



# ALMA data reduction & synthesis imaging



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# Outline

- Types of Observations Possible
- General steps for data reduction and calibration
- General steps for imaging, and image analysis

**This is not a CASA tutorial**

The logo for CASA (Common Astronomy Software Applications) is rendered in a stylized, blue, 3D-effect font with a metallic sheen and a slight shadow.

<http://casa.nrao.edu/>

# Types of Observations

- Molecular line emission
  - Chemistry
  - Dynamics
  - Gas temp/mass

- Continuum emission
  - Dust/gas mass
  - SED
  - Dust temperature

- Masers
  - Distances/Dynamics
  - Density/Temp.

- Ionized line emission
  - Dynamics
  - Electron density

# Types of Observations

- Molecular line emission
  - Chemistry
  - Dynamics
  - Gas temp/mass

## Polarimetry

- Continuum emission
  - Dust/gas mass
  - SED
  - Dust temperature

- Masers
  - Distances/Dynamics
  - Density/Temp.

- Ionized line emission
  - Dynamics
  - Electron density

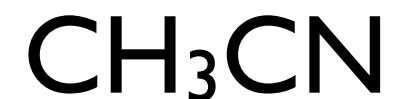
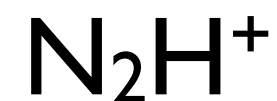
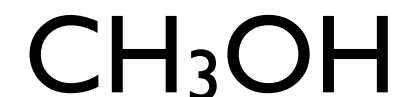
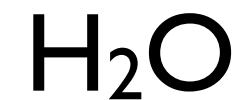


# Types of Observations

- Molecular line emission
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  - Dynamics
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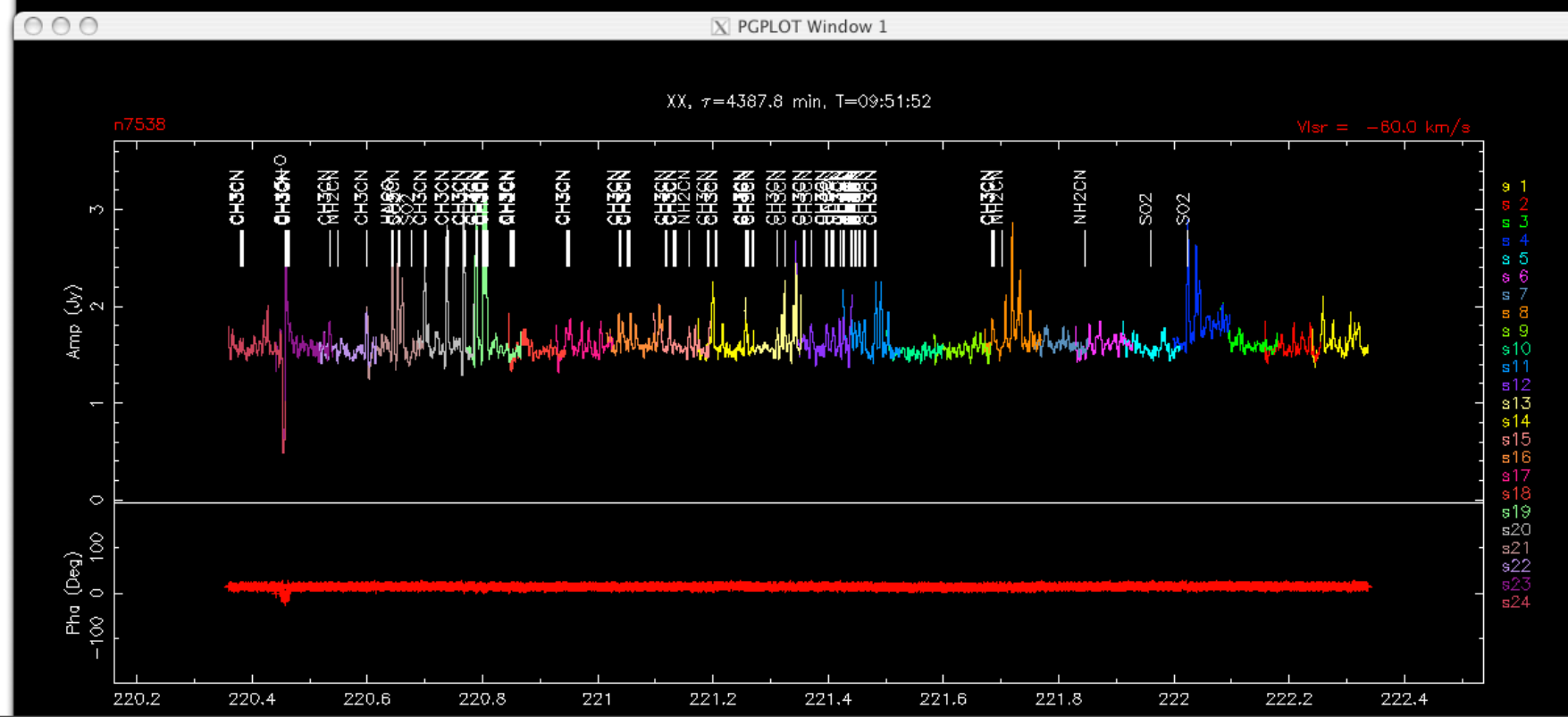
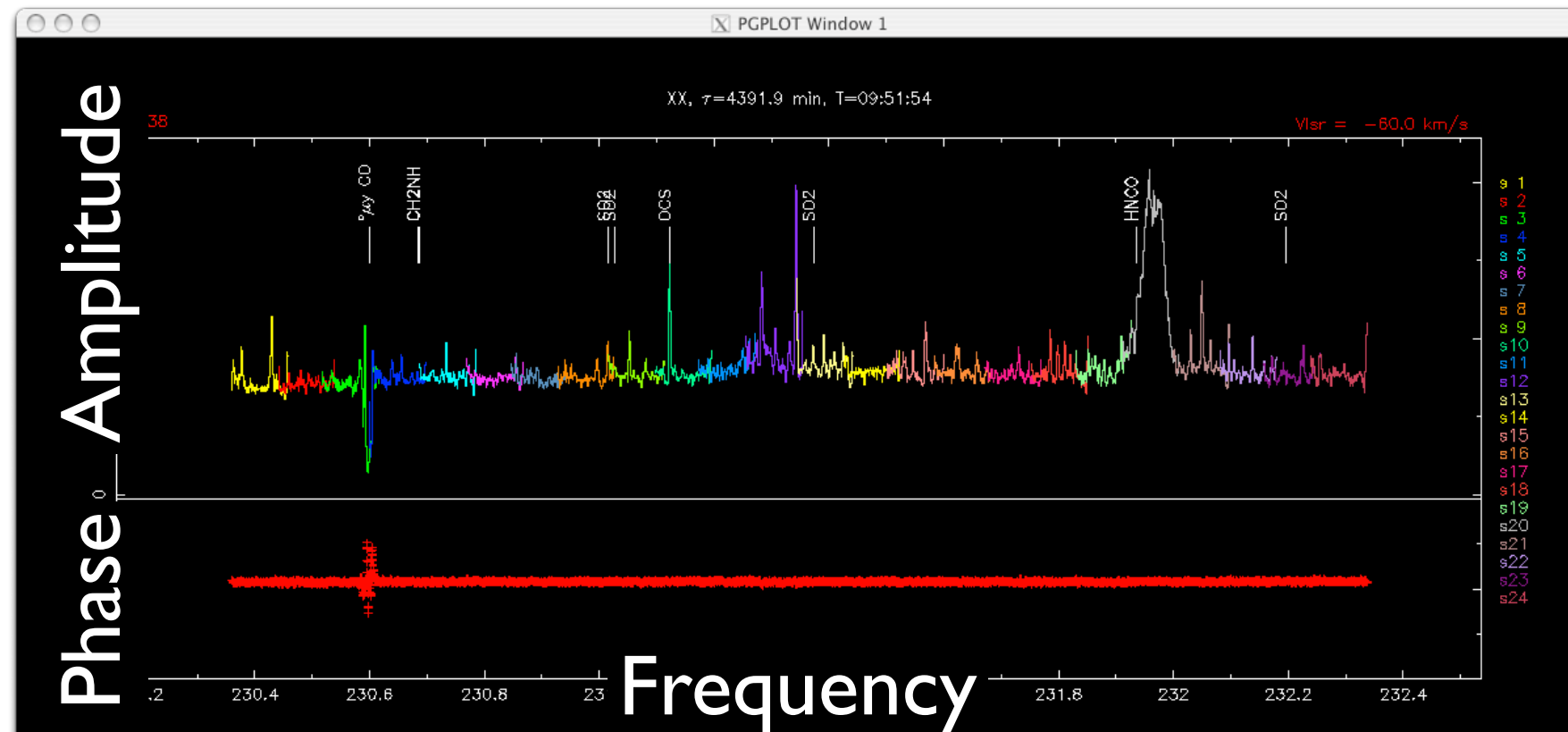
Dynamics: infall, outflow, rotation, shear, turbulence...

mm/sub-mm interferometers have great spectral resolution

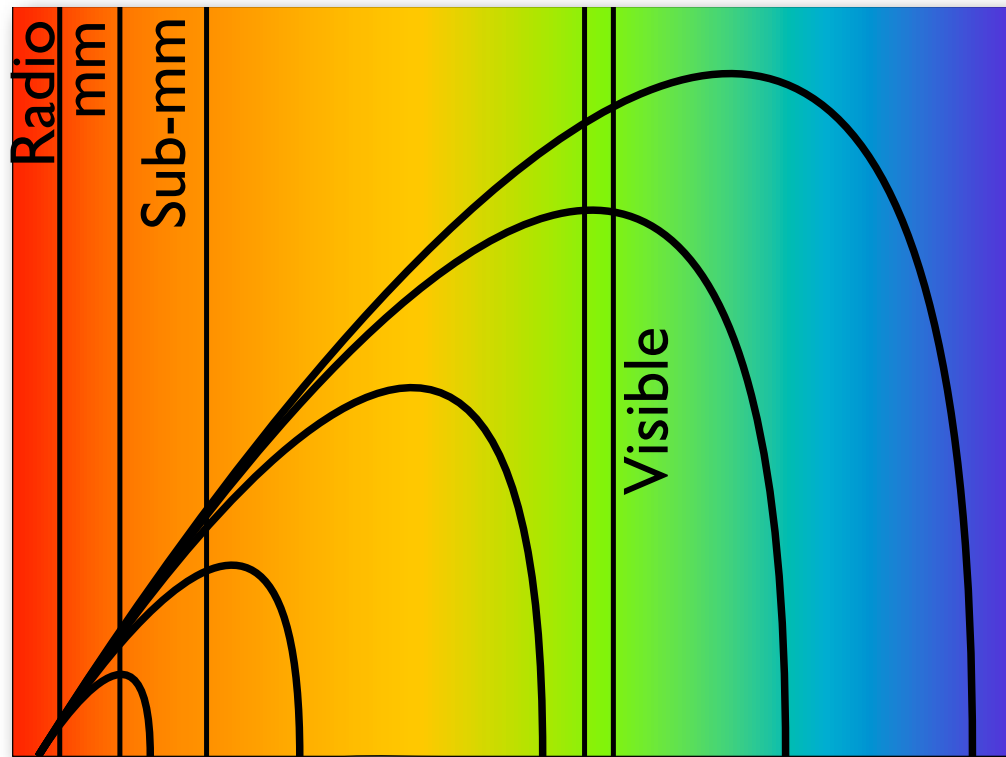


# Types of Observations

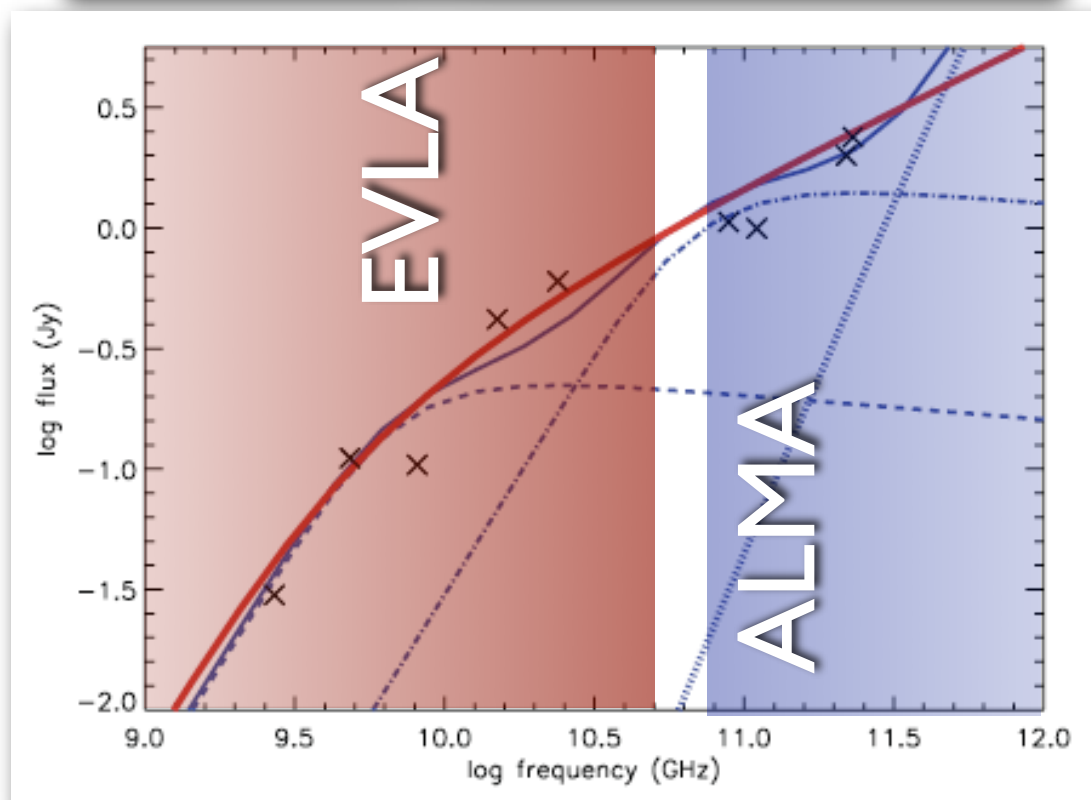
- ALMA can simultaneously measure a large number of lines AND the continuum
- No bolometer array like for SD telescopes



# Types of Observations



- Continuum emission
- Dust/gas mass
- SED
- Dust temperature



free-free vs. thermal radiation

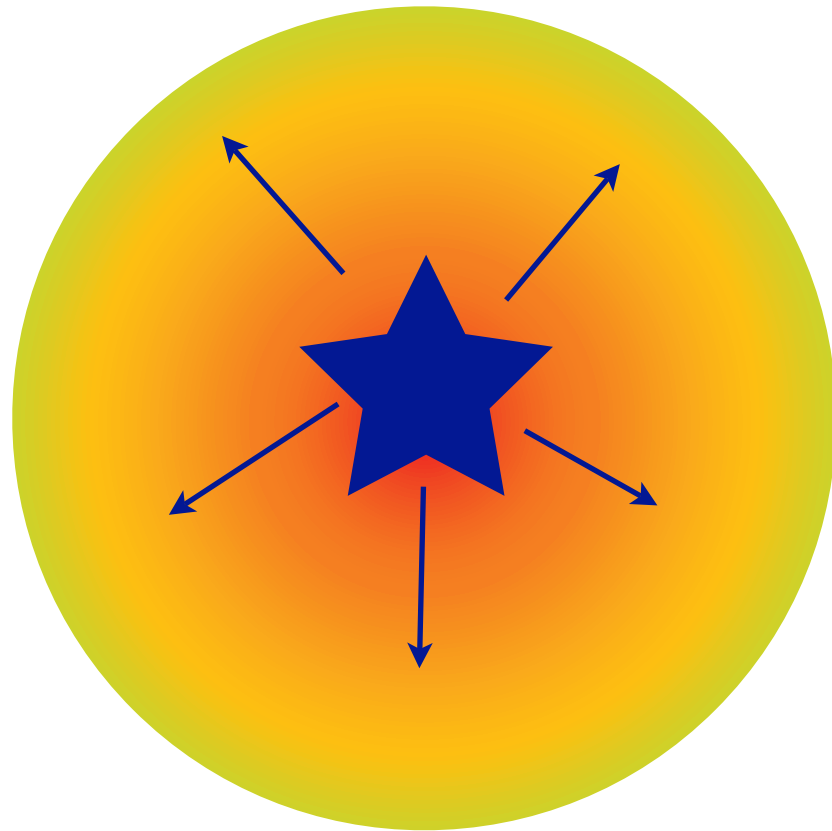
$$M_{\text{clump}} = \frac{S_{\lambda}^{\text{int}} d^2}{\kappa_{\lambda} B_{\lambda}(T_{\text{dust}})}$$

# Types of Observations

Pressure Broadening

Electron Densities

Stellar  
Mass



Thermal Broadening

Dynamics

Ionization fraction

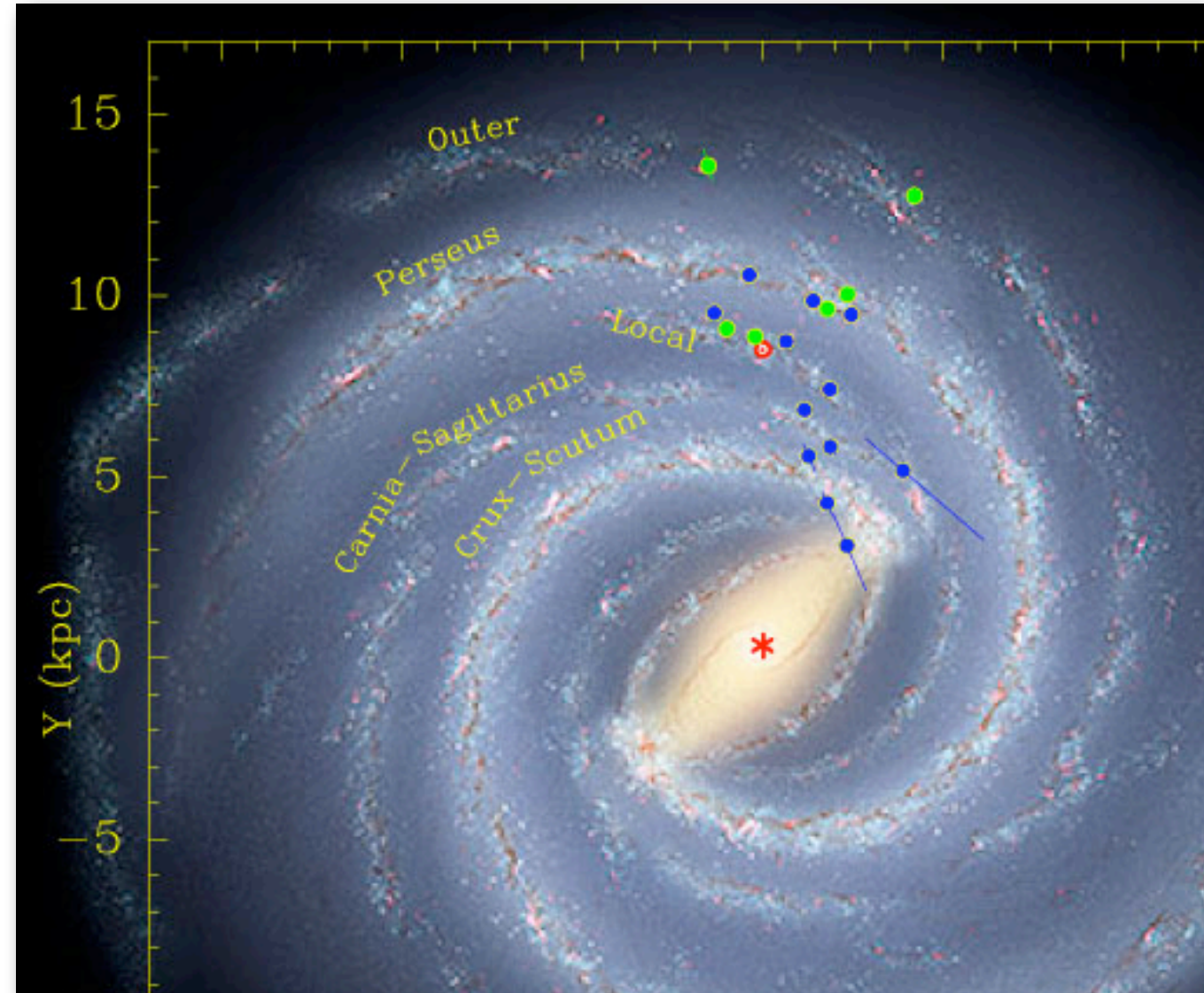
- Ionized line emission
- Dynamics
- Electron density

# Types of Observations

Modeling gives:  
density & temperature

Proper motions:  
gas kinematics  
& distances

- Masers
- Distances/Dynamics
- Density/Temp.



Zeeman effects:  
magnetic field

# Types of Observations

- Molecular line emission
  - Chemistry
  - Dynamics
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- Continuum emission
  - Dust/gas mass
  - SED
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- Masers
  - Distances/Dynamics
  - Density/Temp.

- Ionized line emission
  - Dynamics
  - Electron density

# Data Flow

Import data

# Data Flow

Import data



Flag bad data



# Data Flow

Import data



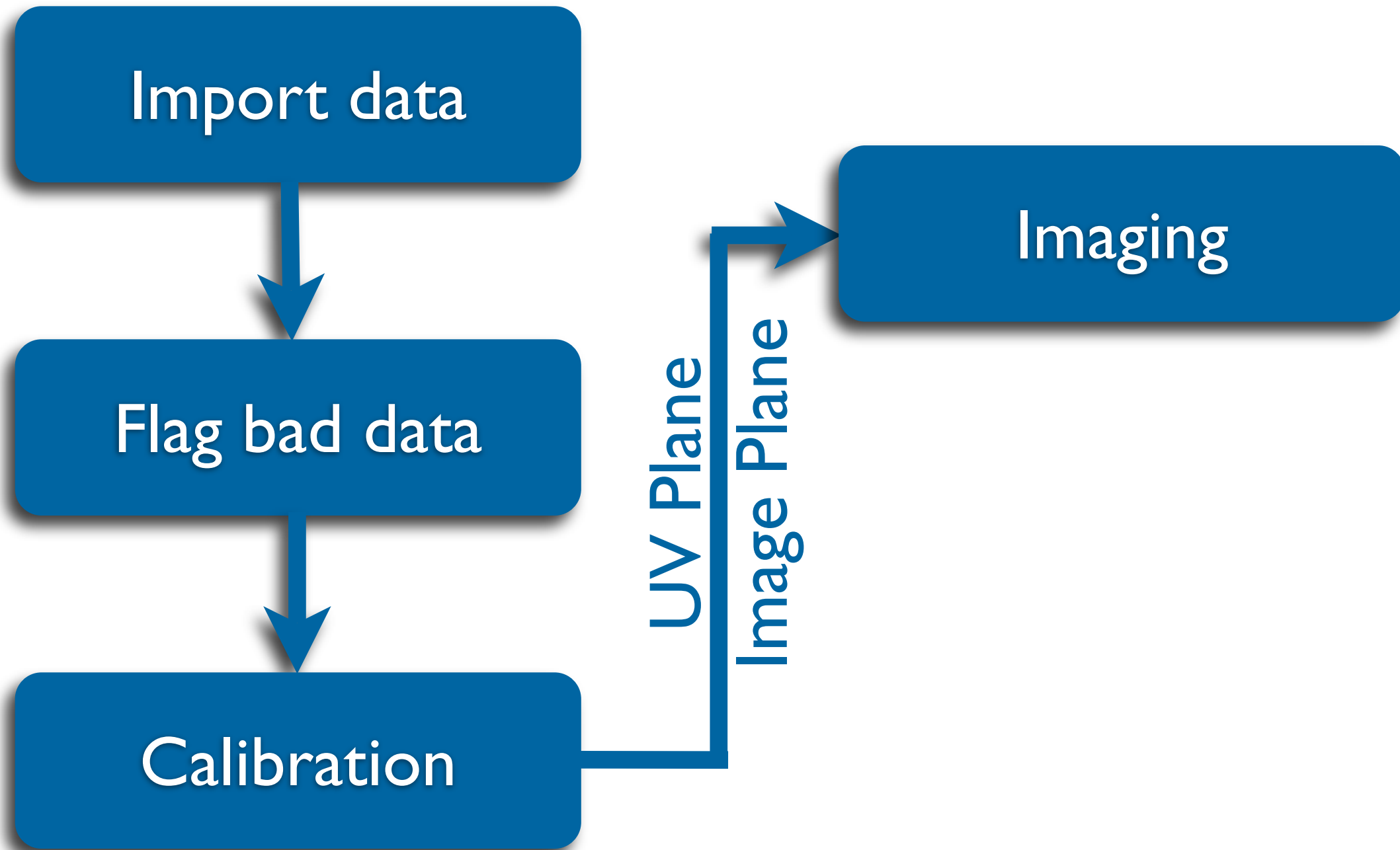
Flag bad data



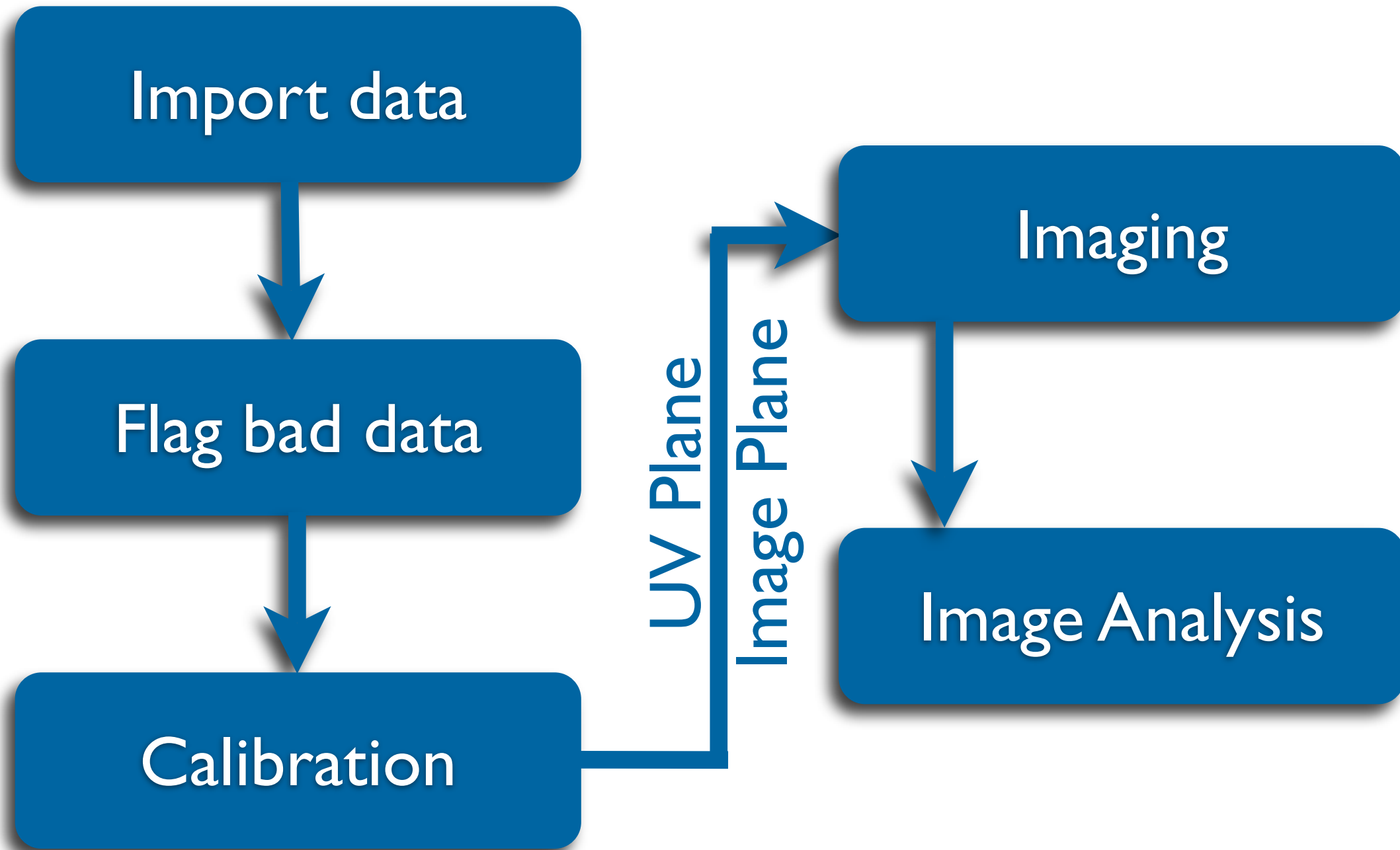
Calibration



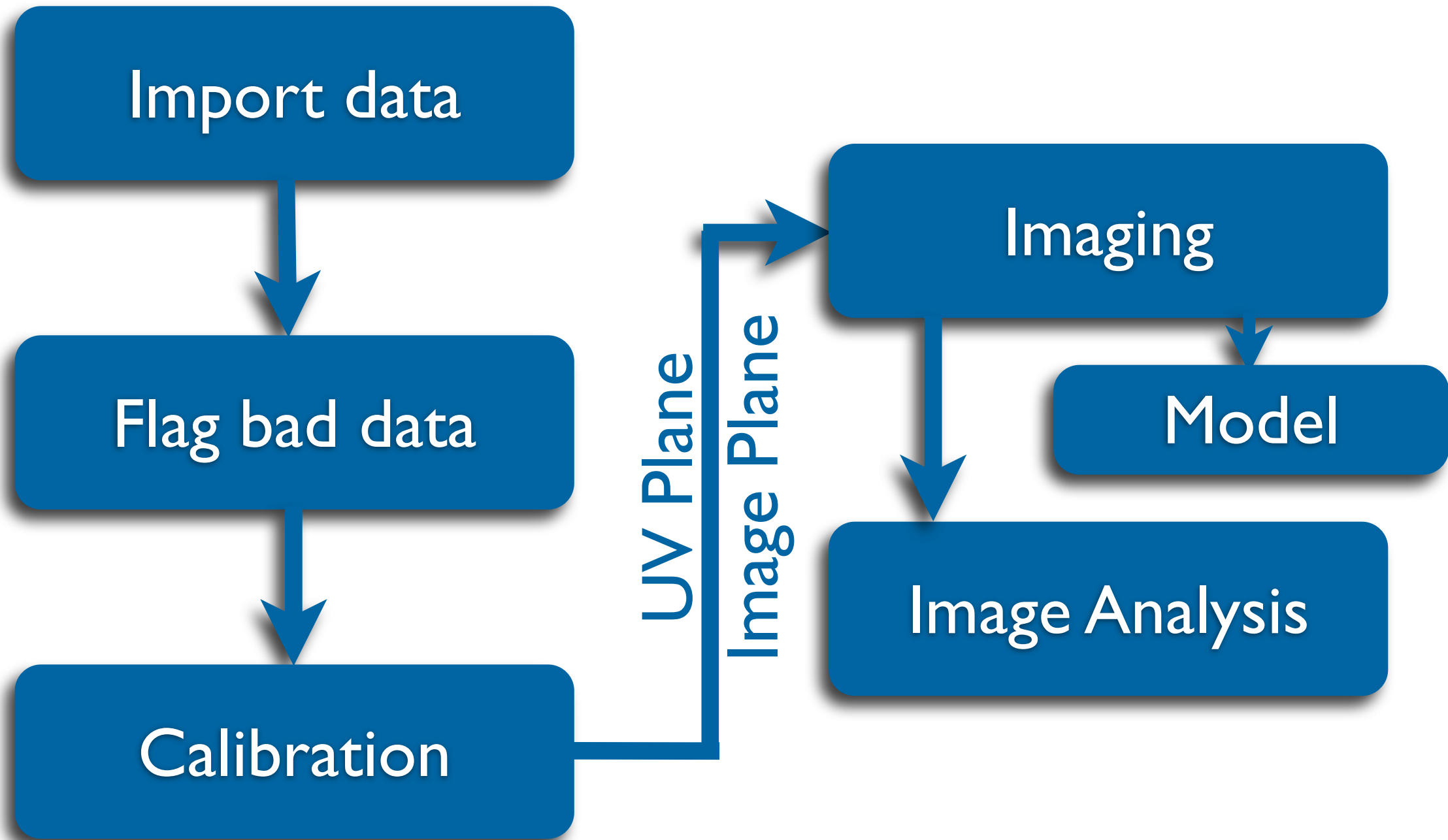
# Data Flow



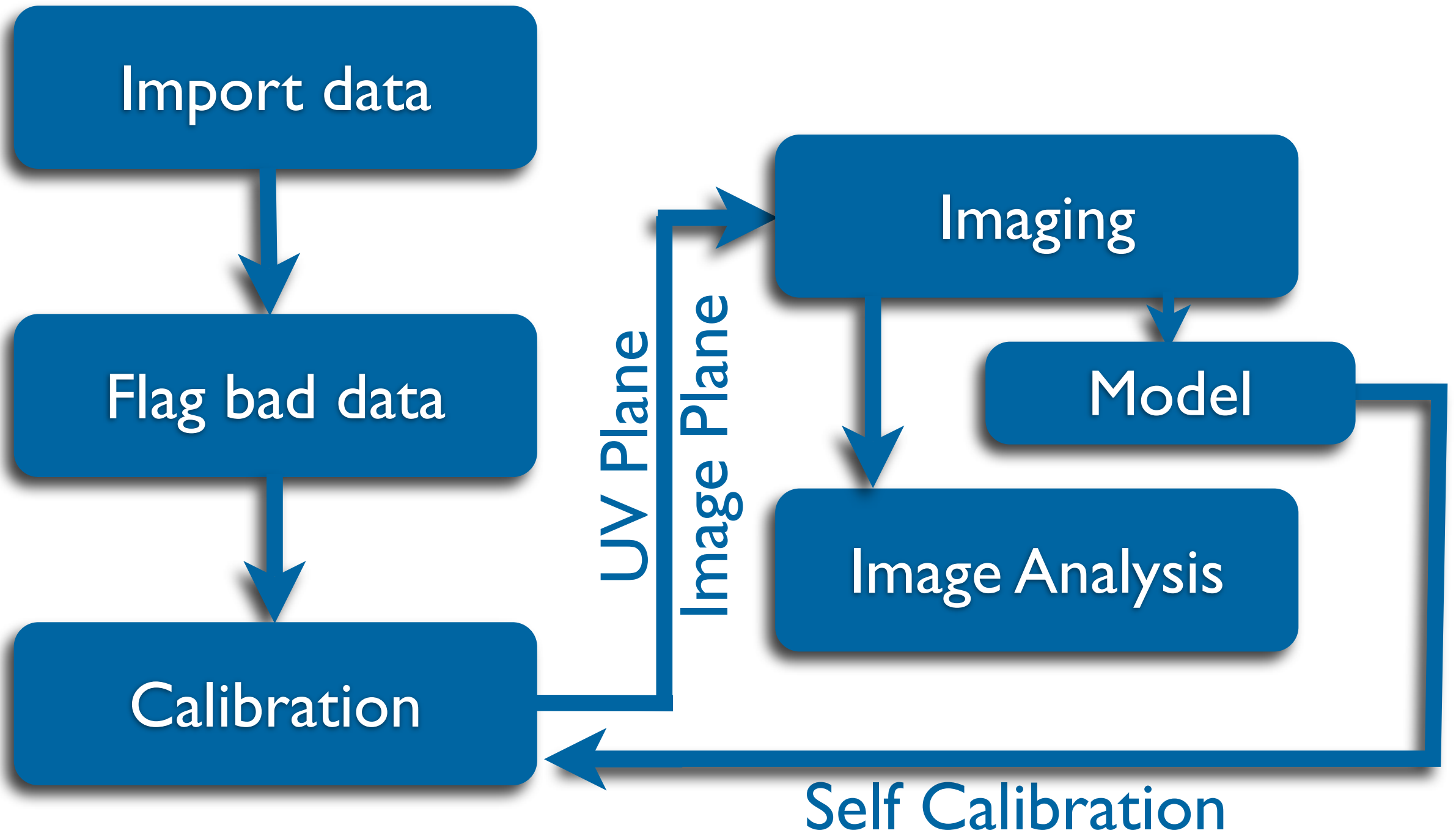
# Data Flow



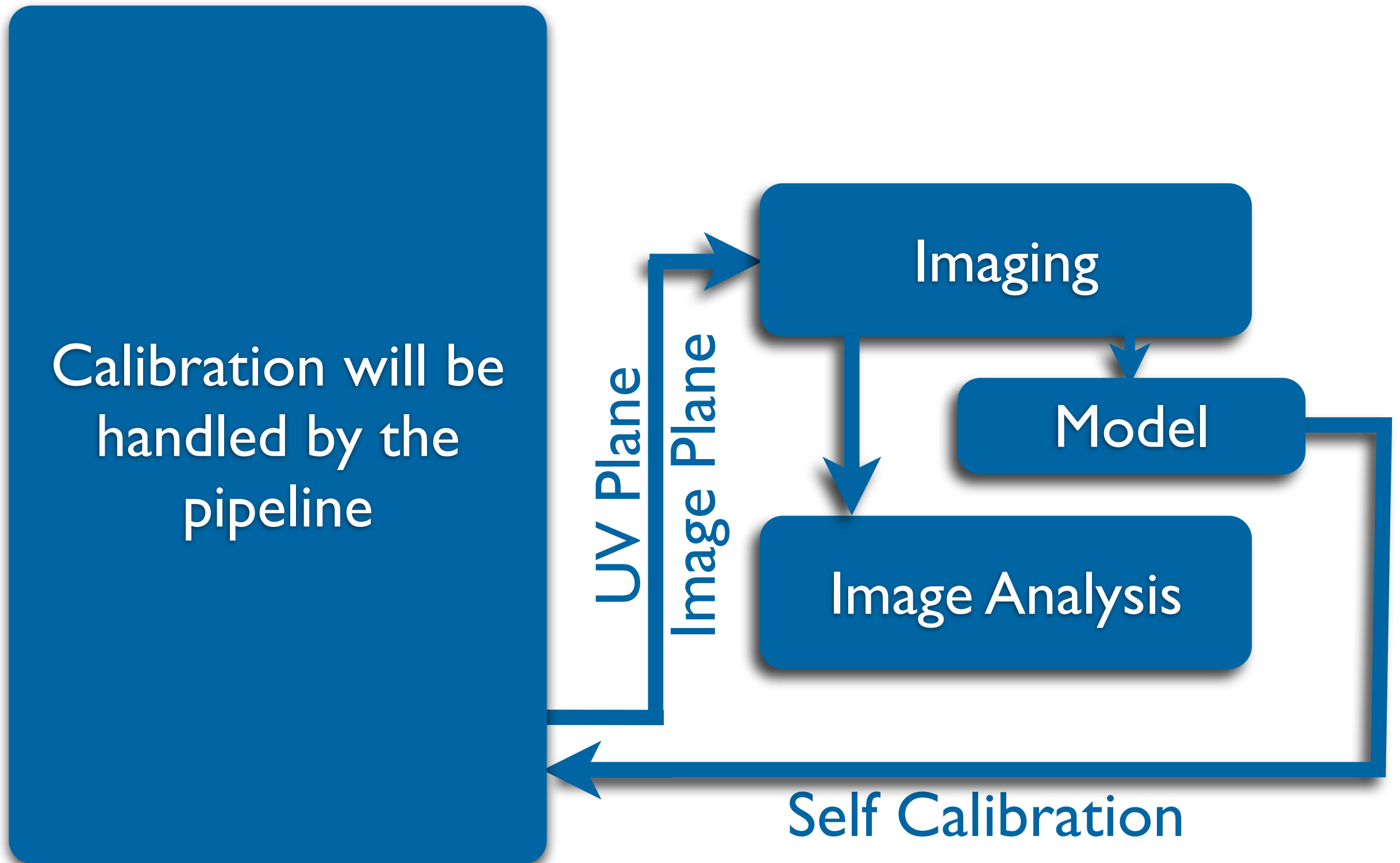
# Data Flow



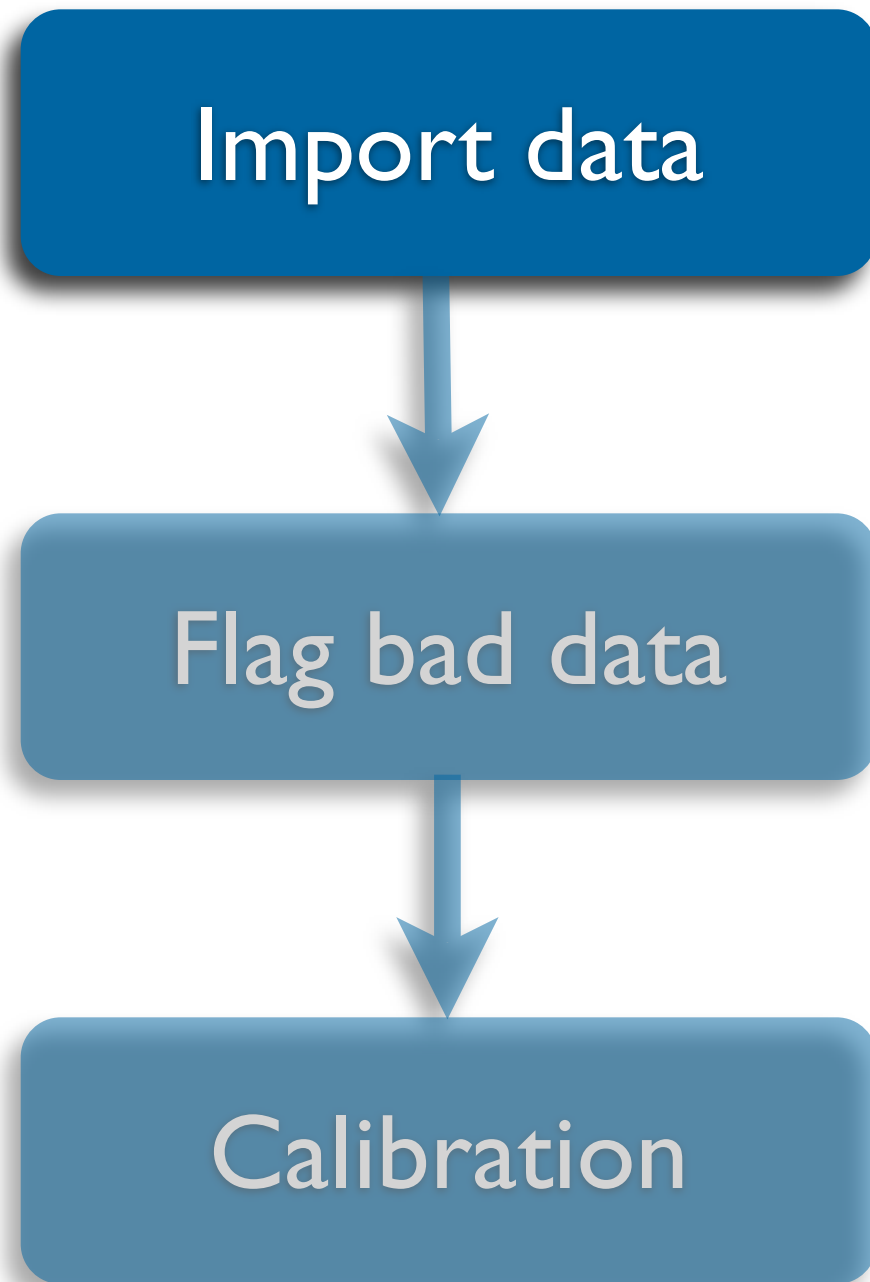
# Data Flow



# Data Flow



# Importing data



- Data set being used here:
- SMA extended config.
- 230 GHz line+cont
- NGC 7538 IRS I

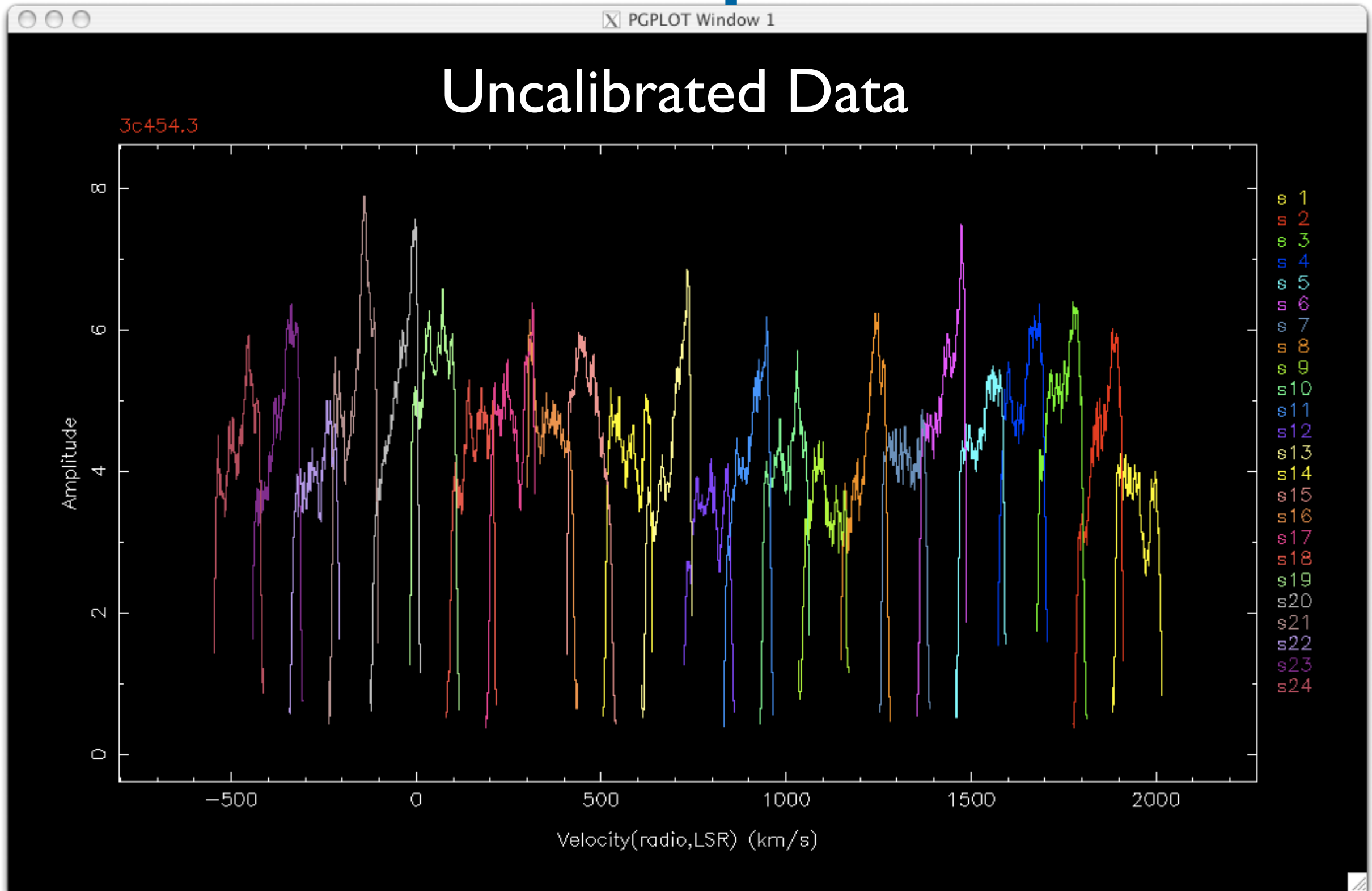
# The Example Data

- SMA extended configuration
  - 1" resolution
  - ~1' field of view
  - ~10" largest observable structures
- 4 GHz simultaneous bandwidth
  - Each half split into 24 chunks



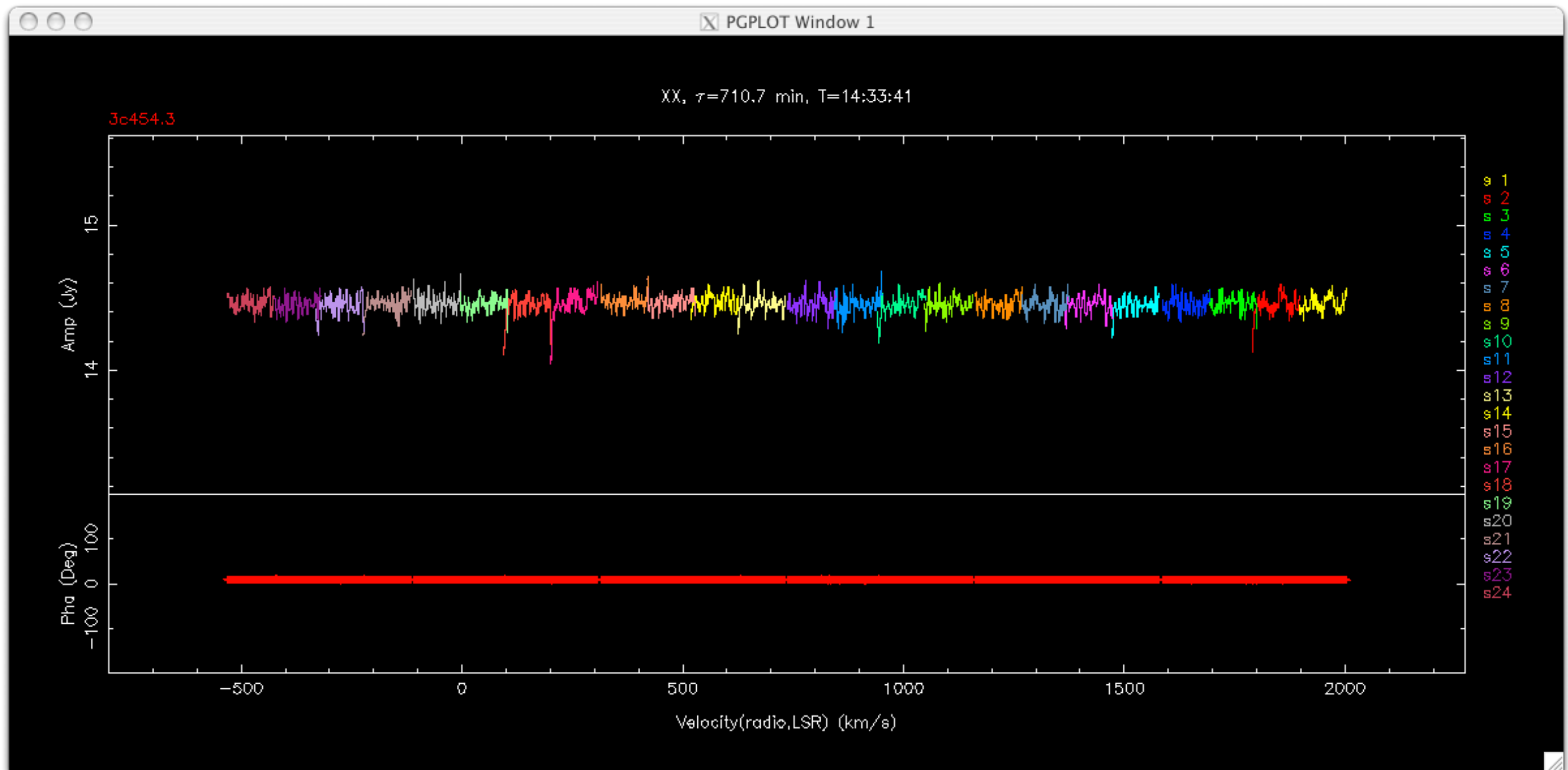


# The Example Data

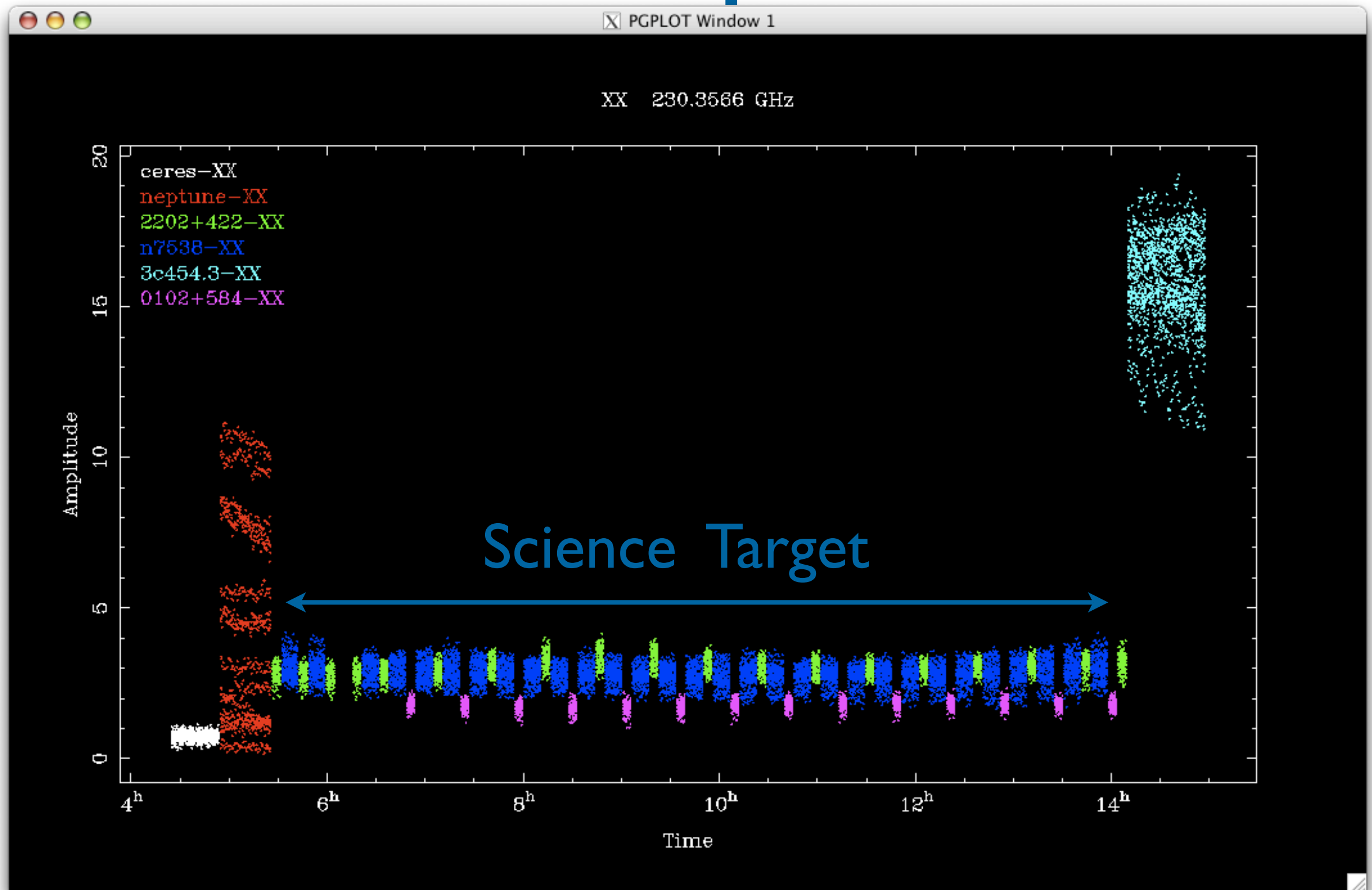


# The Example Data

What a calibrator should look like after calibration



# The Example Data

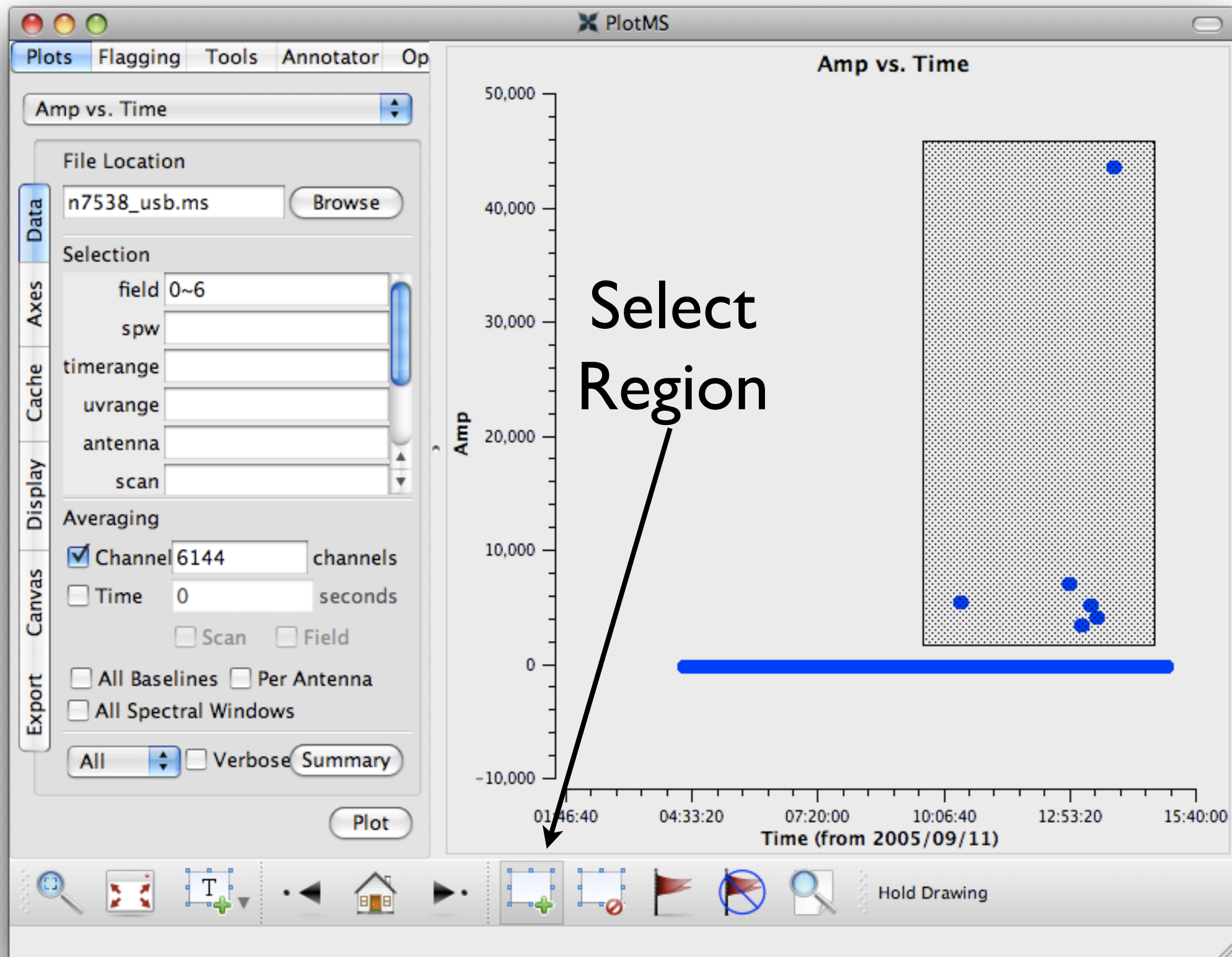


# Flagging

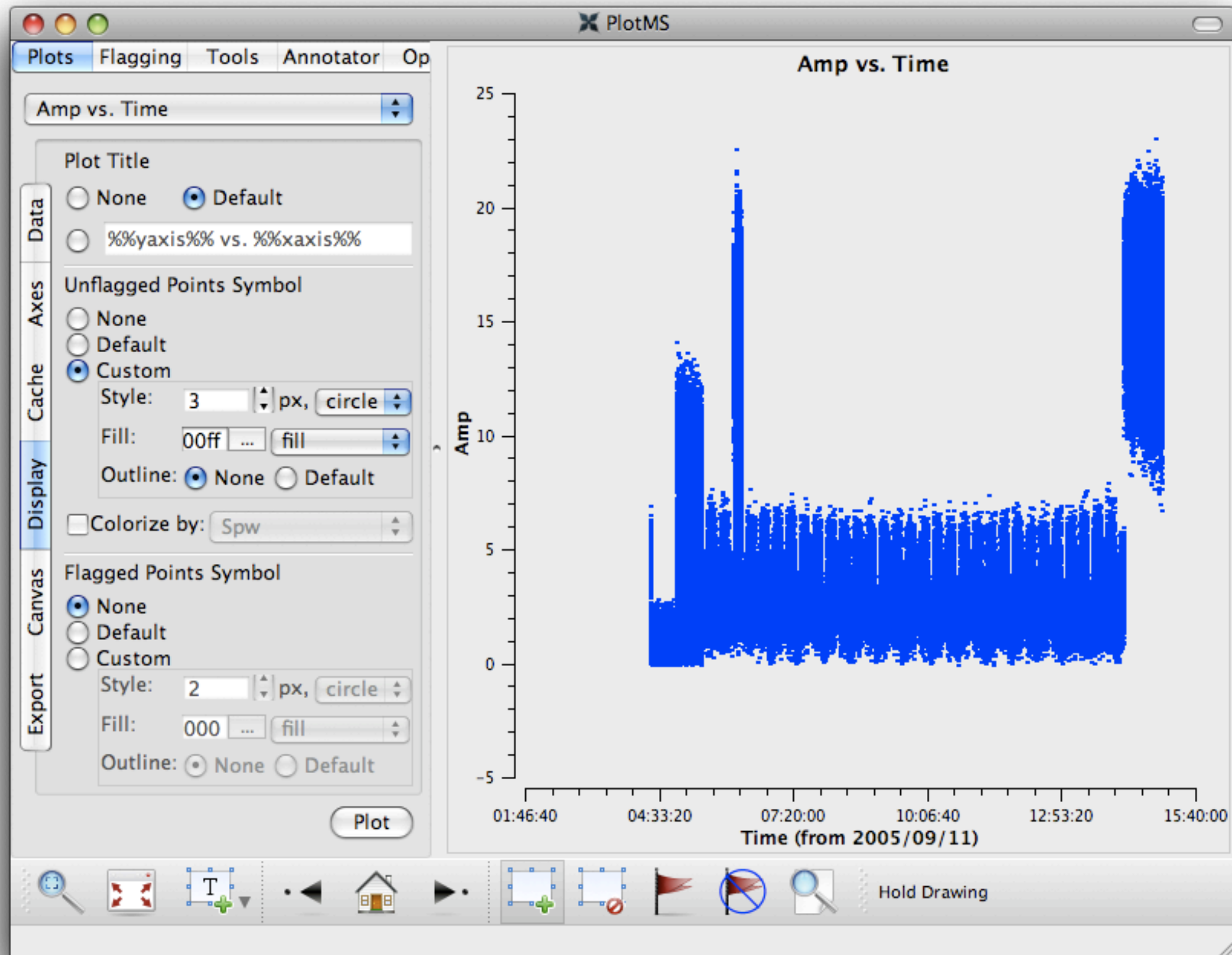


- Obviously bad data points need to be removed
- 'quack'
- chunk edge channels
- Anomalously high points

# Flagging: Bad data



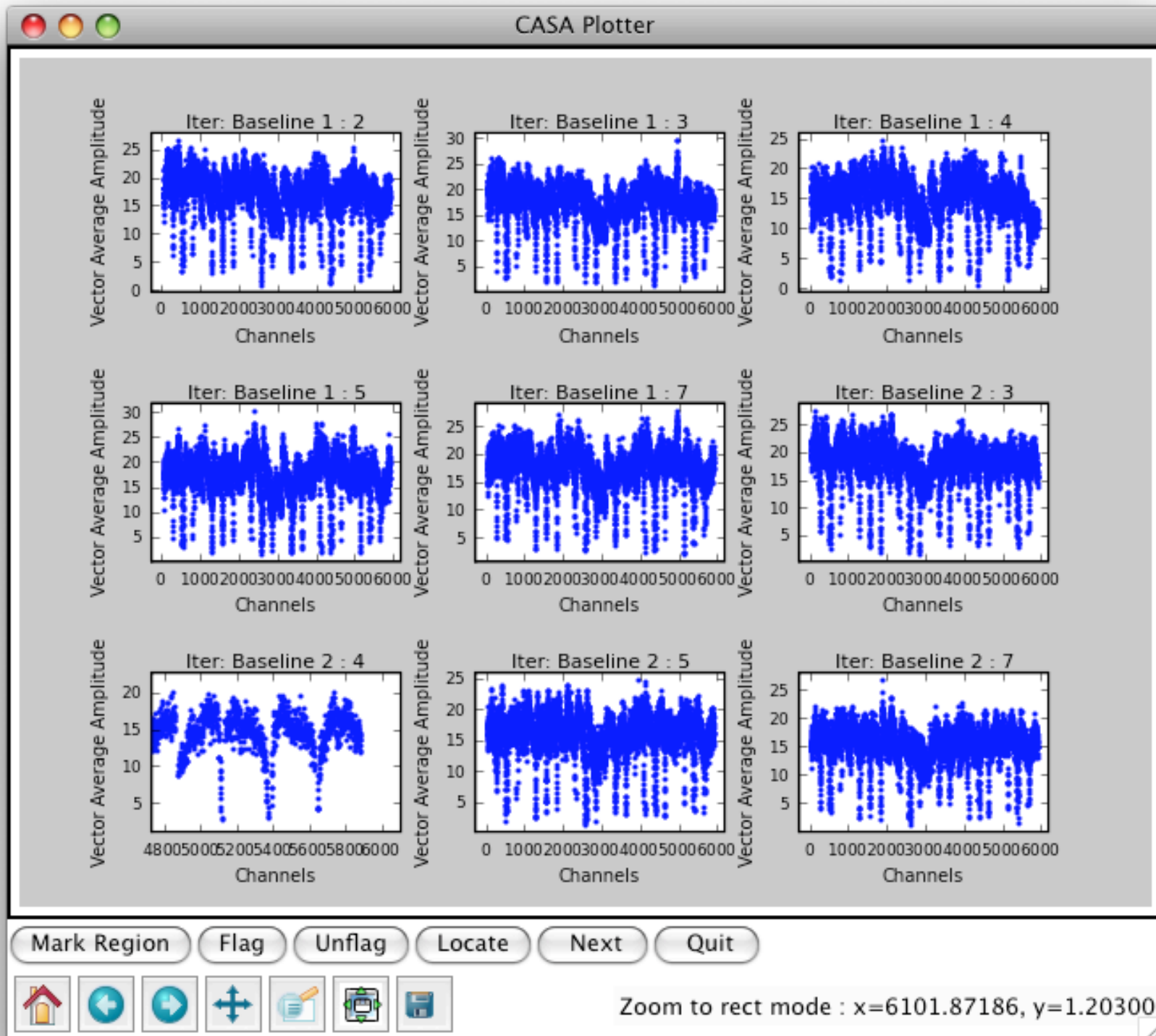
# Flagging: Bad data



# Calibration

After Flagging  
Before Calibration

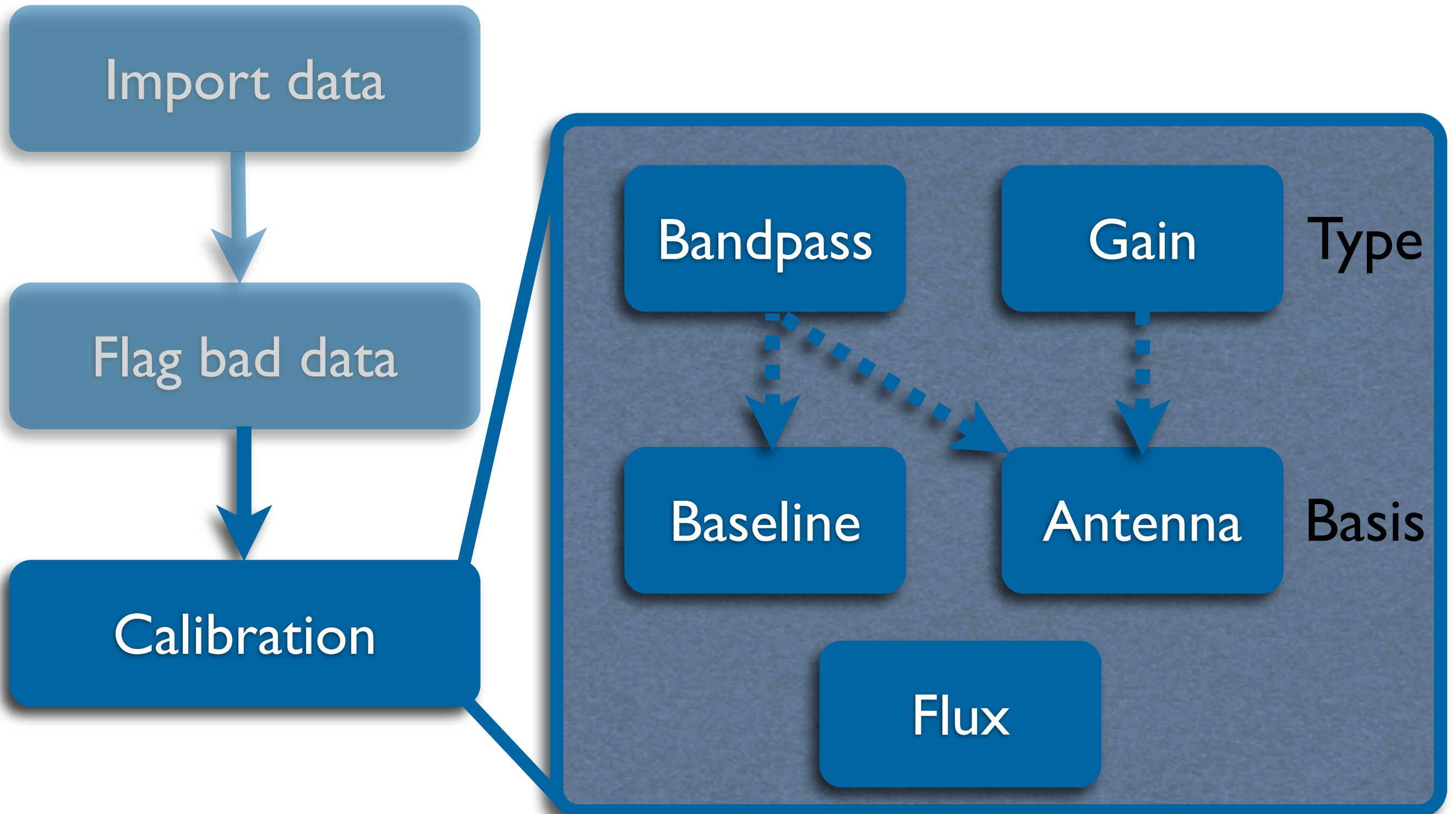
ALMA data would  
require > 130 pages  
just like this!



Calibrator: 3c454.3



# Calibration





# Types of Calibration

## 4.1 Calibration Tasks

The standard set of calibration solving tasks (to produce calibration tables) are:

- `bandpass` — complex bandpass (B) calibration solving, including options for channel-binned or polynomial solutions (§ 4.4.2),
- `gaincal` — complex gain (G,T) calibration solving, including options for time-binned or spline solutions (§ 4.4.3),
- `polcal` — polarization calibration including leakage and angle (§ 4.4.5),
- `blcal` — *baseline-based* complex gain or bandpass calibration (§ 4.4.6).

# Types of Calibration

## 4.1 Calibration Tasks

The standard set of calibration solving tasks (to produce calibration tables) are:

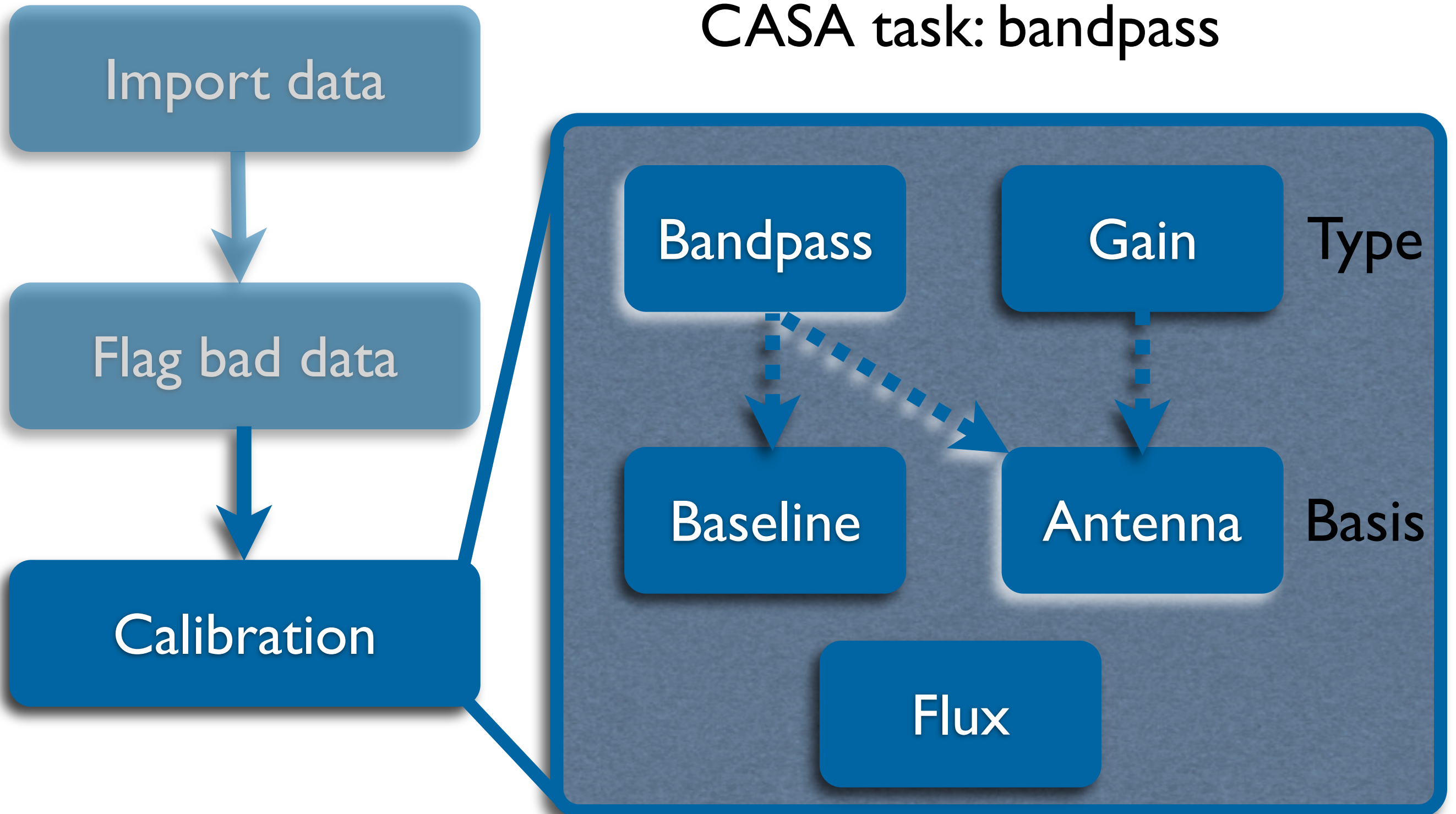
- `bandpass` — complex bandpass (B) calibration solving, including options for channel-binned or polynomial solutions (§ 4.4.2),
- `gaincal` — complex gain (G,T) calibration solving, including options for time-binned or spline solutions (§ 4.4.3),
- ~~`polcal` — polarization calibration including leakage and angle (§ 4.4.5),~~
- `blcal` — *baseline-based* complex gain or bandpass calibration (§ 4.4.6).

# Choosing Calibrators

- Bandpass: bright & unresolved
  - often Quasars
- Gain: close to the source, 'bright'
  - quasars or (unresolved) planets
- flux: stable, known fluxes & bright
  - quasars & planets

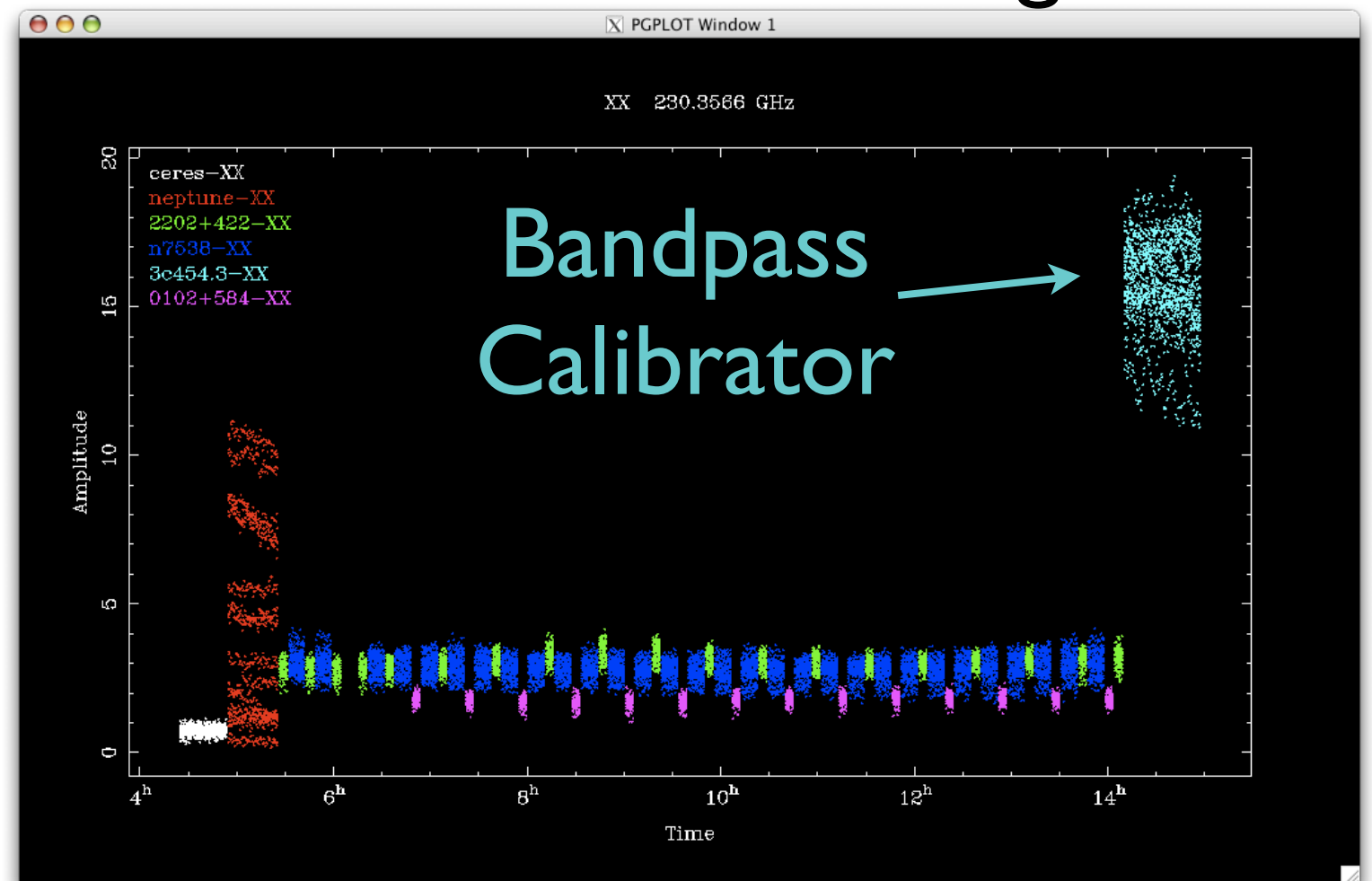
# Calibration: Bandpass

CASA task: bandpass



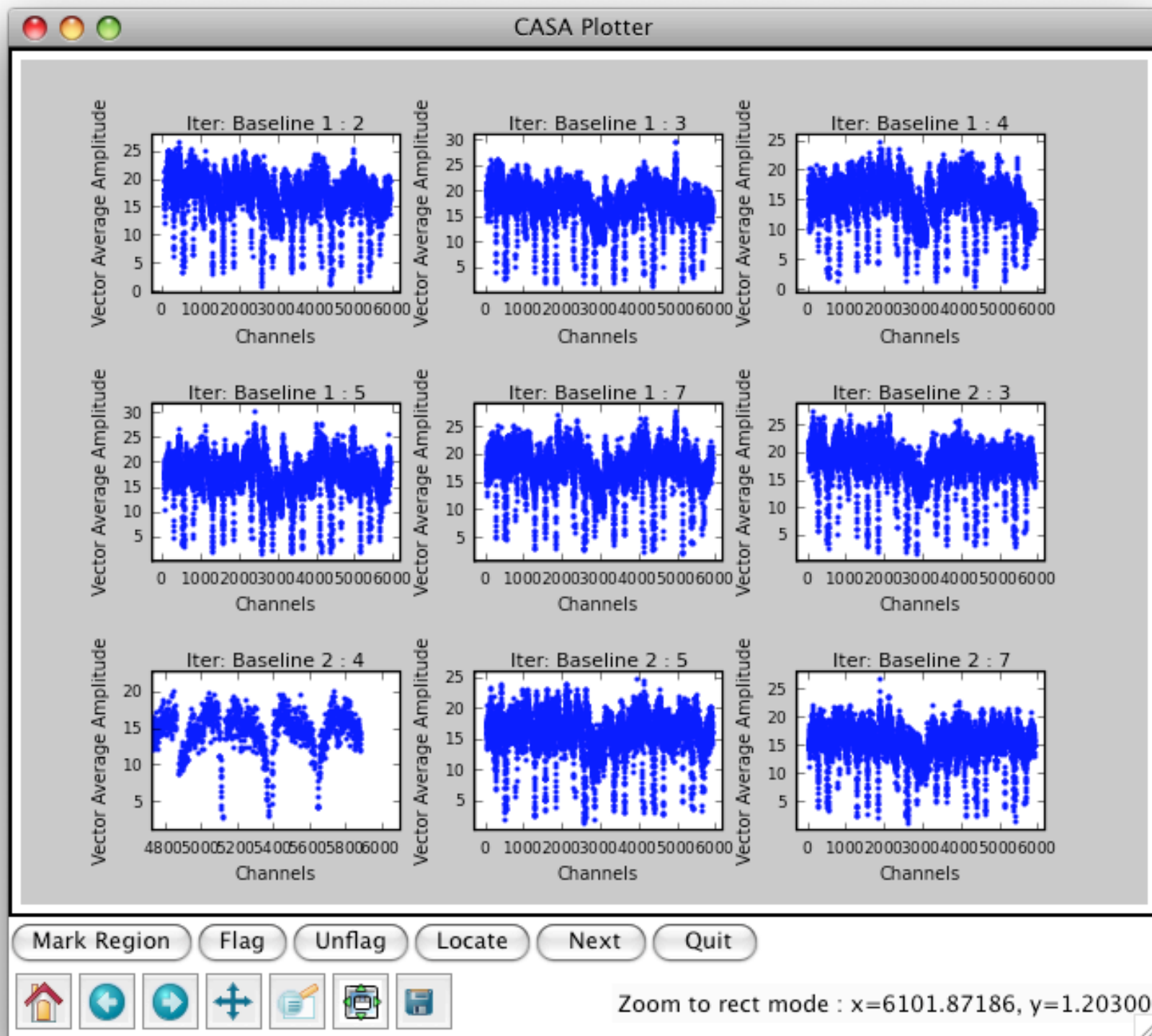
# Antenna Based Bandpass Calibration

- Correcting for variations in intensity as a function of frequency, not time
- Calibrator is ‘stared’ at once or twice during the observations
- May have to do a ‘quick’ gain calibration first (which doesn’t get applied to the final dataset)



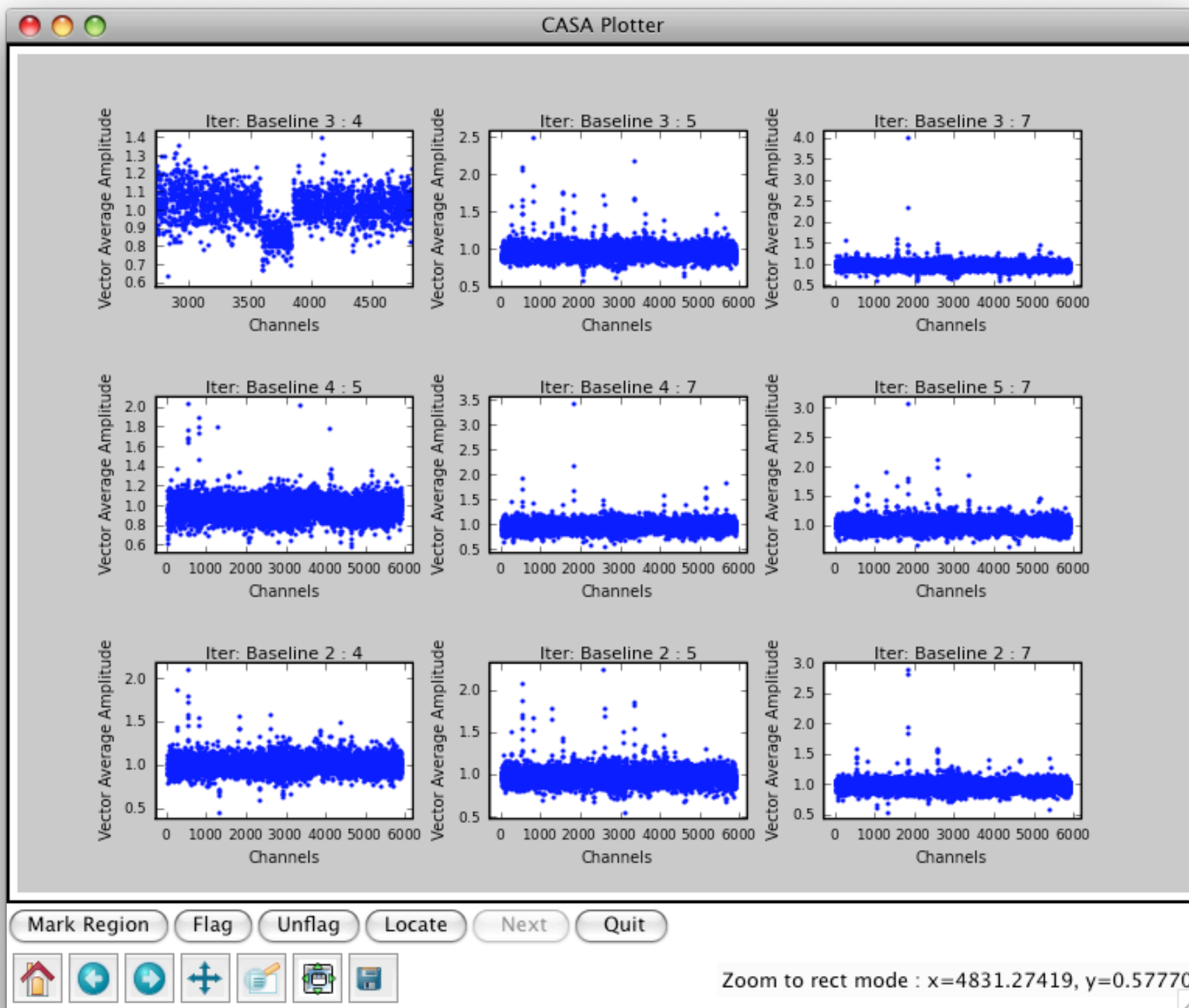


# Antenna Based Bandpass Calibration



- Each chunk in the SMA dataset needs to be ‘flattened’
- here, we correct for the spectral response

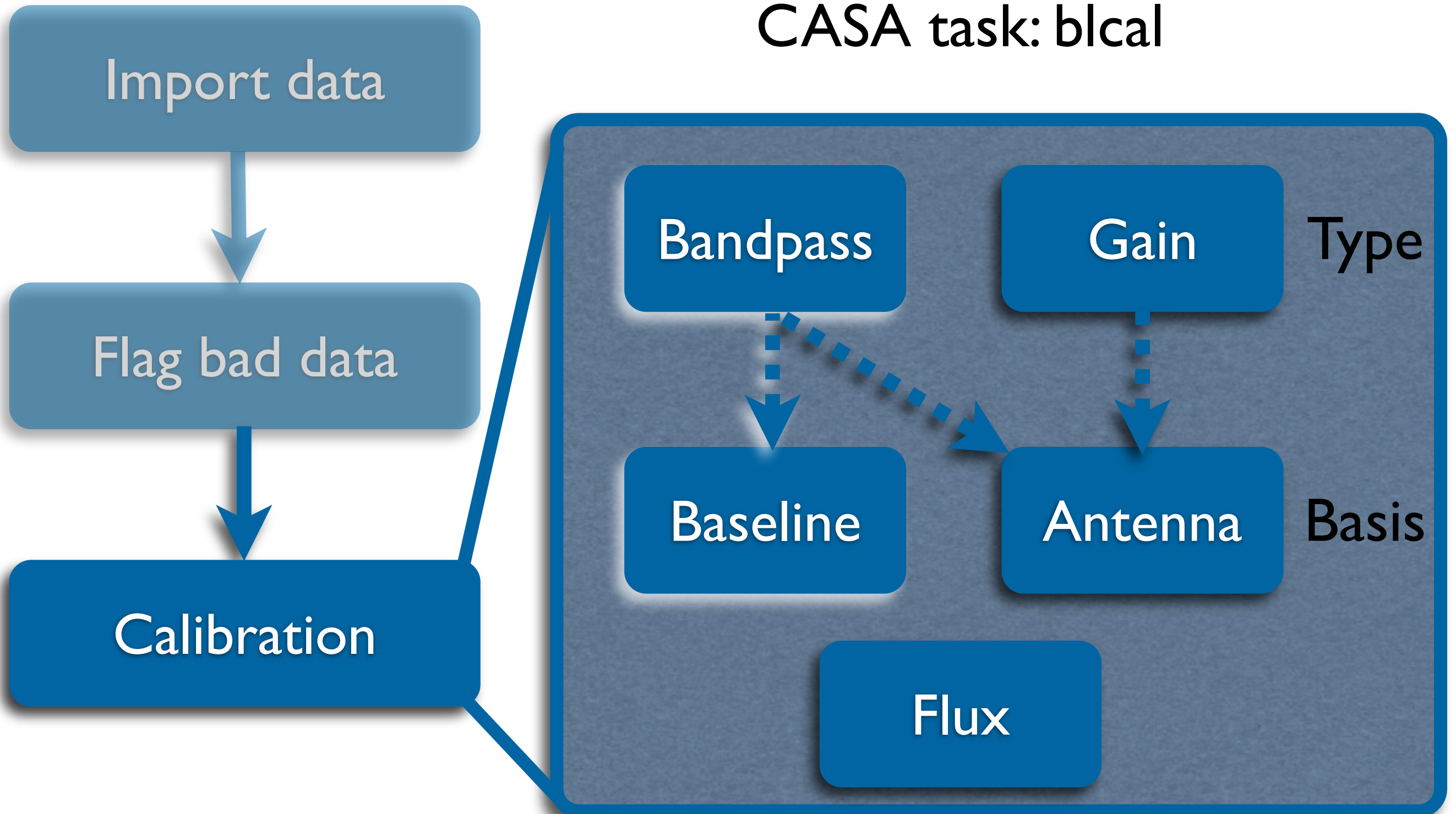
# Antenna Based Bandpass Calibration



- The response of each chunk has been accounted for
- but, there are still baseline based problems with the bandpass

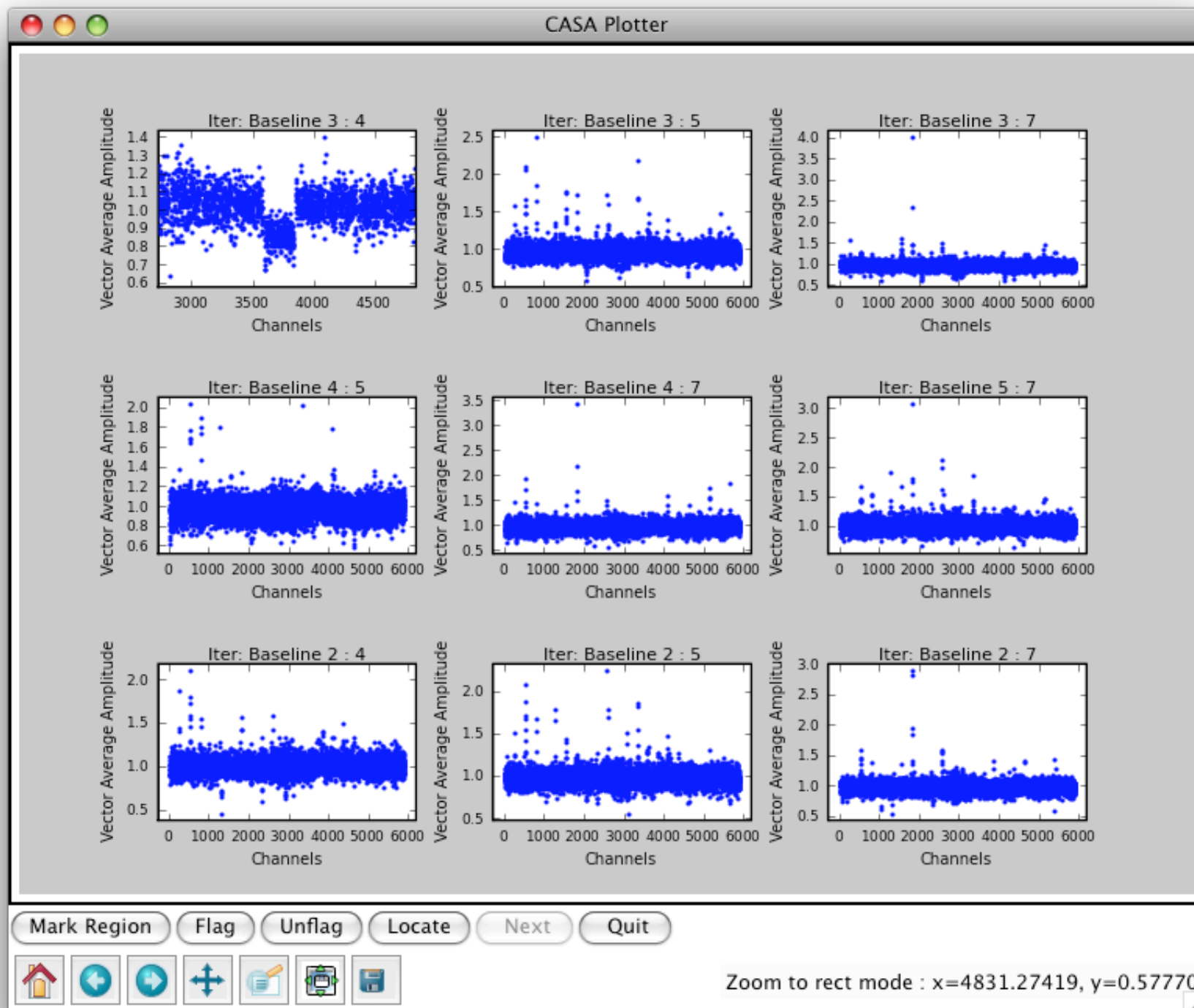
# Calibration: Bandpass

CASA task: `blcal`





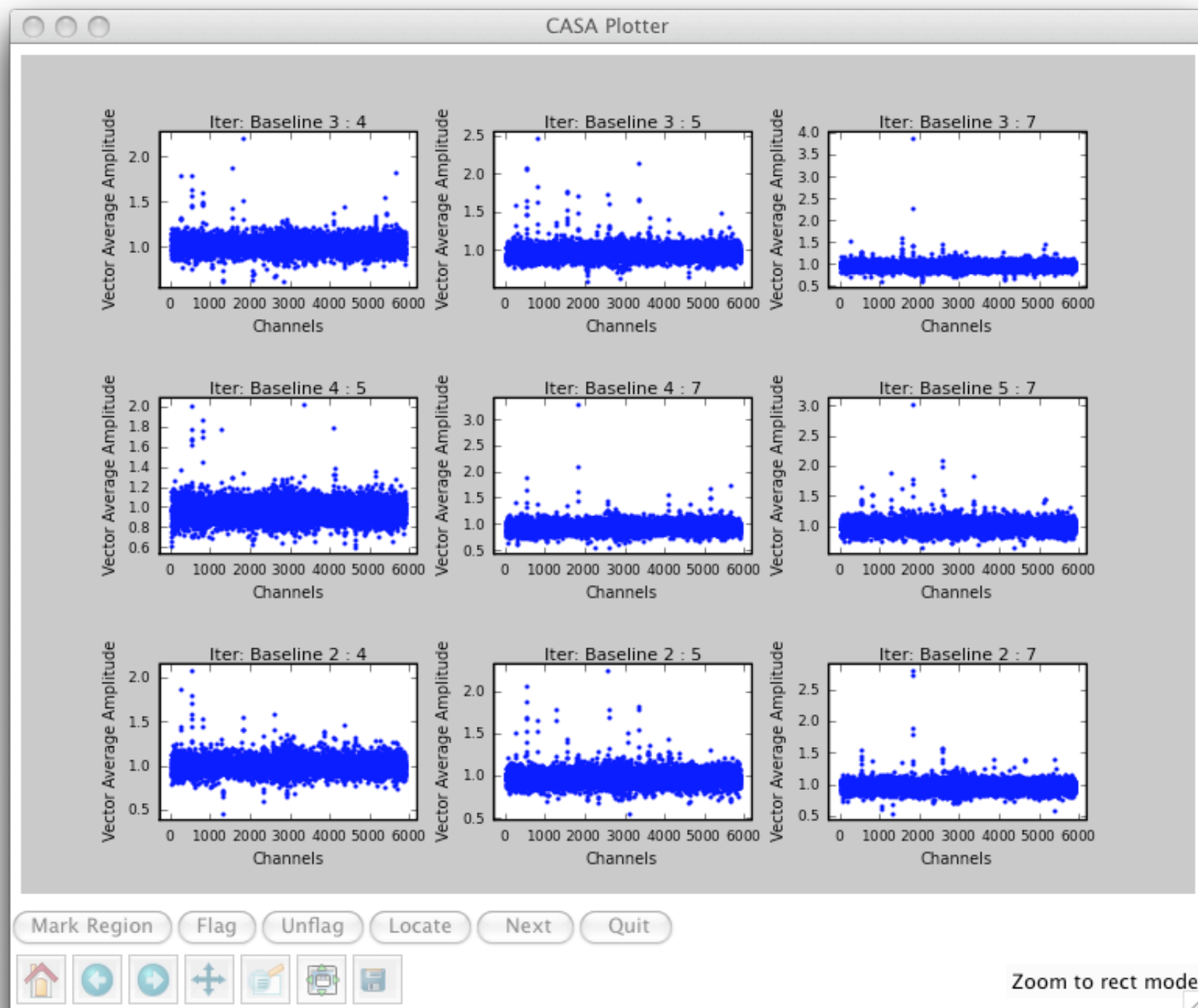
# Baseline Based Bandpass Calibration



- Now the amplitudes are consistent between spectral windows

- Still on 3c454

# Baseline Based Bandpass Calibration

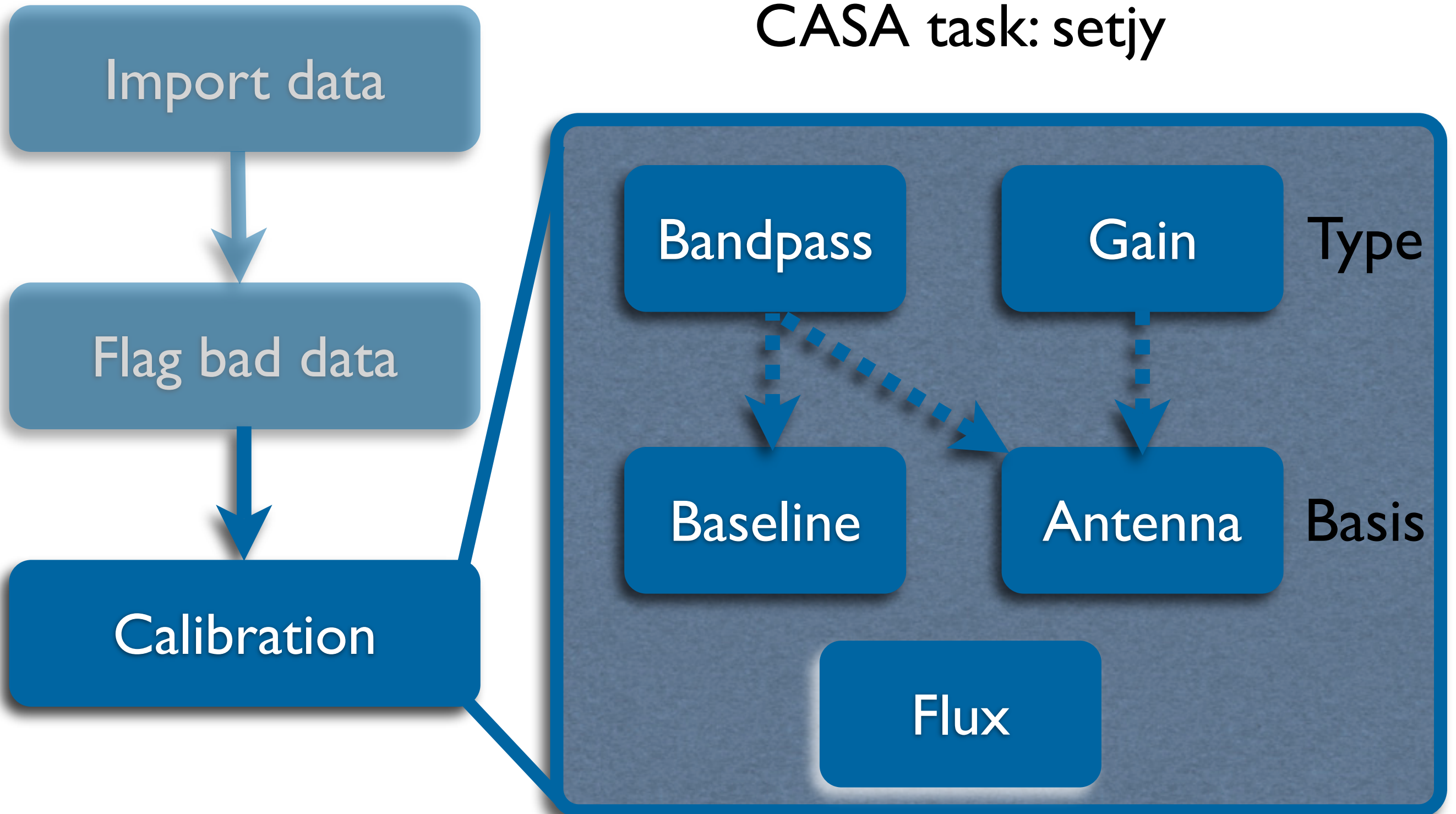


- Now the amplitudes are consistent between spectral windows

- Still on 3c454

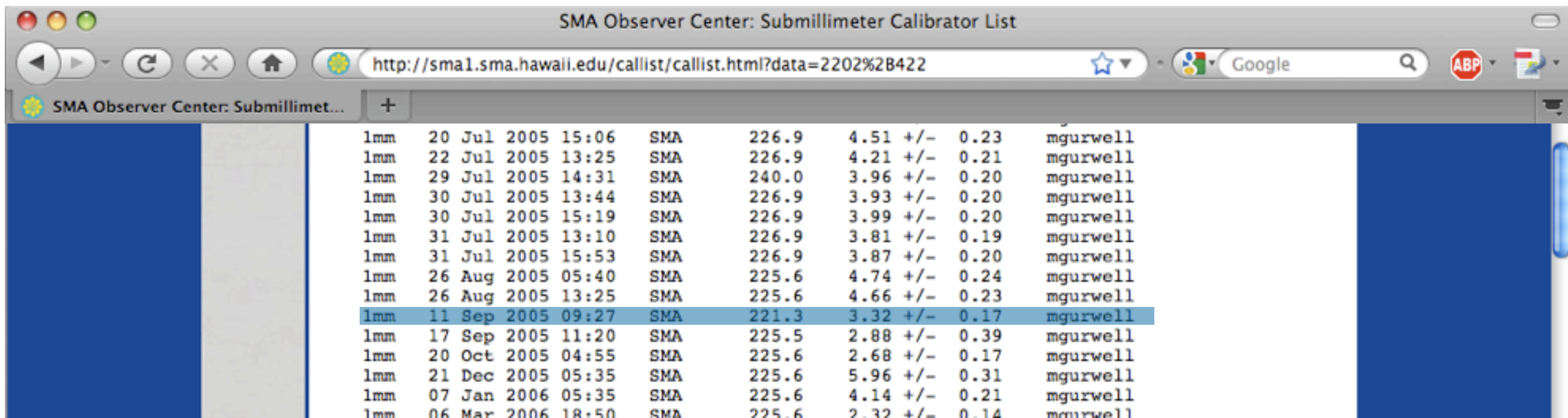
# Calibration: Flux

CASA task: setjy



# Set flux scaling

- Before doing gain calibration, set the scaling
- This is why the fluxes of gain calibrators need to be well characterized



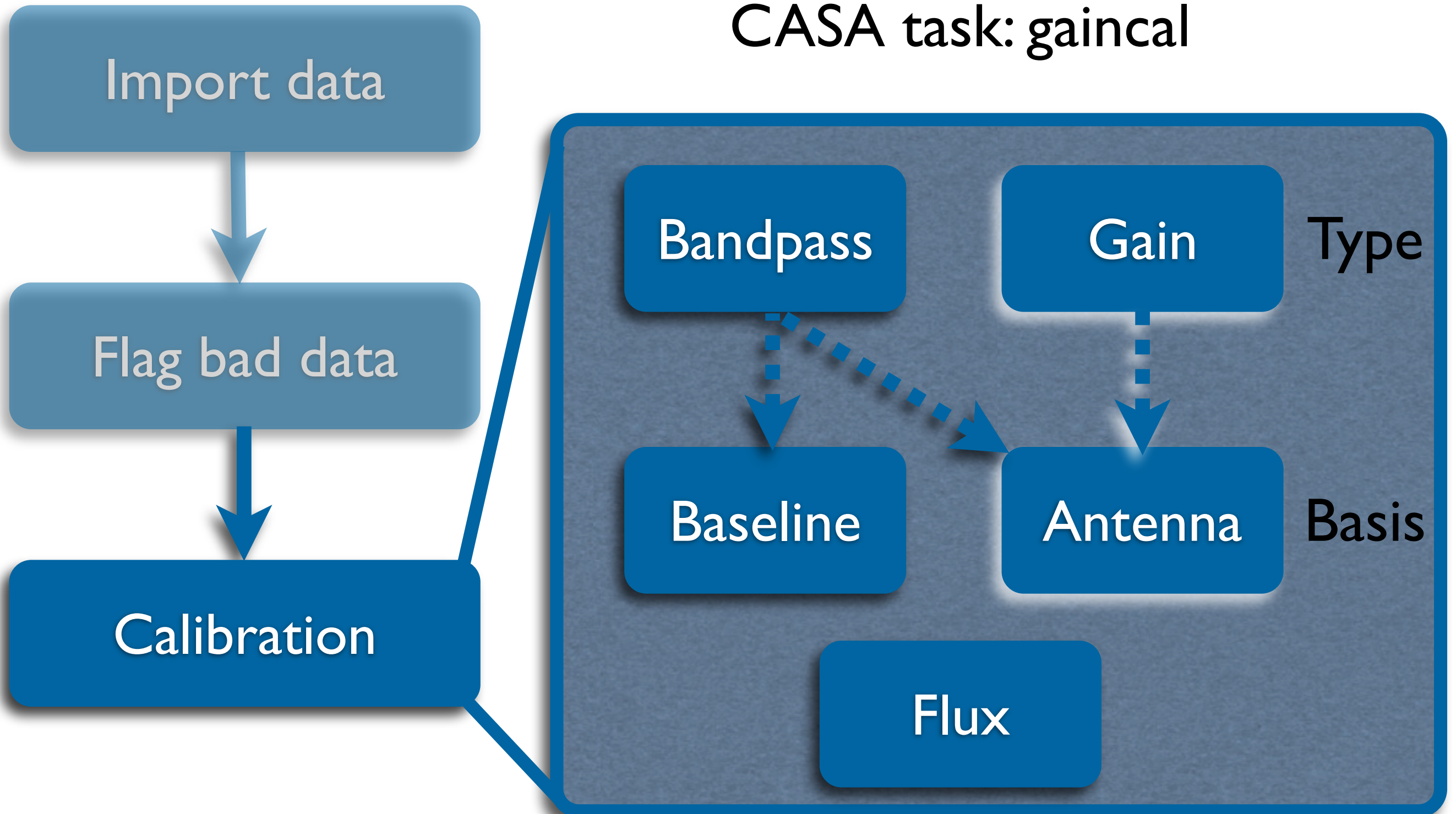
Frequency	Date	Time	SMA ID	Flux Density	Error	Observer
1mm	20 Jul 2005	15:06	SMA	226.9	4.51 +/- 0.23	mgurwell
1mm	22 Jul 2005	13:25	SMA	226.9	4.21 +/- 0.21	mgurwell
1mm	29 Jul 2005	14:31	SMA	240.0	3.96 +/- 0.20	mgurwell
1mm	30 Jul 2005	13:44	SMA	226.9	3.93 +/- 0.20	mgurwell
1mm	30 Jul 2005	15:19	SMA	226.9	3.99 +/- 0.20	mgurwell
1mm	31 Jul 2005	13:10	SMA	226.9	3.81 +/- 0.19	mgurwell
1mm	31 Jul 2005	15:53	SMA	226.9	3.87 +/- 0.20	mgurwell
1mm	26 Aug 2005	05:40	SMA	225.6	4.74 +/- 0.24	mgurwell
1mm	26 Aug 2005	13:25	SMA	225.6	4.66 +/- 0.23	mgurwell
1mm	11 Sep 2005	09:27	SMA	221.3	3.32 +/- 0.17	mgurwell
1mm	17 Sep 2005	11:20	SMA	225.5	2.88 +/- 0.39	mgurwell
1mm	20 Oct 2005	04:55	SMA	225.6	2.68 +/- 0.17	mgurwell
1mm	21 Dec 2005	05:35	SMA	225.6	5.96 +/- 0.31	mgurwell
1mm	07 Jan 2006	05:35	SMA	225.6	4.14 +/- 0.21	mgurwell
1mm	06 Mar 2006	18:50	SMA	225.6	2.32 +/- 0.14	mgurwell

```
setjy(vis='n7538_usb.ms', field='3',  
spw='0~23', fluxdensity=[3.32, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0])
```



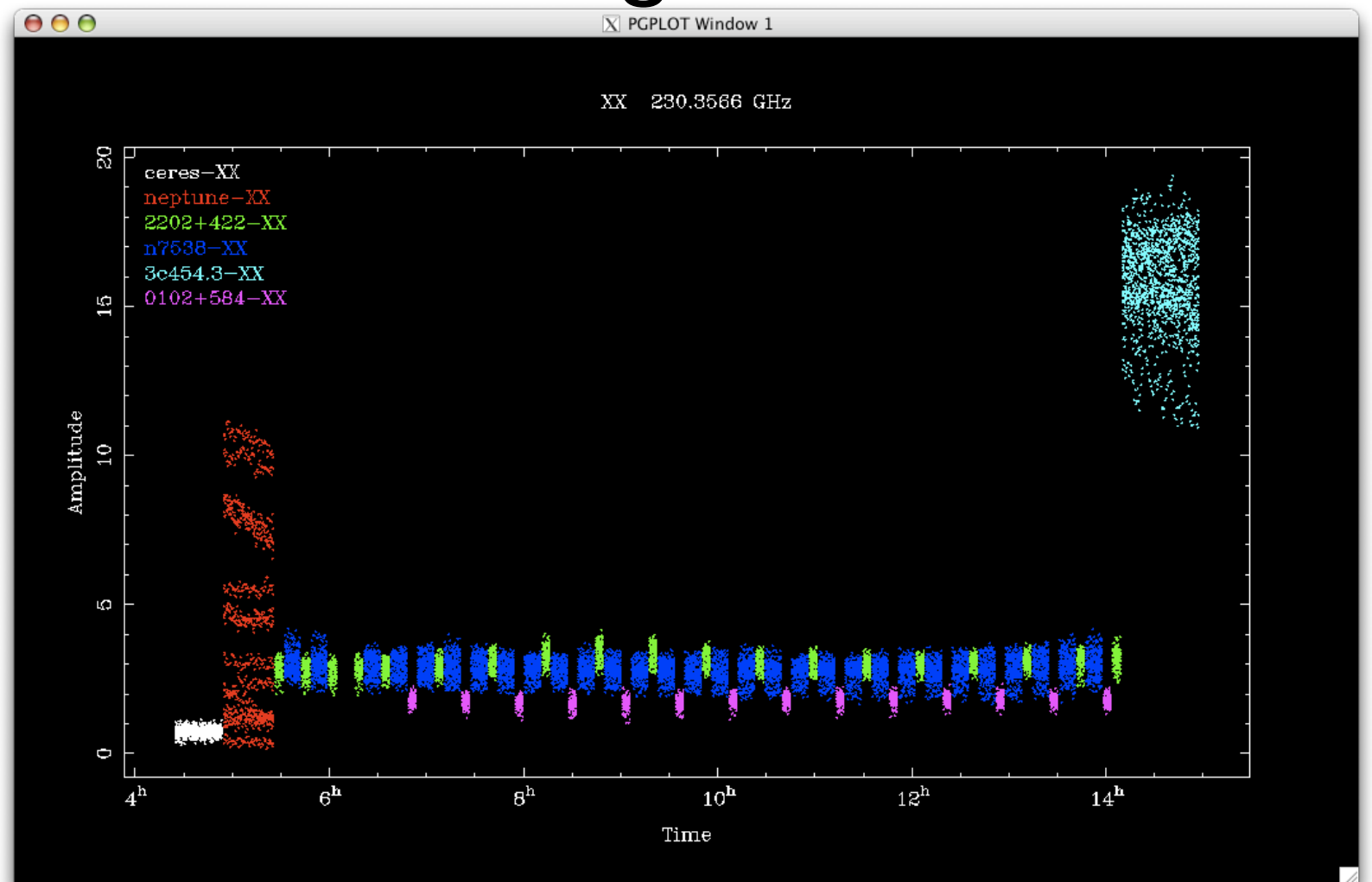
# Calibration: Gain

CASA task: gaincal

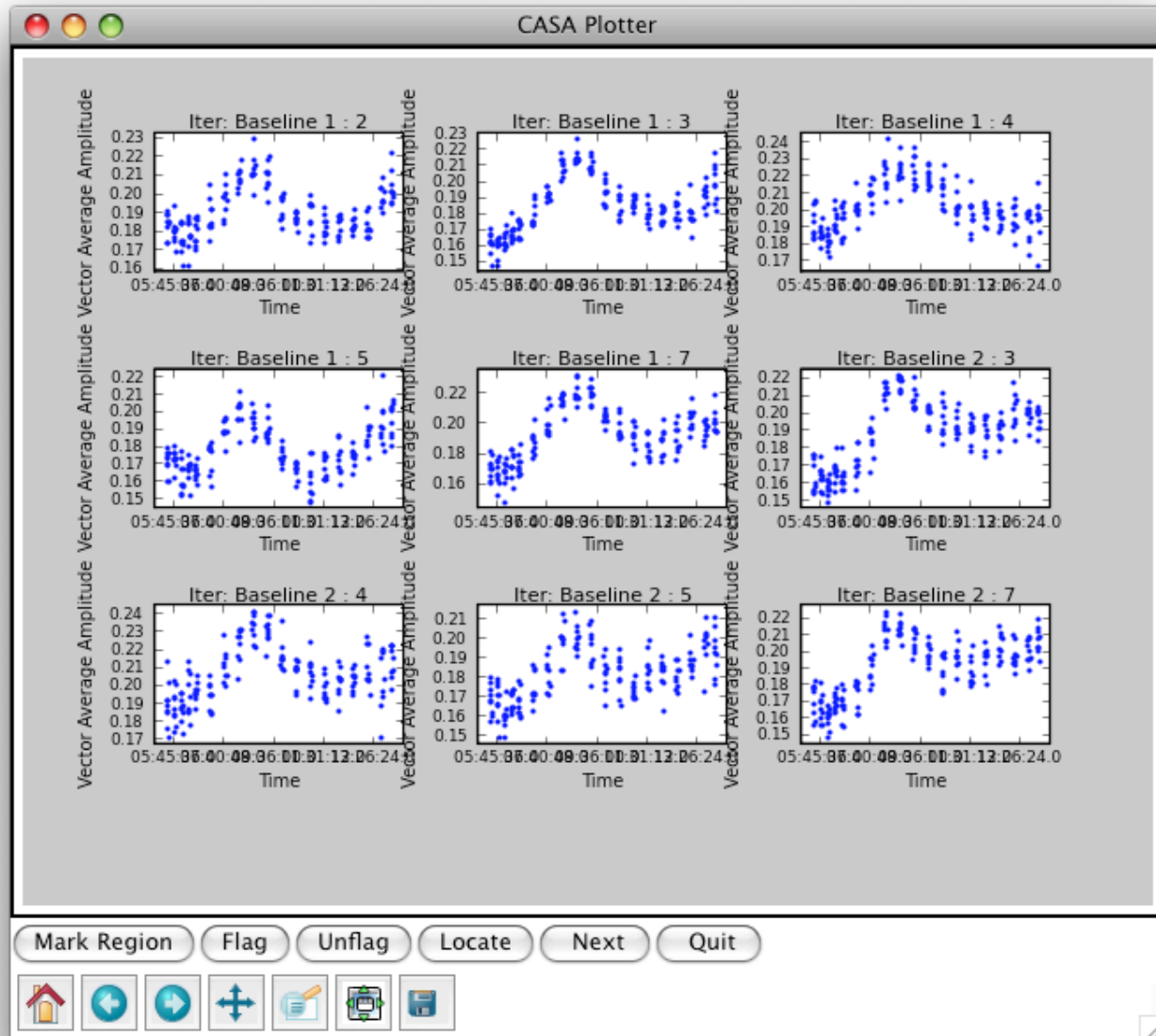


# Gain Calibration

- Correct for variations in intensity as a function of time, not frequency
- This type of calibration is done using sources near the science target
- These calibrators are observed interspersed with the science target



# Gain Calibration

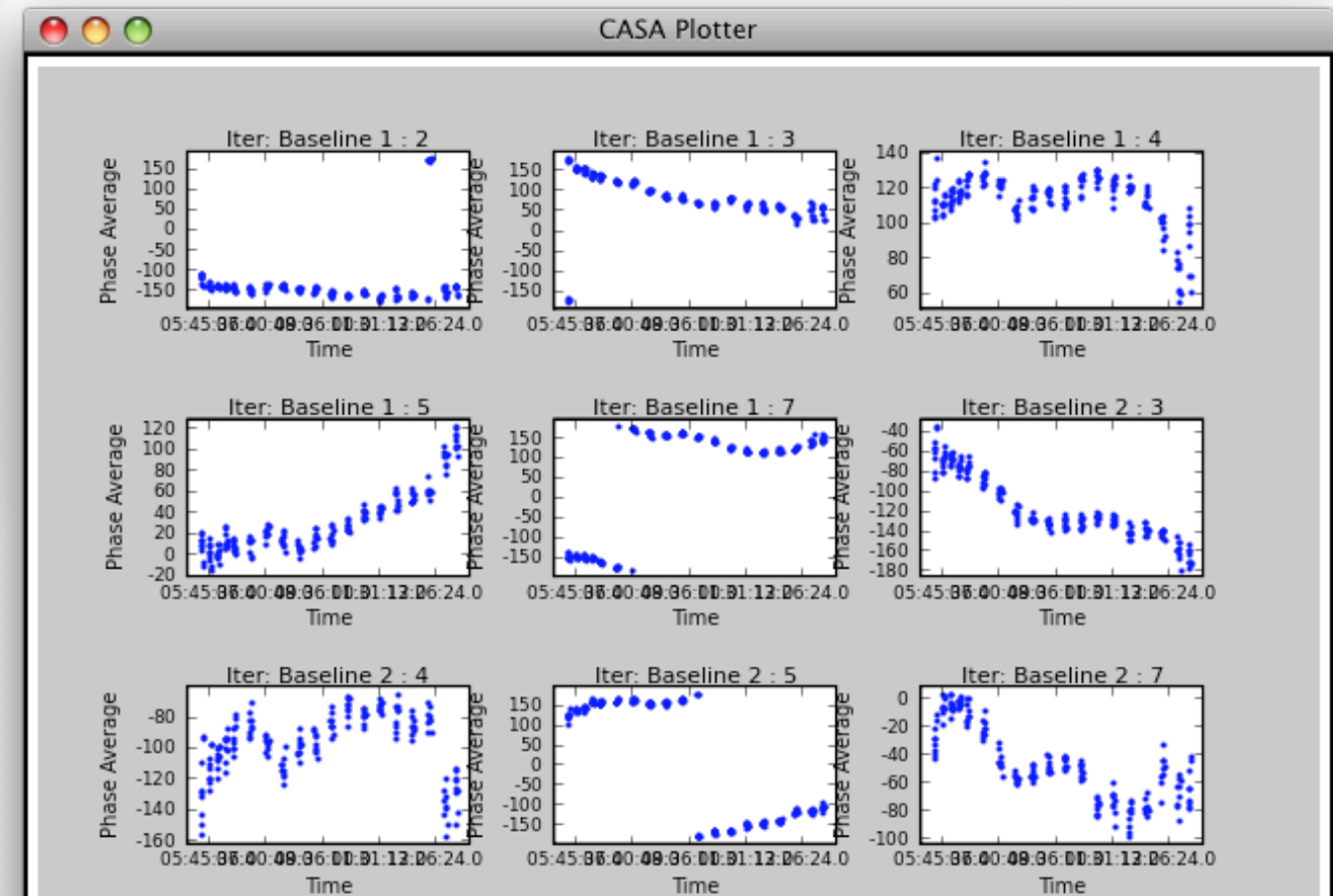
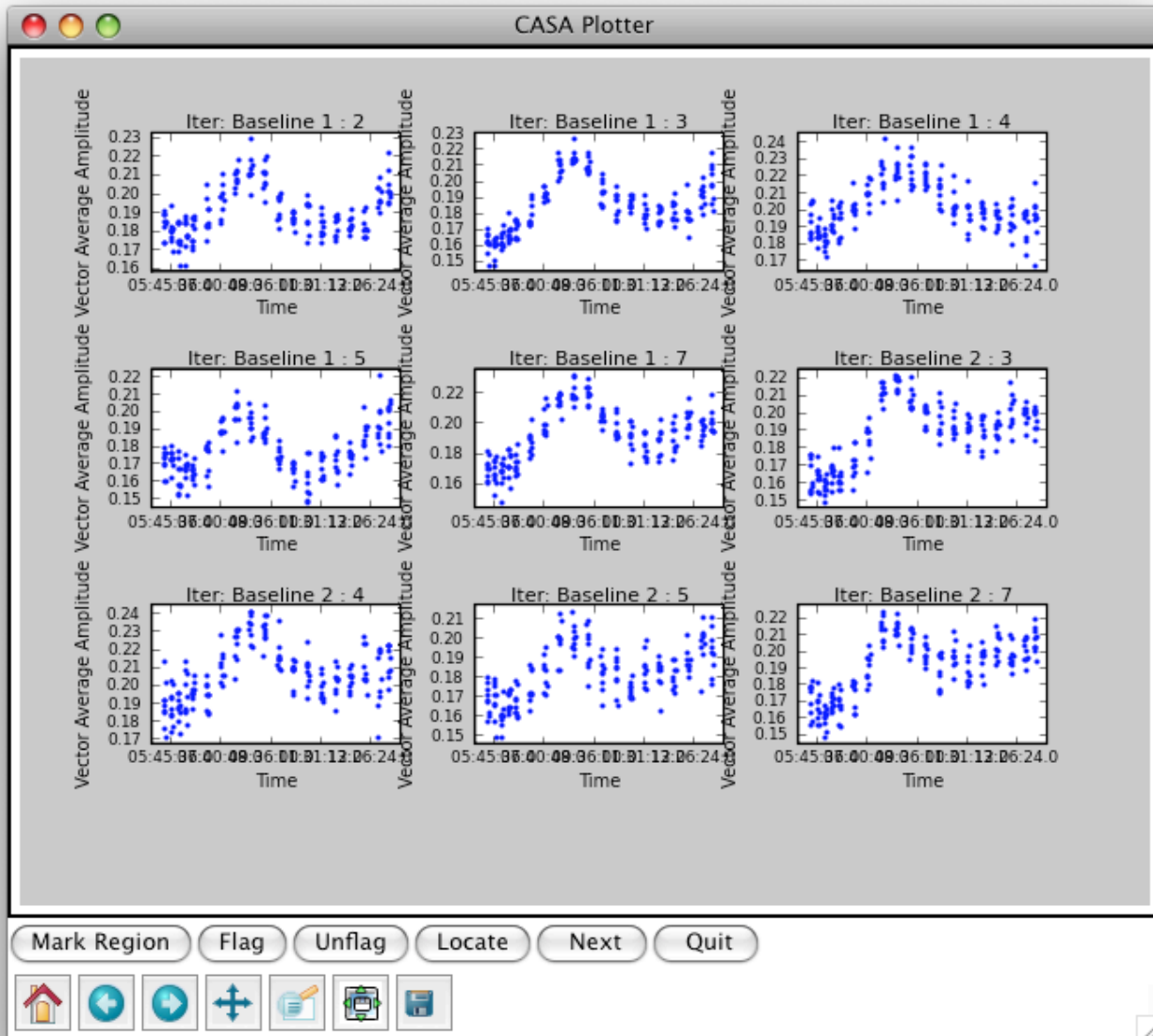


Amplitude and Phase  
of one of the gain  
calibrators as a  
function of time

2202+422  
(bllac)

# Gain Calibration

Amplitude and Phase of one of the gain calibrators as a function of time

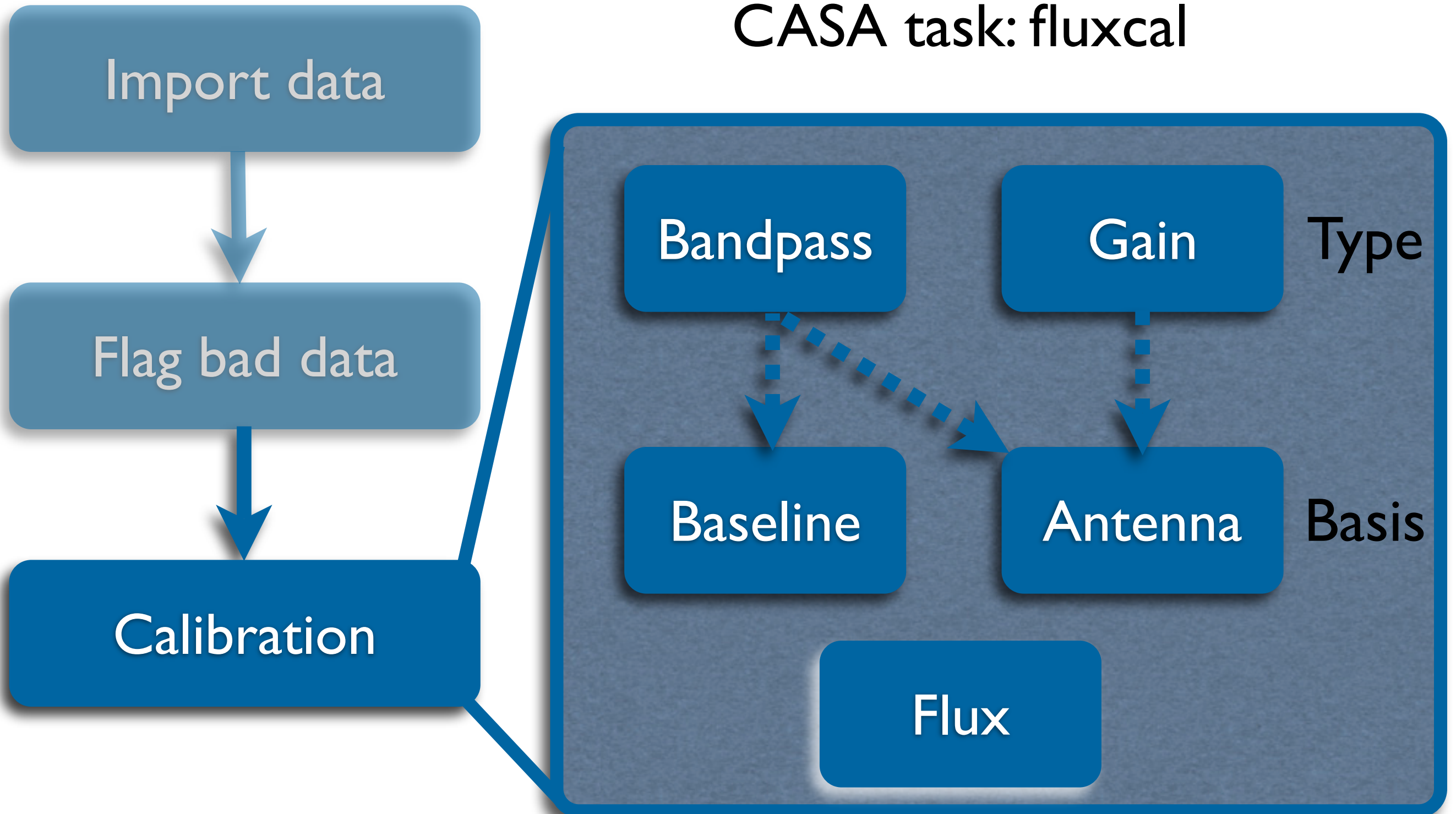


2202+422  
(blac)



# Calibration: Gain

CASA task: fluxcal

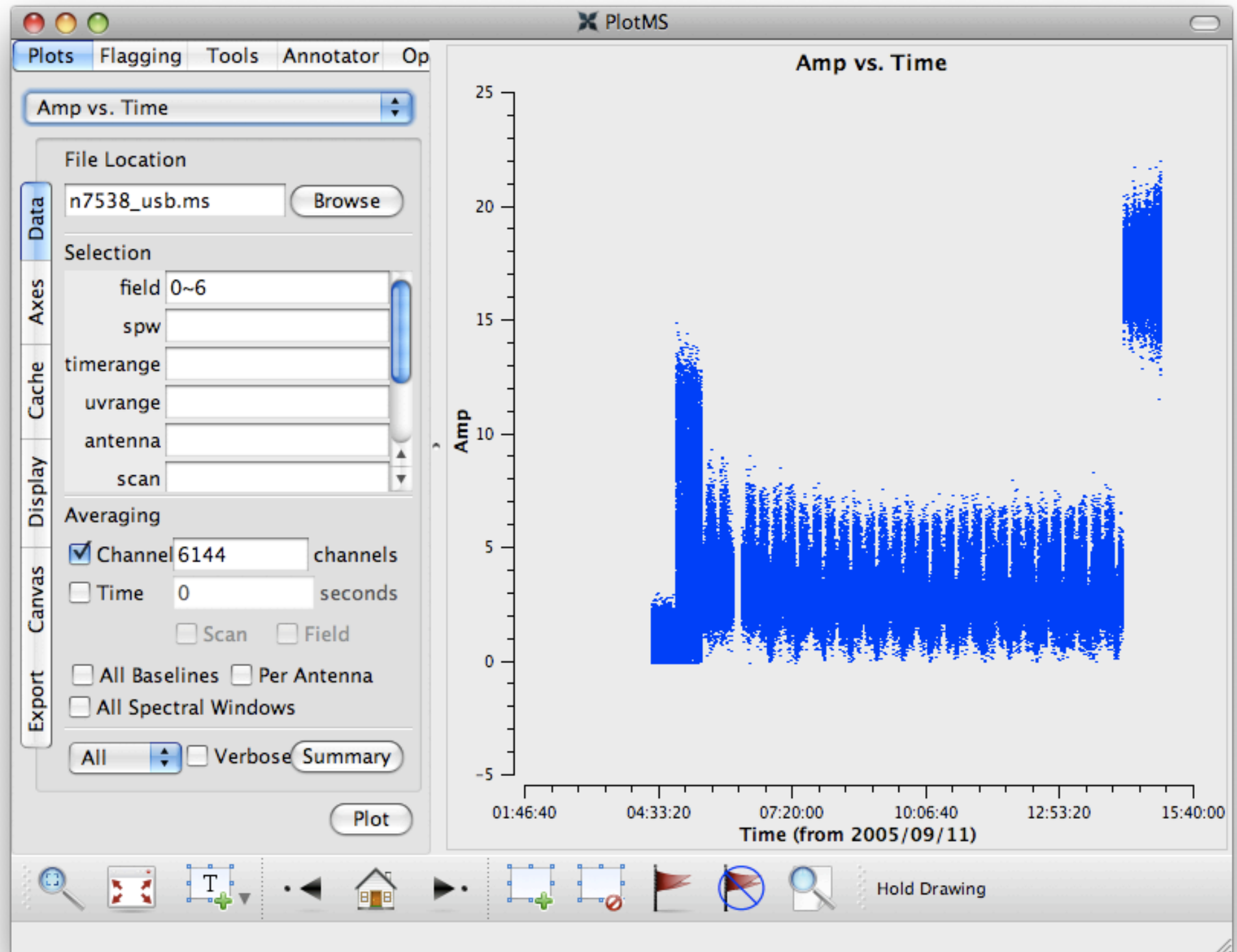


# Applying Calibrations

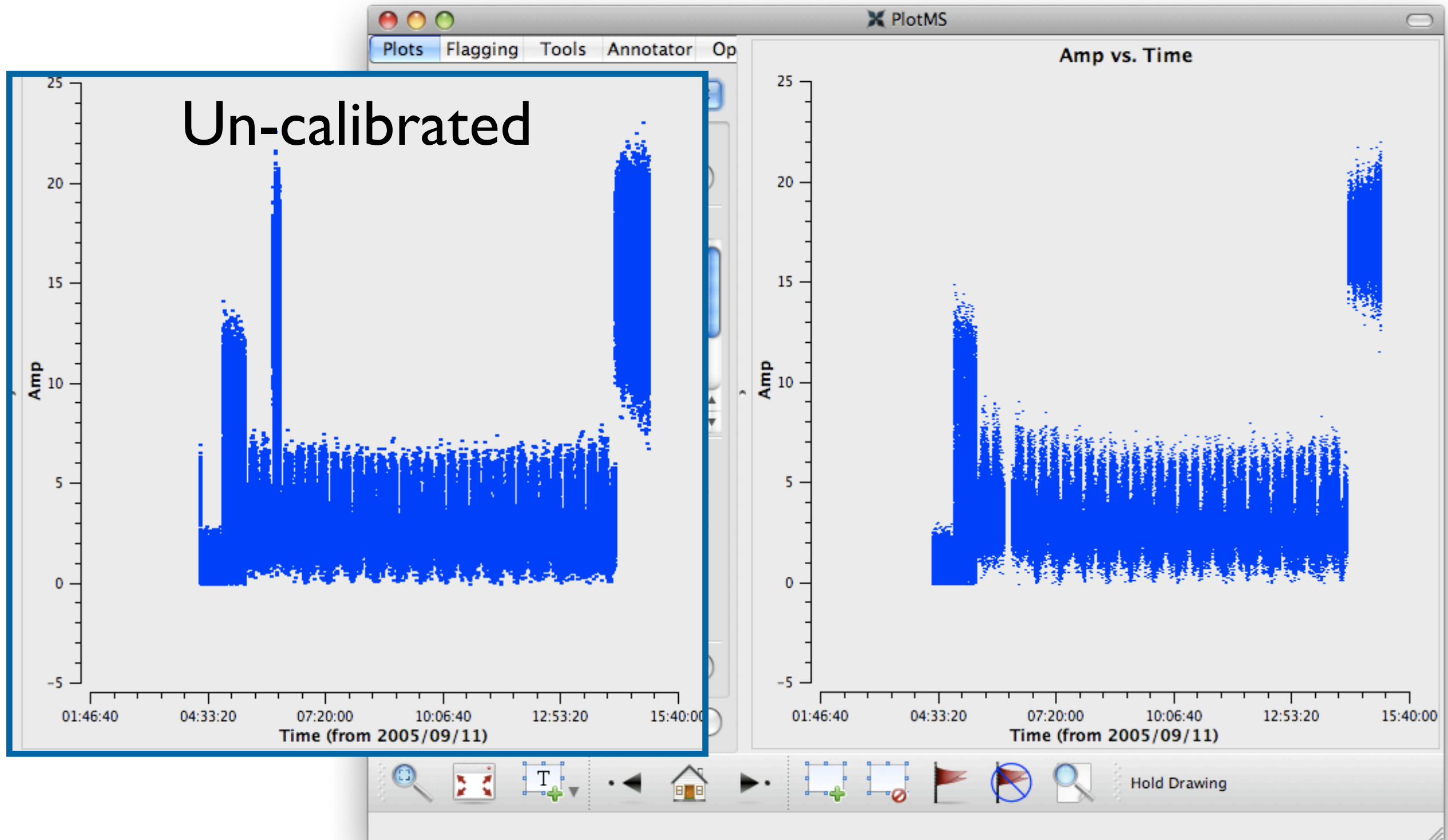
- After calculating all of the calibration factors, they must be applied to both the calibrators AND the science source(s)

```
applycal(vis='n7538_usb.ms', spw='0~23', field='5',  
         gaintable=['n7538_usb.ms.allpcal',  
                   'n7538_usb.ms.fluxcal', 'n7538_usb.ms.bpoly',  
                   'n7538_usb.ms.blcal2'], spwmap=[[0], [0], [], []],  
         gainfield=['5', '5', '5', '5'])
```

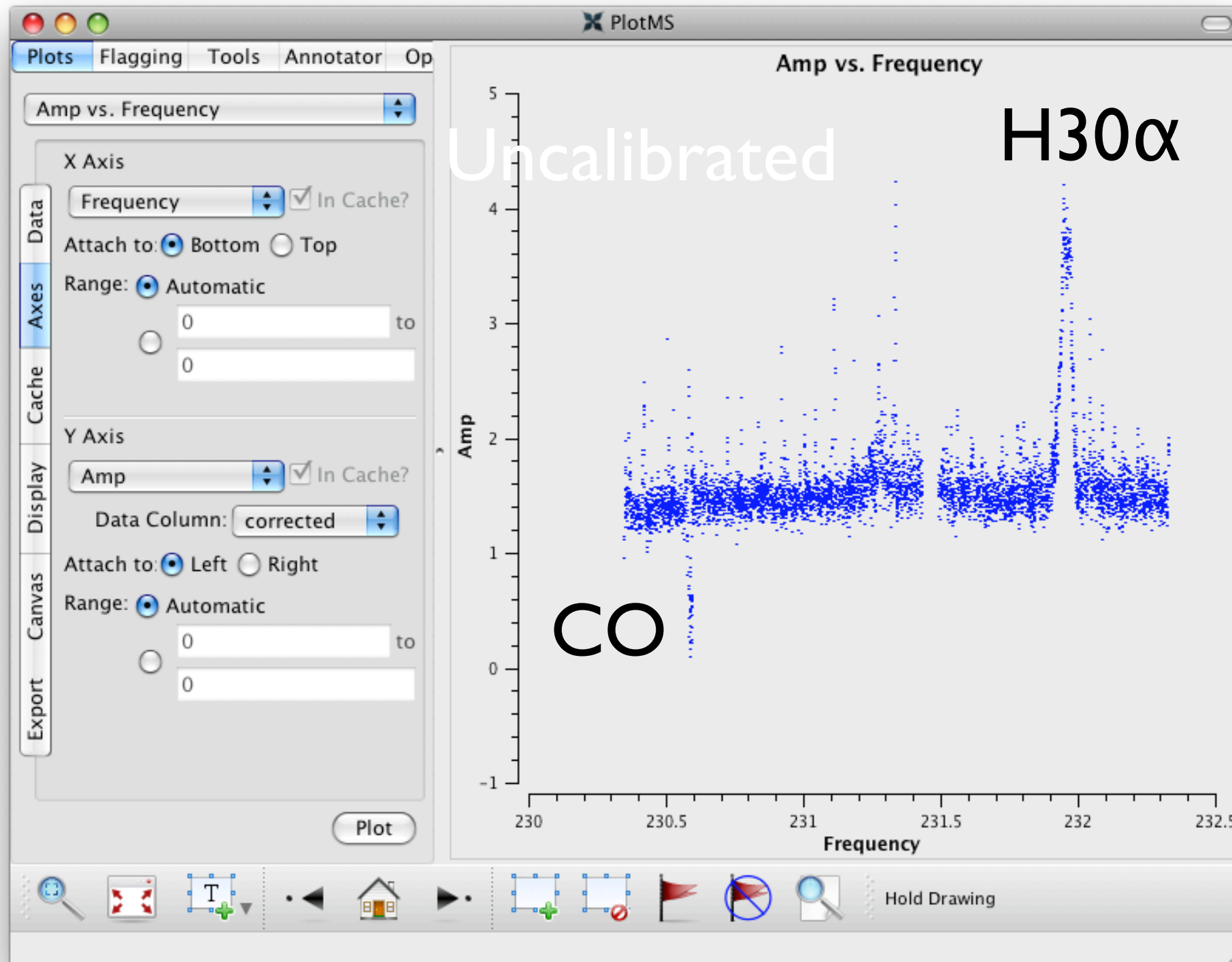
# Applying Calibrations



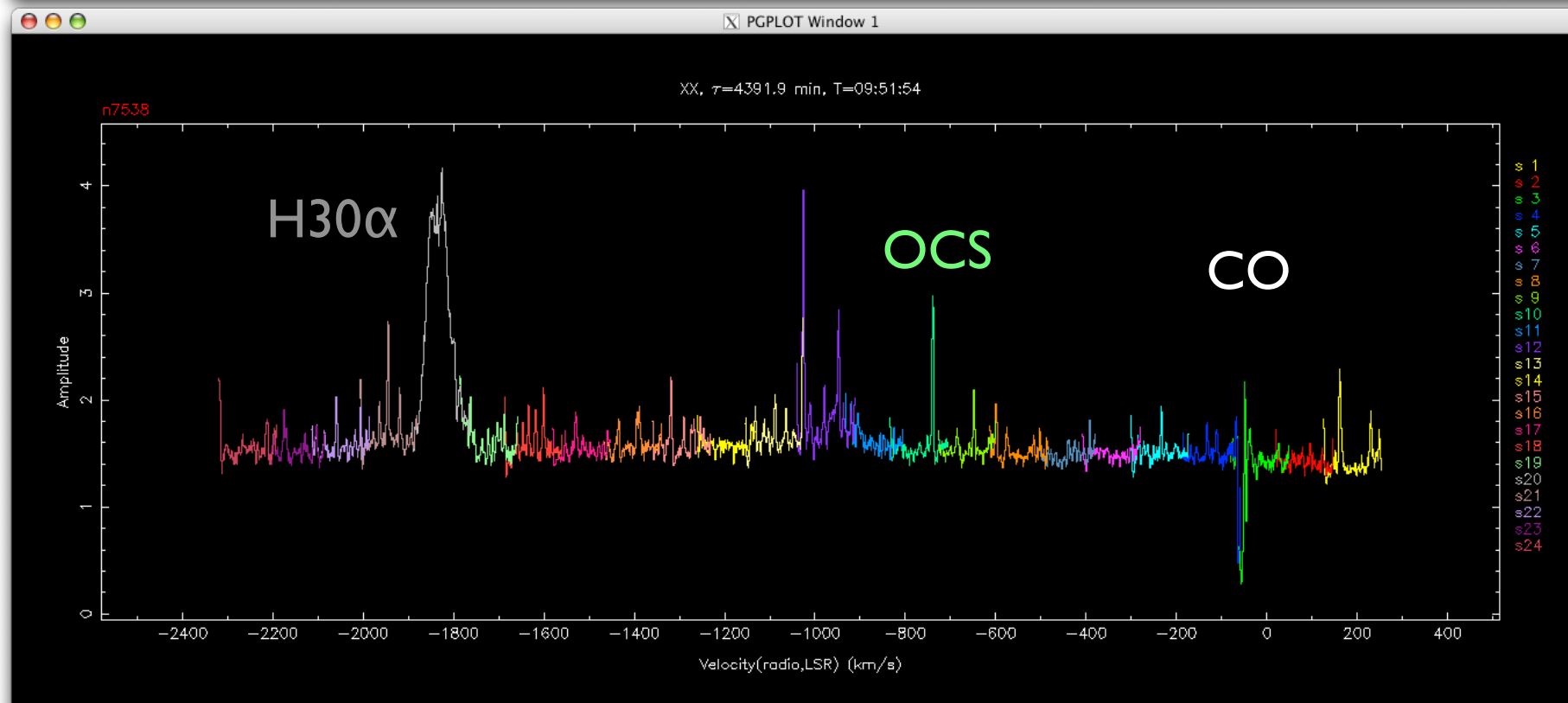
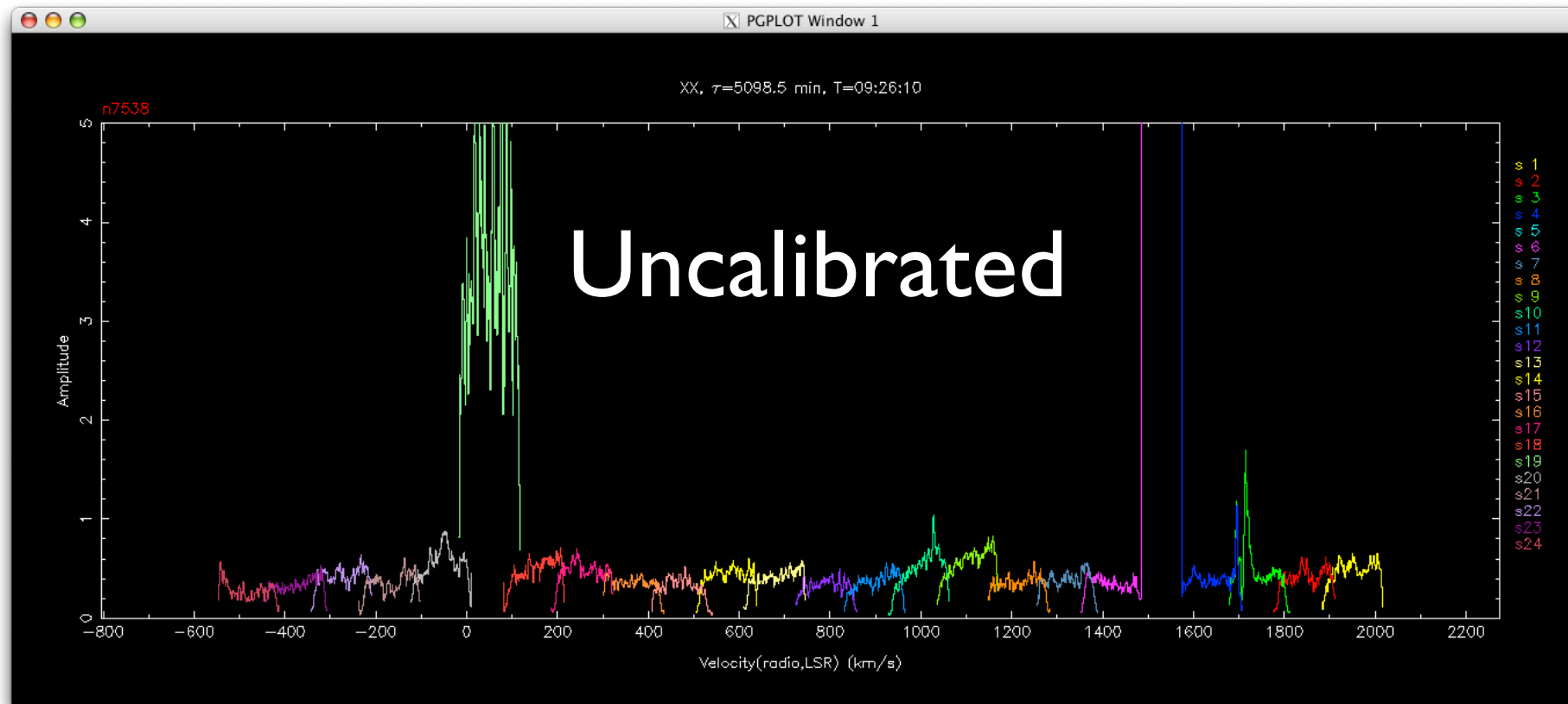
# Applying Calibrations



# Calibrated Source



# Calibrated Source



# Data Pipeline

- ALMA will have a data reduction pipeline
- Fully calibrated data will be delivered to the users (*you*)

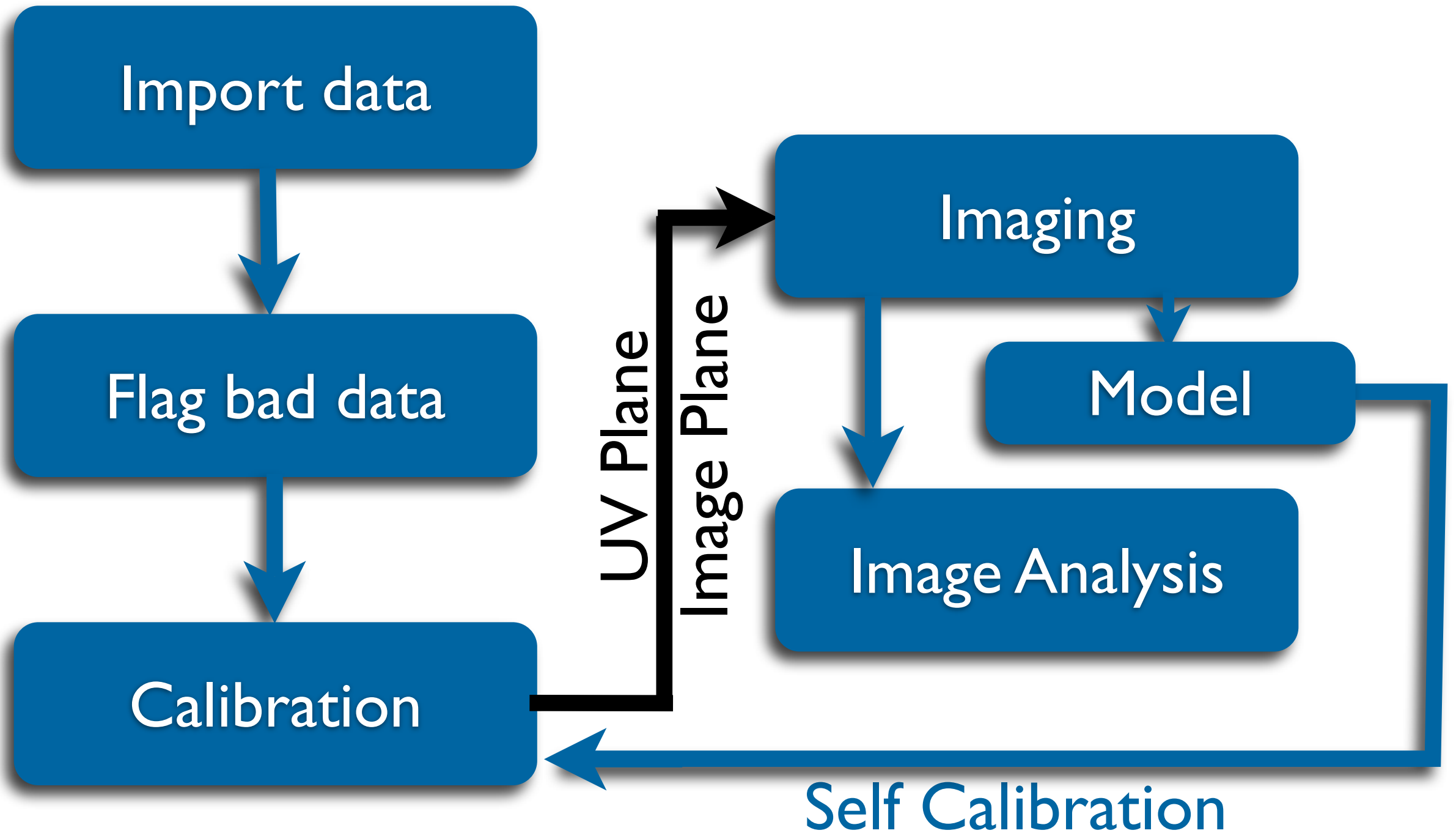
# Data Pipeline

- ALMA will have a data reduction pipeline
- Fully calibrated data will be delivered to the users (*you*)

So, you don't really have to worry about this too much (unless you want to)



# Data Flow



# Imaging

Either in the UV plane or the Image plane,  
the continuum emission needs to be  
separated from the spectral line emission

- Continuum Imaging
  - single channel
  - taken from line free regions of the band
- Line Imaging
  - multiple channels
  - only invert near the desired line, not the whole dataset!

# Inverting to the Image Plane

Invert

Create dirty image

Clean

Find clean components

Apply cleaning to dirty image

Restore

# Inverting to the Image Plane

Invert

Create dirty image

**All of this is done in the CASA command**

Clean  
'clean'

Find clean  
components

Apply cleaning to dirty image

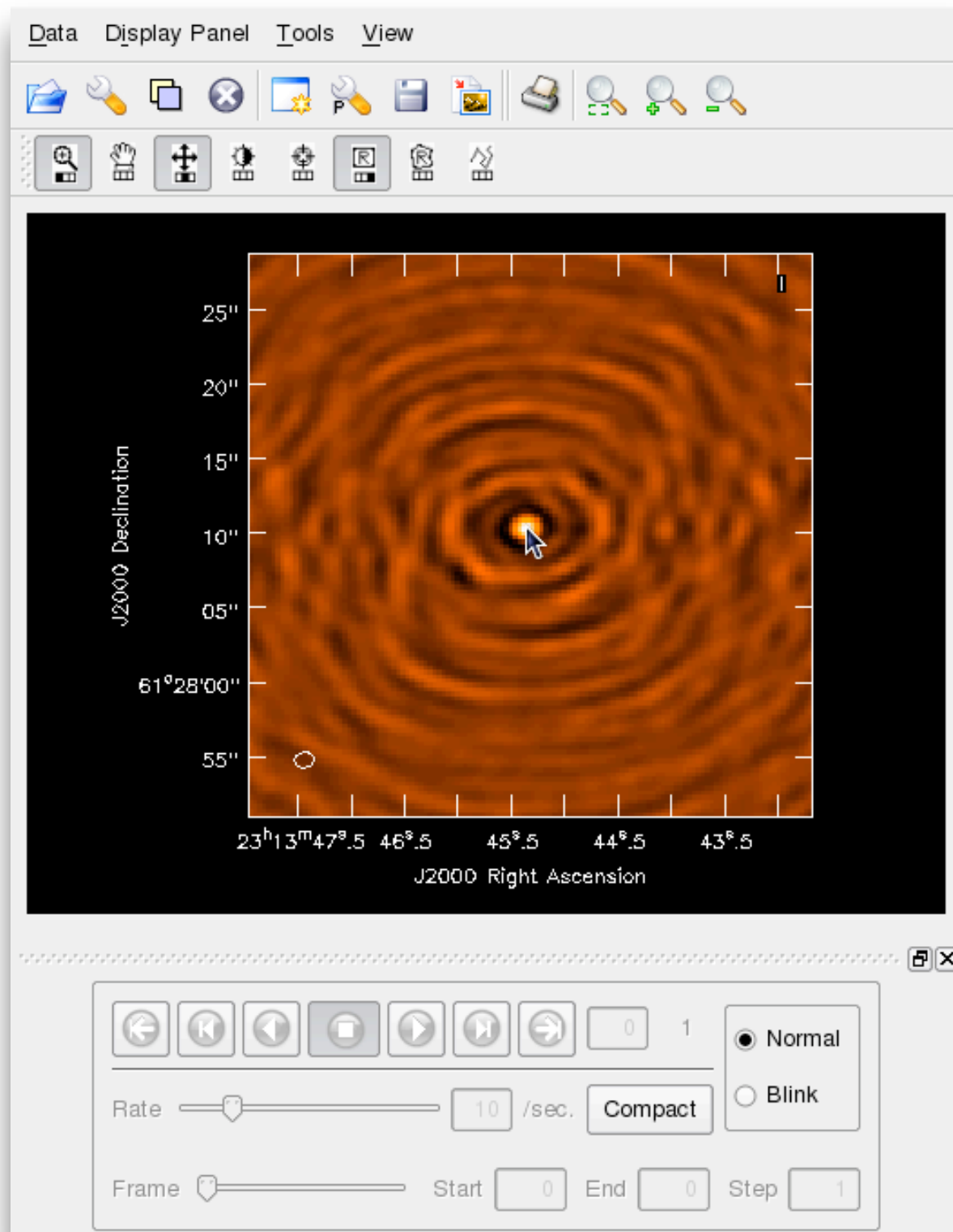
Restore

# Dirty Image

- Invert to the image plane using `niter=0`

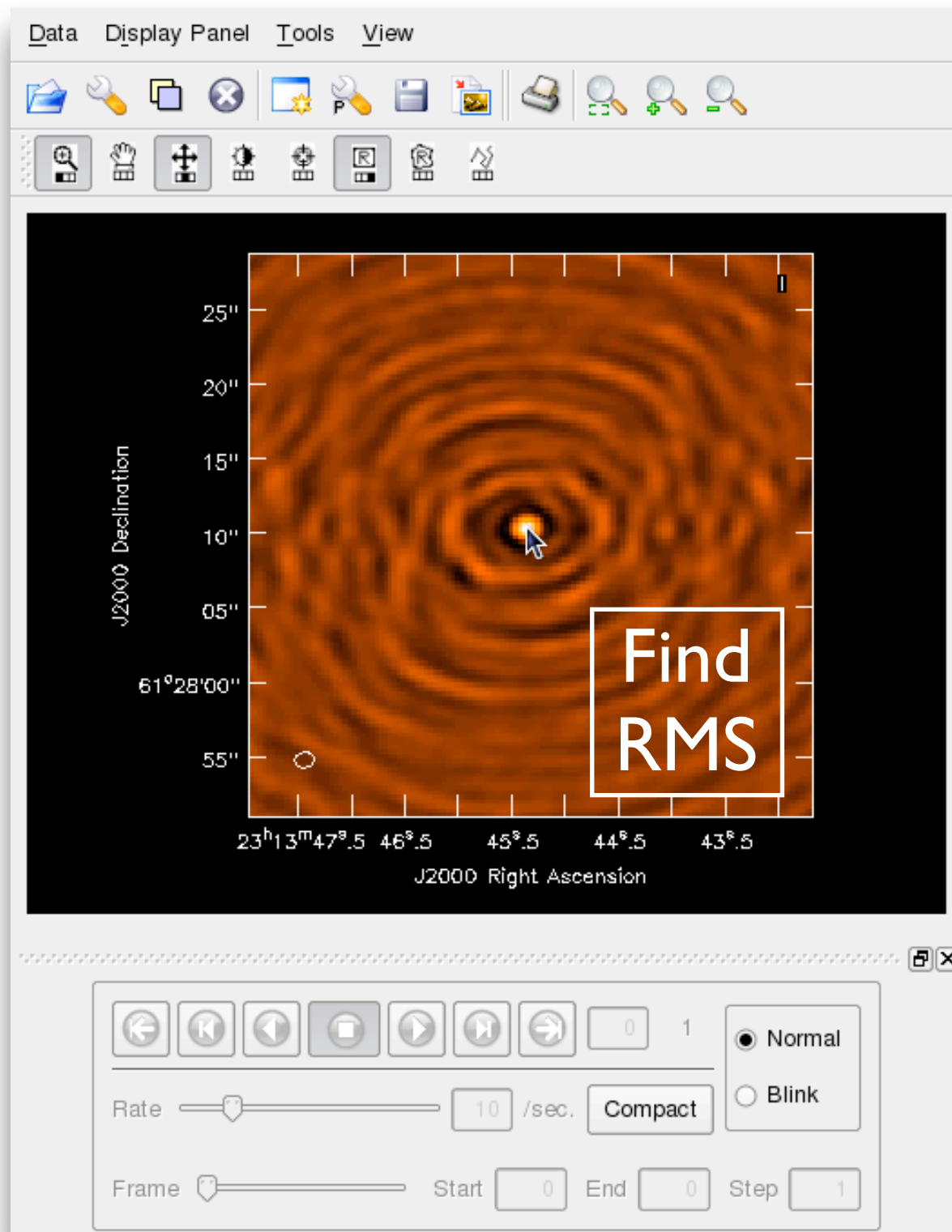
```
clean(vis='n7538_edge_clip.ms.cont',  
      imagename='n7538.cont.dirty',  
      field='0', spw='4~9,13~17,21~23',  
      niter=0, gain=0.1,  
      threshold=0.0, interactive=F,  
      imsize=500, cell='0.3', pbcor=F, minpb=0.1)
```

# Dirty Image



- First look at the image plane!
- Fourier transform of UV plane visibilities
- Next step:  $n_{\text{iters}} > 0$

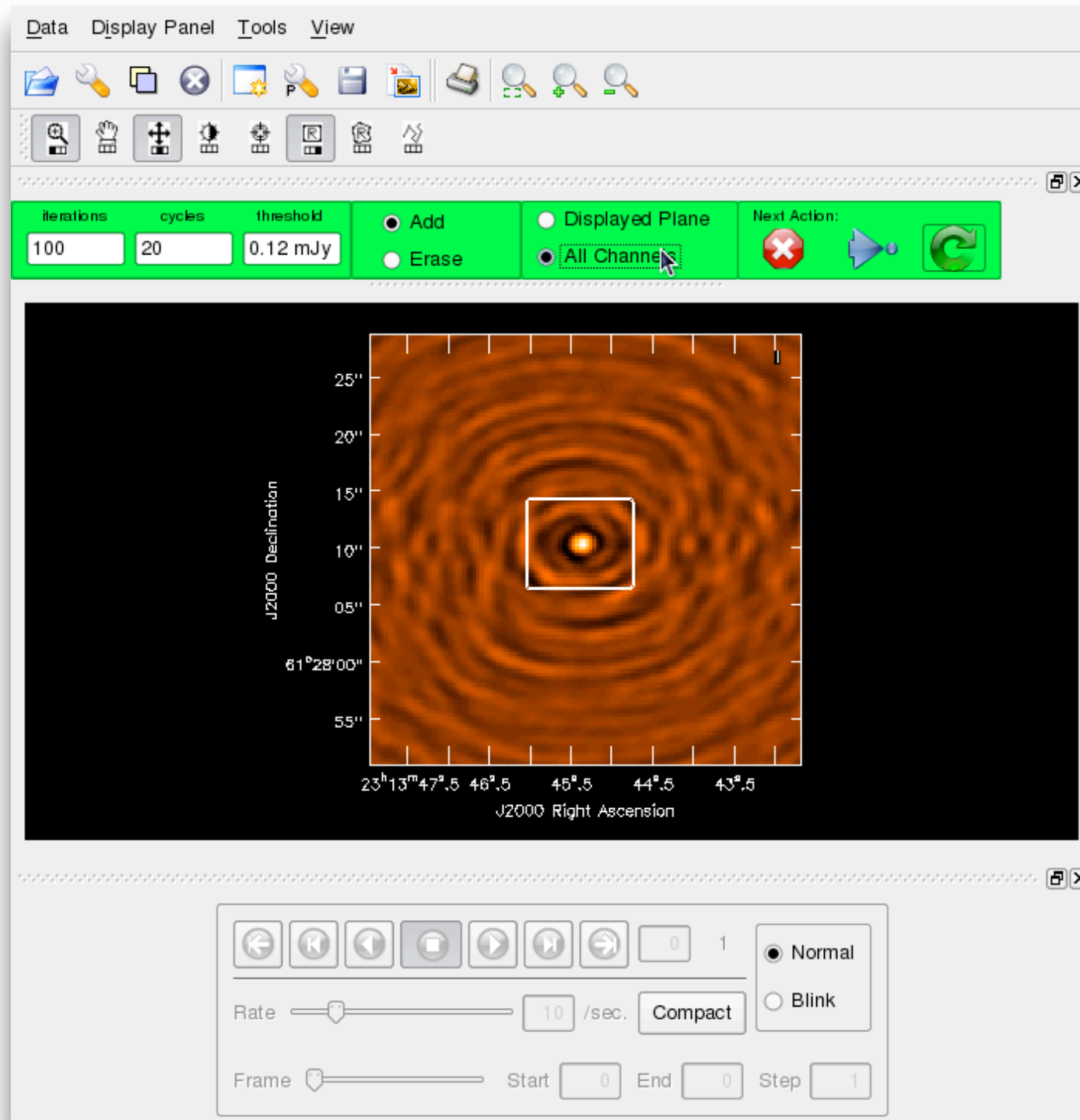
# Dirty Image





- First look at the image plane!
- Fourier transform of UV plane visibilities
- Next step:  $n_{\text{iters}} > 0$

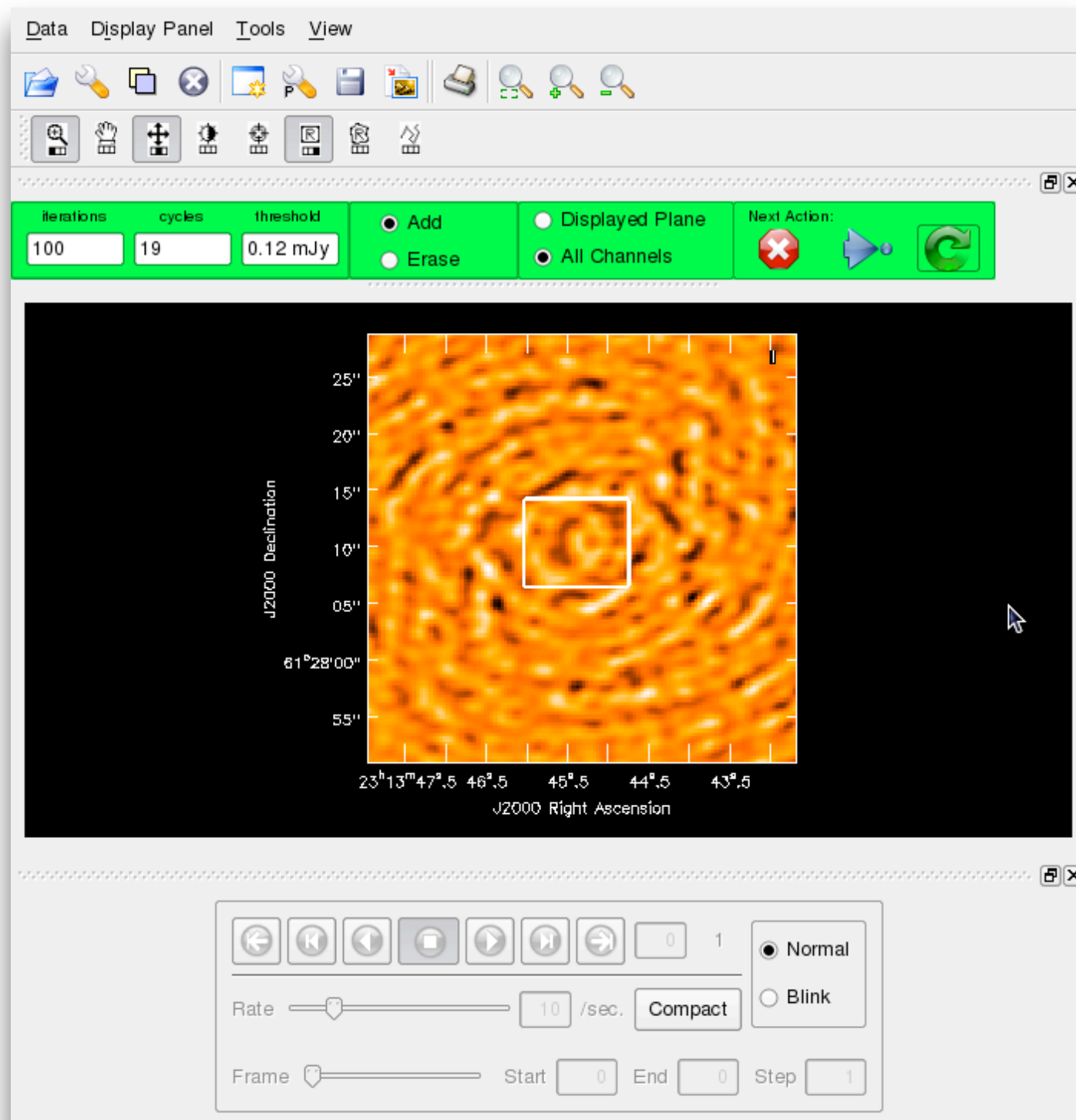


# Cleaning



- Create a clean box around the emission
- Continue cleaning:  
interactively   
automatically 

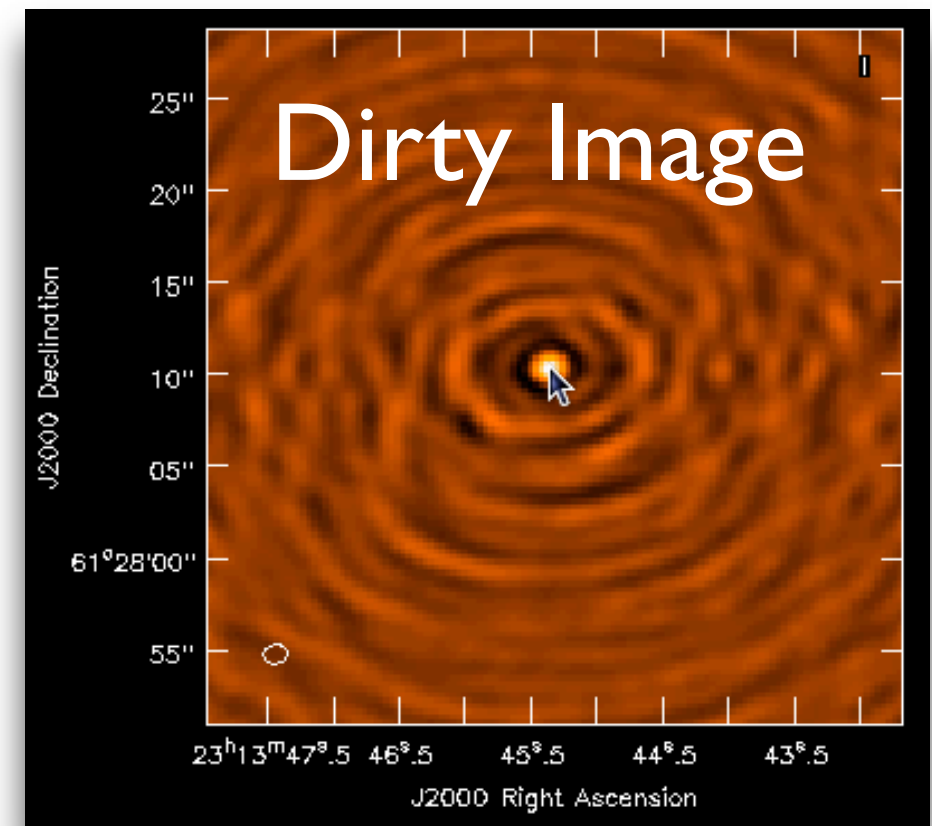
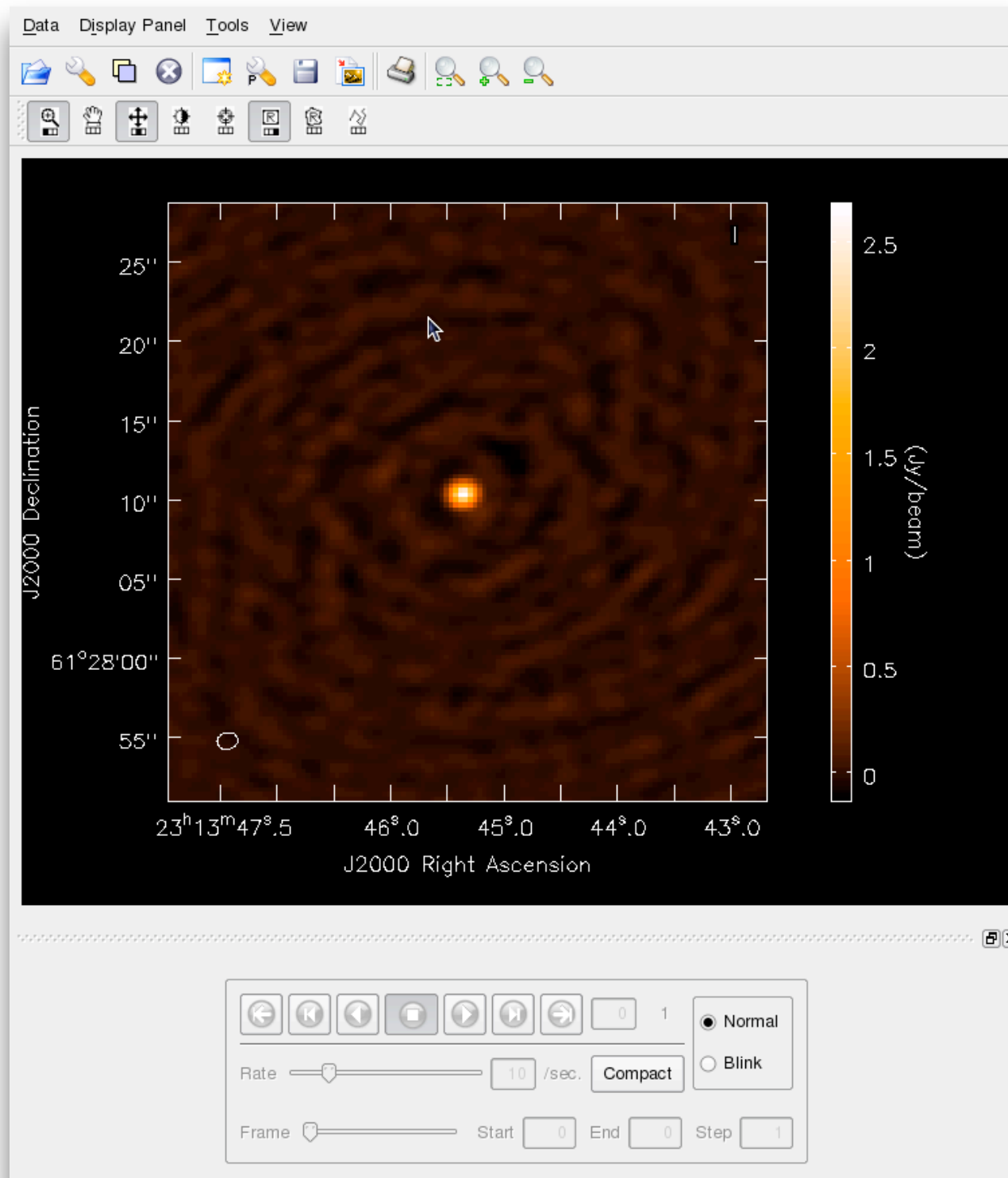
# Cleaning



- Create a clean box around the emission
- Continue until residuals are noiselike

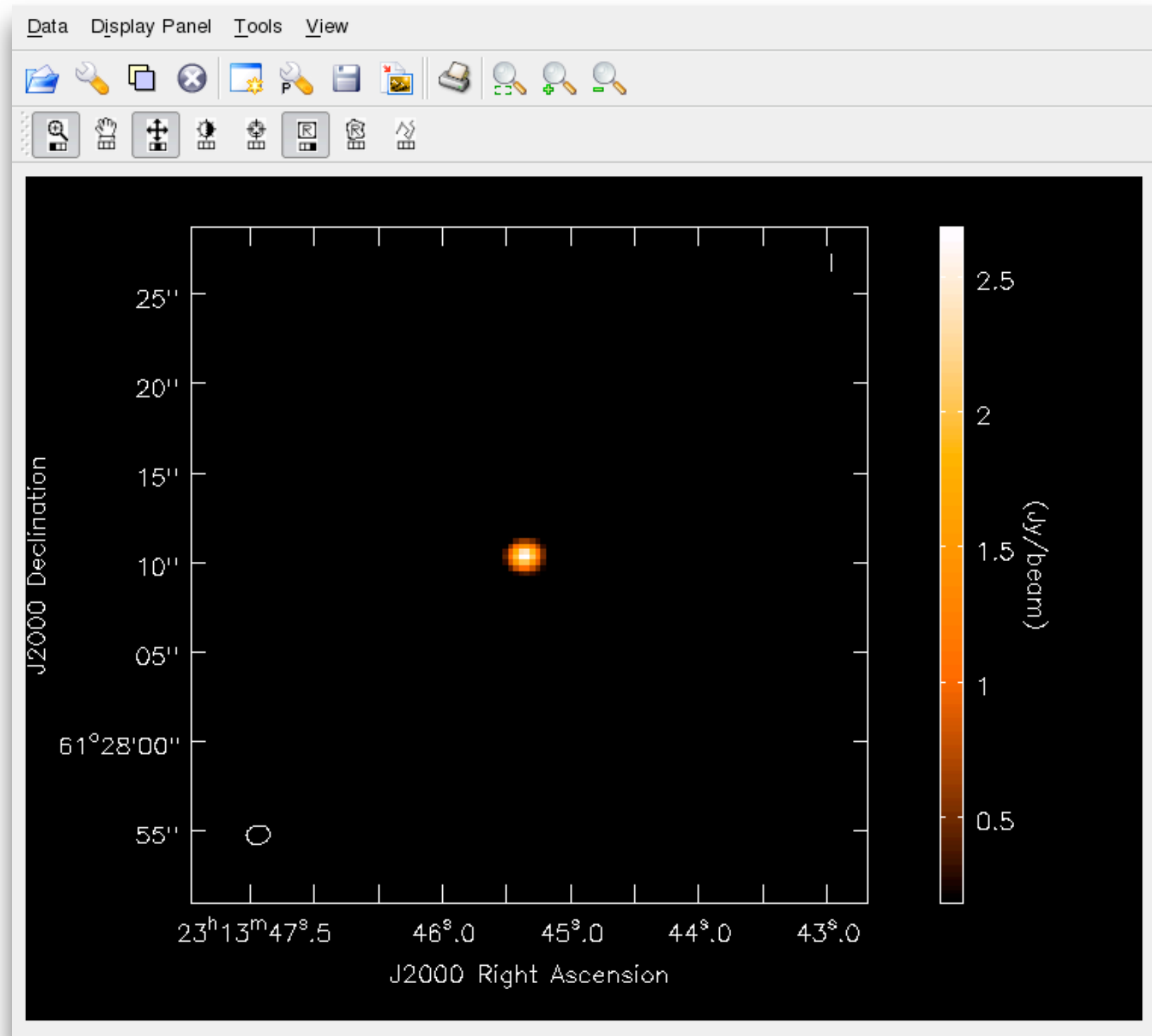
# Restoring

- Apply the cleaning model to the dirty image

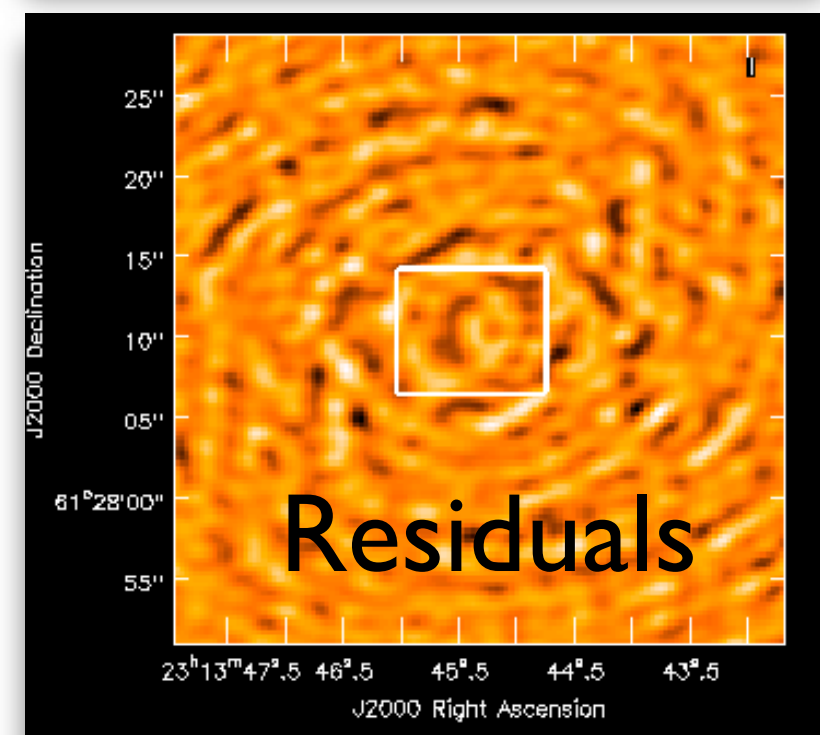
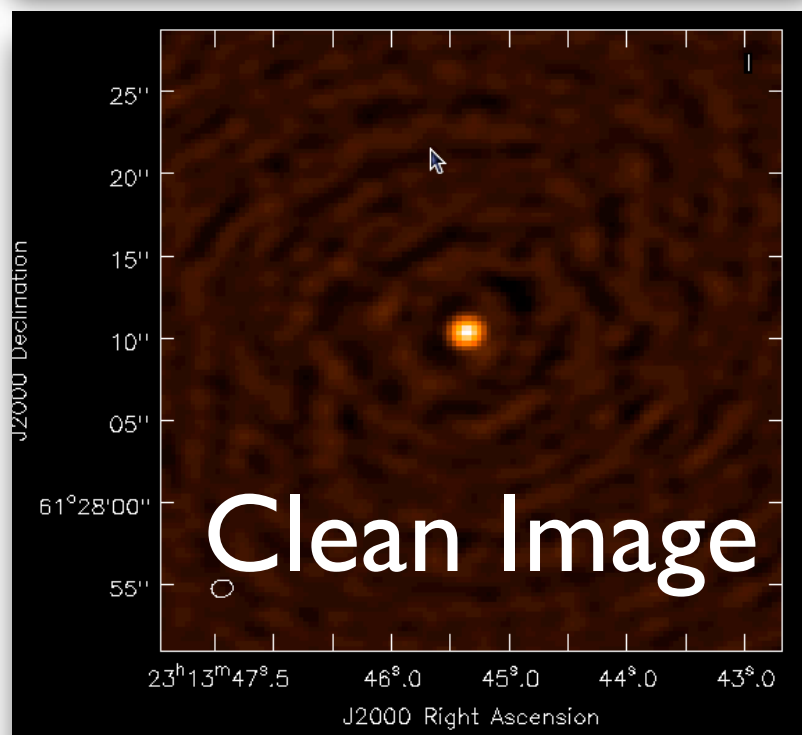
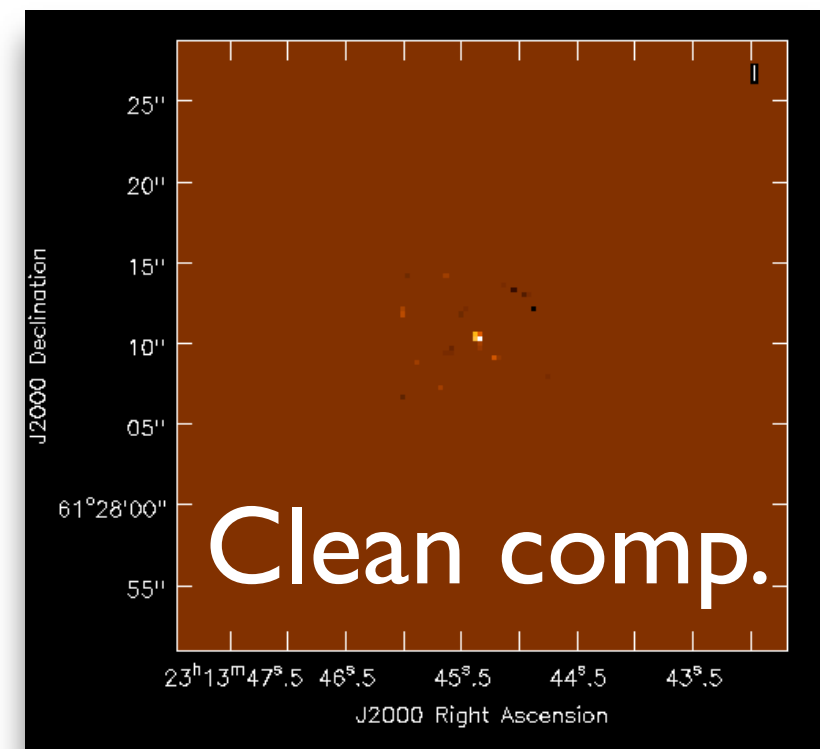
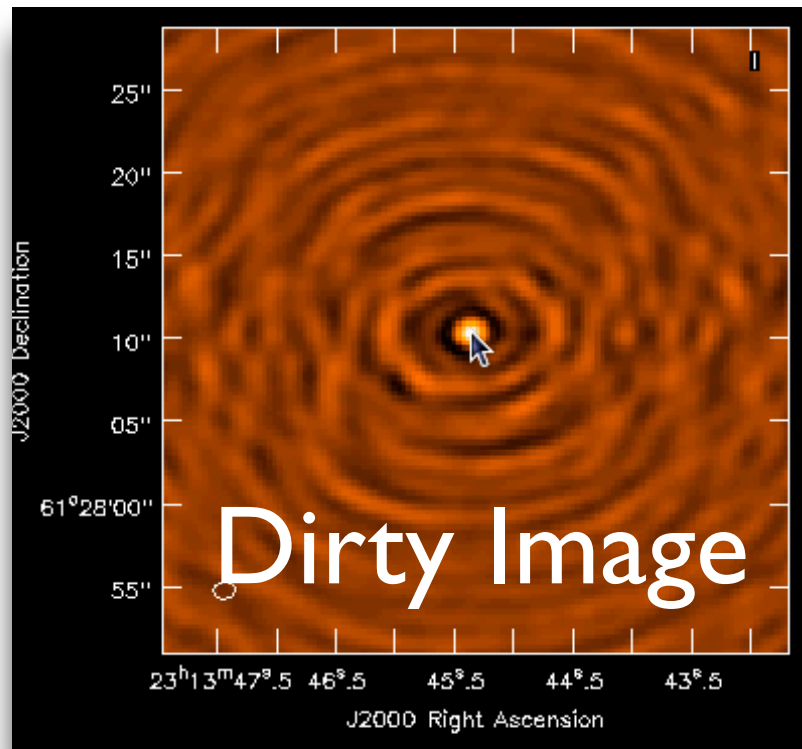


# Final Continuum image

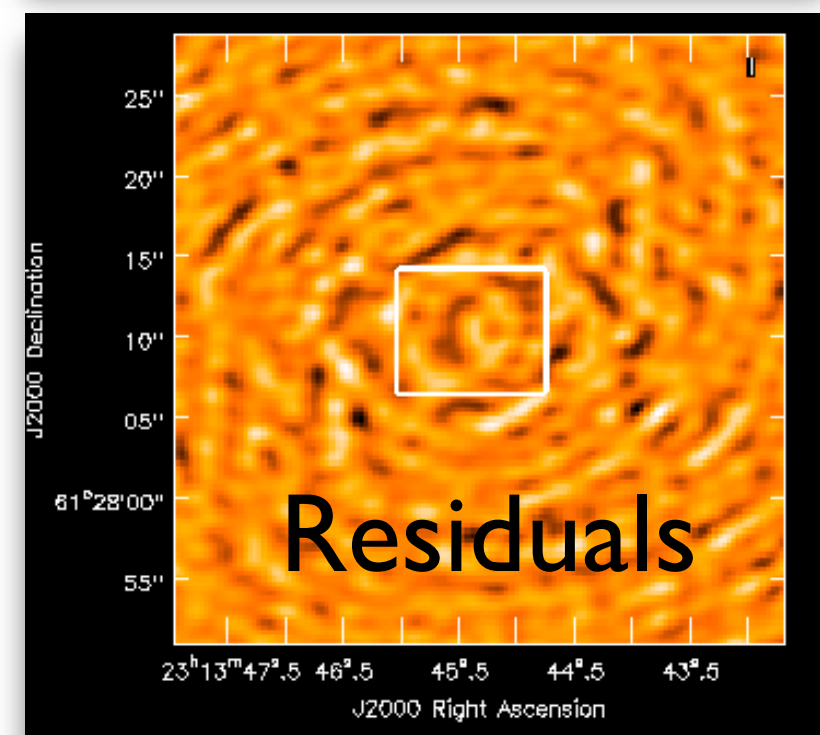
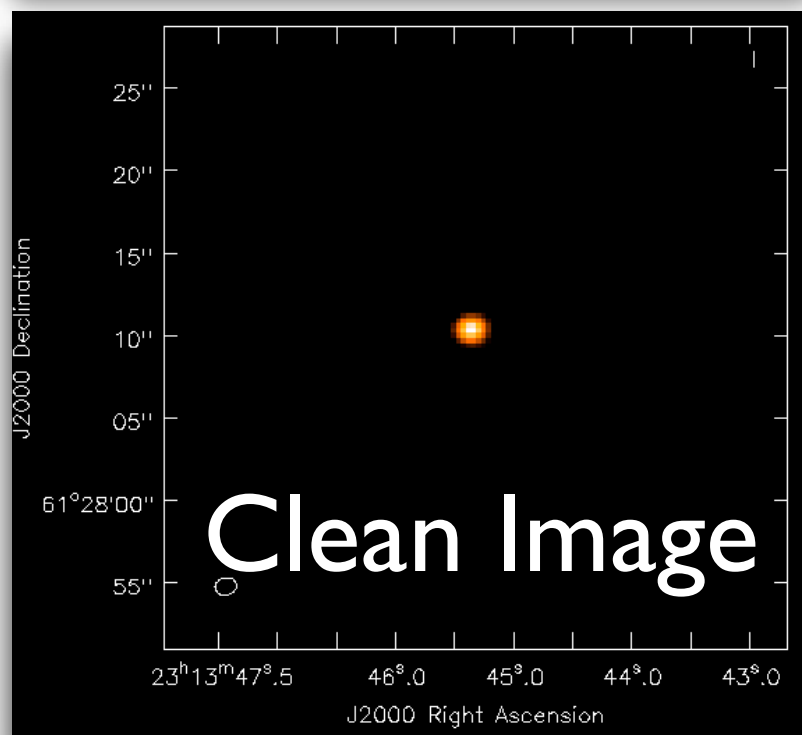
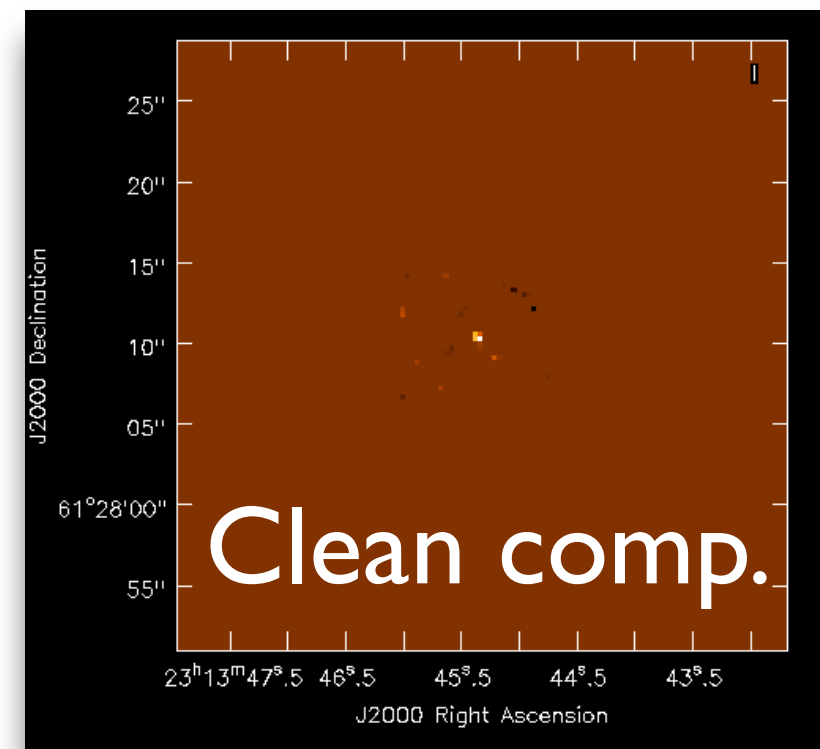
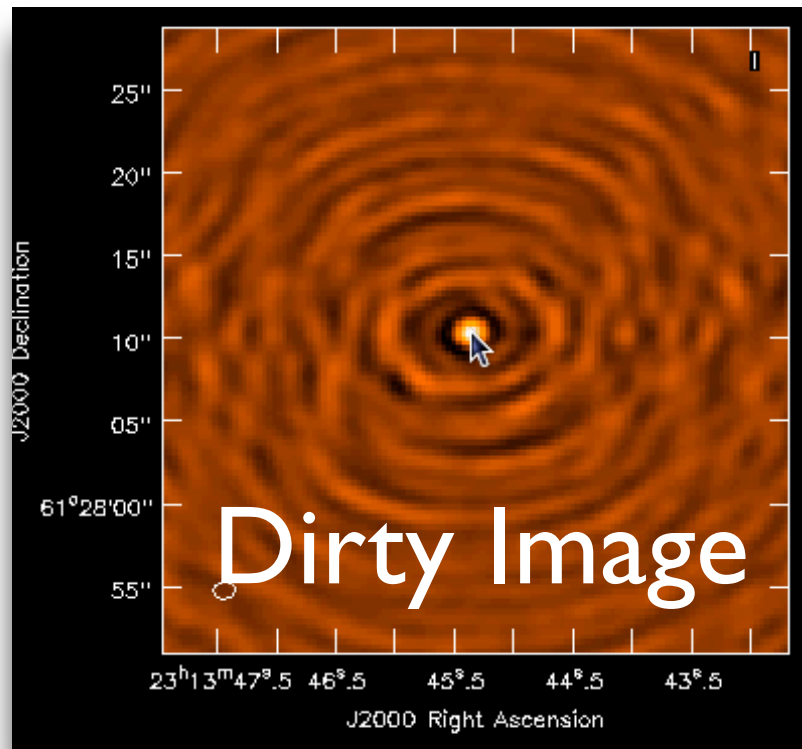
- For this science target, the continuum emission is unresolved (at the 1" resolution of the SMA)



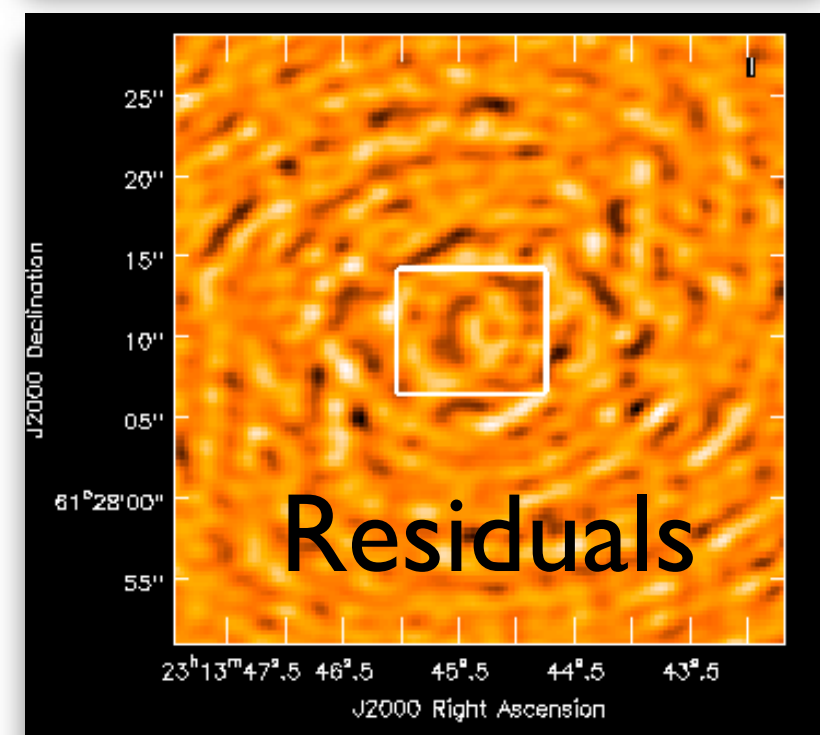
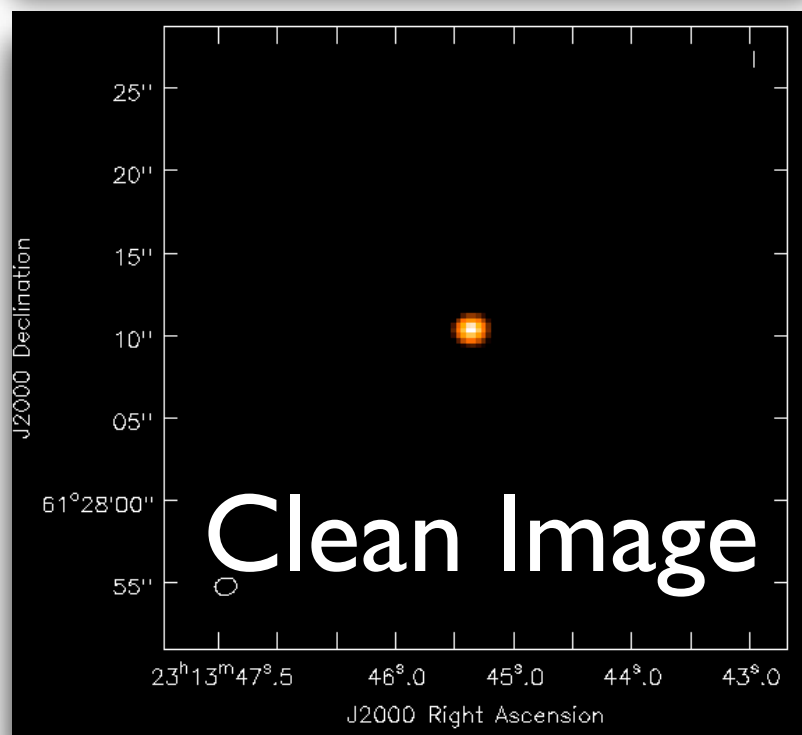
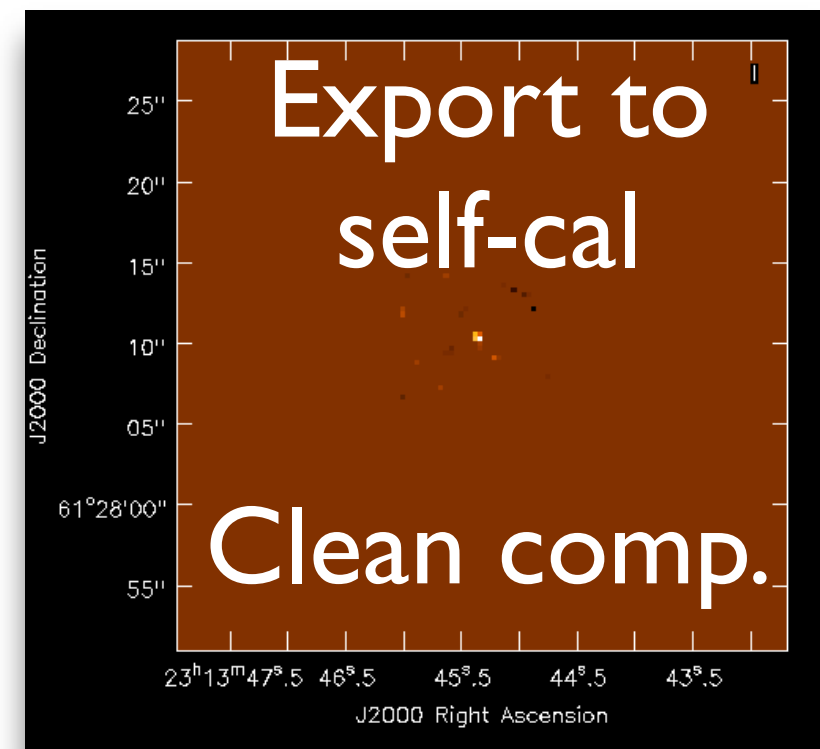
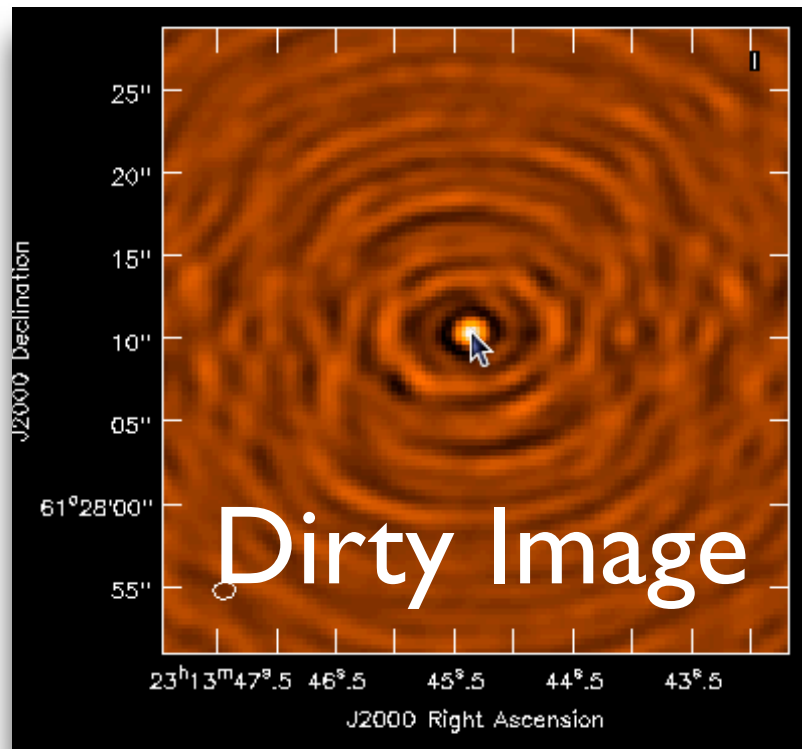
# Imaging Process



# Imaging Process



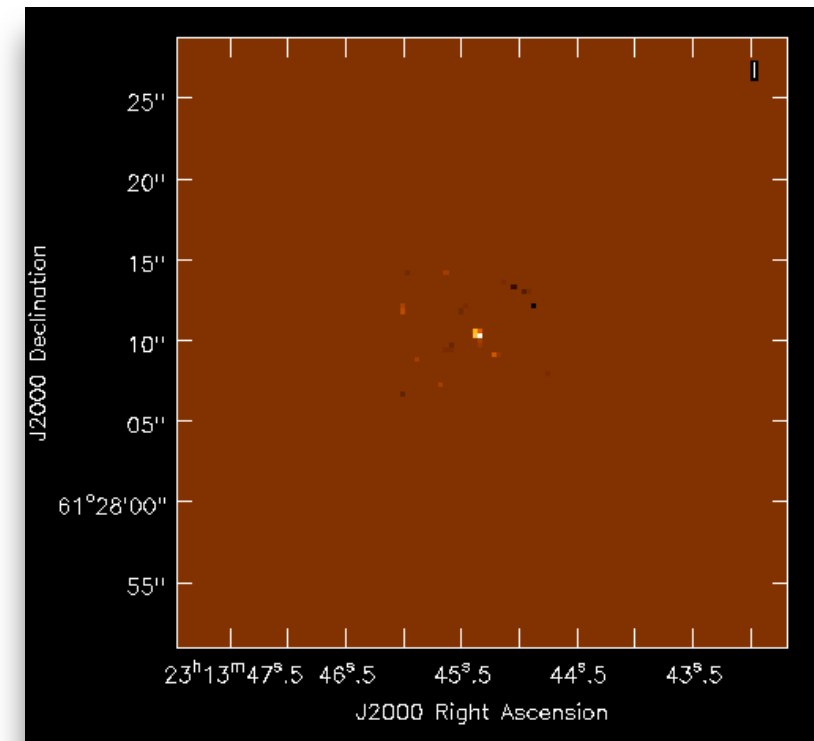
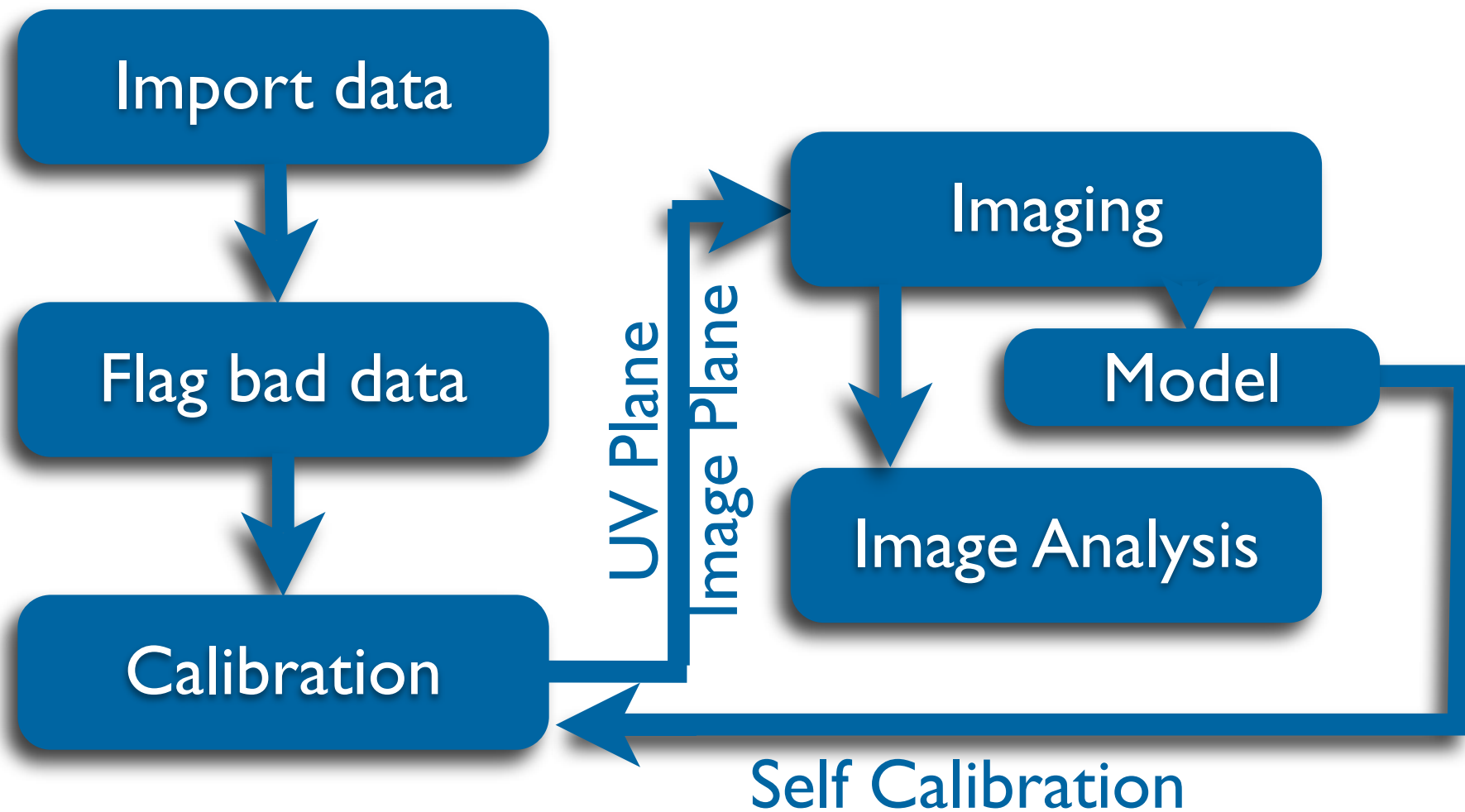
# Imaging Process





# Self-Calibration

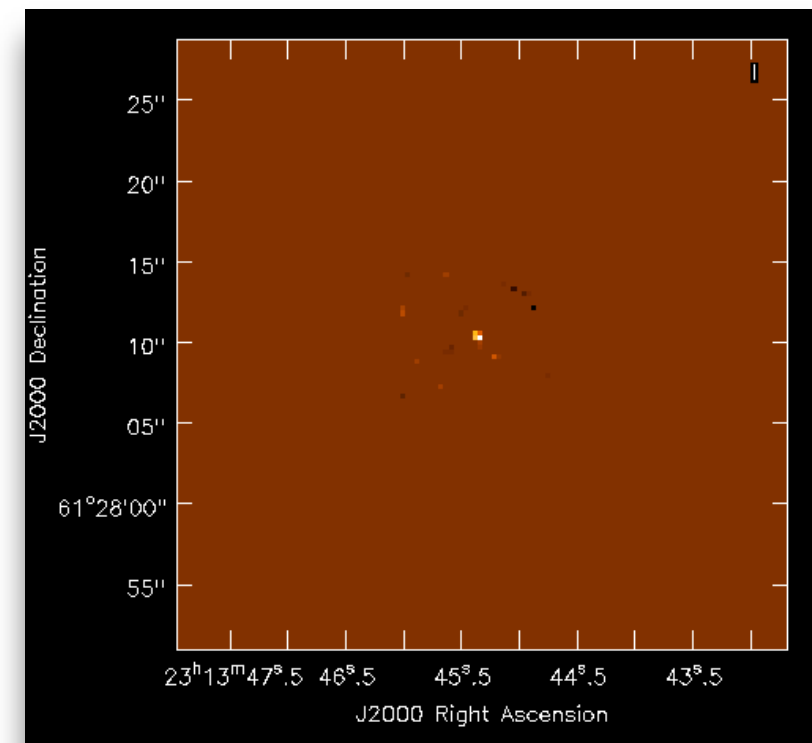
- Take modelled clean components of the science target as an extra calibration source in the UV plane



# Self-Calibration

- Take modelled clean components of the science target as an extra calibration source in the UV plane

```
gaincal(vis='n7538_usb.ms',  
        caltable='n7538.ms.selfcal',  
        field='5', spw='0~23',  
        selectdata=False, gaincurve=False,  
        gaintype='G', minsnr=2.0,  
        refant='3', calmode='ap',  
        solint='int', combine='spw')
```



← Self Calibration

# Spectral Line Data

- Similar process for spectral line data

```
clean(vis='n7538_edge_clip.ms.contsub',  
      imagename='n7538.ocs', field='0', spw='',  
      mode='velocity', start='-90kms',  
      nchan=100, width='0.53km/s',  
      niter=1000, gain=0.1, threshold=0.2,  
      restfreq='231.060983GHz', interactive=T,  
      npercycle=400, imsize=500, cell='0.3',  
      pbcor=F, minpb=0.1)
```

# Spectral Line Data

- Similar process for spectral line data

```
clean(vis='n7538_edge_clip.ms.contsub',  
      imagename='n7538.ocs', field='0', spw='',  
      mode='velocity', start='-90kms',  
      nchan=100, width='0.53km/s',  
      niter=1000, gain=0.1, threshold=0.2,  
      restfreq='231.060983GHz', interactive=T,  
      npercycle=400, imsize=500, cell='0.3',  
      pbcor=F, minpb=0.1)
```

# Spectral Line Data

- Similar process for spectral line data

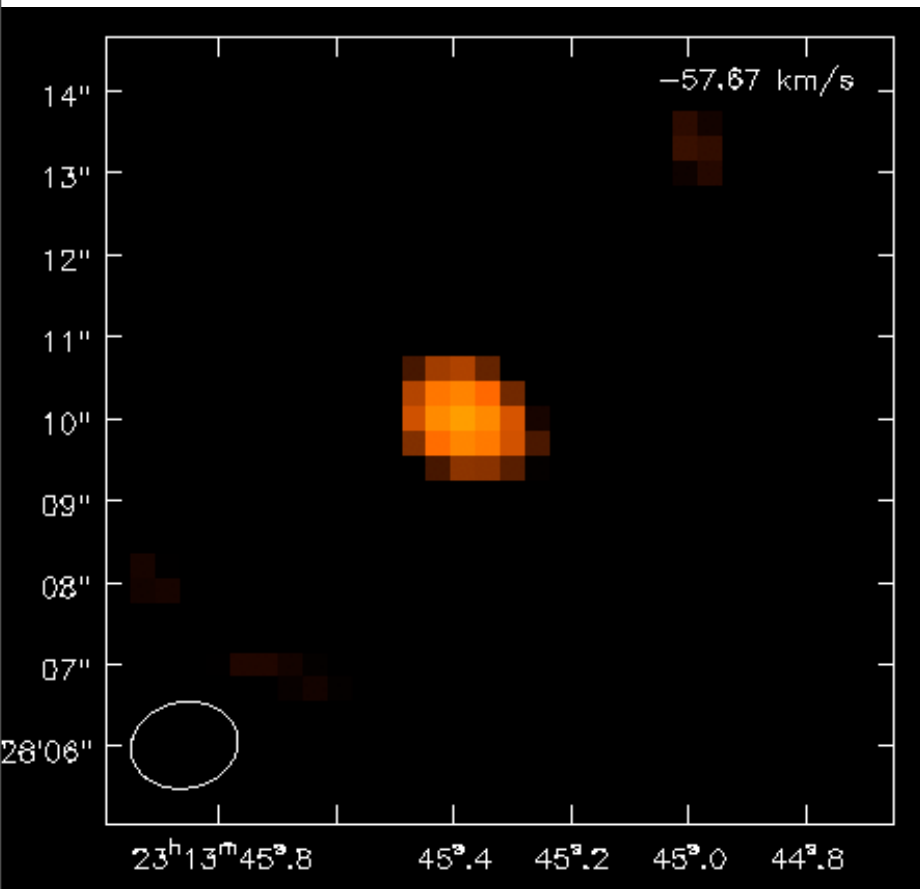
```
clean(vis='n7538_edge_clip.ms.contsub',  
      imagename='n7538.ocs', field='0', spw='',  
      mode='velocity', start='-90kms',  
      nchan=100, width='0.53km/s',  
      niter=1000, gain=0.1, threshold=0.2,  
      restfreq='231.060983GHz', interactive=T,  
      npercycle=400, imsize=500, cell='0.3',  
      pbcor=F, minpb=0.1)
```

# Spectral Line Data

- Similar process for spectral line data

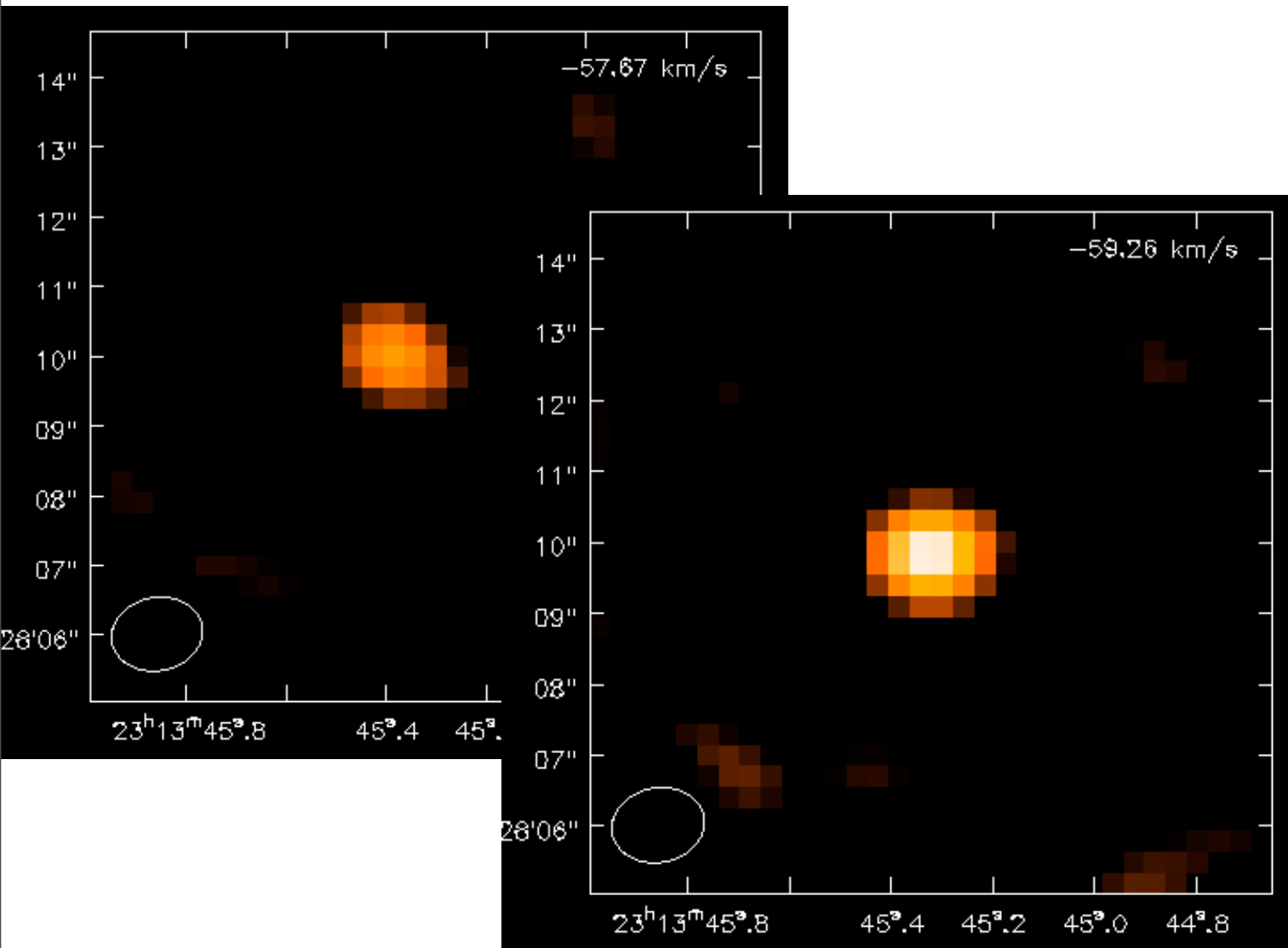
```
clean(vis='n7538_edge_clip.ms.contsub',  
      imagename='n7538.ocs', field='0', spw='',  
      mode='velocity', start='-90kms',  
      nchan=100, width='0.53km/s',  
      niter=1000, gain=0.1, threshold=0.2,  
      restfreq='231.060983GHz', interactive=T,  
      npercycle=400, imsize=500, cell='0.3',  
      pbcor=F, minpb=0.1)
```

# OCS Spectral Cube

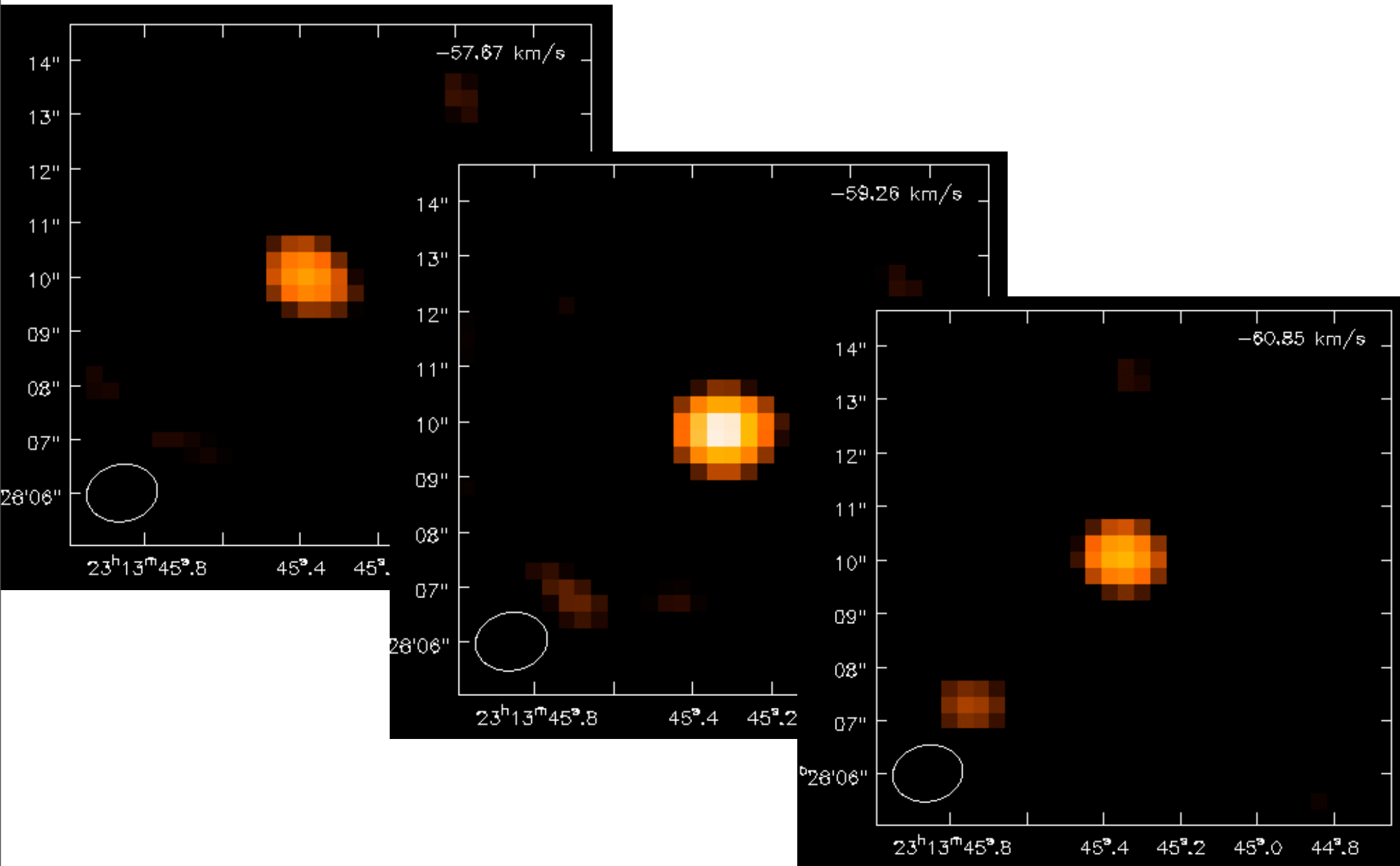




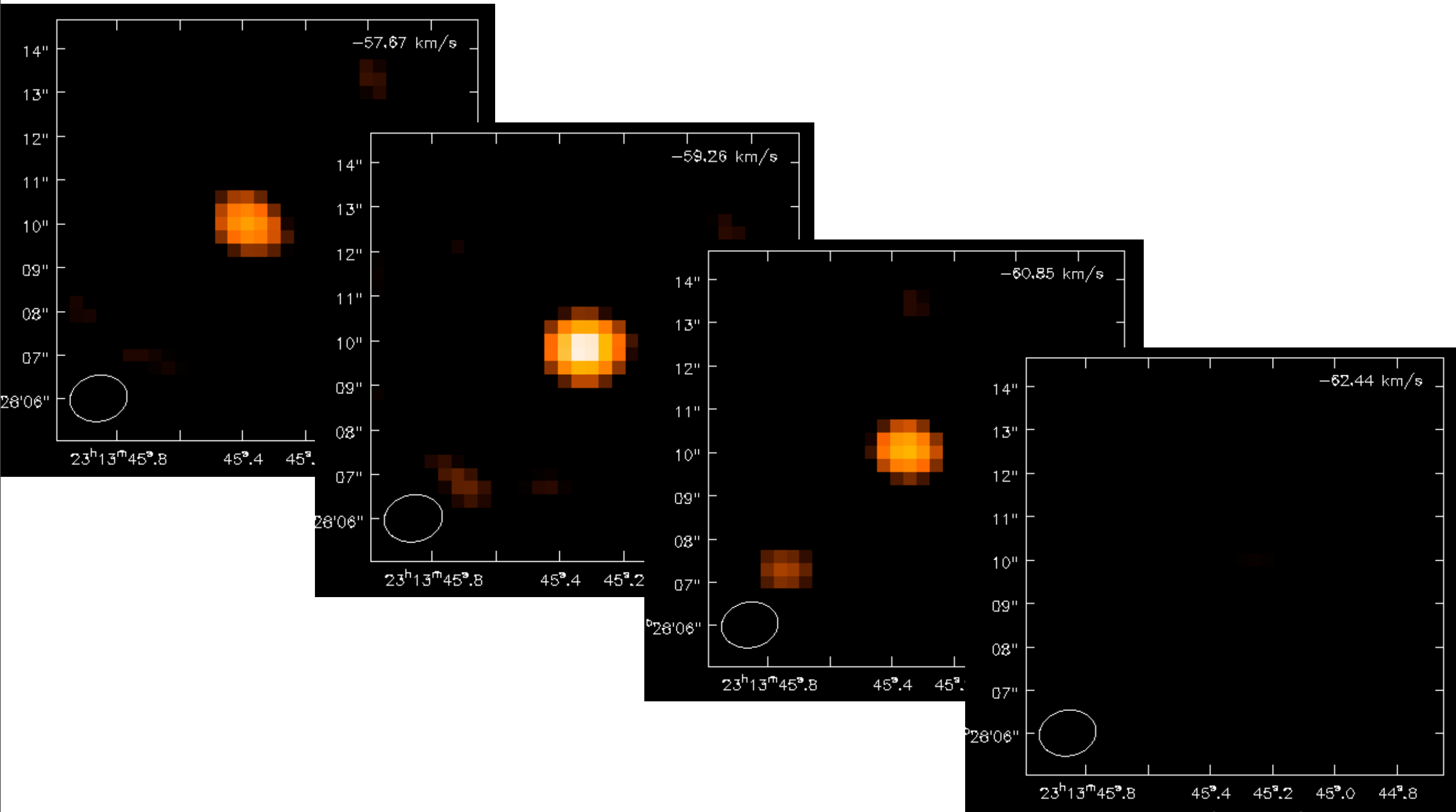
# OCS Spectral Cube



# OCS Spectral Cube



# OCS Spectral Cube



# Image Analysis

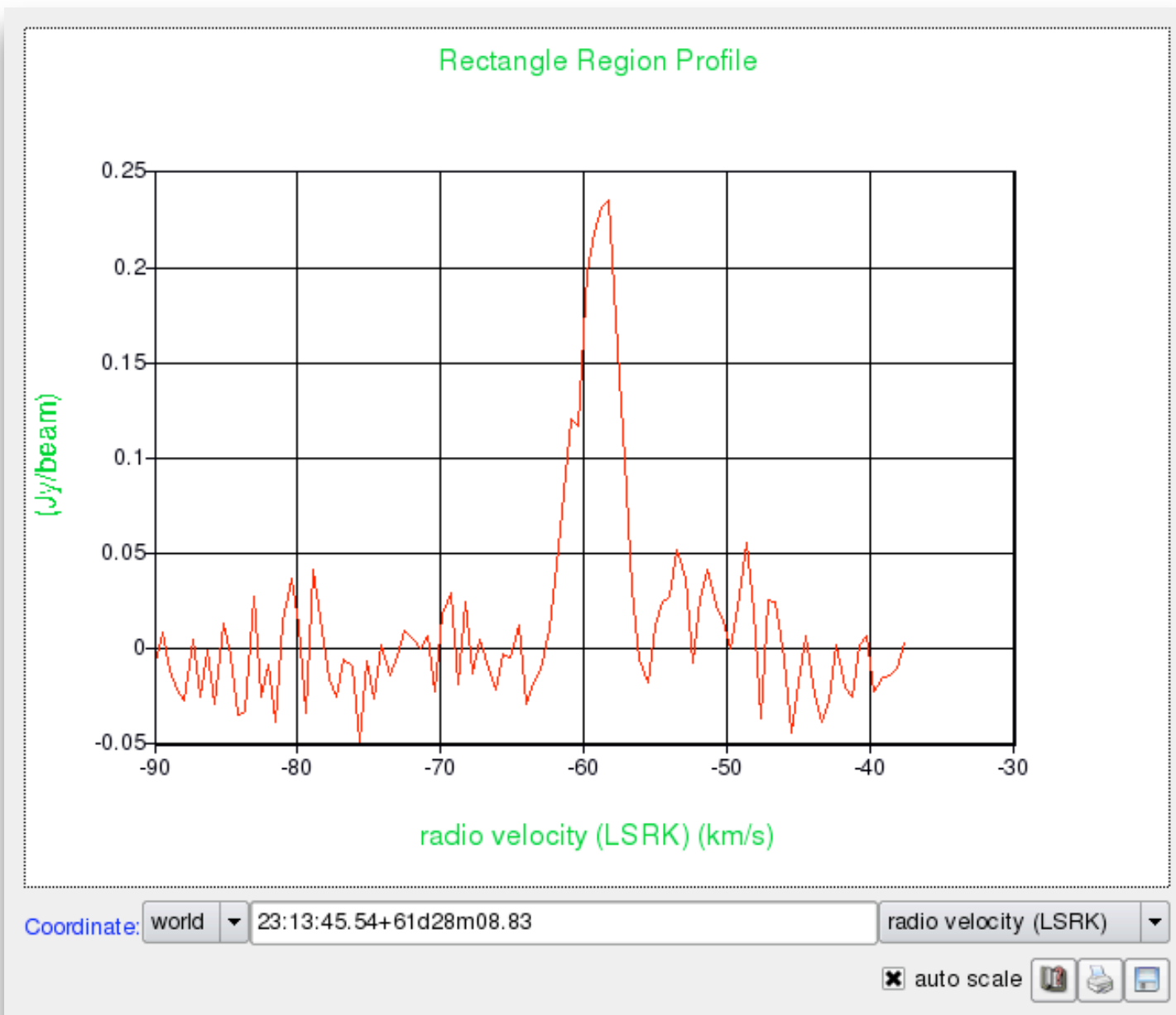
Moment	Name
0	Integrated Intensity
1	Intensity Weighted Velocity
2	Velocity Dispersion
...	etc.

# Moment Mapping

- Multiple moment maps can be made at the same time in CASA

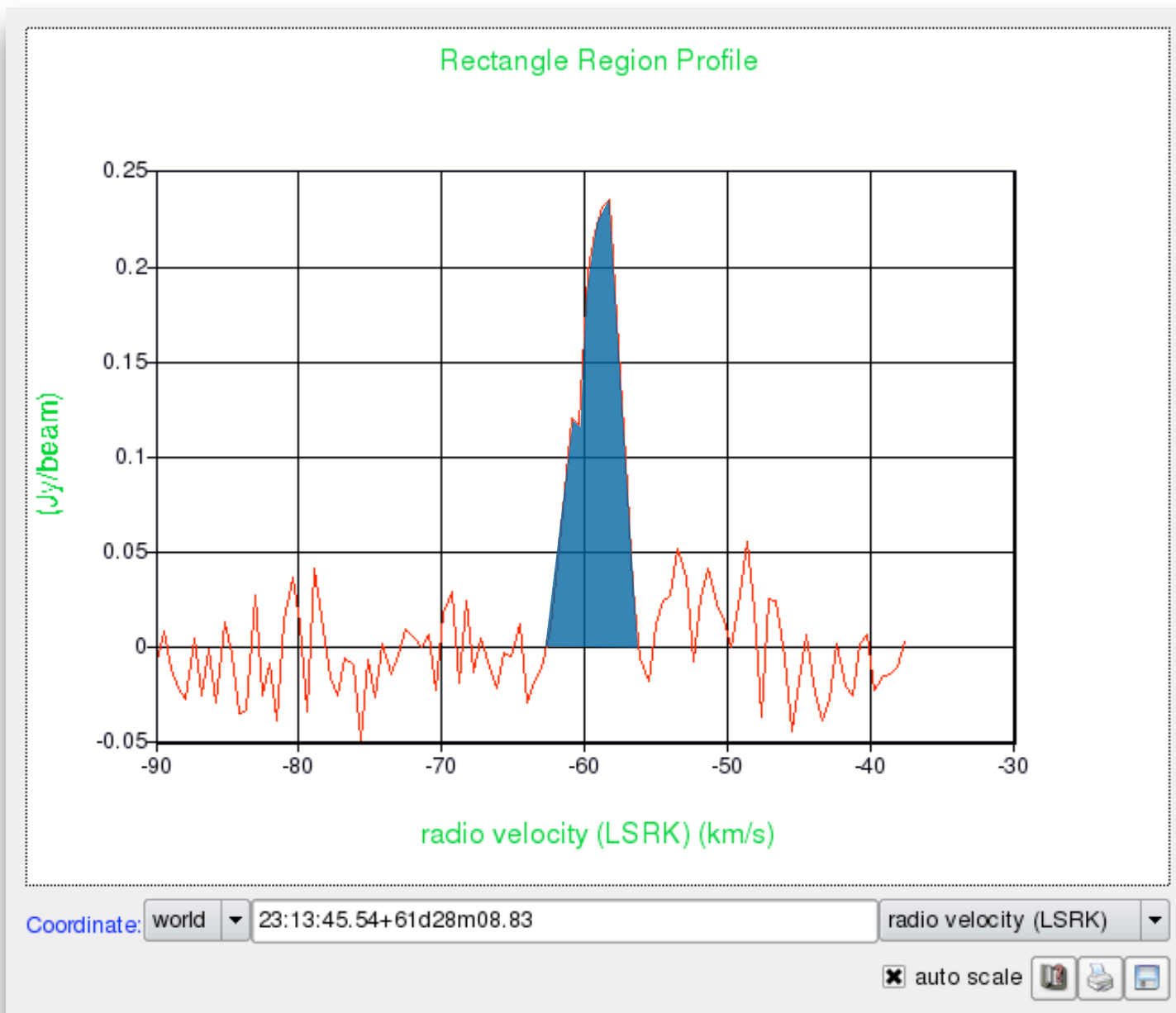
```
immoments(imagename='n7538.ocs.image',  
           moments=[0,1], axis='spectral',  
           chans='50~65', outfile='n7538.ocs',  
           includepix=[0,1.78])
```

# Intensity Map



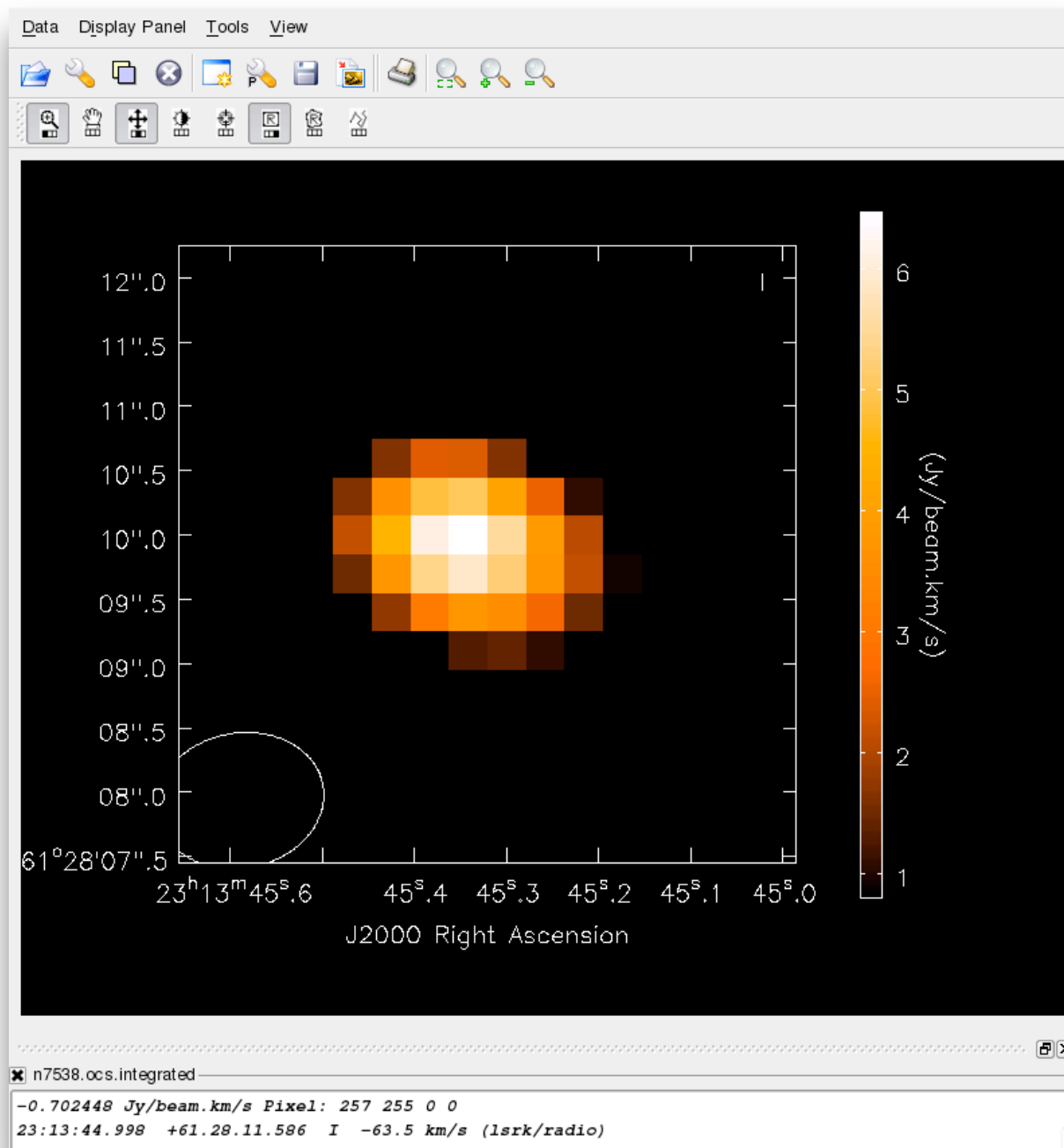
- We want the integrated intensity of the line in the map

# Intensity Map



- We want the integrated intensity of the line in the map

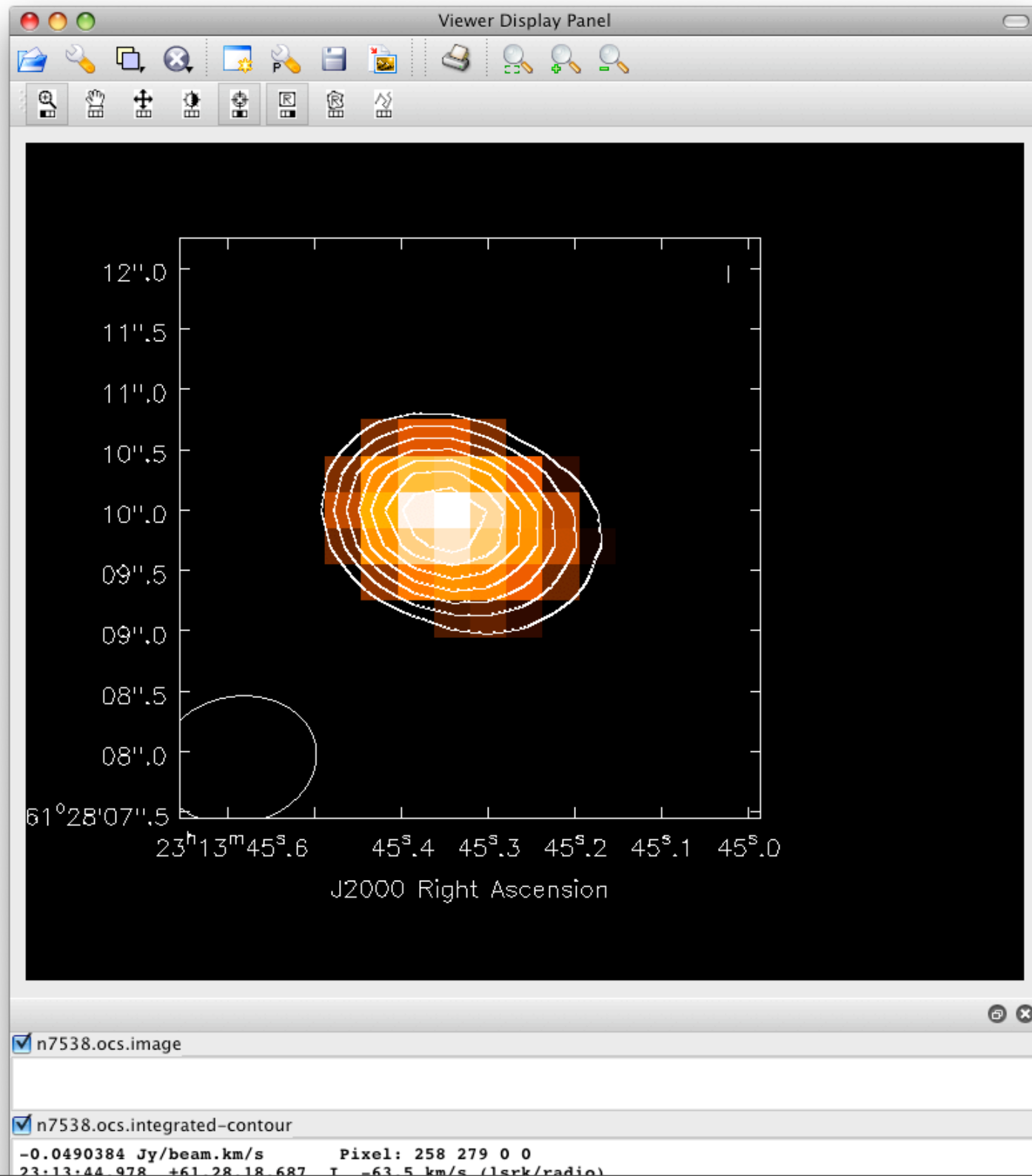
# Intensity Map



- Zoom in on small emission zone around HII region
- See where the emission peak is



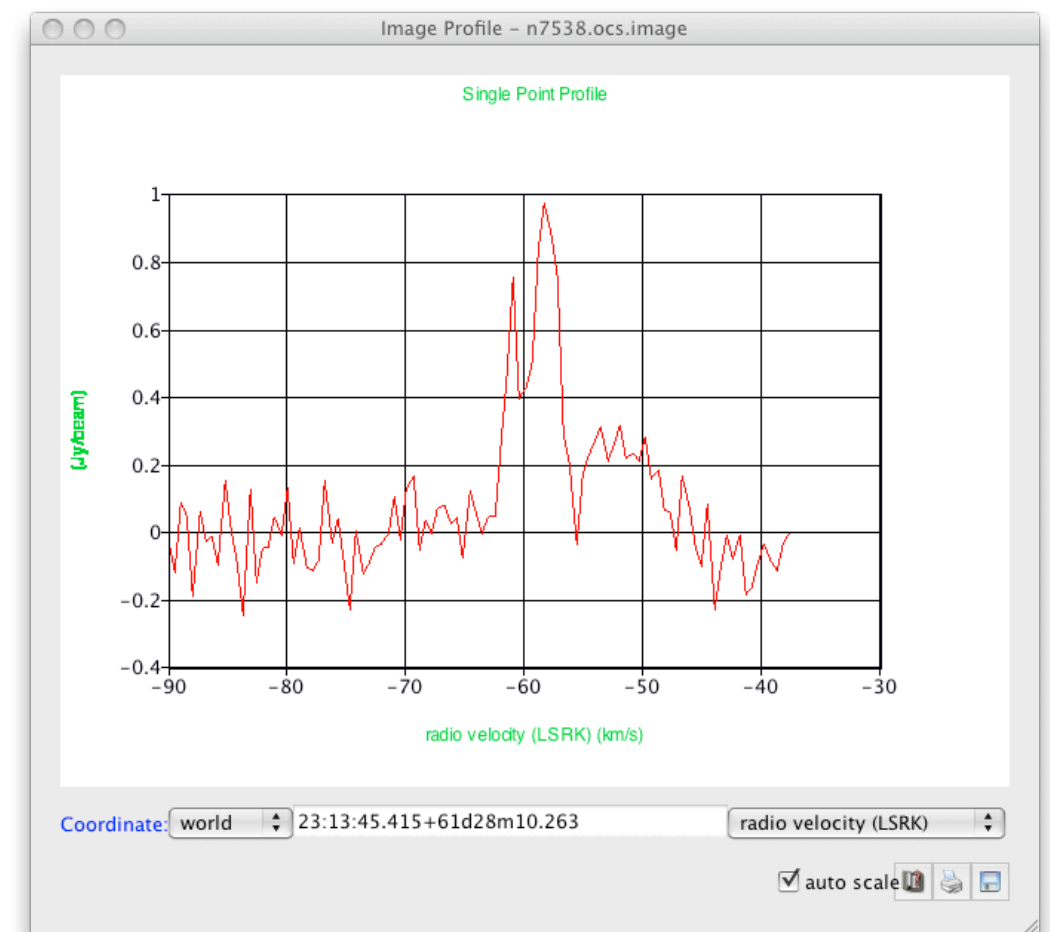
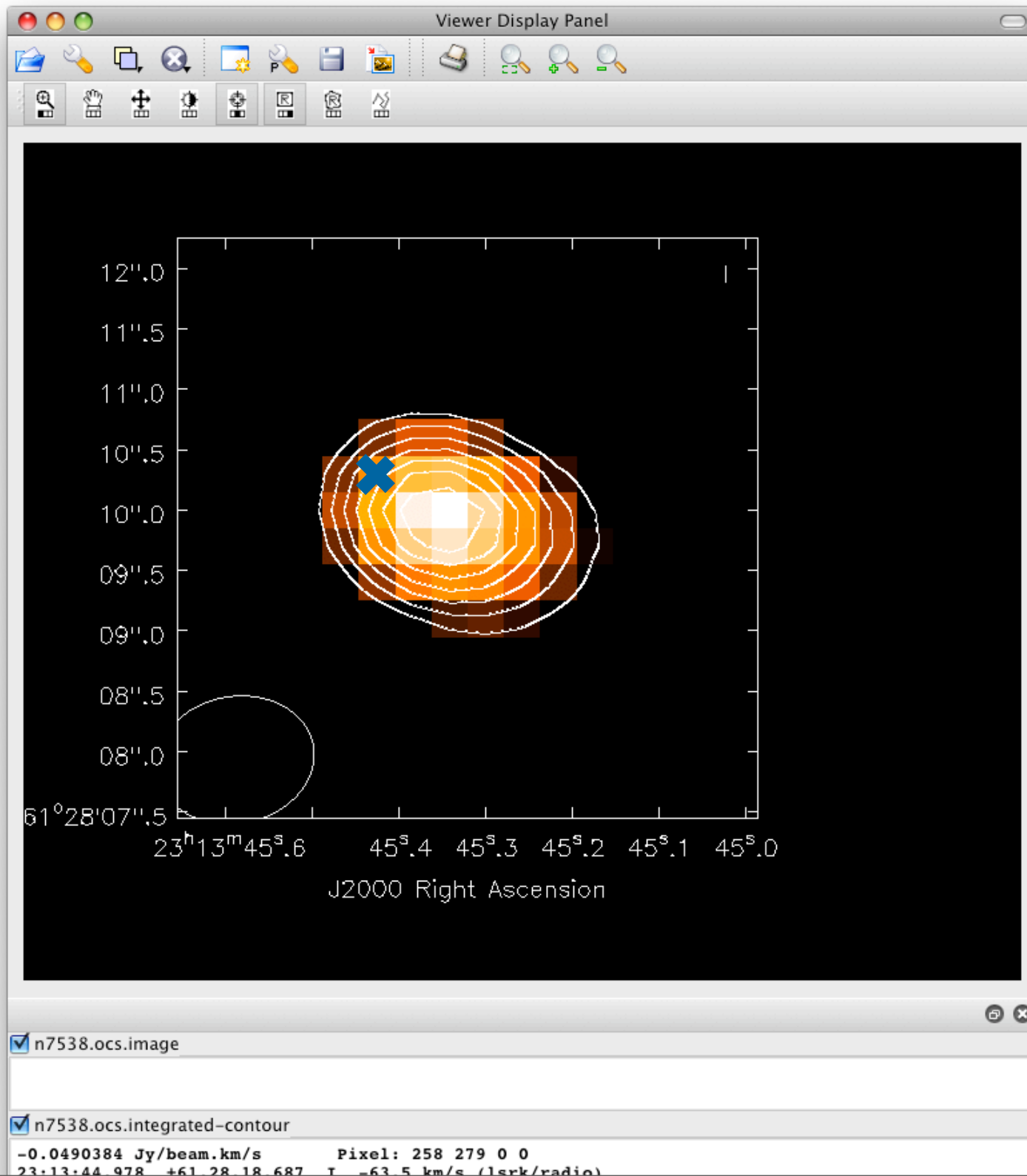
# Velocity Map



- How does the peak of the line change across the face of the source

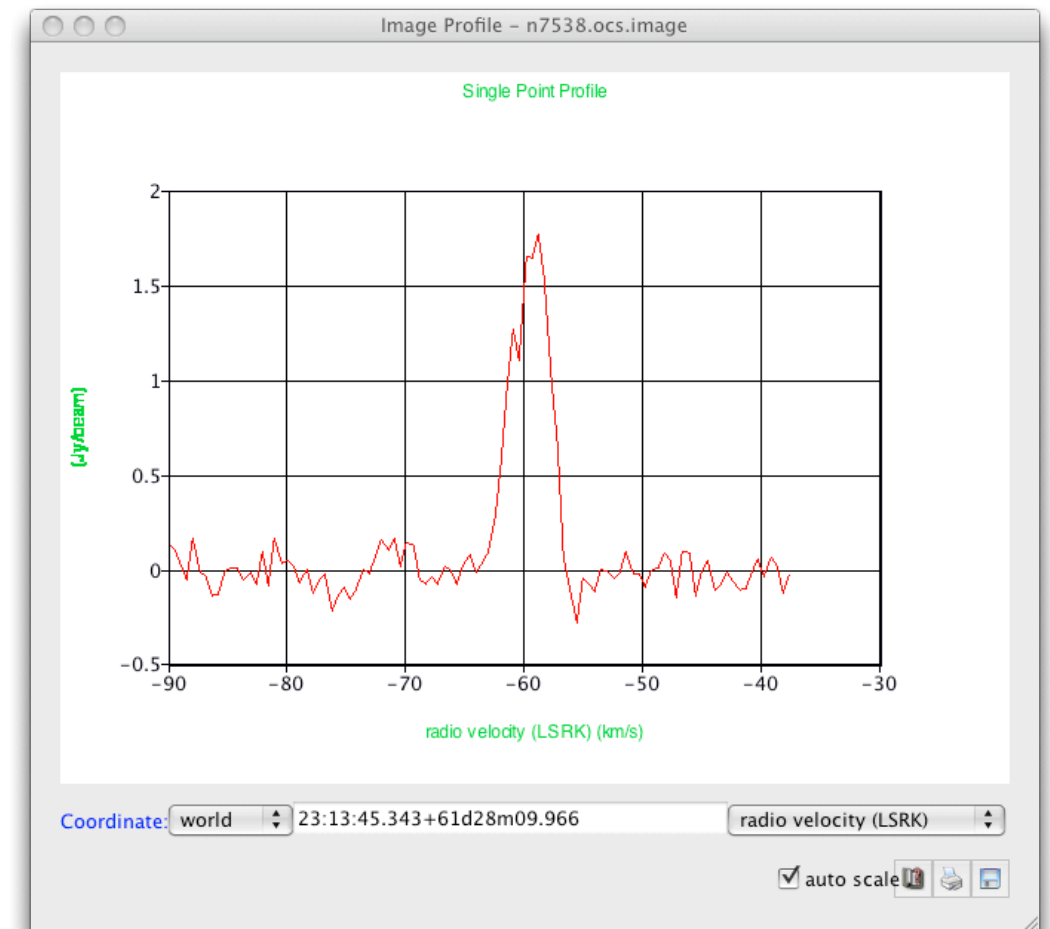
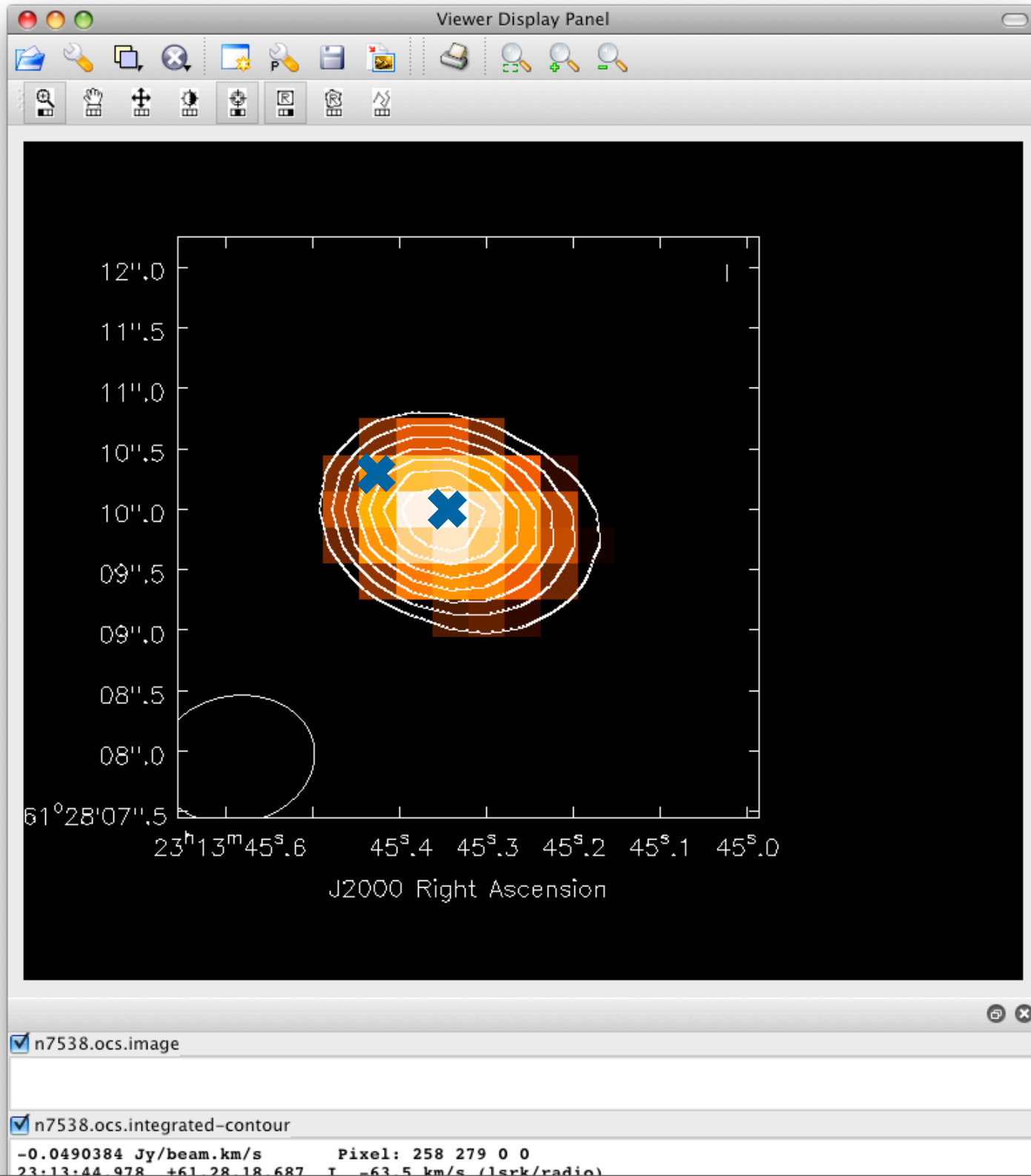
# Velocity Map

- How does the peak of the line change across the face of the source



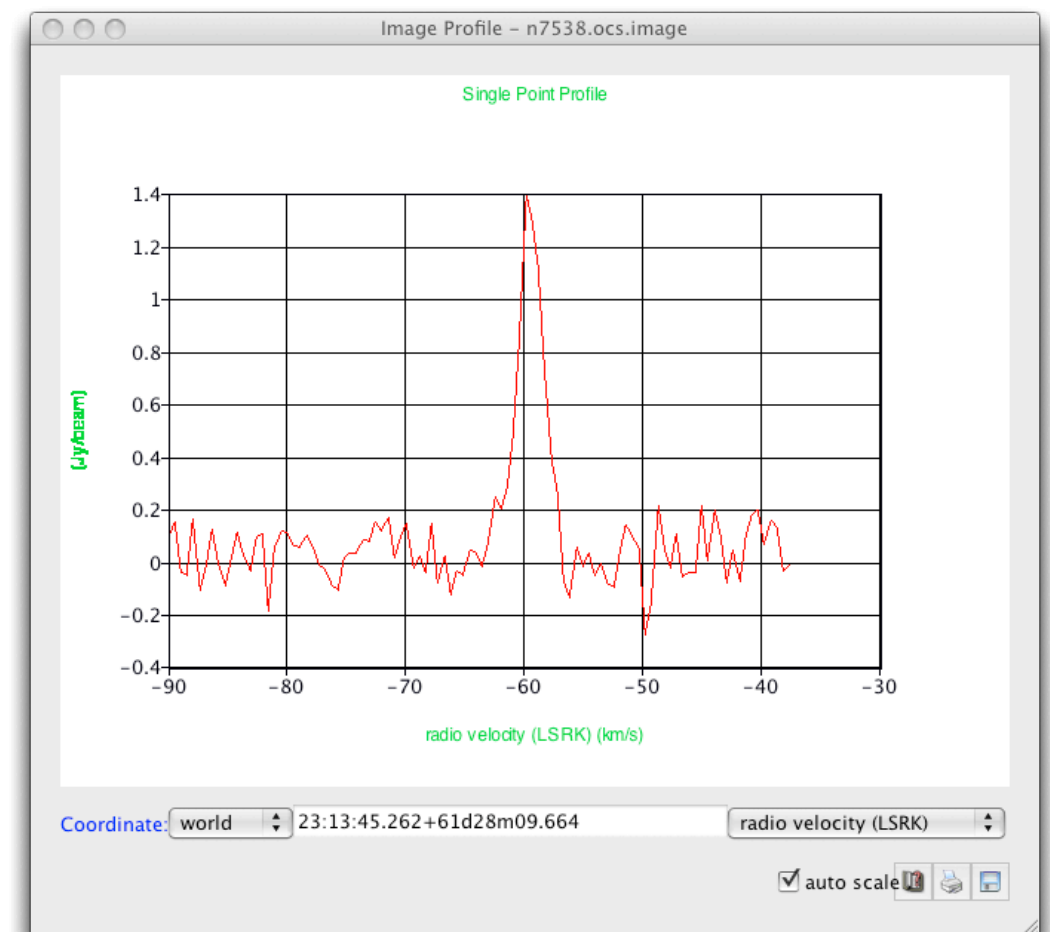
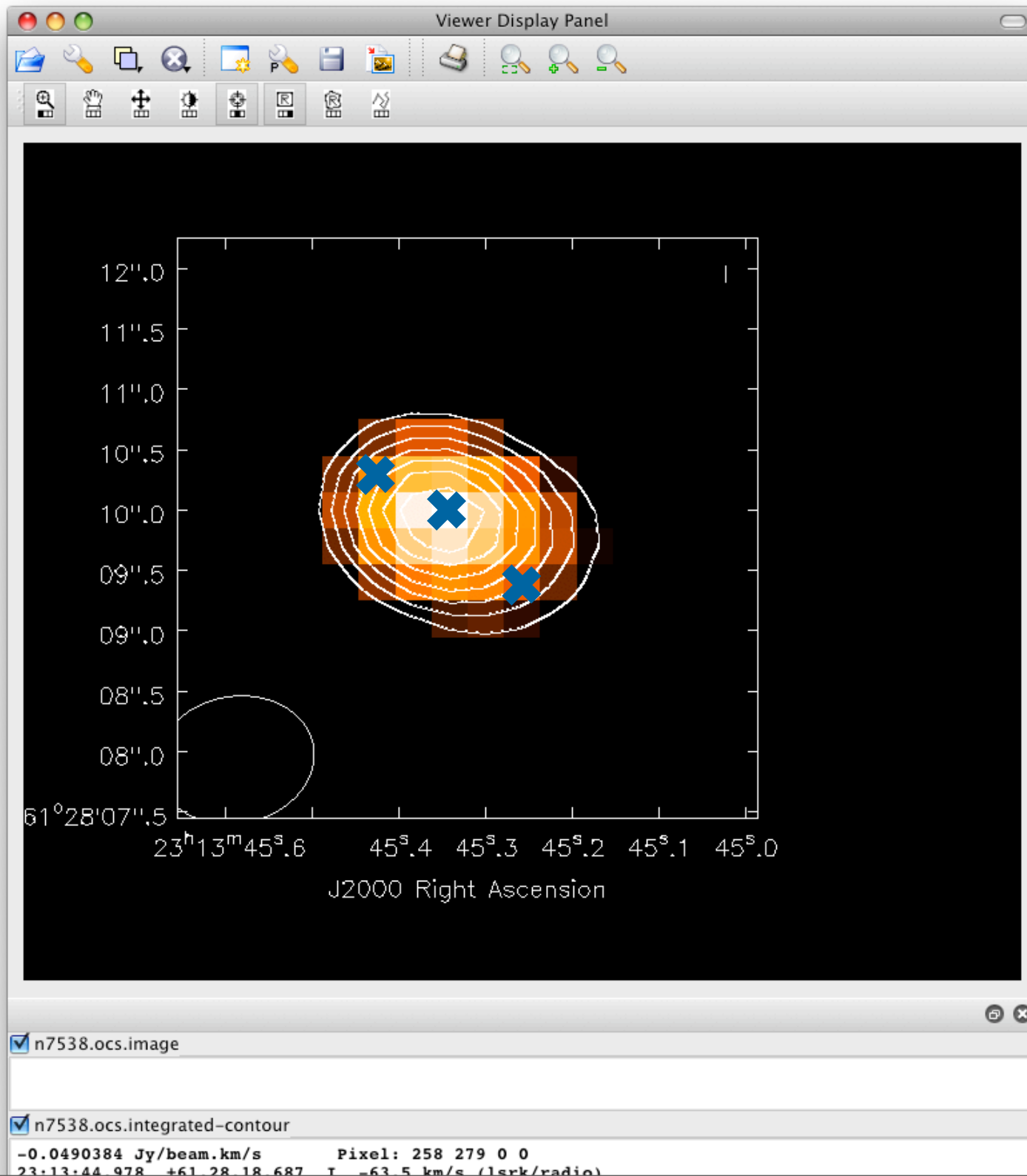
# Velocity Map

- How does the peak of the line change across the face of the source



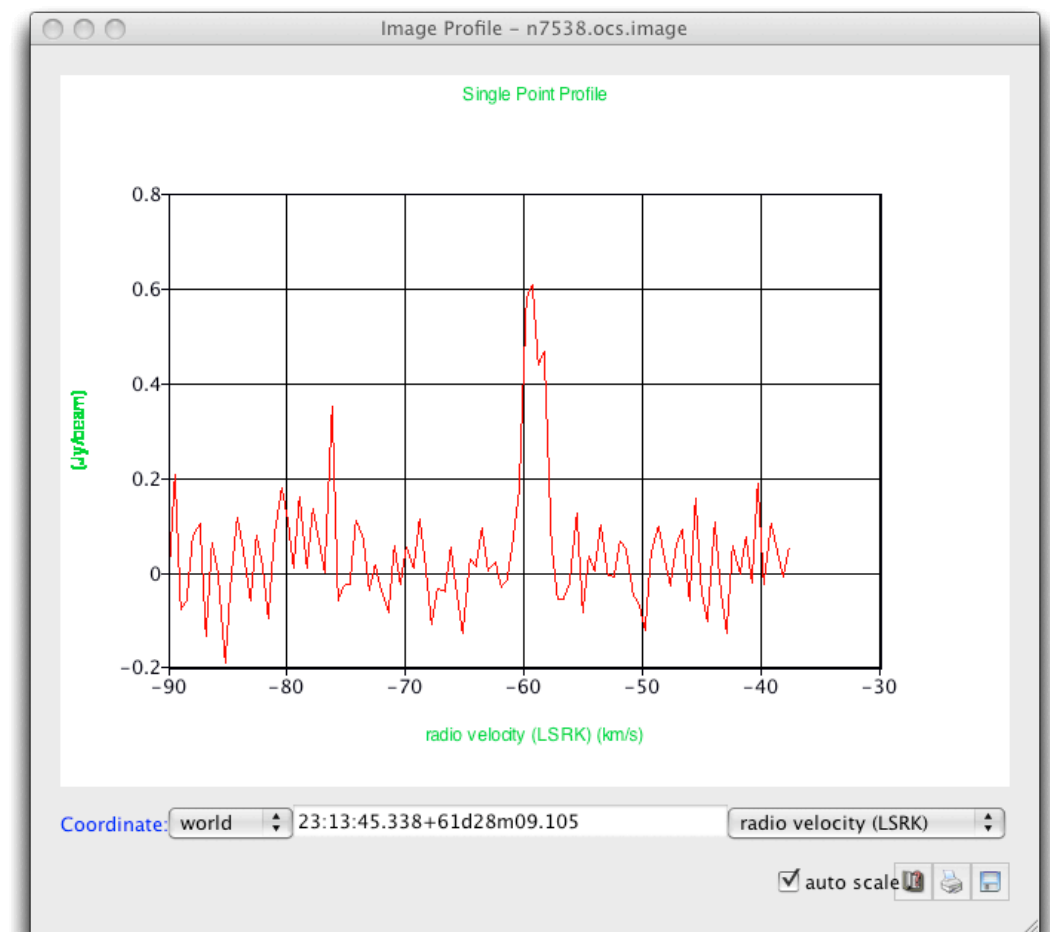
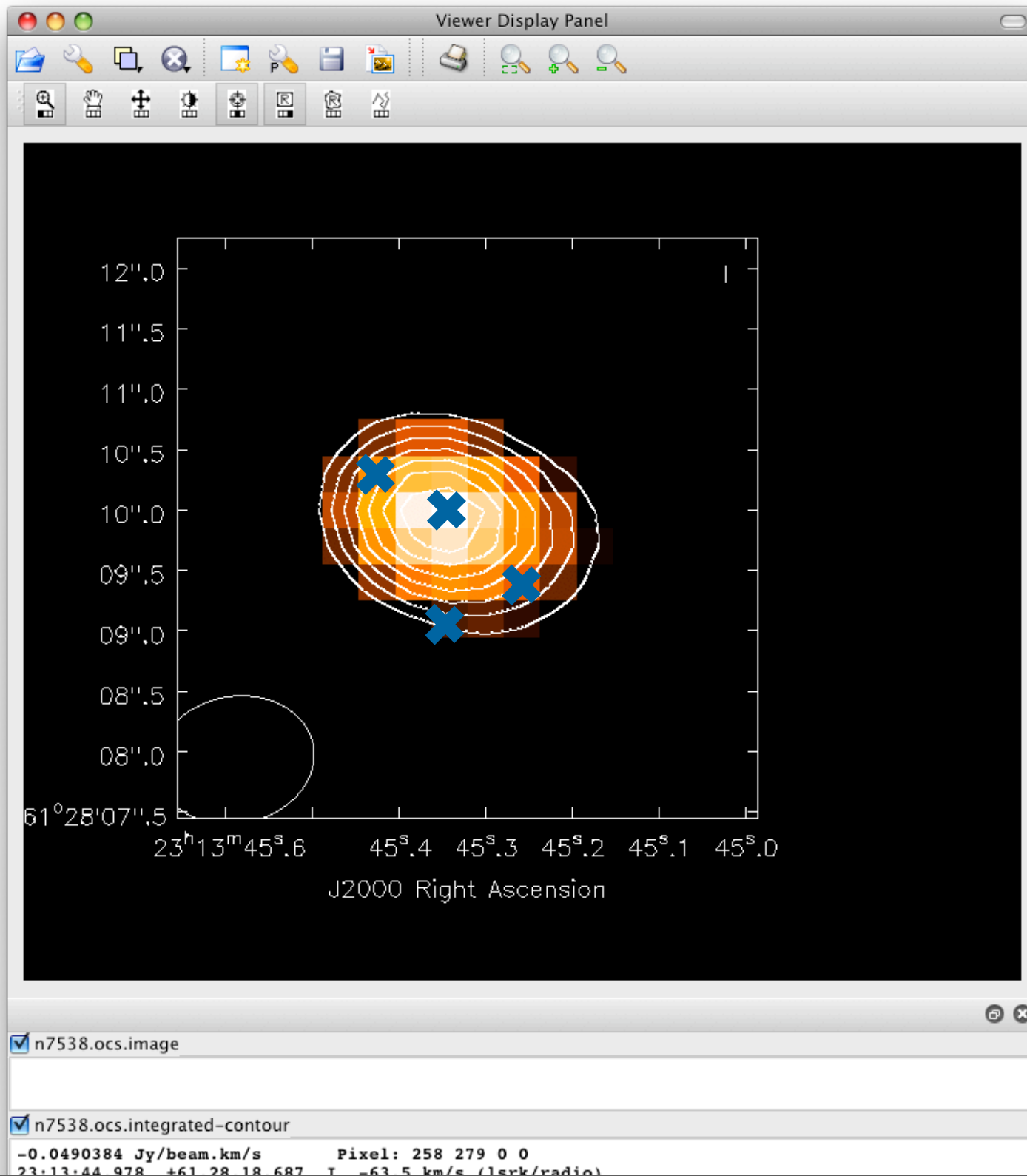
# Velocity Map

- How does the peak of the line change across the face of the source

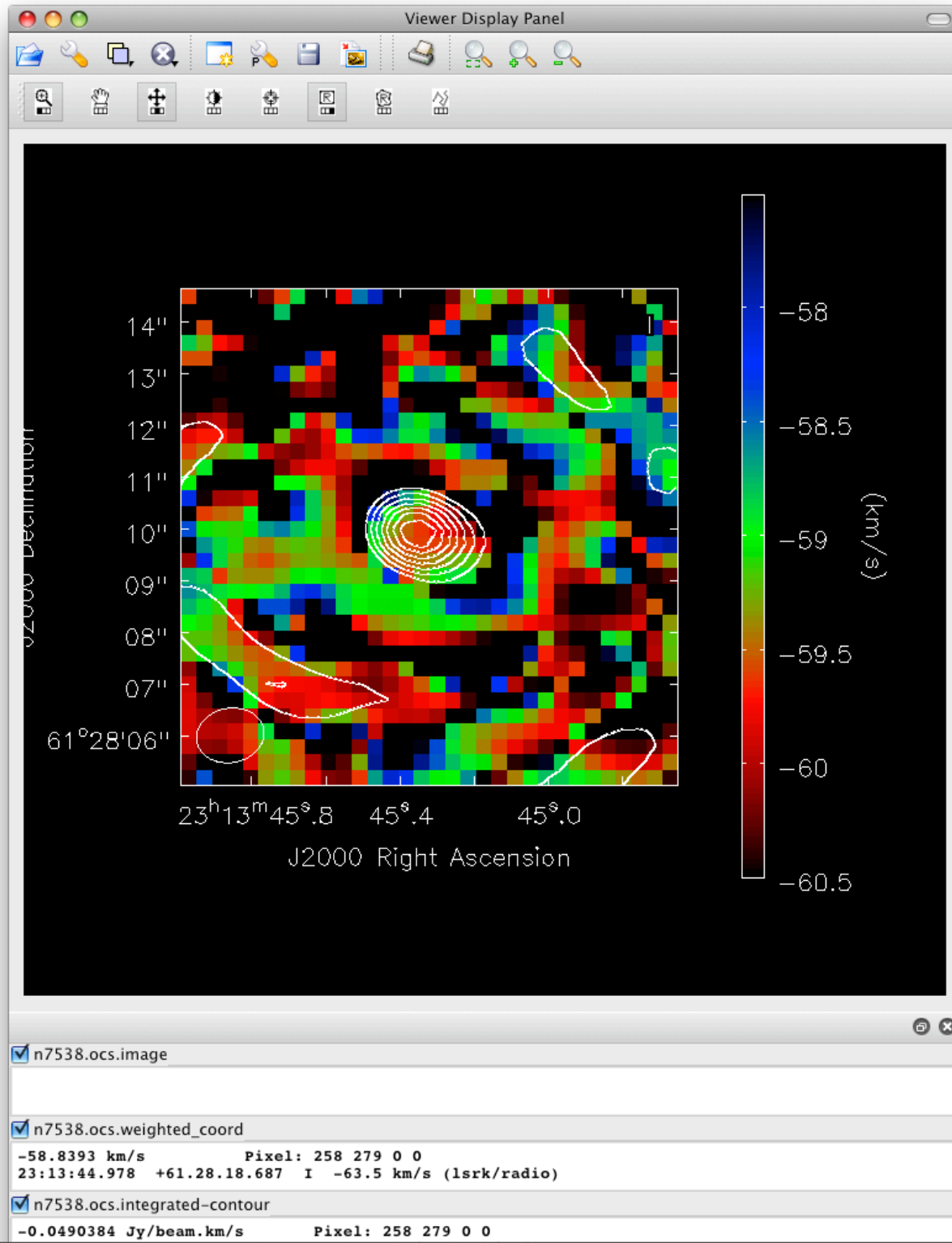


# Velocity Map

- How does the peak of the line change across the face of the source

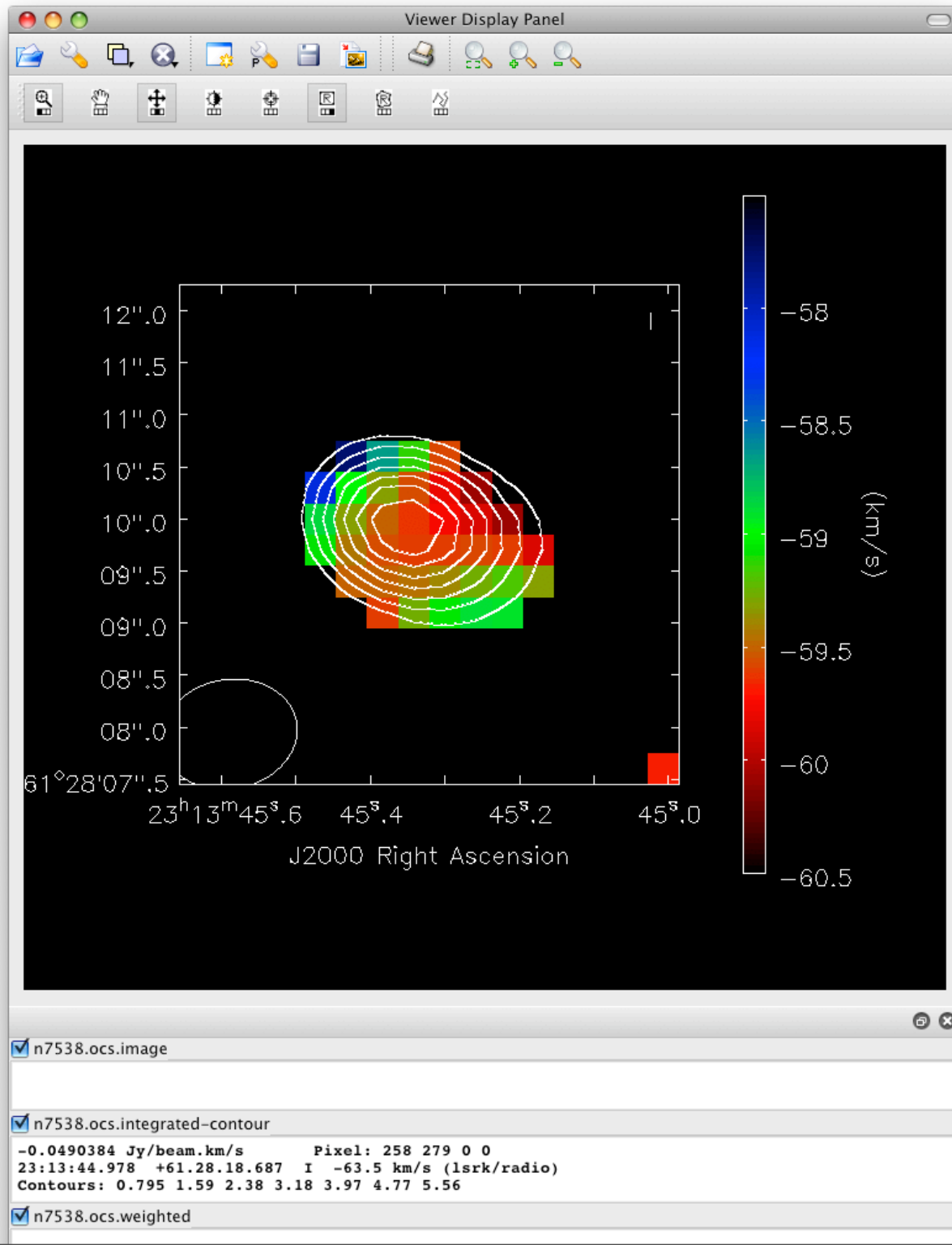


# Velocity Map



- No clipping applied
- only range masking
- This needs to be done with `immath`

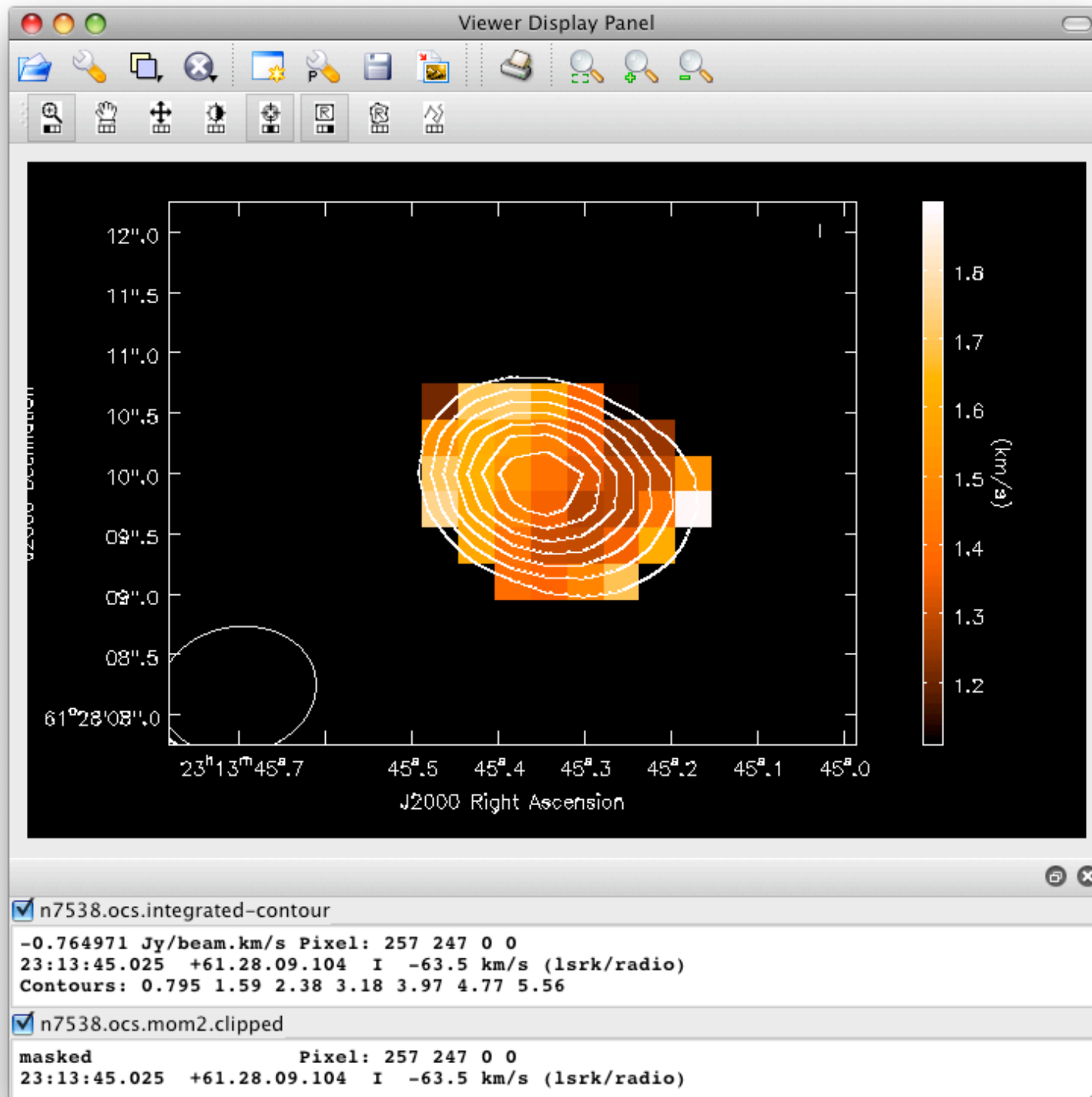
# Velocity Map



- No clipping applied
- only range masking
- This needs to be done with `immath`



# Dispersion Map

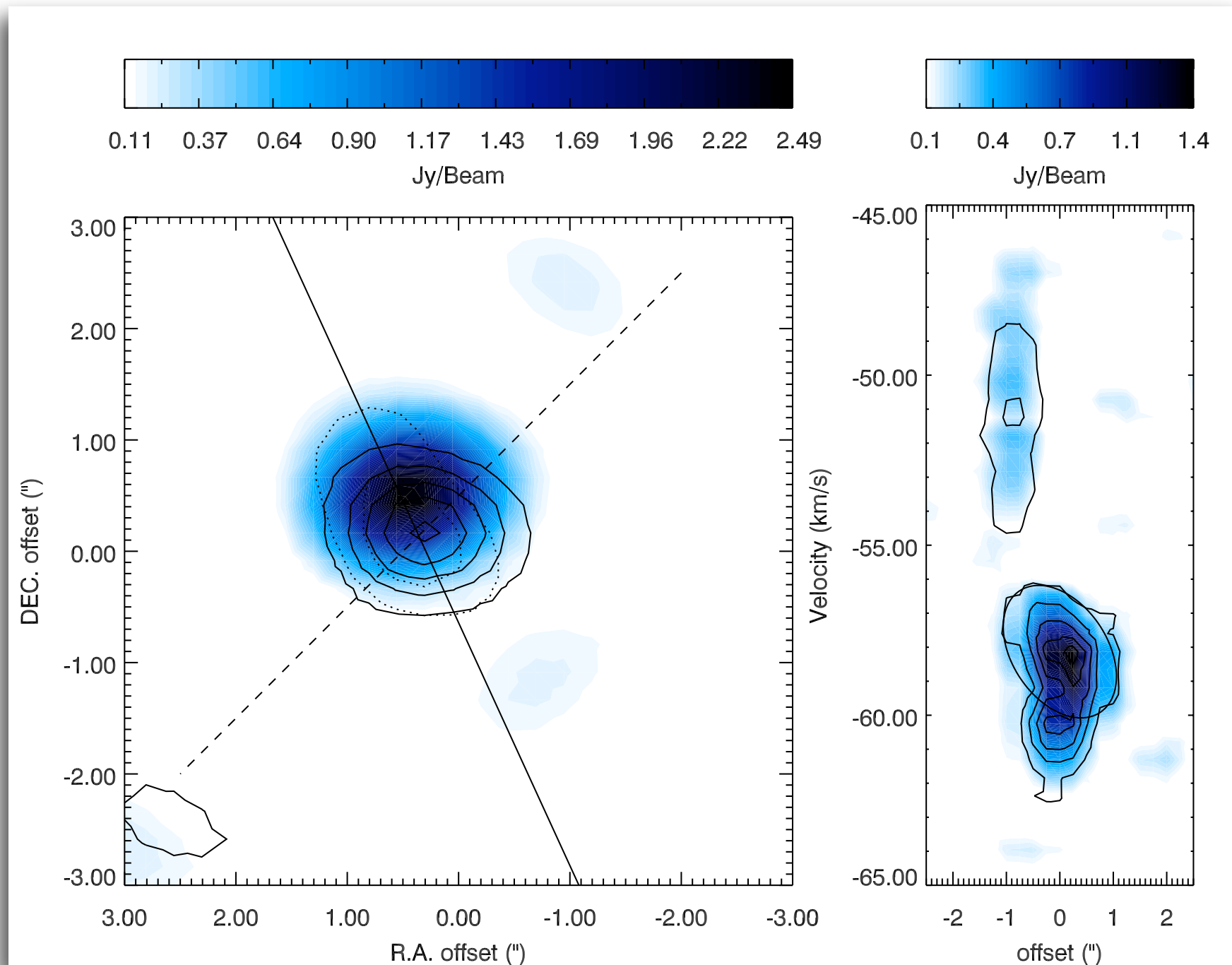


- Velocity Dispersion of the line across the source
- Also clipped like first moment map

# Further Image Analysis

- PV Diagrams
  - To see gas kinematics
- Imaging Large Scale Structures
  - Multiple configs.
  - Mosaicing

# Position Velocity Diagrams

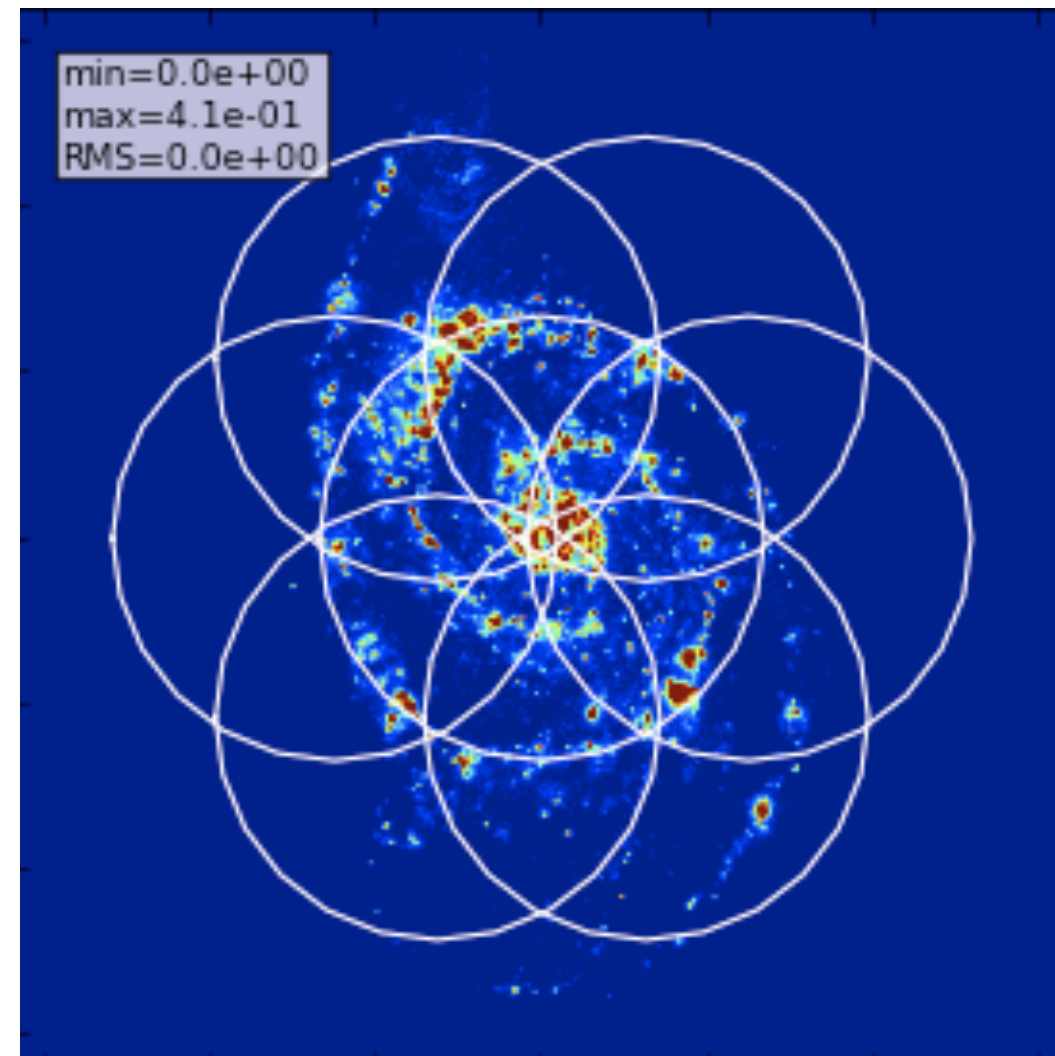


CASA can not  
make PV diagrams  
**YET**

But, data can be  
exported to fits

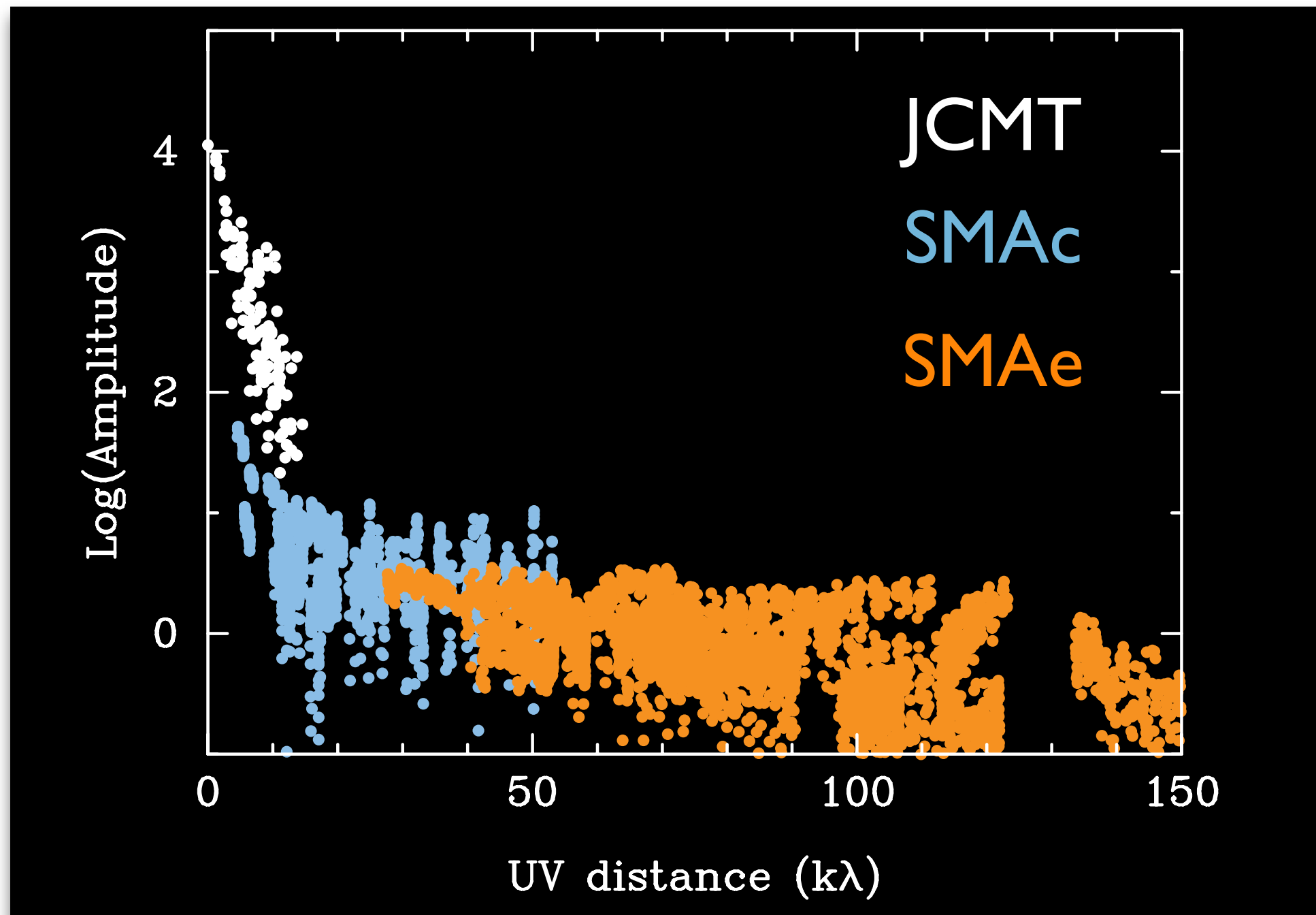
# Combining Data

- Each ALMA field will be small
  - with large structures filtered out
- To counteract this, combine multiple:
  - pointings
  - configurations

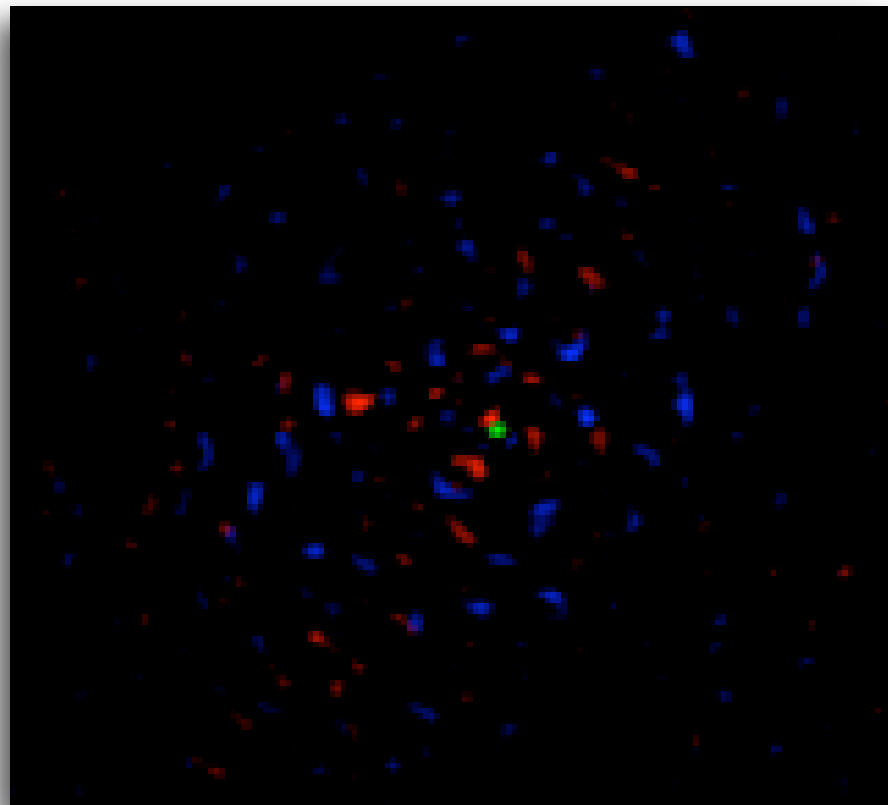


M51 from the  
ALMA simulator

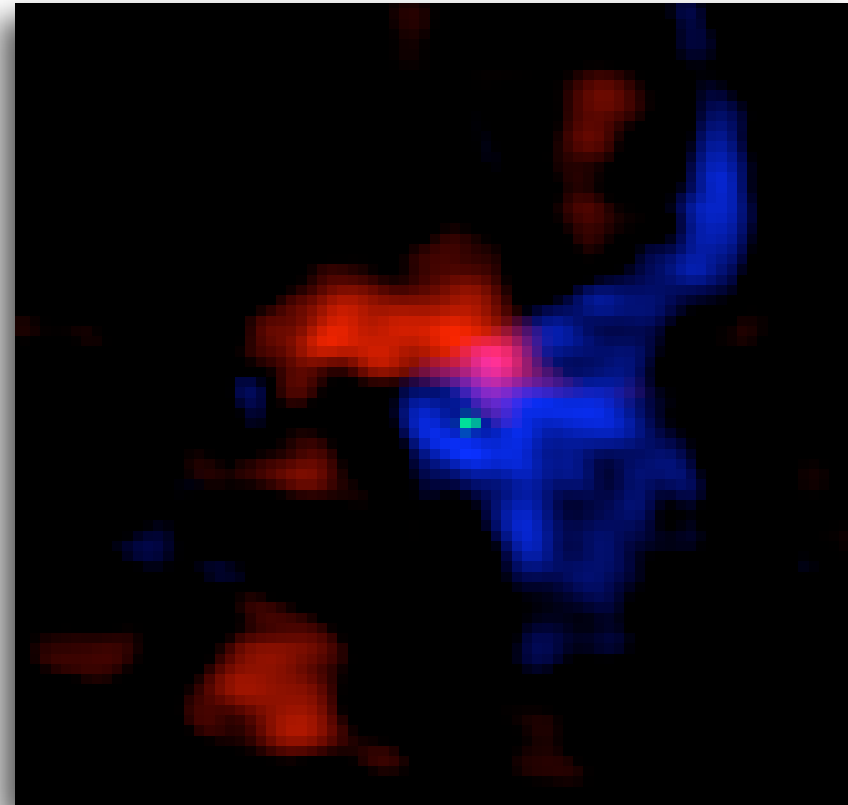
# Imaging Large Scale Structures



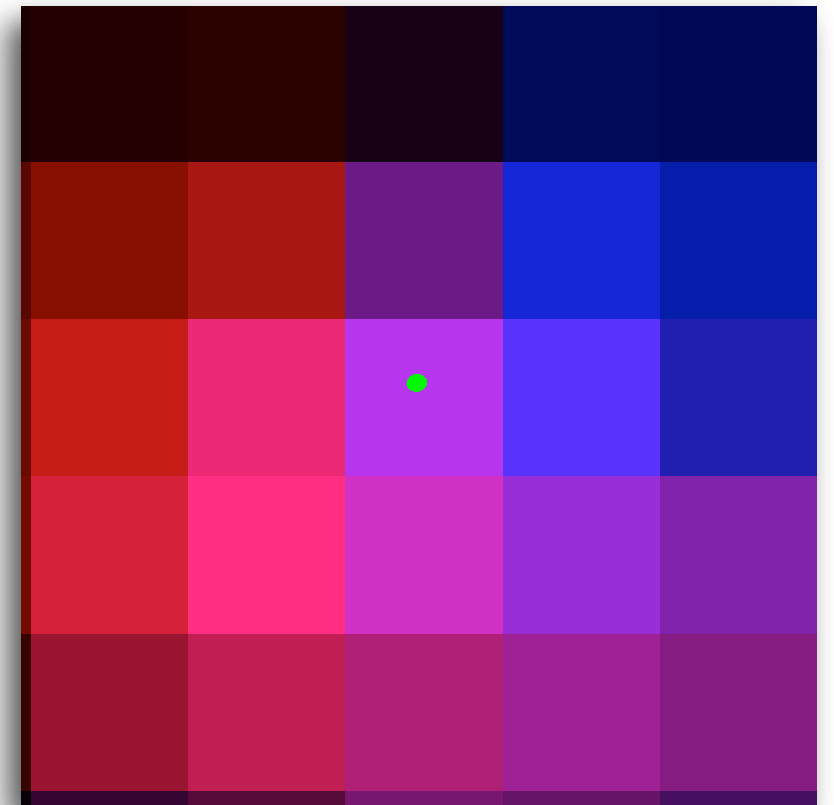
# Imaging Large Scale Structures



SMA extended  
(1"~10")



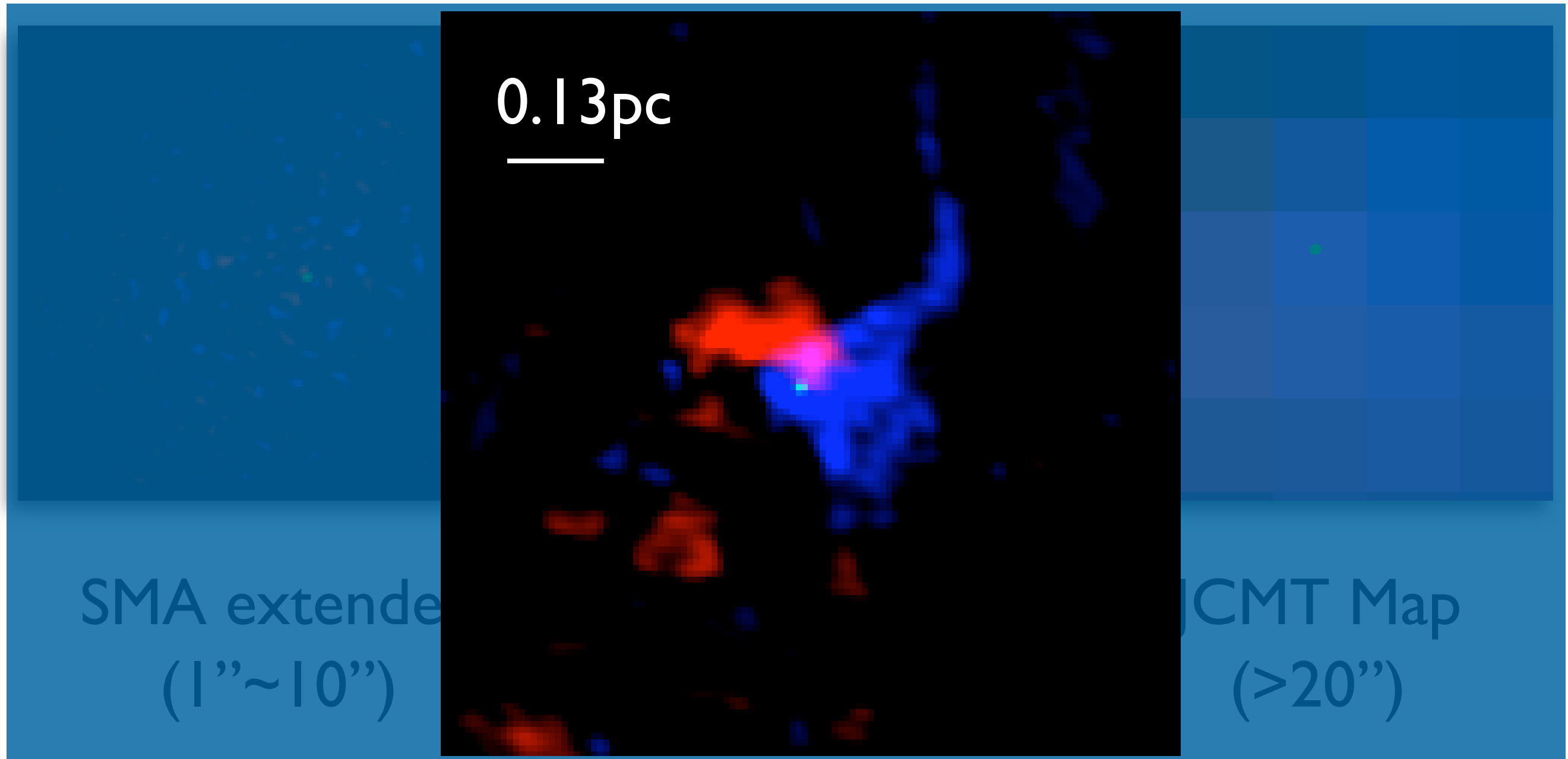
SMA compact  
(3"~25")



JCMT Map  
(>20")

In order to observe large scale structures at high resolution

# Imaging Large Scale Structures

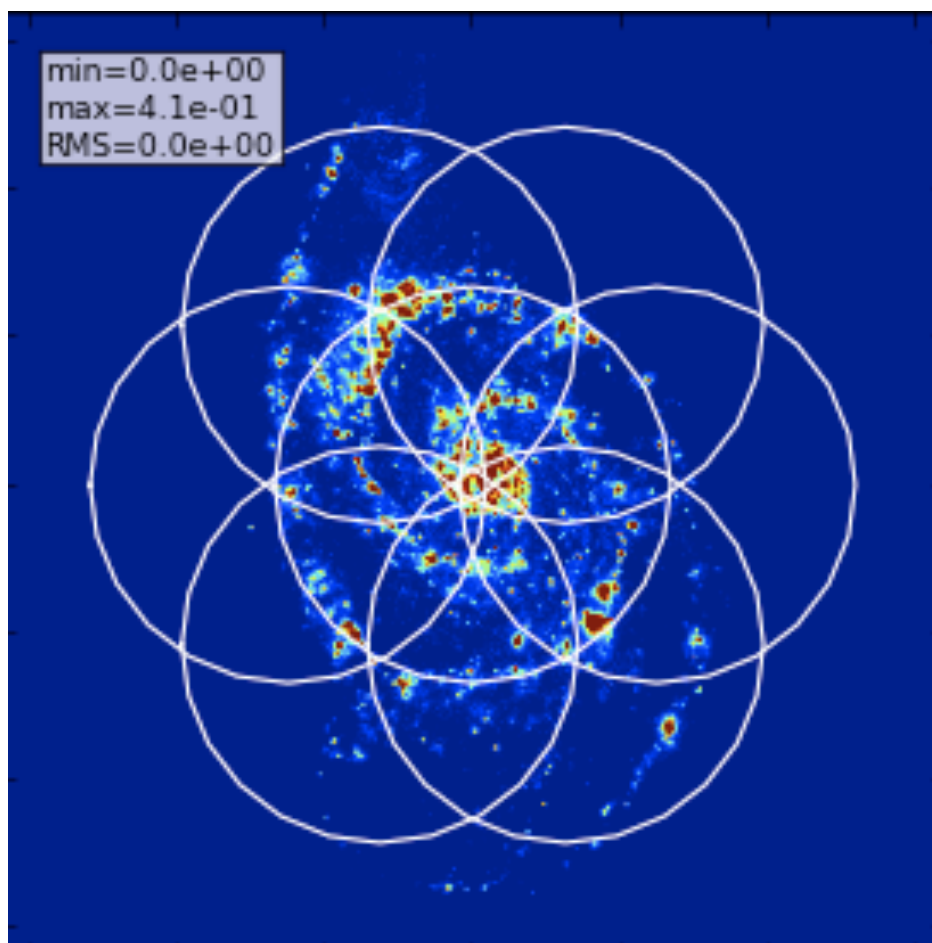


In order to observe large scale structures at high resolution



# Mosaicing

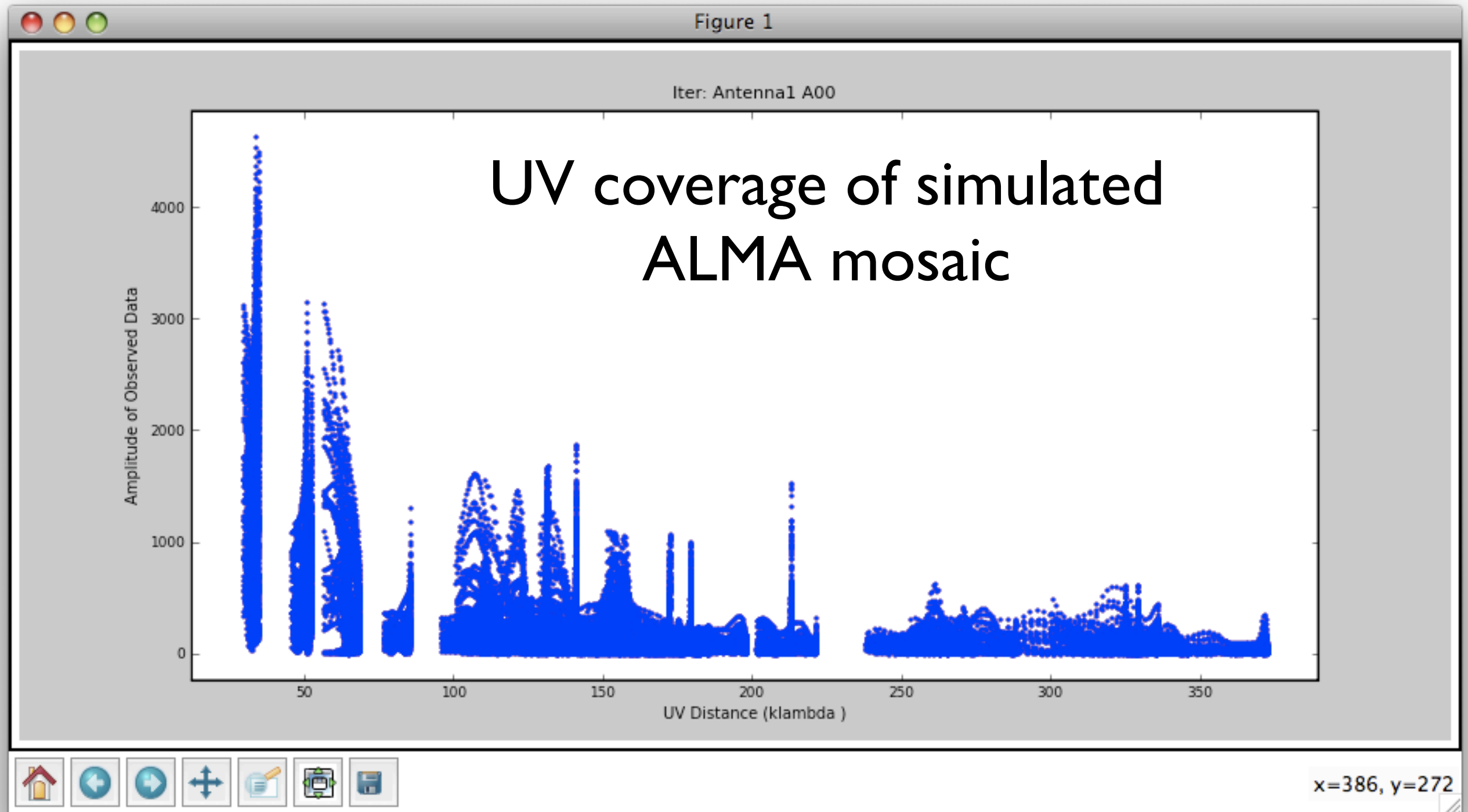
- Combine individual pointings to cover a larger area



12m antennae	54''	115 GHz
	27''	230 GHz
	18''	345 GHz
	9''	690 GHz

A blue arrow points from the 9'' 690 GHz row towards the mosaic image on the left.

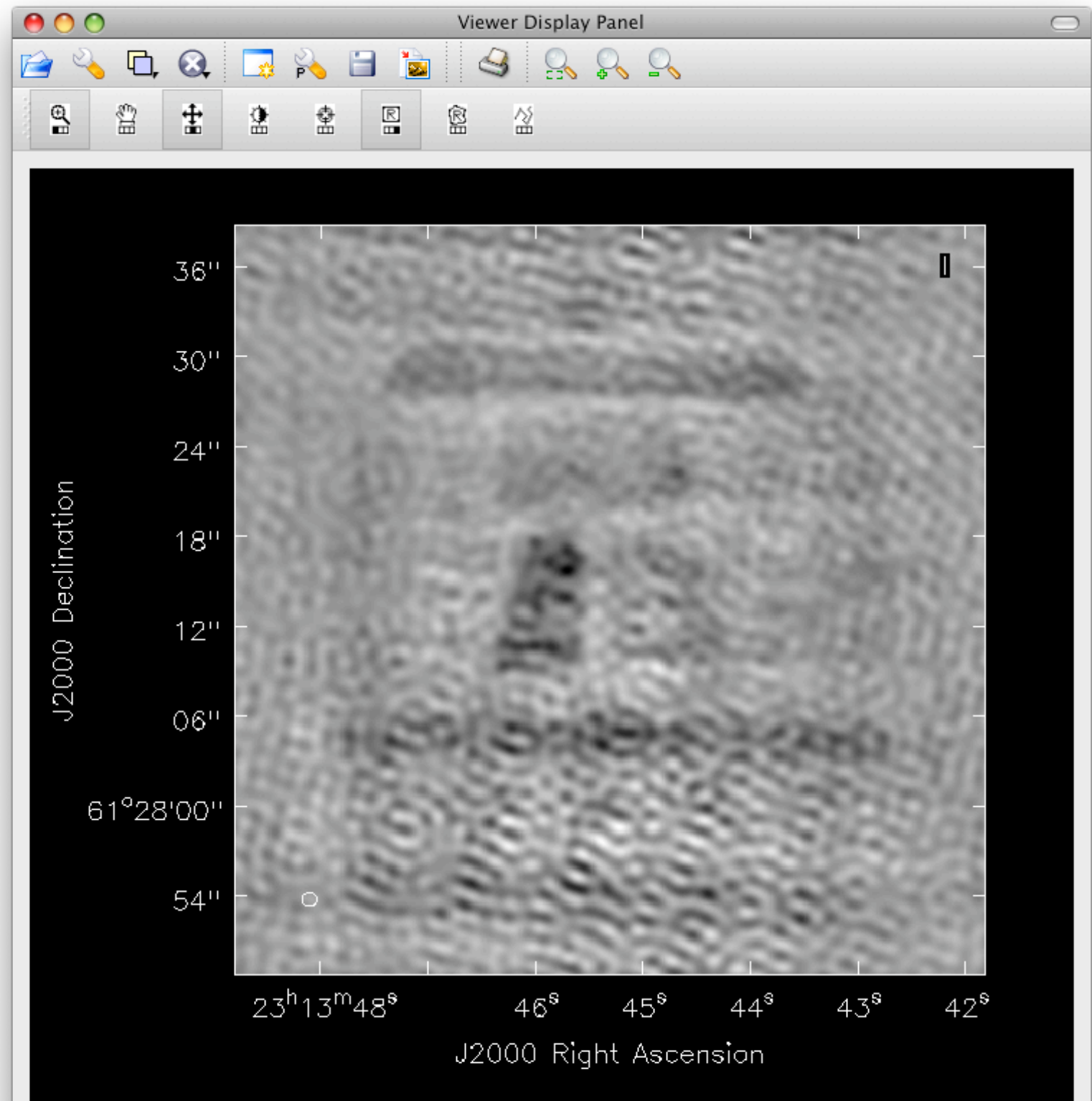
# Mosaicing



# Mosaicing

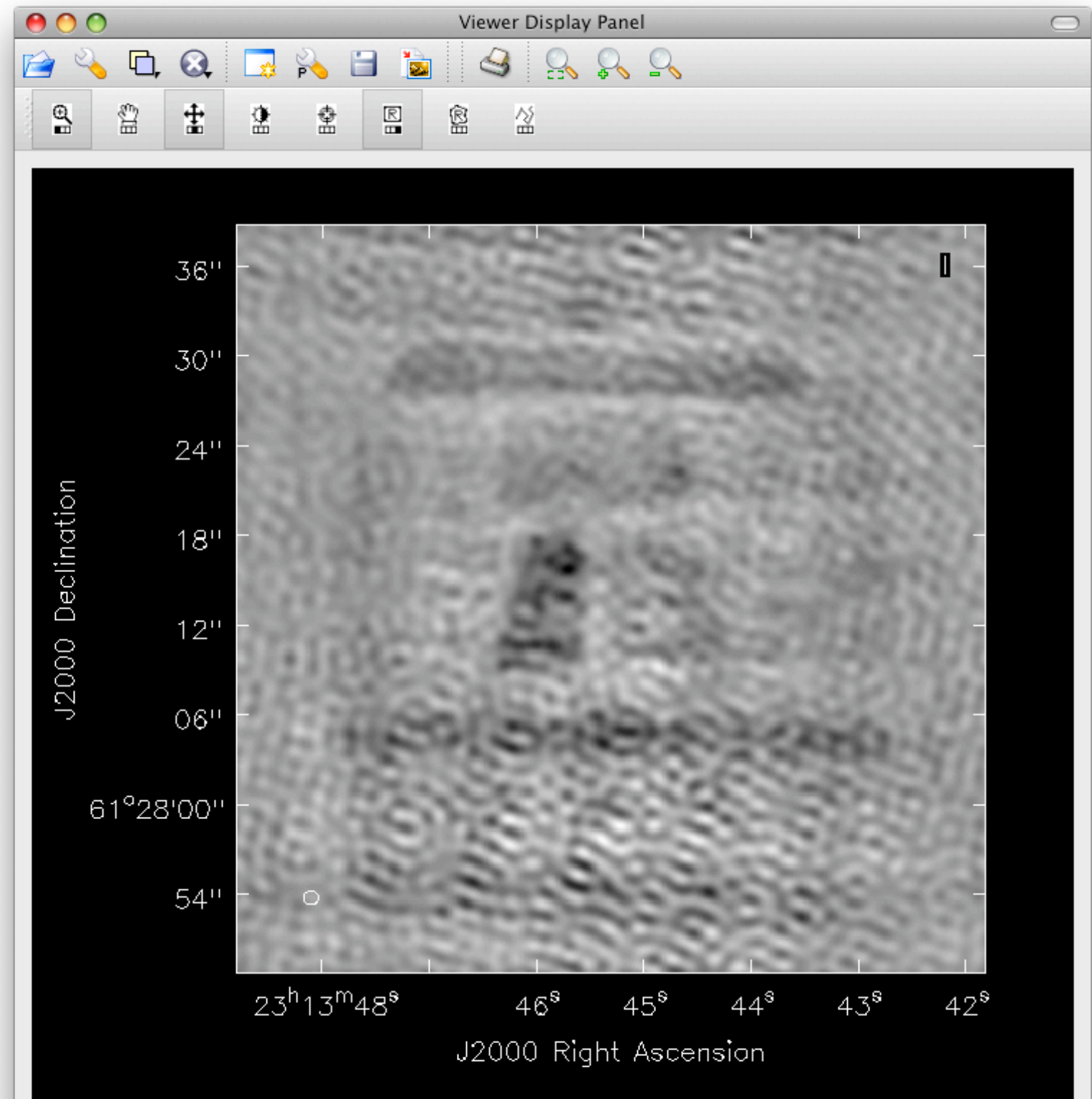
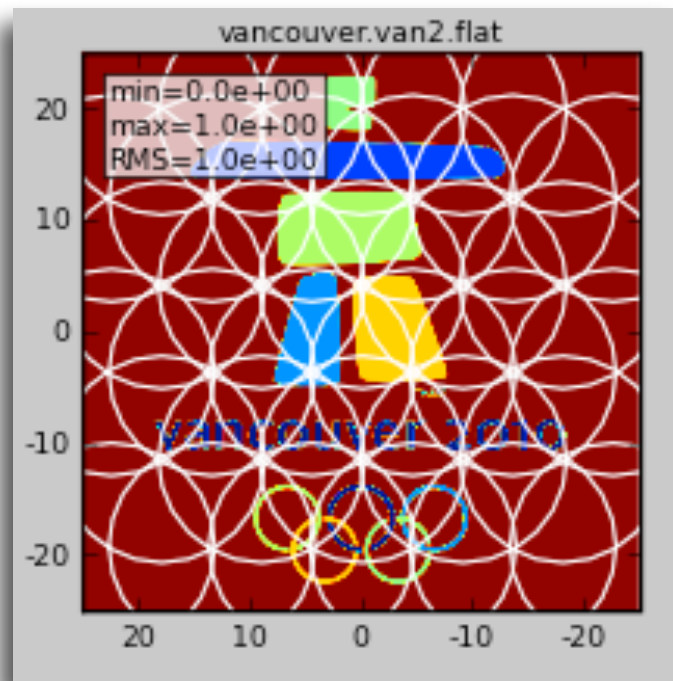
- 15 hours SMA integration (668 GHz)
- 9'' spacings

0.3'' res



# Mosaicing

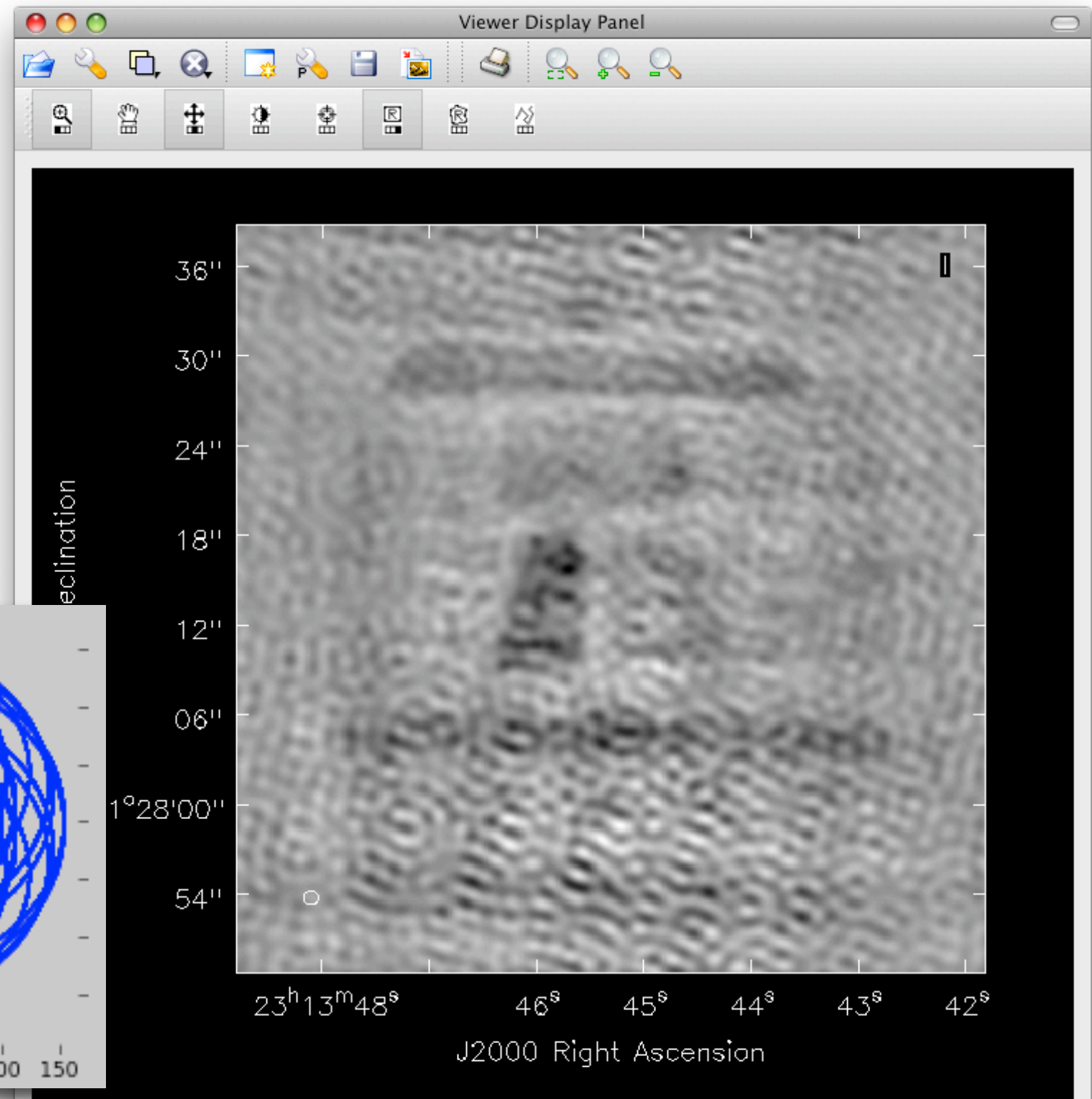
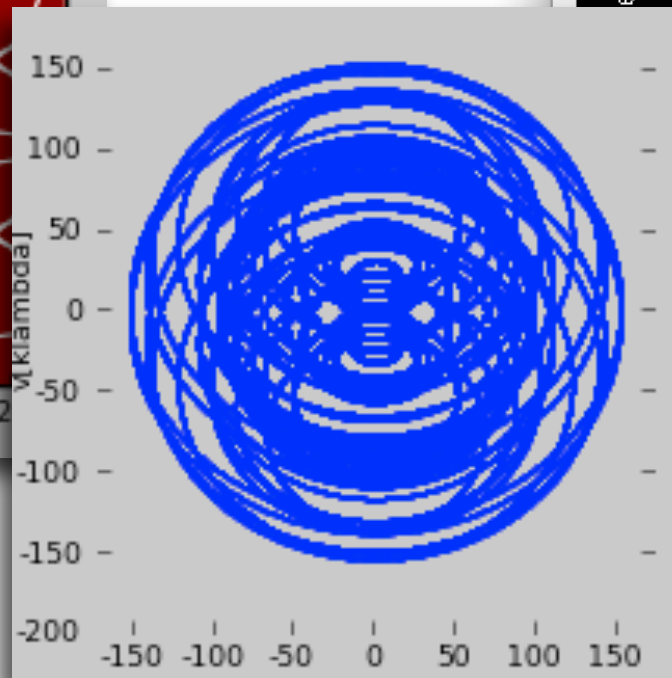
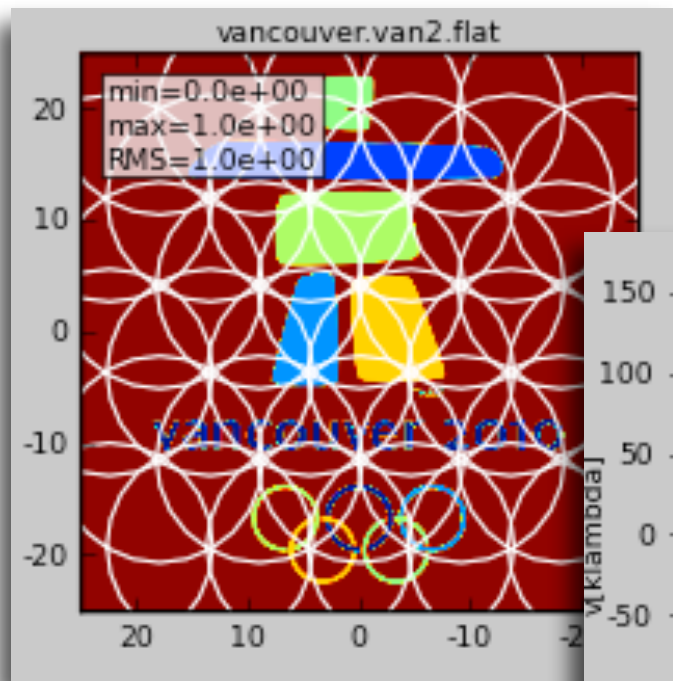
- 15 hours SMA integration (668 GHz)
- 9'' spacings





# Mosaicing

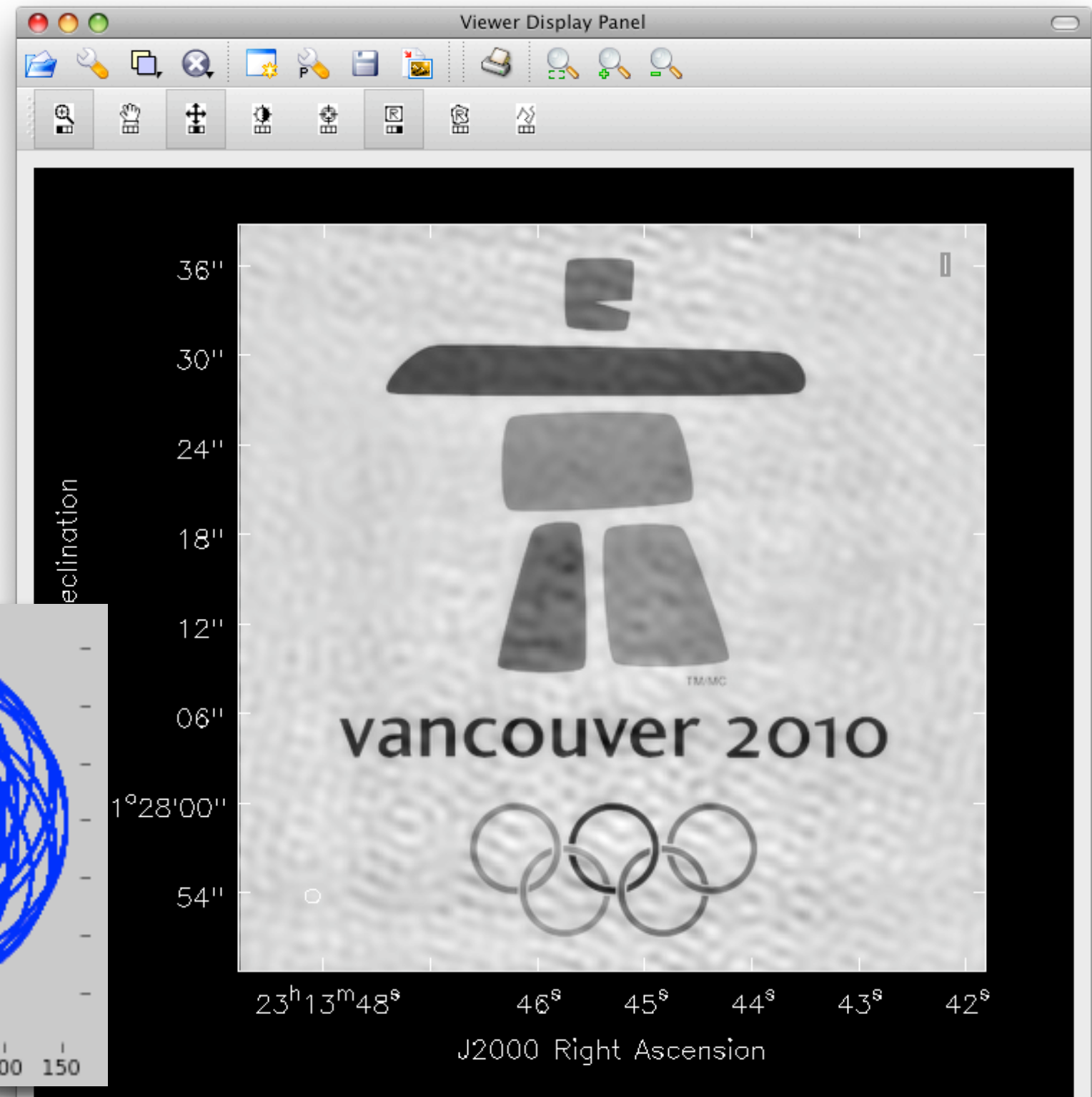
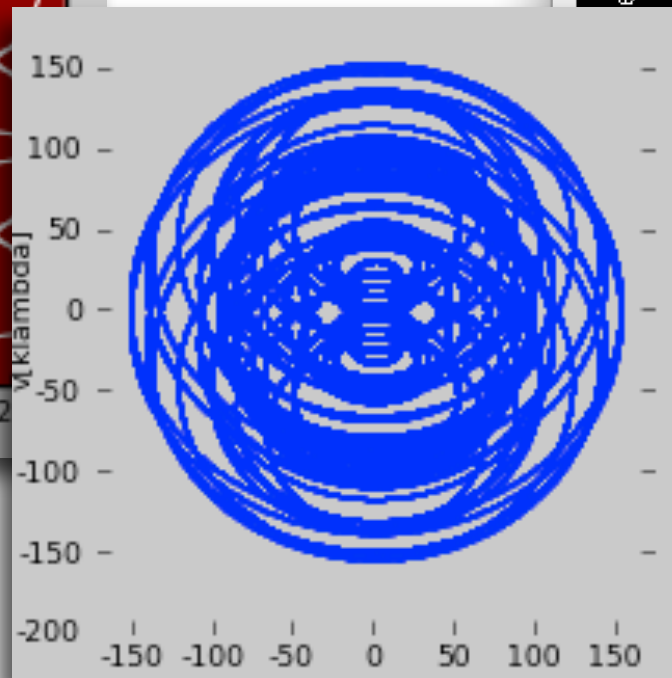
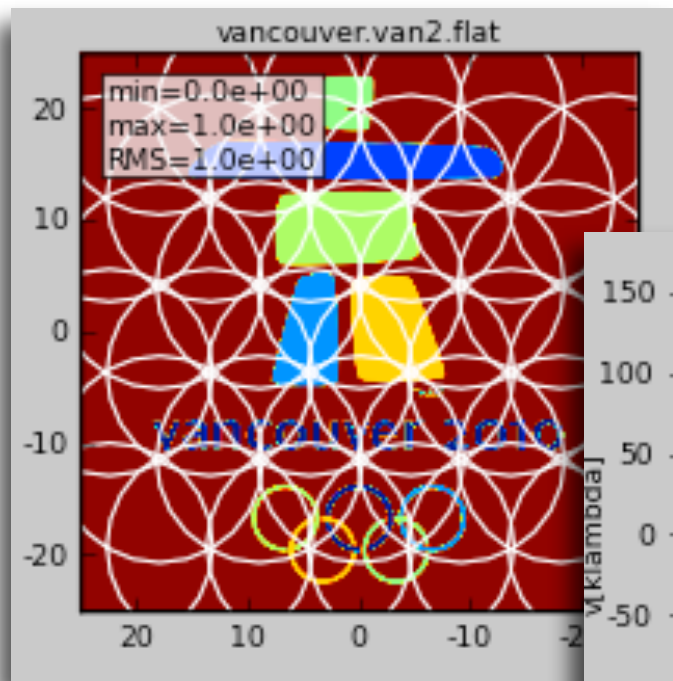
- 15 hours SMA integration (668 GHz)
- 9" spacings



0.3" res

# Mosaicing

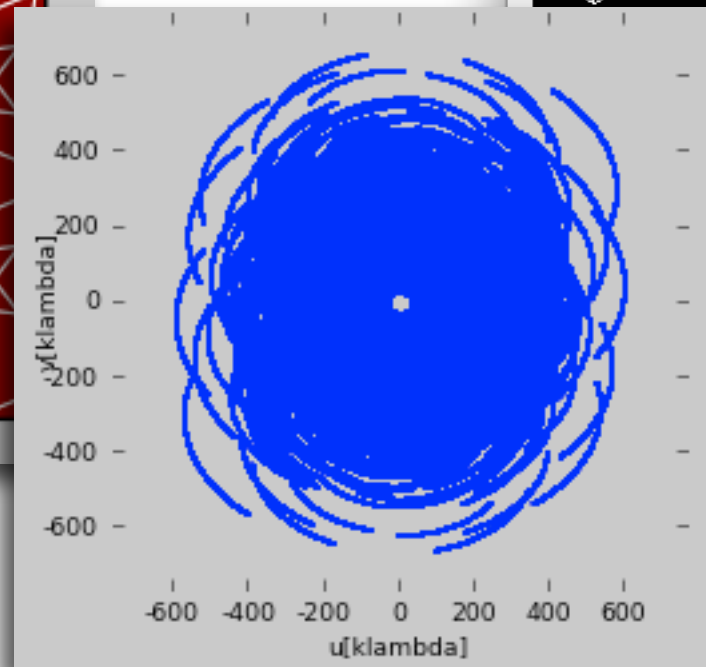
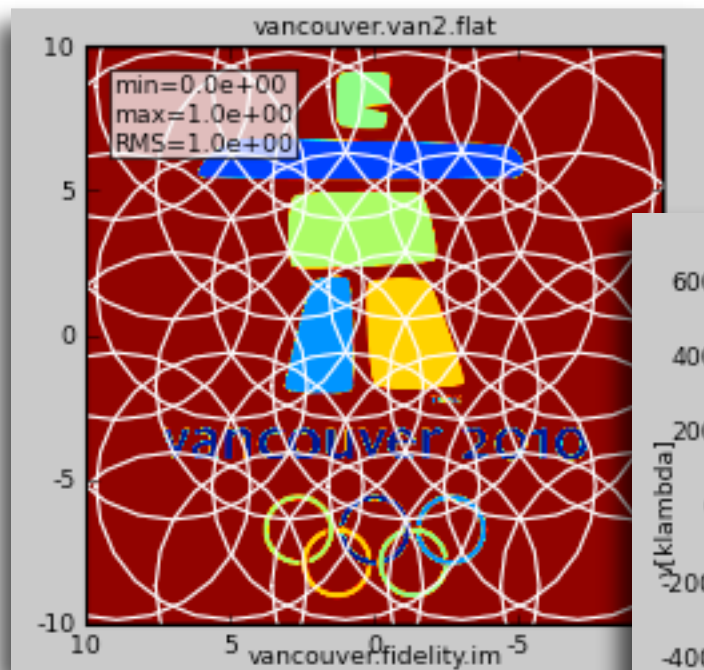
- 15 hours SMA integration (668 GHz)
- 9" spacings



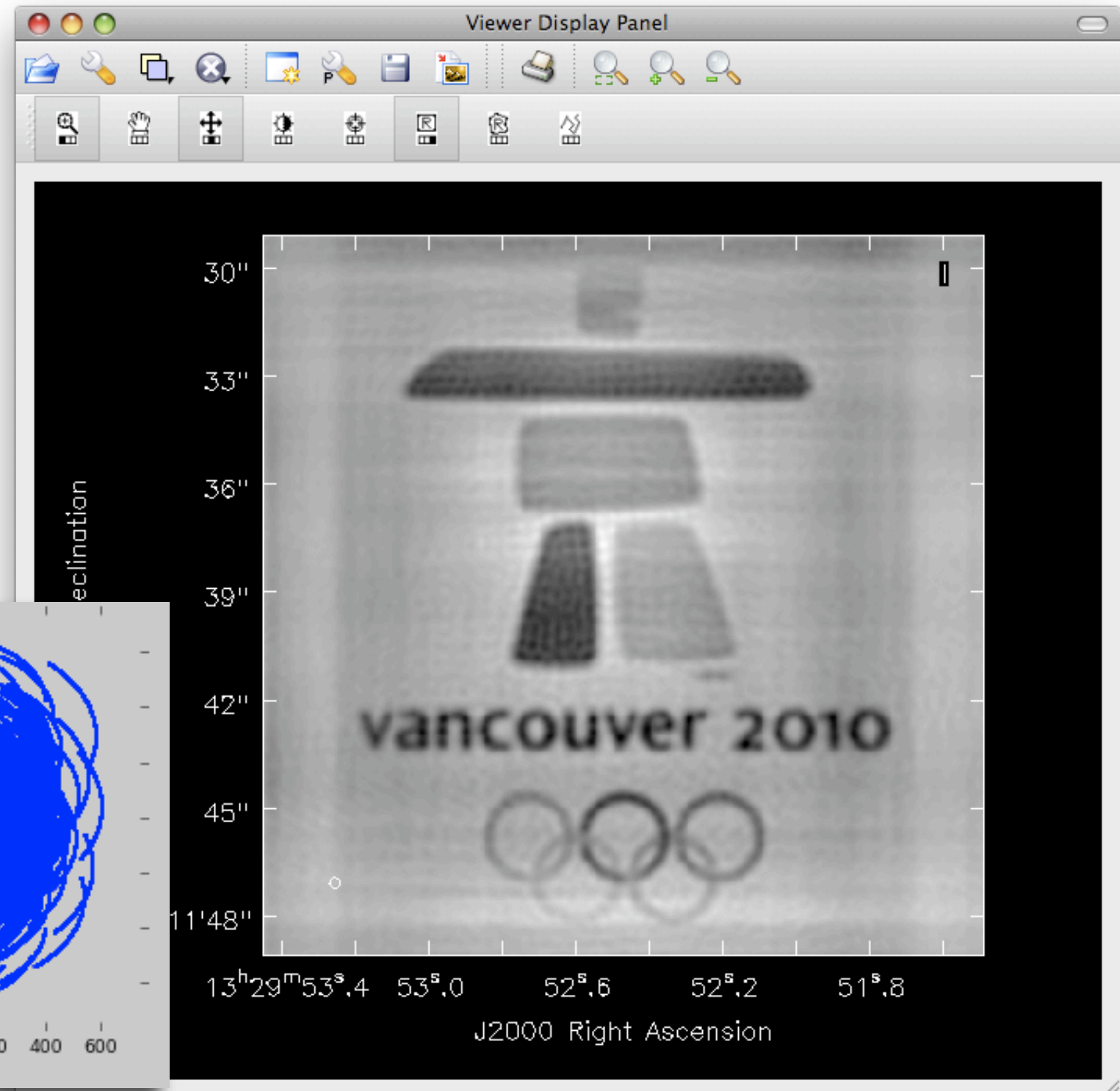
0.3" res

# Mosaicing

- 1.5 hour ALMA integration (668 GHz)
- 4" spacings



0.08" res





# Summary

What information we can get  
from radio interferometers  
Line, Continuum, Masers, Polarization

## Calibration

- Done by Pipeline

## Imaging

- Cont. Subtraction
- Inverting
- Cleaning

## Image Analysis

- Moment Maps
- PV Diagrams
- Mosaics
- Multi-Scale

