

Source Extraction and Characterisation II Spectral Line Emission

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Research



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Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Office of Science

Outline of Lecture

★ Source finding

- ▶ 3D source finding
- ▶ Software
- ▶ Metrics
- ▶ Algorithms

★ Source parameterisation

- ▶ Basic parameters
- ▶ Moment analysis
- ▶ Spectral fitting
- ▶ Frequency – redshift – velocity
- ▶ Uncertainties

Source Finding

★ Assumptions

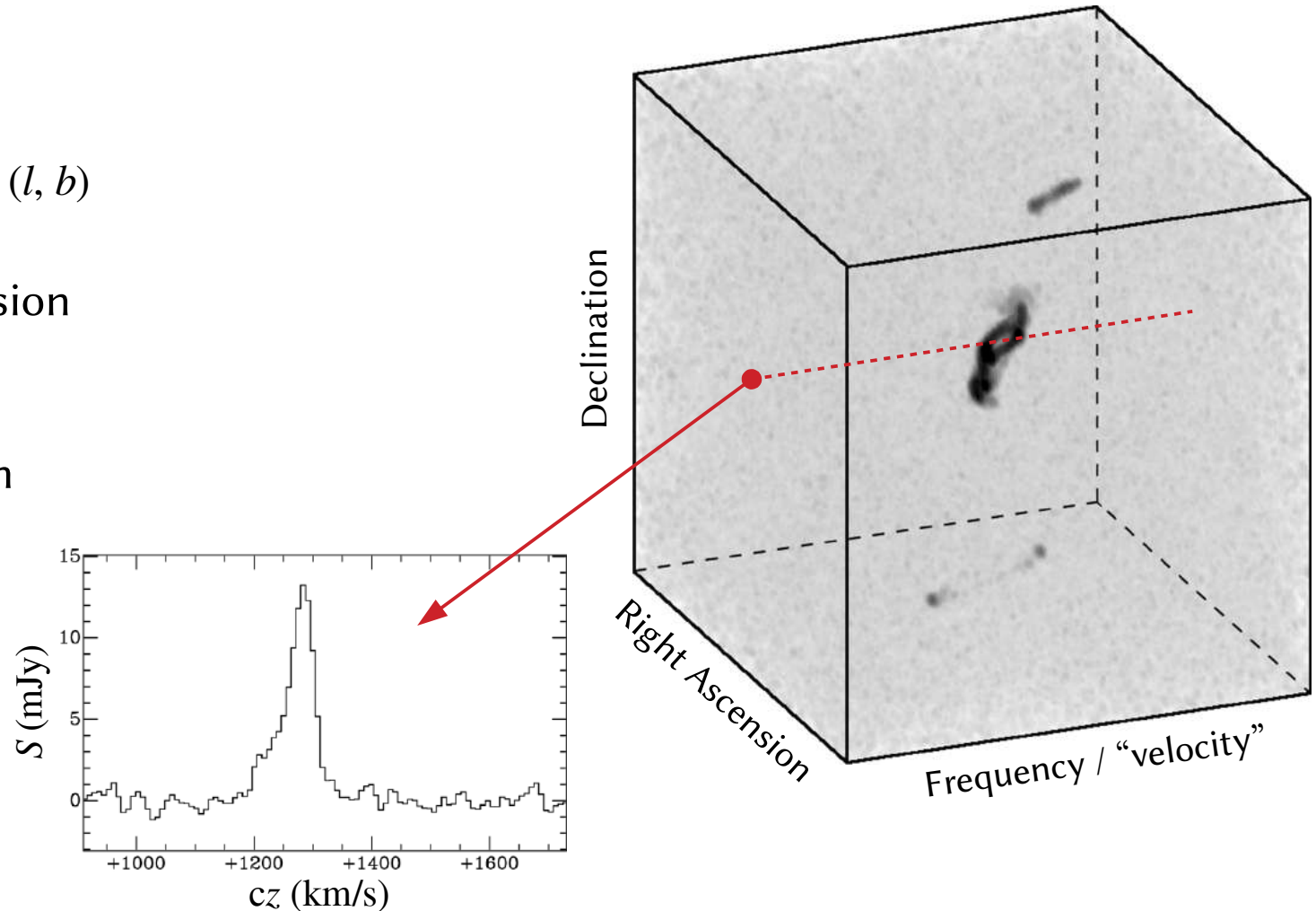
- ▶ 3D image data cubes
 - 2 spatial dimensions: $(\alpha, \delta), (l, b)$
 - 1 spectral dimension: f, ν, z
- ▶ Gaussian noise + source emission

★ Advantages

- ▶ Redshift / distance information
- ▶ Less source confusion

★ Disadvantages

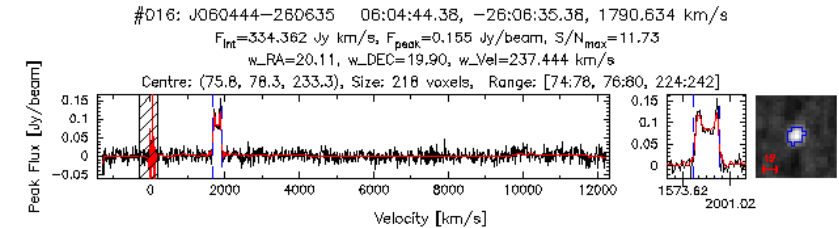
- ▶ Larger data volume
- ▶ 3D approach required



★ Software

► Duchamp / Séavy

- 3D source finder implemented in the ASKAPsoft pipeline
- Developed by Matthew Whiting
- Duchamp: <https://www.atnf.csiro.au/people/Matthew.Whiting/Duchamp/>
- Séavy: <https://www.atnf.csiro.au/computing/software/askapsoft/sdp/docs/current/analysis/>



► SoFiA (*Source Finding Application*)

- Stand-alone 3D source finding pipeline
- Originally developed for extragalactic HI surveys
- Graphical user interface
- GitHub: <https://github.com/SoFiA-Admin/SoFiA/>
- SoFiA wiki: <https://github.com/SoFiA-Admin/SoFiA/wiki>



★ Source finding

- ▶ Detection of signal in data containing statistical noise
- ▶ WALLABY: 500,000 galaxies, 1 PB of data → automation required

★ Metrics

▶ Completeness

- Fraction of sources detected → $C = \text{True} / \text{All}$

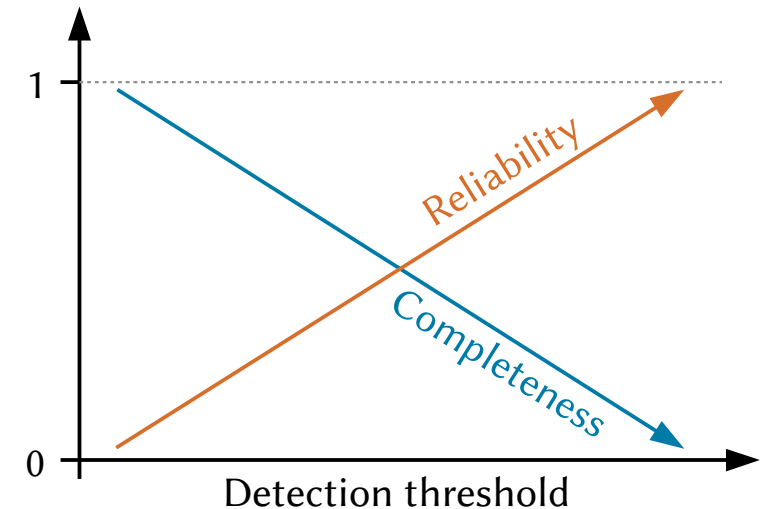
▶ Reliability

- Fraction of genuine detections → $R = \text{True} / (\text{False} + \text{True})$

▶ Function of signal-to-noise ratio

▶ Compromise between

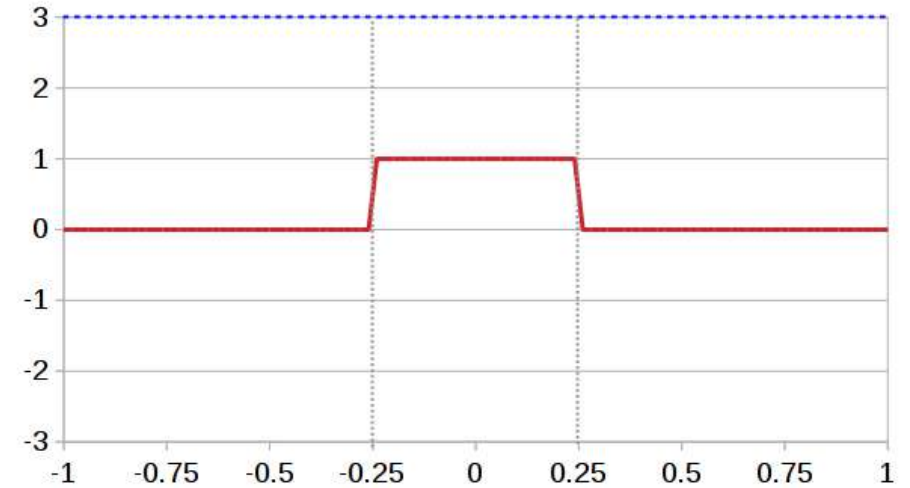
- Low threshold → high completeness, but false detections
- High threshold → high reliability, but missing sources



★ Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)

► Simple 1D example

- Box-shaped source of $S = 1$, $w = 25$



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- Box-shaped source of $S = 1$, $w = 25$
- Add Gaussian noise of $\sigma = 1$
- Convolve with boxcar filter
 - Original $\rightarrow \sigma = 1.00$, $\text{SNR} = 1.00$ ($\text{SNR}_{\text{int}} = 5.00$)



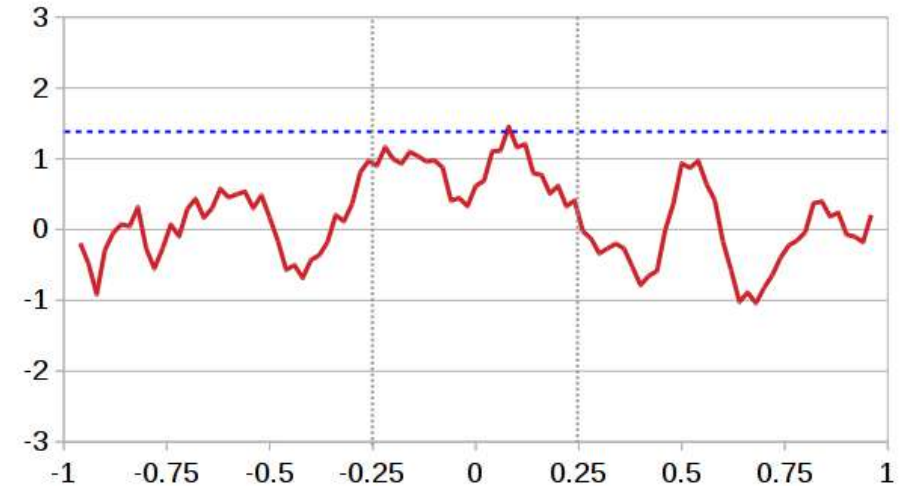
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► Convolve with boxcar filter

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- Size 5 $\rightarrow \sigma = 0.45$, $\text{SNR} = 2.24$



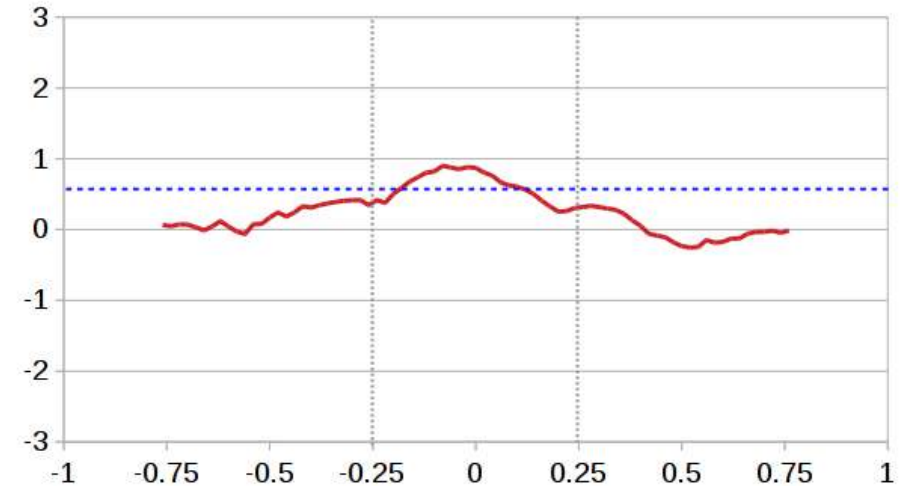
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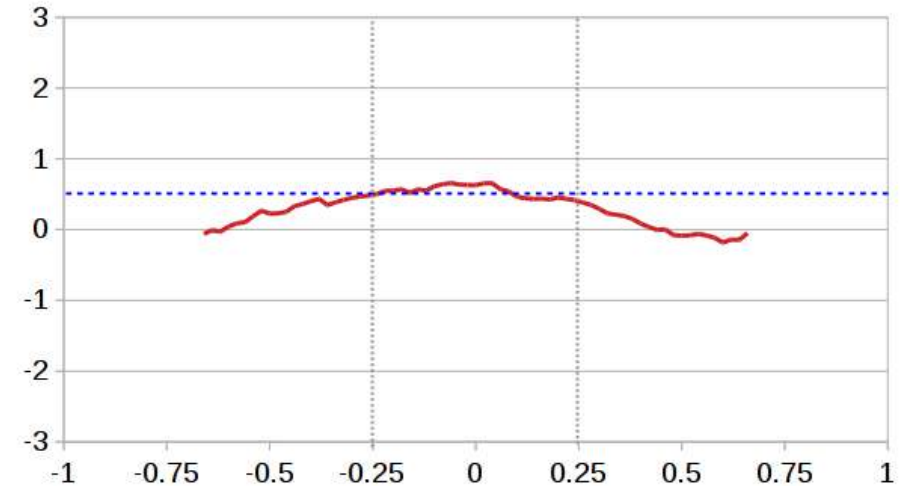
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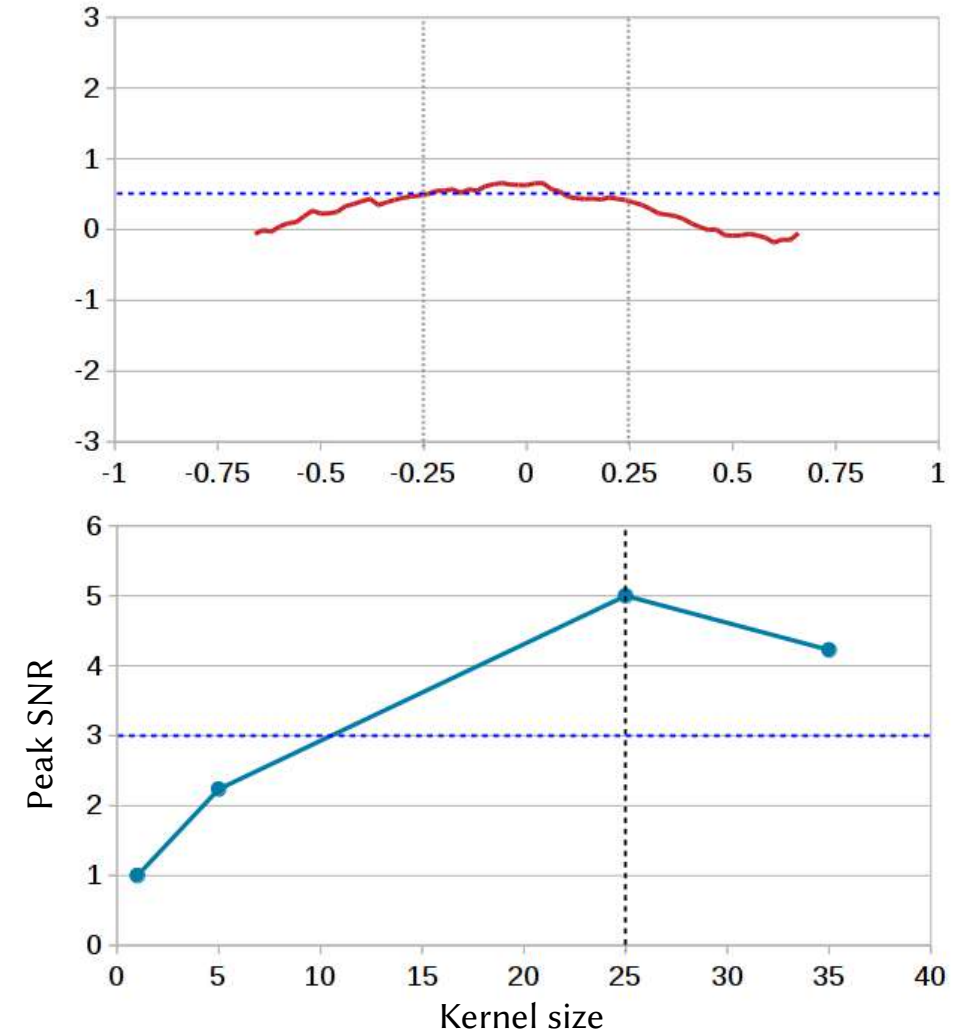
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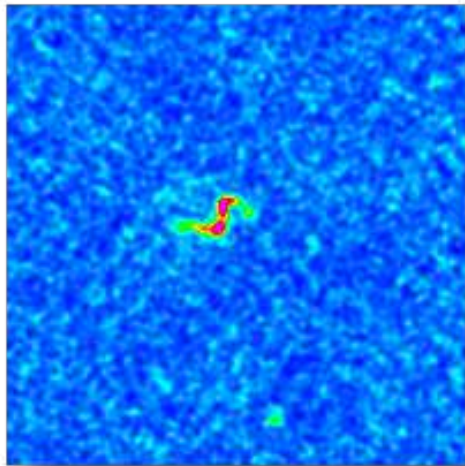
► Conclusions

- Smooth data to optimal resolution to maximise SNR of sources
- Recovery of integrated SNR (\pm noise) for kernels that match shape and size of source

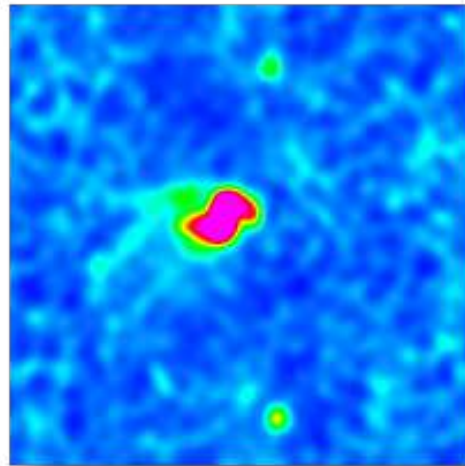


★ Smooth + clip algorithm

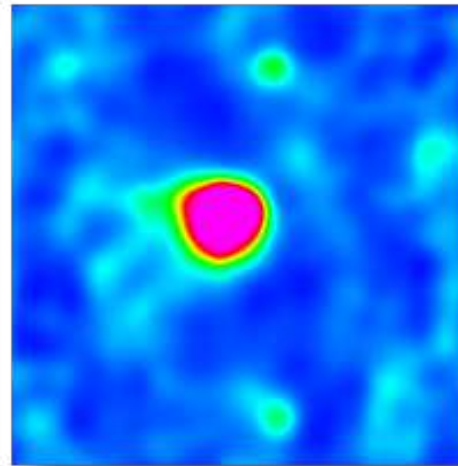
- ▶ Convolution with **multiple 3D kernels** for spatial and spectral smoothing on different scales
- ▶ Measure RMS on each scale and apply threshold of $N \times \text{RMS}$
- ▶ Add pixels above threshold to source mask



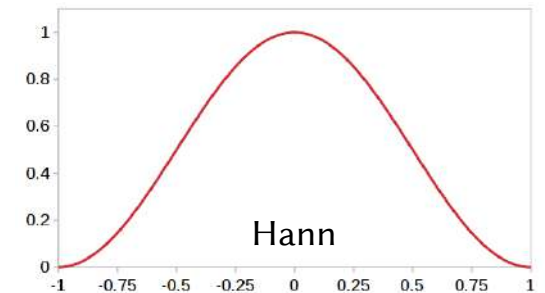
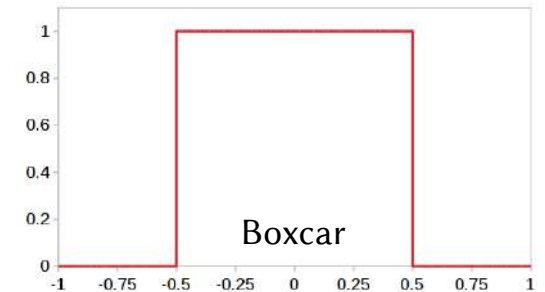
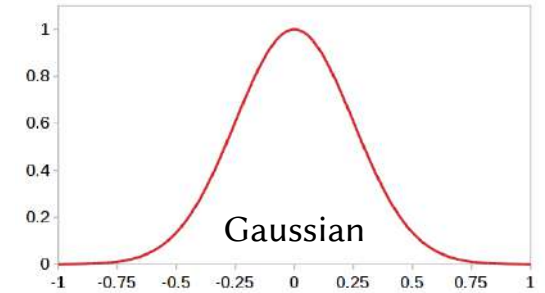
No smoothing



Gaussian of $\sigma = 3$ pixels



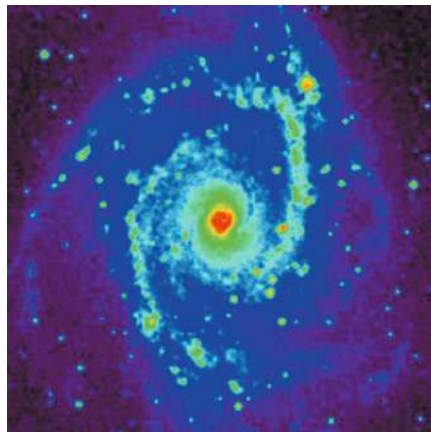
Gaussian of $\sigma = 6$ pixels



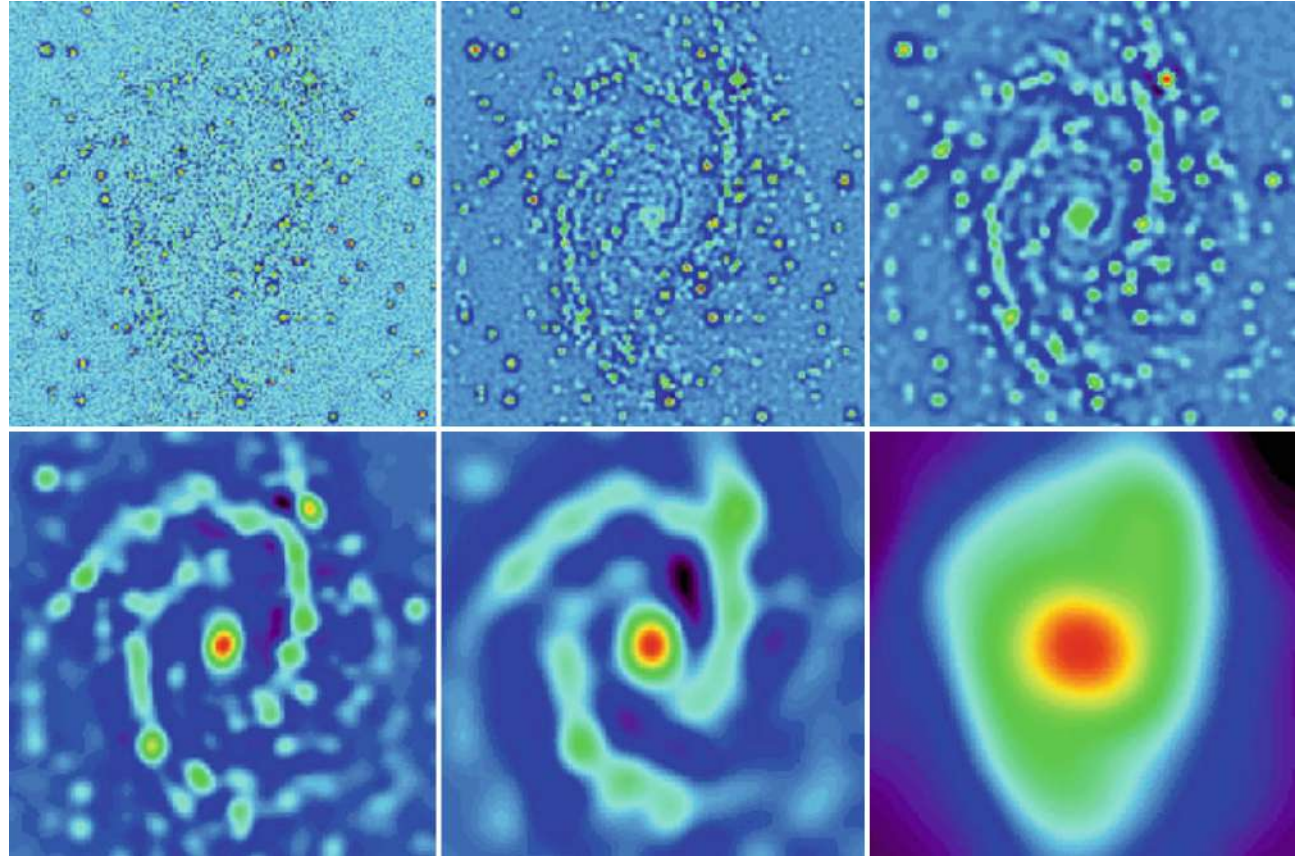
★ Alternative algorithms

► Wavelet decomposition

$$D(x) = c_J(x) + \sum_{j=1}^J w_j(x)$$



NGC 2997



NGC 2997 – wavelet transform

Starck, Murtagh & Bertero (2011)

★ Alternative algorithms

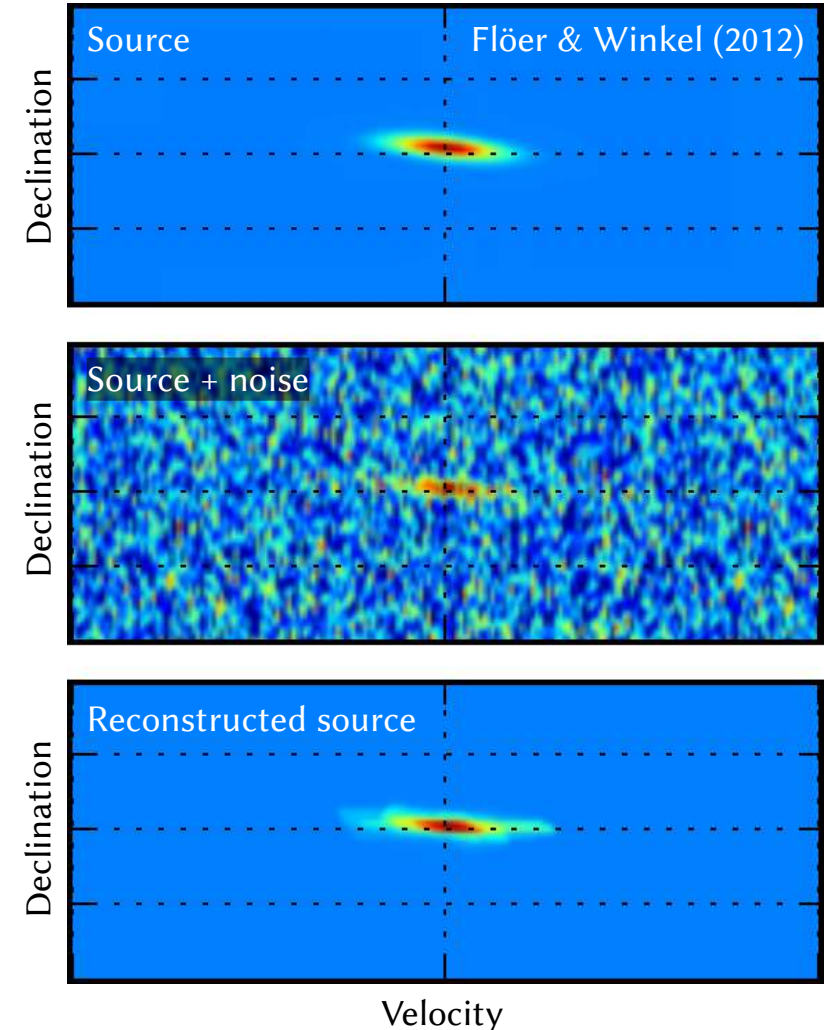
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- ▶ 2D–1D wavelet decomposition

$$\begin{aligned} D(x) &= c_{J_1, J_2}(x) \\ &+ \sum_{j_1} w_{j_1, J_2}(x) + \sum_{j_2} w_{J_1, j_2}(x) \\ &+ \sum_{j_1, j_2} w_{j_1, j_2}(x) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ See [Flör & Winkel \(2012\)](#) for details



★ Alternative algorithms

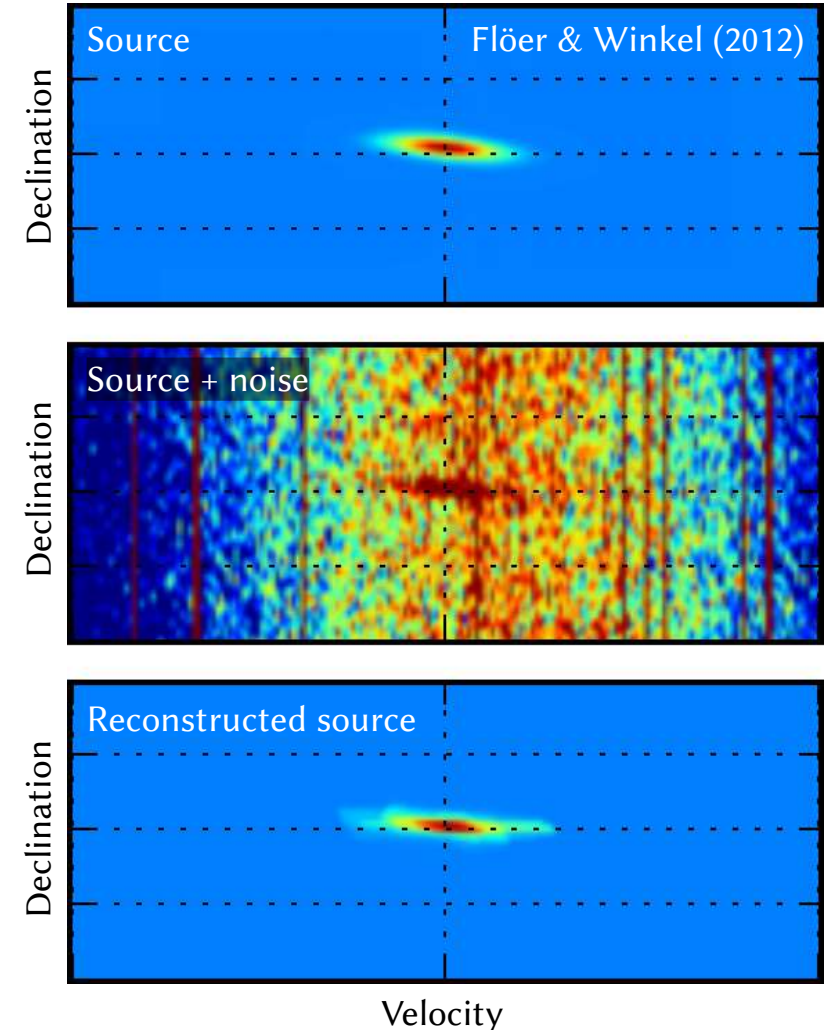
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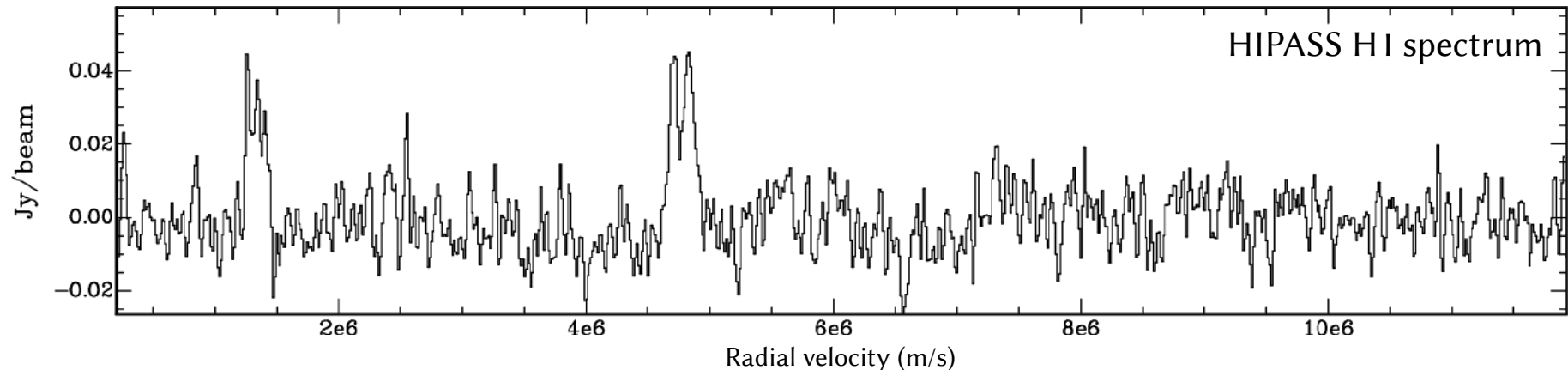
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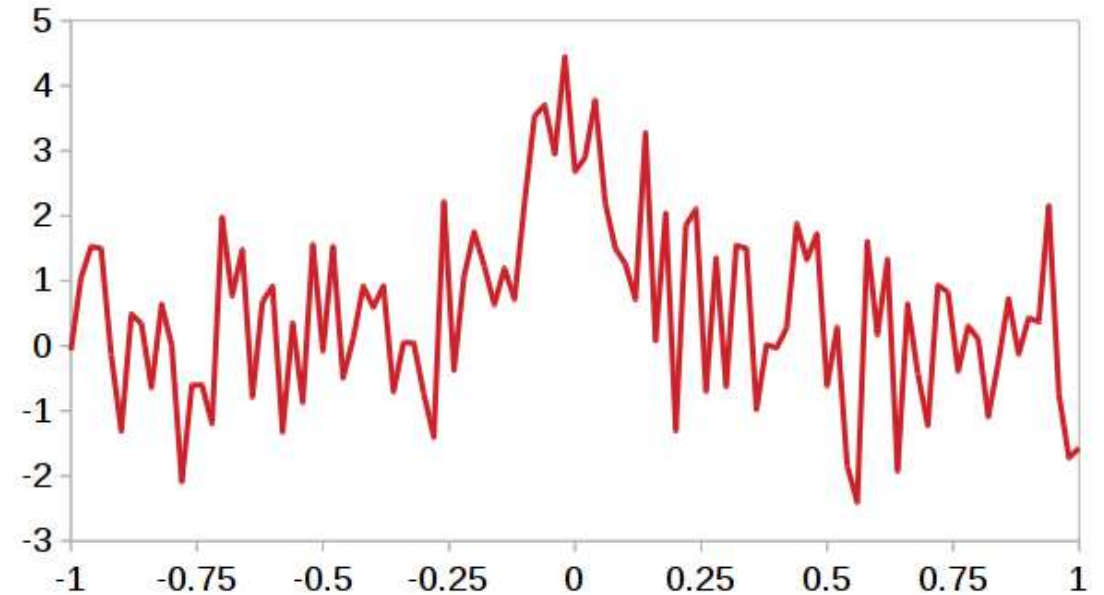
- ▶ Sources may be **spatially unresolved**
 - Source finding problem reduces from **3D** to **1D**
- ▶ Characterised Noise H I source finder (CNHI)
 - Kuiper test in a running window along the spectral axis
→ uncover regions statistically inconsistent with pure Gaussian noise
- ▶ See [Jurek \(2012\)](#) for more details



★ Estimating reliability

► Fundamental assumptions

- Gaussian noise, no offset
- Astronomical signal is positive (e.g. HI emission)
- No artefacts (e.g. RFI, sidelobes, continuum residuals)



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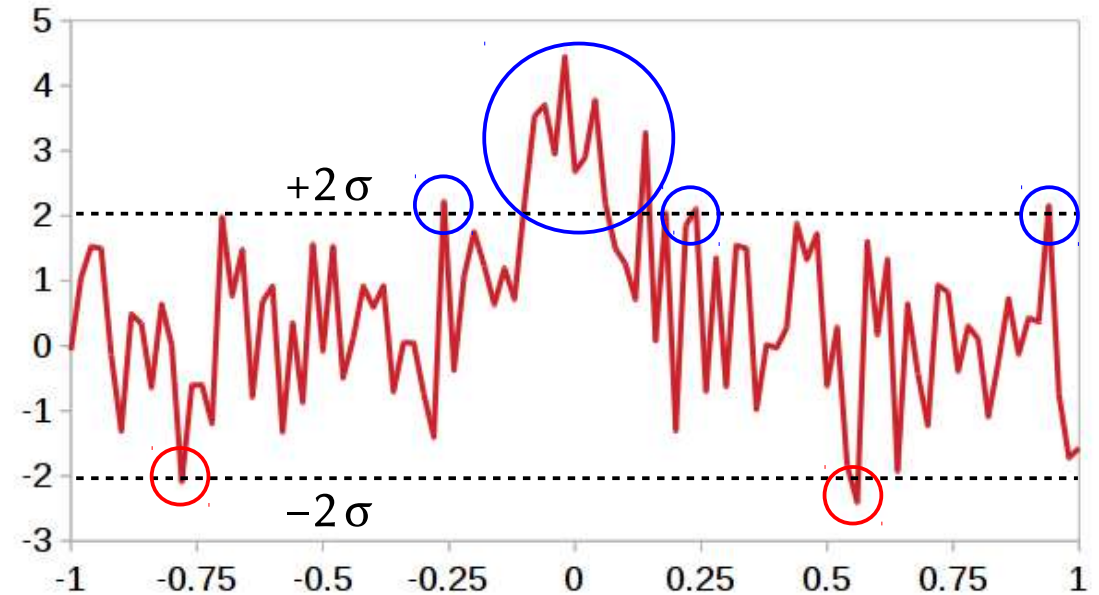
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★ Method

► Search for all signals with $|S| > N \times \sigma$

- $S < 0 \rightarrow \text{Noise}$
- $S > 0 \rightarrow \text{Noise or source}$



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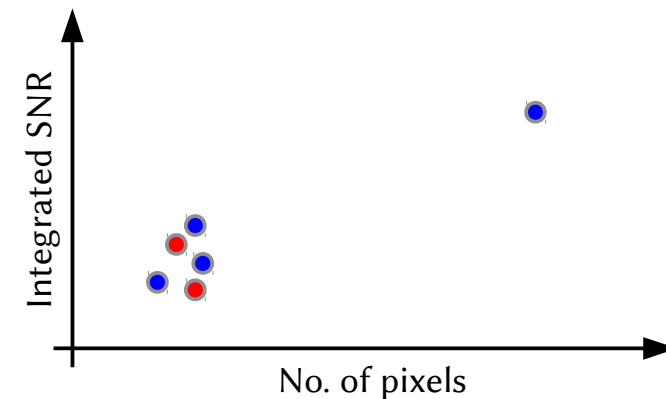
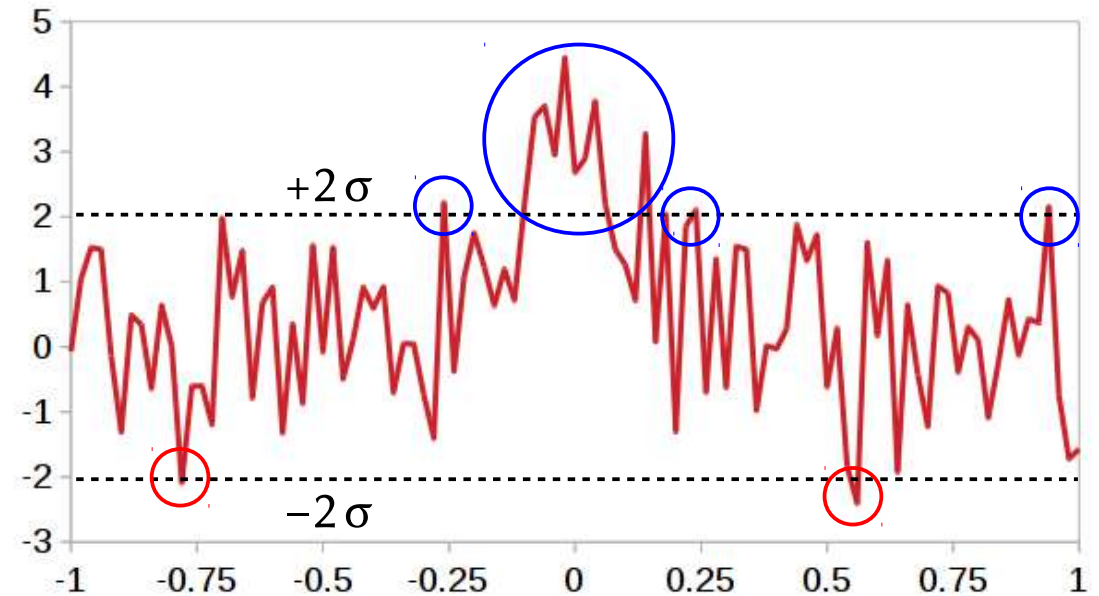
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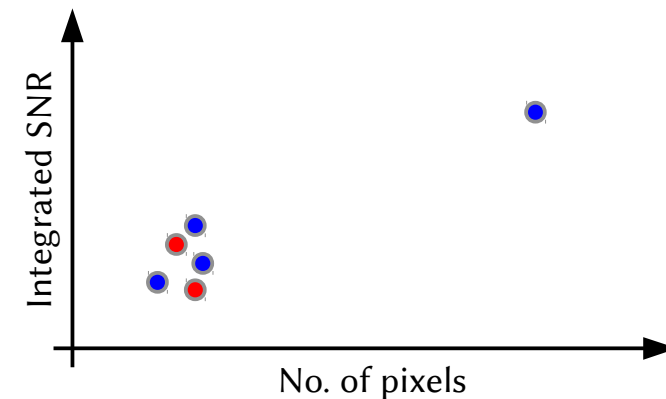
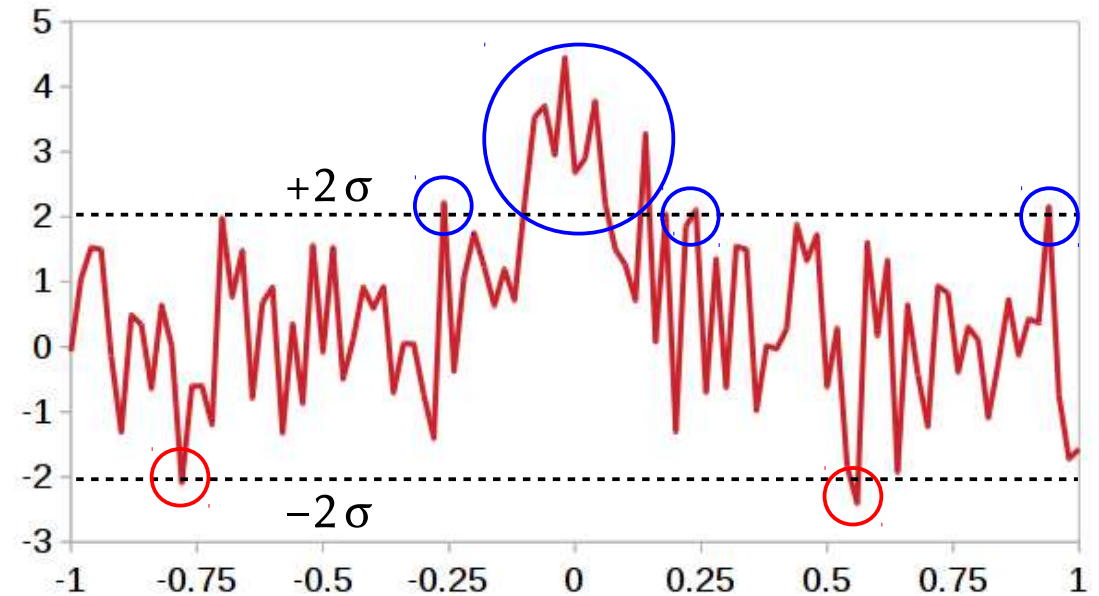
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- Reliability

$$R \equiv \frac{T}{T+F} \rightarrow \frac{P-N}{P}$$



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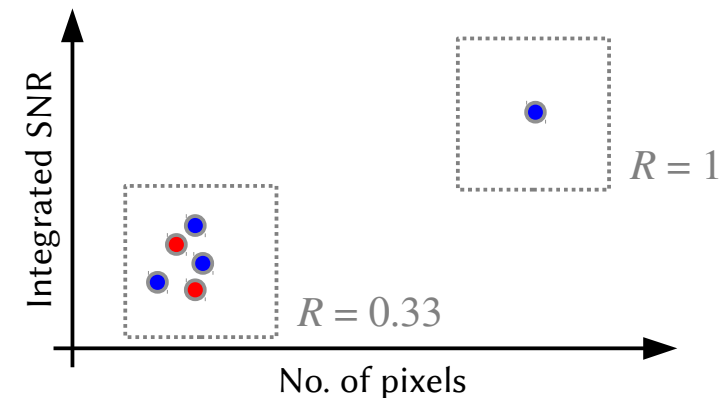
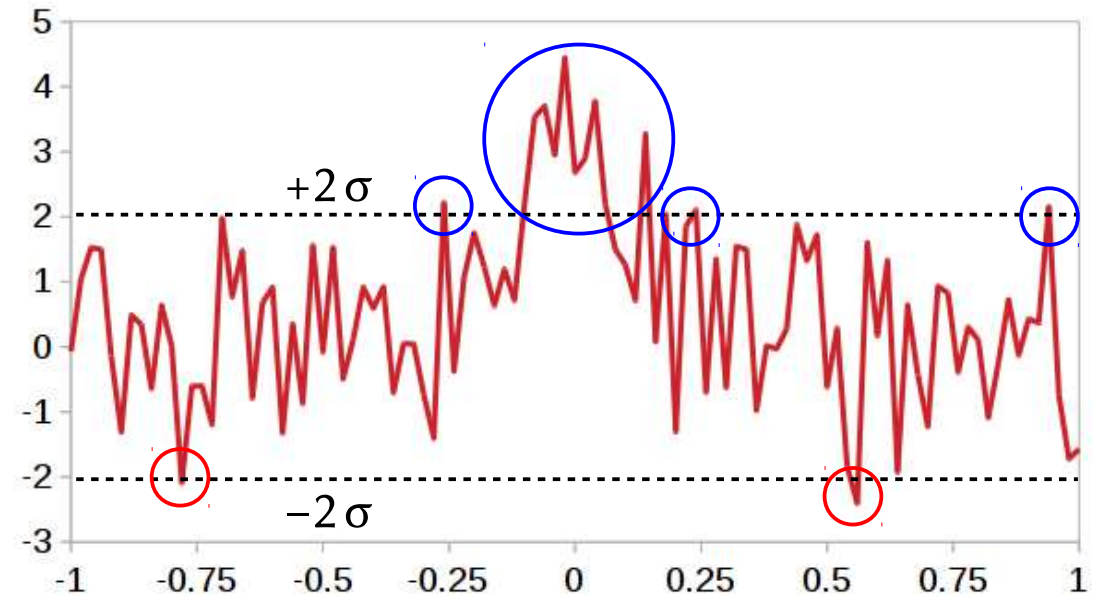
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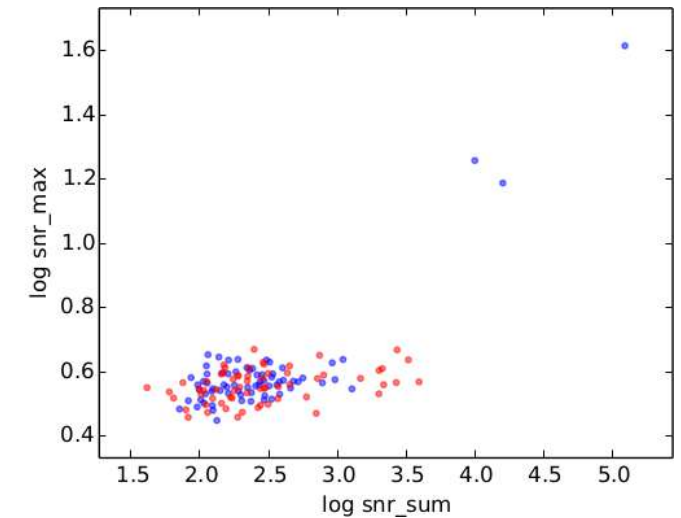
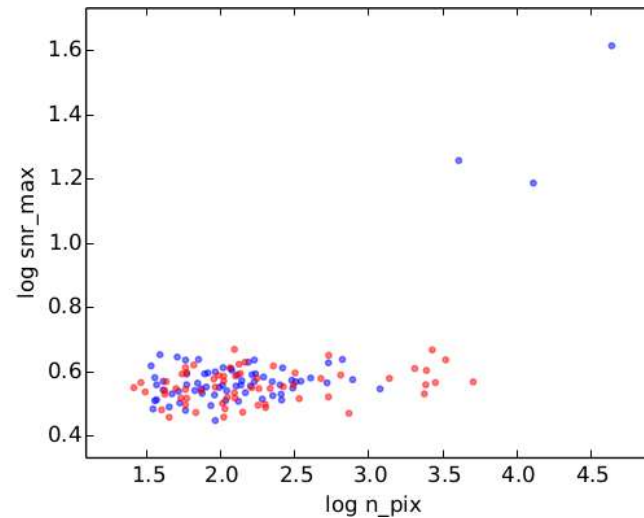
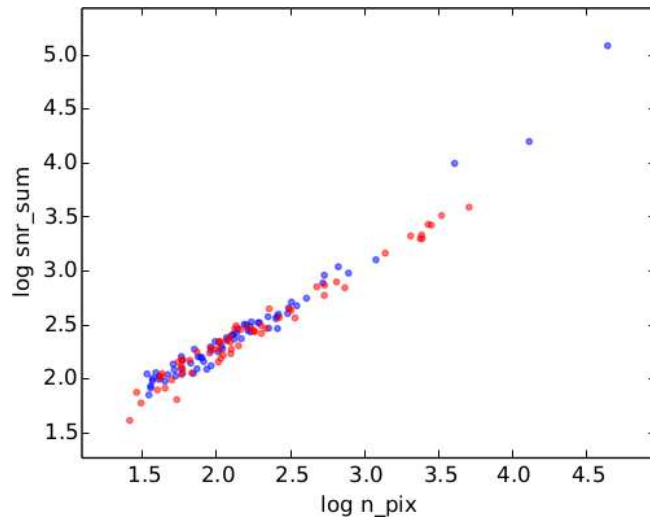
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★ Estimating reliability

- Retain sources above a meaningful threshold, e.g. $R > 0.9$

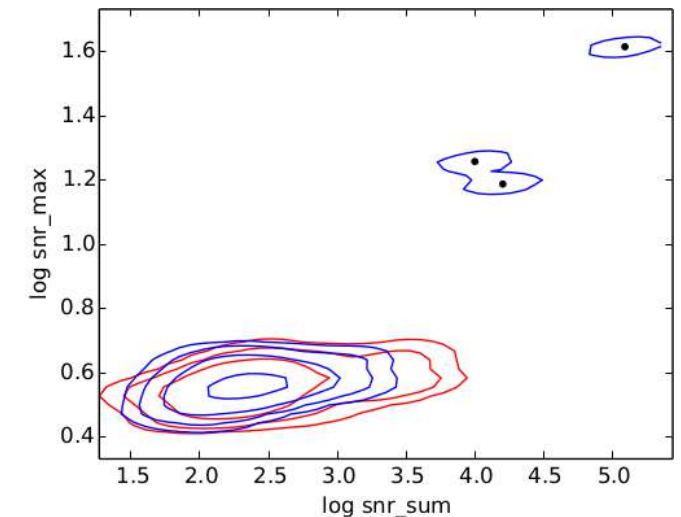
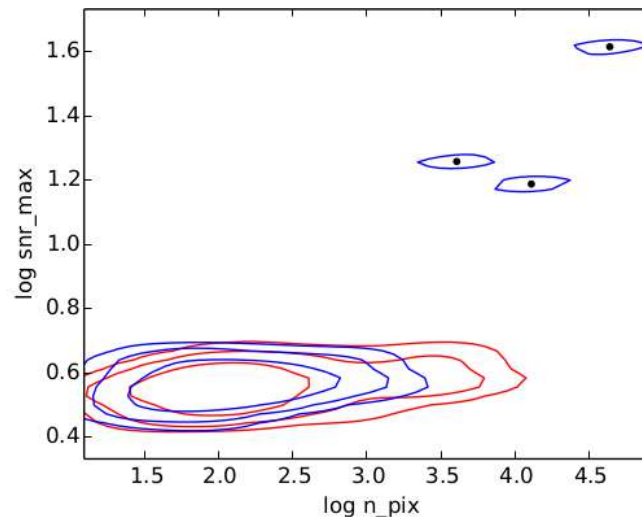
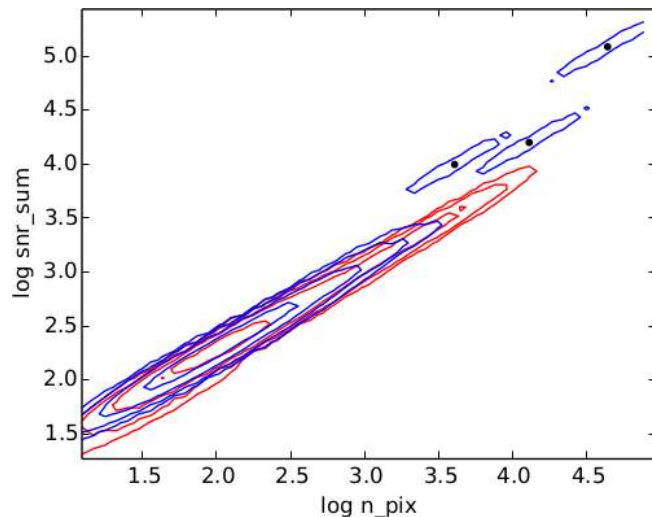
Serra et al. 2012, PASA, 29, 296



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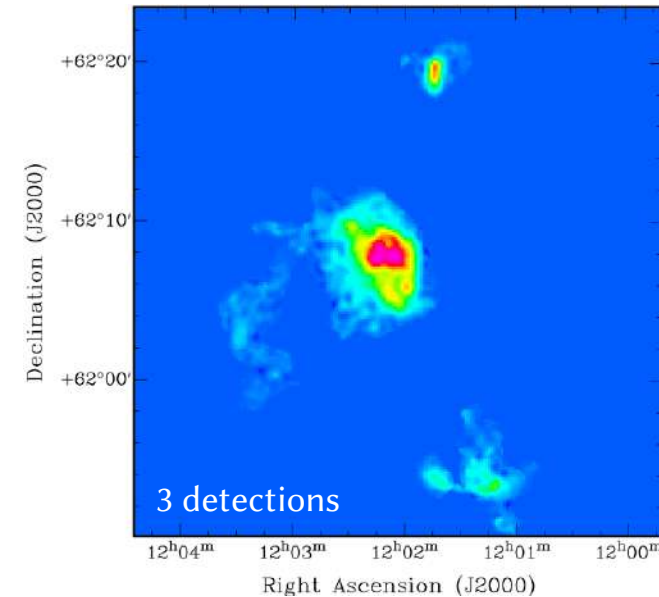
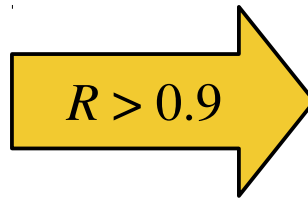
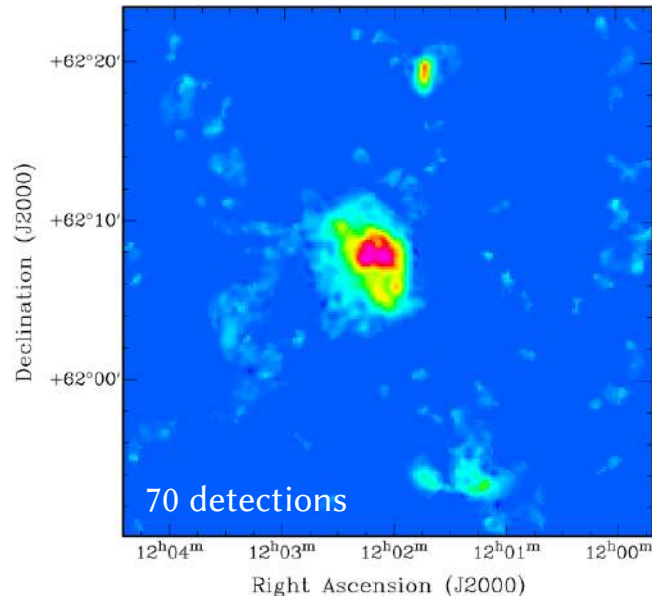


- Highly reliable source catalogue
 - Dozens of false detections removed as unreliable
 - Enables use of low source finding threshold of $\approx 3\sigma$

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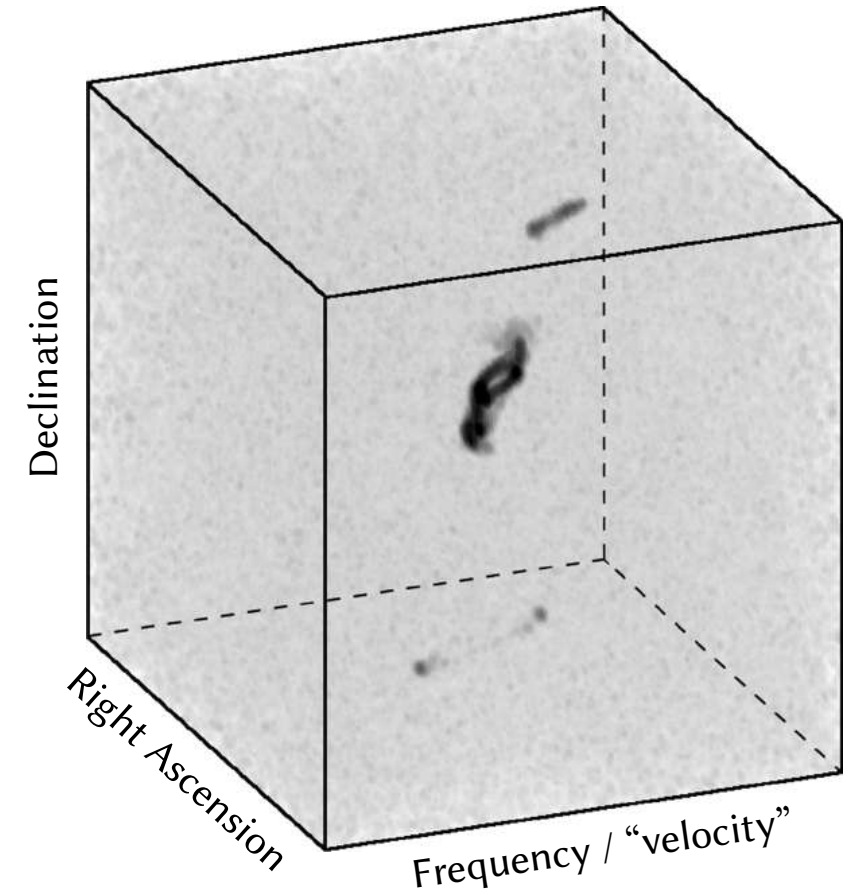
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Requires **clean data** with Gaussian noise plus source emission and **no artefacts!**

Parameterisation

★ Source parameterisation

- ▶ Process of measuring the basic observational parameters of a source
 - **Position** → *sky position, frequency/radial velocity*
 - **Size** → *angular size, spectral line width*
 - **Flux** → *peak flux density/brightness temperature, integrated flux*
 - **Other** → *orientation, morphology, asymmetry, etc.*
- ▶ Conversion to physical parameters
 - **Position** → *redshift, distance*
 - **Size** → *diameter, rotation velocity, temperature*
 - **Flux** → *luminosity, column density, mass*
- ▶ Effect of noise
 - Statistical uncertainty
 - Parameterisation often dominated by systematic errors



★ Basic source parameters

► Position

- Flux-weighted centroid:

$$\langle \vec{p} \rangle = \frac{\sum_i \vec{p}_i S(\vec{p}_i)}{\sum_i S(\vec{p}_i)}$$

- 3D $\rightarrow \langle \vec{p} \rangle = (\langle x \rangle, \langle y \rangle, \langle z \rangle)$
- Setting $S(\vec{p}_i) = \text{const.}$ will yield **geometric centroid**

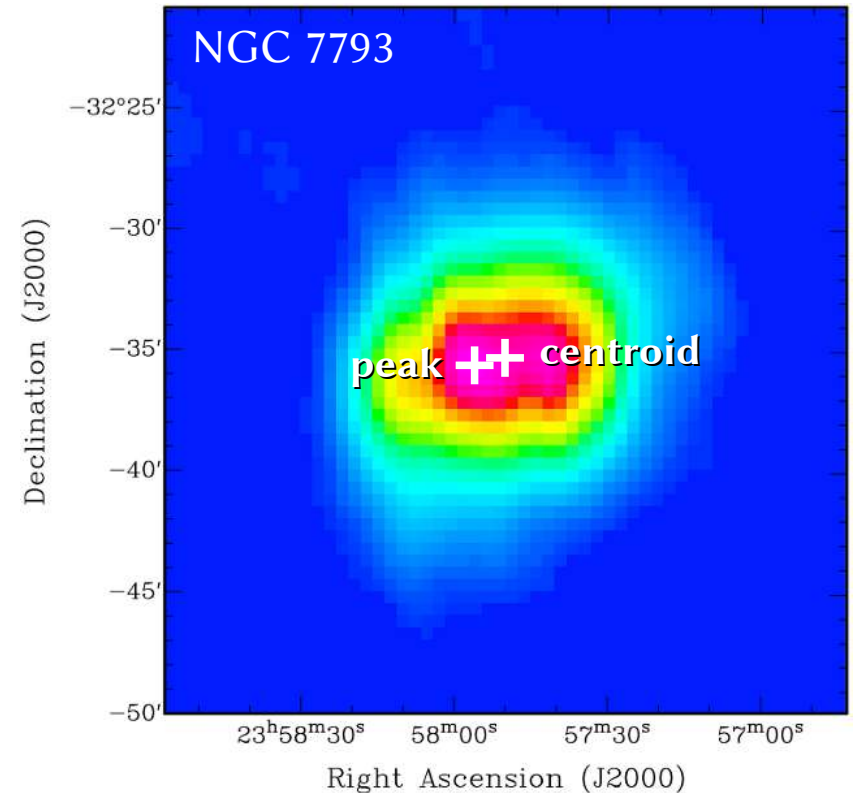
► Important

- Accurate **source mask** desirable
- **Negative** signals must be excluded
- Centroid in native **pixel coordinates**
 - \rightarrow Conversion to **sky coordinates** required
 - \rightarrow World Coordinate System (WCS)

FITS: https://fits.gsfc.nasa.gov/fits_wcs.html

wcslib: <http://www.atnf.csiro.au/people/mcalabre/WCS/>

Astropy: <http://docs.astropy.org/en/stable/wcs/>



★ Basic source parameters

► Integrated flux

$$S_{\text{int}} = \frac{\Delta z}{\Omega_{\text{PSF}}} \sum_i S(\vec{p}_i)$$

- Division by **beam solid angle** required to correct for pixel-to-pixel correlation

$$\Omega_{\text{PSF}} = \frac{\pi \theta_a \theta_b}{4 \ln(2)} \approx 1.133 \theta_a \theta_b \quad \text{for a Gaussian PSF where } \theta_a, \theta_b = \text{FWHM of major, minor axis of beam}$$

- Units: $\text{Jy Hz} = 10^{-26} \text{ W m}^{-2}$ → correct
 Jy km s^{-1} → frequently used pseudo-flux unit; better not use

► HI mass

$$\frac{M_{\text{HI}}}{M_{\odot}} = 0.236 \times \frac{S_{\text{int}}}{\text{Jy km s}^{-1}} \times \left(\frac{d}{\text{kpc}} \right)^2$$

- Only valid for **optically thin** gas at **redshift 0**

★ Spectral moments

- ▶ 0th moment → **Sum** of flux densities

$$M_0(x, y) = \Delta v \sum_z S(x, y, z)$$

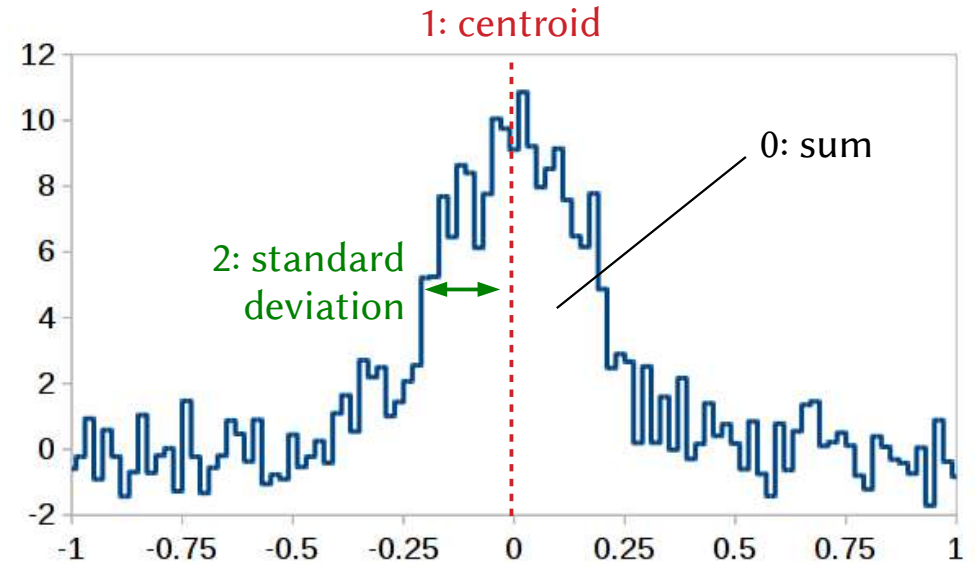
- ▶ 1st moment → Flux-weighted **centroid**

$$M_1(x, y) = \frac{\sum_z v(z) S(x, y, z)}{\sum_z S(x, y, z)}$$

- ▶ 2nd moment → **Standard deviation** about 1st moment

$$M_2(x, y) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_z [v(z) - M_1(x, y)]^2 S(x, y, z)}{\sum_z S(x, y, z)}}$$

- ▶ Higher-order moments rarely used
 - 3rd moment (*skewness*), 4th moment (*kurtosis*)



A **mask** or **flux threshold** is usually required when calculating moments, as the **noise** will otherwise dominate the result!

★ Spectral moments

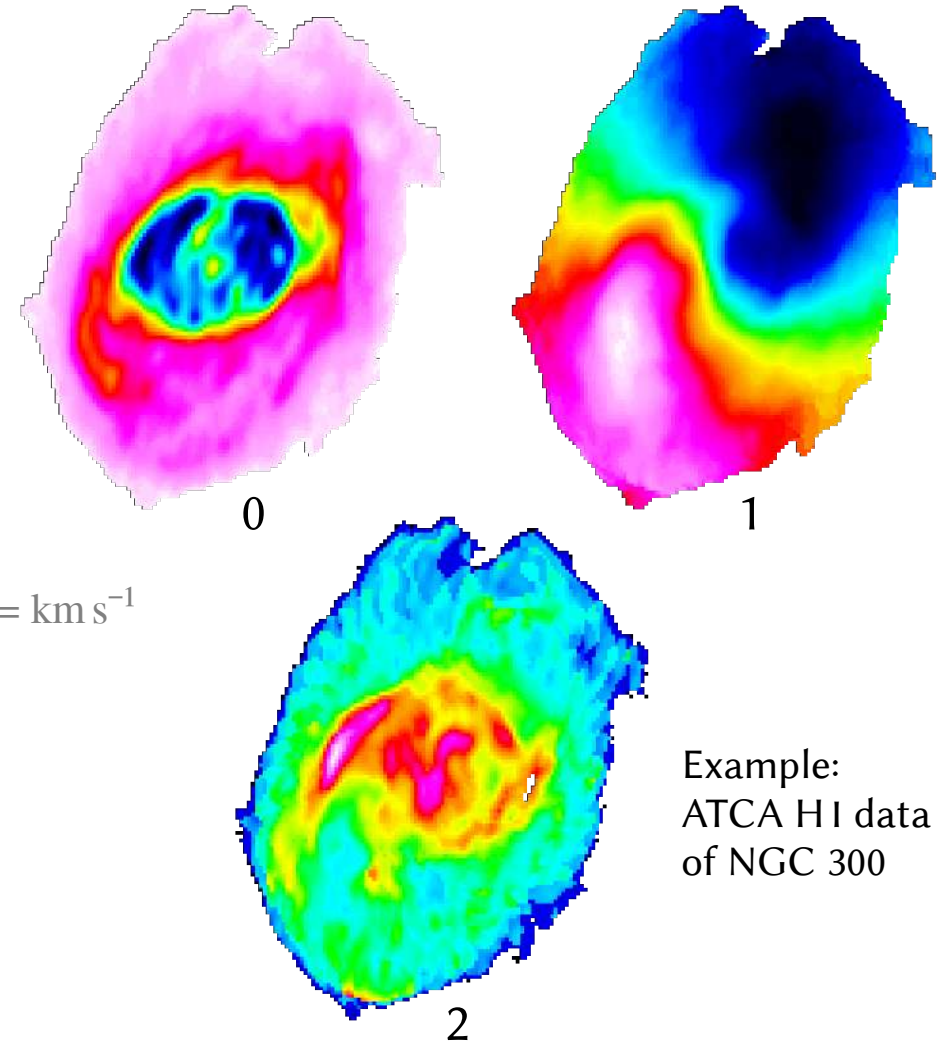
► Units

- 0th moment
→ Jy Hz or Jy km s⁻¹
→ K Hz or K km s⁻¹
- 1st and 2nd moments
→ Hz or km s⁻¹

► 0th moment often converted to HI column density

- $N_{\text{HI}} = 1.823 \times 10^{18} \int T_{\text{B}} dv$ where $[N_{\text{HI}}] = \text{cm}^{-2}$, $[T_{\text{B}}] = \text{K}$, $[v] = \text{km s}^{-1}$
- Assumptions
 - Local source at $z = 0$
 - Emission is optically thin
 - Emission is diffuse and fills the telescope beam

Moment analysis is sensitive to noise!



Example:
ATCA HI data
of NGC 300

★ Fitting of spectrum I – *Gaussian Function*

- ▶ Useful for fitting and parameterising simple line profiles
- ▶ Definition

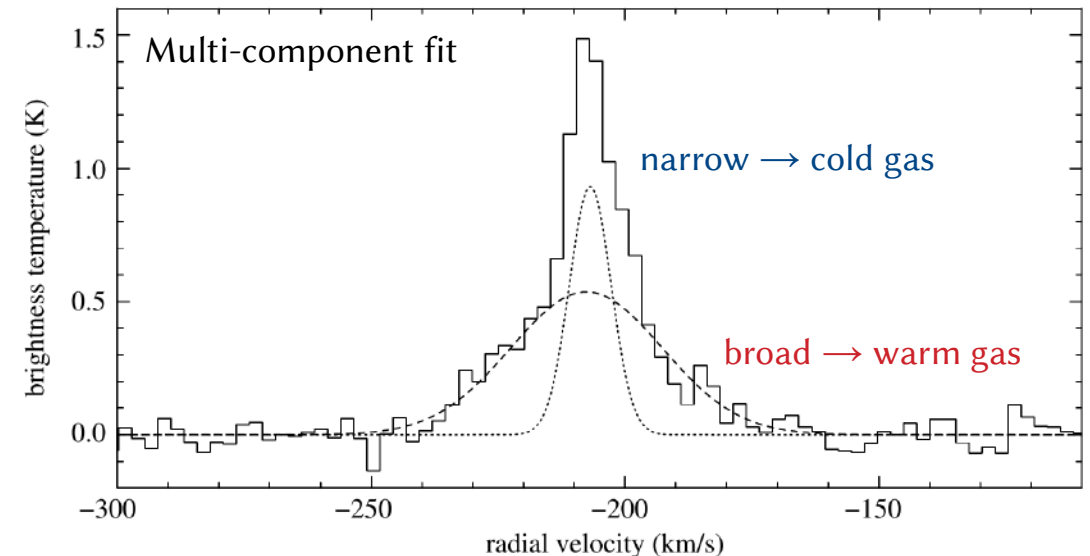
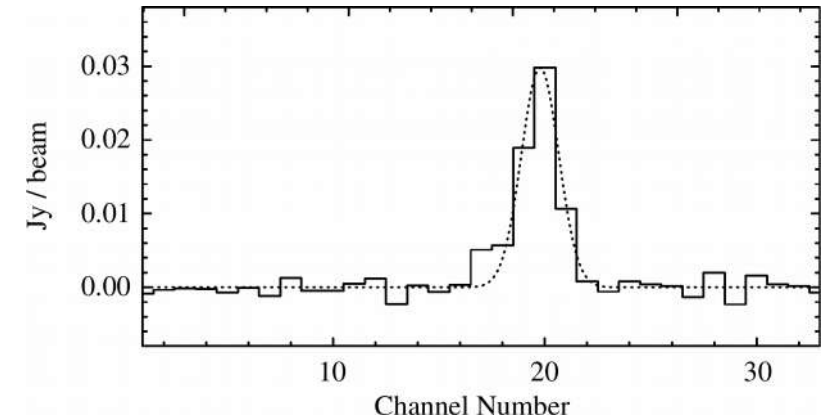
$$G(z) = A \exp\left(-\frac{(z - z_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

- ▶ Relation between w_{50} (FWHM) and σ

$$w_{50} = 2\sqrt{2\ln(2)}\sigma \approx 2.3548\sigma$$

- ▶ Integrated flux

$$S_{\text{int}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(z) dz = \sqrt{2\pi} A \sigma \approx 2.5066 A \sigma$$



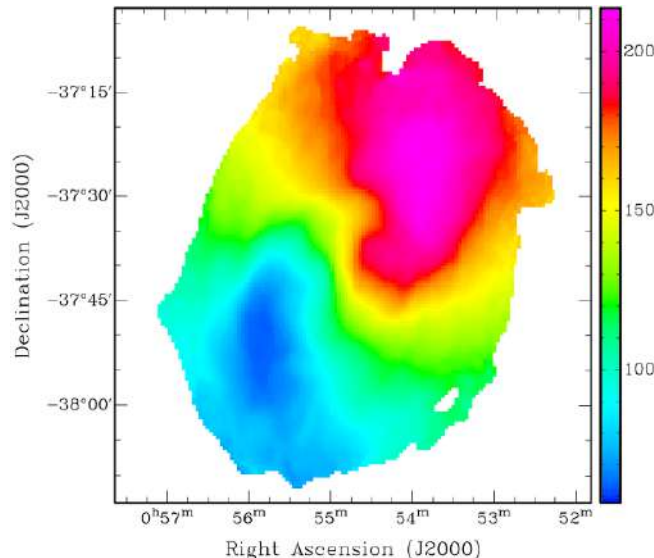
★ Fitting of spectrum II – *Gauss–Hermite Polynomial*

van der Marel & Marijn 1993, ApJ, 407, 525

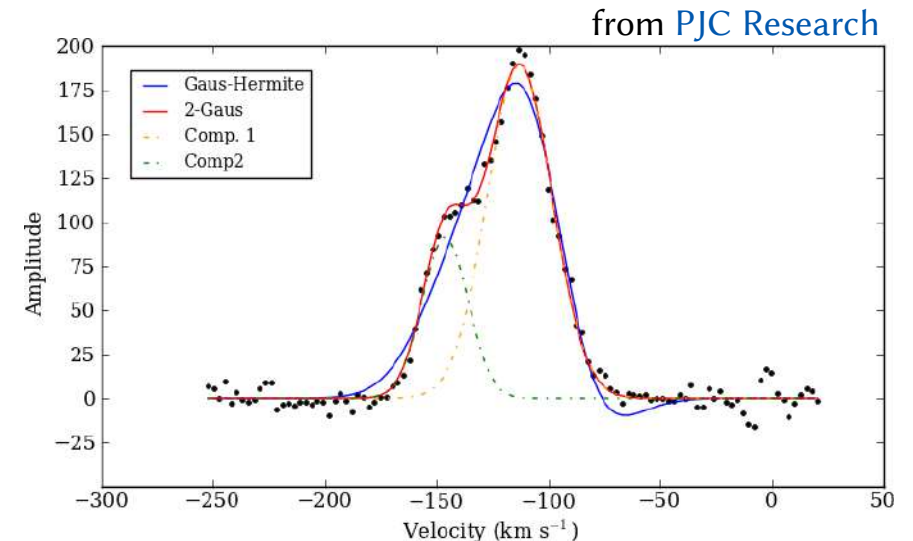
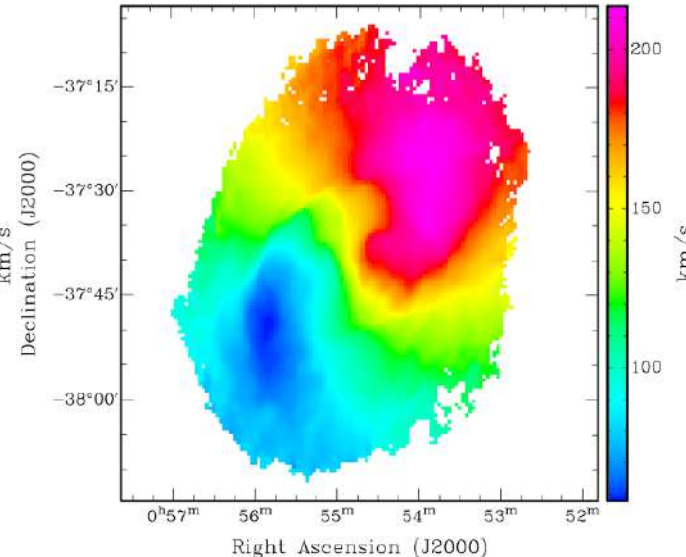
- ▶ Useful for extracting **velocity fields** from **spatially resolved** galaxies for rotation curve analysis
- ▶ Implemented in GIPSY

$$\bullet \phi(x) = a e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} \left\{ 1 + \frac{h_3}{\sqrt{6}}(2\sqrt{2}y^3 - 3\sqrt{2}y) + \frac{h_4}{\sqrt{24}}(4y^4 - 12y^2 + 3) \right\} + Z \quad \text{where } y \equiv \frac{x-b}{c}$$

NGC 300 – 1st moment



NGC 300 – Gauss–Hermite



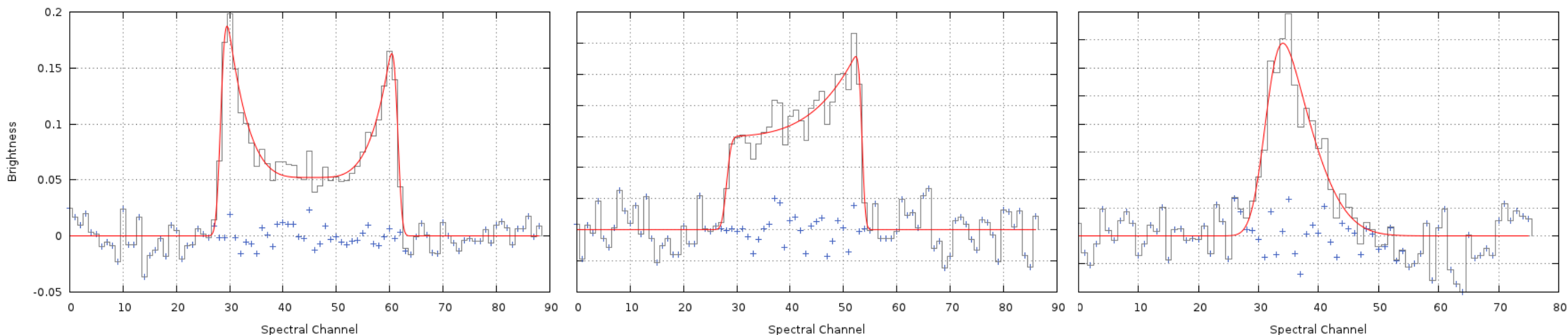
★ Fitting of spectrum III – *Busy Function*

Westmeier et al. 2014, MNRAS, 438, 1176

- ▶ Designed to fit **double-horn** profile of **spatially unresolved** galaxies
- ▶ Product of two error functions and a polynomial

$$B(z) = \frac{a}{4} \times [\text{erf}(b_1(w + z - z_e)) + 1] \times [\text{erf}(b_2(w - z + z_e)) + 1] \times [c |z - z_p|^n + 1]$$

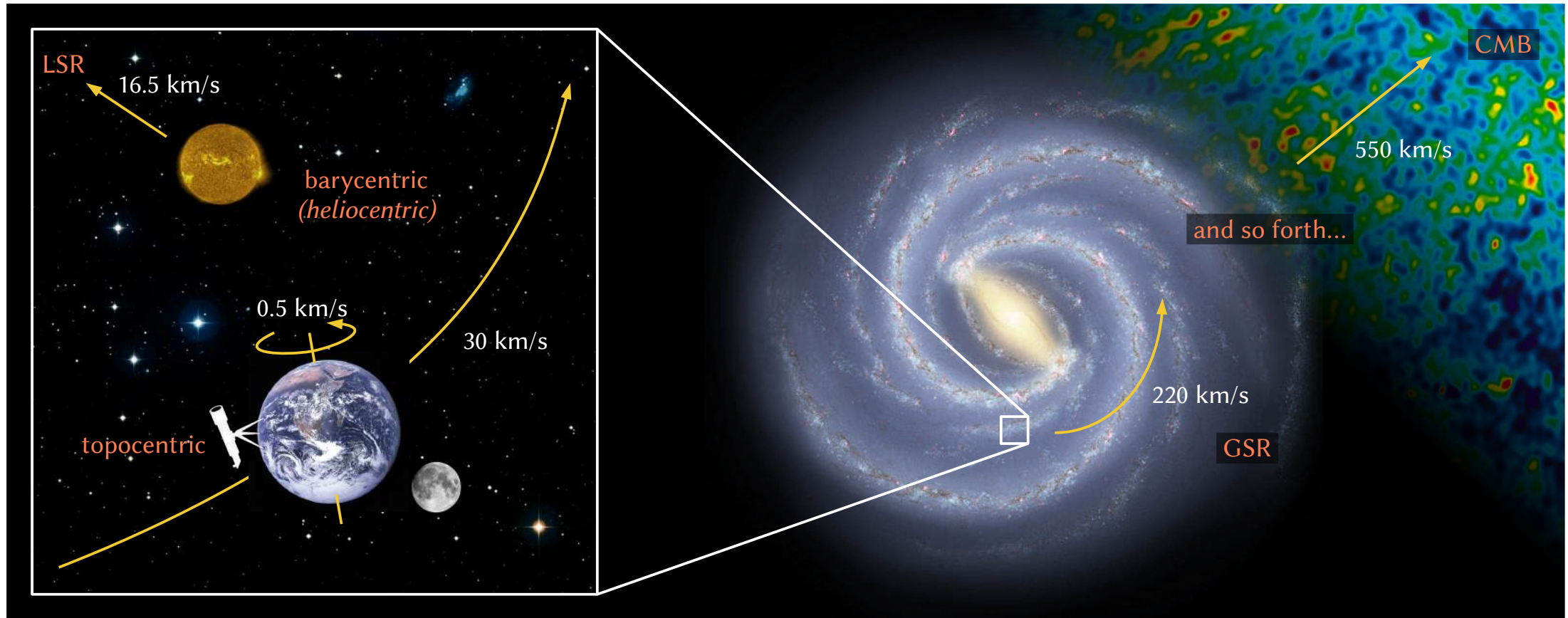
- ▶ Software: **BusyFit** <https://github.com/SoFiA-Admin/BusyFit>
BF_dist <https://github.com/RussellJurek/busy-function-fitting>








★ Frequency – Redshift – Velocity

- ▶ Radio astronomical data cubes usually provided in frequency, f , with constant channel width, Δf
- ▶ Relative motion between source and observer
 - Doppler shift between observed frequency, f , and rest frequency, f_0
 - 21-cm HI transition: $f_0 \approx 1.420405751786 \text{ GHz}$
- ▶ Reference frames
 - Correction for motion of observer
 - Rotation and orbital motion of the earth
 - Peculiar motion of sun
 - Rotation of Milky Way
 - Motion of Milky Way in Local Group
 - etc.

★ Velocity rest frames



★ Velocity rest frames

Name	Reference		Description
Topocentric	Observer		Natural rest frame of any observation
Barycentric	Solar System barycentre		Often referred to as “heliocentric”; rest frame most commonly supplied with HI data cubes
Local Standard of Rest (LSR)	Solar neighbourhood		Conversion between barycentric and LSRD: $v_{\text{LSR}} = v_{\text{bar}} + 9 \cos(l) \cos(b) + 12 \sin(l) \cos(b) + 7 \sin(b)$
Galactic Standard of Rest (GSR)	Galactic centre		Conversion between LSRD and GSR: $v_{\text{GSR}} = v_{\text{LSR}} + 220 \sin(l) \cos(b)$
LG Standard of Rest (LGSR)	Local Group barycentre		Conversion between GSR and LGSR: $v_{\text{LGSR}} = v_{\text{GSR}} - 88 \cos(l) \cos(b) + 64 \sin(l) \cos(b) - 43 \sin(b)$

These are the rest frames most commonly encountered in radio astronomy.
Anything beyond the barycentric rest frame is inaccurate, in particular the LGSR.

★ Redshift and velocity

► Definition of redshift: $z \equiv \frac{\lambda_{\text{obs}} - \lambda_0}{\lambda_0} = \frac{f_0 - f_{\text{obs}}}{f_{\text{obs}}} \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{f_0}{f_{\text{obs}}} = 1 + z}$

► Redshift components

- Cosmological redshift → Hubble expansion of the universe
- Peculiar redshift → Doppler shift from peculiar velocities
- Gravitational redshift → GR time dilation in gravitational potential (usually negligible)

► Redshifts are multiplicative

- $1 + z_{\text{obs}} = (1 + z_{\text{cos}}) \times (1 + z_{\text{pec}}) \times (1 + z_{\text{grav}})$

► It is usually not possible to separate redshift components

- Low redshift → Dominated by peculiar velocities
- High redshift → Dominated by Hubble expansion

★ Peculiar redshift / velocity

► Non-relativistic Doppler effect:

$$z_{\text{pec}} = v_{\text{pec}} / c \equiv \beta$$

- Valid for small $v_{\text{pec}} \ll c$
- Note that generally $c z_{\text{obs}} \neq v \rightarrow$ “recession velocity” or “optical velocity”

► Relativistic Doppler effect:

$$1 + z_{\text{pec}} = \gamma [1 + \beta \cos(\vartheta)] \quad \text{where } \gamma \equiv (1 - \beta^2)^{-1/2} \text{ (Lorentz factor)}$$

- Depends on **transverse** velocity!
- ϑ = angle between direction of motion and line-of-sight from observer to source at time of emission

- Pure line-of-sight motion:

$$1 + z_{\text{pec}} = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \beta}{1 - \beta}} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \frac{v_{\text{pec}}}{c} = \frac{f_0^2 - f^2}{f_0^2 + f^2}$$

★ Redshift corrections I – Velocity width

► Assumptions

- Two objects at same cosmological redshift, z_{cos}
- Redshift difference, Δz_{obs} , due to velocity difference

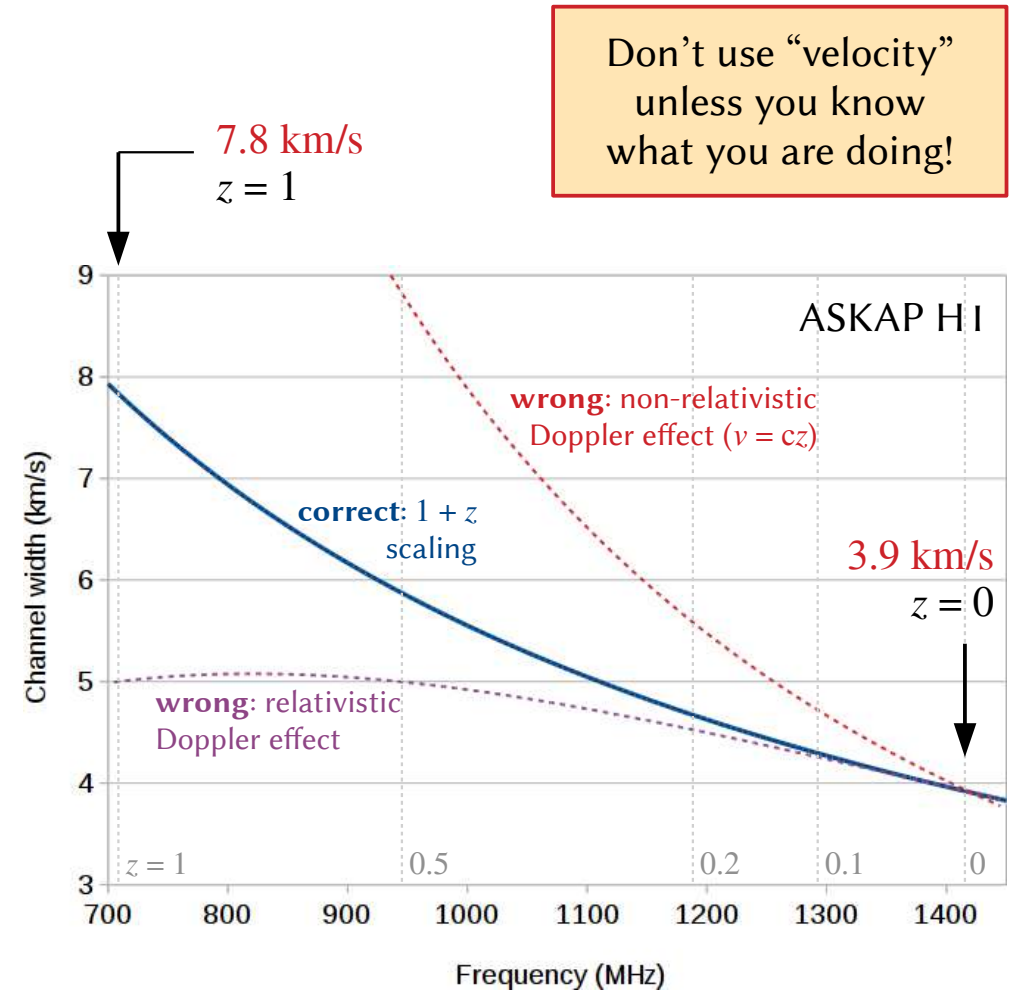
► Non-relativistic Doppler effect:

$$z_{\text{pec}} = \beta = \frac{v_{\text{pec}}}{c}$$

► Peculiar velocity difference along LOS

$$\frac{\Delta v_{\text{pec}}}{c} = \frac{\Delta z_{\text{obs}}}{1 + z_{\text{cos}}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta v_{\text{pec}}}{c} \approx \frac{1 + z_{\text{cos}}}{f_0} \Delta f_{\text{obs}}$$



★ Redshift corrections II – Flux-related parameters

- ▶ Definition of flux

$$F = \int S df_{\text{obs}} = \frac{L}{4\pi D_L^2}$$

- ▶ Rayleigh–Jeans law

$$B = \frac{2 k_B f^2 T}{c^2} \quad \text{where} \quad I = \frac{S}{\Omega} = \frac{B}{(1+z)^3} \quad \text{with telescope beam solid angle } \Omega$$

- ▶ Brightness temperature

Euclidian ($z = 0$): $T_B = \frac{c^2 S}{2 k_B f_0^2 \Omega}$

Relativistic: $T_B = \frac{c^2 (1+z)^3 S}{2 k_B f_0^2 \Omega}$

★ Further information

- ▶ [Meyer et al. 2017, PASA, 34, 52](#)

$$\frac{T_B}{\text{K}} \approx 6.06 \times 10^5 (1+z)^3 \frac{S}{\text{Jy}} \left(\frac{a \times b}{\text{arcsec}^2} \right)^{-1}$$

★ Redshift corrections II – Flux-related parameters

- ▶ H I column density

$$N_{\text{HI}} = \frac{16\pi (1+z)^4 S}{3 h f_0 A_{\text{HI}} \Omega}$$

where $A_{\text{HI}} = 2.86888 \times 10^{-15} \text{ s}^{-1}$ is the spontaneous emission rate of H I

- ▶ Evaluating the constants yields

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{N_{\text{HI}}}{\text{cm}^{-2}} &= 2.64 \times 10^{20} (1+z)^4 \frac{\text{S}}{\text{Jy Hz}} \left(\frac{\Omega}{\text{arcsec}^2} \right)^{-1} \\ &= 2.33 \times 10^{20} (1+z)^4 \frac{\text{S}}{\text{Jy Hz}} \left(\frac{a \times b}{\text{arcsec}^2} \right)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

for a Gaussian beam

★ Further information

- ▶ [Meyer et al. 2017, PASA, 34, 52](#)

★ Redshift corrections II – Flux-related parameters

▶ H I mass

$$M_{\text{HI}} = \frac{16\pi m_{\text{H}} D_{\text{L}}^2 S}{3 h f_0 A_{\text{HI}}}$$

▶ where

- $A_{\text{HI}} = 2.86888 \times 10^{-15} \text{ s}^{-1}$ is the spontaneous emission rate of H I
 - $m_{\text{H}} = 1.673533 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$ is the mass of a hydrogen atom
 - $D_{\text{L}}(z)$ is the redshift- and cosmology-dependent **luminosity distance**
- ▶ **H I mass depends on assumptions about cosmology**

★ Further information

- ▶ [Meyer et al. 2017, PASA, 34, 52](#)

★ Uncertainties

- ▶ Measurement errors usually dominated by **systematic errors**
 - flux calibration
 - continuum subtraction
 - spectral bandpass calibration
 - image deconvolution
 - radio frequency interference
 - missing diffuse flux (due to lack of short spacings)
 - parameterisation errors due to insufficient source mask
 - source confusion (multiple sources perceived as one)
 - systematic errors in source distance measurements
 - ...

★ Example

- ▶ Source with $S = 1$ Jy over $N = 50$ channels
- ▶ Noise level of $\sigma = 0.1$ Jy
- ▶ Flux calibration error of 5%
- ▶ Bandpass error of 0.1 Jy

★ True flux and statistical uncertainty

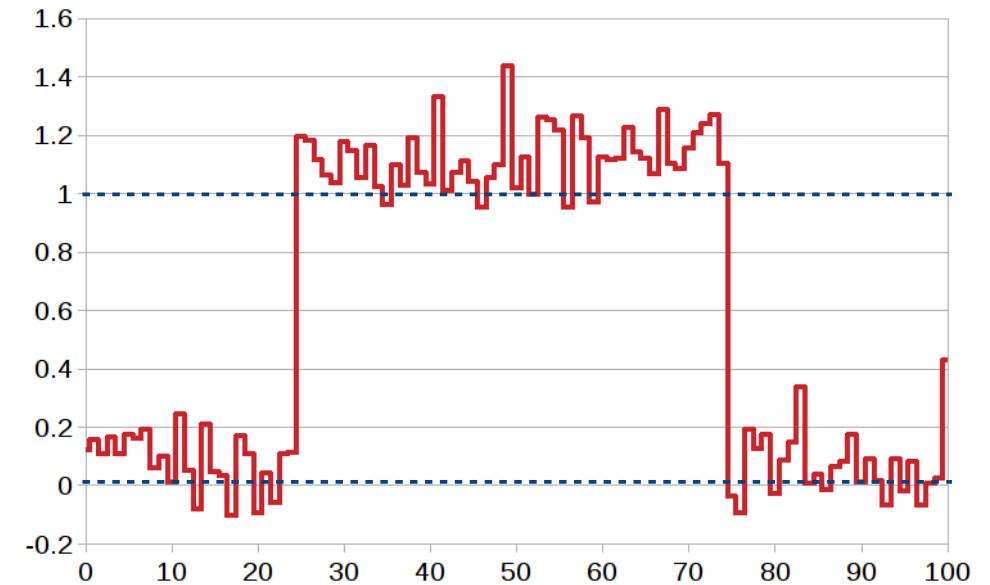
- ▶ $F_{\text{true}} = 50$ Jy, $\sigma_{\text{stat}} = \sigma \times \sqrt{N} \approx 0.7$ Jy

★ Measured flux

- ▶ $F_{\text{meas}} = 57.5 \pm 0.7$ Jy (15.5% too high)

★ Discrepancy

- ▶ $(F_{\text{meas}} - F_{\text{true}}) / \sigma_{\text{stat}} \approx 10.6$

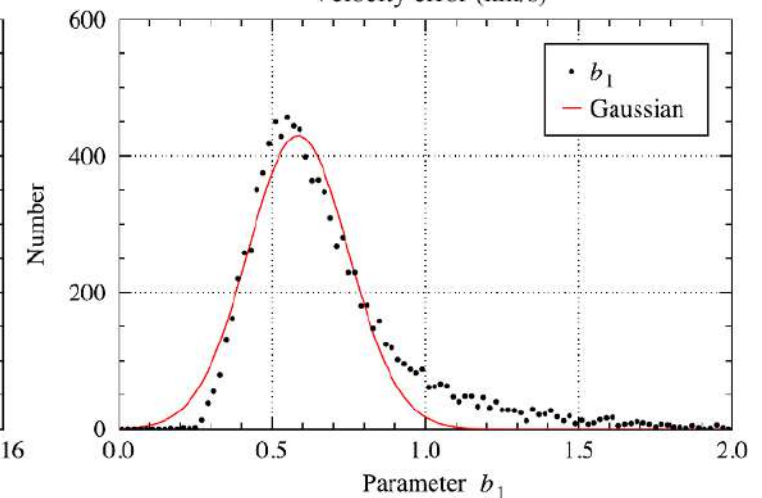
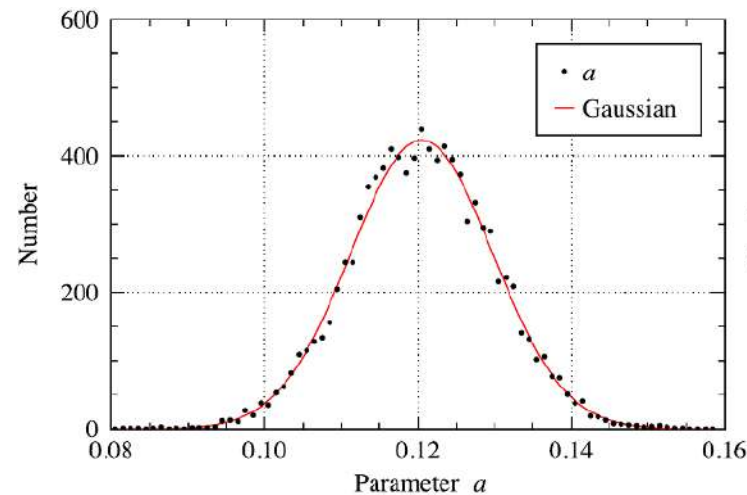
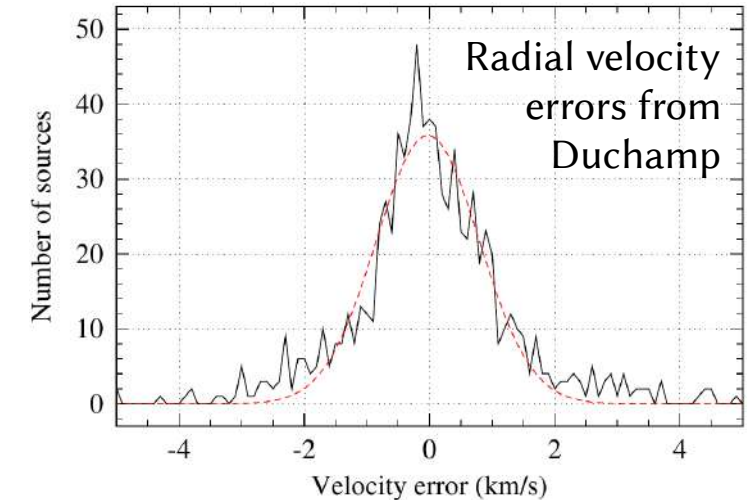


★ How to get realistic error estimates?

- ▶ Numerical methods
- ▶ Common techniques
 - Injection of **artificial sources** into data
 - Shifting of source mask to **“empty” regions** of data cube

★ Additional problem

- ▶ Errors may not be Gaussian
- ▶ Mean & standard deviation ($\mu \pm \sigma$) no longer meaningful
 - Numerical error analysis required
- ▶ Example
 - Busy Function
 - a is Gaussian, but not b_1



Summary

★ Key points to take away

- ▶ Source finding is **non-trivial** and needs **fine-tuning**
- ▶ Optimal **convolution filters** required to detect sources
- ▶ Compromise between high **completeness** and high **reliability**
 - Reliability calculation can help, but clean data required
- ▶ Accurate **source masks** required for parameterisation
 - Beware of biases
- ▶ Difference between observed **frequency/redshift** and source-frame **velocity**
- ▶ Velocity resolution changes with redshift
 - **Corrections** required beyond redshift 0
- ▶ **Distance**-dependent parameters (e.g. HI mass) are **cosmology**-dependent
- ▶ Parameterisation errors usually dominated by **systematic errors**
 - Numerical error analysis required