



Intro2: Working With MSs 3

## AIPS++...

2. AIPS++...

- [5] heard of it
- [2] tried to run it once
- [9] succeeded in running it once
- [5] have used it in anger
- [0] invented it

- AIPS++ is making great progress: at the previous workshop we had “tried” ≈ “succeeded”
  - (and one inventor that owned up to it all)

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## On a Related Note...

2a. Reduction package of choice:

- [7] Classic AIPS
- [3] AIPS++
- [2] Miriad
- [1] MeqTrees!!!
- [1] NEWSTAR
- [1] MabCal

## Working With Visibility Data

- MeqTrees interface with AIPS++ Measurement Sets
  - other formats can be supported as necessary
- An “empty” MS has to be pre-fabricated using external tools:
  - you can use the AIPS++ “simulator”, see `Workshop2007/demo_sim.g` (and ask Tony)
  - there's also a “makems” tool floating around (ask Ronald/Marcel/Joris)

## Meet Our Guinea Pig Skeleton

- I have prepared **Workshop2007/demo.MS**; this will serve most of our whims this week.
- There is a pristine backup copy available, so if you screw up, restore it with:

```
$ cd ~/Workshop2007
$ rm -fr demo.MS
$ cp -a (/net/birch)/data/oms/Workshop2007/demo.MS .
  (/apps/Timba/data/oms/Workshop2007, if on jop01)
```

## VLA In Space (About demo.MS)

- This contains 27 antennas in VLA-C configuration...
  - ...but blown up by a factor of 10
- So the max baseline is ~30km
- 8 hours observation, 5 minute sampling, 96 timeslots
- 32 frequency channels of 16MHz each, from 800MHz to 1.31GHz
- Four polarizations: XX XY YX YY
- One pointing

## A Simple MS Tree

- Load `Intro2/demo1-sink.py`
- Under “TDL Exec”, select Tile size: 10
- Load up the “MS Grids” bookmark
- Run “test forest”
- ...note the “history” slider in the visualizer

## Why “Skeleton”?

- An MS provides a time/frequency grid (e.g., for use in simulations)
  - thus, “skeleton”: we ignore the data in the MS (and write our own)
- **Sink** nodes turn this grid into a request and send it up the tree.
  - one Sink per interferometer
- When a result comes back, this can be written out to a visibility column in the MS.
- MSs are processed in chunks of time called “tiles”.

## The VisDataMux

- A **VisDataMux** node was created for us automatically.
- The VDM is responsible for interfacing with the MS, reading data, and activating its child Sinks as appropriate.
- To start the process, we give a specially-formed request to the VDM, containing **input** and **output** records telling it what and how to read (or write).

## We Can Read, Too!

- Load Intro2/demo2-spigot.py
- Under “TDL Exec”, select Tile size: 10
- Load up the “Spigots” bookmark, and the “Inspector” bookmark
- Run “test forest”
- ...note the “history” slider in the visualizer

## Sinks And Spigots

- A **Spigot** node reads the visibility data from an MS, and returns it as a visibility matrix
- Check visibilities using the history slider.
  - You're looking at XX data, use the “Change selected Vells” option to look at the other correlations
- You can probably guess what kind of observation **demo.MS** contains...

## Inspector (Collections) Plot

- The last script introduced a “Collections” plotter (the ns.inspector node)
- A Meq.Composer node collects results from all its children into a single huge Result, which is plotted as a function of time.
- This plotter expects one data point per timeslot, so we use a Meq.Mean() node to take the mean in frequency.
- The inspector is attached as a special child to the VisDataMux node, labelled “post”. This makes it execute *after* (i.e., post) all the Sinks have fired. The result is published to the viewer (if active), then discarded.

## Matrices And Tensors

- Visibility data comes out as a 2x2 matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} XX & XY \\ YX & YY \end{pmatrix}$
- In MeqTrees, this is represented by a **Result** with 4 **VelISets**, and a **dims=[2,2]** field:  $\begin{pmatrix} V_0 & V_1 \\ V_2 & V_3 \end{pmatrix}$ 
  - no dims implies a 4-vector
  - and remember that each element can be its own function of frequency/time/etc.
- This can be generalized to tensors of arbitrary rank
  - e.g., the “inspector” node collects its children into a 351x2x2 tensor

## On MS Columns

- An AIPS++ MS has three standard “columns” for visibility data: DATA, MODEL\_DATA, CORRECTED\_DATA.
- MeqTrees can “attach” to any column, or even create new columns.
- Tools like the AIPS++ imager assign specific meanings to these columns though, and do not support other names...
- Speaking of the imager, run this script:

```
$ glish -l make_image.g DATA ms=demo.MS
```

## Let's Modify Some Data

- Load Intro3/demo3-mod-vis.py
- Here we apply a gain term:
 
$$g_{pq} = (1 + .1p)e^{2\pi i q/3}$$
- Under “TDL Exec”, select Tile size: 30 (the “go faster” option)
- Load up the “Inspector” bookmark
- Run “test forest”
- Switch inspectors to display complex phases (via right-click)
- Make an image:

```
$ glish -l make_image.g MODEL_DATA ms=demo.MS
```

## More Inspectors

- Here we have created two inspector nodes
- A Meq.ReqMux() node is used to feed a request to multiple children, we need it since we can only have one “post” child on a VisDataMux.

## Exercise 1: Freq-Dependent Gains

- Start with Intro2/demo3-mod-vis.py
- Apply a frequency-dependent gain to the data:

$$g_{pq} = (1 + .1p \frac{(\nu - \nu_0)}{\Delta\nu}) e^{2\pi i \frac{q}{3} \frac{(\nu - \nu_0)}{\Delta\nu}}, \quad \nu_0 = 8 \cdot 10^8, \Delta\nu = 5 \cdot 10^8$$

tip: use Meq.Polar(x,y) to compose  $x e^{iy}$

- Make a per-channel image using:

```
$ glish -l make_image.g MODEL_DATA ms=demo.MS  
mode=channel
```