

# Methods of foreground mitigation in the EoR

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Royal Astronomical Society Fellow

Imperial College London

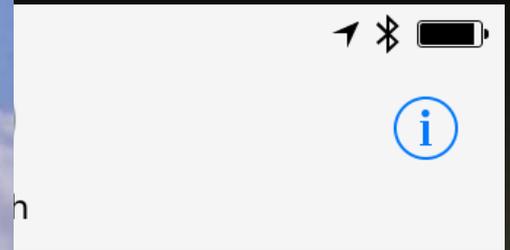


@DrEOChapman

e.chapman@imperial.ac.uk



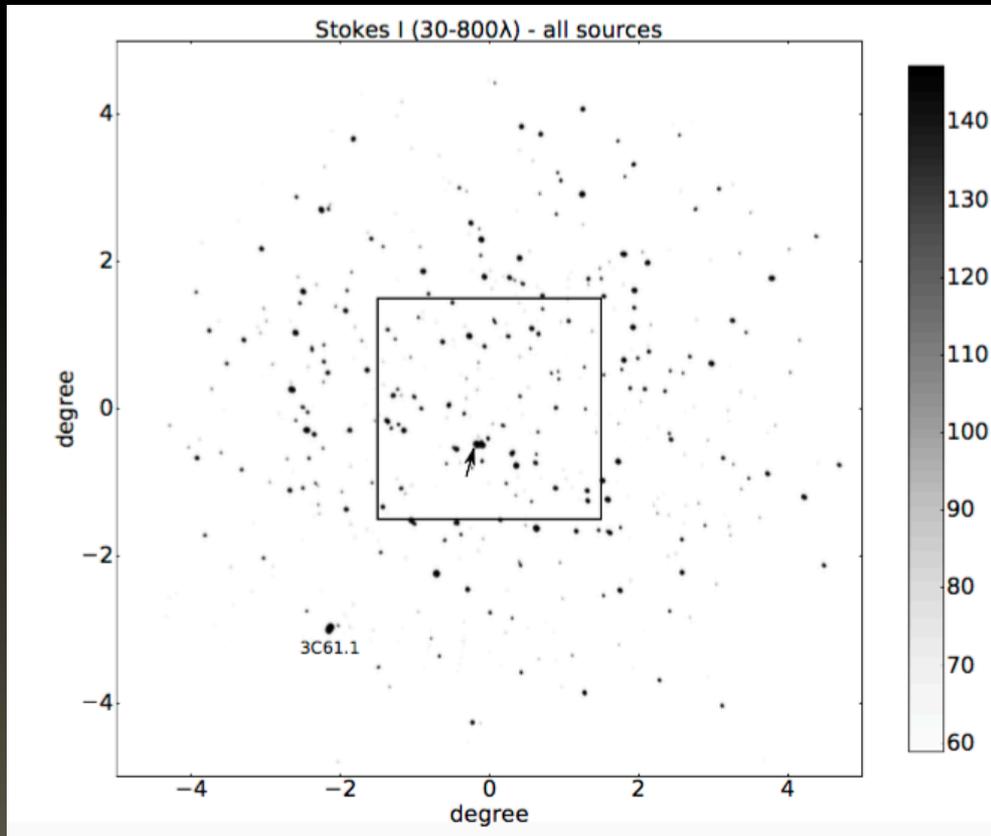
LOFAR



Text Message  
Monday 05:10

Important! Monarch has stopped operating. All flights have been cancelled – please do not go to the airport. Please visit [monarch.caa.co.uk](https://monarch.caa.co.uk) for more information.

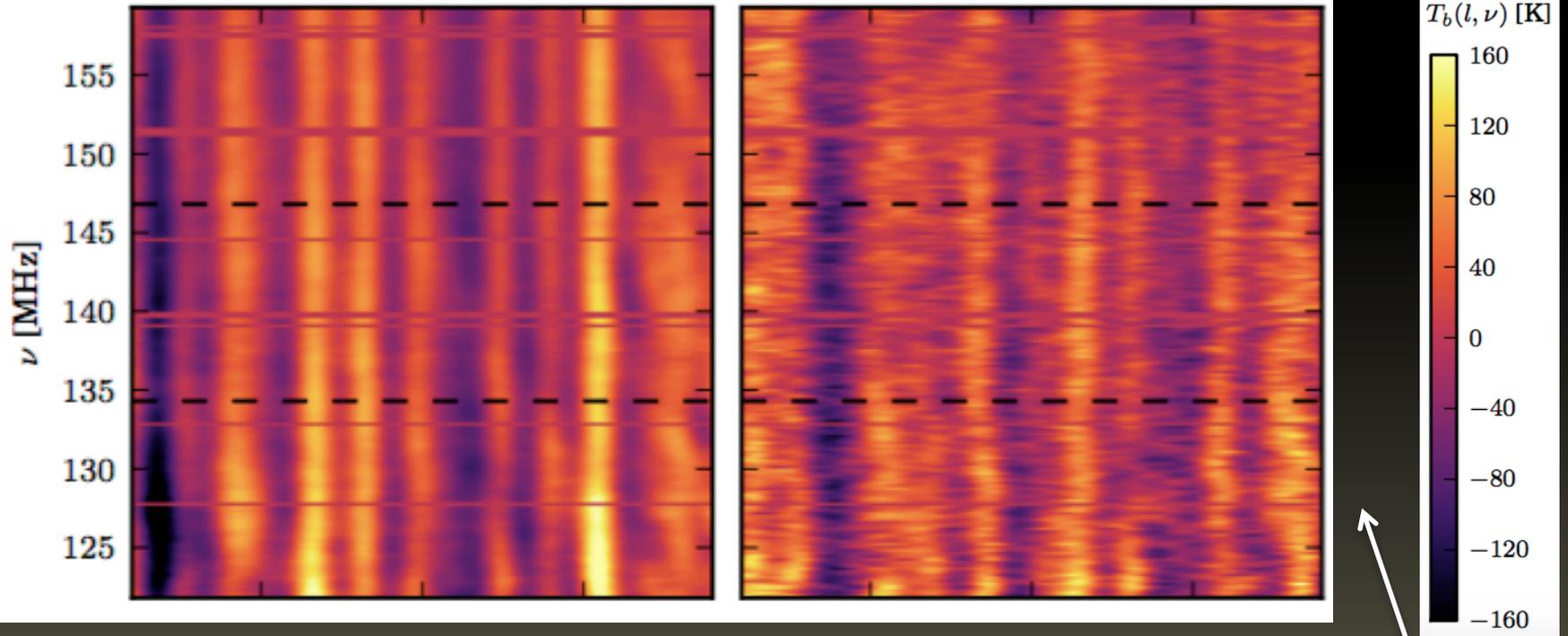




- Generally peeled away above a certain magnitude cut off,
- Happens as part of calibration, MWA will remove on order of 100 bright sources whereas LOFAR use a sky catalogue to calibrate, removing tens of thousands of sources

Patil et al. 2017, 838(1), 65  
Intensity in mJy/beam

# Bright Point Sources

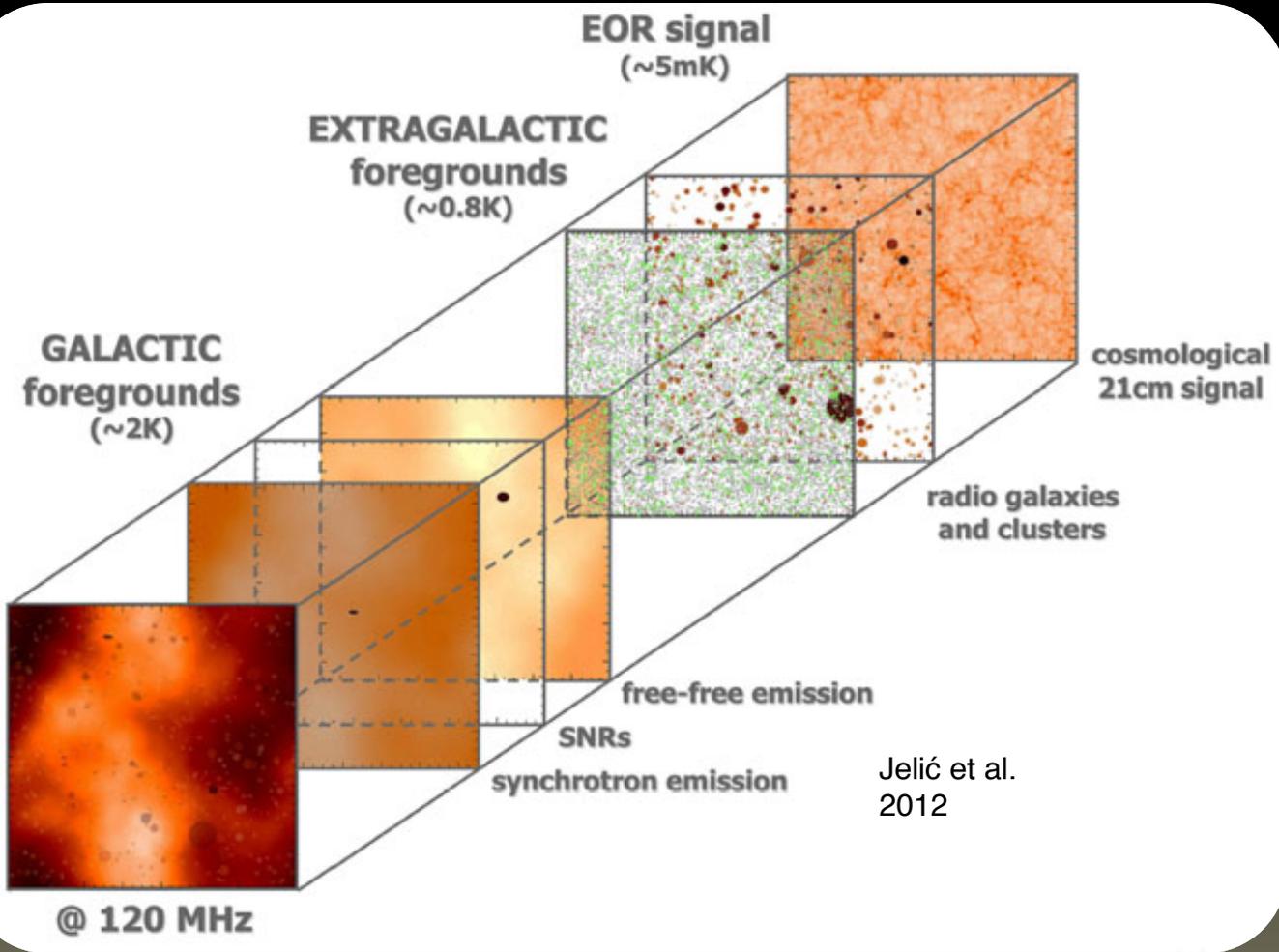


Left: After removal of only 3C61.1  
Right: Whole sky model subtracted,  
scale x 10

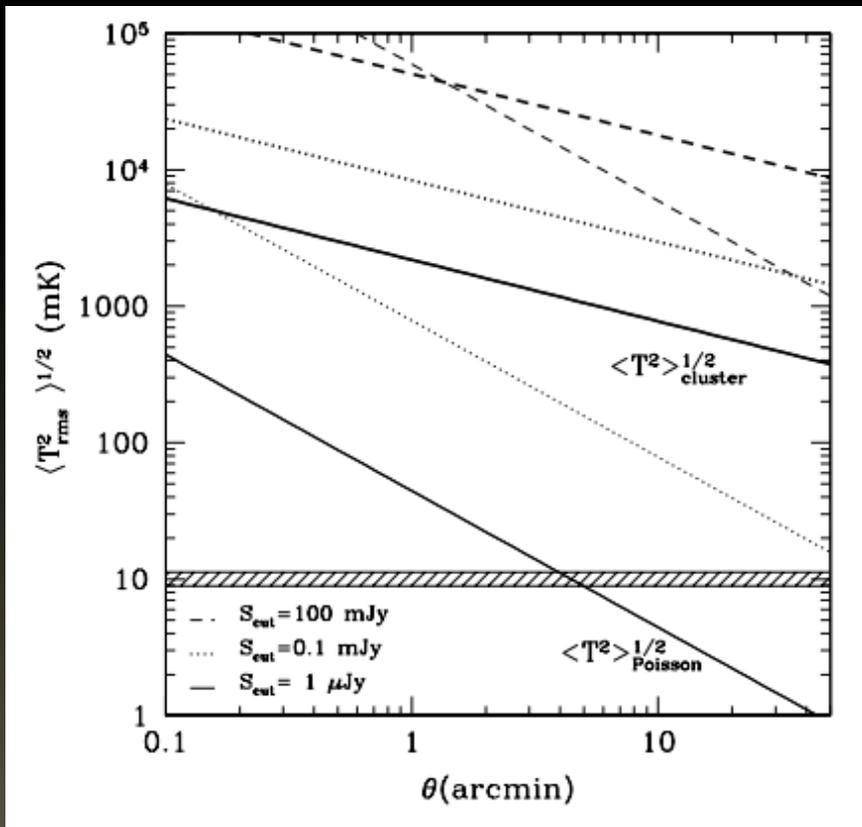
Patil et al. 2017, 838(1), 65

Horizontal lines are RFI excisions

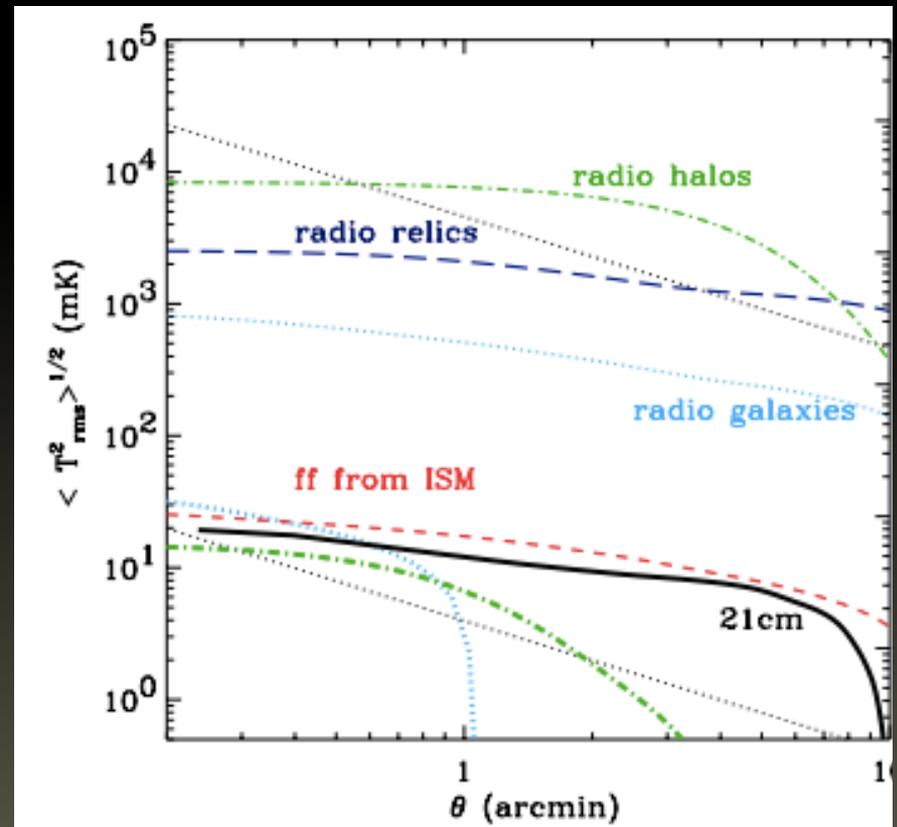
# Bright Source Calibration and RFI Mitigation



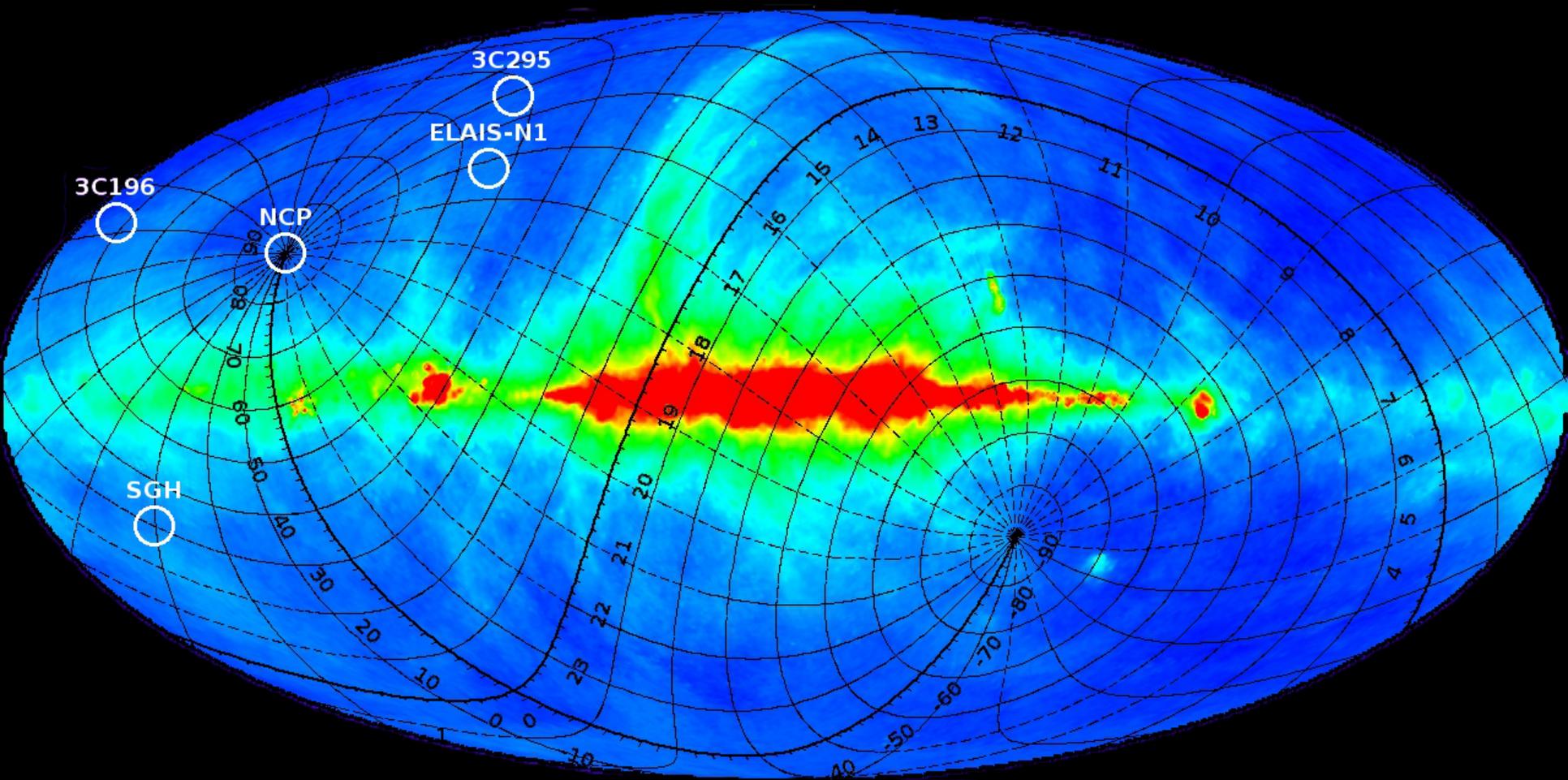
Jelić et al.  
2012



Di Matteo et al 2002, ApJ,  
564 : 576-580

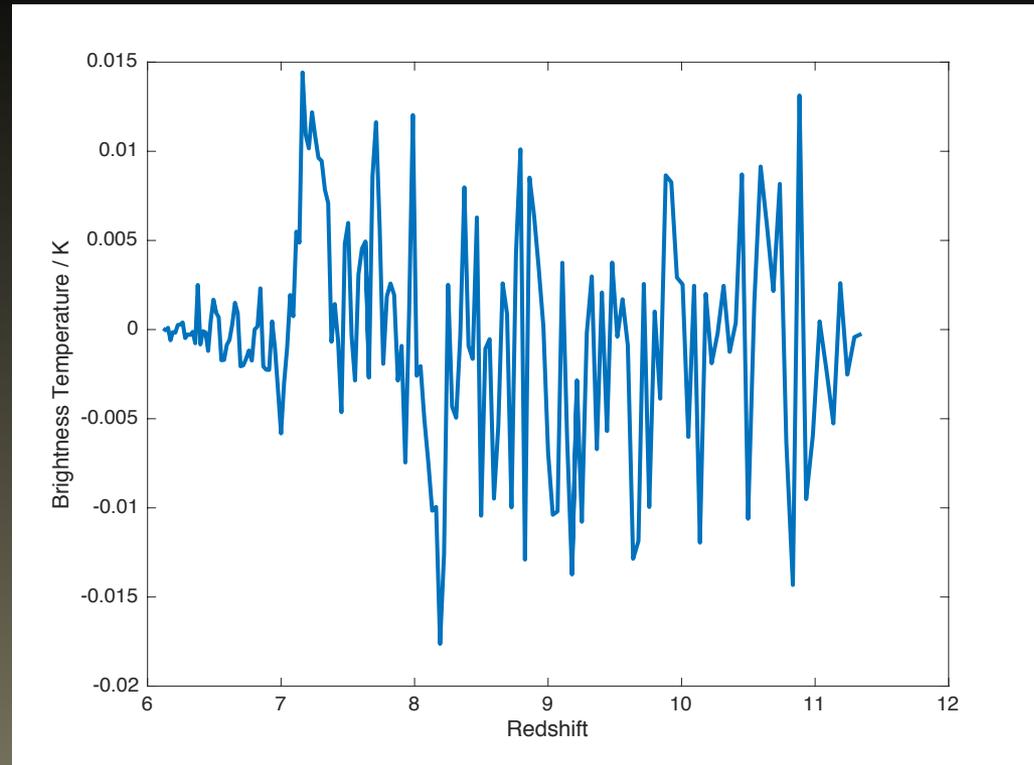
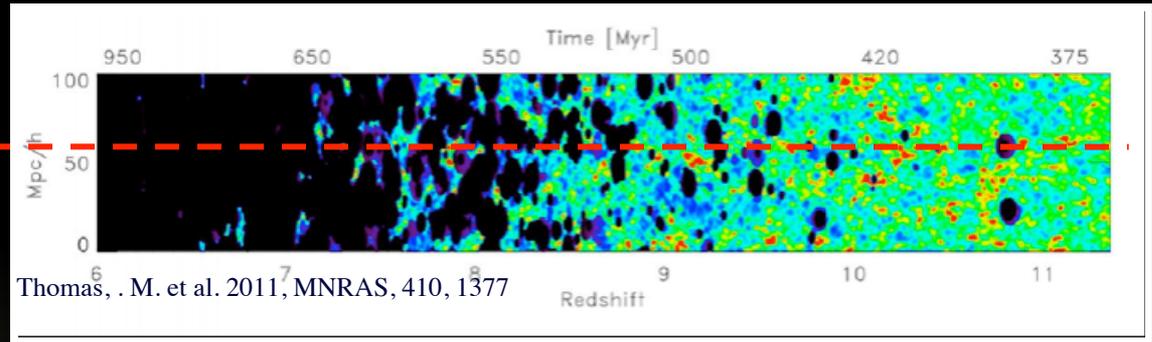


Di Matteo et al 2004,  
MNRAS, 355(4) :1053-  
1065

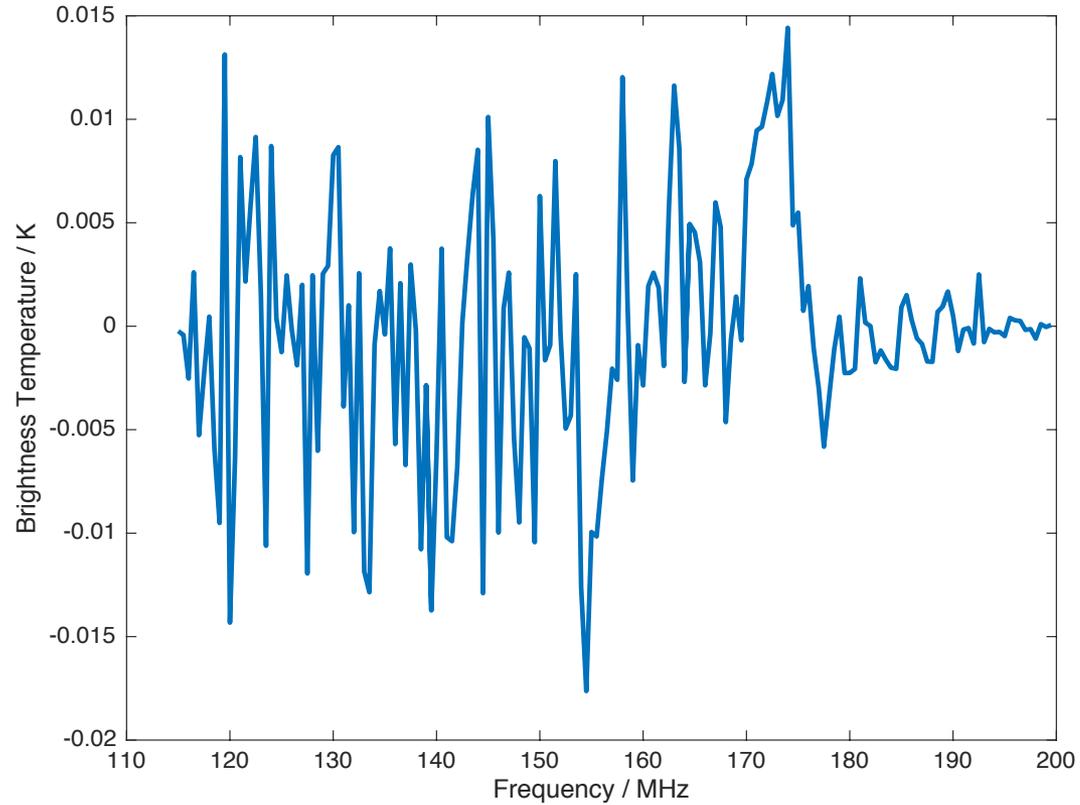


Haslam 408MHz map with LOFAR fields superimposed, credit to V. Jelić

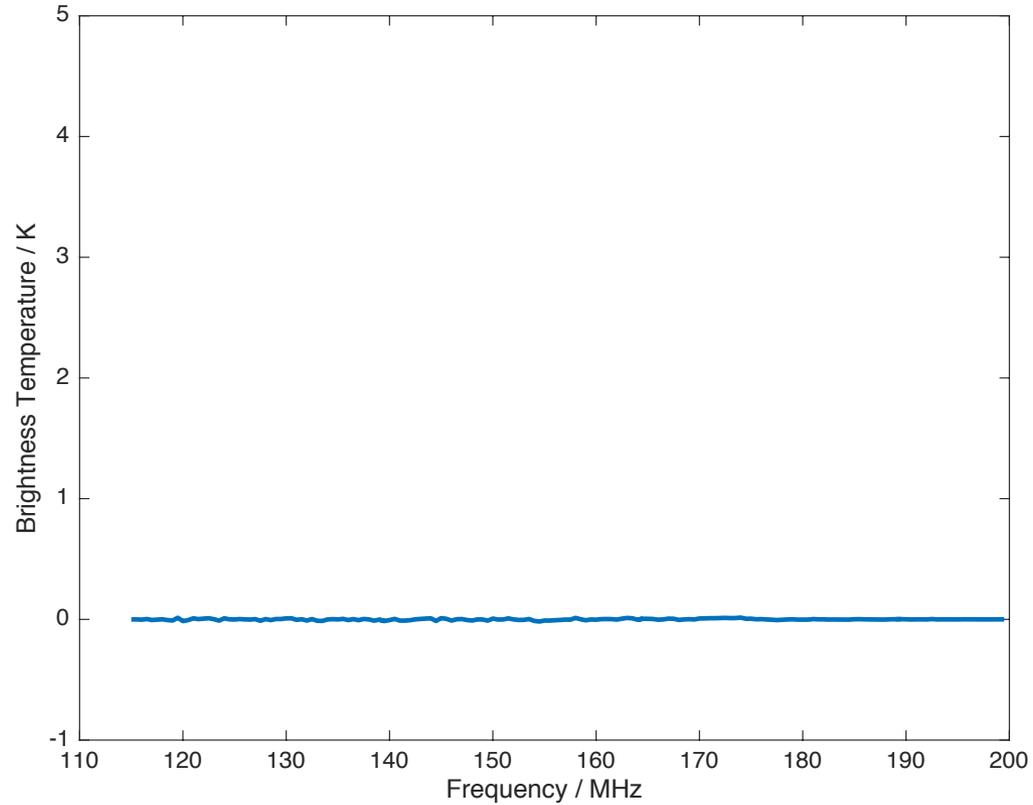
# The 21-cm signal shape



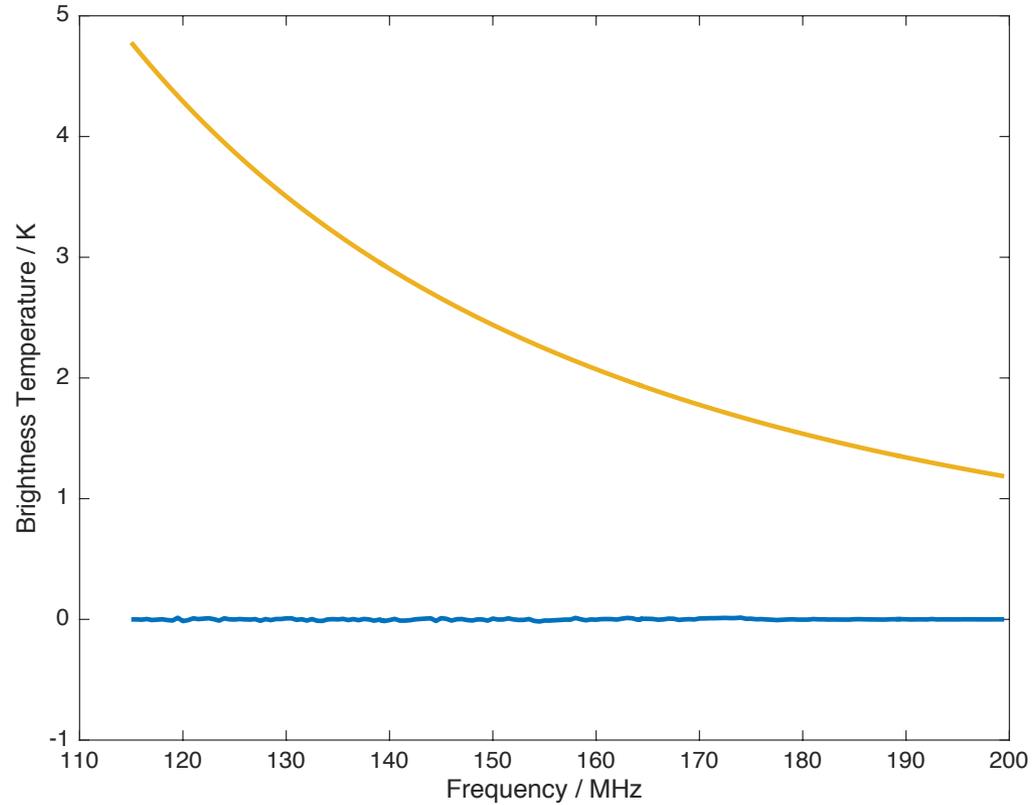
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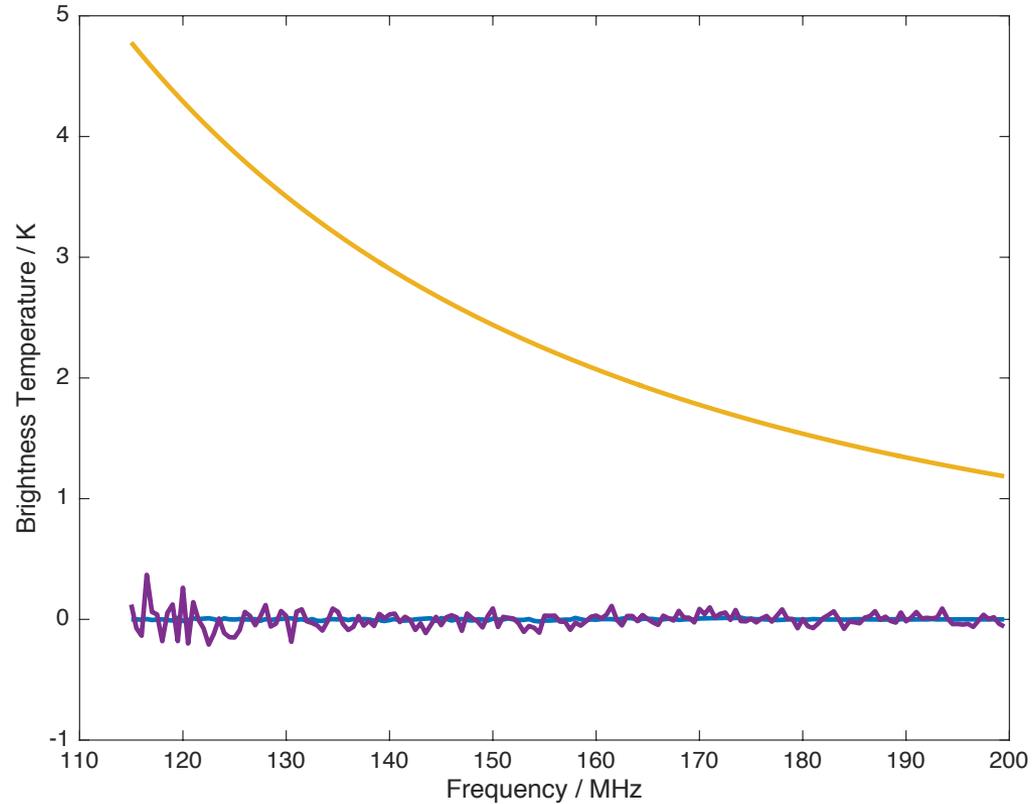
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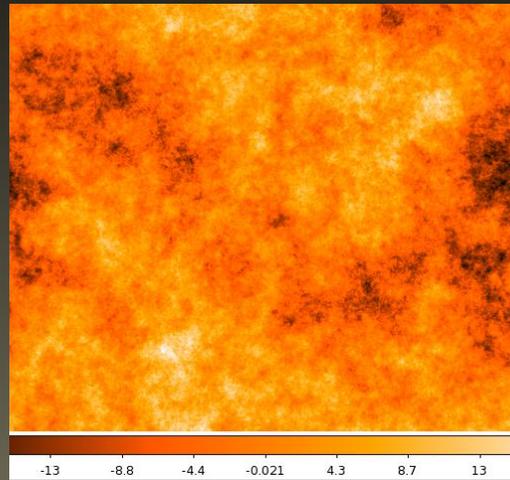
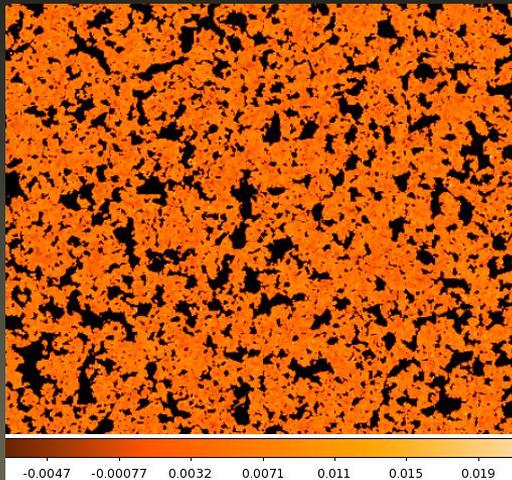
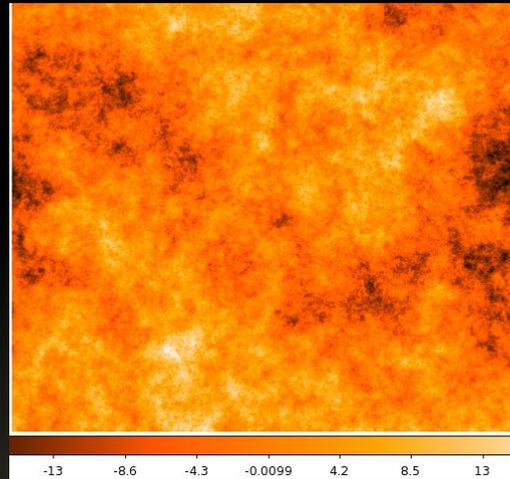
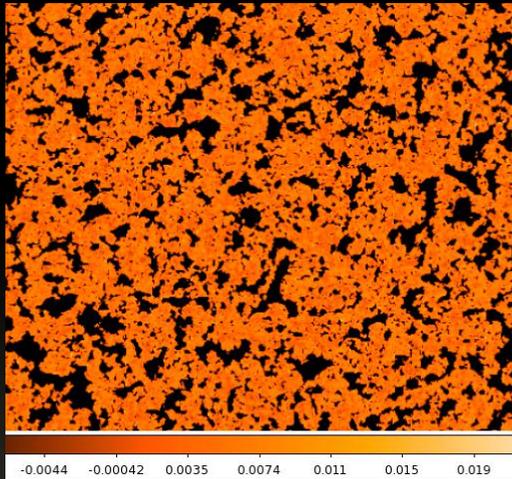
# The 21-cm signal shape



# The 21-cm signal shape



# Correlating Frequency Slices

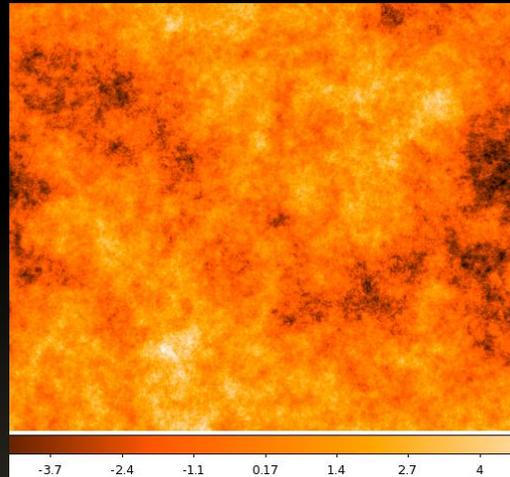
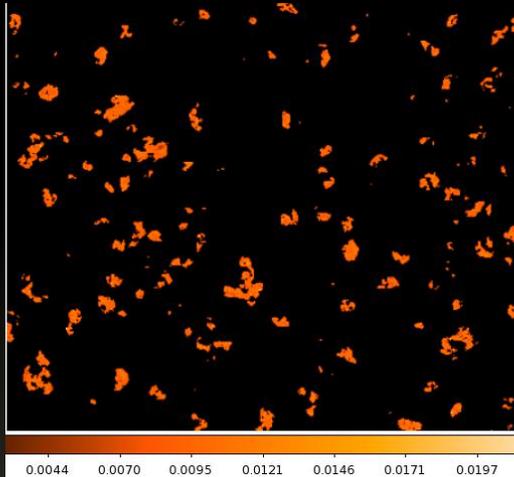


Use the correlation between two channels to separate out correlated signal (foregrounds), thus removing them.

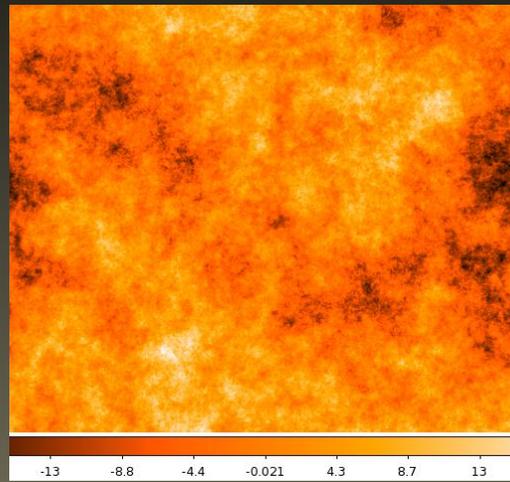
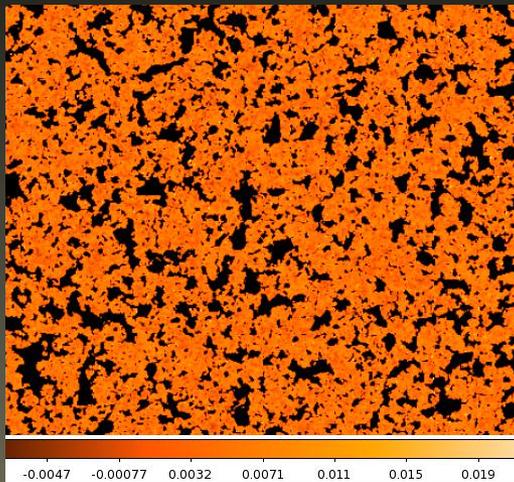
Zaldarriaga et al. 2004, *ApJ*, 608 : 622-635

See also Santos et al. 2004, *ApJ*, 625 : 575-587

# Correlating Frequency Slices



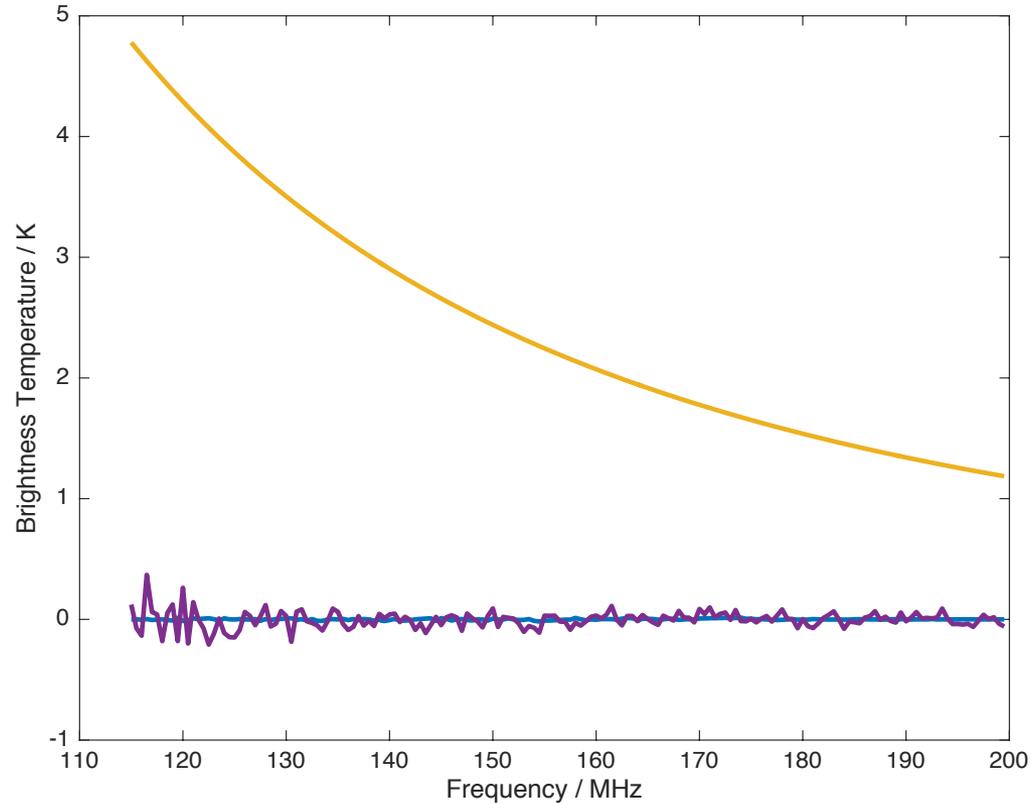
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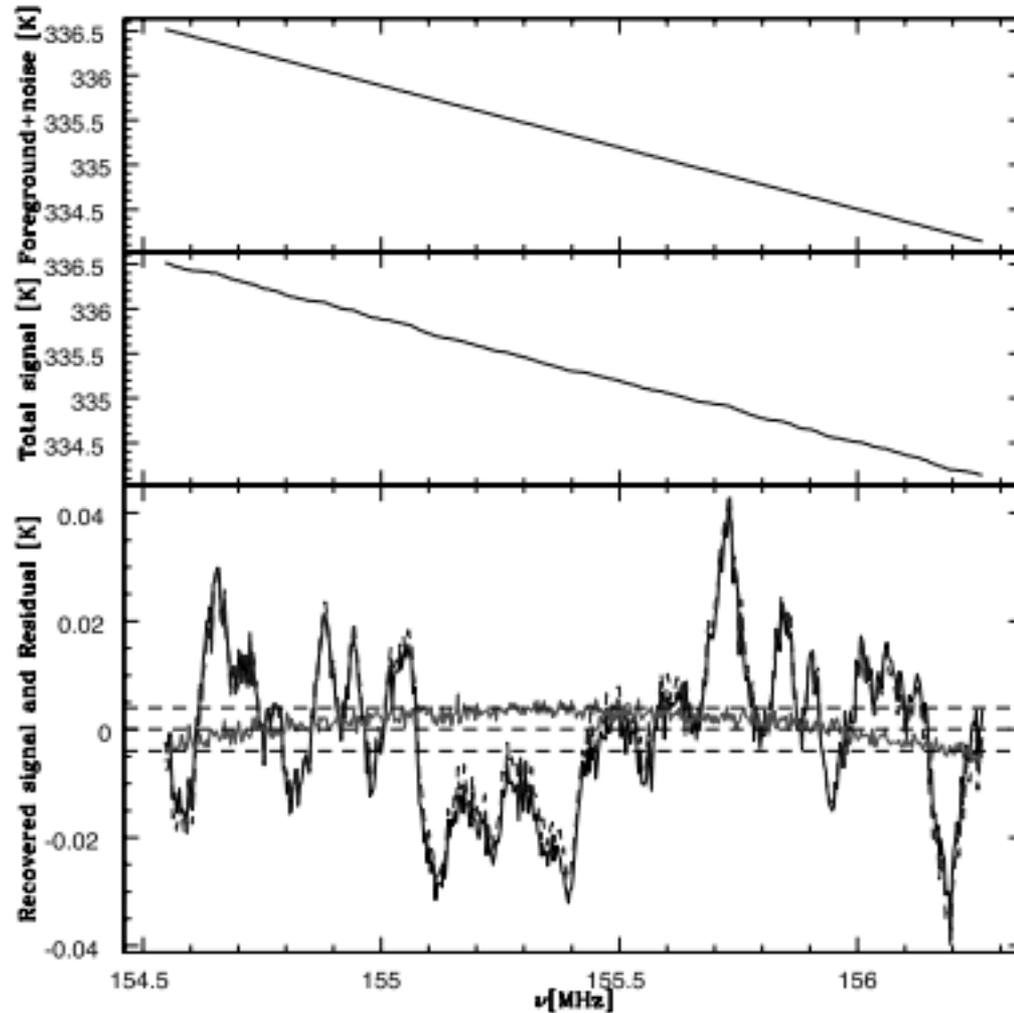
# The 21-cm signal shape



# Polynomial Fitting

Santos et al.  
2005; Wang et  
al. 2006;  
McQuinn et al.  
2006; Bowman  
et al. 2006;  
Jelic et al.  
2008; Gleser et  
al. 2008; Liu,  
Tegmark &  
Zaldarriaga  
2009; Liu et al.  
2009; Petrovic  
& Oh 2011;  
Liu &  
Tegmark 2011

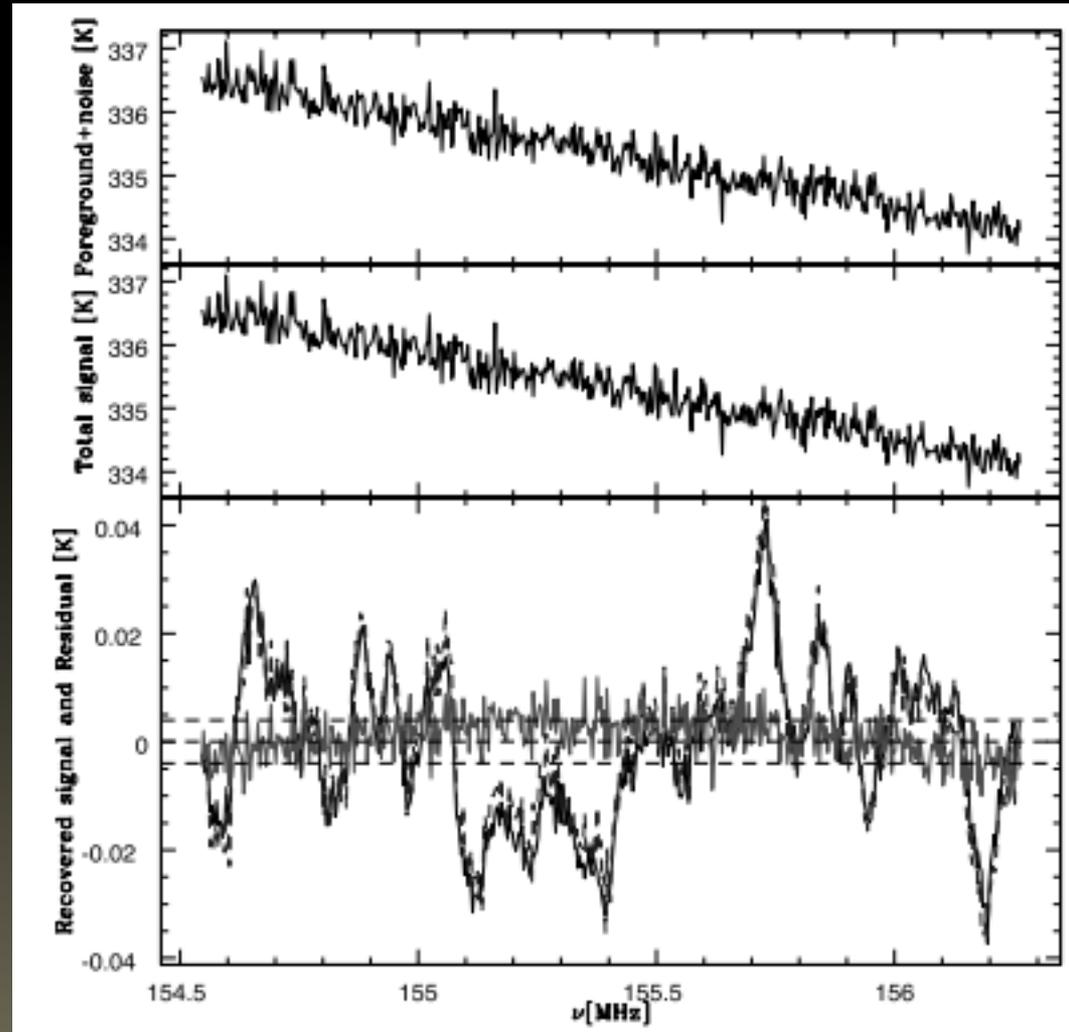
.....



Wang et al.  
2006, ApJ,  
650, 529-537

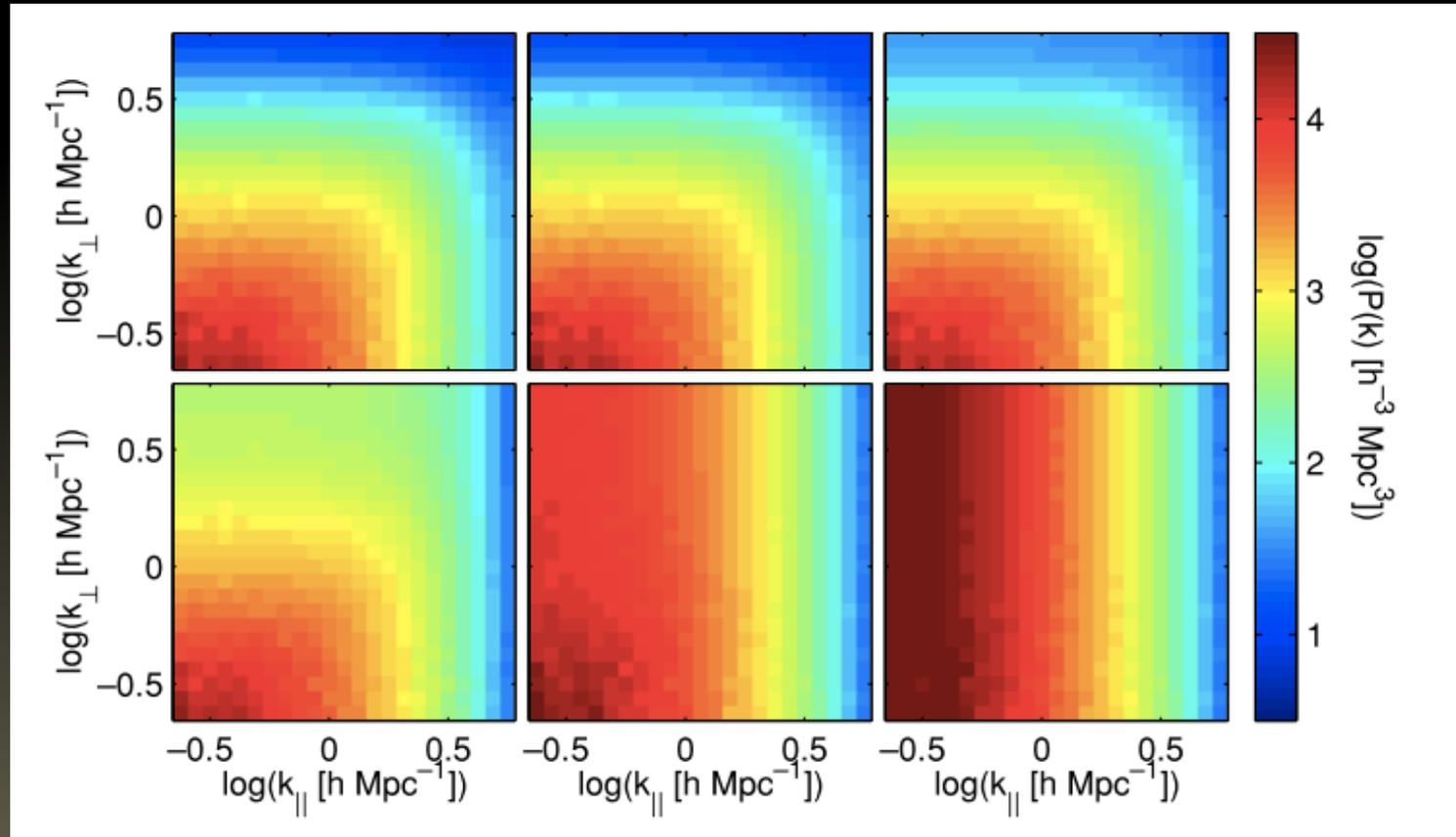
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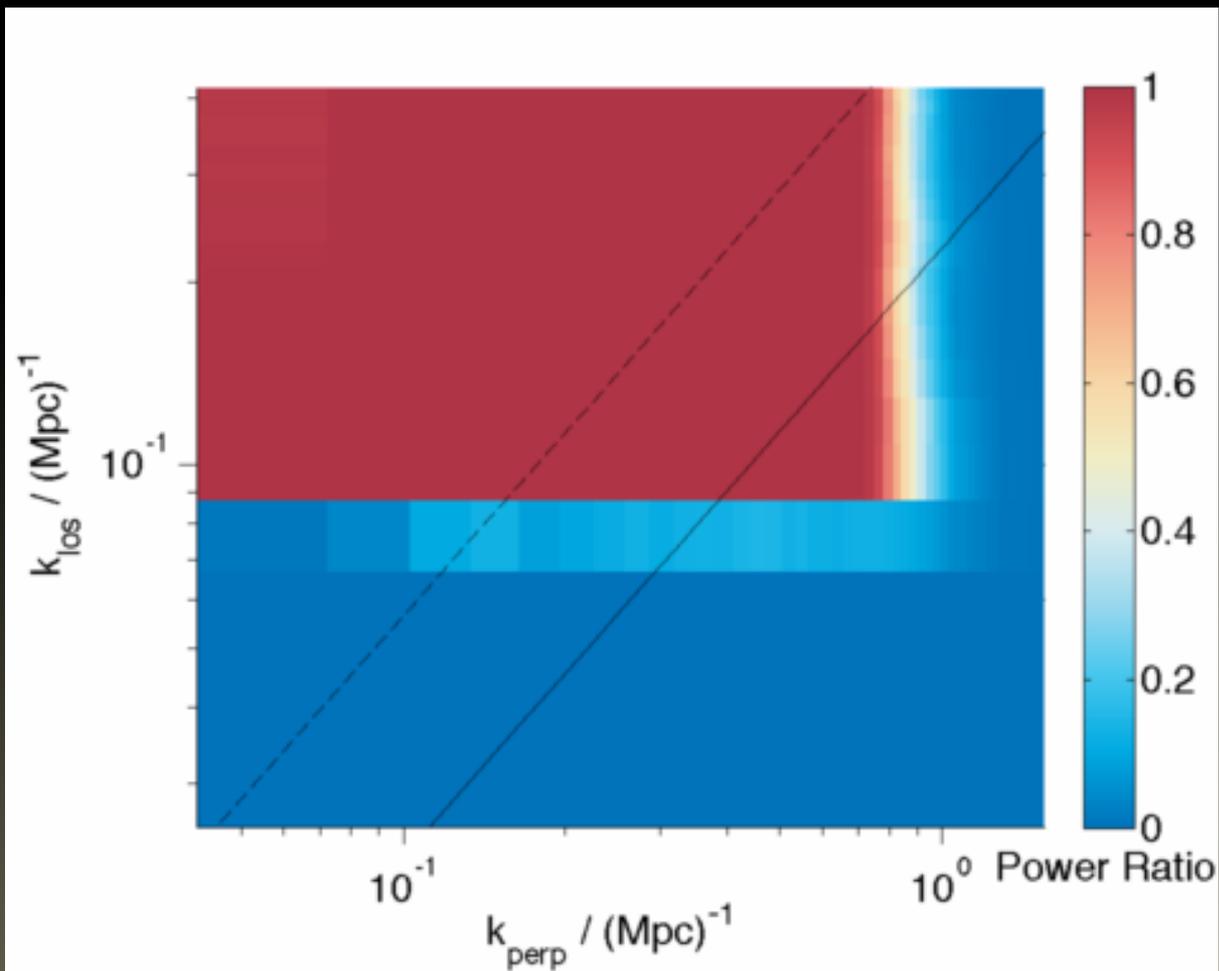
Wang et al.  
2006, ApJ,  
650, 529-537

# Polynomial Fitting



Gleser et al. 2006, MNRAS,  
391 : 383-398

But what if the foreground signal  
isn't smooth?

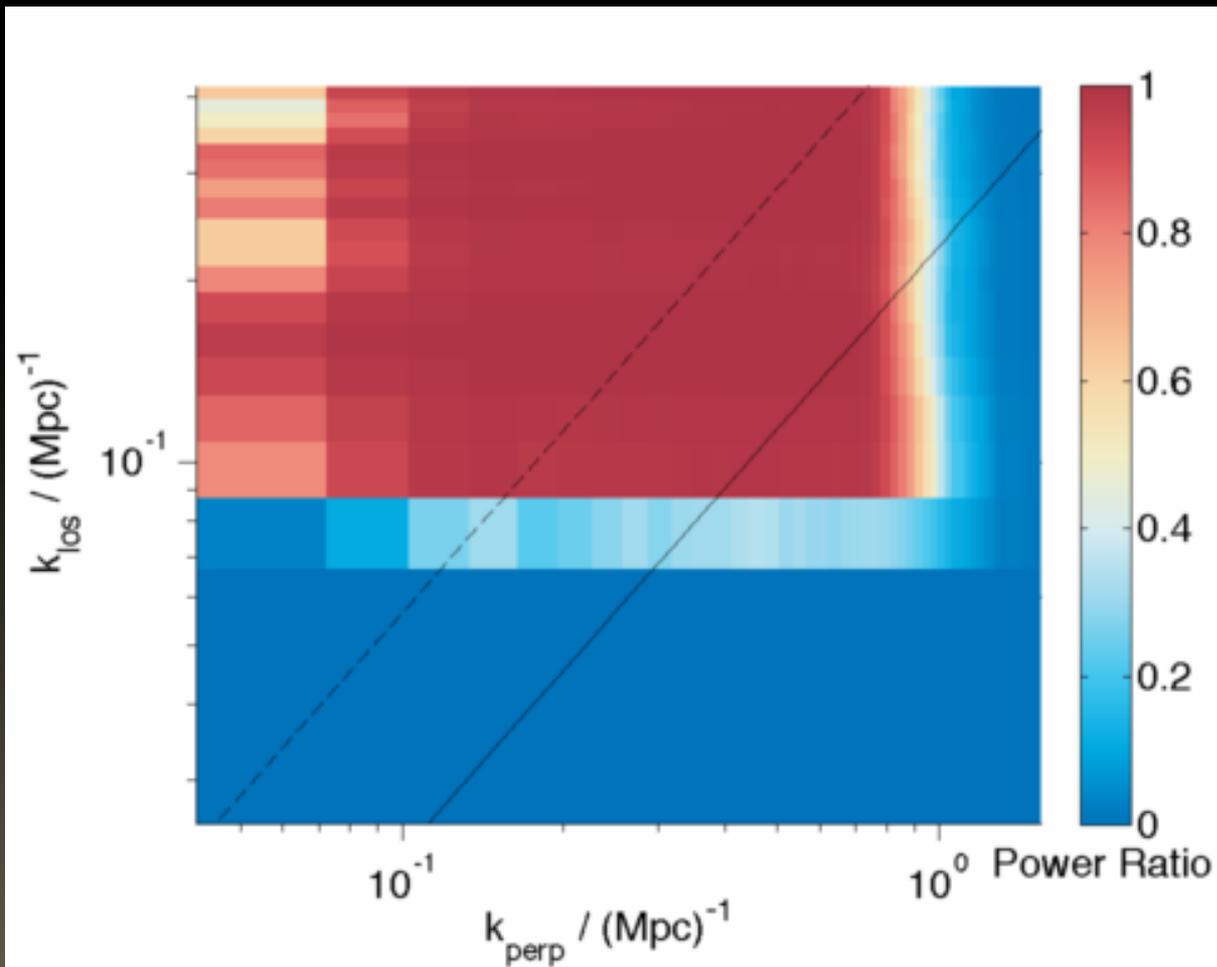


$$\text{Ratio} = \text{cs} / (\text{fg} + \text{cs})$$

cs = cosmological  
signal

fg = foregrounds

i.e. red is GOOD



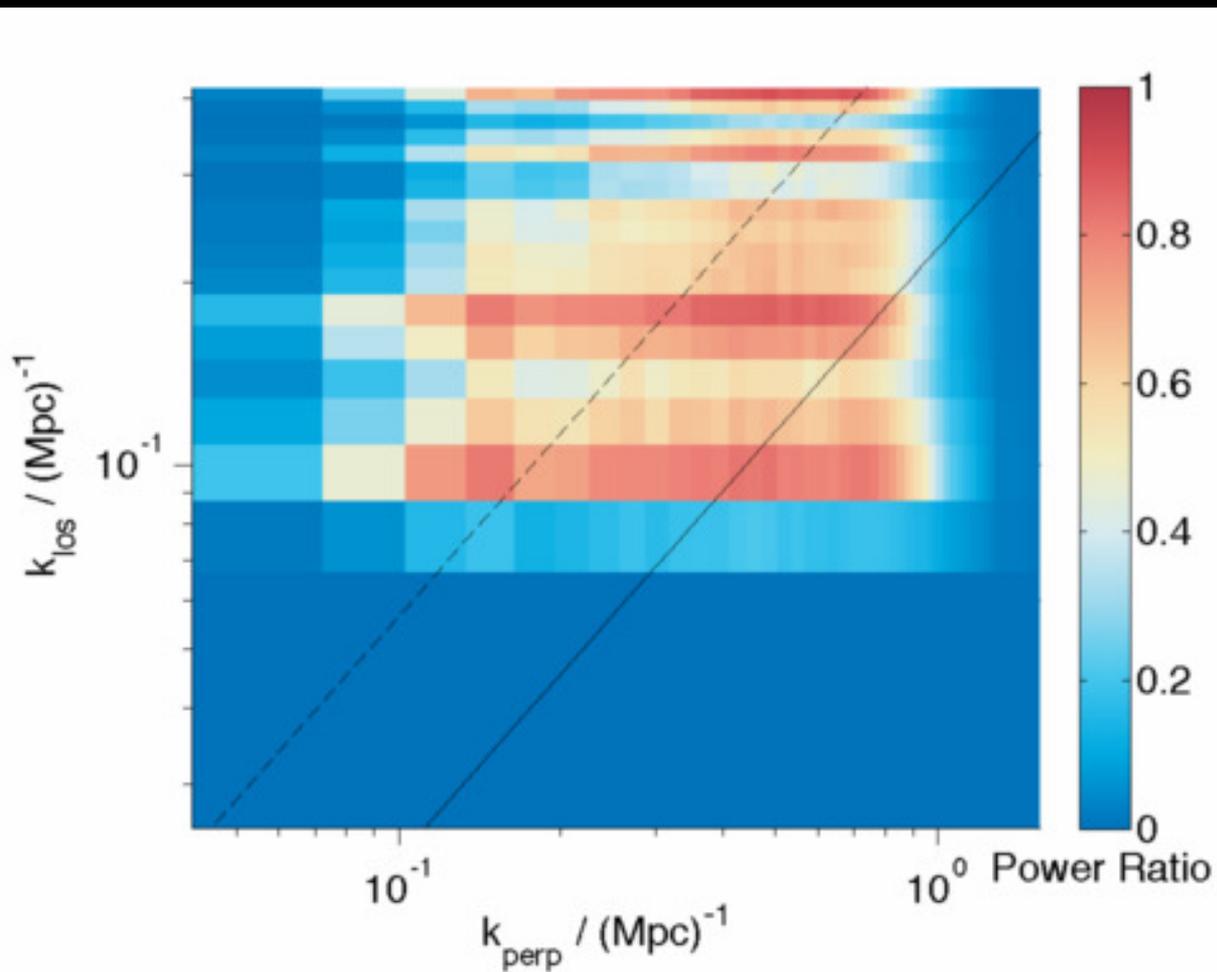
$$\text{Ratio} = \text{cs} / (\text{fg} + \text{cs})$$

cs = cosmological  
signal

fg = foregrounds

i.e. red is GOOD

0.1% wiggle along the  
line of sight



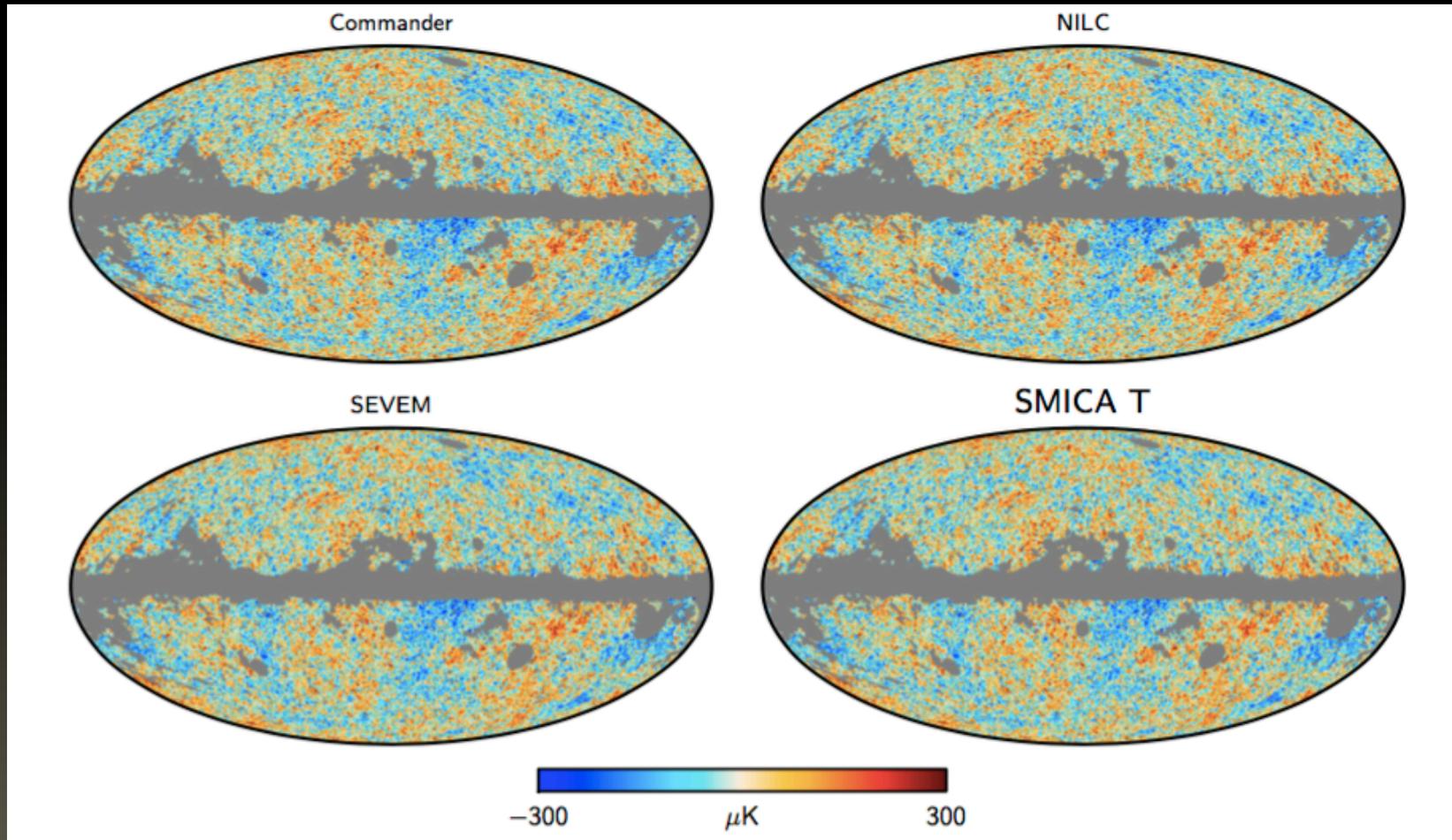
$$\text{Ratio} = \text{cs} / (\text{fg} + \text{cs})$$

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fg = foregrounds

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line of sight



Planck 2015 results. IX, 2015, A&A, 594,A9

CCA: See Anna Bonaldi's talk

**FastICA** – *Hyvärinen A., 1999, IEEE Trans. on Neural Networks, 10,626; Hyvärinen A., Karhunen J., Oja E., 2001, Independent Component Analysis. John Wiley and Sons)*

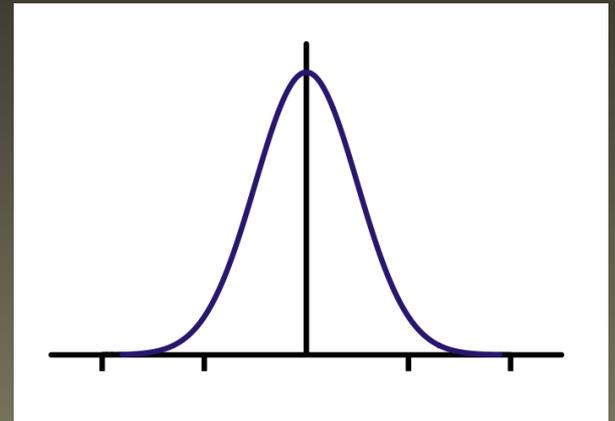
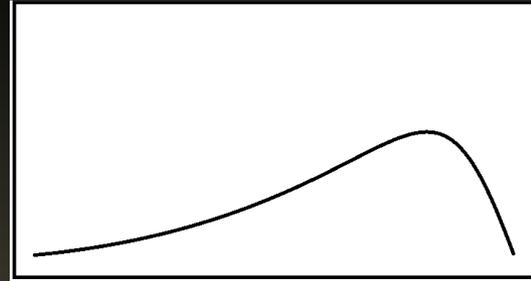
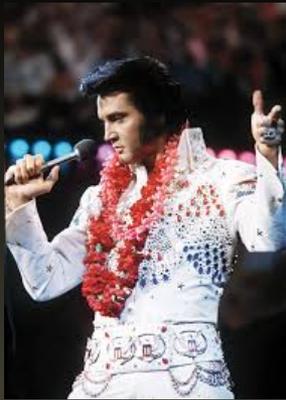
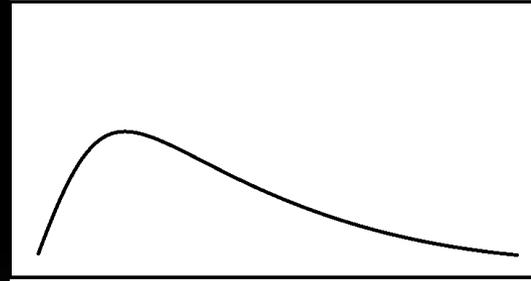
$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{n}$$

- $\mathbf{x}$  - observed data vector
- $\mathbf{s}$  - statistically independent components of  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- $\mathbf{n}$  is the noise
- $\mathbf{A}$  - mixing matrix

If we can find a matrix  $\mathbf{W}$  such that  $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x}$  we have effectively sorted a mixed signal into its individual components

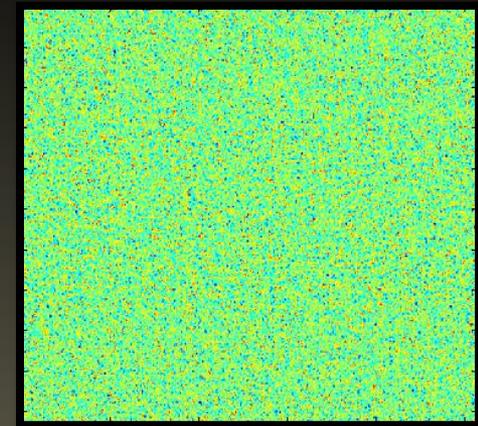
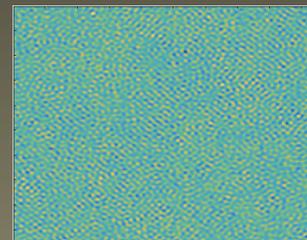
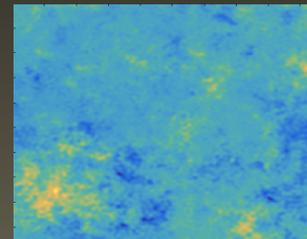
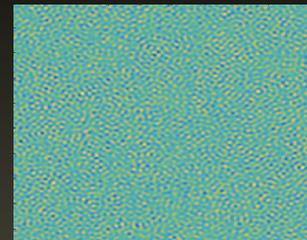
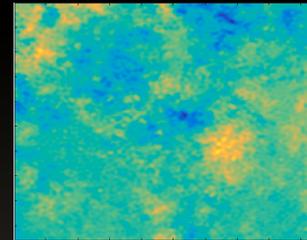
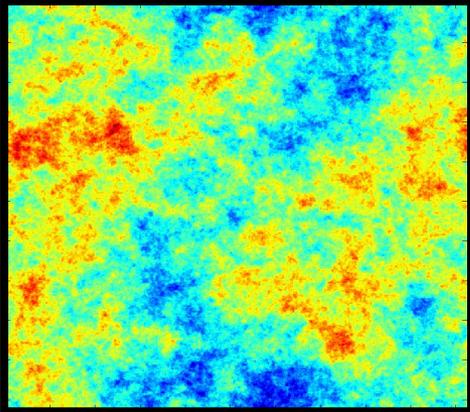
**FastICA** – *Hyvärinen A., 1999, IEEE Trans. on Neural Networks, 10,626; Hyvärinen A., Karhunen J., Oja E., 2001, Independent Component Analysis. John Wiley and Sons)*

**“Probability Distribution Function (PDF) of a mixture of independent components is more Gaussian than the PDF of any individual component.”**



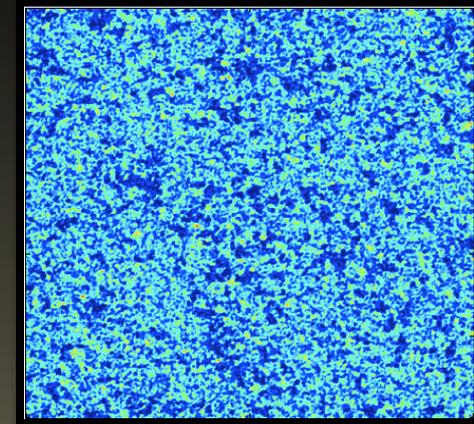
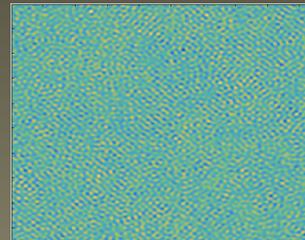
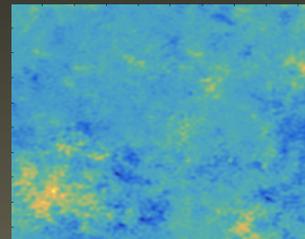
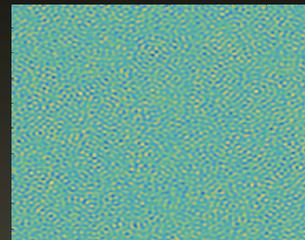
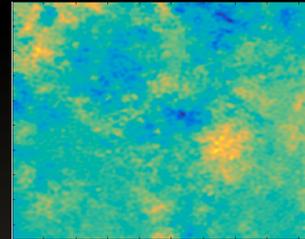
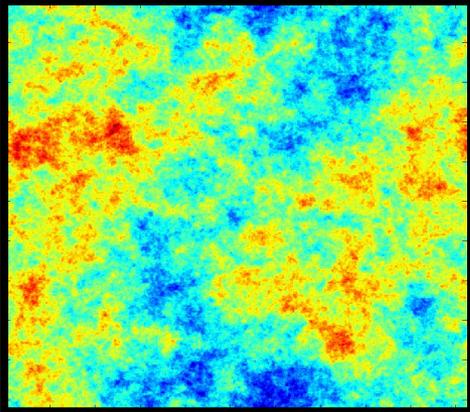
# The Mixing Model

$$X = AS + n$$



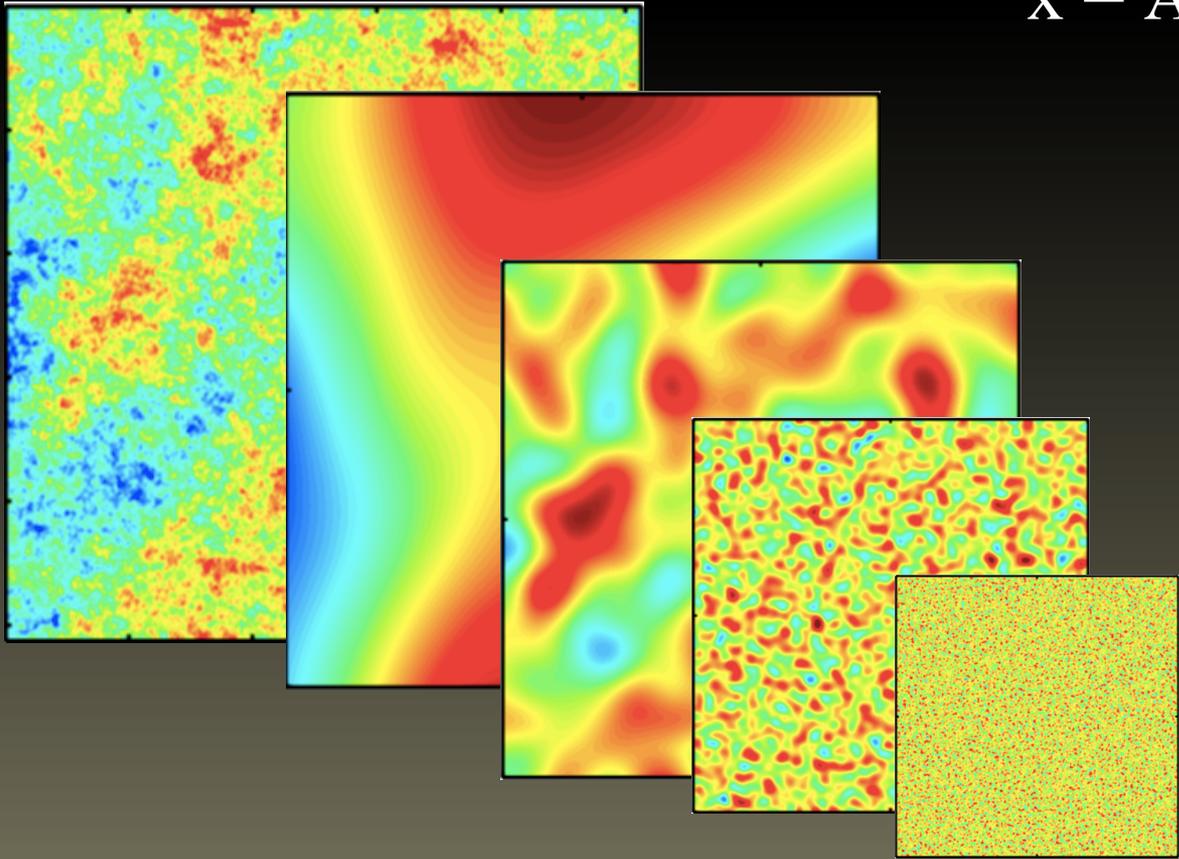
# The Mixing Model

$$X = AS + n$$



# GMCA

– (Bobin J. et al., 2008, *Statistical Methodology*, 5, 307; Bobin J. et al., 2007, *Image Processing, IEEE Transactions on*, 16, 2662)

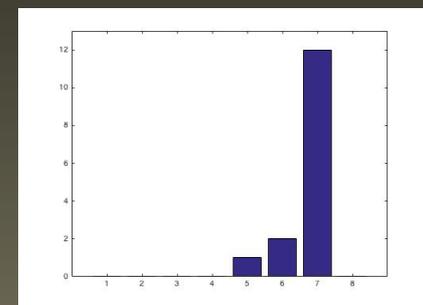
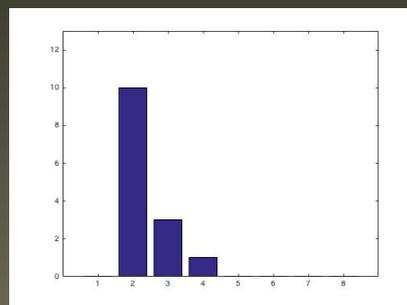
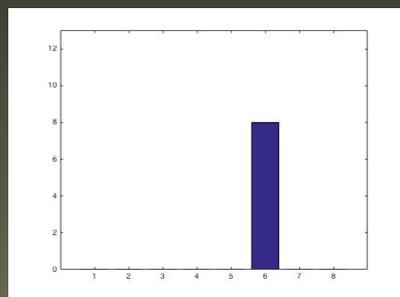
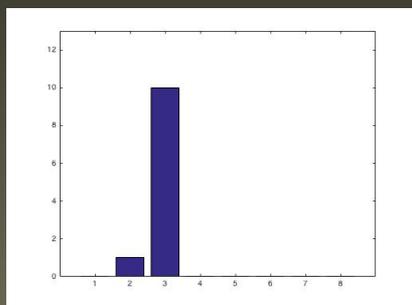
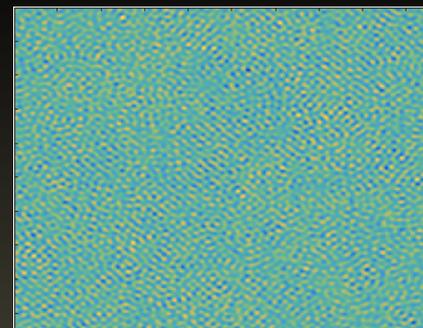
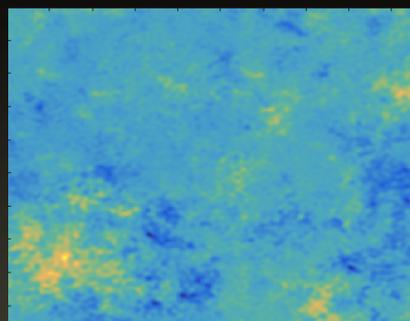
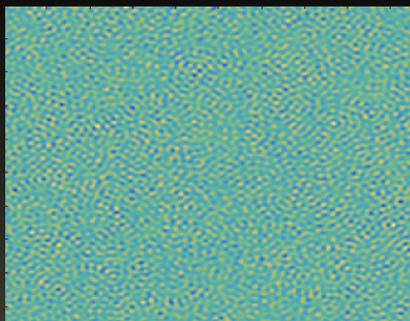
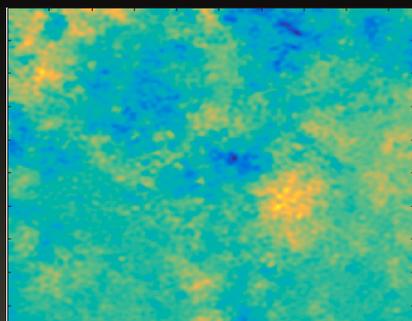
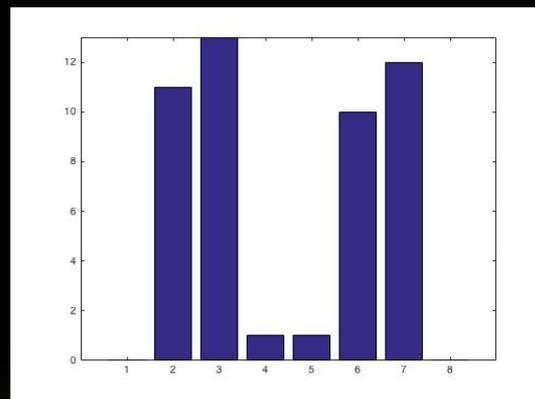
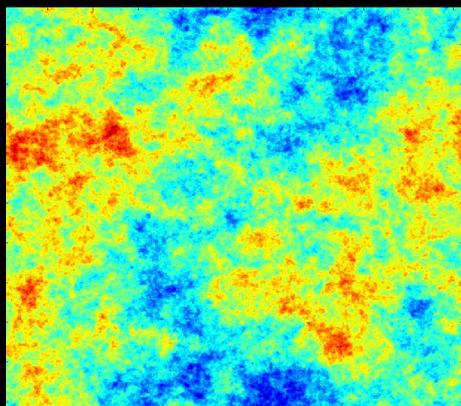


$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{n}$$

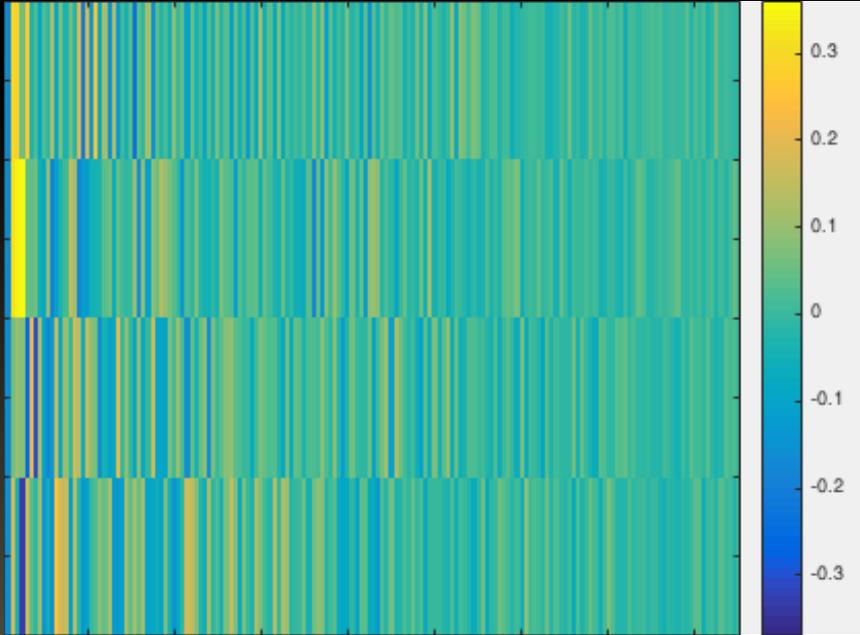


$$s_j = \sum_{k=1}^D \varphi_{jk}$$

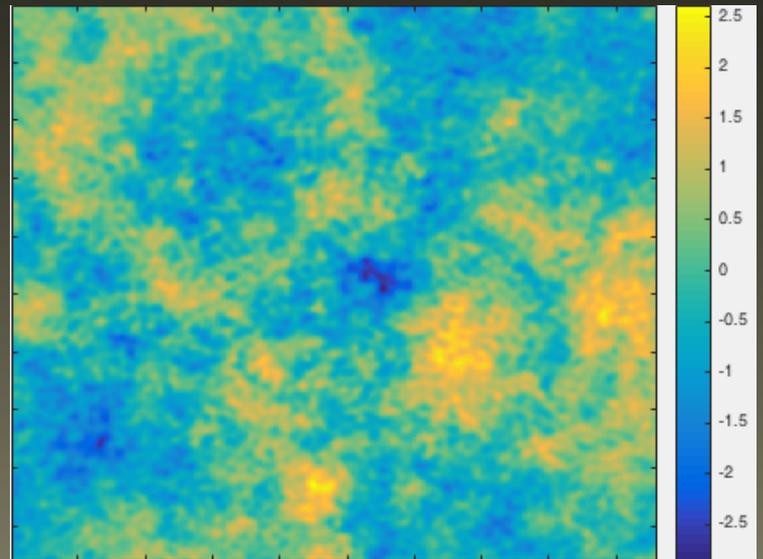
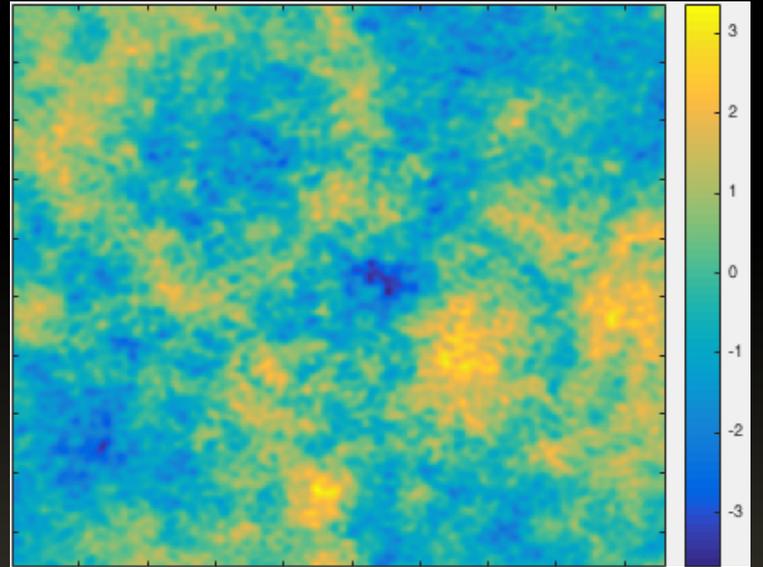
With the independent components unlikely to have the same few non-zero coefficients one could then use this sparsity to more easily separate the mixture.



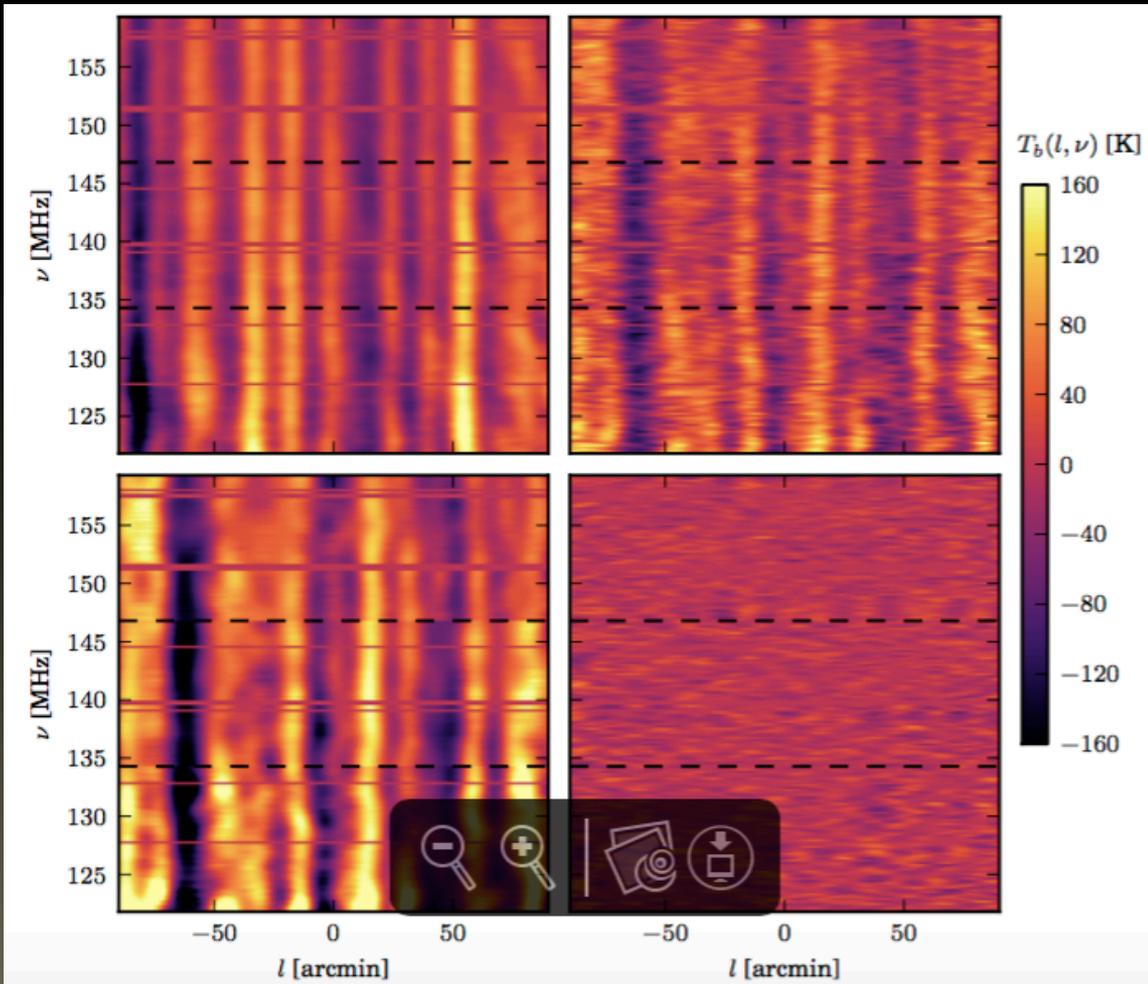
A



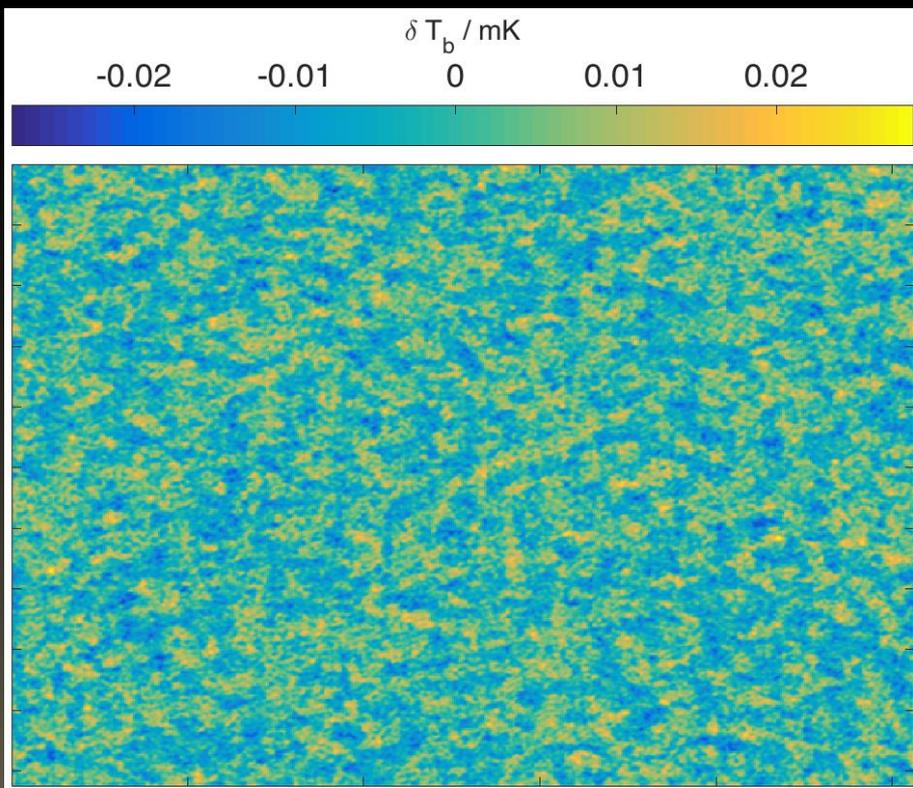
S



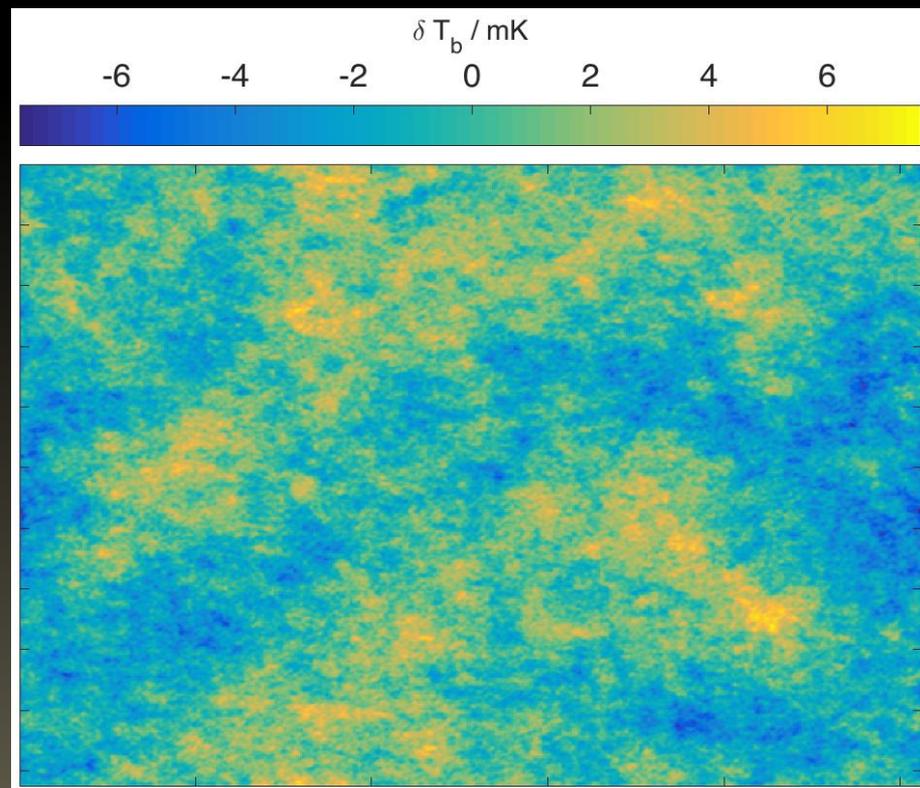
$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{S} + \mathbf{n}$$



# Results – 10 degree<sup>2</sup> maps

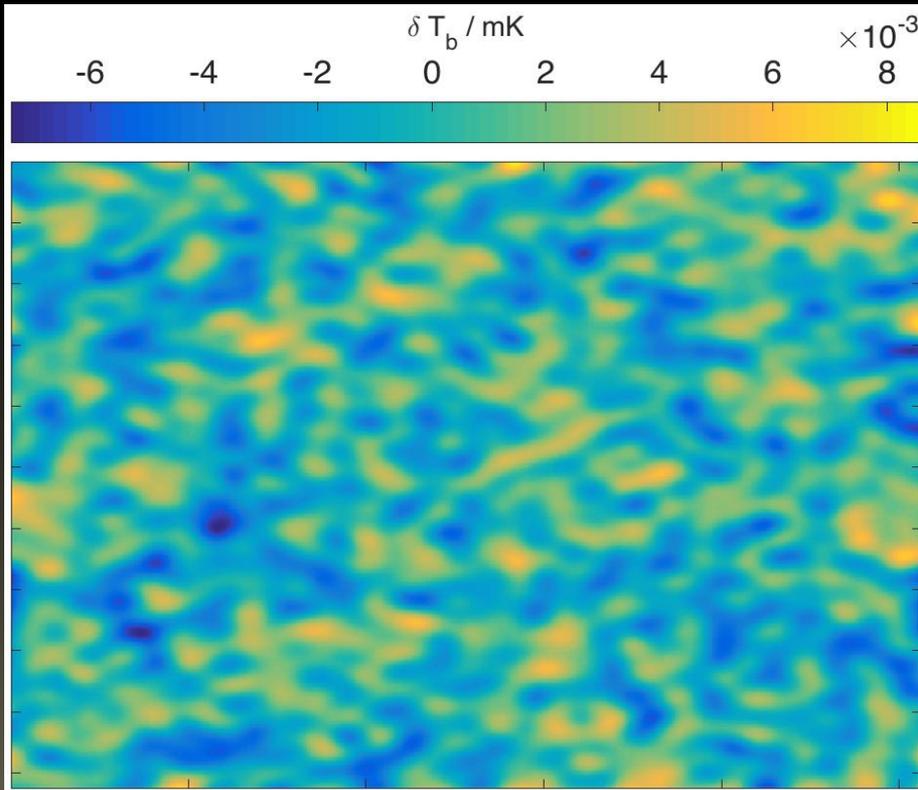


*Left: simulated cosmological signal*

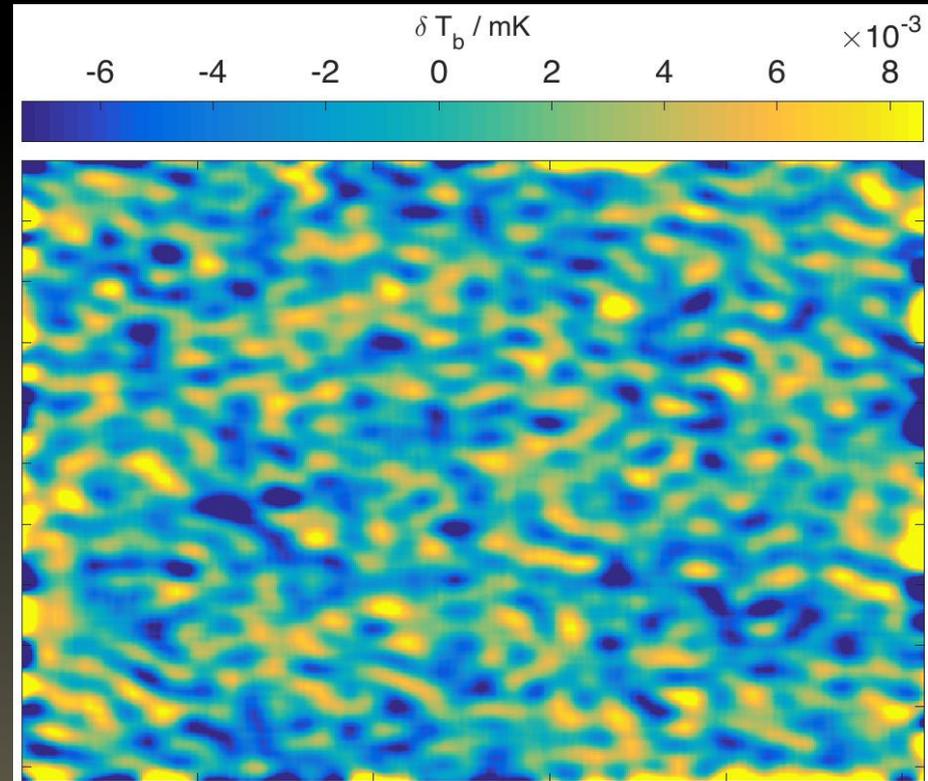


*Right: Total signal*

# Results – maps

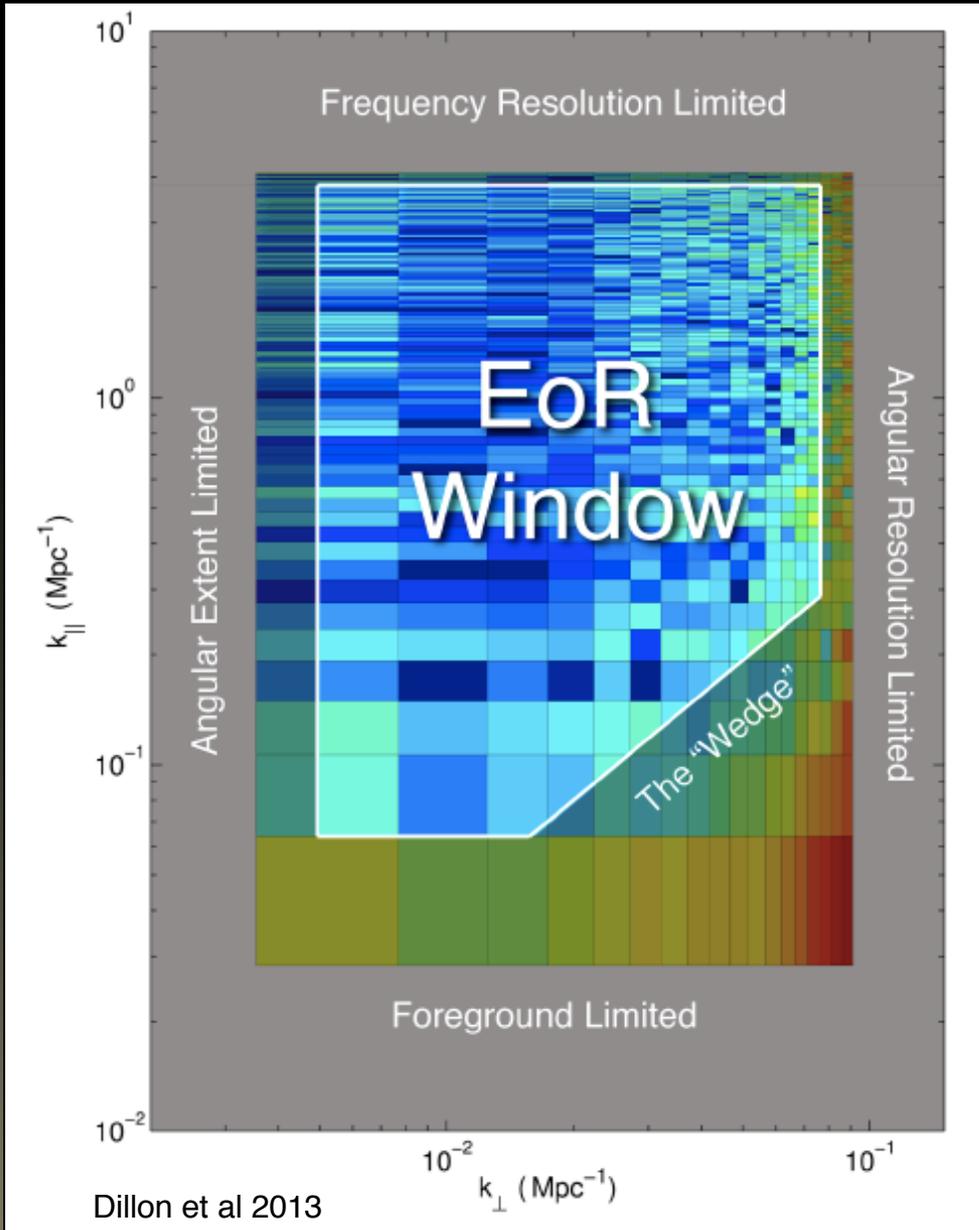


*Left: simulated cosmological signal  
smoothed by 20 arcmin kernel*



*Right: data after foreground removal  
smoothed, Correlation coeffs*

See: <sup>of around 70-80%</sup> Chapman et al. 2013



Foreground **avoidance** only uses the EoR window.

Foreground **suppression** downweights scales according to a foreground model.

PAPER: Ali et al., AJ, 809 61, August 2015

MWA: Dillon et al. Phys. Rev. D 91, 123011 (19 June 2015); Trott et al., AJ, 818, Feb 2016

Foreground removal,  
suppression and avoidance  
are complementary

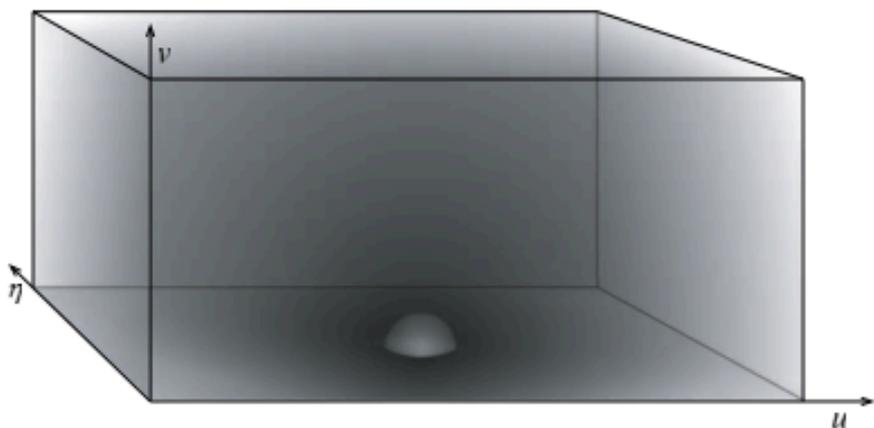


FIG. 3.—Cartoon of the  $\langle I(u, v, \eta) \rangle$  distribution of the EOR signal. Notice the spherical symmetry of the EOR signal as compared to the strong separable-axial symmetry of the residual foreground sources as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. This symmetry difference can be used as a handle for separating the EOR signal from the residual foreground contamination.

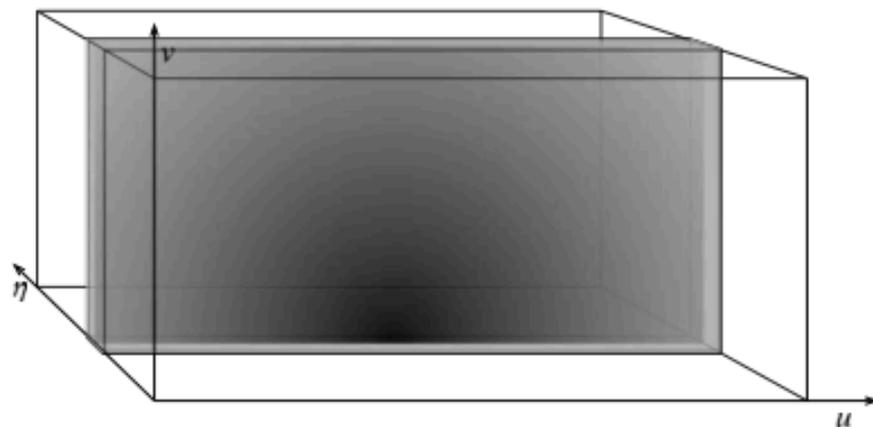
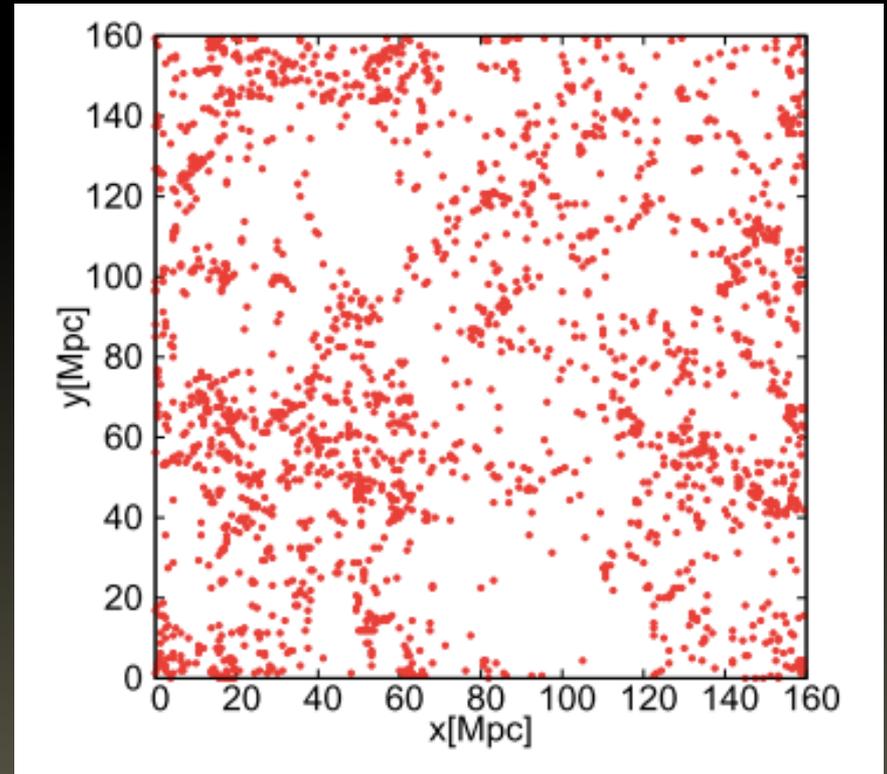
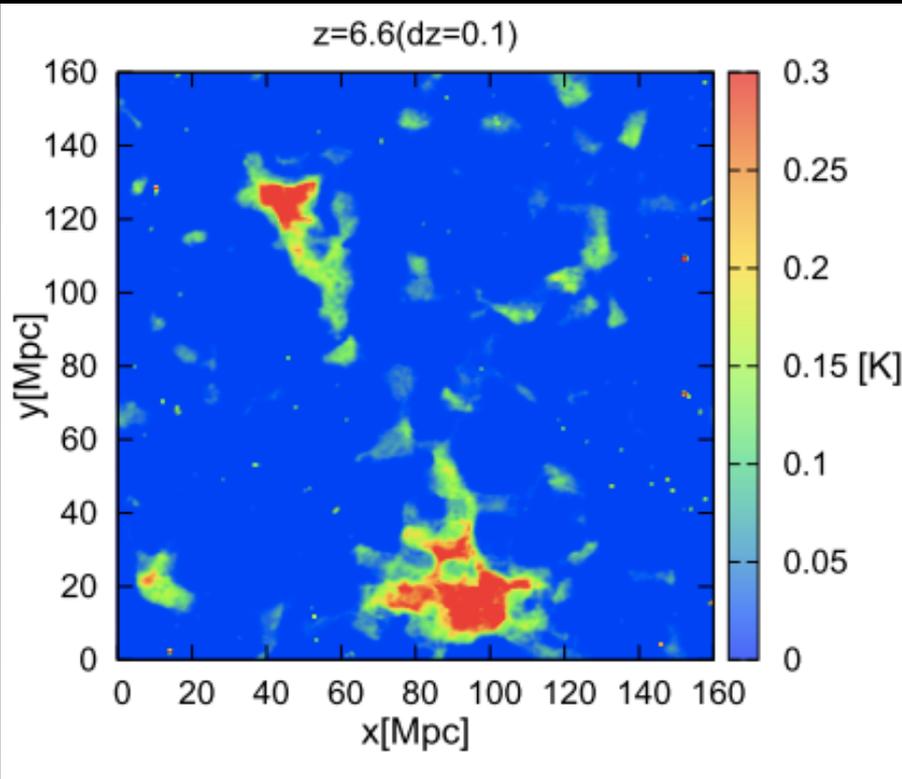


FIG. 4.—Cartoon of the  $\langle I(u, v, \eta) \rangle$  distribution of the residual faint galaxy foreground. While there is significant power in the spatial directions  $u$  and  $v$  (Di Matteo et al. 2002), the spectral smoothness of the faint galaxy residual foreground leads to a strong separable-axial symmetry with the contribution concentrated at small  $\eta$  values.

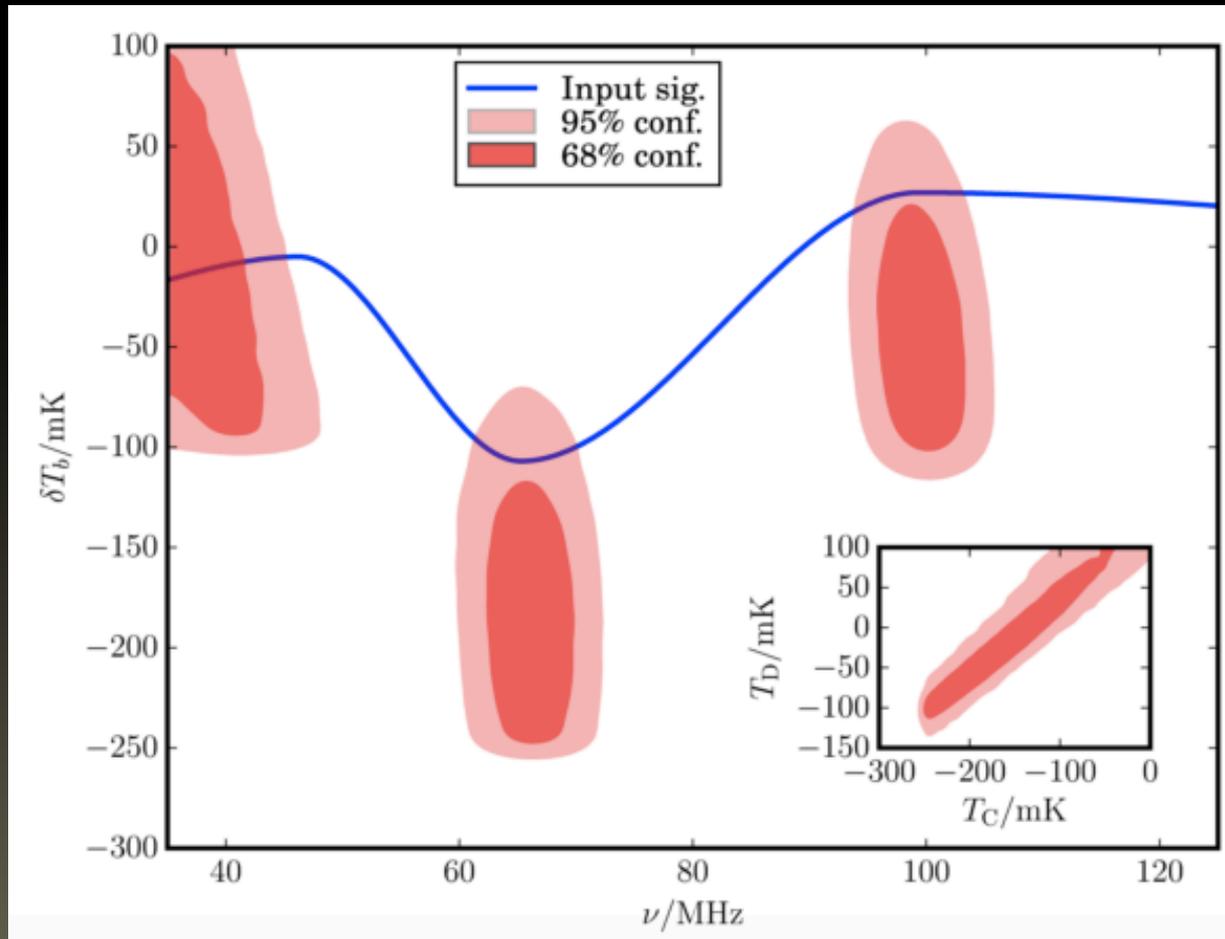
Morales & Hewitt 2004, ApJ, 615(1), 7-18

# Residual foreground removal via. symmetry

# Cross-Correlations

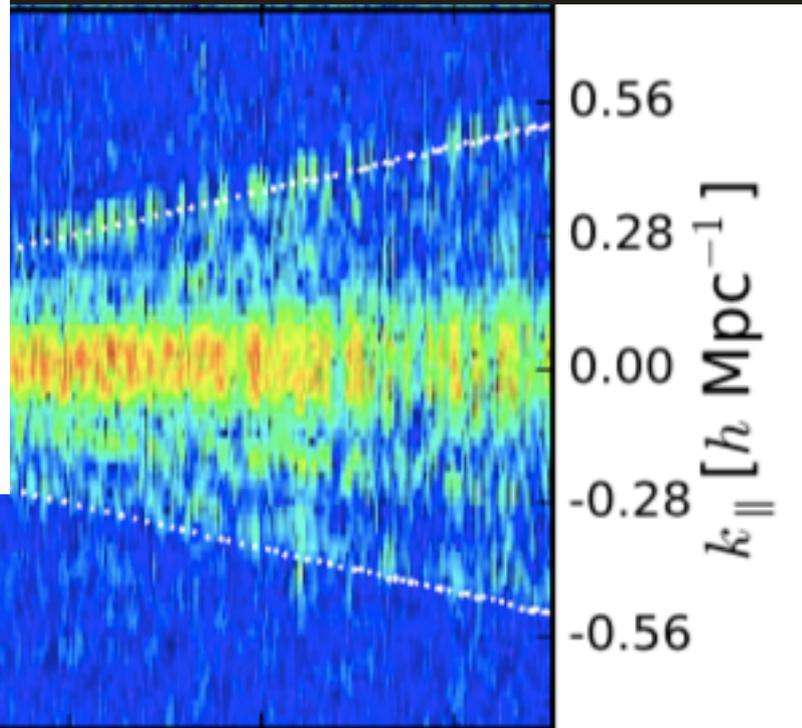
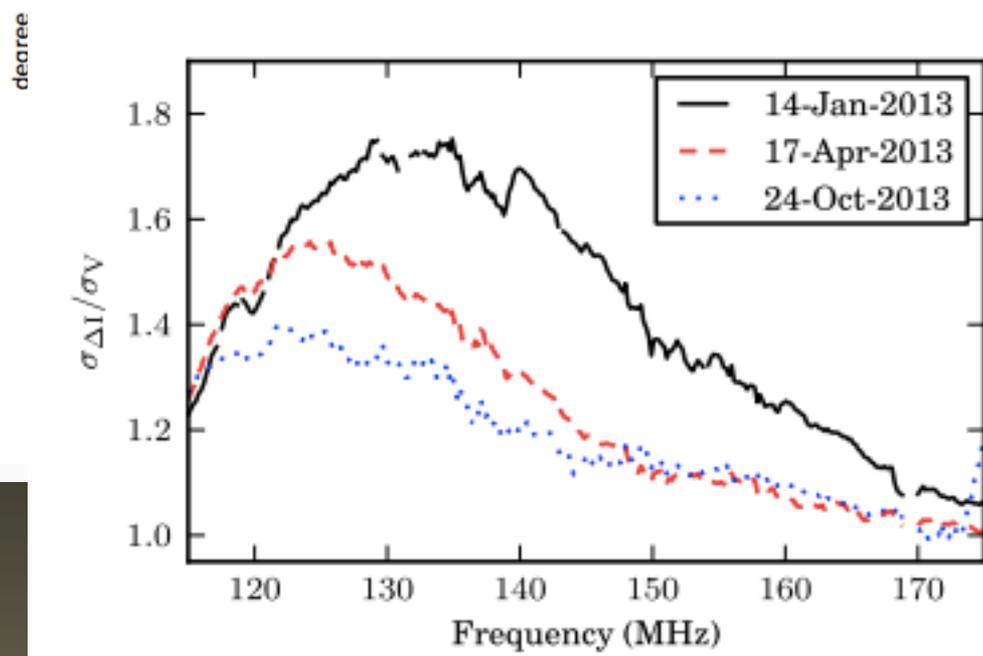
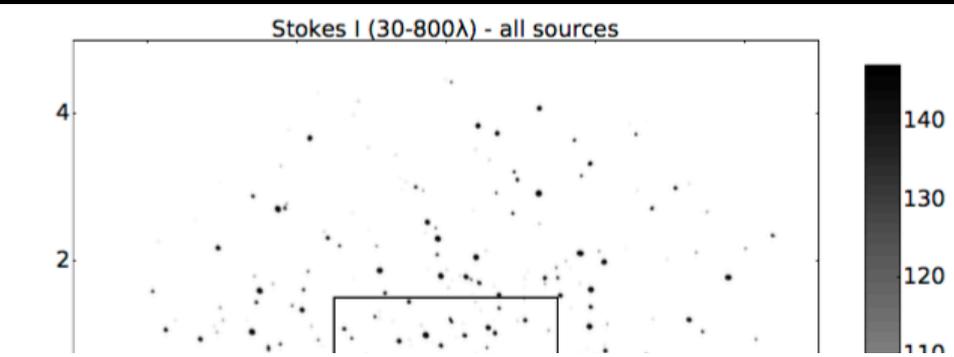


Kubota et al., 2017, astro-ph::1708.06291



Harker et al. 2015, MNRAS, 449(1), L21-25

Global Signal

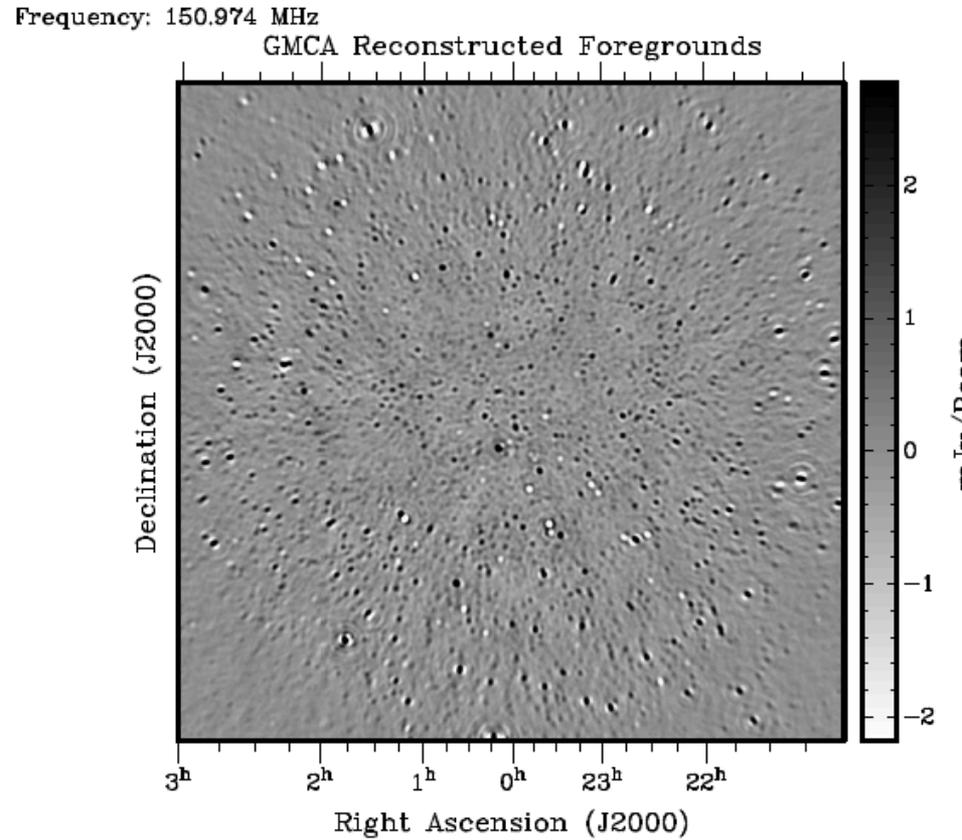
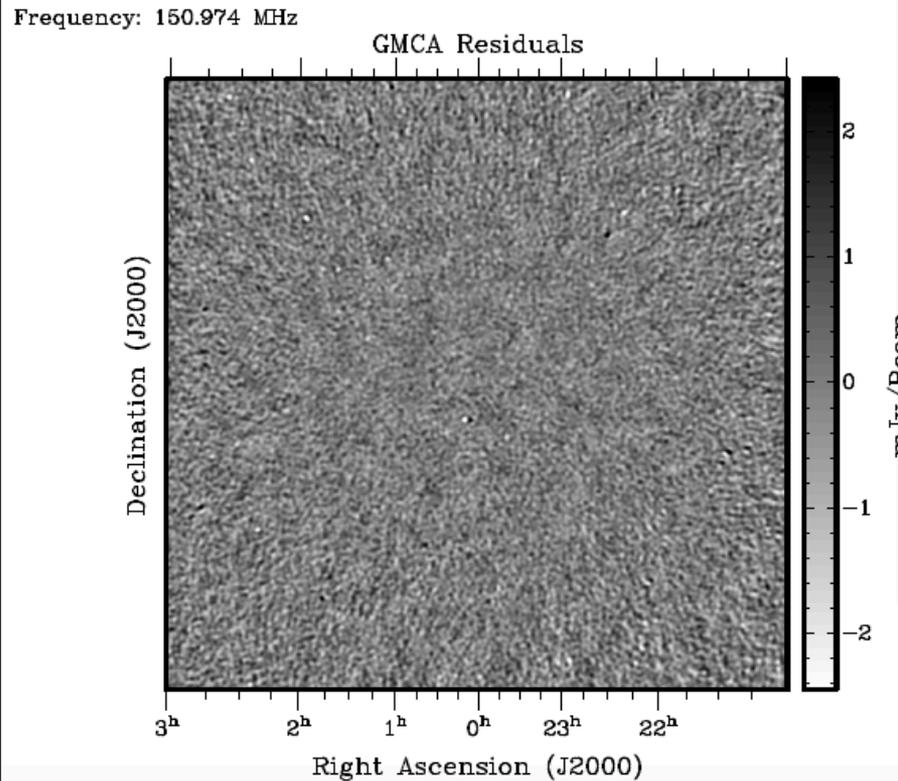


Patil et al. 2017, 838(1), 65  
 Thyagarajan et al. 2015, ApJ, 807(2), L28  
 Patil et al. 2016, MNRAS, 463(4), 4317-4330

Foreground mitigation depends  
on good calibration  
and perhaps vice versa...?

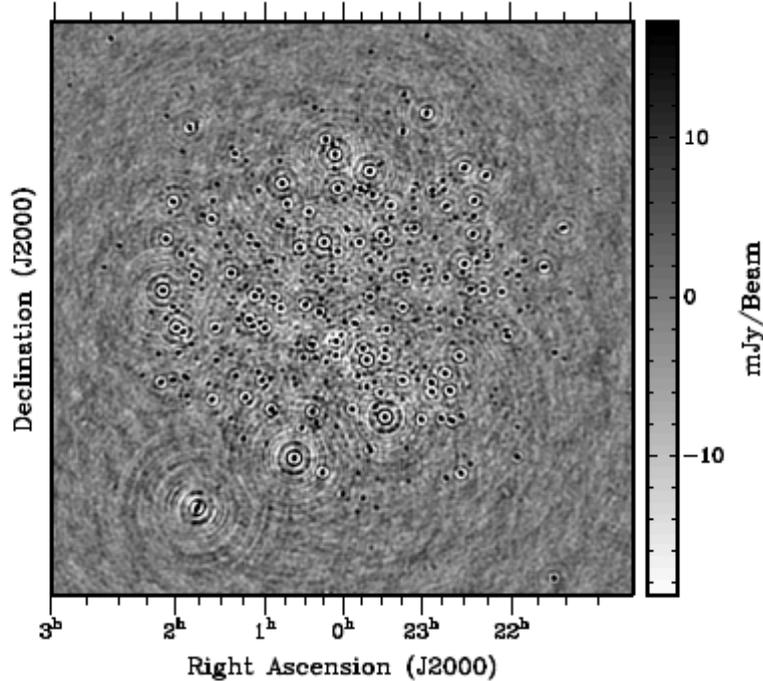
# GMCA on LOFAR data

54hr data on NCP field

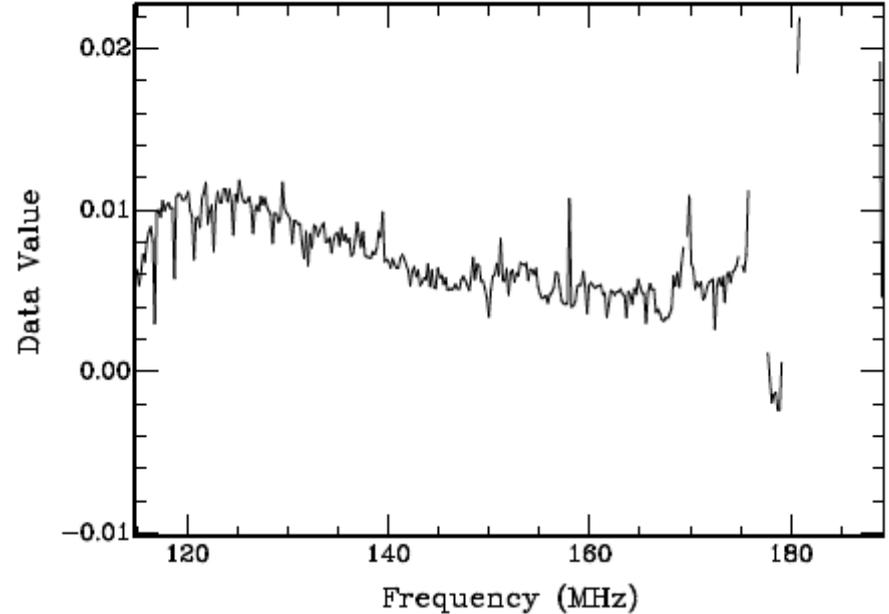


# GMCA components of LOFAR data

COMP: 2.000000e+00

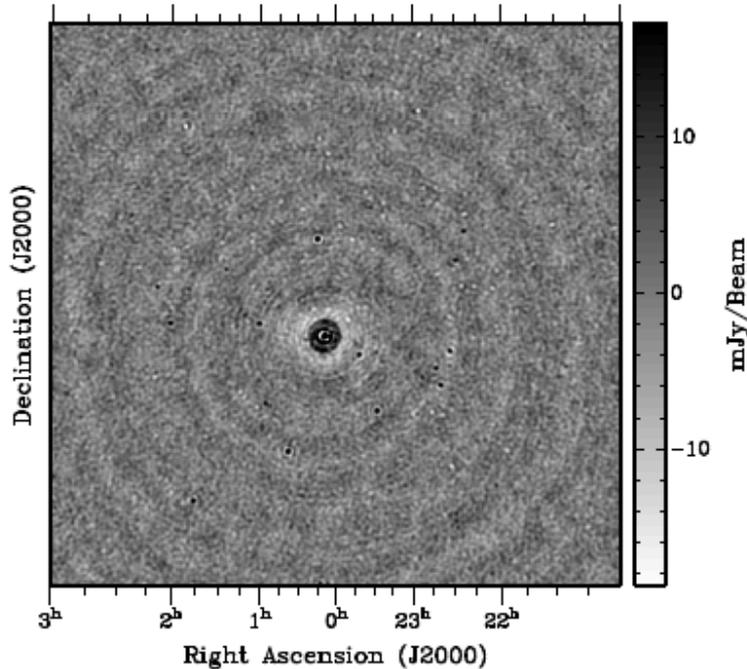


Axis 0: 1.000000e+00



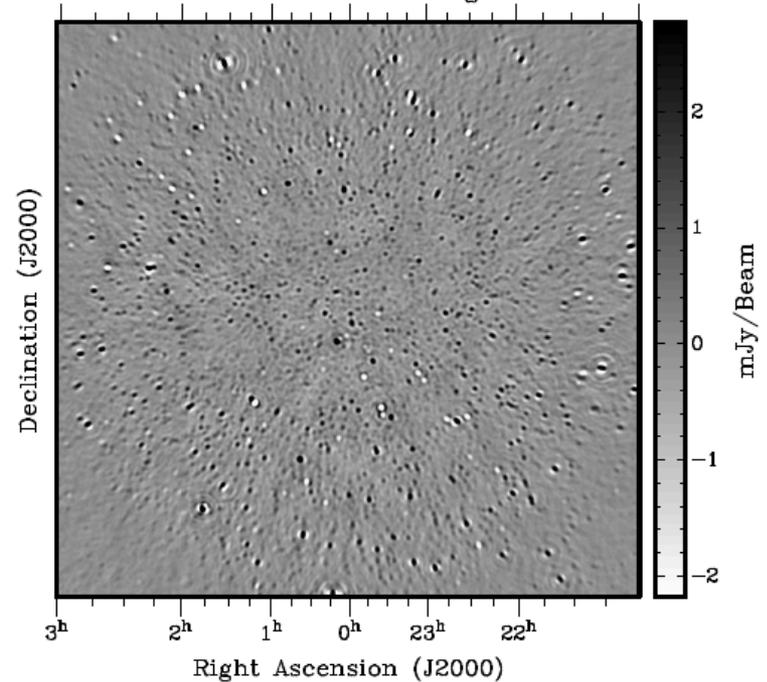
# GMCA components of LOFAR data

COMP: 4.000000e+00



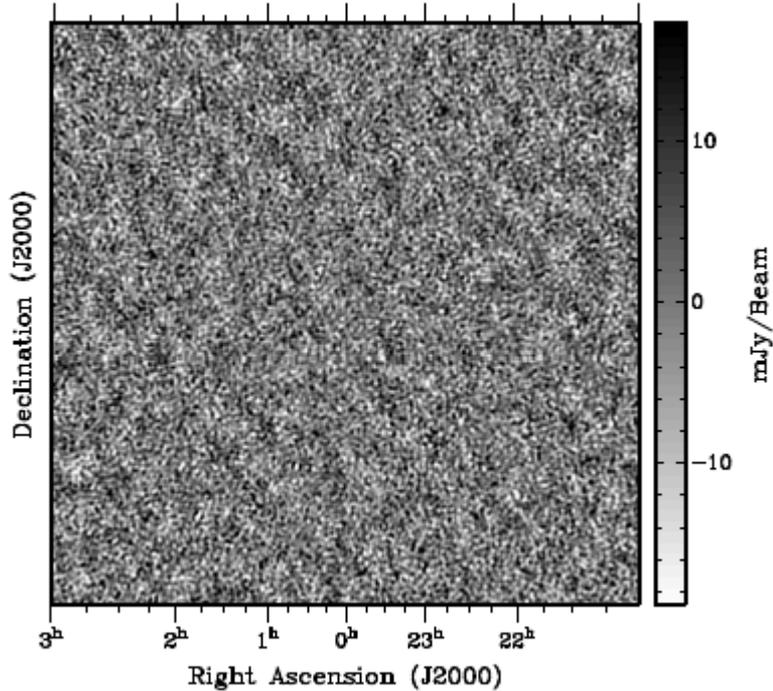
Frequency: 150.974 MHz

GMCA Reconstructed Foregrounds

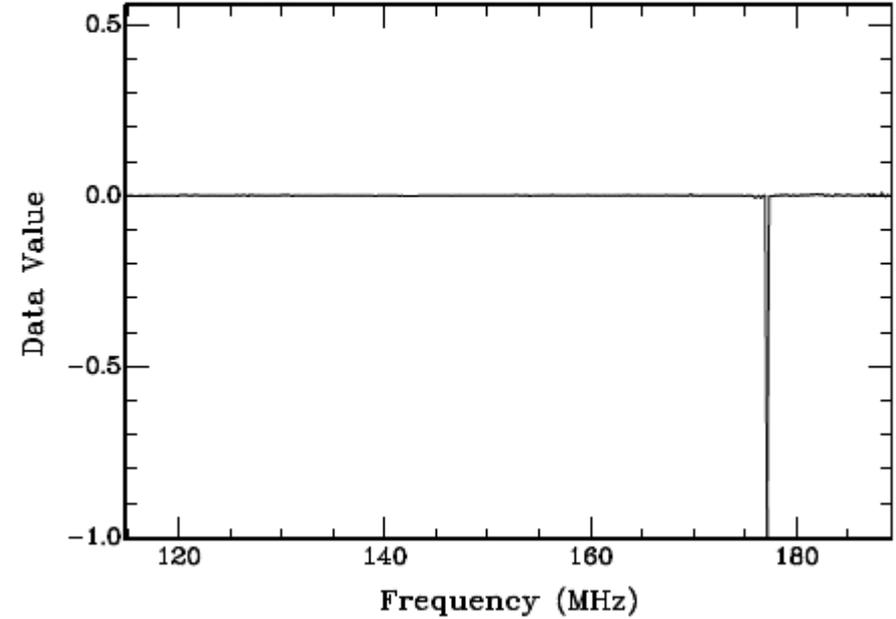


# GMCA components of LOFAR data

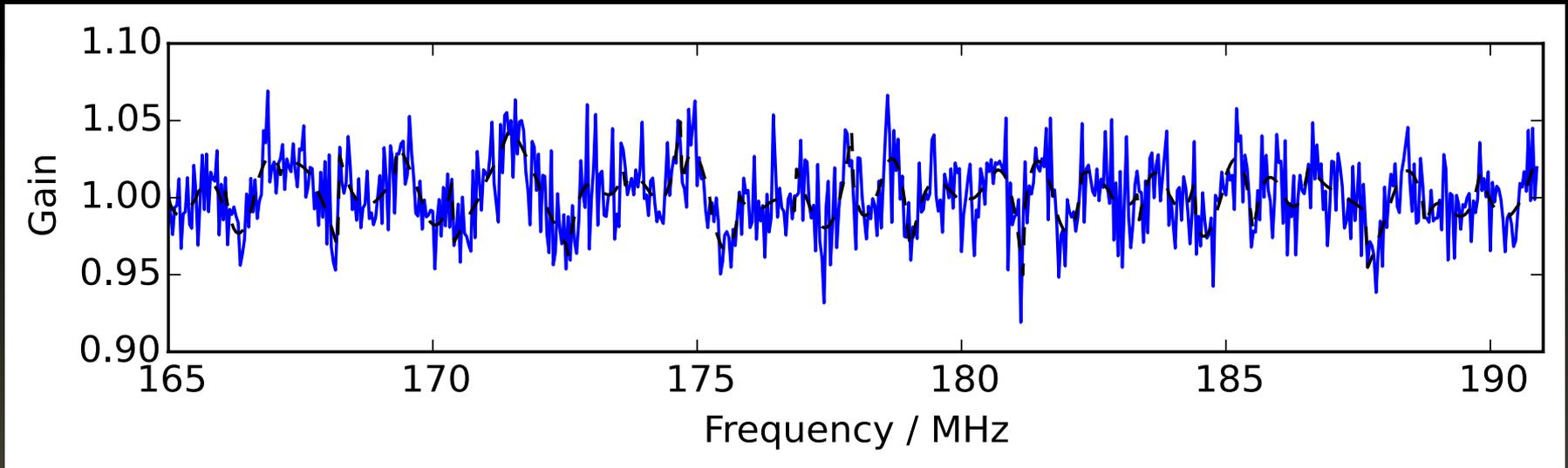
COMP: 5.000000e+00



Axis 0: 4.000000e+00



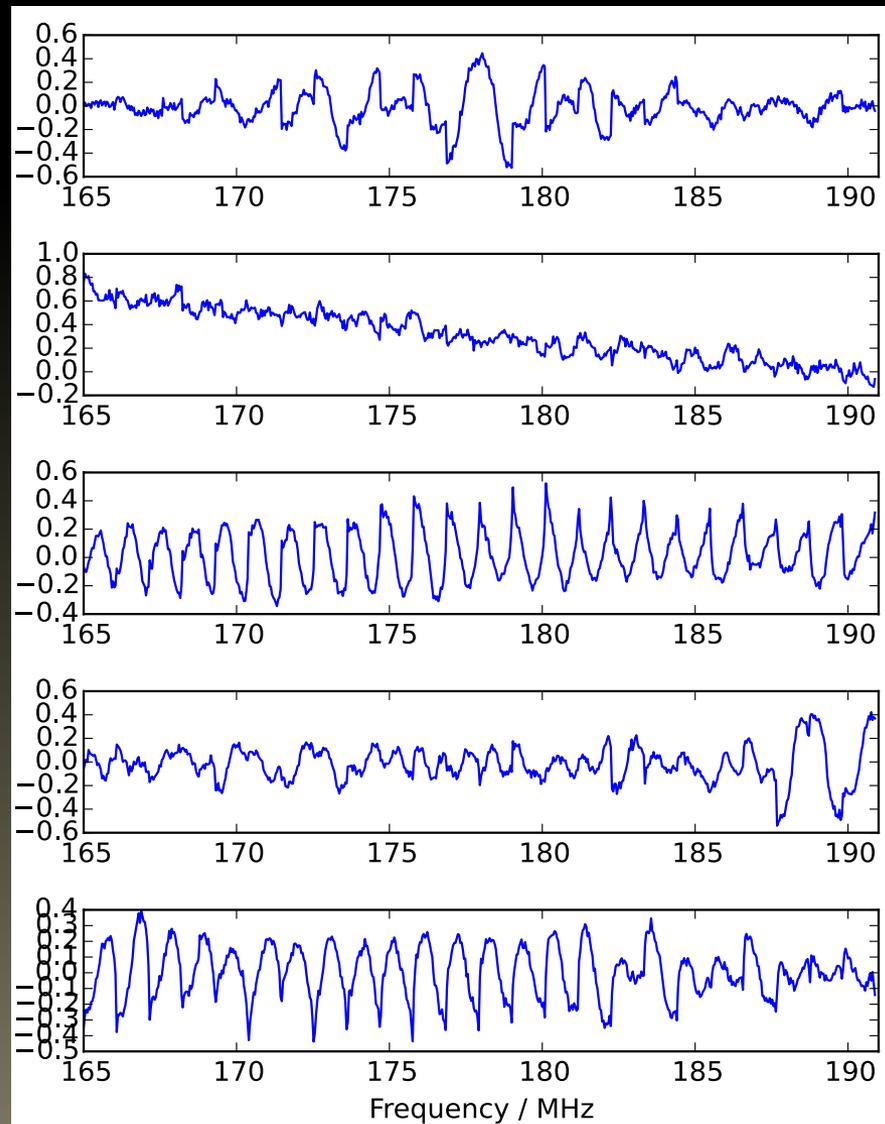
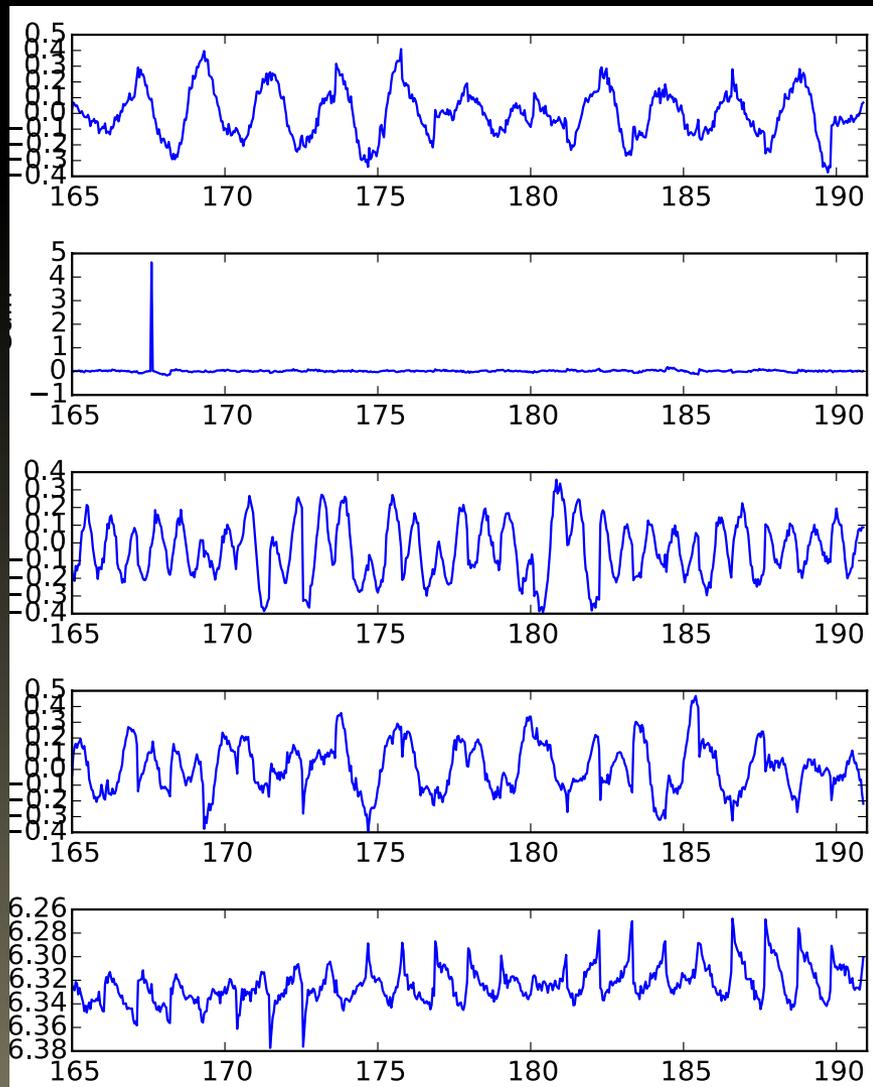
# MWA calibration data

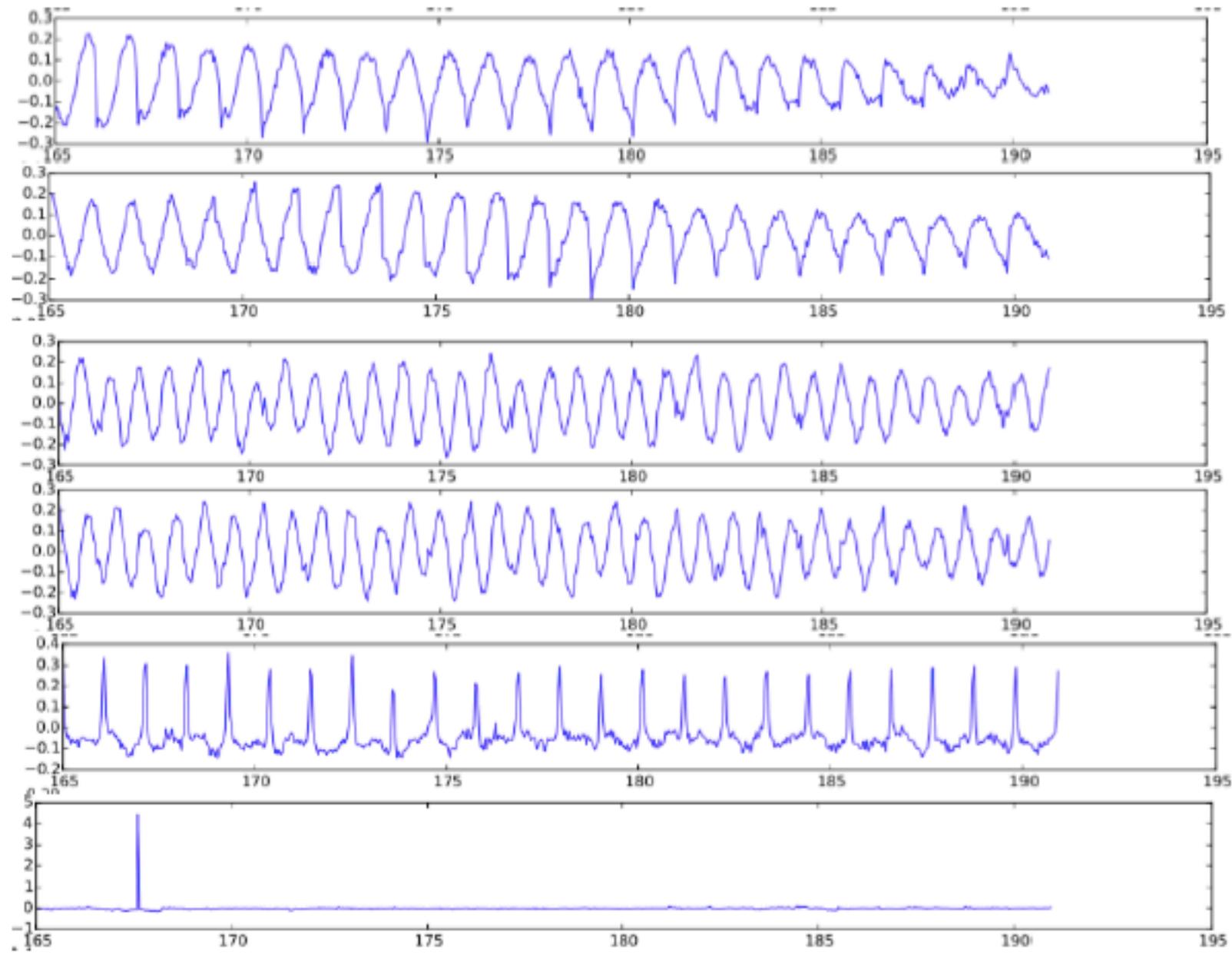


Raw data – blue

RTS solutions - black

# ICA components of MWA calibration data





# Summary

- Foreground mitigation is complicated by our incomplete knowledge of the instrument
- Foreground mitigation methods are not mutually exclusive
- Foreground removal methods could be part of a feedback loop with calibration







# Methods of foreground mitigation in the EoR

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Thank you!



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