

Monitoring the Galactic Center with the Long Wavelength Array



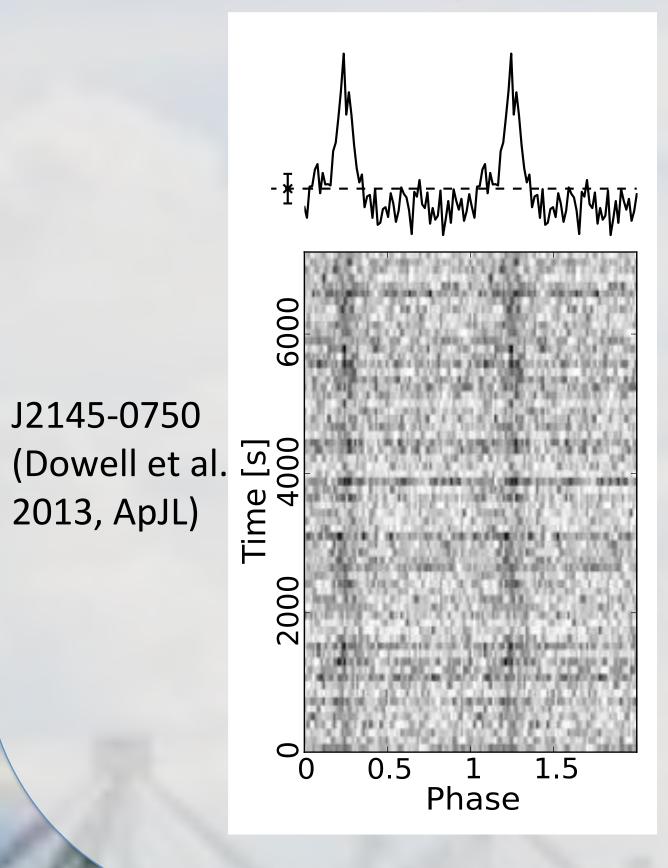


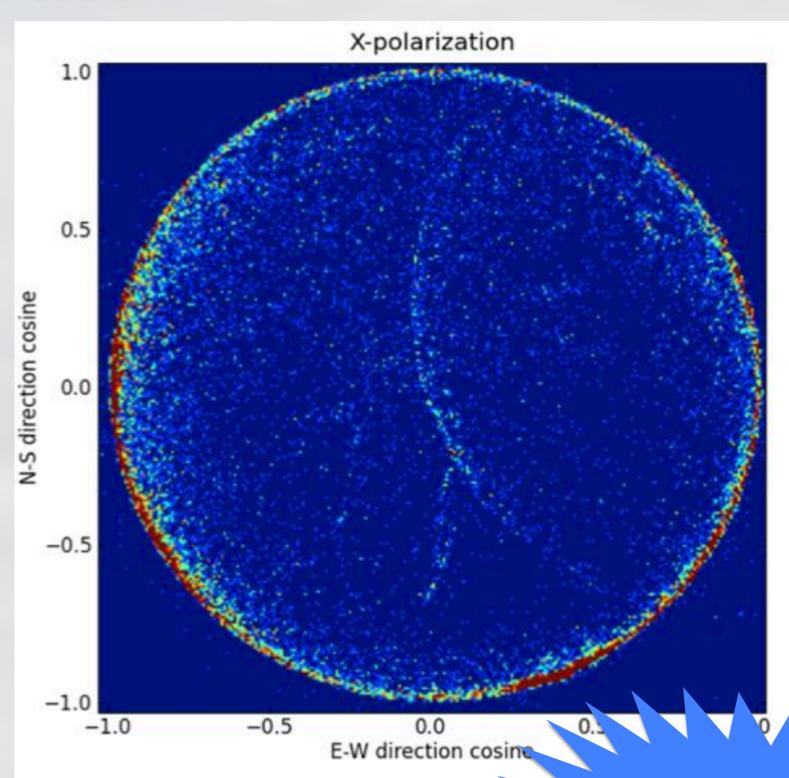
Greg Taylor (UNM) on behalf of the Long Wavelength Array Collaboration http://lwa.unm.edu



LWA1 Science

- LWA1 is a radio telescope operating between 10 and 88 MHZ in New Mexico, USA. The 520 dipoles provide excellent sensitivity
- LWA1 supports a variety of science cases from the ionosphere to the dark ages
- Recent results include studies of the neutral wind in the ionosphere via meteor trails and detection of the millisecond pulsar J2145-0750

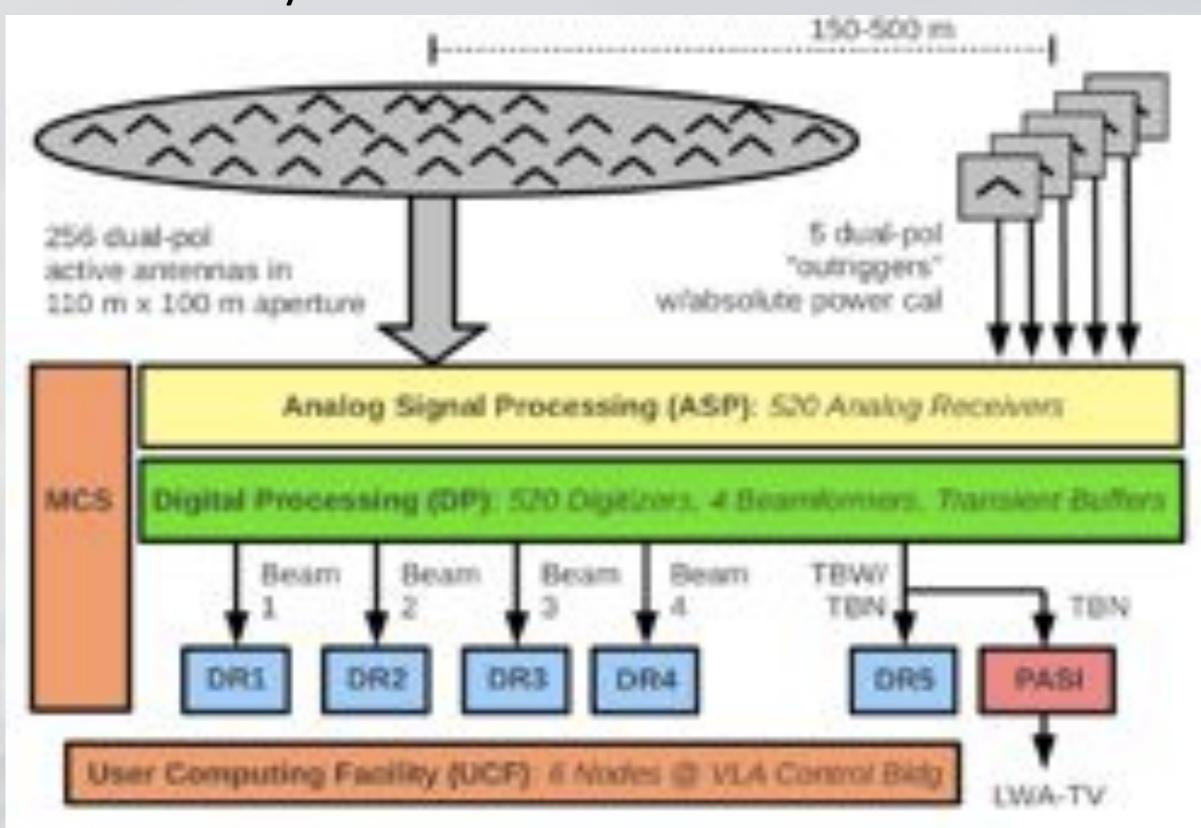




Meteor Trails (Helmboldt, in prep.)

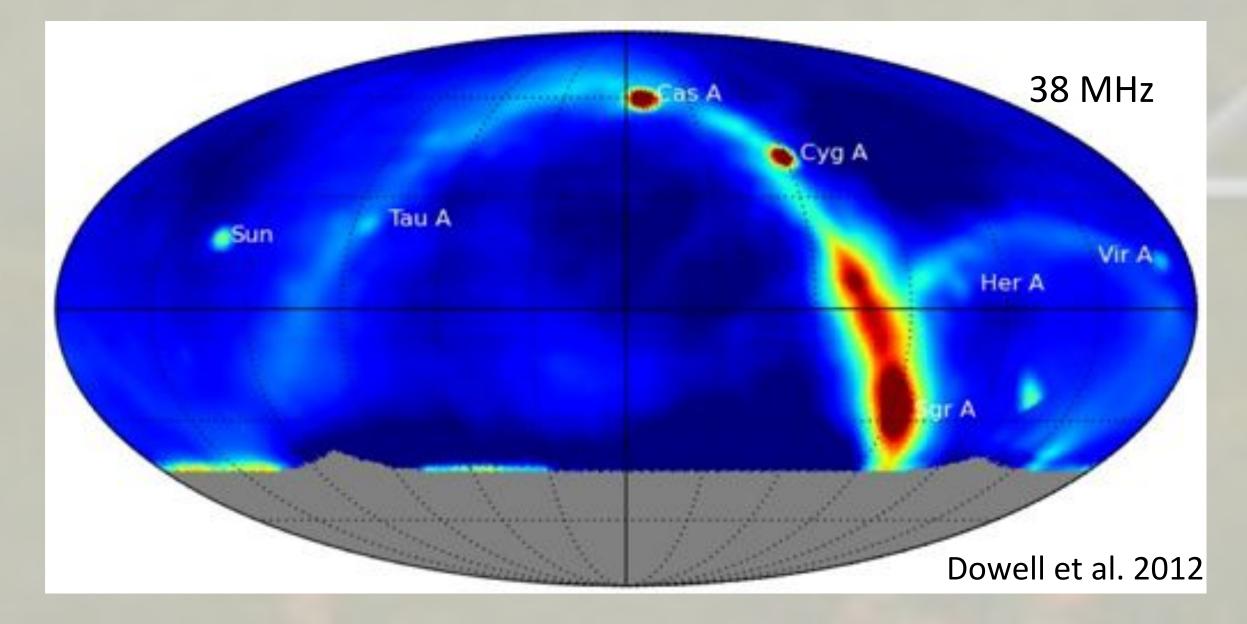
LWA1 Architecture

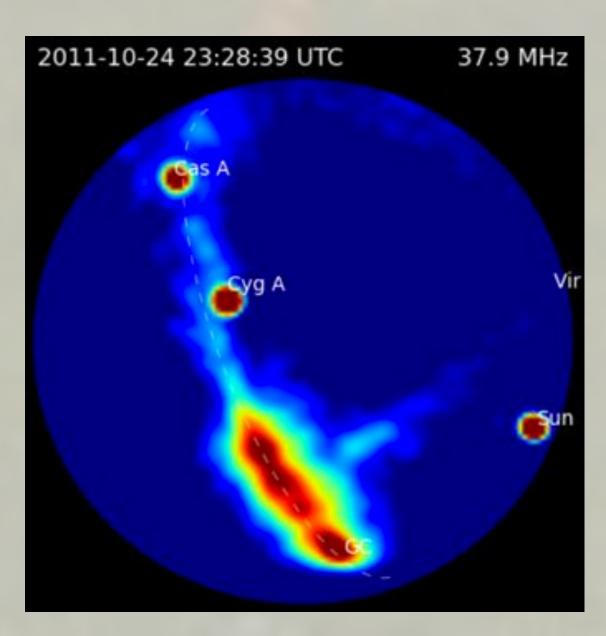
- LWA1 provides 4 independent beams, each 16 MHz wide or a signal from all dipoles (100 KHz continuous or 98 MHz but only for 61 msec every 5 min)
- The LWA Software Library (LSL) provides analysis tools for working with LWA1 data
- The LWA Users Computing Facility with 50 TB of disk provides computing co-located with the data collection for fast analysis



Co-location of processing with data leads to faster data analysis

All-sky Monitoring



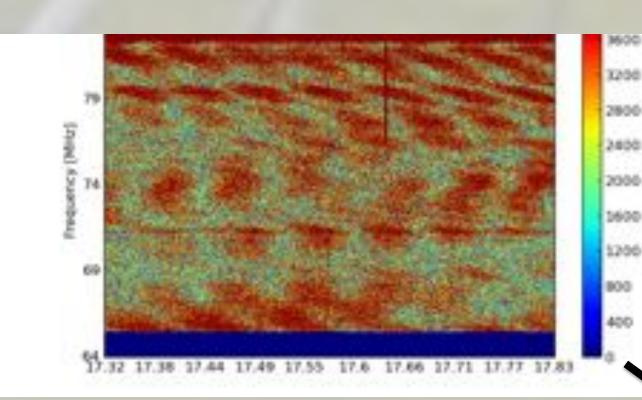


Software correlator and imager Receives a 100 KHz stream from all 520 dipoles Near-real-time imaging at 1 sec cadence 100% duty cycle covering 3π steradians

Hartman et al. 2013, in prep.

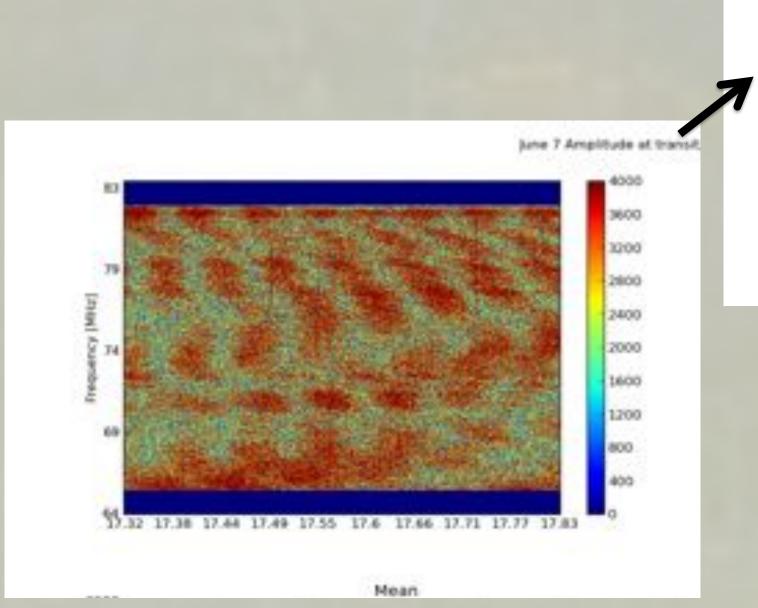


Galactic Center Campaign

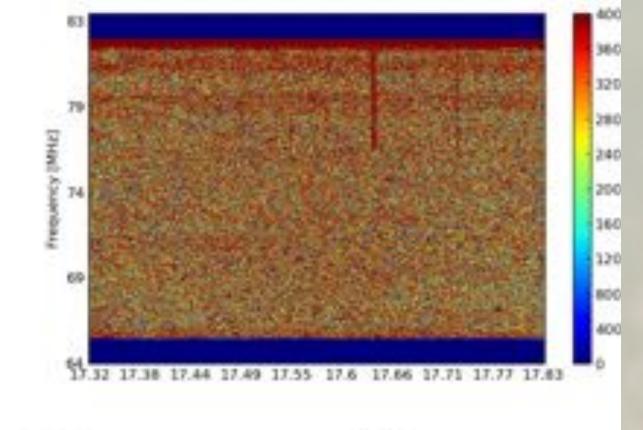


June 6, 19 MHz BW, 30 minute scan

Multiple beams, wide bandwidth
Nightly observations from May 1 – June 8
~4 hours each night covering galactic center
transit



June 7, 19 MHz BW, 30 minute scan



Difference of June 6 and 7 scans
Resolution: 4 seconds, 4.7 KHz pixels

Cutchin, Hyman, Kassim et al. 2013, in prep

Can realize ~50X and 15X improvements in sensitivity by averaging in BW and time, respectively: approach 1 Jy rms!