                    # Channel width e.g '-1.0km/s'
                      '10km/s'
                                        (''=width of first channel in first
                                        SpW of MS)
    interpolation =
                      'linear'
                                    # Spectral interpolation (nearest,
                                    # linear, cubic).
                        False
                                    # Re-restore the cube image to a common
    resmooth
                                    # beam when True
    chaniter
                        False
                                    # Clean each channel to completion
                                        (True), or all channels each cycle
                                        (False)
    outframe
                        'LSRK'
                                    # Velocity reference frame of output
                                       image; '' =input
                       'radio'
    veltype
                                    # Velocity definition of output image
                    = '115.271201800GHz' # Rest frequency to assign to image (see help)
restfreq
   mode="velocity"
   → Set the dimensions of the cube
   → Set Rest frequency
   → Set Velocity Frame (LSRK, BARY, ...)
   → Set Doppler definition (optical/radio)
```

Clean will calculate the Doppler corrections for you! No need to realign beforehand. (but **cvel** will do it for you if needed, e.g. when self-calibrating)

Imaging spectral lines: continuum subtraction

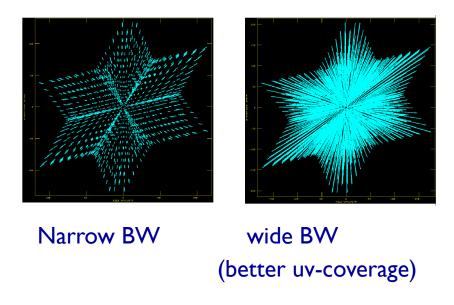
- Generally would like to subtract continuum emission (we will see how to identify line-free channels in handson session)
- Use uvcontsub to do the subtraction in uv plane.

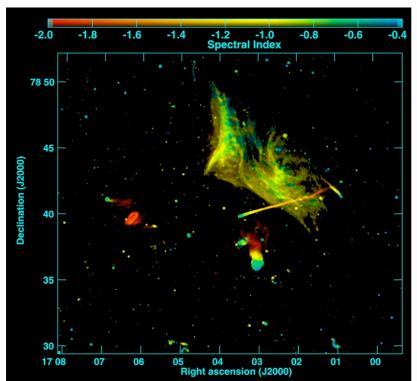
```
CASA <11>: inp
-----> inp()
# uvcontsub :: Continuum fitting and subtraction in the uv plane
                                     # Name of input MS. Output goes to vis + ".contsub"
                  = 'ngc3256_co.ms'
vis
                                      # Select field(s) using id(s) or name(s)
field
                = '0:20~53:71~120'
                                     # Spectral window; channel selection for fitting the continuum
fitspw
combine
                                      # Data axes to combine for the continuum estimation (none, or spw and/or scan)
                 = 'int'
solint
                                     # Continuum fit timescale (int recommended!)
fitorder
                                     # Polynomial order for the fits
                                     # Spectral window selection for output
                         False
                                     # Create vis + ".cont" to hold the continuum estimate.
want_cont
                                     # If true the taskname must be started using uvcontsub(...)
                         False
async
```



Continuum Imaging

Multi-scale Multi-Frequency Taylor Term expansion



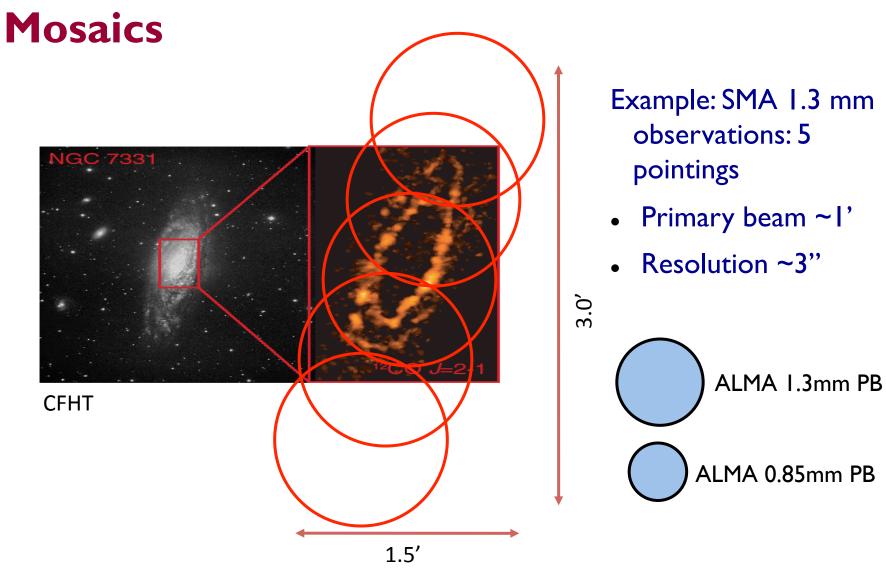


Plus spectral index:

- MFS (mode mfs)
 - nterm=2 compute spectral index, 3 for curvature etc.
 - needed for bandwidths ~5% or more (S/N dependent)
 - tt0 average intensity, tt1 alpha*tt0, alpha images output
 - takes at least nterms longer (image size dependent)



Abell 2256; Owen et al. (2014)





Petitpas et al.

Imaging mosaics

```
# Options: 'csclean' or 'mosaic', '', uses psfmode
imagermode
                       'mosaic'
    mosweiaht
                                      # Individually weight the fields of the mosaic
                          False
    ftmachine
                                      # Gridding method for the image
                                      # Controls scaling of pixels in the image plane. default='SAULT'; example:
    scaletype
                        'SAULT'
                                      # scaletype='PBCOR' Options: 'PBCOR','SAULT'
    cyclefactor
                                      # Controls how often major cycles are done. (e.g. 5 for frequently)
                                      # Cycle threshold doubles in this number of iterations
    cyclespeedup
                           -1
                                      # Controls whether searching for clean components is done in a constant noise
    flatnoise
                           True
                                      # residual image (True) or in an optimal signal-to-noise residual image
                                       # (False)
```

ftmachine = "mosaic": add in uv plane and invert together, Use csclean for deconvolution.

ftmachine = "ft" : shift and add in image plane



There's a tool ("ia.linearmosaic") to linear mosaic after cleaning each pointing and to stitch all pointings together entirely in the image domain

Interactive CLEAN

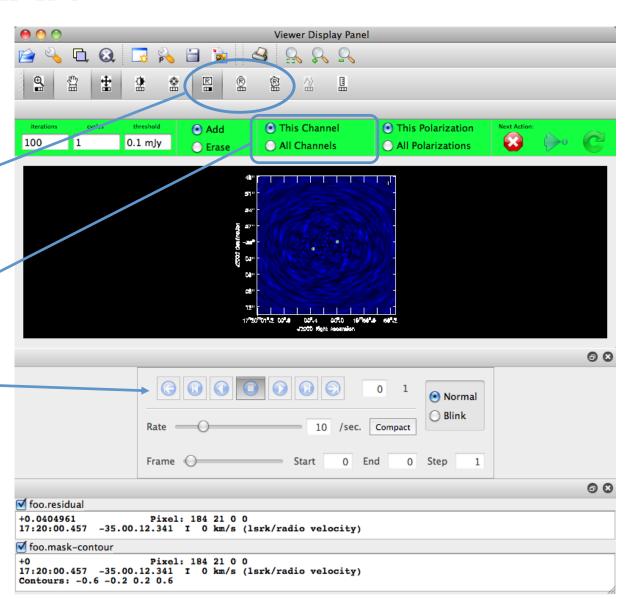
• residual image in viewer

 define a mask with defining a mouse button on shape type

 define the same mask for all channels

 or iterate through the channels with the tape deck and define separate masks



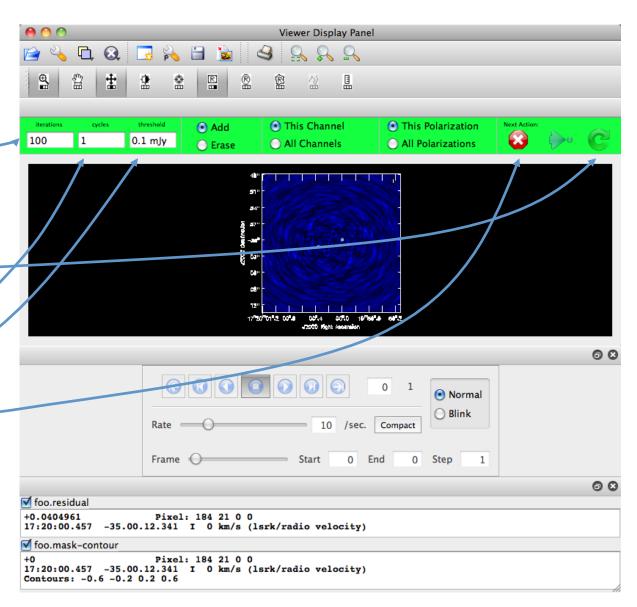


Interactive CLEAN

perform N iterations

and return – every time the residual is displayed is a major cycle

continue until #cycles
 or threshold reached,
 or user stop

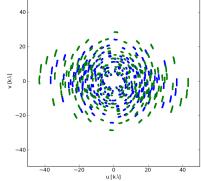


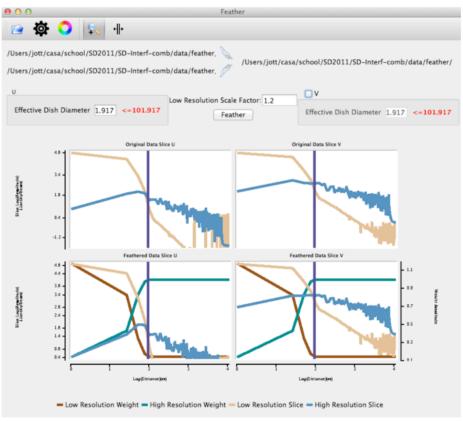


Combining with single-dish or other interferometric maps

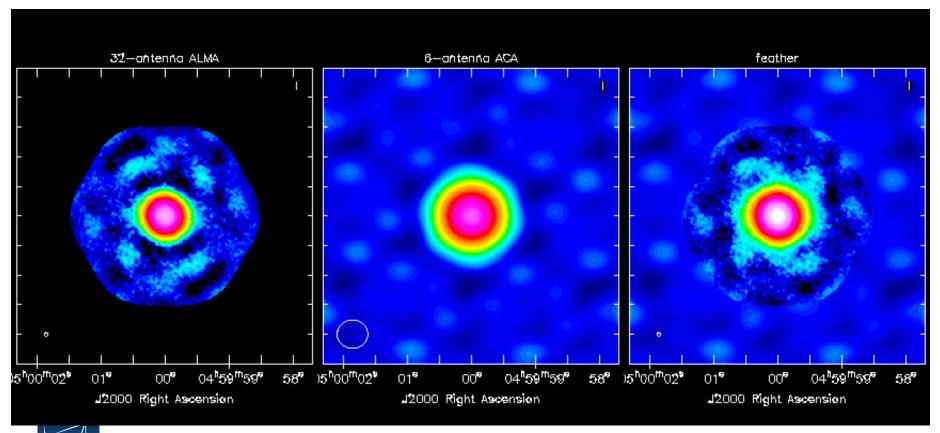
- If you have only images:
 - feather (or "casafeather")
- If you have an image and an MS:
 - use CLEAN with the image as "modelimage"
 - and/or feather
- If you have multiple MS plus an image:
 - Same as above, input to clean will be all the MS







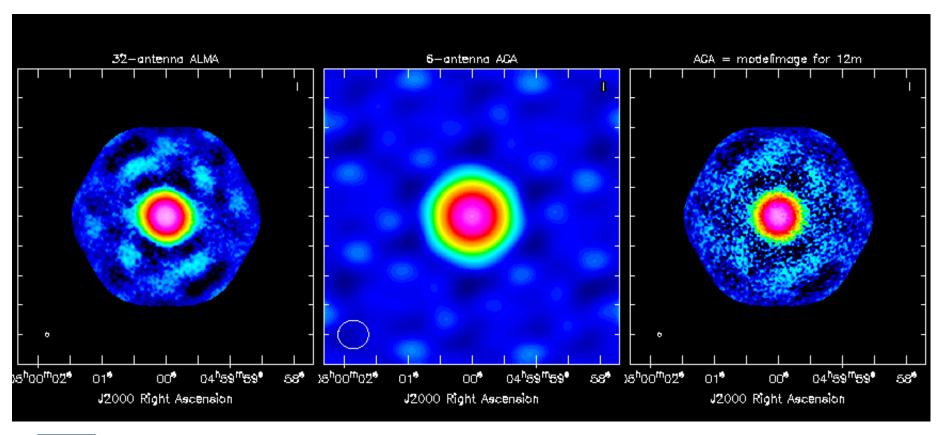
Combining with other data: feather



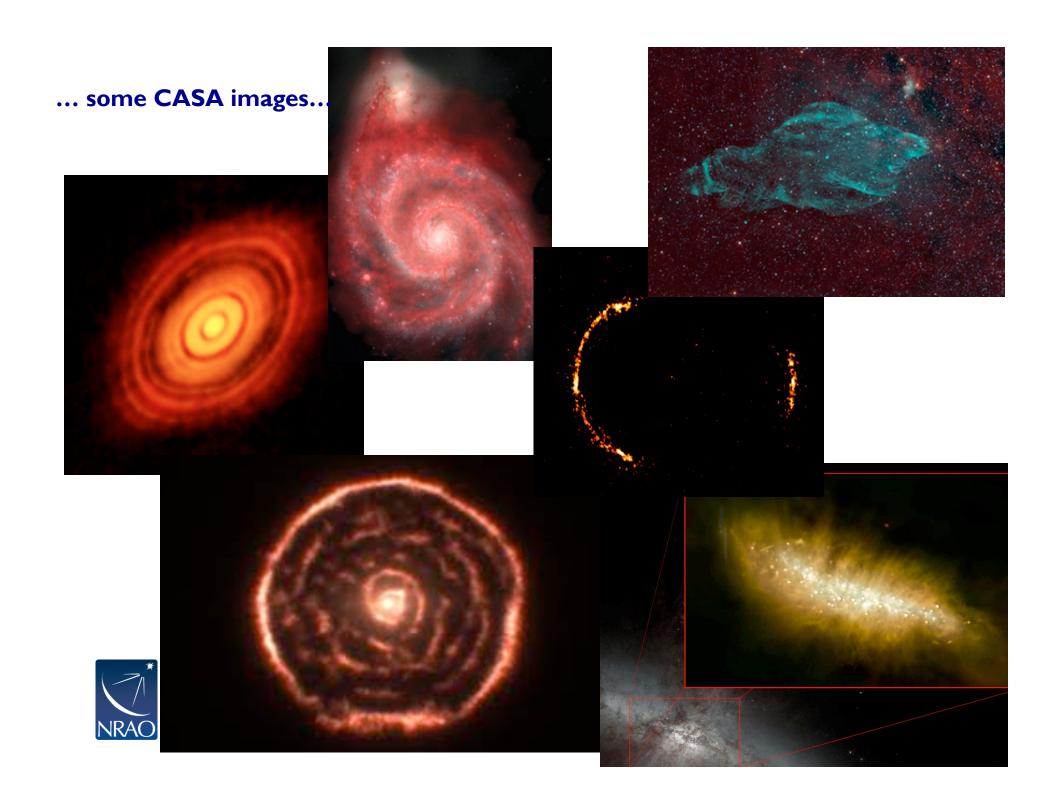


Combining with other data: modelimage

```
# clean :: Invert and deconvolve images with selected algorithm
modelimage = "" # Name of model image(s) to initialize cleaning
```







Looking ahead ...

ALMAguides

How to use these CASA Tutorials

Imaging Tutorials for CASA beginners

If you are new to CASA, start with the following tutorials. ALMA data re delivered with standard calibrations applied and they are ready for imaging. These guides cover the basic steps required for imaging and self-calibration.

- A first look at imaging in CASA This guide gives a first look at imaging and image analysis in CASA.
- A first look at self-calibration in CASA This guide demonstrates continuum self-cal.
- A first look at spectral line imaging in CASA This guide shows in ging of a spectral line.
- A first look at image analysis in CASA This guide demonstrates moment creation and basic image analysis.

Guides for reducing ALMA Science Vornication data

The links below lead to overview pages for each science verification observation. The guides themselves are linked from the overview pages. These guides are a useful tools for those who would like to learn the process of calibration and imaging in detail.

The following ALMA science verification guides have been validated for CASA version 4.3. They should also work for CASA version 4.4, and they will be validated for version 4.4 soon.

- TWHydraBand7: The protoplanetary disk source TW Hya at Band 7 (0.87 mm)
- NGC3256Band3: The galaxy merger NGC 3256 at Band 3 (3 mm)
- AntennaeBand7: Mosaic of the galaxy merger NGC 4038/4039 (Antennae) at Band 7 (0.87 mm)
- IRAS16293Band9: Mosaic of the protostellar cluster IRAS16293-2422 at Band 9 (0.45 mm)
- File:BR1202 SV Band7 Calibration notes.pdf: Supplemental notes on the calibration of Science Verification target BR1202-0725 in CASA 3.3
- ALMA2014_LBC_SVDATA: Imaging scripts and details for the 2014 ALMA Long Baseline Campaign science verification data for Juno, Mira, HL Tau, and SDP.81.
- M100 Band3: Demonstration of combining 12m-array, 7m-array, and Total Power data for M100 using CASA 4.3.1
- 3C286 Polarization: Demonstration of the reduction of ALMA continuum polarization toward the guasar 3C286

A Guide to CASA Data Weights and How to Ensure They are Correct for Data Combination

A Guide to Processing ALMA Data for Cycle 0

This page takes you through the steps of processing Cycle 0 data from the ALMA data archive. The guide describes some helpful hints for downloading the data, and describes the process all the way through imaging and self-calibration, and image analysis.

You can also get a look at example data calibration scripts used for Cycle 0 data at the following links. These were written for CASA version 3.4.

- TDM (128 channels/spw) File:TDM.example.ms.scriptForCalibration.py
- FDM (3840 channels/spw) File:FDM.example.ms.scriptForCalibration.py
- If you need to update 3.4 scripts to 4.2, see more information here

A Tutorial for Simulating ALMA Data.

Start here to learn about simulations. The CASA 4.3 simulation examples in the above tutorial should also work for version 4.4, and they will be validated for version 4.4 soon. Jump directly to the simulations examples with the following links.

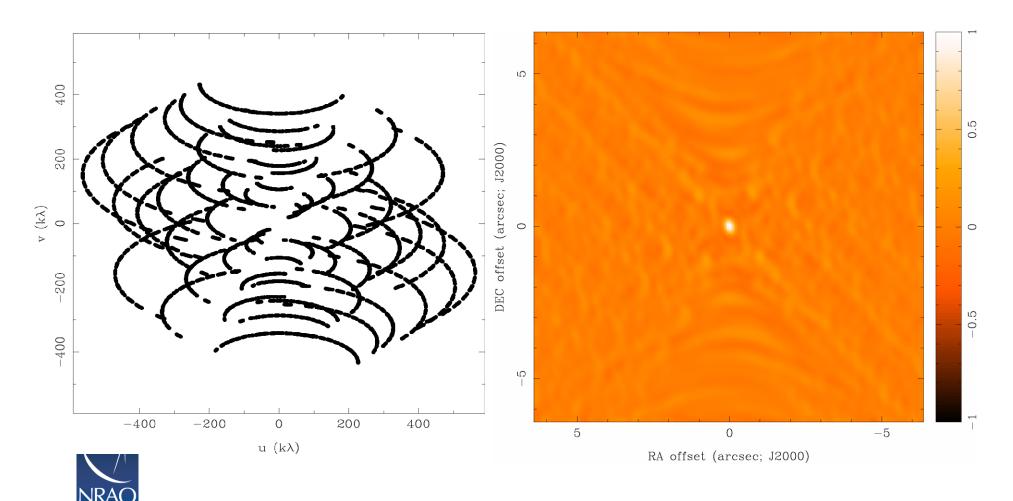
- Simulation Examples in CASA 4.3
- Examples for older versions of CASA: 4.2 4.1 4.0 3.4 3.3





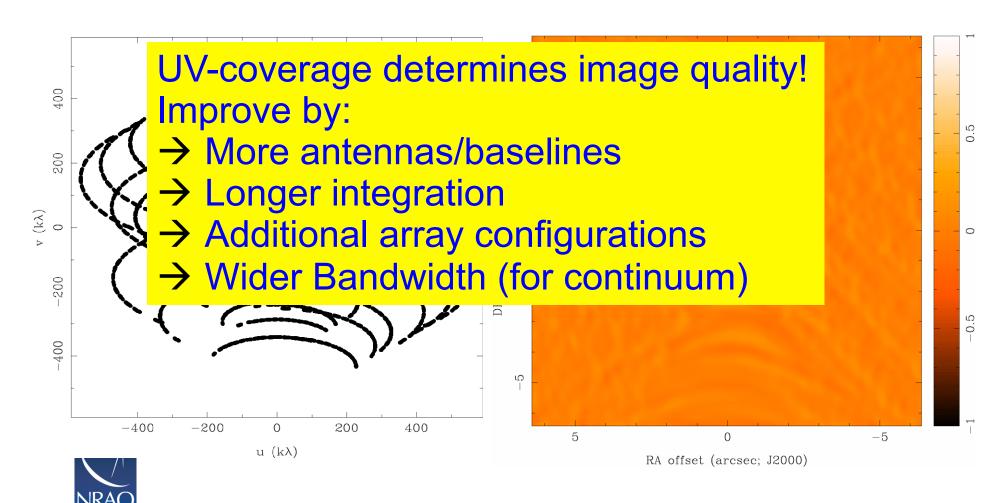
Earth Rotation!

8 Antennas x 480 Samples

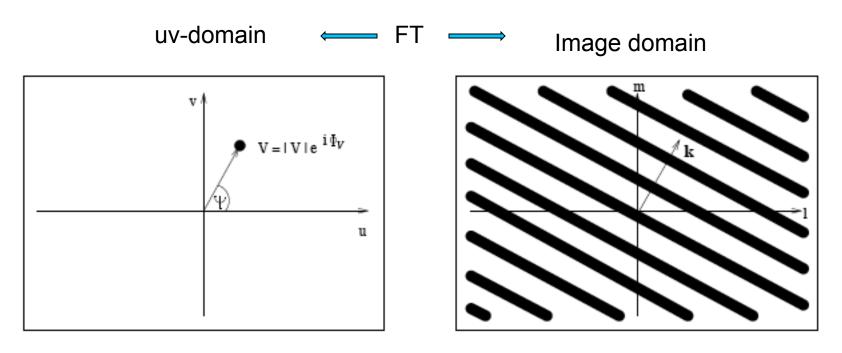


Earth Rotation!

8 Antennas x 480 Samples



Spatial Frequency

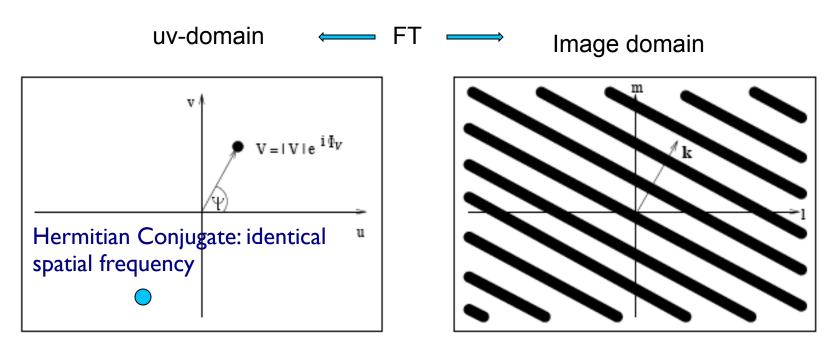


(geometric baseline orientation) Angle Y: (geometric baseline length) Vector length (uv-distance): (measured) Amplitude V: (measured) Phase F: Direction of k
Spatial Frequency
Amplitude
Pattern Offset from Origin



The image is the sum of a large number of spatial frequencies

Spatial Frequency



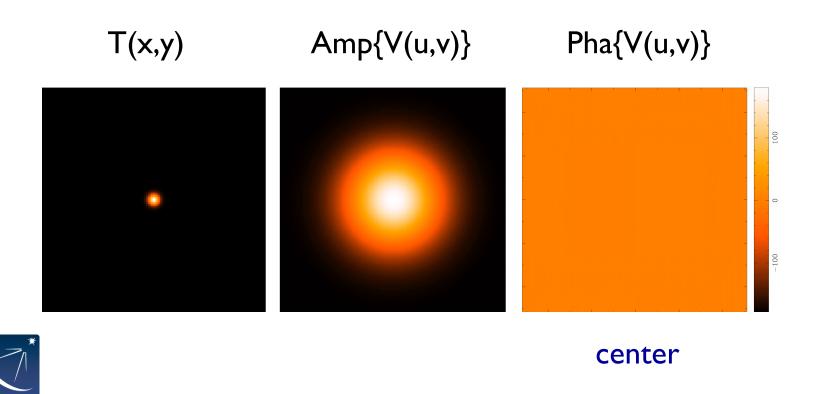
(geometric baseline orientation) Angle Y: (geometric baseline length) Vector length (uv-distance): (measured) Amplitude V: (measured) Phase F: Direction of k
Spatial Frequency
Amplitude
Pattern Offset from Origin



The image is the sum of a large number of spatial frequencies

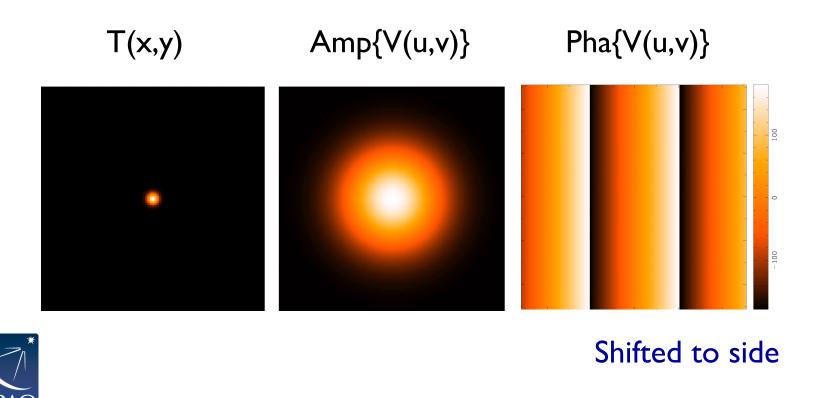
Amplitude and Phase

- complex numbers: (real, imaginary) or (amplitude, phase)
 - amplitude tells "how much" of a certain frequency component
 - phase tells "where" this component is located



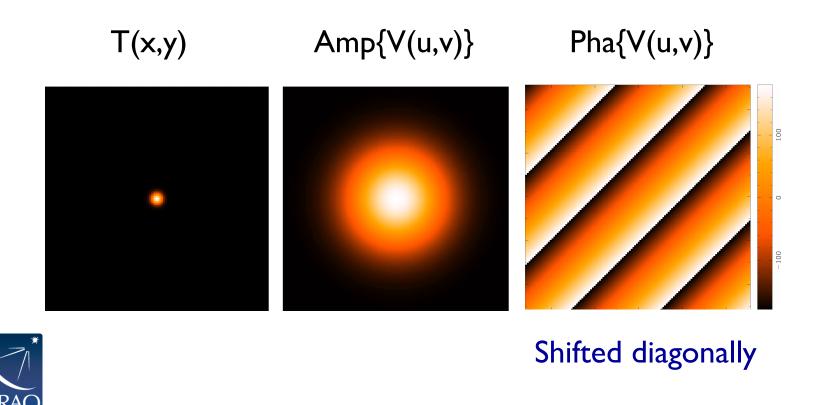
Amplitude and Phase

- complex numbers: (real, imaginary) or (amplitude, phase)
 - amplitude tells "how much" of a certain frequency component
 - phase tells "where" this component is located

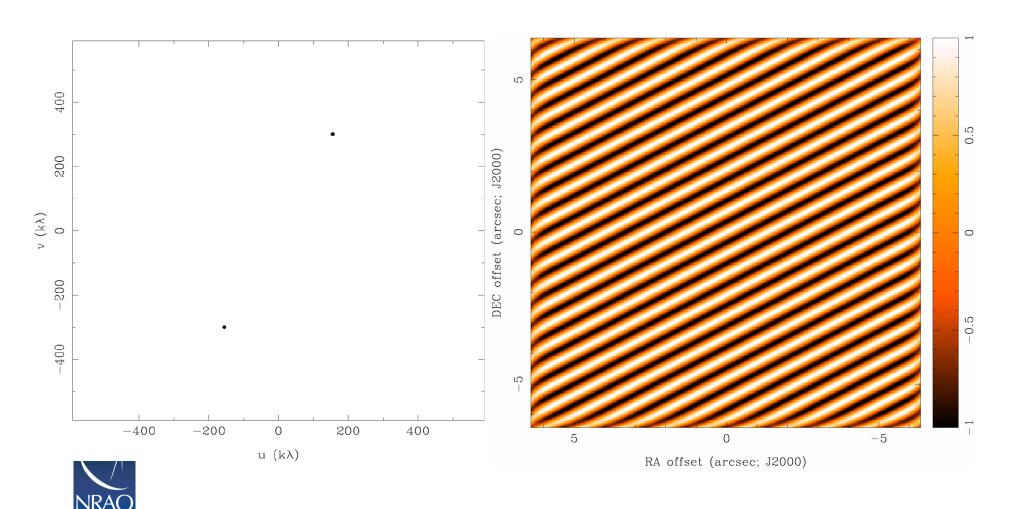


Amplitude and Phase

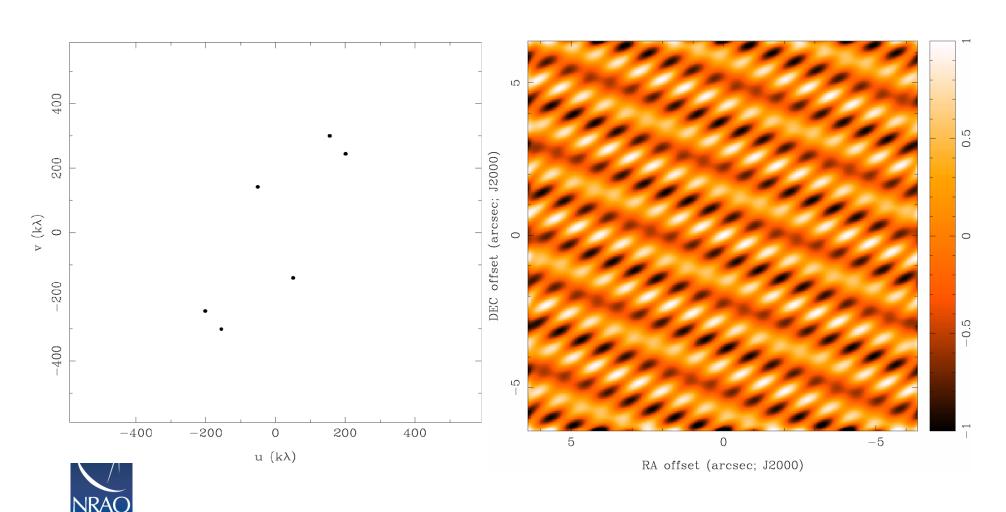
- complex numbers: (real, imaginary) or (amplitude, phase)
 - amplitude tells "how much" of a certain frequency component
 - phase tells "where" this component is located



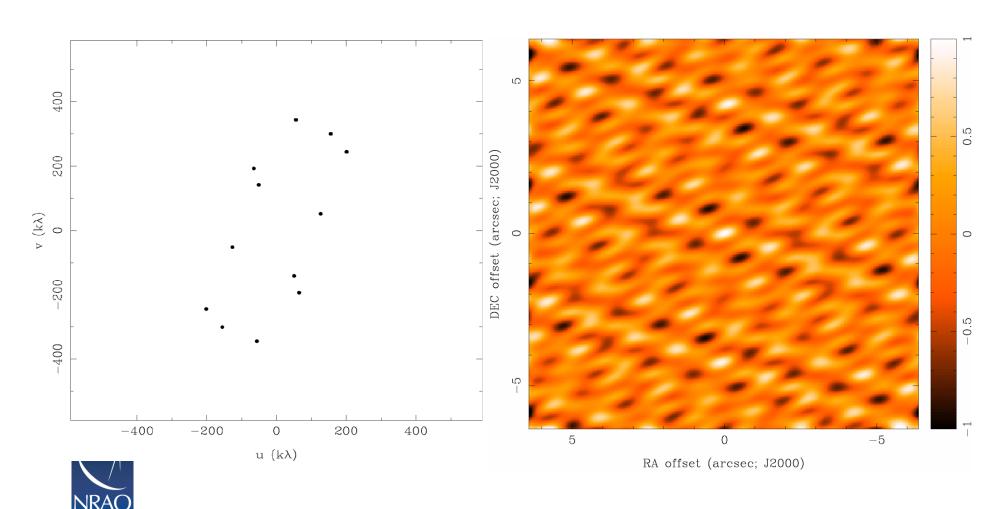
2 Antennas (I baseline)



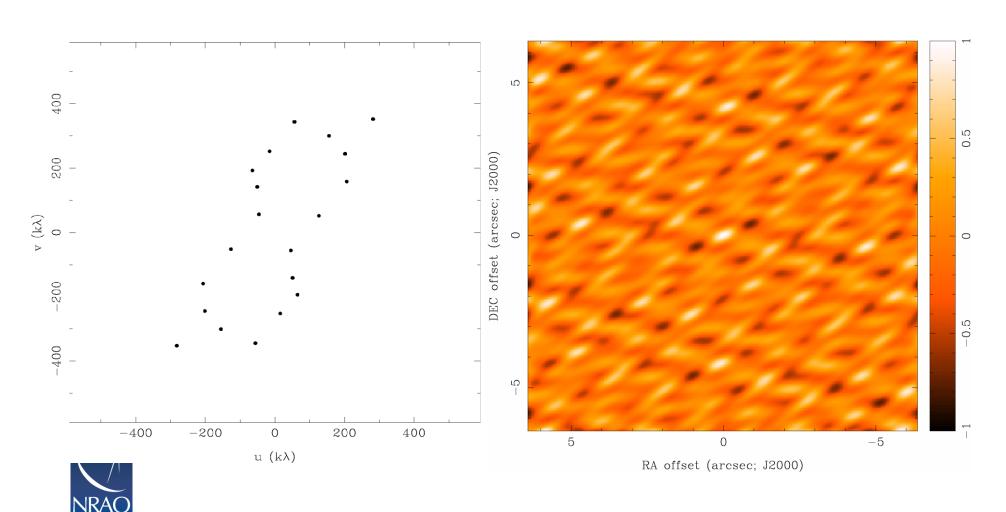
3 Antennas (3 baselines)



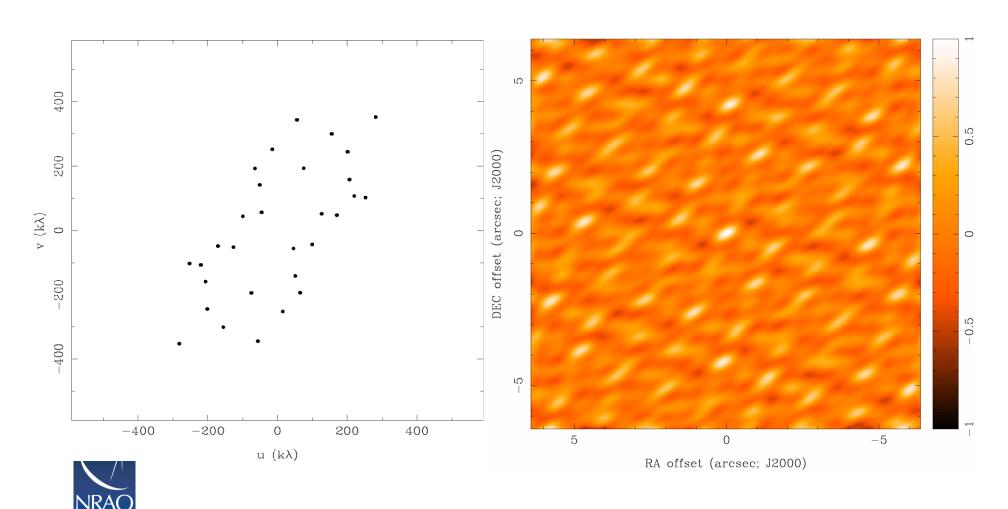
4 Antennas (6 baselines)



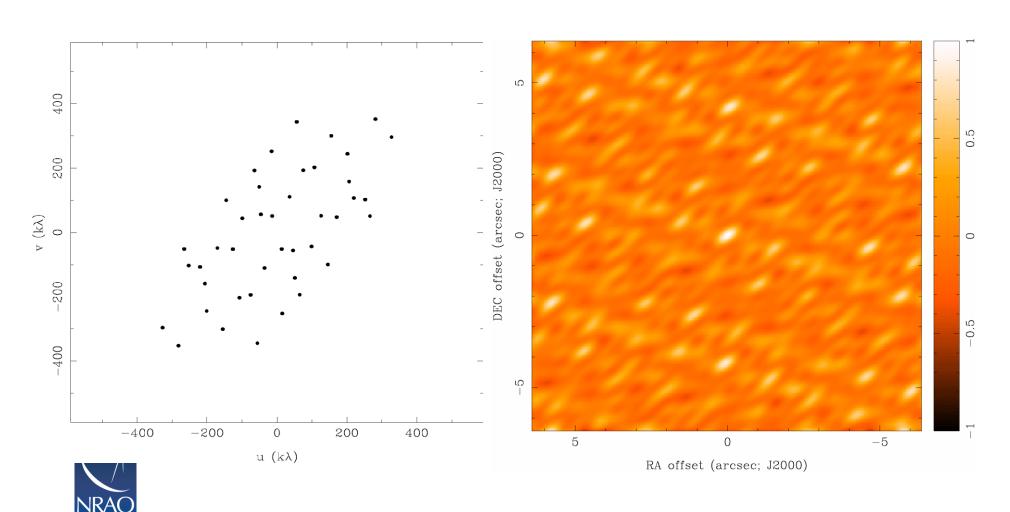
5 Antennas (10 baselines)



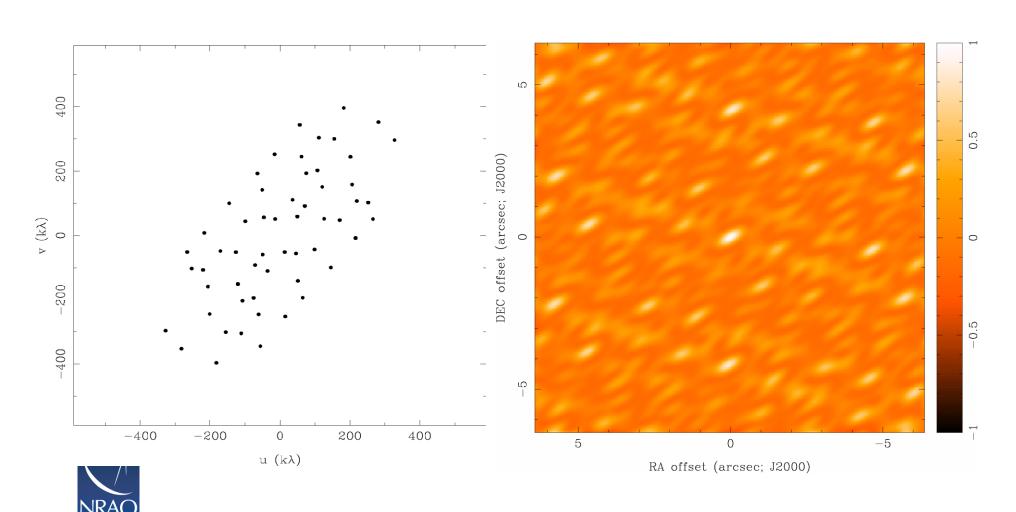
6 Antennas (15 baselines)



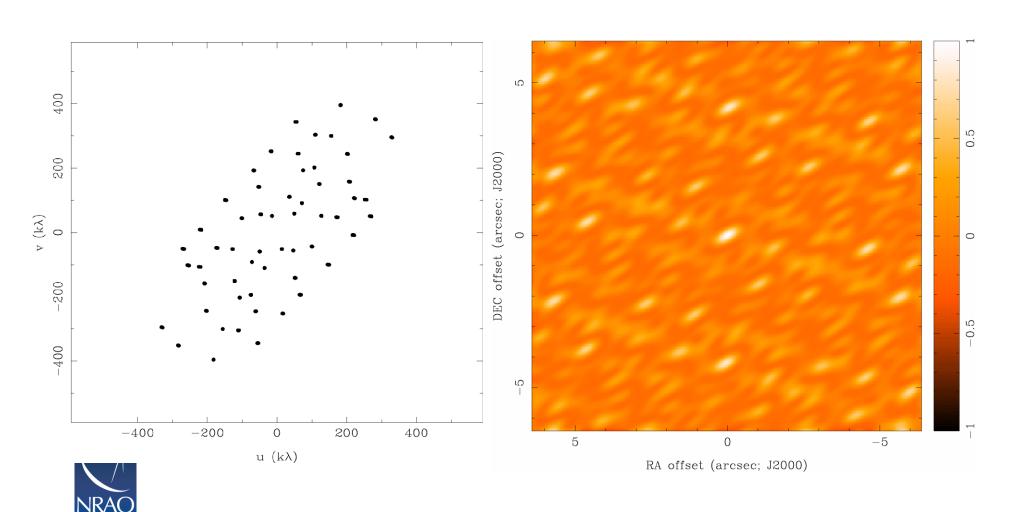
7 Antennas (21 baselines)



8 Antennas (28 baselines)

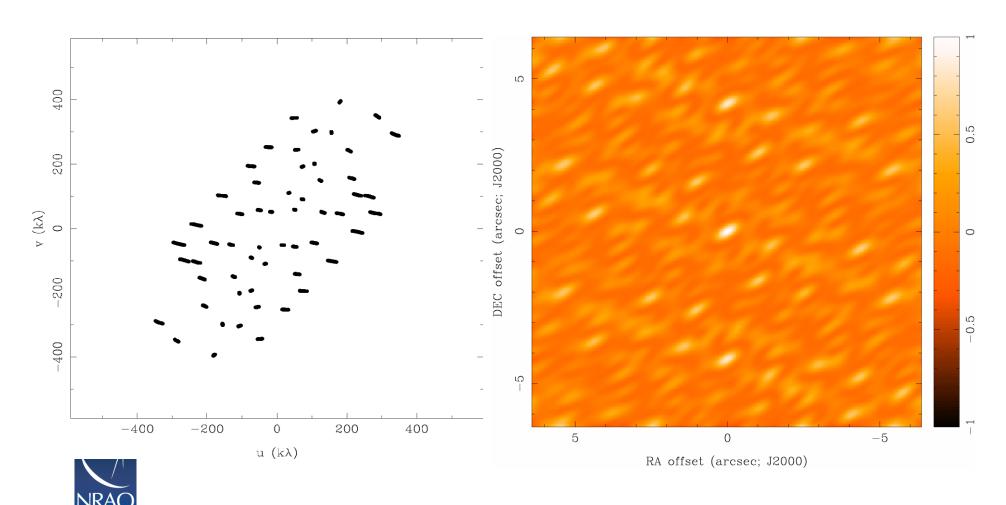


8 Antennas x 6 Samples



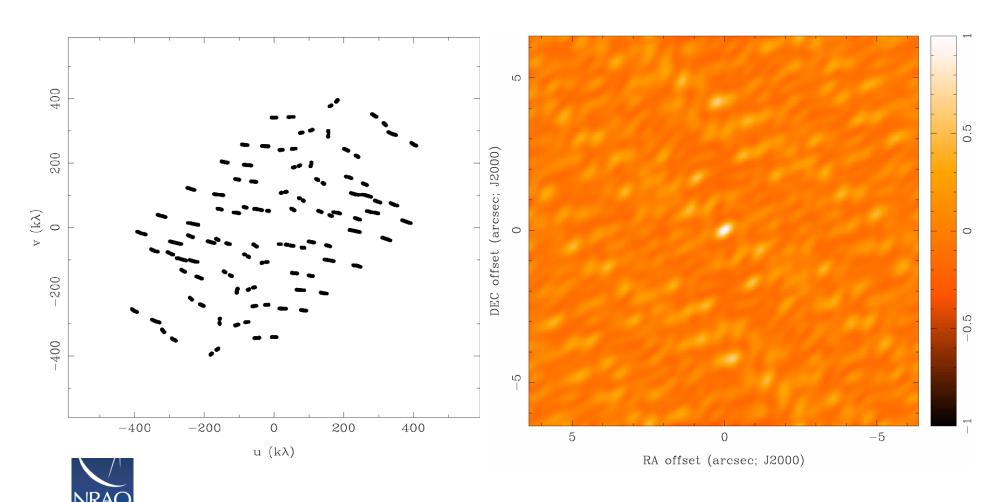
Earth Rotation!

8 Antennas x 30 Samples



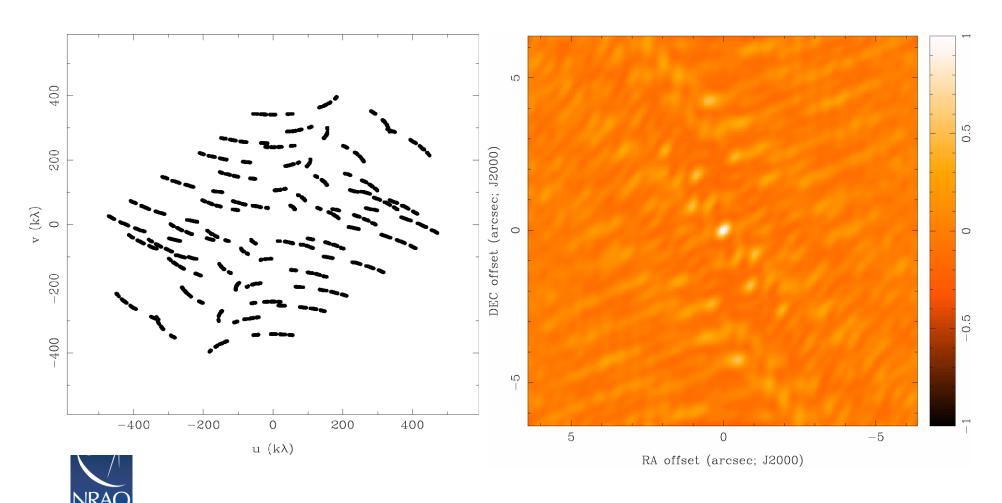
Earth Rotation!

8 Antennas x 60 Samples



Earth Rotation!

8 Antennas x 120 Samples



Earth Rotation!

8 Antennas x 240 Samples

