Introduction to the basic concepts and terminology of radio interferometry



EUROPEAN ARC ALMA Regional Centre || Germany





Universität zu **Köln**

ALMA community days





This presentation has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 730562 [RadioNet]

Outline

Part 1: by L. Moser

- Introduction to aperture synthesis
 - Interferometers: spatial filters

Part 2: by S. Mühle

- Interferometers: spectral setup
- An overview of receivers and correlator

Part 3: by B. Magnelli

The sensitivity of an interferometer

Thanks to A. Sanchez-Monge and A. Karim for slides and comments!

Part 1: aperture synthesis, spatial filters

German ARC: ALMA community days (March 2017)

Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array



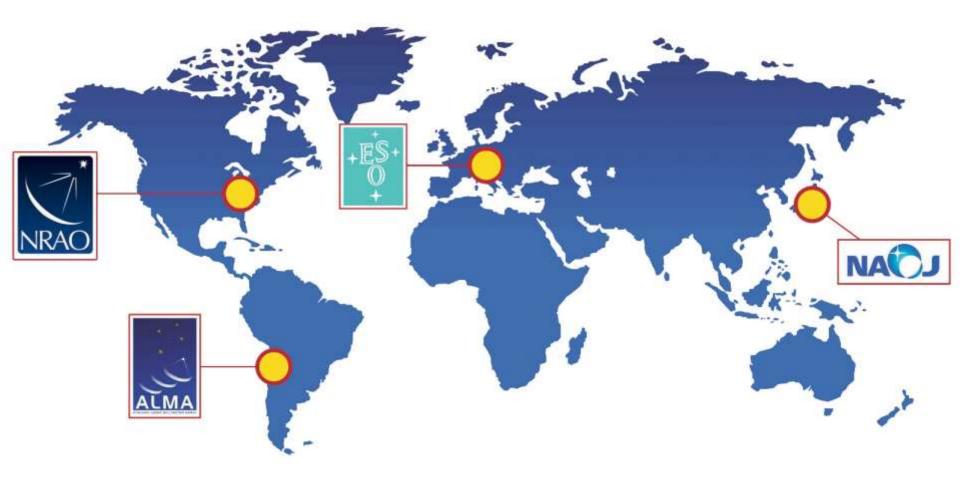
Image credit: Mélisse Bonfand

Where is ALMA?



Atacama desert (Chile)

- at 5000 m height
- ... control center at 2900 m height



International collaboration:

3 ARC (ALMA Regional Centers) + JAO (Joint ALMA Observatory)

ALMA in Cycle 5 is ...



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43x 12m antennas 10x 7m antennas (ACA) 3x 12m antennas (TP)



43x 12m antennas 10x 7m antennas (ACA) 3x 12m antennas (TP)



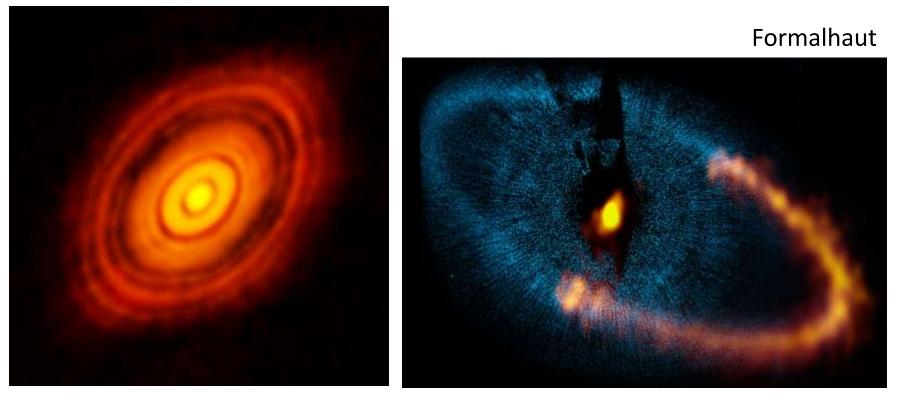
ALMA in Cycle 5 is ...

43x 12m antennas 10x 7m antennas (ACA) 3x 12m antennas (TP)



What can ALMA do?

HL Tau

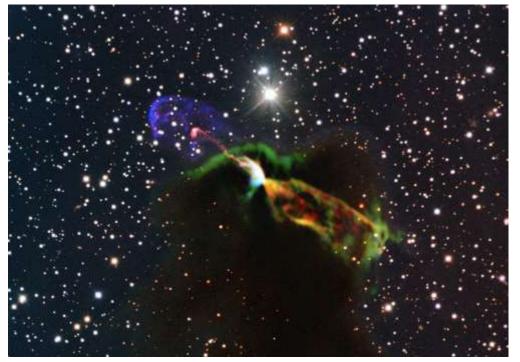


protoplanetary disks

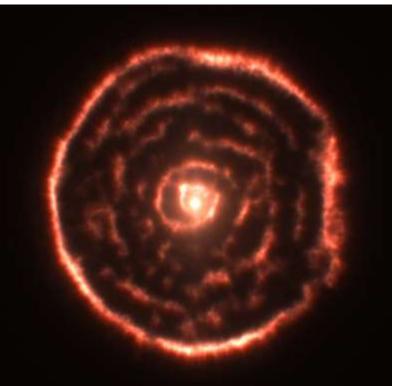
debris disks

What can ALMA do?

Herbig-Haro 46/47



R Sculptoris

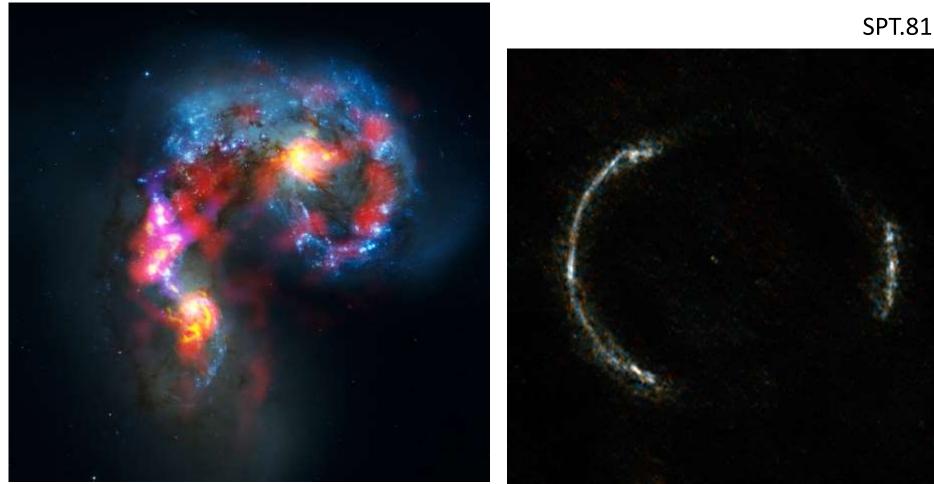


molecular outflows and jets

red giants and old stars

What can ALMA do?

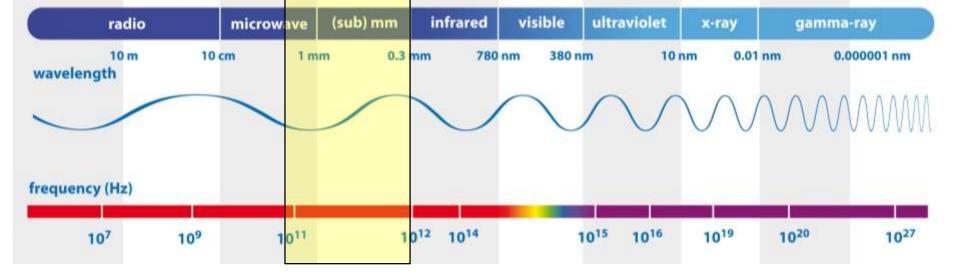
Antennae galaxies



galaxy mergers

lensed galaxies

radio		microwave	(sub) mm	infrared	visible	ultraviolet	x-ray	gamma	-ray
10 m wavelength	10	cm 1 m	m 0.3	mm 780	nm 380 n	m 10	nm 0.01	1 nm 0.	000001 nm
					\frown	\sim	\sim	\sim	
requency (Hz)									
107	10 ⁹	1011	1	0 ¹² 10 ¹⁴	1	0 ¹⁵ 10 ¹⁶	10 ¹⁹	10 ²⁰	10 ²⁷

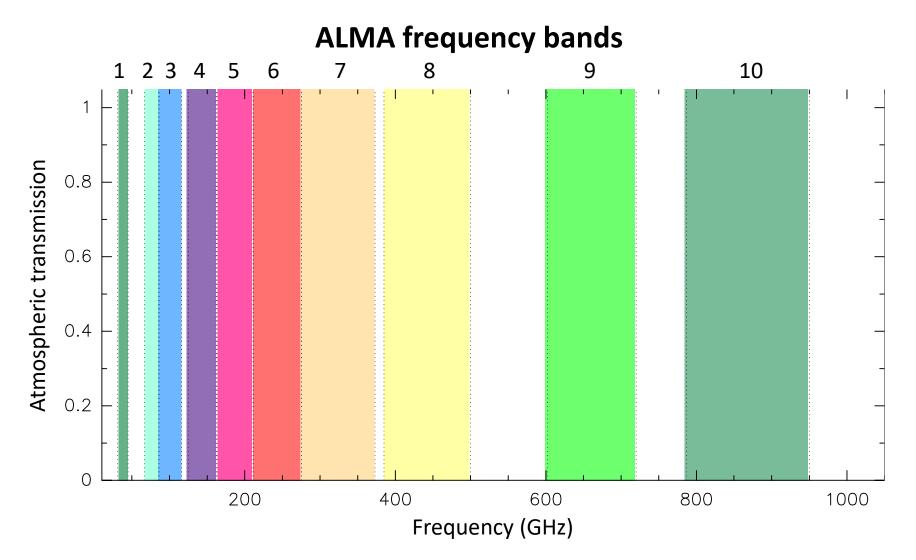


ALMA observable range "Cold Universe"

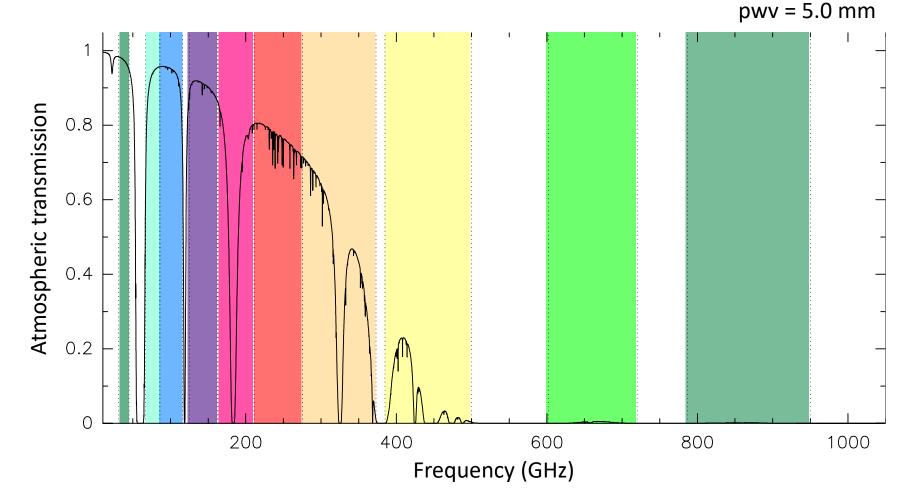
... at this altitude (5000 m) the water vapor in atmosphere is low



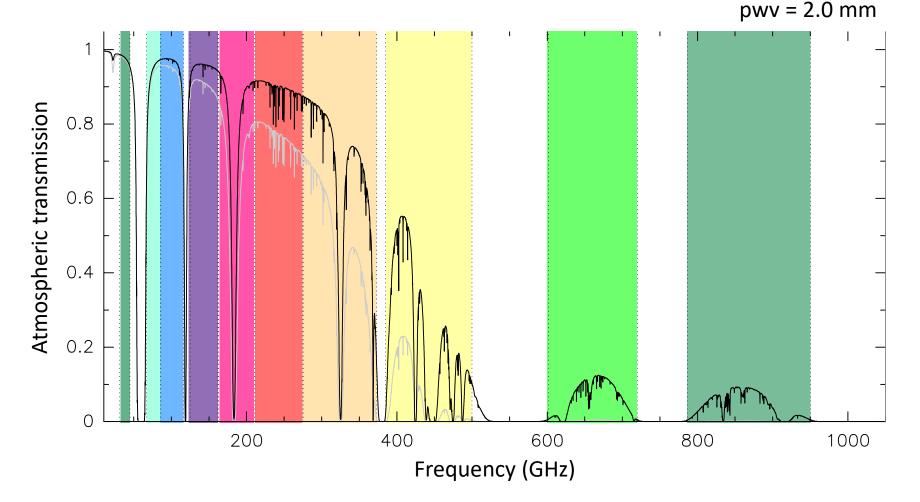
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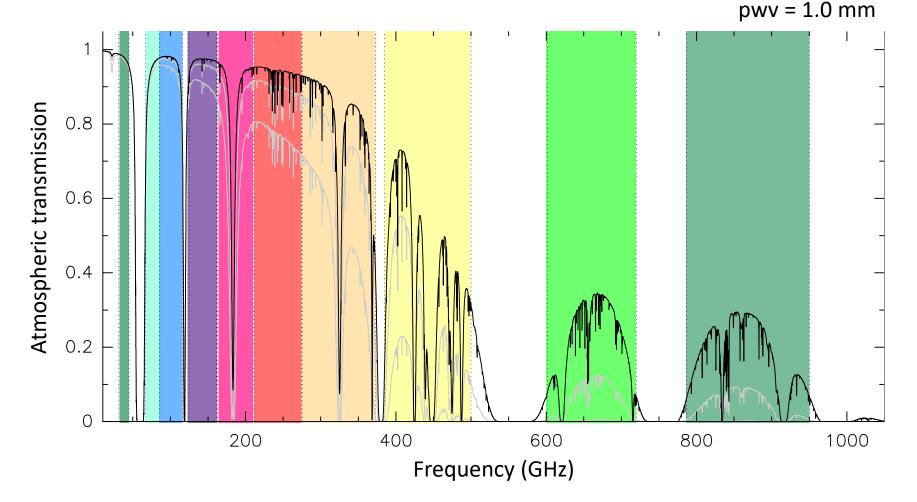
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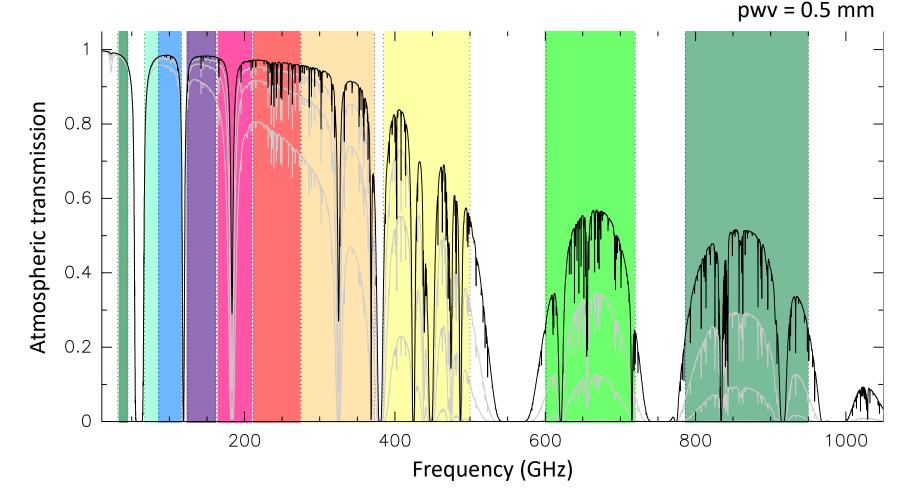
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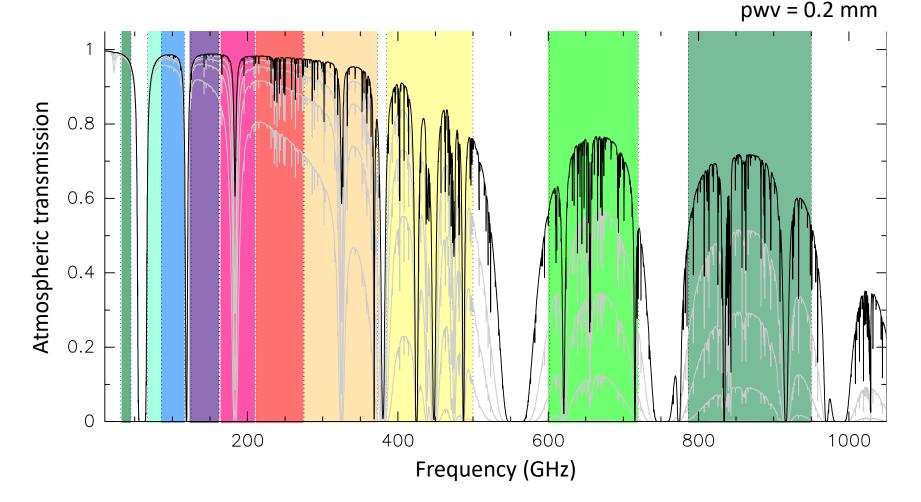
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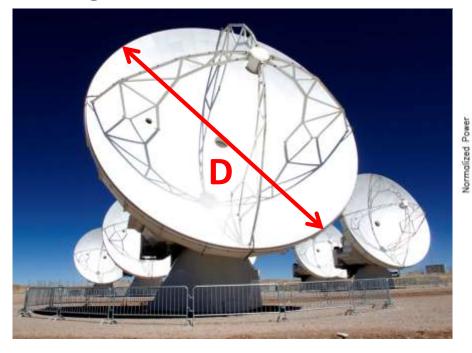


Why so many antennas? ... instead of one

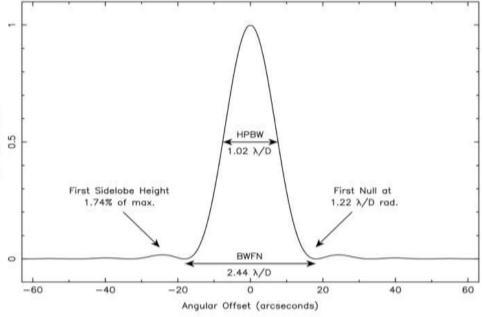


Image credit: Mélisse Bonfand

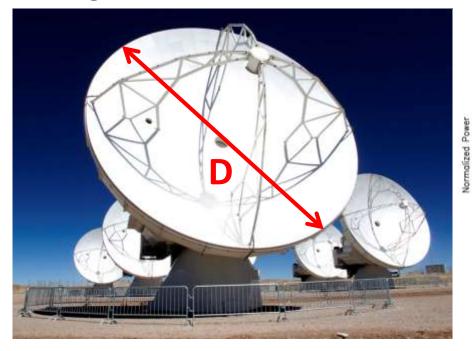
Single-dish with diameter D



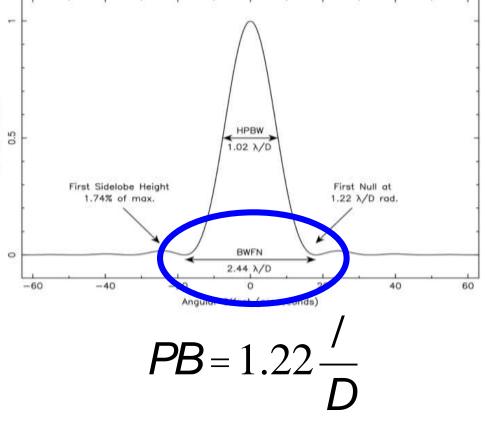
(1D) antenna power response



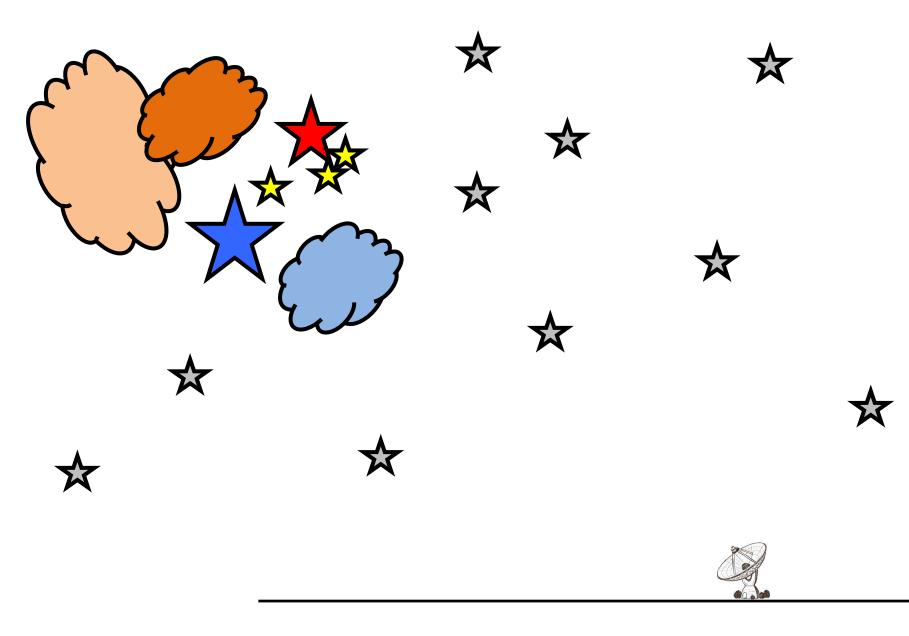
Single-dish with diameter D

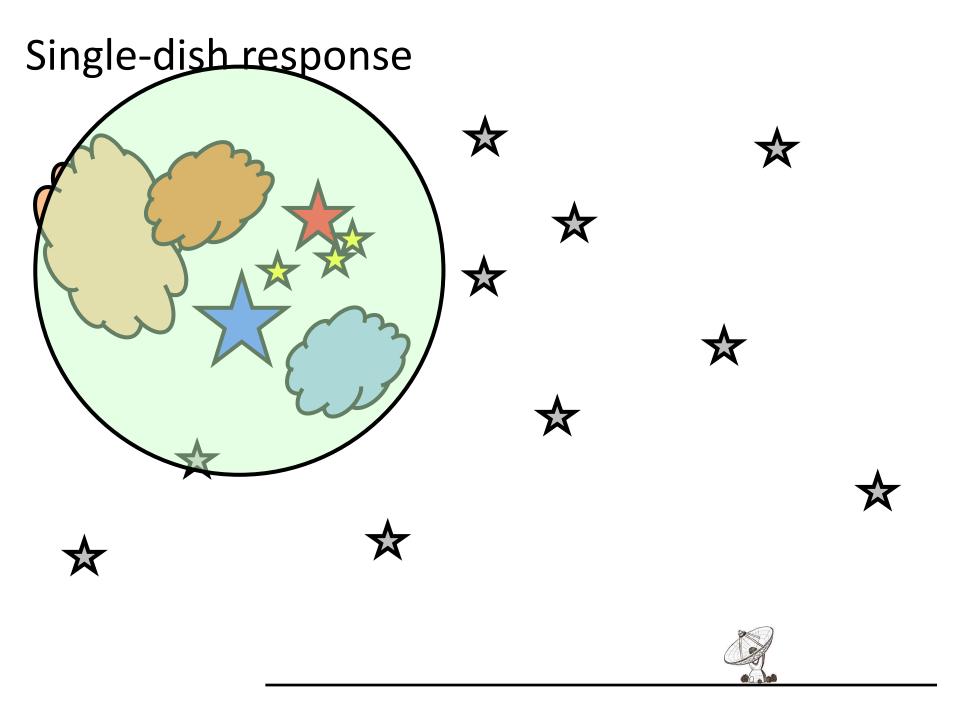


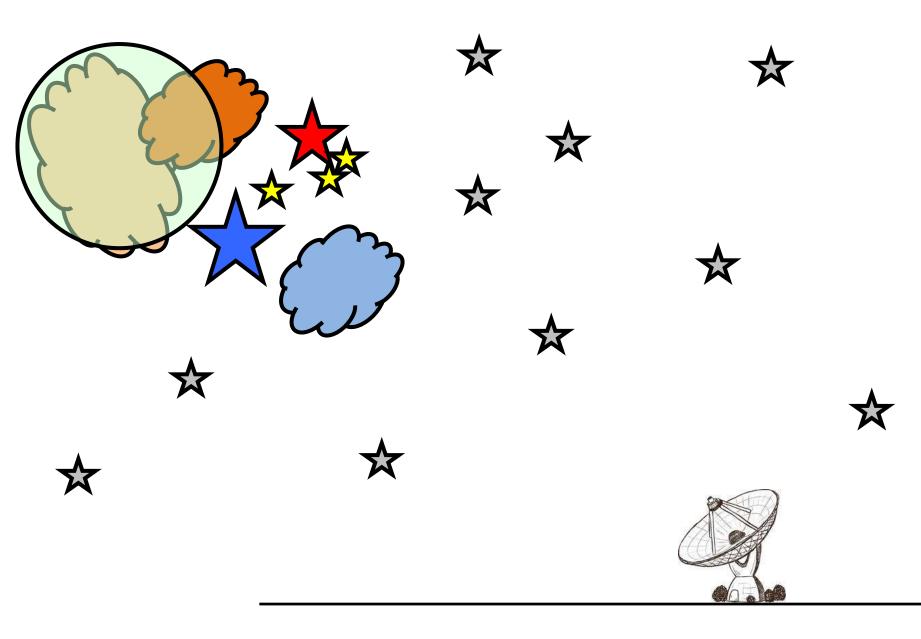
(1D) antenna power response

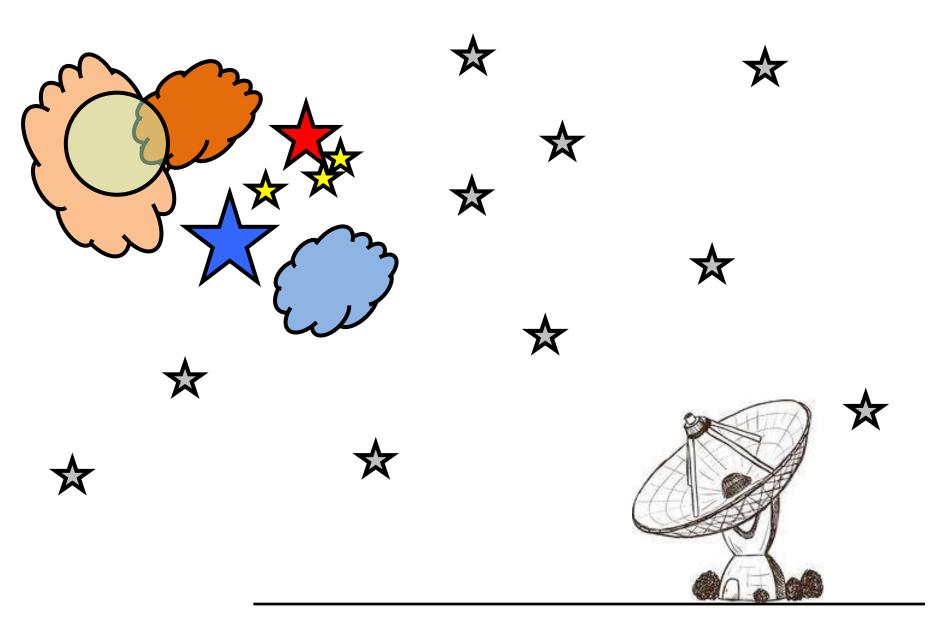


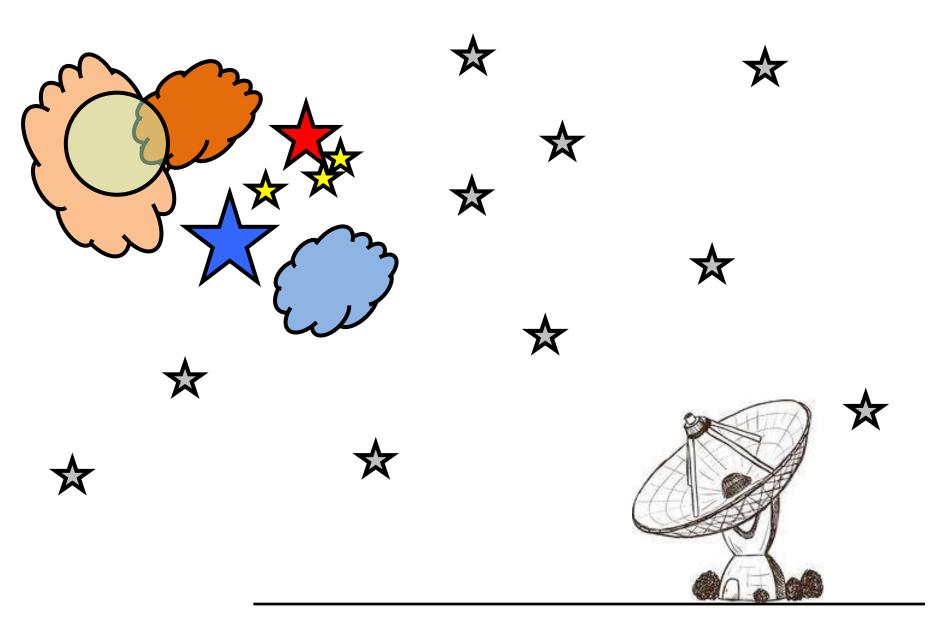
PRIMARY BEAM



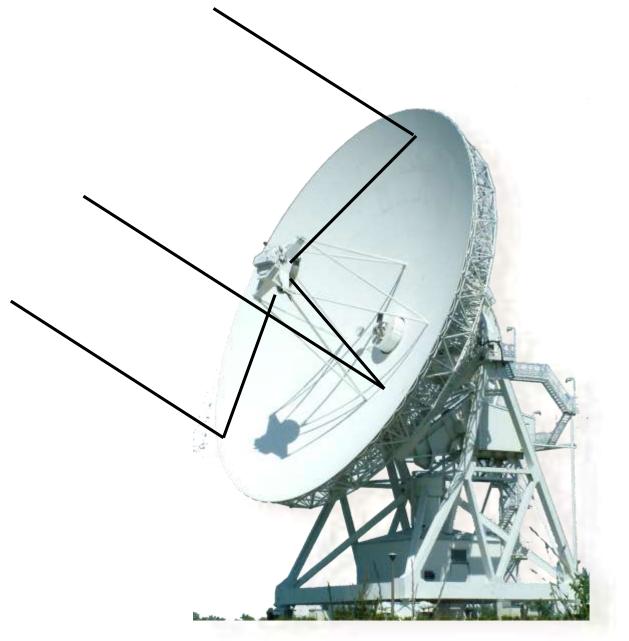


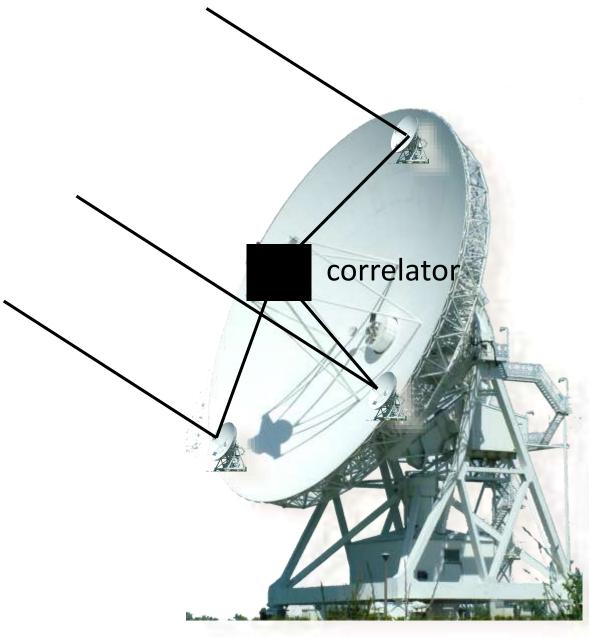




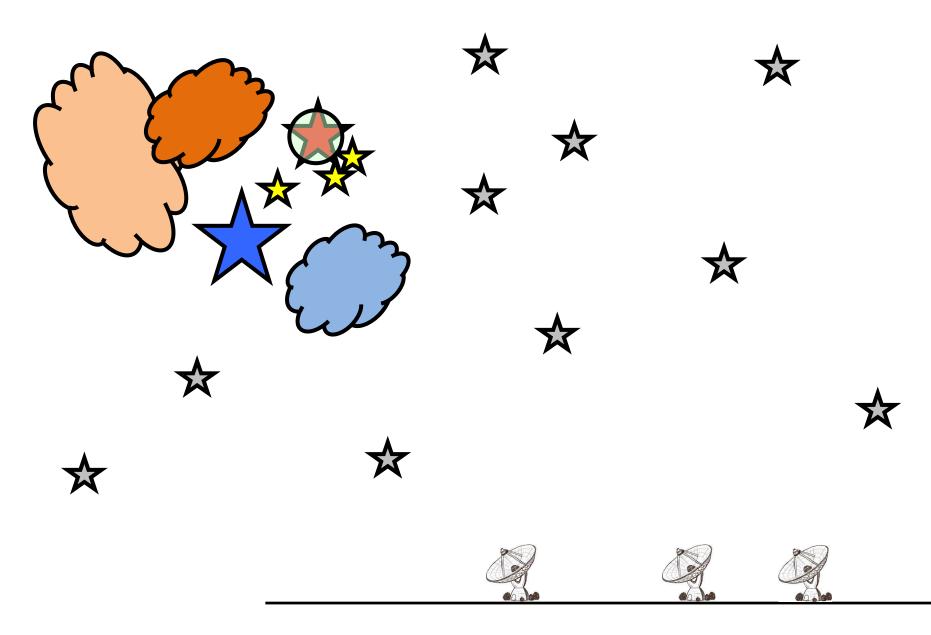


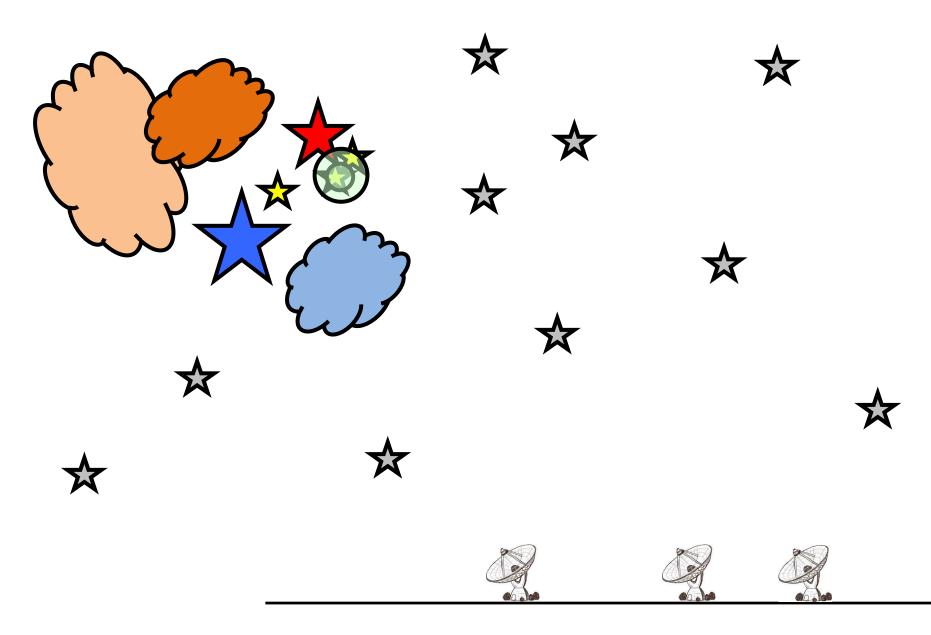




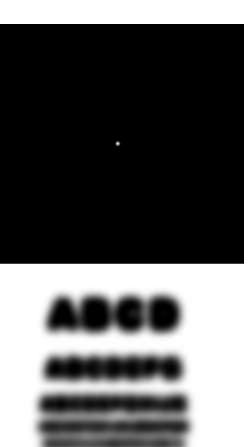




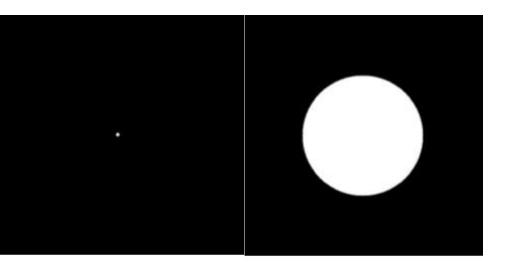




Small Single-Dish



Large Single-Dish



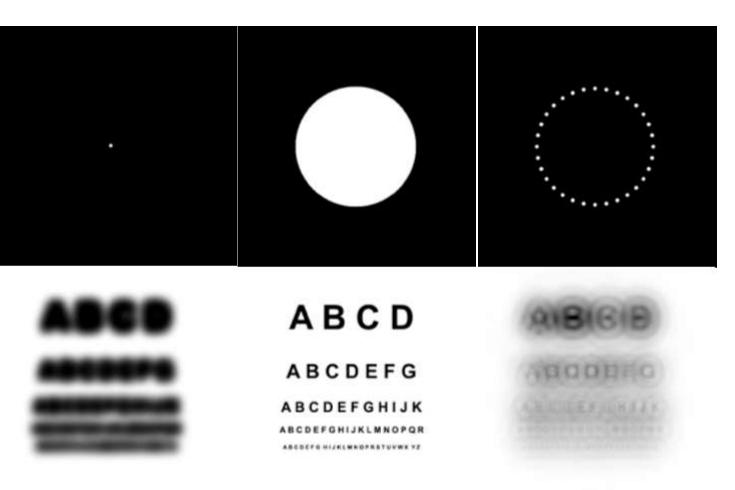


ABCD

ABCDEFG

A B C D E F G H I J K ABC DEF G H I J K L M NO P Q R ABC DEF G H I J K L M NO P Q R

"Circular" dishes



"Random" dishes



Interferometry – visibilities

... a bit of equations (Fourier Transform)

$$V(u, v) = \hat{0} \hat{0} I(I, m) e^{2\rho i(uI+vm)} dI dm$$

Interferometry – visibilities

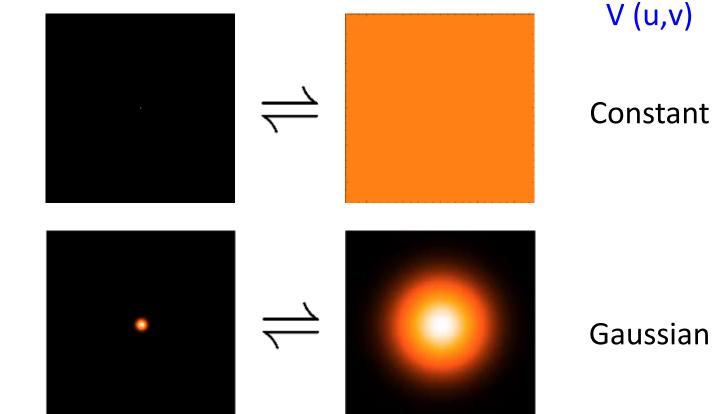
... a bit of equations (Fourier Transform)

$$V(u, v) = \hat{0} \hat{0} I(I, m) e^{2\rho i(uI+vm)} dI dm$$

I (l,m)

δ Function

Gaussian



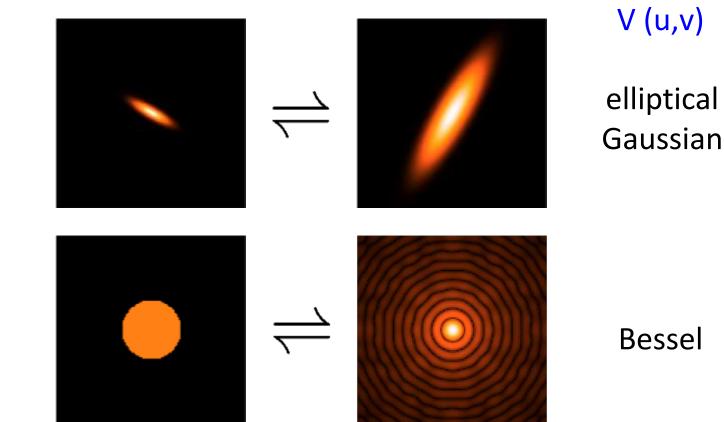
Interferometry – visibilities

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$$V(u, v) = \hat{0} \hat{0} I(I, m) e^{2\rho i(uI+vm)} dI dm$$

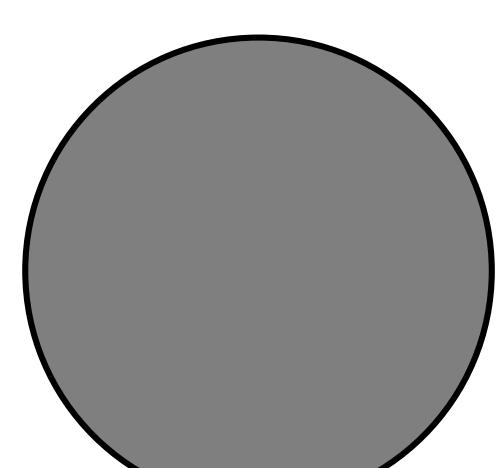
l (l,m)

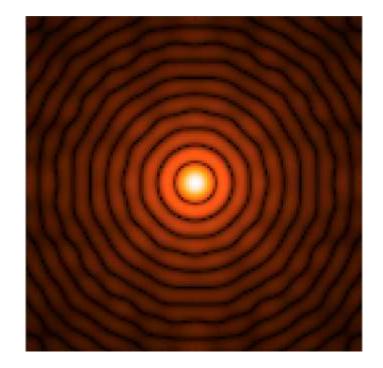
elliptical Gaussian



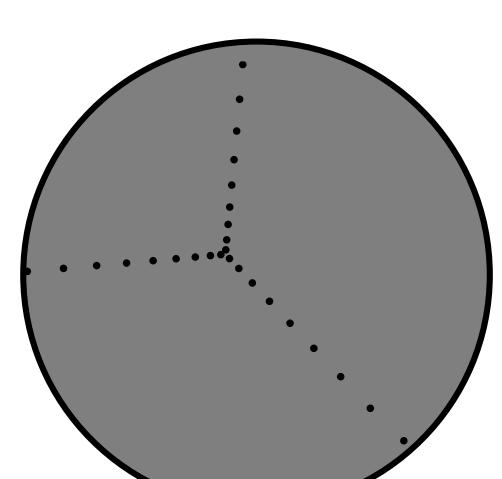
Disk

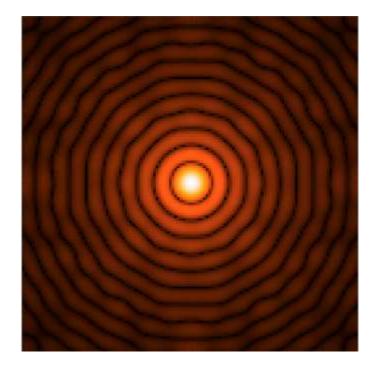
Interferometry – spatial filters



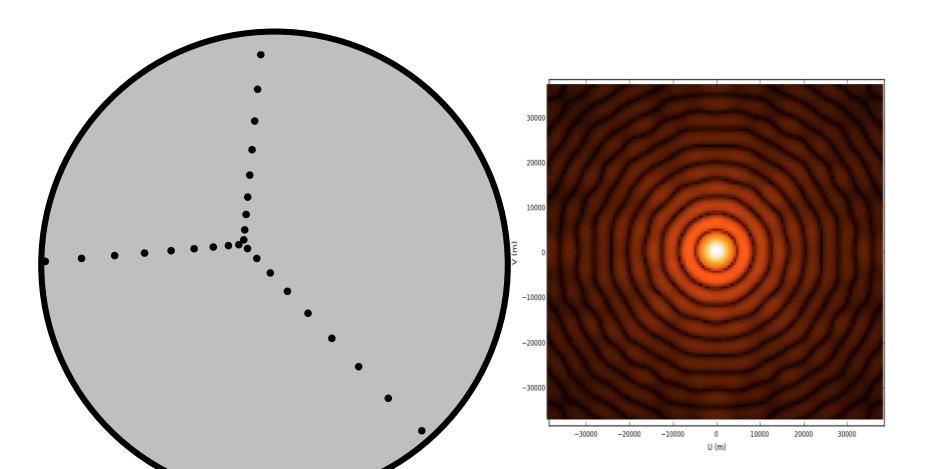


Interferometry – spatial filters





Interferometry – spatial filters

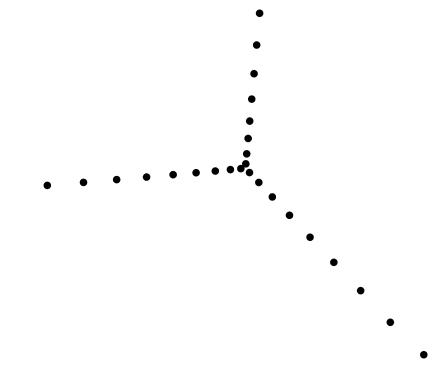


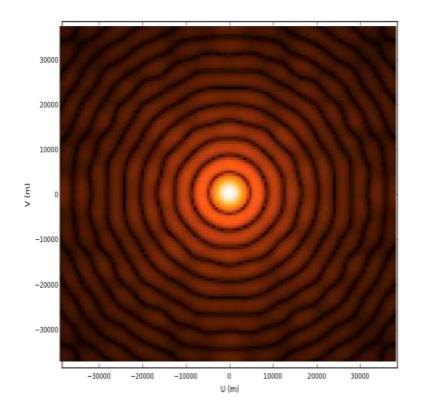
Example: VLA



Very Large Array (VLA)

- 27 antennas of 25 meters (diameter)
- observing from cm to mm wavelengths
- in New Mexico (USA)



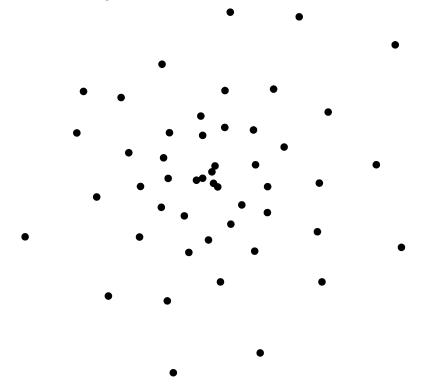


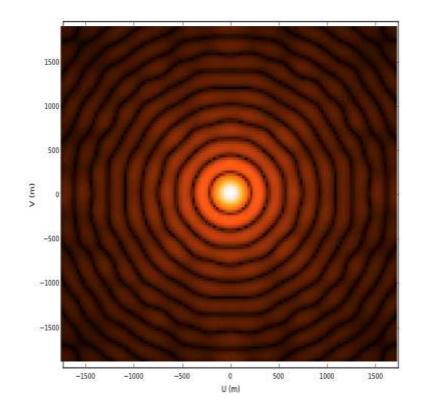
Example: ALMA

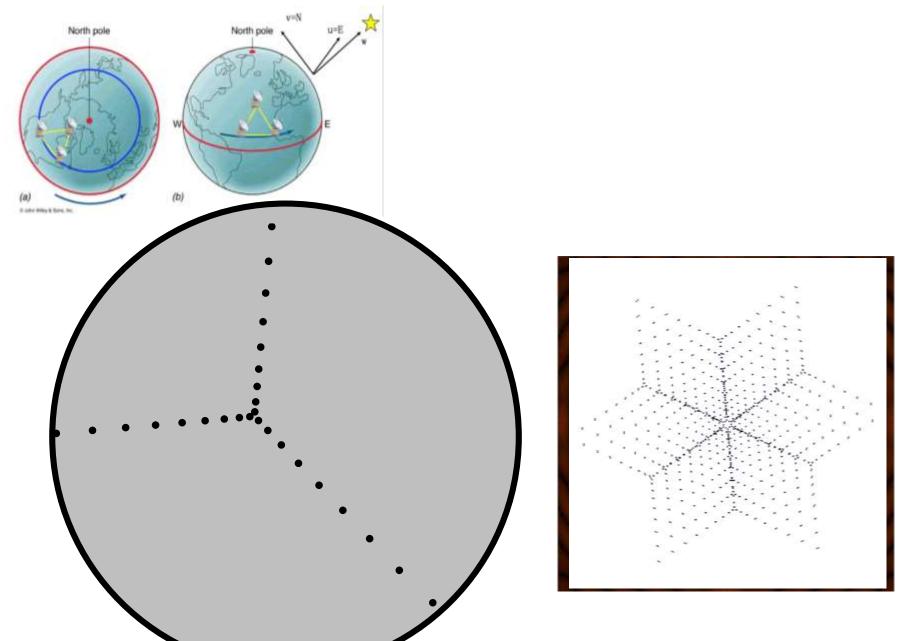


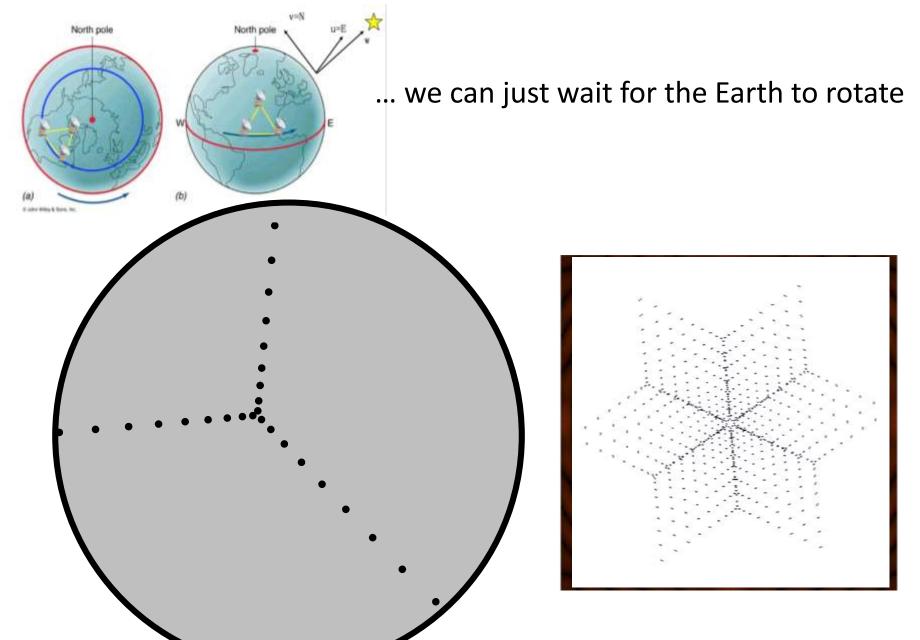
Atacama Large mm/submm Array (ALMA)

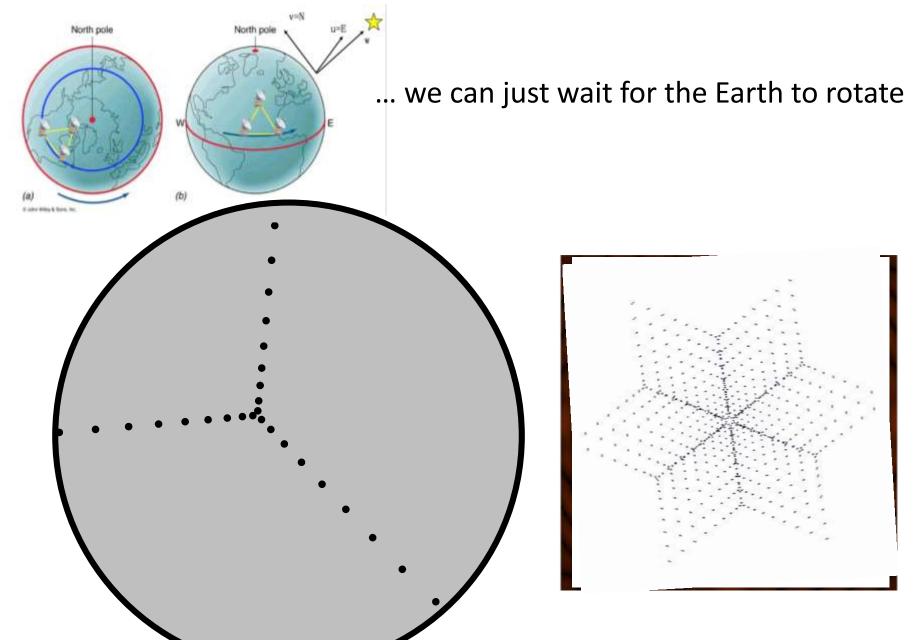
- 50 antennas of 12/7 meters
- observing from mm to submm
- in Llano Chajnantor (Chile)

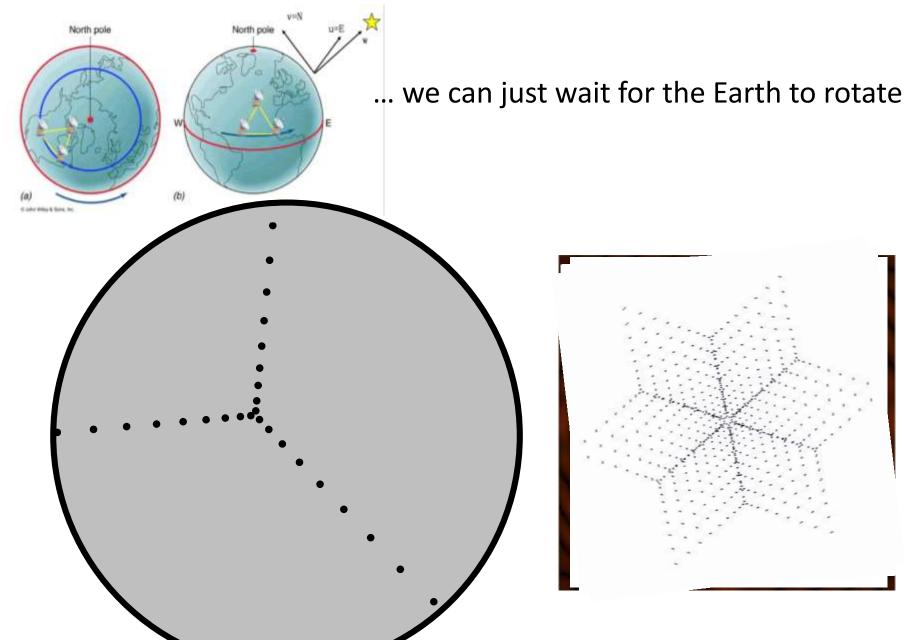


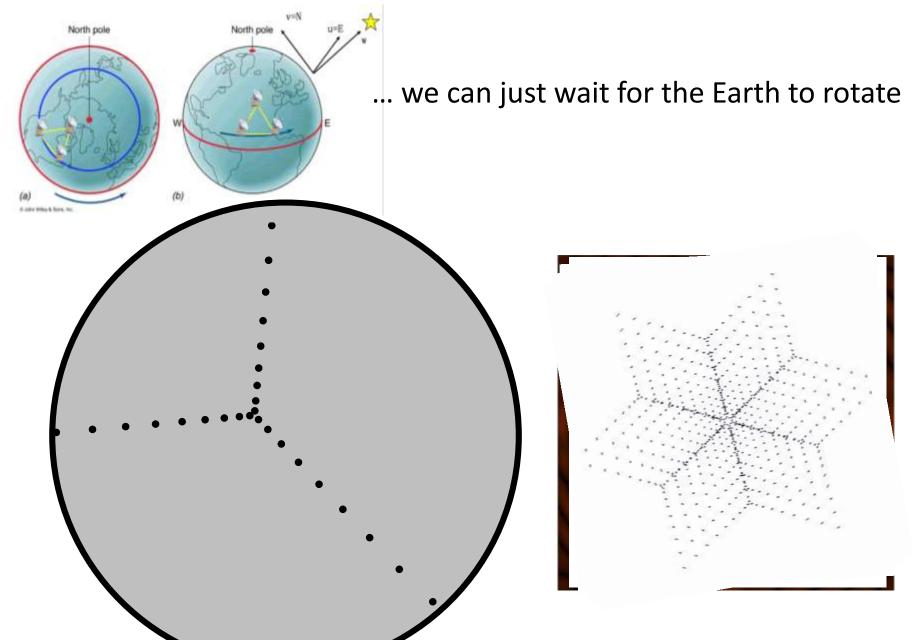


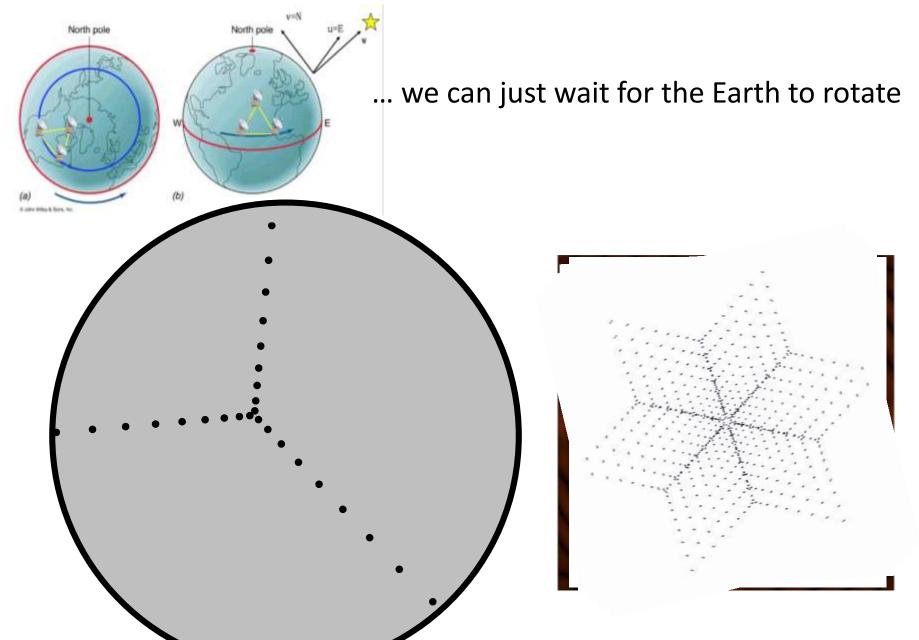


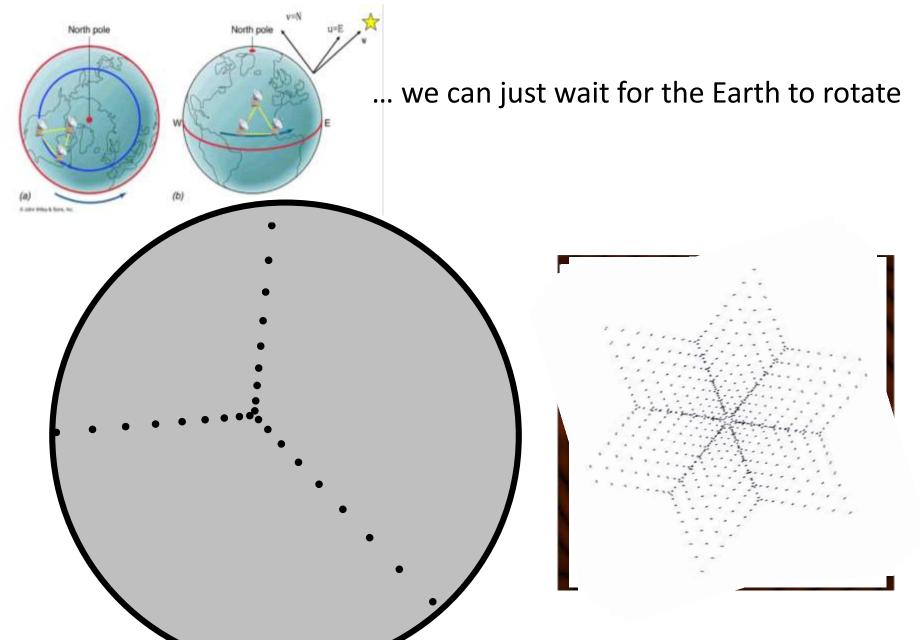


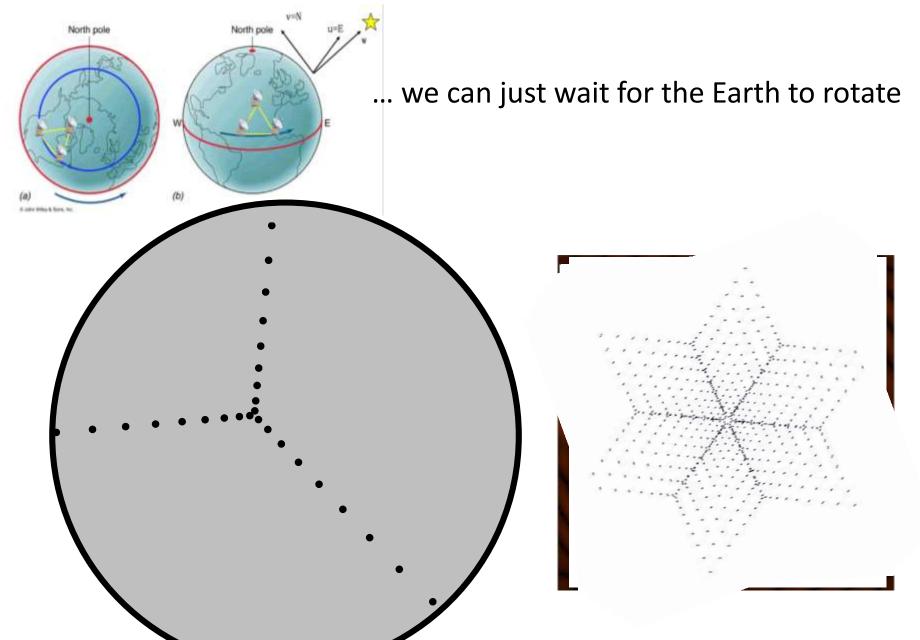




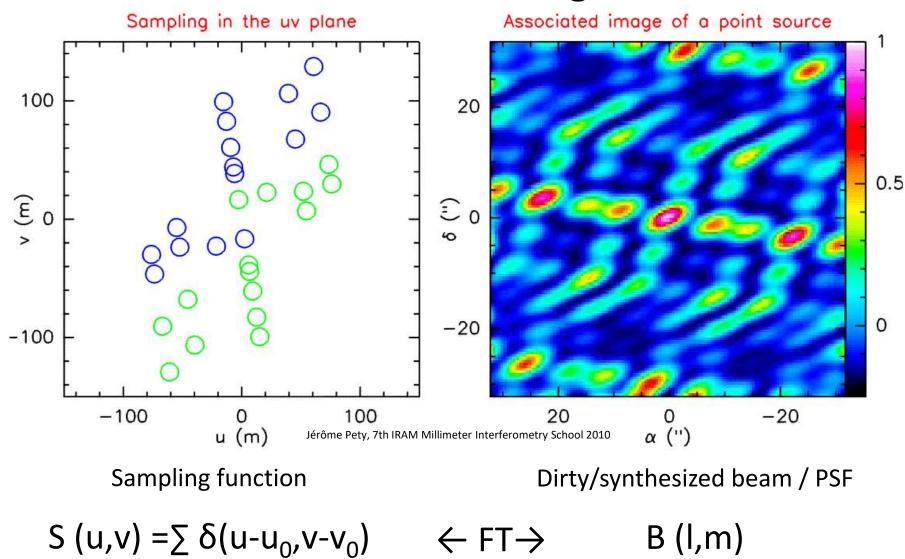


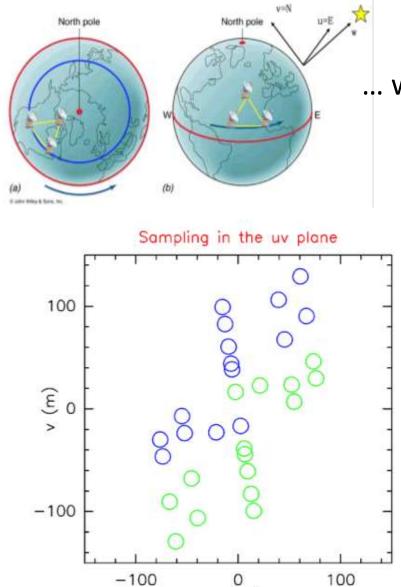






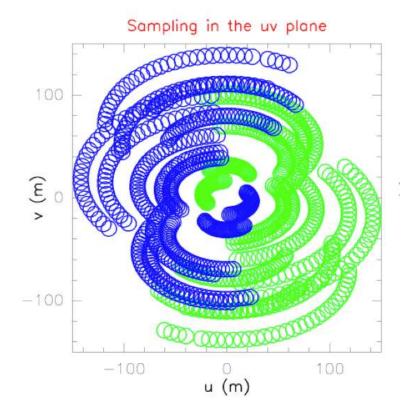
Earth rotation aperture synthesis and uv - coverage

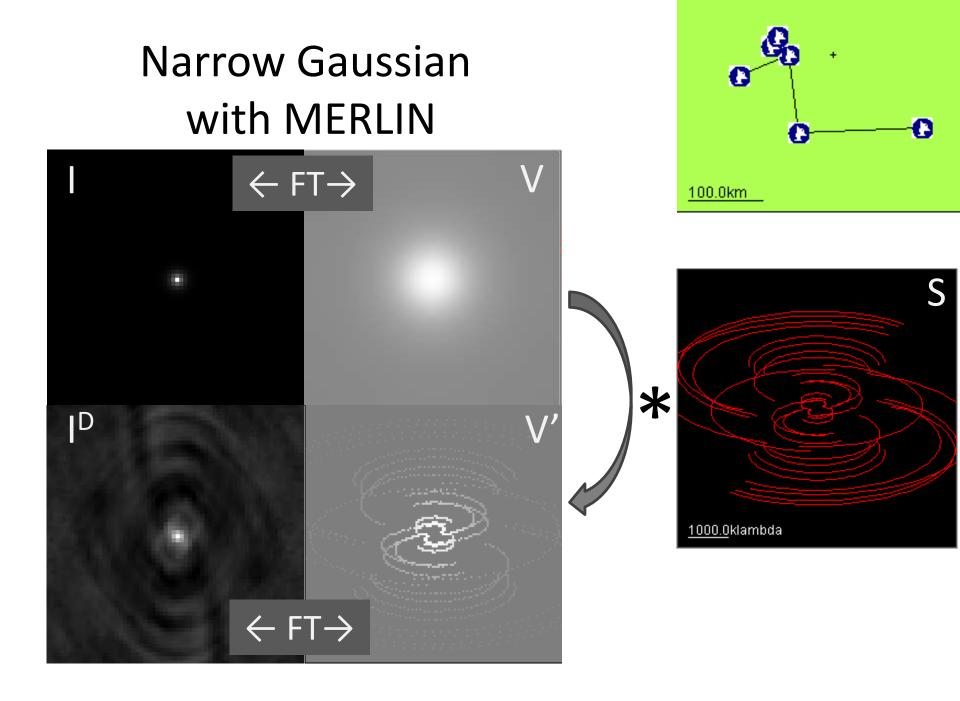


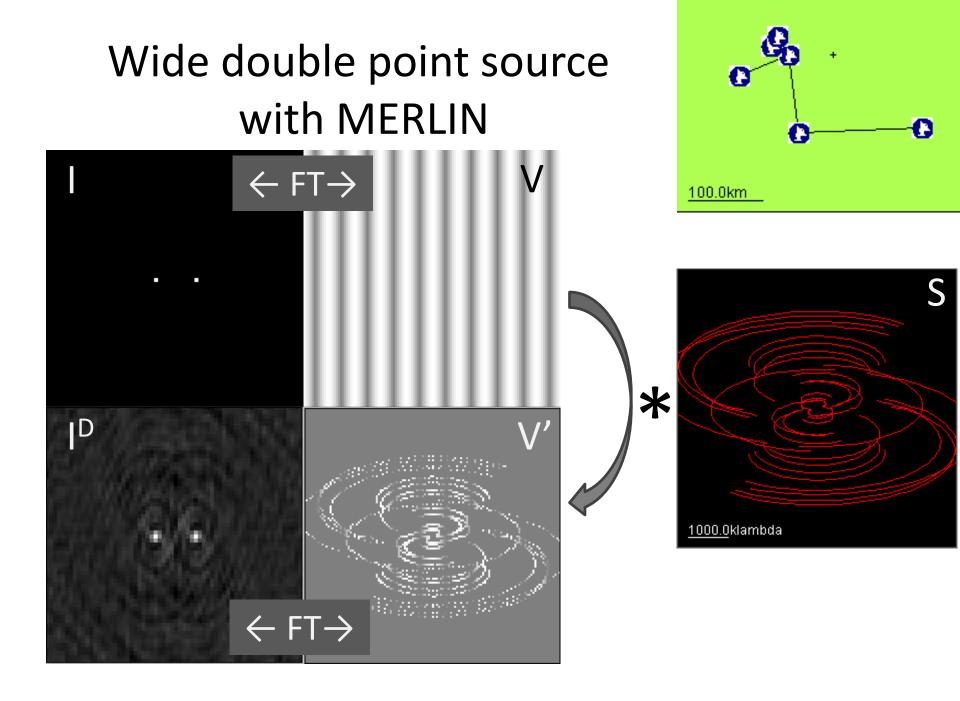


u (m)

... we can just wait for the Earth to rotate







The basic principle in practice

Sampled visibilityTrue visibilitySampling function $V'(u,v) = V(u,v) \times S(u,v)$ \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow FTFTFT

 $I^{D}(I,m) = I(I,m) * B(I,m)$

Dirty image

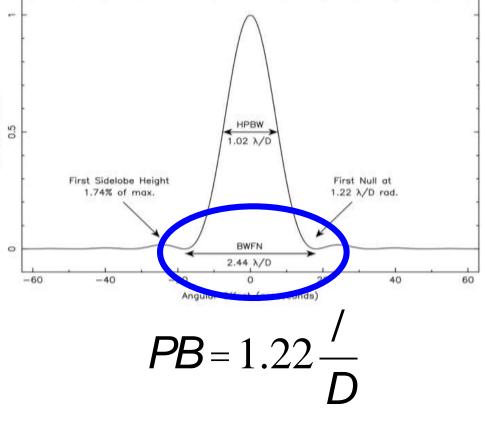
True image

Dirty beam

REMEMBER ... Single-dish response

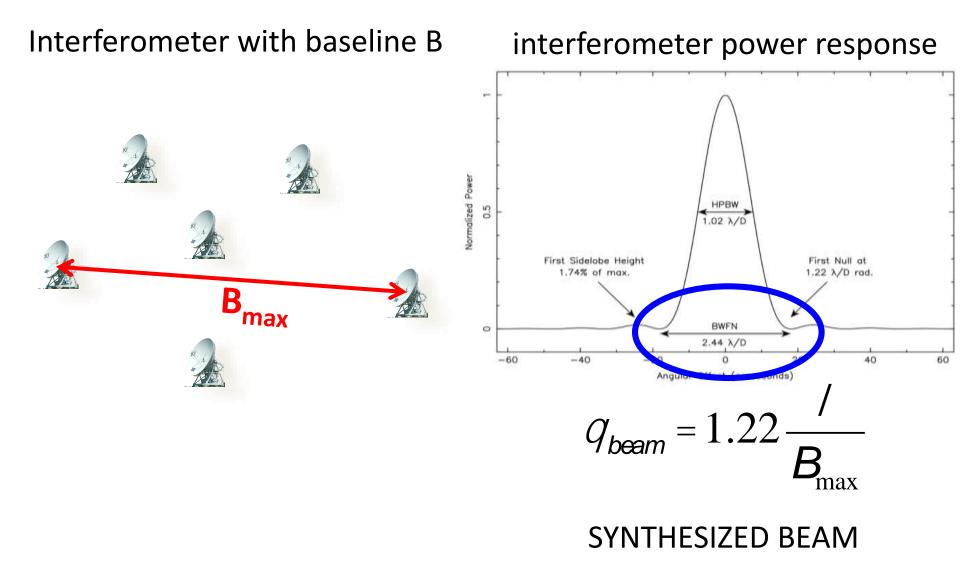
Single-dish with diameter D

(1D) antenna power response



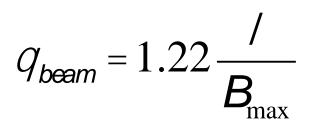
PRIMARY BEAM

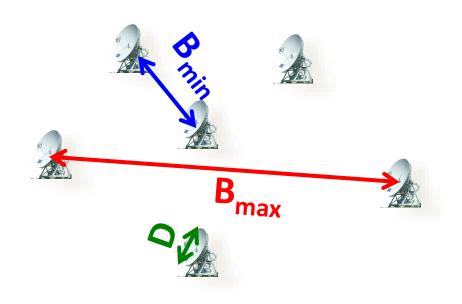
Interferometer "response"



Synthesized beam, primary beam and LAS

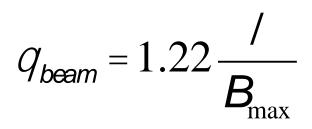
SYNTHESIZED BEAM



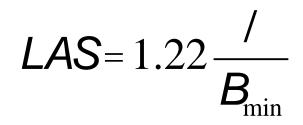


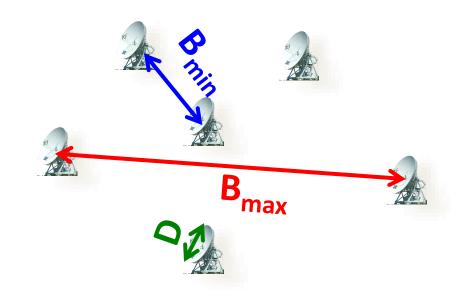
Synthesized beam, primary beam and LAS

SYNTHESIZED BEAM



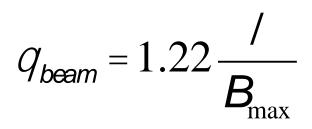
LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE



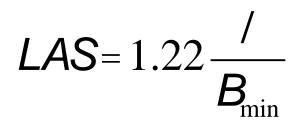


Synthesized beam, primary beam and LAS

SYNTHESIZED BEAM

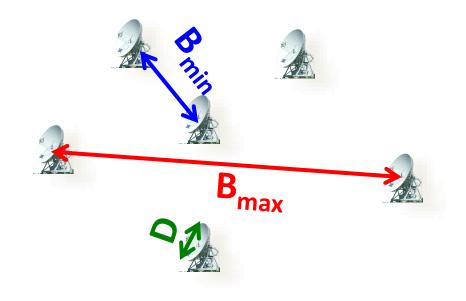


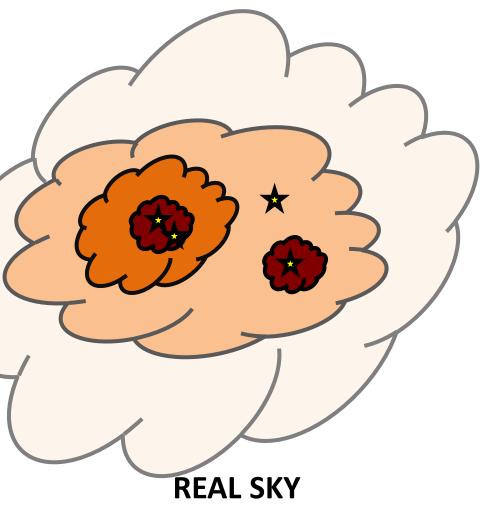
LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE

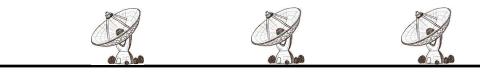


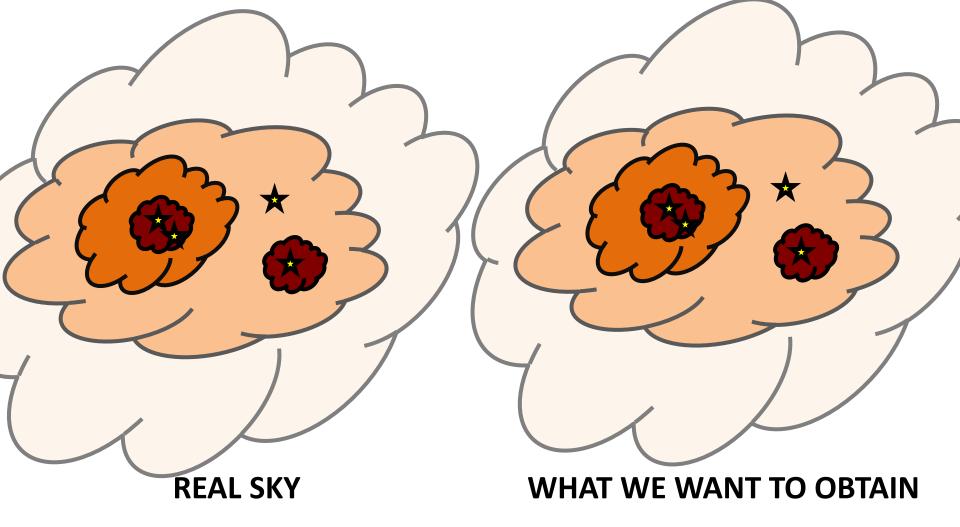
PRIMARY BEAM

 $PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{2}$



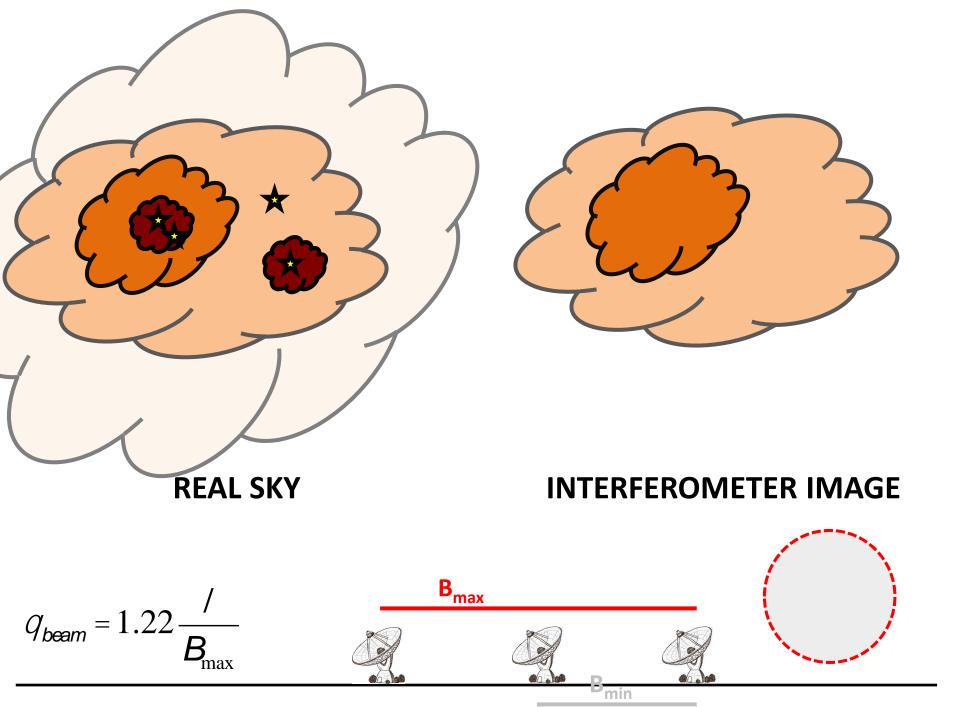


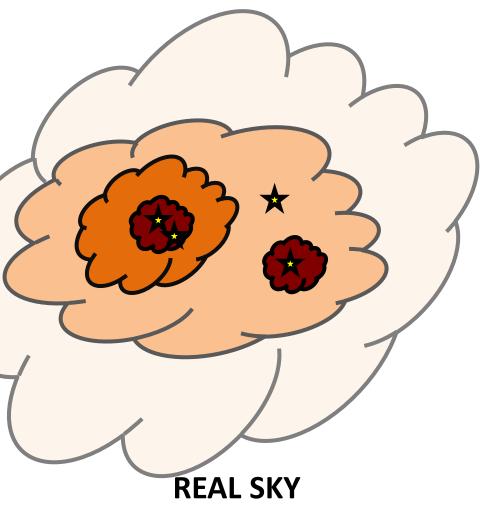


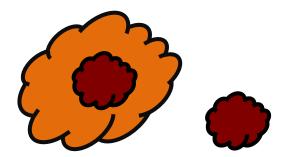




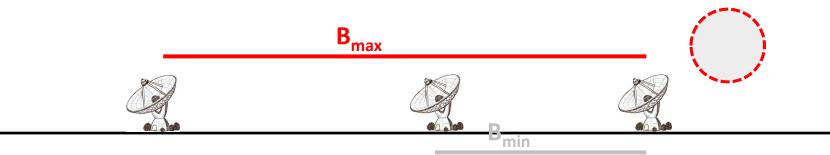


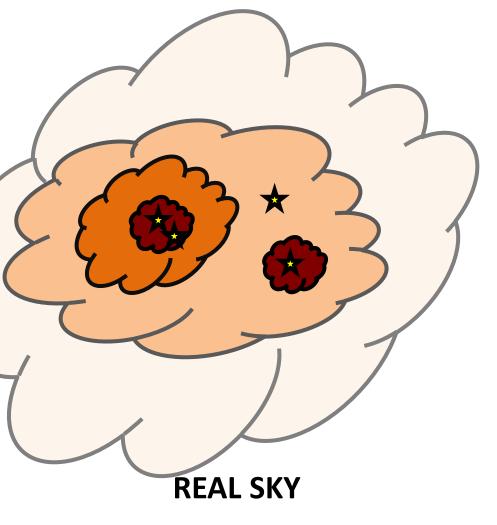






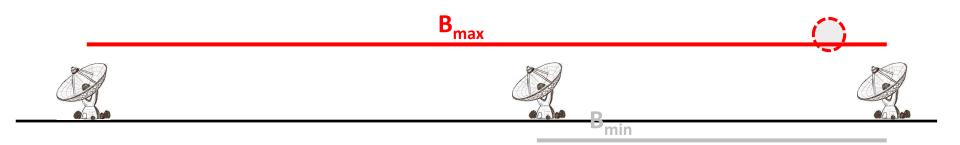
INTERFEROMETER IMAGE

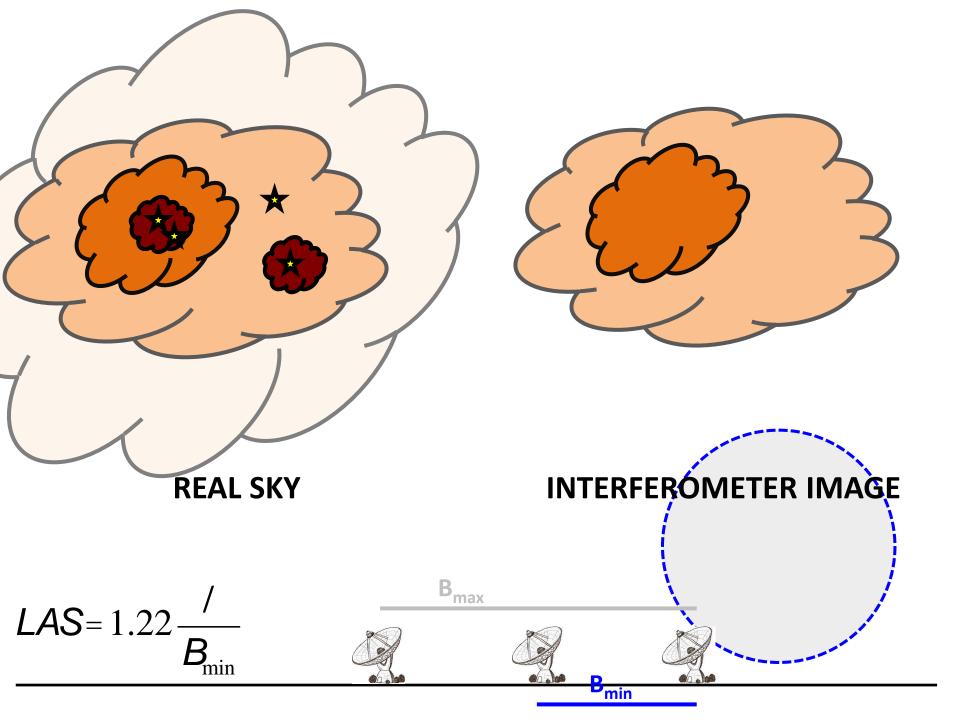


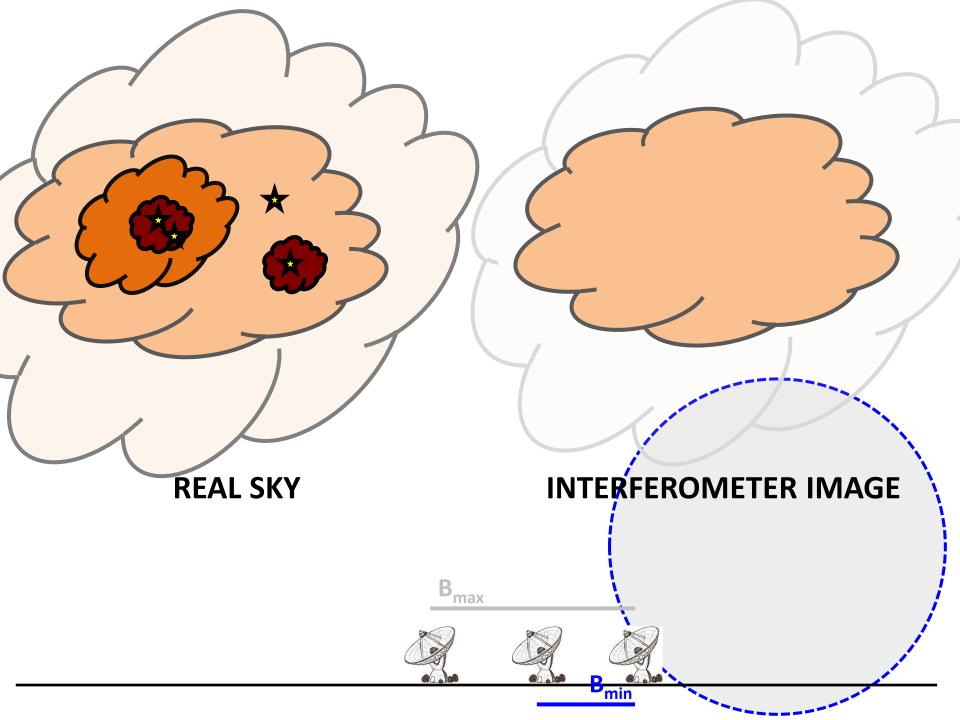


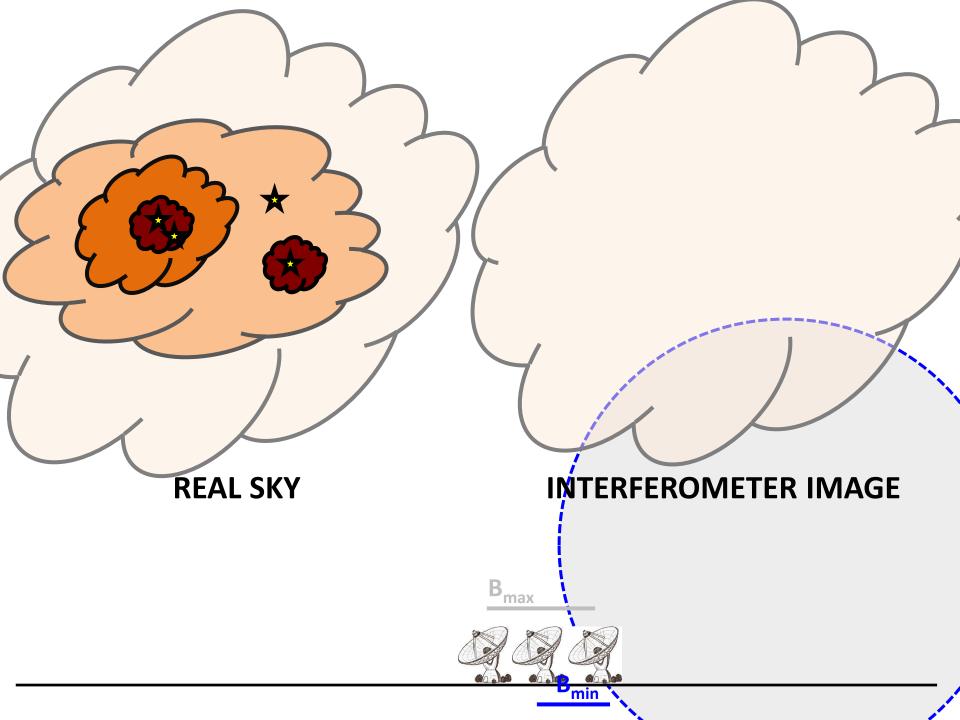


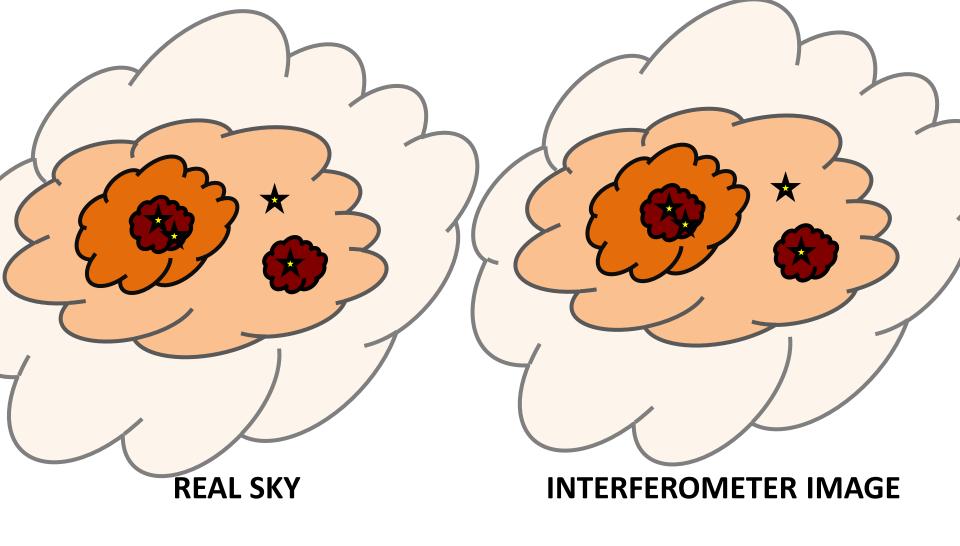
INTERFEROMETER IMAGE







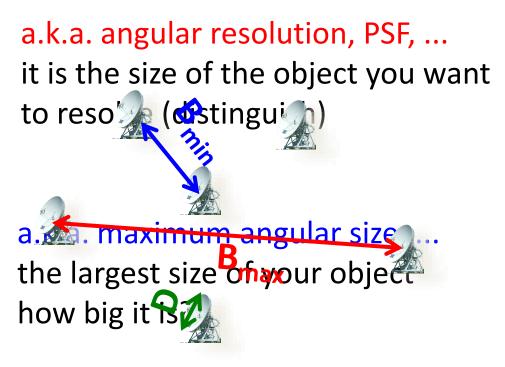






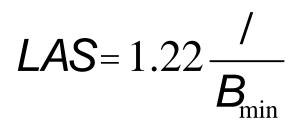
Synthesized beam, primary beam and LAS

SYNTHESIZED BEAM



 $q_{beam} = 1.22 \frac{/}{B_{max}}$

LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE

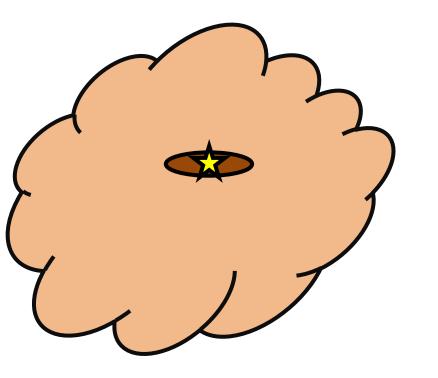


PRIMARY BEAM

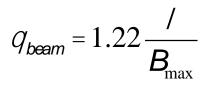
 $PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{D}$

a.k.a. field of view (FOV), ... the area of the sky you want to observe

Example I: compact protoplanetary disk



SYNTHESIZED BEAM



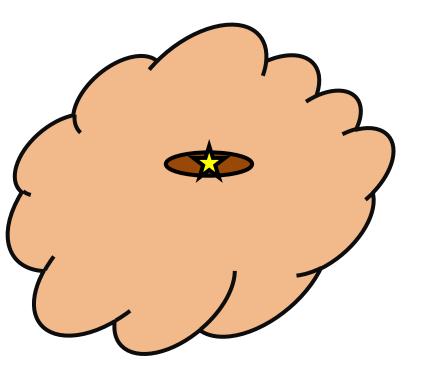
LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE

$$LAS = 1.22 \frac{/}{B_{\min}}$$

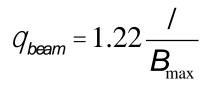
PRIMARY BEAM

$$PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{D}$$

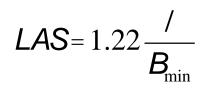
Example I: compact protoplanetary disk



SYNTHESIZED BEAM



LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE



PRIMARY BEAM

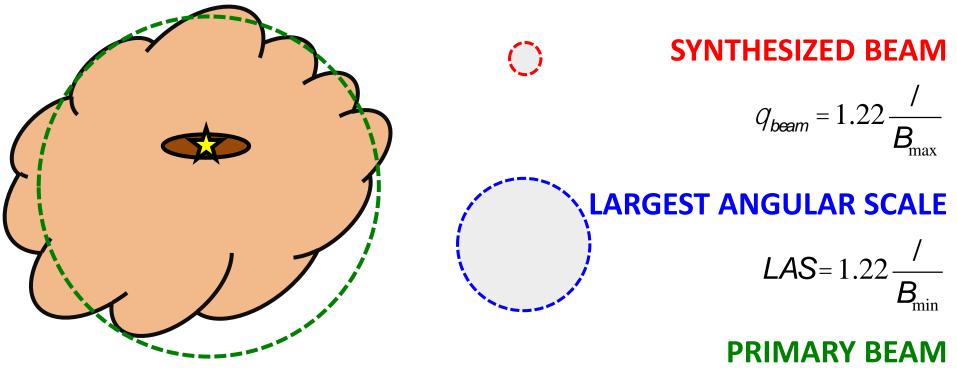
 $PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{D}$







Example I: compact protoplanetary disk



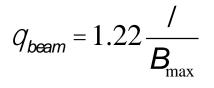
$$PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{D}$$



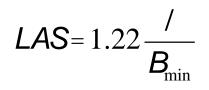




SYNTHESIZED BEAM

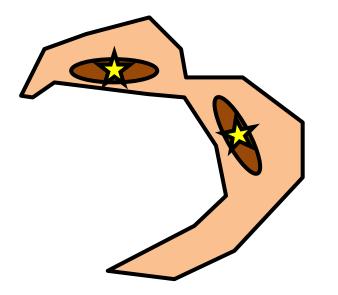


LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE

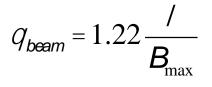


PRIMARY BEAM

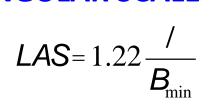
$$PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{D}$$



SYNTHESIZED BEAM



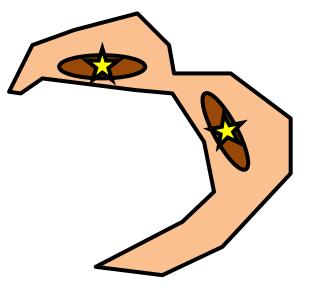
LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE



PRIMARY BEAM

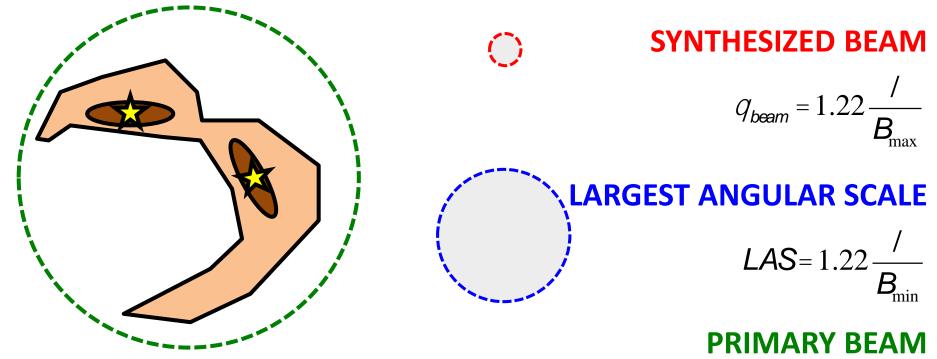
 $PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{D}$









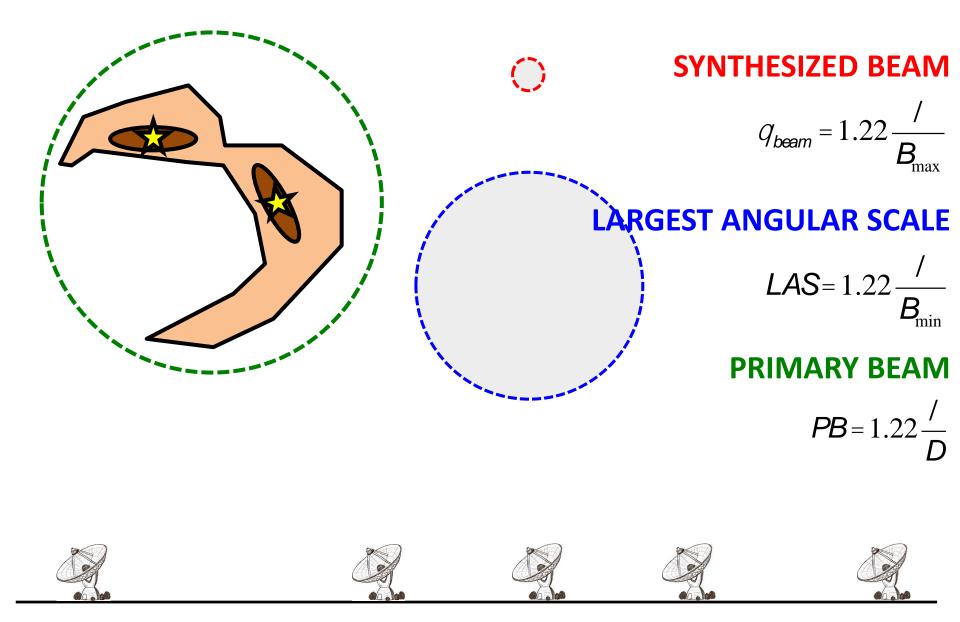


$PB = 1.22 \frac{1}{D}$

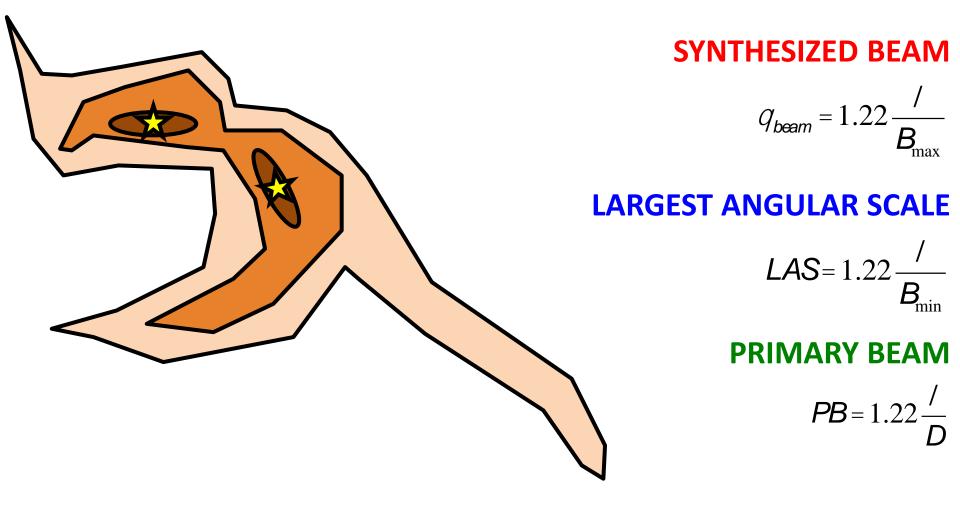




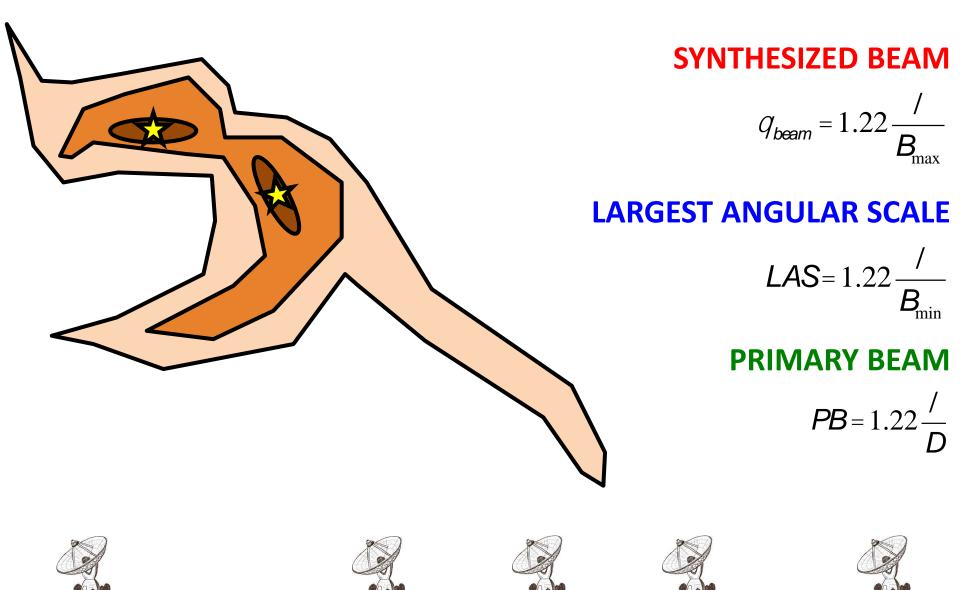




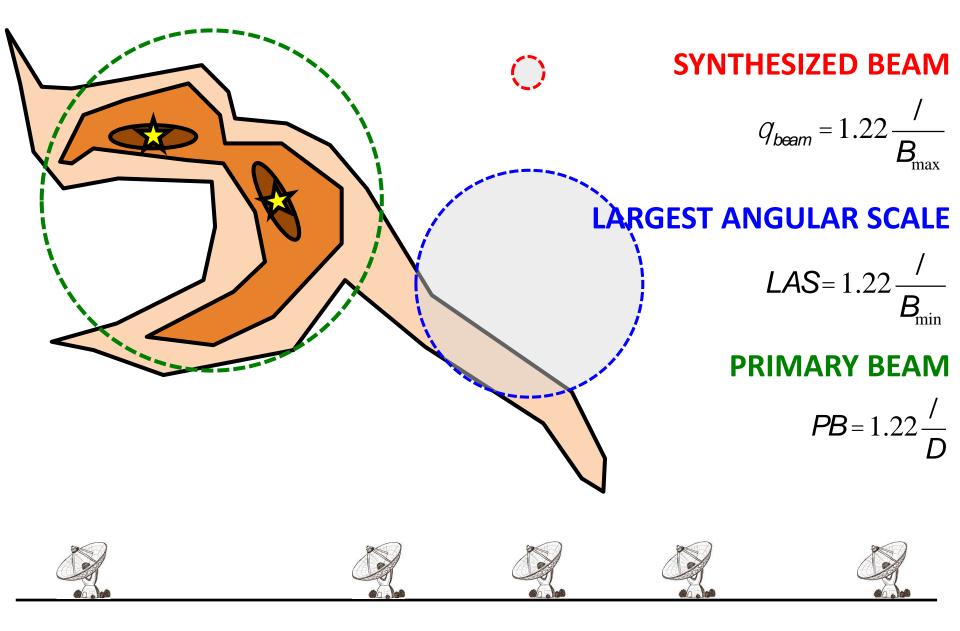
Example III: disks and extended filament



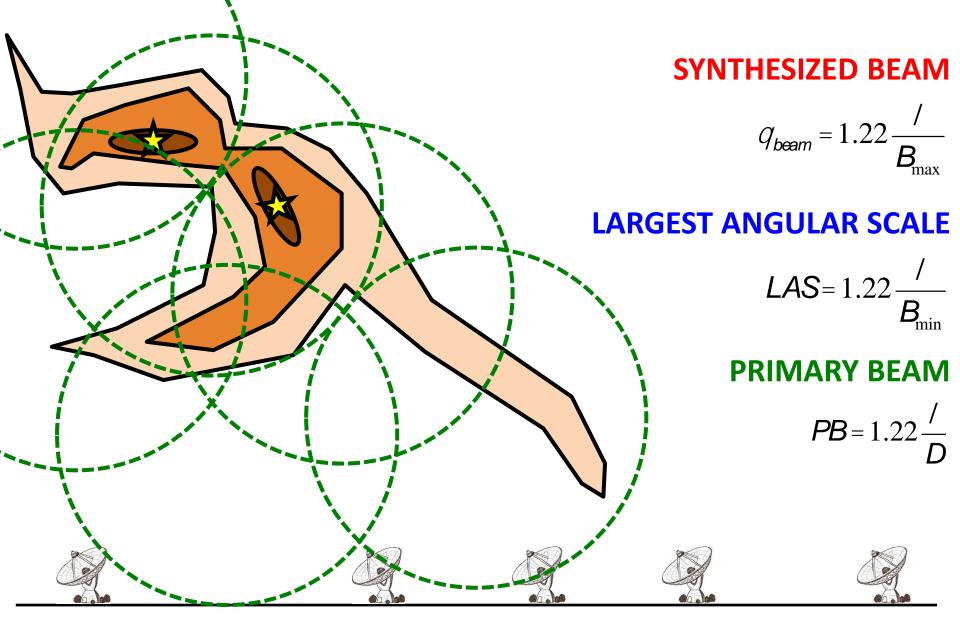
Example III: disks and extended filament



Example III: disks and extended filament



Example 11: disks and extended filament



Practical work with the almaOT

Starting the almaOT

K ALMA Observing Tool (Cycle5)	🗋 🜒 🔶 🖬 Mon 27 Mar 09:48 Alvaro Sanchez	Q ≔
	ALMA Observing Tool (Cycle5) - Project	
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Project Structure		
Proposal Program	Editors Spectral Spatial Project	
Proposal (Cognitive)	Principal Investigator	
ዮ 🔐 Project	?	
Proposal		
🕈 🛄 Planned Observing	Select PL	
ScienceGoal (Science Goal)		
- D General	Main Project Information	
Field Setup	Project	
D Spectral Setup Calibration Setup	Assigned Priority	
Control and Performance	Project Code None Assigned	
Control and Performance Technical Justification		
	**	
	Feedback	
	Validation Validation History Log	
	Description Suggestion	
A.T.		

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Calibration Setup Choose a Solar System Object Choose a Solar System Objec	2] —

ALMA Observing Tool (Cycle5) - Project File Edit View Tool Search Help Editors Project Structure Proposal Project Project Project Project Projosal Project Projosal Project	Perspective 1
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Project Input source details and mapping info or use the Visual Editor on the spatial tab. Y = Proposal You must choose between checking 1 Rectangular Field on all sources or none.	-
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Feedback	
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- D Spectral Setup	Source Coordinates
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ile Edit View Tool Search Help	ALMA Observing Tool (Cycle5) - Project	Perspective 1
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	Spectral Spatial Field Setup Input source details and mapping info or use the Visual Editor on the spatial tab. You must choose between checking 1 Rectangular Field on all sources or none. Check 1 Rectangular Field on the first source before adding others to put rectangular mosaics around multiple sources. SinglePoint Source Source Name Choose a Solar System Object? Name of object Unspecified System System RA 00:00:00.0000 mas/yr	? – Resolve
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Control and Performance		
Technical Justification	System ICRS Sexagesimal Parallax 0.00000 mas	
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Velocity / redshift 🥂	Peak Continuum Flux Density per Synthesized 8ea 10.00000	u=
	Continuum Polarization Percentage 0.0 per cent	
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of the source	Field Center Coordinates	1010
of the source	Coord Type 🖲 Relative 🔾 Absolute	? -
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Expected intensity of the source	Line Polarization Percentage 0.0 per cent Field Center Coordinates Coord Type Relative Absolute Offset Unit arcsec #Pointings 1	2=

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Eile Edit View Tool Search Help		Perspective 1
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Control and Performance Technical Justification	Choose a Solar System Object? Name of object Unspecified Source Coordinates System ICRS Sexagesimal display? Parallax 0.0000 mas mas/yr Source Coordinates RA 00:00:00.0000 PM RA 0.00000 mas/yr mas/yr Source Radial Velocity 0.000 km/s Isrk z 0.00000000 Doppler Type RADIO Target Type Individual Pointing(s) 1 Rectangular Field Peak Continuum Flux Density per Synthesized 8eam 0.00000 Jy Peak Line Flux Density per Synthesized Beam 0.0 per cent Peak Line Flux Density per Synthesized Beam 0.00000 Jy	[7] =
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	Field Center Coordinates	-
	Coord Type Relative Absolute Offset Unit #Pointings 1	? =

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	(Cycle5) - Project			Perspective 1		
Editors Spectral Spatial Control and Performance Configuration Information Antenna Beamsize (1.13 * λ / D) Number of Antennas Longest baseline Synthesized beamsize Shortest baseline Maximum recoverable scale Desired Performance Desired Angular Resolution (Second) Largest Angular Structure in second) Desired sensitivity per pointin Bandwidth used for Sensitivity	trol various aspects of the 12m 0.000 arcsec 12m 43 ACA 7m configuration 0.049 km 0.000 arcsec 0.009 km 0.000 arcsec withesized Beam) Sing 0.000 surce Undefin g Repres	7m 0.000 arcs 7m 10 Most compact 12m o 0.161 km 0.000 arcsec 0.015 km 0.000 arcsec de Range Any Stans 00 arcsec de arcsec 0.0000 Jy	ec TP 3 configuration Most extended 12m co 16.197 km 0.000 arcsec 0.256 km 0.000 arcsec dalone ACA equivalent to Infinity K	nfiguration		
time estimate (must be justifie	ed)	O Yes I No				
	Editors Spectral Spatial Control and Performance Configuration Information Antenna Beamsize (1.13 * λ / D) Number of Antennas Longest baseline Synthesized beamsize Shortest baseline Maximum recoverable scale Desired Performance Desired Angular Resolution (S) Largest Angular Structure in second sensitivity per pointin Bandwidth used for Sensitivity Science goal integration time of Override OT's sensitivity-based time estimate (must be justified)	Editors Spectral Spatial Control and Performance These parameters are used to control various aspects of the Control and Performance Configuration Information Antenna Beamsize (1.13 * λ / D.) 12m 0.000 arcsec Number of Antennas 12m 43 ACA 7m configuration ACA 7m configuration Longest baseline 0.049 km Synthesized beamsize 0.000 arcsec Shortest baseline 0.009 km Maximum recoverable scale 0.000 arcsec Desired Angular Resolution (Synthesized Beam) * Sing 0.000 Largest Angular Structure in source Undefine Desired sensitivity per pointing Bandwidth used for Sensitivity Bandwidth used for Sensitivity Represt Science goal integration time estimate Time Override OT's sensitivity-based Yes	ALMA Observing Tool (Cycle5) - Project	ALMA Observing Tool (Cycle5) - Project		

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- D Field Setup	Antenna Beamsize (1.13 * λ / D)	12m 0.000 arcsec	7m 0.000 arcs	ec
	Number of Antennas	12m 43	7m 10	TP 3
Ile Edit View Tool Search Help Toject Structure Proposal Proposal Proposal Proposal Proposal Proposal Conceccoal (Science Goal) Concernal		ACA 7m configuration	Most compact 12m c	configuration Most extended 12m configuration
	Longest baseline	0.049 km	0.161 km	16.197 km
	Synthesized beamsize	0.000 arcsec	0.000 arcsec	0.000 arcsec
	Shortest baseline	0.009 km	0.015 km	0.256 km
	Maximum recoverable scale	0.000 arcsec	0.000 arcsec	0.000 arcsec
Project Structure Proposal Program Project Proposal	Desired Performance Desired Angular Resolution (S		ingle 📿 Range 🔾 Any 🔾 Stand	dalone ACA
	Largest Angular Structure in se	1000	efined arcsec 💌	
	Desired sensitivity per pointin	9	vL 00000.0	equivalent to Infinity K
	Bandwidth used for Sensitivity	Repr	resentativeWindowResolution	Frequency Width 0.000000 GHz
	Science goal integration time e	estimate Ti	me Estimate	
	Override OT's sensitivity-base time estimate (must be justifie		es 🖲 No	

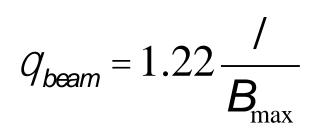
Configuration Information									
Antenna Beamsize (1.13 * λ / D)	12m	12m 0.000 arcsec		7m 0.000 arcsec		ec			
Number of Antennas	12m	43		7m	10		ΤР	3	
	ACA 7	m configuration	Мо	st cor	mpact 12m c	onfiguration Mo	st ext	ended 12m config	uration
Longest baseline	0.049	0.049 km 0		0.161 km 16.3			m		
Synthesized beamsize	0.00	0 arcsec	0.000 arcsec			0.000 ar			
Shortest baseline	0.009	9 km	0.015 km			0.256 kr			
Maximum recoverable scale	0.00	0 arcsec	0.00	0.000 arcsec			0.000 arcsec		
Desired Performance									
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Control and Performance									
Configuration Information									
Antenna Beamsize (1.13 * λ / D)	12m	12m 0.000 arcsec		7m 0.000 arcsec					
Number of Antennas	12m	43		7m	10		TP 3		
	ACA 7	m configuration	Mos	t cor	npact 12m config	uration Mo	st ext	tended 12m configuratio	n
Longest baseline	0.049	0.1		l km		16.197 k	16.197 km		
Synthesized beamsize	0.000	arcsec	0.000	000 arcsec		0.000 arcsec			
Shortest baseline	0.009	9 km 0.0		0.015 km		0.256 km			
Maximum recoverable scale	0.000	arcsec	0.000 arcsec		sec	0.000 arcsec			
Desired Performance									
Desired Angular Resolution (Sy	/nthesiz	ed Beam) 🖲 Single 🤇	Range	0/	Any 🔾 Standalon	e ACA			
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Largest Angular Structure in so	ource	Undefined	arc	sec	-				

Control and Performance								
Configuration Information								
Antenna Beamsize (1.13 * λ / D)	12m	2m 0.000 arcsec		7m	0.000 arcsec			
Number of Antennas	12m	43	7	⁷ m	10	TP	3	
	ACA 7	m configuration	Most	con	npact 12m configuration Mo	stex	tended 12m configuration	
Longest baseline	0.049 km 0.10		0.161	.61 km 16.197				
Synthesized beamsize	0.000	arcsec	0.000 ar		sec 0.000 a	csec		
Shortest baseline	0.009	km	0.015	km	0.256 k	n		
Maximum recoverable scale	0.000	arcsec	0.000	arc	sec 0.000 a	0.000 arcsec		
Desired Performance								
Desired Angular Resolution (Sy	/nthesiz	ed Beam) 🖲 Single 🤇	Range	04	Any 🔾 Standalone ACA			
		0.00000	arc	sec	Syntl	nesi	zed beam	
Largest Angular Structure in sc	ource	Undefined	arcs	ec	Largest	ang	ular scale	

Control and Performance								
Configuration Information								
Antenna Beamsize ($1.13\ ^*\lambda$ / D)	12m	0.000 arcsec		7m 0.000 arcsec				
Number of Antennas	12m	43		7m	10		TP 3	
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Longest baseline	0.049 km		0.16	1 km	i	16.197	(m	
Synthesized beamsize	0.00	0.00 arcsec		00 arcsec		0.000 ar	csec	
Shortest baseline	0.00	9 km	0.01	5 km		0.256 kr	n	
Maximum recoverable scale	0.00	0 arcsec	0.00	0.000 arcsec		0.000 ar	csec	
Desired Performance								
Desired Angular Resolution (Sy	/nthesi	zed Beam) Single		rcsec			nesized beam	
Largest Angular Structure in so	ource	Undefined	i ar	csec		— Largest a	angular scale	
					SYI	NTHESIZ	ED BEAM	

a.k.a. angular resolution, PSF, ... it is the size of the object you want to resolve (distinguish)



Configuration Information								
Antenna Beamsize ($1.13\ ^*\lambda$ / D)	12m 0.0	00 arcsec	7	7m 0.000 arcsec				
Number of Antennas	12m 43	12m 43		'n	10		TP 3	
	ACA 7m c	onfiguration	Most	con	npact 12m configuration	Mos	st extended 12m c	onfiguration
Longest baseline	0.049 km	0.049 km			16.1	16.197 km		
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Shortest baseline	0.009 km	i	0.015 km		0.25	6 kn	n	
Maximum recoverable scale	0.000 arc	sec	0.000 a	arcs	sec 0.00	0 ar	csec	
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Desired Angular Resolution (Sy	nthesized I	Beam) 🖲 Single 🤇	Range) A	Any 🔾 Standalone ACA			
		0.00000	arcs	sec	Sy	nth	esized beam	
Largest Angular Structure in so	urce	Undefined	arcs			ct a	angular scale	1

LARGEST ANGULAR SCALE

a.k.a. maximum angular size, ... the largest size of your object how big it is?

 $LAS = 1.22 - \frac{1}{2}$

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Project Structure	Editors	
Proposal Program	Spectral Spatial Field Setup	
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	i Image Filename	Coord Type 🖲 Relative 🔾 Absolute
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	Antenna Diameter 🛞 12m	0.00000
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	• Phane Andrease Branning (72)	
	A.7	

Spatial Image	M100					
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*	Target Type	Indivi	dual Pointing(s) 🔾 1 Rec	tangular Field		
	Expected Source Propertie	s				
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	Continu	um Polarizat	ion Percentage	0.0	8	
	1.000 - 11.0000			The second second		
	Peak Li	ne Hux Dens	ity per Synthesized Beam	0.0000	▼ VL 0	
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Break #1

German ARC: ALMA community days (March 2017)

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