

# source subtraction SAGECAL/demixing

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- Lofar Status Meeting, March 7th 2012

## About SAGECAL

- Works on single SBs separately
- Data need to be calibrated, spikes flagged, data averaged down to 1 channel

- Searches for minimum norm solutions:

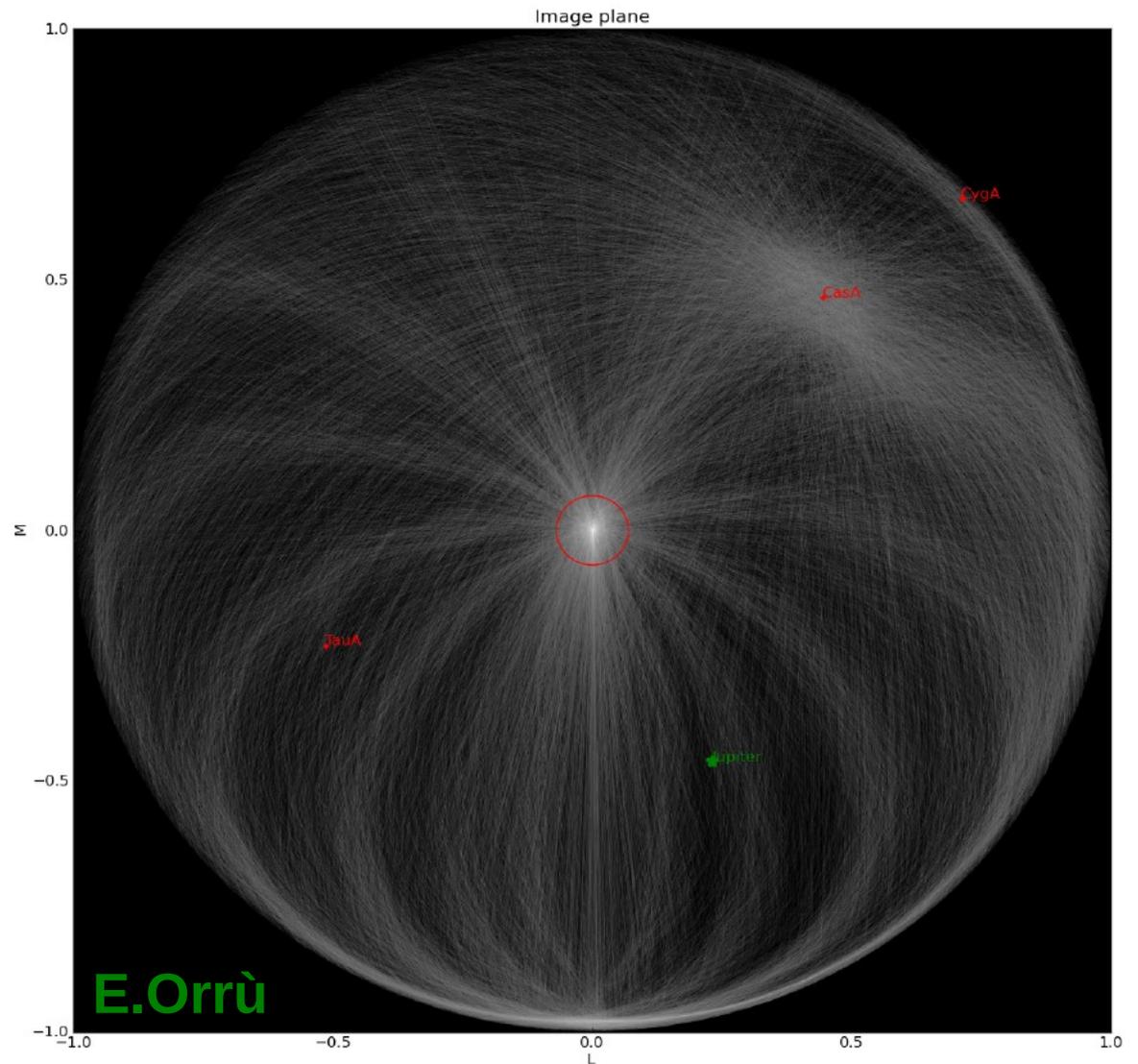
$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \Leftrightarrow \min \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|^2$$

- Can handle bandwidth smearing ( option -f )

Subtraction of off axis sources: demixing/SAGECAL/dir gains in BBS ...?

# Perseus LBA data

- CygA @ 76 degrees
- CasA @ 39 degrees
- TauA @ 34 degrees

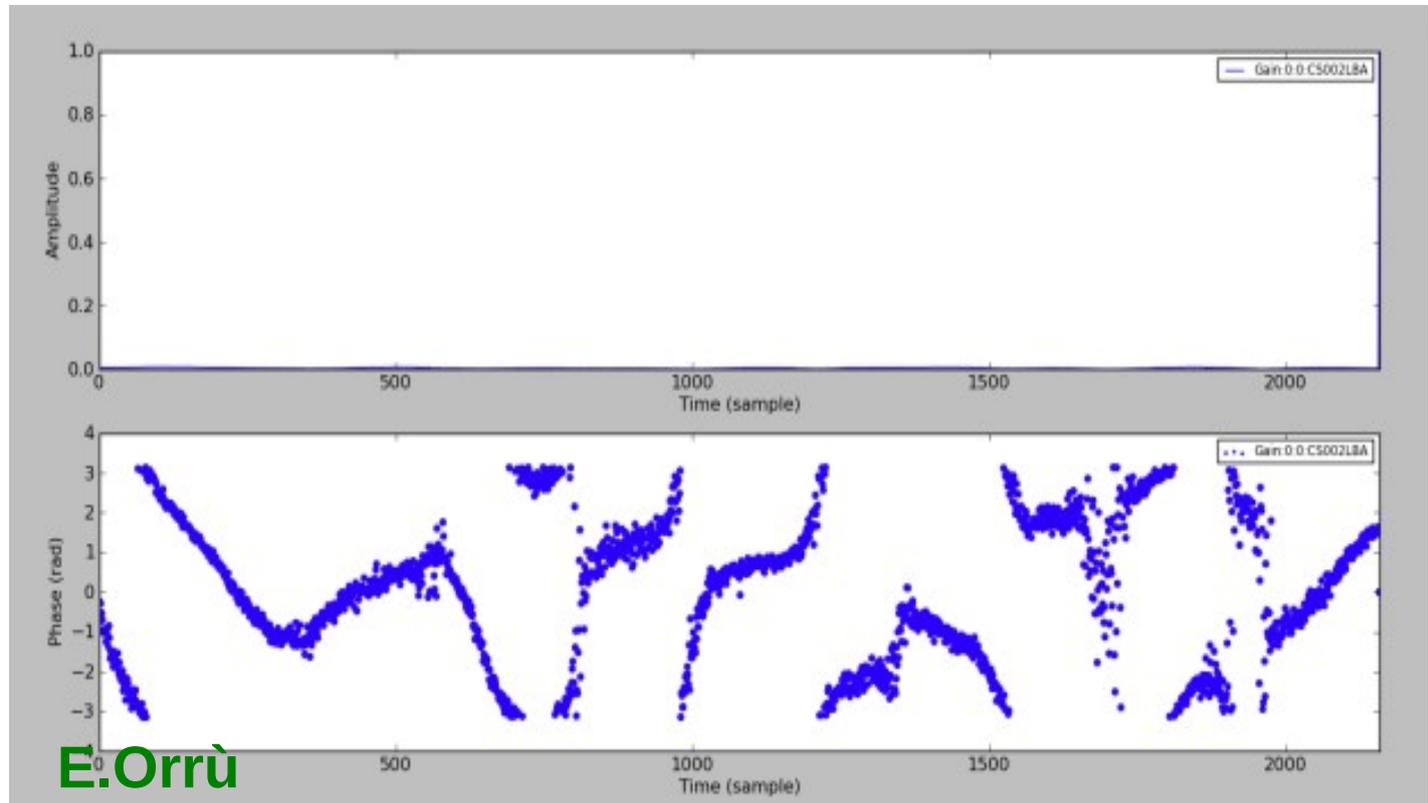


# Perseus LBA data: DEMIXING

- CygA @ 76 degrees    Good demixing solutions
- CasA @ 39 degrees    Good demixing solutions
- TauA @ 34 degrees

**NOISY**

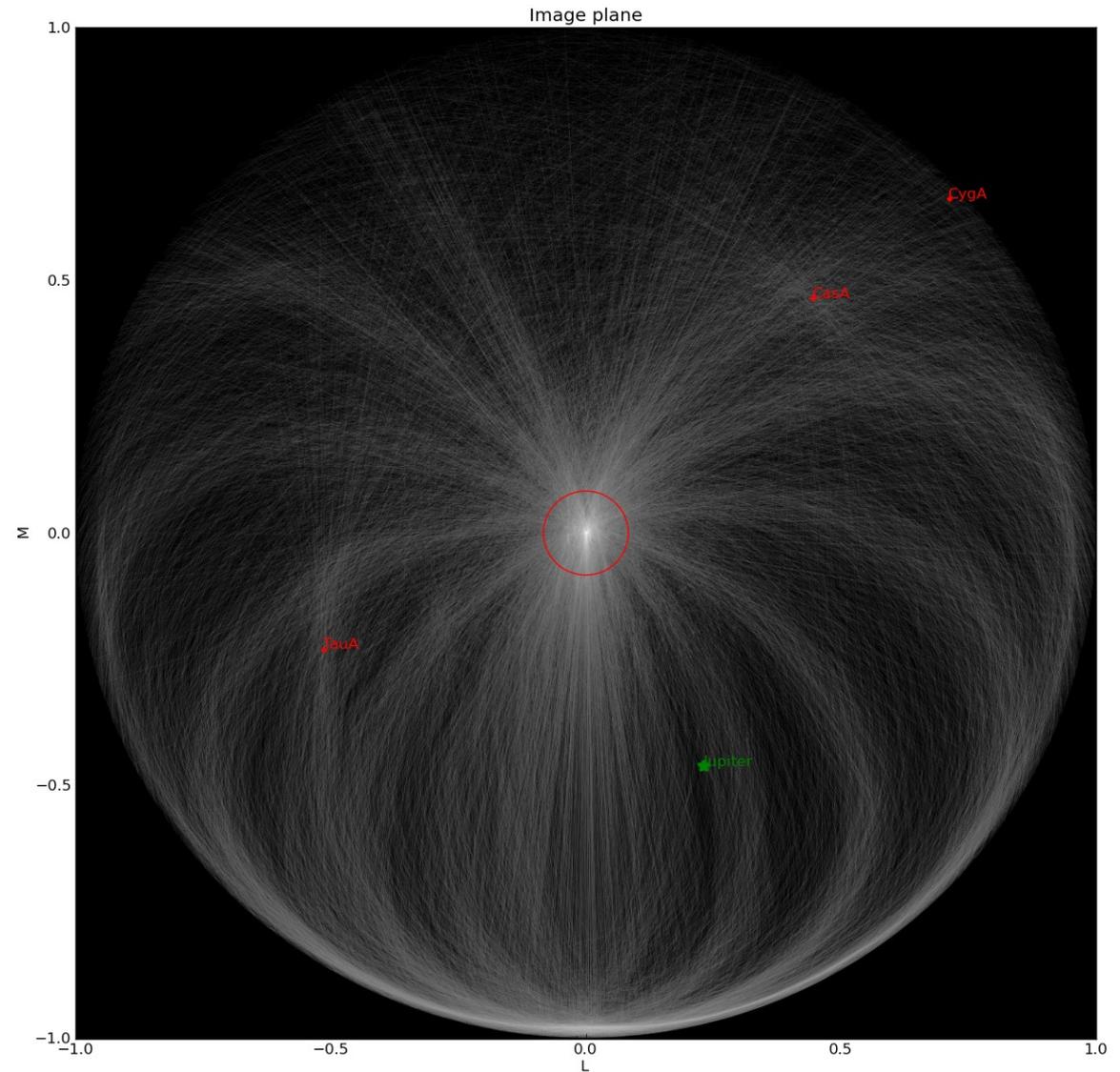
**CygA  
solutions**



**E.Orrù**

# Perseus LBA data: DEMIXING

- CygA @ 76 degrees
- CasA @ 39 degrees
- TauA @ 34 degrees



# Perseus LBA data: SAGECAL

- CygA @ 76 degrees
- CasA @ 39 degrees
- TauA @ 34 degrees

Data previously calibrated with BBS  
And averaged down to 1 channel

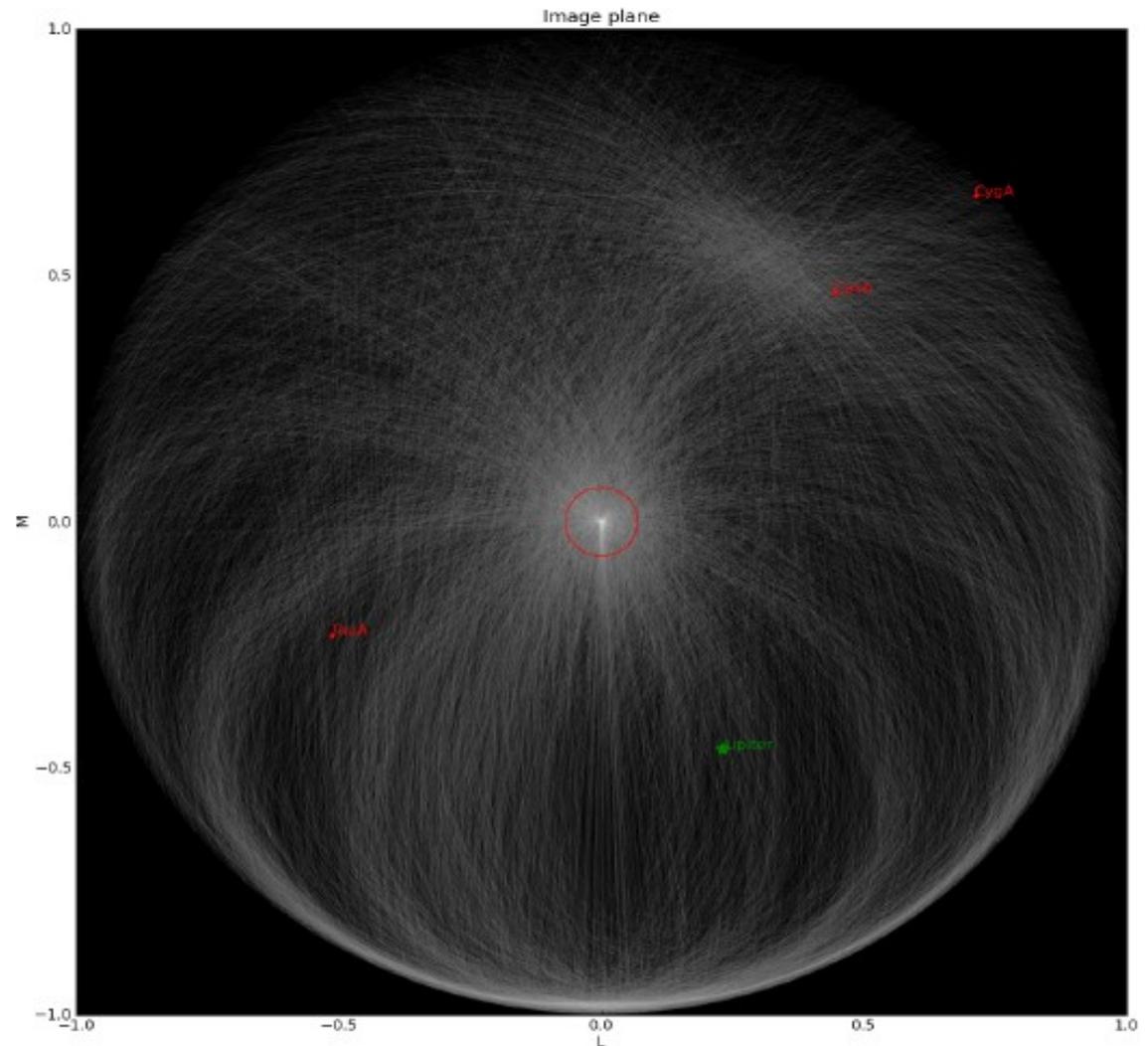
Models for CygA and CasA taken from 74MHz VLA  
images through shapelets

Number of clusters (directions) = 12  
Time-slot used = 20 min (6h observation)

# Perseus LBA data: SAGECAL

- CygA @ 76 degrees
- CasA @ 39 degrees
- TauA @ 34 degrees

Data previously calibrated with BBS  
And averaged down to 1 channel



# Perseus LBA data: conclusions

**Demixing:** CygA successfully subtracted

Cas A successfully subtracted (though tiny residuals still present)

TauA **demixing fails**

Computing time: > 10 hours for 2 sources

**SAGECAL :**

CygA and TauA successfully subtracted

Cas A **some residuals still present**

Computing time: ~ 20 min

## MACSJ0717 LBA data

- CygA @ 100 degrees
- CasA @ 74 degrees
- TauA @ 27 degrees

# MACSJ0717 LBA data

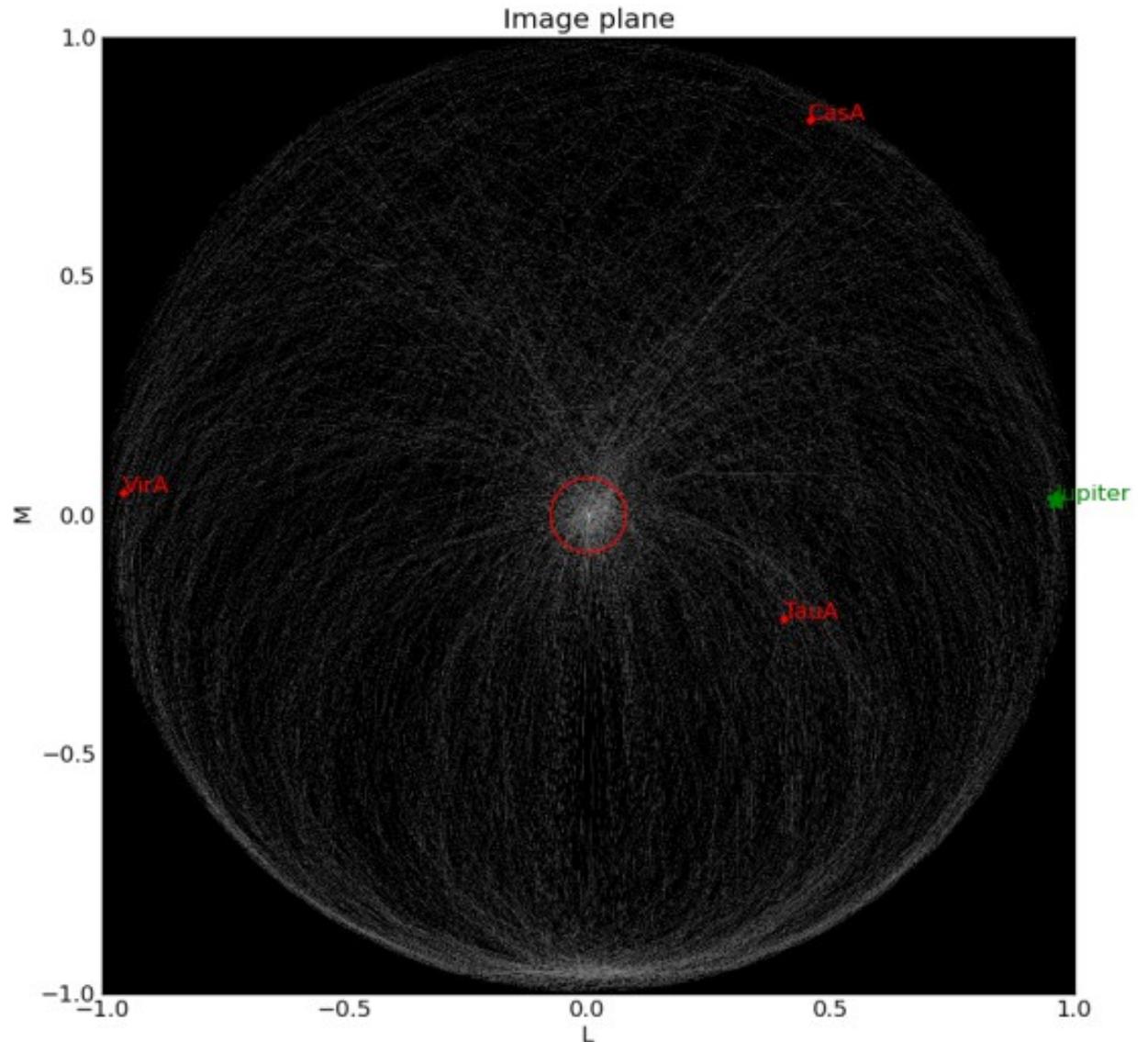
- ~~CygA @ 100 degrees~~
- CasA @ 74 degrees      **successfully demixed**
- TauA @ 27 degrees      **NOISY**

## Attempts for calibration:

- Demixing CasA and calibration(A&P) against VLSS model  
→ **low S/N solutions**
- Directional dependent calibration for MACS (VLSS model) and Tau A (74MHz VLA model) in BBS  
→ **took more than 24 h for 6h observation, 1 SB**

# MACSJ0717 LBA data

- CygA @ 100 degrees
- CasA @ 74 degrees
- TauA @ 27 degrees



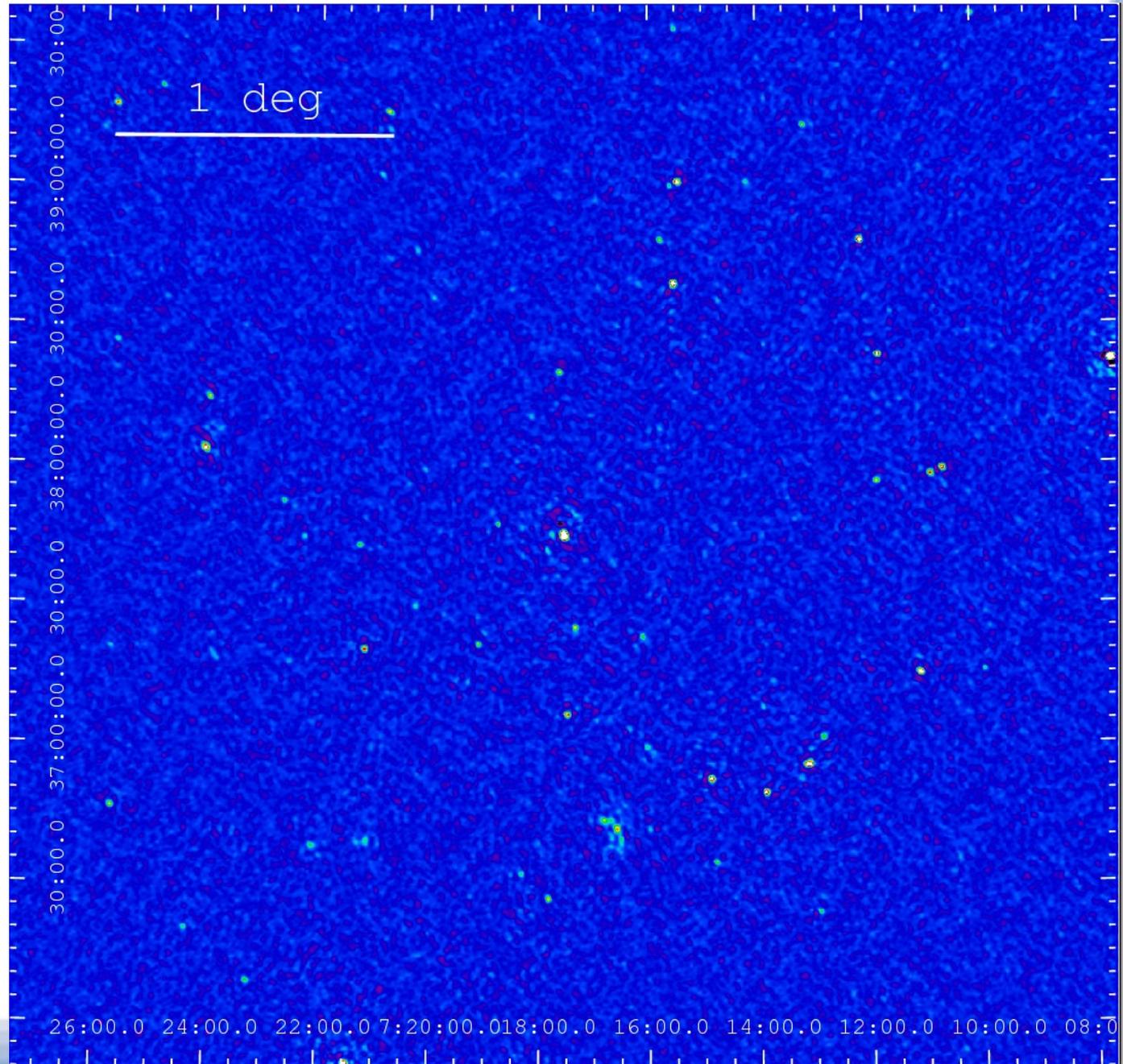
# MACSJ0717 LBA data - demixing

MACS field  
Demixing of CasA,  
Tau A still in

Global solver on 4 SBs  
around 55 MHz

HPBW =  
43" x 32"

Rms noise  
~30  
mJy/beam



# MACS LBA data: demixing + SAGECAL

- CasA @ 72 degrees – demixed
- TauA @ 27 degrees – subtracted with SAGECAL

Models for TauA from 74MHz VLA images through shapelets

Number of clusters (directions) = 21  
Time-slot used = 20 min

After Sagecal  
noise improved from 35 mJy/beam to 25 mJy/beam

# LBA MACSJ0717

## Demixing:

Cas A successfully subtracted  
TauA demixing fails

Computing time: > 10 hours

## Peeling with BBS:

Directional gain calibration in BBS (TauA + MACSJ0717)

Computing time: > 24 hours – not good S/N solutions

## SAGECAL :

CasA demixed  
TauA subtracted with sagecal

Computing time: ~ 2h (observation time 6h)

## Conclusions: demixing /peeling with BBS / SAGECAL for source subtraction

- Demixing: *if works*

the source is gone once for good, **NOW** it is slow

- SAGECAL

works whatever the distance/brightness of the source is  
much faster than BBS

**absolute flux scale (?)**